



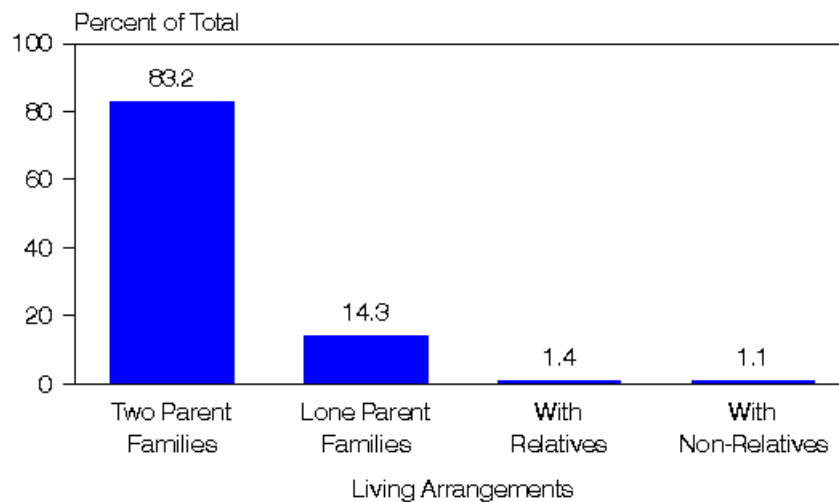
Census 91 Fast Facts

Issue 5: Living Arrangements of Children

Produced by: Labour and Social Statistics Section

- Eighty-three per cent of British Columbia's children who are under the age of fifteen live in two-parent families.

One in Seven Children Live in Lone Parent Families



Source: 1991 Census of Canada

- The distribution of children between two-parent and single-parent families has remained basically unchanged since 1986.
- While the number of children who live with non-relatives is comparatively small, it grew significantly--by 58 per cent--during the five year period between 1986 and 1991. This compares to an overall increase of 12 per cent in the size of the under-fifteen population in British Columbia.
- The growing incidence of children who live with non-relatives merits further study. Although the number of children in care does not seem to have increased since 1986, the fact that more and more children are choosing--or are forced--to live apart from their families suggests that problems within families may be becoming more severe over time.

Living Arrangements of Children Under 15 Years Old in Private Households, British Columbia

	-----1986-----		-----1991-----	
	Number	% of Total	Number	% of Total
Total Children Under 16	587,900	100.0	660,075	100.0
Living in two-parent families	492,370	83.8	549,025	83.2
Living in Lone-parent Families	83,955	14.3	94,650	14.3
Living with Relatives	7,115	1.2	9,360	1.4
Living with Non-relatives	4,470	0.8	7,045	1.1

Source: 1991 Census of Canada