

Even before the 2008–2009 recession, Aboriginal people—North American Indian (or First Nations people), Métis and Inuit—had a harder time finding work and faced higher unemployment than non-Aboriginal people. The gap widened following the downturn, as Aboriginal people aged 15 and older (excluding those living on reserves or in the territories) experienced sharper declines in employment rates than non-Aboriginal people did.

In 2009, the average employment rate for Aboriginal people was 57.0%, compared with 61.8% for non-Aboriginal people. The gap in employment widened to 4.8 percentage points from 3.5 percentage points in 2008.

At the same time, the unemployment rate rose sharply for Aboriginal people, rising from 10.4% in 2008 to 13.9%. The rate for non-Aboriginal people rose from 6.0% to 8.1%.

Among Aboriginal people, the top employer of core-age workers (aged 25 to 54) in 2009 was the health and social assistance industry, followed by trade, construction and manufacturing. For non-Aboriginal people, trade was the top employer for core-age workers, followed by manufacturing, health care and social assistance, and professional, scientific and technical services.

In 2009, nearly 15% of employed core-age Aboriginal people worked in the health care and social assistance industry. Aboriginal employment in this industry increased by 12% or 4,000 jobs from 2008, outstripping the 2% increase in this industry among non-Aboriginal people.

## Larger job losses among Aboriginal people

Canada's manufacturing industry posted the largest employment losses during 2009. Among non-Aboriginal manufacturing workers in the core-age group, employment declined by 8% or

14,000 jobs, with the bulk of the jobs lost in Ontario. At the same time, manufacturing employment among their Aboriginal counterparts fell by 30% or 7,000 jobs, with jobs mostly lost in the Western provinces.

In the construction industry, Aboriginal employment fell by 16% or 4,000 jobs, while it decreased by 5% or 45,000 jobs among non-Aboriginal workers.

## Young workers hit by labour downturn

The labour market downturn had an especially large impact on young people (aged 15 to 24). From 2008 to 2009, the employment rate for Aboriginal youth (excluding those on reserves) fell by 6.8 percentage points, compared with a decline of 4.2 percentage points among non-Aboriginal youth. Both decreases were much larger than the employment losses experienced by core-age workers over this period.

In 2009, the employment rate was 45.1% for Aboriginal youth, whereas it was 55.6% for their non-Aboriginal counterparts.

While the period was a turbulent one in the labour market for youth and core-age adults, Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal people aged 55 and older were finding jobs, and so their employment rate increased slightly.

### To learn more about

Aboriginal Children's Survey, Aboriginal culture, Aboriginal education, Aboriginal health and well-being, Aboriginal identity population, Aboriginal labour market, Aboriginal languages, Aboriginal peoples, Aboriginal population, Aboriginal society and community, cultural activities of Métis, First Nations, Inuit, Métis

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Core-age Aboriginal people in British Columbia and Alberta, two of the provinces hardest hit by the downturn, experienced more pronounced changes in their employment and unemployment rates than did their counterparts in other provinces.

In Alberta, the employment rate among core-age Aboriginal people fell from 75.1% in 2008 to 69.5% in 2009, more than double the drop seen among non-Aboriginal people. In British Columbia, the core-age employment rate among Aboriginal people fell to 65.1%, a drop of 5.6 percentage points and the lowest rate for Aboriginal people among all the provinces.

### Education matters in the labour market

Educational attainment also played a role both before and during the downturn. Aboriginal people who had completed postsecondary education were not as affected: their employment rate declined to 79.4%, down 1.8 percentage points from 2008 to 2009. The employment

**Table 1.a**  
Employment rate of Aboriginal people, by educational attainment

	2007	2008	2009
	%		
<b>All education levels</b>	<b>70.1</b>	<b>70.8</b>	<b>68.5</b>
Less than high school	51.2	53.2	47.7
High school graduate or some postsecondary	70.4	69.6	66.3
Completed postsecondary	80.2	81.2	79.4

