

Rural and Small Town Canada Analysis Bulletin

## Community demographic trends within their regional context

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## Highlights

- One-third of all 2,607 communities in Canada experienced continuous demographic growth over the 1981 to 2001 period. Another one-third of Canada's communities were in continuous decline over this period.
- In predominantly urban regions, 97 percent of communities are located within a growing region. In intermediate regions and rural metro-adjacent regions, 71 percent and 63 percent of communities, respectively, are located within a growing region. In contrast, 64 percent of communities in rural northern regions are located within a declining region.
- Not all communities in growing regions grew. More significantly, not all communities in declining regions declined. Thus, not all communities mirror the demographic trajectory of the region in which they are located.
- Within each type of region, larger communities grew more than smaller communities.
- Growing communities within growing regions are associated with a below average share of employment in primary industries.


## Introduction

The population of Canada increased from 24 million in 1981 to 30 million in 2001. This population growth has not been experienced uniformly at the provincial or sub-provincial levels of geography. While some provinces have had tremendous growth, others have not. At the regional and/or community level, the variation is remarkable. There is also a geographical aspect to this variation in that there is an association
between community demographic decline and a higher degree of rurality. This is important from a policy perspective as rural places experiencing continuous population decline may encounter substantial difficulties overcoming economic challenges.

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A National Rural Policy Framework (NRPF) is being developed jointly by Federal/ Provincial/Territorial Ministers responsible for rural development. The overall goal of the NRPF is to work towards the long-term sustainability and viability of rural communities. In seeking to meet this goal, the NRPF will focus on five key policy areas, one of which is demographic adaptation. What is the number of communities experiencing various demographic trajectories? What are their characteristics?

This study documents the number and characteristics of growing, stable and declining communities and regions between 1981 and 2001 and puts them into a geographical perspective in terms of the degree of rurality. Specifically, the study documents:

1. the number of communities with steady demographic growth;
2. the number of communities with steady demographic decline;
3. the role of regional demographic performance in understanding community trends; and
4. the socio-economic characteristics of communities with demographic decline, stability or growth.

## Concepts and methods

The study uses the data from Statistics Canada's five population censuses from 1981 to 2001. These census periods provided four inter-censal periods for analyzing demographic shifts. Using standard Statistics Canada geographic units, census divisions (CDs) were used to represent regions and census consolidated sub-divisions (CCSs) were used to represent communities (see Box 1 for definitions of CDs and CCSs).

## Box 1. Geographic definitions

## Census Divisions (CDs)

A census division is an intermediate geographic area between the municipality (census subdivision) and the province level. Census divisions represent counties, regional districts and regional municipalities. In Newfoundland and Labrador, Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta, provincial law does not provide for these administrative units. In these provinces, census divisions are delineated in co-operation with the provinces for the dissemination of statistical data (see Statistics Canada (2002) for the detailed definition).

Census divisions may be grouped according to the OECD classification of regions: predominantly urban regions, intermediate regions and predominantly rural regions. Predominantly rural regions can be disaggregated into rural metro-adjacent regions, rural non-metro-adjacent regions and rural northern regions (du Plessis et al, 2001).

## Census Consolidation Sub-divisions (CCSs)

A CCS is a consolidation of two or more census sub-divisions (i.e. incorporated towns or incorporated municipalities) - the typical case is where an incorporated town is surrounded by an incorporated municipality and they are 'consolidated’ for statistical purposes (see Statistics Canada (2002) for the detailed definition).

## Impact of Census Consolidated Sub-divisions in Quebec

When CCSs are used to represent communities, Quebec accounts for fully 44 percent of all rural communities in Canada (Appendix Table A2). However, only 19 percent of Canada’s population in rural communities lives in Quebec (Appendix Table A5). Quebec's population in rural communities is 2.2 million out of a total population in Canada’s rural communities of 11.3 million (Appendix Table A4). That is, the delineation of CCSs allocates a higher share of Canada's rural communities to Quebec (44 percent) relative to Quebec's share of Canada's population residing in rural communities (19 percent). Quebec's high share of Canada's rural communities should be kept in mind when interpreting the characteristics of communities.

Communities and regions were classified as growing (when at least three of four inter-censal periods exhibited population increases), declining (when at least three of four inter-censal periods
showed population decline) or stable (any other pattern of growth/decline). This provides a typology of nine types of communities:

| Type of Region | Type of Community |
| :--- | :--- |
| Growing | Growing |
|  | Stable |
|  | Declining |
| Stable | Growing |
|  | Stable |
|  | Declining |
| Declining | Growing |
|  | Stable |
|  | Declining |

Cross-tabulations were used to summarize the data. Location quotients (LQs) were used to analyze distribution patterns in both the number and size of communities as well as to reveal important socio-economic characteristics in each
type of community/region. A LQ provides a measure of 'concentration' or 'specialization' in a specific region/community of a specific socioeconomic characteristic. For example, the LQ for employment in agriculture was calculated as:

$$
\mathrm{LQ}=
$$

\{(National employment in agriculture) / (Total national employment) \}

A LQ of one indicates the same local concentration/specialization as the national average. LQs higher than one signify a concentration/specialization above the national average. For example, a LQ of five for agricultural employment in a region or

## Number of communities in Canada

Using CCSs (Box 1) to represent communities, there are 2,607 communities in Canada (using 1996 boundaries). One-half of Canada's population lives in 53 communities with a population of 100,000 or over (Table 1). However, a significant number of Canadians live in smaller communities:
community implies that the share of workers in agriculture is five times higher than the national share of workers in agriculture. A LQ lower than one indicates a concentration below that of the national average.

- almost three-quarters of a million Canadians live in the 521 communities of 1,000 to 1,999 residents;
- over two-thirds of a million live in the 272 communities of 2,000 to 2,999 residents;
- one million live in the 271 communities of 3,000 to 4,999 inhabitants;
- almost one million live in the 159 communities of 5,000 to 7,499 inhabitants.

Table 1. Number of communities and total population by size of community, Canada, 2001

| Number of inhabitants in 2001 | Number of communities | Percent of total | Total population | Percent of total |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Less than 40 | 83 | 3 | 206 | 0 |
| 40 to 249 | 69 | 3 | 10,863 | 0 |
| 250 to 499 | 260 | 10 | 99,924 | 0 |
| 500 to 749 | 236 | 9 | 147,002 | 0 |
| 750 to 999 | 223 | 9 | 192,933 | 1 |
| 1,000 to 1,999 | 521 | 20 | 740,867 | 2 |
| 2,000 to 2,999 | 272 | 10 | 678,238 | 2 |
| 3,000 to 4,999 | 271 | 10 | 1,052,704 | 4 |
| 5,000 to 7,499 | 159 | 6 | 978,669 | 3 |
| 7,500 to 9,999 | 99 | 4 | 855,203 | 3 |
| 10,000 to 14,999 | 107 | 4 | 1,325,648 | 4 |
| 15,000 to 29,999 | 141 | 5 | 2,984,049 | 10 |
| 30,000 to 49,999 | 59 | 2 | 2,259,085 | 8 |
| 50,000 to 99,999 | 54 | 2 | 3,816,826 | 13 |
| 100,000 and over | 53 | 2 | 14,864,877 | 50 |
| All communities | 2,607 | 100 | 30,007,094 | 100 |

Note: A "community" is designated as a Census Consolidated Subdivision (CCS). Data are tabulated within 1996 CCS boundaries. Source: Statistics Canada, Census of Population, 2001.

