

7.—Estimates of Population, by Provinces, Intercensal Years 1931-49

NOTE.—At every census the previous post-censal data are adjusted to the newly recorded population figures. Figures for 1867-1904 will be found at p. 141 of the 1936 Year Book and for 1905-30 at p. 127 of the 1946 edition. Figures for all provinces for 1931 and 1941 are decennial census figures while those for the Prairie Provinces for 1936 and 1946 are quinquennial census figures.

Year	Nfld.	P.E.I.	N.S.	N.B.	Que.	Ont.	Man.	Sask.	Alta.	B.C.	Yukon	N. W.T.	Canada
	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000
1931.....	..	88	513	408	2,874	3,432	700	923	732	634	4	9	10,376
1932.....	..	89	519	414	2,925	3,473	705	924	740	707	4	10	10,510
1933.....	..	90	525	419	2,972	3,512	708	926	750	717	4	10	10,633
1934.....	..	91	531	423	3,016	3,544	709	928	758	727	4	10	10,741
1935.....	..	92	536	428	3,057	3,575	710	930	765	736	5	11	10,845
1936.....	..	93	543	433	3,099	3,606	711	931	773	745	5	11	10,950
1937.....	..	93	549	437	3,141	3,637	715	922	776	759	5	11	11,045
1938.....	..	94	555	442	3,183	3,672	720	914	781	775	5	11	11,152
1939.....	..	94	561	447	3,230	3,708	726	906	786	792	5	12	11,267
1940.....	..	95	569	452	3,278	3,747	728	900	790	805	5	12	11,381
1941.....	..	95	578	457	3,332	3,788	730	896	796	818	5	12	11,507
1942 ¹.....	..	90	591	464	3,390	3,884	724	848	776	870	5	12	11,654
1943 ¹.....	..	91	607	463	3,457	3,917	726	842	792	900	5	12	11,812
1944 ¹.....	..	91	612	462	3,500	3,965	732	846	818	932	5	12	11,975
1945 ¹	2	92	621	468	3,561	4,004	736	845	826	949	5	12	12,119
1946 ¹	2	94	612	480	3,630	4,101	727	833	803	1,003	8	16	12,307
1947 ¹	2	94	621	491	3,712	4,189	743	842	822	1,044	8	16	12,582
1948 ¹	2	93	635	503	3,792	4,297	757	854	846	1,082	8	16	12,883
1949 ¹	348	94	645	516	3,887	4,411	778	861	871	1,114	8	16	13,549

¹ Subject to adjustment as later data are made available. ² Estimates for Newfoundland prior to union with Canada, which took place on Mar. 31, 1949, are not included in Canada totals.

PART II.—ANALYSES OF GENERAL POPULATION

Section 1.—Rural and Urban Population

The population residing in cities, towns and incorporated villages has been defined for census purposes as 'urban' and that outside such localities as 'rural'. The distinction between rural and urban populations in Canada, therefore, is a distinction of provincial legal status rather than of size of aggregation of population within a limited area. Since the laws of the various provinces differ in regard to the population necessary before a municipality may be incorporated as urban,* the line of demarcation between rural and urban population is not uniformly drawn throughout Canada.

This basis of comparing rural and urban populations adhered to throughout the census analyses is adopted for Canada because the necessary comparable data over a long period of years required for comparison by degree of urbanization does not exist. Obviously, the populations of villages of less than 1,000 cannot be regarded as truly urban, although there is reason, for certain purposes, to distinguish them from the surrounding rural populations, in that they enjoy definite cultural advantages not possessed by the strictly rural municipalities.

Table 2 has been prepared to overcome some of the difficulties involved, and to provide a basis for comparison of urban centres by size with those of other countries. These data enable places outside any required size limits to be readily excluded. Similar data, by provinces, will be found in Vol. II of the Census of 1941.

* In Saskatchewan the original legislation of 1908 provided that a community of 50 persons on an area not greater than 640 acres might be incorporated. Several amendments have since been made and, as the Act now stands, 100 people resident on an area not greater than 240 acres may be incorporated. The Ontario law, on the other hand, requires that a village before it can be incorporated must have a population of 750 on an area not exceeding 500 acres.