

Marital status of New Brunswickers

Marital status refers to whether or not a person is living in a common-law union as well as the legal marital status of those who are not living in a common-law union. All persons aged less than 15 are considered as never married and not living common law.

- In 2016, 59.6% of New Brunswick's total population aged 15 and over were either married (47.4%) or living with a common-law partner (12.2%).
- The overall proportion of married and common-law persons has been relatively stable at around 60% for the past 20 years. However, the same is not true for each of these components. The percentage of the population aged 15 and over that is married has fallen from 52.8% in 1996 to 47.4% in 2016, while the proportion living common law has increased from 7.5% to 12.2%.
- The remaining 40.4% of the population 15 years and over in 2016 were not married and not living with a common-law partner, including those who were single (never married), separated, divorced or widowed.
- The results were similar for Canada in 2016 where 45.7% of the population aged 15 and over were married, 12.0% were living with a common-law partner and the remaining 42.4% were not married and not living common law.

Population 15 years and over by marital status, N.B., 1996 and 2016 Censuses - 100% Data				
	2016		1996	
	Population 15 years and over	%	Population 15 years and over	%
Total	636,605	100.0	593,520	100.0
Married or living common law	379,605	59.6	358,255	60.4
Married	302,020	47.4	313,495	52.8
Living common law	77,580	12.2	44,765	7.5
Never married	54,380	8.5	29,690	5.0
Separated	5,515	0.9	3,960	0.7
Divorced	15,385	2.4	9,705	1.6
Widowed	2,295	0.4	1,405	0.2
Not married and not living common law	257,000	40.4	235,265	39.6
Never married	158,065	24.8	155,935	26.3
Separated	21,290	3.3	16,710	2.8
Divorced	35,680	5.6	23,100	3.9
Widowed	41,965	6.6	39,520	6.7

Source: Statistics Canada, 2016 Census of Population, Catalogue no. 98-400-X2016031