

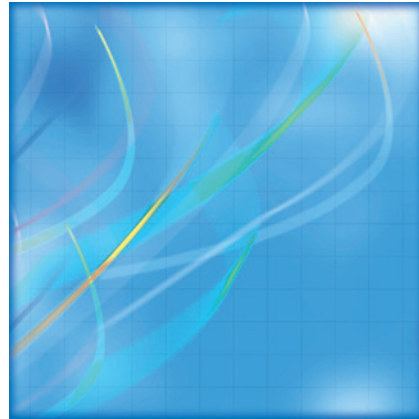


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## **Profile of Canadian families and households: Diversification continues**

This document provides detailed analysis of the 2001 Census population data released October 22, 2002.

To access the complete report, including colour maps, charts and tables, please consult Statistics Canada's website ([www.statcan.ca](http://www.statcan.ca)). On the home page, choose Census.



# Profile of Canadian families and households: Diversification continues

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# Canada

## The proportion of “traditional” families continues to decline

A family portrait taken by the census at the outset of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century shows a continuation of many of the changes in families over the last 20 years. The proportion of “traditional” families—mom, dad and the kids—continues to decline, while families with no children at home are on the increase.

As of May 15, 2001, married or common-law couples with children aged 24 and under living at home represented only 44% of all families in Canada. In 1991, they accounted for 49% of all families, and in 1981 they represented more than one-half (55%).

At the same time, couples who had no children living at home accounted for 41% of all families in 2001, up from 38% in 1991 and 34% in 1981.

Behind this shift in living arrangements are diverse factors, such as lower fertility rates, couples who are delaying having children or who are childless. In addition, life expectancy is increasing, with one result being that couples have more of their lives to spend together as “empty-nesters” after their children have grown up and left home.

Some couples with children consist of step families<sup>1</sup>. According to the 2001 General Social Survey, Canada had 503,100 step families in 2001. This represents almost 12% of all Canadian couples with children in 2001, compared to 10% in 1995.

The 2001 Census showed that an increasing proportion of couples choose to live common-law. The proportion of married-couple families was 70% in 2001, down from 83% in 1981. At the same time, the proportion of common-law families increased from 5.6% to 14%.

The census counted 5,901,420 married families and 1,158,410 common-law families in 2001. The 1,311,190 lone-parent families<sup>2</sup> represented 16% of families in Canada.

The trend toward common-law was again strongest in Quebec, where 508,520 common-law families represented 30% of all couple families in that province.

A recent study based on Statistics Canada’s General Social Survey showed that common-law unions have become more and more popular in Quebec, and that trend has started to take hold among younger people in other provinces.

Still, while younger Canadian men and women are more likely to start their conjugal life through a common-law relationship (about 40% of men and women aged 30 to 39), most will eventually marry (roughly 75%) if trends observed in 2001 were to continue.

Common-law couples with children (under the age of 25) at home are also increasing. They accounted for 7.4% of all couples in Canada in 2001, compared to only 2.1% two decades earlier. About 520,735 couples were raising children in common-law relationships in 2001.

By contrast, married couples with children declined significantly from 60% of all couples in 1981 to 44% in 2001.

## Same-sex common-law couples: Male couples outnumber female couples

For the first time the 2001 Census provides data on same-sex partnerships.

### Same-sex partnerships in the 2001 Census

Changes in the legal status of same-sex common-law couples was the primary reason for collecting data on same-sex partnerships in the 2001 Census. The number of same-sex couples in the census reflects people who identified themselves as living in a same-sex common-law relationship.

The 2001 Census did not ask about sexual orientation. Therefore, the data on same-sex partnerships should not be interpreted as an estimation of the number of gays and lesbians in Canada, some of whom may be living alone or with parents or friends.

A few other countries are collecting information on same-sex partnerships in their census of population. In the United States, same-sex couples represented about 1% of all couples in 2000, up from 0.3% in 1990. In New Zealand, the proportion of same-sex couples increased from 0.4% in 1996 to 0.6% in 2001. In the 2001 Canadian Census, same-sex couples represented 0.5% of all couples.

A total of 34,200 same-sex common-law couples were counted in Canada in 2001, representing 0.5% of all couples.

There were 10,360 couples in Quebec and 5,790 couples in British Columbia who identified themselves as same-sex common-law couples, accounting for 0.6% of all couples living in each province. Ontario had the largest number of same-sex couples (12,505), representing 0.5% of all couples.

Although the actual numbers are small, same sex couples also represented 0.6% of all couples (married and common-law) in the Yukon.

Newfoundland and Labrador had the lowest proportion of same-sex couples (0.1% of all couples).

There were slightly more male same-sex common-law couples than female. The census counted about 19,000 male same-sex couples, 55% of the total.

More female same-sex couples have children living with them. About 15% of the 15,200 female same-sex couples are living with children, compared to only 3% of male same-sex couples. Less than 10% of male and female same-sex couples live with other household members (other than children). The majority of same-sex couples (88% of male couples and 77% of female couples) had no other people living in their household.

Male couples were more likely to live in census metropolitan areas; 85% live in the larger urban areas of Canada, compared with 76% of female couples.

The metropolitan areas of Ottawa-Hull (now known as Ottawa-Gatineau) and Vancouver had the highest proportions of same-sex common-law couples (about 0.9% of all couples). Close to 4,000 same-sex couples were counted in Vancouver, and 2,170 couples identified themselves as same-sex couples in Ottawa-Hull.

Same-sex common-law couples represented 0.8% of all couples in the metropolitan areas of Montréal and Victoria.

## **Common-law relationships in Quebec: Proportion reaches similar level as in Sweden**

The prevalence of common-law relationships is not only higher in Quebec than in the other Canadian provinces, it is also higher than in many Western European and North American countries.

About 30% of all couples in Quebec were living common-law in 2001, a proportion comparable to Sweden's, a country often referred to as having one of the highest incidences of non-marital unions.

The proportion of common-law couples in Quebec exceeds the proportion in Norway (24.5%), Finland (19%), and France (17.5%). It is also close to twice as high as in Mexico, and more than three times the proportion in the United States.

The prevalence of common-law couples is roughly twice as high in Canada as it is in the United States. This is mostly because of the higher number of common-law unions in Quebec. The other provinces and territories still have a higher proportion of common-law couples than the United States (11.7% versus 8.2%).

## **Canadian household size declining and living alone on the rise**

The number of private households is still growing faster than the population living in them. Between 1996 and 2001, the number of private households increased 6.9%, while the number of people living in these households rose 4.0%. In 2001, the census enumerated 11,562,975 private households, up from 10,820,050 in 1996.

The increase of smaller households is the biggest contributor to the growth of private households. More people are living alone and more families have no children at home.

The size of households has dropped in the last two decades, as fewer people live in large households and more people live alone. In 2001, there were about as many one-person households (2,976,875) as there were households with four or more persons (2,938,455).

One- and two-person households have increased in the last two decades. The proportion of one-person households has risen from about one-fifth of all households in 1981 to more than one-quarter in 2001. The proportion of two-person households has also grown during this time, from 29% of households to 33%. Between 1996 and 2001, smaller households represented the fastest growing household type in Canada.

The proportion of households consisting of four or more people fell from one-third in 1981 to one-quarter in 2001. Average household size has decreased during the same time period from 2.9 to 2.6 persons.

The decline in household size is at least partially a result of much lower fertility rates in recent decades, as couples have, on average, fewer children. There has also been a large increase in childless couples and couples with no children still present in the household (empty-nest families). In addition, the dissolution of marital or common-law unions often creates two smaller households.

Seniors are more likely to live alone, and there are growing numbers of elderly, which is contributing to the growth in one-person households.

The decline in the number of larger households and the growing number of one- and two-person households may have implications for the housing market as smaller households, especially persons living alone, may want smaller living spaces than would larger households.

### **More seniors living with a spouse, more living alone and fewer living in health care institutions<sup>3</sup>**

Family and household settings of seniors have also been evolving quickly. Many seniors in Canada live with their spouse or partner (and no children), up slightly from twenty years ago. This decreases with age for both men and women.

In 2001, 35% of women aged 65 and over and 61% of senior men lived with a spouse or partner. Two decades earlier, these figures were 33% and 59%.

