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et du Nord Canada

A Demographic and Socio-Economic Portrait of **ABORIGINAL POPULATIONS IN CANADA**



Canada 

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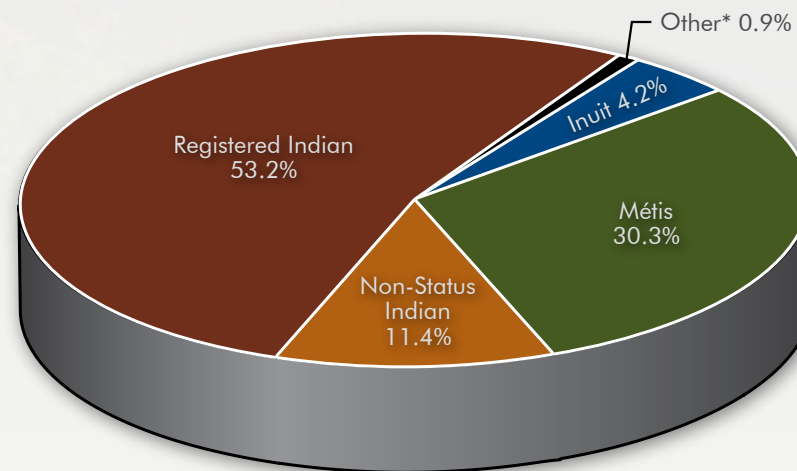
ABORIGINAL POPULATION

A Demographic and Socio-Economic Portrait

According to the 2006 Census, 1,172,785 people self-identified as Aboriginal, representing 3.8% of the total Canadian population. Within the Aboriginal population, 53.2% identified as Registered Indians, 30.3% as Métis and 4.2% as Inuit. Another 11.4% were Non-Status Indians (Figure 1).^[1]

^[1] The Aboriginal population is enumerated by the census using three questions: question 21 asks "Is this person a Treaty Indian or a Registered Indian as defined by the *Indian Act* of Canada?", question 18 asks "Is this person an Aboriginal person, that is, North American Indian, Métis or Inuit?", and question 20 asks "Is this person a member of an Indian Band/First Nation?". The Aboriginal population includes individuals that responded 'yes' to one or more of the three questions. For the purposes of this analysis, all respondents who responded 'yes' to question 21 (Registered/Treaty Status) are referred to as the 'Registered Indian population'. All other Aboriginal populations (Métis, Non-Status Indians, and Inuit), are based on the population that responded 'no' to question 21 but 'yes' to question 18.

Figure 1: Distribution of the Aboriginal Population in Canada, 2006



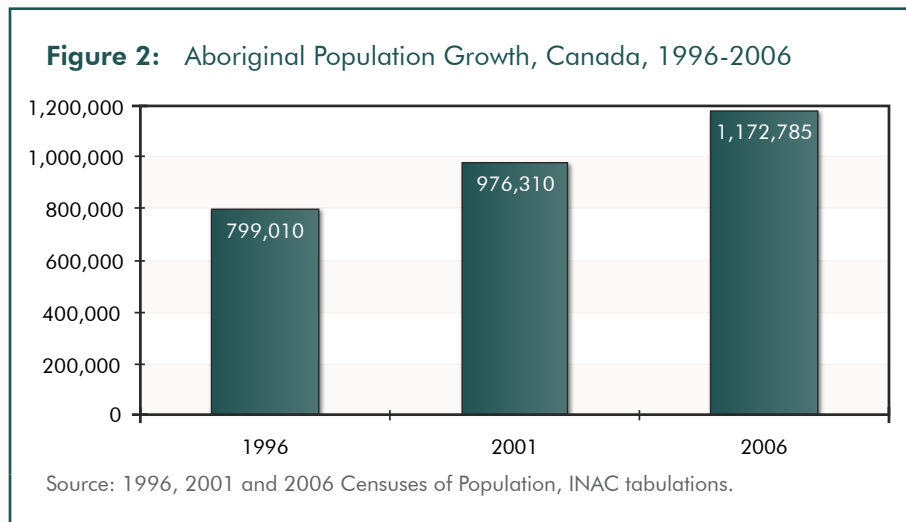
N = 1,172,785

*Other refers to individuals who reported more than one Aboriginal group, and those who reported being a Band member with no Aboriginal identity and no Registered Indian status.

Source: 2006 Census of Population, INAC tabulations.

THE ABORIGINAL POPULATION IS YOUNG AND GROWING RAPIDLY

Over the past decade, the Aboriginal population increased from 799,010 to 1,172,785, or by 46.8% (Figure 2). Comparatively, the non-Aboriginal population grew by 8.4% over the same period.



Population projections estimate that the Aboriginal population will continue to grow faster than the general Canadian population, though growth for the Aboriginal population will likely slow over time due to expected declines in fertility (Table 1).

Table 1: Average Annual Growth Rates of the Aboriginal and Canadian Populations, Medium Growth Scenario, Canada, 2001-2026

	Average Annual Growth Rates				
	2001-2006	2006-2011	2011-2016	2016-2021	2021-2026
Total Aboriginal Population	1.8%	1.7%	1.6%	1.4%	1.2%
Canadian Population	1.0%	0.8%	0.8%	0.7%	0.7%

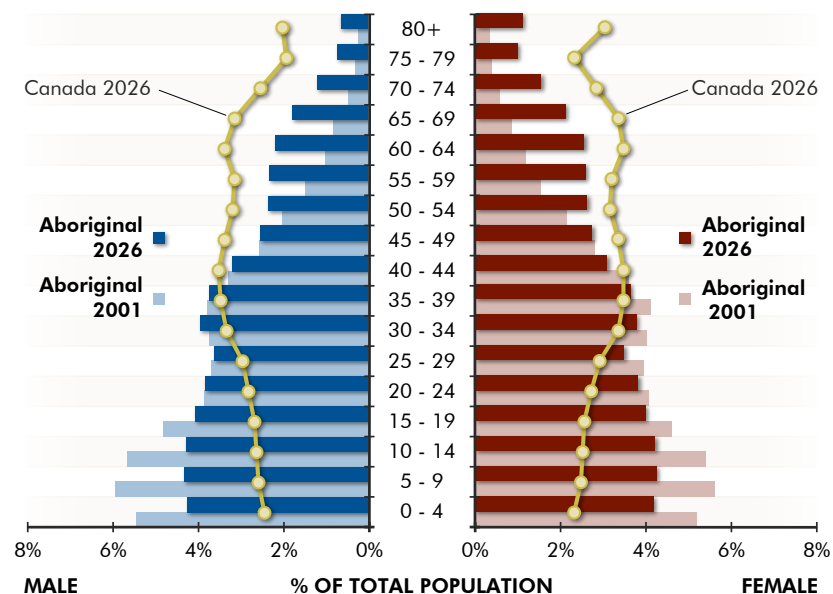
Sources: INAC Aboriginal Population, Household and Family Projections, 2007 and Statistics Canada, Catalogue no. 91-213-SCB and 91-520-SCB.

Between 2001 and 2026, more than 600,000 Aboriginal youth will come of age to enter the labour market. The 15-29 age group, in particular, is projected to grow by 37.0% compared with 6.0% for the general Canadian population (Hull, 2008). While the Aboriginal population will remain youthful well into the future, some aging is also expected. In 2001, the proportion of the Aboriginal population aged 45 years or older was 19.0%. By 2026, this is expected to rise to 30.2% (Figure 3).

While high fertility rates are an important component of Aboriginal population growth, a significant portion of past population growth has also been attributed to changes in self-reporting of ethnic identity over time and across generations, a phenomenon known as ethnic mobility (Guimond, 2009). This trend is most prominent among the Non-Status Indian and Métis populations whose growth rates between 1996 and 2006 were 53.8% and 99.3%, respectively. Comparatively, the Registered Indian and Inuit populations experienced overall growth rates of 27.8% and 24.4%. Explosive population growth, resulting from ethnic mobility, creates an interesting challenge when analyzing socio-economic and demographic trends and projecting into the future. When significant changes are observed from one census to the next, it is important to note that these changes may be partially due to ethnic mobility rather than just improvements in socio-economic conditions. Further research and analysis is required to better understand the extent of this effect for the Métis and Non-Status Indian populations.



Figure 3: Age-Gender Pyramid for the Aboriginal and Canadian Populations, Medium Growth Scenario, Canada, 2001 and 2026



Source: INAC Aboriginal Population, Household and Family Projections, 2007.

MOST ABORIGINAL PEOPLE RESIDE IN ONTARIO AND THE WESTERN PROVINCES

Aboriginal people reside in all provinces and territories across Canada. However, about eight in ten (80.5%) Aboriginal people reside in Ontario and Western Canada (Table 2).

Table 2: Distribution of the Aboriginal Population, Canada, Provinces and Territories, 2006

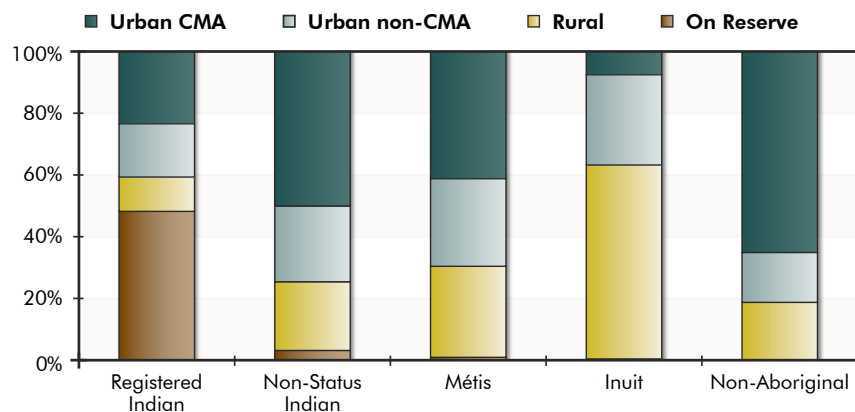
	Regional Distribution of the Aboriginal Population		Top Five CMA's with Largest Aboriginal Population	
Atlantic Provinces	67,010	5.7%	Winnipeg	68,385
Quebec	108,425	9.2%	Edmonton	52,105
Ontario	242,490	20.7%	Vancouver	40,310
Manitoba	175,395	15.0%	Toronto	26,575
Saskatchewan	141,890	12.1%	Calgary	26,575
Alberta	188,365	16.1%		
British Columbia	196,075	16.7%		
Yukon Territory	7,580	0.6%		
Northwest Territories	20,640	1.8%		
Nunavut	24,915	2.1%		
Canada	1,172,785	100%		

Source: 2006 Census of Population, INAC tabulations.

Every five years, a number of Indian reserves and settlements do not participate in the census either because enumeration is not permitted or is interrupted before completion. In 2006, there were 22 incompletely enumerated reserves. Population counts for these reserves are not included in census statistics thereby resulting in an underestimation of the on-reserve population.

Area of residence varies greatly across Aboriginal populations. While 48.1% of the Registered Indian population resides on reserve, Inuit tend to be concentrated in rural, off-reserve areas and higher numbers of Non-Status and Métis populations are found in urban, off-reserve areas (Figure 4). Winnipeg has the largest Aboriginal population among all Census Metropolitan Areas (CMA) with Aboriginal individuals making up 10.0% of its overall population.^[2]

Figure 4: Distribution of Aboriginal and Non-Aboriginal Populations by Area of Residence, Canada, 2006



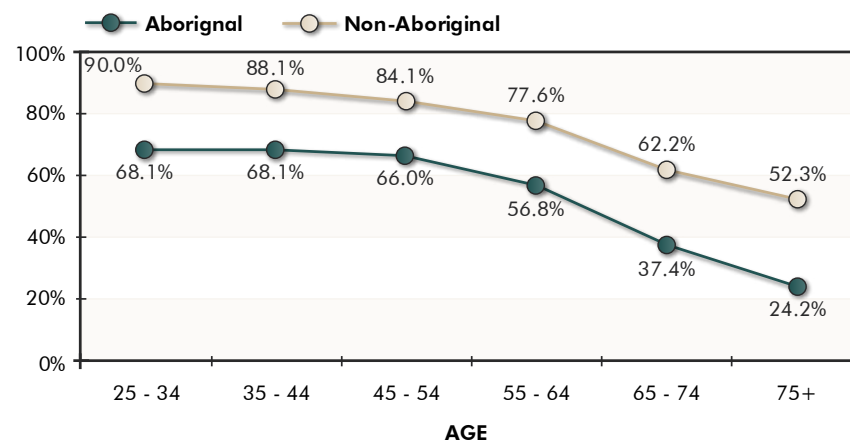
Source: 2006 Census of Population, INAC tabulations.

^[2] A Census Metropolitan Area is an area consisting of one or more neighbouring municipalities situated around a major urban core. It must have a total population of at least 100,000 of which 50,000 or more live in the urban core.

THERE ARE SOME IMPROVEMENTS IN EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT

Educational attainment is improving among younger generations. In 2006, the proportion of the Aboriginal population aged 25-44 with at least a high school diploma was 68.1%, compared to 37.4% for those aged 65-74. Despite this improvement, the gap between the Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal populations remains significant (Figure 5).

Figure 5: High School Diploma or Higher by Age Group, Aboriginal and Non-Aboriginal Populations, Canada, 2006



Source: 2006 Census of Population, INAC tabulations.

Over half (54.8%) of the Aboriginal population (25-64 years) with at least a high school diploma was female in 2006.

Educational attainment among the Aboriginal population varies greatly across provinces and territories. Ontario has the highest proportion of Aboriginal individuals with a high school diploma or higher at 71.9% compared to only 40.7% in Nunavut (Table 3).

Table 3: Proportion of Aboriginal and Non-Aboriginal Populations Aged 25-64 with a High School Diploma or Higher, Canada, Provinces and Territories, 2006

	Aboriginal Population (%)	Non-Aboriginal Population (%)
Canada	65.9	85.2
Atlantic Provinces	70.2	79.3
Quebec	64.2	83.1
Ontario	71.9	86.7
Manitoba	59.0	82.7
Saskatchewan	61.6	83.2
Alberta	65.4	85.5
British Columbia	69.4	88.4
Yukon Territory	66.0	89.5
Northwest Territories	57.2	91.2
Nunavut	40.7	92.1

Source: 2006 Census of Population, INAC tabulations.

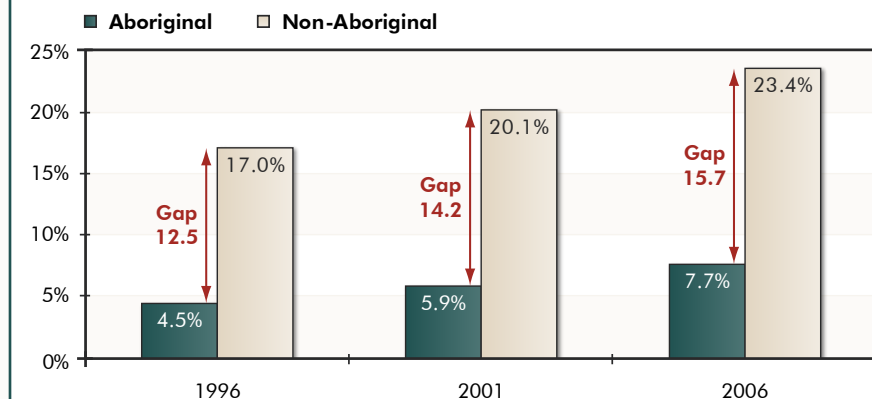
Between 1996 and 2006, the proportion of the Aboriginal population with a university degree increased from 4.5% to 7.7%.^[3] Despite this improvement, the gap in university degree attainment between the Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal populations has widened over time (Figure 6).

The proportion of the Aboriginal population with a university degree ranged from a low of 3.0% in Nunavut to a high of 9.3% in the Atlantic provinces.

