

## PERCENTAGE OF LONE-PARENT FAMILIES, 1986

There is no consistent trend in the geographic distribution of lone-parent families across the country, although higher percentages tend to be found in major urban areas.

In 1986, more than four out of five ( $84 \%$ ) Canadians lived in families. This proportion has been declining since 1966 when $88 \%$ of the population lived as families. The average family size has also been declining, from 3.9 people in 1961, to 3.1 people in 1986.

There are fewer lone-parent families than traditional families, but their numbers have been increasing rapidly. In 1986, 13\% of families were headed by a lone-parent; of these $13 \%, 80 \%$ were headed by women.

