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**AN OVERVIEW OF SELECTED DEMOGRAPHIC
PATTERNS AND TRENDS AMONG REGISTERED
INDIANS FOR CANADA AND THE REGIONS WITH
OBSERVATIONS ON INTRA-REGIONAL DIFFERENCES
IN SASKATCHEWAN**

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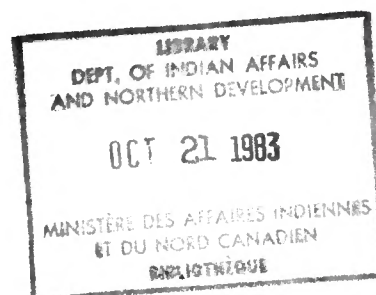
An Overview of Selected Demographic
Patterns and Trends Among Registered
Indians for Canada and the Regions with
Observations on Intra-regional Differences
in Saskatchewan

by

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Research Branch, Corporate Policy
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populations who are registered Indians (see Table 1). By 1986 registered Indians will still represent 1.3 per cent of the general population; the eastern provinces will see their percentage share of registered Indians relatively unchanged, but provinces such as Saskatchewan will likely see their shares increasing from under 5 per cent in 1976 to over 5 per cent by 1986. Alberta, British Columbia, Northwest Territories and Yukon are expected to show a decrease in the Indian share of their total populations between 1976 and 1986.

2.2 Growth

The Registered Indian population has had high growth rates relative to the Canadian population as a whole, from 1966 to 1976, where the average annual growth rate was running at 3.0 per cent between 1966 and 1971 compared to 1.6 per cent in the general population. The growth rates in both populations declined in the next five years, the Indian rate averaging 2.1 per cent and the general population 1.2 per cent (see Table 2). Because of the forecast decline in the Indian birth rate, the average annual growth rate is expected to decline further, reaching 1.7 per cent by 1981 and 1.6 by 1986³. Thus, if current trends continue, the Indian growth rate will begin to converge on that of the general population of Canada.

Regionally over the 1966-76 period the same patterns hold true (see Table 2).

3. FERTILITY

A key factor in the growth of the Indian population is its birth rate. Numerically, it contributes the largest share of the growth to this population. In demographic terms, in fact, we can con-

An Overview of Selected Demographic Patterns
and Trends Among Registered Indians in
Canada and the Regions: Implications for Policy
and Program Planning

1. INTRODUCTION

Several federal government departments have programs, policies and responsibilities which affect the registered Indian and other native populations directly so there is a need for knowledge of their population dynamics and characteristics to support policy development, program planning and operations. Indeed, such knowledge is fundamental to the native groups themselves for their own decision-making.

This paper will focus on selected registered Indian demographic patterns and trends over the 1966-76 period and will also include a medium term forecast to 1986. This will be done for the total registered population of Canada as well as for provinces and territories except for P.E.I., Nova Scotia and New Brunswick which in the main have been combined into the Atlantic region. In addition, Indian patterns and trends will be compared to those in the general population as a whole and to the provinces and territories.

2. POPULATION SIZE AND GROWTH

2.1 Size

The total registered Indian population in 1976 was estimated just over 294,000 which represents about 1.3 per cent of the total population of Canada¹. The size of the Indian population varies across the provinces²; the largest population or Indian band membership is in Ontario with approximately 64,000 and the smallest in the Yukon with 2,600. As percentages of the their respective provinces or territories the Northwest Territories and western provinces have among the largest shares of their total

TABLE 1 - REGISTERED INDIAN AND TOTAL POPULATION FOR CANADA AND PROVINCES, SHOWING REGISTERED INDIANS AS A PERCENTAGE OF THE TOTAL, 1966, 1976, 1986

CANADA & PROVINCES	1966			1976			1986		
	REG. INDIAN ¹	TOT. POP (,000's)	% OF TOT. POP	REG. INDIAN ¹	TOT. POP (,000's)	% OF TOT. POP	REG. INDIAN	TOT. POP (,000's)	% OF TOT. POP
CANADA	225,306	20,014.9	1.1	294,321	22,992.6	1.3	345,106	26,054.6	1.3
ATLANTIC ²	8,598	1,481.3	0.6	11,134	1,624.0	0.7	12,224	1,812.8	0.7
QUEBEC	23,375	5,780.8	0.4	31,619	6,234.4	0.5	33,728	6,651.8	0.5
ONTARIO	51,951	6,960.9	0.7	64,371	8,264.5	0.8	74,725	9,305.4	0.8
MANITOBA	31,407	963.1	3.3	43,340	1,021.5	4.2	53,859	1,107.2	4.9
SASKATCHEWAN	31,693	955.4	3.3	44,527	921.3	4.8	56,211	1,034.8	5.4
ALBERTA	25,569	1,463.2	1.7	34,966	1,838.0	1.9	43,575	2,525.6	1.7
BRITISH COLUMBIA	44,619	1,873.7	2.4	54,176	2,466.6	2.2	58,837	2,916.9	2.0
NORTHWEST TERRITORIES	5,738	28.7	19.9	7,427	42.6	17.4	8,970	57.7	15.5
YUKON	2,356	14.4	16.4	2,761	21.8	12.7	2,977	29.1	10.2

¹The registered Indian population in 1966 and 1976 has been adjusted for late reporting of births and 1-4 year old in the Indian register.

²Includes the provinces of PEI, Nova Scotia and New Brunswick. Respectively they represent about 4%, 50% and 46% of the total Indian population in the Atlantic region.

Sources: Registered Indian population projections, Canada and regions, 1986, Research Branch, Corporate Policy, March 1980.

Unpublished worksheets, Research Support Section, Research Branch, Corporate Policy.

Statistics Canada, Population Revised Annual Estimates, 1921-71, 1971-76, Cat. Nos. 91-512, 91-518.

Statistics Canada, Population Projections for Canada, 1976-2001, Projection Series No. 2 Cat. No. 91-520 January, 1979.

Prepared by: Research Branch, Corporate Policy, D.I.A.N.D., 20-6-80.

TABLE 2 - AVERAGE ANNUAL GROWTH RATES OF THE REGISTERED INDIAN AND GENERAL POPULATIONS
FOR CANADA, PROVINCES AND TERRITORIES, 1966-71, 1971-76,
1976-81 AND 1981-86

CANADA AND PROVINCES	AVERAGE ANNUAL GROWTH RATES							
	1966-71		1971-76		1976-81		1981-86	
	REG. INDIAN	GEN. POP.	REG. INDIAN	GEN. POP.	REG. INDIAN	GEN. POP.	REG. INDIAN	GEN. POP.
ATLANTIC ¹	3.3	0.7	2.1	1.2	0.9	1.2	1.0	1.1
QUEBEC	2.9	0.8	1.8	0.7	1.3	0.6	1.1	0.7
ONTARIO	2.2	2.1	2.3	1.5	1.4	1.3	1.1	1.2
MANITOBA	3.9	0.5	3.1	0.7	2.4	0.8	2.2	0.8
SASKATCHEWAN	4.1	-0.6	3.3	-0.1	2.6	1.4	2.4	1.0
ALBERTA	3.8	2.3	2.9	2.6	2.3	3.5	2.4	3.4
B.C.	2.3	3.3	1.8	2.6	0.8	1.5	0.9	2.0
N.W.T.	3.5	4.3	2.1	4.5	1.9	3.3	2.0	3.3
YUKON	2.0	5.6	1.3	3.7	0.4	3.0	1.1	3.2
CANADA ²	3.0	1.6	2.1	1.2	1.7	1.4	1.6	1.4

¹Includes provinces of PEI, Nova Scotia and New Brunswick.

²See note 3 in text.

Sources: Registered Indian population projections, Canada and regions, 1986, Research Branch, Corporate Policy, March 1980.

Unpublished worksheets, Research Support Section, Research Branch, Corporate Policy.

Statistics Canada, Population Revised Annual Estimates, 1921-71, 1971-76, Cat. Nos. 91-512, 91-518.

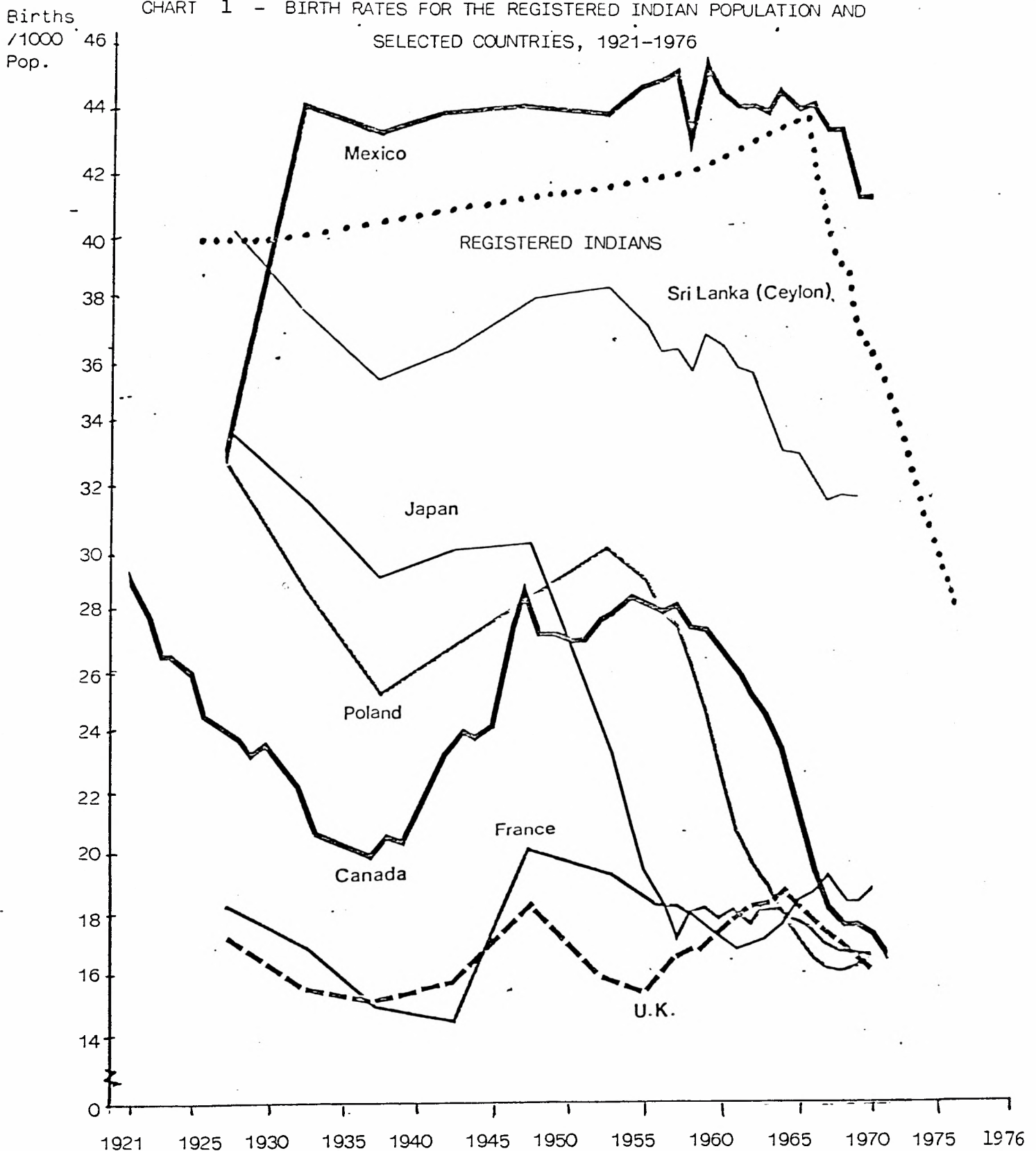
Statistics Canada, Population Projections for Canada, 1976-2001, Projection Series No. 2 Cat. No. 91-520 January, 1979.

Prepared by: Research Branch, Corporate Policy, D.I.A.N.D., 20-6-80.

sider registered Indians as a closed population, that is to say, the population grows almost entirely by the difference between births and deaths or natural increase. There effectively is no migration factor when dealing with the total registered Indian population. The other ways in which this population can be increased or decreased according to the Indian Act are small in number and tend to cancel each other out⁴.

