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:

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

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.

Document last updated October 4, 2020
The City of Vancouver is situated on the unceded homelands of the Musqueam, Squamish and Tsleil-Waututh nations.

A medium-density community but with high rates of growth expected in the coming years.

A neighbourhood composed of a majority of renters.

A population shifting from young adults towards seniors.

A mix of housing types, with a majority of dwellings located in apartments, but a significant share of single-family and semi-detached housing as well.

A decline in families with children since a peak in 2006.

High rates of non-English speakers, people in visible minority groups and immigrants.

An income distribution skewed toward lower-income residents, including the third-highest low income rate and third-lowest median household income among Vancouver’s local areas.

A working population concentrated in retail and service sectors.
INTRODUCTION

Place and Context

The City of Vancouver occupies the unceded homelands of the x̱məθkwəy̓əm (Musqueam), Skwxwú7mesh (Squamish), and səll̓ilwətaɬ (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.
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](chart.png)
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 Marpole, the 2016 census counted 24,460 residents, 98% 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 MARPOLE
The Marpole local area, located at the southern end of the City of Vancouver, extends from 57th Avenue to the Fraser River; and from Angus Drive to Ontario Street. Marpole occupies 5% of the City of Vancouver’s land area and houses 4% of its population. The neighbourhood contains 4% of the private households counted in the 2016 census. Of the jobs reported with a usual place of work, 3% of those within the City of Vancouver were located in Marpole.
GROWTH AND CHANGE

Population Change, 2011-2016

Population Density, 2016

Median Age, 2016

Marpole
Other Neighbourhoods
City of Vancouver
Population Trends

Marpole’s population grew relatively quickly through the 1990s and 2000s, but has been relatively stable in recent periods. From 2011 to 2016 the area gained about 600 new residents for a total population of 24,460 people counted in the census.

As of 2016, Marpole’s population density is 43 persons per hectare, 20% less dense than the city overall.
Age Profile

Marpole has proportionally more youth and adults aged 40 to 65 than the city overall, and relatively fewer adults aged 25 to 40. The neighbourhood’s distribution of children and seniors is similar to the share of the city’s overall population in these categories. 52% of Marpole’s population identifies as female.1

Over a 30 year period, there has been a decline in young adults as a percentage of the total population in Marpole, and an increase of adults in their 40s and 50s.
**Age Groups**

In 2016, Marpole’s share of children (age 0-14) and seniors (65 and over) matched the City’s overall share. A new generation of Marpole residents is entering senior age categories. Future trends suggest increasing growth in Marpole’s senior population.

The graph below provides population counts by age group over 30 years. Growth in older adults and seniors is immediately visible. This graph also shows declines in children and youth over the past fifteen years.

---

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

Data Source: Statistics Canada, Census of Population

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

Data Source: Statistics Canada, Census of Population

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

Data Source: Statistics Canada, Census of Population
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 Marpole: 2016 saw the largest absolute growth among young adults and seniors. There was also a decrease in the number of adults aged 35 to 50.

The graph below shows cohort dynamics: that is, the life stage at which people entered or departed the neighbourhood. From 2011 to 2016, this graph shows net migration into Marpole occurring in young adulthood, but this rate slows down among individuals aged 30+.
Mobility

In the year prior to the 2016 census, 19% of Marpole residents had moved, mostly within the city. Over five years, 45% of residents had moved. Both rates are similar to the city overall.

New residents have generally made up a larger share of population in Marpole than Vancouver overall, but this gap has narrowed in recent decades. Marpole now closely tracks the city overall on this indicator.
Housing Types

The graph below shows that 50% of households in Marpole are in apartments in low-rise buildings under five storeys, with another 21% being in semi-detached or duplex forms of housings.2

A total of 59% of dwellings in Marpole are in apartments.3 This share increase significantly between 2011 and 2016, and may increase more rapidly in the future pending a number of major development projects planned or underway.
Housing Size

Housing units in Marpole have a similar distribution of bedrooms as the city overall, except for having fewer two-bedroom units.

