

NEW RELATIONSHIPS *with* ABORIGINAL PEOPLE *and* COMMUNITIES *in* B.C.:

MEASURING OUTCOMES 2011–2012



Ministry of
Aboriginal Relations
and Reconciliation

INTRODUCTION

The Province and Aboriginal communities are working together to close the socio-economic gaps that exist between Aboriginal people and other British Columbians. The [New Relationship](#) provides a vision for this work; the [Transformative Change Accord](#) and the *Métis Nation Relationship Accord* identify key priorities to address: Crown – Aboriginal Relationships, Education, Housing and Infrastructure, Health and Economic Opportunities. Measuring Outcomes addresses a provincial commitment to track the social and economic outcomes of Aboriginal people in B.C. in order to measure progress toward closing the gaps.

Social change generally happens over significant periods of time – sometimes even generations. Data provides important information, but personal stories highlight the direct impact to people and communities of the many activities being undertaken. Examples of community-level results are available online: [New Relationships with Aboriginal People and Communities in B.C.](#)

The Province continues to work with Aboriginal partners to create and support long-term benefits for First Nations, Métis and urban Aboriginal people in their communities.

MEASUREMENT FRAMEWORK

The *Measuring Outcomes* reporting framework is made up of indicators in five key areas: Improving Crown - Aboriginal Relationships, Education, Housing and Infrastructure, health, and Economic Opportunities.

The indicators have been chosen based on their inclusion in the Transformative Change Accord and the availability of reliable data, with the goal of keeping the framework simple. The data is consistent with information collected and reported by other ministries.

For a more in-depth understanding of the sectors, themes, and data in the *Measuring Outcomes* report, references to other more detailed ministry reports and data sources have been provided.

The Ministry of Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation is working with Aboriginal partners, other ministries and stakeholders to improve the quality and availability of data. The 2011-12 report includes data for Métis and urban Aboriginal people, a reflection of the commitment made by British Columbia, First Nations, and Métis leadership to measure socio-economic outcomes over time, in order to improve the lives of Aboriginal people, and contribute to positive, lasting relationships around the province.

This version of Measuring Outcomes replaces the previously published version, and contains the following changes and updates:

- ▶ A change in reporting on progress on treaties and related agreements with the data broken out more discreetly between two ministries;
- ▶ A new education indicator for measuring the post-secondary participation rate.

Note on Census Data: Where Census data are used, the Aboriginal identity population for 2006, 2001 and 1996 were counted using data from the census long form (Census Form 2B) questionnaire. For 2011, the Aboriginal identity population was derived from the National Household Survey (NHS) conducted May 2011. This voluntary, self-administered survey was introduced by Statistics Canada as a replacement for the census long form questionnaire.

Comparison of Aboriginal data across census years therefore, should take into account the differences between these surveys as outlined in the [*Aboriginal Peoples Reference Guide, National Household Survey, 2011*](#). Adjustments for incompletely enumerated reserves and settlements must also be included. In 2011, there were a total of 36 Indian reserves and Indian settlements in Canada that were 'incompletely enumerated' in the NHS.

For these reserves or settlements, NHS enumeration was either not permitted or was interrupted before it could be completed, or was not possible because of natural events.

IMPROVING CROWN – ABORIGINAL RELATIONSHIPS

Historic Crown – Aboriginal relationships in British Columbia have given rise to the present socio-economic disparity between Aboriginal peoples and other British Columbians. B.C.'s full potential will be realized only when Aboriginal people are an integral part of the social and economic life of the province.

Improving Crown – Aboriginal relationships requires respect, recognition and accommodation of Aboriginal title and rights, and reconciliation of First Nations and Crown title and jurisdictions. Although measuring and tracking a relationship presents challenges, the five indicators chosen can be measured over time to show progress:

IMPROVING CROWN – ABORIGINAL RELATIONSHIPS									
INDICATOR	BASELINE	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2015 TARGET	DATA SOURCE
1a. Number of treaties and agreements that build incremental progress towards reconciliation	(05/06) 2	8	9	14	18	63	39	18	MARR
1b. Number of forestry agreements that provide forest tenure opportunities to First Nations in the forest sector	(05/06) 34	30	50	33	35	15	14	No Target Provided	FLNRO
1c. How aware are British Columbians of the diversity of First Nations Cultures within B.C.? <i>% responding: Very Aware</i>		(2007)					Survey Deferred	50%	B.C. Stats MARR
1d. Percentage of British Columbians who strongly agree that First Nations have made a wide range of valuable contributions to B.C.		(2007)					Survey Deferred	50%	B.C. Stats MARR
1e. How aware are British Columbians that Métis people represent a distinct Aboriginal population in B.C.? <i>% responding: Very Aware</i>		(2009)					Survey Deferred	50%	B.C. Stats MARR
1f. Percentage of British Columbians who strongly agree that Métis people have made a wide range of valuable contributions to B.C.		(2009)					Survey Deferred	50%	B.C. Stats MARR

1a: The Province enters into a large number of agreements with First Nations. For the purpose of this report, only those agreements that are negotiated by MARR and primarily focused on reconciliation are counted. These include: Final Agreements (FA), Agreements in Principle (AIP), Treaty Related Measures (TRM), Interim Measure Agreements (IMA), Cut-off Claim Settlement Agreements (CCSA), and Strategic Engagement Agreements (SEA). In 2010, MARR became responsible for negotiating Forest Consultation and Revenue Sharing Agreements (FCRSA's) and assumed reporting responsibilities that were previously associated with other ministries. In addition to these agreements MARR has a number of mine revenue sharing agreements

(ECDAs) and provides funding through the First Nations Clean Energy Business Fund (FNCEBF).

