



Activity 2: Population Counts

Suggested Level: **Intermediate**
Subjects: **Mathematics, Geography**

Overview

Using mathematics and geography skills, students look at some population trends revealed by the 2001 Census. (2 class periods)

Note: See Teacher's Guide for general background to the census and census vocabulary.

Learning Objectives

- to gain knowledge about the latest population figures and trends in Canada
- to become familiar with the analytical processes used to interpret the results of the 2001 Census
- to apply standard mathematical skills to census-related activities
- to appreciate the accuracy and attention to detail required when preparing data for analysis

Materials

- Handout 1: Data from the 2001 Census
- Handout 2: Worksheet
- Handout 3: Map of Canada
- Handout 4: Analysis
- calculator (optional)

Getting Started

Begin with a general discussion of the census—what it is and how it is carried out. (See the Teacher's Guide.)

Census Activity

Taking on the role of an analyst at Statistics Canada, the student is asked to use the tables in Handout 1 to fill in the missing information in Handouts 2 and 3. Handout 4 provides an opportunity for students to analyse their findings and will prompt classroom discussion.

Extension/Enrichment

Web Extensions were created to motivate students to discover the numerous Census 2001 tables and graphics available on Statistics Canada's Web site (www.statcan.ca). To access the Web Extensions, click on Census located on the top toolbar; click on Teacher's Kits located on the left toolbar and click on 2001 Census Results Teacher's Kit.

Handout 1: Data from the 2001 Census

**Table 1 Population Totals
Canada, Provinces and Territories, 1996 and 2001**

Province / Territory	2001	1996	Percentage Change	
	Population	Population	1996-2001	1991-1996
Canada	30,007,094	28,846,761	4.0	5.7
Newfoundland and Labrador	512,930	551,792	-7.0	-2.9
Prince Edward Island	135,294	134,557	0.5	3.7
Nova Scotia	908,007	909,282	-0.1	1.0
New Brunswick	729,498	738,133	-1.2	2.0
Quebec	7,237,479	7,138,795	1.4	3.5
Ontario	11,410,046	10,753,573	6.1	6.6
Manitoba	1,119,583	1,113,898	0.5	2.0
Saskatchewan	978,933	990,237	-1.1	0.1
Alberta	2,974,807	2,696,826	10.3	5.9
British Columbia	3,907,738	3,724,500	4.9	13.5
Yukon Territory	28,674	30,766	-6.8	10.7
Northwest Territories	37,360	39,672	-5.8	9.0
Nunavut	26,745	24,730	8.1	16.4

**Table 2 Population Distribution
Canada, Provinces and Territories, 1961 to 2001**

Province / Territory	Share of the Total Population (%)				
	1961	1971	1981	1991	2001
Canada	100	100	100	100	100
Newfoundland and Labrador	2.5	2.4	2.3	2.1	1.7
Prince Edward Island	0.6	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5
Nova Scotia	4.0	3.7	3.5	3.3	3.0
New Brunswick	3.3	2.9	2.9	2.7	2.4
Quebec	28.8	27.9	26.4	25.3	24.1
Ontario	34.2	35.7	35.4	36.9	38.0
Manitoba	5.1	4.6	4.2	4.0	3.7
Saskatchewan	5.1	4.3	4.0	3.6	3.3
Alberta	7.3	7.5	9.2	9.3	9.9
British Columbia	8.9	10.1	11.3	12.0	13.0
Yukon Territory	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
Northwest Territories	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.1
Nunavut	---	---	---	---	0.1

Note: In this table Nunavut is included in the Northwest Territories up to 2001.

Handout 1: Data from the 2001 Census (continued)

**Table 3 Population and Percentage Change
Census Metropolitan Areas* (CMA), 1996 and 2001**

Census Metropolitan Area (CMA)	2001 Population	1996 Population	Absolute Change	Percentage Change
Toronto (Ont.)	4,682,897	4,263,759	419,138	9.8
Montréal (Que.)	3,426,350	3,326,447	99,903	3.0
Vancouver (B.C.)	1,986,965	1,831,665	155,300	8.5
Ottawa - Hull (Ont.)	1,063,664	998,718	64,946	6.5
Calgary (Alta.)	951,395	821,628	129,767	15.8
Edmonton (Alta.)	937,845	862,597	75,248	8.7
Québec (Que.)	682,757	671,889	10,868	1.6
Winnipeg (Man.)	671,274	667,093	4,181	0.6
Hamilton (Ont.)	662,401	624,360	38,041	6.1
London (Ont.)	432,451	416,546	15,905	3.8
Kitchener (Ont.)	414,284	382,940	31,344	8.2
St. Catharines - Niagara (Ont.)	377,009	372,406	4,603	1.2
Halifax (N.S.)	359,183	342,966	16,217	4.7
Victoria (B.C.)	311,902	304,287	7,615	2.5
Windsor (Ont.)	307,877	286,811	21,066	7.3
Oshawa (Ont.)	296,298	268,773	27,525	10.2
Saskatoon (Sask.)	225,927	219,056	6,871	3.1
Regina (Sask.)	192,800	193,652	-852	-0.4
St. John's (Nfld.Lab.)	172,918	174,051	-1,133	-0.7
Greater Sudbury (Ont.)	155,601	165,618	-10,017	-6.0
Chicoutimi - Jonquière (Que.)	154,938	160,454	-5,516	-3.4
Sherbrooke (Que.)	153,811	149,569	4,242	2.8
Abbotsford (B.C.)	147,370	136,480	10,890	8.0
Kingston (Ont.)	146,838	144,528	2,310	1.6
Trois-Rivières (Que.)	137,507	139,956	-2,449	-1.7
Saint John (N.B.)	122,678	125,705	-3,026	-2.4
Thunder Bay (Ont.)	121,986	126,643	-4,719	-3.7

* Area consisting of one or more adjacent municipalities situated around a major urban core. To form a census metropolitan area, the urban core must have a population of at least 100,000. To form a census agglomeration, the urban core must have a population of at least 10,000.


