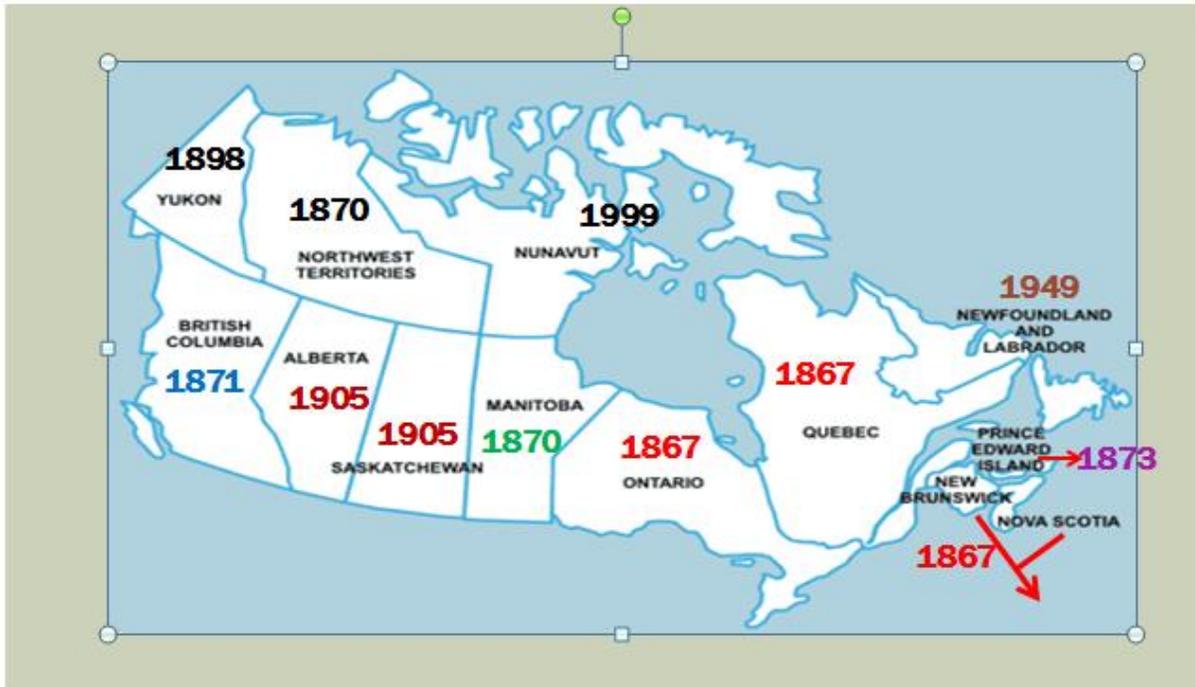


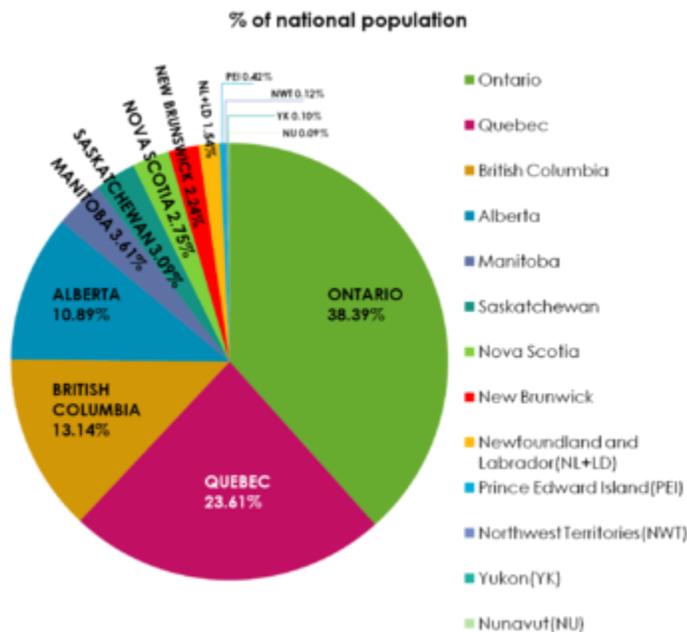
ENTERED CONFEDERATION



List of Canadian provinces and territories by population

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This is a **list of Canadian provinces and territories by population** based on [Statistics Canada's 2011 census](#). Statistics Canada's most recent population estimates for the provinces and territories is also presented.

