Canada’s Demographics
Most standard textbooks on the geography of Canada have a population chapter.
Data Sources

- Canada Census data available on the web
- Best to use the University’s on-line research guide
Canada’s Population

• In 2016 Census: 36.3 million
• Sep 2017: 36.7 million
• The birth rate is low, and falling
  – Except among aboriginal peoples
• But Canada’s population still grew by 8.4% 2011-16
THE WORLD'S MOST POPULOUS COUNTRIES

Color Key by Continent:
- North America
- South America
- Europe
- Asia
- Africa
- Australia

World Population = 6 billion people.
Each grid square = one million people.
Canada’s Population

• Immigration provides 2/3 of Canada’s population growth
  – From global and increasingly non-European sources
  – Immigrant and aboriginal fertility props up the birth rate

• Canada had the fastest population growth in the G8 (5.9% in 2006-11, 8.4% 2011-16).
Canada’s Population

• Changes in Canada’s economy drive internal migration, and shift population growth
  – Nationally, growth connected to resource sector especially of energy resources
  – Decline of manufacturing jobs, locally, nationally

• Population and employment shifts westwards to BC, Prairies.
Population Size

- Canada 1867: 3.4 million people
- Canada 2017: 36.7 million people
Ontario

• The largest province by population:
  – Ontario, 14.2 million people
  – 36.7% of Canadian total

• Next-largest province:
  – Quebec, 8.4 million people
Population Distribution

- Where do people live?
- What kinds of settlements?
Population Distribution

• Population Density
  – People per unit of territory
  – Usually people/km²

• Canada 2016:
  – 36.3 Million people
  – 9.2 Million km² of land area
  – 3.5 people/km²
Population Density Varies

• Within Canada
  • 13.4 people/km² in Ontario
    – Much higher in south, lower in north
  • 0.03 people/km² in NWT/Yukon/Nunavut
The Ecumene

• Recognizes that not all of Canada is thickly inhabited
  – Much is almost uninhabited

• Ecumene:
  – The part of Canada where 99% of the people live
• 2001

Figure 3.2  Population distribution in Canada, 2001
Canada’s Population Core

- 62% of the population lives in the Great Lakes-St Lawrence Lowlands
  - 22 million people, 75% of the major cities
  - Manufacturing, intensive commercial farming
  - Biggest Cities (2016):
    - Greater Toronto 6.4 million
    - Greater Montreal 4.1 million
Secondary Population Zone

• Contains 38% of population, 14 million people
  – Extends to the edge of the agricultural area beyond the population core
  – Biggest cities (2016):
    • Greater Vancouver 2.5 million
    • Calgary 1.4 million
    • Edmonton 1.3 million
Sparsely Populated Zone

- Boreal forest
- Contains 1% of the population
- No major population centres, but there are resource towns
  - Biggest city: Fort McMurray 73,000 pop
Almost uninhabited zone

- Northern belts of boreal forest to the tundra
- Less than 1% of the population/Isolated centres
  - Biggest City: Labrador City 7,200 pop
Urban Population

• Canada is a highly urbanized society
  – 80% live in urban areas
  – And most urban people live in large cities
  – Large urban centres grow 7.3% 2011-2016, slightly slower than Canada as a whole (8.4%).
Urban Population

• Canada became majority urban in the 1920s
  – Ontario, Quebec, BC became majority-urban first
  – West, Maritimes became majority urban only circa 1960
Rural Population

- Canada’s rural population is surprisingly complex
  - Growth, decline, changes in composition
Rural Population

• Rapid growth in ‘rural non-farm’ population around major cities
• ‘Exurbanites’
  – People with urban lives, who live in the countryside around a major city
• Retirees and cottagers
Rural Population

• Rural primary production
  – Farming, forestry, hunting, trapping, fishing

• Needs fewer people than in the past
  – Doesn’t need as much settlement as the past
  – Rural small towns shrinking
  – Agricultural workers imported on temporary permits

• Rural youth migrate to the cities
  – Rural population declines, ages
Rural Population

• Migrant farm workers important for providing cheap labour
  – Lakeside packers, Brooks AB
  – Ontario’s fruit and vegetable farms
  – Peruvian migrant farm workers killed in a van crash at Hampstead ON
Population Change

• Natural Increase
  – Until 1986 most of Canada’s population growth came from births exceeding deaths
Population Change