1b: The Province also enters into a number of agreements with First Nations in the forest sector that provide forest revenue sharing and direct award forest tenures. Although there are a large range in names of these agreements, most of the agreements are – Forest and Range Agreements (FRAs), Forest and Range Opportunity Agreements (FROs), Forest Tenure Opportunity Agreements (FTOAs) and Forest Consultation and Revenue Sharing Agreements (FCRSAs). Visit MARR's website for FCRSA and FLNRO's website for FRA, FRO and FTOA for further information.

1c: Since 2007, B.C. Stats has conducted a series of surveys on behalf of MARR to monitor public awareness of the diversity of First Nations cultures. The survey is now referred to as the Aboriginal Awareness Survey. The survey includes one question pertaining to First Nations: 1. How aware are you of the diversity of First Nations Cultures within B.C.? Would you say you are very aware, somewhat aware, not very aware or not at all aware? The 2010 proportion of those responding “very aware” was the highest in four years and remained the same in 2011 at 30%. Overall, 80% of respondents reported that they are either “very aware” or “somewhat” aware of the diversity of First Nations cultures in B.C.

Note: the 2011-2012 survey was deferred pending a methodology review and budgetary restrictions.

1d: In 2009, a question was added to the Aboriginal Awareness Survey to develop a baseline for on-going monitoring of public awareness of Métis people in B.C. The proportion of respondents in 2011 who reported being ‘very aware’ that Métis represent a distinct Aboriginal population in B.C. went down 3 percentage points from 2010. Overall, 57% of respondents in 2011 reported that they are either “very aware” or “somewhat” aware that Métis represent a distinct Aboriginal population in B.C. It is important to note that a high percentage of respondents, almost 15%, indicated that they ‘not at all aware’.

Note: the 2011-2012 survey was deferred pending a methodology review and budgetary restrictions.

1e and 1f: Since 2007, B.C. Stats has conducted a series of surveys on behalf of MARR to monitor public awareness of the diversity of First Nations cultures, and their level of agreement on the wide range of valuable contributions made by First Nations in B.C. In 2009, two questions were added to develop a baseline for on-going monitoring of public awareness of Métis people, and public perception of the value of Métis contributions to B.C. The survey is now referred to as the Aboriginal Awareness Survey. The survey includes two questions pertaining to Métis: 1. How aware are you that Métis people represent a distinct Aboriginal population in British Columbia? Would you say you are, very aware, somewhat aware, not very aware or not at all aware? 2. Would you say you agree or disagree with the following statement: Métis people have made a wide range of valuable contributions to B.C.? Would you say you strongly agree, somewhat agree, somewhat disagree, or strongly disagree?

The data shows a five percentage point increase from 2009 and 2010 for those reporting they are “very aware” that Métis people represent a distinct Aboriginal population. A one percentage point decrease in those reporting they “strongly agree” that the Métis have made a wide range of valuable contributions to B.C. is reported between 2009 and 2010. The same question also received a high response rate for those who indicated “I don’t know” (14.6% in 2010 and 11.8% in 2009).

Note: the 2011-2012 survey was deferred pending a methodology review and budgetary restrictions.

EDUCATION

Improving success is a significant priority for Aboriginal peoples and government. Education encompasses a lifelong learning process beginning with early childhood development and early learning opportunities, through to the attainment of credentials

and participation in post-secondary education. **Note:** Refer to the Economic Opportunities section for information on apprenticeships, trades and training.

