



METROPOLIS BRITISH COLUMBIA

Centre of Excellence for Research on Immigration and Diversity

Working Paper Series

No. 11-17

November 2011

Lone-parent status among Ethnic Groups in Canada:

*Data Explorations on its Prevalence,
Composition and Generational Persistence
Aspects*

Fernando Mata

Series editor: Linda Sheldon, SFU;
Krishna Pendakur, SFU and Daniel Hiebert, UBC, Co-directors

Metropolis British Columbia

Centre of Excellence for Research on Immigration and Diversity

MBC is supported as part of the Metropolis Project, a national strategic initiative funded by SSHRC and the following organizations of the federal government:

- Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency (ACOA)
- Canada Border Services Agency
- Canada Economic Development for the Regions of Quebec (CED-Q)
- Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC)
- Canadian Heritage (PCH)
- Citizenship and Immigration Canada (CIC)
- Federal Economic Development Initiative for Northern Ontario (FedNor)
- Human Resources and Social Development Canada (HRSD)
- Department of Justice Canada
- Public Health Agency of Canada (PHAC)
- Public Safety Canada (PSC)
- Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP)
- The Rural Secretariat of Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada (Rural Sec't)
- Statistics Canada (Stats Can)

Metropolis BC also receives funding from the Ministry of Jobs, Tourism, and Innovation (JTI). Grants from Simon Fraser University, the University of British Columbia and the University of Victoria provide additional support to the Centre.

Views expressed in this manuscript are those of the author(s) alone. For more information, contact the Co-directors of the Centre, Krishna Pendakur, Department of Economics, SFU (pendakur@sfu.ca) and Daniel Hiebert, Department of Geography, UBC (daniel.hiebert@ubc.ca).

TABLE OF CONTENTS

ABSTRACT	5
1.0 INTRODUCTION	6
2.0. DATA SOURCES, DEFINITIONS AND REFERENCE POPULATION	11
3.0. DATA EXPLORATIONS	13
<i>Prevalence Aspects</i>	
• 3.1. Higher prevalence of lone-parent status reporting among visible minorities compared to non-visible minorities	13
• 3. 2. Greater likelihood of lone-parent status reporting among Black, Caribbean, and Latin American visible minorities	15
• 3.3. Higher lone parent prevalence among younger cohort visible minority census family members compared to older cohorts	17
• 3.4. Highest and lowest prevalence rates of visible minority census family members	19
<i>Compositional Aspects</i>	
• 3.5. The lone parent population: a microcosm of ethnic diversity in Canadian cities	20
• 3.6. Young mothers with lower university education were over-represented in the lone parent population	22
• 3.7. Groups of lone parents with more children of various age cohorts	24
• 3.8. Socioeconomic status of lone-parents	27
<i>Generational Persistence Aspects</i>	
• 3.9. Increased lone-parent status with longer immigration history	29
• 3.10. Generational cycles of lone parenthood in Black and Latin American visible minority family members	31
4.0. DISCUSSION	36
REFERENCES	42
APPENDIX TABLES	47



METROPOLIS BRITISH COLUMBIA

Centre of Excellence for Research on Immigration and Diversity

Working Paper Series

LONE-PARENT STATUS AMONG ETHNIC GROUPS IN CANADA: DATA EXPLORATIONS ON ITS PREVALENCE, COMPOSITION AND GENERATIONAL PERSISTENCE ASPECTS*

Fernando Mata

Hispanic Development Council

Senior researcher, Metropolis British Columbia

* The author would like to thank Fred Dufresne, Laure Lafrance, Lorna Jantzen, Mike Musca and John Fernandez for their support in writing this paper.

ABSTRACT

The lone-parent phenomenon in Canada has been identified as a key driver of several social and economic outcomes such as higher risks of falling into poverty, scholastic underachievement of children living in these low-income families, and a lower level of socioeconomic integration. Using custom tabulations from the 2006 Census, the analysis focused on the prevalence, composition, and generational persistence of this phenomenon across selected ethnic groups in Canada. The census data suggests that, among the 16.3 million adult census family members living in census families, visible minorities reported lone parent family status more frequently compared to non-visible minorities both across its foreign-born and Canadian-born populations. There were noticeable over-representations of individuals reporting lone parent family status among Aboriginal groups and visible minorities, particularly those of Black and/or Latin American backgrounds. In terms of ethnic origins reported, lone parenthood was prevalent among individuals reporting Somali (38%), Jamaican (29%), Haitian (27%), Trinidadian/Tobagonian (20%), and North American Indian (16%) ethnic ancestries. Lone parenthood was most rare among Chinese and South Asian (below 5%), as well as most European groups excluding the Spanish group (12%). In terms of generational persistence, the data suggests that both common-law unions and lone parenthood family arrangements increase with a longer immigration history in Canada for most birthplace, visible minority, and ethnic origin groups examined. High lone parenthood prevalence in combination with lower socioeconomic status weakens family resources and increases economic and social vulnerability of many ethnic minority families, affecting the life chances of parents (mostly women) and their children in successive generations.

1.0 INTRODUCTION

In the last decades, Canadian families have been experiencing significant changes in their structure and composition. More flexible family arrangements have been observed with an increase in the number of couples living in common-law relationships, as well as stepfamilies in a wider context of high divorce rates. The most compelling family trend in Canada, however, is that of the increasing number of lone parent families. The 2006 Census enumerated 1.4 million lone parent families living in Canada. While in 1986, lone parents represented 7.8% of the number of census families, this representation rose 15.9% in 2006. Though the majority of lone parent families are headed by women, a rise in the awarding of sole custody following divorce and joint custody arrangements is said to be responsible for the increase of lone father families (Statistics Canada 2007).

The lone parenthood phenomenon in Canada is described as driven by multiple “interlocking” factors ranging from cultural to economic and legal ones (Ambert 2006). Lone parenthood outcomes can occur at any point of the adult life cycle and may not only be precipitated by marital breakdown related processes, but also by teenage pregnancies in younger years and spousal death in later years. Despite many educational gains made by lone parents in recent decades, lone parent families have high risks of low income and falling into poverty (Galarneau 2005; Morissette and Picot 2005). Lone parents have also been observed to experience numerous and complex family transitions (Le Bourdais and Marcil-Gratton 1998; Lipman et al. 1998; Ross et al. 1998). These transitions have produced unfavorable outcomes for children living within these types of families. Several studies have shown that children of lone parents are more likely to encounter problems in the educational system, have

higher risks of developing behavioural problems and/or criminal behavior, as well as to experience early entry into marriage, cohabiting relationships, or to experience a non-marital birth (Beaujot et.al. 2005). In addition, children of lone parent families may also be at a higher risk of experiencing significant cultural losses, as they are more likely than other children to experience maternal language losses to other more dominant languages in their resident communities (Harrison, 2003; Norris and McCon, 2006) ¹

Lone parent family status is found across a wide spectrum of individuals which may differ not only by their sociodemographic characteristics, but also by their cultural ones. Ethnic variations in lone parenthood rates have been observed across a wide spectrum of immigrant receiving countries. A recent international report has brought attention that some ethnic groups in OECD member countries tend to have family structures where lone parents are not only more prevalent, but they have higher poverty risks and a larger share of children under their care (OECD 2011). In the U.S., about half of Black children (49.7%) and about a quarter (26.3%) of Hispanic children under the age of 18 were living with lone mothers compared to 18.3% among White children². In Britain, almost 60% of Black families are headed by a lone parent, typically the mother (SPJP 2008). In Canada, the number of lone-parent mothers in Aboriginal and visible minority families have been steadily rising (Hull, 2001, Platt, 2003, Wilkinson 2007). Census family profiles of ethnic groups based on the 2001 Census data were specially prepared by Statistics Canada in

¹ Children of Aboriginal and Official Language Minority communities are vulnerable groups who are at greater risk of experiencing language transfers in their resident communities. Various programs of the Federal Department of Canadian Heritage such as those lodged within the Official Languages and Aboriginal Peoples' Directorate are presently engaged in assisting linguistic communities and strengthening their cultural identity and participation in Canadian society. In so doing they are indirectly addressing issues of cultural vulnerability and family well-being.

² See <http://www.childtrendsdatabank.org> for more information

2007³. These family profiles revealed the presence of a substantial number of lone parents within Caribbean, Latin American, African, and South East Asian census family members. Among Jamaicans and Haitians, for instance, the percentage of lone parents in the adult population in 2001 was 16% and 20% respectively, much higher than the national average of 6%. These percentages were observed to be higher also for family members reporting African and Caribbean ethnic backgrounds (11% and 14% respectively). Among those reporting South East Asian and Latin American ethnic backgrounds, this prevalence was estimated at 8%.

The prevalence of lone parents in ethnic families depends on a wide range of pre- and post-migration factors which are unique to each ethnic community. Zhou (1997) predicted that lone parent family arrangements will be higher in ethnic groups where the first generation immigrant family was already fractured at the outset and in those containing sizeable numbers of economically disadvantaged family members (e.g. those living below poverty lines). These propensities may also be high where common law unions are more frequent, as these are the most likely to experience marital breakdowns, as well as among those ethnic groups who have a high propensity toward racially mixed unions⁴. Another related research question, connected to prevalence issues, refers to the persistence over time of the lone parenthood phenomenon. As an expression of acculturation and marital assimilation processes, ethnic minority family choices including lone parent family arrangements are predicted to converge over generational time towards those displayed by the general population (see for example Gordon 1964; Diredger 1989; Alba and Nee 1997). A major

3 See <http://www.statcan.gc.ca/bsolc/olc-cel/olc-cel?catno=89-621-X&CHROPG> for more information on these profiles

4 In Canada, Milan et .al. (2010) have already found that 74.7 of marital unions involving Japanese couples were inter-racial mixed unions followed by Latin American and Black (47.0 and 40.6 respectively). Very low rates of these types of unions were found among Chinese (17.4) and South Asian (12.7) couples.

explanation for this linear relationship between lone parent and generational status is attributed to the changing gender and family roles of women in immigrant receiving countries (Foner 1997; Potvyn 2008; Lalonde and Guigère 2008). Daughters of immigrant parents often face an intergenerational “clash” of values which pivot on the choice of a life partner, participation in common law unions, and lone parent family arrangements. While some women will preserve more traditional parental family values, others will quickly endorse values that enhance women’s socioeconomic positions to give them greater freedom. If family strain is high and concern for children’s welfare becomes paramount in a couples’ relationship, lone parenthood may emerge as a preferred arrangement to assert both gender equality and modern parental roles (Ambert 2006). Foner (1997) notes that lone parent family arrangements (and cohabitation for that matter) will be strongly validated by legal provisions and dominant cultural beliefs concerning marriage, family, and kinship ties as these are widely disseminated by the mass media, schools, and other institutions of the host country.

The 2006 Canadian census data offers the possibility of exploring various research questions related to ethnicity and lone parenthood in Canada. For instance, which ethnic groups of Canada have the highest lone parenthood rates? Which groups possess the lowest? Do common-law status family choices usually accompany lone parenthood choices? What demographic differences may be noticeable by the birthplace, visible minority status, or ethnicity of family members? Are there, perhaps, observable signs of cycles of lone parenthood whereby lone-parent status in one generation is reproduced in the next one? The purpose of this paper is to briefly explore these questions by examining rates of lone parent family status reporting in the adult population of census family members of various birthplaces, visible minority, and ethnicity related

markers. Given their strong linkages, lone parent and common law union rates are empirically explored jointly in the paper. The paper is organized in ten data explorations. The first four deal with prevalence (how widespread) related aspects. These are followed by four sections dealing with compositional aspects (demographic and socioeconomic), and two final ones are presented on generational persistence aspects.

The reader should note that the paper is essentially descriptive in nature and does not address the complex causality underlying family outcomes such as lone parenthood. It is mostly interested in identifying data patterns that tend to occur more frequently, while producing a broad picture of the type of family arrangements more commonly observed among the various ethnic groups living in the country. It should be noted that research in the area of lone parenthood and ethnicity in Canada has both social inclusion and profound human rights relevance⁵. The author hopes that in writing the paper our general knowledge about lone parenthood in Canada is improved, while it helps the work of policymakers, governments, and service agencies currently assisting populations of minority parents. These parents are often in most need of assistance due to their lack of economic resources, poor access to formal and informal child care, work-life imbalances, and lower relative health (Krane et al. 2000; Burstein 2003).

⁵ According to the International Covenant on Economic Social and Cultural Rights, all families have the right to an adequate standard of living and there is an obligation from the state to provide assistance to the family in the broadest sense of the word (article 10 (1) and article 11 (1)). Given that lone parent families are mostly headed by women, other international legislative instruments have been envisaged to address this issue (for example article 13 of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women and the 2008 UN report of the committee on the Elimination of Discrimination Against Women). For more information on these legislations and reports, the reader should visit: <http://www2.ohchr.org/english/law/cescr.htm>, <http://www1.umn.edu/humanrts/instree/e1cedaw.htm> and, <http://www1.umn.edu/humanrts/cedaw/cedaw-canada2008.html>.

