



# Kitsilano

Neighbourhood Social Indicators Profile 2020



CITY OF  
**VANCOUVER**

Social Policy  
and Projects

# Social Indicators and Trends: Neighbourhood Profiles 2020

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## About This Profile

The information presented in this publication has been assembled by staff in the Social Policy and Projects Division, Arts, Culture and Community Services at the City of Vancouver, in consultation with staff in other City departments and community partners. Our thanks to all who have provided feedback in the development of this series. Questions, comments and suggestions may be directed to:

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Statistical information in this document is derived from a number of sources noted in the text. These data providers are not responsible for the use or presentation of information in this document or any errors arising from its use. Data from the 2016 Census of Population and previous iterations of the national census program, including custom data accessed by the City of Vancouver, is provided by Statistics Canada under license terms viewable online at: <https://www.statcan.gc.ca/eng/reference/licence>.

This document contains a number of charts and maps that are not accessible to readers using screen reading technology. Please contact the Social Policy and Projects Division if you require assistance accessing information presented in this document.

## KITSILANO: HIGHLIGHTS

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The City of Vancouver is situated on the unceded homelands of the Musqueam, Squamish and Tsleil-Waututh nations.



A steadily growing neighbourhood, but with changing age demographics as the population ages.



Continued growth in children and families, despite citywide trends in the opposite direction.



A small baseline of immigrants, non-English speakers and residents in diverse cultural groups, but trends toward growth in all of these areas.



High and increasing incomes.



Rapidly increasing housing costs.



High workforce participation and low unemployment.



A working population concentrated in technical and creative economic sectors, and public services.



Positive perceptions of health, well-being and the built environment.

# INTRODUCTION

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## Place and Context

The City of Vancouver occupies the unceded homelands of the xʷməθkʷəy̓əm (Musqueam), Skwxwú7mesh (Squamish), and səliłwətał (Tsleil-Waututh) nations. Its vision as a City of Reconciliation is to:

- Form a sustained relationship of mutual respect and understanding with local First Nations and the Urban Indigenous community, including key agencies;
- Incorporate a First Nations and Urban Indigenous perspective into our work and decisions; and
- Provide services that benefit members of the First Nations and Urban Indigenous community.

This framework challenges the city to critically engage with its own identity and understanding of jurisdiction, and to recognize that the boundaries and political institutions of the city are not the only way of understanding this place or shaping its future.

Within the paradigm of Vancouver's administrative boundaries, the City of Vancouver also has an unusual status among large cities in Canada, in that it is just one of the 21 municipalities in Metro Vancouver. The formal jurisdiction of the City of Vancouver only extends to four percent of the land area and a quarter of the population in this continuous urban region. The City of Vancouver must therefore engage with neighbouring municipalities and the regional government, Metro Vancouver, to address regional challenges.

The data presented in these profiles uses the City of Vancouver's boundaries as a basis for comparison, but that is not the only way of knowing. Readers are encouraged to access regional trends, to consider alternative comparisons, and to critically interrogate how understanding the city and its neighbourhoods can better reflect their location on the unceded homelands of nations whose presence long predates current local governing institutions.

## Purpose: Toward Social Sustainability

The City of Vancouver's Healthy City Strategy is its policy framework for a socially sustainable city. It includes a vision of A Healthy City for All, and principles, goals, targets and actions to work toward this vision. The City's definition of sustainability includes community participation, and its definition of social sustainability includes recognizing and uplifting individual and community capacity for learning and self-development.

This series of neighbourhood profiles is intended to build knowledge that helps people and communities work collaboratively toward equity, social sustainability, health and well-being. They may be used to assist with collaborative planning, grant writing, facilitating dialogue and more.

Our city is changing, and facing important local and global challenges for social sustainability. Vancouver is renowned worldwide for its beautiful natural setting; its integrated approach to planning that creates livable, amenity-rich spaces; and its leadership in reducing its ecological footprint. Vancouver is a global urban destination; its diversity and physical environment are models for other cities.

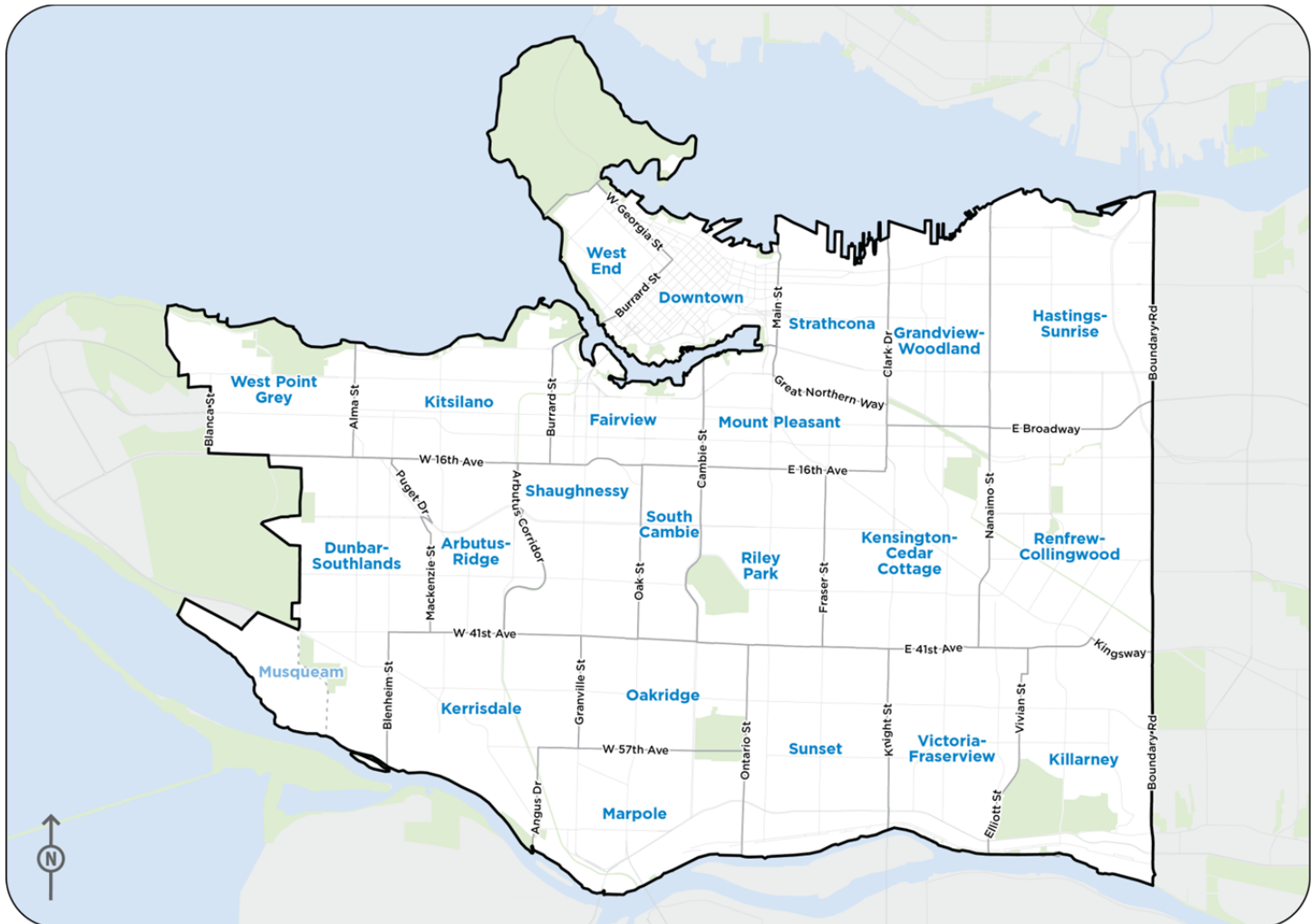
But these successes are tempered by persistent inequities and a precarious future for many people living here. The cost of living, particularly housing, leaves many people questioning their ability to stay in the city. The city's diversity is challenged as Vancouver becomes less accessible and inclusive for many people. Systems of colonization and other forms of oppression persist. Loneliness and disengagement are pressing concerns in the city. Too many people experience poverty and stigma. Crises such as the current epidemic of drug overdoses in the city are just the visible parts of more profound social policy issues.

While many aspects of Vancouver create a healthy city for those who are able to participate in it, it is not yet a healthy city for all. The social determinants of health set out in the goals of the Healthy City Strategy profoundly shape the health and well-being of Vancouver's people, communities and environments.





## Scope: City of Neighbourhoods



The map above shows the 22 local planning areas used by the City of Vancouver. These areas, identified in the 1960s, are the closest concept Vancouver has to “official” neighbourhoods, and there is a wealth of current and historical population and infrastructure data available for these areas. However, it is important to be aware of other neighbourhood definitions and boundaries.

Some people in Vancouver may prefer to identify their neighbourhood with reference to a major street, even if it is also used as a boundary between two local areas. Examples of this include Fraser Street, which may be a stronger source of identity than Riley Park or Kensington-Cedar Cottage.

The Downtown Eastside (DTES) warrants particular attention: the neighbourhoods in the DTES extend through portions of the Downtown and Strathcona local areas but do not line up with their boundaries. Both the DTES as a whole and the neighbourhoods within it—including Chinatown, Gastown, Victory Square, Oppenheimer and Strathcona—are important areas to study to understand social trends in the city. Ongoing planning programs within the DTES will access more specific and focused census data, but unfortunately this is not available for the entire scope of these profiles.

As well, the local areas established in the 1960s exclude newer neighbourhoods, such as Coal Harbour, Yaletown, Southeast False Creek, East Fraserlands and others. There are also important areas where city planning has resulted in redevelopment in portions of local areas or overlapping corridors between them.

Finally, the Musqueam community in the southwest corner of the city is included within the boundaries of the City of Vancouver, but is administratively self-governing. Statistical data for Musqueam is included in the Dunbar-Southlands local area, but it is not included in recent census information published for the City of Vancouver census subdivision. This census profile generally adds data from Musqueam to the numbers presented for the City of Vancouver, except when comparing the city across Canada.

Readers are encouraged to consider how more nuanced data and other definitions of neighbourhood and city boundaries can add to the information presented here.

# METHODS AND DATA SOURCES

Our understanding of the social landscape of Vancouver and its neighbourhoods is informed by data. This series of profiles provides information on demographic trends in each of City of Vancouver's 22 local planning areas, based on Statistics Canada's census program and other surveys that provide neighbourhood-level estimates. This includes a wide range of topics on individuals, households and families, including demographic trends, social identities, economic indicators and community health indicators. Where possible, these profiles provide information on trends to illustrate change over time.

## Understanding Census Data

Statistics Canada administers the census program every five years; this profile uses data from the 2016 Census of Population as its present day. More local knowledge of change since 2016 can help triangulate trends and identify more recent change: in particular, the knowledge held by non-profit neighbourhood organizations and service providers can provide valuable information.

Census information is collected using two different types of questionnaire. First, there is a short form, administered to 100% of the population, asking basic demographic questions such as age, gender, marital status, household composition and linguistic identity. The numbers from this form are the best available statistical data, with almost the entire population directly covered.

Second, more in-depth data on topics such as Indigenous identity, cultural origin, immigration, housing, employment and education are derived from a long-form questionnaire administered to a sample of the population. In 2016, one in four private households received the long form. Information from the long form therefore consists of estimates created by extrapolating from the sample.

Readers should be aware that the approach to asking the long-form questions has changed over time. Specifically:

- In 2006 and prior censuses the long form was mandatory to complete and administered to 20% of the population (one in five households).
- In 2011 the mandatory long-form census was cancelled by the federal government, so Statistics Canada administered a voluntary National Household Survey (NHS) to 33% of the population (one in three private households).
- In 2016 the federal government restored the mandatory long-form census. The long form was administered to 25% of the population (one in four private households).

Readers should be particularly cautious using voluntary survey data from the 2011 NHS; in cases where 2011 NHS data shows a different trend than 2006 and 2016 census data it may be a result of non-response bias rather than true change in the neighbourhood. The chart at right shows non-response rates in the 2011 NHS and 2016 census.

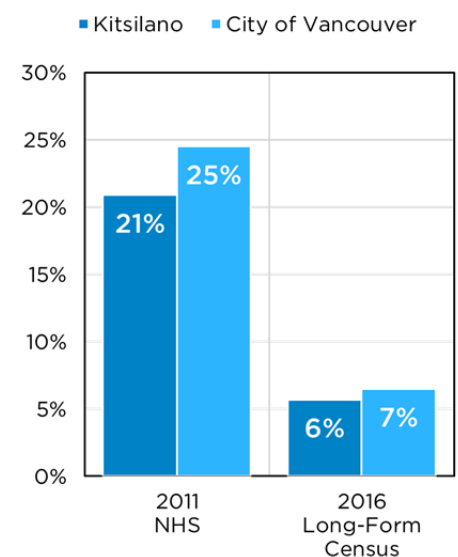
Over time, Statistics Canada is making greater use of administrative data rather than questionnaires. In particular, effective with the 2016 Census of Population, income data is collected solely by linking census questionnaires to administrative data from income tax returns. This makes the data collected in 2016 more valid and reliable than ever before, but it also means that it may not be directly comparable with previous years.

## Gaps and Limitations

Quantitative data sources are important tools for building knowledge and understanding. However, they also leave a lot of information out. Particular considerations in using quantitative data include:

- People's identities are multi-dimensional, intersectional and subjective, but any method of quantifying identities at a population level must impose categories. Creating these categories is neither neutral nor value-free, and risk being reductive, essentializing, stigmatizing and exclusionary. For example, the census questionnaire only asks about sex, not gender, and it only provides the options of "male" or "female".

**Global Non-Response Rate, 2011-2016**



Data Source: Statistics Canada, 2011 National Household Survey and 2016 Census of Population

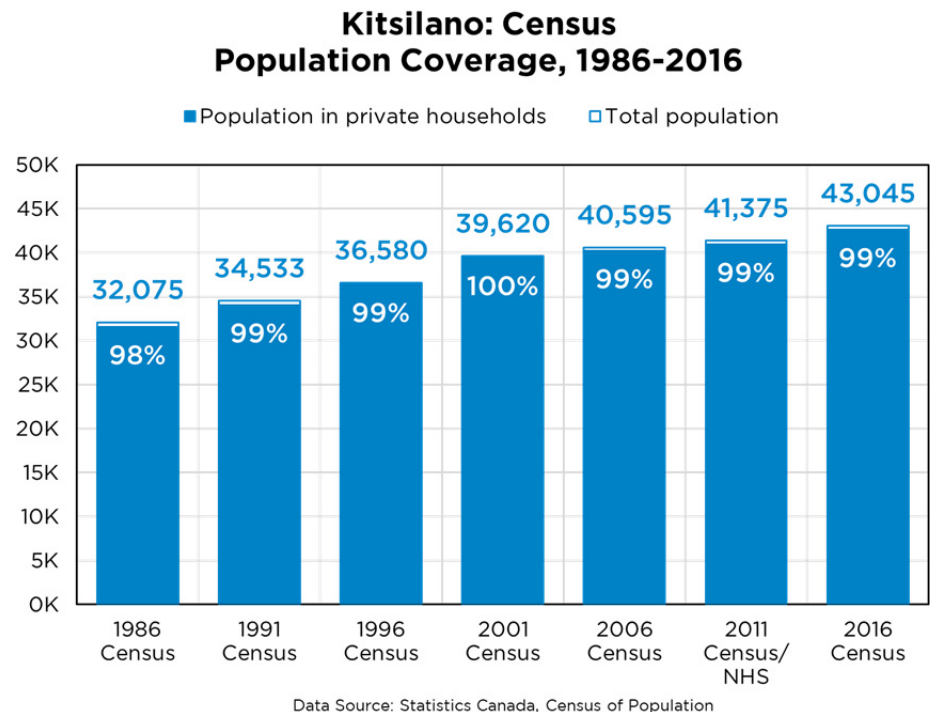
- There are a number of important topics not included in the census, such as ability, sexual orientation, cost of living, wealth, health or perceived well-being. While other surveys fill some of these gaps, they do not offer data as robust as the census and few offer local area-specific data.
- Ensuring cultural appropriateness and safety in surveys is a work in progress. Although Statistics Canada ensures confidentiality of responses, the census still represents an agency of the federal government asking people detailed questions about their identities, housing arrangements, employment and more. In addition, census and survey topics and concepts often arise from colonial systems and do not reflect Indigenous conceptions of identity, family, well-being and community.

Readers are encouraged to supplement the census with other data sources, and to value the knowledge of people whose identities and lived experiences can offer a more complete picture than a statistical understanding of the city.

## Census Coverage

Although the census is the most comprehensive dataset for understanding Canada's population, not everyone is included. People experiencing homelessness are, in many cases, not covered. The changing classification of some dwellings, notably single-room occupancy (SRO) units, means that they are not counted as private households and therefore not included in any of the long-form estimates. Enumeration of secondary suites in some housing types is a perennial challenge for Statistics Canada and many residents report either not receiving the census at all or having their landlord complete it unknowingly on their behalf.

In Kitsilano, the 2016 census counted 43,045 residents, 99% of which were housed in private households.



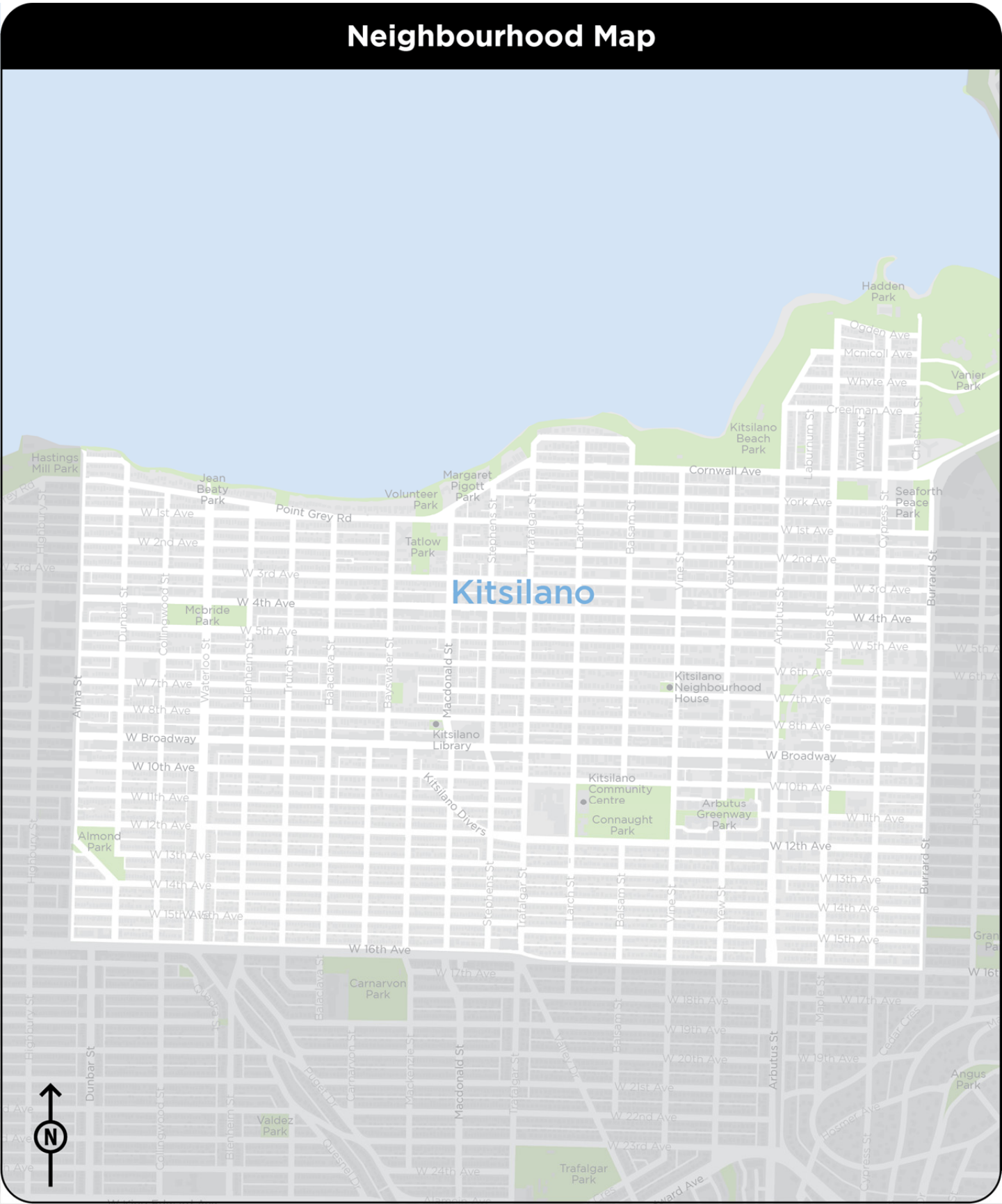
## Other Data Sources

The City of Vancouver is a member of the Community Data Program, a Canada-wide network that provides access to custom city- and neighbourhood-level tabulations from the census and other national data sources. Many of the disaggregated indicators for equity-seeking groups are provided using datasets accessed through this program. More information is available online at: <http://communitydata.ca>.

The Community Health chapter also uses data from other sources that provide neighbourhood-level data:

- The UBC Human Early Learning Partnership conducts research into the vulnerability and assets of children and youth across British Columbia, including the Early Development Instrument, which is a survey completed by kindergarten teachers; and the Middle-Years Development Instrument, which is a self-assessment completed by children and youth in grade 4 and grade 7. More information is available online at: <http://earlylearning.ubc.ca>.
- The My Health My Community Survey, conducted by Vancouver Coastal and Fraser Health Authorities, includes many indicators relating to perceived health and well-being, social connections and more topics. This voluntary survey was conducted in 2013-2014 and will be repeated in the near future. More information is available online at: <http://myhealthmycommunity.org>.
- The City of Vancouver procured a survey in 2017 to understand perceptions of access to community, social and health services across the city.
- The BC Vital Statistics Agency provides key indicators on population and life expectancy estimates.

# LOCATING KITSILANO

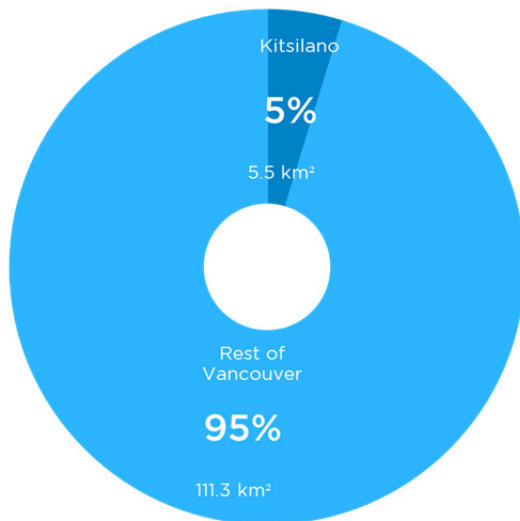




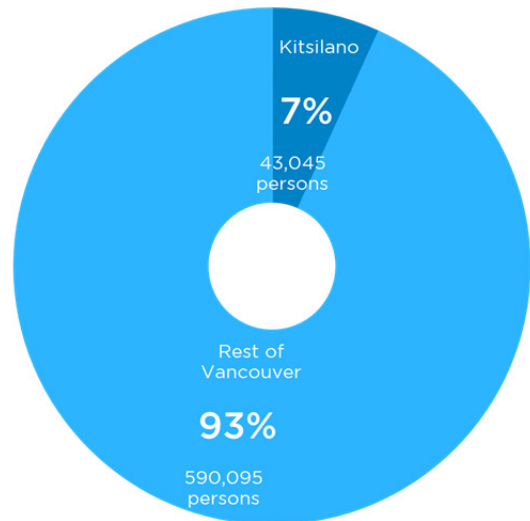
## SHARE OF THE CITY

The Kitsilano local area extends from Burrard Street to Alma Street, and from 16<sup>th</sup> Avenue to English Bay. Kitsilano occupies 5% of the City of Vancouver's land area and houses 7% of its population. The neighbourhood contains 8% of the private households counted in the 2016 census. Of the jobs reported with a usual place of work, 4% of those within the City of Vancouver were located in Kitsilano.

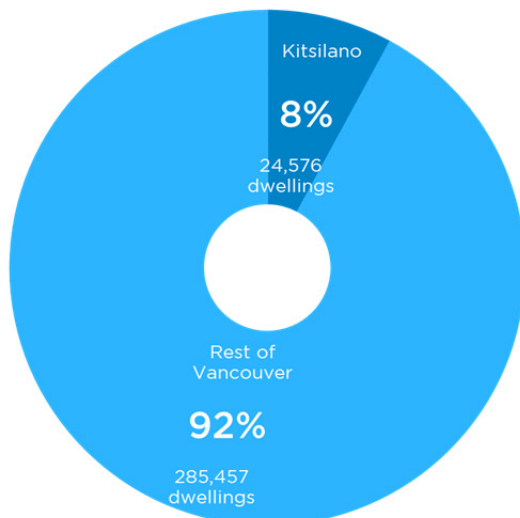
### Land Area



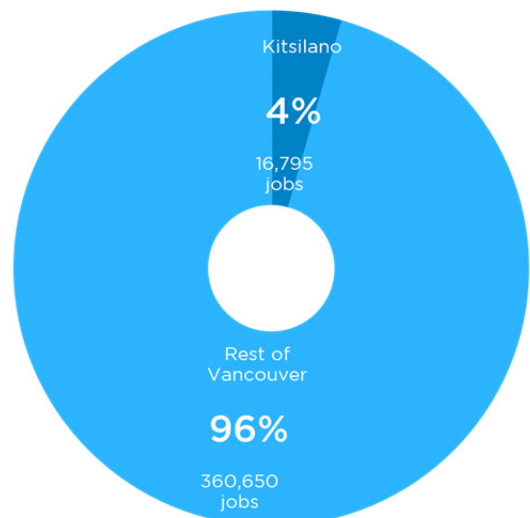
### Population



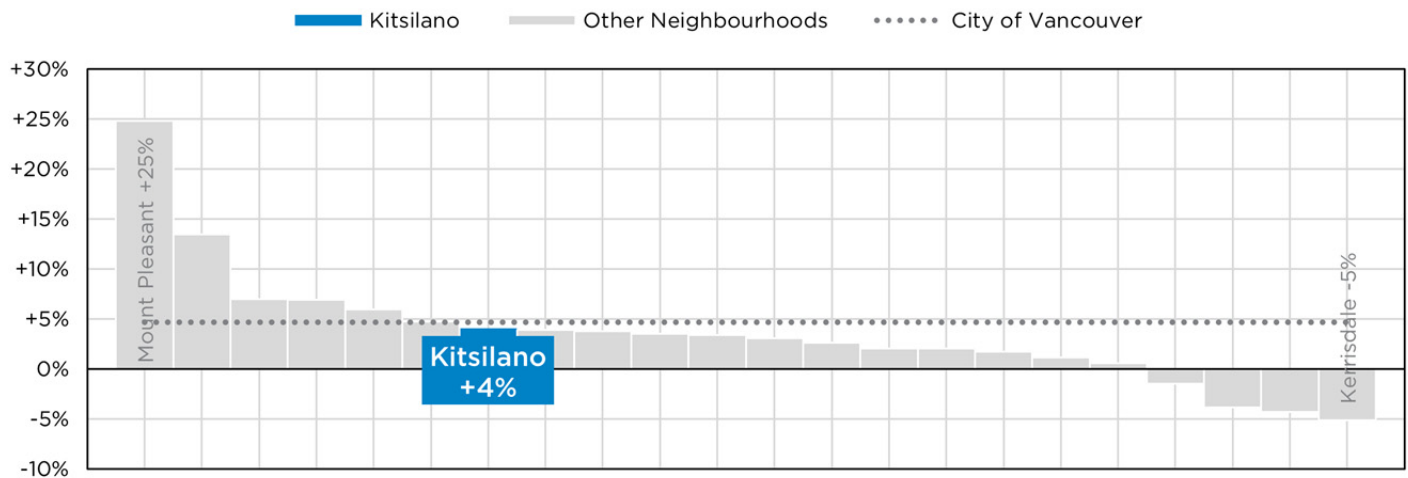
### Housing Units



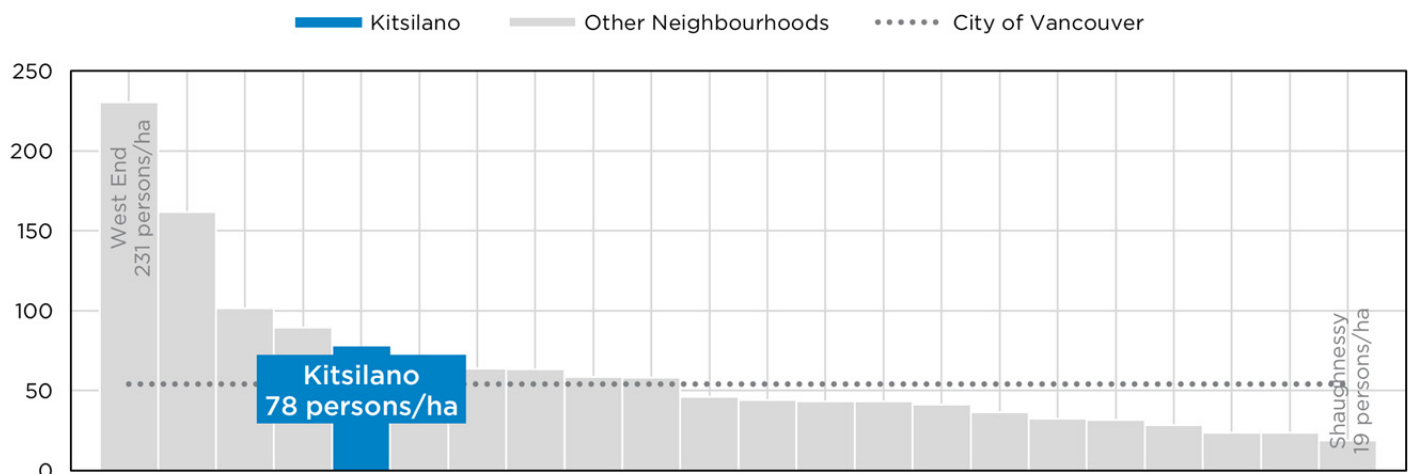
### Jobs in Area



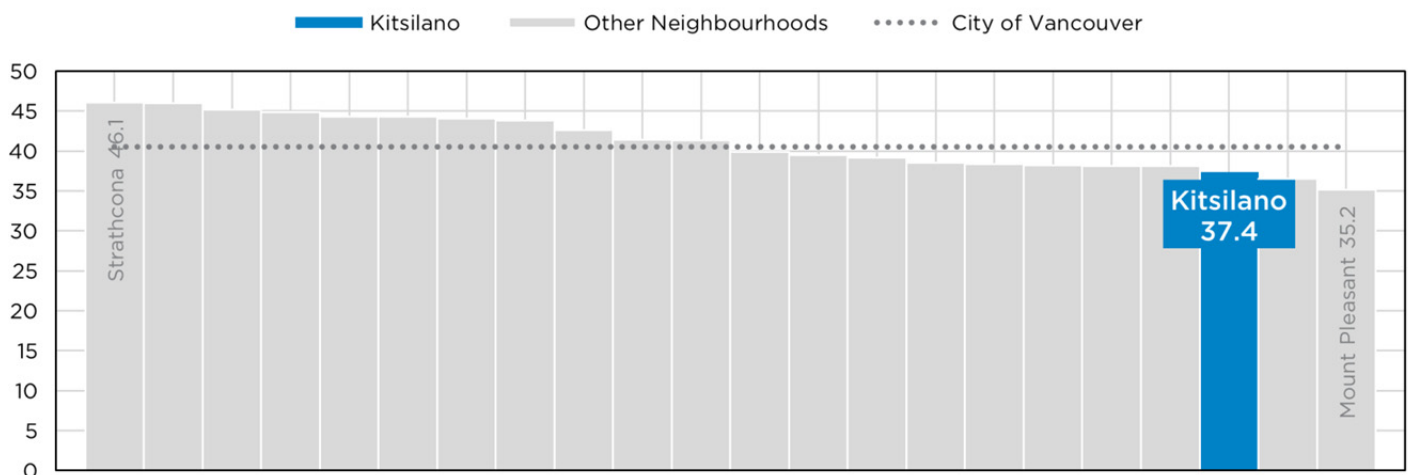
### Population Change, 2011-2016



## Population Density, 2016



### Median Age, 2016

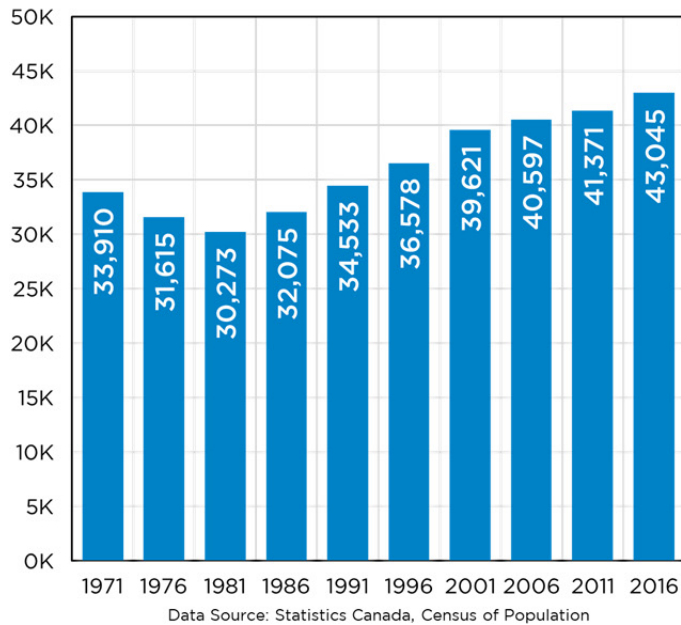




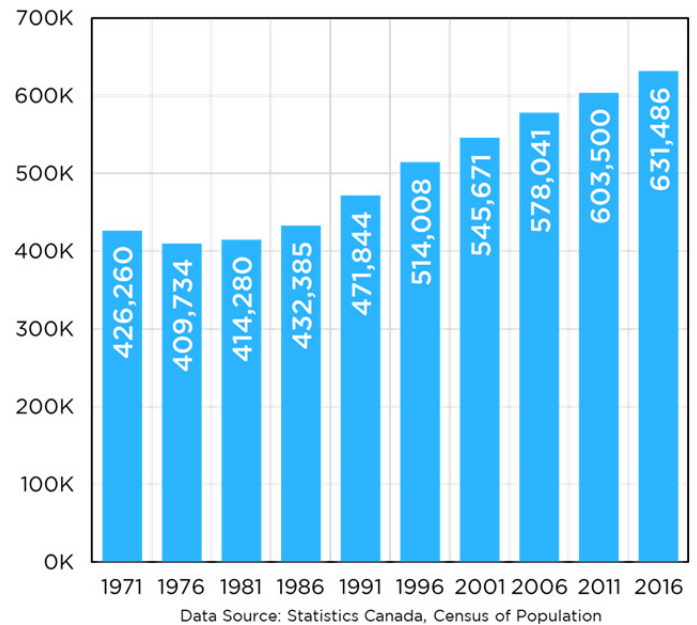
## Population Trends

Kitsilano has grown steadily, though at a slower rate than the city overall since 2001. There was a 4% increase in population from 2011 to 2016, yielding nearly 1,700 new residents.

**Kitsilano:  
Total Population, 1971-2016**

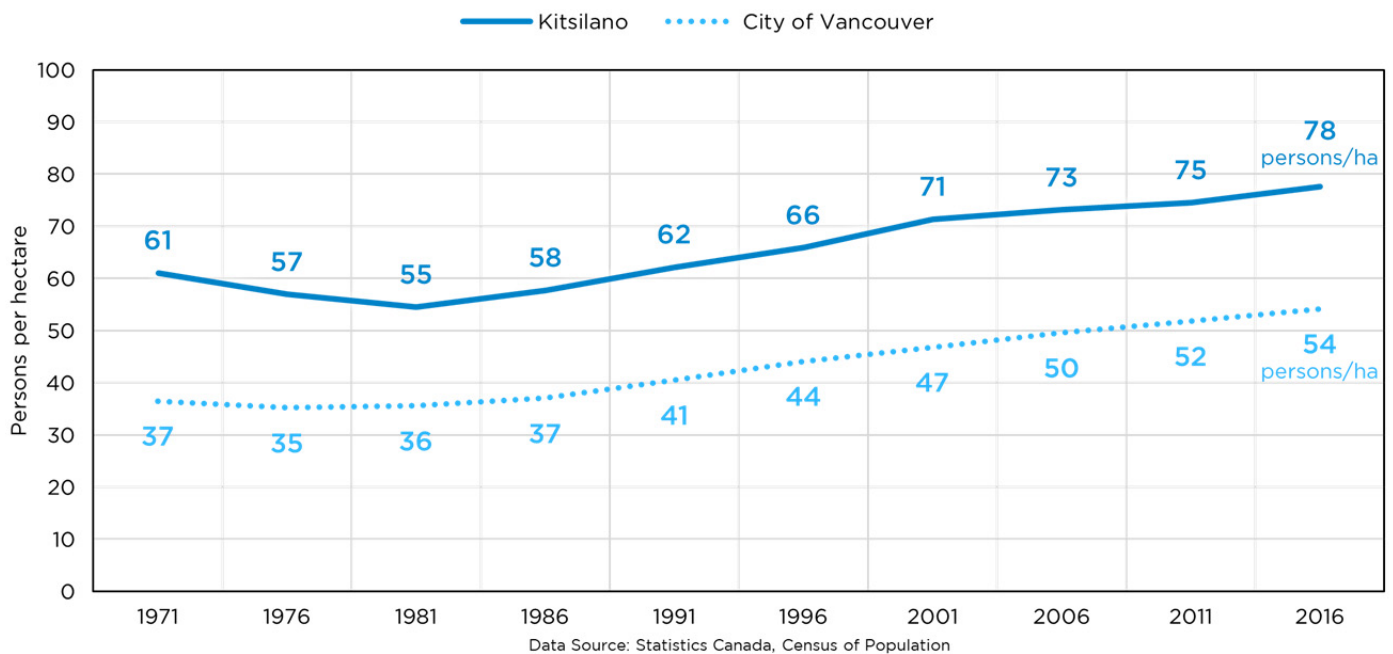


**City of Vancouver:  
Total Population, 1971-2016**



As of 2016, Kitsilano's population density is 78 persons per hectare, 43% denser than the city overall.

**Population Density, 1971-2016**

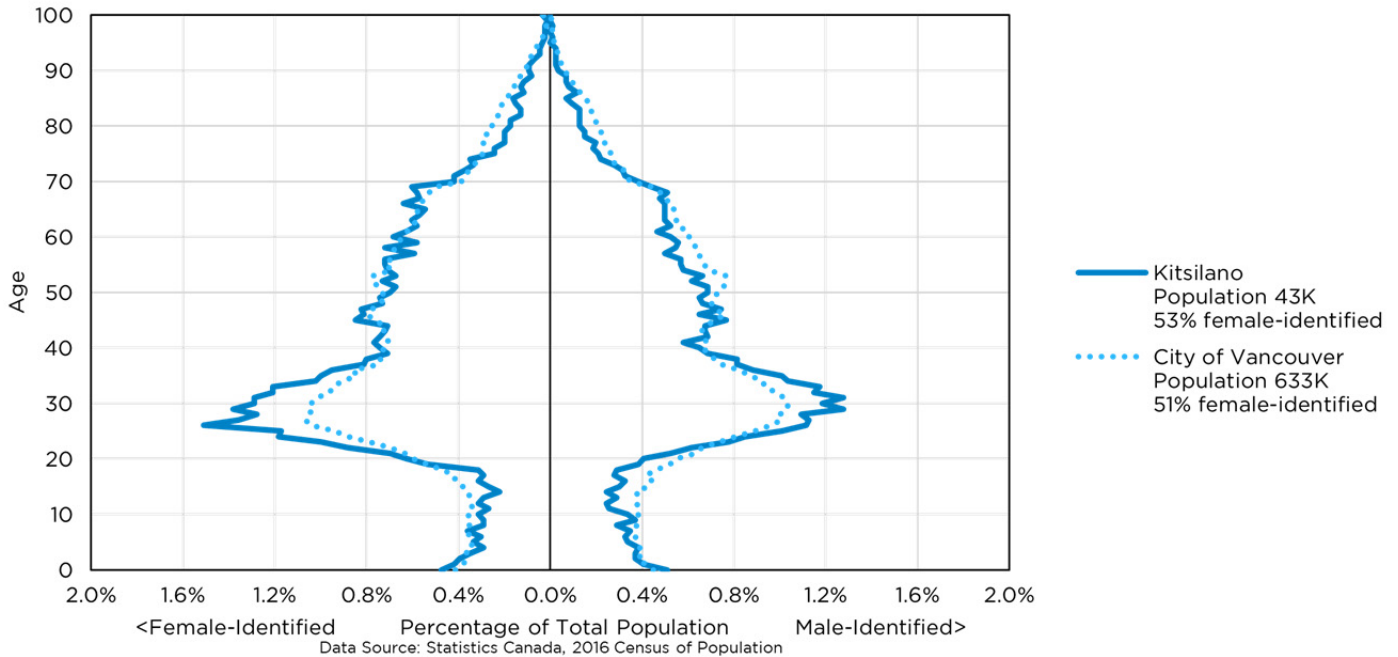




## Age Profile

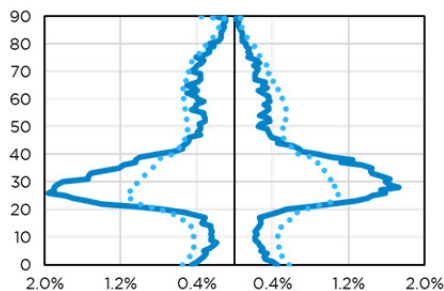
Kitsilano has a broadly similar age distribution to the City of Vancouver overall: relatively few children and youth and a large number of young adults. However, Kitsilano has a proportionally larger population of people in their 20s and 30s and a smaller senior population than the city overall.<sup>1</sup> In Kitsilano, 53% of the population is female-identified, compared to 51% of the total city population.

**Population Distribution by Age and Sex, 2016**

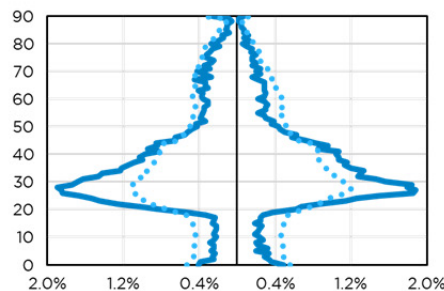


Over time, however, Kitsilano's age profile has shifted from young adults to older adults and seniors: its historic distribution had a much larger population in their 20s. An aging generation of residents is evident.

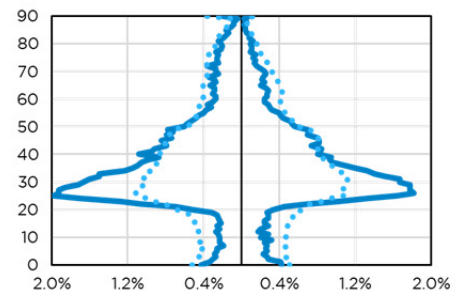
**1986**



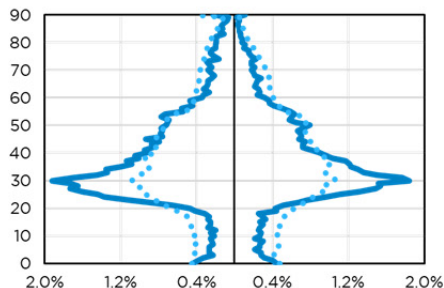
**1991**



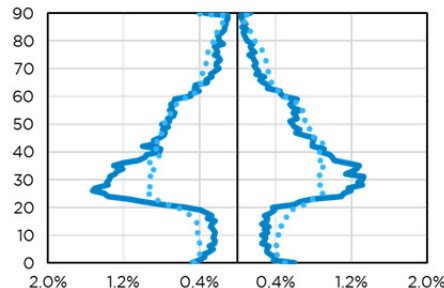
**1996**



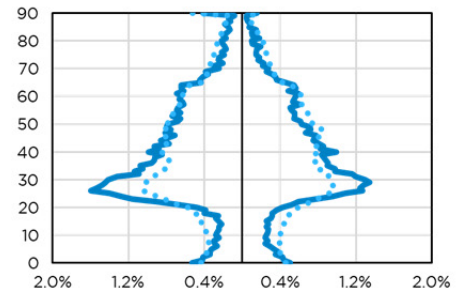
**2001**



**2006**



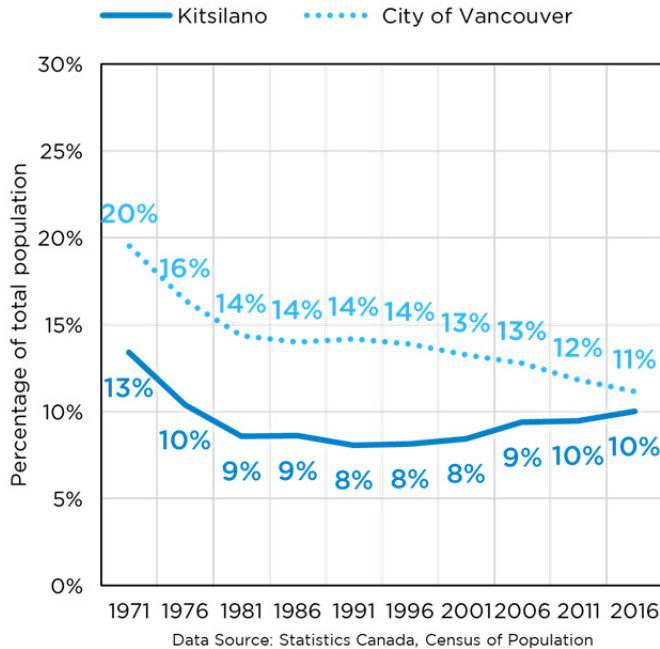
**2011**



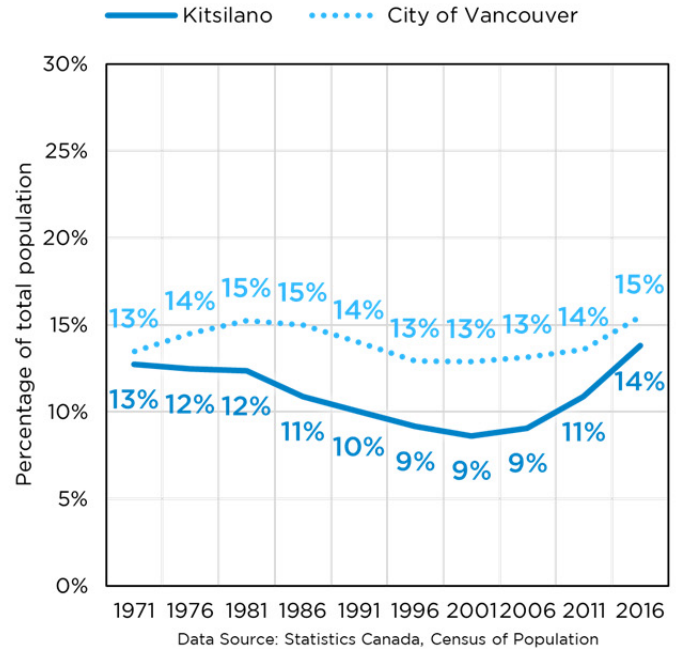
## Age Groups

Kitsilano has 37% more seniors (age 65 or older) than children (age 0-14). Both age groups have tended to make up a smaller share of Kitsilano's population than of the city overall's. However, the number of children and seniors are both growing: from 1996 to 2016 the absolute number of children increased by 44% and the number of seniors increased by 77%.

**Share of Pop. 0-14, 1971-2016**

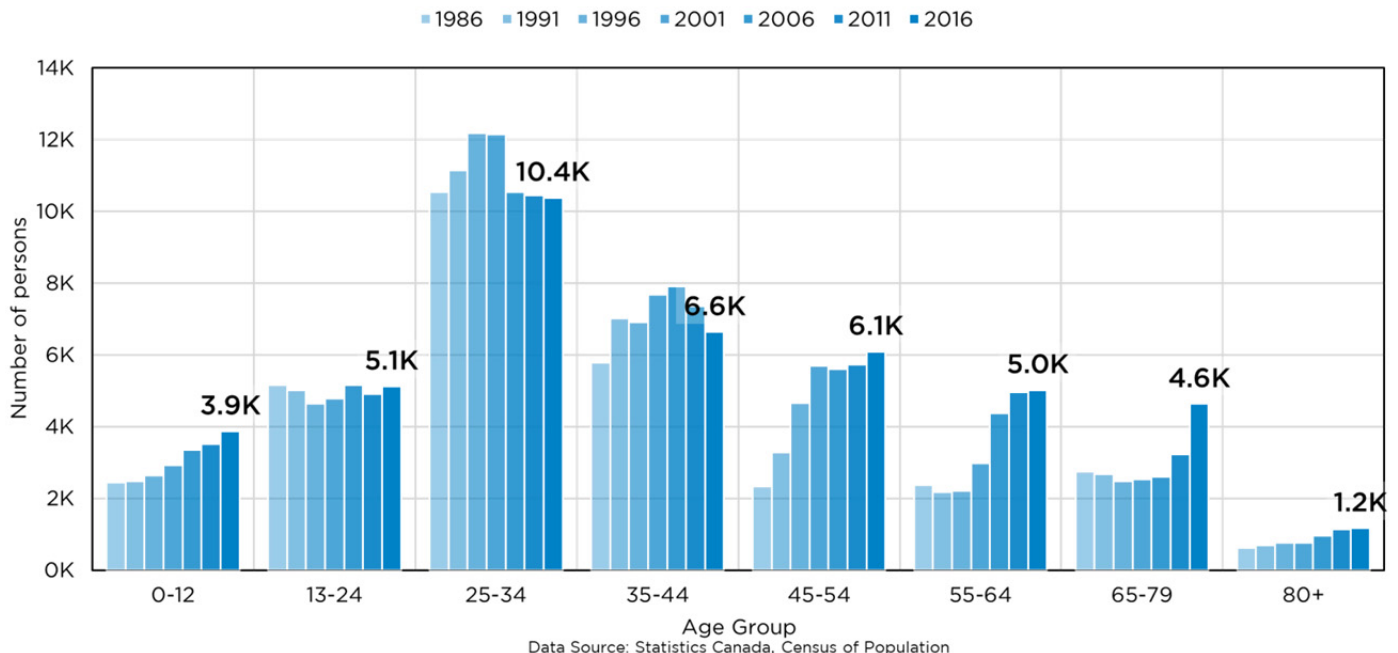


**Share of Pop. 65+, 1971-2016**



The graph below provides population counts by age group over 30 years. Although it is the largest group, the number of 25-to-34-year-olds has declined in Kitsilano since the 1990s. More recent trends visible are a steady increase in the number of children (age 0-12) and a substantial increase in older adults and seniors.

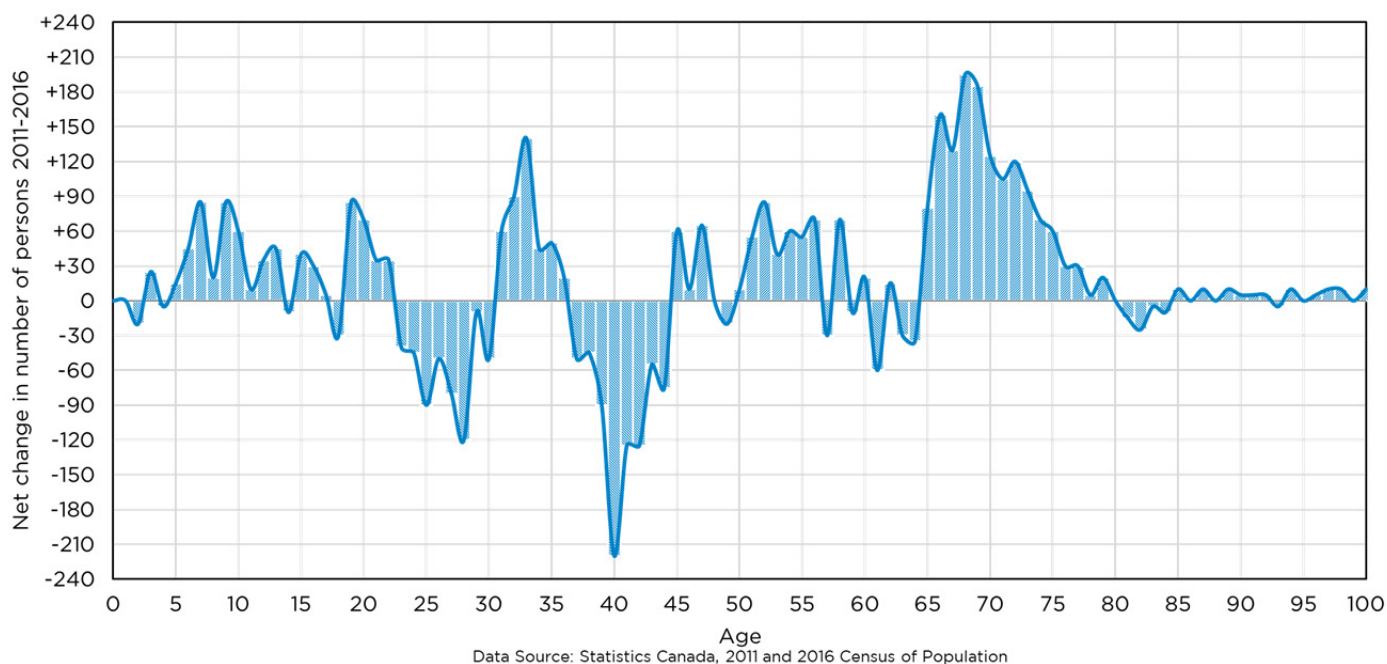
**Kitsilano: Population by Age Groups 1986-2016**



## Short-Term Population Growth

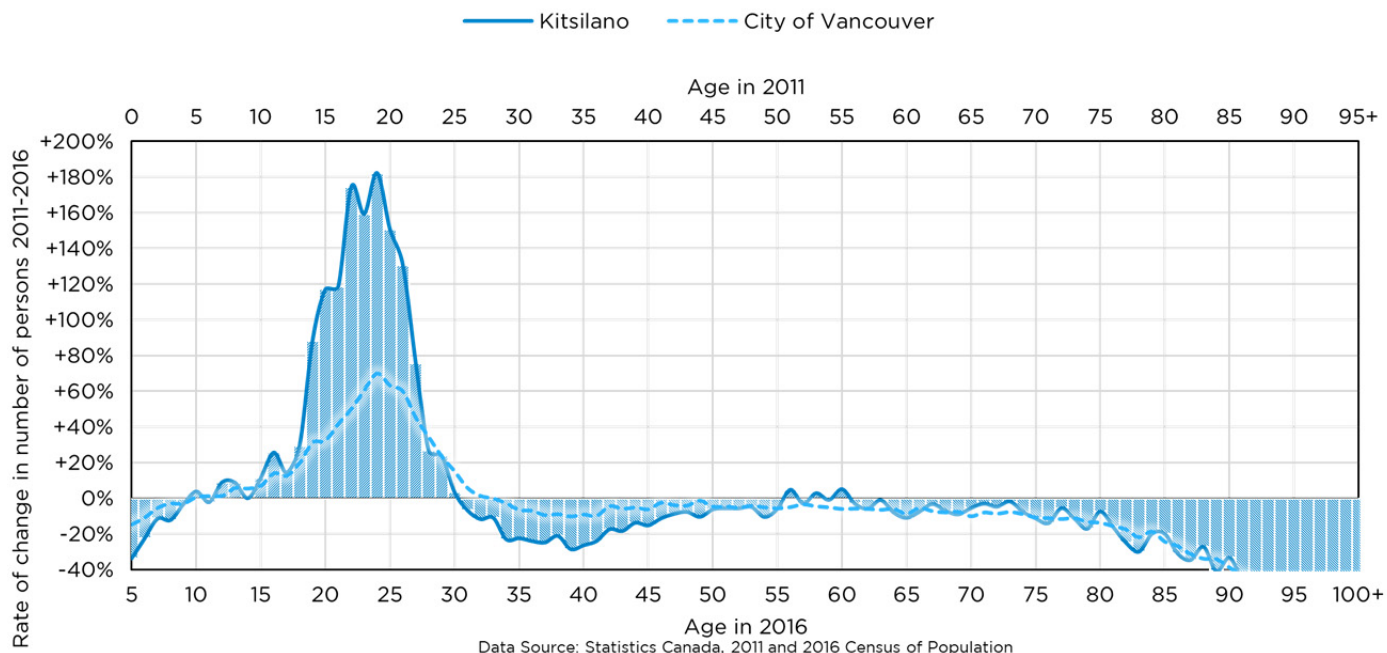
The graphs on this page provide a more detailed focus on population change from the 2011 to 2016 census. This first graph shows net population growth or loss by age in Kitsilano. There was an increase in school-age children and people age 65 to 80, with a loss of people in their 20s and around age 40.

**Kitsilano: Net Population Growth 2011-2016**



The graph below shows cohort dynamics: that is, the life stage at which people entered or departed the neighbourhood. People moved to Kitsilano as they became age 15 to 30, but they left the neighbourhood, at a faster rate than from the city overall, as they became age 30 to 50. Notable as well is that nearly 40% of newborn children in 2011 had left the neighbourhood by the time they were 5 in 2016.

