

Aboriginal Peoples Survey - 1991

General Information

and

Data Highlights

STATISTICS STATISTIQUE
CANADA CANADA

MAR 25 1996

General Information

and

Data Highlights

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1991 ABORIGINAL PEOPLES SURVEY

The Aboriginal Peoples Survey (APS) offers data users a unique source of information on the employment, education, language, health, and housing characteristics of Canada's Aboriginal peoples. The APS was conducted following the 1991 Census, and developed in close consultation with Aboriginal organizations, social service agencies, and government departments.

The APS is a valuable tool that offers data users community-level information that can help them successfully plan, assess, and implement important community development goals. In helping to achieve some of these important goals, the APS provides data users with:

- Community-level data for all participating Aboriginal communities, including Indian reserves and settlements, and Métis and Inuit communities, with a minimum population of 40 persons;
- Information for all Aboriginal groups, including North American Indians living on and off Indian reserves and settlements, the Métis, and the Inuit;
- Data on the employment, income, health, lifestyle and social issues, language, tradition, disability, mobility and housing characteristics of Aboriginal peoples;
- Socio-demographic information gathered from the 1991 Census, such as income and highest level of schooling, can be used to supplement the APS database, thereby creating a more comprehensive profile of the APS respondents;
- Information for various levels of geography, including Canada, the provinces and territories, and selected metropolitan areas.

The above information is available in a variety of Statistics Canada products and services, including catalogued publications, community profiles, micro data files, an APS workshop, and through custom data requests that can be ordered from your regional office of Statistics Canada.

HOW INFORMATION FROM THE ABORIGINAL PEOPLES SURVEY CAN BE USED

The 1991 Aboriginal Peoples Survey (APS) is a new survey, developed in consultation with Aboriginal organizations and government departments, that collected information from people who identified as North American Indian, Inuit or Métis, and/or are registered under the *Indian Act*. This valuable source of information can help you to:

- Plan economic development strategies to support Aboriginal businesses and to identify business opportunities
- Identify barriers to Aboriginal employment and to help develop needed training programs
- Help determine gaps and priorities in Aboriginal health and social services, facilities, and programs
- Plan school curriculums and adult training courses
- Improve services and facilities at home, work, and school for persons with disabilities
- Assess the demand for programs and services in Aboriginal languages
- Determine the extent of participation in traditional activities and barriers to participation
- Assess perceived health conditions and social problems in the community
- Determine the demand for housing and related services

APS PRODUCTS AND SERVICES

Products and services of the Aboriginal Peoples Survey have been developed based on extensive consultations with data users. There are five types of products and services available from the APS:

Reference Guide

A free publication, the User's Guide - 1991 Aboriginal Data is a comprehensive guide to two sources of statistical information about Aboriginal peoples in Canada: the 1991 Census and the 1991 Aboriginal Peoples Survey. Release date - October, 1993

Data Publications

This series of four publications contains highlights and statistical tables for Canada, provinces and territories, and selected Census Metropolitan Areas. The publications are divided into subject areas, namely: Age and Sex; Language, Tradition, Health, Lifestyle and Social Issues; Schooling, Work and Related Activities, Income, Expenses and Mobility; and Disability and Housing.

Analytical Publications

Three statistical profile publications are planned dealing with North American Indians, Métis, and Inuit respectively. These publications are scheduled for release for Fall 1994.

Community Profiles:

A statistical profile for individual Aboriginal communities is available following each APS data release. These are presently available in paper output. An electronic product format is planned for Summer 1994.

Micro Data Files:

Three files will be available: adults, children and household. Release date - Spring 1994.

Custom Data Service:

This service is available to provide custom tabulations, i.e., statistical tables that have not been pre-produced in publications and other output formats.

APS Workshop:

The purpose of this workshop is to familiarize both new and experienced data users with the APS and the information it collected. Release date - January, 1994.

ABORIGINAL PEOPLES SURVEY COMMUNITY PROFILES

Getting The Information You Need

Statistical profiles are available for 600 Aboriginal communities including Indian reserves and settlements, and Inuit and Métis communities that participated in the 1991 Aboriginal Peoples Survey.

These profiles include all communities with a minimum population of 40 persons who identify with their Aboriginal origins, and/or are registered under the *Indian Act*.

Information from the Aboriginal Peoples Survey, as well as selected data from the 1991 Census, is presented in each profile for the community, the province or territory, and Canada for comparison purposes.

Community profiles contain statistical information on a selection of topics, such as: Aboriginal languages; traditional activities; disability; health, lifestyle and social issues; mobility; schooling; work and related activities; expenditures; sources of income; and housing.

Community profiles are presently available in paper format. An electronic format product is planned for Fall, 1994.

Profiles are priced for individual communities as well as for provincial/territorial and Canada level packages.

STATISTICS CANADA

presents

The 1991 Aboriginal Peoples Survey (APS) Workshop

"Using APS for Decision Making: Getting the Information You Need"

The Aboriginal Peoples Survey was conducted by Statistics Canada following the 1991 Census. This new survey was developed in consultation with Aboriginal organizations and government departments. From those people who identified as North American Indian, Métis or Inuit, and/or are registered under the *Indian Act*, the survey collected information on such issues as employment, education, language, health, and mobility.

The purpose of this one-day workshop is to familiarize both new and experienced data users with the Aboriginal Peoples Survey--the information it collected, as well as the products and services available from the survey.

This valuable workshop is intended for Aboriginal organizations and communities, educators, health-care teams, media, economic development officers, government departments, business people and others interested in learning how to access and use the results of this important new survey.

Topics covered in the workshop include: using statistical indicators for community development, survey content and suggested uses of the data, related census information, methodology, how to access APS information, and other relevant subjects.

The format includes lectures, discussion groups, exercises and case studies.

Regional Reference Centres

Statistics Canada's Regional Reference Centres provide a full range of products and services. Each reference centre is equipped with a library and a sales counter where users can consult or purchase publications, microcomputer diskettes, microfiche, maps and more. The staff of the Regional Reference Centres provides consultative and research services in addition to providing after-sales service and support, including seminars and workshops on the use of Statistics Canada information.

Each centre has facilities to retrieve information from Statistics Canada's computerized data retrieval systems CANSIM and E-STAT. A telephone inquiry service is also available with toll-free numbers for regional users outside local calling areas. Call, write, fax or visit the nearest Regional Reference Centre for more information.

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North American Life Centre
1770 Market Street
Halifax, Nova Scotia
B3J 3M3

Local calls: (902) 426-5331
Toll-free service: 1-800-565-7192
Fax number: (902) 426-9538

Quebec Region

Advisory Services
Statistics Canada
200 René Lévesque Blvd. W.
Guy Favreau Complex
Suite 412, East Tower
Montreal, Quebec
H2Z 1X4

Local calls: (514) 283-5725
Toll-free service: 1-800-361-2831
Fax number: (514) 283-9350

National Capital Region

Statistical Reference Centre (NCR)
Statistics Canada
R.H. Coats Building Lobby
Holland Avenue
Ottawa, Ontario
K1A 0T6

Local calls: (613) 951-8116
If outside the local calling area,
please dial the toll-free number for
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Fax number: (613) 951-0581

Ontario Region

Advisory Services
Statistics Canada
Arthur Meighen Building, 10th Floor
25 St. Clair Avenue East
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M4T 1M4

Local calls: (416) 973-6586
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R3B 3L9

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Toll-free service: 1-800-661-7828
Fax number: (204) 983-7543

Advisory Services
Statistics Canada
Avord Tower, 9th Floor
2002 Victoria Avenue
Regina, Saskatchewan
S4P 0R7

Local calls: (306) 780-5405
Toll-free service: 1-800-667-7164
Fax number: (306) 780-5403

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Statistics Canada
First Street Plaza, Room 401
138-4th Avenue South East
Calgary, Alberta
T2G 4Z6

Local calls: (403) 292-6717
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Park Square, 8th Floor
10001 Bellamy Hill
Edmonton, Alberta
T5J 3B6

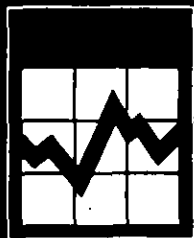
Local calls: (403) 495-3027
Toll-free service: 1-800-563-7828
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Vancouver, British Columbia
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The Daily

Statistics Canada

Tuesday, March 30, 1993
For release at 8:30 a.m.



1991 CENSUS OF CANADA

HIGHLIGHTS

The 1991 Census shows...

- Over one million report Aboriginal origins
- Just over half with Aboriginal origins reported non-Aboriginal origins as well
- The majority of the population in the Northwest Territories reported Aboriginal origins

The 1991 Aboriginal Peoples Survey shows...

- 626,000 people identified with an Aboriginal group
- Those who identified with an Aboriginal group tended to be younger than Canada's total population
- The majority who identified with an Aboriginal group lived west of Ontario

Age and Sex Aboriginal Data 1991 Census

Aboriginal Data: Age and Sex, a publication which focuses on the Aboriginal Population in Canada, is now available. The information presented was obtained from the 1991 Census of Canada and the 1991 Aboriginal Peoples Survey (APS).

The census population consists of those persons who reported at least one Aboriginal origin (i.e., North American Indian, Métis, or Inuit ancestry) on the census long questionnaire. The census data presented show both single Aboriginal origin responses and multiple responses broken down by Aboriginal group.

The APS includes persons who identified with at least one Aboriginal group (North American Indian, Métis, Inuit, or a specific group such as Cree or Inuvialuit) or who reported registered Indian status under the Indian Act of Canada.

Both data sources provide age and sex distributions for Canada, provinces, territories, and census metropolitan areas.

To obtain a copy of **Aboriginal Data: Age and Sex** (94-327, \$30), see "How to Order Publications". For more information, contact your nearest Statistics Canada Regional Reference Centre.



Statistics
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Statistics Canada conducted the 17th Census of Population since Confederation on June 4, 1991. Following the 1991 Census, the agency conducted the first Aboriginal Peoples Survey. Today's Daily presents Aboriginal data on age, sex and geographical distribution from both the census and the survey. These first results from the Aboriginal Peoples Survey will be followed by data on language, tradition, disability, health, lifestyle and social issues in May 1993. Additional census data on socio-economic characteristics will be published later in 1993.

The 1991 Census provides data for the approximately one million people who reported Aboriginal origins while the 1991 Aboriginal Peoples Survey provides data for those people (some 626,000) who identified with an Aboriginal group and/or who were registered Indians as defined by the Indian Act of Canada.

Over 1 million with Aboriginal ancestry

In the 1991 Census, 1,002,675 people reported having Aboriginal origins, either as their only ancestry or in combination with other origins. This is an increase of 41 per cent from 1986 when 711,720

people reported Aboriginal origins. Demographic factors, such as changes in fertility and mortality, cannot explain an increase of this size over a five year period. Clearly, significant numbers of people who had not previously reported an Aboriginal origin did so in 1991, most likely due to heightened awareness of Aboriginal issues

arising from the extensive public discussion of these matters in the period leading up to the 1991 Census.