Using the OECD definition of a "rural" community ${ }^{1}$, there are 2,452 rural communities and 155 urban communities in Canada (Appendix Table A1).

At the Canada level, 20 percent of all communities have 1,000 to 1,999 inhabitants (Table 1). This size class is the modal community size in seven provinces (Newfoundland and Labrador, Prince Edward Island, New Brunswick, Quebec, Ontario, Manitoba and Saskatchewan) (Appendix Table A3). However, the delineation of CCSs in the remaining three provinces and in the three territories generates a community structure with fewer smaller communities and

[^0]thus a greater share of communities that are relatively larger.

Overall, 38 percent of Canada’s 2001 population resided in rural communities (Appendix Table A6) - a share that is equivalent to the share in 1996 (see the Appendix to du Plessis et al (2001)).

## Declining, stable and growing communities

As noted above, we have developed a three-way classification to group both communities and the regions in which these communities are located. The growing, stable and declining communities were placed within the demographic context of
their regions. We would expect that declining communities within expanding regions would be able to benefit from the assets in their regional milieu. In consequence, these communities would be expected to have more optimistic prospects for reversing their demographic trend than declining communities in declining regions.

One-third (33 percent) of all 2,607 communities in Canada were in decline over the 1981 to 2001 period with most of them ( 65 percent) located within declining regions (Table 2). Seventeen percent of the declining communities were in stable regions and 17 percent were in growing regions. Communities classified as in continuous decline over the 20 year period from 1981 to 2001 have
been unable to turn around their demographic trajectory.

Over one-third ( 38 percent) of all communities grew over the 1981 to 2001 period. Of these, 77 percent were in growing regions, 11 percent in stable regions and 12 percent in declining regions.

Approximately one-third (36 percent) of all communities were located in declining regions over the 1981 to 2001 period, 48 percent in growing regions and 16 percent in stable regions. Almost two-thirds ( 60 percent) of the communities in declining regions were, themselves, declining. This amounted to 568 communities, close to onefifth of all communities in Canada.

Table 2. Distribution of communities by the demographic trend of the community and by the demographic trend of the host region, Canada, 2001


Share of number of each type of community (row percent)

|  | Share of number of each type of community (row percent) |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Declining <br> community <br> Stable of <br> community | 65 | 17 | 17 | 100 |
|  | community <br> Growing <br> community | 35 | 21 | 44 | 100 |
|  | All communities | 36 | 12 | 76 | 100 |
|  | Share of number of communities in each type of region (column |  |  |  |  |
| percent) |  |  |  |  |  |

Note: A declining community/region experienced a population decline in at least three of the four intercensal periods from 1981 to 2001. A growing community/region experienced a population increase in at least three of the four intercensal periods from 1981 to 2001.
Source: Statistics Canada, Census of Population, 1981 to 2001.

## Population share by community type

To get a better appreciation of the share of Canada's population associated with each type of community, we tabulated the size of the 2001 population associated with each type of community. In 2001, 9 percent of Canada's population lived in communities that declined over the 1981 to 2001 period (Table 3). This was a drop of three percentage points since 1981 when 12 percent of Canada's population was living in these communities (Appendix Table A7). However, only 5 percent of Canada’s 2001 population was living
in a declining community located within a declining region (8 percent in 1981). Recall, 22 percent of all communities were declining communities within declining regions. These communities only represented 5 percent of Canada's population in 2001.

It is noteworthy, however, that three-quarters (76 percent) of Canada's 2001 population was living in a growing community located within a growing region, up from 70 percent in 1981.

Table 3. Distribution of total population by the demographic trend of the community and by the demographic trend of the host region, Canada, 2001

Type of region in which the community is located

|  |  | Declining region | Stable region | Growing region | All regions |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | Total population |  |  |  |
| Type of community | Declining community | 1,635,469 | 589,235 | 348,631 | 2,573,335 |
|  | Stable community | 525,244 | 838,387 | 1,959,234 | 3,322,865 |
|  | Growing community | 428,995 | 874,202 | 22,807,697 | 24,110,894 |
|  | All communities | 2,589,708 | 2,301,824 | 25,115,562 | 30,007,094 |
|  |  | Share of total population in Canada (percent) |  |  |  |
| Type of community | Declining community | 5 | 2 | 1 | 9 |
|  | Stable community | 2 | 3 | 7 | 11 |
|  | Growing community | 1 | 3 | 76 | 80 |
|  | All communities | 9 | 8 | 84 | 100 |


| Share of population in each type of community (row percent) |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Type of community | Declining community | 64 | 23 | 14 | 100 |
|  | Stable community | 16 | 25 | 59 | 100 |
|  | Growing community | 2 | 4 | 95 | 100 |
|  | All communities | 9 | 8 | 84 | 100 |
|  |  | Share of population in each type of region (column percent) |  |  |  |
| Type of community | Declining community | 63 | 26 | 1 | 9 |
|  | Stable community | 20 | 36 | 8 | 11 |
|  | Growing community | 17 | 38 | 91 | 80 |
|  | All communities | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |

Note: A declining community/region experienced a population decline in at least three of the four intercensal periods from 1981 to 2001.
A growing community/region experienced a population increase in at least three of the four intercensal periods from 1981 to 2001. Source: Statistics Canada, Census of Population, 1981 to 2001.

## Larger communities are more likely to grow

One generally recognized demographic trend is that larger communities tend to grow faster than smaller communities. Our findings are consistent with this general observation. Across Canada, a majority of communities with 3,000 or more residents in 1981 grew by 5 percent or more between 1981 and 2001 (Table 4). A majority of communities with less than 1,000 residents experienced a population decline of five percent or more over the same period.

The pattern varies considerably among the provinces. In Newfoundland and Labrador, no community size group reported a majority of communities with a population increase of 5 percent or more (except St. John's, a community with over 100,000 residents in 1981) (Table 5). On the other hand, in Ontario, within every community size group, more than 50 percent of the communities reported a demographic growth of five percent or more over the 1981 to 2001 period.

Table 4. Distribution of communities by size of population change, Canada, 1981 to 2001

| Number of inhabitants in 1981 | Size of pop | change | 1 to 2001 | All communities |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Less than -5 percent | $\begin{gathered} \hline-5 \text { to }+4.9 \\ \text { percent } \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ | 5 percent or greater |  |
|  | Number of communities |  |  |  |
| Less than 40 | 0 | 79 | 0 | 79 |
| 40 to 249 | 31 | 3 | 25 | 59 |
| 250 to 499 | 109 | 28 | 74 | 211 |
| 500 to 749 | 153 | 33 | 84 | 270 |
| 750 to 999 | 110 | 43 | 61 | 214 |
| 1,000 to 1,999 | 268 | 92 | 217 | 577 |
| 2,000 to 2,999 | 91 | 59 | 138 | 288 |
| 3,000 to 4,999 | 91 | 44 | 144 | 279 |
| 5,000 to 7,499 | 47 | 31 | 95 | 173 |
| 7,500 to 9,999 | 19 | 18 | 56 | 93 |
| 10,000 to 14,999 | 11 | 16 | 81 | 108 |
| 15,000 to 29,999 | 20 | 18 | 82 | 120 |
| 30,000 to 49,999 | 6 | 8 | 45 | 59 |
| 50,000 to 99,999 | 4 | 7 | 32 | 43 |
| 100,000 and over | 1 | 3 | 30 | 34 |
| All communities | 961 | 482 | 1,164 | 2,607 |
| Percent distribution of communities (row percent) |  |  |  |  |
| Less than 40 | 0 | 100 | 0 | 100 |
| 40 to 249 | 53 | 5 | 42 | 100 |
| 250 to 499 | 52 | 13 | 35 | 100 |
| 500 to 749 | 57 | 12 | 31 | 100 |
| 750 to 999 | 51 | 20 | 29 | 100 |
| 1,000 to 1,999 | 46 | 16 | 38 | 100 |
| 2,000 to 2,999 | 32 | 20 | 48 | 100 |
| 3,000 to 4,999 | 33 | 16 | 52 | 100 |
| 5,000 to 7,499 | 27 | 18 | 55 | 100 |
| 7,500 to 9,999 | 20 | 19 | 60 | 100 |
| 10,000 to 14,999 | 10 | 15 | 75 | 100 |
| 15,000 to 29,999 | 17 | 15 | 68 | 100 |
| 30,000 to 49,999 | 10 | 14 | 76 | 100 |
| 50,000 to 99,999 | 9 | 16 | 74 | 100 |
| 100,000 and over | 3 | 9 | 88 | 100 |
| All communities | 37 | 18 | 45 | 100 |

