

# LAC LA BICHE COUNTY

# 2019 MUNICIPAL CENSUS REPORT



BETWEEN APRIL 17 AND JUNE 30, 2019, LAC LA

BICHE COUNTY UNDERTOOK A MUNICIPAL CENSUS

TO DETERMINE THE COUNTY'S POPULATION AND

DEMOGRAPHICS. THE COUNTY'S CENSUS DATE

WAS APRIL 17, 2019.

# COUNTY CENSUS SUMMARY

The Lac La Biche County Census was conducted between April 17 and June 30, 2019. The time frame for conducting a municipal census is established by the Province of Alberta through the Ministry of Municipal Affairs. Municipal Affairs also establishes the other rules that municipalities must follow when completing a census.

The purpose of the Census was to obtain an accurate count of the County's population. This ensures that the County receives its equitable share of grants and funding from the provincial and federal governments. An accurate and current population count also allows the County to better plan and implement the services it provides to the public.

A municipality must choose a census date. This is the day to which all the census survey questions refer; this provides a snapshot of the County's population on this day. A census date of April 17 was chosen. The County's total recorded population was 9,636. Of this total, 8,654 were permanent residents, while 982 belonged to the shadow population (people residing in the County for the purpose of work but who have a permanent residence elsewhere, refer to page 11 for the definition).

These figures do not include neighbouring Métis Settlements or First Nation Reserves that are within Lac La Biche County. These entities conduct their own census.

## CENSUS SUMMARY AT-A-GLANCE

- A municipal census is provincially regulated.
- Lac La Biche County counted 8,654 permanent residents.
- Lac La Biche Counted 982 shadow residents (residents who reside temporarily in the County for the purpose of work).



# INTERPRETATION OF RESULTS

Lac La Biche County also conducted a municipal census in May of 2016. The permanent resident population was recorded at 8,544 and the shadow population was recorded at 987. The 2019 results remain nearly unchanged from those of 2016. Of any trend that can be observed with the permanent population, there is a minor increase to the population in the urban areas, with a minor decrease to the rural areas.

Overall, the shadow population experienced a decrease throughout the hamlets and rural areas, with a marginal increase in the in-situ oil extraction facilities within Lac la Biche County. The overall impact was negligible.

It is important to note that shadow population figures for in-situ facilities can fluctuate depending on the time of year. Therefore, the numbers reported for the shadow population are not only dependent on overall population trends, but also on when the municipal census was conducted, and the staffing levels of these facilities on the municipal census date.

## TIMELINES

Beginning April 17, 2019, residents of properties containing only one dwelling were sent letters. This letter contained a PIN number unique to the address identified on the letter. On the letter was also a website address where residents could enter the provided PIN number and complete the survey.

From April 17 to May 1, residents who received letters had the opportunity to complete the census online prior to being visited by an enumerator. Alternatively, residents were also able to call a dedicated census telephone number and complete the census over the phone or come to the County Centre and complete the census at the front desk.

Between May 1 and June 30, 2019, residents who did not complete the census online were visited by an enumerator who would complete the census in-person. During this time, residents could still complete the census through the previously mentioned enumeration methods.

Lac La Biche County submitted the results of the Census to the province on August 29, 2019. It is a provincial requirement that census results are submitted by September 1.

