



Corporate Report

NO: R071

COUNCIL DATE: April 28, 2008

REGULAR COUNCIL

TO: Mayor & Council DATE: April 28, 2008
FROM: General Manager, Planning and Development FILE: 6600-01
SUBJECT: 2006 Census Information Update

RECOMMENDATION

The Planning and Development Department recommends that Council receive this report as information.

INTENT

The purpose of this report is to provide Council with the first in a series of briefings on 2006 Census demographic information and advise Council of the uploading of this information on the City's web site.

Included in this report are Census highlights for the City of Surrey released by Statistics Canada, including data on population, dwellings, age and gender distribution, family and household structure, language, immigration, mobility, occupation, and education. Staff will continue to provide Council with updates on Census data as the information becomes available.

BACKGROUND

Every five years Statistics Canada conducts a Census of Canada. The most recent Census was conducted in May 2006. Over the past year, Statistics Canada has released information from the 2006 Census on population and dwelling unit counts, age and gender distribution, family structure and households, language, immigration, mobility, occupation and education. The complete and detailed data set from the 2006 Census will be made available to the City by the end of 2008.

DISCUSSION

Census Population Highlights

The following table breaks down population and dwellings units for Surrey as derived from the 2006 Census. The 2006 Census sets Surrey's population at 394,976 as of May 2006.

Statistics Canada 2001 – 2006 Census Population and Private Dwellings for Surrey		
	Population Count	Private Dwellings Counts
2006	394,976	139,193
2001	347,820	115,715
2001-2006 Change	47,156	23,478
Change as percent	+13.6%	+20.3%
Average Annual Change	9,431	4,696
Average Annual % Change	2.58%	3.76

City of Surrey Population and Dwelling Estimates

The City of Surrey produces its own population and dwelling unit estimates. This is accomplished using BC Assessment Authority data, City of Surrey Building and Demolition Permit data and information on household size (people per dwelling unit, by housing type and community). Based on this information, the City's estimate of Surrey's population as of May 2006 is 427,190.

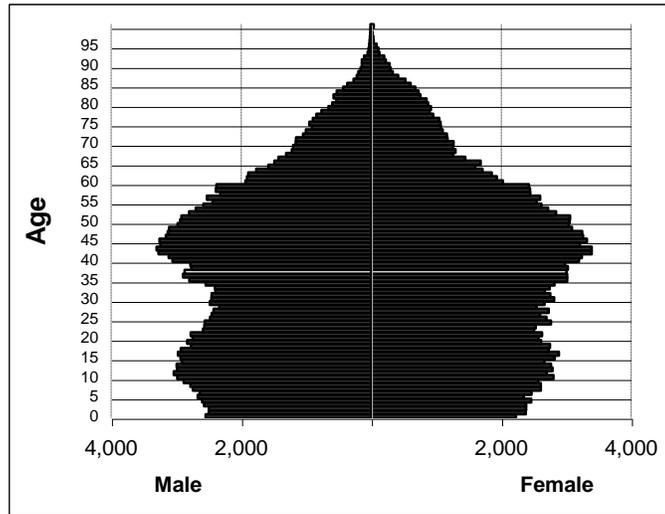
In mid 2008, Statistics Canada will publish information on the Census household undercount, which is estimated to be between 4% and 8%. Within this range, Surrey's Census estimated population would fall between 410,780 and 426,570. This is significantly closer to the City of Surrey estimated population of May 2006.

Age and Gender

According to the 2006 Census there were 194,710 males and 200,280 females living in Surrey on Census day.

Residents under 18 years comprised 24.5% of the population, while seniors 65 years and older comprised 11.5%. Figure 1 illustrates the median age was 37 years.

Figure 1



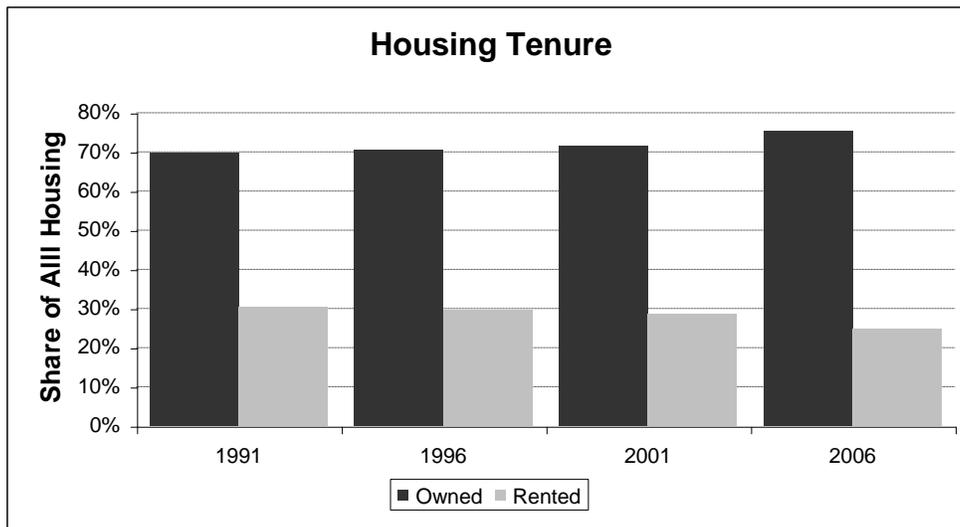
Surrey's population is aging. Between 1991 and 2006 there has been a gradual, but steady decline in the proportion of the population under 30 years of age. This has been a result of declines in both the child population (birth to 19 years) and the young adult population (20 to 29 years).

While the share of population for these groups has declined, the actual number of children and young adults has grown, as the population in general has grown.

