

Quarterly Population Report

First Quarter 2019

Alberta continues to lead the provinces in quarterly growth¹

Alberta led the provinces in population growth for the second straight quarter in a row. A reversal of net outflows of non-permanent residents (NPRs) and increased net inflows of interprovincial migrants helped to boost growth in the first quarter of 2019, while natural increase provided relatively steady support.

As of April 1st, 2019, Alberta had an estimated population of 4,362,503, an

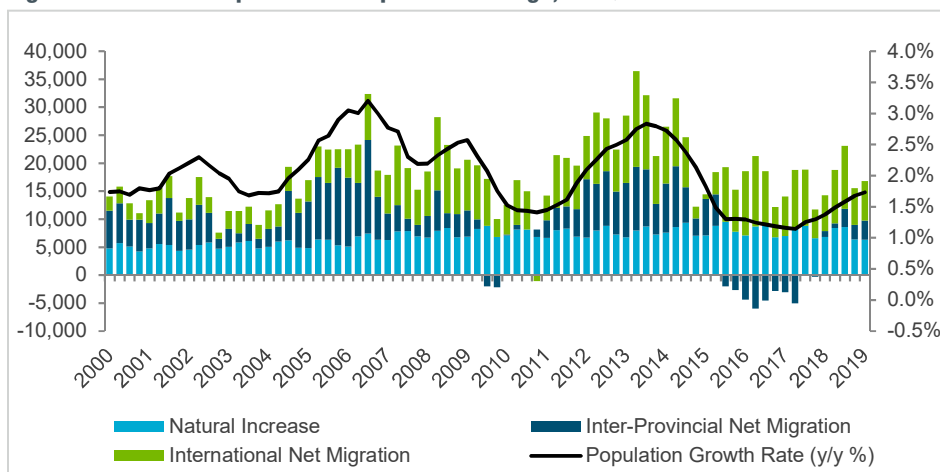
¹All data are from Statistics Canada. Estimates from 2016–2019 are based on the 2016 Census adjusted for net census undercount and incompletely enumerated Indian Reserves. All estimates are subject to revision. This analysis is based on preliminary data, trends may change with future revisions

²This growth represents year-over-year variation (April 1, 2018 to April 1, 2019)

Table 1: Population & Growth Rates Canada and Alberta

Population			Year-Over-Year Growth Rate		
1-Apr	Canada	Alberta	1-Apr	Canada	Alberta
2014	35,323,533	4,054,280	2014	1.05%	2.72%
2015	35,611,271	4,128,300	2015	0.81%	1.83%
2016	35,970,303	4,181,765	2016	1.01%	1.30%
2017	36,394,788	4,230,284	2017	1.18%	1.16%
2018	36,890,169	4,288,327	2018	1.36%	1.37%
2019	37,412,852	4,362,503	2019	1.42%	1.73%

Figure 1: Alberta Components of Population Change, 1st Quarter



addition of 16,766 since January 1st, 2019 (Figure 1). This amounts to growth of 0.39%, the highest first quarter growth since 2014. International migration was the largest contributor (0.16%), followed by natural increase (0.14%) and interprovincial migration (0.08%).

For the seventh consecutive quarter, Alberta's year-over-year population growth increased, reaching 1.73%² (Table 1). This was well above the national figure (1.42%) and second highest among the provinces, behind P.E.I (2.18%) (Table 2).

Table 2: Population of Provinces/Territories as of April 1st, 2019 & Growth Rates since April 1, 2018

	Population	Growth Rate (y/y)
Canada	37,412,852	1.42%
NL	522,537	-0.75%
PEI	155,318	2.18%
NS	966,858	1.17%
NB	773,020	0.54%
QC	8,452,209	1.14%
ON	14,490,207	1.71%
MB	1,362,789	1.18%
SK	1,169,131	0.89%
AB	4,362,503	1.73%
BC	5,034,482	1.35%
YT	40,208	0.30%
NT	44,420	-1.31%
NU	39,170	3.34%

Migration

Total net migration added 10,474 people during the first quarter (Table 4)—the highest first quarter level since 2014 and around 40% more migrants than the same quarter one year ago. Stronger interprovincial migration was a major driver of this increase, more than triple the level during the same period last year. Although immigration levels decreased this quarter, they were more than offset by an increase in net NPRs.

