

**New Brunswick
Population Report
May 2024**



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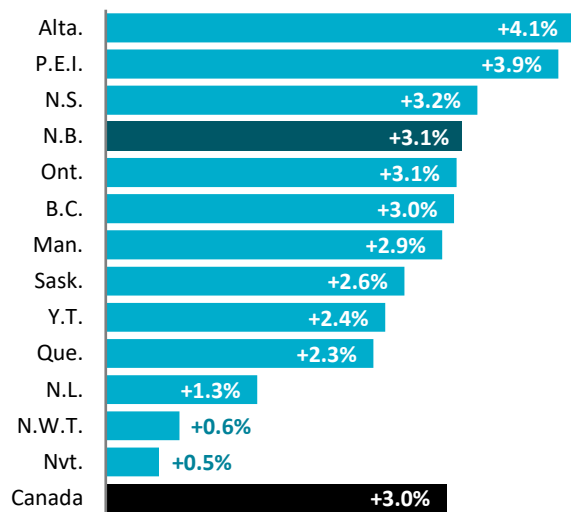
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Note: This report represents a snapshot of New Brunswick’s population as of July 1, 2023. For more up to date, but less detailed, analysis and data, visit the “Demographics Trends” tile on the “Reports and Statistics” section of NBjobs.ca.

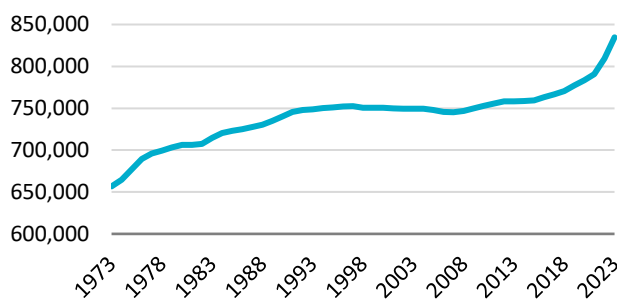
Provincial Overview¹

As of July 1, 2023, New Brunswick’s population was estimated to be approximately 834,691, up 3.1% year-over-year. This represented the greatest population growth the province has seen in a single year on record (with comparable data dating back to 1971).

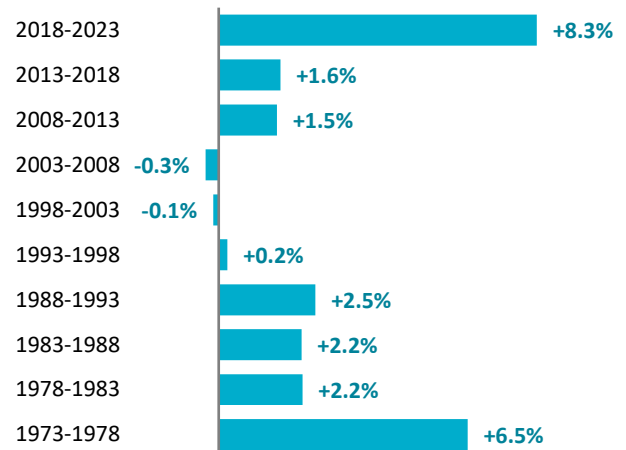
Year-over-Year Population Growth – 2022 to 2023



Population – New Brunswick



Population Growth by Five-Year Interval – New Brunswick

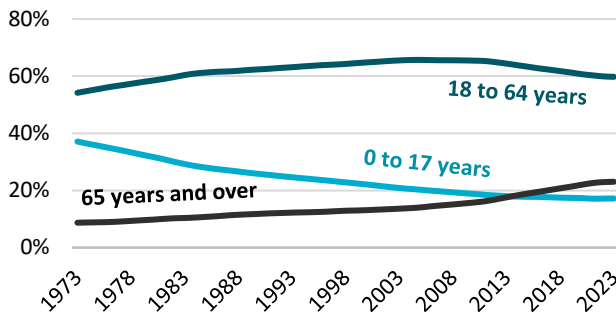


While recent trends have represented a significant improvement, decades of declining fertility rates, increasing life expectancy and the aging of the baby boom generation have led to dramatic changes in the structure of the province’s population. Between 1973 and 2023, the percentage of New Brunswick’s population that was under the age of 18 fell dramatically (from 37.1% to 17.2%), while the percentage of the population aged 65 years or older more than doubled (from 8.7% to 23.0%). While this situation is not unique to New Brunswick, these issues have been further compounded in the province by relatively low immigration levels (compared to other provinces) and, except for the last few years, consistently high levels of net out-migration among youth.

