Aboriginal Health & Well Being

A Look at the Conditions of First Nations, Métis and Inuit Communities in Canada

Learning goal… increase knowledge of social conditions for First Nations, Métis and Inuit in Canada today.
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Mapping the conditions of First Nations Communities

► As of 2011 there were just over 1,400,685 (4.3%) Aboriginal Canadians

► That 4.3% is made up of...
  - First Nations (60.8%)
  - Métis (32.3%)
  - Inuit (4.2%)

► In Canada the Aboriginal population is on the rise, between 2006 and 2011 it grew 20% compared to 5.2% for the rest of Canada.

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The majority of Registered Indians in Canada live in approximately 900 small First Nations Communities.

Nearly all have a substantially lower than average standard of living than the average Canadian community – the best off First Nations communities compare with the worst off areas of non Aboriginal Canada.
Mapping the Conditions of First Nations Communities

► 23% were considered above average communities, most were clustered in Quebec, mid and southern Ontario, and the southern and coastal areas of British Columbia.

► 47% were considered average, found in the Maritimes, southern Manitoba and southern Saskatchewan.

► 32% were considered below average and these were situated in mid Quebec, north western Ontario, northern Manitoba and Saskatchewan and Alberta.

go on to slide 6

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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Stats</th>
<th>Worst off non Aboriginal regions</th>
<th>Best off First Nations communities</th>
<th>Above Average</th>
<th>Average</th>
<th>Below Average</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>% with less than grade 9 education</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>44</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% employed</td>
<td>57</td>
<td>58</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td># persons per room in homes</td>
<td>0.6</td>
<td>0.7</td>
<td>0.8</td>
<td>0.9</td>
<td>1.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>average annual income</td>
<td>18,900</td>
<td>18,200</td>
<td>16,000</td>
<td>11,000</td>
<td>10,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**FYI** The average parental income for Fenelon Falls Secondary is 44,700

**DYK** Poverty Low Income Cut Offs are 24,000 for a family of 4 in Fenelon or 36,000 for a family of 4 in Toronto

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So...
What do we know so far?

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Student Action...

In your small group, go to one of the work stations,

Each station has an iPad and some work sheets with instructions

Our goal is to find the most up to date information regarding social conditions in Canada for First Nations, Métis and Inuit

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#1 Comparatively Speaking, Just How Bad is it?


- the current rates of overall child poverty in Canada are ____________
- the current rates of Aboriginal child poverty in Canada are _________
- the United Nations rank Canada’s standard of living overall_________
- the UN rank Canada’s standard of living for Aboriginal people _______

- the cost of lost revenue based on low income tax and social assistance costs is ___________
- the difference between the rates of poverty of for First Nations children living off reserve versus non Aboriginal children is _________________
- the difference between the rates of poverty of for First Nations children living in big cities versus non Aboriginal children is ________________

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#2 Employment


Go to [http://hc-sc.gc.ca/fniah-spnia/pubs/aborig-autoch/2009-stats-profil/index-eng.php](http://hc-sc.gc.ca/fniah-spnia/pubs/aborig-autoch/2009-stats-profil/index-eng.php) and answer the following questions...

► In 2006, comparatively speaking, the unemployment rates on reserves were _______________________________________________________________

► First Nations children are at a higher risk of living with _____ % of the average median income of Canadians or less?

► The employment rate for Registered Indians on-reserve compares to the general Canadian rate __________________________________________________________

► Between 1996 2001 figures on-reserve Registered Indians labour force participation, employment rates and unemployment rates were ______________

► The median annual income for Registered Indians on-reserve is ___________ that of the general Canadian population

► Given equal education and experience First Nations people ___________________


► On reserve statistics compare to off reserve statistics for Registered Indians __________________________________________________________

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Annual Income Brackets

Figure 6. Annual Income Groups for Registered Indians' On-reserve and Canada², 25 to 64 Years, 2000

Percent of population

Annual income groups

Registered Indians on-reserve
Canada

- Under $5,000 (including no income): 22.9%
- $5,000 - $9,000: 17.2%
- $10,000 - $19,999: 8.4%
- $20,000 - $29,999: 15.7%
- $30,000 - $39,999: 16.5%
- $40,000 - $49,999: 18.0%
- $50,000 - $59,999: 15.4%
- $60,000 and over: 13.6%
Employment and Systemic Discrimination

- The unemployment rates are improving but it is still 3 xs higher
- Unemployment rates dropped 4.9% for FN in 2001 but dropped 7% for non FN

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>What does this table tell us?</th>
<th>Non Aboriginal Man Employed</th>
<th>Aboriginal Man Employed</th>
<th>Non Aboriginal Woman Employed</th>
<th>Aboriginal Woman Employed</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Not finished high school</td>
<td>41%</td>
<td>32%</td>
<td>62%</td>
<td>42%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University Graduate</td>
<td>78%</td>
<td>84%</td>
<td>82%</td>
<td>86%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- Overrepresented in mining, construction, and public administration
- Underrepresented in management, professional, scientific, tech, finance and insurance
#3 Housing


- Attawapiskat housing conditions are _________________________________

- ________ percentage of First Nations communities have unsafe drinking water

- ________ First Nations people are currently living without indoor plumbing

- Chief Shawn Atleo thinks that these conditions are allowed to continue because ________________________________________________________________

- Some of the other hazards these communities face connected to housing include ________________________________________________________


- ________ percentage of homes on reserves require major repairs

- ________ of the average Canadian home require major repairs

- The overcrowding rates on reserve compared to the average Canadian rate are ________________________________________________________


- What rate of Aboriginal Canadian families across Canada have core housing needs (costs more than 30% of their income)?

- Off reserve _______________________________ Aboriginals live in housing that is need of major repair

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- _________ percentage of non Aboriginals hold a University degree?
- _________ percentage of on reserve Aboriginals do? _______ percentage of off reserve Aboriginals do?
- _________ percentage of non Aboriginal Canadians have less than a high school diploma?
- this compares to ________________ First Nations Canadians?
- First Nations, Métis and Inuit cultures taught in schools across Canada ________________________________
- _________ percentage of FN children felt that they were unwelcome?
- _________ percentage of FN children experienced racism at school?
- Aboriginal school funding ________________________________ since 1996
- The school conditions in many Aboriginal communities are ________________

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Education

- Currently schools are either provincially run, federally and band run or federally run

**The Good News...**

- As of 2001, 496 of 503 schools are band run with more of an emphasis on First Nations curriculum, languages, and culture.
- Increased sensitivity and awareness and less biased texts and materials are on the rise.
- 2001, 39% didn’t finish high school compared to 20% non-Aboriginal. However, this is an improvement over 1996, 45% didn’t finish high school.
- Increase in the number of FN enrolled in Post Secondary schools from 14,000 in 1987 to 26,000 in 2001.
#5 Health & Life Expectancy


These aspects of poverty and housing that affect health all contribute to the higher rates of SIDS (Sudden Infant Death Syndrome) for Aboriginal babies.

Food security is connected to health because...

The rates of respiratory conditions...

Poverty is connected to mental health...


The life expectancy rates for Non Aboriginal versus Aboriginal Canadians are...

The Potential Years of Life Lost rates (unintentional injury and or suicide) are...

Heart and stroke fatalities...

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Additional Health Concerns

- Lower health care standards
- Diabetes rates are 3 to 5 times higher
- More than ½ First Nations children are overweight – 22.3% overweight and 36.2% obese
- HIV AIDS annual # stabilized but growing over recent years in aboriginal communities from 1% in 1990 to 7.2% in 2001
- Tuberculosis rates 8 to 10 times higher