

WOMEN IN CANADA AT A GLANCE

STATISTICAL HIGHLIGHTS



Status of Women
Canada

Condition féminine
Canada

Canada

WOMEN IN CANADA AT A GLANCE: STATISTICAL HIGHLIGHTS

1. Paper.
ISBN 978-1-100-54351-2
SW21-160/2012
2. PDF - English.
ISBN 978-1-100-20849-7
SW21-160/2012

Also available in French under the title: *Coup d'œil sur la situation des femmes au Canada : sommaire statistique*

Acknowledgement of source

Produced by Status of Women Canada, adapted from *Women in Canada: a Gender-based Statistical Report, 6th edition, Statistics Canada, 2012*. This does not constitute an endorsement by Statistics Canada.

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The full report, including all 12 chapters, is available at:
<http://www.statcan.gc.ca/pub/89-503-x/89-503-x2010001-eng.htm>

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INTRODUCTION

Women in Canada at a Glance

The first decade of the new millennium was a period of significant change in Canada. Nowhere was this more apparent than in the lives of women and girls, whose contributions to the economy and participation in all aspects of Canadian life have been crucial to our country's success.

As its name suggests, *Women in Canada at a Glance* is designed to serve as both a quick source of up-to-date statistical data on women and girls in Canada and a guide to the comprehensive report from Statistics Canada and Status of Women Canada, *Women in Canada: A Gender-based Statistical Report*, Sixth Edition (2012).

Women in Canada at a Glance covers the crucial aspects of women's lives and provides key data highlights for optimum access and comparison by policymakers, researchers, legal experts, evaluators and others. *Women in Canada at a Glance* will be an invaluable tool for stakeholders from many backgrounds and disciplines.

FEMALE POPULATION

- Canada's population is ageing and females continue to outnumber males by a slight margin (50.4% to 49.6%), in part due to their longer life expectancy.
- Girls (14 and under) represent approximately 16% of the Canadian population.
- Most Canadian women live in large metropolitan centres: 69.4% of the female population is concentrated in census metropolitan areas.
- The number of Aboriginal women and girls in Canada is growing. Whereas the female Aboriginal population accounted for only 2.8% in 1996, the percentage had risen to 3.3% in 2001 and to 3.8% of the country's total population in 2006. The median age among Aboriginal females in 2006 was 27.7 years compared to 40.0 years among the total female population.
- The number of female immigrants in Canada has increased. Immigrant women and girls represented 20% of the country's total population in 2006. Nearly one-fifth (18%) of all female immigrants arrived in the five years prior to 2006. Among immigrant women and girls in Canada, China is the primary country of origin (7.9%).
- Visible minority women and girls account for 16% of the total female population; the majority are Chinese (24%) or South Asian (24%). From 2001 to 2006, the number of women and girls who are members of a visible minority increased by 28%.
- English is the dominant language among Canadian women: 58% list English as their mother tongue, 22% list French and the remaining 20% list a non-official language.



For additional information, consult the "Female Population" chapter in *Women in Canada: A Gender-based Statistical Report*, 6th edition, or go to <http://www.statcan.gc.ca/pub/89-503-x/2010001/article/11475-eng.htm>.

Total population, Canada, 1921 to 2010

YEAR	FEMALES		MALES	TOTAL
	thousands	as a % of the total population	thousands	thousands
1921	4,258.3	48.5	4,529.6	8,787.9
1931	5,002.2	48.2	5,374.5	10,376.8
1941	5,606.1	48.7	5,900.5	11,506.7
1951	6,920.6	49.4	7,088.9	14,009.4
1956	7,928.9	49.3	8,151.9	16,080.8
1961	9,019.4	49.5	9,218.9	18,238.2
1966	9,960.5	49.8	10,054.3	20,014.9
1971 ¹	10,935.6	49.8	11,026.5	21,962.0
1976 ¹	11,726.5	50.0	11,723.4	23,449.8
1981 ¹	12,468.7	50.2	12,351.2	24,819.9
1986 ¹	13,148.9	50.4	12,951.4	26,100.3
1991 ¹	14,133.0	50.4	13,904.4	28,037.4
1996 ¹	14,959.9	50.5	14,650.3	29,610.2
2001 ¹	15,653.4	50.5	15,365.6	31,019.0
2006 ¹	16,428.2	50.4	16,147.9	32,576.1
2010 ¹	17,191.5	50.4	16,917.3	34,108.8

1. Estimates adjusted for net census undercoverage.

Sources: Statistics Canada, censuses of population, 1921 to 1966; and Demography Division, 1971 to 2006; and *Annual Demographic Estimates: Canada, Provinces and Territories*. Cat. no. 91-215-X, 2010.

Population, by age group, Canada, 2010

AGE GROUP	FEMALES			MALES	
	thousands	%	as a % of the age group	thousands	%
Under 5	914.7	5.3	48.7	963.4	5.7
5 to 14	1,818.1	10.6	48.6	1,920.4	11.4
15 to 24	2,236.9	13.0	48.7	2,354.8	13.9
25 to 34	2,333.1	13.6	49.7	2,362.8	14.0
35 to 44	2,343.0	13.6	49.7	2,372.7	14.0
45 to 54	2,700.3	15.7	49.9	2,711.8	16.0
55 to 64	2,163.8	12.6	50.8	2,093.2	12.4
65 to 74	1,341.4	7.8	52.1	1,232.1	7.3
75 to 84	904.6	5.3	56.5	696.0	4.1
85 and over	435.6	2.5	67.5	210.0	1.2
TOTAL aged 65 and older	2,681.6	15.6	55.6	2,138.0	12.6
TOTAL all age groups	17,191.5	100.0	50.4	16,917.3	100.0

Note: Adjusted for net census undercoverage.

Source: Statistics Canada, Demography Division.

FAMILIES, LIVING ARRANGEMENTS AND UNPAID WORK

- In 2006, most women in couples were married (82%) while a smaller number were in common-law unions (18%). However, the percentage of women in common-law unions has steadily increased over the last few decades, likely reflecting greater social acceptance of this living arrangement.
- Women are having fewer children overall and they are bearing them at older ages. In 2008, the average age of women at childbirth was 29.8 years. First-time mothers were on average 28.1 years old, in contrast to 23.5 years in the mid 1960s.
- Since the late 1990s, the rate of divorce has remained steady. Custody of dependents awarded to wives only fell from 76% in 1988 to 45% in 2004, while custody awarded to husbands only peaked at 15% in 1986 and was 8.1% in 2004. Custody was jointly granted to both parents in almost half of all proceedings (47%) in 2004, continuing the upward trend of the last two decades.
- There were about four times as many female lone parents (1.1 million) as male lone parents (281,800) in 2006, a fairly consistent ratio over the past several decades. However, from 2001 to 2006, male lone parents increased at twice the rate (15%) of female lone parents (6.3%).
- In 2006, 25% of women aged 65 to 69 lived alone, in contrast to 14% of men. The percentage of people who lived alone was highest at 80 years and over for both women (54%) and men (24%). This 30% gap in later life is due largely to the greater number of widows and the shorter life expectancy of men.
- Whereas slightly more visible minority women were married than non-visible minority women (51% and 46%, respectively), considerably fewer were in common-law relationships (3.6% and 12%, respectively).
- Women spend more time than men caring for their children. In 2010, women spent an average of 50.1 hours per week on unpaid child care, more than double that (24.4 hours) spent by men.
- Women spend more time than men on domestic work. In 2010, while women spent 13.8 hours per week doing housework, men spent 8.3 hours.
- Women were almost twice as likely as men (49% compared to 25%) to spend more than 10 hours per week caring for a senior.



For additional information, consult the "Families, Living Arrangements and Unpaid Work" chapter in *Women in Canada: A Gender-based Statistical Report*, 6th edition, or go to <http://www.statcan.gc.ca/pub/89-503-x/2010001/article/11546-eng.htm>

Women and men aged 15 years and over, by living arrangements, Canada, 2006

LIVING ARRANGEMENT	WOMEN			MEN		
	thousands	%	percentage growth 2001 to 2006	thousands	%	percentage growth 2001 to 2006
All living arrangements	13,116.7	100.0	7.2	12,395.1	100.0	7.1
In a couple	7,478.7	57.0	6.0	7,486.9	60.4	6.0
With married spouse	6,105.4	46.5	3.5	6,106.5	49.3	3.5
With common-law partner	1,373.3	10.5	18.9	1,380.4	11.1	18.8
Lone parents	1,132.3	8.6	6.3	281.8	2.3	14.6
As children	1,871.5	14.3	9.5	2,347.8	18.9	7.0
With relatives ¹	360.6	2.7	11.6	245.3	2.0	12.5
With non-relatives only	428.5	3.3	5.4	551.6	4.4	2.3
Alone	1,845.3	14.1	10.5	1,481.8	12.0	13.4

1. These households may also contain non-relatives. See *2006 Census Dictionary* for more information on census family concepts. Source: Statistics Canada, Census of Population, 2006.

