

Husbands and wives in Manitoba 1886.

107. The following is a comparative statement of the number of husbands and wives in Manitoba in 1881 and 1886, distinguishing between those under and over 21 years:

HUSBANDS AND WIVES IN MANITOBA—1881 AND 1886.

YEAR.	HUSBANDS.			WIVES.		
	Under 21 years.	Over 21 years.	Total.	Under 21 years.	Over 21 years.	Total.
1881.....	76	10,872	10,948	686	9,857	10,543
1886.....	38	17,351	17,389	699	16,372	16,971

Decrease in husbands and wives under 21.

108. A very large decrease will be seen to have taken place in the number of husbands and wives under 21 years, more particularly in that of husbands, and there is no immediate way of accounting for it, unless it has arisen from the fact that in 1881 an attempt was made to enumerate Indians the same as whites, and particulars of their conjugal condition were taken which could not fail to be more or less inaccurate.

Increase in number of wives.

109. It was natural to expect an increase in the proportion of wives to husbands, many husbands coming in first to find land and then sending for their families; there were 9,759 wives to every 10,000 husbands in 1886, as compared with 9,630 wives to the same number of husbands in 1881.

Husbands and wives in every 10,000, 1881 and 1886.

110. The following figures give the numbers of husbands and wives under and over 21 years in every 10,000 of each class respectively in 1881 and 1886: