

Components of non-metro population change, 2014

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Highlights

- Overall, Ontario's non-metro CDs have been losing population due to more deaths than births since 2009.
- Since 2004, non-metro CDs have been losing population due to greater out-migration to other CDs (generally to other provinces) compared to the number of in-migrants.
- A significant share of non-metro CDs do not follow the overall pattern as they have more births than deaths and net migration with other CDs is positive.
- Net international immigration has made only a small contribution to non-metro population growth with immigrant arrivals being slightly larger than emigrant departures since 2003.

Why look at components of population change?

A review of the contribution of natural balance (i.e., births minus deaths) and the contribution migration – both international migration and internal migration within Canada - helps illuminate the most significant drivers of population change. This could assist in targeting policy or program development to focus on either counteracting negative trends or accelerating positive ones.

Findings

Table 1 shows that in 2014, the components of population change in non-metro census divisions (CDs) were:

- a negative natural balance due to more deaths (21,336) than births (19,576);
- a positive contribution by immigrants where immigrant arrivals of 1,674 were partially offset by emigrant departures of 1,328; and
- a negative contribution of migration within Canada where non-metro CDs lost 2,807 migrants to other provinces but gained 2,474 migrants from other CDs in Ontario.

Natural balance has been negative since 2003 when the number of deaths became greater than the number of births (Figure 1 and Table 2, line 11). In 2014, natural balance reduced the population of non-metro CDs by 0.1% (Table 2, line 15). However, not all non-metro CDs have a negative natural balance. Since 1996, between 26% and 74% of non-metro CDs have had a positive natural balance (Figure 2 and Table 2, line 23).

A much higher share of partially-non-metro and metro CDs have had a positive natural balance (Table 2, lines 21 and 22) due to their age structure (i.e. a higher proportion of women in child-bearing years and a lower share of the older population).

Table 1

Components of population change in non-metro census divisions, 2013 to 2014	
Natural Balance	-1,760
.. Births	19,576
.. Deaths	21,336
Net immigration	346
.. Immigrant arrivals	1,674
.. Emigrant departures	1,328
Internal migration	-333
.. Net inter-provincial	-2,807
.. Net intra-provincial	2,474

Source: Statistics Canada. Annual Demographic Statistics, CANSIM Table 051-0063.

Immigrant arrivals have contributed about 0.1% to the annual population change of non-metro CDs from 1996 to 2014¹ – considerably below the 1.2% contribution in metro CDs. However, emigrant departures have lowered the contribution of immigrants in non-metro CDs over this period.

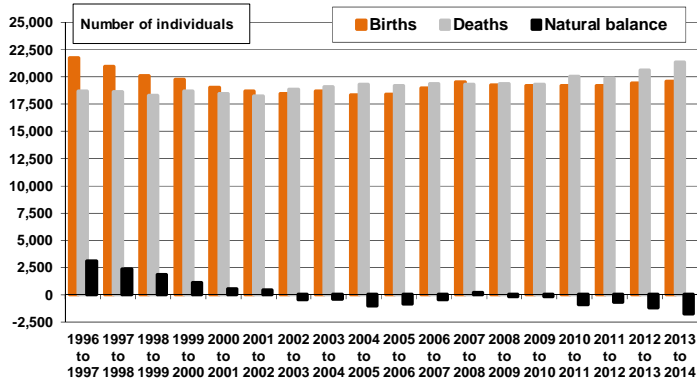
¹ For data and additional discussion, see the [Focus on Rural Ontario](#) "Immigrant arrivals in 2014".

Non-metro CDs have lost population due to migration within Canada since 2007². Non-metro CDs have typically gained migrants, on a net basis, from other CDs in Ontario. However, non-metro CDs have been losing more migrants to other provinces than they have attracted from other provinces since 2004.

Importantly, as shown in the companion issues of [Focus on Rural Ontario](#), a significant share of Ontario non-metro CDs are attracting immigrants from other countries and are attracting migrants from other CDs.

Figure 1

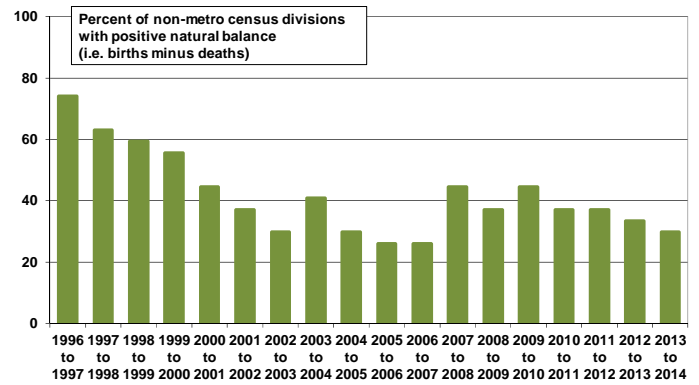
In non-metro Ontario, there have been fewer births than deaths (negative natural balance) since 2009



Source: Statistics Canada. Annual Demographic Statistics. CANSIM Table 051-0063.

Figure 2

In 2014, 30% of non-metro census divisions had positive natural balance (births minus deaths)



Source: Statistics Canada. Annual Demographic Statistics. CANSIM Table 051-0063.

