

## BULLETIN XV. FIFTH CENSUS OF CANADA

EDUCATIONAL STATUS OF THE PEOPLE OF CANADA FOR THE YEAR 1911  
AS ENUMERATED UNDER DATE OF FIRST JUNE.

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## EDUCATIONAL STATUS OF THE PEOPLE.

The educational status of the people five years of age and over is presented in this bulletin. Table I shows that the number of persons under five years of age was 883,508, leaving 6,323,135 persons whose educational acquirements were recorded in the census of June, 1911. The increase in the population five years of age and over from 1901 to 1911 was 33.72 per cent; during the same period the number of those who can read and write increased by 43.48 per cent, while the number of those able to read only decreased by 74.64 per cent. In 1901 there were 680,132 persons in Canada who could neither read nor write, in 1911 the number was 667,340, a decrease of nearly two per cent in 10 years.

Persons who can read and write constituted 88.93 per cent of the population of five years of age and over in 1911 as against 82.88 per cent in 1901; those who can read only were 2.74 per cent in 1901 as against one-half of one per cent in 1911, and the illiterates, classing as such, persons who can neither read nor write, represented 14.38 per cent of the population five years of age and over in 1901 as against 10.55 per cent in 1911, a betterment of 3.83 per cent in the decade.

The improvement in the educational status of the population of Alberta and Saskatchewan is strikingly illustrated by the fact that the percentage of those who can read and write has increased from 1901 to 1911 by 22.16 per cent in Saskatchewan and 17.25 per cent in Alberta; there being of course a corresponding decrease in the number of illiterates. In this connection it may not be out of place to mention that during the year 1910 Saskatchewan found it necessary to establish 254 new school districts and Alberta 251 to keep pace with the educational requirements of their rapidly increasing population.

Ontario still leads among the provinces as having the greatest percentage of persons five years of age and over capable of reading and writing. Of the Eastern provinces Quebec has made the greatest proportionate increase from 1901 to 1911 in the number who can read and write.

The next two tables deal by provinces with the literacy of the Canadian born of five years of age and over, Table 2, the first of these being for males and the other, Table 3, being for females. In every 1,000 of the male population 880 claimed to be able to read and write and 896 in every 1,000 of the female population of five years and over claimed to have a like accomplishment. A comparison of the tables will show that a greater proportion of females than of males have acquired an education in the Eastern provinces and a lesser in the Western provinces. In Ontario, Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island the conditions are fairly even.

In Tables 4, 5, 6 and 7 the educational standing of the immigrant population five years of age and over is given. Tables 4 and 5 deal with the records of male and female British immigrants, whether born in the old land or elsewhere; outside of Canada, in the Empire. Tables 6 and 7 give similar information concerning the foreign-born population.

That the educational standard of the British immigrant has improved in recent years is evidenced by the fact that their proportion of illiterates is smaller in those provinces which have received the greatest number of them within recent years. The per cent proportion of illiterates among the Foreign-born immigrants is much higher and is fairly level for all the provinces, being highest for both sexes in Manitoba.

Tables 8, 9 and 10 give the educational status of the voting population 21 years of age and over. Of the Canadian born (Table 8), nearly 10 persons in every 100 are unable to read the ballot paper; of the Foreign-born (Table 10), nearly 17 persons in every 100 show a similar deficiency; of the British immigrants, including born in United Kingdom and Possessions (Table 9), only 3 in every 100 are so situated.

At the last census there were 2,197,663 males of voting age; and of these 1,990,341 or 90.57 per cent could read in some language.

Comparison in tabular form of the educational efficiency of the people five years of age and over by place of birth is given on a per cent basis in the following table.

EDUCATIONAL STANDING BY BIRTHPLACE.

Birthplace	Proportion 5 years of age and over.					
	Can read and write		Can read only		Cannot read nor write	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
Canada.....	88.05	89.63	0.52	0.58	11.43	9.79
Empire (except Canada)....	95.84	95.29	0.25	0.40	3.91	4.31
Foreign countries.....	82.14	81.95	0.86	0.56	17.00	17.49

In a study of the tables of this bulletin it must be borne in mind that a much greater proportion of the immigrant population than of the native-born are adults. The percentage of British-born immigrants of five years of age and over is 98.2 per cent for males and 97.4 per cent for females, for the Foreign-born it is 97.7 per cent for males and 96.2 per cent for females as against 85 per cent for males and 84.9 per cent for females of Canadian birth. The difference in the proportion is even more apparent in males of voting age as only 50.6 per cent of the Canadian-born are 21 years of age and over as against 81.5 per cent for British immigrants and 73.6 per cent for Foreign-born.

It is also to be noted that the statistics are presented for a younger age than children in the newly settled portions of the country can attend school, and that the aboriginal population is included in the calculations.

TABLE I. Literacy of the total population 5 years of age and over, 1911 and 1901

		Total popu- lation	Popu- lation 5 years and over	Can read and write	Can read only	Cannot read nor write	Percentage 5 years and over.		
							Can read and write	Can read only	Cannot read nor write
CANADA		1911 7,206,643	6,323,135	5,622,932	32,863	667,340	88.93	.52	10.55
		1901 5,371,315	4,728,631	3,918,915	129,584	680,132	82.88	2.74	14.38
Increase		1,835,328	1,594,504	1,704,017	-96,721	-12,792	6.05	-2.22	-3.83
Alberta.....		1911 374,663	328,431	283,513	1,198	43,720	86.33	.36	13.31
		1901 73,022	62,554	42,731	707	19,116	68.31	1.13	30.56
Increase		301,641	265,877	240,782	491	24,604	18.02	-.77	-17.25
British Columbia.....		1911 392,480	356,745	314,183	1,013	41,549	88.07	.28	11.65
		1901 178,657	163,336	121,782	973	40,581	74.56	.60	24.84
Increase		213,823	193,409	192,401	40	968	13.51	-.32	-13.19
Manitoba.....		1911 455,614	393,360	339,510	1,199	52,651	86.31	.30	13.39
		1901 255,211	219,290	184,295	3,083	31,912	84.04	1.41	14.55
Increase		200,403	174,070	155,215	-1,884	20,739	2.27	-1.11	-1.16
New Brunswick.....		1911 351,889	306,981	261,160	2,622	43,199	85.08	.85	14.07
		1901 331,120	290,732	233,060	10,618	47,054	80.16	3.65	16.19
Increase		20,769	16,249	28,100	-7,996	-3,855	4.92	-2.80	-2.12
Nova Scotia.....		1911 492,338	433,860	384,605	4,358	44,897	88.65	1.00	10.35
		1901 459,574	407,152	331,007	18,143	58,002	81.29	4.46	14.25
Increase		32,764	26,708	53,598	-13,785	-13,105	7.36	-3.46	-3.90
Ontario.....		1911 2,523,274	2,261,336	2,106,668	7,248	147,420	93.16	.32	6.52
		1901 2,182,947	1,958,635	1,758,427	28,830	171,378	89.78	1.47	8.75
Increase		340,327	302,701	348,241	-21,582	-23,958	3.38	-1.15	-2.23
Prince Edward Island...		1911 93,728	83,795	76,259	1,153	6,383	91.01	1.37	7.62
		1901 103,259	91,860	77,372	4,591	9,897	84.23	5.00	10.77
Increase		-9,531	-8,065	-1,113	-3,438	-3,514	6.78	-3.63	-3.15
Quebec.....		1911 2,003,232	1,712,843	1,482,628	12,899	217,316	86.56	.75	12.69
		1901 1,648,898	1,411,324	1,099,693	61,614	250,017	77.92	4.37	17.71
Increase		354,334	301,519	382,935	-48,715	-32,701	8.64	-3.62	-5.02
Saskatchewan.....		1911 492,432	421,630	362,768	926	57,936	86.04	.22	13.74
		1901 91,279	78,185	49,941	797	27,447	63.88	1.01	35.11
Increase		401,153	343,445	312,827	129	30,489	22.16	-.79	-21.37
Yukon.....		1911 8,512	8,006	6,843	76	1,087	85.47	.95	13.58
		1901 27,219	26,864	17,374	54	9,436	64.67	.20	35.13
Increase		-18,708	-18,858	-10,531	22	-8,349	20.80	.75	-21.55
Northwest Territories...		1911 18,481	16,148	4,795	171	11,182	29.69	1.06	69.25
		1901 20,129	18,699	3,233	174	15,292	17.29	.93	81.78
Increase		-1,648	-2,551	1,562	-3	-4,110	13.40	.13	-12.53

