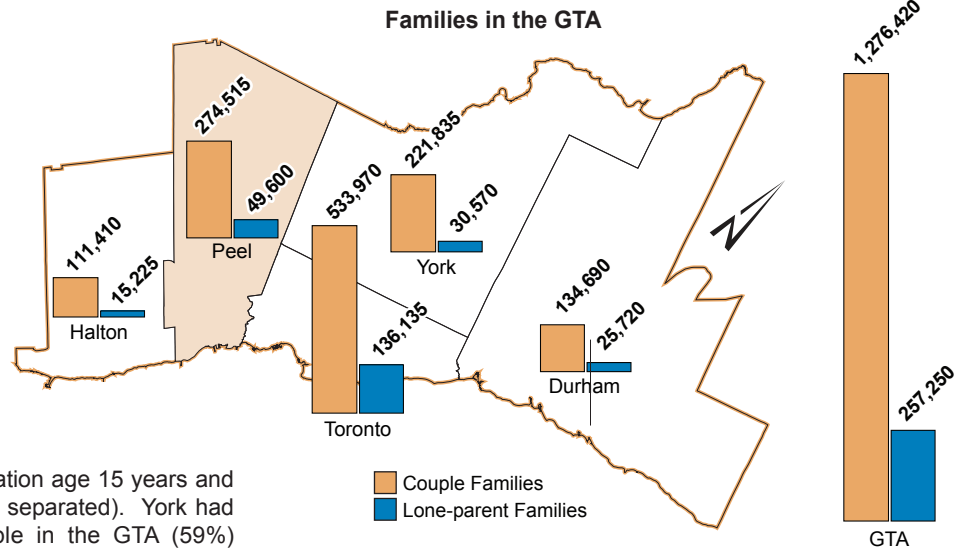


This bulletin summarizes the Marriage and Families portion of the 2006 Census Marriage, Families and Households data release for Peel Region and the Greater Toronto Area (GTA). The Households portion of this data release will be summarized in a forthcoming bulletin. Data from the 2006 Census were collected on May 16, 2006. In 2006, only 8% of the GTA's total population (or 448,070 people) lived alone.

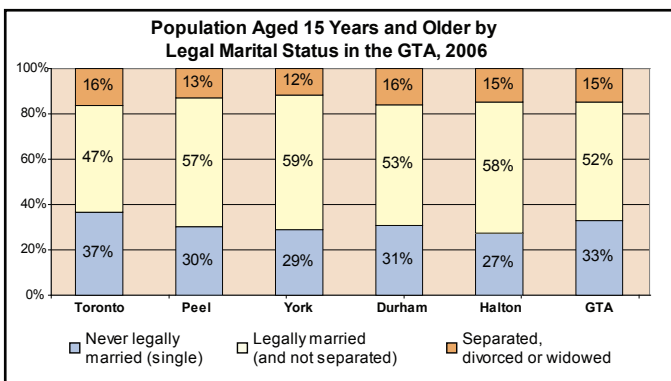
Highlights

- 52% of the GTA's population aged 15 years and older were legally married in 2006
- Peel had the third highest rate of lone-parent families in the GTA (15%) behind Toronto (20%) and Durham (16%)
- Male-led lone-parent families are growing faster than female-led lone-parent families in Mississauga and Caledon



In May 2006, over half of the GTA's population age 15 years and older (52%) were legally married (and not separated). York had the highest percentage of married people in the GTA (59%) followed by Halton (58%), Peel (57%), Durham (53%) and Toronto (47%). People who had never married comprised one-third (or 33%) of the GTA's population, while people who were separated (but still legally married), divorced or widowed made up the remaining 15%. Just over 5% of the GTA's population reported living in a common-law relationship in 2006. Within the GTA, this figure varied from 4% in York and Peel to 8% in Durham. These proportions have not shifted significantly since the 2001 Census.

There were 1,533,670 census families in the GTA in 2006. A census family consists of a married or common-law couple living together (with or without children), or a lone-parent living with at least one child. In every GTA municipality, at least 80% of all census families were headed by a couple. The vast majority of these couples (at least 87% in every municipality) were married.



Toronto had the highest proportion of lone-parent families within the GTA (with 20%, or one in five census families) followed by Durham (16%), Peel (15%), York (12%) and Halton (12%). Over 80% of the GTA's lone-parent families were led by women. These percentages stayed constant from 2001 to 2006, though male-led lone-parent families are growing at a faster rate than female-led lone-parent families in Toronto, Durham and York.