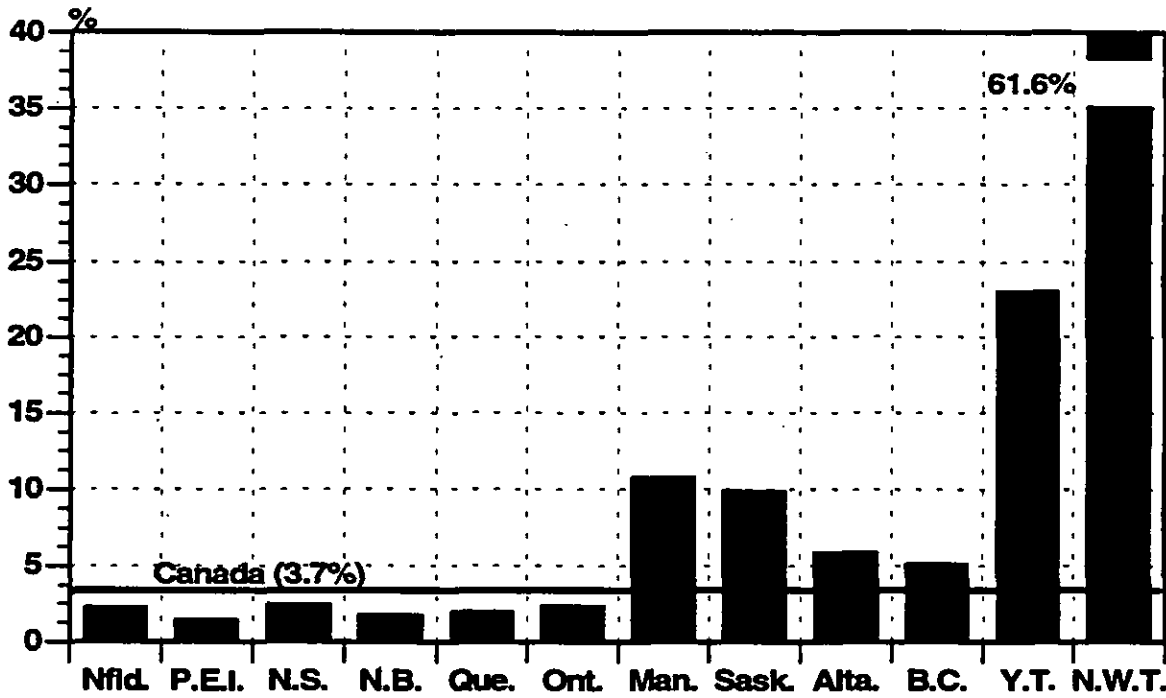
1991 Census Aboriginal Ancestry

The 1991 Census question on ethnic or cultural origins provided information on the number of people who reported North American Indian, Métis, or Inuit origins, either as a single response or in combination with other origins. The Aboriginal population defined through the Census includes those people who reported at least one Aboriginal origin. For information on the historical comparability of data on ethnic origins, see the note on page 3 of today's Daily.

Total Population Reporting Aboriginal Origins, Canada, Provinces and Territories, 1986 and 1991 Censuses

	1986	1991	% Change
Canada	711,720	1,002,675	41
Newfoundland	9,555	13,110	37
Prince Edward Island	1,290	1,880	46
Nova Scotia	14,225	21,885	54
New Brunswick	9,375	12,815	37
Quebec	80,945	137,615	70
Ontario	167,375	243,550	46
Manitoba	85,235	116,200	36
Saskatchewan	77,650	96,580	24
Alberta	103,925	148,220	43
British Columbia	126,625	169,035	33
Yukon	4,995	6,390	28
Northwest Territories	30,530	35,390	16

Percentage of the Population Reporting Aboriginal Origins, Canada, Provinces and Territories, 1991 Census



The increase in reported Aboriginal ancestry varied among the provinces and territories. In Quebec, where the percentage increase was greatest, the number of people reporting Aboriginal origins rose by 70 per cent, largely the result of an increase in the number reporting Aboriginal ancestry in combination with other origins. The Northwest Territories experienced the smallest increase (16 per cent), although here as well, much of the increase was due to a rise in the number of people reporting Aboriginal ancestry in combination with other origins.

Overall, the proportion of Canada's population reporting Aboriginal origins increased from 2.8 per cent in 1986 to 3.7 per cent in 1991.

The Northwest Territories was the only province or territory where people reporting Aboriginal origins represented the majority (62 per cent) of the population. People with Aboriginal origins accounted for almost one-quarter (23 per cent) of the population in the Yukon, 11 per cent in Manitoba, 10 per cent in Saskatchewan, 6 per cent in Alberta, and 5 per cent in British Columbia. In each of the provinces east of Manitoba, the population with Aboriginal origins accounted for less than 3 per cent of the total population.

Comparability of 1986 and 1991 Ethnic Origin Data

The ethnic origin question on the 1991 Census was similar to that asked on the last Census in 1986. In an effort to explain clearly that the purpose of the question was to measure the ancestral origins of the Canadian population, the wording of the 1991 question was changed slightly and a note was included on the questionnaire summarizing the purpose of the question. These changes should not affect the comparability of ethnic origin data between 1986 and 1991.

Nevertheless, caution must be exercised in making comparisons. Measures of ethnicity are complex, and can be affected by changes in the environment in which the questions are asked as well as by changes in respondents' understanding or views about the topic. Changes in such factors as awareness of family background or length of time since immigration can affect responses to the question, as can confusion with other concepts such as citizenship, nationality, language or cultural identity. In the case of the 1991 Census, public attention on Aboriginal issues in the year leading up to the Census may have contributed to increased reporting of Aboriginal origins; similarly, pre-census publicity calling for the reporting of Canadian as an expression of national identity may have contributed to a substantial increase in the number of persons providing this response and a decrease in other origins, especially British.

Just over half with Aboriginal origins also reported non-Aboriginal origins

Of those people who reported having Aboriginal ancestors, 47 per cent reported a single Aboriginal origin while 53 per cent reported multiple ancestries. Among those reporting multiple ancestries, the majority (98 per cent) reported Aboriginal origins in combination with non-Aboriginal origins. The remaining 2 per cent had multiple Aboriginal origins only, for example, North American Indian and Inuit origins.

Over the 1986 to 1991 period, the number of people who reported having one Aboriginal origin in combination with other origins grew faster than the number who reported a single Aboriginal origin only. In 1991, 532,060 people reported that they had Aboriginal origins in combination with other origins, up 57 per cent from 1986. In comparison, the

number of people who reported a single Aboriginal origin rose by 26 per cent over the same period: from 373,260 in 1986 to 470,615 in 1991.

Single and Multiple Responses

A **single response** occurs when a respondent reports one ethnic origin only. For example, 365,375 persons gave North American Indian as their only origin.

A **multiple response** occurs when a respondent provides two or more ethnic origins. In 1991, 532,060 people gave a combination of at least two of the following types of responses: North American Indian, Métis, Inuit and non-Aboriginal.

In responding to the census question on ethnic origin, some people reported a combination of Aboriginal/non-Aboriginal origins. These combinations of responses are counted under each relevant Aboriginal group. As a result, the sum of the various Aboriginal responses is greater than the total population reporting an Aboriginal ancestry.

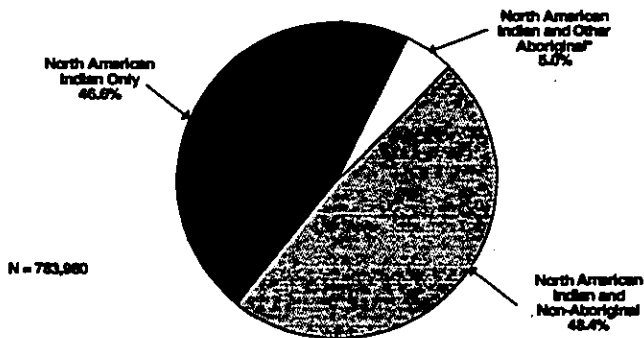
Total Population Reporting Aboriginal Origins Showing Single and Multiple Responses, Canada, Provinces and Territories, 1986 and 1991 Censuses

	Single Responses			Multiple Responses		
	1986	1991	% Change	1986	1991	% Change
Canada	373,260	470,615	26.1	338,460	532,060	57.2
Newfoundland	3,825	5,340	39.6	5,730	7,770	35.6
Prince Edward Island	410	395	-	875	1,480	69.1
Nova Scotia	5,960	7,530	26.3	8,260	14,355	73.8
New Brunswick	3,880	4,270	10.1	5,500	8,550	55.5
Quebec	49,325	65,405	32.6	31,620	72,210	128.4
Ontario	55,560	71,005	27.8	111,815	172,545	54.3
Manitoba	55,410	74,345	34.2	29,820	41,855	40.4
Saskatchewan	55,645	66,270	19.1	22,005	30,310	37.7
Alberta	51,665	68,445	32.5	52,265	79,780	52.6
British Columbia	61,130	74,420	21.7	65,495	94,620	44.5
Yukon	3,280	3,775	15.1	1,715	2,610	52.2
Northwest Territories	27,175	29,415	8.2	3,355	5,970	77.9

North American Indian responses more numerous

Over three-quarters (78 per cent) of the 1,002,675 people who reported Aboriginal origins reported North American Indian ancestry. When single and multiple responses are combined, 783,980 people reported North American Indian, 212,650 reported Métis and 49,255 reported Inuit.

Persons Reporting North American Indian, Canada, 1991 Census



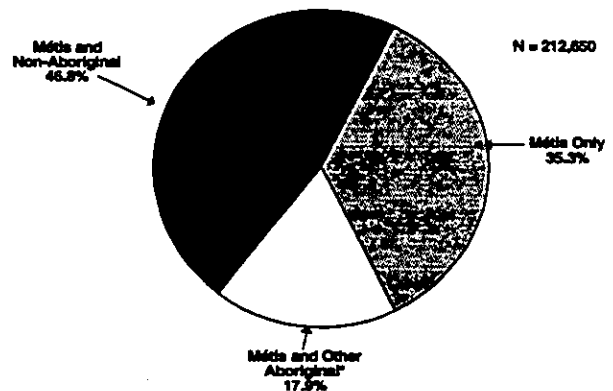
* May also include non-Aboriginal origins.

Some people reported a combination of different Aboriginal/non-Aboriginal origins. These combinations of responses are counted under each relevant Aboriginal group. As a result, the sum of the various Aboriginal responses (1,045,885) is slightly greater than the total population reporting an Aboriginal ancestry (1,002,675).

Of the three Aboriginal groups, those people reporting an Inuit origin were the least likely to report having another origin: 61 per cent of people who reported Inuit reported having Inuit origins only. Among people who reported North American Indian origins, slightly more had North American Indian origins in combination with non-Aboriginal origins (379,470 people) than had only North American

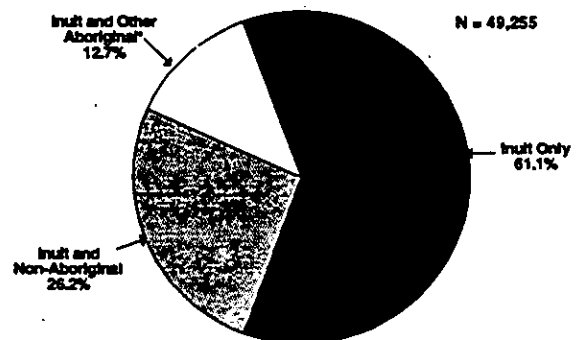
Indian origins (365,375). A similar situation was recorded for people who reported Métis origins: 99,560 reported Métis and non-Aboriginal origins while 75,150 reported Métis origins only.

Persons Reporting Métis, Canada, 1991 Census



* May also include non-Aboriginal origins.

Persons Reporting Inuit, Canada, 1991 Census



* May also include non-Aboriginal origins.

Indian Reserves and Settlements

The 1991 Census enumerated 207,470 people living on Indian reserves and settlements across the country. Of these, 188,270 people reported Aboriginal origins. A large proportion, 86 per cent, of all those who were living on Indian reserves and settlements in 1991 reported having a single Aboriginal origin.

While the 1991 Census enumerated the majority of Indian reserves and settlements in Canada there were 78 Indian reserves and settlements (out of about 950 occupied and unoccupied territories) where enumeration was not permitted, was interrupted before it could be completed, was late or the quality of the collected data was considered inadequate. It is estimated that approximately 38,000 persons were missed on these incompletely enumerated Indian reserves and settlements. For more information please refer to the note on page 11 of today's *Daily*.

