May 9, 2013

2011 National Household Survey:

Immigration, Citizenship, Place of Birth, Ethnicity, Visible Minorities, Religion and Aboriginal Peoples

The 2011 Census/National Household Survey Day was May 9, 2011. Today, Statistics Canada released its first set of data from the 2011 National Household Survey (NHS). The NHS replaces what was previously known as the Census long-form.

According to the 2011 Census, the population of Toronto in 2011 was 2,615,060, an increase of 4.5% since 2006. The data are not adjusted for undercoverage.

This release does not compare 2011 NHS results with those from earlier Census releases. This is because NHS data was collected differently from 2006 (and earlier) Census data. Until a full evaluation of the methodological changes is conducted, comparisons are not possible.

For a more detailed discussion about the methodological differences between the 2011 NHS and the 2006 Census, refer to page 8.

Key Points

- Toronto remains a diverse city, with higher shares of immigrants than the rest of the Greater Toronto Area and Hamilton (GTA/H which includes Durham, York, Peel, Halton and Hamilton) and Canada overall.

- One-third of immigrants in Toronto are newcomers, having arrived in Canada in the last 10 years.

- The most common countries of birth of immigrants living in Toronto were China and the Philippines.

- Residents of Toronto identified over 230 different ethnic origins in the 2011 NHS.

Immigration

- 49% of those living in Toronto were immigrants. The chart on page 4 identifies the 2011 immigrant population by period of immigration.

- This percentage is higher than the rest of the GTA/H (38%) as well as the Canada-wide rate of 21%.

- 33% of immigrants living in Toronto arrived between 2001 and 2011.

- Toronto’s immigrant population tended to be slightly older at age of immigration than in the rest of GTA/H or nationally. Fifty-four percent of immigrants in Toronto were 25 years or older when they arrived in Canada, compared to 49% in the rest of the GTA/H and 50% in Canada.
Citizenship and Place of Birth

- Over half (51%) of those living in Toronto in 2011 were born outside of Canada. By comparison, 39% of those living in the rest of the GTA/H and 22% of those living in Canada were born outside of Canada.
- According to the NHS, 1,252,215 people living in Toronto identified as an immigrant and 64,945 people identified as a non-permanent resident.
- 14% of those living in Toronto did not have Canadian citizenship, compared to 8% in the rest of the GTA/H and 6% of those living in Canada.
- Of those immigrants who arrived in Canada in the last five years and resided in Toronto in 2011, 15% were born in the Philippines, 13% were born in China. By comparison, 12% were born in Europe.
- 26% of all immigrants living in Toronto were born in Europe, 11% in China, and 8% in the Philippines.

Visible Minorities

- 49% of those living in Toronto (1,264,395 people) identified as a visible minority.
- 38% of those living in the rest of the GTA/H and 19% nationally identified as a visible minority.
- Peel, however, has the highest percentage of visible minorities in the GTA/H at 57%.
- The top three visible minority groups in Toronto were: South Asian (12% of total 2011 Toronto population), Chinese (11%) and Black (9%).

Ethnic Origin

- The most frequently reported ethnic origin in Toronto in 2011 was English (part of British) at 13% of those living in Toronto.
- A similar amount reported Chinese as their ethnic origin (12%).
- Canadian was the third most reported ethnic origin (11%).

Religion

- 76% of those living in Toronto identified a religious affiliation.
- In comparison, 80% of those living in the rest of the GTA/H and 76% nationally identified a religious affiliation.
- 54% of those living in Toronto identified as Christian. Of those identifying as Christian, 52% identified as Catholic.
- 8% of those living in Toronto identified as Muslim and 6% identified as Hindu. 24% had no religious affiliation.
Aboriginal Peoples

- There were 19,270 people living in Toronto who identified as Aboriginal (0.8% of total 2011 Toronto population). 67% were First Nations (North American Indian), 25% were Métis and 2% were Inuk (Inuit). 1% had multiple Aboriginal identities.
- By comparison, 0.89% of those living in the rest of the GTA/H and 4.3% nationally identified as Aboriginal.
- Statistics Canada reports that the most frequently reported Aboriginal language in Toronto was Ojibway (410 speakers).
# 2011 Population by Period of Immigration

