

February 8, 2012

2011 Census Population and Dwelling Counts

Statistics Canada has released the population and dwelling counts from the 2011 Census of Canada. In the Northwest Territories, the census took place last February for early enumeration areas and in May 2011 for regular enumeration areas. The national census is conducted every five years to provide a portrait of Canada and its people. This report presents the first in a series of data releases based on the 2011 census.

The population count of the Northwest Territories was 41,462 persons at the time of the 2011 census, virtually no change from the 2006 count. Results indicate that the count of occupied private dwellings in the Northwest Territories was 14,700 in 2011, an increase of 3.3% since 2006. For Canada, the population count increased by 5.9%, while the occupied private dwelling count rose by 7.1% between the 2006 and 2011 censuses. Yukon had the largest percentage increase in both the population and dwelling counts, followed by Alberta. All other provinces and territories also showed an increase in the population and dwelling counts since the last census.

**Table 1 Census Population and Occupied Private Dwelling Counts, by Province and Territory
Census Years, 2006 and 2011**

	----- Population Counts -----			---- Occupied Private Dwellings ----		
	2011 Census	2006 Census	Percent Change	2011 Census	2006 Census	Percent Change
Canada	33,476,688	31,612,897	5.9	13,320,614	12,435,520	7.1
Northwest Territories	41,462	41,464	0.0	14,700	14,224	3.3
Nunavut	31,906	29,474	8.3	8,661	7,855	10.3
Yukon	33,897	30,372	11.6	14,117	12,615	11.9
British Columbia	4,400,057	4,113,487	7.0	1,764,637	1,642,715	7.4
Alberta	3,645,257	3,290,350	10.8	1,390,275	1,256,192	10.7
Saskatchewan	1,033,381	968,157	6.7	409,645	387,160	5.8
Manitoba	1,208,268	1,148,401	5.2	466,138	448,766	3.9
Ontario	12,851,821	12,160,282	5.7	4,887,508	4,554,251	7.3
Quebec	7,903,001	7,546,131	4.7	3,395,343	3,188,713	6.5
New Brunswick	751,171	729,997	2.9	314,007	295,871	6.1
Nova Scotia	921,727	913,462	0.9	390,279	376,829	3.6
Prince Edward Island	140,204	135,851	3.2	56,462	53,084	6.4
Newfoundland and Labrador	514,536	505,469	1.8	208,842	197,245	5.9

For population counts in the three largest NWT communities, Yellowknife had a count of 19,234 persons at the time of 2011 census, while Hay River had a count of 3,606 persons and for Inuvik it was 3,463 persons (Table 2). The population count in Yellowknife was higher than in the last census, while both Hay River and Inuvik had lower counts.

In many NWT communities, the percentage change in the count of occupied private dwellings is greater than the change in population counts between the 2006 and 2011 censuses. This pattern reflects that many communities had a decline in the number of persons per dwelling and may be indicative of a general improvement (i.e., decline) in crowding issues.

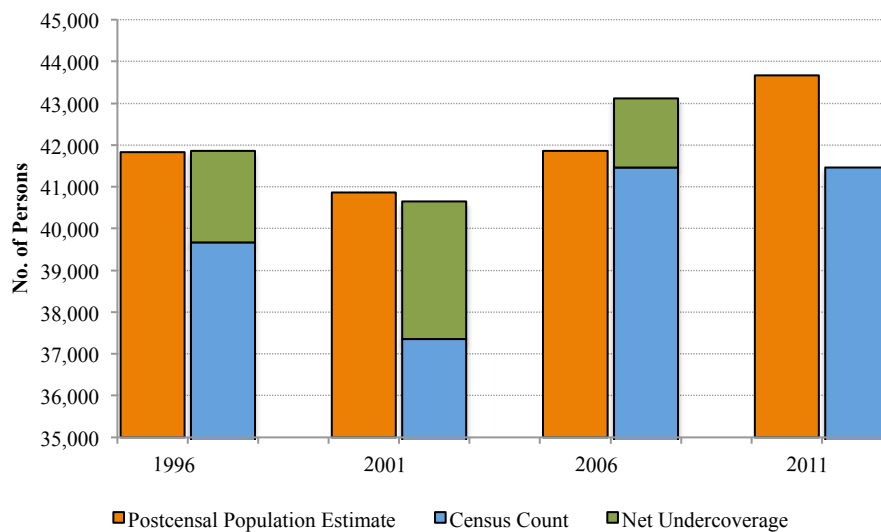
**Table 2 Population and Occupied Private Dwelling Counts, by Community and Region
Northwest Territories, Census Years 2006 and 2011**

