

## 2006 Census Housing Series: Issue 21—The Housing Conditions of One-Person Households

### INTRODUCTION

This Research Highlight reviews the growth, characteristics and housing conditions of one-person households<sup>1</sup> and their incidence of core housing need using data from the 2006 and earlier censuses. Housing conditions are assessed using CMHC's measures of acceptable housing and core housing need (see Acceptable Housing and Core Housing Need text box). The universe of households tested for core housing need includes only private non-farm, non-band, non-reserve households with incomes greater than zero and shelter cost-to-income ratios (STIRs) less than 100%. Shelter costs for farm households are not separable from costs related to other farm structures. Shelter costs are not collected for households whose housing costs are paid through band housing arrangements (both on- and off-reserve). Additionally, STIRs for households with income less than or equal to zero, and STIRs that are equal to or greater than 100% are considered uninterpretable by CMHC for the purpose of measuring affordability.

The 2006 Census identified 12.4 million households in Canada, of which 11.8 million were private non-farm, non-band households reporting positive incomes and with STIRs of less than 100%. Among the 11.8 million such households, 3.1 million were one-person households. This Research Highlight examines the housing conditions of these one-person households.

### Acceptable Housing and Core Housing Need

The term acceptable housing refers to housing that is adequate in condition, suitable in size, and affordable.

- **Adequate** housing does not require any major repairs, according to residents.
- **Suitable** housing has enough bedrooms for the size and makeup of resident households, according to National Occupancy Standard (NOS) requirements. Enough bedrooms based on NOS requirements means one bedroom for each cohabiting adult couple; unattached household member 18 years of age and over; same-sex pair of children under age 18; and additional boy or girl in the family, unless there are two opposite sex children under 5 years of age, in which case they are expected to share a bedroom. A household of one individual can occupy a bachelor unit (that is, a unit with no bedroom).
- **Affordable** housing costs less than 30% of before-tax household income. For renters, shelter costs include rent and any payments for electricity, fuel, water and other municipal services. For owners, shelter costs include mortgage payments (principal and interest), property taxes, and any condominium fees, along with payments for electricity, fuel, water and other municipal services.

A household is in core housing need if its housing does not meet one or more of the adequacy, suitability or affordability standards and it would have to spend 30% or more of its before-tax income to pay the median rent of alternative local market housing that meets all three standards.

<sup>1</sup> According to Statistics Canada's 2006 Census Dictionary, a household comprises a person or a group of persons who occupy the same dwelling and do not have a usual place of residence elsewhere in Canada.

## FINDINGS

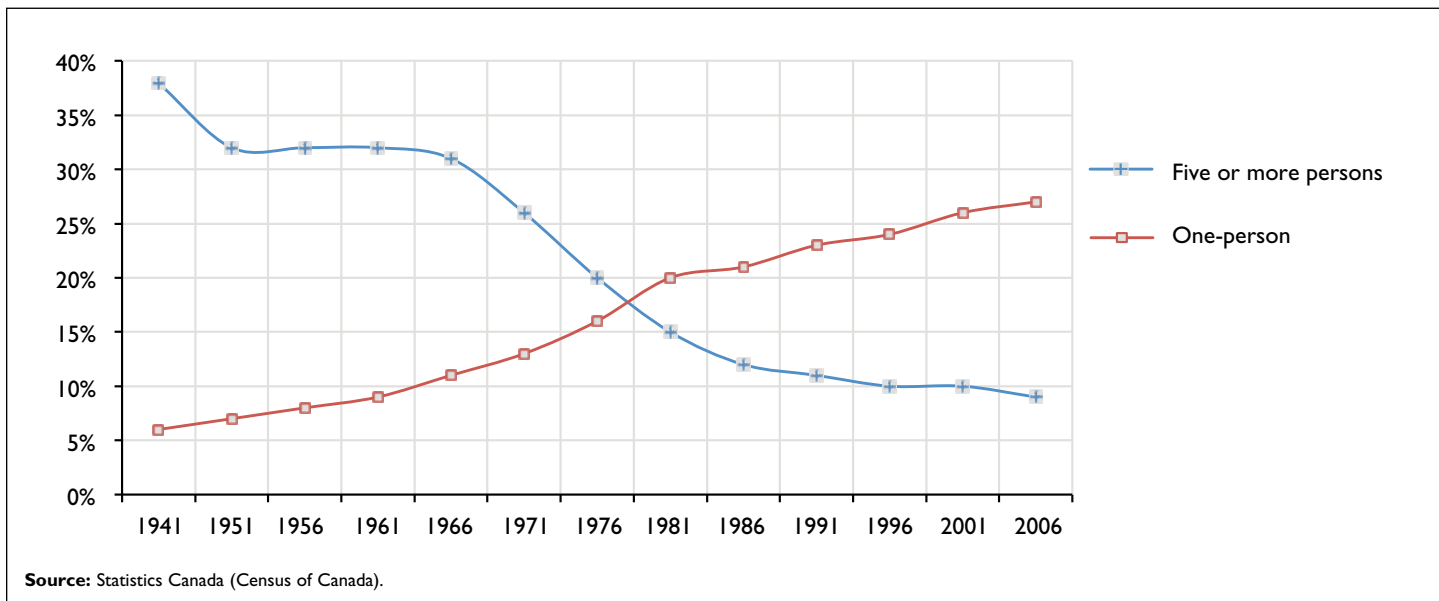
### I. Growth of one-person households<sup>2</sup>

The percentage of one-person households in Canada has been increasing since at least the Second World War. In 1941, the Census found that 6% of private households were one-person households, while 38% were five or more person households. The proportion of one-person households increased from 6% in 1941 to 20% in 1981 and to 27% in 2006,<sup>3</sup> while the proportion of households with five or more persons dropped from 38% in 1941 to 9% in 2006 (see figure 1). Between 2001 and 2006, the number of one-person households increased by 12%, whereas, the number of private households overall grew only 8%.<sup>4</sup> These changes in household size may impact housing choices as smaller households generally require fewer bedrooms.

### Growth in one-person households higher for non-seniors than for seniors – in contrast to the pattern for households as a whole

In 2006, there were 3.3 million one-person private households in Canada, compared to 2.6 million ten years earlier (see table 1), an increase of about 27%. During the same time period, the number of households as a whole grew by 15%. Just over half of one-person households were women (55%), but the number of men living alone increased faster than the number of women over the ten year period—by 30% compared to 24% for women.

In 2006, two thirds of one-person households were Non-senior households (that is, below the age of 65). Between 1996 and 2006, the number of Non-senior one-person households grew more quickly (at about 30%) than senior (that is, 65 years and older) one-person households at about 21%. The higher growth in Non-senior one-person households is in contrast to the pattern for households as a whole, where the number of senior households grew more quickly (at about 22%) than the number of Non-senior households (at about 13%).<sup>5</sup>



**Figure 1** Percentage share of one-person and five or more person households, Canada, 1941-2006

<sup>2</sup> This section discusses all private households in Canada including farm and band households and all income and STIR ratios.

<sup>3</sup> Other countries are also experiencing similar shifts in the proportion of one-person households. For example, in 2006, the United States had the same proportion as Canada (27%). Norway (39%), France (33%) and the United Kingdom (29%) had higher proportions than Canada. Australia (21%) had a lower proportion than Canada (Source: Milan, Anne, Mireille Vézina and Carrie Wells. *Family Portrait: Continuity and Change in Canadian Families and Households in 2006*, 2006 Census; 2007, Statistics Canada, pp. 16-19).

<sup>4</sup> See *Canadian Housing Observer 2012*, data tables: Households by type and tenure, 1971-2006, Canada, available on the CMHC website at: [http://www.cmhc.ca/en/corp/about/cahoob/data/data\\_010.cfm](http://www.cmhc.ca/en/corp/about/cahoob/data/data_010.cfm).

<sup>5</sup> Population data from the censuses show that the number of seniors increased by 23% between 1996 and 2006 while the number of non-seniors increased by only 8% during the same time period.

**Table 1** One-person households\* – number, share and growth, Canada, 1996-2006.

	Number of Households		% Share of all Households 2006	% Share of One-person Households 2006	% Change in Number of Households Since 1996
	1996	2006			
All households	10,820,050	12,437,470	100	-	15
One-person households	2,622,180	3,327,045	27	100	27
Male one-person households	1,137,990	1,481,765	12	45	30
Female one-person households	1,484,190	1,845,280	15	55	24
Non-senior one-person households	1,688,510	2,198,370	18	66	30
Non-senior men living alone	912,570	1,179,670	9	35	29
Non-senior women living alone	775,935	1,018,695	8	31	31
Senior one-person households	933,670	1,128,665	9	34	21
Senior men living alone	225,420	302,100	2	9	34
Senior women living alone	708,250	826,560	7	25	17

Figures may not add due to rounding.  
\* Includes all private households in Canada including farm and band households and all income and STIR ratios.  
**Source:** CMHC, adapted from Statistics Canada (Census of Canada).

Increased longevity is likely a factor affecting the number of senior one-person households. On the one hand, increased longevity for men<sup>6</sup> could mean that more seniors live in couple households and this would have a lowering effect on the number of one-person senior households. On the other hand, increased longevity for women could mean that they have a higher likelihood of outliving their spouses and spend longer living alone. Another contributing factor is divorce or separation occurring among senior couples.

Within the Non-senior one-person households group, there were more male households (at about 54%) than female households (at about 46%). However, within the senior one-person households group, women were overwhelmingly dominant (at about 73%). Although only 9% of all one-person households in Canada were senior men, this group grew the fastest between 1996 and 2006 (by 34%). The slowest-growth group was senior women living alone where the number of these households increased by 17% during the same period.

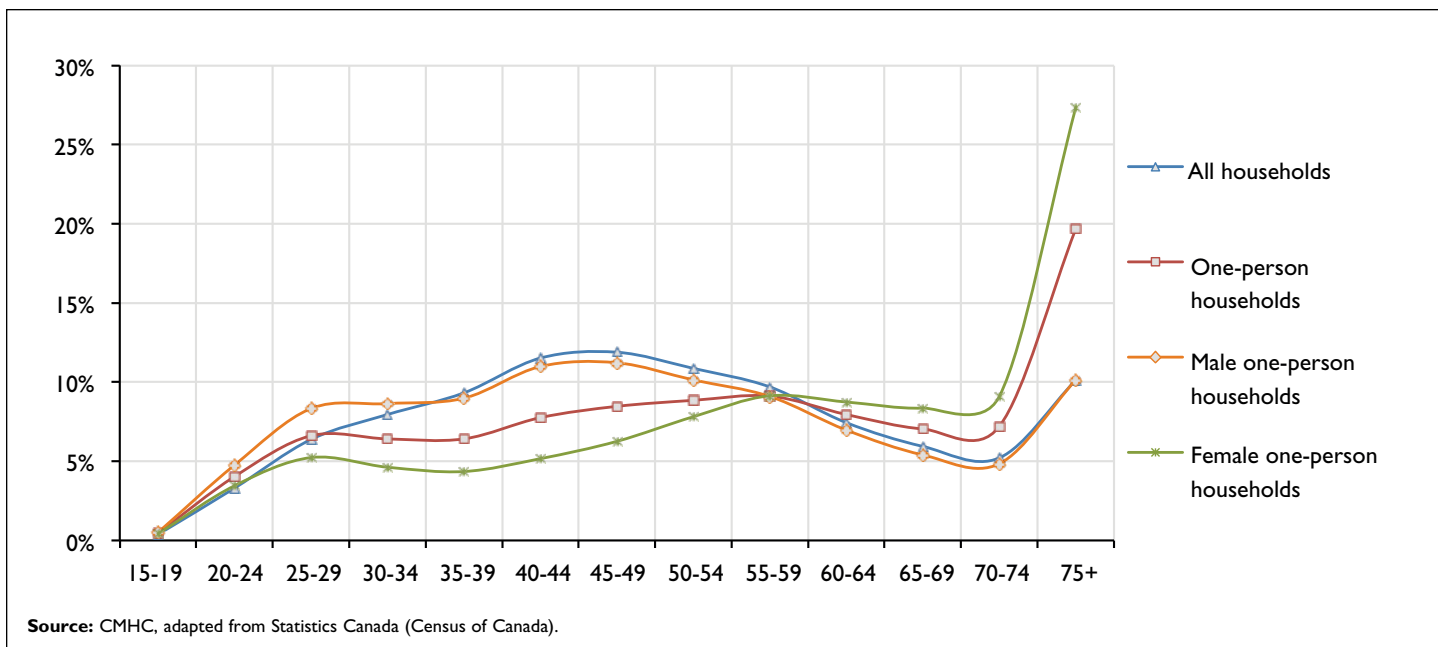
## 2. Characteristics of one-person households

### Age distribution of households differs between men and women living alone

In 2006, households as a whole and male one-person households had similar age distributions (see figure 2). For these households, the four five-year age groups encompassing ages 40 to 59 accounted for 44% of all households and 41% of male one-person households. In contrast, only 28.4% of female one-person households were in this category; their distribution was more weighted to older households – more than one quarter of female one person households were aged 75 years or older, reflecting the longer life expectancy of women.