With many of these concerning trends now slowing down or coming to an end, the province is expected to continue to see moderate growth going forward, with potential for greater growth, depending on how long, and to what extent, recent trends persist.

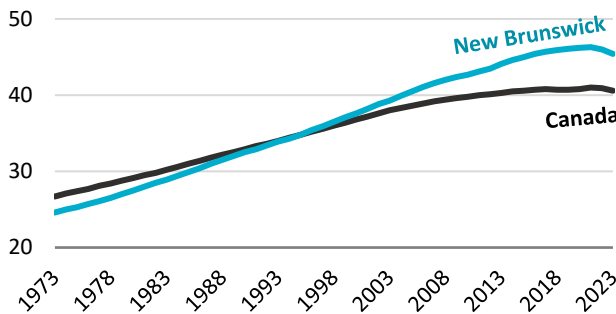
¹ Source(s): Statistics Canada, Annual Demographic Estimates, Table 17-10-0005 and Population Projections for Canada, Provinces and Territories, Table 17-10-0057.

Distribution of Population by Age Group – New Brunswick

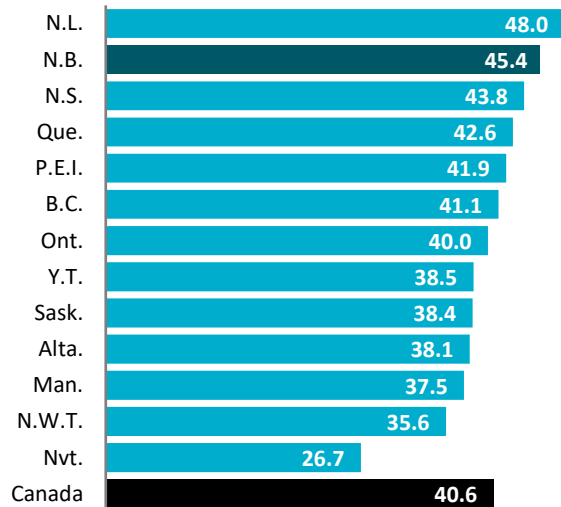


As of 2023, at 45.4 years, New Brunswick’s population had the second highest median age among the provinces and territories, well above the national median of 40.6 years.

Median Age – New Brunswick and Canada



Median Age – July 2023



Components of Population Change²

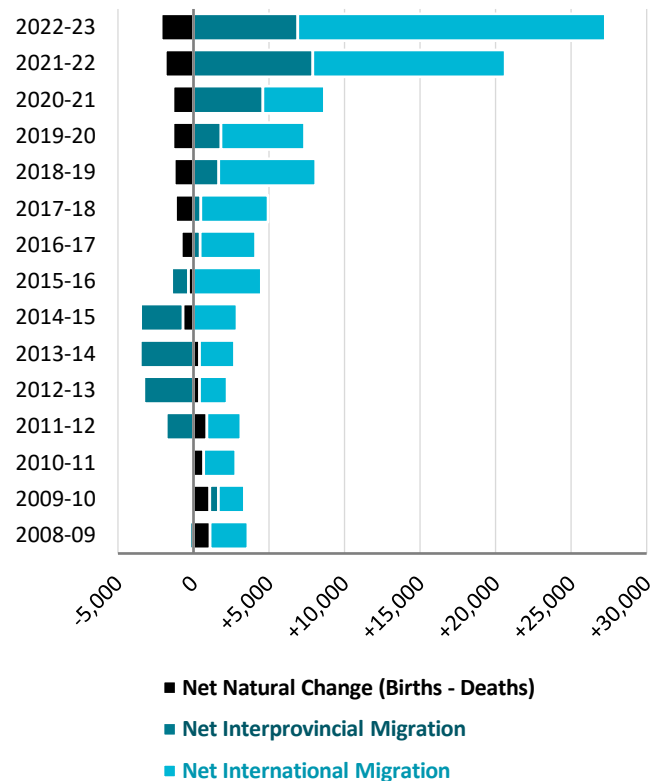
Overview

At a provincial level, population change is based on three factors:

- Natural population change (i.e., births minus deaths);
- Interprovincial migration; and
- International migration.

As the baby boom and pre-baby boom generations have aged, the province has seen an increasing number of deaths and a decreasing number of births. To mitigate this trend, an increased focus has been placed on immigration over the past several years. The combined effect of these trends has been international migration becoming the main driver of population growth in the province. This is expected to continue to be the case for the foreseeable future.

