

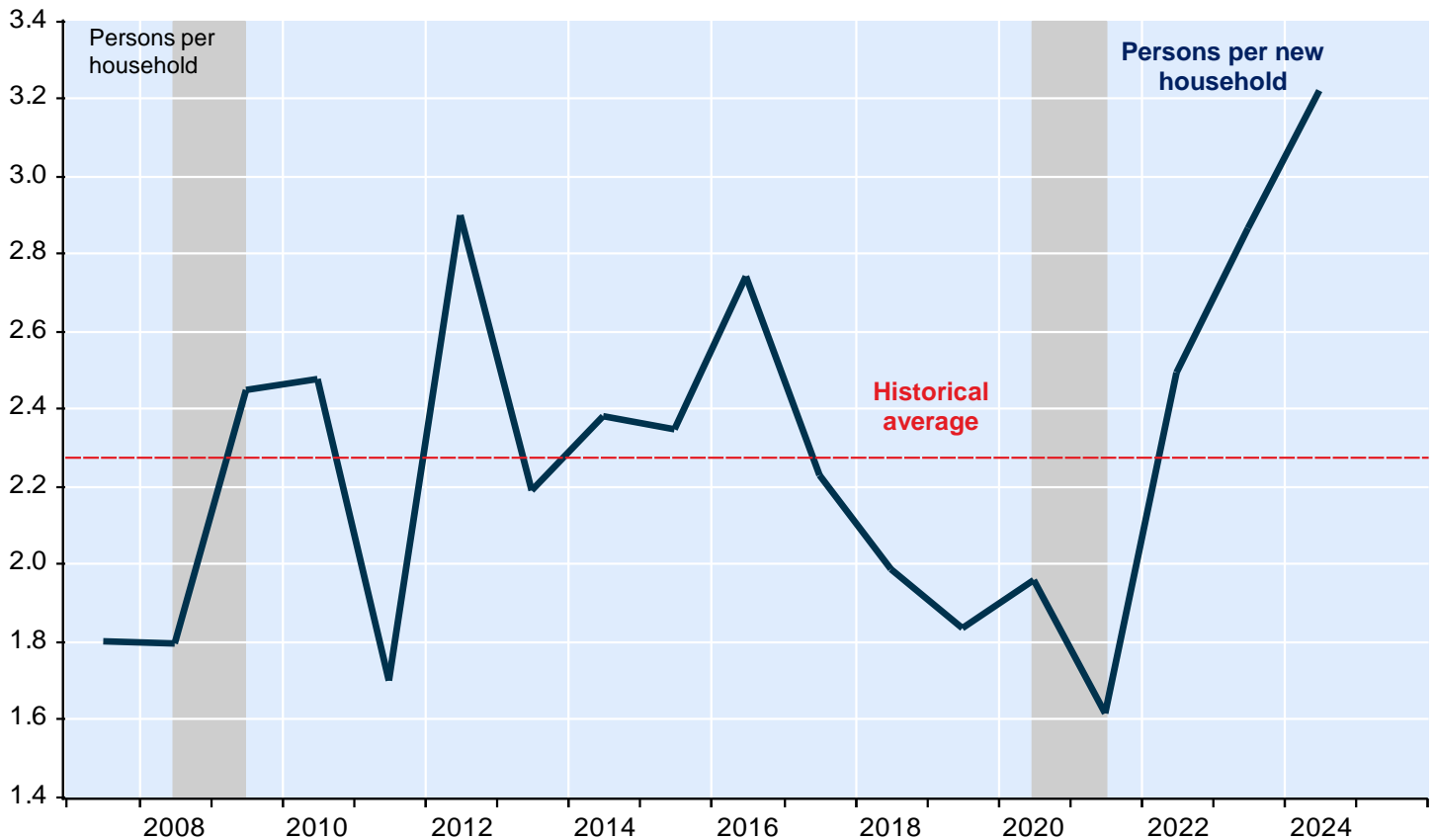
Canada Watch

By Daren King

When published in 2022, the latest census data showed a significant trend between 2016 and 2021 towards smaller and smaller households, due to a growing number of people living alone. However, since 2021, there has been a significant imbalance between the strong increase in population and the absence of a significant rebound in construction. This has contributed to a deterioration in affordability in both the rental and resale markets, and has led to a reversal in the trend in household size. Data released today by Statistics Canada shows that the population grew at a staggering rate of 3.0% in 2024, while the number of households increased by 'only' 2.3%, the largest gap between the two measures since data began in 2006. As today's Hot Chart shows, the ratio between the absolute change in the population and that of the number of households has been above its historical average for the past three years and has grown steadily. As a result, the number of people per new household created during the year has doubled since 2021, rising from 1.6 to a record level of 3.2 individuals in the face of the challenges arising from the lack of housing supply. So, if you are looking for a flat mate or to sell a bunk bed on the classified ad sites, you may not have much trouble succeeding.

Canada: Bunk beds are in vogue

Ratio of absolute change in population to that in households (persons per new household)



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