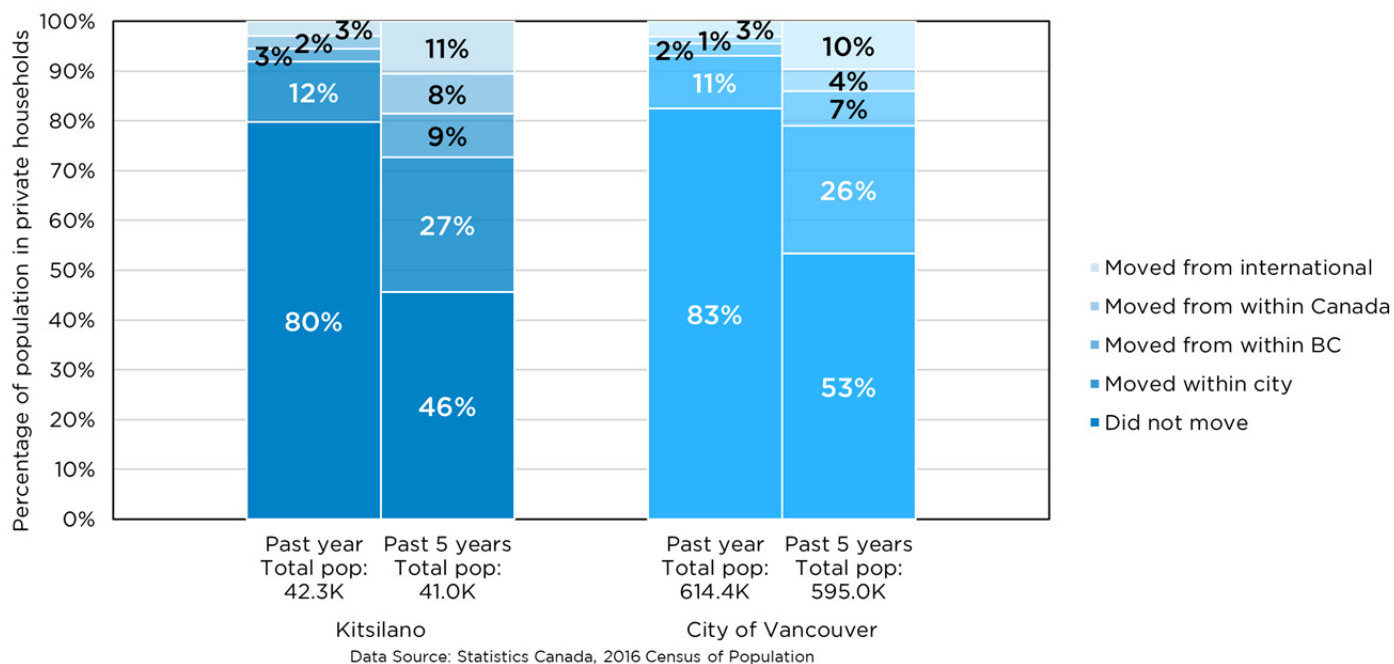
**Rate of Change in Population Cohorts, 2011-2016**



## Mobility

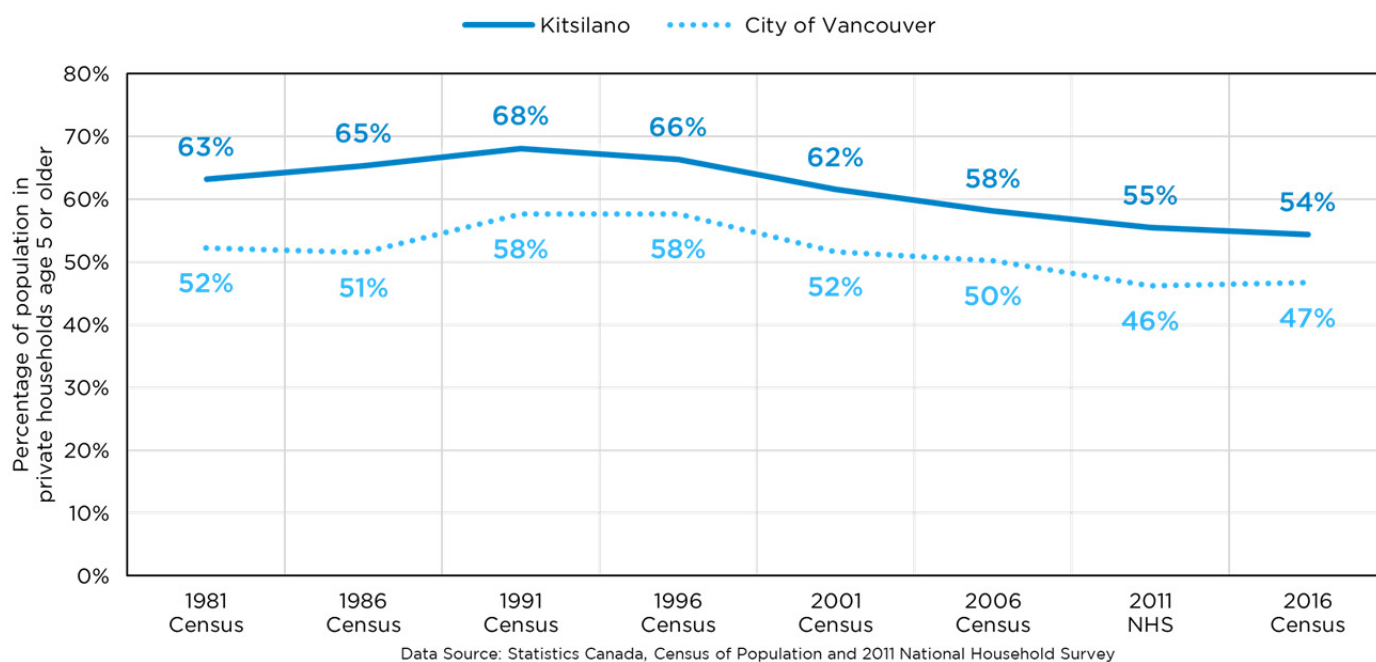
In the year prior to the 2016 census, 20% of Kitsilano residents had moved, mostly within the city. Over five years, 54% of residents had moved. Both rates are higher than the city overall.

**Population by Mobility Status, 2016**



Kitsilano residents are more likely to be recent movers than residents of the city overall: a majority of the population has consistently been at their current address for under five years. However, both the neighbourhood and the city rate have generally declined since the 1990s.

**Percentage of Population that Moved in Prev. Five Years, 1981-2016**

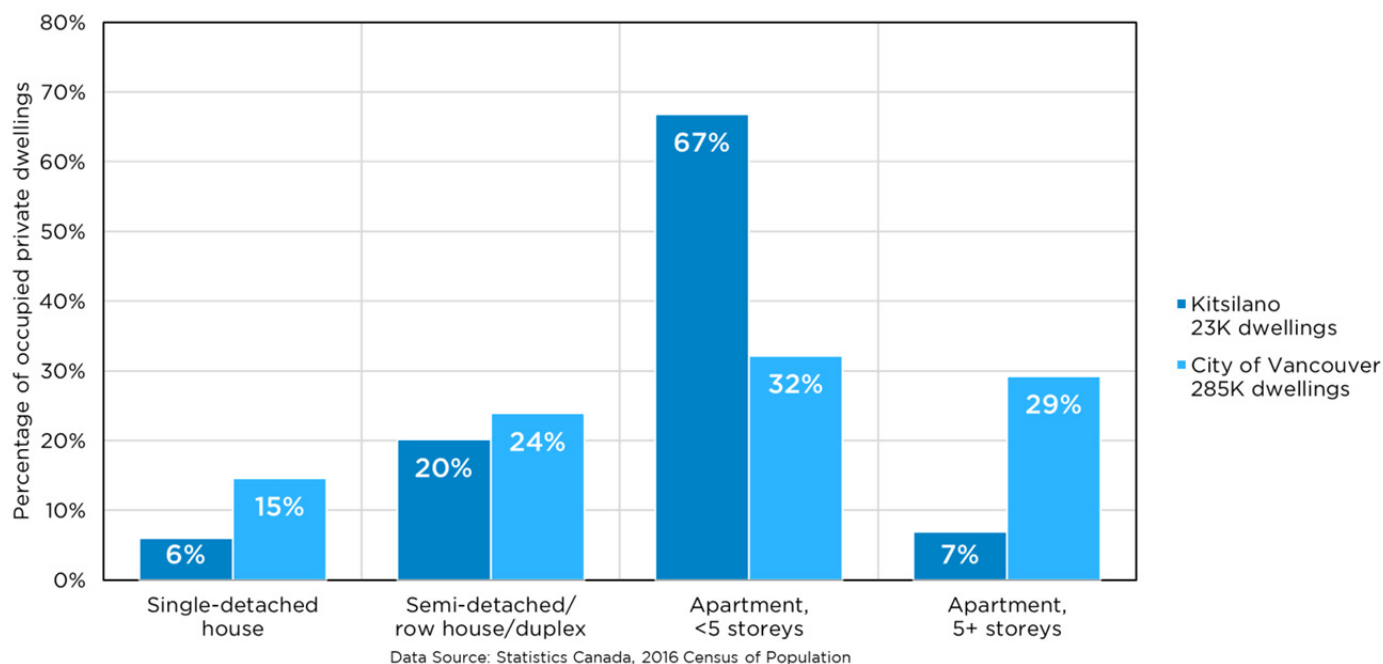




## Housing Types

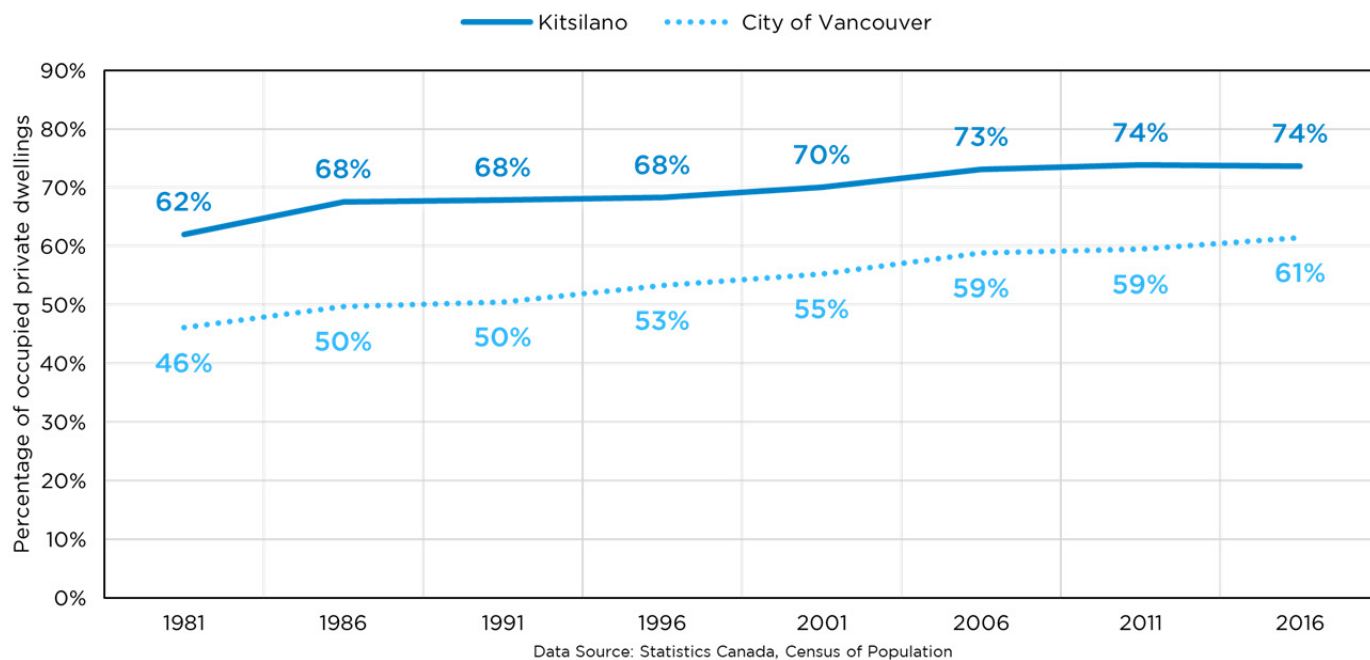
Kitsilano has proportionally few single-detached houses. As of 2016, a large majority of households are in low-rise apartments, with duplexes, semi-detached and row houses being the next largest category.<sup>2</sup>

**Dwellings by Structural Type, 2016**



Almost three quarters of dwellings in Kitsilano are in apartments, a proportion that has grown over time.<sup>3</sup>

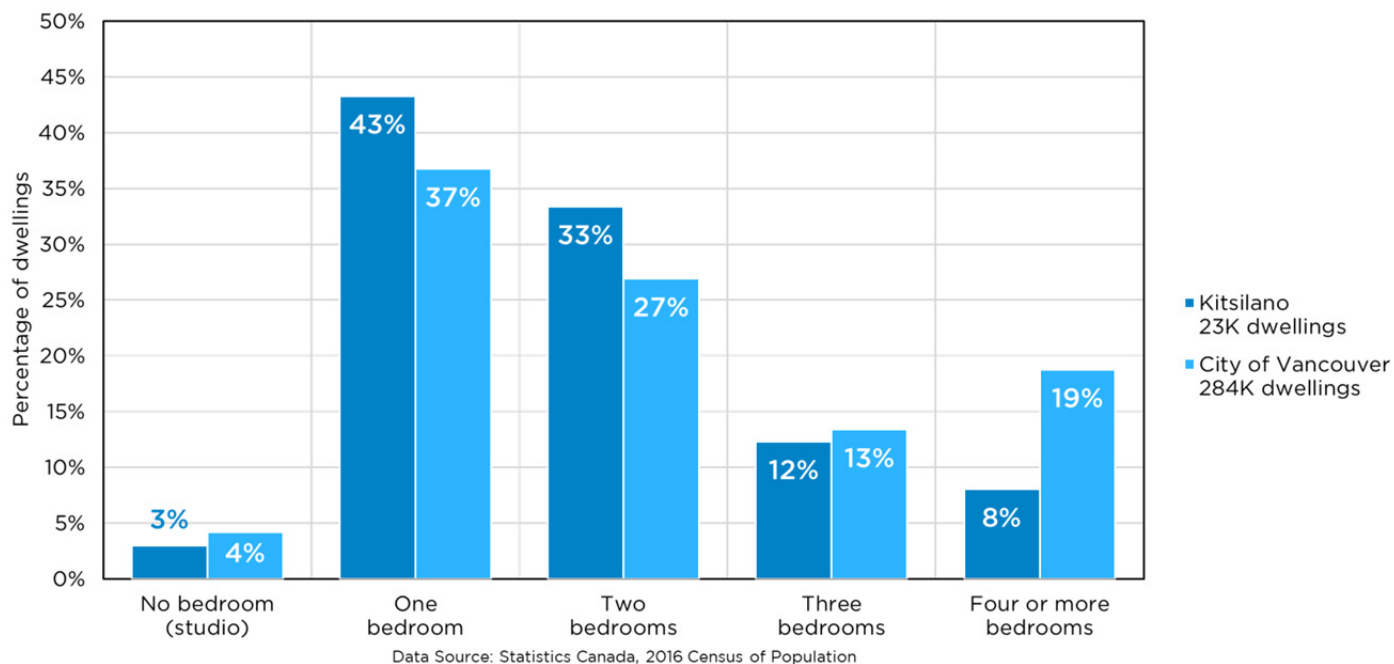
**Apartments as Share of Total Dwellings, 1981-2016**



## Housing Size

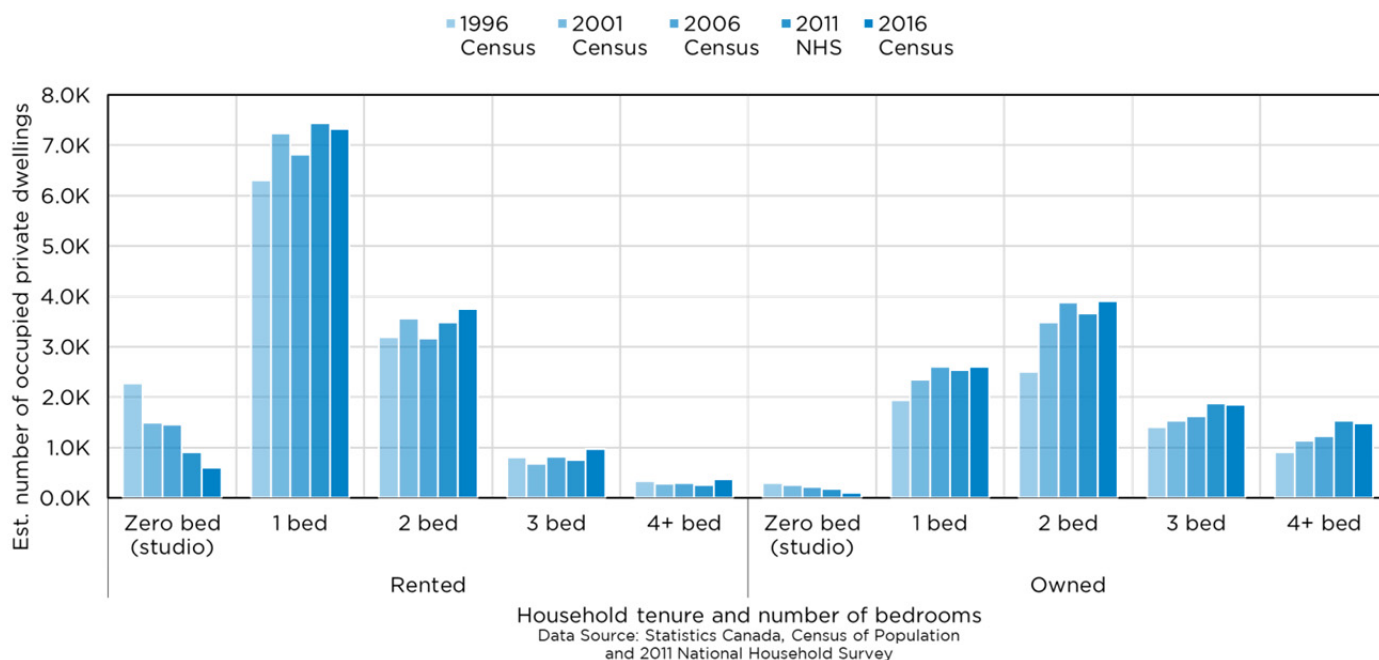
Housing units in Kitsilano tend to be a little bit smaller than the city overall, with a higher proportion of one- and two-bedroom units than Vancouver as a whole.

**Occupied Private Dwellings by Number of Bedrooms, 2016**



Kitsilano has seen fairly steady numbers of rented units, with a decrease in the number of studios over time and a recent increase in larger units, possibly reflecting houses moving into the rental market. Owned housing in Kitsilano saw growth in three- and four-bedroom units until 2011 and a slight decline since then.

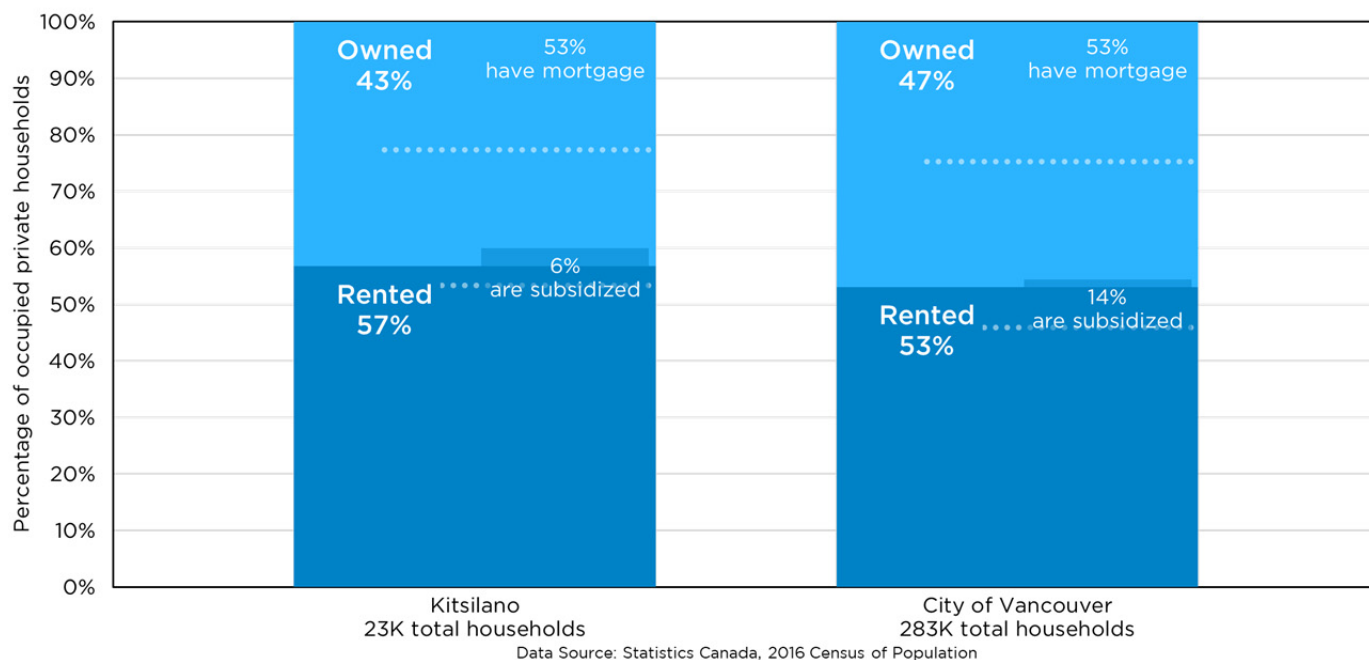
**Kitsilano: Dwellings by Number of Bedrooms, 1996-2016**



## Housing Tenure

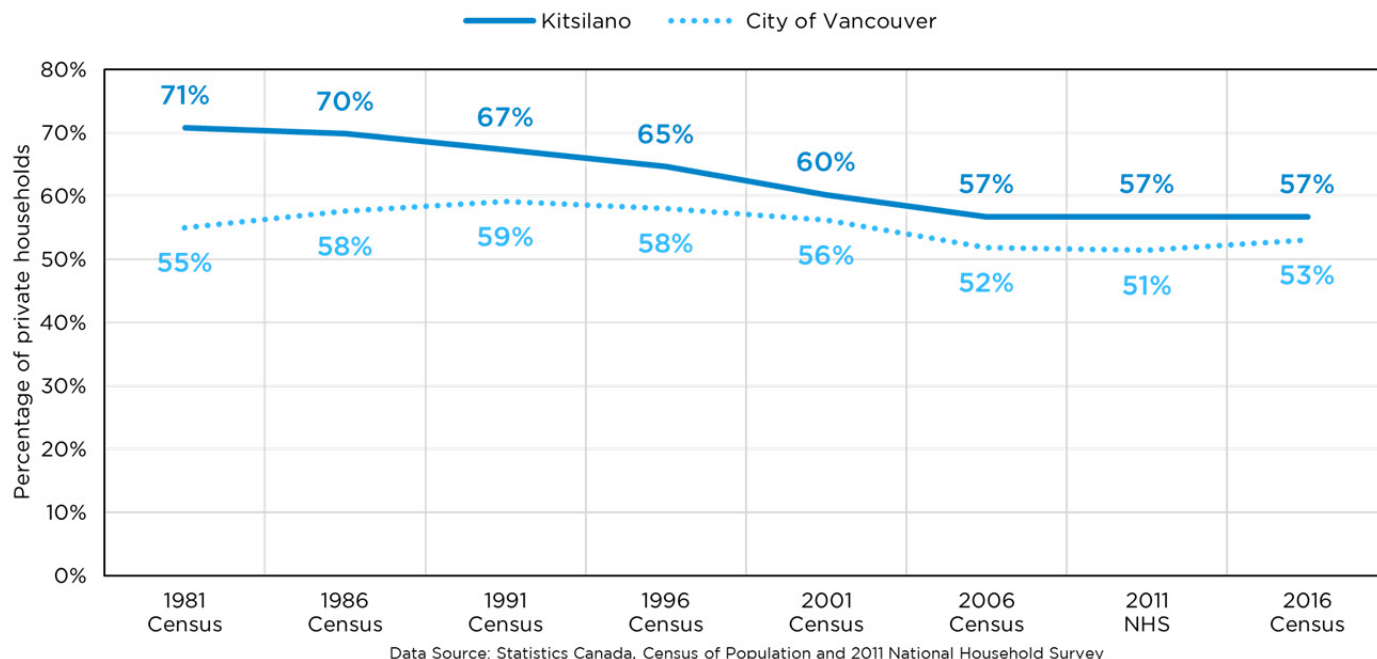
In Kitsilano, 57% of households are rented, compared to 53% of households across the City of Vancouver.<sup>4</sup> The neighbourhood has a smaller proportion of subsidized housing compared to the city overall. Among owned households in Kitsilano, 53% have a mortgage, the same rate as for the city overall.

**Occupied Private Households by Housing Tenure, 2016**



The proportion of rented households in Kitsilano declined through the 1990s and early 2000s, likely reflecting a shift toward condominium rather than rental construction. Citywide, recent incentives to build rental housing have resulted in a growth in rented households in 2016; in Kitsilano, the rate of rented households has stabilized since 2006.

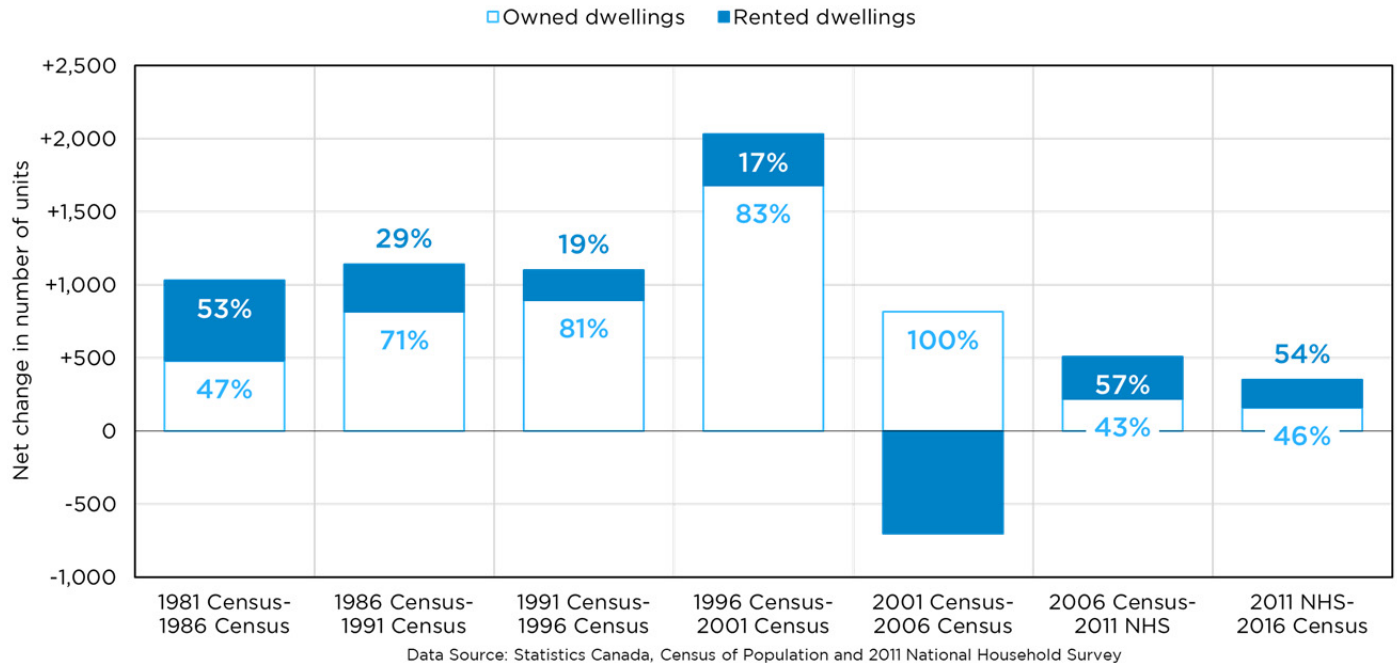
**Rented Households as Share of Total, 1981-2016**



## New Housing

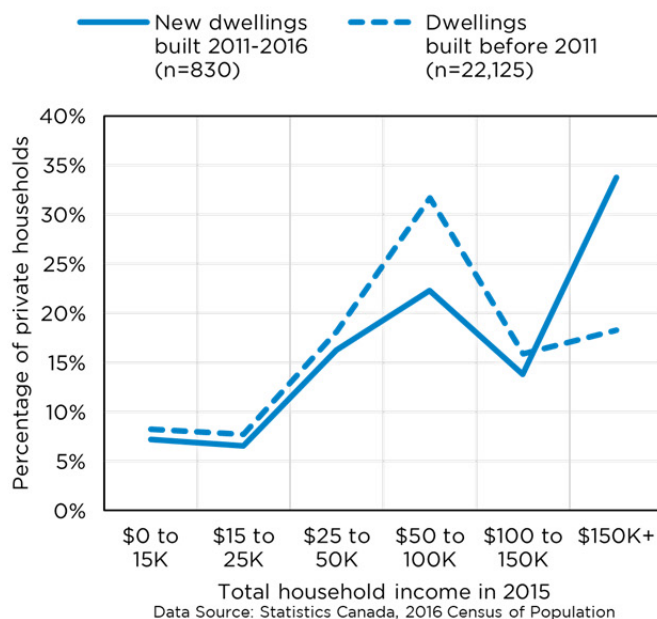
A shift back toward building rental housing is evident across the city. In Kitsilano, 54% of net new households counted in the 2016 census compared to the 2011 NHS are rented households. This may include new construction; new households in formerly unoccupied dwellings; new suites in existing buildings; or households that were not counted in previous census programs.

### Kitsilano: Net New Households by Tenure, 1981-2016

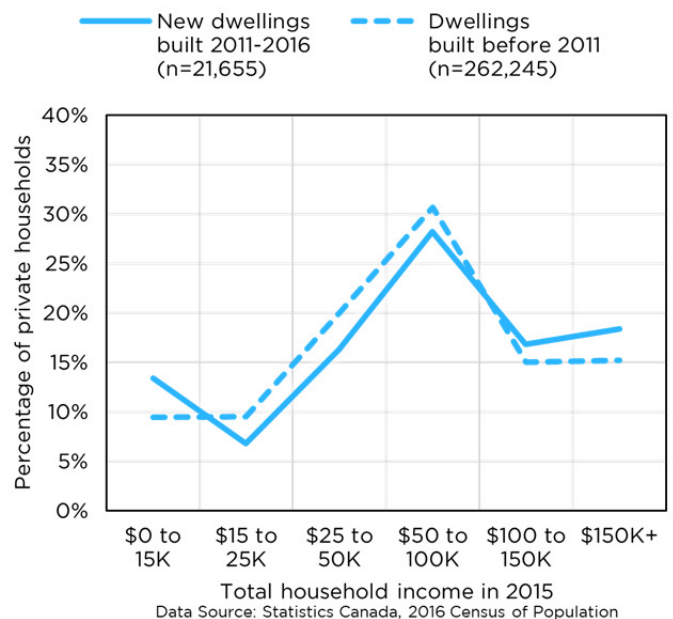


Ensuring affordability in new housing remains a challenge across the city. Households in newly constructed units in Kitsilano are more likely to have higher incomes.

### Kitsilano: New Housing by Income Groups, 2016



### City of Vancouver: New Housing by Income Groups, 2016

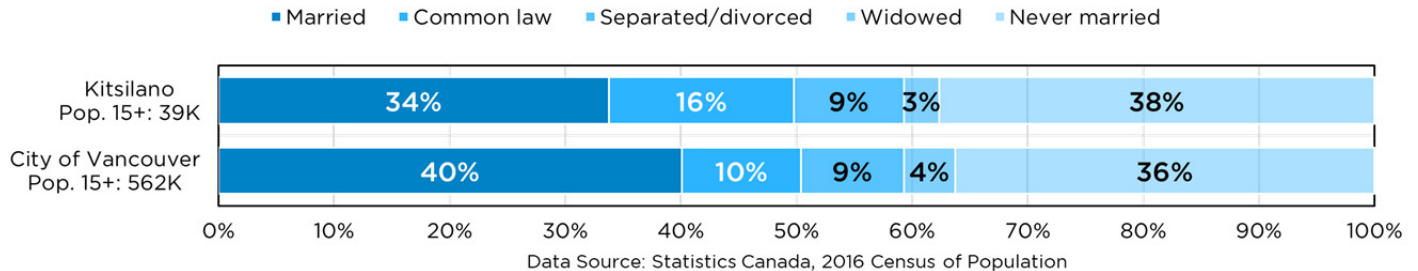




## Marital Status

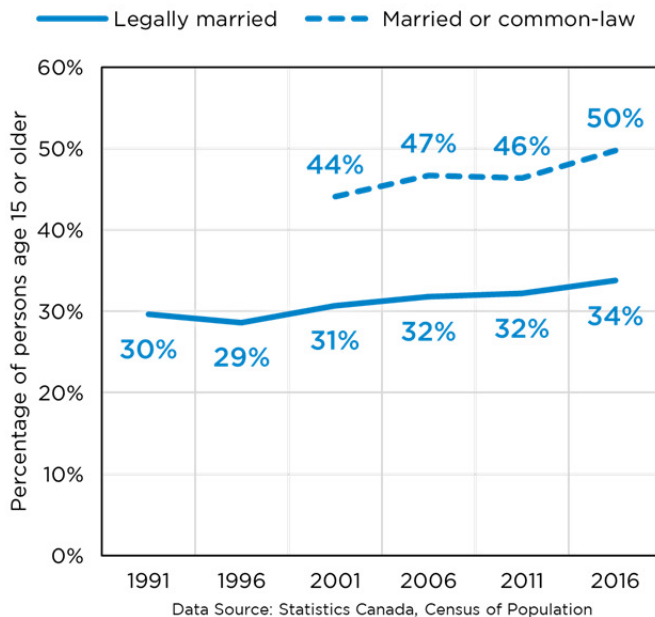
Kitsilano residents are less likely to be married than residents of the City of Vancouver overall, though they are living with a partner at the same rate as people in the city. As of 2016, 40% of Kitsilano residents age 15 and older are married, with another 16% living common-law. In Kitsilano, 9% of residents are separated or divorced; 3% are widowed; and 38% have never been married and are not living common-law.

### Population by Marital Status, 2016

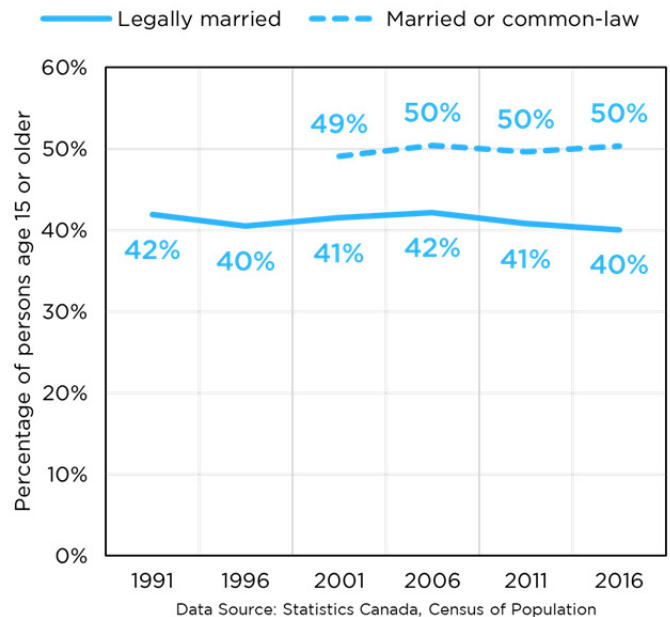


Over time, the rate of persons married in Kitsilano has increased somewhat, though it has been consistently lower than for the city overall. However, the rate of increase in people living common-law is such that Kitsilano residents now live with a partner at the same rate as residents of Vancouver overall.

### Kitsilano: Pop. 15+ by Marital Status, 1991-2016



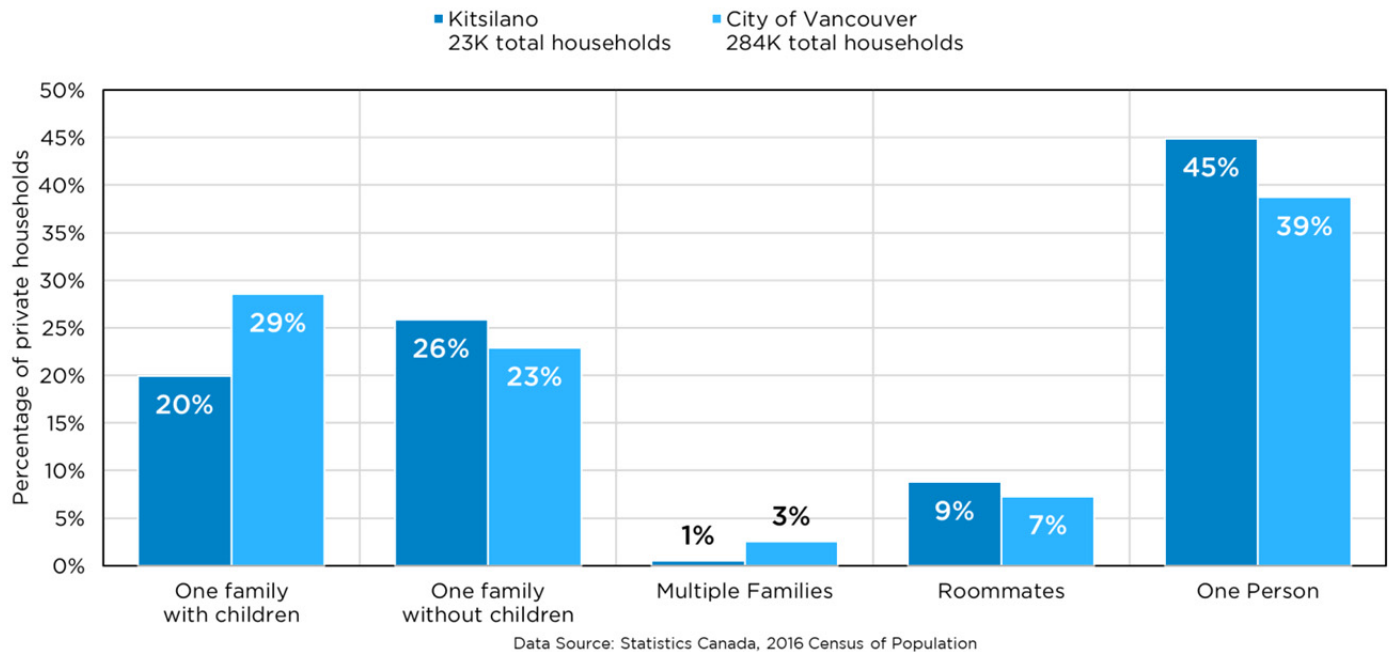
### City of Vancouver: Pop. 15+ by Marital Status, 1991-2016



## Household Types

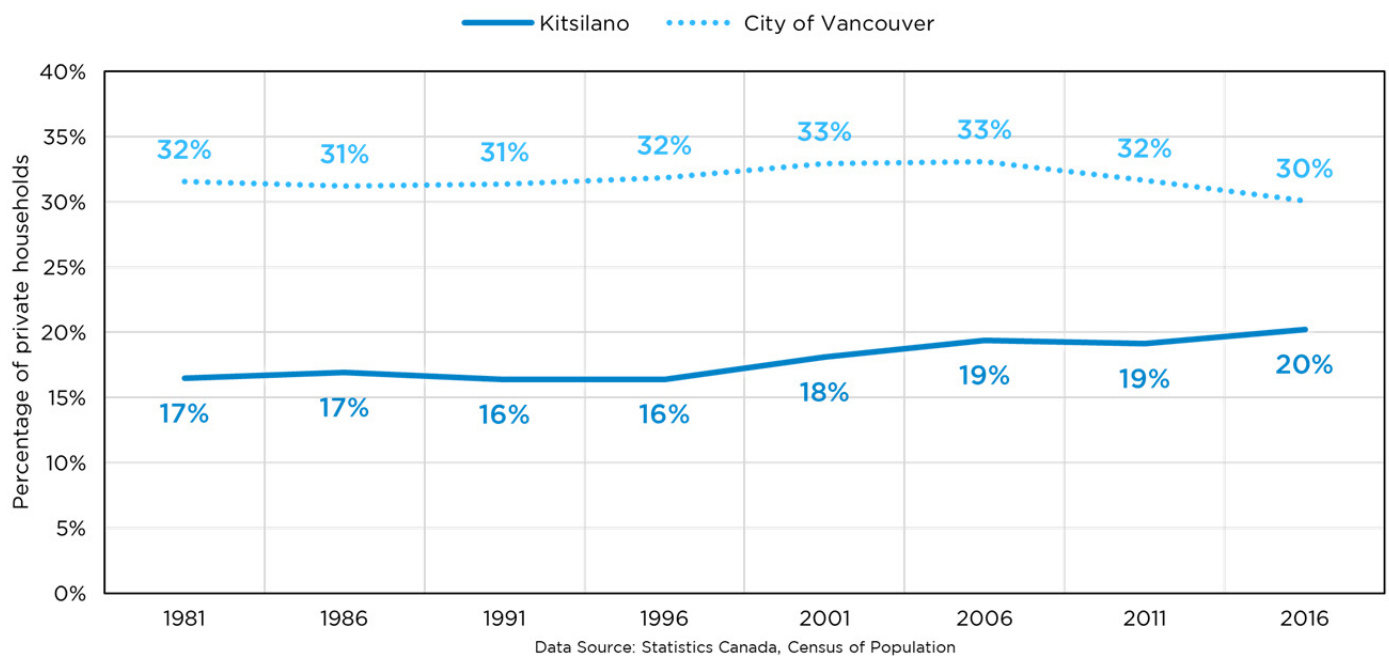
Compared to the city overall, Kitsilano households are less likely to have families with children living in them. The neighbourhood has higher rates of childless couples and people living alone than the city.

### Private Households by Type of Household, 2016



The graph below estimates the percentage of households that have children—of any age, including adult children—at home.<sup>5</sup> The rate of households with children in Kitsilano has consistently been lower than for the city overall, but it has climbed since the 1990s, narrowing the gap.

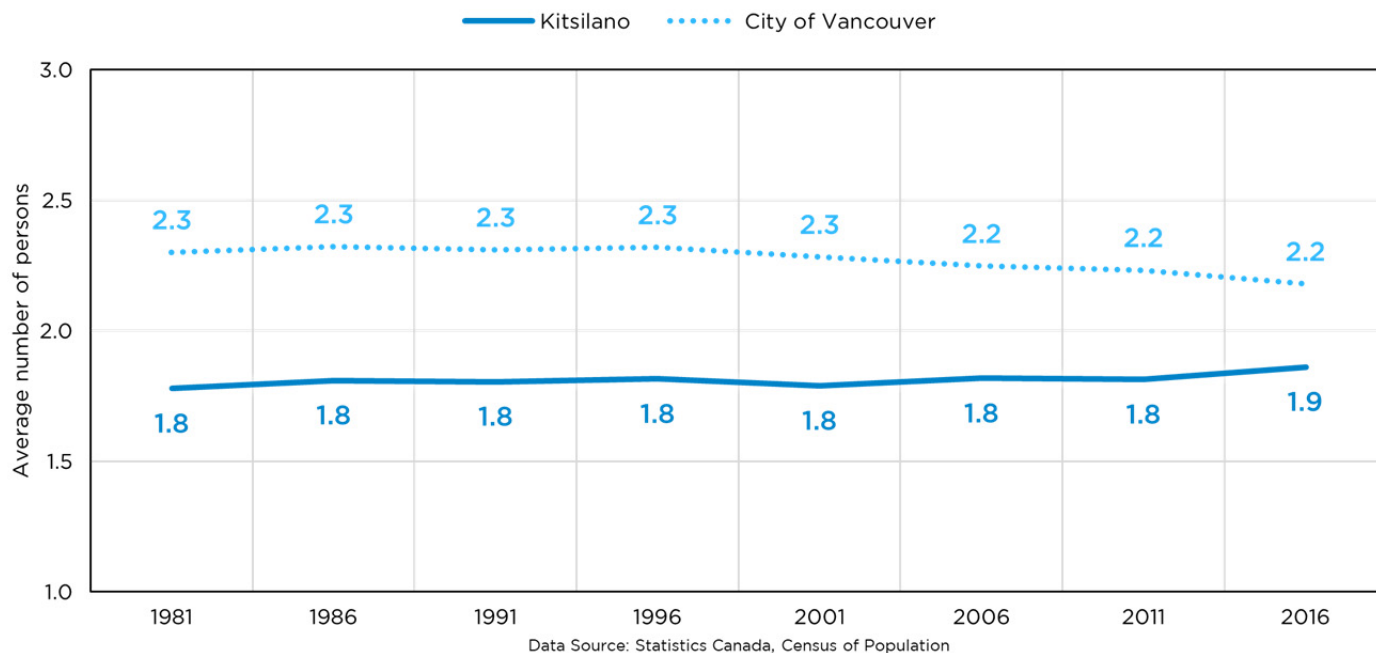
### Est. Percentage of Households with Children at Home, 1981-2016



## Household Size

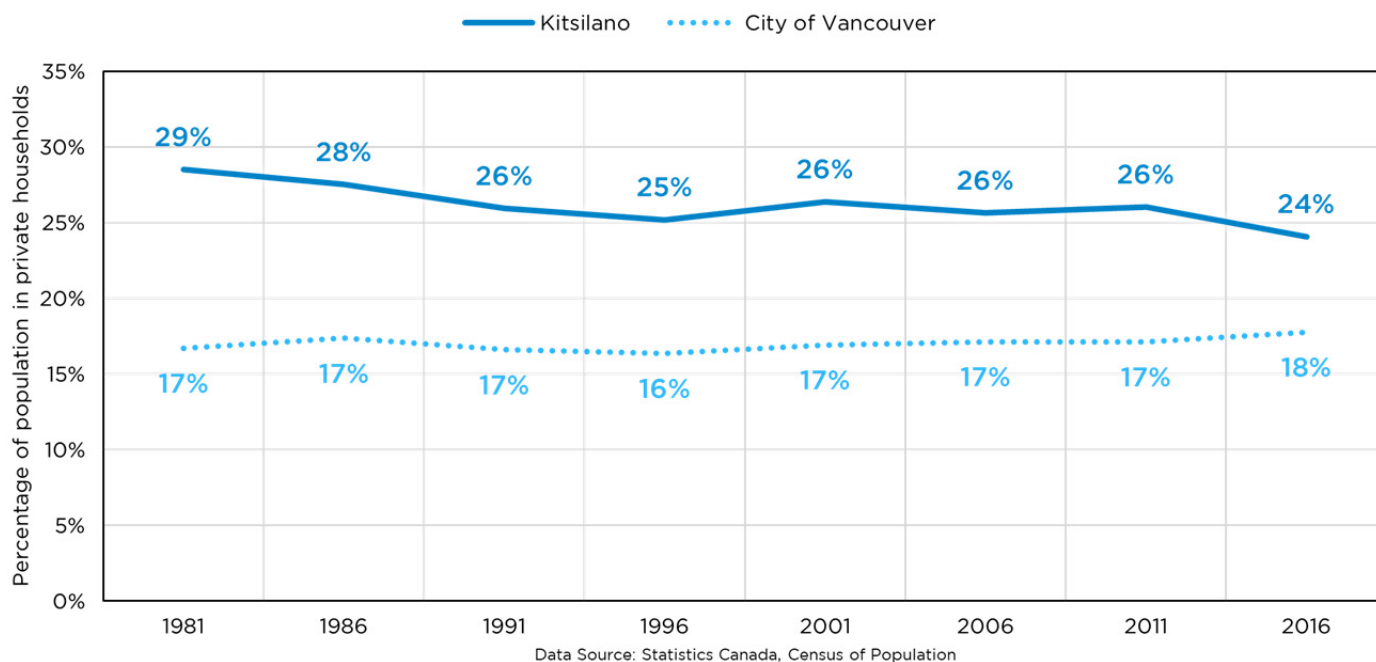
Trends in the average number of persons per households in Kitsilano have been generally steady, but it was one of five local areas to see a slight increase in average household size in 2016. As of 2016, there are 1.9 people in the average private household in Kitsilano, compared to 2.2 across the city.

**Average Private Household Size, 1981-2016**



As of 2016, 24% of Kitsilano's population lives alone, larger than the city rate of 18%. Mirroring trends in household size and households with children, the rate has declined somewhat over time.

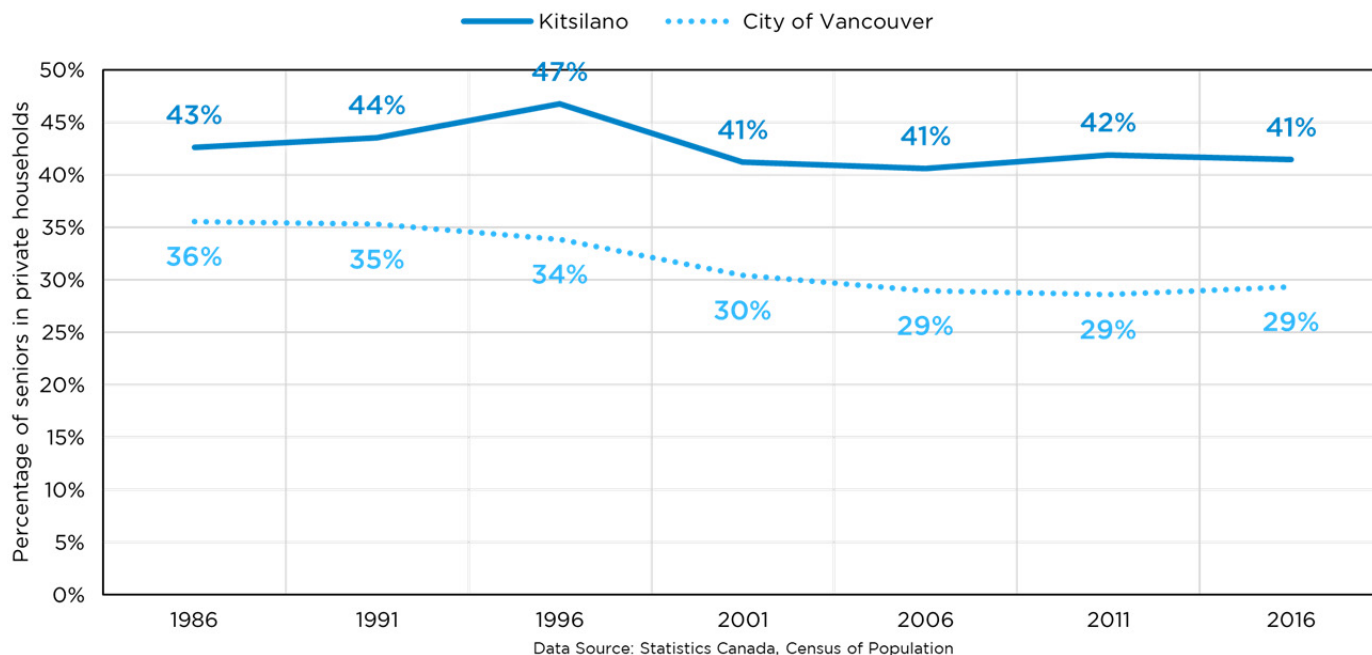
**Percentage of Population Living Alone, 1981-2016**



## Senior Households

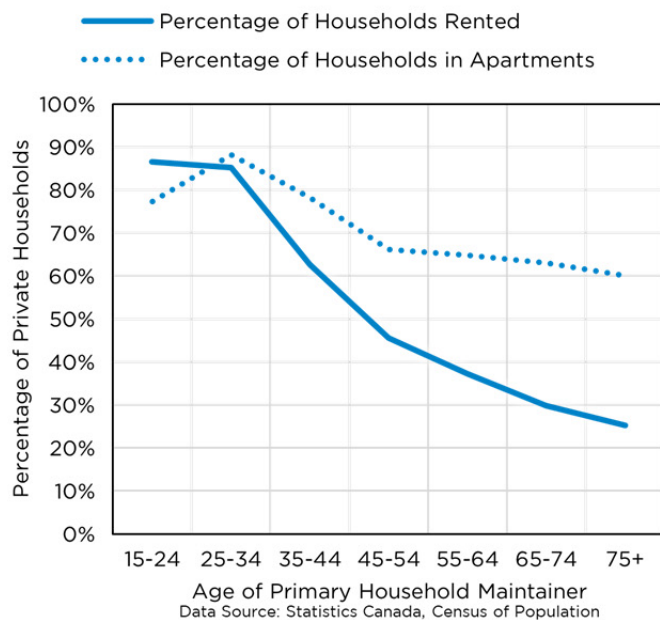
The experience of aging relates to a number of factors, including housing type, social connections, income and more. In Kitsilano, 41% of persons 65 and over live alone, a rate that declined somewhat in 2001 but has been steady since that time.

**Percentage of Seniors 65+ Living Alone, 1981-2016**

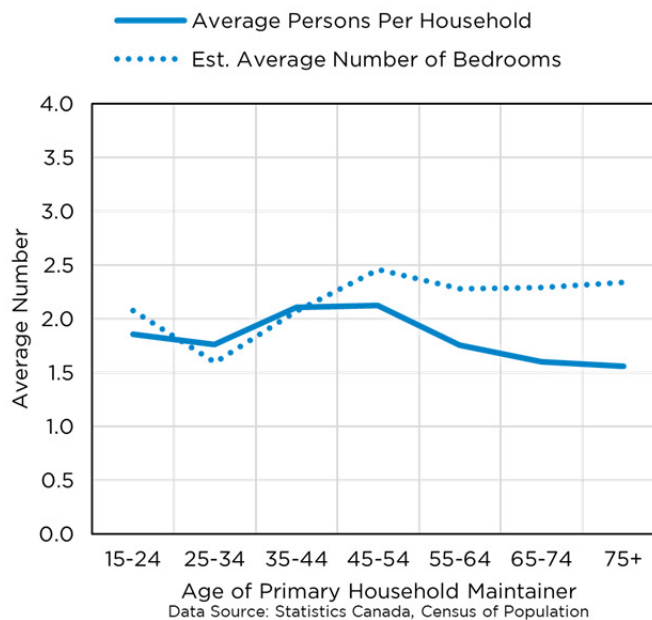


Seniors in the neighbourhood are more likely to own their homes than other age groups: as of 2016, 28% of senior-led households in Kitsilano are rented, and 62% are in apartments. As with many neighbourhoods, households led by older adults and seniors tend to have more bedrooms per person.<sup>6</sup>

**Kitsilano: Household Type and Tenure by Age, 2016**



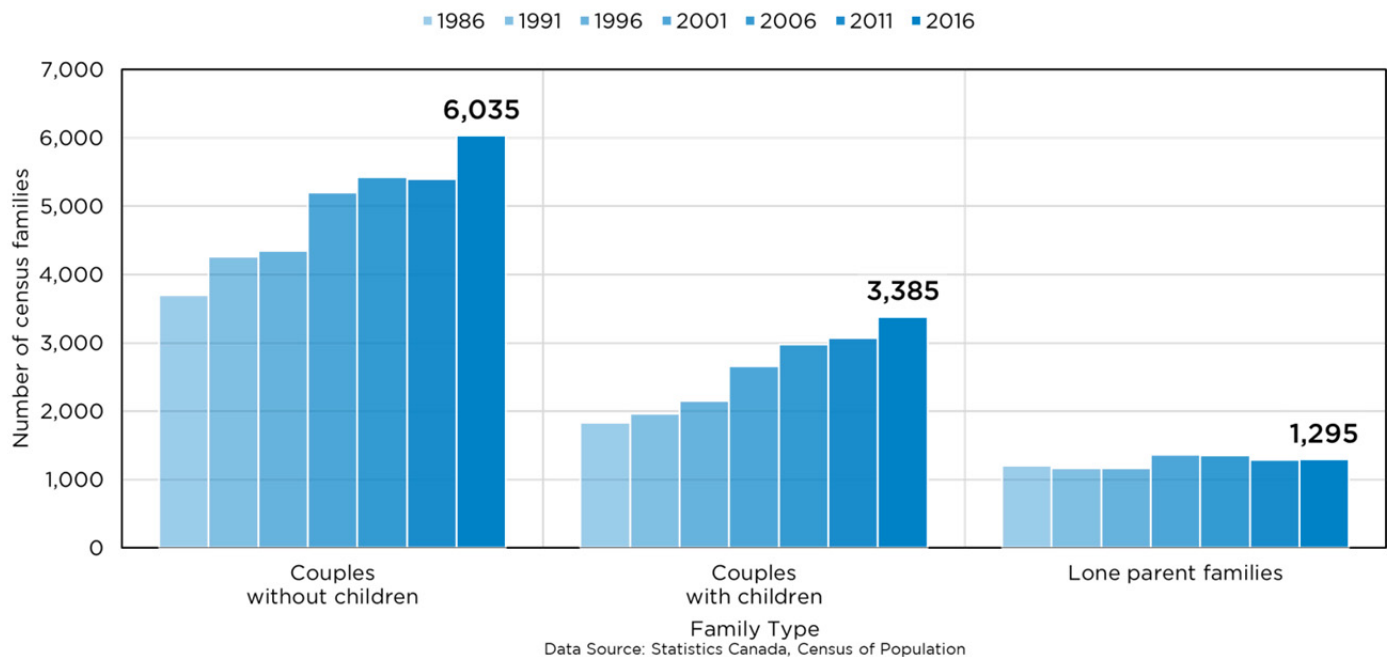
**Kitsilano: Average Household Size by Age, 2016**



## Family Types

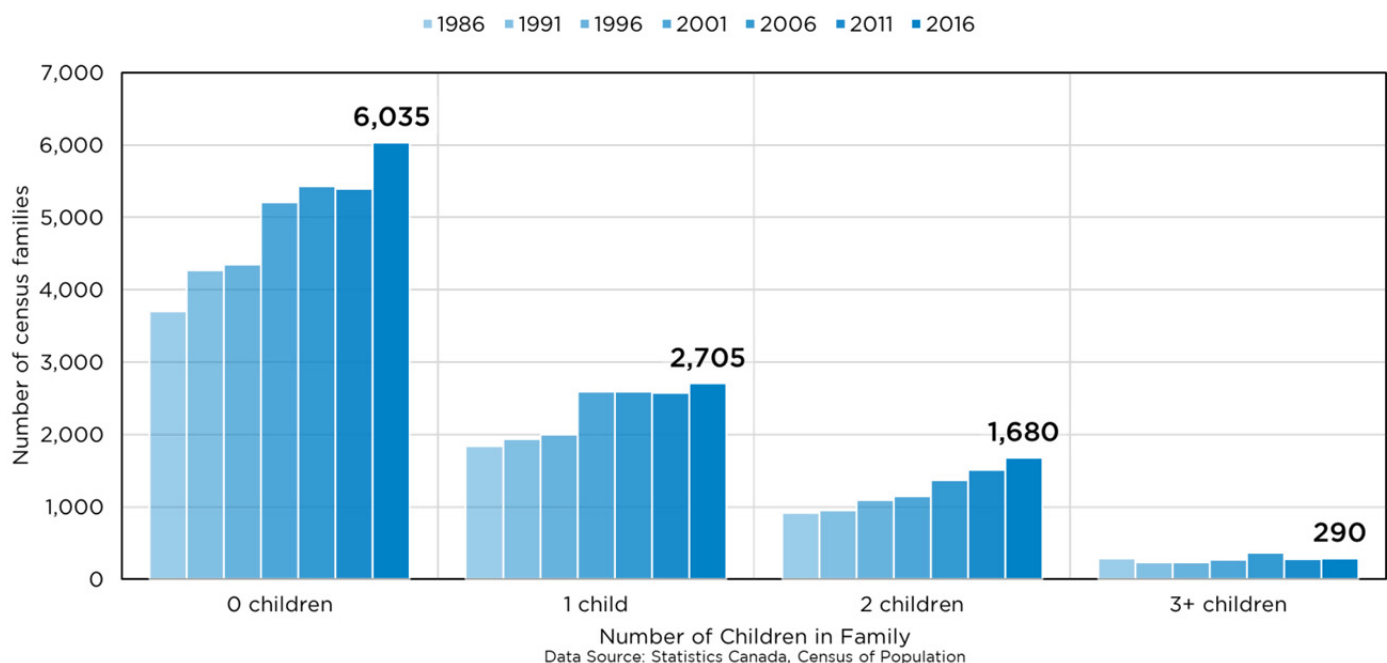
Kitsilano has seen steady growth in the number of families<sup>7</sup> with two partners, both with and without children. However, the number of lone parent-led families has been unchanged through recent census periods.