Time spent on unpaid care of a child in the household, by working arrangement and age of youngest child, Canada, 2010

WORKING ARRANGEMENT AND AGE OF YOUNGEST CHILD	WOMEN	MEN
	average number of hours per week	
All women and men	50.1	24.4*
Working arrangement		
RESPONDENT WAS WORKING		
Dual earner couples; respondent working full-time	49.8	27.2*
Dual earner couples; respondent working part-time	59.4	40.5*
Single earner couples; respondent working	50.8	25.5*
Lone parents; respondent working	26.9	12.0*
RESPONDENT WAS NOT WORKING		
Single earner couples; respondent not working	81.3	36.9*
Couples; neither partner working	59.5	36.3 ^E
Lone parents; respondent not working	30.0	8.1 ^E
AGE OF YOUNGEST CHILD IN THE HOUSEHOLD		
0 to 4	67.5	30.2*
5 to 14	37.7	19.7*

E use with caution

* statistically significant difference between women and men at p < 0.05

Source: Statistics Canada, General Social Survey, 2010.

WOMEN AND HEALTH

- Health is closely linked to socio-economic status. Women with higher income and education levels are more likely to report very good or excellent health. Among women aged 45 to 64, 39% of those who had not completed secondary school described their health as very good or excellent. By comparison, 73% of women in the same age group who had obtained a university degree reported very good or excellent health.
- Arthritis affects many more women than men across all age groups. In 2009, 2.6 million females reported they had been diagnosed with arthritis, as compared to 1.6 million males. The gap widens considerably among seniors, for whom this condition is particularly likely to develop.
- Cancer is the leading cause of death among Canadians. Self-reported data on prevalence rates of cancer shows variation by age and gender. Before age 45, the prevalence of cancer is relatively low (slightly under half of 1% for women and men aged 25 to 44). However, among those aged 45 to 64, the rate of cancer is 2% for both sexes. Over age 65, the rate rises to 5% for women and 7% for men.
- Heart disease is the second leading cause of death for both sexes. Women are somewhat less likely than men to be diagnosed with heart disease. In the 45 to 64 age group, 4% of women had heart disease, compared with 7% of men.
- Diabetes is on the rise for both sexes. While 2003 saw 578,000 women with diabetes, that count surged in 2009 to 769,000. By comparison, the number of men with diabetes reached 937,000 in 2009.
- Data from the Canadian Public Health Agency shows there were 609 positive HIV test reports for females in 2009, compared with 1,759 for males.
- Women are less likely than men to use tobacco. In 2009, almost one-fifth (18%) of women and girls 12 years old and up were smokers; by comparison, almost a quarter (23%) of men and boys smoked.
- The rate of diagnosed obesity among adults has been on the rise for many years. While there was no difference overall in the likelihood of women and men becoming obese, women under the age of 60 are less likely to be overweight than men. For ages 40 to 59, overweight rates were 31% for women and 52% for men.
- Women are less likely than men to practice physical exercise during their leisure time. Women aged 65 and over registered the lowest prevalence of leisure-time physical activity (37% compared with 50% for men). A similar gender difference was also observed among 12- to 19-year-olds. In 2009, 77% of males in this age group were at least moderately active, compared with 65% of females.
- Female lone-parent families have the highest incidence of food insecurity. Of women who were lone parents, 23% suffered food insecurity, almost four times more than those women living with both a partner and children (6%).

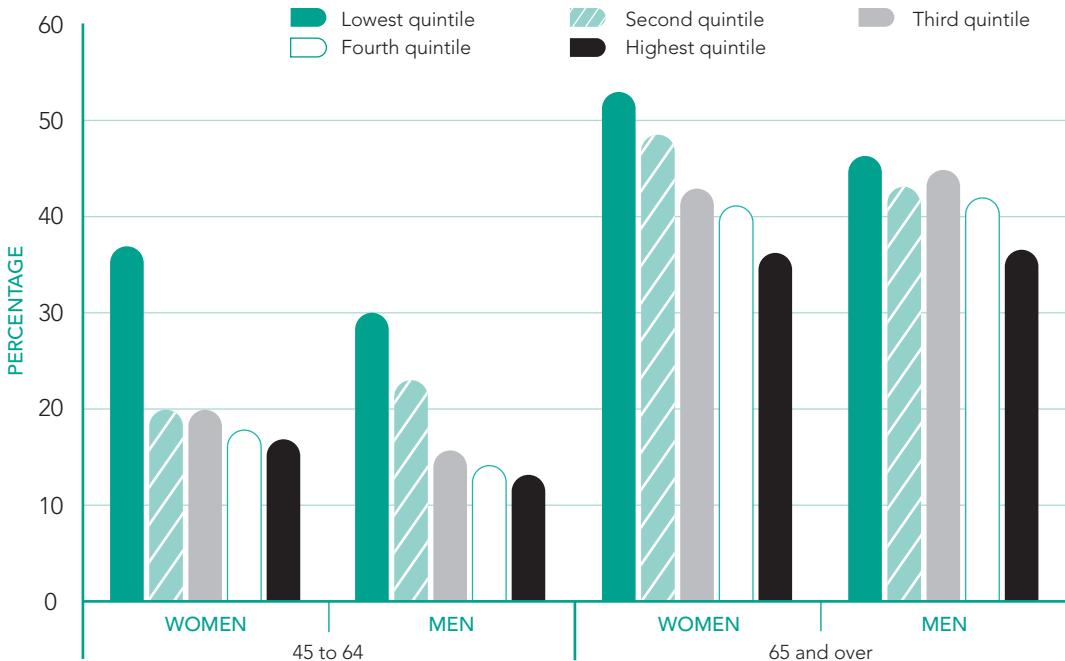


Persons reporting very good or excellent health, by household income and education level, Canada, 2009

HOUSEHOLD INCOME AND EDUCATION LEVEL	FEMALES			MALES		
	25 to 44	45 to 64	65 and over	25 to 44	45 to 64	65 and over
	percentage					
HOUSEHOLD INCOME						
Lowest quintile	57.7	37.8	30.5	55.9	33.0	30.3
Second quintile	63.1	50.9	42.4	62.2	49.4	38.8
Third quintile	71.5	60.6	48.2	73.1	52.9	46.4
Fourth quintile	75.6	68.5	54.7	69.2	64.0	53.4
Highest quintile	79.1	72.5	59.8	77.2	63.0	60.7
EDUCATION LEVEL						
Less than secondary school	48.1	38.7	30.6	53.2	41.1	35.1
Secondary school diploma	62.5	56.9	43.3	68.0	52.7	42.0
College diploma or trade certificate	67.7	59.6	46.1	68.4	57.1	41.7
University degree	75.9	73.1	55.6	73.5	63.9	55.5

Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Community Health Survey, 2009.

Percentage of persons with two or more chronic health conditions, by age group and income quintile, Canada, 2009



Note: Eight chronic health conditions were examined: arthritis, cancer, high blood pressure, diabetes, heart disease, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD), mood disorder and anxiety disorder.

Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Community Health Survey, 2009.

