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## Housing Statistics in Canada

# Housing experiences in Canada: Young adults in 2018

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# Housing experiences in Canada: Young adults in 2018

by Jeff Randle, Zheren Hu and Zachary Thurston

The Housing Experiences in Canada series of fact sheets highlights the diversity of housing situations experienced by different groups of people living across Canada.

This fact sheet focuses on young adults aged 18 to 29 living in private dwellings. Statistics below are derived from the 2018 Canadian Housing Survey (CHS).<sup>1</sup> The reference person provides information on the characteristics of each household member. More fact sheets in the Housing Experiences in Canada series are available on the [Housing Experiences in Canada series issue page](#).

The *National Housing Strategy Act* (2019) declared that “the right to adequate housing is a fundamental human right affirmed in international law.” Adequate housing is understood in international law as housing that provides secure tenure; is affordable; is habitable; provides access to basic infrastructure; is located close to employment, services and amenities; is accessible for people of all abilities; and is culturally appropriate.

This fact sheet focuses on the experience of young adults living in private dwellings using the following indicators collected and produced by Statistics Canada. These are: tenure status of household, shelter costs, housing affordability, condition of dwelling, core housing need, dwelling satisfaction, neighbourhood satisfaction, and household living arrangements.

While these indicators together do not perfectly measure adequate housing as defined in international law, they are nevertheless useful proxies for understanding the housing experiences of people living in Canada.

## Highlights from the 2016 Census: Young adults (aged 18 to 29)

Share of the population: 15.4%
Average age: 24 years
Median household income <sup>1</sup> : \$52,175
Unemployment rate: 12.2%
Percent in rural areas: 14.6%
Percent immigrants: 15.9%

1. Young adult status of the household for the 2016 Census estimate of median household income is determined by examining the age of the primary household maintainer.

## Tenure status of household



The tenure status of a household refers to whether the household owns or rents its private dwelling.<sup>2</sup> Homeownership is an important aspect of Canadian society and can affect outcomes for many housing indicators. For this reason, owner and renter households are often considered separately in housing analyses. In many cases, researchers further look at whether households in owner-occupied dwellings have mortgages on their dwellings and whether renter households pay subsidized rent.

According to the 2018 CHS, 63% of 5,571,400 young adults lived in a private dwelling owned by a member of their household in 2018. This was smaller than the share of the total population (73%) living in owner-occupied dwellings.

The 3,502,500 young adults who owned or lived with someone who owned their homes can be further divided into the 2,617,100 young adults (47%) who lived in a dwelling with a mortgage and the remaining 885,400 young adults (16%) who lived in a dwelling without a mortgage. Young adults were less likely to live in an owner-occupied dwelling without a mortgage than the total population (25%).

The remaining 2,068,900 young adults who lived in rented dwellings can be further divided into the 144,200 young adults (3%) living in subsidized housing and the 1,920,600 young adults (34%) not living in subsidized housing. Young adults were more likely to live in rented dwellings (37%) than the total population (27%), but lived in subsidized rented dwellings at a similar rate as the total population (3%).

1. One person (‘the reference person’ in each sampled household) was asked to complete the Canadian Housing Survey (CHS) questionnaire. The reference person provides proxy responses on behalf of all household members, which are used to determine the age of each household member. For the purposes of this analysis, young adults are defined as people aged 18 to 29.

2. A household is considered to own its dwelling if a member of the household owns it, even if it is not fully paid for (for example, if there is a mortgage or another claim on it). A household is considered to rent its dwelling if no member of the household owns it. A household is considered to rent its dwelling even if the dwelling is provided without cash rent or at a reduced rent, or if the dwelling is part of a cooperative.

**Table 1**  
**Tenure status of private households for the population in private dwellings, Canada, 2018**

	Young adults		Total population	
	count	percent	count	percent
<b>Total, tenure status</b>	<b>5,571,400</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>36,444,100</b>	<b>100</b>
Owner	3,502,500	63*	26,694,500	73
With a mortgage	2,617,100	47	17,696,300	49
Without a mortgage	885,400	16*	8,998,100	25
Renter	2,068,900	37*	9,749,700	27
Subsidized housing	144,200	3*	1,160,700	3
Not subsidized housing	1,920,600	34*	8,570,300	24

\* Estimate for young adults is significantly different than total population at the 95% level

**Note:** Figures may not add up to 100% because of rounding

**Source:** 2018 Canadian Housing Survey

## Shelter cost



Shelter costs refer to the monthly dwelling-related expenses paid by households, including mortgage or rent. For owner-occupied dwellings, shelter costs include, where applicable, mortgage payments, property taxes and condominium fees, along with the costs of electricity, heat, water and other municipal services. For renter households, shelter costs include, where applicable, rent and the costs of electricity, heat, water and other municipal services.