Summary

Natural balance (i.e. births minus deaths) is having a negative impact on population change in non-metro CDs.

The population of non-metro CDs shows net gains with respect to migration within the province (i.e. in-migration from metro or partially non-metro CDs), but this is offset by higher levels of out-migration to other parts of Canada. The population of non-metro CDs is only slightly boosted by net international immigration.

Table 2

Contribution of natural balance (births minus deaths) to population change in Ontario, 1996 to 2014

Type of census division (CD)	1996 to 1997	1997 to 1998	1998 to 1999	1999 to 2000	2000 to 2001	2001 to 2002	2002 to 2003	2003 to 2004	2004 to 2005	2005 to 2006	2006 to 2007	2007 to 2008	2008 to 2009	2009 to 2010	2010 to 2011	2011 to 2012	2012 to 2013	2013 to 2014
Number of births, June 30 to July 1																		
1 Metro CDs	74,976	73,763	72,501	73,403	72,126	73,742	74,352	76,693	77,192	77,714	79,298	81,756	81,865	81,564	81,516	81,644	82,549	83,271
2 Partially-non-metro CDs	39,613	38,542	38,187	37,940	36,579	36,531	36,460	37,485	37,266	37,671	38,733	39,258	39,244	39,027	38,768	38,830	39,263	39,601
3 Non-metro CDs	21,746	20,935	20,101	19,740	19,036	18,673	18,444	18,695	18,337	18,390	18,949	19,533	19,217	19,180	19,164	19,199	19,412	19,576
4 All CDs	136,335	133,240	130,789	131,083	127,741	128,946	129,256	132,873	132,795	133,775	136,980	140,547	140,326	139,771	139,448	139,673	141,224	142,448
Number of deaths, June 30 to July 1																		
5 Metro CDs	37,041	36,912	36,894	37,090	37,294	37,433	38,722	38,836	39,407	38,438	39,938	40,529	40,893	40,556	41,973	41,518	43,119	44,757
6 Partially-non-metro CDs	24,708	24,623	25,089	25,391	25,349	25,316	25,838	26,258	26,559	26,122	27,516	27,660	28,091	27,745	28,823	28,608	29,680	30,772
7 Non-metro CDs	18,675	18,611	18,282	18,664	18,475	18,239	18,850	19,060	19,316	19,192	19,357	19,313	19,375	19,301	20,061	19,857	20,591	21,336
8 All CDs	80,424	80,146	80,265	81,145	81,118	80,988	83,410	84,154	85,282	83,752	86,811	87,502	88,359	87,602	90,857	89,983	93,390	96,865
Natural balance (births minus deaths), June 30 to July 1																		
9 Metro CDs	37,935	36,851	35,607	36,313	34,832	36,309	35,630	37,857	37,785	39,276	39,360	41,227	40,972	41,008	39,543	40,126	39,430	38,514
10 Partially-non-metro CDs	14,905	13,919	13,098	12,549	11,230	11,215	10,622	11,227	10,707	11,549	11,217	11,598	11,153	11,282	9,945	10,222	9,583	8,829
11 Non-metro CDs	3,071	2,324	1,819	1,076	561	434	-406	-365	-979	-802	-408	220	-158	-121	-897	-658	-1,179	-1,760
12 All CDs	55,911	53,094	50,524	49,938	46,623	47,958	45,846	48,719	47,513	50,023	50,169	53,045	51,967	52,169	48,591	49,690	47,834	45,583
Natural balance as percent of population																		
13 Metro CDs	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.5	0.6	0.5	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5
14 Partially-non-metro CDs	0.5	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.2	0.2
15 Non-metro CDs	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	-0.1	-0.1
16 All CDs	0.5	0.5	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.3
Number of CDs with positive natural balance																		
17 Metro CDs	8	8	8	8	8	8	7	7	7	7	8	8	8	8	7	7	7	7
18 Partially-non-metro CDs	13	13	12	12	12	12	13	12	10	11	11	10	11	11	10	10	10	10
19 Non-metro CDs	20	17	16	15	12	10	8	11	8	7	7	12	10	12	10	9	8	8
20 All CDs	41	38	36	35	32	30	28	30	25	25	26	30	29	31	27	27	26	25
Percent of CDs with positive natural balance																		
21 Metro CDs	100	100	100	100	100	100	88	88	88	88	100	100	100	100	88	88	88	88
22 Partially-non-metro CDs	93	93	86	86	86	86	93	86	71	79	79	71	79	79	71	71	71	71
23 Non-metro CDs	74	63	59	56	44	37	30	41	30	26	26	44	37	44	37	37	33	30
24 All CDs	84	78	73	71	65	61	57	61	51	51	53	61	59	63	55	55	53	51

Source: Statistics Canada. Annual Demographic Statistics. CANSIM Table 051-0063.

² For data and additional discussion, see the [Focus on Rural Ontario](#) "Migration to and from non-metro, 2014."

Rural Ontario Institute gratefully acknowledges the work of Ray Bollman in preparing this edition of [Focus on Rural Ontario](#). Questions on data sources can be directed to RayD.Bollman@sasktel.net. Any comments or discussions can be directed to NRagette@RuralOntarioInstitute.ca.