## TIMELINES AT-A-GLANCE

**Census Day:**

**April 17, 2019**

**Online Completion Period:**

**April 17 to June 30, 2019**

**Door-to-door Enumeration:**

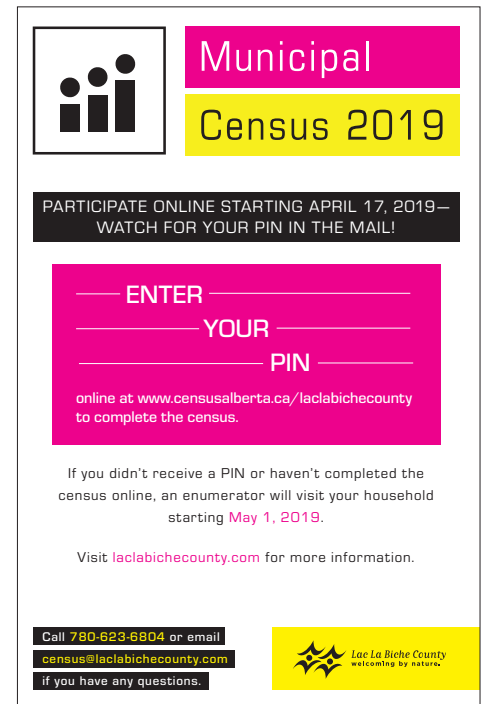
**May 1 to June 30, 2019**

# CENSUS PLANNING AND EXECUTION

Planning the Census began several months prior to the start date and required the efforts from multiple departments, including Legislative Services, the IT Department, Planning and Development and Finance.

Prior to and while the Census was underway, the County conducted an advertising campaign to inform the public about the Census. Many forms of advertising were used, including:

- Radio Advertisements;
- Signage in prominent locations and in rural subdivisions;
- Electronic signage displays in the Bold Center;
- Pamphlets;
- An article in the local County monthly newsletter, *Your County In Touch*;
- Notifications in monthly utility bills;
- Posters;
- Online advertising (social media and [laclabichecounty.com](http://laclabichecounty.com)); and
- The Ward 7 Open House.



Example of poster used.

## METHODOLOGY

A municipality may conduct a census according to one of the following three methodologies: online, paper-based, or hybrid. The County chose to use the online method. This meant that the data could be recorded directly into the software and stored digitally. Enumerators carried an iPad, enabling them to do this while conducting the census interviews door-to-door.

The County was divided up into 7 enumeration zones. The enumeration zones followed the County's ward boundaries.

## METHODOLOGY AT-A-GLANCE

- The census required the efforts of multiple departments.
- The County employed an online census methodology.
- The census fostered participation using multiple advertising mediums.



# QUALITY CONTROL

Between July 1 and August 31, 2019, the County conducted a review of the data collected on 10% of the dwellings that reported residents during the door-to-door enumeration to ensure information was collected accurately. This was completed through phone interviews with residents who agreed to participate and provided phone numbers during the census survey.

# CENSUS QUESTIONS

A municipality may ask different questions, depending on the purpose of the census. At the very least, municipalities must ask and record the number of permanent residents.

The purpose of the Census was to determine the County's population. Therefore, only the following key questions were asked, which provided information on the number of residents, as well as some basic demographic information:

1. The number of residents in the dwelling;
2. The age of the residents;
3. The gender of the residents;
4. Whether the resident was a permanent resident or belonged to the shadow population; and
5. Dwelling type.



## QUESTION 1

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Residents indicated the number of people living at the dwelling. It also provided options for situations where there were no residents. The options were:

- 1 - 25
- Bare Land
- Unoccupied/Vacant
- Under Construction
- Commercial/Industrial (no living accommodations)
- Seasonal/Secondary Residence
- Derelict/Abandoned
- Zero/No Count
- Refusal (enumerator only)

## QUESTION 2

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Residents indicated the gender of the person. Male, female and non-binary were options.

## QUESTION 3

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Residents indicated the age of the person.

## QUESTION 4

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Residents indicated whether the person was a permanent resident or a temporary resident (belonging to the shadow population).

