

HOUSEHOLDS



With one household per dwelling unit there were, therefore, 25,148 households in total, a rise of 12 percent. (See Table 1.) Average household size continued to decline as the number of one-person households, which includes some group dwellings, grew at the fastest rate and was the second most common household size. (Group dwellings refer to situations in which persons live together for some common purpose such as employment and share cooking and/or sanitary facilities. Examples are nurses residences, hotel staff quarters and police barracks.) Two-person households remained predominant by comprising 30% of all households and increased in number by 19%. On the other hand, the number of households with four or more members declined slightly. Average household size thus fell from 2.61 to 2.47 persons per household.

Since the nineties there has been an increase in the significance of one-person and adult couple households. These grew by 25% and 23%, respectively. (See Table 2 and Figure 1.) One-person households grew substantially to represent 28% of all households, while adult-couple households comprised

TABLE 1
HOUSEHOLDS BY NUMBER OF PERSONS, 2000 AND 1991

Number of Persons	Number		Percentage Distribution		Percentage Change 1991-2000
	2000	1991	2000	1991	
Total	25,148	22,430	100	100	+12%
1	7,358	5,959	29	27	+23%
2	7,539	6,359	30	28	+19%
3	4,489	4,224	18	19	+6%
4	3,683	3,716	15	17	-1%
5 or more	2,079	2,172	8	10	-4%
Average number of persons per household	2.47	2.61			

20%. Two-parent households declined in proportion from 28% to 25% of households and they rose in number by only 2% during the decade. One-parent households remained at 11% of all types of household formation and 88% of the time they had a female household reference person, commonly referred to as head of household.

TABLE 2
HOUSEHOLDS BY TYPE, 2000 AND 1991

Type of Household	Number		Percentage Distribution		Percentage Change 1991-2000
	2000	1991 ¹	2000	1991	
Total	25,148	22,430	100	100	+12%
Two parents	6,392	6,284	25	28	+2%
One parent	2,685	2,418	11	11	+11%
Adult couple	4,958	4,040	20	18	+23%
Extended family	2,598	2,346	10	10	+11%
One person ²	7,010	5,616	28	25	+25%
Other ³	1,505	1,637	6	7	-8%
Not Stated	0	89	0	**	

¹Numbers differ from the 1991 Report because the household categories have been converted to the 2000 coding system.

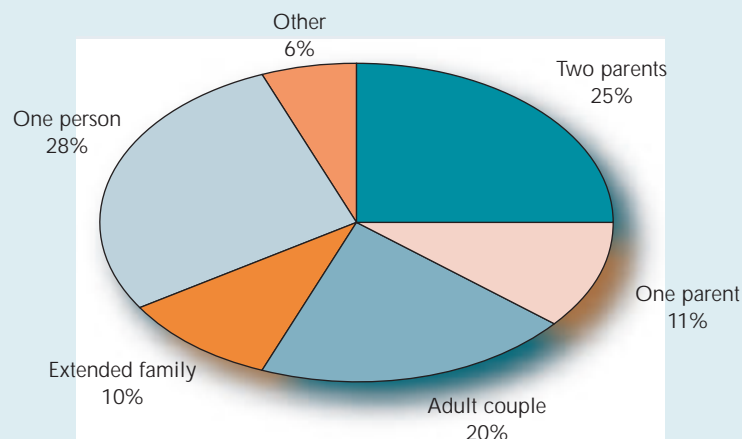
²Does not agree with number of one-person households in Table 1 because this number excludes group dwellings.

³Includes 385 group dwellings.

** Less than 1%

Expectedly, the age of the household reference person tended to determine the type of household for which he or she was responsible. (See Table 3.) Among the near middle-aged to more mature household reference persons, that is those between the ages of 30-44 and 45-64, the two-parent household was most common, followed by the one-person situation. Two-parent households were more prevalent among the younger of these two age groupings. The children of householders in the 45-64 year group were likely to have been older on the average than the offspring of

FIGURE 1
HOUSEHOLD TYPE, 2000



of the 30-44 year olds and, therefore, would have been more likely to have left home to form their own households. Whilst 36% of the households headed by persons aged between 30 and 44 years were two parent, this applied to 26% of the 45-64 year group. It follows, therefore, that more of the older group were in adult- couple arrangements than was the case for the younger.

Elderly householders were more likely than any other group to live alone. Thirty-eight percent of this group did so, compared to 33% of householders under the age of 30 and a quarter of reference persons of all

other ages. The adult-couple household was the elderly householders' second most frequent arrangement at 27%. Younger householders, which accounted for only 10% of all household reference persons, were more likely to live alone or in an adult-couple relationship. A third lived alone, while another 25% lived with a spouse or partner.

TABLE 3
TYPES OF HOUSEHOLD BY AGE OF HOUSEHOLD REFERENCE PERSON, 2000

Type of Household	Age of Household Reference Person				
	Total	Under 30	30 - 44	45 - 64	65 & Over
Total	25,148	2,449	9,310	8,955	4,434
Two Parents	6,392	441	3,359	2,316	276
One Parent	2,685	234	1,126	959	366
Adult Couple	4,958	601	1,332	1,814	1,211
Extended Family	2,598	98	597	1,172	731
One Person ¹	7,010	813	2,271	2,261	1,665
Other ²	1,505	262	625	433	185
Percentage Distribution					
Total	100	100	100	100	100
Two Parents	25	18	36	26	6
One Parent	11	10	12	11	8
Adult Couple	20	25	14	20	27
Extended Family	10	4	6	13	16
One Person	28	33	24	25	38
Other ²	6	11	7	5	4

¹Does not agree with number of one-person households in Table 1 because this number excludes group dwellings.

²Includes 385 group dwellings.

