

The average size of the Canadian family* made a further gain between 1956 and 1961, continuing the trend of the 1951-56 period. Every province except Quebec and Saskatchewan participated in this increase, as shown in Table 21.

21.—Families and Persons per Family, by Province, Census Years 1951, 1956 and 1961

Province or Territory	Families			Average Persons per Family		
	1951	1956	1961	1951	1956	1961
	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.
Newfoundland.....	74,858	82,128	89,267	4.4	4.6	4.7
Prince Edward Island.....	21,381	21,153	21,989	4.0	4.1	4.2
Nova Scotia.....	145,127	154,243	161,894	3.0	3.9	4.0
New Brunswick.....	111,639	116,623	124,653	4.1	4.2	4.3
Quebec.....	856,041	970,414	1,103,822	4.2	4.2	4.2
Ontario.....	1,162,772	1,342,572	1,511,475	3.4	3.5	3.6
Manitoba.....	191,268	204,414	215,831	3.6	3.6	3.7
Saskatchewan.....	198,168	205,135	211,776	3.7	3.8	3.8
Alberta.....	223,326	262,922	305,671	3.7	3.7	3.8
British Columbia.....	299,845	346,093	394,023	3.3	3.4	3.6
Yukon and Northwest Territories.....	4,939	5,893	7,080	3.9	4.1	4.3
Canada.....	3,287,384	3,711,500	4,147,444	3.7	3.8	3.9

Closely related to the number of families per household, and also an indicator of living conditions, is the type of family. In 1961, 94.3 out of every 100 families in Canada were maintaining their own households as compared with 92.3 in 1956 and 90.2 in 1951, an apparent steady improvement in living conditions. The families not maintaining their own households fell into two main sub-categories—families related to the head of the household and non-related lodging families. The few who did not fit either of these sub-categories were mostly families of employees living in their employer's household.

There were 7,777,137 children in families in 1961. These are limited by definition to children never married and under 25 years of age who were living with their parents or guardians at the time of the census. In Table 22, the number of children is classified to show the number in each of four separate age groups corresponding roughly to pre-school-age children, those of elementary school age, those at the secondary school level, and those of college or working age.

* A family, as defined in the census, consists of a husband and wife (with or without children who have never married) or a parent with one or more children never married, living together in the same dwelling. Adopted children and stepchildren are counted as own children and, in fact, a family may comprise a man or woman living with a guardianship child or ward under 21 years of age.

22.—Children Living at Home classified by Age Group and by Province, Census 1961

Province or Territory	Under 6 Years	6-14 Years	15-18 Years		19-24 Years		Total Children Living at Home
			Total	At School	Total	At School	
			No.	No.	No.	No.	
Newfoundland.....	80,245	109,020	32,582	21,004	16,827	1,522	238,674
Prince Edward Island.....	15,550	21,563	6,626	4,465	3,606	600	47,345
Nova Scotia.....	107,627	144,950	45,611	32,907	23,000	4,038	321,188
New Brunswick.....	93,231	131,102	39,668	27,329	19,746	3,660	283,747
Quebec.....	789,382	1,042,937	353,764	209,975	240,275	34,464	2,426,358
Ontario.....	874,318	1,111,981	321,482	245,421	179,622	45,625	2,487,403
Manitoba.....	127,250	169,016	51,530	39,156	26,775	5,893	374,571
Saskatchewan.....	134,592	176,645	53,033	41,991	25,396	5,736	387,576
Alberta.....	212,114	250,672	70,886	57,259	32,882	8,351	566,354
British Columbia.....	220,347	281,698	83,272	68,346	42,081	11,714	627,398
Yukon and Northwest Territories.....	7,158	6,985	1,554	861	826	91	16,523
Canada.....	2,661,734	3,446,569	1,053,808	748,714	609,036	121,682	7,777,137