

that certain groups are more easily integrated than others. It is equally true that the different backgrounds of various ethnic groups lend variety and diversity to the national life.

The two basic groups in the Canadian population are the French and British Isles ethnic groups. The influence of the French in Canada covers a longer period and, with the exception of the 1921 Census, this group has always exceeded in number any of the components of the British Isles ethnic group.

In 1961, each person was asked the question: "To what ethnic or cultural group did you or your ancestor (on the male side) belong on coming to this Continent?". The language spoken at the time by the person, or his paternal ancestor, was used as an aid in determining the person's ethnic group. The classification is given for 1961 in Table 14 with comparative figures for 1951 and 1941. Information on ethnic group was not collected in the 1956 Census.

14.—Distribution of the Population by Ethnic Group, Census Years 1941, 1951 and 1961

Ethnic Group	1941 ¹	1951	1961	
	No.	No.	No.	p.c.
British Isles	5,715,904	6,709,685	7,996,689	43.8
English	2,968,402	3,630,344	4,195,175	23.0
Irish	1,267,702	1,439,635	1,753,351	9.6
Scottish	1,403,974	1,547,470	1,902,302	10.4
Other	75,826	92,236	145,841	0.8
Other European	5,526,964	6,872,889	9,657,195	53.0
French	3,483,038	4,319,167	5,540,346	30.4
Austrian	37,715	32,231	106,535	0.6
Belgian	29,711	35,148	61,382	0.3
Czech and Slovak	42,912	63,959	73,061	0.4
Danish	37,439	42,671	85,473	0.5
Finnish	41,683	43,745	59,436	0.3
German	464,682	619,995	1,049,599	5.8
Greek	11,692	13,966	56,475	0.3
Hungarian	54,598	60,460	126,220	0.7
Icelandic	21,050	23,307	30,623	0.2
Italian	112,625	152,245	450,351	2.5
Jewish	170,241	181,670	173,344	1.0
Lithuanian	7,789	16,224	27,629	0.2
Netherlands	212,863	264,267	429,679	2.4
Norwegian	100,718	119,266	148,681	0.8
Polish	167,485	219,845	323,517	1.8
Romanian	24,689	23,601	43,805	0.2
Russian	83,708	91,279	119,168	0.7
Swedish	85,396	97,780	121,757	0.7
Ukrainian	305,929	395,043	473,337	2.6
Yugoslavic	21,214	21,404	68,587	0.4
Other	9,787	35,616	88,190	0.5
Asiatic	74,064	72,827	121,753	0.7
Chinese	34,627	32,528	58,197	0.3
Japanese	23,149	21,663	29,157	0.2
Other	16,288	18,636	34,399	0.2
Other Origins	189,723	354,028	462,630	2.5
Native Indian and Eskimo	125,521	165,607	220,121	1.2
Negro	22,174	18,020	32,127	0.2
Other and not stated	42,028 ²	170,401	210,382	1.2

¹ Excludes Newfoundland.

² Includes 35,416 half-breeds.

Birthplace.—Table 15 gives the total population of Canada classified by country of birth for the census years 1941, 1951 and 1961, and Table 16 shows the province of birth of Canadian-born persons for the same years. For immigrants, the country of birth was recorded according to boundaries existing at the date of the census. Information on birthplaces was not collected in the 1956 Census.