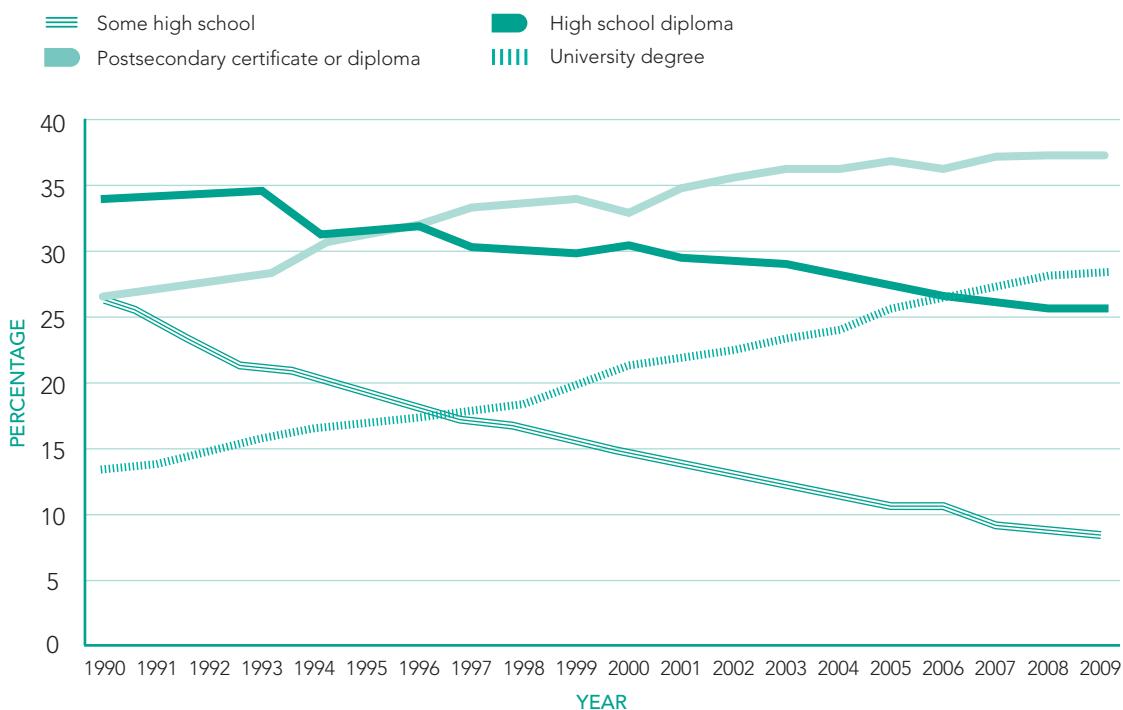
WOMEN AND EDUCATION

- A larger proportion of girls than boys earn their high school diploma within the expected timeframe. In 2006, 84% of 19-year-old women had a high school diploma, compared with 77% of 19-year-old men.
- In the last 20 years, dropout rates have fallen dramatically among both women and men. In 1990, 14% of women aged 20 to 24 years had dropped out of high school compared to 19% of men in the same age group. By 2009, the drop-out rate for both genders had declined by about half (7% and 10% respectively).
- Women are under-represented among enrollees in all apprenticeship training programs except the food and service trades. For example, in 2007, women represented 3.7% of those enrolled in building construction programs.
- Despite greater numbers of women in apprenticeship programs, many drop out and do not earn their certificate. In 2007, despite representing 3.0% of enrolments in the electrical, electronic and related trades, only 1.5% of all graduates from these programs were women.
- Women make up the majority of enrolments in college programs; the proportion is even greater among graduates. In 2006/2007, women represented 56% of college enrolments and 59% of graduates.
- Since the early 1990s, women have made up the majority of full-time students enrolled in undergraduate university programs. In 2008, 62% of all those who completed university undergraduate programs were women.
- In 2009, 34% of women aged 25 to 34 had at least a bachelor's degree, compared to 26% of men. In 1990, 15% of women and 15.6% of men in that age group had a university degree.
- Women and men tend to choose different university programs. For instance, in 2008, only 22% of graduates of architecture, engineering and related services programs were women (a small increase from 18% in 1990). In the mathematics, computer and information sciences programs, 30% of graduates were women, slightly down from 35% in 1990.



For additional information, consult the "Women and Education" chapter in *Women in Canada: A Gender-based Statistical Report*, 6th edition, or go to <http://www.statcan.gc.ca/pub/89-503-x/2010001/article/11542-eng.htm>.

Distribution of women aged 25 to 54, by highest level of educational attainment, Canada, 1990 to 2009



Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Survey, 1990 to 2009.

Percentage of women among university graduates, by field of study, Canada, 1992 and 2008

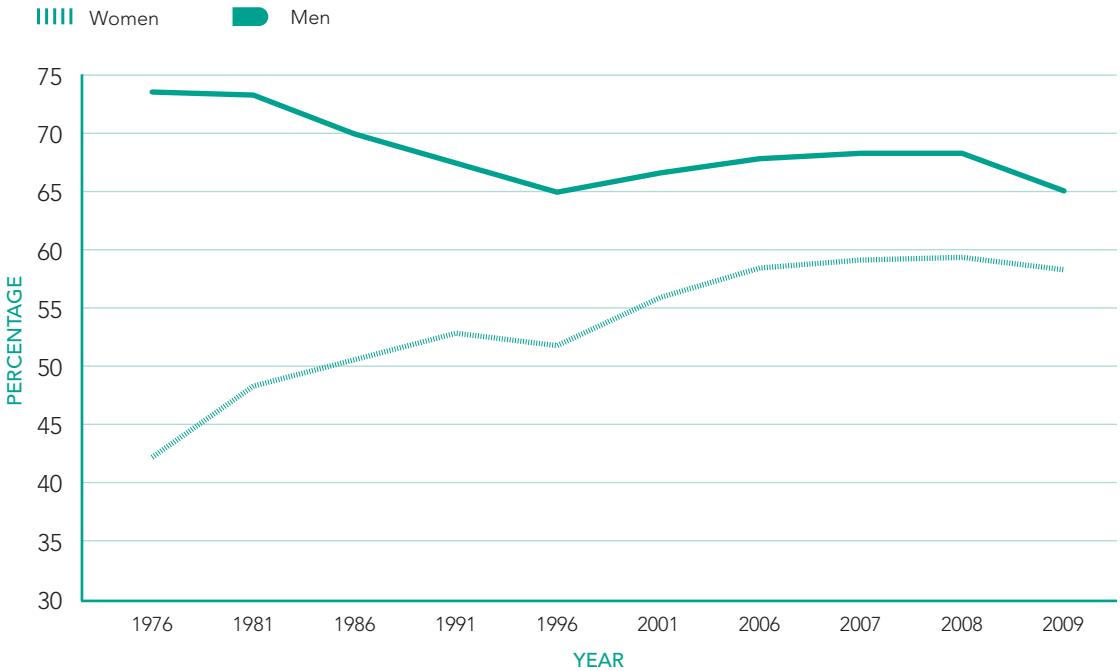
FIELD OF STUDY	1992	2008
	percentage	
Total – Instructional programs	56.4	60.0
Architecture, engineering and related services	17.5	22.2
Mathematics, computer and information sciences	35.2	30.4
Personal, protective and transportation services	18.2	44.9
Business, management and public administration	51.4	53.0
Agriculture, natural resources and conservation	36.7	55.9
Physical and life sciences, and technologies	45.6	57.3
Humanities	63.7	64.3
Visual and performing arts and communication technology	65.9	66.5
Social and behavioural sciences, law	59.3	67.0
Other instructional programs	73.6	69.4
Education	72.6	76.1
Health, parks, recreation and fitness	68.0	77.0

Sources: Statistics Canada, Postsecondary Student Information System, 1992 and 2008.

PAID WORK

- In 2009, 8.1 million women (58.3%) were employed, more than double the number in 1976.
- Despite considerable progress over the past three decades, women are still less likely to be employed than men. The exception is young women aged 15 to 24, who in recent years have shown consistently higher employment rates than young men.
- Women with higher levels of education are more likely to be employed. Of female university graduates, 74.7% had jobs, compared to 59.1% of those with some post-secondary training and 56.2% with high school diplomas. In contrast, 35% of women who had not completed high school and 13.7% of those who had not gone beyond grade 8 were employed.
- Employment rates among women with children have increased over the past three decades. In 2009, 72.9% of women with children under 16 living at home were part of the paid workforce; in 1976, the figure was 39.1%.
- While about 73% of female employees worked full time in 2009, women were still more likely than men to have part-time jobs. The share of women working fewer than 30 hours per week at their main job has risen slightly, from 23.6% in 1976 to 26.9% in 2009. Over the same period, the share of men working part-time rose from 5.9% to 11.9%.
- Over the past two decades, the number of self-employed women has grown. In 2009, nearly 1 million women, 11.9% of all those with jobs, were self-employed, up from 8.6% in 1976. However, men are still more likely than women to be self-employed: in 2009, 19.9% of Canadian men were self-employed.
- A majority of women continue to work in traditional female occupations. In 2009, 67% of employed women had jobs in teaching, nursing and related health fields, clerical or other administrative positions, or in sales and services. Only 31% of employed men worked in these fields.
- Women have expanded their representation in several professional fields. In business and finance, professional women's participation reached 51.2% in 2009, up from 38.3% in 1987. Women also comprised 55.2% of doctors, dentists and other health professionals in 2009, up from 43.1% in 1987. Similarly, 72.5% of professionals working in social sciences or religion in 2009 were women, compared with 61.4% in 1987.
- Women are increasingly taking up managerial positions. In 2009, women comprised 37.0% of those employed as managers, up from 30.1% in 1987. However, slightly more women were working in lower-level management positions than in senior ones. In 2009, women made up 37.4% of lower-level managers and 31.6% of senior managers, up from 21.0% in 1987.
- Among professionals in natural sciences, engineering and mathematics, women are still very much in the minority. In 2009, just 22.3% of professionals in these fields were women, up marginally from 19.5% in 1987.

Employment rates of women and men, 1976 to 2009



Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Survey.



For additional information, consult the "Paid Work" chapter in *Women in Canada: A Gender-based Statistical Report*, 6th edition, or go to <http://www.statcan.gc.ca/pub/89-503-x/2010001/article/11387-eng.htm>.

