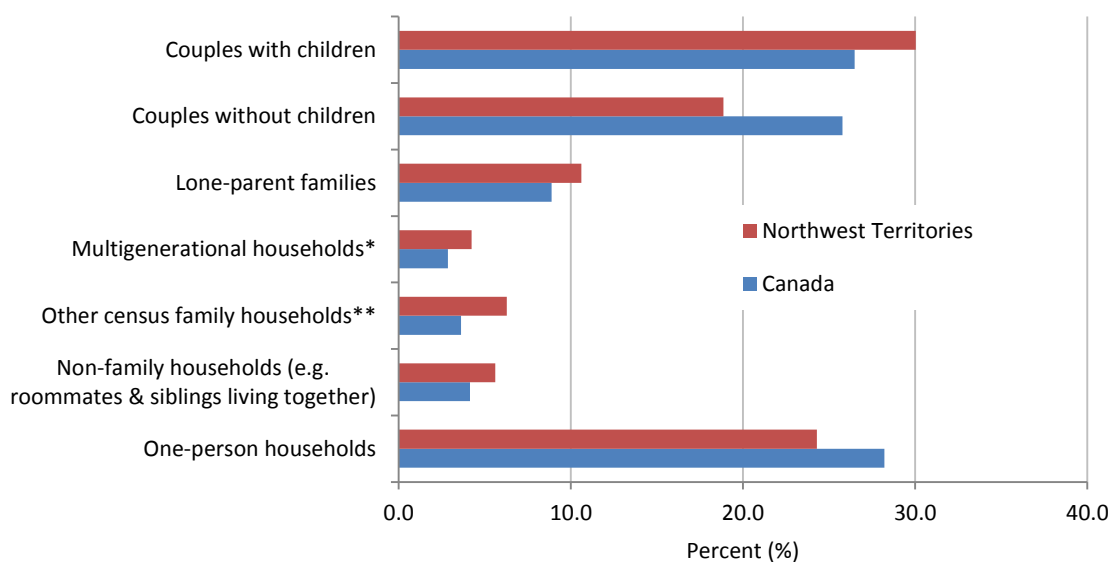


Families, Households and Marital Status – 2016 Census –

Statistics Canada released families, households and marital status data from the 2016 Census – the third of a series of releases based on the 2016 Census results. The results show that in 2016 in the Northwest Territories, 70% of the 14,980 households were composed of at least one census family. Census families are defined as married or common-law couples, with or without children, and lone-parent families. Despite the fact that one-person households became the most common type of household in Canada (28%), couples with children (30%) were the most common in the NWT.

Figure 1 Distribution of Households by Family Structure
Canada, Northwest Territories, 2016



* Multigenerational households include at least three generations of the same family.

** Two or more families living together.

Distribution of census families by family structure at the community level is presented in Table 1. The Yellowknife Region has a higher percentage of married couples (59%) compared to the other regions. The Tlicho Region has the largest proportion of lone-parent families (31%) as well as the highest average size of census family (3.6 persons).

**Table 1 Census Families by Family Structure,
Northwest Territories, Communities, 2016**

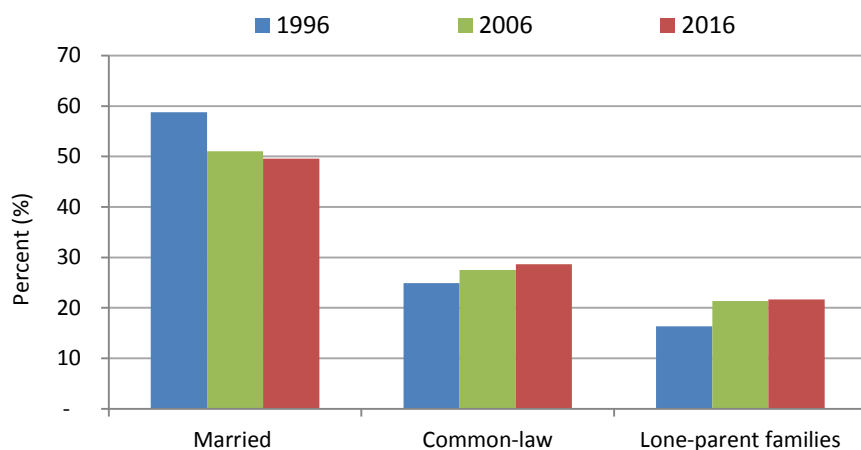
	Total Census Families	Percent of Total Census Families			Average Size of Census Family
		Married	Common -Law	Lone -Parents	
	No.	(%)	(%)	(%)	No.
Northwest Territories	11,110	49.6	28.7	21.7	3.1
Beaufort Delta Region	1,635	36.7	33.0	30.3	3.1
Aklavik	150	33.3	36.7	36.7	3.2
Fort McPherson	185	32.4	27.0	40.5	3.1
Inuvik	830	41.0	31.3	27.7	3.1
Paulatuk	70	42.9	35.7	28.6	3.0
Sachs Harbour	25	20.0	60.0	20.0	3.2
Tsiigehtchic	40	25.0	37.5	37.5	3.6
Tuktoyaktuk	225	26.7	42.2	31.1	3.3
Ulukhaktok	105	42.9	23.8	33.3	3.2
Dehcho Region	845	33.1	39.6	26.6	3.0
Fort Liard	135	18.5	44.4	40.7	3.0
Fort Providence	185	40.5	40.5	24.3	3.1
Fort Simpson	310	38.7	37.1	22.6	3.0
Hay River Dene 1	85	23.5	41.2	35.3	2.9
Jean Marie River	20	50.0	50.0	0.0	3.0
Nahanni Butte	25	20.0	40.0	20.0	2.8
Sambaa K'e	20	25.0	25.0	50.0	3.0
Wrigley	30	33.3	33.3	16.7	3.2
Sahtu Region	630	46.0	25.4	29.4	3.2
Colville Lake	30	50.0	16.7	33.3	3.8
Déjné	150	40.0	20.0	40.0	3.1
Fort Good Hope	135	44.4	29.6	29.6	3.3
Norman Wells	200	55.0	25.0	17.5	3.1
Tulita	120	37.5	29.2	33.3	3.4
South Slave Region	1,910	49.5	28.8	21.5	2.9
Enterprise	30	50.0	33.3	16.7	2.8
Fort Resolution	125	32.0	36.0	32.0	3.0
Fort Smith	700	48.6	27.1	24.3	2.9
Hay River	975	54.9	27.7	17.9	3.0
Łutselk'e	70	21.4	50.0	35.7	3.3
Tłicho Region	660	33.3	34.8	31.1	3.6
Behchokò	440	29.5	38.6	33.0	3.7
Gamètì	65	53.8	30.8	23.1	3.9
Wekweètì	35	28.6	57.1	14.3	3.3
Whatì	120	37.5	25.0	33.3	3.5
Yellowknife Region	5,425	58.5	25.2	16.3	3.0
Detah	60	33.3	41.7	33.3	3.2
Yellowknife	5,270	58.6	25.0	16.3	3.0

