

Results of the Census of 1931.—An outline of the results of the Census of 1931 is given at pp. 74-75 of the 1940 Year Book.

Microphotography as Applied to Canadian Census Records.—This method of preserving records in condensed form was introduced in the Dominion Bureau of Statistics in June, 1939. The principle of the method is that each page of record is photographed in very reduced size on a roll of film. When it becomes necessary to consult the records, the film is placed in a projector which magnifies the photographed records so that they can be read easily.

Up to the present time, the Census Branch alone is making use of microphotography, although its value for library records is also under consideration. The space required to house the census records is very great as all primary records from 1871 to the present time must be kept in readily available form. Census records provide basic data for many purposes; among other things they are used to verify applications for old age pensions, and they are fundamental to many other administrative departments of government. The micro-film, which becomes the record to which ready access is made, can be stored in less than 1 p.c. of the space required for the original records; the latter can then be stored away permanently in less valuable space.

Another advantage of the system is that constant handling of original schedules, which results in their rapid deterioration, is eliminated. The weight of the micro-film is infinitesimal as compared to the weight of the folders containing the original schedules, and so the cabinets containing the films can be conveniently brought to the point where required.

Section 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, 1921, and 1931. Summary figures are given in Tables 1-4.

1.—Population of Canada, by Provinces and Territories, Census Years 1871-1931

NOTE.—The population of the Prairie Provinces in 1906, 1916, 1926, and 1936, is shown at p. 147 of the 1937 Year Book. For intercensal estimated populations, see table at p. 7.

Province or Territory	1871	1881	1891	1901	1911	1921	1931
	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.
Prince Edward Island.....	94,021	108,891	109,078	103,259	93,728	88,615	88,038
Nova Scotia.....	387,800	440,572	450,396	459,574	492,338	523,837	512,846
New Brunswick.....	285,594	321,233	321,263	331,120	351,889	387,876	408,219
Quebec.....	1,191,516	1,359,027	1,488,535	1,648,898	2,005,776 ¹	2,360,665 ²	2,874,255
Ontario.....	1,620,851	1,926,922	2,114,321	2,182,947	2,527,292 ¹	2,933,662	3,431,683
Manitoba.....	25,228	62,260	152,506	255,211	461,394 ¹	610,118	700,139
Saskatchewan.....	—	—	—	91,279	492,432	757,510	921,785
Alberta.....	—	—	—	73,022	374,295 ³	588,454	731,605
British Columbia.....	36,247	49,459	98,173	178,657	392,480	524,582	694,263
Yukon.....	—	—	—	27,219	8,512	4,157	4,230
Northwest Territories ⁴	48,000	56,446	98,967	20,129	6,507 ^{1,3}	7,988	9,723
Canada.....	3,639,257	4,324,810	4,833,239	5,371,315	7,206,643	8,737,949²	10,376,786

¹ Corrected as a result of the Boundaries Extension Acts, 1912. ² Revised in accordance with the Labrador Award of the Privy Council, Mar. 1, 1927. The total for Canada includes 485 members of the Royal Canadian Navy who were recorded separately in 1921. ³ Corrected by transfer of population of Fort Smith (368) to Northwest Territories. ⁴ The decreases shown in the population of the Northwest Territories since 1891 are due to the separation therefrom of vast areas to form Alberta, Saskatchewan, and Yukon and to extend the boundaries of Quebec, Ontario, and Manitoba.