Marpole’s rented housing is dominated by one-bedroom units; dwellings of this size are continuing to increase, though there was growth in two-bedroom units from 2011 to 2016 as well. Owned housing in Marpole has seen growth in all sizes except for a decline in three-bedroom units from 2011 to 2016.
Housing Tenure

In Marpole, 59% of households are rented, compared to 53% of households across the City of Vancouver. 11% of rented households are subsidized, a lower rate than the city. Among owned households in Marpole, 48% have a mortgage.

Citywide, recent incentives to build rental housing have resulted in a growth in rented households after previous decades saw growth in owned condominiums. These trends are reflected in Marpole, which increased its share of rented households in 2016 after a period of decline.
New Housing

A shift back toward building rental housing is evident across the city. In Marpole, 89% 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.

Ensuring affordability in new housing remains a challenge across the city. Households in newly constructed units in Marpole, however, tend to have very low incomes.
Marital Status

Marpole residents live with a partner at the same rate as the city overall, but are more likely to be legally married. As of 2016, 43% of Marpole residents age 15 and older are married, with another 7% living common-law. In Marpole, 9% of residents are separated or divorced; 4% are widowed; and 37% have never been married and are not living common-law.

In Marpole, the rate of persons living with a partner—whether married or common-law—has declined slightly since 2001 and is now similar to the citywide rate.
Household Types

Compared to the city overall, Marpole households are more likely to have families with children living in them. The neighbourhood has fewer families without children than the city overall.

The graph below estimates the percentage of households that have children—of any age, including adult children—at home. The rate of households with children in Marpole increased substantially from 1981 to 2006, but has declined since then. During the same time period, the citywide rate declined gradually.
Household Size
Household size in Marpole generally grew from 1981 to 2006 but has declined since then. As of 2016, there are 2.2 people in the average private household in Marpole, which is similar to the citywide average.

As of 2016, 18% of Marpole’s population lived alone, which is the same as the city’s rate. This rate has increased since 2006.
**Senior Households**

The experience of aging relates to a number of factors, including housing type, social connections, income and more. In Marpole, 29% of persons 65 and over live alone. Over time, the percentage of seniors in Marpole closely mirrors citywide trends.

![Percentage of Seniors 65+ Living Alone, 1981-2016](image)

Seniors in the neighbourhood are more likely to own their homes than other age groups: as of 2016, 38% of senior-led households in Marpole are rented, and 43% are in apartments; the graph below left also shows that rented and apartment units are strongly correlated in Marpole. As in many areas of the city, households led by seniors and older adults often have a higher ratio of bedrooms to occupants.6

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

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

![Marpole: Household Type and Tenure by Age, 2016](image)

![Marpole: Average Household Size by Age, 2016](image)

Data Source: Statistics Canada, Census of Population
Family Types
Marpole has seen a shift in the type of growth occurring in the area in recent census periods: since 2006 the number of families’ without children and lone parent-led families has grown, while the number of two-parent families has declined.

The graph below shows the number of families by number of children at home. In Marpole there is a recent trend toward smaller families.
Family Size and Children at Home

The average family in Marpole contains 2.8 persons and has 1.1 children at home. Both of these numbers are higher than the city-wide average.

A broad social trend over time is that people move out of their parents' homes later in life. In Marpole, there is continued growth in the number of “children” at home at age 25 or older.

Marpole: 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 30% of families with children in Marpole. This rate has increased since 2001 and is now higher than the city rate.

Across the city, lone parents are overwhelming likely to be female-identified. In Marpole, 86% of lone parents are women. Lone mothers are more likely to face significant social and economic challenges.
IDENTITY AND DIVERSITY


- Marpole
- Other Neighbourhoods
- City of Vancouver

Population in a Visible Minority Group, 2016

- Marpole
- Other Neighbourhoods
- City of Vancouver

Population with Non-English Mother Tongue, 2016

- Marpole
- Other Neighbourhoods
- City of Vancouver
NEIGHBOURHOOD COMPARISONS

Population with Non-English Home Language, 2016

- Marpole: 37%
- Other Neighbourhoods
- City of Vancouver

Immigrant Population, 2016

- Marpole: 54%
- Other Neighbourhoods
- City of Vancouver

Recent Immigrant Population, 2016

- Marpole: 7%
- Other Neighbourhoods
- City of Vancouver
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 in Marpole, a plurality of residents report Chinese ancestry.