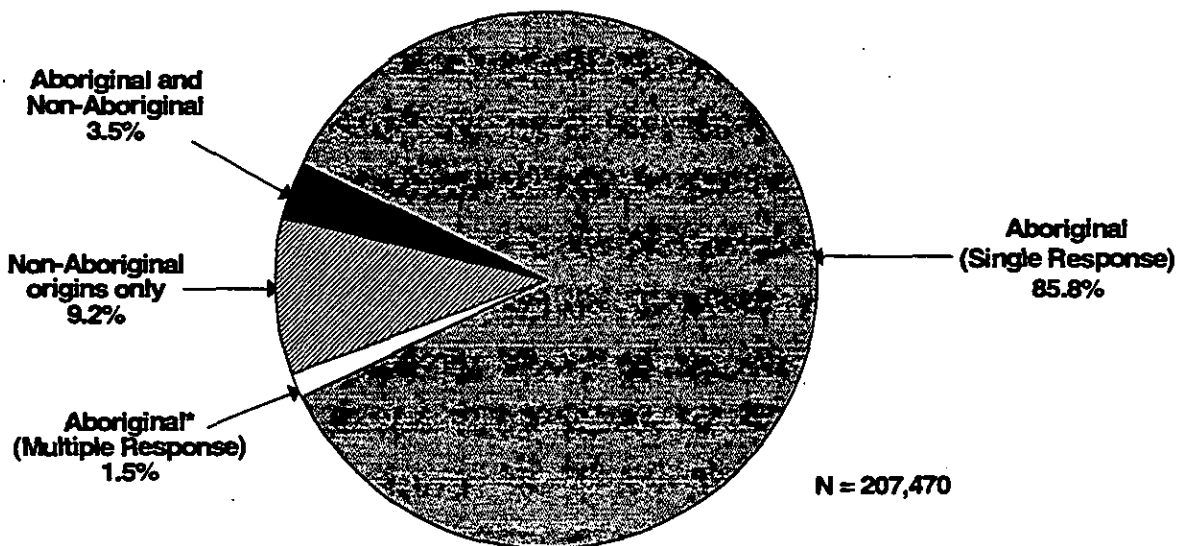
Among people living on Indian reserves and settlements who reported an Aboriginal origin, the majority, 94 per cent, reported North American Indian

as their only origin. Only a small proportion (4 per cent) reported having a single Aboriginal origin (North American Indian, Métis or Inuit) in combination with a non-Aboriginal origin.

Overall, 48 per cent (176,620 people) of all those who reported having North American Indian origins only, lived on Indian reserves and settlements. In comparison, 2 per cent of those who reported Métis origins only, and less than 1 per cent of those with Inuit origins only, lived on Indian reserves and settlements.

The 1991 Census also collected information on the number of persons who were registered Indians as defined by the **Indian Act** of Canada. Some 386,000 people reported being registered under this Act. This count excludes people who were living on Indian reserves and settlements where enumeration was not permitted, was interrupted, occurred too late for inclusion, or where the quality of the data collected was considered inadequate. Also excluded from this count were Registered Indians living in institutions and those who were otherwise missed by the census.

Population on Indian Reserves and Indian Settlements, Canada, 1991 Census



* May also include non-Aboriginal origins.

Almost all Identify with one Aboriginal group

The 1991 Aboriginal Peoples Survey found that 625,710 people who reported Aboriginal origins and/or who were registered under the Indian Act of Canada identified with an Aboriginal group. The vast majority (99 per cent) of these people identified with just one Aboriginal group – North American Indian, Métis or Inuit.

Seven out of ten lived west of Ontario

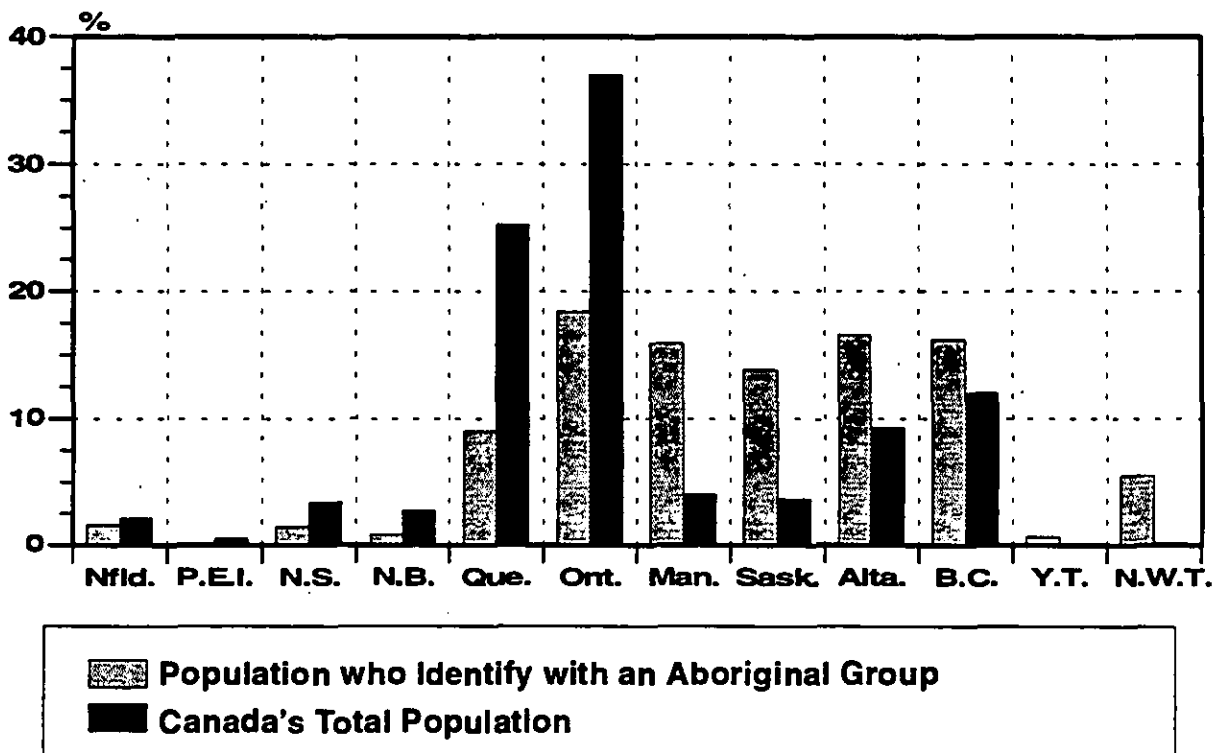
Approximately 69 per cent of the population who identified with an Aboriginal group lived west of Ontario, compared to 29 per cent of Canada's total population. The difference was most apparent in the Prairie provinces. Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta were home to almost half (46 per cent) of all people who identified with an Aboriginal group in 1991, but home to only 17 per cent of Canada's total population. The

1991 Aboriginal Peoples Survey

A large-scale survey of people who reported Aboriginal ancestry and/or who reported being registered under the Indian Act of Canada was conducted after the 1991 Census. This survey, the Aboriginal Peoples Survey, was developed in consultation with Aboriginal organizations and government departments. From those people who identified as North American Indian, Métis or Inuit, the survey collected information on such issues as employment, education, language, health and mobility.

It should be noted that 181 Indian reserves and settlements (approximately 20,000 persons) and another 14 Aboriginal communities (approximately 2,000 persons) who participated in the 1991 Census did not participate in the Aboriginal Peoples Survey. For additional information on Indian reserves and settlements not surveyed by the Aboriginal Peoples Survey, please refer to the note on page 11 of today's Daily.

Population Distribution, Provinces and Territories, 1991 Aboriginal Peoples Survey



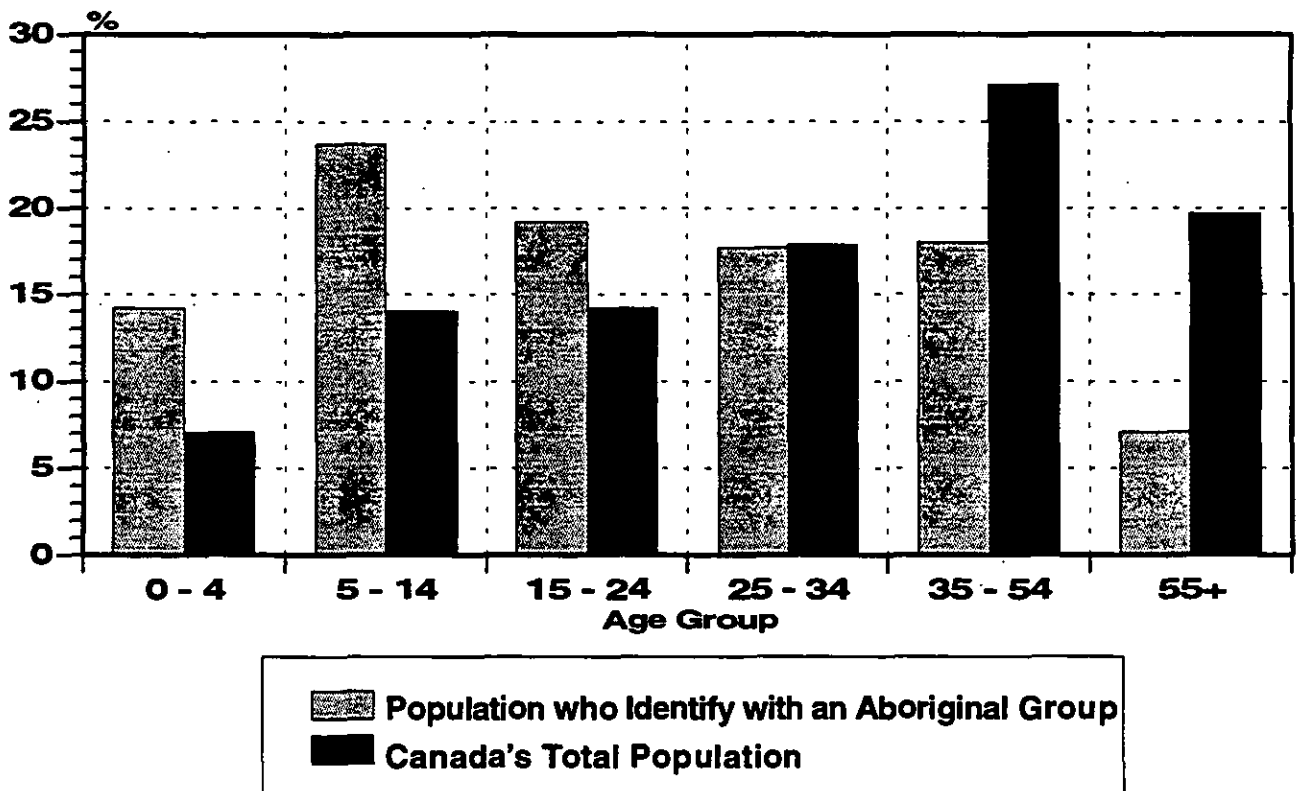
Northwest Territories, with less than one per cent of Canada's total population, accounted for almost 6 per cent of the population who identified with an Aboriginal group.

People who identified with an Aboriginal group were much less likely to live in a major urban centre than was the Canadian population in general. Overall, 26 per cent of those who identified with an Aboriginal group lived in the eleven census metropolitan areas included in the Aboriginal Peoples Survey. In comparison, those eleven metropolitan areas were home to almost 47 per cent of Canada's total population.

A young population

Age distributions reveal other differences between the total Canadian population and the population who identified with an Aboriginal group. The Aboriginal Peoples Survey reveals that the population identifying with an Aboriginal group tended to be much younger than Canada's total population: 38 per cent were under the age of 15, compared to 21 per cent for Canada's total population. Seven per cent of the population identifying with an Aboriginal group was aged 55 and over, compared to 20 per cent for Canada's total population.

**Population Distribution by Age Group, Canada,
1991 Aboriginal Peoples Survey**



North American Indian

The Aboriginal Peoples Survey found that 460,680 people identified themselves as North American Indian. Of these, 64 per cent lived off-reserve, while the remainder, 36 per cent, lived on-reserve. It should be noted that 181 Indian reserves and settlements (representing approximately 20,000 people) and another 14 Aboriginal communities (representing approximately 2,000 people) who participated in the 1991 Census did not participate in the Aboriginal Peoples Survey. For additional information on Indian reserves and settlements not surveyed by the Aboriginal Peoples Survey, please refer to the note on page 11 of today's Daily.