There has been a marked decline in the birth rate since 1965 among registered Indians, although their rate is still nearly twice as high at 28.5 births per 1,000 population as that of the general population in 1976. Between 1924 and 1965, the Indian crude birth rate was in the range of 38-44 births per 1,000 population reaching a peak in 1965 of about 44 (Romaniuc and Piché, 1972). This was as high as the rates experienced by many third world countries, such as Mexico's whose birth rate trend the registered Indian population has seemed to parallel fairly closely (see Chart 1).

A more accurate measure of the fertility than the crude birth rate is the general fertility rate (GFR), which is a ratio of births per 1,000 women in the childbearing years. Charts 2.1 and 2.2 show the GFR's for the regions from 1966 to 1976. These trend lines confirm the fact that Indian fertility rates have been declining in every region during this ten year period. At the same time, however, the number of women in the childbearing years 15-44 have increased in each region by at least about 40 per cent (see Table 3). Furthermore not only the GFR's but the absolute number of births decreased during the same time period. Such a demographic trend would seem to indicate average family size is decreasing and perhaps even desired family size is decreasing, although this aspect of declining Indian fertility has yet to be studied.



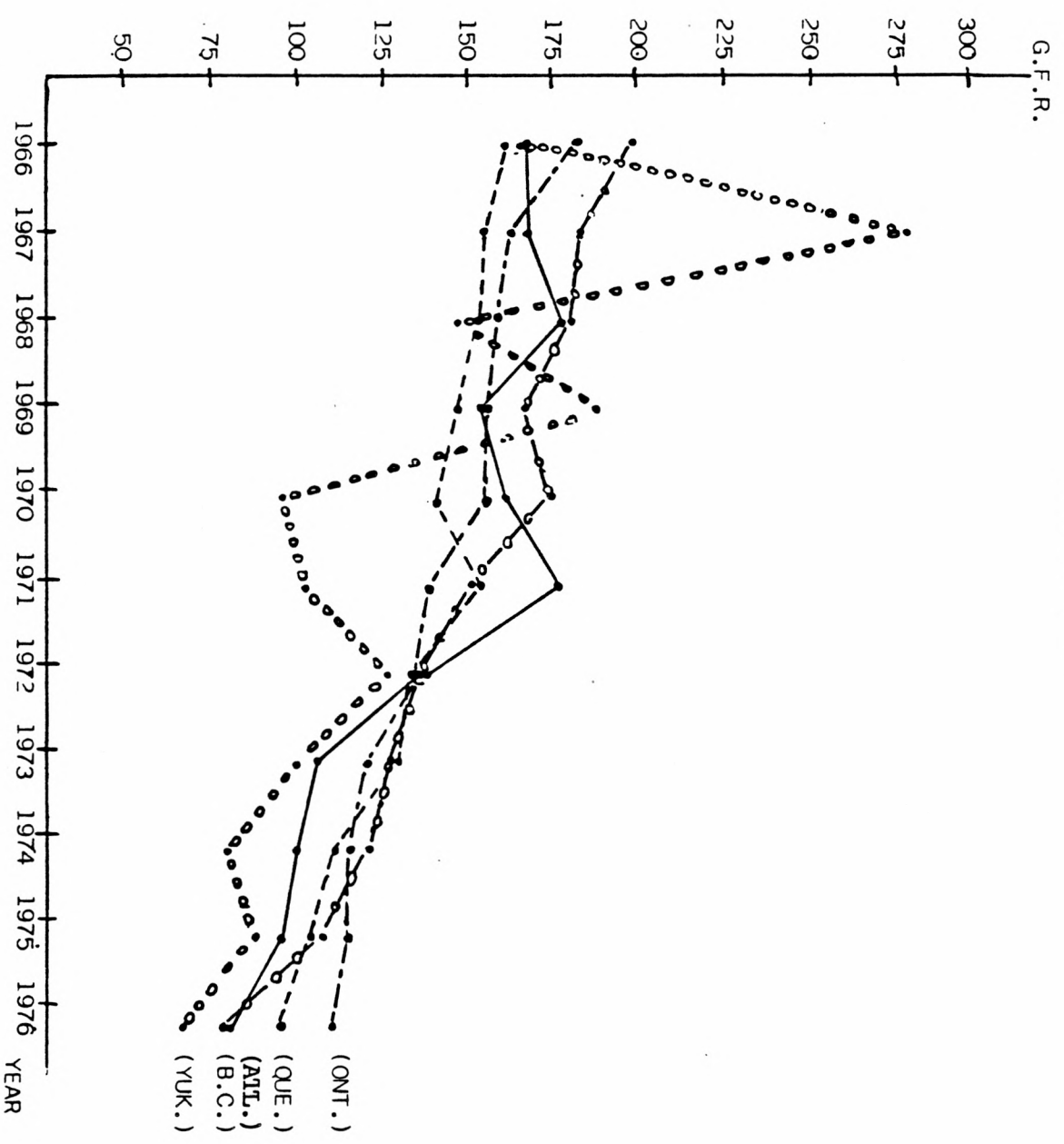
Sources: Statistics Canada, Vital Statistics, 1976, Cat. Nos 84-204.

United Nations, Demographic Yearbook, 1969.

Unpublished worksheets, Research Support Section, Research Branch, Corporate Policy.

Romaniuc, A. and Piché, V., Canadian Sociology and Anthropology Review 9-1:1-20, 1972.

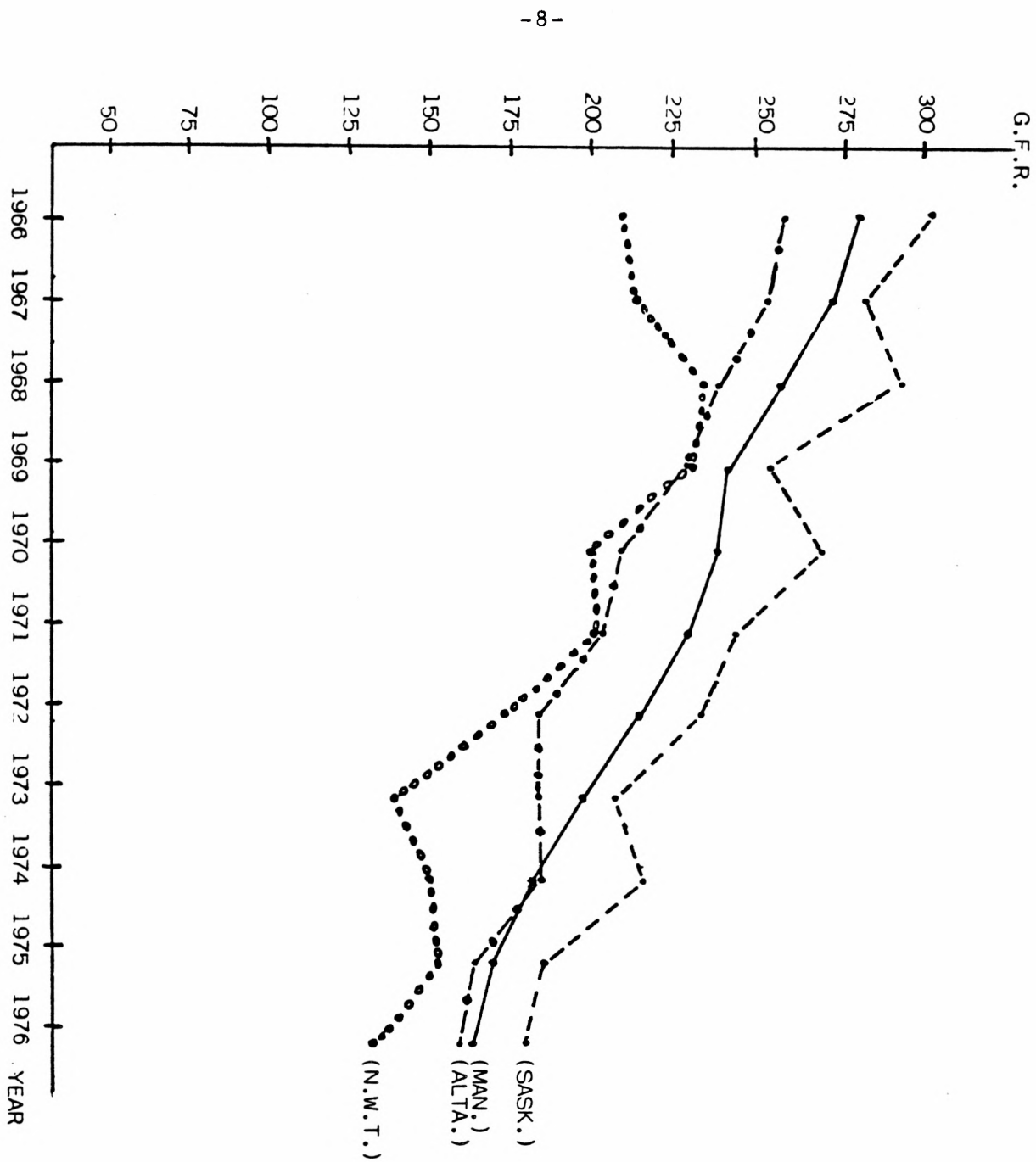
CHART 2.1
THE GENERAL FERTILITY RATES¹
FOR REGISTERED INDIAN WOMEN BY REGION,
1966 TO 1976



¹General Fertility Rate - is the ratio of births to women in the childbearing years (15-44 years) multiplied by 1,000.

Source: Unpublished worksheets, Research Support Section, Research Branch, Corporate Policy.

CHART 2.2
THE GENERAL FERTILITY RATES¹
FOR REGISTERED INDIAN WOMEN, BY REGION,
1966 TO 1976



¹General Fertility Rate - is the ratio of births to women in the childbearing years (15-44 years) multiplied by 1,000.
Source: Unpublished worksheets, Research Support Section, Research Branch, Corporate Policy.

TABLE 3 - THE GENERAL FERTILITY RATES FOR REGISTERED INDIAN AND GENERAL POPULATIONS
AND THE NUMBER OF REGISTERED INDIAN FEMALES FOR CANADA AND PROVINCES,
1966, 1971, 1976

CANADA AND PROVINCES	GENERAL FERTILITY RATES ¹						REGISTERED INDIAN FEMALES 15 - 44		
	1966		1971		1976		1966	1971	1976
	REG. INDIAN	GEN. POP.	REG. INDIAN	GEN. POP.	REG. INDIAN	GEN. POP.			
ATLANTIC ²	168.8	94.3	178.7	83.3	84.4	68.4	1,730	2,155	2,641
QUEBEC	167.2	77.4	155.1	57.8	99.7	57.2	4,647	5,970	7,090
ONTARIO	184.9	80.3	141.1	68.4	111.8	57.3	9,951	11,360	13,694
MANITOBA	280.1	82.6	228.8	78.0	163.1	67.4	5,441	6,725	8,570
SASKATCHEWAN	300.4	92.1	243.8	78.5	178.2	75.1	5,520	6,718	8,716
ALBERTA	257.7	90.7	200.6	77.4	156.3	69.5	4,665	5,712	7,229
B.C.	199.7	76.0	149.6	67.0	83.8	57.5	8,213	9,878	12,414
N.W.T.	208.3	193.9	202.9	160.9	130.2	113.8	1,061	1,232	1,490
YUKON	166.3	113.6	105.3	115.0	69.4	75.1	439	494	634
CANADA	222.2	81.5	179.1	67.7	131.8	60.3	41,667	50,244	62,478

¹General fertility rates = births per 1,000 females in age group 15 - 44.

²The Atlantic includes the registered Indian population of PEI, Nova Scotia and New Brunswick; also note that the 1971 figure seems odd although the general fertility ratio in 1970 and 1972 were 158.0 and 140.8 respectively and the overall ten year trend has been a declining one.

Source: Statistics Canada, Vital Statistics, Births, 1977, Cat. No. 84-204.

Unpublished worksheets, Research Support Section, Research Branch, Corporate Policy.

Prepared by: Research Branch, Corporate Policy, D.I.A.N.D., 20-6-80.

As to the cause of the sharp decline in the GFR in the Indian population, one can only offer a few hypotheses. At the same time Indian birth rates were declining infant mortality rates were too. There is some literature to support the notion that as infant mortality declines there is less necessity to have a lot of children to ensure the survival of a few. Secondly, information about family planning has become more widely available, especially among young women moving to the cities from Indian reserves and communities. As we shall see in section 6, there was a large movement off reserves to urban areas in the late 1960's and early 1970's, especially among Indian women.