## QUESTION 5

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Residents indicated the type of dwelling. The options were:

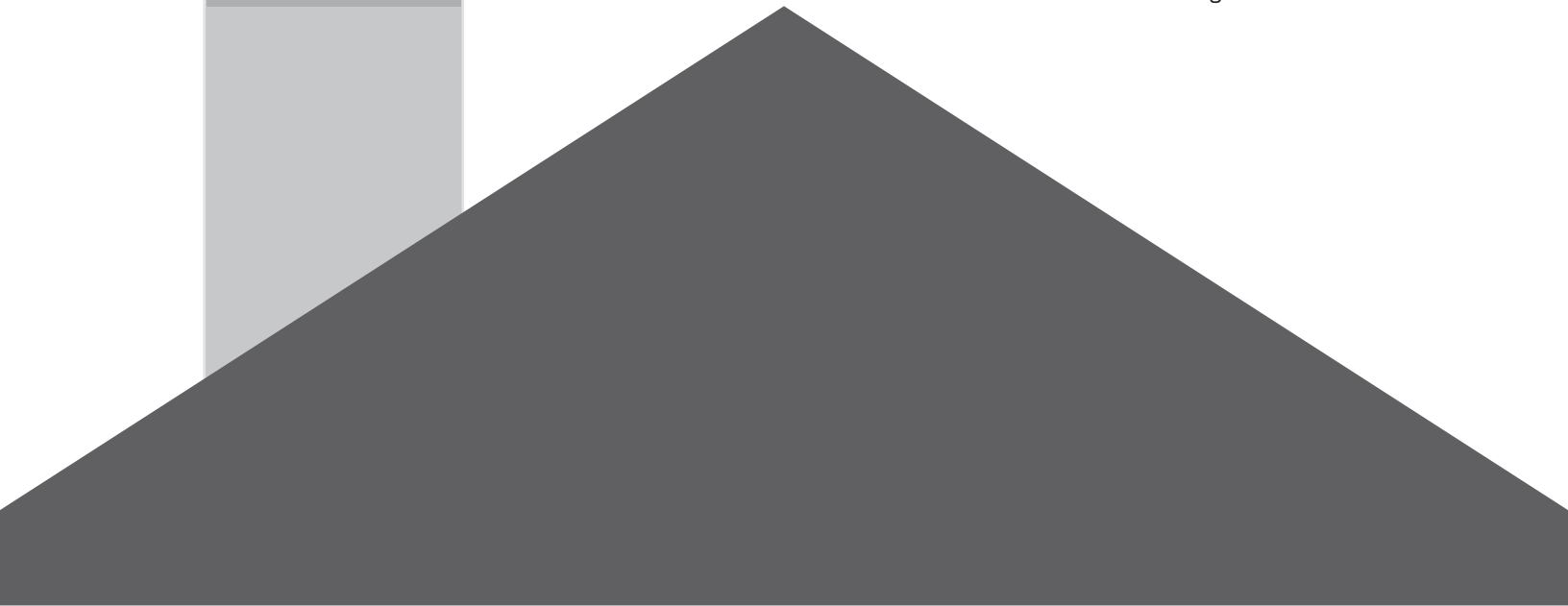
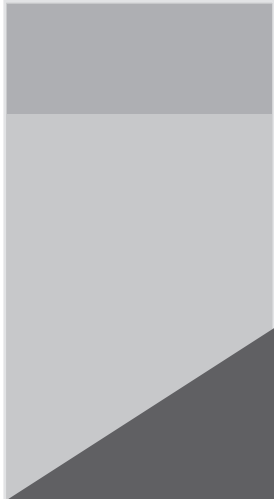
- Single Detached Dwelling/Single Family Dwelling
- Basement or Secondary Suite
- Semi-Detached/Duplex
- Row (Town) House
- Apartment/Condo
- Mobile Home
- Other Movable Dwelling
- Collective Dwelling
- Prefer not to answer