Note: A "community" is designated as a Census Consolidated Subdivision (CCS). Data are tabulated within 1996 CCS boundaries. Source: Statistics Canada, Census of Population, 1981 to 2001.

Table 5. Share (percent) of communities with a population change of five percent or greater, Canada and provinces, 1981 to 2001

| Number of inhabitants in 1981 | Newfoundland and Labrador | Prince Edward Island | Nova Scotia | New Brunswick | Quebec | Ontario | Manitoba | Saskatchewan | Alberta | British Columbia | Yukon | Northwest <br> Territories and Nunavut | Canada |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Less than 40 | $\ldots$ | $\ldots$ | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | $\ldots$ | $\ldots$ | ... | ... | ... | 0 |
| 40 to 249 | 0 | ... | ... | .. | 38 | 64 | 50 | 0 | 50 | ... | ... |  | 42 |
| 250 to 499 | 0 | 45 | ... | 15 | 30 | 73 | 0 | 0 | 100 | 100 | ... | ... | 35 |
| 500 to 749 | 0 | 27 | ... | 43 | 32 | 78 | 0 | 4 | ... | ... | ... | $\ldots$ | 31 |
| 750 to 999 | 0 | 59 | ... | 33 | 26 | 84 | 15 | 2 | ... | ... | ... |  | 29 |
| 1,000 to 1,999 | 0 | 40 | ... | 47 | 40 | 71 | 23 | 10 | $\ldots$ | ... | ... | $\ldots$ | 38 |
| 2,000 to 2,999 | 5 | 60 | 50 | 50 | 55 | 82 | 18 | 13 | 20 | 33 | ... | ... | 48 |
| 3,000 to 4,999 | 5 | 100 | 13 | 35 | 52 | 83 | 41 | 27 | 57 | 44 | ... | 100 | 52 |
| 5,000 to 7,499 | 0 | 100 | 33 | 45 | 64 | 76 | 50 | 50 | 27 | 75 | ... | 100 | 55 |
| 7,500 to 9,999 | 20 | ... | 20 | 0 | 50 | 83 | 60 | 0 | 83 | 67 | ... | 100 | 60 |
| 10,000 to 14,999 | 0 | 100 | 75 | 80 | 67 | 95 | 67 | 50 | 58 | 67 | ... | ... | 75 |
| 15,000 to 29,999 | 0 | 100 | 67 | 33 | 52 | 83 | 80 | 33 | 100 | 63 | 100 | 100 | 68 |
| 30,000 to 49,999 | ... | ... | 50 | 100 | 61 | 75 | 100 | 50 | 100 | 100 | ... | ... | 76 |
| 50,000 to 99,999 | $\ldots$ | ... | 100 | 50 | 60 | 63 | $\ldots$ | ... | 100 | 100 | ... | ... | 74 |
| 100,000 and over | 100 |  | 50 |  | 60 | 94 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |  |  | 88 |
| All communities | 5 | 46 | 42 | 41 | 39 | 79 | 30 | 12 | 68 | 73 | 100 | 100 | 45 |
| ... not applicable |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Note: 1: A "community" is designated as a Census Consolidated Subdivision (CCS). Data are tabulated within 1996 CCS boundaries. 2: Shaded cells are where 50 percent or more of the communities grew by five percent or more between 1981 and 2001. Source: Statistics Canada, Census of Population, 1981 to 2001. |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

Another way to depict the community demographic patterns among the provinces is to compare the provinces in terms of our classification that divided communities into nine groups (three types of community demographic change classified within three types of regional demographic change) (Appendix Table A8 and A9). In Newfoundland and Labrador, 68 percent of all communities were declining communities located within declining regions. This share is 3.1 times the share in Canada as a whole (i.e. the LQ is 3.1 ). In 2001, 43 percent of the population of Newfoundland and Labrador resided in declining communities within declining regions (Appendix Table A10).

## Does regional context matter?

Our classification of nine community/regional types emphasizes that the regional context bears heavily on the opportunities for continuous community demographic growth.

Here we consider the location of communities within the OECD geographic typology of regions (Box 1). First, we count communities according to their regional context of demographic change (i.e., growing, stable or declining) and according to their OECD geographic typology (i.e., predominantly urban, intermediate or predominantly rural) (Table 6). Within predominantly urban regions, 97 percent of the communities are located in growing regions which is to say that a vast majority of predominantly urban regions are continuous growing regions. Within intermediate regions, 71 percent of the communities are in growing regions and within rural metro-adjacent regions, 63 percent of the communities are in growing regions - again indicating that a majority of intermediate and rural metro-adjacent regions are growing regions. However, communities within rural non-metro-adjacent regions and rural northern regions are disadvantaged because their regions are not as likely to be growing. In rural northern regions, nearly two-thirds of the communities ( 64 percent) are in declining regions.

Table 6. Distribution of communities by demographic change of the host region and by OECD regional typology, Canada, 2001

| Type of region based on demographic change | OECD regional typology |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Predominantly urban regions | Intermediate regions | Rural metroadjacent regions | Rural non-metroadjacent regions | Rural northern regions | $\begin{aligned} & \text { All } \\ & \text { regions } \end{aligned}$ |
|  | Number of communities |  |  |  |  |  |
| Growing region | 134 | 319 | 482 | 295 | 13 | 1,243 |
| Stable region | 0 | 77 | 69 | 266 | 11 | 423 |
| Declining region | 4 | 53 | 210 | 632 | 42 | 941 |
| All regions | 138 | 449 | 761 | 1,193 | 66 | 2,607 |
| Share of all communities in Canada (percent) |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Growing region | 5 | 12 | 18 | 11 | 1 | 48 |
| Stable region | 0 | 3 | 3 | 10 | 0 | 16 |
| Declining region | 0 | 2 | 8 | 24 | 2 | 36 |
| All regions | 5 | 17 | 29 | 46 | 3 | 100 |

Share of communities within each type of region classified by demographic change (row percent)

| Growing region | 11 | 26 | 39 | 24 | 1 | 100 |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Stable region | 0 | 18 | 16 | 63 | 3 | 100 |
| Declining region | 0 | 6 | 22 | 67 | 4 | 100 |
| All regions | 5 | 17 | 29 | 46 | 3 | 100 |

Share of communities within each type of region classified by OECD geographic typology (column percent)

| Growing region | 97 | 71 | 63 | 25 | 20 | 48 |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| Stable region | 0 | 17 | 9 | 22 | 17 | 16 |
| Declining region | 3 | 12 | 28 | 53 | 64 | 36 |
| All regions | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |

Note: A declining community/region experienced a population decline in at least three of the four intercensal periods from 1981 to 2001.
A growing community/region experienced a population increase in at least three of the four intercensal periods from 1981 to 2001. Source: Statistics Canada, Census of Population, 1981 to 2001.

