

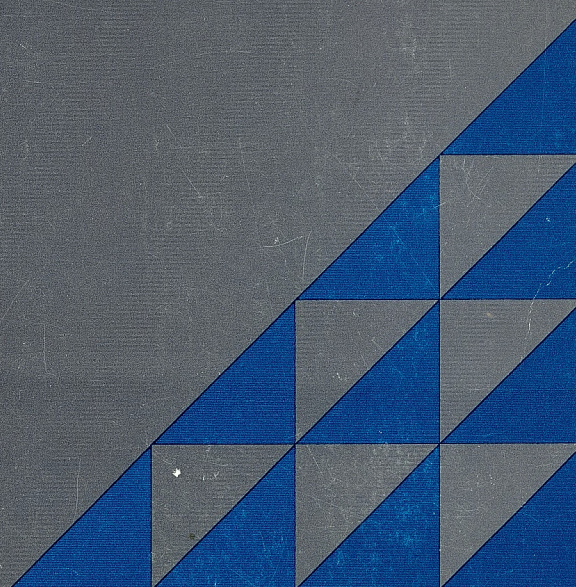


Indian and Northern  
Affairs Canada

Affaires indiennes  
et du Nord Canada

**HIGHLIGHTS OF  
ABORIGINAL CONDITIONS  
1981-2001**

**PART I  
DEMOGRAPHIC TRENDS**



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**HIGHLIGHTS OF  
ABORIGINAL CONDITIONS  
1981-2001**

**PART I  
DEMOGRAPHIC TRENDS**

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## I. KEY FINDINGS

Canada's aboriginal populations are growing rapidly. Most aboriginal groups will increase their proportion of the Canadian population by 2001, except non-status Indians.

The status Indian and Inuit populations have had, and will continue to have, higher growth rates than the Canadian population.

By 1991, 18 percent of all status Indians will be Bill C-31 registrants or their children. This proportion is expected to decline to 17 percent in 2001.

The status Indian population is and will continue to be younger than the Canadian population. It is, however, aging and will continue to do so through to 2001.

The population growth and aging patterns of the Inuit mirror those of status Indians.

## **II. INTRODUCTION**

Canada's aboriginal population has experienced major changes in its components and conditions in the 1980's. It is imperative for decision-makers to have a picture of the impact of the current changes and to have a view of expected long-term changes. This will assist them to better meet current challenges and those at the start of the next century.

This report is part I of a three part briefing prepared to support federal aboriginal policy. This part of the briefing consists of analytical highlights of the principal trends in the demographic characteristics of Canada's aboriginal populations from 1981 to 2001 and their implications for federal policy, programs and activities. Parts II and III highlight social and economic aboriginal conditions respectively.

This report compares the demographic characteristics of the total status Indian population, Indians on-reserve, Indians off-reserve, Inuit and the total aboriginal population to the Canadian population. The total aboriginal population includes status and non-status Indians, Métis and Inuit.

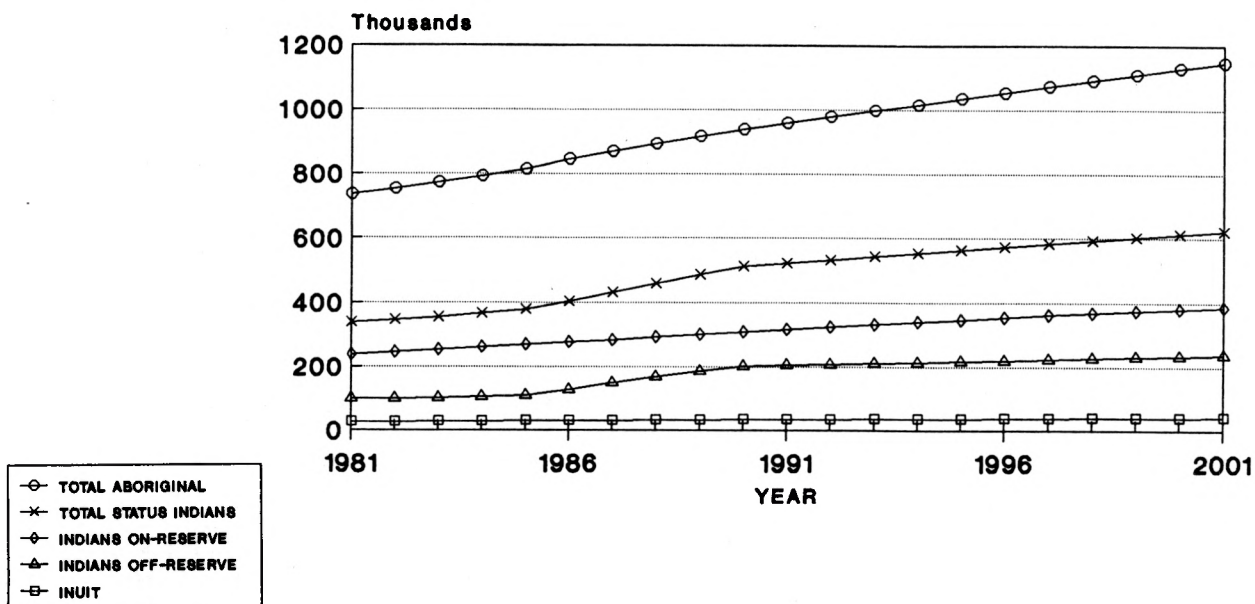
It provides actual and projected data related to the size and growth rates of Canada's aboriginal populations and their age structure as well as examining the impact of Bill C-31 on the registered Indian population.

The time series in this report were developed using data from the 1981 and 1986 Census and the 1981-86 Indian Register (adjusted for late reporting of births and deaths). Because of the adjustments made to these data sets, figures for any one year may not match other numbers previously published by the Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development or Statistics Canada. For example, the total aboriginal population was estimated from the 1986 Census, and as a result may not match figures published by other government agencies and departments. Details on the data sources and methodologies used for the time series are included in Section V, "Methodological Notes and Sources."

### III. HIGHLIGHTS

FIGURE 1

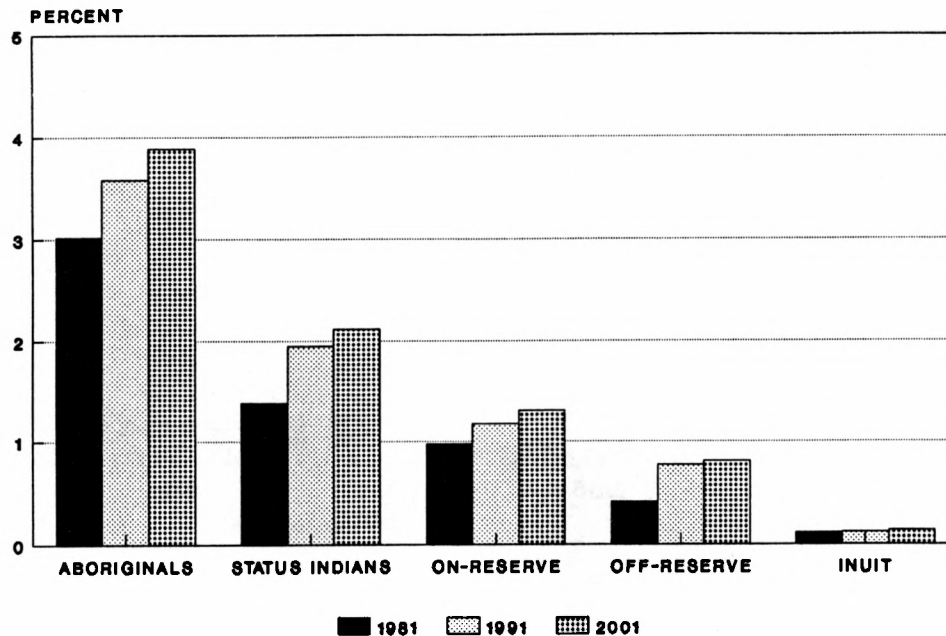
#### Canada's Aboriginal Populations 1981-2001



- By 1991, the estimated population of Canadians with aboriginal origins will increase nearly one-third, from 735,500 in 1981 to 958,500. In the long-term, a further one-fifth increase to 1,145,100 is projected by 2001.
- The total status Indian population will have grown by one-half by 1991 to 521,500, up from 336,900 in 1981. By 2001, the number of status Indians will increase another one-fifth to 622,900, almost double the 1981 figure.
- By 1991, the number of Indians on-reserve will have increased one-third to 316,300, up from 237,600 in 1981. In the long-term, the projections estimate a population of another one-fifth, to 385,500 in 2001.
- The number of Indians off-reserve will have more than doubled by 1991, from 99,300 in 1981 to 205,200. There will be little population growth between 1991 and 2001, when the off-reserve population is projected to be 237,400.
- The Inuit population has a projected growth to 1991 of nearly one-third, from 25,900 in 1981 to 33,400. By 2001, another one-fifth increase is projected, to 40,900, over one and a half times the 1981 figure.