Geographically, the population identifying as North American Indian was concentrated in five provinces: Ontario, Manitoba, Saskatchewan, Alberta and British Columbia. Combined, these provinces were home to 84 per cent of people who reported that they identified as North American Indian.

Distribution by Age Group, Canada, 1991 Aboriginal Peoples Survey

Age Group	Canada's Total Population	Population Identifying as North American Indian
Total	100.0%	100.0%
0 - 4	7.1	14.0
5 - 14	14.0	23.4
15 - 24	14.2	19.4
25 - 34	17.9	17.6
35 - 54	27.1	18.4
55 +	19.7	7.2

Population Distribution, Canada, Provinces and Territories, 1991 Aboriginal Peoples Survey

	Canada's Total Population	Population Identifying as North American Indian
Canada Number	26,994,045	460,680
Newfoundland	2.1	0.8
Prince Edward Island	0.5	0.2
Nova Scotia	3.3	1.9
New Brunswick	2.7	1.1
Quebec	25.2	9.0
Ontario	37.0	22.3
Manitoba	4.0	14.4
Saskatchewan	3.6	13.0
Alberta	9.3	14.1
British Columbia	12.0	20.2
Yukon	0.1	0.9
Northwest Territories	0.2	2.1

Compared to Canada's total population, those who identified as North American Indian were 2.5 times as likely to live in Manitoba, Saskatchewan or Alberta. These provinces accounted for almost 42 per cent of the population who identified as North American Indian, compared to just 17 per cent of Canada's total population.

Of the eleven census metropolitan areas included in the Aboriginal Peoples Survey, Regina had the highest concentration of people who identified as North American Indian (3.9 per cent) while Saskatoon and Winnipeg, with 3.1 per cent identifying as North American Indian, were next.

The Aboriginal Peoples Survey found that almost one-quarter (23 per cent) of the population who identified as North American Indian was between the ages of 5 and 14 in 1991, compared to only 14 per cent for the total Canadian population. Some 14 per cent of those who identified as North American Indian were under the age of five, compared to 7 per cent for Canada's total population.

When all age groups are compared, the biggest difference between the population identifying as North American Indian and Canada's total population occurs in the over 55 age group: just 7 per cent of the North American Indian group belong to this age group compared to 20 per cent of Canada's total population.

Métis

The Aboriginal Peoples Survey found that of the 625,710 individuals who identified with an Aboriginal group 135,265 identified as Métis.

When compared to Canada's total population, people who identified as Métis were much more likely to live in Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta. Almost three-quarters (73 per cent) of people who identified as Métis lived in these three provinces while the same can be said for only 17 per cent of Canada's total population. While 25 per cent of Canada's total population lived in Quebec and another 37 per cent in Ontario, these two provinces were home to just 6 per cent and 9 per cent, respectively, of the population who identified as Métis.

Distribution by Age Group, Canada, 1991 Aboriginal Peoples Survey

Age Group	Canada's Total Population	Population Identifying as Métis
Total	100.0%	100.0%
0 - 4	7.1	14.1
5 - 14	14.0	23.7
15 - 24	14.2	18.6
25 - 34	17.9	18.4
35 - 54	27.1	18.3
55 +	19.7	6.9

Population Distribution, Canada, Provinces and Territories, 1991 Aboriginal Peoples Survey

	Canada's Total Population	Population Identifying as Métis
Canada Number	26,994,045	135,265
Newfoundland	2.1	1.5
Prince Edward Island	0.5	-
Nova Scotia	3.3	0.2
New Brunswick	2.7	0.1
Quebec	25.2	6.4
Ontario	37.0	8.9
Manitoba	4.0	24.6
Saskatchewan	3.6	20.0
Alberta	9.3	28.6
British Columbia	12.0	6.7
Yukon	0.1	0.1
Northwest Territories	0.2	2.9

Compared to the population who identified as North American Indian, the population who identified as Métis was more likely to live in a major metropolitan area. While about one-quarter (24 per cent) of the North American Indian population lived in the eleven census metropolitan areas included in the 1991 Aboriginal Peoples Survey, almost 38 per cent of the Métis population lived in these cities. Overall, 47 per cent of Canada's population lived in these eleven census metropolitan areas.

Of the eleven census metropolitan areas included in the Aboriginal Peoples Survey, Saskatoon had the highest concentration of people who identified as Métis (2.7 per cent), followed by Winnipeg (2.3 per cent), Regina (2.0 per cent) and Edmonton (1.6 per cent).

The age structure of the population who identified as Métis was very similar to that of the population who identified as North American Indian. A large proportion (38 per cent) of the population who identified as Métis were under age 15 and a small proportion (7 per cent) were over age 55. Of Canada's total population, 21 per cent were under age 15 and 20 per cent were aged 55-and-over.

Concentration of Persons who Identified as Métis and North American Indian Living in Selected Census Metropolitan Areas, 1991 Aboriginal Peoples Survey

	Canada's Total Population	Population Identifying as:			
		Métis		North American Indian	
	#	#	%	#	%
Halifax	317,630	—	—	1,135	0.4
Montréal	3,091,115	1,675	0.1	5,400	0.2
Ottawa-Hull	912,100	1,425	0.2	5,195	0.6
Toronto	3,863,105	1,430	0.1	12,920	0.3
Winnipeg	645,610	14,990	2.3	20,255	3.1
Regina	189,440	3,720	2.0	7,300	3.9
Saskatoon	207,825	5,585	2.7	6,380	3.1
Calgary	748,210	4,285	0.6	9,870	1.3
Edmonton	832,155	13,515	1.6	15,910	1.9
Vancouver	1,584,115	4,070	0.3	21,845	1.4
Victoria	283,630	345	0.1	4,130	1.5

Incompletely Enumerated Indian Reserves: 1991 Census and 1991 Aboriginal Peoples Survey:

Some 78 Indian reserves and Indian settlements were incompletely enumerated during the 1991 Census. As a result, data for 1991 are not available for those reserves and settlements. Because of these missing data, users are cautioned that for affected geographic areas, comparisons (e.g. percentage change) between 1986 and 1991 are not exact. For larger areas (Canada, provinces, territories, census metropolitan areas) the impact of the missing data is quite small.

Because the sample for the Aboriginal Peoples Survey was selected from the 1991 Census, these 78 reserves and settlements are also not included in the Aboriginal Peoples Survey. An additional 181 Indian reserves and settlements, representing some 20,000 people, were incompletely enumerated during the Aboriginal Peoples Survey because enumeration was not permitted or was interrupted before all questionnaires could be completed.

Lists of these incompletely enumerated reserves and settlements can be found in Aboriginal Data: Age and Sex (Catalogue No. 94-327), released today.

Inuit

The Aboriginal Peoples Survey found that 36,215 people identified as Inuit.

Almost 91 per cent of people who identified as Inuit lived in the Northwest Territories, Quebec (primarily the northern areas), Newfoundland and Labrador. In comparison, 28 per cent of Canada's total population lived in these areas.

Population Distribution, Canada, Provinces and Territories, 1991 Aboriginal Peoples Survey

	Canada's Total Population	Population Identifying as Inuit
Canada	100.0%	100.0%
Number	26,994,045	36,215
Newfoundland	2.1	13.0
Prince Edward Island	0.5	-
Nova Scotia	3.3	0.2
New Brunswick	2.7	0.2
Quebec	25.2	19.4
Ontario	37.0	2.2
Manitoba	4.0	1.3
Saskatchewan	3.6	0.4
Alberta	9.3	3.7
British Columbia	12.0	1.4
Yukon	0.1	0.2
Northwest Territories	0.2	58.1

Distribution by Age Group, Canada, 1991 Aboriginal Peoples Survey

Age Group	Canada's Total Population	Population Identifying as Inuit
Total	100.0%	100.0%
0 - 4	7.1	17.0
5 - 14	14.0	25.5
15 - 24	14.2	20.3
25 - 34	17.9	16.6
35 - 54	27.1	14.2
55 +	19.7	6.3

While the under-15 proportions of the North American Indian and Métis populations were larger than that for the total Canadian population, this difference was even greater for those who identified as Inuit: almost 43 per cent were under 15 years-of-age, compared to 37 per cent of those who identified as North American Indian, 38 per cent of those who identified as Métis and 21 per cent of the total Canadian population.

Compared to the other two Aboriginal groups, a slightly smaller proportion of those who identified as Inuit were over age 55: 6 per cent of the population who identified as Inuit versus about 7 per cent for the populations who identified as North American Indian or Métis.

Data Comparability and Content Considerations

Users of Census data should take into account factors which could affect the comparability of 1991 Census data with those from previous Censuses.

Changes in the Completeness of Enumeration: No national census can obtain a complete enumeration of the population. Variations in the completeness of enumeration can occur from one census to another. Estimates of the completeness of the 1991 Census are now available.

Non-permanent residents: In 1991, the Census counted both permanent and non-permanent residents of Canada. Non-permanent residents are persons who held student or

employment authorizations, Minister's permits or who were refugee claimants; the 1991 Census enumerated some 223,410 non-permanent residents in Canada, representing slightly less than 1 per cent of the total population. Users should be especially careful when comparing data from 1991 and previous Censuses in geographic areas where there is a concentration of non-permanent residents, particularly the major metropolitan areas of Quebec, Ontario and British Columbia.

Exclusion of Institutional Residents: The analysis is based on data collected from a sample of 20 per cent of households which completed the long form questionnaire. As with the 1986 and 1991 Censuses, the data do not include institutional residents. The total number after weighting (26,994,000) is slightly smaller than the 100 per cent data (27,297,000).

1991 Aboriginal Data Products

From the 1991 Census:

Canada's Aboriginal Population by Census Subdivisions, 1991 - Second quarter 1993

Profile of Canada's Aboriginal Population, 1991 - Fourth quarter 1993

From the 1991 Aboriginal Peoples Survey:

Language, Tradition, Disability, Health, Lifestyle and Social Issues - May, 1993

Schooling, Work and Related Activities, Income and Expenses - Fall, 1993

Mobility and Housing - First quarter, 1994

Community Profiles - First quarter, 1994

Micro Data File - Spring, 1994

North American Indians - A Statistical Profile - Fall, 1994

The Métis - A Statistical Profile - Fall, 1994

The Inuit - A Statistical Profile - Fall, 1994

Upcoming Release Dates	Information on
April 13, 1993	Income
April 27, 1993	Social and economic characteristics of families, housing costs, educational attainment, school attendance and major field of study
May 11, 1993	Fertility, mobility, migration, place of work and religion

How to Order Publications

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The Daily

Statistics Canada

Tuesday, June 29, 1993

For release at 8:30 a.m.



MAJOR RELEASE

Language, Tradition, Health, Lifestyle and Social Issues, 1991 Aboriginal Peoples Survey

3

- Close to one-third of the North American Indian, Métis and Inuit population aged 5 and older reported being able to carry on a conversation in an Aboriginal language. The proportion was 36% for adults aged 15 and older and 21% for children aged 5 to 14.
- Among Aboriginal adults aged 15 and older, 3% reported having tuberculosis. For the Canadian population aged 15 and older, the incidence of tuberculosis was less than 1%.
- Among the Aboriginal population aged 15 and older, 67% identified unemployment, 61% alcohol abuse and 25% suicide as a social problem in their community.
- Aboriginal adults aged 15 and older proposed more policing, family service counselling, improved community services and more employment as solutions to their communities' social problems.

(continued on page 2)



Language, Tradition, Health, Lifestyle and Social Issues

1991 Aboriginal Peoples Survey

The information in this publication was obtained from the 1991 Aboriginal Peoples Survey.

Data tables include information for Canada, the provinces and territories, 11 selected census metropolitan areas, and on and off Indian reserves and settlements; data are tabulated for adults and children by both total Aboriginal population and by specific Aboriginal group.

To obtain a copy of *Language, Tradition, Health, Lifestyle and Social Issues* (89-533, \$45), see "How to Order Publications". For more information, contact Post-Censal Surveys Program (613-951-4414).