In Canada, the median shelter cost paid by young adult households, or households with at least one young adult, was \$1,240 in 2018.<sup>3</sup> This was higher than the median shelter cost of \$1,050 for all private households.

Young adult households in owner-occupied and rented dwellings both had higher median shelter costs compared to all households. The median shelter costs paid by young adult households in owner-occupied dwellings was \$1,580, compared with \$1,140 for all households in owner-occupied dwellings. For rented dwellings, the difference was smaller. Young adult households in rented dwellings paid a median shelter cost of \$1,050, compared to \$960 for all renter households.

The median shelter cost paid by households in owner-occupied dwellings are typically larger when there is a mortgage on the dwelling, because a mortgage can represent a large portion of monthly shelter costs. While there were no statistically significant differences between the median shelter costs paid by young adult households and all households when considering the presence of a mortgage, young adult households with a mortgage on their dwelling (\$1,720) paid more per month in median shelter costs than young adult households in owner-occupied dwellings without a mortgage (\$610).

The median shelter cost paid by renter households usually depends on the presence of a rent subsidy.<sup>4</sup> Young adult households in rented dwellings with a subsidy (\$550) had similar median monthly shelter costs as all households in rented dwellings with a subsidy (\$530). Median shelter costs for young adult households in rented dwellings without a subsidy (\$1,090) were slightly higher than the shelter costs for all households in rented dwellings without a subsidy (\$1,010).

3. Young adult households refers to households where at least one member is a young adult.

4. 'Rent subsidy' refers to whether a renter household lives in a dwelling that is subsidized. Subsidized housing includes rent geared to income, social housing, public housing, government-assisted housing, non-profit housing, rent supplements and housing allowances.

**Table 2**  
**Monthly shelter costs for the population in private dwellings, Canada, 2018**

	Young adult households	All households
	median (dollars)	
<b>Total, tenure status</b>	<b>1,240*</b>	<b>1,050</b>
Owner	1,580*†	1,140
With a mortgage	1,720†‡	1,770
Without a mortgage	610†	540
Renter	1,050*†	960
Subsidized housing	550†	530
Not subsidized housing	1,090*†	1,010

\* Estimate for young adult households is significantly different than all households at the 95% level

† Estimate for young adult households by tenure type is significantly different than tenure subtotal at the 95% level

‡ Estimate for young adult households by tenure type is significantly different than tenure counterpart at the 95% level

Source: 2018 Canadian Housing Survey

## Housing affordability



Housing affordability is derived using the shelter-cost-to-income ratio, which refers to the proportion of average total income households spend on shelter costs. A household is said to have affordable housing if it spends less than 30% of its total income on shelter costs.<sup>5</sup>

According to the 2018 CHS, 976,600 young adults (18%) lived in households that spent more than 30% of their total household income on shelter. This was comparable to the 18% of the total population who lived in private households which spent more than 30% of their total household income on shelter.

Young adults in owner-occupied dwellings (14%) experienced unaffordable housing at a similar rate as the total population in owner-occupied dwellings (15%). The same was true for young adults in rented dwellings (24%), where the rate of unaffordable housing was comparable to the total population (26%).

Focusing on young adults in owner-occupied dwellings, those in households with and without a mortgage experienced unaffordable housing at a similar rate as the total population. The proportion of young adults living in unaffordable housing was 19% for those in households with a mortgage and 2% for those in households without a mortgage. For the total population, the rate of unaffordable housing was 21% for individuals in households with a mortgage and 4% for those in households without a mortgage.

The rate of unaffordable housing was lower for young adults in rented dwellings with a subsidy (14% compared with 23% for the total population) and comparable for those in households without a subsidy (24%, compared with 26% for the total population).