In terms of household growth between 1996 and 2006, the largest percentage increase in the number of households occurred in the 55 to 59 age group (see figure 3 and appendix A). In this age group, the number of all households increased during these years by about 63%, male one-person households by 100% and female one-person households by 82%. During the same period, the largest decline in

<sup>6</sup> Women have “a higher life expectancy than men (82.5 years compared with 77.7 years in 2004). However, the life expectancy gap between the sexes, which was 4.8 years in 2004, has been narrowing since the late 1970s.” (Source: Statistics Canada. *Portrait of the Canadian Population in 2006, by Age and Sex*, 2006 Census; July 2007.)



**Figure 2** Distribution of one-person households, by sex and age group, Canada, 2006

the number of households for all households and for male one-person households was in the 30 to 34 age group (-19% and -13% respectively). Female one-person households aged 30 to 34 also declined (by 3%), but for female one-person households, the largest decline was in the 70 to 74 age group (-6%).

The growth of one-person households (both male and female) from 1996 to 2006 was above that of households as a whole<sup>7</sup> for every age group except females aged 65 or older. Below the age of 40, the growth of female one-person households was a little higher than that of male one-person households. Starting at age 40, male one-person households increased faster than female one-person households.

**Average household income lower for senior women living alone than for senior men living alone**

The average household income for senior women living alone in 2006 was \$28,400; however, almost half had incomes between \$10,000 and \$19,999 (see figure 4). A smaller proportion (about 37%) of senior men living alone had incomes between \$10,000 and \$19,999, and their average income was somewhat higher, at \$35,300. For Non-senior one-person households, incomes were more evenly distributed; the peaks were not as pronounced and, for men at least, occurred in a higher income range

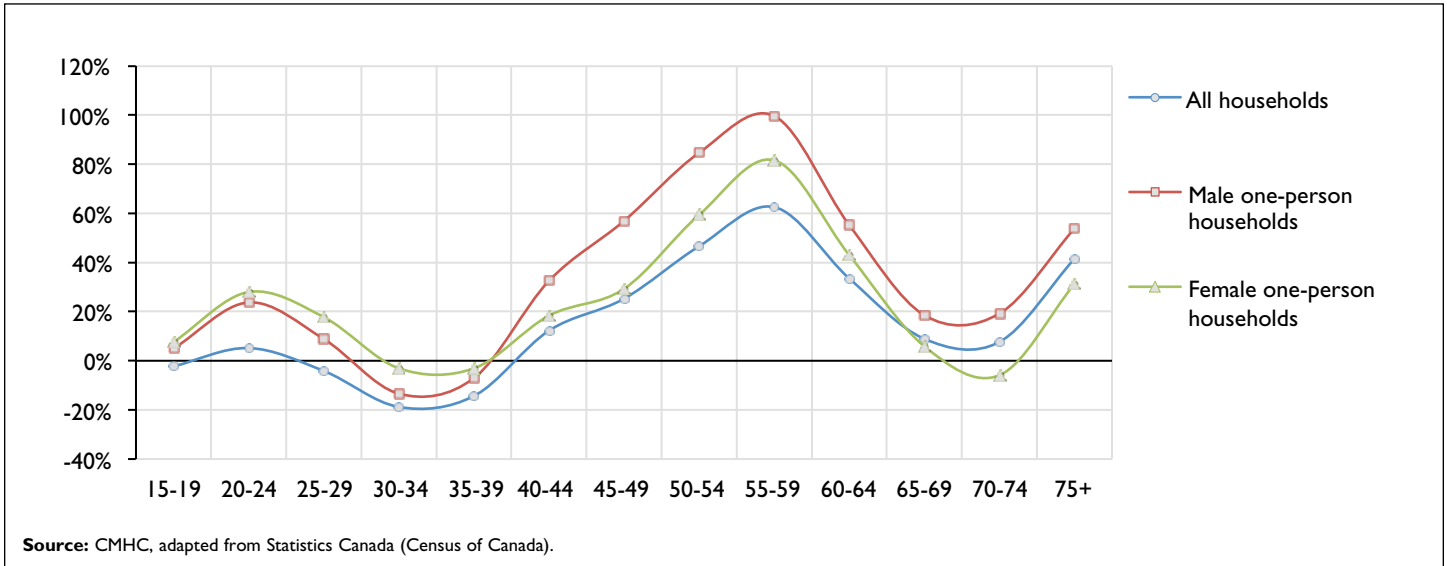
(\$50,000 to \$74,999). One fifth (20%) of Non-senior men living alone were in this income range as were 17% of Non-senior women. About 10% of Non-senior one-person households were in the “less than \$10,000” group.

**3. Housing choices of one-person households**

**Homeownership increasing, but renting still more common, for one-person households**

Between 1996 and 2006, the homeownership rate for one-person households increased by almost eight percentage points from 40% to 48%. In comparison, during the same period, the rate of homeownership for households as a whole rose by about five percentage points, to 68%. The increase in the ownership rate for one-person households was slightly higher for men living alone than for women living alone (see table 2). The overall homeownership rate was higher for women living alone than for men, although it was higher only for the age groups 55 to 64 years and 65 to 74 years (see appendix B) which are the age groups that account for the highest proportions of women (but not of men). Senior one-person households are more likely to own a home than Non-senior one-person households. In 2006, about 56% of all senior one-person households owned a home, compared to 44% of Non-senior one-person households.

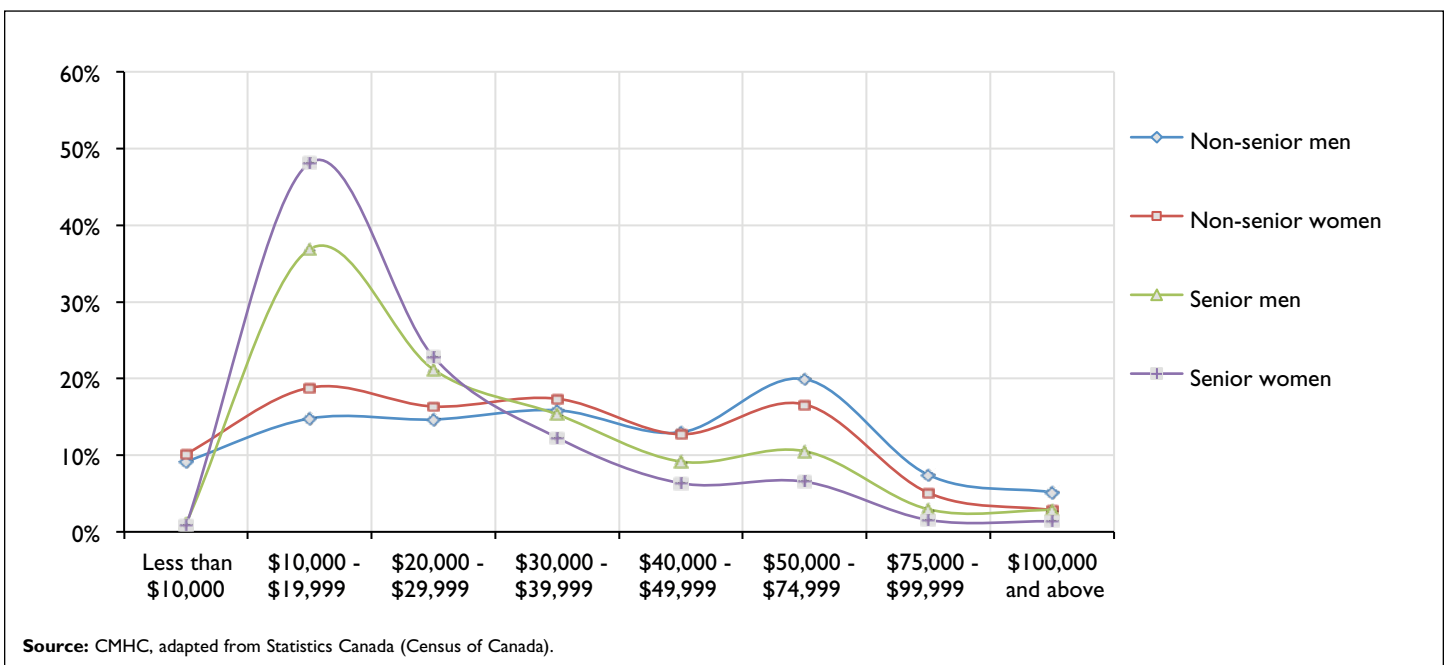
<sup>7</sup> That is, percentage increases were higher and percentage decreases were less severe.



**Figure 3** Percentage change in age distribution of one-person households, by sex, Canada, 1996-2006

In 2006, condominiums were a popular dwelling choice among one-person owner households. Of the 915,725 households that resided in an owner-occupied condominium in Canada, about 41% (or 378,625) were one-person households (see table 3). Non-senior one-person households accounted for the bulk (about 27 percentage points) of the 41%. Senior women living alone accounted for most of the rest (at 12 percentage points). Despite the

growth in homeownership among one-person households, more of these households lived in rented dwellings than households as a whole. In 2006, 52% of one-person households rented their dwellings compared to about 32% of households as a whole. A higher percentage of Non-senior one-person households (56%) lived in rented dwellings, than of senior one-person households (44%) (See appendix B).



**Figure 4** Distribution of one-person households by total household income, by age and sex, Canada, 2006

**Table 2** Homeownership rates of one-person households,\* by sex, Canada, 1996-2006

	% 1996	% 2001	% 2006	Percentage Point Change 1996–2006
All households	63.6	65.8	68.4	4.9
One-person households	40.1	43.9	47.8	7.7
Male one-person households	38.5	42.4	46.7	8.2
Female one-person households	41.3	45.1	48.7	7.4
All senior one-person households	50.7	54.4	55.6	4.9
Senior male one-person households	55.3	57.8	58.4	3.1
Senior female one-person households	49.3	53.2	54.6	5.3
Non-senior one-person households	34.2	38.4	43.8	9.6

\* Includes all private households in Canada including farm and band households and all income and STIR ratios.  
**Source:** CMHC, adapted from Statistics Canada (Census of Canada).

### Senior men living alone more likely to occupy houses

In 2006, two thirds of Canadian households lived in either detached or attached houses, while one third occupied apartments (see figure 5). This pattern was reversed for one-person households where the majority (at 57%) lived in apartments. Of the four types of one-person households discussed in this Highlight, only senior men living alone had a majority (at 52%) occupying houses. About 54% of senior women living alone lived in apartments in 2006.

### 4. Core housing need in one-person households<sup>8</sup>

One-person households experienced a relatively high incidence of core housing need but the incidence decreased between 1996 and 2006

The incidence of core housing need (see Acceptable Housing and Core Housing Need text box) for one-person households in 2006 was 22.3%, compared to 12.7% for all households. Non-senior one-person households (both men and women) and senior men living alone had incidences of core housing need below the one-person household average, but still above the all-household average. At 28.4%, senior women living alone exceeded the one-person household average, having the highest incidence of core housing need of the four categories of one-person households discussed in this Highlight (see table 4).

