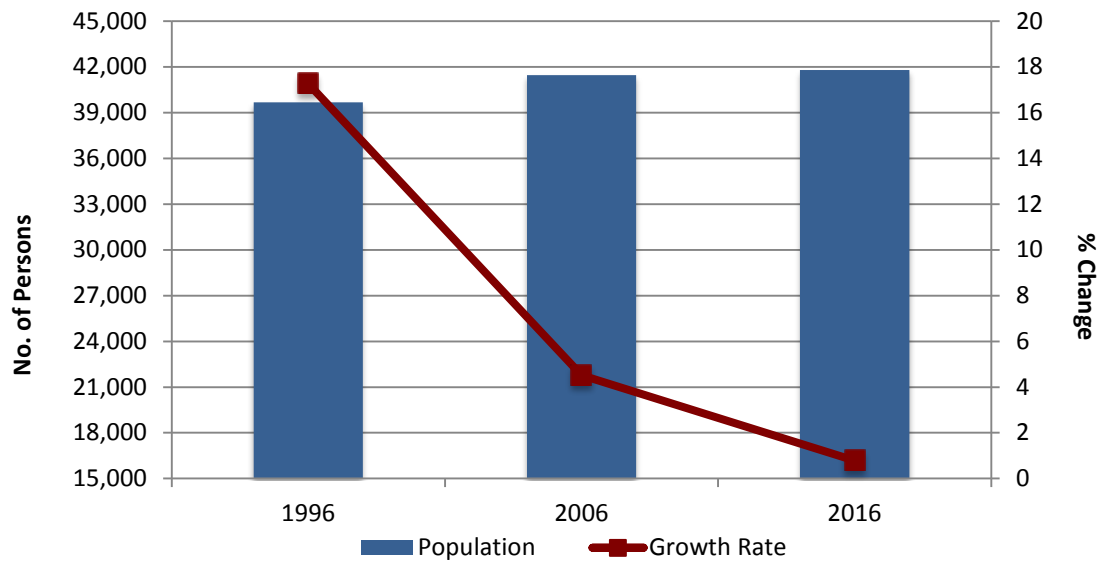


## 2016 Census Population and Dwelling Counts

Every five years, Statistics Canada conducts a national Census that counts the number of persons living in Canada at a particular point in time. Today, Statistics Canada released the first information on population and dwelling counts from the 2016 Census.

The population count for the Northwest Territories was 41,786 persons at the time of the 2016 Census, an increase of 0.8% from 2006. By comparison, the ten-year growth rate between 1986 and 1996 was 17.3% and 4.5% between 1996 and 2006 (Figure 1).

**Figure 1: Population Counts and Ten-year Growth Rates  
Northwest Territories, Census Years 1996, 2006 and 2016**



Compared to 2006, over two-thirds of the 33 official communities in the Northwest Territories experienced population declines. Population growth was noted for Colville Lake, Deline, Enterprise, Fort Smith, Norman Wells, Sambaa K'e, Tuktoyaktuk, Whati and Yellowknife (Table 1).

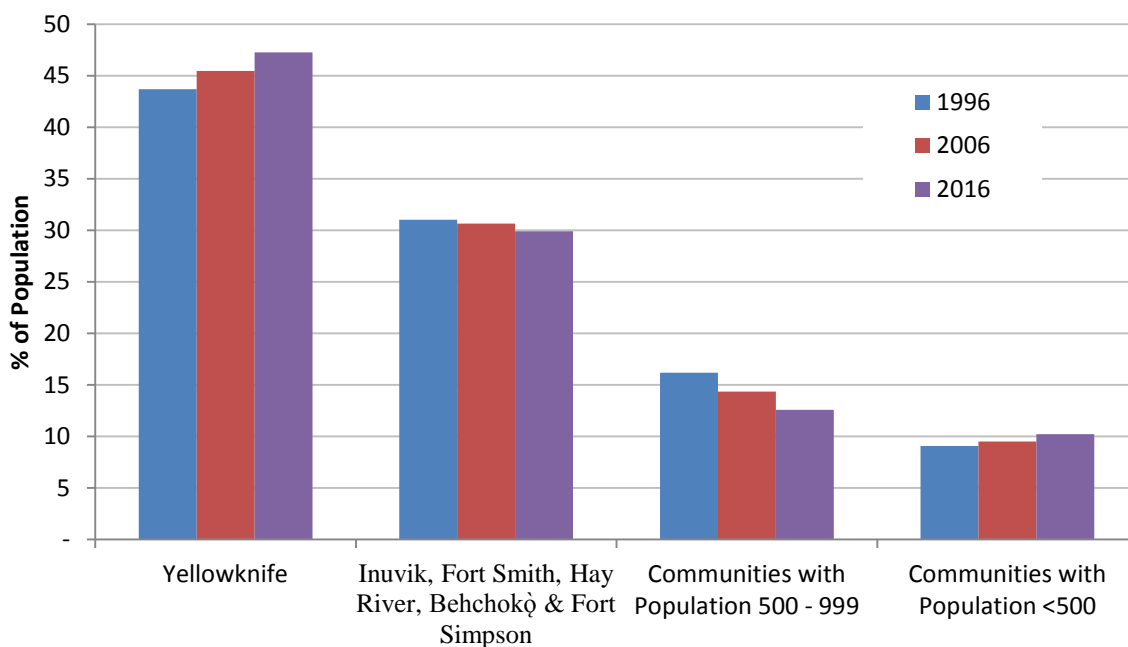
**Table 1: Population and Occupied Private Dwelling Counts, by Community and Region  
Northwest Territories, Census Years 2006 and 2016**

