

September 12, 2007

## Families, Marital Status, Households and Dwelling Characteristics

— 2006 Census —

Statistics Canada today released information from the 2006 Census on families, marital status, households and dwelling characteristics. The national census is conducted every five years, primarily to count all persons and dwellings in Canada. In the Northwest Territories, the census that was undertaken in March and May of 2006. This report presents the third of a series of releases based on the 2006 Census results.

A few of the highlights for the Northwest Territories for 2006 from the release include:

- Of the 10,880 census families, 78.6% were in couple (married or common-law) families, and 21.4% were lone-parent families.
- Same-sex couples in the NWT accounted for 0.5% of all couple families, similar to the Canadian average of 0.6%.
- The average number of children at home with families was 1.4 for the NWT as a whole, down from 1.6 in 1996.
- Overall for the NWT, the number of families with three or more children declined from 28.1% in 1996 to 24.3% in 2006.
- At the NWT level, the average number of persons per private dwelling was 2.9 in 2006 (down from 3.1 in 1996), with the highest average found in Behchokö at 4.2 and the lowest in Norman Wells at 2.4.

**Table 1 Census Family Structure, 2006**  
Canada, Provinces and Territories

	Number of Census Families	Percent of Total Census Families					
		Couple Families			Lone-Parent Families		
		Total	Married	Com-law	Total	Female	Male
Canada	8,896,840	84.1	68.6	15.5	15.9	12.7	3.2
Northwest Territories	10,880	78.6	51.1	27.5	21.4	15.6	5.8
Nunavut	7,035	72.4	41.1	31.3	27.6	20.5	7.1
Yukon	8,335	79.3	55.7	23.6	20.7	15.4	5.3
British Columbia	1,161,420	84.9	72.7	12.2	15.1	12.0	3.0
Alberta	904,850	85.6	72.8	12.8	14.4	11.3	3.1
Saskatchewan	267,455	83.4	72.6	10.8	16.6	13.1	3.5
Manitoba	312,805	83.0	72.2	10.8	17.0	13.7	3.3
Ontario	3,422,320	84.2	73.9	10.3	15.8	12.9	2.9
Quebec	2,121,610	83.4	54.5	28.8	16.6	13.0	3.7
New Brunswick	217,795	83.7	69.4	14.2	16.3	13.4	3.0
Nova Scotia	267,415	83.1	70.1	13.0	16.9	13.9	3.0
Prince Edward Island	39,185	83.7	73.2	10.4	16.3	13.4	2.9
Newfoundland	155,730	84.5	73.6	10.9	15.5	12.7	2.8

The number of lone-parent families in the NWT increased from 16.3% to 21.4% of total families between 1996 and 2006, with the number of male-headed lone-parent families increasing from 340 to 635 over this period (table 2).

**Table 2 Census Family Structure, 1996 and 2006**  
Northwest Territories

	All Families	----- Couple Families -----			----- Lone-Parent Families -----		
		Total	Married	Com-Law	Total	Female	Male
<b>2006</b>							
No. of families	10,880	8,550	5,555	2,990	2,330	1,695	635
% Of Total	100.0	78.6	51.1	27.5	21.4	15.6	5.8
<b>1996</b>							
No. of families	9,685	8,100	5,690	2,415	1,580	1,235	340
% Of Total	100.0	83.6	58.8	24.9	16.3	12.9	3.5

Table 3 shows that the presence of children in families has declined since 1996 across both couple and lone-parent family structures. In 2006, the average number of children at home with families was 1.4, down from 1.6 reported in 1996. This is reflected in declining family sizes. In 1996, the number of families with three or more children accounted for 28.1%; in 2006 this cohort accounts for 24.3%. Conversely, the number of single-child families increased from 36.5% in 1996 to 41.4% in 2006. At the same time, the number of families without children increased from 25% in 1996 to 28.8% in 2006 .

**Table 3 Census Family Structure and Number of Children, 1996 and 2006**  
Northwest Territories

	----- 2006 -----			----- 1996 -----		
	Total Families	Couples	Lone Parents	Total Families	Couples	Lone Parents
Total Families	10,875	8,550	2,330	9,685	8,105	1,585
Total families without children at home	3,130	3,130	-	2,420	2,420	-
Total families with children at home	7,750	5,425	2,330	7,265	5,685	1,585
1 child at home	3,205	1,830	1,375	2,655	1,840	815
2 children at home	2,660	2,050	610	2,570	2,110	460
3 or more children at home	1,885	1,535	345	2,045	1,730	305
Total children at home	15,160	11,360	3,800	15,185	12,375	2,810
Children 24 Years and Under	14,135	10,755	3,380	14,375	11,905	2,470
Children 25 Years and Over	1,025	600	420	810	470	340
Average number of children at home per family	1.4	1.3	1.6	1.6	1.5	1.8

Table 4 details the presence of children in the home at the community level, showing that the incidence of childless families is greater in larger NWT communities.