	----- Population Counts-----		-- Occupied Private Dwellings --	
	2011 Census	2006 Census	2011 Census	2006 Census
Northwest Territories	41,462	41,464	14,700	14,224
Aklavik	633	594	226	218
Colville Lake	149	126	36	35
Déjine	472	525	159	173
Fort Good Hope	515	557	177	176
Fort McPherson	792	776	266	265
Inuvik	3,463	3,484	1,279	1,246
Norman Wells	727	761	309	302
Paulatuk	313	294	87	75
Sachs Harbour	112	122	42	45
Tsiigehtchic	143	175	56	60
Tuktoyaktuk	854	870	267	274
Tulita	478	505	144	144
Ulukhaktok	402	398	138	134
Inuvik Unorganized	-	5	1	2
Behchokò	1,926	1,894	458	449
Detah	210	247	67	77
Enterprise	87	97	34	37
Fort Liard	536	583	174	175
Fort Providence	734	727	258	233
Fort Resolution	474	484	189	175
Fort Simpson	1,238	1,216	485	434
Fort Smith	2,093	2,364	776	868
Gamèti	253	283	67	71
Hay River	3,606	3,648	1,405	1,318
Hay River Reserve	292	309	89	87
Jean Marie River	64	81	20	23
Kakisa	45	52	15	14
Lutselk'e	295	318	110	111
Nahanni Butte	102	115	40	35
Pine Point	-	-	-	-
Reliance	5	10	2	2
Salt Plains	-	-	1	-
Trout Lake	92	86	33	30
Tungsten	-	-	-	-
Wekweèti	141	137	30	35
Whati	492	460	124	113
Wrigley	133	122	43	43
Yellowknife	19,234	18,700	6,938	6,616
Fort Smith Unorganized	357	339	155	129

It is very important to note that Census counts are not the same as population estimates. Although the census tries to enumerate the entire population, inevitably these counts are subject to coverage error (i.e., some people are missed or counted more than once during enumeration). More specifically, the primary difference between estimates and counts is due to net undercoverage (i.e., more people are missed than counted more than once). To estimate the extent of census coverage error, Statistics Canada conducts coverage studies in all provinces and territories after each census. Results from these studies along with the census counts are used to produce revised population estimates.

Figure 1 illustrates the historical extent of net undercoverage in the NWT from past censuses. For the 1996 census, a coverage adjustment of 5.22% was applied to the population count, while for 2001 the coverage adjustment increased significantly to 8.11% and for 2006 it fell to 3.84%. The lower adjustment in 2006 indicates that there was better coverage than in the two previous censuses. Postcensal coverage study results from the 2011 Census will be released by Statistics Canada in September 2013.

**Figure 1 Population Estimates, Counts and Net Undercoverage
Northwest Territories, Census Years 1996 - 2011**



An important point to note is that the postcensal population estimate (i.e., the preliminary population estimate at the time of the census data release) has been higher than the census population count. For example, the difference between the 1996 census count and the postcensal population estimate was 2,157 persons. After the adjustment for net undercoverage, the revised 1996 estimate was virtually the same as the preliminary estimate. By comparison, the difference between the 2006 census count and the preliminary estimate was only 397 persons. After the coverage adjustment, the revised 2006 population estimate was considerably higher than the preliminary estimate.

For the 2011 census, the difference between the postcensal population estimate and the census count was 2,213 persons, which is a larger difference than in the 2006 census. The larger difference suggests that either coverage error was greater in the 2011 census or that recent population estimates released by Statistics Canada have overestimated the NWT population. As noted above, however, the extent of net undercoverage will not be known until September 2013.

Tables 3 and 4 show the historical community-level population and private occupied dwelling counts for the census years from 1981 to 2011.

**Table 3 Historical Census Population Counts, by Community and Region
Northwest Territories, Census Years 1981 to 2011**

