



The Daily

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MAJOR RELEASE

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

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

(continued on page 2)



Language, Tradition, Health, Lifestyle and Social Issues

1991 Aboriginal Peoples Survey

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

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

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



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PUBLICATIONS RELEASED

MAJOR RELEASE

Language, Tradition, Health, Lifestyle and Social Issues

1991 Aboriginal Peoples Survey

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

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

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

One-third Spoke an Aboriginal Language

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

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

Among North American Indians . . .

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

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

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

Ability to Speak an Aboriginal Language

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

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

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

Cree and Michif were Spoken by the Métis

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

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

Three of Four Inuit Spoke an Aboriginal Language

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

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

Rheumatism and Arthritis were the Most Commonly Reported Health Problems

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

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

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

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

Chronic Health Problems

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

¹ North American Indian.

Social Problems Facing Aboriginal Communities . . .

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

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

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

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

1991 Aboriginal Peoples Survey

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

Upcoming Data Products from the 1991 Aboriginal Peoples Survey

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

Social Problems Facing Aboriginal Communities

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

¹ North American Indian.

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

... and Reported Solutions

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

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

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

Solutions to Social Problems Proposed by Aboriginal Peoples

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

¹ North American Indian.

Incompletely Enumerated Indian Reserves and Settlements

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

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

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

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

DATA AVAILABILITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Gypsum Products

May 1993

Manufacturers shipped 16 376 thousand square metres of plain gypsum wallboard in May 1993, down 32.2% from 24 157 thousand square metres shipped in May 1992 and down 3.0% from 16 876 thousand square metres shipped in April 1993.

Year-to-date shipments at the end of May 1993 totalled 86 585 thousand square metres, down 6.2% from the January to May 1992 period.

Available on CANSIM: matrices 39 and 122 (series 11).

The May 1993 issue of *Gypsum Products* (44-003, \$5/\$50) will be available at a later date.

For more detailed information on this release, please contact Roland Joubert (613-951-3527), Industry Division. ■

Rigid Insulating Board

May 1993

Shipments of rigid insulating board totalled 2 722 thousand square metres (12.7 mm basis) in May 1993, up 0.4% from 2 712 thousand square metres in May 1992.

For January to May 1993, year-to-date shipments totalled 12 428 thousand square metres, up 5.9% from 11 739 thousand square metres for the same period in 1992.

Available on CANSIM: matrices 31 (series 1) and 122 (series 47).

The May 1993 issue of *Rigid Insulating Board* (36-002, \$5/\$50) will be available at a later date.

For more detailed information on this release, contact Sandra Bohatyretz (613-951-3531), Industry Division. ■

Steel Wire and Specified Wire Products

May 1993

Factory shipments of steel wire and specified wire products for May 1993 are now available, as are production and export market data for selected commodities.

Shipments totalled 64 367 tonnes in May 1993, up 4.1% from the 61 847 tonnes shipped during the previous month.

Available on CANSIM: matrix 122 (series 19).

The May 1993 issue of *Steel Wire and Specified Wire Products* (41-006, \$5/\$50) will be available at a later date.

For more detailed information on this release, contact Bruno Pépin (613-951-9837), Industry Division. ■

Process Cheese and Instant Skim Milk Powder

May 1993

Production of process cheese in May 1993 totalled 6542986 kilograms, up 51.2% from April 1993 but down 4.5% from May 1992. Year-to-date production at the end of May 1993 totalled 31 375 051 kilograms, compared to 30 011 824 (revised) the previous year.

Production of instant skim milk powder in May 1993 totalled 331 810 kilograms, up 19.1% from April 1993 but down 18.5% from May 1992. Year-to-date production at the end of May 1993 totalled 1 870 807 kilograms, compared to 1 986 048 kilograms for the corresponding period in 1992.

Available on CANSIM: matrix 188 (series 1.10).

The May 1993 issue of *Production and Inventories of Process Cheese and Instant Skim Milk Powder* (32-024, \$5/\$50) will be available shortly. See "How to Order Publications".

For more detailed information on this release, contact Peter Zylstra (613-951-3511), Industry Division. ■

Sub-provincial Retail Trade

1990

Estimates on the number of retail locations, annual sales and average annual sales per location are available for 1990 at the sub-provincial level for Alberta and New Brunswick.

For information, contact Marc Lavergne (613-951-0875) or Katherine Blais (613-951-0822), Small Business and Special Surveys Division. ■



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PUBLICATIONS RELEASED

Production, Shipments and Stocks on Hand of Sawmills East of the Rockies, April 1993.

Catalogue number 35-002

(Canada: \$10/\$100; United States: US\$12/US\$120; Other Countries: US\$14/US\$140).

Railway Operating Statistics, Vol. 73, No. 1.
January 1993.

Catalogue number 52-003

(Canada: \$10.50/\$105; United States: US\$12.60/US\$126; Other Countries: US\$14.70/US\$147).

Causes of Death, 1991.

Catalogue number 84-208

(Canada: \$30; United States: US\$/US\$; Other Countries: US\$/US\$).

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

Catalogue number 89-533

(Canada: \$45; United States: US\$54; Other Countries: US\$63).

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