

CENSUS 2016
CENTRAL OKANAGAN HIGHLIGHTS
Immigration and Ethnocultural Diversity
Housing
Aboriginal Peoples

Unless otherwise noted (see COEDC commentary boxes), all headings, comments, tables and data have been directly sourced from [Statistics Canada, Census Profile, 2016 Census](#).

Immigration and Ethnocultural Diversity



More than one in five Canadians are foreign-born

According to the 2016 Census, there were 7,540,830 foreign-born individuals who came to Canada through the immigration process, representing over one-fifth (21.9%) of Canada's total population. This proportion is close to the 22.3% recorded during the 1921 Census, the highest level since Confederation.

According to [Statistics Canada's population projections](#), the proportion of Canada's foreign-born population could reach between 24.5% and 30.0% by 2036.

About 6 in 10 recent immigrants were admitted under the economic category

In Canada, immigrants are selected based on three main objectives: to enhance and promote economic development; to reunite families; and to fulfill the country's international obligations and uphold its humanitarian tradition.

Among recent immigrants living in Canada in 2016, approximately 6 in 10 were admitted under the economic category, when principal applicants, spouses and dependants were taken into account. Almost half (48.0%) of recent economic immigrants were admitted through the skilled workers program and more than a quarter (27.3%) under the provincial and territorial nominees program.

Furthermore, nearly 3 in 10 recent immigrants were admitted under the family class to join family already in the country, and approximately 1 in 10 recent immigrants were admitted to Canada as refugees.

More immigrants are settling in the Prairies

Over the past 15 years, the share of recent immigrants in the Prairie provinces has more than doubled. The percentage of new immigrants living in Alberta rose from 6.9% in 2001 to 17.1% in 2016, a higher share than in British Columbia (14.5%). In Manitoba, the percentage increased from 1.8% to 5.2% during the same period. Saskatchewan's share also grew, from just under 1.0% in 2001 to 4.0% in 2016.

In 2016, the Atlantic provinces were home to 2.3% of all recent immigrants in Canada. Each of the Atlantic provinces received its largest number of new immigrants, which more than doubled the share of recent immigrants in this region in 15 years.

Ontario, Canada's most populous province and the place of residence of most of the country's immigrants, received 39.0% of recent immigrants in 2016. This share decreased from 55.9% in 2001.

British Columbia also saw its share of recent immigrants decrease over the past 15 years, from 19.9% in 2001 to 14.5% in 2016.

In 2016, 17.8% of recent immigrants lived in Quebec, a higher share than in 2006 (17.5%) and in 2001 (13.7%). Overall, Quebec had the second highest number of recent immigrants in 2016, after Ontario.

The territories had the fewest number of recent immigrants. In 2016, 2,100 newcomers, or 0.2% of all recent immigrants, settled in the territories.

Almost half of the foreign-born population is from Asia

Changes in the main source countries of immigrants have transformed the overall portrait of Canada's foreign-born population. In 2016, almost half (48.1%) of the foreign-born population was born in Asia (including the Middle East), while a lower proportion (27.7%) was born in Europe.

Furthermore, African-born immigrants represented a growing share of the foreign-born population, increasing from 1.4% in the 1971 Census to 8.5% in the 2016 Census.

Two in five Canadian children have an immigrant background

According to the 2016 Census, almost 2.2 million children under the age of 15 were foreign-born (first generation) or had at least one foreign-born parent (second generation), representing 37.5% of all Canadian children. This is an increase from 2011, when this proportion was 34.6%. This population of children with an immigrant background could continue to grow and could represent from 39.3% to 49.1% of children under the age of 15 by 2036.

In 2016, the majority (74.0%) of these first- or second-generation children were from countries of ancestry in Asia, Africa, the Caribbean and Bermuda, Central and South America.