**Table 3** Distribution of condominium ownership by one-person households,\* by age and sex, Canada, 2006

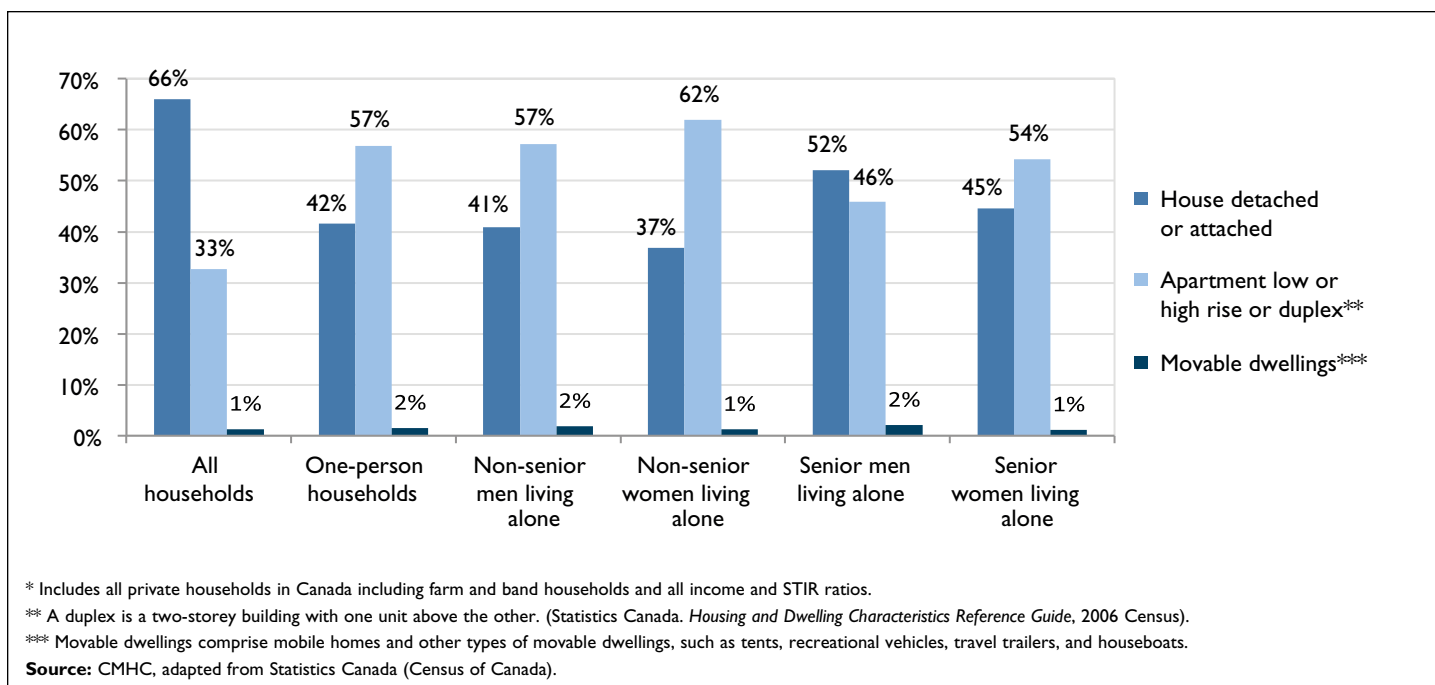
	Owner-occupied Condominiums	% Share of all Households
All households	915,725	100
All one-person households	378,625	41.3
Non-senior one-person households	243,265	26.6
Senior one-person households	135,360	14.8
Senior men living alone	25,455	2.8
Senior women living alone	109,905	12.0

Figures may not add due to rounding.  
 \* Includes all private households in Canada including farm and band households and all income and STIR ratios.  
**Source:** CMHC, adapted from Statistics Canada (Census of Canada).

Between 1996 and 2006, the incidence of core housing need for one-person households decreased. The decrease was about 5 percentage points for each of the one-person household categories, compared to about 3 percentage points for households as a whole.

<sup>8</sup> This section discusses private non-farm, non-band, non-reserve households with incomes greater than zero and STIRs less than 100%.





**Figure 5** Distribution of one-person households\* by dwelling type, by age and sex, Canada, 2006

Despite the decline in the incidences of core housing need, the number of one-person households in core housing need increased between 1996 and 2006 for all categories except senior women living alone, reflecting changes in the total number of households in these categories (see figure 6).

**Table 4** Incidence of core housing need for one-person households,\* by age and sex, Canada, 1996-2006

	Incidence of Core Housing Need (%)			Percentage Point Change 1996-2006
	1996	2001	2006	
All households	15.6	13.7	12.7	-2.9
One-person households	27.5	25.1	22.3	-5.2
Non-senior men living alone	23.7	19.9	18.8	-4.9
Non-senior women living alone	26.5	23.9	21.7	-4.8
Senior men living alone	25.5	24.0	20.4	-5.1
Senior women living alone	33.5	32.9	28.4	-5.1

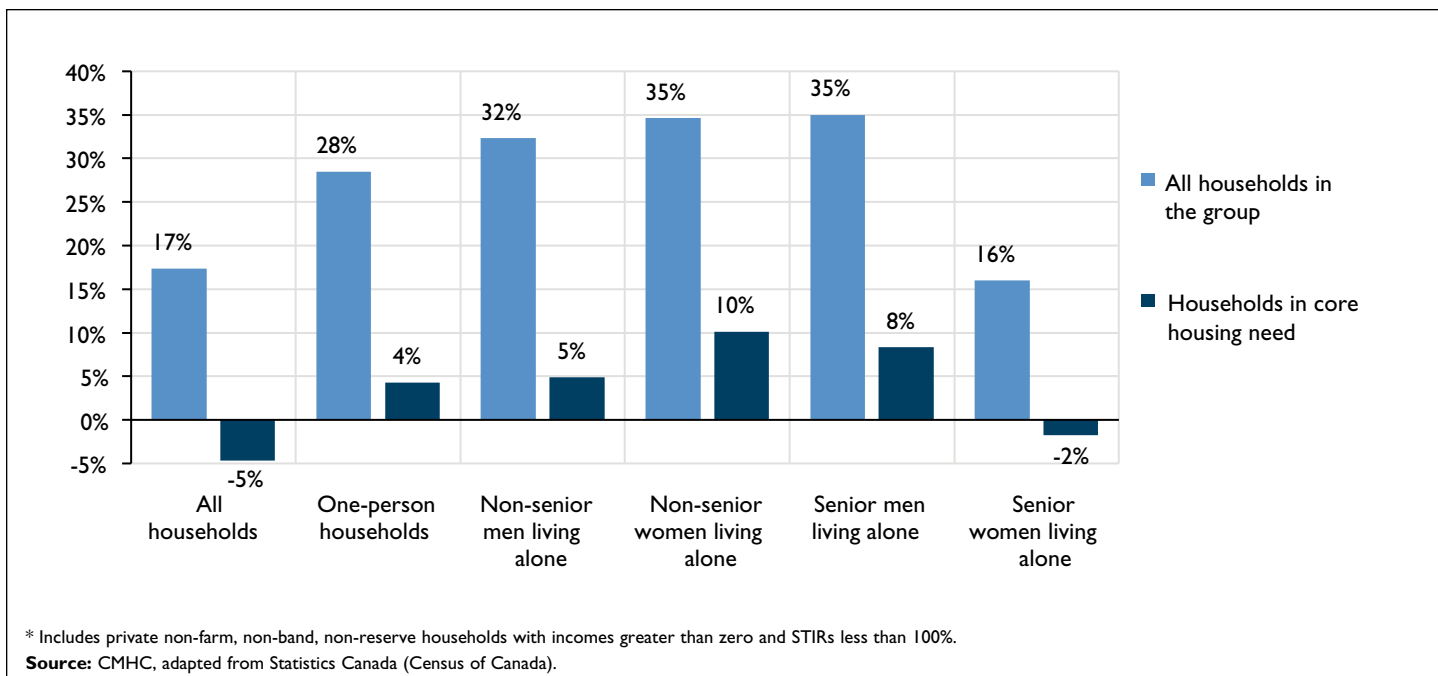
\* Includes private non-farm, non-band, non-reserve households with incomes greater than zero and STIRs less than 100%.  
 Source: CMHC (Census-based housing indicators data).

Of the 1.5 million households in core housing need in Canada in 2006, about 46% (or 681,835) were one-person households.

Senior women living alone accounted for the highest share, at 33%, of all one-person households in core housing need; senior men living alone accounted for the lowest share, at 9% (see figure 7).

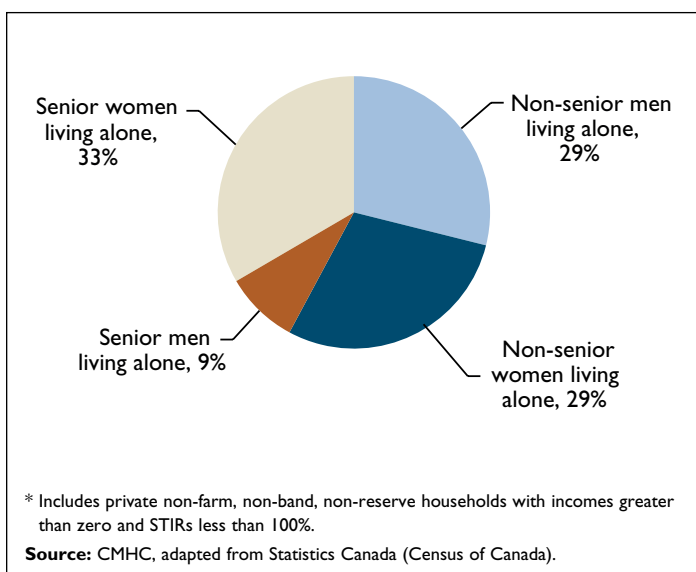
**One-person households in core housing need are most likely to live in unaffordable housing**

For one-person households, as with all Canadian households, not meeting the affordability standard is a far more common reason for being in core housing need than housing that is unsuitable (that is, crowded) or inadequate (that is, in need of major repairs). About 21.4% of one-person households were in core housing need and failed to meet the affordability standard (either alone or in combination with another standard), while about 2.9% of one-person households were in core housing need because of not meeting the adequacy standard (see table 5). One-person households are not affected by suitability problems. An affordability problem was more prominent among renter one-person households in core housing need (at about 30.6%) than owner one-person households in core housing need



**Figure 6** Percentage change in the total number of one-person households\* vs. those in core housing need, by age and sex, Canada, 1996-2006

(at about 11.6%). However, the proportion of one-person renter households in core housing need in inadequate housing was smaller (at about 3.3%) than that of all Canadian renter households in core housing need in inadequate housing (at about 3.7%).



**Figure 7** Percentage shares of one-person households\* in core housing need, by age and sex, Canada, 2006

**Incidences of core housing need ranged across provinces and territories**

The incidence of core housing need for one-person households varied among provinces and territories, from 17.2% in Manitoba to 31.3% in Newfoundland and Labrador, compared to the Canada average of 22.3% (see figure 8 and appendix C). For Non-senior men living alone the range was from a low of 13.5% in Alberta to a high of 28.4% in Newfoundland and Labrador. Non-senior women had the highest incidence of all groups at 35.9% in Newfoundland and Labrador. Senior men living alone had the lowest incidence of all groups at 12.1% in Manitoba, while for senior women living alone, the range was from 16% in Manitoba to 34.7% in Ontario.

In terms of the provincial/territorial distribution of one-person households in core housing need, the territories showed a different pattern from the provinces (see figure 9). In the territories, one-person households in core housing need were more likely to be Non-senior men. In Yukon, 73% of those in core housing need who lived alone were Non-senior and 53% were men. In the Northwest Territories, 83% were Non-senior and 58% were men. And in Nunavut, 96% were Non-senior and 65% were men.



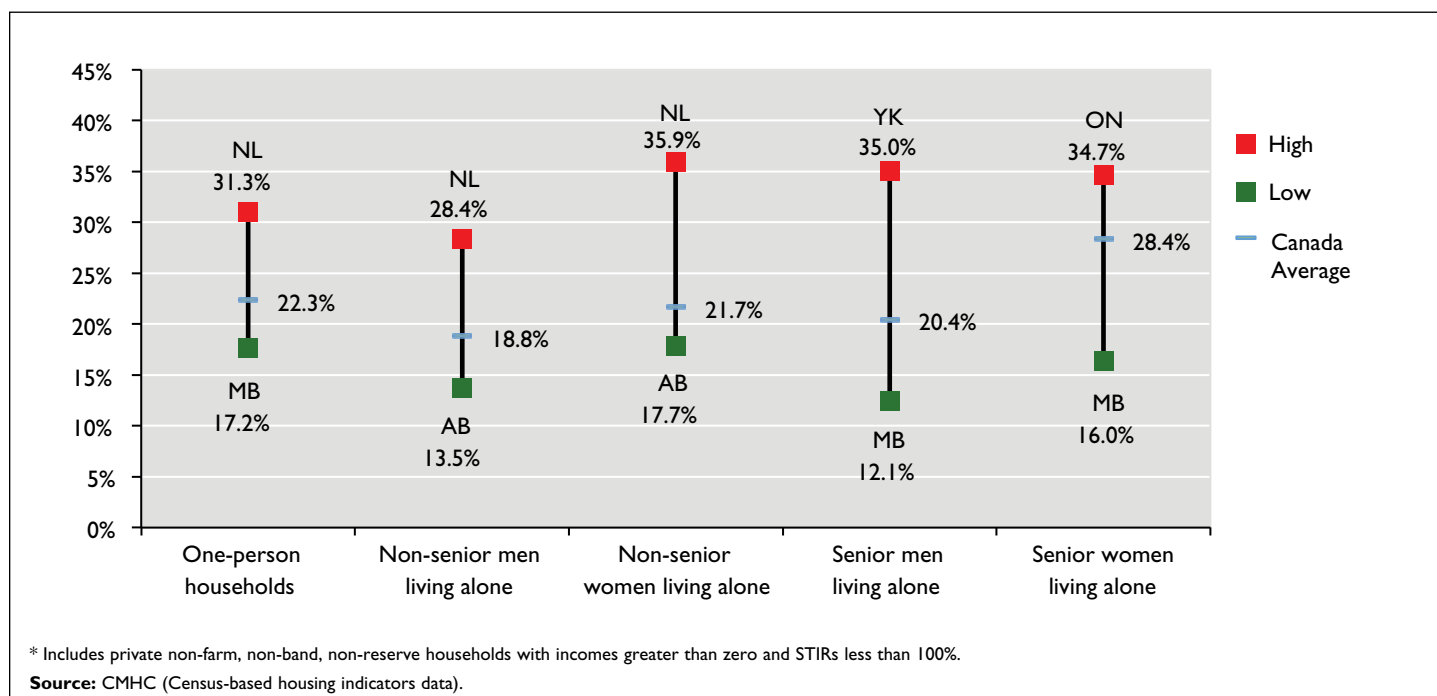
**Table 5** Housing conditions of one-person households and all households,\* Canada, 2006