	Population Count			Dwelling Count			Persons per Dwelling	
	2016 Census	2006 Census	% Change	2016 Census	2006 Census	% Change	2016 Census	2006 Census
<b>Northwest Territories</b>	<b>41,786</b>	<b>41,464</b>	<b>0.8</b>	<b>14,981</b>	<b>14,224</b>	<b>5.3</b>	<b>2.8</b>	<b>2.9</b>
<b>Beaufort Delta Region</b>	<b>6,372</b>	<b>6,718</b>	<b>-5.2</b>	<b>2,248</b>	<b>2,317</b>	<b>-3.0</b>	<b>2.8</b>	<b>2.9</b>
Aklavik	590	594	-0.7	214	218	-1.8	2.8	2.7
Fort McPherson	700	776	-9.8	270	265	1.9	2.6	2.9
Inuvik	3,243	3,484	-6.9	1,181	1,246	-5.2	2.7	2.8
Paulatuk	265	294	-9.9	88	75	17.3	3.0	3.9
Sachs Harbour	103	122	-15.6	39	45	-13.3	2.6	2.7
Tsiigehtchic	172	175	-1.7	62	60	3.3	2.8	2.9
Tuktoyaktuk	898	870	3.2	268	274	-2.2	3.4	3.2
Ulukhaktok	396	398	-0.5	125	134	-6.7	3.2	3.0
<b>Dehcho Region</b>	<b>3,160</b>	<b>3,330</b>	<b>-5.1</b>	<b>1,138</b>	<b>1,074</b>	<b>6.0</b>	<b>2.8</b>	<b>3.1</b>
Fort Liard	500	583	-14.2	164	175	-6.3	3.0	3.3
Fort Providence	695	727	-4.4	247	233	6.0	2.8	3.1
Fort Simpson	1,202	1,216	-1.2	471	434	8.5	2.6	2.8
Hay River Dene 1	309	309	0.0	87	87	0.0	3.6	3.6
Jean Marie River	77	81	-4.9	23	23	0.0	3.3	3.5
Kakisa	36	52	-30.8	12	14	-14.3	3.0	3.7
Nahanni Butte	87	115	-24.3	34	35	-2.9	2.6	3.3
Sambaa K'e	88	86	2.3	32	30	6.7	2.8	2.9
Wrigley	119	122	-2.5	45	43	4.7	2.6	2.8
<b>Sahtu Region</b>	<b>2,433</b>	<b>2,474</b>	<b>-1.7</b>	<b>858</b>	<b>830</b>	<b>3.4</b>	<b>2.8</b>	<b>3.0</b>
Colville Lake	129	126	2.4	37	35	5.7	3.5	3.6
Déjūne	533	525	1.5	188	173	8.7	2.8	3.0
Fort Good Hope	516	557	-7.4	165	176	-6.3	3.1	3.2
Norman Wells	778	761	2.2	314	302	4.0	2.5	2.5
Tulita	477	505	-5.5	154	144	6.9	3.1	3.5
<b>South Slave Region</b>	<b>6,980</b>	<b>6,958</b>	<b>0.3</b>	<b>2,692</b>	<b>2,511</b>	<b>7.2</b>	<b>2.6</b>	<b>2.8</b>
Enterprise	106	97	9.3	44	37	18.9	2.4	2.6
Fort Resolution	470	484	-2.9	190	175	8.6	2.5	2.8
Fort Smith	2,542	2,364	7.5	957	868	10.3	2.7	2.7
Hay River	3,528	3,648	-3.3	1,383	1,318	4.9	2.6	2.8
Łutselk'e	303	318	-4.7	110	111	-0.9	2.8	2.9
<b>Tłı̄chō Region</b>	<b>2,751</b>	<b>2,774</b>	<b>-0.8</b>	<b>705</b>	<b>668</b>	<b>5.5</b>	<b>3.9</b>	<b>4.2</b>
Behchokō	1,874	1,894	-1.1	471	449	4.9	4.0	4.2
Gamètì	278	283	-1.8	76	71	7.0	3.7	4.0
Wekweètì	129	137	-5.8	30	35	-14.3	4.3	3.9
Whatì	470	460	2.2	128	113	13.3	3.7	4.1
<b>Yellowknife Region</b>	<b>20,090</b>	<b>19,210</b>	<b>4.6</b>	<b>7,340</b>	<b>6,693</b>	<b>9.7</b>	<b>2.7</b>	<b>2.9</b>
Detah	219	247	-11.3	74	77	-3.9	3.0	3.2
Yellowknife	19,569	18,700	4.6	7,131	6,616	7.8	2.7	2.8

