



Northwestern Health Unit Census 2006 - Report 2

January 2008

Summary:

- The percent of married couple families is declining
- The percent of common-law couple families is increasing
- The number and percent of single persons is increasing
- The percent of lone-parent families is increasing
- More single persons are living alone
- The gap between couple households with children and couple households without children is narrowing

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Source of data in this Report is from: Statistics Canada, 2006 Community Profiles. 2006 Census Catalogue no. 92-591-XWE. Released March 13, 2007.
<http://www12.statcan.ca/english/census06/data/profiles/community/index.cfm?Lang=E>

Families and Households

Family arrangements have changed over time. In John M. Last's *A Dictionary of Epidemiology* 4th edition, he defines a family as a group of two or more persons united by blood, adoptive or marital ties, or the common-law equivalent, family members may or may not share the same household and can include persons of several generations who are united to other members by blood, adoptive or marital or equivalent ties.

"Every family is a normal family-no matter whether it has one parent, two or no children at all. A family can be made up of any combination of people, heterosexual or homosexual who share their lives..." Shere Hite, *The Hite Report on the Family* (1994) from *Quotations by Women 1992*.

In 2001, Statistics Canada made the following conceptual changes to the definition of census families with children: "Children in a census family who can be previously married (as long as they are not currently living with a spouse or common-law partner). Previously, they

had to be *never married*." "A grandchild living in a three-generation household where the parent (middle generation) is never married is, contrary to previous censuses, now considered as a child in the census family of his or her parent, provided the grandchild is not living with his or her own spouse, common-law partner, or child. Traditionally, the census family usually consisted of the two older generations."

"A grandchild of another household member, where a middle-generation parent is not present, is now considered as a child in the census family of his or her grandparent, provided the grandchild is not living with his or her own spouse, common-law partner, or child. Traditionally, such a grandchild would not be considered as a member of a census family." Because of the conceptual changes in the definition of census families, any historical comparisons of census families ought to be interpreted with caution. (Statistics Canada, 2007)

The 2006 Census, recorded across the country, many firsts in changes in the characteristics of families and households. While counts are small, same-sex

married couples were enumerated for the first time. Canada was the third country in the world to legalize same sex marriages behind the Netherlands and Belgium. The Census reported a higher proportion, albeit small, of census couple families without children. More unmarried people aged 15 years and older were enumerated than legally married people. Lone-parent families headed by males increased and this change may be attributed to a decline in mothers being awarded sole custody of children following divorce or separation and an increase in joint custody arrangements. Common-law couple families were growing, and this growth may be a reflection of social acceptance of common-law status.

Household size declined because people were having fewer children or no children at home. It appeared that smaller households were also the result of divorce or separation as one larger household became two smaller ones. The proportion of families with three or more children declined since 2001.

The 2006 Census in Kenora and Rainy River Districts

In the 2006 Census, in the Kenora and Rainy River Districts, a total of 24,335 census families were enumerated and represented an increase of 855 families since the 2001 Census.

Married couple families continued to occupy the higher proportion of all census families; however, this proportion has declined between census years. The proportion of married couple families in the Kenora District declined from 67.7% in 2001 to 61.8% in 2006. Married couple families in the Rainy River District declined by 2%. Ontario's experience was stable.

The proportion of common-law couple families increased in 2006 and represented the current trend occurring across the country. Common-law couples in the Kenora District increased by 4% while that found for Rainy River District increased by 1%.

In the 2006 Census, a total of 23,765 persons reported being single in the Kenora and Rainy River Districts, representing an increase from 20,765 persons from the 2001 Census. Overall, the increase in the proportion of single person families reflected current changes in society.

In the 2006 Census, there were a total of 4,460 lone-parent families in the Kenora and Rainy River Districts. The percentage of lone-parent families in the Kenora District increased by almost 2% while that found for Rainy River remained stable. Of these, 3,350 lone-parent families were headed by females and 1,110 were headed by males. In the Kenora District, the percent of female-lone parent families declined by 3.4% and that found for males increased by 3.6%.

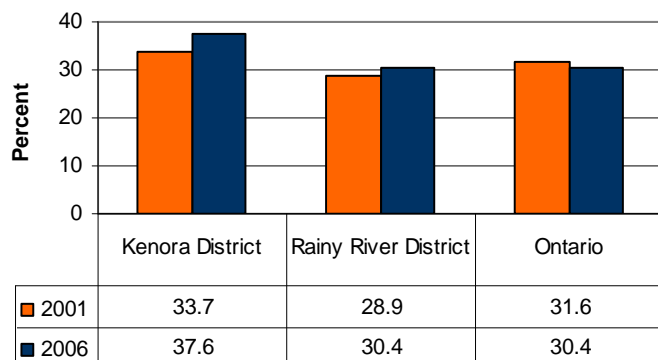
In the Rainy River District, the percent of female lone-parent families increased by 3.5% while that found for male lone-parent families declined by the same percentage.

