



FORT MACLEOD

Community Overview

Table of Contents

Median Age	4
Immigrant Status	5
Total Population	6
Median Dwelling Value	7
Household Type	8
Dwelling Structure Type	9
Housing Tenure	10
Household Total Income Groups	11
Average Shelter Costs	12
Population in Private Households	13
Employment Rate	14
Household Size	15
Highest Education Level	16
Population Density	17
Mother Tongue	18
Visible Minority	19
Age Groups	20
Family Type	21
Ethnic Origin	22
Employment by Sector	23
Employed Residents by Occupation	24

Executive Summary

Fort Macleod is a small Alberta town that has shifted from a period of uneven growth into a more clearly expansionary phase. After dipping in the mid-2010s, its population has risen steadily in recent years, reaching 3,945 in 2025, with population in private households and population density also rebounding by 2021. The town's age profile has remained relatively stable across the last three censuses, with the median age staying in the low 40s and easing slightly in 2021 after an earlier rise. That leaves Fort Macleod with a population that appears broadly balanced but still tilted toward older adults, with later working-age and early retirement cohorts especially prominent.

That recent growth has not fundamentally altered the town's underlying social and housing structure. Private households are still concentrated in one- and two-person arrangements, and family patterns remain centered on couples, though one-parent families have grown while couples with children have declined. The housing stock is dominated by single-detached homes and ownership remains the prevailing tenure, with renting still a much smaller part of the market. At the same time, there are signs of gradual change within that familiar pattern: apartments in low-rise buildings increased from a small base, renters grew slightly faster than owners, and both dwelling values and monthly shelter costs moved higher between 2016 and 2021. Household incomes were spread across a wide range, but the largest concentrations sat in the middle and upper-middle brackets rather than at either end.

The town also shows a clear continuity in who lives and works there. Non-immigrants make up the large majority of residents, while immigrant and non-permanent resident populations remain comparatively small despite modest growth. English overwhelmingly dominates as a mother tongue, with a smaller mix of other languages and visible minority populations concentrated in only a few groups. Employment presents a more mixed picture than population growth does: the employment rate softened between 2016 and 2021, yet the local job base remained anchored by educational services, with health care and several service and trade-related occupations also playing important roles. The result is a community that is growing and becoming somewhat denser, while retaining a largely established demographic, housing, and employment profile.

Median Age

Fort Macleod’s median age was 42.4 years in 2021, down 6.19% from 2016. It had risen from 43.5 years in 2011 to 45.2 years in 2016 before declining.

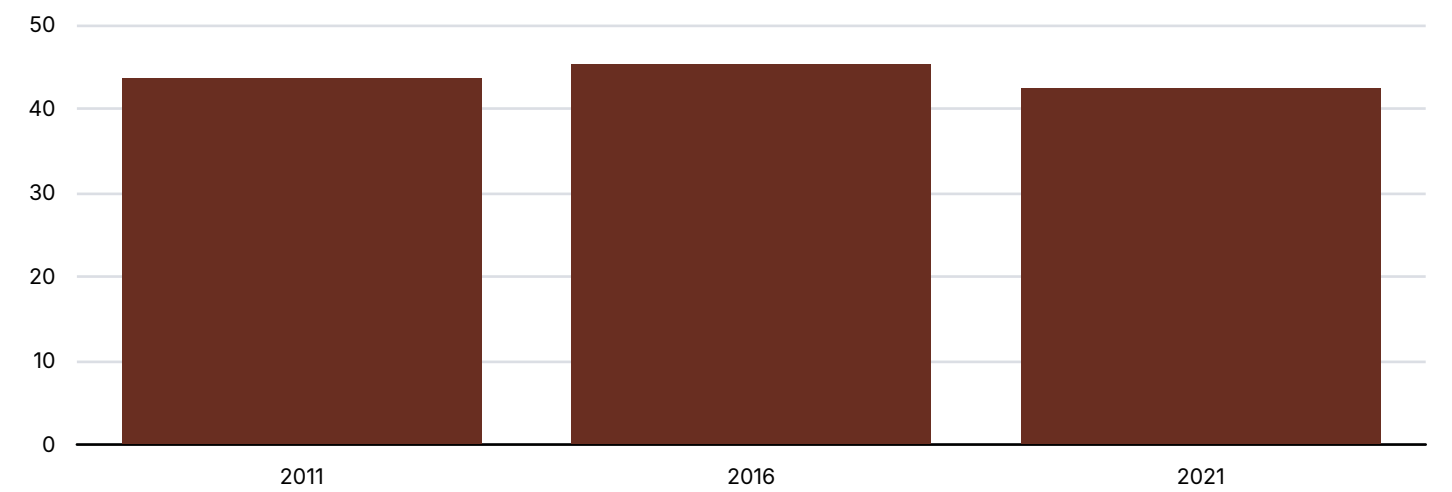
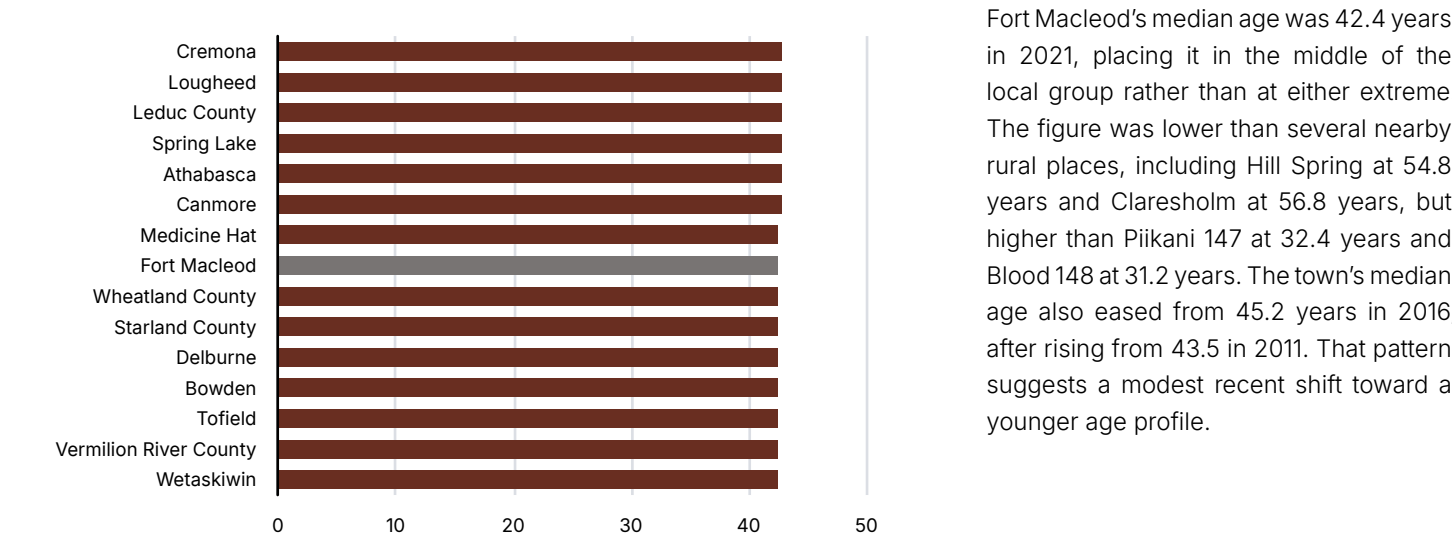


Figure 1.1: Shows the median age of residents. It helps indicate whether the population skews younger or older at the midpoint of the age distribution. (Fort Macleod, 2011-2021)¹

Fort Macleod’s median age has shifted only modestly over the past three censuses, staying in the low 40s. The pattern points to a fairly stable age profile rather than a sharp change in population structure. The median age was 43.5 years in 2011, rose to 45.2 years in 2016, then eased to 42.4 years in 2021. That left it 1.1 years below the 2011 level. The 2016 reading marked the high point in the series, before the most recent census showed a younger midpoint. The 2021 figure suggests a partial reversal of the earlier aging trend. Taken together, the data show limited movement over time, with recent rejuvenation offsetting earlier aging.



Fort Macleod’s median age was 42.4 years in 2021, placing it in the middle of the local group rather than at either extreme. The figure was lower than several nearby rural places, including Hill Spring at 54.8 years and Claresholm at 56.8 years, but higher than Piikani 147 at 32.4 years and Blood 148 at 31.2 years. The town’s median age also eased from 45.2 years in 2016, after rising from 43.5 in 2011. That pattern suggests a modest recent shift toward a younger age profile.

Figure 1.2: Comparison of Median Age with other locations (Fort Macleod, 2021)¹

Immigrant Status

Fort Macleod’s largest group was non-immigrants at 2,785 people in 2021, up 10.7% from 2016. Immigrants numbered 360, and non-permanent residents rose to 40, the fastest five-year increase at 14.3%.

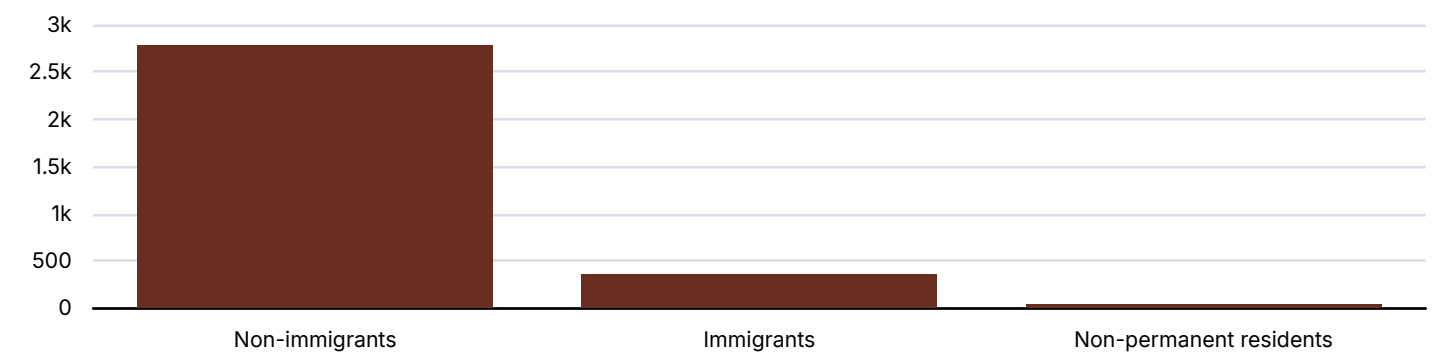


Figure 2.1: Shows whether residents are immigrants, non-permanent residents, or non-immigrants. It helps indicate the role of immigration in community growth and composition. (Fort Macleod, 2021)¹

In Fort Macleod in 2021, immigrant status was dominated by non-immigrants, who numbered 2,785 people and increased 10.7% over five years. Immigrants accounted for 360 people and rose 9.1%, while non-permanent residents were a small group at 40 people, though they posted the fastest growth at 14.3%. The pattern suggests a community shaped mainly by long-term residents, with immigration contributing a smaller but growing share of the population in private households.

Fort Macleod’s population in private households was made up mostly of non-immigrants in 2021, with 2,785 people, compared with 360 immigrants and 40 non-permanent residents. That mix shows a community where immigrant and temporary-resident populations are present but much smaller than the long-established population. The 5-year changes were positive for all three groups: non-immigrants rose 10.7%, immigrants 9.1%, and non-permanent residents 14.3%. The pattern points to modest growth across the whole resident base, with the strongest percentage increase among non-permanent residents from a small starting level.



Figure 2.2: Distribution of Largest Group: Immigrant Status - Non-immigrants (Fort Macleod)¹

Total Population

Fort Macleod’s population reached 3,945 in 2025, up 22.0% over five years. Growth accelerated after 2020, rising from 3,233 in 2020 to 3,794 in 2024 before reaching 3,945.

