

Section 2.—Sex Distribution

The sex distribution of the Canadian people is characterized, as is that of any 'young' population, by a preponderance of males, although this condition has been greatly modified in recent times, especially since the rigid control of immigration following the First World War. In 1666, during the early years of settlement by the French-speaking immigrants, 63.27 p.c. of the population were males. In 1784, when the English-speaking immigration to Canada was commencing, there were 54,064 males and 50,759 females and by the middle of the nineteenth century there were 449,967 males to 440,294 females in Lower Canada, and 499,067 males to 452,937 females in the more newly settled Upper Canada. Since Confederation the newer sections of Canada—the west and the northwest—have shown the greatest excess of males.

From 1871 to 1941, for Canada as a whole, the percentage of males never dropped below 51 p.c. of the total population, whereas for western Canada it varied between 53 p.c. and 59 p.c.

7.—Sex Distribution of the People of Canada, by Provinces, 1871-1941

Province or Territory	1871		1881		1891		1901	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
P. E. Island.....	47,121	46,900	54,729	54,162	54,881	54,197	51,959	51,300
Nova Scotia.....	193,792	194,008	220,538	220,034	227,093	223,303	233,642	225,932
New Brunswick...	145,888	139,706	164,119	157,114	163,739	157,524	168,639	162,481
Quebec.....	596,041	595,475	678,175	680,852	744,141	744,394	824,454	824,444
Ontario.....	828,590	792,261	978,554	948,368	1,069,487	1,044,834	1,096,640	1,086,307
Manitoba.....	12,864	12,364	35,123	27,137	84,342	68,164	138,504	116,707
Saskatchewan.....	—	—	—	—	—	—	49,431	41,848
Alberta.....	—	—	—	—	—	—	41,019	32,003
British Columbia..	20,694	15,553	29,503	19,956	63,003	35,170	114,160	64,497
Yukon.....	—	—	—	—	—	—	23,084	4,135
N. W. T.....	24,274	23,726	28,113	28,333	53,785	45,182	10,176	9,953
Canada.....	1,869,264	1,819,993	2,188,854	2,135,956	2,460,471	2,372,768	2,751,708	2,619,607
	1911		1921		1931		1941	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
P.E. Island.....	47,069	46,659	44,887	43,728	45,392	42,646	49,228	45,819
Nova Scotia.....	251,019	241,319	266,472	257,365	263,104	249,742	296,044	281,918
New Brunswick...	179,867	172,022	197,351	190,525	208,620	199,599	234,097	223,304
Quebec.....	1,012,815	992,961	1,179,651	1,180,859	1,447,326	1,427,336	1,672,982	1,658,900
Ontario.....	1,301,272	1,226,020	1,481,890	1,451,772	1,748,844	1,682,839	1,921,201	1,866,454
Manitoba.....	252,954	208,440	320,567	289,551	368,065	332,074	378,079	351,665
Saskatchewan.....	291,730	200,702	413,700	343,810	499,935	421,850	477,563	418,429
Alberta.....	223,792	150,503	324,208	264,246	400,199	331,406	426,458	369,711
British Columbia..	251,619	140,861	293,409	231,173	385,219	309,044	435,031	382,830
Yukon.....	6,508	2,004	2,819	1,338	2,825	1,405	3,153	1,761
N. W. T.....	3,350	3,157	4,204	3,939	5,012	4,304	6,700	5,328
Canada.....	3,821,995	3,384,648	4,529,643	4,258,306	5,374,541	5,002,245	5,990,536	5,606,119

¹ Includes 485 members of the Royal Canadian Navy, who were recorded separately in 1921.

Immigration has influenced the sex distribution of the population, as between provinces, in widely different degree. In the older settlements of Quebec and parts of New Brunswick and Ontario, where the populations are of French basic stock, immigration has not played as great a part in upsetting the normal distribution of the sexes as it has in the other provinces. Even in Ontario immigrants from Continental European countries do not settle as readily and are not assimilated as completely as in the newer western provinces.