Looking at the demographic performance of communities themselves, there is more variability - that is, not all communities mirror the performance of their region. First, within predominantly urban regions, only 78 percent of the communities are continuously growing (even though 97 percent of the communities were in continuously growing regions) - thus, being within a predominantly urban region does not guarantee that a community will experience continuous demographic growth (Table 7).

Table 7. Distribution of communities by demographic change of the community and by OECD regional typology, Canada, 2001

| Type of community based on demographic change | OECD regional typology |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Predominantly urban regions | Intermediate regions | Rural metroadjacent regions | Rural non-metroadjacent regions | Rural northern regions | $\begin{aligned} & \text { All } \\ & \text { regions } \end{aligned}$ |
|  | Number of communities |  |  |  |  |  |
| Growing community | 108 | 216 | 359 | 290 | 19 | 992 |
| Stable community | 27 | 131 | 221 | 355 | 11 | 745 |
| Declining community | 3 | 102 | 181 | 548 | 36 | 870 |
| All communities | 138 | 449 | 761 | 1,193 | 66 | 2,607 |
| Share of all communities in Canada (percent) |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Growing community | 4 | 8 | 14 | 11 | 1 | 38 |
| Stable community | 1 | 5 | 8 | 14 | 0 | 29 |
| Declining community | 0 | 4 | 7 | 21 | 1 | 33 |
| All communities | 5 | 17 | 29 | 46 | 3 | 100 |

Share of communities within each type of community group based on demographic change (row percent)

| Growing community | 11 | 22 | 36 | 29 | 2 | 100 |
| :--- | ---: | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Stable community | 4 | 18 | 30 | 48 | 1 | 100 |
| Declining community | 0 | 12 | 21 | 63 | 4 | 100 |
| All communities | 5 | 17 | 29 | 46 | 3 | 100 |

Share of communities within each type of region classified by OECD geographic typology (column percent)

| Growing community | 78 | 48 | 47 | 24 | 29 | 38 |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| Stable community | 20 | 29 | 29 | 30 | 17 | 29 |
| Declining community | 2 | 23 | 24 | 46 | 55 | 33 |
| All communities | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |

Note: A declining community/region experienced a population decline in at least three of the four intercensal periods from 1981 to 2001. A growing community/region experienced a population increase in at least three of the four intercensal periods from 1981 to 2001.
Source: Statistics Canada, Census of Population, 1981 to 2001.ç

At the other end of the scale, 20 percent of communities in rural northern regions were in growing regions (Table 6). Within rural northern regions, 29 percent of communities were growing (due, in part, to the growing Aboriginal population). Again, this shows that demographic growth in communities is not necessarily constrained by being in a declining region.

Map 1 shows the demographic trend of communities in relation to their host region. The communities in yellow are growing communities within a declining region. Some of these communities will be able to continue to grow in spite of being in a declining region while others will have difficulty overcoming the factors causing the region as a whole to decline. Also note the declining communities within a growing region that are colored as green. The declining communities in growing regions in southern Ontario would be expected to have better prospects for eventual demographic growth, given the overall growth across Ontario. On the other hand, declining communities in growing regions outside southern Ontario may not be able to benefit from the growth centre in the region that is causing the overall regional population to grow.

Map 1. Growing / Declining communities within growing / declining regions, Canada, 2001


## Characterizing the different types of Canadian communities

In the previous section it was seen that rurality was associated with community demographic decline. To investigate this further, community employment intensity in sectors that are associated with rural regions are explored. As in previous sections, communities are grouped according to the typology developed earlier.

One factor associated with declining communities is a relatively high share of employment in primary industries such as agriculture. Our
analysis indicates that only growing communities located in growing regions have a share of employment in agriculture (in 2001) that is below the national average (Figure 1). Further, declining communities located within growing regions had the highest agricultural employment intensity of all (a LQ of four). The agricultural sector is shedding labour due to the ongoing substitution of machinery for labour. Communities that are relatively intensive in agriculture apparently have been unable to develop new goods or services to 'export' and which would generate alternative employment. These communities appear particularly demographically disadvantaged.

Figure 1
Only growing communities in growing regions had a smaller share of employment in agriculture, relative to the national average, Canada, 2001


Notes: A declining community/region experienced a population decline in at least 3 of the 4 intercensal periods from 1981 to 2001.
A growing community/region experienced a population increase in at least 3 of the 4 intercensal periods from 1981 to 2001
The location quotient (vertical axis) indicates the intensity of employment in agriculture relative to the national share of employment in agriculture in 2001.
Source: Statistics Canada. Census of Population, 1981 to 2001.

A commonly held belief is that one method of achieving rural development is to add value to the natural resources found in rural areas. This means developing local manufacturing activity based on the natural resources found in the area. To explore this hypothesis, the intensity of natural resource related manufacturing ${ }^{2}$ employment across communities and regions was investigated (Figure 2). It can be seen that growing communities in growing regions are the only communities with a lower than average share of the workforce in natural resource related manufacturing. Declining or stable communities in declining or stable regions have a higher share of employment in natural resource related manufacturing. It appears that these natural resource based manufacturing firms may also be substituting machines for labour and that this is contributing to the declining demographic trajectory of communities with a relatively high intensity of their workforce in this manufacturing sector.


Many of the services provided by the business services group are potentially exportable from smaller communities to larger urban centres. As a result, they would seem to provide an opportunity for rural development. However, only growing communities in growing regions have a workforce more intensive in business services, relative to the national average (Figure 3). It appears that declining communities are not able to build on this potential asset.

[^1]Figure 3

Location quotient


Notes: A declining community/region experienced a population decline in at least 3 of the 4 intercensal periods from 1981 to 2001
A growing community/region experienced a population increase in at least 3 of the 4 intercensal periods from 1981 to 2001.
The location quotient (vertical axis) indicates the intensity of employment in business services in the commmunity relative to the national share of employment in business services in 2001.
Source: Statistics Canada. Census of Population, 1981 to 2001.

## Community income profiles

Growing communities in growing regions derive a higher share of their aggregate income from earnings ${ }^{3}$ (Figure 4) and investment and other income ${ }^{4}$ (Figure 5), compared to the Canadian average. These same communities derive a lower share of their aggregate income from social transfer income ${ }^{5}$, compared to the Canadian

[^2]average (Figure 6). Conversely, declining communities in declining regions derive a lower share of their aggregate income from earnings and investment income (i.e. savings and investments), compared to the Canadian average, and a higher share from social transfer income.


Notes: A declining community/region experienced a population decline in at least 3 of the 4 intercensal periods from 1981 to 2001.
A growing community/region experienced a population increase in at least 3 of the 4 intercensal periods from 1981 to 2001.
The location quotient (vertical axis) indicates the intensity of earned income in the community as a percent of total income, relative to the national average share of earned income as a percent of total income in 2001.
Source: Statistics Canada. Census of Population, 1981 to 2001.

