

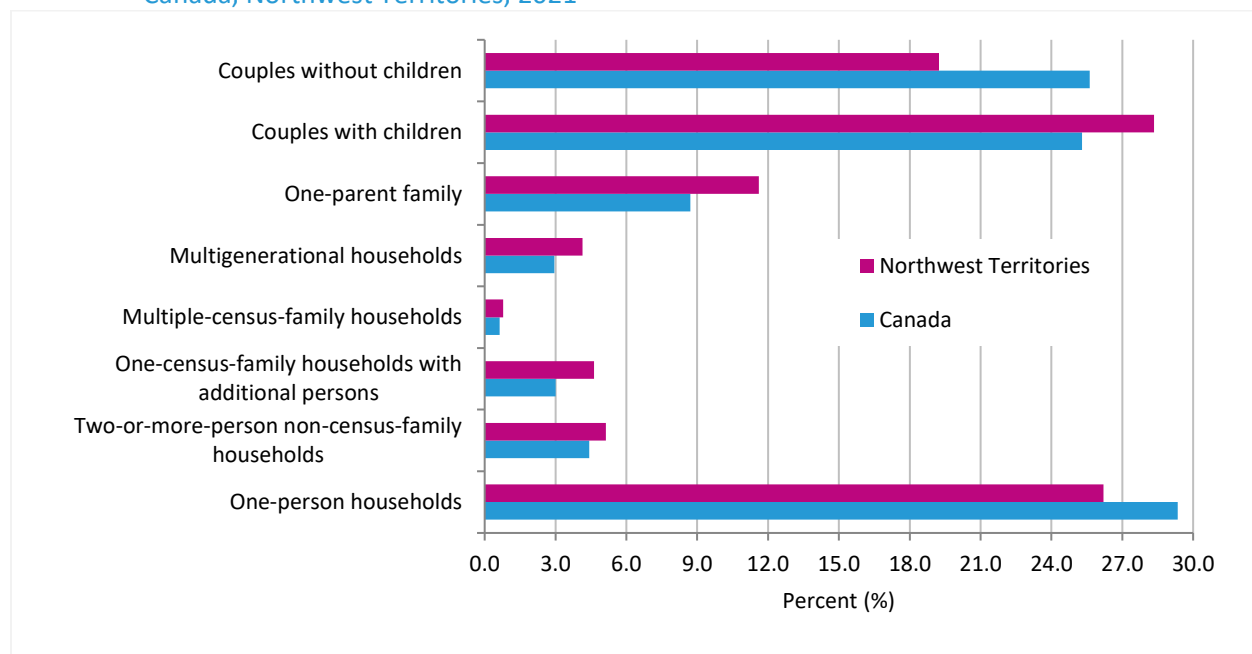
Families, Households, Military Experience & Income 2021 Census

Today, Statistics Canada released the third series of data from the 2021 Census. This release focuses on families, households, marital status, military service, and income, providing, among other things, a portrait of diverse living arrangements and family structures across Canada.

Households and Census Families

In 2021, the Northwest Territories (NWT) had 15,205 households comprising persons living by themselves, multigenerational households, and a variety of census families. Even though couples with children (28%) are still the most prevalent type of household in the NWT, their share of total households dropped slightly as one-person households increased to 26% since 2016. In Canada, one-person households (29%) were the most common type of household, followed by couples without children (26%), and couples with children (25%).

Figure 1: Distribution of Households by Family Structure
Canada, Northwest Territories, 2021



