



Understanding who we are:

Sex at birth and gender of people in Canada

The Canadian 2021 Census of Population collected data on gender for the first time.

Following extensive engagement with the Canadian population, Statistics Canada published new statistical standards on gender and sex at birth in April 2018. Based on this new standard, the 2021 Census collected data on sex at birth and gender. Results from this census therefore provide a more detailed portrait of the population.

Sex at birth and gender refer to two different, but interrelated, concepts.

Sex at birth

Refers to the sex assigned at birth based on a person's reproductive system and other physical characteristics.

Cisgender people

People whose gender corresponds to their sex assigned at birth.

Most people in Canada aged 15 or older are cisgender **(99.66%)**:

50.83%
are women

48.83%
are men

Transgender people

People whose gender does not correspond to their sex assigned at birth.

Non-binary people

People who are not exclusively a man or a woman.

Gender identity refers to the gender that a person feels internally and individually.

Gender expression is the outward presentation of gender, regardless of gender identity, through body language, behaviour or esthetic choices.

Gender

Refers to an individual's personal and social identity as a man, woman or non-binary person.

It is a multidimensional concept influenced by several factors, including cultural and behavioural norms and self-identity.

In Canada, 1 in 300 people aged 15 or older are transgender or non-binary (0.33%).

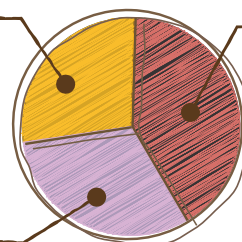
Total transgender and non-binary population

100,815

27,905
transgender men
(27.68%)

41,355
non-binary people
(41.02%)

31,555
transgender women
(31.30%)



Source: Statistics Canada, Census of Population, 2021.

Note: Statistics Canada's main classification of sex at birth includes two categories (male and female). It provides a variant classification of sex at birth, which includes an additional category for intersex. However, for reasons related to the small size of this population and the challenges in identifying intersex people, Statistics Canada does not currently collect specific information on intersex people in Canada.

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Catalogue number: 11-627-M | ISBN : 978-0-660-44977-7