2.0. DATA SOURCES, DEFINITIONS AND REFERENCE POPULATION

The data sources used for two multidimensional custom tables (PCH M033 1-3) were drawn from the 2006 Canadian Census and were specially prepared by Statistics Canada for the Department of Canadian Heritage in 2009⁶. In the tables, person-level characteristics, such as ethnic origins of parents, were nested within census families' attributes. Information on adult census family members was available for 16 birthplace regions, 12 visible minority groups, and 60 selected reported ethnic origins⁷. Statistics Canada defines a census family as composed of a married couple or two persons living common-law, with or without children, or of a lone parent living with at least one child in the same dwelling. Husband and wife couples refer to two persons of opposite sex or of the same sex who are legally married to each other and living in the same dwelling. Common-law couples are two persons of opposite sex or of the same sex who are not legally married to each other, but live together as a couple in the same dwelling. Lone parent refers to a mother or a father, with no spouse or common-law partner present, living in a dwelling with one or more children.

The reference population for the analysis comprised 16.4 million adult individuals with or without children living in census families in 2006. This population comprised 12.3 million husband and wife couples, 2.8 million common-law couples and 1.4 million lone parents. The latter group totaled 1.1 million female lone parents (81.9%) and approximately 282 thousand male lone parents (19.1%). Due to their special characteristics, approximately 991 thousand individuals living in non-census families and 90.7 thousand individuals re-

⁶ The first two custom tables provided information on birthplace, visible minority, and ethnic origin markers while the latter provided information on the home language of census family members

⁷ Visible minority and ethnic origin breakdowns were available for selected groups only and comprised single plus multiple responses.

porting common-law same sex family status were not included in the analysis. Selected census family members were classified according to their reported birthplaces, visible minority status, and ethnic origins. Following Statistics Canada definitions⁸, birthplace refers to the name of the country where the person was born inside or outside Canada. Visible minorities are defined as 'persons, other than Aboriginal persons, who are non-Caucasian in race or non-white in colour'. Ethnic origin refers to the ethnic or cultural origins of the respondent's ancestors⁹; an ancestor is someone from whom a person is descended and is usually more distant than a grandparent. Both visible minority and ethnic classifications comprised single and multiple ethnic origins. In the census data explorations, lone-parent status was approximated by calculating the percentage of census family members reporting lone-parent status with respect to the total number of reported family stata by various birthplace, visible minority, and ethnic groupings. These group-specific rates were used as "rough" measures aimed at detecting under- or over-reporting of lone-parent status in particular ethnic subpopulations.

The age composition distribution of lone parents in the reference population was the following: 15-24 years old (4.6%), 25-39 years old (26.5%), 40-64 years old (53.9%) and 65 years old and over (14.9%). Male lone parents were relatively older than female lone parents: 64.4% of them were aged 40-64 years old compared to 51.2% among female lone parents. The average university education of lone parents aged 25-64 years old was 17.4% (with a bachelor diploma and above), five percentage points below the average of husband and wife and common-law family members (22.3%). About one in

⁸ For more information on these definitions please refer to <http://www.statcan.gc.ca/concepts/definitions/index-eng.htm>

⁹ The reader should note that many visible minority categories such as Chinese, South Asian, Black or Filipino are also used to describe the ethnic ancestry of respondents to the 2006 Census. There may not be necessarily a one to one correspondence as census respondents may describe themselves in many combinations of categories.

four (25.8%) of the lone parents population was foreign-born (representing approximately 364.4 thousand families).

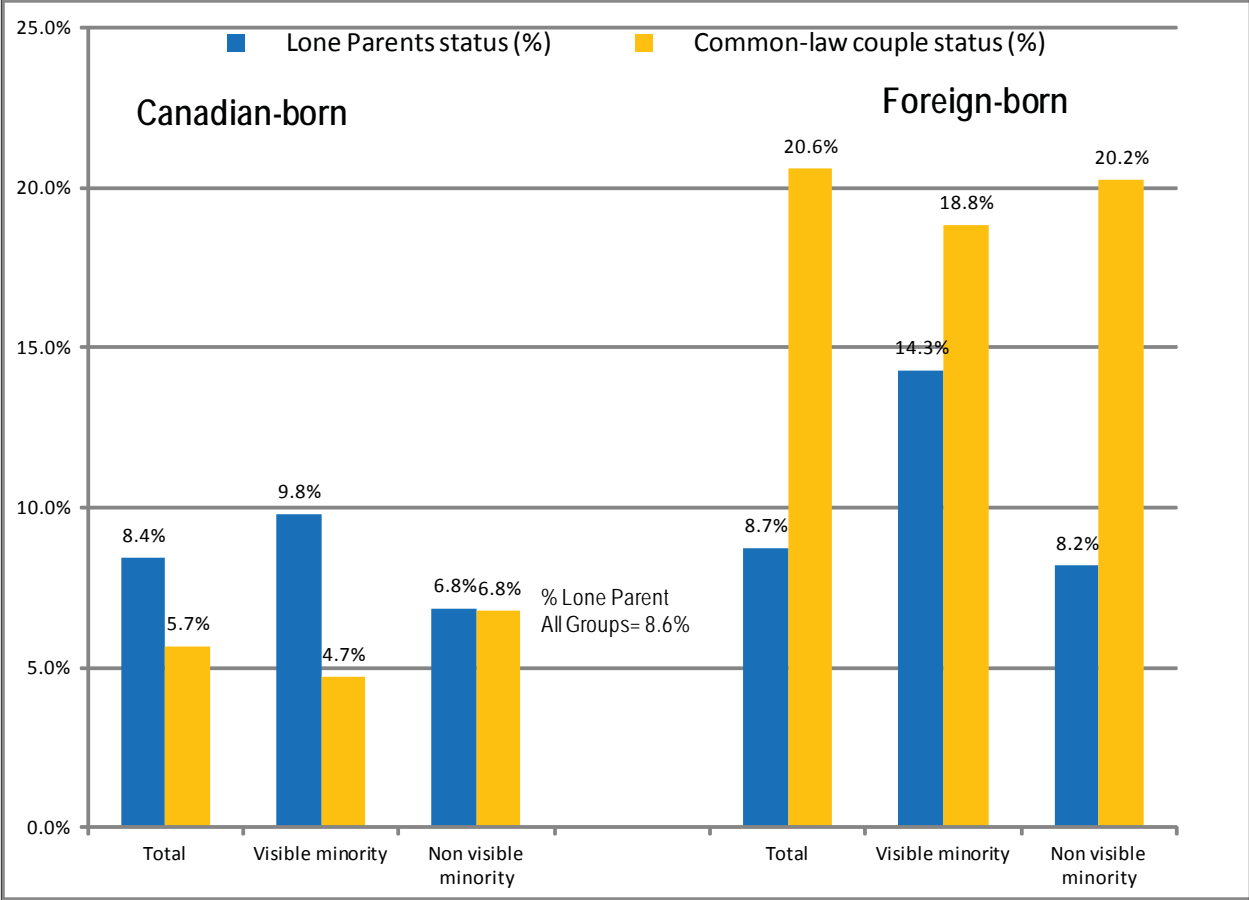
3.0. DATA EXPLORATIONS

PREVALENCE ASPECTS

3.1. Higher prevalence of lone-parent status reporting among visible minorities compared to non-visible minorities

The first data exploration focused on the prevalence of lone parenthood using birthplace and visible minority markers (see chart 1). Overall, 8.6% of all adult family members living in census families in 2006 reported a lone-parent status in Canada. Both foreign-born and Canadian-born members were equally likely to report this status (8.4% and 8.7% respectively). Regardless of birthplace status, however, those who reported at least one visible minority origin were more likely to report lone parenthood than those who did not (9.8% to 6.8% among the foreign-born group and 14.3% to 8.2% among the Canadian-born). Common-law status reporting was also more frequent in the Canadian-born group (almost one in five members reported this status among visible and non-visible minority members). The presence of traditional husband or wife status was found more frequently reported among the foreign-born group compared to the Canadian-born one.

CHART 1: FAMILY STATUS OF CENSUS FAMILY MEMBERS (15 YEARS OLD AND OVER) BY BIRTHPLACE AND VISIBLE MINORITY STATUS*, CANADA 2006



Source: PCH Table M033-1, Statistics Canada, Census of Population 2006, Symbols: FB=foreign-born, CB=Canadian-born, *=Includes single and multiple reporting. Non-visible minority excludes Aboriginal Identity reporting (North American Indian, Metis, or Inuit).

3. 2. Greater likelihood of lone-parent status reporting among Black, Caribbean, and Latin American visible minorities

Further inspection of birthplace regions revealed frequent reporting of lone-parent status among - or census family members born - in the Caribbean and Bermuda region (see table 1). Almost one in four of census family members born in this region reported lone-parent status (representing approximately 52.5 thousand families). This percentage among individuals born in Central and South America as well as Africa fluctuated around the 12% mark. The lowest figures for lone-parent status reporting among census family members were for individuals born in the region of Southern Asia (4.3%).

A breakdown of the census family adult population by visible minority status confirmed a higher prevalence of lone parenthood status reporting among visible minorities, particularly those reporting at least one Black and Latin American visible minority background. Overall, there was a slightly greater reporting of lone-parent status in the visible minority population compared to the non-visible minority one (10.1% to 8.0%). The percentage of family members reporting a common-law partner status in the latter group, however, was significantly higher than in the former group (18.3% to 6.1%). About 27% of all census family members of Black visible minority backgrounds reported lone-parent status in 2006. Rates corresponding to Latin Americans and South East Asians were 13.8% and 12.2% respectively, both figures higher than the national average of 8.6%. Among census family members of South Asian, Japanese, Arab, and Chinese visible minority backgrounds, reporting of lone-parent status was a rare occurrence (less than 8% reported this type of family status).

TABLE 1: FAMILY STATUS OF CENSUS FAMILY MEMBERS (15 YEARS OLD AND OVER) BY BIRTHPLACE AND VISIBLE MINORITY STATUS, CANADA 2006

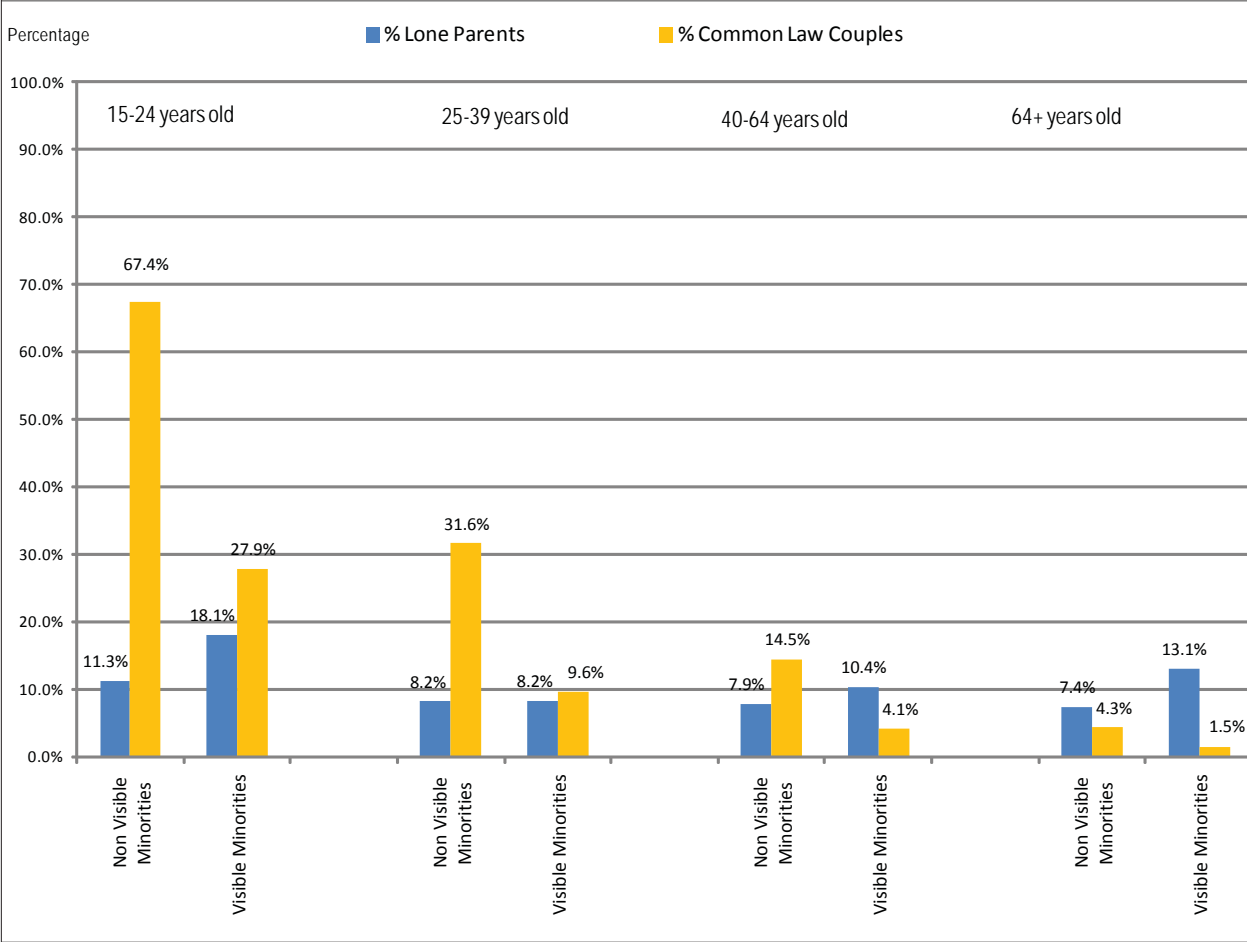
BIRTHPLACE	TOTAL CENSUS FAMILY MEMBERS (‘000)	TOTAL CENSUS FAMILY MEMBERS (%)	HUSBAND & WIFE COUPLES (%)	COMMON LAW COUPLES (%)	LONE PARENTS (%)	MALE LONE PARENTS (%)	FEMALE LONE PARENTS (%)
Total Census Family Members	16,393.6	100	74.5	16.9	8.6	1.7	6.9
Canadian-born	12,052.5	100	70.6	20.7	8.7	1.8	6.9
Foreign-born	4,341.1	100	85.2	6.4	8.4	1.4	6.9
Birthplace Regions							
United States	179.9	100	81.5	11.5	6.9	1.2	5.7
Central America	89.8	100	76.5	12.1	11.5	1.6	9.9
Caribbean and Bermuda	209.0	100	66.0	9.3	24.8	2.9	21.9
South America	173.2	100	77.8	10.0	12.2	1.8	10.3
Western Europe	319.1	100	82.2	11.8	6.0	1.4	4.6
Eastern Europe	339.9	100	85.7	6.5	7.9	1.3	6.6
Southern Europe	549.7	100	89.1	3.9	7.0	1.6	5.5
Northern Europe	476.1	100	84.4	8.8	6.7	1.4	5.3
Africa	238.3	100	81.7	6.6	11.7	1.8	9.9
Middle East	117.9	100	89.5	3.2	7.3	1.4	6.0
West Asia	105.5	100	87.4	3.8	8.8	1.6	7.2
Eastern Asia	596.5	100	88.9	3.7	7.4	1.3	6.1
Southeast Asia	379.2	100	82.9	7.4	9.7	1.5	8.2
Southern Asia	525.1	100	94.1	1.6	4.3	0.9	3.5
Other	42.0	100	83.0	10.1	6.9	1.4	5.5
Non-visible minorities (a)	12,476.4	100	73.7	18.3	8.0	1.7	6.3
Visible minorities	2,427.6	100	93.8	6.1	10.1	1.4	8.6
Visible Minority Groups							
Chinese	634.1	100	88.1	4.5	7.4	1.4	6.0
South Asian	646.8	100	92.5	2.2	5.2	1.0	4.2
Black	296.1	100	61.1	12.2	26.8	3.0	23.7
Filipino	196.6	100	84.1	7.1	8.8	1.1	7.7
Latin American	151.1	100	72.5	13.7	13.8	2.0	11.8
Southeast Asian	111.8	100	77.6	10.2	12.2	2.1	9.9
Arab	125.1	100	89.6	3.8	6.6	1.2	5.3
West Asian	75.4	100	86.9	3.4	9.7	1.6	8.1
Korean	68.8	100	87.8	3.5	8.7	1.0	7.7
Japanese	39.8	100	82.7	10.8	6.5	1.3	5.3