Figure 5
Compared to the national average, only growing communities in growing regions had a higher share of their total income derived as investment income, Canada, 2001


Notes: A declining community/region experienced a population decline in 3 of the 4 intercensal periods from 1981 to 2001
A growing community/region experienced a population increase in 3 of the 4 intercensal periods from 1981 to 2001
The location quotient (vertical axis) indicates the intensity of investment income in the community as a percent of total income, relative to the national average share of
investment income as a percent of total income in 2000.
Source: Statistics Canada. Census of Population, 1981 to 2001.

Figure 6
Compared to the national average, only growing communities in growing regions had a lower share of their total income derived as social transfer income, Canada, 2001


## Summary

Many communities are experiencing continuous demographic decline (33 percent of all communities). It should be noted, however, that these communities contain only 9 percent of Canada's population. Thirty-six percent of all communities are located within declining regions and may not be able to overcome the factors generating regional decline. Once again, though, these communities account for only a small share of Canada’s population ( 9 percent).

The demographic trajectory of regions is strongly associated with the degree of urbanization predominantly urban regions are most likely to be continuously growing regions and rural non-metro-adjacent regions are least likely to be continuously growing regions.

However, not all communities within continuously growing predominantly urban regions are, themselves, growing. Similarly, not all communities within continuously declining rural non-metro-adjacent regions are, themselves, declining. Thus, although the regional context matters, not all communities within a region mirror the demographic trajectory of the region.

## References

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Appendix Table A1. Number of communities by community size, Canada and provinces, 2001

| Number of inhabitants in 2001 | Newfoundland and Labrador | Prince <br> Edward <br> Island | Nova Scotia | New Brunswick | Quebec | Ontario | Manitoba | Saskatchewan | Alberta | British Columbia | Yukon | Northwest Territories and Nunavut | Canada |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| "Rural" communities | Number of communities (1) |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Less than 40 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 75 | 3 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 83 |
| 40 to 249 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 43 | 10 | 2 | 8 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 69 |
| 250 to 499 | 0 | 10 | 0 | 10 | 155 | 25 | 6 | 52 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 260 |
| 500 to 749 | 2 | 9 | 0 | 7 | 131 | 25 | 10 | 52 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 236 |
| 750 to 999 | 1 | 15 | 0 | 13 | 117 | 23 | 10 | 43 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 223 |
| 1,000 to 1,999 | 24 | 22 | 0 | 36 | 243 | 79 | 40 | 75 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 521 |
| 2,000 to 2,999 | 15 | 7 | 3 | 23 | 114 | 51 | 19 | 34 | 4 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 272 |
| 3,000 to 4,999 | 18 | 2 | 9 | 23 | 93 | 76 | 13 | 18 | 8 | 10 | 0 | 0 | 270 |
| 5,000 to 7,499 | 14 | 0 | 9 | 15 | 49 | 44 | 7 | 6 | 6 | 7 | 0 | 1 | 158 |
| 7,500 to 9,999 | 3 | 1 | 7 | 4 | 23 | 32 | 6 | 3 | 10 | 5 | 0 | 2 | 96 |
| 10,000 to 14,999 | 4 | 0 | 8 | 4 | 16 | 36 | 3 | 3 | 14 | 9 | 0 | 1 | 98 |
| 15,000 and over | 2 | 0 | 13 | 7 | 10 | 61 | 8 | 6 | 25 | 32 | 1 | 1 | 166 |
| All "rural" communities | 86 | 66 | 50 | 145 | 1,069 | 465 | 127 | 300 | 71 | 67 | 1 | 5 | 2,452 |
| "Urban" communities | Number of communities (1) |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Less than 15,000 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 11 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 14 |
| 15,000 to 29,999 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 25 | 5 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 34 |
| 30,000 to 49,999 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 18 | 5 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 26 |
| 50,000 to 99,999 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 14 | 14 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 31 |
| 100,000 and over | 1 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 6 | 27 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 9 | 0 | 0 | 50 |
| All "urban" communities | 1 | 2 | 2 | 3 | 74 | 53 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 15 | 0 | 0 | 155 |
| All communities | 87 | 68 | 52 | 148 | 1,143 | 518 | 128 | 302 | 73 | 82 | 1 | 5 | 2,607 |

Note 1: A "rural community" is a CCS with less than 150 persons per square kilometre in 1996. An "urban community" has greater than 150 persons per square kilometre in 1996.
2: Data are tabulated within 1996 CCS boundaries.
3: The distribution of communities is split between "rural" and "urban". In Table 1 the distribution of communities is presented for all communities. Consequently, for example Table 1 shows a total of 99 communities with a population of 7,500 to 9,999 while this table shows that 96 communities of this size are compiled as "rural". The remaining three communities are included in this table as "urban" communities with a population below 15,000.
Source: Statistics Canada, Census of Population, 2001.

Appendix Table A2. Percent distribution of communities by community size, Canada and provinces, 2001

| Number of inhabitants in 2001 | Newfound- land and Labrador | Prince <br> Edward Island | Nova Scotia | New Brunswick | Quebec | Ontario | Manitoba | Saskatchewan | Alberta | British Columbia | Yukon | Northwest Territories and Nunavut | Canada |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| "Rural" communities | Share of communities across provinces (row percent) |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Less than 40 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 90 | 4 | 4 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 100 |
| 40 to 249 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 4 | 62 | 14 | 3 | 12 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 100 |
| 250 to 499 | 0 | 4 | 0 | 4 | 60 | 10 | 2 | 20 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 100 |
| 500 to 749 | 1 | 4 | 0 | 3 | 56 | 11 | 4 | 22 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 100 |
| 750 to 999 | 0 | 7 | 0 | 6 | 52 | 10 | 4 | 19 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 100 |
| 1,000 to 1,999 | 5 | 4 | 0 | 7 | 47 | 15 | 8 | 14 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 100 |
| 2,000 to 2,999 | 6 | 3 | 1 | 8 | 42 | 19 | 7 | 13 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 100 |
| 3,000 to 4,999 | 7 | 1 | 3 | 9 | 34 | 28 | 5 | 7 | 3 | 4 | 0 | 0 | 100 |
| 5,000 to 7,499 | 9 | 0 | 6 | 9 | 31 | 28 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 0 | 1 | 100 |
| 7,500 to 9,999 | 3 | 1 | 7 | 4 | 24 | 33 | 6 | 3 | 10 | 5 | 0 | 2 | 100 |
| 10,000 to 14,999 | 4 | 0 | 8 | 4 | 16 | 37 | 3 | 3 | 14 | 9 | 0 | 1 | 100 |
| 15,000 and over | 1 | 0 | 8 | 4 | 6 | 37 | 5 | 4 | 15 | 19 | 1 | 1 | 100 |
| All "rural" communities | 4 | 3 | 2 | 6 | 44 | 19 | 5 | 12 | 3 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 100 |
| "Urban" communities | Share of communities across provinces (row percent) |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Less than 15,000 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 79 | 14 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 7 | 0 | 0 | 100 |
| 15,000 to 29,999 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 3 | 74 | 15 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 6 | 0 | 0 | 100 |
| 30,000 to 49,999 | 0 | 4 | 0 | 4 | 69 | 19 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 4 | 0 | 0 | 100 |
| 50,000 to 99,999 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 45 | 45 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 6 | 0 | 0 | 100 |
| 100,000 and over | 2 | 0 | 4 | 0 | 12 | 54 | 2 | 4 | 4 | 18 | 0 | 0 | 100 |
| All "urban" communities | 1 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 48 | 34 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 10 | 0 | 0 | 100 |
| All communities | 3 | 3 | 2 | 6 | 44 | 20 | 5 | 12 | 3 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 100 |

