



Northwest Territories Population July 2023

Today, Statistics Canada released the first population estimates based on the 2021 Census and adjusted for those who were missed or counted more than once. On July 1, 2023, there were an estimated 44,972 persons living in the Northwest Territories, an increase of 0.6% from the previous year. By comparison, Canada's population increased by 3.0%, the largest annual increase since 1957. All jurisdictions saw population increases with Alberta experiencing the largest growth followed by Prince Edward Island, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, and Ontario (Table 1). For the first time, Yukon's estimated population surpassed the Northwest Territories.

Table 1 Population Estimates and Annual Rate of Growth, by Province and Territory
July 1, 2020 to July 1, 2023

	2023 01-Jul	(%) Change	2022 01-Jul	(%) Change	2021 01-Jul	(%) Change	2020 01-Jul	(%) Change
Canada	40,097,761	3.0	38,939,056	1.8	38,239,864	0.6	38,028,638	1.1
Northwest Territories	44,972	0.6	44,685	0.2	44,579	0.2	44,504	0.1
Nunavut	40,673	0.5	40,485	1.0	40,086	1.5	39,479	1.6
Yukon	44,975	2.4	43,905	2.2	42,961	2.4	41,958	1.9
British Columbia	5,519,013	3.0	5,356,284	2.5	5,226,665	1.0	5,176,101	1.3
Alberta	4,695,290	4.1	4,510,891	1.8	4,431,531	0.5	4,407,495	1.2
Saskatchewan	1,209,107	2.6	1,178,422	0.9	1,167,711	0.0	1,167,386	0.3
Manitoba	1,454,902	2.9	1,413,409	1.5	1,391,924	0.9	1,380,132	0.7
Ontario	15,608,369	3.1	15,145,006	2.0	14,842,488	0.5	14,761,811	1.3
Quebec	8,874,683	2.3	8,672,185	1.2	8,572,020	0.2	8,551,095	0.8
New Brunswick	834,691	3.1	809,568	2.4	790,802	0.9	783,432	0.8
Nova Scotia	1,058,694	3.2	1,025,445	2.6	999,908	1.1	989,168	1.4
Prince Edward Island	173,787	3.9	167,188	3.1	162,133	1.8	159,193	2.2
Newfoundland & Labrador	538,605	1.3	531,583	0.9	527,056	0.0	526,884	-0.1

Between July 1, 2022 and July 1, 2023, the population in the NWT increased by 287 persons. Similar to Canada, net international migration drove the growth, complemented by natural increase. The components of natural increase during this period consisted of 502 births and 312 deaths, resulting in a net increase of 190 persons. Interprovincial migration accounted for 2,217 persons moving into the Northwest Territories from other provinces and territories, while 2,649 persons moved away, representing a net loss of 432 persons. Internationally, there was a net in-migration of 529 persons.

The detailed components of population change for the Northwest Territories since 2017 are presented in Table 2.

As indicated above, this is the first set of population estimates that are based on the 2021 Census. Following each Census, Statistics Canada conducts coverage studies to estimate the number of persons missed during enumeration and those who were counted more than once. For the NWT, approximately 8% of the population was missed during Census collection, the highest amongst all jurisdictions. Population estimates released today differ from those that were previously released which were based on the 2016 Census. Data from 2022 onward will be revised over the coming years, and it is possible that trends will change as a result of future revisions. Population estimates by age and gender for July 1, 2023 will be released on February 21, 2024.

For more information about these estimates or for community level population estimates and projections, please visit the NWT Bureau of Statistics website at <http://www.statsnwt.ca> or call (867) 767-9169.

Table 2 Components of Population Change, by Time Period
Northwest Territories – January 1, 2018 to July 1, 2023

		Beginning Population	Ending Population	Births	Deaths	Interprovincial Migration			Net International	Error of Closure
						In	Out	Net		
2023	Apr-Jun	44,678	44,972	118	68	759	688	71	173	-
	Jan-Mar	44,515	44,678	155	86	885	921	-36	130	-
2022	Oct-Dec	44,664	44,515	118	81	194	489	-295	109	-
	Jul-Sep	44,685	44,664	111	77	379	551	-172	117	-
	Apr-Jun	44,828	44,685	117	68	696	971	-275	83	-
	Jan-Mar	44,791	44,828	156	84	505	616	-111	76	-
2021	Oct-Dec	44,621	44,791	121	79	308	259	49	79	-
	Jul-Sep	44,579	44,621	153	75	463	565	-102	66	-
	Apr-Jun	44,679	44,579	131	66	566	775	-209	69	-25
	Jan-Mar	44,432	44,679	145	83	664	480	184	58	-57
2020	Oct-Dec	44,395	44,432	136	69	242	256	-14	41	-57
	Jul-Sep	44,504	44,395	163	77	207	344	-137	-	-58
	Apr-Jun	44,565	44,504	143	78	542	590	-48	-21	-57
	Jan-Mar	44,533	44,565	127	58	630	665	-35	55	-57
2019	Oct-Dec	44,512	44,533	160	54	282	361	-79	52	-58
	Jul-Sep	44,442	44,512	137	63	474	481	-7	61	-58
	Apr-Jun	44,560	44,442	140	60	557	757	-200	59	-57
	Jan-Mar	44,675	44,560	146	49	392	616	-224	68	-56
2018	Oct-Dec	44,487	44,675	156	58	425	337	88	60	-58
	Jul-Sep	44,536	44,487	155	59	436	569	-133	45	-57
	Apr-Jun	44,934	44,536	153	68	562	992	-430	5	-58
	Jan-Mar	44,730	44,934	161	54	591	507	84	69	-56

Note: 1. Net International represents the net total of all Immigrants, Emigrants, Returning Canadians, Non-Permanent Residents and Individuals Temporarily Abroad
2. Error of Closure represents the difference in population change as measured by the individual components of growth and that observed using 2021, 2016, 2011 and 2006 census-based population estimates.

Source: Statistics Canada, Demography Division.