

Figures showing the density of population in 1931, by counties and census divisions, were given at pp. 109-110 of the 1934-35 Year Book. Generally speaking, the density of population decreases as one travels westward, but the enormous area of the province of Quebec unduly reduces the density of its population, which was 5.49 in 1931. As among the nine provinces, the density of population is greatest in Prince Edward Island and least in British Columbia.

The densities of population in various countries in recent years are given in Table 6. It should not be assumed, however, that a low density is necessarily evidence of under-population. If density could be expressed in terms of estimated habitable area, the figures would be more comparable, but even then natural physical factors, such as climate, topography, physical condition of the soil, mineral wealth, etc., would not be adequately weighted. These considerations should be borne in mind when comparing the figures of this table.

6.—Densities of Population in Various Countries in Recent Years.

NOTE.—The following figures, for countries other than Canada and China, are based on data taken from the Statistical Year Book of the League of Nations 1936-37. The population figures of the latest census are used and total population is taken except where indicated otherwise by footnotes.

Country.	Year.	Persons per Sq. Mile.	Country.	Year.	Persons per Sq. Mile.
Belgium.....	1930	697.59	United States of America (not including Alaska).....	1930	40.57
Netherlands.....	1930	605.80	Sweden.....	1931	35.50
United Kingdom (including Channel islands and Isle of Man)	1931	490.74	Norway.....	1930	22.57
Japan.....	1935	469.50	Russia ²	1935	20.85
Germany (not including Saar Territory).....	1933	360.77	Russia in Europe ²	1935	58.06
Italy.....	1936	354.61	Union of South Africa.....	1936	20.32
China proper ¹	1931	234.87	New Zealand.....	1936	15.20
Poland.....	1931	214.51	Argentina ²	1935	11.32
India.....	1931	195.07	Southern Rhodesia.....	1931	7.38
British India.....	1931	247.67	Canada.....	1931	2.99
France.....	1936	196.97	Canada, exclusive of the Terri- tories.....	1931	5.18
Spain (including Canary islands).	1930	121.34	Commonwealth of Australia....	1933	2.23
Irish Free State.....	1936	111.33			

¹ Estimate as of Dec. 31, 1931, taken from Canada Year Book, 1934-35, p. 168.
Dec. 31, 1935.

² Estimate as at

Elements of Growth.—The former lack of comprehensive and comparable vital statistics for the whole of Canada, together with the lack of statistics of emigration, make it difficult to determine how far the growth of population since the commencement of the twentieth century is due to natural increase and how far to immigration. In Table 7 figures of movement are given as closely as they can be estimated. During the decade 1911-21, in addition to 60,000 Canadians who died overseas and nearly 20,000 who took their discharge in the United Kingdom, there were also great numbers of residents of Canada—most of them recent immigrants—who left Canada to join the forces of the Mother Country and her allies in the Great War and did not return.