Components of Population Change – New Brunswick



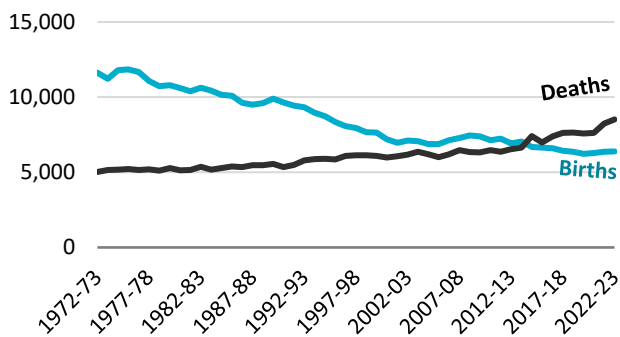
² Source(s): Statistics Canada Tables 17-10-0008, 17-10-0015, 17-10-0014 and 17-10-0022 (Annual Demographic Estimates).

Natural Population Change

After peaking during the baby boom era (1946 to 1965), fertility rates across the country dropped considerably. This shift was due to a number of factors, including contraceptives becoming more effective and readily available, and women participating in higher education and the labour force at greater rates. Since the 1980s, fertility rates have fluctuated slightly, but in general have remained relatively low. Today, based on current fertility rates, women in New Brunswick will give birth to an average of 1.33 children in their lifetimes, well below the replacement level of roughly 2.1 children per woman. In recent years, both fertility rates and the number of women of childbearing age have declined, resulting in fewer births. However, as of 2023, it seems as though this trend may have begun to reverse.

Between July 2022 and July 2023, 6,388 babies were born in New Brunswick. This total represented a 0.2% increase relative to the previous 12-month period; however, it remained 7.8% below its 2012-2013 level, and 45.0% below its 1972-1973 level.

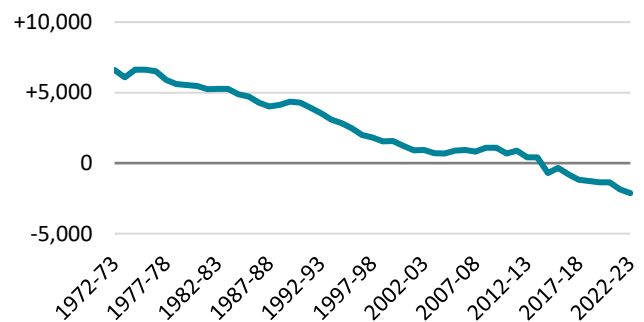
Births and Deaths – New Brunswick



On the other hand, as the baby boom and pre-baby boom generations have aged into the senior-age category, the number of deaths in the province has increased significantly in recent years. Between July 2022 and July 2023, there were 8,519 deaths in the province, up 30.5% relative to 2012-2013, and up 69.6% relative to 1972-1973.

The number of deaths in the province has now exceeded the number of births in nine consecutive years, with this gap expected to continue to grow wider going forward. In 2022-23, four other provinces also saw deaths exceed births: Newfoundland and Labrador, Nova Scotia, Prince Edward and British Columbia.

Natural Population Change (Births Minus Deaths) – New Brunswick



Interprovincial Migration

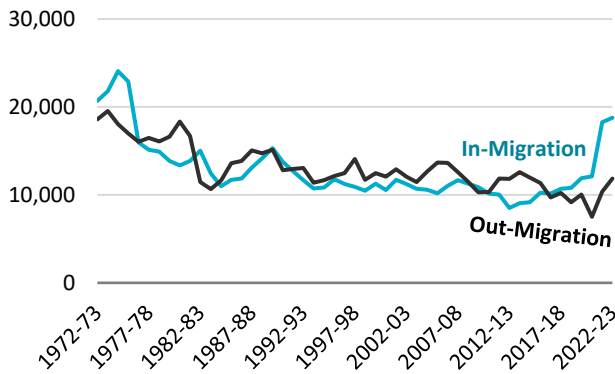
During the twenty-year period between July 1996 and July 2016, New Brunswick saw a net total of 32,674 individuals migrate away to other parts of the country (243,579 individuals moved away, while only 210,905 moved to N.B.), an average loss of 1,634 individuals annually. The majority of interprovincial losses over this period were among the youth and core working-age populations:

- A net loss of 635 individuals aged -1 to 17
- A net loss of 22,579 individuals aged 18 to 24
- A net loss of 12,322 individuals aged 25 to 54
- A net gain of 2,862 individuals aged 55 and over

