

MOST NUMEROUS SURNAMES IN PICTOU COUNTY

- Dr. Terrence M. Punch, CM -

SURNAME	1901	1838	1817	1864/77 BIRTHS
McDonald	2,514 (7.25%)	1,721 (8.02%)	807 (9.24%)	730/4134 (1 st)
Fraser	1,835 (5.30%)	1,714 (7.99%)	775 (8.87%)	557/999 (6 th)
McKenzie	1,093 (3.15%)	1,093 (5.10%)	431 (4.93%)	313/918 (7 th)
McKay	1,006 (2.90%)	746 (3.45%)	314 (3.59%)	268/844 (8 th)
Cameron	835 (2.41%)	666 (3.11%)	291 (3.33%)	243/664 (12 th)
McLeod	727 (2.10%)	655 (3.05%)	235 (2.69%)	197/1074 (5 th)
Sutherland	722 (2.08%)	571 (2.66%)	182 (2.08%)	310/532 (21 st)
McLean	663 (1.91%)	433 (2.02%)	230 (2.63%)	196/1171 (4 th)
Murray	606 (1.75%)	376 (1.75%)	125 (1.42%)	170/390 (34 th)
Ross	586 (1.69%)	460 (2.14%)	123 (1.41%)	245/589 (16 th)
Grant	447 (1.29%)	372 (1.73%)	156 (1.79%)	170/447 (27 th)
Campbell	432 (1.25%)	357 (1.66%)	103 (1.18%)	135/821 (9 th)
Langille	419 (1.21%)	242 (1.13%)	92 (1.05%)	90/285 (54 th)
Chisholm	388 (1.12%)	222 (1.04%)	102 (1.17%)	108/567 (17 th)
Munro(e)	351 (1.01%)	303 (1.41%)	70 (0.80%)	126/362 (40 th)
Smith/Smyth	349 (1.01%)	238 (1.11%)	115 (1.31%)	88/1570 (2 nd)
McIntosh	346 (1.00%)	294 (1.37%)	135 (1.55%)	97/368 (37 th)
Stewart/Stuart	325 (0.94%)	134 (0.62%)	69 (0.79%)	90/372 (36 th)
McKinnon	267 (0.77%)	127 (0.59%)	74 (0.85%)	85/762 (11 th)
McPherson	251 (0.72%)	129 (0.60%)	39 (0.45%)	100/409 (30 th)
McNeil	244 (0.70%)	47 (0.22%)	23 (0.26%)	24/1184 (3 rd)
Robertson	239 (0.69%)	162 (0.76%)	98 (1.12%)	61/212 (84 th)
Reid/Reed	216 (0.62%)	101 (0.47%)	36 (0.41%)	52/220 (77 th)
Mathe(w)son	202 (0.58%)	190 (0.88%)	60 (0.69%)	41/278 (58 th)
Brown	192 (0.55%)	141 (0.66%)	33 (0.38%)	38/599 (15 th)

Graham	173 (0.50%)	123 (0.57%)	53 (0.61%)	33/206 (87 th)
Henderson	170 (0.49%)	142 (0.66%)	21 (0.24%)	47/141
McMillan	165 (0.48%)	137 (0.64%)	40 (0.46%)	50/366 (38 th)
Thom(p)son	162 (0.47%)	86 (0.41%)	25 (0.29%)	21/301 (51 st)
McDougal(d)	160 (0.46%)	88 (0.41%)	31 (0.36%)	37/404 (32 nd)
Baillie/Bailly	138 (0.40%)	81 (0.38%)	14 (0.16%)	25/114
McGillivray	135 (0.39%)	168 (0.78%)	114 (1.30%)	69/349 (42 nd)
McInnis	135 (0.39%)	49 (0.23%)	19 (0.22%)	32/497 (23 rd)
Wilson	135 (0.39%)	41 (0.19%)	13 (0.15%)	48/350 (41 st)
Miller/Millar	129 (0.37%)	40 (0.19%)	11 (0.13%)	31/331 (45 th)
Gray/Grey	119 (0.34%)	49 (0.23%)	16 (0.18%)	27/218 (79 th)
Gunn	117 (0.33%)	95 (0.44%)	15 (0.17%)	32/45
Gordon	113 (0.32%)	148 (0.68%)	62 (0.71%)	14/87
Dunbar	112 (0.32%)	83 (0.39%)	40 (0.46%)	38/62
McQuarrie	110 (0.31%)	143 (0.67%)	90 (1.03%)	23/138
Morrison	109 (0.31%)	60 (0.28%)	34 (0.39%)	32/637 (13 th)
McLellan	107 (0.31%)	121 (0.56%)	88 (1.01%)	46/516 (22 nd)

Notes: The **1901 column** is based on the 1901 federal census. Figures in **red** are lower than the figures for the previous censuses. Numbers in **blue** are the 12 names which taken together accounted for one-third of the county's population, i.e., 11,865 of the total 34,653, or 34.29%. The entire 52 surnames account for 17,943 people, or 50.58% of the total.

The **1838 column** is based on the 1838 provincial census. All those in the household have been counted as having the surname of the head of household in that census, though that will have skewed the precision of the figures by an unknown, but slight, amount. Blue figures are the 7 names which together accounted for one-third of the county's population, i.e., 7,166 of the total 21,449, or 33.41%. The 19 names in **bold** print account for 10,821 people, or 50.45% of the total.

The **1817 column** is based on the 1817 census. Again, all members of the household are counted under the name of the head of family, which slightly skews figures. Blue figures are the 7 names which together accounted for one-third of the county's population, i.e., 3,035 of the total of 8,737, or 34.74%. The 18 names in **bold** print account for 4,428 people, or 50.68% of the total.

The **1864/77 column** comes from the government birth registration for that period. The first figures is number of births for that surname in Pictou County, the second number that for Nova Scotia. The parenthesized figure is the position of that family in the provincial birth registrations. You should know that the birth registration is not necessarily complete. All early figures should be treated as approximate, rather than as exact numbers. – Terrence M. Punch/2015