Source: PCH Table M033-1, Statistics Canada, Census of Population 2006* = Includes single and multiple visible minority reporting, (a) = Excludes Aboriginal Identity reporting (North American Indian, Metis or Inuit)

3.3. Higher lone parent prevalence among younger cohort visible minority census family members compared to older cohorts

Chart 2 presents lone parent and common-law status rates by age cohorts of census family members. These rates revealed a higher prevalence of lone-parent status among younger cohorts compared to older ones. Reporting of lone-parent status was higher for visible minority members compared to non-visible minority members across nearly all age cohorts with the exception, perhaps, of the 25-39 age cohort rates, which were fairly similar. In the younger age cohort (15-24 years old) 18.1% of visible minority members reported lone-parent status compared to 11.3% among non-visible minority ones. In contrast, common-law couple status reporting was seen twice as frequently among non-visible minority census family members compared to visible minority ones (67.4% to 27.9%). Both lone-parent status and common-law family status reporting rates appeared to decline with subsequent age cohorts, although these declines were less noticeable among non-visible minority cohorts. In the oldest cohort (65+) the visible minority lone parent rate was 13.1%, suggesting the presence of many lone mothers of these backgrounds still caring for their children during retirement and post-retirement years.

CHART 2: LONE PARENT AND COMMON-LAW STATUS REPORTING (%) BY VISIBLE MINORITY STATUS* AND AGE GROUPS, CENSUS FAMILY MEMBERS, CANADA 2006



Source: PCH Table M033-2, Statistics Canada, Census of Population 2006, * = Includes Single and multiple origins. Non-visible minority excludes Aboriginal Identity reporting (North American Indian, Metis or Inuit)

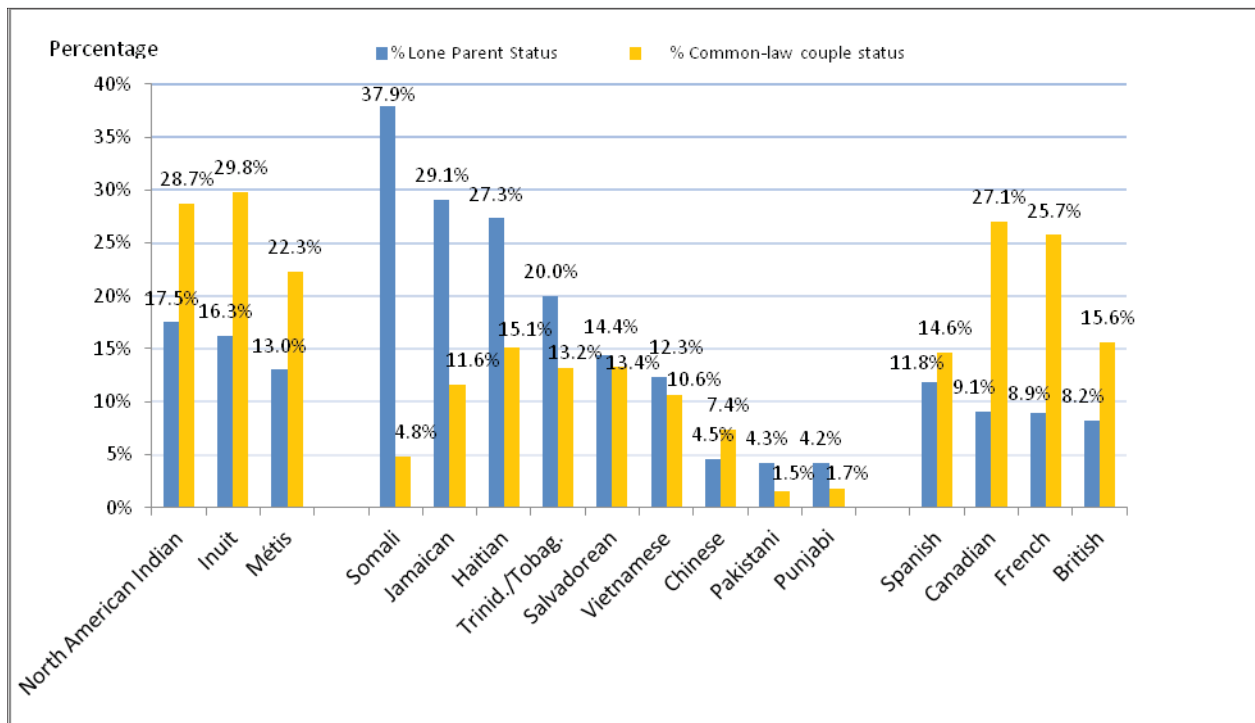
3.4. Highest and lowest prevalence rates of visible minority census family members

An inspection of lone-parent rates among census family members of selected ethnicities aged 25-64 revealed a high rate of lone parenthood among individuals reporting Aboriginal, African and Caribbean ethnic origins¹⁰ (see chart 3). Among members of selected Aboriginal groups, lone parenthood rates were the highest for those reporting North American Indian origins with 17.5%, followed by the Inuit and Métis group (16.3% and 13.0%). Though these rates were significantly higher than the national average, they were dwarfed by those of four ethnic groups: Somali, Jamaican, Haitian and Trinidadian/Tobagonian. The lone-parent rate of 37.9% for Somali census family members was twice as high compared to those reporting at least one North American Indian origin. Rates of common-law family status reporting were, however, much higher among Aboriginal groups compared to the four high prevalence groups (above 20%). Low rates of lone-parent status reporting were observed among census family members of Chinese (4.5%) and South Asian backgrounds. Pakistani (4.3%) and Punjabi (4.2%) origins were cases in point. About 12% of census family members of Spanish¹¹ ethnic backgrounds reported lone-parent status in 2006. This group had the highest rate of European or Charter group according to the 2006 census custom tables.

¹⁰ On average, only 37.6 of all individuals reporting an Aboriginal ethnic origin in 2006 were single ethnic responses. Higher single ethnic origin responses were found for groups such as Korean (94.0), Somali (95.0), Bangladeshi (85.0), Haitian (79.0), Pakistani (71.8), Chinese (84.3), and Jamaican (58.1). The single origin reporting among those of Black ethnic origins was 52.9, while those of Latin American and Trinidadian/Tobagonian were 54.6 and 39.7 respectively. The single origin rate among the largest ethnic origin groups such as British, French, and Canadian were 23.3, 26.1, and 57.1 in that order. Most European ethnic origin groups, with the exception of groups such as Portuguese (64.8) Greek (59.9) and Italian (51.3), had rates below the 50 mark

¹¹ About 79.2 of all Spanish ethnic responses were multiple responses in 2006. The majority of individuals who claimed these backgrounds (67) were born in North, Central and South America

CHART 3: LONE PARENT AND COMMON-LAW STATUS REPORTING (%) BY SELECTED ETHNIC ORIGINS*, CENSUS FAMILY MEMBERS AGED 25-64 YEARS OLD, CANADA



Source: PCH Table M033-2, 2006 Census of Canada
 *= Includes single and multiple origins

COMPOSITIONAL ASPECTS

3.5. The lone parent population: a microcosm of ethnic diversity in Canadian cities

The residential distribution of lone-parent families reflected the concentration of immigrants and ethnic minorities in the major metropolitan areas of the country, such as Montreal, Toronto and Vancouver. This diversity is not only manifested in ethnic indicators but also in linguistic ones. Anglophone lone parents which reported British ethnic backgrounds were the most evenly distributed group across Canadian cities. Those reporting Canadian and French backgrounds were over-represented in Metropolitan Montreal. Although Metropolitan Toronto constituted the major residential centre for most ethnic groups, French or bilingual-speaking groups were prone to reside in Montreal (e.g. of Haitian, Arab, Lebanese, and Egyptian ethnic backgrounds). On the

west coast, Vancouver was the preferred residence for some Asian groups (Korean and Chinese ethnic backgrounds). Aboriginal lone parents resided mostly in places outside the MTV geographical sphere and other secondary cities across Canada.

TABLE 2: CITIES OF RESIDENCE (CENTRAL METROPOLITAN AREAS) OF LONE PARENTS BY SELECTED ETHNIC ORIGINS*, CENSUS FAMILY MEMBERS AGED 15 YEARS OLD AND OVER, 2006 CENSUS

