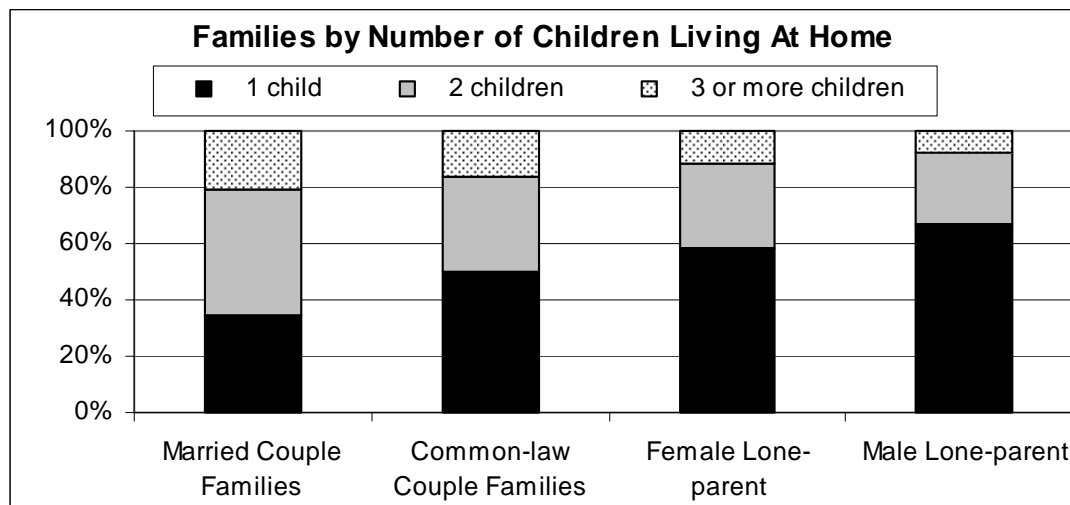


2001 Census Fast Facts: *Children in BC Families*

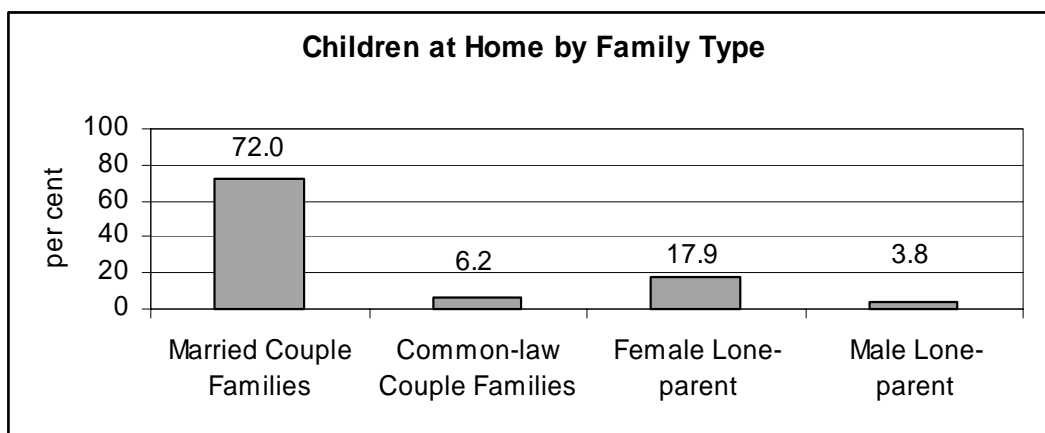
Just over sixty per cent of all families in British Columbia had children living at home in 2001, a figure that has remained fairly consistent since 1991. Single-parent families made up 25.7 per cent of all families with children, an increase of 3 percentage points from 1996. The number of single-parent families increased by 21.2 per cent between 1996 and 2001, seven times the growth rate of two-parent families (3.0 per cent). However, some of this growth can be attributed to a change in the way Statistics Canada defines "children living at home." In past censuses, the child had to be "never married," whereas the 2001 Census definition merely stipulates that the child is not currently living with a spouse, common-law partner or child of their own. Therefore, part of the growth in single-parent families can be explained by previously-married adult children living with a widowed or divorced parent.