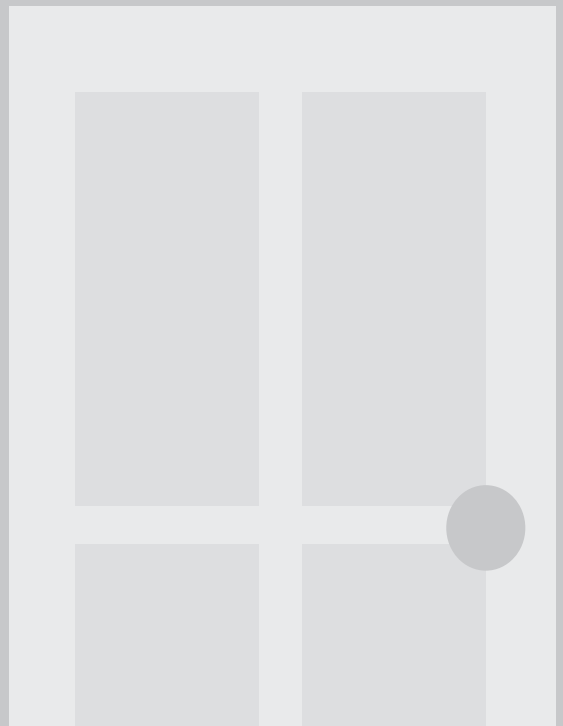
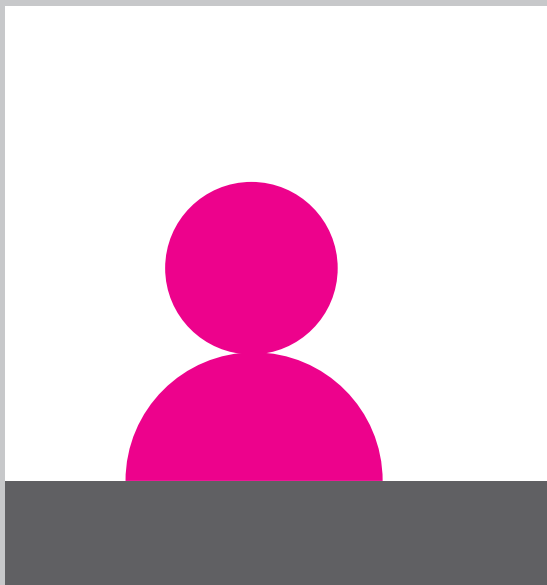


# RESULTS

The section provides further clarity over the statistical findings from the Census.



2331



# PARTICIPATION METHOD

## HOW DID RESIDENTS COMPLETE THE CENSUS?

The census was completed for a total of **4,498\*** addresses in the County. **99.8%** of these addresses were accounted for in the census. The census was completed in several ways:

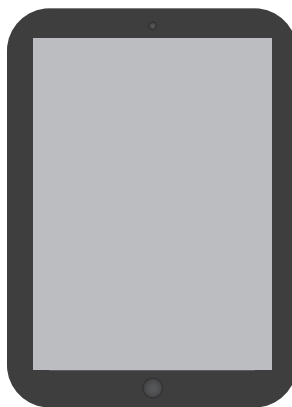
*\*not all County addresses were part of the census address list*



**8.5%**

### ADMINISTRATOR COMPLETION

This is the percent of addresses completed by administration through speaking with residents who called in to complete the survey, or who chose to complete the survey at the County Centre front desk.

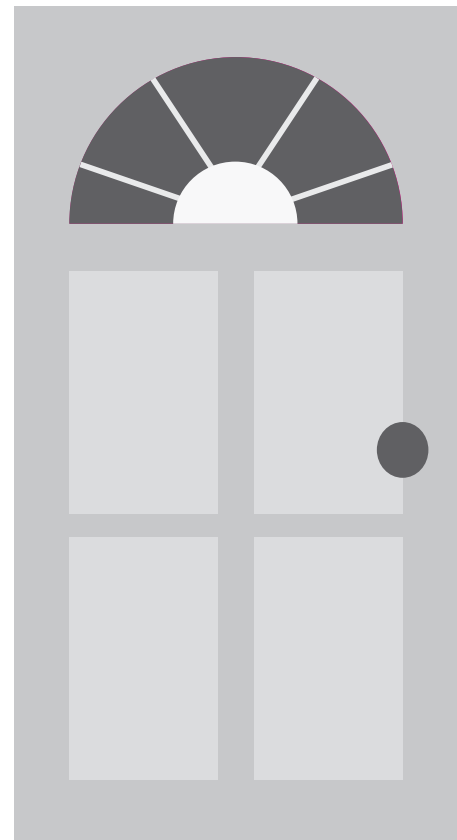


**21.1%\***

### ONLINE PARTICIPATION

This is the percent of addresses completed through self-enumeration online by residents.