Geographic distribution of immigrants and recent immigrants and their proportion within the population of census metropolitan areas, Canada, 2016

	Number-Immigrant Population	Distribution (%) Immigrant Population	Proportion (%) Immigrant Population	Number-Recent Immigrants (2011-2016)	Distribution (%) Recent Immigrants (2011-2016)	Proportion (%) Recent Immigrants (2011-2016)
Canada	7,540,830	100.0	21.9	1,212,075	100.0	3.5
Kelowna	26,455	0.4	13.9	2,995	0.2	1.6
Vancouver	989,545	13.1	40.8	142,535	11.8	5.9
Victoria	65,610	0.9	18.3	7,690	0.6	2.1
Calgary	404,700	5.4	29.4	93,255	7.7	6.8
Regina	36,910	0.5	15.9	16,195	1.3	7.0
Toronto	2,705,550	35.9	46.1	356,930	29.4	6.1

Note: Distribution shows the percentage breakdown of the immigrant population (or recent immigrants) in Canada by census metropolitan area.

Proportion shows the percentage of immigrants (or recent immigrants) in a given geographical area compared to the total population living in the same geographical area.

COEDC Commentary

- The age group for majority of the 2,995 recent immigrants (2011 to 2016) for the Kelowna CMA is 25 to 64 years (69.1%), with 62.1% being admitted to Canada via the economic category.
- The largest visible minority populations in the Kelowna CMA from the 2016 census include South Asian (2.1%), Chinese (1.2%) and Filipino (1.0%).

Top place of birth of immigrants and recent immigrants, Kelowna, 2016

Place of Birth	2016		
	Number	Percent	Rank
Immigrant population	26,450	100.0	---
United Kingdom	5,545	21.0	1
Germany	2,840	10.7	2
United States	2,035	7.7	3
India	1,635	6.2	4
Philippines	1,285	4.9	5
Recent Immigrants (2011 to 2016)	2,995	100.0	---
Philippines	550	18.4	1
United Kingdom	295	9.8	2
India	235	7.8	3
United States	215	7.2	4
Jamaica	215	7.2	4

COEDC Commentary

- The Kelowna CMA has an immigrant population of 26,455, representing 13.9% of the total population. The top 3 countries of birth for this immigrant population are the United Kingdom, Germany and the United States.
- Kelowna CMA's immigrant population increased slightly – 2,995 immigrants from 2011-2016 compared to 2,705 immigrants from 2006-2010 - with the majority of recent immigrants coming from the Philippines, India and the United States. This closely mirrors Canada's top countries of birth of recent immigrants – Philippines (15.6%), India (12.1%) and China (10.6%).

Useful Census Links – Immigration and Ethnocultural Diversity

[The Daily: Immigration and ethnocultural diversity](#)

[Focus on Geography Series, 2016 Census – Kelowna CMA](#)

Housing



Housing in Canada: Key results from the 2016 Census

The housing landscape in Canada has changed over the past decade, against a backdrop of record low interest rates since the 2008-2009 recession, increased construction of condominiums, and rising home prices.

Rate of homeownership relatively stable since 2006, compared with a steady increase from 1991 to 2006

More than 9.5 million of the 14.1 million households in Canada owned their home in 2016, representing a homeownership rate of 67.8%. The rate of homeownership has been relatively stable over the last decade. In 2006, the rate was 68.4% and in 2011 it was 69.0%. In contrast, over the period 1991 to 2006, the homeownership rate rose from 62.6% to 68.4%.

The sustained growth in homeownership prior to 2006 was related, in large part, to baby boomers—the demographically significant generation born from 1946 to 1965—entering homeownership. By 2016, most baby boomers were already homeowners and no longer driving an increase. Future trends will be affected by how long baby boomers remain homeowners and whether younger generations own or rent a home.

Among census metropolitan areas, homeownership rate highest in Oshawa and Barrie, lowest in Montréal and Sherbrooke

Homeownership rates varied among the largest urban centres (census metropolitan areas or CMAs). In Toronto, the homeownership rate was near the national average, at 66.5%. Vancouver was slightly lower at 63.7%. Calgary, Canada's fastest

growing CMA between 2011 and 2016, had a homeownership rate of 73.0%, well above the national average.