Interprovincial migration

Interprovincial migration to Alberta continued to strengthen over the quarter with a net gain of 3,428 persons (Table 3), the highest gain among the provinces. The net gain in Alberta was more than double that of Ontario (1,470) and over triple that of British Columbia (1,008). The provinces which experienced the greatest net interprovincial losses included Saskatchewan (-2,940), Manitoba (-2,102) and Newfoundland (-1,143).

Alberta received more than three times the number of net interprovincial migrants compared to the same quarter one year ago (3,428 compared with 1,049). Continuing on a recent trend, the prairie provinces of Saskatchewan (1,218) and Manitoba (818) were the largest contributors to Alberta's gains, followed by Newfoundland (603) and Ontario (551) (Map 1).

International migration

International migration was the largest contributor to growth for the fourth consecutive quarter, adding about 10% more than the same quarter last year (7,046 compared with 6,434). This increase was mainly due to a reversal in the net outflows of NPRs. In contrast, lower levels of immigration, largely due to fewer immigrants arriving in Canada in general, provided less contribution to first quarter growth in Alberta.

Canada welcomed 65,959 permanent residents in the first quarter of 2019. This was about 14,000 fewer than the same quarter last year and the lowest first quarter level since 2015. In general, Canada has set their immigration target at 330,800 persons for 2019. In order to hit this target, subsequent quarters will need to see higher levels of immigration to compensate for the lower levels observed during the first quarter.

Alberta added 8,556 people through immigration, about 2,000 fewer than the same quarter one year ago. This amounts to 13.0% of all immigrants to Canada—the third highest share of the provinces and virtually the same as the first quarter last year (13.3%). Ontario had the largest share of immigrants (47.3%), followed by British Columbia (13.4%).

Between January and March, Alberta had a net gain of 318 NPRs. While this number is generally small, the fact that it is positive is a significant development, since the last time Alberta had first quarter net inflows of NPRs was in 2014. This was a large change from the same quarter last year, where Alberta had a net loss of 2,382 NPRs.

Natural increase

Alberta added 6,292 people through natural increase (births minus deaths), the net difference of 13,313 births and 7,021 deaths. Due to its youthful population, Alberta continued to have the highest growth due to natural increase among the provinces (0.14%), followed by Saskatchewan (0.11%) and Manitoba (0.09%). Newfoundland, Nova Scotia and New Brunswick had negative natural growth rates, meaning the number of deaths exceeded the number of births.

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Map 1: Net Population Movement for Alberta January 1 to March 31, 2019

