

NEWS BRIEF



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THE DEVELOPMENT OF "URBAN INDICATORS"

This News Brief represents an attempt to develop a series of "urban indicators" for the Province of Ontario. Several statistical sources were used, and from them were selected those elements which were thought relevant as direct or indirect indicators of the degree of urbanization of Ontario.

To place these indicators in perspective, the figures were set beside their totals for Canada and Ontario's percentages of these nation-wide totals were calculated. If any single figure is basic to a comparative evaluation and/or to the placing of other percentages in their proper perspective, that figure would be Ontario's 38.0% share of Canada's urban population.

"Urban population" is defined rather liberally by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics as including all cities, towns and villages of 1,000 or more population, whether or not incorporated, plus the urbanized fringes of census metropolitan and other large urban areas and the urbanized fringes of certain smaller cities where the city and fringe totalled 10,000 or more persons. As thus defined, Ontario is the most urbanized province. Figures for 1961 were: Ontario--77.2% urban; Quebec--74.3%; British Columbia--72.5%; Manitoba--63.9%; Alberta--63.3%; Nova Scotia--54.4%; Newfoundland--50.7%; New Brunswick--46.5%; Saskatchewan--43.0%; and Prince Edward Island--32.3%.

It is important to point out that these indicators are quantitative measures only. This limitation presents no problem with items measured in numbers of people or dollars. It becomes significant, however, with respect to such entries as daily newspapers, book publishers, branch banks, and museums and art galleries, where the units vary widely in individual size and scope but must be given equal weight in the statistics.

Of greater utility and pertinence would be statistics for these and other urban indicators on the basis of Census Metropolitan Areas. Unfortunately, such data, although being expanded by D.B.S., are currently restricted to a small number of items including consumer price indices, crime, and some aspects of housing. In the absence of reliable data on this basis, those seeking to compare the Toronto Metropolitan Area (not to be confused with the Municipality of Metropolitan Toronto, which is smaller) with that of Montreal, or Edmonton with Calgary, etc., must resort to questionable statistical manipulation.

This attempt at development of urban indicators on a province-wide basis, especially if refined and expanded, might prove of limited value until Census Metropolitan Area data are developed on an inclusive range of items.

SELECTED URBAN INDICATORS

ITEM, PERIOD	ONTARIO AS % OF CANADA	
	ONTARIO	CANADA
LAND AREA (excluding Territories)		
POPULATION		
Total as of April, 1968 (estimated)	344,092 sq.mi.	2,101,454 sq.mi.
--Urban, 1961	7,283,000	20,700,000
Density (excluding Territories), 1961	4,823,529	12,700,390
Births during 1967	18.12 per sq.mi.	8.66 per sq.mi.
Immigrants during 1967	128,676	370,716
--Professional & Technical	116,850	222,876
--Construction Trades	13,985	30,853
	6,057	10,643
HOUSING & CONSTRUCTION		
Building Permits Issued, 1967	28,937	65,441
--Single Family Dwellings	4,321	13,867
--Double Family Dwellings	38,552	81,914
--Apartments	633	2,257
--Housing Conversions		<u>163,479</u>
--Total Residential	<u>72,443</u>	44.4
Value of Construction, 1967		
--Residential	\$0.89 billion	\$1.92 billion
--Industrial	0.20 billion	0.42 billion
--Commercial	0.28 billion	0.68 billion
--Institutional & Governmental	0.52 billion	1.04 billion
--Total Value	\$1.89 billion	\$4.06 billion
Total Capital & Repair Expenditures, 1967	\$6.95 billion	\$19.70 billion
Total Dwelling Units, 1961	1,640,750	4,554,493
Dwelling Units with (1961):		
--Refrigerator	1,588,075	4,145,086
--2 or more TV Sets	106,141	192,192
--2 or more Automobiles	161,307	310,900
--Hot & Cold Running Water	1,462,170	3,650,115
--Installed (exclusive) Bath Facilities	1,397,122	3,512,110
--2 or more Inside Flush Toilets	227,607	470,790
--Connected Sewage Disposal	1,095,011	2,902,622
--Present Occupant Residing 2 or less Years	518,293	1,461,309
--Market Value of \$27,500 or more	40,625	76,347
--Monthly Rental of \$150 or more	11,313	24,506
Dwelling Units Started, 1967	68,121	164,123
Dwelling Units Completed, 1967	57,278	149,242

ONTARIO AS % OF
CANADA

ITEM PERIOD

EMPLOYMENT (Seasonally Adjusted)	ONTARIO	CANADA
Labour Force as of May, 1968	2,198,000	7,869,000
Employed as of May, 1968	2,796,000	7,477,000
Unemployed as of May, 1968	122,000	392,000
Unemployment Rate as of May, 1968	4.2%	5.0%
Selected Labour Force, 1961	643,000	1,405,000
--Manufacturing	154,000	430,000
--Construction	371,000	991,000
--Trade	98,000	229,000

ECONOMIC, COMMERCIAL & GOVERNMENTAL

Personal Income, 1967	\$18.76 billion	\$47.20 billion
Average Weekly Wages & Salaries as of Feb., 1968	\$109.78	\$106.99
Provincial Net General Tax Revenue, 1968 (est.)	\$1.90 billion	\$4.78 billion
--Provincial Government Employees, 1967	101,460	307,578
Total Current Municipal Revenue, 1966 (est.)	\$1.22 billion	\$2.86 billion
--Municipal Government Employees, 1966 (ave.)	70,546	166,340
Value Added by Manufacturing, 1962	\$6.01 billion	\$11.74 billion
Selling Value of Factory Shipments, 1962	\$13.34 billion	\$26.71 billion
Value of Retail Trade, 1967 (adjusted)	\$8.85 billion	\$23.41 billion
Cheques Cashed, Month of March, 1968 (adjusted)	\$22.79 billion	\$48.91 billion
Branches of Chartered Banks, 1967	2,078	5,807

TRAFFIC & RELATED

Urban Transit Passenger Fares, 1966	0.44 billion	1.02 billion
Urban Paved Street Mileage, 1961	8,030 mi.	21,495 mi.
Pasenger Cars, 1965	2,139,696	5,279,373
Parking Violations, 1966	1,913,452	4,277,830

EDUCATION & CULTURE

Full-time University-grade Enrolment, 1966	58,983	205,888
--Total	6,859	17,196
--Graduate-level only	178,684	363,443
Full-time Vocational Course Enrolment, 1964	47	114
Daily Newspapers (English, French only), 1967	68	115
Foreign Language Newspapers & Magazines, 1967	60	112
Book Publishers, 1967		
Public Libraries, 1960		
--Books	6,701,371	13,866,935
--Book Circulation	30,186,175	56,187,325
Museums, Art Galleries & Related, 1964	150	385

Sources: Dominion Bureau of Statistics, Cdn. Immigration Div'n., Cdn. Almanac & Directory, Ont. Statistical Review, Canadian Tax Foundation.