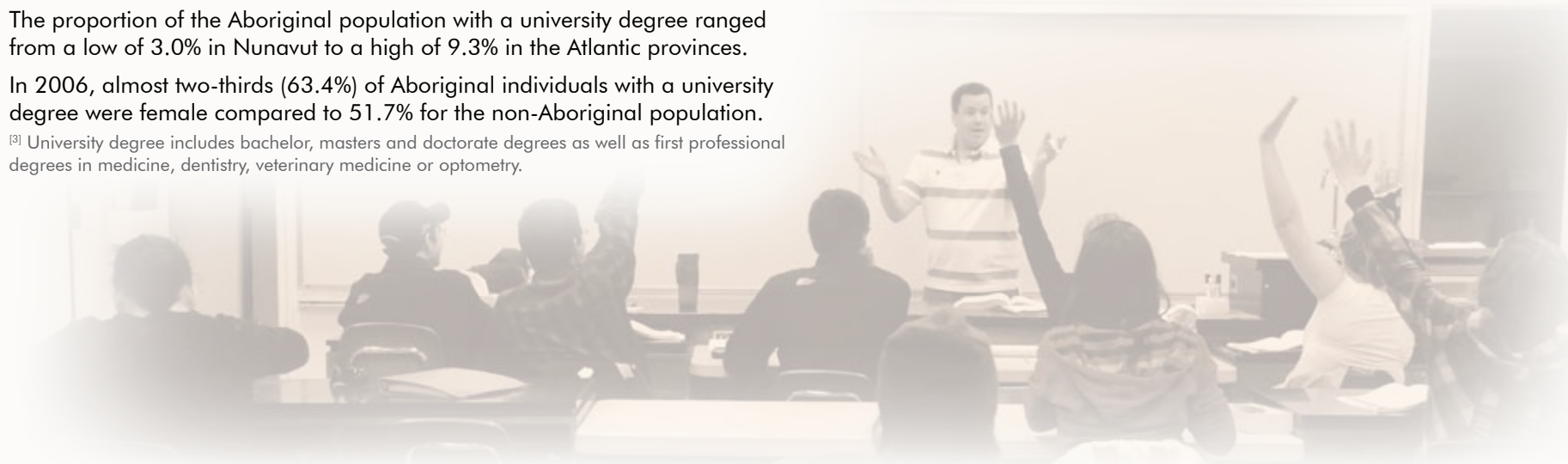
In 2006, almost two-thirds (63.4%) of Aboriginal individuals with a university degree were female compared to 51.7% for the non-Aboriginal population.

^[3] University degree includes bachelor, masters and doctorate degrees as well as first professional degrees in medicine, dentistry, veterinary medicine or optometry.

Figure 6: Proportion of Aboriginal and Non-Aboriginal Populations Aged 25-64 with a University Degree, Canada, 1996-2006



Source: 1996, 2001 and 2006 Censuses of Population, INAC tabulations.



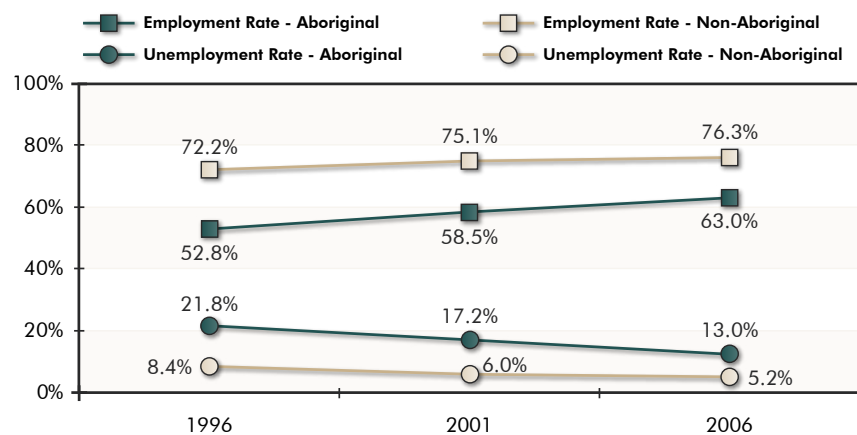
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LABOUR FORCE OUTCOMES ARE IMPROVING

Between 1996 and 2006, the unemployment rate for the Aboriginal population decreased from 21.8% to 13.0%, more than double the improvement for the non-Aboriginal population. Similarly, the employment rate for Aboriginal individuals increased by 10.2 percentage points, from 52.8% to 63.0%, compared to a 4.1 percentage points increase for non-Aboriginal individuals (Figure 7).^[4]

In 2006, unemployment rates were highest among the Aboriginal population in the Yukon at 21.3% followed by the Atlantic provinces at 20.7% and the Northwest Territories at 17.9%. Unemployment rates were lowest in Alberta at 9.5% and Ontario at 10.1%.

Figure 7: Labour Force Activity for the Aboriginal and Non-Aboriginal Populations Aged 25-64, Canada, 1996-2006



Source: 1996, 2001 and 2006 Censuses of Population, INAC tabulations.

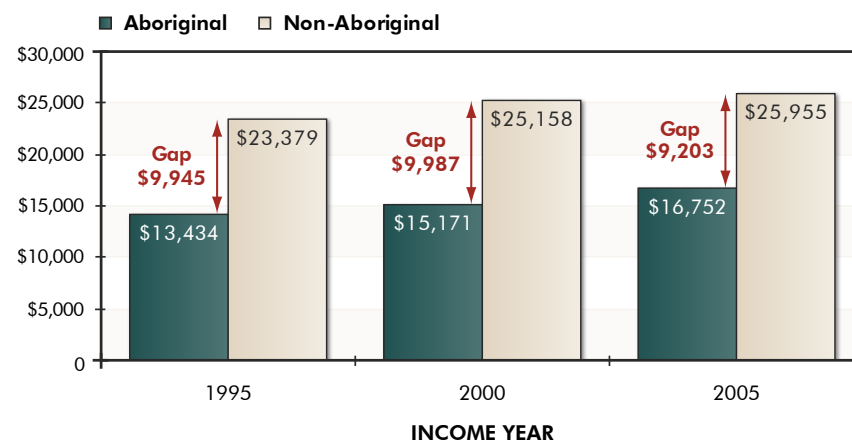
Census data provide a snapshot of the Canadian population every five years. They do not account for fluctuations which may have occurred between cycles.

^[4] Employment rate refers to the employed aged 25-64 as a proportion of the total population in this age group; and unemployment rate refers to the unemployed aged 25-64 as a proportion of the labour force population in this age group. The labour force includes the employed and unemployed. "Employed" refers to persons who, during the week prior to Census Day, did any work at all for pay or in self-employment or without pay in a family farm, business or professional practice or were absent from their job or business, with or without pay, for the entire week because of a vacation, an illness, a labour dispute at their place of work, or any other reasons. "Unemployed" refers to persons who, during the week prior to Census Day, were without paid work or without self-employment work and were available for work and either had actively looked for paid work in the past four weeks, were on temporary lay-off and expected to return to their job, or had definite arrangements to start a new job in four weeks or less.

MEDIAN INCOME FOR THE ABORIGINAL POPULATION IS INCREASING

In 2005, median individual total income for the Aboriginal population was \$16,752, almost \$10,000 lower than for the non-Aboriginal population (\$25,955). Across provinces and territories, median income for Aboriginal people ranged from a high of \$20,690 in the Yukon to a low of \$13,843 in Saskatchewan. The income gap between the Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal populations remained fairly consistent over the past decade (Figure 8).^[5]

Figure 8: Median Individual Total Income (In Constant 2005 Dollars) for the Aboriginal and Non-Aboriginal Populations Aged 15 Years and Over, Canada, 1995-2005



Source: 1996, 2001 and 2006 Censuses of Population, INAC tabulations.

The gap in median income between genders is less pronounced in the Aboriginal population than for the non-Aboriginal population. Aboriginal males made \$3,060 more than females in 2005 (\$18,714 and \$15,654). Comparatively, non-Aboriginal males made \$11,999 more than their female counterparts (\$32,639 and \$20,640).

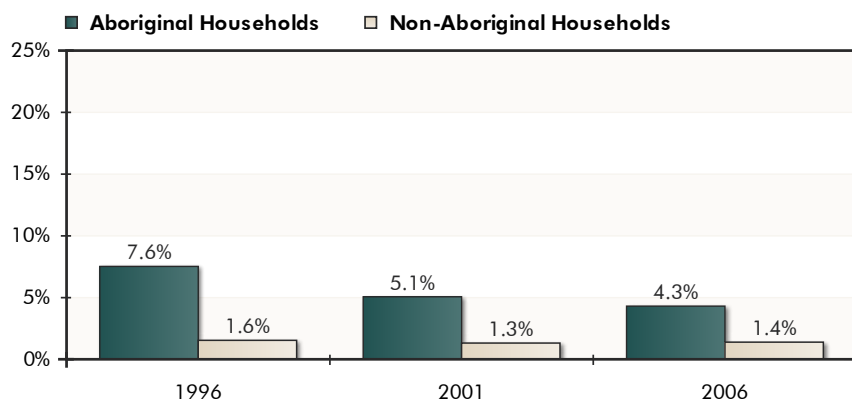
^[5] Individual income refers to the total income from all sources, including employment income, income from government programs, pension income, investment income and any other money income. Median income is calculated from the unrounded number of individuals with income in a specified population. The median is the amount that divides the income distribution of the population into two halves.

CROWDING IN ABORIGINAL HOUSEHOLDS IS DECREASING

Over the past decade, the proportion of Aboriginal households that experienced crowding decreased from 7.6% to 4.3%. Despite this improvement, crowding remains three times more prevalent in Aboriginal households than in non-Aboriginal households at the national level (Figure 9).^[6]

Crowding in Aboriginal households was highest in Nunavut at 23.0% followed by Saskatchewan at 8.2%. Non-Aboriginal households in the same two regions experienced crowding at rates of 1.4% and 0.5%. Crowding is especially prevalent among Inuit residing in Inuit Nunangat with a rate of 22.8% in 2006.^[7]

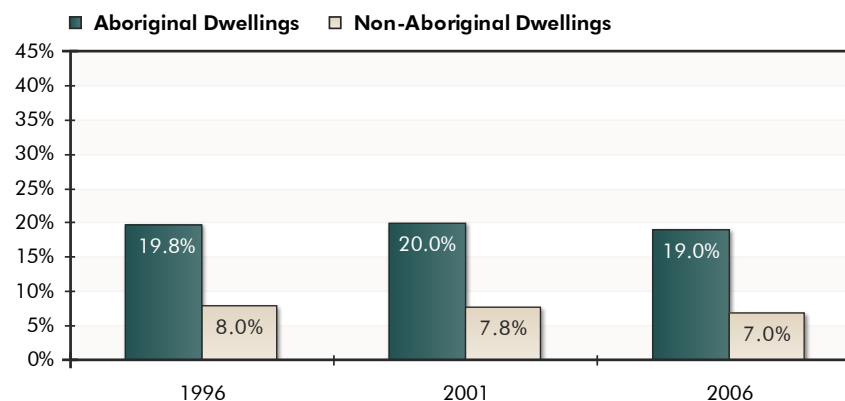
Figure 9: Crowding in Aboriginal and Non-Aboriginal Households, Canada, 1996-2006



Source: 1996, 2001 and 2006 Censuses of Population, INAC tabulations.

The 1996 and 2006 Censuses show very little improvement in the percentage of Aboriginal dwellings in need of major repair. In 2006, Aboriginal dwellings were almost three times more likely to require major repairs than non-Aboriginal dwellings (19.0% compared to 7.0%) (Figure 10).^[8]

Figure 10: Aboriginal and Non-Aboriginal Dwellings in Need of Major Repair, Canada, 1996-2006



Source: 1996, 2001 and 2006 Censuses of Population, INAC tabulations.

Saskatchewan and the Northwest Territories had the highest proportions of Aboriginal dwellings in need of major repair at 25.8% and 25.3%, respectively. Similarly, Manitoba, Yukon Territory and Nunavut all had rates over 22.0%.

^[6] Crowding refers to households with more than one person per room, not counting bathrooms, halls, vestibules, and rooms used solely for business purposes.

^[7] Inuit Nunangat refers to four distinct Inuit Land Settlement Regions comprising the northern coastal region of Labrador (Nunatsiavut region), northern Quebec along Hudson and Ungava Bay (Nunavik region), the territory of Nunavut (Nunavut region), and the north-western corner of the Northwest Territories (Inuvialuit region).

^[8] The "condition of dwelling" is self-reported by census respondents, based on their judgment on the condition of their dwelling. Major repairs refer to such things as defective plumbing or electrical wiring, structural repairs to walls, floors, or ceilings, etc.



For more information, please contact INAC's Public Enquiries Contact Centre at 1-800-567-9604

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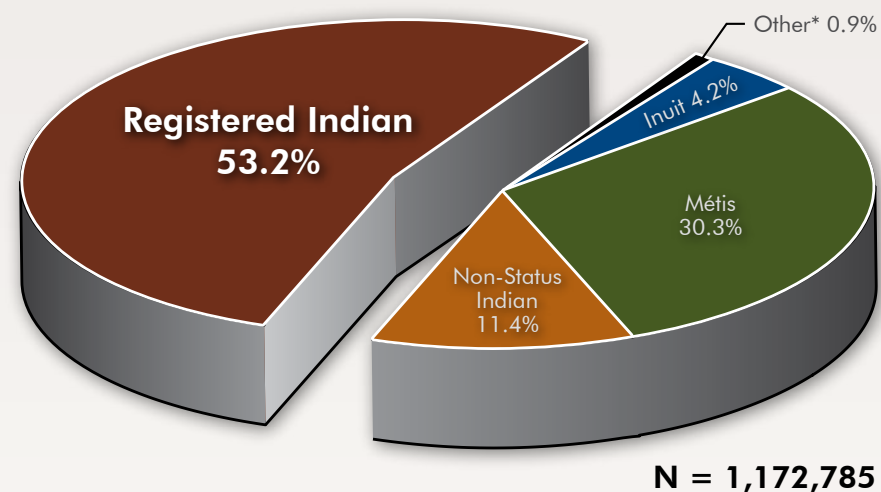
REGISTERED INDIAN POPULATION

A Demographic and Socio-Economic Portrait

In 2006, the census enumerated 623,780 persons who indicated Registered or Treaty Indian status. 'Registered Indian' refers to persons who are registered under the *Indian Act*. This population represents 53.2% of the total Aboriginal population of 1,172,785 (Figure 1).^[1]

^[1] The Aboriginal population is enumerated by the census using three questions: question 21 asks "Is this person a Treaty Indian or a Registered Indian as defined by the *Indian Act* of Canada?", question 18 asks "Is this person an Aboriginal person, that is, North American Indian, Métis or Inuit?", and question 20 asks "Is this person a member of an Indian Band/First Nation?". The Aboriginal population includes individuals that responded 'yes' to one or more of the three questions. For the purposes of this analysis, all respondents who responded 'yes' to question 21 (Registered/Treaty Status) are referred to as the 'Registered Indian population'. All other Aboriginal populations (Métis, Non-Status Indians, and Inuit), are based on the population that responded 'no' to question 21 but 'yes' to question 18.

Figure 1: Distribution of the Aboriginal Population in Canada, 2006



*Other refers to individuals who reported more than one Aboriginal group, and those who reported being a Band member with no Aboriginal identity and no Registered Indian status.

Source: 2006 Census of Population, INAC tabulations.

THE REGISTERED INDIAN POPULATION IS YOUTHFUL AND IS GROWING RAPIDLY

Currently the Registered Indian population is growing, on average, two times faster than the Canadian population (1.7% per annum compared to 0.8%). While growth of the Registered Indian population is expected to continue well into the future, rates of growth are also expected to slow over time in response to moderately declining fertility rates and loss of registration entitlement among Registered Indian descendants. By 2026, it is estimated that the Registered Indian population will be growing on average by 1.1% per annum compared to 0.7% for the general Canadian population (INAC Aboriginal Population, Household and Family Projections, 2007).

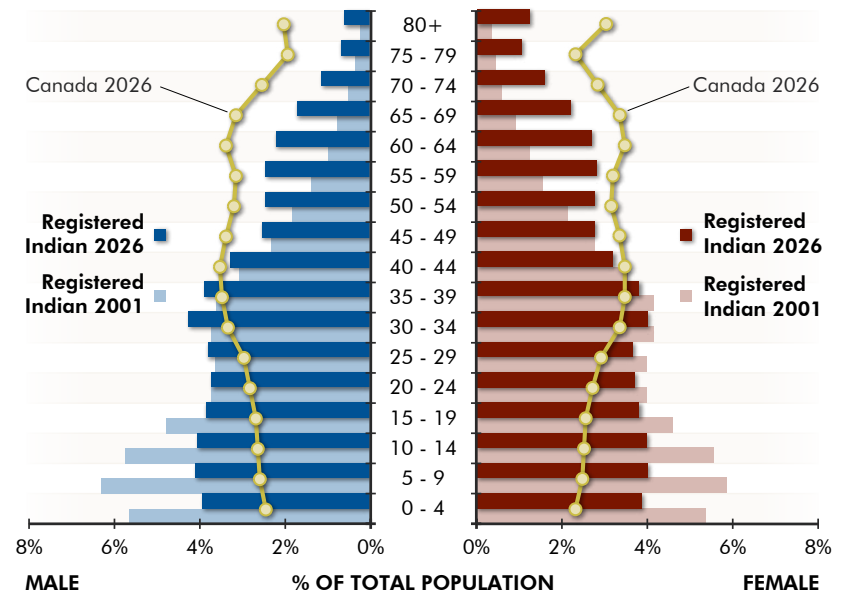
Loss of Entitlement to Registration

In 1985, the *Indian Act* was amended to introduce provisions by which individuals could receive Indian Registration (widely known as Bill C-31). Bill C-31 allowed for the reinstatement of individuals who lost their status under certain conditions of the old *Indian Act*. Bill C-31 also included new inheritance rules applicable to children born to a Registered Indian on or after April 17, 1985. Under subsection 6(1) of the *Indian Act*, individuals are entitled to be registered if both parents are (or entitled to be) registered. Under subsection 6(2), individuals are entitled to be registered if only one parent is registered (or entitled to be registered). After two successive generations of out-parenting (parenting of a Registered individual with a non-Registered individual), descendants are no longer entitled to registration.

