

Families

The Census in Manitoba: 1951 and 2006

Summary

The following summary is not a direct comparison between the 1951 and 2006 Censuses. Definitions of Census terms (for example “family”) have changed over time and consequently direct comparisons of data can not be made. This summary is only meant to give the reader a general idea of how Manitoba has transformed over the last 55 years based on available Census data.

The Manitoba Bureau of Statistics has prepared this summary from the Statistics Canada 1951 and 2006 Censuses. It provides data for Manitoba Families by census year.

Manitoba’s population count increased 47.9% over the 55 year period from 1951 to 2006. The number of individuals counted in the 1951 Census totalled 776,541 and 1,148,400 in the 2006 Census¹.

In 1951, the number families² in Manitoba numbered 191,268 and the average number of persons per family was 3.6. By 2006, Manitoba had 312,805 Census families³ and an average of 3.0 persons per family.

In the 2006 Census the size of a family tended to be smaller than in the 1951 Census. For example, two person families made up nearly 50% of all Census families in 2006. In the 1951 Census, this share was just over 30%. On the other hand, families with five or more persons made up 21.5% of all families in the 1951 Census and in 2006 it was 11.2%.

It should be noted that in the 1951 Census, the concept of “family” did not include common-law whereas the 2006 Census did. This change in the definition of “family” accounted for some of the increase in 2 person families.

The share of families with no children⁴ at home was 33% in the 1951 Census. This share was 38.2% in 2006. The share of families with three or more children at home was 21.3% in 1951 and 12.8% in 2006.

The concept of “children” changed considerably between the two Censuses. In 1951, there was an age limit whereas in 2006 there was no age limit. See endnotes for more information

User Information

Census Day

For the 1951 Census the precise hour of reckoning was midnight on the night of May 31 to June 1. Everyone born before that hour and everyone dying after it was counted in the population.

For the 2006 Census, Census Day was May 16, 2006.

For More Information

Information on the 2006 Census can be found on the Statistics Canada website www.statcan.ca and in most university and public libraries.

Information on the 1951 Census can be found in most university and public libraries.

1. Random Rounding: Note that for the 2006 Census, Statistics Canada applied a procedure known as “Random Rounding” in order to ensure confidentiality standards were met. This procedure randomly rounds the population counts (including totals) either up or down to a multiple of 5 or, in some cases, 10. As a result, there are instances where the sum of the values will not equal the total listed.

Random rounding was not applied to the 1951 Census data.