ETHNIC ORIGINS*	N ('000)	N (%)	MON-TREAL (%)	TORONTO (%)	VANCOU-VER (%)	CALGARY (%)	OTTAWA-GATINEAU (%)	EDMON-TON (%)	WIN-NIPEG (%)	REGINA (%)	SASKA-TOON (%)	OTHER (%)
British	469.8	100	4.3	12.6	6.3	3.6	2.7	0.9	1.0	4.0	3.9	60.8
Canadian	467.0	100	18.6	6.1	2.4	4.3	1.3	0.4	0.4	1.8	1.8	62.7
French	212.0	100	19.3	4.9	2.6	6.1	2.3	0.5	0.7	2.0	2.7	58.9
N. Am. Indian	97.1	100	5.2	3.3	3.0	2.7	4.4	1.6	1.9	2.0	3.9	72.0
Chinese	46.7	100	5.3	41.7	34.2	2.4	0.7	0.2	0.2	4.8	3.7	6.9
East Indian	27.4	100	4.8	50.7	18.7	2.1	1.5	0.1	0.1	4.9	3.4	13.5
Jamaican	25.8	100	5.0	79.1	1.0	2.2	1.2	0.1	0.0	1.1	1.0	9.2
Métis	24.0	100	3.0	2.2	4.1	3.2	12.9	2.5	2.6	3.7	7.3	58.5
Latin American	20.8	100	28.2	34.1	7.0	3.7	2.0	0.3	0.2	3.7	3.2	17.4
Spanish	18.7	100	19.1	33.0	10.7	3.5	2.1	0.3	0.5	3.5	3.4	23.9
Black	17.3	100	22.1	53.2	1.7	5.6	1.5	0.2	0.1	1.5	1.8	12.4
Filipino	17.3	100	6.4	43.4	20.1	2.2	9.2	0.3	0.8	5.4	4.5	7.8
Southeast Asian	13.6	100	18.4	30.9	16.5	4.0	2.4	0.4	0.3	5.8	3.6	17.8
South Asian	13.5	100	6.2	53.1	17.5	2.3	1.1	0.1	0.0	4.5	3.4	11.7
Haitian	10.9	100	87.6	1.3	0.3	7.9	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.1	2.7
Vietnamese	10.8	100	14.2	34.0	18.7	3.5	2.2	0.4	0.2	7.1	4.4	15.4
West Asian	7.3	100	10.6	50.0	17.8	4.6	1.2	0.3	0.2	2.7	1.7	10.9
Arab	6.6	100	36.3	20.4	3.2	12.5	0.9	0.1	0.0	3.7	3.5	19.4
Korean	6.0	100	2.9	32.3	41.5	0.9	1.5	0.3	0.2	4.1	2.3	14.2
Lebanese	5.5	100	32.5	12.4	2.3	15.9	0.4	0.0	0.2	4.3	3.9	28.1
Iranian	5.2	100	10.4	48.0	22.8	4.9	1.0	0.0	0.0	2.1	1.3	9.6
Inuit	4.7	100	1.0	1.4	0.7	1.2	1.0	0.3	0.2	0.8	1.5	91.9
Somali	4.2	100	2.2	51.6	2.4	24.7	1.3	0.7	0.5	3.0	3.7	9.8
Salvadorian	3.8	100	24.3	26.2	11.1	5.0	2.9	0.8	0.5	6.3	4.8	18.1
Sri Lankan	2.9	100	10.7	79.8	2.2	2.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.2	0.5	3.4
Japanese	2.6	100	3.1	28.9	33.1	2.5	1.7	0.6	0.8	3.7	2.1	23.4
Pakistani	2.6	100	11.5	59.4	5.0	3.7	0.8	0.0	0.4	5.6	3.3	10.3
Colombian	2.5	100	26.9	28.3	2.6	4.4	1.2	0.0	0.0	3.6	2.4	30.5
Mexican	2.3	100	24.1	20.9	11.8	2.6	2.6	0.4	0.4	3.9	3.2	30.1
Afghan	2.0	100	10.3	50.5	9.9	4.9	3.0	0.7	0.5	4.7	1.5	14.0
Egyptian	1.7	100	37.1	36.2	1.2	6.2	1.2	0.0	0.6	0.9	2.4	14.2

Source: PCH Table M033-2, Statistics Canada, Census of Population 2006

*Includes single and multiple origins

3.6. Young mothers with lower university education were over-represented in the lone parent population

Ethnic groups where lone-parent family status is more frequently reported are typically drawn from populations characterized by the presence of younger age cohorts and/or women in child-bearing years. To provide a broader demographic context to examine lone parenthood, the reader is provided with age-sex population pyramids for ethnic groups reporting Canadian, North American Indian, Haitian, Jamaican, Somali, and Spanish ethnic origins in the 2006 Census. These population pyramids are presented in appendix tables A-4a to A-4e. The Canadian ethnic origin group (the largest in Canada) is shown there, as well as a comparison group¹²

Selected gender, age, and educational characteristics of lone parents are presented in table 2. Among ethnic groups such as the Haitian, Métis, and Jamaican, lone parents were mostly made up of lone mothers. The corresponding percentages for census family members for Métis, Black, and Jamaican ethnic origins were 91.0%, 87.9%, and 85.5%. The custom tables also revealed that, in low-prevalence groups such as the South Asian, there were some concentrations of lone-father headed families. For instance, almost two in three (65.4%) individuals of Pakistani ethnic backgrounds reporting lone-parent status were men. Half of Punjabi and Tamil lone-parent families were also headed by men. Table 2 also shows the percentage of lone parents who were under 25 years old. About 52.8% of the Jamaican lone-parent

¹² The age-sex pyramid of those who reported Canadian ethnic origin was mainly constituted by older cohorts and presented the typical features characterizing the generational cohorts of the population of Canada, such as its boom, bust, and echo. Compared to the Canadian ethnic origin population pyramid, those pyramids of the high lone-parent prevalence groups were younger (particularly the Somali and North American Indian with average ages of 23.3 and 29.1 years old respectively). The Somali pyramid presents a noticeable "bulge" in cohorts of women aged 36-60, a "dip" in the 26-34 cohort and an over-representation of children under 16. The North American Indian population pyramid presents an even more omnibus age-sex cohort representation with a significant number of "boom children" aged 10-18 years old. Population pyramids for the Haitian, Jamaican, and Spanish group contain sizeable numbers of working-age individuals and have the highest gender ratios of the groups (116 females per 100 males for the Haitian and Jamaican and 118 females per 100 males for the Spanish one).

families were headed by a young parent (including teens). These percentages were no less than 40% in the case of Somali, Haitian, and Trinidadian/Tobagonian families. In terms of university education (attainment of a diploma at the bachelor level or above), low lone-parent prevalence rate groups such as Chinese and South Asian had the highest levels of education compared to Black, Caribbean, and Aboriginal groups.

TABLE 3: SELECTED GENDER, AGE AND EDUCATIONAL INDICATORS OF LONE PARENTS BY SELECTED ETHNIC ORIGINS*, CANADA 2006

ETHNIC ORIGINS	% FEMALE	% 15-25 YEARS OLD	% 25-39 YEARS OLD	% WITH UNIV. EDUCATION	ETHNIC ORIGINS	% FEMALE	% 15-25 YEARS OLD	% 25-39 YEARS OLD	% WITH UNIV. EDUCATION
NA Indian	82.7	12.8	40.3	10.4	Icelandic	93.5	4.4	31.5	21.3
Métis	91.0	11.1	41.3	10.8	Serbian	100.0	1.5	18.0	33.5
Inuit	74.8	16.8	39.6	5.2	Slovak	88.9	2.0	20.9	28.2
Canadian	88.5	5.0	29.8	13.9	American	91.4	4.7	26.1	23.1
British	87.9	4.7	26.5	17.7	Armenian	100.0	1.0	11.5	23.0
French	89.8	4.8	28.1	18.0	Chinese	76.6	1.2	15.8	27.7
German	87.6	5.5	28.5	17.1	East Indian	68.2	4.5	22.9	25.9
Mennonite	81.8	5.6	24.0	17.3	Pakistani	34.6	5.0	24.1	32.2
Italian	91.3	3.6	22.8	15.1	Punjabi	50.0	4.9	31.9	15.3
Ukrainian	90.9	4.8	27.4	18.7	Sri Lankan	80.0	2.6	25.0	14.1
Dutch	85.3	5.4	28.3	16.9	Tamil	50.0	3.6	21.3	13.6
Polish	88.2	4.1	22.3	23.0	Black	87.9	6.5	36.0	16.5
Russian	82.6	3.8	25.2	34.0	Somali	82.0	6.0	41.6	11.7
Norwegian	85.2	4.4	29.7	19.5	Haitian	95.1	4.7	33.2	15.8
Portuguese	86.4	5.0	27.2	11.5	Jamaican	85.5	7.5	35.8	14.5
Swedish	96.3	4.1	28.2	18.0	Trin./Tobagonian	82.9	8.4	33.2	18.9
Spanish	82.4	4.0	26.6	28.1	Filipino	73.9	4.4	22.0	42.8
Hungarian	89.1	3.6	25.4	20.0	Latin American	84.1	6.6	31.4	18.1
Jewish	90.2	1.9	18.4	44.9	Mexican	86.5	7.9	35.4	26.0
Greek	84.0	2.7	19.6	17.7	Salvadorian	78.5	8.6	29.3	11.1
Danish	81.3	4.4	28.8	19.7	Colombian	86.8	7.6	28.6	29.0
Austrian	81.8	2.1	19.9	24.3	SE Asian	74.0	4.8	28.3	12.0
Romanian	92.9	3.2	26.7	31.6	Vietnamese	75.3	3.5	28.9	11.1
Belgian	94.6	4.3	27.2	21.6	Arab	69.4	3.0	25.9	30.4
Swiss	84.6	3.0	21.2	27.2	Lebanese	74.2	2.8	21.1	22.8
Finnish	100.0	3.3	26.8	18.1	Egyptian	83.3	3.6	21.9	52.4
Croatian	76.9	1.6	22.7	19.0	Afghan	80.0	3.7	23.5	18.0
Czech	100.0	2.6	24.9	29.9	Iranian	100.0	1.4	13.2	40.7

Source: PCH Table M033-2, 2006 Census of Canada

* includes single and multiple ethnic origin reporting

3.7. Groups of lone parents with more children of various age cohorts

The census custom tabulations allowed for the calculation of lone-parent shares (%) of the total pool of children (12 years old or less) by ethnic backgrounds of adult census family members. These shares were extremely informative about the number of children being raised in socioeconomic and cultural milieus typical of lone parent families. Table 3 presents these shares in descending order of share magnitude. On average, regardless of the reported ethnic origin of the family member, about one in five children (22.1%) were raised in lone-parent family milieus. Among individuals reporting Somali and/or Jamaican ethnic backgrounds, the lone-parent share of the total pool of children was twice as high as this average (51.6% and 50.7% respectively). Lone-parent children shares were also high among family members reporting Haitian (44.4%), Trinidadian/Tobagonian (40.7%), and North American Indian (35.9%) ethnic backgrounds. Shares were about one in five in the largest ethnic groups such as French, Canadian, and British. Among ethnic groups such as Chinese and South Asian, children shares were relatively low (16.4% and 10.4% respectively).

TABLE 4: NUMBER OF CHILDREN UNDER 15 YEARS OLD LIVING IN CENSUS FAMILIES BY ETHNIC ORIGIN* OF CENSUS FAMILY MEMBERS, CANADA 2006

SELECTED ETHNIC ORIGINS* FAMILY MEMBERS	N OF CHILDREN LIVING IN ALL CENSUS FAMILIES (‘000)	N OF CHILDREN LIVING IN LONE PARENT FAMILIES (‘000)	% CHILDREN LIVING IN LONE PARENT FAMILIES
All Groups	9,736.5	2,147.8	22.1
Somali	22.2	11.5	51.6
Jamaican	107.6	54.5	50.7
Haitian	48.3	21.4	44.4
Trinidadian/Tobagonian	26.5	10.8	40.7
North American Indian	535.6	192.5	35.9
Inuit	32.9	9.4	28.5
Métis	174.6	48.7	27.9
Salvadorian	29.3	7.9	27.1
Vietnamese	75.6	20.3	26.8
Spanish	125.9	30.6	24.3
French	1,558.0	341.7	21.9
Canadian	3,565.5	769.6	21.6
British	3,478.9	735.5	21.1
Filipino	148.5	24.5	16.5

Source: PCH Table M033-2, Statistics Canada, Census of Population 2006.

* = Includes single and multiple ethnic origin reporting

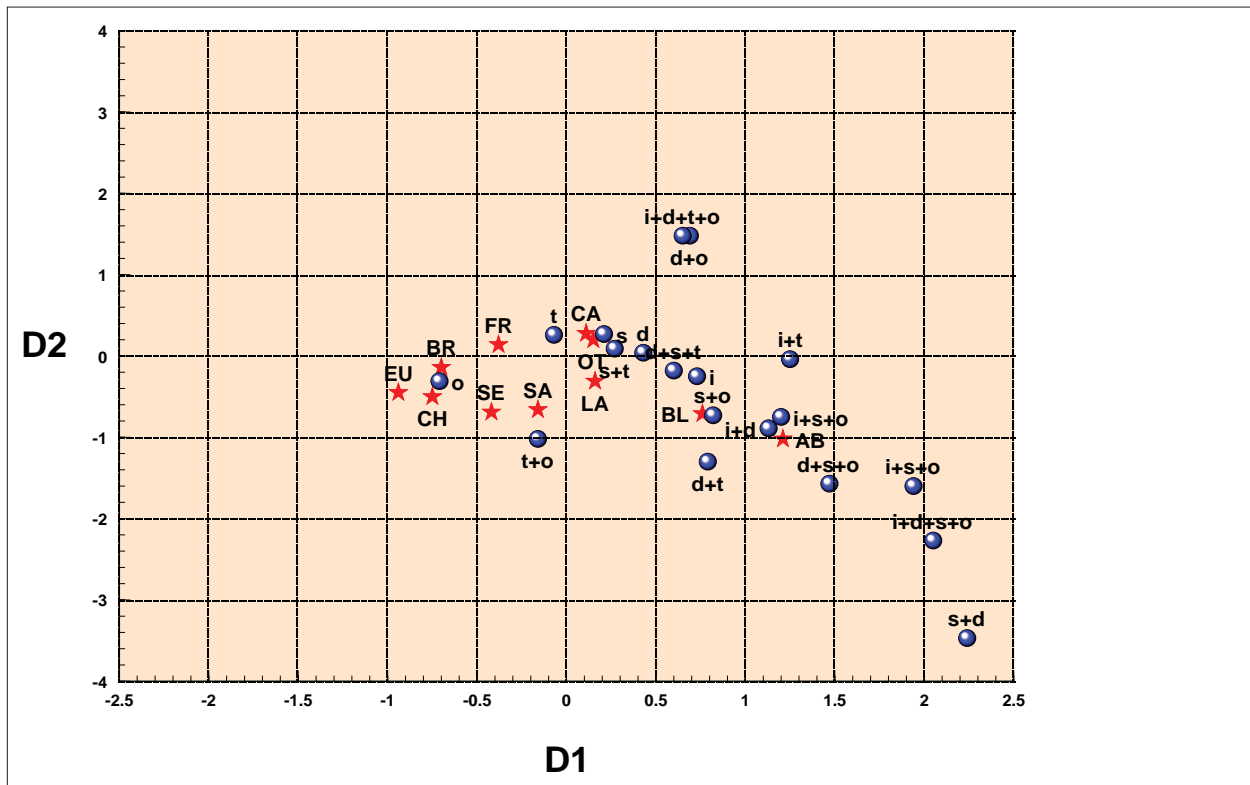
Lone parents often live with children of various age cohorts. To obtain a better picture of family configurations present in census families headed by lone parents of different ethnic backgrounds, Correspondence Analysis (CA)¹³ was undertaken on a sample from the 2006 PUMF individuals representing the adult population of lone parents aged 15 years and older residing in Canada (approximately 34,670 individuals, 4% of the total sample of the PUMF). Individuals in ethnic groups were grouped in the PUMF sample so as to provide a sufficient number of counts to allow for the identification of major family parent-child configurations. A bi-plot of the correspondence analysis is provided in chart 6. The major two dimensions (D1 and D2) accounted for 86% for the