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MAJOR RELEASE

Language, Tradition, Health, Lifestyle and Social Issues

1991 Aboriginal Peoples Survey

Today's release highlights information on language, tradition, health, lifestyle and social issues collected from 625,710 persons who reported in the 1991 Aboriginal Peoples Survey that they identified with an Aboriginal group. That is, they considered themselves to be North American Indian, Métis or Inuit.

Those who identified with an Aboriginal group represented approximately 63% of the total number of people who, in the 1991 Census of Population, reported having Aboriginal origin(s) and/or being registered under the *Indian Act of Canada*.

Further information is available in the March 30, 1993 issue of *The Daily*, which presented the first results of the Aboriginal Peoples Survey.

One-third Spoke an Aboriginal Language

Close to one-third (171,090) of the North American Indian, Métis and Inuit population aged 5 and older were able to speak an Aboriginal language well enough to carry on a conversation. Among adults aged 15 and older, 36% (139,375) were able to

speak an Aboriginal language compared with 21% (31,715) of children aged 5 to 14.

Among North American Indians . . .

For the population aged 5 and older who identified as North American Indian, 34% spoke an Aboriginal language. However, among North American Indians living on Indian reserves and settlements, almost 60% indicated that they spoke an Aboriginal language, with Cree (46%) and Ojibwa (17%) being the most frequently reported spoken languages.

Of the 253,760 North American Indians aged 5 and older living off reserves, 19% reported that they spoke an Aboriginal language, with Cree (44%) and Ojibwa (20%) being the most frequently reported spoken languages.

Among Aboriginal children aged 5 to 14 who identified as North American Indian, the difference in reported ability to speak an Aboriginal language between those living on and off Indian reserves and settlements was even more pronounced than among the adult population. Of the 40,500 children who identified as North American Indian living on Indian reserves and settlements, 44% reported speaking an Aboriginal language compared with 9% of children who identified as North American Indian living off reserves.

Ability to Speak an Aboriginal Language

	Total	Number	%
Total Aboriginal population aged 5 and older	537,060¹	171,090	31.9
North American Indian	396,335	133,800	33.8
Living on Indian reserves and settlements	142,575	84,665	59.4
Living off reserves	253,760	49,140	19.4
Métis	116,140	16,305	14.0
Inuit	30,050	21,700	72.2
Aboriginal children aged 5 to 14	148,160¹	31,715	21.4
North American Indian	107,970	24,035	22.3
Living on Indian reserves and settlements	40,500	17,945	44.3
Living off reserves	67,465	6,095	9.0
Métis	31,985	1,580	4.9
Inuit	9,245	6,190	67.0
Aboriginal adults aged 15 and older	388,900¹	139,375	35.8
North American Indian	288,365	109,765	38.1
Living on Indian reserves and settlements	102,075	66,720	65.4
Living off reserves	186,295	43,045	23.1
Métis	84,155	14,725	17.5
Inuit	20,805	15,510	74.5

¹ An individual may identify with more than one Aboriginal group; therefore the individual groups do not add to the total.

Among the adult population aged 15 and older who identified as North American Indian living on Indian reserves and settlements, 65% reported speaking an Aboriginal language. Of the 186,295 adults who identified as North American Indian living off reserves, 23% reported being able to speak an Aboriginal language.

Cree and Michif were Spoken by the Métis

Of the 116,140 persons aged 5 and older who identified as Métis, 14% reported speaking an Aboriginal language.

Among Métis children aged 5 to 14, this proportion was lower (5%). For Métis adults aged 15 and older, 18% reported speaking an Aboriginal language; of these, 70% spoke Cree and 6% Michif.

Three of Four Inuit Spoke an Aboriginal Language

The majority of Inuit aged 5 and older reported that they spoke an Aboriginal language. Among the 30,050 Inuit aged 5 and older, 72% spoke an Aboriginal language, with 96% reporting that they spoke Inuktitut.

Unlike the North American Indian and Métis groups, there was little difference in the ability to speak an Aboriginal language between Inuit children and adults. Two-thirds (67%) of Inuit children aged 5 to 14 spoke an Aboriginal language, compared to 75% of Inuit adults aged 15 and older.

Rheumatism and Arthritis were the Most Commonly Reported Health Problems

Of the 388,900 persons aged 15 and older who identified with an Aboriginal group, 31% were told by health care professionals that they had a chronic health problem. Thirty-three percent of Métis, 30% of North American Indians and 23% of Inuit reported a chronic health problem.

Fifteen percent of Aboriginal adults aged 15 and older reported having arthritis or rheumatism. The proportion was 10% for Inuit and 17% for Métis. According to the 1991 General Social Survey, arthritis or rheumatism among the Canadian population aged 15 and older was 14%. Differences in age distribution have been adjusted to permit comparisons between the two populations.

The presence of diabetes was reported by 6% of Aboriginal adults aged 15 and older, compared with 2% of Canadian adults aged 15 and older (adjusted for differences in age distribution) who reported diabetes in the 1991 General Social Survey. Approximately 9% of North American Indians living on Indian reserves and settlements and 2% of Inuit adults reported diabetes as a chronic health problem.

Three percent of Aboriginal adults aged 15 and older reported that they had tuberculosis. For the Canadian population aged 15 and older, the incidence of tuberculosis was less than 1% in 1991. Among adults who identified as North American Indian living on Indian reserves and settlements, 3% reported tuberculosis as a chronic health problem; among Inuit adults, 7% reported tuberculosis.

Chronic Health Problems

	Total		N.A.I. ¹ on Indian reserves and settlements		N.A.I. ¹ off- reserves		Métis		Inuit	
	number	%	number	%	number	%	number	%	number	%
Total Aboriginal population 15 and older	388,900	100.0	102,075	100.0	186,295	100.0	84,155	100.0	20,805	100.0
Diabetes	23,255	6.0	8,635	8.5	9,790	5.3	4,670	5.5	405	1.9
High blood pressure	44,735	11.5	13,110	12.8	20,635	11.1	9,555	11.4	1,995	9.6
Arthritis, rheumatism	57,995	14.9	14,410	14.1	27,870	15.0	14,375	17.1	2,150	10.3
Heart problems	25,580	6.6	6,940	6.8	11,695	6.3	5,905	7.0	1,275	6.1
Bronchitis	32,650	8.4	6,190	6.1	17,040	9.1	8,875	10.5	1,035	5.0
Emphysema/shortness of breath	22,155	5.7	6,785	6.6	9,685	5.2	4,835	5.7	1,120	5.4
Asthma	22,135	5.7	4,545	4.5	11,375	6.1	5,755	6.8	690	3.3
Tuberculosis	11,655	3.0	3,445	3.4	4,970	2.7	2,075	2.5	1,350	6.5
Epilepsy, seizures	5,910	1.5	1,640	1.6	2,870	1.5	1,030	1.2	380	1.8

¹ North American Indian.

Social Problems Facing Aboriginal Communities . . .

The Aboriginal population aged 15 and older were asked for their opinion on the social problems facing Aboriginal people in their communities.

Unemployment was identified by 67% of adults as a problem in their community. It was a problem for 78% of North American Indians living on Indian reserves and settlements and for 75% of Inuit adults.

Alcohol abuse was a problem reported by 61% of adults. Among North American Indians living on Indian reserves and settlements, 73% reported alcohol abuse as a social problem.

Twenty-five percent of adults reported suicide as a problem in their community. Slightly more than two-fifths (41%) of Inuit reported that suicide was a problem in their community.

1991 Aboriginal Peoples Survey

A large-scale survey of people who reported Aboriginal ancestry and/or who reported being registered under the *Indian Act of Canada* was conducted after the 1991 Census. This survey, the Aboriginal Peoples Survey, was developed in consultation with Aboriginal organizations and government departments. From those people who identified as North American Indian, Métis or Inuit, the survey collected information on such issues as employment, education, language, tradition, health, lifestyle and social issues, mobility, housing, disability, and income and expenses.

Upcoming Data Products from the 1991 Aboriginal Peoples Survey

Data Product	Release Date
Schooling, Work and Related Activities, Income and Expenses	Summer 1993
Mobility and Disability	Fall 1993
Housing	December 1993
Community Profiles - Available on the Electronic Shelf	First quarter 1994
North American Indians - A Statistical Profile	Fall 1994
The Métis - A Statistical Profile	Fall 1994
The Inuit - A Statistical Profile	Fall 1994
Microdata File	Spring 1994

Social Problems Facing Aboriginal Communities

	Total		N.A.I. ¹ on Indian reserves and settlements		N.A.I. ¹ off-reserves		Métis		Inuit	
	number	%	number	%	number	%	number	%	number	%
Total Aboriginal population 15 and older	388,900	100.0	102,075	100.0	186,295	100.0	84,155	100.0	20,805	100.0
Social issues²										
Suicide	98,690	25.4	35,195	34.5	38,005	20.4	18,200	21.6	8,575	41.2
Unemployment	261,100	67.1	79,900	78.3	112,195	60.2	56,330	66.9	15,505	74.5
Family violence	152,435	39.2	44,975	44.1	67,820	36.4	32,805	39.0	9,040	43.5
Sexual abuse	95,400	24.5	29,555	29.0	40,605	21.8	19,350	23.0	7,305	35.1
Drug abuse	186,425	47.9	60,010	58.8	80,390	43.2	38,060	45.2	10,195	49.0
Alcohol abuse	237,680	61.1	74,715	73.2	104,280	56.0	49,520	58.8	11,980	57.6
Rape	58,120	14.9	16,735	16.4	24,725	13.3	12,305	14.6	5,190	24.9

¹ North American Indian.

² Persons reporting that they feel [social issue] is a problem in the community where they are now living.

... and Reported Solutions

Aboriginal adults aged 15 and older were asked to propose solutions to the social problems that they felt existed in their communities. Their proposed solutions included increased policing, family service counselling, improved community services and more employment.

Among adults who identified as North American Indian living on Indian reserves and settlements, 17% proposed more policing and 14% suggested family service counselling as possible solutions to social problems within their Aboriginal communities.

Of Inuit adults, 13% proposed improved community services and 12% proposed more employment as possible solutions to the social issues that they felt existed in their communities.

Solutions to Social Problems Proposed by Aboriginal Peoples

	Total		N.A.I. ¹ on Indian reserves and settlements		N.A.I. ¹ off- reserves		Métis		Inuit	
	number	%	number	%	number	%	number	%	number	%
Total Aboriginal population 15 and older	388,900	100.0	102,075	100.0	186,295	100.0	84,155	100.0	20,805	100.0
Proposed solutions										
More policing	39,425	10.1	17,810	17.4	13,200	7.1	6,245	7.4	2,380	11.4
Shelters for abused women	22,390	5.8	6,790	6.7	10,600	5.7	3,910	4.6	1,215	5.8
Family service counselling	40,815	10.5	14,255	14.0	16,495	8.9	8,705	10.3	1,805	8.7
Counselling services (other than family)	34,895	9.0	8,690	8.5	17,075	9.2	7,385	8.8	2,330	11.2
Improved community services	38,260	9.8	10,465	10.3	17,140	9.2	8,515	10.1	2,795	13.4
More employment	30,385	7.8	7,170	7.0	14,055	7.5	7,225	8.6	2,450	11.8
Improved education	28,835	7.4	3,615	3.5	16,450	8.8	8,180	9.7	1,415	6.8

¹ North American Indian.

Incompletely Enumerated Indian Reserves and Settlements

There were 78 incompletely enumerated Indian reserves and settlements during the 1991 Census. These reserves and settlements represent approximately 38,000 persons. Because the Aboriginal Peoples Survey (APS) sample was selected from the 1991 Census, these 78 reserves and settlements are not included in the APS tables.

An additional 181 Indian reserves and settlements, representing approximately 20,000 individuals, were incompletely enumerated during the APS because enumeration was not permitted or was interrupted before all questionnaires could be completed.

Another 14 Aboriginal communities, representing approximately 2,000 persons, were also incompletely enumerated for the APS.

