

DSCI 310: Historical Horse Population in Canada

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Aim

This project explores the historical population of horses in Canada between 1906 and 1972 for each province.

Data

Horse population data were sourced from the [Government of Canada's Open Data website](#) (Government of Canada 2017a, 2017b).

Methods

The Python programming language (R Core Team, 2019) and the following Python packages were used to perform the analysis: pandas (McKinney 2010), altair (VanderPlas 2018), click (Team 2020), as well as Quarto (Allaire et al. 2022). *Note: this report is adapted from Timbers (2020).*

Results

We can see from Figure ?? that Ontario, Saskatchewan and Alberta have had the highest horse populations in Canada. All provinces have had a decline in horse populations since 1940. This is likely due to the rebound of the Canadian automotive industry after the Great Depression and the Second World War. An interesting follow-up visualisation would be car sales per year for each Province over the time period visualised above to further support this hypothesis.

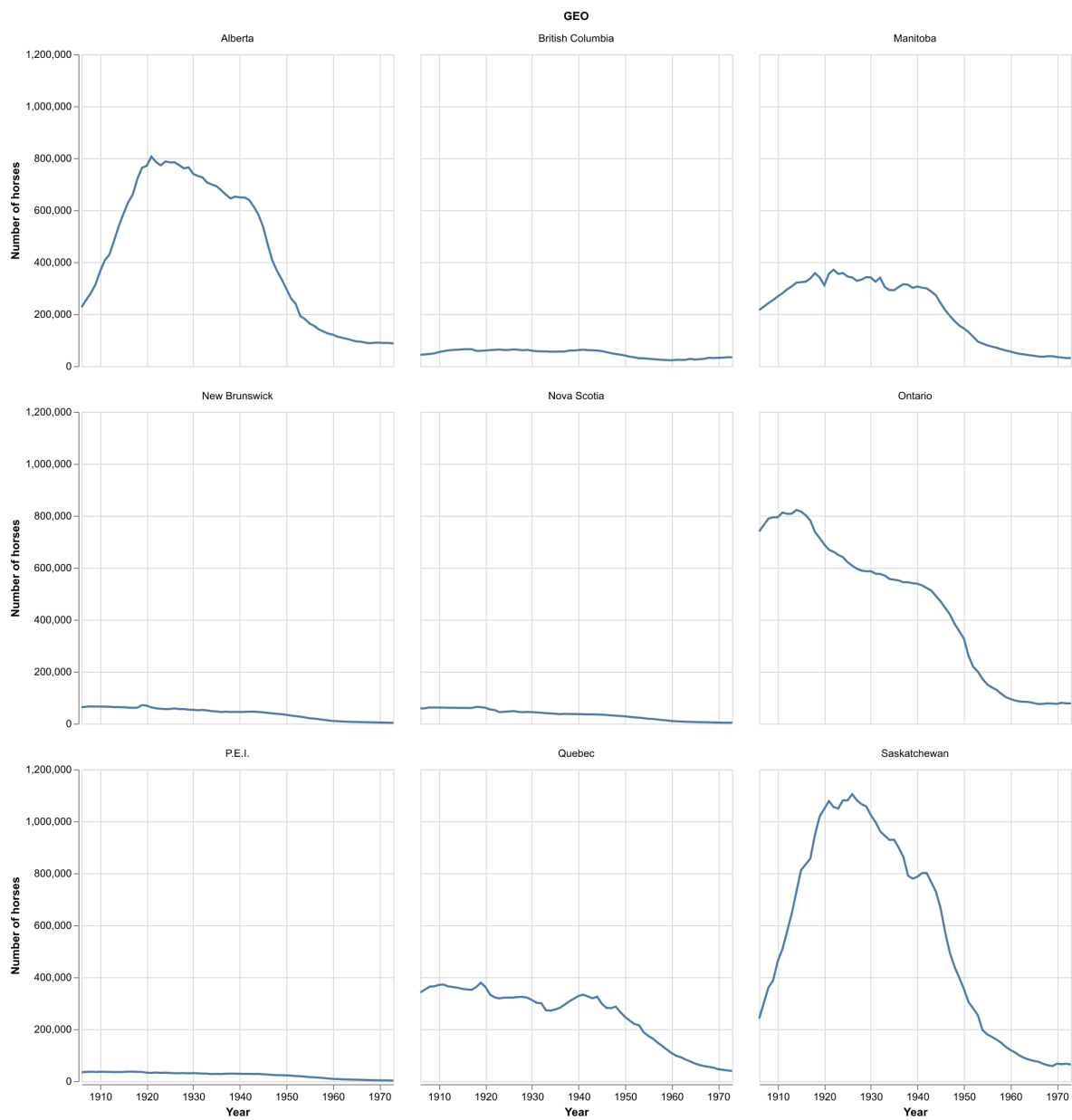


Figure 1: Horse populations for all provinces in Canada from 1906 - 1972.