*\*Not all properties received letters, such as apartments or properties with multiple residential structures. If the figure is calculated based on the actual number of residences able to complete the census online (those who were mailed out letters), this completion rate becomes 27.82%.*

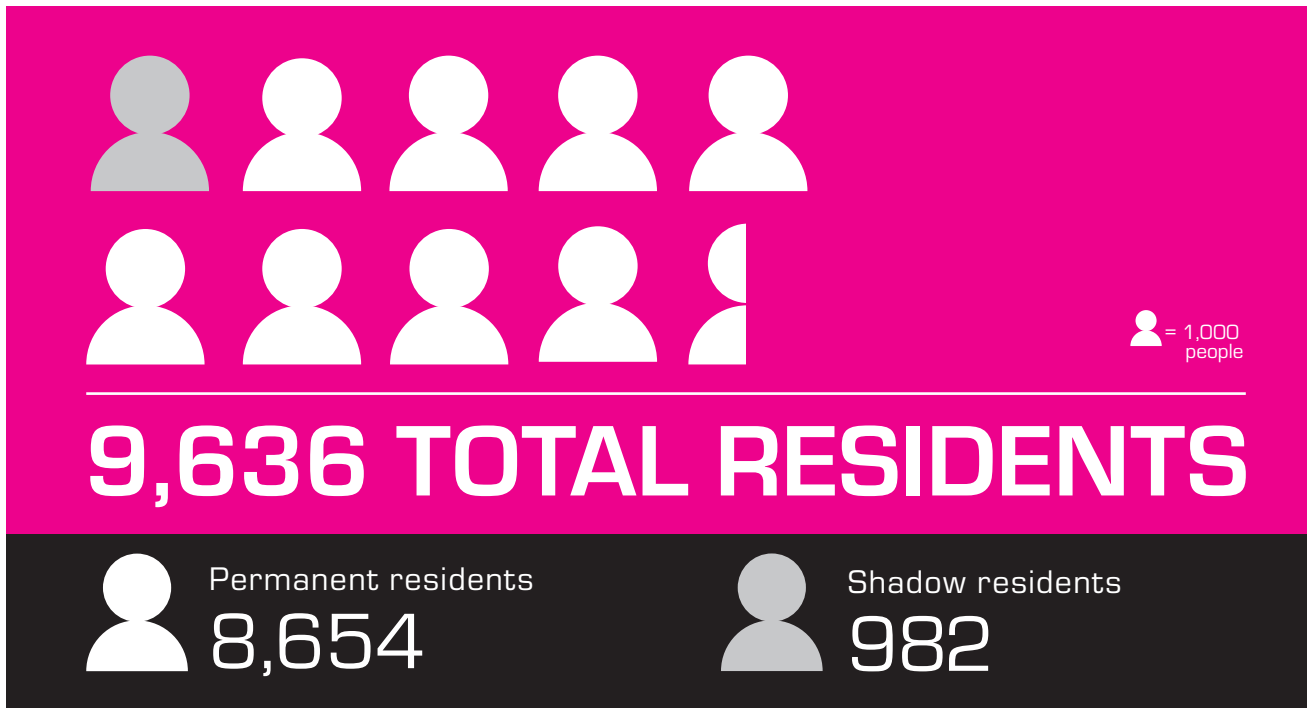


**70.2%**

### DOOR-TO-DOOR ENUMERATION

This is the percent of addresses completed through house-to-house visits made by enumerators. This number includes responses provided by a neighbour in the event that a residence could not be reached.