Distribution of employment by occupations, 1987, 1999 and 2009

OCCUPATIONS	1987			1999			2009		
	Women	Men	Women as a percentage of total occupations	Women	Men	Women as a percentage of total occupations	Women	Men	Women as a percentage of total occupations
	percentage								
MANAGERIAL									
Senior management	0.3	0.8	21.0	0.4	0.8	28.2	0.3	0.6	31.6
Other management	5.7	9.7	30.7	6.9	10.6	35.5	6.7	10.4	37.4
TOTAL MANAGEMENT	6.0	10.5	30.1	7.2	11.3	35.1	7.0	11.0	37.0
PROFESSIONAL									
Business and finance	1.9	2.3	38.3	3.1	2.7	49.3	3.6	3.2	51.2
Natural sciences/ engineering/mathematics	2.3	7.0	19.5	3.0	9.6	20.7	3.3	10.6	22.3
Social sciences/religion	4.3	2.0	61.4	5.8	2.4	67.7	7.7	2.7	72.5
Teaching	3.8	2.6	52.3	5.2	2.7	61.9	5.8	2.7	65.9
Doctors/dentists/other health	0.9	0.9	43.1	1.1	1.0	47.3	1.5	1.1	55.2
Nursing/therapy/other health related	8.3	0.9	87.1	8.1	1.1	86.3	9.1	1.2	87.1
Artistics/literary/recreational	2.7	2.1	48.4	3.4	2.4	54.1	3.7	2.9	54.4
TOTAL PROFESSIONAL	24.1	18.0	50.4	29.7	21.9	53.4	34.7	24.4	56.7
CLERICAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE	29.7	7.9	73.9	24.6	6.8	75.4	23.2	6.9	75.5
SALES AND SERVICES	30.0	18.4	55.2	29.4	18.6	57.3	28.9	20.1	56.9
PRIMARY	2.3	7.2	19.7	1.9	5.9	21.6	1.3	4.9	19.5
TRADES, TRANSPORT AND CONSTRUCTION	2.1	28.9	5.2	2.0	26.1	6.0	2.0	26.3	6.4
PROCESSING, MANUFACTURING AND UTILITIES	5.8	9.1	32.4	5.2	9.3	32.2	2.9	6.3	30.1
TOTAL OCCUPATIONS¹	100.0	100.0	43.0	100.0	100.0	45.9	100.0	100.0	47.9
TOTAL EMPLOYED (THOUSANDS)	5,307.7	7,025.3	...	6,609.6	7,797.2	...	8,076.2	8,772.7	...

1. Includes occupations that are not classified.

Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Survey.

ECONOMIC WELL-BEING

- While the wage gap persists, progress is being made on closing it. In 2008, women earned, on average, 83 cents to every dollar earned by men (an increase of eight cents since 1988).
- Variation between the earnings of married and single women is slight. In 2008, single never-married women aged 45 to 54 earned on average \$54,300; married women in the same age group averaged \$52,300. The variation was greater for men: single never-married men aged 45 to 54 earned on average \$50,300; married men averaged almost \$74,200.
- While earnings for both sexes rise with levels of education, the difference is greater for women. Women working full-year, full-time with less than a Grade 9 education averaged less than 35% of the earnings of female university graduates. In comparison, men with less than Grade 9 averaged about 44% of the earnings of male university graduates. Also note that even with equivalent education levels, men earned more than women.
- The incidence of dual-income families has increased over the last 30 years. In 1976, only 47% of husband-wife families were dual-income; by 2008, 64% of husband-wife families were dual-earner.
- Incidence of low income has decreased for both women and men over the last three decades. In 1976, almost 15% of women and 11% of men lived on low incomes. By 2008, however, 10% of women and 9% of men lived in low-income situations.
- Those in the 65-and-older age group saw the biggest improvement over the period 1976 to 2008: the incidence of low income fell from 29% in 1976 to just less than 6% in 2008.
- In 1976, 54% of female lone-parent families lived on low incomes. By 2008, the percentage of these low-income families had dropped to 21%.
- Among paid workers, registered pension plan coverage declined from about 45% in 1992 to 38% in 2008. Coverage for men who were paid workers was down by about 11 percentage points over the 1992-to-2008 period; women's coverage declined by three percentage points.

Average annual earnings of women and men employed full-year, full-time, by educational attainment, 2008

LEVEL OF EDUCATION	WOMEN	MEN	EARNING'S RATIO
	dollars		percentage
Less than grade 9	20,800	40,400	51.5
Some secondary school	28,600	43,600	65.6
Graduated high school	35,400	50,300	70.4
Some postsecondary	36,400	50,100	72.6
Postsecondary certificate or diploma	41,100	57,700	71.2
University degree	62,800	91,800	68.3
TOTAL	44,700	62,600	71.3

Note: Average annual earnings excludes Canadians with no earnings.

Source: Statistics Canada, Survey of Labour and Income Dynamics.

Percentage of persons in low-income after tax, by economic family type, 1976 to 2008

PERSONS IN LOW INCOME	1976	1981	1986	1991	1996	2001	2006	2007	2008
	percentage								
Elderly families	17.7	9.6	4.9	3.1	3.0	2.9	2.9	1.8	2.6
Non-elderly families	9.7	8.8	9.8	10.8	13.0	8.6	7.9	6.5	6.7
Married couples	5.8	5.0	5.9	7.7	8.4	6.4	5.6	4.8	5.5
Couples with children	8.2	7.5	8.5	8.7	10.7	7.3	7.1	5.6	6.0
Other couples	3.2	2.6	3.0	2.8	4.6	4.4	2.2	1.4	1.8
Female lone parent	53.7	44.2	48.7	49.8	52.9	34.2	28.9	24.0	20.9
Male lone parent	17.9	12.2	16.3	18.7	24.5	11.4	6.9	9.2	7.0
Other non-elderly families	13.1	11.8	11.6	12.7	13.3	7.4	9.4	9.4	9.7

Source: Statistics Canada, CANSIM table 202-0804.



For additional information, consult the "Economic Well-being" chapter in *Women in Canada: A Gender-based Statistical Report*, 6th edition, or go to <http://www.statcan.gc.ca/pub/89-503-x/2010001/article/11388-eng.htm>.

WOMEN AND THE CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM

- In 2009, approximately 7.4 million people living in the 10 provinces, or just over one-quarter of the population aged 15 years and older, self-reported being a victim of crime. About 1.6 million violent crimes involved a female victim and 1.7 million involved a male victim. Women were most likely to report being a victim of physical assault, followed by sexual assault and robbery.
- According to police-reported data, women make up the majority of victims of sexual assault and “other sexual violations” (87% and 80%, respectively).
- Women are most likely to be victimized by someone they know. Current or former spouses and other intimate partners perpetrated about 41% of the violent assaults against women reported to police. Other family members and acquaintances accounted for another 42% of perpetrators.
- Often people do not disclose victimization experiences to formal authorities. Among female victims of self-reported violent crime, only one-third reported to the police.
- Overall rates of self-reported spousal violence have declined over the past decade, from 7.4% in 1999 to 6.2% in 2009.
- Over the past 30 years, rates of homicide involving female victims have dropped substantially. Much of this decline may be related to a decrease in spousal homicides. In 2009, rates of spousal homicide in which a female was the victim were one-third of the 1979 rates.
- However, despite these marked improvements, in 2009 women were almost three times more likely than men to be killed by a spouse.
- Looking at cases where females are charged with an offence, the types of offences for which they had the highest involvement were similar for adults and youth. In 2008/2009, most cases against adult woman involved property offences (32%), crimes against the person (22%) and administration of justice offences (20%). Of all completed youth cases involving a female accused, property crimes and crimes against the person were the most common offences (40% and 28%, respectively).
- Female inmates are on average younger, more likely to be single, less likely to have graduated from high school, and more likely to be unemployed than other women. In 2009, more than half of the women in provincial institutions (56%) and in federal custody (53%) were between 18 and 35 years of age.
- The representation of Aboriginal people in custody has steadily increased. In 2008/2009, 35% of women and 23% of men admitted to jail were Aboriginal, while 2006 Census data show that Aboriginal men and women make up about 3% of all adult Canadians.