Housing Tenure

The proportion of dwellings in Surrey that are rented has declined in the period from 1991 to 2006 while the proportion owned has seen a complimentary increase (Figure 2).

Figure 2



Family Structure

The Census reports statistics on marital and common-law status and family size, structure and cohabitation characteristics. The following table summarizes Census family statistics for Surrey in 2006.

Census Family Statistics

Census families:	111,760
Persons in census families:	345,370
Average size of census family:	3.09
Persons not in a census family:	46,530

Marital and Common-Law Status

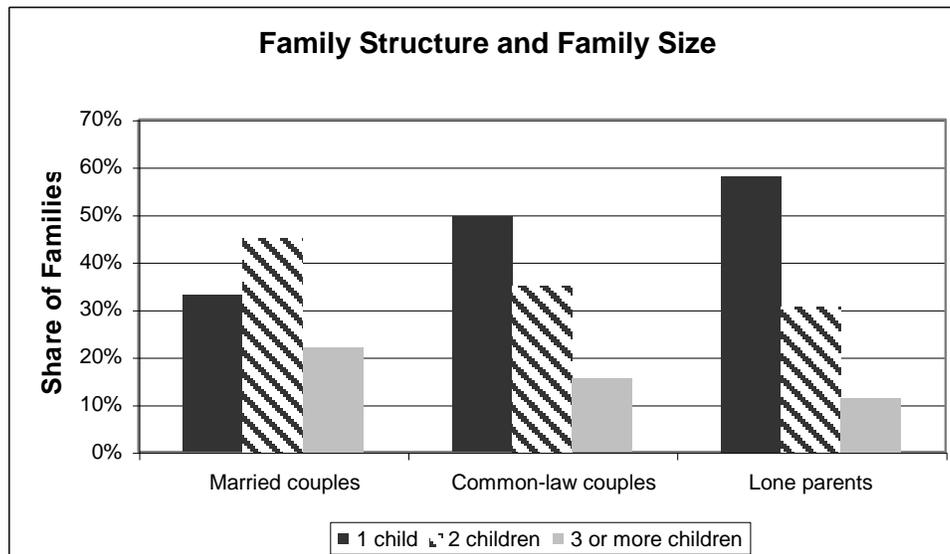
In 2006, over half (56.5%) of Surrey's population 15 years and over was married while 14.9% was separated, divorced or widowed. The remainder, comprising those that have never been married, amounted to 28.6%. At the same time 5.4% of the population 15 years and over were in a common-law relationship. Between 2001 and 2006 marital status has remained relatively constant.

Family Size

Census families are defined as those that comprise married or common-law couples (with or without children), or a lone parent living with at least one child. In 2006 there were 111,760 Census families in Surrey. Of those, 88.4% contained no more than four individuals. This is marginally lower than the Metro Vancouver average of 91.2%.

Family size and type are related. In Surrey, married couples were more likely than common-law couples and lone parents to live with two or more children (Figure 3).

Figure 3



Households

Households are defined as an individual or group of individuals that occupy a single dwelling. The Census indicates that household size has stayed relatively constant in Surrey between 2001 and 2006. There were some changes, as noted below:

- One-person households increased from 18.9% of all households in 2001, to 19.6% in 2006; and
- Two-person households declined from 29.7% in 2001 to 28.8% in 2006.

Strong population growth in Surrey has meant an increase in actual numbers for all categories. The following table summarizes household statistics for Surrey in 2006.

Household Statistics, Surrey 2006

Private households:	131,145
Persons in private households:	391,890
Average household size:	3.0

Mobility

The Census tracks whether residents have moved within the last five years. Surrey appears to be becoming more mobile as the proportion of non-movers has declined from 51.1% to 48.6% between 2001 and 2006. Residents moving within the City increased from 27.0% to 29.6% during this period.

Mother Tongue

Mother tongue is defined as the first language learned at home and still understood by an individual. In 2006, 98% of residents identified one mother tongue, while 2% listed two or more.

English was the most commonly identified mother tongue from single response residents, followed by Panjabi (Punjabi). No other language was identified as a mother tongue by more than 3% of residents. In total 43% of the population listed a language other than English as a mother tongue, highlighting Surrey's multi-cultural make-up.

Most Common Mother Tongues in Surrey

Mother Tongue	2006		2001	
	Number of Residents	Share of Total Population	Number of Residents	Share of Total Population
English	223,840	57.0%	213,675	63.0%
Panjabi	72,900	18.6%	50,615	14.9%
Hindi	11,605	3.0%	8,385	2.5%
Tagalog	9,860	2.5%	5,450	1.6%
Korean	7,305	1.9%	4,590	1.4%
Mandarin	5,865	1.5%	4,370	1.3%
All others	42,545	10.8%	48,720	14.4%

Place of Birth

The Census provides information on the place of birth of immigrants. Recent immigrants include those residents who were a landed immigrant between January 2001 and Census Day in 2006. Nearly half (47.6%) of recent immigrants living in Surrey in 2006 were born in South Asia. Statistics Canada defines South Asia to include Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan and Sri Lanka. European-born immigrants accounted for 4.9% of recent immigrants.

