

## 2011 Census Bulletin #1 Population and Dwelling Counts

### Regional Population

According to the 2011 Census figures recently released by Statistics Canada, Metro Vancouver's (Vancouver Census Metropolitan Area) population reached 2,313,328 on May 10 2011, an increase of 196,747 over the 2006-2011 Census period. The regional population grew by 9.3%, higher than the 6.5% during the preceding five years (2001-2006). The population growth between 2001 and 2006 was 129,616.

By comparison, the Fraser Valley Regional District population grew by 8.0% while the BC provincial population and national populations increased by 7.0% and 5.9% respectively. Metro Vancouver accounted for 68.3% of the additional 286,570 persons in British Columbia.

Metro Vancouver had the second highest population growth among Metropolitan areas in Canada, following Toronto which added nearly 470,000 residents – from 5,113,149 in 2006 to 5,583,064 in 2011. However, Metro Vancouver remains the third largest Metropolitan area, following Montreal's 2011 population of 3,824,221.

**Table 1: Population Growth by Selected CMAs**

Census Metropolitan Area	2001 Populaton	2006 Populaton	2011 Populaton	5 - Year Population Growth (2006 - 2011)		Previous 5 - Year Population Growth (2001 - 2006)	
				No.	%	No.	%
Toronto	4,682,897	5,113,149	5,583,064	469,915	9.2%	430,252	9.2%
Montreal	3,451,027	3,635,571	3,824,211	188,640	5.2%	184,544	5.3%
Vancouver	1,986,965	2,116,581	2,313,328	196,747	9.3%	129,616	6.5%
Ottawa *	1,067,800	1,133,633	1,236,324	102,691	9.1%	65,833	6.2%
Calgary	951,494	1,079,310	1,214,839	135,529	12.6%	127,816	13.4%
Edmonton	937,845	1,034,945	1,159,869	124,924	12.1%	97,100	10.4%
Fraser Valley (FVRD)	237,550	257,031	277,593	20,562	8.0%	19,481	8.2%
Squamish - Lillooet (SLRD)	33,011	35,225	38,171	2,946	8.4%	2,214	6.7%
Sunshine Coast (SCRD)	25,599	27,759	28,619	860	3.1%	2,160	8.4%
Victoria	311,902	330,088	344,615	14,527	4.4%	18,186	5.8%

\* Boundary change for Ottawa CMA between 2006 and 2011 Census.

Source: Statistics Canada, 2011 Census

### Municipal Populations

In 2011 the City of Vancouver population count of 603,502 was the largest population in the region and accounts for 26% of the region's total population. Surrey's population of 468,251 is the second largest in the region (20% of the region's population), followed by Burnaby (223,218), Richmond (190,473), and Coquitlam (126,456).



**Table 2: Population Growth by Metro Vancouver Municipalities**

Municipality	2001 Population	2006 Population	2011 Population	5 - Year Population Growth (2006 - 2011)		Share of Growth	Previous 5-Year Population Growth (2001 - 2006)		Share of Growth
				No.	%		No.	%	
Anmore	1,344	1,785	2,092	307	17.2%	0.2%	441	32.8%	0.3%
Belcarra	682	676	644	-32	-4.7%	0.0%	-6	-0.9%	0.0%
Bowen Island	2,957	3,362	3,402	40	1.2%	0.0%	405	13.7%	0.3%
Burnaby	193,954	202,799	223,218	20,419	10.1%	10.4%	8,845	4.6%	6.8%
Coquitlam	112,890	114,565	126,456	11,891	10.4%	6.0%	1,675	1.5%	1.3%
Delta	96,950	96,723	99,863	3,140	3.2%	1.6%	-227	-0.2%	-0.2%
Electoral Area 'A'	8,034	11,050	13,035	1,985	18.0%	1.0%	3,016	37.5%	2.3%
Langley City	23,643	23,606	25,081	1,475	6.2%	0.7%	-37	-0.2%	0.0%
Langley Township	86,896	93,726	104,177	10,451	11.2%	5.3%	6,830	7.9%	5.3%
Lions Bay	1,379	1,328	1,318	-10	-0.8%	0.0%	-51	-3.7%	0.0%
Maple Ridge	63,169	68,949	76,052	7,103	10.3%	3.6%	5,780	9.2%	4.5%
New Westminster	54,656	58,549	65,976	7,427	12.7%	3.8%	3,893	7.1%	3.0%
North Vancouver City	44,303	45,165	48,196	3,031	6.7%	1.5%	862	1.9%	0.7%
North Vancouver District	82,310	82,562	84,412	1,850	2.2%	0.9%	252	0.3%	0.2%
Pitt Meadows	14,670	15,623	17,736	2,113	13.5%	1.1%	953	6.5%	0.7%
Port Coquitlam	51,257	52,687	56,342	3,655	6.9%	1.9%	1,430	2.8%	1.1%
Port Moody	23,816	27,512	32,975	5,463	19.9%	2.8%	3,696	15.5%	2.9%
Richmond	164,345	174,461	190,473	16,012	9.2%	8.1%	10,116	6.2%	7.8%
Surrey	347,825	394,976	468,251	73,275	18.6%	37.2%	47,151	13.6%	36.4%
Tsawwassen *			720						
Vancouver	545,671	578,041	603,502	25,461	4.4%	12.9%	32,370	5.9%	25.0%
West Vancouver	41,421	42,131	42,694	563	1.3%	0.3%	710	1.7%	0.5%
White Rock	18,250	18,755	19,339	584	3.1%	0.3%	505	2.8%	0.4%
Indian Reserves **	6,543	7,550	8,094	544	7.2%	0.3%	1,007	15.4%	0.8%
<b>Vancouver CMA</b>	<b>1,986,965</b>	<b>2,116,581</b>	<b>2,313,328</b>	<b>196,747</b>	<b>9.3%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>129,616</b>	<b>6.5%</b>	<b>39.7%</b>