Accordingly, due to the interplay of these inheritance rules and rates of out-parenting, there is a growing population of descendants who will no longer be entitled to Indian Registration, resulting in significant long term implications for the growth of the Registered Indian population. Long-term projection trends based on a 1999 analysis suggest that "...sometime around the end of the fifth generation, no further children would be born with entitlement to Indian Registration" (Stewart Clatworthy 2001: *Re-assessing the Population Impacts of Bill C-31, Indian and Northern Affairs Canada, 2004*).

The Registered Indian population is youthful with a median age of 25 years in 2006 compared with 40 years for the non-Aboriginal population.^[2] While some aging of the Registered Indian population is expected by 2026, about 39% of the Registered Indian population will be under the age of 25, remaining youthful, compared with 26% for the Canadian population (Figure 2).

Figure 2: Age-Gender Pyramid for Registered Indian and Canadian Populations, Medium Growth Scenario, Canada, 2001 and 2026



Source: INAC Aboriginal Population, Household and Family Projections, 2007.

^[2] Median age refers to the age at which one half of the population is older and the other half is younger.

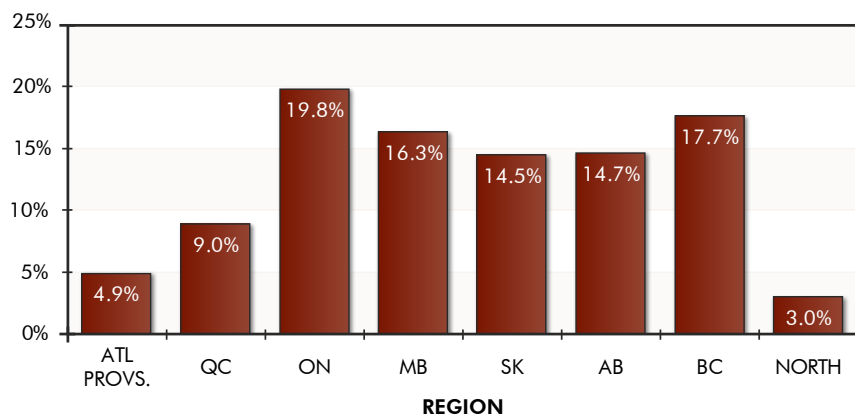
THE REGISTERED INDIAN POPULATION IS CONCENTRATED IN ONTARIO AND THE PRAIRIE PROVINCES

In 2006, just under half (45.5%) of the Registered Indian population resided in the Prairie provinces followed by 19.8% in Ontario and 17.7% in British Columbia (Figure 3).

According to the 2006 Census, 48.1% of the Registered Indian population resided on reserves.^[3] Almost three quarters of all inhabited reserves have less than 500 inhabitants with about half of them located in British Columbia (Figure 4).

As for the population living off reserve, 11.3% resided in rural (off reserve) areas, 17.3% in urban centres outside of Census Metropolitan Areas (CMAs) and 23.3% within CMAs (Figure 5).^[4]

Figure 3: Registered Indian Population by Provinces and Territories, 2006

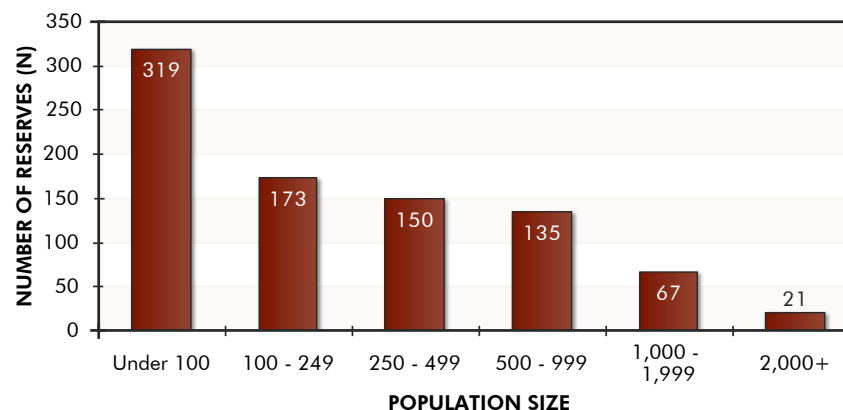


Source: 2006 Census of Population, INAC tabulations.

^[3] Every five years, a number of Indian reserves and settlements do not participate in the census either because enumeration is not permitted or is interrupted before completion. In 2006, there were 22 incompletely enumerated reserves, down from 30 in 2001 and 77 in 1996. Population counts for these reserves are not included in census statistics thereby resulting in an underestimation of the on-reserve population. While the impact of incomplete enumeration is presently unknown, INAC's administrative Indian Register database, an alternative source for Registered Indian population counts, estimates that 56% of Registered Indians were living on reserve in 2006. However, it is important to note that the Census of Population and the Indian Register are two very different sources of data and are not comparable. Where changes in percentages and proportions over time are presented using the census, the actual data have not been adjusted to account for incompletely enumerated reserves. That is, these changes are not based on a standardized set of reserves common to all three census periods.

^[4] A Census Metropolitan Area is an area consisting of one or more neighbouring municipalities situated around a major urban core. It must have a total population of at least 100,000 of which 50,000 or more live in the urban core.

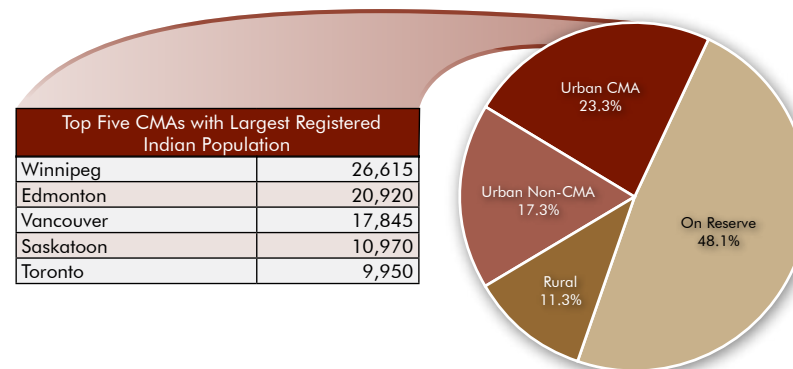
Figure 4: Reserves by Population Size, Canada, 2006



Note: N=865 out of a possible 1,176 delineated First Nation communities in 2006. Not included are unpopulated reserves and 22 incompletely enumerated reserves that did not participate in the Census.

Source: INAC derived from 2006 Geosuite, Statistics Canada.

Figure 5: Registered Indian Population by Place of Residence, Canada, 2006



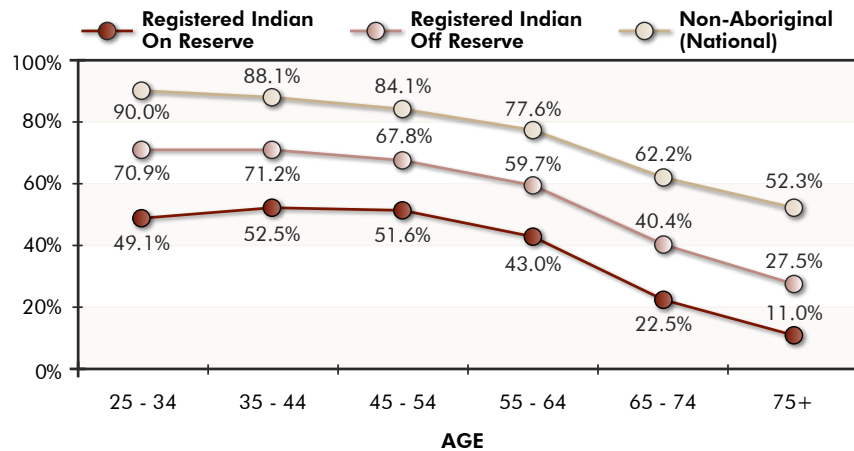
Source: 2006 Census of Population, INAC tabulations.

UNIVERSITY ATTAINMENT IS SLOWLY IMPROVING FOR THE REGISTERED INDIAN POPULATION

The Registered Indian population living on reserve is much less likely to have at least a high school diploma as compared to the non-Aboriginal population. Approximately five out of ten Registered Indians aged 25-44 living on reserve obtained a high school diploma or higher certification compared to seven out of ten Registered Indians living off reserve, and nine out of ten for the non-Aboriginal population (Figure 6).

The highest proportion of Registered Indians aged 25-64 with at least a high school diploma was found in the Atlantic provinces (70.0%) followed by Ontario (67.1%). Conversely, less than half (48.6%) of the Registered Indian population residing in Manitoba obtained a high school diploma or higher certification. Generally, a greater proportion of Registered Indian females obtained a high school diploma or higher certification across provinces and territories.

Figure 6: High School Diploma or Higher by Age Group, Registered Indian Population On/Off Reserve and Non-Aboriginal Population, Canada, 2006

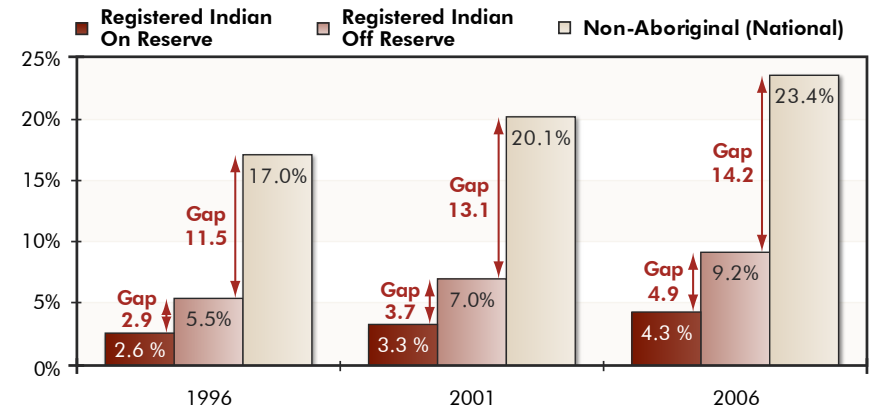


Source: 2006 Census of Population, INAC tabulations.

Census data indicate a slight increase in the proportion of Registered Indians (aged 25-64 years) with university degrees over the past decade. In 2006, 4.3% of the Registered Indian population living on reserve and 9.2% living off reserve obtained university degrees, increasing from 2.6% (on reserve) and 5.5% (off reserve) in 1996 (Figure 7).^[5]

The Atlantic provinces have the highest proportion of Registered Indians with a university degree (10.8%) compared to NWT (3.0%) and British Columbia (5.8%). In addition, twice as many Registered Indian females in Canada possess a university degree (8.9%) as compared to their male counterparts (4.8%).

Figure 7: Proportion of Registered Indian Population On/Off Reserve and Non-Aboriginal Population Aged 25-64 with a University Degree, Canada, 1996-2006



Source: 1996, 2001, and 2006 Censuses of Population, INAC tabulations.

^[5] University degree includes bachelor, masters and doctorate degrees as well as first professional degrees in medicine, dentistry, veterinary medicine or optometry.

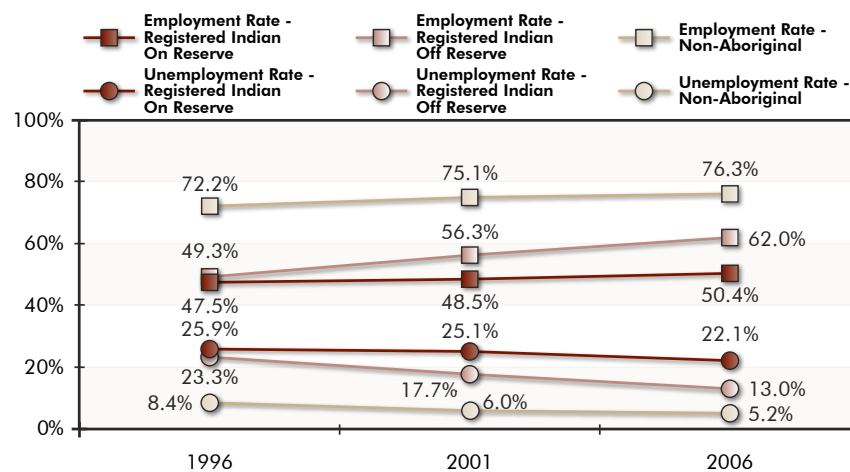
LABOUR FORCE ACTIVITY CONTINUES TO IMPROVE, PARTICULARLY OFF RESERVE

Labour force activity for the Registered Indian population has improved over the past decade (Figure 8). The Registered Indian population living off reserve, in particular, experienced considerable gains in employment increasing 12.7 percentage points from 49.3% to 62.0%. The unemployment rate for this population also dropped by 10.3 percentage points (23.3% to 13.0%).

However, the Registered Indian population, both on and off reserve, is less likely to be employed than the non-Aboriginal population and also experiences higher unemployment than the non-Aboriginal population.^[6] As well, the gaps between Registered Indians living on and off reserve have widened.

^[6] Employment rate refers to the employed aged 25-64 as a proportion of the total population in this age group; and unemployment rate refers to the unemployed aged 25-64 as a proportion of the labour force population in this age group. The labour force includes the employed and unemployed. "Employed" refers to persons who, during the week prior to Census Day, did any work at all for pay or in self-employment or without pay in a family farm, business or professional practice or were absent from their job or business, with or without pay, for the entire week because of a vacation, an illness, a labour dispute at their place of work, or any other reasons. "Unemployed" refers to persons who, during the week prior to Census Day, were without paid work or without self-employment work and were available for work and either had actively looked for paid work in the past four weeks, were on temporary lay-off and expected to return to their job, or had definite arrangements to start a new job in four weeks or less.

Figure 8: Labour Force Activity for the Registered Indian Population On/Off Reserve and the Non-Aboriginal Population, Aged 25-64, Canada, 1996-2006



Source: 1996, 2001 and 2006 Censuses of Population, INAC tabulations.

Census data provide a snap shot of the Canadian population every five years. They do not account for fluctuations which may have occurred between census cycles.

OVER THE PAST DECADE, THERE HAS BEEN AN IMPROVEMENT IN MEDIAN INCOME

Between 1995 and 2005, the median total income for the Registered Indian population living on reserve has not changed much (Figure 9).^[7] Gains are most pronounced for Registered Indians living off reserve where median income increased from \$13,839 to \$17,173.

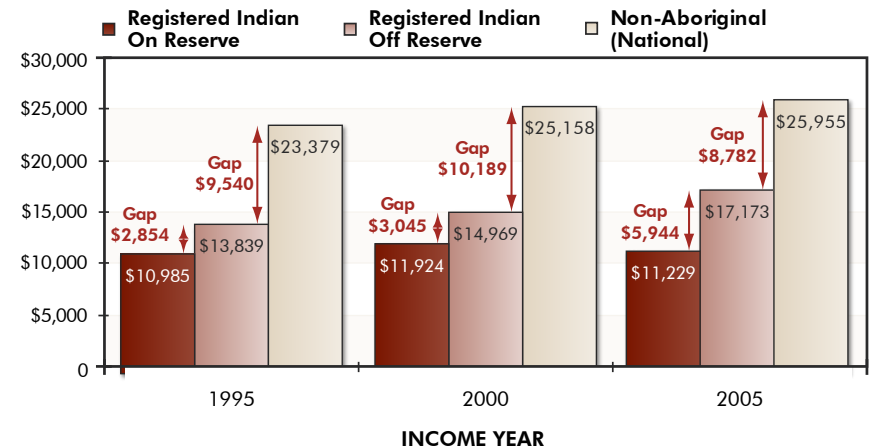
The 2006 Census indicates that the median individual income is highest for the Registered Indian population living in the Territories (\$17,667); and lowest for those living in the provinces of Saskatchewan and Manitoba (\$10,874 and \$11,822 respectively). Median individual incomes are also slightly higher for Registered Indian females than for Registered Indian males (\$14,337 to \$13,802).

