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# — THE VOICE OF MÉTIS:

## HOUSING NEEDS ASSESSMENT

### MÉTIS NATION BRITISH COLUMBIA

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# Executive Summary

Métis Nation British Columbia (MNBC) aims to reduce Métis core housing need in British Columbia (BC) by 50% over five years. To measure progress towards this goal, MNBC requires a baseline housing needs assessment to benchmark the proportion of Métis in BC living in core housing need in 2021. This report presents the results of this baseline housing needs assessment.

As defined by the Canadian Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC), a household is deemed to be in core housing need if it falls below standards for (i) housing affordability (the household does not spend more than 30% of its pre-tax income on shelter costs), (ii) housing adequacy (the household's dwelling is not in need of major repairs), and/or (iii) housing suitability (there are enough bedrooms for the size and composition of the household), *and* if the household would need to spend more than 30% of their household income on alternative suitable housing, based on local housing costs (CMHC, 2019).

To estimate the number and proportions of Métis households and individuals in core housing need in BC, we developed and enumerated the MNBC Housing Needs Survey. In this report, we analyze the data collected via the MNBC Housing Needs Survey at the provincial, regional, household, and individual level. Combined, analysis at these levels provides MNBC with the information it needs to target its housing programs and supports to the regions, households, and individuals that would benefit the most from them. To make inferences about the wider Métis population of BC, we adjusted our survey data to match known population totals of Métis households and individuals that are likely to impact the likelihood of someone taking the survey in a process known as post-stratification. Factors accounted for include household income, age, and housing tenure. We expand on our methodology in Appendix A.

Our findings indicate that Métis households in BC live in core housing need at higher rates (17%) than the overall BC population (15%). More specifically, Métis households live in core housing need at the highest rates in Region 2 (Lower Mainland: 25%), Region 1 (Vancouver Island & Powell River: 17%), and Region 3 (Thompson & Okanagan: 15%).

Moving to our analysis at the **provincial level**, we find that Métis households live in unaffordable, inadequate, and unsuitable housing at rates higher than the general population. Métis households in BC live in unaffordable housing at a rate 13 percentage points higher than the provincial average (41% compared to 28%). Looking at housing adequacy, 16% of Métis households live in inadequate housing, which is 10 percentage points higher than the provincial average of 6%. Finally, when we consider housing suitability, we see that 9% of Métis households live in unsuitable housing as compared to the provincial average of 5%. The gaps in core housing indicators between Métis households and the general population demonstrate the needs of Métis households in BC as they relate to housing.

At the **regional level**, our analysis indicates that the highest proportion of Métis households living in unaffordable and unsuitable housing live in southern BC, whereas Métis households living in inadequate housing are more likely to be living in northern BC or in the Kootenay region (see Figure 1.1 in Section 1.0 for a map of MNBC regions). In particular:

1. The highest proportion of Métis households living in **unaffordable** housing live in the Lower Mainland (48%), Vancouver Island & Powell River (40%), and Thompson & Okanagan regions (40%);
2. The highest proportion of Métis households living in **unsuitable** housing live in the Kootenay (9%), Lower Mainland (9%), and Vancouver Island & Powell River (9%) regions;
3. The highest proportion of households living in **inadequate** housing live in the Northwest (30%), Kootenay (20%), Northeast (18%), and North Central (18%) regions.

Next, when we consider a set of **household-level** characteristics, we find that:

1. Métis lone-parent households are more likely to live in unaffordable (56%), inadequate (23%), or unsuitable (18%) housing than non-lone-parent households.
2. Métis households living in basement suites are the most likely to be living in unaffordable (43%) or unsuitable (15%) housing, while households in coach houses are the most likely to be living in inadequate housing (23%).
3. The highest proportion of Métis renter households in unaffordable and unsuitable housing live in the Lower Mainland, while the highest proportion of Métis renter households in inadequate housing live in the Northwest. Conversely, Métis owner households are most likely to be living in inadequate housing in the Northwest region, unaffordable housing in the Thompson & Okanagan region, and unsuitable housing in the Kootenay region.

At an **individual-level** of analysis we find that:

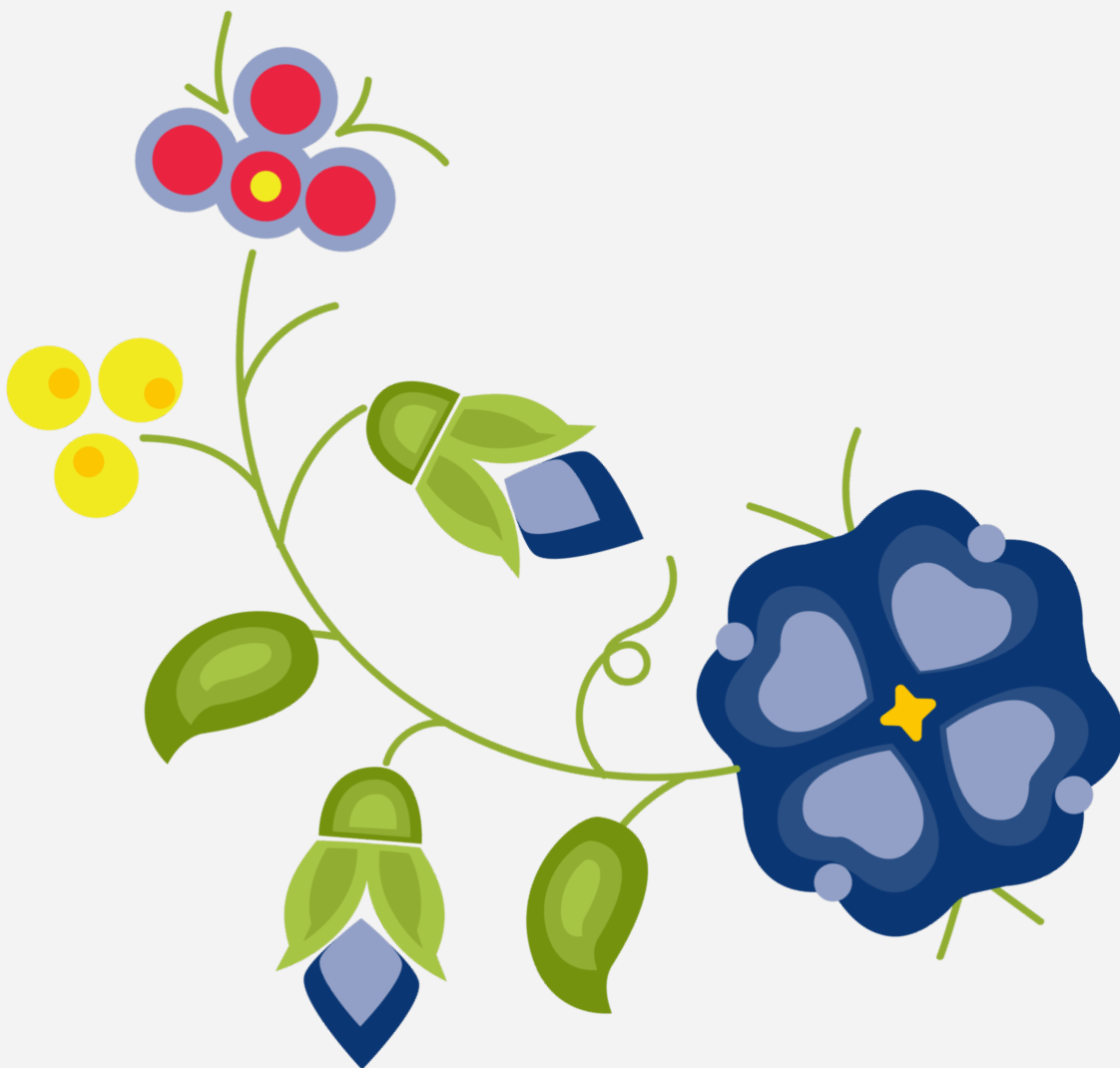
1. Métis individuals of a gender other than male or female are the most likely to be living in unaffordable (43%), inadequate (28%), or unsuitable housing (12%).
2. Métis individuals with a self-reported disability are more likely to be living in unaffordable (55%), inadequate (22%), or unsuitable housing (13%) than Métis in BC overall.
3. Métis youth aged 0–20 years live in unaffordable (49%), inadequate housing (19%), and unsuitable housing (12%) at the highest rate across all age groups.

Finally, we review qualitative responses from survey respondents to better understand Métis households' needs and concerns with respect to housing programs and supports. Specifically, we are interested in what programs they have accessed and what programs they would find useful but are not currently provided by MNBC. We find that the most commonly-accessed housing programs and supports provided by MNBC at the time of survey distribution were rent assistance (49%) and utilities assistance (45%). Further, when looking at the housing programs that respondents think would be useful but are not currently provided, we see three major themes emerge: (i) housing and homeownership, (ii) culture and community, and (iii) seniors and people with disabilities. At the highest level, these themes reflect the biggest areas of interest and concern from survey respondents. We find that:

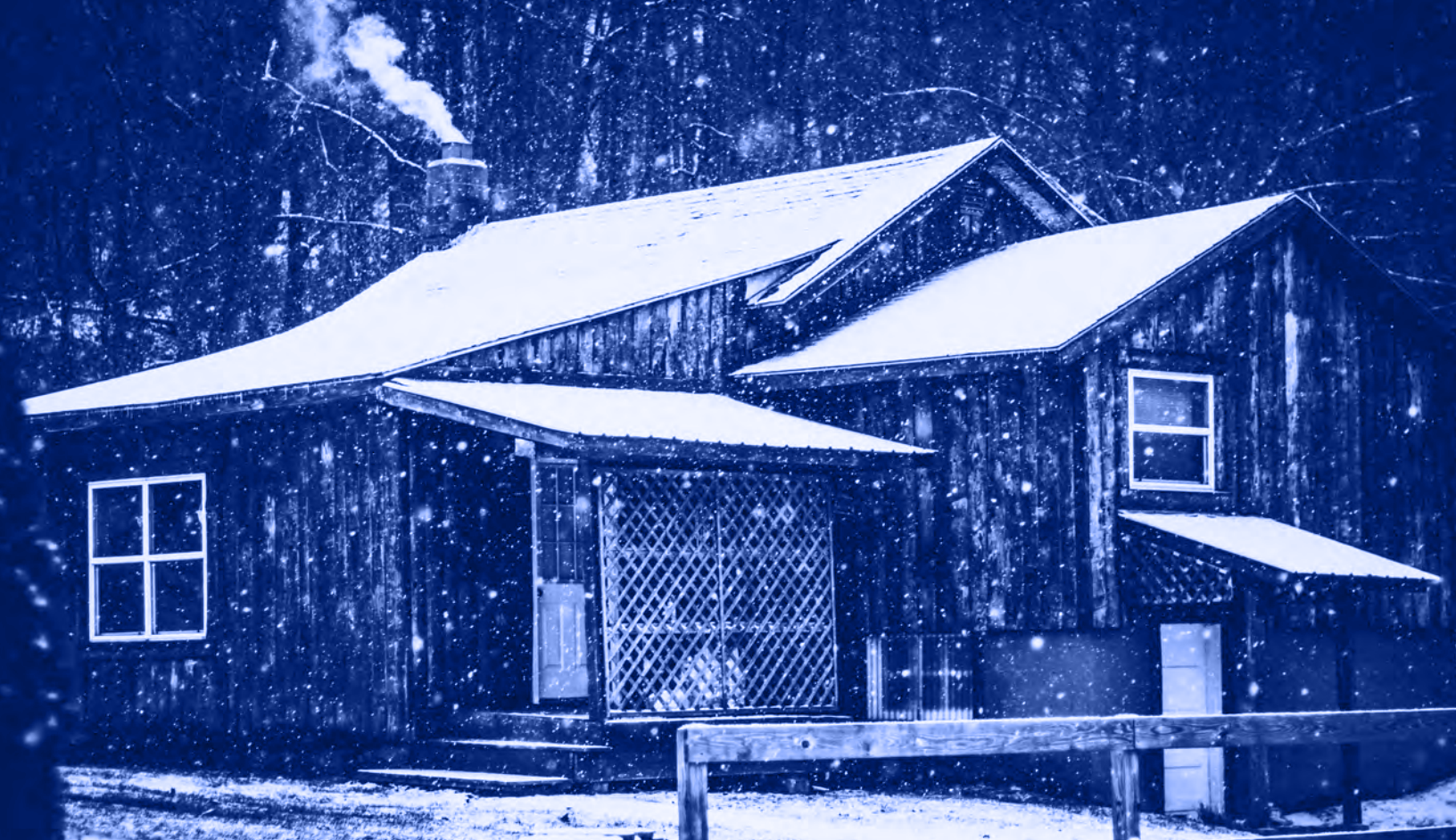
1. Responses associated with housing and homeownership consistently raise housing affordability as a central issue. We also see numerous respondents express a desire for

Métis-specific subsidized housing, for rental assistance and mortgage assistance even post-pandemic, and for access to homeownership rather than renting in the long term.

2. When discussing culture and community, we heard significant interest in various aspects of communal living, including having access to community spaces, living in community with other Métis, as well as having a Métis-owned and operated communal land base on which to build modular homes.
3. Finally, responses centred around seniors and people with disabilities express a need for Métis housing for seniors in addition to increased funding for home accessibility retrofitting.







— 1.0

# INTRODUCTION

# — 1.0

## INTRODUCTION

Métis Nation British Columbia (MNBC) is aiming to reduce Métis core housing need in British Columbia (BC) by 50% over five years. To measure progress towards this goal, MNBC requires a baseline housing needs assessment that can benchmark the proportion of Métis households in BC living in core housing need in 2021. This information can be used by MNBC to inform their housing programs, and over time evaluate the efficacy of these programs at reducing Métis core housing need in BC. This report presents the results of this baseline housing needs assessment.

The Canadian Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC) deems a household to be living in core housing need if it meets two criteria: (i) it falls below the standards for housing affordability, adequacy, and/or suitability; and (ii) it “would have to spend 30% or more of its before-tax household income to access local housing that meets all three standards” (CMHC, 2019).

To estimate the number and proportion of Métis households experiencing core housing need, we developed and enumerated the MNBC Housing Needs Survey. This survey was open to the public but advertised to self-identified Métis across each of the seven MNBC Regions (see Figure 1.1). The survey was distributed through MNBC’s social media channels and email newsletters between July 15 and August 17, 2021. The survey included questions about shelter costs, income, number of residents living in the household, and number of bedrooms, among other topics. In total, we received 2,304 responses from Métis households, of which 2,059 were complete. We present an overview of the type of data that we collected in Section 2.0.

While the distribution of respondents by region closely mirrors the proportion of Métis households in each MNBC Region (Section 2.1), the survey oversampled MNBC citizens (79%) relative to non-citizens (21%) as a result of our enumeration strategy (Appendix A).

To make inferences about the wider Métis population of BC and to account for imbalances between sample and population proportions, we adjusted our survey data to match known population totals of Métis households and individuals by various factors that are likely to impact the likelihood of someone taking the survey, such as household income, age, and housing tenure. This process is known as post-stratification, and is described in more detail in Appendix A.

For each core housing need indicator (affordability, adequacy, and suitability), we analyze the data collected through the survey as follows:

1. We consider core housing needs at the provincial and regional level. This allows us to understand, at the broadest level, *where* support programs would be best directed.
2. We explore core housing needs at the household level. This includes, but is not limited to, housing tenure (owners or renters), dwelling type (apartments, detached homes, etc.), or family dwelling status (family or non-family household). Insights into core housing need at this level allows us to understand *what types of households* would benefit most from housing support programs within each region.

3. We consider housing needs at the individual level. In particular we assess the degree of housing need based on gender-based analysis plus (GBA+) categories and other factors that describe identity. This level of analysis allows us to understand *who* is facing the biggest barriers to housing that is affordable, adequate, and suitable.

Together, these three levels of analysis provide MNBC with the information it needs to target its programs to the regions, households, and individuals that would most benefit from housing programs. This analysis is presented in Sections 3.0 to 5.0.

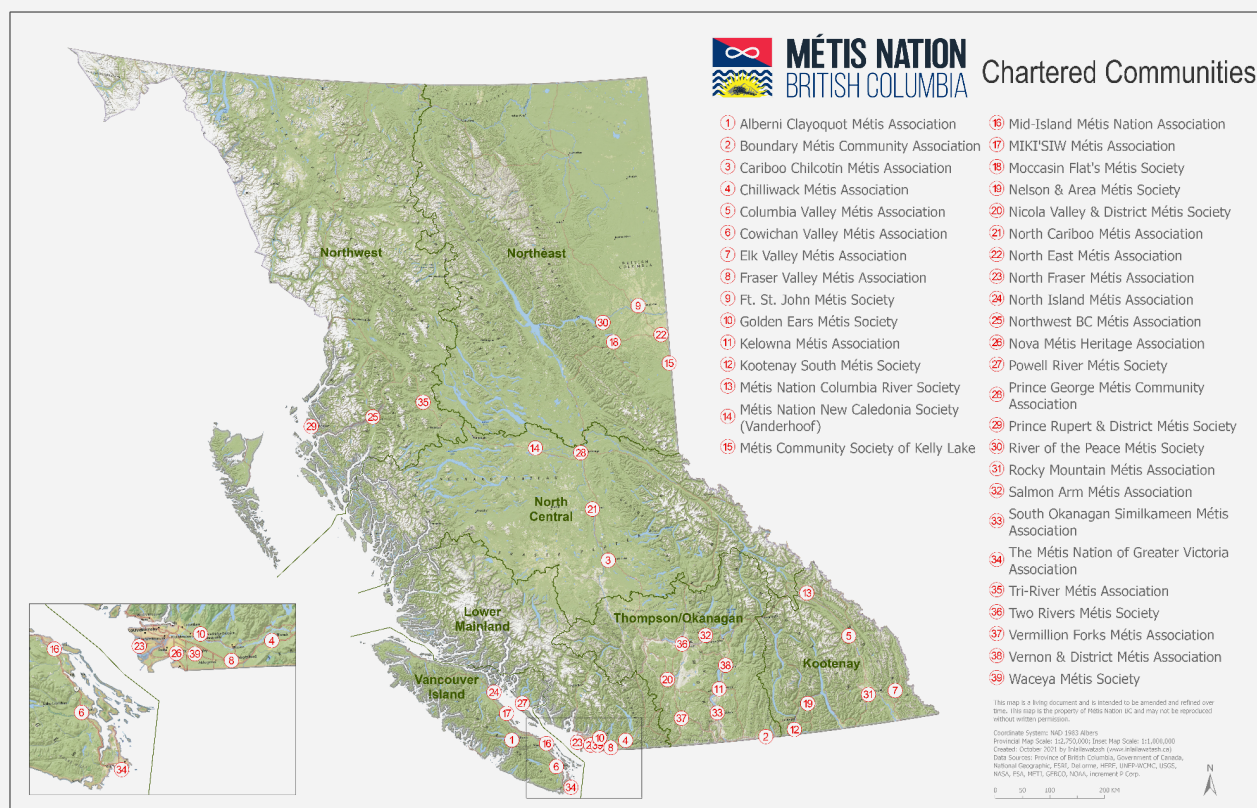
Finally, we note that MNBC currently has three housing support programs in operation:

1. The Rent Supplement Program, launched by MNBC in 2021, assists MNBC citizens who have resided in BC for at least one year and have household incomes of less than \$54,000 with their rent payments (MNBC, 2021).
2. The COVID-19 Emergency Shelter Support Fund supports MNBC citizens who do not have access to shelter or basic amenities directly due to the pandemic and who are in need of immediate financial assistance (MNBC, 2021).
3. The Ma Nîki (My Home) Métis Seniors Housing Renovation Pilot Program funds up to 75 seniors (aged 65 or older) who are MNBC citizens and BC residents with up to \$20,000 for housing renovations (MNBC, 2021).

As part of its efforts to develop a suite of effective housing programming, MNBC is interested in knowing what housing programs and supports Métis in BC have accessed since January 2020, and what types of housing programs and supports respondents think would be useful and beneficial to them and their community but which are not currently offered by MNBC. This information is presented in Section 6.0. We note that, of the three MNBC housing support programs, only the Ma Nîki program pre-dates the distribution of the Housing Needs Survey, and as such it is the only one for which we have survey data. Similarly, utilities assistance accessed by respondents was a part of MNBC's COVID-19 programming, but since survey distribution it has been incorporated into the broader rent supplement program.



### Figure 1.1: Map of MNBC Regions



**Source:** Métis Nation British Columbia (2022)



— 2.0

# DATA PROFILE

## — 2.0

# DATA PROFILE

Before presenting our analysis of housing affordability, adequacy, and suitability (see Terms and Definitions) among Métis in BC at the regional, household, and individual levels in the sections that follow, we first present an overview of the population characteristics of our data (i.e. once post-stratification has been applied to the sample data), with a particular focus on core housing need. We then present an overview of our sample characteristics with a focus on the components of each core housing need indicator (i.e. affordability, adequacy, and suitability). Lastly, we present results on housing satisfaction among Métis households in BC.

The MNBC Housing Needs Survey was enumerated via convenience sampling, whereby the survey was enumerated through MNBC social media channels and email newsletters to reach an adequate sample size, and respondents were asked if they self-identify as Métis. This approach prevents us from being able to assume that the characteristics of this sample were representative of the wider Métis population in BC. To correct for the discrepancies between the characteristics of our sample and the population characteristics of Métis across BC, we weighted survey responses using known population totals (e.g. total number of Métis households by income and region in BC), obtained via a Statistics Canada custom tabulation (Statistics Canada, 2021a). This allows us to make inferences about the Métis population in BC using a combination of the sample data we have collected and known population totals (details in Appendix A).

The MNBC Housing Needs Survey was designed to benchmark the proportion of Métis households in BC living in core housing need in 2021. We received 2,059 complete responses from Métis households across BC. We present the number of responses to the MNBC Housing Needs Survey by MNBC region in Table 2.1. The survey included questions on Indigenous identity, gender, age, income, housing tenure, disability status, dwelling type, family household status, number of children in the household, lone parent status, disability status, shelter costs, household income, the number of people who live in each dwelling, the number of bedrooms in each dwelling, and the number of major repairs needed.<sup>1</sup>

The MNBC Housing Needs Survey accurately mirrors the distribution of Métis households in each region. The proportion of respondents to the survey in each region is nearly equal to the proportion of Métis households in each region according to Statistics Canada (2021a). We present the number and percentage of responses in Table 2.1.

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<sup>1</sup> Please find definitions and additional details in the Terms and Definitions section.



**Table 2.1: Number of Responses by MNBC Region**

Region #	MNBC Region Name	Respondents		Métis households	
		#	%	#	%
1	Vancouver Island & Powell River	478	23	7,385	23
2	Lower Mainland	715	35	11,895	36
3	Thompson & Okanagan	432	21	6,440	20
4	Kootenay	116	6	1,450	4
5	North Central	199	10	2,975	9
6	Northwest	51	2	1,030	3
7	Northeast	68	3	1,525	5
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>2,059</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>32,700</b>	<b>100</b>

**Source:** MNBC Housing Needs Survey (2021); Statistics Canada (2021a) The "Respondents" column indicates the number and percentage of respondents to the MNBC Housing Needs Survey from each MNBC Region. The "Métis households" column indicates the total number and percentage of Métis households in each MNBC Region (Statistics Canada, 2021a).

## — 2.1

### Population Characteristics

In this section, we present the rate of Métis households living in core housing need by MNBC region (Section 2.1.1), in addition to demographic characteristics of Métis households and individuals in BC (Section 2.1.2). The estimates for core housing need and demographic characteristics in Section 2.1 are applicable to the Métis population in BC due to the weighting process undertaken in post-stratification.

#### — 2.1.1

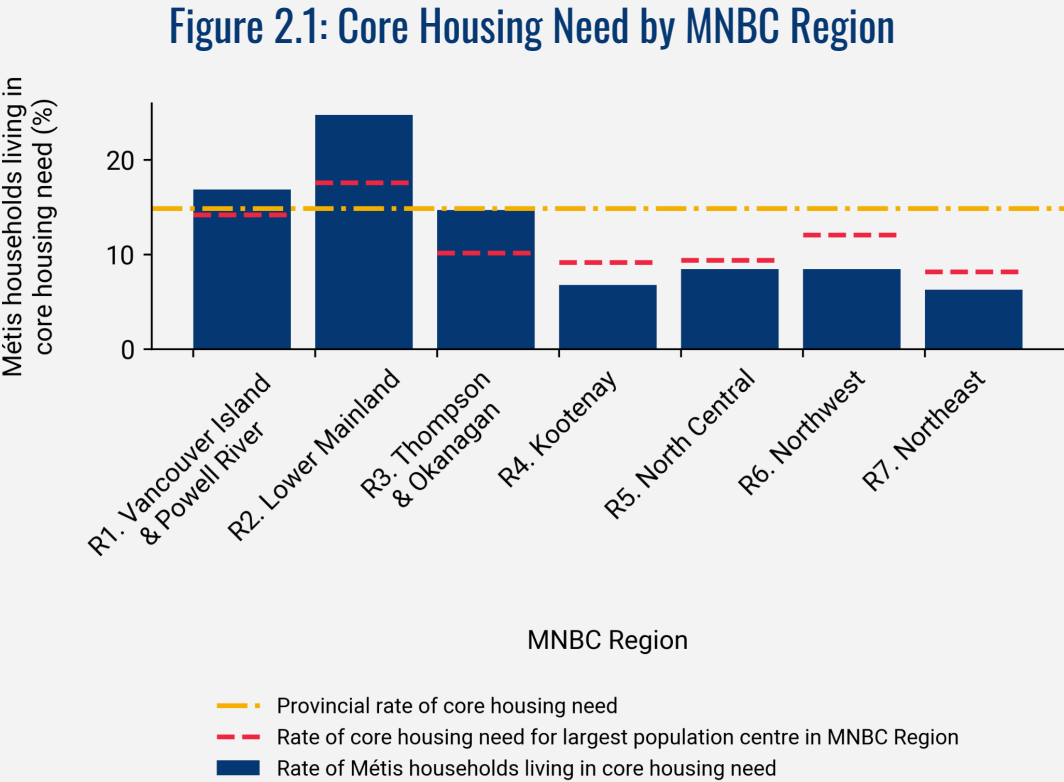
### Core Housing Need

A household is deemed to be living in core housing need if it meets two criteria: (i) it falls below the standards for housing affordability, adequacy, and/or suitability; and (ii) it "would have to spend 30% or more of its before-tax household income to access local housing that meets all three standards" (CMHC, 2019). In Figure 2.1 and Table 2.2, we present core housing need among

Métis households by MNBC region, and compare it to the rate of core housing need faced by the general population in the largest population centre in each region.

Our findings indicate that core housing need among Métis households is greatest in Region 1 (Vancouver Island & Powell River), Region 2 (Lower Mainland), and Region 3 (Thompson & Okanagan). In these regions, the proportion of Métis households living in core housing need exceeds that of the largest population centre in the region. Conversely, Métis households in Region 4 (Kootenay), Region 5 (North Central), Region 6 (Northwest), and Region 7 (Northeast) live in core housing need at lower rates than the average for the largest population centre in the Region, as well as below the provincial average. Population centres used for comparison are presented by region in Table 2.3.

Our results suggest that 17% of Métis households in the province live in core housing need, which is two percentage points higher than the overall provincial core housing need rate of 15% (Statistics Canada, 2017a). Successfully reducing Métis core housing need by 50% in five years will mean reducing the percentage of Métis households living in core housing need across the province to 8.5% by 2026.



**Source:** MNBC Housing Needs Survey (2021); Statistics Canada (2017a). **Note:** The dash-dotted (yellow) line indicates the overall provincial percentage of households living in core housing need (15%). The dashed (red) line indicates the percentage of households living in core housing need in the largest population centre in each MNBC Region.

**Table 2.2: Overall Core Housing Need by MNBC Region**

Region #	MNBC Region Name	Core housing need (%)	
		Métis households	Largest popul. centre in region
1	Vancouver Island & Powell River	17	14
2	Lower Mainland	25	18
3	Thompson & Okanagan	15	10
4	Kootenay	7	9
5	North Central	8	9
6	Northwest	8	12
7	Northeast	6	8
<b>Total (British Columbia average)</b>		<b>17 (15)</b>	<b>15 (15)</b>

Source: MNBC Housing Needs Survey; Statistics Canada (2017a).

**Table 2.3: Largest Population Centre by Region**

Region #	MNBC Region	Largest population centre in region
1	Vancouver Island & Powell River	Victoria
2	Lower Mainland	Vancouver
3	Thompson & Okanagan	Kelowna
4	Kootenay	Cranbrook
5	North Central	Prince George
6	Northwest	Prince Rupert
7	Northeast	Fort St. John

Source: Statistics Canada (2017a).



## — 2.1.2

### Demographic Characteristics

In this section, we provide information on the characteristics of Métis households and individuals in BC by the following subcategories:



**Housing Tenure**



**Lone Parent Household Status**



**Dwelling Type**



**Number of Children**



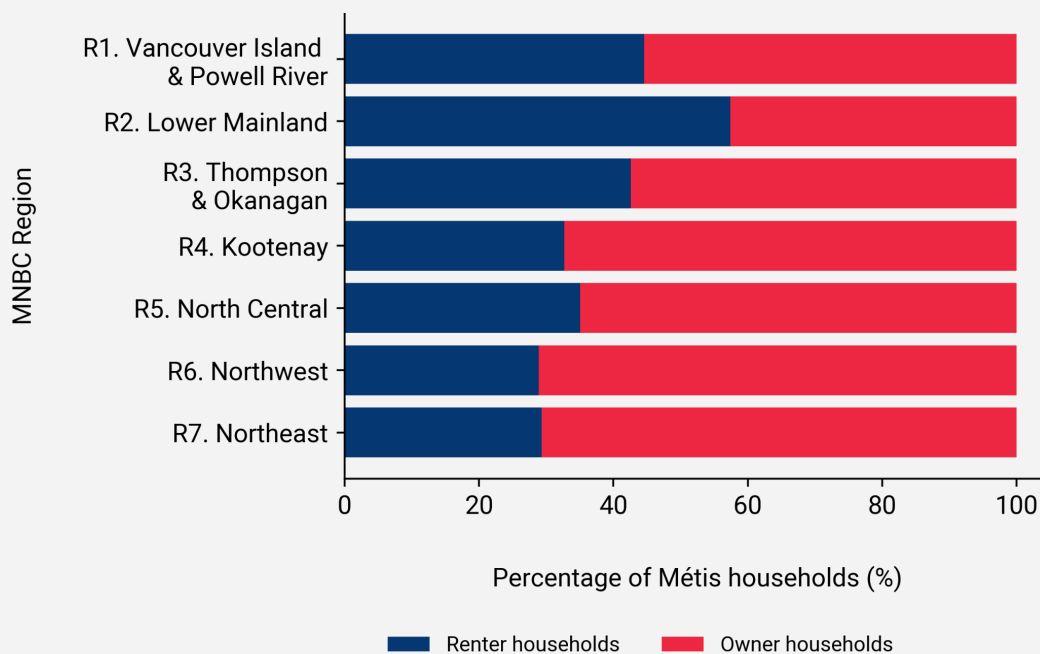
**Family Household Status**



## Housing Tenure

We show the percentage of Métis renter/owner households in Figure 2.2. The Lower Mainland has the highest percentage of renter households (57%), while the Northwest has the highest percentage of owner households (71%).