FIGURE 2

**ABORIGINAL GROUPS:  
PROPORTION OF CANADIAN POPULATION  
1981, 1991, 2001**

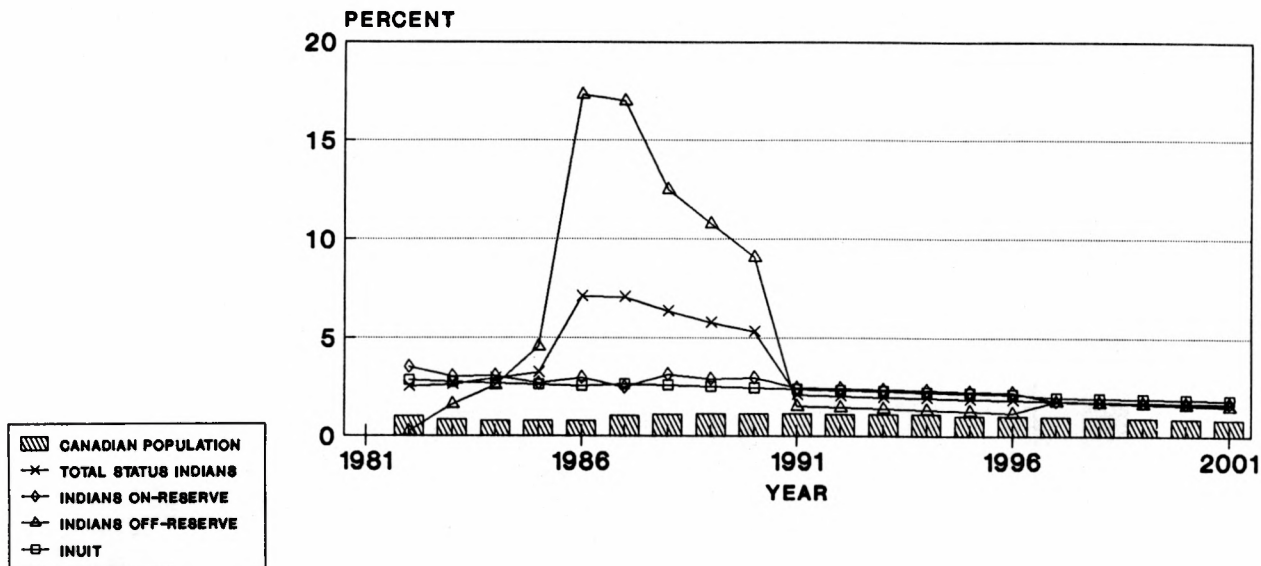


- Canada's aboriginal populations are growing rapidly. Most aboriginal groups will increase their proportion of the Canadian population by 2001, except non-status Indians.
- The percentage of all aboriginal peoples in the Canadian population will have increased by one-fifth in the short-term, from 3.0% in 1981 to 3.6% in 1991. The long-term increase will be more gradual, to 3.9% by 2001.
- The proportion of Canadians who are status Indians was 1.4% in 1981. This will have increased substantially by 1991, to 2.0%. In the long-term, growth is expected to slow down and by 2001, status Indians will comprise 2.1% of the Canadian population.
- Growth in the proportion of Indians on-reserve is expected to be from 1.0% in 1981 to 1.2% in 1991 and 1.3% in 2001.
- The off-reserve Indian population will have doubled its share of the Canadian population by 1991, from 0.41% in 1981 to 0.77%. It will increase only marginally in the long-term, to 0.81% by 2001.
- Population projections for the Inuit forecast that their percentage share of the Canadian population will not change substantially due to their small population size, from 0.11% in 1981 to 0.12% in 1991 and 0.14% in 2001.



FIGURE 3

### Growth Rates of Status Indian, Inuit and Canadian Populations 1982-2001

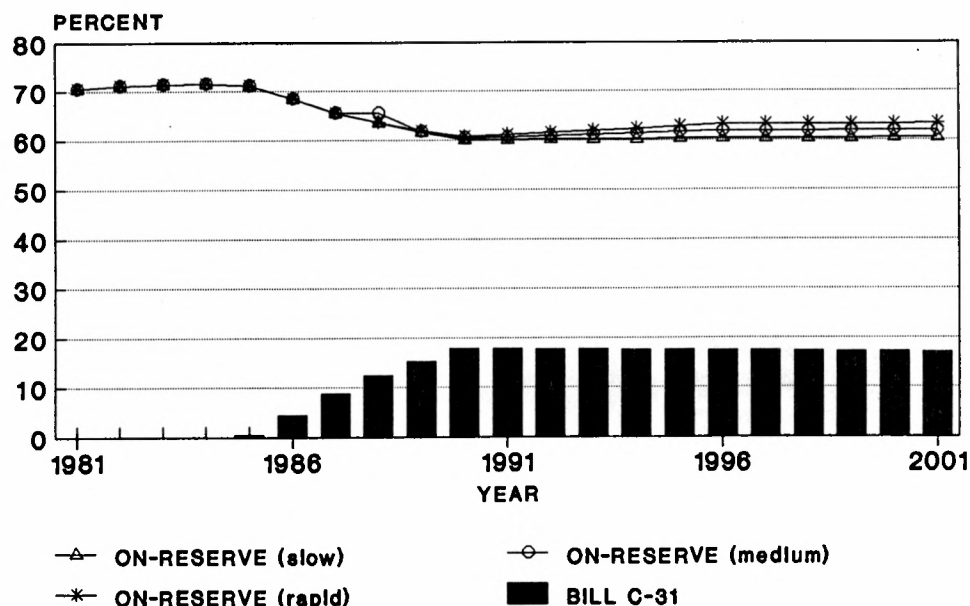


- The status Indian and Inuit populations have had, and will continue to have, higher growth rates than the Canadian population.
- High growth rates in the status Indian population between 1985 and 1990 are due to Bill C-31, with 91,000 new registrants entering the population in this period.
- The annual growth rate for status Indians peaked at 7.1% in both 1986 and 1987. The growth rate will drop sharply after Bill C-31 registration, to 2.1% in 1991 and it is expected to further decline to 1.6% by 2001.
- By 1991, the growth rate for the on-reserve Indian population will be slightly more than two-thirds of the 1982 rate, 2.4% vs 3.5%. By 2001, the growth rate will likely decline to 1.7%, three-quarters of the 1991 rate.
- Due to Bill C-31, the off-reserve Indian population will have experienced the highest growth rates of any aboriginal group between 1985 and 1990, with a peak of 17.3% in 1986. Growth will then steadily decline to a low of 1.2% in 1996. From 1997 to 2001, the growth rate of Indians off-reserve is expected to be similar to those of other aboriginal groups.
- The Inuit population will also experience a declining growth rate, from 2.8% in 1982 to 2.4% in 1991 and 1.8% in 2001.
- By contrast, the Canadian population is expected to have an increasing growth rate to 1991 (from a low of .8% in 1986 to 1.1% in 1991), followed by a slow decline to .8% in 2001.



FIGURE 4

**Bill C-31 and On-Reserve  
Population Scenarios  
as a Percent of Total Status Indians  
1981-2001**



- By 1991, 18% of all status Indians will be Bill C-31 registrants or their children. This proportion is expected to decline to 17% in 2001.
- Bill C-31 will have a major impact on the division of Indians on and off-reserve. Most Bill C-31 registrants live off-reserve. Thus, as their proportion of the total status Indian population increases, the percent living on-reserve declines. The main impact is felt between 1985 and 1990.
- After 1990, a faster population growth is expected on-reserve than off-reserve. Despite the rapid expansion of the off-reserve population due to Bill C-31, there has not been a major change in the residence patterns of the non-Bill C-31 population. As well, approximately 18% of all Bill C-31 registrants are expected to migrate to reserves. Also, the natural growth rate of the on-reserve population is assumed to be higher.
- In the medium growth scenario, the proportion of status Indians who live on-reserve declines from 70.5% in 1981 to 60.7% in 1991. It then begins to slowly increase to 61.9% in 2001.
- The rapid and slow growth scenarios project similar declines in the on-reserve population, although the rapid growth scenario assumes that 63.3% of all Indians will live on-reserve by 2001 and the slow growth scenario assumes 60.4%.