EDUCATION									
INDICATOR	BASELINE	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2015 TARGET	DATA SOURCE
2a. Six-year completion rate at public schools only <i>Aboriginal Ancestry</i> <i>Non-Aboriginal</i>	(05/06) 48% 83%	47% 84%	47% 82%	49% 83%	50% 83%	54% 84%	56% 85%	(2014/15)* 58% for Aboriginal students ≥82% for all students	Ministry of Education
*The available targets are provincial ones, combining B.C. public and independent schools.									
2b. Foundation Skills Assessment at both public and independent schools Meets or Exceeds Expectations: <i>Grade 4</i>									
Reading <i>Aboriginal Ancestry</i> <i>All Students</i> <i>Non-Aboriginal</i>	(2007/08) 59% 74% 76%			53% 69% 71%	51% 67% 69%	51% 69% 71%	53% 70% 72%	75% for all students	Ministry of Education
Writing <i>Aboriginal Ancestry</i> <i>All Students</i> <i>Non-Aboriginal</i>	(2007/08) 53% 71% 73%			53% 69% 71%	51% 67% 69%	51% 69% 71%	53% 70% 72%	75% for all students	
Numeracy <i>Aboriginal Ancestry</i> <i>All Students</i> <i>Non-Aboriginal</i>	(2007/08) 52% 70% 72%			48% 66% 68%	45% 64% 66%	46% 67% 69%	49% 68% 70%	75% for all students	
2c. Post-secondary credential achievement rate. Proportion of the population (ages 15-64) to hold a post-secondary credential <i>Aboriginal Identity (off-reserve)</i> <i>First Nations (off-reserve)</i> <i>Métis</i> <i>Non-Aboriginal</i>	(2005) 30.4% 26.9% 35.6% 48.9%	32.8% 27.2% 40.7% 49.9%	33.0% 29.7% 37.8% 50.9%	33.2% 31.0% 37.1% 51.4%	34.9% 32.6% 38.0% 51.9%	36.9% 35.8% 38.7% 52.8%	38.4% 35.9% 42.2% 54.6%	Credential achievement rate will be equal between Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal learners	Labour Force Survey-Annual B.C. Stats
2d. Credentials awarded to Aboriginal Students compared to Credentials awarded to non-Aboriginal students <i>Credential Awarded to Aboriginal Students</i> <i>Credentials Awarded to Non-Aboriginal Students</i>	(05/06) 2,100 44,271	(06/07) 2,080 45,638	(07/08) 2,325 45,066	(08/09) 2,430 46,246	(09/10) 2,634 46,323	(10/11) 2,727 48,209	(11/12) n/a	To be determined	Ministry of Advanced Education Central Data Warehouse Student Transitions Project
2e. Early Development Instrument	Measurement Under Review								

2a: The six-year completion rate is the percentage of Grade 8 students that graduate with a B.C. Certificate of Graduation, or B.C. Adult Graduation Diploma, within six years of starting Grade 8 for the first time, adjusted for migration in and out of British Columbia. It is not the inverse of a dropout rate because students may graduate after the six-year period. High school completion is one indicator of how well B.C.'s education system has served students. Aboriginal ancestry is determined on a voluntary basis through self-identification and includes Inuit, Métis, and First Nations, both Status and Non-Status, on reserve and off reserve.

2b: The Foundation Skills Assessment (FSA) is an annual province-wide assessment of British Columbia students' academic skills, and provides a snapshot of how B.C.'s education system serves grades 4 and 7 students in the foundation skill areas of reading comprehension, writing, and numeracy. The content of the 2007/08 FSA was adjusted to accommodate the February administration dates; therefore, a new baseline for student performance was established for the 2007/08 FSA. As a result, comparisons of FSA prior to 2007/08 to FSA from 2007/08 onwards are not analytically sound. Also, the percentage of non-writers influences the percent meeting and/or exceeding expectations.

2c: Post-secondary credentials include post-secondary certificate, diploma, or associate, bachelor or graduate degree. Figures may differ from previous Measuring Outcomes' Reports as previous figures excluded students still in school, while these figures include total population (off-reserve, ages 15-64).

2d: Through discussion with the B.C. Aboriginal Post-Secondary Education and Training Partners' Table, it has been determined that measuring credentials awarded to Aboriginal learners is more representative of Aboriginal student participation than headcount enrolment. The headcount enrolment continues to measure all Aboriginal students who have accessed a public post-secondary institution and does not account for the type or duration of their participation.

Data Source for the credentials awarded: Student Transitions Project, Fall 2010 and 2011 Submissions.

- ▶ The following are important to note when analyzing the numbers provided:
- ▶ Credential data has been restated on a Fiscal Year (FY) basis (April 1 to March 31).
- ▶ Data do not include Apprenticeship, Short certificate and Other credential types, and programs awarding credentials for participation without evaluative components.
- ▶ Aboriginal learners are students with Aboriginal ancestry who self-identified in the B.C. K-12 education system or who self-identify as Aboriginal at a B.C. public post-secondary institution. The non-Aboriginal category may include Aboriginal learners who have not self-identified.
- ▶ Data excludes credentials awarded to international and off-shore students.

Each number has been rounded to the nearest five. The effects of rounding may result in totals in different reports not matching exactly when they would be expected to match.

2e: *The Early Development Instrument* (EDI) is a population-based tool used to measure the state of child development at Kindergarten entry in the domains of: physical health and well-being, social competence, emotional maturity, language and cognitive development, and communication skills and general knowledge. The tool was designed to provide data to help inform communities and governments about how the programs, policies and social environments we provide for young children combine to support their development.

HOUSING AND INFRASTRUCTURE

The *Provincial Housing Strategy* identifies Aboriginal housing need as a priority. The Province works in partnership with Aboriginal people and the Aboriginal Housing Management Association to create safe, affordable and culturally appropriate housing off-reserve. There are over 4,200 subsidized Aboriginal housing units available in British Columbia. In 2012, The Province transferred the administration of subsidized Aboriginal housing units and its Aboriginal housing programs over to the Aboriginal Housing Management Association, a self-managed organization that oversees Aboriginal housing and programs across the province.