**Figure 2.2: Housing Tenure by Region**



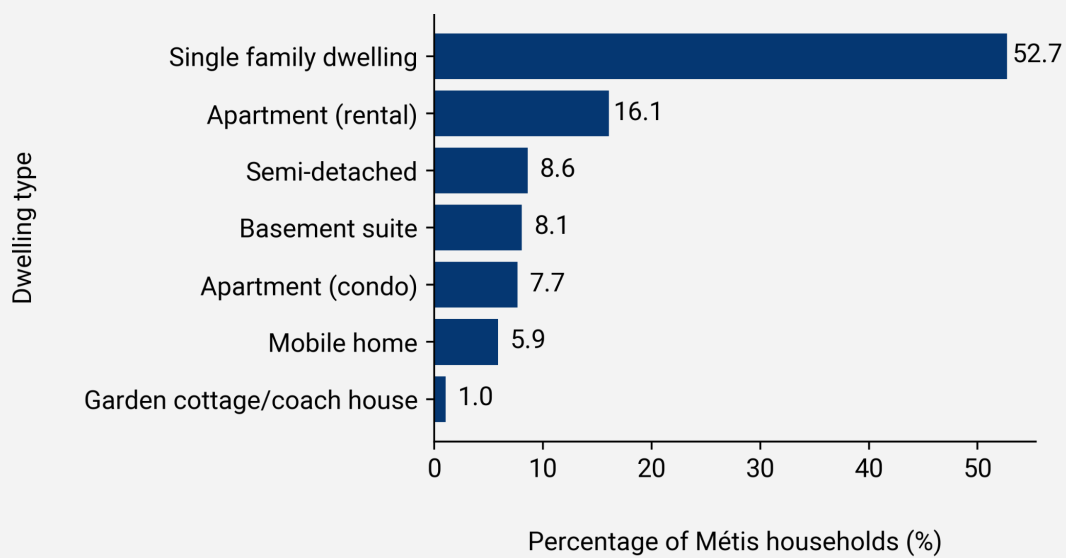
**Source:** MNBC Housing Needs Survey (2021). **Note:** There are 32,700 Métis households for whom housing tenure could be determined.



## Dwelling Type

In Figure 2.3, we present the percentage breakdown of respondents by dwelling type. Single family dwellings are the most common (53%). After single family dwellings, rental apartments (16%), semi-detached homes (9%), basement suites (8%), and condo apartments (8%) are most commonly reported.

**Figure 2.3 Housing by Dwelling Type**



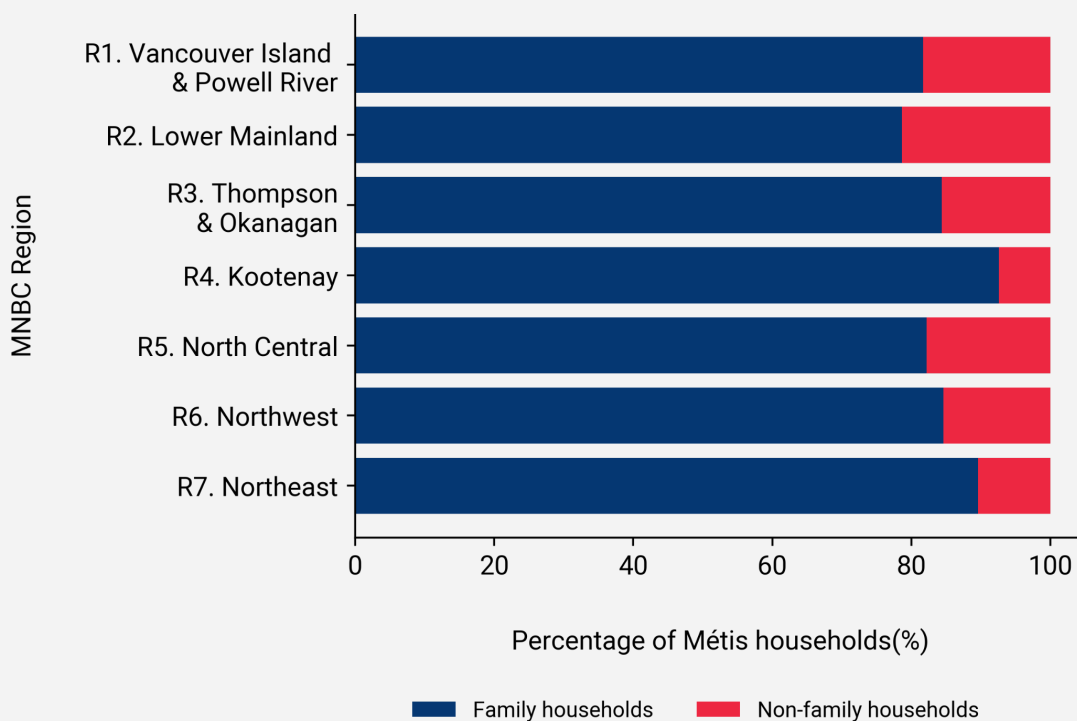
**Source:** MNBC Housing Needs Survey (2021). **Note:** There are 32,579 Métis households for whom dwelling type could be determined.



## Family Household Status

Family household status refers to whether a household is a family or a non-family household. Family households are households made up of at least one adult and at least one related child. Non-family households are households made up of just one member or of multiple unrelated individuals living together. In Figure 2.4, we depict the percentage breakdown of family and non-family households in each MNBC region. The Lower Mainland has the smallest proportion of family households (79%) while the Kootenay region has the highest (93%).

**Figure 2.4 Housing by Family Household Status**



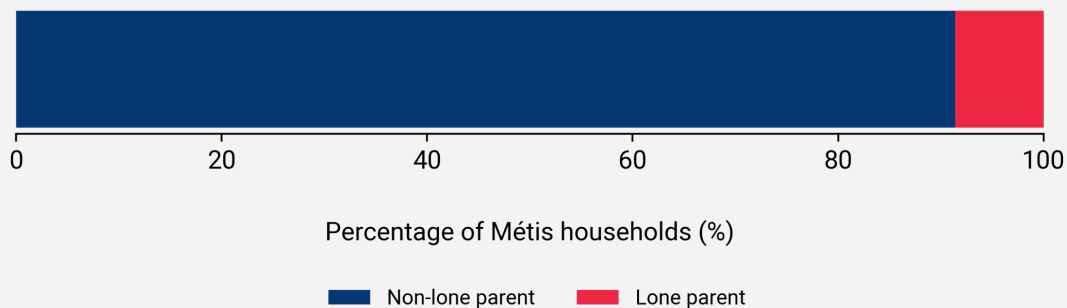
**Source:** MNBC Housing Needs Survey (2021). **Note:** there are 32,415 Métis households for which family household status could be determined.



## Lone Parent Household Status

Households where more than one parent is responsible for the upbringing of children are considered “non-lone parent” households. Conversely, households where a single parent is responsible for the upbringing of children are considered “lone parent” households. In Figure 2.5, we depict the percentage breakdown of lone parent and non-lone parent households in BC. We find that there are significantly more Métis non-lone parent households than lone parent households across the province: 91% compared to 9%.

**Figure 2.5: Percentage of Breakdown by Lone Parent & Non-lone Parent Households**



**Source:** MNBC Housing Need Survey (2021).

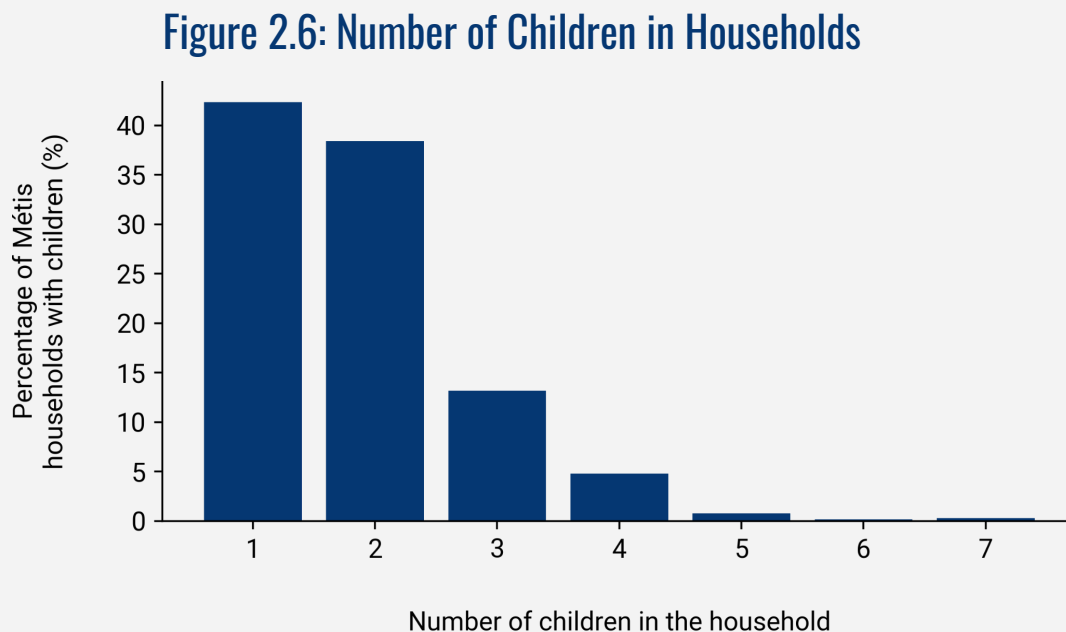
**Note:** There are 26,212 Métis households for which lone parent status could be determined.





## Number of Children

In Figure 2.6, we present the percentage breakdown of households with children by the number of children. Households with one child are most common (42%). There are also a considerable number of households with two children (38%).



**Source:** MNBC Housing Needs Survey (2021). **Note:** There are 9,960 family households with at least one child, and there are 16,652 family households with no children at home.

## — 2.2

### Sample Characteristics

This section provides an overview of the three components of core housing need presented in this report (affordability, adequacy, and suitability), including their definitions and our approach to computation. This section also presents the distribution of MNBC Housing Needs Survey respondents along the following dimensions:

- income and shelter costs (pertaining to affordability);
- the number of repairs needed (pertaining to adequacy); and
- the number of residents and bedrooms in a dwelling (pertaining to suitability).

For example, we look at the proportion of survey respondents that have incomes between \$40,000–\$50,000 a year, or how many households have two bedrooms. In short, the distributions presented in this section provide an overview of who was sampled in the MNBC Housing Needs Survey. We note that the distributions and data in Section 2.2 are not weighted (i.e. they have not been post-stratified). As such, the information in Section 2.2 applies only to respondents to the MNBC Housing Needs Survey and does not apply to the entire Métis population in BC.



## — 2.2.1

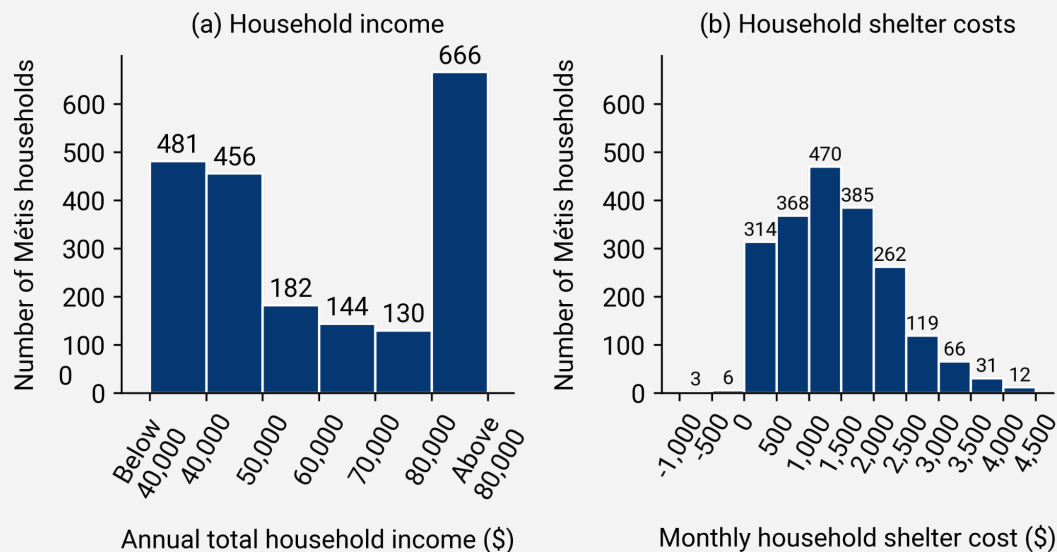
### Housing Affordability

Housing is unaffordable when a household spends more than 30% of its pre-tax income on shelter costs. Statistics Canada defines shelter costs as “the average monthly total of all shelter expenses paid by households that own or rent their dwelling” (Statistics Canada, 2021b). In order to compute the proportion Métis households living in unaffordable housing, we need both income and shelter costs as inputs. These two inputs are analyzed in detail in Section 3.0.

We present the income distribution for Métis households sampled in Figure 2.7(a). The highest proportion of Métis households in our sample reported incomes of above \$80,000 (666 households, or 33% of our sample), and the second-highest proportion of households reported incomes of below \$40,000 (481 households, or 23%).

We present the sample distribution of shelter costs in Figure 2.7(b). Most Métis households (1,537, or 75%) in our sample spend less than \$2,000 a month on shelter costs, with the highest proportion of these spending between \$1,000 and \$1,500 (470, or 23%). Shelter costs can be negative if rent/mortgage/coop/condo assistance exceeds the rent/mortgage/coop/condo costs.

**Figure 2.7: Distribution of (a) Household Income & (b) Shelter Costs**



Source: MNBC Housing Needs Survey (2021)

## — 2.2.2

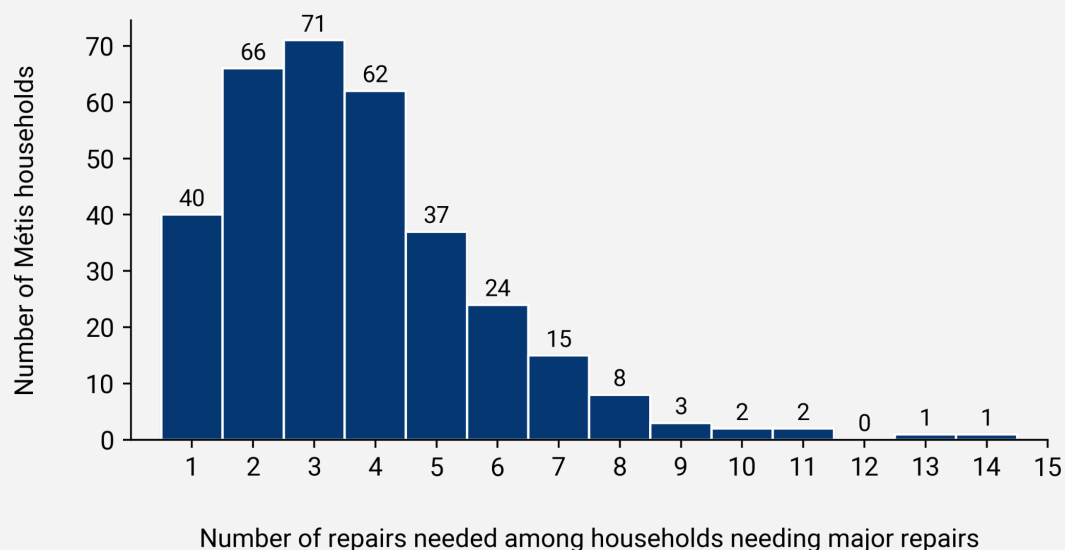
### Housing Adequacy

Statistics Canada defines adequate housing as housing which “is reported by their residents as not requiring any major repairs” (Statistics Canada, 2017b). Inadequate housing, therefore, is housing which requires one or more major repairs. Major repairs include, for example, defective plumbing or electrical wiring, or structural repairs to walls, floors, or ceilings (Statistics Canada, 2017c).

Respondents to the MNBC Housing Needs Survey were asked whether their dwelling requires any major repairs and, if so, how many repairs are required and what those repairs are. The types of required repairs are examined in Section 4.1.1. Most Métis households surveyed do not live in inadequate housing, that is, do not require any major repairs to their dwellings (1,727 households, or 84% of the entire sample). Of households in need of at least one major repair to their dwelling, 40 (or 12% of the 332 households requiring at least one major repair) require one repair, and 66 (or 20%) require two repairs. There are 93 households (28%) in our sample that require five or more repairs to their dwellings.

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**Figure 2.8: Distribution of Number of Repairs Needed Among Households Needing Major Repairs**



Source: MNBC Housing Needs Survey (2021)

## — 2.2.3

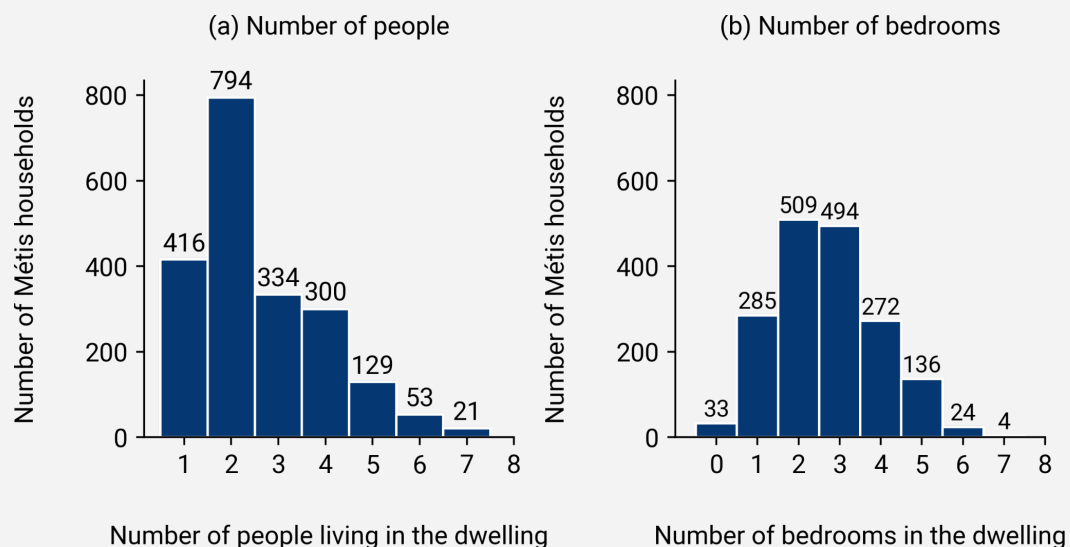
### Housing Suitability

Statistics Canada defines unsuitable housing as that which does not have “enough bedrooms for the size and composition of resident households according to National Occupancy Standard (NOS) requirements” (Statistics Canada, 2017b). The NOS prescribes a set of conditions to determine the number of bedrooms required for a household to be living in suitable housing, which are presented in detail in Section 5.0. We stress that the NOS is only one way of measuring suitability and overcrowding; additional work is needed to determine a culturally appropriate Métis definition of suitability and overcrowding.

Most households who responded to the Housing Needs Survey are made up of two people (794 households, or 39%). A smaller number of people reported living in single-person households (416, or 20%), three-person households (334, or 16%), and four-person households (300, or 15%). We depict the distribution of household occupancy in Figure 2.9(a).

The majority of households who responded to the Housing Needs Survey live in two-bedroom dwellings (509 households, or 25%). There are 494 (or 24%) households living in three-bedroom dwellings, 285 (or 14%) households living in one-bedroom dwellings, and 272 (or 13%) households living in four-bedroom dwellings. We depict the distribution of households by the number of bedrooms in their dwellings in Figure 2.9(b).

**Figure 2.9: Distribution of the Number of (a) People & (b) Bedrooms in Dwellings**



Source: MNBC Housing Needs Survey (2021)





## — 2.2.4

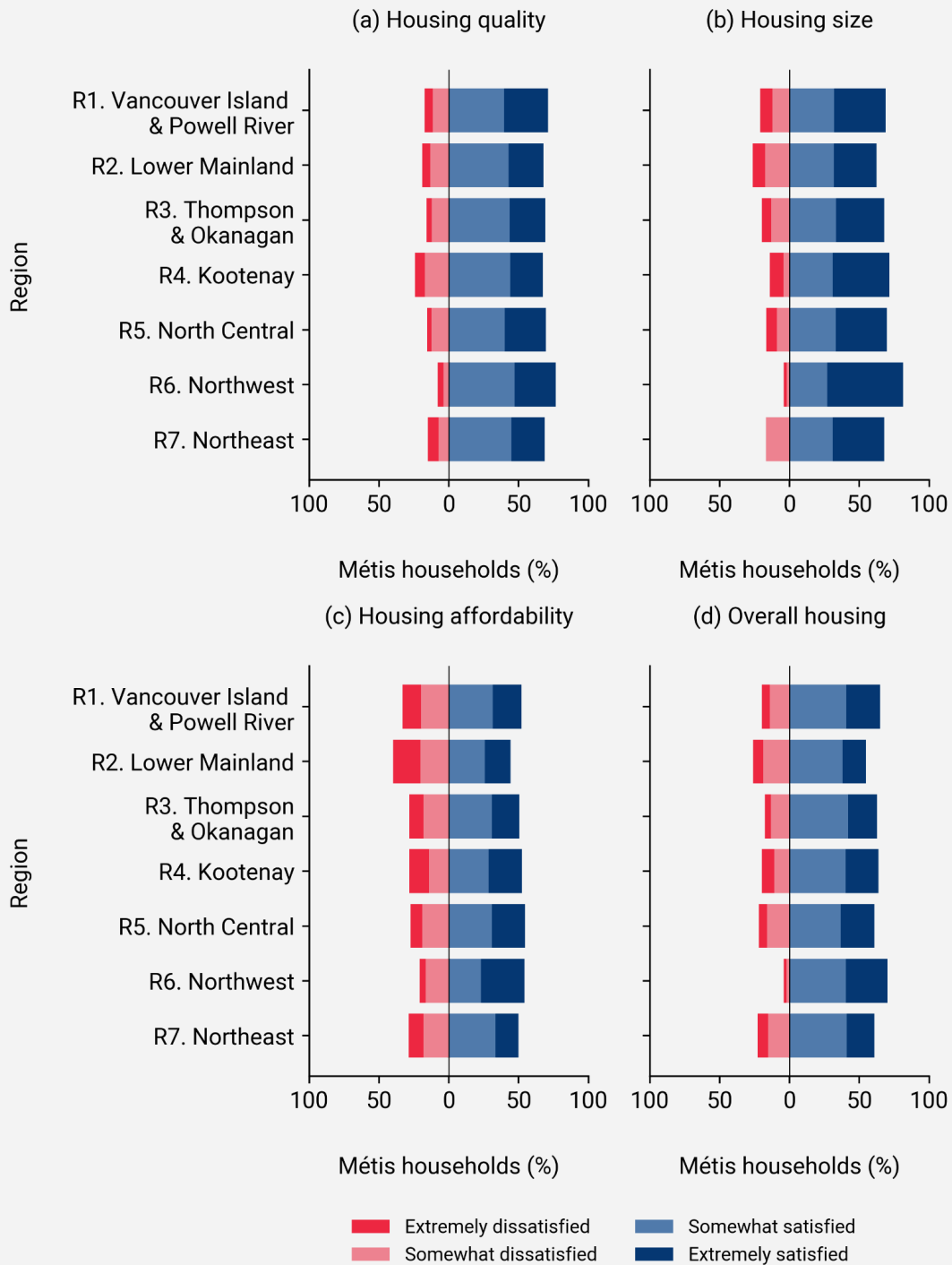
### Housing Satisfaction

Respondents to the MNBC Housing Needs Survey were asked if they were satisfied with four different metrics related to their housing:

1. Housing affordability
2. Housing quality (i.e. the condition of their housing)
3. Housing size (e.g. sufficient space, number of bedrooms, etc.)
4. and their overall housing.

The theme that emerges is that Métis households in the Lower Mainland are the least satisfied with their housing overall, though households in the Kootenay region are the least satisfied with their housing quality. Households in the Northwest region are the most satisfied with their housing, across all aspects. These results are presented in Figure 2.10.

## Figure 2.10: Housing Satisfaction



Source: MNBC Housing Needs Survey (2021).



— 3.0

# HOUSING AFFORDABILITY

## — 3.0

# HOUSING AFFORDABILITY

### KEY FINDINGS

- 🏠 A greater proportion of Métis households live in unaffordable housing (41%) relative to the average in BC (28%) (Statistics Canada, 2019b).
- 🏠 The Lower Mainland has the highest proportion of Métis households living in unaffordable housing (48%) and the Northwest has the lowest (16%).
- 🏠 More than half of Métis lone parent households live in unaffordable housing (56%), compared to 35% of non-lone parent households.
- 🏠 Almost half (49%) of Métis children and youth aged 20 or below live in unaffordable housing.
- 🏠 More than half of individuals with either an injury (61%), learning (57%) or a memory disability (52%) live in unaffordable housing.

Housing affordability is a measure of shelter costs relative to income, which highlights whether a household is spending a substantial portion of its income on housing. Specifically, housing is considered unaffordable if a household is spending more than 30% of its pre-tax income on shelter costs. Housing affordability is a concern for low- and middle-income earners in BC, especially with rising costs of housing driven by speculative demand (British Columbia, 2021c). In this section we examine various levels of housing affordability, including by household and individual-level characteristics such as housing tenure, family household status, gender, and age.

Broadly speaking, our objective is to understand housing affordability for Métis households across BC, to inform the direction of necessary supports and programs. We find that for Métis households in BC, housing is least affordable in the Lower Mainland, and most affordable in the Northwest. The high rates of unaffordable housing in the Lower Mainland are likely caused by the region's rising real estate prices (Real Estate Board of Greater Vancouver, 2021).

Beyond the regional level, we explore housing affordability by household-level characteristics. We examine housing affordability by housing tenure (i.e. whether a household rents or owns their dwelling), dwelling type, family household status, lone parent household status, and by the number of children in the household. Our findings indicate that (i) the highest percentage of Métis renter households facing unaffordable housing across the province live in the



Lower Mainland and that (ii) lone parent Métis households live in unaffordable housing at higher rates than non-lone parent households.

We also explore housing affordability by individual-level characteristics, such as MNBC citizenship status, gender, age, and by the presence of a disability, to better enable MNBC to design more targeted housing programs by understanding the likelihood of living in unaffordable housing at the individual level. A salient finding is that individuals of another gender (e.g. non-binary, 2-spirit, or other gender identities) experience higher rates of unaffordable housing than do male or female individuals.

The remainder of Section 3.0 is outlined as follows: Section 3.1 provides a breakdown of how housing affordability is determined and offers an overview of housing affordability faced by Métis in BC at the regional level; we explore housing affordability by household-level characteristics in Section 3.2; and by individual-level characteristics in Section 3.3.

## — 3.1

### Overview of Housing Affordability for Métis in British Columbia

In this section, we provide a broad overview of housing affordability faced by Métis households in BC and by region, including a discussion of how housing affordability is measured.

#### — 3.1.1

#### Measuring Housing Affordability

There are two components needed in measuring housing affordability: shelter costs and household income. In Section 3.1.1, we examine these components to contextualize the findings on housing affordability presented in subsequent sections.

#### Shelter Costs

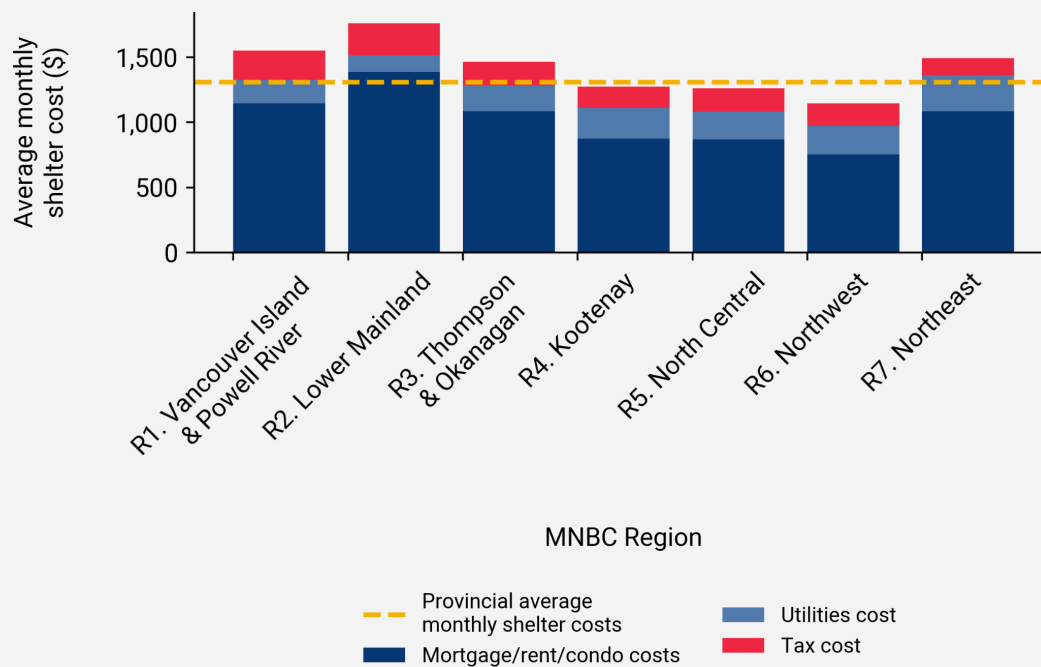
Statistics Canada defines shelter costs as the average monthly total of all shelter expenses paid by households that own or rent their dwelling. Utilities include water, electricity, and household fuel payments. Métis households across BC face average monthly shelter costs of \$1,525, which is 16% higher than the overall provincial average monthly household shelter costs of \$1,310 (Statistics Canada, 2019b).

We present shelter costs by region in Figure 3.1, broken down into mortgage/rent/condo, utilities, and tax costs. Métis households in the Lower Mainland face the highest shelter costs in the province on average (\$1,759 per month). By contrast, average shelter costs faced by Métis households are the lowest (\$1,145 per month) in the Northwest.

Rent, mortgage, and condo fees are highest in the Lower Mainland (\$1,387) and Vancouver Island & Powell River (\$1,146). Property taxes in the Lower Mainland (\$243 per month) and in Vancouver Island & Powell River (\$225) are the highest in the province. Utility costs are the highest in the Northeast (\$277) and Kootenay (\$233) regions. These data are presented in Table 3.1.



### Figure 3.1: Shelter Costs by Region



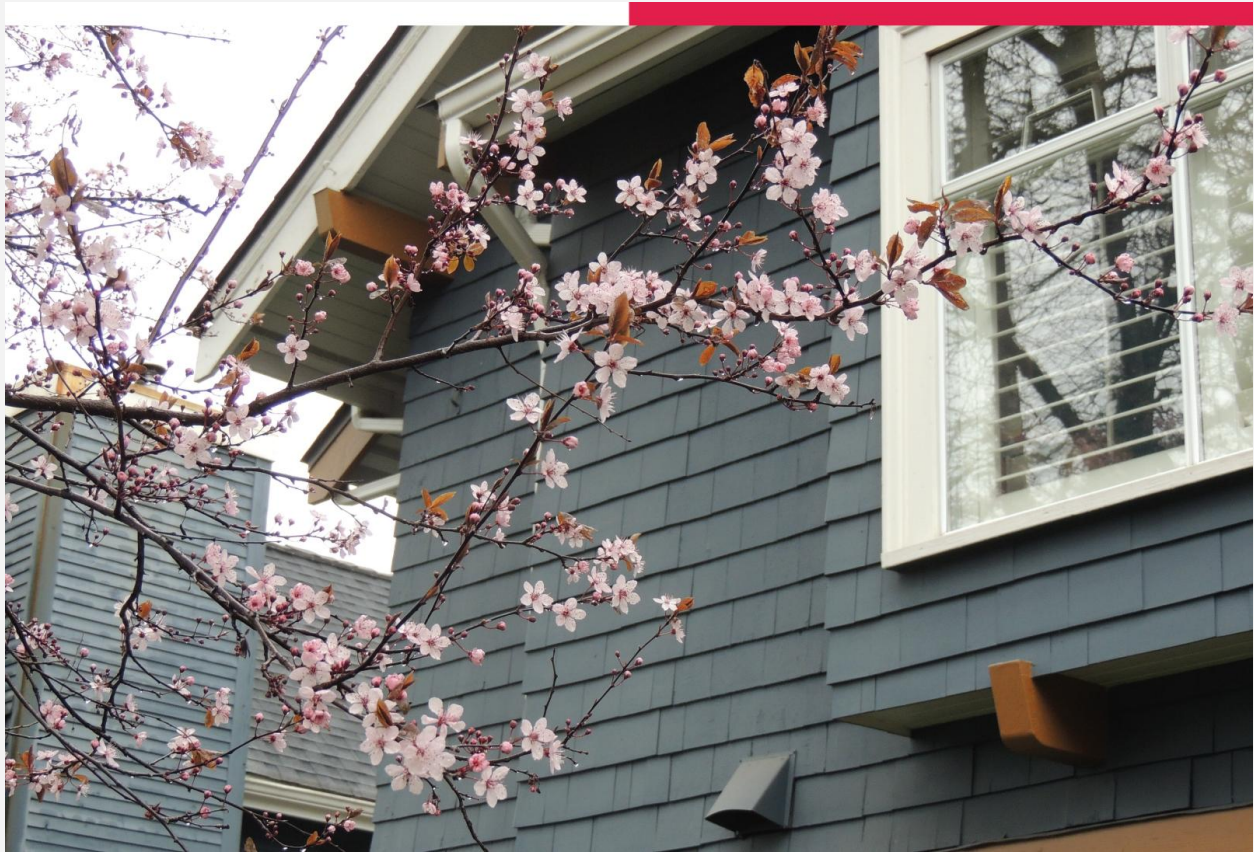
**Source:** MNBC Housing Needs Survey (2021); Statistics Canada (2019b).