Lists of these incompletely enumerated Indian reserves and settlements and other Aboriginal communities can be found in *Language, Tradition, Health, Lifestyle and Social Issues* (89-533, \$45), released today.



The Daily

Statistics Canada

Monday, September 20, 1993

For release at 8:30 a.m.



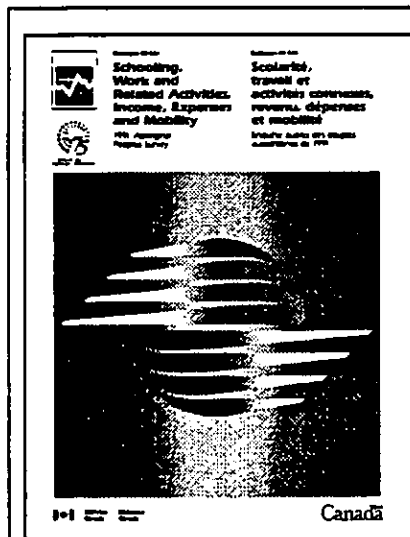
MAJOR RELEASES

Schooling, Work and Related Activities, Income, Expenses and Mobility, 1991 Aboriginal Peoples Survey

3

- Use of Aboriginal languages in elementary and secondary schools increased among younger generations.
- Unemployment among Aboriginal adults was 25% in 1991, two and one-half times the national rate.
- Fourteen percent of Aboriginal people reported having participated in activities such as fishing for food, or bartering goods and services for food, to support themselves and their families.
- In 1990, 5% of Aboriginal adults had a total income of over \$40,000, compared with 15% of Canada's adult population.
- Contrary to a commonly held view, Aboriginal people do not move more frequently than Canada's total population. In 1991, 15% of Aboriginal people had recently moved, compared to 16% of Canada's total population.

(continued on page 2)



Schooling, Work and Related Activities, Income, Expenses and Mobility

1991 Aboriginal Peoples Survey

Data tables in this publication include information for Canada, the provinces and territories, and 11 selected census metropolitan areas. Data are tabulated for adults and children by both total Aboriginal population and by specific Aboriginal group.

To obtain a copy of *Schooling, Work and Related Activities, Income, Expenses and Mobility* (89-534, \$60), see "How to Order Publications".

For more information, contact the Post-Censal Surveys Program (613-951-4414).



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Sales of natural gas in Canada increased 11.3% from July 1992. The strong growth in July 1993 was largely due to increased industrial demand.
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MAJOR RELEASES

Schooling, Work and Related Activities, Income, Expenses and Mobility

1991 Aboriginal Peoples Survey

Today's release highlights information on schooling, work and related activities, income, household expenses and mobility that was collected in the 1991 Aboriginal Peoples Survey. Respondents in this survey were those who identified with an Aboriginal group, that is, they considered themselves to be North American Indian, Métis or Inuit.

Those who identified with an Aboriginal group (625,710) represented approximately 63% of the people who, in the 1991 Census of Population, reported having Aboriginal origin(s) and/or being registered under the *Indian Act* of Canada.

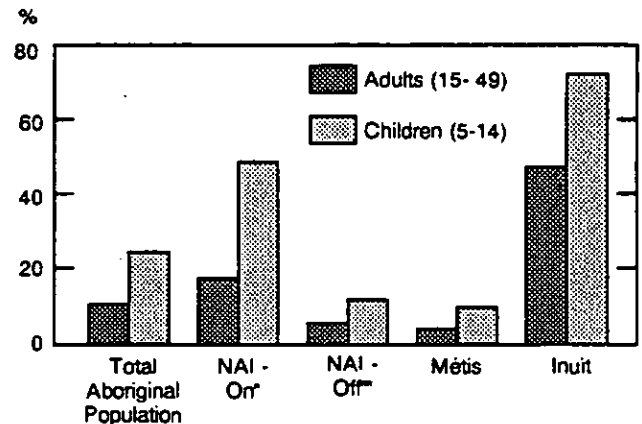
The Aboriginal Peoples Survey was first conducted following the 1991 Census; therefore, historical data for most information presented today do not exist for comparative purposes. Further information on the Aboriginal population's age, sex, and geographic distribution was released in the March 30, 1993 issue of *The Daily*. Information on language, tradition, health, lifestyle and social issues was released in *The Daily* on June 29.

Use of Aboriginal languages in elementary schools increased among younger generations

Among Aboriginal adults aged 15 to 49, only 11% of those who attended elementary school were taught in an Aboriginal language at any time during their elementary school years. However, among children aged 5 to 14, 25% were taught in an Aboriginal language.

The largest difference between the two age groups occurred for North American Indians living on Indian reserves or settlements. Among North American Indian adults (aged 15 to 49) who reported attending elementary school, 18% had been taught in an Aboriginal language. Among North American Indian children, however, 49% had been taught in an Aboriginal language in their elementary school years.

Use of Aboriginal Language in Elementary School, 1991



- * NAI - On: North American Indian Living on Indian Reserves and Settlements.
- ** NAI - Off: North American Indian Living off Reserves.

Formal education levels for Aboriginal people were lower compared with Canada's total population

One-third of the Aboriginal population aged 15 to 49 reported some postsecondary education and 17% reported less than Grade 9 (including no schooling). By comparison, just over half of Canada's total population aged 15 to 49 reported some postsecondary education and only 6% reported less than Grade 9. For this same age group in the Aboriginal population, North American Indians living off reserves (11%) and the Métis (12%) had the lowest proportions reporting less than Grade 9, followed by North American Indians living on reserves (28%) and the Inuit (38%).

Among older Aboriginal people aged 50 to 64, 22% had some postsecondary education and 53% had less than Grade 9. By comparison, one-third of Canada's total population aged 50 to 64 had some postsecondary education and 26% had less than Grade 9.

The most notable differences in levels of schooling between Canada's total population and the three Aboriginal groups occurred with the North American Indians living on Indian reserves and settlements and the Inuit. Among those aged 15 to 49, 28% of North American Indians living on reserves and settlements, and 38% of Inuit, reported less than Grade 9. Among those aged 50 to 64, 70% of North American Indians living on reserves and settlements and 76% of the Inuit reported less than Grade 9.

Table 1

Level of Schooling 1991

	Less than Grade 9		Some postsecondary	
	Age 15-49	Age 50-64	Age 15-49	Age 50-64
	%			
Total Aboriginal Population	17	53	33	22
NAI - On	28	70	25	15
NAI - Off	11	44	38	28
Métis	12	45	34	25
Inuit	38	76	26	15
Canada's Total Population	6	26	51	33

Note: NAI - On: North American Indian Living on Indian Reserves and Settlements.
NAI - Off: North American Indian Living off Reserves.

Adults who identified with an Aboriginal group were asked about their experience during their school years. Among those aged 15 to 49 who had attended elementary school, 11% (34,860) had lived in

residential schools during all or part of their elementary school years. By contrast, among the 50 to 64 age group, just over one-third (15,080) had lived in residential schools during all or part of their school years.

Almost one-quarter of Aboriginal adults aged 15 to 49 (80,670) took on-the-job or classroom training during 1990 and/or 1991. Among those who participated in training courses, 62% had taken one course and 13% had taken two courses.

Unemployment higher among those who identified with an Aboriginal group

Unemployment among Aboriginal adults aged 15 and older was almost 25% in 1991; by comparison, the unemployment rate was 10% for Canada's total population. Among Aboriginal groups, North American Indians living on Indian reserves and settlements reported the highest unemployment (31%), over three times the national rate, while the Métis reported the lowest rate at 22%.

The higher unemployment rates among Aboriginal people reflect, in part, a higher proportion of people living in rural and remote areas where employment opportunities are limited. When respondents were asked about barriers to finding employment, most Aboriginal people reported limited opportunities as the major barrier. Of the 127,680 Aboriginal adults who looked for work during 1990 and/or 1991, almost two-thirds (83,685) reported that few or no jobs were available, 41% stated that their education or work experience did not match the available jobs and 16% reported difficulty finding employment because they were Aboriginal people.

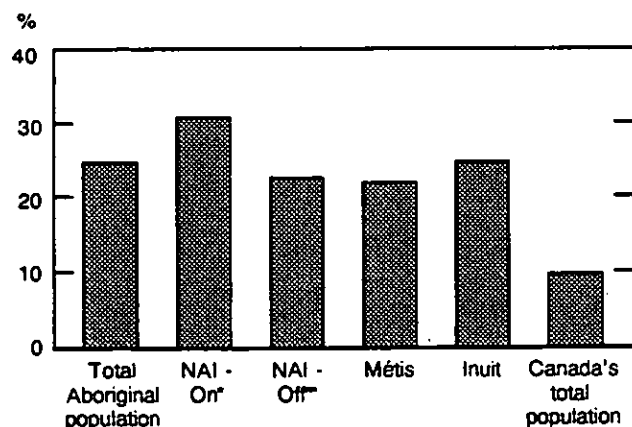
Table 2

Barriers to Finding Employment 1991

	Total Aboriginal Population	NAI-On	NAI-Off	Métis	Inuit
Number looking for work	127,680	31,790	61,840	28,215	7,250
Problems finding a job					
Few or no jobs in area	66%	75%	61%	62%	71%
Education or work experience did not match jobs	41%	41%	41%	43%	38%
No one available to look after children	8%	8%	8%	8%	9%
Not enough information about available jobs	26%	32%	25%	22%	24%
Because of being an Aboriginal person	16%	22%	16%	12%	12%

Note: NAI - On: North American Indian Living on Indian Reserves and Settlements.
NAI - Off: North American Indian Living off Reserves.

Unemployment Rate, 1991



- * NAI - On: North American Indian Living on Indian Reserves and Settlements.
 ** NAI - Off: North American Indian Living off Reserves.

Proportion who worked for income was highest among the Inuit

Just over 59% (229,905) of Aboriginal adults worked for income during 1990 and/or 1991. The Inuit had the highest proportion (68%) who worked for income, followed closely by the Métis at 65%. Among Aboriginal adults who worked for income, 29% worked at more than one job during the period.

Traditional activities continued to play an important role in the support of Aboriginal people and their families

Almost 20% (73,390) of Aboriginal adults were involved in additional work-related activities for which they received money to support themselves and their families during 1990 and/or 1991. These included traditional activities such as carving, trapping and guiding.

Fourteen percent (53,595) also reported that they participated in other activities to support themselves and their families for which they did not receive money. These activities included fishing for food, and bartering goods or services for food.

Just over 8% (32,680) of Aboriginal adults reported that they had, at one time, owned or operated a business. Among this group, 57% owned or operated a business in 1991.

1990 total income was lower among Aboriginal people

Among Aboriginal adults, 13% reported no income during 1990 while 5% reported a total income of \$40,000 or more. By comparison, among Canada's total population aged 15 and older, 9% reported no income during 1990 and 15% reported total income of \$40,000 or more.

Among North American Indian adults who were living on Indian reserves and settlements, only 2% reported a total income of \$40,000 or more in 1990. Among Inuit adults, 17% reported no income in 1990.

Table 3

Total Income
1990

	No Income	Under \$2,000	\$2,000 to \$9,999	\$10,000 to \$19,999	\$20,000 to \$39,999	\$40,000 +
	%					
Total Aboriginal Population	13	12	29	23	18	5
NAI - On	11	18	36	22	12	2
NAI - Off	14	10	26	23	20	7
Métis	13	10	26	24	20	6
Inuit	17	10	30	20	16	7
Canada's Total Population	9	6	20	22	28	15

Note: NAI - On: North American Indian Living on Indian Reserves and Settlements.
 NAI - Off: North American Indian Living off Reserves.

Employment income was lower among Aboriginal people

Of the 388,900 Aboriginal adults aged 15 and older, 60% (231,865) reported employment income in 1990. Among those, 17% reported employment income of under \$2,000, and only 8% reported employment income of \$40,000 or more. By comparison, among Canada's total population aged 15 and older, 8% reported having employment income of under \$2,000 during 1990, and 18% reported \$40,000 or more.

