

Household Profile

Established Singles and Couples



Many people elect to live alone or with another person. The number of these households has increased as more people choose not to marry or have children. Other situations may be temporary or unplanned including friends living together to save money, couples establishing their homes before they have children, or a spouse leaving a family. Established Singles and Couples are different from First Households in age, income, and housing preferences.

The information describing this group is derived from the 2001 Census and describes the situation in Riley Park/South Cambie. Parallel information for the whole City of Vancouver is also provided in brackets to allow comparisons with a market which has a broader range of housing options as a context for the community information.

Who?

- Established Singles and Couples Households are defined as those with "maintainers" (the person primarily responsible for providing the household's income) between the ages of 25-54.

- Household size:

one person	48%	(58%)
two persons	47%	(39%)
three or more	5%	(3%)

- in these households, 34% are families and 66% either people living alone or friends sharing accommodation (city-wide: 28%, 72%).

How Many Households?

- 26% of the community's population in the 25-54 age group maintains this type of household (33%).

- This group accounts for 36% of the total households in Riley Park/South Cambie community occupying 3,875 units (city-wide: 41%, 95,655 units).

What Type of Homes?

- 43% of Established Singles and Couples Households live in apartments, 33% live in basement suites, duplexes, or rowhouses (city-wide: 77%, 13%).

- Another 24% live in single-family homes; many either with the intention of having children or after their children have left home (city-wide: 10%).

- 49% of Established Singles and Couples live in bachelor or one bedroom units, another 29% live in two bedroom units, and 22% occupy units with three or more bedrooms (city-wide: 66%, 23%, 10%).

- 71% rent (74%).

What Can They Afford?

- This group is established in the workplace, many households will have two incomes and no children.

- One person households have more difficulty paying for accommodation.

- Overall average household income is about \$56,000/year (\$54,000).

- Based on spending 30% of their average income on housing, this group can afford about \$1,400 per month in housing payments (\$1,350/month).

- Based on interest rates over the last year and minimum downpayments (33% for a house, 10% for a strata unit) this monthly payment would finance a \$260,000 house or a \$200,000 condominium.

- 34% of this group spent more than 30% of their income on housing (37%).

Source: 2001 Census