

which amounted to 1,588,837, was only 229,000 greater than the natural increase. A feature of this period was the rapid growth of population in Western Canada, partly the result of immigration and partly the result of an influx of people from Eastern Canada. During 1931-41, the population increase was just under 11 p.c. During the depressed conditions of the 1930's, marriage and birth rates were significantly lower and only 150,000 immigrants came to Canada, although, in addition, 75,000 Canadians returned from the United States. Emigration was also much lower than in the previous decades, amounting to an estimated 250,000. Natural increase was only 1,220,000, the crude birth rate falling from 27 per thousand of the population in the 1921-25 period to 24 per thousand in the succeeding five-year period and to 20 per thousand during much of the 1931-41 decade. During 1941-51, population growth was restored to pre-depression levels. Excluding Newfoundland which became part of Canada in 1949, it amounted to 19 p.c.; including Newfoundland it was 22 p.c. Much of the increase took place in the second half of the decade, reflecting heavy postwar immigration and a sharp rise in the marriage and birth rates.

In the 1951-61 period, the population growth rate at 30 p.c. came close to approaching the extremely high rate of the first decade of the century. However, the two periods contrast in many ways. In the early period there was a wider dispersal of population increases as whole regions across the Continent were opened up; in the recent period there was a concentration of growth in urban communities although some spreading of population into newly developed northern areas took place. Natural increase accounted for about 75 p.c. of the growth. Although there was some decline in the death rate, the trend of natural increase reflected very closely that of the crude birth rate which began to rise during the War and remained high throughout the period. Net immigration accounted for the remainder of the increase; during the decade, 1,542,853 immigrants entered the country, more than double the estimated emigration. Although all provinces gained in population during 1951-61, the rates of increase varied widely. The greatest increases resulted from a combination of natural increase and net migration which in the two large provinces of Central Canada and the two most westerly provinces accounted for over 87 p.c. of the total actual increase. In contrast, increases in the other six provinces were entirely accounted for by natural increase.

### 1.—Numerical Distribution of Population by Province, and Percentage Change from Preceding Census, Decennial Census Years 1901-61

NOTE.—Populations for the decennial census years 1871, 1881 and 1891 are given in the 1956 Year Book, p. 149. The populations of the Prairie Provinces in 1906, 1916, 1926, 1936 and 1946 will be found in the 1951 edition, p. 131, and census populations for 1956 in the 1961 edition, p. 146.

Province or Territory	1901	1911	1921	1931	1941	1951	1961
NUMERICAL DISTRIBUTION							
Nfld.						361,416	457,853
P.E.I.	103,259	93,728	88,615	88,038	95,047	98,429	104,629
N.S.	459,574	492,358	523,837	512,846	577,962	642,584	737,007
N.B.	331,120	351,889	387,876	408,219	457,401	515,697	597,936
Que.	1,648,898	2,005,776	2,360,510	2,874,662	3,331,832	4,055,681	5,259,211
Ont.	2,182,947	2,527,292	2,933,662	3,431,683	3,787,655	4,597,542	6,236,092
Man.	255,211	461,394	610,118	700,139	729,744	776,541	921,686
Sask.	91,279	492,432	757,510	921,785	895,992	831,728	925,181
Alta.	73,022	374,295	588,454	731,605	796,169	939,501	1,331,944
B.C.	178,657	392,480	524,582	694,263	817,861	1,165,210	1,629,082
Y.T.	27,219	8,512	4,157	4,230	4,914	9,096	14,628
N.W.T.	20,129	6,507	8,143	9,316	12,028	16,004	22,998
<b>Canada</b>	<b>5,371,315</b>	<b>7,206,643</b>	<b>8,787,949</b>	<b>10,376,786</b>	<b>11,506,655</b>	<b>14,009,429</b>	<b>18,238,247</b>

For footnotes, see end of table, p. 178.