Close to half (48%) of 65 to 74 year old women lived with a spouse or partner in 2001; this proportion falls to 7.2% for women aged 85 or more. Men are far more likely than women to spend their senior years with a spouse or partner, because of their lower life expectancy and tendency to marry younger women. Almost two-thirds (64%) of men aged 65 to 74 lived with a spouse or partner in 2001, dropping to 39% for men aged 85 and over.

Many seniors reside with at least one of their adult children. In 2001, 13% of men aged 65 and over lived in the same household as their children, virtually unchanged from 1981. Slightly fewer senior women (12%) co-resided with their children in 2001, up from 8.9% twenty years earlier. For both men and women, the proportions drop off slightly with age.

According to the 2001 General Social Survey, about 77% of seniors aged 65 and over are grandparents. Some of these grandparents shared households with their grandchildren. The 2001 Census counted 232,595 grandparents (6.5% of all seniors in private households) who did so. Of these households, about 12% contained only the grandparent(s) and grandchild(ren); the remainder also included the parent(s).

Not only are more seniors living with a spouse or partner, or with children than they did twenty years ago, but seniors are also more likely to live alone.

In 2001, 35% of women aged 65 and over lived alone and 16% of the men in this age group did so. Living alone is becoming more common even for the seniors aged 85 and over. For women aged 85 and over, the proportion of seniors living alone grew from 25% in 1981 to 38% in 2001. The pattern was similar, but less marked, for men in this age group, increasing from 16% to 23%.

There were 287,480 seniors aged 65 and over who lived in health care institutions in 2001; they represent 9.2% of senior women and 4.9% of senior men. This is a decline for both senior men and women and for all age groups. In 1981, 10.5% of senior women and 6.7% of senior men lived in these facilities.

Living in health care institutions is most common for the oldest seniors, those aged 85 and over. However, for this group of seniors, the proportion of men in these facilities dropped from 29% in 1981 to 23% in 2001, and the decline for women was from 41% in 1981 to 35% in 2001.

While the rates for living in health care institutions are declining, the number of seniors aged 85 and over continues to increase as the population ages.

## **More children living with common-law parents**

The diversification of family settings has an impact on all age groups, including children. Currently, children aged 0 to 14 are less likely to live in “traditional” families (i.e., with married parents), than they were two decades ago. Children are increasingly being raised by common-law or lone parents.

Still, most children aged 0 to 14 lived with married parents in 2001. Although their numbers have climbed from 3.9 million to 4.6 million between 1981 and 2001, the proportion of children living with married parents has fallen substantially from 84% to 68%.

About 732,915 children, or 13% of children aged 0 to 14, lived with common-law parents in 2001, more than four times the proportion in 1981 (3.1%). This suggests a change in the historical view that marriage is a prerequisite for raising children.

Younger children are more likely to live with common-law parents than are older children. The 2001 Census data showed that 17% of children aged 0 to 4 lived with common-law parents compared with 9.3% of children aged 10 to 14.

In 2001, children were much more likely to be living with common-law parents in Quebec (29%) than in the rest of Canada (8.2%).

According to data from the National Longitudinal Survey of Children and Youth, children are experiencing parental separation at increasingly younger ages. Furthermore, children born into common-law unions are more apt to see the separation of their parents. Research has also found that children who experience the separation or divorce of their parents while growing up are more likely to become separated themselves later in their adult lives.

In 2001, 1.07 million children, or about 19%, did not live with both parents. Most of these children lived with a lone parent, the majority of whom were lone mothers. Only a small proportion, about 1%, did not live with at least one parent, for the most part staying with other relatives.

In 7 of the 13 provinces and territories, more than one out of five children lived with a lone parent in 2001. In the Yukon, about one out of four children were in a lone-parent family. Nova Scotia, Manitoba, and Saskatchewan had the largest provincial proportions.

Although rare, children occasionally co-reside with grandparents. According to the 2001 Census, 190,810 children, or 3.3%, lived in the same household as one or more grandparents, 25,245 of these children, about 0.4%, lived in the same household as their grandparents and without their parents.

## **More young adults living with their parent(s)**

There is more fluidity to the living arrangements of young adults today, although most still live in a family context.

Over the last two decades, one of the trends for young adults in Canada is their growing tendency to remain in (or return to) the parental home. The Census showed that 41% of the 3.8 million young adults aged 20 to 29 lived with their parents in 2001, a large increase from 27% in 1981. Much of the increase, however, occurred during the early 1990s. In 1991, 33% of young adults lived at home, rising to 39% in 1996.

Young adults in their early twenties are most likely to live at home, and this is especially true for young men. Thus, 64% of men aged 20 to 24 lived with their parents in 2001, while this was the case for 52% of women in the same age group. This decreased with age, to 19% for women age 25 to 29 and 29% for men in this age group.

These figures were higher than in 1981 when 51% of men and 33% of women aged 20 to 24 lived at home, as well as 15% of men and 8.3% of women aged 25 to 29.

There are a number of factors that help explain this growing trend of young adults living with their parents, including falling marriage rates, rising age at first marriage, the growth of common-law unions (which dissolve at a higher rate than marital unions), as well as the pursuit of higher education and the difficulty in finding a job.

The 2001 General Social Survey (GSS) provides additional information on the home-leaving process. In particular, leaving the parental home does not preclude one from returning. According to the 2001 GSS, about 33% of men and 28% of women aged 20 to 29 returned home at least once after an initial departure.

## **Fewer young adults living in unions**

Union formation, either through marriage or common-law, remains an important process for men and women in their twenties. In particular, the popularity of common-law unions continues to rise. Between 1981 and 2001, the proportion of young adults living in common-law unions more than doubled from 8.0% to 17%.

Despite the increase in the proportion of young adults living in common-law unions, there is an overall decrease in 20 to 29 year olds living in couples. In other words, the increase in common-law unions does not compensate for the decrease in marriage.

From 1981 to 2001, the proportion of men aged 20 to 24 in unions (either marriage or common-law) dropped from 27% to 14%; for women in the same age group, the proportion dropped from 46% to 26%. For 25 to 29 year olds, the decrease was from 64% to 45% for men and from 73% to 57% for women.

For young adults in their twenties, a common-law union is likely to be their first conjugal union. According to the 2001 General Social Survey, starting conjugal life in a common-law relationship also increases the probability of this first union ending in separation, regardless of whether the common-law partners eventually marry.

## **Notes**

- <sup>1</sup> Step family refers to a family in which at least one of the children in the household is from a previous relationship of one of the parents. In a "simple" step family, the child(ren) of one of the spouses lives in the household. A "blended" family contains children of both spouses from one or more previous unions or one or more children from the current union and one or more children from previous unions.
- <sup>2</sup> Changes to the census family definition in 2001 make comparisons with previous years difficult for lone-parent families.
- <sup>3</sup> Health care institutions include hospitals, nursing care homes, residences for senior citizens, and facilities for the disabled. A small proportion of seniors in this category also reside in other institutions, lodging and rooming houses, and religious establishments.



## Provinces and territories

### Prevalence of one-person households highest in Quebec and in the West

The number of people living alone has increased in Canada over the last 20 years, in large part because of the aging population. One-person households have risen from about one-fifth of households in 1981 to one-quarter in 2001. In 2001, there were about as many one-person households in Canada (2,976,875) as there were households with four or more persons (2,938,455).

Close to 3 out of 10 households are one-person households in four provinces and one territory: Quebec, Manitoba, Saskatchewan, British Columbia and Yukon.

Quebec has proportionally more one-person households (30%) than any other province or territory. Four out of the top five census metropolitan areas having the highest proportions of persons living alone were in Quebec: Sherbrooke (34%), Trois-Rivières (33%), Québec (32%), and Montréal (31%). The proportion of one-person households is about the same in these census metropolitan areas as it is in Victoria (32%).

Nunavut had the lowest proportion of one-person households in Canada. Only 17% of households in this territory consisted of one person.

Among the provinces, Newfoundland and Labrador had the lowest proportion of one-person households. Less than one-fifth (18%) of all men and women lived alone in this province. Despite this low proportion, this is still the fastest-growing household type in that province. In fact, the number of one-person households increased by 26% from 1996 to 2001, nearly double the Canadian average (14%).

### About half of young adults in Newfoundland and Labrador and Ontario are living with their parent(s)

There is more fluidity to the living arrangements of young adults today, although most still live in a family context.