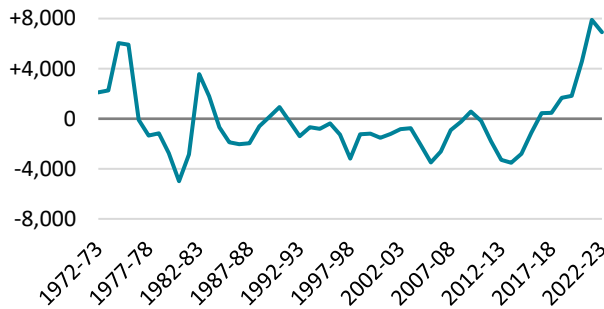
In contrast to these longer-term trends however, New Brunswick has now seen net positive interprovincial migration levels in seven consecutive years, gaining a net total of 23,811 individuals from other provinces during this time (July 2016 to July 2023). This total included:

- A net gain of 5,817 individuals aged -1 to 17
- A net gain of 591 individuals aged 18 to 24
- A net gain of 8,911 individuals aged 25 to 54
- A net gain of 8,492 individuals aged 55 and over

Interprovincial Migration – New Brunswick

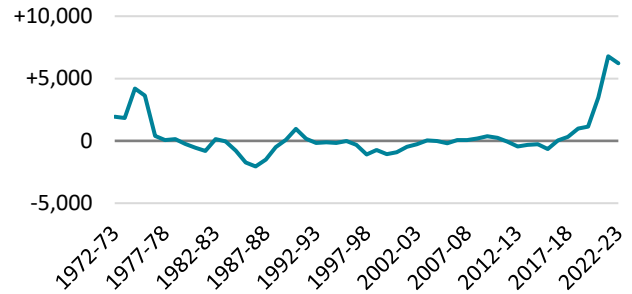


Net Interprovincial Migration – New Brunswick



This recent shift has been primarily driven by increased in-migration from Ontario, a trend in large part attributable to socio-economic factors resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic and the province’s relatively affordable housing costs.

Net Migration to New Brunswick from Ontario



Interprovincial Migration to and from New Brunswick – July 2022 to July 2023

Province	To N.B.	Away From N.B.	Net
Ont.	9,970	3,741	+6,229
B.C.	1,158	653	+505
Que.	2,067	1,756	+311
Man.	404	182	+222
N.L.	641	468	+173
Sask.	197	137	+60
N.S.	2,363	2,316	+47
N.W.T.	110	72	+38
Nvt.	70	42	+28
P.E.I.	417	410	+7
Y.T.	44	41	+3
Alb.	1,323	2,032	-709

Both before and during the pandemic, females were generally less mobile than males, being less likely to move to, or away from, the province. Furthermore, migration totals among females appear to be less volatile from year-to-year than those of males.

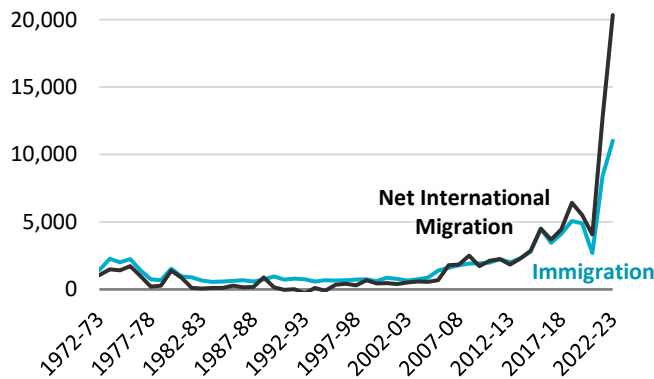
Average Annual Interprovincial Migration Levels by Sex – July 2018 to July 2023 – New Brunswick

	Females	Males
In-Migration	7,150	7,219
Out-Migration	4,856	4,934
Net	2,294	2,285

International Migration

While New Brunswick’s international migration levels have historically been quite low, leading up to the pandemic, they had been increasing significantly. After typically hovering around 2,000 between the mid-2000s and mid-2010s, international migration to the province saw a significant spike. By 2018-2019, net international migration had grown to 6,418.