Severity of spousal violence reported by female and male victims, 2009

SPOUSAL VIOLENCE	Female victim [†]		Male victim	
	thousands	percentage	thousands	percentage
Total spousal¹ violence	601	100.0	585	100.0
MOST SERIOUS TYPE OF VIOLENCE				
Threat, threw something	91	15.0	122	21.0
Pushed, shoved, slapped	223	37.0	188	32.0
Kicked, bit, hit, hit with something	81	13.0	209	36.0*
Sexually assaulted, beaten, choked, threatened with a gun or knife	203	34.0	59	10.0 ^{E*}
% INJURED				
Physical injury	253	42.0	103	18.0*
No physical injury	347	58.0	479	82.0*
Not stated/Don't know	F	F	F	F
% RECEIVING MEDICAL ATTENTION				
Received medical attention	46	8.0 ^E	F	F
Did not receive medical attention	207	34.0	88	15.0*
No physical injury	348	58.0	483	82.0*
Not stated/Don't know	F	F	F	F
% FEARING FOR THEIR LIVES				
Feared for their life	195	33.0	31	5.0 ^{E*}
Did not fear for their life	403	67.0	550	94.0*
Not stated/Don't know	F	F	F	F
NUMBER OF INCIDENTS				
One incident	258	43.0	353	60.0*
2 to 5 incidents	145	24.0	134	23.0
6 to 10 incidents	55	9.0 ^E	30	5.0 ^E
11 or more	118	20.0	42	7.0 ^{E*}
Don't know/not stated	24	4.0 ^E	27	5.0 ^E
TOTAL SPOUSAL VIOLENCE	601	100.0	585	100.0

† reference group

* statistically significant difference from the reference group at $p < 0.05$

E use with caution

F too unreliable to be published

1. Includes legally married, common-law, and same-sex spouses.

Notes: Values may not add up to totals due to rounding. Excludes data from the Northwest Territories, Yukon and Nunavut.

Source: Statistics Canada, General Social Survey, 2009.



For additional information, consult the "Women and the Criminal Justice System" chapter in *Women in Canada: A Gender-based Statistical Report*, 6th edition, or go to <http://www.statcan.gc.ca/pub/89-503-x/2010001/article/11416-eng.htm>.

Female victims of violent crime, by relationship of the accused to the victim, 2009

TYPE OF VIOLENT CRIME	Current/former spouse ⁵		Intimate relationship ⁶		Other family ⁷		Acquaintance ⁸		Stranger		Total	
	number	%	number	%	number	%	number	%	number	%	number	%
Homicide	49	38.3	17	13.3	31	24.2	17	13.3	14	10.9	128	100.0
Attempted murder	44	28.4	33	21.3	27	17.4	33	21.3	18	11.6	155	100.0
Other violations causing death	6	21.4	0	0.0	1	3.6	9	32.1	12	42.9	28	100.0
Sexual assaults - all levels	764	4.9	1,178	7.6	3,677	23.8	7,040	45.5	2,818	18.2	15,477	100.0
Other sexual violations ¹	8	0.3	127	5.2	938	38.7	919	37.9	433	17.9	2,425	100.0
Assault - level 3 - aggravated	187	24.7	214	28.3	110	14.5	167	22.1	79	10.4	757	100.0
Assault - level 2 - weapon or bodily harm	4,075	25.1	3,421	21.1	2,498	15.4	3,852	23.7	2,376	14.6	16,222	100.0
Assault - level 1 - common assault	23,655	27.7	21,746	25.4	13,441	15.7	19,204	22.5	7,459	8.7	85,505	100.0
Other assaults ²	127	5.9	174	8.1	79	3.7	523	24.4	1,238	57.8	2,141	100.0
Forcible confinement, kidnapping or abduction ³	1,058	30.0	1,273	36.1	282	8.0	423	12.0	495	14.0	3,531	100.0
Robbery	102	1.4	125	1.7	74	1.0	637	8.6	6,483	87.4	7,421	100.0
Extortion	29	7.7	40	10.6	27	7.2	143	37.9	138	36.6	377	100.0
Criminal harassment	2,723	22.2	3,552	29.0	600	4.9	4,075	33.3	1,302	10.6	12,252	100.0
Threatening or harassing phone calls	834	9.2	1,936	21.5	596	6.6	3,213	35.6	2,445	27.1	9,024	100.0
Uttering threats	3,912	16.3	3,288	13.7	3,354	13.9	10,284	42.7	3,222	13.4	24,060	100.0
Other violent Criminal Code violations ⁴	114	11.6	72	7.3	143	14.6	366	37.3	285	29.1	980	100.0
TOTAL	37,687	20.9	37,196	20.6	25,878	14.3	50,905	28.2	28,817	16.0	180,483	100.0

1. Other sexual violations primarily include sexual offences against children as well as other sexual offences involving adults.
2. Includes assaults against peace officers, unlawfully causing bodily harm, criminal negligence causing bodily harm, and other assaults.
3. Includes forcible confinement, kidnapping; abduction under 14, not parent/guardian; abduction under 16; removal of children from Canada; abduction under 14 contravening a custody order; abduction under 14, by parent/guardian.
4. Includes firearm violations. Excludes other sexual violations involving adults.
5. Includes common-law relationships.
6. Includes current and former dating relationships as well as "other intimate relationships" such as extra-marital lovers. In some cases, the victim and the accused were living together at the time of the offence.
7. Includes siblings and all others related by blood, marriage (including common-law), adoption or foster care.
8. Includes friends, neighbours, authority figures, business relationships as well as criminal relationships (such as prostitutes, drug dealers and their clients).

Notes: One incident may involve multiple violations. Counts are based upon the most serious violation against the victim. Incidents where the relationship of the accused to the victim is unknown were excluded.

Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Uniform Crime Reporting Incident-Based Survey, 2009.

ABORIGINAL WOMEN: FIRST NATIONS, MÉTIS AND INUIT

- In 2006, there were 600,695 Aboriginal females in Canada, representing 4% of the total Canadian female population. Among the Aboriginal female population, 60% reported being First Nations, while 33% were Métis and 4% were Inuit.
- The female Aboriginal population is growing rapidly. From 1996 to 2006, the number of Aboriginal females rose by 45%, whereas the number of non-Aboriginal females rose by 9%.
- The median age of Aboriginal females was 27.7 years in 2006, compared with 40.5 for non-Aboriginal females, a gap of almost 13 years.
- While it has narrowed, a gap between the life expectancy of Aboriginal women and non-Aboriginal women remains. In 2001, the estimated life expectancy at birth for Aboriginal females was 76.8 years, about five years less than their non-Aboriginal counterparts.
- Aboriginal women are more likely to be lone parents than non-Aboriginal women. In 2006, 18% of Aboriginal women aged 15 and over headed families on their own, in comparison to 8% of their non-Aboriginal counterparts.
- Overcrowding is a serious issue for many Aboriginal females, particularly for Inuit living in the North but also for members of First Nations. In 2006, 31% of Inuit women and girls, 14% of First Nations women and girls and 3% of Métis women and girls lived in crowded dwellings, in comparison to 3% of non-Aboriginal females.
- According to the 2006 Census, 51.1% of Aboriginal women aged 15 years and over were employed, compared with 57.7% of non-Aboriginal women. Aboriginal women were also less likely than their male counterparts to be employed: 51.1% versus 56.5%, respectively.
- Generally speaking, the gap between the unemployment rates of Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal women is smaller among those with higher levels of education. In 2006, for women aged 25 to 54 without a high school diploma, the unemployment rate was 20.5% for Aboriginal women and 9.2% for non-Aboriginal women, a gap of 11.3 percentage points. For those with university degrees, the unemployment rate was 5.8% for Aboriginal women and 4.6% for non-Aboriginal women, a gap of 1.2 percentage points.
- In 2005, the median income for Aboriginal women was \$15,654, about \$5,000 less than the \$20,640 figure for non-Aboriginal women. Aboriginal women's median income was also about \$3,000 less than that of Aboriginal men (\$18,714).



For additional information, consult the "First Nations, Métis and Inuit Women" chapter in *Women in Canada: A Gender-based Statistical Report*, 6th edition, or go to <http://www.statcan.gc.ca/pub/89-503-x/2010001/article/11442-eng.htm>.

Age structure of the female population, by Aboriginal identity, Canada, 2006



Source: Statistics Canada, Census of Population, 2006.

Labour force indicators and median income, population aged 15 years and over, by Aboriginal identity, Canada, 2006