• People used to have large families
  – Especially on farms
Population Change

• Traditionally death rates for young children were high
  – So a high birth rate compensated for this
• High child death rates were due to
  – Infectious disease
  – Polluted drinking water
Toronto 1905

• The public water supply was unsafe to drink
  – Contained raw sewage

• No sewage treatment, no treatment of drinking water
  – Waterborne diseases prevalent
Reducing Mortality

• Need to
  – Treat drinking water, sewage
  – Improve childhood vaccinations
  – Protect food supplies, especially milk
• Basic sanitation measures
• With these in place, mortality drops
  – A mortality transition
Toronto: Infant Mortality

Year

Infant Mortality Rate /1000 births

1875 1895 1915 1935 1955 1975

1875 1895 1915 1935 1955 1975

Year

Infant Mortality Rate /1000 births
Fertility Transition

- With improved rates of child survival having lots of babies gets expensive
- Easier to have high material living standards with a smaller family
- Improvements in the status of women
- More complex than the mortality transition
Lifestyles
ULTRA LUBRICATED
PREGNANCY TEST
NEW CHOICE
XTRA PLEASURE
Spermicidally Lubricated
PREGNANCY TEST
New Choice
for MOM... with love
Mother's Day - Sunday, May 13
$5 78

with love
Mother's Day - Sunday, May 13
A Beachville firefighter watches as a transport hauling condoms is pulled upright after hitting another big rig.

Condom truck tips, spills load

APRIL KEMICK
Sun Media

LONDON, Ont. — The rubber truly hit the road yesterday when two tractor-trailers collided on Hwy. 401 near Ingersoll. One, carrying thousands of condoms, jackknifed and flipped onto its side, blocking the 401’s east lanes and snarling traffic for hours.

The driver and passenger of that rig — police said it was hauling 250 kilos of prophylactics — were taken to hospital for minor injuries, said OPP Const. Laurie Hawkins.

The driver of the other transport, which stayed upright, was unhurt.

Hawkins said it wasn’t clear what caused the crash after 2 p.m. Preliminary investigation indicated the condom-filled truck was headed east behind the other rig when the first driver slammed on the brakes.

The driver of the condom truck also tried to brake, but swiped the back of the other rig, with the truck jackknifing and landing on its side.

Airbags were placed under the condom truck to right it.
Total Fertility Rate (TFR)

- The number of births the average woman expects in her lifetime
- A Total Fertility Rate of 2.1
  - Means births match deaths
- In 1961 TFR was 3.8 in Canada
  - At the height of the baby boom
- In 2009 TFR was 1.66 in Canada
  - Below replacement level
Population Change

• Because most immigrants arrive as young adults
  – And will start families soon
• High levels of immigration tend to boost the birthrate
• So without immigration, Canada’s TFR would be even lower.
Age-Sex Structure

- Balance of ages and sexes in a population
- It varies over time and place
Age-Sex structure of Canada in 2006

Parents of baby-boomers, 1922 to 1938
World War II, 1939 to 1945
Baby-boomers, 1946 to 1965
Baby-busters, 1966 to 1974
Children of baby-boomers, 1975 to 1995

Parents of baby-boomers, 1922 to 1938
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Children of baby-boomers, 1975 to 1995
Canada

- Population pyramids over time
- Baby boom moves through the population
- Animated pyramid

Figure 3.5  Population of Canada, by age and sex, 1951, 1976, 2001, and 2026
Population Structure

• Bears the marks of population history
• Carries implications for population future
• Is dynamic over time and space
• Conditions the needs of the population
GTA Age Structure 1996 Census

%

Age Group

Toronto

Vaughan
Toronto

- Toronto CMA grew by 9% 2006-11, and 6.2% 2011-16
- Some growth in the city’s core
  - Gentrification, condos downtown
- But most growth was in new suburbs
  - Milton, King, Whitchurch-Stouffville, New Tecumseth
- Toronto’s suburban growth spills over into adjoining areas
Toronto

• Contains slower-growing areas
  – Outer parts of the 416 outside the core
  – Older suburbs in the 905
    • Mississauga, Pickering
  – Rural zones
    • Georgina, Caledon,
  – Suburban population growing faster than gentrified inner core
Canada’s Population

• Canada’s population is growing rapidly older
• Thanks to decades of declining fertility and improvements in sanitation, health
• Growth of significant ‘old-age’ dependency
# Generation gaps

