

Fewer Than 800 Same-Sex Couples in New Brunswick

NOTE: Distributions may not add to 100% due to rounding.

- For the first time, the census counted same-sex **married** couples, reflecting the legalization of same-sex marriages in Canada (Bill C-38, the *Civil Marriage Act*).
- The counts of same-sex couples are not high. The 2006 Census enumerated 770 same-sex couples in New Brunswick, representing 0.4% of all couples in the province. Of these, about 125 (16.2%) were married couples and 645 (83.8%) were common-law couples.
- Results were similar for all of Canada, with same-sex couples representing 0.6% of all couples. Of the 45,300 same-sex couples in the country, married couples comprised about 16.5%, and common-law couples made up the remaining 83.5%.
- While the majority of same-sex couples in Canada were male in 2006, the reverse was true in New Brunswick. Female same-sex couples were more predominant in the province and represented about 55% of all same-sex couples.
- In general, people in same-sex couples were younger than their counterparts in opposite-sex couples. In New Brunswick, 19.7% of persons in same-sex couples were aged 34 and under, while 3.6% were seniors aged 65 or older. In contrast, 17.5% of people in opposite-sex couples were aged 34 and under, while 16.2% were seniors.