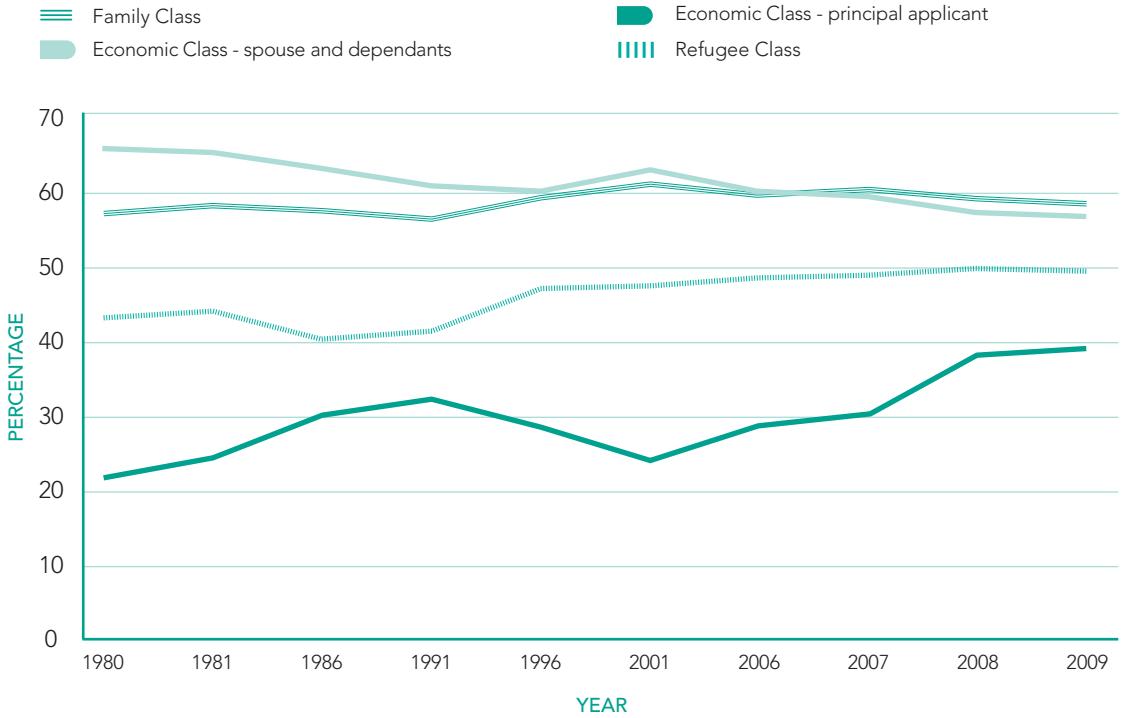
LABOUR FORCE INDICATOR AND MEDIAN INCOME	Total Aboriginal population	First Nations	Métis	Inuit	Status Indians	Non-Aboriginal population
	percentage					
Participation rate – Total population	63.0	58.8	70.1	61.3	57.8	66.9
Females	59.1	55.0	66.2	58.9	53.9	61.7
Males	67.3	63.2	74.1	63.9	62.2	72.5
Employment rate – Total population	53.7	48.2	63.1	48.9	46.8	62.7
Females	51.1	46.1	60.0	49.1	44.8	57.7
Males	56.5	50.7	66.3	48.6	49.2	68.0
Unemployment rate – Total population	14.8	18.0	10.0	20.3	19.0	6.3
Females	13.5	16.2	9.5	16.7	17.0	6.4
Males	16.1	19.8	10.5	23.8	21.0	6.2
dollars						
Median income – Total population	16,752	14,477	20,935	16,969	14,095	25,955
Females	15,654	14,490	17,520	16,599	14,337	20,640
Males	18,714	14,458	26,464	17,425	13,802	32,639

Source: Statistics Canada, Census of Population, 2006.

IMMIGRANT WOMEN

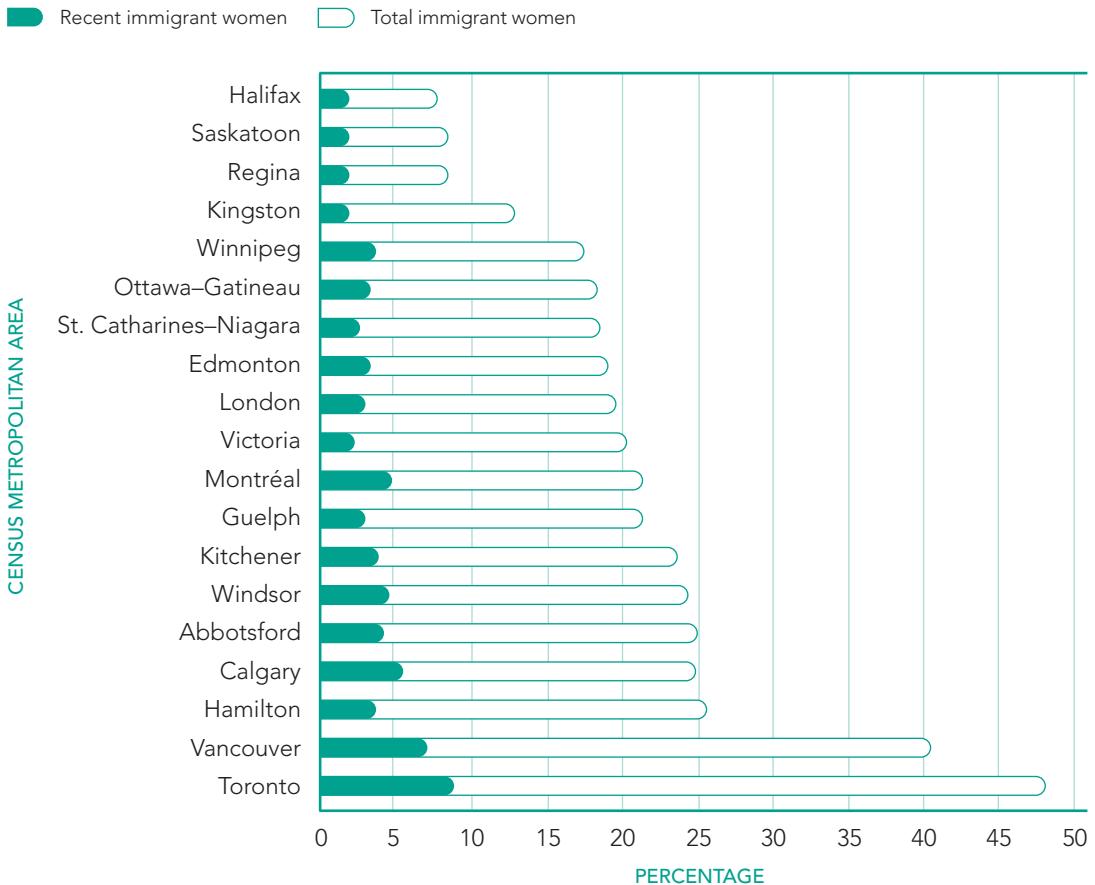
- Canada's female population is increasingly diverse. In 2006, there were 3.2 million immigrant women, a fifth (20.3%) of the entire female population.
- In 2009, 29% of immigrant women admitted as permanent residents were in the family class category, representing 59% of the category's total. Another 39% of women were admitted as spouses or dependants in the economic class, accounting for 56% of those in that category. A further 19% were admitted as principal applicants in the economic class.
- In 2009, almost half (49% or 11,300 individuals) of all refugee class immigrants were women. Refugees represented 9% of all landed immigrants admitted to Canada in 2009.
- In 2006, 90% of immigrant women lived in the country's 33 largest urban centres, compared to only 68% of the total female population.
- Overall, immigrant women are more likely to be university graduates than women born in this country. Approximately 23% have a bachelor's degree or higher, compared to 16% of Canadian-born women. However, immigrant women are less likely to have a degree than immigrant men. For example, 57% of recent immigrant men between the ages of 25 and 54 had a university degree compared to 49% of recent immigrant women in the same age group.
- From 2001 to 2006, Canada's total female workforce increased by 9.5%. During this five-year period, the female labour force increased 16.8% among the immigrant population and 7.4% among the Canadian-born.
- Whether immigrant or Canadian-born, women continue to work in traditional female sectors, most commonly in sales and services as well as in business, finance and administrative fields. In 2006, among the immigrant female labour force, 29% worked in sales and services and 25% were employed in business, finance and administrative occupations.
- Finding suitable employment can be a challenge for many newcomers, especially those seeking work that reflects their training. The proportion of recent immigrant women with a university degree working in sales and services (23%) was three times greater than for their Canadian-born counterparts (7.4%).
- Newly arrived immigrant women – those who had arrived up to five years prior to the 2006 Census – were more likely to be unemployed than those who had spent more time in Canada. However, amongst immigrant women aged 25 to 54, the challenge of finding work eased the longer they lived in this country.

Female permanent residents, by major admission category, Canada, 1980 to 2009



Source: Citizenship and Immigration Canada, *Facts and Figures*.

Immigrant and recent immigrant women as a percentage of total female population, by census metropolitan area, Canada, 2006



Source: Statistics Canada, Census of Population, 2006.