[Canada](#) has [ten provinces and three territories](#). The three territories of [Nunavut](#), [Yukon](#), and [Northwest Territories](#) account for over a third of Canada's area but have very few people, which skew the national [population density](#) value. Canada's population is concentrated in the areas close to the [U.S. border](#). As a result, most Canadians live in areas with densities higher than the national [average](#) of 3.7 persons per square kilometre.

All territories and provinces, excluding the [Northwest Territories](#), increased in population from the [2006 census](#) to the 2011 census. In terms of percentage change, the fastest-growing province or territory was [Yukon](#) with an increase of 11.6% between 2006 and 2011, followed by [Alberta](#) with 10.8% growth. The [Northwest Territories](#) experienced a net loss of two people between 2006 and 2011. Overall, Canada's population grew by 5.9% between 2006 and 2011.^[1]

Canada's population has increased every year since [Confederation](#) in 1867 (see [List of population of Canada by years](#)).

A SHORT HISTORY OF CANADA

- Aboriginal people lived in what is now Canada for thousands of years before the first Europeans arrived. They are known as the First Nations and the Inuit (Eskimo) people. The Métis have part First Nations and part European backgrounds.
- The Vikings were the first Europeans known to land in Canada in what is now Newfoundland led by the Viking explorer Leif Erikson. They did not stay there long, however. In the early 16th century, Europeans started exploring Canada's eastern coast, beginning with John Cabot from England in 1497, and later Jacques Cartier in 1534 from France. Alexander Mackenzie later reached the Pacific coast over land, where captains James Cook and George Vancouver went by sea. The Europeans traded with the First Nations for beaver furs.
- Parts of Canada were settled by France, and parts by England and Scotland. In 1605, Port Royal was built in Acadia (today called Nova Scotia) by the French, led by Samuel de Champlain, and in 1608 he started settling Quebec.
- For the first few decades of the colony's existence, the French population numbered only a few hundred, while the English colonies to the south were much more populous and wealthy. Cardinal Richelieu, adviser to Louis XIII, wished to make New France as significant as the English colonies. In 1627, Richelieu founded the Company of One Hundred Associates to invest in New France, promising land parcels to hundreds of new settlers and to turn Canada into an important mercantile and farming colony. Richelieu then forbade non-Roman Catholics from living there. Huguenots (French Protestants) were required to renounce their faith to establish themselves in New France; many therefore chose instead to move to the English colonies
- 1759 British took control of the French areas after a battle on the Plains of Abraham near Quebec City.
- After the American Revolutionary War, many people in the new United States wanted to stay loyal to Britain. Thousands came north to Canada and settled in Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Quebec, and Ontario. They were called United Empire Loyalists. The “*Late Loyalists*” as they were called included many Pennsylvania and New York Germans, Quakers and French Huguenots.

Quick Facts about Canada's Francophone Population

- There are **over 9.5 million French-speaking people living in Canada**, representing nearly one-third of Canada's population. Approximately 22% of Canadians speak French as their mother tongue.
- The province of Quebec is home to the majority of French speakers in Canada, where **7 million** speak it as a first or second language. Outside Quebec, some **2.5 million** people speak French, with roughly one million speaking it as their first language.
- In Ontario, which is ranked first among Canada's provinces in terms of population and economy, **1.4 million** people speak French.
- In Atlantic Canada, including New Brunswick—Canada's only officially bilingual province—**more than 450,000** people speak French.
- In Western Canada, i.e., Manitoba, Saskatchewan, Alberta, and British Columbia, **more than 650,000** people are French-speaking.
- In Canada's three territories, Yukon, Nunavut and the Northwest Territories, **slightly more than 8,000** people have knowledge of French.