NOTE.—The minus sign denotes a decrease

TABLE II. Literacy Canadian-born Males 5 years of age and over

Provinces	Male population		Can read and write	Can read only	Cannot read nor write	Percentage 5 years and over		
	Total	5 years and over				Can read and write	Can read only	Cannot read nor write
CANADA	2,848,757	2,422,530	2,133,088	12,553	276,889	88.05	.52	11.43
Alberta.....	90,378	69,866	59,419	138	10,309	85.05	.20	14.75
British Columbia..	93,583	78,248	67,938	225	10,085	86.82	.29	12.89
Manitoba.....	137,183	107,637	95,229	173	12,235	88.47	.16	11.37
New Brunswick...	169,718	147,275	123,057	1,011	23,207	83.56	.68	15.76
Nova Scotia.....	229,832	200,646	177,997	1,752	20,897	88.71	.87	10.42
Ontario.....	1,001,003	873,762	808,971	2,517	62,274	92.58	.29	7.13
Prince Edward Island.....	45,727	40,725	37,130	375	3,220	91.17	.92	7.91
Quebec.....	929,902	786,155	664,081	6,145	115,929	84.47	.78	14.75
Saskatchewan.....	140,552	108,742	95,035	141	13,566	87.39	.13	12.48
Yukon.....	2,664	2,407	1,915	21	471	79.56	.87	19.57
Northwest Terri- tories.....	8,215	7,067	2,316	55	4,696	32.77	.78	66.45

TABLE III. Literacy Canadian-born Females 5 years of age and over

Provinces	Female population		Can read and write	Can read only	Cannot read nor write	Percentage 5 years and over		
	Total	5 years and over				Can read and write	Can read only	Cannot read nor write
CANADA	2,769,615	2,351,586	2,107,658	13,732	230,196	89.63	.58	9.79
Alberta.....	71,859	51,854	41,329	106	10,419	79.70	.20	20.10
British Columbia..	75,739	60,320	50,276	135	9,909	83.35	.22	16.43
Manitoba.....	127,645	98,713	86,323	194	12,196	87.45	.20	12.35
New Brunswick...	163,858	142,036	122,286	1,491	18,259	86.09	1.05	12.86
Nova Scotia.....	226,231	198,107	176,246	2,298	19,563	88.97	1.16	9.87
Ontario.....	1,014,442	890,838	836,716	2,386	51,736	93.92	.27	5.81
Prince Edward Island.....	45,427	40,629	37,114	679	2,836	91.35	1.67	6.98
Quebec.....	926,797	783,719	691,349	6,216	86,154	88.21	.79	11.00
Saskatchewan.....	108,199	77,265	63,478	97	13,690	82.15	.13	17.72
Yukon.....	1,186	970	502	40	428	51.75	4.12	44.13
Northwest Terri- tories.....	8,232	7,135	2,039	90	5,006	28.58	1.26	70.16

TABLE IV. Literacy British-born Males 5 years of age and over

Provinces	Male population		Can read and write	Can read only	Cannot read nor write	Per cent 5 years and over		
	Total	5 years and over				Can read and write	Can read only	Cannot read nor write
CANADA	502,311	493,234	472,719	1,212	19,303	95.84	.25	3.91
Alberta.....	45,831	44,928	43,577	41	1,310	96.99	.09	2.92
British Columbia..	77,536	76,204	72,507	147	3,550	95.15	.19	4.66
Manitoba.....	58,846	57,823	55,035	64	2,724	95.18	.11	4.71
New Brunswick....	5,753	5,646	5,302	31	313	93.91	.55	5.54
Nova Scotia.....	14,508	14,167	12,759	117	1,291	90.06	.83	9.11
Ontario.....	203,335	199,650	192,985	604	6,061	96.66	.30	3.04
Prince Edward Island.....	869	861	713	43	105	82.81	4.99	12.20
Quebec.....	38,953	38,158	36,421	105	1,632	95.45	.27	4.28
Saskatchewan....	54,397	53,592	51,984	50	1,558	97.00	.09	2.91
Yukon.....	1,225	1,224	1,219	-	5	99.59	-	0.41
Northwest Terri- tories.....	1,058	997	217	10	770	21.77	1.00	77.23