Over the last two decades, young adults in Canada have a growing tendency to remain in (or return to) the parental home. The Census showed that 41% of the 3.8 million young adults (20 to 29) in Canada lived with their parents in 2001, a jump from 27% in 1981.

Important provincial and territorial differences have been observed. Young adults aged 20 to 29 were more likely to live with their parent(s) in the eastern provinces.

About half (51%) of all young adults living in Newfoundland and Labrador at the time of the census were in the parental home in 2001. Ontario had the second highest proportion, with 47% of the 1.4 million young adults in that province being members of their parents' home. Only 30% of young adults in Saskatchewan were living in the parental home.

The pursuit of higher education, finding employment, the delaying of entry into the first conjugal union and of parenthood are all factors that can influence the family environment in which young adults find themselves.

All the provinces and territories have seen an increase in the proportion of young adults living in the parental home over the last 20 years. In Newfoundland and Labrador, the proportion of young

adults aged 20 to 29 living at home increased from 36% in 1981 to 51% in 2001; this proportion jumped from 30% to 47% in Ontario in the same period.

Yukon, Alberta and British Columbia also saw the proportions of young adults living at their parental home increase substantially from 1981 to 2001. In British Columbia, the proportion was 40% in 2001, up from 22% in 1981. Although the phenomenon is still not as widespread in the Yukon as it is in most provinces, the proportion increased from 13% in 1981 to 31% in 2001.

The metropolitan areas with the highest proportion of young adults living at home are in Ontario, namely Toronto, Hamilton, St. Catharines-Niagara and Oshawa. In Toronto, 54% of young adults lived with their parent(s) in 2001.

### **Seniors aged 85 and over: More living alone in Manitoba and Saskatchewan, more living in health care institutions in Quebec**

The living arrangements of the oldest seniors, those aged 85 and over, varies by their province of residence.

For senior women and men aged 85 and over, living alone was highest in Manitoba (50% of women and 29% of men), Saskatchewan (50% of women and 27% of men), British Columbia (43% of women and 25% of men) and Nova Scotia (42% of women and 26% of men).

Newfoundland and Labrador had the lowest proportion of women in this age group who lived alone (28%), and Prince Edward Island had the lowest proportion of men (14%).

Nationally, only 7.2% of women aged 85 and over lived with their spouse or partner and no children in 2001, compared with 39% of men. Seniors in British Columbia were most likely to still be living with their spouse or partner at this age (9.9% of women and 44% of men). In Quebec, only 4.9% of women and 34% of men lived with their spouse or partner.

The provinces with low proportions of seniors aged 85 and over living alone or with a spouse/partner (such as Quebec and Alberta) tended to have high proportions living in health care institutions.

Quebec had a higher proportion of seniors aged 85 and over living in health care institutions than anywhere else in Canada; 44% of women and 31% of men had this type of living arrangement.

The figures are even higher in several census metropolitan areas in Quebec. For example, in Trois-Rivières, 50% of women and 40% of men aged 85 and over were in health care institutions. Close to half of the women aged 85 and over in Sherbrooke and Chicoutimi-Jonquière (now known as Saguenay) also lived in these facilities.

In Alberta, 40% of women and 28% of men lived in health care institutions. Living in these facilities was also high in Prince Edward Island, but there was little difference between the proportion of men (33%) and women (35%).

## Subprovincial

### **Private households increase in metropolitan areas, even when the population declines**

The number of private households grew in almost all census metropolitan areas (CMAs) from 1996 to 2001, whether their populations increased or not. The rate of increase in private households was higher for CMAs than for Canada as a whole (8.0% compared with 6.9%).

Alberta's two CMAs, Calgary and Edmonton, recorded the largest increases in private households. In Calgary, the number of private households was up 17%, and the population in private households grew 16%. The corresponding figures for Edmonton were 11% and 8.6%.

At the other end of the spectrum, Greater Sudbury suffered a 1.0% decline in the number of private households and a 6.0% drop in population. The CMAs with the lowest rate of increase in private households were Thunder Bay (0.7%), Saint John (2.6%) and Regina (2.6%), all three of which saw their populations decline.

### **Couples with children decrease in metropolitan areas whose population is down**

There is a relationship between the decline in the population living in private households in metropolitan areas and the decrease in households consisting of couples with children. The number of households made up of a couple and children is falling in areas whose population is shrinking.

From 1996 to 2001, the proportion of all households consisting of a couple with children at home in St. John's fell from 40% to 34%, while the population in private households decreased 0.5%. In Chicoutimi-Jonquière (now known as Saguenay) there was a drop in the proportion of couples with children from 38% to 32% combined with a 3.6% loss of population. The proportion of couples with children at home in Greater Sudbury was down from 34% in 1996 to 29% in 2001; the number of private households fell 6.0%.

Areas that had a loss of population and a gain in private households posted a sharp increase in one-person households and households consisting of couples with no children at home. St. John's CMA is a good example of this phenomenon. The increase in couples without children from 1996 to 2001 was particularly large (21%). These are either childless couples, couples whose children have left home (the "empty nest" phenomenon) or couples where all children at home are 25 or older.

The number of one-person households in St. John's jumped 32% from 1996 to 2001, a larger increase than in any other CMA in the country.

Other CMAs that lost population also recorded an increase in the number of one-person households and households composed of couples with no children at home. In Chicoutimi-Jonquière (now known as Saguenay) the proportion of one-person households rose from 22% in 1996 to 26% in 2001, and households consisting of a couple with no children from about 25% to 28%. The CMA with the largest proportion of one-person households in Canada in 2001 was Sherbrooke, with 34%; the 1996 figure was 31%. The proportion of couples with no children under 25 at home also increased, edging up from 25% to 27%.

## **In the majority of metropolitan areas, couples with children are concentrated in areas between the centre and the outskirts**

The proportion of all households composed of couples with children under 25 at home varies widely from CMA to CMA. In 2001, 22% of all private households in Victoria were couples with children; the corresponding figure for Oshawa was almost double at 38%.

There are also substantial differences within CMAs in the geographic concentration of households made up of a couple with children at home.

In a majority of CMAs, the areas where more than 50% of the households consist of couples with children are halfway between the centre and the outskirts of the CMA. The Montréal and Vancouver CMAs are good examples of this phenomenon.

In other metropolitan areas, the households composed of couples with children at home are spread out fairly evenly. While roughly 30% of the households in Saint John, Chicoutimi-Jonquière (now known as Saguenay), Greater Sudbury and Thunder Bay were made up of couples with children in 2001, there were very few areas where those couples comprised over 50% of the households. The pattern was the same in the Sherbrooke, Trois-Rivières and Victoria CMAs, which had the lowest proportion of households consisting of couples with children (25%, 25% and 22% respectively).

In some CMAs, the areas where the majority of households are couples with children form a circle around the centre of the CMA. This pattern is readily apparent in Toronto and Regina. In Toronto, the circle corresponds roughly to the areas that enjoyed rapid population growth between 1996 and 2001. In Regina, couples with children made up more than 50% of the households in all areas surrounding the centre of the CMA.

Despite these differences, all metropolitan areas had one thing in common: there were no areas in their centres where the proportion of households composed of couples with children exceeded 25%.

## **Municipalities with the highest proportions of couples with children are in metropolitan areas**

The town of Stanley (located south of Winnipeg) has a larger proportion of couples with children under 25 at home than any other Canadian municipality with a population of 5,000 or more. In 2001, over 65% of its households were made up of couples with children.

Other municipalities that ranked high on the list of those with the largest proportion of couples with children at home are also in the suburban part of a CMA. Examples include Quispamsis (Saint John), Saint-Augustin-de-Desmaures (Quebec City), Vaughan (Toronto), East St. Paul (Winnipeg) and Airdrie (Calgary).

In addition, some of the youngest municipalities in Canada in 2001, based on median age, had a high proportion of families with children: Wellesley, Mapleton, Hanover, Mackenzie No. 23 and Beaumont.

Quebec and British Columbia share almost all the municipalities with the smallest proportion of households consisting of couples with children.

Victoria is the municipality with the lowest proportion of couples with children. In 2001, just over 10% of its households were couples with children under 25 at home. The proportions were also

low in the municipalities of Sherbrooke and Trois-Rivières, which are part of the CMAs that had the highest proportions of one-person households.

Among the 25 municipalities that have the fewest households composed of couples with children is the resort town of Banff. Several municipalities have populations whose median age is among the highest in the country: Qualicum Beach, White Rock, Sidney, Shawinigan and Trail.