Two distinct patterns emerge in the ten year trends in the Indian GFR's across regions, namely a fairly sharp difference between east and west. For example, in 1966 all provinces west of Ontario as well as the Northwest Territories had GFR's of, at least 200 births per 1,000 women in the childbearing years, while all the eastern provinces and the Yukon had rates lower than 200 (see Table 3). By 1976 the same basic pattern among regions still existed although the GFR's in all provinces and territories had declined substantially with the notable exception of B.C. whose rate declined by more than half and joined the levels of the eastern provinces. Saskatchewan had the highest Indian GFR in 1966 at 300 births per 1,000 women three times that of the general provincial population, and still maintained the highest rate in 1976 at 178 which was still about two and a half times the rate in the overall provincial population. However, it should also be noted that the same ten year east-west pattern in the GFR's also holds true for the general provincial populations.

While only an initial observation has been made of Indian fertility at the national level by marital status and on/off reserve residence using birth data unadjusted for late reporting, two patterns also emerge. First, the number of legitimate births has declined significantly between 1971 and 1976 among Indian women residing on and off-reserve, while the number of births to single or unmarried women has increased and markedly so among those off-reserve (see Table 4). The net number of births on reserve over the same period, regardless of marital status, declined while the net number of off-reserve births remained relatively stable. This suggests that the birth rates on and off-reserve will likely have decreased between 1971 and 1976 as the number of women in the childbearing years increased in both locations.

Indian fertility patterns and trends need much more analysis as they undoubtedly have an important bearing on health and social services programs, particularly in urban areas where single female parents form a significant portion of the off-reserve population, an aspect which is discussed in Clatworthy's paper on urban Natives in Winnipeg. Understanding Indian fertility and how it is changing would also assist planners in projecting the population with more accuracy.

4. MORTALITY

There is no doubt that better health care and delivery, improved sanitation systems and infrastructure have assisted in the reductions in Indian mortality rates over the last twenty years. The infant mortality rate has indeed declined from some 79 deaths per 1,000 live births to 32 between 1960 and 1976, even though this latest rate is still twice that of the general population (Siggnner, A., 10 Sept. 1979). Other age groups have seen

TABLE 4 - TOTAL REGISTERED INDIAN BIRTHS REPORTED¹ BY RESIDENCE,
MARITAL STATUS AND AGE OF MOTHER, 1971, 1976

AGE	1971				1976			
	On-Reserve ²		Off-Reserve		On-Reserve		Off-Reserve	
	Married Females	Unmarried Females	Married Females	Unmarried Females	Married Females	Unmarried Females	Married Females	Unmarried Females
Under 15	1	14	-	9	1	22	1	12
15 - 19	477	1,099	110	225	475	1,252	111	344
20 - 29	2,309	1,439	672	486	1,944	1,530	549	621
30 - 34	1,143	252	237	113	677	233	175	100
40 +	291	35	70	15	128	30	15	12
TOTAL	4,221	2,839	1,089	848	3,225	3,067	851	1,089

¹The total Registered Indian births have been adjusted for late reported births in each year; however, the percentages of births according to marital status of the mother is derived directly from the Indian Register and have not been adjusted for late reporting of births. It is assumed that the 1971-76 trends would not be distorted significantly.

²Includes Registered Indians residing on Crown Land.

Sources: Total Registered Indian Births Reported, Legitimate and Illegitimate, by Sex, Residence, Age of Mother, 1971, 1976, Program Reference Centre 1976 Indian and Inuit Affairs Program, DIAND. Siggner, A. and Brulotte, G. "A Methodology for a Population Projection Model for the Registered Indian Population by Place of Residence for Canada and Regions, 1973 to 1985", Departmental Statistics Division, DIAND, February 1975. Statistics Canada, Canada Year Book for 1966, 1971, Ottawa 1967, 1972, 1977.

Prepared by: Research Branch, Corporate Policy, D.I.A.N.D., 20-6-80.

similar reductions. Nevertheless, certain age groups continue to experience death rates that are four and five times their Canadian counterparts. In particular, the death rate among Indian adults aged 20-44 years (whose major causes of death include deaths due to accidents, poisonings and violence) is indeed four times higher than that of the general population. This pattern seems to be fairly consistent across all regions where such causes of death account for at least 30 per cent of all Indian deaths (Health and Welfare Canada, 1978). Furthermore, as it will be shown in the next section, it is this age group which will be growing rapidly over the next two decades.

From Table 5 one can observe that a line can be drawn at the Ontario/Manitoba border where east of that line death rates in almost every age group tend to be lower than those in the western regions. The same regional pattern was also evident with the general fertility rates.

5. AGE COMPOSITION

A key demographic variable for the policy and planning process is the age composition of a population and how this composition has changed over time and how it is expected to change in the future.

Age is often associated in a systematic way with the utilization of and demand for various programs and services related to employment, housing, education, health, social welfare, social services, etc. Therefore, knowing the trends in age-specific utilization rates for individual programs and services can become a powerful planning tool, although other explanatory factors certainly play an important role.

TABLE 5 - AGE-SPECIFIC DEATH RATES FOR THE REGISTERED INDIAN POPULATION FOR CANADA AND PROVINCES, AVERAGED OVER THE 1973-76 PERIOD¹

CANADA AND PROVINCES	DEATH RATES BY AGE GROUP /1,000 POPULATION ²					
	UNDER 1	1 - 4	5 - 19	20 - 44	45 - 64	65 +
ATLANTIC ³	22.4	6 1.48	6 1.56	6 6.48	6 21.11	6 69.21
QUEBEC	22.4	4 3.04	4 1.48	4 3.78	4 12.37	4 49.93
ONTARIO	24.4	8 2.17	8 1.57	8 5.47	8 16.12	8 54.66
MANITOBA	30.8	5 2.96	5 2.09	5 5.66	5 10.08	5 53.17
SASKATCHEWAN	43.8	7 3.92	7 2.23	7 6.94	3 17.14	7 56.55
ALBERTA	28.9	2 2.95	2 2.04	2 9.12	4 16.65	2 61.02
BRITISH COLUMBIA	43.0	3 3.03	3 2.32	3 7.93	2 20.42	3 60.23
NORTHWEST TERRITORIES	50.3	2.1	1.7	9.8	10.2	44.3
YUKON	58.8	1 4.81	1 3.51	1 12.71	1 19.23	1 56.74
CANADA	33.4	3.1	1.9	6.0	15.7	57.0

$\chi^2 = 0.52$ $\chi^2 = 0.55$ $\chi^2 = 0.67$ $\chi^2 = 0.4$ 0

¹Death rates have been adjusted for late reporting to the Indian Register.

²Death rates under 1 year, are infant mortality rates, ie., infant deaths per 1,000 live births.

³Includes provinces of PEI, Nova Scotia and New Brunswick.

Source: Registered Indian deaths reported by age at death and by year of death, 1973-76, Program Reference Centre, Indian and Inuit Affairs Program.

Prepared by: Research Branch, Corporate Policy, D.I.A.N.D., 20-6-80.

The registered Indian population has undergone significant age compositional changes since the mid-1960's. With the decline in the Indian birth rate since the mid 1960's, the proportion of the dependent population under age 15 has been declining (see Table 6). In particular, the percentage share of the Indian population in the 0-4 age group has decreased by at least 25 per cent in all regions between 1966 and 1976 although these data are not shown here. The percentage of 5-9 year olds also declined over the ten year period, but still they represented the largest single share of the population in most regions in 1976. The next largest share of the population is in the 10-14 age group in 1976 for all regions but Manitoba and Saskatchewan. Needless to say, these two age groups will be entering the young adult age groups throughout this 1980 decade in record numbers in all regions. Accordingly, by 1986 the population in the age group 15-29 will represent at a minimum nearly 30 per cent of the total Indian population in every region (see Table 7).

An important planning issue to realize is that where the post-war "baby boom" in the general population had its major effects on the secondary and post-secondary school system on the labour force and the housing market in the late 1960's and throughout the 1970's, the Indian baby boom generation will be entering these same "life cycle" stages throughout the 1980's and into the 1990's. The impact for the Indian population will be serious, as the 15-64 age group is expected to rise from about 157,000 or 54 per cent of the total in 1976 to 217,000 or 63 per cent by 1986. This compares with a 66 per cent share of the general population of Canada expected to be in the 15-64 age group by 1986 (see Table 7).

Regionally, the eastern provinces, British Columbia and the two territories are expected to have at least 60 per cent of their

TABLE 6 - PERCENTAGE DISTRIBUTION OF THE REGISTERED INDIAN POPULATION BY AGE GROUP FOR CANADA AND PROVINCES, 1966, 1976 AND 1986¹

CANADA AND PROVINCES	AGE GROUPS											
	0 - 14			15 - 29			30 - 64			65+		
	1966	1976	1986	1966	1976	1986	1966	1976	1986	1966	1976	1986
ATLANTIC ²	44.2	37.4	26.9	26.3	30.9	42.8	26.0	27.4	25.8	3.5	4.3	4.5
QUEBEC	41.6	37.2	27.3	24.0	27.8	32.4	29.1	29.3	33.7	5.3	5.7	6.6
ONTARIO	42.4	36.6	28.8	25.5	30.3	31.9	27.0	27.8	33.1	5.1	5.3	6.2
MANITCBA	50.8	47.5	37.3	24.0	27.6	34.0	21.5	21.3	25.1	3.7	3.6	3.6
SASKATCHEWAN	52.7	49.5	39.8	23.1	27.8	34.1	20.9	19.7	23.1	3.3	3.0	3.0
ALBERTA	51.7	47.1	39.1	24.4	28.8	33.6	20.5	20.7	24.3	3.4	3.4	3.0
B.C.	48.2	40.0	27.2	25.5	31.9	36.7	22.3	24.3	32.2	4.0	3.8	3.9
N.W.T.	44.4	42.2	33.1	23.8	26.9	33.0	25.7	24.8	28.2	6.1	6.1	5.7
YUKON	47.6	36.6	26.8	24.0	31.5	36.0	23.4	26.8	32.6	5.0	5.1	4.6
CANADA	47.4	42.4	32.8	24.6	29.2	33.8	23.8	24.1	29.0	4.2	4.3	4.4

¹The registered Indian population projections, Canada and regions, 1966, Research Branch, Corporate Policy, March 1980.

²Includes provinces of PEI, Nova Scotia and New Brunswick.

Sources: Registered Indian population projections, for Canada and regions, 1977-1986, Program Reference Centre, Indian and Inuit Affairs Program, April, 1980.

Unpublished worksheets, Research Support Section, Research Branch, Corporate Policy.

Prepared by: Research Branch, Corporate Policy, D.I.A.N.D., 20-6-80.

TABLE 7 - NUMBER AND PERCENTAGE DISTRIBUTION, REGISTERED INDIAN POPULATION BY BROAD AGE GROUPS, CANADA AND PROVINCES,
1976 AND 1986

CANADA AND PROVINCES	0 - 14 YEARS			15 - 64 YEARS			65 + YEARS		
	1976		1986		1976		1976		1986
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N
ATLANTIC ²	4,169	37.4	3,285	26.9	6,493	58.3	472	4.3	551
QUEBEC	11,774	37.2	9,207	27.3	18,058	57.1	1,787	5.7	2,227
ONTARIO	23,230	36.6	21,532	28.8	36,855	58.1	3,358	5.3	4,603
MANITOBA	20,574	47.5	20,103	37.3	21,187	48.9	1,579	3.6	1,956
SASKATCHEWAN	22,056	49.5	22,343	39.7	21,122	47.4	1,349	3.1	1,703
ALBERTA	16,476	47.1	17,055	39.1	17,301	49.5	1,189	3.4	1,301
B.C.	21,653	40.0	16,019	27.2	30,469	56.2	2,054	3.8	2,309
N.W.T.	3,131	42.2	2,964	33.0	3,842	51.7	454	6.1	508
YUKON	1,011	36.7	800	26.9	1,608	58.2	142	5.1	136
CANADA ¹	124,074	42.3	113,308	32.8	156,935	53.5	12,384	4.2	15,294
									4.5

¹The registered Indian population in 1966 and 1976 has been adjusted for late reporting of births and 1-4 year olds in the Indian register.

²Includes provinces of PEI, Nova Scotia and New Brunswick.

Sources: Registered Indian population projections for Canada and regions, 1977-1986, Program Reference Centre, Indian and Inuit Affairs Program.