Reliable high-speed Internet access for all First Nations in British Columbia has been recognized as a high priority by a number of organizations in recent years including the First Nations Leadership Council, the Premier's Technology Council and the provincial government in the Transformative Change Accord, which recognizes connectivity as foundational to closing the socio-economic gap between First Nations and other British Columbians. Broadband connectivity is also a key priority for the First Nations Health Council as part of their efforts to create a fully integrated First Nations clinical telehealth network.

HOUSING AND INFRASTRUCTURE									
INDICATOR	BASELINE	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2015 TARGET	DATA SOURCE
3a. Core Housing Need (CHN) <i>Off-reserve Aboriginal</i> <i>Non-Aboriginal</i>	(2001) 28.5% 15.3%	22.3% 14.2%	n/a				Equitable to non-Aboriginal population		Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation Statistics Canada
3b. Percentage of households reporting major repairs <i>Aboriginal Households</i> <i>Non-Aboriginal Households</i>	(2006) 17.7% 6.8%	n/a				To be Determined		Census B.C. Stats	
3c. Percentage of First Nations with access to broadband facilities <i>Number of First Nations with access to broadband facilities</i>	(2007/08) (baseline) 42% 85 of 203 Nations		(08/09) 61% 123	(09/10) 73% 148	(10/11) 77% 157	(11/12) 84% 170	(Target: 16/17) 203 with at least consumer connectivity. As many as possible will have industrial connectivity.		Ministry of Citizens' Services and Open Government All Nations Trust Company
3d. Number of long-term drinking water advisories on reserves	(2005) 19	(06) 18	(07) 23	(08) 18	(09) 24	(10) 24	(11) 25	No federal target established at this time	Health Canada
3e. Number of people on reserves affected by long-term drinking water advisories	(2005) 3,123	2,422	3,094	2,335	3,829	3,532	4,073	No federal target established at this time	

3a: Core housing need integrates standards for dwelling adequacy, suitability and affordability into a single measure of the housing conditions of Canadian households. If a household falls below one or more of these three standards and it would have to spend 30% or more of its total before-tax income to pay the median rent of alternative local housing that is acceptable (meets all three standards), it is classified as being in core housing need.

Between 2001 and 2006, the disparity in CHN between off-reserve Aboriginal households and non-Aboriginal households decreased from 13% to 8%.

3b: This measure provides information on the number of households that reported their dwellings are in need of major repairs (for example the home has defective plumbing or electrical wiring, is in need of structural repairs to walls, floors or ceilings).

Aboriginal households are those with one or more aboriginal census family. An aboriginal census family is one in which the husband, wife or lone parent reported being of North American Indian, Inuit or Métis identity and/or who reported being members of an Indian Band/First Nation and/or a Treaty Indian/Registered Indian. In the case of non-family households, at least 50% of household members reported being of North American Indian, Inuit or Métis identity and/or who reported being members of an Indian Band/First Nation and/or a Treaty Indian/Registered Indian. There is a 10.9 percentage point gap between non-Aboriginal households with dwellings requiring major repairs and Aboriginal households.

3c: The Ministry of Labour, Citizens' Services and Open Government continues to support First Nations-led connectivity initiatives. Through a process of collaboration with First Nations organizations, the broader public sector, the federal government and the private sector, the provincial government will continue to support First Nations organizations as they work to ensure all First Nations have broadband access. The ministry has set a goal to provide all 203 First Nations with at least consumer connectivity by 2016/17. In 2011-12, 13 more First Nations had access to backhaul or transport infrastructure than the previous year (achieving the target set of 170), and the ministry has set a target of increasing the number of communities with backhaul or transport connectivity to 180 by end of 2011-12. Backhaul or transport connectivity is a critical component that enables connectivity to be distributed in a community.

3d and 3e: The Province of British Columbia and Health Canada First Nation Inuit Health define a long term drinking water advisory as an advisory that is in place for one year or longer. The data is not cumulative, but represents the number of long term advisories at the end of the reporting period. The greatest proportion of long term advisories in British Columbia between 2005 and 2009 are those that were in effect between one and five years long. Drinking Water Advisory includes Boil Water Advisory and Do Not Consume Advisory. Advisories are relevant to two water systems: the Community Water System (CWS) and the Public Water System-Non Transient (PWS-NT). The CWS is a piped distribution system that has five or more connections or housing units. The PWS-NT is a distribution system with less than five connections or housing units, considered a "public access water system" because it has one or more buildings that are open to the public, and regularly supplies water to the same people for six or more months per year. The water advisories do not include advisories for individual water systems, such as wells serving individual households.