Between the 2001 and 2006 Censuses, the percent of couple households with children in the Kenora District declined by 3.2% while that found for the Rainy River District declined by 1%. On the other hand, couple households without children increased by 1.4% and that found for the Rainy River District remained stable. In Ontario, couple households with children declined by 1.4% between census years.

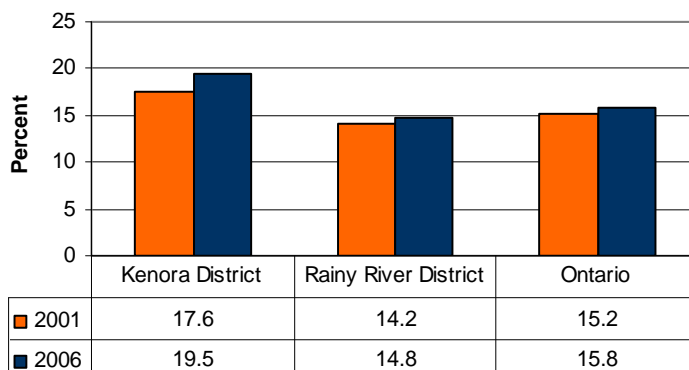
The gap between the couple households with children and couple households without children narrowed in the Kenora District from 7% in the 2001 Census to 2.4% in the 2006 Census. However, in the Rainy River District the percent of couple households without children (30.2%) was higher than that found for couple households with children (29.1%). In Ontario, couple households without children increased by 0.3% between census years.

In the 2006 Census, in the Kenora and Rainy River Districts, there were 7,660 one-person households. This was an increase of 395 one-person households. The Rainy River District reported a 1.1% percent increase in one-person households compared to the 0.5% percent increase in the Kenora District. Ontario also reported a 0.7% increase in one-person households between census years. The Rainy River District had the highest percentage for one-person households (28.1%) than that found for the Kenora District (22.8%) and Ontario (24.3%).

Population 15+
Single in Kenora &
Rainy River Districts,
2001 & 2006



Lone-Parent Families,
Kenora & Rainy River Districts,
2001 & 2006



What is a household?

A private household refers to a person or a group of persons (other than foreign residents) who occupy the same dwelling and do not have a usual place of residence elsewhere in Canada.

Households with couples and children refers to couples with at least one child aged 24 and younger present in the home.

Households with couples without children include couples with all children aged 25 and older.

A private household may consist of a family group (census family) with or without persons, of two or more families sharing a dwelling, of a group of unrelated persons, or of one person living alone.

Household members who are temporarily absent on Census Day are considered as part of their usual household. For census purposes, every person is a member of a one and only one household.

Other household types refers to multiple-family households, lone-parent family households and non-family households other than one-person households. (Statistics Canada, 2007)

Lone-Parent Families, Kenora & Rainy River Districts, 2001 & 2006						
		Kenora District		Rainy River District		Ontario
		Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Percent
2001	Lone Parent Families	3040	17.6	880	14.2	15.2
	Female Lone Parent Families	2365	77.8	655	74.4	82.5
	Male Lone Parent Families	670	22.0	225	25.6	17.5
2006	Lone Parent Families	3555	19.5	905	14.8	15.8
	Female Lone Parent Families	2645	74.4	705	77.9	81.6
	Male Lone Parent Families	910	25.6	200	22.1	18.4

What is a family?

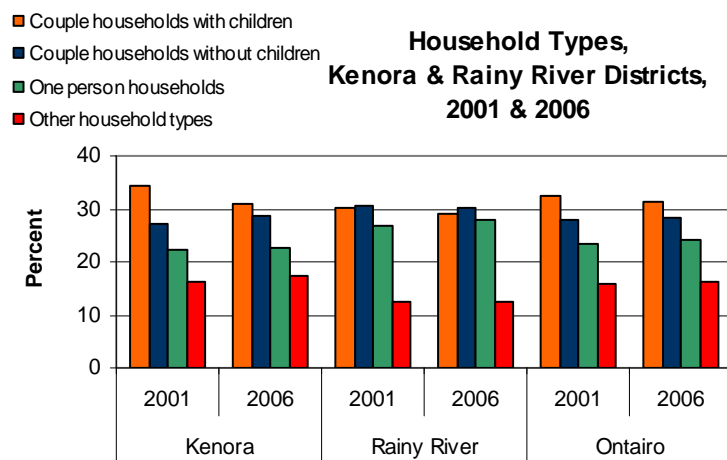
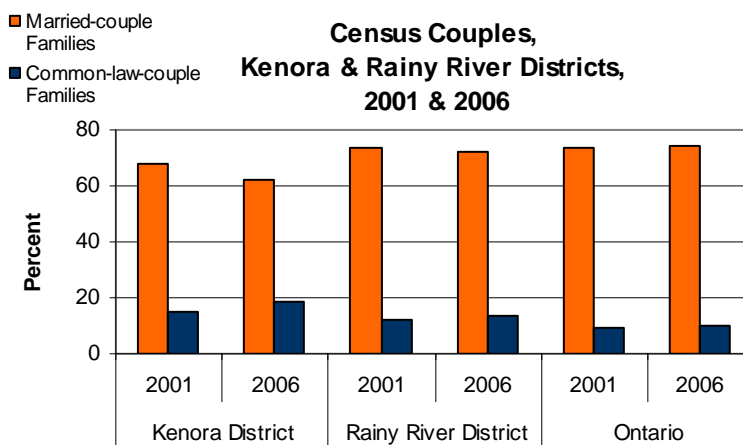
The Census refers to a census family as a married couple with or without children, a couple living common-law (with or without children of either or both partners) or a lone-parent of any marital status, with at least one child living in the same dwelling. A couple may be of the opposite or same sex.