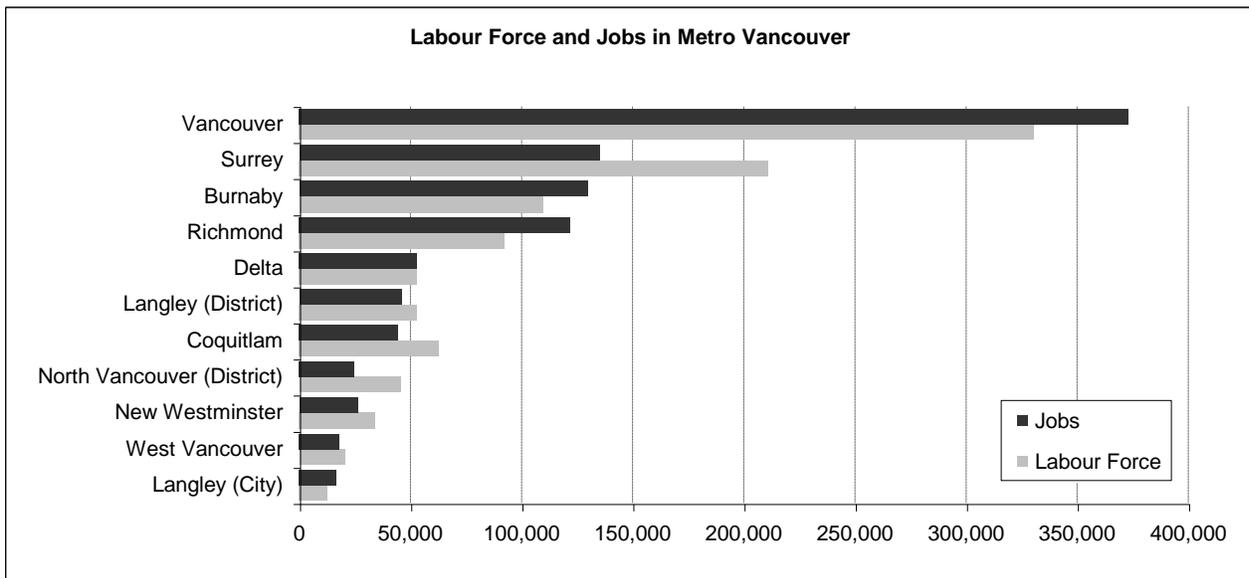
Labour Force Activity

The unemployment rate refers to the ratio of unemployed individuals to the entire labour force. The labour force includes all individuals 15 years and over who are employed, or unemployed and looking for work. Surrey's unemployment rate of 5.7% is marginally higher than the Metro Vancouver average of 5.6%.

Jobs to Labour Force Ratio

In 2006 Surrey's labour force numbered 210,935 people. At the same time there were 135,132 jobs located in Surrey, including an allocation of jobs with no fixed workplace (Figure 4). Based on these numbers, the jobs-to-labour force ratio is 0.64. This means that for every member of Surrey's labour force, employed or otherwise, there is 0.64 jobs in Surrey. This is a marginal increase over 2001 when the ratio was 0.63.

Figure 4



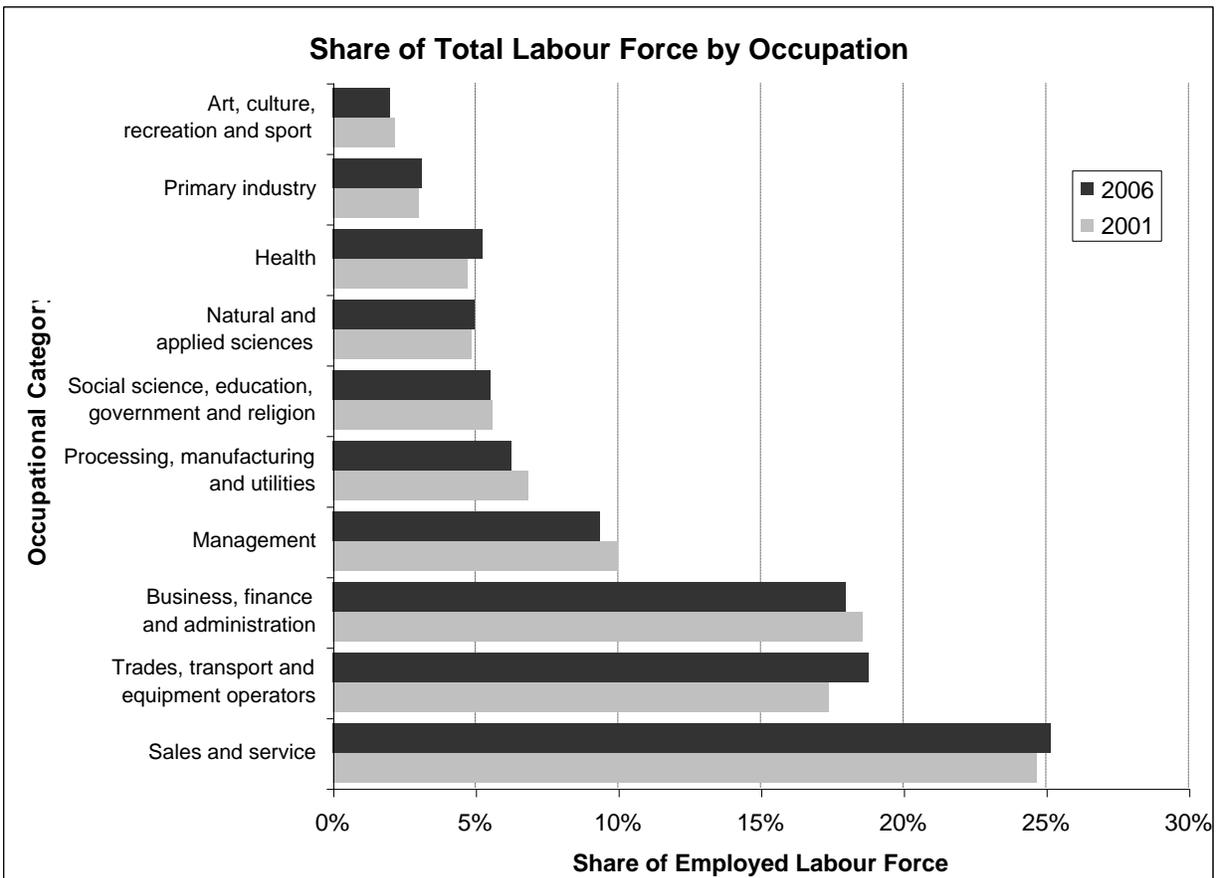
Occupation

The National Occupational Classification is a standardized system used by Statistics Canada. It groups jobs into 10 broad occupational categories and 520 occupation unit groups. Figure 4 illustrates that the following occupational categories experienced the strongest growth:

- health occupations (+29.2%);
- trade, transport and equipment operators and related occupations (+25.7%); and
- occupations in primary industry (+21.1%).

The largest of these, trade, transport and equipment operators and related occupations, accounted for 18.8% of the employed labour force in 2006, up from 17.4% in 2001. The largest category overall, sales and service occupations, grew from 24.7% in 2001 to 25.2% in 2006 (Figure 5).

Figure 5



Place of Work

An individual's place of work is based on the location of work during the week prior to Census Day. Between 2001 and 2006 the number of Surrey residents working in Surrey (in locations other than at home) grew by 21.0%, outpacing growth in the employed labour force as a whole (+18.6%). Meanwhile, the growth in residents working outside

Surrey grew by only +10.7%, decreasing this group's share of the employed labour force (Figure 6).

Figure 6

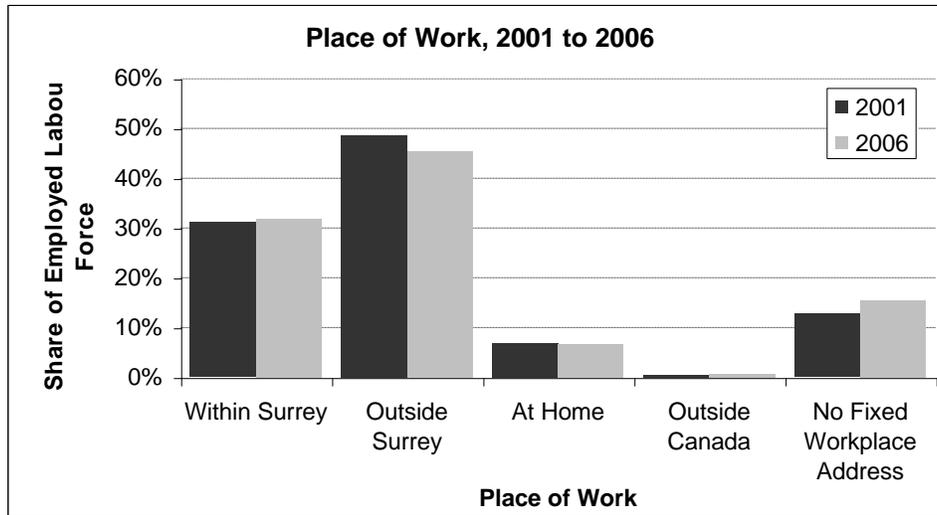
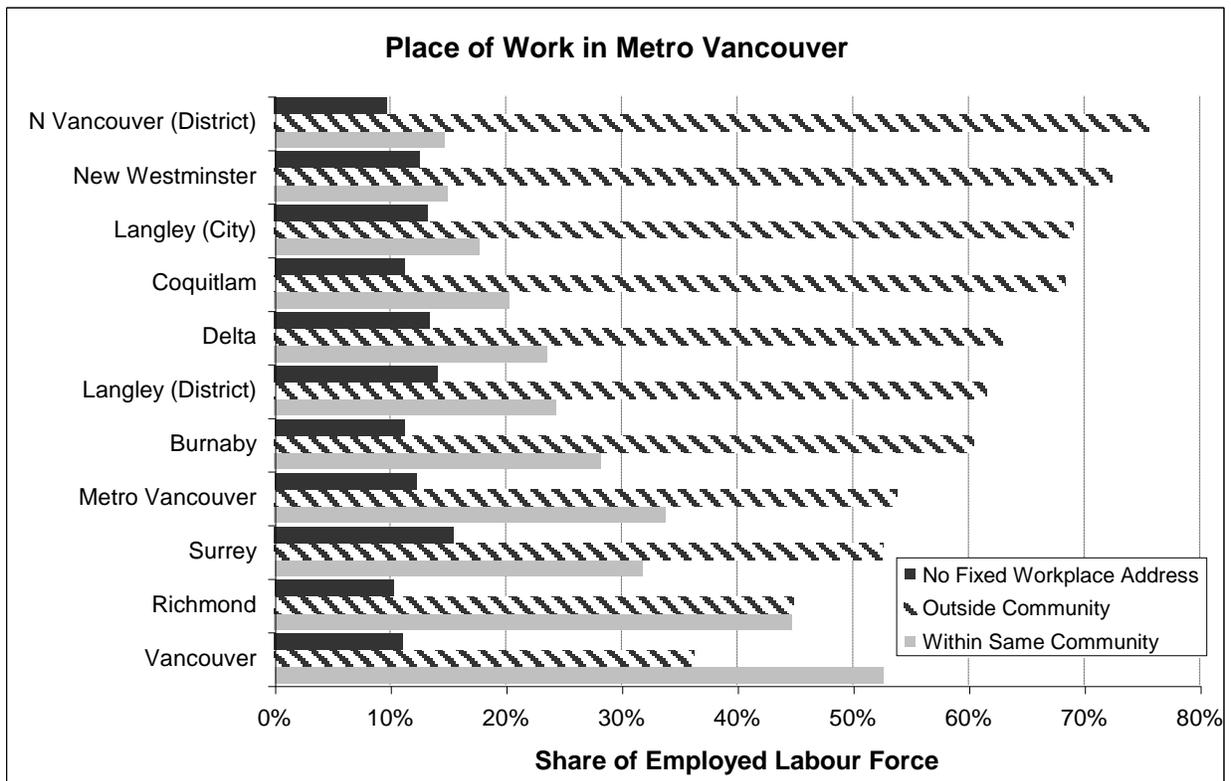


