

Markham Demographics 2011

Understanding the Quick Facts

WHAT YOU SHOULD KNOW ABOUT THE DATA

- Numbers and percentages may not add up to the totals due to rounding.
- All data used in the Quick Facts comes from the 2011 Census and the 2011 National Household Survey. For further information about the two surveys, please see below:
 - Census Profile. 2011 Census. Statistics Canada <http://www12.statcan.gc.ca/census-recensement/2011/dp-pd/prof/index.cfm?Lang=E>
 - National Household Survey (NHS) Profile <http://www12.statcan.gc.ca/nhs-enm/2011/dp-pd/prof/index.cfm?Lang=E>
 - The [National Household Survey Dictionary](#), Catalogue no. 99-000-X. For detailed explanations on concepts and for information on data quality, please refer to the reference guides found on the NHS website.

DEFINITIONS

Q: What is the Census? The Census is a regularly occurring and official count of a particular population at a specific moment in time. In Canada the Census is taken every 5 years. The methodology of the Census of Population underwent major changes in 2011. While the instruments used in previous censuses consisted of a short questionnaire, to be completed by 80% of Canadian households, and a long questionnaire, to be completed by the remaining 20%, the 2011 Census had a single ten-item questionnaire to be completed by all households. The 2011 Census data topics include: population and dwelling counts, age and sex, families, households and marital status, structural type of dwelling and language.

Q: What is the National Household Survey Profile? The National Household Survey (NHS) Profile provides information collected from the 2011 National Household Survey and the 2011 Census. The National Household Survey (May 2011) was a voluntary survey in which approximately 4.5 million households received a questionnaire. The survey provides social and economic information, covering such topics as: immigration, citizenship, place of birth, ethnic origin, visible minorities, religion, Aboriginal peoples, labour, education, place of work, commuting to work, mobility and migration, language of work, income, earnings, housing and shelter costs.

Because the methodology of the 2011 Census has changed, the results of the 2011 Census and 2011 National Household Survey may not be directly comparable with previous Census data.

Q: What is a visible minority? [Visible minority](#) refers to whether a person belongs to a visible minority group as defined by the *Employment Equity Act* and, if so, the visible minority group to which the person belongs. The *Employment Equity Act* defines visible minorities as persons, other than Aboriginal peoples, who are non-Caucasian in race or non-white in colour.

Q: What is an immigrant? An immigrant refers to a person who is, or has ever been, a landed immigrant/permanent resident. This person has been granted the right to live in Canada permanently by immigration authorities. Some immigrants have resided in Canada for a number of years, while others have arrived recently. Some immigrants are Canadian citizens, while others are not. Most immigrants are born outside Canada, but a small number are born in Canada. In the 2011 National Household Survey, 'Immigrants' includes immigrants who landed in Canada prior to May 10, 2011.

A [non-immigrant](#) refers to a person who is a Canadian citizen by birth.

A [non-permanent resident](#) refers to a person from another country who has a work or study permit, or who is a refugee claimant, and any non-Canadian-born family member living in Canada with them.

Q: What is ethnic origin? [Ethnic origin](#) refers to the ethnic or cultural origins of the respondent's ancestors. The sum of the responses for each ethnic group in the Quick Facts is greater than the total population because a person is allowed to report more than one ethnic origin.

Q: What is the difference between median and average household income? The median income of a specified group of households is that amount which divides their income size distribution, ranked by size of income, into two halves. That is, the incomes of the first half of the households are below the median, while those of the second half are above the median.

The average income of households refers to the weighted mean total income of households in 2010.