Net International Migration – New Brunswick

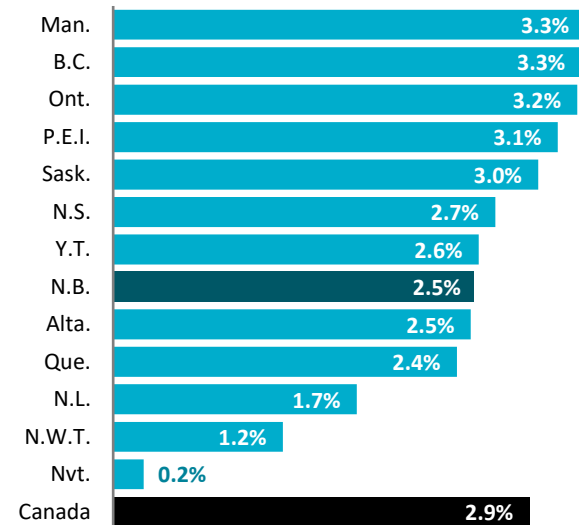


While this trend was briefly interrupted by the COVID-19 pandemic, international migration levels have since resumed their upward trend. Between July 2022 and July 2023, New Brunswick saw a net gain of 20,340 residents through international migration.

International Migration – New Brunswick

	2006-07 to 2014-15 Avg.	2015-16 to 2019-20 Avg.	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23
Immigration	2,068	4,412	2,688	8,410	11,020
Net Non-Permanent Residents	+342	+752	+1,467	+4,557	+9,562
Net Emigration	-273	-252	-77	-242	-242
Net International Migration	+2,137	+4,913	+4,078	+12,725	+20,340

Net International Migration in 2022-23 as a Percentage of Population



While the majority of individuals moving to New Brunswick from other countries are immigrants (i.e. individuals being granted the right to live in Canada permanently), there has also been a considerable increase to the number of non-permanent residents (e.g. international students, temporary foreign workers, etc.) living in the province in recent years, particularly since 2022.

Sub-Provincial Population Estimates (2021 Boundaries)³

In recent years, New Brunswick’s population growth has been largely concentrated in or around the cities of Moncton and Fredericton (and to a lesser degree, Saint John), while rural parts of the province have generally seen little-to-no growth, or in many cases, population decline. This trend is primarily a reflection of the greater number of employment opportunities in the province’s urban centres, leading to higher immigration levels and more individuals from other parts of the province moving to these areas. Furthermore, due to their relatively younger populations, these areas see more births and fewer deaths compared to rural communities.

While it is expected that population growth will continue to be concentrated in and around the province’s major cities going forward, many of the province’s more rural communities have seen significant population growth in recent years. This has in large part driven by unusually high in-migration from Ontario.

Some of the municipalities⁴ that saw the greatest growth between 2022 and 2023 included:

- Upper Miramichi: +16.6% (2,282 to 2,661)
- Shediac: +7.7% (8,104 to 8,724)
- Moncton: +7.1% (85,090 to 91,085)
- Beaubassin-est: +6.9% (7,324 to 7,827)

Population Change – Selected Regions

	2022	2023	% Change	2013	2023	% Change
Southern N.B.						
Greater Moncton	168,620	178,971	+6.1%	144,221	178,971	+24.1%
Greater Saint John	135,565	138,985	+2.5%	129,129	138,985	+7.6%
Greater Fredericton	114,516	119,059	+4.0%	102,333	119,059	+16.3%
Other Southern N.B.	153,253	156,373	+2.0%	144,608	156,373	+8.1%
Northern N.B.						
Greater Bathurst	32,201	32,821	+1.9%	31,773	32,821	+3.3%
Greater Miramichi	28,644	29,411	+2.7%	28,095	29,411	+4.7%
Greater Edmundston	22,664	23,113	+2.0%	22,191	23,113	+4.2%
Greater Campbellton	12,126	12,179	+0.4%	12,497	12,179	-2.5%
Other Northern N.B.	141,979	143,779	+1.3%	143,414	143,779	+0.3%

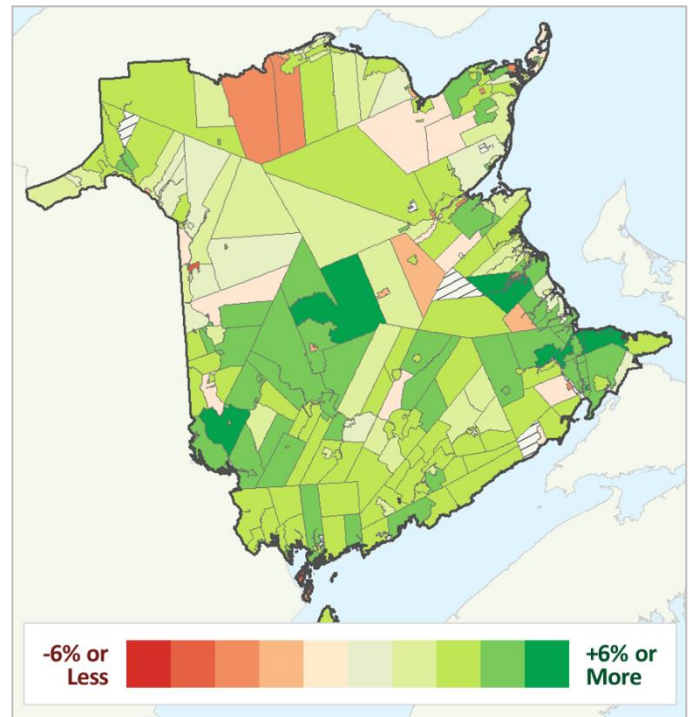
³ Source(s): Statistics Canada, Annual Demographic Estimates, Tables 17-10-0148, 17-10-0149, 17-10-0150, 17-10-0151, and 17-10-0155.