Unpublished worksheets, Research Support Section, Research Branch, Corporate Policy.

Prepared by: Research Branch, Corporate Policy, D.I.A.N.D., 20-6-80.

Indian populations in the labour force age group. The Prairie provinces will likely have in the range of 57 to 59 per cent in the labour force age group (see Table 7).

The rapid growth of the labour force age group and in particular that of the young adult population will pose several major social and economic challenges for all those concerned with policy making and planning. These challenges include dealing with:

1. Increased demand for employment or its corollary, welfare, if jobs are not found or created,
2. Increased demand for housing on and off-reserves,
3. Increased demand for social services,
4. Increased demand for health services particularly those services related to accidents among young adults,
5. Improving high school retention rates and post-secondary participation rates,
6. Reducing juvenile and young adult crime rates.

There is another aspect to Indian age compositional change which has the potential of making some of the above-mentioned challenges a little easier to meet. One measure, albeit a crude one, of the economic burden borne by a population is the dependency ratio i.e., the ratio of children under 15 years and those over 65 to the labour force age group 15-64. In 1966 the ratio of dependents to those in the 15-64 age group among Indians was about 108 dependents per 100 population 15-64, which compared to a ratio of 68 per 100 in the general population (see Table 8). By 1976 the Indian dependency ratio had declined to 86 per 100. If the fertility rate continues its

TABLE 8 - DEPENDENCY RATIOS FOR CANADA AND PROVINCES, FOR 1966, 1976 AND PROJECTIONS FOR 1986

CANADA AND PROVINCES	DEPENDENCY RATIOS ¹					
	1966		1976		1986	
	REG. INDIAN	GEN. POP.	REG. INDIAN	GEN. POP.	REG. INDIAN	GEN. POP.
ATLANTIC ²	91.2	76.8	71.5	59.4	51.9	53.2
QUEBEC	88.3	65.8	75.1	48.3	51.3	46.5
ONTARIO	93.7	66.2	74.5	51.7	53.6	45.1
MANITOBA	119.8	69.8	104.6	57.2	69.4	55.2
SASKATCHEWAN	127.4	75.1	110.8	61.3	74.8	58.5
ALBERTA	122.7	72.5	102.2	55.6	72.8	49.4
B.C.	109.0	67.2	77.8	51.4	45.2	49.6
N.W.T.	102.0	82.8	93.3	70.0	63.2	101.8
YUKON	110.9	71.4	71.7	47.6	50.2	45.5
CANADA	105.3	68.4	86.1	52.3	59.4	49.4

¹Dependency ratio = sum of populations aged 0-14 and 65 +, divided by the population aged 15-64, multiplied by 100.

²Includes provinces of PEI, Nova Scotia and New Brunswick.

Sources: Registered Indian population projections, Canada and regions, 1986, Research Branch, Corporate Policy, March 1980.

Unpublished worksheets, Research Support Section, Research Branch, Corporate Policy.

Statistics Canada, Population Revised Annual Estimates, 1921-71, 1971-76, Cat. Nos., 91-512, 91-518.

Statistics Canada, Population Projections for Canada, 1976-2001, Projection Series No. 2 Cat. No. 91-520 January, 1979.

Prepared by: Research Branch, Corporate Policy, D.I.A.N.D., 20-6-80.

decline as forecast and as the population age 15-64 increases, this ratio is expected to reach about 56 per 100 by 1986 converging on that of the general population which is likely to be about 52 per 100. Therefore, the Indian dependency burden will be almost half what the level was twenty years before.

Consequently, if economic opportunities are found to accomodate the rapidly growing Indian labour force, then the demographic conditions are such that they could assist in the amelioration of Indian economic conditions and the raising of their per capita standard-of-living as there will be proportionately less dependents to support.

What these demographic indicators tell us are the types and relative magnitudes of the issues that Indian people will be facing over the next ten to fifteen years. They should provide decision-makers with some of the objective facts to assist them in prioritizing their policy and planning goals. The goals can become more specific as we examine other demographic indicators such as the geographic distribution of the Indian population, how it has changed over time, and the factors, demographic, social, economic, etc., associated with that change.

6. ON/OFF RESERVE POPULATION DISTRIBUTION

In the period 1966-1976 two distinct trends have occurred in the percentage of the Indian population residing on-reserve and Crown land (hereafter referred to as on-reserve) and off-reserve⁵.

During the 1966-71 period there appears to have been a significant upward shift in the numbers and in the percentage of the population living off-reserve. In some regions this trend did not abate as fast as in others, but after about 1971 to 1976, a slowing down in the growth of the percentage

living off-reserve occurred. This more recent trend is important for policy and program planning especially in relation to the afore-mentioned changing age composition and its systematic association with certain social and economic challenges.

Between 1966 and 1971 the percentage of the Indian population on-reserve dropped from 84 to 77 per cent with a corresponding increase in the percentage off-reserve of 16 to 23 per cent. In absolute numbers this meant an increase of over 25,000 in the off-reserve population over that five year period. In the next five year period, 1971-76, the percentage on-reserve only decreased from 77 per cent to 73 per cent while the off-reserve share increased from 23 to 27 per cent. The numerical increase in the latter was about 19,000. Most of the increase in the off-reserve population has been a result of net migration from the reserves, although in the more recent years we suspect that natural increase (the difference between births and deaths) has begun to increase its contribution to the overall growth of the off-reserve population.

The picture across regions varies somewhat from the national, but the overall 1966-71 and 1971-76 patterns are observed generally. All regions displayed an increase in the percentage of their populations living off-reserve in the 1966-71 period. In the 1971-76 period, however, the east-west differences in trends emerge again.

For example, the eastern regions had percentages off-reserve which in the cases of the Atlantic and Ontario regions remained relatively stable at just under 26 per cent and 32 per cent, respectively (see Table 9). Quebec actually had a decrease in its share of the population off-reserve dropping from about 22 per cent to nearly 17 per cent in this 1971-76 period. The N.W.T. also displayed a similar trend to Quebec, although the change in the percentage over the two five year periods was not as large.

TABLE 9 - PERCENTAGE DISTRIBUTION OF THE REGISTERED INDIAN POPULATION
RESIDING ON- AND OFF-RESERVE FOR CANADA AND PROVINCES
FOR 1966, 1971 AND 1976 AND PROJECTIONS FOR 1981 AND 1986

CANADA AND PROVINCES	1966		1971		1976		1981		1986	
	ON- RES.	OFF- RES.	ON- RES.	OFF- RES.	ON- RES.	OFF- RES.	ON- RES.	OFF- RES.	ON- RES.	OFF- RES.
ATLANTIC ¹	78.6	21.4	74.1	25.9	74.4	25.6	73.5	26.5	72.6	27.4
QUEBEC	82.6	17.4	78.1	21.9	82.7	17.3	82.0	18.0	81.8	18.2
ONTARIO	73.2	26.8	67.9	32.1	68.2	31.8	68.4	31.6	68.0	32.0
MANITIBA	89.2	10.8	81.2	18.8	75.1	24.9	72.4	27.6	69.4	30.6
SASKATCHEWAN	88.1	11.9	77.2	22.8	70.8	29.2	68.0	32.0	65.0	35.0
ALBERTA	92.0	8.0	86.6	13.4	78.7	21.3	75.6	24.4	72.1	27.9
B.C.	87.7	17.3	70.2	29.8	63.9	36.1	60.7	39.3	57.6	42.4
N.W.T.	95.9	4.1	92.6	7.4	96.6	3.4	95.8	4.2	94.8	5.2
YUKON	72.0	28.0	73.5	26.5	84.1	15.9	83.2	16.8	82.8	17.2
CANADA	84.1	15.9	76.6	23.4	72.7	27.3	70.8	29.2	68.8	31.2

¹Includes provinces of PEI, Nova Scotia and New Brunswick.

Sources: Registered Indian population by residence, for Canada and provinces, 1966 to 1976, Program Reference Centre, Indian and Inuit Affairs Program.

Unpublished worksheets, Research Support Section, Research Branch, Corporate Policy.

Prepared by: Research Branch, Corporate Policy, D.I.A.N.D., 20-6-80.

N.W.T. has continued to have by far the largest percentage of its population on-reserve (actually mostly on Crown land) than any of the other regions with 97 per cent. The Yukon displayed a different pattern where the percentage on-reserve increased slightly in the first five year period then took a big jump upwards in the more recent period.

The western regions also had a different pattern. In each region from Manitoba to B.C., the percentage of the population off-reserve continued to increase in the 1971-76 period. In these regions the increase was not as large as in the first five year period, but still the share of the off-reserve population in each of the regions grew by at least six percentage points. Nevertheless, some additional observations in the on/off reserve trends in the Prairie regions are worth noting which suggest why the increase in the percentage off-reserve may be slowing down.

In the two or three years prior to 1976 in most of the western regions, the percentage of the population off-reserve in the mobile age group 15-29 stabilized or did not increase as rapidly as it had in the past. This further suggests that a number of push and pull factors such as poorer economic conditions in the cities, resource development opportunities in rural areas, more housing available on-reserve may be contributing to the slowing down in the movement off-reserve. A continuation of the slow down in the growth in the percentage off-reserve is by no means a definitive prediction about future trends. However, understanding the phenomenon of Indian migration needs much more systematic research than currently exists and would contribute to our ability to project the Indian population residing off-reserve with more confidence than simply extrapolating the historical trends, as we have done in our projection model (see Table 9).

7. THE GEOGRAPHIC LOCATION OF INDIAN BANDS

By geographic or band location we are measuring the proximity or physical accessibility that Indian bands have to urban areas with about 10,000 or more population. The bands have been classified into four groups: urban, semi-urban, rural and remote⁶. Although in this paper we have not located the bands according to geographic zones such as southern, forest-fringe, northern remote, we do recognize that certain demographic patterns may be concealed in our classification scheme. For example, rural bands located in southern Manitoba may have a different pattern in terms of the size and percentage of their population living off-reserve than do rural bands in the forest fringe zone or more northern areas which still may have access and proximity to urban areas of 10,000 or more population. However, it is our intention to develop such a zonal scheme and analyse band characteristics accordingly. Some preliminary but as yet unpublished work has already been done by the Department of Regional Economic Expansion on this and proved quite interesting.

By far, the majority (306) of the 573 Indian bands are located in rural or remote areas (see Table 10). These bands also make up 65 per cent of the total Indian population; that is to say that 65 per cent of the Indian population are members of bands located in these two types of areas. Correspondingly, only 167 bands are located in urban and semi-urban areas. The Indian population in these two locations constitute only 35 per cent of the total Indian population. Of course, certain proportions of the population from these types of band locations are living either on-reserve or off. If we assume that the on and off-reserve populations are distributed in the same proportion as the total band membership according to these four band locations, then any deviations from what we still call the "membership distribution" should indicate which types of bands are important

TABLE 10 - NUMBER OF BANDS BY TYPE OF LOCATION¹ CANADA AND REGIONS, 1977

REGIONS ²	TOTAL	URBAN	SEMI-URBAN	RURAL	REMOTE
ATLANTIC	29	6	10	13	-
QUEBEC	39	5	15	5	14
ONTARIO	115	8	21	52	34
MANITOBA	57	1	5	26	25
SASKATCHEWAN	68	2	13	43	10
ALBERTA	41	3	12	19	7
BRITISH COLUMBIA	194	23	41	77	53
MACKENZIE	16	-	1	7	8
YUKON	14	1	-	-	13
TOTAL CANADA	573	49	118	242	164

¹ Urban - has significant land in or contiguous to an urban centre (10,000 and over in population with economic characteristics of an urban centre).

Semi-Urban - is located within commuting distance of about 40 miles to nearest urban centre where good all-weather roads are available.

Rural - consists of other bands (where commuting distance is over 40 miles to the nearest urban centre) located within the Canada Land Inventory Boundaries and having reasonable means of transportation (at least one road).

Remote - includes: a) all bands not located within the Canada Land Inventory Boundaries and b) all other bands with C.L.I. boundaries but considered as lacking reasonable means of transportation (no roads).

² Regions corresponds to the administrative regions of the Indian and Inuit Affairs Program.

Source: Registered Indian Population by Sex and Residence, Canada and Regions, 1977, Program Reference Centre, Indian and Inuit Affairs Program.