Homeownership Rate:

	Census 2016	Census 2011	Census 2006
Oshawa	77.8	79.6	78.6
Barrie	76.1	79.3	80.7
Kelowna	73.3	76.2	77.3
Calgary	73	73.9	74.1
Toronto	66.5	68.3	67.6
Vancouver	63.7	65.5	65.1
Victoria	62.6	65.1	64.7

COEDC Commentary

Kelowna CMA has the 3rd highest rate of home ownership in Canada

- While the percentage of Central Okanagan residents who own their homes has decreased slightly from 76.2% in 2011 to 73.3% in 2016, the Kelowna CMA retains the 3rd highest rate of home ownership in Canada.
- Homeownership rates in Kelowna CMA are significantly higher than the BC average of 68%.

Millennials have a lower homeownership rate than baby boomers at the age of 30

For many years, baby boomers (because of their demographic weight) were driving changes in homeownership rates across Canada. But this is different for younger generations. Younger adults aged 20 to 34—those often referred to as the millennial generation—are slower to get into the housing market than was the case for the baby boomers at that age.

To demonstrate this, one can compare homeownership rates of baby boomers at age 30 in 1981, with millennials aged 30 in 2016. At the age of 30, among millennials who lived in their own home, just over half (50.2%) were owners in 2016, compared with 55.5% of boomers in 1981.

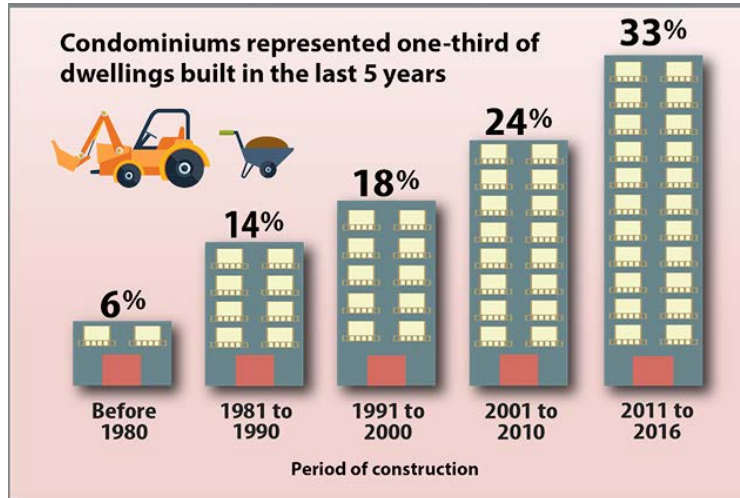
Condominiums on the rise

In 2016, 13.3%, or almost 1.9 million households, were living in condominiums, up 1.2 percentage points from 2011. Of these households, almost 1.3 million (67.1%) were owners, while 616,570 (32.9%) were renters.

The share of households living in condominiums varied among census metropolitan areas (CMAs) in 2016. Vancouver (30.6%) had the highest proportion of households living in condominiums, surpassing second-place Calgary (21.8%) by a wide margin. Abbotsford-Mission

(21.5%), Kelowna (21.3%)*, and Toronto (20.9%) also had rates of over one in five households living in a condominium.

*COEDC NOTE: not a significant change from 2011 (20.7%)



(Canada wide)

Shelter costs and affordability

In 1986, the Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation and the provinces agreed to assess housing affordability against a threshold based on whether the household spent 30% or more of its average monthly total income on shelter costs. For this purpose, shelter costs include mortgage payments, rent, the cost of electricity, heat, water and other municipal services, property taxes, and condominiums fees.

The proportion of households with monthly shelter costs considered not affordable in Canada was 24.1% in 2016, compared with 24.4% in 2006.

Among census metropolitan areas in 2016, Toronto (33.4%) and Vancouver (32.0%) had the highest proportion of households that paid 30% or more of their total income on shelter costs. Saguenay (16.9%) and Québec (17.8%) had the lowest proportions of households living in dwellings with shelter costs that were not considered affordable.