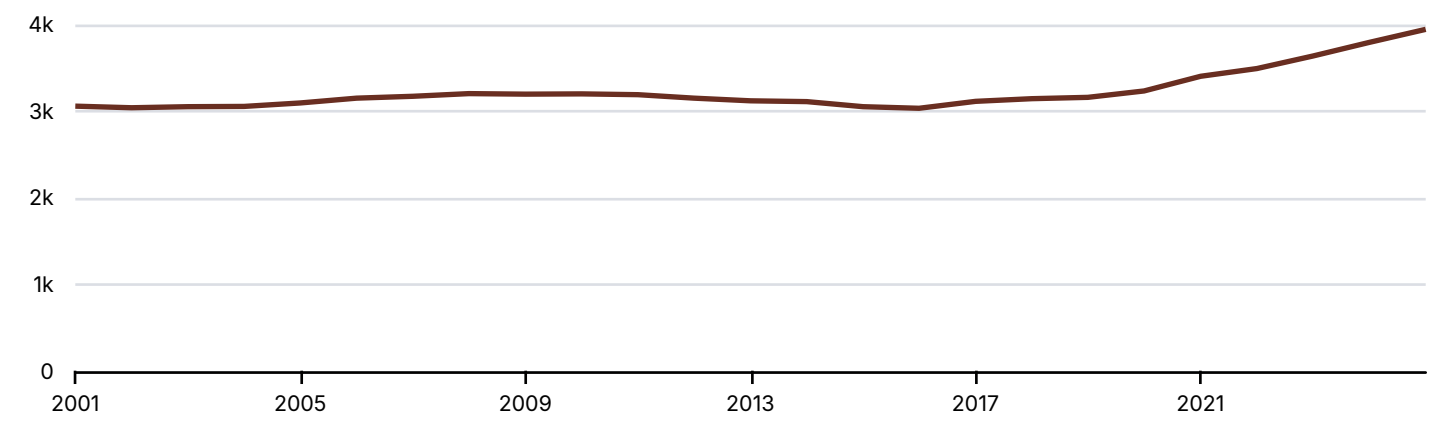


Figure 3.1: Shows the total number of people living in the area. It provides the basic population benchmark used across many other indicators. (Fort Macleod, 2001-2025)²

Fort Macleod’s total population shows a clear upward trend in the most recent years after a period of earlier fluctuation. The town had 3,057 people in 2001, rose to 3,202 in 2008, and then eased back to 3,034 in 2016 before recovering. Growth strengthened after 2020. Population reached 3,233 in 2020, 3,402 in 2021, and 3,945 in 2025. The five-year change supports that shift, moving from -4.9% in 2016 to 22.0% in 2025. The latest figures point to sustained recent expansion rather than a flat pattern.

Fort Macleod’s total population was 3,945 people in 2025, up from 3,057 in 2001. After a mid-period dip to 3,034 in 2016, the town has grown steadily, reaching 3,794 in 2024 and 3,945 in 2025. Its 5-year change of 22.0% points to recent momentum. Compared with nearby places, Fort Macleod sits below Cardston County at 4,938 and Claresholm at 4,242, but above Pincher Creek No. 9 at 3,176 and Nanton at 2,522.

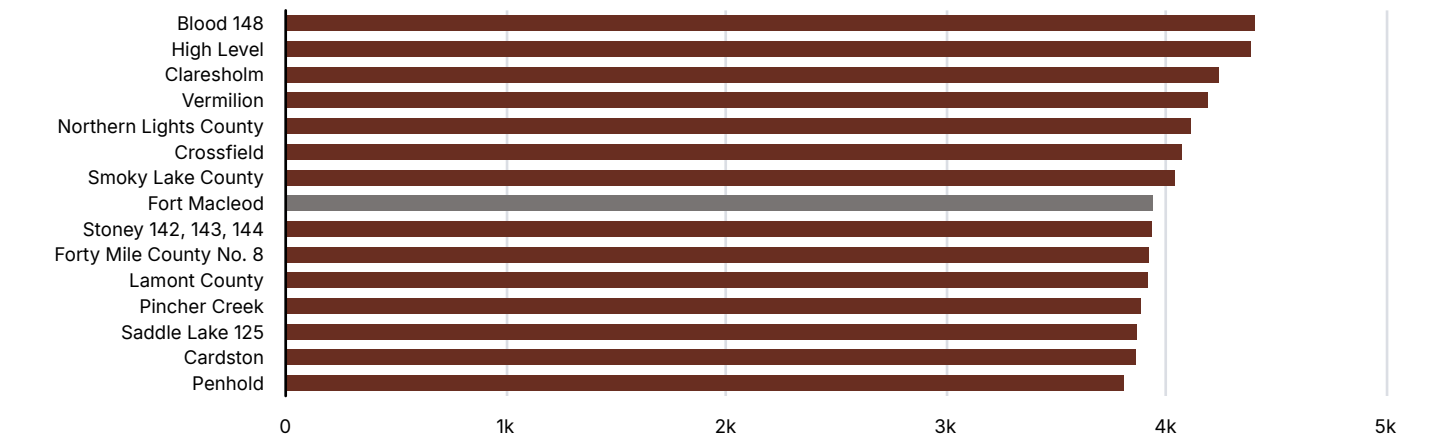


Figure 3.2: Comparison of Total Population with other locations (Fort Macleod, 2025)²

Median Dwelling Value

Fort Macleod’s median dwelling value reached \$240,000 in 2021, up 19.7% from \$200,571 in 2016. The five-year increase added nearly \$39,000 to the local ownership housing market.

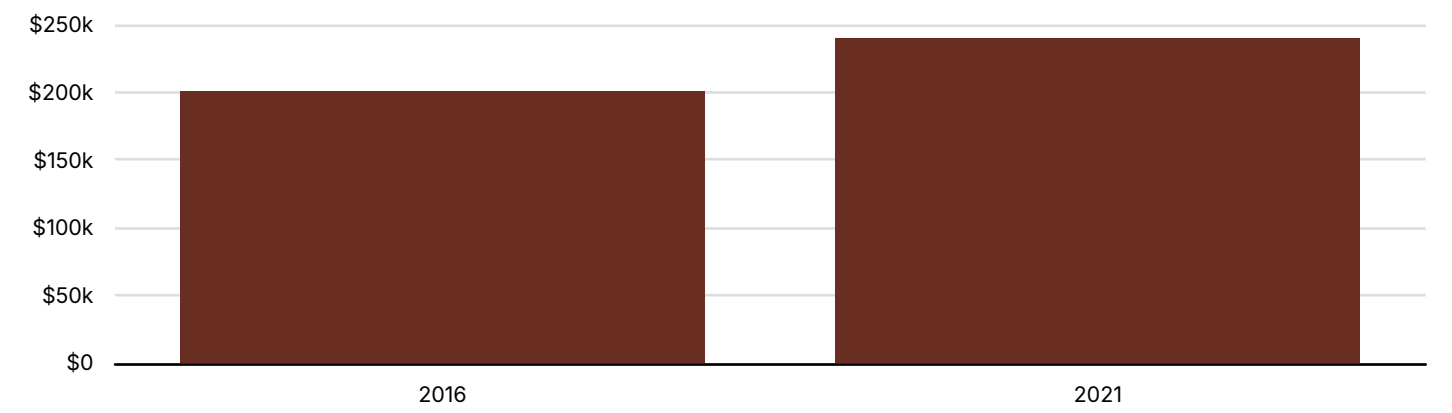


Figure 4.1: Shows the median value of residential dwellings. It helps indicate the typical price point in the local ownership housing market. (Fort Macleod, 2016-2021)¹

Fort Macleod’s median dwelling value rose between the 2016 and 2021 census points, pointing to a higher typical price level in the local ownership housing market. The median value was \$200,571 in 2016 and \$240,000 in 2021, a 19.7% increase over five years. Within the scope of owner households in non-farm, non-reserve private dwellings, the change suggests a clear upward shift rather than stability. The available data shows price growth, but not the reasons behind it.

Fort Macleod’s median dwelling value was \$240,000 in 2021, up from \$200,571 in 2016. That 19.7% five-year increase places it in the middle of the local comparison set, below several nearby municipalities but above others with lower or zero reported values. In 2021, it matched Claresholm and Glenwood at \$250,000 only when rounded loosely, but remained below Nanton, Cardston County and Pincher Creek No. 9.

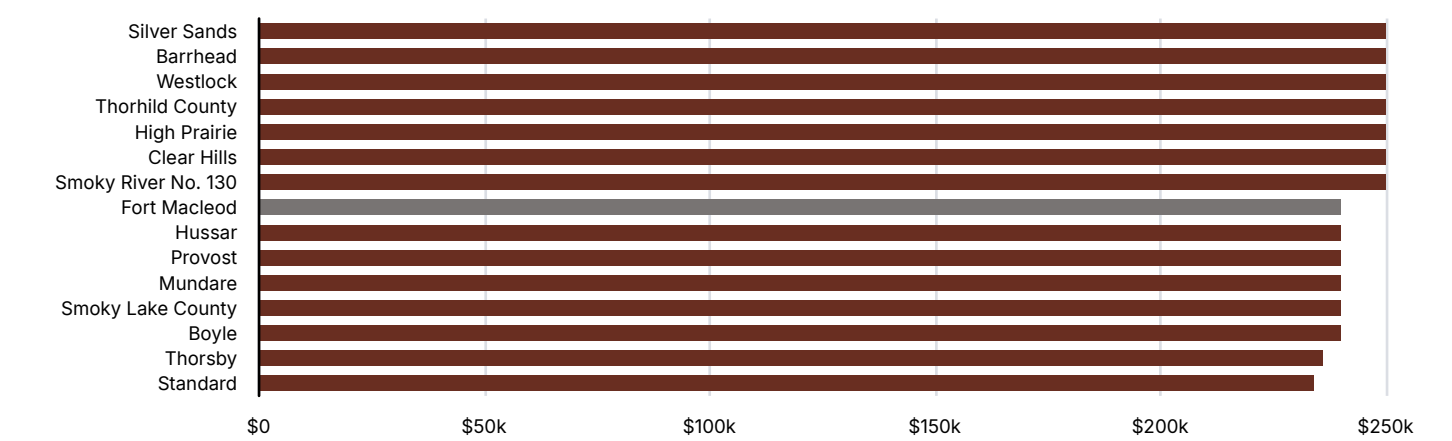


Figure 4.2: Comparison of Median Dwelling Value with other locations (Fort Macleod, 2021)¹

Household Type

One-person households were the largest group in Fort Macleod in 2021 at 415, up 10.7% from 2016. Couple-family households without children followed at 390, while multiple-census-family households fell to 5, down 50.0%.

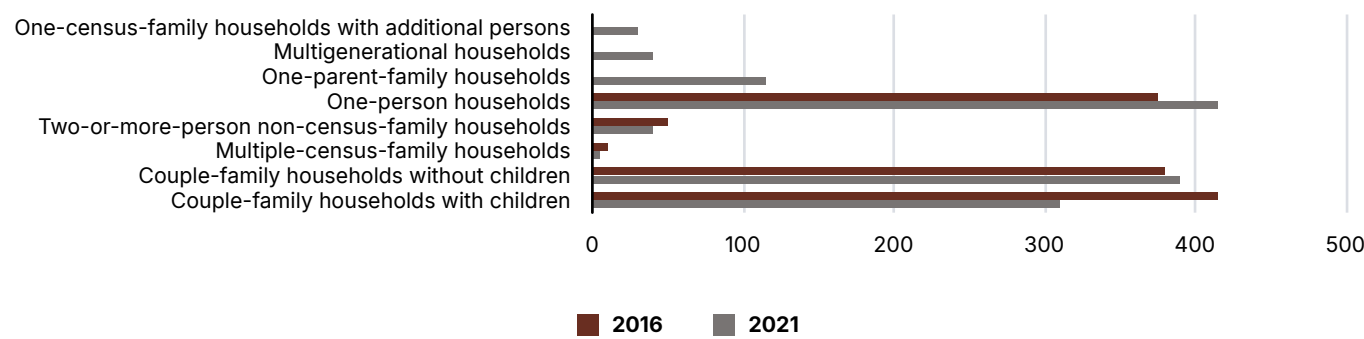


Figure 5.1: Shows the mix of household types, including one-person, family, and non-family households. It helps indicate how residents are organized across living arrangements. (Fort Macleod, 2016-2021)¹

In 2021, Fort Macleod’s private households were led by one-person households, at 415, followed closely by couple-family households without children at 390. Couple-family households with children numbered 310 and fell 25.3% over five years, while one-person households rose 10.7%. Smaller household types remained limited: one-parent-family households totalled 115, multigenerational households 40, and multiple-census-family households just 5, down 50%. Two-or-more-person non-census-family households also declined, to 40, a 20% drop.