Prepared by: Research Branch, Corporate Policy, D.I.A.N.D.; 20-6-80.

origins for or providing sources of growth to the population living on and off-reserve. For example, in 1977 at the Canada level when the on-reserve population is distributed according to the four band locations almost identical to that of the membership distribution (see Table 11).

In terms of being "over-represented" in comparison with the overall membership distribution according to band location, the off-reserve population originating from rural and semi-urban bands is over-represented. In the rural band case, this finding suggests that because rural bands have the largest band membership, they also have the largest potential sources of migrants for urban areas; as well they have at least one road into their reserves or settlements.

In the latter case, semi-urban bands have even greater accessibility as they are located within forty miles distance to urban areas.

By contrast, the off-reserve population coming from remote bands is "under-represented" in relation to the overall membership distribution, suggesting accessibility to urban areas may be one of the factors for their under-representation. Urban bands also are slightly under-represented in the off-reserve population distribution, however, this is likely due to the fact that the people who are members of urban bands can take advantage of the nearby urban area without having necessarily to live off-reserve.

Regionally, the pattern varies and physical accessibility to urban areas does not seem to be as obvious an explanatory factor, at least, in some regions. The distribution pattern of the off-reserve population according to the four band location categories is the same as the national pattern in Manitoba and Saskatchewan, namely, under-representation from the urban and remote bands and over-representation from semi-urban and urban bands (see Table 11).

TABLE 11 - PERCENTAGE DISTRIBUTION OF THE ON- AND OFF-RESERVE POPULATION BY BAND LOCATION FOR CANADA AND PROVINCES, 1977¹

CANADA AND PROVINCES	RES- 2 IDENCE	BAND LOCATION				
		URBAN	SEMI-URBAN	RURAL	REMOTE	TOTAL
		%	%	%	%	%
ATLANTIC ³	ON	16.2	47.7	36.1	-	100.0
	OFF	19.2	36.3	44.5	-	100.0
	TOTAL	17.0	44.7	38.3	-	100.0
QUEBEC	ON	30.6	26.4	13.6	29.4	100.0
	OFF	41.9	41.8	6.2	10.1	100.0
	TOTAL	32.6	29.2	12.3	25.9	100.0
ONTARIO	ON	25.3	19.1	36.9	18.7	100.0
	OFF	25.9	26.1	28.2	19.8	100.0
	TOTAL	25.5	21.3	34.2	19.0	100.0
MANITOBA	ON	3.6	5.7	34.5	56.2	100.0
	OFF	1.4	15.8	56.5	26.3	100.0
	TOTAL	3.0	8.3	40.0	48.7	100.0
SASKATCHEWAN	ON	0.9	15.5	60.4	23.2	100.0
	OFF	0.9	19.9	71.4	7.8	100.0
	TOTAL	0.9	16.8	63.7	18.6	100.0
ALBERTA	ON	19.3	37.9	33.4	9.4	100.0
	OFF	14.3	34.6	42.2	8.9	100.0
	TOTAL	18.2	37.2	35.3	9.3	100.0
B.C.	ON	12.3	16.3	40.2	31.2	100.0
	OFF	8.7	13.4	37.4	40.5	100.0
	TOTAL	11.0	15.2	39.3	34.5	100.0
N.W.T.	ON	-	7.7	62.2	30.1	100.0
	OFF	-	11.0	65.5	23.5	100.0
	TOTAL	-	7.8	62.4	29.8	100.0
YUKON	ON	18.8	-	-	81.2	100.0
	OFF	4.8	-	-	95.2	100.0
	TOTAL	16.3	-	-	83.7	100.0
CANADA	ON	14.9	19.8	37.4	27.9	100.0
	OFF	13.9	22.6	41.6	21.9	100.0
	TOTAL	14.6	20.6	38.6	26.2	100.0

¹See Table 10 footnote 1.

²On = On-reserve and Crown land, Off = Off-reserve.

³Includes provinces of PEI, Nova Scotia and New Brunswick.

Source: Unpublished tables, registered Indian populations, by residence, by geographic location, by region, 1977, Research Branch, Corporate Policy.

Prepared by: Research Branch, Corporate Policy, D.I.A.N.D., 20-6-80.

Semi-urban bands in Alberta are under-represented in the off-reserve population distribution while in B.C. semi-urban and rural bands are under-represented and even more surprisingly remote bands are over-represented. Such a finding suggests that a further explanation is required.

8. OTHER DEMOGRAPHIC INDICATORS BY BAND LOCATIONS: ANALYSIS OF TRENDS IN SASKATCHEWAN

This section of the paper will describe several demographic trends over the 1966-76 period among Indian bands in Saskatchewan by band location. The demographic indicators examined by band location are: spatial distribution, population size and growth, on/off reserve distributions, general fertility rates, age composition and dependency ratios. The differences in these demographic indicators by band location and changes in them over time suggest strongly that policy-makers and planners should take into account intra-regional patterns particularly in the planning and operation stages.

8.1 Distribution of Bands and Population by Geographic Location

Urban and semi-urban band categories have been combined since there are only two urban bands in Saskatchewan. The majority of the 68 Indian bands are located in rural areas (43 bands or 63 per cent) while only 15 bands are located in urban/semi-urban areas (22 per cent) and 10 bands are in remote areas (15 per cent). (See Table 12 and Appendix A).

As indicated in Figure 1, the majority of the urban/semi-urban bands are located in central Saskatchewan near Saskatoon and North Battleford while a few bands are further south near Regina. These bands are within a commuting distance of 40 miles from an urban centre and they have good all weather roads. Rural bands are also spread over the southern and central areas of Saskatchewan, but by definition they have a commuting distance of over 40 miles from an urban centre with reasonable road transportation

TABLE 12 - DISTRIBUTION OF INDIAN BANDS AND THE REGISTERED INDIAN POPULATION BY GEOGRAPHIC LOCATION, FOR SASKATCHEWAN, 1966 AND 1976

GEOGRAPHIC LOCATION	BANDS		POPULATION			
			1966		1976	
	N	%	N	%	N	%
URBAN/SEMI- URBAN	15	22	5,628	18	7,708	18
RURAL	43	63	20,078	64	27,615	63
REMOTE	10	15	5,511	18	8,059	19
TOTAL	68	100	31,217	100	43,382	100

Source: Registered Indian population by age, sex and residence, by band, for Saskatchewan, 1966 and 1976, Program Reference Centre, Indian and Inuit Affairs Program.

Prepared by: Research Branch, Corporate Policy, D.I.A.N.D., 20-6-80.

FIGURE 1 - GEOGRAPHIC LOCATION OF REGISTERED INDIAN BANDS FOR SASKATCHEWAN, 1977



Sources: Map of Indian bands of Canada, Indian and Inuit Affairs Districts, D.I.A.N.D., February 1977.
 Statistical Report: Listing of information related to the Housing Needs Analysis, 1977, D.I.A.N.D., 1977.

Prepared by: Research Branch, Corporate Policy, D.I.A.N.D., 20-6-80.

(at least one road). Meanwhile, the remote bands are primarily located in northern Saskatchewan, either outside the Canada Land Inventory boundaries or within these boundaries but lacking road access⁷.

The total registered Indian population in Saskatchewan increased from approximately 31,200 in 1966 to 43,400 in 1976, or by 39 per cent. The growth rate in the overall band membership was greatest among remote bands at 46 per cent, while the rates for urban/semi-urban and rural bands were 37 per cent and 38 per cent respectively. Despite the difference in these growth rates, the overall population or membership distribution has shifted only slightly during the 10 year period, decreasing from 64 per cent to 63 per cent among rural bands, increasing from 18 per cent to 19 per cent among remote bands, and remaining at 18 per cent among urban/semi-urban bands (see Table 12).

8.2 Population Distribution by On/Off Reserve Residence and Band Location

It has already been indicated that there was a substantial increase in the number and percentage of the Indian population living off-reserve between 1966 and 1976 in each province. The percentage of the total Indian population in Saskatchewan residing off-reserve more than doubled from 13 per cent in 1966 to 29 per cent in 1976 (see Table 13). However, the increase was greater among urban/semi-urban and remote bands in comparison with rural bands, where the percentages living off-reserve among urban/semi-urban and remote bands nearly tripled over the ten year period.

In 1966, rural bands had the greatest percentage of their population living off-reserve at 16 per cent, followed by urban/semi-urban bands at 11 per cent and remote bands at 4 per cent. Rural bands still had the greatest percentage of their popula-

TABLE 13 - PERCENTAGE OF THE REGISTERED INDIAN POPULATION RESIDING OFF-RESERVE¹ AND THE TEN YEAR GROWTH RATE BY GEOGRAPHIC LOCATION, FOR SASKATCHEWAN, 1966 AND 1976

GEOGRAPHIC LOCATION	PERCENTAGE RESIDING OFF-RESERVE		TEN YEAR GROWTH RATE
	1966	1976	
	%	%	%
URBAN/SEMI-URBAN	11	32	195
RURAL	16	33	112
REMOTE	4	12	180
TOTAL	13	29	128

¹The 1966 on- and off-reserve populations have been adjusted for a change in the residence definition which occurred in 1974 in order to make the trends historically comparable.

Sources: Registered Indian population by age, sex and residence, by band, for Saskatchewan, 1966 and 1976, Program Reference Centre, Indian and Inuit Affairs Program.

Unpublished worksheets, Research Support Section, Research Branch, Corporate Policy.

Prepared by: Research Branch, Corporate Policy, D.I.A.N.D., 20-6-80.

tion residing off-reserve in 1976 at 33 per cent, however among urban/semi-urban and remote bands the population residing off-reserve increased at a faster rate reaching 32 per cent and 12 per cent respectively by 1976.

As a result of the dramatic increase in the off-reserve percentages among urban/semi-urban and remote bands, these types of bands are increasing their representation among the total off-reserve population. In 1966, rural bands accounted for only 64 per cent of the overall Indian band membership yet they represented 79 per cent of the total off-reserve population (see Table 14). By contrast, urban/semi-urban bands were slightly under-represented in that they accounted for 18 per cent of the overall band membership but only 15 per cent of the total off-reserve population. Remote bands were considerably more under-represented, accounting for 18 per cent of the overall band membership but only 6 per cent of the total off-reserve population.

However, by 1976 urban/semi-urban bands became slightly over-represented, accounting for 20 per cent of the total off-reserve population, while accounting for only 18 per cent of the overall band membership. Remote bands increased their representation slightly, although remaining considerably under-represented, accounting for 19 per cent of overall band membership while only 8 per cent of the total off-reserve population. In contrast, rural bands decreased their representation slightly, although remaining over-represented, where their overall band membership accounted for 63 per cent, while their share of the off-reserve population was 72 per cent.

8.3 General Fertility Rates by Residence and Geographic Location

As mentioned earlier, most of the increase in the off-reserve population has been a result of net migration from the reserves, although in recent years natural increase appears to be in-

TABLE 14 - PERCENTAGE DISTRIBUTION OF THE TOTAL AND OFF-RESERVE¹ REGISTERED INDIAN POPULATIONS BY GEOGRAPHIC LOCATION, FOR SASKATCHEWAN, 1966 AND 1976

GEOGRAPHIC LOCATION	PERCENTAGE DISTRIBUTION OF POPULATION			
	1966		1976	
	TOTAL POPULATION	OFF-RESERVE POPULATION	TOTAL POPULATION	OFF-RESERVE POPULATION
	%	%	%	%
URBAN/SEMI- URBAN	18	15	18	20
RURAL	64	79	63	72
REMOTE	18	6	19	8
TOTAL	100	100	100	100

¹The 1966 on- and off-reserve populations have been adjusted for a change in the residence definition which occurred in 1974 in order to make the trends historically comparable.

Sources: Registered Indian population by age, sex and residence, by band, for Saskatchewan, 1966 and 1976, Program Reference Centre, Indian and Inuit Affairs Program.

Unpublished worksheets, Research Support Section, Research Branch, Corporate Policy.

Prepared by: Research Branch, Corporate Policy, D.I.A.N.D., 20-6-80.

creasing its importance as a factor in the overall growth of the off-reserve population.

The general fertility rate (GFR) among Indians in Saskatchewan has decreased from approximately 300 births per 1,000 women in the childbearing years in 1966 to 178 births in 1976, a drop of 40 per cent (see Table 15). However, when we compare the changes in the GFR by residence and geographic location over the 1966-76 period, different patterns emerge.

