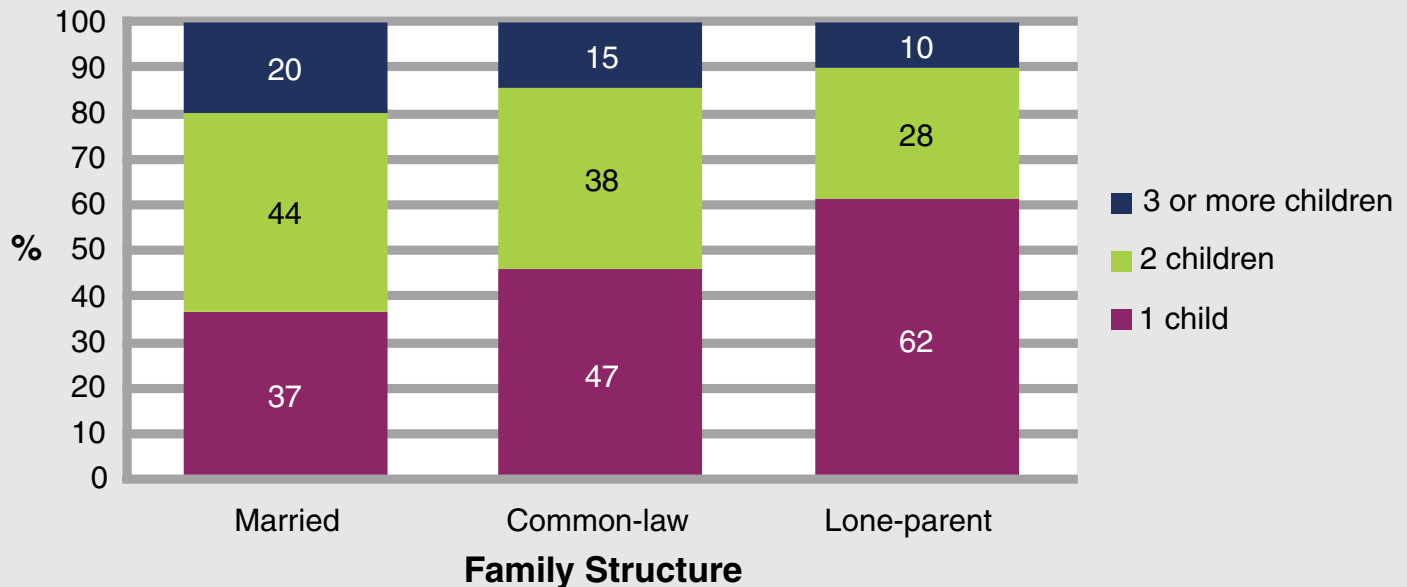




2.1.5 Family Structure

Fig. 2.1.5 Number of children living at home per family by family structure, Canada, 2006



Note: Excludes census data for one or more incompletely enumerated Indian reserves or Indian settlements.

Adapted from Statistics Canada <http://www12.statcan.gc.ca/census-recensement/2006/dp-pd/tbt/Rp-eng.cfm?LANG=E&APATH=3&DETAIL=0&DIM=0&FL=A&FREE=0&GC=0&GID=0&GK=0&GRP=1&PID=89016&PRID=0&PTYPE=88971,97154&S=0&SHOWALL=0&SUB=0&Temporal=2006&THEME=68&VID=0&VNAMEE=&VNAMEF=>, accessed on December 13, 2011.

In 2006, the majority of married and common-law families with children had 2 or more children living in their household (64% and 53%), while the majority of lone-parents had only one child living in their household (62%).

Implications

In Canada, the average family size declined from 3.7 in 1971 to 3.0 in 2006.¹ There are many factors influencing the size of a family. Economic security, age of parents, marriage and divorce, educational attainment and participation in the labour force are some of the factors driving the trend toward smaller families in Canada.

¹ Statistics Canada accessed at <http://www40.statcan.ca/l01/cst01/famil40-eng.htm> on December 13, 2011.