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Period of Immigration</th>
<th>City of Toronto</th>
<th>Rest of GTA/H</th>
<th>Canada</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>#</td>
<td>%</td>
<td>#</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Born in Canada</td>
<td>1,258,870</td>
<td>49%</td>
<td>2,393,270</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Immigrants</td>
<td>1,252,215</td>
<td>49%</td>
<td>1,493,255</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2006-2011</td>
<td>216,520</td>
<td>8%</td>
<td>186,980</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2001-2006</td>
<td>194,955</td>
<td>8%</td>
<td>231,880</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1991-2000</td>
<td>314,475</td>
<td>12%</td>
<td>394,895</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1981-1990</td>
<td>185,675</td>
<td>7%</td>
<td>236,885</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1971-1980</td>
<td>150,585</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>195,300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Before 1971</td>
<td>190,000</td>
<td>7%</td>
<td>247,310</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-permanent residents</td>
<td>64,945</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td>33,420</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Population</strong></td>
<td><strong>2,576,025</strong></td>
<td><strong>100%</strong></td>
<td><strong>3,919,925</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: 2011 National Household Survey

## 2011 Immigrant Population by Period of Immigration

![Graph showing percentage of immigrants by period of immigration for Toronto, Rest of GTA/H, and Canada.](chart)

Source: 2011 National Household Survey
Percentage of Total Population by Visible Minority

Source: 2011 National Household Survey
Religious Affiliation

- Catholic:
  - Toronto: 32%
  - Rest of GTA/H: 24%
  - Canada: 28%

- No religious affiliation:
  - Toronto: 0%
  - Rest of GTA/H: 20%
  - Canada: 24%

- Protestant:
  - Toronto: 12%
  - Rest of GTA/H: 17%
  - Canada: 17%

- Christian not included elsewhere:
  - Toronto: 10%
  - Rest of GTA/H: 9%
  - Canada: 9%

- Muslim:
  - Toronto: 8%
  - Rest of GTA/H: 6%
  - Canada: 3%

- Hindu:
  - Toronto: 6%
  - Rest of GTA/H: 5%
  - Canada: 2%

- Christian Orthodox:
  - Toronto: 4%
  - Rest of GTA/H: 3%
  - Canada: 2%

- Jewish:
  - Toronto: 4%
  - Rest of GTA/H: 2%
  - Canada: 1%

- Buddhist:
  - Toronto: 3%
  - Rest of GTA/H: 2%
  - Canada: 1%

- Sikh:
  - Toronto: 1%
  - Rest of GTA/H: 4%

- Other religions:
  - Toronto: 1%
  - Rest of GTA/H: 0%

- Traditional (Aboriginal) Spirituality:
  - Toronto: 0%
  - Rest of GTA/H: 0%

Source: 2011 National Household Survey
DEFINITIONS:

Immigrant
Refers to people who are, or have been landed immigrants in Canada. A landed immigrant is a person who has been granted the right to live in Canada permanently by immigration authorities. Some immigrants have resided in Canada for a number of years, while others have arrived recently. Most immigrants are born outside Canada, but a small number were born in Canada.

Newcomer
Refers to immigrants who arrived in Canada within the last 10 years. This term should not be confused with the term "recent immigrant" which Statistics Canada uses to refer to those who landed within the last 5 years.

Non-permanent residents
Refers to a person from outside Canada who has a Work or Study Permit, or who is a refugee claimant at the time of the Census, and any family members living in Canada with them.

Visible Minority
Refers to the visible minority group to which the respondent belongs. The Employment Equity Act defines visible minorities as 'persons, other than Aboriginal peoples, who are non-Caucasian in race or non-white in colour'. Respondents are asked to select one or more of 12 categories: White, South Asian, Chinese, Black, Filipino, Latin American, Arab, Southeast Asian, West Asian, Korean, Japanese, or Other.

Ethnic origin
Refers to the ethnic or cultural origins of the respondent's ancestors. Respondents are asked to write-in any ethnic or cultural origin.

Aboriginal identity
Refers to those persons who reported belonging to at least one Aboriginal group, that is, North American Indian, Métis or Inuit, and/or those who reported being a Treaty Indian or a Registered Indian, as defined by the Indian Act of Canada, and/or those who reported they were members of an Indian band or First Nation.

GTA/H
The Greater Toronto Area and Hamilton, which corresponds to the City of Toronto, the regional municipalities of York, Halton, Durham, and Peel, and the City of Hamilton. Numbers that refer to the term "rest of GTA/H" do not include the City of Toronto.
FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS:

Q: What is the National Household Survey (NHS)?
A: The 2011 National Household Survey (NHS) is a voluntary survey of the population conducted on the same day as the 2011 Census of the Population. Questions asked in the NHS were asked in previous years in the "long-form" Census.

Q: How does the 2011 NHS differ from the 2006 Census long-form?
A: The 2006 Census long-form was distributed to one out of every five households in Canada. Participation in the 2006 Census long-form was mandatory. The 2011 NHS was distributed to one out of every three households. However, participation in the NHS was voluntary.

Questions asked in the 2006 Census long-form and the 2011 NHS were similar. Changes in the 2011 NHS from the 2006 Census long-form include the addition of questions on religion, the commute to and from work, and spousal support payments, and the removal of questions on unpaid household labour.