The graphs below show ten-year trends in Marpole and across the city for the four most commonly reported ethnic origins in the neighbourhood: Chinese, English, Filipino and Canadian.
**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, about 370 hundred people—1.5% of Marpole’s population—are Indigenous, compared to 2.4% of the City of Vancouver.¹⁰

The population with Indigenous identity in Marpole has increased in recent census periods, but is still below the citywide rate.

---

**Population with Indigenous Identity, 2016**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>First Nations</th>
<th>Métis</th>
<th>Inuk</th>
<th>Multiple</th>
<th>Other</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Marpole Population 24K</td>
<td>0.9%</td>
<td>0.6%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>1.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>City of Vancouver (Including Musqueam) Population 620K</td>
<td>1.6%</td>
<td>0.7%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>2.4%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Data Source: Statistics Canada, 2016 Census of Population

---

**Population with Indigenous Identity, 1996-2016**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Marpole</th>
<th>City of Vancouver</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1996 Census</td>
<td>1.0%</td>
<td>1.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2001 Census</td>
<td>1.1%</td>
<td>1.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2006 Census</td>
<td>1.1%</td>
<td>1.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2011 NHS</td>
<td>1.5%</td>
<td>2.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016 Census</td>
<td>1.5%</td>
<td>2.4%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

Note: City of Vancouver figures include Musqueam
Demographics of Indigenous Populations

In general, the Indigenous population living in Vancouver is younger than the city’s overall population. In Marpole data are limited and should be used with caution, but show a similar picture in Marpole.

The Indigenous population in Vancouver is diverse, with a majority of people with First Nations or Métis ancestry in Marpole 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.
Racial Identity

In Marpole, about 10,600 residents are identified as Chinese; 7,700 are identified as white; and 1,900 are identified as Filipino.

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. Over two-thirds of the population of Marpole are members of a visible minority group.

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 Marpole 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 Marpole, as a percentage of total population.
Demographics of Racialized Populations

In aggregate, the “visible minority” population in Marpole has a similar age profile to the overall population of the neighbourhood.

However, there are important differences between population groups. Median age in Marpole is oldest for people who identify with a visible minority group that Statistics Canada does not report separately, as well as for people not in a visible minority group. Median age is youngest among Arab residents.
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. Marpole has a notably higher proportion of residents with a non-English mother tongue and home language than the city overall.

Population by English and Other Language Knowledge and Use, 2016

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Language Indicator</th>
<th>Marpole Population 24K</th>
<th>City of Vancouver Population 624K</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Language Knowledge</td>
<td>93%</td>
<td>93%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mother Tongue</td>
<td>38%</td>
<td>51%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Language Used at Home</td>
<td>54%</td>
<td>66%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Data Source: Statistics Canada, 2016 Census of Population

Marpole has a smaller share of its population with knowledge of French, and a larger proportion with non-official language knowledge. As of 2016, 67% of the population in Marpole speak at least one non-official language.

Population by Language Knowledge, 2016

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Language</th>
<th>Marpole</th>
<th>City of Vancouver</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>English</td>
<td>92%</td>
<td>93%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>French</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>An Indigenous language</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>0.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Another non-official</td>
<td>67%</td>
<td>54%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Data Source: Statistics Canada, 2016 Census of Population
Language Knowledge

A more detailed breakdown of language knowledge shows that 24% of Marpole residents are able to speak Mandarin, 22% are able to speak Cantonese and 7% are able to speak Tagalog.

Over time, the rate of people having knowledge of English has been steady. The rate of both Mandarin and Cantonese speakers appears to be growing. The next census will help understand whether these reflect true trends or better classification of Chinese languages by Statistics Canada.
Mother Tongue

Approximately 58% of Marpole residents have a non-English first language. This proportion is higher than the city overall and grew substantially in the 1990s.

