

HOW MANY FAMILIES HAVE CHILDREN LIVING AT HOME?

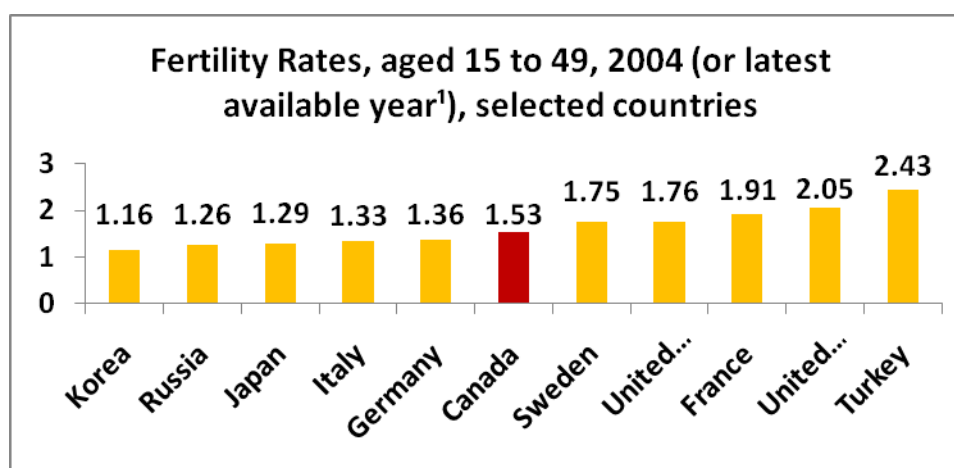
62% of all families have children living at home. Only 10% of all families have three or more children living at home.

Number and Percentage of Families with Children, Canada 2006		
	Number	%
Total Families	8,896,840	100%
With no children living at home	3,420,850	38%
With at least one child living at home	5,475,990	62%
1 child at home	2,429,695	27%
2 children at home	2,132,830	24%
3 or more children at home	913,465	10%

Statistics Canada, 2006 Census. [Catalogue Number 97-553-XCB2006007](#)

HOW MANY CHILDREN DO PEOPLE USUALLY HAVE?

Current trends suggest that, on average, women in Canada will have 1.53 children over the course of their lives. This is known as the fertility rate. Other industrialized countries have a slightly higher fertility rate; United Kingdom at 1.76 and the United States at 2.05 (2004).



¹ Turkey, 2003.

Source: OECD (2006), Society at a Glance, OECD, Paris

Fertility Rates, Canada and Provinces, 2004 & 2005		
	2004	2005
Canada	1.53	1.54
Newfoundland and Labrador	1.29	1.34
Prince Edward Island	1.53	1.47
Nova Scotia	1.40	1.39
New Brunswick	1.39	1.40
Quebec	1.47	1.51
Ontario	1.50	1.51
Manitoba	1.77	1.82
Saskatchewan	1.85	1.87
Alberta	1.73	1.74
British Columbia	1.38	1.39
Yukon Territory	1.66	1.47
Northwest Territories	2.02	2.11
Nunavut	2.95	2.73

Source: [Statistics Canada, CANSIM Table 102-4505](#)

WHAT IS THE AVERAGE AGE OF FIRST-TIME MOTHERS?

In 2003, the average age of first-time mothers was 28.0 years. On average, first-time mothers in British Columbia are older than those in Nunavut (28.8 compared with 21.7 years).

Average Age of First-Time Mothers, Canada and Provinces, 2003	
	First-time mothers
Canada	28
Newfoundland and Labrador	26.9
Prince Edward Island	26.6
Nova Scotia	27.4
New Brunswick	26.6
Quebec	27.7
Ontario	28.7
Manitoba	26.3
Saskatchewan	25.3
Alberta	27.3
British Columbia	28.8
Yukon	26.7
Northwest Territories	26.2
Nunavut	21.7

Source: [Statistics Canada, The Daily, July 12th, 2005](#)

HOW MANY CHILDREN ARE ADOPTED?

In 2006, Canadians adopted 1,535 children from abroad. There has been a steady decrease in the number of international adoptions since 2003.

International adoptions, by sex and age, 1997-2006						
	Number(#)		Percent(%)			Total International Adoptions
	Girls 0-4 yrs	Boys 0-4 yrs	Girls 0-4 yrs	Boys 0-4 yrs	Boys & Girls 5+ yrs	
1997	885	370	49.3%	20.6%	30.1%	1,796
1998	1,301	373	58.6%	16.8%	24.6%	2,221
1999	1,110	414	55.0%	20.5%	24.5%	2,018
2000	1,028	406	55.2%	21.8%	23.0%	1,862
2001	1,046	421	55.9%	22.5%	21.6%	1,872
2002	1,165	423	60.9%	22.0%	17.1%	1,923
2003	1,419	422	65.1%	19.3%	15.6%	2,181
2004	1,305	389	66.8%	19.9%	13.3%	1,955
2005	1,195	370	63.9%	19.8%	16.3%	1,871
2006	872	407	56.8%	26.5%	16.7%	1,535
Total	11,326	3,995				19,234

Source: [Adoption Council of Canada](#)

Each year in Canada, there are about 1,700 public adoptions (public agency matches a child with you; long waits; no fees) and 1,000 private adoptions (you find a child or a birthmother chooses you with the help of a private agency; hard to find healthy newborns; can be very costly) that take place. There are also about 66,000 children in foster care and about 22,000 of those children are considered permanent wards (a.k.a. Crown wards in which the rights of the parents have been terminated by the courts).

Source: [Family Helper \(Adoption and Fertility, www.familyhelper.net\)](#)

WHAT TYPES OF FAMILIES DO CHILDREN LIVE IN?

8 out of 10 children under 20 years of age live in a couple family (married or common-law).

Children less than 20 years of age, by Family Type, Canada, 2006		
	Number	%
Total Children less than 20 years	7,494,965	100%
Couple family	6,013,225	80.2%
Children living in a married couple family	5,028,920	67.1%
Children living in a common-law couple family	984,305	13.1%
Lone-Parent family	1,481,735	19.8%
Children living in a female lone-parent family	1,214,185	16.2%
Children living in a male lone-parent family	267,545	3.6%

Source: [Statistics Canada, 2006 Census of Population, Catalogue Number 97-553-XCB2006011](#)

WHEN DO THE KIDS LEAVE HOME?

In 2006, 60% of young adults aged 20-24 lived in the parental home, compared to 50% in 1986. 26% of young adults aged 25-29 lived with their parents, up from 16% in 1986.

Source: [Statistics Canada, The Daily, September 12th, 2007](#)