

Families, Households, Marital Status and Dwellings

2011 Census Highlights

Almost 900 Children in Foster Care

For the first time, data and analysis related to **foster children** was released in the 2011 Census. Foster children are considered as 'other relatives' in an economic family (i.e., a group of two or more persons who live in the same dwelling and are related to each other by blood, marriage, common-law, adoption or foster relationship). Foster children are counted based on responses to a specific category of Question 6 on the census questionnaire.

- The 2011 Census counted foster children for the first time. Only a small number of children are placed in the foster care system when they do not live in their parental home. A total of 870 foster children were reported in New Brunswick.
- The majority of foster children reported in the province in 2011 were aged 14 and under (450 or 52.0%). Another 30.6% were aged 15 to 19, while the remaining 17.3% were aged 20 and over.
- Among foster children aged 14 and under, 28.9% were aged 0 to 4, 26.7% were aged 5 to 9, while 44.4% were aged 10 to 14. There was a higher proportion of foster children aged 14 and under who were boys (53.3%) than girls (46.7%) in 2011.