Consistent with language knowledge, Cantonese and Mandarin are the most common non-English mother tongues among Marpole residents.
Home Language
As of 2016, 37% of Marpole residents usually use a language other than English at home. This proportion is also quite a bit higher than the city overall, but declining since 2006.12

Cantonese and Mandarin are the most common non-English languages used at home by Marpole residents.
**Immigration**

Marpole has a larger share of immigrants—Canadian citizens or permanent residents—than the city overall. In 2016, 54% of the population are immigrants, and another 5% are non-permanent residents such as foreign students, temporary workers or refugee claimants.

**Population by Immigration Status, 2016**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Born in Canada</th>
<th>Immigrated Pre 2011</th>
<th>Immigrated 2011-2016</th>
<th>Non-Permanent Resident</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Marpole</td>
<td>41%</td>
<td>47%</td>
<td>7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>City of Vancouver</td>
<td>53%</td>
<td>36%</td>
<td>6%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Marpole’s immigrant population grew substantially as a share of the area’s total population through the 1990s and 2000s. Although the rate of immigrants appears to have declined somewhat in 2016, as shown above, newcomers continue to make up the majority of Marpole’s population.

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

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

41% of the population of Marpole was born in Canada. Outside Canada, the most commonly reported places of birth are China, Hong Kong and the Philippines.

There are changing patterns of migration and immigration in Vancouver, though in Marpole China makes up the largest share of both established and recent immigrant populations’ place of birth.
Demographics of Immigrant Populations

Immigrants in Marpole have an older age profile than the area’s overall population.

The area’s newcomer population—including both recent immigrants and non-permanent residents—is concentrated among people in their 20s and 30s, but also includes relatively large populations of youth.
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. Marpole has proportionally more immigrants who were admitted in economic categories, including worker, business and provincial nominee programs; it has a proportionally smaller population of immigrants admitted through family programs and of people who were admitted as refugees and have since become permanent residents.

In Marpole, 86% of established immigrants and 10% of new immigrants have become Canadian citizens, a higher rate for new immigrants than in 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. 5% of Marpole's population are non-permanent residents who live in Vancouver under the conditions of their work or study permit or refugee claim.
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 were born outside Canada. In Marpole, 60% of residents are first-generation, 23% more are second-generation, meaning that only 17% of the population have parents who were both born in Canada.

Except for Indigenous residents, people of all racial identities are in Vancouver because of immigration, whether in current or previous generations. In Marpole, a majority of white residents are first- or second-generation Canadians. Many other population groups include large numbers of people that were born in Canada.
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 Marpole, 30% of people experience a limitation on their daily activities on at least an occasional basis, a similar rate to the city overall.

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.
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.

The charts below compare the rate that people report activity limitations among different demographic groups. In Marpole, older adults and seniors are more likely to report limitations than other age groups; white or Indigenous residents are more likely than people in Black and other racialized groups; and newcomers are much less likely to report limitations.
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, just over half of the population in both Marpole and Vancouver were estimated to have a religious affiliation.

The graphs below show categories of religious affiliation reported in Marpole and the City of Vancouver in 2011. Marpole residents were more likely to identify as Christian or Buddhist than residents of the city overall.

Population by Religious Affiliation, 2011

Data Source: Statistics Canada, 2011 National Household Survey
NEIGHBOURHOOD COMPARISONS

Unemployment Rate for Residents in Labour Force, 2016

- Marpole: 7.2%
- Other Neighbourhoods: 8.5%
- City of Vancouver: 4.6%

Employed Population Walking, Cycling or Transit to Work, 2016

- Marpole: 44%
- Other Neighbourhoods: 71%
- City of Vancouver: 55%


- Marpole: 71%
- Other Neighbourhoods: 85%
- City of Vancouver: 65%
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. 25% of the population in Marpole have incomes below this measure. While assessing trends over time is challenging given changing measures, the poverty rate appears to be consistently higher than the city overall.

People in most age groups are more likely to experience poverty in Marpole than across the city.