Among North American Indian adults who were living on Indian reserves and settlements, only 3% reported having employment income of \$40,000 or more in 1990.

During 1990, 29% of Aboriginal adults reported receiving social assistance

Among Aboriginal adults, 29% (111,020) had received social assistance during 1990. This percentage rose to 42% among North American Indian adults living on Indian reserves and settlements.

Five percent of Aboriginal adults received an allowance for postsecondary studies. This percentage was smallest among the Inuit: only 2% reported that they had received a postsecondary allowance during 1990.

Table 4

Employment Income 1990

	Under \$2,000	\$2,000 to \$9,999	\$10,000 to \$19,999	\$20,000 to \$39,999	\$40,000 +
	%				
Total Aboriginal Population	17	30	21	24	8
NAI - On	20	36	23	18	3
NAI - Off	16	28	20	27	9
Métis	14	29	23	26	8
Inuit	20	33	18	21	8
Canada's Total Population	8	21	20	33	18

Note: NAI - On: North American Indian Living on Indian Reserves and Settlements.
NAI - Off: North American Indian Living off Reserves.

Table 5

Income From Sources Other Than Employment 1990

	Social Assistance	Postsecondary Allowance	Training Allowance	Worker's Compensation
	%			
Total Aboriginal Population	29	5	4	2
NAI - On	42	5	4	2
NAI - Off	25	6	4	3
Métis	22	4	4	3
Inuit	23	2	5	2

Note: NAI - On: North American Indian Living on Indian Reserves and Settlements.
NAI - Off: North American Indian Living off Reserves.

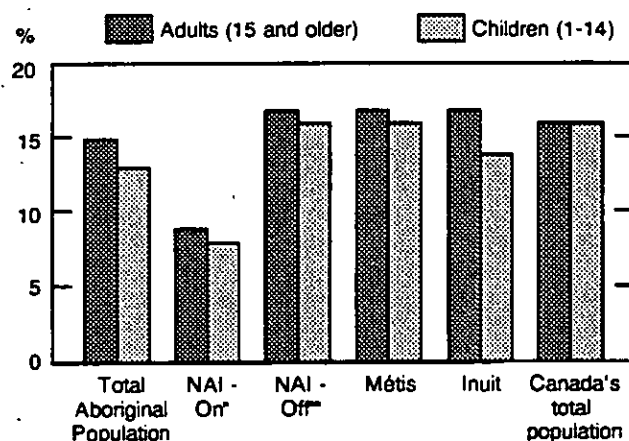
Fifteen percent of Aboriginal adults had moved recently—slightly less than the proportion of movers in Canada's total population

Contrary to a commonly held view, Aboriginal people do not move more frequently than Canada's total population. Only 15% of Aboriginal adults had moved during the 12 months prior to the survey. According to the 1991 Census, 16% of Canada's population in the same age group moved during the 12 months prior to the Census.

Among adult North American Indians who were living on Indian reserves and settlements, only 9% had moved during the 12 months prior to the survey.

A similar pattern is noted when comparing Aboriginal children aged 1 to 14 with Canada's total population of the same age group. Among Aboriginal children, 13% had moved during the 12 months prior to the survey, while 16% of children in Canada had moved in the 12 months prior to the Census.

Movers for 12 month period prior to survey



- * NAI - On: North American Indian Living on Indian Reserves and Settlements.
- ** NAI - Off: North American Indian Living off Reserves.

1991 Aboriginal Peoples Survey

A large-scale survey of people who reported Aboriginal ancestry and/or who reported being registered under the *Indian Act* of Canada was conducted after the 1991 Census. This survey, the Aboriginal Peoples Survey, was developed in consultation with Aboriginal organizations and government departments.

From those people who identified as North American Indian, Métis or Inuit, the survey collected information on such issues as employment, education, language, tradition, health, lifestyle and social issues, mobility, housing, disability, income and household expenses.

Upcoming Data Products and Services from the 1991 Aboriginal Peoples Survey

Aboriginal Peoples Survey Workshop
 Disability and Housing
 Community Profiles (available in electronic format)
 Microdata File
 North American Indians: A Statistical Profile
 The Métis: A Statistical Profile
 The Inuit: A Statistical Profile

Release Date

Fall 1993
 December 1993
 Spring 1994
 Spring 1994
 Fall 1994
 Fall 1994
 Fall 1994

Incompletely enumerated Indian reserves and settlements

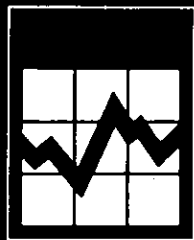
There were 78 incompletely enumerated Indian reserves and settlements during the 1991 Census. These reserves and settlements represent about 38,000 people. Because the Aboriginal Peoples Survey (APS) sample was selected from the 1991 Census, these 78 reserves and settlements are not included in the APS tables.

An additional 181 Indian reserves and settlements, representing about 20,000 people, were incompletely enumerated during the APS because enumeration was not permitted or was interrupted before all questionnaires could be completed.

Another 14 Aboriginal communities, representing about 2,000 people, were also incompletely enumerated for the APS.

Lists of these incompletely enumerated Indian reserves and settlements and other Aboriginal communities can be found in *Schooling, Work and Related Activities, Income, Expenses and Mobility* (89-534, \$60), released today.

■



The Daily

Statistics Canada

Friday, March 25, 1994

For release at 8:30 a.m.

MAJOR RELEASE

Disability and Housing, 1991 Aboriginal Peoples Survey

3

- Over 30% of Aboriginal adults reported a disability, more than double the national rate.
- Among Aboriginal adults aged 15 to 34, the disability rate is three times the national rate for the same age group.
- Hearing disabilities are highest among the Inuit—almost twice as prevalent as with Canada's adult population with disabilities.
- Aboriginal dwellings on Indian reserves or settlements had fewer safety devices than dwellings in Canada as a whole, while Inuit dwellings had more.
- Aboriginal dwellings on Indian reserves or settlements were newer, but not in better condition than dwellings in Canada as a whole.

Disability and Housing

1991 Aboriginal Peoples Survey

Today's release on two distinct topics—disability and housing—is the final release from the 1991 Aboriginal Peoples Survey (APS). The information was collected from 625,710 persons who reported in the APS that they identified with an Aboriginal group (i.e., they considered themselves to be North American Indian, Métis or Inuit).

Those who identified with an Aboriginal group represented approximately 63% of the total who, in the 1991 Census of Population, reported having Aboriginal origin(s) and/or being registered under the *Indian Act of Canada*.

To obtain a copy of 1—*Disability* 2—*Housing* (89-535, \$48), see "How to Order Publications". For further information, contact Post-Censal Surveys Program (613-951-4414).



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Abridged edition

This is an abridged edition of The Daily of March 25, 1994, showing only the major release on Aboriginal peoples.

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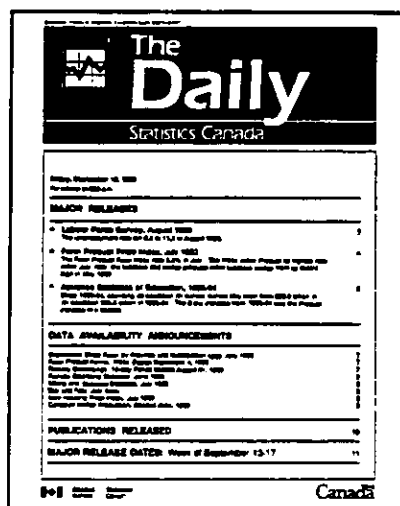
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MAJOR RELEASE

Disability and Housing

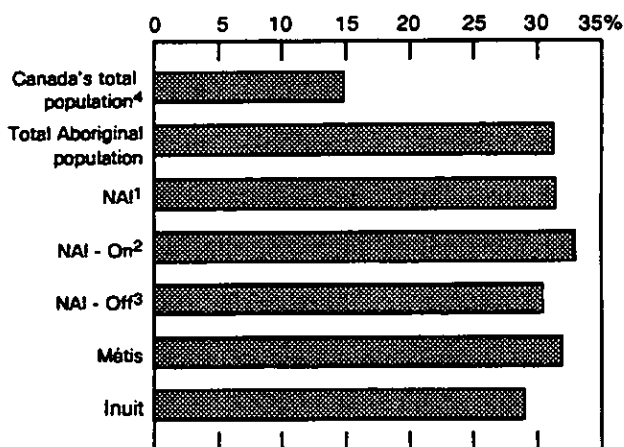
1991 Aboriginal Peoples Survey

In 1991, 117,090 or 31% of Aboriginal adults aged 15 and older reported some degree of disability—more than twice the national rate. The 1991 Health and Activity Limitation Survey shows the disability rate for Canada's adult (aged 15 and older) population (excluding the population in institutions and on Indian reserves and settlements) to be 15%. Rates for Canada's total population have been adjusted for differences in age distribution, in order to permit more meaningful comparisons between the two populations.

Among Aboriginal groups, North American Indians living on Indian reserves and settlements reported the highest disability rate (33%); the Inuit reported the lowest rate (29%).

This is consistent with the observation made over a decade ago by the Special Parliamentary Committee on the Disabled and the Handicapped. The *Follow-up Report: Native Population* observed that "native communities, and native people living in non-native communities, suffer on a daily basis from living conditions which other Canadians experience only rarely. These adversities—political, economic, social, and cultural in nature—greatly increase the probability of being disabled at some point in a person's lifetime. Although hard data is not available, it is generally felt by those who are knowledgeable about Native lifestyles, that the percentage of disabled persons is much higher among the Native population than it is among other groups of Canadians."

Disability rate for adults (aged 15 and over), 1991



- 1 NAI North American Indian.
- 2 NAI-on: North American Indian living on Indian reserves and settlements.
- 3 NAI-off: North American Indian living off reserves and settlements.
- 4 Adjusted for differences in age distribution.

Aboriginal disability rates were higher for all age groups

As with the total population, disability among the Aboriginal population increases with age. But among young Aboriginal adults aged 15 to 34, the rate (23%) is almost three times higher than among Canada's total population in the same age group (8%). Among those aged 55 and older, the difference in disability rates between Aboriginal persons and the total population is less pronounced. But the rate is still markedly higher for Aboriginal persons.

Disability rates 1991

Age group	Canada's Total Population	Total Aboriginal Population	North American Indian	North American Indian-On Reserve	North American Indian-Off Reserve	Métis	Inuit
	%						
15 to 34	7.9	22.6	22.7	22.4	22.8	22.5	22.0
35 to 54	13.7	35.5	35.4	35.5	35.3	37.2	33.3
55 and older	52.8	66.5	66.4	70.1	63.3	68.1	62.5

Nature of disability

Different types of disabilities were identified among Aboriginal adults aged 15 and older.

- Mobility:** limited in the ability to walk, move from room to room, carry an object for 10 metres, or stand for long periods.
- Agility:** limited in the ability to bend, dress or undress oneself, get in or out of bed, cut toenails, use fingers to grasp or handle objects, reach or cut one's own food.
- Seeing:** limited in the ability to see a printed page or to see someone from four metres, even when wearing corrective glasses.
- Hearing:** limited in the ability to hear what is being said in a conversation with one or more people, even when wearing a hearing aid.
- Speaking:** limited in the ability to be understood when talking.
- Other:** limited because of a learning disability or because of a mental health condition or problem.

Severity of disability

A severity scale for adults has been developed using the responses to the activity limitation questions in the 1991 Health and Activity Limitation Survey.

Each respondent received a severity score by adding together the individual's responses to all activity limitation questions. One point was scored for each partial loss of function and two points were scored for each total loss of function (i.e., a complete inability to perform a function). The total score was then categorized as follows: mild (less than 5 points), moderate (5 to 10 points), or severe (11 or more points).

