

## COMMENTARY

Of the 2,978,248 persons enumerated at the 1971 Census, 2,858,603 were in private households in permanent housing units, 104,880 were in institutions and other such permanent premises while 14,765 were living in caravans or other temporary accommodation. There were in all 726,363 private households in permanent housing units and these are the subject of most of the tables in this Report.

While the total number of households rose from 687,304 to 726,363 between 1966 and 1971 (an increase of 5.7 percent), there were large variations within particular household types. The numbers of each type of household in 1961, 1966 and 1971 and the percentage changes between 1961 and 1966 and between 1966 and 1971 are shown in Table A.

**TABLE A:- PRIVATE HOUSEHOLDS CLASSIFIED BY TYPE, 1961, 1966 AND 1971 AND PERCENTAGE CHANGE IN EACH CATEGORY.**

Type of household	Total households			Percentage change	
	1961	1966	1971	1961-66	1966-71
One person	85,388	88,989	102,787	% + 4.2	% + 15.5
Man and wife	58,691	62,153	72,479	+ 5.9	+ 16.6
Man, wife and one or more children (of any age)	249,988	266,891	291,440	+ 6.8	+ 9.2
One parent and one or more children (of any age)	74,225	68,191	63,897	- 8.1	- 6.3
Man and wife with other persons	20,742	19,018	18,610	- 8.3	- 2.1
Man, wife and one or more children (of any age) with other persons	70,662	69,475	68,496	- 1.7	- 1.4
One parent and one or more children (of any age) with other persons	23,308	19,469	17,195	- 16.5	- 11.7
Two family units with or without other persons	21,923	24,134	24,727	+ 10.1	+ 2.5
Three or more family units with or without other persons	286	448	476	+ 56.6	+ 6.3
Two or more persons but not including a family unit	71,189	68,536	66,256	- 3.7	- 3.3
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>676,402</b>	<b>687,304</b>	<b>726,363</b>	<b>+ 1.6</b>	<b>+ 5.7</b>

Households consisting only of husband and wife rose by 16.6 percent and one person households by 15.5 percent between 1966 and 1971 as compared with respective increases of 5.9 percent and 4.2 percent between 1961 and 1966. On the other hand, the number of households with one parent and one or more children fell by 6.3 percent between 1966 and 1971 and the number with one parent, one or more children and other persons by 11.7 percent. Decreases in the number of these types of households were also shown in the 1961-66 period, the respective percentage falls being 8.1 and 16.5. In the case of all types of households, the 1961-66 trend upwards or downwards was continued in the next five-year period.

Table B classifies households by size (number of persons in household) for the same years covered in Table A.

**TABLE B:- PRIVATE HOUSEHOLDS CLASSIFIED BY HOUSEHOLD SIZE, 1961, 1966 AND 1971 AND PERCENTAGE CHANGE IN EACH CATEGORY.**

Number of persons in household	Total private households			Percentage change	
	1961	1966	1971	1961-66	1966-71
				%	%
1	85,388	88,989	102,787	+ 4.2	+ 15.5
2	137,287	139,541	149,467	+ 1.6	+ 7.1
3	116,876	114,436	115,781	- 2.1	+ 1.2
4	98,233	97,058	102,195	- 1.2	+ 5.3
5	78,432	79,320	84,035	+ 1.1	+ 5.9
6	59,213	61,068	64,971	+ 3.1	+ 6.4
7	40,903	42,512	43,714	+ 4.0	+ 2.8
8	26,207	27,098	27,022	+ 3.4	- 0.3
9	15,620	16,550	16,118	+ 6.0	- 2.6
10	9,571	10,230	10,346	+ 6.9	+ 1.1
11	4,370	4,898	4,401	+12.1	- 10.1
12 or more	4,302	5,604	5,526	+30.3	- 1.4
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>676,402</b>	<b>687,304</b>	<b>726,363</b>	<b>+ 1.6</b>	<b>+ 5.7</b>

The greatest increase in households of different sizes occurred in the case of those containing one person only -- these increased from 88,989 to 102,787 (a rise of 15.5 percent) as compared with a rise of 4.2 percent in the preceding five year period. Two person households increased by 7.1 percent between 1966 and 1971 as compared with 1.6 percent in the earlier period. Households containing from three to seven persons increased by 4.1 percent from 394,394 to 410,696 between 1966 and 1971 whereas the number of households with eight or more persons fell slightly from 64,380 to 63,413. Over the 1961-66 period, all sizes of households, except those with three or four persons, registered an increase.