⁴ Unincorporated communities and communities with a population of less than 500 are excluded from this list.

On the other hand, some of the municipalities that saw the greatest losses during this time included:

- Sitansisk: -5.6% (1,141 to 1,077)
- Negootkook: -3.2% (1,111 to 1,075)
- Natoaganeg: -3.0% (572 to 555)
- Elsipogtog: -1.9% (2,124 to 2,084)

Population Change Between July 2022 and July 2023 by Census Subdivision – New Brunswick



See the appendix for more detailed information.

Components of Population Change – Selected Regions

	2006-07 to 2014-15 Avg.	2015-16 to 2019-20 Avg.	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23
Greater Moncton					
Natural Population Change	+473	+165	+70	-52	-98
Net Intraprovincial Migration	+870	+506	+206	-41	-31
Net Interprovincial Migration	-29	+246	+1,525	+1,813	+1,422
Net International Migration	+624	+1,643	+1,706	+5,524	+9,058
Greater Saint John					
Natural Population Change	+214	-86	-162	-268	-315
Net Intraprovincial Migration	-20	-31	-90	-178	-182
Net Interprovincial Migration	-523	-118	+638	+1,019	+942
Net International Migration	+547	+960	+480	+1,852	+2,975
Greater Fredericton					
Natural Population Change	+361	+193	+147	+31	-1
Net Intraprovincial Migration	+642	+578	+355	+370	+350
Net Interprovincial Migration	-345	-333	+320	+729	+579
Net International Migration	+601	+1,346	+516	+2,369	+3,615
Other Southern N.B.					
Natural Population Change	-70	-273	-267	-386	-444
Net Intraprovincial Migration	-291	-272	-41	+124	+102
Net Interprovincial Migration	-101	+552	+1,104	+2,120	+1,914
Net International Migration	+169	+353	+602	+1,137	+1,548
Greater Bathurst					
Natural Population Change	-65	-136	-193	-202	-215
Net Intraprovincial Migration	-137	-41	-43	+36	+17
Net Interprovincial Migration	-90	+45	+131	+255	+268
Net International Migration	+28	+102	+69	+236	+550
Greater Miramichi					
Natural Population Change	-42	-111	-95	-61	-73
Net Intraprovincial Migration	-126	-37	-10	+21	+50
Net Interprovincial Migration	-48	+50	+176	+331	+335
Net International Migration	+17	+73	+82	+268	+455
Greater Edmundston					
Natural Population Change	-35	-122	-143	-155	-166
Net Intraprovincial Migration	-57	+4	+12	+7	0
Net Interprovincial Migration	-66	-16	+12	-11	-9
Net International Migration	+20	+95	+123	+309	+624
Greater Campbellton					
Natural Population Change	-58	-82	-93	-105	-108
Net Intraprovincial Migration	-75	-57	-38	-124	-91
Net Interprovincial Migration	-35	+16	+36	+90	+74
Net International Migration	+8	+27	+16	+61	+178
Other Northern N.B.					
Natural Population Change	-160	-538	-616	-658	-711
Net Intraprovincial Migration	-807	-649	-351	-215	-215
Net Interprovincial Migration	-403	+218	+648	+1,551	+1,389
Net International Migration	+124	+313	+484	+969	+1,337

Appendix: Population by Community/Municipality – New Brunswick (2021 Boundaries)⁵