**Note:** The dashed line indicates overall provincial average monthly shelter costs (\$1,310).

### Table 3.1: Average Monthly Shelter Costs by Region

Region #	MNBC Region	Mortgage/rent/condo fee cost (\$)	Utilities cost (\$)	Property tax cost (\$)	Total shelter cost (\$)
1	Van. Isl. & Pow. Rv.	1,146	180	225	1,551
2	Lower Mainland	1,387	129	243	1,759
3	Thomp. & Okan.	1,085	200	178	1,463
4	Kootenay	877	233	165	1,275
5	North Central	868	213	181	1,262
6	Northwest	754	219	172	1,145
7	Northeast	1,085	277	130	1,492
	<b>MNBC average (Provincial average)</b>	<b>1,163 (-)</b>	<b>177 (-)</b>	<b>185 (-)</b>	<b>1,525 (1,310)</b>

**Source:** MNBC Housing Needs Survey (2021), Statistics Canada (2019b). Property taxes are only applicable to owner households.



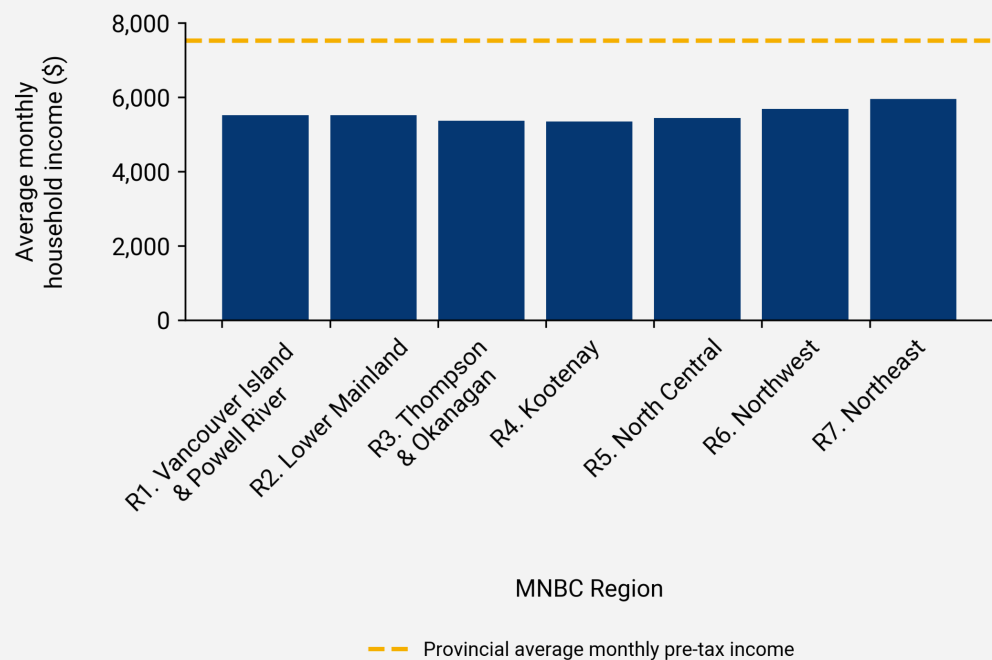
## Household Income

The average pre-tax monthly household income across all Métis households is \$5,549, which is 26% lower than the average provincial pre-tax monthly household income of \$7,530 (Canadian Housing and Mortgage Corporation, 2016). We depict average monthly household incomes by region in Figure 3.2 and present these data in Table 3.2.

Average pre-tax incomes for Métis households are highest in the Northeast (\$5,956 monthly, or \$71,471 annually) and Northwest (\$5,684 monthly, or \$68,206) regions and they are the lowest in the Kootenay region (\$5,350 per month, \$64,202 per year). High incomes in the Northeast and Northwest can be attributed to relatively high-wage jobs in the mining and oil and gas industries, which are both sectors in which average wages are well above the provincial average (British Columbia, 2021a, 2021b).

Métis households living in the Lower Mainland and Vancouver Island & Powell River regions face the two highest average rent/mortgage/condo fees in the province and report only the third and fourth highest incomes (\$5,521 and \$5,519 per month on average, respectively) across BC. This implies that households in these regions spend a higher portion of their income on shelter costs on average, compared to other regions. This combination of high shelter costs and low incomes results in the Lower Mainland and Vancouver Island & Powell River regions facing the two highest rates of unaffordable housing in the province (Figure 3.3). We attribute higher shelter costs in both these regions to higher rent and mortgage payments driven by higher house prices in the Lower Mainland (Real Estate Board of Greater Vancouver, 2021) and Victoria (Victoria Real Estate Board, 2021) compared to the rest of the province.

**Figure 3.2: Average Monthly Pre-tax Household Income by Region**



**Source:** MNBC Housing Needs Survey (2021); Canadian Mortgage and Housing Corporation (2016).

**Note:** The dashed line indicates provincial average monthly household incomes (\$7,530).

**Table 3.2: Average Monthly & Annual Pre-tax Household Income**

Region #	MNBC Region	Average monthly income (\$)	Average annual income (\$)
1	Vancouver Island & Powell River	5,519	66,229
2	Lower Mainland	5,521	66,254
3	Thompson & Okanagan	5,366	64,396
4	Kootenay	5,350	64,202
5	North Central	5,446	65,352
6	Northwest	5,684	68,206
7	Northeast	5,956	71,471
	<b>MNBC average (Provincial average)</b>	<b>5,549 (7,530)</b>	<b>66,587 (90,360)</b>

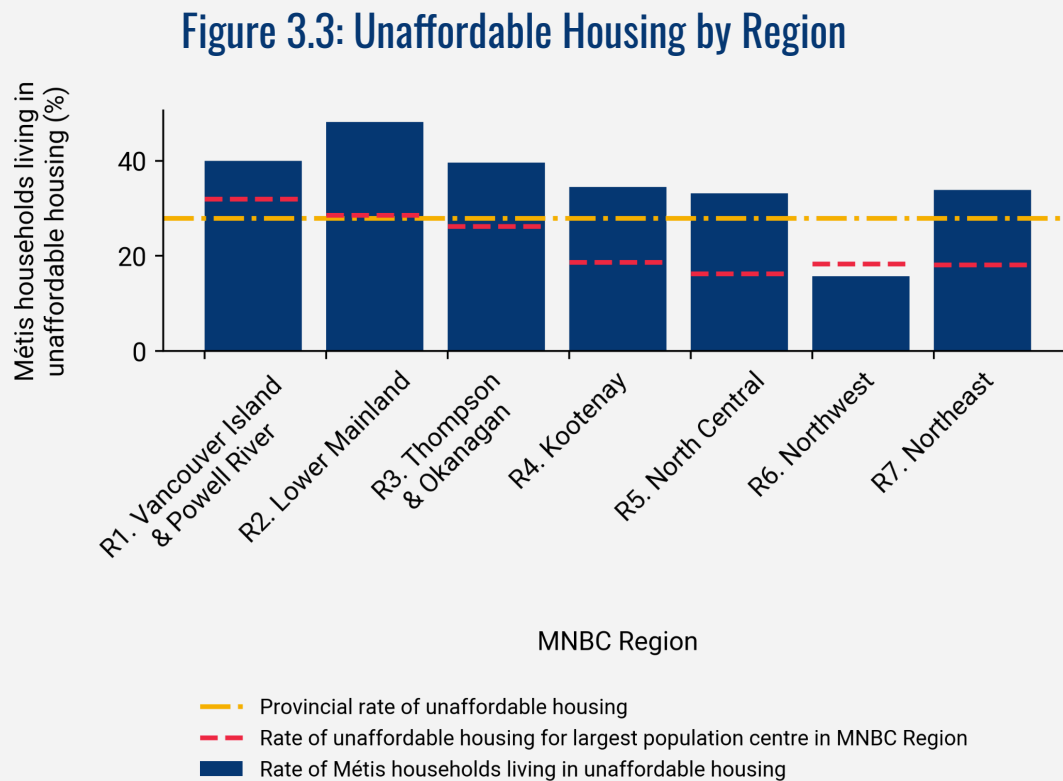
**Source:** MNBC Housing Needs Survey; Canadian Mortgage and Housing Corporation (2016).

Note: Average annual income is the Average Monthly Income multiplied by 12 and is presented as a more conventional measure of income.

### — 3.1.2 Regional Analysis

We present housing affordability by region and for the largest community, by population, in each region in Figure 3.3. We specify which community is the largest by region in Table 3.3. We see that the provincial average unaffordable housing rate (28%) is exceeded by Métis households in every region apart from the Northwest. We moreover see that the rate of unaffordable housing in each MNBC region exceeds that of the largest community in each region for all regions except the Northwest. This suggests that, in all regions except the Northwest, Métis households disproportionately live in unaffordable housing as compared to non-Indigenous households.

Housing is the least affordable in the Lower Mainland region, where 48% of Métis households live in unaffordable housing. Housing is the most affordable in the Northwest region where only 16% of households live in unaffordable housing. We present these data in Table 3.3.



**Source:** MNBC Housing Needs Survey (2021); Statistics Canada (2019b).

**Note:** The dash-dotted (yellow) line indicates the overall provincial percentage of households living in unaffordable housing (28%). The dashed (red) line indicates the percentage of households living in unaffordable housing in the largest community in each MNBC Region.



### Table 3.3: Unaffordable Housing by Region

Region #	MNBC Region	Unaffordable housing (%)	Affordable housing (%)
1	Vancouver Island & Powell River	40	60
2	Lower Mainland	48	52
3	Thompson & Okanagan	40	60
4	Kootenay	33	67
5	North Central	34	66
6	Northwest	16	84
7	Northeast	34	66
	<b>TOTAL (British Columbia Average)</b>	<b>41 (28)</b>	<b>59 (72)</b>

**Source:** MNBC Housing Needs Survey (2021); Statistics Canada (2019b).

**Note:** The BC average represents the average among Métis households in BC, as measured by the MNBC Housing Needs Survey.

## — 3.2

### Household-level Analysis

In this section, we examine housing affordability by household-level characteristics. We specifically examine housing affordability by housing tenure (i.e. Métis renter/owner household status) in Section 3.2.1; dwelling type (apartments, single detached homes, etc.) in Section 3.2.2; family household status in Section 3.2.3; lone parent household status in Section 3.2.4; and by the number of children in the household in Section 3.2.5. By conducting the weighting process previously described, we note that our analysis in Section 3.2 applies to 32,700 Métis households in BC (see Appendix A for details on weighting the survey data).

## — 3.2.1

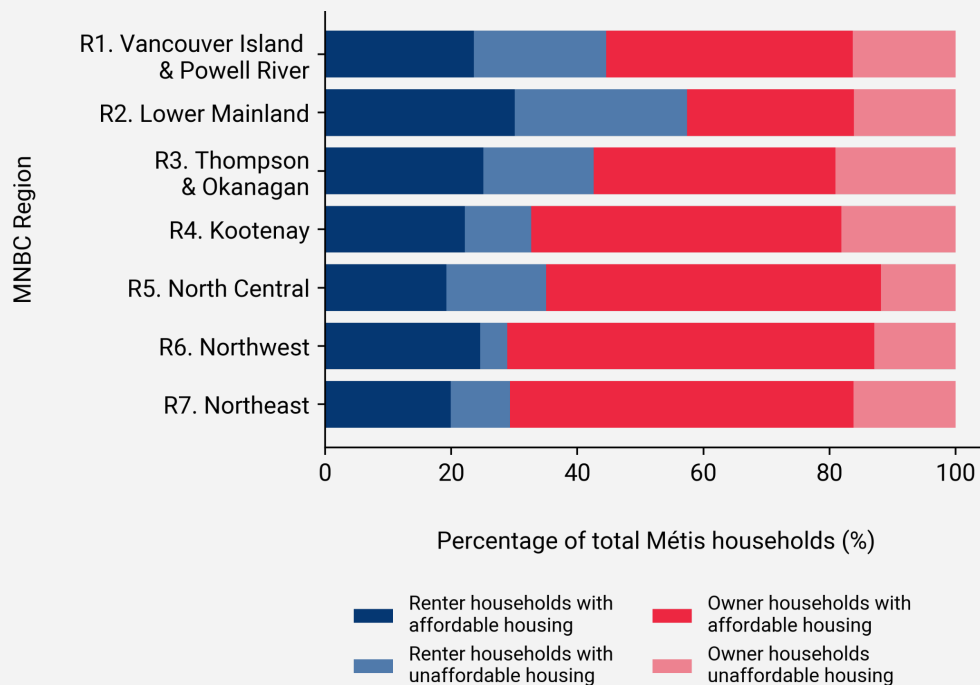
### Housing Tenure

Housing tenure refers to whether a household owns or rents their dwelling. Métis households in the Lower Mainland live in unaffordable housing at the highest rate across the province, regardless of housing tenure. Housing affordability by housing tenure is presented by region in Figure 3.4 and Table 3.4.

Across all regions, a higher percentage of Métis households living in unaffordable housing are renter households (21%) than owner households (16%). The highest percentage of renter households living in unaffordable housing live in the Lower Mainland (27%), while the lowest percentage of renter households living in unaffordable housing live in the Northwest (4%). Métis owner households live in unaffordable housing at the highest rates in the Thompson & Okanagan (19%) and the lowest rates in the North Central (12%)

We remark that some regions (Lower Mainland and Vancouver Island & Powell River) have higher rates of unaffordable housing for renter households, while others (Northeast, Northwest, Thompson & Okanagan, and Kootenay) have higher rates of unaffordable housing for owner households. The exact factors which determine if renter or owner households have higher rates of unaffordable housing remains unclear.

**Figure 3.4: Housing Affordability by Housing Tenure & Region**



**Source:** MNBC Housing Needs Survey (2021). **Note:** The percentages are relative to the total number of households in each region.

**Table 3.4: Housing Affordability by Housing Tenure & Region**

Region#	MNBC Region	Total	Renter households				Owner households			
			Affordable		Unaffordable		Affordable		Unaffordable	
			%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#
1	Van. Isl. & Powell Riv.	7,385	24%	1,742	21%	1,552	39%	2,883	16%	1,208
2	Lower Mainland	11,895	30%	3,575	27%	3,254	26%	3,143	16%	1,923
3	Thomp. & Okanagan	6,440	25%	1,616	18%	1,129	38%	2,469	19%	1,227
4	Kootenay	1,450	22%	322	10%	152	49%	713	18%	263
5	North Central	2,975	19%	573	16%	469	53%	1,580	12%	353
6	Northwest	1,030	25%	253	4%	45	58%	599	13%	134
7	Northeast	1,525	20%	304	9%	144	54%	831	16%	247
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>32,700</b>	<b>26%</b>	<b>8,384</b>	<b>21%</b>	<b>6,744</b>	<b>37%</b>	<b>12,218</b>	<b>16%</b>	<b>5,354</b>

**Source:** MNBC Housing Needs Survey (2021). **Note:** Percentages are of the total number of households in each region, regardless of housing tenure.

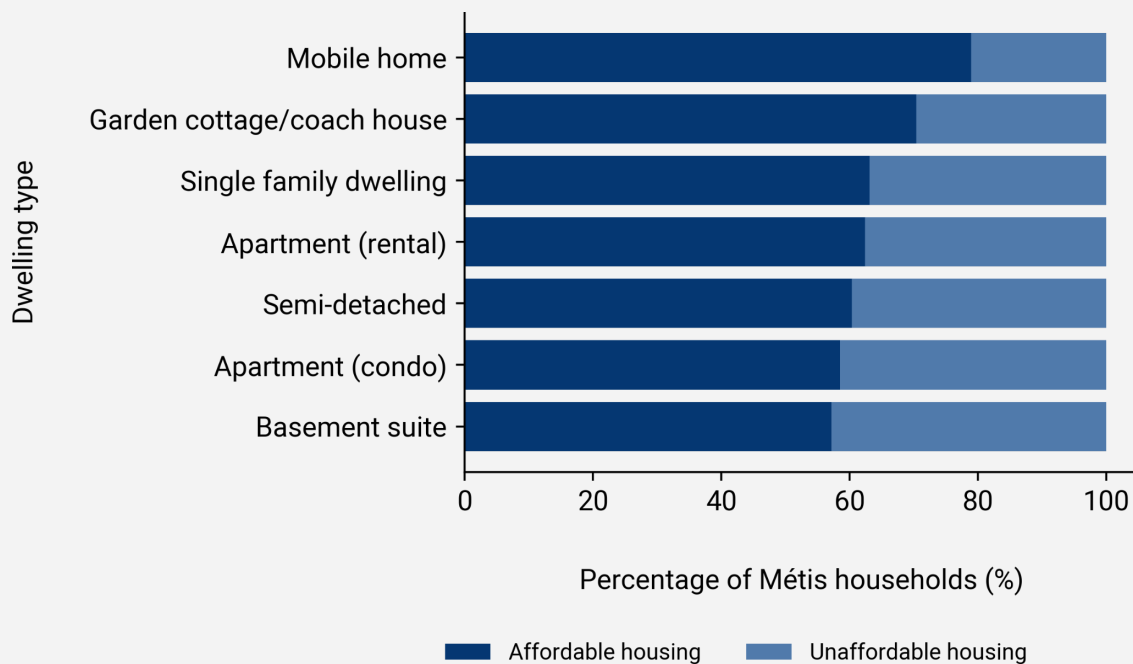
### — 3.2.2

## Dwelling Type

Métis households living in basement suites (43%) and condo apartments (42%) live in unaffordable housing at a higher rate than households living in other dwelling types. Households living in semi-detached homes and rental apartments also live in unaffordable housing at relatively higher rates.

The rate of unaffordable housing faced by Métis households is lowest among those who live in mobile homes (21%) and garden cottages/coach houses (30%). In Figure 3.5, we depict the percentage breakdown of housing affordability by dwelling type. These data are also presented in Table 3.5.

**Figure 3.5: Housing Affordability by Dwelling Type**



Source: MNBC Housing Needs Survey (2021).

**Table 3.5: Housing Affordability by Dwelling Type**

Dwelling type	Total	Affordable housing		Unaffordable housing	
		%	#	%	#
Mobile home	1,906	79%	1,504	21%	402
Gard. cott./coach house	337	70%	237	30%	100
Single family dwelling	17,179	63%	10,843	37%	6,337
Apartment (rental)	5,230	62%	3,262	38%	1,968
Semi-detached	2,800	60%	1,689	40%	1,111
Apartment (condo)	2,500	58%	1,462	42%	1,038
Basement suite	2,627	57%	1,501	43%	1,126
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>32,579</b>	<b>63%</b>	<b>20,498</b>	<b>37%</b>	<b>12,082</b>

**Source:** MNBC Housing Needs Survey (2021). The total number of households does not match 32,700 since there are 121 households that live in student housing, temporary housing, or did not specify their dwelling type. These households are excluded from Figure 3.5 and this table.

### — 3.2.3

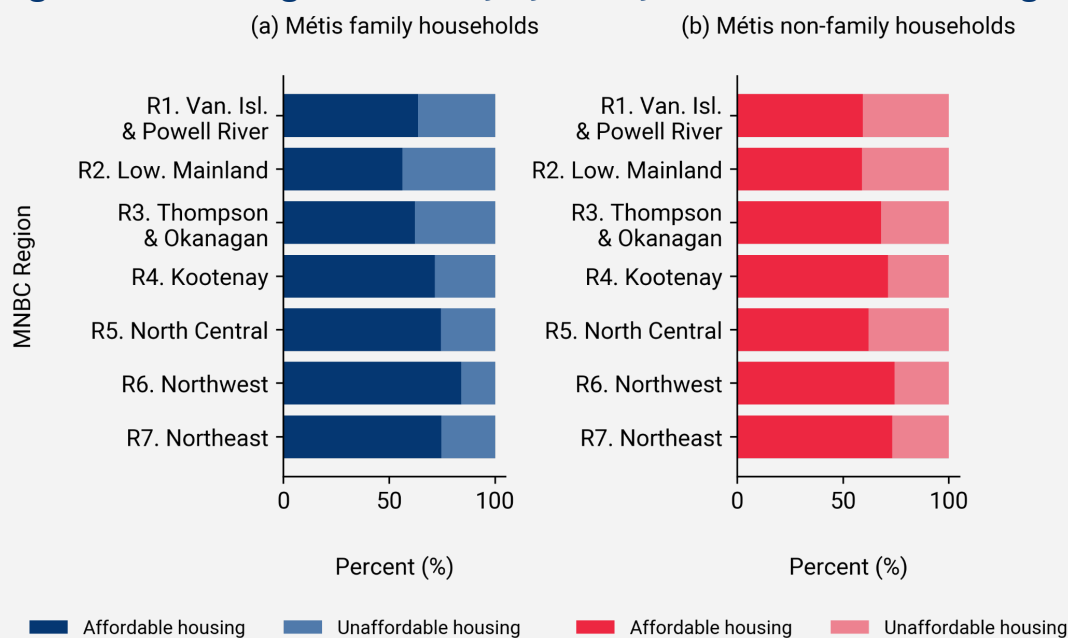
## Family Household Status

Family household status refers to whether a household is a family or a non-family household. Family households are households made up of at least one adult and at least one related child. Non-family households are households made up of just one member or of multiple unrelated individuals living together. Regardless of family household status, approximately 40% of Métis households live in unaffordable housing. As such, family household status does not appear to be a meaningful determinant of housing affordability.

In Figure 3.6(a), we depict the percentage breakdown of family households living in affordable and unaffordable housing by region. The highest percentage of Métis family households living in unaffordable housing live in the Lower Mainland (44%), while the lowest percentage live in the Northwest region (16%).

In Figure 3.6(b), we depict the percentage breakdown of non-family households living in affordable and unaffordable housing by region. Among non-family households, unaffordable housing is most prevalent in the Lower Mainland and Vancouver Island & Powell River (both 41%), and least prevalent in the Northwest region (26%). These data are also presented in Table 3.6.

## Figure 3.6: Housing Affordability by Family Household Status & Region



Source: MNBC Housing Needs Survey (2021)

## Table 3.6: Housing Affordability by Family Household Status & Region

Region #	MNBC Region	Family households					Non-family households				
		Total	Affordable		Unaffordable		Total	Affordable		Unaffordable	
			%	#	%	#		%	#	%	#
1	Van. Isl. & Powell Riv.	5,980	64%	3,803	36%	2,177	1,342	59%	794	41%	547
2	Lower Mainland	9,256	56%	5,199	44%	4,058	2,515	59%	1,480	41%	1,034
3	Thomp. & Okanagan	5,381	62%	3,345	38%	2,036	996	68%	677	32%	319
4	Kootenay	1,342	71%	958	29%	384	108	71%	77	29%	31
5	North Central	2,429	74%	1,807	26%	621	528	62%	327	38%	200
6	Northwest	858	84%	720	16%	137	156	74%	116	26%	40
7	Northeast	1,366	75%	1,018	25%	348	159	73%	116	27%	43
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>26,612</b>	<b>63%</b>	<b>16,850</b>	<b>37%</b>	<b>9,762</b>	<b>5,803</b>	<b>62%</b>	<b>3,588</b>	<b>38%</b>	<b>2,215</b>

Source: MNBC Housing Needs Survey (2021). There are a total of 32,415 (26,612+5,803) households for which family household status can be determined. 285 households' family statuses could not be determined.



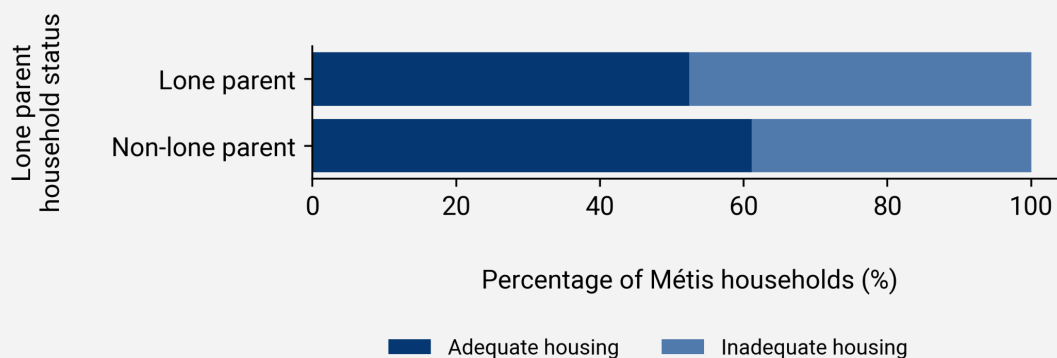
### — 3.2.4

## Lone Parent Household Status

Lone parent households are family households which are maintained by a lone (or single) parent. Métis lone parent households live in unaffordable housing at higher rates (56%) than Métis non-lone parent households (35%).

There are 2,288 Métis lone parent households in BC, of which 56% (1,283 households) live in unaffordable housing. In contrast, only 35% (8,479 households) of non-lone parent households live in unaffordable housing. We attribute higher rates of housing unaffordability among lone parent households to a lack of a second income, which is more likely to be the case in a non-lone parent household. We depict our results in Figure 3.7 and present these data in Table 3.7.

**Figure 3.7: Housing Affordability by Lone Parent Household Status**



Source: MNBC Housing Needs Survey (2021)

**Table 3.7: Housing Affordability by Lone Parent Household Status**

Lone parent household status	Total	Affordable		Unaffordable	
		%	#	%	#
Non-lone parent	24,324	65%	15,845	35%	8,479
Lone parent	2,288	44%	1,005	56%	1,283
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>26,612</b>	<b>63%</b>	<b>16,850</b>	<b>37%</b>	<b>9,762</b>

Source: MNBC Housing Needs Survey (2021). The total number of lone parent/non-lone parent households is equal to the total number of family households presented in Table 3.7.

## — 3.2.5

### Number of Children

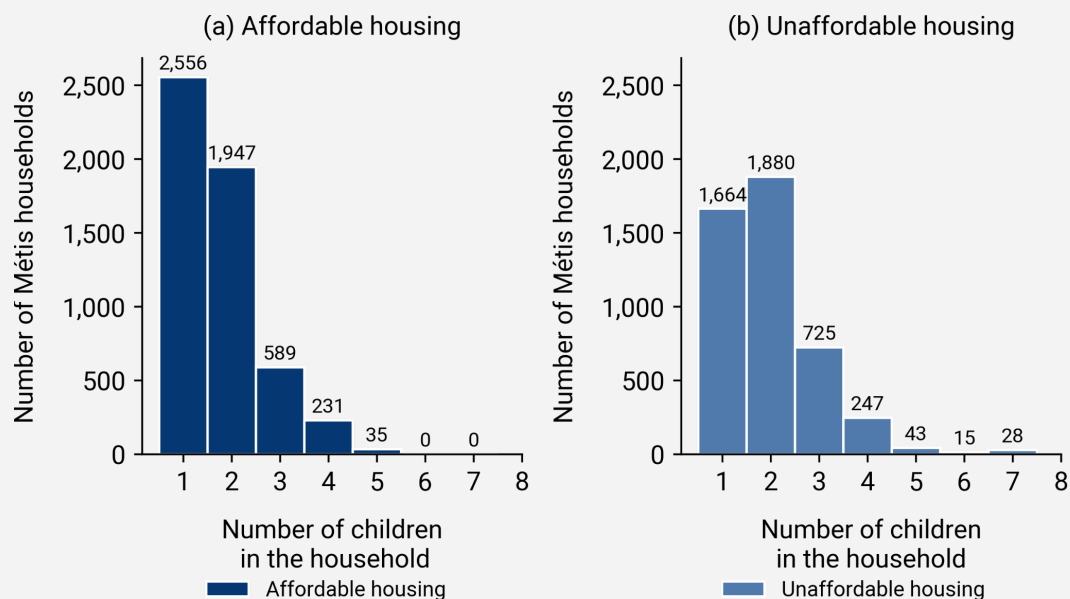
Respondents to the MNBC Housing Needs Survey were asked to identify the children living in their household, including the children of other people living in the household. A clear trend signals that the more children a household has, the more likely they are to live in unaffordable housing.

Métis households with two children live in unaffordable housing at a higher rate (49%) than those with only one child (39%), and at lower rates than households with three children and upwards (55%).

The data in Figure 3.8 and Table 3.8 represent Métis family households with at least one child in the household. There are 589 such households that responded to the MNBC Housing Needs Survey. After weighting, these households account for 9,960 Métis households in BC.

The total number of households in Table 3.8 does not match the total in Table 3.7 (see Section 3.2.4) because there are 1,059 family households in the MNBC Housing Needs Survey with zero children in the household. After weighting, the family households with no children represent 16,652 Métis households in BC. The total in Table 3.8 (9,960) and the number of family households with zero children (16,652) totals 26,612, matching the total in Table 3.7. We attribute households that identify as family households yet have zero children to households with adult children who no longer reside at home.

