

## Northwest Territories Population October 2021

On October 1, 2021 Statistics Canada estimated that 45,515 people were living in the Northwest Territories, an increase of 0.6% from the previous year. Overall, Canada's population increased by 1.1% between October 1, 2020 and October 1, 2021 (Table 1). Prince Edward Island experienced the largest population increase, and six additional provinces and territories had higher growth rates than Canada. Over the last quarter, in Canada, the number of births increased, and the number of deaths decreased returning to pre-pandemic levels.

**Table 1** Population Estimates and Annual Rate of Growth, by Province and Territory  
July 1, 2018 to July 1, 2021

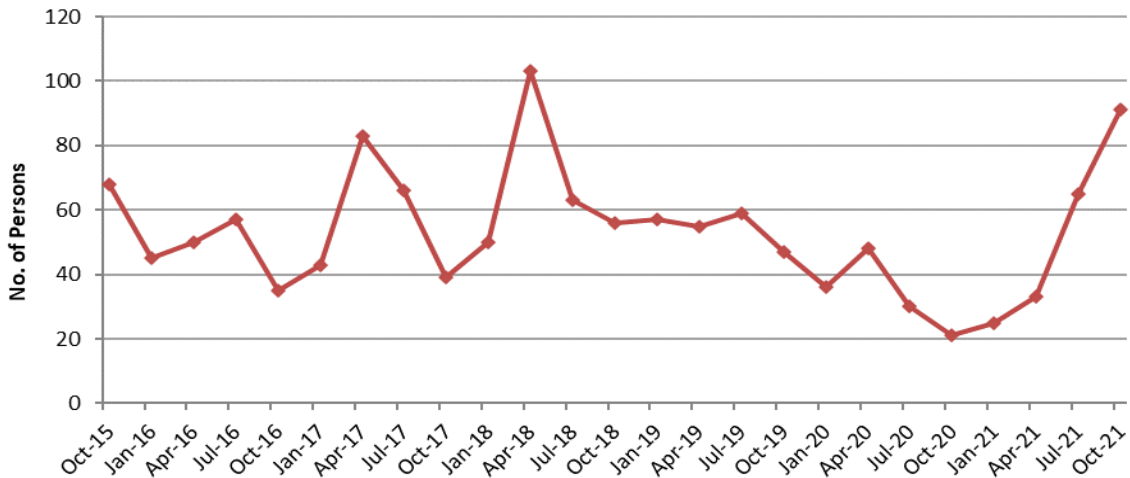
	2021 01-Oct	(%) Change	2020 01-Oct	(%) Change	2019 01-Oct	(%) Change	2018 01-Oct	(%) Change
Canada	38,436,447	1.1	38,033,014	0.6	37,811,399	1.5	37,250,385	1.4
<b>Northwest Territories</b>	<b>45,515</b>	<b>0.6</b>	<b>45,265</b>	<b>0.2</b>	<b>45,189</b>	<b>0.5</b>	<b>44,970</b>	<b>-0.3</b>
Nunavut	39,589	1.2	39,109	1.3	38,625	0.9	38,288	1.6
Yukon	43,095	1.9	42,300	1.6	41,648	2.4	40,679	2.2
British Columbia	5,249,635	1.8	5,156,587	0.5	5,130,251	1.8	5,040,353	1.7
Alberta	4,464,170	0.9	4,424,557	0.9	4,384,982	1.6	4,317,665	1.4
Saskatchewan	1,180,867	0.2	1,178,164	0.1	1,176,427	0.9	1,165,929	1.0
Manitoba	1,386,333	0.4	1,380,447	0.5	1,374,081	1.2	1,357,968	1.3
Ontario	14,915,270	1.2	14,740,704	0.7	14,638,247	1.7	14,392,903	1.7
Quebec	8,631,147	0.6	8,579,476	0.4	8,542,198	1.3	8,434,705	1.2
New Brunswick	794,300	1.4	783,257	0.3	780,631	1.0	772,597	0.6
Nova Scotia	998,832	1.8	981,552	0.5	976,495	1.4	963,447	1.0
Prince Edward Island	165,936	2.8	161,402	1.7	158,778	2.3	155,152	2.5
Newfoundland & Labrador	521,758	0.3	520,194	-0.7	523,847	-0.4	525,729	-0.5



Immigration is a major driver of Canada’s population growth. In the third quarter of 2021, Canada welcomed 122,748 immigrants which not only surpassed pre-pandemic levels but was the highest since the beginning of available data (1971).

Even though the share of immigrants settling in the NWT is relatively low, the pandemic affected the NWT’s international migration flow; the number of international migrants was on the decline until October 2020. On October 1, 2021, in the NWT, the quarterly international migration was back to the pre-pandemic levels with 91 persons moving to the Northwest Territories from outside of Canada (Figure 1).

Figure 1 Number of Immigrants  
Northwest Territories, October 1, 2015 - October 1, 2021



The detailed components of population change for the Northwest Territories since 2011 are presented in Table 2.

These population estimates are based on the 2016 Census, adjusted for census net undercoverage. Data may be revised over the coming years, and it is possible that trends will change as a result of future revisions.

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, 2011 to October 1, 2021

		Beginning Population	Ending Population	Births	Deaths	--- Interprovincial Migration ---			Net International	Error of Closure
						In	Out	Net		
2021	Jul-Sep	45,504	45,515	159	71	457	586	-129	52	-
	Apr-Jun	45,629	45,504	140	60	637	891	-254	49	-
	Jan-Mar	45,323	45,629	125	72	759	551	208	45	-
2020	Jan-Dec	45,269	45,323	555	266	1,634	1,931	-297	62	-
	Oct-Dec	45,265	45,323	124	60	237	279	-42	36	-
	Jul-Sep	45,372	45,265	160	79	234	406	-172	-16	-
	Apr-Jun	45,363	45,372	144	72	536	583	-47	-16	-
	Jan-Mar	45,269	45,363	127	55	627	663	-36	58	-
2019	Jan-Dec	45,202	45,269	591	225	1,705	2,206	-501	202	-
	Oct-Dec	45,189	45,269	161	54	279	353	-74	47	-
	Jul-Sep	45,070	45,189	141	63	470	482	-12	53	-
	Apr-Jun	45,137	45,070	140	59	563	757	-194	46	-
	Jan-Mar	45,202	45,137	149	49	393	614	-221	56	-
2018	Jan-Dec	45,066	45,202	625	239	1,997	2,392	-395	145	-
2017	Jan-Dec	44,607	45,066	616	239	2,043	2,189	-146	228	-
2016	Jan-Dec	44,507	44,607	642	237	1,791	2,291	-500	191	-4
2015	Jan-Dec	44,140	44,507	683	208	2,047	2,322	-275	155	-12
2014	Jan-Dec	43,800	44,140	665	213	2,259	2,452	-193	70	-11
2013	Jan-Dec	43,737	43,800	669	199	1,871	2,474	-603	184	-12
2012	Jan-Dec	43,648	43,737	688	200	1,864	2,394	-530	119	-12
2011	Jan-Dec	43,263	43,648	690	188	2,169	2,274	-105	31	43

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

Source: Statistics Canada, Demography Division.