

## Subsection 3.—Housing Statistics of the 1961 Census\*

The tremendous upsurge in building construction in the 1951-61 decade is reflected in the 1961 Housing Census results† which recorded 1,145,198 more occupied dwellings in 1961 than in 1951, the total for Canada in the later year being 4,554,493. The rate of increase in occupied dwellings of 33.6 p.c. exceeded the population increase of 30.2 p.c. in the same period.

Table 21 gives a summary of housing characteristics for Canada in 1951 and 1961. In this period both owned and rented dwellings increased by about one third and single detached dwellings and apartments and flats increased at about the same proportionate rate. The median value of homes was \$11,021 in 1961 and the median monthly cash rent \$62. Almost two out of five dwellings were constructed in the postwar period, a fact reflected in part in the proportion of dwellings in need of repair, which dropped from 13.4 p.c. in 1951 to 5.6 p.c. in 1961.

## 21.—Housing Characteristics, Censuses of 1951 and 1961

Item		1951 <sup>1</sup>	P.C. of Total	1961	P.C. of Total
<b>Totals, Occupied Dwellings</b> .....	<b>No.</b>	<b>3,409,295</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>4,554,493</b>	<b>100.0</b>
<b>Tenure—</b>					
Owner-occupied.....	No.	2,236,955	65.6	3,005,587	66.0
Tenant-occupied.....	"	1,172,340	34.4	1,548,906	34.0
<b>Type—</b>					
Single detached.....	No.	2,275,615	66.7	2,978,501	65.4
Apartments, flats.....	"	885,565	26.0	1,151,098	25.3
<b>Dwellings by period of construction—</b>					
Before 1920.....	No.	..	..	1,391,719	30.6
1920-1945.....	"	..	..	1,148,389	25.2
Since 1945.....	"	..	..	2,014,385	44.2
Dwellings in need of major repair.....	No.	457,570	13.4	255,414	5.6
Av. rooms per dwelling.....	No.	5.3	...	5.3	...
Av. bedrooms per dwelling.....	"	..	..	2.7	..
Crowded dwellings <sup>2</sup> .....	"	641,820	18.8	750,942	16.5
Median value.....	\$	..	..	11,021	...
Dwellings with mortgage <sup>3</sup> .....	No.	394,910	29.3	979,966	45.5
Median monthly cash rent <sup>4</sup> .....	\$	34	...	62	...
<b>Dwellings heated principally by—</b>					
Coal or wood.....	No.	2,387,375	70.0	1,062,751	23.3
Oil.....	"	774,535	22.7	2,565,416	56.3
Gas.....	"	163,165	4.8	857,953	18.8
<b>Dwellings with—</b>					
Steam or hot water furnace.....	No.	529,465	15.5	829,984	18.2
Hot air furnace.....	"	1,052,570	30.9	2,242,237	49.2
Hot and cold running water.....	"	1,939,770	56.9	3,650,115	80.1
Bath or shower.....	"	2,072,975	60.8	3,659,520	80.3
Flush toilet.....	"	2,328,855	68.3	3,880,512	85.2
Mechanical refrigerator.....	"	1,594,980	46.8	4,145,086	91.0
Passenger automobile.....	"	1,442,595	42.3	3,114,677	68.4

<sup>1</sup> Exclusive of the Yukon and Northwest Territories.  
<sup>2</sup> Dwellings in which the number of persons exceeded the number of rooms.

<sup>3</sup> Figures relate to owner-occupied, single detached, non-farm dwellings only.

<sup>4</sup> Figures relate to non-farm dwellings only.

Table 22 gives certain 1961 housing characteristics by province. Among the provinces, Alberta had the largest proportionate gain over 1951, recording an increase of 39.5 p.c. and 99,059 dwellings; Ontario was first numerically with 459,625 more dwellings in 1961 than in 1951, an increase of 38.9 p.c. Saskatchewan had the largest proportion of the single detached type in 1961, 85.7 p.c. of its occupied dwellings being in that category. On the other hand, 49 p.c. of Quebec's dwellings were apartments or flats, the highest

\* More detailed information may be found in Vol. 11 (Part 2) of the 1961 Census (Catalogue Nos. 93-523 to 93-535).

† Based on a 20-p.c. sample of occupied dwellings across Canada. A dwelling, for census purposes, is a structurally separate set of living quarters with a private entrance either from outside the building or from a common hall or stairway inside. The entrance must not be through anyone else's living quarters.