TABLE V. Literacy British-born Females 5 years of age and over

Provinces	Male population		Can read and write	Can read only	Cannot read nor write	Percentage 5 years and over		
	Total	5 years and over				Can read and write	Can read only	Cannot read nor write
CANADA	333,228	324,427	309,143	1,293	13,991	95.29	.40	4.31
Alberta.....	23,884	23,071	22,079	25	967	95.70	.11	4.19
British Columbia..	40,525	39,167	37,627	42	1,498	96.07	.11	3.82
Manitoba.....	36,252	35,261	33,678	33	1,550	95.51	.02	4.40
New Brunswick....	4,426	4,323	4,015	42	266	92.88	.97	6.15
Nova Scotia.....	10,795	10,466	9,306	140	1,020	88.92	1.33	9.75
Ontario.....	155,730	152,090	146,045	742	5,303	96.02	.49	3.49
Prince Edward Island.....	773	765	567	53	145	74.12	6.93	18.95
Quebec.....	33,159	32,392	30,587	166	1,639	94.43	.51	5.06
Saskatchewan....	26,674	25,910	24,979	34	897	96.41	.13	3.46
Yukon.....	121	120	119	-	1	99.17	-	0.83
Northwest Terri- tories.....	889	862	141	16	705	16.36	1.85	81.79

TABLE VI.—Literacy Foreign-born Males 5 years of age and over.

Provinces	Male population		Can read and write	Can read only	Cannot read nor write	Per cent 5 years and over		
	Total	5 years and over				Can read and write	Can read only	Cannot read nor write
CANADA	470,927	460,251	378,069	3,955	78,227	82.14	.86	17.00
Alberta.....	87,780	85,724	73,257	569	11,898	85.46	.66	13.88
British Columbia.	80,500	79,338	64,177	400	14,761	80.89	.50	18.61
Manitoba.....	54,027	53,153	40,510	386	12,257	76.21	.73	23.06
New Brunswick...	4,396	4,180	3,413	21	746	81.65	.50	17.85
Nova Scotia.....	6,679	6,427	4,911	37	1,479	76.41	.58	23.01
Ontario.....	94,952	93,062	76,146	651	16,265	81.83	.69	17.48
Prince Edward Island.....	473	417	374	-	43	89.69	-	10.31
Quebec.....	42,647	41,667	34,346	171	7,150	82.43	.41	17.16
Saskatchewan.....	96,781	93,606	78,397	1,712	13,497	83.75	1.83	14.42
Yukon.....	2,619	2,604	2,469	8	127	94.81	.31	4.88
Northwest Terri- tories.....	73	73	69	-	4	94.52	-	5.48

TABLE VII.—Literacy Foreign-born Females 5 years of age and over.

Provinces	Female population		Can read and write	Can read only	Cannot read nor write	Percentage 5 years and over		
	Total	5 years and over				Can read and write	Can read only	Cannot read nor write
CANADA	281,805	271,099	222,167	1,517	47,415	81.95	.56	17.49
Alberta.....	54,931	52,988	43,852	319	8,817	82.76	.60	16.64
British Columbia.	24,597	23,468	21,658	64	1,746	92.29	.27	7.44
Manitoba.....	41,661	40,773	28,735	349	11,689	70.48	.85	28.67
New Brunswick...	3,738	3,521	3,087	26	408	87.67	.74	11.59
Nova Scotia.....	4,293	4,047	3,386	14	647	83.66	.35	15.99
Ontario.....	53,812	51,934	45,717	347	5,870	88.03	.67	11.30
Prince Edward Island.....	459	398	361	3	34	90.71	.75	8.54
Quebec.....	31,774	30,752	25,844	96	4,812	84.04	.31	15.65
Saskatchewan.....	65,829	62,515	48,895	292	13,328	78.21	.47	21.32
Yukon.....	697	681	619	7	55	90.89	1.03	8.08
Northwest Terri- tories.....	14	14	13	-	1	92.86	-	7.14

TABLE VIII.—Literacy Canadian-born Males 21 years of age and over.

