

I would like to begin by acknowledging that the land on which we gather is the traditional unceded territory of the Mi'kmaq People. This territory is covered by the "Treaties of Peace and Friendship" which Mi'kmaq People first signed with the British crown in 1726. The treaties did not deal with surrender of lands and resources but in fact recognized Mi'kmaq title and established the rules for what was to be an ongoing relationship between nations.

Miramichi Regional Multicultural Association

- Non-profit incorporated in July 2008
- Service area: Northumberland County in Northeast NB (including City of Miramichi)
- Region includes Francophone communities, as well as three First Nations
- Settlement and Integration Services and Programs for newcomers
- Social Events
- Diversity Workshops
- Information sessions
- Second Language Classes and Conversation Circles
- Member of 12 local, regional and provincial committees



Thank You to Our Current Funders:



Canadian
Heritage

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Social Development Canada

Emploi et
Développement social Canada



Immigration, Refugees
and Citizenship Canada

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Department of Tourism, Heritage and
Culture



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Greater Miramichi
Service Commission

Commission de services
du Grand Miramichi

GROWING GREATER
MIRAMICHI

CROISSANCE
GRAND MIRAMICHI



NEW BRUNSWICK
MULTICULTURAL
COUNCIL



CONSEIL
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MRMA Key Partners



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NOUVEAU-BRUNSWICK



Rural Settlement
Network

Le Réseau d'établissement
rural



Miramichi Supports Ukraine



Miramichi
Indian Group



Miramichi Afro Connection



The New Face of Atlantic Canadian Communities

MIRAMICHI REGION NEW BRUNSWICK

Newcomers

Growth not seen since World War II brides in 1945 and Irish potato famine in 1910

Arrivals to Miramichi Region, including:

- Temporary Foreign Workers
- AIPP Principal applicants and their families
- International Students
- Family Class