FIGURE 5A

# Age Structure of the Populations: Canada and Total Status Indians

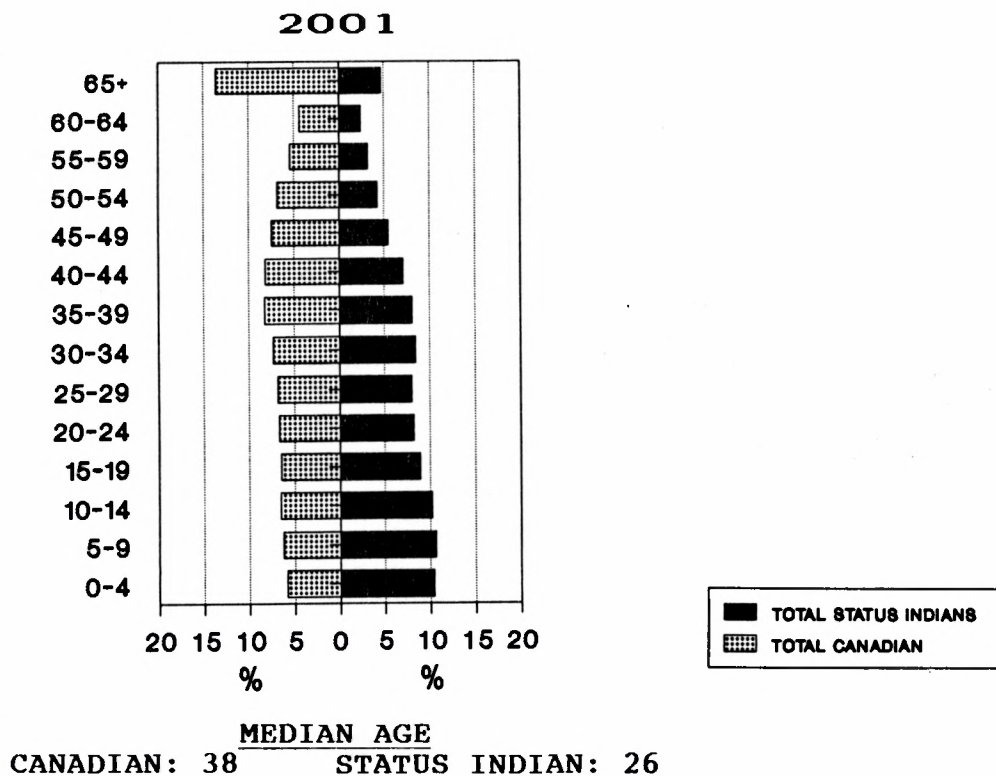
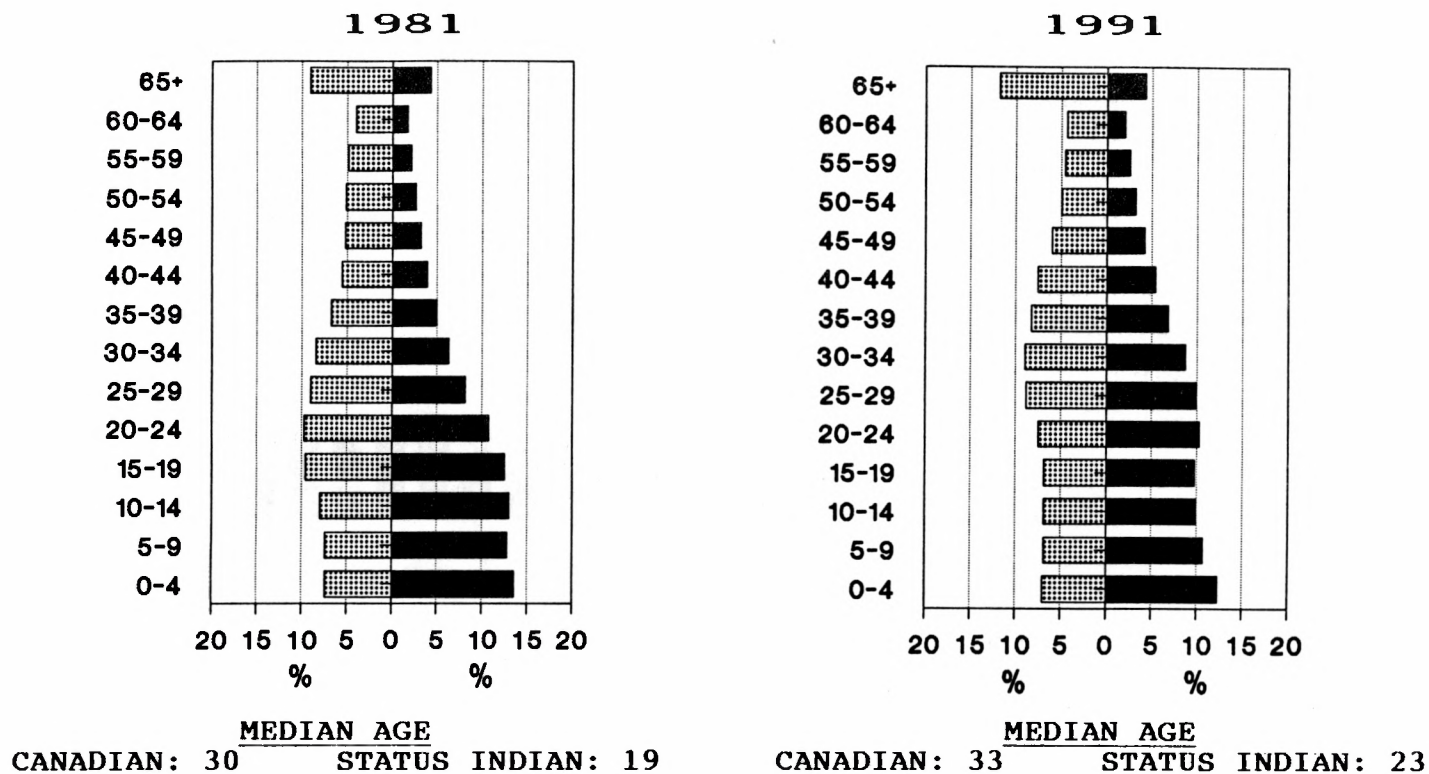




FIGURE 5A

### Age Structure of the Populations: Canada and Total Status Indians

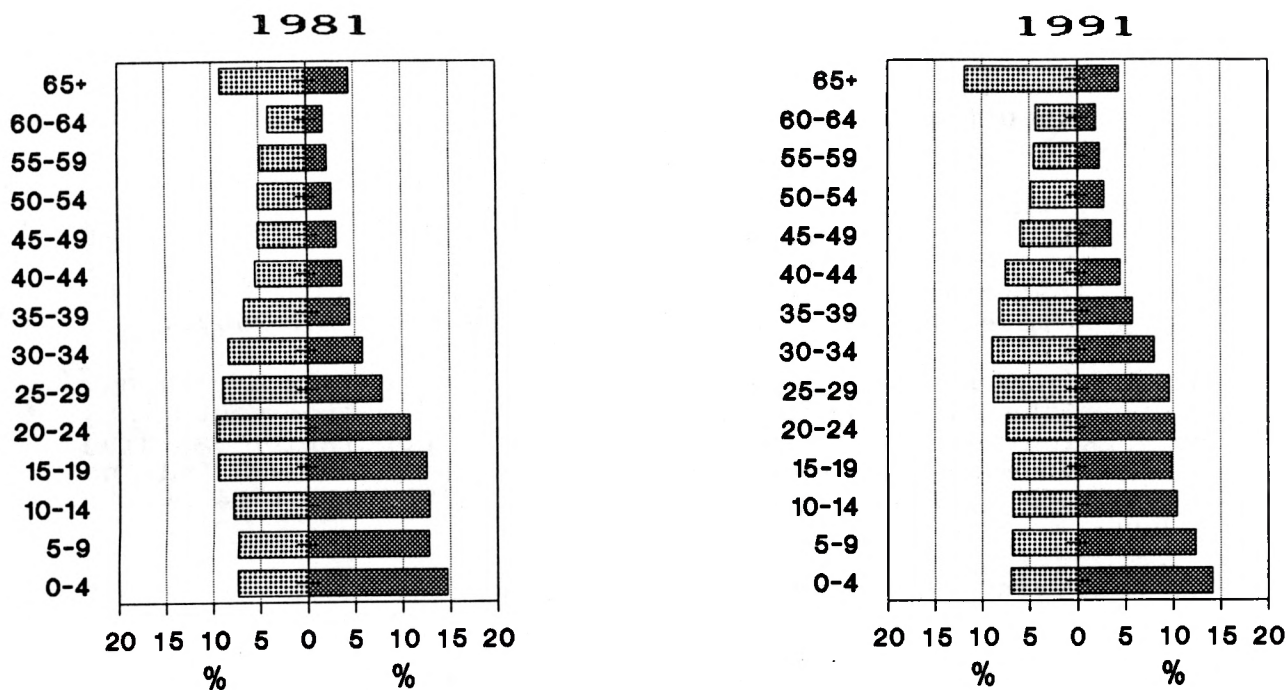
- The status Indian population is and will continue to be younger than the Canadian population. It is, however, aging and will continue to do so through to 2001.
- In 1981, the median age of status Indians was 11 years less than that of the Canadian population, 19 vs 30. By 1991, it will be 10 years less than the Canadian median age, 23 vs 33. In the long-term, the median age for status Indians will be 12 years less than for all Canadians, 26 vs 38 in 2001.
- Both the status Indian and the Canadian populations are aging. However, the status Indian population is aging from youth into the working-aged group, while the Canadian population is aging into retirement. Nonetheless, the total number of Indians over age 65 will double between 1981 and 2001, from 14,300 to 29,000.
- The following chart summarizes the 1981 and 2001 percentage breakdowns of the population by age for both groups:

| Ages  | Status Indians |      | Canada |      |
|-------|----------------|------|--------|------|
|       | 1981           | 2001 | 1981   | 2001 |
| 0-14  | 39%            | 31%  | 23%    | 19%  |
| 15-64 | 56%            | 64%  | 68%    | 68%  |
| 65+   | 4%             | 5%   | 9%     | 14%  |

- One consequence of the relative youthfulness of the status Indian population is that it has had and is expected to maintain a higher dependency ratio than the Canadian population. The dependency ratio expresses the relationship between the dependent population (under 15 and 65 and over) and the working-aged population (15-64).
- While the dependency ratio for the Canadian population is expected to remain relatively the same, from .47 in 1981 to .48 in 2001, it will decline for the status Indian population, from .77 in 1981 to .56 in 2001.

FIGURE 5B

# Age Structure of the Populations: Canada and Indians On-Reserve

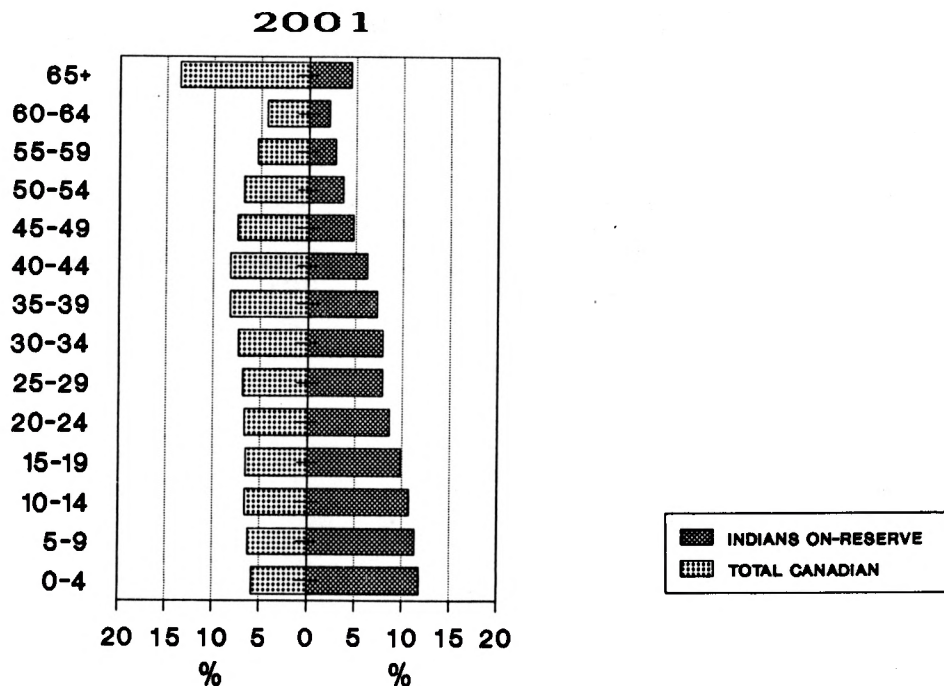


MEDIAN AGE

CANADIAN: 30 INDIANS ON-RESERVE: 19

MEDIAN AGE

CANADIAN: 33 INDIANS ON-RESERVE: 22



MEDIAN AGE

CANADIAN: 38 INDIANS ON-RESERVE: 25



FIGURE 5B

**Age Structure of the Populations:  
Canada and Indians On-Reserve**

- The on-reserve Indian population is and will continue to be younger than the Canadian population. In 1981, the median age for Indians on-reserve was 11 years less than that of the Canadian population, 19 vs 30. It will also be 11 years less than the Canadian median age by 1991, 22 vs 33. By 2001, the median age for Indians on-reserve will be 13 years less than for Canadians, 25 vs 38.
- While both the Canadian and the on-reserve Indian populations are aging, Indians on-reserve are aging into the working-aged group while Canadians are aging into retirement.
- The following chart summarizes the 1981 and 2001 percentage breakdowns of the population by age for both groups:

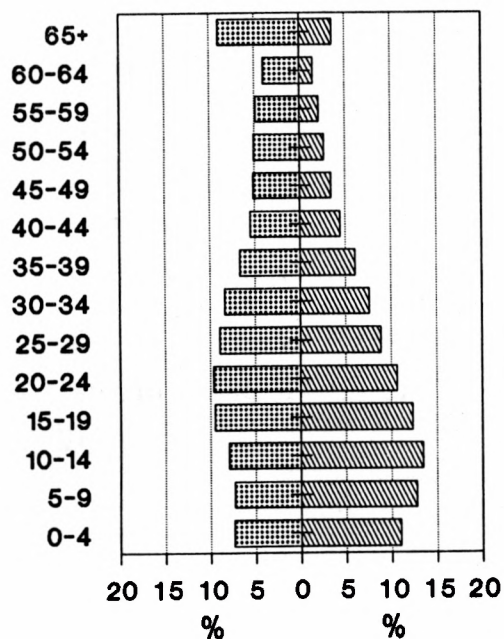
| Ages  | Indians On-reserve |      | Canada |      |
|-------|--------------------|------|--------|------|
|       | 1981               | 2001 | 1981   | 2001 |
| 0-14  | 40%                | 34%  | 23%    | 19%  |
| 15-64 | 55%                | 62%  | 68%    | 68%  |
| 65+   | 5%                 | 5%   | 9%     | 14%  |

- Because Indians on-reserve are younger, the population has and is expected to maintain a higher dependency ratio than the Canadian population. The dependency ratio expresses the relationship between the dependent population (under 15 and 65 and over) and the working-aged population (15-64).
- While the dependency ratio for the Canadian population will remain relatively constant, .47 in 1981 and .48 in 2001, it will decline for the on-reserve population from .81 in 1981 to .63 in 2001.
- There will be no major differences between the age structures of the total status Indian and the on-reserve Indian populations in 1991. By 2001, however, the on-reserve population is projected to be younger. The percent of the population that is retirement-aged will be roughly equivalent between the two populations.