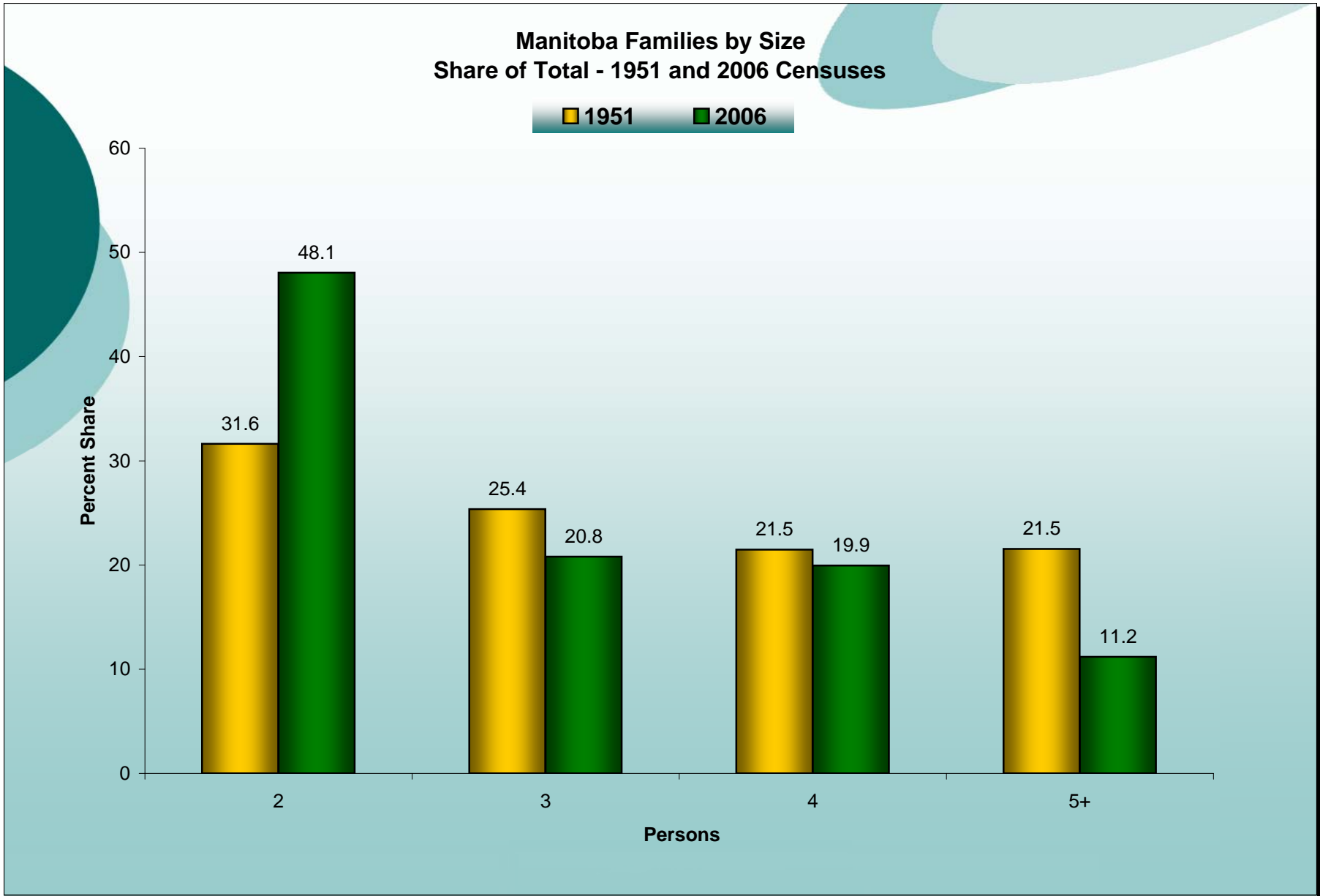
2. Family: A family in the 1951 Census consisted of husband and wife (with or without children) or a parent with an unmarried child (or children) living together in the same dwelling.

3. Census family: A Census family in the 2006 Census is composed of a married couple or two persons living common-law, with or without children, or of a lone parent living with at least one child in the same dwelling. A person can be a spouse, a common-law partner, a lone parent, a child or a person not in a census family.

