

The People and Lifestyles of Canada

Canada has more than 31 million people living within its borders. About 80% of the people live in southern Canada where the climate is warmer. About 60% of these people live along the St. Lawrence River and the Great Lakes.

Almost one-half (50%) of Canadians have a British heritage. Another one-quarter (25%) have a French heritage. A very small minority of people are Native Indians known as Inuits (Eskimos). In recent decades, heavy immigration from Asia has increased Canada's ethnic mix. Most Canadians speak English, except in Quebec. In that province, French is the language spoken. The chief religion is Christianity. Christians are evenly divided between Roman Catholics and Protestants.

The largest city is Toronto located on Lake Ontario. It is the cultural and business center of Canada. Montreal is a large historic city located on the St. Lawrence River in Quebec. Vancouver is the largest city in western Canada. We learned in the previous lesson that most Canadians enjoy one of the highest standards of living in the world.

Activity:

Answer the questions on the following page using the information contained on this page and the Canadian Population Chart below.

Canadian Population Chart			
Eastern Provinces	Population	Western and Northern Provinces and Territories	Population
New Brunswick	800,000	Alberta	3,200,000
Newfoundland	552,000	British Columbia	4,100,000
Nova Scotia	920,000	Manitoba	1,200,000
Ontario	11,300,000	Northwest Territories	40,000
Prince Edward Island	135,000	Nunavut	26,000
Quebec	7,800,000	Saskatchewan	995,000
		Yukon Territory	32,000

Activity: (The People and Lifestyles of Canada)

1. Which province contains the largest number of people?

2. Which province contains the fewest number of people?

3. Which territory contains the largest number of people?

4. Which territory contains the fewest number of people?

5. Which western province contains the largest number of people?

6. What is the difference between the provinces that contain the largest and the fewest number of people?

7. What is the difference between the territories that contain the largest and the fewest number of people?

8. What is the difference between the province that contains the largest number of people and the territory that contains the fewest number of people?

9. What two languages are spoken most often in Canada?
_____ and _____
10. Name the Canadian city with the largest population. _____
11. What is the main religion of Canadians? _____
12. What are the Native Indians of Canada called? _____
13. Name the largest city in western Canada. _____
14. Where do most Canadians live in Canada? _____