JUST THE FACTS ABOUT YOUR COMMUNITY

FAMILIES Living in York Region

Source: Statistics Canada 2001 and 2006

INTRODUCTION

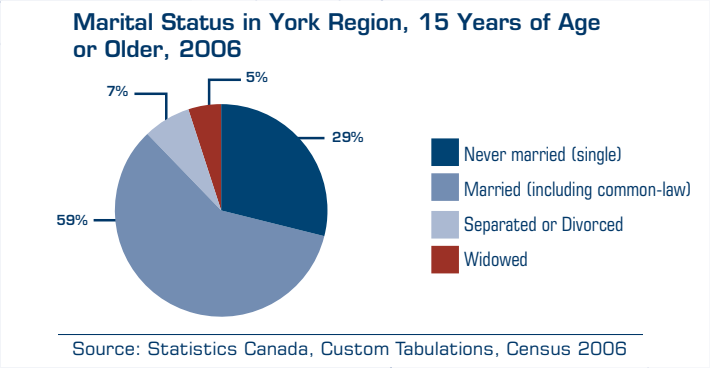
York Region is a place where people come to raise families and benefit from the Region's high quality of life. According to the Statistics Canada 2006 Census, about 252,400 families live in York Region. The Region has the highest proportion of married couples with children (67%) out of all the Census divisions in Canada. While York Region families tend to be relatively young and affluent, not all residents share in the benefits of the growth occurring in the Region. All of the 2006 Census information is not available at this time. However, the 2001 Census data on families gives many clues about what we can expect from the 2006 Census data and sets the context for future information when the full scope of the 2006 data is released.

HOUSEHOLDS

- In 2001, 27% of York Region families had no children. In 2001 and 2006, families with children had two children on average.
- Married couples in York Region are more likely than common-law or single parent families to have more than one child.
- In 2001, there were 22,275 single parent families in York Region (11% of all families). This increased to 30,565 in 2006 (12% of all families).
- While the number of married couples grew in 2006, the number of common-law couples in York Region did not. It remained at 5%.
- 12% of households were one-person households in 2001. This grew to 13% in 2006.

MARITAL STATUS

The following chart shows the marital status of working age people (15 years and older) in York Region in 2006. 71% of them reported being or having been married - exactly the same percentage reported in the 2001 Census.



CHILDREN AND YOUTH

DID YOU KNOW? In 2001, 34% of children/youth living at home in York Region were 18 years of age and over. This increased to 37% in 2006.

Number and percentage of children at home by age group, York Region, 2006

	York Region	%
Total number of children at home	**342,700**	**100%**
0-4 years	52,915	15%
5-14 years	123,860	36%
15-17 years	40,220	12%
18-24 years	77,275	23%
25 years and over	48,425	14%
Average number of children at home per census family	**1.4**	

Note: Totals may not equal 100% due to rounding
Source: Statistics Canada, Custom Tabulation, Census 2006

Number and percentage of families with children by family structure in York Region, 2001 and 2006

Number of Children at Home	Married couples %		Common-law couples %		Total couple families %		Total single parent families %		Total couple & single parent families %	
	2001	2006	2001	2006	2001	2006	2001	2006	2001	2006
1	31%	33%	46%	48%	32%	34%	55%	56%	35%	37%
2	48%	48%	39%	38%	48%	47%	33%	33%	45%	45%
3+	21%	19%	15%	15%	21%	19%	12%	11%	19%	18%

Source: Statistics Canada, 2001 and 2006 Census, Custom Tabulations

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INCOME IN YORK REGION

DID YOU KNOW?
The median family income was $75,678; which was the second highest in the GTA.

Income and housing data are crucial to understanding the make up and needs of families. The Census 2006 data has not been released but 2001 data below provides useful insights into income and housing trends:

- York Region's families are generally affluent. The median family income in York Region was $75,678 in 2001 compared to the Ontario median of $61,024.
- There was a wide range of median family incomes across the municipalities in York Region, ranging from $60,494 to $88,459 in 2001.
- The median family income for male lone-parent families was $52,989.
- The average family income for female lone-parent families was $41,869.
- 9% of families in York Region lived on low incomes.

Number and percentage of families by income grouping for York Region

	#	%
Family income in 2000 for all families	204,530	100%
Under $10,000	6,460	3%
$ 10,000 - $19,999	6,685	3%
$ 20,000 - $29,999	13,555	7%
$ 30,000 - $39,999	14,800	7%
$ 40,000 - $49,999	15,870	8%
$ 50,000 - $59,999	16,820	8%
$ 60,000 - $69,999	17,690	9%
$ 70,000 - $79,999	17,005	8%
$ 80,000 - $89,999	15,785	8%
$ 90,000 - $99,999	13,965	7%
$100,000 and over	65,900	32%

Source: Statistics Canada, 2001 Census, Custom Tabulations

HOUSING IN YORK REGION IN 2001

DID YOU KNOW?
Among major urban municipalities in Canada, in 2001 York Region had the highest percentage (16.2%) of renter households on social housing wait lists.*

- The average resale value for a single family detached unit was $456,616 in 2006.
- 4% of households lived in housing requiring major repairs in 2006.
- The percentage of homes requiring major repairs ranged from 2% to 10% among municipalities in York Region. This range decreased in 2006 from 2% to 8%.
- 1 in every 4 households spent over 30% of their total income on housing.
- 1 in every 10 households spent over 50% of their total income on housing.
- The proportion of renter households spending 30% or more of their household income on shelter costs increased between 1990 and 2000 from 32% to 41%.*

* Source: Federation of Canadian Municipalities, Quality of Life Reporting System Annexes (2004)

WHAT this means:

York Region has long been a place of choice for families to raise their children in a safe and caring community. Although a majority of families in York Region enjoy a relatively high standard of living, a significant proportion of families struggle to obtain basic necessities. We are beginning to see the effects of this growing income gap on York Region's families and children. Between 2001 and 2007, the number of residents who use food banks grew by 53%. Almost half of the residents served by the York Region Food Network Group are children. Recent provincial initiatives such as income tested child care subsidies, the Ontario Child Benefit and the Housing Allowance Program are intended to help alleviate the financial pressures facing families that struggle to meet their needs. Along with strengthened service planning at a local level and supports, these steps can help provide more equal opportunities for York Region families to succeed in employment, education, and to enjoy a better quality of life.

These fact sheets are produced by the Community and Health Services Department, based on Statistics Canada Census data and definitions provided through the Community Social Data Strategy (CSDS). This is an initiative from the Canadian Council on Social Development in partnership with Statistics Canada. In 2005, York Region partnered with key community organizations to form a Consortium to lead the CSDS project.

York Region's Community Social Data Strategy Consortium

York Region's Community Reference Group

Aurora Chamber of Commerce, Big Brothers/Big Sisters, Catholic Community Services of York Region, Human Services Planning Coalition, Regional Municipality of York, Town of Markham Planning & Urban Design Department, United Way of York Region, Vaughan Chamber of Commerce, York Catholic District School Board, York Region District School Board, York Regional Police, York South Simcoe Training and Adjustment Board