**Notes:** Population aged 25 to 54.

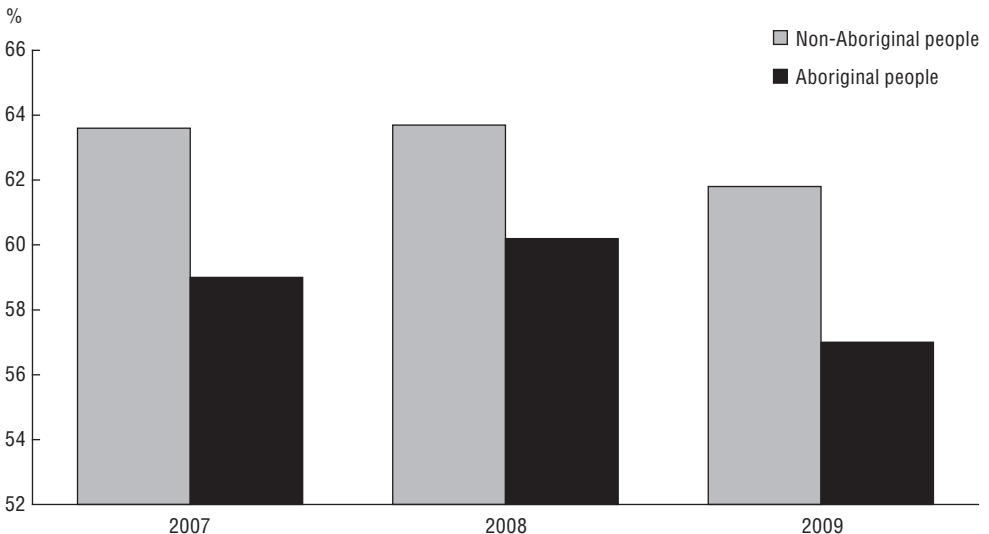
Excludes people living on reserves or in the territories.

**Source:** Statistics Canada, Catalogue no. 71-588-X.

rate for Aboriginal people with less than a high school diploma fell by 5.5 percentage points to 47.7%. Those with a high school diploma and some postsecondary education fared better, as their employment rate declined by 3.3 percentage points to 66.3%.

The employment rate among non-Aboriginal people with a completed postsecondary education was higher than that of their Aboriginal counterparts, but the decline in their employment rate was comparable at 1.5 percentage points.

**Chart 1.1**  
Employment rate, by Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal population



**Notes:** Population aged 15 and older.

Excludes people living on reserves or in the territories.

**Source:** Statistics Canada, Catalogue no. 71-588-X.

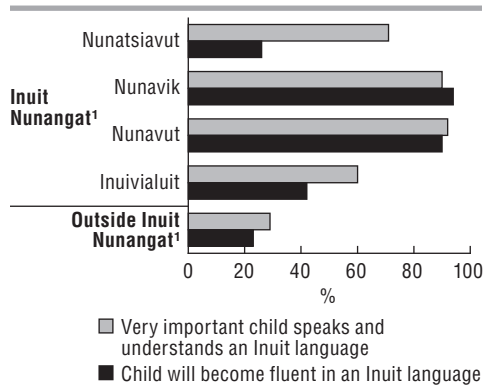
## Young Inuit children and language use

For most Inuit parents, maintaining an Inuit language is very important. Nationally, 74% of the parents of Inuit children aged five or younger in 2006 thought it very important that their children learn to speak and understand their language. In addition, 71% of parents expected their children would become fluent.

Children are more likely to have an Inuit language as their mother tongue—the first language they learn and still understand—if they live in 1 of the 4 regions that make up the traditional Inuit homeland.

For 60% of Inuit children, an Inuit language is the language spoken to them most often at home. About 59% of Inuit children in Canada hear an Inuit language on a daily basis at the homes of others, while 58% hear one elsewhere in their community every day.

**Chart 1.2**  
Inuit parents' language expectations for their children, by region, 2006



**Note:** Parents with children aged 5 or younger.

1. Nunangat is Inuit for homeland.

**Source:** Statistics Canada, Catalogue no. 11-008-X.

In 2006, about 4,500 or 64% of Inuit children had an Inuit language as their mother tongue, the same percentage as in 1996.

## Métis and traditional cultural activities

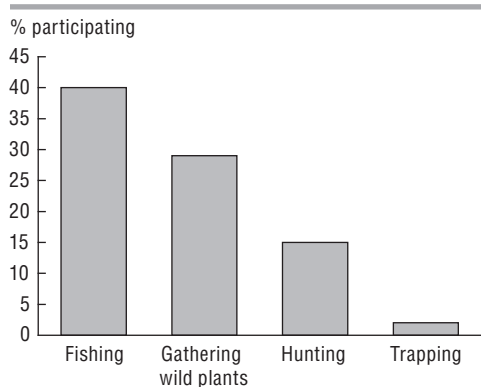
Hunting, fishing, trapping and gathering wild plants are some of the traditional activities that were once central to Métis life.

Today, fishing remains a popular activity among Métis adults. About 40% of Métis had fished during the year leading up to the Aboriginal Peoples Survey in 2006. About 15% had hunted and 2% had gone trapping.

Almost 1 in 5 Métis reported that they often consume land-based animals, such as moose, caribou, bear, deer and buffalo. More than 1 in 3 reported that they had consumed such meat a few times in the year prior to the survey.