2017: 80+

2018: 180+

2019: 228+

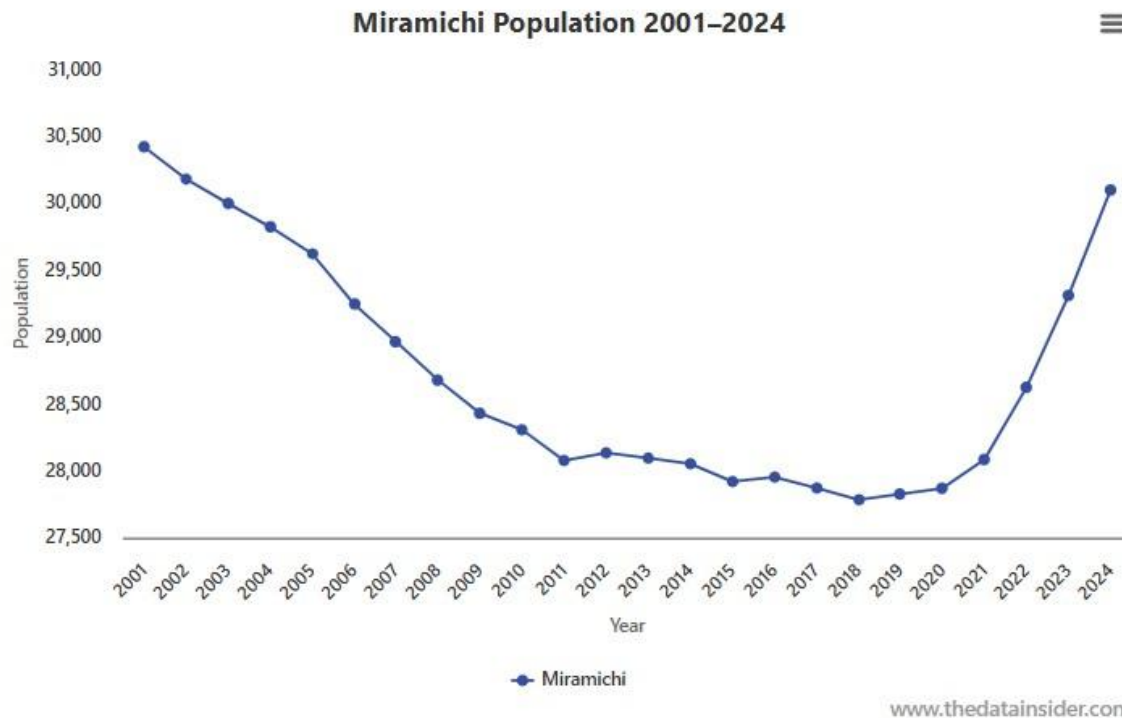
Every year since then: 200+



Miramichi Population Statistics

Miramichi, New Brunswick Population Statistics in 2024

by Data Insider Team | Aug 16, 2025 | Canada, Population



From: <https://thedatainsider.com/miramichi-new-brunswick-population-statistics/>

Newcomer Population Snapshot

By Immigration Status:

- Temporary Foreign Worker: 700+
- Seasonal migrant workers: 650+
- International Students: 200+
- Atlantic Immigration Program: 700+
- Permanent Residents: 400+

Newcomer Population Snapshot

- Philippines: 1 000–1 200
- India: 207
- Ukraine: 210
- African/Caribbean: 250
- Latino: 100
- International Students: 200+

Newcomer Population: Challenges

- ▶ workload surge for our small office (7 staff)
- ▶ rise in xenophobia
 - –addressing with information campaign and ICT workshops open to the community
- ▶ language barrier for our Ukrainian population
 - –addressing with an intensive ESL language pilot project

Newcomer Population: Successes

Successes

- ▶ Now Miramichi has multiple ethnocultural groups!
 - –providing support to our newcomers in many ways, including culturally relevant celebrations and events

Next 2 speakers:

- ▶ Yuliia Kondratska
- ▶ Dario Urdapilleta

The New Face of Atlantic Canadian Communities

By: Yuliia Kondratska

Location: Miramichi, New Brunswick

Overview:

- My journey from Ukraine to Miramichi
- Ukrainian newcomers in Miramichi
- Challenges and opportunities

My Story: Coming from Ukraine (2022)

I left Ukraine on the first day of the war.

Before that, I was living my best life in Irpin — pursuing my PhD, building a successful career in government, running my own business, and surrounded by wonderful people.

When the war began, I connected with incredible volunteers from Miramichi — Mike and Monique Kettela, a Canadian family with Ukrainian roots who helped my family settle and start a new life here.

Their kindness inspired me to help other arriving families and invite newcomers to choose Miramichi for its peace, safety, and strong community spirit. My love story with Miramichi began in October 2022 — three years ago.



First Impressions & Adaptation

- First impressions: small town, kind people, limited newcomer resources.
- I decided to help fix that — volunteering and becoming a **Ukrainian Liaison Officer** for the community.
- Adjusting to a new culture, language, and climate was not easy, but Miramichi quickly became my **second home**.
- Over the past 3 years, I've supported many newcomers and built connections between Ukrainians and local organizations.



Community Work & Leadership

- I also served as an **instructor at NBCC College** for the **WES Ukrainian Skills Initiative** program.
- We recently celebrated our second graduating cohort!
- I promote **cultural diversity and workplace readiness** to match local employer needs.
- My focus: helping newcomers integrate successfully and contribute to Miramichi's growth.



The Ukrainian Community in Miramichi

- **Approx. 211 Ukrainians** now live in Miramichi.
- Each family has its own story of loss and rebuilding, but all found new beginnings here.

We Support Newcomers With:

- **Welcoming arrivals** at VIA Rail or the airport — greeting them with kindness, care packages, and hot meals for their first few days.
- **Finding accommodation and furniture**, often through community donations.
- **Helping with essential documents and employment**, as well as support in purchasing a vehicle, enrolling children in school, and arranging medical appointments — everything needed for a strong start.