In general, the on-reserve GFR is greater than the off-reserve GFR in each geographic location throughout the ten year period, although the gap is beginning to close. The on-reserve GFR has decreased from 345 births per 1,000 women in the childbearing years in 1966 to 200 births in 1976, a decline of 41 per cent. In contrast, the off-reserve GFR has increased from 94 births per 1,000 women aged 15-44 in 1966 to 131 in 1976, an increase of 39 per cent. If this trend continues it should not be too long before the off-reserve GFR converges on that of the on-reserve population.

Another interesting observation is the variation in growth rates of the GFR's by geographic location and residence. Whereas the rural bands had the highest on-reserve GFR in 1966 in comparison with the urban/semi-urban and remote bands, rural bands experienced the greatest percentage decrease in their on-reserve GFR between 1966 and 1976, resulting in by far the lowest on-reserve GFR by 1976. On the other hand, urban/semi-urban bands had the lowest off-reserve GFR in 1966 in comparison with the rural and remote bands. However, the urban/semi-urban GFR more than doubled by 1976, while remote bands, and in particular rural bands, had considerably lower growth rates in their off-reserve GFR.

TABLE 15- GENERAL FERTILITY RATES¹ FOR THE REGISTERED INDIAN POPULATION² BY GEOGRAPHIC LOCATION OF BAND AND RESIDENCE³, FOR SASKATCHEWAN, 1966 AND 1976

RESIDENCE	GENERAL FERTILITY RATE (/1,000 WOMEN AGED 15-44)							
	GEOGRAPHIC LOCATION OF BAND							
	URBAN AND SEMI-URBAN		RURAL		REMOTE		TOTAL	
	1966	1976	1966	1976	1966	1976	1966	1976
ON-RESERVE	348	241	350	176	327	248	345	202
OFF-RESERVE	74	174	95	112	135	201	94	131
TOTAL	307	216	297	152	316	238	302	179

¹The general fertility rate is computed by dividing the number of estimated births (including late reported births) in a specific year divided by the number of women aged 15-44 years, multiplied by 1,000.

²The number of births for 1966 and 1976 have been adjusted to include late reported births.

³The 1966 on-reserve and off-reserve populations have been adjusted for a change in the residence definition which occurred in 1974 in order to make the trends historically comparable.

Sources: Registered Indian population by age, sex and residence, by band, for Saskatchewan, 1966 and 1976, Program Reference Centre, Indian and Inuit Affairs Program.

Unpublished worksheets, Research Support Section, Research Branch, Corporate Policy.

Prepared by: Research Branch, Corporate Policy, D.I.A.N.D., 20-6-80.

8.4 Age Composition and Its Relationship to the GFR by Residence and Geographic Location

Changes in the GFR as well as migration patterns (especially among women in the childbearing years) impact directly on shifts in the age/sex composition of the Indian population by residence and geographic location.

The total number of Indian women aged 15-44 has increased by approximately 59 per cent between 1966 and 1976, which is slightly greater than the 55 per cent increase for men in that age group (see Table 16). However, within each geographic location the population increase in this age group, for both females and males, is considerably lower in the on-reserve population (ranging between 18 per cent and 47 per cent) than in the off-reserve population (ranging between 170 per cent and 321 per cent).

The dramatic percentage increase in the 15-44 age group off-reserve in comparison with that for the on-reserve population is largely a function of Indians migrating off-reserve, in particular those in the 15-29 age group. Furthermore, the percentage increase in the 15-44 age group off-reserve is greater for females than for males. Conversely, the percentage increase in the 15-44 age group on-reserve is greater for males than for females. This indicates that females in the 15-44 age group migrated off-reserve at a faster rate than males in the same age group between 1966 and 1976.

Combining the decrease in GFR with only a moderate increase in the number of women in the childbearing age has resulted in a decrease in the number of births in the on-reserve population for each geographic location between 1966 and 1976 (see Table 17). The percentage decrease in the number of births on-reserve during this period was greatest in rural bands, at about 40

TABLE 16 - THE TEN YEAR PERCENTAGE GROWTH RATES FOR THE REGISTERED INDIAN POPULATION AGED 15-44 BY GEOGRAPHIC LOCATION, RESIDENCE ¹ AND SEX, FOR SASKATCHEWAN, 1966-1976

GEOGRAPHIC LOCATION	1966-1976 PERCENTAGE GROWTH RATES FOR THE 15-44 AGE GROUP					
	FEMALES			MALES		
	ON-RESERVE	OFF-RESERVE	TOTAL	ON-RESERVE	OFF-RESERVE	TOTAL
	%	%	%	%	%	%
URBAN/SEMI-URBAN	18	289	58	30	229	57
RURAL	24	186	58	32	170	56
REMOTE	47	321	62	38	233	48
TOTAL	27	209	59	33	185	55

¹The 1966 on- and off-reserve populations have been adjusted for a change in the residence definition which occurred in 1974 in order to make the trends historically comparable.

Sources: Registered Indian population by age, sex and residence, by band, for Saskatchewan, 1966 and 1976, Program Reference Centre, Indian and Inuit Affairs Program.

Unpublished worksheets, Research Support Section, Research Branch, Corporate Policy.

Prepared by: Research Branch, Corporate Policy, D.I.A.N.D., 20-6-80.

TABLE 17 - THE NUMBER OF BIRTHS¹ AND THE TEN YEAR GROWTH RATE FOR THE REGISTERED INDIAN POPULATION, BY GEOGRAPHIC LOCATION AND RESIDENCE², FOR SASKATCHEWAN, 1966 AND 1976

GEOGRAPHIC LOCATION	RESIDENCE					
	ON-RESERVE			OFF-RESERVE		
	BIRTHS		1966-76 GROWTH RATE %	BIRTHS		1966-76 GROWTH RATE %
	1966	1976		1966	1976	
URBAN/SEMI- URBAN	294	239	-19	11	100	809
RURAL	985	613	-40	70	236	237
REMOTE	291	321	10	7	44	529
TOTAL	1,570	1,173	-25	88	380	332

¹The number of births for 1966 and 1976 have been adjusted to include late reported births.

²The 1966 on- and off-reserve populations have been adjusted for a change in the residence definition which occurred in 1974 in order to make the trends historically comparable.

Sources: Registered Indian population by age, sex and residence, by band, for Saskatchewan, 1966 and 1976, Program Reference Centre, Indian and Inuit Affairs Program.

Unpublished worksheets, Research Support Section, Research Branch, Corporate Policy.

Prepared by: Research Branch, Corporate Policy, D.I.A.N.D., 20-6-80.

per cent, in comparison with urban/semi-urban and remote bands (19 per cent and 10 per cent respectively). This is not surprising given that the rural bands also experienced the greatest decline in the on-reserve GFR during this period.

In contrast, the combining of the increase in the GFR with the dramatic increase in the number of women in the childbearing age off-reserve has resulted in an increase in the number of births in the off-reserve population for each geographic location between 1966 and 1976. The percentage increase in the number of births off-reserve during this period was greatest for the population originating from urban/semi-urban bands, at over 800 per cent, in comparison with those from remote and rural bands (over 200 per cent and 500 per cent respectively). This is also expected given that the urban/semi-urban bands also experienced the greatest increase in the off-reserve GFR during this period.

The number of Indians in each age group, for both on and off-reserve within each geographic location has increased between 1966 and 1976, with the exception of children aged 0-14 from rural bands living on-reserve (see Table 18). However, the decrease in births on-reserve between 1966 and 1976 along with the aging of the Indian baby boom children born prior to this period has had an impact on the age structure of the on-reserve population. This has resulted in an older Indian population on-reserve (see Table 19 and Charts 3, 4 and 5).

Off-reserve, the increase in births between 1966 and 1976 along with the migration off-reserve of young children with their parents have off-set any numerical increase in the older age groups due to migration. This has resulted in a shifting in the age composition of the off-reserve population whereby we observe a percentage increase in the 0-14 age group and per-

TABLE 18 - THE REGISTERED INDIAN POPULATION¹ BY AGE GROUP, RESIDENCE² AND GEOGRAPHIC LOCATION, FOR SASKATCHEWAN, 1966 AND 1976

AGE GROUP	GEOGRAPHIC LOCATION					
	URBAN/SEMI-URBAN		RURAL		REMOTE	
	ON- RESERVE	OFF- RESERVE	ON- RESERVE	OFF- RESERVE	ON- RESERVE	OFF- RESERVE
	N	N	N	N	N	N
1966						
0 - 14	2,631	260	9,098	1,516	2,670	108
15 - 29	1,147	190	3,823	864	1,191	72
30 - 44	624	104	2,003	509	704	38
45 - 64	432	52	1,410	212	499	16
65 +	185	3	598	45	205	8
TOTAL	5,019	609	16,932	3,146	5,269	242
1976						
0 - 14	2,368	1,212	8,692	4,650	3,444	499
15 - 29	1,561	706	5,325	2,605	1,910	274
30 - 44	639	350	2,157	1,217	783	138
45 - 64	462	166	1,578	575	658	59
65 +	217	27	666	150	273	21
TOTAL	5,247	2,461	18,418	9,197	7,068	991

¹The registered Indian population for 1966 and 1976 is adjusted for late reported births and 1-4 year olds; age unstated is excluded.

²The 1966 on- and off-reserve populations have been adjusted for a change in the residence definition which occurred in 1974 in order to make the trends historically comparable.

Sources: Registered Indian population by age, sex and residence, by band, for Saskatchewan, 1966 and 1976, Program Reference Centre, Indian and Inuit Affairs Program.

Unpublished worksheets, Research Support Section, Research Branch, Corporate Policy.

Prepared by: Research Branch, Corporate Policy, D.I.A.N.D., 20-6-80.

TABLE 19- THE PERCENTAGE DISTRIBUTION OF THE REGISTERED INDIAN POPULATION¹
BY AGE GROUP, RESIDENCE² AND GEOGRAPHIC LOCATION, FOR SASKATCHEWAN,
1966 AND 1976

AGE GROUP	GEOGRAPHIC LOCATION					
	URBAN/SEMI-URBAN		RURAL		REMOTE	
	ON- RESERVE	OFF- RESERVE	ON- RESERVE	OFF- RESERVE	ON- RESERVE	OFF- RESERVE
	%	%	%	%	%	%
1966						
0 - 14	52.4	42.7	53.7	48.2	50.7	44.6
15 - 29	22.9	31.2	22.7	27.5	22.6	29.8
30 - 44	12.4	17.1	11.8	16.2	13.4	15.7
45 - 64	8.6	8.5	8.3	6.7	9.5	6.6
65 +	3.7	0.5	3.5	1.4	3.8	3.3
TOTAL	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
1976						
0 - 14	45.1	49.2	47.2	50.6	48.7	50.4
15 - 29	29.8	28.7	28.9	28.3	27.0	27.6
30 - 44	12.2	14.2	11.7	13.2	11.1	13.9
45 - 64	8.8	6.8	8.6	6.3	9.3	6.0
65 +	4.1	1.1	3.6	1.6	3.9	2.1
TOTAL	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

¹The registered Indian population for 1966 and 1976 is adjusted for late reported births and 1-4 year olds; age unstated is excluded.