Métis also participate in other traditional activities. The most common activities in

**Chart 1.3**  
Traditional activity among Métis, 2006

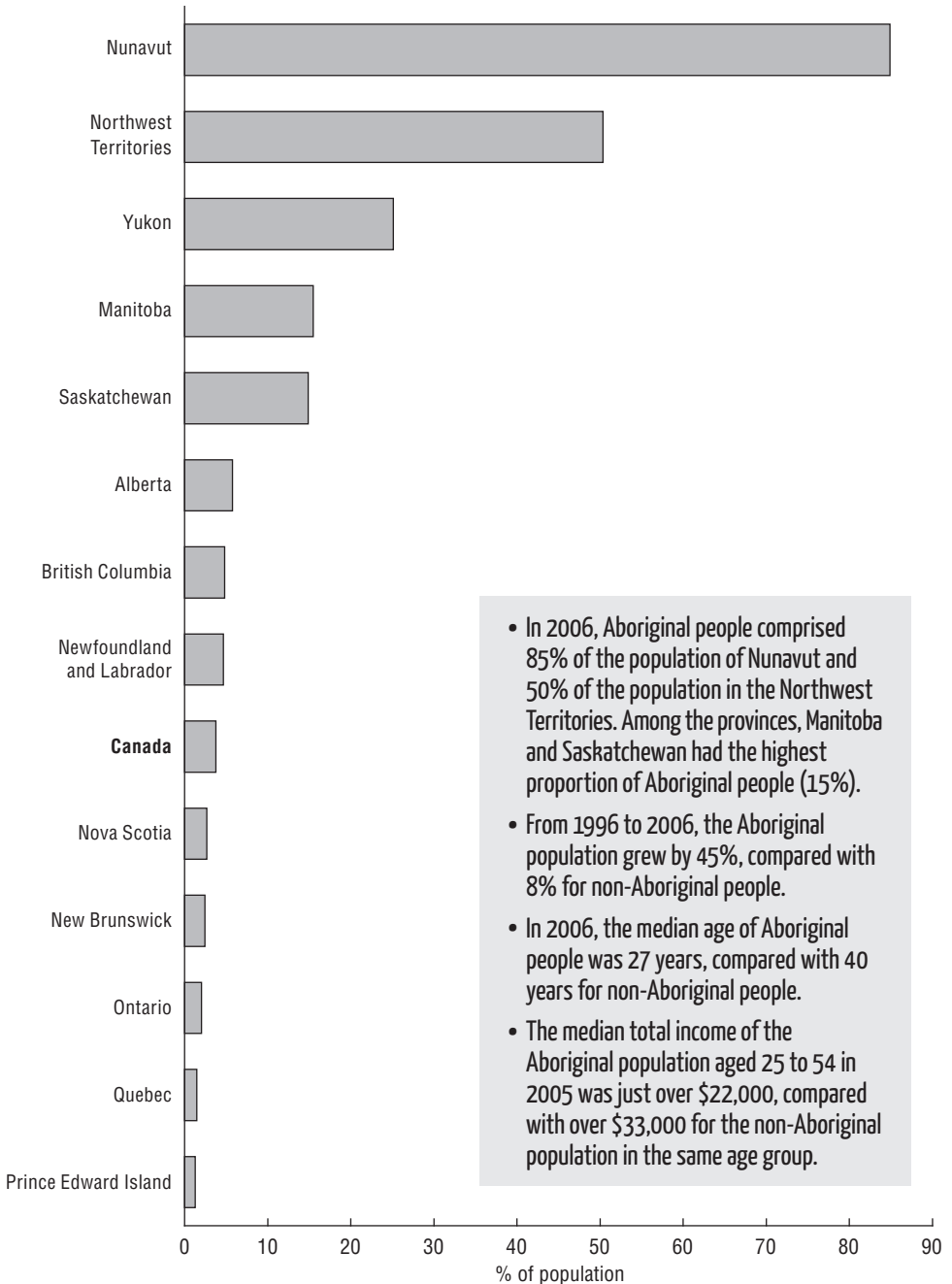


**Note:** Métis population aged 15 and older.

**Source:** Statistics Canada, Catalogue no. 11-008-X.

2006 were gathering plants (29%) and creating traditional arts and crafts (13%). Beadwork (33%) and painting (18%) were the most popular arts and crafts.

**Chart 1.4**  
**Aboriginal identity population, by province and territory, 2006**



- In 2006, Aboriginal people comprised 85% of the population of Nunavut and 50% of the population in the Northwest Territories. Among the provinces, Manitoba and Saskatchewan had the highest proportion of Aboriginal people (15%).
- From 1996 to 2006, the Aboriginal population grew by 45%, compared with 8% for non-Aboriginal people.
- In 2006, the median age of Aboriginal people was 27 years, compared with 40 years for non-Aboriginal people.
- The median total income of the Aboriginal population aged 25 to 54 in 2005 was just over \$22,000, compared with over \$33,000 for the non-Aboriginal population in the same age group.

**Note:** The Aboriginal identity population comprises the Aboriginal groups (North American Indian, Métis and Inuit), multiple Aboriginal responses and Aboriginal responses not included elsewhere.

