

Subsection 6.—Origins and Birthplaces

Origins.—A population composed of diverse racial stocks gives rise to political, economic and social problems quite different in nature from those of one with a small admixture of foreign elements although, to the extent that certain racial stocks are more readily assimilated than others, the problems are mitigated. It is equally true that the different educational, moral, economic, religious and political backgrounds of a people of mixed origins lend variety and diversity to the national life.

The two basic stocks of the Canadian people are the French and the English; historically the French is much the older and, excepting at the time of the 1921 Census, has always exceeded in numbers any one of the basic British stocks.

For purposes of the census a person's origin or cultural group is traced through his father. For example if a person's father is German and his mother Norwegian the origin is entered as "German". Wherever possible the origin of a person is established by asking the language spoken by the person or by his paternal ancestor when he first came to Canada.

Census of 1951 data are the latest available on origins of the population.

13.—Origins of the Population, Census Years 1931, 1941 and 1951

NOTE.—Figures for census years 1871-1921 are given in the 1948-49 Year Book, p. 154.

Origin	1931	1941	1951	Origin	1931	1941	1951
	No.	No.	No.		No.	No.	No.
British	5,381,071	5,715,904	6,709,635	Other European—			
English.....	2,741,419	2,968,402	3,630,344	concluded			
Irish.....	1,230,808	1,267,702	1,439,635	Norwegian.....	93,243	100,718	119,266
Scottish.....	1,346,350	1,403,974	1,547,470	Polish.....	145,503	167,485	219,845
Other.....	62,494	75,826	92,236	Romanian.....	29,056	24,689	23,601
				Russian.....	88,148	83,708	91,279
Other European ...	4,753,242	5,526,964	6,872,889	Swedish.....	81,306	85,396	97,780
French.....	2,927,990	3,483,038	4,319,167	Ukrainian.....	225,113	305,929	395,043
Austrian.....	48,639	37,715	32,231	Yugoslavic.....	16,174	21,214	21,404
Belgian.....	27,585	29,711	35,148	Other.....	9,392	9,787	35,616
Czech and Slovak.	30,401	42,912	63,959	Asiatic	84,548	74,064	72,827
Danish.....	34,118	37,439	42,671	Chinese.....	46,519	34,627	32,528
Finnish.....	43,885	41,683	43,745	Japanese.....	23,342	23,149	21,663
German.....	473,544	464,682	619,995	Other.....	14,687	16,288	18,636
Greek.....	9,444	11,692	13,966	Other Origins	157,925	189,723	354,028
Hungarian.....	40,582	54,598	60,460	Native Indian and			
Icelandic.....	19,382	21,050	23,307	Eskimo.....	128,890	125,521	165,607
Italian.....	98,173	112,625	152,245	Negro.....	19,456	22,174	18,020
Jewish.....	156,726	170,241	181,670	Other and not			
Lithuanian.....	5,876	7,789	16,224	stated.....	9,579	42,028	170,401
Netherlands.....	148,962	212,863	264,267	Totals	10,376,786	11,506,655	14,009,429

¹ Includes 35,416 half-breeds.

Countries of Birth.—The decennial census collects information on the country of birth of immigrant arrivals in Canada and province of birth of Canadian born. For persons born outside of Canada the country of birth as constituted at the date of the census is recorded. Table 14 gives the total population by countries of birth for the census years 1931, 1941 and 1951.