Source: http://www.ocol-clo.gc.ca/html/quick_facts_faits_bref_franco_e.php

NATIONALITES WHO SETTLED CANADA

- French – “Filles du Rois” – “Daughters of the King” were young women between the ages of 12 and 25, who were typically married off within a short time of their arrival in New France. Settlers were encouraged to have large families, but by the time of the French and Indian War (1754-63) there were only 50,000 French in Canada. Residents of Acadia (present day Nova Scotia, Prince Edward Island and New Brunswick) arriving during the mid-17th century. 10,000 Acadians deported in 1755. *Most of the French who populate Canada today can trace their ancestry back to these original settlers.*
- English – The first English settlements in what is now Canada were in Newfoundland beginning in 1610. Britain gained control of Acadia (*now Nova Scotia and New Brunswick*) in 1713; Isle de Saint Jean (*now Prince Edward Island*) in 1758; and Canada (*now Quebec and Ontario*) in 1763. English migration to the Atlantic colonies first began with the foundation of Halifax in 1749. Most of Halifax's early population of 3,000 were Englishmen based there as a counterbalance to the French force at Louisbourg. 800,000 English settlers came between 1815-1850. During the 1820's and 1830's Ontario was the main destination for the English settlers. They made up 26% of the population by 1920. Source: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/History_of_Canada#Confederation
- Scots – As early as the 1670's the Hudson Bay Company recruited Highland Scots. The arrival in 1761 of men from Fraser's Highlanders Regiment at La Malbaie were amongst Canada's first Scottish settlers. The British government's policy of encouraging loyal British settlers to settle in boundary areas considered vulnerable to attack from the United States helped to create the great concentrations of Scots in eastern Upper Canada. This produced the remarkable Glengarry communities, which were founded by Loyalist Scots from 1784 and the government-sponsored Rideau Valley settlements which were founded in 1815. Between 1770 and 1815, some 15,000 moved to places like the Selkirk Settlement in current-day Manitoba, as well as settlements along the East Coast and eastern Ontario. Most Scots crossed the Atlantic in good ships under experienced sea captains. By 1816 Scots were crossing the border into Lower Canada in their search for land, creating new communities on the north side of the Ottawa River and in the Chateauguay Valley. Much earlier, Loyalist Scots had also settled in the Gaspé Peninsula, while the 1830s would see the beginning of the great influx of Hebridean settlers to the Eastern Townships.
 - http://www.scotstocanada.com/new_page_2.htm
 - <http://www.scotlandsfamily.com/ships-passengers.htm>
 - <http://www.nls.uk/family-history/emigration>
- Irish - The main influx of Irish settlers to Canada began after the Irish rebellion of 1798 and the great famine of 1847. This immigration continued in droves into the 1860s, but many would use Canada as a resting point before continuing on into the United States. Some Canadians viewed the Irish as a threat in the 1860s thanks to the Fenians. (A secret Irish and Irish American society organized for the purpose of overthrowing British rule in Ireland.) Out of today's approximately 30,000,000 Canadians, about ten percent are of Irish descent. About 60% of them are Anglo-Irish and Scots-Irish, while about 40% are 'Native Irish'.
 - <http://jubilation.uwaterloo.ca/~marj/genealogy/boston.html>
 - <http://freepages.genealogy.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~irelandlist/irecan.html>

IMMIGRATION AND WESTERN SETTLEMENT

During the end of the nineteenth century, the Laurier government devoted considerable energy to attracting settlers to the Canadian West.

Clifford Sifton the Minister of the Interior, believing that the West needed to be developed; Sifton simplified the homesteading process and forced the railways to select their land. (Up until that time, large portions of the West were untouchable because of the agreements that various governments had made with the railroads.) Sifton launched a massive immigration campaign targeting both the United States and Europe. Between 1897 and 1911, nearly two million immigrants poured into Canada. Galician, Austrian, Russian, Swede, Belgian, French. The exhaustion of free homestead land in the United States resulted in a steady stream of American settlers to the Canadian West.

- Minority groups were able to negotiate a series of special privileges that they might not otherwise have been granted. Groups, such as the Doukhobors, the Hutterites, the Mennonites, and the Mormons were for example promised freedom from persecution, guaranteed the right to practice their religion, and given permission to establish their own schools (provided they did so at their own expense). During the late 1600s, Quakers visited Newfoundland. They settled in Nova Scotia in the mid-1700s, and what is now known as southern Ontario after the American Revolution. Quaker settlements were founded in Western Canada during the early 1900s.