Handout 2: Worksheet

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Province / Territory	2001 Population	Rank	Change in population 1996-2001 (%)	Rank	Share of the total population (%)	Rank	2001 Population density (Population per km ²)	Rank	No. of CMAs
Canada	30,007,094	X	4.0	X	100	X	3.3	X	27
Newfoundland and Labrador	512,930	9		13	1.7	9	1.4	10	1
Prince Edward Island	135,294	10	0.5		0.5	10	23.8	1	0
Nova Scotia	908,007		-1.0	8		7	17.2	2	1
New Brunswick		8	-1.2	10	2.4	8	10.2		1
Quebec	7,237,479		1.4	5	24.1		5.3	5	
Ontario	11,410,046	1	6.1	3		1		3	5
Manitoba	1,119,583	5		7	3.7	5	2.0	8	1
Saskatchewan	978,933	6	-1.1		3.3	6			2
Alberta	2,974,807	4	10.3	1		4	4.6	6	
British Columbia			4.9	4	13.0	3	4.2	7	
Yukon Territory	28,674	12	-6.8		0.1		0.1	11	0
Northwest Territories	37,360	11		11		11			
Nunavut	26,745	13	8.1	2	0.1		0	12	0

You arrive for work at Statistics Canada and need to do some analysis. Fill in the blank boxes in the worksheet above. You will need to use the tables in Handout 1 to help you.

- 1 2001 population** Use Table 1.
- 2 Rank** Rank provinces and territories from 1-12 according to their population size.
- 3 Percentage change** Use Table 1.
- 4 Rank** Rank provinces and territories according to their percentage change between 1996 and 2001.
- 5 Share of the total population** Use Table 2.
- 6 Rank** Rank provinces and territories according to their share of the national population.
- 7 Population density** Since it is misleading to compare the population figures in each province and territory without looking at the large differences in land area, this column presents the population density of each province and territory.
- 8 Rank** Rank provinces and territories according to their population density.
- 9 No. of CMAs** Use Table 3 to count the number of CMAs in each province or territory.



 Statistics Canada / Statistique Canada

Sources: 2001 Census of Canada. Base map: © 2000. Government of Canada with permission from Natural Resources Canada. Produced by the Geography Division, Statistics Canada. © Minister of Industry, 2002. All Rights reserved.

Canada ^{td}

- 1 _____
- 2 _____
- 3 _____
- 4 _____
- 5 _____
- 6 _____
- 7 _____
- 8 _____
- 9 _____
- 10 _____
- 11 _____
- 12 _____
- 13 _____
- 14 _____
- 15 _____
- 16 _____
- 17 _____
- 18 _____
- 19 _____
- 20 _____
- 21 _____
- 22 _____
- 23 _____
- 24 _____
- 25 _____
- 26 _____
- 27 _____

Handout 3 : Map of Canada

Handout 4: Analysis

1. According to the 2001 Census, what is the total population of Canada? _____
2. a) How many people live in Ontario and Quebec combined? _____ or _____% of the population of Canada.
b) What percentage of the population lives in the four provinces east of Quebec? _____%
c) What percentage of the population lives in the seven provinces and territories west of Ontario? _____%
3. a) It looks as if the majority of Ontario's population tends to live in large urban centres. What data supports this statement? _____
b) The census metropolitan area of Toronto has a population of 4,682,897. By comparison, what is the total population of Atlantic Canada? (Atlantic Canada includes Newfoundland and Labrador, Prince Edward Island, New Brunswick, and Nova Scotia.) _____
4. a) In what province is Canada's population growing fastest? _____
Suggest why. _____
b) Find a province or territory with a negative population growth and explain why you think the population is decreasing.

5. a) What province or territory is most densely populated? _____
b) Even though Ontario and Quebec have large populations, their population densities are not as large as some others. Why? _____

c) Why are the population densities for the Yukon, Nunavut and the Northwest Territories so low?

6. Summary: According to the 2001 Census, our country has reached a population of _____ million people. Most of these people live in the provinces of _____ and _____. Most people in these provinces live in _____.

Answers to Handout 4

1. 30,007,094
2. a) 18,647,525 or 62.1%
b) 7.6%
c) 30.2%
3. a) Ten of the CMAs are located in Ontario.
b) 2,285,729
4. a) Alberta. This province's booming economy attracted an estimated net inflow of 140,000 migrants from the rest of the country.
b) - Newfoundland and Labrador. They had the strongest net outflow of interprovincial migrants of any province. It also has the nation's lowest fertility rate.
- New Brunswick. It had a net outflow of migration to other provinces.
- Nova Scotia. It had a net outflow of migration to other provinces.
- Saskatchewan. This province tends to have a net outflow of migration to other provinces, particularly because of its proximity to Alberta.
- Yukon Territory and Northwest Territories. Demographic change in the territories is quite volatile because of the small size of their population. High net outflows of migration to the rest of Canada contributed to the declines in population.
5. a) Prince Edward Island
b) Ontario and Quebec have large land areas in which few people live.
c) The Yukon, Nunavut and the Northwest Territories have low populations as well as large land areas.
6. 30,007,094
Ontario and Quebec
Census Metropolitan Areas