

Saskatchewan immigration and Ethnocultural Diversity

2016 Census of Canada

ETHNIC ORIGINS

The 2016 census indicates that Saskatchewan continues to be populated by persons of European ancestry. 70.9% of Saskatchewan's population is of European descent.

Ethnic origin refers to the respondent's ancestors and is usually more distant than a grandparent. People can be of single or multiple ethnicities. At the provincial total, 45.0% of the population reported single ethnicity while 55.0% reported multiple ethnic origins.

Table 1 provides ethnic origin information for the top ten ethnic origins in Saskatchewan from the 2016 census of Canada.

**Table 1: Ethnic Origins, Total responses¹
Saskatchewan, 2016**

Ethnic Origin	Total Responses	% of Total
German	296,385	27.7%
English	253,205	23.7%
Canadian	220,965	20.6%
Scottish	193,330	18.1%
Irish	155,725	14.5%
Ukrainian	143,700	13.4%
North American Indian ²	130,885	12.2%
French	125,780	11.7%
Norwegian	68,645	6.4%
Polish	59,950	5.6%

Source: Statistics Canada, 2016 Census of Canada

1. "Total responses" is the total of single and multiple responses. Therefore, individuals who reported multiple ethnic origins are counted more than once in this table. For example, if someone were to report multiple origins of German and English, their response would appear in both line items.

2. North American Indian ethnic origin is not comparable with North American Indian identity population counts. This also holds for Metis and other all other aboriginal population data. Identity is related to self-identification as Aboriginal while ethnic origin relates to the respondent's ancestry.

In terms of single ethnicity, Canadians made up the largest part of this subset of the population (96,330 persons or 20.0% of all single ethnic backgrounds). English and German provided the highest counts for multiple ethnic origins.

VISIBLE MINORITIES

The proportion of Saskatchewan residents who report to be visible minorities continues to climb. In 2016, 10.8% of Saskatchewan population was a visible minority compared with 3.6% in 2006. The Census defines visible minorities as persons, other than Aboriginals, who are non-Caucasian in race or non-white in color.

The most populous visible minorities in Saskatchewan were Filipino, South Asian, Chinese and Black.

The majority of Saskatchewan visible minorities reside in the two provincial Census Metropolitan Areas. Saskatoon is home to 42.5% of Saskatchewan's visible minority population with Regina being home to 35.6%.

IMMIGRATION & CITIZENSHIP

There were 112,490 immigrants in Saskatchewan in 2016 compared with 48,160 for 2006 (an increase of 64,330 persons). There were 12,255 non-permanent residents (which include persons who held work or study permits, refugee claimants as well as family members living with them in Canada) in Saskatchewan in 2016 compared with 4,610 in 2006.

Immigrants and non-permanent residents accounted for 11.65% of the Saskatchewan population in 2016. This is well below the national average of 23.4%.

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The large majority of Saskatchewan residents, 93.2%, were Canadian citizens in 2016. This is down from 98.2% in 2006. This is above the national average of 93.0% and the highest proportion of all western Canada provinces.

As well the vast majority of Saskatchewan's citizens were born in Canada. Table 2 provides information for where the citizens of Saskatchewan in 2016 were born.

**Table 2: Citizens by place of birth
Saskatchewan, 2016**

Ethnic Origin	Total Responses	% of Total
Canada	942,835	88.1%
Philippines	28,945	2.7%
India	11,080	1.0%
China	9,670	0.9%
United Kingdom	7,660	0.7%
Pakistan	7,135	0.7%
United States	6,580	0.6%
Ukraine	3,660	0.3%
Germany	3,035	0.3%
Vietnam	2,765	0.3%

Source: Statistics Canada, 2016 Census of Canada

Data in this report are based on the 2016 and 2006 Census of Canada, which may not be directly comparable due to methodological changes. For more details, contact the Saskatchewan Bureau of Statistics at (306) 787-6327 or visit www.stats.gov.sk.ca.