On September 27, 2017 Statistics Canada published its preliminary provincial population estimates for July 1, 2017, as well as revisions to the 2013 to 2016 population estimates. As of July 1, 2017, Prince Edward Island’s population is estimated to be 152,021. This represents a yearly increase of 2,549 persons or a 1.7 per cent annual growth rate. This was the second highest growth rate in the country, behind only Nunavut at 2.2 per cent.

International immigration increased for the second consecutive year, rising by 12.4 per cent in 2016-17 following a 50.5 per cent increase in 2015-16. From July 2016 to June 2017, 2,264 international immigrants came to the province, as compared to 2,015 the previous year. At a rate of 15.0 per thousand\(^1\), the province had the highest immigration rate in the country, ahead of Saskatchewan at 12.4 per thousand. The immigration rate for Canada was 7.5 per thousand. In addition, other international migration components resulted in a net increase of 645 persons. This results in a total increase of 2,909 due to international migration, which is a new all time high for Prince Edward Island.

A total of 3,268 inter-provincial migrants came to PEI in 2016-17, while 3,704 people left the province for other areas of Canada for a net interprovincial loss of 436 persons. There were 1,448 births and 1,372 deaths on Prince Edward Island from July 1, 2016 to June 30, 2017, resulting in natural growth (births minus deaths) of 76.

The population for Canada as of July 1, 2017 is estimated to be 36,708,083, an increase of 443,479 persons or 1.2 per cent over July 1, 2016.

Source: Statistics Canada, Demography Division; Annual Population Estimates 2017, Canada, Provinces and Territories, CANSIM Tables 051-0001, 051-0004, 051-0012; September 27, 2017

\(^1\) Immigration rates are calculated by the PEI Statistics Bureau based on Statistics Canada population estimates.