**Table 3**  
**Unaffordable housing for the population in private dwellings, Canada, 2018**

	Young adults		Total population	
	count	percent	count	percent
<b>Total, shelter-cost-to-income ratio<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>5,456,400</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>35,669,100</b>	<b>100</b>
Spending more than 30% of income on shelter costs	976,600	18	6,400,200	18
Owner	495,100	14†	3,895,800	15
With a mortgage	474,700	19†	3,568,600	21
Without a mortgage	20,300	2†	327,200	4
Renter	481,500	24†	2,504,400	26
Subsidized housing	20,000	14*†	269,500	23
Not subsidized housing	461,000	24‡	2,232,300	26

\* Estimate for young adults is significantly different than total population at the 95% level

† Estimate for young adults by tenure type is significantly different than tenure subtotal at the 95% level

‡ Estimate for young adults by tenure type is significantly different than tenure counterpart at the 95% level

1. All persons in private dwellings excluding those living in households on reserves, households in farm dwellings, and households with zero or negative total household income.

Source: 2018 Canadian Housing Survey

5. In 1986, Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation and the provinces agreed to use the 30% threshold to measure affordability for the purposes of defining need for social housing. This agreement was reached during the development of federal and provincial social housing programs. Research on housing affordability in the territories often uses the same threshold.

## Housing suitability



Housing suitability refers to whether a private household is living in suitable accommodations according to the National Occupancy Standard (NOS), that is, whether the dwelling has enough bedrooms for the size and composition of the household. The indicator assesses the required number of bedrooms for a household based on the age and sex of household members, and the relationships between them.

According to the 2018 CHS, 814,000 young adults (15%) were in unsuitable housing, meaning that there were not enough bedrooms in the dwelling to meet the needs of their household, according to the NOS. This is higher than the 9% of total population living in unsuitable housing.

Young adults in owner-occupied dwellings (11%) were more likely to be in unsuitable housing than the total population in owner-occupied dwellings (6%). There was, however, no statistically significant difference in the rate of unsuitable housing between young adults and the total population in rented dwellings.

When owner-occupied dwellings are differentiated by the presence of a mortgage, young adults living in dwellings with a mortgage (12%) experienced a higher rate of unsuitable housing than the total population in dwellings with a mortgage (7%). This was also true for young adults in owner-occupied dwellings without a mortgage, where the rate of unsuitable housing was 9%, compared with 3% for the total population.

Young adults in rented dwellings with and without a subsidy had comparable rates of unsuitable housing with the total population.

**Table 4**  
**Housing suitability for the population in private dwellings, Canada, 2018**

	Young adults		Total population	
	count	percent	count	percent
<b>Total, housing suitability</b>	<b>5,571,400</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>36,444,100</b>	<b>100</b>
Not suitable	814,000	15*	3,408,400	9
Owner	400,300	11**†	1,599,500	6
With a mortgage	318,400	12*	1,307,600	7
Without a mortgage	81,900	9*	291,900	3
Renter	413,700	20†‡	1,808,900	19
Subsidized housing	37,300	26	227,000	20
Not subsidized housing	375,400	20	1,578,200	18

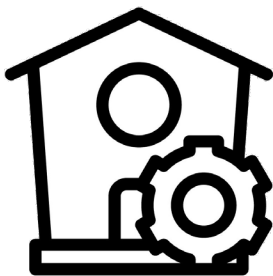
\* Estimate for young adults is significantly different than total population at the 95% level

† Estimate for young adults by tenure type is significantly different than tenure subtotal at the 95% level

‡ Estimate for young adults by tenure type is significantly different than tenure counterpart at the 95% level

Source: 2018 Canadian Housing Survey

## Condition of dwelling



Data on condition of dwelling are used to provide some insight into whether housing is habitable. Dwellings are classified into three groups by condition: needing regular maintenance only, needing minor repairs and needing major repairs. Dwellings in need of major repairs are considered to be inadequate housing. Examples of dwellings in need of major repairs include homes with defective plumbing or electrical wiring, and housing needing structural repairs to walls, floors or ceilings.

In 2018, according to the CHS, 7% of all young adults lived in private dwellings that were in need of major repairs and this was no different than the 7% of the total population that reported living in dwellings in need of major repair.

While young adults in owner-occupied dwellings (6%) were more likely to be living in a dwelling in need of major repairs than those in rented dwellings (9%), these rates were no different than those observed in the total population.

Similarly, young adults in owner-occupied dwellings with a mortgage (6%) were more likely to live in a dwelling in need of major repairs than those without a mortgage (4%), however, the same rates were observed in the total population.

Among young adults in rented dwellings, 18% of those with a subsidy were in dwellings in need of major repairs, which was higher than the 12% of the total population in rented dwellings with a subsidy.