**Source:** Statistics Canada, 2006 Census of Population.

**Table 1.1 Aboriginal identity population, by sex and by province and territory, 2006**

	Canada	Newfoundland and Labrador	Prince Edward Island	Nova Scotia	New Brunswick
	number				
<b>Total population</b>	<b>31,241,030</b>	<b>500,610</b>	<b>134,205</b>	<b>903,090</b>	<b>719,650</b>
Aboriginal identity population <sup>1</sup>	<b>1,172,790</b>	23,450	1,730	24,175	17,655
North American Indian	<b>698,025</b>	7,765	1,230	15,240	12,385
Métis	<b>389,785</b>	6,470	385	7,680	4,270
Inuit	<b>50,480</b>	4,715	30	320	185
Non-Aboriginal population	<b>30,068,240</b>	477,155	132,475	878,915	701,995
<b>Males</b>	<b>15,326,270</b>	<b>243,965</b>	<b>64,990</b>	<b>435,570</b>	<b>351,150</b>
Aboriginal identity population <sup>1</sup>	<b>572,090</b>	11,525	760	11,770	8,645
North American Indian	<b>338,050</b>	3,820	565	7,320	5,810
Métis	<b>193,500</b>	3,170	145	3,940	2,450
Inuit	<b>25,025</b>	2,365	10	140	70
Non-Aboriginal population	<b>14,754,175</b>	232,445	64,230	423,800	342,505
<b>Females</b>	<b>15,914,760</b>	<b>256,640</b>	<b>69,210</b>	<b>467,525</b>	<b>368,505</b>
Aboriginal identity population <sup>1</sup>	<b>600,695</b>	11,925	970	12,405	9,010
North American Indian	<b>359,975</b>	3,950	660	7,915	6,575
Métis	<b>196,280</b>	3,310	245	3,740	1,815
Inuit	<b>25,455</b>	2,345	20	180	110
Non-Aboriginal population	<b>15,314,065</b>	244,715	68,245	455,115	359,495
	%				
<b>Total population</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>
Aboriginal identity population <sup>1</sup>	<b>3.8</b>	4.7	1.3	2.7	2.5
North American Indian	<b>2.2</b>	1.6	0.9	1.7	1.7
Métis	<b>1.2</b>	1.3	0.3	0.9	0.6
Inuit	<b>0.2</b>	0.9	0.0	0.0	0.0
Non-Aboriginal population	<b>96.2</b>	95.3	98.7	97.3	97.5
<b>Males</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>
Aboriginal identity population <sup>1</sup>	<b>3.7</b>	4.7	1.2	2.7	2.5
North American Indian	<b>2.2</b>	1.6	0.9	1.7	1.7
Métis	<b>1.3</b>	1.3	0.2	0.9	0.7
Inuit	<b>0.2</b>	1.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Non-Aboriginal population	<b>96.3</b>	95.3	98.8	97.3	97.5
<b>Females</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>
Aboriginal identity population <sup>1</sup>	<b>3.8</b>	4.6	1.4	2.7	2.4
North American Indian	<b>2.3</b>	1.5	1.0	1.7	1.8
Métis	<b>1.2</b>	1.3	0.3	0.8	0.5
Inuit	<b>0.2</b>	0.9	0.0	0.0	0.0
Non-Aboriginal population	<b>96.2</b>	95.4	98.6	97.3	97.6

1. The Aboriginal identity population comprises the Aboriginal groups (North American Indian, Métis and Inuit), multiple Aboriginal responses and Aboriginal responses not included elsewhere.

Source: Statistics Canada, 2006 Census of Population.

