

Quarterly Population Report

Third Quarter 2018

Alberta sees highest third quarter growth since 2014

Population growth continued to inch up with Alberta seeing its highest third quarter growth since 2014. Net interprovincial migration reached its highest level in over three years. Immigration also made significant gains over the same quarter last year, while natural increase remained solid.

As of October 1st, 2018, Alberta had a population of 4,330,206, an increase of 23,096, or 0.54%, over the last quarter. The province has not added over 20,000 new residents in a quarter since the third quarter of 2014 (22,408). Alberta's growth rate was above Canada's 0.50%, the second highest third quarter growth for the country. International migration was the largest contributor to the province's growth (0.26%), followed by natural increase

(0.20%). While interprovincial migration made a small contribution (0.07%), it was the largest since 2015 and a marked improvement over the net outflows of the last three years (Figure 1).

Year-over-year population growth was the highest it had been in four years at 1.59% (Table 1). This was greater than the national rate (1.44%) and the third highest among the provinces, behind PEI (2.16%) and Ontario (1.82%) (Table 2).

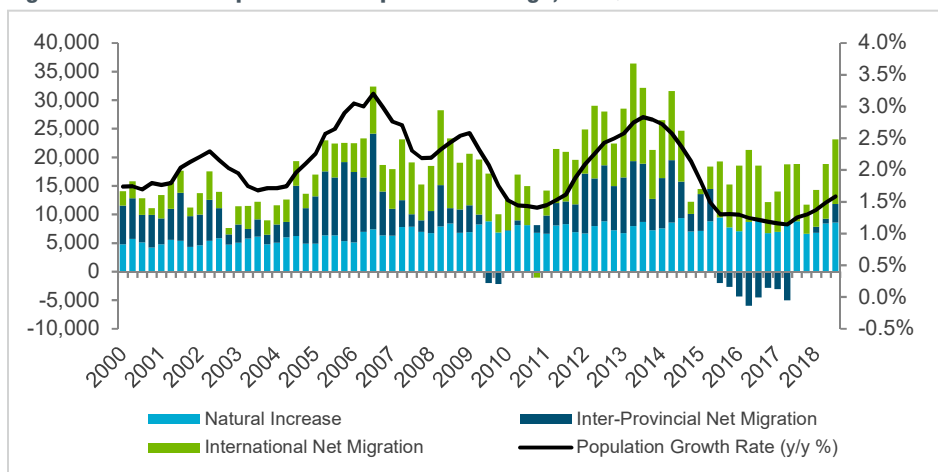
Table 1: Population & Growth Rates Canada and Alberta

Population			Year-Over-Year Growth Rate		
1-Oct	Canada	Alberta	1-Oct	Canada	Alberta
2013	35,211,866	4,010,903	2013	1.08%	2.83%
2014	35,559,047	4,106,056	2014	0.99%	2.37%
2015	35,822,894	4,159,519	2015	0.74%	1.30%
2016	36,256,107	4,210,052	2016	1.21%	1.21%
2017	36,712,658	4,262,642	2017	1.26%	1.25%
2018	37,242,571	4,330,206	2018	1.44%	1.59%

Table 2: Population of Provinces/Territories as of October 1, 2017 & Growth Rates since October 1, 2016

	Population	Growth Rate (y/y)
Canada	37,242,571	1.44%
NL	525,073	-0.64%
PEI	154,750	2.16%
NS	964,693	1.08%
NB	772,238	0.52%
QC	8,421,698	1.10%
ON	14,411,424	1.82%
MB	1,356,836	1.20%
SK	1,165,903	0.94%
AB	4,330,206	1.59%
BC	5,016,322	1.43%
YT	40,333	1.39%
NT	44,445	-1.45%
NU	38,650	2.32%

Figure 1: Alberta Components of Population Change, 3rd Quarter



Migration

Total net migration made the largest contribution to growth since 2014. Immigration remained the main driver, while continued net interprovincial inflows also supported growth. There was also a significant inflow of net non-permanent residents (NPRs). Combined, 14,514 new residents entered the province between July and September.