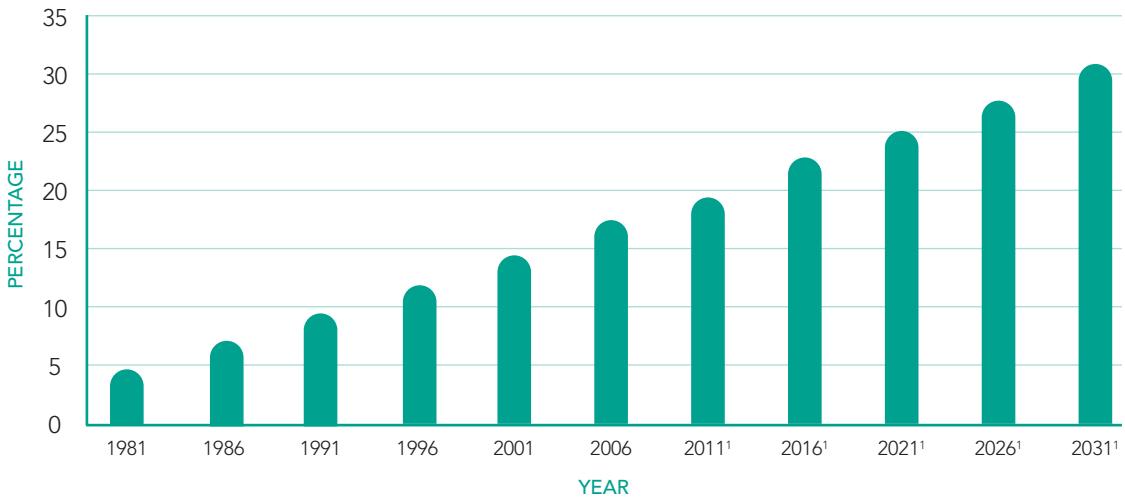


For additional information, consult the “Immigrant Women” chapter in *Women in Canada: A Gender-based Statistical Report, 6th edition*, or go to <http://www.statcan.gc.ca/pub/89-503-x/2010001/article/11528-eng.htm>.

VISIBLE MINORITY WOMEN

- In 2006, about 5.1 million individuals reported being members of a visible minority: 51% – or 2.6 million – were women. Visible minority women made up 16.4% of the total female population.
- One in three visible minority women is born in Canada. In 2006, the majority of visible minority women (68%) had immigrated to Canada and about 29% had been born in this country.
- Ninety-six percent (96%) of visible minority women lived in metropolitan areas, compared with 63% of non-visible minority women.
- Visible minority women are more likely than non-visible minority women to have a higher level of education. For instance, 43% of visible minority women of core working age (25 to 54) who were born in Canada held university degrees, almost double the rate for their non-visible minority counterparts (22%).
- Visible minority women comprise a significant percentage of the students in technical and scientific programs. In 2006, visible minorities made up 29% of all women studying physical and life sciences and technologies; 29% in architecture, engineering and related subjects; and 28% in mathematics, computer and information sciences.
- Generally, visible minority women earn less than their non-visible minority counterparts. Visible minority women of core working age reported median employment income of \$23,300 in 2005, compared to \$28,900 for non-visible minority women.
- Visible minority women are more likely to be in a low-income situation. In 2005, among visible minority women in families, 28% lived in low-income situations, double the percentage for their non-visible minority counterparts (14%).
- The earnings gap disappears among Canadian-born second and third generation visible and non-visible minorities. Median earnings for second-generation visible minority women were about \$41,500 in 2005, slightly less than the median earnings of \$42,000 for second-generation non-visible minority women. This group's higher earnings and improved employment rates were the result of higher levels of education. Although many first-generation visible minority women and men hold a university degree upon arrival in Canada, often their foreign work experience and credentials may not be directly transferable to this country's labour market.

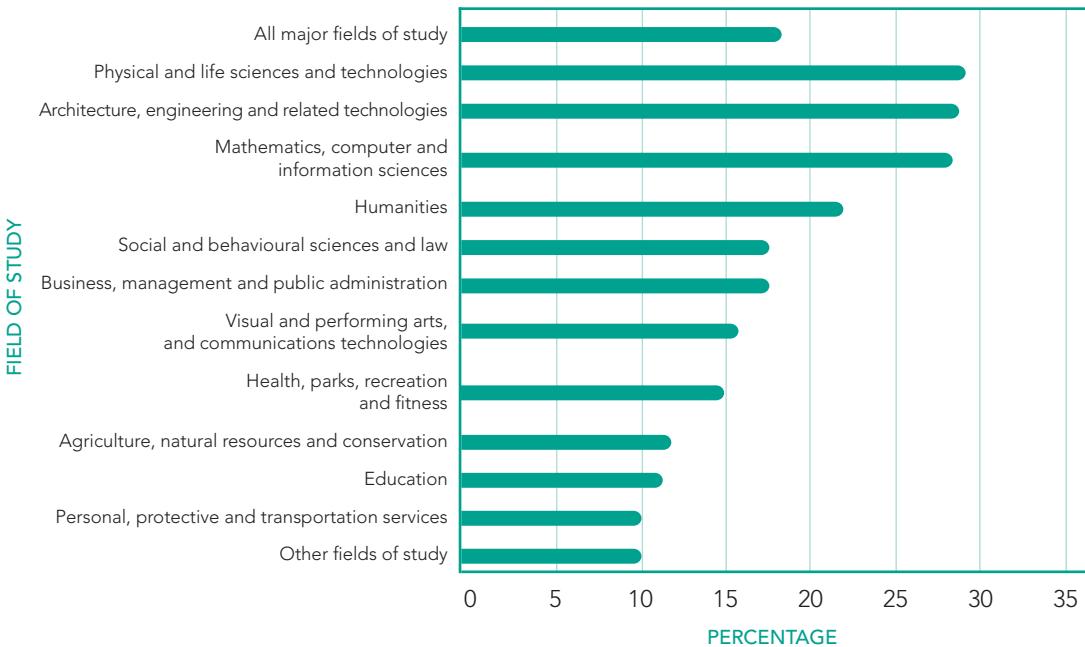
Proportion of visible minority women, Canada, 1981 to 2031



1. Projections.

Sources: Statistics Canada, censuses of Population, 1981 to 2006; and Statistics Canada, 2010. Projections of the Diversity of the Canadian Population, 2006 to 2031, Catalogue no. 91-551-X.

Visible minority women with postsecondary education in various fields of study, Canada, 2006



Source: Statistics Canada, Census of Population, 2006.

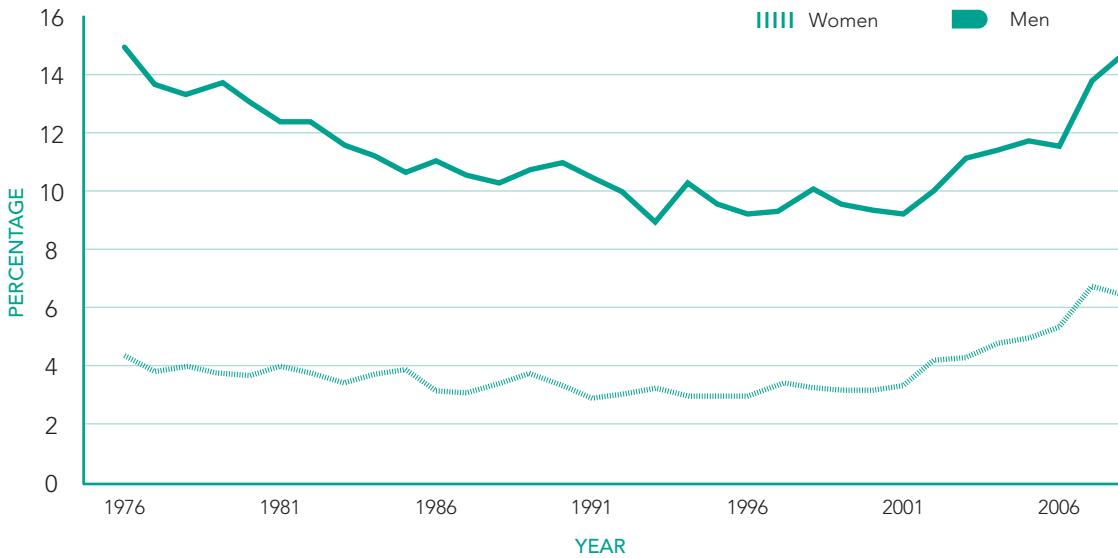


For additional information, consult the "Visible Minority Women" chapter in *Women in Canada: A Gender-based Statistical Report*, 6th edition, or go to <http://www.statcan.gc.ca/pub/89-503-x/2010001/article/11527-eng.htm>.

