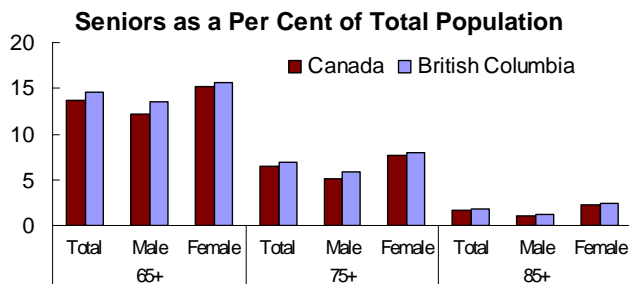


## 2006 Census Fast Facts

### Living Arrangements of Seniors in British Columbia

#### The Senior Population

In 2006, the number of seniors aged 65 and over grew to 14.6 per cent of BC's population, up from 13.6 per cent in 2001. Seniors made up a significant portion of the population across the country, with Saskatchewan having the highest proportion (15.4%) of its population 65 years and over. Among the provinces, Alberta had the smallest percentage of seniors (10.7 per cent of its population), but all three territories were lower, with Nunavut showing only 2.7 per cent of its population aged 65 and over. For Canada as a whole, seniors represented 13.7 per cent of the national population in 2006.



Source: Statistics Canada

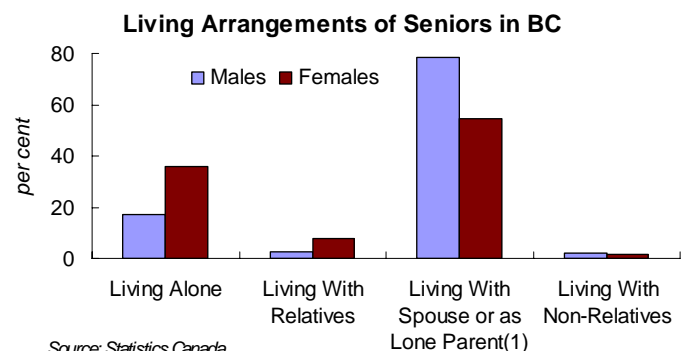
While women comprised just over half (51%) of BC's total population, they represented 55% of seniors (65 years and over), and two-thirds (66%) of those aged 85 and over.

#### Living Arrangements of Seniors

Just over one-third (35.9%) of females aged 65 and over lived alone in 2006, compared to just 17.4% of men in the same age group. For those

aged 85 years and over this jumped to 58.8% for females and 30.6% for males. While men (78.2%) were more likely to be living with a spouse (legally married or common-law) or as a lone parent<sup>1</sup> than women (54.4%), women (8.0%) were much more likely to be living with relatives (other than a spouse or a child) than their male counterparts (2.6%). Men (1.9%) and women (1.8%) were relatively equal when it came to living with non-relatives.

Compared to five years ago, there were relatively less (27.3% in 2006 compared to 28.5% in 2001) seniors living alone and a slightly higher percentage (65.4% compared to 64.3%) living with a spouse or as a lone parent<sup>1</sup>.

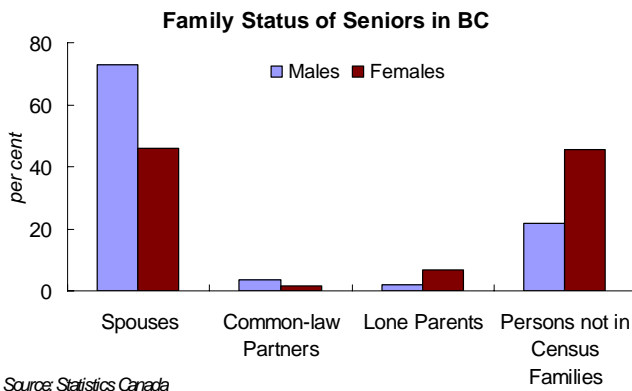


Source: Statistics Canada

<sup>1</sup> Statistics Canada refers to a single parent living with one or more of their children as a lone parent, regardless of the age of their child(ren). The child must not be living with a spouse, common-law partner or one or more of their own children. A lone parent can also be living with their grandchild(ren), provided the grandchild is not living with a spouse, common-law partner or one or more of their own children, and their parents are not present.