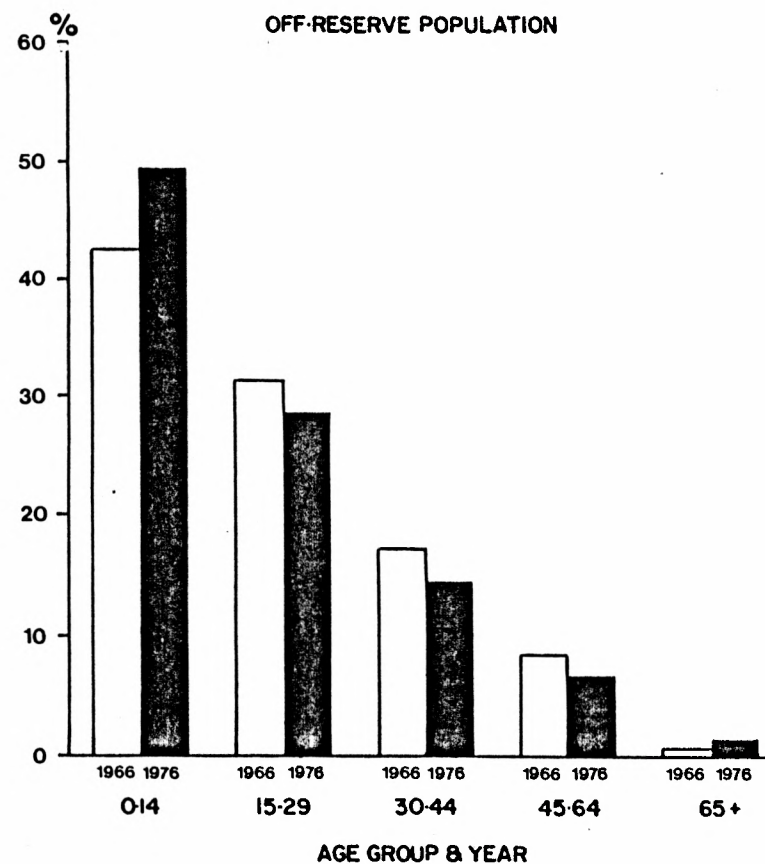
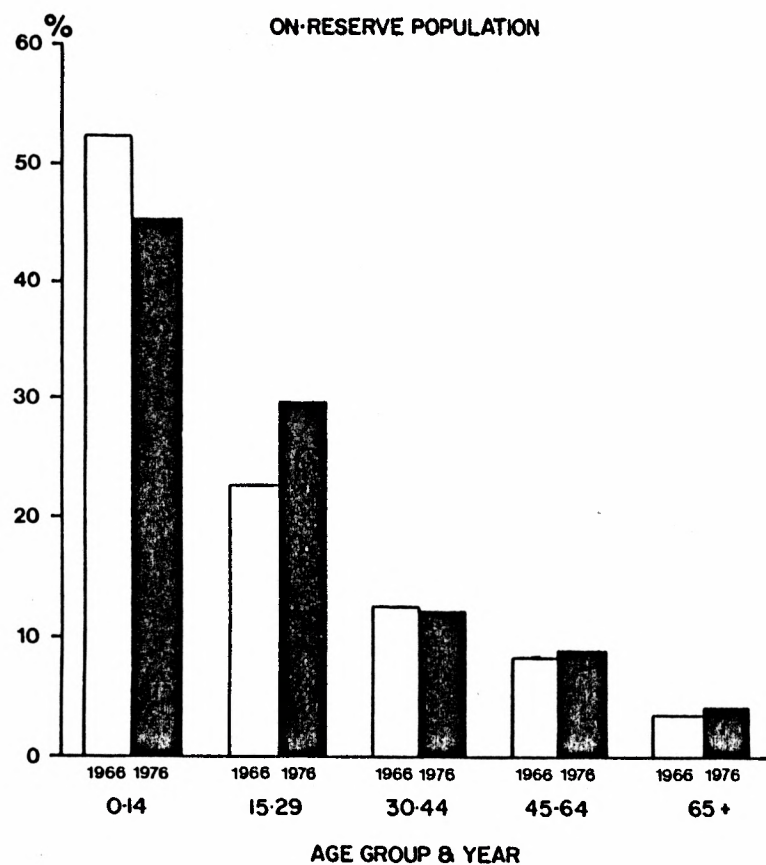
²The 1966 on- and off-reserve populations have been adjusted for a change in the residence definition which occurred in 1974 in order to make the trends historically comparable.

Sources: Registered Indian population by age, sex and residence, by band, for Saskatchewan, 1966 and 1976, Program Reference Centre, Indian and Inuit Affairs Program.

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Prepared by: Research Branch, Corporate Policy, D.I.A.N.D., 20-6-80.

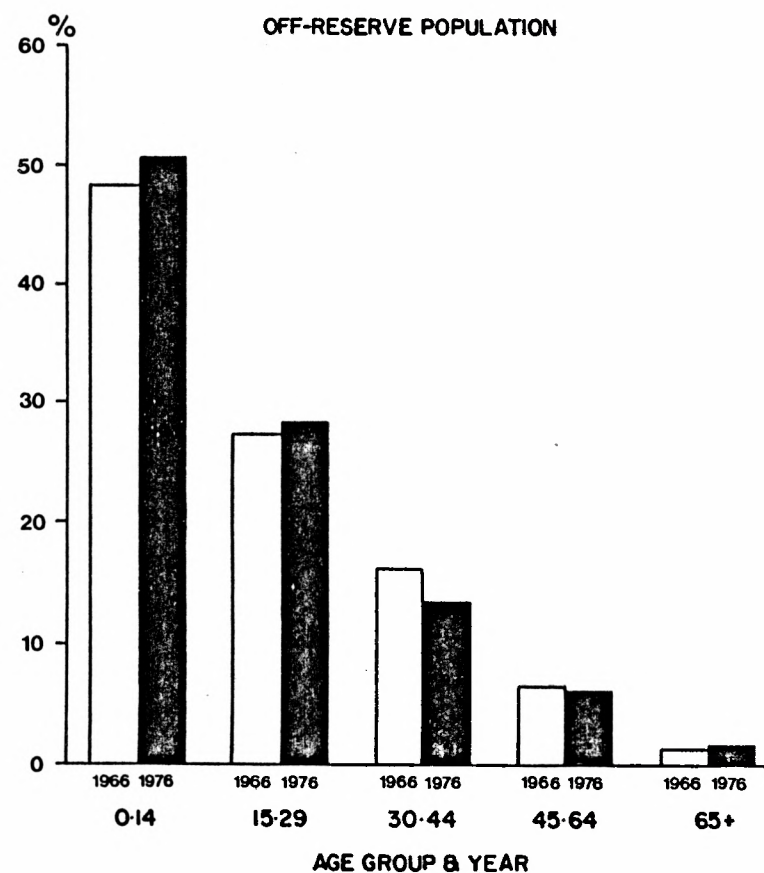
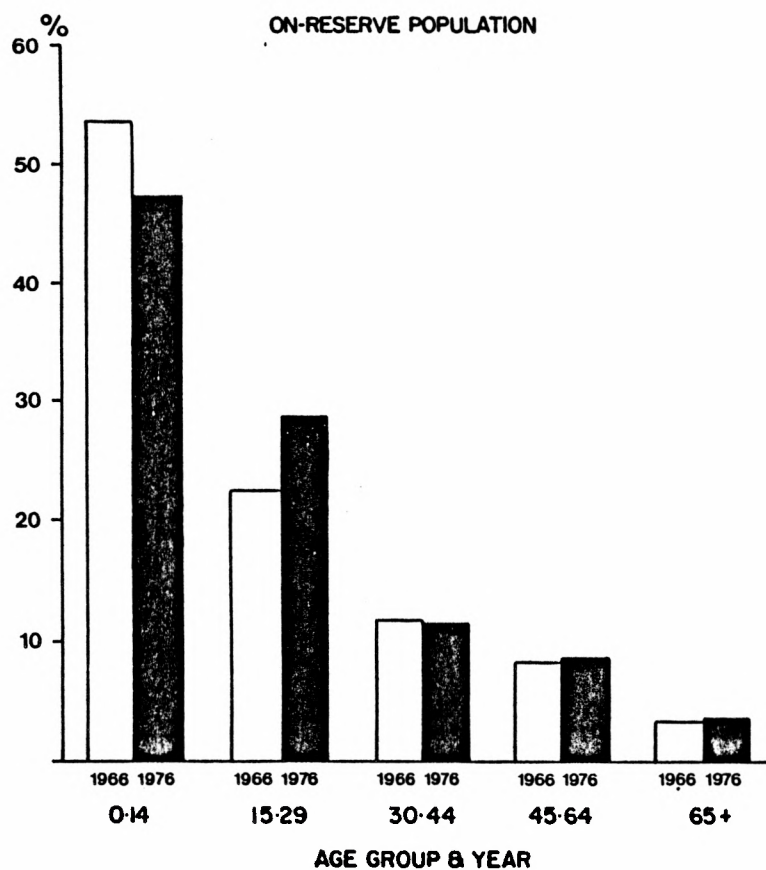
**CHART 3 - Percentage Distribution of the Registered Indian Population
By Age Group and Residence, for Urban and Semi-Urban
Bands for Saskatchewan, 1966 and 1976**



Sources : Registered Indian Population by Age, Sex and Residence, by Band, for Saskatchewan, 1976
Unpublished worksheets, Research Support Section, Research Branch, Corporate Policy

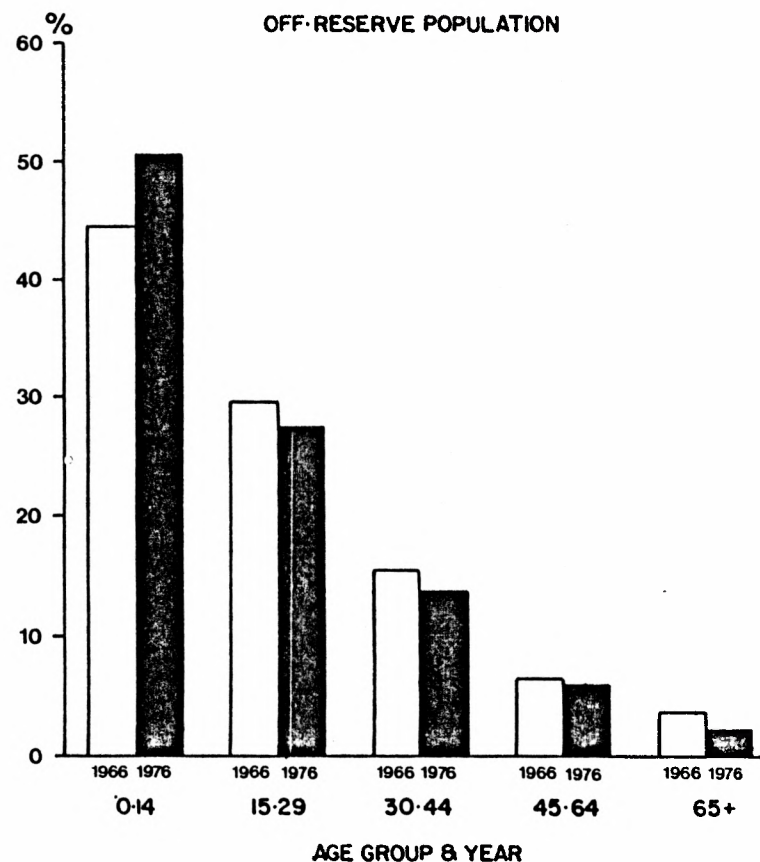
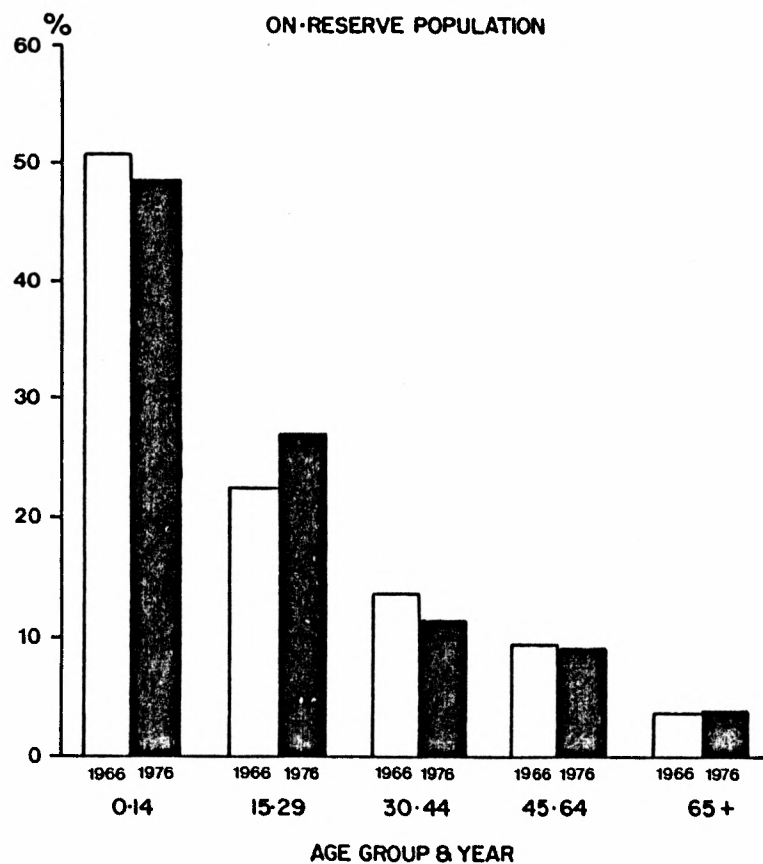
Prepared by: Research Support Section, Research Branch, Corporate Policy, D.I.A.N.D., 20/6/80

**CHART 4 - Percentage Distribution of the Registered Indian Population
By Age Group and Residence for Rural
Bands, for Saskatchewan, 1966 and 1976**



Sources: Registered Indian Population by Age, Sex and Residence, by Band, for Saskatchewan, 1976
Unpublished worksheets, Research Support Section, Research Branch, Corporate Policy
Prepared by: Research Support Section, Research Branch, Corporate Policy, D.I.A.N.D., 20/6/80

**CHART 5 - Percentage Distribution of the Registered Indian Population
By Age Group and Registered, for Remote
Bands for Saskatchewan, 1966 and 1976**



Sources: Registered Indian Population by Age, Sex and Residence, by Band, for Saskatchewan, 1976

Unpublished worksheets, Research Support Section, Research Branch, Corporate Policy

Prepared by: Research Support Section, Research Branch, Corporate Policy, D.I.A.N.D., 20/6/80

centage decreases in the older age groups, especially in the 15-29 and 30-44 age groups.