Married or common-law families with children refers to census families with at least one child aged 24 or younger in the home. Married or common-law couple families without children include families with all children aged 25 and older.

“Children” in a census family include previously married children not currently living with a spouse or partner and grandchildren living with their grandparent(s) but with no parents present.

Married couples refers to the legal conjugal status of a person. Common-law status refers to persons who live together as a couple but who are not legally married to each other. These persons can be the same or opposite sex. Lone-parent families are census families made up of one parent and one or more never married children.

Single refers to never having been legally married. (Statistics Canada, 2007)



One-Person Households, Kenora & Rainy River Districts, 2001 & 2006					
	Kenora District		Rainy River District		Ontario
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Percent
2001	4935	22.3	2330	26.9	23.5
2006	5250	22.8	2410	28.1	24.3

Type of Census Families, Kenora and Rainy River Districts, 2006

	% Married couple families	% Common-law couple families	% Lone-parent families	% Female lone-parent families	% Male lone-parent families
Dryden	72.6	12.4	15.1	82.2	17.8
Ear Falls	66.7	22.2	9.7	100.0	28.6
Ignace	67.9	15.0	17.0	79.3	20.7
Kenora	67.9	15.0	17.0	79.3	20.7
Machin	68.8	15.6	14.1	77.8	22.2
Pickle Lake	46.4	35.7	17.9	40.0	60.0
Red Lake	66.4	19.3	14.7	55.3	44.7
Sioux Lookout	59.5	20.7	19.4	71.2	27.1
Sioux Narrows/ Nestor Falls	80.5	17.1	4.9	100.0	0.0
Kenora Unorganized	67.9	15.0	17.0	79.3	20.7
Kenora District	61.8	18.7	19.5	74.4	25.6
Alberton	84.7	3.4	11.9	85.7	28.6
Atikokan	71.8	16.5	11.7	86.4	13.6
Chapple	88.9	4.4	8.9	75.0	0.0
Dawson	75.7	10.8	13.5	80.0	40.0
Emo	85.5	7.2	7.2	100.0	0.0
Fort Frances	70.0	12.1	18.1	75.0	25.0
La Vallee	84.1	14.3	3.2	0.0	0.0
Lake of the Woods	83.3	11.1	11.1	100.0	0.0
Morley	92.0	8.0	8.0	0.0	0.0
Rainy River	68.0	18.0	14.0	100.0	0.0
Rainy River Unorganized	89.2	6.5	4.3	75.0	0.0
Rainy River District	72.0	13.2	14.8	77.9	22.1
Ontario	73.9	10.3	15.8	12.9	2.9

Household Status, Kenora and Rainy River Districts, 2006

	% Households containing a couple (married or common-law) with children	% Households containing a couple (married or common-law) without children	% One-person households	% Other household types	Average house hold size
Dryden	29.9	31.1	26.2	12.8	2.4
Ear Falls	33.0	35.1	20.2	12.8	2.4
Ignace	26.6	31.0	28.5	13.8	2.4
Kenora	26.6	31.0	28.5	13.8	2.4
Machin	25.0	41.3	22.5	13.8	2.4
Pickle Lake	8.3	44.4	25.0	16.7	2.7
Red Lake	31.7	29.7	25.1	13.4	2.5
Sioux Lookout	30.0	30.5	21.6	18.0	2.7
Sioux Narrows/ Nestor Falls	25.5	47.3	21.8	5.5	2.3
Kenora Unorganized	26.6	31.0	28.5	13.8	2.5
Kenora District	31.0	28.7	22.8	17.5	2.8
Alberton	43.5	30.4	14.5	10.1	2.7
Atikokan	26.1	32.0	31.0	10.9	2.3
Chapple	31.7	36.7	25.0	6.7	2.9
Dawson	31.3	35.4	20.8	12.5	2.5
Emo	35.2	25.7	32.4	6.7	2.5
Fort Frances	25.2	28.5	32.4	14.0	2.3
La Vallee	50.0	32.4	14.9	2.7	2.9
Lake of the Woods	20.0	44.0	28.0	8.0	2.5
Morley	27.8	38.9	27.8	8.3	2.8
Rainy River	23.5	28.4	35.8	13.6	2.2
Rainy River Unorganized	28.6	50.0	16.1	5.4	2.5
Rainy River District	29.1	30.2	28.1	12.6	2.5
Ontario	31.2	28.3	24.3	16.3	2.6