	2011	2006	2001	1996	1991	1986	1981
Northwest Territories	41,462	41,464	37,360	39,672	36,405	33,830	30,129
Aklavik	633	594	632	727	801	763	721
Colville Lake	149	126	102	90	69	52	57
Déljine	472	525	536	616	551	532	521
Fort Good Hope	515	557	549	644	602	562	463
Fort McPherson	792	776	761	878	759	760	632
Inuvik	3,463	3,484	2,894	3,296	3,206	3,389	3,147
Norman Wells	727	761	666	798	627	627	420
Paulatuk	313	294	286	277	255	193	174
Sachs Harbour	112	122	114	135	125	158	161
Tsiigehtchic	143	175	195	162	144	108	120
Tuktoyaktuk	854	870	930	943	918	929	772
Tulita	478	505	473	450	375	332	286
Ulukhaktok	402	398	398	423	361	303	300
Inuvik Unorganized	-	5	-	8	59	6	11
Behchokò	1,926	1,894	1,552	1,662	1,521	1,378	1,378
Detah	210	247	182	190	150	131	143
Enterprise	87	97	61	86	49	56	46
Fort Liard	536	583	530	512	485	395	405
Fort Providence	734	727	753	748	645	588	605
Fort Resolution	474	484	525	536	515	447	480
Fort Simpson	1,238	1,216	1,163	1,257	1,142	987	980
Fort Smith	2,093	2,364	2,185	2,441	2,480	2,460	2,312
Gamèti	253	283	274	256	252	183	200
Hay River	3,606	3,648	3,510	3,611	3,253	3,006	2,911
Hay River Reserve	292	309	269	253	216	180	..
Jean Marie River	64	81	50	53	49	64	69
Kakisa	45	52	40	36	39	30	36
Lutselk'e	295	318	248	304	286	273	253
Nahanni Butte	102	115	107	75	85	84	85
Pine Point	-	-	-	-	9	1,558	1,861
Reliance	5	10	-	2	10	11	15
Salt Plains	-	-	-	11	4	14	7
Trout Lake	92	86	70	68	66	54	59
Tungsten	-	-	-	-	-	238	320
Wekweèti	141	137	131	135	127	119	69
Whati	492	460	453	418	392	345	268
Wrigley	133	122	165	167	174	161	137
Yellowknife	19,234	18,700	16,541	17,275	15,179	11,753	9,483
Fort Smith Unorganized	357	339	15	129	425	601	222

**Table 4 Historical Occupied Private Dwelling Counts, by Community and Region
Northwest Territories, Census Years 1981 to 2011**

	2011	2006	2001	1996	1991	1986	1981
Northwest Territories	14,700	14,224	12,565	12,704	11,377	9,979	8,493
Aklavik	226	218	220	218	215	194	164
Colville Lake	36	35	30	22	16	11	14
Déljine	159	173	150	172	130	104	106
Fort Good Hope	177	176	155	176	141	115	100
Fort McPherson	266	265	240	264	191	172	128
Inuvik	1,279	1,246	1,015	1,135	1,119	1,056	941
Norman Wells	309	302	270	285	242	240	133
Paulatuk	87	75	65	55	52	39	28
Sachs Harbour	42	45	35	40	41	44	35
Tsiigehtchic	56	60	60	49	38	29	25
Tuktoyaktuk	267	274	275	254	249	206	140
Tulita	144	144	130	129	110	79	67
Ulukhaktok	138	134	130	125	106	74	65
Inuvik Unorganized	1	2	..	7	18	1	1
Behchokò	458	449	390	377	319	250	235
Detah	67	77	50	56	36	30	26
Enterprise	34	37	25	31	19	19	16
Fort Liard	174	175	160	144	135	96	76
Fort Providence	258	233	230	223	169	123	128
Fort Resolution	189	175	190	183	157	121	122
Fort Simpson	485	434	405	421	385	293	255
Fort Smith	776	868	815	797	791	754	651
Gamèti	67	71	70	58	51	34	34
Hay River	1,405	1,318	1,240	1,224	1,118	981	929
Hay River Reserve	89	87	75	70	58	41	..
Jean Marie River	20	23	20	18	15	13	12
Kakisa	15	14	15	11	12	7	6
Lutselk'e	110	111	65	84	72	53	46
Nahanni Butte	40	35	..	24	23	19	14
Pine Point	-	-	-	-	2	504	514
Reliance	2	2	..	1	4	3	5
Salt Plains	1	-	..	5	2	6	..
Trout Lake	33	30	25	24	22	16	15
Tungsten	-	-	-	-	-	77	69
Wekweèti	30	35	35	35	21	18	13
Whati	124	113	100	87	67	52	34
Wrigley	43	43	50	49	51	37	28
Yellowknife	6,938	6,616	5,795	5,807	5,020	3,894	3,234
Fort Smith Unorganized	155	129	..	44	160	174	84

Planned Release Dates for 2011 Census Information

February 8, 2012	Population and Dwelling Counts
May 29, 2012	Age and Sex
September 19, 2012	Families, Households and Marital Status Structural Type of Dwelling and Collectives
October 24, 2012	Language

Planned Release Dates for the National Household Survey (NHS) Information to be Announced.

For more information, contact:

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