# POPULATION TOTALS



**PERMANENT RESIDENTS** are all persons who usually live in a dwelling, even if they were away temporarily. This includes students away for school who do not have an established residence elsewhere, as well as persons who are in an institution (such as a hospital or correctional facility) but have been away for less than 6 months.

A **SHADOW POPULATION RESIDENT** is one who is employed by a commercial or industrial establishment in the municipality for a minimum of 30 days within a municipal census year. These persons live in the County for a period of time, but do not consider the residence in the municipality to be their primary one. The majority of shadow population residents resided in project accommodations found in remote areas established by oil and gas companies to house their employees.

# NON-COUNT STATISTICS

In addition to indicating the number of people living in a dwelling, residents could also indicate that a dwelling did not have any permanent or shadow residents as of April 17, 2019. Three different status options were provided which indicated why the dwelling did not have any residents. These options were seasonal/secondary residents, unoccupied/vacant, and under construction.

## SEASONAL/ SECONDARY RESIDENCES: 675

A dwelling was designated a seasonal home or secondary residence if the respondent indicated that the dwelling was intended for occupation seasonally or periodically, but had no permanent residents on April 17<sup>th</sup>, 2019.



## UNOCCUPIED/ VACANT: 364

A dwelling was designated vacant when a respondent indicated that the dwelling, although intended for permanent occupation, had no permanent residents on April 17<sup>th</sup>, 2019.

## UNDER CONSTRUCTION: 15

A dwelling that was under construction, as indicated by the enumerator or resident.



TOTAL NON-COUNT  
DWELLINGS

**1,054\***

*\*Does not include dwellings where no response was obtained, or which were occupied but where the occupants were not eligible to be counted.*

# HAMLET POPULATIONS

## WHAT ARE THE POPULATIONS OF THE COUNTY'S FIVE HAMLETS?

Lac La Biche has 5 hamlets that are recognized by Alberta Municipal Affairs. The population of these hamlets are used to calculate the amount of funding a municipality receives for some grant programs.

Lac La Biche

**2,837**

Beaver Lake (Young's Beach and Holowachuk Estates)

**501**

Plamondon

**373**

*Includes both Shadow and Permanent population.*

Hyla

**31**

Venice

**17**

# POPULATION BY WARD

The County is divided into seven wards. Each ward is represented by a Councillor, with the exception of Ward 7, which is represented by two Councillors. The table below shows the population of each ward according to the permanent population, shadow population, and combined population.

WARD	PERMANENT	SHADOW	COMBINED
1	740	6	746
2	1,138	0	1,138
3	1,355	0	1,355
4	929	52	981
5	893	12	905
6	792	882	1,674
7	2,807	30	2,837
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>8,654</b>	<b>982</b>	<b>9,636</b>