Mobility and hearing disabilities were common

Among North American Indians (living on or off reserves and settlements) and Métis adults with disabilities, mobility was the most common (over 4 out of 10) type of disability—the same is true of Canada's adult population as a whole. However, for Inuit adults with disabilities, hearing was the most prevalent (44%) type of disability. Hearing disabilities were also high (39%) among North American Indian adults living on Indian reserves and settlements. Their hearing disability rates were almost double those of Canada's adult population. The higher incidence of hearing disabilities among these Aboriginal groups may be attributed to the prevalence of chronic ear infections (otitis media) and the resulting hearing loss, especially among Aboriginal persons living in northern areas.

As with the total Canadian population, a substantial proportion of Aboriginal adults (36.3%) reported that they were limited because of a learning disability or because of a mental health condition (included in "Other" in the table below). (For an explanation of the different types of disabilities, see the "Nature of disability" box on this page.)

Mild disabilities predominate among Aboriginal peoples

Almost two-thirds of Aboriginal adults with disabilities were classified as having a mild disability. This is slightly higher than the rate reported for Canada's total population. Among the Inuit, however, the "mild" classification accounted for almost three-quarters of the adult Inuit population with disabilities. (For a full description of the measurement of severity, see the "Severity of disability" box on this page.)

Aboriginal adults (aged 15 and over) with disabilities 1991

Nature of disability ²	Canada's Total Population ¹	Total Aboriginal Population	North American Indian	North American Indian-On Reserve	North American Indian-Off Reserve	Métis	Inuit
				%			
Mobility	45.4	44.8	45.6	48.8	44.8	44.2	35.6
Agility	43.8	35.3	35.2	33.8	36.0	38.1	26.3
Hearing	22.7	35.1	34.9	38.7	32.6	33.6	44.0
Seeing	9.2	24.4	25.1	31.8	20.9	22.1	24.1
Speaking	9.8	12.9	13.2	13.6	12.9	12.9	9.6
Other	37.4	36.3	36.7	36.9	36.5	35.1	36.4

¹ Adjusted for differences in age distribution.

² Nature of disability: for an explanation of the different types of disabilities refer to the box on this page.

What is a disability?

The 1991 Aboriginal Peoples Survey, like the 1991 Health and Activity Limitation Survey, uses the World Health Organization's definition of disability: "...any restriction or lack (resulting from impairment) of ability to perform an activity in the manner or within the range considered normal for a human being."

Aboriginal adults were asked questions about various limitations in activities related to daily living (sensory, mobility, agility, or other physical and psychological abilities) to determine the presence of a disability. The answers to the questions on disability represent the respondents' perception of the situation and are, therefore, subjective.

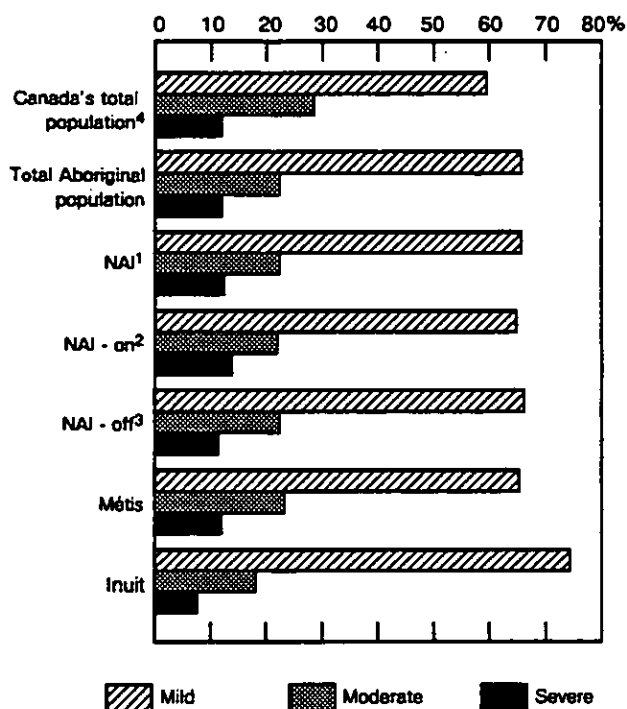
Aboriginal dwellings were newer but not in better condition

Slightly over half (54%) of Aboriginal dwellings were constructed since 1971, compared with 46% of dwellings in Canada as a whole. Among the Aboriginal groups, North American Indians living on Indian reserves and settlements have by far the greatest proportion (79%) of housing built since 1971, followed by the Inuit (69%). For North American Indians living off Indian reserves and settlements, the period of construction of their dwellings was very similar to that of dwellings in Canada as a whole. For the Métis, slightly more than half (53%) of the dwellings were built after 1970.

For Aboriginal dwellings, newer construction does not always translate into better-quality housing. About 20% of Aboriginal dwellings were reported to need major repairs, compared with 9% of dwellings in Canada. Among the Aboriginal groups, North American Indians living on Indian reserves and settlements reported a much greater percentage of dwellings in need of major repairs at 39%—almost twice as high as any of the other Aboriginal groups, and more than four times the national rate.

Residents in 21% of Aboriginal dwellings reported that their housing needs were not adequately met. The percentages were much higher for North American Indians living on Indian reserves and settlements (39%) and for the Inuit (33%). The types of housing inadequacies varied among the Aboriginal groups, ranging from needs for additional space (e.g., additional bedrooms or a larger kitchen) to better ways to keep the house warmer and new roofs.

Aboriginal adults (aged 15 and over) with disabilities, by level of severity, 1991



- 1 NAI North American Indian.
- 2 NAI-on: North American Indian living on Indian reserves and settlements.
- 3 NAI-off: North American Indian living off reserves and settlements.
- 4 Adjusted for differences in age distribution.

Period of construction and housing conditions

	Canada's Total Dwellings	Total Aboriginal Dwellings	North American Indian	North American Indian-On Reserve	North American Indian-Off Reserve	Métis	Inuit
Number of dwellings	10,018,265	239,240	177,450	39,870	137,580	65,005	9,655
	%						
Period of construction							
Before 1971	53.7	46.0	46.3	21.4	53.6	47.2	31.3
1971-1991	46.3	54.0	53.7	78.6	46.4	52.8	68.7
Dwellings in need of							
Major repairs	8.2	19.6	20.8	38.8	15.6	16.8	18.3
Minor repairs	23.6	29.5	29.4	28.7	29.6	30.3	24.2
Regular maintenance	68.2	50.9	49.8	32.5	54.8	52.9	57.4
Dwellings where needs were not adequately met	..	21.0	21.7	39.2	16.7	18.6	32.9

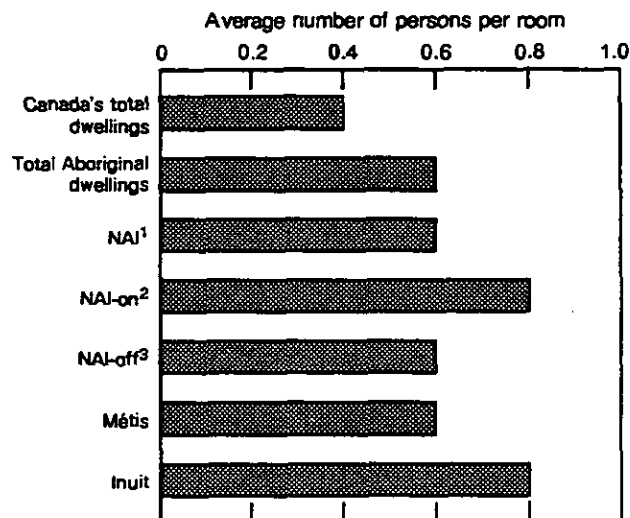
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Aboriginal dwellings were 50% more crowded

In 1991, Aboriginal dwellings were reported to have an average of 0.6 persons per room; by comparison, the corresponding average for dwellings in Canada was 0.4 persons per room. Although both of these averages were below the "overcrowding" standard of more than one person per room, Aboriginal dwellings were on average 50% more crowded than those in Canada as a whole.

Among the Aboriginal groups, crowding was highest in Inuit dwellings and in dwellings on Indian reserves and settlements, with an average of 0.8 persons per room—twice the average for Canada as a whole. The lowest level of crowding was found among Métis dwellings and among Aboriginal dwellings off Indian reserves and settlements, with an average of 0.6 persons per room.

Crowding indicator, 1991



- 1 NAI North American Indian.
 2 NAI-on: North American Indian living on Indian reserves and settlements.
 3 NAI-off: North American Indian living off reserves

Aboriginal dwellings on Indian reserves had the poorest housing conditions

Aboriginal dwellings on Indian reserves and settlements had almost equal dependence on electricity (42%) and wood stoves (41%) as heat sources. The use of wood stoves as a heat source by this group was 10 times greater than in Canada as a whole. Métis dwellings (63%) and Inuit dwellings (71%) were mostly dependent on furnace heating (oil, gas or other types of furnaces).

The vast majority (over 9 out of 10) of Aboriginal dwellings, like dwellings for Canada as a whole, were reported to have bathroom facilities. But the proportion was lower (83%) for Aboriginal dwellings on Indian reserves or settlements.

The presence of safety devices such as smoke detectors and fire extinguishers was almost as prevalent in Aboriginal dwellings (8 out of 10 dwellings) as it was in dwellings in Canada as a whole (9 out of 10 dwellings). One exception was the

What is an Aboriginal dwelling?

An Aboriginal dwelling refers to an occupied private dwelling with at least one person who identified with an Aboriginal group and/or reported being registered under the Indian Act.

Aboriginal dwellings on Indian reserves and settlements, which had the lowest percentage of dwellings with smoke detectors (63%) and fire extinguishers (38%).

Inuit dwellings were best-equipped with safety features

Inuit dwellings were better equipped with safety devices than were dwellings in Canada as a whole. About 90% of Inuit dwellings had smoke detectors (compared with 88% for Canada), and 76% of their dwellings had fire extinguishers (a rate over 1½ times the rate for Canada as a whole).

Dwelling facilities 1991

Facilities	Canada's Total Dwellings	Total Aboriginal Dwellings	North American Indian	North American Indian-On Reserve	North American Indian-Off Reserve	Métis	Inuit
	%						
Furnace heating	66.4	55.6	52.2	33.7	57.6	62.8	70.9
Electric heating	29.8	31.9	34.3	42.3	31.9	27.7	16.0
Wood stoves	4.4	17.2	18.8	41.3	12.2	13.8	9.7
Bathrooms	99.4	91.2	90.3	83.4	92.3	93.4	96.3
Smoke detectors	87.9	77.6	76.2	63.3	79.9	80.6	89.6
Fire extinguishers	46.3	44.0	42.4	38.0	43.7	43.0	75.7



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The Daily, March 25, 1994

1991 Aboriginal Peoples Survey

A large-scale survey of people who reported Aboriginal ancestry and/or who reported being registered under the Indian Act of Canada was conducted after the 1991 Census. This survey, the Aboriginal Peoples Survey, was developed in consultation with Aboriginal organizations and government departments.

Further information on the Aboriginal population's age, gender and geographic distribution was released in the March 30, 1993, issue of The Daily. Information on language, tradition, health, lifestyle and social issues was released in The Daily on June 29, 1993. Additional information on schooling, work and related activities, income, expenses and mobility was released in The Daily on September 20, 1993.

Upcoming Data Products and Services from the 1991 Aboriginal Peoples Survey

Data product or service	Release date
Microdata Files	Spring 1994
Community Profiles—Persons with Disabilities and Housing Characteristics (uncatalogued publication)	Spring 1994
Community Profiles—Complete Statistical Profiles (electronic format)	Fall 1994
North American Indians:	
A Statistical Profile	Fall 1994
Métis: A Statistical Profile	Fall 1994
Inuit: A Statistical Profile	Fall 1994

Incompletely enumerated Indian reserves and settlements

There were 78 incompletely enumerated Indian reserves and settlements during the 1991 Census. These reserves and settlements represent about 38,000 persons. Because the Aboriginal Peoples Survey (APS) sample was selected from the 1991 Census, these 78 reserves and settlements were not included in the APS tables.

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Lists of these incompletely enumerated Indian reserves and settlements, and other Aboriginal communities, can be found in 1—Disability 2—Housing (89-535, \$48), released today.

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