\* New Boundary for 2011 Census.

\*\* For reporting purposes Indian Reserves includes Tsawwassen

Source: Statistics Canada, 2006 and 2011 Census of Population

## Municipal Population Growth

Surrey's population growth of 73,275 additional residents between 2006 and 2011 was the greatest increase by a municipality, followed by Vancouver's population increase of 25,461, Burnaby's increase of 20,419 and Richmond's increase of 16,012.

Surrey's population growth accounts for 37% of the region's total population growth between 2006 and 2011. Vancouver accounts for 13% of the region's population growth (compared to 25% between 2001 and 2006), Burnaby absorbed 10% of the region's population growth (compared to 5% between 2001 and 2006), Richmond absorbed 8% and Coquitlam 6% (compared to 1% between 2001 and 2006). The following map shows distribution of growth throughout the region by census tract.

## 2011 Dwelling Units by Metro Vancouver Municipalities

The 2006 Census reported 870,992 total private dwelling units for Greater Vancouver, an increase of 84,715 units from 2001, and a 10.8% rate of increase (Table 3). This is slightly lower than the 12.7% rate of increase from the previous census period, but is a greater rate of increase than population growth.

In terms of absolute dwellings, Vancouver led all municipalities with 24,820 units, followed by Surrey (20,660), Burnaby (6,740) and Richmond (6,095). Electoral Area 'A' had the largest percent increase with 86.4%, followed by First Nations Reserves (39%), Anmore (23%), and Port Moody (21.8%).

**Table 3: Dwelling Units by Metro Vancouver Municipalities**

Municipality	2001 Private Dwellings	2006 Private Dwellings	2011 Private Dwellings	5-Year Dwelling Growth (2006- 2011)		Share of Growth	Previous 5-Year Dwelling Growth (2001-2006)		Share of Growth
				No.	%		No.	%	
Anmore	463	571	706	135	23.6%	0.2%	108		0.1%
Belcarra	293	296	292	-4	-1.4%	0.0%	3		0.0%
Bowen Island	1,490	1,640	1,760	120	7.3%	0.2%	150	10.1%	0.2%
Burnaby	76,212	82,950	91,383	8,433	10.2%	10.7%	6,738	8.8%	8.0%
Coquitlam	41,481	43,241	48,083	4,842	11.2%	6.2%	1,760	4.2%	2.1%
Delta	33,366	35,125	35,781	656	1.9%	0.8%	1,759	5.3%	2.1%
Electoral Area 'A'	3,224	6,011	6,063	52	0.9%	0.1%	2,787	86.4%	3.3%
Langley City	10,343	11,110	11,810	700	6.3%	0.9%	767	7.4%	0.9%
Langley Township	30,269	35,098	39,114	4,016	11.4%	5.1%	4,829	16.0%	5.7%
Lions Bay	572	552	556	4	0.7%	0.0%	-20	-3.5%	0.0%
Maple Ridge	23,168	26,488	29,158	2,670	10.1%	3.4%	3,320	14.3%	3.9%
New Westminster	26,624	28,670	32,605	3,935	13.7%	5.0%	2,046	7.7%	2.4%
North Vancouver City	21,217	22,643	24,206	1,563	6.9%	2.0%	1,426	6.7%	1.7%
North Vancouver District	29,528	30,957	31,741	784	2.5%	1.0%	1,429	4.8%	1.7%
Pitt Meadows	5,397	6,149	7,013	864	14.1%	1.1%	752	13.9%	0.9%
Port Coquitlam	18,248	19,689	21,533	1,844	9.4%	2.3%	1,441	7.9%	1.7%
Port Moody	8,767	10,680	12,989	2,309	21.6%	2.9%	1,913	21.8%	2.3%
Richmond	58,272	64,367	71,170	6,803	10.6%	8.7%	6,095	10.5%	7.2%
Surrey	118,529	139,193	163,986	24,793	17.8%	31.6%	20,664	17.4%	24.4%
Tsawwassen			319						0.0%
Vancouver	248,981	273,804	286,742	12,938	4.7%	16.5%	24,823	10.0%	29.3%
West Vancouver	17,299	18,057	18,670	613	3.4%	0.8%	758	4.4%	0.9%
White Rock	9,397	10,192	10,498	306	3.0%	0.4%	795	8.5%	0.9%
<b>Vancouver CMA</b>	<b>786,277</b>	<b>870,992</b>	<b>949,565</b>	<b>78,573</b>	<b>9.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>84,715</b>	<b>10.8%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

