

The Federal Franchise.—The present federal franchise laws are contained in the Canada Elections Act (SC 1960, c. 39). The franchise is conferred upon all Canadian citizens or British subjects, men and women, who have attained the age of 21 years, are ordinarily resident in the electoral district on the date of the issue of the writ ordering an election and, in the case of British subjects other than Canadian citizens, have been ordinarily resident in Canada for twelve months prior to polling day at such election. Persons denied the right to vote are:—

- (1) the Chief Electoral Officer and the Assistant Chief Electoral Officer;
- (2) judges appointed by the Governor General in Council;
- (3) the returning officer for each electoral district;
- (4) persons undergoing punishment as inmates of any penal institution for the commission of any offence;
- (5) persons restrained of their liberty or deprived of the management of their property by reason of mental disease; and
- (6) persons disqualified under any law relating to the disqualification of electors for corrupt and illegal practices.

Prior to July 1, 1960, the list of persons denied the right to vote included "Indians ordinarily resident on an Indian reserve who were not members of His Majesty's Forces in World Wars I or II or who did not execute a waiver of exemption under the Indian Act from taxation on and in respect of personal property". Legislation proclaimed on the above-mentioned date confers upon all Indians who have attained the age of 21 years the right to vote at federal elections, without taking from them any of the rights and privileges to which they are entitled under the Indian Act. The Eskimos who are Canadian citizens possess the right to vote in federal elections, and the assumption of that right in the far-flung communities of the Canadian Far North has grown with Government establishment of electoral districts and polling facilities.

The Canadian Forces Voting Rules set out in Schedule II to the Canada Elections Act prescribe voting procedure for members of the Armed Forces of Canada and also for veterans in receipt of treatment or domiciliary care in certain institutions.

12.—Voters on the Lists and Votes Polled at the Federal General Elections of 1958, 1962 and 1963

NOTE.—Corresponding statistics for the General Elections of 1911, 1917, 1921 and 1925 are given in the 1926 Year Book, p. 82; those for 1926 in the 1945 edition, p. 66; those for 1930 and 1935 in the 1948-49 edition, p. 94; those for 1940 in the 1956 edition, p. 81; those for 1945 in the 1957-58 edition, p. 57; and those for 1949, 1953 and 1957 in the 1962 edition, p. 71.

Province or Territory	Voters on the Lists			Votes Polled		
	1958	1962	1963	1958	1962	1963
	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.
Newfoundland	204,778	215,565	221,321	160,928	155,263	152,175
Prince Edward Island	54,200	56,542	57,029	69,302 ¹	73,509 ¹	69,486 ¹
Nova Scotia	390,196	398,161	401,874	418,479 ²	423,656 ²	419,352 ²
New Brunswick	294,387	302,313	304,732	249,706	252,053	245,557
Quebec	2,576,682	2,728,191	2,807,634	2,045,199	2,117,644	2,143,246
Ontario	3,189,422	3,397,647	3,455,363	2,534,555	2,719,020	2,799,870
Manitoba	481,552	508,920	516,525	385,648	393,023	401,870
Saskatchewan	488,139	502,495	505,551	399,949	426,426	419,973
Alberta	608,820	680,253	700,920	452,977	505,752	552,164
British Columbia	830,237	891,686	921,074	629,982	691,930	740,229
Yukon Territory ³	6,071	6,762	6,878	5,469	5,978	6,051
Northwest Territories ⁴	6,716	11,790	11,856	4,945	8,502	8,663
Totals	9,131,200	9,700,325	9,910,757	7,357,139	7,772,656	7,958,636

¹ Each voter in the double-member constituency of Queens County, P.E.I., had two votes; in 1963, 26,472 voters on the list cast 42,703 votes. ² Each voter in the double-member constituency of Halifax, N.S., had two votes; in 1963, 122,846 voters on the list cast 183,402 votes. ³ Electoral District of Yukon. ⁴ Electoral District of Mackenzie River in 1958 and 1962 and Electoral District of Northwest Territories in 1963.