

1. Record Nr.	UNISA996635562503316
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Titolo	Northern Ontario in Historical Statistics, 1871–2021 : Expansion, Growth, and Decline in a Hinterland-Colonial Region // David Leadbeater; ed. by Pierre Anctil
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Ottawa : , : University of Ottawa Press, , [2024] 2024
ISBN	0-7766-4168-9
Edizione	[Digital ed.]
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (292 p.)
Collana	Canadian Studies ; ; 10
Disciplina	317.13/1
Soggetti	Settler colonialism - Ontario, Northern SOCIAL SCIENCE / Demography Electronic books. Ontario, Northern Statistics Ontario, Northern Population Statistics
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references and index.
Nota di contenuto	Frontmatter -- Table of Contents -- List of Maps -- List of Tables -- List of Appendix Tables -- Acknowledgements -- CHAPTER 1 Introduction -- CHAPTER 2 The Colonial North of Ontario and Official Statistics -- CHAPTER 3 General Population Increase and Decline since 1871 -- CHAPTER 4 Source Populations and Social Composition in the Settlement and Evolution of Northern Ontario -- CHAPTER 5 The Evolution of Population and Employment across Districts inNorthern Ontario -- CHAPTER 6 Urban Concentration of Population and Employment Conditions -- CHAPTER 7 Issues of Disparity, Distribution, and Economic Dependency in Northern Ontario -- CHAPTER 8 Conclusion -- APPENDIX Supplemental Tables -- Table Notes and Data Sources -- Bibliography -- Index
Sommario/riassunto	"Although deeply experienced by Indigenous peoples, the settler-colonial structure of Northern Ontario's development plays little explicit analytical role in official government discussions and policy. This "moose in the room"—hinterland-colonial conditions—deserves much greater attention. This study provides original tables on Indigenous

relative to settler populations, treaty and reserve areas, and provincially controlled “unorganized territories.” It examines colonial biases in the census data as a contribution towards decolonizing changes in official statistics. More broadly, it offers an overview of major long-term population, employment, and urban concentration trends since 1871 in the region now called “Northern Ontario” (or “Nord de l’Ontario”). Based on original historical tables, the study discusses patterns of change at not only Northern Ontario regional level relative to Southern Ontario but also at the district and community levels. Further, the study examines employment-population ratios, unemployment, and economic dependency, particularly for recent decades of decline since the 1970s, and it questions narrowly demographic explanations of population decline. Attention is given to the misuse and variety of dependency ratios in understanding Northern demographic conditions. This research was based at Laurentian University in Sudbury and is a background study in the Northern Democracy Initiative.”--

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