**Figure 3.8: Housing Affordability by Number of Children**



Source: MNBC Housing Needs Survey (2021)

**Table 3.8: Housing Affordability by Number of Children**

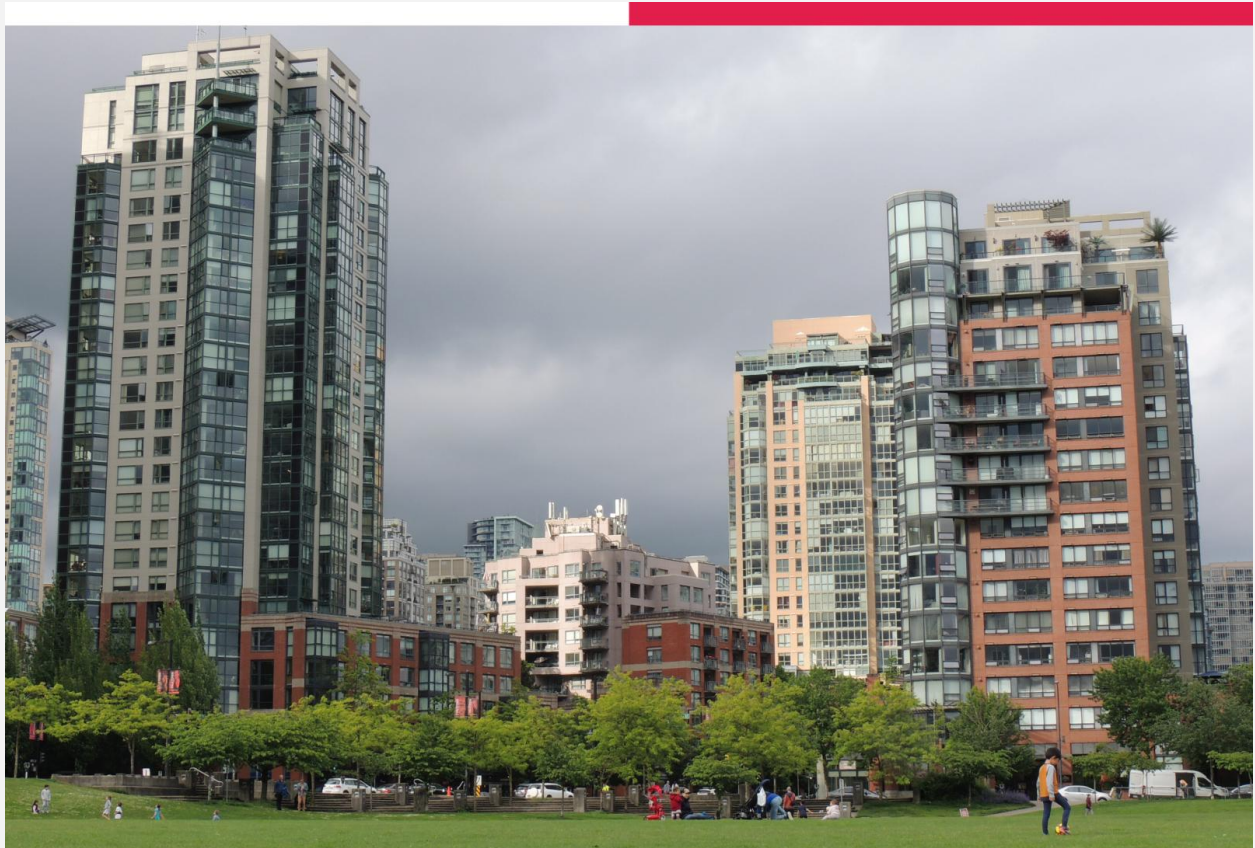
Number of children	Total	Affordable		Unaffordable	
		%	#	%	#
1	4,220	61%	2,556	39%	1,664
2	3,827	51%	1,947	49%	1,880
3	1,314	45%	589	55%	725
4	478	48%	231	52%	247
5	78	45%	35	55%	43
6	15	0%	0	-	-
7	28	0%	0	100%	28
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>9,960</b>	<b>54%</b>	<b>5,357</b>	<b>46%</b>	<b>4,603</b>

**Source:** MNBC Housing Needs Survey (2021). Values indicated as "-" have been excluded due to small sample size (less than 1%).

## — 3.3

### Individual-level Analysis

In this section we examine housing affordability at the individual level. We seek to understand housing affordability through the lens of GBA+ categories and other factors that describe identity. We specifically examine housing affordability among MNBC citizens in Section 3.3.1; by gender in Section 3.3.2; by age in Section 3.3.3; and among those with a disability in Section 3.3.4. According to Statistics Canada (2021a), there are 93,645 Métis individuals residing in BC. In this section, we are able to determine housing affordability for 92,575 of these individuals.

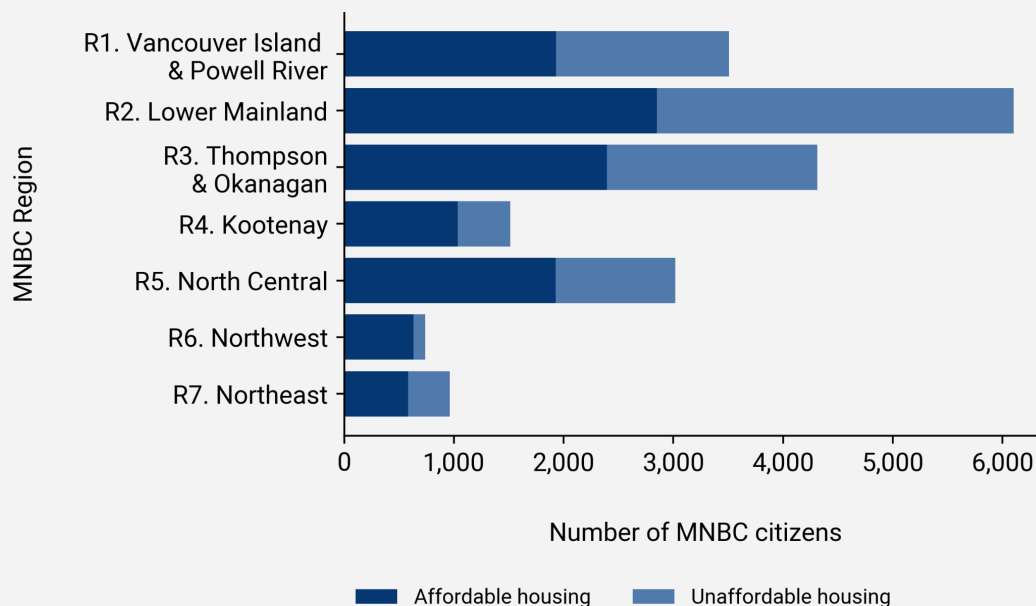


### — 3.3.1

## MNBC Citizenship

There are 20,149 individual MNBC citizens for whom we can (i) determine the region in which they live and (ii) determine whether they live in affordable housing. In total, 8,806 MNBC citizens (44%) live in unaffordable housing. Consistent with our findings at the household level in Section 3.1.1, the highest percentage of MNBC citizens that live in unaffordable housing live in the Lower Mainland (53%). Similarly, our findings also indicate that the lowest percentage of MNBC citizens living in unaffordable housing live in the Northwest region (14%). We depict our results in Figure 3.9 and present the data in Table 3.9.

**Figure 3.9: Housing Affordability Among MNBC Citizens by Region**



Source: MNBC Housing Needs Survey (2021)

**Table 3.9: Housing Affordability Among MNBC Citizens by Region**

Region#	MNBC Region	Total	Affordable housing		Unaffordable housing	
			%	#	%	#
1	Van. Isl. & Powell Riv.	3,509	55%	1,931	45%	1,578
2	Lower Mainland	6,103	47%	2,848	53%	3,255
3	Thomp. & Okanagan	4,311	56%	2,393	44%	1,918
4	Kootenay	1,511	69%	1,035	31%	476
5	North Central	3,016	64%	1,925	36%	1,091
6	Northwest	737	86%	630	14%	107
7	Northeast	962	60%	581	40%	381
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>20,149</b>	<b>56%</b>	<b>11,343</b>	<b>44%</b>	<b>8,806</b>

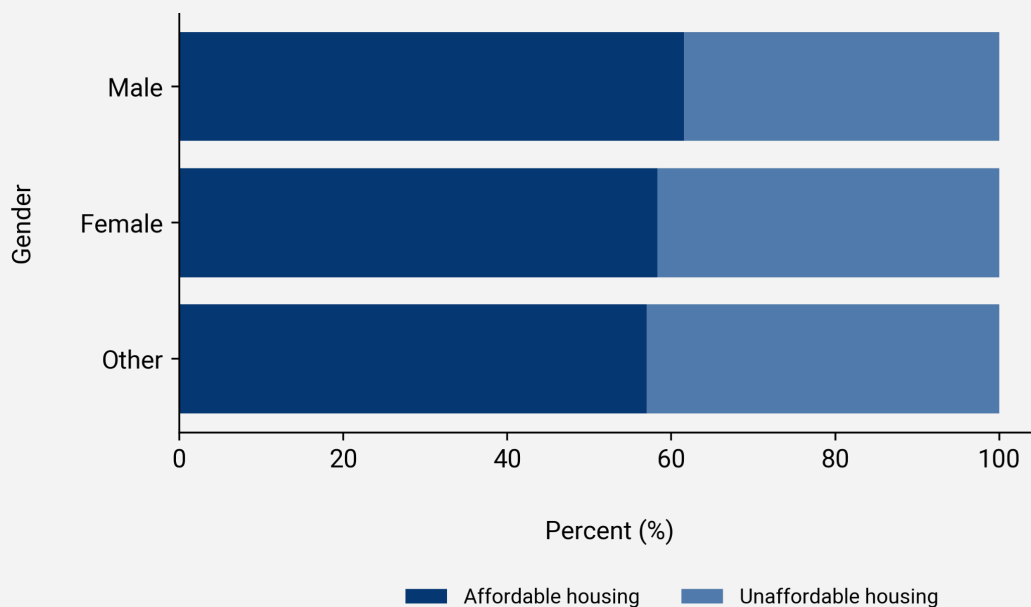
Source: MNBC Housing Needs Survey (2021)



### — 3.3.2 Gender

Métis males are the least likely to live in unaffordable housing (38%), whereas Métis individuals of another gender live in unaffordable housing (43%) at higher rates than either male or female Métis in BC. We depict our results in Figure 3.10 and present the data in Table 3.10.

**Figure 3.10: Housing Affordability by Gender**



Source: MNBC Housing Needs Survey (2021)

**Table 3.10: Housing Affordability by Gender**

Gender	Total	Affordable housing		Unaffordable housing	
		%	#	%	#
Male	44,059	62%	27,119	38%	16,941
Female	48,450	58%	28,258	42%	20,192
Other	66	57%	37	43%	28
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>92,575</b>	<b>60%</b>	<b>55,414</b>	<b>40%</b>	<b>37,161</b>

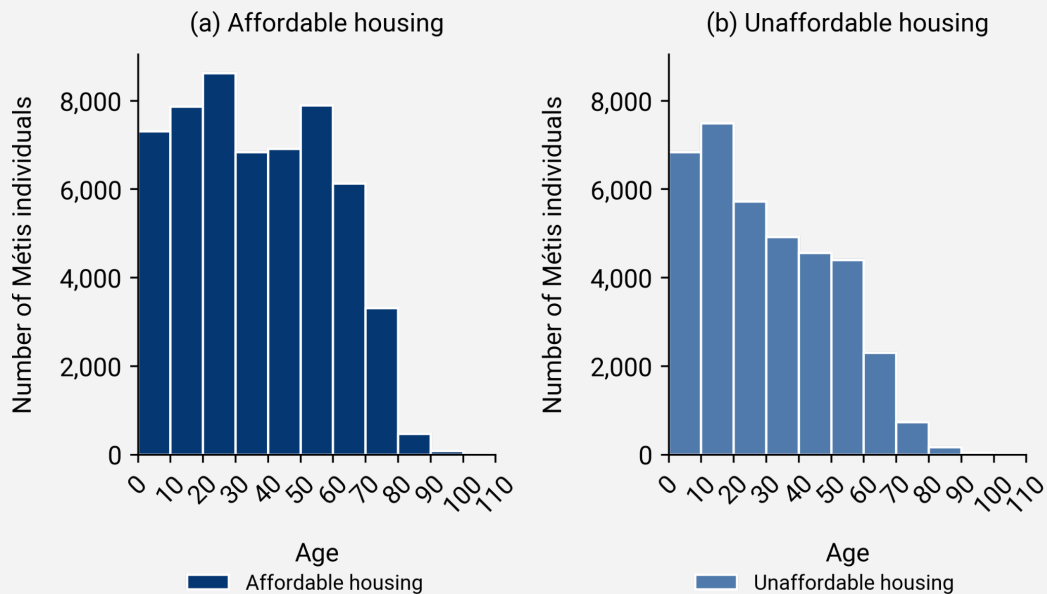
Source: MNBC Housing Needs Survey (2021). There are 93,645 Métis individuals residing in BC according to Statistics Canada (2021a). There are 1,070 individuals for whom housing affordability could not be determined.

### — 3.3.3

#### Age

Métis children and youth aged 20 or below live in unaffordable housing at the highest rate across all age groups (49%). In contrast, Métis adults aged 51 and above are the least likely to live in unaffordable housing across all age groups (36%). We present our results in Figure 3.11 and our data in Table 3.11.

**Figure 3.11: Housing Affordability by Age**



Source: MNBC Housing Needs Survey (2021)

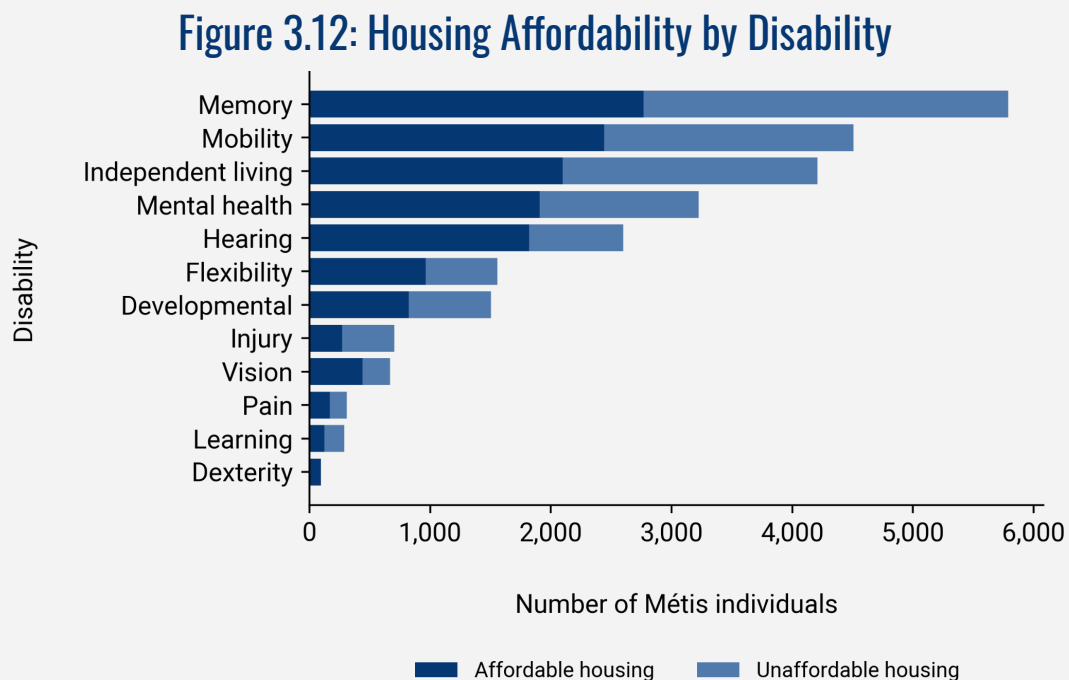
**Table 3.11: Housing Affordability by Age**

Age	Total	Affordable housing		Unaffordable housing	
		%	#	%	#
0 to 10	14,137	52%	7,305	48%	6,832
11 to 20	15,350	51%	7,865	49%	7,484
21 to 30	14,335	60%	8,617	40%	5,717
31 to 40	11,755	58%	6,834	42%	4,921
41 to 50	11,468	60%	6,911	40%	4,556
51 to 60	12,295	64%	7,895	36%	4,400
61 to 70	8,426	73%	6,129	27%	2,296
71 to 80	4,039	82%	3,310	18%	729
81 to 90	638	74%	470	26%	169
91 to 100	119	64%	76	36%	43
100 to 110	13	-	-	-	-
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>92,575</b>	<b>60%</b>	<b>55,414</b>	<b>40%</b>	<b>37,161</b>

**Source:** MNBC Housing Needs Survey (2021), Statistics Canada (2021a). **Note:** Percentages are of the total within each age group. There are 1,070 individuals for whom housing affordability could not be determined. Values indicated as "-" have been excluded due to small sample size (less than 1%).

### — 3.3.4 Disability

There are 17,374 Métis individuals with at least one self-reported disability. Of this group, 9,766 (55%) live in affordable housing while 7,608 (45%) live in unaffordable housing. Individuals with an injury-related disability experienced the highest rates of unaffordable housing (61%). Individuals with a learning disability experienced the second highest rate of unaffordable housing (57%). We present our results in Figure 3.12 and our data in Table 3.12.



Source: MNBC Housing Needs Survey (2021)

**Table 3.12: Housing Affordability by Disability**

Disability	Total	Affordable housing		Unaffordable housing	
		%	#	%	#
Memory	5,791	48%	2,769	52%	3,022
Mobility	4,508	54%	2,441	46%	2,068
Independent living	4,210	50%	2,096	50%	2,114
Mental health	3,225	59%	1,909	41%	1,315
Hearing	2,599	70%	1,819	30%	780
Flexibility	1,556	62%	962	38%	594
Developmental	1,505	55%	822	45%	683
Injury	705	39%	272	61%	432
Vision	668	66%	438	34%	230
Pain	308	55%	169	45%	140
Learning	289	43%	124	57%	165
Dexterity	96	100%	96	-	-
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>25,460</b>	<b>55%</b>	<b>13,918</b>	<b>45%</b>	<b>11,542</b>

**Source:** MNBC Housing Needs Survey (2021). Values indicated as "-" have been excluded due to small sample size (less than 1%).



— 4.0

# HOUSING ADEQUACY



## — 4.0

# HOUSING ADEQUACY

### KEY FINDINGS

- 🏠 Métis households in the Northwest and Kootenay regions live in inadequate housing at the highest rates (30% and 20% respectively), compared to 13% of households in the Lower Mainland.
- 🏠 A greater proportion of Métis households living in inadequate housing are owner households (10%), compared to renter households (6%).
- 🏠 A fifth of single family dwellings (20%) live in inadequate housing.
- 🏠 A higher proportion of family households (17%) live in inadequate housing compared to non-family households (10%).
- 🏠 Housing inadequacy is more prevalent among lone parent Métis households (23%) than non-lone parent households (16%).
- 🏠 Housing inadequacy is most prevalent among Métis youth aged 11 to 20 (24%) compared to all other age groups.

Housing adequacy is a measure of the condition of a household's dwelling. Specifically, housing is considered inadequate if it requires at least one major repair. A definition of major repairs is not given by Statistics Canada in the Census of Population, though examples are provided ("defective plumbing or electrical wiring, structural repairs to walls, floors or ceilings, etc.") (Statistics Canada, 2021c). Respondents to the Census were asked to self-report whether they require any major repairs. Similarly, respondents to the MNBC Housing Needs Survey were asked whether their dwelling required any major repairs, and if they did, what these were. We provided a list more exhaustive than the examples provided by Statistics Canada.

This section examines the degree to which Métis households across BC live in adequate or inadequate housing. Our results indicate that Métis households face the highest rates of housing inadequacy in the Northeast and Northwest regions, and are least likely to live in inadequate housing in the Lower Mainland. Housing inadequacy is lowest in the Lower Mainland region because homeowners have greater incentives to keep their homes adequately maintained due to relatively higher home prices in the Lower Mainland compared to the rest of BC (Real Estate Board of Greater Vancouver, 2021).

We also examine housing adequacy by a series of household-level characteristics, including housing tenure (i.e. whether a household rents or owns their dwelling), dwelling type, family household status, lone parent household status, and by the number of children in the household. Our findings indicate that (i) family households (17%) are slightly more likely to live in inadequate housing than non-family households (10%) and that (ii) lone parent Métis households live in inadequate housing (23%) at higher rates than non-lone parent households (16%).

We then explore housing adequacy by individual-level characteristics such as MNBC citizenship status, gender, age, and by the presence of a disability. A salient finding is that youth (ages 11 to 20) are far more likely (24%) to live in inadequate housing than Métis individuals of other age groups.

The remainder of Section 4.0 is outlined as follows: in Section 4.1, we present a breakdown of the major repairs reported by Métis households living in inadequate housing and present an overview of housing adequacy faced by Métis in British Columbia at the regional level; we explore housing adequacy by household-level characteristics in Section 4.2; and finally by individual-level characteristics in Section 4.3.



## — 4.1

### Overview of Housing Adequacy for Métis in British Columbia

In this section, we provide a broad overview of housing adequacy faced by Métis households in BC. In Section 4.1.1 we explore the types of repairs needed most among households living in inadequate housing. Our findings suggest that the most common types of repairs include defective windows and doors; structural repairs to floors, roofs, and ceilings; and defective plumbing. In Section 4.1.2, we explore housing adequacy by region, and our findings indicate that housing is least adequate for Métis households in the Northwest and Northeast regions.

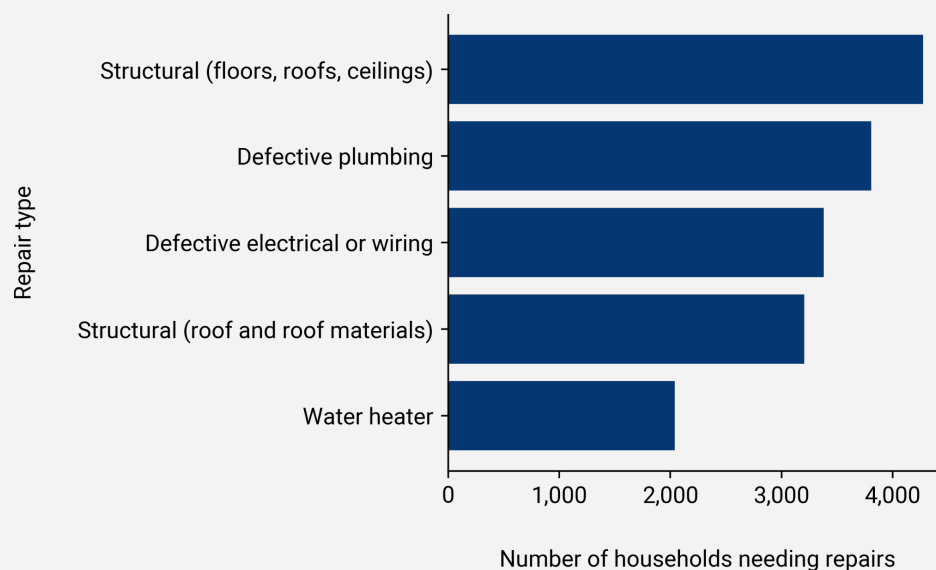
#### — 4.1.1

### Measuring Housing Adequacy

Housing is considered adequate if it does not require any major repairs. Unlike minor repairs, conducting major repairs typically requires expertise, effort, time, and money. This section explores the major repairs needed by Métis households living in inadequate housing, for example fixing defective plumbing or repairing structural damage to floors, roofs, and ceilings. We note that households may require more than one repair.

The majority of Métis households require no major repairs. Among those households living in inadequate housing, most require one or two major repairs (see Figure 2.2 in Section 2). The most common major repair required is (i) fixing structural problems with floors, roofs, and ceilings and (ii) defective plumbing, and (iii) fixing defective wiring, as shown in Figure 4.1.

**Figure 4.1: Major Repairs Needed by Households in Inadequate Housing**



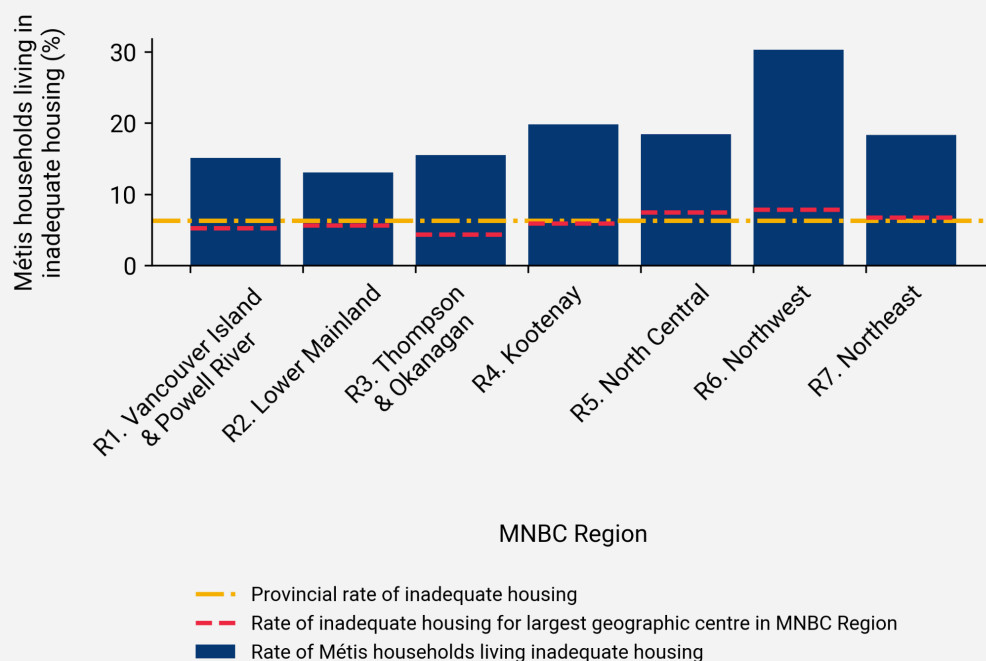
Source: MNBC Housing Needs Survey (2021).

## — 4.1.2 Regional Analysis

We present housing inadequacy by region as well as for the largest community in each region in Figure 4.2. The largest communities in each region are specified in Section 3 (Table 3.3). We see that the rate of inadequate housing in each MNBC region is consistently higher than that of the largest community in each region, for all regions. Regional inadequacy rates are approximately 10 percentage points higher than the inadequacy rates for the largest community in each region.

We note that 13% of Métis households in the Lower Mainland live in inadequate housing, compared to 30% in the Northwest. We suspect that this is connected to housing price and vacancy rate differentials across regions. For example, regions with lower rates of housing adequacy, such as the Lower Mainland, have the lowest vacancy rates in the province (BC Assessment Authority, 2021). This is further discussed in Section 4.2.1.

**Figure 4.2: Inadequate Housing by Region**



**Source:** MNBC Housing Needs Survey (2021); Statistics Canada (2017a). **Note:** The dash-dotted (yellow) line indicates the overall provincial percentage of households living in inadequate housing (6%). The dashed (red) line indicates the percentage of households living in inadequate housing in the largest geographic centre in each MNBC Region.

**Table 4.2: Inadequate Housing by Region**

Region#	MNBC Region	Inadequate housing (%)	Adequate housing (%)
1	Vancouver Island & Powell River	15	85
2	Lower Mainland	13	87
3	Thompson & Okanagan	16	84
4	Kootenay	20	80
5	North Central	18	82
6	Northwest	30	70
7	Northeast	18	82
	<b>TOTAL (British Columbia Average)</b>	<b>16 (6)</b>	<b>84 (94)</b>

**Source:** MNBC Housing Needs Survey (2021), Statistics Canada (2021a)



## — 4.2

### Household-level Analysis

This section provides an analysis of housing adequacy by household-level characteristics. First, we examine the rates of housing adequacy among households with different housing tenure in Section 4.2.1. We then analyse housing adequacy by dwelling type in Section 4.2.2; by family household status in Section 4.2.3; by lone-parent household status in Section 4.2.4; and by number of children in the household in Section 4.2.5. By conducting the weighting process previously described, we note that our analysis in Section 4.2 applies to 32,700 Métis households.





## — 4.2.1

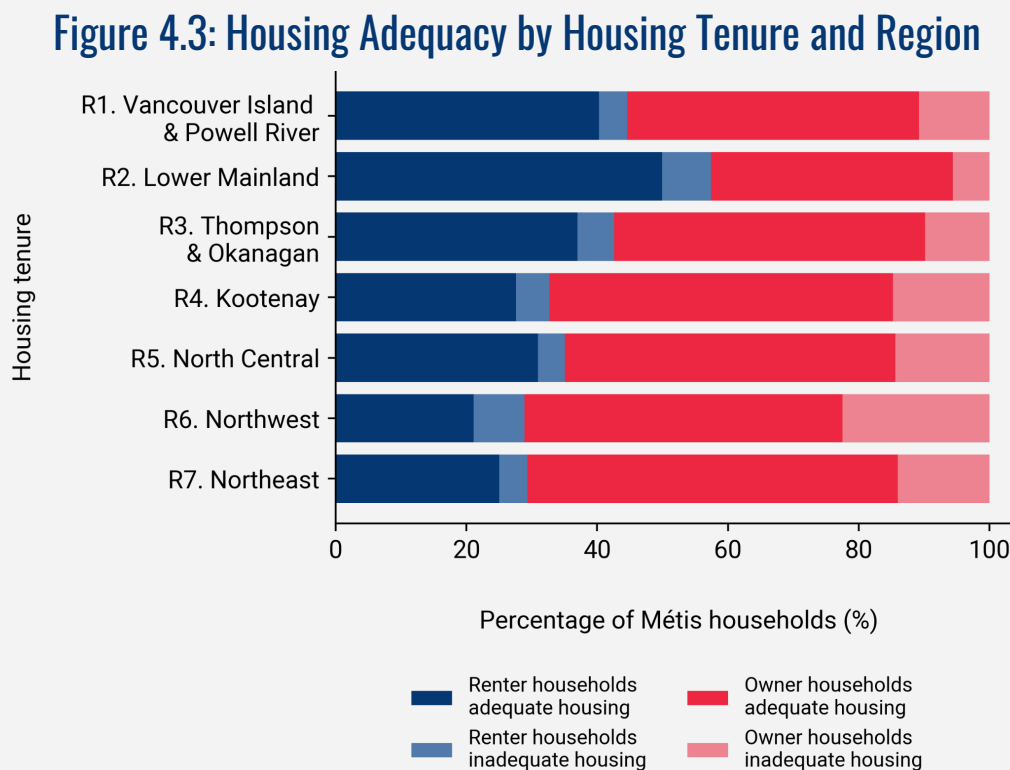
### Housing Tenure

Housing tenure refers to whether a household owns or rents their dwelling. Overall, a greater percentage of Métis owner households live in inadequate housing (10%) than renter households (6%). The Lower Mainland is the only region where a greater percentage of Métis households living in inadequate housing are renter households (8%) than owner households (6%).

We present the breakdown of Métis renter and owner households living in adequate and inadequate housing in Figure 4.3. The Northwest and Lower Mainland have the highest percentage of renter households that live in inadequate housing (8%). The Northwest also has the highest percentage of owner households that live in inadequate housing (23%). Taken with the findings from Section 3, this suggests that while the Northwest has the most affordable housing, households in the Northwest are most in need of repairs.

We also remark that the Lower Mainland has the lowest rates of inadequate housing among all regions for owner households. This suggests that despite the Lower Mainland having some of the most expensive housing, owner households in the Lower Mainland are among the best maintained in the province.

Housing inadequacy among Métis renter households is a bigger issue in the Northeast and Northwest than it is in the Lower Mainland.



**Source:** MNBC Housing Needs Survey (2021). **Note:** % are relative to the total number of households in each region.

**Table 4.2: Housing Adequacy by Housing Tenure and Region**

Region#	MNBC Region	Total	Renter households				Owner households			
			Adequate		Inadequate		Adequate		Inadequate	
			%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#
1	Van. Isl. & Pow. Rv.	7,385	40%	2,974	4%	320	45%	3,294	11%	797
2	Lower Mainland	11,895	50%	5,937	8%	893	37%	4,400	6%	666
3	Thompson & Okanagan	6,440	37%	2,381	6%	363	48%	3,060	10%	635
4	Kootenay	1,450	28%	400	5%	74	53%	762	15%	214
5	North Central	2,975	31%	921	4%	121	51%	1,504	14%	429
6	Northwest	1,030	21%	218	8%	80	49%	500	23%	232
7	Northeast	1,525	25%	381	4%	66	57%	864	14%	215
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>32,700</b>	<b>40%</b>	<b>13,212</b>	<b>6%</b>	<b>1,916</b>	<b>44%</b>	<b>14,384</b>	<b>10%</b>	<b>3,188</b>

**Source:** MNBC Housing Needs Survey (2021). Note that percentages are relative to the total number of households in each region.