Figure 7 illustrates that in 2006 Surrey ranked fourth after Vancouver and Richmond and Anmore in the proportion of its employed labour force working in their home community. At 31.8% Surrey falls below the Metro Vancouver average of 33.8%.

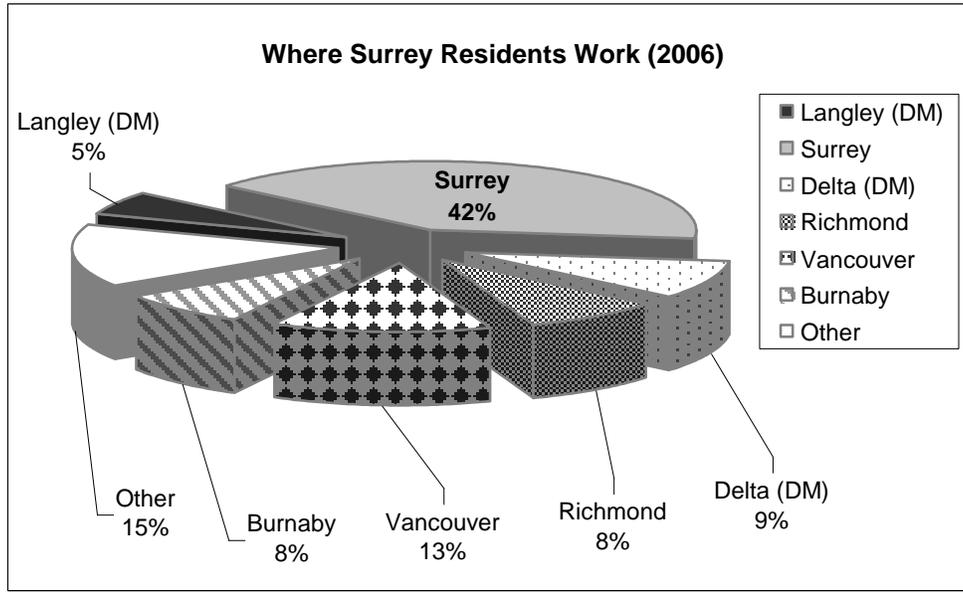
Figure 7



Commuting Flows

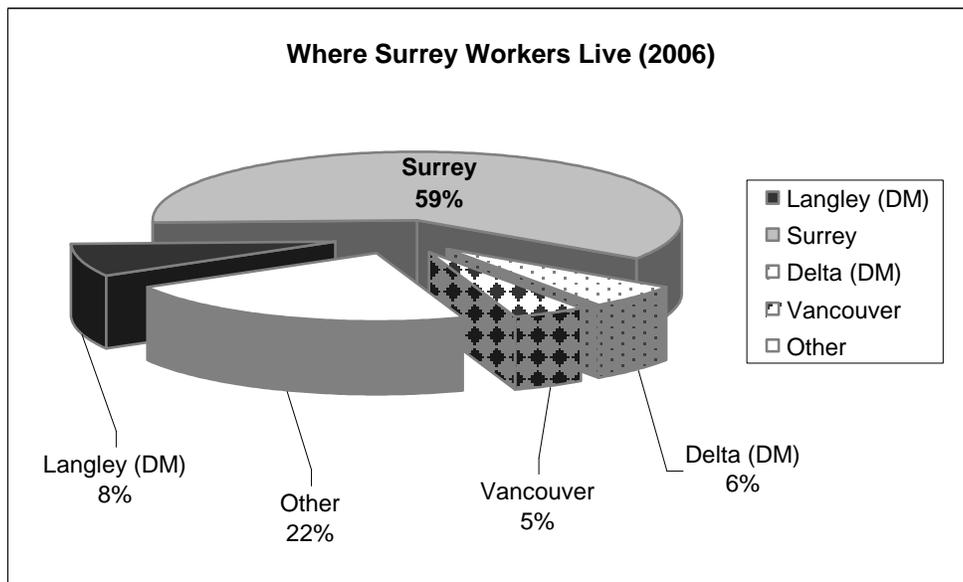
In 2006, 42% of Surrey's commuting labour force worked within the City of Surrey. Figure 8 shows the most common places of work for Surrey residents. The six highlighted municipalities have the six highest numbers of jobs in Metro Vancouver.

Figure 8



In 2006 the majority (59%) of Surrey's workers lived within the City. The two next largest concentrations of workers resided in the neighbouring municipalities of Delta and the Township of Langley. While 5% of workers hailed from Vancouver, the most populous municipality in the region, all others combined for 22% of workers. Figure 9 illustrates the distribution of Surrey's workers by place of residence in 2006.