Table C compares the distribution of households by type in the Aggregate Town Area and Aggregate Rural Area.

**TABLE C:- PRIVATE HOUSEHOLDS IN PERMANENT HOUSING UNITS IN THE STATE AND IN THE AGGREGATE TOWN AND AGGREGATE RURAL AREAS, CLASSIFIED BY TYPE AND PERCENTAGE DISTRIBUTION BY TYPE.**

Type of household	Total	Aggregate town area	Aggregate rural area	Percentage distribution		
				Total	Aggregate town area	Aggregate rural area
				%	%	%
One person	102,787	48,161	54,626	14.2	13.1	15.3
Man and wife	72,479	39,152	33,327	10.0	10.6	9.3
Man, wife and one or more children (of any age)	291,440	168,440	123,000	40.1	45.7	34.4
One parent and one or more children (of any age)	63,897	28,688	35,209	8.8	7.8	9.8
Man and wife with other persons	18,610	8,269	10,341	2.6	2.2	2.9
Man, wife and one or more children (of any age) with other persons	68,496	28,231	40,265	9.4	7.7	11.3
One parent and one or more children (of any age) with other persons	17,195	7,446	9,749	2.4	2.0	2.7
Two family units with or without other persons	24,727	10,600	14,127	3.4	2.9	3.9
Three or more family units with or without other persons	476	283	193	0.1	0.1	0.1
Two or more persons but not including a family unit	66,256	29,274	36,982	9.1	7.9	10.3
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>726,363</b>	<b>368,544</b>	<b>357,819</b>	<b>100.-</b>	<b>100.-</b>	<b>100.-</b>

The main difference between these two areas occurs in the case of households consisting of husband and wife with one or more single children (of any age) which represents the most frequently occurring family situation in each case. Households of this type formed 45.7 percent of the total in the Aggregate Town Area as against only 34.4 percent in the Aggregate Rural Area.

With the exception of households consisting of husband and wife only and those containing three or more family units, the percentages for the Aggregate Rural Areas for all other categories were higher.

#### AGE GROUP OF HEAD AND HEADSHIP RATES

Households are classified in Table D by type and by the sex and age group of the head.

**TABLE D:- PRIVATE HOUSEHOLDS IN PERMANENT HOUSING UNITS CLASSIFIED BY TYPE, SEX AND AGE GROUP OF HEAD OF HOUSEHOLD.**

Type of household	Total	Male head				Female head			
		Age group				Age group			
		Under 25	25-44	45-64	65 and over	Under 25	25-44	45-64	65 and over
One person	102,787	1,779	9,598	24,028	16,762	2,062	4,877	17,334	26,347
Man and wife	72,479	3,800	16,080	26,121	26,000	28	60	236	154
Man, wife and one or more children (of any age)	291,440	5,906	129,519	127,035	28,266	33	236	373	72
One parent and one or more children (of any age)	63,897	250	4,948	7,792	6,692	149	4,714	21,119	18,233
Man and wife with other persons	18,610	276	2,916	7,108	5,765	28	125	953	1,439
Man, wife and one or more children (of any age) with other persons	68,496	431	22,370	30,684	8,924	23	209	1,931	3,924
One parent and one or more children (of any age) with other persons	17,195	56	1,265	2,227	1,727	24	1,313	6,141	4,442
Two family units with or without other persons	24,727	129	4,621	8,655	7,083	9	252	2,247	1,731
Three or more family units with or without other persons	476	-	43	226	102	-	3	73	29
Two or more persons but not including a family unit	66,256	1,842	5,662	17,957	11,459	3,356	3,055	10,043	12,882
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>726,363</b>	<b>14,469</b>	<b>197,022</b>	<b>251,833</b>	<b>112,780</b>	<b>5,712</b>	<b>14,844</b>	<b>60,450</b>	<b>69,253</b>

