

the social welfare provisions Canada was then implementing for all its citizens.

Within two decades, tuberculosis and other epidemic diseases were largely eradicated, and infant mortality substantially reduced, owing not only to the establishment of a public health system in the North but also to the improvement of housing conditions. The provision of these services had important effects on Inuit demography: first to increase the population, and second to centralize it in the 50 or so communities in which most Inuit now reside. Dozens of traditional village sites and hunting camps fell into disuse, or were occupied only for short periods.

In the early 1960s, the Inuit population was estimated at 150,000. By 1971, it had increased to 200,000. The increase was due to a combination of factors: a decline in mortality, a rise in fertility, and immigration from the mainland. The decline in mortality was due to the establishment of a public health system in the North, which provided medical services and vaccination. The rise in fertility was due to the improvement of housing conditions, which reduced the incidence of disease and improved the health of women. Immigration from the mainland was due to the provision of social welfare services, which attracted Inuit to the mainland.

The Inuit population in the Northwest Territories in 1971 was 150,000. This was an increase of 50,000 from the 1961 population of 100,000. The increase was due to a combination of factors: a decline in mortality, a rise in fertility, and immigration from the mainland. The decline in mortality was due to the establishment of a public health system in the Northwest Territories, which provided medical services and vaccination. The rise in fertility was due to the improvement of housing conditions, which reduced the incidence of disease and improved the health of women. Immigration from the mainland was due to the provision of social welfare services, which attracted Inuit to the mainland.

Province or Territory	1961	1971
Northwest Territories	100,000	150,000
Yukon	10,000	15,000
Nunavut	10,000	15,000
Total	120,000	180,000

Source: Statistics Canada, Census of Canada, 1971.