

Glossary

Age

Age as of July 1.

Ageing (of a population)

An increase in the **number of old persons** as a percentage of the total population.

Average absolute error of closure

Defined as the mean of the absolute percent differences between the **postcensal estimates** on Census Day and the results of the **Census adjusted for the net census undercoverage**.

Average age

The average age of a population is the average age of all its members.

Census coverage

Net census undercoverage: Difference between undercoverage and overcoverage.

Overcoverage: Number of persons who should not have been counted in the census or who were counted more than once.

Undercoverage: Number of persons who were intended to have been enumerated in a census but were not enumerated.

Census division (CD)

Refers to the general term applying to geographic areas established by provincial or territorial law, which are intermediate geographic areas between the **census subdivision** and the province or territory (e.g., divisions, counties, regional districts, regional municipalities and seven other types of geographic areas made up of groups of census subdivisions).

In Newfoundland and Labrador, Manitoba, Saskatchewan, Alberta, Yukon Territory, Northwest Territories and Nunavut, provincial or territorial law does not provide for these administrative geographic areas. Therefore, census divisions have been created by Statistics Canada in cooperation with these provinces or territories.

Census family

Refers to a married couple (with or without children of either or both spouses), a couple living **common-law** (with or without children of either or both partners) or a lone parent (of any marital status), with at least one child living in the same dwelling. The "kids" in a census family include the grandchild who live in the household of at least one of their grand-parents, in the absence of the parents.

Contrary to the definition used in the 2001 Census dictionary, same sex couples living common-law are excluded from the Census family estimates.

Census family structure

Refers to the classification of census families into **married couples** (with or without children of either or both spouses), **common-law couples** (with or without children of either or both partners), and **lone-parent families** by sex of parent. A couple living common-law may be of opposite or same sex.

Census metropolitan area (CMA)

The general concept of a census metropolitan area (CMA) is one of a very large urban area, together with adjacent urban and rural areas which have a high degree of economic and social integration with that urban area.

A CMA is delineated around an urban area (called the urbanized core and having a **population of at least 100,000** (based on the previous census)). Once an area becomes a CMA, it is retained in the program even if its population subsequently declines.

Census metropolitan areas (CMAs) are comprised of one or more **census subdivisions (CSDs)** which meet at least one of the following criteria: (1) the **CSD** falls completely or partly inside the urbanized core; (2) at least 50% of the employed labour force living in the **CSD** works in the urbanized core; or (3) at least 25% of the employed labour force working in the **CSD** lives in the urbanized core.

Cohort

Represents a group of persons who have experienced a specific demographic event during a given year. Thus, the married cohort of 2001 consists of the number of persons who got married in 2001. In the cast of births, persons born within a specified year are referred to as a generation.

Common-law union

Union consisting of two people of opposite sex or of the same sex who live together as a couple, without being legally married.

Components of demographic growth

Any of the classes of events generating population movement variations. Births, deaths, migration, marriages, divorces and new widowhoods are the components responsible for variations since they alter either the total population or the age, sex and marital status distribution of the population.

Dependency ratio

The **ratio of the combined population** aged between **0 to 19 years old** and the population **aged 65 years** and over to the population aged between **20 to 64 years old**.

Economic region (ER)

Refers to a group of complete **census divisions** (with one exception in Ontario) created as a standard geographic unit for analysis of regional economic activity.

Within the province of Quebec, economic regions ("régions administratives") are designated by law. In all other provinces or territories, economic regions are created by agreement between Statistics Canada and the provinces or territories concerned. Prince Edward Island and the three territories each consist of one economic region. In Ontario, there is one exception where the economic region boundary does not respect **census division** boundaries: the **census division** of Halton is split between the ER of Hamilton – Niagara Peninsula and the ER of Toronto.

Emigrant

Canadian citizen or **immigrant** who has left Canada to establish a permanent residence in another country.

Error of closure

Difference between the **postcensal estimate** for the same date as the census and the results of the **census adjusted for net census undercoverage**.

Generation

Unless otherwise specified, refers here to a group of persons born within a given period. The 2001 generation represents people born during the year 2001.

Immigrant

Within the framework of this publication, the term “immigrant” refers to landed immigrant or permanent resident. A permanent resident is a person who does not have Canadian citizenship at birth but was granted the right by immigration authorities to live in Canada on a permanent basis. The number of children born in other countries to parents who are Canadian citizens that reside temporarily in another country are not included in the category.

International migration

International migration represents **movement of population** between Canada and a foreign country which involves a change in the usual place of residence. A distinction is made with regard to **immigrants, emigrants, returning emigrants, net temporary emigration** and **net non-permanent residents**.

Interprovincial migration

Interprovincial migration represents movement from one province or territory involving a permanent change of residence. A person who takes up residence in another province or territory is an out-migrant with reference to the province or territory of origin and an in-migrant with reference to the province or territory of destination.

Intraprovincial migration

Intraprovincial migration represents movement from one region to another within the same province or territory involving a permanent change of residence. A person who takes up residence in another region is an out-migrant with reference to the region of origin and an in-migrant with reference to the region of destination.

Legal marital status

Indicates the legal conjugal arrangement of a person. Estimates are presented in the following categories: single, legally married (including persons who are separated), widowed or divorced.

Single: Persons who have never been married, or persons whose marriage has been annulled and have not remarried.

Legally married: Persons whose spouse is living, unless a divorce has been obtained. Persons separated are also included in this category.