The number of households with male heads was 576,104 or 79.3 percent of the total and of these, 34.2 percent were in the 25-44 age group while a further 43.7 percent were in the 45-64 age group. A further 19.6 percent were aged 65 years and over, leaving 2.5 percent in the 15-24 age group. In the case of households with female heads, a far greater proportion, 69,253 or 46.1 percent, were in the 65 and over age group. Of these, 26,347 were in one person households and 18,233 were in households consisting of one parent and one or more single children (of any age). There were in all a total of 81,092 one parent households, 24,957 with male heads and 56,135 with female heads.

The "headship" rates, that is the percentage of males and females in various age groups who were heads of households, are shown in Table E for 1966 and 1971.

**TABLE E:- PERCENTAGE OF MALES AND FEMALES IN EACH AGE GROUP WHO WERE HEADS OF HOUSEHOLDS, 1966-1971.**

Age group	All households (a)		Excluding one-person households (b)	
	1966	1971	1966	1971
	%	%	%	%
<b>Males</b>				
Under 25 years	3.7	5.9	3.2	5.2
25-44 years	57.3	62.3	55.9	61.1
45-64 "	81.1	82.3	79.6	80.8
65 years and over	74.2	74.9	71.4	71.7
<b>Females</b>				
Under 25 years	1.9	2.4	1.3	1.6
25-44 years	5.0	4.8	3.7	3.3
45-64 "	20.4	20.0	15.9	15.1
65 years and over	37.3	38.6	28.9	28.1

(a) Including one-person households.

(b) Excluding one-person households.

These rates are also given with one-person households excluded. The number of such households is fairly substantial, particularly in the case of older people, and each such person is regarded as the head of a household. The effect of their exclusion from this Table is to reduce considerably the headship rates in the case of older females.

If persons living alone are excluded, headship rates increased for all male age groups and for females aged under 25 between 1966 and 1971 but decreased for older females. The increase in the headship rates for males in the 25-44 age group is consistent with an increased proportion of married males in this age group and this would also explain the fall in the rate in the corresponding age group for females. Headship rates for males in 1971 varied from 5.2 percent in the under 25 age group to 80.8 percent for the 45-64 age group and decreased to 71.7 percent in the 65 years and over group. For females, the rate was highest in the oldest age group, being 28.1 percent for those aged 65 years and over as compared with 15.1 percent in the 45-64 age group and 3.3 percent for those aged between 25 and 44.

Table F gives similar rates for single, married and widowed males and females in 1966 and 1971.

**TABLE F:- PERCENTAGE OF SINGLE, MARRIED AND WIDOWED MALES AND FEMALES WHO WERE HEADS OF HOUSEHOLDS.**

	All households (a)		Excluding one-person households (b)	
	1966	1971	1966	1971
	%	%	%	%
<b>Males</b>				
Single	18.4	18.6	11.4	10.8
Married	89.6	89.7	89.5	89.6
Widowed	69.5	70.8	63.5	63.7
<b>Females</b>				
Single	11.8	12.7	6.3	6.4
Married	3.4	2.8	3.0	2.3
Widowed	66.0	67.9	60.5	61.0

(a) Including one-person households.

(b) Excluding one-person households.

This Table shows that 89.7 percent of married males were heads of households which explains the increase in headship rates mentioned previously for age groups containing the greatest proportion of married men. There was very little change between 1966 and 1971 in the headship rates for the three categories, single, married and widowed for either males or females.

#### SOCIO-ECONOMIC GROUPS

The composition of households in each socio-economic group is outlined in Table G. The household types have been combined in this Table into five main groups.

TABLE G:- PERCENTAGE DISTRIBUTION, BY TYPE IN EACH SOCIO-ECONOMIC GROUP.