Median Monthly Shelter Costs (\$) by Community in Kelowna CMA

	Owner Households	Tenant Households
British Columbia	\$1,149	\$1,036
Kelowna CMA	\$1,188	\$1,103
Lake Country	\$1,474	\$1,088
Kelowna	\$1,149	\$1,096
West Kelowna	\$1,304	\$1,301
Westbank First Nation	Not available	Not available
Peachland	\$767	\$1,088

Central Okanagan J	\$1,115	\$1,165
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Note: All municipalities/governments/electoral areas in this table are part of the Kelowna CMA.

COEDC Commentary

26.2% of owner and tenant households in Kelowna CMA spend 30% or more of income on shelter costs.

- The percentage of Central Okanagan households spending more than 30% of total income on shelter costs is slightly above the national average of 24.1% and slightly below the BC average of 27.9%.
- Only 18.8% of households who owned their home spent 30% or more of total income on housing costs, compared to 45.9% of renter households.

Homeowner-estimated dwelling values

Dwelling values, as estimated by occupying homeowners, varied among Canada's census metropolitan areas. In May 2016, Vancouver homeowners reported, on average, the estimated value of their dwellings to be \$1,005,920, compared with \$734,924 in Toronto and \$366,974 in Montreal.

Canada-wide, the average value in 2016 was \$443,058. In current dollars (not adjusted for inflation), in 2011, the average owner-estimated dwelling value was \$345,182

COEDC Commentary

Average owner estimated home value in Kelowna CMA is \$536,898

- Kelowna home owners estimated the value of their homes to be an average of \$536,898, an increase of 11% since 2011 and exceeded only by Vancouver, Toronto and Victoria.

Useful Census Links - Housing

[Housing in Canada: Key results from the 2016 Census](#)

[Home Ownership Rates by CMA, 2006, 2011 and 2016](#)

[Average and median value of dwelling \(owner estimated\) by census metropolitan area \(CMA\), 2011 and 2016](#)

Aboriginal Peoples



Past censuses have emphasized two key characteristics of the [Aboriginal population](#): that Aboriginal peoples are both young in age and growing in number. The 2016 Census reaffirmed these trends. New data also reveal both the changing nature and the diversity of the First Nations, Métis and Inuit populations.

In 2016, there were 1,673,785 [Aboriginal people](#) in Canada, accounting for 4.9% of the total population. This was up from 3.8% in 2006 and 2.8% in 1996.

Since 2006, the Aboriginal population has grown by 42.5%—more than four times the growth rate of the non-Aboriginal population over the same period. According to population projections, the number of Aboriginal people will continue to grow quickly. In the next two decades, the Aboriginal population is likely to exceed 2.5 million persons.

Two main factors have contributed to the growing Aboriginal population: the first is natural growth, which includes increased life expectancy and relatively high fertility rates; the second factor relates to changes in self-reported identification. Put simply, more people are newly identifying as Aboriginal on the census—a continuation of a trend over time.

The Aboriginal population is young but also aging

The Aboriginal population is young. The average age of the Aboriginal population was 32.1 years in 2016—almost a decade younger than the non-Aboriginal population (40.9 years).

As shown in the 2016 Census release on [age and sex](#), seniors outnumbered children for the first time in Canada. This was not the case among Aboriginal peoples.

While the Aboriginal population is younger than the rest of the population in Canada, it is also aging. In 2006, 4.8% of the Aboriginal population was 65 years of age and older; by 2016, this proportion had risen to 7.3%. According to population projections, the proportion of the First Nations, Métis and Inuit populations 65 years of age and older could more than double by 2036.