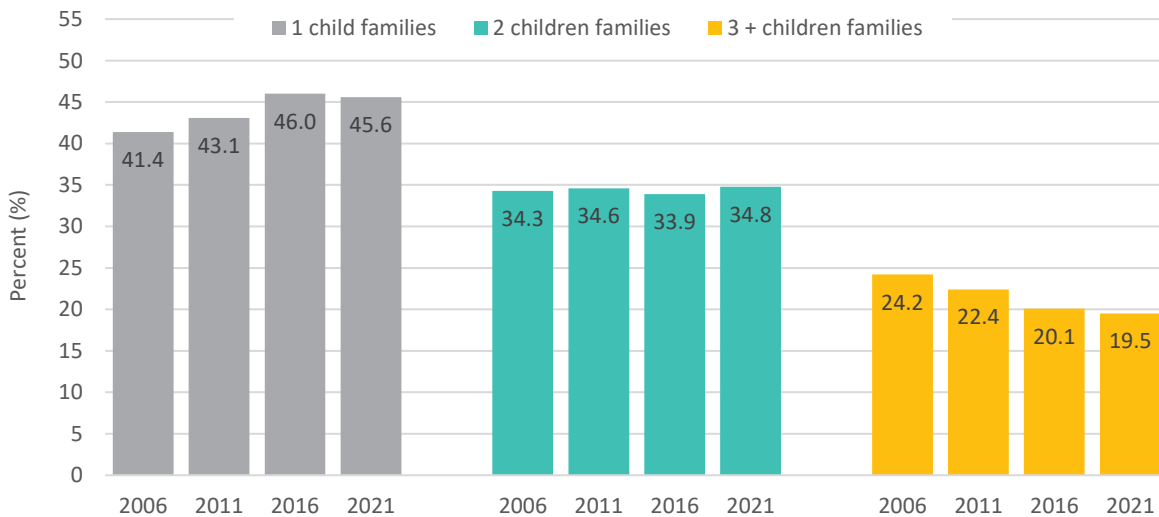
While married couples remain the predominant family type in the NWT, their share of all census families has declined in the last 25 years, from 59% in 1996 to 49% in 2021. Census families are defined as married or common-law couples, with or without children, and one-parent families. Between 1996 and 2021, the proportion of census families that were common-law increased slightly, while one-parent families increased 7 percentage points to 23.4%. NWT women+ were three times more likely than men+ to be the parent in one-parent families in 2021.

Figure 2: Distribution of Census Families by Family Structure, Northwest Territories, 1996 to 2021



In 2021, about 68% of census families in the NWT had children, second only to Nunavut (84%). Overall, between 2006 and 2021 the share of families with one child increased by 4 percentage points to 46%, as the share of families of three or more children declined by 5 percentage points to 19.5%.

Figure 3: Census Families by Number of Children, Northwest Territories, 2021



The 2021 Census collected information on gender diversity of couples including sub-categories of same-gender and transgender couples. The distribution of couples in the Northwest Territories mirrored that of Canada, where different-gender couples represented the majority (98.2%), followed by same-gender couples (1.4%) and transgender or non-binary couples (0.4%). The equivalent numbers for Canada were 98.5%, 1.1% and 0.4%, respectively.

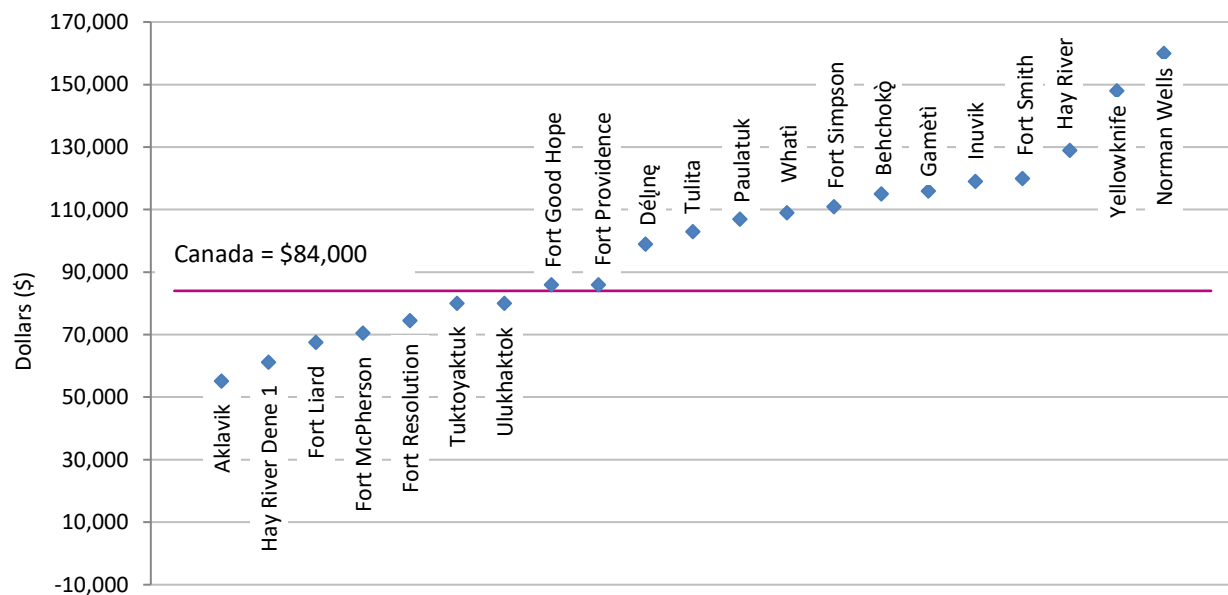
Canadian Military Experience

For the first time since 1971, the census collected information on the military service status for Canadians aged 17 and older. In the NWT, 390 (1.3%) persons were serving in the Canadian military, compared to 0.3% (97,625) for Canada. Nationally, youth aged 17 to 24 represented 17% of those currently serving, compared to 5% in the NWT. For purposes of the 2021 Census, Canadian military service does not include service with the Cadets, Cadet Organizations Administration and Training Service (COATS) instructors or the Canadian Rangers.