Type of household	Total households	Percentage distribution											
		Farmers, farmers' relatives and farm managers	Other agricultural occupations and fishermen	Higher professional	Lower professional	Employers and managers	Salaried employees	Inter-mediate non-manual workers	Other non-manual workers	Skilled manual workers	Semi-skilled manual workers	Unskilled manual workers	Unknown
One person	14.2	14.4	16.0	8.7	16.4	4.6	3.5	13.1	8.7	4.5	9.5	7.7	46.2
Man and wife with or without children (of any age)	50.1	38.4	51.6	59.3	49.4	65.5	73.9	49.9	61.4	69.5	52.3	62.1	16.3
Man and wife with or without children (of any age) with other persons	12.0	16.4	11.0	13.2	10.0	17.2	13.8	9.7	11.7	12.0	9.9	11.5	3.6
One parent and one or more children (of any age) with or without other persons	11.2	14.2	10.1	4.4	11.7	5.9	4.4	14.4	9.7	7.6	18.3	9.6	10.7
Other households	12.6	16.6	11.4	14.4	12.5	6.8	4.5	12.9	8.5	6.4	10.0	9.1	23.2
TOTAL	100.-	100.-	100.-	100.-	100.-	100.-	100.-	100.-	100.-	100.-	100.-	100.-	100.-
Number of households	726,363	178,682	32,999	18,691	23,715	36,506	14,303	80,298	65,955	104,760	33,890	60,177	76,387

There are considerable differences between the various socio-economic groups in the way households are structured. Thus, in the Salaried employees and Skilled manual workers groups, approximately 70 percent of households are of the type man and wife with or without children (without other persons) whereas only 38 percent of households in the Farmers, farmers' relatives and farm managers group are of this type. One person households were more common in the Lower professional and in the Agricultural groups whereas one parent households formed a greater proportion of the total in the Semi-skilled manual workers, Intermediate non-manual workers and Farmers, farmers' relatives and farm managers group.

### HOUSEHOLD DENSITY

Table H shows the percentage distribution of persons in each type of household according to number of persons per room.

**TABLE H:- DISTRIBUTION OF PERSONS IN EACH TYPE OF HOUSEHOLD ACCORDING TO HOUSING DENSITY.**

Type of household	Total persons	Percentage distribution by housing density									Total
		Up to and incl. 0.5 persons per room	Over 0.5 but under 1 person per room	1 person per room	Over 1 but under 1.5 persons per room	1.5 but under 2 persons per room	2 persons per room	Over 2 but under 3 persons per room	3 or more persons per room	Not known	
One person	102,787	89.0	-	10.6	-	-	-	-	-	0.3	100.-
Man and wife	144,958	68.7	19.3	9.3	-	-	2.5	-	-	0.2	100.-
Man, wife and one or more children (of any age)	1,519,320	4.1	24.1	16.2	20.4	17.1	6.3	8.0	3.7	0.2	100.-
One parent and one or more children (of any age)	195,609	28.5	31.6	15.8	10.1	7.7	2.7	2.5	0.9	0.2	100.-
Man and wife with other persons	60,919	20.0	52.7	19.3	4.0	3.0	0.4	0.1	0.2	0.2	100.-
Man, wife and one or more children (of any age) with other persons	431,092	1.2	17.9	15.3	26.2	20.7	7.0	8.6	3.0	0.3	100.-
One parent and one or more children (of any age) with other persons	75,041	8.3	35.4	19.7	17.1	11.6	3.1	3.3	1.2	0.2	100.-
Two family units with or without other persons	162,277	0.7	11.5	12.0	25.2	25.6	9.1	11.4	4.2	0.2	100.-
Three or more family units with or without other persons	4,399	-	5.1	1.8	16.7	22.9	12.6	28.1	12.2	0.5	100.-
Two or more persons but not including a family unit	162,201	43.1	31.8	15.1	3.3	2.8	2.7	0.3	0.5	0.3	100.-
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>2,858,603</b>	<b>14.1</b>	<b>23.2</b>	<b>15.3</b>	<b>17.7</b>	<b>14.8</b>	<b>5.5</b>	<b>6.5</b>	<b>2.8</b>	<b>0.2</b>	<b>100.-</b>

The overall proportion of persons living in households with a density of two or more persons per room was 14.8 percent. There are however considerable differences between the various types of households in regard to this measure. The proportion of persons in households consisting of man, wife and children with or without other persons living in such households was 18.1 percent; the corresponding figure, however, for households containing two family units was 24.7 percent and for those with three or more family units was as high as 52.9 percent. On the other hand only a very small proportion of persons in households of the type man and wife or man and wife with other persons were in households with this density.