	All Households (%)			Households in Core Housing Need (%)		
	Total	Owner	Renter	Total	Owner	Renter
<b>One-person households in Canada</b>						
Below housing standards (Total)	40.8	31.3	49.7	22.3	12.8	31.3
Below affordability+	36.4	26.2	46.0	21.4	11.6	30.6
Below suitability+	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Below adequacy+	7.4	7.5	7.3	2.9	2.5	3.3
Above housing standards	59.2	68.7	50.3	n/a	n/a	n/a
<b>All households in Canada</b>						
Below housing standards (Total)	30.5	22.7	48.2	12.7	6.3	27.2
Below affordability+	21.4	15.2	35.4	11.4	5.5	24.6
Below suitability+	6.0	3.7	11.2	1.9	0.6	4.9
Below adequacy+	7.1	6.1	9.5	1.9	1.1	3.7
Above housing standards	69.5	77.3	51.8	n/a	n/a	n/a

\* Includes private non-farm, non-band, off-reserve households reporting positive incomes and with shelter cost-to-income ratios (STIRs) less than 100%.

+ Alone or in combination with other standards. Numbers will add to more than the total since a household can be below more than one standard.

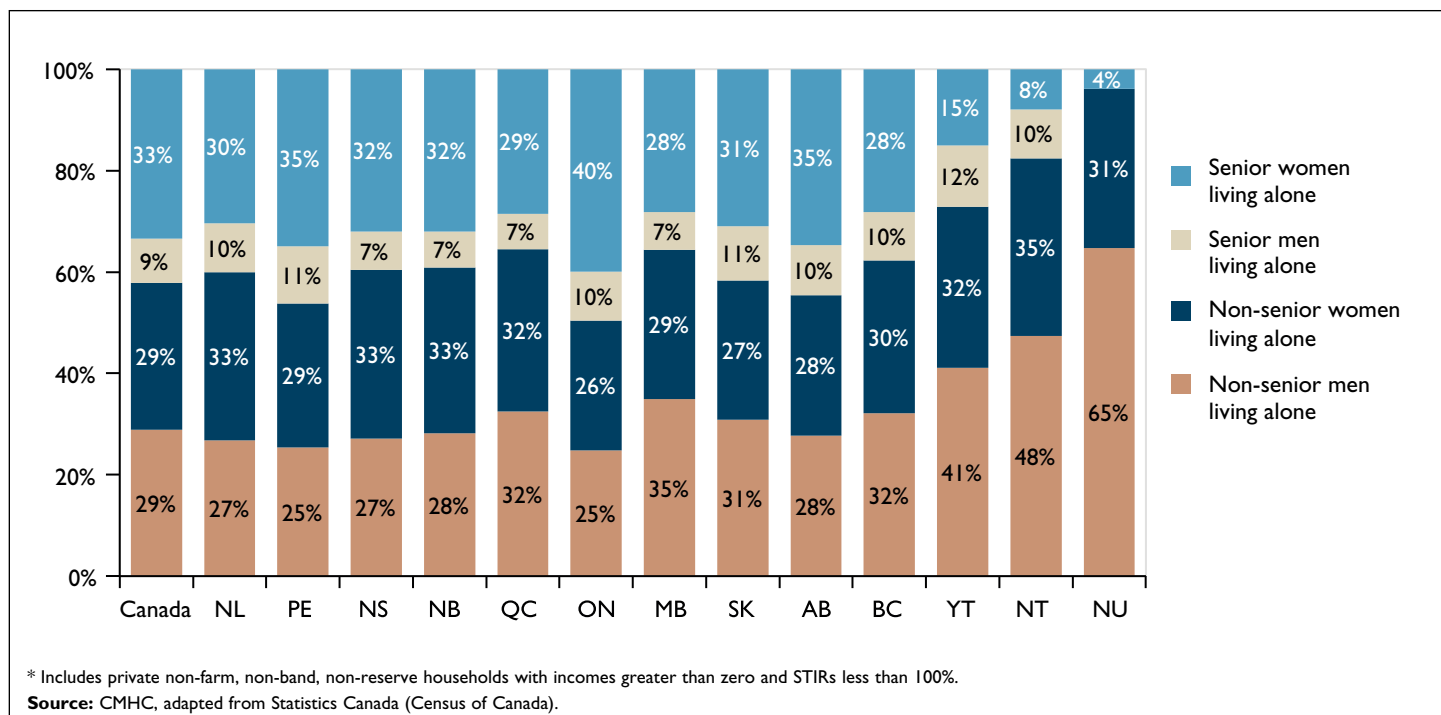
Source: CMHC (Census-based housing indicators data).



\* Includes private non-farm, non-band, non-reserve households with incomes greater than zero and STIRs less than 100%.

Source: CMHC (Census-based housing indicators data).

**Figure 8** Range of incidences of core housing need among one-person households,\* by age and sex, Canada, provinces and territories, 2006



**Figure 9** Percentage shares of one-person households\* in core housing need, by age and sex, Canada, 2006

In the provinces, there was about an even split between senior and Non-senior one-person households in core housing need in Ontario. Quebec had the highest disproportion between seniors and non-seniors: 36% seniors and 64% non-seniors. Nova Scotia had the lowest share of men who live alone in core housing need, at 34%. Manitoba, Saskatchewan and British Columbia each had the highest share of men who live alone in core housing need, at 42%.

In 2006, St. John’s (at 29.3%) experienced the highest incidence of core housing need for one-person households among census metropolitan areas (CMAs) and Winnipeg (at 15.6%) the lowest (see figure 10 and appendix D).

**Average income of one-person households in core housing need was less than half that of those not in core housing need**

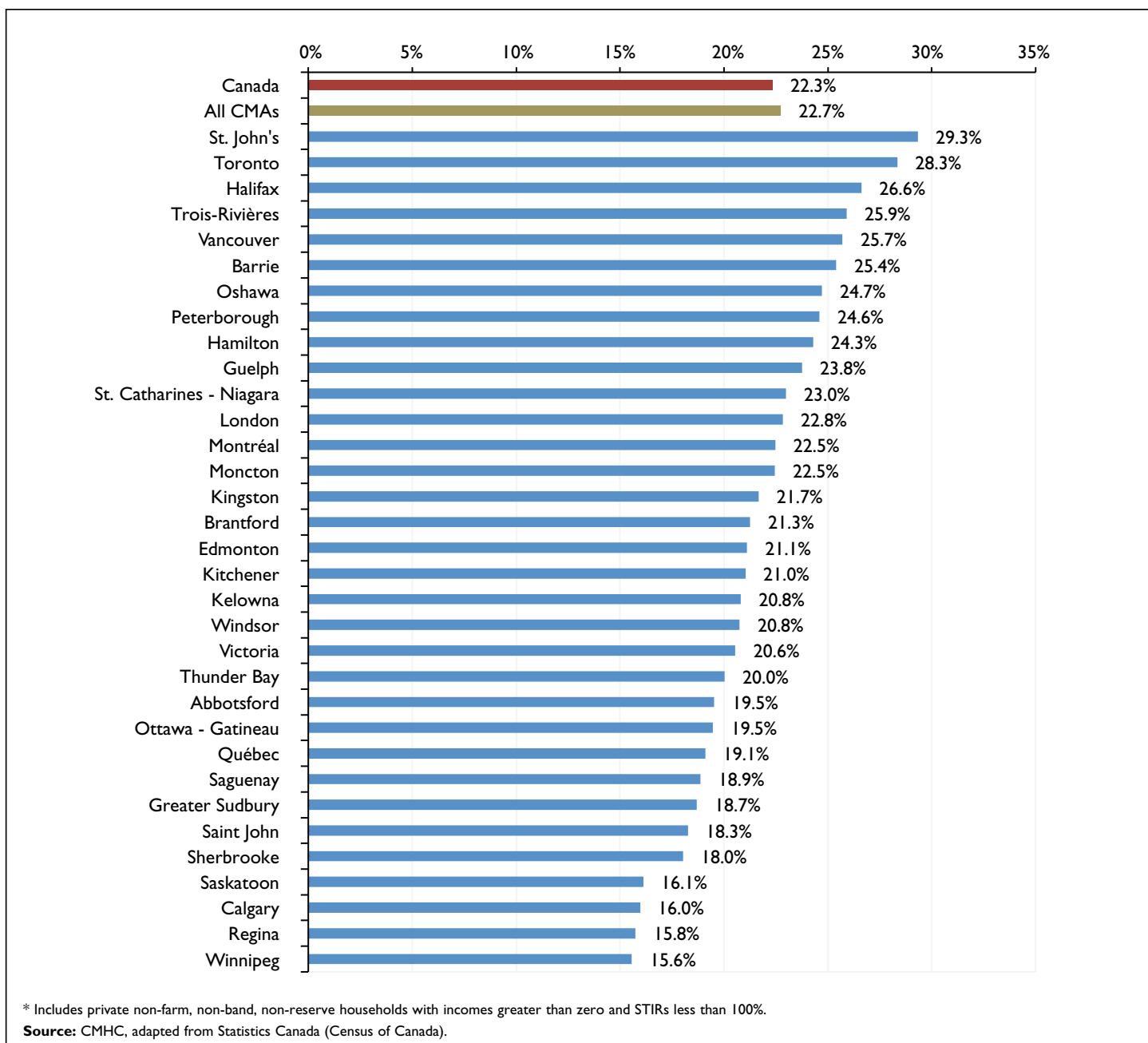
In 2006, the average household income before tax for one-person households in core housing need was about \$14,300, compared to \$44,700 for those not in core housing need (see table 6). Senior one-person households in core housing

need had average incomes of \$16,400 for men and \$16,200 for women. For those one-person households in core housing need, average income increased between 2001 and 2006 by 12.3% for senior men and 12.5% for senior women; the increase was lower for Non-senior men (at 9.4%) and women (at 8.3%) living alone. At \$12,800 and \$13,000, respectively, the average incomes of Non-senior men and women living alone were lower than their senior counterparts.

Shelter is the largest expense for one-person households in core housing need, as they spent an average of 51% of their household income on shelter, compared to 23% for their counterparts not in core housing need (see table 7). Among one-person households in core housing need, Non-senior households (both men and women) spent a higher percentage (55% each) on shelter than senior men and women living alone (at 44% and 46%, respectively).<sup>9</sup>

In 2006, average monthly shelter costs for senior one-person households in core housing need (\$600 for men and \$620 for women) were more than the average for all one-person households in core housing need, at \$580. Shelter costs for

<sup>9</sup> A higher percentage of seniors live in subsidized rental units where rents may be calculated based on income. In urban areas in 2008, 13% of senior men living alone and 18% of senior women living alone had subsidized rent; lower percentages of non-senior one-person households had subsidized rent (7% for men and 11% for women), based on data from the Survey of Labour and Income Dynamics.



**Figure 10** Incidence of core housing need among one-person households,\* Canada, CMAAs, 2006

non-seniors in core housing need were lower at \$560 per month for men and \$570 for women. Between 2001 and 2006, shelter costs for all one-person households in core housing need increased by about 14%, while their incomes increased by about 16% on average. During the same period, shelter costs for both senior men and women living alone and not in core housing need increased at roughly the same rate (at about 29%).

Average shelter cost-to-income ratios (STIRs) for one-person households in core housing need increased by two percentage points between 2001 and 2006; that for senior men living alone remained unchanged.