¹³ Correspondence analysis is a statistical technique that uses singular value decomposition to the analysis of cross-tabular data. One of the outcomes of CA is bi-plots of points that represent departure from row and column independence (Jobson, 1992).

total variation in the data. Stars identify ethnic backgrounds of parents, while dots represent combinations of children's ages in the census families. Closer distances between coordinate points (group and children cohorts) suggested larger departures from the independence model, thus further suggesting over-representation of parents of different ethnic backgrounds residing with various children age cohorts.

The CA bi-plot of Chart 4 revealed a close proximity of Aboriginal, Caribbean, and Black parents to geometrical representations consisting of multiple cohorts' presence in census families. Parents of these groups cared for the needs of a wide spectrum of children including infants (less than 1 year old) and toddlers (2-5 years old). The bi-plot also suggests that parents reporting British, French, European and Chinese were more likely to live with older children (25 years old and over) compared to other groups. South Asian parents had higher propensity to live with teen and older children, while parents reporting Canadian, Latin American, and other ethnicities were more likely to care for both school children and teenagers. These results suggest that Aboriginal and Black lone parents are among the most burdened by family obligations to children of various age cohorts in the family households.

CHART 4: CORRESPONDENCE ANALYSIS BI-PLOT OF ETHNIC BACKGROUNDS OF PARENTS AND PRESENCE OF CHILDREN OF VARIOUS AGES IN CENSUS FAMILIES: LONE PARENTS, CANADA 2006



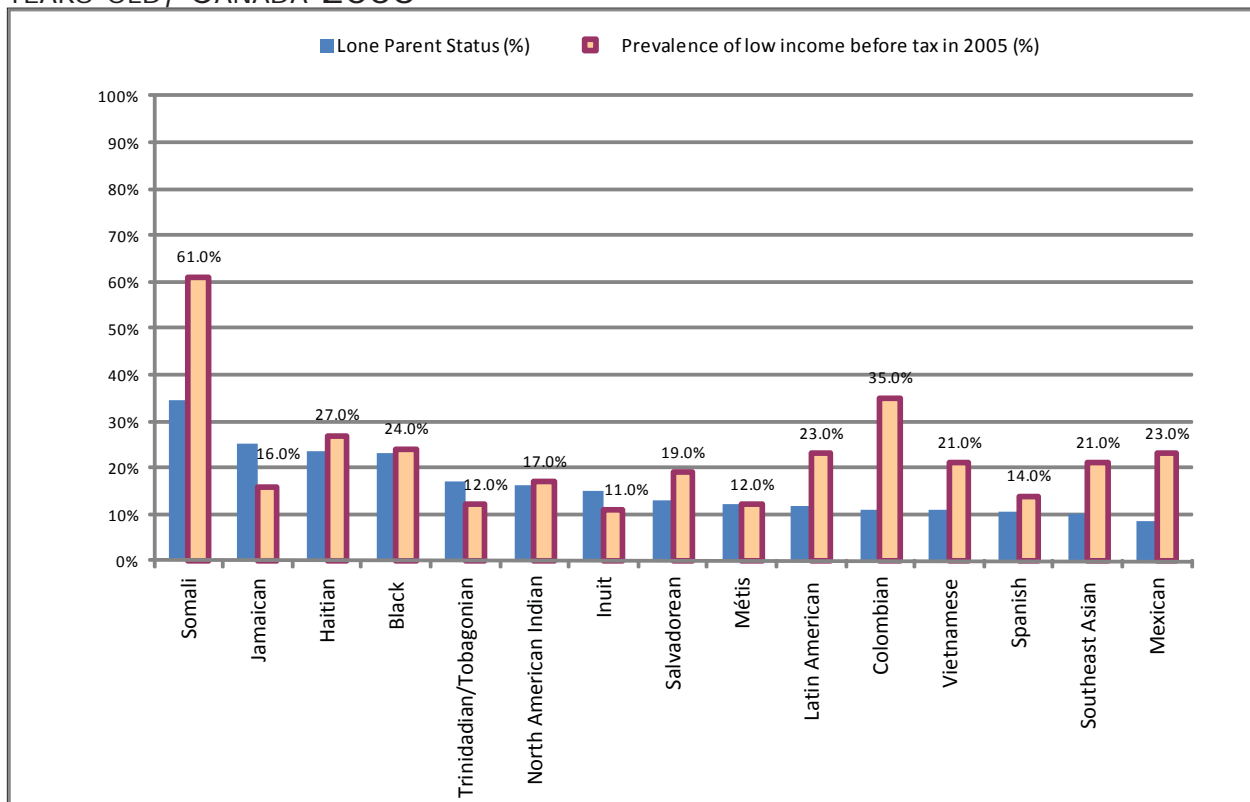
Symbols; CA=Canadian ethnic origins, BR=British ethnic origins, FR=French ethnic origins, AB= Aboriginal ethnic origins, EU=European ethnic origins, CH=Chinese Ethnic Origins, SA=South Asian Ethnic Origins, BL=Caribbean and Black ethnic origins, LA=Latin American ethnic origins, SE=South East Asian ethnic origins, OT=Other ethnic origins, i=infant (1 year of less), d=toddler (2-5 years old), s=school children (6-14 years old), teen children (15-24 years old), o=older children (25+years old), +=and, D1=dimension 1 of CA coordinates, D2=dimension 2 of CA coordinates. Source: PUMF 2006, Statistics Canada.

3.8. Socioeconomic status of lone-parents

Lone-parent families are one of the four groups most likely to live in poverty in Canada. In 2003, for both immigrants and non-immigrants, lone parents and unattached individuals less than 60 years of age had the lowest family employment earnings, with immigrant lone parents and unattached immigrants reporting the lowest of all groups (Dempsey 2006). In order to determine the socioeconomic circumstances of family members of high lone-parent status groups, the ethnic origin of family members was paired with economic family

information containing information on low-income cutoffs, also available in the PCH custom tables. The pre-tax low income cut-off indicator represents the percentage of census family individuals who lived in economic families falling under the Low-Income Cut-Offs (LICO) established by Statistics Canada before taxes are taken into account. Chart 5 presents line plots of lone-parent rates and low-income level cutoffs by individuals aged 25-54 among selected ethnic groups in descending order of lone-parent status reporting. High lone-parent status appears to be commensurate with higher probabilities of low-income family status, particularly among groups such as the Somali, Haitian, Black, Latin American, Southeast Asian, and Aboriginal groups.

CHART 5: LONE-PARENT STATUS AND PREVALENCE OF LOW INCOME STATUS IN ECONOMIC FAMILIES (%) BY SELECTED ETHNIC ORIGINS, INDIVIDUALS AGED 25-64 YEARS OLD, CANADA 2006



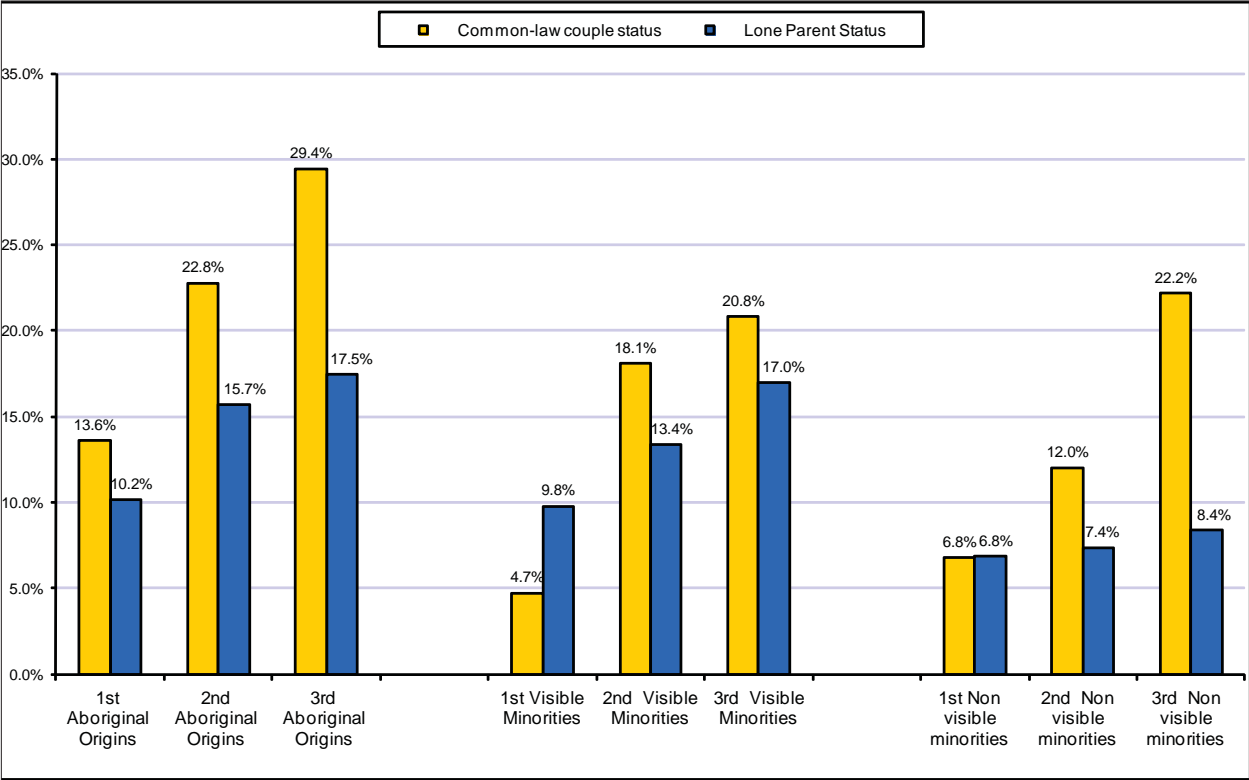
* Source: PCH Table M033-2, Statistics Canada, Census of Population 2006.

*GENERATIONAL PERSISTENCE ASPECTS**3.9. Increased lone-parent status with longer immigration history*

Generational status is informative of how immigrants and their children differ in terms of their family arrangements and acculturation patterns. An initial data exploration on the generational persistence revealed monotonic upward changes of lone-parent status, with a longer history in Canada for census family members of various ethnic backgrounds. For those census family members who were foreign born, the lone-parenthood rate increased from 7.6% for generation 1 (arriving to Canada aged 12 years and older) to 8.4% for generation 1.5 (arriving to Canada under the age of 12). The reporting of common-law couple status rose even more dramatically from 4.5% to 10.9% across these generations.

Focusing closely on the 25-64 age cohort of family members, both common-law and lone-parent rates increased with a longer immigration history, particularly for those individuals reporting Aboriginal and visible-minority backgrounds (see chart 6). Among census family members reporting at least one Aboriginal ethnic origin, the lone-parent status rate rose from 10.2% in the first generation to 17.5% in the third+ generation. This rate increased from 9.8% to 17.0% among individuals reporting at least one visible-minority origin. For non-visible minority census family members, these increases were more noticeable, but were observed at a lower level (6.8% in the first generation to 8.4% in the third+ generation). The most dramatic changes, however, occurred with respect to the reporting of common-law family status. These rates more than doubled for Aboriginal census family members (13.6% to 29.4%), increased five-fold for visible minority members (4.7% to 20.8%) and at least tripled for non-visible minority members (6.8% to 22.2%).