Communities with population of more than 5,000:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Youngest</th>
<th>Median age</th>
<th>Oldest</th>
<th>Median age</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mackenzie, Alta.</td>
<td>22.0</td>
<td>Qualicum Beach, B.C.</td>
<td>58.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stanley, Man.</td>
<td>25.2</td>
<td>White Rock, B.C.</td>
<td>50.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lloydminster, Sask.</td>
<td>26.8</td>
<td>Sidney, B.C.</td>
<td>50.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hanover, Man.</td>
<td>27.8</td>
<td>Cote-Saint-Luc, Que.</td>
<td>50.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Slave Lake, Alta.</td>
<td>28.1</td>
<td>Parksville, B.C.</td>
<td>49.6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Age at which half the population is older, and half the population is younger*
The graying of Canada

Median age*

1901: 22.7
1921: 23.9
1941: 27
1961: 26.3
1981: 29.6
2001: 37.6
Ageing of Canada

• Baby boomers approaching retirement
  – may not get much Canada pension
  – may outlive RRSPs and other savings
  – may bust the health care system

• Ontario faces future worker shortages
  – birth-rate too small
  – migration not replacing retirements
Students Cook & Serve Grandparents

On Thursday, September 9, Gorman School hosted the first annual Grandparent’s Day. All Grandparents were invited to a school wide pancake breakfast. Upper grade students served as excellent chefs, as well as taking responsibility for serving the food and the clean up after-
Funeral Homes Bring Cheer To Senior Citizens

Heide Brandes
Staffwriter for the Leader

In December of 1993, the funeral home business has picked up residents at area nursing homes in the business’ limousines for a glamorous funeral.
Cemetery residents making a comeback

Fund-raiser to feature debate by famous figures from Troy's history

Earl, to be held on Thursday from 5 to 7:30 p.m. Tickets are $55 and may be purchased at the door.

Money from the fifth annual event goes to the Oakwood Restoration Fund, with primary emphasis on the restoration of the Earl Chapel. Its roof has leaked and is in need of replacement.
Immigration
Immigration

• Canada has a long history of significant immigration
  – Actual peak year for immigration was 1912-13
  – Since 1950 sustained high levels of immigration
  – Relatively unusual among advanced industrial economies
  – Our low birth rate, age structure justify significant immigration
Immigration

• Renewed immigration post 1945
  – Sustained economic boom
  – Canadian wages slightly higher than US
  – Immigration broadens 1960s onwards
  – Highest sustained immigration in 1990s: 2.2 million
Immigrant Origins

• Pre 1940s
  – Britain & Ireland, NW Europe
  – Some SE, E Europe
  – Severe restrictions on immigration from Asia: Head Tax etc.,
Immigrant Origins

• Post 1945:
  • An era of booming manufacturing employment
    – Rise in SE European immigration, Italy, Greece
    – Increase in Asian immigration

• Immigration Reforms 1960s
  – Asian immigration increases
  – Greatest diversity of immigrant origins
Immigrant Settlement

• Early C20th:
  – Most immigrants went to farming districts: the West

• Mid C20th and later
  – Most immigrants head for the cities
  – Canada an urban economy
  – Cities develop huge immigrant populations
**Origins:** Canada's immigrant population in 1996, divided into major world regions and into two periods of arrival, to show changing origins over time.

- **1961–1970:** (total 788,580)
  - Europe
  - Asia
  - USA
  - Africa/Oceania

- **1991–1996:** (total 1,038,995)
  - Europe
  - Asia
  - USA
  - Central and South America and the Caribbean
Figure 3.14 Immigration to Canada, 1960–2000
Since 1860, annual immigration totals to Canada have varied considerably, peaking (as the graph shows) between 1910 and 1920, declining through the Depression years until World War II, and then rising in a series of waves from 1950 to 2000. In general terms, these changes have reflected the changing requirements of the Canadian economy. In the early twentieth century, for example, the demand for farm labour fuelled very large annual immigration totals. In more recent years, government policy has been to increase immigration only when the economy is growing. Considerable changes have also occurred in the origins of Canada’s immigrants as Canada has altered its immigration policies. If we compare the years 1961–1970 with 1991–1996 (see bar graph), for example, we see that the leading source region has changed over this period from Europe to Asia. A century ago, the majority of Canada’s immigrants were headed to the Prairie provinces, but by 1996 (as the map shows), the most important destinations were Canada’s major metropolitan centres, especially Toronto, Vancouver, and Montreal. Further information on Canadian immigration is available from Citizenship and Immigration Canada (www.cic.gc.ca) and from the Metropolis Project, an inter-university research group on immigration (http://canada.metropolis.net). For 2001 Census data on immigration, see the Statistics Canada report “Canada’s Ethnocultural Portrait: The Changing Mosaic,” The Daily, 21 January 2003.
Urban Immigrant Population

