

FACTS AND STATS



Modern Couples in Canada

67%, 17% & 16% Proportion of census families that were married couples, common-law couples or lone-parent families, respectively, in 2011¹

7% Proportion of Canadians aged 20 and older who were in “living apart together” (LAT)² couples in 2011³

9% & 11% Proportion of parents in Canada aged 20–64 who were in blended families⁴ in 1995 and 2011, respectively⁵

42% Increase in the number of couple families with same-sex status between 2006 and 2011 (accounting for 0.8% of all couple families)⁶

33% & 67% Proportion of couples with same-sex status who were married and living common-law, respectively, in 2011⁷

49% & 19% Proportion of mixed unions in Canada that were composed of a person born in

Canada and a person born abroad and the proportion that were composed of two foreign-born persons from *different* countries, respectively, in 2011⁸

2.6% & 4.6% Proportion of all couples in Canada who were in mixed unions⁹ in 1991 and 2011, respectively¹⁰

25% & 6% Proportion of mixed unions in Canada in which *both* persons were Canadian by birth and proportion in which both persons were born in the *same* country outside Canada, respectively, in 2011¹¹

74% Proportion of all couples in Canada in which both persons shared the same religious affiliation in 2011¹²

17% Proportion of all couples in Canada in which both persons reported having no religious affiliation in 2011¹³

¹ Statistics Canada, “Portrait of Families and Living Arrangements in Canada,” 2011 Analytical Documents, Statistics Canada catalogue no. 98-312-X2011001 (September 2012), accessed August 7, 2014, <http://bit.ly/1hAm7HE>.

² “LAT” relationships are couple relationships in which both persons do not share the same dwelling.

³ Martin Turcotte, “Living Apart Together,” *Insights on Canadian Society*, Statistics Canada catalogue no. 75-006-X (March 2013), accessed August 6, 2014, <http://bit.ly/10bGi78>.

⁴ Blended families (also known as stepfamilies) are couple families in which there is at least one child whose birth or adoption preceded the current relationship.

⁵ Mireille Vézina, “Percentage of Parents Aged 20 to 64, by Type of Family with Children, Canada, 1995 to 2011” (Table 1), *Being a Parent in a Stepfamily: A Profile*, accessed August 6, 2014, <http://bit.ly/1IAkuYF>.

⁶ Statistics Canada, “Distribution (Number and Percentage) and Percentage Change of Couple Families by Opposite-Sex or Same-Sex Status, Canada, 2001 to 2011” (Table 3), *Portrait of Families and Living Arrangements in Canada*, Statistics Canada catalogue no. 98-312-X-2011001 (September 2012), accessed August 6, 2014, <http://bit.ly/V4neGq>.

⁷ Ibid.

⁸ Statistics Canada, “Mixed Unions in Canada,” *NHS in Brief*, Statistics Canada catalogue no. 99-010-X2011003 (June 2014), accessed August 6, 2014, <http://bit.ly/1pfHiPR>.

⁹ Statistics Canada defines a mixed union as “a couple in which one spouse or partner belongs to a visible minority group and the other does not, as well as a couple in which the two spouses or partners belong to different visible minority groups.”

¹⁰ Statistics Canada, “Proportion of Couples in Mixed Unions, Canada, 1991 to 2011” (Figure 1) *NHS in Brief*, Statistics Canada catalogue no. 99-010-X2011003 (June 2014), accessed August 6, 2014, <http://bit.ly/1paf4sm>.

¹¹ Ibid.

¹² Statistics Canada, “Percentage Distribution of Couples by Various Ethnocultural Characteristics, Canada, 2011” (Table 2) *NHS in Brief*, Statistics Canada catalogue no. 99-010-X2011003 (June 2014), accessed August 6, 2014, <http://bit.ly/1AUEEq6>.

¹³ Statistics Canada, “Mixed Unions in Canada.”