Note: Information on unorganized areas is not shown in the table, but is included in the NWT and regional totals.

Examining population by community size, Yellowknife was home to 47% of the Northwest Territories' residents in May 2016, an increase of 3.6 percentage points from 1996 (Figure 2). Larger communities with populations between 1,000 and 5,000 (Behchokò, Fort Simpson, Fort Smith, Hay River and Inuvik) comprised about 30% of the Northwest Territories while nearly 13% lived in mid-size communities with populations of 500 to 1,000. The remaining 10% of the population resided in small communities with less than 500 people. Although small communities represent the smallest number of residents, their share of the total population has been consistent over the past 20 years.

**Figure 2: Percent of the NWT Total Population by Community Size, Northwest Territories, Census Years 1996, 2006 and 2016**



Over the past twenty years, the Northwest Territories' population grew by 5.3%, while the number of private occupied dwelling increased by 17.9%. In many communities, the percentage change in the count of occupied private dwellings is greater than the change in population counts between 2006 and 2016 reflecting a decline in the number of persons per dwelling.

In Canada, the population count increased by 11.2%, while the occupied private dwelling count rose by 13.2% between 2006 and 2016. At nearly 24%, Alberta had the largest percentage increase in population, followed by Nunavut at 22%. This order reversed for the occupied private dwelling counts - the highest increase was in Nunavut (25%) followed by Alberta (22%). Although, all provinces and territories experienced increases compared to 2006, the Northwest Territories had the smallest growth in population and dwelling counts.

**Table 2: Census Population and Occupied Private Dwelling Counts, by Province and Territory  
Census Years, 2006 and 2016**

	Population Counts			Occupied Private Dwellings		
	2016 Census	2006 Census	% Change	2016 Census	2006 Census	% Change
Canada	35,151,728	31,612,897	11.2	14,072,079	12,435,520	13.2
Northwest Territories	41,786	41,464	0.8	14,981	14,224	5.3
Nunavut	35,944	29,474	22.0	9,819	7,855	25.0
Yukon	35,874	30,372	18.1	15,215	12,615	20.6
British Columbia	4,648,055	4,113,487	13.0	1,881,969	1,642,715	14.6
Alberta	4,067,175	3,290,350	23.6	1,527,678	1,256,192	21.6
Saskatchewan	1,098,352	968,157	13.4	432,622	387,160	11.7
Manitoba	1,278,365	1,148,401	11.3	489,050	448,766	9.0
Ontario	13,448,494	12,160,282	10.6	5,169,174	4,554,251	13.5
Quebec	8,164,361	7,546,131	8.2	3,531,663	3,188,713	10.8
New Brunswick	747,101	729,997	2.3	319,773	295,871	8.1
Nova Scotia	923,598	913,462	1.1	401,990	376,829	6.7
Prince Edward Island	142,907	135,851	5.2	59,472	53,084	12.0
Newfoundland and Labrador	519,716	505,469	2.8	218,673	197,245	10.9

It should be noted that the numbers released today are Census counts and not population estimates. Although the Census of population tries to enumerate the entire population, inevitably persons and dwellings are missed (undercoverage) or counted more than once (overcoverage). Population estimates incorporating the 2016 Census and results of coverage studies will be released in September 2018.

Population and dwelling counts were the first release of information from the 2016 Census. Other characteristics of the population such as age, sex, marital status, income and education will be available later in the year. The next release will be May 3, 2017 on the age and sex of the population and types of dwellings.

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