DWAs may occur for reasons such as routine repairs, seasonal conditions such as high spring run-off, failures of the drinking water system or inadequate operation and maintenance. Action is taken to help First Nations remediate the problems of DWAs as soon as possible, and address underlying causes of advisories to improve the management of a system, which would overall reduce the chances that a drinking water advisory might occur. Most long term advisories are in place due to unacceptable microbiological quality and require upgrades or repairs to the water system.

HEALTH

Monitoring and reporting on health outcomes and the health status of First Nations people is a key component of the [*Transformative Change Accord First Nations Health Plan: Supporting the Health and Wellness of First Nations in British Columbia*](#). The Health Plan identifies a number of performance indicators to be used to measure the effectiveness of programs in closing the health gap between First Nations and other British Columbians. In addition to these indicators, the parties to the *Tripartite First Nations Health Plan* are working together with First Nations communities to identify relevant wellness indicators. First Nations have expressed a desire to move from a deficits-based approach to a strength-based approach in monitoring and reporting on health status.

In 2009, the Provincial Health Officer (PHO) released [*Pathways to Health and Healing, 2nd Report on the Health and Well-being of Aboriginal People in British Columbia*](#), which included indicators from the First Nations Health Plan. In October 2012, the PHO released the special report, *The Health and Well-being of the Aboriginal Population: Interim Update*. The data presented in the table below have been taken from this interim update report.

The Tripartite Data Quality and Sharing Agreement (2010) and Memorandum of Understanding (2010) with Indian and Northern Affairs Canada (now called Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada) has enabled the creation of the First Nations Client File (FNCF). The FNCF is the best method of access to accurate health information for the identifiable majority of First Nations residing in B.C. It is governed

by a Tripartite Data and Information Planning Committee consisting of representatives from the First Nations Health Authority, B.C. Ministry of Health and Health Canada. The partners balance the need for high-quality First Nations health data with the need to protect personal privacy and the principles of First Nations health information governance. First Nations health information governance refers to the structure, process and protocols by which First Nations in B.C. have access to First Nations data and are influentially involved in decision-making regarding the culturally appropriate and respectful collection, use, disclosure, and stewardship of that information in recognition of the principle that such information is integral to First Nations policy, funding and health outcomes. It is anticipated that the FNCF will significantly improve our ability to monitor and report on health outcomes for the Status Indian population.

There are currently no comparable health data for Métis and non-status Indian populations. Plans to improve data sources are under development. The Ministry of Health and Métis Nation British Columbia (MNBC) signed an Information Sharing Agreement in 2011 to enable the sharing and linking of data to produce health status indicators for various chronic diseases for the Métis population in B.C. who are registered with MNBC and have provided consent to participate in the Métis Public Health Surveillance Program. The first Métis Citizen cohort will be ready in September 2013.

HEALTH

INDICATOR	BASELINE	2011	2015 TARGET	DATA SOURCE
4a. Life Expectancy (years) <i>Status Indian</i> <i>Other B.C. population</i>	(2001-2005) 73.8 80.6	(2006-2010) 74.7 81.1	Reduce gap by 35%	<i>B.C. Vital Statistics</i>
4b. Age Standardized Mortality (Rate per 10,000) <i>Status Indian</i> <i>Other B.C. Population</i>	(2005) 88.2 52.4	(2010) 76.3 45.5	Reduce gap by 35%	
4c. Youth Suicide (15 to 24 years old, rate per 10,000) <i>Status Indian</i> <i>Other B.C. population</i>	(2001-2005) 3.8 0.8	(2006-2010) 3.0 0.7	Reduce gap by 50%	
4d. Infant Mortality (Rate per 1,000 live births) <i>Status Indian</i> <i>Other B.C. Population</i>	(2001-2005) 8.7 3.9	(2006-2010) 7.2 3.5	Reduce gap by 50%	
4e. Prevalence of Diabetes (Rate per 100) <i>Status Indian</i> <i>Other B.C. population</i>	(2005/06) 7.0 4.8	(2010/11) 8.0 5.8	Reduce gap by 33%	Medical Service Plan Discharge Abstract Database (DAD) Pharmanet
4f. Practising, certified First Nations health care professionals	Baseline and ongoing mechanism for collecting relevant data will be developed.			
4g. Childhood Obesity	Baseline and ongoing mechanism for collecting relevant data will be developed.			

4a: Life expectancy at birth is a prediction of the average number of years a newborn person can be expected to live. Status Indians born between 2006 and 2010 can expect to live approximately 74.7 years, while other residents can expect to live approximately 81.1 years.

4b: The age standardized mortality rate (ASMR) measures the number of deaths due to all causes, expressed as a rate per 10,000 people. The measure allows for comparisons in death rates between two or more populations by adjusting for differences in population age distribution. Currently the age standardized mortality rate for Status Indians is 1.7 times greater than for other British Columbians, meaning that overall a Status Indian individual is statistically 1.7 times more likely to die at any stage of their life than other persons of the same age.

4c: Youth suicide rates measure deaths among 15 to 24 year-olds who die due to self inflicted injury, expressed as a rate per 10,000 people. Youth suicide is not an issue for every First Nations community in B.C.. Between 1992 and 2006, more than 60 per cent of First Nations communities in British Columbia reported no youth suicides.