Quebec	Ontario	Manitoba	Saskatchewan	Alberta	British Columbia	Yukon	Northwest Territories	Nunavut
number								
<b>7,435,905</b>	<b>12,028,895</b>	<b>1,133,515</b>	<b>953,850</b>	<b>3,256,355</b>	<b>4,074,385</b>	<b>30,190</b>	<b>41,060</b>	<b>29,325</b>
108,430	242,490	175,395	142,045	188,215	196,075	7,580	20,665	24,890
65,085	158,400	100,645	91,550	97,130	129,575	6,275	12,640	105
27,980	73,605	71,810	48,120	85,500	59,445	805	3,580	130
10,950	2,040	565	220	1,610	795	255	4,190	24,610
7,327,475	11,786,405	958,115	811,960	3,067,990	3,878,310	22,610	20,445	4,380
<b>3,645,980</b>	<b>5,877,875</b>	<b>556,925</b>	<b>469,405</b>	<b>1,630,865</b>	<b>1,998,385</b>	<b>15,210</b>	<b>20,945</b>	<b>15,000</b>
53,525	117,590	85,720	69,640	91,670	94,855	3,665	10,180	12,545
31,690	75,955	48,715	44,530	47,155	63,190	3,035	6,210	55
14,305	37,030	35,615	23,945	41,985	28,595	400	1,860	60
5,475	940	280	110	790	335	100	1,990	12,405
3,592,455	5,760,285	471,200	399,840	1,539,125	1,903,530	11,545	10,790	2,425
<b>3,789,925</b>	<b>6,151,020</b>	<b>576,590</b>	<b>484,445</b>	<b>1,625,490</b>	<b>2,076,000</b>	<b>14,980</b>	<b>20,110</b>	<b>14,325</b>
54,905	124,905	89,675	72,400	96,545	101,215	3,915	10,480	12,345
33,395	82,440	51,935	47,020	49,970	66,390	3,245	6,430	50
13,680	36,580	36,185	24,175	43,515	30,855	400	1,715	65
5,480	1,095	280	105	820	455	150	2,200	12,205
3,735,020	6,026,115	486,915	412,120	1,528,860	1,974,780	11,070	9,655	1,960
%								
<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>
1.5	2.0	15.5	14.9	5.8	4.8	25.1	50.3	85.0
0.9	1.3	8.9	9.6	3.0	3.2	20.8	30.8	0.3
0.4	0.6	6.3	5.0	2.6	1.5	2.6	8.7	0.4
0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.8	10.1	84.0
98.5	98.0	84.5	85.1	94.2	95.2	74.9	49.7	15.0
<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>
1.5	2.0	15.4	14.8	5.6	4.7	24.1	48.5	83.8
0.9	1.3	8.7	9.5	2.9	3.2	20.0	29.6	0.3
0.4	0.6	6.4	5.1	2.6	1.4	2.6	8.9	0.4
0.2	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.7	9.4	82.8
98.5	98.0	84.6	85.2	94.4	95.3	75.9	51.5	16.2
<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>
1.4	2.0	15.6	14.9	5.9	4.9	26.1	52.1	86.2
0.9	1.3	9.0	9.7	3.1	3.2	21.7	32.0	0.3
0.4	0.6	6.3	5.0	2.7	1.5	2.7	8.5	0.5
0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0	1.0	10.9	85.2
98.6	98.0	84.4	85.1	94.1	95.1	73.9	47.9	13.8

**Table 1.2 Aboriginal identity population, by age group and sex and by province and territory, 2006**

	Canada	Newfoundland and Labrador	Prince Edward Island	Nova Scotia	New Brunswick
	number				
<b>Both sexes, all ages</b>	<b>1,172,790</b>	<b>23,450</b>	<b>1,730</b>	<b>24,175</b>	<b>17,655</b>
0 to 4	108,895	1,445	230	1,745	1,350
5 to 9	114,765	1,805	210	2,080	1,605
10 to 14	125,235	2,145	160	2,480	1,490
15 to 19	118,105	2,300	170	2,430	1,695
20 to 24	93,905	1,920	100	1,905	1,240
25 to 34	161,570	3,035	235	3,220	2,195
35 to 44	169,465	3,675	230	3,630	2,870
45 to 54	143,285	3,395	215	3,515	2,645
55 to 64	81,090	2,175	100	1,930	1,445
65 and older	56,465	1,545	75	1,230	1,105
<b>Males, all ages</b>	<b>572,090</b>	<b>11,525</b>	<b>760</b>	<b>11,770</b>	<b>8,645</b>
0 to 4	55,380	700	120	880	690
5 to 9	58,910	920	95	1,060	815
10 to 14	64,120	1,135	75	1,240	715
15 to 19	60,250	1,150	65	1,170	885
20 to 24	45,390	940	70	945	615
25 to 34	76,220	1,375	120	1,455	1,040
35 to 44	79,205	1,735	70	1,690	1,390
45 to 54	67,540	1,735	85	1,715	1,310
55 to 64	39,420	1,140	30	1,020	720
65 and older	25,650	695	30	595	460
<b>Females, all ages</b>	<b>600,695</b>	<b>11,925</b>	<b>970</b>	<b>12,405</b>	<b>9,010</b>
0 to 4	53,515	745	110	870	660
5 to 9	55,860	885	110	1,015	795
10 to 14	61,110	1,005	80	1,240	780
15 to 19	57,855	1,150	105	1,260	810
20 to 24	48,510	980	35	960	625
25 to 34	85,350	1,660	115	1,770	1,155
35 to 44	90,260	1,940	160	1,940	1,480
45 to 54	75,745	1,660	125	1,805	1,335
55 to 64	41,670	1,040	70	910	720
65 and older	30,810	855	50	635	645

Source: Statistics Canada, 2006 Census of Population.