Fort Macleod’s private households in 2021 were dominated by one-person and couple-family arrangements, with one-person households the largest group at 415. Couple-family households without children followed at 390, while couple-family households with children stood at 310. One-parent-family households accounted for 115, and the smaller categories ranged from 40 to 5 households. The 5-year changes point to a split pattern: one-person households rose 10.7%, and couple-family households without children edged up 2.6%, while couple-family households with children fell 25.3%. The mix suggests a household profile with substantial single-person living and a smaller share of families with children.



Figure 5.2: Distribution of Largest Group: Household Type - One-person households (Fort Macleod)¹

Dwelling Structure Type

Single-detached houses remained the largest dwelling type in Fort Macleod at 1,035 units in 2021, up 7.8% from 2016. Apartments in buildings with under five storeys rose to 95 units, more than doubling.

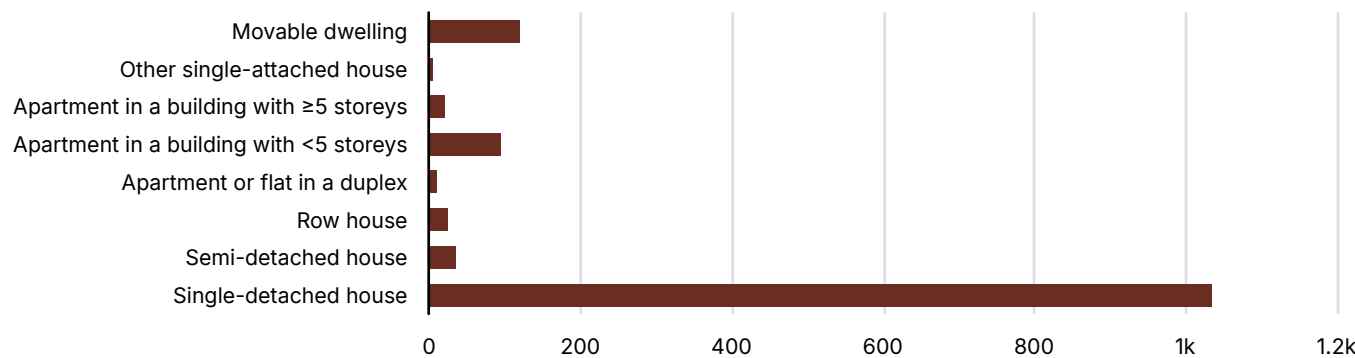


Figure 6.1: Shows the mix of dwelling structure types, such as detached homes, apartments, and other forms. It helps indicate the physical form of the housing stock. (Fort Macleod, 2021)¹

In Fort Macleod, the occupied private dwelling stock in 2021 was dominated by single-detached houses, with 1,035 units, up 7.8% over five years. Movable dwellings were the next largest type at 120, while apartments in buildings with fewer than five storeys reached 95, more than doubling over the period. Row houses fell to 25, and semi-detached homes rose to 35. The mix points to a largely low-density housing pattern with some apartment growth.

Fort Macleod’s occupied private dwellings are dominated by single-detached houses, with 1,035 units in 2021. Movable dwellings are the next largest type at 120, while apartments in buildings with fewer than five storeys account for 95 units. Smaller shares appear in semi-detached homes, row houses, and apartments in duplexes. The pattern points to a housing stock shaped mainly by detached forms, with some newer or more varied apartment presence. Over five years, single-detached homes rose 7.8%, and apartments in smaller buildings grew 111.1%, while row houses declined 16.7%.



Figure 6.2: Distribution of Largest Group: Dwelling Structure Type - Single-detached house (Fort Macleod)¹

Housing Tenure

Owner households remained the largest tenure group in Fort Macleod in 2021 at 1,025, up 6.8% from 2016. Renter households also increased, from 275 to 300, a 9.1% rise.

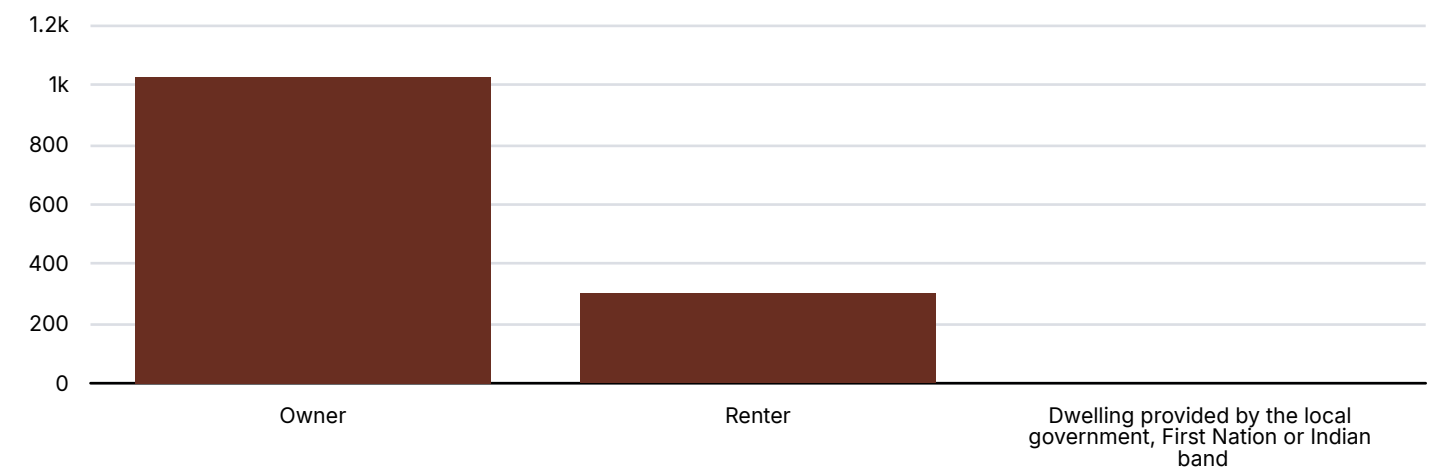


Figure 7.1: Shows whether households own or rent their homes. It helps indicate the balance between ownership and rental housing in the community. (Fort Macleod, 2021)¹

Fort Macleod’s housing tenure profile in 2021 was dominated by ownership, with a smaller rental sector and no recorded households in the category for dwellings provided by the local government, First Nation or Indian band. There were 1,025 owner households, up 6.8% over five years, compared with 300 renter households, up 9.1% over the same period. The rental count remained much smaller than the owner count, but it grew slightly faster over the five-year period. That points to modest change without altering the basic balance between tenure types. For private households, the town’s tenure pattern remained stable in 2021, with ownership clearly outweighing renting.



Fort Macleod’s housing tenure profile in 2021 was strongly owner-occupied. The town counted 1,025 owner households and 300 renter households, with no dwellings provided by the local government, First Nation or Indian band. The pattern is less uniform within the town. Several dissemination areas were owner-heavy, such as 225 owners and 30 renters in one area, while another had 140 owners and 80 renters. Five-year change also varied, with owner households rising in some areas and falling in others, alongside mixed renter trends.

Figure 7.2: Distribution of Largest Group: Housing Tenure - Owner (Fort Macleod)¹

Household Total Income Groups

Fort Macleod’s largest household income group in 2021 was \$60,000 to \$69,999 at 105 households, unchanged from 2016. The fastest-growing group was \$25,000 to \$29,999, rising 88.9% to 85 households.

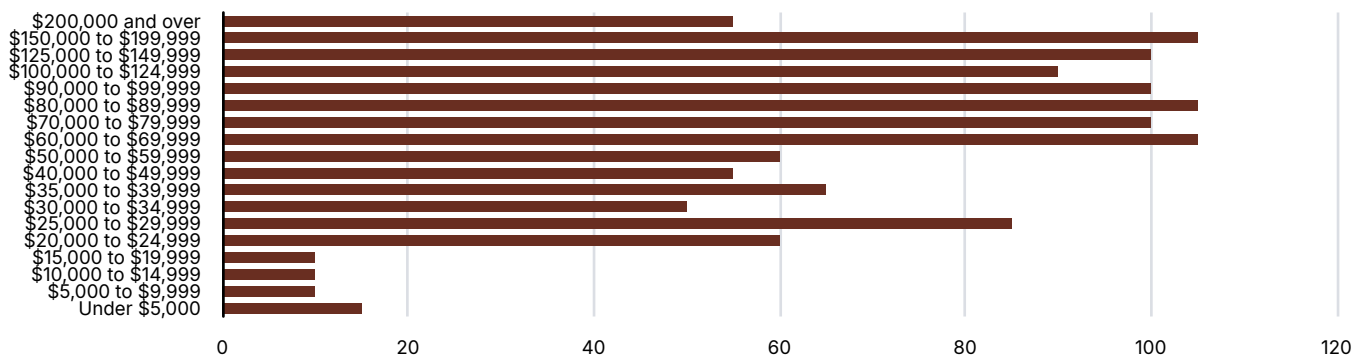


Figure 8.1: Shows households across total income groups. It helps indicate how household incomes are distributed from lower- to higher-income ranges. (Fort Macleod, 2021)¹

In 2021, Fort Macleod’s private households were spread across a wide income range, with the largest counts clustered in the middle brackets. The biggest groups were \$60,000 to \$69,999 and \$80,000 to \$89,999, at 105 households each, followed by \$70,000 to \$79,999 and \$90,000 to \$99,999 at 100 each. Lower-income brackets were much smaller, though some changed sharply over five years. Households under \$5,000 rose to 15, while \$15,000 to \$19,999 fell to 10. At the upper end, \$150,000 to \$199,999 increased to 105 and \$200,000 and over reached 55.

Fort Macleod’s household income profile in 2021 was spread across many brackets, with the largest counts in the middle and upper-middle ranges rather than at the extremes. The biggest groups were \$60,000 to \$69,999 and \$80,000 to \$89,999, each at 105 households, followed by \$70,000 to \$79,999 and \$90,000 to \$99,999 at 100. Higher-income brackets also held notable shares, with 100 households from \$125,000 to \$149,999 and 105 at \$150,000 to \$199,999, while \$200,000 and over reached 55 households.



Figure 8.2: Distribution of Largest Group: Income Group Household - \$80,000 to \$89,999 (Fort Macleod)¹

Average Shelter Costs

Fort Macleod’s owner shelter costs were \$1,074 in 2021, up 12.7% from 2016. Renter costs were nearly the same at \$1,070, rising 11.0% over the same period.