**Table 5**  
**Condition of dwelling for the population in private dwellings, Canada, 2018**

	Young adults		Total population	
	count	percent	count	percent
<b>Total, dwelling condition</b>	<b>5,571,400</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>36,444,100</b>	<b>100</b>
Dwelling in need of major repairs	395,600	7	2,556,400	7
Owner	202,600	6 <sup>†</sup>	1,657,400	6
With a mortgage	165,600	6 <sup>†</sup>	1,162,500	7
Without a mortgage	37,000	4 <sup>‡</sup>	494,900	5
Renter	193,000	9 <sup>‡</sup>	899,000	9
Subsidized housing	25,600	18 <sup>*††</sup>	134,000	12
Not subsidized housing	166,700	9 <sup>‡</sup>	761,800	9

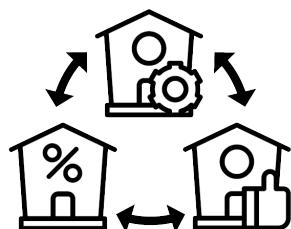
\* Estimate for young adults is significantly different than total population at the 95% level

† Estimate for young adults by tenure type is significantly different than tenure subtotal at the 95% level

‡ Estimate for young adults by tenure type is significantly different than tenure counterpart at the 95% level

Source: 2018 Canadian Housing Survey

## Core housing need



Core housing need touches on several elements of the right to adequate housing. It considers whether the affordability, suitability, and condition of dwelling needs of the household are being met and if not, whether affordable rental housing is available that meets all these needs. A household is said to be in core housing need if their dwelling falls below at least one of the affordability, suitability, or condition of dwelling standards, and would have to spend 30% or more of their total before-tax income to pay the median rent of alternative local housing that is acceptable (meets all three housing standards).

According to the 2018 CHS, 8% of young adults were living in households in core housing need. This was slightly lower than the 9% of the total population living in core housing need.

Young adults in owner-occupied dwellings (5%) were in core housing need as often as the total population in owner-occupied dwellings (5%). This was different for renter households, where the proportion of young adults in rented dwellings in core housing need was 12%, while, for the total population in rented dwellings, the rate was 19%.

The incidence of core housing need was similar for young adults in owner-occupied dwellings with and without a mortgage. For renters though, young adults in households without a subsidy (11%) were less likely to be in core housing need than the total population in renter households without a subsidy (18%).<sup>6</sup>

6. The difference in the core housing need rate between all young adults in rented dwellings and young adults in rented dwellings without a subsidy is not statistically significant.

**Table 6**  
**Core housing need status for the population in private dwellings, Canada, 2018**

	Young adults		Total population	
	count	percent	count	percent
<b>Total, core housing need<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>5,358,400</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>35,128,000</b>	<b>100</b>
In core housing need	406,100	8*	3,151,900	9
Owner	165,600	5 <sup>†</sup>	1,358,700	5
With a mortgage	141,500	6 <sup>‡</sup>	982,800	6
Without a mortgage	24,100	3 <sup>‡</sup>	375,900	4
Renter	240,500	12 <sup>**</sup>	1,793,200	19
Subsidized housing	34,400	25 <sup>††</sup>	342,000	30
Not subsidized housing	205,300	11 <sup>**</sup>	1,447,300	18

\* Estimate for young adults is significantly different than total population at the 95% level

† Estimate for young adults by tenure type is significantly different than tenure subtotal at the 95% level

‡ Estimate for young adults by tenure type is significantly different than tenure counterpart at the 95% level

1. All persons in private dwellings excluding those living in households on reserves, households in farm dwellings, and households with zero or negative total household income before tax or a shelter-cost-to-income ratio greater than or equal to 100%.

Source: 2018 Canadian Housing Survey

## Housing experiences of young adult men and women

In 1995, the Government of Canada committed to using GBA+ to advance gender equality in Canada, as part of the ratification of the United Nations' [Beijing Platform for Action](#).

Gender equality is enshrined in the *Charter of Rights and Freedoms*, which is part of the Constitution of Canada. Gender equality means that diverse groups of women, men and gender diverse people are able to participate fully in all spheres of Canadian life, contributing to an inclusive and democratic society.

GBA+ is an analytical process used to assess how diverse groups of women, men and gender diverse people may experience policies, programs and initiatives. The “plus” in GBA+ is not just about differences between people on the basis of gender. We all have multiple characteristics that intersect and contribute to who we are. GBA+ considers many other identity factors such as race, ethnicity, immigrant status, religion, age, presence of a mental or physical disability, and how the interaction between these factors influences the way we experience government policies and initiatives.