Provinces	Male population		Can read and write	Can read only	Cannot read nor write	Per cent 21 years and over		
	Total	21 years and over				Can read and write	Can read only	Cannot read nor write
CANADA	2,848,757	1,441,933	1,294,943	9,930	137,060	89.81	.69	9.50
Alberta.....	90,378	43,256	39,818	77	3,361	92.05	.18	7.77
British Columbia.	93,582	49,639	44,688	145	4,806	90.03	.29	9.68
Manitoba.....	137,183	57,327	54,393	121	2,813	94.88	.21	4.91
New Brunswick...	169,718	87,073	74,441	798	11,834	85.49	.92	13.59
Nova Scotia.....	229,832	121,147	109,702	1,357	10,088	90.55	1.12	8.33
Ontario.....	1,001,003	539,950	511,436	1,998	26,516	94.72	.37	4.91
Prince Edward Island.....	45,727	24,137	22,536	305	1,296	93.37	1.26	5.37
Quebec.....	929,902	445,915	371,171	4,994	69,750	83.24	1.12	15.64
Saskatchewan.....	140,552	67,254	63,712	83	3,459	94.73	.12	5.15
Yukon.....	2,664	1,951	1,669	14	268	85.54	.72	13.74
Northwest Terri- tories.....	8,215	4,284	1,377	38	2,869	32.14	.89	66.97

TABLE IX.—Literacy of British-born Males 21 years of age and over.

Provinces	Male population		Can read and write	Can read only	Cannot read nor write	Percentage 21 years and over		
	Total	21 years and over				Can read and write	Can read only	Cannot read nor write
CANADA	502,311	409,290	395,291	1,082	12,917	96.58	.26	3.16
Alberta.....	45,831	37,444	36,775	23	646	98.21	.06	1.73
British Columbia.	77,536	66,774	63,981	137	2,656	95.82	.20	3.98
Manitoba.....	58,846	47,736	45,834	56	1,846	96.01	.12	3.87
New Brunswick...	5,753	4,467	4,201	24	242	94.04	.54	5.42
Nova Scotia.....	14,508	11,149	10,056	102	991	90.20	.91	8.89
Ontario.....	203,335	163,177	158,782	556	3,839	97.31	.34	2.35
Prince Edward Island.....	869	788	645	43	100	81.85	5.46	12.69
Quebec.....	38,953	30,751	29,726	96	929	96.67	.31	3.02
Saskatchewan.....	54,397	44,894	43,919	37	938	97.83	.08	2.09
Yukon.....	1,225	1,209	1,204	-	5	99.59	-	.41
Northwest Terri- tories.....	1,058	901	168	8	725	18.65	.89	80.46



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TABLE X.—Literacy Foreign-born Males 21 years of age and over.

Provinces	Male population		Can read and write	Can read only	Cannot read nor write	Per cent 21 years and over		
	Total	21 years and over				Can read and write	Can read only	Cannot read nor write
CANADA	470,927	346,440	286,905	2,190	57,345	82.82	.63	16.55
Alberta.....	87,780	59,799	52,620	462	6,717	88.00	.77	11.23
British Columbia..	80,500	68,963	55,399	381	13,183	80.33	.55	19.12
Manitoba.....	54,027	38,679	29,731	341	8,607	76.87	.88	22.25
New Brunswick....	4,396	2,755	2,280	15	460	82.76	.54	16.70
Nova Scotia.....	6,679	4,451	3,312	31	1,108	74.41	.70	24.89
Ontario.....	94,952	73,943	60,214	580	13,149	81.43	.79	17.78
Prince Edward Island.....	473	161	149	-	12	92.55	-	7.45
Quebec.....	42,647	29,822	24,531	127	5,164	82.26	.42	17.32
Saskatchewan.....	96,781	65,345	56,271	247	8,827	86.11	.38	13.51
Yukon.....	2,619	2,449	2,329	6	114	95.10	.24	4.66
Northwest Terri- tories.....	73	73	69	-	4	94.52	-	5.48