## Provincial and territorial highlights

### **Newfoundland and Labrador: Proportion of couples with children at home still declining**

Couples who have children living at home represented a minority of all families in Newfoundland and Labrador, according to the 2001 Census.

Between 1996 and 2001, the province followed a national trend in which the number of two-parent families with children declined, while the number of couples with no children at home rose.

The 2001 Census counted 69,815 married and common-law couples with at least one child aged 24 and under living at home. These couples accounted for 45% of total families. Five years earlier, there were 83,290 such couples, accounting for more than one-half (54%) of all families.

The proportion of couples with no children under age 25 at home rose from 33% of all families in 1996 to 40% in 2001.

In total, the census counted 154,385 families in Newfoundland and Labrador in 2001, down from 155,750 five years earlier.

Married couples represented 75% of these families in 2001, down from 78% five years earlier. At the same time, the proportion of common-law unions increased from 8.6% to 9.6%. Still, Newfoundland and Labrador, had one of the highest proportions of married couples in 2001. The province also had the highest proportion in 1981 (88%).

There were 23,050 lone-parent families in Newfoundland and Labrador in 2001, representing 15% of all families. The national average was 16%.

The 2001 Census is the first to provide data on same-sex partnerships. A total of 180 same-sex couples identified themselves as living in a common-law relationship. Of these, 140 lived in the census metropolitan area of St. John's.

Although Newfoundland and Labrador had the lowest proportion of one-person households in Canada in 2001, it was the fastest growing household type. In total, the census counted 189,040 households in the province, of which 18% were one-person households. The number of one-person households increased 26% to 34,060 between 1996 and 2001, the highest provincial increase.

This increase in small households helps explain why the total number of households in Newfoundland and Labrador increased 1.9% between 1996 and 2001, while its population actually declined 7%.

Newfoundland and Labrador had the country's highest proportion of young adults living at home. About one-half (51%) of all young adults aged 20 to 29 were living with their parents in 2001.

Only about one-fifth (21%) of the 64,830 households in St. John's consisted of individuals who were living alone. St. John's also had one of the highest proportions of young adults aged 20 to 29 (46%) who were living with their parents.

## **Prince Edward Island: Proportion of couples with children at home continues to decline**

Couples with children at home continued to decline during the past five years in Prince Edward Island, according to the 2001 Census.

Between 1996 and 2001, the province followed a national trend in which the number of two-parent families with at least one child aged 24 and under declined, while the number of couples with no children living at home went up.

The 2001 Census counted 17,110 married and common-law couples with children at home. These couples accounted for 45% of total families. Five years earlier, there were 17,830 such couples, accounting for one-half of all families.

The proportion of couples without children under age 25 at home rose from 36% of all families in 1996 to 39% in 2001.

In total, the census counted 38,425 families in Prince Edward Island in 2001, up from 35,870 five years earlier.

Married couples accounted for 74% of these families in 2001, down from 78% in 1996. The proportion of common-law couples increased from 7.7% to 9.4%.

There were 6,305 lone parents in Prince Edward Island in 2001, representing 16% of all families, the same as the national average.

The 2001 Census is the first to provide data on same-sex partnerships. A total of 55 same-sex couples identified themselves as living in a common-law relationship.

Far more people were living alone in Prince Edward Island in 2001 than in 1996. In total, the census counted 50,795 households in the province, of which 23% (11,580) were one-person households. This represents an increase of 12% since 1996.

This increase in small households helps explain why the total number of households in Prince Edward Island increased 5.9% between 1996 and 2001, while the population in private households rose only 1%.

Among senior women aged 65 and over, 34% lived alone, more than twice the proportion of senior men (17%). The majority of senior men (59%) lived with a spouse or partner, compared with only 32% of senior women.

## **Nova Scotia: Lowest proportion of couples with children at home**

Nova Scotia had the lowest proportion of couples with children at home among the provinces and territories, according to the 2001 Census.

Between 1996 and 2001, the province followed a national trend in which the number of two-parent families with children declined, while the number of couples with no children at home went up.

The 2001 Census counted 106,200 married and common-law couples with at least one child aged 24 and under living at home. These couples accounted for only 40% of total families, the lowest proportion in Canada. Five years earlier, there were 115,025 such couples, accounting for 45% of all families.

The proportion of couples without children under age 25 at home rose from 39% of all families in 1996 to 43% in 2001.

In total, the census counted 262,910 families in Nova Scotia in 2001, up from 253,950 five years earlier.

Married couples accounted for 72% of these families in 2001, down from 75% in 1996. Common-law couples represented 11%, up from 9.5%.

There were 44,140 lone parents in Nova Scotia in 2001, representing 17% of all families. The national average was 16%.

The 2001 Census is the first to provide data on same-sex partnerships. A total of 855 same-sex couples identified themselves as living in a common-law relationship. Of these, 510 lived in the census metropolitan area of Halifax.

Far more people were living alone in Nova Scotia in 2001 than in 1996. In fact, the number of one-person households outnumbered households of four people or more.

The census counted 360,020 households in the province, of which one-quarter (25%) were one-person households and 23% were households of four individuals or more. A total of 89,005 people were living alone in 2001 in Nova Scotia, up 16% from 1996.

Among senior women aged 65 and over, 36% lived alone, more than twice the proportion of senior men (17%). The majority of senior men (60%) lived with a spouse or partner, compared with only 33% of senior women.

Previously released census data showed that Nova Scotia, along with Quebec, had the nation's oldest population. Between 1991 and 2001, its median age rose from 33.4 years to 38.8.

However, Nova Scotia had one of the lowest proportions of seniors aged 85 and over who were living in health care institutions in 2001. Only 28% of women in this age group and 17% of men were in such institutions. The national averages were 35% for women and 23% for men.

## **New Brunswick: Proportion of couples with children at home continues to decline**

Couples who have children living at home continued to decline during the past five years in New Brunswick, according to the 2001 Census.

Between 1996 and 2001, the province followed a national trend in which the number of two-parent families with children declined, while the number of couples with no children rose.

The 2001 Census counted 89,695 married and common-law couples with at least one child aged 24 and under living at home in New Brunswick. These couples accounted for only 42% of total families. Five years earlier, there were 98,970 such couples, accounting for almost one-half (48%) of all families.

The proportion of couples without children under age 25 at home rose from 38% of all families in 1996 to 42% in 2001.

In total, the census counted 215,105 families in New Brunswick in 2001, up from 207,225 five years earlier.



Married couples accounted for 71% of these families in 2001, down from 75% in 1996. Common-law couples represented 13%, up from 11%.

There were 34,615 lone parents in New Brunswick in 2001, representing 16% of families, the same proportion as the national average.

The 2001 Census is the first to provide data on same-sex partnerships. A total of 505 same-sex couples identified themselves as living in a common-law relationship. Of these, 85 lived in the census metropolitan area of Saint John.

Far more people were living alone in New Brunswick in 2001 than in 1996. In total, the census counted 283,820 households in the province, of which just over one-fifth (22%) were one-person households. A total of 63,585 people were living alone in 2001, up 17% since 1996.

Among senior women aged 65 and over, 34% lived alone, more than twice the proportion of senior men (16%). The majority of senior men (59%) lived with a spouse or partner, compared with only 34% of senior women.

Previously released census data showed that the number of individuals aged 80 and over increased 35% in New Brunswick between 1991 and 2001.

However, New Brunswick had one of the lowest proportions of seniors aged 85 and over who were living in health care institutions in 2001. Only 29% of women in this age group, and 20% of men, were in such institutions. The national averages were 35% for women and 23% for men.

Among census metropolitan areas, Saint John had the lowest proportion of seniors aged 85 and over living in institutions: only 24% of women and 13% of men.

## **Quebec: Number of common-law unions keeps soaring**

Many Quebec couples were living common-law, according to the 2001 Census. Between 1996 and 2001, the number of common-law unions in Quebec soared 25% to 508,520.

These couples represented about 44% of the more than 1.1 million common-law couples in Canada, and they accounted for one-quarter of all families in Quebec. One-half of these common-law couples had at least one child aged 24 and under living at home.

Quebec had a total of 2,019,560 families in 2001, up from 1,949,970 five years earlier.

Married couples accounted for only 58% of these families in 2001, the lowest proportion among the provinces. This was down substantially from 64% five years earlier. At the same time, the proportion of common-law couples increased from 21% to 25%.