In 2005, employment was the major source of income for one-half (48.4%) of the on-reserve Registered Indian population with income. This is followed by government transfer payments as the major source for 46.8% of individuals and other sources for 4.8% of individuals.

Employment as the major source of income is higher for the Registered Indian population off reserve. Further, between 1995 and 2005 the proportion of the Registered Indian population off reserve with employment as their major income source increased from 52.0% to 60.6%, narrowing the gap when compared to the proportion of non-Aboriginal individuals with employment as their major income source (66.2%).

^[7] Individual income refers to the total income from all sources, including employment income, income from government programs, pension income, investment income and any other money income. Median income is calculated from the unrounded number of individuals with income in a specified population. The median is the amount that divides the income distribution of the population into two halves.

Figure 9: Median Individual Total Income (Constant 2005 Dollars) for the Registered Indian Population On/Off Reserve and the Non-Aboriginal Population (15 years and over), Canada, 1995-2005



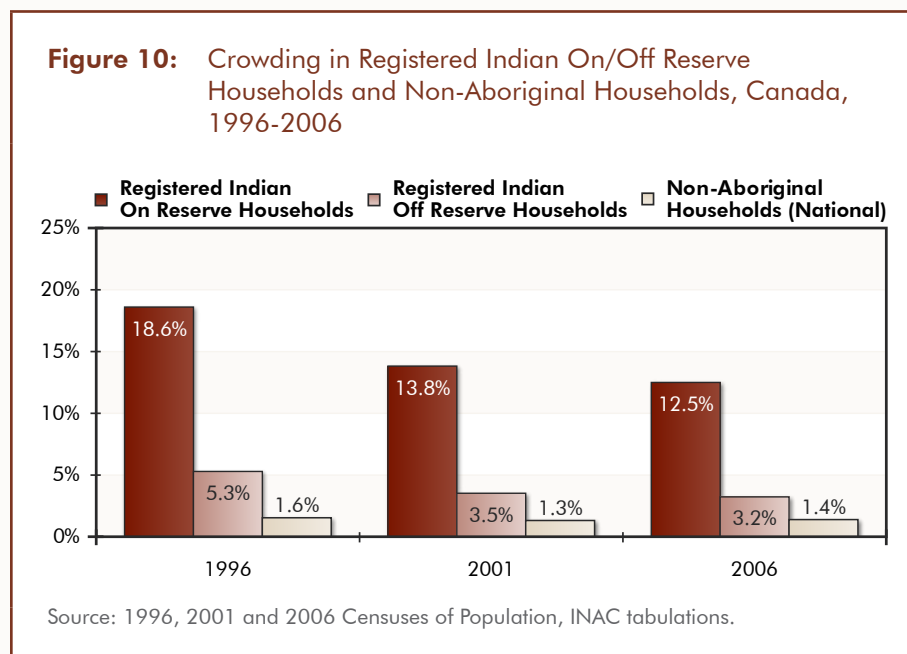
Source: 1996, 2001 and 2006 Censuses of Population, INAC tabulations.

CROWDING IS MOST PREVALENT FOR REGISTERED INDIAN HOUSEHOLDS ON RESERVE

According to the 2006 Census of Population, the average household size for the Registered Indian population, both on and off reserve, is generally larger than the non-Aboriginal population.

Registered Indian households on reserve are nearly nine times more likely to experience crowding than non-Aboriginal households (1.4%), despite a drop in crowding from 18.6% in 1996 to 12.5% in 2006 (Figure 10).^[8]

While crowding has also declined for Registered Indian households off reserve (5.3% to 3.2%) between 1996 and 2006, it is more than twice the rate of the non-Aboriginal population at 1.4%.

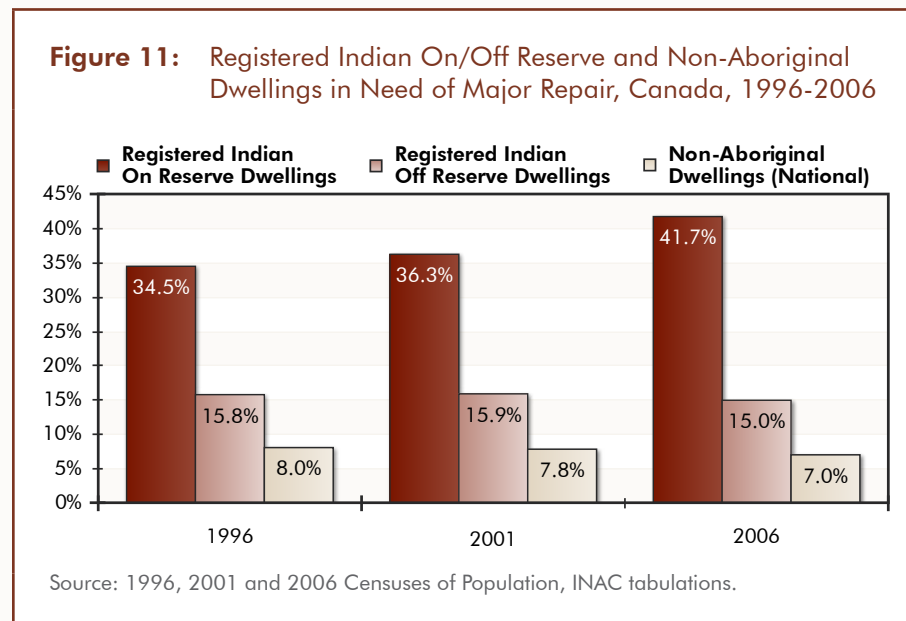


^[8] Crowding refers to households with more than one person per room, not counting bathrooms, halls, vestibules, and rooms used solely for business purposes.

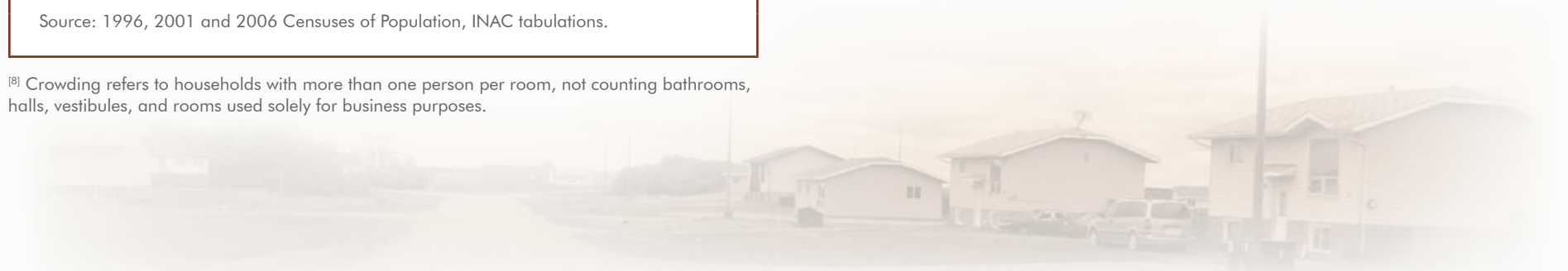
REGISTERED INDIAN HOMES ON RESERVE ARE MORE LIKELY TO BE IN NEED OF MAJOR REPAIRS

In 2006, the proportion of dwellings on reserve in need of major repairs increased from 34.5% in 1996 to 41.7% (Figure 11).^[9]

Off reserve, the proportion of dwellings in need of major repairs (15.0%) has remained stable. However, it is more than twice the rate of the non-Aboriginal population (7.0%).



^[9] The "condition of dwelling" is self-reported by census respondents, based on their judgment on the condition of their dwelling. Major repairs refer to such things as defective plumbing or electrical wiring, structural repairs to walls, floors, or ceilings, etc.





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Sources:

Indian and Northern Affairs Canada. 2007. *Aboriginal Population, Household and Family Projections, 2001-2026, Medium Growth Scenario.*

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Statistics Canada. CANSIM. Table 326-0021: Consumer Price Index, 2005 basket, annual (2002=100).

NON-STATUS INDIAN POPULATION

A Demographic and Socio-Economic Portrait

According to the 2006 Census, there are 133,155 Non-Status Indians in Canada representing 11.4% of the total Aboriginal population of 1,172,785.^[1] Presently, the Non-Status Indian population is the third largest Aboriginal population behind the Registered Indian and Métis populations (Figure 1).

Between 1996 and 2006, growth of the Non-Status Indian population significantly outpaced that of the non-Aboriginal population. Over this period, the Non-Status Indian population grew by 53.8% (from 86,595 to 133,155) whereas the non-Aboriginal population grew by 8.4%.

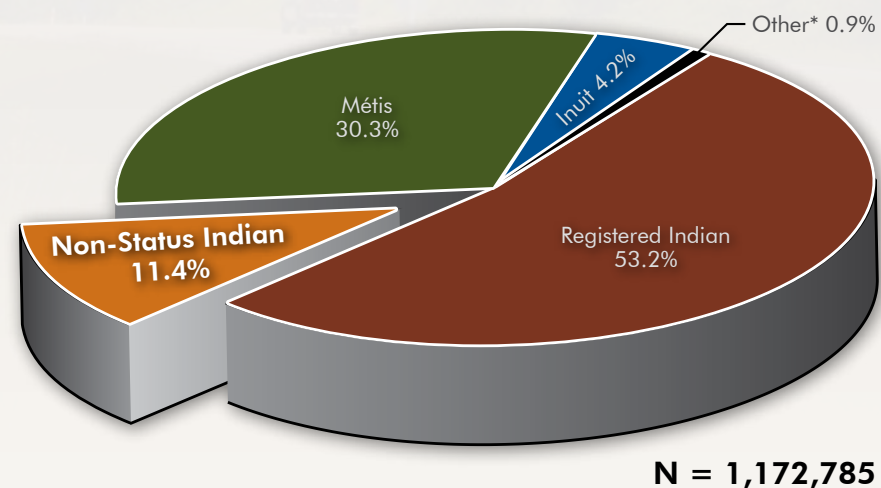
High fertility can help explain part of this rapid growth observed for the Non-Status Indian population, but ethnic mobility and loss of entitlement to registration status are also significant factors affecting growth.

^[1] The Aboriginal population is enumerated by the census using three questions: question 21 asks "Is this person a Treaty Indian or a Registered Indian as defined by the *Indian Act* of Canada?", question 18 asks "Is this person an Aboriginal person, that is, North American Indian, Métis or Inuit?", and question 20 asks "Is this person a member of an Indian Band/First Nation?". The Aboriginal population refers to the population that responded 'yes' to one or more of the three questions. For purposes of this analysis, 'Non-Status Indian' includes all individuals who selected North American Indian as their only response to question 18 with no Registered Indian status.

Loss of Entitlement to Registration Status

Under the status inheritance rules in the 1985 amendments to the *Indian Act*, some children born to a Registered Indian parent will not be entitled to registration. These children will likely identify (or be identified by their parents) with the Non-Status Indian, Métis or non-Aboriginal population. Due to the interplay of these inheritance rules and out-parenting (parenting of a Registered individual with a Non-Registered individual), the growing population of descendants not entitled to registration will result in significant long term demographic and service implications for both the Registered Indian population and for the Non-Status Indian population (Clatworthy, 1997, 2001).

Figure 1: Distribution of the Aboriginal Population in Canada, 2006



*Other refers to individuals who reported more than one Aboriginal group, and those who reported being a Band member with no Aboriginal identity and no Registered Indian status.

Source: 2006 Census of Population, INAC tabulations.

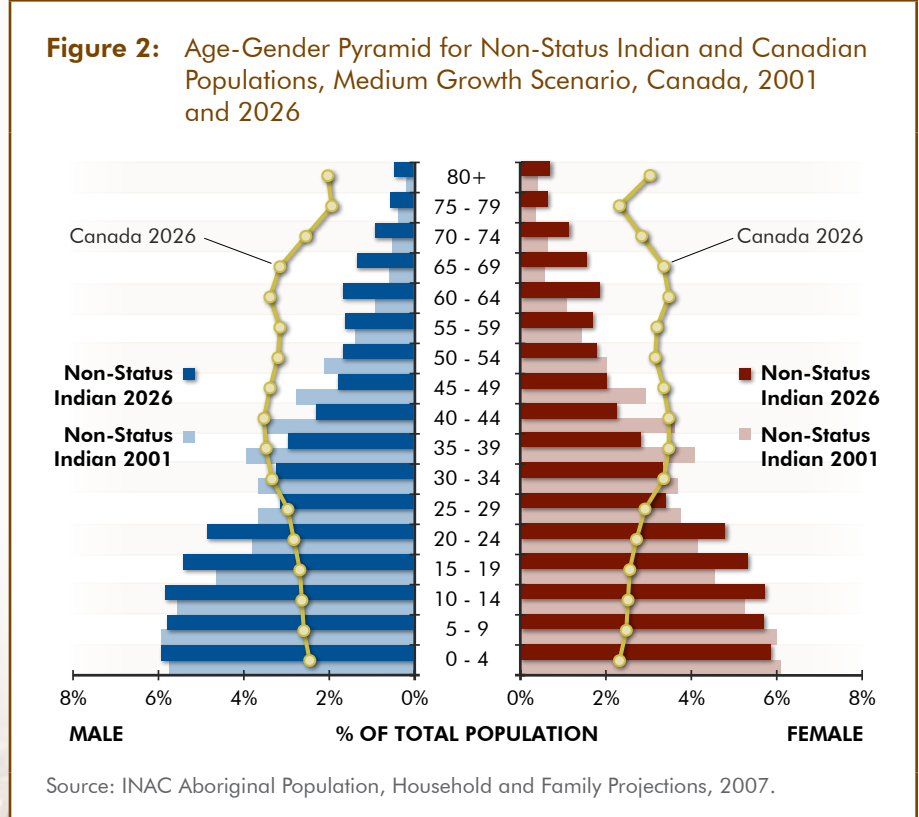
Ethnic Mobility

A significant portion of past (and current) population growth has also been attributed to changes in self-reporting of ethnic identity, over time and across generations – a phenomenon known as ethnic mobility. This phenomenon has been observed in historical population growth patterns for both the Métis and Non-Status Indian populations (Guimond, 2009).

RAPID GROWTH OF THE NON-STATUS INDIAN POPULATION IS EXPECTED WELL INTO THE FUTURE

The Non-Status Indian population is expected to grow significantly over the next two decades. If current trends continue, the Non-Status Indian population could reach 195,600 individuals by 2026, an increase of 77.3% from 110,300 in 2001.

Average annual growth rates are expected to continue to be high (2.1% by 2026) due in large part to the assumption that there will be an increasing number of individuals who will no longer be entitled to registration status. This effect will also likely result in an age structure that is very young. By 2026, it is expected that over half (55%) of the population could be under 25 years of age (Figure 2).



ABOUT THREE IN FOUR NON-STATUS INDIAN INDIVIDUALS LIVE IN URBAN AREAS

Growth of the Non-Status Indian population varied across provinces and territories. For the province of Quebec, the population size more than doubled from 8,290 in 2001 to 17,740 in 2006 (Table 1). Explosive growth in this province can be explained in large part by changes in self-reporting of ethnocultural affiliation (ethnic mobility) (Guimond, 2009).

Ontario had the highest proportion (36.9%) of Non-Status Indians in 2006 followed by British Columbia (21.7%) and the Prairies (18.8%).

Table 1: Non-Status Indian Population, Canada, Provinces and Territories, 1996-2006

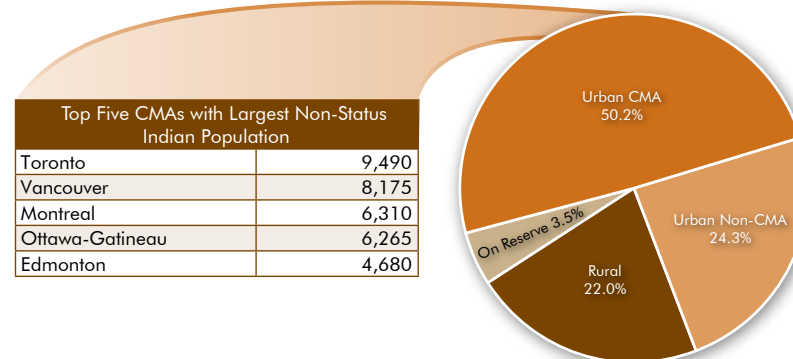
Geography	1996	2001	Change 1996-2001	2006	Change 2001-2006
Canada	86,595	104,160	20.3%	133,155	27.8%
Newfoundland	2,855	4,580	60.4%	3,420	-25.3%
Prince Edward Island	190	250	31.6%	445	78.0%
Nova Scotia	2,175	2,970	36.6%	4,195	41.2%
New Brunswick	1,310	2,250	71.8%	2,740	21.8%
Quebec	7,230	8,290	14.7%	17,740	114.0%
Ontario	30,855	36,045	16.8%	49,190	36.5%
Manitoba	5,155	6,355	23.3%	5,780	-9.0%
Saskatchewan	3,790	4,450	17.4%	4,490	0.9%
Alberta	10,085	12,605	25.0%	14,700	16.6%
British Columbia	21,625	25,050	15.8%	28,880	15.3%
Yukon Territory	700	865	23.6%	855	-1.2%
Northwest Territories	620	425	-31.5%	670	57.6%
Nunavut	30	20	-33.3%	40	100.0%

Source: 1996, 2001 and 2006 Censuses of Population, INAC tabulations.