CHART 6: LONE PARENT AND COMMON-LAW STATUS REPORTING (%) FOR ABORIGINAL, VISIBLE MINORITY AND NON-VISIBLE MINORITY GROUPS* BY GENERATIONAL STATUS, CENSUS FAMILY MEMBERS AGED 25-64 YEARS OLD, CANADA 2006



Source: Source: PCH Table M033-2, Statistics Canada, Census of Population 2006 Symbols: 1st=first generation, 2nd=second generation, 3rd=third plus generation. First generation: persons born outside Canada, including people who are non-permanent residents. Second generation: Persons born inside Canada with at least one parent born outside Canada. This includes: (a) persons born in Canada with both parents born outside Canada and (b) persons born in Canada with one parent born in Canada and one parent born outside Canada (these persons may also have grandparents born inside or outside Canada). Third generation or more: Persons born inside Canada with both parents born inside Canada (these persons may also have grandparents born inside or outside Canada), (*)-Includes single and multiple origins

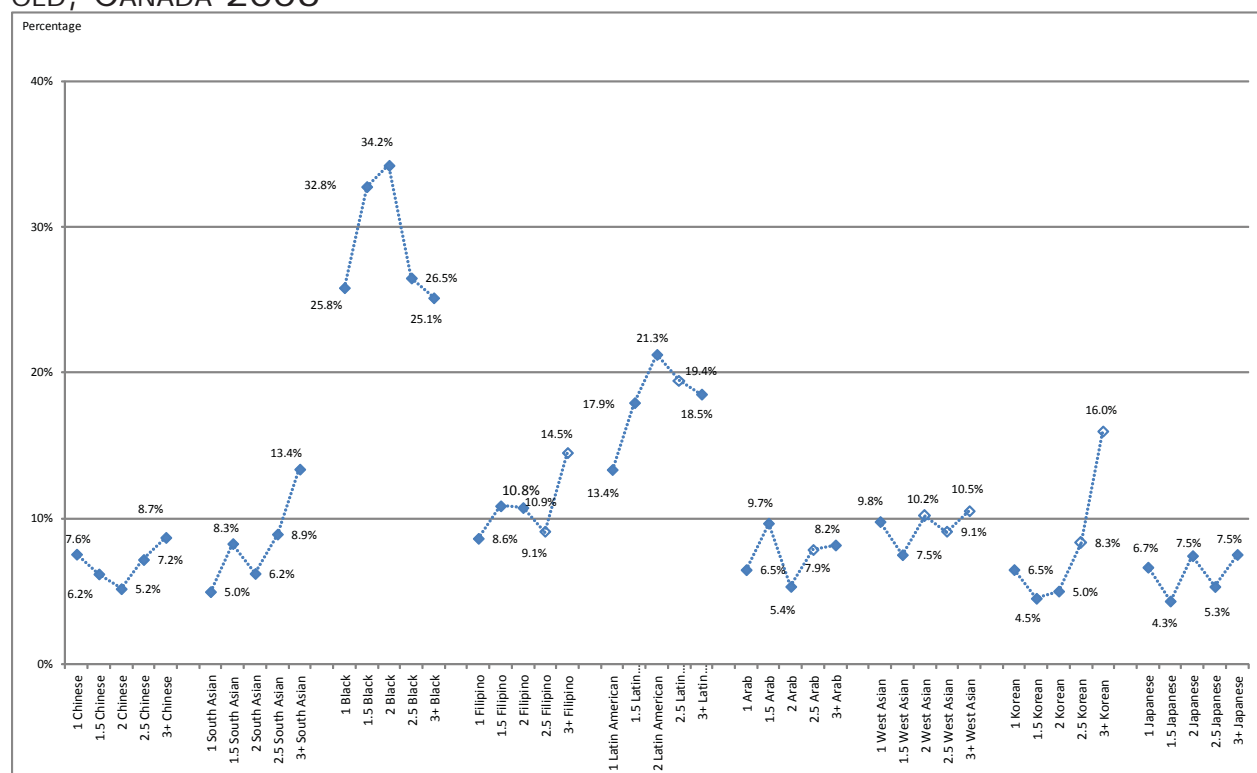
3.10. Generational cycles of lone parenthood in Black and Latin American visible minority family members

The persistence of lone-parent status across generations was further investigated by breaking down visible minority backgrounds by five categories of generational status (generations: 1, 1.5, 2, 2.5 and 3+)¹⁴. Partitioning the population in this way provided finer detail but also created sample size limitations. To control the latter problem, group observations were limited to those containing at least 1,000 census family members. When the data was disaggregated by the visible minority status of census family members, complex generational trajectories were observed (see chart 7). These could be roughly classified into two types of generational trajectories: high level (above 12%) and low level (12% or below).

The first high-level type cycles corresponded to parents of Black and/or Latin American visible minority background. Starting with a prevalence rate of 25.8% in generation 1, the Black rate peaked to 34.8% at generation 2, after which it showed a relative decline to an average of 26% level in the 2.5 and 3+ generations. For Latin American census family members, the lone-parent reporting rate rose from 13.4% at generation 1 to 21.3% at generation 2 and experienced a slight decrease to an average of 19% in the longer immigration history generations.

¹⁴ First generation comprised persons born outside of Canada that arrived in Canada as immigrants after the age of 12, with both parents born outside of Canada. The 1.5 generation comprised persons born outside of Canada that arrived in Canada as immigrants before the age of 12, with both parents born outside of Canada. Generation 2 comprised persons born in Canada with both parents born outside of Canada. The 2.5 generation included persons born in Canada with one parent born in Canada. The 3+ generation comprised persons born in Canada with both parents born in Canada.

CHART 7: LONE-PARENT FAMILY STATUS REPORTING (%) BY VISIBLE MINORITY GROUPS* AND GENERATIONAL STATUS, CENSUS FAMILY MEMBERS AGED 25-64 YEARS OLD, CANADA 2006



Source: PCH Table M033-2, Statistics Canada, Census of Population 2006 Symbols: 1=first generation, 1.5=1.5 generation, 2=2nd generation, 2.5=2.5 generation, 3+=3rd and higher generations. *First generation* comprised persons born outside of Canada, arrived to Canada as immigrants after the age of 12, with both parents born outside of Canada. The *1.5 generation* comprised persons born outside of Canada, arrived to Canada as immigrants before the age of 12, with parents born outside of Canada. The *2 generation* comprised persons born in Canada and both of the parents born outside of Canada. The *2.5 generation* comprised persons born in Canada, with one parent born in Canada. The *3+ generation* comprised persons born in Canada with parents born in Canada. Rates were calculated on the basis of 1,000 census family members' observations. *=Includes single and multiple origins, Non-solid points representing observations with 1,000 individuals or less.

Low-level trajectories were more commonly observed among census family members reporting Chinese and South Asian visible minority backgrounds (the largest visible minority groups in Canada). These groups, however, were not entirely immune to acculturation influences as they displayed a slight increase in lone-parent reporting in higher status generations. Starting at about 8% at the first generation, both groups experienced rate increases after gen-

eration 2, reaching their highest levels at generation 3+ (8.7% in the case of the Chinese group and 13.4% in the South Asian group). Korean census family members also showed a rising pattern of lone-parent reporting after generation 2, although rate estimates may be unreliable due to the lower generational counts available for this particular group. Filipino, Arab, West Asian and Japanese groups displayed mixed trajectories that made it impossible to discern patterns of lone- parent reporting over generational time.

Rates of common-law status reporting peaked at 18% and 24% for census family members of Chinese and South Asian backgrounds at the 2.5 generation point. This rate also reached its highest point among Blacks at the same generation point (34.3%). In comparison with the other visible minority groups, the rates pertaining to Latin Americans, Koreans, and Japanese remained at levels below the 20% mark. Overall, regardless of the visible minority group examined, the 2006 Census data suggests that more advanced generational status was correlated with a higher propensity to report a common-law family status in Canada.

TABLE 4: LONE-PARENT STATUS REPORTING (LPSR) IN PERCENTAGES FOR SELECTED ETHNIC ORIGINS* AND GENERATION STATUS, CENSUS FAMILY MEMBERS AGED 25-64, CANADA 2006

SELECTED ETHNIC ORIGINS	N ('000)	LPSR (%)	SELECTED ETHNIC ORIGINS	N ('000)	LPSR (%)	SELECTED ETHNIC ORIGINS	N ('000)	LPSR (%)
1 Canadian	25.0	9.8	1 Russian	60.6	9.1	1 East Indian	422.8	5.3
1.5 Canadian	14.2	8.7	1.5 Russian	8.0	7.8	1.5 East Indian	28.4	8.5
2 Canadian	78.4	10.0	2 Russian	25.9	7.1	2 East Indian	21.6	7.0
2.5 Canadian	299.8	8.8	2.5 Russian	28.2	7.9	2.5 East Indian	3.4	8.8
3+ Canadian	4,685.8	9.2	3+ Russian	147.1	6.3	3+ East Indian	5.3	12.7
1 British	403.5	6.8	1 Norwegian	8.1	5.4	1 American	7.2	5.7
1.5 British	150.2	9.1	1.5 Norwegian	3.2	9.3	1.5 American	17.1	9.1
2 British	353.0	8.2	2 Norwegian	16.9	7.1	2 American	17.0	9.9
2.5 British	698.4	7.5	2.5 Norwegian	29.8	7.1	2.5 American	33.1	8.5
3+ British	4,122.3	8.4	3+ Norwegian	147.1	8.3	3+ American	67.8	8.6
1 French	79.7	8.5	1 Lebanese	45.7	7.5	1 S East Asian	95.6	11.9
1.5 French	19.0	11.3	1.5 Lebanese	4.6	8.6	1.5 S East Asian	10.3	13.6
2 French	42.7	9.8	2 Lebanese	6.7	5.6	2 S East Asian	2.5	19.3
2.5 French	122.8	8.9	2.5 Lebanese	3.4	6.6	2.5 S East Asian	+	
3+ French	2,123.4	8.8	3+ Lebanese	10.8	8.0	3+ S East Asian	+	
1 German	168.1	6.2	1 Jewish	5.3	6.8	1 Haitian	29.3	28.9
1.5 German	57.4	6.9	1.5 Jewish	10.6	6.4	1.5 Haitian	3.2	31.5
2 German	163.7	7.6	2 Jewish	25.5	6.1	2 Haitian	3.4	26.1
2.5 German	175.6	7.7	2.5 Jewish	19.4	6.8	2.5 Haitian	1.1	17.5
3+ German	945.8	8.2	3+ Jewish	43.6	8.7	3+ Haitian	1.2	18.5
1 Italian	213.7	7.3	1 Portuguese	116.4	7.2	1 Jamaican	57.8	28.8
1.5 Italian	70.3	7.2	1.5 Portuguese	34.9	8.9	1.5 Jamaican	12.0	33.3
2 Italian	193.3	6.3	2 Portuguese	35.2	8.1	2 Jamaican	9.9	37.1
2.5 Italian	63.1	8.3	2.5 Portuguese	5.9	10.7	2.5 Jamaican	3.3	21.1
3+ Italian	155.4	10.0	3+ Portuguese	10.0	11.8	3+ Jamaican	3.9	17.5
1 Dutch	74.7	4.8	1 Spanish	94.7	12.1	1 Trin/Tob.	14.7	20.1
1.5 Dutch	36.9	5.5	1.5 Spanish	12.5	12.9	1.5 Trin/Tob.	2.5	19.8
2 Dutch	105.9	5.9	2 Spanish	11.1	12.2	2 Trin/Tob.	3.7	26.6
2.5 Dutch	71.5	8.2	2.5 Spanish	7.0	13.1	2.5 Trin/Tob.	1.5	17.1
3+ Dutch	198.7	8.8	3+ Spanish	23.2	12.9	3+ Trin/Tob.	+	+
1 Polish	116.4	8.6	1 Greek	58.6	7.5	1 Somalian	10.3	37.0
1.5 Polish	25.2	8.4	1.5 Greek	9.7	9.4	1.5 Somalian	+	
2 Polish	65.1	8.0	2 Greek	32.4	6.7	2 Somalian	+	
2.5 Polish	57.8	7.8	2.5 Greek	6.8	9.3	2.5 Somalian	+	
3+ Polish	204.0	8.4	3+ Greek	11.2	10.0	3+ Somalian	+	

Source: PCH Table M033-2, Statistics Canada, Census of Population 2006. Symbols: 1=first generation, 1.5=1.5 generation, 2=2nd generation, 2.5=2.5 generation, 3+=3rd and higher generations. *=includes single and multiple origins, += counts below 1,000 observations.

To complement visible minority background information, table 4 presents the rates of lone-parent status by selected ethnic origins and generational status of family members. Limited census counts available for some groups of recent immigration history in Canada made it difficult to establish reliable lone-parent rate estimates. At the ethnic origin level, generational breakdowns of lone parents reporting Haitian, Jamaican, and Trinidadian/Tobagonian ethnic backgrounds suggested, again, the presence of strong cycles of lone parenthood. Among Haitians, from an initial starting point of 28.9% in generation 1, it peaked to 31.5% at generation 1.5 declining gradually to an average of 18% at generations 2.5 and 3+. For Jamaicans, the highest rate was achieved at generation 2, after which it tends to decline to a lower level of 17.5% in generation 3+. The Trinidadian/Tobagonian rate peaked to 26.6% at generation 2 to 26.6% from an initial 30.1% in generation 1. All the more reliable observations for the Somali group pertain to generation 1 (37.0%) and, consequently, it was not possible yet to ascertain if the cycle of lone parenthood is repeated over its generations. For census family members reporting at least one British background, all lone-parent rates were below the 10% mark across all generations. For individuals reporting at least one French and Canadian ethnic origin, lone-parent rates hit the 10% mark or above in generations 1.5 and 2. Family members reporting a wide range of Northern, Eastern, and Central European ethnicities displayed lower rates across all generations. The Spanish ethnic group was a notable outlier with respect to the rest of European ethnicities, as their average levels of lone-parent reporting fluctuated around a 12% average across all generations. Among census family members reporting South East Asian ethnic backgrounds, the highest rate was observed at the generation 2 point (19.3%).

