The Right to Vote in Federal Elections: Then and Now

1867

Number of eligible voters: 361,028 (11%)

Who could vote?
Men who
• were at least 21 years old, and
• owned property.
Also, First Nations men who were willing to give up treaty rights.

Who couldn’t vote?
• Men who did not own property
• Women
• Anyone under 21
• First Nations who wanted to keep their status

Population of Canada: 3,230,000

Today

Number of eligible voters: 25,939,742 (77%)

Who can vote?
All Canadian citizens over 18 years old.

Who can’t vote?
• Anyone under 18 years old
• Residents who are not Canadian citizens
• Canadians living abroad longer than five years (with some exceptions)
• The Chief Electoral Officer of Canada

Population of Canada: 33,476,688*

*Based on 2015 election data