**Kitsilano: Families by Type 1986-2016**



The graph below shows the number of families by number of children at home. Interestingly, the number of families with two children at home appears to be growing more consistently than the number of one-child families. Few families in Kitsilano have three or more children at home.

**Kitsilano: Families by Number of Children 1986-2016**

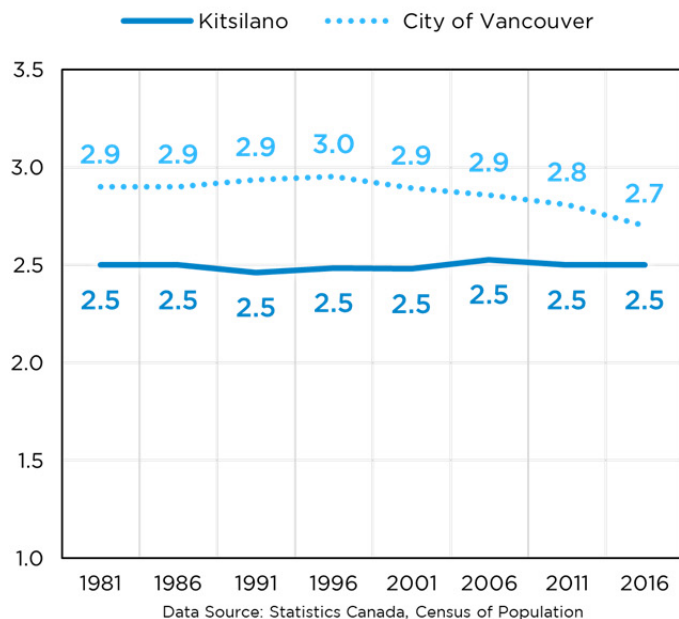




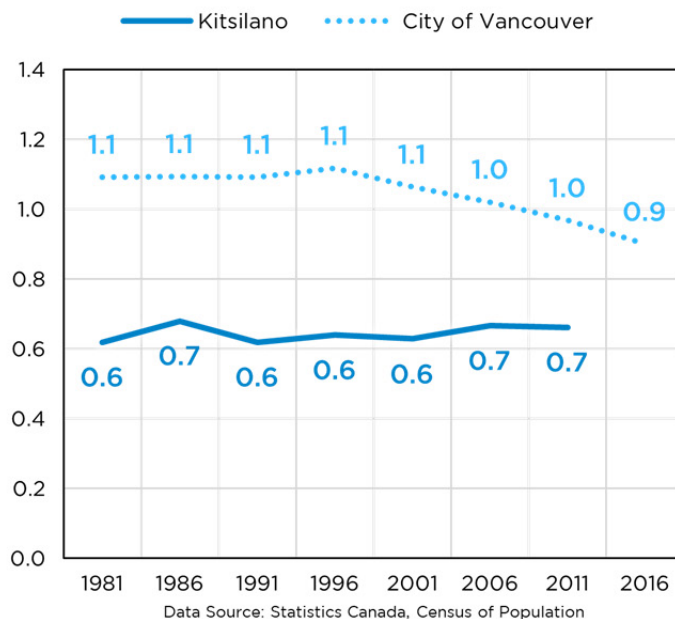
## Family Size and Children at Home

The average family in Kitsilano contains 2.5 persons and has 0.7 children at home,<sup>8</sup> both lower than the city-wide average but steady over time even as the city numbers decline.

**Average Census Family Size, 1981-2016**

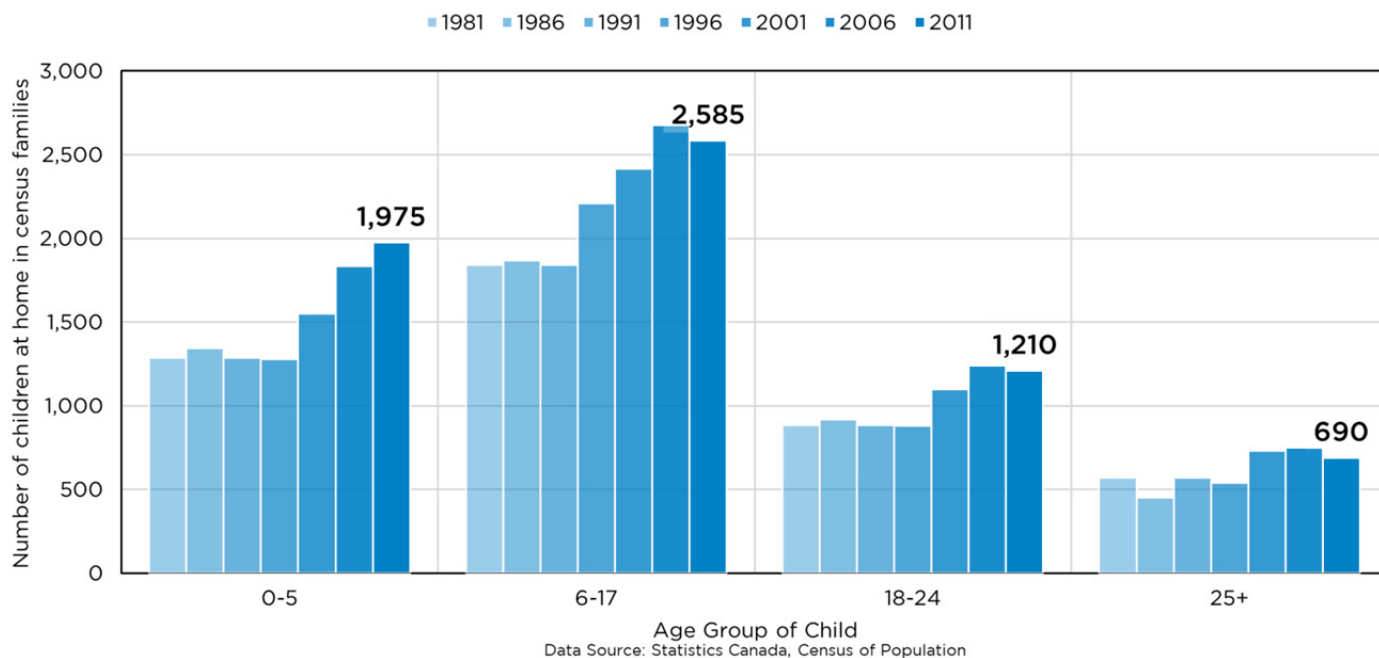


**Average Children at Home Per Census Family, 1981-2016**



A broad social trend over time is that people move out of their parents' homes later in life. In Kitsilano, there are about 1,900 "children" at home who are age 18 or older.

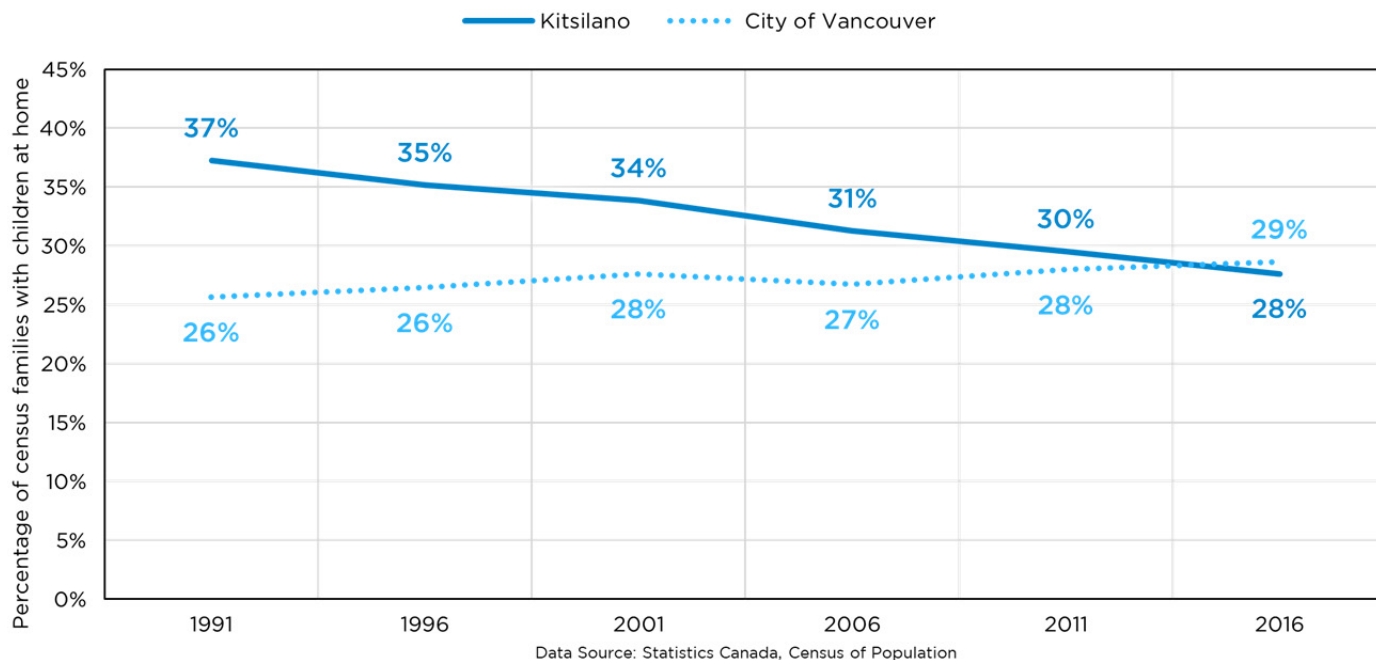
**Kitsilano: Children in Families by Age Group, 1981-2011**



## Lone Parent-Led Families

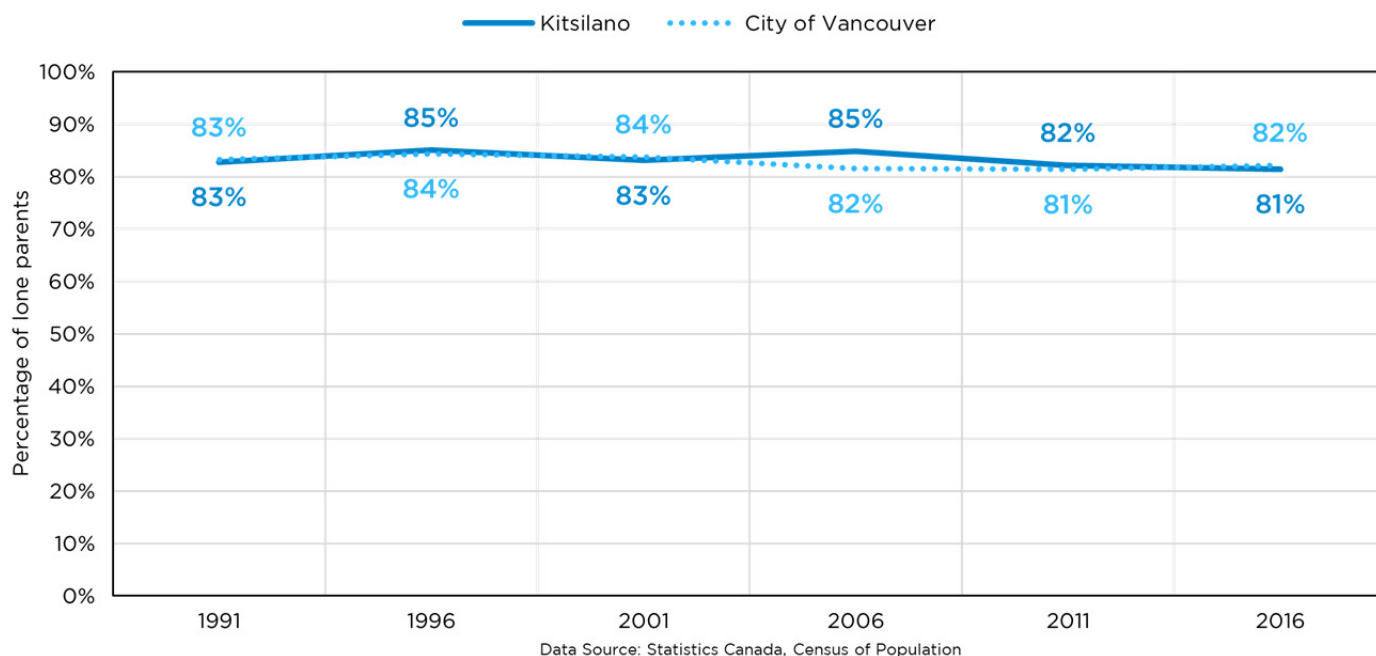
Measured as a proportion of all families with children at home, lone parent-led families now make up 28% of families with children in Kitsilano. This rate has declined over time and is now lower than the rate for the city overall.

**Percentage of Families with Children Led by a Lone Parent, 1991-2016**



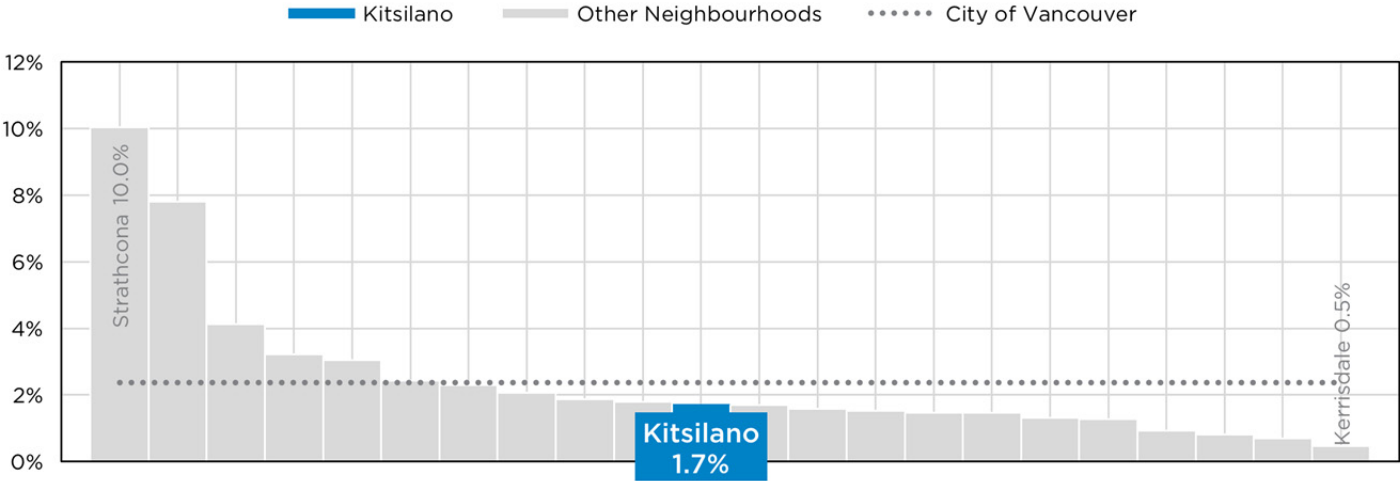
Across the city, lone parents are overwhelmingly likely to be female-identified, with 81% of lone parents in Kitsilano being women. Lone mothers are more likely to face significant social and economic challenges.

**Percentage of Lone Parents Identified as Female, 1991-2016**

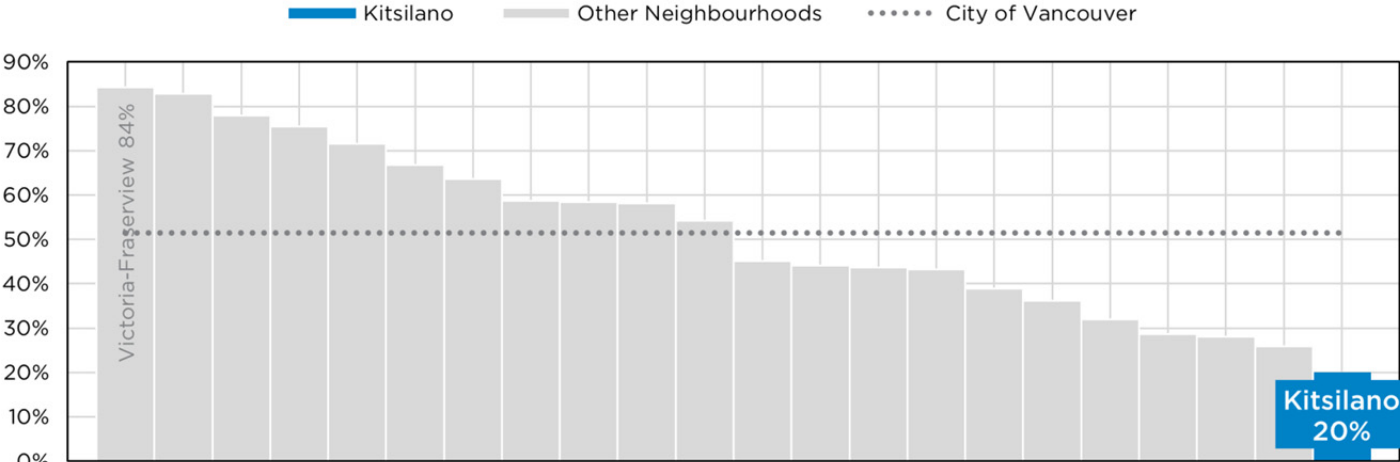


# IDENTITY AND DIVERSITY

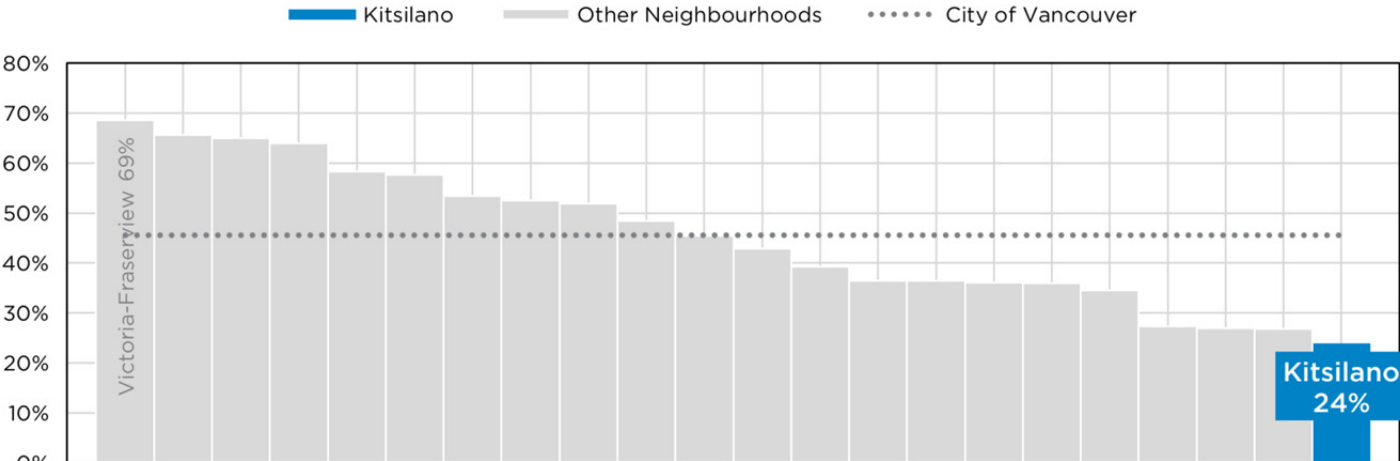
Population with Indigenous Identity, 2016



Population in a Visible Minority Group, 2016

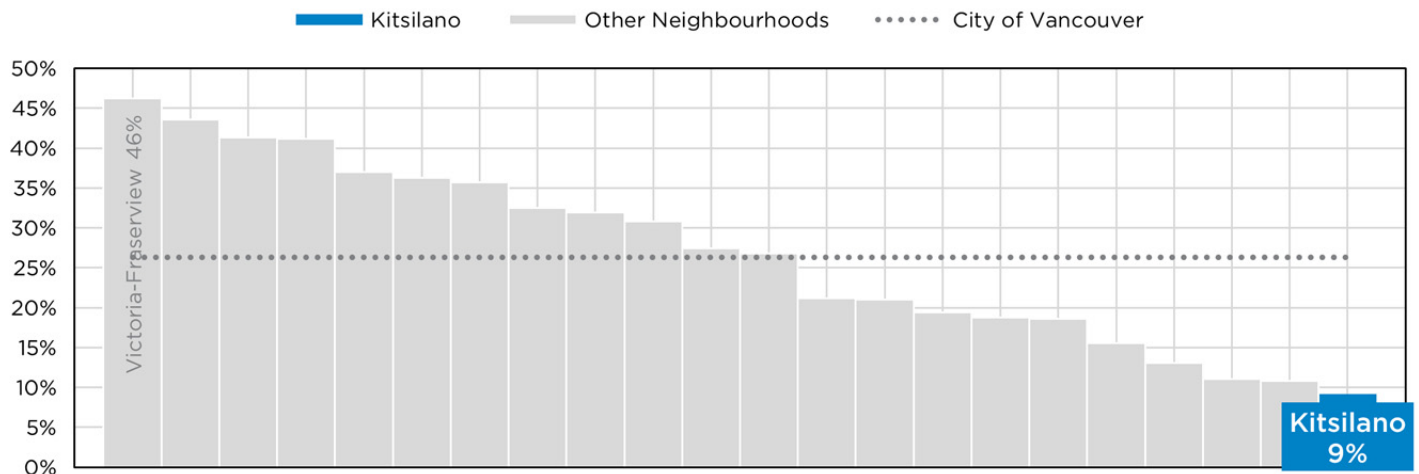


Population with Non-English Mother Tongue, 2016

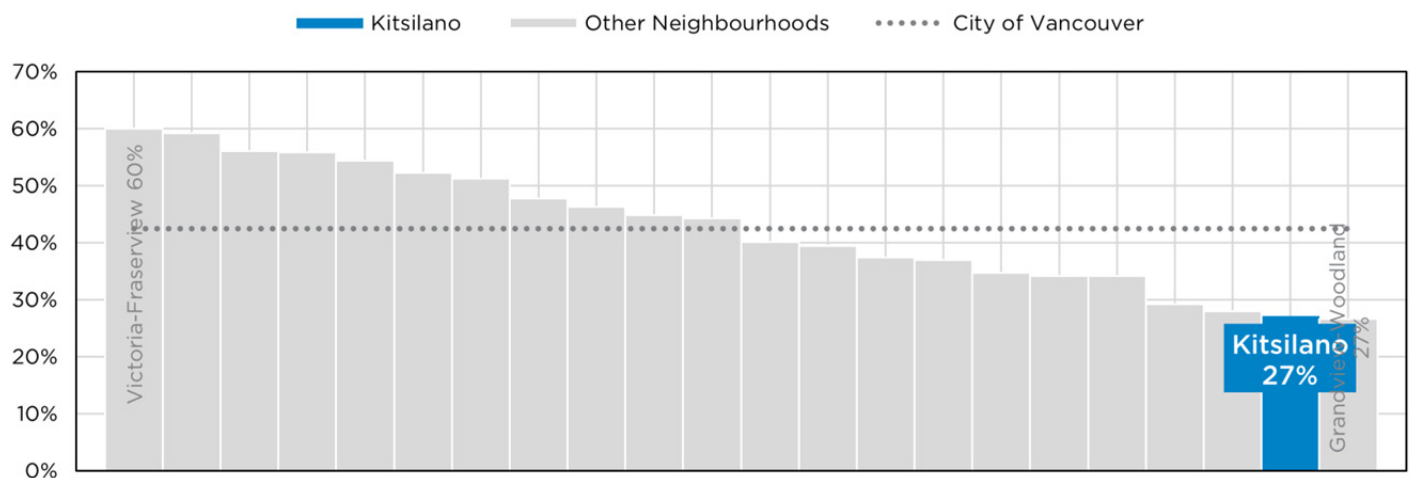


# NEIGHBOURHOOD COMPARISONS

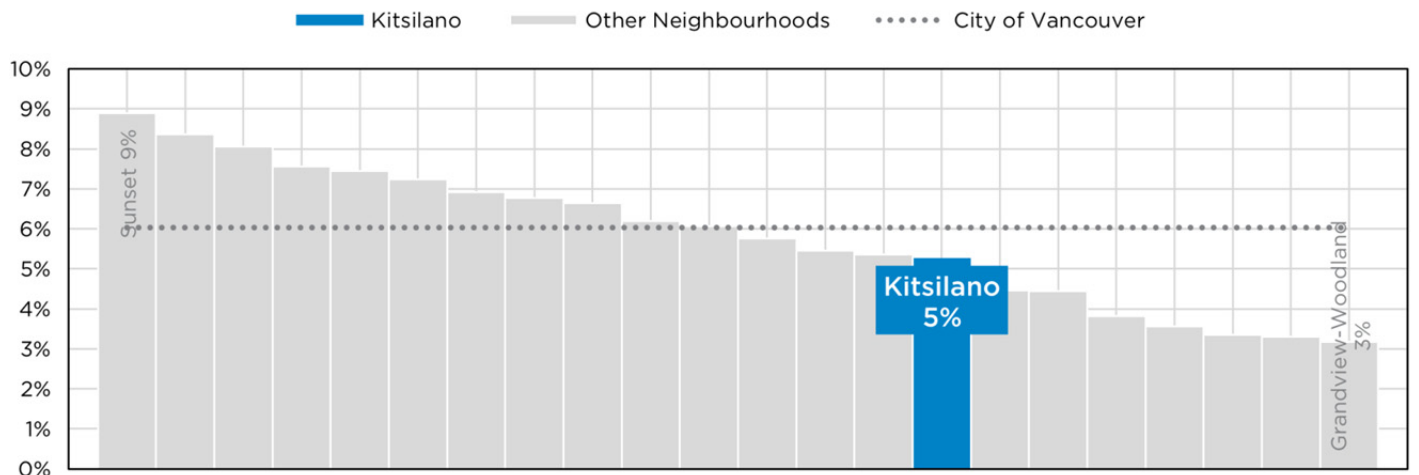
## Population with Non-English Home Language, 2016



## Immigrant Population, 2016



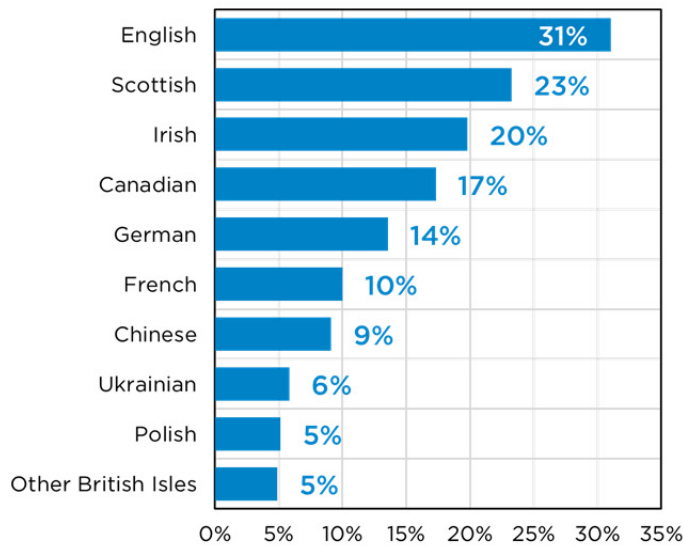
## Recent Immigrant Population, 2016



## Cultural Origin and Identity

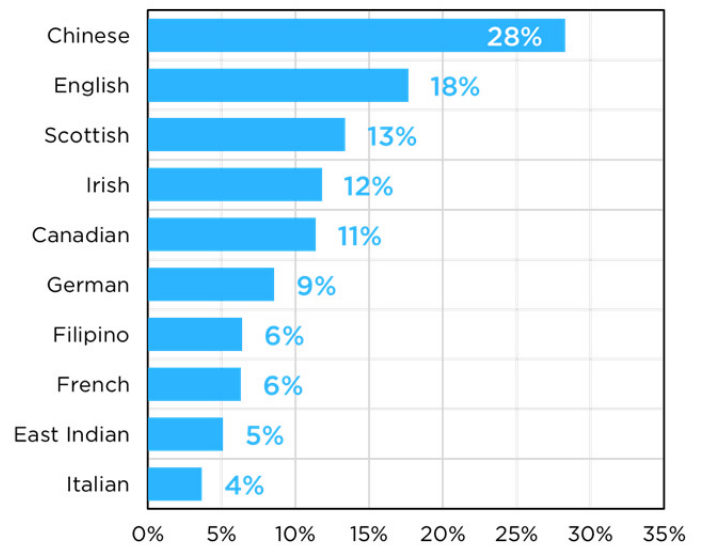
A number of census variables help understand the diverse and complex cultural identities of people in Vancouver. The graphs below provide the top ten cultural origins reported by residents:<sup>9</sup> in Kitsilano, the top reported origins are English, Scottish, Irish and Canadian.

**Kitsilano: Top Ten Reported Ethnic Origins, 2016**



Data Source: Statistics Canada, 2016 Census of Population. Note that respondents may indicate multiple origins

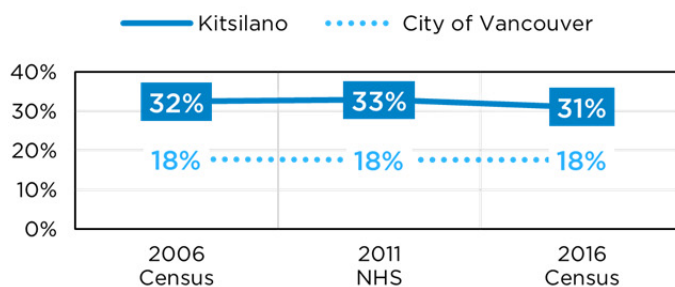
**City of Vancouver: Top Ten Reported Ethnic Origins, 2016**



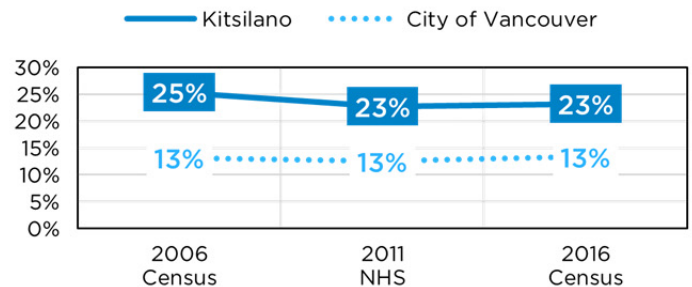
Data Source: Statistics Canada, 2016 Census of Population. Note that respondents may indicate multiple origins

The graphs below show ten-year trends in Kitsilano and across the city for these four most commonly reported ethnic origins. Over time, the rate of residents reporting origins in these groups is fairly steady.

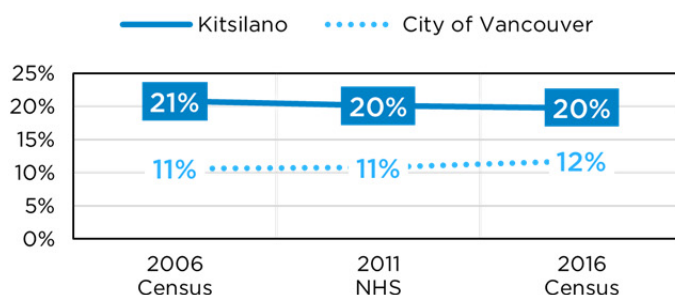
**English Origins, 2006-2016**



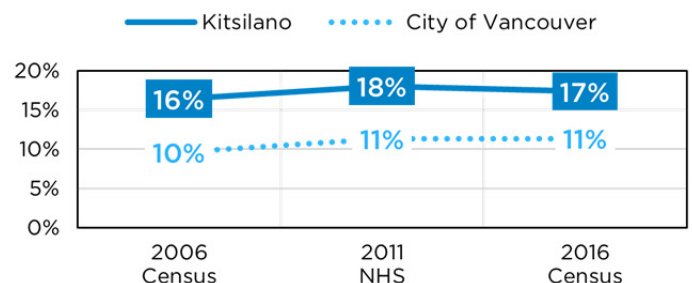
**Scottish Origins, 2006-2016**



**Irish Origins, 2006-2016**



**Canadian Origins, 2006-2016**





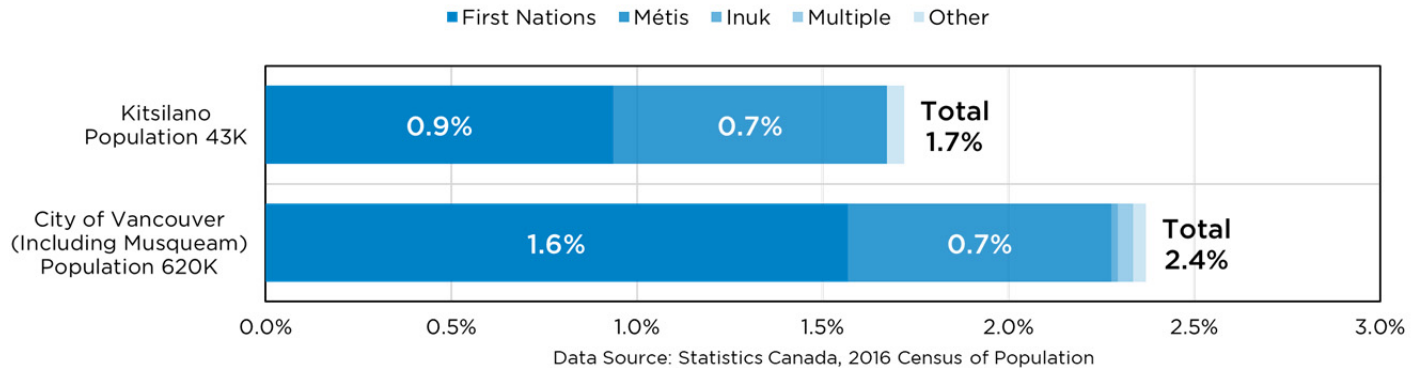
## Indigenous Identity

Vancouver occupies the unceded homelands of the Musqueam, Squamish and Tsleil-Waututh First Nations. It is also home to a substantial and diverse urban Indigenous population who identify with Indigenous communities across North America and beyond.

The federal census has many limitations in its validity, reliability and relevance to Indigenous communities. The census and other governmental data sources should be supplemented with other sources of knowledge kept by Indigenous communities to fully understand population demographics and trends.

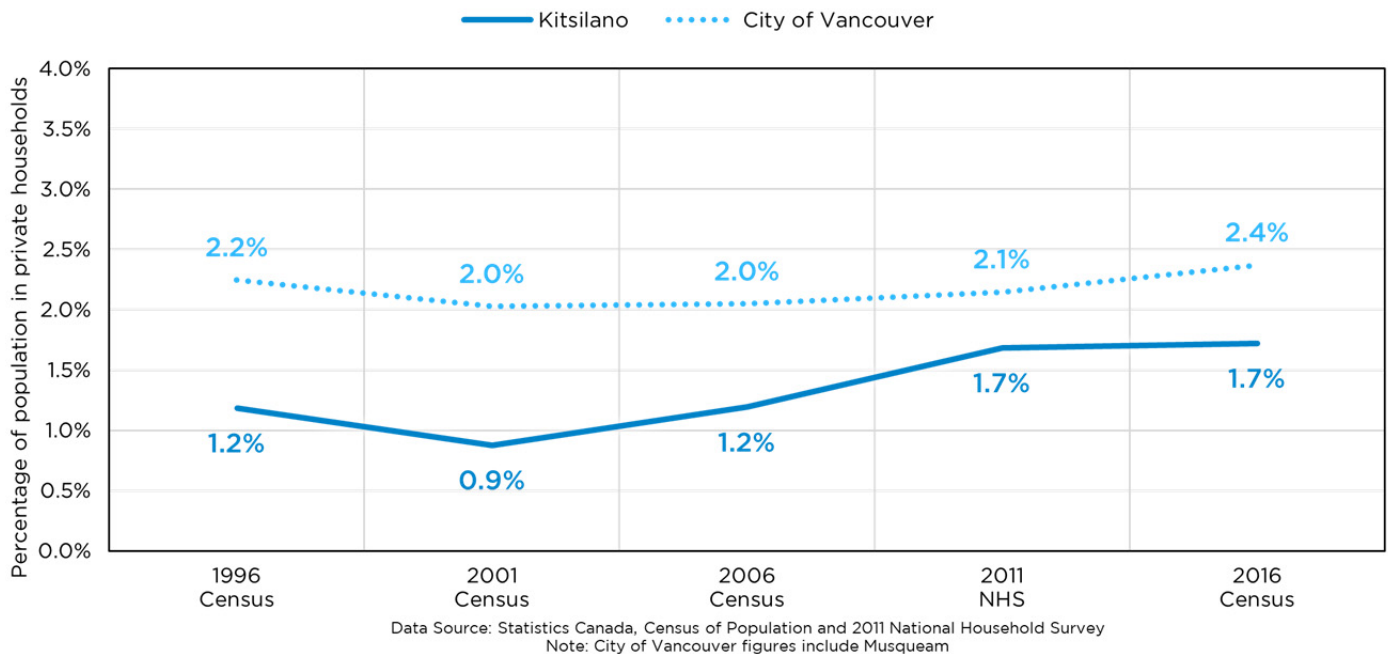
Based on the 2016 census, an estimated 735 people—1.7% of Kitsilano's population—are Indigenous, compared to 2.4% of the City of Vancouver.<sup>10</sup> This includes about 400 residents identified as First Nations and another 315 identified as Métis.

### Population with Indigenous Identity, 2016



The Indigenous population in Kitsilano as a share of total population generally increased from 1996 to 2016, except for a dip in 2001. In absolute numbers, the estimated Indigenous population in the neighbourhood grew by 71% from 1996 to 2016 while the non-Indigenous population grew by 17%.

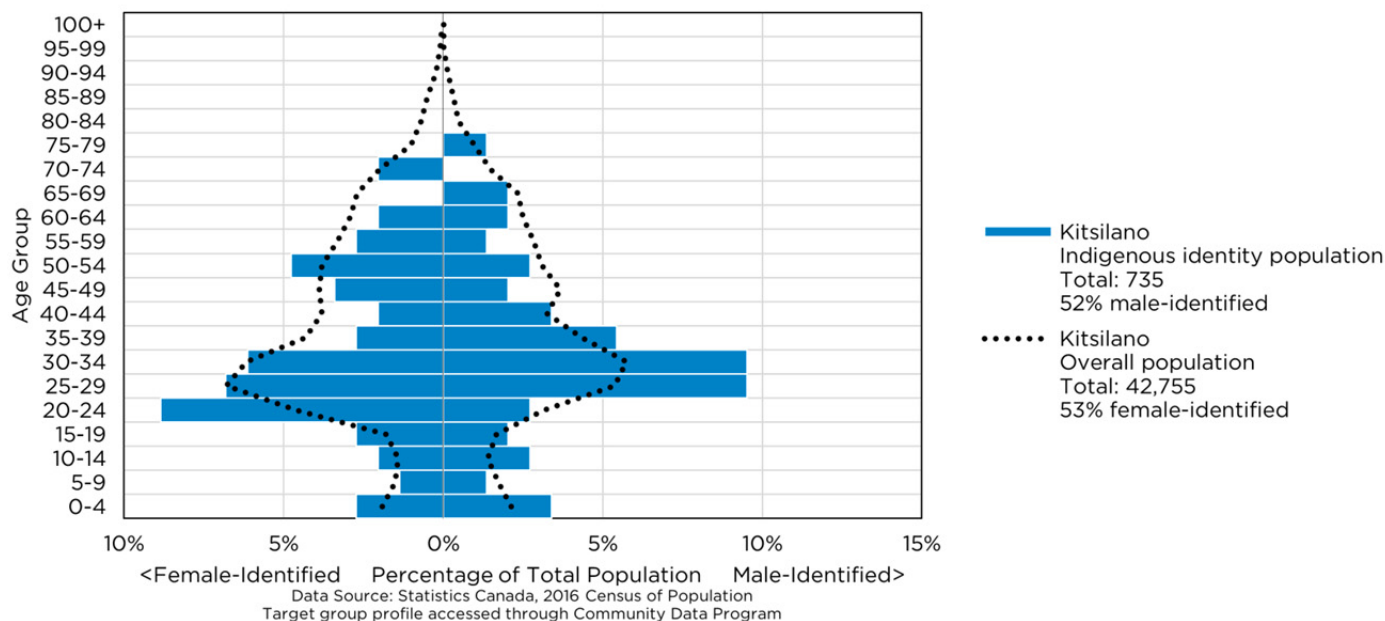
### Population with Indigenous Identity, 1996-2016



## Demographics of Indigenous Populations

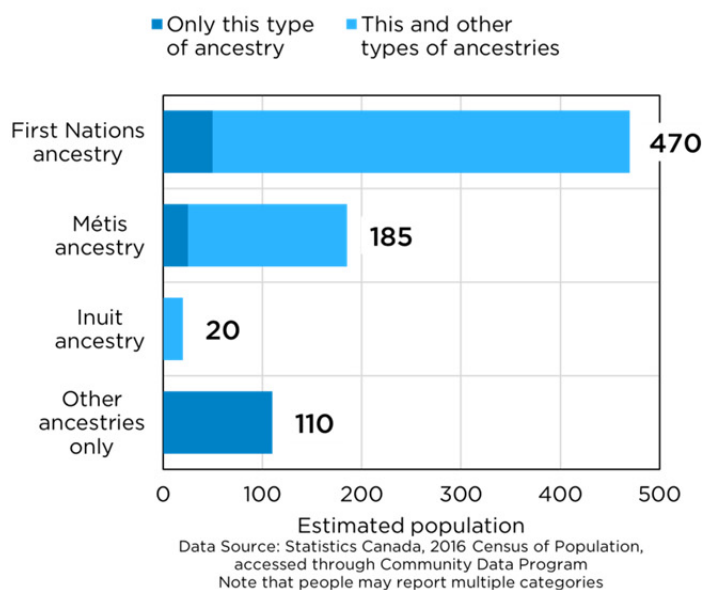
In general, the Indigenous population living in Vancouver is younger than the city's overall population; this is seen in Kitsilano in the age profile below.

### Kitsilano: Indigenous Identity Population by Age and Sex, 2016

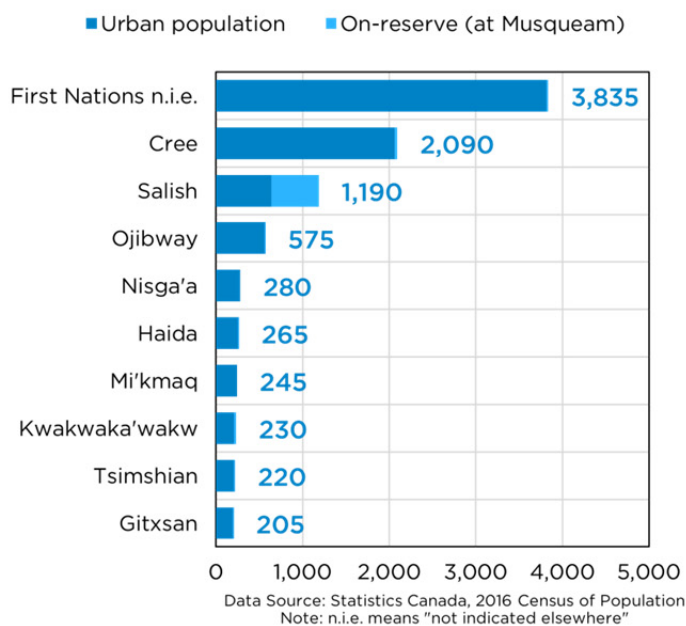


The Indigenous population in Vancouver is diverse, with a majority of people with First Nations, Métis or Inuit ancestry in Kitsilano also reporting other Indigenous and non-Indigenous ancestries. While neighbourhood-specific data are not available, the chart below right shows the most commonly reported specific First Nations ancestries reported in Vancouver overall.

### Kitsilano: Reported Ancestry of Population with Indigenous Identity, 2016



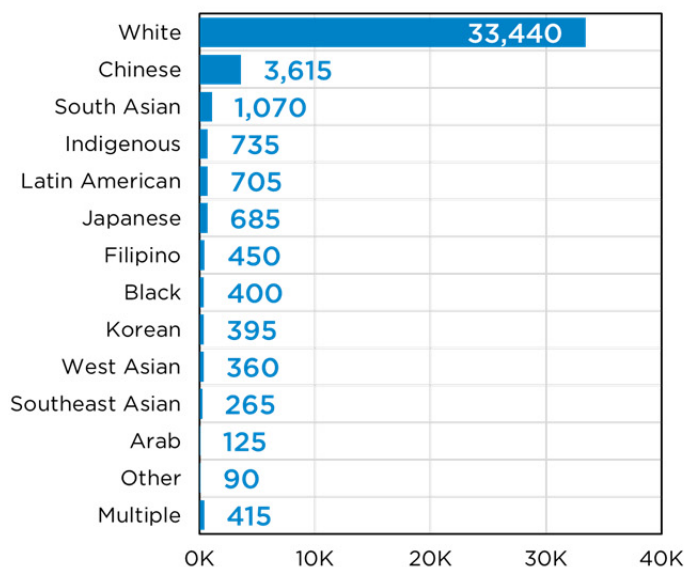
### City of Vancouver: Top Reported First Nations Ancestries, 2016



## Racial Identity

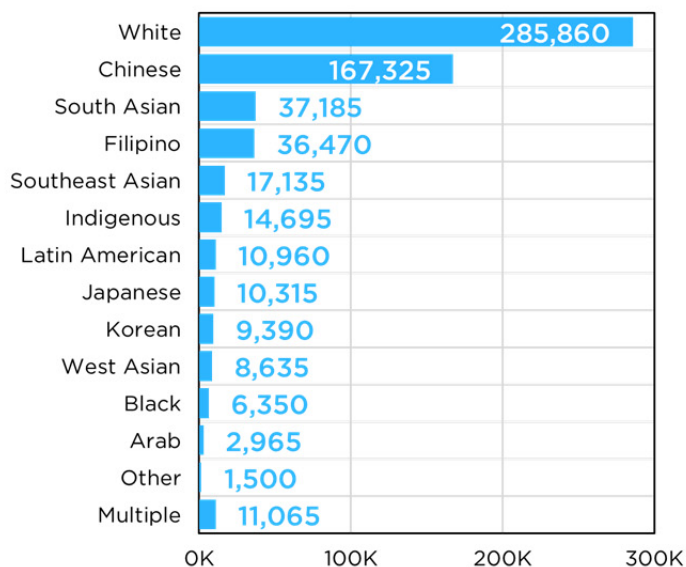
In Kitsilano, more than 33 thousand residents are identified as white. About 3,600 residents are identified as Chinese, with other relatively large populations including South Asian, Indigenous, Latin American and Japanese residents.

**Kitsilano:  
Population Groups, 2016**



Data Source: Statistics Canada,  
2016 Census of Population

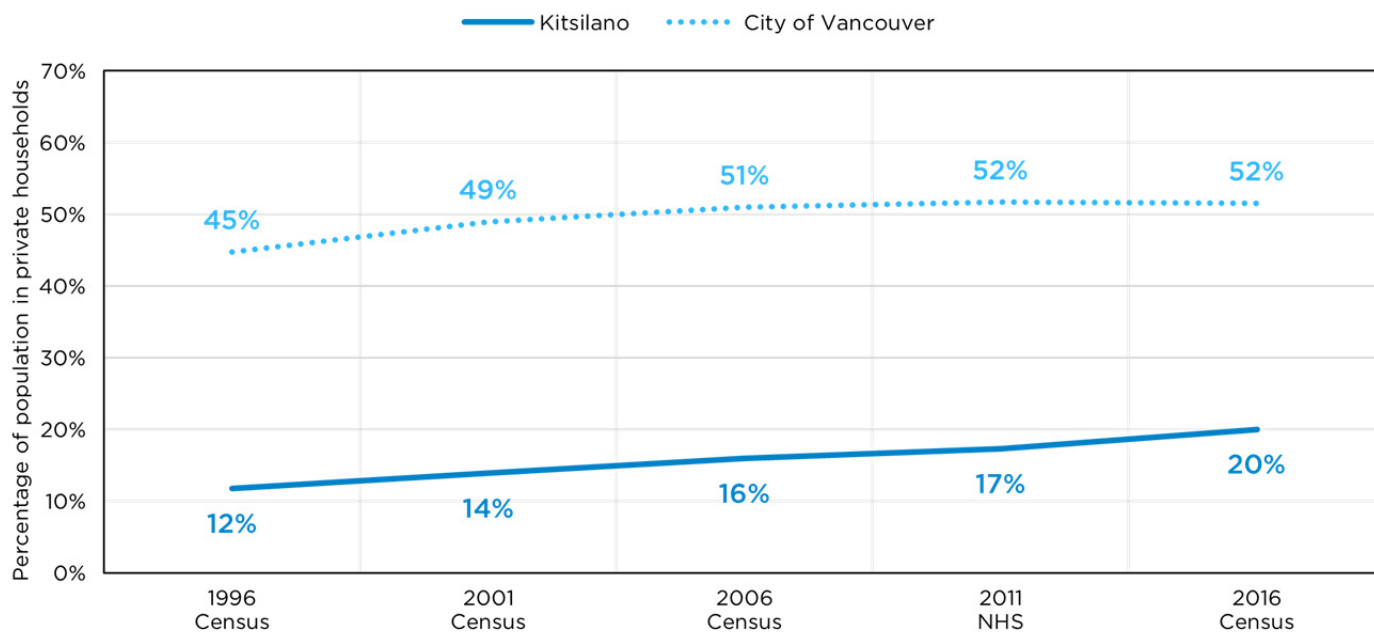
**City of Vancouver:  
Population Groups, 2016**



Data Source: Statistics Canada,  
2016 Census of Population

Statistics Canada defines members of a “visible minority” group as those who are neither Indigenous nor white. Although limited, this indicator is useful for understanding racialized populations in the city. About one in five people in Kitsilano are members of a visible minority group. While this is the lowest rate of any of Vancouver’s local areas, it has consistently increased since 1996.

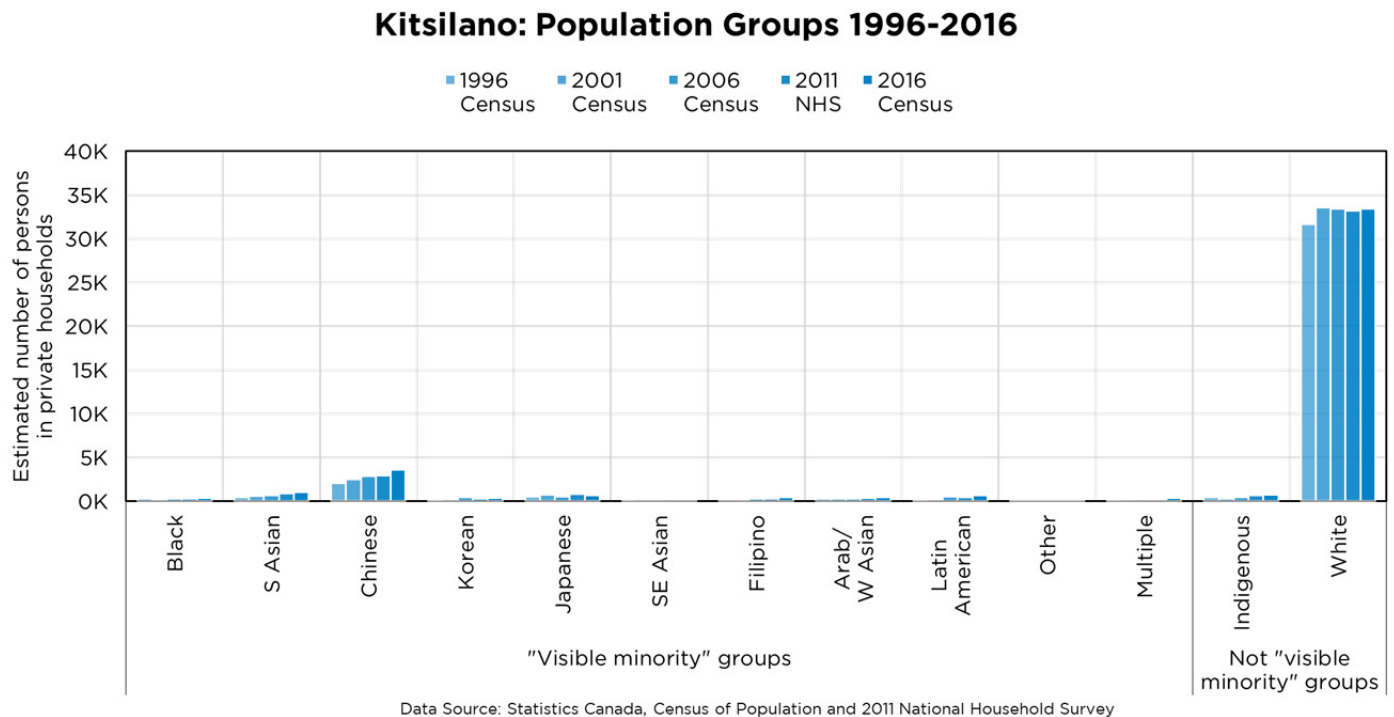
**Population in a Visible Minority Group, 1996-2016**



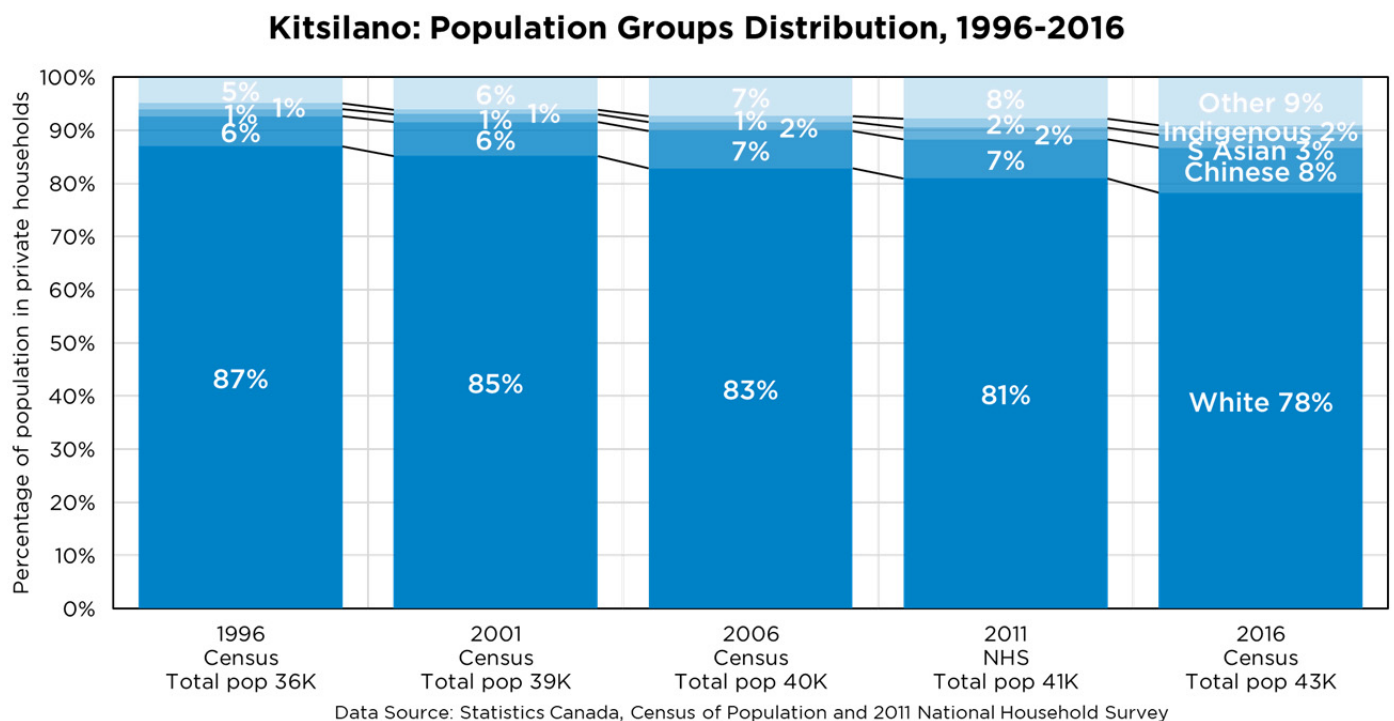
Data Source: Statistics Canada, Census of Population and 2011 National Household Survey

## Trends in Racialized Populations

The chart below shows population estimates by visible minority group in Kitsilano over time, as well as those identified in non-visible minority categories.



