



UPDATE

Canada's population was estimated at 25.1 million in April 1984 with 8.8 million people concentrated in Ontario and 6.5 million in Quebec.

The 1981 Census recorded a population of 24.3 million, up 12.9% in a decade. About 76% of the people were urban dwellers and 24% lived in rural areas. Alberta and British Columbia were the provinces with the highest growth rates, primarily because of an economic boom in the West during the 1970s.

Among trends indicated during 1976-81 were: a 40% increase of one-person households to almost one-fifth of all households, a 28% increase in lone-parent families, a 7% decrease in the number of children and a 17.9% increase in the age group of 65 years and older.

Divorces were up 128% in 1981 from 1971, largely because of changes in divorce legislation in 1968. The number of divorces dropped slightly in 1983 to 68,567, down 2.7% from 1982.