

17,550 Inuit. The former figure includes both registered Indians (231,000) and non-registered (64,000).

From a later source, there were 270,494 persons registered as Indians by the Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development as of December 31, 1973. These are persons who are entitled to be so registered in accordance with the terms of the Indian Act. They comprise 565 bands who occupy or have access to some 2,200 reserves having a combined area of about 6.3 million acres. Membership of these bands is distributed among the provinces and territories as shown in Table 4.22. The 29 Indian bands in the Yukon Territory and Northwest Territories are located in 59 settlements that have not been formally designated as reserves. No permanent residents of Newfoundland are registered under the Indian Act.

About two thirds of Canada's roughly 18,000 Eskimos reported in the 1971 Census live in communities in the Northwest Territories (11,400), and the remainder mainly in Arctic Quebec (3,800), Labrador (1,000), and Northern Ontario (800). As in the rest of Canada, the Eskimo birth rate has been declining in recent years, but at a faster rate and from a much higher level. By 1971 the birth rate for the Eskimo population in the Northwest Territories had decreased to about 38 per 1,000 as compared with the Canadian average of 17 per 1,000.

4.4 Households and families

This Section relates to some of the basic statistics on households and families collected in the 1971 Census. More detailed information may be found in the 1971 Census reports. Of particular interest will be the reports pertaining to households and families to be published in a series of profile studies of Canada's human resources as part of Volume V of the 1971 Census.

4.4.1 Household size and type

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. The statistics presented in this Section pertain to private households only. Collective households such as hotels, motels, institutions of various types (usually considered to contain 10 or more persons unrelated to the household head) have been excluded because their significant dissimilarities from private households could distort the household picture with respect to size and composition.

The number of private households in Canada increased to 6 million in 1971 from 4.5 million a decade earlier, a gain of almost one third. The corresponding population rate of increase was considerably lower at 18%. This difference in growth rates reflects the marked rise in recent years in the number of households consisting of only one or two persons. Table 4.23 shows that the rate of growth in the number of households was not uniform across the country. During the 1961-71 period, urban areas experienced 44.6% growth compared to only 1.9% for rural areas. Provincially, growth rates during this period ranged from 9.1% in Saskatchewan to 45.4% in British Columbia and 60.2% in the Yukon Territory and Northwest Territories. Quebec, Ontario and Alberta were the only other provinces exhibiting a growth rate higher than the national average.

Households by size. Table 4.23 also shows the average size of households by province for the census years 1961, 1966 and 1971. In the 1971 Census, the average size of Canadian households was 3.5 persons as compared to 3.7 persons in 1966 and 3.9 persons in 1961. In all these censuses, the average number of persons per household was highest in Newfoundland. While the decline in the average size of households during the period 1961-66 was attributable to mainly two provinces, New Brunswick and Quebec, a further drop in the average size during the period 1966-71 was realized in all provinces. The average household size in rural areas was 3.9 persons, compared to 3.4 persons in urban areas.

Households by type. All private-type households are divided for census purposes into two basic categories: family households and non-family households, depending upon whether or not there is a family (or families) present in the household. Table 4.24 shows the distribution of households on this basis for census years 1961, 1966 and 1971.

Family households, although they increased in number from 3.9 million in 1961 to almost 4.4 million in 1966 and to 4.9 million in 1971, dropped proportionately from 86.7% in 1961 to