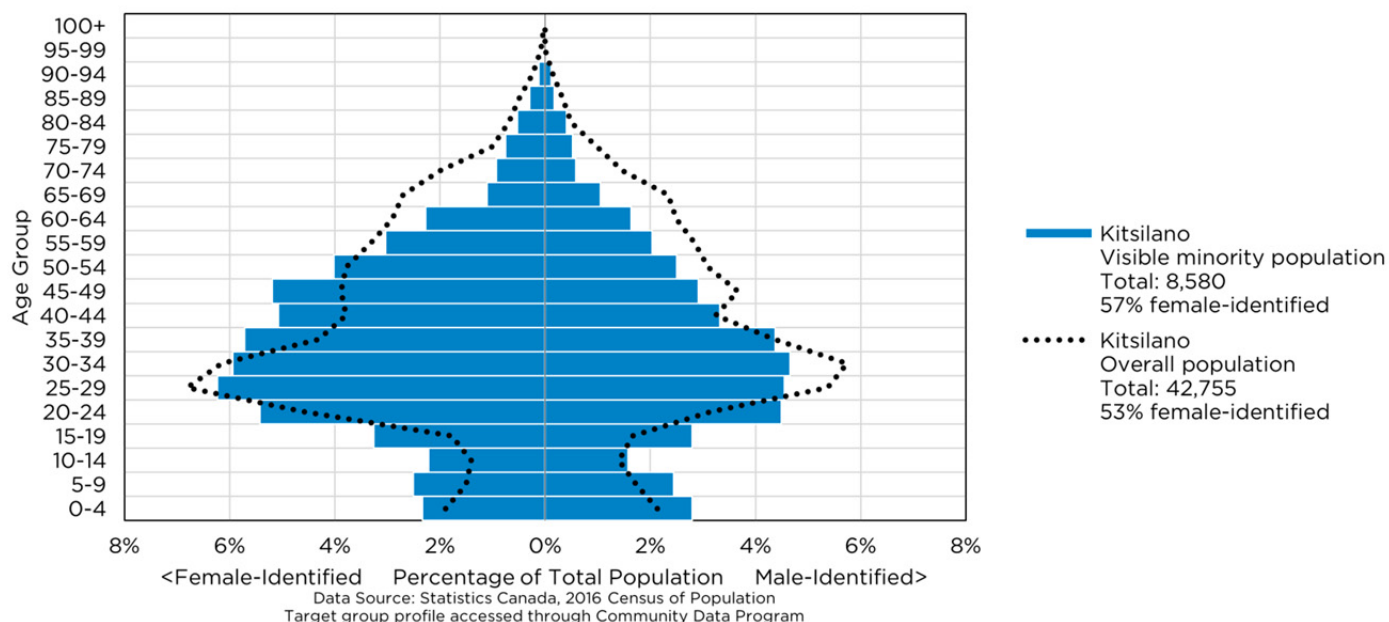
The charts below provide twenty-year neighbourhood and city-wide trends for the four largest racial groups in Kitsilano, as a percentage of total population.



## Demographics of Racialized Populations

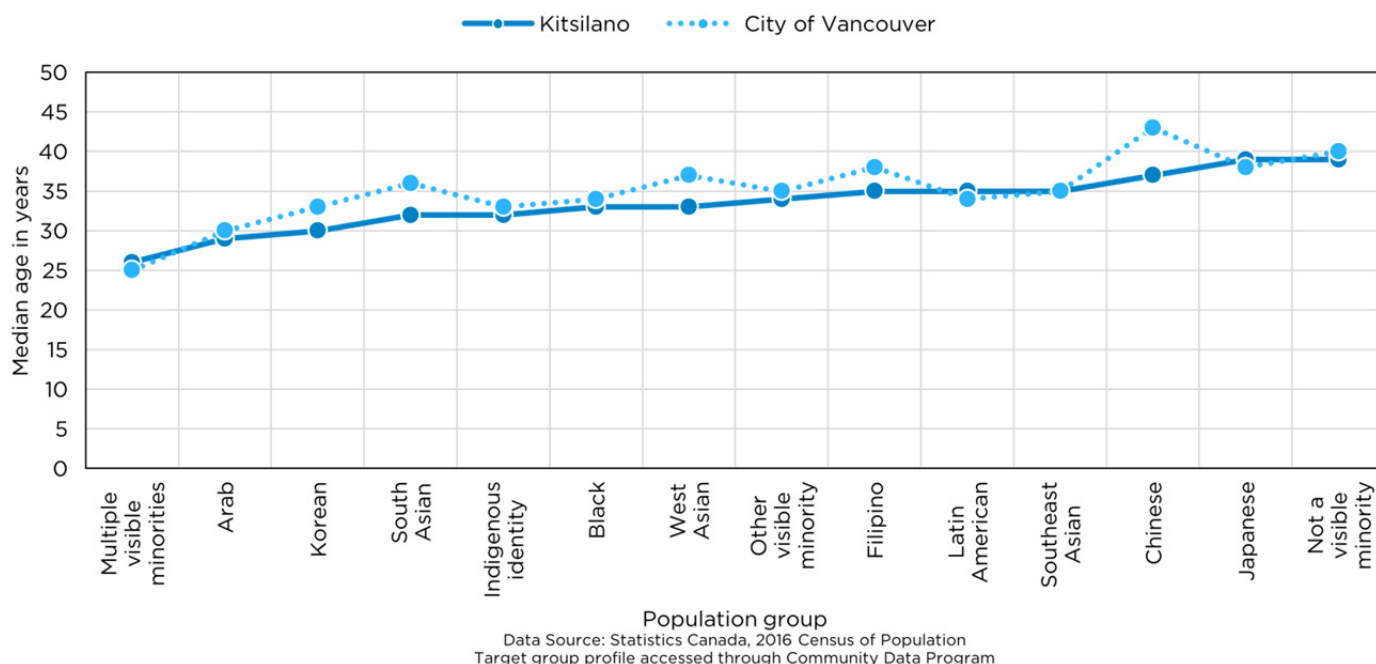
In aggregate, the “visible minority” population in Kitsilano is younger than the overall population, with children and youth making up a larger proportion of this population and older adults making up a smaller one.

**Kitsilano:  
Visible Minority Population by Age and Sex, 2016**



However, there are important differences between population groups. Median age in Kitsilano is highest for people who are not in visible minority groups and lowest for people identified with multiple visible minority groups. Many racialized groups have a younger median age in Kitsilano than in the city as a whole.

**Median Age by Population Group, 2016**

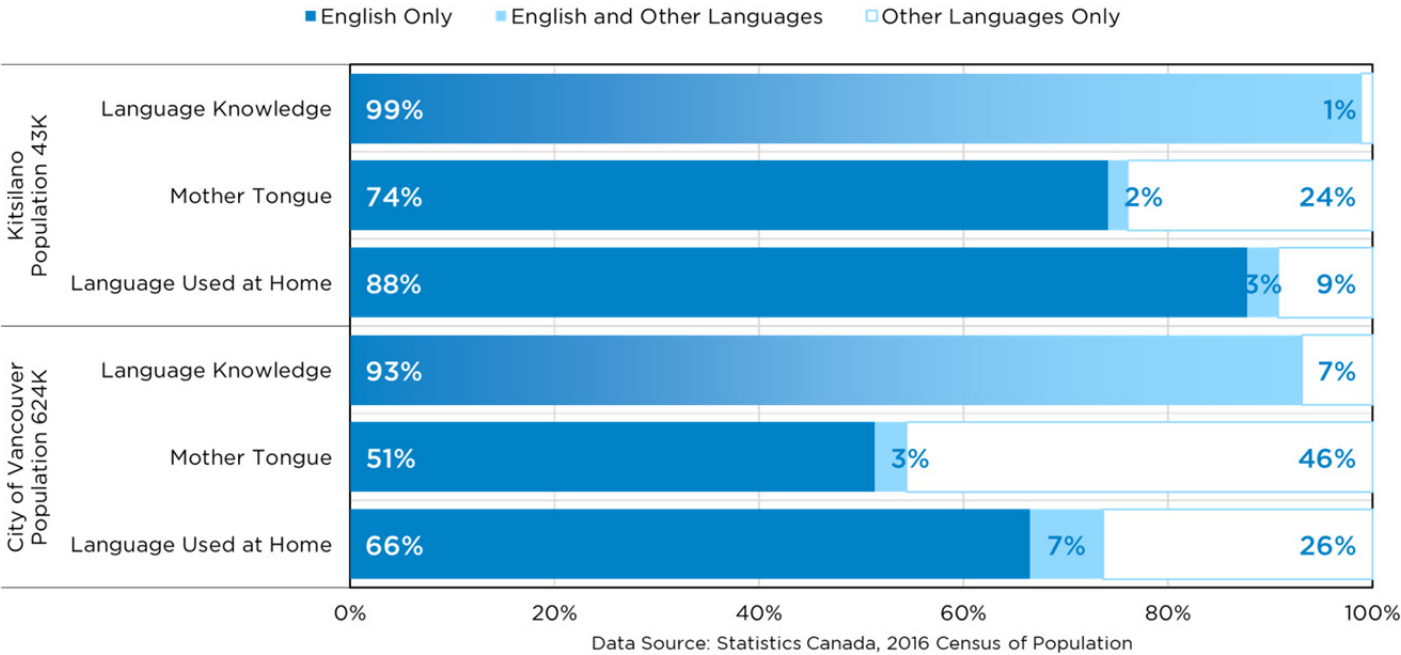




# Language Summary

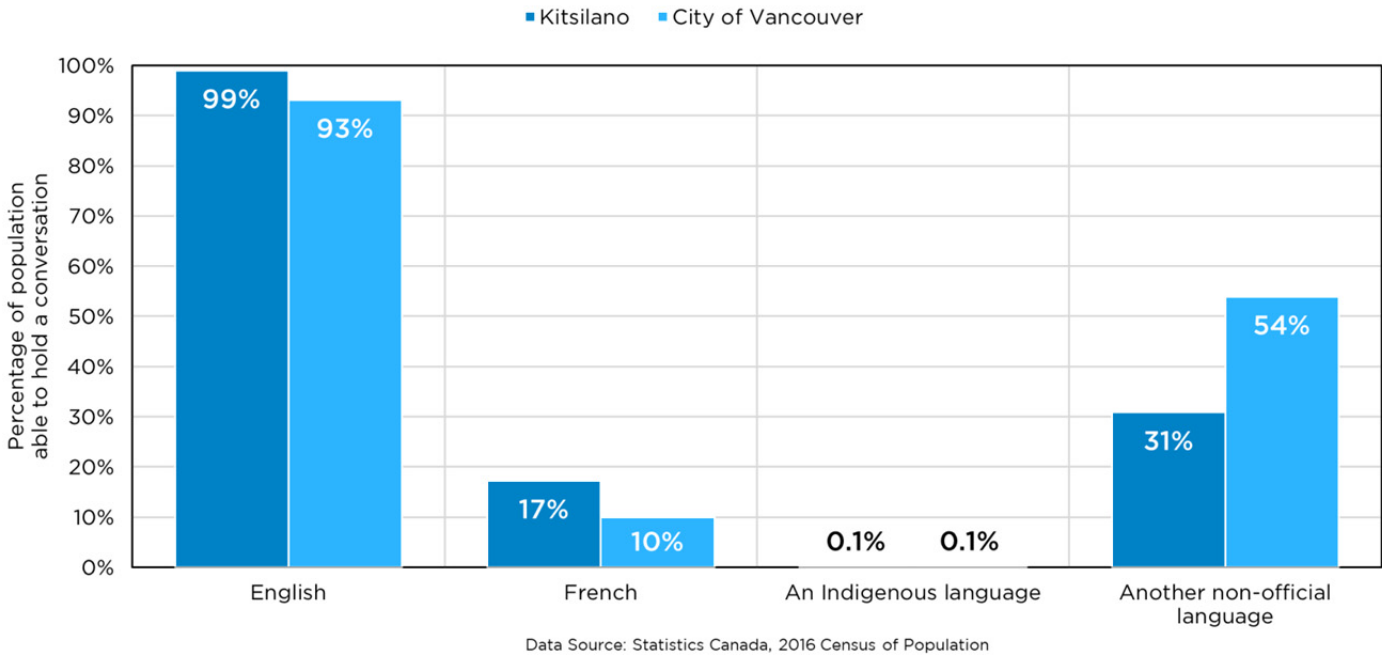
The bar chart below shows key language indicators—language knowledge, mother tongue and home language—broken down by English and non-English languages. Kitsilano has a notably smaller proportion of residents with non-English languages than the city overall across all three indicators.

Population by English and Other Language Knowledge and Use, 2016



Looking at knowledge of official and non-official languages, Kitsilano has the larger share of its population with knowledge of English and French among local areas in Vancouver, and the smallest proportion with knowledge of at least one non-official language.

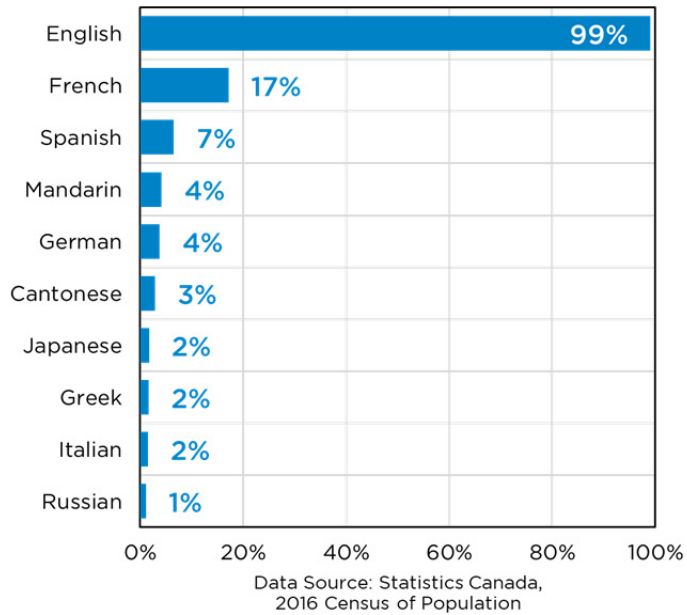
Population by Language Knowledge, 2016



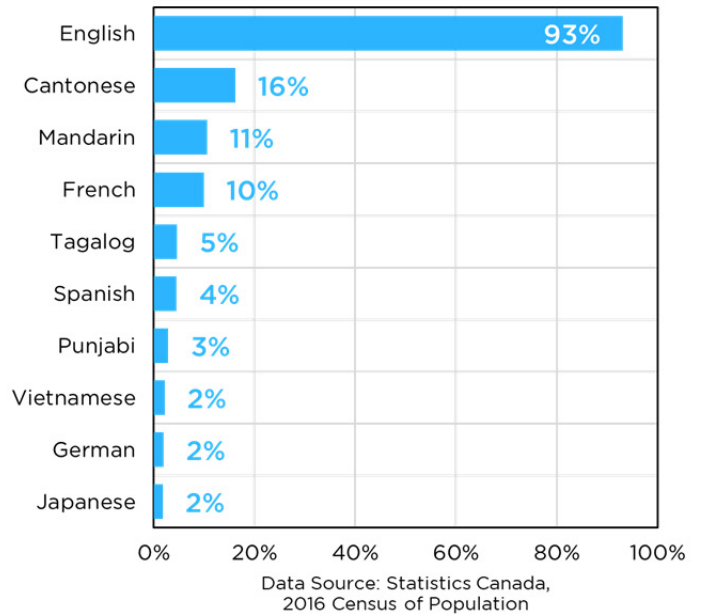
## Language Knowledge

A more detailed breakdown of language knowledge shows that 17% of Kitsilano residents are able to hold a conversation in French, 7% are able to speak Spanish and 4% each are able to speak Mandarin and German.

**Kitsilano: Top Ten Languages Known, 2016**

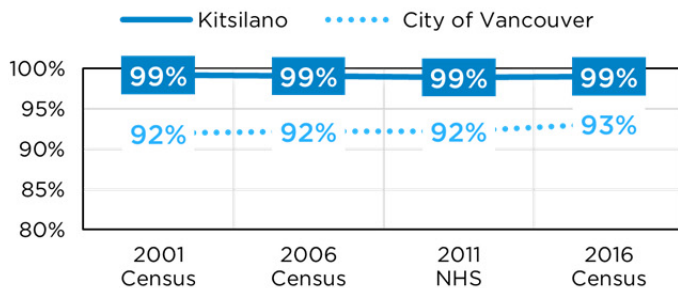


**City of Vancouver: Top Ten Languages Known, 2016**

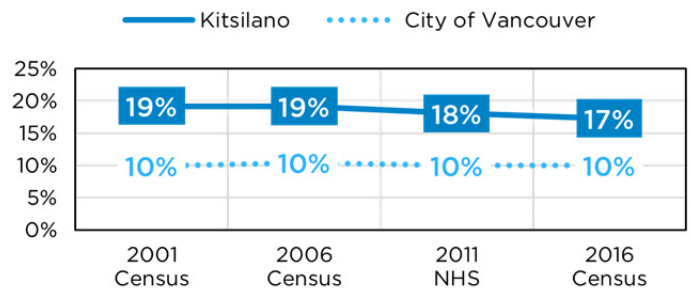


Over time, Kitsilano has a steady share of persons able to speak English and a slightly decreasing rate of people able to speak French. The rate of Spanish speakers is likely increasing, and the next census will likely clarify trends in Mandarin speakers to assess how much of the apparent increase reflects a trend and how much reflects more precise reporting of Chinese languages in the census.<sup>11</sup>

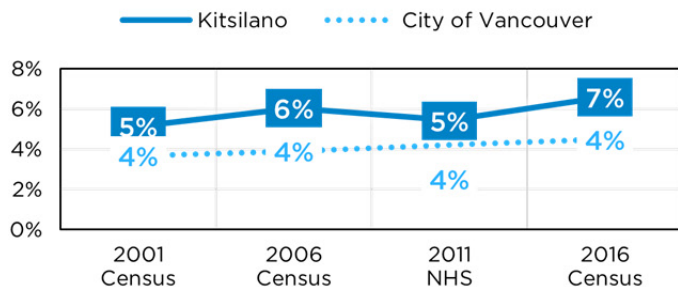
**English Knowledge, 2001-2016**



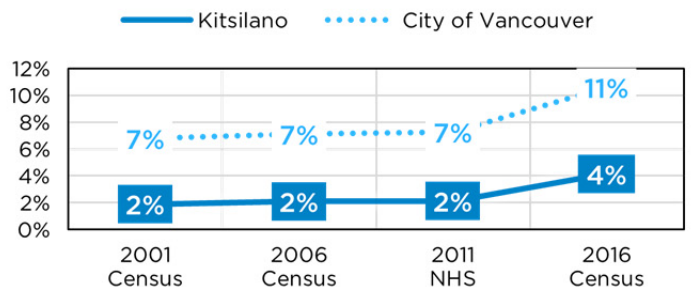
**French Knowledge, 2001-2016**



**Spanish Knowledge, 2001-2016**



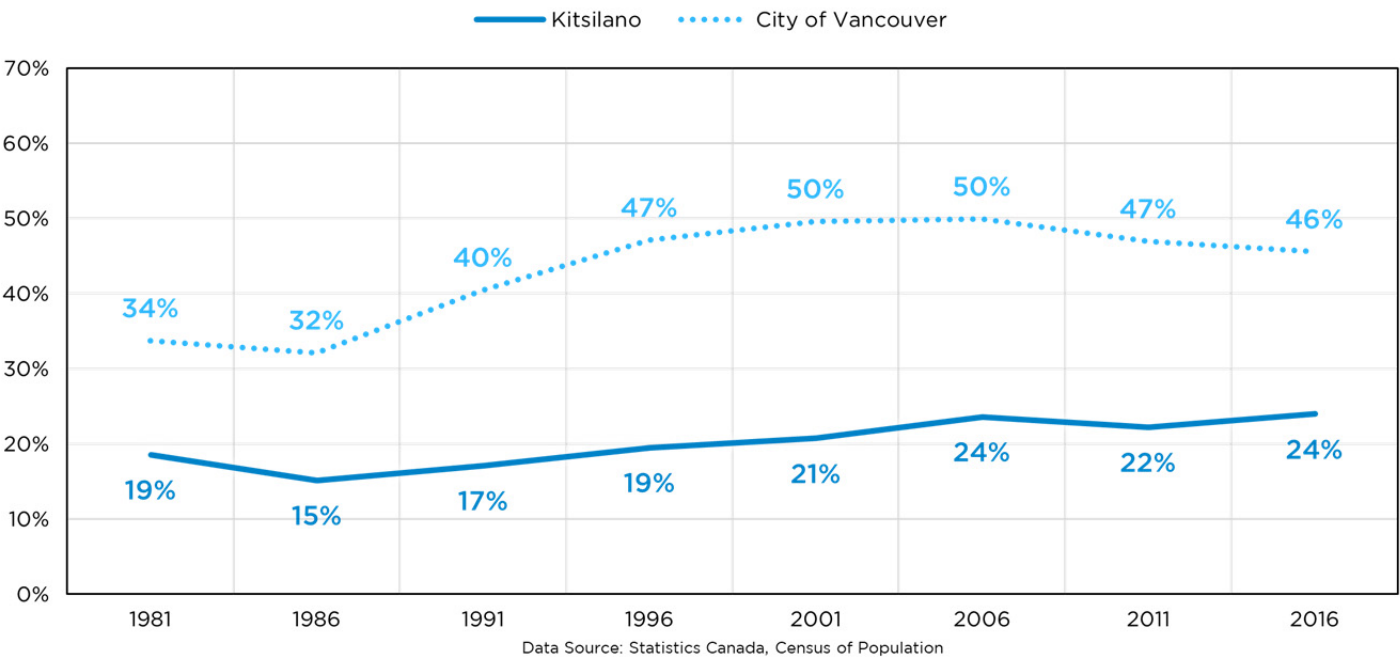
**Mandarin Knowledge, 2001-2016**



# Mother Tongue

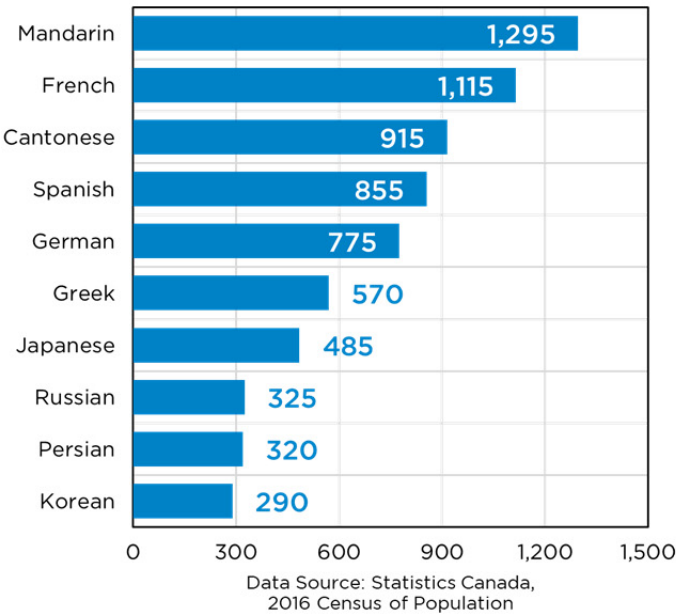
Nearly one quarter of Kitsilano residents have a non-English first language. While still the lowest among local areas in Vancouver, this rate is increasing over time.

Population With a Non-English Mother Tongue, 1981-2016

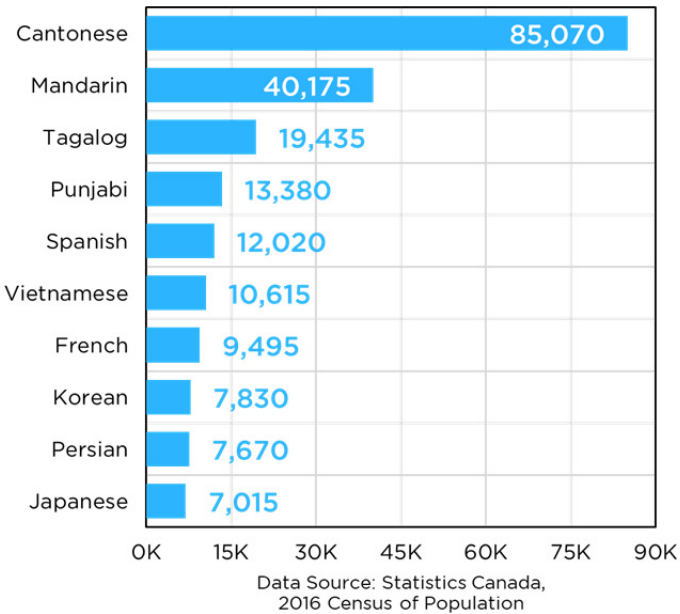


Mandarin, French, Cantonese, Spanish and German are the most commonly reported non-English mother tongues in Kitsilano.

Kitsilano: Top Non-English Mother Tongues, 2016



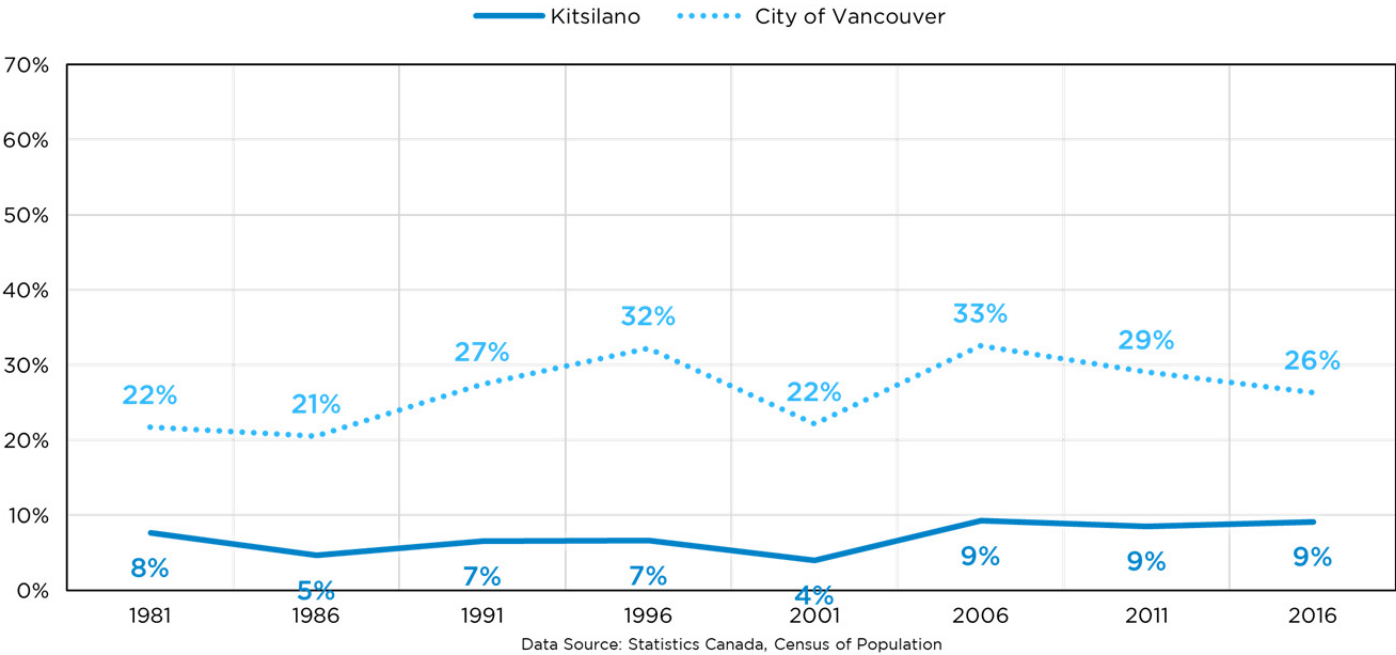
City of Vancouver: Top Non-English Mother Tongues, 2016



# Home Language

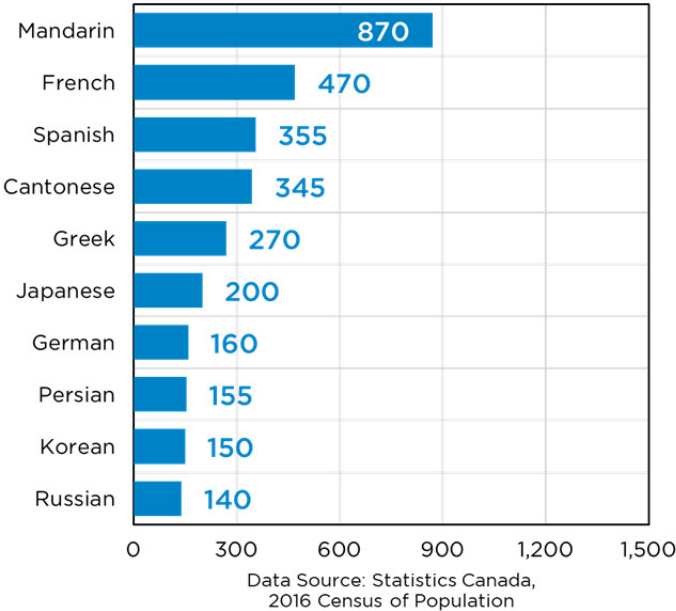
Nearly one in ten Kitsilano residents usually use a language other than English at home. Like people with a non-English mother tongue, this proportion is the lowest in the city but holding steady in recent periods after increasing in the 1990s and early 2000s.<sup>12</sup>

Population Usually Using Non-English Language at Home, 1981-2016

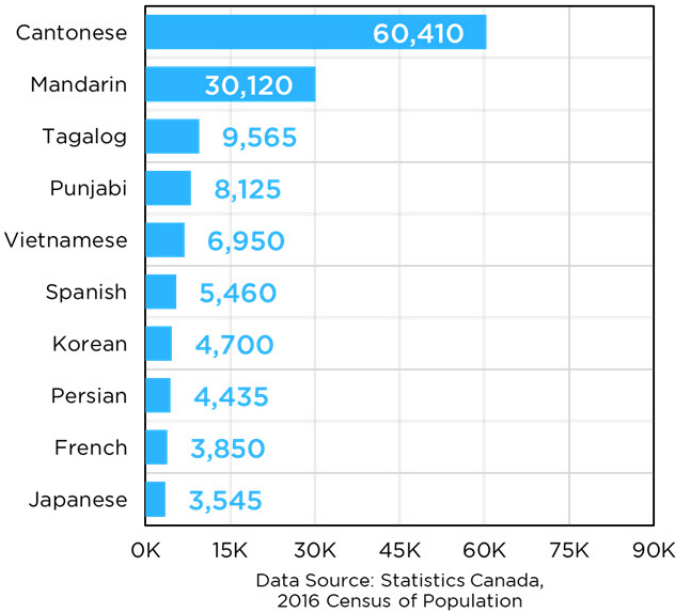


As with mother tongue, Mandarin, French, Spanish and Cantonese are the most common non-English languages used at home in Kitsilano, with Greek rounding out the top five.

Kitsilano: Top Non-English Home Languages, 2016



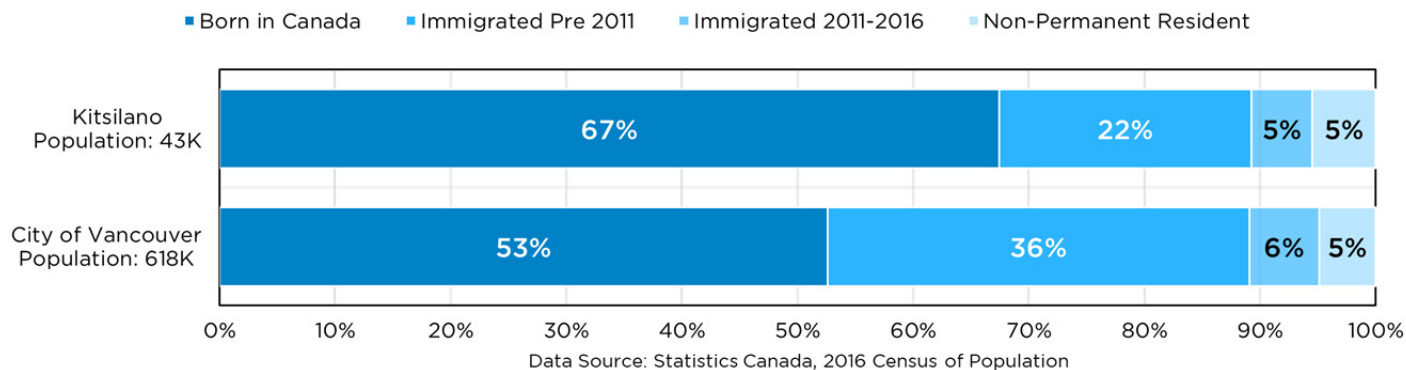
City of Vancouver: Top Non-English Home Languages, 2016



## Immigration

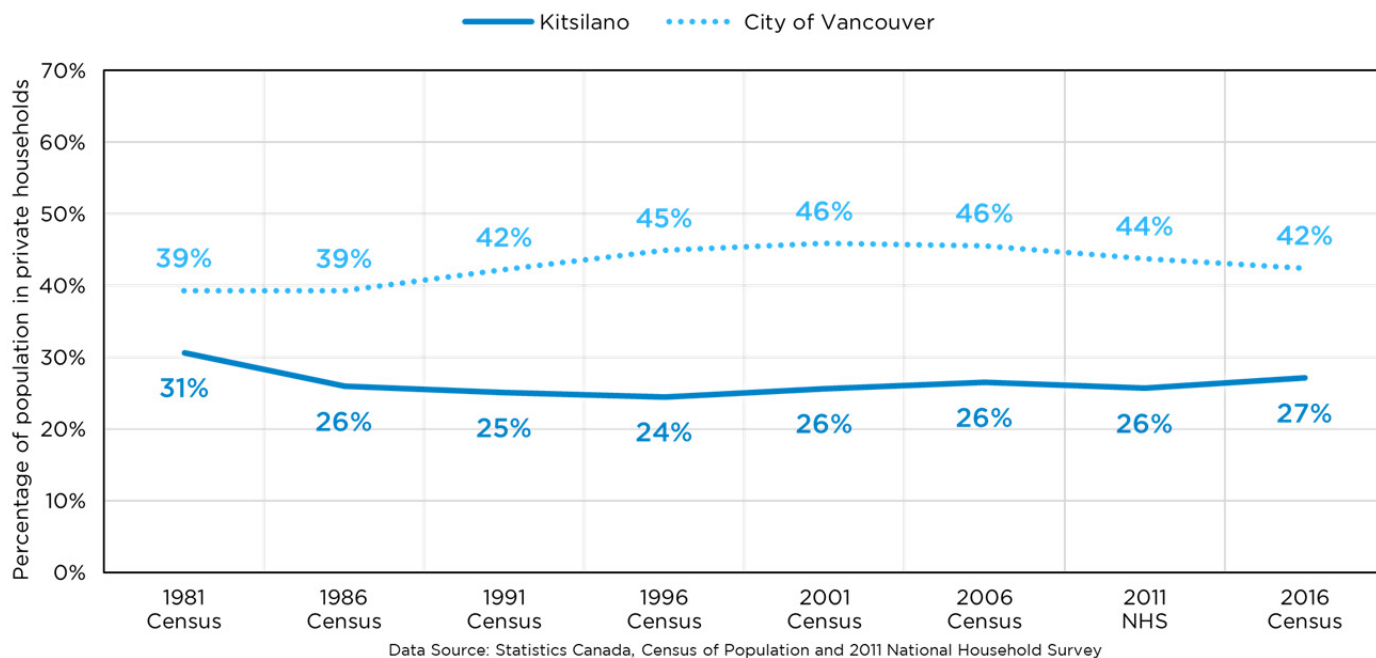
Kitsilano has a smaller share of immigrants than the city overall, though its share of newcomers is higher than its share of established immigrants. In 2016, 27% of the population are immigrants, including Canadian citizens and permanent residents; and another 5% are non-permanent residents such as foreign students, temporary workers or refugee claimants.

**Population by Immigration Status, 2016**



The immigrant population as a percentage of the total in Kitsilano has consistently been smaller than the city overall, but it has been steady or slightly increasing in recent periods even as the city-wide rate is decreasing.

**Immigrants as Percentage of Population, 1981-2016**

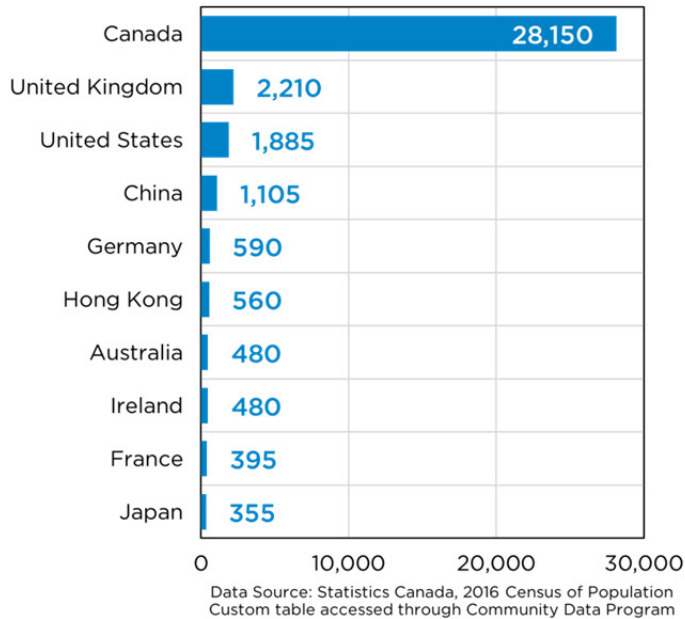




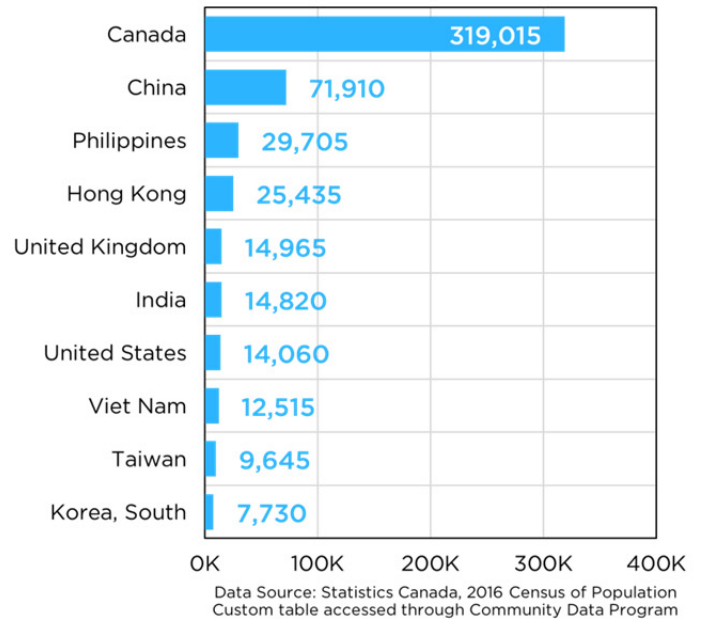
## Places of Birth

Two-thirds of the population of Kitsilano was born in Canada. Outside Canada, the most commonly reported places of birth are the United Kingdom, United States and China.

**Kitsilano: Top Places of Birth for Overall Population, 2016**

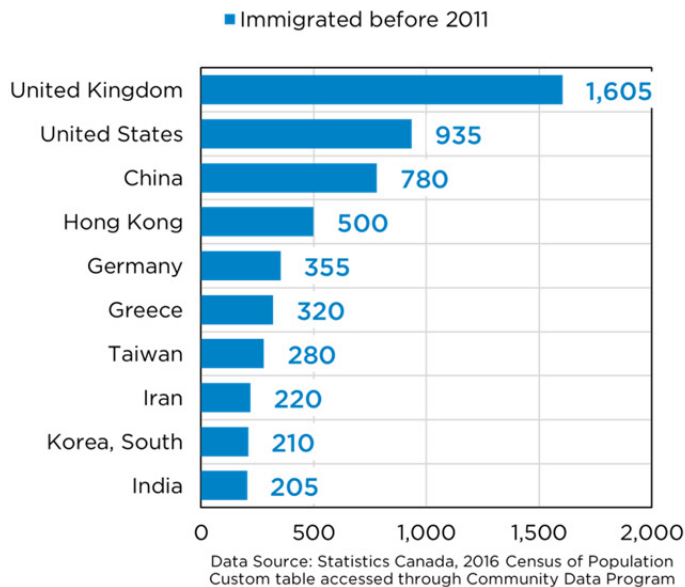


**City of Vancouver: Top Places of Birth for Overall Population, 2016**

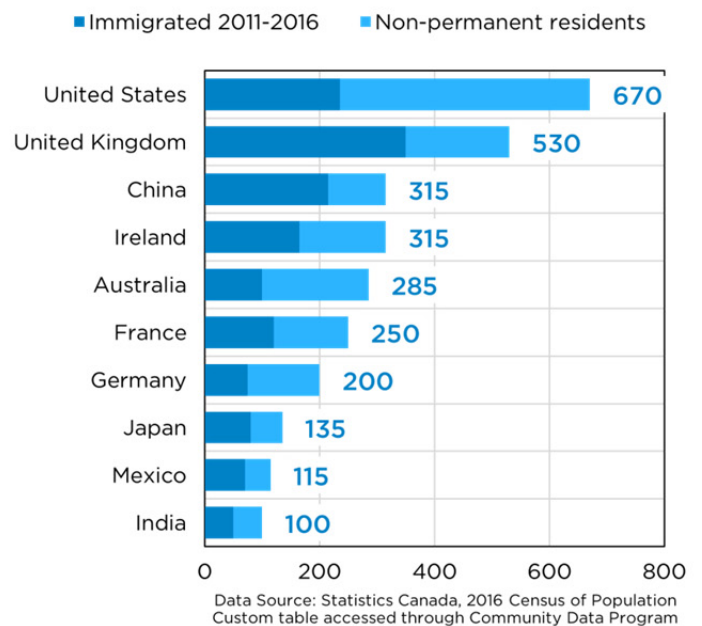


There are changing patterns of migration and immigration in Vancouver, though in Kitsilano people born outside of Canada continue to come from the United States and United Kingdom in the greatest numbers.

**Kitsilano: Top Places of Birth for Established Immigrant Population, 2016**



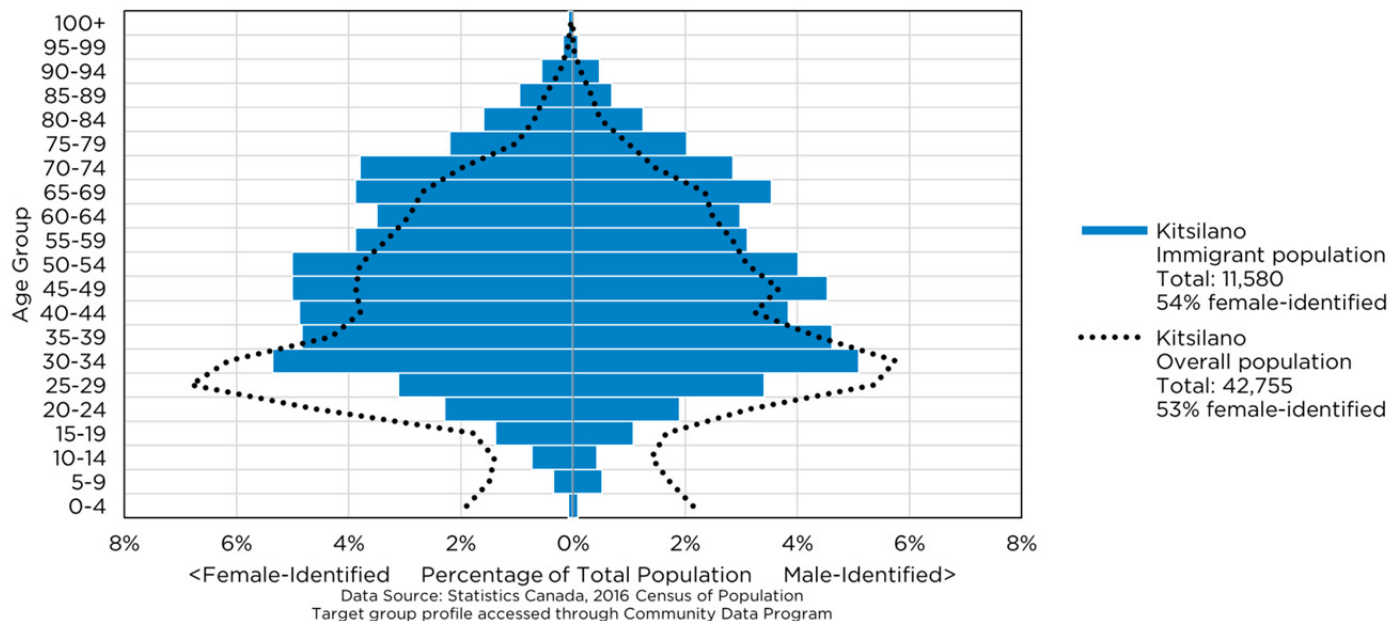
**Kitsilano: Top Places of Birth for Newcomer Population, 2016**



## Demographics of Immigrant Populations

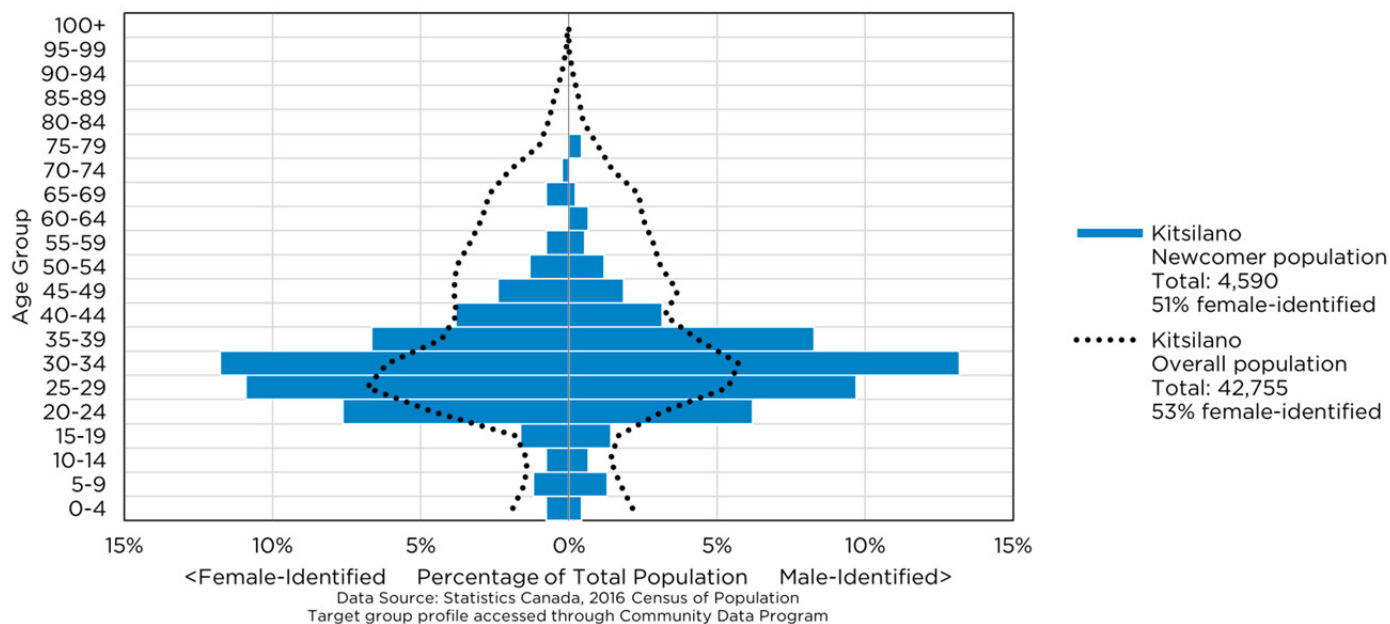
The immigrant population in Kitsilano is older than the overall population, with age groups over 40 disproportionately represented in this group.

**Kitsilano:  
Immigrant Population by Age and Sex, 2016**



The area's newcomer population—including both recent immigrants and non-permanent residents—is concentrated among people in their 20s and 30s.

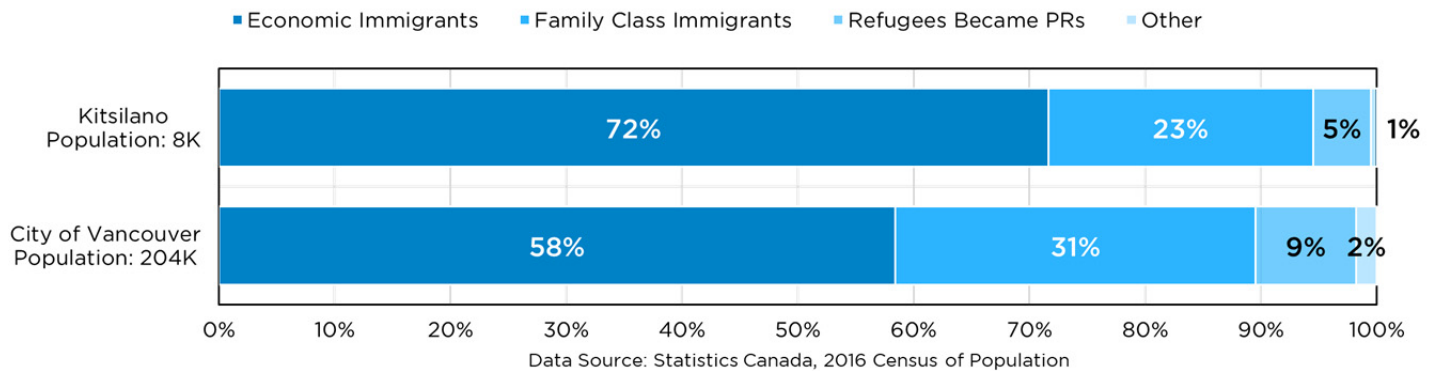
**Kitsilano:  
Newcomer Population by Age and Sex, 2016**



## Immigrant Admission and Citizenship

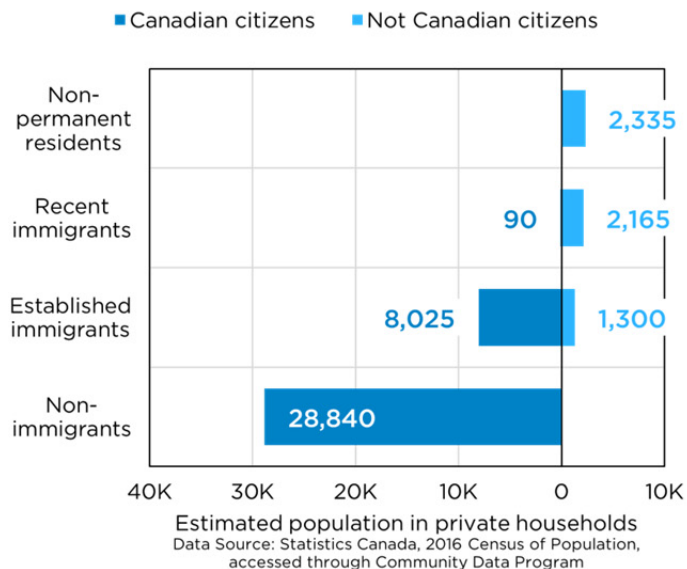
By linking census data to admissions data, Statistics Canada is able to generate summary data on people's category of admission to Canada for people who immigrated after 1980. Kitsilano has relatively more immigrants who were admitted in economic categories, including worker, business and provincial nominee programs; it has a proportionally smaller population of people who were admitted through family programs, or as refugees who have since become permanent residents.

### Population that Immigrated After 1980 by Admission Category, 2016

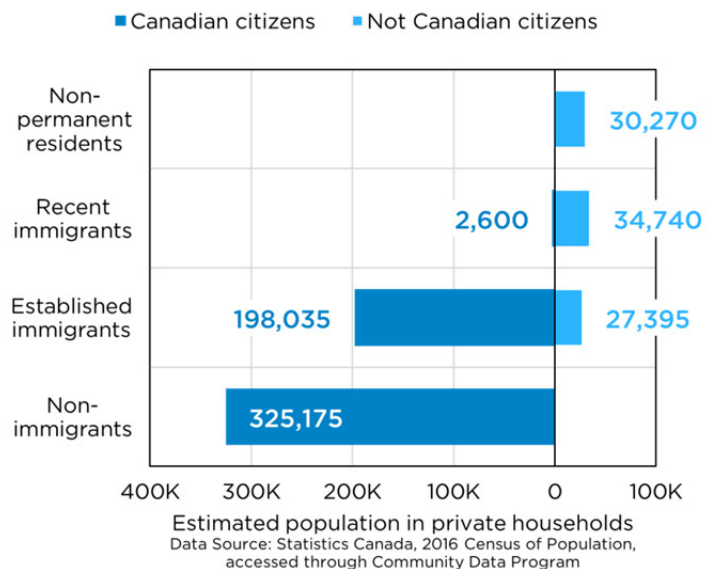


In Kitsilano, 86% of established immigrants and 4% of new immigrants have become Canadian citizens, lower rates than for the city overall. The balance of the immigrant population are permanent residents but not Canadian citizens, meaning that they do not have access to voting rights or other privileges that citizenship brings. 6% of the population in Kitsilano are non-permanent residents who live in Vancouver under the conditions of their work permit, study permit or refugee claim.

### Kitsilano: Population by Immigration and Citizenship Status, 2016



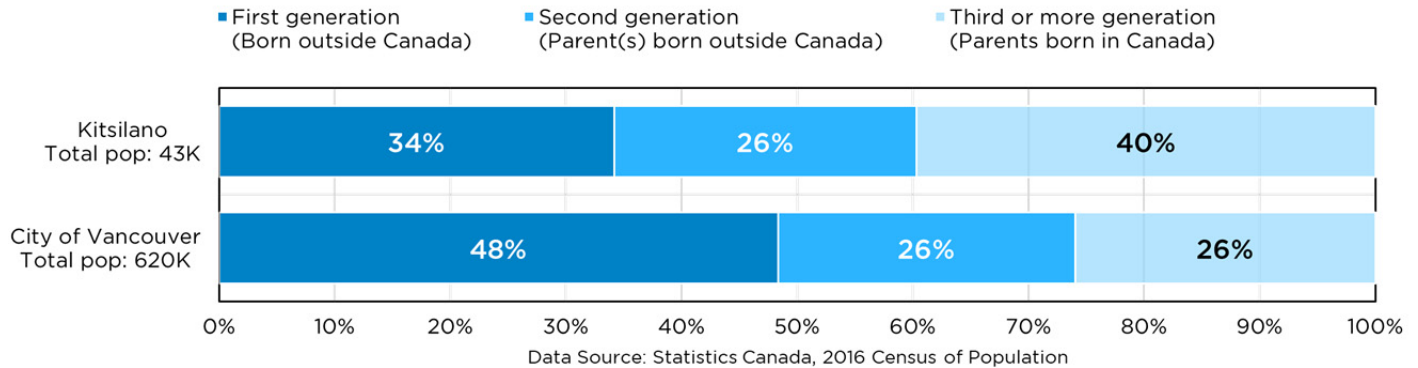
### City of Vancouver: Population by Immigration and Citizenship Status, 2016



## Generations in Canada

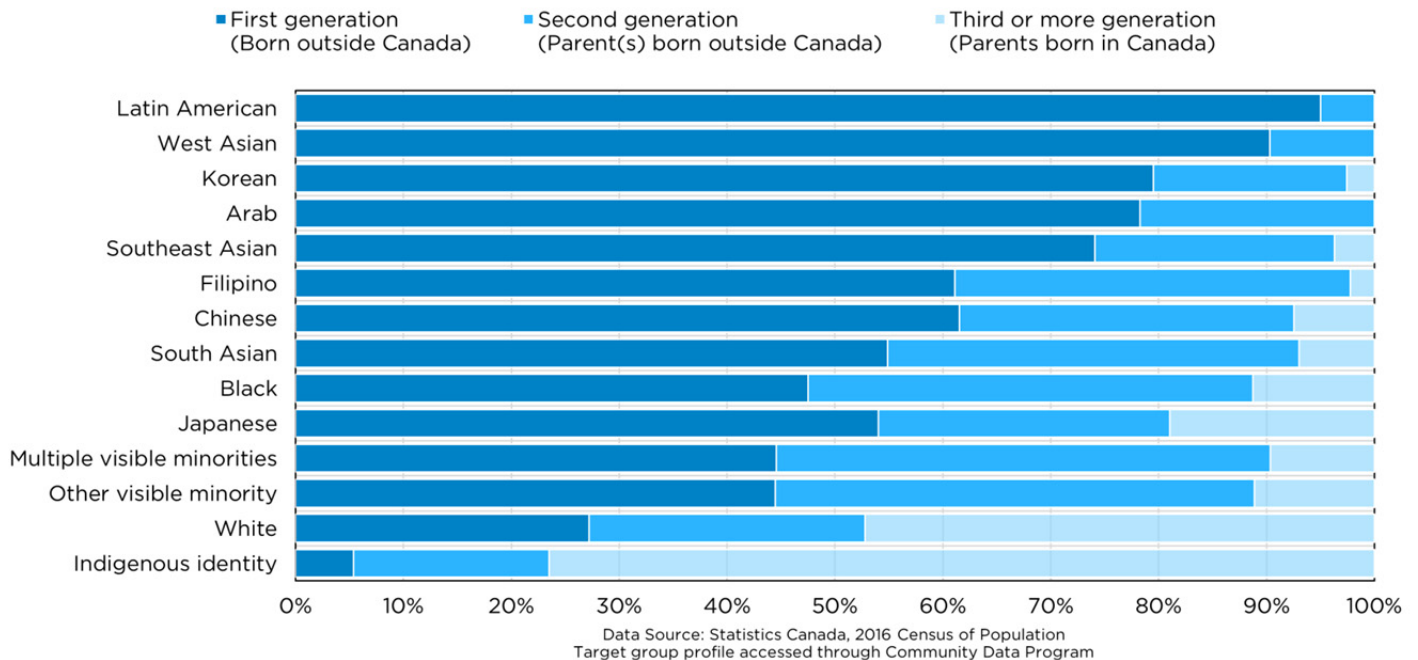
Vancouver is home to diverse immigrant populations, and a particular area of note is a growing second-generation population of people whose parents<sup>13</sup> were born outside Canada. Kitsilano has the second highest rate of its population being third-or-more-generation in Canada (after Grandview-Woodland), but its second-generation population nonetheless makes up a substantial share of the neighbourhood.

