



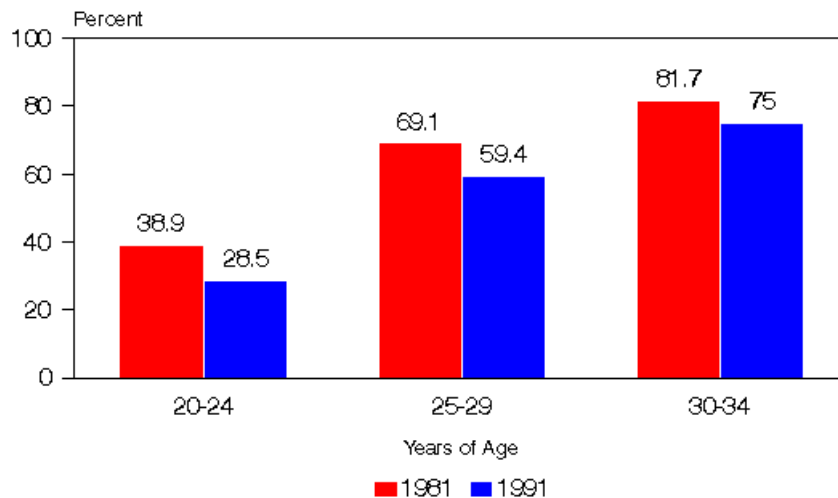
Census 91 Fast Facts

Issue 6: Living Arrangements of Young Adults

Produced by: Labour and Social Statistics Section

- A growing number of young adults are choosing to live with relatives or with non-family members rather than starting their own families--possibly as a result of tough economic times and fewer employment opportunities for the young.
- The trend toward more young adults postponing family formation is most striking among those aged 20 to 34, as the majority (87 per cent) of 15 to 19 year olds live with their parents.

Family Formation Has Declined in All Age Groups

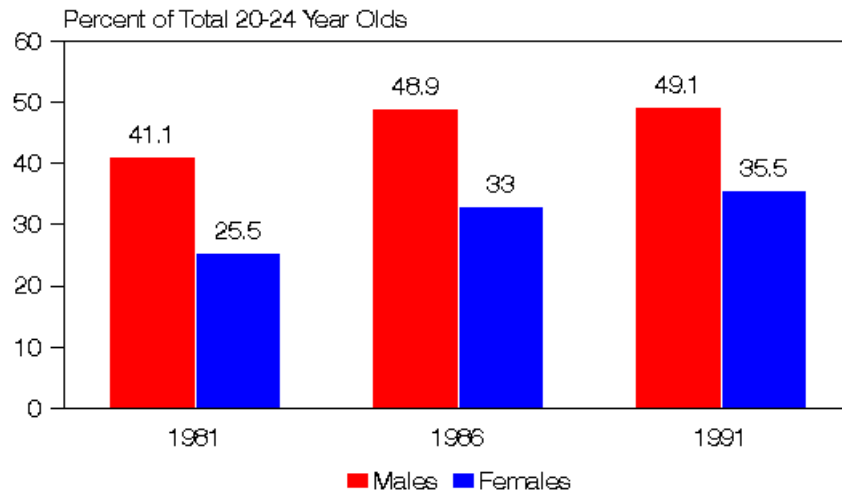


Source: 1991 Census of Canada

- 56 per cent of young adults between the ages of 20 and 34 were living with a spouse or as a lone parent in 1991, seven percentage points below the 1981 level of 63 per cent.
- Although more and more young adults are choosing to delay starting their families, the share of 20 to 34 year olds living alone declined from 11 to 9 per cent over the ten-year period between 1981 and 1991.
- A growing number of young adults in this age group now live with their parents (18 per cent, up from 14 per cent in 1981) or with non-relatives (12 per cent, up from 8 per cent in 1981).
- Males are more likely than females to live with their parents; roughly half of all 20-24 year old males lived with their parents in 1991, up from 41 per cent in 1981.

- The living arrangements of young women have undergone significant changes during the last decade. In 1981, about half of all women aged 20-24 had formed their own families, and only one quarter were living at home. Just ten years later, the proportion of young women who had their own families had dropped to 39 per cent. At the same time, the relative number living with their parents increased by 10 percentage points, to 36 per cent of the population.

Males are More Likely to Live With Their Parents



Source: Census of Canada

Living Arrangements of 15-34 Year Olds in Private Households, British Columbia

	Population 15-34 in Private Households		% Who Have Formed Own Family*		% Living with Parents		% Living with Other Relatives		% Living with Non Relatives		% Living Alone	
	1981	1991	1981	1991	1981	1991	1981	1991	1981	1991	1981	1991
Both Sexes												
15-19 years	234,105	207,530	4.7	3.0	85.2	87.1	3.4	3.1	5.2	5.9	1.5	0.9
15-17 years	137,280	124,550	1.2	0.8	93.0	93.3	2.6	2.4	3.0	3.4	0.2	0.2
18-19 years	96,815	82,975	9.6	6.3	74.0	77.8	4.6	4.1	8.3	9.8	3.4	2.0
20-34 years	726,635	772,210	63.0	56.4	14.4	18.4	3.6	3.9	8.4	12.1	10.5	9.2
20-24 years	245,050	219,660	38.9	28.5	33.1	42.3	5.3	5.2	12.3	17.3	10.4	6.7
25-29 years	244,595	263,095	69.1	59.4	7.2	13.2	3.4	4.1	8.4	13.0	11.9	10.3
30-34 years	236,995	289,460	81.7	75.0	2.5	4.9	2.0	2.7	4.6	7.4	9.3	10.0
Males												
15-19 years	118,895	105,650	1.5	1.0	88.6	89.5	3.6	3.1	4.9	5.5	1.3	0.8
15-17 years	69,950	63,740	0.2	0.2	94.3	94.1	2.6	2.4	2.6	3.1	0.2	0.2
18-19 years	48,935	41,925	3.4	2.3	80.5	82.3	5.0	4.3	8.2	9.2	2.9	1.8
20-34 years	359,760	381,430	54.9	47.3	18.2	22.4	4.3	4.8	10.5	14.6	12.0	11.0
20-24 years	120,435	109,615	27.6	18.4	41.1	49.1	6.2	5.9	14.5	19.4	10.7	7.2
25-29 years	120,490	129,740	60.9	49.2	10.0	17.2	4.3	5.1	10.9	16.3	14.0	12.2
30-34 years	118,825	142,080	76.7	67.8	3.3	6.5	2.5	3.5	6.1	9.4	11.5	12.8
Females												
15-19 years	115,220	101,855	7.9	5.0	81.6	84.6	3.2	3.0	5.5	6.4	1.8	1.0
15-17 years	67,335	60,815	2.2	1.5	91.6	92.3	2.6	2.4	3.4	3.7	0.3	0.2
18-19 years	47,880	41,050	16.0	10.4	67.5	73.2	4.2	3.8	8.5	10.4	3.8	2.2
20-34 years	366,880	390,800	70.9	65.4	10.8	14.5	2.9	3.1	6.4	9.7	9.0	7.4
20-24 years	124,610	110,050	49.8	38.5	25.5	35.5	4.5	4.5	10.1	15.3	10.1	6.2
25-29 years	124,100	133,360	77.1	69.3	4.6	9.3	2.6	3.2	6.0	9.8	9.8	8.4
30-34 years	118,165	147,385	86.7	81.9	1.7	3.4	1.5	1.9	3.0	5.4	7.1	7.4

Source: 1991 Census of Canada