SENIOR WOMEN

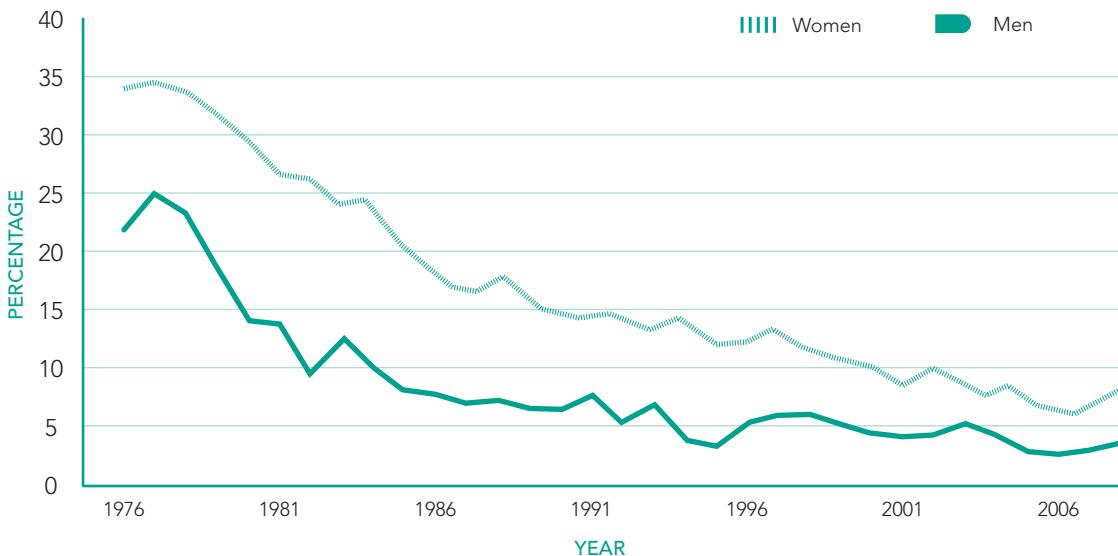
- Women make up the majority of the senior population. In 2010, there were 2.7 million women aged 65 and over, making up 16% of the total female population. By 2031, the number of senior women is projected to reach 5.1 million and account for close to one quarter (24%) of the total female population.
- According to the age-specific mortality rates observed in 2007, a baby girl could expect to live 83.0 years; a baby boy, 78.5 years. The gap, however, between women's and men's life expectancies has been narrowing since the late 1970s.
- Most seniors live in private households, although fewer women than men live as part of a couple. In 2006, 46% of senior women lived as part of a couple compared to 76% of men. The increasing share of senior women in couples is at least partially due to recent gains in life expectancy, particularly for men.
- In 2006, 37% of women aged 65 years and over lived alone compared to 17% of senior men. This gap continues to widen throughout the senior years, owing to women's greater longevity and consequently, a higher proportion of women becoming widowed.
- The last decade has seen an increased employment rate among seniors, particularly women. In 2009, 6.4% of senior women held a paid job, double the percentage in 2000 (3.2%). The percentage of senior men holding a paid job also rose during this period, from 9% in 2000 to 15% in 2009.
- For the past century, women's participation in the workforce has steadily risen, a trend reflected in the declining percentage of senior women who have never been employed. In 1976, 42% of women had never held a paid job; this proportion had dropped to 14% in 2009.
- Senior women's average income continues to be less than senior men's. In 2008, senior women's and senior men's incomes were \$24,800 and \$38,100 respectively.
- The proportion of senior women living on low income continues to decrease. In 2008, 7.6% of senior women were living in a low-income situation, down from 11% in 1998. Despite this downward trend, there are twice as many senior women as senior men living on a low income.
- The two leading causes of death are the same for senior women and senior men. The main cause of death in 2007 was cancer, followed by heart disease and stroke. From 1981 to 2007, the mortality rate from heart disease fell substantially for both senior men and senior women, while deaths from cancer rose for senior women but decreased for senior men.
- Incidence of high blood pressure, the most common chronic health condition for senior women and senior men, is on the rise. From 2003 to 2009, the percentage of senior women with high blood pressure climbed from 47% to 52%.

Employment rates of women and men aged 65 years and over, Canada, 1976 to 2009



Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Survey, CANSIM table 282-0002.

Women and men aged 65 years and over whose income is below the low-income cut-off after tax, Canada, 1976 to 2008



Sources: Statistics Canada, Survey of Consumer Finances and Survey of Labour and Income Dynamics, CANSIM table 202-0802.



For additional information, consult the "Senior Women" chapter in *Women in Canada: A Gender-based Statistical Report, 6th edition*, or go to <http://www.statcan.gc.ca/pub/89-503-x/2010001/article/11441-eng.htm>.

WOMEN WITH ACTIVITY LIMITATIONS

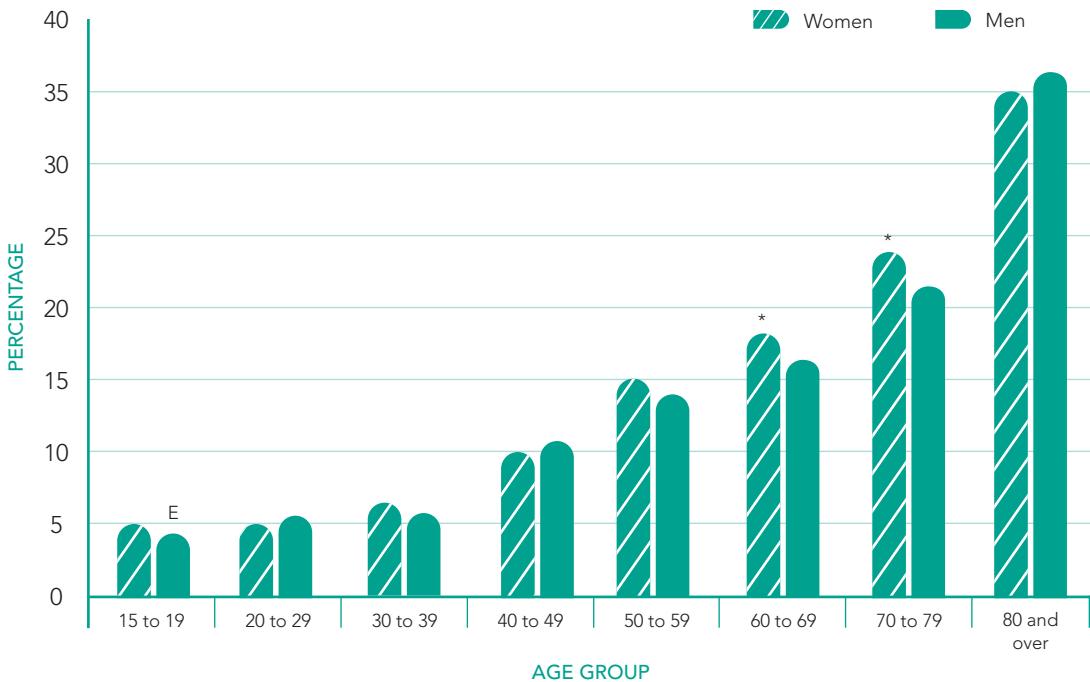
- Women are slightly more likely than men to have an activity limitation¹. In 2009, 12% of women aged 15 and over reported a long-term health problem or condition that often made performance of everyday tasks difficult. Somewhat fewer men (11%) had an activity limitation.
- Women with activity limitations are generally older than those without. In 2009, 45% of women with activity limitations were aged 60 and over, compared to 21% of those without. The same pattern is true for men with activity limitations.
- About 41% of women with activity limitations attributed them to disease or illness. Men, on the other hand, were 1.5 times more likely than women to attribute their limitation to an accident (29% versus 20%, respectively).
- Women with chronic physical conditions may also experience psychological problems, such as depression or anxiety. Twenty-five percent (25%) of women and 16% of men with activity limitations experienced psychological distress in addition to their physical health problems.
- Women with activity limitations tend to have lower levels of education. Those aged 25 to 54 were twice as likely as those without an activity limitation to have less than a high school education (13% versus 7.4%, respectively), and only two-thirds as likely to have a university degree (22% versus 32%, respectively). On the other hand, the likelihood of attaining a community college diploma was similar for both groups.
- Women with activity limitations report lower personal incomes. The average personal income for women with activity limitations was \$24,000, about three-quarters that of women without such limitations (\$32,100).
- Women with activity limitations report lower levels of life satisfaction and much higher levels of stress. Only about a quarter (26%) reported being very satisfied with their lives, compared to 41% of other women. Similarly, over one-third of women with activity limitations described their daily lives as highly stressful, compared to less than one-quarter of women without activity limitations.



For additional information, consult the “Women with Activity Limitations” chapter in *Women in Canada: A Gender-based Statistical Report*, 6th edition, or go to <http://www.statcan.gc.ca/pub/89-503-x/2010001/article/11545-eng.htm>.

1 An “activity limitation” is defined as a long-term or chronic health problem or condition that “often” affects an individual’s participation in the activities of daily life.

Prevalence of activity limitations among women and men aged 15 and over, by age group, Canada, 2009



E use with caution

* statistically significant difference from men at $p < 0.05$

Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Community Health Survey, 2009.

Women and men with activity limitations aged 15 and over, by main cause of activity limitation, Canada, 2009

MAIN CAUSE OF ACTIVITY LIMITATION	WOMEN	MEN
	percentage	
Illness or disease	40.7*	29.5
Ageing	16.5*	11.8
Accident	19.7*	28.9
Motor vehicle accident	6.9	6.7
Accident at work	5.2*	13.2
Accident at home	2.9	2.8
Other type of accident	4.7*	6.3
Existed at birth or genetic	9.7	10.3
Work conditions	5.2*	13.0
Emotional or mental health problem	4.7	3.5
Other (includes use of alcohol or drugs)	3.6	3.1 ^E

E use with caution

* statistically significant difference from men at $p < 0.05$

Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Community Health Survey, 2009.