**Table 6** Income levels of one-person households,\* by age and sex, Canada, 2001 and 2006

	Average Household Income Before Taxes (\$)					
	Not in Core Housing Need			In Core Housing Need		
	2001	2006	% change	2001	2006	% change
All households	67,900	80,000	17.8	17,400	20,000	14.9
One-person households **	38,400	44,700	16.4	13,000	14,300	10.0
Non-senior men living alone	46,400	53,200	14.7	11,700	12,800	9.4
Non-senior women living alone	39,700	45,300	14.1	12,000	13,000	8.3
Senior men living alone	33,100	40,200	21.5	14,600	16,400	12.3
Senior women living alone	27,300	33,200	21.6	14,400	16,200	12.5

\* Includes all private households in Canada including farm and band households and all income and STIR ratios.  
 \*\* Household income for one-person households is lower on average than for households as a whole because larger households have the possibility of having two or more income recipients and may also receive government transfers (for example, the Child Tax Credit) for any children in the household.  
**Source:** CMHC (Census-based housing indicators data).

**Table 7** Shelter cost and STIR for one-person households,\* by age and sex, Canada, 2001 and 2006

	Average Monthly Shelter Cost (\$)						Average Shelter Cost-To-Income Ratio (STIR) (%)			
	Not in Core Housing Need			In Core Housing Need			Not in Core Housing Need		In Core Housing Need	
	2001	2006	% change	2001	2006	% change	2001	2006	2001	2006
All households	780	930	19.2	640	760	18.8	17	18	48	49
One-person households	570	690	21.1	510	580	13.7	21	23	49	51
Non-senior men	660	780	18.2	490	560	14.3	20	22	53	55
Non-senior women	640	750	17.2	500	570	14.0	22	24	53	55
Senior men	420	540	28.6	530	600	13.2	19	20	44	44
Senior women	420	540	28.6	540	620	14.8	21	23	45	46

\* Includes all private households in Canada including farm and band households and all income and STIR ratios.  
**Source:** CMHC (Census-based housing indicators data).

**Appendix Table A** Distribution of all households by age group, and one-person households,\* by age group and sex, Canada, 1996-2006

	Number of Households			% Share of Households			% Change in Number of Households 1996-2006
	1996	2001	2006	1996	2001	2006	
<b>All households</b>							
<b>Total</b>	<b>10,820,050</b>	<b>11,562,975</b>	<b>12,437,470</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>14.9</b>
<b>Non-senior</b>	<b>8,649,935</b>	<b>9,156,210</b>	<b>9,791,370</b>	<b>79.9</b>	<b>79.2</b>	<b>78.7</b>	<b>13.2</b>
15 to 19 years	47,000	46,170	45,960	0.4	0.4	0.4	-2.2
20 to 24 years	390,465	400,995	410,660	3.6	3.5	3.3	5.2
25 to 29 years	827,300	769,075	793,260	7.6	6.7	6.4	-4.1
30 to 34 years	1,217,910	1,022,950	989,010	11.3	8.8	8.0	-18.8
35 to 39 years	1,353,800	1,329,755	1,159,345	12.5	11.5	9.3	-14.4
40 to 44 years	1,276,370	1,417,860	1,432,540	11.8	12.3	11.5	12.2
45 to 49 years	1,180,455	1,317,070	1,478,360	10.9	11.4	11.9	25.2
50 to 54 years	921,910	1,192,555	1,351,415	8.5	10.3	10.9	46.6
55 to 59 years	741,740	919,660	1,205,715	6.9	8.0	9.7	62.6
60 to 64 years	692,985	740,120	925,105	6.4	6.4	7.4	33.5
<b>Senior</b>	<b>2,170,110</b>	<b>2,406,765</b>	<b>2,646,090</b>	<b>20.1</b>	<b>20.8</b>	<b>21.3</b>	<b>21.9</b>
65 to 69 years	678,205	690,720	738,785	6.3	6.0	5.9	8.9
70 to 74 years	602,395	634,165	648,500	5.6	5.5	5.2	7.7
75 years and over	889,510	1,081,880	1,258,805	8.2	9.4	10.1	41.5
<b>One-person households</b>							
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,622,180</b>	<b>2,976,875</b>	<b>3,327,045</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>26.9</b>
<b>Non-senior</b>	<b>1,688,500</b>	<b>1,936,855</b>	<b>2,198,370</b>	<b>64.4</b>	<b>65.1</b>	<b>66.1</b>	<b>30.2</b>
15 to 19 years	14,255	15,215	15,160	0.5	0.5	0.5	6.3
20 to 24 years	106,805	121,210	134,255	4.1	4.1	4.0	25.7
25 to 29 years	195,335	196,010	220,005	7.4	6.6	6.6	12.6
30 to 34 years	235,830	211,040	213,365	9.0	7.1	6.4	-9.5
35 to 39 years	226,110	239,505	213,415	8.6	8.0	6.4	-5.6
40 to 44 years	203,370	244,075	258,100	7.8	8.2	7.8	26.9
45 to 49 years	195,320	240,645	281,750	7.4	8.1	8.5	44.3
50 to 54 years	171,830	245,705	294,390	6.6	8.3	8.8	71.3
55 to 59 years	160,325	221,280	303,330	6.1	7.4	9.1	89.2
60 to 64 years	179,320	202,170	264,600	6.8	6.8	8.0	47.6
<b>Senior</b>	<b>933,670</b>	<b>1,040,015</b>	<b>1,128,665</b>	<b>35.6</b>	<b>34.9</b>	<b>33.9</b>	<b>20.9</b>
65 to 69 years	213,165	217,705	234,310	8.1	7.3	7.0	9.9
70 to 74 years	238,515	243,455	239,565	9.1	8.2	7.2	0.4
75 years and over	481,990	578,855	654,790	18.4	19.4	19.7	35.9

## Research Highlight

2006 Census Housing Series: Issue 21—The Housing Conditions of One-Person Households

**Appendix Table A** Distribution of all households by age group, and one-person households,\* by age group and sex, Canada, 1996-2006 (continued)

	Number of Households			% Share of Households			% Change in Number of Households 1996-2006
	1996	2001	2006	1996	2001	2006	
<b>Male one-person households</b>							
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,137,990</b>	<b>1,306,435</b>	<b>1,481,765</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>30.2</b>
<b>Non-senior</b>	<b>912,565</b>	<b>1,039,605</b>	<b>1,179,670</b>	<b>80.2</b>	<b>79.6</b>	<b>79.6</b>	<b>29.3</b>
15 to 19 years	7,015	7,115	7,365	0.6	0.5	0.5	5.0
20 to 24 years	56,990	63,550	70,515	5.0	4.9	4.8	23.7
25 to 29 years	113,340	111,675	123,420	10.0	8.5	8.3	8.9
30 to 34 years	147,810	129,870	128,025	13.0	9.9	8.6	-13.4
35 to 39 years	143,210	154,425	133,085	12.6	11.8	9.0	-7.1
40 to 44 years	122,845	150,645	162,775	10.8	11.5	11.0	32.5
45 to 49 years	105,975	133,210	166,270	9.3	10.2	11.2	56.9
50 to 54 years	81,360	118,485	150,205	7.1	9.1	10.1	84.6
55 to 59 years	67,490	94,795	134,735	5.9	7.3	9.1	99.6
60 to 64 years	66,530	75,835	103,275	5.8	5.8	7.0	55.2
<b>Senior</b>	<b>225,420</b>	<b>266,815</b>	<b>302,100</b>	<b>19.8</b>	<b>20.4</b>	<b>20.4</b>	<b>34.0</b>
65 to 69 years	67,540	72,825	80,070	5.9	5.6	5.4	18.6
70 to 74 years	60,225	68,345	71,790	5.3	5.2	4.8	19.2
75 years and over	97,655	125,645	150,240	8.6	9.6	10.1	53.8
<b>Female one-person households</b>							
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,484,190</b>	<b>1,670,445</b>	<b>1,845,280</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>24.3</b>
<b>Non-senior</b>	<b>775,935</b>	<b>897,240</b>	<b>1,018,695</b>	<b>52.3</b>	<b>53.7</b>	<b>55.2</b>	<b>31.3</b>
15 to 19 years	7,240	8,105	7,800	0.5	0.5	0.4	7.7
20 to 24 years	49,810	57,665	63,740	3.4	3.5	3.5	28.0
25 to 29 years	81,990	84,335	96,585	5.5	5.0	5.2	17.8
30 to 34 years	88,020	81,170	85,335	5.9	4.9	4.6	-3.1
35 to 39 years	82,900	85,075	80,330	5.6	5.1	4.4	-3.1
40 to 44 years	80,530	93,430	95,325	5.4	5.6	5.2	18.4
45 to 49 years	89,345	107,435	115,475	6.0	6.4	6.3	29.2
50 to 54 years	90,475	127,215	144,185	6.1	7.6	7.8	59.4
55 to 59 years	92,835	126,480	168,595	6.3	7.6	9.1	81.6
60 to 64 years	112,790	126,330	161,325	7.6	7.6	8.7	43.0
<b>Senior</b>	<b>708,250</b>	<b>773,200</b>	<b>826,560</b>	<b>47.7</b>	<b>46.3</b>	<b>44.8</b>	<b>16.7</b>
65 to 69 years	145,630	144,880	154,240	9.8	8.7	8.4	5.9
70 to 74 years	178,285	175,115	167,775	12.0	10.5	9.1	-5.9
75 years and over	384,335	453,205	504,545	25.9	27.1	27.3	31.3

Figures may not add due to rounding.

\* Includes all private households in Canada including farm and band households and all income and STIR ratios.

Source: CMHC (Census-based housing indicators data).

**Appendix Table B** Tenure choices of one-person households,\* by age group and sex, Canada, 2006

Household Type	Age Group	% Renters	% Owners		
		Total	Total	Condominium Owner-Occupants	Non-Condominium Owner-Occupants
All households	All ages	32	68	7	61
	Non-senior	32	68	7	61
	Under 25 years	79	21	5	16
	25 - 34 years	49	52	8	44
	35 - 44 years	30	70	6	64
	45 - 54 years	24	76	7	69
	55 - 64 years	22	78	8	70
	Senior	28	72	10	62
	65 - 74 years	24	75	9	66
	75 years and over	32	68	12	56
All one-person households	All ages	52	48	11	36
	Non-senior	56	44	11	33
	Under 25 years	83	17	6	11
	25 - 34 years	67	32	12	20
	35 - 44 years	55	44	11	33
	45 - 54 years	51	48	10	38
	55 - 64 years	46	53	12	41
	Senior	44	56	12	44
	65 - 74 years	43	57	12	45
	75 years and over	45	55	12	43
Female one-person households	All ages	51	49	14	35
	Non-senior	56	44	14	30
	Under 25 years	87	13	6	7
	25 - 34 years	70	29	14	15
	35 - 44 years	56	44	16	28
	45 - 54 years	51	49	14	35
	55 - 64 years	45	55	15	40
	Senior	45	55	13	41
	65 - 74 years	43	57	14	43
	75 years and over	47	53	13	40
Male one-person households	All ages	53	47	9	38
	Non-senior	56	44	9	35
	Under 25 years	80	20	6	14
	25 - 34 years	65	35	10	25
	35 - 44 years	55	45	9	36
	45 - 54 years	51	49	8	41
	55 - 64 years	48	52	8	44
	Senior	41	58	8	50
	65 - 74 years	44	56	8	48
	75 years and over	39	60	9	51

Figures may not add due to rounding.

\* Includes private non-farm, non-band, non-reserve households with incomes greater than zero and STIRs less than 100%.

Source: CMHC (Census-based housing indicators data).