Two-parent families were more likely to have more than one child at home than lone-parent families. This is especially true for married couple families, 65 per cent of whom had 2 or more children at home. The opposite was true for lone-parent families, where 59 per cent of single mothers and 67 per cent of single fathers had only one child at home. Fifty per cent of common-law couple families had only one child at home. Married couple families had an average of 1.9 children, followed by common-law couple families with an average of 1.7 children, female lone-parent families with an average of 1.6 children, and male lone-parent families with an average of 1.4 children.



According to the 2001 Census, there were 1,187,490 children living in census families. A census family is defined as a married couple or a couple living common-law (opposite or same sex), with or without children, or as a lone parent (of any marital status) living with at least one child in the same dwelling (children can be any age, as long as they are not living with a spouse, common-law partner or child of their own). The census family includes all blood, step- or adopted sons and daughters, as well as grandchildren in households where there are no parents present.

Seventy-eight per cent of children lived in couple families (72 per cent in married couple families, and 6 per cent in common-law couple families), down from 81 per cent reported in 1996. Children in lone-parent families accounted for 22 per cent, up from 19 per cent in 1996 and 17 per cent in 1991. In 2001, 18 per cent of children lived with single-parent mothers, and 4 per cent lived with single-parent fathers.



Young adults are living at home longer. In 2001, 55.5 per cent of 20 to 24 year olds were living with their parent(s), up from 47.9 per cent in 1996. For 25 to 29 year olds, 20.6 per cent were living with their parent(s), up from 15.9 per cent in 1996.

Families comprised of *grandchildren living with grandparents with no parent present* are now considered to be census families. Of the 8,780 grandchildren living with grandparents in 2001, more than half (55.5 per cent) were under the age of 18. Of the adult children living with grandparents, the highest percentage was seen in the 20 to 24 year old age group (18.3 per cent). While younger children were more likely to be living with a grandparent couple, the opposite is true for adult children, who were more likely to be living with a single grandparent.

Children in Families—Terms and Definitions

Census Family

A married couple (with or without children of either or both spouses), a couple living common-law (with or without children of either or both parents) or a lone parent of any marital status, with at least one child living in the same dwelling. A couple living common-law may be of opposite or same sex. “Children” in a census family include grandchildren living with their grandparent(s) but with no parents present.

Parents in Census Families with Children

Spouses – persons of opposite sex who are legally married to each other and living in the same dwelling.

Common-law partners – two persons of opposite or of the same sex who are not legally married to each other, but live together as a couple in the same dwelling. Common-law partners may be divorced, widowed, or separated.

Lone parent – a mother or a father, with no spouse or common-law partner present, living in a dwelling with one or more children.

Children in Census Families

Blood, step- or adopted sons and daughters (regardless of age or marital status) who are living in the same dwelling as their parent(s), as well as grandchildren in households where there are no parents present. Sons and daughters who are living with their spouse or common-law partner, or with one or more of their own children, are not considered to be members of the census family of their parent(s), even if they are living in the same dwelling. In addition, the sons or daughters who do not live in the same dwelling as their parent(s) are not considered members of the census family of their parent(s).

Children in a census family can have been previously married, as long as they are not currently living with a spouse or common-law partner.

A grandchild living in a three-generation household where the parent (middle generation) is never-married, will be considered as a child in the census family of his or her parent, provided the grandchild is not living with his or her own spouse, common-law partner, or child. A grandchild of another household member, where a middle-generation parent is not present, will be considered as a child in the census family of his or her grandparent, provided the grandchild is not living with his or her own spouse, common-law partner, or child.

