In 2016, the Black population reached close to 1.2 million, representing 3.5% of the total Canadian population.

Canada’s Black population doubled in size between 1996 and 2016.

In 2016, 26.6% of the Black population was less than 15 years of age, compared to 16.9% of the total Canadian population.

Similar to the total Canadian population, there were slightly more Black women (51.6%) than Black men.

Ontario was home to more than half (52.4%) of the Black population in Canada.

More than 4 in 10 Black people were born in Canada:

- **First Generation**: Persons who were born outside Canada (56.4%)
- **Second Generation**: Persons who were born in Canada and had at least one parent born outside Canada (35.0%)
- **Third Generation or More**: Persons who were born in Canada with both parents born in Canada (8.6%)

In Nova Scotia, 71.8% of the Black population was third generation or more.

The source regions of Black immigrants changed over time:

- **Before 1981**: 11.3% Caribbean and Bermuda, 63.0% Rest of the Americas
- **1981 to 1990**: 27.3% Caribbean and Bermuda, 64.0% Rest of the Americas
- **1991 to 2000**: 27.7% Caribbean and Bermuda, 46.6% Rest of the Americas
- **2001 to 2010**: 46.6% Caribbean and Bermuda, 29.0% Rest of the Americas
- **2011 to 2016**: 62.7% Caribbean and Bermuda, 27.3% Rest of the Americas


The majority of Black immigrants who came to Canada before 1981 were born in Jamaica and Haiti.