Notes:

1. Statistics Canada employs a random rounding process for confidentiality. As a result, all figures end in 0 or 5 and totals may not be the exact sum of their components.
2. Regional and NWT totals include information for unorganized areas and Kakisa.

Figure 2 compares distribution of census families between 1996, 2006 and 2016 census years by family structure in the Northwest Territories. Married couples remain the predominant family type in the NWT; however, their share of all census families has declined in the last 20 years dropping by 9 percentage points to just under 50%. During the same period, the proportion of census families that were common-law increased by nearly 4 percentage points to 29%. The number of lone-parent families also increased from 16% in 1996 to 22% in 2016, with females being three times more likely than males to be the lone parent.

Figure 2 Distribution of Census Families by Family Structure
Northwest Territories, 1996, 2006 and 2016



In 2016, about 61% of census families in the NWT were couples with children, second only to Nunavut. Compared to 2006, the share of couples with one child increased by 6 percentage points to 40%, while those with three or more children decreased by 5 percentage points to 23% (Table 2). The distribution of the number of children within lone-parent families remained relatively consistent between 2006 and 2016. Couples without children increased to 39% of all families over the same period.

Table 2 Census Families by Number of Children and Family Structure,
Northwest Territories, 2006 and 2016

	2016		2006	
	No.	(%)	No.	(%)
Total Number of Census Families	11,110	100.0	10,880	100.0
Total Couple Census Families	8,700	78.3	8,550	78.6
Couples without children	3,395	39.0	3,130	36.6
Couples with children	5,300	60.9	5,415	63.3
1 child	2,105	39.7	1,830	33.8
2 children	1,990	37.5	2,050	37.9
3 or more children	1,205	22.7	1,535	28.3
Total - Lone-parent Census Families	2,410	21.7	2,325	21.4
1 child	1,440	59.8	1,375	59.1
2 children	625	25.9	605	26.0
3 or more children	345	14.3	340	14.6

At the national level, census families grew most rapidly in Nunavut (+12.9%) and Alberta (+11.5). The NWT experienced a 1.6% growth, while New Brunswick was the only province with negative growth. Couples living common-law were more common in the three territories and Quebec compared to the rest of Canada. The proportion of lone-parent families was also higher in the territories with the Northwest Territories having the second highest rate after Nunavut (Table 3).

**Table 3 Census Family Structure,
Canada, Provinces and Territories, Census 2016**

	Number of Census Families	Percent of Total Census Families						Percentage Change for Census Families 2011 to 2016
		Couple Families			Lone-Parent Families			
		Total	Married	Common- Law	Total	Female	Male	
No.	(%)	(%)	(%)	(%)	(%)	(%)	(%)	
Canada	9,840,730	83.6	65.8	17.8	16.4	12.8	3.6	4.8
Northwest Territories	11,110	78.3	49.6	28.7	21.7	16.1	5.6	1.6
Nunavut	8,780	70.9	35.3	35.7	29.0	20.7	8.4	12.9
Yukon	9,845	81.0	55.1	25.9	19.0	14.1	4.9	5.5
British Columbia	1,311,345	84.9	70.7	14.2	15.1	11.9	3.2	5.9
Alberta	1,114,585	85.5	71.2	14.4	14.5	11.1	3.4	11.5
Saskatchewan	302,260	83.6	70.0	13.7	16.4	12.6	3.7	5.9
Manitoba	346,160	83.0	69.9	13.0	17.0	13.3	3.8	5.6
Ontario	3,782,545	82.9	71.0	12.0	17.1	13.7	3.3	4.7
Quebec	2,257,560	83.2	50.0	33.2	16.8	12.6	4.2	2.4
New Brunswick	222,865	83.8	66.4	17.4	16.2	12.9	3.4	-0.8
Nova Scotia	270,965	82.7	67.0	15.7	17.3	13.9	3.4	0.3
Prince Edward Island	41,705	84.3	71.4	12.9	15.7	12.4	3.3	2.1
Newfoundland & Labrador	161,010	84.9	70.5	14.4	15.1	12.0	3.1	1.0

The next release from the 2016 Census will be September 13, 2017 on income.

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