Source: Statistics Canada, 2001 Census Dictionary, Cat. 92-378

Age Groups of Children at Home and Family Structure for British Columbia Families, 2001 Census

	<u>Total Families</u>	<u>Couple Families</u>			<u>Lone-parent Families</u>		
		<u>Total</u>	<u>Married</u>	<u>Common-law</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Male</u>
Total Number of Families	1,086,030	917,615	797,490	120,125	168,415	136,455	31,965
Total families without children at home	429,485	429,485	351,875	77,605	-	-	-
Total families with children at home	656,550	488,130	445,610	42,520	168,420	136,450	31,965
<i>Per cent of families with children at home</i>	<i>60.5</i>	<i>53.2</i>	<i>55.9</i>	<i>35.4</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>
<i>Per cent by family type (families with children at home)</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>74.3</i>	<i>67.9</i>	<i>6.5</i>	<i>25.7</i>	<i>20.8</i>	<i>4.9</i>
Total families with children at home 24 years and under	583,960	447,805	406,385	41,420	136,155	109,875	26,280
All 18 years and over	99,515	73,895	70,655	3,245	25,615	19,100	6,515
Some 18 years and over and some 17 years and under	73,915	61,070	58,320	2,750	12,840	10,635	2,205
All 17 years and under	410,525	312,830	277,410	35,420	97,700	80,140	17,555
All under 6 years	111,370	89,455	76,625	12,835	21,910	18,805	3,105
All 6-14 years	141,185	99,985	89,215	10,765	41,205	32,895	8,305
All 15-17 years	34,400	21,680	19,240	2,440	12,720	9,280	3,435
Some under 6 years and some 6-14 years	68,555	58,135	51,940	6,200	10,420	9,290	1,125
Some under 6 years and some 15-17 years	2,160	1,635	1,365	275	525	510	15
Some 6-14 years and some 15-17 years	48,930	38,745	36,230	2,515	10,185	8,680	1,505
Some under 6 years, some 6-14 years, some 15-17 years	3,920	3,185	2,795	385	735	680	55
Total families with all children at home 25 years and over	72,590	40,325	39,225	1,100	32,260	26,580	5,685

Source: Statistics Canada, 2001 Census, Table 97F0005XCB01005.ivt

Prepared by: BC STATS, March 2006

Families with Children Living at Home, British Columbia, 2001 Census

	<u>Number</u>	<u>% of Total</u>
All Families With Children at Home	656,550	100.0
1 child at home	278,290	42.4
2 children at home	261,370	39.8
3 or more children at home	116,885	17.8
Total children at home	1,187,490	
<i>Average number of children at home per family</i>		<i>1.8</i>
All Couple Families With Children at Home	488,130	100.0
1 child at home	176,965	36.3
2 children at home	212,400	43.5
3 or more children at home	98,765	20.2
Total children at home	928,800	
<i>Average number of children at home per family</i>		<i>1.9</i>
Married Couple Families With Children at Home	445,610	100.0
1 child at home	155,805	35.0
2 children at home	197,975	44.4
3 or more children at home	91,825	20.6
Total children at home	855,475	
<i>Average number of children at home per family</i>		<i>1.9</i>
Common-law Couple Families With Children at Home	42,520	100.0
1 child at home	21,160	49.8
2 children at home	14,425	33.9
3 or more children at home	6,935	16.3
Total children at home	73,320	
<i>Average number of children at home per family</i>		<i>1.7</i>
All Lone-parent Families	168,415	100.0
1 child at home	101,325	60.2
2 children at home	48,970	29.1
3 or more children at home	18,120	10.8
Total children at home	258,690	
<i>Average number of children at home per family</i>		<i>1.5</i>
Female Lone-parent Families	136,455	100.0
1 child at home	80,025	58.6
2 children at home	40,750	29.9
3 or more children at home	15,675	11.5
Total children at home	212,980	
<i>Average number of children at home per family</i>		<i>1.6</i>
Male Lone-parent Families	31,965	100.0
1 child at home	21,300	66.6
2 children at home	8,215	25.7
3 or more children at home	2,445	7.6
Total children at home	45,710	
<i>Average number of children at home per family</i>		<i>1.4</i>

Source: Statistics Canada, 2001 Census, Table 97F0005XCB01001.ivt
 Prepared by: BC STATS, March 2006