The data presented here highlight differences in housing experiences for young adult men and women. Compared to young adult men, young adult women were more likely to live in unaffordable housing and be in core housing need.

**Table 7**  
**Housing indicators for men and women between the ages of 18 and 29, Canada, 2018**

	Young adult men	Young adult women
	percent	
In an owner-occupied dwelling	64	62
In household spending 30% or more of income on shelter costs	17	19*
In unsuitable housing	14	15
In dwelling requiring major repairs	7	7
In core housing need	7	9*

\* Statistically different from young adult men at the 95% confidence level

Source: 2018 Canadian Housing Survey

More information on GBA+ can be found at the Government of Canada's [Status of Women](#) web page.

More information on the housing experiences of other subpopulations broken down by age and gender groups, immigrant status, population groups designated as visible minorities, Indigenous populations and other groups can be found in the additional fact sheets on the [Housing Experiences in Canada issue page](#). Additional data products that focus more on an intersectional GBA+ analysis of housing experiences will also be released through the [Housing Experiences in Canada issue page](#) as they become available.

## Dwelling satisfaction



According to the 2018 CHS, approximately 80% of young adults lived in households where the reference person said that they were satisfied with their dwelling. This is slightly lower than the proportion of the total population satisfied with their dwelling (82%).

While the dwelling satisfaction rate was higher for young adults in owner-occupied dwellings (86%) than young adults in renter households (70%), there were no other statistically significant differences between young adults and the total population across the same tenure categories.

**Table 8**  
**Overall dwelling satisfaction for the population in private dwellings, Canada, 2018**

	Young adults		Total population	
	count	percent	count	percent
<b>Total, overall dwelling satisfaction</b>	<b>5,571,400</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>36,444,100</b>	<b>100</b>
Satisfied (or very satisfied) with dwelling overall	4,462,200	80*	29,977,600	82
Owner	3,023,900	86†‡	23,295,900	87
With a mortgage	2,253,700	86	15,267,800	86
Without a mortgage	770,200	87	8,028,100	89
Renter	1,438,300	70†‡	6,681,700	69
Subsidized housing	102,400	71	775,800	67
Not subsidized housing	1,333,000	69	5,892,600	69

\* Estimate for young adults is significantly different than total population at the 95% level

† Estimate for young adults by tenure type is significantly different than tenure subtotal at the 95% level

‡ Estimate for young adults by tenure type is significantly different than tenure counterpart at the 95% level

Source: 2018 Canadian Housing Survey

## Neighbourhood satisfaction



At the time of the 2018 CHS, 83% of young adults lived in households where the reference person indicated that they were satisfied with their neighbourhood. This is lower than the proportion of the total population satisfied with their neighbourhood (86%).

By tenure, 86% of young adults in owner-occupied dwellings lived in households where the reference person was satisfied with their neighbourhood. This is lower than the 88% of the total population in owner-occupied dwellings where the reference person was satisfied. For young adults in rented dwellings (79%), the rate of neighbourhood satisfaction was comparable to the total population in rented dwellings (80%).

For young adults in rented dwellings, the rate of neighbourhood satisfaction was similar to the total population for those in households both with and without a subsidy.

**Table 9**  
**Overall neighbourhood satisfaction for the population in private dwellings, Canada, 2018**

	Young adults		Total population	
	count	percent	count	percent
<b>Total, overall neighbourhood satisfaction</b>	<b>5,571,400</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>36,444,100</b>	<b>100</b>
Satisfied (or very satisfied) with neighbourhood overall	4,643,900	83*	31,255,800	86
Owner	3,018,300	86*†‡	23,504,200	88
With a mortgage	2,238,300	86	15,494,800	88
Without a mortgage	780,000	88	8,009,400	89
Renter	1,625,600	79†‡	7,751,600	80
Subsidized housing	103,500	72†‡	840,500	72
Not subsidized housing	1,519,200	79†	6,897,100	80

\* Estimate for young adults is significantly different than total population at the 95% level

† Estimate for young adults by tenure type is significantly different than tenure subtotal at the 95% level

‡ Estimate for young adults by tenure type is significantly different than tenure counterpart at the 95% level

Source: 2018 Canadian Housing Survey

## Household living arrangements



Household living arrangements refer to whether a person lives with another person or people, and, if so, whether they are related to that person or those people. Households can be further differentiated based on whether they are census family households or non-census-family households. Census family households contain at least one census family.<sup>7</sup> Non-census-family households are either one person living alone or a group of two or more people who live together but do not constitute a census family (for example, roommates).