In 2001, only three out of every 10 families (29%) in Quebec were married couples with children under age 25 at home, also the lowest proportion in Canada.

There were 335,595 lone parents in Quebec in 2001, representing 17% of all families. The national average was 16%.

The 2001 Census is the first to provide data on same-sex partnerships. A total of 10,360 same-sex couples identified themselves as living in a common-law relationship, 30% of the national total of 34,200. Of these couples, 6,455 lived in the census metropolitan area of Montréal, while an additional 1,140 lived in the Québec census metropolitan area.

Proportionally, more people were living in one-person households in Quebec than in any other province or territory. In fact, the number of one-person households outnumbered households of four people or more.

The census counted slightly fewer than 3.0 million households in the province, of which 30% were one-person households and only 21% were households of four individuals or more. In 2001, 880,765 people lived alone in Quebec, up 14% from five years earlier.

One-person households accounted for 34% of the total in Sherbrooke, the highest proportion among census metropolitan areas.

Among senior women aged 65 and over, 36% lived alone, more than twice the proportion of senior men (17%). The majority of senior men (59%) lived with a spouse or partner, compared with only 32% of senior women.

Quebec also had the highest proportion of women aged 85 and over who were living in health care institutions in 2001. More than two-fifths of women in this aged group (44%) were in such institutions, as were 31% of men aged 85 and over. The national averages were 35% for women and 23% for men.

In Trois-Rivières, 50% of women and 40% of men aged 85 and over were in health care institutions in 2001. In addition, nearly one-half of women in this age group in Sherbrooke and Chicoutimi-Jonquière (now known as Saguenay) lived in such facilities.

### **Ontario: Number of common-law unions soars by almost one-third**

The growth in common-law unions between 1996 and 2001 in Ontario outpaced gains in the number of married couples, according to the 2001 Census.

The number of common-law unions increased 31%, almost six times the rate of increase of 5.4% among couples who were married.

As a result, the proportion of married couples fell to 75% of all Ontario families in 2001 from 78% five years earlier. At the same time, the proportion of common-law couples increased from 7.8% to 9.4%.

In total, the census counted 3,190,990 families in Ontario, up from 2,932,720 five years earlier.

There were 486,105 lone parents in Ontario in 2001, representing 15% of all families, compared to the national average of 16%.

Couples with children under age 25 at home accounted for 45% of total families in 2001, down from 47% five years earlier. The proportion of couples with no children under age 25 rose from 38% of all families to 40%.

The 2001 Census is the first to provide data on same-sex partnerships. A total of 12,505 same-sex couples identified themselves as living in a common-law relationship in Ontario. They represented 37% of the national total of 34,200. Of these, 6,685 lived in the census metropolitan area of Toronto, and 2,170 lived in Ottawa-Hull (now known as Ottawa-Gatineau).

In 2001, far more people were living alone in Ontario than in 1996. In total, the census counted over 4.2 million households in the province, of which 23% were one-person households. About 990,165 people lived alone in Ontario in 2001, up 12% from five years earlier.

Close to one-half of young adults (47%) aged 20 to 29 were living at home in Ontario in 2001. This was well above the national average of 41%.

The metropolitan areas with the highest proportion of young adults living at home are in Ontario, namely Toronto, Hamilton, St. Catharines-Niagara and Oshawa. In Toronto, 54% of young adults lived with their parent(s) in 2001.

Among senior women aged 65 and over, one-third (33%) lived alone, more than twice the proportion of senior men (15%). The majority of senior men (62%) lived with a spouse or partner, compared with only 36% of senior women.

Among seniors aged 85 and over, 34% of women were living in health care institutions in Ontario, compared with only 21% of men in this age group. The national averages were 35% for women and 23% for men.

### **Manitoba: Proportion of couples with children at home continues to decline**

Couples who have children living at home continued to decline during the past five years in Manitoba, according to the 2001 Census.

Between 1996 and 2001, the province followed a national trend in which the number of two-parent families with at least one child aged 24 and under declined, while the number of couples with no children at home rose.

The 2001 Census counted 131,390 married and common-law couples with children, who represented 43% of total families. Five years earlier, there were 137,690 such couples, accounting for just under one-half (47%) of all families.

The proportion of couples without children under age 25 living at home rose from 39% of all families in 1996 to 40% in 2001.

In total, the census counted 302,855 families in Manitoba in 2001, up from 292,925 five years earlier.

Married couples accounted for 74% of these families in 2001, down from 77% in 1996. The proportion of common-law couples increased from 8.6% to 9.8%.

There were 49,160 lone-parent families in Manitoba in 2001, accounting for 16% of all families, the same proportion as the national average.

The 2001 Census is the first to provide data on same-sex partnerships. A total of 865 same-sex couples identified themselves as living in a common-law relationship. Of these, 705 lived in Winnipeg.

In 2001, far more people were living alone in Manitoba than in 1996. In fact, the number of one-person households outnumbered households of four people or more.

The census counted 432,550 households in the province, of which 28% were one-person households and 25% consisted of four individuals or more. In 2001, 121,760 people lived alone in Manitoba, up 9.4% from five years earlier.

Among senior women aged 65 and over, 41% lived alone, more than twice the proportion of senior men (19%). The majority of senior men (61%) lived with a spouse or partner, compared with only 35% of senior women.

## **Saskatchewan: Increase in the proportion of couples with no children at home**

Couples who had children living at home continued to decline during the past five years in Saskatchewan, according to the 2001 Census.

Between 1996 and 2001, the province followed a national trend in which the number of two-parent families with at least one child aged 24 and under declined, while the number of couples with no children living at home increased.

The 2001 Census counted 113,065 married and common-law couples with children, representing 43% of total families. Five years earlier, there were 121,205 such couples, accounting for 47% of all families.

At the same time, the proportion of couples without children under age 25 at home rose from 40% of all families in 1996 to 42% in 2001.

In total, the census counted 265,620 families in Saskatchewan in 2001, up from 260,390 five years earlier.

Married couples accounted for 75% of these families in 2001, down from 78% in 1996. The proportion of common-law couples increased from 8.5% to 9.5%.

There were 42,065 lone-parent families in Saskatchewan in 2001, accounting for 16% of all families, the same proportion as the national average.

The 2001 Census is the first to provide data on same-sex partnerships. A total of 475 same-sex couples identified themselves as living in a common-law relationship. Of these, 240 lived in Saskatoon and 110 in Regina.

In 2001, far more people were living alone in Saskatchewan than in 1996. In fact, the number of one-person households outnumbered households of four people or more.

The census counted 379,680 households in the province, of which 28% were one-person households and 25% consisted of four individuals or more. In 2001, 105,150 people lived alone in Saskatchewan, up 6.4% from 1996.

Saskatchewan had the lowest proportion of young adults aged 20 to 29 who were living with their parents. In 2001, only 30% of individuals in this age group were living with their parents, well below the national average of 41%.

Saskatchewan had the highest proportion in the country of senior men and senior women aged 65 and over who lived alone.

Among senior women, 42% lived alone, more than twice the proportion of senior men (19%). The majority of senior men (63%) lived with a spouse or partner, compared with only 37% of senior women.

## **Alberta: Fastest growth in households in the nation**

Alberta recorded the fastest growth in private households in Canada from 1996 to 2001, surpassing even the surge in its population, according to the 2001 Census.

During this five-year period, Alberta's population in private households rose 10% to almost 3 million. The census enumerated 1.1 million private households in 2001, up 13% from 1996. This was almost double the rate of increase in private households for the nation as a whole (6.9%).

Much of the gain in private households was the result of a 16% growth in one-person households, higher than the average rate of growth for the nation as a whole (14%).

About 255,375 people lived alone in Alberta in 2001, representing 23% of the province's private households. Private households with four or more people accounted for 28% of the total.

Among senior women aged 65 and over, 33% lived alone, more than twice the proportion of senior men (15%). The majority of senior men (63%) lived with a spouse or partner, compared with only 37% of senior women.

Alberta had one of the nation's lowest proportions of young adults living with their parents. Only 31% of individuals aged 20 to 29 lived with their parents in 2001, compared with the national average of 41%.

Among the provinces, Alberta had the highest proportion of married and common-law couples with children aged 24 and under at home. These couples accounted for 46% of total families, down from 49% five years earlier. At the same time, the proportion of couples without children living at home rose from 38% of all families to 40%.