International migration

Gains from net international migration continued to play a central role in Alberta's growth, increasing the province's population by 11,292 people, the highest third quarter level in five years.

Between July and September, Alberta welcomed 10,412 permanent residents, the highest third quarter level seen since 2015. Following the recession, Alberta's share of immigrants to Canada started to fall from its third quarter high of 18.0% in 2015 and hit a recent low of 12.0% in 2017. Since that time, the share has increased slightly, to 12.6% in the third quarter of this year. This share was the fourth largest in the country, behind Ontario (40.4%), Quebec (18.6%) and British Columbia (13.2%).

The Federal Government has been setting increasingly high immigration targets. As a result, the numbers of new permanent residents to the province and the rest of Canada remain strong. With almost 250,000 immigrants arriving in the first three quarters of the calendar year, Canada is on track to meet its immigration target for 2018 (310,000).

Between July to September, Alberta added 2,469 net NPRs. This was the third consecutive net inflow of NPRs in the third quarter, and although it was lower than the same quarter last year, it was over double that of 2016 (Table 4).

Interprovincial migration

Net interprovincial migration remained positive this quarter, adding 3,222 new residents (Table 3). This net gain was due to a combination of more people moving to the province from elsewhere in Canada and fewer people leaving.

Net interprovincial migration is the difference between the number of people moving to the province (interprovincial in-migrants) minus those leaving the province for other regions in Canada (interprovincial out-migration). In the third quarter, Alberta saw 18,581 interprovincial in-migrants (Table 4). With an improving economy, there were around 1,000 fewer people leaving this quarter compared to the same period last year. The third quarter saw 15,359 interprovincial out-migrants, a level comparable to the third quarter of both 2013 and 2014.

Alberta saw the largest net interprovincial gains from Saskatchewan (1,493), BC (871) and Manitoba (632) (Map 1), while net losses to other provinces were minimal. The last time that Alberta saw net positive inflows from BC was the second quarter of 2014.

Bolstered by improving interprovincial migration, Alberta's net gain was second only to Ontario (7,637). In contrast, Saskatchewan and Manitoba saw the largest net losses at -3,182 and -2,983 respectively (Table 3). BC experienced a net loss this quarter (-1,217), a reversal from 21 straight quarters of positive interprovincial migration.

Natural increase

Natural increase (births minus deaths) added 8,582 people this quarter—a combination of 14,883 births and 6,301 deaths (Table 4). Due to its relatively young age structure, Alberta continues to have the highest natural growth rate of the provinces at 0.20%.