Figure 9

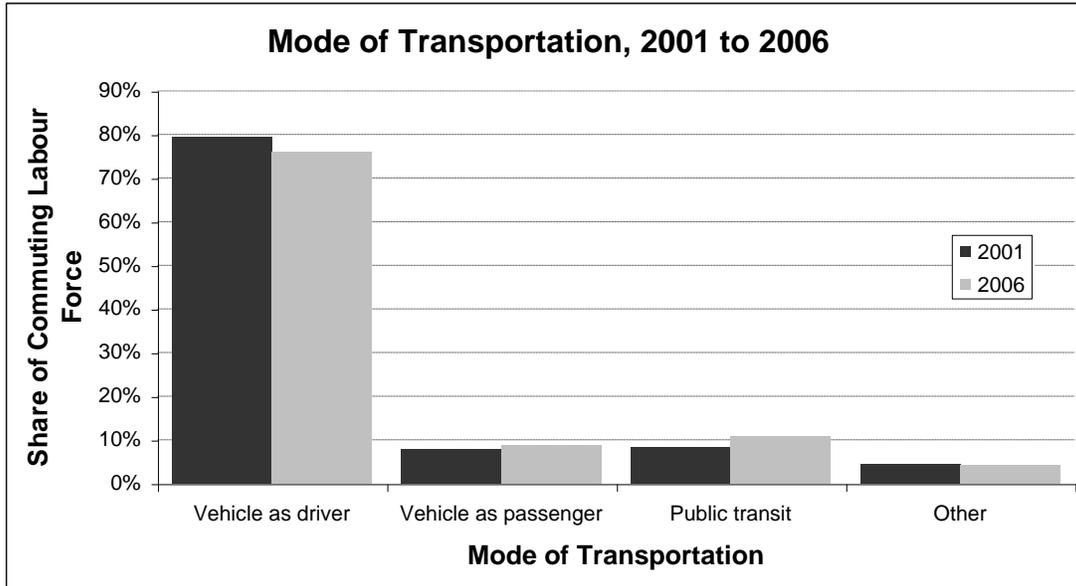


Mode of Transportation

Private vehicles were the primary mode of transportation in 2006 among Surrey's employed labour force. In 2006, an additional 29,150 people travelled to work (by all modes of transportation) as compared to 2001. The share of Surrey's employed labour force travelling by vehicle as a driver declined in this period from 79.5% to 76.1%. This was accompanied by a complementary growth in travel by vehicle as a passenger (from 7.8% to 8.8%) and by public transit (from 8.3% to 10.9%). Carpooling activity may be captured by either category of vehicle use.

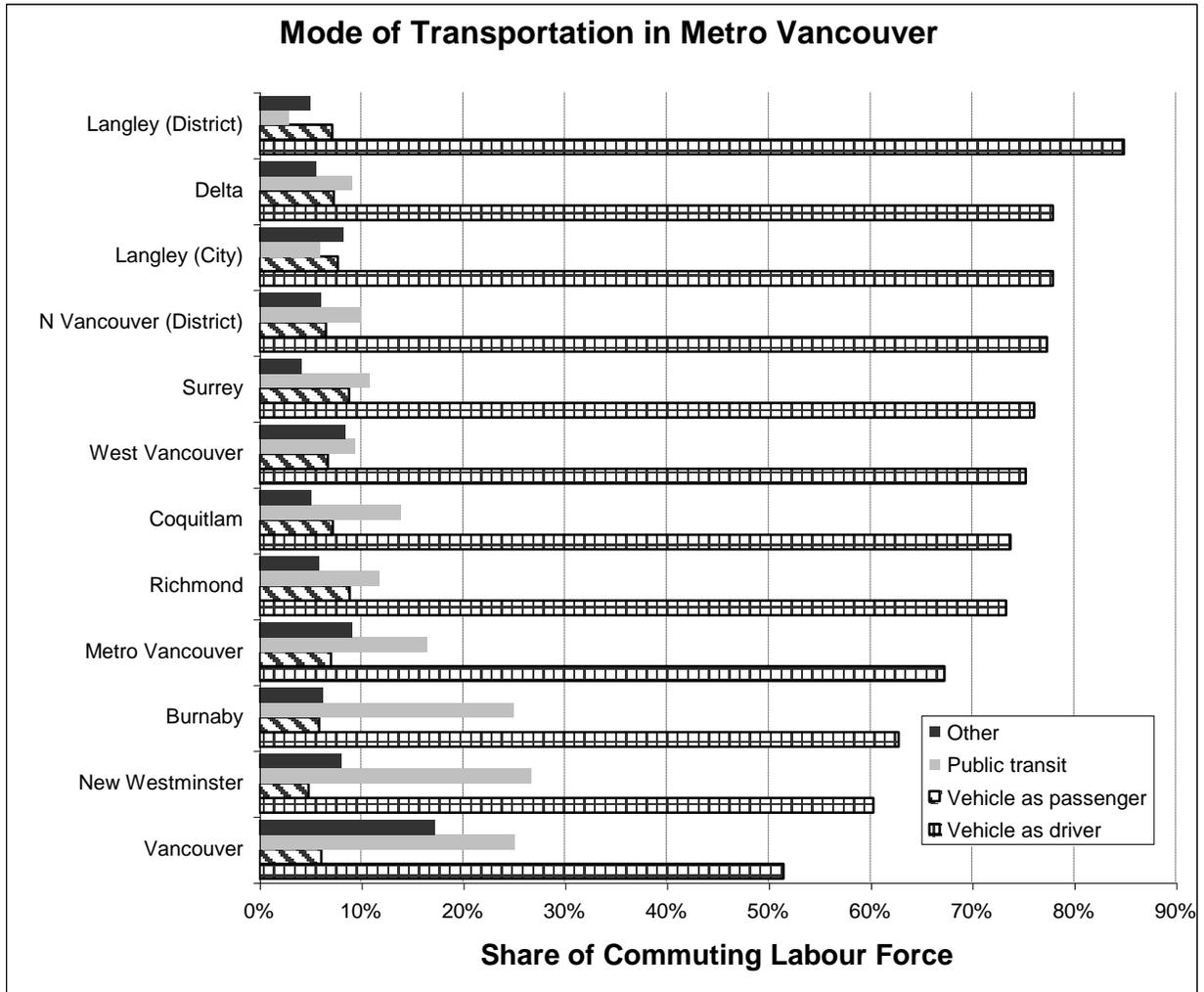
While total journey to work trips grew by 18.8% between 2001 and 2006, public transit trips grew by 54.7% – nearly three-times as fast. For comparison, during this period, trips by vehicle, as a passenger, grew by 34.5%; those by vehicle, as a driver, grew by 13.8%; and walking trips grew by 10.0% (figure 10).

