In 2016, there were 9.8 million Census families living across Canada.\(^1\) 

In 2016, there were nearly 518,000 stepfamilies in Canada,\(^7\) who accounted for 12% of all couple families with children.\(^8\)

In 2016, nearly 33,000 children in Canada aged 0 to 14 lived in skip-generation households, that is, living with grandparent(s) with no middle (i.e. parent) generation present.\(^11\)

In 2016, there were nearly 73,000 same-sex couple families in Canada, 12% of whom are raising children (up from 8.6% in 2001). Of these, \(\frac{4}{5}\) are female couples.\(^9\)

In 2016, there were more than 28,000 foster children aged 0 to 14 living in households across Canada, down from nearly 30,000 in 2011.\(^12\)

In 2016, there were nearly 404,000 multi-generational households (three generations or more) in Canada, accounting for 2.9% of private households. The number of multi-generational households grew by 38% since 2001, making them the fastest-growing household type across the country.\(^10\)

Canada is home to more than 54,000 military families. This includes approximately 40,000 Regular Force military families and 14,000 Reserve force military families.\(^13\)

In 2014, 4.6% of all couples in Canada were mixed unions,\(^14\) nearly double the rate from 1991 (2.6%).\(^15\)
In 2016, 21.9% of people in Canada reported that they were born outside the country—a rate that has risen continually since 1991 and is close to the record set in 1921 (22.3%).

In 1961, 16% of the population were first-generation immigrants, a share that is projected to grow to 25%–30% by 2036 (the highest proportion since 1871).

In 2016, approximately 38% of children aged 0 to 14 were foreign-born (first generation) or had at least one foreign-born parent (second generation). This is up from 35% in 2011, and is projected to grow to 39%–49% by 2036.

Approximately 15% of children with an immigrant background lived in a multi-generational household in 2016, with the highest rate (18%) found among children born in Canada to two foreign-born parents.

In 2016, more than 1 in 5 people in Canada (22%) reported belonging to a visible minority group. Among this group, 3 in 10 were born in Canada.

In 2011, 20% of immigrants in Canada aged 15 to 64 reported belonging to a visible minority group, a share that is projected to grow to 35%–40% by 2036.

In 2014, 1 in 5 Canadians aged 25 to 64 reported living with at least one disability. Disability rates were higher for women (23%) than men (18%).

In 2013, there were nearly 102,000 farm families in Canada, down from approximately 135,000 a decade earlier.

In 2016, 1.7 million people in Canada reported having an Aboriginal identity, accounting for 4.9% of the population (58.4% First Nations, 35.1% Métis, 3.9% Inuit, 1.4% other Aboriginal identity, 1.3% more than one Aboriginal identity).

“Families, no matter their background or their makeup, bring new and special patterns to our diverse Canadian tapestry.”

- His Excellency The Right Honourable David Johnston, Governor General of Canada, at the Families in Canada Conference 2015

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2 Statistics Canada, 2016 Census of Canada.
3 Ibid.
4 Common-law couples were counted for the first time in the 1981 Census.
7 Statistics Canada, “Census Family Structure Including Stepfamily Status (9) and Number and Age Combinations of Children (29) for Census Families with Children in Private Households of Canada, Provinces and Territories, Census Metropolitan Areas and Census Agglomerations, 2016 and 2011 Censuses – 100% Data,” Data Products, 2016 Census.
10 Statistics Canada, “Families, Households and Marital Status: Key Results from the 2016 Census,” The Daily.
12 Ibid.
14 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.” Link: http://bit.ly/2v9v5Sr.
17 1961 Census of Canada.
20 Ibid.
21 In 2011, Statistics Canada defines visible minorities as “persons, other than Aboriginal peoples, who are non-Caucasian in race or non-white in colour.” Link: http://bit.ly/1j7v9ic.
22 Statistics Canada, “Immigration and Ethnocultural Diversity: Key Results from the 2016 Census,” The Daily.
24 Farm families in the unincorporated sector.