Contact: [Joseph Ting](#) 780.427.8855

Map 1: Net Population Movement for Alberta July 1 to September 30, 2018

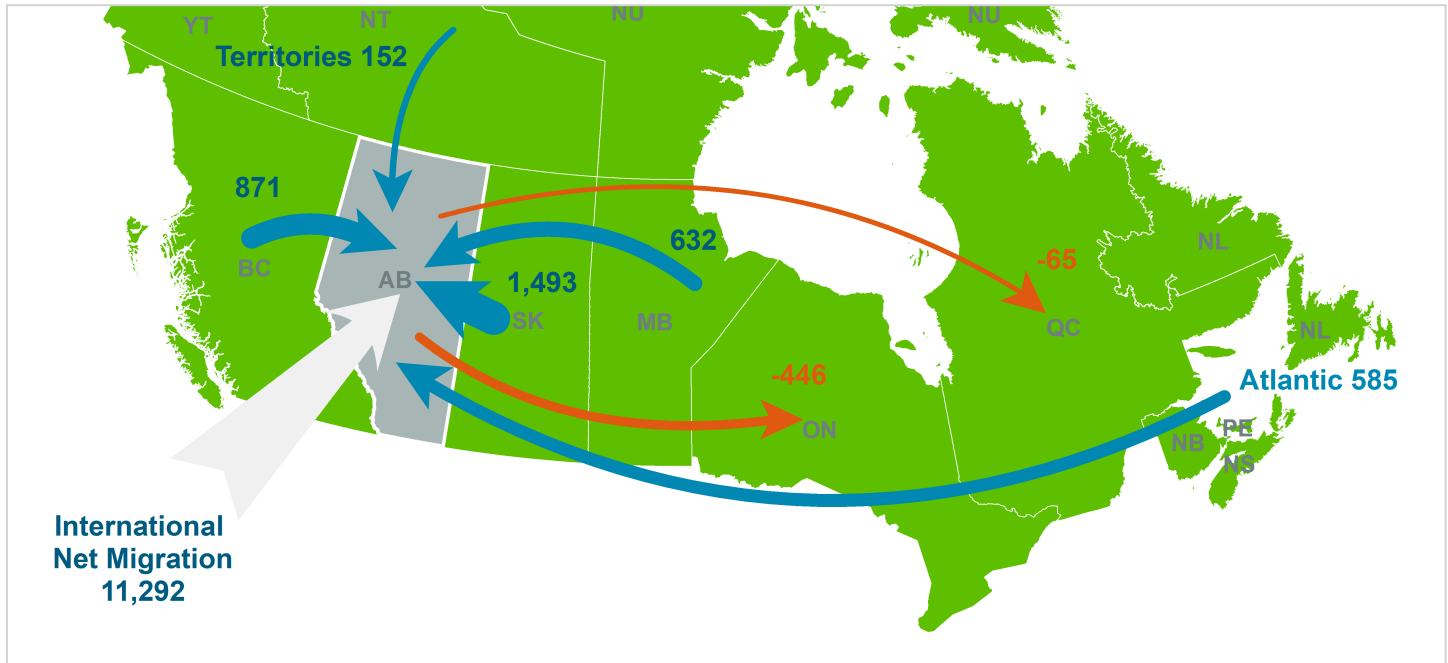


Table 3: Origin and Destination of Interprovincial Migrants July 1, 2018 to September 30, 2018

		Destination													
		NL	PEI	NS	NB	QC	ON	MB	SK	AB	BC	YT	NWT	NVT	
Origin	NL	0	28	345	100	133	774	10	65	842	116	18	6	16	
	PEI	58	0	44	106	52	697	0	12	191	72	0	0	0	
	NS	144	149	0	475	523	1,506	49	28	725	271	6	68	0	
	NB	74	99	656	0	636	1,459	52	62	630	236	0	0	0	
	QC	39	9	187	457	0	6,349	110	99	874	990	47	39	34	
	ON	495	441	1,748	979	3,748	0	858	554	4,370	3,734	23	71	44	
	MB	15	13	90	48	227	2,337	0	467	1,231	1,206	12	23	41	
	SK	21	16	106	21	173	1,838	388	0	2,985	1,077	0	27	28	
	AB	406	121	711	565	939	4,816	599	1,492	0	5,526	41	124	19	
	BC	80	192	663	324	1,006	4,527	648	633	6,397	0	137	76	13	
	YT	0	16	18	0	26	119	0	50	157	127	0	17	40	
	NWT	18	9	43	15	31	189	0	36	162	120	6	0	25	
	NVT	0	4	33	11	27	91	13	0	17	4	21	3	0	

	NL	PEI	NS	NB	QC	ON	MB	SK	AB	BC	YT	NWT	NVT
IN	1,350	1,097	4,644	3,101	7,521	24,702	2,727	3,498	18,581	13,479	311	454	260
OUT	2,453	1,232	3,944	3,904	9,234	17,065	5,710	6,680	15,359	14,696	570	654	224
NET	-1,103	-135	700	-803	-1,713	7,637	-2,983	-3,182	3,222	-1,217	-259	-200	36

Q3 2018	NL	PEI	NS	NB	QC	ON	MB	SK	AB	BC	YT	NWT	NVT
Outflow to AB	842	191	725	630	874	4,370	1,231	2,985	0	6,397	157	162	17
Inflow from AB	406	121	711	565	939	4,816	599	1,492	0	5,526	41	124	19
Net Flow to AB	436	70	14	65	-65	-446	632	1,493	0	871	116	38	-2