- Toronto: 44% are immigrants
- Vancouver: 38% are immigrants
  - And many more are children, descendents of immigrants
- Some cities have few immigrants
  - Quebec: 3%
- Some cities have few recent immigrants
  - Hamilton: 23% immigrants, only 5% in past 5 years
Demographics of Immigrants

• Tend to be young adults
  – And therefore tend to be fertile
• Tend to be better educated than the general population
• Most have adequate language skills, but some do not
  – Tend to become English speakers
Immigration

• Increasingly immigration comes from global sources
  – Especially the population giants of China, and Indian subcontinent

• Population growing faster from immigration than from fertility
  – Has huge cultural implications
Immigration

- Tends to flow to certain major cities, and some provinces
  - Ontario, Quebec, BC, Alberta
  - Toronto, Montreal, Vancouver, Calgary
- Reflects economic opportunity, immigrant contact networks
- 95% of new immigrants live in large urban centres
Immigration

• Major urban centres develop ethnic communities, enclaves
• But increasingly these are shifting to the suburbs
Immigrant Settlement

• Changes in the economy shape/disrupt immigrant settlement
• Decline in manufacturing hurts immigrant entry into some urban job and housing markets
  – Especially in Toronto
  – Especially some ethnic groups
Migration & Immigration

- Gradually modifying the urban culture of western Canada
- Politics of Vancouver, Calgary, Edmonton, Alberta & BC shifting to embrace multicultural reality
  – Calgary’s Mayor Nenshi
Aboriginal Populations

• Growing rapidly compared to the rest of Canada
  – Thanks mainly to fertility
• 500,000 aboriginals in Canada c. 1492
  – Population had crashed to 106,000 1911
• Population surge from late 1940s
  – 220,000 by 1961
  – 1,410,000 in 2011
• In 1990s Saskatchewan was on track to become a majority-aboriginal province
Aboriginal Populations

• For most industrial societies modernity brought a demographic transition
  – Mortality drops first, followed by fertility
• For aboriginal societies, encounter with colonialism was painful
  – Disruption of aboriginal culture, economy boosted mortality, weakened fertility
  – Signs of improvement now
Aboriginal Populations

• Over the longer term, assimilation is an issue
  – Aboriginal people mix with other folk
• Legal and cultural identification of “aboriginal” will gradually apply to fewer people
  – Some groups have already lost their language
Language Issues

• Immigration brings in people who can speak one official language or another
  – But many who speak neither

• The touchy issue of what language they should learn

• You can only send your kids to school in English in Quebec if you attended English-speaking schools in Canada
  – All others are schooled in French
Language Issues

• Ontario has significant French-speaking population

• But Ontario has other immigrant ethnicities:
  – 482,000 Chinese vs. 583,000 French-speakers
  – It will soon be easier to run “Mandarin immersion” schooling than French immersion
  – Hockey night in Punjabi
Shifts in Population

- Gradual population shifts towards economic opportunity
- Maritimes and Atlantic Canada lose population to Central and Western Canada
- Western Canada grows fastest
  - Picks up migrants from central Canada, the East
  - Alberta grew 30% 2011-16
  - Now slowing down
Shifts in Population

• Shift of population signals an eventual shift of political power
  – From central and Eastern Canada to the west
• Already we see a shift of economic power
Shifts in Population

- Erosion of the federal Liberal vote in 2005-2015 a sign of changing balance of population in Canadian politics?
  - Liberals, a party of the old Ontario-Quebec core need to re-invent themselves for C21st Canada
  - Has Justin Trudeau done this?
Career advice

• If you can’t get into teacher’s college
  – Become a funeral director
  – Train at Humber College
  – Possibility of on-line sales
Demographics

• Importance of the population factor in shaping the geography of Canada
• Population a fundamentally geographical thing