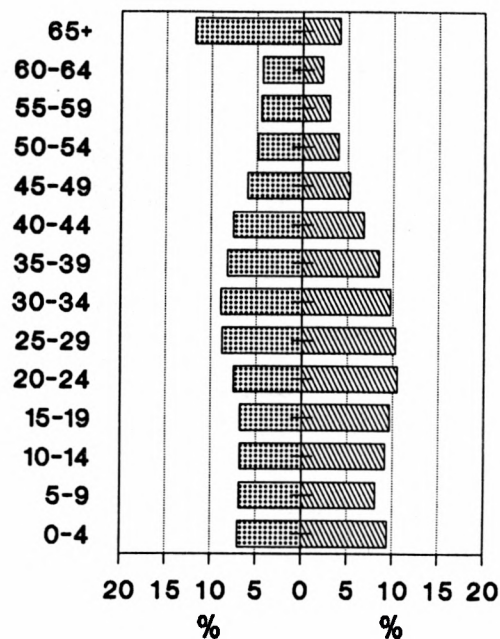
FIGURE 5C

# Age Structure of the Populations: Canada and Indians Off-Reserve

1981



1991



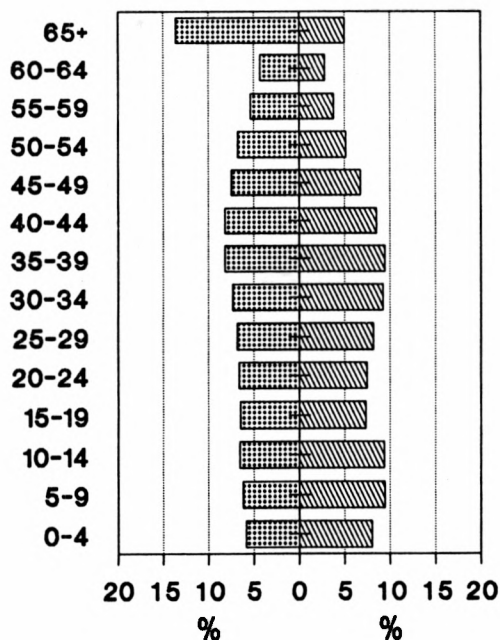
MEDIAN AGE

CANADIAN: 30 INDIANS OFF-RESERVE: 20

MEDIAN AGE

CANADIAN: 33 INDIANS OFF-RESERVE: 22

2001



INDIANS OFF-RESERVE  
TOTAL CANADIAN

MEDIAN AGE

CANADIAN: 38 INDIANS OFF-RESERVE: 25



FIGURE 5C

**Age Structure of the Populations:  
Canada and Indians Off-Reserve**

- The off-reserve Indian population is and will continue to be younger than the Canadian population. In 1981, the median age for Indians off-reserve was 10 years less than that of the Canadian population, 20 vs 30. It will be 11 years less than the Canadian median age by 1991, 22 vs 33. By 2001, the median age for Indians off-reserve will be 13 years less than for Canadians, 25 vs 38.
- While both the Canadian and the off-reserve Indian populations are aging, Indians off-reserve are aging into the working-aged group while Canadians are aging into retirement.
- The following chart summarizes the 1981 and 2001 percentage breakdowns of the population by age for both groups:

| Ages  | Indians Off-reserve |      | Canada |      |
|-------|---------------------|------|--------|------|
|       | 1981                | 2001 | 1981   | 2001 |
| 0-14  | 37%                 | 27%  | 23%    | 19%  |
| 15-64 | 59%                 | 68%  | 68%    | 68%  |
| 65+   | 4%                  | 5%   | 9%     | 14%  |

- Despite the fact that Indians off-reserve will continue to be younger, the population will have a similar dependency ratio to the Canadian population by 2001, due largely to the fact that both groups will have 68% of their population in the working-aged group. The dependency ratio expresses the relationship between the dependent population (under 15 and 65 and over) and the working-aged population (15-64).
- The dependency ratio for the Canadian population will remain relatively constant, .47 in 1981 and .48 in 2001. It was higher for the off-reserve Indian population in 1981, at .69 but it will drop to .46 by 2001.
- Both the total status Indian and the off-reserve Indian populations had roughly equivalent proportions of their populations in the retirement-aged group in 1981. This trend will continue in 2001. Indians off-reserve, however, have had and will continue to have a higher proportion of their population in the working-aged group.

FIGURE 5D

# Age Structure of the Populations: Canada and Inuit

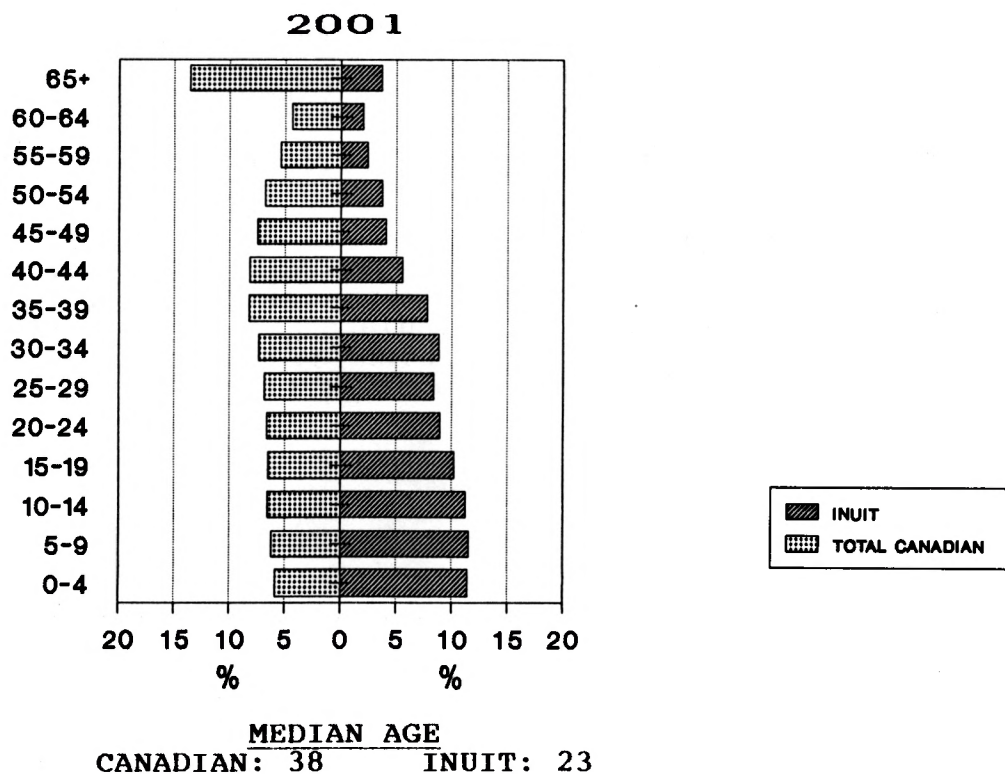
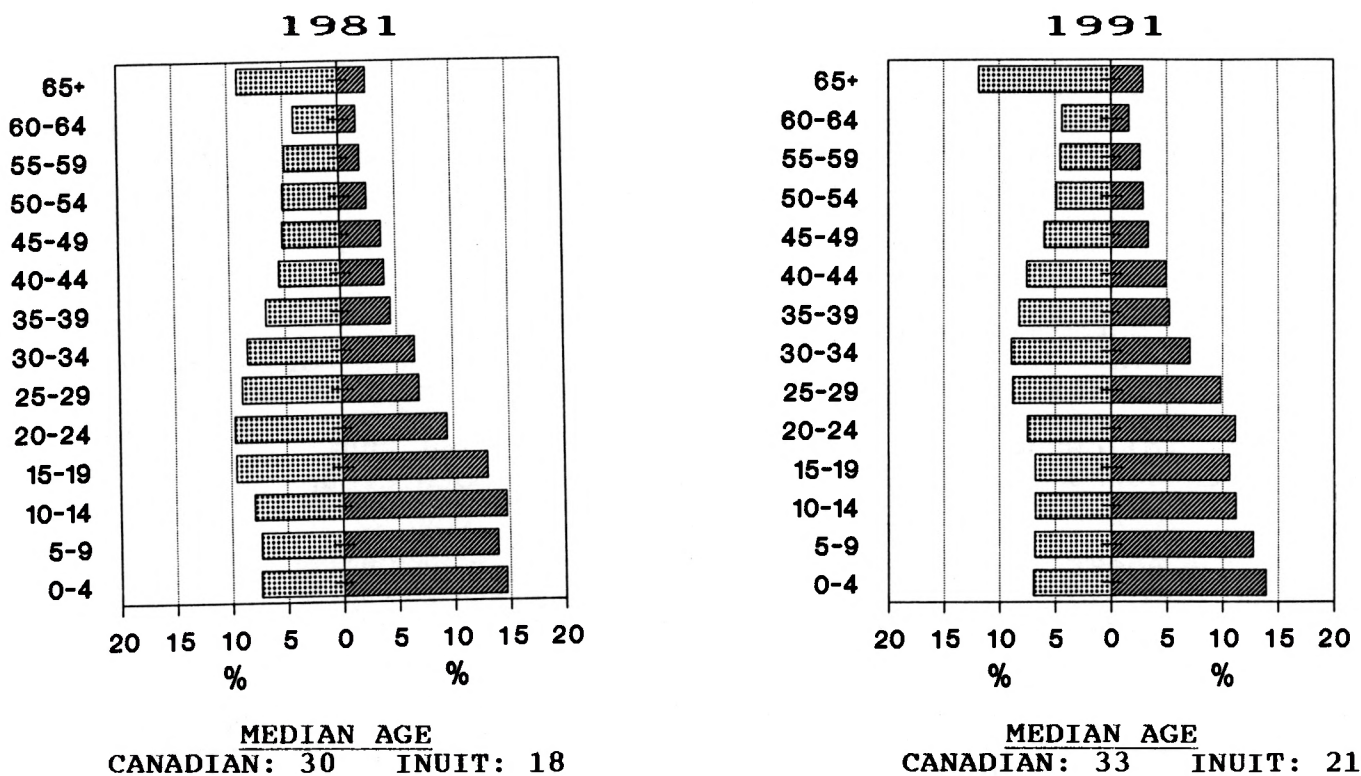