Living Arrangements of Population in Private Households in British Columbia, 2001 Census

	Total	Under 15 years	15-19 years	15-17 years	18-19 years	20-24 years	25-29 years	30 years and over
Total Population in Private Households	3,858,735	707,765	268,900	164,045	104,855	240,830	239,660	2,401,585
Total persons in census family households	3,287,350	706,520	259,650	162,355	97,295	192,940	182,300	1,945,935
Spouses, common-law partners or lone parents	2,003,645	-	5,865	1,205	4,655	49,030	123,665	1,825,085
Children in census families	1,187,490	699,570	246,220	157,335	88,890	133,660	49,315	58,715
% of children, by age, living with parents		98.8	91.6	95.9	84.8	55.5	20.6	2.4
Non-family persons* living with relatives	50,175	1,840	2,065	910	1,150	3,025	2,635	40,610
Non-family persons* living with non-relatives only	46,040	5,105	5,495	2,900	2,595	7,235	6,690	21,525
Total persons in non-census family households	571,385	1,245	9,250	1,695	7,555	47,890	57,360	455,630
Living with relatives	26,805	435	1,720	505	1,215	5,315	4,580	14,755
Living with non-relatives only	126,440	805	5,445	970	4,480	27,255	25,915	67,015
Living alone	418,140	-	2,085	220	1,860	15,320	26,865	373,860

* Household members who do not belong to a census family. May be related or unrelated to other family members.

Source: Statistics Canada, 2001 Census, Table 95F0315XCB2001001.ivt

Grandchildren Living With Grandparents With No Parent Present, British Columbia, 2001 Census

	Total	Under 15 years	15-19 years	15-17 years	18-19 years	20-24 years	25-29 years	30 years and over
Number of grandchildren living with grandparent(s)	8,780	3,800	1,970	1,070	900	1,605	770	640
<i>% by age group</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>43.3</i>	<i>22.4</i>	<i>12.2</i>	<i>10.3</i>	<i>18.3</i>	<i>8.8</i>	<i>7.3</i>
Living with grandparent couple	4,305	2,075	1,065	565	500	710	295	160
Living with one grandparent	4,480	1,725	905	505	400	895	470	480

Source: Statistics Canada, 2001 Census, Table 97F0005XCB01042.ivt

Prepared by: BC STATS, March 2006

Number of Children in British Columbia Families, 2001 Census

	Total Number of Children in Families	Per cent of Total	Under 15 years	15-19 years	20-24 years	25-29 years	30 years and over
All Family Types	1,187,490	100.0	699,570	246,225	133,660	49,320	58,720
Couple families	928,800	78.2	562,895	191,735	107,075	37,430	29,660
Married couples	855,480	72.0	506,000	180,205	103,680	36,545	29,050
Common-law couples	73,320	6.2	56,895	11,530	3,395	890	610
Lone-parent families	258,690	21.8	136,675	54,485	26,580	11,885	29,060
Female parent	212,985	17.9	115,300	43,275	20,660	9,490	24,255
Male parent	45,710	3.8	21,375	11,210	5,925	2,395	4,805

Per cent of each age group by family type

	Total Number of Children in Families	Per cent total	Under 15 years	15-19 years	20-24 years	25-29 years	30 years and over
All Family Types	1,187,490	100.0	58.9	20.7	11.3	4.2	4.9
Couple families	928,800	100.0	60.6	20.6	11.5	4.0	3.2
Married couples	855,480	100.0	59.1	21.1	12.1	4.3	3.4
Common-law couples	73,320	100.0	77.6	15.7	4.6	1.2	0.8
Lone-parent families	258,690	100.0	52.8	21.1	10.3	4.6	11.2
Female parent	212,985	100.0	54.1	20.3	9.7	4.5	11.4
Male parent	45,710	100.0	46.8	24.5	13.0	5.2	10.5

Source: Statistics Canada, 2001 Census, Table 95F0313XCB01006BC.ivt
 Prepared by: BC STATS, March 2006