



25 January 2023

Roger Garnett
Director Planning & Development Authority
County of Vermilion River
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**Subject: 2021 Census of Population – County of Vermilion River
(Census Subdivision # 4810036)**

Dear Roger Garnett,

Thank you for your inquiry requesting a review of the 2021 Census counts for the County of Vermilion River. Statistics Canada has undertaken a detailed investigation involving a review of maps, enumeration records and the census data collected for the area in order to verify boundaries and ensure that all population and dwellings were correctly allocated.

The formal review investigated the suggestion that the population count may have been impacted by an error in the coverage of a GIS polygon delineating the census subdivision (CSD) of Vermilion River County. The review confirmed that both the polygon representations of the CSD--the county's and Statistics Canada's--are correct. We believe the difference in measurement between the number of square kilometres reported by the county and the number cited on the Statistics Canada website exists mainly because Statistics Canada calculates "Land Area" using a different polygon which has the areas covered by bodies of water removed. Specifically, the boundary polygon is cut by a hydrographic data layer and the pieces that are covered by those "hydro" polygons are not included in the published land area.

However, the review did identify an error in the counts for Vermilion River County, unrelated to the geographical delineation. A total of 21 private dwellings that should have been included in the 2021 Census counts were missed, 19 of which are estimated to be occupied by 49 usual residents.



As a result of this investigation, the 2021 Census population and dwelling counts for the census subdivision (CSD) of Vermilion River County have been recompiled. The published and revised counts are shown in the following table.

Published and Revised Counts for 2021

2021 Census Census Subdivision (CSD)	Population		Private Dwellings occupied by Usual Residents		Private Dwellings Other (unoccupied + occupied by Foreign or Temporary Residents)		Total Private Dwellings	
	Published counts	Revised counts	Published counts	Revised counts	Published counts	Revised counts	Published counts	Revised counts
Vermilion River County (MD) # 4810036	7994	8043	2996	3015	324	326	3320	3341

The adjusted population count may differ from the total number of persons expected for your community, but the census relies on the number of people reported on questionnaires completed and returned by residents of each household as of census day, May 11th, 2021. The average household size in Vermilion River County, calculated from completed questionnaires, declined from 2.7 persons per household in 2016 to 2.6 persons per household in 2021. This may have contributed to the decline in the population over that same period.

In accordance with Statistics Canada's *Policy on response to formal review requests of 2021 Census population and dwelling counts*, a notification showing the 2021 revised population and dwelling counts for the census subdivision of Vermilion River County will be published on the Statistics Canada website. The amended counts will be posted within the coming weeks on the page for [Population and dwelling count amendments, 2021 Census \(statcan.gc.ca\)](https://www150.statcan.gc.ca/n1/pub/98-646-x/2021001/article/00001-eng.htm).

We regret any difficulties that this error may have caused your community and thank you for your patience awaiting the results of the formal review investigation. Please be assured that Statistics Canada will take into consideration the results of formal reviews in planning for the 2026 Census to ensure that census data remains of the highest quality possible.



If you require further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact Darrick Cheuk, Intercensal Manager, Western Region and Northern Territories at 780-224-5904 or by email at: darrick.cheuk@statcan.gc.ca.

Regards,

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