In total, the census counted 811,285 families in Alberta in 2001, up from 717,560 five years earlier. Married couples accounted for 74% of these families in 2001, down from 77% five years earlier. Common-law couples represented 12%, up from 10%.

There were 116,520 lone-parent families in Alberta in 2001, accounting for 14% of all families. This is slightly below the national average of 16%.

The 2001 Census is the first to provide data on same-sex partnerships. A total of 2,525 same-sex couples identified themselves as living in a common-law relationship. Of these, 1,285 lived in Calgary, and 815 in Edmonton.

## **British Columbia: One of the lowest proportions of couples with children at home**

British Columbia had one of the lowest proportions in the nation of couples with children at home, according to the 2001 Census.

The census counted 447,805 married and common-law couples with at least one child aged 24 and under living at home. These couples accounted for only 41% of total families. In 1996, there were 440,780 such couples, or 44% of the total.

The proportion of couples with no children under age 25 living at home was relatively unchanged at 43%.

In total, the census counted 1,086,035 families in British Columbia in 2001, up from 1,008,450 five years earlier.

Married couples accounted for 73% of these families in 2001, down from 76% in 1996. Common-law couples represented 11%, up from 10%.

There were 168,420 lone-parent families in British Columbia in 2001, accounting for 16% of total families, the same as the national average.

The 2001 Census is the first to provide data on same-sex partnerships. A total of 5,790 same-sex couples identified themselves as living in a common-law relationship. Of these, 3,965 lived in the census metropolitan area of Vancouver, 585 in Victoria, and 85 in Abbotsford.

In 2001, far more people were living alone in British Columbia than in 1996. In fact, the number of one-person households outnumbered households of four people or more.

The census counted 1,534,335 households in the province, of which 27% were one-person households and 24% consisted of four individuals or more. In 2001, 418,135 people lived alone in British Columbia, up 16% from five years earlier.

Among senior women aged 65 and over, 35% lived alone, more than twice the proportion of senior men (17%). The majority of senior men (63%) lived with a spouse or partner, compared with only 39% of senior women.

British Columbia had the lowest proportion of seniors aged 85 and over living in health care institutions: 29% of women and 17% of men. The national averages were 35% for women and 23% for men.

## **Yukon: High proportion of common-law couples**

The Yukon had one of the nation's highest proportions of common-law families, according to the 2001 Census.

In total, there were 7,810 families in the Yukon in 2001, down from 8,065 in 1996.

Married couples accounted for 57% of these families in 2001, down from 61% five years earlier. Common-law couples represented 23%, about the same proportion as in 1996.

The proportion of common-law couples in the Yukon in 2001 was well above the national average of 14%.

The Yukon had one of the highest proportions of lone-parent families in Canada, according to the 2001 Census. The census counted 1,550 lone-parent families in the Yukon in 2001. These families represented one-fifth (20%) of all families in the territory. The national average in 2001 was 16%.

During the past five years, the Yukon followed a national trend in which the number of two-parent families—both married and common-law—with at least one child aged 24 and under declined, while the number of couples with no children at home increased.

In 2001, far more people were living alone in the Yukon than in 1996. In fact, the number of one-person households outnumbered households of four people or more.

The census counted 11,360 households in the Yukon, of which 29% were one-person households and only 24% consisted of four individuals or more. In 2001, 3,265 people lived alone in the Yukon, up 13% from five years earlier.

Among seniors aged 65 and over, 40% of women lived alone in 2001, well above the national average of 35%. In addition, 30% of senior men lived alone, the highest such proportion in the nation. This was almost double the national average of 16%.

The Yukon had one of the lowest proportions of young adults aged 20 to 29 who were living with their parents. In 2001, only 31% of individuals in this age group were living with their parents, well below the national average of 41%.

### **Northwest Territories: High proportion of couples with children at home**

The Northwest Territories had one of the highest proportions of couples with children at home, according to the 2001 Census.

The census enumerated 9,700 families in the Northwest Territories in 2001. Of these, just over one-half (51%) were couples—both married and common-law—who had at least one child aged 24 and under living at home. This was well above the national average of 44%.

In addition, of these families, 21% were lone-parent families, compared with the national average of 16%.

The Northwest Territories had one of the highest proportions of large households. Of its 12,560 households, 4,280 or 34% consisted of four or more individuals. Only 2,780 or 22% consisted of people living alone.

Only 31% of young men and women aged 20 to 29 were living with their parents in the Northwest Territories in 2001, far below the national average of 41%.

Among seniors aged 65 and over, only 25% of women lived alone in 2001, compared with the national average of 35%. In addition, 26% of senior men lived alone, compared with the national average of 16%.

### **Nunavut: Highest proportion of couples with children at home**

Nunavut had the highest proportion of couples with children at home in the nation, as well as the highest proportion of lone-parent families, according to the 2001 Census.

The census enumerated 6,360 families in Nunavut in 2001. Of these, three-fifths (60%) were couples—both married and common-law—who had at least one child aged 24 and under living at home. This was well above the national average of 44%.

In addition, 1,635, or one-quarter (26%) of these families were lone-parent families, much higher than the national average of 16%.

Proportionally, far more people in Nunavut lived in large households than anywhere else in Canada. Of its 7,175 households, 3,485 or about one-half consisted of four or more individuals. Only 1,250 or 17% consisted of people living alone.

Only 32% of young men and women aged 20 to 29 were living with their parents in Nunavut in 2001. This was far below the national average of 41%.

Among seniors aged 65 and over, only 14% of women lived alone in 2001, less than half the national average of 35%. In addition, 19% of senior men lived alone, compared with the national average of 16%.

**Distribution of families by structure, Canada, provinces and territories, 2001**

	Total families	Married families	Percentage of married families	Common-law families	Percentage of common-law families	Lone-parent families	Percentage of lone-parent families
<b>Canada</b>	<b>8,371,020</b>	<b>5,901,420</b>	<b>70.5</b>	<b>1,158,410</b>	<b>13.8</b>	<b>1,311,190</b>	<b>15.7</b>
Newfoundland and Labrador	154,385	116,435	75.4	14,895	9.6	23,050	14.9
Prince Edward Island	38,425	28,490	74.1	3,630	9.4	6,305	16.4
Nova Scotia	262,910	188,800	71.8	29,965	11.4	44,140	16.8
New Brunswick	215,105	152,760	71.0	27,725	12.9	34,615	16.1
Quebec	2,019,560	1,175,435	58.2	508,520	25.2	335,595	16.6
Ontario	3,190,990	2,406,340	75.4	298,545	9.4	486,105	15.2
Manitoba	302,855	224,055	74.0	29,635	9.8	49,160	16.2
Saskatchewan	265,620	198,295	74.7	25,255	9.5	42,065	15.8
Alberta	811,285	600,990	74.1	93,770	11.6	116,520	14.4
British Columbia	1,086,035	797,485	73.4	120,125	11.1	168,420	15.5
Yukon	7,810	4,465	57.2	1,800	23.0	1,550	19.8
Northwest Territories	9,700	5,115	52.7	2,555	26.3	2,035	21.0
Nunavut	6,360	2,730	43.0	1,990	31.3	1,635	25.7

**Same-sex common-law couples, Canada, provinces and territories, 2001**

	Number of same-sex couples	As a percentage of all couples
<b>Canada</b>	<b>34,200</b>	<b>0.5</b>
Newfoundland and Labrador	180	0.1
Prince Edward Island	55	0.2
Nova Scotia	855	0.4
New Brunswick	505	0.3
Quebec	10,360	0.6
Ontario	12,505	0.5
Manitoba	865	0.3
Saskatchewan	475	0.2
Alberta	2,525	0.4
British Columbia	5,790	0.6
Yukon	35	0.6
Northwest Territories	30	0.4
Nunavut	15	0.3



### Same-sex common-law couples, by census metropolitan area (CMA), 2001

Census Metropolitan Area	Number of same-sex couples	As a percentage of all couples
St. John's	140	0.3
Halifax	510	0.6
Saint John	85	0.3
Chicoutimi-Jonquière <sup>1</sup>	125	0.3
Québec	1,140	0.7
Sherbrooke	205	0.6
Trois-Rivières	75	0.2
Montréal	6,455	0.8
Ottawa-Hull <sup>2</sup>	2,170	0.9
Kingston	145	0.4
Oshawa	215	0.3
Toronto	6,685	0.6
Hamilton	535	0.3
St.Catharines-Niagara	240	0.3
Kitchener	365	0.4
London	490	0.5
Windsor	260	0.4
Grand Sudbury	85	0.2
Thunder Bay	130	0.5
Winnipeg	705	0.5
Regina	110	0.3
Saskatoon	240	0.5
Calgary	1,285	0.6
Edmonton	815	0.4
Abbotsford	85	0.2
Vancouver	3,965	0.9
Victoria	585	0.8
<b>Total CMA Canada</b>	<b>27,845</b>	<b>0.6</b>
<b>Total non-CMA Canada</b>	<b>6,355</b>	<b>0.2</b>

<sup>1</sup> Now known as Saguenay.