4d: The infant mortality rate measures the number of infants who die in the first year of life, expressed as a rate per 1,000 live births. In the five-year aggregate period 2006-2010, about 7.2 of every 1,000 Status Indian infants died in their first year, compared with a rate of about 3.5 infant deaths per 1,000 live births among other British Columbians. As reported in *Pathways to Health and Healing, 2nd Report on the Health and Well-being of Aboriginal People in British Columbia*, for 2002-2006, neonatal mortality (deaths of infants in the first 28 days of life) is more commonly due to perinatal conditions and congenital anomalies, and post-neonatal mortality (death of infants between 28 days and one year of age) is more commonly due to sudden

infants death syndrome. Overall, the most common cause of infant mortality in the first year of life are perinatal conditions, which include infants affected by maternal factors, premature/post-mature and fetal growth disorders, birth trauma, respiratory and cardiovascular disorders, infections specific to the perinatal period, hemorrhage and hematological disorders, transitory endocrine and metabolic disorders, digestive system disorders of the fetus and newborn, other disorders originating in the perinatal period, and fetal death of unknown cause.

- 4e:** The Provincial Health Officer reports the age-standardized prevalence rate of diabetes among Status Indians in 2010/11 is 8.0% as compared to 5.8% among other British Columbians, with approximately 8,762 prevalent cases among Status Indians diagnosed by 2010/11. Increased testing for diabetes has now established a more accurate picture of diabetes in B.C.. While this can generate the appearance of an increase in the number of cases identified and potentially mask a reduction in overall rates, it will help inform how and where to focus prevention and management strategies. An additional potential explanation for the increase in the prevalence rates in the Aboriginal population and other British Columbians may be that more people are living longer with diabetes.
- 4f:** An ongoing mechanism for collecting relevant data for Practising, certified First Nations health care professionals is being considered.
- 4g:** An ongoing mechanism for collecting relevant data will be developed.

ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITIES

Increased access to economic opportunities for Aboriginal peoples requires a combination of improved community economic development and supports for individuals to participate in the economy. Improved economic outcomes for communities and individuals are dependent on a number of variables (such as education, training, access to

capital, etc). The indicators attempt to measure progress towards improved economic outcomes for Aboriginal people.

Efforts are being made to include more data specific to Métis and urban Aboriginal populations. This section of the report provides data for these population groups where 2001 and 2006 census data is available.

ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITIES – ABORIGINAL IDENTITY									
INDICATOR	BASELINE	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2015 TARGET	DATA SOURCE
5a. Unemployment rate <i>Off-reserve Aboriginal Identity</i> <i>Non-Aboriginal</i>	(2005) 15.1% 5.6%	11.4% 4.6%	9.7% 4.1%	10.5% 4.4%	16.4 7.4%	14.6% 7.4%	14.4% 7.2%	Differential will be reduced substantially	Labour Force Survey-Annual B.C. Stats
5b. Unemployment rate <i>Aboriginal Identity</i> <i>Non-Aboriginal</i>	(2001) 22.5% 8%	15% 5.6%	n/a				16.4% 7.4%	Differential will be reduced substantially	Census/NHS 2011 (2000) Statistics Canada
5c. Median employment income <i>Aboriginal Identity</i> <i>Non-Aboriginal</i>	(2000) \$35,848 \$44,076	(2005) \$34,601 \$42,540	n/a				n/a	Differential will be reduced substantially	
5d. Employment to population ratio <i>Aboriginal Identity</i> <i>Non-Aboriginal</i>	(2001) 48.7% 60%	(2006) 55.3% 61.9%	n/a				52.2% 59.9%	Differential will be reduced substantially	
5e. Self-employment status. Incorporated and unincorporated <i>Aboriginal Identity</i> <i>Non-Aboriginal</i>	(2001) 9.3% 14.7%	(2006) 8.5% 14.5%	n/a				n/a	Differential will be reduced substantially	Census Statistics Canada
5f. Self-identified Aboriginals as percentage of those attending apprenticeship training at a public post-secondary institution	(2005/06) 4.5%	5.4%	6.4%	7.7%	9.1%	8.9%	9.8%	Aboriginal student participation will be increased	Central Data Warehouse
5g. % with Apprenticeship or trades certificate or diploma <i>Aboriginal Identity</i> <i>Non-Aboriginal</i>	(2006) 12.5% 10.8%	n/a				13% 11%	No gap currently exists	Census/NHS 2011 (2000) Statistics Canada	

5a: Since 2004, Statistics Canada has been collecting data through a monthly Labour Force Survey (LFS) on the labour market status of Aboriginal peoples aged 15+ who are living off-reserve in British Columbia, Alberta, Saskatchewan and Manitoba. These data have been collected for all provinces since 2007. B.C. sponsors an increased sample resulting in more robust data covering the off-reserve First Nations and Métis populations living in B.C.

