



Victoria's Population

This information compares Victoria's population and growth with other municipalities in the region as well as provides a regional context of the city population within the Capital Region. It also examines the distribution of population and population growth by City planning area, and by age and gender.

From the 2006 Census information, Statistics Canada provides us with valuable information to better understand our community. Objective statistical information provides a solid foundation for informed decisions by elected representatives, businesses, unions and non-profit organizations, as well as individual residents.

Victoria's Population in Regional Context

As of the 2006 census, the city's population was estimated to be 78,057. The table below presents the city's population in comparison to the regional population for the past four census periods.

Year	Victoria	CRD	% city/region
2006	78,057	345,164	22.60%
2001	74,125	325,755	22.75%
1996	73,505	304,287	24.16%
1991	71,225	299,133	23.81%

SOURCE: CAPITAL REGIONAL DISTRICT

	CRD	Victoria
Population, 2001	325,754	74,125
Population, 2006	345,164	78,057
Population change, 2001 to 2006	6%	5.3%

SOURCE: CAPITAL REGIONAL DISTRICT

- The percentage of city population to regional population appears to be dropping after having peaked in 1996. This may be accounted for by the rapid growth experienced in the West Shore communities over the past five years due to slightly lower housing prices and availability of housing.

The table below shows the city's population growth in comparison to the other core municipalities and the three high growth municipalities in the West Shore.

2006 Census Results	Census Population			5 Year Growth Rate (%)	
	1996	2001	2006	1996-2001	2001-2006
Victoria	73,504	74,125	78,057	0.80%	5.30%
Esquimalt	16,151	16,127	16,840	-0.10%	4.40%
Oak Bay	17,865	17,798	17,908	-0.40%	0.60%
Saanich	101,388	103,654	108,265	2.20%	4.40%
View Royal	6,441	7,271	8,768	12.90%	20.60%
Highlands	1,423	1,674	1,903	17.60%	13.70%
Langford	17,515	18,840	22,459	7.60%	19.20%

SOURCE: CAPITAL REGIONAL DISTRICT

- Victoria is the second largest municipality (by population) in the region, after Saanich
- Victoria's population represents 22.6% of the regional total and occupies 19.68 sq km, or 2.8% of the regional land base.

- The city's growth rate (5.3%) is slightly lower rate than the region (6%);

Municipal Growth

The City has been averaging approximately 785 new residents per year between 2001 and 2006, up considerably from the previous five years of an average 256 new residents per year.

The chart below shows the population for each neighbourhood.

Neighbourhood	2006	2001	Difference	% change	1991	Difference	% change 1991–2006
Burnside Gorge	5,210	4,950	260	5%	4,435	775	17%
Downtown	1,485	1,270	215	17%	970	515	53%
Fairfield	11,060	11,030	30	0%	11,260	-200	-2%
Fernwood	9,575	9,205	370	4%	9,410	165	2%
Gonzales	3,835	3,770	65	2%	3,895	-60	-2%
Harris Green	1,680	1,575	105	7%	1,045	635	61%
Hillside Quadra	7,280	7,180	100	1%	6,760	520	8%
James Bay	10,760	10,545	215	2%	11,120	-360	-3%
North Jubilee	2,975	3,125	-150	-5%	2,805	170	6%
North Park	3,395	3,070	325	11%	2,780	615	22%
Oaklands	6,365	6,550	-185	-3%	6,050	315	5%
Rockland	3,540	3,575	-35	-1%	3,630	-90	-2%
South Jubilee	2,240	2,105	135	6%	2,095	145	7%
Victoria West	5,985	5,575	410	7%	4,975	1,010	20%
TOTAL City of Victoria	75,390*	74,125	1,265	2%	71,225	4,165	6%