4.0. DISCUSSION

Based on census statistics pertaining to the reporting of lone-parent status among census family members of different ethnic backgrounds in 2006, this analysis has produced three central findings which can be broadly summarized in the following way: (1) substantial variations of the lone-parenthood phenomenon across a wide spectrum of ethnic groups were identified, (2) census family members of Aboriginal, Black (African or Caribbean), and Latin American backgrounds had the highest prevalence rates, while Chinese and South Asian had the lowest and, (3) that lone-parenthood persisted over generations, particularly for Caribbean, Latin American, and African ethnic minority groups. These findings confirmed and perhaps expanded original observations made with 2001 data and added to the international literature which has already established these types of family arrangements in wider contexts.

Reflecting on Zhou's theoretical expectations regarding lone-parent prevalence, several observations can be made in light of the data patterns found in the custom tabulations. The data suggests that high lone-parent prevalence groups are generally those where families are fractured in their first generation and/or are socioeconomically disadvantaged in society. The expected positive correlation between lone-parenthood and common-law unions holds, however, for groups such as the Aboriginal, British, French, and European, but not necessarily for Somali and Caribbean groups where lone-parent status is more commonly found than that of common-law unions or husband and wife couples. The fourth expectation was partially supported, as groups where racially mixed unions were more frequent (e.g. Black and Latin American groups) were also groups which displayed higher levels of lone-parent prevalence. The

Japanese group, however, did not conform to this pattern, as their prevalence level was found at a relatively lower level of reporting.

The high prevalence of lone-parenthood observed for Caribbean ethnic groups such as Jamaican, Haitian, and Trinidadian/Tobagonian (30%, 27%, and 20%) possibly reflects a combination of pre-migration and post-migration factors at work. These rates were higher than those of Aboriginal group members (17%) who have traditionally been regarded as experiencing strong family dissolution processes. Census family members reporting Spanish backgrounds (mostly born in North, Central, and South America) also displayed rates higher than the national average (12%).

The integration challenges which are faced by these women have already been extensively documented in several demographic and ethnographic studies undertaken in Canada (Opoku-Dapaah 1995; Henry 1994; Kelly 2006). There is a high prevalence of immigrant families headed by women from the Caribbean and Latin American region of the world, many of whom migrate north to seek economic opportunities elsewhere in more industrialized countries such as Canada (for example, Jamaican mothers migrating to English-speaking provinces and Haitian mothers to Quebec). Many of these women have entered Canada to perform live-in caregiving duties, nursing, and teaching. They may have first arrived alone, then secure a stable job (e.g. care-giving, domestic work and/or clerical) and later on sponsor their dependent children (Thomas 2001).

Migration often involves temporary separation from family members and this, in turn, can affect family arrangements. In this light, immigration selection also plays a role as many lone mothers arrive to Canada through special programs (such as the Live-in Caregiver program, temporary foreign worker

and/or other refugee class programs). Cultural norms predominant in these groups may also be of significance here as self-reliance and pride in seeing a lone mother heading a family is seen as emblematic in many parts of the world. The high rate of Somali young mothers (40%) may be explained partially by their refugee backgrounds (e.g. refugee claimants) and also by prolonged absences of male spouses (e.g. job searching).

Lone-parent prevalence rates were the lowest among Chinese (7%) and South Asian (5%) visible minority groups. Numerically, these are the largest visible minority groups in Canada. While Chinese cultural norms and a more secular approach may play an explanatory role in the outcomes for the former group, religion also may play a part in the latter one. Most South Asians are Muslims, Hindus, and of Sikh faith, these have low rates of lone parenthood: 8.1%, 5.8% and 5.0% respectively in the 2001 Census. Cohabitation did not exceed the 3% mark for these groups. It should be noted that South Asians and Chinese were not completely immune to the latter intergenerational trend, as it approached only the 10% mark in the 3rd generation.

High lone-parenthood prevalence in combination with lower socioeconomic status weakens family resources and increases the economic and social vulnerability of many ethnic minority families affecting the life chances of parents (mostly women) and their children in successive generations. Ethnic groups of higher levels of prevalence of lone-parenthood tend to be constituted by low-income households. Poverty and lone-parent family formation are mutually reinforcing processes. Caribbean, Latin American, and African ethnic groups have a high degree of socioeconomic vulnerability in Canadian society (Mata 2010). They struggle with lack of financial resources and family transitions which produce various socioeconomic, cultural, and psycho-social outcomes. The impact of the lone-parenthood phenomenon for these groups

is far-reaching, as it changes the nature of their integration prospects today and in future generations. Given that family structures affect the socialization processes of children and are fundamental inputs in terms of predicting socioeconomic inequality, this type of research can help us in better understanding the different protective and risk-related factors driving a variety of family outcomes in vulnerable populations. The geographical, linguistic, and cultural context where ethnic groups reside is also an important consideration to be taken into account. A Francophone group such as the Haitian lone mothers living in Montreal is a case in point. Family arrangements with respect to lone parenthood and cohabitation may be heavily influenced by the current prevailing views in the province of Quebec.

Contextual, socioeconomic, and personal factors lurk behind the observed cycles of lone- parenthood extending over generations. The 2006 data suggests that for Caribbean, African, and Latin American ethnic groups (including possibly African ones covered under the Black visible minority reporting) lone parenthood persists over generations. For these family members, a cycle of intergenerational lone-parenthood was observed at a high level. Chinese and South Asian family members were not immune to these cycles at a lower level of prevalence. The 2.0 generation point (situation where the family member is Canadian-born with his/her parents born abroad) appeared to be the climatic point when lone parent rates peak at unusual levels. This finding suggests that fundamental shifts in family arrangements occur when the individual is at an equal level of exposure to Canadian and homeland socialization influences (parents, peers, media, etc.). The census data hints at processes which can only be tapped adequately by longitudinal surveys which would benefit from qualitative data techniques. It should also be noted that several studies have shown that socioeconomic conditions for the second and third generation for

these groups also persist (e.g. low income status), reinforcing the causal loop established between family structures and poverty.

A final reflection on the paper findings has to be made with regards to potential policy responses to the lone-parent phenomenon in Canada. The focus on single parents as a monolithic group should be changed and replaced with a more dynamic analysis across the life cycle of ethnic families, particularly those of Aboriginal and visible minority backgrounds. This entails developing more integrated strategies that could better assist vulnerable populations. Generic types of assistance which take forms of income support (e.g. Work Income Supplement, National Child Benefit and other income security federal and provincial programs) could be complemented with more ethno-specific programs of assistance to immigrant serving agencies and community organizations attempting to reach disadvantaged lone parents of diverse ethnic backgrounds¹⁵. Lone mothers cope with unique challenges and make family decisions in different sociocultural milieus (e.g. with respect to decisions regarding teenage pregnancies, cohabitation, birth outside marriage, re-partnering, and step-parenthood). The demographic and socioeconomic backgrounds of women also have to be taken into account, as a significant number of lone mothers tend to be younger and less university educated. Another central consideration is to target parents and children growing up in households where there are often “clashes” of values between more traditional and more modern views on gender roles and family structures. Potential family violence and abuse are often by-products of the latter. Regardless of the ethnic background of parents, however, good policy interventions should help in lifting lone mothers from poverty while assisting them in their child

¹⁵ Family structure does not affect eligibility for federal supports for families with children. The 2010 Budget improved the taxation of the Universal Child Care Benefit (UCCB) to ensure that single-parent families receive comparable tax treatment to two-parent families, and allows parents with joint custody to split child benefits when a child lives in both households.

care, housing, educational, health, and transportation needs. All these policy interventions have to occur in a climate of respect for the cultural backgrounds of lone parents and the right they have to control their lives and remain fully independent.

REFERENCES

- Alba, Richard and Victor Nee. 1998. Rethinking Assimilation Theory for a New Era of Immigration, *International Migration Review*. Vol. 31 (4): 826-874.
- Ambert, Anne-Marie. 2006. One Parent Families: Characteristics, Causes, Consequences, and Issues. Vanier Institute of the Family.
- Beaujot, Roderic, Zenaida Ravanera and Thomas Burch. 2007. Towards an HRSDC Family Research Framework, PSC, Discussion Paper Series, Vol. 21 (2), Ottawa, Ontario.
- Dempsey, Colleen-Marie. 2006. Immigrant income and the family, research report of the Research and Evaluation Branch, Citizenship and Immigration Canada <http://www.cic.gc.ca/english/resources/research/income/index.asp>.
- Driedger, L. 1989. *The Ethnic Factor*, McGraw-Hill Ryerson, Toronto.
- Foner, Nancy. 1997. The Immigrant Family: Cultural Legacies and Cultural Change, *International Migration Review*. Vol. 31 (4):961-974.
- Galarneau, D. 2005. Education and income of lone parents, Perspectives 5, Statistics Canada. Catalogue no. 75-001-XIE: 5-15.
- Gonzales, L.2005. The Determinants of the Prevalence of Single Mothers: A Cross-Country Analysis, Discussion Paper No. 1677 July 2005, IZA, Germany.
- Gordon, Milton M. 1978. *Assimilation in American life: the role of race, religion, and national origins*. New York, Oxford University Press. 1964.

- Harrison, B.R. 2002. Languages integration: Results of an Intergenerational Analysis Statistical Journal of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe, Vol. (14): 289-30.
- Henry, F.1994. *The Caribbean Diaspora in Toronto: Learning to Live with Racism*. Toronto: University of Toronto Press.
- Hull, J. 2001. Aboriginal Single Mothers in Canada.1996: A Statistical Profile, Indian and Northern Affairs Canada, Cat No. R2-1641-1996E, ISBN 0-662-308743.
- Jobson, J.D. 1992. *Multivariate Data Analysis, Vol. II: Categorical and Multivariate Methods*, Springer-Verlag.
- Kelly, P. 2006. Filipinos in Canada: Economic dimensions of Immigration and Settlement CERIS working paper no. 48 (revised).
- Lalonde, Richard N. and Benjamin Giguère. 2008. When Might the Two Cultural Worlds of Second Generation Biculturalists Collide. *Canadian Diversity*. Vol. 6 (2): 58-62
- Le Bourdais, Céline and Nicole Marcil-Gratton. 1998. The impact of family disruption in childhood on demographic outcomes in young adulthood. In Miles Corak (ed.), *Labour Markets, Social Institutions, and the Future of Canada's Children*. Catalogue no. 89-553- XPB: 91-105 Ottawa: Statistics Canada.
- Lipman, Ellen, Michael H. Boyle, Martin D. Dooley and David R. Offord. 1998. *Children and Lone-Mother Families: An Investigation of Factors Influencing Child Well-Being*. Ottawa: HRDC, Applied Research Branch, Research Report W-98-11E.

- Mata, F. 2010. Economic Vulnerability and Ethnicity in Canada's Metropolitan Workforce: An Exploratory Analysis of Census Classifications, Metropolis British Columbia Centre of Excellence for Research on Immigration and Diversity. Working paper, No. 10 - 04
- McKie, C. 1993. An overview of lone parenthood in Canada. In Joe Hudson and Burt Galaway (eds.), *Single Parent Families- perspectives on research and policy*. Toronto: Thompson Educational Publishing, 1993: 53-72.
- McQuillan, K. and M. Belle. 2001. Lone-Father Families in Canada, 1971-1996. *Canadian Studies in Population*. Vol. 28 (1):67-88
- Milan, A. 2000. One hundred years of families, Anne Milan, *Canadian Social Trends*. Statistics Canada — Catalogue No. 11-008:1-12
- Milan A., H. Maheux and T. Chui. 2010. A portrait of couples in mixed unions. *Canadian Social Trends*. Statistics Canada-Catalogue no.11-008:70-80.
- Morissette, R. and G. Picot. 2005. Summary of: Low-paid Work and Economically Vulnerable Families over the Last Two Decades. Analytical Studies Branch Research Paper Series, Statistics Canada. Catalogue no. 11F0019MIE — No. 249.
- Norris, M.J. and K. MacCon 2003. Aboriginal Languages Transmission and Maintenance in Families: Results of an Intergenerational and Gender-Based Analysis for Canada 1996. In *Aboriginal Conditions: Research as a Foundation for Public Policy*, Jerry P. White, Paul S. Maxim, and Dan Beavon (eds.), Vancouver: UBC Press.
- Potvyn, M. 2008. The Experience of the Second Generation of Haitian Origin in Quebec, *Canadian Diversity*. Vol. 6 (2):99-103.