Widowed: Persons who have lost their spouse through death and who have not remarried.

Divorced: Persons who have obtained a divorce and who have not remarried.

Marital status

Indicates the conjugal arrangement of a person. Estimates are presented in the following categories: single, married (including persons living common-law and persons who are separated), widowed or divorced.

Single: Persons who have never been married, or persons whose marriage has been annulled and who have not remarried, and do not live common-law.

Married (Including persons living common-law and persons who are separated): Persons whose spouse is living, unless a divorce has been obtained.

Widowed: Persons who have lost their spouse through death and who have not remarried, and who do not live common-law.

Divorced: Persons who have obtained a divorce and who have not remarried, and who do not live common-law.

Median age

The median age is an age "x", such that exactly one half of the population is older than "x" and the other half is younger than "x".

Natural increase

Variation in **population** size over a given period as a result of the difference between the numbers of births and deaths.

Net internal migration

Sum of **net intraprovincial** and **net interprovincial migration**.

Net international migration

Net international migration is obtained according to the following formula: **Immigrants + returning emigrants + net non-permanent residents – (emigrants + net temporary emigration)**.

Net interprovincial migration

Net interprovincial migration represents the difference between in-migrants and out-migrants for a given province or territory.

Net intraprovincial migration

Net intraprovincial migration represents the difference between in-migrants and out-migrants in a given region. A region can be defined as a **census division**, an **economic region** or a **census metropolitan area**.

Net non-permanent residents

Net non-permanent residents represent the variation in the number of **non-permanent residents** between two dates.

Non-permanent residents

Non-permanent residents are persons who are lawfully in Canada on a temporary basis under the authority of a temporary resident permit, along with members of their family living with them. Non-permanent residents include foreign workers, foreign students, the humanitarian population and other temporary residents. The humanitarian population includes refugee claimants and temporary residents who are allowed to remain in Canada on humanitarian grounds and are not categorized as either foreign workers or foreign students. For Demography Division, the terms non-permanent resident and temporary resident are equivalent.

Net temporary emigration

Net temporary emigration represents the variation in the number of temporary emigrants between two dates. Temporary emigration includes Canadian citizens and **immigrants** living temporarily abroad who have not maintained a usual place of residence in Canada. The estimates of persons living temporarily abroad are established base on the reverse record check (RRC). Emigrants' remains temporary if the person living abroad has intention of returning to Canada in more then six months. If the temporary emigrant's returns is unknown and the living temporarily abroad is between 6 to 24 months we consider the person as living abroad temporarily.

Permanent resident

See **immigrant**.

Population

Estimated population and population according to the census are both defined as being the number of Canadians whose usual place of residence is in that area, regardless of where they happened to be on Census Day. Also included are any Canadians staying in a dwelling in that area on Census Day and having no usual place of residence elsewhere in Canada, as well as those considered **non-permanent residents**.

Population estimate

Postcensal: Population estimate produced by using data from the most recent available census adjusted for **net census undercoverage** and estimate of the **population growth** since that last census. This estimate can be preliminary, updated or final.

Intercensal: Population estimate derived by using **postcensal** estimates and data adjusted for **net census undercoverage** of censuses preceding and following the year in question.

Population growth or total growth

Variation of population size between two dates. It can also be obtained by summing the **natural increase**, **total net migration** and if possible, **residual deviation**. It can be positive or negative.

Precocity error

Difference between preliminary and final estimate of a particular component in terms of its relative proportion of the total population for the relevant geographical area. It can be calculated for both population estimates and component of population growth.

Rate

Refers to the ratio of the number of events estimated in a year (t, t+1) to the average populations at the beginning and the end of the period. In this regard, the rates of births, deaths, divorces, marriages, etc are calculated. Generally, the rate is expressed in per 1,000.

Demographic growth or population growth: Ratio of population growth between the year t and t+1, to the average **population** of both these years. The rate is generally expressed in per 1,000.

Net census undercoverage of population: Difference between undercoverage rate and overcoverage rate.

Overcoverage of population: The ratio of the number of persons who should not have been counted in the census or who were counted more than once to the total number of persons that should have been enumerated in the census. Generally, the rate is expressed in percentage.

Undercoverage of population: The ratio of the estimated number of persons not enumerated in the census (who were intended to have been enumerated) to the total number of persons that should have been enumerated in the census. Generally, the rate is expressed in percentage.

Residual deviation

Difference between demographic **population growth** calculated using **intercensal estimates of population** between two dates and that obtained by the sum of the components for the same period. This deviation results from the distribution of the **error of closure** between years within the quinquennial period.

Returning emigrant

Canadian citizen or **immigrant** having previously emigrated from Canada and subsequently returned to the country.

Sex ratio

The ratio of the number of men to the number of women. This is not to be confused with the sex ratio at birth, which is the ratio of the number of live-born boys to the number of live-born girls. This ratio is usually expressed as an index, with the number of females taken to be a base of 100.

Sprague coefficients

Series of factors which, when multiplied to a population distributed by multiples age groups, give a distribution of the same population by single years of age.

Total net migration

Sum of **net international** and **net internal migration**.

Vital statistics

Includes all the demographic events (that is to say births, deaths, marriages and divorces) for which there exists a legal requirement to inform the Provincial or Territorial Registrar's Office.

Year

Unless otherwise specified, the term "year" refers to the period beginning July 1 of a given year and ending June 30 of the following year.