This is my way of paying it forward — just as the Kettela family did for me three years ago when my own family arrived in Miramichi.

- About **20% of families** have children with special needs, who now live peacefully and receive local support.
- Ukrainians are active in **schools, businesses, churches, and volunteer groups** — building strong local ties.



Building a Place for Everyone

To make Miramichi truly inclusive, we need to continue:

- Supporting **language learning**
- Encouraging **community mentorship and volunteering**
- Hosting **culturally inclusive events** — like our annual **Ukrainian Easter Festival**
- Promoting **newcomer leadership**
- Strengthening collaboration between **government, NGOs, and employers**

Diversity is the foundation of resilience.

✧✧ *Miramichi's Ukrainian story proves that a small town with a big heart can inspire hope and growth.*



Closing

“Home is not only where you were born — it’s where you are welcomed.”

Thank you for listening.

Contact:

0638550493us@gmail.com

[linkedin.com/in/yuliia-kondratska](https://www.linkedin.com/in/yuliia-kondratska)



The student's path



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2021



2022



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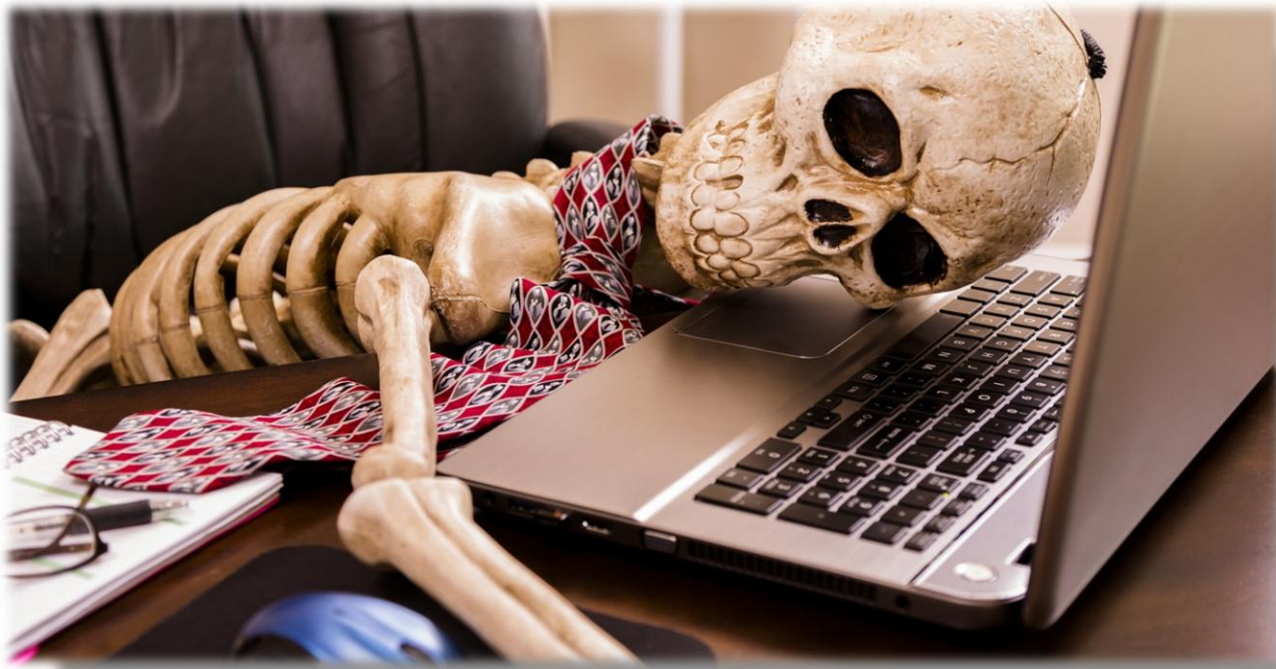
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Thank you!



latinomiramichi@gmail.com

Questions



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