Table 4: Alberta Components of Growth by Quarter

Quarters in Census Year	Interprovincial Migration ¹			International Migration						Total	Vital Events		Total ⁴
	In	Out	Net	Immigrants	Net Non-Permanent Residents ²	Emigrants	Net Temporary Emigrants	Returning Emigrants	Net ³	Total Net Migration	Births	Deaths	Sum of Components
2015-16													
Jul-Sep	19,080	21,077	-1,997	14,173	-2,880	3,032	661	2,162	9,762	7,765	15,132	5,648	17,249
Oct-Dec	10,187	12,898	-2,711	12,875	-3,620	1,979	529	754	7,501	4,790	13,808	6,067	12,531
Jan-Mar	15,118	19,508	-4,390	15,366	-2,142	2,004	524	766	11,462	7,072	13,459	6,399	14,132
Apr-Jun	19,513	25,523	-6,010	15,427	-1,780	1,987	504	1,423	12,579	6,569	14,526	5,858	15,237
Total	63,898	79,006	-15,108	57,841	-10,422	9,002	2,218	5,105	41,304	26,196	56,925	23,972	59,149
2016-17													
Jul-Sep	16,353	20,912	-4,559	10,074	1,090	3,068	670	2,188	9,614	5,055	14,811	5,875	13,991
Oct-Dec	8,897	11,759	-2,862	8,350	-1,126	2,003	535	763	5,449	2,587	13,140	6,416	9,311
Jan-Mar	14,342	17,428	-3,086	13,368	-4,540	2,028	530	776	7,046	3,960	13,565	6,604	10,921
Apr-Jun	18,998	24,050	-5,052	12,297	-1,001	2,011	510	1,440	10,215	5,163	14,594	6,046	13,711
Total	58,590	74,149	-15,559	44,089	-5,577	9,110	2,245	5,167	32,324	16,765	56,110	24,941	47,934
2017-18													
Jul-Sep	17,572	17,733	-161	8,440	3,126	3,106	677	2,215	9,998	9,837	14,868	6,058	18,647
Oct-Dec	11,376	11,668	-292	7,997	-1,070	2,027	542	772	5,130	4,838	13,197	6,623	11,412
Jan-Mar	16,863	15,814	1,049	10,622	-2,382	2,053	537	784	6,434	7,483	13,609	6,819	14,273
Apr-Jun	24,038	23,196	842	11,624	-994	2,036	516	1,458	9,536	10,378	14,655	6,250	18,783
Total	69,849	68,411	1,438	38,683	-1,320	9,222	2,272	5,229	31,098	32,536	56,329	25,750	63,115
2018-2019													
Jul-Sep	18,581	15,359	3,222	10,412	2,469	3,147	686	2,244	11,292	14,514	14,883	6,301	23,096
Oct-Dec	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Jan-Mar	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Apr-Jun	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Total	18,581	15,359	3,222	10,412	2,469	3,147	686	2,244	11,292	14,514	14,883	6,301	23,096

¹ The sum of quarterly in- and out- interprovincial migrants may not be equal to annual interprovincial in- and out- migrants from 2011 onwards. It is however possible to add quarterly net interprovincial migration estimates to calculate annual estimates.

² Estimates of Non-Permanent Residents (NPRs) represent the number of "...persons who are lawfully in Canada on a temporary basis under the authority of a temporary resident permit, along with members of their family living with them. Non-Permanent Residents include foreign workers, foreign students, the humanitarian population and other temporary residents. The humanitarian population includes refugee claimants and temporary residents who are allowed to remain in Canada on humanitarian grounds and are not categorized as either foreign workers or foreign students." (Statistics Canada)

³ Includes NPRs

⁴ The sum of the components may not equal the quarterly population change due to differences in the methods used to derive intercensal and postcensal population estimates.

All figures subject to revision.