SOURCE: STATISTICS CANADA 2006 CENSUS, 20% DATA
*EXCLUDES INSTITUTIONALIZED POPULATION

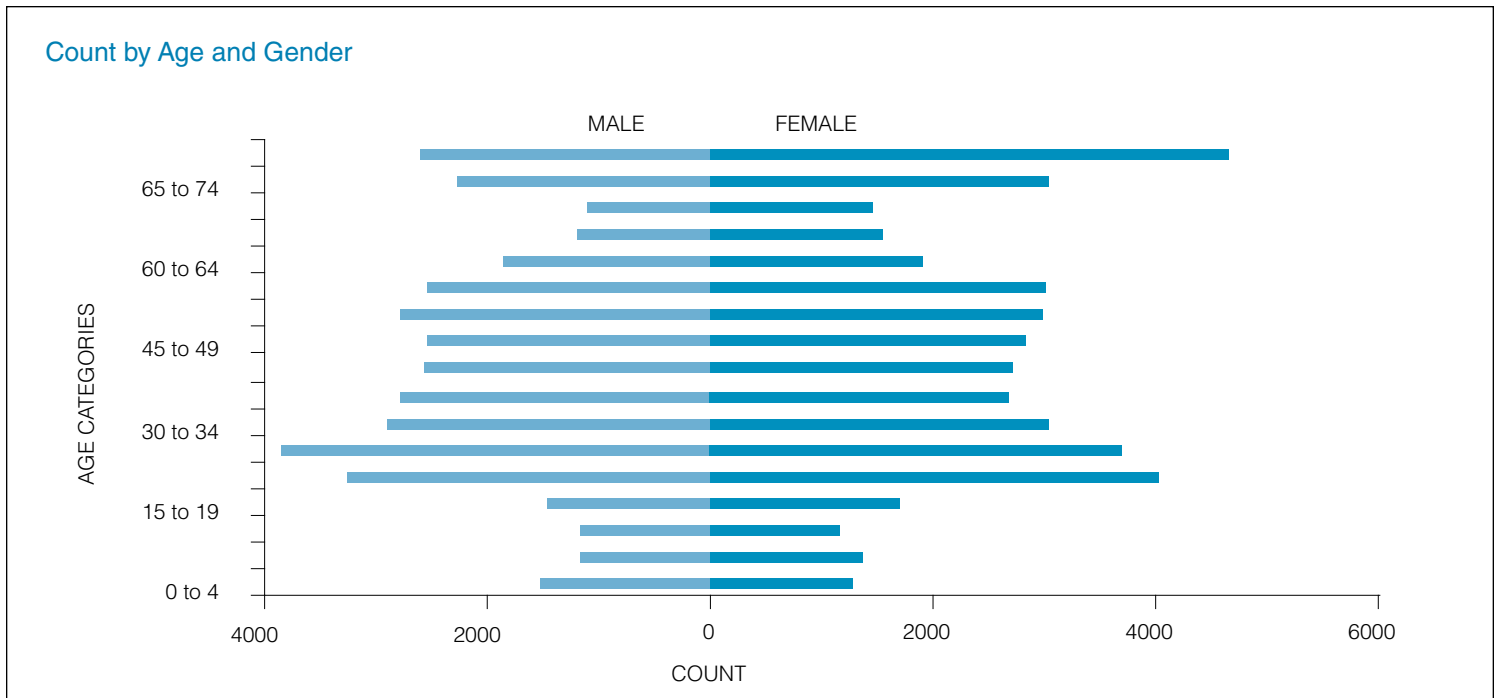
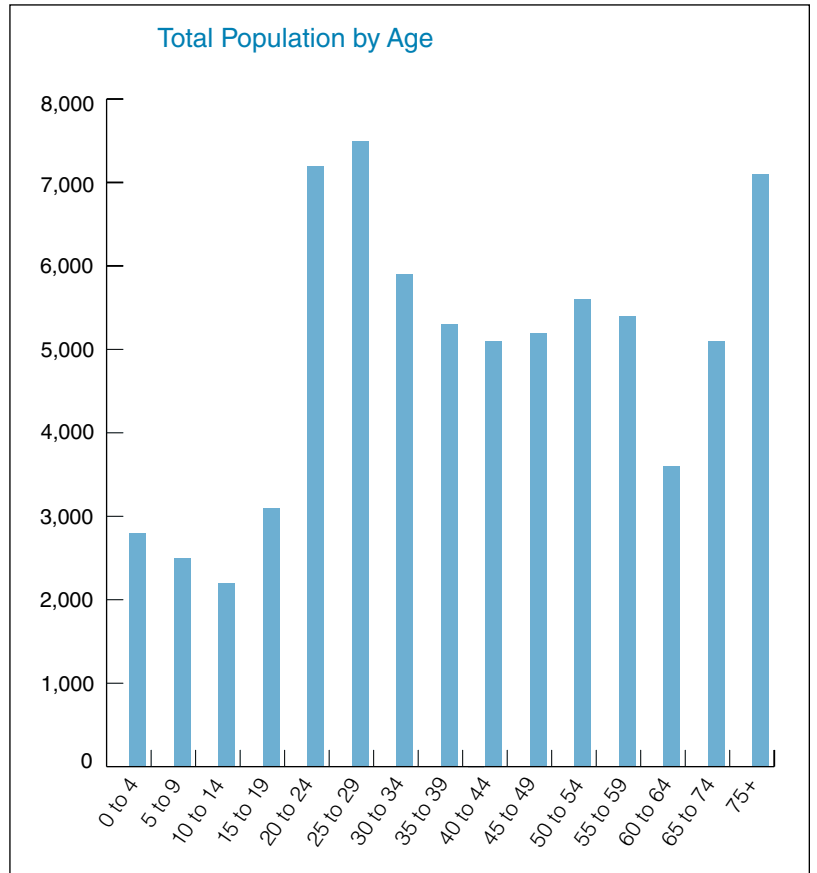
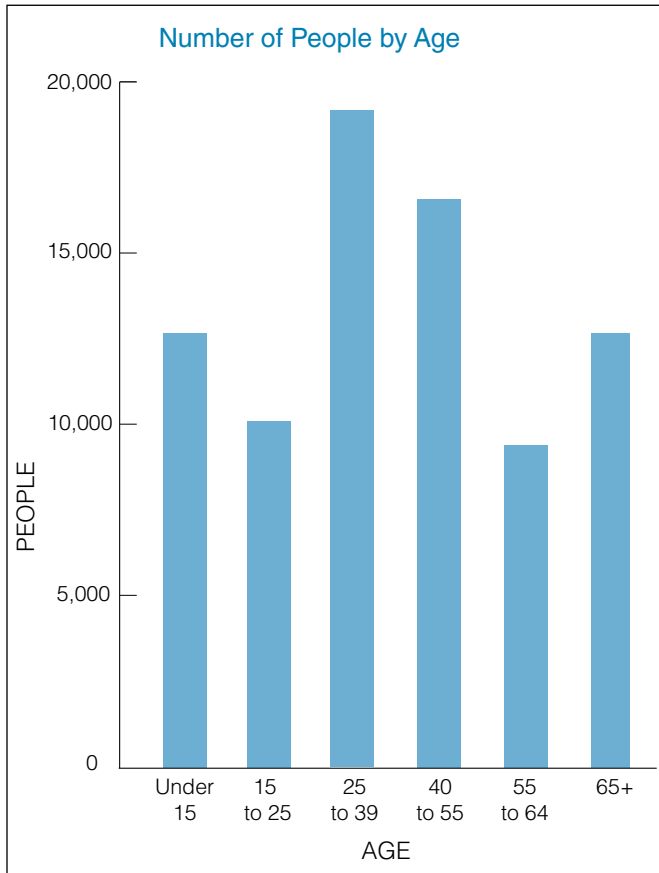
Growth Areas

- The Downtown neighbourhood experienced the most growth (17%) although Victoria West absorbed more new growth (actual numbers of people)
- Fairfield experienced no growth during the same time period
- Rockland, North Jubilee and Oakland all experienced negative growth

Population by Age and Gender

The City of Victoria's population age and gender distribution is measured every five years by the census. The following charts illustrate the age and gender distribution from the census for Victoria for 2006.

- 17% of our population is age 15 and under;
- 17% of the population is age 65 and over;
- The largest segment of our population is between the ages of 25 and 39 years
- The median age is 41.6 which is up from 40.3 in 2001.



ALL GRAPHS (THIS PAGE) SOURCE: STATISTICS CANADA 2006 CENSUS, 20% DATA