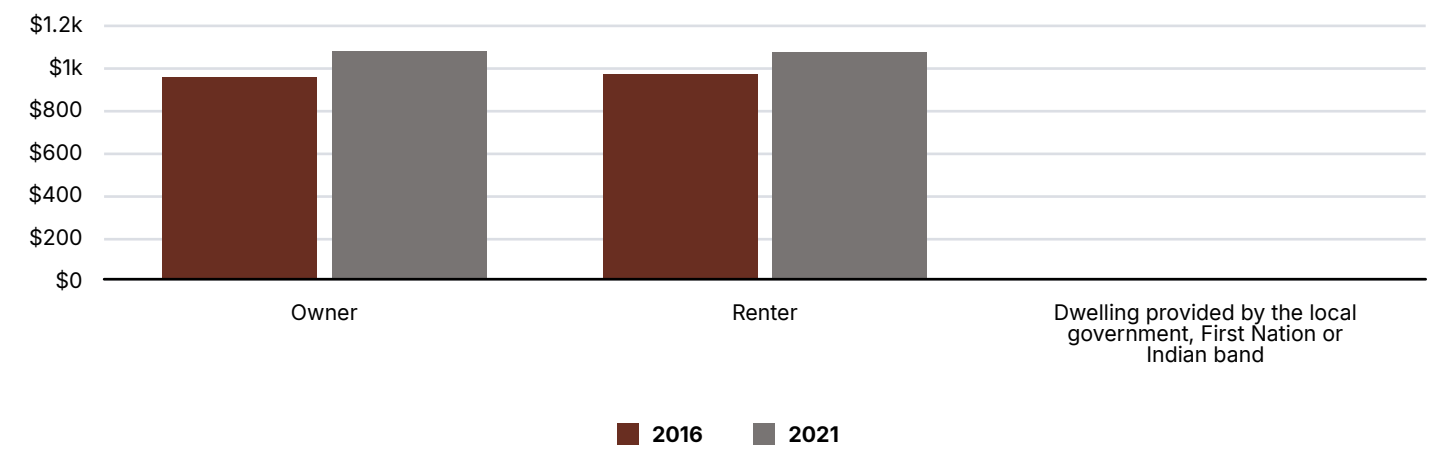


Figure 9.1: Shows the average monthly shelter costs paid by households. It helps indicate typical housing expenses faced by owners and renters. (Fort Macleod, 2016-2021)¹

In 2021, average shelter costs in Fort Macleod were nearly the same for owner and renter households, at \$1,074 and \$1,070 per month. Both figures were up over the previous five years, with owner costs rising 12.7% and renter costs increasing 11.0%. The narrow gap suggests a fairly even cost profile across tenure types, while the similar pace of growth points to steady upward movement in monthly housing expenses for local households.

In 2021, average monthly shelter costs in Fort Macleod were similar for owner and renter households, at \$1,074 and \$1,070 respectively. Both were higher than five years earlier, with owner costs up 12.7% and renter costs up 11.0%. Among the local dissemination areas, values ranged from \$920 to \$1,600 for renters and from \$920 to \$1,230 for owners. The pattern suggests modestly rising housing costs with some local variation. Source: Statistics Canada, Census Profile

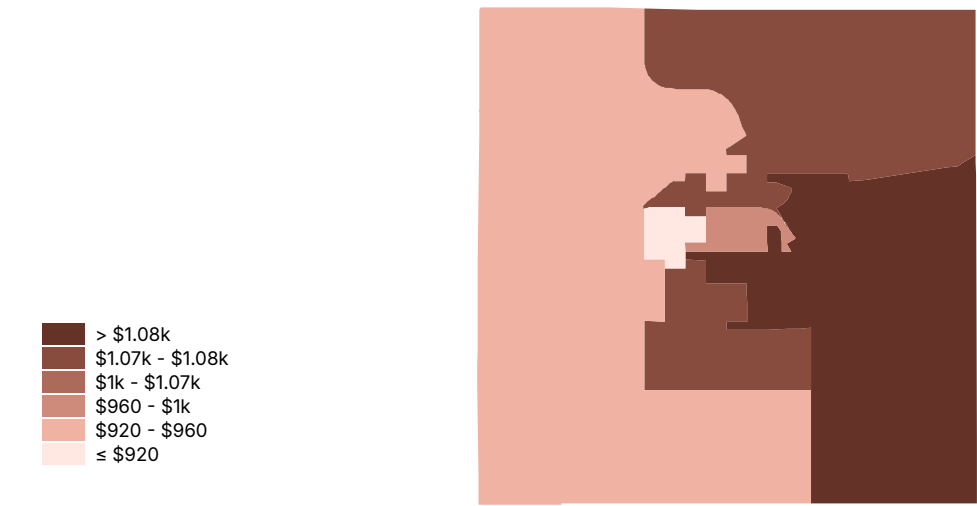


Figure 9.2: Distribution of Largest Group: Housing Tenure - Renter (Fort Macleod)¹

Population in Private Households

Fort Macleod’s population in private households rose to 3,185 in 2021, up 10.8% from 2016 and above 2011’s 3,010. The five-year gain followed a 4.5% decline in the prior period.

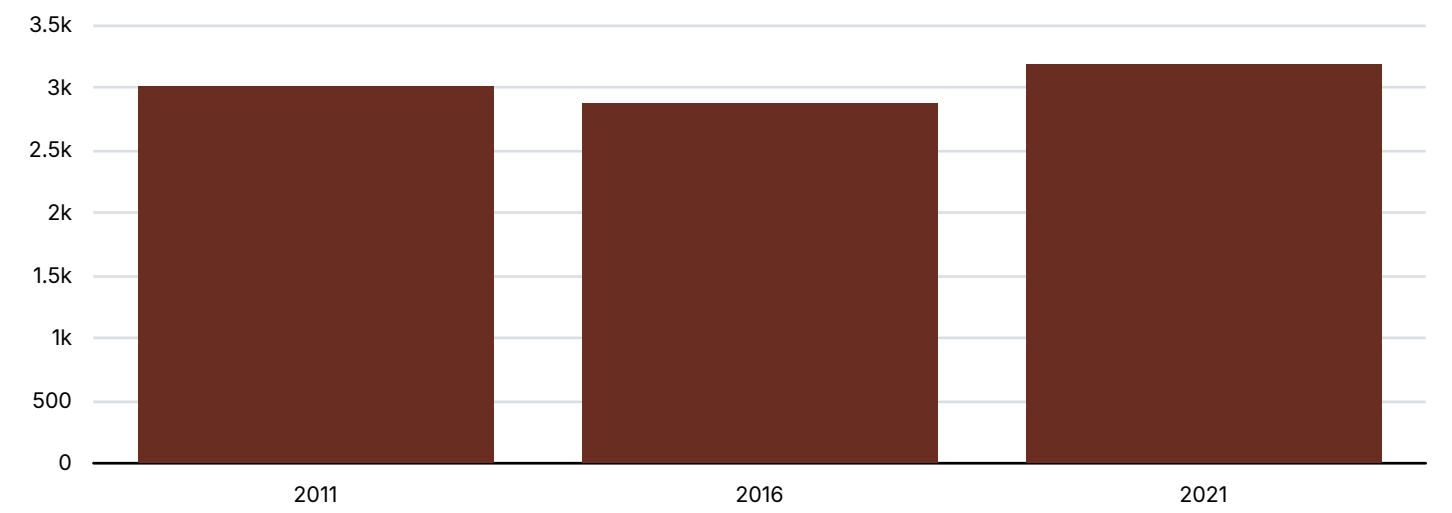
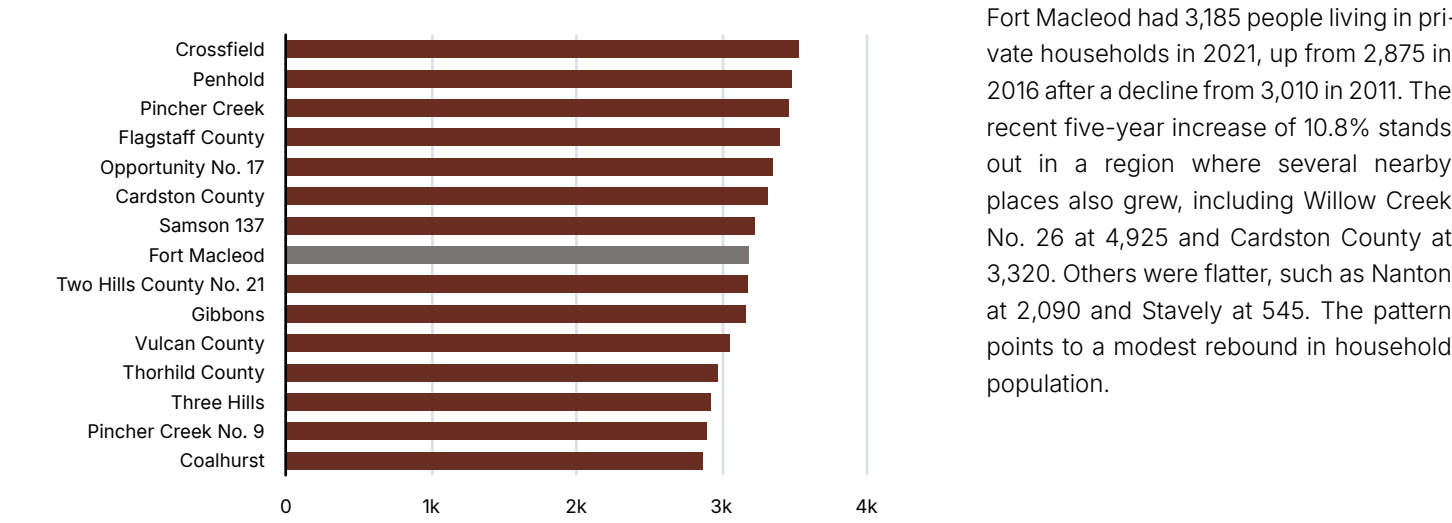


Figure 10.1: Shows the number of people living in private households. It helps indicate how much of the population lives in standard household settings rather than collective dwellings. (Fort Macleod, 2011-2021)¹

Fort Macleod’s population in private households was 3,185 people in 2021, up from 2,875 in 2016 and 3,010 in 2011. The five-year change of 10.8% points to a clear rebound after a 4.5% decline in the earlier period. Within the three census counts provided, 2016 was the low point, and 2021 was the highest. The pattern shows a relatively modest but noticeable recovery in the number of residents living in private households over the decade, without adding information about the reasons for the shift.



Fort Macleod had 3,185 people living in private households in 2021, up from 2,875 in 2016 after a decline from 3,010 in 2011. The recent five-year increase of 10.8% stands out in a region where several nearby places also grew, including Willow Creek No. 26 at 4,925 and Cardston County at 3,320. Others were flatter, such as Nanton at 2,090 and Stavely at 545. The pattern points to a modest rebound in household population.

Figure 10.2: Comparison of Population in Private Households with other locations (Fort Macleod, 2021)¹

Employment Rate

Fort Macleod’s employment rate fell to 51.5% in 2021, down 3.9% from 53.6% in 2016. The five-year decline reflects a smaller share of the labour force employed.

