

A Growing Elderly Population

- The proportion of seniors aged 65 and over increased in every province and territory except Saskatchewan between 2006 and 2011.
- Seniors accounted for 16.5% of New Brunswick's population in 2011, up from 14.7% in 2006. Their number increased to nearly 124,000, up 14.9% over the five-year period. Nationally, seniors represented a record high of 14.8% of the population in 2011, up from 13.7% in 2006.
- The number of elderly people aged 80 and over in the province increased from 30,305 in 2006 to 32,800 in 2011. With a higher life expectancy than men, the majority of these elderly people were women (64.1% in 2011).
- New Brunswick counted 180 centenarians in 2011 and had the second highest rate of centenarians in Canada (24.0 centenarians per 100,000 persons). Only Saskatchewan was higher. Canada's rate stood at 17.4 centenarians per 100,000 persons; the census counted 5,825 people aged 100 or older in 2011.
- Most New Brunswick seniors live independently. Only a small fraction live in collective dwellings such as senior citizens' residences or health care facilities. In 2011, 9,385 seniors aged 65 and over, or 7.6% of all seniors in the province, lived in a collective dwelling.
- The prevalence of seniors living in special care facilities (such as nursing homes, chronic care and long-term care hospitals, and residences for senior citizens) increases with age. One per cent of New Brunswick seniors aged 65 to 69 lived in special care facilities in 2011; for those aged 85 and over, the proportion was 26.0%.
- Among municipalities in the province, the village of Maisonnette had the highest proportion of seniors at 32.2%.