Household Income

The 2020 median household income for the NWT was \$127,000. At \$160,000, Norman Wells had the highest NWT median income, followed by Yellowknife (\$148,000) and Hay River (\$129,000). When comparing NWT communities, median income was generally higher in regional centres than outlying communities. Out of 21 NWT communities where information on household income was available, 7 had median incomes less than the Canadian median of \$84,000 (Figure 4).

Figure 4: Median Household Income by Community¹, Northwest Territories, 2020

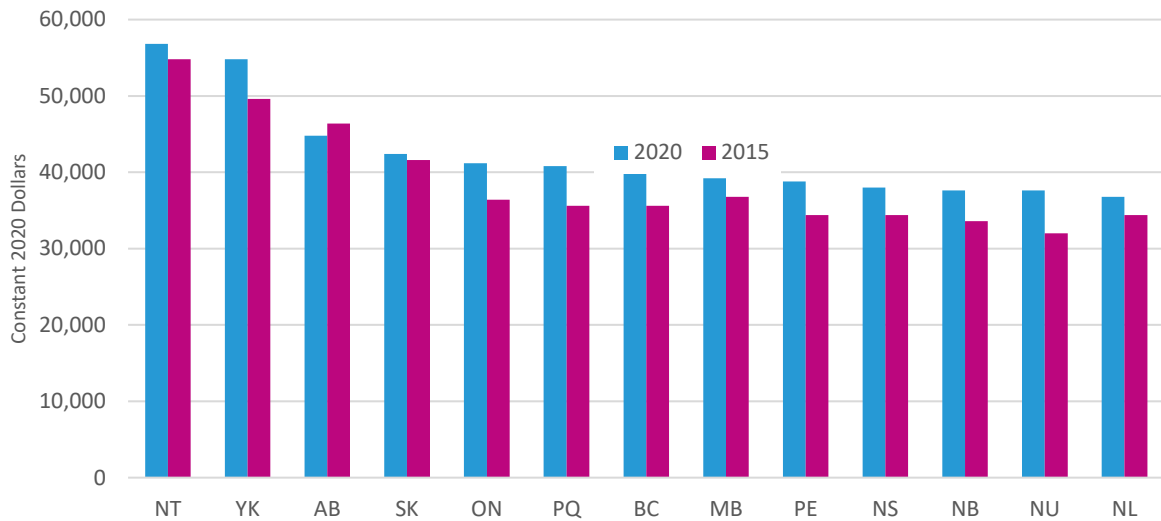


¹ Income data for communities with population sizes under certain threshold is suppressed for confidentiality.

Personal Income

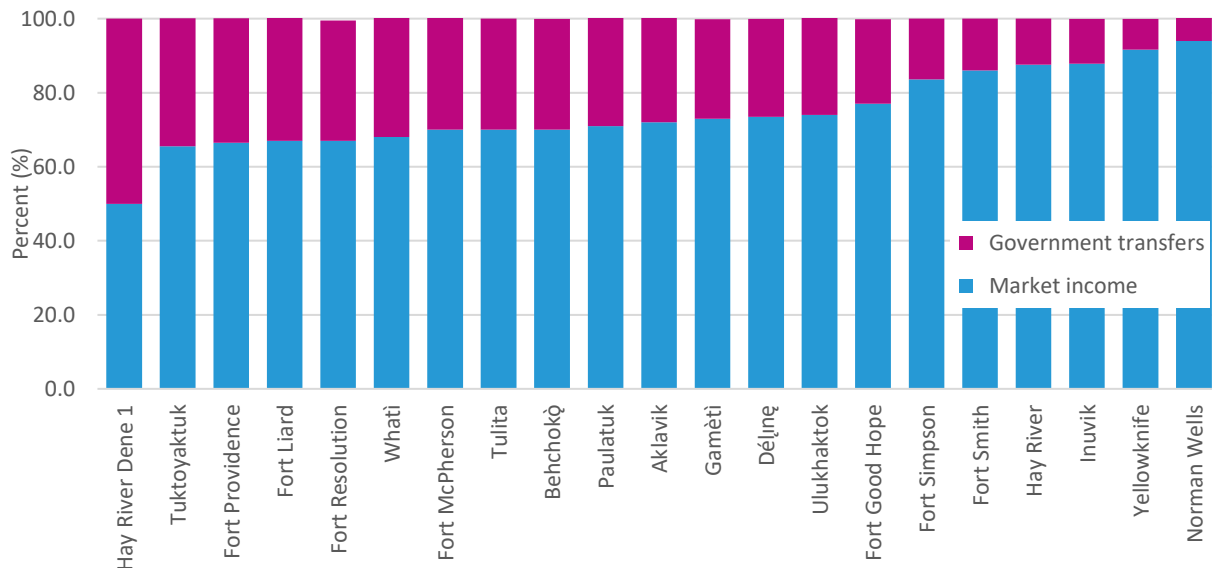
At \$56,800, the Northwest Territories had the highest median personal income among the provinces and territories in 2020. Except for Alberta, median personal income grew in all jurisdictions between 2015 and 2020 (in Constant 2020 Dollars²), with the NWT being one of three jurisdictions to see median personal income increase by 15% or more.

