

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

*HIS WORSHIP, THE MAYOR
AND COUNCILLORS*

SUBJECT: SOCIAL AND DEMOGRAPHIC TRENDS IN BURNABY

RECOMMENDATION:

1. THAT Council receive this report for information.

REPORT

The Community Development Committee, at its meeting held on 2009 November 24, received and adopted the *attached* report providing information on social and demographic trends in Burnaby.

The report highlights a few of the notable trends contained in the recently published document *Social and Demographic Trends in Burnaby and Neighbouring Communities: 1981 to 2006*. The complete document (*provided under separate cover to Council*) provides a statistical overview of the significant changes that have occurred in Burnaby over the last twenty-five years and establishes a baseline for monitoring changes for the future.

Respectfully submitted,

Councillor C. Jordan
Chair

Concillor D. Johnston
Vice Chair

Councillor P. Calendino
Member

Copied to:	City Manager
	Deputy City Manager
	Director Planning and Building
	Director Engineering
	Director Finance
	Director Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services
	City Solicitor
	OIC, RCMP
	Fire Chief
	Chief Building Inspector
	Chief Licence Inspector
	Chief Librarian

TO: CHAIR AND MEMBERS
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
COMMITTEE

DATE: 2009 November 19

FROM: DIRECTOR PLANNING AND BUILDING

SUBJECT: SOCIAL AND DEMOGRAPHIC TRENDS IN BURNABY

PURPOSE: To provide information to the Committee on social and demographic trends in Burnaby.

RECOMMENDATION:

1. **THAT** the Committee forward a copy of this report to Council for information purposes.

REPORT

1.0 INTRODUCTION

Over the last twenty-five years Burnaby has experienced significant changes in its demographic profile. It has become a much more urban and culturally diverse community. Using Statistics Canada's Census data from 1981 to 2006, staff have recently prepared a publication that provides a statistical picture of the changes. The publication provides information on population size, age structure, families, households, cultural diversity, labour force, education and income. To add perspective to Burnaby's current profile, 2006 Census data is included for neighbouring communities and Metro Vancouver as a whole. The publication, titled *Social and Demographic Trends in Burnaby and Neighbouring Communities: 1981 to 2006*, is now available in the What's New section of the City's website (www.burnaby.ca). A hard copy of the report has been provided under separate cover.

The publication will be of interest to anyone seeking to gain a statistical understanding of Burnaby and its residents. City departments, outside agencies and the community at large will be able to use the publication to inform their planning, programming and resource allocation decisions.

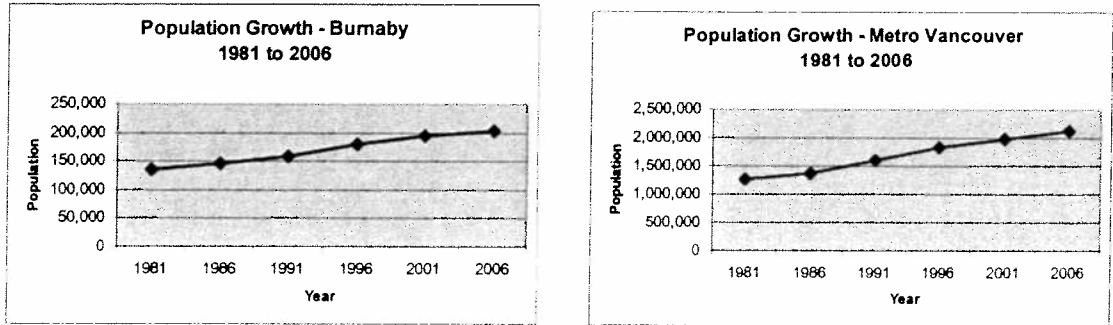
This report highlights some of the notable trends from the publication.

2.0 TRENDS

Population Growth

Over the last twenty-five years, Burnaby's population has grown by 49%, from 136,494 in 1981 to 202,799 in 2006. By comparison, Metro Vancouver's population grew by 67% from 1,268,185 in 1981 to 2,116,585 in 2006. In the period from 1981 to 2006, Burnaby had an annual average growth rate of 1.9% compared to 2.68% for the region.