[^3]
## Appendix Table A3. Percent distribution of communities by community size within each province, Canada and provinces, 2001

| Number of inhabitants in 2001 | Newfoundland and Labrador | Prince Edward Island | Nova Scotia | New Brunswick | Quebec | Ontario | Manitoba | Saskatchewan | Alberta | British Columbia | Yukon | Northwest Territories and Nunavut | Canada |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| "Rural" communities | Share of communities by size of community within each province (column percent) |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Less than 40 | 1 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 7 | 1 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 3 |
| 40 to 249 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 4 | 2 | 2 | 3 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 3 |
| 250 to 499 | 0 | 15 | 0 | 7 | 14 | 5 | 5 | 17 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 10 |
| 500 to 749 | 2 | 13 | 0 | 5 | 11 | 5 | 8 | 17 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 9 |
| 750 to 999 | 1 | 22 | 0 | 9 | 10 | 4 | 8 | 14 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 9 |
| 1,000 to 1,999 | 28 | 32 | 0 | 24 | 21 | 15 | 31 | 25 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 20 |
| 2,000 to 2,999 | 17 | 10 | 6 | 16 | 10 | 10 | 15 | 11 | 5 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 10 |
| 3,000 to 4,999 | 21 | 3 | 17 | 16 | 8 | 15 | 10 | 6 | 11 | 12 | 0 | 0 | 10 |
| 5,000 to 7,499 | 16 | 0 | 17 | 10 | 4 | 8 | 5 | 2 | 8 | 9 | 0 | 20 | 6 |
| 7,500 to 9,999 | 3 | 1 | 13 | 3 | 2 | 6 | 5 | 1 | 14 | 6 | 0 | 40 | 4 |
| 10,000 to 14,999 | 5 | 0 | 15 | 3 | 1 | 7 | 2 | 1 | 19 | 11 | 0 | 20 | 4 |
| 15,000 and over | 2 | 0 | 25 | 5 | 1 | 12 | 6 | 2 | 34 | 39 | 100 | 20 | 6 |
| All "rural" communities | 99 | 97 | 96 | 98 | 94 | 90 | 99 | 99 | 97 | 82 | 100 | 100 | 94 |
| "Urban" communities | Share of communities by size of community within each province (column percent) |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Less than 15,000 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| 15,000 to 29,999 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| 30,000 to 49,999 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| 50,000 to 99,999 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| 100,000 and over | 1 | 0 | 4 | 0 | 1 | 5 | 1 | 1 | 3 | 11 | 0 | 0 | 2 |
| All "urban" communities | 1 | 3 | 4 | 2 | 6 | 10 | 1 | 1 | 3 | 18 | 0 | 0 | 6 |
| All communities | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |

[^4]
## Appendix Table A4. Total population by community size, Canada and provinces, 2001

| Number of inhabitants in 2001 | Newfound land and Labrador | Prince <br> Edward <br> Island | Nova Scotia | New Brunswick | Quebec | Ontario | Manitoba | Saskatchewan | Alberta | British Columbia | Yukon | Northwest <br> Territories and Nunavut | Canada |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| "Rural" communities | Number of inhabitants |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Less than 40 | 0 | 0 | 15 | 0 | 147 | 0 | 44 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 206 |
| 40 to 249 | 343 | 0 | 0 | 508 | 7,028 | 1,384 | 102 | 1,402 | 96 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 10,863 |
| 250 to 499 | 0 | 3,864 | 0 | 3,659 | 59,293 | 9,610 | 2,263 | 20,404 | 831 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 99,924 |
| 500 to 749 | 1,371 | 5,358 | 0 | 4,475 | 82,365 | 15,638 | 6,118 | 31,677 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 147,002 |
| 750 to 999 | 783 | 12,977 | 0 | 11,574 | 101,126 | 20,592 | 8,739 | 36,288 | 0 | 854 | 0 | 0 | 192,933 |
| 1,000 to 1,999 | 36,293 | 29,720 | 0 | 50,818 | 345,389 | 113,655 | 57,928 | 104,104 | 1,644 | 1,316 | 0 | 0 | 740,867 |
| 2,000 to 2,999 | 37,803 | 17,008 | 8,040 | 57,697 | 282,248 | 129,049 | 47,423 | 83,505 | 10,438 | 5,027 | 0 | 0 | 678,238 |
| 3,000 to 4,999 | 68,156 | 7,914 | 36,779 | 82,335 | 360,861 | 296,551 | 50,258 | 71,060 | 32,909 | 41,030 | 0 | 0 | 1,047,853 |
| 5,000 to 7,499 | 80,489 | 0 | 58,557 | 96,832 | 302,774 | 274,013 | 39,296 | 35,547 | 34,112 | 44,557 | 0 | 5,214 | 971,391 |
| 7,500 to 9,999 | 25,598 | 7,920 | 58,494 | 33,212 | 196,935 | 279,395 | 51,326 | 25,988 | 90,692 | 43,314 | 0 | 15,695 | 828,569 |
| 10,000 to 14,999 | 44,840 | 0 | 97,895 | 51,245 | 199,910 | 443,952 | 35,684 | 36,591 | 179,928 | 108,691 | 0 | 14,372 | 1,213,108 |
| 15,000 and over | 44,285 | 0 | 406,015 | 193,728 | 235,944 | 1,696,455 | 200,858 | 157,511 | 1,079,187 | 1,260,217 | 28,674 | 28,824 | 5,331,698 |
| All "rural" communities | 339,961 | 84,761 | 665,795 | 586,083 | 2,174,020 | 3,280,294 | 500,039 | 604,077 | 1,429,837 | 1,505,006 | 28,674 | 64,105 | 11,262,652 |
| "Urban" communities | Number of inhabitants |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Less than 15,000 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 109,052 | 27,360 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 14,894 | 0 | 0 | 151,306 |
| 15,000 to 29,999 | 0 | 16,368 | 0 | 25,482 | 545,251 | 108,319 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 39,085 | 0 | 0 | 734,505 |
| 30,000 to 49,999 | 0 | 34,165 | 0 | 48,272 | 704,479 | 227,283 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 48,880 | 0 | 0 | 1,063,079 |
| 50,000 to 99,999 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 69,661 | 971,276 | 1,054,744 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 160,603 | 0 | 0 | 2,256,284 |
| 100,000 and over | 172,969 | 0 | 242,212 | 0 | 2,733,404 | 6,712,046 | 619,544 | 374,856 | 1,544,970 | 2,139,270 | 0 | 0 | 14,539,271 |
| All "urban" communities | 172,969 | 50,533 | 242,212 | 143,415 | 5,063,462 | 8,129,752 | 619,544 | 374,856 | 1,544,970 | 2,402,732 | 0 | 0 | 18,744,445 |
| All communities | 512,930 | 135,294 | 908,007 | 729,498 | 7,237,482 | 11,410,046 | 1,119,583 | 978,933 | 2,974,807 | 3,907,738 | 28,674 | 64,105 | 30,007,097 |

Note 1: A "rural community" is a CCS with less than 150 persons per square kilometre in 1996. An "urban community" has greater than 150 persons per square kilometre in 1996 .
2: Data are tabulated within 1996 CCS boundaries.
3: The distribution of communities is split between "rural" and "urban". In Table 1 the distribution of population is presented for all communities. Consequently, for example, Table 1 shows 855,203 individuals in communities with a population of 7,500 to 9,999 while this table shows 828,569 individuals in "rural" communities of this size. In this table, the remaining individuals are included in "urban" communities with a population below 15,000.
Source: Statistics Canada, Census of Population, 2001.