CANADA – *A Melting Pot of Nationalities*

- African Canadians settle in Upper and Lower <http://www.gov.ns.ca/nsarm/virtual/africanns/BN.asp>
- Arabic immigration didn't begin until 1882, but only in small numbers. Majority in 1960's.
- Austrian - German-speaking immigrants from the Austro-Hungary region of Europe, this group settled on Canada's Prairies between 1896 and 1914
- Chinese - thousands of Chinese immigrants were brought under contract to work on the western section of the Canadian Pacific Railway 1882-1885
- Dutch settled in Canadian West (Winnipeg 1890-1914)
- Finnish - Many Finns helped build the first Welland Canal in southern Ontario in 1829.
- German - first German settlement could be found in New France and Nova Scotia during the mid-1700s, but Germans eventually moved into Upper Canada, settling in the area around current-day Toronto. More than 150,000 people of German origin would eventually call Canada's Prairies home by 1911. Many German-speaking pioneers known as the "Pennsylvania Dutch" came from New Jersey & Pennsylvania
- Greeks arrived in Canada in 1891, and settled mostly in Toronto and Montréal
- Hungarian first came to Canada between 1886 and 1911; About 8,000 settled here before World War I, primarily in Saskatchewan, sometimes informally called "Little Hungary"
- Icelanders came to Canada between 1875-1910 and settled in Manitoba.
- Italians are the 4th largest ethnic group in Canada and settled first in Toronto and Montréal.
- Japanese arrived between 1877 and 1928, when mostly young, literate men came to work as fishermen or lumbermen along the Pacific coast of British Columbia. (They also settled in B.C.'s Fraser Valley and parts of Alberta.)
- Koreans were highly skilled professionals who chose to live in urban areas of Canada in 1890.

- Norwegians settlements founded in the late 1800's in Calgary, Alberta when it was only a village. (1900-1914 There was an influx of those with Norwegian heritage from the US)
- Polish are a hardworking religious group of people who started coming to Canada in large numbers around 1851, usually from parts of Europe owned by Austria. They settled in Ontario & later Manitoba.
- Russians are the single largest ethnic group among Slavic nations. While some immigrated to Canada as fur hunters in the 1700s along the Pacific coast and Alaska, most would begin immigrating here around 1875.
- Most Swedish immigrants settled in the western provinces with the earliest group going to the Red River Valley (Winnipeg) early in the 19th century. Swedish settlers immigrated to Canada from the United States between 1868 and 1914, as land for farming became scarcer in the USA.
- Swiss settlers from Switzerland like the Swedish can trace their lineage back to the Selkirk Settlement along the Red River in what is now Manitoba. Swiss New Englanders settled in the Maritime Provinces, many taking land vacated by the Acadians in 1760. Over 600,000 Americans homesteaded in the Prairie Provinces. But agricultural depression and climatic conditions sent over 400,000 scurrying home.
- Ukrainian migration to Canada occurred with the arrival of mercenaries during the War of 1812, most Ukrainians didn't start settling in Canada until the period between 1891 and 1914 settling principally in Alberta, Saskatchewan and Manitoba. They were more numerous than other eastern Europeans who came at about the same time – Czech, Croats, Estonians, Hungarians Poles, Russians, Serbs, and Jews.
<http://www.everyculture.com/North-America/European-Canadians.html>
- Canadian Internment Camps <http://www.thecanadianencyclopedia.com/articles/internment>
- A Story of the Home Children <http://www.tricitynews.com/community/190902811.html>

“HISTORY IS ALWAYS UP TO INTERPRETATION!”

A settler's description of her first home in the Canadian West:



“Slabs of sod were placed around the lumber shack and another room was added – all sod. The inside was plastered with mud, with a nice smooth finish. As the years passed the mud plastering was papered over with building paper. The sod walls were three feet thick. There was a good shingle roof and board floors. It was a warm cozy place.”

**CANADA IS A LAND OF VAST
DISTANCES AND RICH NATURAL
BEAUTY AND RESOURCES.**