

4.—Population of Canada, by Provinces and Territories, in 1871, and Increase Per Cent, by Decades, from 1871 to 1931.

Province or Territory.	Popula- tion in 1871.	Increase per cent, by Decades, from 1871 to 1931.						Increase per cent in 60 Years.
		1871 to 1881.	1881 to 1891.	1891 to 1901.	1901 to 1911.	1911 to 1921.	1921 to 1931.	
	No.	p.c.	p.c.	p.c.	p.c.	p.c.	p.c.	p. c.
Prince Edward Island.....	94,021	15.82	0.17	-5.33	-9.23	-5.46	-0.65	-6.36
Nova Scotia.....	387,800	13.61	2.23	2.04	7.13	6.40	-2.10	32.24
New Brunswick.....	285,594	12.48	0.01	3.07	6.27	10.23	5.24	42.94
Quebec.....	1,191,516	14.06	9.53	10.77	21.64	17.69 ²	21.76	141.23
Ontario.....	1,620,851	18.88	9.73	3.25	15.77	16.08	16.98	111.72
Manitoba.....	25,228	146.79	144.95	67.34	80.79	32.23	14.75	2,675.25
Saskatchewan.....	-	-	-	-	439.48	53.83	21.69	-
Alberta.....	-	-	-	-	412.58	57.22	24.33	-
British Columbia.....	36,247	36.45	98.49	81.98	119.68	33.66	32.35	1,815.37
Yukon.....	-	-	-	-	-68.73	-51.16	1.76	-
Northwest Territories ¹	48,000	17.60	75.33	-79.66	-67.67	22.76	21.72	-79.74
Totals.....	3,689,257	17.23	11.76	11.13	34.17	21.94²	18.08	181.27

¹The decreases shown in the population of the Northwest Territories since 1891 are due to the separation therefrom of immense areas to form Yukon and the provinces of Alberta and Saskatchewan as well as to extend the boundaries of the older provinces of Quebec, Ontario and Manitoba.

²Revised in accordance with the Labrador award of the Privy Council, Mar. 1, 1927.

Early Censuses.—The credit of taking the first census of modern times belongs to Canada. The year was 1666, the census that of the colony of New France. Still earlier records of settlement at Port Royal (1605) and Quebec (1608) are extant; but the Census of 1666 was a systematic “nominal” enumeration of the people, taken on the *de jure* principle on a fixed date, showing age, sex, occupation and conjugal and family condition. A second census in 1667 included the areas under cultivation and the numbers of sheep and cattle. When it is recalled that in Europe the first census dates only from the eighteenth century (those of France and England from the first year of the nineteenth) and that, in the United States, the census begins only with 1790, the achievement of the primitive St. Lawrence colony, in instituting what is to-day one of the principal instruments of government throughout the civilized world, may call for more than passing appreciation.

The Census of 1666 (the results occupy 154 pages in manuscript, and are still to be seen in the Archives in Paris, or in a transcript at Ottawa) showed some 3,215 souls. It was repeated at intervals more or less regularly for a hundred years. By 1685 the total had risen to 10,904, including 1,538 Indians settled in villages and living a civilized life under the supervision of the missionaries. By the end of the century it had passed 15,000, and this was doubled in the next twenty-five years. Not to present further details, some of which will be found in the Chronology on pp. 54-63, it may be said that at the time of the cession (1763) the population of New France was nearly 70,000 (69,810 in 1765), whilst another 10,000 French (thinned to these proportions by the expulsion of the Acadians) were scattered through what are now Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island. The British population of Nova Scotia was 8,104 in 1762, thirteen years after the foundation of Halifax in 1749.

Our chief sources of statistics for half a century and more after the cession are the reports—more or less sporadic—of colonial governors, though censuses of the different sections under British rule were taken at irregular intervals. British settlement on a substantial scale in the Gulf provinces and in Ontario dates only from the Loyalist movement which followed the American Revolution, at the end of which, *i.e.*, about the year of the Constitutional Act (1791), the population of