### Family Status of Seniors

For the population aged 65 and over, a higher percentage of men (72.7%) than women (46.1%) were married, and more men (3.5%) than women (1.6%) were living common-law. However, the percentage of women (6.6%) living as a lone parent was more than three times that of men (2.0%). Women (45.5%) were more than twice as likely as men (21.7%) to not belong to a census family. (A member of a census family must be a spouse, common-law partner, lone parent, or child living in the same dwelling.) Senior women (0.2%) were also twice as likely as men (0.1%) to be a child in a census family (living with one or both of their parents).



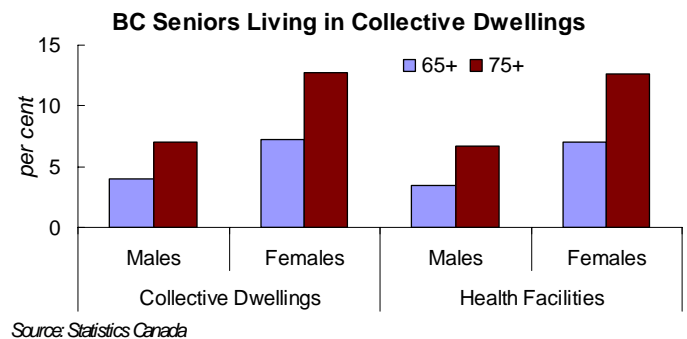
There were slight changes compared to five years ago, with a smaller percentage of seniors aged 65 and over (34.5% in 2006 versus 35.6% in 2001) living as non-family persons. Compared to 2001, more seniors were living as spouses and common-law partners.

However, relatively fewer men (72.7% in 2006 compared to 73.2% in 2001) were living as a spouse than five years ago, although living as a common-law partner (3.5% in 2006 compared to 2.9% in 2001) appears to have become more attractive to seniors.

### Seniors Living in Collective Dwellings

Almost 6% of BC's seniors aged 65 and over lived in a collective dwelling in 2006. Collective dwellings include health care and related facilities, correctional and penal institutions, shelters, group homes, rooming houses, hotels/motels, religious establishments and colonies. That figure jumped to 10.4% for those aged 75 and over (12.7% of women and 7.0% of men).

Of those aged 65 and over living in a collective dwelling, 94.4% lived in a health care facility. (Health care facilities include general hospitals and other hospitals and related institutions, facilities for persons with a disability, nursing homes, residences for senior citizens, and chronic and long-term care and related facilities, homes and treatment centres for children with psychiatric disorders or developmental disabilities.) By 75 years and over, 98% of those living in a collective dwelling were living in a health care facility. This represented 10.2% of the total population aged 75 and over (29,075 people) and 6.7% of men and 12.6% of women. The number of women (21,140) aged 75 and over living in a health care facility in 2006 was nearly triple that of men (7,935).