### Population by Generation in Canada, 2016



Except for Indigenous residents, people of all racial identities are in Vancouver because of immigration, whether in current or previous generations. In Kitsilano, a majority of white residents are first- or second-generation Canadians. A majority of Black residents, as well as those identifying with multiple “visible minority” groups or groups not specifically reported in the census, were born in Canada.

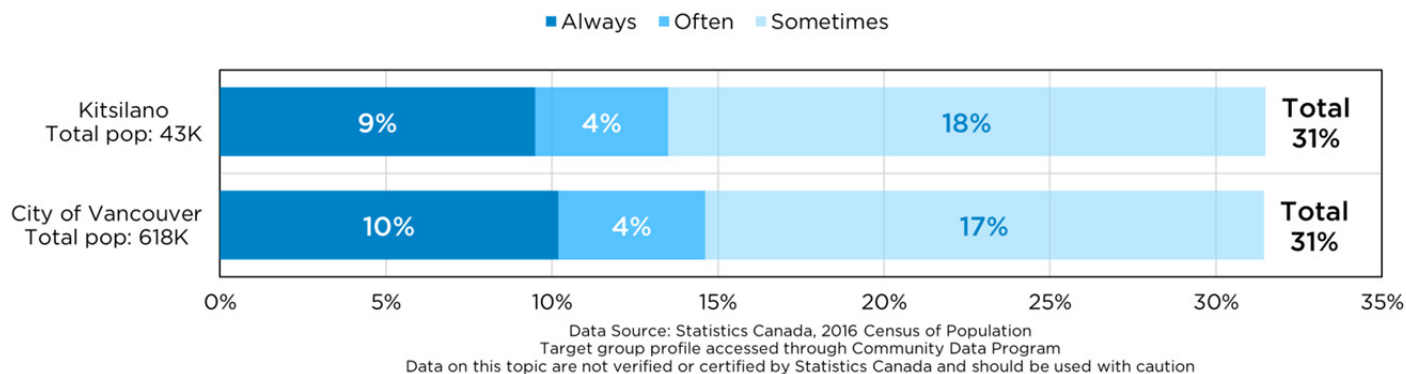
### Kitsilano: Pop. Groups by Generations in Canada, 2016



## Activity Limitations and Disabilities

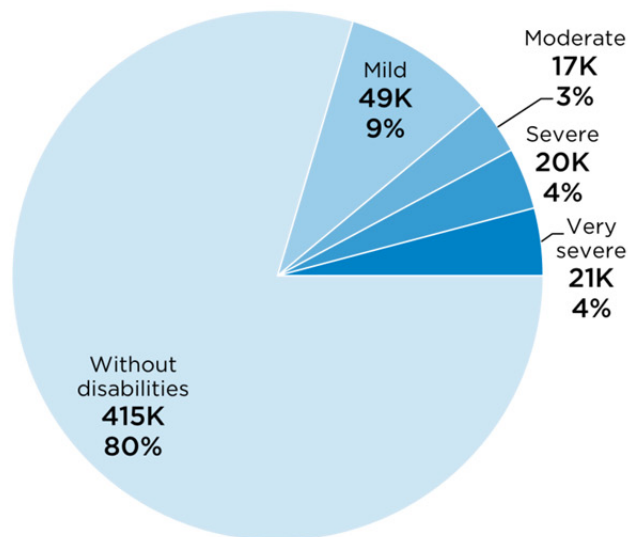
The census does not include a specific question on ability and disability, but does ask respondents to identify whether they have specific limitations on their daily activities. These questions are intended to be a sampling frame for the follow-up Canadian Survey on Disability rather than used directly, but they can provide a broad picture of ability across the population that can be tabulated by neighbourhood or across population groups. In Kitsilano, 31% of people experience a limitation on their daily activities on at least an occasional basis, the same rate as for the city overall.

**Population with Limitations on Daily Activities, 2016**

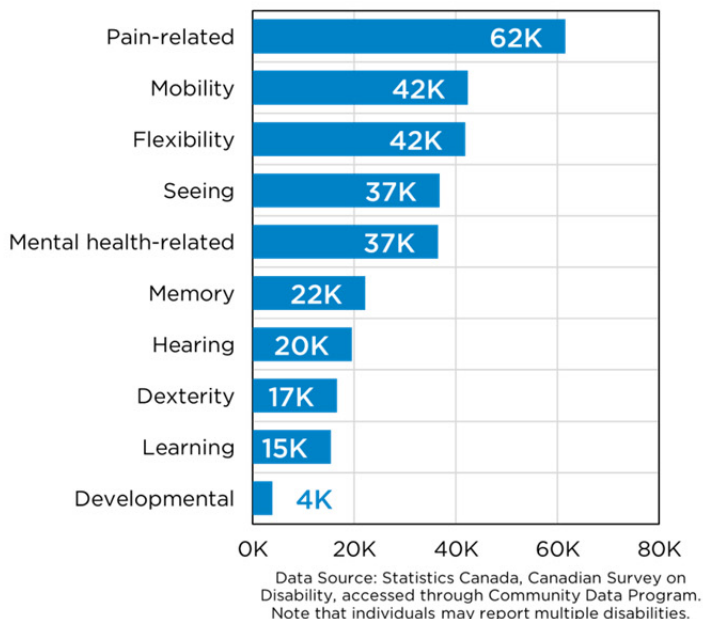


Indicators from the Canadian Survey on Disability are available at a city-wide level. Based on that survey, 20% of people age 15 and older in Vancouver have a disability. Slightly fewer than half of people with a disability have a mild disability, while slightly more than half have a moderate, severe or very severe disability. The most common types of disability are pain, mobility and flexibility.

**City of Vancouver: Est. Pop. with Disabilities by Severity, 2017**



**City of Vancouver: Est. Pop. with Indicated Type of Disability, 2017**

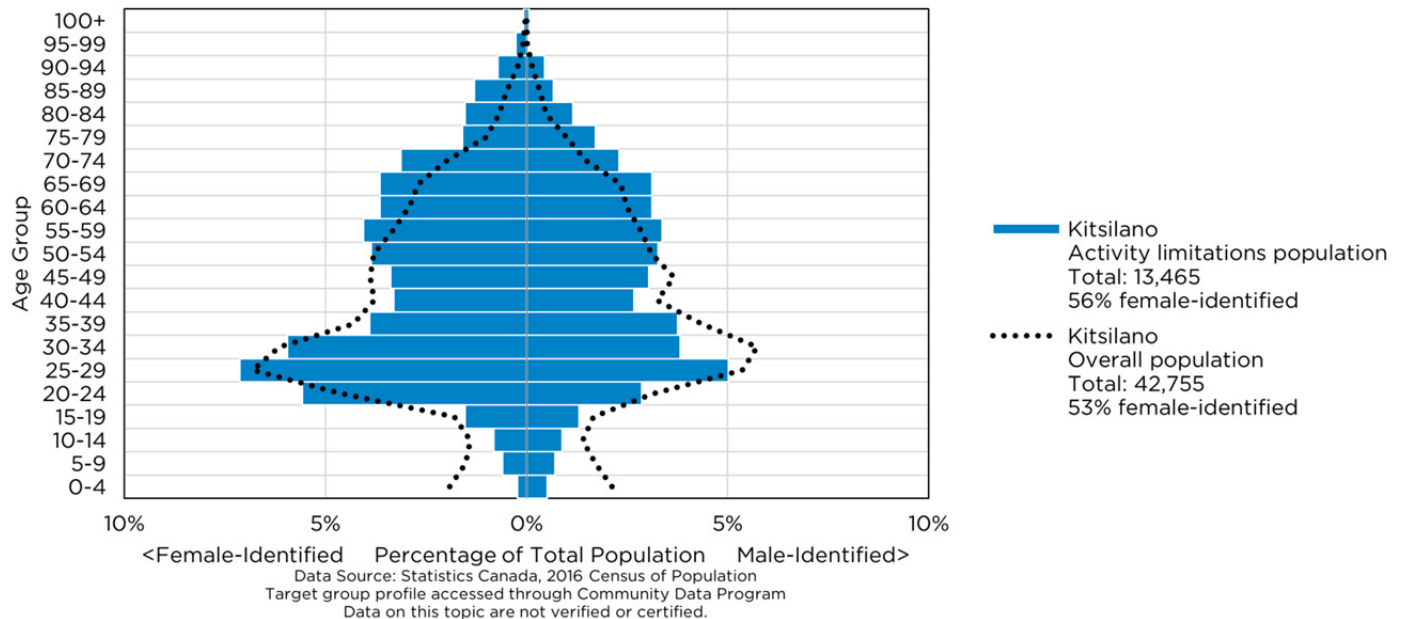




## Demographics of Activity Limitations

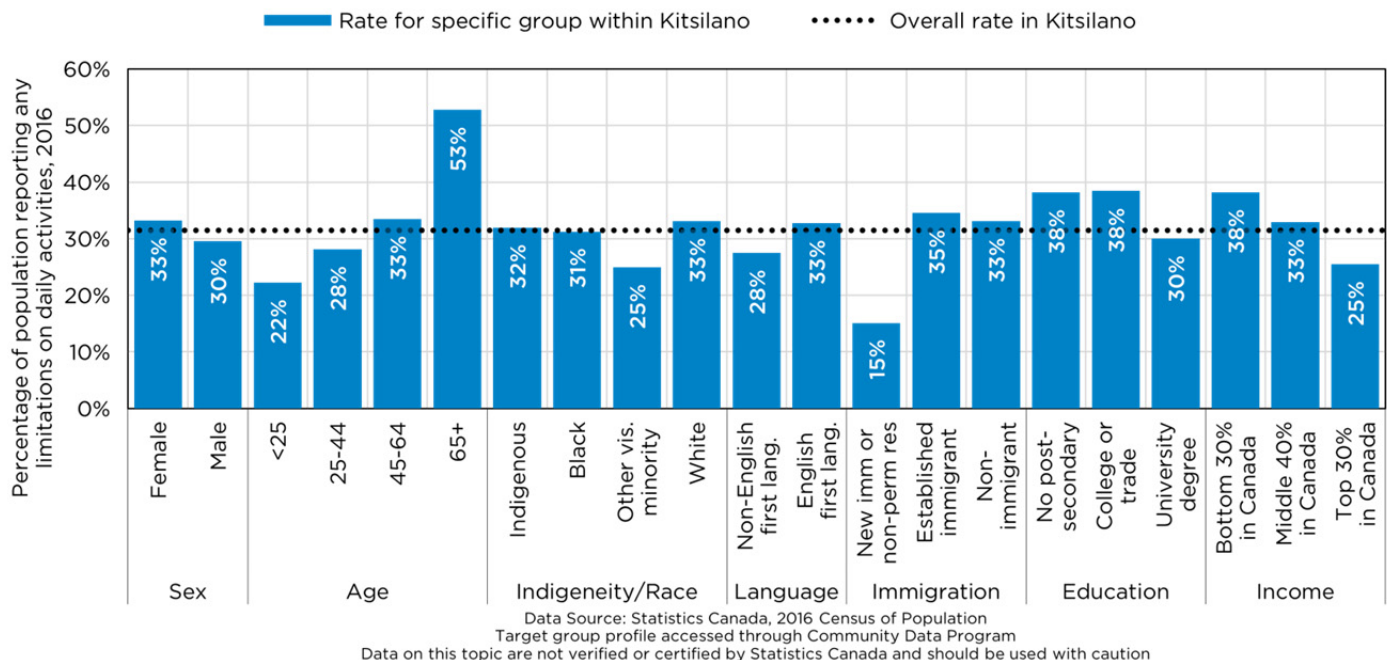
The age profile of people with limits on daily activities skews toward older adults and seniors. However, it is important to note that people of all ages may report limitations on daily activities.

### Kitsilano: Activity Limitations Population by Age and Sex, 2016



The charts below compare the rate that people report activity limitations among different demographic groups. In Kitsilano, the largest differences are observed by age, immigration status and income.

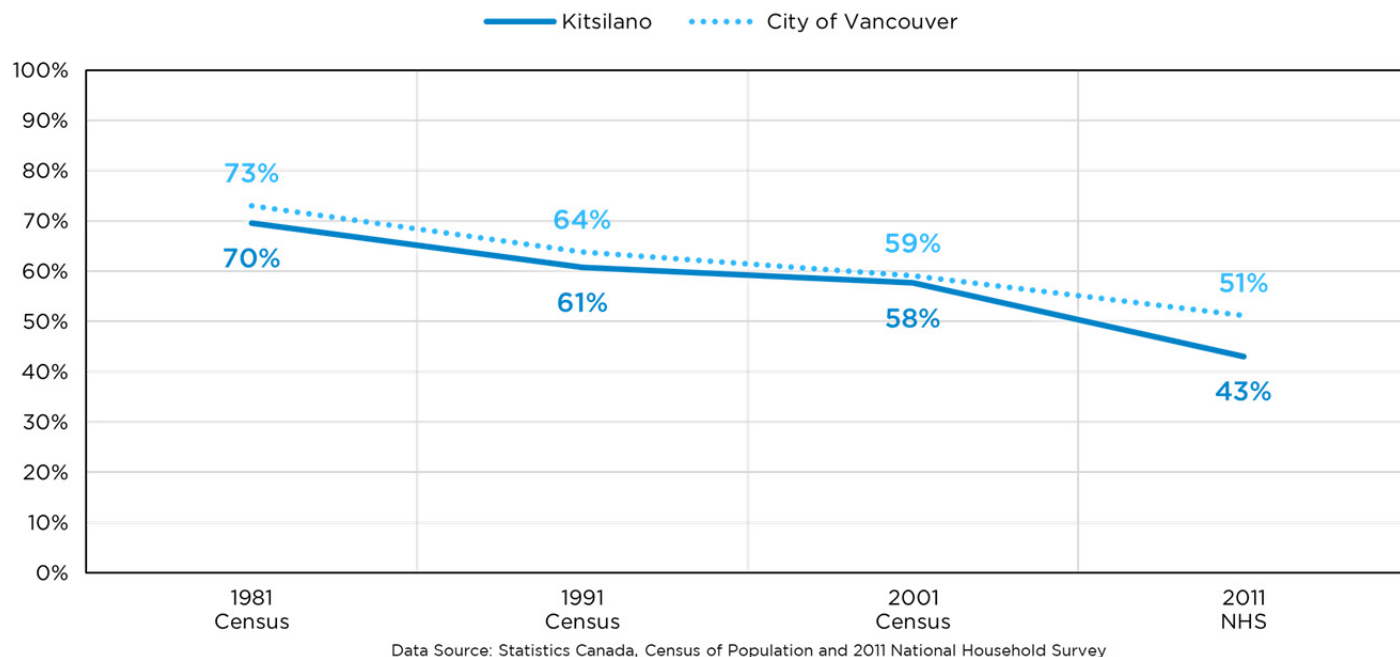
### Kitsilano: Rate of Activity Limits by Demographic, 2016



## Spirituality and Religion

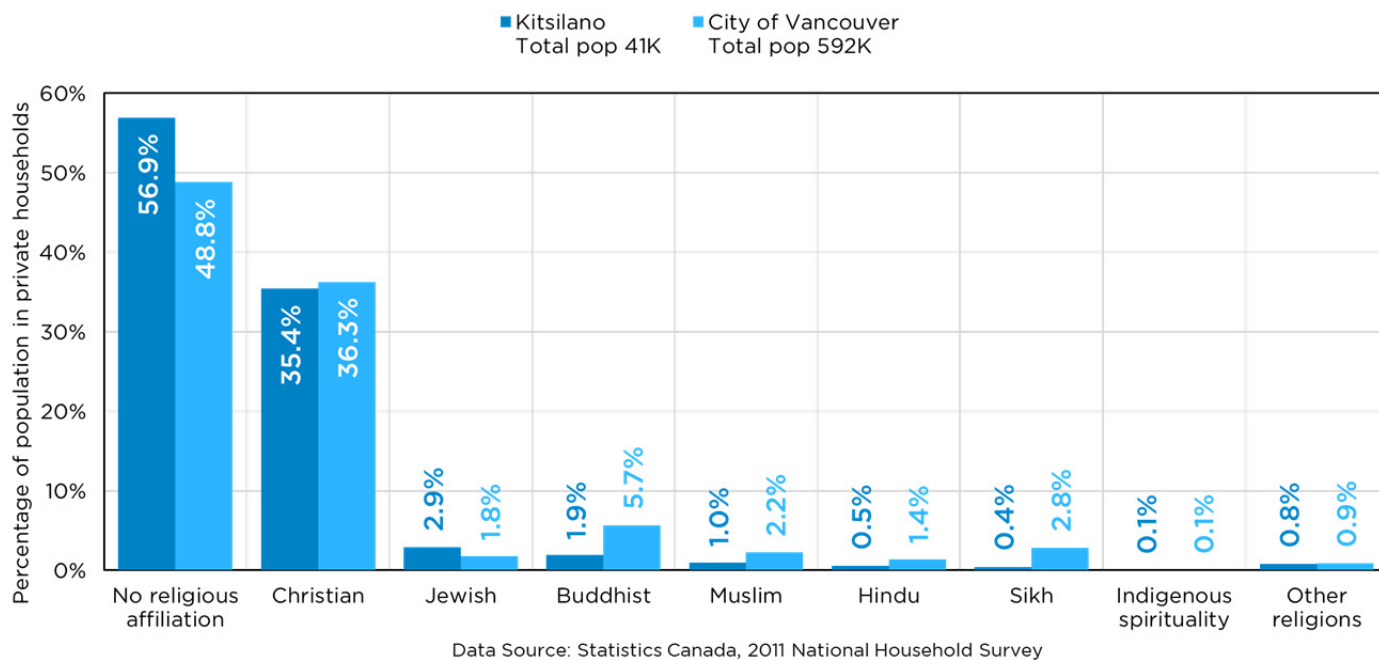
Information on people's religious identity is collected through the census program every ten years, so the most recent data available is from the voluntary National Household Survey in 2011. In 2011, about 43% of Kitsilano's population identified a religious affiliation, a smaller rate than the city overall.

### Percentage of Population with Religious Affiliation, 1981-2011



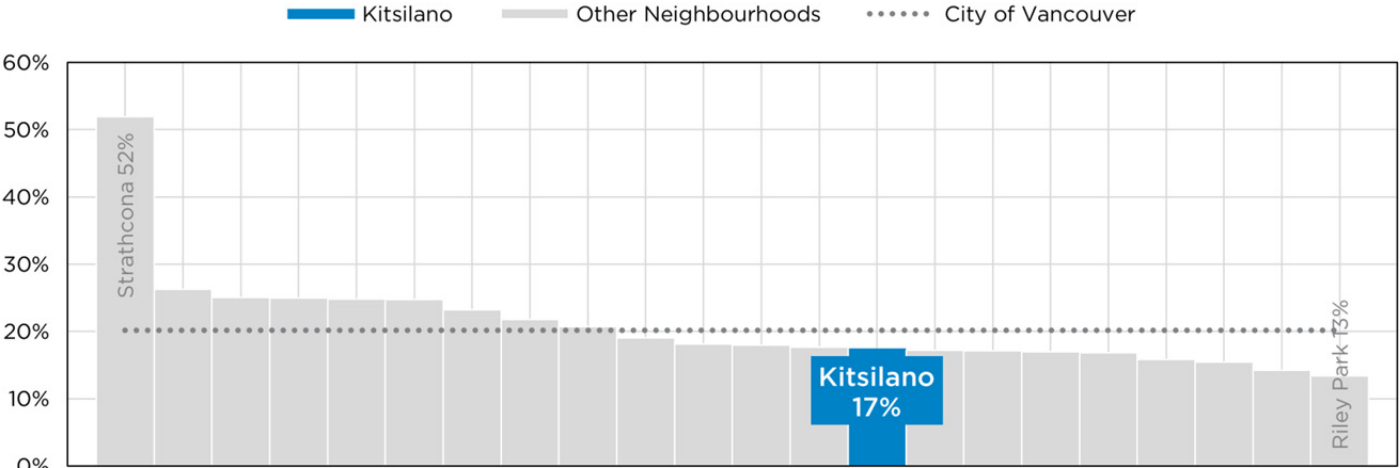
The graphs below show the top categories of religious affiliation reported in Kitsilano and the City of Vancouver. Kitsilano residents are more likely to identify no religious affiliation or to identify as Jewish than residents of the city overall.

### Population by Religious Affiliation, 2011

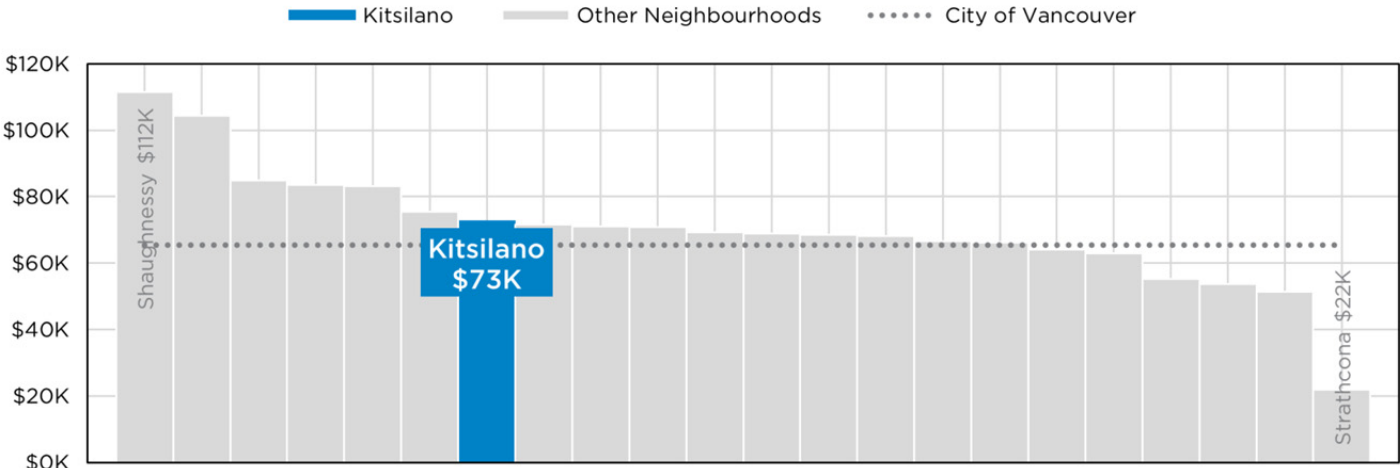


# ECONOMY AND EQUITY

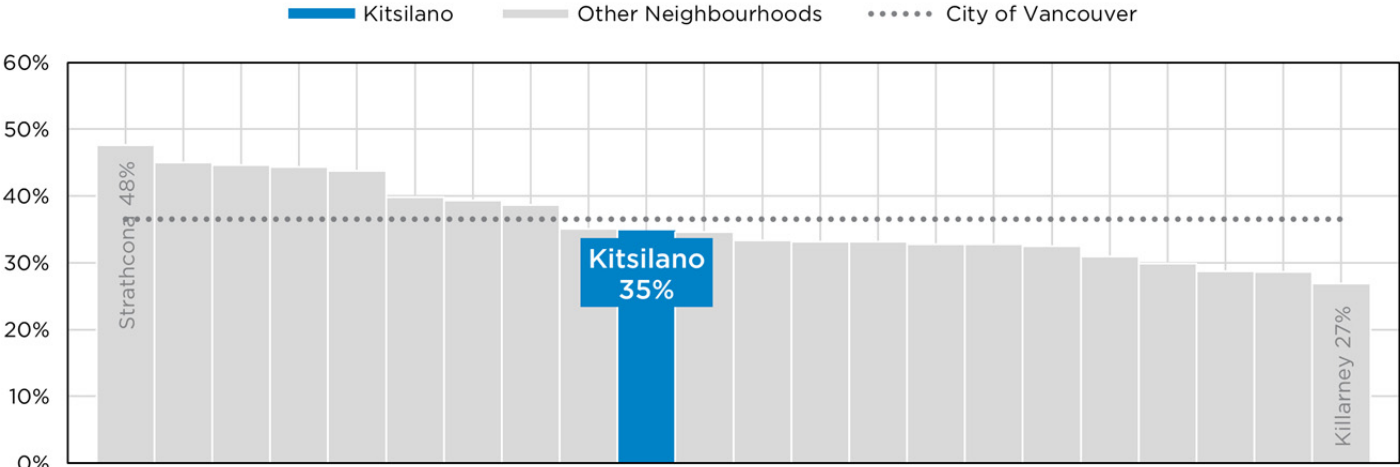
Population Below National Poverty Line, 2016



Median Household Income, 2016

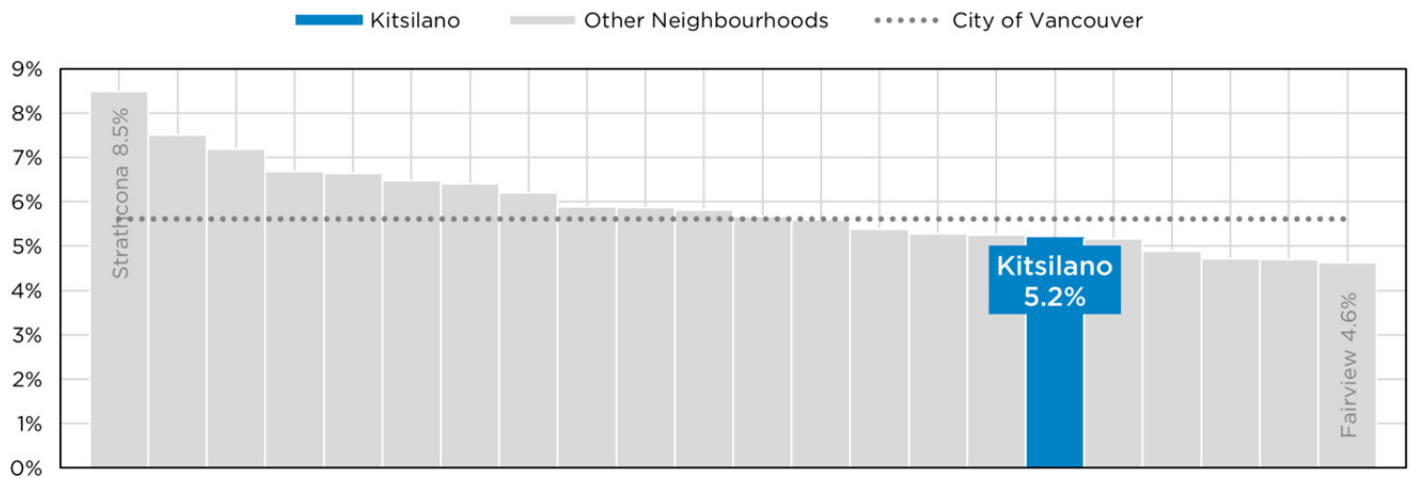


Households Spending Over 30% of Total Income on Housing, 2016

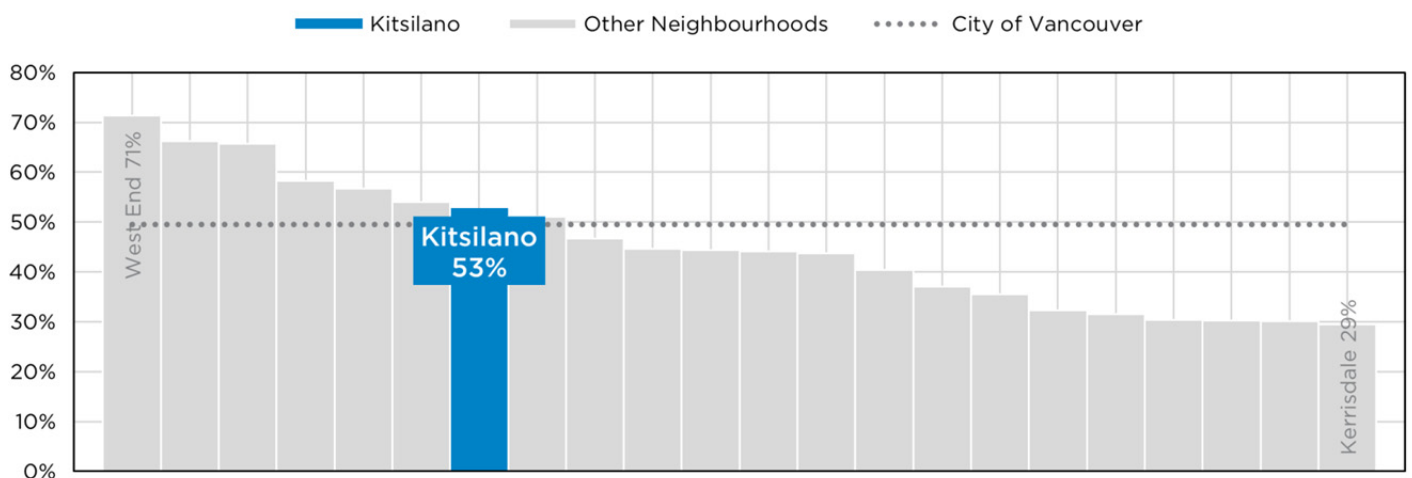


# NEIGHBOURHOOD COMPARISONS

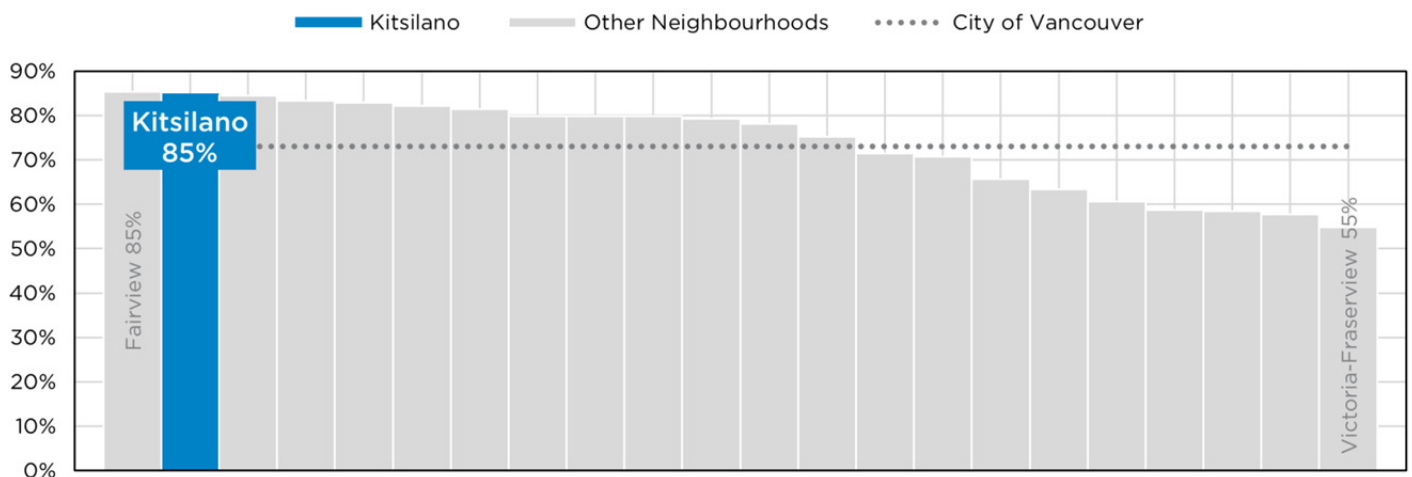
## Unemployment Rate for Residents in Labour Force, 2016



## Employed Population Walking, Cycling or Transit to Work, 2016



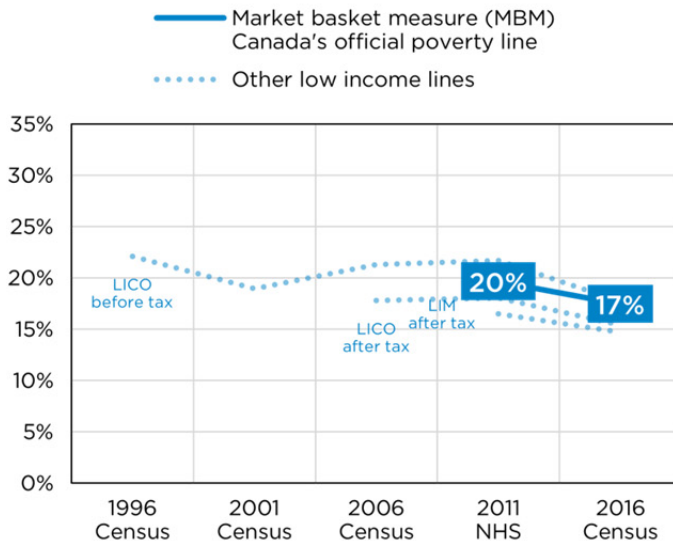
## Population 25-64 with Post-Secondary Certificate, 2016



## Income Poverty

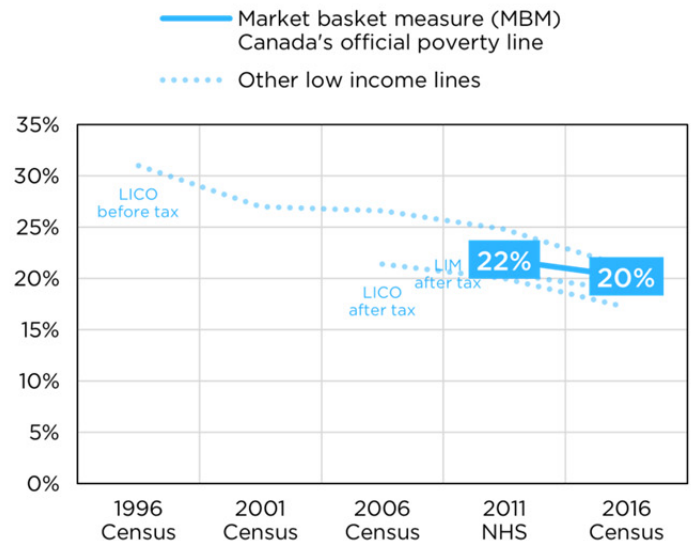
Canada has only recently defined a national poverty line: the Market Basket Measure (MBM), which compares family disposable income to the cost of basic needs in a community. 17% of the population in Kitsilano have incomes below this measure. While assessing trends over time is challenging given changing measures, the poverty rate appears to have been fairly stable before declining in the most recent census.

**Kitsilano:  
Low Income Rates, 1996-2016**



Data Source: Statistics Canada, Census of Population and 2011 National Household Survey, accessed through Community Data Program. Note that income statistics in the census program are for the previous year.

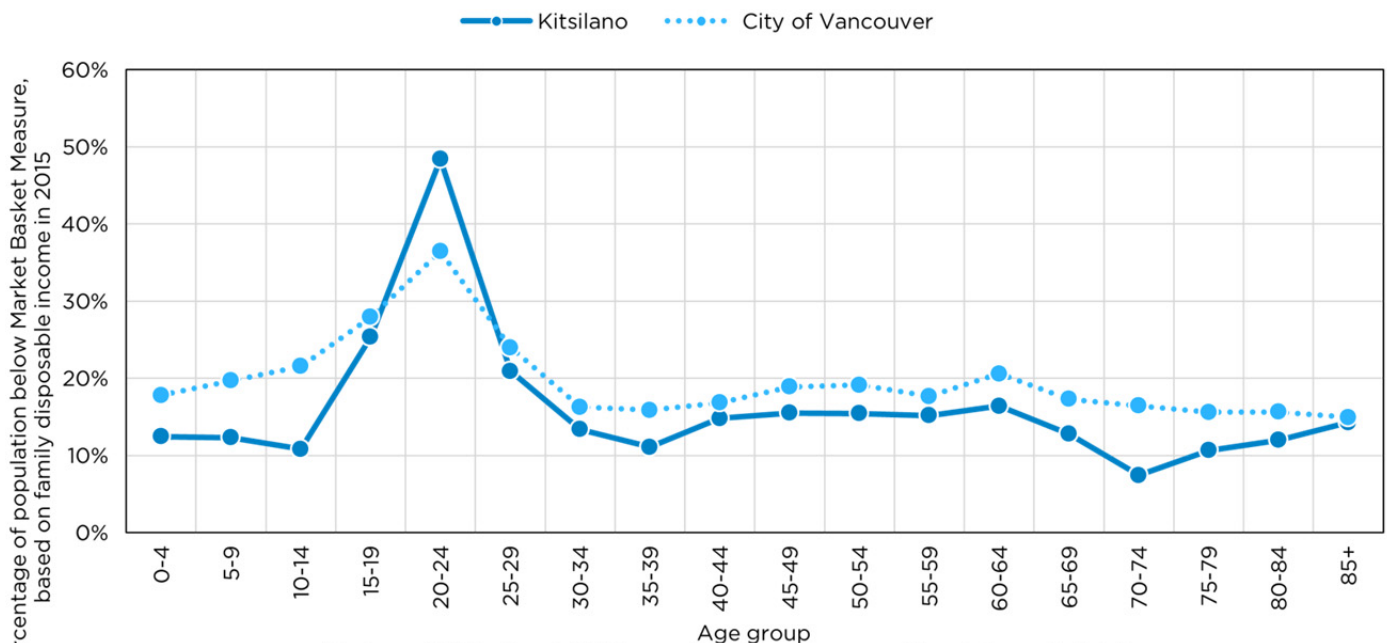
**City of Vancouver:  
Low Income Rates, 1996-2016**



Data Source: Statistics Canada, Census of Population and 2011 National Household Survey, accessed through Community Data Program. Note that income statistics in the census program are for the previous year.

Most age groups have a lower poverty rate in Kitsilano than in the city overall, except for people in their early 20s. This may reflect a large student population in Kitsilano.

**Poverty Rate by Age Group, 2016**



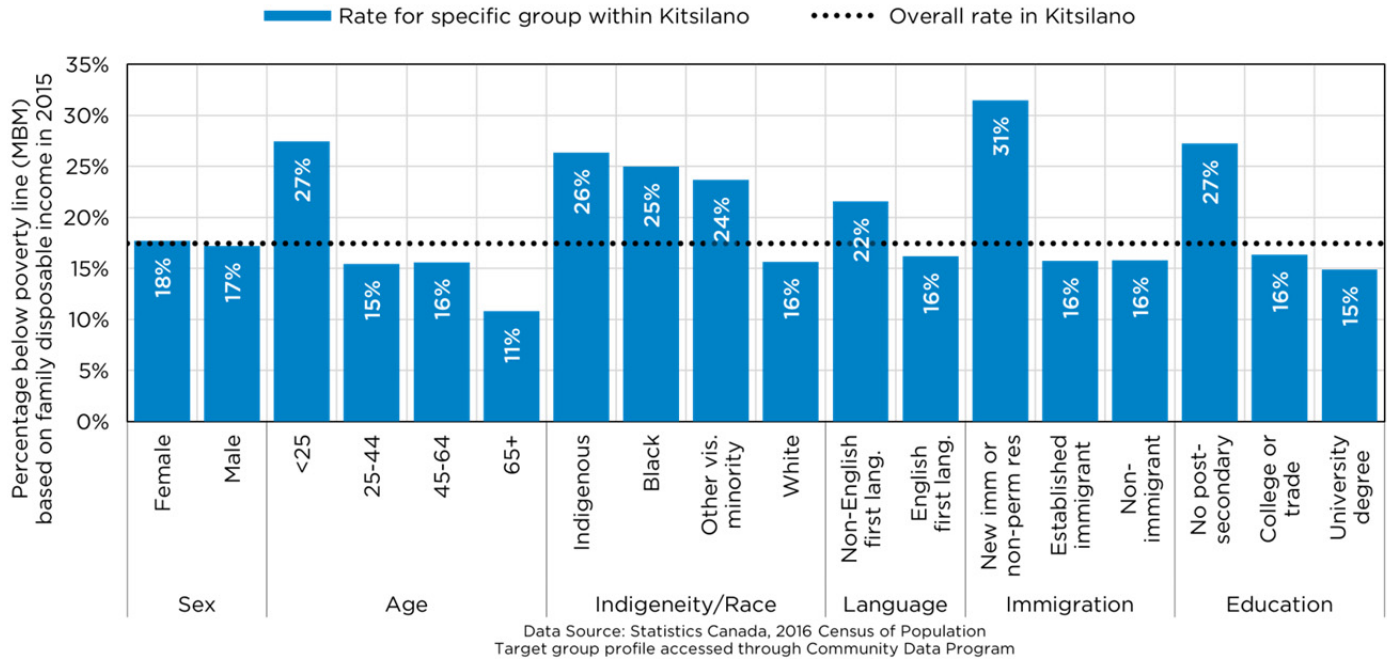
Data Source: Statistics Canada, 2016 Census of Population, data accessed through Community Data Program



## Equity and Poverty

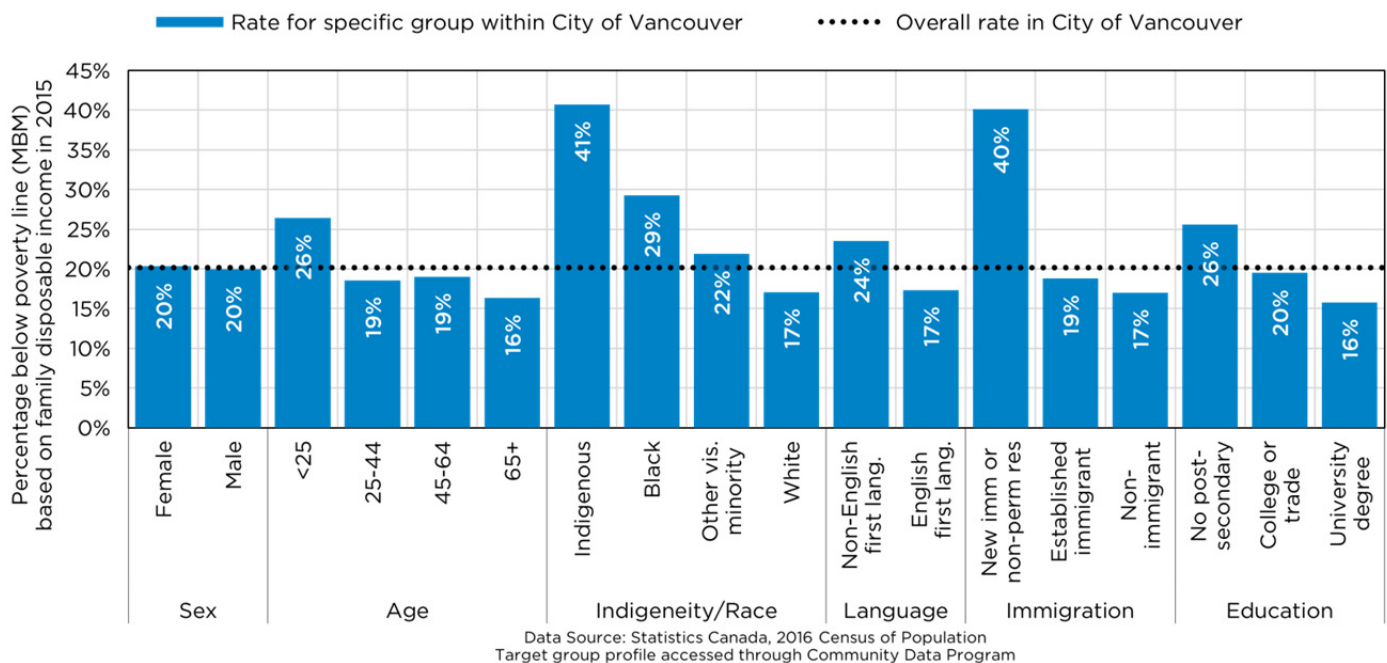
Poverty does not strike randomly: inadequate income to meet basic needs correlates with other systems of oppression and inequity. In Kitsilano, poverty disproportionately impacts people in Indigenous, racialized, non-English speaking and new immigrant groups, and those without post-secondary education.

**Kitsilano: Poverty Rate by Selected Demographics, 2016**



Across the city, there is evidence that poverty disproportionately impacts people in Indigenous and racialized groups and newcomers, among other inequities.

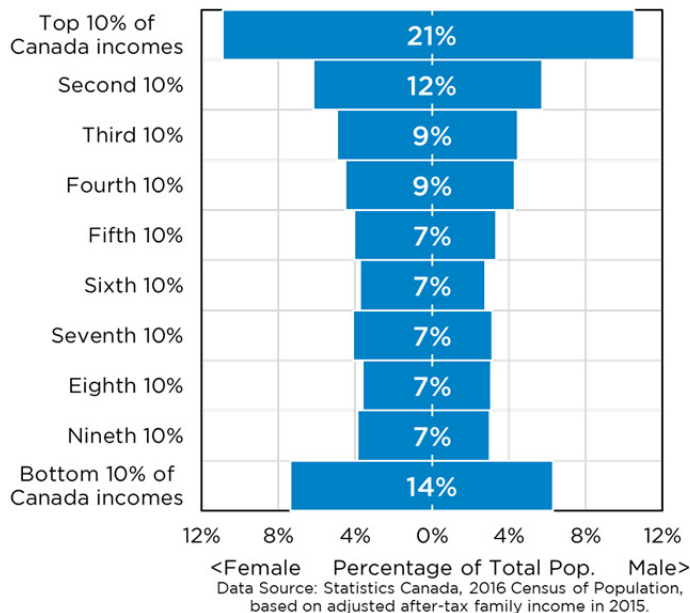
**City of Vancouver: Poverty Rate by Selected Demographics, 2016**



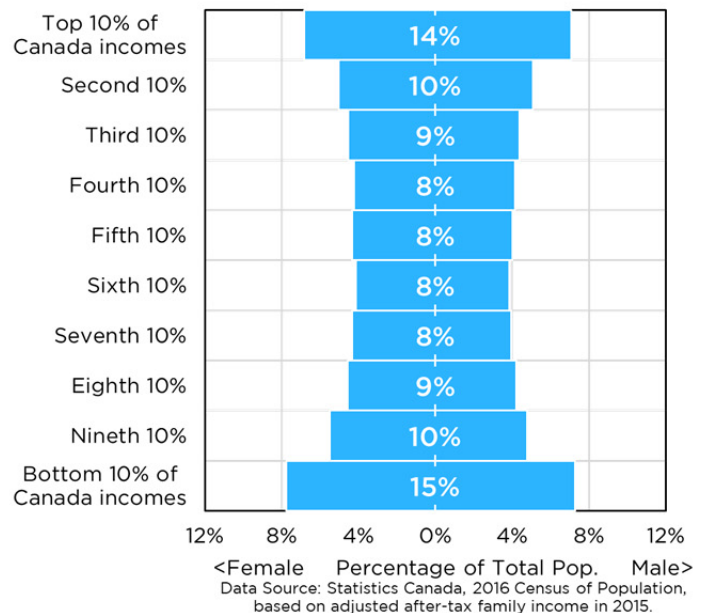
## Income Inequity

The City of Vancouver is more polarized than Canada overall: 14% of Vancouverites are in the top 10% of Canadian earners, and 15% are in the bottom 10%. Kitsilano may be more polarized than the city overall, with more than 20% of its population in Canada's top 10%.

**Kitsilano: Population by National Income Deciles, 2016**

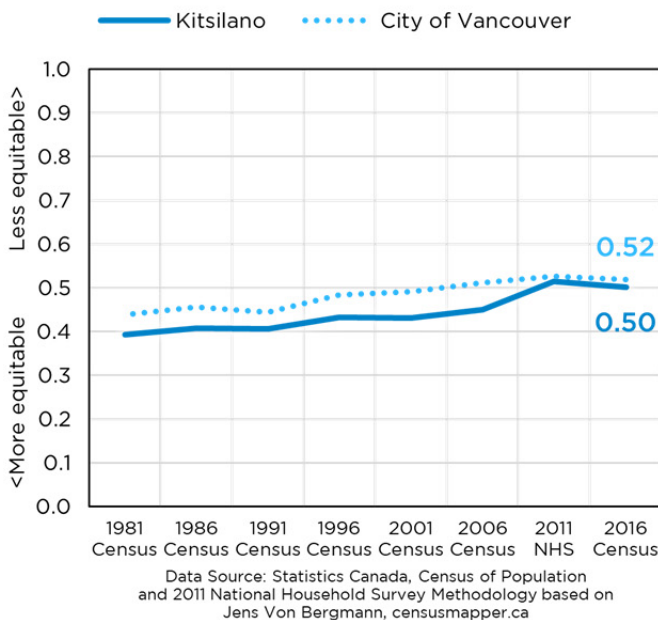


**City of Vancouver: Population by National Income Deciles, 2016**

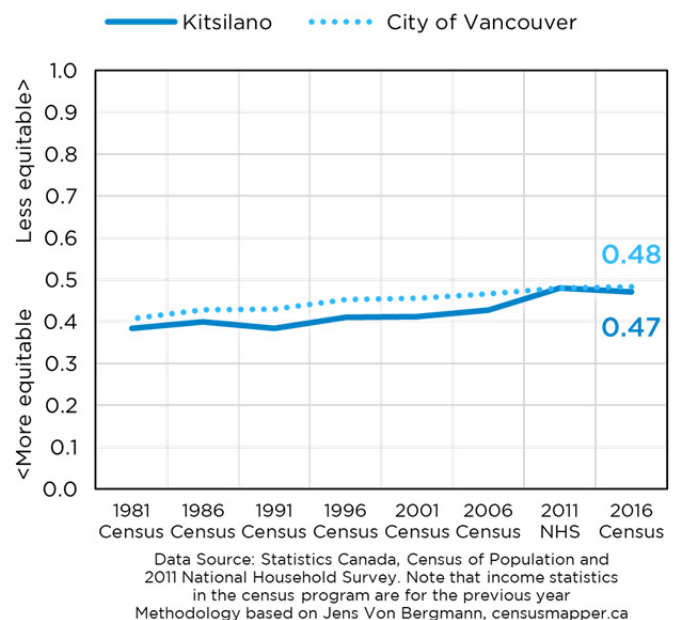


The graph below estimates a Gini coefficient using total personal and household income categories.<sup>14</sup> Although Kitsilano has a slightly more equitable distribution of income than the city overall on both measures, it can also be seen to have a general trend toward increasing inequity over time.

**Estimated Gini Index for Pre-Tax Personal Income Distribution**



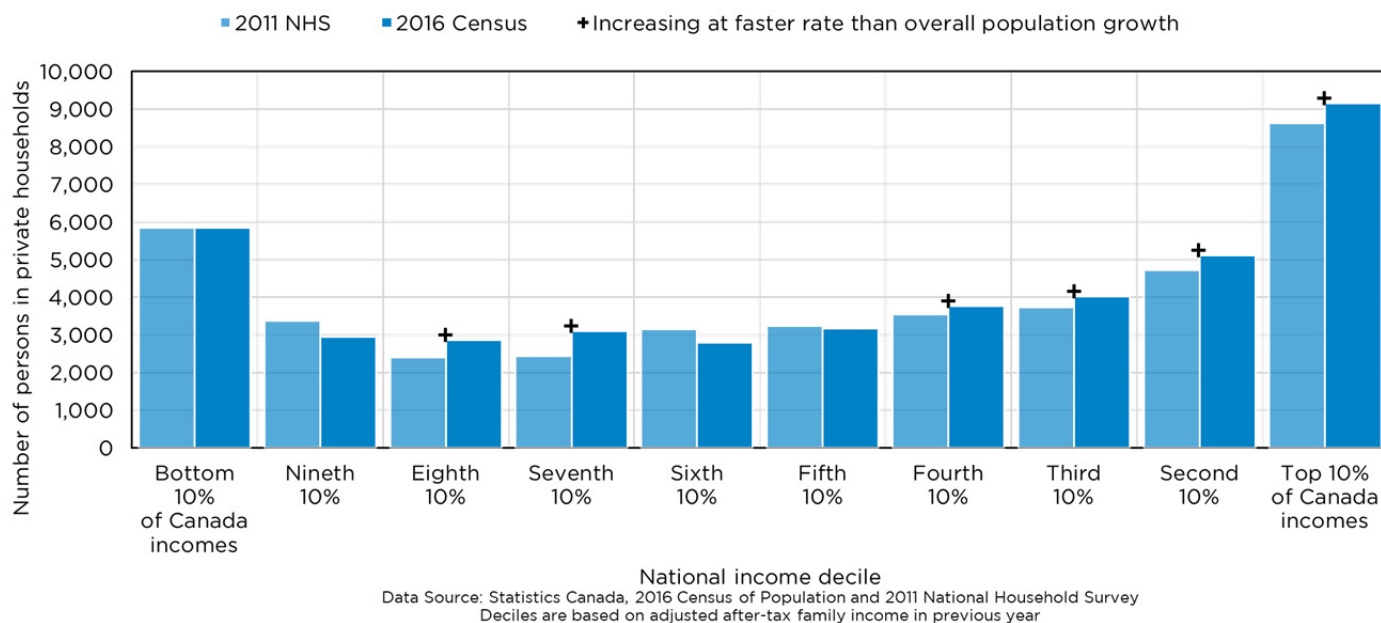
**Estimated Gini Index for Pre-Tax Household Income Distribution**



## Equity and Income Distribution

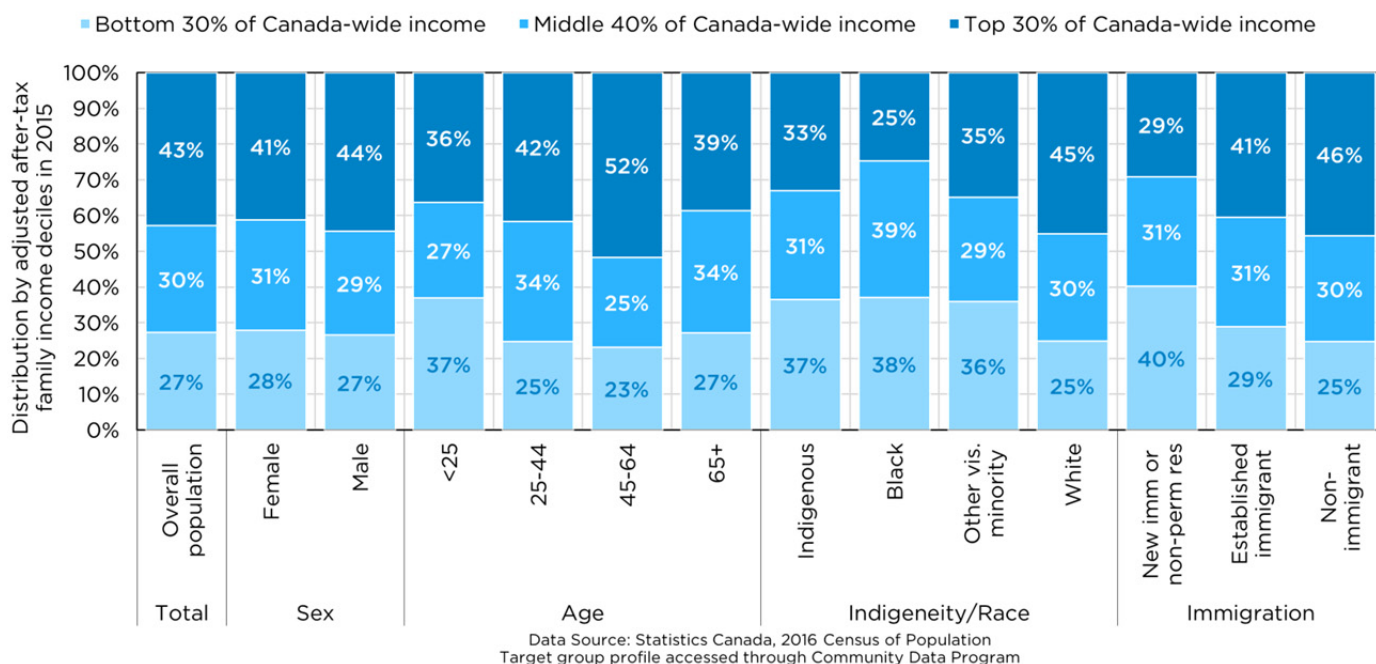
Comparing 2011 to 2016 population estimates shows that Kitsilano is gaining people in upper income tiers, though there is also growth in some relatively modest income groups.