According to the 2018 CHS, about three-quarters (77%) of young adults lived as part of a one-census-family household. This was below the rate for the total population (79%).

Young adults in one-census-family households were more likely to live in a couple family with children (47%) than without (16%).<sup>8</sup> The same was true for the total population, where 46% of individuals lived in a couple family with children and 24% lived in a couple family without children.

Living in a non-census family household was more common for young adults (18%) than the total population (16%). While a smaller proportion of young adults (6%) lived alone compared with the total population (12%), young adults (12%) tended to live in two- or more person non-census family households more than the total population (4%).

**Table 10**  
Household living arrangements for the population in private dwellings, Canada, 2018

	Young adults		Total population	
	count	percent	count	percent
<b>Total, household type</b>	<b>5,571,400</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>36,444,100</b>	<b>100</b>
One-census-family household <sup>1</sup>	4,302,500	77*	28,959,300	79
Couple family without children	906,800	16*	8,583,600	24
Couple family with children	2,632,500	47	16,782,900	46
One parent family	763,200	14*	3,592,800	10
Multiple-census-family household <sup>1</sup>	284,000	5	1,799,100	5
Non-census-family household	984,900	18*	5,685,800	16
One-person household	333,500	6*	4,243,300	12
Two- or more person household	651,400	12*	1,442,400	4

\* Estimate for young adults is significantly different than total population at the 95% level

1. One-census-family households and multiple-census-family households may include additional persons that do not belong to a census family.

**Note:** Figures may not add up to 100% because of rounding

**Source:** 2018 Canadian Housing Survey

## Interpreting the results

The Canadian Housing Survey (CHS) is a representative sample survey drawn from a frame of private dwellings across Canada. Since the survey sample is drawn from private households, individuals living in the following forms of housing are not included in the data:

- people living on reserves and in other Indigenous settlements
- official representatives of foreign countries living in Canada, and their families
- members of religious and other communal colonies
- members of the Canadian Armed Forces living on military bases
- people living in seniors' residences
- people living full time in institutions (e.g., inmates of penal institutions, and chronic care patients living in hospitals and nursing homes)
- people living in other types of collective dwellings (e.g., shelters, campgrounds and hotels).

7. A census family is defined as a married couple and the children, if any, of either or both spouses; a couple living common law and the children, if any, of either or both partners; or a lone parent of any marital status with at least one child living in the same dwelling and that child or those children. All members of a particular census family live in the same dwelling. A couple may be of opposite or same sex. Children may be children by birth, marriage, common-law union or adoption regardless of their age or marital status as long as they live in the dwelling and do not have their own married spouse, common-law partner or child living in the dwelling. Grandchildren living with their grandparent(s) but with no parents present also constitute a census family.

8. In the context of a census family, children are not defined by age. Young adults can be the children of their household.

The survey results are an outcome of the sampling procedure that estimates a true value with an acceptable level of uncertainty. Therefore, it is not recommended to compare any two numbers published above unless the comparison is made in the text. This fact sheet features three types of comparisons:

1. comparisons of estimates between the focus population group and the total population (for example, the percent of young adults in rented dwellings in core housing need, compared with the percent of the total population in rented dwellings in core housing need)
2. comparisons of estimates between a category and the category total within the focus population group (for example, the percentage of young adults in rented dwellings in core housing need, compared with the percentage of all young adults in core housing need)
3. comparisons of estimates between categories within the focus population group (for example, the percentage of young adults in rented dwellings in core housing need, compared with the percentage of young adults in owner-occupied dwellings in core housing need).

Each of these three comparisons provides a different insight to understand the housing experiences of the focus population group. A statistical test is conducted to see whether the two estimates are different from one another at the 95% confidence level—often stated as 19 times in 20. The test results are presented for percentage statistics in the tables on relative prevalence or median shelter costs only; test results are omitted for statistics on the associated number of people.

When other comparisons are made between sample results presented in the fact sheets or data tables, it is important to remember that it cannot be concluded with a degree of certainty that the observed difference is not attributable to variation from the sampling procedure.

## About the data

The estimates presented in this fact sheet are from the 2018 Canadian Housing Survey (CHS). Additional socioeconomic and demographic highlights are from the 2016 Census of Population. For detailed information on the CHS or any of the indicators in this fact sheet, please refer to the following:

- [Canadian Housing Survey](#)
- [Census of Population](#)