**Table 4 Number of Families, by Number of Children at Home, 2006**  
Northwest Territories, Communities

	Total Families	Families Without Children	--- Number of Families with Children ---				Total Children at Home	Average No. of Children at Home
			Total	One	Two	Three or more		
Northwest Territories	10,875	3,130	7,750	3,205	2,660	1,885	15,160	1.4
Aklavik	145	25	120	50	30	40	245	1.7
Behchokö (Rae-Edzo)	445	60	385	130	95	155	950	2.1
Colville Lake	25	-	20	-	-	10	60	2.6
Deline	130	20	115	55	25	40	240	1.8
Detah	65	10	50	20	15	15	105	1.7
Enterprise	30	10	20	10	10	-	35	1.0
Fort Good Hope	130	15	115	50	35	35	245	1.9
Fort Liard	155	30	125	50	40	40	250	1.7
Fort McPherson	200	25	175	75	50	50	355	1.8
Fort Providence	190	45	150	60	55	35	280	1.4
Fort Resolution	125	30	95	30	25	30	200	1.6
Fort Simpson	305	90	215	85	70	60	430	1.4
Fort Smith	645	200	445	200	155	90	810	1.3
Gamèti (Rae Lakes)	65	-	60	20	15	30	150	2.3
Hay River	1,010	325	685	295	230	155	1,280	1.3
Hay River Reserve	80	15	60	25	15	20	145	1.9
Inuvik	885	260	620	265	195	160	1,235	1.4
Jean Marie River	20	10	15	10	10	-	35	1.8
Kakisa	15	-	10	10	10	-	20	1.3
Lutselk'e	85	20	70	25	20	20	135	1.6
Nahanni Butte	25	-	25	10	10	-	45	1.8
Norman Wells	190	70	120	45	40	35	240	1.2
Paulatuk	65	15	50	25	-	20	130	2.0
Sachs Harbour	30	-	25	10	10	-	50	1.7
Trout Lake	30	10	20	10	10	10	35	1.0
Tsiigehtchic	35	10	30	15	10	10	80	2.0
Tuktoyaktuk	215	45	170	65	40	60	385	1.8
Tulita	125	20	100	40	20	45	240	1.9
Ulukhaktok (Holman)	110	15	95	40	25	25	175	1.6
Wekweèti	35	-	35	10	10	10	70	2.0
Whati	115	15	100	40	35	30	225	1.9
Wrigley	30	10	20	15	-	-	50	1.7
Yellowknife	5,030	1,665	3,365	1,390	1,350	615	6,155	1.2

Table 5 details the population distribution across family structure by community. It shows that Norman Wells and Inuvik are home to the largest proportion of non-family persons (i.e., singles) at 20.3% and 19.0% respectively, well above the NWT average.

**Table 5 Population by Census Family Status, 2006**  
Northwest Territories, Communities

	Total Population	----- Percent of Total Population -----				
		Spouses	Common Law	Lone- Parents	Children	Non-Family Persons
Northwest Territories	40,725	27.3	14.7	5.7	37.2	15.1
Aklavik	585	17.1	14.5	8.5	41.0	17.9
Behchokö (Rae-Edzo)	1,885	14.9	17.5	7.2	50.4	9.8
Colville Lake	120	25.0	8.3	-	54.2	12.5
Deline	525	20.0	14.3	8.6	45.7	11.4
Detah	245	16.3	16.3	8.2	44.9	16.3
Enterprise	95	31.6	26.3	10.5	36.8	10.5
Fort Good Hope	550	22.7	12.7	6.4	45.5	13.6
Fort Liard	580	12.9	27.6	6.0	43.1	10.3
Fort McPherson	780	17.3	9.0	12.2	45.5	14.7
Fort Providence	710	19.0	23.9	5.6	39.4	11.3
Fort Resolution	480	19.8	16.7	7.3	41.7	14.6
Fort Simpson	1,175	21.7	17.9	6.0	36.6	17.4
Fort Smith	2,305	29.1	12.6	6.9	35.1	16.1
Gamèti (Rae Lakes)	280	17.9	16.1	5.4	53.6	7.1
Hay River	3,575	32.0	13.1	5.6	35.8	13.4
Hay River Reserve	300	18.3	18.3	8.3	48.3	8.3
Inuvik	3,400	20.7	17.1	7.1	36.2	19.0
Jean Marie River	85	17.6	17.6	11.8	41.2	11.8
Kakisa	55	18.2	18.2	-	36.4	18.2
Lutselk'e	320	14.1	23.4	7.8	42.2	12.5
Nahanni Butte	115	17.4	21.7	-	39.1	17.4
Norman Wells	740	26.4	16.2	4.7	32.4	20.3
Paulatuk	290	22.4	13.8	5.2	44.8	17.2
Sachs Harbour	120	16.7	20.8	8.3	41.7	16.7
Trout Lake	90	11.1	27.8	11.1	38.9	11.1
Tsiigehtchic	175	20.0	14.3	5.7	45.7	14.3
Tuktoyaktuk	865	17.9	16.8	6.9	44.5	13.9
Tulita	505	18.8	16.8	6.9	48.5	9.9
Ulukhaktok (Holman)	400	25.0	10.0	8.8	43.8	11.3
Wekweëti	135	14.8	22.2	11.1	51.9	7.4
Whati	455	17.6	16.5	7.7	49.5	7.7
Wrigley	125	16.0	16.0	-	40.0	16.0
Yellowknife	18,330	33.0	13.2	4.3	33.6	15.8