**Appendix Table C** Incidence of core housing need for one-person households,\* by sex, Canada, provinces and territories, 2001 and 2006

	Household Type	Total Number of Households		Number of Households in Core Housing Need		% of Households in Core Housing Need	
		2001	2006	2001	2006	2001	2006
Canada	All households	10,805,615	11,766,145	1,485,340	1,494,395	13.7	12.7
	One-person	2,705,390	3,053,625	678,585	681,830	25.1	22.3
	Non-senior men	911,740	1,047,245	181,125	197,025	19.9	18.8
	Non-senior women	783,085	911,335	187,340	197,370	23.9	21.7
	Senior men	255,995	291,825	61,550	59,595	24.0	20.4
	Senior women	754,570	803,205	248,560	227,845	32.9	28.4
NL	All households	181,665	191,760	26,605	27,305	14.6	14.2
	One-person	31,370	37,250	9,445	11,645	30.1	31.3
	Non-senior men	8,825	10,995	2,255	3,125	25.6	28.4
	Non-senior women	8,380	10,750	2,895	3,860	34.5	35.9
	Senior men	3,795	4,085	920	1,125	24.2	27.5
	Senior women	10,360	11,415	3,375	3,540	32.6	31.0
PE	All households	48,070	50,885	6,200	6,435	12.9	12.6
	One-person	10,850	12,025	3,130	3,540	28.8	29.4
	Non-senior men	3,070	3,430	775	900	25.2	26.2
	Non-senior women	2,820	3,510	830	1,010	29.4	28.8
	Senior men	1,310	1,460	330	400	25.2	27.4
	Senior women	3,655	3,630	1,195	1,240	32.7	34.2
NS	All households	339,670	360,760	51,590	43,760	15.2	12.1
	One-person	81,240	92,670	22,960	22,805	28.3	24.6
	Non-senior men	24,035	27,610	5,860	6,185	24.4	22.4
	Non-senior women	21,900	27,775	6,370	7,595	29.1	27.3
	Senior men	8,965	9,690	1,955	1,710	21.8	17.6
	Senior women	26,335	27,605	8,765	7,315	33.3	26.5
NB	All households	268,825	284,205	29,990	29,360	11.2	10.3
	One-person	58,475	66,970	13,075	13,955	22.4	20.8
	Non-senior men	17,310	20,850	3,230	3,925	18.7	18.8
	Non-senior women	15,315	18,855	3,805	4,565	24.8	24.2
	Senior men	6,630	7,105	1,220	990	18.4	13.9
	Senior women	19,220	20,155	4,815	4,470	25.1	22.2
QC	All households	2,812,775	3,061,415	352,350	324,590	12.5	10.6
	One-person	797,545	911,795	209,340	189,485	26.2	20.8
	Non-senior men	284,565	326,615	59,495	61,530	20.9	18.8
	Non-senior women	250,380	286,395	62,550	60,700	25.0	21.2
	Senior men	64,560	79,450	15,660	13,085	24.3	16.5
	Senior women	198,040	219,340	71,635	54,165	36.2	24.7
ON	All households	3,981,545	4,319,145	599,660	627,530	15.1	14.5
	One-person	909,030	1,009,430	240,000	247,630	26.4	24.5
	Non-senior men	291,185	329,490	53,630	61,285	18.4	18.6
	Non-senior women	257,420	296,090	59,470	63,565	23.1	21.5
	Senior men	89,265	98,590	25,240	23,850	28.3	24.2
	Senior women	271,165	285,265	101,650	98,930	37.5	34.7

**Appendix Table C** Incidence of core housing need for one-person households,\* by sex, Canada, Provinces and Territories, 2001 and 2006 (continued)

	Household Type	Total Number of Households		Number of Households in Core Housing Need		% of Households in Core Housing Need	
		2001	2006	2001	2006	2001	2006
MB	All households	389,815	414,320	45,390	46,915	11.6	11.3
	One-person	111,075	119,010	20,600	20,460	18.5	17.2
	Non-senior men	34,760	38,905	6,070	7,140	17.5	18.4
	Non-senior women	28,290	31,355	5,720	6,025	20.2	19.2
	Senior men	11,975	12,545	1,585	1,520	13.2	12.1
	Senior women	36,050	36,210	7,220	5,780	20.0	16.0
SK	All households	323,065	346,650	37,160	40,835	11.5	11.8
	One-person	93,050	101,010	17,420	19,515	18.7	19.3
	Non-senior men	26,345	30,785	5,025	6,025	19.1	19.6
	Non-senior women	21,550	25,335	4,815	5,350	22.3	21.1
	Senior men	11,210	11,725	1,550	2,085	13.8	17.8
	Senior women	33,940	33,165	6,035	6,055	17.8	18.3
AB	All households	1,014,180	1,183,975	106,285	119,055	10.5	10.1
	One-person	231,725	284,895	47,180	55,095	20.4	19.3
	Non-senior men	88,080	113,345	13,170	15,290	15.0	13.5
	Non-senior women	67,885	86,135	14,525	15,225	21.4	17.7
	Senior men	19,475	23,365	4,035	5,475	20.7	23.4
	Senior women	56,280	62,050	15,450	19,100	27.5	30.8
BC	All households	1,416,730	1,520,135	223,675	221,475	15.8	14.6
	One-person	374,575	410,915	93,960	96,015	25.1	23.4
	Non-senior men	130,320	141,455	30,940	30,830	23.7	21.8
	Non-senior women	106,965	122,545	25,880	28,920	24.2	23.6
	Senior men	38,300	43,250	8,895	9,200	23.2	21.3
	Senior women	98,990	103,660	28,255	27,065	28.5	26.1
YT	All households	10,220	11,505	1,615	1,880	15.8	16.3
	One-person	2,750	3,435	595	865	21.6	25.2
	Non-senior men	1,255	1,450	265	355	21.1	24.5
	Non-senior women	975	1,250	175	275	17.9	22.0
	Senior men	225	300	65	105	28.9	35.0
	Senior women	300	435	85	130	28.3	29.9
NT	All households	11,985	13,690	2,085	2,390	17.4	17.5
	One-person	2,515	2,880	550	565	21.9	19.6
	Non-senior men	1,290	1,510	245	270	19.0	17.9
	Non-senior women	830	940	170	200	20.5	21.3
	Senior men	205	200	65	55	31.7	27.5
	Senior women	190	230	65	45	34.2	19.6
NU	All households	7,070	7,700	2,740	2,870	38.8	37.3
	One-person	1,190	1,345	320	255	26.9	19.0
	Non-senior men	705	830	170	165	24.1	19.9
	Non-senior women	370	420	110	80	29.7	19.0
	Senior men	70	65	20	-	28.6	-
	Senior women	45	40	15	10	33.3	25.0

Figures may not add due to rounding.

\* Includes private non-farm, non-band, off-reserve households reporting positive incomes and with shelter cost-to-income ratios (STIRs) less than 100%.

- Estimates of housing conditions are not provided where there are fewer than 100 households in total or fewer than 25 households in any housing standard.

Source: CMHC (Census-based housing indicators data).

**Appendix Table D** Incidence of core housing need for one-person households,\* by age and sex, Canada, CMAs, 2006

	Household Type	Primary Maintainer	Total Private Households	Private Households in Core Housing Need	% in Core Housing Need
Canada	Total – household type	All	11,766,145	1,494,395	12.7
		Senior	2,573,845	369,860	14.4
		Non-senior	9,192,300	1,124,535	12.2
	One-person household	All	3,053,625	681,835	22.3
		Senior	1,095,035	287,445	26.2
		Non-senior	1,958,590	394,390	20.1
	Male one-person household	All	1,339,080	256,615	19.2
		Senior	291,825	59,600	20.4
		Non-senior	1,047,250	197,020	18.8
	Female one-person household	All	1,714,545	425,220	24.8
		Senior	803,205	227,845	28.4
		Non-senior	911,335	197,370	21.7
All-CMAs	Total – household type	All	8,009,300	1,093,025	13.6
		Senior	1,637,275	268,735	16.4
		Non-senior	6,372,030	824,290	12.9
	One-person household	All	2,094,780	476,130	22.7
		Senior	699,545	206,765	29.6
		Non-senior	1,395,235	269,365	19.3
	Male one-person household	All	900,485	175,125	19.4
		Senior	177,045	41,115	23.2
		Non-senior	723,435	134,010	18.5
	Female one-person household	All	1,194,295	301,005	25.2
		Senior	522,500	165,645	31.7
		Non-senior	671,795	135,355	20.1
St. John's	Total – household type	All	68,420	9,250	13.5
		Senior	12,685	2,255	17.8
		Non-senior	55,735	6,995	12.6
	One-person household	All	14,545	4,265	29.3
		Senior	4,910	1,785	36.4
		Non-senior	9,635	2,480	25.7
	Male one-person household	All	5,695	1,325	23.3
		Senior	1,135	325	28.6
		Non-senior	4,560	1,005	22.0
	Female one-person household	All	8,845	2,935	33.2
		Senior	3,775	1,455	38.5
		Non-senior	5,075	1,475	29.1

**Appendix Table D** Incidence of core housing need for one-person households,\* by age and sex, Canada, CMAs, 2006 (continued)

	Household Type	Primary Maintainer	Total Private Households	Private Households in Core Housing Need	% in Core Housing Need
Halifax	Total – household type	All	148,795	20,200	13.6
		Senior	27,970	4,455	15.9
		Non-senior	120,820	15,745	13.0
	One-person household	All	39,605	10,540	26.6
		Senior	11,860	3,745	31.6
		Non-senior	27,745	6,795	24.5
	Male one-person household	All	15,725	3,740	23.8
		Senior	2,645	580	21.9
		Non-senior	13,080	3,155	24.1
	Female one-person household	All	23,875	6,805	28.5
		Senior	9,215	3,165	34.3
		Non-senior	14,660	3,640	24.8
Moncton	Total – household type	All	49,870	5,370	10.8
		Senior	10,505	1,405	13.4
		Non-senior	39,365	3,965	10.1
	One-person household	All	11,645	2,615	22.5
		Senior	4,390	1,185	27.0
		Non-senior	7,255	1,430	19.7
	Male one-person household	All	4,460	750	16.8
		Senior	980	140	14.3
		Non-senior	3,485	610	17.5
	Female one-person household	All	7,185	1,865	26.0
		Senior	3,415	1,045	30.6
		Non-senior	3,770	820	21.8
Saint John	Total – household type	All	47,795	4,575	9.6
		Senior	10,860	870	8.0
		Non-senior	36,935	3,710	10.0
	One-person household	All	11,880	2,170	18.3
		Senior	4,720	715	15.1
		Non-senior	7,155	1,460	20.4
	Male one-person household	All	4,555	800	17.6
		Senior	1,080	80	7.4
		Non-senior	3,475	725	20.9
	Female one-person household	All	7,320	1,370	18.7
		Senior	3,645	635	17.4
		Non-senior	3,680	735	20.0

**Appendix Table D** Incidence of core housing need for one-person households,\* by age and sex, Canada, CMAs, 2006 (continued)

	Household Type	Primary Maintainer	Total Private Households	Private Households in Core Housing Need	% in Core Housing Need
Saguenay	Total – household type	All	62,345	5,085	8.2
		Senior	13,885	730	5.3
		Non-senior	48,460	4,360	9.0
	One-person household	All	17,300	3,265	18.9
		Senior	6,145	640	10.4
		Non-senior	11,150	2,620	23.5
	Male one-person household	All	7,680	1,360	17.7
		Senior	1,570	160	10.2
		Non-senior	6,115	1,200	19.6
	Female one-person household	All	9,620	1,900	19.8
		Senior	4,580	480	10.5
		Non-senior	5,035	1,420	28.2
Québec	Total – household type	All	307,915	28,695	9.3
		Senior	63,245	8,045	12.7
		Non-senior	244,665	20,655	8.4
	One-person household	All	98,640	18,840	19.1
		Senior	30,600	7,105	23.2
		Non-senior	68,040	11,740	17.3
	Male one-person household	All	40,960	6,985	17.1
		Senior	7,075	1,150	16.3
		Non-senior	33,885	5,835	17.2
	Female one-person household	All	57,685	11,855	20.6
		Senior	23,525	5,950	25.3
		Non-senior	34,155	5,910	17.3
Sherbrooke	Total – household type	All	80,100	7,575	9.5
		Senior	16,685	1,120	6.7
		Non-senior	63,415	6,455	10.2
	One-person household	All	26,320	4,745	18.0
		Senior	8,430	990	11.7
		Non-senior	17,895	3,760	21.0
	Male one-person household	All	10,985	2,005	18.3
		Senior	2,040	190	9.3
		Non-senior	8,945	1,815	20.3
	Female one-person household	All	15,335	2,740	17.9
		Senior	6,385	795	12.5
		Non-senior	8,945	1,940	21.7

**Appendix Table D** Incidence of core housing need for one-person households,\* by age and sex, Canada, CMAs, 2006 (continued)

	Household Type	Primary Maintainer	Total Private Households	Private Households in Core Housing Need	% in Core Housing Need
Trois-Rivières	Total – household type	All	62,085	7,645	12.3
		Senior	14,505	1,965	13.5
		Non-senior	47,575	5,680	11.9
	One-person household	All	21,080	5,460	25.9
		Senior	7,250	1,825	25.2
		Non-senior	13,825	3,635	26.3
	Male one-person household	All	9,040	2,010	22.2
		Senior	1,730	300	17.3
		Non-senior	7,310	1,715	23.5
	Female one-person household	All	12,040	3,445	28.6
		Senior	5,520	1,530	27.7
		Non-senior	6,520	1,920	29.4
Montréal	Total – household type	All	1,461,615	184,640	12.6
		Senior	306,065	47,840	15.6
		Non-senior	1,155,545	136,800	11.8
	One-person household	All	442,240	99,385	22.5
		Senior	142,475	40,500	28.4
		Non-senior	299,770	58,885	19.6
	Male one-person household	All	190,675	38,010	19.9
		Senior	35,445	7,720	21.8
		Non-senior	155,225	30,285	19.5
	Female one-person household	All	251,570	61,380	24.4
		Senior	107,030	32,775	30.6
		Non-senior	144,540	28,600	19.8
Ottawa-Gatineau	Total – household type	All	432,515	52,345	12.1
		Senior	78,005	11,615	14.9
		Non-senior	354,505	40,730	11.5
	One-person household	All	112,495	21,910	19.5
		Senior	32,650	8,850	27.1
		Non-senior	79,840	13,060	16.4
	Male one-person household	All	46,955	8,180	17.4
		Senior	7,970	1,785	22.4
		Non-senior	38,980	6,400	16.4
	Female one-person household	All	65,540	13,730	20.9
		Senior	24,675	7,065	28.6
		Non-senior	40,865	6,660	16.3