Two-thirds (or 67%) of married couples and just over one-third (or 37%) of common-law couples in the GTA lived with children in 2006. Peel and York had the highest rates of married couples living with children (with 71% each) while Toronto and Halton had the lowest rates (63% each). In the GTA as a whole, 19% of married couples with children were living with three or more children. Within the GTA, this proportion ranged from 18% in Toronto to 21% in Peel. Families headed by common-law couples with children and lone-parents were less likely to have large families – only 14% of families led by common-law couples and 11% of lone-parent families reported having three or more children.

Across the GTA, there were almost two million children living with their parents in 2006. One-fifth (or 20%) of these children were younger than 6 years of age, 45% of these children were 6 to 17 years old and 35% of these children were 18 years of age and older. Halton had the highest rate of children younger than 6 years of age (22%), Durham had the highest rate of children age 6 to 17 years (50%) and Toronto had the highest rate of children age 18 years and older still living at home (38%). Family composition in 2006 closely matched that of 2001.

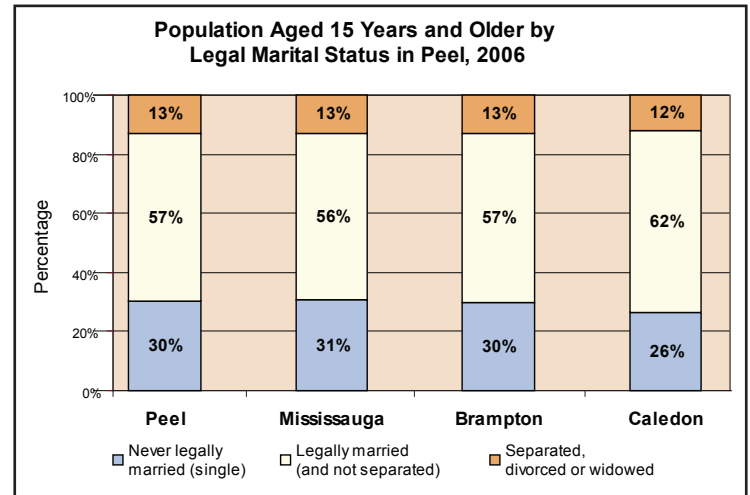
Census Families in the GTA by Type, 2001 and 2006

Municipality	All Census Families			Couple Families			Lone Parent Families			Average Number of Children per Census Family		
	2001	2006	Growth Rate 2001-2006	2001	Percent of Census Families, 2001	2006	Percent of Census Families, 2006	2001	Percent of Census Families, 2001		2006	Percent of Census Families, 2006
Toronto	663,180	670,105	1%	532,305	80%	533,970	80%	130,870	20%	136,135	20%	1.2
Peel	276,090	324,115	17%	236,140	86%	274,515	85%	39,945	14%	49,600	15%	1.4
York	204,530	252,405	23%	182,250	89%	221,835	88%	22,275	11%	30,570	12%	1.4
Durham	143,540	160,410	12%	122,480	85%	134,690	84%	21,065	15%	25,720	16%	1.3
Halton	108,150	126,630	17%	95,885	89%	111,410	88%	12,260	11%	15,225	12%	1.2
GTA	1,395,490	1,533,665	10%	1,169,060	84%	1,276,420	83%	226,415	16%	257,250	17%	NA