Q: How do these changes affect this release?
A: Until the full impact of the change in methodology is fully understood, this release provides general geographical comparisons and does not provide historical comparisons. Lower level geography such as Census Tracts are not available to us at this time.

Q: Can I compare the numbers from the 2011 NHS to those from the 2006 (or earlier) Census?
A: No, because of the change from a mandatory to a voluntary sample, the NHS may under-report the number of people belonging to certain subgroups. This is referred to as "non-response bias".

Comparisons between the 2011 NHS numbers and 2006 (and earlier) Census numbers may not be accurate and should not be made until a review of Statistics Canada’s forthcoming technical documentation has been conducted.

Q: What was the response rate for the National Household Survey?
A: The NHS was sent to 1 out of every 3 Canadians and achieved a response rate of 68.6%. The response rate for the City of Toronto was just slightly lower at 67.8%. What this means is that approximately 23% of all Canadians responded to the NHS, compared to 19% for the 2006 long-form Census.

It is important to note, however, that this does not necessarily mean that the results of the NHS are more accurate than previous Census numbers. A larger sample may indicate that the results are skewed towards groups that are historically more inclined to respond to surveys (e.g. highly educated, high income, non-immigrants). Statistics Canada notes that the risk of error increases for lower levels of geography (e.g. neighbourhoods) and for smaller populations.
Q: What is meant by the term “undercoverage”?  

A: Statistics Canada's numbers upon release and as reported above do not account for undercoverage. Although Statistics Canada makes a great effort to count every person, in each Census a notable number of people are left out for a variety of reasons. For example, people may be traveling, some dwellings are hard to find, and some people simply refuse to participate. While Statistics Canada takes this into account and estimates an 'undercoverage' rate for the urban region (CMA) every Census, it does not estimate undercoverage for the City. However, based on the Annual Demographic Estimates, Cat. No. 91-214-XWE released March 7, 2012, the implied net undercoverage rate for the City of Toronto in 2011 is estimated to be 4.69%.

Net undercoverage also varies by age and sex and is highest for those between 15 and 44 years of age. In 2006, net undercoverage peaked at 9.91% for males and 6.08% for females 24-34 years of age, per the 2006 Census Technical Report: Coverage, Cat. No. 92-567-X, released March 2010.

Q: Has the City of Toronto completed backgrounders on any other 2011 Census/NHS data?  

A: The City of Toronto will be preparing Backgrounders coinciding with each release of data from the 2011 Census and the National Household Survey. The backgrounders are available at www.toronto.ca/demographics.

The 2011 Census backgrounders are:
- Population and Dwellings – February 8, 2012
- Age and Sex – May 29, 2012
- Families, Households and Marital Status – September 19, 2012
- Structural Type of Dwelling and Collectives – September 19, 2012
- Language – October 24, 2012

The results of the new voluntary National Household Survey (NHS) will be released in 2013:
- Labour, Education, Place of Work, Commuting, Mobility, Migration, Language of Work – June 26, 2013
- Income, Earnings, Housing and Shelter Costs – August 14, 2013
Q: When are the City’s Ward Profiles and Neighbourhood Profiles being released?

A: The Ward Profiles are based on a series of custom tabulations from what are now the Census and the NHS. City Planning staff will update the Ward Profiles when they can obtain the necessary custom tabulations from Statistics Canada based on 2011 data from the Census and the NHS beginning in late 2013. The Ward profiles based on 2011 census data will be released beginning in the spring of 2013. The current Ward Profiles can be found at:  http://app.toronto.ca/wards/jsp/wards.jsp

Neighbourhood Profiles will be released through the Social Development Finance & Administration Division at the following website: http://www.toronto.ca/demographics/neighbourhoods.htm

Q: Will this data be found anywhere else on the City’s website?

A: Yes. Portions of the Census and National Household Survey will also be found in Wellbeing Toronto – an online mapping application that provides a wide range of socio-economic indicators that help measure quality of life in the City’s 140 neighbourhoods. The data on Wellbeing Toronto are also available free for downloading at www.toronto.ca/wellbeing.

Prepared by:

- Social Policy, Analysis & Research, Social Development, Finance & Administration
- City Manager’s Office
- Economic Development & Culture
- Employment & Social Services
- Toronto Public Health

For questions on this release, contact:

Wayne Chu
Planning Analyst, Social Policy, Analysis & Research
Social Development Finance & Administration
Tel. No. 416-392-6125, Fax No. 416-392-4976
Email: wchu@toronto.ca

For media inquiries and other questions about the Census, contact:

Harvey Low
Manager, Social Policy, Analysis & Research
Social Development Finance & Administration
Tel. No. 416-392-8660, Fax No. 416-392-4976
Email: hlow@toronto.ca