FIGURE 5D

### Age Structure of the Populations: Canada and Inuit

- In 1981, the median age of the Inuit was 12 years less than that of the Canadian population, 18 vs 30. In 1991, there will still be a 12 year gap between the median ages of both groups, 21 for the Inuit and 33 for Canada. The gap will widen in the long-term to 15 years and by 2001, the median age for the Inuit will be 23, compared to 38 for all of Canada.
- The aging pattern for the Inuit mirrors that of status Indians. While both the Inuit and the Canadian populations are aging, the Inuit are aging into the working-aged group while the Canadian population is aging into retirement.
- The following chart summarizes the 1981 and 2001 percentage breakdowns of the population by age for both groups:

| Ages  | Inuit |      | Canada |      |
|-------|-------|------|--------|------|
|       | 1981  | 2001 | 1981   | 2001 |
| 0-14  | 43%   | 34%  | 23%    | 19%  |
| 15-64 | 54%   | 62%  | 68%    | 68%  |
| 65+   | 3%    | 4%   | 9%     | 14%  |

- As a result of the relative youthfulness of the Inuit population, the Inuit have and are expected to maintain a higher dependency ratio than the Canadian population. The dependency ratio expresses the relationship between the dependent population (under 15 and 65 and over) and the working-aged population (15-64).
- While the dependency ratio for the Canadian population will remain relatively constant between 1981 and 2001 at .47 vs .48, it will decline for the Inuit population, from .84 in 1981 to .61 in 2001.

#### IV. IMPLICATIONS

As the foregoing shows, Canada's aboriginal population is in a period of rapid change. This transition will have a number of implications, particularly for status Indian policy, programs and activities which will provide a challenge to federal, provincial and band governments.

As the aboriginal population continues to grow relative to the general population, so to does its political and social influence.

The importance of status Indian concerns within Native issues will increase as the former's influence is strengthened by the influx of Bill C-31 registrants.

Unless specifically indicated, the following implications focus on the status Indian population.

While the overall percentage of Indians on-reserve will decrease, the number of people living on-reserve will increase significantly. As a result, there will be increasing demand for social services and economic development on-reserve.

The significant shift in the distribution of the Indian on and off-reserve population due to Bill C-31 provides a challenge to federal and provincial governments. The rising proportion of Indians off-reserve may lead to increased pressure on governments to provide on-reserve like services to off-reserve Indians.

There will be a dramatic increase in the number of Indians on-reserve in the education system not only through higher retention rates but due to a continuous increase in the school age population (5-21), with 21,000 more in this age group in the year 2001 than in 1991.

While the Canadian population is aging into the retirement-aged groups, the registered Indian population is aging into the working-aged groups. As a result, while the Canadian population in general will be demanding increased social services, such as geriatric health care and housing for the aged, the Indian population will need labour market oriented services, such as post-secondary education, training, employment opportunities and assistance for economic development.

As the Indian population ages and young people enter the workforce, heavy demands will be placed on Indian communities to provide suitable employment opportunities. By the year 2001, there will be 56,000 youth on-reserve of working-age (17-24), 5,000 more than in 1991. Finding work for Indian youth will become an increasing challenge. Failure will add to social assistance rolls.

The aging of the Indian population and increasing life expectancy will result in a doubling between 1991 and 2001 of elderly Indians with their own special care needs.

To better serve a growing aboriginal population in transition requires on-going monitoring of the long-term cost implications of these changes on programs. The corollary is that it be accompanied by a modelling capability which will allow the assessment of the impact of alternative policy and program options.



## **V. METHODOLOGICAL NOTES AND SOURCES**

The aboriginal demographic highlights are based on population time series from 1981 to 2001.

### **Aboriginal**

The aboriginal population time series is the aggregate of the following three aboriginal populations time series :

- Registered Indians (including all Bill C-31 registrants)
- Métis and Non-status Indians
- Inuit

### **Registered Indians**

The registered Indian time series is based on the Population Projections of Registered Indians 1981-2011 (Adjusted Indian Register Data) prepared by the Demography Division of Statistics Canada for the Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development.

Three scenarios have been used in this report. The slow growth scenario assumes constant mortality, rapidly declining fertility and 10 percent of all Bill C-31 registrants living on-reserve by 1996. The medium growth scenario assumes declining mortality, slowly declining fertility and 18 percent of all Bill C-31 registrants living on-reserve by 1996. The rapid growth scenario assumes declining mortality, constant fertility and 25 percent of all Bill C-31 registrants living on-reserve by 1996.

The time series is based on Indian Register data, adjusted for the late reporting of births and deaths. Because of the adjustments made to these data sets, figures for any one year may not match other numbers previously published by the Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development or Statistics Canada.

### **Métis and Non-status Indians**

The Métis and non-status Indian time series is based on 1986 Census data and estimates from 1982 to 2001 from Quantitative Analysis and Socio-demographic Research. The 1986 Métis and non-status Indian population estimate is derived from an estimate of the total aboriginal population from the 1986 Census, less the estimated 1986 status Indian and Inuit populations. The estimate assumes that between 1986 and 1990, 75 percent of the Bill C-31 registrants will be eligible for reinstatement and therefore would no longer be identified as non-status Indians. It assumes that the Métis and non-status Indian population will have the same annual growth rate as the registered Indian population under the medium growth scenario of the Population Projections of Registered Indians 1981-2011.

## Inuit

The Inuit time series is based on the 1981 Census and the medium growth scenario of the Projections of the Inuit Population 1981-2001 by Norbert Robitaille of the Department of Demography of the University of Montreal for DIAND in 1987.

The 1986 Census identified a total of 33,465 Inuit, consisting of 27,290 single-origin Inuit and 6,175 people with Inuit and non-aboriginal origins. In addition, it identified approximately 3,000 Inuit with other multiple origins, such as 1,275 people who identified themselves as having North American Indian, Métis, Inuit and non-aboriginal origins.

**VI. DATA TABLES**

TABLE 1A

**POPULATION GROWTH  
STATUS INDIANS  
TOTAL, ON AND OFF RESERVE  
1981-2001**

| YEAR | TOTAL STATUS INDIANS<br>BOTH SEXES |                | ON-RESERVE INDIANS<br>BOTH SEXES |                | OFF-RESERVE INDIANS<br>BOTH SEXES |                |
|------|------------------------------------|----------------|----------------------------------|----------------|-----------------------------------|----------------|
|      | TOTAL<br>POPULATION                | GROWTH<br>RATE | TOTAL<br>POPULATION              | GROWTH<br>RATE | TOTAL<br>POPULATION               | GROWTH<br>RATE |
| 1981 | 336,900                            | --             | 237,600                          | --             | 99,300                            | --             |
| 1982 | 345,400                            | 2.52           | 245,900                          | 3.49           | 99,500                            | 0.20           |
| 1983 | 354,400                            | 2.61           | 253,300                          | 3.01           | 101,100                           | 1.61           |
| 1984 | 364,700                            | 2.91           | 261,000                          | 3.04           | 103,700                           | 2.57           |
| 1985 | 376,400                            | 3.21           | 268,000                          | 2.68           | 108,400                           | 4.53           |
| 1986 | 403,042                            | 7.08           | 275,891                          | 2.94           | 127,151                           | 17.30          |
| 1987 | 431,439                            | 7.05           | 282,671                          | 2.46           | 148,768                           | 17.00          |
| 1988 | 458,807                            | 6.34           | 291,485                          | 3.12           | 167,322                           | 12.47          |
| 1989 | 485,186                            | 5.75           | 299,869                          | 2.88           | 185,317                           | 10.75          |
| 1990 | 510,905                            | 5.30           | 308,727                          | 2.95           | 202,178                           | 9.10           |
| 1991 | 521,461                            | 2.07           | 316,273                          | 2.44           | 205,188                           | 1.49           |
| 1992 | 531,981                            | 2.02           | 323,855                          | 2.40           | 208,126                           | 1.43           |
| 1993 | 542,426                            | 1.96           | 331,457                          | 2.35           | 210,970                           | 1.37           |
| 1994 | 552,799                            | 1.91           | 339,070                          | 2.30           | 213,729                           | 1.31           |
| 1995 | 563,082                            | 1.86           | 346,711                          | 2.25           | 216,371                           | 1.24           |
| 1996 | 573,269                            | 1.81           | 354,379                          | 2.21           | 218,890                           | 1.16           |
| 1997 | 583,356                            | 1.76           | 360,599                          | 1.76           | 222,757                           | 1.77           |
| 1998 | 593,346                            | 1.71           | 366,808                          | 1.72           | 226,538                           | 1.70           |
| 1999 | 603,271                            | 1.67           | 373,027                          | 1.70           | 230,245                           | 1.64           |
| 2000 | 613,117                            | 1.63           | 379,258                          | 1.67           | 233,860                           | 1.57           |
| 2001 | 622,901                            | 1.60           | 385,514                          | 1.65           | 237,387                           | 1.51           |