	Population – 2022	Population - 2023	% Change	Population – 2013	Population - 2023	% Change
Southern N.B.⁶						
Beaubassin-est	7,324	7,827	+6.9%	6,329	7,827	+23.7%
Bilijk	547	568	+3.8%	484	568	+17.4%
Blacks Harbour	912	943	+3.4%	946	943	-0.3%
Bouctouche	2,583	2,613	+1.2%	2,403	2,613	+8.7%
Cambridge-Narrows	747	765	+2.4%	596	765	+28.4%
Campobello Island	975	961	-1.4%	905	961	+6.2%
Cap-Pelé	2,671	2,833	+6.1%	2,373	2,833	+19.4%
Chipman	1,229	1,259	+2.4%	1,202	1,259	+4.7%
Cocagne	2,888	2,902	+0.5%	2,595	2,902	+11.8%
Dieppe	30,320	32,177	+6.1%	25,256	32,177	+27.4%
Dorchester	976	1,035	+6.0%	1,179	1,035	-12.2%
Elsipogtog	2,124	2,084	-1.9%	2,018	2,084	+3.3%
Fredericton	66,528	69,406	+4.3%	58,445	69,406	+18.8%
Fredericton Junction	768	778	+1.3%	733	778	+6.1%
Gagetown	822	842	+2.4%	720	842	+16.9%
Grand Bay-Westfield	5,128	5,174	+0.9%	5,166	5,174	+0.2%
Grand Manan	2,636	2,695	+2.2%	2,404	2,695	+12.1%
Hampton	4,559	4,612	+1.2%	4,308	4,612	+7.1%
Hanwell	4,930	5,002	+1.5%	4,737	5,002	+5.6%
Hillsborough	1,422	1,400	-1.5%	1,316	1,400	+6.4%
McAdam	1,198	1,237	+3.3%	1,243	1,237	-0.5%
Memramcook	5,269	5,450	+3.4%	4,930	5,450	+10.5%
Minto	2,275	2,331	+2.5%	2,406	2,331	-3.1%
Moncton	85,070	91,085	+7.1%	71,403	91,085	+27.6%
Nackawic	1,013	1,059	+4.5%	1,017	1,059	+4.1%
New Maryland	4,386	4,582	+4.5%	4,235	4,582	+8.2%
Norton	1,488	1,508	+1.3%	1,342	1,508	+12.4%
Oromocto	9,256	9,307	+0.6%	9,350	9,307	-0.5%
Petitcodiac	1,561	1,619	+3.7%	1,427	1,619	+13.5%
Quispamsis	19,494	19,874	+1.9%	18,373	19,874	+8.2%
Rexton	938	980	+4.5%	822	980	+19.2%
Richibucto	1,542	1,585	+2.8%	1,266	1,585	+25.2%
Riverview	21,284	21,712	+2.0%	19,506	21,712	+11.3%
Rothsay	12,283	12,521	+1.9%	11,785	12,521	+6.2%
Sackville	6,357	6,504	+2.3%	5,505	6,504	+18.1%
Saint Andrews	2,108	2,158	+2.4%	1,850	2,158	+16.6%
Saint John	72,662	75,015	+3.2%	69,563	75,015	+7.8%

⁵ Source(s): Statistics Canada, Annual Demographic Estimates, Table 17-10-0155.

⁶ For the purposes of this report, “Southern N.B.” refers to the following counties: Albert, Charlotte, Kent, Kings, Queens, Saint John, Sunbury, Westmorland and York.