Appendix Table A5. Percent distribution of population by community size, Canada and provinces, 2001

| Number of inhabitants in 2001 | Newfoundland and Labrador | Prince Edward Island | Nova <br> Scotia | New Brunswick | Quebec | Ontario | Manitoba | Saskatchewan | Alberta | British Columbia | Yukon | Northwest Territories and Nunavut | Canada |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| "Rural" communities | Share of population across provinces (row percent) |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Less than 40 | 0 | 0 | 7 | 0 | 71 | 0 | 21 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 100 |
| 40 to 249 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 5 | 65 | 13 | 1 | 13 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 100 |
| 250 to 499 | 0 | 4 | 0 | 4 | 59 | 10 | 2 | 20 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 100 |
| 500 to 749 | 1 | 4 | 0 | 3 | 56 | 11 | 4 | 22 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 100 |
| 750 to 999 | 0 | 7 | 0 | 6 | 52 | 11 | 5 | 19 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 100 |
| 1,000 to 1,999 | 5 | 4 | 0 | 7 | 47 | 15 | 8 | 14 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 100 |
| 2,000 to 2,999 | 6 | 3 | 1 | 9 | 42 | 19 | 7 | 12 | 2 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 100 |
| 3,000 to 4,999 | 7 | 1 | 4 | 8 | 34 | 28 | 5 | 7 | 3 | 4 | 0 | 0 | 100 |
| 5,000 to 7,499 | 8 | 0 | 6 | 10 | 31 | 28 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 5 | 0 | 1 | 100 |
| 7,500 to 9,999 | 3 | 1 | 7 | 4 | 24 | 34 | 6 | 3 | 11 | 5 | 0 | 2 | 100 |
| 10,000 to 14,999 | 4 | 0 | 8 | 4 | 16 | 37 | 3 | 3 | 15 | 9 | 0 | 1 | 100 |
| 15,000 and over | 1 | 0 | 8 | 4 | 4 | 32 | 4 | 3 | 20 | 24 | 1 | 1 | 100 |
| All "rural" communities | 3 | 1 | 6 | 5 | 19 | 29 | 4 | 5 | 13 | 13 | 0 | 1 | 100 |
| "Urban" communities | Share of population across provinces (row percent) |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Less than 15,000 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 72 | 18 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 10 | 0 | 0 | 100 |
| 15,000 to 29,999 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 3 | 74 | 15 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 5 | 0 | 0 | 100 |
| 30,000 to 49,999 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 5 | 66 | 21 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 5 | 0 | 0 | 100 |
| 50,000 to 99,999 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 43 | 47 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 7 | 0 | 0 | 100 |
| 100,000 and over | 1 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 19 | 46 | 4 | 3 | 11 | 15 | 0 | 0 | 100 |
| All "urban" communities | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 27 | 43 | 3 | 2 | 8 | 13 | 0 | 0 | 100 |
| All communities | 2 | 0 | 3 | 2 | 24 | 38 | 4 | 3 | 10 | 13 | 0 | 0 | 100 |

Note 1: A "rural community" is a CCS with less than 150 persons per square kilometre in 1996. An "urban community" has greater than 150 persons per square kilometre in 1996. 2: Data are tabulated within 1996 CCS boundaries.
source: Statistics Canada, Census of Population, 2001.

## Appendix Table A6. Percent distribution of population by community size within each province, Canada and provinces, 2001

| Number of inhabitants in 2001 | Newfoundland and Labrador | Prince Edward Island | Nova Scotia | New Brunswick | Quebec | Ontario | Manitoba | Saskatchewan | Alberta | British Columbia | Yukon | Northwest <br> Territories <br> and <br> Nunavut | Canada |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| "Rural" communities | Share of population by size of community within each province (column percent) |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Less than 40 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 40 to 249 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 250 to 499 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 500 to 749 | 0 | 4 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 750 to 999 | 0 | 10 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 4 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| 1,000 to 1,999 | 7 | 22 | 0 | 7 | 5 | 1 | 5 | 11 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 |
| 2,000 to 2,999 | 7 | 13 | 1 | 8 | 4 | 1 | 4 | 9 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 |
| 3,000 to 4,999 | 13 | 6 | 4 | 11 | 5 | 3 | 4 | 7 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 3 |
| 5,000 to 7,499 | 16 | 0 | 6 | 13 | 4 | 2 | 4 | 4 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 8 | 3 |
| 7,500 to 9,999 | 5 | 6 | 6 | 5 | 3 | 2 | 5 | 3 | 3 | 1 | 0 | 24 | 3 |
| 10,000 to 14,999 | 9 | 0 | 11 | 7 | 3 | 4 | 3 | 4 | 6 | 3 | 0 | 22 | 4 |
| 15,000 and over | 9 | 0 | 45 | 27 | 3 | 15 | 18 | 16 | 36 | 32 | 100 | 45 | 18 |
| All "rural" communities | 66 | 63 | 73 | 80 | 30 | 29 | 45 | 62 | 48 | 39 | 100 | 100 | 38 |
| "Urban" communities | Share of population by size of community within each province (column percent) |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Less than 15,000 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| 15,000 to 29,999 | 0 | 12 | 0 | 3 | 8 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 2 |
| 30,000 to 49,999 | 0 | 25 | 0 | 7 | 10 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 4 |
| 50,000 to 99,999 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 10 | 13 | 9 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 4 | 0 | 0 | 8 |
| 100,000 and over | 34 | 0 | 27 | 0 | 38 | 59 | 55 | 38 | 52 | 55 | 0 | 0 | 48 |
| All "urban" communities | 34 | 37 | 27 | 20 | 70 | 71 | 55 | 38 | 52 | 61 | 0 | 0 | 62 |
| All communities | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |

Note 1: A "rural community" is a CCS with less than 150 persons per square kilometre in 1996. An "urban community" has greater than 150 persons per square kilometre in 1996
2: Data are tabulated within 1996 CCS boundaries.
3: The distribution of communities is split between "rural" and "urban". In Table 1 the distribution of communities is presented for all communities. Consequently, for example,
Table 1 shows 4 percent of individuals reside in communities with a population of 3,000 to 4,999 while this table shows 3 percent of individuals reside in "rural" communities of this size. The remaining 1 percent of individuals are included within "urban" communities with a population below 15,000.
Source: Statistics Canada, Census of Population, 2001.