### Kitsilano: Population Estimates by National Income Decile, 2011-2016



Income inequity and polarization again intersect with other forms of inequity experienced by different groups in the city. In Kitsilano, Black residents are more likely to have relatively lower incomes, as are newcomers and Indigenous residents.

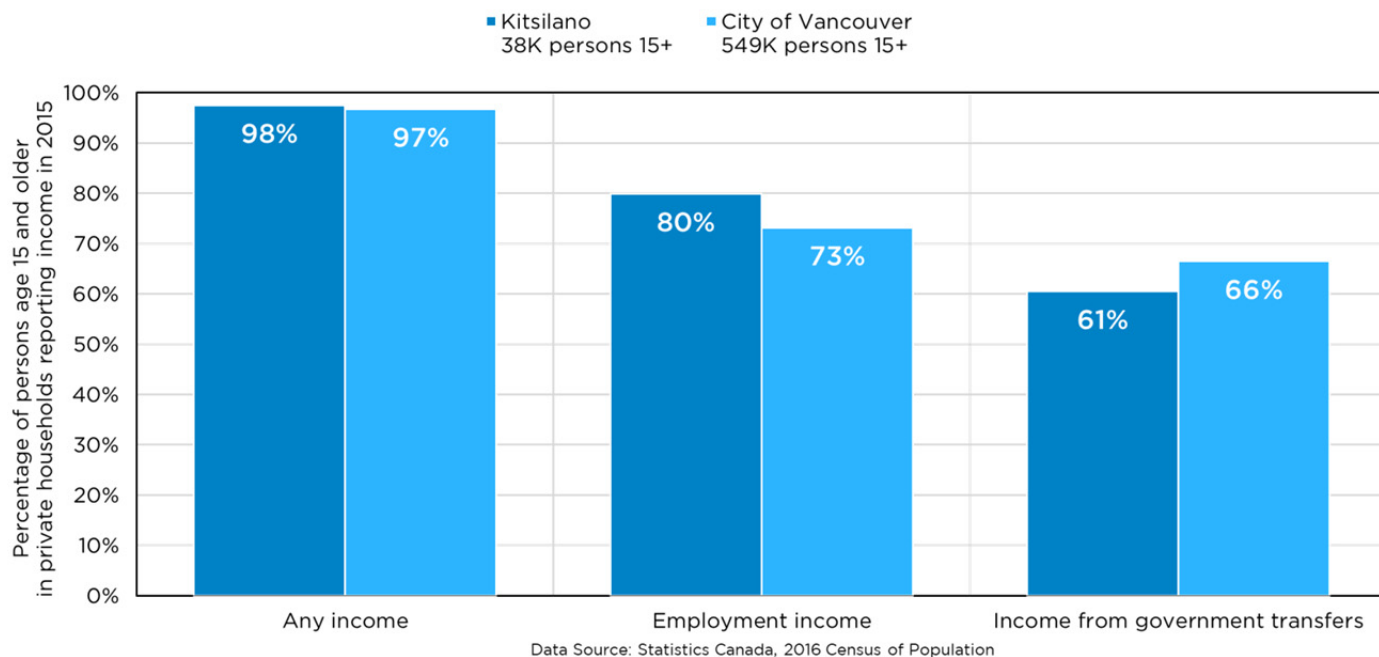
### Kitsilano: Income Distribution by Demographics, 2016



## Individual Income

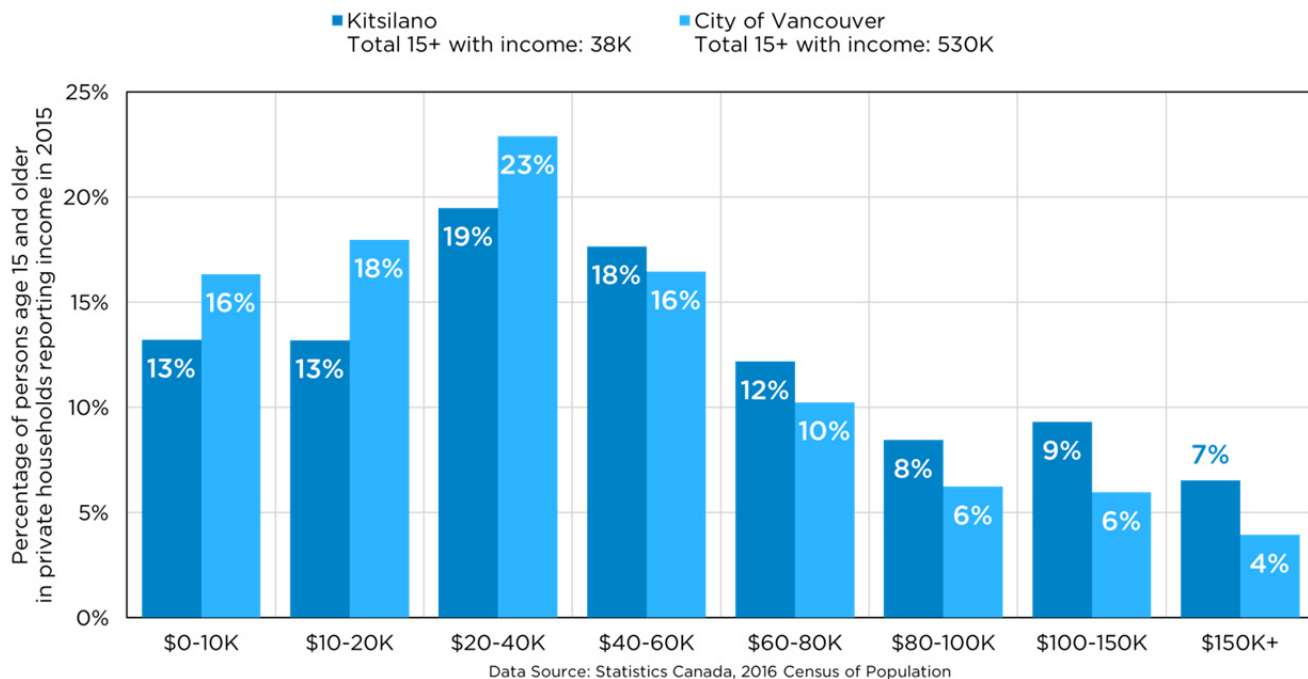
Among people 15 years of age and older, 98% of Kitsilano residents reported having income in the year prior to the 2016 census.<sup>15</sup> The neighbourhood had a higher percentage of persons reporting employment income and a lower percentage reporting income from government transfers than the city overall.

### Persons Reporting Different Sources of Income, 2016



Kitsilano's income distribution skews toward higher income brackets compared to the city as a whole.

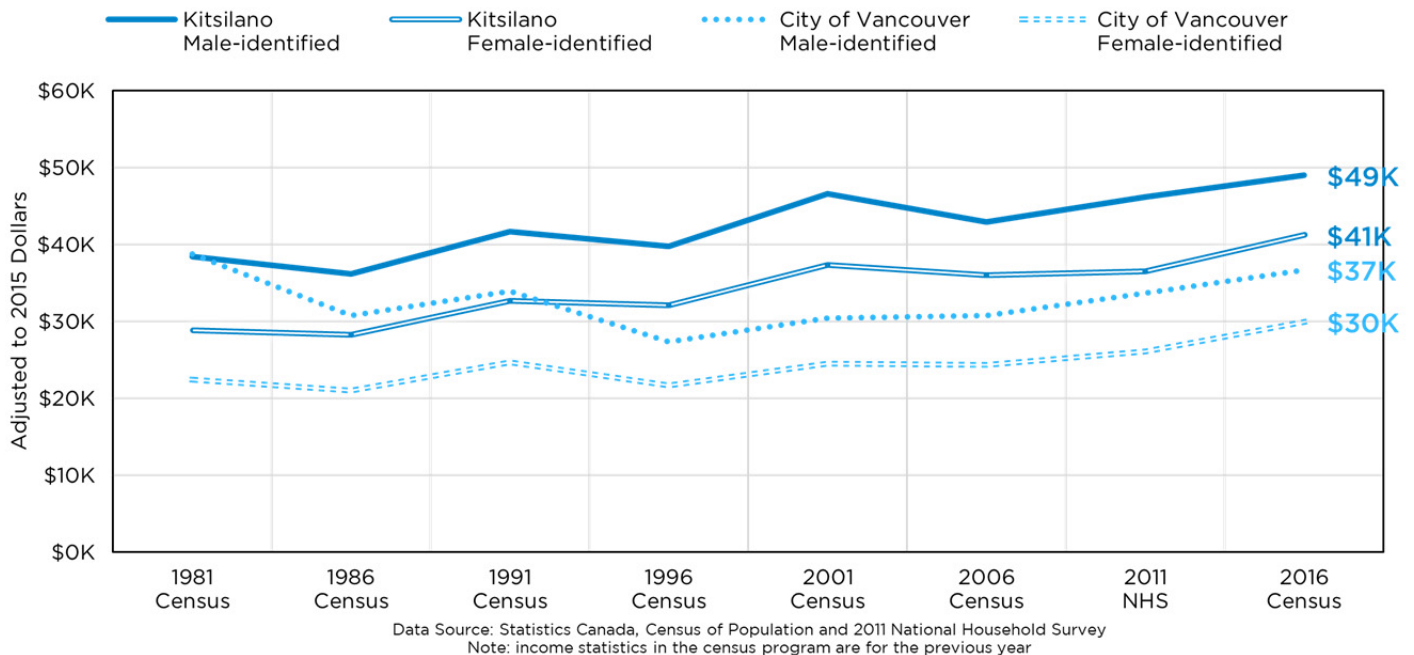
### Distribution of Total Personal Income, 2016



## Equity and Individual Income

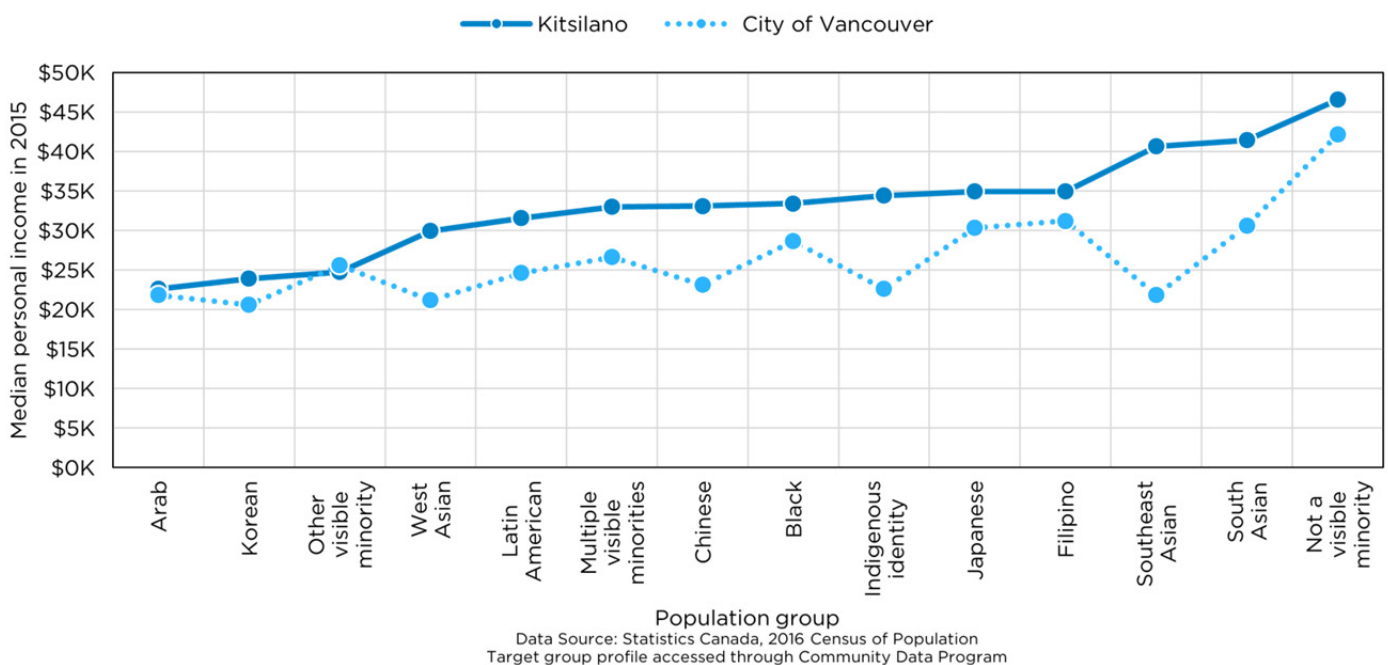
Median personal income in Kitsilano has consistently been higher than the city median since the 1990s. It has also increased in excess of inflation<sup>16</sup> in recent periods: from 2006 to 2016 median income in Kitsilano increased by 29%, while inflation was 15%.

### Median Personal Income, 1981-2016 (Inflation-Adjusted)



There are also important inequities in median income based on people's Indigenous and racial identities. Populations not in visible minority groups in Kitsilano have markedly higher median incomes than many racialized populations.

### Median Personal Income by Population Group, 2016

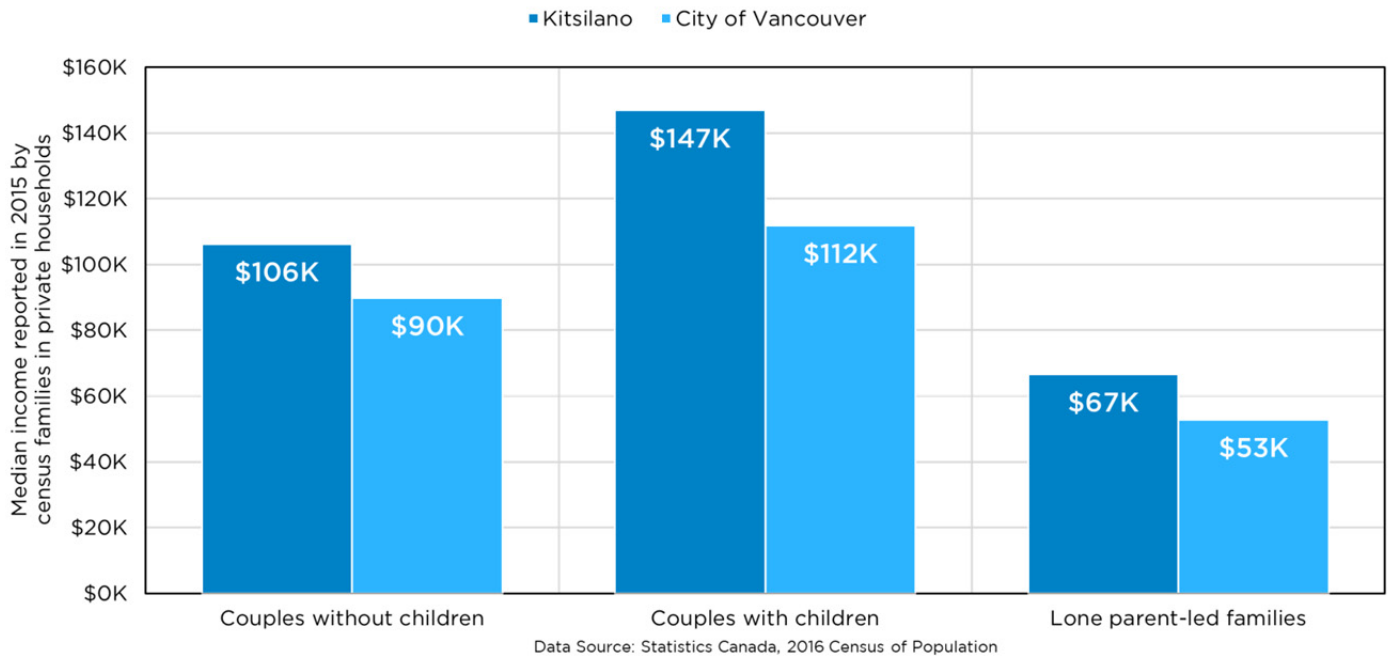




## Family Income

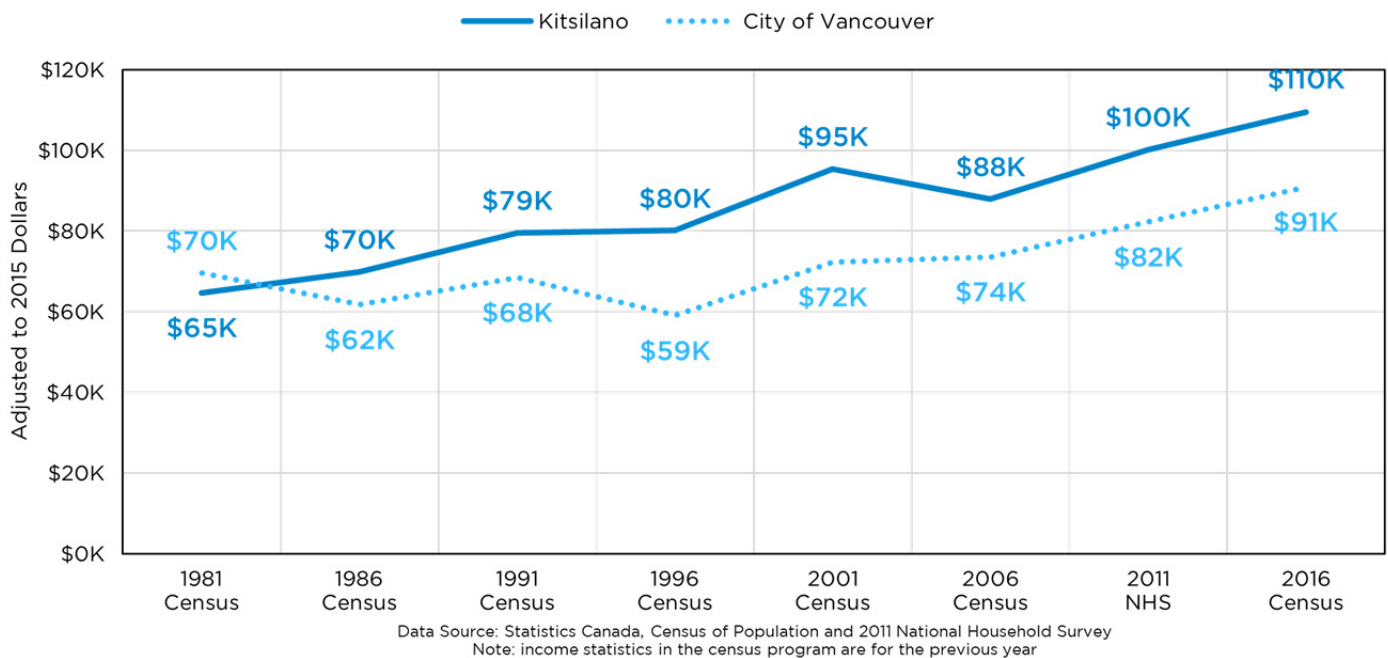
Median family income is higher in Kitsilano than in the City of Vancouver overall across all family types.

### Median Total Family Income by Family Type, 2016



Again, after adjusting for inflation, median income overall for families has increased substantially in recent periods. Median income across all types of families is now \$110 thousand in Kitsilano.

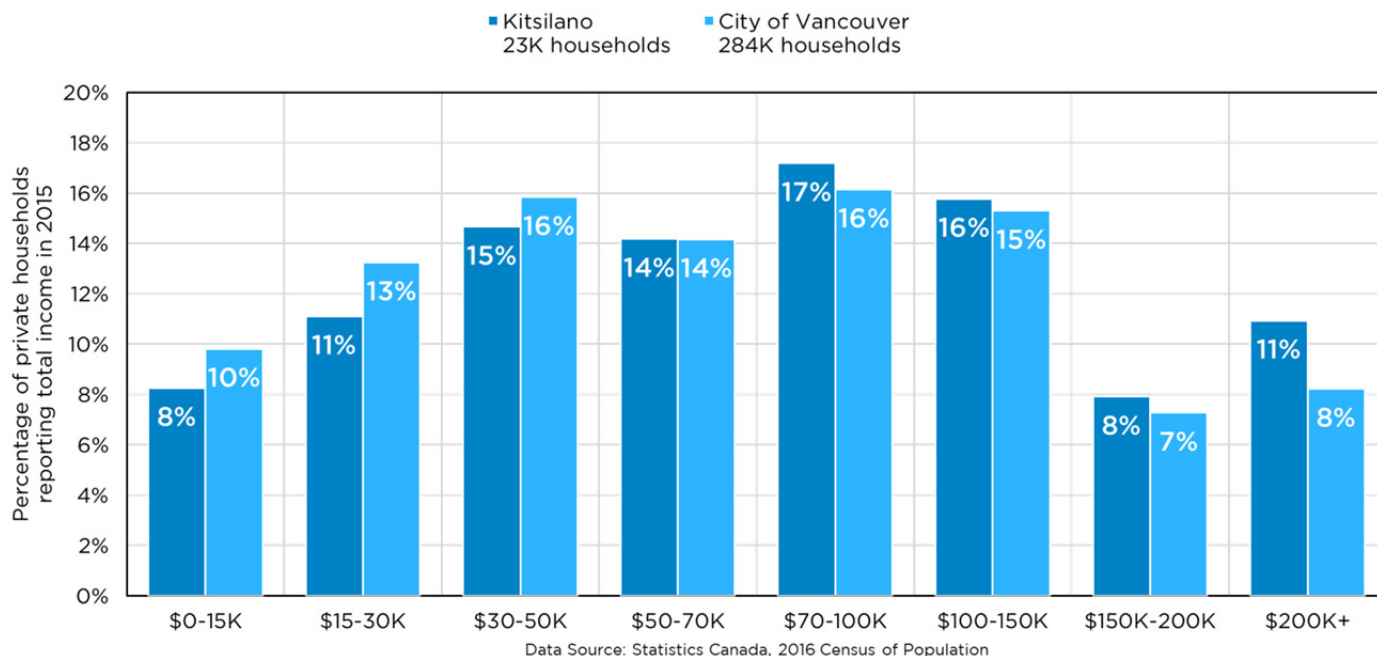
### Median Family Income, 1981-2016 (Inflation-Adjusted)



## Household Income

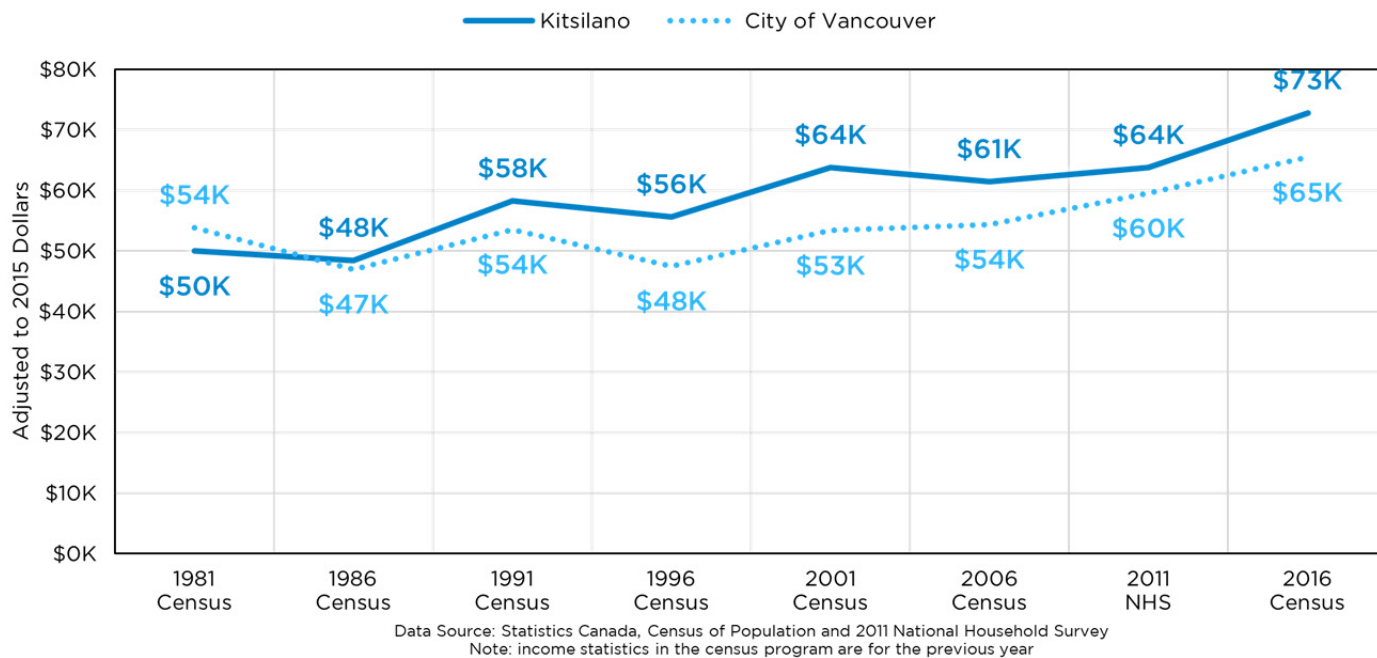
Compared to the city overall, households in Kitsilano are more likely to be in upper income categories and less likely to be in lower categories. About 35% of households have incomes in excess of \$100 thousand.

**Distribution of Total Household Income, 2016**



Again, median household income in Kitsilano has increased in excess of inflation in recent periods. As of 2016, median household income in Kitsilano is \$73 thousand.

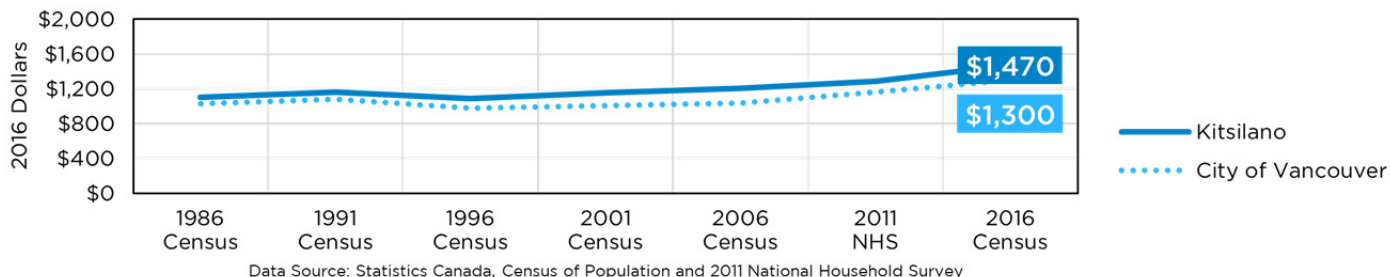
**Median Household Income, 1981-2016 (Inflation-Adjusted)**



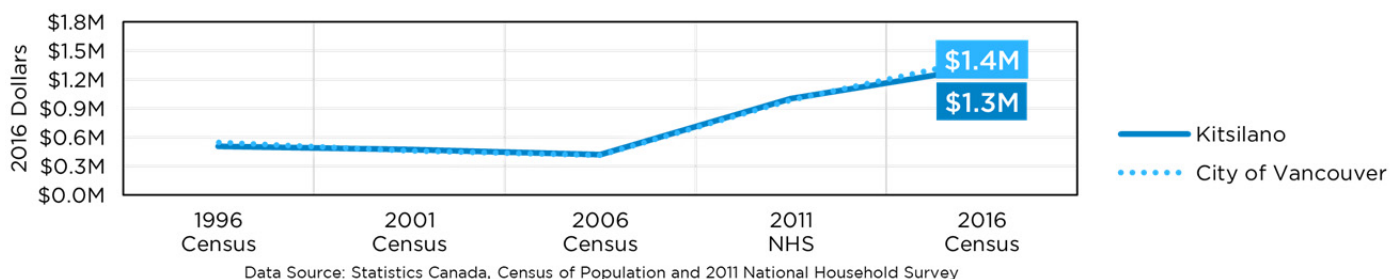
## Housing Costs

Average rent has increased by 23% above inflation over ten years in Kitsilano, a slightly slower rate of increase than the city overall; however, average rent had consistently been higher in Kitsilano. The average reported value of an owned dwelling in Kitsilano has increased by 213% over and above inflation since 2006, also a slightly lower rate of growth than for the city overall.<sup>17</sup>

### Average Reported Monthly Rent, 1986-2016 (Inflation-Adjusted)

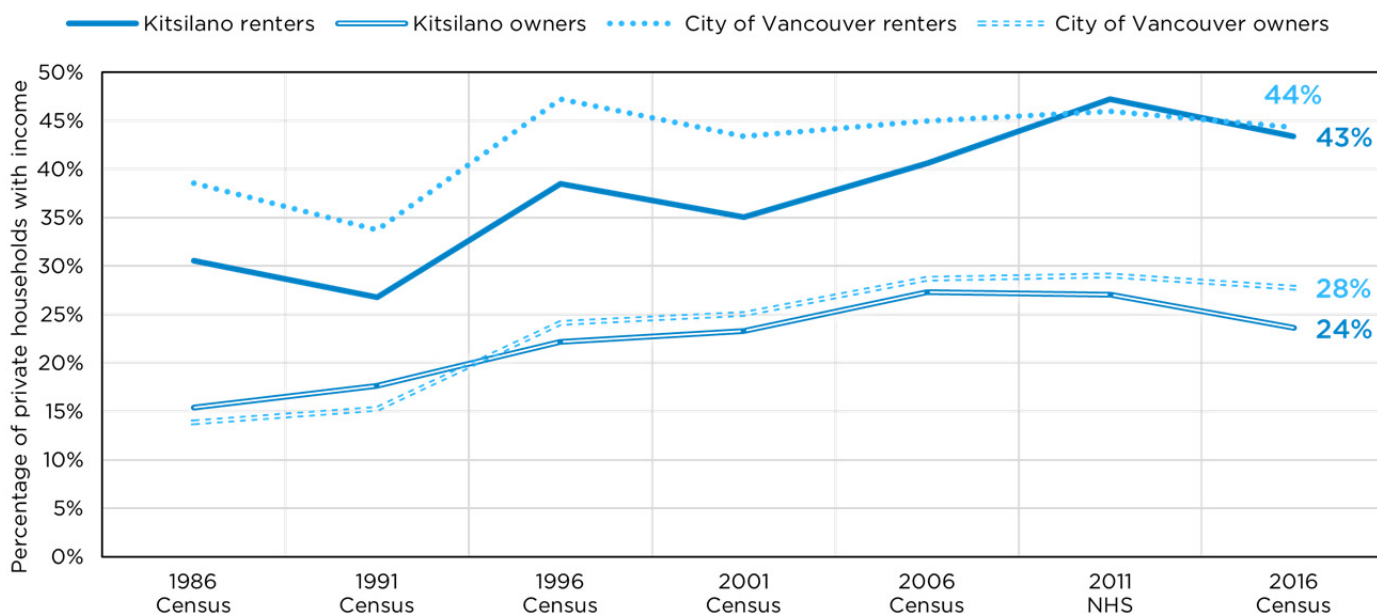


### Average Reported Dwelling Value, 1996-2016 (Inflation-Adjusted)



In Kitsilano, 43% of rented households and 24% of owned households are spending more than 30% of their total income on housing costs.<sup>18</sup> These are both somewhat lower rates than for the city overall.

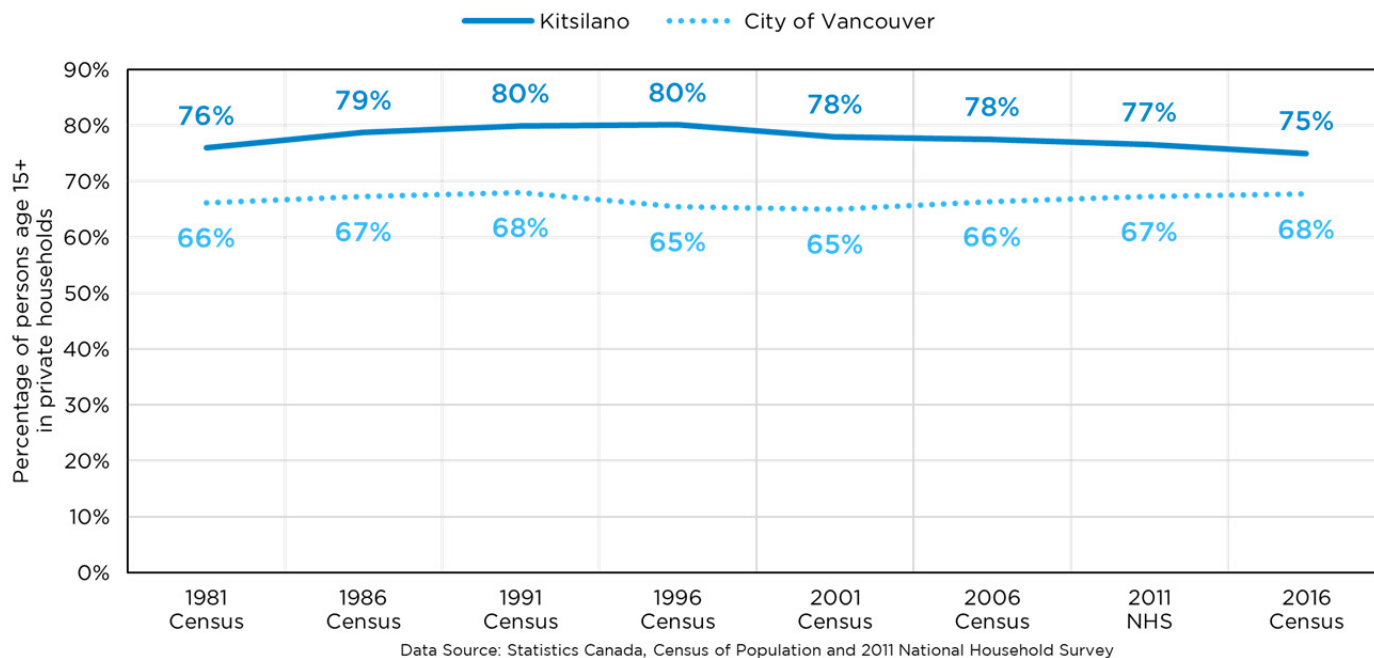
### Households Spending 30% or More of Income on Shelter, 1986-2016



## Labour Force

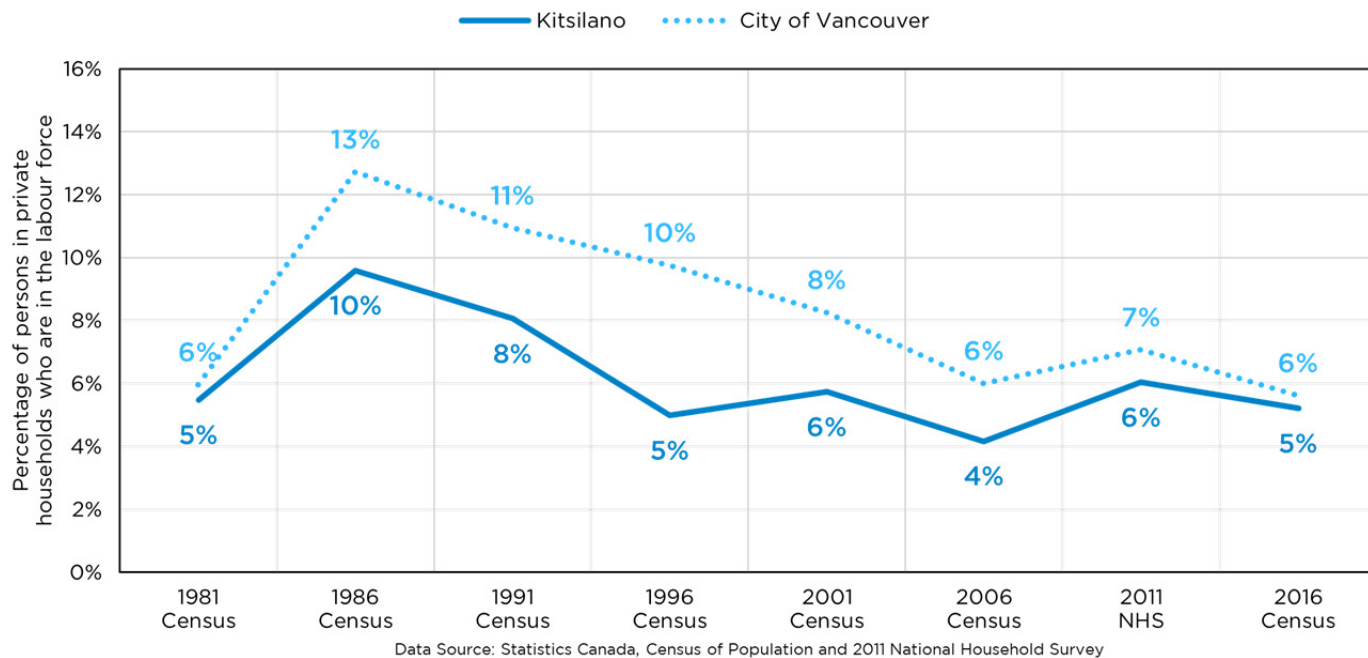
The labour force participation rate in Kitsilano has generally been higher than for the city overall. As of 2016, 75% of persons 15 and over are in the labour force.

### Labour Force Participation Rate, 1981-2016



The unemployment rate for Kitsilano has consistently been lower than for Vancouver overall.<sup>19</sup> In 2016, 5% of Kitsilano residents were in the labour force looking for work but unable to access it.

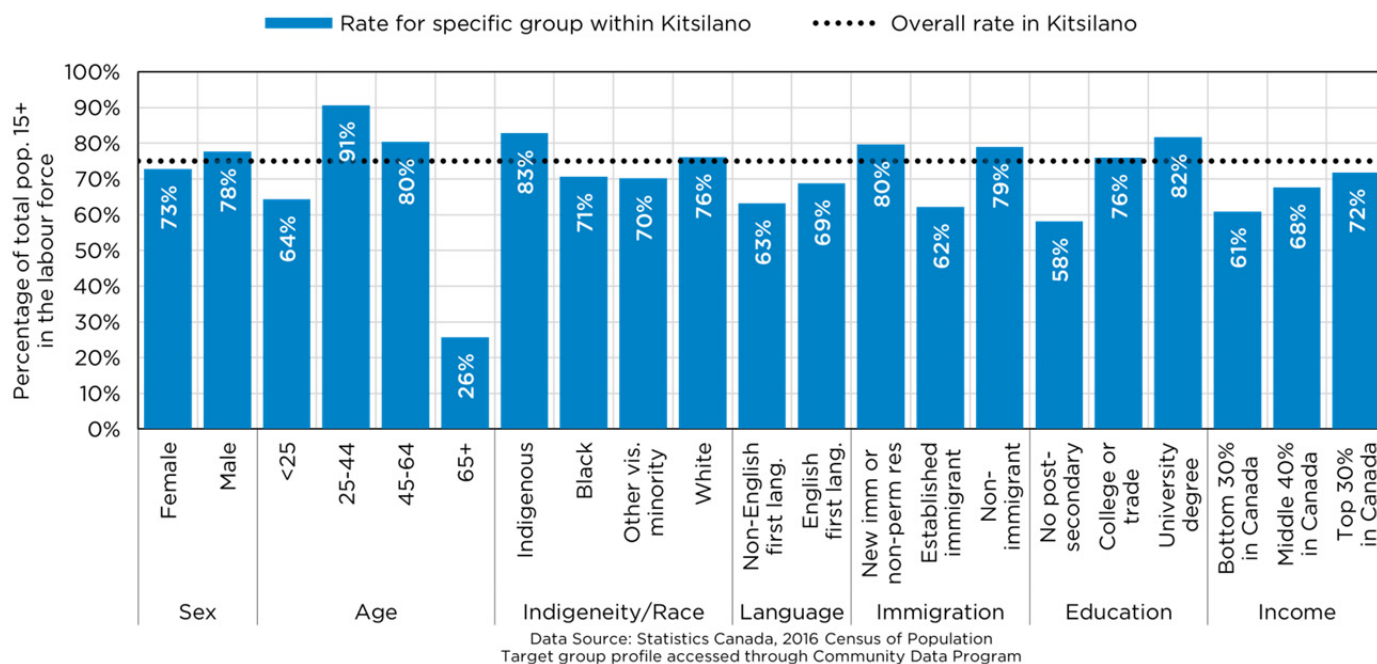
### Unemployment Rate, 1981-2016



## Equity and Labour Force Outcomes

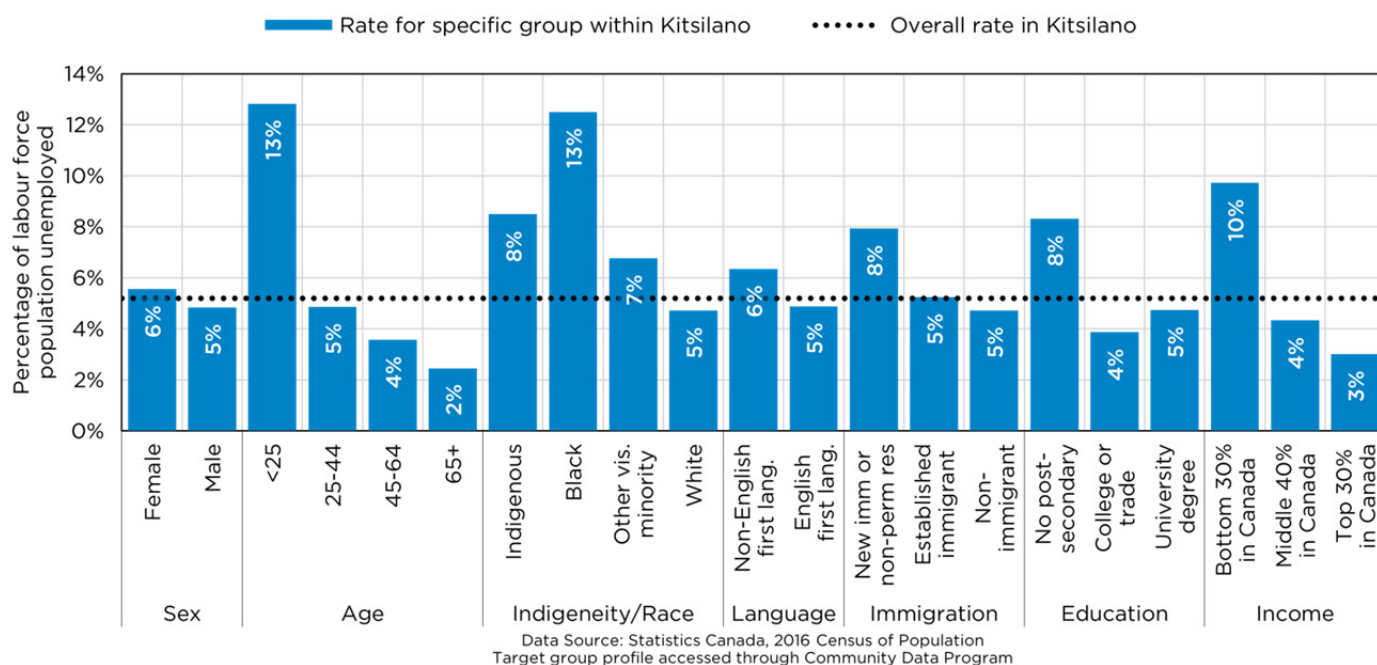
Differential rates of participation in the labour force may arise for a number of reasons. As shown below, female residents, people with less formal education and people in lower income groups are less likely to participate in the workforce.

**Kitsilano: Labour Force Participation by Demographic, 2016**



Unemployment in Kitsilano is disproportionately experienced by Black residents, younger workers and people with lower incomes.

**Kitsilano: Unemployment Rate by Demographic, 2016**

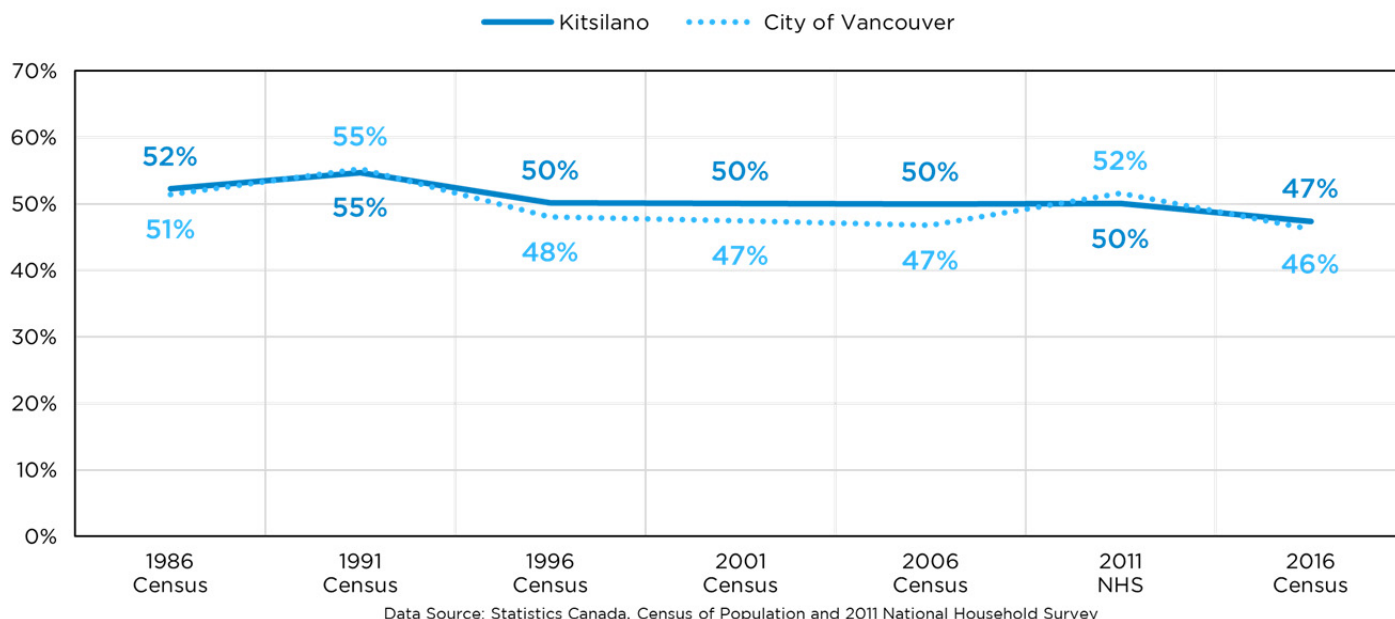




## Employment Security

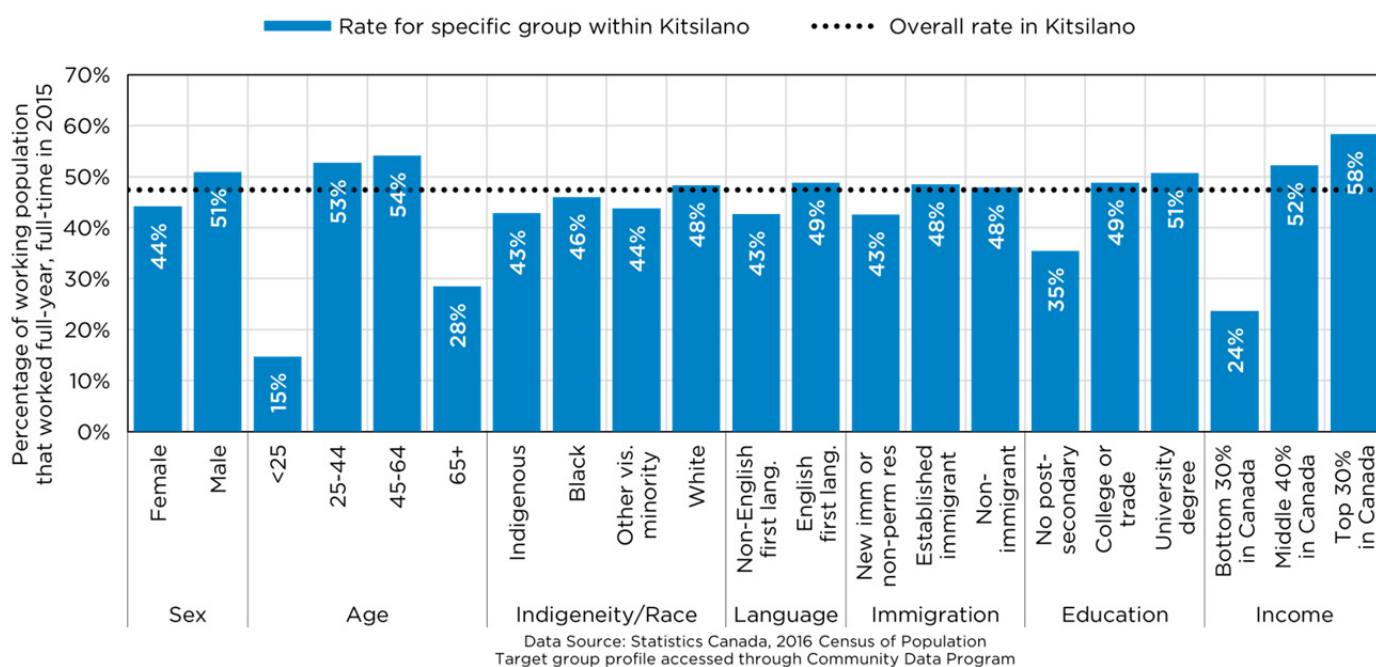
Excluding the 2011 NHS, which may be an artefact of the voluntary survey in place of a mandatory census, there appears to be a long-term shift toward more shorter-term and part-time employment across the city. The rate of full-year, full-time employment in Kitsilano closely tracks the city rate.

**Percentage of Working Population with Full-Year, Full-Time Employment, 1986-2016**



Access to full-time work is not equitably distributed across the population, with some populations more likely to experience precarious employment. In Kitsilano, the most visible divides relate to age, education and income, but there are also differences by other aspects of people's identities.

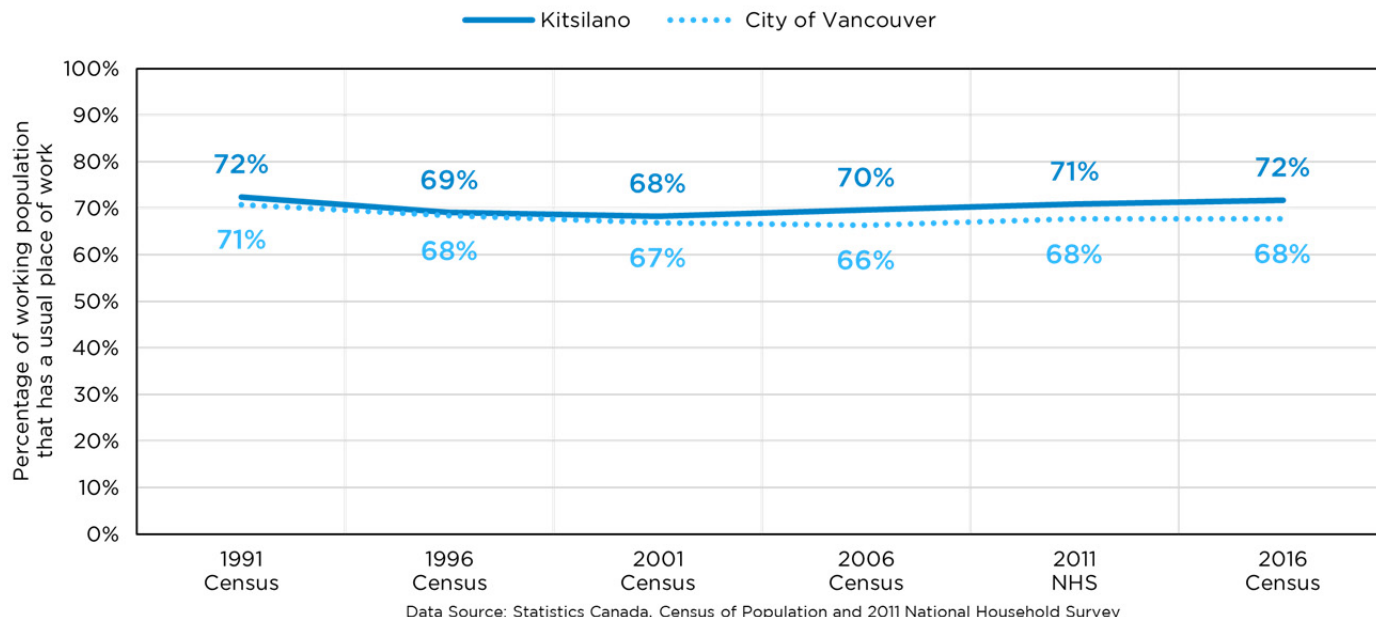
**Kitsilano: Rate of Full-Time Work by Demographic, 2016**



## Journey to Work

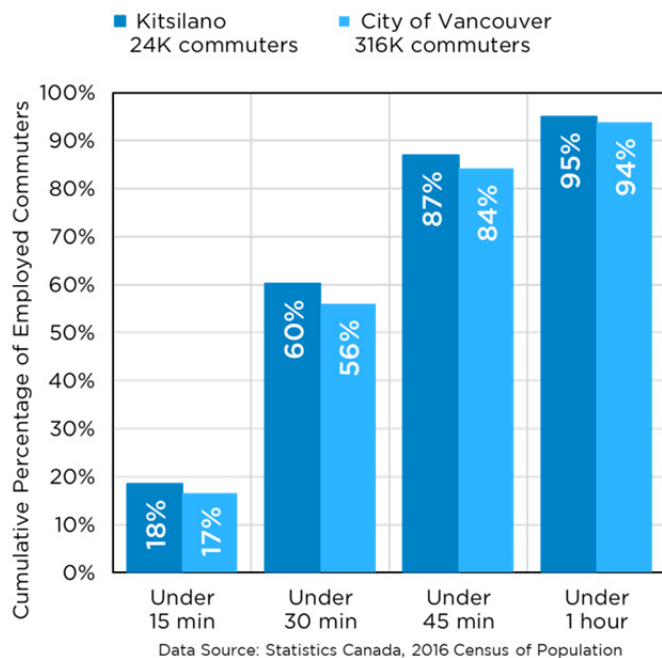
The nature of work is changing over time as industries, technologies and the regional distribution of jobs change. About 72% of Kitsilano residents work inside the City of Vancouver, a higher rate than for people living in the city overall.

**Percentage of Working Population with Usual Place of Work in City of Vancouver, 1991-2016**

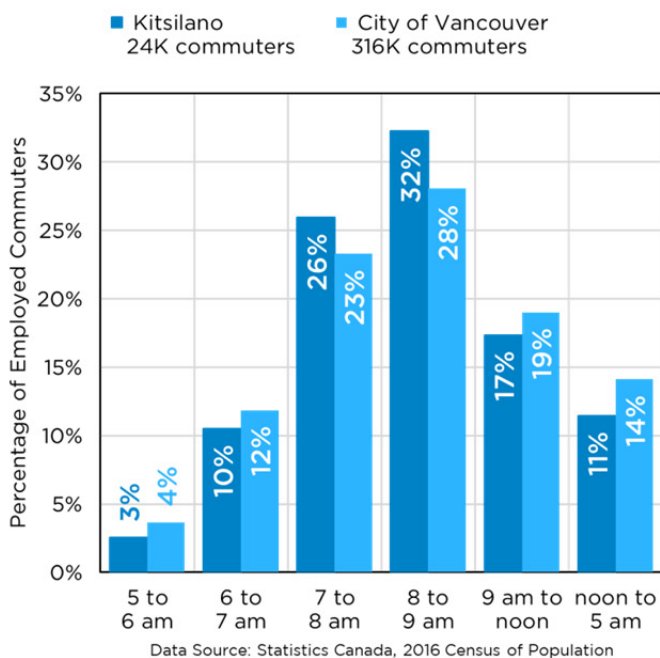


Kitsilano residents have somewhat shorter commutes than the city overall, with about 60% taking less than half an hour to get to work. Kitsilano has proportionally more residents leaving for work between 7 and 9 am and fewer working early morning or night shifts than the city overall.

