Canadian Census Facts

The census is taken by the federal government every 10 years to count Canada's population.

Census records are useful because they provide your ancestor's location at a specific time and list information such as name, age, occupation, place of birth, and religion.

Where to Find the Canadian Census

You can search the Canadian census on:

1. Ancestry

2. Library and Archives Canada

3. FamilySearch

Check each website to determine:

- 1. Which years are available on each one.
- 2. For search tips.
- 3. To understand any abbreviations used.

Note: Ancestry may be accessible using your Brantford Public Library card at brantfordlibrary.ca. Contact info@brantfordlibrary.ca for more information or assistance.

Things to Remember When Searching...

- Check for spelling variations of names handwriting may be hard to read or name may be spelled incorrectly
- Questions asked by the enumerator varied on different censuses. For example, in some censuses he asked how old the person would be on their next birthday while in others the person was asked how old they were on their last birthday
- Parts of the census didn't survive
- Depending on who provided the information, it may not be accurate

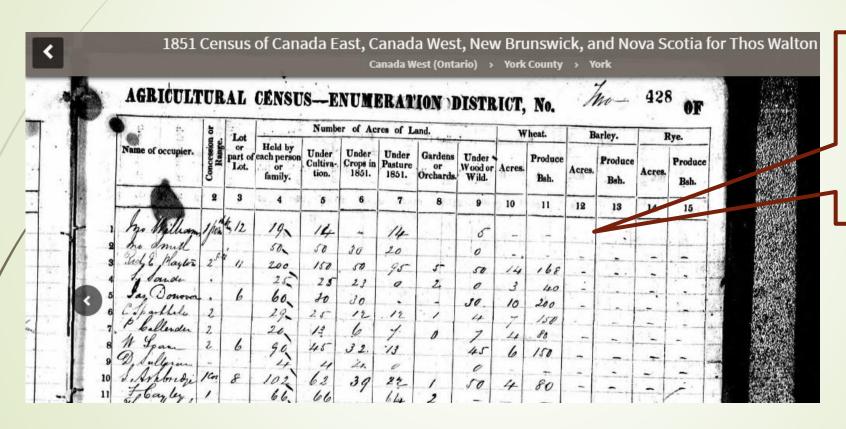
1851 Census

It was actually January 12, 1852 before enumeration started in Canada East and West

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1851 census was the first one to list everybody in the household

Agricultural Schedule, 1851 Canada Census



There are agricultural returns for the 1851, 1861 and 1871 censuses

Lists lot & concession number, acreage, livestock and agricultural products

Canada, Census Mortality Schedule, 1871





Name: Guy Walton

Gender: Male

Death Age: 47

Marital status: Married

Birth Year: 1823

Birth Place: Ontario, Canada

Death Date: Aug 1870

Death Place: Ontario, Canada

Address: 01, Scarboro c, East York 45

Religion: P Methodist

Enumeration District: 45

Sub-District: c

Ward of City: Scarboro

Line Number: 8

Ancestry and FamilySearch both have a database for the 1871 mortality schedule

This schedule was only microfilmed for the 1851, 1861 and 1871 censuses

1891 Census of Canada

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The 1891 census
was the first one to
list the person's
relationship to the
head of the
household

1901 Census

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The 1901 census asked for the birth date of each person in the household

Note: This information may not be correct depending on who provided the information

1906 Census of Manitoba, Saskatchewan, and Alberta

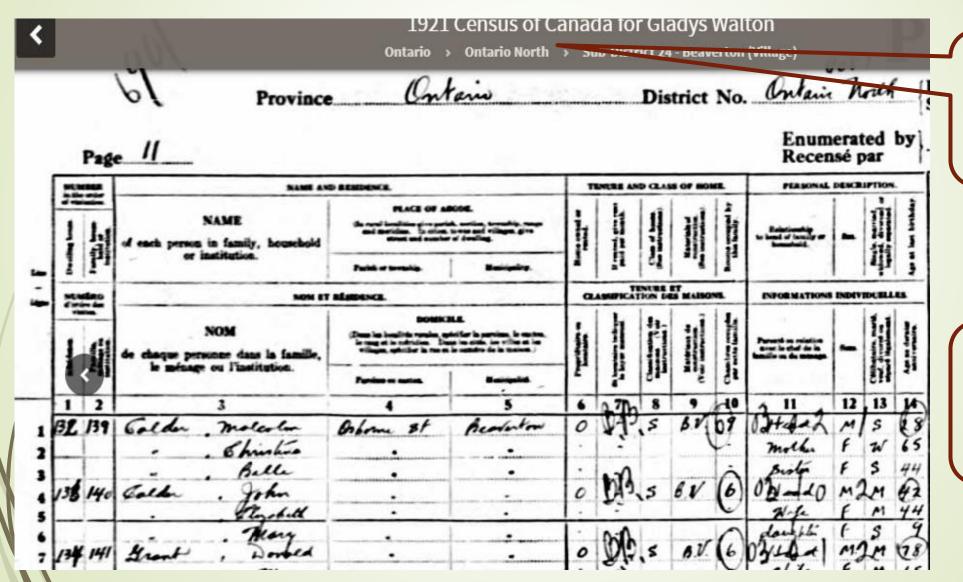
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The federal government took a census of Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta in 1906 because:

- 1. These provinces didn't exist in 1901 when the previous census was taken
- They wanted to keep track of the increasing population in these regions

Did you know:
Prairie censuses were
also taken in 1916 and
1926

1921 Census



The 1921 census is the most recent Canadian census released to the public

Did you know:
You have to wait 92
years after the
taking of a census
in Canada before it
can be made
public

For More Information About the Canadian Census

Download our **How to Find Census Information** pathfinder on the Brantford Public Library's website:

https://www.brantfordlibrary.ca/en/resources/Genealogy-Guides/Pathfinders/censusinfo.pdf

Canadian Census Facts

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