Figure 5: Median Personal Income, Provinces & Territories, 2015 & 2020



Income can be broken down into two basic sources: market income, which includes employment income, and government transfers. In the NWT, 87.2% of the total income was from market income in 2020, the second highest in Canada after Yukon (87.6%). Government transfers comprised 12.9% of total income in the NWT. Within the NWT, market income tends to make up a larger proportion of total income in the regional centres than outlying communities where income from government transfers is relatively high.

Figure 6: Total Personal Income by Source & Community, Northwest Territories, 2020

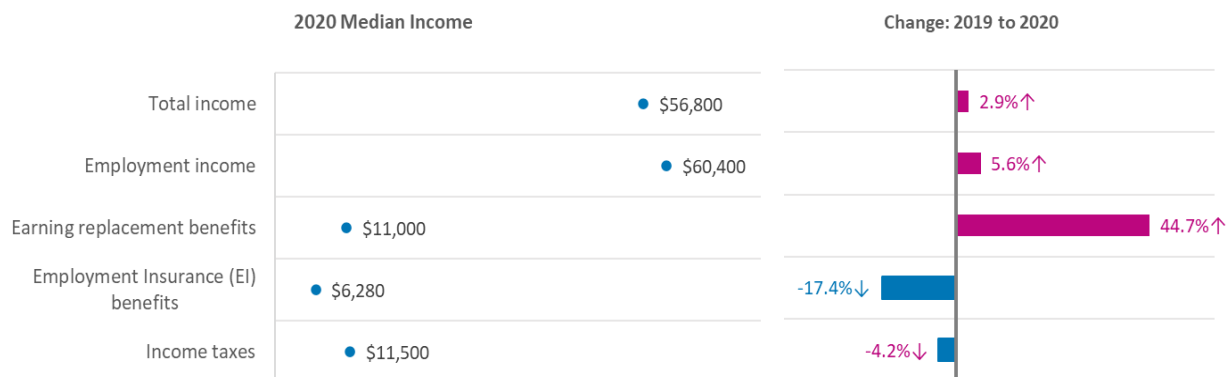


² Adjusted by inflation to ensure comparability

Impact of the COVID-19 Pandemic on Income

In 2020, with the outbreak of COVID-19, the government introduced pandemic relief benefits to help Canadian businesses and households offset losses in employment income³. In the NWT, the number of persons who received employment income in 2020 declined by 260 persons (-1.0%) compared to 2019, while the median earnings grew by 5.6% to \$60,400. By comparison, in Canada, the number of persons who received employment income fell by 0.5%, while the median income fell as well by 2.1%. While fewer people received employment income in the NWT, 28.4% of persons 15 years and older received COVID-19 Emergency and recovery benefits, similar for overall Canada. The median amount received in 2020 was \$10,000 (\$8,000 for Canada).

Figure 7: Impact of COVID-19 on Selected Income Categories, Provinces & Territories, 2020



Planned Release Dates for 2021 Census Information

August 17, 2022	Language
September 21, 2022	Indigenous Peoples Housing
October 26, 2022	Immigration, Place of Birth and Citizenship Ethnocultural and Religious Diversity Mobility and Migration
November 30, 2022	Education, Labour Language of Work, Commuting Instruction in the Official Minority Language

Note: The release dates may change.

For more information, please visit the NWT Bureau of Statistics website at <http://www.statsnwt.ca> or call (867) 767-9169.

³ Employment income consists of wages, salaries and commissions and net self-employment income.