The Non-Status Indian population continues to be a very urban population. In 2006, half (50.2%) of the Non-Status Indian population of 133,155 lived within Census Metropolitan Areas (CMAs).^[2] Overall, about three quarters of Non-Status Indians lived in urban areas (Figure 3).

While only 4,645 lived in reserve communities in 2006, this population is expected to grow significantly over the next 20 years due to the anticipated increase in non-registered descendants (INAC Aboriginal Population, Household and Family Projections, 2007).

Figure 3: Non-Status Indian Population by Place of Residence, Canada, 2006

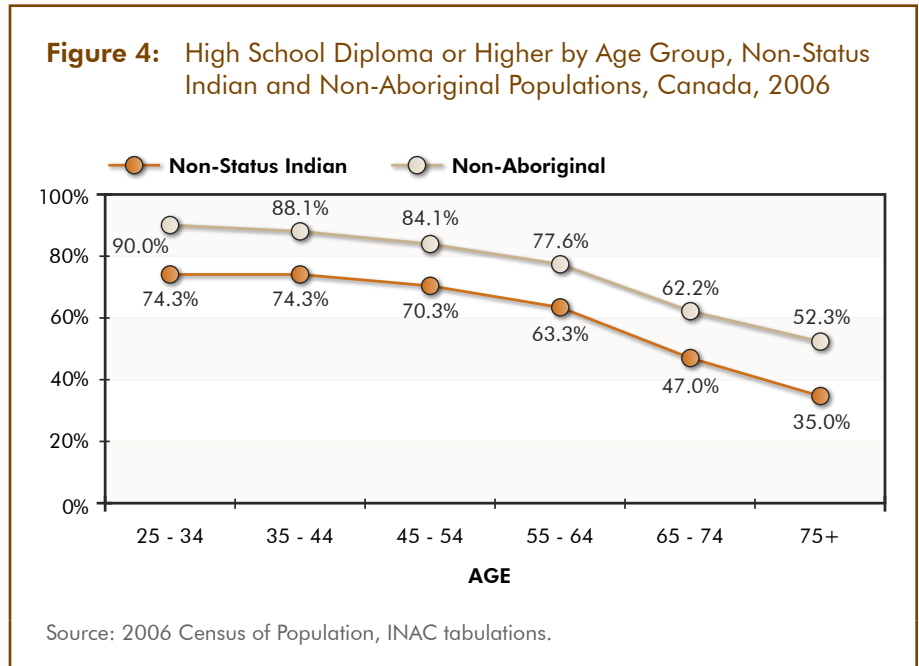


Source: 2006 Census of Population, INAC tabulations.

^[2] A Census Metropolitan Area is an area consisting of one or more neighbouring municipalities situated around a major urban core. It must have a total population of at least 100,000 of which 50,000 or more live in the urban core.

EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT IS IMPROVING FOR THE NON-STATUS INDIAN POPULATION

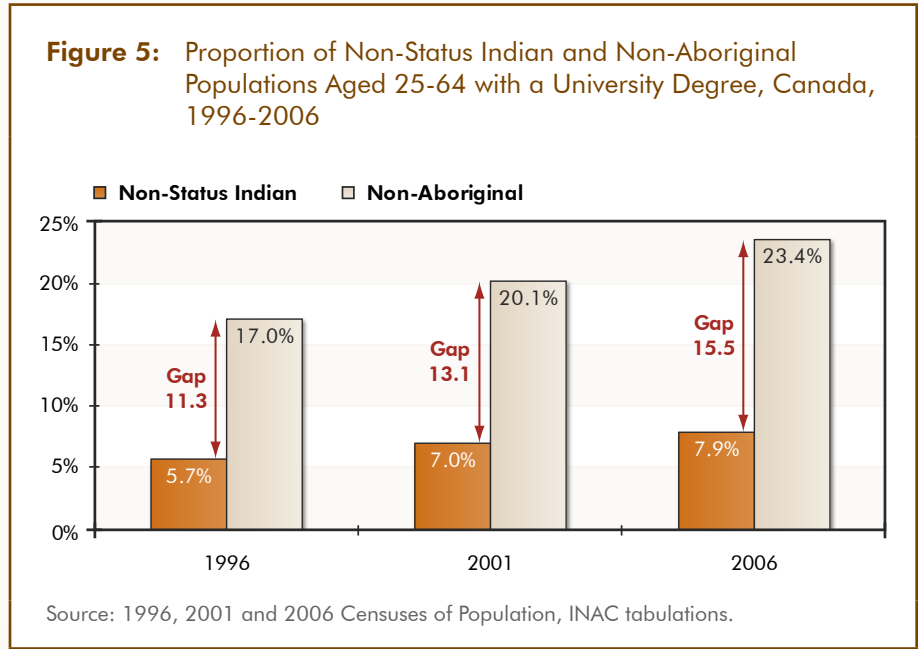
In 2006, three in four Non-Status Indians aged 25-44 years possessed a high school diploma or higher certification. However, this population still lags behind the non-Aboriginal population (Figure 4).



Geographically, the Prairie provinces had the three lowest rates for high school certification or higher among Non-Status Indians aged 25-64. Saskatchewan's rate was 56.9%, followed by Manitoba at 64.3% and Alberta at 65.8%.

Over the past decade, the proportion of Non-Status Indians possessing a university degree increased steadily from 5.7% in 1996 to 7.9% in 2006. While there are notable improvements in university degree attainment, the gap between Non-Status Indians and non-Aboriginal people widened (Figure 5).

Females fared significantly better than males in the completion of a high school diploma or higher and, in particular, in university degree attainment.^[3]



^[3] University degree includes bachelor, masters and doctorate degrees as well as first professional degrees in medicine, dentistry, veterinary medicine or optometry.

THE LABOUR FORCE ACTIVITY GAP IS NARROWING

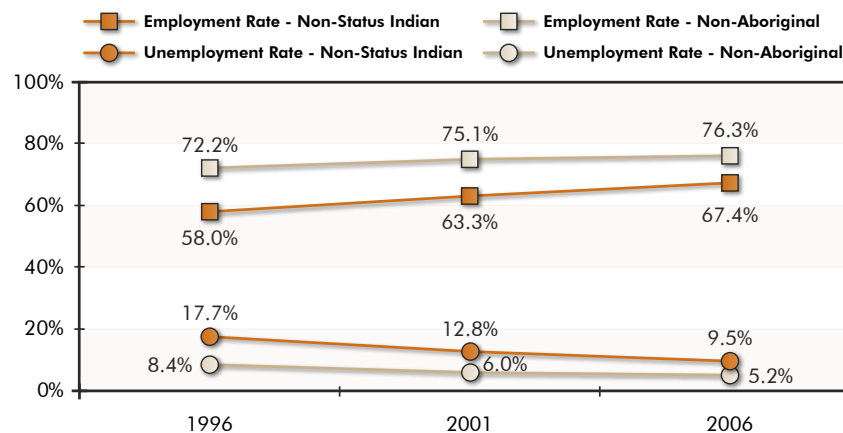
Over the past decade, there has been steady improvement in the labour force activity of the Non-Status Indian population (Figure 6). However, in 2006, Non-Status Indians were almost twice as likely to be unemployed as the non-Aboriginal population (9.5% compared to 5.2%). As well, the employment rate for the Non-Status Indian population was lower (67.4% compared to 76.3%).^[4] While Non-Status Indians continue to lag behind the non-Aboriginal population, the gap between the two populations is narrowing.

Across provinces and territories, Saskatchewan had both the highest unemployment rate (17.1%) and the lowest employment rate (52.0%). This is in contrast to Alberta which had the lowest unemployment rate (6.1%), and the Yukon with the highest employment rate (87.1%).

Non-Status Indian females fared about a percentage point better than males in unemployment rates in 2006 (9.0% compared to 10.1%), but males had employment rates nearly nine percentage points higher than females (71.9% compared to 63.1%).

^[4] Employment rate refers to the employed aged 25-64 as a proportion of the total population in this age group; and unemployment rate refers to the unemployed aged 25-64 as a proportion of the labour force population in this age group. The labour force includes the employed and unemployed. "Employed" refers to persons who, during the week prior to Census Day, did any work at all for pay or in self-employment or without pay in a family farm, business or professional practice or were absent from their job or business, with or without pay, for the entire week because of a vacation, an illness, a labour dispute at their place of work, or any other reasons. "Unemployed" refers to persons who, during the week prior to Census Day, were without paid work or without self-employment work and were available for work and either had actively looked for paid work in the past four weeks, were on temporary lay-off and expected to return to their job, or had definite arrangements to start a new job in four weeks or less.

Figure 6: Labour Force Activity for the Non-Status Indian and Non-Aboriginal Populations Aged 25-64, Canada, 1996-2006



Source: 1996, 2001 and 2006 Censuses of Population, INAC tabulations.

Note: Census data provide a snap shot of the Canadian population every five years. They do not account for fluctuations which may have occurred between census cycles.

OVER THE PAST DECADE, THERE HAS BEEN A STEADY IMPROVEMENT IN MEDIAN INCOME

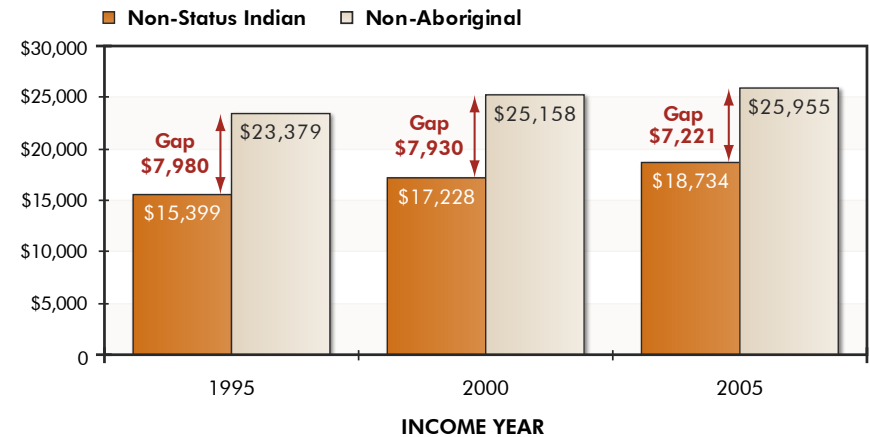
The median total income for the Non-Status Indian population has improved steadily from about \$15,400 in 1995 to \$18,700 in 2005 (Figure 7).^[5] Furthermore, the income gap between the Non-Status Indian and non-Aboriginal populations has narrowed over this period.

Geographically, the three territories had the highest median income among Non-Status Indians in 2005, ranging from about \$26,200 in the Yukon to \$58,000 in Nunavut, followed by Ontario (\$20,700) and Alberta (\$20,300). Lowest median income levels for this population were observed in Saskatchewan and Manitoba (\$14,300 and \$15,700, respectively).

By gender, Non-Status Indian males fared about \$6,100 better than their female counterparts in 2005 (\$22,600 compared to \$16,500).

^[5] Individual income refers to the total income from all sources, including employment income, income from government programs, pension income, investment income and any other money income. Median income is calculated from the unrounded number of individuals with income in a specified population. The median is the amount that divides the income distribution of the population into two halves.

Figure 7: Median Individual Total Income (Constant 2005 Dollars) for the Non-Status Indian and Non-Aboriginal Populations Aged 15 Years and Older, Canada, 1995-2005

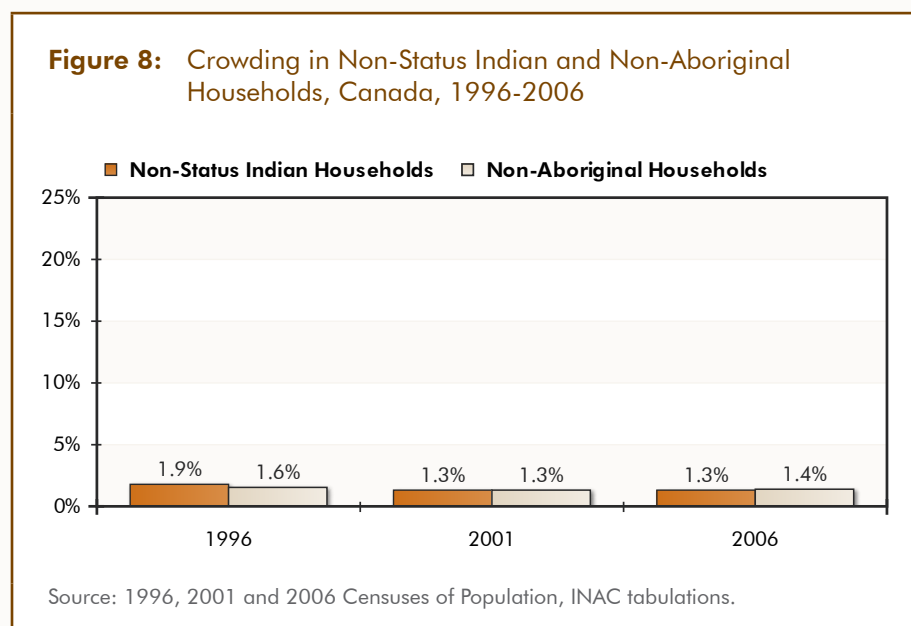


Source: 1996, 2001 and 2006 Censuses of Population, INAC tabulations.

CROWDING AMONG NON-STATUS INDIAN HOUSEHOLDS IS COMPARABLE TO THAT OF NON-ABORIGINAL HOUSEHOLDS

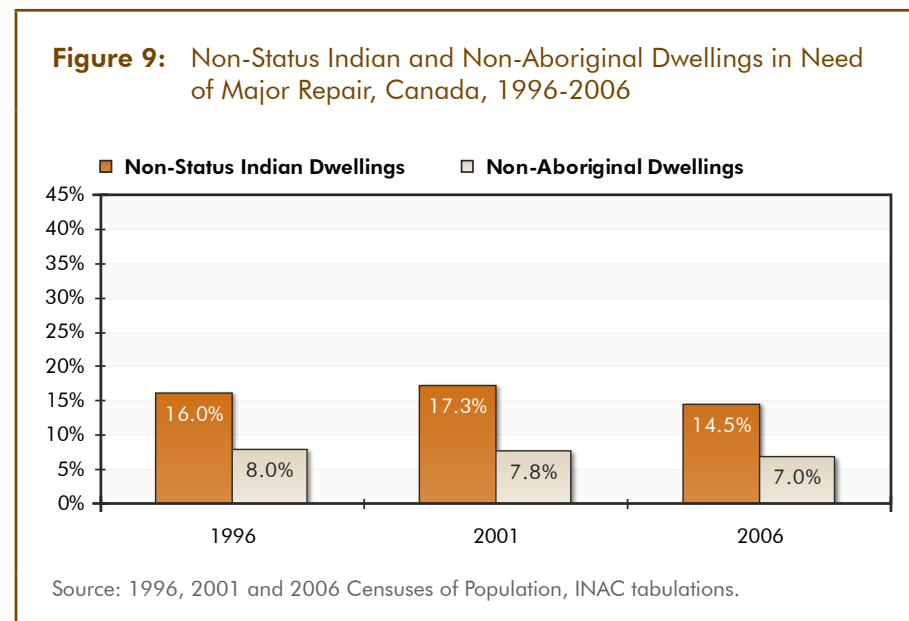
Results of the last three censuses show that crowding in Non-Status Indian households is similar to that of non-Aboriginal households.^[6] In fact, Non-Status Indian households were slightly better off than their non-Aboriginal counterparts in 2006 (Figure 8).

In 2006, there was some variation across provinces and territories: Crowding in Non-Status Indian households ranged from a low of 0.6% in the Atlantic provinces to a high of 3.9% in Saskatchewan.



Condition of dwelling statistics between the 1996 and 2006 Censuses show a decrease in the percentage of Non-Status Indian dwellings in need of major repair from 16.0% to 14.5%.^[7] While conditions are improving, Non-Status Indian dwellings are still twice as likely to require major repairs as non-Aboriginal dwellings (14.5% compared to 7.0%) (Figure 9).