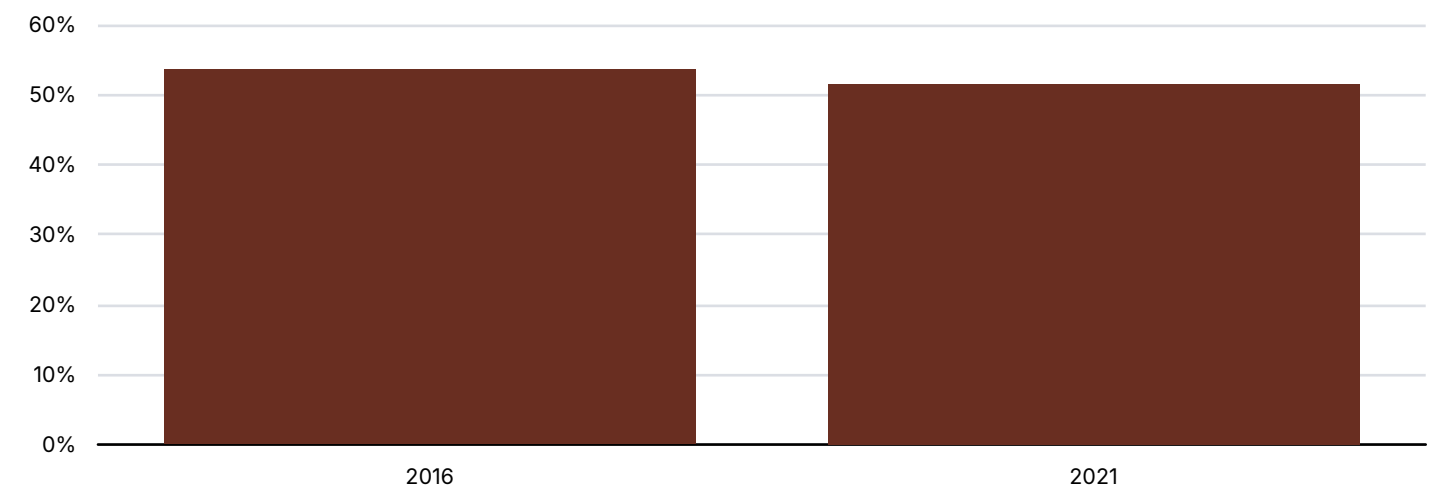
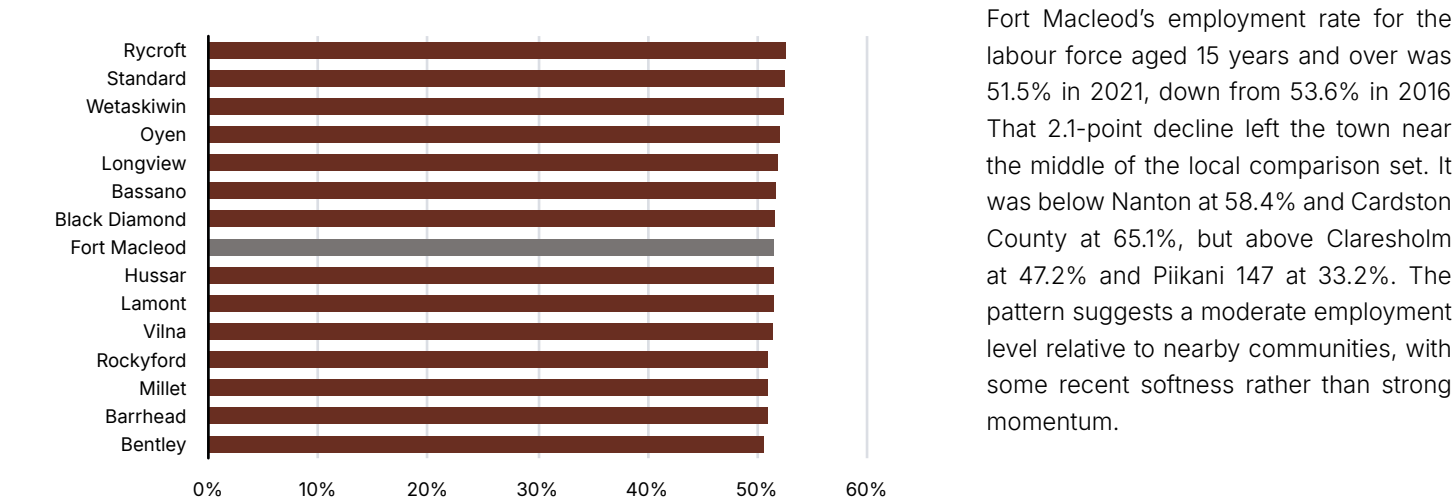


Figure 11.1: Shows the share of the working-age population that is employed. It helps indicate overall labour market health and how fully local talent is being used. (Fort Macleod, 2016-2021)¹

Fort Macleod’s employment rate slipped between the 2016 and 2021 censuses, pointing to a modest weakening in labour market participation. In 2016, 53.6% of the labour force aged 15 years and over was employed. By 2021, that share had fallen to 51.5%, a decline of 2.1 percentage points. The 5-year change was -3.9%, which confirms that the drop was not just a one-year fluctuation but part of a broader downward movement over the period. With no comparator provided, the main story is the direction of change: employment remained around half of the working-age population, but at a slightly lower level in 2021.



Fort Macleod’s employment rate for the labour force aged 15 years and over was 51.5% in 2021, down from 53.6% in 2016. That 2.1-point decline left the town near the middle of the local comparison set. It was below Nanton at 58.4% and Cardston County at 65.1%, but above Claresholm at 47.2% and Piikani 147 at 33.2%. The pattern suggests a moderate employment level relative to nearby communities, with some recent softness rather than strong momentum.

Figure 11.2: Comparison of Employment Rate with other locations (Fort Macleod, 2021)¹

Household Size

In Fort Macleod, 2-person households were the largest group in 2021 at 480, while 5-or-more-person households had the fastest five-year growth, rising 18.2% to 130. All household sizes increased from 2016.

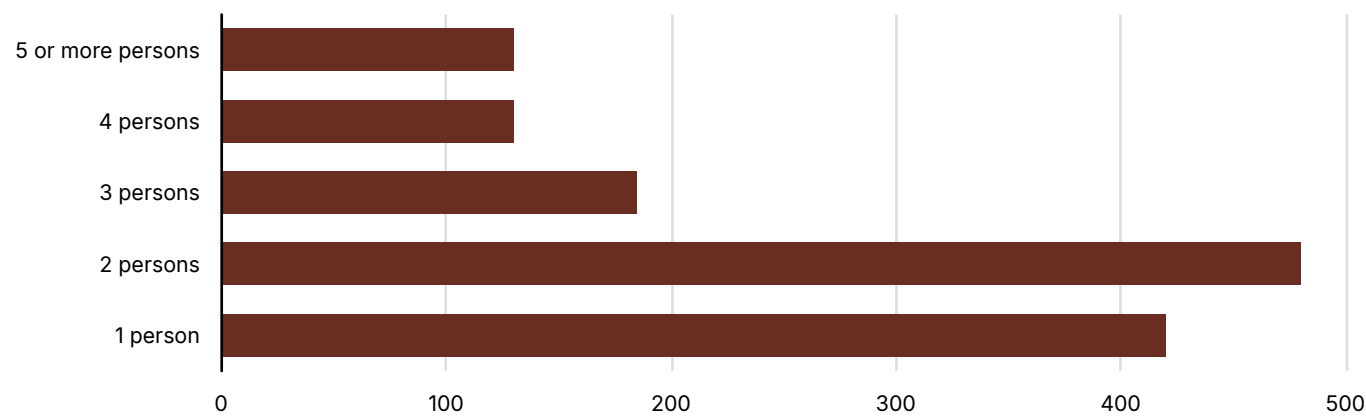


Figure 12.1: Shows the number of people living in households. It helps indicate common household arrangements and likely housing needs. (Fort Macleod, 2021)¹

Fort Macleod’s household profile in 2021 was led by smaller households, with 2-person households the most common at 480 and 1-person households close behind at 420. The pattern points to a distribution that is concentrated in smaller living arrangements. Mid-sized and larger households were less common. There were 185 households with 3 persons, while both 4-person households and households with 5 or more persons stood at 130 each. The 5-year change was positive across every household size shown. Growth was strongest for 5-or-more-person households, up 18.2%, followed by 1-person and 4-person households, both up about 13%. That mix suggests household size has expanded across the board, but the town still remains weighted toward one- and two-person households.

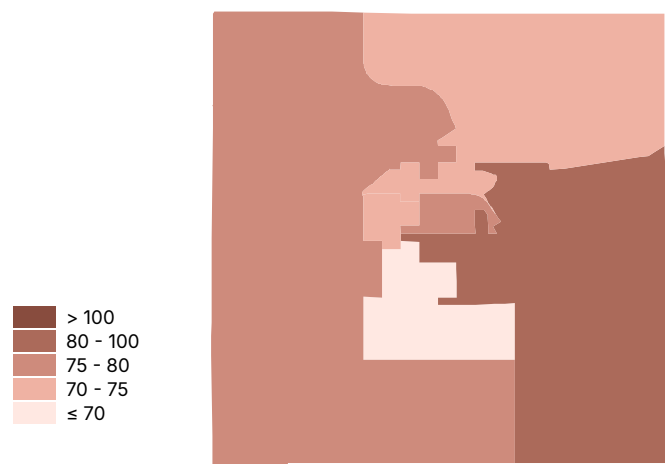


Figure 12.2: Distribution of Largest Group: Household Size - 2 persons (Fort Macleod)¹

In 2021, Fort Macleod’s private households were concentrated in smaller sizes, with 480 two-person households and 420 one-person households. Larger households were less common, at 185 three-person households and 130 each for four-person and five-or-more-person households. The 5-year change was positive across most categories, led by five-or-more-person households at 18.2% and one-person households at 13.5%. Two-person households rose more modestly, by 3.2%. The mix suggests a household structure centered on smaller households, with some growth in larger ones.

Highest Education Level

In Fort Macleod, high school diploma or equivalency was the largest credential group in 2021 at 805 people, up 80.9% from 2016. College certificates followed at 525, while bachelor’s degrees reached 160.

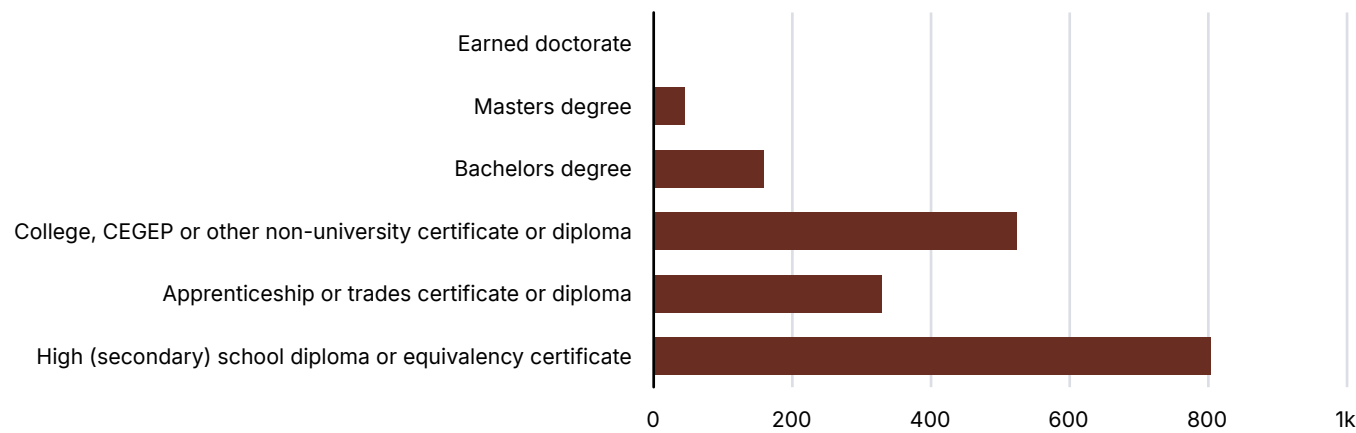
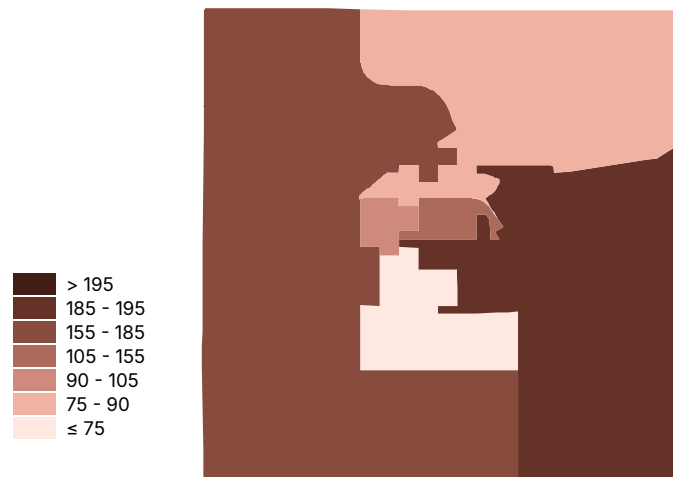


Figure 13.1: Shows the highest level of education completed by residents. It helps indicate the overall educational profile of the population. (Fort Macleod, 2021)¹

In Fort Macleod, the 2021 education profile for residents aged 15 and over in private households is centered on non-university credentials. The largest group had a high school diploma or equivalency certificate, with 805 people, followed by 525 with a college, CEGEP or other non-university certificate or diploma, and 330 with an apprenticeship or trades certificate or diploma. Smaller counts were recorded for a bachelor’s degree, at 160, and a master’s degree, at 45. No earned doctorates were reported. The 5-year changes were strongest for high school credentials, up 80.9%, and college or CEGEP credentials, up 69.3%. The doctorate count remained at zero.