Figure 10



The primary mode of transportation throughout Metro Vancouver for journey to work trips in 2006 was also by vehicle, as a driver. This mode is used by a smaller share of the commuting labour force in the inner municipalities of Vancouver, Burnaby and New Westminster. The Metro Vancouver average, excluding these municipalities, is 75.8%. Surrey is in line with this at 76.1%. Figure 11 illustrates the modal split for journey to work trips in Metro Vancouver.

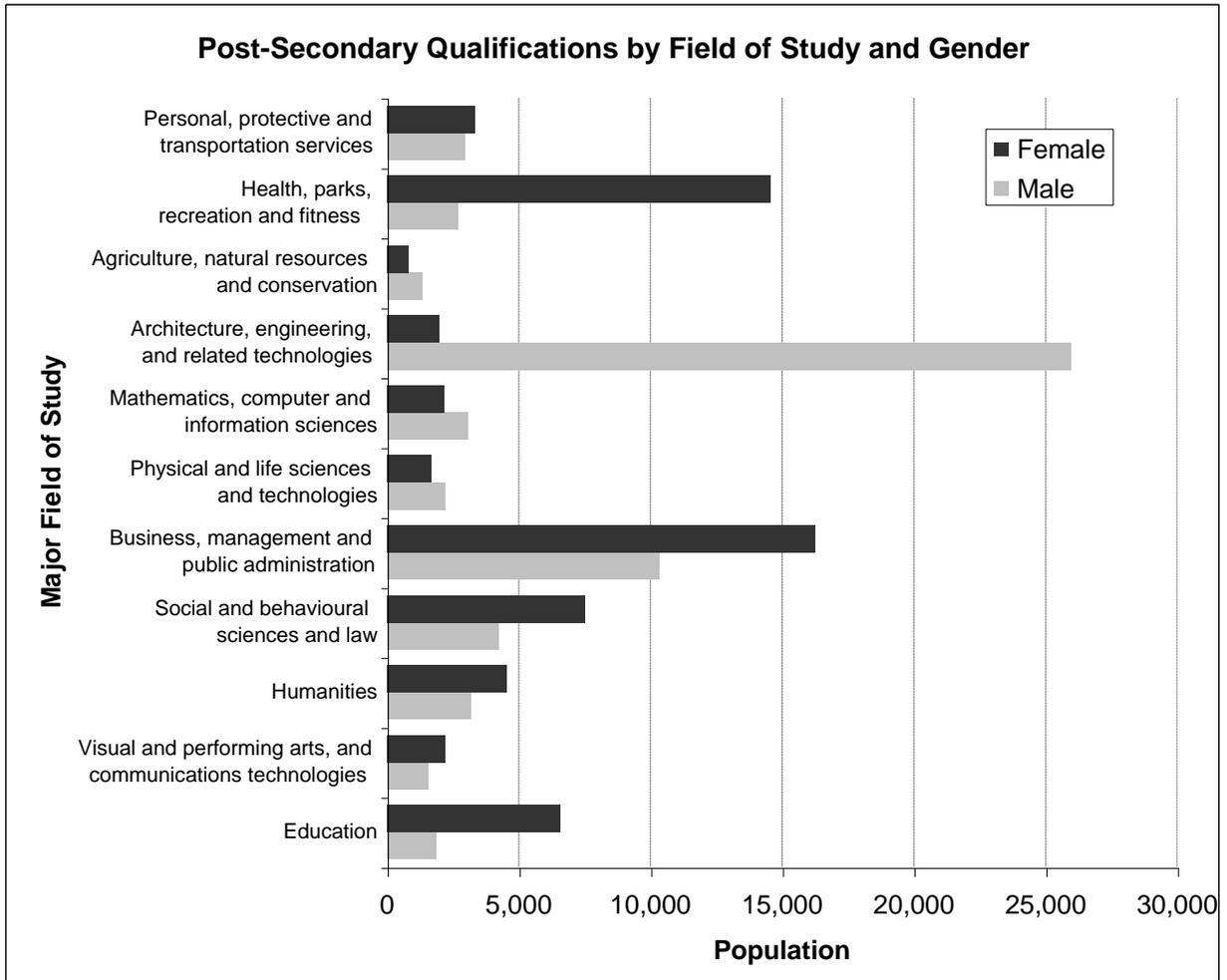
Figure 11



Education

In 2006, 21.6% of the population 15 years and over had attained a university certificate, diploma or degree. A further 25.9% had obtained a certificate, diploma or degree from a college, apprenticeship or trade program. High school graduation was the highest level of education for 30.4% of the population 15 years and over. Figure 12 illustrates the major field of study of those with post-secondary qualifications.

