

From 1871 to 1941, for Canada as a whole, the proportion 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. By 1951, however, the proportion of males to the total population had dropped to 50.6 p.c. for Canada as a whole.

12.—Sex Distribution of the Population, by Provinces or Territories, Census Years 1921-51

NOTE.—Figures for the Censuses of 1871, 1881, 1891, 1901 and 1911 are given at p. 150 of the 1948-49 Year Book.

Province or Territory	1921		1931		1941		1951	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.
Newfoundland.....	185,143	176,273
P. E. Island.....	44,887	43,728	45,392	42,646	49,228	45,819	50,218	48,211
Nova Scotia.....	266,472	257,365	263,104	249,742	296,044	281,918	324,955	317,629
New Brunswick...	197,351	190,525	208,620	199,599	234,097	223,304	259,211	256,486
Quebec.....	1,179,651	1,180,859	1,447,326	1,427,336	1,672,982	1,658,900	2,022,127	2,033,554
Ontario.....	1,481,890	1,451,772	1,748,844	1,682,839	1,921,201	1,860,454	2,314,170	2,283,372
Manitoba.....	320,567	289,551	368,065	332,074	378,079	351,665	394,818	381,723
Saskatchewan.....	413,700	343,810	499,935	421,850	477,563	418,429	434,568	397,160
Alberta.....	324,208	264,246	400,199	331,406	426,458	369,711	492,192	447,309
British Columbia..	293,409	231,173	385,219	309,044	435,031	382,830	596,961	568,249
Yukon.....	2,819	1,338	2,825	1,405	3,153	1,761	5,457	3,639
N.W.T.....	4,204	3,939	5,012	4,304	6,700	5,328	9,053	6,951
Canada.....	4,529,643¹	4,258,306	5,374,541	5,002,245	5,900,536	5,606,119	7,088,873	6,920,556

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

Age.—The age distribution of a population is fundamental to most, if not all, other analyses, for the age factor influences employment, marriage, birth rates and death rates, education, immigration, criminology and a multitude of events and activities that are of great importance in the national life.

Immigration has a strong influence on age distribution: it does not directly affect the very young sections of the population except to a small degree, but it immediately affects the age groups between the 'teens' and the 'twenties' and its effects are carried to the older groups as time goes by. Thus, the influence of the very heavy immigration of the early years of the century (1900-11) is indicated by the fact that, in 1901, 175.9 persons per 1,000 of the total population were in the age group 20-29 years and 131.3 persons per 1,000 in the group 30-39 years: a decade later, 190.7 per 1,000 were in the former group and 142.8 in the latter. Since immigration slowed down very decidedly after the outbreak of war in 1914, the influence of these earlier accretions to the population has crept through the upper age groups year by year until it has now reached those of the population in their 'fifties'.

Between 1931 and 1941 a more pronounced general ageing of the population is shown owing to practically non-existent migration and a lower birth rate—factors that were emphasized during the depression years. In 1921 the number per 1,000 of total population between 40 and 59 years of age was 183.1; it was 201 in 1931 and 209 in 1941. Greater proportional increases, however, are shown by the group 60 years of age or over; this group represented 75 per 1,000 of the total population in 1921, 84 in 1931 and no less than 102 per 1,000 in 1941.

In 1951 there were 203.19 persons per 1,000 of total population between 40 and 59 years of age and 113.66 in the group 60 years of age or over. However, there were 222.7 persons per 1,000 of total population in the under 10 years of age group in 1951 as compared with 182.3 in 1941, 212.7 in 1931 and 240.0 in 1921.