Quebec	Ontario	Manitoba	Saskatchewan	Alberta	British Columbia	Yukon	Northwest Territories	Nunavut
number								
<b>108,430</b>	<b>242,490</b>	<b>175,395</b>	<b>142,045</b>	<b>188,215</b>	<b>196,075</b>	<b>7,580</b>	<b>20,665</b>	<b>24,890</b>
8,680	19,815	18,810	16,600	18,315	16,195	640	1,875	3,195
9,185	21,075	19,180	16,540	19,300	18,005	690	1,950	3,135
9,650	23,435	20,200	17,510	20,945	21,045	735	2,355	3,070
9,590	22,335	17,910	16,130	19,630	19,945	700	2,290	2,980
8,200	18,540	14,250	11,990	16,535	14,875	550	1,590	2,200
14,440	33,680	23,830	19,365	28,730	25,605	990	2,770	3,475
16,005	37,935	23,720	17,845	26,510	29,615	1,230	3,020	3,175
14,775	33,720	19,215	13,705	20,420	26,425	1,045	2,350	1,850
9,910	19,340	10,940	7,115	10,695	14,420	580	1,330	1,100
7,995	12,615	7,340	5,240	7,125	9,930	420	1,125	705
<b>53,525</b>	<b>117,590</b>	<b>85,720</b>	<b>69,640</b>	<b>91,670</b>	<b>94,855</b>	<b>3,665</b>	<b>10,180</b>	<b>12,545</b>
4,460	10,150	9,585	8,395	9,405	8,130	315	920	1,630
4,560	10,685	10,100	8,655	9,930	9,155	345	990	1,590
5,015	11,840	10,475	8,925	10,625	10,960	370	1,190	1,550
4,840	11,600	8,805	8,275	9,940	10,400	395	1,170	1,550
3,975	8,925	6,630	5,770	8,105	7,180	280	850	1,105
7,015	15,440	11,375	8,775	14,010	12,175	445	1,270	1,725
7,865	17,945	10,895	8,415	12,005	13,525	635	1,470	1,550
7,225	15,895	9,050	6,620	9,385	12,085	460	1,080	890
5,005	9,475	5,390	3,345	4,985	6,790	240	700	575
3,565	5,620	3,405	2,455	3,280	4,460	180	540	370
<b>54,905</b>	<b>124,905</b>	<b>89,675</b>	<b>72,400</b>	<b>96,545</b>	<b>101,215</b>	<b>3,915</b>	<b>10,480</b>	<b>12,345</b>
4,215	9,660	9,230	8,200	8,910	8,065	325	955	1,565
4,625	10,390	9,080	7,885	9,375	8,850	340	965	1,540
4,640	11,595	9,725	8,585	10,320	10,090	370	1,160	1,520
4,750	10,740	9,105	7,855	9,690	9,545	300	1,120	1,430
4,220	9,610	7,620	6,220	8,430	7,695	275	740	1,095
7,420	18,240	12,450	10,590	14,720	13,430	540	1,500	1,750
8,140	19,985	12,820	9,425	14,505	16,095	595	1,550	1,625
7,550	17,825	10,165	7,080	11,035	14,345	585	1,270	960
4,910	9,865	5,550	3,775	5,710	7,635	335	635	520
4,425	7,000	3,935	2,780	3,845	5,470	240	585	330



**Table 1.3 Aboriginal identity population, by census metropolitan area, 2006**

	Total population	Aboriginal identity population <sup>1</sup>	North American Indian	Métis	Inuit	Non-Aboriginal identity population
	number					
<b>Canada<sup>2</sup></b>	<b>31,241,030</b>	<b>1,172,785</b>	<b>698,025</b>	<b>389,780</b>	<b>50,480</b>	<b>30,068,240</b>
St. John's	179,270	2,015	770	550	280	177,250
Halifax	369,455	5,320	2,995	1,760	150	364,135
Moncton	124,055	1,175	665	405	15	122,880
Saint John	120,875	1,255	720	355	60	119,625
Saguenay	149,600	2,535	985	1,435	20	147,060
Québec <sup>2</sup>	704,180	4,000	2,085	1,445	85	700,180
Sherbrooke	183,635	1,145	630	370	15	182,495
Trois-Rivières	138,555	1,205	715	380	15	137,350
Montréal <sup>2</sup>	3,588,520	17,865	10,135	6,010	570	3,570,655
Ottawa–Gatineau	1,117,125	20,590	10,790	7,990	730	1,096,530
Kingston	148,475	3,290	1,895	1,130	80	145,180
Peterborough	115,140	3,575	2,350	1,010	35	111,560
Oshawa	328,065	4,785	2,900	1,510	130	323,285
Toronto	5,072,070	26,575	17,270	7,580	315	5,045,495
Hamilton	683,445	8,890	6,425	1,990	50	674,560
St. Catharines–Niagara	385,035	6,650	4,350	1,930	65	378,385
Kitchener–Cambridge–Waterloo	446,495	4,650	3,085	1,355	60	441,850
Brantford <sup>2</sup>	122,825	3,865	3,140	600	0	118,960
Guelph	126,080	1,330	800	390	15	124,755
London	452,575	6,195	4,595	1,345	80	446,380
Windsor	320,730	5,585	3,185	2,105	0	315,140
Barrie	175,335	3,390	1,840	1,445	0	171,940
Greater Sudbury/Grand Sudbury	156,395	9,970	4,265	5,430	35	146,425
Thunder Bay	121,055	10,055	7,420	2,370	40	110,995
Winnipeg	686,035	68,385	25,900	40,980	350	617,655
Regina	192,435	17,105	9,495	7,185	25	175,330
Saskatoon	230,855	21,535	11,510	9,610	65	209,315
Calgary <sup>2</sup>	1,070,295	26,575	10,875	14,770	250	1,043,720
Edmonton	1,024,825	52,100	22,440	27,740	590	972,720
Kelowna	160,560	6,115	3,135	2,775	25	154,440
Abbotsford–Mission	156,640	5,800	3,080	2,495	40	150,840
Vancouver	2,097,960	40,310	23,515	15,075	210	2,057,655
Victoria <sup>2</sup>	325,060	10,905	6,800	3,620	140	314,150