**TABLE 1B**  
**POPULATION GROWTH**  
**CANADA, ABORIGINAL, AND INUIT**  
**1981-2001**

| YEAR | TOTAL CANADA<br>BOTH SEXES |                | TOTAL ABORIGINAL<br>BOTH SEXES |                | TOTAL INUIT<br>BOTH SEXES |                |
|------|----------------------------|----------------|--------------------------------|----------------|---------------------------|----------------|
|      | TOTAL<br>POPULATION        | GROWTH<br>RATE | TOTAL<br>POPULATION            | GROWTH<br>RATE | TOTAL<br>POPULATION       | GROWTH<br>RATE |
| 1981 | 24,341,700                 | --             | 735,481                        | --             | 25,871                    | --             |
| 1982 | 24,583,100                 | 0.99           | 753,467                        | 2.45           | 26,598                    | 2.81           |
| 1983 | 24,787,200                 | 0.83           | 771,931                        | 2.45           | 27,326                    | 2.74           |
| 1984 | 24,978,200                 | 0.77           | 792,126                        | 2.62           | 28,051                    | 2.65           |
| 1985 | 25,165,400                 | 0.75           | 814,179                        | 2.78           | 28,779                    | 2.60           |
| 1986 | 25,353,000                 | 0.75           | 845,381                        | 3.83           | 29,506                    | 2.53           |
| 1987 | 25,608,400                 | 1.01           | 869,076                        | 2.80           | 30,285                    | 2.64           |
| 1988 | 25,887,100                 | 1.09           | 892,269                        | 2.67           | 31,063                    | 2.57           |
| 1989 | 26,171,500                 | 1.10           | 915,742                        | 2.63           | 31,842                    | 2.51           |
| 1990 | 26,460,600                 | 1.10           | 939,048                        | 2.55           | 32,620                    | 2.44           |
| 1991 | 26,753,700                 | 1.11           | 958,452                        | 2.07           | 33,399                    | 2.39           |
| 1992 | 27,045,200                 | 1.09           | 977,818                        | 2.02           | 34,173                    | 2.32           |
| 1993 | 27,334,200                 | 1.07           | 997,026                        | 1.96           | 34,950                    | 2.27           |
| 1994 | 27,628,400                 | 1.08           | 1,016,104                      | 1.91           | 35,724                    | 2.21           |
| 1995 | 27,904,100                 | 1.00           | 1,035,031                      | 1.86           | 36,501                    | 2.18           |
| 1996 | 28,179,900                 | 0.99           | 1,053,787                      | 1.81           | 37,275                    | 2.12           |
| 1997 | 28,448,300                 | 0.95           | 1,072,318                      | 1.76           | 38,007                    | 1.96           |
| 1998 | 28,708,900                 | 0.92           | 1,090,706                      | 1.71           | 38,739                    | 1.93           |
| 1999 | 28,962,200                 | 0.88           | 1,108,976                      | 1.68           | 39,471                    | 1.89           |
| 2000 | 29,208,800                 | 0.85           | 1,127,107                      | 1.63           | 40,203                    | 1.85           |
| 2001 | 29,449,200                 | 0.82           | 1,145,109                      | 1.60           | 40,935                    | 1.82           |

TABLE 2

**PERCENT OF CANADIAN POPULATION  
BY ABORIGINAL GROUP  
1981-2001**

| YEAR | STATUS<br>INDIAN | ON<br>RESERVE | OFF<br>RESERVE | INUIT | ABORIGINAL |
|------|------------------|---------------|----------------|-------|------------|
| 1981 | 1.38             | 0.98          | 0.41           | 0.11  | 3.02       |
| 1982 | 1.41             | 1.00          | 0.40           | 0.11  | 3.06       |
| 1983 | 1.43             | 1.02          | 0.41           | 0.11  | 3.11       |
| 1984 | 1.46             | 1.04          | 0.42           | 0.11  | 3.17       |
| 1985 | 1.50             | 1.06          | 0.43           | 0.11  | 3.24       |
| 1986 | 1.59             | 1.09          | 0.50           | 0.12  | 3.33       |
| 1987 | 1.68             | 1.10          | 0.58           | 0.12  | 3.39       |
| 1988 | 1.77             | 1.13          | 0.65           | 0.12  | 3.45       |
| 1989 | 1.85             | 1.15          | 0.71           | 0.12  | 3.50       |
| 1990 | 1.93             | 1.17          | 0.76           | 0.12  | 3.55       |
| 1991 | 1.95             | 1.18          | 0.77           | 0.12  | 3.58       |
| 1992 | 1.97             | 1.20          | 0.77           | 0.13  | 3.62       |
| 1993 | 1.98             | 1.21          | 0.77           | 0.13  | 3.65       |
| 1994 | 2.00             | 1.23          | 0.77           | 0.13  | 3.68       |
| 1995 | 2.02             | 1.24          | 0.78           | 0.13  | 3.71       |
| 1996 | 2.03             | 1.26          | 0.78           | 0.13  | 3.74       |
| 1997 | 2.05             | 1.27          | 0.78           | 0.13  | 3.77       |
| 1998 | 2.07             | 1.28          | 0.79           | 0.13  | 3.80       |
| 1999 | 2.08             | 1.29          | 0.79           | 0.14  | 3.83       |
| 2000 | 2.10             | 1.30          | 0.80           | 0.14  | 3.86       |
| 2001 | 2.12             | 1.31          | 0.81           | 0.14  | 3.89       |

**TABLE 3A**  
**POPULATION BY AGE GROUP**  
**CANADA**  
**1981, 1991, 2001**

| AGE          | 1981<br>POPULATION | % TOTAL<br>POP | 1991<br>POPULATION | % TOTAL<br>POP | 2001<br>POPULATION | % TOTAL<br>POP |
|--------------|--------------------|----------------|--------------------|----------------|--------------------|----------------|
| 0-4          | 1,783,110          | 7.40           | 1,870,100          | 6.99           | 1,724,100          | 5.85           |
| 5-9          | 1,775,060          | 7.37           | 1,833,900          | 6.85           | 1,835,000          | 6.23           |
| 10-14        | 1,916,035          | 7.96           | 1,821,000          | 6.81           | 1,930,800          | 6.56           |
| 15-19        | 2,303,580          | 9.56           | 1,824,500          | 6.82           | 1,912,000          | 6.49           |
| 20-24        | 2,334,420          | 9.69           | 1,998,400          | 7.47           | 1,958,300          | 6.65           |
| 25-29        | 2,166,170          | 8.99           | 2,328,900          | 8.70           | 2,016,100          | 6.85           |
| 30-34        | 2,033,805          | 8.44           | 2,385,700          | 8.92           | 2,163,800          | 7.35           |
| 35-39        | 1,625,435          | 6.75           | 2,200,200          | 8.22           | 2,420,000          | 8.22           |
| 40-44        | 1,331,345          | 5.53           | 2,021,000          | 7.55           | 2,413,800          | 8.20           |
| 45-49        | 1,253,355          | 5.20           | 1,606,900          | 6.01           | 2,197,400          | 7.46           |
| 50-54        | 1,234,070          | 5.12           | 1,307,000          | 4.89           | 2,005,600          | 6.81           |
| 55-59        | 1,173,855          | 4.87           | 1,214,700          | 4.54           | 1,589,700          | 5.40           |
| 60-64        | 968,635            | 4.02           | 1,171,800          | 4.38           | 1,281,700          | 4.35           |
| 65+          | 2,184,610          | 9.07           | 3,169,500          | 11.85          | 4,000,800          | 13.59          |
| <b>TOTAL</b> | <b>24,083,495</b>  | <b>100.00</b>  | <b>26,753,700</b>  | <b>100.00</b>  | <b>29,449,200</b>  | <b>100.00</b>  |