Poverty Rate by Age Group, 2016

Data Source: Statistics Canada, 2016 Census of Population, data accessed through Community Data Program. Note that income statistics in the census program are for the previous year.
**Equity and Poverty**

Poverty does not strike randomly: inadequate income to meet basic needs correlates with other systems of oppression and inequity. In Marpole, Indigenous residents and newcomers are disproportionately likely to experience poverty.

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

- **Rate for specific group within Marpole**
- **Overall rate in Marpole**

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**

- **Rate for specific group within City of Vancouver**
- **Overall rate in City of Vancouver**
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%. Marpole has more low-income earners than the city, with 19% of residents in the bottom 10% of earners and 31% in the bottom 20% of earners.

The graph below estimates a Gini coefficient using total personal and household income categories. Marpole can be seen to have a slightly more equitable distribution of income than the city overall.

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 Marpole’s growth in population has been relatively concentrated among people in lower-income categories.

Income inequity and polarization again intersect with other forms of inequity experienced by different groups in the city. In Marpole, newcomers and Indigenous residents are much more likely to experience relatively lower incomes.
Individual Income

Among people 15 years of age and older, 96% of Marpole residents reported having income in the year prior to the 2016 census. The neighbourhood has a somewhat smaller proportion of residents reporting employment income and more reporting income from government transfers than the city overall.

The distribution of personal income in Marpole skews to lower income brackets compared to the distribution across the entire city's population.
Equity and Individual Income
As of 2016, median personal income in Marpole for all residents is lower than Vancouver’s. The income gap between men and women is smaller in Marpole than in the city overall.

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

There are also important inequities in median income based on people’s Indigenous and racial identities. The population not in a visible minority group in Marpole has the highest median income, while Chinese population has the lowest.

Median Personal Income by Population Group, 2016
**Family Income**

Median family income is lower in Marpole than in the City of Vancouver overall across all family types.

![Median Total Family Income by Family Type, 2016](image)

After adjusting for inflation, median family income in Marpole increased from 1996 onwards but has been consistently lower than the city overall.

![Median Family Income, 1981-2016 (Inflation-Adjusted)](image)
Household Income

Marpole has a larger percentage of households in the lower income brackets than the city overall. 12% of Marpole households have total income under $15 thousand, and 28% of households have total income under $30 thousand.

Adjusting for inflation, median household income for Marpole mirrored citywide trends during the 1980s and 1990s, but has increased slower than the city in the recent censuses.
Housing Costs

Average rent in Marpole is 15% lower than the average for the City of Vancouver. The average reported value of an owned dwelling in Marpole has increased by 266% over and above inflation since 2006.16

In Marpole, 46% of rented households and 31% of owned households are spending more than 30% of their total income on housing costs.17 These are both higher rates than the city overall.
Labour Force
The labour force participation rate among persons age 15 and over in Marpole is much lower than for the city overall. The rate has been stable at 63% since 2006.

![Labour Force Participation Rate, 1981-2016](image)

The unemployment rate for Marpole residents has generally been more stable than the city overall. In 2016, 7% of Marpole residents were in the labour force looking for work but unable to access it.

![Unemployment Rate, 1981-2016](image)
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.

Younger workers in Marpole are most likely to experience unemployment, along with workers with relatively lower incomes and newcomers.
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. As of 2016, 43% of working Marpole residents work part-time and/or seasonal employment.

Access to full-time work is not equitably distributed across the population, with some populations more likely to experience precarious employment. In Marpole, sharp divisions by income, level of formal education and immigration status are visible.
Journey to Work

The nature of work is changing over time as industries, technologies and the regional distribution of jobs change. 60% of Marpole residents work inside the city, a lower rate than for people living in the city overall. Marpole residents have longer commutes than residents of the city overall, with a slight majority of people in Marpole taking over half an hour to get to work. Marpole has relatively more workers leaving for work between noon and 5 am—likely reflecting late or overnight shift work—than the city overall.
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 Marpole are less likely to use active transportation but more likely to use public transit to get to work.

The proportion of commuters using sustainable transportation modes has increased over time in both Marpole and the city overall. As of 2016, 44% of people living in the neighbourhood and reporting a usual place of work typically use walking, cycling or public transit to get there.
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.