In 2021, Fort Macleod’s educational profile was led by high school completion, with 805 residents age 15 and over holding a secondary diploma or equivalent. College and non-university credentials followed at 525, while 330 had apprenticeship or trades training. University attainment was smaller, with 160 bachelor’s degrees and 45 master’s degrees.

Figure 13.2: Distribution of Largest Group: Education Credential Ca - High (sec-ondary) school diploma or equivalency certificate (Fort Macleod)¹

Population Density

Fort Macleod's population density reached 146.2 people per square kilometre in 2021, up 15.3% over five years. It had been 126.8 in 2016 and 133.5 in 2011.

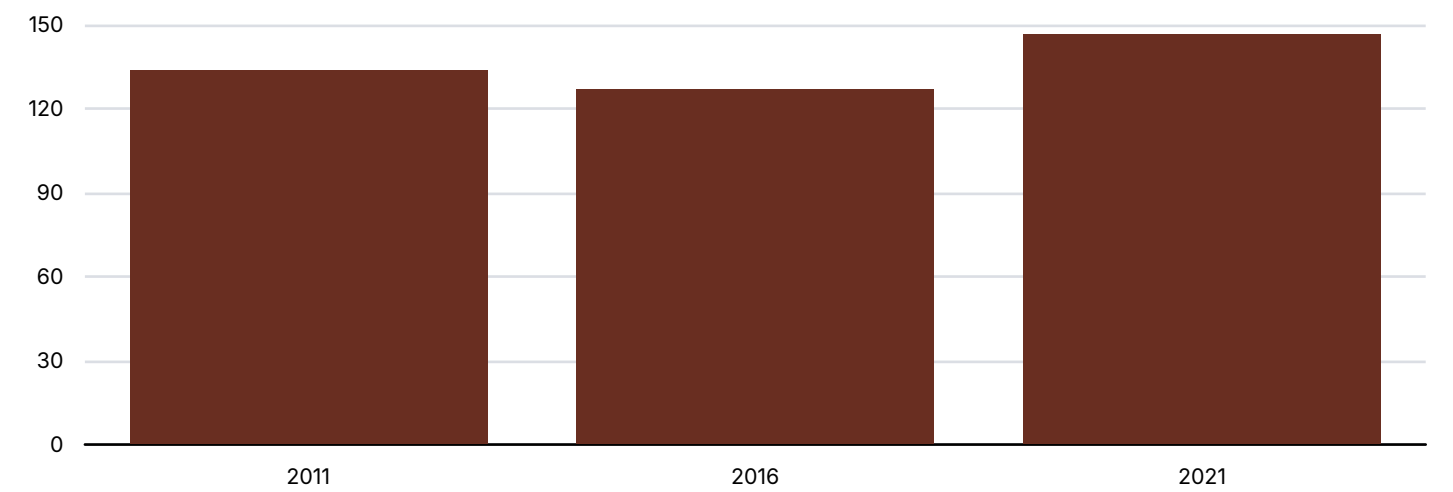
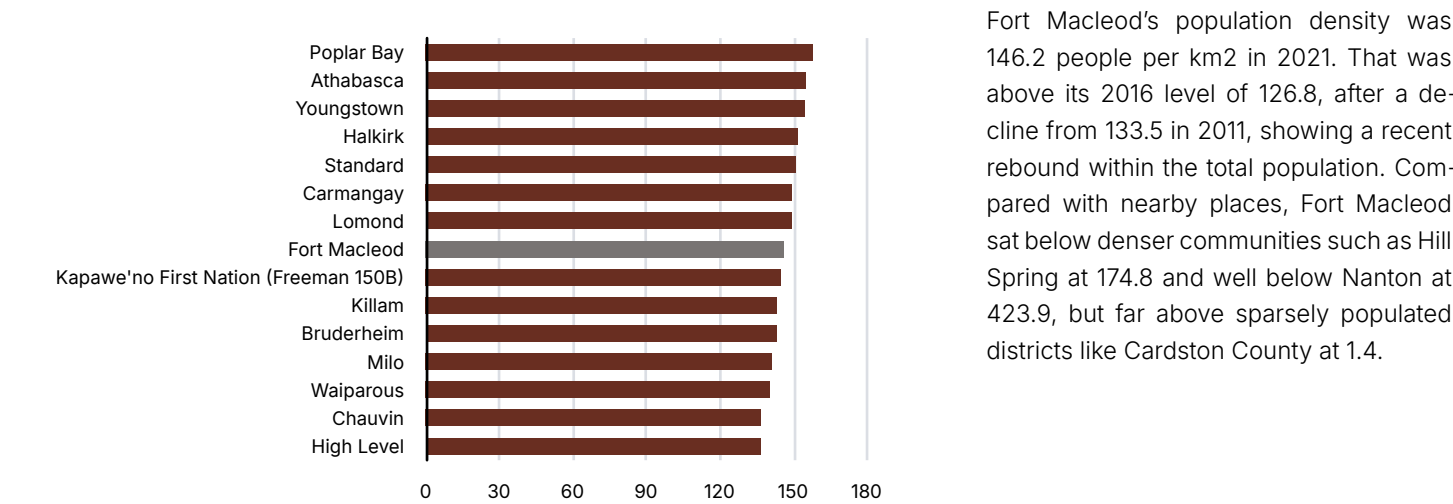


Figure 14.1: Shows how many people live per unit of land area. It helps indicate how compact or spread out the population is. (Fort Macleod, 2011-2021)¹

Fort Macleod's population density has shifted over the past decade, moving from a moderate level in 2011 to a lower point in 2016 before rising to its highest recent value in 2021. Measured for total population, density was 133.5 people per km2 in 2011, 126.8 in 2016, and 146.2 in 2021. That pattern shows a decline of 5.0% between 2011 and 2016, followed by a 15.3% increase over the next five years. The 2021 figure sits above both earlier points, suggesting a recent increase in how concentrated the population is within the area.



Fort Macleod's population density was 146.2 people per km2 in 2021. That was above its 2016 level of 126.8, after a decline from 133.5 in 2011, showing a recent rebound within the total population. Compared with nearby places, Fort Macleod sat below denser communities such as Hill Spring at 174.8 and well below Nanton at 423.9, but far above sparsely populated districts like Cardston County at 1.4.

Figure 14.2: Comparison of Population Density with other locations (Fort Macleod, 2021)¹

Mother Tongue

English remained the largest mother tongue in Fort Macleod at 2,775 people, up 13.0% over five years. Korean grew fastest among listed groups, doubling to 30, while French fell to 20.

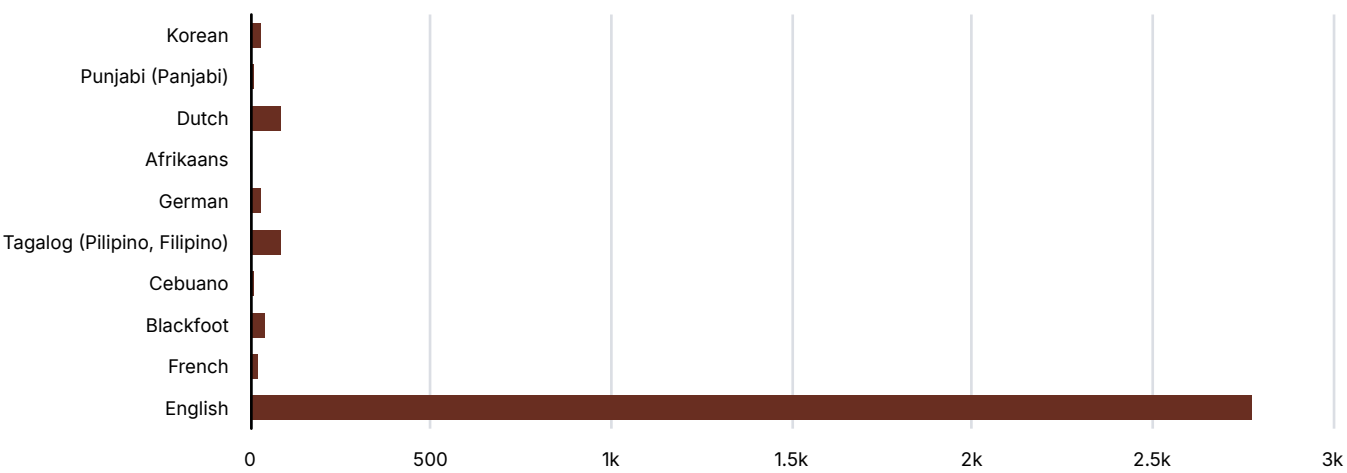
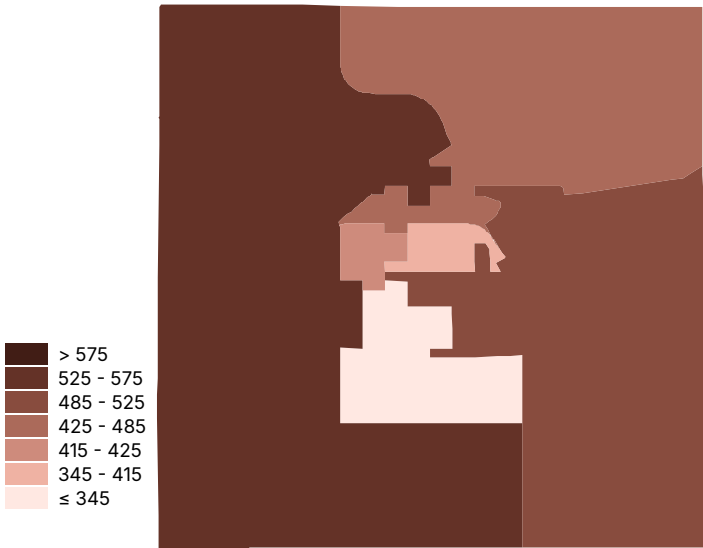


Figure 15.1: Shows the first language learned and still understood by residents. It helps indicate the linguistic roots of the population. (Fort Macleod, 2021)¹

In 2021, Fort Macleod’s mother-tongue profile was led by English, with 2,775 residents. Dutch and Tagalog (Pilipino, Filipino) were tied at 85 each, followed by Blackfoot at 40 and German and Korean at 30 apiece. French accounted for 20, while Cebuano and Punjabi (Panjabi) were each reported by 10 residents, and Afrikaans by 5. The 5-year changes were mixed: English rose 13.0%, Blackfoot 14.3%, Tagalog 6.3%, Punjabi 100%, and Korean 100%, while French fell 20% and German and Dutch declined.



In Fort Macleod, English is by far the most common mother tongue in 2021, with 2,775 people. The next largest reported languages are Tagalog at 85 and Dutch at 85, followed by Blackfoot at 40 and German at 30. French is much smaller at 20. The 5-year changes show mixed movement: English rose 13.0%, Blackfoot increased 14.3%, and Tagalog grew 6.3%, while Dutch fell 26.1% and German dropped 45.5%. Across the local dissemination areas, English remains dominant, but the mix of smaller languages varies from place to place.

Figure 15.2: Distribution of Largest Group: Language - English (Fort Macleod)¹

Visible Minority

Fort Macleod’s visible minority population was led by Filipinos at 150 people in 2021, up 50% from 2016. Korean residents rose to 35, while Black residents held at 10 and South Asian fell to zero.