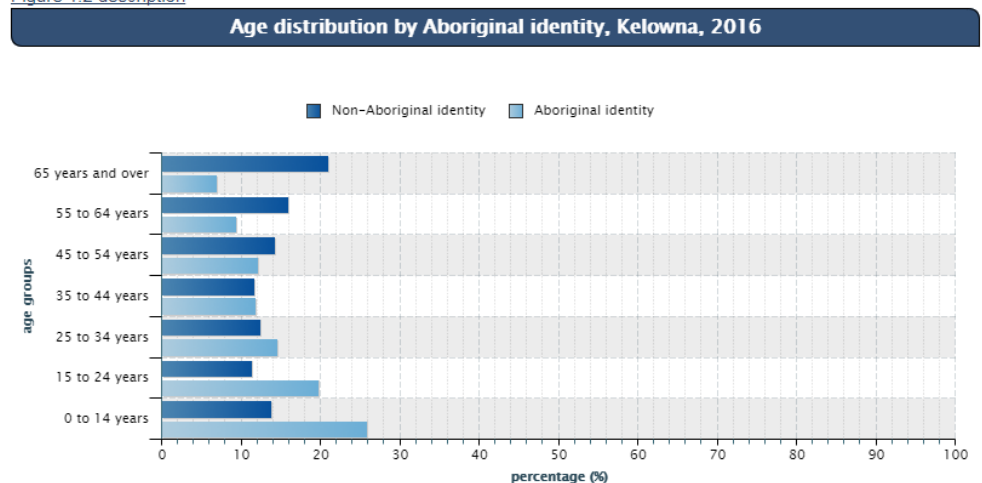
In general, the Aboriginal population is younger than the non-Aboriginal population.

Aboriginal children aged 14 and under represented 25.8% of the total Aboriginal population, while non-Aboriginal children aged 14 and under accounted for 13.7% of the non-Aboriginal population.

The average age of the Aboriginal population in Kelowna was 31.5 years, compared with 44.0 years for the non-Aboriginal population.

The average age was 30.2 years for First Nations people; it was 32.6 years for Métis; and it was 26.1 years for Inuit.

Figure 1.2 description



First Nations population growing both on and off reserve

The number of First Nations people with registered or treaty Indian status rose by 30.8% from 2006 to 2016. There were 744,855 First Nations people with registered or treaty Indian status in 2016, accounting for just over three-quarters (76.2%) of the First Nations population. The other 23.8%, which did not have registered or treaty Indian status, has grown by 75.1% since 2006 to 232,375 people in 2016.

Among the 744,855 First Nations people with registered or treaty Indian status, 44.2% lived on reserve in 2016, while the rest of the population lived off reserve. There was growth for both on reserve (+12.8%) and off reserve (+49.1%) First Nations populations from 2006 to 2016.

Over half of First Nations people live in the western provinces

The First Nations population was concentrated in the western provinces, with more than half of First Nations people living in British Columbia (17.7%), Alberta (14.0%), Manitoba (13.4%) and Saskatchewan (11.7%). By comparison, 30.3% of the non-Aboriginal population lived in the western provinces.

The Aboriginal population living in metropolitan areas is growing

The increase in the urban population of Aboriginal peoples has been taking place for decades in Canada. This change has often been misunderstood simply as the movement by First Nations people away from reserves and into cities. In fact, the First Nations population continues to grow both on and off reserve.

Like the overall population growth of First Nations people, Métis and Inuit, the urbanization of Aboriginal peoples in Canada is due to multiple factors—including demographic growth, mobility and changing patterns of self-reported identity.

COEDC Commentary

In 2016, there were 11,370 Aboriginal people in Kelowna CMA

- Aboriginal people make up 6% of the population of Kelowna CMA, slightly more than BC proportion of 6% and Canada-wide proportion of 4.9%.
- 57.8% of Kelowna CMA's First Nation's population had Registered of Treaty Indian status as defined under the Indian act in 2016.
- [Westbank First Nation](#) has approximately 800 members, the majority of whom reside on reserve.

Useful Census Links – Aboriginal Peoples

[Aboriginal peoples in Canada: Key results from the 2016 Census](#)

[Focus on Geography Series, Kelowna CMA, 2016 Census, Aboriginal Peoples](#)