1. The Aboriginal identity population includes the Aboriginal groups (North American Indian, Métis and Inuit), multiple Aboriginal responses and Aboriginal responses not included elsewhere.

2. Excludes census data for one or more incompletely enumerated Indian reserves or Indian settlements.

**Source:** Statistics Canada, 2006 Census of Population.

**Table 1.4 Aboriginal identity population, by educational attainment and by sex, 2006**

	All levels	Less than high school	High school only	Trade school <sup>1</sup>	College <sup>1</sup>	University <sup>2</sup>	University degree <sup>3</sup>
	number						
<b>Total population</b>	<b>25,664,220</b>	<b>6,098,330</b>	<b>6,553,425</b>	<b>2,785,420</b>	<b>4,435,135</b>	<b>1,136,150</b>	<b>4,162,225</b>
Aboriginal identity population <sup>4</sup>	<b>823,890</b>	359,780	179,585	93,885	119,680	22,950	42,280
North American Indian	<b>473,235</b>	228,985	94,380	49,240	62,340	13,685	21,440
Métis	<b>291,330</b>	100,770	74,575	38,220	49,210	8,035	18,265
Inuit	<b>32,775</b>	19,885	4,435	3,135	3,935	505	790
Multiple Aboriginal identities	<b>5,590</b>	2,010	1,435	755	835	165	355
Other Aboriginal identity	<b>20,960</b>	8,125	4,760	2,535	3,350	555	1,410
Non-Aboriginal population	<b>24,840,335</b>	5,738,550	6,373,835	2,691,535	4,315,455	1,113,195	4,119,950
<b>Males</b>	<b>12,470,785</b>	<b>3,004,625</b>	<b>3,032,870</b>	<b>1,778,080</b>	<b>1,906,335</b>	<b>479,095</b>	<b>2,045,725</b>
Aboriginal identity population <sup>4</sup>	<b>393,680</b>	182,410	81,210	58,525	45,755	8,190	15,610
North American Indian	<b>223,370</b>	115,165	41,725	30,705	22,870	4,790	7,065
Métis	<b>142,840</b>	52,845	34,745	24,020	19,760	2,975	7,670
Inuit	<b>15,965</b>	9,795	2,005	2,020	1,660	170	260
Multiple Aboriginal identities	<b>2,610</b>	1,020	650	450	310	55	100
Other Aboriginal identity	<b>8,895</b>	3,585	2,075	1,325	1,145	190	505
Non-Aboriginal population	<b>12,077,100</b>	2,822,210	2,951,660	1,719,555	1,860,580	470,905	2,030,105
<b>Females</b>	<b>13,193,435</b>	<b>3,093,700</b>	<b>3,520,555</b>	<b>1,007,335</b>	<b>2,528,800</b>	<b>657,055</b>	<b>2,116,505</b>
Aboriginal identity population <sup>4</sup>	<b>430,205</b>	177,365	98,380	35,360	73,925	14,760	26,665
North American Indian	<b>249,865</b>	113,825	52,660	18,530	39,465	8,895	14,370
Métis	<b>148,490</b>	47,925	39,825	14,205	29,455	5,050	10,600
Inuit	<b>16,810</b>	10,090	2,430	1,110	2,270	335	540
Multiple Aboriginal identities	<b>2,975</b>	990	785	300	525	110	240
Other Aboriginal identity	<b>12,065</b>	4,540	2,680	1,210	2,210	370	910
Non-Aboriginal population	<b>12,763,230</b>	2,916,335	3,422,175	971,980	2,454,875	642,295	2,089,840

**Note:** Population aged 15 and older.

1. Certificate or diploma.

2. Certificate or diploma below bachelor's degree.

3. Degree at the bachelor's level or higher.

4. The Aboriginal identity population comprises the Aboriginal groups (North American Indian, Métis and Inuit), multiple Aboriginal responses and Aboriginal responses not included elsewhere.