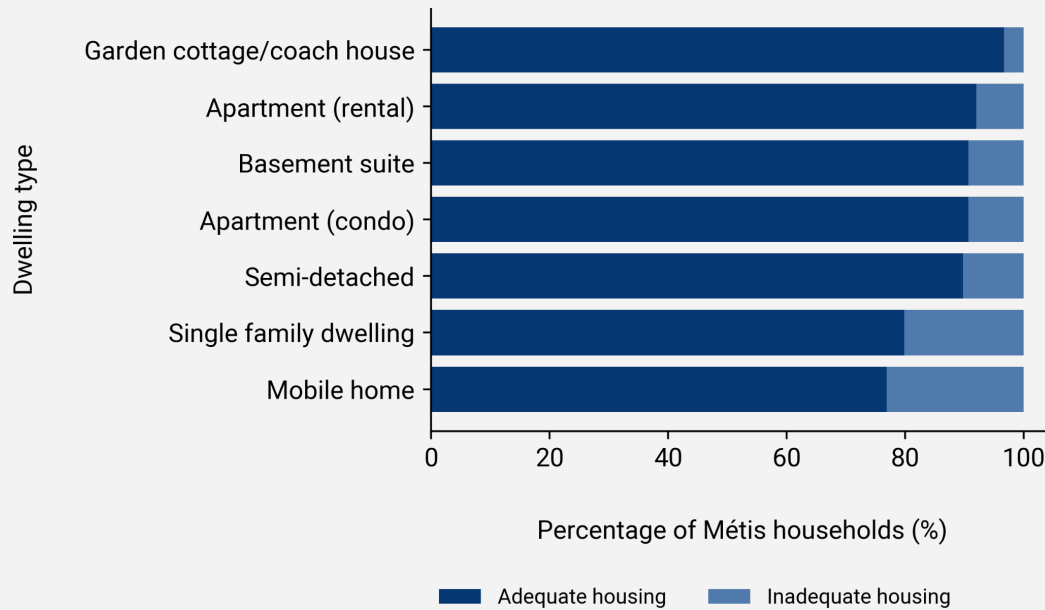
## — 4.2.2

### Dwelling Type

There are higher rates of housing inadequacy for Métis households living in mobile homes (23%), single family dwellings (20%), and semi-detached dwellings (10%) than the rest of the Métis population in BC. In contrast, households living in garden cottages/coach houses are the least likely to live in inadequate housing. This is likely because single family and coach house dwellings are generally larger and more complex than mobile homes and garden cottages/coach houses, and subsequently, are more costly to maintain.

Mobile homes are often far more affordable than detached homes in BC and are often marketed as housing options for lower-income households and retirees (MHABC, 2020). As such, Métis households living in mobile homes may have less capacity to make major repairs than households living in single family and semi-detached dwellings. These data are presented in Figure 4.4 and Table 4.3.

**Figure 4.4: Housing Adequacy by Dwelling Type**



Source: MNBC Housing Needs Survey (2021)

**Table 4.3: Housing Adequacy by Dwelling Type**

Dwelling Type	Number of Households	Adequate housing		Inadequate housing	
		%	#	%	#
Gard. cott./coach house	337	97%	326	-	-
Apartment (rental)	5,230	92%	4,811	8%	420
Basement suite	2,627	91%	2,381	9%	246
Apartment (condo)	2,500	91%	2,266	9%	234
Semi-detached	2,800	90%	2,512	10%	288
Single family dwelling	17,179	80%	13,715	20%	3,464
Mobile home	1,906	77%	1,465	23%	441
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>32,579</b>	<b>84%</b>	<b>27,476</b>	<b>16%</b>	<b>5,103</b>

Source: MNBC Housing Needs Survey (2021). The total number of households does not match 32,700 since there are 121 households that live in student housing, temporary housing, or did not specify their dwelling type. These households are excluded from Figure 4.4 and this table. Values indicated as "-" have been excluded due to small sample size (less than 1%).

## — 4.2.3

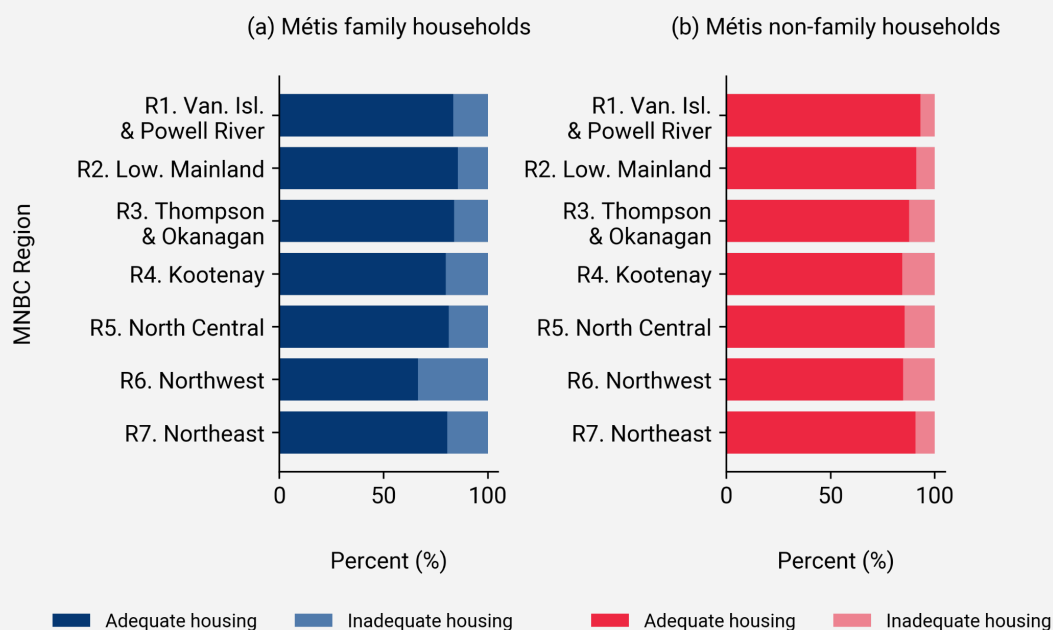
### Family Household Status

We now examine differences in housing adequacy rates between Métis family and non-family households. Non-family households live in adequate housing at a higher rate (90%) than do family households (83%).

Figure 4.5(a) depicts the rates of housing adequacy among family households by region. Among family households, the Lower Mainland (86%) and Thompson & Okanagan (84%) have the highest rates of housing adequacy, and the Northwest has the lowest (66%).

Figure 4.5(b) shows housing adequacy rates among non-family households in each region. Non-family households in the Vancouver Island & Powell River (93%) and the Lower Mainland (91%) live in adequate housing at the highest rates in the province.

**Figure 4.5: Housing Adequacy by Family Household Status & Region**



Source: MNBC Housing Needs Survey (2021)

**Table 4.4: Housing Adequacy by Family Household Status & Region**

Region#	MNBC Region	Family households					Non-Family households				
		Total	Adequate		Inadequate		Total	Adequate		Inadequate	
			%	#	%	#		%	#	%	#
1	Vancouver Isl. & Powell River	5,980	83%	4,985	17%	995	1,342	93%	1,247	7%	94
2	Lower Mainland	9,256	86%	7,921	14%	1,335	2,515	91%	2,291	9%	224
3	Thompson & Okanagan	5,381	84%	4,512	16%	869	996	88%	873	12%	123
4	Kootenay	1,342	80%	1,071	20%	271	108	84%	91	16%	17
5	North Central	2,429	81%	1,974	19%	455	528	86%	452	14%	76
6	Northwest	858	66%	570	34%	288	156	85%	132	15%	24
7	Northeast	1,366	81%	1,101	19%	265	159	91%	144	9%	15
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>26,612</b>	<b>83%</b>	<b>22,134</b>	<b>17%</b>	<b>4,478</b>	<b>5,803</b>	<b>90%</b>	<b>5,231</b>	<b>10%</b>	<b>572</b>

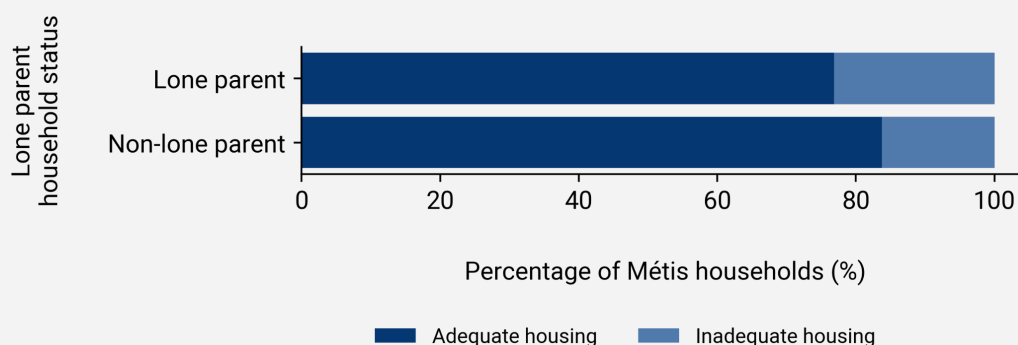
**Source:** MNBC Housing Needs Survey (2021). There are a total of 32,415 (26,612+5,803) households for which family household status can be determined. There are 285 households whose family household status could not be determined.

## — 4.2.4

### Lone Parent Household Status

Housing inadequacy is more prevalent among Métis lone parent households (23%) than non-lone parent households (16%). Lower rates of housing adequacy among lone parent households indicate a potentially high-return area for targeted support, given the similar trend for lone parents in terms of housing affordability (Section 3.2.4). Figure 4.6 depicts the proportion of housing adequacy among lone and non-lone parent households and the data are presented in Table 4.5.

**Figure 4.6: Housing Adequacy by Lone Parent Household Status**



Source: MNBC Housing Needs Survey (2021).

**Table 4.5: Housing Adequacy by Lone Parent Household Status**

Lone parent household status	Total	Adequate housing		Inadequate housing	
		#	%	#	%
Lone parent	2,288	1,758	77%	530	23%
Non-lone parent	24,324	20,376	84%	3,948	16%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>26,612</b>	<b>22,134</b>	<b>83%</b>	<b>4,478</b>	<b>17%</b>

Source: MNBC Housing Needs Survey (2021). The total number of lone parent/non-lone parent households is equal to the total number of family households presented in Table 4.6.

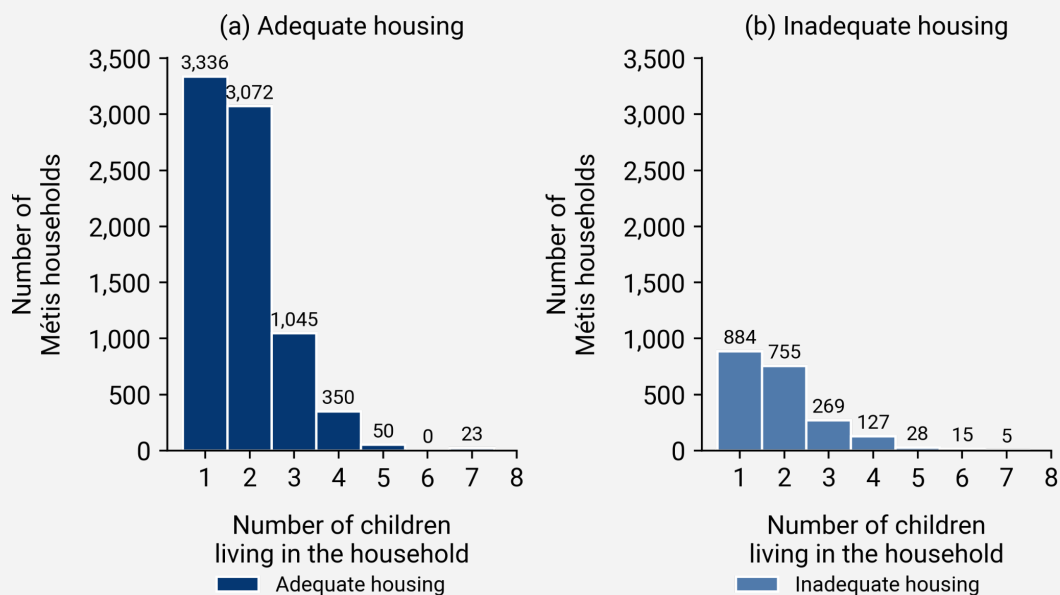


## — 4.2.5

### Number of Children

The majority of Métis family households with at least one child live in adequate housing (79%). As the number of children in a household increases so does the proportion of households in inadequate housing. Households with one child and two children are almost equally likely to live in inadequate housing (21% and 20%) while family households with four or five children are more likely (27% and 35%) to live in inadequate housing (Table 4.6). The number of Métis households with children living in adequate and inadequate housing are presented in Figures 4.7(a) and 4.7(b).

**Figure 4.7: Housing Adequacy by Number of Children**



Source: MNBC Housing Needs Survey (2021)

**Table 4.6: Housing Adequacy by Number of Children**

Number of Children Living in Household	Number of Households	Adequate Housing		Inadequate Housing	
		%	#	%	#
1	4,220	79%	3,336	21%	884
2	3,827	80%	3,072	20%	755
3	1,314	80%	1,045	20%	269
4	478	73%	350	27%	127
5	78	65%	50	35%	28
6	15	0%	0	100%	15
7	28	82%	23	-	-
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>9,960</b>	<b>79%</b>	<b>7,877</b>	<b>21%</b>	<b>2,083</b>

**Source:** MNBC Housing Needs Survey (2021). The total number of households with one or more children in this table is not equal to the total number of family households in Table 4.5. For a discussion of why these totals are different, see Section 3.2.5. Values indicated as "-" have been excluded due to small sample size (less than 1%).

## — 4.3

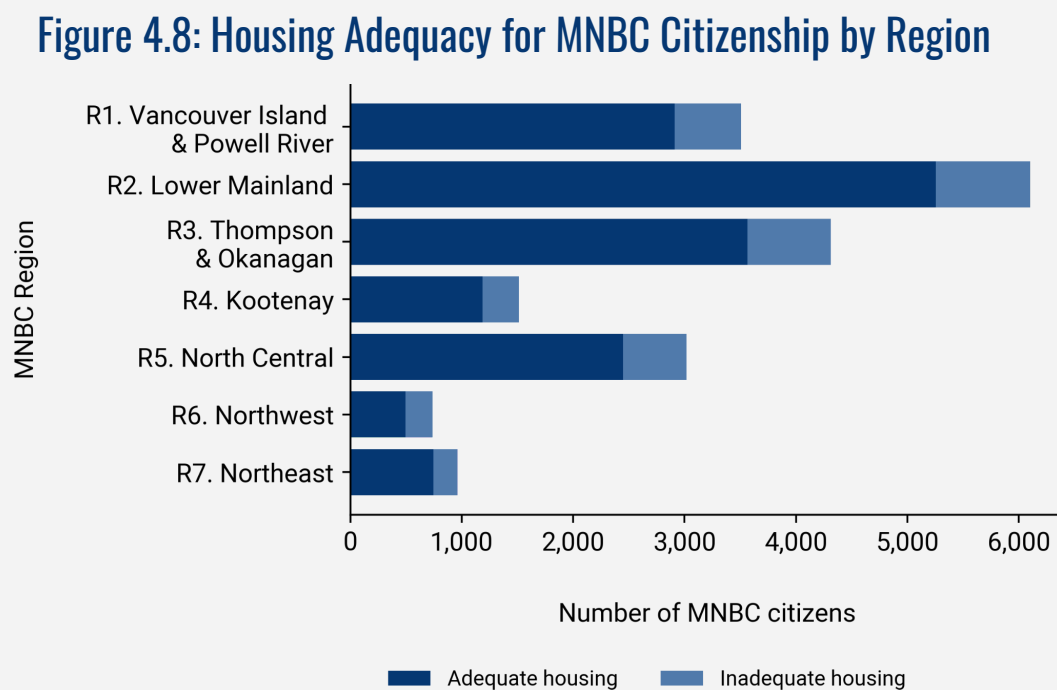
### Individual-level Analysis

This section examines housing adequacy based on individual-level characteristics. We first examine housing adequacy rates by MNBC citizenship status in Section 4.3.1; by gender in Section 4.3.2; by age group in Section 4.3.3; and by disability in Section 4.3.4. According to Statistics Canada (2021a), there are 93,645 Métis individuals residing in BC. In this section, we are able to determine housing adequacy for 92,575 of these individuals.

#### — 4.3.1

### MNBC Citizenship

MNBC citizenship on its own doesn't determine inadequate housing: 18% of Métis citizens live in inadequate housing, which is only two percentage points higher than the average of all Métis households (16%, see Table 4.1). The region in which citizens live, however, better determines inadequate housing, as suggested by the 19 percentage point range in inadequate housing rates between Métis citizens living in the Northwest (33%) and the Lower Mainland (14%). We present our data in Figure 4.8 and in Table 4.7.



Source: MNBC Housing Needs Survey (2021)

**Table 4.7: Housing Adequacy for MNBC Citizenship by Region**

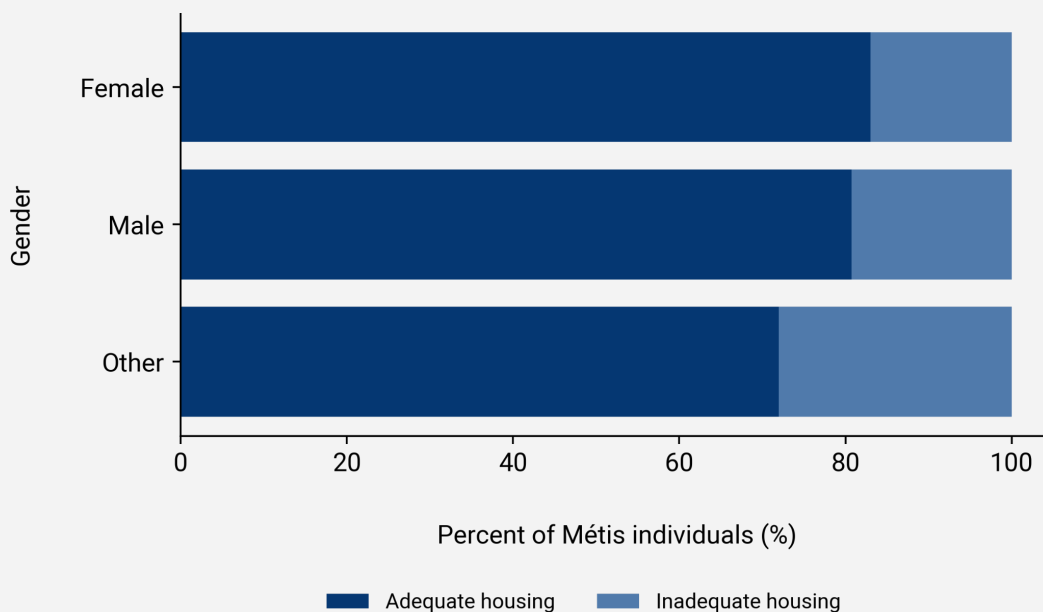
Region#	MNBC Region	Total	Adequate housing		Inadequate housing	
			%	#	%	#
1	Vancouver Island & Powell River	3,509	83%	2,909	17%	600
2	Lower Mainland	6,103	86%	5,255	14%	848
3	Thompson & Okanagan	4,311	83%	3,565	17%	746
4	Kootenay	1,511	78%	1,185	22%	326
5	North Central	3,016	81%	2,448	19%	568
6	Northwest	737	67%	495	33%	242
7	Northeast	962	77%	744	23%	218
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>20,149</b>	<b>82%</b>	<b>16,602</b>	<b>18%</b>	<b>3,547</b>

Source: MNBC Housing Needs Survey (2021)

## — 4.3.2 Gender

Métis individuals of another gender are most likely to live in inadequate housing (28%). Métis males live in inadequate housing (18%) at a higher rate than Métis females (17%). Our findings mirror the results of Section 3.3.2, in which Métis individuals of another gender lived in unaffordable housing at the highest rate. These data are presented in Figure 4.9 and in Table 4.8.

**Figure 4.9: Housing Adequacy by Gender**



Source: MNBC Housing Needs Survey (2021)

**Table 4.8: Housing Adequacy by Gender**

Gender	Total	Adequate housing		Inadequate housing	
		%	#	%	#
Female	48,450	83%	40,420	17%	8,030
Male	44,059	82%	36,003	18%	8,056
Other	66	72%	47	28%	18
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>92,575</b>	<b>83%</b>	<b>76,470</b>	<b>17%</b>	<b>16,105</b>

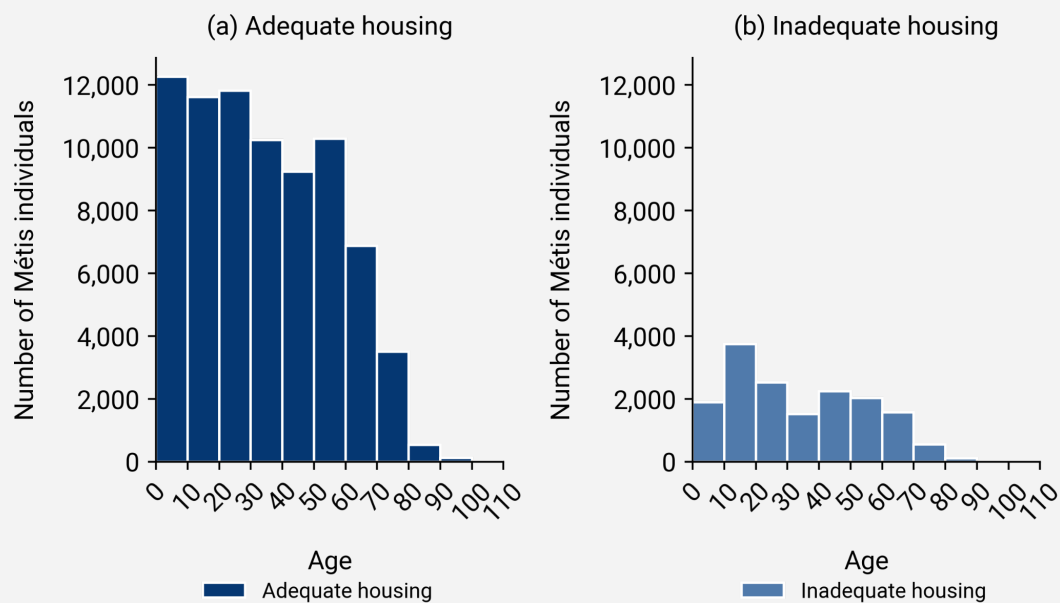
Source: MNBC Housing Needs Survey (2021). There are 93,645 Métis individuals residing in BC according to Statistics Canada (2021a), and there are 1,070 individuals for whom gender could not be determined.

### — 4.3.3

#### Age

Métis individuals aged 11 to 20 live in inadequate housing at the highest rate across age groups (24%). Métis youth and young adults experience disproportionate levels of housing inadequacy relative to other age groups. These data are presented in Figure 4.10 and Table 4.9.

**Figure 4.10: Housing Adequacy by Age**



Source: MNBC Housing Needs Survey (2021)

**Table 4.9: Housing Adequacy by Age**

Age	Total (Individuals)	Adequate housing		Inadequate housing	
		%	#	%	#
0 to 10	14,137	87%	12,250	13%	1,887
11 to 20	15,350	76%	11,615	24%	3,734
21 to 30	14,335	82%	11,818	18%	2,517
31 to 40	11,755	87%	10,242	13%	1,514
41 to 50	11,468	81%	9,236	19%	2,232
51 to 60	12,295	84%	10,280	16%	2,015
61 to 70	8,426	81%	6,867	19%	1,559
71 to 80	4,039	87%	3,496	13%	543
81 to 90	638	84%	536	16%	103
91 to 100	119	100%	119	0%	-
100 to 110	13	100%	-	0%	-
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>92,575</b>	<b>83%</b>	<b>76,470</b>	<b>17%</b>	<b>16,105</b>

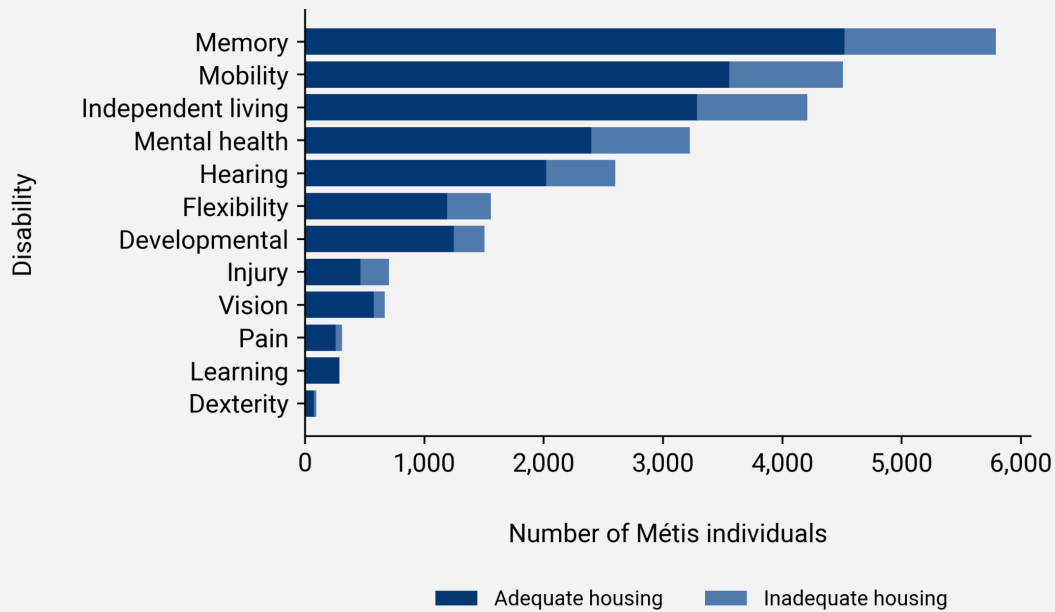
**Source:** MNBC Housing Needs Survey (2021), Statistics Canada (2021a). **Note:** Percentages are of the total within each age group. There are 1,070 individuals for whom housing adequacy could not be determined. Values indicated as "-" have been excluded due to small sample size (less than 1%).

### — 4.3.4 Disabilities

Housing inadequacy is more pronounced for Métis individuals with disabilities (22%) than for the overall Métis population (16%), as shown in Table 4.1. In particular, Métis individuals with an injury (34%) or a mental health disability (26%) are most likely to live in inadequate housing. The presence of a disability itself may not determine housing inadequacy, but the specific disability is a determinant as evidenced by the 20 percentage point range in housing inadequacy rates between individuals with an injury disability (34%) and those with a vision disability (14%). We present our data in Figure 4.11 and Table 4.10.



**Figure 4.11: Housing Adequacy by Disability**



Source: MNBC Housing Needs Survey (2021)

**Table 4.11: Housing Adequacy by Disability**

Disability	Total	Adequate housing		Inadequate housing	
		%	#	%	#
Memory	5,791	78%	4,521	22%	1,269
Mobility	4,508	79%	3,555	21%	954
Independent living	4,210	78%	3,283	22%	926
Mental health	3,225	74%	2,400	26%	825
Hearing	2,599	78%	2,022	22%	577
Flexibility	1,556	77%	1,191	23%	365
Developmental	1,505	83%	1,248	17%	257
Injury	705	66%	465	34%	239
Vision	668	86%	575	14%	93
Pain	308	84%	258	16%	51
Learning	289	100%	289	-	-
Dexterity	96	79%	76	21%	20
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>25,460</b>	<b>78%</b>	<b>19,883</b>	<b>22%</b>	<b>5,577</b>

Source: MNBC Housing Needs Survey (2021). Values indicated as "-" have been excluded due to small sample size (less than 1%).



— 5.0

# HOUSING SUITABILITY

## — 5.0

# HOUSING SUITABILITY

### KEY FINDINGS

- 🏠 A greater proportion of Métis households in BC live in unsuitable housing (9%) than households across the province (5%) (Statistics Canada, 2019c).
- 🏠 There is a clear geographical disparity in housing suitability, with the highest proportions of Métis households in unsuitable housing living in the Kootenay, Lower Mainland, and Vancouver Island & Powell River regions (all 9%).
- 🏠 The majority of Métis households living in unsuitable housing require just one additional bedroom to satisfy the National Occupancy Standards (NOS) for suitability, and the largest proportions of Métis households in unsuitable housing live in two-bedroom dwellings (34%) and require three-bedroom dwellings (30%).
- 🏠 A greater proportion of Métis renter households live in unsuitable housing (11%) than owner households (3%).
- 🏠 A greater proportion of Métis lone parent households live in unsuitable housing (18%) than non-lone parent households (6%).

Housing suitability is a qualitative assessment based on the number of bedrooms in a dwelling and the size and composition of the household living in it, as prescribed by the NOS developed by the Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC). Housing is considered suitable if it has enough bedrooms for the size and composition of the household living in it. Housing is considered unsuitable if the opposite is true.

We stress that the NOS, and by extension the concept of housing suitability, were developed based on norms that reflect European ways of living (McCandless, 2020). In other words, the NOS applies a Eurocentric and colonial lens to suitability and overcrowding, and is arguably inappropriate for uniform use across Canada. We recognize that additional work needs to be done to determine a culturally appropriate definition of suitability and overcrowding in the Métis context, or whether alternative measures of housing need should instead be used. Despite its flaws as a housing need indicator, we use the concept of housing suitability in this report because it is incorporated into the broader concept of core housing need.

We find that a greater proportion of Métis households in BC live in unsuitable housing (9%) than households across the province (5%). The majority of Métis households living in unsuitable housing only need one additional bedroom (85%) to meet the NOS. In particular, the highest proportion of Métis households living in unsuitable housing live in two-bedroom dwellings (34%) and require three bedrooms (30%). Housing suitability also varies widely across regions, which is a trend consistent with the findings presented in Sections 3 and 4. In particular, Métis households are most likely to live in unsuitable housing in the Kootenay, Lower Mainland, and Vancouver Island & Powell River regions (all 9%). Conversely, rates of unsuitable housing faced by Métis households living in the Northwest (4%), North Central (3%), and Northeast (1%) regions are the lowest in the province.

Next, we consider housing suitability among Métis households through the lens of a series of household-level characteristics, including housing tenure (i.e. whether a household rents or owns their dwelling), dwelling type, family household status, lone parent household status, and by the number of children in the household. Our findings indicate that (i) a greater proportion of Métis renter households live in unsuitable housing (11%) than owner households (3%) and that (ii) a greater proportion of Métis lone parent households live in unsuitable housing (18%) than non-lone parent households (6%).

We also explore housing suitability by individual-level characteristics such as MNBC citizenship status, gender, age, and by the presence of a disability. Understanding housing suitability by these dimensions will better enable MNBC to design more targeted housing programs by understanding how individual-level characteristics are related to the likelihood of living in unsuitable housing. We find that Métis individuals of a gender other than male or female live in unsuitable housing at a higher rate (12%) than male (10%) or female Métis (9%), and that youth aged 0-10 years are the most likely to live in unsuitable housing (16%) across all age groups.

The remainder of Section 5.0 is outlined as follows: in Section 5.1, we offer a breakdown of the components of housing suitability, in terms of the number of bedrooms Métis households in unsuitable housing have and are required to have to meet the NOS, and present an overview of housing suitability faced by Métis in British Columbia at the regional level; we explore housing suitability by household-level characteristics in Section 5.2; and by individual-level characteristics in Section 5.3.



## — 5.1

### Overview of Housing Suitability

In this section, we provide a broad overview of housing suitability faced by Métis households in BC. In Section 5.1.1 we break down NOS requirements and explore the differentials in the actual and required number of bedrooms in dwellings inhabited by Métis households living in unsuitable housing. In Section 5.1.2, we explore housing suitability by region.



## — 5.1.1

### Measuring Housing Suitability

Assessing housing suitability as defined by the NOS requires knowing (i) the size and composition of the household, accounting for the relationships between members of the household, and (ii) the size of the dwelling in terms of the number of bedrooms. If there are not enough bedrooms in a dwelling for the size and composition of the household inhabiting it, that household is deemed to be living in unsuitable housing.