OECD 2008. *The Future of the Family to 2030 – A Scoping Report* – OECD International Futures Programme, SGEAU.

OECD 2011. OECD (2011), *Doing Better for Families*, OECD Publishing, <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/9789264098732-en>.

Opoku-Dapaah, E. 1995. *Somali Refugees in Toronto: A Profile*. Toronto: York Lanes Press.

Platt, Lucinda. 2005. *Ethnicity and family: Relationships within and between ethnic groups: An analysis using the Labour Force Survey*. Institute for Social and Economic Research. University of Essex, Equality and Human Rights Commission, UK.

Pratt, G. 2003. *From Migrant to Immigrant: Domestic Workers settle in Vancouver, Canada*. Research on Immigration and Integration in the Metropolis, Working Paper series No. 03-18.

Ross, D., P. Roberts and K. Scott. 1998. *Variations in Child Development Outcomes among Children Living in Lone-Parent Families*. Research Report W-98-7E, Ottawa: HRDC, Applied Research Branch.

SPJP (Social Justice Policy Group). 2008. *The state of the nation report: fractured families*, Social Policy Justice Group publication, UK

Statistics Canada. 2007. *Family Portrait: Continuity and Change in Canadian Families and Households in 2006*. Catalogue no. 97-553-XIE, Ottawa, 2008

Sykes, S. 2008. *Life on the Reef in the Canadian Ocean. The "New" Second Generation in Canada*. Discussion Paper. PRI Project- Cultural Diversity

Thomas, D. 2001. Evolving Family Arrangements of Canada's Immigrants, Canadian Social Trends, Ottawa: Statistics Canada. Ottawa, Cat 11-008:16-22

Zhou, M. 1997. Segmented Assimilation: Issues, Controversies and Recent research on the Second Generation. *International Migration Review*. Vol. 31 (4):975-1008

APPENDIX TABLES

TABLE A-1: ABSOLUTE COUNTS (IN '000) OF CENSUS FAMILY MEMBERS AGED 15 YEARS OLD AND OVER BY SELECTED ABORIGINAL, AND NON- EUROPEAN ETHNIC ORIGIN GROUPS*, CANADA 2006,

ETHNIC ORIGINS (1)	TOTAL ('000)	HUSBANDS & WIVES	COMMON LAW PARTNERS	LONE PARENTS	MALE LONE PARENTS	FEMALE LONE PARENTS
Selected Aboriginal Ethnic Origins						
North American Indian	524.3	268.6	158.6	97.1	18.6	78.5
Métis	176.6	110.5	42.1	24.0	4.4	19.6
Inuit	25.8	12.9	8.2	4.7	1.0	3.7
Selected Non-European Ethnic Origins						
East Indian	488.0	447.4	13.1	27.4	5.3	22.1
Pakistani	54.6	51.1	0.9	2.6	0.4	2.1
Punjabi	17.7	16.6	0.3	0.8	0.2	0.6
Sri Lankan	50.9	46.5	1.4	2.9	0.5	2.5
Tamil	17.4	16.2	0.3	0.8	0.1	0.7
Somali	10.8	6.1	0.6	4.2	0.3	3.9
Haitian	38.7	22.0	5.8	10.9	1.2	9.7
Jamaican	87.6	51.7	10.1	25.8	2.8	23.0
Trinidadian/Tobagonian	23.6	15.5	3.2	4.9	0.7	4.2
Mexican	25.1	19.3	3.5	2.3	0.3	2.1
Salvadorian	24.4	17.1	3.5	3.8	0.6	3.2
Colombian	19.8	14.7	2.6	2.5	0.3	2.2
Vietnamese	82.1	62.7	8.5	10.8	2.0	8.8
Lebanese	71.8	61.3	5.1	5.5	1.1	4.4
Egyptian	24.8	21.5	1.6	1.7	0.3	1.4
Afghan	19.1	16.7	0.4	2.0	0.3	1.7
Iranian	59.1	51.4	2.6	5.2	1.0	4.3

Source: PCH Table M033-2, Statistics Canada, Census of Population 2006, * = Includes single and multiple origins

TABLE A-2: CENSUS FAMILY STATUS OF NON-CHILDREN FAMILY MEMBERS BY SELECTED ABORIGINAL AND NON-EUROPEAN ETHNIC ORIGIN GROUPS*, CENSUS FAMILY MEMBERS AGED 15 YEARS OLD AND OVER, 2006 CENSUS

SELECTED ETHNIC ORIGINS *	N ('000)	%	HUSBANDS & WIVES (%)	COMMON LAW COUPLES (%)	TOTAL LONE PARENTS (%)	LONE PARENT FATHERS (%)	LONE PARENT MOTHERS (%)
Aboriginal							
NA Indian	524.3	100	51.2	30.2	18.5	3.5	15.0
Métis	176.6	100	62.6	23.8	13.6	2.5	11.1
Inuit	25.8	100	49.9	31.9	18.2	4.0	14.2
Non-European Ethnic Origins							
East Indian	488.0	100	91.7	2.7	5.6	1.1	4.5
Pakistani	54.6	100	93.6	1.7	4.7	0.8	3.9
Punjabi	17.7	100	93.7	1.7	4.6	1.0	3.6
Sri Lankan	50.9	100	91.4	2.8	5.8	0.9	4.9
Tamil	17.4	100	93.4	1.7	4.9	0.7	4.1
Somali	10.8	100	56.2	5.4	38.4	2.4	36.1
Haitian	38.7	100	56.8	15.0	28.2	3.1	25.1
Jamaican	87.6	100	59.1	11.5	29.4	3.1	26.3
Trin./Tobagonian	23.6	100	65.6	13.7	20.7	2.9	17.9
Mexican	25.1	100	76.9	13.9	9.3	1.1	8.2
Salvadorian	24.4	100	70.1	14.4	15.5	2.3	13.2
Colombian	19.8	100	74.2	13.3	12.5	1.5	11.0
Vietnamese	82.1	100	76.4	10.3	13.2	2.5	10.8
Lebanese	71.8	100	85.3	7.1	7.6	1.5	6.1
Egyptian	24.8	100	86.7	6.5	6.8	1.3	5.5
Afghan	19.1	100	87.3	2.1	10.6	1.5	9.1
Other Origins							
Canadian	5,104.9	100	64.8	26.1	9.1	1.9	7.3
British	5,744.6	100	76.8	15.0	8.2	1.6	6.6
French	2,394.2	100	66.7	24.5	8.9	1.9	7.0
German	1,518.4	100	78.3	13.9	7.8	1.5	6.3
Mennonite	23.8	100	89.8	6.1	4.1	0.9	3.2
Italian	700.3	100	81.2	11.1	7.7	1.6	6.1
Ukrainian	563.0	100	77.4	14.4	8.2	1.5	6.6
Dutch	489.6	100	80.5	12.3	7.2	1.3	5.9
Polish	470.9	100	78.9	12.8	8.3	1.5	6.8
Russian	240.1	100	80.4	11.4	8.2	1.5	6.7
Norwegian	206.0	100	78.3	13.8	7.9	1.5	6.4
Portuguese	204.6	100	82.6	9.5	7.9	1.5	6.5
Swedish	160.1	100	77.7	14.2	8.2	1.4	6.8
Spanish	153.2	100	73.2	14.6	12.2	1.7	10.5
Hungarian	148.3	100	78.1	13.3	8.5	1.6	6.9
Jewish	154.1	100	84.3	8.8	6.9	1.3	5.6
Greek	119.4	100	84.0	8.2	7.8	1.6	6.2

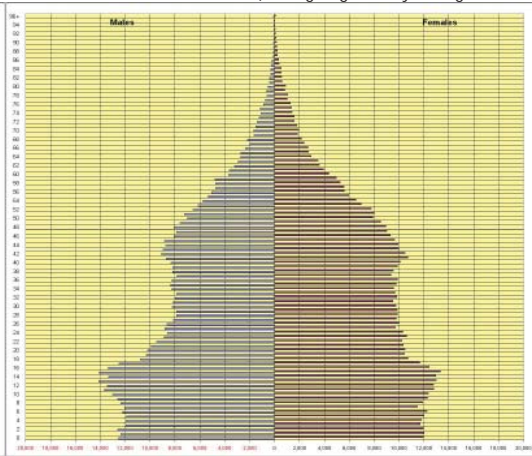
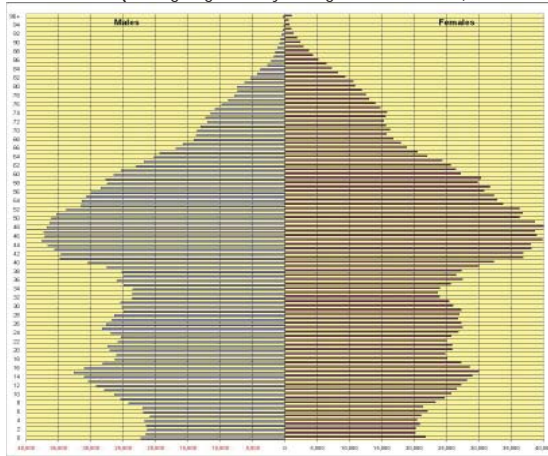
Source: PCH Table M033-2, Statistics Canada, Census of Population 2006,

* = Includes single and multiple origins

CHARTS A-4A TO A-4E: AGE-SEX POPULATION PYRAMIDS OF SELECTED ETHNIC GROUPS*, TOTAL POPULATION, CANADA 2006

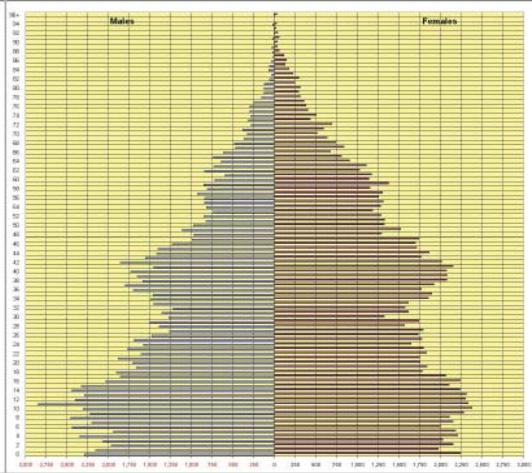
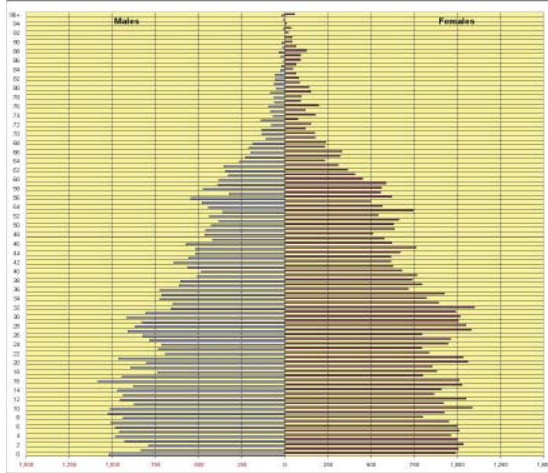
Canadian (average age=39.1 years, gender ratio=1.06)

North American Indian (average age 29.1 years, gender ratio=1.07)



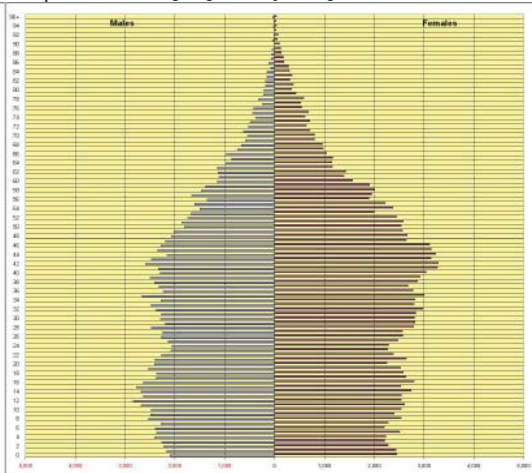
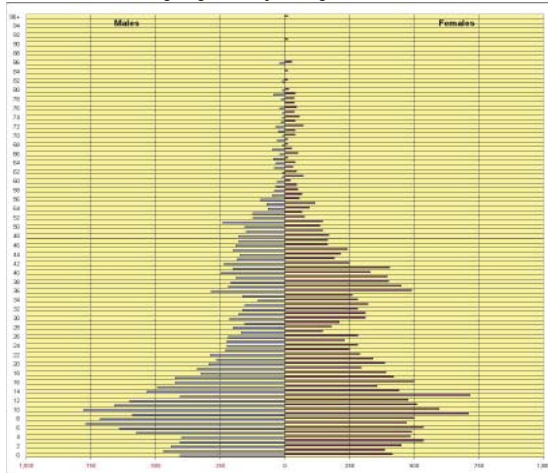
Haitian (average age=30.0 years, gender ratio=1.16)

Jamaican (average age=30.7 years, gender ratio=1.17)



Somalian (average age=23.3 years, gender ratio=1.09)

Spanish (average age=33.5 years, gender ratio=1.18)



Source: PCH Table MM012, Statistics Canada, Census of Population 2006.

* = Includes single and multiple ethnic origin reporting