



# Aboriginal Entrepreneurs Survey, 2002

## YOUTH

---

This fact sheet provides information on the characteristics of Aboriginal entrepreneurs and their businesses, based on 2001 Census data and findings from the Aboriginal Entrepreneurs Survey, which used 2002 as the reference period.

The survey was conducted in the fall of 2003 by Statistics Canada on behalf of Industry Canada's Aboriginal Business Canada program.



Industry  
Canada

Aboriginal Business  
Canada

Industrie  
Canada

Entreprise autochtone  
Canada

Canada 

## 2001 CENSUS HIGHLIGHTS

More than 13% of Canada's 27 195 Aboriginal self-employed individuals were youth aged between 18 and 29. Of these individuals:

- ◆ almost half were North American Indians;
- ◆ more than one third were women;
- ◆ 62% lived in urban areas; and
- ◆ 86% resided off reserve.

## ABORIGINAL ENTREPRENEURS SURVEY 2002, HIGHLIGHTS<sup>1</sup>

When compared to Aboriginal business owners of all ages, those aged between 18 and 29:

- ◆ operated businesses in the construction industry less often;
- ◆ were more likely to operate their business as sole proprietors and less likely in partnership;
- ◆ were more likely to borrow some of their start-up funds;
- ◆ were less likely to have operated full-time in 2002;
- ◆ were more likely to have part-time Aboriginal employees; and
- ◆ were less likely to state that they did not expect their business to grow in the next two years because of barriers.

Aboriginal SMEs: Industry	Canada Aboriginal SMEs 2002 <sup>2</sup>	Aboriginal Youth SMEs (18-29) 2002 <sup>2</sup>
Primary	15.0%	14.5%*
Construction	16.6%	8.4%
Manufacturing, Transportation & Warehousing	9.6%	5.9%*
Wholesale & Retail Trade	12.2%	16.6%*
Arts, Entertainment, Accommodation, Food & Cultural	14.6%	22.3%*
Services <sup>3</sup>	17.9%	16.5%*
Other	14.1%	15.8%*
	<b>100.0%<sup>4</sup></b>	<b>100.0%<sup>4</sup></b>

Aboriginal SMEs: Profile	Canada	Youth (18-29)
Ownership Structure		
Sole Proprietorship	66.7%	76.9%*
Partnership	18.5%	10.9%
Incorporation	14.8%	12.2%*
Age of Business		
0 - 5 Years	32.7%	65.8%
6 - 9 Years	23.5%	13.6%
10+ Years	43.8%	20.6%
Business Objectives <sup>4</sup>		
Stability	84.1%	82.9%*
Profitability	80.0%	72.4%*
Personal or Family Employment	69.1%	71.9%*
Business Training (College or University Level)	26.1%	27.4%*
Business Plan	21.9%	25.6%*

Aboriginal SMEs: Financing	Canada	Youth (18-29)
Start-Up Financing		
Less Than \$25 000	69.3%	67.9%*
\$25 000 to \$49 999	11.1%	17.6%*
\$50 000 to \$99 999	8.9%	2.7%
\$100 000 or More	10.8%	11.9%*
% of Borrowed Start-Up Funds		
None	49.8%	32.8%
Less Than 25%	9.5%	16.9%*
25% - 49%	8.1%	18.7%
50% - 74%	14.5%	14.2%*
75% - 99%	9.8%	16.8%*
100%	8.2%	0.6%
Sources of Start-Up Funds		
Personal Savings	82.9%	74.2%*
Loans or Lines of Credit	37.0%	45.4%*

Aboriginal SMEs: Operations	Canada	Youth (18-29)
Full-Time Operations in 2002	84.9%	74.6%
Full-Time Employees		
0	65.2%	62.3%*
1+	34.8%	37.7%*
Aboriginal Full-Time Employees		
0	33.7%	42.2%*
1+	66.3%	57.8%*
Part-Time Employees		
0	70.6%	70.8%*
1+	29.4%	29.2%*
Aboriginal Part-Time Employees		
0	41.6%	23.6%
1+	58.4%	76.4%
Sales to Local Market	79.8%	86.2%*
Sales to Provincial Market	55.8%	46.9%*
Sales to National Market	17.8%	26.0%*
Sales to International Market	13.2%	2.2%

Aboriginal SMEs: Results and Prospects	Canada	Youth (18-29)
Profits in 2002	72.3%	79.4%*
Sales Revenues Increase in 2001	43.0%	54.3%*
Sales Revenues Stable in 2001	39.4%	30.4%*
Growth Expectation: Next Two Years	62.7%	68.5%*
No Growth Expectation: Next Two Years	37.3%	31.5%*
Barriers to Growth <sup>5</sup>	56.0%	29.8%
Economic Situation	43.0%	38.1%*
Taxes	42.2%	30.3%*
Access to Financing	39.5%	43.5%*

Source: Statistics Canada, Aboriginal Entrepreneurs Survey, 2002 (2004)

\* Differences between Canada and youth results are not large enough to be statistically significant at the 95% level.