	Population – 2022	Population - 2023	% Change	Population – 2013	Population - 2023	% Change
Southern N.B. (Continued)						
Saint-Antoine	1,813	1,836	+1.3%	1,758	1,836	+4.4%
Saint-Louis de Kent	1,015	1,010	-0.5%	877	1,010	+15.2%
Salisbury	2,527	2,564	+1.5%	2,268	2,564	+13.1%
Shediac	8,104	8,724	+7.7%	6,339	8,724	+37.6%
Sitansisk	1,141	1,077	-5.6%	950	1,077	+13.4%
St. George	1,676	1,704	+1.7%	1,526	1,704	+11.7%
St. Stephen	4,747	4,894	+3.1%	4,636	4,894	+5.6%
Sussex	4,621	4,711	+1.9%	4,388	4,711	+7.4%
Sussex Corner	1,475	1,479	+0.3%	1,534	1,479	-3.6%
Tracy	604	611	+1.2%	613	611	-0.3%
Other ⁷	155,958	160,375	+2.8%	145,264	160,375	+10.4%
Northern N.B.⁸						
Atholville	3,345	3,386	+1.2%	6,339	8,724	+37.6%
Balmoral	1,625	1,635	+0.6%	950	1,077	+13.4%
Bas-Caraquet	1,354	1,332	-1.6%	1,526	1,704	+11.7%
Bathurst	12,378	12,731	+2.9%	4,636	4,894	+5.6%
Belledune	1,349	1,378	+2.1%	4,388	4,711	+7.4%
Beresford	4,392	4,350	-1.0%	1,534	1,479	-3.6%
Bertrand	1,172	1,199	+2.3%	613	611	-0.3%
Blackville	938	951	+1.4%	149,432	153,465	+2.7%
Campbellton	7,167	7,169	+0.0%	3,719	3,386	-9.0%
Caraquet	4,486	4,637	+3.4%	1,701	1,635	-3.9%
Centreville	521	544	+4.4%	1,342	1,332	-0.7%
Charlo	1,363	1,391	+2.1%	12,168	12,731	+4.6%
Dalhousie	3,268	3,293	+0.8%	1,510	1,378	-8.7%
Doaktown	822	817	-0.6%	4,344	4,350	+0.1%
Drummond	746	747	+0.1%	1,149	1,199	+4.4%
Edmundston	16,802	17,175	+2.2%	989	951	-3.8%
Eel Ground (First Nations)	572	555	-3.0%	7,080	7,169	+1.3%
Eel River Crossing	1,886	1,916	+1.6%	4,291	4,637	+8.1%
Esgenoôpetitj	1,227	1,277	+4.1%	544	544	0.0%
Florenceville-Bristol	1,588	1,636	+3.0%	1,313	1,391	+5.9%
Grand Falls / Grand-Sault	5,372	5,461	+1.7%	3,342	3,293	-1.5%
Grande-Anse	801	811	+1.2%	802	817	+1.9%
Hartland	957	986	+3.0%	762	747	-2.0%
Haut-Madawaska	3,839	3,884	+1.2%	16,322	17,175	+5.2%
Kedgwick	2,029	2,050	+1.0%	481	555	+15.4%
Lac Baker	784	787	+0.4%	2,050	1,916	-6.5%
Lamèque	1,316	1,389	+5.5%	1,152	1,277	+10.9%
Le Goulet	767	777	+1.3%	1,640	1,636	-0.2%

⁷ "Other" includes unincorporated communities and communities with a population of less than 500.

⁸ For the purposes of this report, "Northern N.B." refers to the following counties: Carleton, Gloucester, Madawaska, Northumberland, Restigouche and Victoria.

	Population – 2022	Population - 2023	% Change	Population – 2013	Population - 2023	% Change
Northern N.B. (Continued)						
Maisonnette	536	562	+4.9%	5,473	5,461	-0.2%
Miramichi	18,152	18,565	+2.3%	799	811	+1.5%
Neguac	1,745	1,759	+0.8%	958	986	+2.9%
Neqotkuk	1,111	1,075	-3.2%	3,900	3,884	-0.4%
Nigadoo	1,072	1,121	+4.6%	2,034	2,050	+0.8%
Paquetville	745	731	-1.9%	712	787	+10.5%
Perth-Andover	1,612	1,631	+1.2%	1,374	1,389	+1.1%
Petit-Rocher	1,974	2,027	+2.7%	813	777	-4.4%
Plaster Rock	1,066	1,104	+3.6%	566	562	-0.7%
Pointe-Verte	899	907	+0.9%	17,849	18,565	+4.0%
Rivière-Verte	745	755	+1.3%	1,658	1,759	+6.1%
Rogersville	1,233	1,233	0.0%	1,043	1,075	+3.1%
Saint-André	1,835	1,869	+1.9%	944	1,121	+18.8%
Sainte-Anne-de-Madawaska	904	896	-0.9%	688	731	+6.3%
Sainte-Marie-Saint-Raphaël	838	848	+1.2%	1,683	1,631	-3.1%
Saint-Isidore	829	834	+0.6%	1,923	2,027	+5.4%
Saint-Léolin	634	643	+1.4%	1,089	1,104	+1.4%
Saint-Léonard	1,329	1,339	+0.8%	945	907	-4.0%
Saint-Quentin	2,161	2,259	+4.5%	755	755	0.0%
Shippagan	2,759	2,832	+2.6%	1,167	1,233	+5.7%
Tide Head	976	967	-0.9%	1,959	1,869	-4.6%
Tracadie	16,415	16,533	+0.7%	987	896	-9.2%
Upper Miramichi	2,282	2,661	+16.6%	955	848	-11.2%
Woodstock	5,897	6,050	+2.6%	760	834	+9.7%
Other ⁹	86,999	87,838	+1.0%	88,538	87,838	-0.8%

⁹ "Other" includes unincorporated communities and communities with a population of less than 500.