**Table 1: Canada's Seniors Population, 2006**

		Total -	65 years and over		75 years and over		85 years and over		Median Age
		All Ages	Number	Per cent	Number	Per cent	Number	Per cent	
<b>Canada</b>	Both Sexes	31,612,895	4,335,245	13.7	2,046,885	6.5	520,605	1.6	39.5
	Male	15,475,970	1,887,095	12.2	799,825	5.2	161,920	1.0	38.6
	Female	16,136,930	2,448,155	15.2	1,247,060	7.7	358,685	2.2	40.4
<b>Newfoundland &amp; Labrador</b>	Both Sexes	505,465	70,260	13.9	30,575	6.0	7,645	1.5	41.7
	Male	245,730	31,595	12.9	12,130	4.9	2,320	0.9	41.3
	Female	259,735	38,670	14.9	18,450	7.1	5,330	2.1	42.1
<b>Prince Edward Island</b>	Both Sexes	135,850	20,185	14.9	9,375	6.9	2,690	2.0	40.8
	Male	65,595	8,760	13.4	3,545	5.4	765	1.2	39.9
	Female	70,255	11,425	16.3	5,825	8.3	1,920	2.7	41.6
<b>Nova Scotia</b>	Both Sexes	913,460	138,220	15.1	64,920	7.1	18,610	2.0	41.8
	Male	439,830	59,415	13.5	24,450	5.6	5,565	1.3	41.1
	Female	473,630	78,800	16.6	40,470	8.5	13,050	2.8	42.5
<b>New Brunswick</b>	Both Sexes	729,995	107,635	14.7	50,790	7.0	14,105	1.9	41.5
	Male	355,500	46,495	13.1	19,305	5.4	4,255	1.2	40.7
	Female	374,495	61,150	16.3	31,490	8.4	9,850	2.6	42.3
<b>Quebec</b>	Both Sexes	7,546,130	1,080,295	14.3	496,585	6.6	119,285	1.6	41.0
	Male	3,687,695	456,370	12.4	184,260	5.0	33,700	0.9	39.9
	Female	3,858,435	623,915	16.2	312,320	8.1	85,585	2.2	41.9
<b>Ontario</b>	Both Sexes	12,160,285	1,649,180	13.6	780,990	6.4	191,810	1.6	39.0
	Male	5,930,705	717,520	12.1	307,375	5.2	60,555	1.0	38.1
	Female	6,229,580	931,660	15.0	473,615	7.6	131,260	2.1	39.9
<b>Manitoba</b>	Both Sexes	1,148,400	161,885	14.1	82,955	7.2	23,910	2.1	38.1
	Male	563,275	69,255	12.3	31,825	5.6	7,500	1.3	37.0
	Female	585,125	92,625	15.8	51,130	8.7	16,410	2.8	39.3
<b>Saskatchewan</b>	Both Sexes	968,155	149,300	15.4	78,415	8.1	23,820	2.5	38.7
	Male	475,235	65,070	13.7	31,180	6.6	7,655	1.6	37.5
	Female	492,920	84,240	17.1	47,240	9.6	16,165	3.3	39.8
<b>Alberta</b>	Both Sexes	3,290,350	353,420	10.7	164,090	5.0	42,295	1.3	36.0
	Male	1,646,795	158,535	9.6	66,685	4.0	13,755	0.8	35.4
	Female	1,643,550	194,875	11.9	97,395	5.9	28,535	1.7	36.7
<b>British Columbia</b>	Both Sexes	4,113,485	599,815	14.6	286,415	7.0	76,050	1.8	40.8
	Male	2,013,985	271,470	13.5	118,220	5.9	25,690	1.3	40.0
	Female	2,099,500	328,335	15.6	168,190	8.0	50,360	2.4	41.5
<b>Yukon Territory</b>	Both Sexes	30,370	2,290	7.5	815	2.7	180	0.6	38.4
	Male	15,280	1,200	7.9	390	2.6	70	0.5	38.8
	Female	15,090	1,085	7.2	420	2.8	110	0.7	38.1
<b>Northwest Territories</b>	Both Sexes	41,460	1,980	4.8	745	1.8	165	0.4	31.2
	Male	21,225	990	4.7	355	1.7	80	0.4	31.7
	Female	20,235	995	4.9	390	1.9	85	0.4	30.8
<b>Nunavut</b>	Both Sexes	29,475	805	2.7	225	0.8	45	0.2	23.1
	Male	15,110	440	2.9	120	0.8	25	0.2	23.3
	Female	14,365	375	2.6	110	0.8	25	0.2	23.0