Population Growth in Burnaby and Metro Vancouver

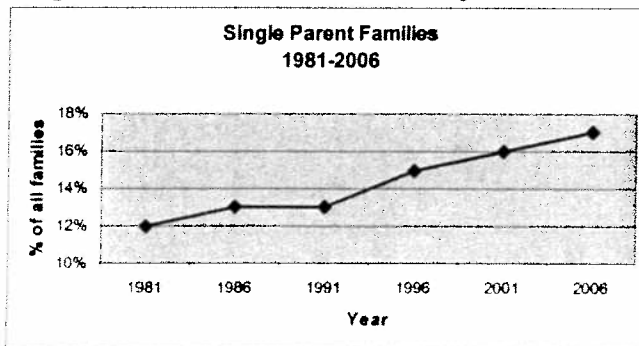


Families

In 2006, there were 56,035 census families¹ in Burnaby, up from 36,175 in 1981. The majority of families were headed by couples (83%) while 17% were headed by single parents. In Metro Vancouver, 15% of families were headed by single parents.

As shown below, there has been a steady increase in the percentage of single parent families in Burnaby since 1981.

Single Parent Families in Burnaby



¹ A census family generally refers to a couple (married or common-law) and their children who live together in the same home; a single parent and his or her child(ren) who live in the same home; or a couple without any children who live in the same home. A census family is often referred to as a nuclear family.

Dwellings

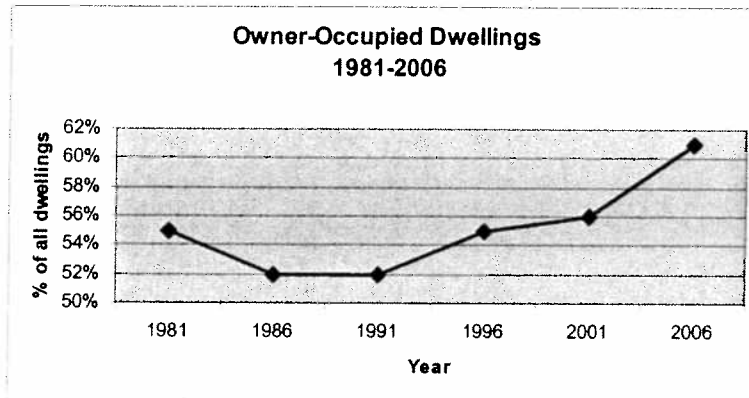
There has been a notable change in the type of dwellings occupied by Burnaby residents over the last twenty-five years. In 1981 single family houses represented over half (52%) of the city's housing stock compared to only 28% in 2006. In contrast, apartments in high rise buildings increased from 10% of the city's housing stock in 1981 to 19% in 2006.

In Metro Vancouver, single family houses comprised 35% of the housing stock while apartments in high rise buildings comprised 13% in 2006.

Home ownership

Since 1991, home ownership rates have steadily increased. In 2006, 61% of Burnaby households owned their dwellings compared to 52% in 1986 and 1991. Across the region, 65% of households owned their dwellings.

Owner-Occupied Dwellings in Burnaby

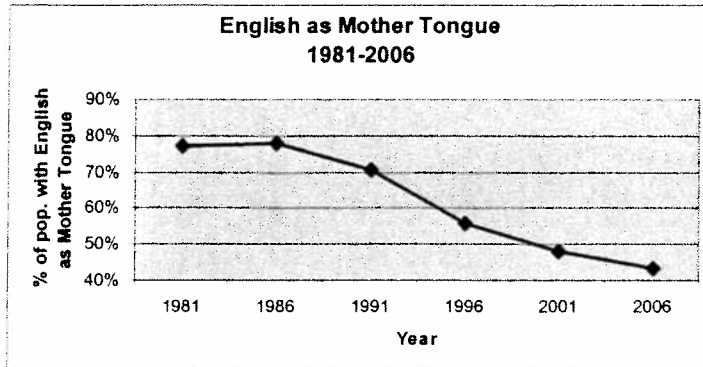


Cultural Diversity

Over the last twenty-five years, Burnaby's population has become much more culturally diverse. In 2006, immigrants comprised 51% of the city's population, up from 28% in 1981. Of the 102,030 immigrants in Burnaby in 2006, the largest group of immigrants originated from China (21%) followed by Hong Kong (11%), Taiwan (8%), Philippines (6%) and South Korea (6%). In Metro Vancouver, immigrants comprised 40% of the population in 2006.