**Appendix Table D** Incidence of core housing need for one-person households,\* by age and sex, Canada, CMAs, 2006 (continued)

	Household Type	Primary Maintainer	Total Private Households	Private Households in Core Housing Need	% in Core Housing Need
Kingston	Total – household type	All	59,300	7,540	12.7
		Senior	14,335	1,835	12.8
		Non-senior	44,965	5,705	12.7
	One-person household	All	15,595	3,380	21.7
		Senior	5,885	1,510	25.7
		Non-senior	9,710	1,875	19.3
	Male one-person household	All	6,235	1,290	20.7
		Senior	1,520	290	19.1
		Non-senior	4,710	1,005	21.3
	Female one-person household	All	9,365	2,085	22.3
		Senior	4,360	1,220	28.0
		Non-senior	5,005	865	17.3
Peterborough	Total – household type	All	43,885	6,160	14.0
		Senior	12,405	1,830	14.8
		Non-senior	31,475	4,330	13.8
	One-person household	All	10,770	2,650	24.6
		Senior	5,100	1,410	27.6
		Non-senior	5,670	1,235	21.8
	Male one-person household	All	3,975	730	18.4
		Senior	1,250	210	16.8
		Non-senior	2,725	515	18.9
	Female one-person household	All	6,800	1,915	28.2
		Senior	3,850	1,195	31.0
		Non-senior	2,950	720	24.4
Oshawa	Total – Household Type	All	115,195	13,315	11.6
		Senior	21,800	3,995	18.3
		Non-senior	93,395	9,325	10.0
	One-person household	All	22,360	5,525	24.7
		Senior	8,515	3,145	36.9
		Non-senior	13,845	2,375	17.2
	Male one-person household	All	9,840	1,570	16.0
		Senior	2,235	565	25.3
		Non-senior	7,605	1,010	13.3
	Female one-person household	All	12,520	3,950	31.5
		Senior	6,280	2,580	41.1
		Non-senior	6,240	1,370	22.0



**Appendix Table D** Incidence of core housing need for one-person households,\* by age and sex, Canada, CMAs, 2006 (continued)

	Household Type	Primary Maintainer	Total Private Households	Private Households in Core Housing Need	% in Core Housing Need
Toronto	Total – household type	All	1,696,310	322,410	19.0
		Senior	331,110	80,290	24.2
		Non-senior	1,365,200	242,125	17.7
	One-person household	All	367,635	104,195	28.3
		Senior	124,450	53,960	43.4
		Non-senior	243,185	50,240	20.7
	Male one-person household	All	155,675	36,600	23.5
		Senior	31,640	11,275	35.6
		Non-senior	124,035	25,320	20.4
	Female one-person household	All	211,955	67,595	31.9
		Senior	92,805	42,680	46.0
		Non-senior	119,145	24,915	20.9
Hamilton	Total – household type	All	255,945	33,090	12.9
		Senior	63,105	9,885	15.7
		Non-senior	192,835	23,210	12.0
	One-person household	All	63,110	15,325	24.3
		Senior	26,110	8,155	31.2
		Non-senior	37,005	7,170	19.4
	Male one-person household	All	26,295	4,845	18.4
		Senior	6,600	1,420	21.5
		Non-senior	19,700	3,420	17.4
	Female one-person household	All	36,815	10,480	28.5
		Senior	19,510	6,730	34.5
		Non-senior	17,310	3,745	21.6
St. Catharines-Niagara	Total – household type	All	150,425	18,420	12.2
		Senior	42,535	5,785	13.6
		Non-senior	107,890	12,640	11.7
	One-person household	All	39,060	8,980	23.0
		Senior	17,910	4,805	26.8
		Non-senior	21,155	4,170	19.7
	Male one-person household	All	15,690	2,615	16.7
		Senior	4,485	745	16.6
		Non-senior	11,200	1,870	16.7
	Female one-person household	All	23,375	6,365	27.2
		Senior	13,425	4,060	30.2
		Non-senior	9,950	2,305	23.2

**Appendix Table D** Incidence of core housing need for one-person households,\* by age and sex, Canada, CMAs, 2006 (continued)

	Household Type	Primary Maintainer	Total Private Households	Private Households in Core Housing Need	% in Core Housing Need
Kitchener	Total – household type	All	163,835	16,840	10.3
		Senior	30,655	4,505	14.7
		Non-senior	133,180	12,335	9.3
	One-person household	All	36,680	7,715	21.0
		Senior	12,410	3,740	30.1
		Non-senior	24,270	3,970	16.4
	Male one-person household	All	16,745	2,505	15.0
		Senior	3,140	670	21.3
		Non-senior	13,605	1,835	13.5
	Female one-person household	All	19,930	5,210	26.1
		Senior	9,270	3,065	33.1
		Non-senior	10,665	2,140	20.1
Brantford	Total – household type	All	46,105	5,250	11.4
		Senior	11,020	1,360	12.3
		Non-senior	35,080	3,890	11.1
	One-person household	All	10,910	2,320	21.3
		Senior	4,630	1,145	24.7
		Non-senior	6,280	1,175	18.7
	Male one-person household	All	4,520	775	17.1
		Senior	1,220	245	20.1
		Non-senior	3,300	530	16.1
	Female one-person household	All	6,390	1,545	24.2
		Senior	3,405	905	26.6
		Non-senior	2,985	640	21.4
Guelph	Total – household type	All	46,985	5,540	11.8
		Senior	9,265	1,560	16.8
		Non-senior	37,720	3,985	10.6
	One-person household	All	10,880	2,585	23.8
		Senior	3,625	1,255	34.6
		Non-senior	7,255	1,335	18.4
	Male one-person household	All	4,665	825	17.7
		Senior	805	180	22.4
		Non-senior	3,855	640	16.6
	Female one-person household	All	6,225	1,765	28.4
		Senior	2,820	1,075	38.1
		Non-senior	3,405	690	20.3

**Appendix Table D** Incidence of core housing need for one-person households,\* by age and sex, Canada, CMAs, 2006 (continued)

	Household Type	Primary Maintainer	Total Private Households	Private Households in Core Housing Need	% in Core Housing Need
London	Total – household type	All	177,290	22,625	12.8
		Senior	38,920	5,510	14.2
		Non-senior	138,370	17,120	12.4
	One-person household	All	48,320	11,035	22.8
		Senior	16,765	4,635	27.6
		Non-senior	31,555	6,400	20.3
	Male one-person household	All	19,975	3,830	19.2
		Senior	4,160	905	21.8
		Non-senior	15,820	2,925	18.5
	Female one-person household	All	28,345	7,205	25.4
		Senior	12,610	3,730	29.6
		Non-senior	15,735	3,475	22.1
Windsor	Total – household type	All	120,185	15,285	12.7
		Senior	26,515	3,845	14.5
		Non-senior	93,670	11,440	12.2
	One-person household	All	31,120	6,460	20.8
		Senior	11,680	3,045	26.1
		Non-senior	19,440	3,415	17.6
	Male one-person household	All	14,255	2,325	16.3
		Senior	3,045	510	16.7
		Non-senior	11,210	1,815	16.2
	Female one-person household	All	16,865	4,135	24.5
		Senior	8,640	2,535	29.3
		Non-senior	8,225	1,600	19.5
Barrie	Total – household type	All	61,340	8,285	13.5
		Senior	11,680	2,235	19.1
		Non-senior	49,660	6,055	12.2
	One-person household	All	11,590	2,945	25.4
		Senior	4,485	1,600	35.7
		Non-senior	7,105	1,350	19.0
	Male one-person household	All	4,980	790	15.9
		Senior	1,050	310	29.5
		Non-senior	3,930	485	12.3
	Female one-person household	All	6,605	2,155	32.6
		Senior	3,430	1,290	37.6
		Non-senior	3,175	860	27.1

**Appendix Table D** Incidence of core housing need for one-person households,\* by age and sex, Canada, CMAs, 2006 (continued)

	Household Type	Primary Maintainer	Total Private Households	Private Households in Core Housing Need	% in Core Housing Need
Greater Sudbury	Total – household type	All	63,165	6,315	10.0
		Senior	14,840	1,130	7.6
		Non-senior	48,325	5,185	10.7
	One-person household	All	16,510	3,085	18.7
		Senior	6,325	1,035	16.4
		Non-senior	10,190	2,050	20.1
	Male one-person household	All	7,170	1,150	16.0
		Senior	1,585	145	9.1
		Non-senior	5,585	1,010	18.1
	Female one-person household	All	9,345	1,935	20.7
		Senior	4,740	885	18.7
		Non-senior	4,605	1,045	22.7
Thunder Bay	Total – household type	All	49,605	5,415	10.9
		Senior	13,010	1,470	11.3
		Non-senior	36,595	3,950	10.8
	One-person household	All	14,500	2,905	20.0
		Senior	6,015	1,300	21.6
		Non-senior	8,485	1,605	18.9
	Male one-person household	All	6,245	965	15.5
		Senior	1,535	180	11.7
		Non-senior	4,705	785	16.7
	Female one-person household	All	8,260	1,940	23.5
		Senior	4,480	1,120	25.0
		Non-senior	3,775	820	21.7
Winnipeg	Total – household type	All	272,925	28,375	10.4
		Senior	61,130	4,760	7.8
		Non-senior	211,790	23,615	11.2
	One-person household	All	80,455	12,530	15.6
		Senior	29,660	3,865	13.0
		Non-senior	50,795	8,665	17.1
	Male one-person household	All	34,915	5,405	15.5
		Senior	7,425	700	9.4
		Non-senior	27,490	4,710	17.1
	Female one-person household	All	45,540	7,120	15.6
		Senior	22,240	3,170	14.3
		Non-senior	23,305	3,955	17.0

**Appendix Table D** Incidence of core housing need for one-person households,\* by age and sex, Canada, CMAs, 2006 (continued)

	Household Type	Primary Maintainer	Total Private Households	Private Households in Core Housing Need	% in Core Housing Need
Regina	Total – household type	All	77,795	7,435	9.6
		Senior	16,485	1,325	8.0
		Non-senior	61,310	6,110	10.0
	One-person household	All	22,220	3,500	15.8
		Senior	7,855	1,180	15.0
		Non-senior	14,370	2,320	16.1
	Male one-person household	All	9,105	1,465	16.1
		Senior	1,870	245	13.1
		Non-senior	7,230	1,220	16.9
	Female one-person household	All	13,120	2,035	15.5
		Senior	5,980	935	15.6
		Non-senior	7,140	1,105	15.5
Saskatoon	Total – household type	All	91,190	8,515	9.3
		Senior	18,585	1,345	7.2
		Non-senior	72,605	7,170	9.9
	One-person household	All	25,345	4,085	16.1
		Senior	8,915	1,210	13.6
		Non-senior	16,425	2,880	17.5
	Male one-person household	All	10,110	1,625	16.1
		Senior	1,885	230	12.2
		Non-senior	8,225	1,390	16.9
	Female one-person household	All	15,235	2,465	16.2
		Senior	7,035	980	13.9
		Non-senior	8,200	1,485	18.1
Calgary	Total – household type	All	399,905	36,135	9.0
		Senior	58,415	7,910	13.5
		Non-senior	341,485	28,230	8.3
	One-person household	All	95,835	15,300	16.0
		Senior	23,535	6,595	28.0
		Non-senior	72,295	8,700	12.0
	Male one-person household	All	45,275	5,795	12.8
		Senior	6,205	1,395	22.5
		Non-senior	39,065	4,400	11.3
	Female one-person household	All	50,560	9,500	18.8
		Senior	17,330	5,205	30.0
		Non-senior	33,230	4,300	12.9

**Appendix Table D** Incidence of core housing need for one-person households,\* by age and sex, Canada, CMAs, 2006 (continued)

