

The material contained in this sub-section on the growth and general distribution of the population is a condensed presentation of the results of Canadian censuses since Confederation. For comparative purposes tables dealing with the population of the various countries and colonies included in the British Empire and of the countries of the world are appended.

1.—Census Statistics of General Population.

Since the creation of the Dominion of Canada in 1867, decennial censuses have been taken on the *de jure* plan as of the dates April 2, 1871, April 4, 1881, April 5, 1891, April 1, 1901, June 1, 1911, and June 1, 1921. The population of Canada and its percentage distribution as on these dates, together with the absolute and percentage increases from decade to decade, are given in Tables 1 to 4 immediately following.

1.—Population of Canada by Provinces and Territories in the census years 1871 to 1921.¹

Provinces or Territories.	1871.	1881.	1891.	1901.	1911.	1921.
Prince Edward Island.....	94,021	108,891	109,078	103,259	93,728	88,615
Nova Scotia.....	387,800	440,872	450,396	459,574	492,338	523,837
New Brunswick.....	285,594	321,233	321,263	331,120	351,889	387,876
Quebec.....	1,191,516	1,359,027	1,488,535	1,648,898	2,005,776 ²	2,361,199
Ontario.....	1,620,851	1,926,922	2,114,321	2,182,947	2,527,292 ²	2,933,662
Manitoba.....	25,228	62,260	162,506	255,211	461,394 ³	610,118
Saskatchewan.....	—	—	—	91,279	492,432	757,510
Alberta.....	—	—	—	73,022	374,295 ³	588,454
British Columbia.....	36,247	49,459	98,173	178,657	392,480	524,582
Yukon Territory.....	—	—	—	27,219	8,512	4,157
Northwest Territories ⁴	48,000	56,446	98,967	20,129	6,507 ²	7,988
Royal Canadian Navy.....	—	—	—	—	—	435
Total.....	3,689,257	4,324,810	4,833,239	5,371,315	7,206,643	8,758,483

2.—Percentage Distribution of Canadian Population by Provinces and Territories, 1871 to 1921.

Provinces or Territories.	1871.	1881.	1891.	1901.	1911.	1921.
	p.c.	p.c.	p.c.	p.c.	p.c.	p.c.
Prince Edward Island.....	2.55	2.52	2.25	1.92	1.30	1.01
Nova Scotia.....	10.51	10.19	9.32	8.56	6.83	5.98
New Brunswick.....	7.74	7.43	6.65	6.16	4.88	4.91
Quebec.....	32.30	31.42	30.80	30.70	27.83	26.87
Ontario.....	43.04	44.56	43.74	40.64	35.07	33.38
Manitoba.....	0.68	1.44	3.16	4.75	6.40	6.94
Saskatchewan.....	—	—	—	1.70	6.84	8.62
Alberta.....	—	—	—	1.36	5.19	6.70
British Columbia.....	0.98	1.14	2.03	3.33	5.45	5.97
Yukon Territory.....	—	—	—	0.51	0.12	0.05
Northwest Territories ⁴	1.30	1.30	2.05	0.37	0.09	0.09
Royal Canadian Navy.....	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total.....	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00

¹The population of the Prairie Provinces, according to the quinquennial censuses of 1906 and 1916, was given on pp. 139-140 of the 1924 Year Book. ²As corrected as a result of the Extension of Boundaries Act, 1912. ³As corrected by transfer of population of Fort Smith (368) to Northwest Territories. ⁴The decrease shown in the population of the Northwest Territories after 1891 is due to the separation therefrom of vast areas to form Alberta, Saskatchewan and the Yukon Territory, and to extend the boundaries of Quebec, Ontario and Manitoba.