The highest percentages of Non-Status Indian dwellings in need of major repair were located in the Northwest Territories (25.8%) and the Yukon (17.3%) in 2006. The next highest rate was found in the Atlantic provinces at 17.0%. In contrast, Alberta was the lowest with 12.7% of its Non-Status Indian dwellings requiring major repair.



^[6] Crowding refers to households with more than one person per room, not counting bathrooms, halls, vestibules, and rooms used solely for business purposes.

^[7] The "condition of dwelling" is self-reported by census respondents, based on their judgment on the condition of their dwelling. Major repairs refer to such things as defective plumbing or electrical wiring, structural repairs to walls, floors, or ceilings, etc.



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Statistics Canada. CANSIM. Table 326-0021: Consumer Price Index, 2005 basket, annual (2002=100).

MÉTIS POPULATION

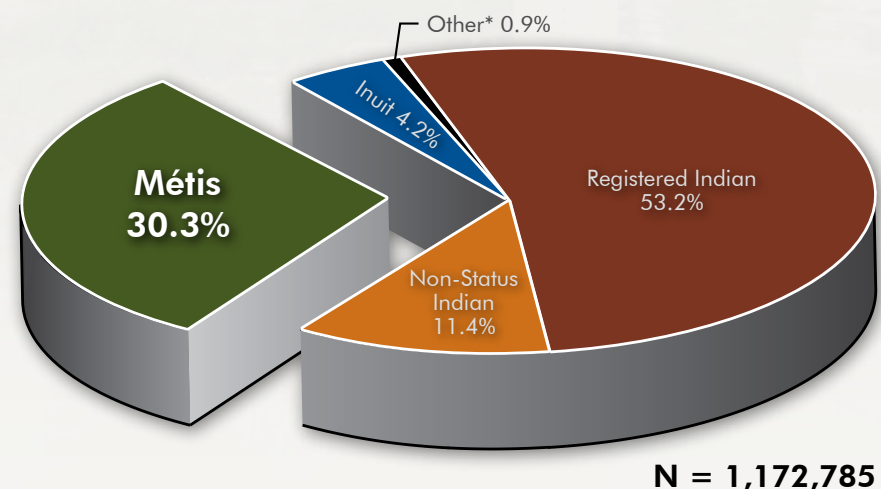
A Demographic and Socio-Economic Portrait

The Métis population is comprised of people with mixed Aboriginal and European ancestry who have identified themselves on the Census of Population as Métis, as distinct from First Nations people, Inuit or non-Aboriginal people. The Métis population accounts for 30.3% of the overall Aboriginal population in Canada, making them the largest non-registered Aboriginal population with 355,505 individuals in 2006 (Figure 1).^[1]

^[1] The Aboriginal population is enumerated by the census using three questions: question 21 asks "Is this person a Treaty Indian or a Registered Indian as defined by the *Indian Act* of Canada?", question 18 asks "Is this person an Aboriginal person, that is, North American Indian, Métis or Inuit?", and question 20 asks "Is this person a member of an Indian Band/First Nation?". The Aboriginal population includes individuals that responded 'yes' to one or more of the three questions. For the purposes of this analysis, all respondents who responded 'yes' to question 21 (Registered/Treaty Status) are referred to as the 'Registered Indian population'. All other Aboriginal populations (Métis, Non-Status Indians, and Inuit) are based on the population that responded 'no' to question 21 but 'yes' to question 18.

The Census of Population asks a variety of questions to enumerate the Aboriginal population. As a result, there are different ways to count the Métis population. The count of 355,505 refers to the population that identified as Métis only. The number of individuals who indicated both Métis identity and Registered Indian status was 34,280. **Therefore, the total population that identified as Métis, including those who also identified as Registered Indian, was 389,780.** This analysis focuses on the population that indicated Métis identity only.

Figure 1: Distribution of the Aboriginal Population in Canada, 2006



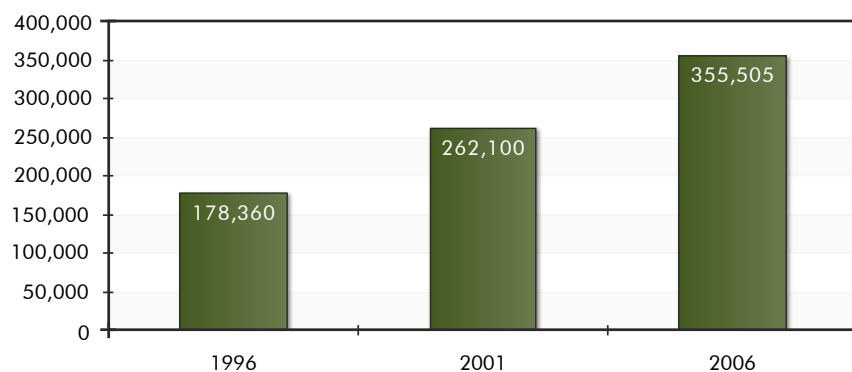
*Other refers to individuals who reported more than one Aboriginal group, and those who reported being a Band member with no Aboriginal identity and no Registered Indian status.

Source: 2006 Census of Population, INAC tabulations.

THE MÉTIS POPULATION IS GROWING SIGNIFICANTLY “FASTER” THAN ANY OTHER ABORIGINAL POPULATION IN CANADA

Since 1996, the Métis population has experienced the largest increase in individuals compared to any other Aboriginal population, from 178,360 to 355,505 (Figure 2). The overall percentage increase (99.3%) is also the largest among all Aboriginal populations.

Figure 2: Métis Population Growth, Canada, 1996-2006



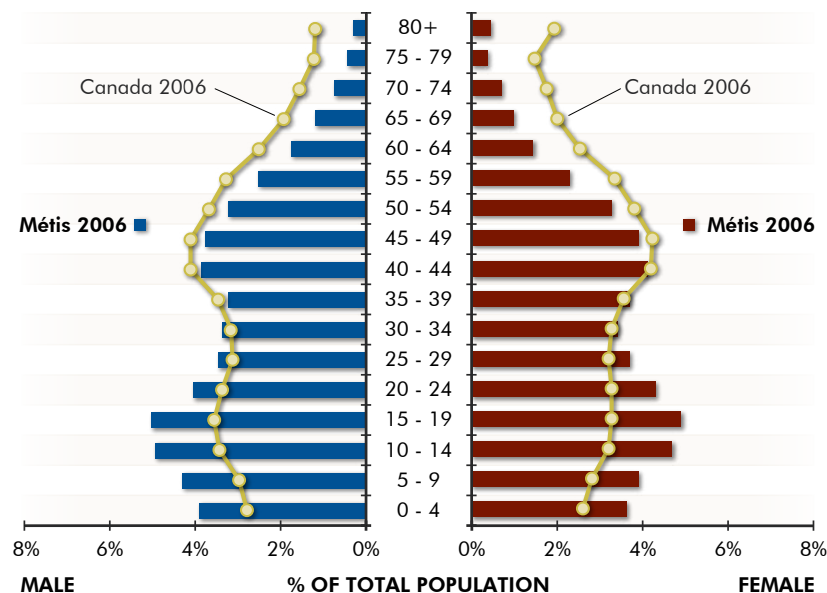
Source: 1996, 2001 and 2006 Censuses of Population, INAC tabulations.

Fertility is an important component of Métis population growth. However, a significant portion of past population growth has also been attributed to changes in self-reporting of ethnic identity, over time and across generations – a phenomenon known as ethnic mobility. **For the Métis population, about 60% of the observed growth between 1986 and 2001 was due to changes in self-identification** (Guimond, 2009). Explosive population growth, resulting from ethnic mobility, creates an interesting challenge when analyzing socio-economic and demographic trends and projecting into the future. When significant changes are observed from one census cycle to the next, it is important to note that these changes may be partially explained by ethnic mobility rather than just improvements in socio-economic conditions. Further research and analysis is required to better understand the extent of this effect for the Métis population.

THE MÉTIS POPULATION IS YOUNG, BUT NOT AS YOUNG AS OTHER ABORIGINAL POPULATIONS

In 2006, the median age for the Métis population was 29 years, up from 25 years in 1996. While the Métis population is showing signs of aging, it is still quite youthful - about 10 years younger than the total Canadian population (39 years). Compared to other Aboriginal populations, the Métis have the oldest age structure. The median age was 26 years for the Non-Status Indian population, 25 years for the Registered Indian population, and 21 years for the Inuit population in 2006.^[2]

Figure 3: Age-Gender Pyramid for Métis and Canadian Populations, Canada, 2006



Source: 2006 Census of Population, INAC tabulations.

The Métis population has a much higher proportion of individuals aged 0 to 24 years (43.8%) than the total Canadian population (31.3%) (Figure 3). However, despite its relatively young population, the percentage of Métis 25 to 64 years is similar to the total Canadian proportion at 51.1% and 56.0%, respectively.

^[2] Median age refers to the age at which one half of the population is older and the other half is younger.

THE MAJORITY OF MÉTIS LIVE IN URBAN SETTINGS

Western Canada and Ontario are home to 87.7% of the Métis population in Canada. In particular, Alberta and Manitoba had Métis populations of nearly 80,000 and 67,000 respectively. Across Census Metropolitan Areas (CMAs), Winnipeg has the largest Métis population at 38,000 (Table 1).^[3]

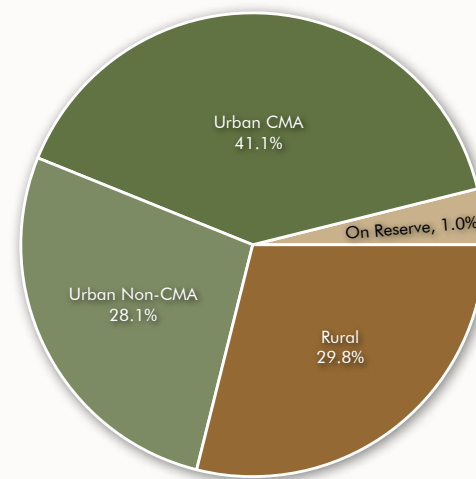
Table 1: Distribution of the Métis Population, Canada, Provinces and Territories, 2006

	Métis Population Regional Distribution		Top Five CMAs with Largest Métis Population	
British Columbia	54,190	15.2%	Winnipeg	37,690
Alberta	79,750	22.4%	Edmonton	25,590
Saskatchewan	46,035	12.9%	Calgary	13,880
Manitoba	66,810	18.8%	Vancouver	13,640
Ontario	65,255	18.4%	Saskatoon	9,155
Quebec	22,490	6.3%		
Atlantic Provinces	17,140	4.8%		
Yukon Territory	690	0.2%		
Northwest Territories	3,020	0.8%		
Nunavut	115	-		
Canada	355,505	100%		

Source: 2006 Census of Population, INAC tabulations.

In 2006, 246,100 Métis lived in urban areas while 106,000 resided in rural areas. Of those residing in urban areas, more than half (146,030) were living in a CMA.

Figure 4: Distribution of Métis Population by Place of Residence, Canada, 2006



Source: 2006 Census of Population, INAC tabulations.

Métis Settlements

There are eight Métis Settlements in Canada, all located in rural areas within Alberta. The population of these eight settlements totals about 4,000 individuals.

Source: 2006 GeoSuite, Statistics Canada.

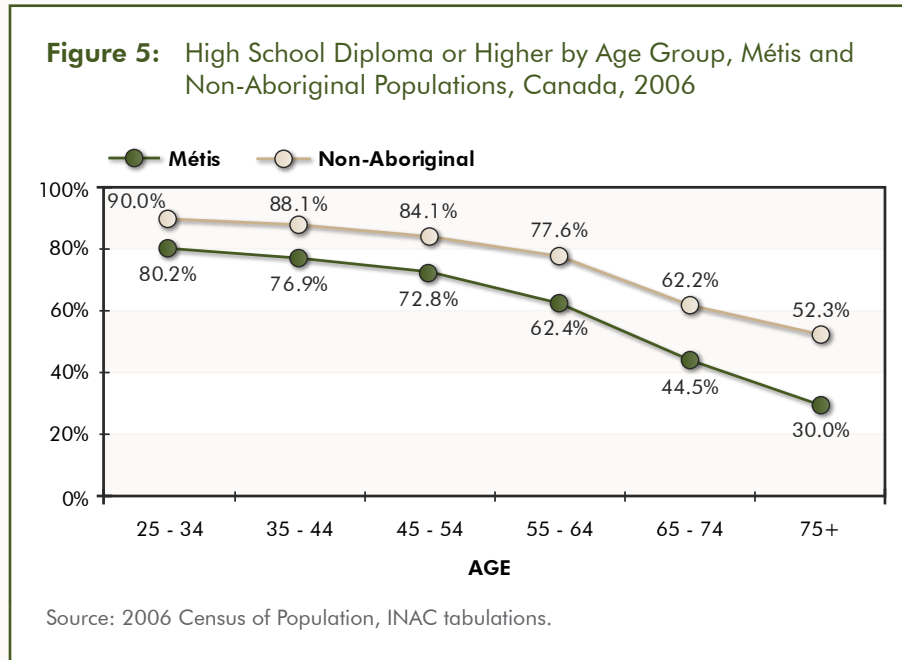
Table 2: Population of Métis Settlements, 2006

Métis Settlement	Population
Buffalo Lake	248
East Prairie	352
Elizabeth	663
Fishing Lake	484
Gift Lake	820
Kikino	393
Paddle Prairie	216
Peavine	822
	3,998

^[3] A Census Metropolitan Area is an area consisting of one or more neighbouring municipalities situated around a major urban core. It must have a total population of at least 100,000 of which 50,000 or more live in the urban core.

UNIVERSITY ATTAINMENT FOR THE MÉTIS POPULATION HAS IMPROVED

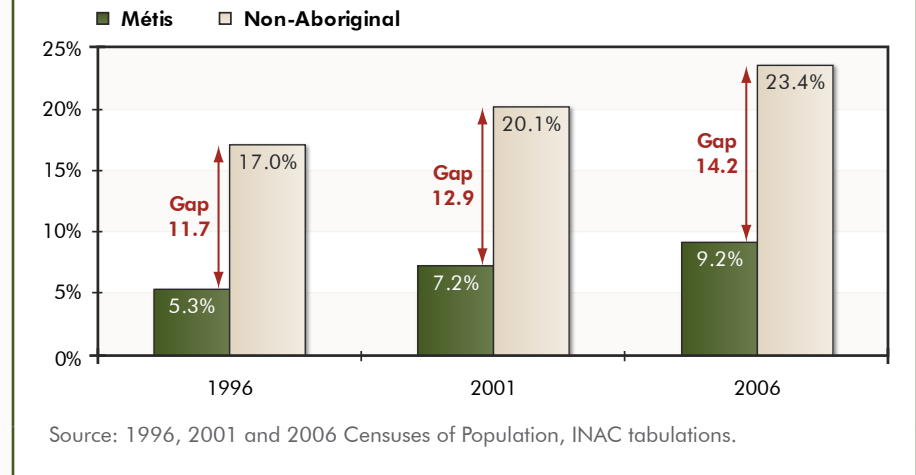
In 2006, 80.2% of the Métis population aged 25-34 years had at least a high school diploma compared to 44.5% among 65-74 year olds (Figure 5). Compared with the non-Aboriginal population, the percentage of the Métis population with at least a high school diploma is 9.8 to 22.3 percentage points lower depending on the age group.



The percentage of Métis with a university degree increased from 5.3% in 1996 to 9.2% in 2006. Despite this improvement, the gap in university attainment among the Métis population and their non-Aboriginal counterparts has increased over the past decade from 11.7 to 14.2 percentage points (Figure 6).^[4]

Among the Aboriginal populations in 2006, the Métis population had the highest proportion with a university degree. This compares to 3.7% of Inuit, 7.0% of Registered Indians, and 7.9% of Non-Status Indians with a university degree in 2006.

Figure 6: Proportion of Métis and Non-Aboriginal Populations Aged 25-64 with a University Degree, Canada, 1996-2006



Across all census years, Métis women have had higher levels of educational attainment than their male counterparts. In 2006, women accounted for 57.9% of the Métis population with a university degree.

Regionally, university degree attainment for the Métis population was highest in the North (11.9%) followed by Ontario (11.0%) and Quebec (10.6%). Alberta, the province with the largest Métis population, had the lowest proportion with a university degree (7.6%).

^[4] University degree includes bachelor, masters and doctorate degrees as well as first professional degrees in medicine, dentistry, veterinary medicine or optometry.



MÉTIS LABOUR FORCE ACTIVITY RATES ARE HIGHEST AMONG ALL ABORIGINAL POPULATIONS

In 2006, the Métis had the highest labour force participation (77.9%) and employment rate (71.5%) as well as the lowest unemployment rate (8.3%) among all Aboriginal populations (Table 3). Further, the unemployment rate for the Métis population fell nearly 10 percentage points from 1996 to 2006 (from 18.1% to 8.3%), representing the greatest drop among all Aboriginal populations.^[5] However, the Métis unemployment rate remains roughly three percentage points higher when compared with the non-Aboriginal population.