Table 6 details household size and the average number of persons per household. The percentage of households with 5 or more persons has decreased from 19.1% in 1996 to 14.8% in 2006. The average number of persons per household has decreased from 3.1 to 2.9 over the past decade. Jean Marie River, Nahanni Butte, Trout Lake, and Wekweëti were the only communities to have an increase in the average number of persons per household between 1996 and 2006. The average number of persons per household fell in all other communities over the past decade.

**Table 6 Private Households, by Size and Community**  
Northwest Territories, Communities  
2006

	Total Households	----- Number of Households by Count of Persons -----						Average # of persons per HH	
		One	Two	Three	Four	Five	> Six	2006	1996
Northwest Territories	14,235	3,085	4,035	2,620	2,380	1,245	865	2.9	3.1
Aklavik	215	75	50	30	25	30	15	2.7	3.3
Behchokö (Rae-Edzo)	450	65	70	60	65	70	125	4.2	4.4
Colville Lake	35	10	10	-	10	10	10	3.6	4.1
Deline	170	45	35	30	25	25	15	3.0	3.6
Detah	80	20	10	10	10	10	10	3.1	3.4
Enterprise	35	10	15	-	10	-	-	2.7	2.8
Fort Good Hope	175	45	35	35	25	15	20	3.1	3.7
Fort Liard	175	35	35	30	35	15	25	3.3	3.6
Fort McPherson	265	70	70	35	35	25	30	2.9	3.3
Fort Providence	235	40	55	45	50	25	15	3.1	3.4
Fort Resolution	175	50	45	25	25	20	10	2.8	2.9
Fort Simpson	435	105	130	70	65	35	25	2.7	3.0
Fort Smith	865	200	265	170	125	70	35	2.7	3.1
Gamèti (Rae Lakes)	70	10	10	15	10	10	20	3.8	4.4
Hay River	1,315	305	410	230	210	105	60	2.7	3.0
Hay River Reserve	85	10	20	20	15	10	15	3.5	3.6
Inuvik	1,245	315	365	215	180	95	75	2.7	2.9
Jean Marie River	20	-	10	-	-	-	10	4.0	2.9
Kakisa	10	-	10	10	-	-	10	3.3	3.3
Lutselk'e	110	25	30	20	20	15	-	2.9	3.6
Nahanni Butte	35	10	-	10	10	10	-	3.3	3.1
Norman Wells	300	90	100	40	40	25	10	2.4	2.8
Paulatuk	75	10	20	15	10	10	15	3.9	5.0
Sachs Harbour	45	20	10	-	10	10	10	2.8	3.4
Trout Lake	30	10	10	10	-	10	-	3.0	2.8
Tsiigehtchic	60	20	10	10	-	10	-	2.9	3.3
Tuktoyaktuk	275	75	60	35	40	35	35	3.2	3.7
Tulita	140	25	25	25	25	25	20	3.5	3.5
Ulukhaktok (Holman)	135	25	35	30	25	10	10	2.9	3.4
Wekweëti	35	10	10	-	10	10	-	4.0	3.9
Whatì	115	10	25	20	20	15	25	4.0	4.8
Wrigley	45	15	15	10	-	-	10	2.8	3.4
Yellowknife	6,630	1,300	2,015	1,335	1,255	510	215	2.8	3.0

## Planned Release Dates for 2006 Census Information

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March 13, 2007	Population and Dwelling Counts
July 17, 2007	Age and Sex
September 12, 2007	Marital and Common-Law Status, Families, Households, Housing and Dwelling Characteristics
December 4, 2007	Language, Immigration, Citizenship, and Mobility and Migration
January 15, 2008	Aboriginal Peoples
March 4, 2008	Labour Market Activity, Industry, Occupation, Education, Language of Work, Place of Work, and Mode of Transportation
April 2, 2008	Ethnic Origin, and Visible Minorities
May 1, 2008	Income, Earnings, and Shelter Costs

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For more information, contact:

NWT Bureau of Statistics  
Strategic Planning Branch  
Government of the Northwest Territories  
PO Box 1320  
Yellowknife, Northwest Territories  
X1A 2L9

Telephone: 867-873-7147  
Toll Free: 1-888-782-8768 (1-888-STATSNT)  
Fax: 867-873-0275  
Email: [info@stats.gov.nt.ca](mailto:info@stats.gov.nt.ca)

Or visit our website at:

<http://www.stats.gov.nt.ca>