The diversity of Burnaby's population is also reflected in the languages spoken by residents. In 1981, 77% of Burnaby's population spoke English as a mother tongue. By 2006, those with English as a mother tongue represented less than half (43.5%) of the population. In Metro Vancouver, 57% of the population spoke English as a mother tongue in 2006.

Population with English as a Mother Tongue



Similarly, the number of people reporting a home language other than English has increased. In 1981, 89% of the population spoke English at home. By 2006, 62% of the population spoke English at home. Across the region, 70% of the population spoke English at home in 2006.

In Burnaby, Chinese² (21%), Korean (3.3%), Punjabi (1.5%), Tagalog (1.3%) and Farsi (1.1%) were the most common home languages after English. Burnaby had 58 home languages in 2006.

Educational Attainment

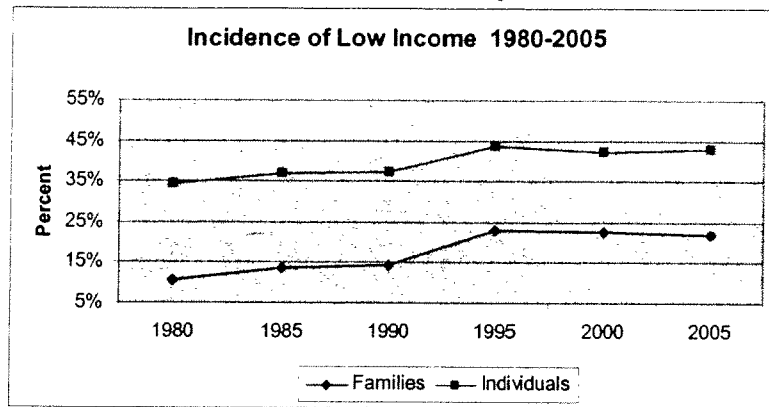
Educational attainment has steadily increased in Burnaby. In 2006, 17% of the population aged 15 and over had not completed high school compared to 42% in 1981. The percentage of residents aged 15 and over with university degrees increased from 8% in 1981 to 26% in 2006. In Metro Vancouver, 17% of the population aged 15 and over had not completed high school and 25% had a university degree in 2006.

Incidence of Low Income

The incidence of low income among families and individuals has increased. In 1980, 11% of families lived below Statistics Canada's before-tax Low Income Cut-Off (LICO) compared to 22% in 2005. Among unattached individuals aged 15 and over, the percentage of those with incomes below the before-tax LICO increased from 34% in 1980 to 43% in 2005. In Metro Vancouver in 2005, 17% of families and 40% of unattached individuals aged 15 and over had incomes below the before-tax LICO.

² Of the 21% who identified Chinese as a home language, 6.8% specifically identified Cantonese and 6.9% identified Mandarin as their home language.

Incidence of Low Income in Burnaby



3.0 CONCLUSION

Section 2.0 above highlights a few of the notable trends contained in the recently published document *Social and Demographic Trends in Burnaby and Neighbouring Communities: 1981 to 2006*. The complete document (provided under separate cover to the Committee and Council) can be downloaded from the What's New section of the City's website. The document provides a statistical overview of the significant changes that have occurred in Burnaby over the last twenty-five years and establishes a baseline for monitoring changes in the future.

It is recommended that a copy of this report be forwarded to Council for information purposes.

B. Luksun, Director
PLANNING AND BUILDING

MM/sla/sa

- cc: City Manager
Deputy City Manager
Director Engineering
Director Finance
Director Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services
City Clerk
City Solicitor
OIC, RCMP
Fire Chief
Chief Building Inspector
Chief Licence Inspector
Chief Librarian