**Source:** Statistics Canada, 2006 Census of Population.

**Table 1.5 Aboriginal identity population, by labour force characteristics and by sex, 2006**

	In the labour force	Employed	Unemployed	Not in the labour force	Participation rate	Employment rate	Unemployment rate
	number				%		
<b>Total population</b>	<b>17,146,135</b>	<b>16,021,180</b>	<b>1,124,960</b>	<b>8,518,085</b>	<b>66.8</b>	<b>62.4</b>	<b>6.6</b>
Aboriginal identity population <sup>1</sup>	519,250	442,395	76,860	304,635	63.0	53.7	14.8
North American Indian	278,455	228,285	50,175	194,780	58.8	48.2	18.0
Métis	204,165	183,785	20,375	87,165	70.1	63.1	10.0
Inuit	20,100	16,020	4,080	12,675	61.3	48.9	20.3
Multiple Aboriginal identities	3,595	3,290	310	1,990	64.3	58.9	8.6
Other Aboriginal identity	12,935	11,015	1,920	8,025	61.7	52.6	14.8
Non-Aboriginal population	16,626,880	15,578,780	1,048,100	8,213,450	66.9	62.7	6.3
<b>Males</b>	<b>9,020,595</b>	<b>8,431,530</b>	<b>589,065</b>	<b>3,450,190</b>	<b>72.3</b>	<b>67.6</b>	<b>6.5</b>
Aboriginal identity population <sup>1</sup>	264,980	222,350	42,625	128,700	67.3	56.5	16.1
North American Indian	141,100	113,150	27,950	82,275	63.2	50.7	19.8
Métis	105,790	94,720	11,070	37,050	74.1	66.3	10.5
Inuit	10,195	7,770	2,430	5,770	63.9	48.7	23.8
Multiple Aboriginal identities	1,810	1,615	195	800	69.3	61.9	10.8
Other Aboriginal identity	6,085	5,100	985	2,805	68.4	57.4	16.2
Non-Aboriginal population	8,755,615	8,209,180	546,435	3,321,485	72.5	68.0	6.2
<b>Females</b>	<b>8,125,540</b>	<b>7,589,650</b>	<b>535,890</b>	<b>5,067,895</b>	<b>61.6</b>	<b>57.5</b>	<b>6.6</b>
Aboriginal identity population <sup>1</sup>	254,270	220,040	34,230	175,935	59.1	51.1	13.5
North American Indian	137,360	115,135	22,220	112,505	55.0	46.1	16.2
Métis	98,370	89,060	9,310	50,120	66.2	60.0	9.5
Inuit	9,905	8,255	1,645	6,905	58.9	49.1	16.6
Multiple Aboriginal identities	1,785	1,670	115	1,190	60.0	56.1	6.4
Other Aboriginal identity	6,850	5,920	935	5,215	56.8	49.1	13.6
Non-Aboriginal population	7,871,265	7,369,605	501,660	4,891,960	61.7	57.7	6.4

**Note:** Population aged 15 and older.

1. The Aboriginal identity population comprises the Aboriginal groups (North American Indian, Métis and Inuit), multiple Aboriginal responses and Aboriginal responses not included elsewhere.

**Source:** Statistics Canada, 2006 Census of Population.

**Table 1.6 Aboriginal languages among First Nations people, 2006**

	Aboriginal mother tongue <sup>1</sup>		Knowledge of an Aboriginal language <sup>2</sup>	
	number	% change from 2001 to 2006 <sup>3</sup>	number	% change from 2001 to 2006 <sup>3</sup>
Cree	76,460	10	87,285	7
Ojibway	24,410	-2	30,255	-2
Oji-Cree	11,605	18	12,435	20
Montagnais-Naskapi	10,470	8	11,080	10
Dene	8,495	9	9,250	8
Mi'kmaq	7,685	4	8,540	0
Siouan languages (Dakota/Sioux) <sup>4</sup>	5,675	34	6,285	32
Atikamekw	5,140	11	5,320	12
Blackfoot	3,270	11	4,760	10
Salish languages, not included elsewhere	1,990	6	2,800	-1
Algonquin	2,020	10	2,560	12
Dogrib	2,055	10	2,540	17
Carrier	1,800	29	2,320	18
South Slave	1,575	15	2,160	7

1. The first language learned at home in childhood and still understood.

2. Languages in which the respondent can conduct a conversation.

3. Data have been adjusted to account for incompletely enumerated reserves in 2001 and 2006.

4. Caution should be exercised when analysing data for Siouan languages (Dakota/Sioux) because of some overestimation in British Columbia in 2006.

**Source:** Statistics Canada, censuses of population, 2001 and 2006.