

# Population Projections

## Highlights

### From the medium (reference) scenario:

- Alberta is projected to add roughly 2.6 million residents over the next 29 years, reaching almost 7.1 million by 2051; an average annual growth rate of 1.5%.
- The majority of the expected growth will be due to migration, with 55% coming from international migration and 17% from interprovincial migration. Natural increase is projected to account for the remaining 28% of the growth.
- In the short term, net migration is expected to exceed what was seen in the most recent oil boom. Between 2022 and 2025, Alberta's average annual growth is expected to be 2.5%.
- Alberta's population is projected to continue aging, where the average age is expected to climb to 41.6 years by 2051 from 39.0 years in 2022.
- In 2022, a newborn girl could expect to live an average of 82.7 years, while a boy could live to 78.0 years. By 2051, life expectancy at birth is projected to rise to 87.4 years for females and 84.2 years for males.
- While the number of Albertans in working ages (15 to 64 years) is expected to increase, the population share of this cohort is projected to drop from its current level of 67% to 63% by 2051.
- The number of seniors aged 65 and older is expected to increase from over 670,000 in 2022, to over 1.1 million by 2040. Almost one in five Albertans is projected to be aged 65 and older by 2051.
- By 2051, Census Division 4 (Hanna) is projected to be the region with the oldest population, with 28% of its population aged 65 and older. By comparison, CD 17 (Slave Lake) is expected to be the region with the youngest population in the province, with a 13% share of seniors.
- Growth is expected to be concentrated in regions with larger urban centres, especially the Edmonton-Calgary Corridor. By 2051, 81% of Albertans are projected to be living in the three census divisions that make up this region, CD 6 (Calgary), CD 8 (Red Deer) and CD 11 (Edmonton), up from 77% in 2022.
- Positive population growth is expected in all regions of the province, except for CD 4 (Hanna), CD 7 (Stettler) and CD 13 (Whitecourt). However, growth is projected to be lowest in CD 14 (Edson), CD 18 (Grande Cache) and CD 3 (Pincher Creek).

### For more information on the [Population Projections](#) see:

#### Data for Alberta Population Projections.

- Includes estimated (1996-2022) and projected (2023-2051) population of Alberta and its 19 Census Divisions by single year of age and sex as well as some summary statistics.

#### Population Projections Methodology and Assumptions.

- Explains the methodology and assumptions of the long-term population projections.

Contact [Jennifer Hansen](#) at 780.427.8811