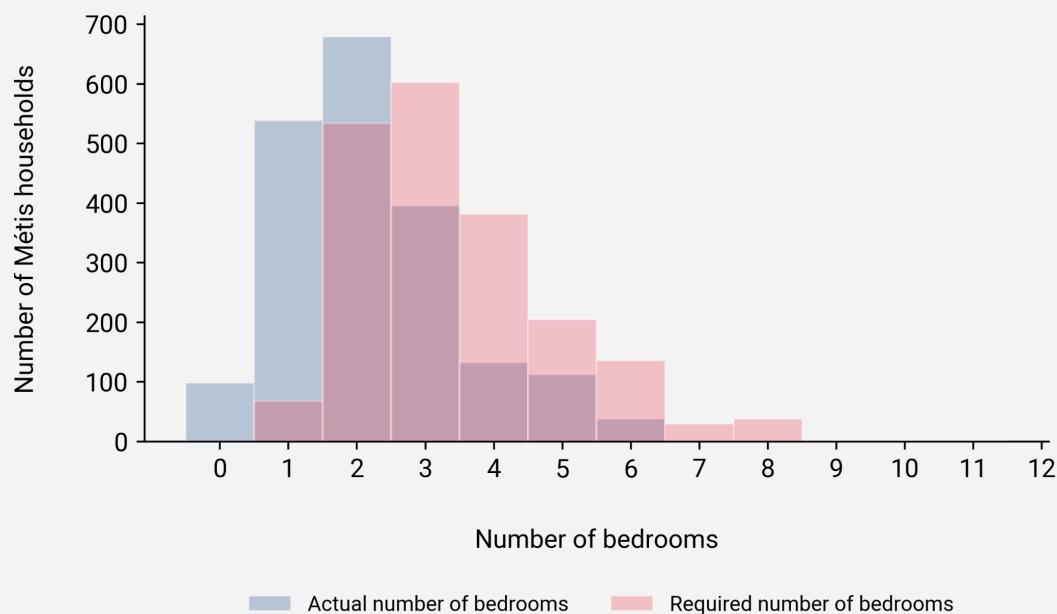
The number of required bedrooms was not directly reported by survey respondents, and was instead inferred by accounting for the relationships between household members as laid out in the NOS (Statistics Canada, 2021d). The NOS allows multiple members of a household to occupy a single bedroom under certain conditions, and considers a bachelor unit (no bedrooms)

to be suitable for a single-person household. Thus, the number of bedrooms required for suitability will typically be fewer than the number of household members. NOS guidelines for determining suitability are as follows:

- A maximum of two persons per bedroom;
- Household members of any age who are living in a married or common-law relationship with one another share a bedroom (this is extended to non-married couples in our analysis);
- Parents in a lone parent household have their own bedroom;
- Household members over 18 years of age have their own bedroom;
- Household members under 18 years of age of the same sex share a bedroom;
- Household members under 5 years old of different sexes can share bedrooms.

In Figure 5.1 we depict the distribution of the number of Métis households living in unsuitable housing by the required and actual number of bedrooms they have, to better understand where households living in unsuitable housing are located, and what they need to attain housing suitability. Our findings indicate that the majority of households living in unsuitable housing have two bedrooms (34%), and require three bedrooms (30%) to meet the NOS for housing suitability. Table 5.2 presents the corresponding data.

**Figure 5.1: Actual & Required Bedrooms in Unsuitable Housing**



Source: MNBC Housing Needs Survey (2021).

**Table 5.1: Actual & Required Bedrooms in Unsuitable Housing**

Bedrooms	Percentage of total (%)	Actual Bedrooms		Percentage of total (%)	Required Bedrooms	
		#	%		#	%
0	5	98	100	0	0	0
1	27	539	89	3	68	11
2	34	679	56	27	533	44
3	20	395	40	30	602	60
4	7	132	26	19	381	74
5	6	111	35	10	204	65
6	2	38	22	7	136	78
7	0	0	0%	1	29	100
8	0	0	0%	2	38	100
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>1,995</b>	<b>50%</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>1,995</b>	<b>50%</b>

Source: MNBC Housing Needs Survey (2021).

As presented in Table 5.2, the majority of Métis households living in unsuitable housing require one additional bedroom (85%) to satisfy the requirements for housing suitability. A much smaller proportion of households (1%) require four additional bedrooms to attain housing suitability.

**Table 5.2: Unsuitable Housing by Number of Additional Bedrooms Required**

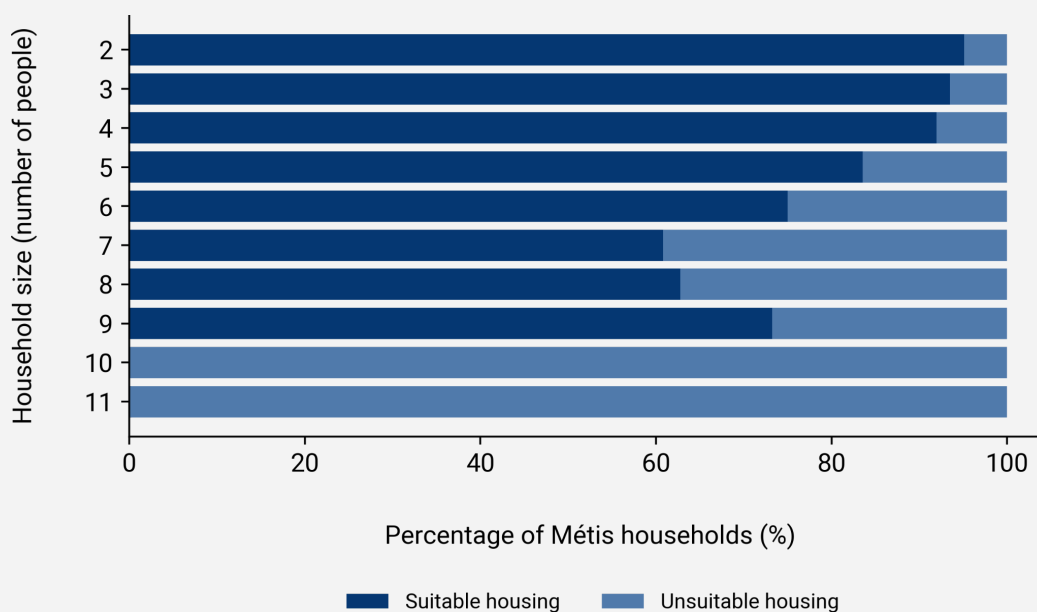
Additional bedrooms required	Unsuitable housing	
	%	#
1	85%	1,703
2	9%	178
3	5%	94
4	1%	20
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>1,995</b>

Source: MNBC Housing Needs Survey (2021).



Generally, the larger the household, the greater the proportion of households of that size living in unsuitable housing. Métis households consisting of two to four members report the highest rates of housing suitability (94% of households of this size live in suitable housing). However, housing unsuitability rates rise for larger households past this point. These data are presented in Figure 5.2 and Table 5.3.

**Figure 5.2: Housing Suitability by Household Size**



**Source:** MNBC Housing Needs Survey (2021). **Note:** Single-person households are by definition suitable.

**Table 5.3: Housing Suitability by Household Size**

Household size (Number of people)	Total	Suitable housing		Unsuitable housing	
		%	#	%	#
2	10,170	95%	9,673	5%	497
3	4,917	93%	4,595	7%	322
4	4,816	92%	4,429	8%	387
5	2,005	84%	1,676	16%	330
6	823	75%	618	25%	206
7	251	61%	153	39%	98
8	63	63%	40	37%	24
9	58	73%	42	27%	15
10	80	-	-	100%	80
11	36	-	-	100%	36
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>23,220</b>	<b>91%</b>	<b>21,225</b>	<b>9%</b>	<b>1,995</b>

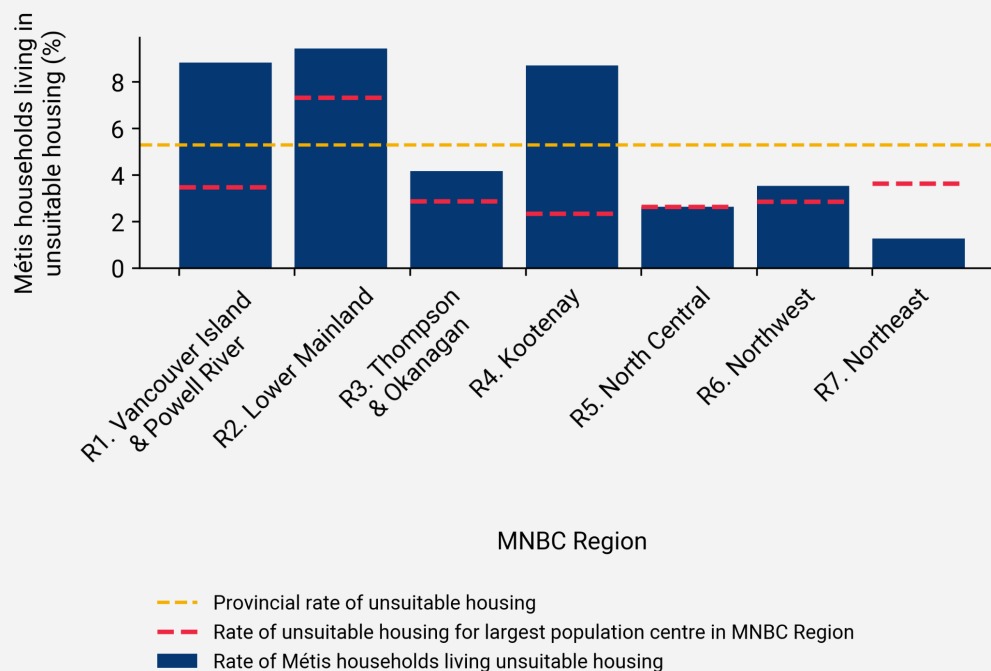
**Source:** MNBC Housing Needs Survey (2021). **Note:** Single-person households are by definition suitable. There are 4,970 households with either less than 2 or more than 11 bedrooms, and there are 4,510 households for which household suitability could not be determined. The total in this table (23,220) plus the number of households with less than two or more than 11 bedrooms (4,970) plus the number of households for which household suitability could not be determined (4,510) equals the number of Métis households (32,700). Values indicated as "-" have been excluded due to small sample size (less than 1%).

## — 5.1.2 Regional Analysis

We present the rate of unsuitable housing by region as well as for the largest community in each region in Figure 5.3. The largest communities in each region are specified in Section 3 (Table 3.3). We find that:

1. The rate of unsuitable housing in Métis households in the Lower Mainland, Vancouver Island & Powell River, and Kootenay regions (all 9%) exceeds both the provincial average (5%) and that of the largest population centre in each region.
2. In the Thompson & Okanagan, Northwest, Northeast, and North Central regions the rate of unsuitable housing in Métis households is below the provincial average.
  - a. We remark that only in the Northeast do Métis households have a rate of unsuitable housing lower than the rate of the largest population centre in the region (Fort St. John).
3. The overall rate of unsuitable housing for Métis households in BC (9%) exceeds the provincial average by 4 percentage points.

**Figure 5.3: Rate of Unsuitable Housing by Region**



**Source:** MNBC Housing Needs Survey (2021). Statistics Canada (2019c). **Note:** The dash-dotted (yellow) line indicates the overall provincial percentage of households living in unsuitable housing (5%). The dashed (red) line indicates the percentage of households living in unsuitable housing in the largest population centre in each MNBC Region. The rate of Métis living in unsuitable housing in Vancouver Island & Powell River (8.8%), Lower Mainland (9.4%), and Kootenay (8.7%) are all displayed as 9% in Table 5.4.

**Table 5.4: Housing Suitability by Region**

Region#	MNBC Region	Unsuitable housing (%)	Suitable housing (%)
1	Vancouver Island & Powell River	9	91
2	Lower Mainland	9	91
3	Thompson & Okanagan	4	96
4	Kootenay	9	92
5	North Central	3	97
6	Northwest	4	96
7	Northeast	1	99
	<b>TOTAL (British Columbia Average)</b>	<b>9 (5)</b>	<b>91 (95)</b>

**Source:** MNBC Housing Needs Survey (2021), Statistics Canada (2019c)

— 5.2

Household-level Analysis

In this section, we examine housing suitability among Métis households by household-level characteristics. We specifically examine housing suitability by housing tenure (i.e. Métis renter/owner household status) in Section 5.2.1; dwelling type (apartments, single detached homes, etc.) in Section 5.2.2; family household status in Section 5.2.3; lone parent household status in Section 5.2.4; and by the number of children in the household in Section 5.2.5. By conducting the weighting process previously described, we note that our analysis in Section 5.2 applies to 28,190 Métis households. There are 4,510 households for which housing suitability could not be determined.

— 5.2.1

Housing Tenure

We first look at differences in housing suitability between Métis renter and owner households. Our findings indicate that renter households are more likely to live in unsuitable housing (11%) than owner households (3%). These data suggest that homeownership is correlated to whether a household lives in suitable housing. We present these findings in Table 5.5.

Table 5.5: Housing Suitability by Tenure Type

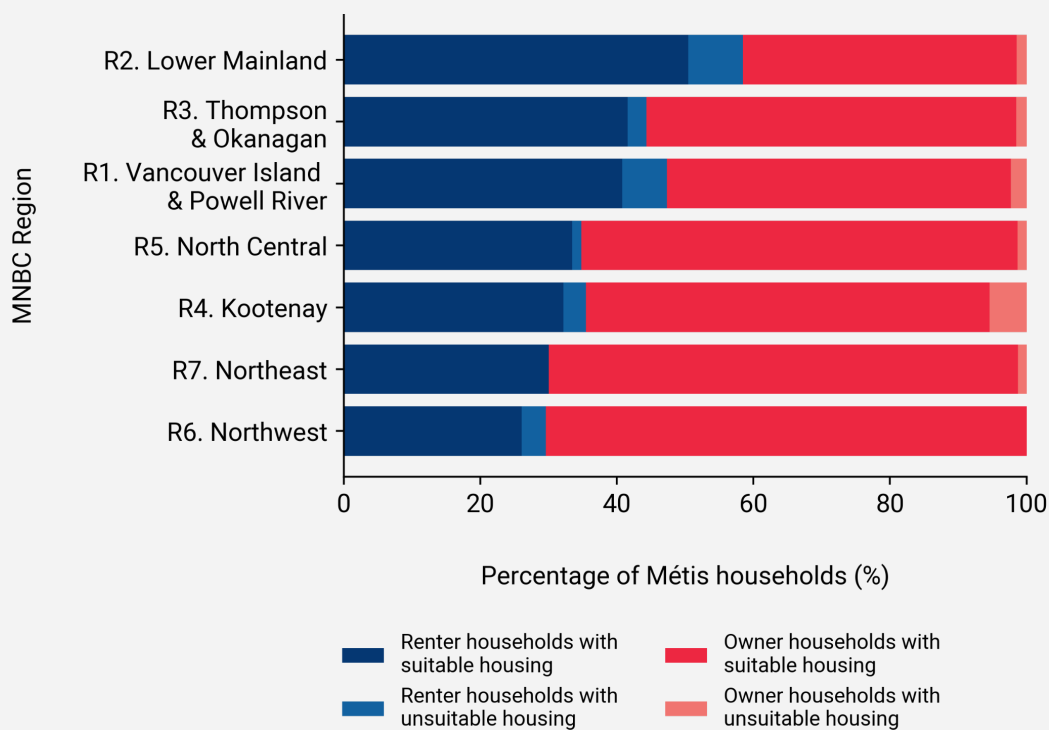
Housing tenure	Total	Suitable housing		Unsuitable housing	
		%	#	%	#
Own	14,709	97%	14,216	3%	492
Rent	13,482	89%	11,979	11%	1,503
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>28,190</b>	<b>93%</b>	<b>26,195</b>	<b>7%</b>	<b>1,995</b>

Source: MNBC Housing Needs Survey (2021).

Next, we explore housing suitability among Métis owner and renter households by region. The highest proportion of Métis renter households living in unsuitable housing live in the Lower Mainland (8%) region, and the highest proportion of Métis owner households living in unsuitable housing live in the Kootenay (5%) region. These data are presented in Figure 5.4 and Table 5.6.

On average, across all regions, Métis renter households living in unsuitable housing make up 5% of all Métis households while Métis owner households living in unsuitable housing make up only 2%. The proportion of households living in unsuitable housing is higher among renters than owner households in every region apart from the Northeast and Kootenay regions. These data are presented in Table 5.6.

**Figure 5.4: Housing Suitability by Tenure Type & Region**



Source: MNBC Housing Needs Survey (2021)

**Table 5.6: Housing Suitability by Tenure Type & Region**

Region#	MNBC Region	Total	Renter households				Owner households			
			Suitable		Unsuitable		Suitable		Unsuitable	
			%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#
1	Van. Isl. & Pow. Rv.	6,321	41%	2,578	7%	415	50%	3,184	2%	144
2	Lower Mainland	10,357	50%	5,223	8%	830	40%	4,157	1%	147
3	Thomp. & Okan.	5,528	42%	2,300	3%	150	54%	2,996	1%	82
4	Kootenay	1,290	32%	415	3%	43	59%	763	5%	70
5	North Central	2,569	33%	860	1%	34	64%	1,642	1%	34
6	Northwest	913	26%	238	4%	32	70%	643	-	-
7	Northeast	1,212	30%	364	-	-	69%	832	-	-
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>28,190</b>	<b>42%</b>	<b>11,979</b>	<b>5%</b>	<b>1,503</b>	<b>50%</b>	<b>14,216</b>	<b>2%</b>	<b>492</b>

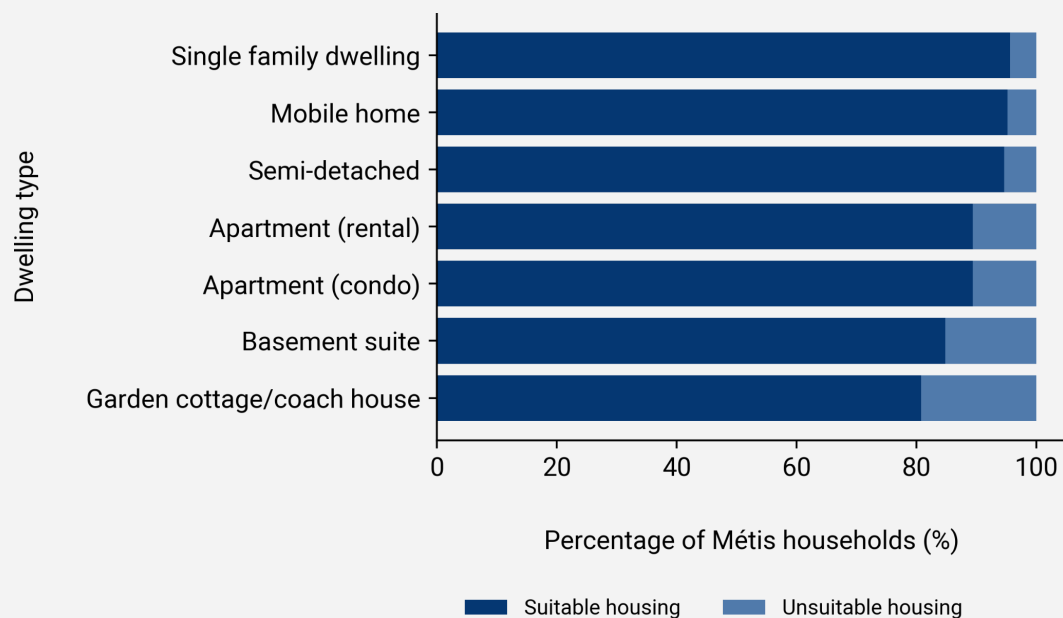
**Source:** MNBC Housing Needs Survey (2021). **Note:** We have excluded responses in this table that indicated other living arrangements. Percentages are relative to the total number of households in each region. These other arrangements include living with relatives or friends without payment of cash rent, cooperative housing, or other unspecified arrangements. Values indicated as "-" have been excluded due to small sample size (less than 1%).

## — 5.2.2 Dwelling Type

Métis households living in garden cottages/coach houses (19%) and basement suites (15%) live in unsuitable housing at higher rates than households living in other types of dwelling. Households living in single family dwellings (4%), semi-detached dwellings (5%) and mobile homes (5%) live in unsuitable housing at the lowest rates of Métis households in BC.

Suitability may also be driven by whether a home is owned or rented and the location in which it is located. As discussed in Section 5.2.1, renters are more likely to live in unsuitable housing (see Table 5.6). Single family, semi-detached and mobile homes are likely to be owned, whereas basement suites, garden cottages/coach houses are more likely to be rented. Figure 5.5 depicts housing suitability by dwelling type, with the corresponding data presented in Table 5.7.

**Figure 5.5: Housing Suitability by Dwelling Type**



Source: MNBC Housing Needs Survey (2021)

**Table 5.7: Housing Suitability by Dwelling Type**

Dwelling type	Total (Households)	Suitable housing		Unsuitable housing	
		%	#	%	#
Single family dwelling	14,717	96%	14,067	4%	650
Mobile home	1,629	95%	1,551	5%	79
Semi-detached	2,470	95%	2,337	5%	133
Apartment (rental)	4,505	89%	4,028	11%	477
Apartment (condo)	2,092	89%	1,870	11%	222
Basement suite	2,386	85%	2,022	15%	363
Gard. cott./coach house	272	81%	219	19%	52
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>28,070</b>	<b>93%</b>	<b>26,093</b>	<b>7%</b>	<b>1,976</b>

Source: MNBC Housing Needs Survey (2021). There are 120 households that live in temporary housing, student housing, or did not specify their dwelling type, which are not included in this table.



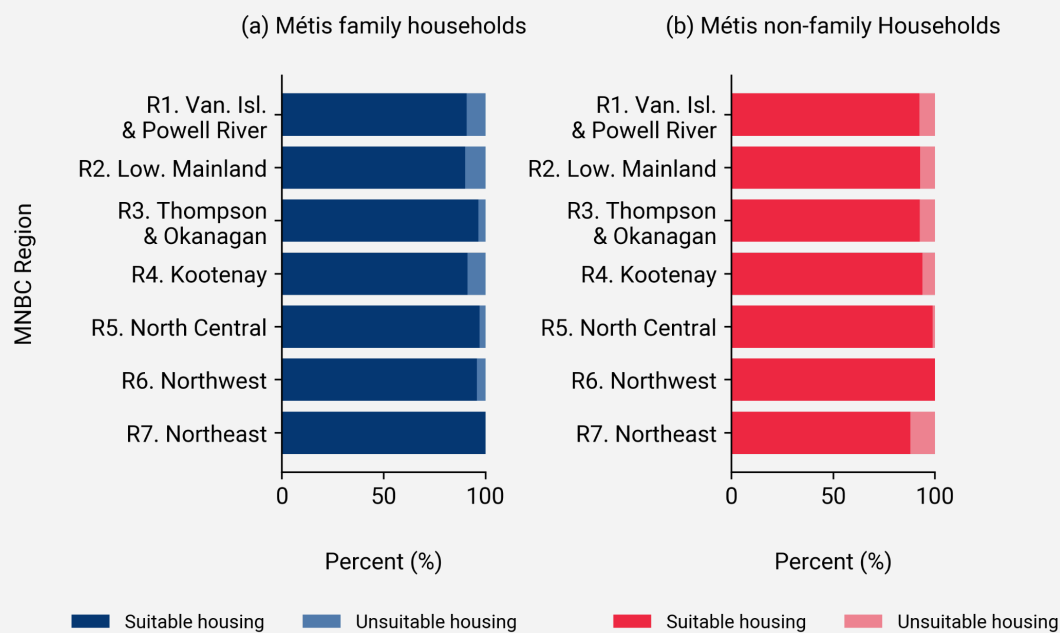
## — 5.2.3

### Family Households

There are no substantial differences in the rates of housing suitability of family households relative to non-family households, with 93% of both non-family households and family households living in suitable housing.

The regions with the highest proportions of family households living in unsuitable housing are the Lower Mainland (10%), Vancouver Island & Powell River (9%), and Kootenay (9%), regions. The proportion of Métis non-family households living in unsuitable housing does not follow this regional trend. Instead the highest proportion of non-family households in unsuitable housing live in the Northeast (12%), and Thompson & Okanagan (8%), and Kootenay (6%) regions. We depict the percentage breakdown of housing suitability by family household status and by region in Figure 5.6, with corresponding data presented in Table 5.8.

**Figure 5.6: Housing Suitability by Family Household Status & Region**



Source: MNBC Housing Needs Survey (2021)

## Table 5.8: Housing Suitability by Family Household Status & Region

Region #	MNBC Region	Family Households					Non-Family Households				
		Total	Suitable		Unsuitable		Total	Suitable		Unsuitable	
			%	#	%	#		%	#	%	#
1	Van. Is. & Pow. Rv.	5,110	91%	4,641	9%	469	1,160	92%	1,070	8%	90
2	Lower Mainland	8,153	90%	7,329	10%	824	2,099	93%	1,946	7%	153
3	Thomp. & Okan.	4,568	96%	4,404	4%	163	898	92%	830	8%	68
4	Kootenay	1,182	91%	1,077	9%	106	108	94%	101	6%	7
5	North Central	2,110	97%	2,047	3%	63	440	99%	435	-	-
6	Northwest	753	96%	721	4%	32	144	100%	144	-	-
7	Northeast	1,085	100%	1,085	-	-	126	88%	111	12%	15
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>22,962</b>	<b>93%</b>	<b>21,305</b>	<b>7%</b>	<b>1,657</b>	<b>4,976</b>	<b>93%</b>	<b>4,637</b>	<b>7%</b>	<b>339</b>

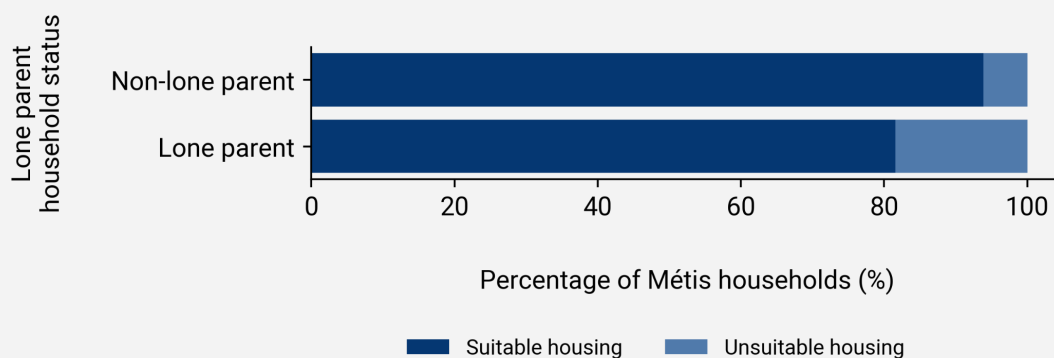
**Source:** MNBC Housing Needs Survey (2021). There are a total of 27,938 (22,962+4,976) households for which family household status can be determined. There are 252 households whose family household status could not be determined. Values indicated as “-” have been excluded due to small sample size (less than 1%).

## — 5.2.4

### Lone Parent Households

Métis lone parent households are more likely to live in unsuitable housing (18%) than Métis non-lone parent households (6%). These findings are consistent with those in Sections 3.2.5 and 4.2.5, where housing affordability and adequacy are more prevalent amongst non-lone parents. Whether this trend is due to the presence of dual incomes or lower childcare costs must be further investigated. The percentage breakdown of housing suitability between these groups is presented in Figure 5.7 and the data are presented in Table 5.9.

**Figure 5.7: Housing Suitability by Lone Parent Household Status**



Source: MNBC Housing Needs Survey (2021)

**Table 5.9: Housing Suitability by Lone Parent Household Status**

Lone parent household status	Total	Suitable Housing		Unsuitable Housing	
		%	#	%	#
Lone parent	2,017	82%	1,645	18%	371
Non-lone parent	20,945	94%	19,660	6%	1,285
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>22,962</b>	<b>93%</b>	<b>21,305</b>	<b>7%</b>	<b>1,657</b>

Source: MNBC Housing Needs Survey (2021)



## — 5.2.5

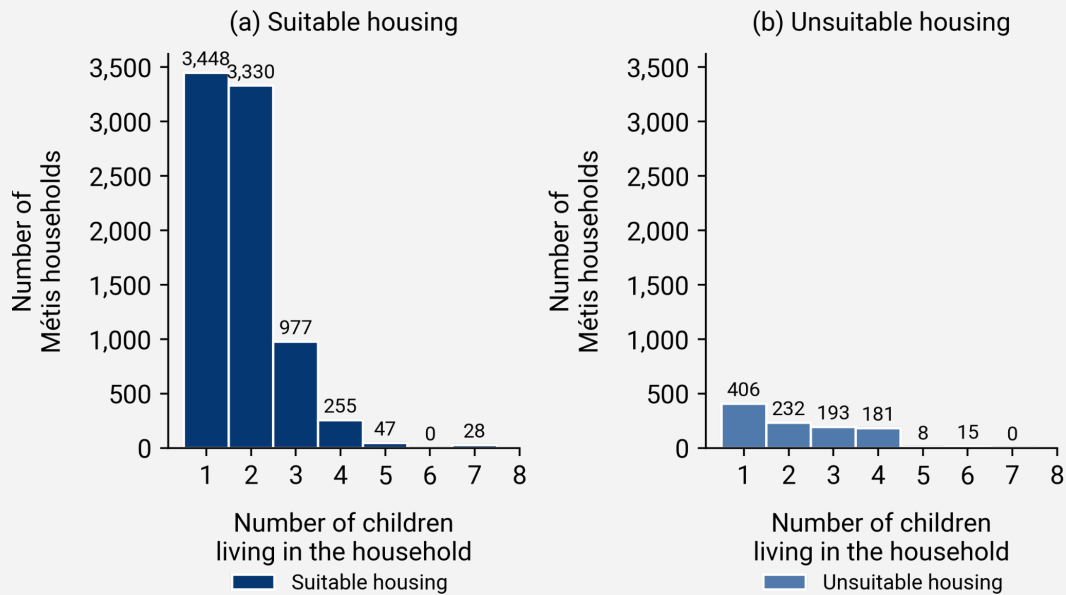
### Number of Children

We now observe how housing suitability changes by the number of children in a Métis household. Of the family households with children, 11% live in unsuitable housing, as presented in Table 5.9. Households with one or more children are more likely to have unsuitable housing compared to the average Métis household in BC (9%, see Section 5.1.2). We present the incidence of housing suitability for the number of children in Métis households in Figure 5.7.

When looking at housing suitability rates by number of children, 90% of households with one to three children live in suitable housing. As the number of children in a household increases, the rate of housing suitability decreases but remains above 50% (see Table 5.9). Households with four children report the highest rate of unsuitable housing (42%).

The total number of households in Table 5.10 does not match the total in Table 5.9 (see Section 5.2.4) because there are 540 family households (for whom housing suitability can be determined) in the MNBC Housing Needs Survey with zero children in the household. After weighting, the family households with no children represent 13,841 Métis households in BC. The total in Table 5.9 (9,121) and the number of family households with zero children (13,481) totals 22,962, equaling the total in Table 3.7. We attribute households that identify as family households yet have zero children to households with adult children who no longer reside at home.

**Figure 5.8: Housing Suitability by Number of Children**



Source: MNBC Housing Needs Survey (2021)

**Table 5.10: Housing Suitability by Number of Children**

Number of Children Living in Household	Number of Households	Suitable Housing		Unsuitable Housing	
		%	#	%	#
1	3,854	3,448	89%	406	11%
2	3,561	3,330	93%	232	7%
3	1,170	977	84%	193	16%
4	437	255	58%	181	42%
5	55	47	85%	8	15%
6	-	-	-	-	-
7	28	28	100%	-	-
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>9,121</b>	<b>8,086</b>	<b>89%</b>	<b>1,035</b>	<b>11%</b>

Source: MNBC Housing Needs Survey (2021). Values indicated as "-" have been excluded due to small sample size (less than 1%).