Across all provinces, Métis men had higher employment rates than their female counterparts in 2006. However, in the territories, employment rates were higher for Métis women than for Métis men.

Table 3: Labour Force Activity by Aboriginal Population Aged 25-64 and Gender, Canada, 2006

	Participation rate %			Unemployment rate %			Employment rate %		
	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female
Aboriginal population	72.4	77.7	67.7	13.0	14.3	11.7	63.0	66.6	59.8
Registered Indian	68.4	73.9	63.7	16.9	19.0	14.8	56.9	59.9	54.3
Non-Status Indian	74.5	80.0	69.3	9.5	10.1	9.0	67.4	71.9	63.1
Inuit	73.2	77.2	69.6	18.4	22.4	14.4	59.7	59.9	59.5
Métis	77.9	82.5	73.6	8.3	8.5	8.0	71.5	75.5	67.7
Non-Aboriginal	80.5	86.3	74.9	5.2	5.0	5.3	76.3	81.9	71.0

Source: 2006 Census of Population, INAC tabulations.

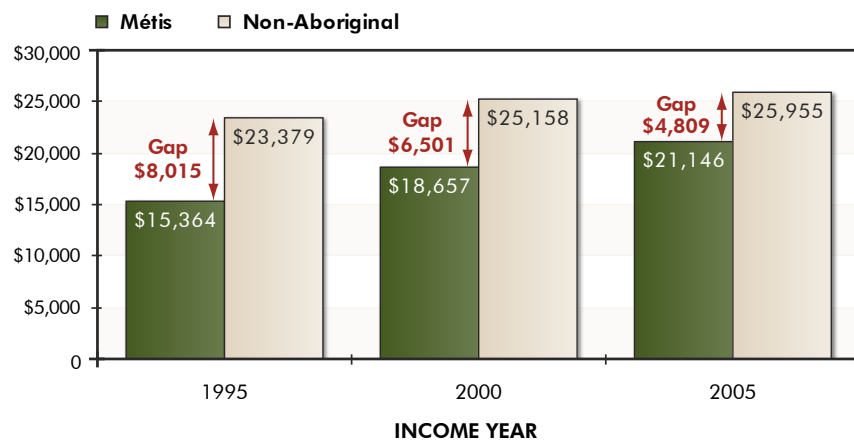
^[5] Participation rate represents the labour force population aged 25-64 expressed as a proportion of the total population in this age group. Employment rate refers to the employed aged 25-64 as a proportion of the total population in this age group; and unemployment rate refers to the unemployed aged 25-64 as a proportion of the labour force population in this age group. The labour force includes the employed and unemployed. "Employed" refers to persons who, during the week prior to Census Day, did any work at all for pay or in self-employment or without pay in a family farm, business or professional practice or were absent from their job or business, with or without pay, for the entire week because of a vacation, an illness, a labour dispute at their place of work, or any other reasons. "Unemployed" refers to persons who, during the week prior to Census Day, were without paid work or without self-employment work and were available for work and either had actively looked for paid work in the past four weeks, were on temporary lay-off and expected to return to their job, or had definite arrangements to start a new job in four weeks or less.

THE INCOME GAP BETWEEN THE MÉTIS AND NON-ABORIGINAL POPULATIONS IS CLOSING

In 2005, median income for the Métis population was \$21,146; 18.5% lower when compared with the non-Aboriginal population (\$25,955).^[6] Although there was still a significant difference between the incomes of these two populations in 2005, the gap improved since 1995 (Figure 7).

Among the Aboriginal populations, the Métis population had the highest median income compared with \$18,734 for Non-Status Indians, \$16,949 for Inuit, and \$14,095 for Registered Indians.

Figure 7: Median Individual Total Income (Constant 2005 dollars) for the Métis and Non-Aboriginal Populations Aged 15 Years and Over, Canada, 1995-2005

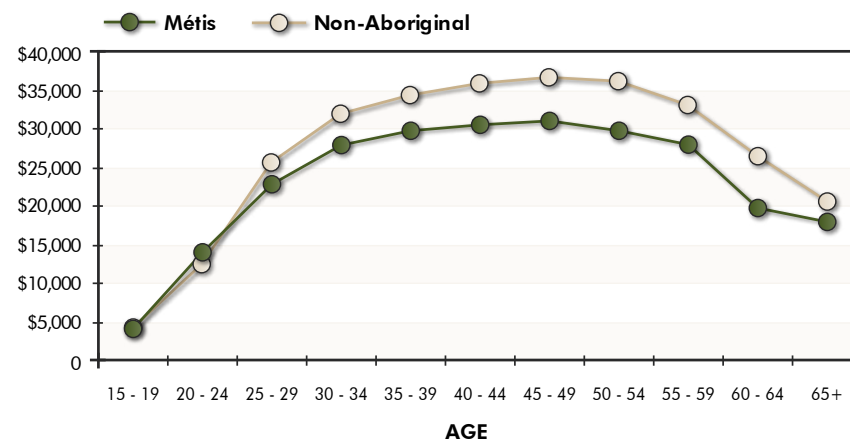


Source: 1996, 2001 and 2006 Censuses of Population, INAC tabulations.

While median income for the Métis population aged 15-29 years is on par with their non-Aboriginal peers, the gap between the Métis and non-Aboriginal median income levels widens for the 30-64 age group (Figure 8).

In 2006, Métis women aged 15-64 had a median income \$9,598 less than Métis men. This is particularly pronounced in Alberta where median income for Métis men is nearly double that for Métis women (\$33,413 vs. \$18,170).

Figure 8: Median Individual Total Income by Age Group, Métis and Non-Aboriginal Populations, Canada, 2006



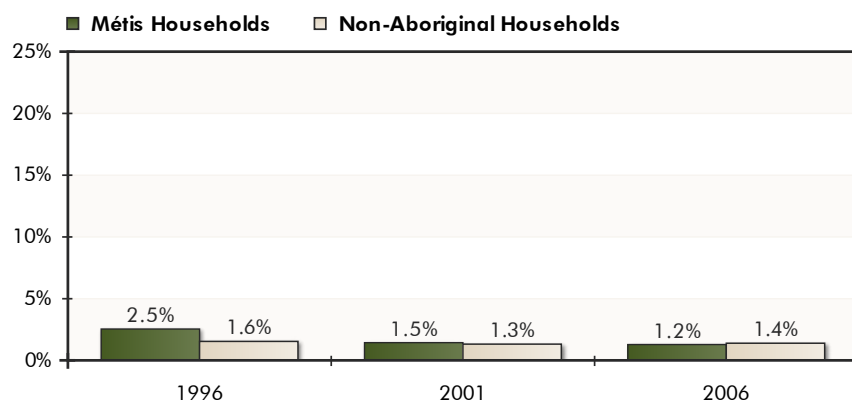
Source: 2006 Census of Population, INAC tabulations.

^[6] Individual income refers to the total income from all sources, including employment income, income from government programs, pension income, investment income and any other money income. Median income is calculated from the unrounded number of individuals with income in a specified population. The median is the amount that divides the income distribution of the population into two halves.

CROWDING AMONG MÉTIS HOUSEHOLDS IS COMPARABLE TO THAT IN NON-ABORIGINAL HOUSEHOLDS

Over the past decade, crowding in Métis households has improved.^[7] Between 1996 and 2006, the percentage of Métis households with crowding dropped from 2.5% to 1.2% - falling below the proportion of crowding among non-Aboriginal households (Figure 9). Further, among the Aboriginal populations, the Métis had the lowest proportion of crowded households compared with 1.3% of Non-Status Indian households, 6.6% of Registered Indian households, and 16.3% of Inuit households.

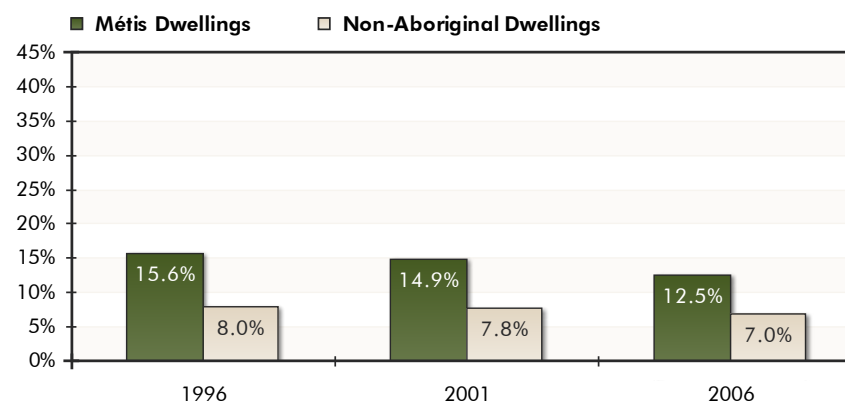
Figure 9: Crowding in Métis and Non-Aboriginal Households, Canada, 1996-2006



Source: 1996, 2001 and 2006 Censuses of Population, INAC tabulations.

Between the 1996 and 2006 Censuses there was a decrease in the percentage of Métis dwellings in need of major repair from 15.6% to 12.5%. While conditions are improving, Métis dwellings are still more likely to require major repairs than non-Aboriginal dwellings (12.5% compared to 7.0%) (Figure 10).^[8] Among the Aboriginal populations, the Métis are also the least likely to live in dwellings in need of major repairs compared to 14.5% of Non-Status Indians, 22.4% of Inuit, and 24.6% of Registered Indians.

Figure 10: Métis and Non-Aboriginal Dwellings in Need of Major Repair, Canada, 1996-2006



Source: 1996, 2001 and 2006 Censuses of Population, INAC tabulations.

^[7] Crowding refers to households with more than one person per room, not counting bathrooms, halls, vestibules, and rooms used solely for business purposes.

^[8] The "condition of dwelling" is self-reported by census respondents, based on their judgment on the condition of their dwelling. Major repairs refer to such things as defective plumbing or electrical wiring, structural repairs to walls, floors, or ceilings, etc.



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Statistics Canada. CANSIM. Table 326-0021: Consumer Price Index, 2005 basket, annual (2002=100).

INUIT POPULATION

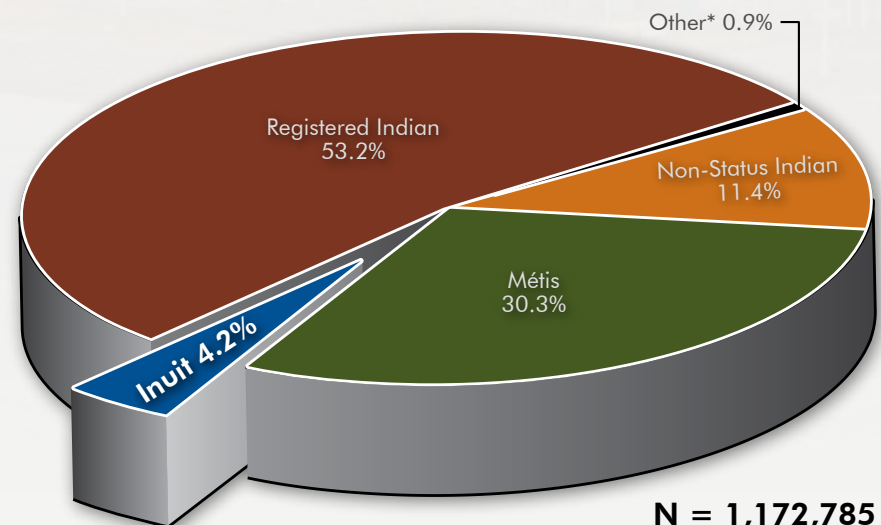
A Demographic and Socio-Economic Portrait

The Inuit are the original inhabitants of Arctic Canada. In 2006, 49,115 individuals identified themselves as Inuit. The Inuit population is the smallest Aboriginal population in Canada representing 4.2% of the overall Aboriginal population (1,172,785) (Figure 1).^[1]

^[1] The Aboriginal population is enumerated by the census using three questions: question 21 asks "Is this person a Treaty Indian or a Registered Indian as defined by the *Indian Act* of Canada?", question 18 asks "Is this person an Aboriginal person, that is, North American Indian, Métis or Inuit?", and question 20 asks "Is this person a member of an Indian Band/First Nation?". The Aboriginal population includes individuals that responded 'yes' to one or more of the three questions. For the purposes of this analysis, all respondents who responded 'yes' to question 21 (Registered/Treaty Status) are referred to as the 'Registered Indian population'. All other Aboriginal populations (Métis, Non-Status Indians, and Inuit), unless otherwise stated, are based on the population that responded 'no' to question 21 but 'yes' to question 18.

The Census asks a variety of questions to enumerate the Aboriginal populations. As a result, there are different ways to count the Inuit population. The count of 49,115 refers to the population that identified as Inuit only. The number of individuals who indicated both Inuit and Registered Indian status was 1,365. **Therefore, the total population that identified as Inuit, including those who also identified as Registered Indian, is 50,480.** Unless otherwise stated, this analysis focuses on the population that indicated Inuit identity only.

Figure 1: Distribution of the Aboriginal Population in Canada, 2006



*Other refers to individuals who reported more than one Aboriginal group, and those who reported being a Band member with no Aboriginal identity and no Registered Indian status.

Source: 2006 Census of Population, INAC tabulations.

THE INUIT POPULATION IS PRIMARILY CONCENTRATED IN INUIT NUNANGAT WITH HALF LIVING IN NUNAVUT

Although the Inuit are geographically dispersed across Canada, the majority (80.0%) live in Inuit Nunangat, an area covering one-third of Canada's land mass. Inuit Nunangat consists of 53 communities, the majority (70.0%) of which have less than 1,000 inhabitants (Figure 2).

Outside of Inuit Nunangat, the top five urban centres with the largest Inuit populations are Ottawa-Gatineau, Yellowknife, Montreal, Edmonton, and Winnipeg (Table 1).^[2]

Table 1: Distribution of the Inuit Population by Inuit Nunangat Region and Residency, 2006

Inuit Nunangat	80.0%
Nunatsiavut	4.4%
Nunavik	19.4%
Inuvialuit	6.1%
Nunavut	50.1%
Outside Inuit Nunangat	20.0%
Urban CMA	7.7%
Urban non-CMA	7.7%
Rural	4.6%

Top Five CMA/CAs with Largest Inuit Population	
Ottawa - Gatineau	670
Yellowknife	610
Montreal	525
Edmonton	515
Winnipeg	335

Source: 2006 Census of Population, INAC tabulations.

^[2] Census metropolitan areas (CMA) and census agglomerations (CA) are areas consisting of one or more neighbouring municipalities situated around a major urban core. A CMA must have a total population of at least 100,000 of which 50,000 or more live in the urban core. A CA must have an urban core population of at least 10,000.



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THE INUIT POPULATION IS GROWING TWICE AS FAST AS THE GENERAL CANADIAN POPULATION

The Inuit population is currently growing at an average of 2.1% per annum compared with 0.8% for the general Canadian population (Table 2). Average annual growth rates for the Inuit population are projected to remain higher than the general Canadian population but are expected to decline over time due to a moderate decline in fertility rates.

Table 2: Average Annual Growth Rates of the Inuit, Aboriginal and Canadian Populations, Medium Growth Scenario, Canada, 2001-2026

	Average Annual Growth Rates				
	2001-2006	2006-2011	2011-2016	2016-2021	2021-2026
Total Aboriginal	1.8%	1.7%	1.6%	1.4%	1.2%
Total Inuit	2.1%	2.1%	2.0%	1.8%	1.6%
Canadian Population	1.0%	0.8%	0.8%	0.7%	0.7%

Sources: INAC Aboriginal Population, Household and Family Projections, 2007 and Statistics Canada, Catalogue no. 91-213-SCB and 91-520-SCB.

Figure 2: Map of Inuit Nunangat

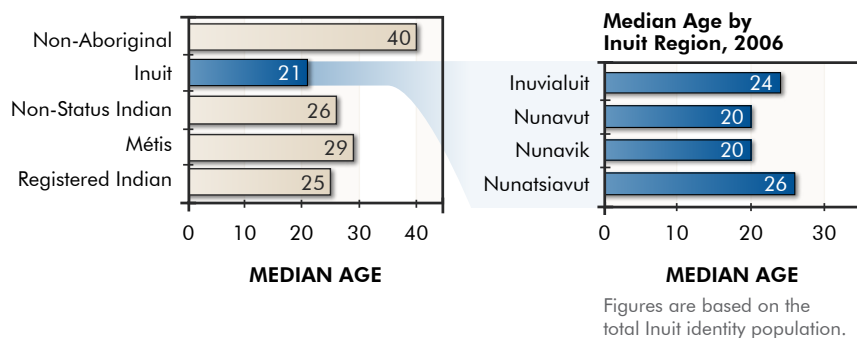


Source: Inuit Relations Secretariat, January 2008.