Figure 12



Visible Minorities

Visible minorities, defined as individuals that are neither aboriginal nor Caucasian, accounted for 46.1% of Surrey's inhabitants in 2006. Surrey, along with Vancouver, Burnaby and Richmond, had higher proportions of visible minorities than the Metro Vancouver average (41.7%) (Figure 13).

Figure 13

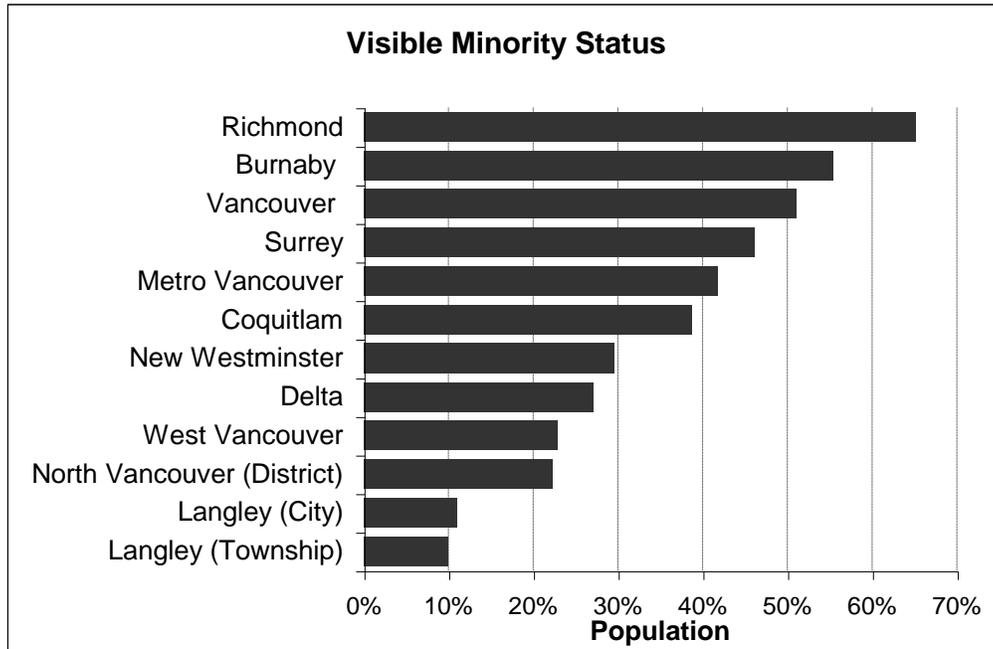
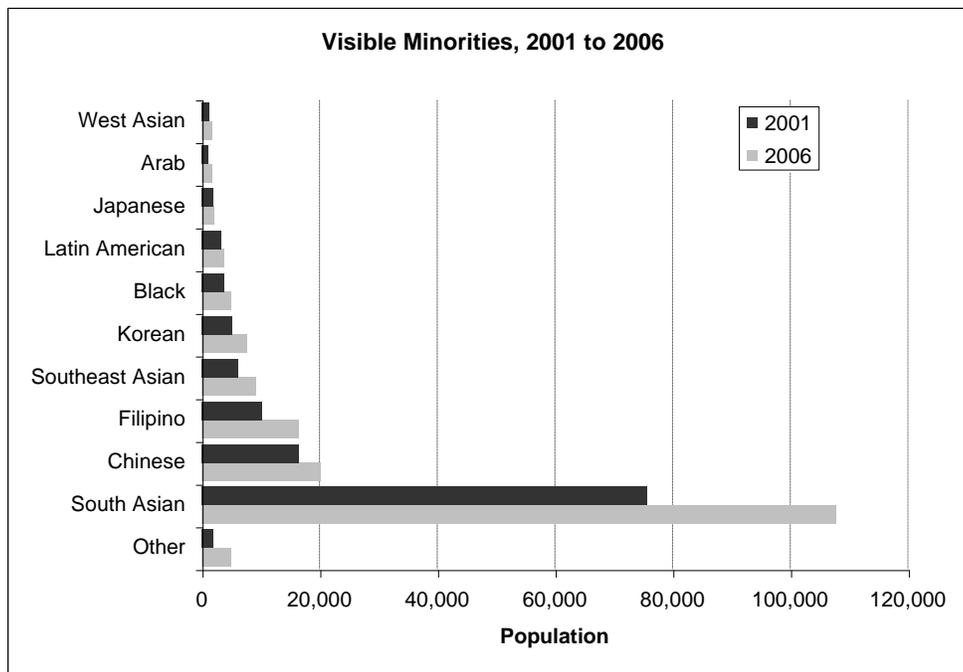


Figure 14 illustrates that Surrey's largest visible minority group, by far, is the South Asian community. In 2006, the South Asian community stood at nearly 108,000 people. The Chinese community, at just over 20,000 people, was the second largest group. The fastest growing visible minority groups were Arabs (+61.9%), Southeast Asians (+48.7%), and Koreans (+47.5%). Meanwhile, the visible minority community as a whole grew by 42.5%.

Figure 14



CONCLUSION

This report contains an overview of 2006 Census information that is currently available, and includes data on population and dwellings, age and gender, family structure and households, language, immigration, mobility, occupation, education and ethnicity.

Over the next 6 months, Statistics Canada will release the remaining 2006 Census information. This will include the household undercount, income, earnings and shelter costs. Staff will provide Council with updates on the Census as further information becomes available, along with commentary on the implications of this data.

Census data is available on the City's website in the form of topic-based demographic fact sheets, located in the section of the website on population and demographics (in the *Doing Business* channel). These fact sheets will include a:

- comparison of the 2006 Census information with that of previous Census information;
- comparison of the City with municipalities throughout the region; and
- series of profiles on Surrey's communities.

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