

April 2, 2008

Visible Minorities and Ethnic Origin

— 2006 Census —

Statistics Canada today released information on Visible Minorities and Ethnic Origin from the 2006 census. The national census is conducted every five years, primarily to count all persons and dwellings in Canada. In the Northwest Territories, the census was undertaken in March and May of 2006. This report presents the seventh in a series of releases based on the 2006 census results.

A few of the highlights for the Northwest Territories from the release include:

- In the NWT 2,270 persons reported belonging to a visible minority, accounting for 5.5% of the total population.
- Between 1996 and 2006, the NWT's visible minority population increased by 50%, from 1,515 to 2,270.
- Filipino's accounted for 30% of the visible minority population in 2006; the Filipino population has increased by 75% since 1996.
- In the NWT, 'Aboriginal' (comprised of North American Indian, Inuit and Metis) was the most frequently reported ethnic origin.
- The five specific ethnic origins most frequently reported in the NWT were: North American Indian, English, Canadian, Scottish, and Irish.

Table 1 presents a breakdown of the visible minority population for the NWT and Yellowknife.

For the purpose of the census results on visible minorities, the term 'visible minority' is defined in the Employment Equity Act as "persons; other than Aboriginal peoples; who are non-Caucasian in race or non-white in colour".

Table 1 Population of Visible Minorities
Northwest Territories and Yellowknife
2006

	NWT	%	Yellowknife	%
Total	41,060	100.0	18,510	100.0
All Visible Minorities	2,270	5.5	1,830	9.9
Filipino	690	1.7	575	3.1
Black	375	0.9	315	1.7
Southeast Asian	355	0.9	335	1.8
Chinese	320	0.8	245	1.3
South Asian	210	0.5	135	0.7
Latin American	85	0.2	70	0.4
All Others	235	0.5	155	0.9

In 2006, Filipino's continued to represent the largest component of the visible minority population, accounting for 30% of all visible minorities and 1.7% of the total NWT population. Between 1996 and 2006, the Filipino population in the NWT increased by 75%. Over the same period, persons identifying themselves as Black increased by 108%, while Southeast Asians (including, for example: 'Vietnamese', 'Cambodian', 'Malaysian', 'Laotian', etc.) and Chinese increased by 82% and 5% respectively.

Table 1 shows that the majority of the visible minority population resides in Yellowknife – at the top end, 94% of Southeast Asians, and at the low end 64% of South Asians (including, for example: 'East Indian', 'Pakistani', 'Sri Lankan', etc.).

Table 2 presents the top 25 reported ethnic origins for the NWT for 2006. In the NWT, 'Aboriginal' (comprised of North American Indian, Inuit and Metis) was the most frequently reported ethnic origin with 15,020 recorded single responses and 7,355 multiple responses (where respondents identified with more than one ethnic category).

The 2006 census enumerated over 6,000 people in the NWT who identified, in whole or in part, as being 'Canadian'.

Table 2 Top 25 NWT Ethnic Origins
Northwest Territories and Yellowknife
2006

	Northwest Territories			Yellowknife		
	Total	Single Response	Multiple Response	Total	Single Response	Multiple Response
Total population	41,060	25,110	15,950	18,510	8,750	9,755
North American Indian	14,975	10,740	4,235	2,800	1,360	1,445
English	7,050	1,315	5,730	5,175	900	4,280
Canadian	6,050	3,005	3,045	4,335	1,905	2,435
Scottish	5,875	750	5,125	3,850	490	3,355
Irish	4,860	470	4,385	3,295	260	3,035
Inuit	4,580	3,175	1,405	725	375	350
French	4,305	450	3,855	2,595	250	2,345
German	3,495	560	2,930	2,410	385	2,025
Métis	2,820	1,105	1,715	1,215	320	890
Ukrainian	1,445	225	1,220	980	130	850
Dutch (Netherlands)	965	195	770	640	110	530
Polish	765	80	680	535	50	485
Filipino	745	575	170	615	490	130
Welsh	735	70	660	615	55	560
Norwegian	670	105	560	430	80	350
British Isles	660	160	495	395	55	335
Italian	610	145	460	485	125	365
American	515	40	475	250	15	235
Chinese	470	280	185	360	225	135
Swedish	470	45	425	300	40	260
Vietnamese	340	265	80	335	260	80
Danish	335	45	295	155	15	140
Russian	290	25	270	150	10	140
Spanish	200	20	185	160	10	145
Hungarian (Magyar)	195	30	165	125	15	110

Detailed tables presenting all aspects of the census release on Ethnic origin and Visible Minorities, along with this newstat, will be available on the NWT Bureau of Statistics' website at:

http://www.stats.gov.nt.ca/Statinfo/Census/census%2006/_2006census.html

Also available at this link are all previous 2006 census releases, along with a schedule of upcoming releases.

Planned Release Dates for 2006 Census Information

March 13, 2007	Population and Dwelling Counts
July 17, 2007	Age and Sex
September 12, 2007	Marital and Common-Law Status, Families, Households, Housing and Dwelling Characteristics
December 4, 2007	Language, Immigration, Citizenship, and Mobility and Migration
January 15, 2008	Aboriginal Peoples
March 4, 2008	Labour Market Activity, Industry, Occupation, Education, Language of Work, Place of Work, and Mode of Transportation
April 2, 2008	Ethnic Origin, and Visible Minorities
May 1, 2008	Income, Earnings, and Shelter Costs

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