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

As of 2016, the top two industries\textsuperscript{19} employing Marpole residents are: retail trade; and health and social assistance. Compared to the city, Marpole has fewer residents working in professional, scientific and technical industries, but more residents working in transportation and warehousing.

The top occupations\textsuperscript{20} employing Marpole residents are: sales and service; and business, finance and administration. Compared to the city overall, Marpole residents are less likely to work in management as well as education, law and public service occupations.
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 Marpole there is a shift away from traditional industries like manufacturing and construction over time and toward service sectors.

Marpole: Labour Force by Broad Industries 2001-2016

This shift is also seen at the citywide level. Marpole has relatively fewer workers in creative or financial industries and more in service sectors than the city overall.

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

Data Source: Statistics Canada, Census of Population and 2011 National Household Survey
Industry classification varies between census periods so categories may not be consistent
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 Marpole. Many groups, including younger workers, Indigenous residents and newcomers, are disproportionately likely to work in service industries.

Marpole: 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 Marpole, while the gender gap is narrower than it was in the 1980s and early 1990s, there is a 10-point difference in labour force participation for men and women in the neighbourhood.

A breakdown of occupations in Marpole shows men are most over-represented in science as well as trades and transport occupations. Women are most over-represented in health care and education, law and public service occupations.
Formal Education

Marpole residents have post-secondary credentials at a similar rate to the city overall, with only a slightly larger rate of people who only have a high school diploma.

The overall rate of post-secondary credentials in Marpole has been relatively consistent, but declined somewhat in the 2016 census. There is a shift at both the city and neighbourhood level toward university degrees making up a greater share of post-secondary certificates.
Equity and Formal Education

There is a broad shift toward higher levels of formal education; among Vancouver’s population, older residents are much less likely to have a university degree than younger residents. But there are also other inequities in access to education.

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.
Fields and Locations of Study
The top fields of study for post-secondary education in Marpole are: business, management and public administration; architecture and engineering; and social sciences and law.

Marpole residents are more likely than residents of the City of Vancouver to have a post-secondary credential from outside Canada, though the rate is decreasing. In 2016, 40% of residents received their credential from an international institution, compared to 46% in 2006.
NEIGHBOURHOOD COMPARISONS

Very Good or Excellent Mental Health, 2013/2014

- Marpole
- Other Neighbourhoods
- City of Vancouver

Strong Sense of Belonging, 2013/2014

- Marpole
- Other Neighbourhoods
- City of Vancouver

Four or More People in Support Network, 2013/2014

- Marpole
- Other Neighbourhoods
- City of Vancouver
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. Nearly of children in Marpole are considered “vulnerable” on one or more scales, a higher rate than the city overall. The most recent survey waves have seen an significant increase in vulnerabilities in Marpole.

Specific developmental domains with increased rates of children being assessed as vulnerable include the social, emotional and language scales of the EDI. There has not been a net change in the vulnerability rates on the physical health and communication scales, but this may change in the next survey if trends continue.
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. Children in Marpole have tended to have lower well-being scores than the City of Vancouver overall and the average across participating Metro Vancouver school districts.21

The charts below show the rate at which children identify assets in the MDI, including adult relationships; peer relationships; nutrition and sleep; and after-school activities.

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 children identify assets in the MDI, including adult relationships; peer relationships; nutrition and sleep; and after-school activities.

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. People in Marpole are less likely to rate their physical health as good or to have a high wellness score. However, they are a little more likely to report good mental health and to have a body mass index score considered healthy.

Overall Health Status and Perceptions, 2013-2014

Marpole residents report the presence of chronic conditions, arthritis, high blood pressure and stress at similar rates to residents of Vancouver overall, but are notably less likely to self-report having a mood or anxiety disorder.

Reported Health Conditions, 2013-2014
Preventive Care and Healthy Behaviours

Marpole residents are more likely to have a family doctor and to have received a flu shot in the past year. They are a little less likely to have visited a dentist in the past year. More than eight in ten residents in both Marpole and the city have visited a health professional at least once in the previous year, and seven in ten walk at least half an hour each day.