#### NATURE OF OCCUPANCY

Households are classified in Table I by type and by nature of occupancy.

**TABLE I:- PRIVATE HOUSEHOLDS IN PERMANENT HOUSING UNITS CLASSIFIED BY TYPE AND BY NATURE OF OCCUPANCY.**

Type of household	Total households	Rented			Purchase or vested cottage scheme	Owner occupied	Special terms (caretaker, company official, etc.)
		From local authority	Unfurnished, other than from local authority	Furnished			
One person	102,787	11,744	12,647	10,694	8,482	55,274	3,946
Man and wife	72,479	7,122	9,518	5,114	6,728	41,844	2,153
Man, wife and one or more children (of any age)	291,440	58,836	25,119	7,137	28,459	166,367	5,522
One parent and one or more children (of any age)	63,897	11,942	5,011	815	7,489	37,671	969
Man and wife with other persons	18,610	1,948	1,423	308	2,015	12,514	402
Man, wife and one or more children (of any age) with other persons	68,496	8,049	3,500	682	7,339	47,847	1,079
One parent and one or more children (of any age) with other persons	17,195	2,576	1,124	153	1,950	11,131	261
Two family units with or without other persons	24,727	4,884	1,181	147	3,812	14,393	310
Three or more family units with or without other persons	476	142	27	1	94	206	6
Two or more persons but not including a family unit	66,256	5,466	5,498	6,785	4,806	41,139	2,562
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>726,363</b>	<b>112,709</b>	<b>65,048</b>	<b>31,836</b>	<b>71,174</b>	<b>428,386</b>	<b>17,210</b>



The distribution by type of households in the owner occupied category, which accounted for just under 59 percent of all households, was fairly close to that for all households. However, in the case of the next highest single category — rented from local authority — over 50 percent of all households were of the type man, wife and one or more children (without other persons) as compared with 40 percent of all households. This category contained a smaller proportion of households with either one person, man and wife or two or more persons not including a family unit.

Just over one-third of all rented furnished households were occupied by one person only as compared with one-seventh of all households. On the other hand, less than one-quarter of households in the category were occupied by households consisting of man, wife and one or more children (without other persons) whereas 40 percent of all households were of this type.

#### TEMPORARY HOUSING UNITS

Table J deals with private households in temporary housing units and with various characteristics of persons in these households.

**TABLE J:— PRIVATE HOUSEHOLDS IN TEMPORARY HOUSING UNITS CLASSIFIED BY TYPE AND NUMBER OF CHILDREN UNDER 14, DEPENDENT CHILDREN UNDER 16, GAINFULLY OCCUPIED PERSONS, UNEMPLOYED PERSONS AND PERSONS AGED 65 YEARS AND OVER.**

Type of household	Total households	Total persons	Children under 14 years of age	Dependent children under 16	Gainfully occupied persons	Unemployed persons	Persons aged 65 +
One person	826	826	—	—	489	120	269
Man and wife with or without children (of any age)	2,904	12,026	5,460	5,647	3,137	375	157
Man and wife with or without children (of any age) with other persons	120	723	310	326	182	26	41
One parent and one or more children (of any age) with or without other persons	184	694	271	301	197	29	32
Other households	146	496	67	77	269	24	58
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>4,180</b>	<b>14,765</b>	<b>6,108</b>	<b>6,351</b>	<b>4,274</b>	<b>574</b>	<b>557</b>

There was a total of 4,180 such households containing 14,765 persons in 1971. The largest single type was that of man and wife with or without children (without other persons) which contained 2,904 of these households and 12,026 of the persons. Children under 14 years of age accounted for 5,460 of these persons. Of the total of 4,274 gainfully occupied persons in these households, 3,137 were in households of the type mentioned above. A further 489 gainfully occupied persons were in one person households. Only 557 of the total number of persons in these households were aged 65 years and over. There were 269 of these older persons in one-person households.