The 2009 data shows a marked departure from the previous years' data where the gap in unemployment rates between the Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal population was narrowing. The impact of the economic recession was disproportionate on the Aboriginal population compared to the non-Aboriginal population resulting in the gap widening by 2.94 percentage points. While the gap in unemployment rates has narrowed since 2009, it remains higher than the pre-recession gap.

5b: Conducted every five years, the Census provides a statistical portrait of Canada's population, including Aboriginal peoples, at a particular point in time. While not collected as frequently as the Labour Force Survey, the Census is a more comprehensive survey, with a much larger sample size. Census data also include on reserve, off reserve and non reserve Aboriginal populations. Between 2001 and 2006, Census also reveals a decrease in the unemployment rate between the Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal populations, with an existing gap of 9.4 percentage points (down from a gap of 14.5 percentage points in 2001). In 2011, these comprehensive data were collected via the National Household Survey which had replaced the long form Census survey. The NHS 2011 results showed that while the unemployment rates for both Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal groups have increased, the gap between the two groups have slightly decreased by 0.4 percentage points.

5c: The median employment income for 2001 and 2005 is for full-year, full-time, reported at 2005 constant dollars. Median employment income is the income separating the higher half of the population incomes from the lower half. The median income is used rather than an average employment income as it is less affected by unusually high or low values. The gap in employment income decreased by \$289 between 2000 and 2005. For 2011, the median employment income data for the Aboriginal population was not available in the recently released National Household Survey 2011 (NHS) data tables. The National Household Survey replaced the long form Census survey and is also conducted every five years.

5d: Employment to population ratio is $\text{Employment rate} = \frac{\text{Employed}}{\text{population 15 and over}} \times 100$

The employment rate for a particular group (age, sex, marital status, geographic area, etc.) is the number of employed persons in that group, expressed as a percentage of the population 15 years of age and over, in that group.

Note: In past censuses, this was called the Employment–population ratio. Refers to the number of persons employed in the week (Sunday to Saturday) prior to Census Day (May 16, 2006), expressed

as a percentage of the total population 15 years of age and over. There was an increase in the proportion of Aboriginal people 15 years and older who were employed in 2006, reducing the gap in this indicator by 4.7 percentage points since 2001. In 2011, these comprehensive data were collected via the National Household Survey which had replaced the long form Census survey. The NHS 2011 results showed that while the employment to population ratio for both groups have decreased since 2006, the impact of the economic recession was disproportionate on the Aboriginal population compared to the non-Aboriginal population resulting in the gap widening by 1.1 percentage points.

5e: Statistics Canada defines the self-employed as persons who worked in their own farm, business or professional practice including persons who:

- ▶ Spent time in the operation or setting-up of such enterprises, whether or not goods were sold or services were rendered, and whether or not a profit was made;
- ▶ Did work on a freelance or contract basis;
- ▶ Operated a direct distributorship selling and delivering products, such as cosmetics, newspapers, brushes or cleaning products; or
- ▶ Fished, hunted or trapped, whether for profit or for maintenance of their community.

The ratio was calculated out of the experienced labour force* defined by Statistics Canada as:

- ▶ persons who worked mainly for wages, salaries, commissions, tips, piece-rates, or payments 'in kind' (payments in goods or services rather than money);
- ▶ persons who worked mainly for themselves, with or without paid help, operating a business, farm or professional practice, alone or in partnership;
- ▶ persons who worked without pay in a family business, farm or professional practice owned or operated by a related household member; unpaid family work does not include unpaid housework, unpaid childcare, unpaid care to seniors and volunteer work.

**The job reported was the one held in the week (Sunday to Saturday) prior to enumeration (May 16, 2006) if the person was employed, or the job of longest duration since January 1, 2005, if the person was not employed during the reference week. Persons with two or more jobs in the reference week were asked to provide information for the job at which they worked the most hours. The self-employment data show that there was a decline in the proportion of Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal peoples who are self-employed in 2006, with a greater decline experienced in the Aboriginal population. For 2011, the self-employment data for Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal peoples were not available in the recently released National Household Survey (NHS) data tables. The National Household Survey replaced the long form Census survey and is also conducted every five years.*

5f: Industry Training Authority (ITA) derives its Aboriginal Identity data from the Ministry of Advanced Education. This data does not include individuals who attended non-public training, nor does it include those registered in Foundation or high school programs. Aboriginal learners are students with Aboriginal ancestry who self-identified in the B.C. K-12 education system or who self-identify as Aboriginal at a B.C. public post-secondary institution. The Non-Aboriginal category may include Aboriginal learners who have not self-identified. This includes data submitted by all public post-secondary institutions in B.C. that offer apprentice training. Data is based on enrolments by Fiscal Years, April 1 to March 31. In 2011, the percentage of self-identified Aboriginals attending apprenticeship training at a public post-secondary institution was at its highest since 2005/2006 at 9.8 per cent.