**Length of Work Commute, 2016**



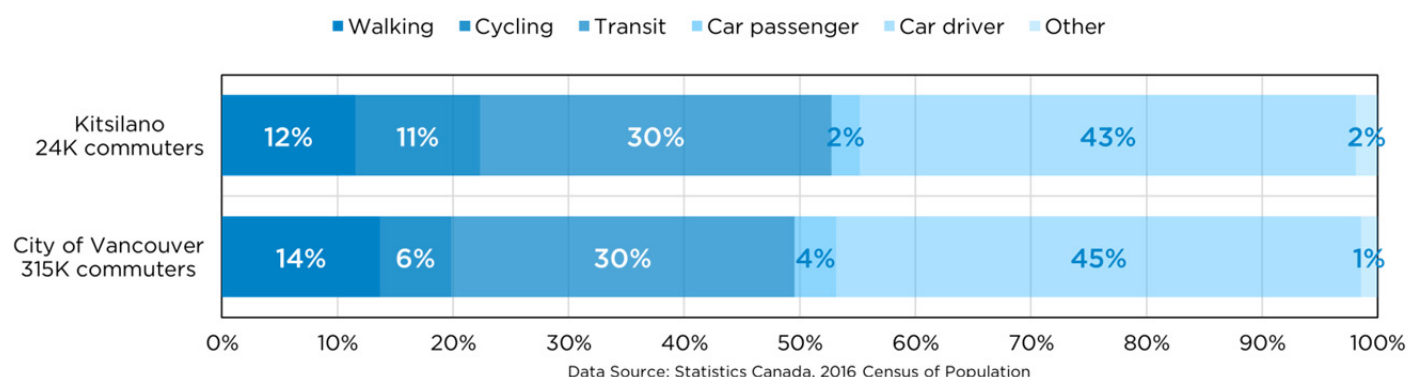
**Time Leaving for Work, 2016**



## Mode of Transportation to Work

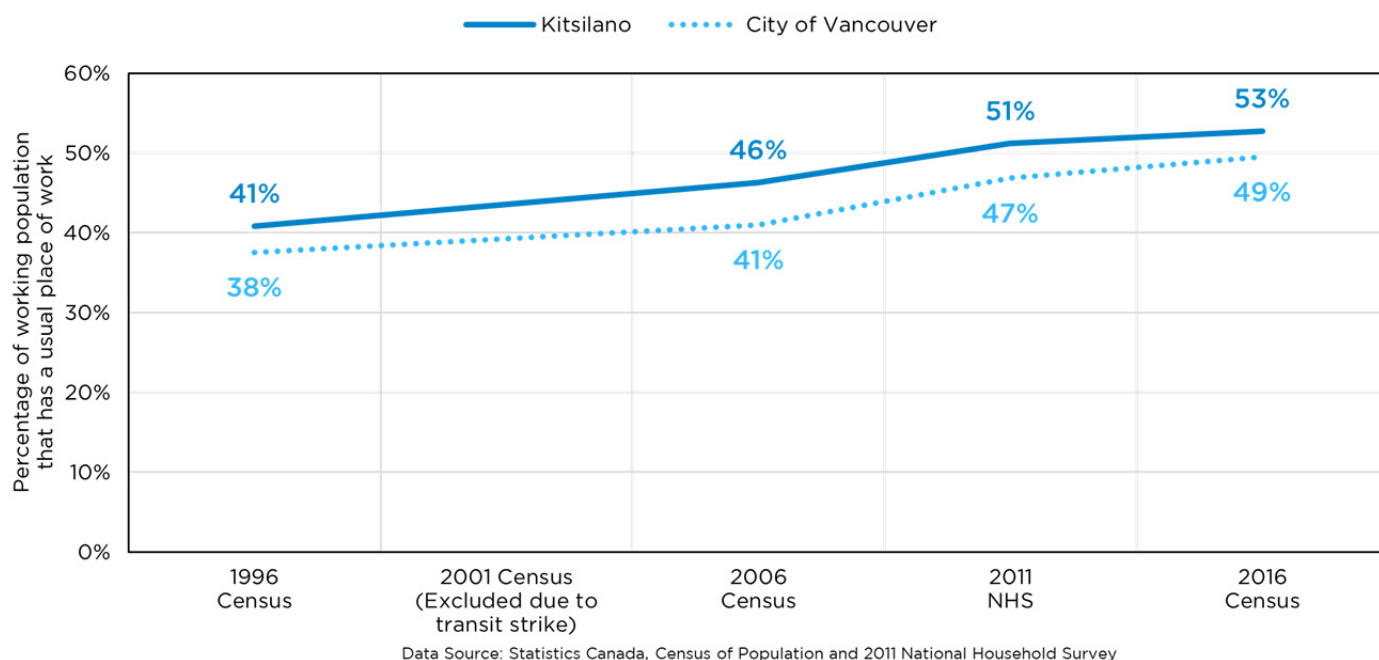
Movement is essential for accessing economic opportunity, social connections, important services and places for culture, expression and recreation, and the modes by which people travel through the city have important consequences for both environmental and social sustainability. Although the census only records usual mode of travel for work trips for people who commute to a regular workplace, this is a useful proxy for understanding broader mobility trends. Residents of Kitsilano are more likely to cycle or take transit to work than residents of the city overall.

### Employed Population by Main Mode of Travel to Work, 2016



The proportion of commuters using sustainable transportation modes has increased over time in both Kitsilano and the city overall. As of 2016, 53% of people who live in Kitsilano and report having a usual place of work use walking, cycling or public transit to get there.

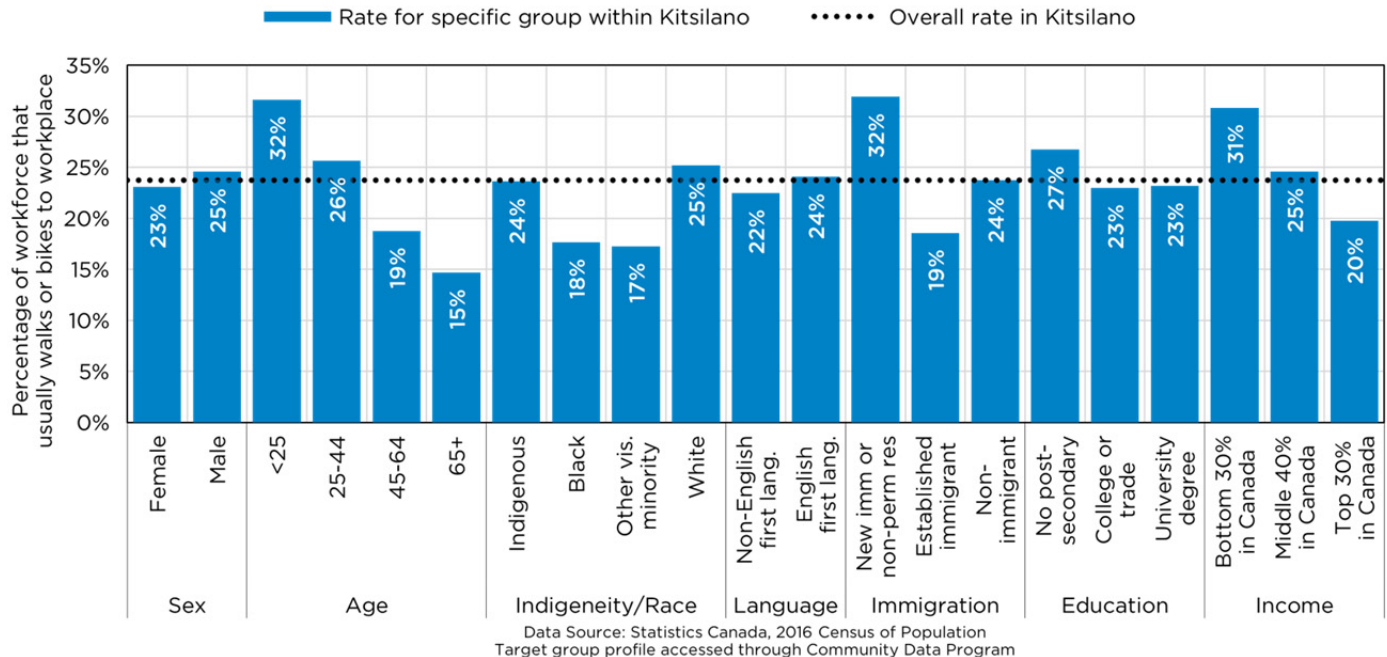
### Commuters Walking, Cycling or Transit to Work, 1996-2016



## Equity and Transportation

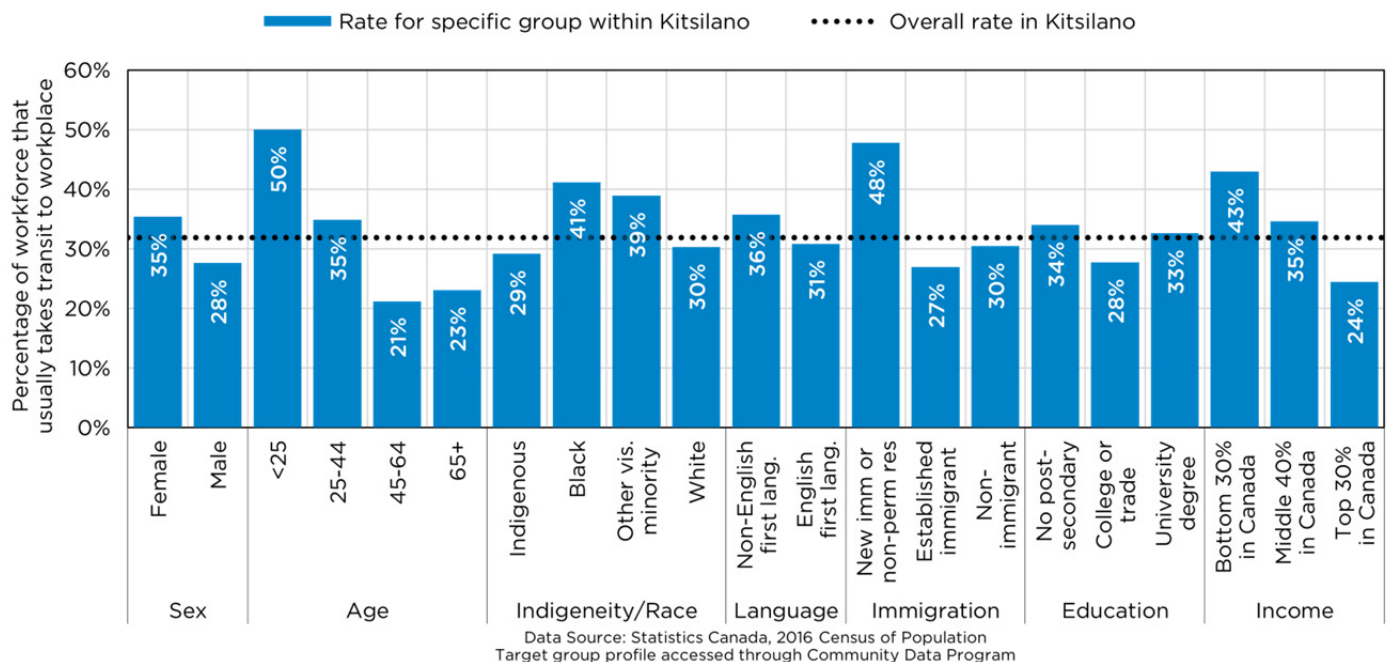
Transportation choices are not evenly distributed across the population; they are dependent on physical, economic and social geographies and inequities. The chart below shows the rate of commuting by active transportation (walking and cycling). Lower rates among people in some groups may indicate disparities in length of commute, workplace facilities, safe infrastructure and other factors.

**Kitsilano: Active Commuters by Demographic, 2016**



Meanwhile, public transit is disproportionately used as the main mode of travel by people in a number of equity-seeking groups, including female, Indigenous, racialized, new immigrant and lower-income workers.

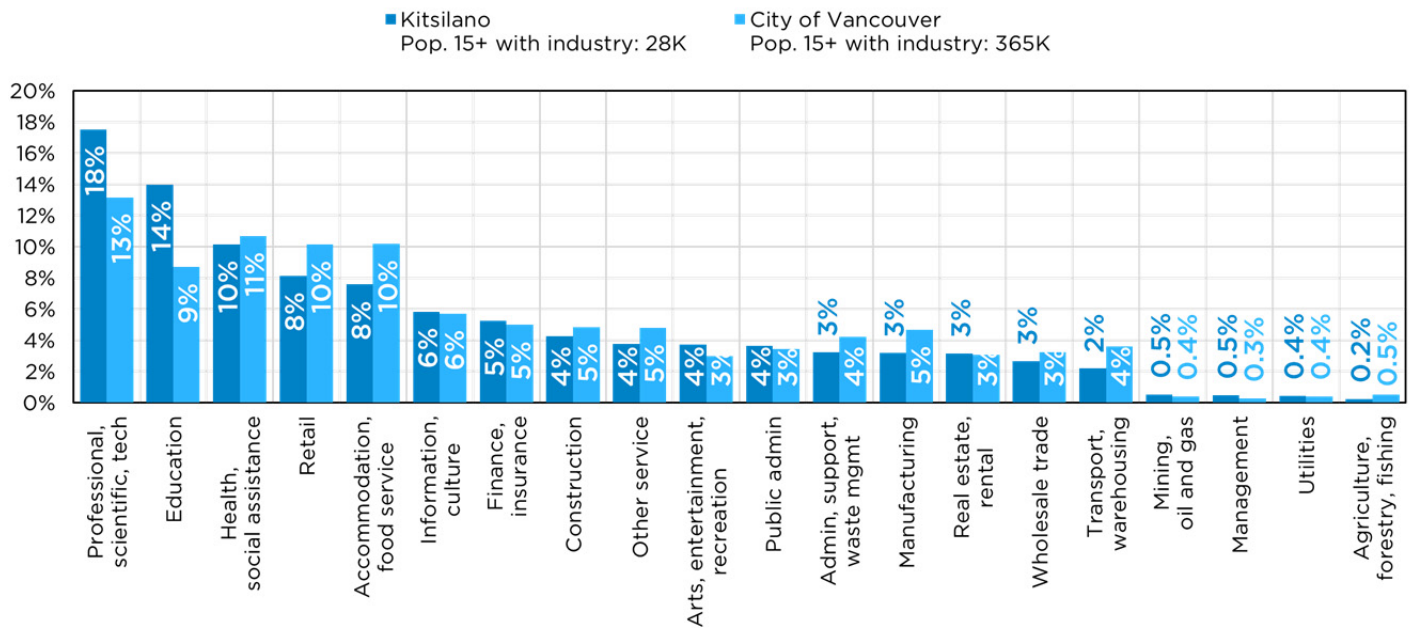
**Kitsilano: Transit Commuters by Demographic, 2016**



## Industries and Occupations

As of 2016, the top three industries<sup>20</sup> employing Kitsilano residents are: professional, scientific and technical services; education; and health care and social assistance. Compared to the city overall, proportionally fewer area residents were employed in retail, accommodation and food industries.

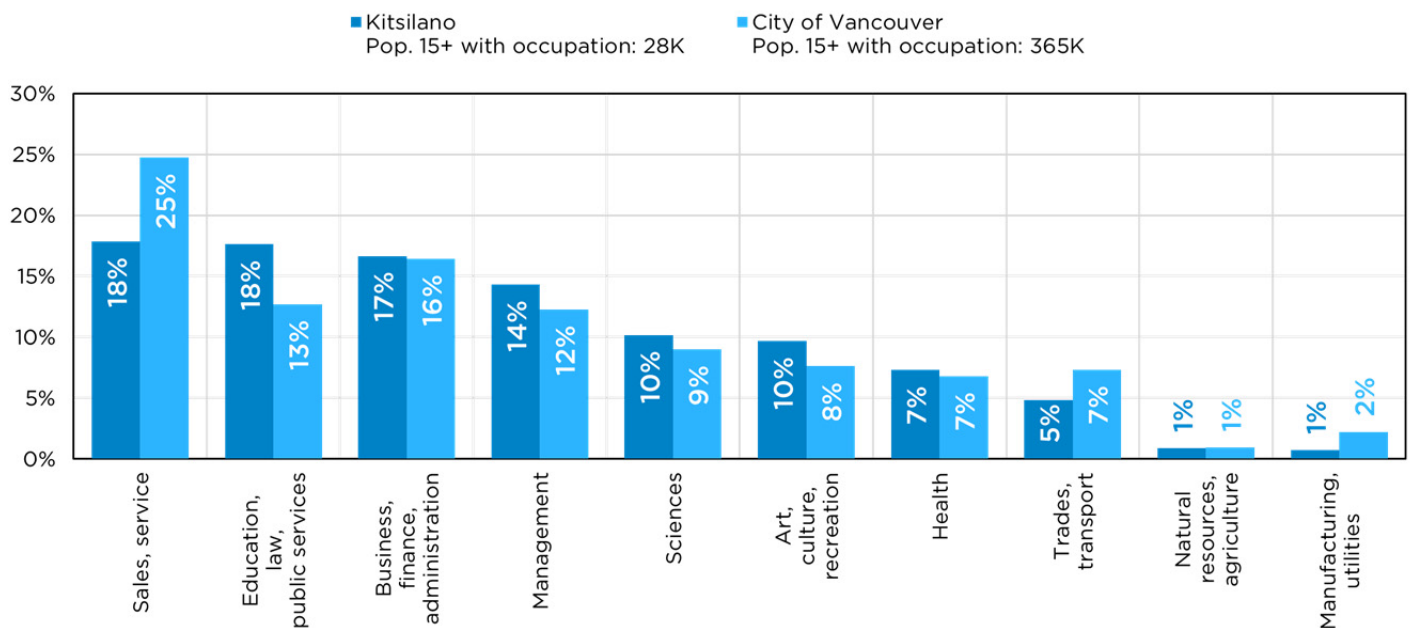
### Industry Categories of Labour Force Living in Area, 2016



Data Source: Statistics Canada, 2016 Census of Population

18% of Kitsilano residents work in sales and service occupations,<sup>21</sup> a smaller rate than the city overall. Kitsilano residents are more likely to work in education, law and public service occupations than residents of the city overall.

### Occupation Categories of Labour Force Living in Area, 2016



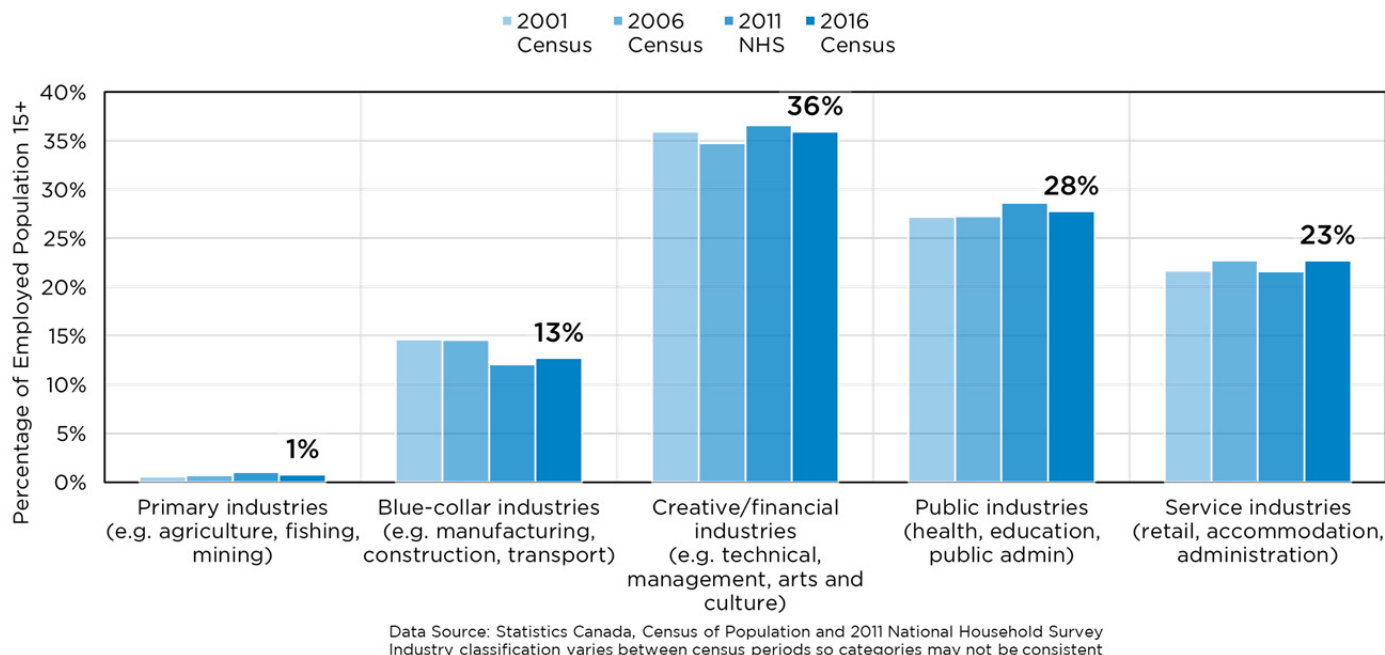
Data Source: Statistics Canada, 2016 Census of Population



## Industry Trends

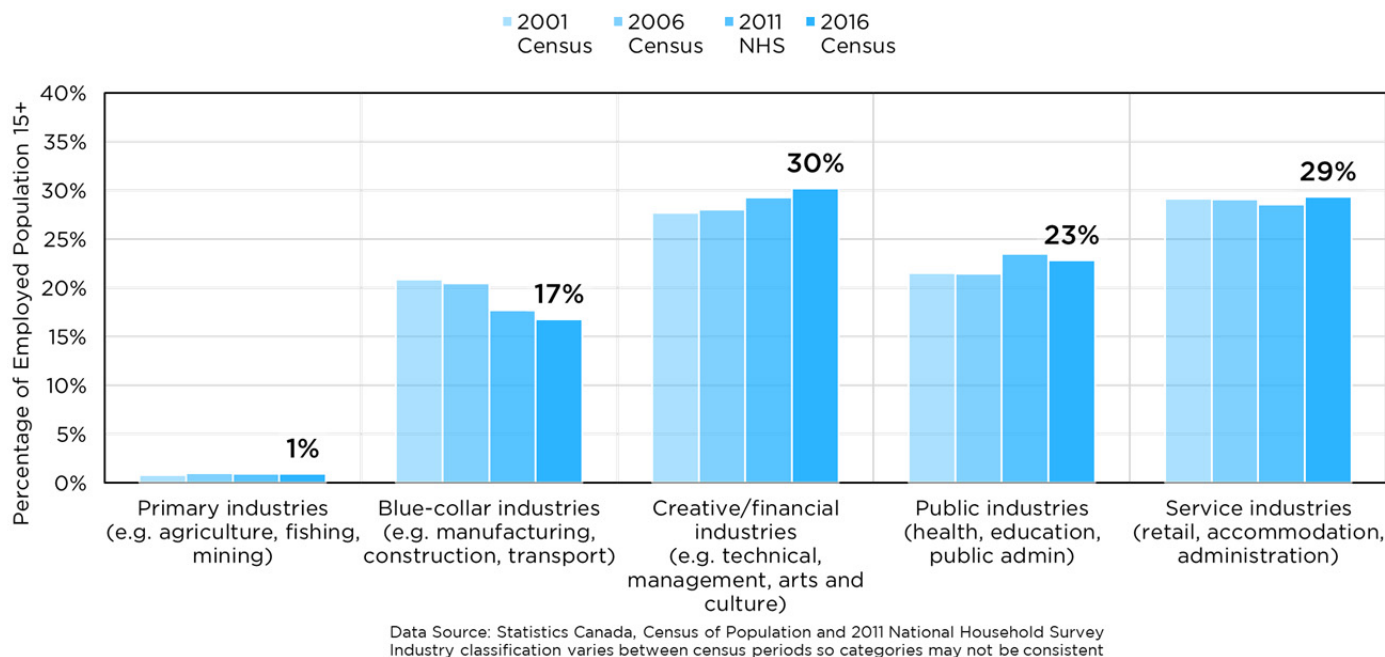
Changing classification systems make a precise analysis of labour force trends difficult; nonetheless, the graph below groups industry categories together into broad sectors to show trends over time. In Kitsilano the broad distribution of industry categories has been consistent since 2001.

**Kitsilano: Labour Force by Broad Industries 2001-2016**



Across the city, there is a more visible shift away from traditional industries toward more technical, creative or financial sectors. Compared to the city's labour force, Kitsilano already has a larger share of population in these sectors, with a smaller share in service industries or blue-collar, trades jobs. Kitsilano has a larger share of labour force employed in public services.

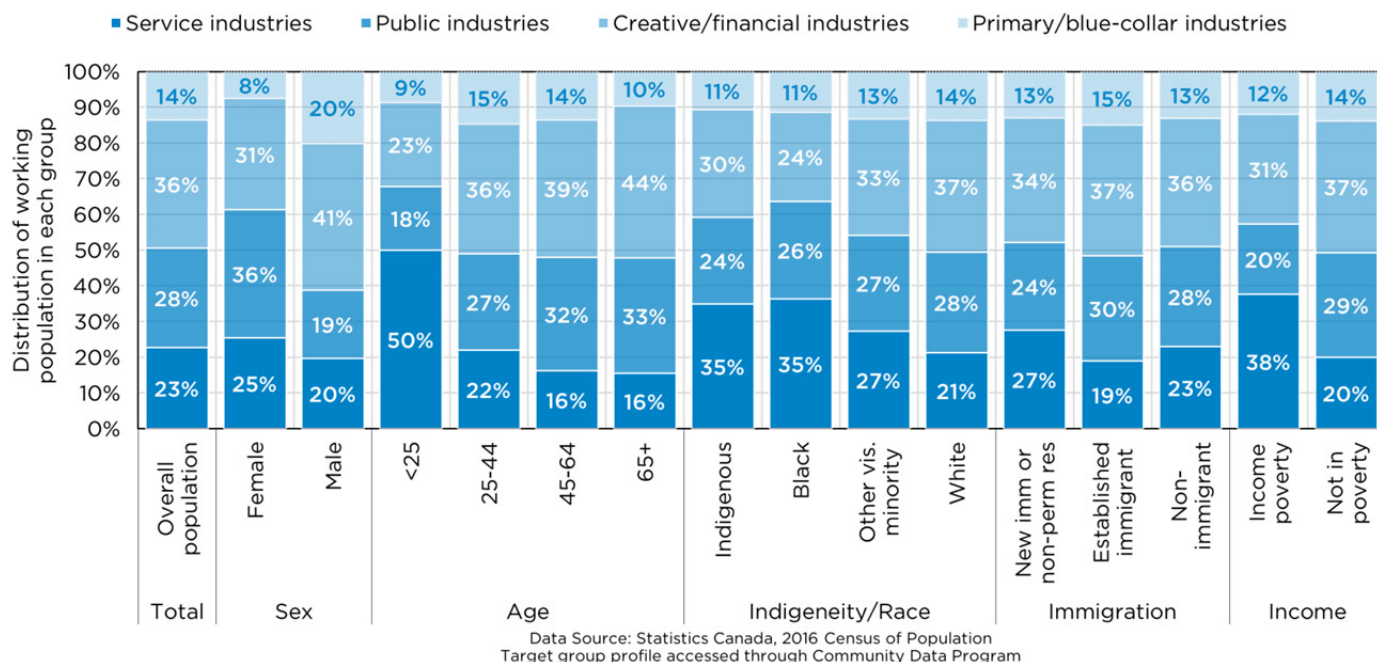
**City of Vancouver: Labour Force by Broad Industries 2001-2016**



## Equity and Industries

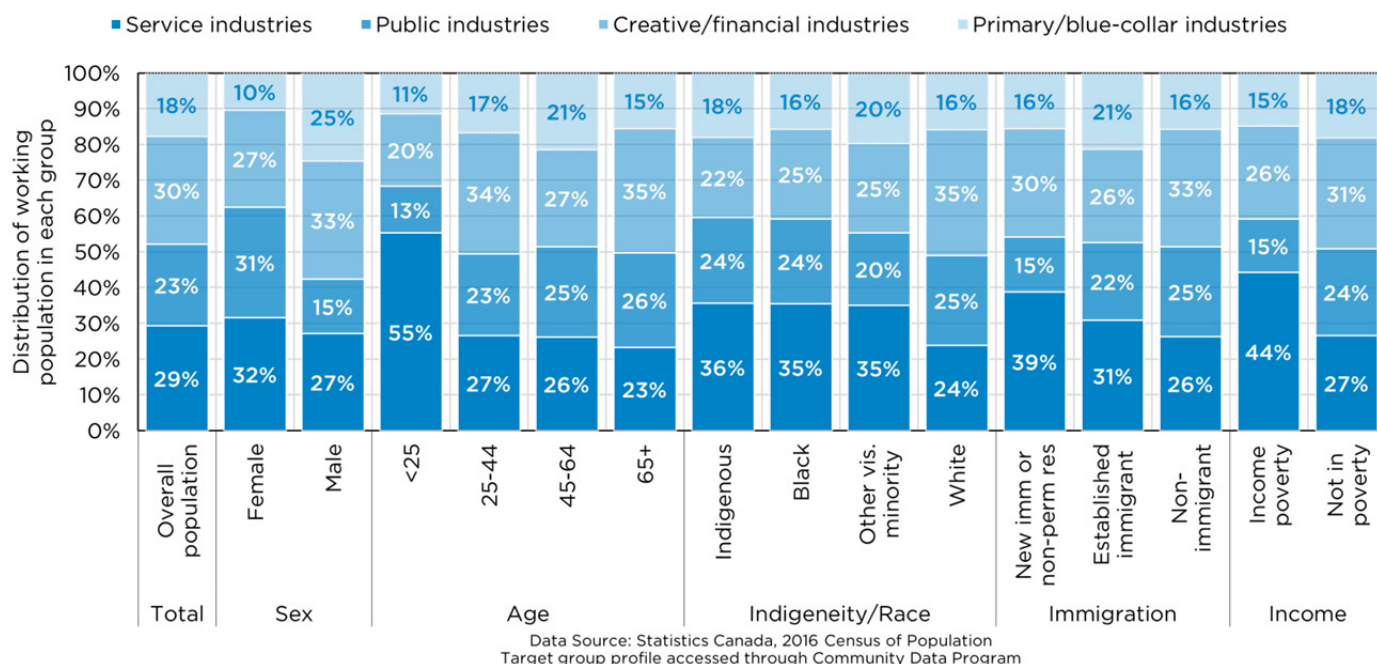
Different economic sectors in the city are not equitably accessible to all workers. The chart below shows a breakdown of broad industry categories across demographic groups in Kitsilano. Young people, Indigenous residents, Black residents and people in poverty are much more likely to work in service industries.

**Kitsilano: Industry of Work by Demographic Group, 2016**



Across the city as a whole, a majority of young workers are in service industries, as are a majority of people in poverty who are working, but there is also evidence of sex-, race- and immigration-based inequities in access to different sectors.

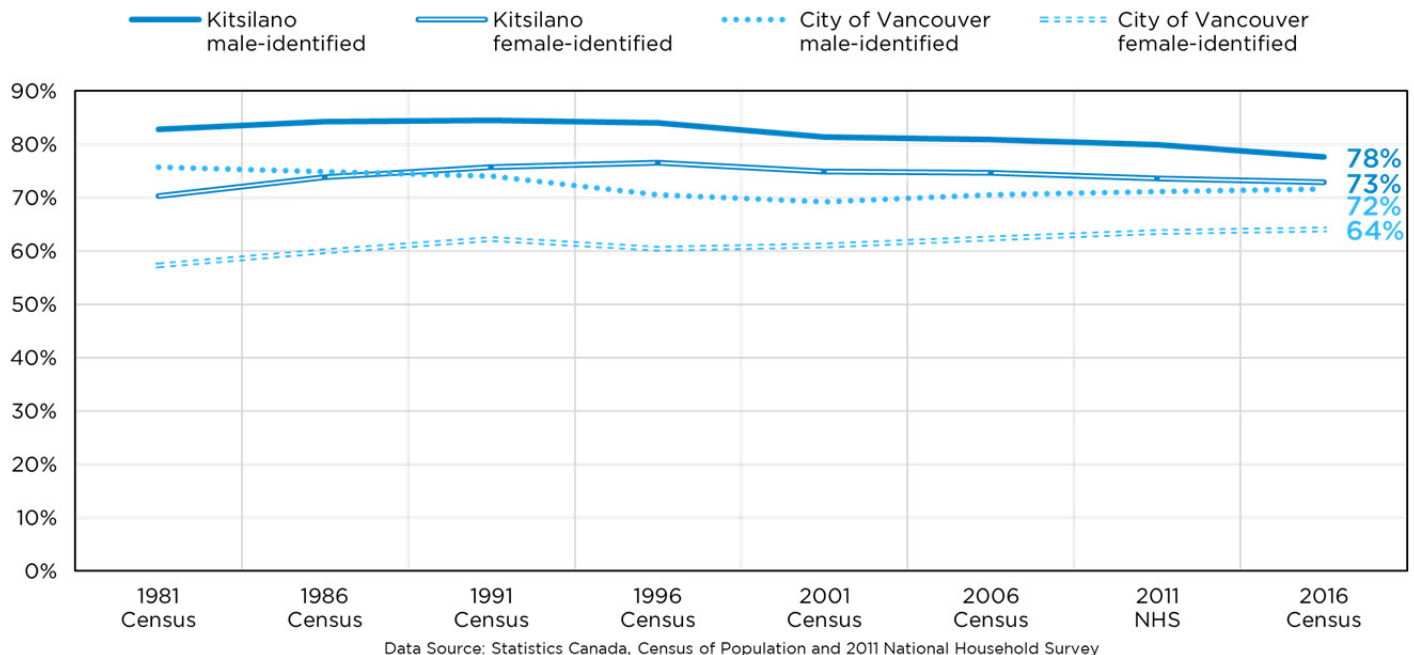
**City of Vancouver: Industry of Work by Demographic Group, 2016**



## Gender and the Workforce

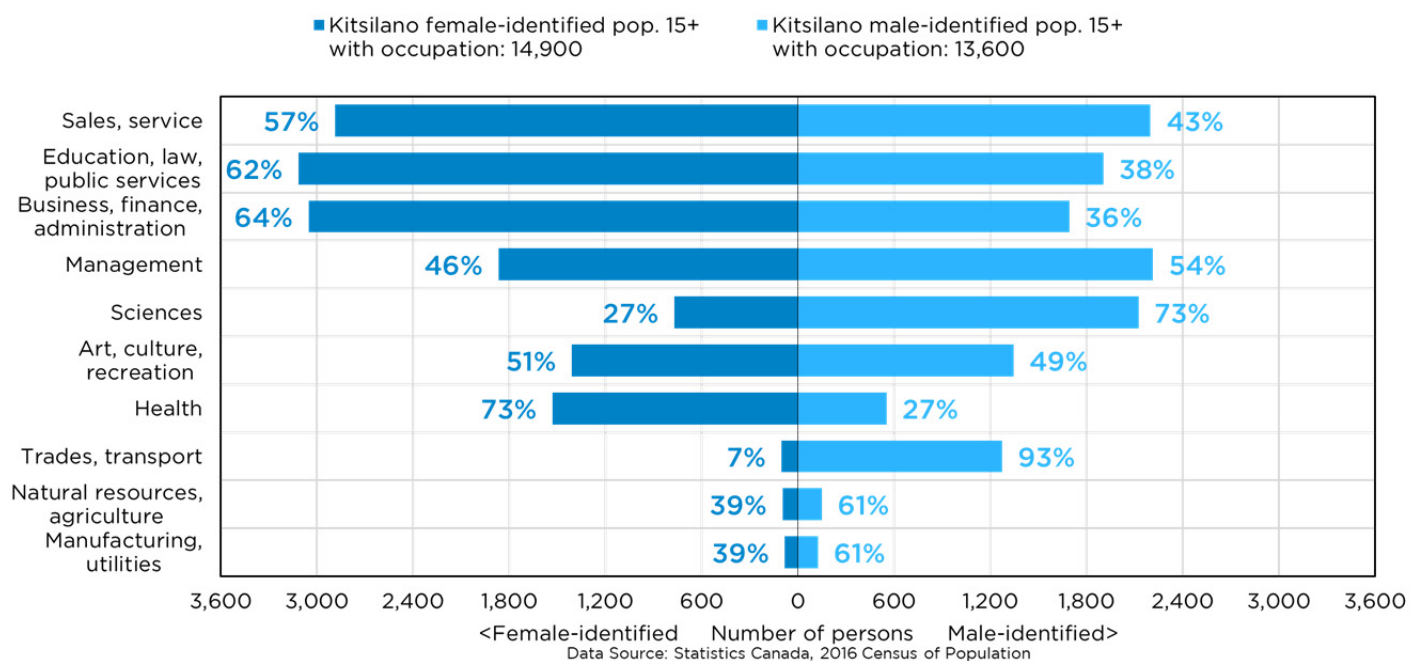
There are a number of systemic and structural barriers to women's participation in the workforce, and a persistent gap in rates between male- and female-identified persons. In Kitsilano, there is a five-percentage-point gap between labour force participation rates for men and women.

### Labour Force Participation Rate by Gender, 1981-2016



A breakdown of occupations in Kitsilano shows that men are over-represented in science and trades and transport occupations. Meanwhile, women are over-represented in categories such as sales and service; education, law and public services; business, finance and administration; and health care.

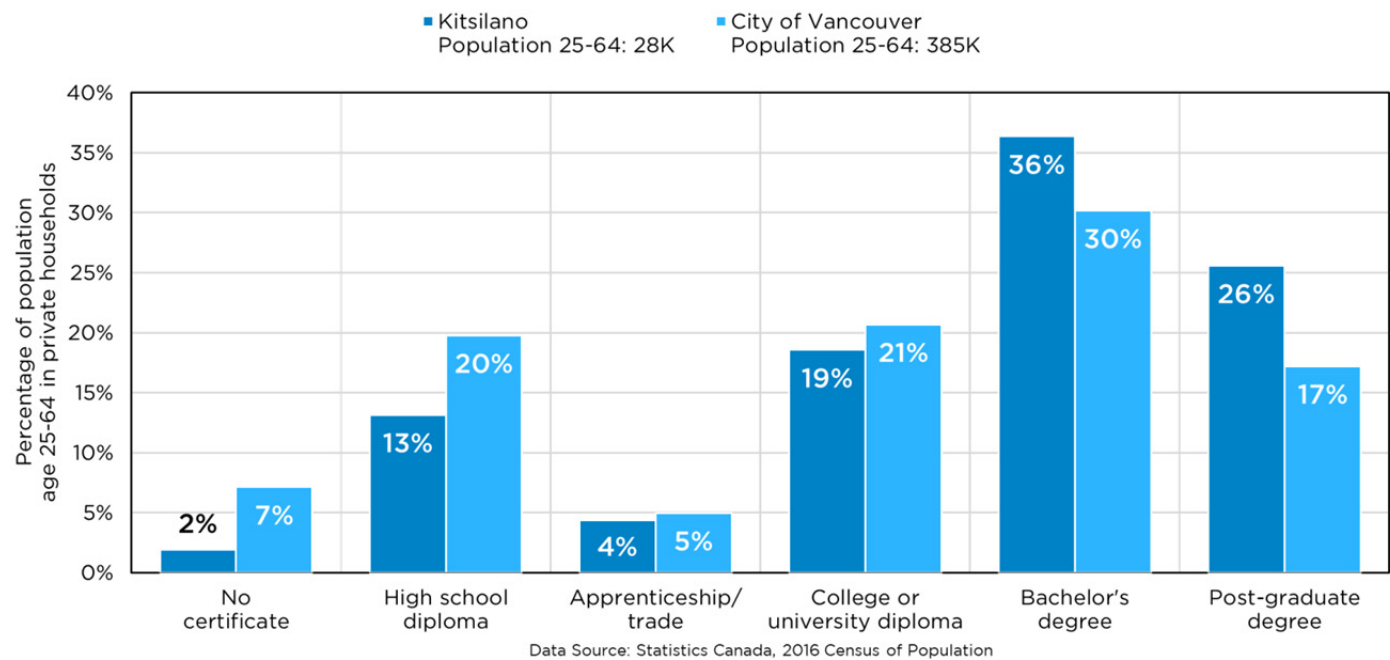
### Kitsilano: Labour Force by Occupation and Gender, 2016



# Formal Education

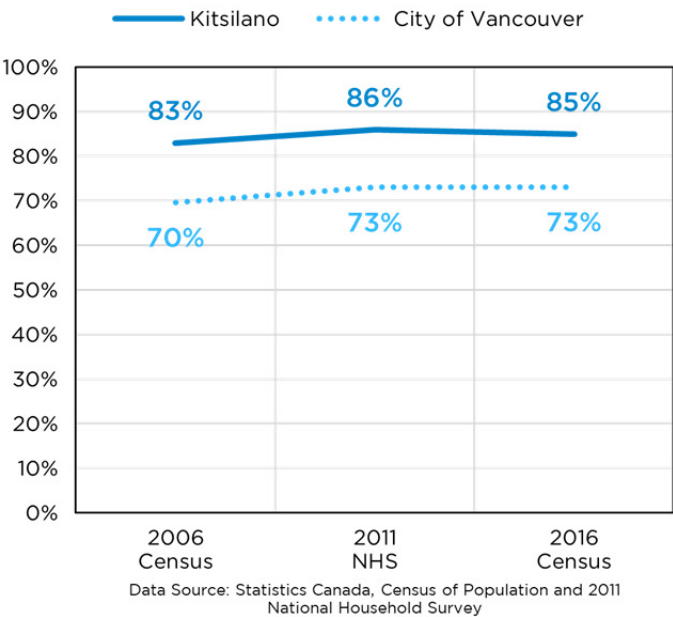
Compared to the city overall, Kitsilano residents are more likely to have higher levels of education, specifically university degrees.

Population Age 25-64 by Highest Level of Education, 2016

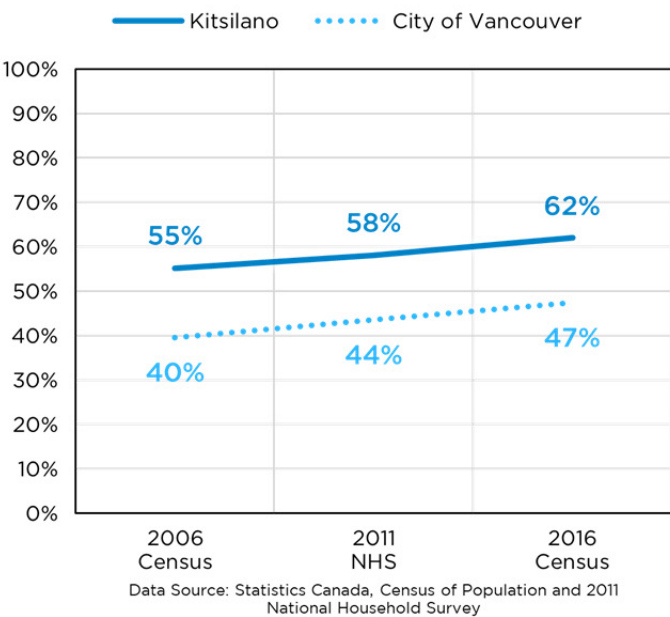


Over time, the overall rate of post-secondary credentials in Kitsilano has been steady, with 85% of the population having some form of post-secondary certificate. There is a shift at both the neighbourhood and city level toward university degrees and a corresponding decline in other post-secondary credentials.

Population 25-64 with Post-Secondary Credential, 2006-2016



Population 25-64 with University Degree, 2006-2016

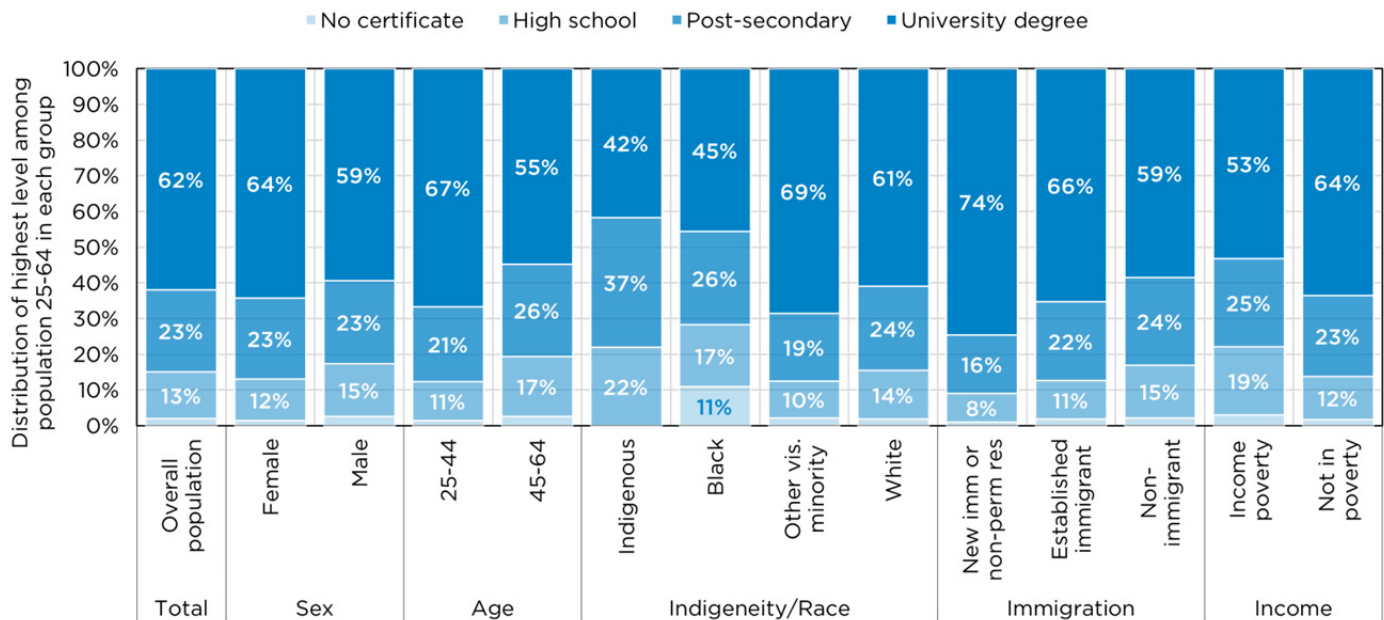




## Equity and Formal Education

Kitsilano has high rates of post-secondary education across all population groups, but evidence of differential access to particular types of credential. Indigenous and Black folks are less likely to have a university degree and more likely to have other types of certificate. Immigrants and newcomers are more likely to have a university degree. And 78% of the population living with incomes below the poverty line have a post-secondary certificate, compared to 87% of people with incomes above the poverty line.

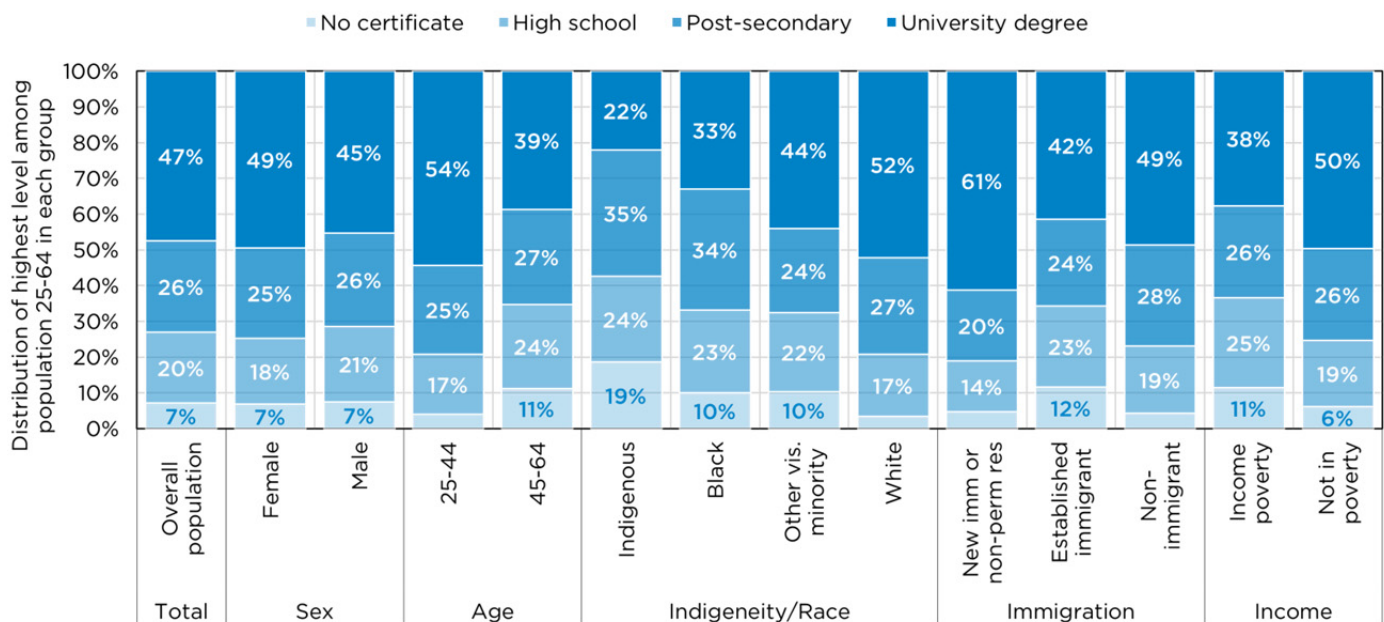
**Kitsilano: Level of Formal Education by Demographic, 2016**



Data Source: Statistics Canada, 2016 Census of Population  
Target group profile accessed through Community Data Program

Across the city overall, people in Indigenous and racialized communities are less likely to have post-secondary credentials. Most new immigrants and temporary residents have university degrees.

**City of Vancouver: Level of Formal Education by Demographic, 2016**



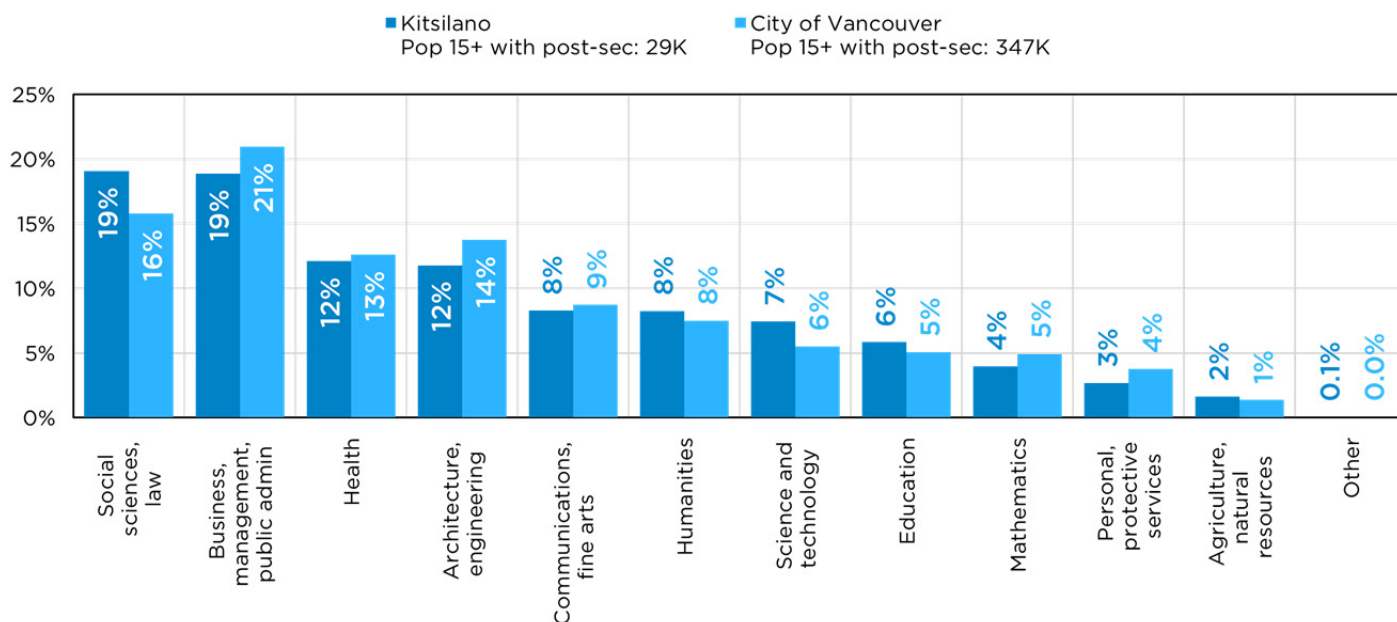
Data Source: Statistics Canada, 2016 Census of Population  
Target group profile accessed through Community Data Program



## Fields and Locations of Study

The top fields of post-secondary study among Kitsilano residents are: social sciences and law; business, management and public administration; and health.

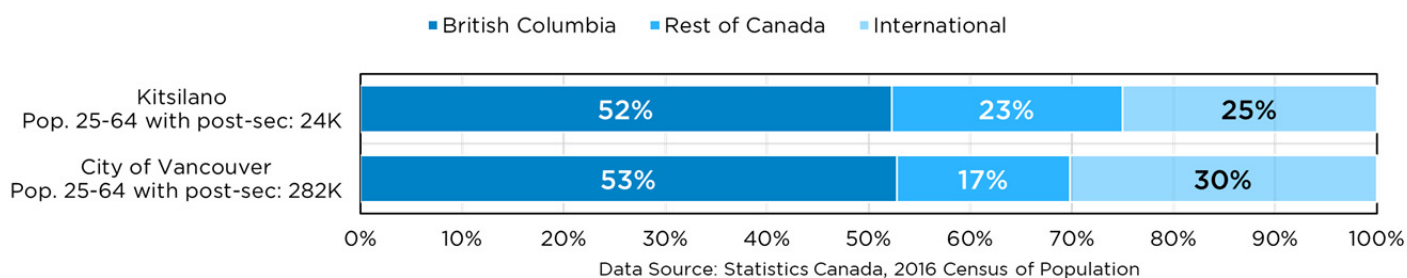
### Population 15+ by Post-Secondary Field of Study, 2016



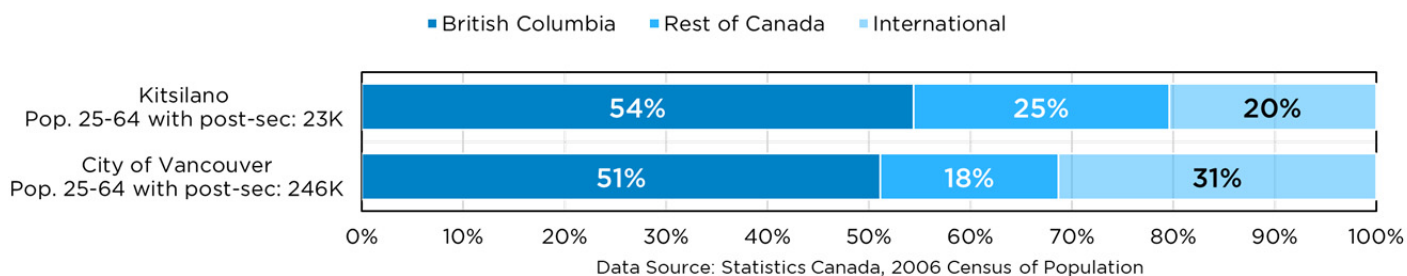
Data Source: Statistics Canada, 2016 Census of Population

Kitsilano residents are less likely than residents of the City of Vancouver to have a post-secondary credential from outside Canada, but this number is increasing over time. In 2016, 25% of residents received their credential from an international institution, compared to 20% in 2006.