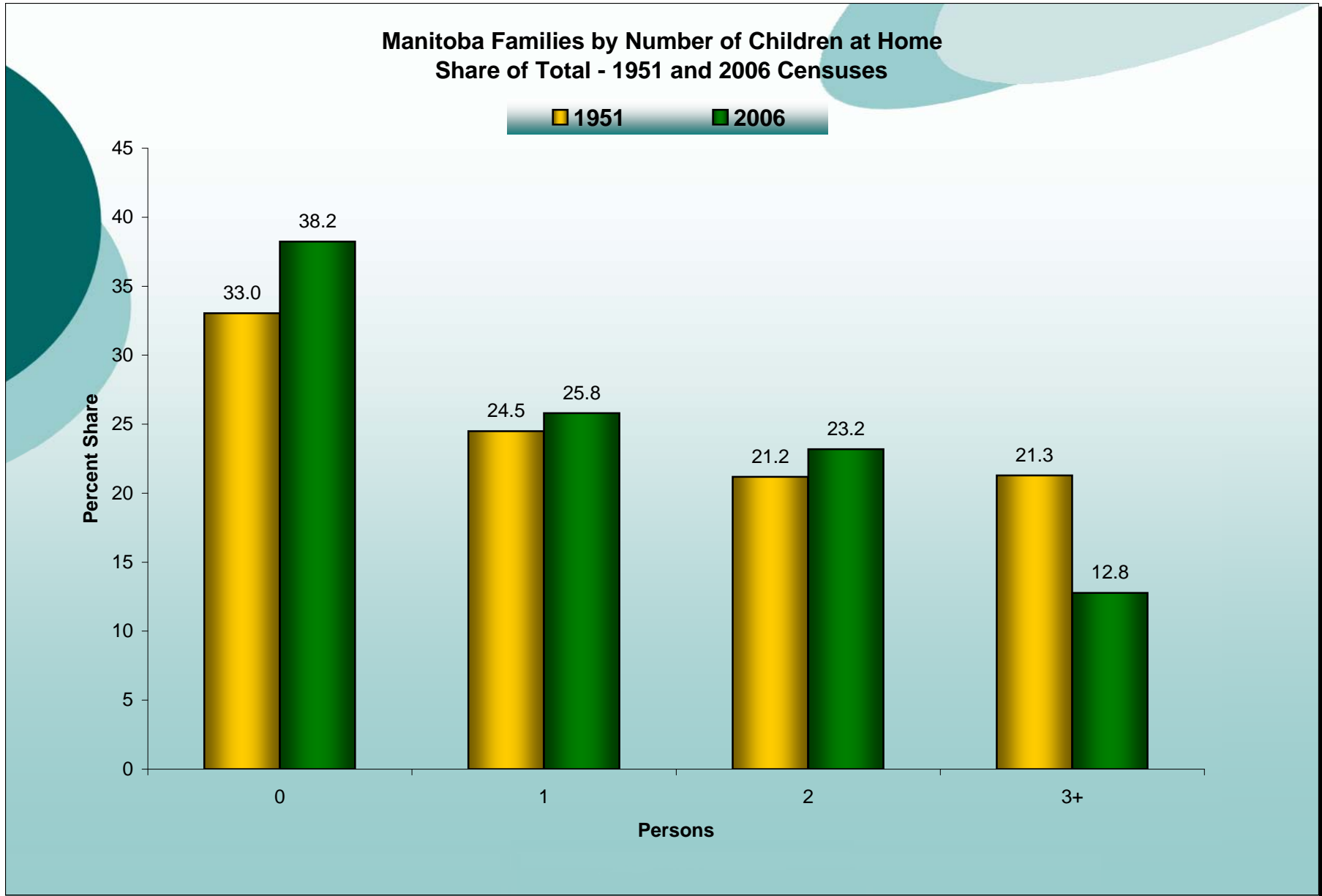
4. Children: In the 1951 Census, unmarried sons and daughters 24 years of age and under living with their parents were classified as children. Unmarried sons and daughters 25 years of age and over living with their parents were counted as family members but not as children. Married sons (or daughters) were not considered as members of the parents’ family, whether or not they continued to

live with the parents. Stepchildren and adopted children have been given the status of children. Guardianship children or wards, under 21 years of age, have been given the same status.

In the 2006 Census children refer to blood, step- or adopted sons and daughters (regardless of age or marital status) who are living in the same dwelling as their parent(s), as well as grandchildren in households where there are no parents present. Sons and daughters who are living with their spouse or common-law partner, or with one or more of their own children, are not considered to be members of the census family of their parent(s), even if they are living in the same dwelling. In addition, those sons and daughters who do not live in the same dwelling as their parent(s) are not considered members of the census family of their parent(s).



Based on the Census "long form" or 20% of all households.
Data Source: Statistics Canada, 1951 and 2006 Censuses



Based on the Census "long form" or 20% of all households.
Data Source: Statistics Canada, 1951 and 2006 Censuses

September 2008