

31.—Interprovincial Movement of Population from Eastern to Western Provinces, 1911-1941

Province of Birth	Born in Specified Province	Migrants				Distribution of Migrants in the Western Provinces			
		Total		Living in the West		Man.	Sask.	Alta.	B.C.
		No.	P.C.	No.	P.C. of All Migrants				
P.E. Island.....	1911 103,410	13,966	13·51	6,810	48·76	967	1,515	1,846	2,482
	1921 101,513	17,331	17·07	8,431	48·65	1,103	2,375	2,458	2,495
	1931 99,738	17,014	17·06	8,449	49·66	994	2,283	2,353	2,819
	1941 108,423	18,626	17·18	7,324	39·32	911	1,800	2,066	2,547
Nova Scotia.....	1911 476,210	32,311	6·79	19,761	61·16	2,955	3,400	5,003	8,403
	1921 506,823	42,962	8·48	24,342	56·66	3,229	5,120	7,423	8,570
	1931 507,235	52,291	10·31	24,340	46·55	2,905	4,770	7,033	9,632
	1941 568,797	55,719	9·80	21,054	37·79	2,470	3,493	5,859	9,232
New Brunswick...	1911 345,253	25,961	7·52	12,513	48·20	1,569	1,916	2,876	6,152
	1921 378,902	33,295	8·79	14,929	44·84	1,767	2,824	4,041	6,297
	1931 403,049	42,900	10·64	14,846	34·61	1,733	2,746	3,846	6,521
	1941 463,127	51,659	11·15	12,884	24·94	1,474	2,087	3,209	6,114
Quebec.....	1911 1,939,886	113,068	5·83	41,342	36·56	10,765	12,969	10,112	7,496
	1921 2,265,540	145,179	6·41	52,739	36·33	11,794	17,735	14,970	8,240
	1931 2,696,122	154,207	5·72	48,413	31·39	9,693	15,247	14,247	9,226
	1941 3,155,549	158,060	5·01	40,863	25·85	8,019	11,457	11,760	9,627
Ontario.....	1911 2,232,325	296,629	13·29	272,364	91·82	73,110	96,206	57,530	45,518
	1921 2,505,562	330,197	13·18	291,447	88·26	67,206	104,961	68,919	50,361
	1931 2,794,631	315,733	11·30	256,831	81·34	56,613	86,538	59,194	54,486
	1941 3,123,810	288,093	9·22	211,023	73·25	45,009	62,867	48,987	54,160
Totals.....	1911 5,097,084	481,935	9·46	352,790	73·20	89,366	116,006	77,367	70,051
	1921 5,758,340	568,964	9·88	391,888	68·88	85,099	133,015	97,811	75,963
	1931 6,500,775	582,145	8·96	352,879	60·62	71,938	111,584	86,673	82,684
	1941 7,419,706	572,157	7·71	293,148	51·24	67,883	81,704	71,881	81,680

Section 8.—Rural and Urban Population

For the purposes of the Census, the population residing in cities, towns and incorporated villages has been defined as 'urban' and that outside of such localities as 'rural'. The distinction between rural and urban populations in Canada, therefore, is a distinction of provincial legal status rather than of size of aggregation of population within a limited area. Since the laws of the various provinces differ in regard to the population necessary before a municipality may be incorporated as urban,* the line of demarcation between rural and urban population is not at all uniformly drawn throughout the Dominion.

This basis of comparing rural and urban populations, which is adhered to throughout the census analyses, is, then, adopted for Canada, not because it is best, but because the necessary comparable data over a long period of years required for comparison by degree of urbanization does not exist. Obviously, the populations of villages of less than 1,000 cannot be regarded as truly urban, although there is reason, for certain purposes, to distinguish them from the surrounding rural populations, in that they enjoy definite cultural advantages not possessed by the strictly rural municipalities.

* In Saskatchewan the original legislation of 1908 provided that a community of 50 persons on an area not greater than 640 acres might be incorporated. Several amendments have since been made and as the Act now stands, 100 people resident on an area not greater than 240 acres may be incorporated. The Ontario law, on the other hand, requires that a village before it can be incorporated must have a population of 750 on an area not exceeding 500 acres.