<sup>2</sup> Now known as Ottawa-Gatineau.

### Proportion of common-law couples, selected countries, Canada and regions

Country	Reference year	As a percentage of all couples
Sweden	2000	30.0
Norway	2000	24.5
Iceland	2000	19.5
Finland	2000	18.7
Mexico	2000	18.7
New Zealand	2001	18.3
France	1999	17.5
<b>Canada</b>	<b>2001</b>	<b>16.0</b>
<b>Quebec</b>	<b>2001</b>	<b>29.8</b>
<b>Other provinces/territories</b>	<b>2001</b>	<b>11.7</b>
United States	2000	8.2

## Living arrangements of seniors aged 65 and over by sex and age group, Canada, 2001

	Living alone	Living with spouse or partner (no children)	Living with children	Living in health care institution	Other living arrangements <sup>1</sup>	Total
	%	%	%	%	%	(numbers)
<b>Males</b>						
Age group						
Total 65+	16.0	61.4	13.3	4.9	4.4	1,666,400
65-74	14.0	64.4	15.4	2.1	4.0	1,008,735
75-84	18.3	60.7	10.2	6.2	4.6	533,705
85+	22.7	39.5	8.5	22.6	6.7	123,960
<b>Females</b>						
Age group						
Total 65+	34.8	35.4	12.1	9.2	8.4	2,224,395
65-74	28.2	48.1	14.1	2.3	7.3	1,135,475
75-84	42.8	27.7	10.8	9.6	9.2	798,300
85+	38.5	7.2	8.4	35.4	10.6	290,620

<sup>1</sup> Includes living with other relatives, e.g., a niece or nephew, or with non-relatives, e.g., a lodger.

## Distribution of children aged 0 to 14 by family structure, Canada, provinces and territories, 2001

	Living with married parents	Living with common-law parents	Living with a lone parent <sup>1</sup>
	%	%	%
<b>Canada</b>	<b>68.4</b>	<b>12.8</b>	<b>18.8</b>
Newfoundland and Labrador	70.7	10.3	18.9
Prince Edward Island	73.2	8.6	18.2
Nova Scotia	68.0	9.9	22.2
New Brunswick	67.4	12.7	19.9
Quebec	52.1	28.5	19.4
Ontario	75.4	7.3	17.3
Manitoba	70.0	8.8	21.3
Saskatchewan	68.1	9.4	22.5
Alberta	74.0	8.8	17.1
British Columbia	71.5	8.0	20.5
Yukon	52.9	19.8	27.3
Northwest Territories	50.7	25.8	23.5
Nunavut	46.8	30.8	22.3

<sup>1</sup> Also includes about 1% or less of children with no parents, e.g., living with another relative or foster family.

**Proportion of young adults aged 20 to 29 living with their parent(s), Canada, provinces, and territories, 1981 and 2001**

	1981	2001
	%	%
<b>Canada</b>	<b>27.5</b>	<b>41.1</b>
Newfoundland and Labrador	35.9	50.9
Prince Edward Island	33.5	42.1
Nova Scotia	30.8	38
New Brunswick	31.3	38.5
Quebec	31.9	39.2
Ontario	29.8	47.1
Manitoba	24.4	36.1
Saskatchewan	18.9	29.8
Alberta	15.6	30.6
British Columbia	21.8	40.2
Yukon	12.9	30.9
Northwest Territories	22.1	30.8
Nunavut		32.2

**Proportion of young adults aged 20 to 29 living with their parent(s), census metropolitan areas, 2001**

	%		%
St. John's	46.3	Kitchener	38.7
Halifax	30.7	London	36.1
Saint John	38.6	Windsor	43.4
Chicoutimi-Jonquière <sup>1</sup>	45.2	Greater Sudbury	41.3
Québec	37.7	Thunder Bay	43.7
Sherbrooke	25.6	Winnipeg	38.0
Trois-Rivières	38.3	Regina	32.6
Montréal	39.1	Saskatoon	27.0
Ottawa-Hull <sup>2</sup>	35.8	Calgary	31.8
Kingston	32.7	Edmonton	34.2
Oshawa	47.4	Abbotsford	41.0
Toronto	54.0	Vancouver	45.7
Hamilton	48.6	Victoria	30.0
St. Catharines-Niagara	47.7		

<sup>1</sup> Now known as Saguenay.

<sup>2</sup> Now known as Ottawa-Gatineau.

### Living arrangements for females aged 85 and over, Canada<sup>1</sup> and provinces, 2001

	Living alone	Living with spouse/partner (no children)	Living with children	Living in health care institution	Other living arrangements <sup>2</sup>	Total
	%	%	%	%	%	(numbers)
<b>Canada</b>	<b>38.5</b>	<b>7.2</b>	<b>8.4</b>	<b>35.4</b>	<b>10.6</b>	<b>290,620</b>
Newfoundland and Labrador	28.3	6.4	12.5	30.6	22.1	4,360
Prince Edward Island	37.3	6.3	12.3	35.0	9.1	1,755
Nova Scotia	42.1	6.9	10.2	27.6	13.1	10,835
New Brunswick	39.7	6.3	11.7	29.1	13.1	8,355
Quebec	32.1	4.9	9.5	43.7	9.8	68,280
Ontario	37.7	7.5	8.5	34.1	12.2	104,765
Manitoba	49.8	7.2	6.5	30.3	6.2	14,615
Saskatchewan	49.8	8.1	5.6	31.6	4.8	14,020
Alberta	38.1	7.4	6.6	39.7	8.3	22,895
British Columbia	43.2	9.9	6.9	29.3	10.7	40,540

<sup>1</sup> Due to small numbers, data for the territories are not shown separately but are included in the Canada total.

<sup>2</sup> Includes living with other relatives, e.g., a niece or nephew, or with non-relatives, e.g., a lodger.

### Living arrangements for males aged 85 and over, Canada<sup>1</sup> and provinces, 2001

	Living alone	Living with spouse/partner (no children)	Living with children	Living in health care institution	Other living arrangements <sup>2</sup>	Total
	%	%	%	%	%	(numbers)
<b>Canada</b>	<b>22.7</b>	<b>39.5</b>	<b>8.5</b>	<b>22.6</b>	<b>6.7</b>	<b>123,960</b>
Newfoundland and Labrador	17.2	32.4	13.8	23.1	13.5	2,035
Prince Edward Island	13.9	34.3	10.2	33.3	8.3	540
Nova Scotia	26.1	38.2	9.6	17.1	9.0	4,510
New Brunswick	23.0	36.5	11.1	20.3	9.0	3,325
Quebec	19.7	33.9	9.5	30.7	6.1	24,815
Ontario	22.6	40.3	9.0	20.6	7.6	45,035
Manitoba	28.6	39.1	6.9	20.1	5.3	6,445
Saskatchewan	26.6	44.8	5.0	20.8	2.9	7,265
Alberta	19.9	40.3	7.7	27.5	4.6	10,440
British Columbia	24.8	44.4	6.9	17.0	6.9	19,405

<sup>1</sup> Due to small numbers, data for the territories are not shown separately but are included in the Canada total.

<sup>2</sup> Includes living with other relatives, e.g., a niece or nephew, or with non-relatives, e.g., a lodger.