# GENDER AND AGE STATISTICS

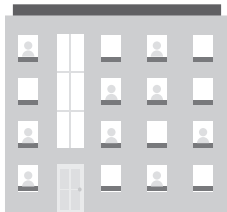
AGE RANGE	MALE	FEMALE	NON-BINARY	COMBINED	MALE (%)	FEMALE (%)	NON-BINARY (%)	COMBINED (%)
0-4	242	276	0	518	2.97%	3.38%	0.00%	6.35%
5-9	300	292	0	592	3.68%	3.58%	0.00%	7.25%
10-14	301	294	0	595	3.69%	3.60%	0.00%	7.29%
15-19	309	279	0	588	3.79%	3.42%	0.00%	7.21%
20-24	228	200	0	428	2.79%	2.45%	0.00%	5.25%
25-29	236	236	0	472	2.89%	2.89%	0.00%	5.78%
30-34	280	293	1	574	3.43%	3.59%	0.01%	7.03%
35-39	261	273	0	534	3.20%	3.35%	0.00%	6.54%
40-44	241	267	0	508	2.95%	3.27%	0.00%	6.23%
45-49	260	259	0	519	3.19%	3.17%	0.00%	6.36%
50-54	285	291	0	576	3.49%	3.57%	0.00%	7.06%
55-59	327	284	0	611	4.01%	3.48%	0.00%	7.49%
60-64	251	269	0	520	3.08%	3.30%	0.00%	6.37%
65-69	231	186	0	417	2.83%	2.28%	0.00%	5.11%
70-74	164	148	0	312	2.01%	1.81%	0.00%	3.82%
75-79	107	92	0	199	1.31%	1.13%	0.00%	2.44%
80-84	62	59	0	121	0.76%	0.72%	0.00%	1.48%
85-89	21	31	0	52	0.26%	0.38%	0.00%	0.64%
90-94	10	7	0	17	0.12%	0.09%	0.00%	0.21%
95-99	4	3	0	7	0.05%	0.04%	0.00%	0.09%
Over 100	0	0	0	0	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
<b>All ranges</b>	<b>4120</b>	<b>4039</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>8160</b>	<b>0.00%</b>	<b>50.49%</b>	<b>50.49%</b>	<b>100.00%</b>

Figures do not include shadow population.

Residents had the option to select "prefer not to answer" for the age and gender question.

Figures only include those who provided gender and age information.

# OCCUPANTS BY DWELLING TYPE



**APARTMENT/ CONDO**  
445 PEOPLE | 4.62%



**ROW (TOWN) HOUSE**  
252 PEOPLE | 2.62%



**SINGLE DETACHED**  
6,282 PEOPLE | 65.19%



**BASEMENT OR SECONDARY SUITE**  
99 PEOPLE | 1.03%



**SEMI-DETACHED/DUPLEX**  
125 PEOPLE | 1.30%



**COLLECTIVE DWELLING**  
1,107 PEOPLE | 11.49%



**MOBILE HOME**  
1,022 PEOPLE | 10.61%



**OTHER MOVABLE DWELLING**  
35 PEOPLE | 0.36%

*Includes both permanent and shadow population residents*

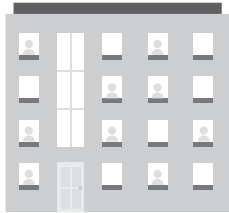


**PREFER NOT TO ANSWER**  
269 PEOPLE | 2.79%

TOTAL  
OCCUPANTS

**9,636**

# NUMBER OF DWELLINGS



APARTMENT/ CONDO  
237



ROW (TOWN) HOUSE  
85



SINGLE DETACHED  
2,233



BASEMENT OR SECONDARY SUITE  
44



SEMI-DETACHED/DUPLEX  
42



COLLECTIVE DWELLING  
31



MOBILE HOME  
405



OTHER MOVABLE DWELLING  
17



PREFER NOT TO ANSWER  
116

TOTAL \_\_\_\_\_  
DWELLINGS \_\_\_\_\_

**3,210**

*Figures only include dwellings where at least one individual was eligible to be counted as a permanent or shadow population resident.*



## **THANK YOU**

TO RESIDENTS AND ENUMERATORS: WE COULDN'T HAVE DONE IT WITHOUT YOU. YOUR COOPERATION HAS PROVIDED US WITH VALUABLE INFORMATION ABOUT OUR COMMUNITY AND ITS NEEDS.

### **FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THE CENSUS, PLEASE CONTACT:**

LEGISLATIVE SERVICES

2<sup>ND</sup> FLOOR MC ARTHUR PLACE

10307-100 ST

LAC LA BICHE, ALBERTA T0A 2C0

**P:** 780-623-1747

**EMAIL:** [MAIN.OFFICE@LACLABICHECOUNTY.COM](mailto:MAIN.OFFICE@LACLABICHECOUNTY.COM)



**Lac La Biche County**  
welcoming by nature.