**TABLE 3B**  
**POPULATION BY AGE GROUP**  
**TOTAL STATUS INDIANS**  
**1981, 1991, 2001**

| AGE          | 1981<br>POPULATION | % TOTAL<br>POP | 1991<br>POPULATION | % TOTAL<br>POP | 2001<br>POPULATION | % TOTAL<br>POP |
|--------------|--------------------|----------------|--------------------|----------------|--------------------|----------------|
| 0-4          | 45,737             | 13.58          | 64,068             | 12.29          | 64,700             | 10.39          |
| 5-9          | 43,087             | 12.79          | 55,779             | 10.70          | 66,124             | 10.62          |
| 10-14        | 43,833             | 13.01          | 51,701             | 9.91           | 63,555             | 10.20          |
| 15-19        | 42,068             | 12.49          | 50,971             | 9.77           | 55,401             | 8.89           |
| 20-24        | 36,329             | 10.78          | 53,455             | 10.25          | 51,010             | 8.19           |
| 25-29        | 27,453             | 8.15           | 51,584             | 9.89           | 50,002             | 8.03           |
| 30-34        | 21,311             | 6.33           | 45,435             | 8.71           | 52,397             | 8.41           |
| 35-39        | 16,689             | 4.95           | 35,555             | 6.82           | 50,526             | 8.11           |
| 40-44        | 13,114             | 3.89           | 28,000             | 5.37           | 44,266             | 7.11           |
| 45-49        | 10,902             | 3.24           | 21,896             | 4.20           | 34,226             | 5.49           |
| 50-54        | 8,949              | 2.66           | 16,921             | 3.24           | 26,416             | 4.24           |
| 55-59        | 7,337              | 2.18           | 13,473             | 2.58           | 20,090             | 3.23           |
| 60-64        | 5,720              | 1.70           | 10,431             | 2.00           | 14,989             | 2.41           |
| 65+          | 14,331             | 4.25           | 22,191             | 4.26           | 29,199             | 4.69           |
| <b>TOTAL</b> | <b>336,860</b>     | <b>100.00</b>  | <b>521,461</b>     | <b>100.00</b>  | <b>622,901</b>     | <b>100.00</b>  |

TABLE 3C

**POPULATION BY AGE GROUP  
INDIANS ON-RESERVE  
1981, 1991, 2001**

| AGE          | 1981<br>POPULATION | % TOTAL<br>POP | 1991<br>POPULATION | % TOTAL<br>POP | 2001<br>POPULATION | % TOTAL<br>POP |
|--------------|--------------------|----------------|--------------------|----------------|--------------------|----------------|
| 0-4          | 34,829             | 14.66          | 44,817             | 14.17          | 45,765             | 11.87          |
| 5-9          | 30,436             | 12.81          | 39,244             | 12.41          | 43,804             | 11.36          |
| 10-14        | 30,539             | 12.85          | 33,000             | 10.43          | 41,439             | 10.75          |
| 15-19        | 29,863             | 12.57          | 31,180             | 9.86           | 38,140             | 9.89           |
| 20-24        | 25,770             | 10.85          | 32,060             | 10.14          | 33,378             | 8.66           |
| 25-29        | 18,702             | 7.87           | 30,501             | 9.64           | 30,603             | 7.94           |
| 30-34        | 13,820             | 5.82           | 25,533             | 8.07           | 30,570             | 7.93           |
| 35-39        | 10,704             | 4.51           | 18,242             | 5.77           | 28,243             | 7.33           |
| 40-44        | 8,713              | 3.67           | 14,218             | 4.50           | 24,187             | 6.27           |
| 45-49        | 7,495              | 3.15           | 11,246             | 3.56           | 18,229             | 4.73           |
| 50-54        | 6,350              | 2.67           | 8,927              | 2.82           | 14,280             | 3.70           |
| 55-59        | 5,258              | 2.21           | 7,427              | 2.35           | 11,048             | 2.87           |
| 60-64        | 4,292              | 1.81           | 6,058              | 1.92           | 8,399              | 2.18           |
| 65+          | 10,808             | 4.55           | 13,818             | 4.37           | 17,427             | 4.52           |
| <b>TOTAL</b> | <b>237,579</b>     | <b>100.00</b>  | <b>316,273</b>     | <b>100.00</b>  | <b>385,514</b>     | <b>100.00</b>  |

**TABLE 3D**  
**POPULATION BY AGE GROUP**  
**INDIANS OFF-RESERVE**  
**1981, 1991, 2001**

| AGE          | 1981<br>POPULATION | % TOTAL<br>POP | 1991<br>POPULATION | % TOTAL<br>POP | 2001<br>POPULATION | % TOTAL<br>POP |
|--------------|--------------------|----------------|--------------------|----------------|--------------------|----------------|
| 0-4          | 10,908             | 10.99          | 19,252             | 9.38           | 18,934             | 7.98           |
| 5-9          | 12,651             | 12.74          | 16,535             | 8.06           | 22,320             | 9.40           |
| 10-14        | 13,294             | 13.39          | 18,701             | 9.11           | 22,116             | 9.32           |
| 15-19        | 12,205             | 12.29          | 19,791             | 9.65           | 17,261             | 7.27           |
| 20-24        | 10,559             | 10.64          | 21,395             | 10.43          | 17,632             | 7.43           |
| 25-29        | 8,751              | 8.81           | 21,083             | 10.27          | 19,399             | 8.17           |
| 30-34        | 7,491              | 7.55           | 19,902             | 9.70           | 21,827             | 9.19           |
| 35-39        | 5,985              | 6.03           | 17,313             | 8.44           | 22,282             | 9.39           |
| 40-44        | 4,401              | 4.43           | 13,781             | 6.72           | 20,079             | 8.46           |
| 45-49        | 3,407              | 3.43           | 10,650             | 5.19           | 15,997             | 6.74           |
| 50-54        | 2,599              | 2.62           | 7,994              | 3.90           | 12,136             | 5.11           |
| 55-59        | 2,079              | 2.09           | 6,046              | 2.95           | 9,042              | 3.81           |
| 60-64        | 1,428              | 1.44           | 4,373              | 2.13           | 6,590              | 2.78           |
| 65+          | 3,523              | 3.55           | 8,373              | 4.08           | 11,772             | 4.96           |
| <b>TOTAL</b> | <b>99,281</b>      | <b>100.00</b>  | <b>205,188</b>     | <b>100.00</b>  | <b>237,387</b>     | <b>100.00</b>  |



**TABLE 3E**  
**POPULATION BY AGE GROUP**  
**INUIT**  
**1981, 1991, 2001**

| AGE   | 1981<br>POPULATION | % TOTAL<br>POP | 1991<br>POPULATION | % TOTAL<br>POP | 2001<br>POPULATION | % TOTAL<br>POP |
|-------|--------------------|----------------|--------------------|----------------|--------------------|----------------|
| 0-4   | 3,785              | 14.63          | 4,649              | 13.92          | 4,692              | 11.46          |
| 5-9   | 3,599              | 13.91          | 4,255              | 12.74          | 4,741              | 11.58          |
| 10-14 | 3,814              | 14.74          | 3,747              | 11.22          | 4,609              | 11.26          |
| 15-19 | 3,378              | 13.06          | 3,543              | 10.61          | 4,193              | 10.24          |
| 20-24 | 2,435              | 9.41           | 3,724              | 11.15          | 3,659              | 8.94           |
| 25-29 | 1,792              | 6.93           | 3,283              | 9.83           | 3,442              | 8.41           |
| 30-34 | 1,704              | 6.59           | 2,369              | 7.09           | 3,614              | 8.83           |
| 35-39 | 1,163              | 4.50           | 1,743              | 5.22           | 3,190              | 7.79           |
| 40-44 | 1,028              | 3.97           | 1,646              | 4.93           | 2,284              | 5.58           |
| 45-49 | 973                | 3.76           | 1,111              | 3.33           | 1,664              | 4.06           |
| 50-54 | 645                | 2.49           | 958                | 2.87           | 1,537              | 3.75           |
| 55-59 | 486                | 1.88           | 864                | 2.59           | 994                | 2.43           |
| 60-64 | 422                | 1.63           | 546                | 1.63           | 821                | 2.01           |
| 65+   | 647                | 2.50           | 961                | 2.88           | 1,495              | 3.65           |
| TOTAL | 25,871             | 100.00         | 33,399             | 100.00         | 40,935             | 100.00         |