1 Identified highlights are based on the weighted responses of the 1126 Aboriginal self-employed individuals who took part in the Aboriginal Entrepreneurs Survey. As such, when attempting to generalize findings to a population or sub-population of Aboriginal self-employed workers, data precision indicators must be taken into account.

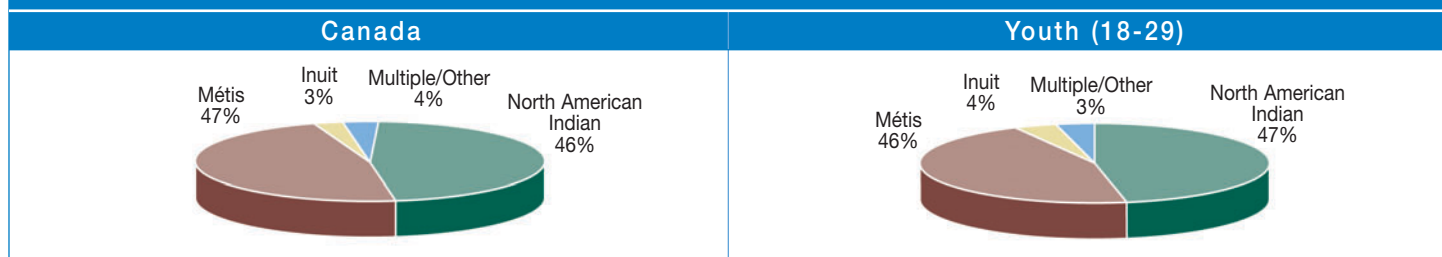
2 Statistics Canada, Aboriginal Entrepreneurs Survey, 2002 (2004).

3 This category includes professional, scientific & technical, education, health & social services.

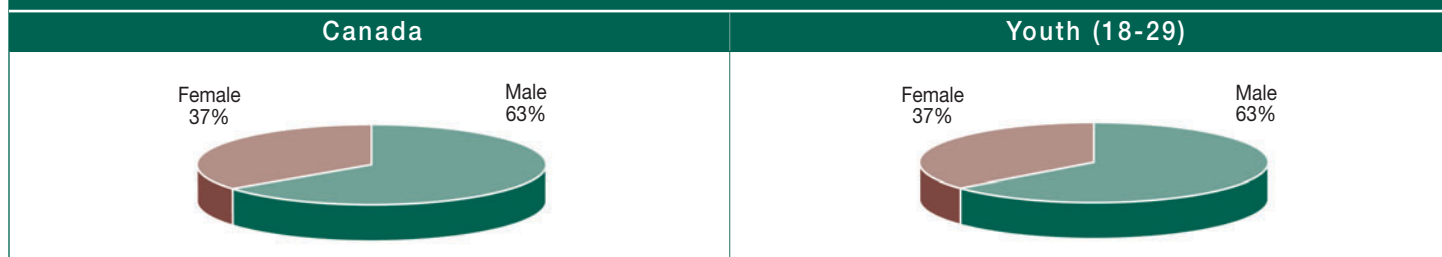
4 Presented industrial distribution percentages may not add up to exactly 100.0% due to rounding.

Youth (18-29): Number of Self-Employed Workers	All	Aboriginal
Young Self-Employed Workers	142 555	3 650

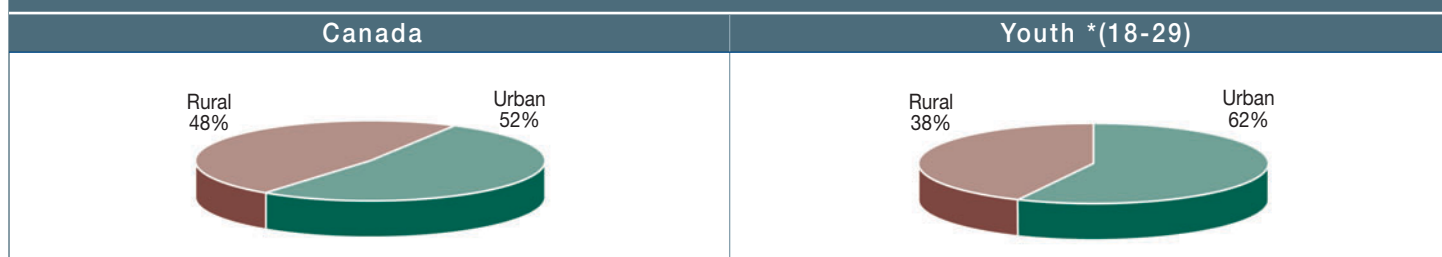
Aboriginal Self-Employed Workers: Heritage Group Distribution



Aboriginal Self-Employed Workers: Gender Distribution



Aboriginal Self-Employed Workers: Urban/Rural Distribution



Aboriginal Self-Employed Workers: On Reserve/Off Reserve Distribution