**Number and increase (%) of private households, census metropolitan area (CMA), 1996 and 2001**

CMA	Private households 2001	Private households 1996	Increase in %
St. John's	64,830	60,295	7.5
Halifax	144,435	131,520	9.8
Saint John	48,260	47,050	2.6
Chicoutimi - Jonquière <sup>1</sup>	62,195	59,940	3.8
Québec	295,105	275,935	6.9
Sherbrooke	66,285	61,595	7.6
Trois-Rivières	59,580	57,665	3.3
Montréal	1,417,360	1,341,275	5.7
Ottawa-Hull <sup>2</sup>	415,940	381,225	9.1
Kingston	58,335	55,390	5.3
Oshawa	104,205	93,710	11.2
Toronto	1,634,755	1,488,370	9.8
Hamilton	253,080	235,605	7.4
St. Catharines - Niagara	150,870	144,505	4.4
Kitchener	153,275	140,460	9.1
London	173,125	162,390	6.6
Windsor	117,710	108,475	8.5
Greater Sudbury	63,145	63,780	-1.0
Thunder Bay	49,545	49,225	0.7
Winnipeg	269,985	261,915	3.1
Regina	76,650	74,695	2.6
Saskatoon	88,940	84,535	5.2
Calgary	356,370	305,305	16.7
Edmonton	356,515	320,065	11.4
Abbotsford	51,025	46,640	9.4
Vancouver	758,715	692,960	9.5
Victoria	135,600	129,350	4.8

<sup>1</sup> Now known as Saguenay.

<sup>2</sup> Now known as Ottawa-Gatineau.

**Growth (%) of population in private households, and of private households by composition, Census Metropolitan Area (CMA), 1996-2001**

CMA	Population	Households containing a couple with children <sup>1</sup>	Households containing a couple without children <sup>2</sup>	One-person households
St. John's	-0.5	-8.9	20.5	31.7
Halifax	4.8	-2.3	15.2	23.2
Saint John	-2.2	-11.4	13.6	11.9
Chicoutimi - Jonquière <sup>3</sup>	-3.6	-12.7	17.5	21.6
Québec	1.5	-7.2	15.5	18.0
Sherbrooke	3.1	-5.0	16.3	17.7
Trois-Rivières	-2.0	-10.9	9.6	14.2
Montréal	3.0	-1.4	10.4	11.5
Ottawa-Hull <sup>4</sup>	6.6	2.6	15.9	15.9
Kingston	2.3	-1.5	10.6	11.9
Oshawa	10.1	6.6	15.3	16.4
Toronto	9.9	9.3	12.2	10.2
Hamilton	6.0	3.5	8.0	12.6
St. Catharines - Niagara	0.9	-3.5	4.8	17.9
Kitchener	8.0	4.9	14.4	12.2
London	3.8	0.2	9.3	14.4
Windsor	7.4	5.4	13.4	10.4
Greater Sudbury	-6.0	-15.9	10.8	9.6
Thunder Bay	-3.9	-10.1	6.9	12.5
Winnipeg	0.4	-5.2	6.4	10.0
Regina	-0.7	-6.8	6.0	7.4
Saskatoon	2.9	-2.9	9.5	7.9
Calgary	15.7	10.6	20.9	16.2
Edmonton	8.6	3.4	15.9	16.9
Abbotsford	8.0	4.5	3.3	20.5
Vancouver	8.5	8.5	10.4	13.5
Victoria	2.3	-2.1	4.3	12.1

<sup>1</sup> Refers to couple family households with at least one child under 25 years of age at home.

<sup>2</sup> Includes couple family households with all children at home 25 years of age and over.

<sup>3</sup> Now known as Saguenay.

<sup>4</sup> Now known as Ottawa-Gatineau.

**Proportion (%) of households containing a couple with children<sup>1</sup> by census metropolitan area (CMA), 1996 and 2001**

CMA	Proportion 2001	Proportion 1996
St. John's	33.5	39.5
Halifax	28.7	32.3
Saint John	29.9	34.6
Chicoutimi - Jonquière <sup>2</sup>	32.2	38.2
Québec	26.5	30.5
Sherbrooke	25.4	28.8
Trois-Rivières	25.4	29.5
Montréal	27.3	29.3
Ottawa - Hull <sup>3</sup>	30.6	32.5
Kingston	28.2	30.2
Oshawa	38.2	39.8
Toronto	34.5	34.7
Hamilton	31.2	32.4
St. Catharines - Niagara	28.2	30.5
Kitchener	34.5	35.9
London	29.2	31.0
Windsor	31.7	32.6
Greater Sudbury	29.0	34.1
Thunder Bay	28.4	31.8
Winnipeg	27.9	30.4
Regina	28.6	31.5
Saskatoon	29.1	31.5
Calgary	32.0	33.8
Edmonton	31.3	33.7
Abbotsford	33.2	34.8
Vancouver	28.9	29.2
Victoria	21.8	23.4

<sup>1</sup> Refers to couple family households with at least one child under 25 years of age at home.

<sup>2</sup> Now known as Saguenay.

<sup>3</sup> Now known as Ottawa-Gatineau.

**Municipalities with 5,000 + population in private households having the highest proportion of households containing a couple with children<sup>1</sup>, Canada, 2001**

	Households		Proportion in %
	Total	Couple with children	
Stanley (Man.)	1,345	875	65.1
Beaumont (Alta.)	2,060	1,265	61.4
Mackenzie No. 23 (Alta.)	2,300	1,295	56.3
Kirkland (Que.)	6,330	3,550	56.1
Hanover (Man.)	3,110	1,670	53.7
Lorraine (Que.)	3,010	1,620	54.0
Wellesley (Ont.)	2,650	1,420	53.6
Mapleton (Ont.)	2,660	1,425	53.6
Vaughan (Ont.)	52,960	28,220	53.3
Granby (Que.)	3,720	1,930	51.9
Taché (Man.)	2,685	1,385	51.6
Saint-Lazare (Que.)	4,245	2,185	51.5
Morinville (Alta.)	2,025	1,040	51.4
La Plaine (Que.)	5,065	2,600	51.3
East St. Paul (Man.)	2,475	1,265	51.1
Macdonald (Man.)	1,665	840	50.5
Lachenaie (Que.)	7,380	3,675	49.8
Saint-Augustin-de-Desmaures (Que.)	5,305	2,630	49.6
Saint-Jean-Chrysostome (Que.)	5,905	2,925	49.5
Saint-Étienne-de-Lauzon (Que.)	3,025	1,495	49.4
Okotoks (Alta.)	3,660	1,800	49.2
Airdrie (Alta.)	6,555	3,220	49.1
Quispamsis (N.-B.)	4,515	2,205	48.8
Aurora (Ont.)	12,990	6,335	48.8
Saint-Rédempteur (Que.)	2,210	1,075	48.6

<sup>1</sup> Refers to couple family households with at least one child under 25 years of age at home.



**Municipalities with 5,000 + population in private households having the lowest proportion of households containing a couple with children<sup>1</sup>, Canada, 2001**

	Households		
	Total	Couple with children	Proportion in %
Victoria (B.-C.)	39,590	4,100	10.4
White Rock (B.-C.)	9,080	1,265	13.9
Qualicum Beach (B.-C.)	3,315	485	14.6
Québec (Que.)	86,680	13,340	15.4
Saint-Jérôme (Que.)	11,775	1,890	16.1
Banff (Alta.)	2,870	475	16.6
Sherbrooke (Que.)	36,645	6,100	16.6
Verdun (Que.)	29,635	4,970	16.8
Esquimalt (B.-C.)	7,565	1,275	16.9
Shawinigan (Que.)	8,575	1,460	17.0
Vanier (Que.)	5,375	920	17.1
Parksville (B.-C.)	4,760	815	17.1
Trois-Rivières (Que.)	22,315	3,825	17.1
New Westminster (B.-C.)	26,030	4,525	17.4
Penticton (B.-C.)	14,255	2,480	17.4
Montréal (Que.)	489,565	85,715	17.5
Trail (B.-C.)	3,595	650	18.1
Truro (N.S.)	5,295	970	18.3
Sidney (B.-C.)	5,040	930	18.5
Sainte-Foy (Que.)	34,705	6,525	18.8
Dauphin (Man.)	3,700	700	18.9
Joliette (Que.)	8,130	1,560	19.2
Saint-Jean-sur-Richelieu (Que.) <sup>2</sup>	17,050	3,330	19.5
Vancouver (B.-C.)	236,100	46,300	19.6
Grand-Mère (Que.)	6,195	1,215	19.6

<sup>1</sup> Refers to couple family households with at least one child under 25 years of age at home.

<sup>2</sup> Now known as Saint-Jean-Iberville.