## Appendix Table A7. Distribution of total population by the demographic trend of the community and the community's host region, Canada, 1981

Type of region in which the community is located


| Share of population in each type of community (row percent) |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Type of community | Declining community Stable | 65 | 22 | 13 | 100 |
|  | community | 18 | 28 | 54 | 100 |
|  | community | 2 | 4 | 93 | 100 |
|  | All communities | 12 | 9 | 79 | 100 |
|  | Share of population in each type of region (column percent) |  |  |  |  |
| Type of community | Declining community Stable | 67 | 28 | 2 | 12 |
|  | community Growing | 19 | 37 | 9 | 12 |
|  | community | 14 | 35 | 89 | 75 |
|  | All communities | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| Note: A declining community/region experienced a population decline in at least three of the four intercensal periods from 1981 to 2001. A growing community/region experienced a population increase in at least three of the four intercensal periods from 1981 to 2001. <br> Source: Statistics Canada, Census of Population, 1981 to 2001 |  |  |  |  |  |

## Appendix Table A8. Percent distribution of communities by the demographic trend of the community and the community's host region within each province, Canada and provinces, 2001

|  | Growing region |  |  |  | Stable region |  |  |  | Declining region |  |  |  | All regions |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Growing community | Stable community | Declining community | All communities | Growing community | Stable community | Declining community | All communities | Growing community | Stable community | Declining community | All communities | Growing community | Stable community | Declining community | All communities |
|  | Percent distribution of communities (row percent) |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Newfoundland and Labrador | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 4 | 17 | 22 | 4 | 7 | 68 | 78 | 5 | 10 | 85 | 100 |
| Prince Edward Island | 25 | 12 | 0 | 37 | 19 | 18 | 26 | 63 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 44 | 30 | 26 | 100 |
| Nova Scotia | 33 | 2 | 4 | 39 | 6 | 2 | 0 | 8 | 4 | 8 | 42 | 54 | 43 | 12 | 46 | 100 |
| New Brunswick | 28 | 17 | 14 | 58 | 3 | 8 | 8 | 20 | 3 | 10 | 10 | 22 | 34 | 35 | 31 | 100 |
| Quebec | 20 | 17 | 5 | 43 | 4 | 5 | 5 | 14 | 8 | 15 | 21 | 43 | 31 | 37 | 31 | 100 |
| Ontario | 61 | 12 | 3 | 77 | 5 | 5 | 3 | 13 | 2 | 3 | 5 | 10 | 69 | 20 | 11 | 100 |
| Manitoba | 23 | 6 | 8 | 37 | 2 | 9 | 5 | 16 | 2 | 10 | 34 | 46 | 27 | 25 | 48 | 100 |
| Saskatchewan | 5 | 4 | 8 | 18 | 2 | 4 | 8 | 14 | 2 | 13 | 54 | 69 | 10 | 21 | 70 | 100 |
| Alberta | 59 | 13 | 13 | 84 | 5 | 7 | 4 | 16 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 64 | 19 | 17 | 100 |
| British Columbia | 56 | 6 | 6 | 68 | 6 | 16 | 4 | 26 | 3 | 0 | 4 | 6 | 65 | 22 | 14 | 100 |
| Yukon | 100 | 0 | 0 | 100 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 100 | 0 | 0 | 100 |
| Northwest <br> Territories and <br> Nunavut <br> Canada | 100 | 0 | 0 | 100 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 100 | 0 | 0 | 100 |
| Canada | 29 | 13 | 6 | 48 | 4 | 6 | 6 | 16 | 5 | 10 | 22 | 36 | 38 | 29 | 33 | 100 |

Note: A declining community/region experienced a population decline in at least three of the four intercensal periods from 1981 to 2001 A growing community/region experienced a population increase in at least three of the four intercensal periods from 1981 to 2001.
source: Statistics Canada, Census of Population, 1981 to 2001


[^5]Appendix Table A10. Percent distribution of population by the demographic trend of the community and the community's host region within each province, Canada and provinces, 2001

|  | Growing region |  |  |  | Stable region |  |  |  | Declining region |  |  |  | All regions |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Growing community | Stable community | Declining community | All communities | Growing community | Stable community | Declining community | All communities | Growing community | Stable community | Declining community | All communities | Growing community | Stable community | Declining community | All communities |
| Newfoundland and Labrador | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 34 | 3 | 11 | 47 | 4 | 6 | 43 | 53 | 37 | 9 | 54 | 100 |
| Prince Edward Island | 49 | 4 | 0 | 53 | 22 | 11 | 13 | 47 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 71 | 16 | 13 | 100 |
| Nova Scotia | 45 | 13 | 0 | 58 | 7 | 1 | 0 | 8 | 1 | 4 | 29 | 34 | 53 | 18 | 29 | 100 |
| New Brunswick | 46 | 6 | 5 | 57 | 5 | 6 | 9 | 19 | 2 | 5 | 18 | 24 | 52 | 16 | 33 | 100 |
| Quebec | 60 | 19 | 2 | 81 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 6 | 2 | 4 | 7 | 13 | 65 | 25 | 10 | 100 |
| Ontario | 88 | 3 | 0 | 91 | 1 | 3 | 2 | 6 | 1 | 0 | 2 | 3 | 90 | 5 | 5 | 100 |
| Manitoba | 76 | 2 | 2 | 80 | 4 | 5 | 1 | 10 | 0 | 2 | 8 | 10 | 81 | 9 | 10 | 100 |
| Saskatchewan | 49 | 2 | 3 | 54 | 6 | 3 | 2 | 11 | 4 | 10 | 21 | 35 | 59 | 15 | 26 | 100 |
| Alberta | 94 | 2 | 1 | 97 | 1 | 2 | 0 | 4 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 95 | 4 | 1 | 100 |
| British Columbia | 88 | 1 | 1 | 89 | 3 | 5 | 0 | 9 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 2 | 92 | 6 | 2 | 100 |
| Yukon | 100 | 0 | 0 | 100 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 100 | 0 | 0 | 100 |
| Northwest <br> Territories and <br> Nunavut | 100 | 0 | 0 | 100 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 100 | 0 | 0 | 100 |
| Canada | 76 | 7 | 1 | 84 | 3 | 3 | 2 | 8 | 1 | 2 | 5 | 9 | 80 | 11 | 9 | 100 |

Note: A declining community/region experienced a population decline in at least three of the four intercensal periods from 1981 to 2001. A growing community/region experienced a population increase in at least three of the four intercensal periods from 1981 to 2001.
Source: Statistics Canada, Census of Population, 1981 to 2001

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[^0]:    1. The OECD defines a rural community as a community with a population density of less than 150 persons per square kilometre (du Plessis et al. (2001)).
[^1]:    2. Natural resource related manufacturing includes manufacturing related to 'food industries', 'beverage industries', 'tobacco products industries', 'plastic products industries', some 'wood and paper products industries', some 'metal smelting, refining and casting industries', 'cement, concrete and lime products industries' and 'refined petroleum and coal products industries'.
[^2]:    3. Income from earnings comprises wages and salaries, net farm income and net non-farm income from an unincorporated business and/or professional practice.
    4. Investment and other income comprises income from dividends, interest and other investment income, retirement pensions, superannuation, annuities and other money income.
    5. Social transfer income comprises Old Age Security pension and Guaranteed Income Supplement, Canada Pension Plan and Quebec Pension Plan benefits, Employment Insurance benefits, Federal Child Tax benefits, and other income from government sources.
[^3]:    Note 1: A "rural community" is a CCS with less than 150 persons per square kilometre in 1996. An "urban community" has greater than 150 persons per square kilometre in 1996. 2: Data are tabulated within 1996 CCS boundaries.
    Source: Statistics Canada, Census of Population, 2001.

[^4]:    Note 1: A "rural community" is a CCS with less than 150 persons per square kilometre in 1996. An "urban community" has greater than 150 persons per square kilometre in 1996
    2: Data are tabulated within 1996 CCS boundaries.
    3: The distribution of communities in this table is split between "rural" and "urban". In Table 1 the distribution of communities is presented for all communities. This rural-urban distribution explains the differences between the two tables.
    Source: Statistics Canada, Census of Population, 2001.

[^5]:    Note: A declining community/region experienced a population decline in at least three of the four intercensal periods from 1981 to 2001. A growing community/region experienced a population increase in at least three of the four intercensal periods from 1981 to 2001.
    Source: Statistics Canada, Census of Population, 1981 to 2001

