

The total Canadian population is 23,315,600.* Ontario and Quebec are the most populated provinces with approximately 8.3 million and 6.2 million people, respectively.

In 1977, 114,914 immigrants made Canada their new home; over 4.5 million have arrived since the end of Second World War.

Canada has a density of 2.3 people per square kilometre. Prince Edward Island, the most densely populated province, has 19.13 per square kilometre; Newfoundland, the least, 1.41.

The majority of Canadians can trace their heritage to the British Isles, or to France. Canada has two official languages, English and French.

Other ethnic groups, the largest numbers of which are of German, Italian, Ukrainian, Dutch, Scandinavian, and Polish stock, comprise more than 26 per cent of the population.

Native Canadians

While Inuit (Eskimos) and Canadian Indians make up less than 2 per cent of the total population, they account for 48 per cent of the population of the Northwest Territories. About 9 per cent of the residents of the Northwest Territories are Métis or people of European and Indian ancestry.

"Eskimo" is the Algonquin Indian word for "raw meat eater". Most Eskimos call themselves "Inuit" which simply means "men".

The Inuit are believed to be an Asiatic people whose ancestors migrated from northwestern Siberia, across the Bering Strait, to North America. The 17,550 Canadian Inuit, who live mostly across the Northwest

*Source: Statistics Canada, July 1977