### Population 25-64 with Post-Secondary by Location of Study, 2016

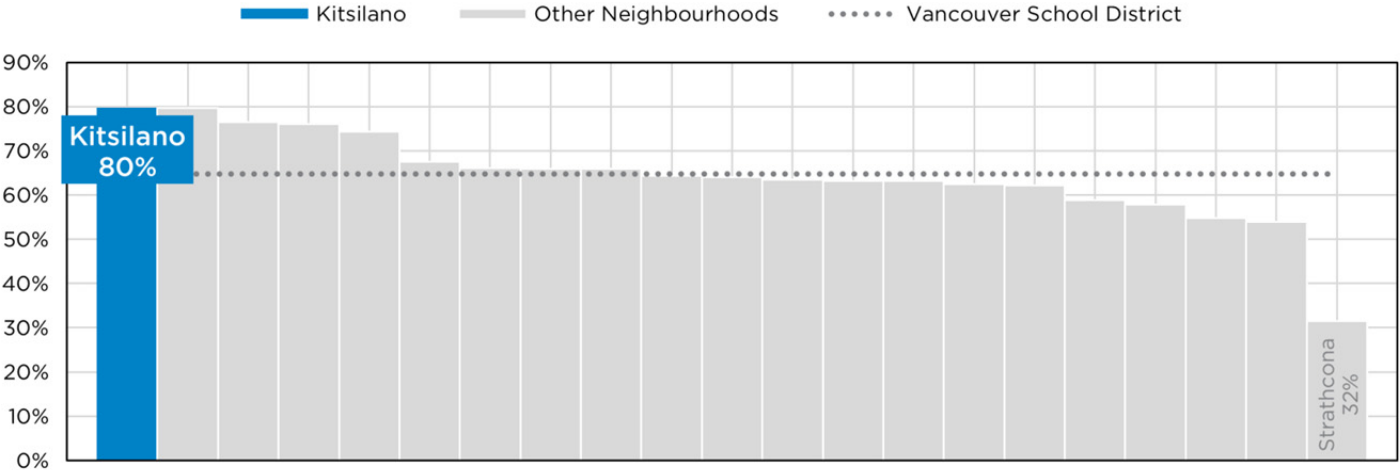


### Population 25-64 with Post-Secondary by Location of Study, 2006

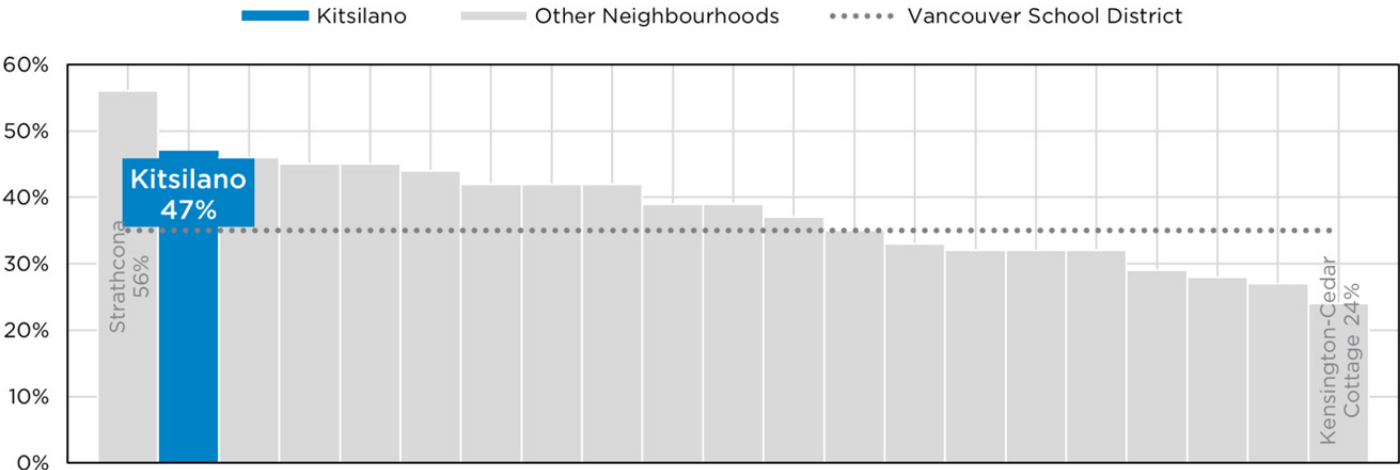


# COMMUNITY HEALTH

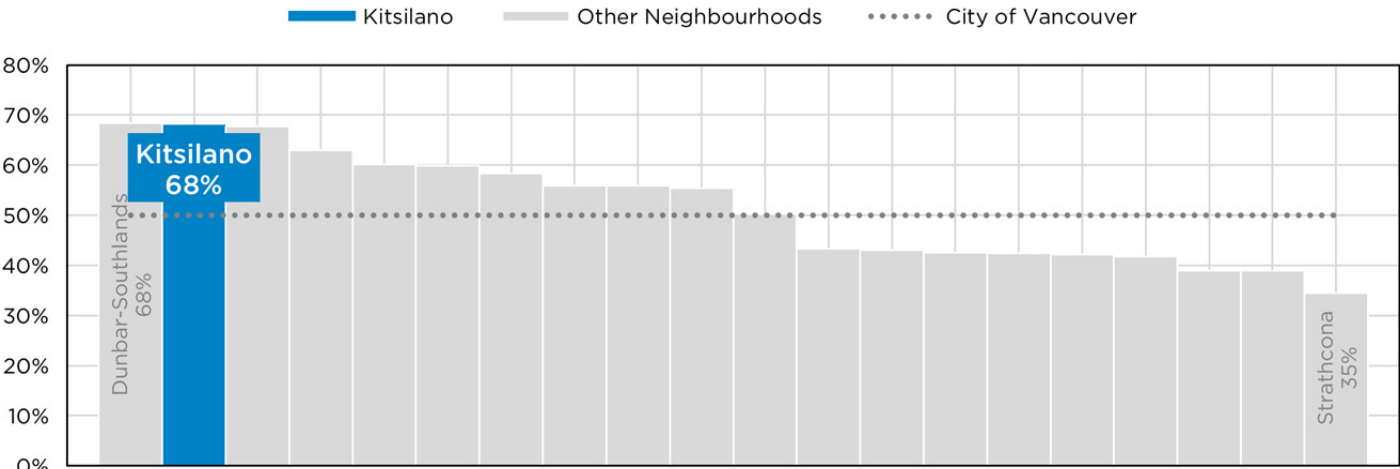
Children Ready for School (Not Vulnerable on EDI Scales), 2017-19



Grade 7 Children "Thriving" on MDI Well-Being Index, 2018

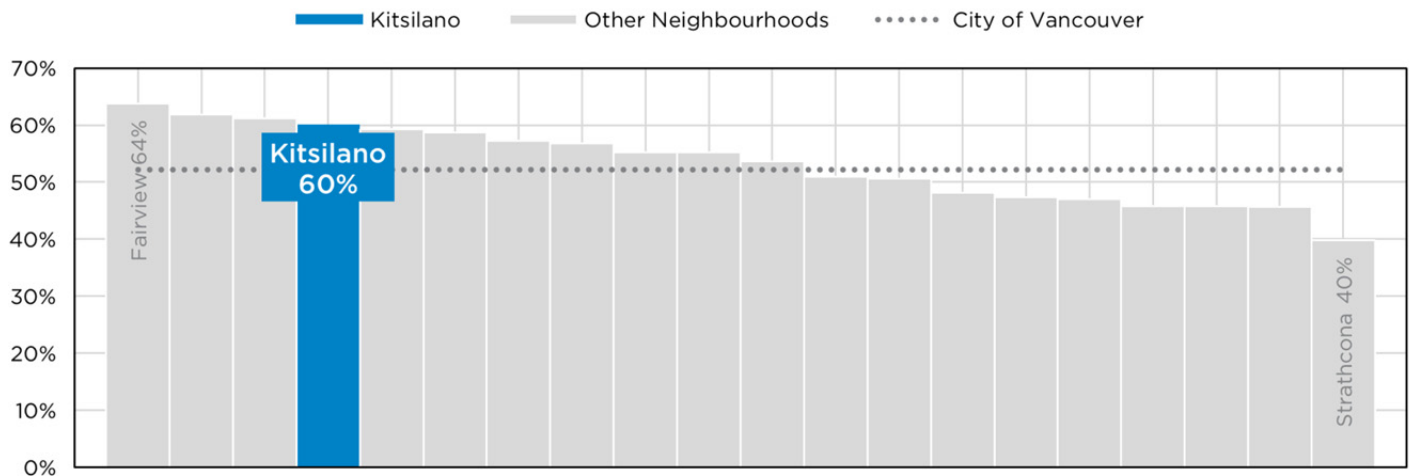


Very Good or Excellent General Health, 2013/2014

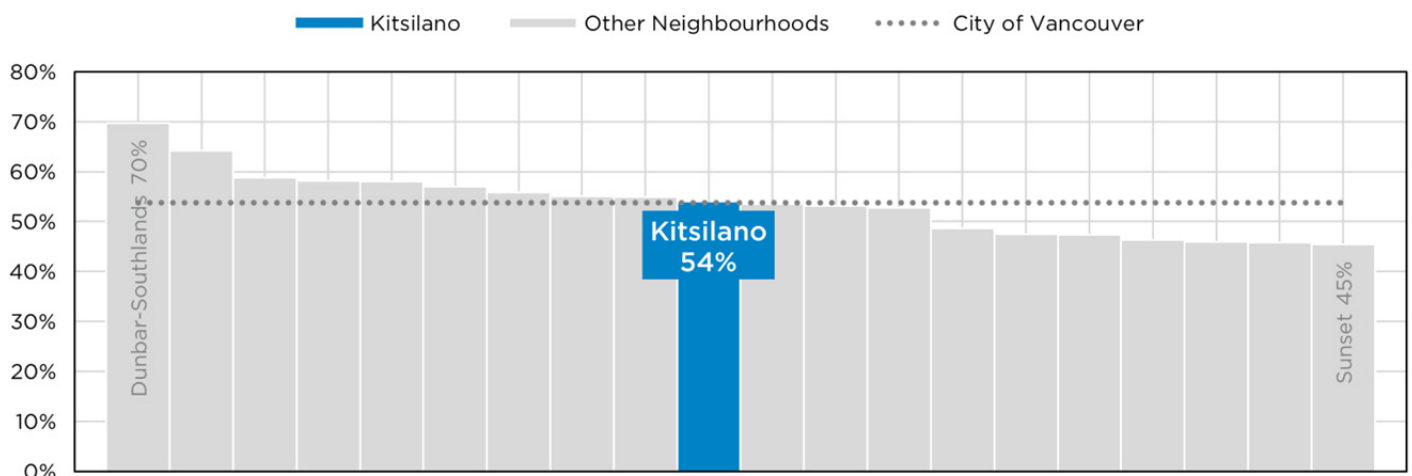


# NEIGHBOURHOOD COMPARISONS

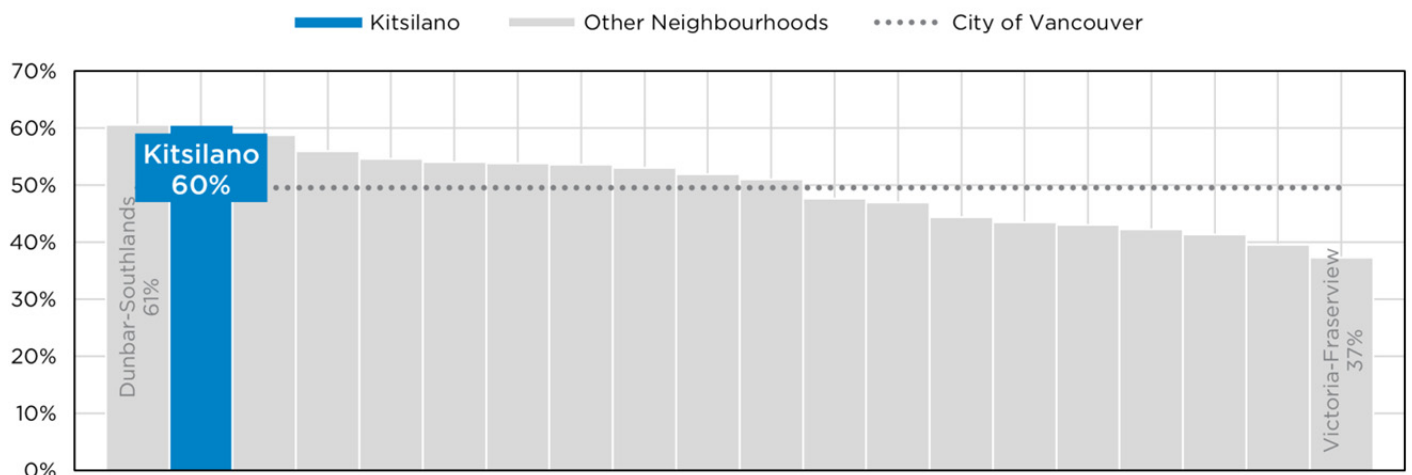
## Very Good or Excellent Mental Health, 2013/2014



## Strong Sense of Belonging, 2013/2014



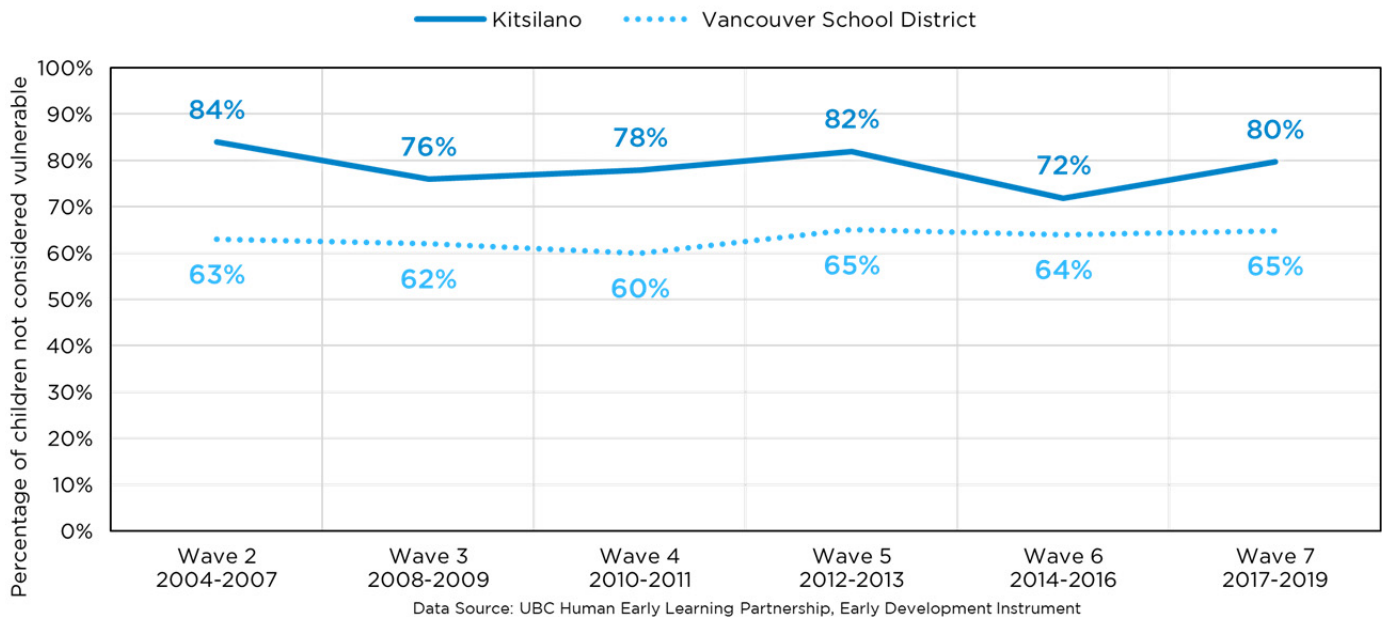
## Four or More People in Support Network, 2013/2014



## Early Childhood Development

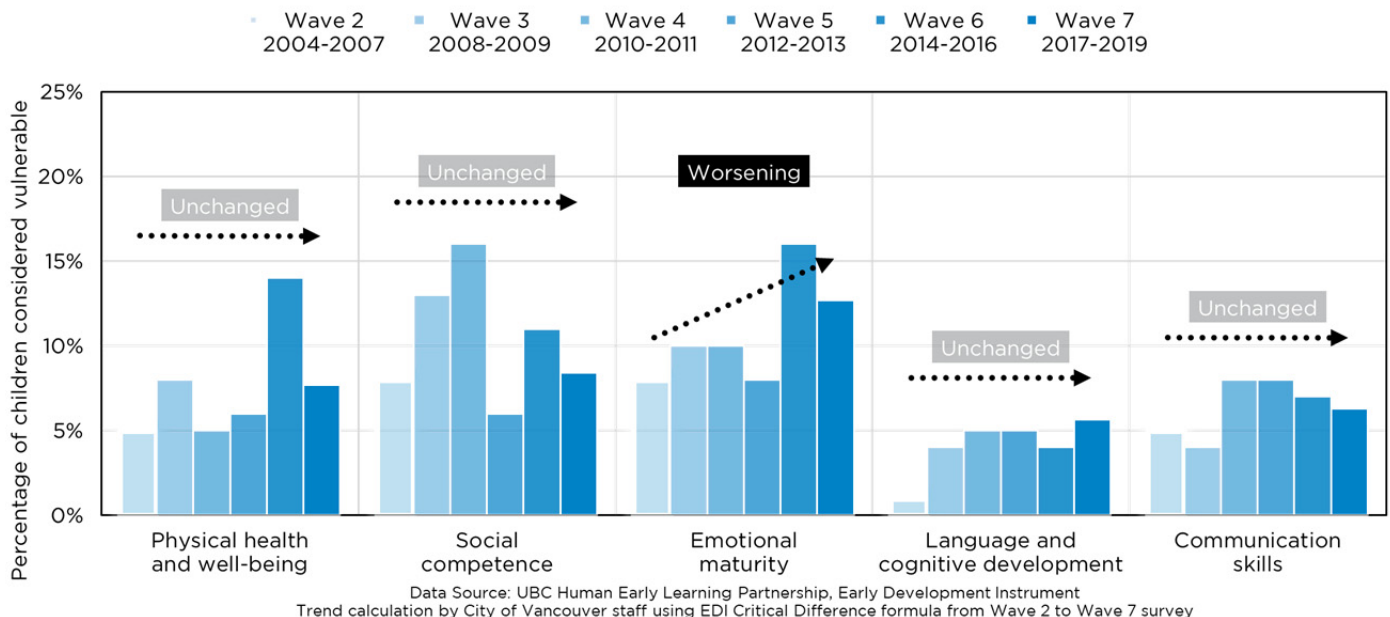
The Early Development Instrument (EDI) is used to benchmark kindergarten children on five developmental scales, identifying vulnerabilities that can impact school readiness. 20% of children in Kitsilano are considered “vulnerable” on one or more of these scales, a lower rate than the city overall.

### Kindergarten Children Ready for School (Not Vulnerable on Any EDI Scales), 2004-2019



Over time, children in Kitsilano are being assessed as having increased vulnerability on the emotional maturity domain of development, suggesting trends such as increased anxiety and fear, aggression or challenges with attention. Other scales of the EDI have seen net stability over time.

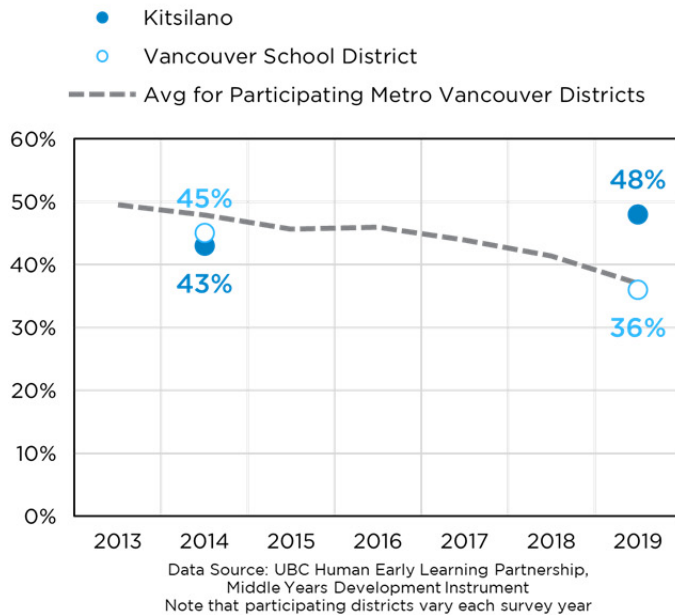
### Kitsilano: Child Vulnerability Trends by EDI Domain, 2004-2019



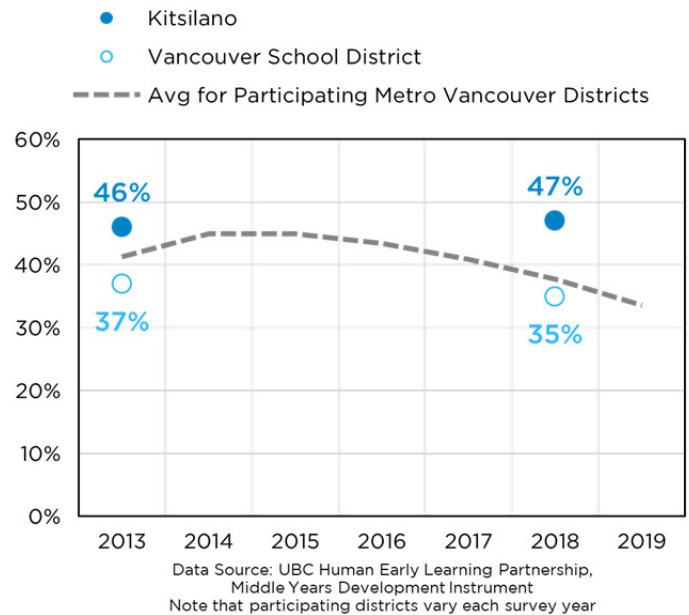
## Middle-Years Development

The Middle-Years Development Instrument (MDI) is a questionnaire completed by children in grade 4 and 7 to self-assess their development in relation to well-being, health and school achievement. Kitsilano children had lower rates of overall well-being in the 2014 grade 4 survey, but other surveys have shown higher rates than the City of Vancouver and participating Metro Vancouver school districts.<sup>22</sup>

**Grade 4 Children "Thriving" on MDI Well-Being Index, 2013-2019**

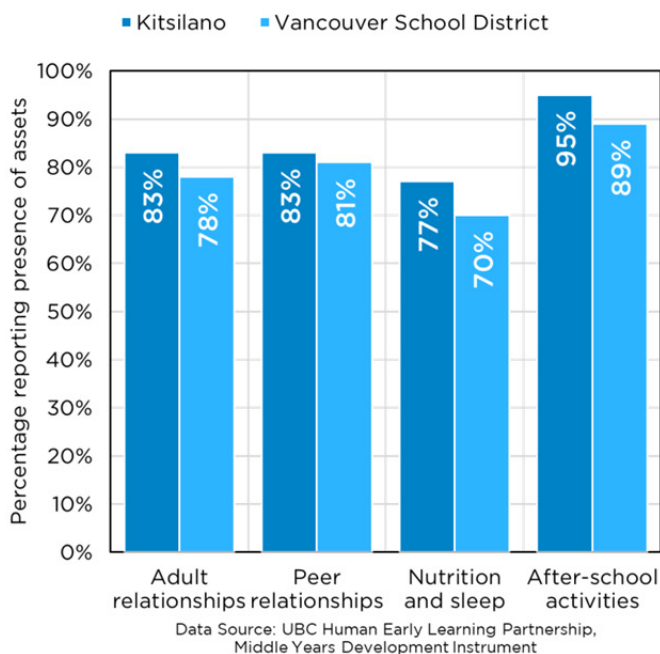


**Grade 7 Children "Thriving" on MDI Well-Being Index, 2013-2019**

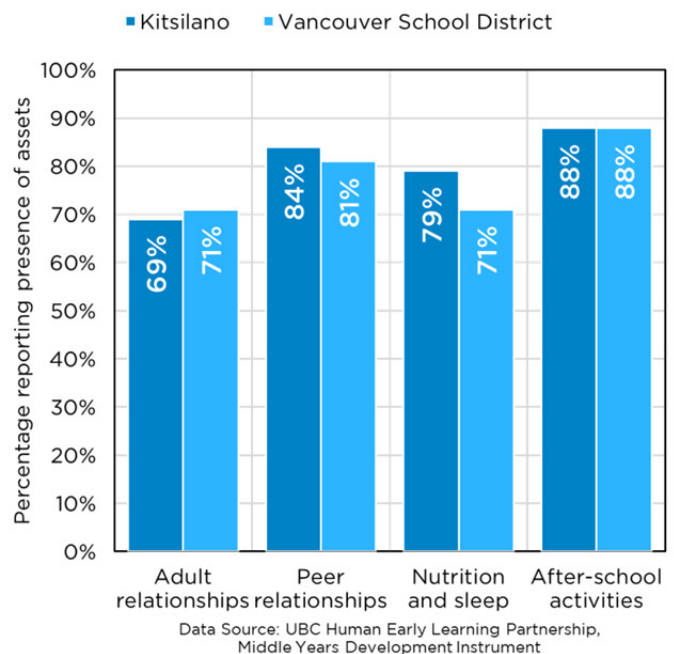


The charts below show the rate at which specific assets were reported by children in Kitsilano and the City of Vancouver overall in the most recent survey period for each age group.

**Grade 4 Children's Assets, 2019**



**Grade 7 Children's Assets, 2018**

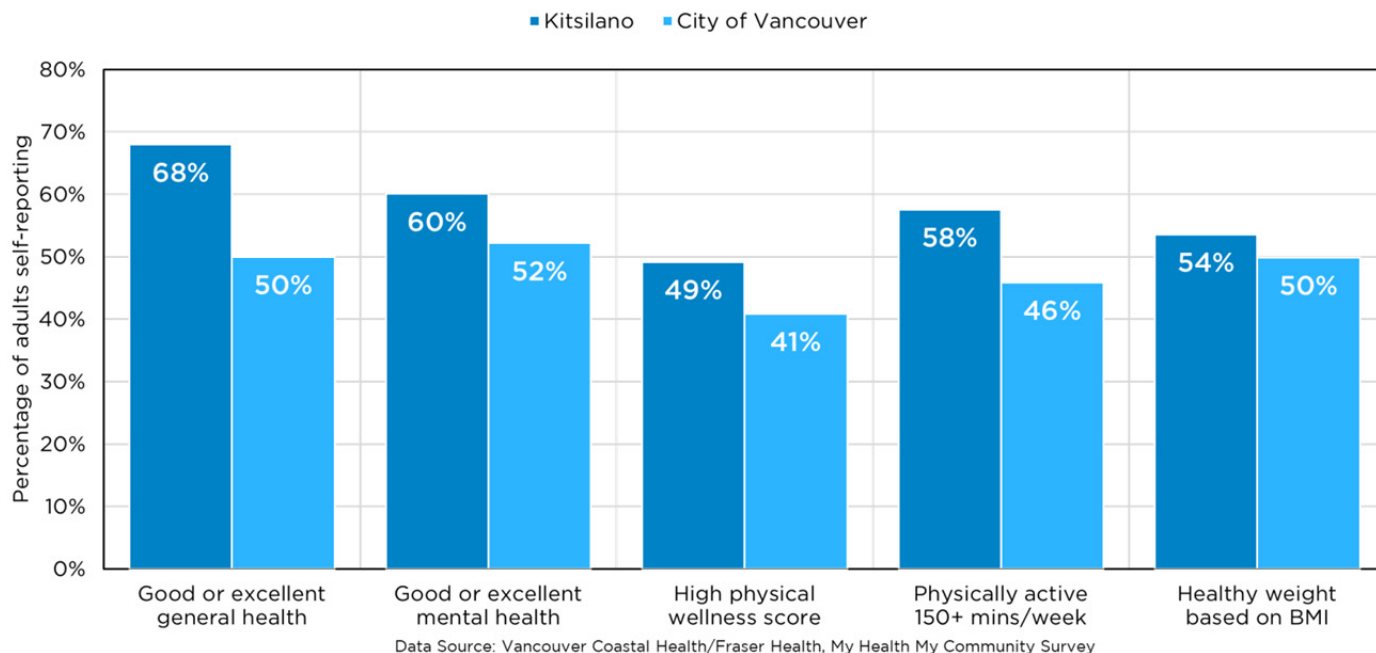




## Health Conditions and Overall Perceptions

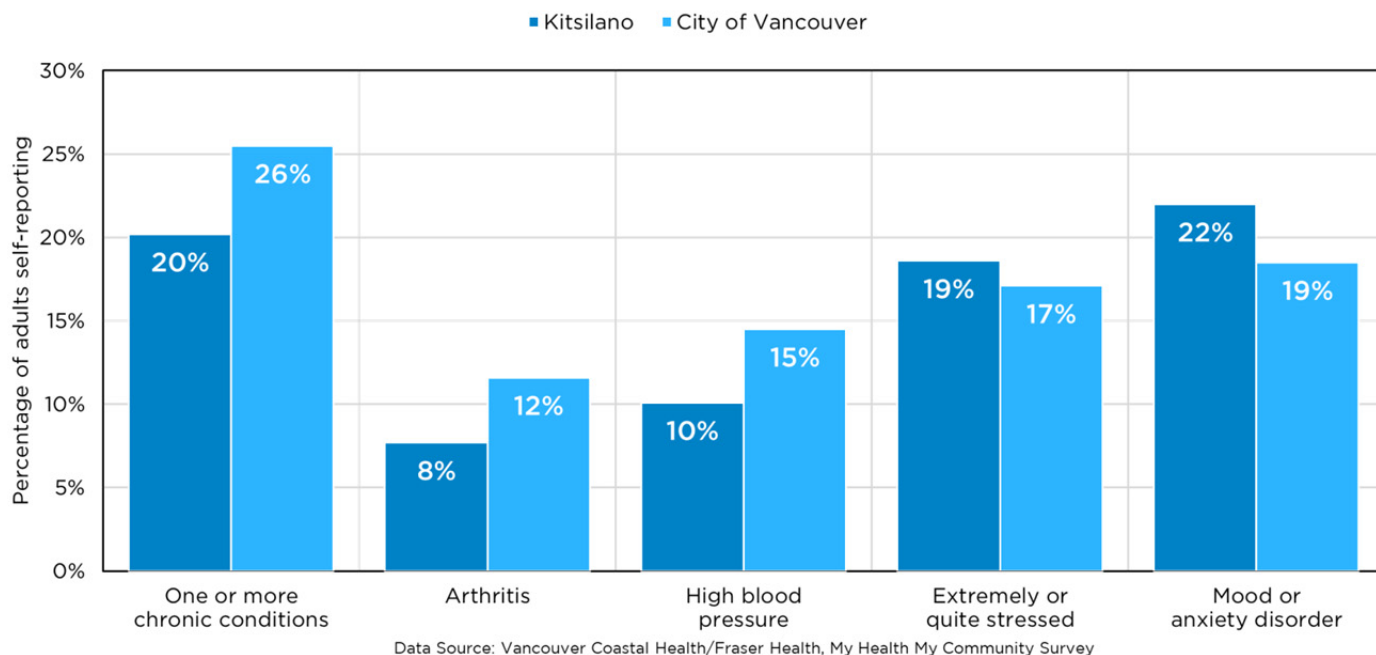
The My Health My Community survey, conducted in 2013 and 2014, surveyed adults across the Vancouver Coastal and Fraser Health regions on a number of topics. Kitsilano residents are more likely than residents of the city overall to rate their overall physical and mental health as good; to have a high physical wellness score; to be regularly active; and to have a body mass index considered healthy.

### Overall Health Status and Perceptions, 2013-2014



Kitsilano residents report the presence of chronic conditions, arthritis and high blood pressure at lower rates than residents of the city overall. However, Kitsilano residents are more likely to report high levels of stress and the presence of mood or anxiety disorders.

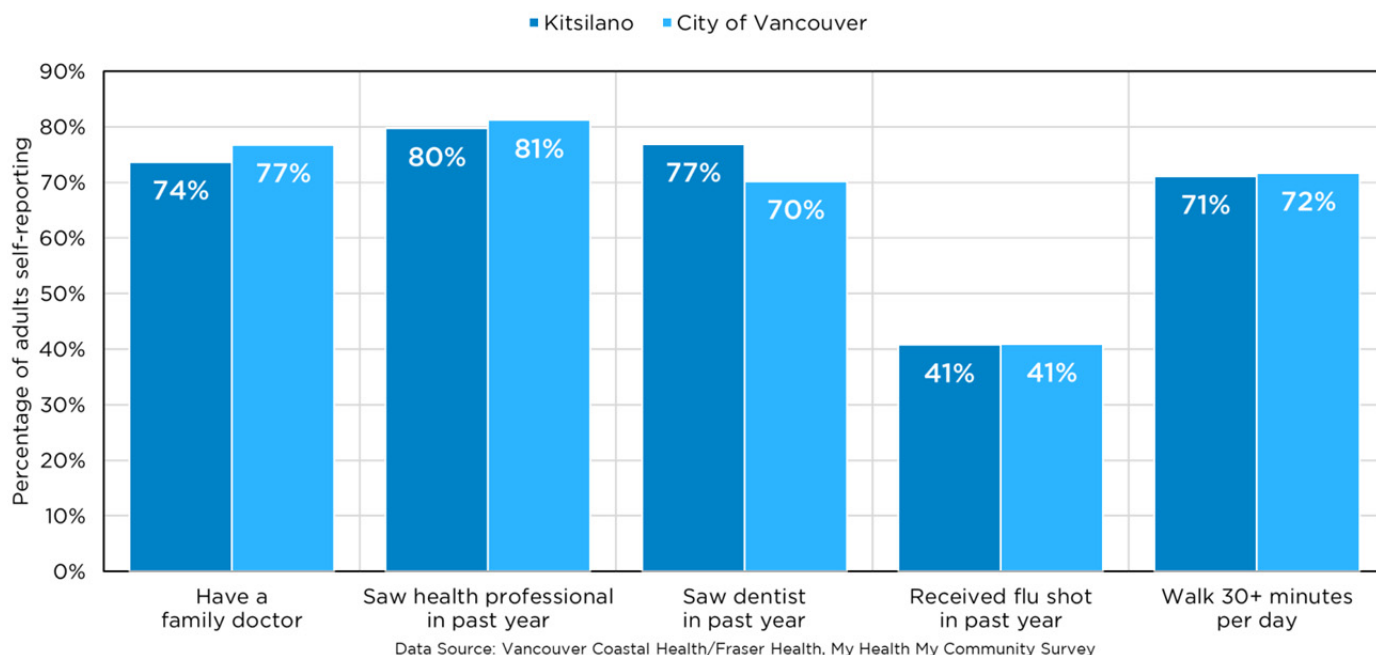
### Reported Health Conditions, 2013-2014



## Preventive Care and Healthy Behaviours

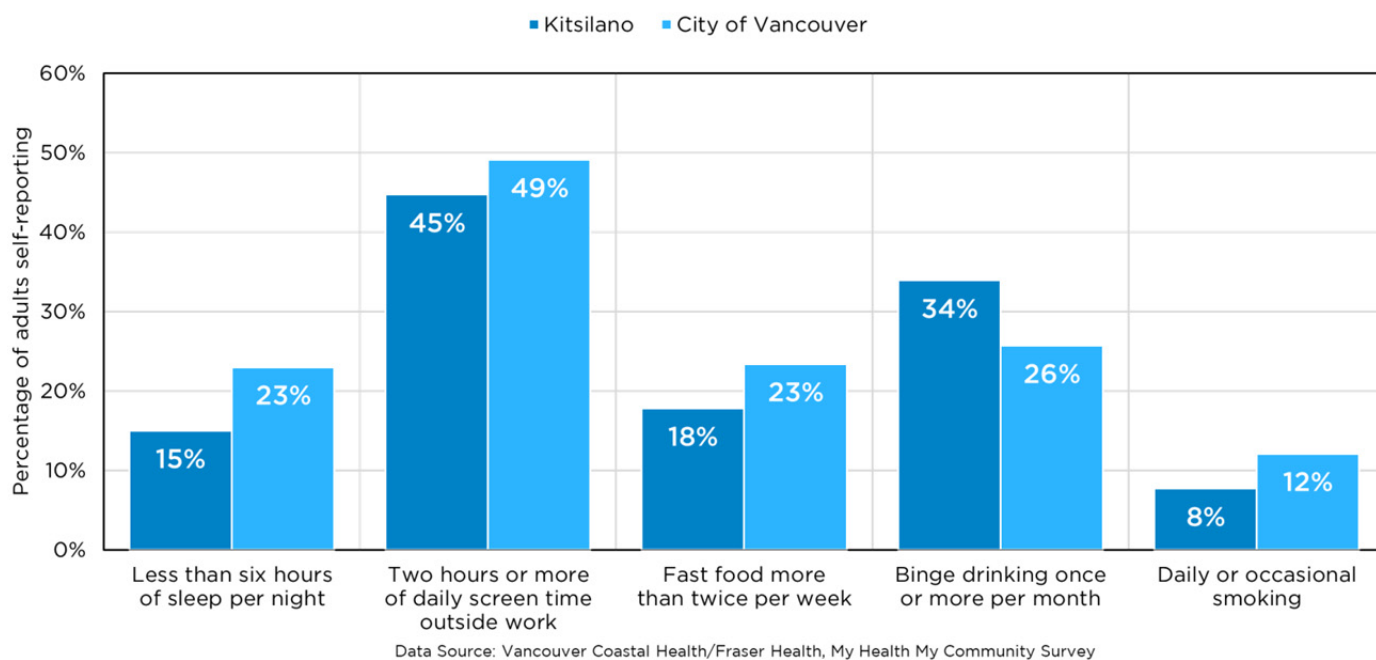
Compared to the City of Vancouver overall, Kitsilano residents are somewhat less likely to have a family doctor. However, they are more likely to have seen a dentist. Other preventive health care indicators show similar rates between Kitsilano and the city overall.

### Preventive Health Care, 2013-2014



Compared to the city overall, Kitsilano residents are less likely to report inadequate sleep, excess screen time, eating fast food or smoking. However, they are more likely to report binge drinking.

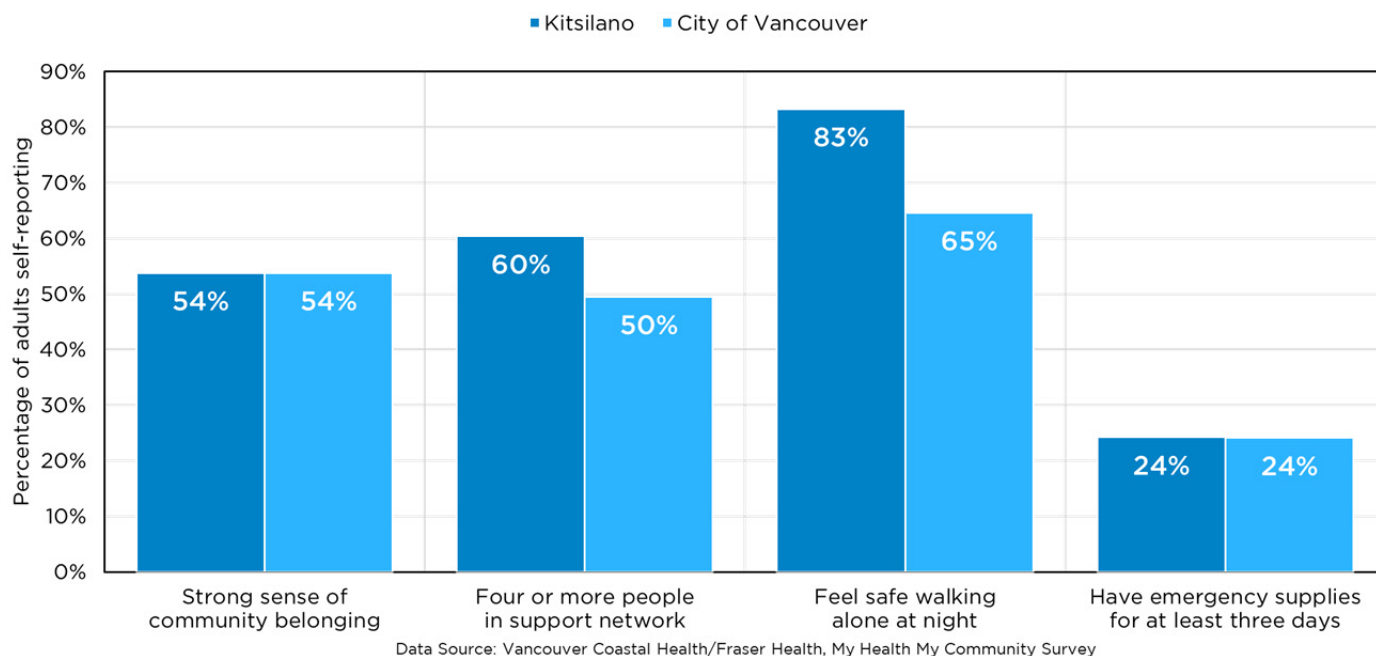
### Health-Impacting Behaviours, 2013-2014



## Connections, Resilience and Built Environments

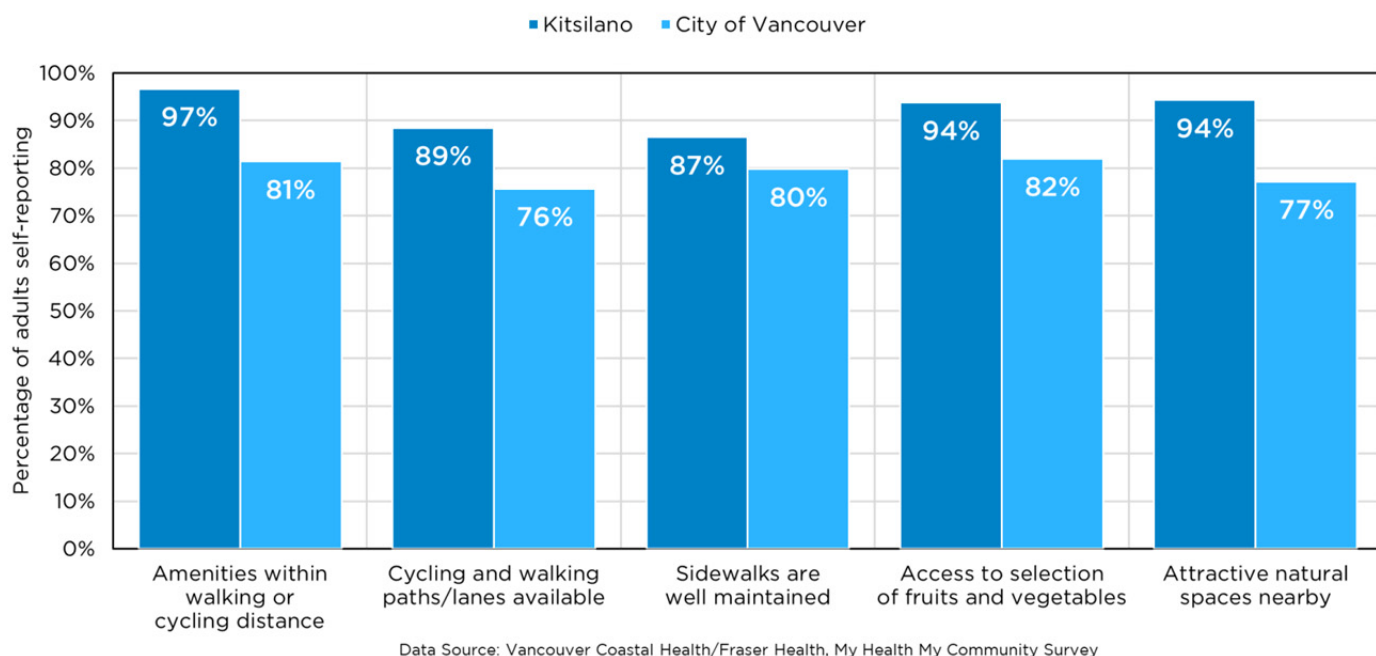
Kitsilano residents report a sense of belonging at the same rate as the city overall, but are more likely to have social support networks and to feel safe walking in their neighbourhood after dark.

### Neighbourhood Social Connections and Resilience, 2013-2014



Kitsilano residents have generally positive perceptions of the built environment, including access to amenities, active transportation infrastructure, access to healthy food and the presence of natural spaces.

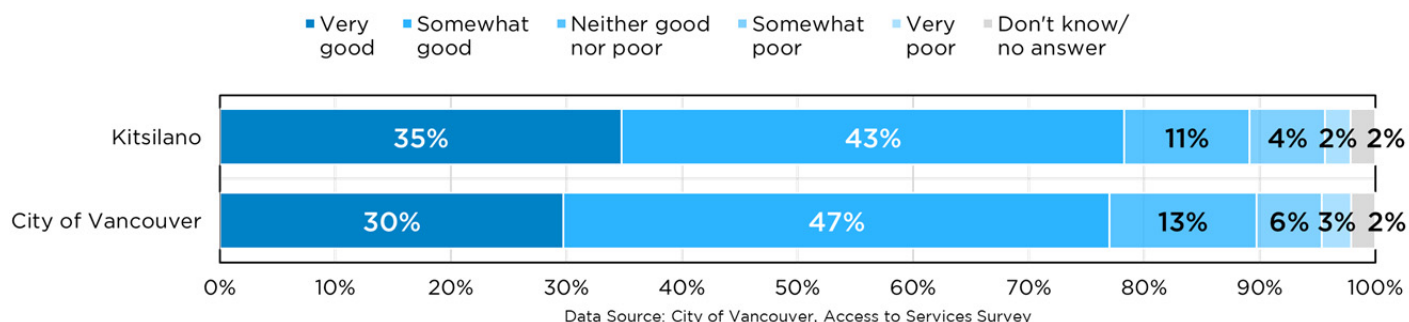
### Perceptions of Built Environments, 2013-2014



## Access to Services

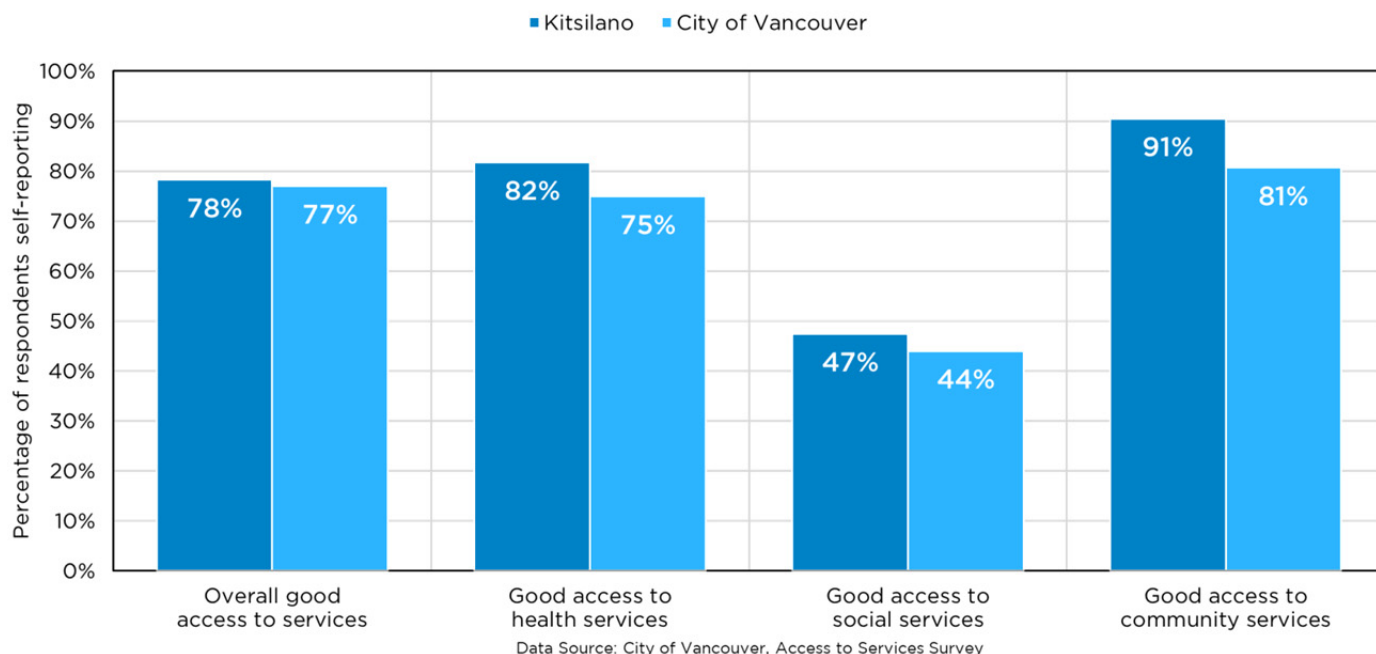
An important social determinant of health is the degree to which social, community and health services are physically, socially and culturally accessible to people who need them. In 2017, the City of Vancouver procured a survey of Vancouver residents' assessment of their access to services. Based on that survey, nearly eight in ten respondents in Kitsilano indicated very good or somewhat good access to services, a similar rate to the city overall.

### Overall Rating of Quality of Access to Services, 2017



Importantly, however, there were discrepancies in the ratings given to different types of services. Respondents across the city were most likely to rate access to community services, such as community centres, libraries and neighbourhood houses as good; and least likely to rate access to social services as good. Although this pattern was repeated in Kitsilano, respondents in the neighbourhood reported good access to all three types of service at a higher rate than the city overall.

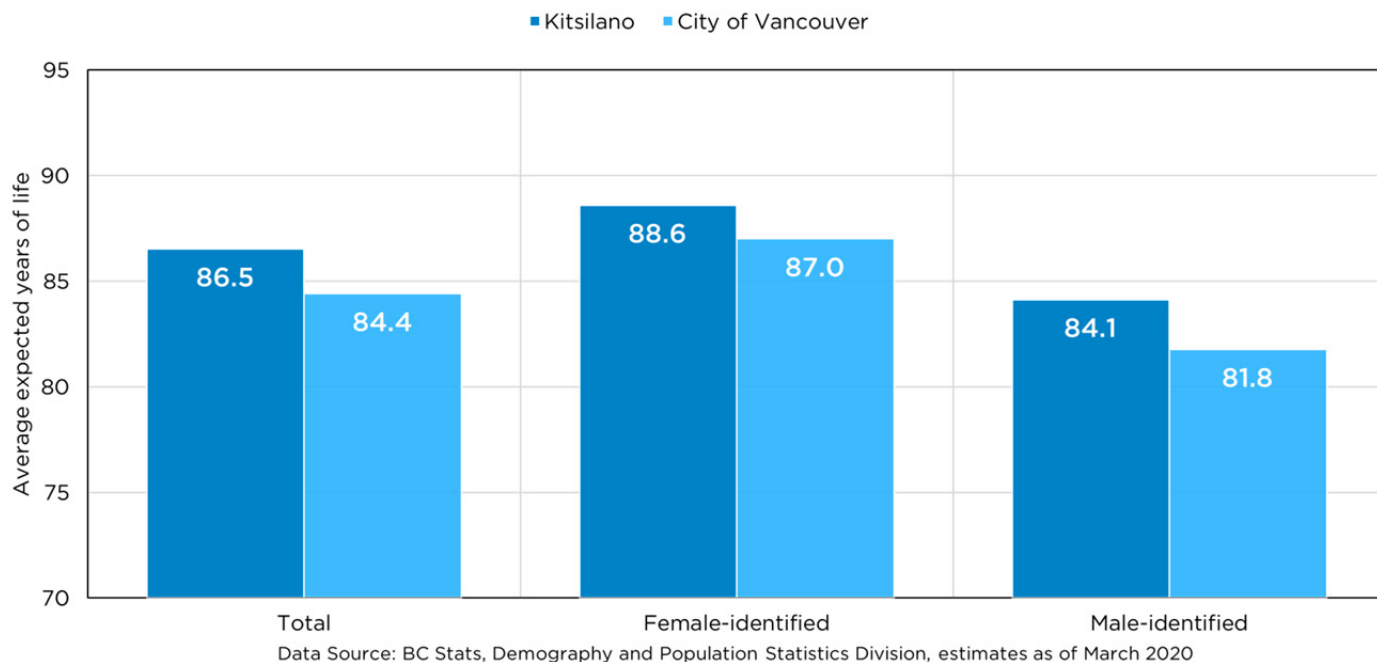
### Quality of Access to Health, Community and Social Services, 2017



## Life Expectancy

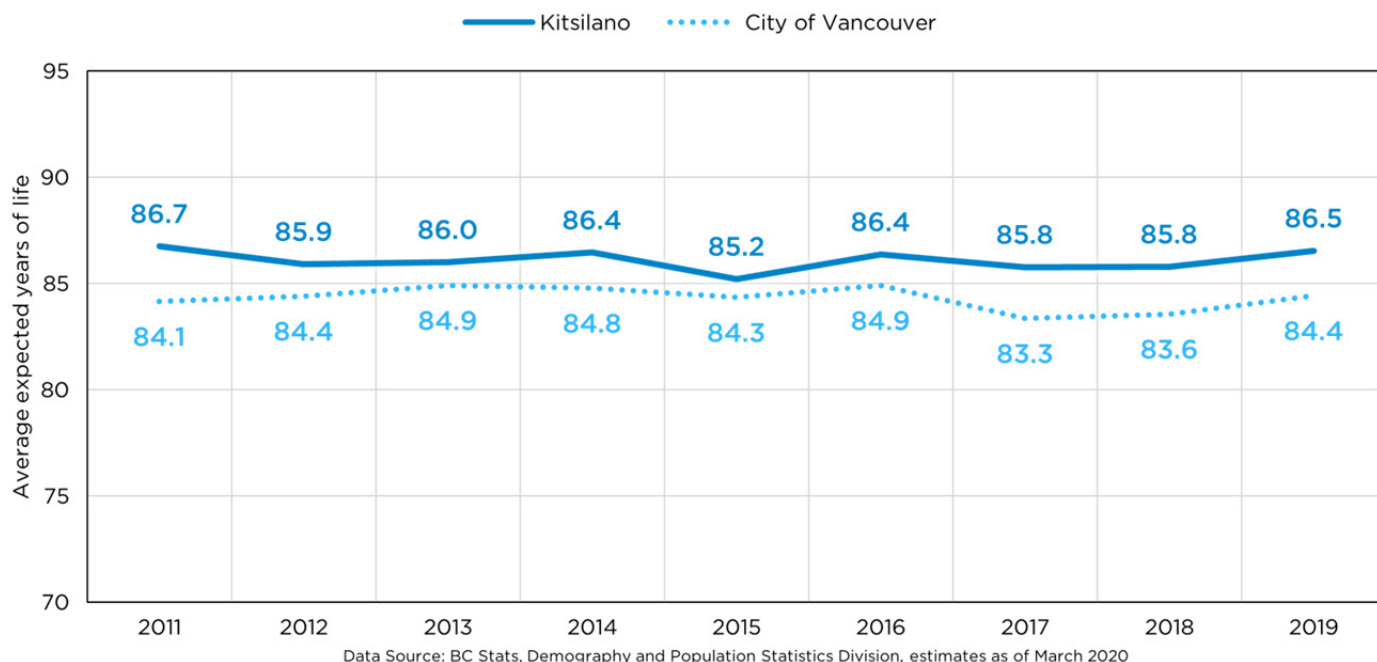
Finally, life expectancy is an overall indicator of health and well-being. For people born in 2019 in Kitsilano, BC Stats estimates a life expectancy of 86.5 years, higher than for the city overall.

### Estimated Life Expectancy at Birth, 2019



Across the city, the decline in life expectancy since 2016 reflects the direct impact of the ongoing public health emergency of high numbers of drug overdose deaths. Health emergencies are also the result of longer-term health inequities. Addressing the root causes requires attention to many of the trends described in this report and ongoing work toward systemic change.

### Estimated Life Expectancy at Birth, 2011-2019





# SUMMARY

Working toward a healthy city for all means understanding how people’s health and well-being is shaped by the social, economic and demographic context they live in. This profile has outlined some key indicators and trends in Kitsilano to help inform community knowledge and action to respond to and shape change.

Kitsilano is the locus of many images of Vancouver’s identity. It is the site of historical activism, particularly environmental movements, and a socially and economically diverse population. Now the area has changed, and a population skewed toward younger adults is shifting into older age categories while housing costs continue to rise. A highly-educated population works in creative and financial sectors. But change is nuanced: the area is increasing its population of children even as it shrinks in other areas, and Kitsilano is slowly becoming more linguistically and culturally diverse. The rate of renters is steady in recent periods, maintaining some of the diverse housing of the area. In the midst of a few different realignments of spatial inequities in Vancouver, Kitsilano faces pressures and trends in different directions.



## Get Involved

The data presented here is the beginning of a conversation about social sustainability, trends and change in our city. The table below offers some starting prompts to engage with the data in this profile:

Something I already knew about this area	Something that surprises me
Something that local organizations are addressing	Something that indicates an unmet need
Something that more data is needed to understand	Something important that data can’t answer

You are invited to share your thoughts, reflections and feedback with the City of Vancouver:

- Social Policy and Projects  
501-111 West Hastings Street  
Vancouver BC V6B 1H4  
socialpolicyresearch@vancouver.ca

## Endnotes

- <sup>1</sup> The 2016 Census questionnaire only gave respondents the option to choose “male” or “female”. Statistics Canada has recently redefined its standards for variables coding sex and gender, and a more inclusive question will likely be included in 2021 and subsequent censuses.
- <sup>2</sup> Note that a Statistics Canada defines a duplex as two dwellings stacked vertically; an archetypal “Vancouver special” will therefore be counted as a duplex, as will a single-detached house with a basement suite, provided the suite was enumerated.
- <sup>3</sup> This graph counts private households classified as “apartment, under five storeys” and “apartment, five or more storeys”.
- <sup>4</sup> Housing tenure is self-reported on the census, so rented households include both purpose-built and secondary rental households.
- <sup>5</sup> Note that this indicator is not directly available in all census years, as Statistics Canada reports some household variables and family variables separately. The rate of households with children is estimated by multiplying the total number of one- and multiple-family households by the rate of children in families, with the assumption that one-family households and multiple-family households are equally likely to contain children.
- <sup>6</sup> Data on the number of bedrooms are available in five categories: zero, one, two, three or four-or-more. An average is calculated by assuming four-or-more bedroom dwellings have exactly four bedrooms, so the true average is likely higher in many neighbourhoods.
- <sup>7</sup> Note that the census limits “family” to mean nuclear or lone-parent arrangements and does not include all family types.
- <sup>8</sup> The 2016 census standard profiles did not include a number of variables previously reported on age of children in census families, so neighbourhood data are not available in 2016 for number of children at home.
- <sup>9</sup> Note that the census form allows for multiple responses, so the categories are not exclusive.
- <sup>10</sup> Figures for the City of Vancouver include the Musqueam community in the southwest of the city; this area is also included in the Dunbar-Southlands local area. Statistics Canada reports Musqueam separately from the City of Vancouver in its standard releases of census data; without Musqueam, 2.2% of the City of Vancouver’s population is Indigenous.
- <sup>11</sup> Comparing rates of knowledge and use of Chinese languages over time is challenging, as the 2011 and prior censuses included a large category of “Chinese, not otherwise specified” which included speakers of Mandarin, Cantonese and/or other dialects. Over time this category has reduced, likely due to improved enumeration and online completion of census forms, and more people are identified with specific dialects and fewer generically as “Chinese”. Unfortunately it is not possible to assess the magnitude of this change.
- <sup>12</sup> It is not clear why the 2001 Census of Population stands out as an outlier, but it appears to underreport non-English home languages and over-report multiple home languages.
- <sup>13</sup> The generation variable on the census is derived from questions asking respondents to identify the place of birth of their father and their mother. This question as written does not include same-gender parents, gender-diverse parents, adoptive parents or non-nuclear family arrangements, and more inclusive questions will need to be developed to ensure more valid and reliable data in future.
- <sup>14</sup> The Gini coefficient is calculated by dividing the area between a Lorenz curve of income distribution and a hypothetical equitable distribution by the total area under the equality curve. The analysis presented here is a coarse approximation using available census data. This graph is created by assigning all individuals or households within a given income category as the middle of that category (for example, income between \$50 and \$60 thousand would be coded as earning \$55 thousand), and then assigning the highest income category a value calculated based on the residual average income reported.
- <sup>15</sup> Note that all census income indicators represent the previous year’s income; that is, the 2016 Census reports on people’s income in 2015. To avoid confusion, this chapter labels income in relation to the census year.
- <sup>16</sup> Inflation is calculated using Statistics Canada’s all-items Consumer Price Index (CPI) for Metro Vancouver.
- <sup>17</sup> Both rent and dwelling value are self-reported on the census form. As well, comparisons between different areas should account for differences in housing types and sizes.
- <sup>18</sup> This calculation includes households reporting shelter costs in excess of their income; although other sources of housing data often exclude these households from the calculation, historical disaggregated data are not available for all census years.
- <sup>19</sup> Note that the changing nature of work makes the validity of the unemployment rate questionable over time; readers are encouraged to supplement this information with other sources of knowledge.
- <sup>20</sup> Based on the North American Industry Classification System (NAICS), 2012.
- <sup>21</sup> Based on the National Occupational Classification, 2016.
- <sup>22</sup> Note that school districts participating in the MDI vary each year, so readers should be cautious in drawing trends.