**Table 2: Living Arrangements of Seniors in British Columbia, 2006**

	Population <i>Number</i>	Living with Spouse* or as Lone Parent <sup>1</sup>		Living with Relatives**		Living With Non-Relatives		Living alone	
		<i>Number</i>	<i>Per cent</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>Per cent</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>Per cent</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>Per cent</i>
65 years and over	566,135	370,010	65.4	31,045	5.5	10,325	1.8	154,750	27.3
Male	261,450	204,395	78.2	6,695	2.6	4,840	1.9	45,520	17.4
Female	304,685	165,620	54.4	24,350	8.0	5,480	1.8	109,230	35.9
75 years and over	257,555	142,160	55.2	18,500	7.2	4,375	1.7	92,525	35.9
Male	110,840	81,260	73.3	3,805	3.4	1,990	1.8	23,780	21.5
Female	146,715	60,900	41.5	14,685	10.0	2,380	1.6	68,745	46.9
85 years and over	58,685	22,600	38.5	6,560	11.2	1,025	1.7	28,490	48.5
Male	21,340	13,000	60.9	1,370	6.4	425	2.0	6,540	30.6
Female	37,345	9,600	25.7	5,190	13.9	600	1.6	21,950	58.8

\* includes common-law spouse      \*\* includes living with parent(s)

<sup>1</sup> Statistics Canada refers to a single parent living with one or more of their children as a **lone parent**, regardless of the age of their child(ren). The child must not be living with a spouse, common-law partner or one or more of their own children.

Source: Statistics Canada, 2006 Census, Table 97-553-XCB2006018

Prepared by: BC Stats

**Table 3: Census Family\* Status of Seniors in British Columbia, 2006**

	65 years and over		75 years and over		85 years and over	
	<i>Number</i>	<i>Per cent</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>Per cent</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>Per cent</i>
Both Sexes: Total - Census Family Status	566,135	100.0	257,555	100.0	58,685	100.0
Spouses	330,600	58.4	122,910	47.7	17,380	29.6
Common-law partners	13,970	2.5	3,990	1.5	415	0.7
Lone Parent <sup>1</sup>	25,440	4.5	15,265	5.9	4,810	8.2
Children in census families	835	0.1	50	0.0	0	0.0
Persons not in census families	195,285	34.5	115,345	44.8	36,080	61.5
Males: Total - Census Family Status	261,450	100.0	110,840	100.0	21,335	100.0
Spouses	190,055	72.7	75,445	68.1	11,730	55.0
Common-law partners	9,140	3.5	2,760	2.5	255	1.2
Lone Parent <sup>1</sup>	5,200	2.0	3,050	2.8	1,015	4.8
Children in census families	300	0.1	0	0.0	0	0.0
Persons not in census families	56,750	21.7	29,575	26.7	8,340	39.1
Females: Total - Census Family Status	304,690	100.0	146,715	100.0	37,345	100.0
Spouses	140,545	46.1	47,455	32.3	5,650	15.1
Common-law partners	4,835	1.6	1,230	0.8	160	0.4
Lone Parent <sup>1</sup>	20,245	6.6	12,215	8.3	3,795	10.2
Children in census families	530	0.2	45	0.0	0	0.0
Persons not in census families	138,535	45.5	85,765	58.5	27,745	74.3

\* A census family is composed of a married couple or two persons living common-law, with or without children, or of a lone parent living with at least one child (regardless of the age of the child) in the same dwelling. A person can be a spouse, a common-law partner, a lone parent, a child or a person not in a census family.

<sup>1</sup> Statistics Canada refers to a single parent living with one or more of their children as a **lone parent**, regardless of the age of their child(ren). The child must not be living with a spouse, common-law partner or one or more of their own children.

Source: Statistics Canada, 2006 Census, Table 97-553-XCB2006014

Prepared by: BC Stats