	Household Type	Primary Maintainer	Total Private Households	Private Households in Core Housing Need	% in Core Housing Need
Edmonton	Total – household type	All	389,535	41,220	10.6
		Senior	69,875	10,575	15.1
		Non-senior	319,660	30,640	9.6
	One-person household	All	99,845	21,080	21.1
		Senior	29,660	9,580	32.3
		Non-senior	70,180	11,500	16.4
	Male one-person household	All	47,160	7,640	16.2
		Senior	7,950	2,065	26.0
		Non-senior	39,210	5,570	14.2
	Female one-person household	All	52,680	13,440	25.5
		Senior	21,710	7,510	34.6
		Non-senior	30,975	5,925	19.1
Kelowna	Total – household type	All	59,855	6,615	11.1
		Senior	17,000	1,975	11.6
		Non-senior	42,860	4,640	10.8
	One-person household	All	14,755	3,070	20.8
		Senior	6,405	1,480	23.1
		Non-senior	8,355	1,590	19.0
	Male one-person household	All	6,120	1,010	16.5
		Senior	1,585	295	18.6
		Non-senior	4,525	715	15.8
	Female one-person household	All	8,640	2,055	23.8
		Senior	4,815	1,180	24.5
		Non-senior	3,825	875	22.9
Abbotsford	Total – household type	All	52,705	6,795	12.9
		Senior	11,870	1,470	12.4
		Non-senior	40,840	5,325	13.0
	One-person household	All	11,700	2,285	19.5
		Senior	4,705	1,110	23.6
		Non-senior	6,995	1,180	16.9
	Male one-person household	All	5,160	870	16.9
		Senior	1,245	245	19.7
		Non-senior	3,920	625	15.9
	Female one-person household	All	6,540	1,415	21.6
		Senior	3,460	865	25.0
		Non-senior	3,080	545	17.7

**Appendix Table D** Incidence of core housing need for one-person households,\* by age and sex, Canada, CMAs, 2006 (continued)

	Household Type	Primary Maintainer	Total Private Households	Private Households in Core Housing Need	% in Core Housing Need
Vancouver	Total – household type	All	757,900	129,145	17.0
		Senior	152,850	29,695	19.4
		Non-senior	605,050	99,445	16.4
	One-person household	All	206,115	52,995	25.7
		Senior	64,805	20,195	31.2
		Non-senior	141,315	32,805	23.2
	Male one-person household	All	92,500	22,015	23.8
		Senior	18,720	5,110	27.3
		Non-senior	73,785	16,910	22.9
	Female one-person household	All	113,610	30,980	27.3
		Senior	46,085	15,080	32.7
		Non-senior	67,525	15,900	23.5
Victoria	Total – household type	All	136,470	16,900	12.4
		Senior	35,450	4,175	11.8
		Non-senior	101,025	12,725	12.6
	One-person household	All	43,715	8,985	20.6
		Senior	16,670	3,485	20.9
		Non-senior	27,045	5,500	20.3
	Male one-person household	All	17,150	3,295	19.2
		Senior	4,205	730	17.4
		Non-senior	12,940	2,565	19.8
	Female one-person household	All	26,565	5,690	21.4
		Senior	12,465	2,755	22.1
		Non-senior	14,100	2,935	20.8

Figures may not add due to rounding.

\* Includes private non-farm, non-band, off-reserve households reporting positive incomes and with shelter cost-to-income ratios (STIRs) less than 100%.

Source: CMHC (Census-based housing indicators data).

## SUMMARY

Of the 12.4 million private households identified by the 2006 Census, 3.3 million (or 27%) were one-person households. Of these, 3.1 million were tested for core housing need. The incidence of core housing need among one-person households in 2006 was 22.3%, about a 5-percentage-point decline from 27.5% in 1996. The incidence of core housing need for all households in 2006 at 12.7% was about 3 percentage points lower than the rate in 1996 of 15.6%. Although the incidence of core housing need for one-person households declined between 1996 and 2006, the number of one-person households in core housing need increased during the same time period, reflecting increases in the total number of one-person households.

In 2006, while Non-senior men accounted for the largest share (35%) of one-person households, senior women accounted for the largest share (33%) of one-person households in core housing need.



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**For further information** on CMHC's census-based housing data, refer to *Housing in Canada Online* on the CMHC website, at [www.cmhc.ca](http://www.cmhc.ca). To inquire or comment on this Highlight or make suggestions for further research, please contact us, either by e-mail at [HiCO-LaCel@cmhc-schl.gc.ca](mailto:HiCO-LaCel@cmhc-schl.gc.ca), or via regular mail at:

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### Housing Research at CMHC

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## Alternative text and data for figures

**Figure 1** Percentage share of one-person and five or more person households, Canada, 1941-2006

Year	Five or More Persons	One-person
1941	38.2%	6.0%
1951	32.7%	7.4%
1956	32.4%	7.9%
1961	32.4%	9.3%
1966	30.9%	11.4%
1971	26.4%	13.4%
1976	19.7%	16.8%
1981	14.6%	20.3%
1986	12.0%	21.0%
1991	10.6%	22.9%
1996	10.3%	24.2%
2001	9.5%	25.7%
2006	8.7%	26.8%

**Source:** Statistics Canada (Census of Canada).

**Figure 2** Distribution of one-person households, by sex and age group, Canada, 2006

	All Households	One-person Households	Male One-person Households	Female One-person Households
15-19	0%	0%	0%	0%
20-24	3%	4%	5%	3%
25-29	6%	7%	8%	5%
30-34	8%	6%	9%	5%
35-39	9%	6%	9%	4%
40-44	12%	8%	11%	5%
45-49	12%	8%	11%	6%
50-54	11%	9%	10%	8%
55-59	10%	9%	9%	9%
60-64	7%	8%	7%	9%
65-69	6%	7%	5%	8%
70-74	5%	7%	5%	9%
75+	10%	20%	10%	27%

**Source:** CMHC, adapted from Statistics Canada (Census of Canada).

**Figure 3** Percentage change in age distribution of one-person households, by sex, Canada, 1996-2006

	All Households	Male One-person Households	Female One-person Households
15-19	-2%	5%	8%
20-24	5%	24%	28%
25-29	-4%	9%	18%
30-34	-19%	-13%	-3%
35-39	-14%	-7%	-3%
40-44	12%	33%	18%
45-49	25%	57%	29%
50-54	47%	85%	59%
55-59	63%	100%	82%
60-64	33%	55%	43%
65-69	9%	19%	6%
70-74	8%	19%	-6%
75+	42%	54%	31%

**Source:** CMHC, adapted from Statistics Canada (Census of Canada).

**Figure 4** Distribution of one-person households by total household income, by age and sex, Canada, 2006

	Less than \$10,000	\$10,000 - \$19,999	\$20,000 - \$29,999	\$30,000 - \$39,999	\$40,000 - \$49,999	\$50,000 - \$74,999	\$75,000 - \$99,999	\$100,000 and above	
Non-senior men	9%	15%	15%	16%	13%	20%	7%	5%	100%
Non-senior women	10%	19%	16%	17%	13%	17%	5%	3%	100%
Senior men	1%	37%	21%	15%	9%	11%	3%	3%	100%
Senior women	1%	48%	23%	12%	6%	7%	2%	1%	100%

Source: CMHC, adapted from Statistics Canada (Census of Canada).

**Figure 5** Distribution of one-person households\* by dwelling type, by age and sex, Canada, 2006

	House Detached or Attached	Apartment Low or High Rise or Duplex**	Movable Dwellings***
All households	66%	33%	1%
One-person households	42%	57%	2%
Non-senior men living alone	41%	57%	2%
Non-senior women living alone	37%	62%	1%
Senior men living alone	52%	46%	2%
Senior women living alone	45%	54%	1%

\* Includes all private households in Canada including farm and band households and all income and STIR ratios.  
 \*\* A duplex is a two-storey building with one unit above the other. (Statistics Canada, *Housing and Dwelling Characteristics Reference Guide*, 2006 Census).  
 \*\*\* Movable dwellings comprise mobile homes and other types of movable dwellings, such as tents, recreational vehicles, travel trailers, and houseboats.  
 Source: CMHC, adapted from Statistics Canada (Census of Canada).

**Figure 6** Percentage change in the total number of one-person households\* vs. those in core housing need, by age and sex, Canada, 1996-2006

	All Households in the Group	Households in Core Housing Need
All households	17%	-5%
One-person households	28%	4%
Non-senior men living alone	32%	5%
Non-senior women living alone	35%	10%
Senior men living alone	35%	8%
Senior women living alone	16%	-2%

\* Includes private non-farm, non-band, non-reserve households with incomes greater than zero and STIRs less than 100%.

Source: CMHC, adapted from Statistics Canada (Census of Canada).

**Figure 7** Percentage shares of one-person households\* in core housing need, by age and sex, Canada, 2006

	2006
Non-senior men living alone	29%
Non-senior women living alone	29%
Senior men living alone	9%
Senior women living alone	33%

\* Includes private non-farm, non-band, non-reserve households with incomes greater than zero and STIRs less than 100%.

Source: CMHC, adapted from Statistics Canada (Census of Canada).

**Figure 8** Range of incidences of core housing need among one-person households,\* by age and sex, Canada, provinces and territories, 2006

	One-person Households	Non-senior Men Living Alone	Non-senior Women Living Alone	Senior Men Living Alone	Senior Women Living Alone
High	31.3%	28.4%	35.9%	35.0%	34.7%
Low	17.2%	13.5%	17.7%	12.1%	16.0%
Canada Average	22.3%	18.8%	21.7%	20.4%	28.4%
Québec	20.8%	18.8%	21.2%	16.5%	24.7%
Ontario	24.5%	18.6%	21.5%	24.2%	34.7%
Manitoba	17.2%	18.4%	19.2%	12.1%	16.0%
Saskatchewan	19.3%	19.6%	21.1%	17.8%	18.3%
Alberta	19.3%	13.5%	17.7%	23.4%	30.8%
British Columbia	23.4%	21.8%	23.6%	21.3%	26.1%
Yukon Territory	25.2%	24.5%	22.0%	35.0%	29.9%
Northwest Territories	19.6%	17.9%	21.3%	27.5%	19.6%
Nunavut	19.0%	19.9%	19.0%	-	25.0%
Newfoundland and Labrador	31.3%	28.4%	35.9%	27.5%	31.0%
Prince Edward Island	29.4%	26.2%	28.8%	27.4%	34.2%
Nova Scotia	24.6%	22.4%	27.3%	17.6%	26.5%
New Brunswick	20.8%	18.8%	24.2%	13.9%	22.2%

\* Includes private non-farm, non-band, non-reserve households with incomes greater than zero and STIRs less than 100%.

Source: CMHC (Census-based housing indicators data).

## Research Highlight

2006 Census Housing Series: Issue 21—The Housing Conditions of One-Person Households

**Figure 9** Percentage shares of one-person households\* in core housing need, by age and sex, Canada, 2006

	<b>Non-senior Men Living Alone</b>	<b>Non-senior Women Living Alone</b>	<b>Senior Men Living Alone</b>	<b>Senior Women Living Alone</b>
Canada	29%	29%	9%	33%
Newfoundland	27%	33%	10%	30%
Prince Edward Island	25%	29%	11%	35%
Nova Scotia	33%	33%	7%	32%
New Brunswick	27%	33%	7%	32%
Québec	28%	32%	7%	29%
Ontario	32%	26%	10%	40%
Manitoba	35%	29%	7%	28%
Saskatchewan	31%	27%	11%	31%
Alberta	28%	28%	10%	35%
British Columbia	32%	30%	10%	28%
Yukon Territories	41%	32%	12%	15%
Northwest Territories	48%	35%	10%	8%
Nunavut	65%	31%	0%	4%

\* Includes private non-farm, non-band, non-reserve households with incomes greater than zero and STIRs less than 100%.

**Source:** CMHC, adapted from Statistics Canada (Census of Canada).

**Figure 10** Incidence of core housing need among one-person households,\* Canada, CMAs, 2006

Canada	22.3%
All CMAs	22.7%
St. John's	29.3%
Toronto	28.3%
Halifax	26.6%
Trois-Rivières	25.9%
Vancouver	25.7%
Barrie	25.4%
Oshawa	24.7%
Peterborough	24.6%
Hamilton	24.3%
Guelph	23.8%
St. Catharines - Niagara	23.0%
London	22.8%
Montréal	22.5%
Moncton	22.5%
Kingston	21.7%
Brantford	21.3%
Edmonton	21.1%
Kitchener	21.0%
Kelowna	20.8%
Windsor	20.8%
Victoria	20.6%
Thunder Bay	20.0%
Abbotsford	19.5%
Ottawa - Gatineau	19.5%
Québec	19.1%
Saguenay	18.9%
Greater Sudbury	18.7%
Saint John	18.3%
Sherbrooke	18.0%
Saskatoon	16.1%
Calgary	16.0%
Regina	15.8%
Winnipeg	15.6%

\* Includes private non-farm, non-band, non-reserve households with incomes greater than zero and STIRs less than 100%.

**Source:** CMHC, adapted from Statistics Canada (Census of Canada).