As discussed earlier, the dependency ratio, i.e. the ratio of children under 15 years and those 65 years and over to the labour force age group 15-64, is a crude measure of the economic burden borne by a population. Overall, the Indian dependency ratio in Saskatchewan has decreased between 1966 and 1976 (see Table 20). However, a different pattern is observed when we examine the dependency ratios by residence.

Within each geographic location, the dependency ratio for the on-reserve population decreased. This is especially noticeable in the urban/semi-urban and rural bands where the percentage decrease in the dependency ratio was more than 23 per cent. In contrast, the dependency ratio for the off-reserve population increased during this period. This is particularly true in the urban/semi-urban and remote bands where the percentage increases in the dependency ratio was 33 per cent and 20 per cent respectively.

9. IMPLICATIONS FOR POLICY AND PLANNING

This report has described patterns and trends in a number of selected demographic indicators in the registered Indian population at the Canada, regional and intra-regional levels. Some comparisons to national, provincial and territorial general populations have also been provided. Implications of Indian demographic trends have been alluded to already in the report, however, in this section we shall expand on some of them.

We have noted, for example, that there is usually a systematic association in the utilization of programs and services by age and this association can be a powerful planning tool. Un-

TABLE 20 - THE DEPENDENCY RATIOS FOR THE REGISTERED
INDIAN POPULATION¹, BY GEOGRAPHIC
LOCATION AND RESIDENCE², FOR
SASKATCHEWAN, 1966 AND 1976

GEOGRAPHIC LOCATION	DEPENDENCY RATIO (/100 PEOPLE AGED 15-64)	
	1966	1976
<u>URBAN/SEMI-URBAN</u>		
ON-RESERVE	128	97
OFF-RESERVE	76	101
TOTAL	121	98
<u>RURAL</u>		
ON-RESERVE	134	103
OFF-RESERVE	98	109
TOTAL	128	105
<u>REMOTE</u>		
ON-RESERVE	120	111
OFF-RESERVE	92	110
TOTAL	119	111

¹The registered Indian population for 1966 and 1976 is adjusted for late reported births and 1-4 year olds; age unstated is excluded.

²The 1966 on- and off-reserve populations have been adjusted for a change in the residence definition which occurred in 1974 in order to make the trends historically comparable.

Sources: Registered Indian population by age, sex and residence, by band, for Saskatchewan, 1966 and 1976, Program Reference Centre, Indian and Inuit Affairs Program.

Unpublished worksheets, Research Support Section, Research Branch, Corporate Policy.

Prepared by: Research Branch, Corporate Policy, D.I.A.N.D.,
20-6-80.

fortunately, much of the utilization data collected on programs and services does not gather information by age. Often only gross numbers of persons, recipients of services or various payments, such as social assistance, are gathered. Consequently financial and other planners will calculate historical growth rates in program usage and simply apply that rate to their forecast year(s), ignoring essential age composition changes and their impact on utilization.

The anticipated increase in the size of the young adult Indian population right across the nation raises many planning and policy issues both on and off-reserve. The population aged 15-29 is expected to grow from 86,000 to just over 116,500 between 1976 and 1986, a ten year increase of 35 per cent. Such an increase will affect on-reserve and off-reserve employment or its corollary unemployment and social assistance, housing and potentially secondary and post-secondary enrolment. On this last issue, we have noted in other studies (Siggner, 1979; Siggner and Locatelli, 1980) that Indian secondary school retention rates at the Canada level as well as for Alberta have not shown major improvements in recent years and are significantly below those of the general population. Participation rates in secondary school and in post-secondary institutions have not improved since the early 1970's. This does not bode well given the anticipated growth of the young adult population. It suggests major efforts will have to be mounted for a more relevant school curriculum at the secondary level in order to improve enrolments at the post-secondary and vocational levels where knowledge and skills can be acquired to permit Indians to manage and direct the future development of Indian communities effectively.

Other issues related to this age group include the obvious health problems i.e., high suicide rates, rates of accidental and other violent deaths which take a high toll on the young adult

population. We have already noted that their death rates are five times higher than the general population. If sufficient employment opportunities cannot be found we can also expect that crime and incarceration rates among young Indian adults where such rates are already particularly high, will likely get worse (Siggner 1979; Siggner and Locatelli, 1980; and Research Branch, DIAND, 1980).

The phenomenon of migration is important to understand as it, too, is a parameter with which policy makers and planners must deal. Here, again, the young adult population is usually the most mobile; consequently, the size, direction and composition of Indian migration streams especially between on and off-reserve locations become relevant when attempting to plan housing and employment programs as well as social services. Although the absolute size of the off-reserve population has been increasing over the last ten or so years, the rate of increase in this population has begun to slow down suggesting a lessening of out-migration from reserves or a return movement to reserves from the cities. Such a trend, if it continues and given the changing age structure will likely cause significant pressure on-reserve for more housing and employment where such pressures are already known to be very serious. Indian unemployment, for example, has been recently estimated at between 40 and 80 per cent among regions and housing on-reserve tends to be overcrowded and in poor condition. Thus, the rapid increase in the Indian young adult population will pose several challenges for policy makers and planners throughout the 1980 decade.

Unlike the growth of the Indian adult population, Indian birth rates are less predictable. However, if the trend over the 1966-76 period continues then Indian birth rates will begin to converge on the birth rates of the general population in the late 1980's in some regions, particularly those in the east and in B.C. As we have previously indicated, there are a

number of positive implications that the birth rate decline brings. One is the lessening of the number of dependents under age 15 which, as the labour force age group increases its size simultaneously, could have beneficial effects on the per capita standard of living if family size begins to decrease and concomittant improvements in Indian economic conditions are realized.

The 1970's decline in both the rate and absolute numbers of births will have an eventual impact on elementary school enrolment in the 1980's and, indeed, we should see primary school enrolment decrease in the total registered Indian population, although this will not be the case necessarily in every region such as in Saskatchewan and Manitoba where in the late 1980's the population entering age 5-9 is expected to increase.

One further aspect of fertility trends, although it has not been discussed in detail in this report, is the increase in the number of single female parent families whereby in 1976 the number of such births was accounting for over 50 per cent of the total births reported that year (Research Branch, August 1979). Such a trend, especially given the expected increase in the women in the childbearing years in the 1980's will have major program planning consequences related to housing, social and child care services and facilities, social welfare etc.

Regarding the location of bands, the majority are situated in rural or remote areas which account for 65 per cent of all Indian band membership. However, semi-urban and rural bands seem to be providing most of the off-reserve population in recent years and this pattern is similar in most regions. As we begin to analyse these intra-regional differences, such information will benefit our population projection models particularly in relation to forecasting the population living on and off-reserve.

In the case of Saskatchewan, we see that while the rural bands had the greatest percentage of their population residing off-reserve between 1966 and 1976, the percentage of the population residing off-reserve nearly tripled for urban/semi-urban and remote bands during this period. Consequently, urban/semi-urban and remote bands are increasing their representation among the total off-reserve population in Saskatchewan.

It is also urban/semi-urban bands, and to a lesser degree remote bands, that are experiencing dramatic increases in their off-reserve general fertility rates. Combining the overall increase in the off-reserve GFR with an increase in the number of women in the childbearing age residing off-reserve has resulted in an increase in the number of births off-reserve, especially among those coming from urban/semi-urban bands. This increase in births, along with an influx of young children who migrated off-reserve with their parents, has had an impact on the age-structure of the Indian population living off-reserve. This has resulted in a younger population off-reserve, which will be making increased demands on education and social services systems and on the housing market etc.

The results of this intra-regional analysis points to some important discrepancies with recent press releases regarding the rapid influx of Indians into Saskatchewan cities. What these results suggest is that the Indian urban population may be growing not only through net migration, but that natural increase may also be playing an increasing role in Indian urban growth. This further suggests that perhaps the Indian population, which is usually considered to be a highly mobile one, may be staying longer in urban areas than in the past. However, more research is definitely required to test out these findings and their implications for policy and planning.

10. CONCLUSION

This report has attempted to describe several demographic patterns and trends among registered Indians in Canada and the provinces as well as to provide comparisons with the general population. Implications for policy and planning issues have been raised with particular emphasis on the impact of the changing age composition of the Indian population. This changing age composition like the post-war baby boom in the general population will begin to raise similar policy and planning challenges in the 1980's and 1990's. The magnitude of this population change has been identified and should assist policy makers and planners to better understand the parameters with which they will have to deal in meeting the challenges of this decade.

APPENDIX A

Listing Of Bands By Geographic Location
In Saskatchewan, 1976

URBAN/SEMI-URBAN BANDS

Flying Dust
Wahpeton
Little Pine
Lucky Man
Moosomin
Mosquito-Grizzly Bear's Head
Poundmaker
Red Pheasant
Saulteaux
Sweet Grass
Sturgeon Lake
John Smith
Muscowpetung
Pasqua
Piapot

RURAL BANDS

Canoe Lake
Island Lake
Joseph Bighead
Loon Lake
Onion Lake
Thunderchild
Cumberland House
James Smith
Montreal Lake
Red Earth
Shoal Lake
Beardy's and Okemasis
Kinistino
Mistawasis
Moose Woods
Muskeg Lake
Nut Lake

APPENDIX A (CONT'D)

RURAL BANDS (CONT'D)

One Arrow
Big River
Pelican Lake
Sandy Lake
Witchewan Lake
Carry The Kettle
Day Star
Fishing Lake
Gordon
Little Black Bear
Muskowekwan
Nekaneet
Okanese
Peepeekisis
Poorman
Standing Buffalo
Star Blanket
Wood Mountain
Cote
Cowessess
Kahkewistahaw
Keeseekoose
Key
Ochapowace
Sakimay
White Bear

REMOTE BANDS

Peter Pond
English River
Portage La Loche
Turnor Lake
Waterhen Lake
Fond Du Lac
Lac La Hache
Lac La Ronge
Peter Ballantyne
Stony Rapids

NOTES

- 1 The total registered Indian population for 1966, 1976 and 1986 will differ from that shown in the report, An Overview of Demographic, Social and Economic Conditions Among Canada's Registered Indian Population, Siggner, A.J., DIAND, September 1979. This is due to a subsequent further adjustment to the population aged 0-4 years as a result of an undercounting of births and 1-4 year olds in the Indian register.
- 2 Prince Edward Island, Nova Scotia and New Brunswick provinces have been combined into the Atlantic Region. The reason is due to the fact that our projection model did not split this region into the three provinces. It was felt that historical comparability should be maintained for 1966 and 1976. The percentage shares in each province have not changed very much over this ten year period, i.e. P.E.I. at 4 per cent, Nova Scotia at 50 per cent, and New Brunswick at 46 per cent.
- 3 See Note 1 above.
- 4 This assumption is likely to remain true as long as the Indian Act itself remains unchanged with respect to eligibility for registration.
- 5 On-reserve: is a tract of land, the legal title to which is vested in Her Majesty, that has been set apart by Her Majesty for the use and benefit of an Indian band.

On Crown Land: includes registered Indians living on federal or provincial Crown land.

Off-reserve: includes registered Indians not living on reserves or Crown land as defined above, and having been off-reserve for twelve consecutive months for other than school or health reasons.

⁶See Table 9 for definitions of geographic locations.

⁷Canada Land Inventory, Environment Canada.

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