## — 5.3

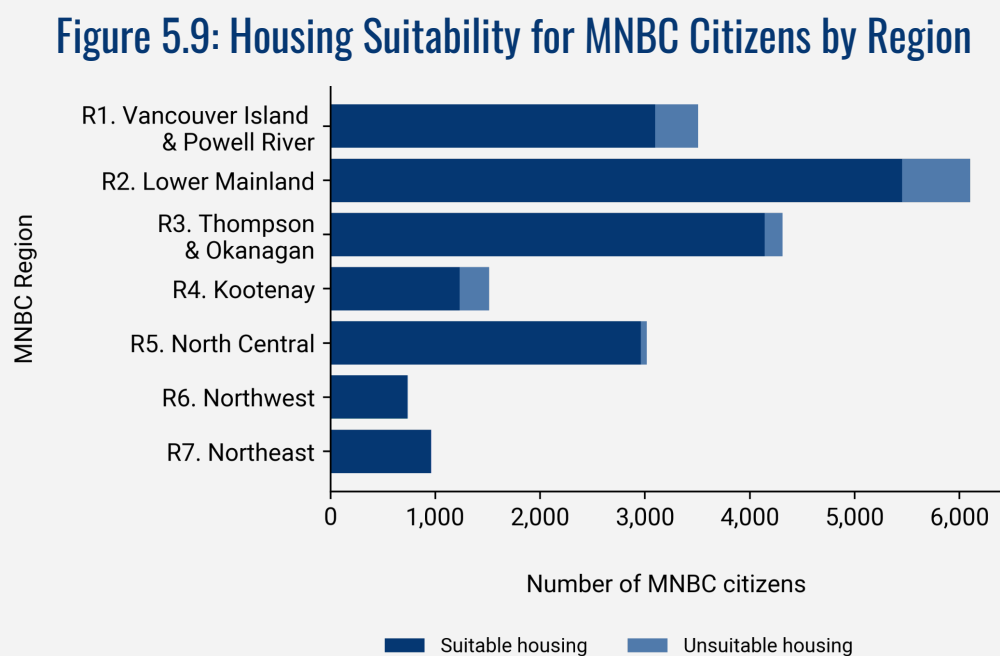
### Individual-level Analysis

This section examines housing suitability based on individual level characteristics. We first examine housing suitability rates for MNBC citizens across regions of BC (Section 5.3.1), followed by an analysis of suitability rates across Métis individuals of different genders (Section 5.3.2). Last we analyze housing suitability for individuals of different ages (Section 5.3.3) and among those with disabilities (Section 5.3.4). According to Statistics Canada (2021a), there are 93,645 Métis individuals residing in BC. In this section, we are able to determine housing suitability for 82,129 of these individuals.

## — 5.3.1

### MNBC Citizens

Eight percent of MNBC citizens live in unsuitable housing. The unsuitable housing rates span 16 percentage points across all regions, with the Kootenay region having the highest unsuitable housing rate (18%) and the North Central having the lowest (2%). In Figure 5.9 we show the number of citizens with suitable and unsuitable housing by region and Table 5.11 presents the count and percentage of these data. A key difference between the regional trends in housing suitability (see Table 5.1) and the findings here (Table 5.11) is that MNBC citizens in the North Central region have the third highest rate of housing suitability whereas Métis households in the same region have the highest rate of housing suitability overall.



Source: MNBC Housing Needs Survey (2021)

**Table 5.11: Housing Suitability for MNBC Citizens by Region**

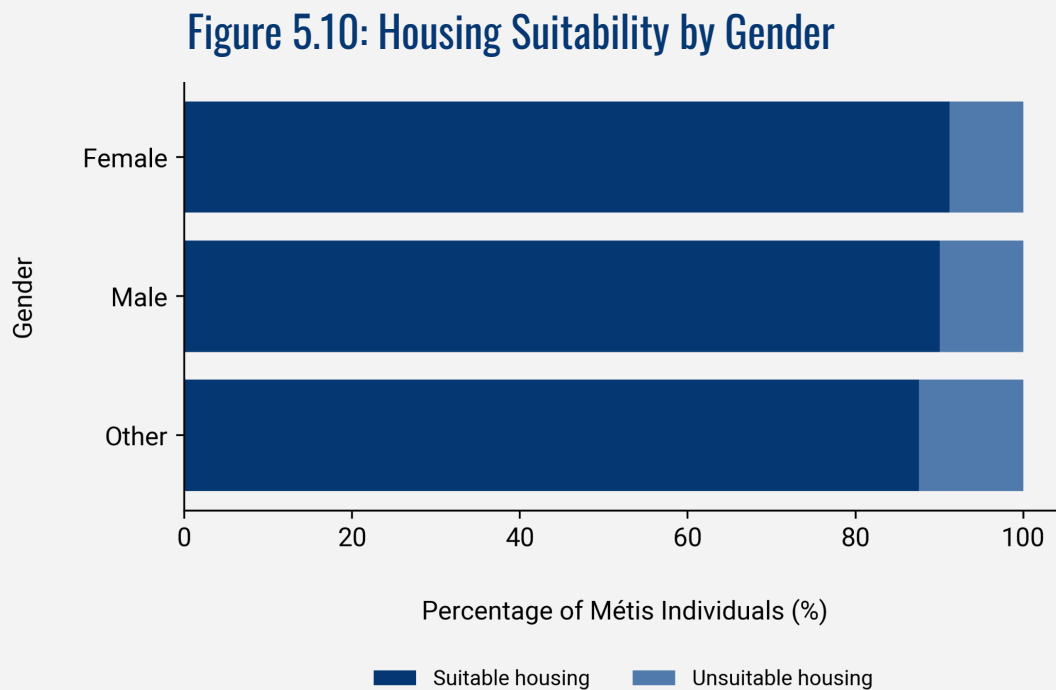
Region#	MNBC Region	Total	Suitable housing		Unsuitable housing	
			%	#	%	#
1	Vancouver Island & Powell River	3,509	88%	3,097	12%	412
2	Lower Mainland	6,103	89%	5,453	11%	650
3	Thompson & Okanagan	4,311	96%	4,142	4%	169
4	Kootenay	1,511	82%	1,233	18%	278
5	North Central	3,016	98%	2,959	2%	57
6	Northwest	737	99%	732	-	-
7	Northeast	962	100%	957	-	-
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>20,149</b>	<b>92%</b>	<b>18,573</b>	<b>8%</b>	<b>1,566</b>

**Source:** MNBC Housing Needs Survey (2021). Values indicated as "-" have been excluded due to small sample size (less than 1%).



## — 5.3.2 Gender

The gender of a Métis individual does not seem to correlate with whether they have suitable housing. Figure 5.11 presents a percentage breakdown of housing suitability by gender and Table 5.12 presents the detailed values. Individuals of another gender are more likely to live in unsuitable housing (12%) than Métis males (10%) or Métis females (9%). These findings are in contrast to those in Sections 3.3.2 and 4.3.2 where housing affordability and adequacy is least likely experienced by Métis individuals identifying as another gender.



Source: MNBC Housing Needs Survey (2021)

**Table 5.12: Housing Suitability by Gender**

Gender	Total Number of Individuals	Suitable housing		Unsuitable housing	
		%	#	%	#
Female	42,904	91%	39,136	9%	3,768
Male	39,163	90%	35,271	10%	3,892
Other	63	88%	55	12%	8
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>82,129</b>	<b>91%</b>	<b>74,462</b>	<b>9%</b>	<b>7,667</b>

**Source:** MNBC Housing Needs Survey (2021). There are 11,273 individuals for whom housing suitability could not be determined.

### — 5.3.3

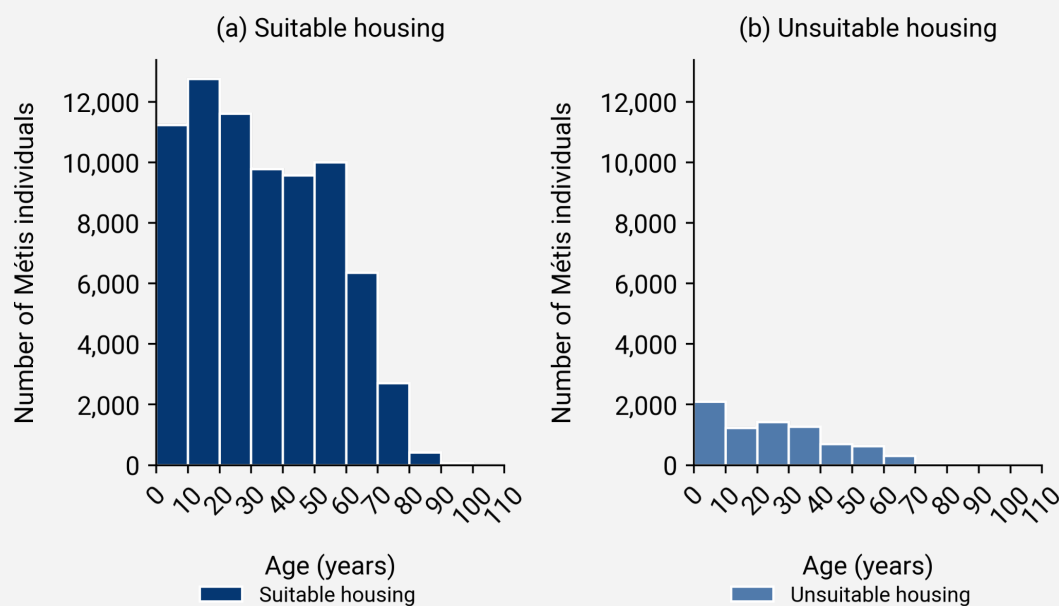
#### Age

We now identify housing suitability for different age groups. Figure 5.12(a) depicts the number of Métis individuals with suitable housing by age group and Figure 5.12(b) depicts the number of individuals with unsuitable housing by age group. Table 5.13 provides the corresponding values and total number of individuals in each age group.

Métis infants and children, aged 0 to 10, experience the highest incidences of unsuitable housing (16%) as shown in Figure 5.12. Relative to the number of individuals in their age group, infants and children have the lowest rates of housing suitability (see Table 5.13). That is, compared to other age groups, a large proportion of infants and children live in unsuitable housing. This may be driven by more than two children of the same age group sharing the same bedroom or by infants and children sharing bedrooms with their parent(s) or caregivers.

Adults aged 21 to 40 report the highest incidences of housing unsuitability (11%) relative to their age group size. This age group typically parents young children which further suggests that infants and children living in unsuitable housing share rooms with their parent(s). Further analysis is required to understand whether these findings are driven by infants (up to one year old) or young children under 10.

**Figure 5.11: Housing Suitability by Age**



Source: MNBC Housing Needs Survey (2021)

**Table 5.13: Housing Suitability by Age**

Age	Total	Suitable housing		Unsuitable housing	
		%	#	%	#
0 to 10	13,318	84%	11,225	16%	2,093
11 to 20	13,962	91%	12,743	9%	1,218
21 to 30	13,009	89%	11,596	11%	1,412
31 to 40	11,036	89%	9,770	11%	1,266
41 to 50	10,261	93%	9,567	7%	694
51 to 60	10,620	94%	9,998	6%	622
61 to 70	6,651	96%	6,352	4%	299
71 to 80	2,748	99%	2,709	1%	39
81 to 90	441	95%	417	5%	24
91 to 100	70	100%	70	-	-
101 to 110	13	100%	13	-	-
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>82,129</b>	<b>91%</b>	<b>74,462</b>	<b>9%</b>	<b>7,667</b>

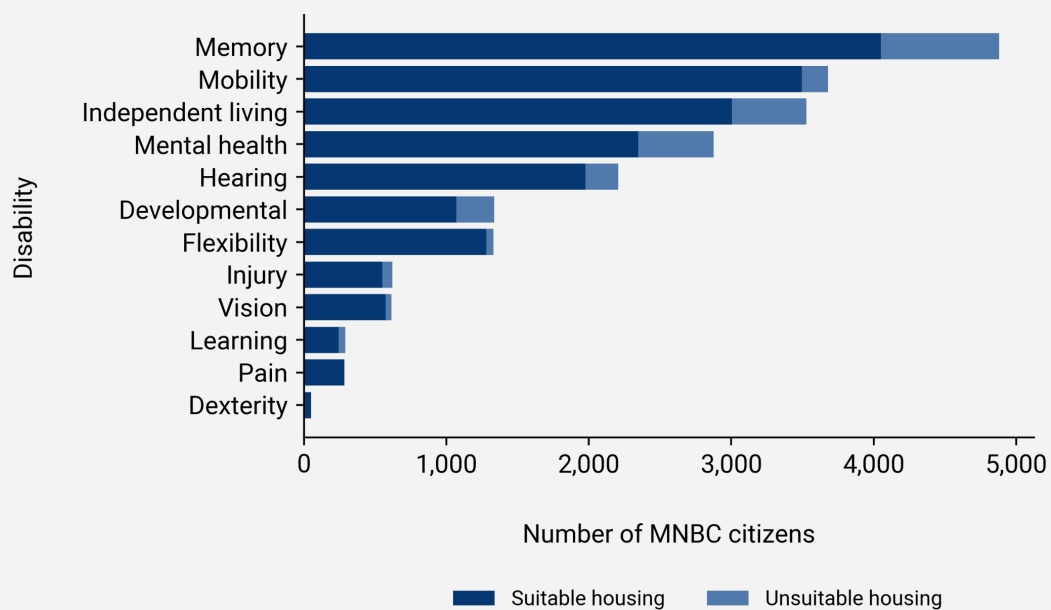
**Source:** MNBC Housing Needs Survey (2021). There are 11,273 individuals for whom housing suitability could not be determined. Percentages are of the total within each age group. Values indicated as “-” have been excluded due to small sample size (less than 1%).

### — 5.3.4

## Disabilities

Métis individuals with disabilities experience a higher rate of housing unsuitability compared to the average Métis household in BC. Thirteen percent of individuals with a disability live in unsuitable housing compared to the Métis household average of 9% (see Section 5.1). Figure 5.13 shows the number of individuals in suitable and unsuitable housing by disability and Table 5.14 provides the corresponding count and percentages. Individuals with developmental disabilities experience the highest rate of housing unsuitability (20%). Individuals with mental health (18%), and memory (17%) disabilities also experience similarly high rates of housing unsuitability.

**Figure 5.12: Housing Suitability by Disability**

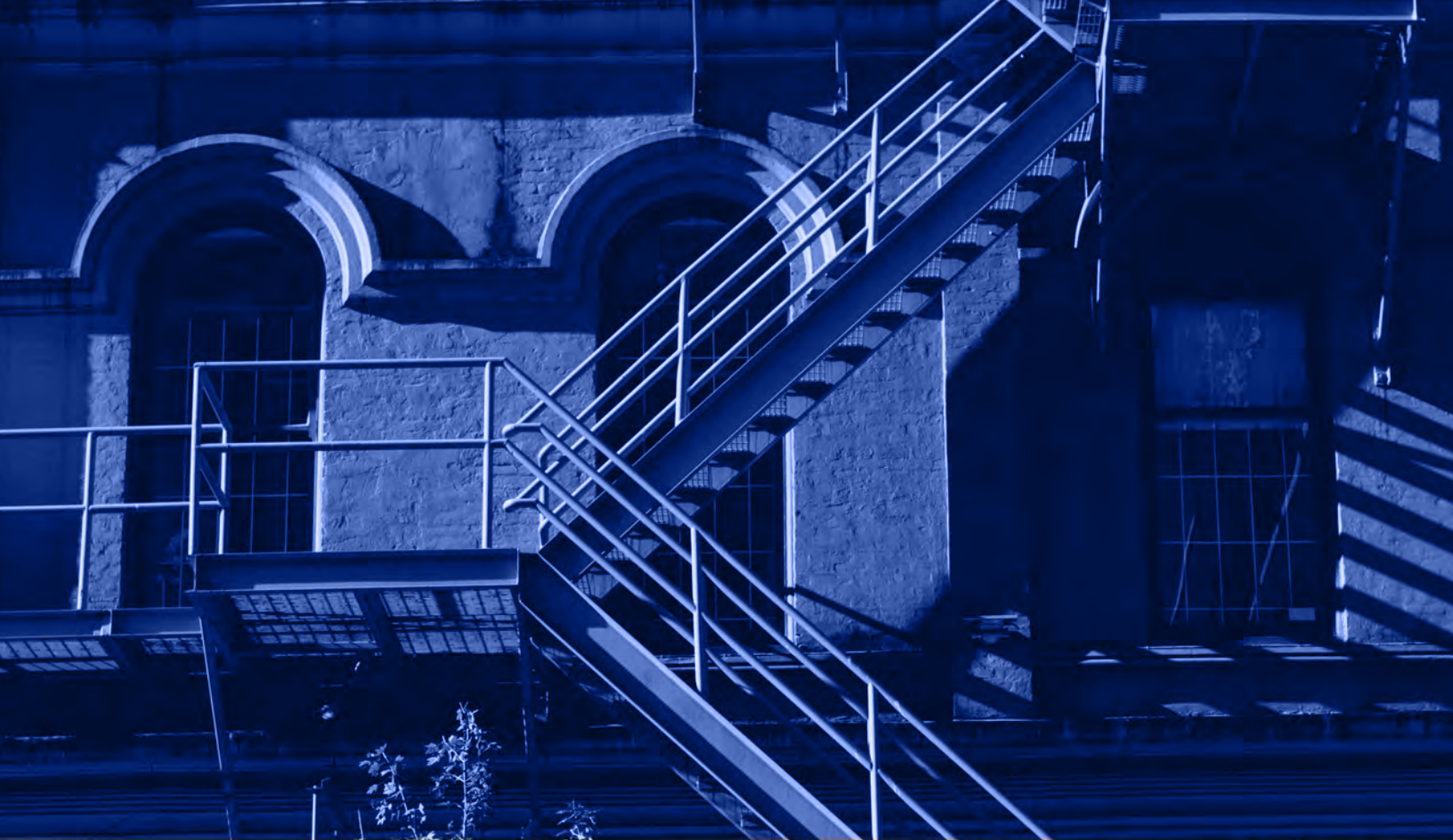


Source: MNBC Housing Needs Survey (2021)

**Table 5.14: Housing Suitability by Disability**

Disability	Total	Suitable housing		Unsuitable housing	
		%	#	%	#
Memory	4,881	83%	4,050	17%	831
Mobility	3,678	95%	3,496	5%	183
Independent living	3,528	85%	3,004	15%	524
Mental health	2,876	82%	2,346	18%	530
Hearing	2,207	90%	1,977	10%	230
Developmental	1,336	80%	1,069	20%	267
Flexibility	1,329	96%	1,282	4%	47
Injury	621	88%	549	12%	72
Vision	613	93%	572	7%	41
Learning	289	85%	244	15%	45
Pain	284	100%	284	-	-
Dexterity	50	100%	50	-	-
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>21,692</b>	<b>87%</b>	<b>18,922</b>	<b>13%</b>	<b>2,770</b>

**Source:** MNBC Housing Needs Survey (2021). The total in Table 5.14 differs from that in Tables 4.11 and 3.12, since there are 11,273 individuals for whom housing suitability could not be determined, as compared to only 1,070 individuals for whom affordability and adequacy could not be determined. Values indicated as "-" have been excluded due to small sample size (less than 1%).



— 6.0




# HOUSING PROGRAMS & SUPPORTS



## — 6.0

# HOUSING PROGRAMS & SUPPORTS

## KEY FINDINGS

-  The most commonly-accessed housing programs and supports provided by MNBC are rent assistance (49%) and utilities assistance (45%).
-  The most commonly-accessed non-housing programs and supports provided by MNBC are employment training (49%) and cultural supports (38%).
-  Respondents consistently raise housing affordability as a central issue for Métis households in BC, and further, that concerns around suitability and adequacy are often directly related to barriers posed by prohibitive housing and shelter costs.
-  Numerous respondents expressed a desire for homeownership as well as difficulties in saving for a down payment given rising housing costs across BC.
-  Respondents also expressed a desire for Métis-owned and operated housing and culturally-informed communal living.
-  Issues around seniors and people with disabilities were mentioned by numerous respondents, including a need for more Métis senior housing as well as for maintenance assistance programs for those without the physical abilities to maintain their homes.

In this section, we examine the types of programs and supports accessed by Métis households in BC, including those that are not currently offered by MNBC but in which respondents have expressed an interest. We focus on housing programs and supports, but provide data on non-housing programs and supports accessed as well, due to (a) the preset options available in the MNBC Housing Needs Survey and (b) the open-ended nature of the qualitative data analyzed in this section, in which numerous respondents commented on non-housing-related programs and supports.

## — 6.1

# Overview of Housing Programs & Supports Accessed by Métis in British Columbia

Respondents were asked about the types of housing programs and supports (including services) their household accessed since the beginning of January 2020, and whether MNBC or another agency provided these services. By specifying 'January 2020', we can accommodate services accessed at the beginning of 2020, before and at the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic in Canada. Including services accessed before the onset of the pandemic provides a better understanding of services required under non-pandemic conditions.

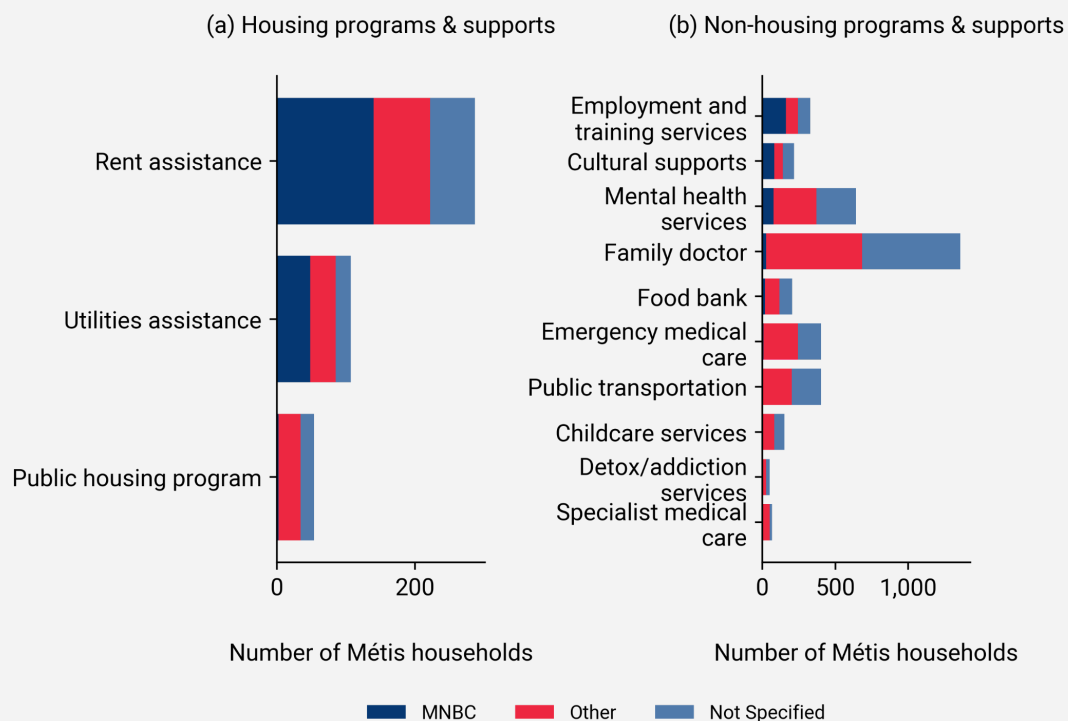
Respondents provided responses about housing programs and supports accessed as well as services not directly related to housing, referred to in this section as non-housing programs and supports. In Figure 6.1, we present the number of Métis households in BC who accessed both housing and non-housing programs and supports since January 2020, which are ordered by the number of households accessing these services as provided by MNBC. Respondents were asked to list whether MNBC or a different body provided programs and supports their household accessed, and these options were mutually exclusive. As a result, we are unable to present data on respondents who accessed a given program or support from both MNBC and a different body.

MNBC provides a number of respondents with housing and non-housing programs and supports (14%), however the highest proportion of respondents (45%) received assistance from other providers, and many respondents (41%) did not list the source of the programs and supports they accessed.

As shown in Figure 6.1, the most commonly-accessed housing programs and supports provided by MNBC are (i) rent assistance (140 respondents, or 49%, accessing through MNBC) and (ii) utilities assistance (48 respondents, or 45%), which refer to COVID-19 response programs provided by MNBC. A number of these respondents (54, or 12%) accessed public housing but only a small fraction accessed it through MNBC (4%). The most commonly-accessed non-housing programs and supports are (i) employment and training services (162 respondents, or 49%) and (ii) cultural supports (83, or 38%). The corresponding data are displayed in Table 6.1.

Note that particular housing programs and supports (such as utilities assistance) were provided to Métis in BC at the height of the COVID-19 pandemic in 2020 and have since been consolidated into other programs. In other words, the data presented in Figure 6.1 and Table 6.1 reflect the available programming as of the start of the data collection period (July 2021).

## Figure 6.1: Housing & Non-housing Programs & Supports by Provider



**Source:** MNBC Housing Needs Survey (2021). Question text: (1) "Have you or anyone else in your household accessed any of the following services since January 2020?" (2) "If applicable, did MNBC provide any of the services your households accessed? If not, who provided them?". **Note:** Figure 6.1(a) and Figure 6.1(b) are presented with different x-axis scales to better distinguish providers of housing programs and supports.

**Table 6.1: Housing & Non-housing Programs & Supports by Provider**

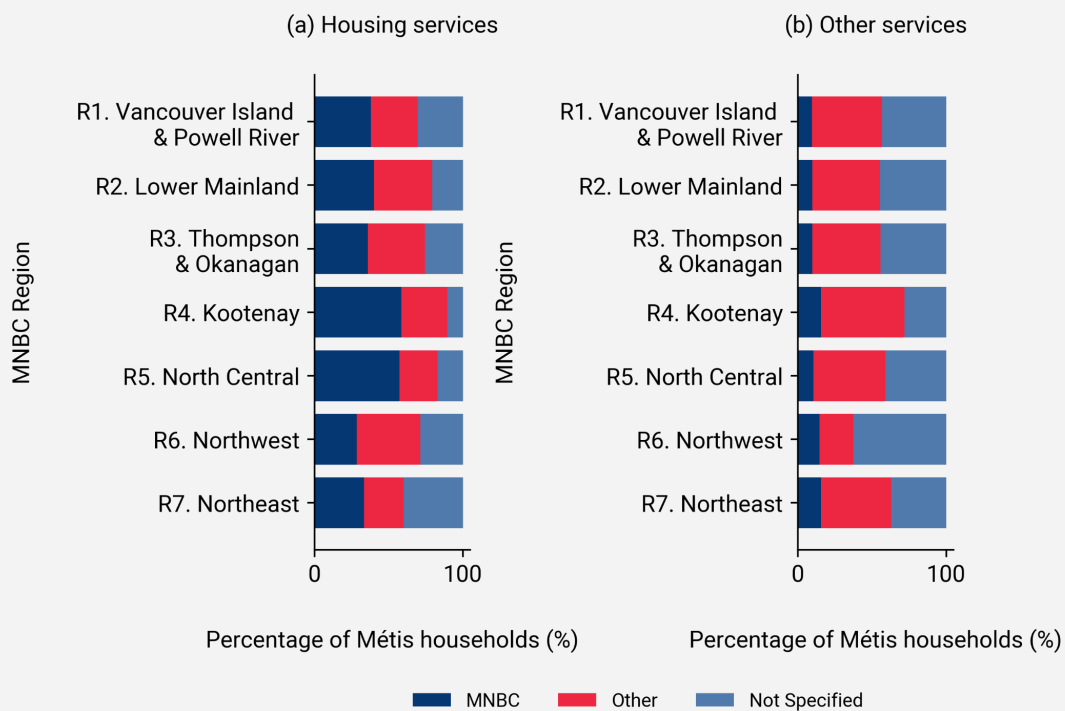
Type	Services	Total		MNBC		Other		Not Specified	
		#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
Housing programs and supports	Rent assistance	287	64	140	49	82	29	65	23
	Utilities assistance	107	24	48	45	37	35	22	21
	Public housing program	54	12	2	4	32	59	20	37
	<b>Total</b>	<b>448</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>190</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>151</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>107</b>	<b>24</b>
Non-housing programs and supports	Employment and training services	329	9	162	49	81	25	86	26
	Cultural supports	219	6	83	38	58	26	78	36
	Mental health services	642	17	77	12	294	46	271	42
	Family doctor	1,356	35	27	2	658	49	671	49
	Food bank	204	5	20	10	97	48	87	43
	Emergency medical care	404	11	8	2	236	58	160	40
	Public transportation	403	11	5	1	197	49	201	50
	Childcare services	152	4	5	3	78	51	69	45
	Detox / addiction services	51	1	2	4	24	47	25	49
	Specialist medical care	67	2	0	0	50	75	17	25
	<b>Total</b>	<b>3,827</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>389</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>1,773</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>1,665</b>	<b>44</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>4,275</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>579</b>	<b>14%</b>	<b>1,924</b>	<b>45%</b>	<b>1,772</b>	<b>41%</b>

Source: MNBC Housing Needs Survey (2021).

Out of both the housing and non-housing programs and supports listed in the MNBC Housing Needs Survey, a greater proportion of respondents accessed housing programs and supports through MNBC since the beginning of January 2020 than through other sources. The regions with the greatest proportion of respondents accessing housing programs through MNBC, out of those who accessed housing programs, are the Kootenay region (58%), followed by the North Central (54%) region. MNBC is the main provider for housing services (that is, a larger proportion of

respondents access housing programs through MNBC than through other providers) to respondents in all MNBC regions except the Northwest and the Thompson & Okanagan regions. These data are presented in Figure 6.2 and Table 6.2.

**Figure 6.2: Housing & Non-housing Programs & Supports  
by Region & Provider**



Source: MNBC Housing Needs Survey (2021)

**Table 6.2: Housing & Non-housing Programs & Supports  
by Region & Provider**

Region #	MNBC Region	Housing programs and supports						Non-housing programs and supports					
		MNBC		Other		Not Specified		MNBC		Other		Not Specified	
		#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
1	Vancouver Isl. & Powell River	41	39	33	31	32	30	101	10	493	47	466	44
2	Lower Mainland	71	40	70	39	38	21	127	9	618	46	594	44
3	Thompson & Okanagan	32	35	33	36	27	29	81	10	364	44	383	46
4	Kootenay	19	58	9	27	5	15	33	15	120	55	67	30
5	North Central	20	54	9	24	8	22	34	10	158	47	141	42
6	Northwest	2	29	3	43	2	29	17	16	26	25	62	59
7	Northeast	7	37	4	21	8	42	16	16	46	46	38	38
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>192</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>161</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>120</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>409</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>1,825</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>1,751</b>	<b>39</b>

Source: MNBC Housing Needs Survey (2021)

## — 6.2

# Summary of Desired Housing Programs & Supports for Métis in British Columbia

This section provides insight into the needs of Métis in BC. Respondents to the MNBC Housing Needs Survey were asked to answer an open-ended question regarding housing programs and supports needed in their communities. More precisely, they were asked “Are there housing programs or supports currently not provided by MNBC that you would find useful or otherwise beneficial to your community?”

Responses to this question were grouped by common topics discussed, referred to as codes (e.g. “repairs assistance,” “first-time home buyers,” “high rent”), and responses by code were counted. Codes and response counts are presented in Tables 6.3 through 6.5. Coded responses were then categorized into the following broad themes based on what common topics discussed, which at the highest level reflect the biggest areas of interest and concern from survey respondents:

- a) Housing and homeownership;
- b) Culture and community; and
- c) Seniors and people with disabilities.