Note: Total Private Dwelling units includes those units not occupied at the time of Census.

Source: Statistics Canada, 2006 and 2011 Census

### 2011 Persons Per Occupied Dwelling - Metro Vancouver Municipalities

Metro Vancouver's persons per occupied dwelling rates rose slightly from 2.59 to 2.60 over the 2006-2011 period, reversing a downward trend that's been occurring in the region's household size for several decades (see Table 4). Interestingly, the five-year change for 19 of the region's 23 municipalities actually declined or remained unchanged, which is contrary to the overall regional movement.

As well, persons per occupied dwelling rates for the combined Regional Town Centres declined from 1.87 to 1.85. Household size rates declined in all centres, except for Metrotown, which rose from 1.98 to 2.00 and the Metropolitan Core which rose from 1.56 to 1.60.

### Census 2011 and Regional Growth Strategy Implications

The Metro Vancouver Board approved a new Regional Growth Strategy in July 2011. The Strategy provides a blueprint for the region to contain growth within the Urban Containment Boundary and to focus the majority of growth within the RGS designated Urban Centres and along the emerging Frequent Transit network.

A preliminary analysis of the Census data was done to estimate the relative share of growth occurring within the RGS Urban Containment Boundary and in proximity to the 26 RGS Urban Centres. About 97% of Metro's 2006-2011 population growth was within the RGS Urban Containment Boundary, with the remaining 3% scattered throughout the Metro Agricultural and Rural areas. This is consistent with the intent of the RGS where it is expected that a small number of rural and farm residences will continue to be built.

**Table 4: Persons per Occupied Dwellings by Metro Vancouver Municipalities**

<b>Municipality</b>	<b>2001 Persons per Dwelling</b>	<b>2006 Persons per Dwelling</b>	<b>2011 Persons per Dwelling</b>
Anmore	3.13	3.34	3.33
Belcarra	2.62	2.65	2.40
Bowen Island	2.62	2.51	2.53
Burnaby	2.62	2.60	2.57
Coquitlam	2.81	2.78	2.78
Delta	2.96	2.88	2.87
Electoral Area 'A'	2.96	2.46	2.59
Langley City	2.34	2.23	2.22
Langley Township	2.93	2.81	2.80
Lions Bay	2.65	2.58	2.60
Maple Ridge	2.80	2.76	2.71
New Westminster	2.10	2.16	2.16
North Vancouver City	2.14	2.12	2.11
North Vancouver District	2.83	2.78	2.76
Pitt Meadows	2.77	2.68	2.64
Port Coquitlam	2.89	2.82	2.73
Port Moody	2.79	2.72	2.61
Richmond	2.89	2.84	2.80
Surrey	3.01	3.01	3.06
Tsawwassen			2.38
Vancouver	2.31	2.28	2.28
West Vancouver	2.54	2.50	2.50
White Rock	2.01	1.97	1.96
<b>Vancouver CMA</b>	<b>2.62</b>	<b>2.59</b>	<b>2.60</b>

*Note: Figures are based on total population in "occupied private households". Because a portion of the region's total population lives in non-private "collective dwellings", the actual regional average household size will be lower.*

Source: Statistics Canada, 2001, 2006 and 2011 Census

The RGS has established a target that 40% of dwelling unit growth (equivalent to 35% of population growth) be within the 26 RGS Urban Centres. Between 2006 and 2011 about 32% (66,000) of Metro's population growth was within RGS Urban Centres. The Metropolitan Core (Downtown peninsula and Broadway Corridor in the City of Vancouver), maintained strong growth taking one quarter or 16,400 of the total Urban Centres growth. The Metro Core also accounted for about two-thirds of the City of Vancouver's total population growth.

Surrey Metro Centre increased its population by 4,800 over the past five years. The seven other Regional City Centres collectively took 23,000 additional residents, while the 17 the Municipal Town Centres collectively added 21,000 additional residents.