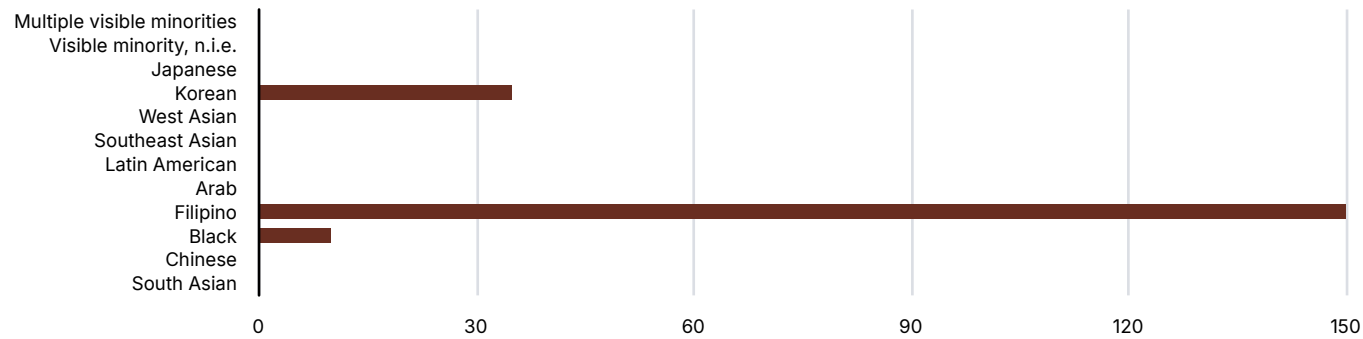


Figure 16.1: Shows residents who identify as belonging to visible minority groups. It helps indicate racialized population diversity in the community. (Fort Macleod, 2021)¹

In Fort Macleod, the visible minority population in 2021 was concentrated in a few groups, with Filipino residents numbering 150 people and showing a 50% increase over five years. Korean residents were the next largest group at 35 people, up 75% over the same period. Black residents were recorded at 10 people, with no change. Most other visible minority categories, including South Asian, Chinese, Arab, Latin American, South-east Asian, West Asian, Japanese, visible minority, n.i.e., and multiple visible minorities, were recorded at zero.

Fort Macleod’s visible minority population in 2021 was small and concentrated in a few groups within the population in private households. Filipino residents accounted for 150 people, while Korean residents numbered 35 and Black residents 10. Several other groups, including South Asian, Chinese, Arab and Latin American, were recorded at zero. The pattern is mirrored in the surrounding areas, where most dissemination areas also show very limited visible minority counts. One area had 45 Filipino residents, another 30 Filipino and 30 Korean residents. The data points to a modest and uneven distribution rather than broad diversity.

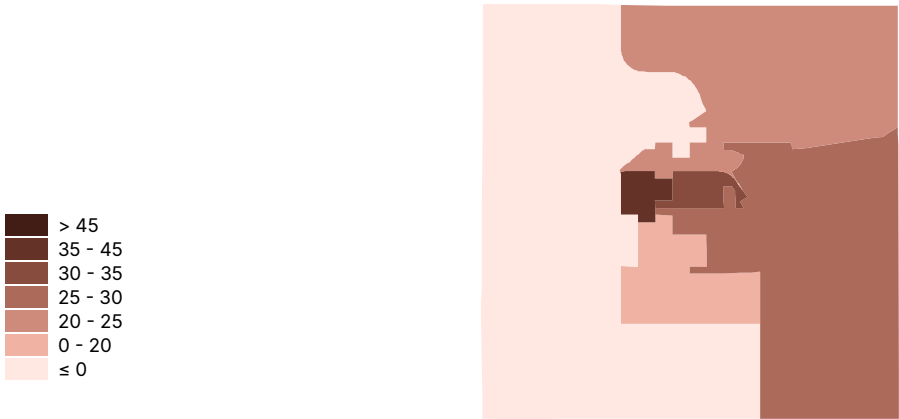


Figure 16.2: Distribution of Largest Group: Visible Minority - Filipino (Fort Macleod)¹

Age Groups

Fort Macleod's largest age group in 2021 was 60 to 64 years at 230 people, up 12.2% from 2016. The fastest-growing group was 75 to 79 years, rising 39.1% to 160 people.

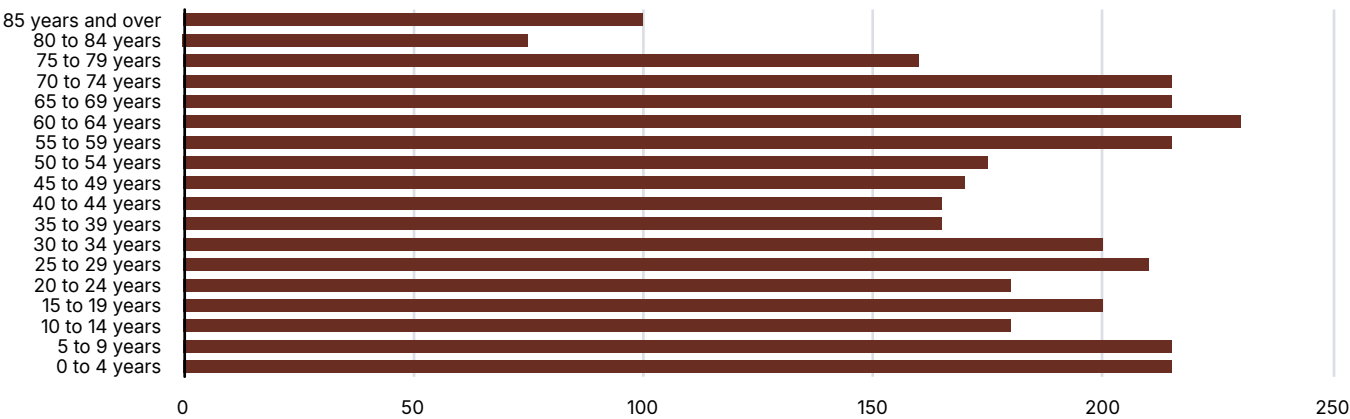


Figure 17.1: Shows how the population is distributed across age groups. It helps explain the community's age structure and stage of life profile. (Fort Macleod, 2021)¹

In 2021, Fort Macleod's age profile was spread across children, working-age adults and seniors, with no single group dominating. The largest cohorts were 60 to 64 years and 0 to 4 years, at 230 and 215 people, while 75 to 79 years reached 160 people. Recent five-year change was mixed: several younger and older groups grew, but 50 to 54 years fell 18.6% and 80 to 84 years dropped 21.1%.

Fort Macleod's 2021 age profile is fairly even, but it leans toward older adults. The largest group is residents aged 60 to 64, at 230 people, while several others, including 0 to 4, 5 to 9, 55 to 59, 65 to 69, and 70 to 74, each stand at 215. Younger adults are also present, with 25 to 29 and 30 to 34 at 210 and 200 respectively. This mix suggests a balanced population with a noticeable concentration in later working age and early retirement years.

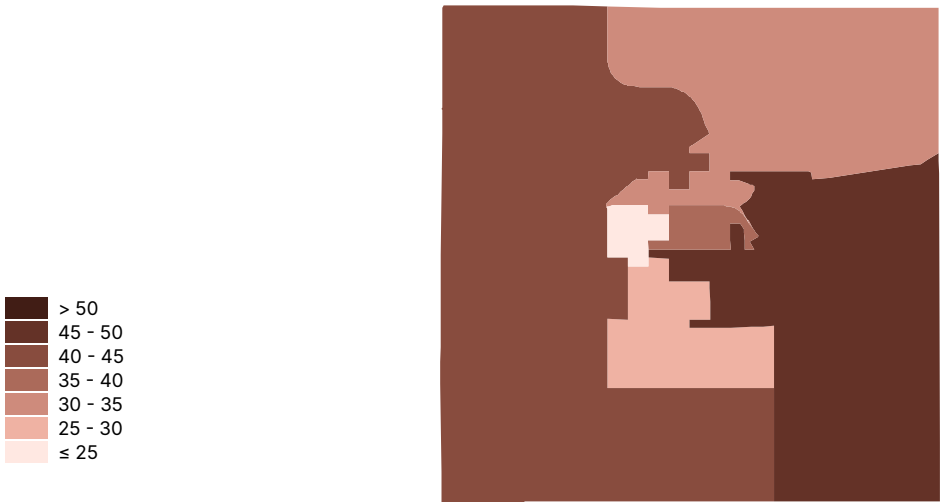


Figure 17.2: Distribution of Largest Group: Age Group - 60 to 64 years (Fort Macleod)¹

Family Type

Fort Macleod’s largest family type in 2021 was married couples without children at 345 people, down 11.5% from 2016. One-parent families rose to 155, up 34.8% over five years.

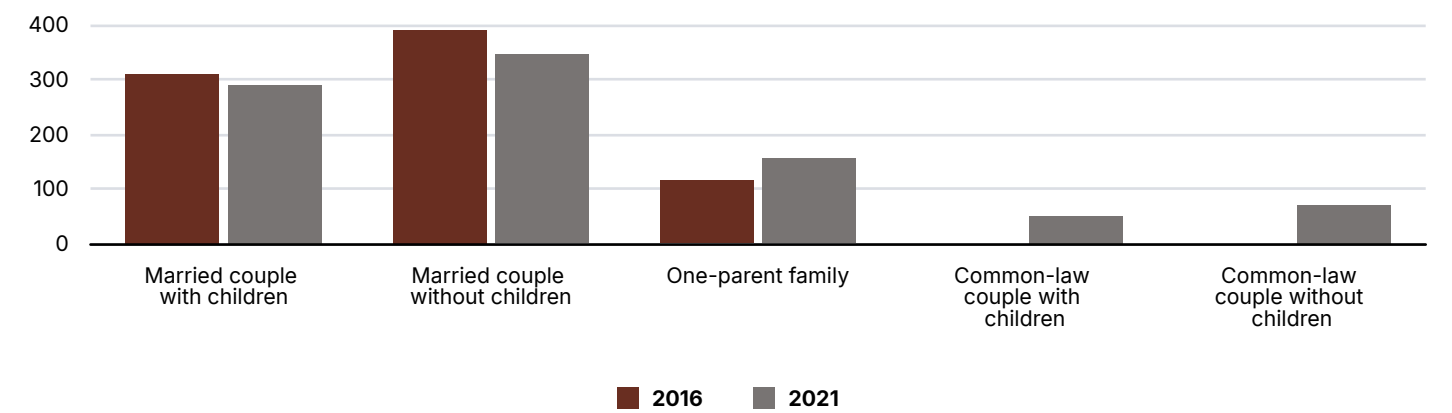


Figure 18.1: Shows the mix of family types, such as couple families and lone-parent families. It helps indicate the structure of family life in the community. (Fort Macleod, 2016-2021)¹

In 2021, Fort Macleod’s census families in private households were dominated by married couples without children, at 345 people, followed by married couples with children at 290. One-parent families numbered 155 and rose 34.8% over five years, while married couples without children fell 11.5% and married couples with children declined 6.5%. Common-law couples were smaller groups, with 70 without children and 50 with children. This mix points to a family structure that is shifting within a fairly established base.

In Fort Macleod, census families in private households were led by married couples without children in 2021, with 345 people, followed closely by married couples with children at 290. One-parent families numbered 155, while common-law couples were much smaller at 70 without children and 50 with children. The recent change pattern is mixed: one-parent families rose 34.8% over five years, while married couples declined, especially those without children, down 11.5%. That points to a family structure that is still couple-dominated but becoming more diverse.