Coded responses within these themes were then further categorized into “issues,” which describe areas of need reported by survey respondents, and “solutions,” which themselves include (i) services (in-kind programs and supports), (ii) aid and assistance (direct financial support), and (iii) social housing (involving the provision of housing in some form).

For housing and homeownership, we find that qualitative responses consistently raise housing affordability as a central issue for Métis households in BC, and further, that concerns around suitability and adequacy are often directly related to barriers posed by prohibitive housing and shelter costs. We also see numerous respondents express a desire for Métis-specific subsidized housing, rental assistance and mortgage assistance even post-pandemic, and for homeownership rather than renting in the long term. Several respondents also mentioned that pet ownership is an important consideration, and leads to more restricted housing options for renters.

When discussing culture and community, several respondents noted a desire for various aspects of communal living, including having access to community spaces, living in community with other Métis, as well as having a Métis-owned and operated communal land base on which to build modular homes. However, several respondents also noted difficulties accessing housing supports through MNBC, citing long application processing times.

Finally, responses centred around seniors and people with disabilities expressed a need for Métis housing for seniors in addition to increased funding for home accessibility retrofitting.

Several respondents also named maintenance and renovation assistance as programs they would find beneficial.

In the rest of this section, we use anonymized pull-out quotes to highlight the various areas of housing need expressed by respondents to the MNBC Housing Needs Survey.

## — 6.2.1

### Housing & Homeownership

#### Issues

Barriers to homeownership were identified as a key housing issue by 53 respondents (9%), particularly regarding (i) their difficulties in accessing a mortgage or saving for a down payment, and (ii) rising housing prices making homeownership an increasingly unreachable goal for many. Respondents described how homeownership would lead to many benefits, including increased feelings of stability and security, and the experience of pride that is borne from owning a home.

“Myself and many others my age truly believe we will never be able to own a house, and that we will be forced to rent forever. It is an unbelievable level of hopelessness.”

Homeowner respondents expressed that they were affected by a lack of mortgage assistance (46 responses, or 7%) over the course of the pandemic and noted that its provision during the height of the pandemic would have been beneficial. They further showed interest in its continuous provision (that is, beyond the pandemic). Many respondents additionally cited a need for major repair assistance (46 responses, or 7%) and maintenance assistance (20, or 3%).

Looking at housing more broadly, high rental costs (14 responses, or 2%) and low vacancy rates (12, 2%) were named as important issues faced by respondents.

“I think any housing supports would be great, but they [providers] make it excessively hard to obtain. Even with our issues we won't qualify.”

Pet ownership was also named as a housing issue by 16 respondents (3%), who noted that finding housing is far more difficult when living with pets.

#### Solutions

Several solutions were identified by survey respondents in response to housing and homeownership issues. We categorized these as social housing or aid and assistance. No services were identified as a solution to the housing and homeownership issues raised by survey respondents.



## A. Social Housing

Housing cooperatives (20 responses, 3%) and tiny homes (6 responses, 1%) were put forward as housing programs and policies that respondents would find beneficial, and this was linked in many responses to aspirations of community living. Similarly, respondents also noted a need for low-cost housing (47 responses, 8%), citing rising housing prices across BC, and expressed a desire for the provision of Métis housing (64 responses, 10%). Specifically, respondents expressed a desire for land and housing run by and for Métis in BC. Social housing that is pet-friendly was also raised as a need, including both co-operative housing and affordable housing.

“Coop living that is pet friendly is something we would appreciate ... Pet friendly [housing] is so important as our dogs are like children and renting policy makes it very difficult to find an affordable place that allows pets.”

## B. Aid and Assistance

A first-time home buyers program (38 responses, 6%) and down payment assistance (31, or 5%) were listed by numerous respondents as programs they would like to see MNBC provide. A number of respondents pointed out that mortgage payments and rent payments are often commensurate with one another, and that having access to mortgage and down payment assistance would enable them to access homeownership.

“I would like to own my own home even if it's an apartment/condo but saving for [a] down payment is impossible. Developing a program for Métis home ownership would be so wonderful as this is a dream for my family that seems unreachable and it shouldn't be.”

Many responses suggested policies that could promote housing affordability and adequacy for Métis households in BC. The highest number of respondents mentioned rent assistance (100 responses, 16%) as a policy they would like to see. Many noted that while they benefited from the rent supplement provided by MNBC over the course of the COVID-19 pandemic, they remained in continued need of financial assistance.

“We live in a community with no available rentals, with rent becoming more unaffordable every day. We tried moving away but have elderly family and a child in [a] shared custody arrangement so we need to be here. Any housing support would be a huge help.”

Codes relating to housing and homeownership and associated response counts are presented in Table 6.3.

## Table 6.3: Housing & Homeownership Codes & Response Counts

Code	Response count		Code	Response count	
	#	%		#	%
Rent assistance	100	16	Family housing	27	4
Métis housing	64	10	Maintenance assistance	20	3
Homeownership	53	9	Housing cooperatives	20	3
Low-income housing	47	8	Pet ownership	16	3
Mortgage assistance	46	7	High rents	14	2
Repair assistance	46	7	Housing supply	13	2
First-time home buyers	38	6	Low vacancy rates	12	2
Subsidized housing	32	5	Tiny homes	6	1
Down payment assistance	31	5	Rent-to-own housing	3	0
Renovation assistance	30	5	Ma Niği	2	0

Source: MNBC Housing Needs Survey (2021)

### — 6.2.2

## Culture & Community

### Issues

Métis culture (12 responses, 11%) and Métis identity (5, or 5%) were raised by several respondents in their responses about housing programs and supports. In particular, several respondents noted the connection between housing and Métis culture, and expressed a desire for cultural aspects of their housing, including being able to perform ceremonies in their homes.

“I would like to live my last years in an apartment that I could smudge somewhere and do ceremonies that I need to use smudge with. It is hard not to be able to.”

Numerous respondents also noted difficulties accessing housing supports (35 responses, 33%), including long wait times processing their MNBC citizenship applications.

“I am in the process of getting my Metis Citizenship. As they tell me it may take a long time for the office to process. It would be nice to receive assistance sooner than later.”

## Solutions

Several solutions were identified by survey respondents in response to culture and community issues they face related to housing. We categorize these as services or social housing. No aid or assistance solutions were identified for the culture and community-related issues raised by survey respondents

### A. Services

Cultural and educational programs (31 responses, 29%) and community programs (11, 10%) were identified by respondents as policies that would benefit themselves and their communities. A number of these respondents expressed that they value being able to engage in Métis cultural practices, including having access to garden spaces in their communities.

“A facility that provides mental health/mindfulness support with the understanding of aboriginal cultural and ancestral trauma to aid in addiction and other challenges. The facility should also have a licensed psychologist that works alongside the Indigenous/Métis people who are suffering with mental health and addiction.”

### B. Social Housing

Beyond highlighting the need for Métis housing (64 responses, 10%) in general (see Section 6.2.1), respondents shared insights into developing social housing that is reflective of Métis culture. Accessing housing and non-housing supports from people who understand their community and who can help them access broader community services was raised as an important requirement. Respondents also had ideas about how aspects of Métis culture could be integrated into MNBC housing programs and supports, including social housing. Overall, we heard that land access and communal gathering spaces are important considerations.

“Co-op housing with land access and communal gathering space. Perhaps [housing] programs or programs similar that have a Métis focus or the creation of Rural community space that is Métis focused: Community gardens and livestock with shop and craft space and a kitchen space for communal feasts/ there could be horse boarding available and services offered to off-set costs and develop the wellbeing of individuals of all ages.”

Other interpretations of incorporating Métis culture into housing involved communal living with other Métis of similar cultural backgrounds, which respondents noted as important for their sense of connection and stability.

“A communal land base, or regional ones that tiny homes or modular homes can be placed upon. That Métis with financial, or other personal struggles can find shelter and a future around others with [the] same cultural backgrounds.”

Codes relating to culture and community and associated response counts are presented in Table 6.4.

**Table 6.4: Culture & Community Codes & Response Counts**

Code	Response count	
	#	%
Difficulty accessing supports	35	33
Cultural and education programs	31	29
Métis culture	12	11
Community programs	11	10
Other Métis policy	10	9
Métis identity	5	5
Perceived bias	2	2

Source: MNBC Housing Needs Survey (2021)

## — 6.2.3

### Seniors & People with Disabilities

#### Issues

Many respondents noted the need for senior/elder housing (78 responses, 35%), given the particular living needs of seniors. Some respondents noted the link between affordability and other core housing need indicators, such as housing adequacy. Other respondents noted the difficulties faced by seniors who live alone, including those who need to work in their old age.

“All the new builds for apartments and condos are full of stairs. After breaking my ankle (twice) I have come to realize that I am only a fall, stroke or accident away from not being able to live in my home. Yet within my community they continue to build narrow, long and multi level homes for empty nesters like myself. Ridiculous!”

Other respondents mentioned issues for people with disabilities (23 responses, 10%). Specifically, issues around mobility were often expressed as issues that respondents have with housing

accessibility (15 responses, 7%), including lacking the necessary funding to retrofit their homes for accessibility.

“Yes, accessible housing - there [are] virtually no wheelchair accessible rentals or homes suitable for wheelchair use available to purchase causing us to purchase a home and pay for renovations to make it safe to live in - as there are no subsidies for mobility renovations and we have had to do renovations slowly when we can afford them resulting in some unsafe conditions still remaining.”

## Solutions

Several solutions were identified by survey respondents in response to the housing issues seniors or people with disabilities face. We categorize these as services, social housing, or aid and assistance.

### A. Services

A number of respondents named senior programs (31 responses, 14%) that they would like to see, with several naming maintenance assistance programs (20 responses, 9%) as potentially being beneficial.

“Handyman that can support fixing things I cannot do myself. Métis home care or hardware person.”

### B. Social Housing

Interest in senior housing complexes were mentioned by respondents as housing programs and supports that would be beneficial to them. Some respondents expressed the need for housing accessibility programs (15 responses, 7%) targeted towards individuals who face mobility challenges or have disabilities. They express concerns over the lack of appropriate housing and lack of financial assistance to help them refit their dwellings to meet their needs. Respondents also noted a need for senior housing that is affordable, that allows pets, and that is conducive to cultural practices.

“I would like to be living in a complex for seniors, I find living with young people hard, they don't seem to have respect for anything or anyone. Always making a mess in the building and smoking so it blows into the windows and I don't have anything in common with them which makes me feel lonely. I would like to be with others who have things in common with me.”

## C. Aid & Assistance

The need for maintenance and renovation assistance is common to both seniors and people with disabilities. Financial assistance to senior members of the community to ensure the continued adequacy of dwellings was expressed frequently. Yet others who mentioned needing renovation assistance brought up needing funds to replace key household appliances, particularly for Métis seniors.

“Housing renovation grants would help to keep [my] house updated as a [person’s] physical abilities are affected as one ages. Costs of replacing items such as furnaces, hot water heaters, appliances continue to increase to such levels that it is difficult to replace these as required.”

Similarly, other respondents mentioned needing financial assistance to retrofit their homes for accessibility needs.

“Supports for disabled [people] to add equipment to their house: handrails, ramps, lifts, renovations for wheelchairs.”

Finally, while only 2 (or 1%) respondents mentioned the Ma Nîḱi program by name, 30 respondents (or 14%) mentioned renovation assistance, with several quoting the \$20,000 figure representing the maximum allowable grant amount. One respondent suggested raising the figure to \$30,000, noting increased labour and material costs, and the other suggested extending it to younger Métis citizens.

“MNBC should ... offer up to \$20,000 non repayable down payment grants to purchase homes for our Young Adults who are the next generation of Metis families similar to the Ma Niki grant program we benefited from as senior citizens. We could not have afforded to replace our failing copper pipe water lines and 1970’s electrical wiring systems that were in dire need of upgrade in order to allow us to ‘age in place’ without that MNBC support.”

Codes relating to seniors and people with disabilities and associated response counts are presented in Table 6.5

**Table 6.5: Seniors & People with Disabilities Codes & Response Counts**

Code	Response count		Code	Response count	
	#	%		#	%
Senior/elder housing	78	35	Aging in place	7	3
Senior programs	31	14	Ma Niği	2	1
Renovation assistance	30	14	People with disabilities	23	10
Supportive housing	16	7	Maintenance assistance	20	9
Housing accessibility	15	7			

**Source:** MNBC Housing Needs Survey (2021)



# TERMS AND DEFINITIONS

**Adequate housing:** Housing is deemed adequate if it requires no major repairs.

**Affordable housing:** As per Statistics Canada, housing is considered affordable when a household spends less than 30% of its pre-tax income on shelter costs.

**Core housing need:** A household is deemed to be living in core housing need if it meets two criteria: (i) it falls below the standards for housing affordability, adequacy, and/or suitability; and (ii) it “would have to spend 30% or more of its before-tax household income to access local housing that meets all three standards” (CMHC, 2019)

**Dwelling:** (or ‘Private Dwelling’ in Statistics Canada’s Census of Population) Refers to a separate set of living quarters with a private entrance either from outside the building or from a common hall, lobby, vestibule or stairway inside the building. The entrance to the dwelling must be one that can be used without passing through the living quarters of some other person or group of persons (Statistics Canada, 2019a).

**Dwelling type:** One of (i) single family dwelling, (ii) semi-detached (i.e. duplex), (iii) mobile home (i.e. trailer or manufactured home), (iv) apartment (condominium), (v) apartment (rental), (vi) student housing (residences), (vii) basement suite, (viii) garden cottage or coach house, (ix) temporary housing (e.g. shelter, group home, etc.). There was an additional option for those who are currently homeless.

**Family household:** (or ‘Census Family’ in the Census of Population) Refers to a married or common-law couple and the children, if any, of either or both partners; a lone parent of any marital status with at least one child; or, grandchildren living with their grandparent(s) but with no parents present living in the same dwelling. A couple may be of opposite or same sex. Children may be related by birth, marriage, or adoption regardless of their age or marital status but must live in the dwelling without their own married/common-law partner or child (Statistics Canada, 2021a).

**Gender-based Analysis Plus (GBA+):** GBA+ refers to an analytical process for the rigorous treatment of systemic inequalities. At a basic level, this refers to how groups of women, men, and gender-diverse people experience policies, programs, and initiatives. The ‘plus’ acknowledges that people experience policies, programs, and initiatives by characteristics other than sex and gender, including age and mental or physical disability. For the purposes of this report this primarily refers to our presentation of data and analysis by gender, age, and presence of a disability (Women and Gender Equality Canada, 2021).

**Household:** Refers to a person or group of persons who occupy the same dwelling and do not have a usual place of residence elsewhere in Canada or abroad (Statistics Canada, 2021a).

**Household income:** The combined incomes of all members within a dwelling. Income includes, but is not limited to, salaries, wages and pensions earned by an individual.

**Housing tenure:** Tenure refers to whether the household owns or rents their dwelling. A household is considered to own their dwelling if some member of the household owns the dwelling even if it is not fully paid for, for example if there is a mortgage or some other claim on it. A household is considered to rent their dwelling if no member of the household owns the dwelling. A household is considered to rent that dwelling even if the dwelling is provided without cash rent or at a reduced rent, or if the dwelling is part of a cooperative (Statistics Canada, 2021a).

**Inadequate housing:** Housing is inadequate if it requires at least one major repair.

**Indigenous identity:** Respondents had the option to self-identify as one or more of (i) Métis (Citizen), (ii) Métis (Non-Citizen), (iii) First Nations, or (iv) Inuk.

**Lone parent household:** Households where one parent is responsible for the upbringing of their child or children.

**Maintainer:** Refers to a person or persons contributing to the rental, mortgage, tax or utility payments of a dwelling (Statistics Canada, 2016).

**Major Repair:** Problems with a dwelling that require expertise, and additional time and financing to fix, including lead abatement, structural repairs to walls, foundations, ceilings and roofing, and environmental restorations.

**Métis:** The National definition of Métis means a person who self-identifies as Metis, is distinct from other Aboriginal peoples, is of historic Métis Nation Ancestry and who is accepted by the Métis Nation. Respondents were asked to self-identify as either “Métis (Citizen)” or “Métis (Non-Citizen)”.

**Métis household:** A Métis household is a household in which at least one maintainer self-identifies as Métis (Citizen or Non-Citizen). Used interchangeably with “Household” throughout this report.

**Non-family household:** Non-family households constitute households with one member or multiple unrelated individuals living together.

**Non-lone-parent household:** Households in which it is not the case that one parent is responsible for the upbringing of their child or children.

**Region:** Refers to an MNBC region unless otherwise specified.

**Shelter costs:** The sum of mortgage, rent, or condo fees, property taxes, and utilities paid by a household over a given period of time in order to live in a unit (Statistics Canada, 2019a).

**Suitable housing:** Housing is suitable if the number of bedrooms can accommodate the number of individuals within the household under the National Occupancy Standards (NOS).

**Unaffordable housing:** Housing is considered unaffordable when a household spends 30% or more of its pre-tax income on shelter costs.

**Unsuitable housing:** Housing is unsuitable when it does not meet the National Occupancy Standards (NOS) for the number of bedrooms needed for the size and composition of the household.



# APPENDICES

## Appendix A: Methodology

### Survey

MNBC and Big River Analytics designed the MNBC Housing Needs Survey to collect data from Métis households and individuals in BC related to their current housing needs. The enumeration period for this survey took place between July 15 to August 17, 2021 and collected 2,304 responses from Métis households across BC. Information about the survey was disseminated by MNBC through their social media channels and email newsletters, and was open for anyone to participate.

The survey questions were designed to establish the degree of core housing need faced by Métis in BC in terms of their housing affordability, adequacy, and suitability. The survey questions were also designed to ascertain what supports Métis households in BC are accessing, and how MNBC could best direct future support programs. The survey questions were also designed to yield variables which could be compared one-to-one with Statistics Canada's estimates for core housing needs for non-Indigenous populations in BC.

The survey strategy was to collect as many responses as possible via a convenience-sampling approach (any Métis households can respond) and then once data collection is complete, stratify those responses according to a set of variables that we know are importantly related to housing. That stratification allows us to use Statistics Canada's Census of the Population to produce survey weights that can be applied to the data to ensure they are representative of both Métis individuals and households in BC. The benefit of this survey strategy is that we are able to use the information we collected to speak to the entire Métis population in BC because they have been weighted to reflect the true distribution of Métis individuals and households in BC.

### Analysis

Most of the data from the survey is quantitative in nature in the forms of numbers, counts, or categorized topics. The survey also yielded qualitative data from answers to open-ended questions on the survey. Prior to analysis, the survey data was cleaned, which entailed ensuring that all the data was in a consistent format (e.g. a response of "two children" was mapped to the number 2 in the appropriate field).

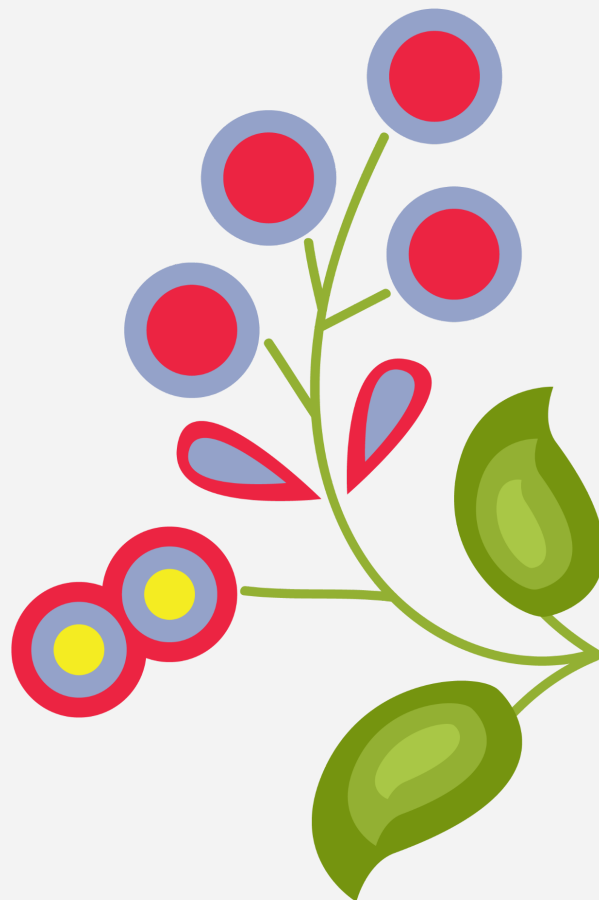
After data cleaning, we employed a post-stratification method to correct biases in the survey data. Stratification involves calibrating variables important to core housing needs (such as income and shelter costs) to Statistics Canada population data on Métis households in BC (Lavallée, P. & Beaumont, J.-F., 2015). Methodologically, this entailed adjusting proportions of Métis households and individuals to known population totals given by Statistics Canada data by applying a weight (i.e. a non-negative number) representing the known number of Métis households or individual for a given region, income group, housing tenure group, (and where

applicable) age, and gender. Due to this weighting process, we can generalize the survey results and speak to the entire Métis population in BC.

With a complete data set, we proceeded to a thorough data analysis. The strategy for data analysis was to examine the data through as many lenses as a way to best answer the question “Where/how/to which populations should MNBC direct its support programs to best benefit Métis households?”

The quantitative data set was analyzed through a GBA+ framework in which core housing need was assessed for subpopulations including family household status, housing tenure, lone parent households, gender, dwelling type, the number of children in the household, MNBC citizenship status, age, and disability. In each component of the analysis, the data was visualized with a set of standardized charts, colour-coded tables. Prose outlining the analysis and revealing key features and insights accompanied each chart and table.

The qualitative data set was analyzed to understand the types of programs and supports accessed by Métis households in BC, whether or not from MNBC itself. The qualitative data was also used to understand what kinds of programs would be useful for Métis household for MNBC to offer in the future.



## Appendix B: Demographic Sample Characteristics

In this section, we provide information on the characteristics of Métis households and individuals respondents to the MNBC Housing Needs Survey across the following dimensions:

- Housing tenure;
- Dwelling type;
- Family household status;
- Lone parent status; and
- Number of children.

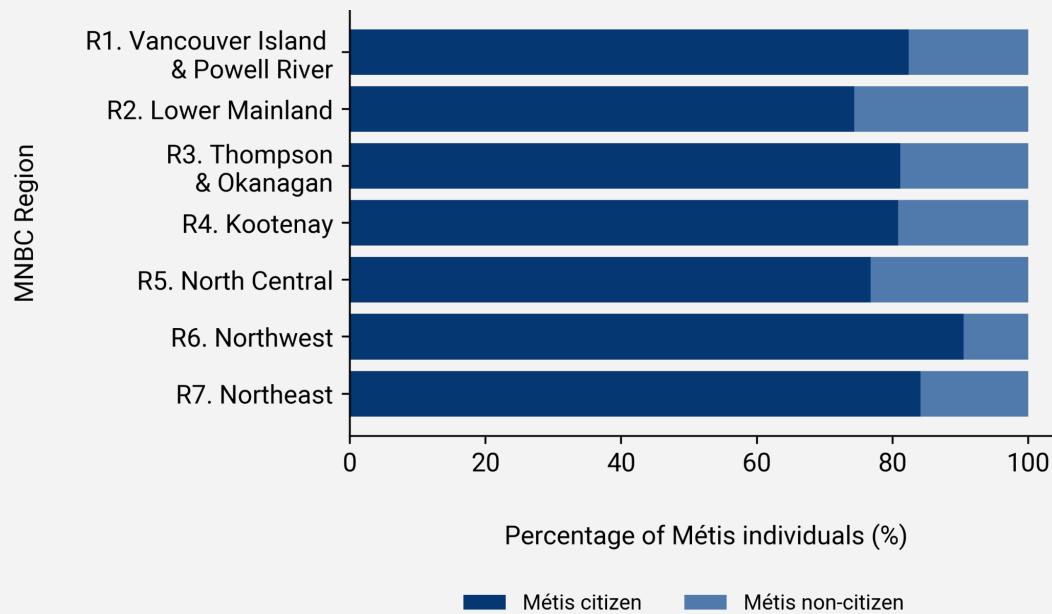
We note that the data presented in this Appendix *cannot* be generalized to the entire Métis population in BC since they are drawn strictly from the sample population surveyed by the MNBC Housing Needs Survey.

### B.1 MNBC Citizenship Status

In total, we identified 2,819 MNBC citizens in the households of respondents to this survey (79%), out of a total of 3,570 individuals for whom we could determine citizenship status. In Figure B.1 we present the percentage of Métis citizens and non-citizens who completed the survey, by MNBC region. The Northwest has the highest percentage of Métis citizens (90%) who completed the survey, while the Lower Mainland had the smallest percentage of citizens (74%).

Métis citizens are oversampled in the MNBC Housing Needs Survey because the survey was distributed through channels to which MNBC citizens are more likely to subscribe (e.g. MNBC's Facebook page or MNBC's email list).

## Figure B.1: Métis Citizens & Métis Non-Citizens by MNBC Region



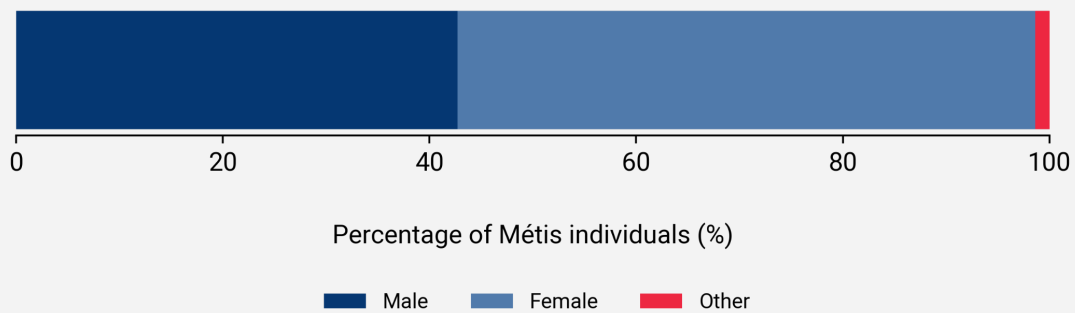
**Source:** MNBC Housing Needs Survey (2021). **Note:** There are 3,570 individuals for whom we can determine if they are a Métis citizen or non-citizen. The 2021 Census will include detailed information on registered members of Métis organization or settlements (Statistics Canada, 2021e).



## B.2 Gender

In Figure B.2, we depict the percentage breakdown of individual respondents by their gender. Of the individual respondents who indicated their gender, 56% are female, 43% are male, and 1% are of another gender.

**Figure B.2: Percentage of Breakdown by Gender**

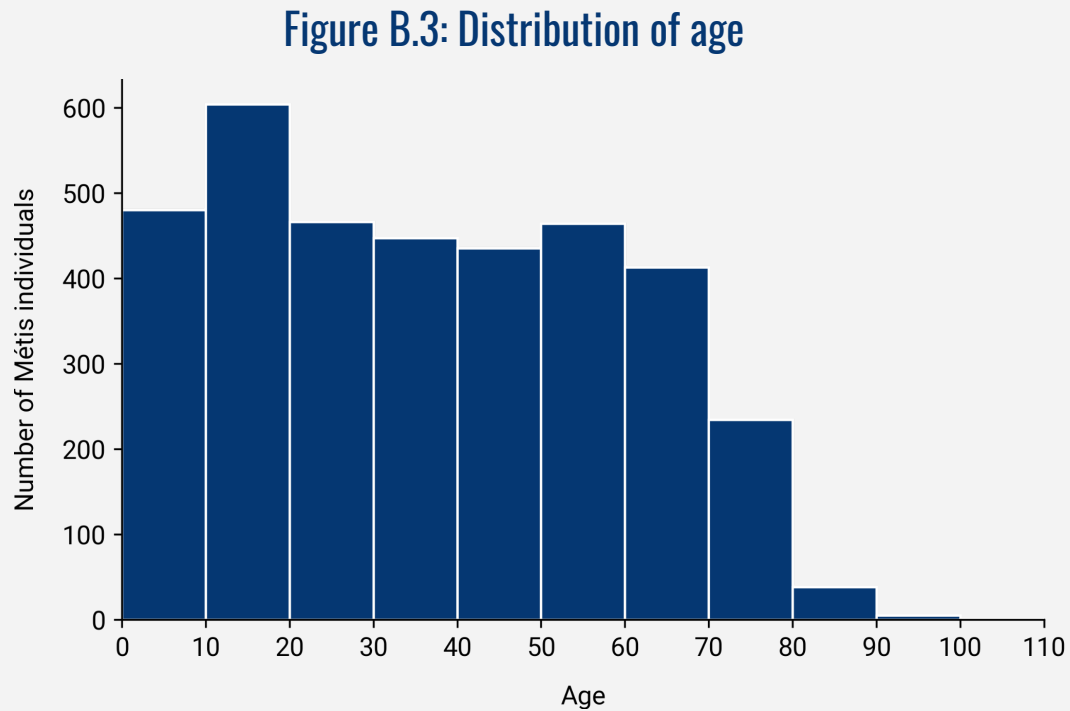


**Source:** MNBC Housing Needs Survey (2021).

**Note:** There are 3,922 individuals that indicated their gender.

## B.3 Age

In Figure B.3, we depict the age distribution of age of individual respondents. Spikes in the distribution in the 11-20 and 51-60 age brackets suggest a younger and older generations in the sampled population.

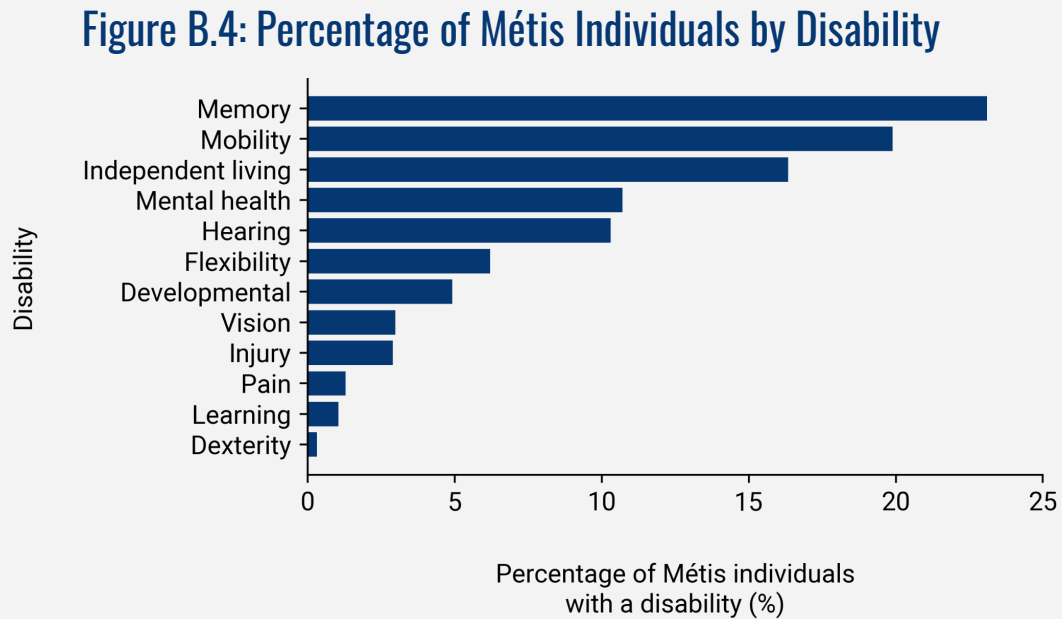


**Source:** MNBC Housing Needs Survey (2021).

**Note:** There are 3,587 individuals that indicated their age.

## B.4 Disability

In Figure B.4, we depict the percentage of Métis individuals with a disability broken down by type of disability. Of the individuals with a disability, 24% have a memory disability, 20% have a mobility disability, and 16% have an independent living disability.



**Source:** MNBC Housing Needs Survey (2021).

**Note:** There are 1,478 individuals that indicated they have a disability.

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