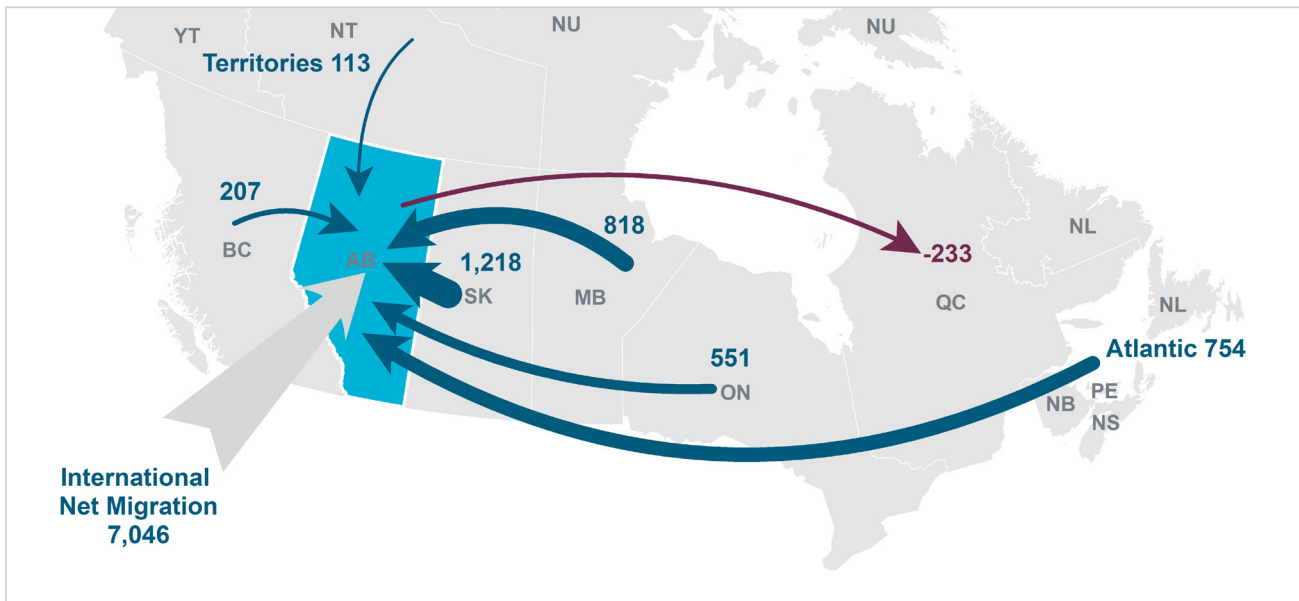


Table 3: Origin and Destination of Interprovincial Migrants January 1, 2019 to March 31, 2019

		Destination													
		NL	PEI	NS	NB	QC	ON	MB	SK	AB	BC	YT	NWT	NVT	
Origin	NL	0	63	339	155	22	529	59	90	1,030	288	0	35	8	
	PEI	35	0	177	41	45	432	6	0	51	77	0	0	0	
	NS	144	149	0	748	197	1,156	16	44	870	400	0	62	163	
	NB	126	112	577	0	368	691	69	56	494	152	12	4	14	
	QC	64	21	96	276	0	3,673	45	63	466	589	5	10	10	
	ON	492	295	1,386	842	2,689	0	881	540	4,282	3,534	68	78	175	
	MB	35	40	141	52	150	1,468	0	653	1,354	965	12	0	34	
	SK	38	8	106	73	196	1,603	671	0	2,865	1,010	4	40	21	
	AB	427	108	681	475	699	3,731	536	1,647	0	5,577	91	95	82	
	BC	86	99	491	367	761	3,121	477	547	5,784	0	90	36	20	
	YT	0	0	55	0	53	79	4	21	129	161	0	10	28	
	NWT	28	0	69	10	31	120	9	29	230	94	37	0	56	
	NVT	0	0	52	11	62	129	29	5	22	40	6	18	0	

	NL	PEI	NS	NB	QC	ON	MB	SK	AB	BC	YT	NWT	NVT
IN	1,475	895	4,170	3,050	5,273	16,732	2,802	3,695	17,577	12,887	325	388	611
OUT	2,618	864	3,949	2,675	5,318	15,262	4,904	6,635	14,149	11,879	540	713	374
NET	-1,143	31	221	375	-45	1,470	-2,102	-2,940	3,428	1,008	-215	-325	237

Q1 2019	NL	PEI	NS	NB	QC	ON	MB	SK	AB	BC	YT	NWT	NVT
Outflow to AB	1030	51	870	494	466	4282	1354	2865	0	5784	129	230	22
Inflow from AB	427	108	681	475	699	3731	536	1647	0	5577	91	95	82
Net Flow to AB	603	-57	189	19	-233	551	818	1,218	0	207	38	135	-60

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	56,978	72,086	-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	50,396	65,955	-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	62,486	61,048	1,438	38,683	-1,320	9,222	2,272	5,229	31,098	32,536	56,329	25,750	63,115
2018-19													
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	13,952	11,329	2,623	9,372	-980	2,054	548	783	6,573	9,196	13,232	6,897	15,531
Jan-Mar	17,577	14,149	3,428	8,556	318	2,079	544	795	7,046	10,474	13,313	7,021	16,766
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	50,110	40,837	9,273	28,340	1,807	7,280	1,778	3,822	24,911	34,184	41,428	20,219	55,393

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.