Sleep and screen time habits are similar between Marpole and the City of Vancouver overall, with Marpole residents a little less likely to have inadequate sleep but more likely to have excessive screen time. Marpole residents are more likely to eat fast food frequently, but are less likely to binge drink or smoke.

Data Source: Vancouver Coastal Health/Fraser Health, My Health My Community Survey
Connections, Resilience and Built Environments

Marpole residents are less likely than residents of the city overall to report a strong sense of belonging and to have four or more people in their social support networks. They feel safe walking at night at a similar rate to the city overall, and are a little more likely to have emergency supplies set aside.

![Neighbourhood Social Connections and Resilience, 2013-2014](chart)

Except for the quality of sidewalk maintenance Marpole residents have less positive perceptions of the built environment than residents of the city overall. Access to amenities, active transportation, fresh food and natural spaces all rated lower in Marpole.

![Perceptions of Built Environments, 2013-2014](chart)
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, a little more than three quarters of respondents in Marpole and Sunset (combined) indicated very good or somewhat good access to services, a similar rate to the city overall.

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. Marpole and Sunset respondents were less likely to report good access to community services, but more likely to report good access to social services.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Overall Rating of Quality of Access to Services, 2017</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Marpole, Sunset</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Very good</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>31%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Somewhat good</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>47%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Neither good nor poor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Somewhat poor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Very poor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Don’t know/no answer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>City of Vancouver</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Very good</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Somewhat good</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>47%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Neither good nor poor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Somewhat poor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Very poor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Don’t know/no answer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Data Source: City of Vancouver, Access to Services Survey

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. Marpole and Sunset respondents were less likely to report good access to community services, but more likely to report good access to social services.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Quality of Access to Health, Community and Social Services, 2017</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Marpole, Sunset</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Overall good access to services</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>78%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Good access to health services</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>77%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Good access to social services</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>76%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Good access to community services</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>75%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>City of Vancouver</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Overall good access to services</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>75%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Good access to health services</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>81%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Good access to social services</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>47%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Good access to community services</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>44%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Data Source: City of Vancouver, Access to Services Survey
Life Expectancy

Finally, life expectancy is an overall indicator of health and well-being. For people born in 2019 in the Community Health Service Area that covers Oakridge and Marpole, BC Stats estimates a life expectancy of 87.5 years, higher than for the city overall.

![Estimated Life Expectancy at Birth, 2019](image)

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](image)
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 Marpole to help inform community knowledge and action to respond to and shape change.

The changing landscape in Marpole exemplifies the complexity of modern-day Vancouver. The area contains a unique mix of older apartment stock with single-family and semi-detached housing. The neighbourhood also maintains a supply of relatively affordable rent that has not increased as rapidly as rent in the rest of the city. Rapid transit along Cambie Street has impacted Marpole substantially and has led to substantial growth around Marine Drive Station. While this has brought services and amenities to the area, this change may also place pressure on the existing affordable rental stock and the industrial lands located nearby. How Marpole changes in the future may indicate if Vancouver is a healthy, equitable and inclusive city for all.

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:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Something I already knew about this area</th>
<th>Something that surprises me</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Something that local organizations are addressing</td>
<td>Something that indicates an unmet need</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Something that more data is needed to understand</td>
<td>Something important that data can’t answer</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

1 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.

2 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.

3 This graph counts private households classified as “apartment, under five storeys” and “apartment, five or more storeys”.

4 Housing tenure is self-reported on the census, so rented households include both purpose-built and secondary rental households.

5 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.

6 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.

7 Note that the census limits “family” to mean nuclear or lone-parent arrangements and does not include all family types.

8 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.

9 Note that the census form allows for multiple responses, so the categories are not exclusive.

10 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.

11 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.

12 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.

13 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.

14 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.

15 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.

16 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.

17 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.

18 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.

19 Based on the North American Industry Classification System (NAICS), 2012.

20 Based on the National Occupational Classification, 2016.

21 Note that school districts participating in the MDI vary each year, so readers should be cautious in drawing trends.