THE INUIT POPULATION IS THE MOST YOUTHFUL AMONG ALL ABORIGINAL GROUPS

In 2006, the median age of the Inuit population was 21 years compared with 40 years for the non-Aboriginal population. Among the Inuit Nunangat regions, the median age ranged from 20 years in Nunavut and Nunavik to 26 years in Nunatsiavut (Figure 3).^[3]

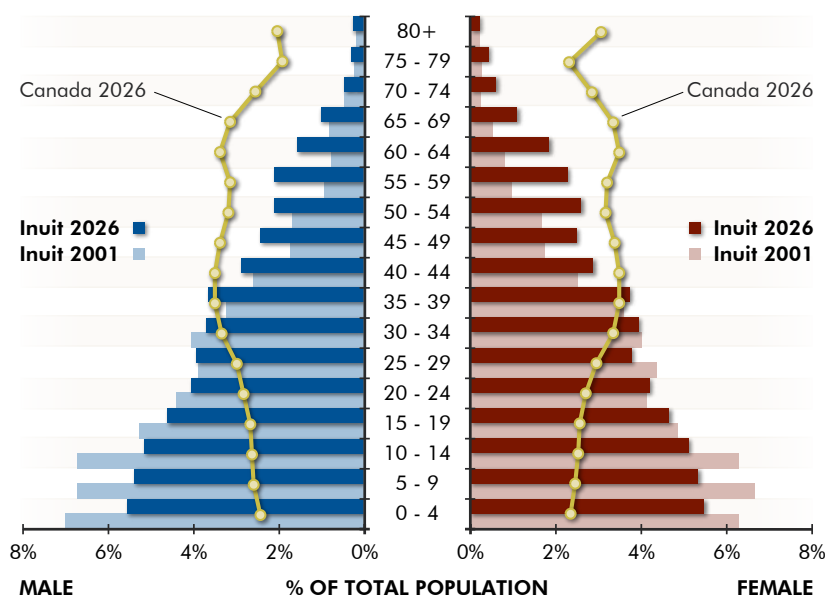
Figure 3: Median Age by Aboriginal Group, 2006



Source: 2006 Census of Population, INAC tabulations.

The Inuit population will remain youthful for years to come (Figure 4). The median age for the total Inuit population is projected to be 25 years in 2026. Further, 32% of the Inuit population is projected to be less than 15 years of age.

Figure 4: Age-Gender Pyramid for the Inuit and Canadian Populations, Medium Growth Scenario, Canada, 2001 and 2026



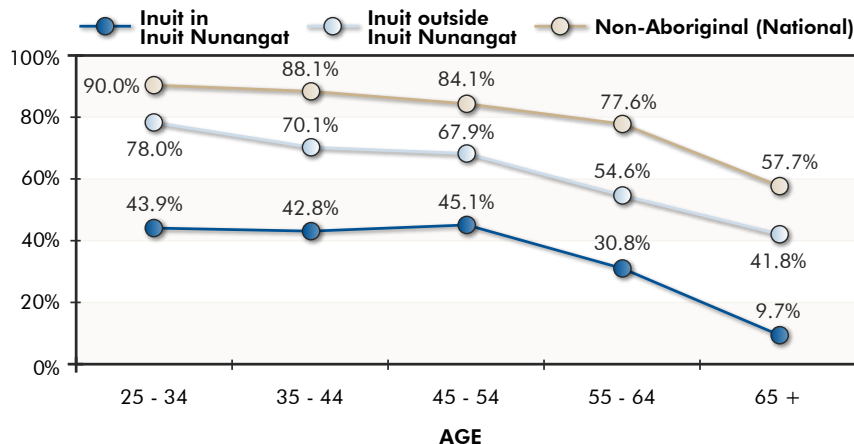
Source: INAC Aboriginal Population, Household and Family Projections, 2007.

^[3] Median age refers to the age at which one half of the population is older and the other half is younger.

EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT OF INUIT IS HIGHER AMONG YOUNGER GENERATIONS

Within Inuit Nunangat, the Inuit population 25-34 years of age are over four times more likely to have a high school diploma or higher than those 65 years and over. However, even among the youngest age cohort, there remains a gap of 46.1 percentage points when compared with the non-Aboriginal population. For Inuit outside Inuit Nunangat, this gap is significantly smaller (12.0 percentage points) (Figure 5).

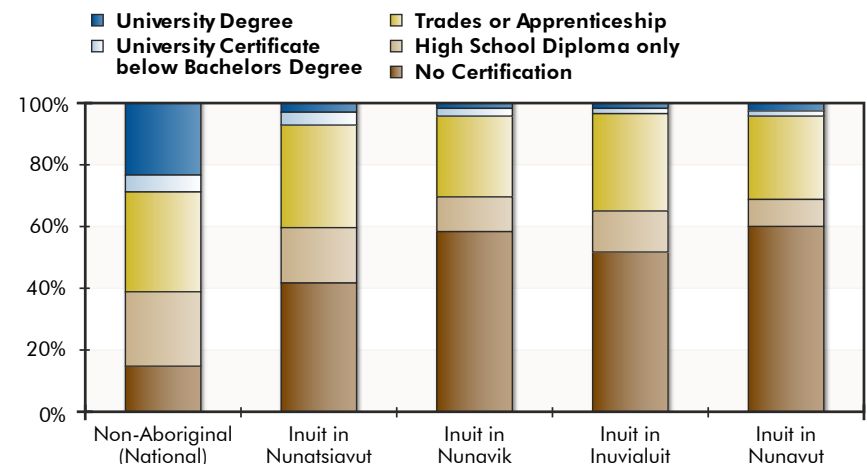
Figure 5: High School Diploma or Higher by Age Group, Inuit and Non-Aboriginal Populations, Canada and Inuit Nunangat, 2006



Source: 2006 Census of Population, INAC tabulations. Figures are based on the total Inuit identity population.

Among the Inuit Nunangat regions, the proportion of Inuit with a high school diploma or higher was lowest in Nunavut (40.1%) and highest in Nunatsiavut (58.1%) (Figure 6).

Figure 6: Highest Educational Certification, Inuit and Non-Aboriginal Populations, Aged 25-64, Canada and Inuit Nunangat Regions, 2006



Source: 2006 Census of Population, INAC tabulations. Figures are based on the total Inuit identity population.

In 2006, university degree attainment for Inuit ranged from 2.4% in Inuit Nunangat to 8.6% for the Inuit in the rest of Canada compared with 23.4% for the non-Aboriginal population. Inuit women in Canada are two times more likely than Inuit men to have a university degree (5.0% and 2.7%).^[4]

^[4] University degree includes bachelor, masters and doctorate degrees as well as first professional degrees in medicine, dentistry, veterinary medicine and optometry.

UNEMPLOYMENT RATES FOR INUIT HAVE IMPROVED, PARTICULARLY OUTSIDE INUIT NUNANGAT

Labour market participation rates for the Inuit population aged 25-64 increased between 1996 and 2006 both within Inuit Nunangat (70.2% to 73.1%) and in the rest of Canada (69.0% to 74.2%). The participation rate for the non-Aboriginal population of the same age was 80.5% in 2006.^{[5][6]}

Between 1996 and 2006, the unemployment rate for Inuit living outside Inuit Nunangat improved, moving closer to the rate for the non-Aboriginal population. However, this is not the case for the Inuit population within Inuit Nunangat (Figure 7).^[7]

Census of Population labour market measures do not capture the subsistence economy which is prevalent in the North.

Among the Inuit Nunangat regions in 2006, unemployment rates ranged from a low of 20.3 in Nunavut to a high of 34.7 in Nunatsiavut.

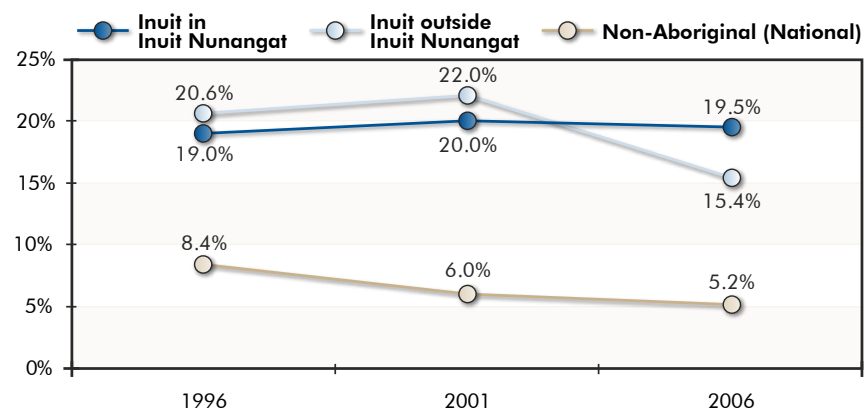
In 2006, the unemployment rate was 7.6 percentage points higher for Inuit men in Canada than for Inuit women (22.3 compared with 14.7).

^[5] Participation rate refers to the labour force population age 25-64 as a proportion of the total population in this age group.

^[6] The labour force includes the employed and unemployed. "Employed" refers to persons who, during the week prior to Census Day, did any work at all for pay or in self-employment or without pay in a family farm, business or professional practice or were absent from their job or business, with or without pay, for the entire week because of a vacation, an illness, a labour dispute at their place of work, or any other reasons. "Unemployed" refers to persons who, during the week prior to Census Day, were without paid work or without self-employment work and were available for work and either had actively looked for paid work in the past four weeks, were on temporary lay-off and expected to return to their job, or had definite arrangements to start a new job in four weeks or less.

^[7] Unemployment rate refers to the unemployed age 25-64 as a proportion of the labour force population in this age group.

Figure 7: Unemployment Rates for Inuit and Non-Aboriginal Populations, Aged 25-64, Canada and Inuit Nunangat, 1996-2006



Source: 1996, 2001 and 2006 Censuses of Population, INAC tabulations.

Figures are based on the total Inuit identity population. Census data provide a snap shot of the Canadian population every five years. They do not account for fluctuations which may have occurred between census cycles.



MEDIAN INCOME LEVELS FOR THE INUIT POPULATION ARE GENERALLY LESS THAN THOSE FOR THE NON-ABORIGINAL POPULATION

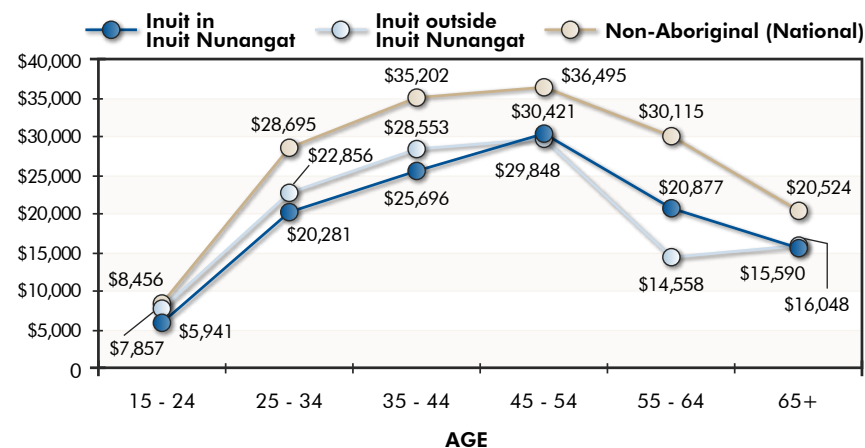
Between 1995 and 2005, median total individual income for Inuit in Canada increased from \$13,607 to \$16,949 (constant 2005 dollars) but remains about \$10,000 less than for the non-Aboriginal population (\$25,955). Median income levels are similar among Inuit women and Inuit men.^[8]

In the North, lower income levels are magnified by living costs that have been estimated at 2 to 2.5 times higher than in the South (Lawn, 1994).

In 2005, median income levels for Inuit were similar both within and outside of Inuit Nunangat and were consistently less than those for the non-Aboriginal population, regardless of age group (Figure 8). Among the Inuit Nunangat regions, median income ranged from a low of \$15,939 in Nunavut to a high of \$18,994 in Nunavik.

^[8] Individual income refers to the total income from all sources, including employment income, income from government programs, pension income, investment income and any other money income. Median income is calculated from the unrounded number of individuals with income in a specified population. The median is the amount that divides the income distribution of the population into two halves.

Figure 8: Median Individual Total Income by Age Group, Inuit and Non-Aboriginal Populations, Canada and Inuit Nunangat, 2005



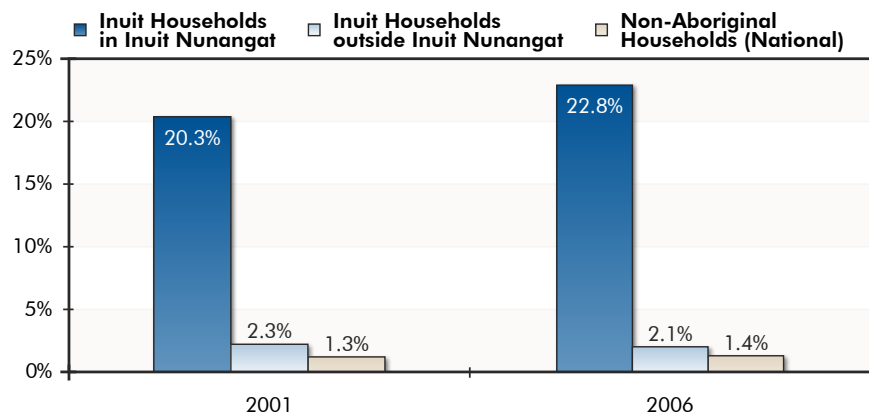
Source: 2006 Census of Population, INAC tabulations. Figures are based on the total Inuit identity population.

CROWDING AMONG INUIT HOUSEHOLDS IN INUIT NUNANGAT IS SIGNIFICANTLY HIGHER THAN IN NON-ABORIGINAL HOUSEHOLDS

In 2006, crowded housing conditions affected 22.8% of Inuit households in Inuit Nunangat, 21.4 percentage points higher than among non-Aboriginal households. Outside Inuit Nunangat, Inuit household crowding is more comparable with non-Aboriginal households (Figure 9).^[9]

Among the Inuit Nunangat regions in 2006, crowding was lowest in Nunatsiavut (6.0%) and highest in Nunavik (32.7%).

Figure 9: Crowding in Inuit and Non-Aboriginal Households, Canada and Inuit Nunangat, 2001 and 2006

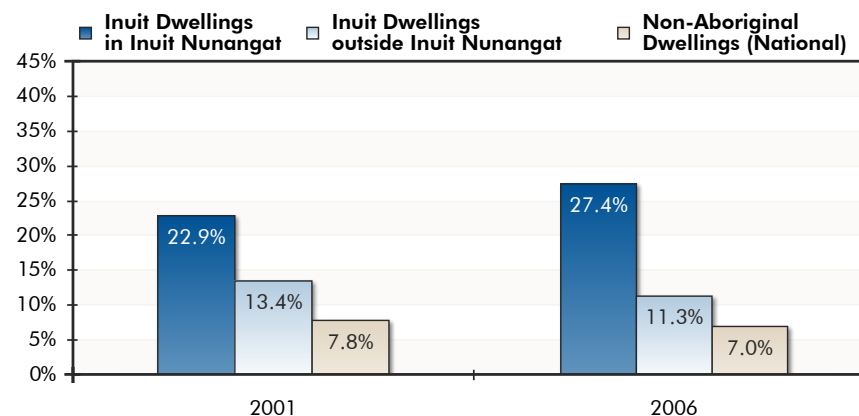


Source: 2001 and 2006 Censuses of Population, INAC tabulations.

Condition of dwelling statistics show that almost one in three Inuit dwellings in Inuit Nunangat were in need of major repairs in 2006, four times higher than for non-Aboriginal dwellings (Figure 10).^[10]

Among the Inuit Nunangat regions, the need for major repairs was lowest in Nunavut and Inuvialuit (22.9%) and highest in Nunavik (40.3%).

Figure 10: Inuit and Non-Aboriginal Dwellings in Need of Major Repair, Canada and Inuit Nunangat, 2001 and 2006



Source: 2001 and 2006 Censuses of Population, INAC tabulations.

^[9] Crowding refers to households with more than one person per room, not counting bathrooms, halls, vestibules, and rooms used solely for business purposes.

^[10] The "condition of dwelling" is self-reported by census respondents, based on their judgement on the condition of their dwelling. Major repairs refer to such things as defective plumbing or electrical wiring, structural repairs to wall, floors, or ceilings, etc.



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