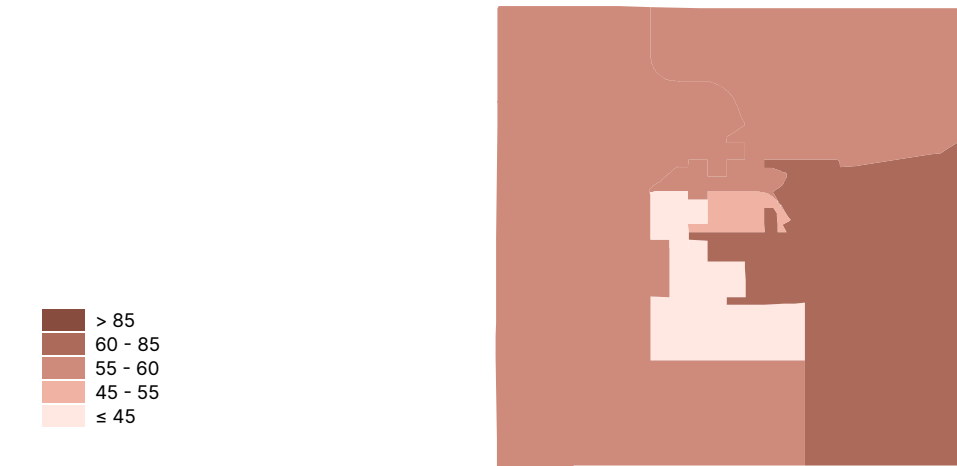


Figure 18.2: Distribution of Largest Group: Family Type - Married couple without children (Fort Macleod)¹

Ethnic Origin

English ancestry was the largest group in Fort Macleod at 630 people, down 26.3% over five years. Norwegian rose to 155 people, the fastest increase among listed groups, up 93.8%.

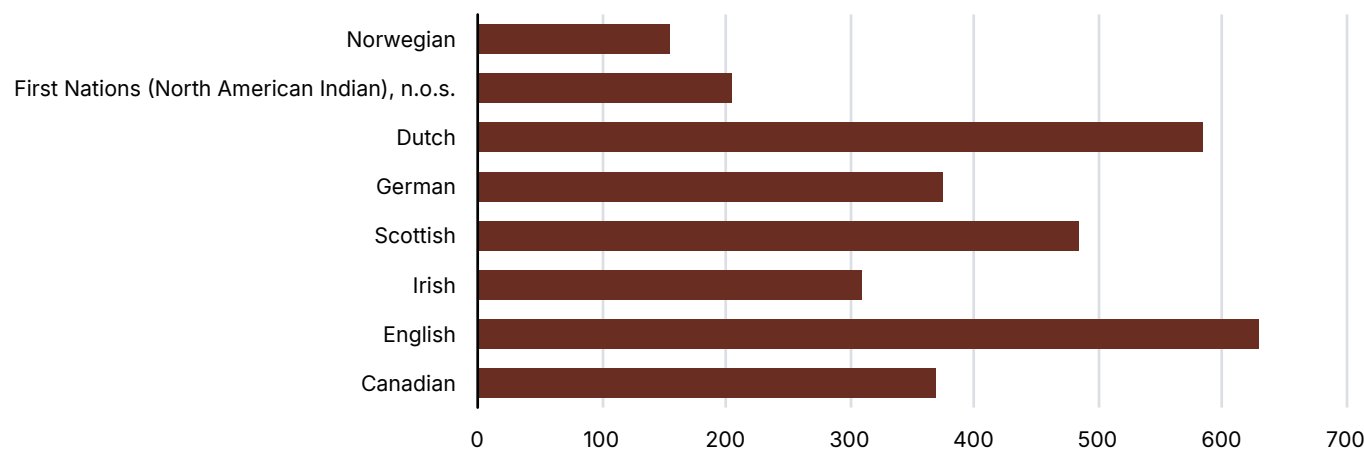
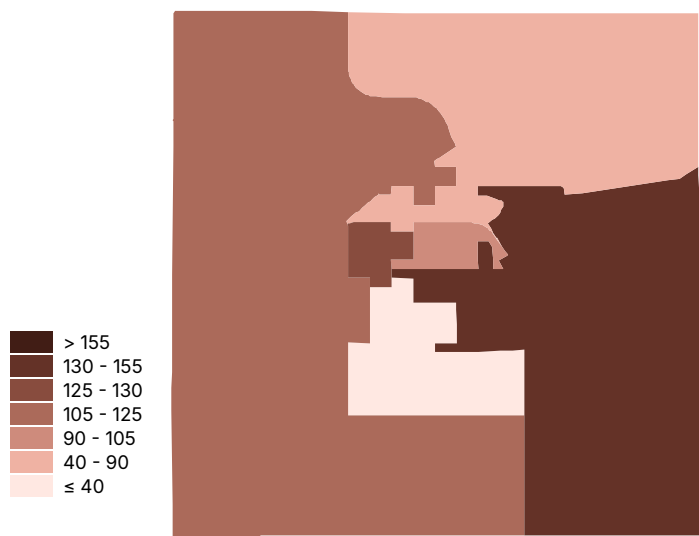


Figure 19.1: Shows the ethnic or cultural origins reported by residents. It helps indicate ancestry patterns and the community's cultural makeup. (Fort Macleod, 2021)¹

Fort Macleod's ethnic origin profile in 2021 was shaped by a mix of older European origins and a smaller First Nations presence. English was the largest reported origin at 630 people, followed by Dutch at 585, Scottish at 485, German at 375, Canadian at 370, and Irish at 310. First Nations (North American Indian), n.o.s. was reported by 205 people, while Norwegian was the smallest of the listed origins at 155. Recent change was uneven. Norwegian rose sharply over five years, up 93.8%, while Canadian fell 49.7% and English declined 26.3%.



In 2021, Fort Macleod's reported ethnic origins were led by English, at 630 people, followed by Dutch at 585 and Scottish at 485. German accounted for 375 people, Canadian 370, and Irish 310. First Nations (North American Indian), n.o.s. was reported by 205 people, while Norwegian was smaller at 155 but showed the strongest five-year increase, up 93.8%.

Figure 19.2: Distribution of Largest Group: Ethnic Origin - English (Fort Macleod)¹

Employment by Sector

Educational services remained the largest employer in Fort Macleod in 2025 at 1,450 people, up 2.8% from 2024 but down 2.2% over five years. Health care reached 353, up 41.2%.

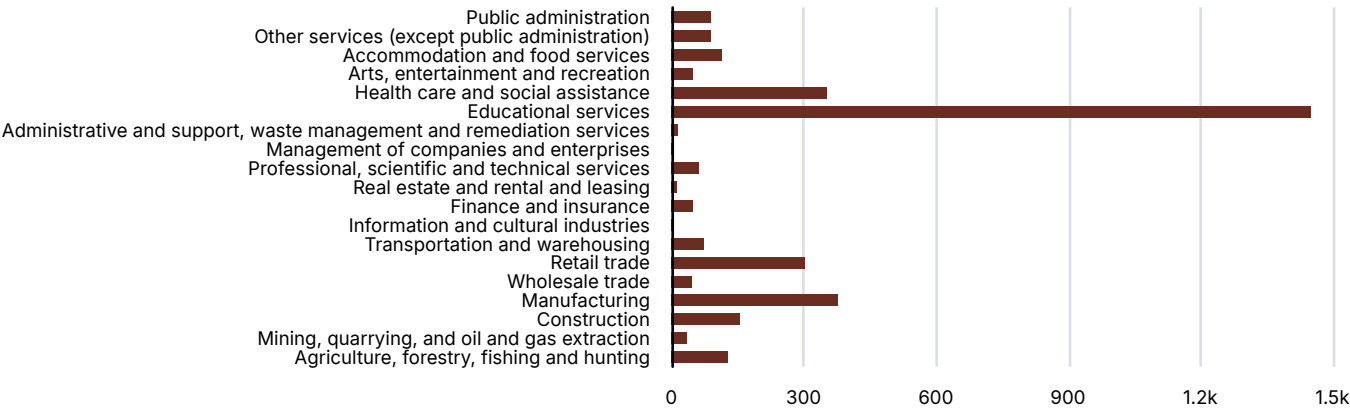


Figure 20.1: Shows how employment is distributed across industry sectors. It helps indicate which sectors account for the largest share of local jobs. (Fort Macleod, 2025)³

Fort Macleod’s employment is concentrated in educational services, which has 1,450 workers in 2025, far ahead of health care and social assistance at 353 and manufacturing at 379. Some sectors have expanded recently, including health care, professional services and retail trade, while wholesale trade and manufacturing declined over five years. The profile points to a narrow job base with a few large anchors.

Fort Macleod’s employment base in 2025 is anchored by educational services, with 1,450 workers, far ahead of any other sector. Health care and social assistance follows at 353, manufacturing at 379, and retail trade at 302. Smaller but active sectors include construction at 155 and agriculture at 128. The mix suggests a service-heavy local job structure, with several modest secondary sectors.



Figure 20.2: Distribution of Largest Group: Naics - Educational services (Fort Macleod)³

Employed Residents by Occupation

Trades, transport and equipment operators and related occupations became the largest group in Fort Macleod in 2021 at 425 people, up 57.4% from 2016. Sales and service followed with 370 people.

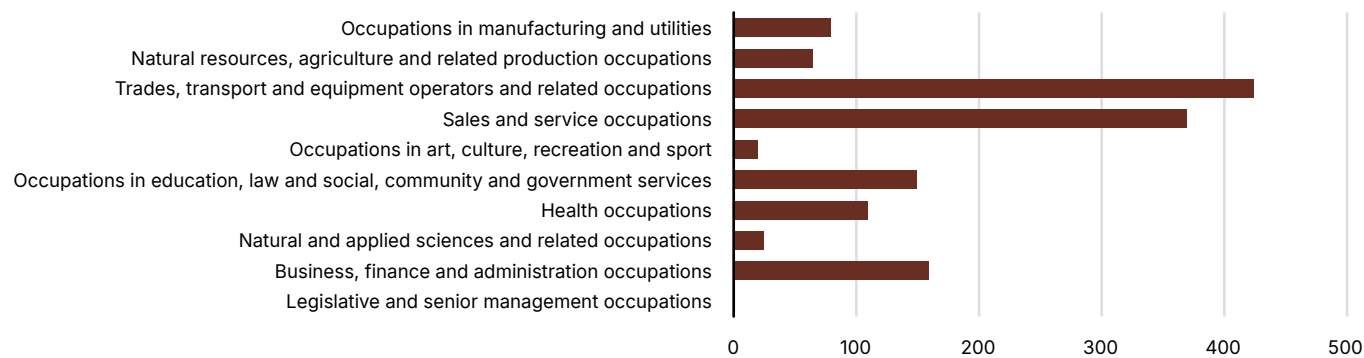


Figure 21.1: Shows the occupations held by employed residents. It helps indicate the community's skill mix and the kinds of work people do. (Fort Macleod, 2021)¹

In Fort Macleod in 2021, employed residents were concentrated in trades, transport and equipment operator occupations, with 425 people. Sales and service followed at 370, while business, finance and administration accounted for 160. Five-year change was strongest in trades, transport and equipment operators, up 57.4%, and natural resources, agriculture and related production, up 44.4%. Health occupations fell 33.3%, and manufacturing and utilities declined 15.8%. The mix suggests a workforce weighted toward practical and service roles, with recent growth most evident in trades-linked work.

Fort Macleod's employed residents in 2021 were concentrated in a few occupations, with trades, transport and equipment operators and related occupations the largest group at 425 people. Sales and service occupations followed at 370, while business, finance and administration accounted for 160 and education, law, social, community and government services for 150. Health occupations numbered 110. The mix points to a labour force centered on service and trade work, while senior management and some specialized fields remained small or absent.



Figure 21.2: Distribution of Largest Group: Occupation - Trades, transport and equipment operators and related occupations (Fort Macleod)¹

Data Sources

1. Statistics Canada, Census Profile. Published in Dec 15, 2022.
2. Statistics Canada, Population Estimates, Tables 17-10-0005-01, 17-10-0150-01, 17-10-0148-01, 17-10-0152-01, and 17-10-0155-01. Published in Jan 14, 2026.
3. Statistics Canada, Business Register; Localintel, Employment by Industry Estimates of Census Areas. Published in Mar 13, 2026.

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