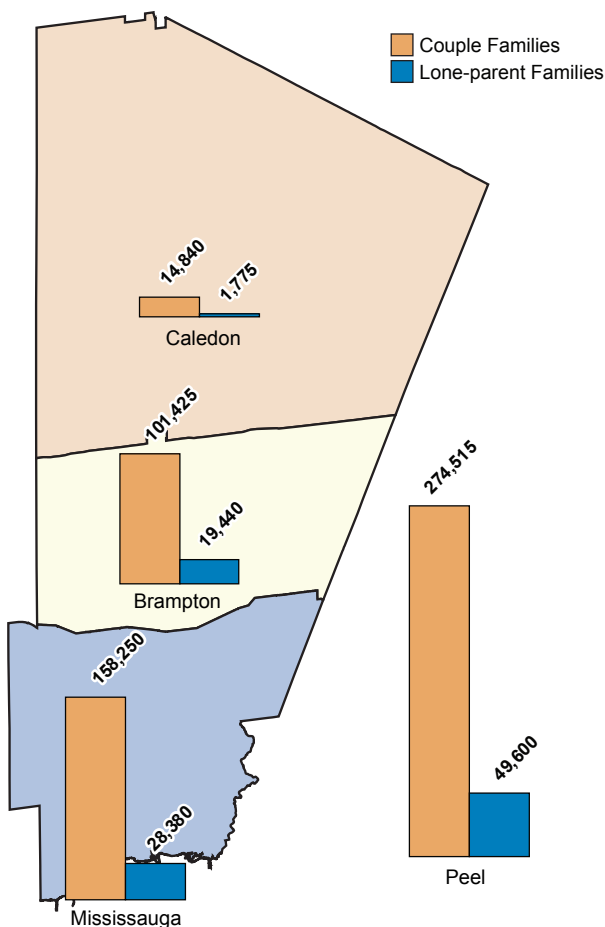
According to the 2006 Census, only 5% of Peel's total population (or 52,555 people) lived alone in 2006. Two-thirds (or 67%) of these people lived in Mississauga.

Nearly 60% of the 914,405 people age 15 years and older in Peel were married in 2006. This figure was lowest in Mississauga (56%) and highest in Caledon (62%). Almost one-third (or 30%) of Peel's residents had never been married, while 13% were either separated (but still legally married), divorced or widowed. Brampton and Caledon had the highest rates of people living in common-law relationships (with 5% each), followed by Mississauga (with 4%). These proportions have stayed the same since the 2001 Census.

In 2006, Peel had 324,115 census families (which consist of a couple living together with or without children or a lone-parent living with at least one child). In Mississauga and Brampton, almost 85% of census families were led by a couple. In Caledon, this figure was 89%. Over 90% of these couple families were led by a married couple. Since 2001, the proportion of couple-led census families has decreased by about 1% in every area municipality, while the proportion of lone-parent families increased by the same amount.



Families in Peel



Brampton had the highest rate of lone-parent families in Peel (16% or 19,440 census families), followed by Mississauga (15% or 28,380 census families) and Caledon (11% or 1,775 families). In Mississauga and Caledon, lone-parent families led by men are growing at a faster rate than lone-parent families led by women. Women led 82% of all lone-parent families in Mississauga, 81% of all lone-parent families in Brampton and 77% of all lone-parent families in Caledon.

Almost three-quarters (71%) of Peel's married couples lived with children in 2006. This figure ranged from 69% in Caledon to 72% in Brampton. However, less than half (or 47%) of Peel's common-law couples lived with children. The share of common-law couples with children was much higher in Brampton (55%) than in Mississauga and Caledon (41% and 43% respectively).

Over one in five census families led by married couples with children (or 21%) had three children or more, but only 16% of Peel's common-law couples with children and 11% of lone-parent families reported having this many children. From 2001 to 2006, the proportion of couple families with three or more children decreased by about 1% in every area municipality. The proportion of lone-parent families with three or more children also decreased by about 1% in Mississauga and Brampton, but fell 4% in Caledon.

There were 444,465 children living with their parents in Peel in 2006. One-third of this group (or 34%) were 18 years of age or older. This figure was highest in Mississauga (36%) and lowest in Caledon (30%). The proportion of children age 18 years or older living at home increased by 1% in Brampton, 2% in Caledon and 3% in Mississauga from 2001 to 2006.

Census Families in Peel by Type, 2001 and 2006

Municipality	Census Families			Couple Families				Lone-Parent Families				Average Number of Children per Census Family, 2006
	Number in 2001	Number in 2006	Growth Rate 2001-2006	2001	Percent of Census Families, 2001	2006	Percent of Census Families, 2006	2001	Percent of Census Families, 2001	2006	Percent of Census Families, 2006	
Mississauga	170,565	186,630	9%	145,920	86%	158,250	85%	24,645	14%	28,380	15%	1.4
Brampton	90,815	120,865	33%	76,890	85%	101,425	84%	13,925	15%	19,440	16%	1.4
Caledon	14,715	16,615	13%	13,330	91%	14,840	89%	1,375	9%	1,775	11%	1.3
Peel	276,090	324,115	17%	236,140	86%	274,515	85%	39,945	14%	49,600	15%	1.4