

almost half of their number were able to speak both languages at the time of the latest census. By contrast, in the rural areas of the Province of Quebec, largely because of the high preponderance of people of the French ethnic group in these areas, less than 10 p.c. of this ethnic group were able to speak both languages. On the other hand, because of the fact that a large majority of the population of rural Ontario are of non-French ethnic groups, only about 2 p.c. of their number were able to speak both languages in 1961 whereas in rural Quebec, where the non-French ethnic group constituted a relatively small percentage of the population, 22 p.c. reported ability to speak both English and French.

It is not possible in this brief review to indicate other factors contributing to differences in the degree to which both English and French are spoken by the population of French and of other ethnic groups throughout Canada. It could well be, however, that for areas with higher or lower degrees of bilingualism among French or other ethnic groups an examination of the historical statistics of the census with respect to periods of settlement of various ethnic groups, educational levels, intermarriage between French and other ethnic groups, types of industries and occupations, and so forth, might help to identify other factors that contribute to differences in this regard.

Subsection 10.—Households and Families

This Subsection contains a summary of the principal statistics on households and families recorded at the 1961 Census; more detailed information may be found in 1961 Census reports relating to households and families (see also p. 159).

A household, as defined in the census, consists of a person or a group of persons occupying one dwelling.* It usually consists of a family with or without lodgers, employees, etc. However, it may consist of a group of unrelated persons, of two or more families sharing a dwelling, or of one person living alone. Every person is a member of some household and the number of households equals the number of occupied dwellings.

The total number and the average size of households are given by province for the census years 1951, 1956 and 1961 in Table 21. The relatively stable average of persons per household indicates an almost equal rate of increase for the dwelling stock as for the population.

* A dwelling is defined as a structurally separate set of living quarters, with a private entrance either from outside the building or from a common hall, lobby, vestibule or stairway inside. The entrance must not be through another person's living quarters.

21.—Households and Persons per Household, by Province, Census Years 1951, 1956 and 1961

Province or Territory	Households			Average Persons per Household		
	1951	1956	1961	1951	1956	1961
	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.
Newfoundland	70,980	78,808	87,940	5.0	5.1	5.0
Prince Edward Island	22,454	22,682	23,942	4.3	4.2	4.2
Nova Scotia	149,555	162,854	175,341	4.2	4.1	4.0
New Brunswick	114,007	120,475	132,715	4.4	4.5	4.4
Quebec	858,784	1,001,264	1,191,469	4.6	4.4	4.2
Ontario	1,181,126	1,392,491	1,640,881	3.8	3.8	3.7
Manitoba	202,398	217,964	239,754	3.7	3.7	3.7
Saskatchewan	221,456	233,664	245,424	3.7	3.6	3.6
Alberta	250,747	294,047	349,816	3.6	3.7	3.7
British Columbia	337,777	392,403	459,534	3.3	3.4	3.4
Yukon and Northwest Territories	6,994	7,920	..	3.8	4.2
Canada	3,409,234¹	3,923,646	4,554,736	4.0¹	3.9	3.9

¹ Exclusive of the Yukon and Northwest Territories.