

**Married Couples Remain the Predominant Family Structure**

- The 2011 Census counted 224,590 census families in New Brunswick, up 3.1% from 2006. Married-couple families constituted the largest group (152,460 or 67.9%), followed by lone-parent families (36,185 or 16.1%) and common-law-couple families (35,945 or 16.0%). A couple can be of the opposite sex or of the same sex.
- The vast majority of lone-parent families in New Brunswick were headed by a female (28,735 or 79.4%). Male lone-parents comprised 7,450 or 20.6% of single-parent families.
- The 2011 Census counted 1,215 same-sex couple families in New Brunswick, up 57.8% from 2006. Of these couples, 385 were same-sex **married** couples and 830 were same-sex **common-law** couples. The number of same-sex married couples tripled between 2006 and 2011, reflecting the first five-year period for which same-sex marriage has been legal across the country.
- The 2011 Census counted stepfamilies for the first time. Of the 76,375 couples with children in the province, 85.3% were intact families — that is, they were comprised of two parents and their biological or adopted children — and 14.7% were stepfamilies.