5g: Census questions relating to education changed substantially between 2001 and 2006. Therefore valid comparisons cannot be made between the two censuses. According to the 2006 Census, 12.5% of the Aboriginal population (age 15+) (representing 17,615 Aboriginal people) completed an apprenticeship or trades certificate or diploma, compared to only 10.8% of the non-Aboriginal population. In 2011, the National household Survey replaced the long form Census survey. Results showed a further increase in the proportion of Aboriginal population who completed an apprenticeship or trades certificate or diploma by 0.5 percentage points. This was higher compared to the increase for non-Aboriginal population at 0.2 percentage points.

MÉTIS POPULATION

ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITIES – MÉTIS POPULATION

INDICATOR	BASELINE	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2015 TARGET	DATA SOURCE
6a. Unemployment rate <i>Métis off-reserve Non-Aboriginal population</i>	(2005) 8.8% 5.6%	8.2% 4.6%	7.3% 4.1%	6.0% 4.4%	14.8% 7.4%	11.8% 7.4%	9.2% 7.2%	Differential will be reduced substantially	Labour Force Survey-Annual B.C. Stats
6b. Unemployment rate <i>Métis Single Response Non-Aboriginal</i>	(2001) 15.9% 8%	9.4% 5.6%			n/a		10.5% 7.4%	Differential will be reduced substantially	Census/NHS 2011 B.C. Stats
6c. Median employment income <i>Métis Single Response Non-Aboriginal</i>	(2000) \$39,315 \$44,076	(2005) \$38,035 \$42,540			n/a		n/a	Differential will be reduced substantially	
6d. Employment to population ratio <i>Métis Single Response Non-Aboriginal</i>	(2001) 57.8% 60%	64.4% 61.9%			n/a		61.5% 59.9%	No gap currently exists	
6e. Self-employment status Incorporated and unincorporated <i>Métis Single Response Non-Aboriginal</i>	(2001) 12.0% 14.7%	10.9% 14.5%			n/a		n/a	Differential will be reduced	Census/NHS 2011 B.C. Stats
6f. % with Apprenticeship or trades certificate or diploma <i>Métis Single Response Non-Aboriginal</i>	(2006) 14.4% 10.8%				n/a		15% 11%	No gap currently exists	

6a: Since 2004, Statistics Canada has been collecting data through a monthly Labour Force Survey (LFS) on the labour market status of Aboriginal peoples aged 15+ who are living off-reserve in British Columbia, Alberta, Saskatchewan and Manitoba. These data have been collected for all provinces since 2007. B.C. sponsors an increased sample resulting in more robust data covering the off-reserve First Nations and Métis populations living in B.C. The 2009 data show a marked departure from the previous years' data where the gap in unemployment rates between the Métis population and non-Aboriginal population was narrowing. The impact of the economic recession was disproportionate on the Métis population compared to the non-Aboriginal population resulting in the gap widening by 5.6 percentage points. Since 2009, the gap in unemployment rates has narrowed and in 2011, the gap has decreased to 2.0 percentage points.

6b: Conducted every five years, the Census provides a statistical portrait of Canada's population, including Aboriginal peoples, at a particular point in time. While not collected as frequently as the Labour Force Survey, the Census is a more comprehensive survey with a much larger sample size. Between 2001 and 2006, the unemployment rate decreased for both the Métis and non-Aboriginal populations with the gap in unemployment levels existing at 3.8 percentage points in 2006. In 2011, these comprehensive data were collected via the National Household Survey (NHS), which replaced the long form Census survey. The 2011 results showed that while the unemployment rates for both the Métis and non-Aboriginal populations have increased compared to their 2006 levels, the gap between the two groups have decreased by 0.7 percentage points.

6c: The median employment income for 2001 and 2005 is for full-year, full-time, reported at 2005 constant dollars. Median employment income is the income separating the higher half of the population incomes from the lower half. The median income is used rather than an average employment income as it is less affected by unusually high or low values. The decrease in the gap in employment income between 2000 and 2005 was minimal (\$256). For 2011, the median employment income data for the Métis population was not available in the recently released National Household Survey 2011 (NHS) data tables. The National Household Survey replaced the long form Census survey and is also conducted every five years.

6d: Employment to population ratio is $\text{Employment rate} = \frac{\text{Employed}}{\text{population 15 and over}} \times 100$

The employment rate for a particular group (age, sex, marital status, geographic area, etc.) is the number of employed persons in that group, expressed as a percentage of the population 15 years of age and over, in that group.

Note: In past censuses, this was called the Employment–population ratio. Refers to the number of persons employed in the week (Sunday to Saturday) prior to Census Day (May 16, 2006), expressed as a percentage of the total population 15 years of age and over. There was an increase in the proportion of Métis and non-Aboriginal people 15 years and older who were employed in 2006 with the Métis population achieving a higher employment to population ratio than the non-Aboriginal population. This trend continues in 2011 where the employment to population ratio for the Métis population remains higher by 1.6 percentage points compared to non-Aboriginal peoples.

6e: Statistics Canada defines the self-employed as persons who worked in their own farm, business or professional practice including persons who:

- ▶ Spent time in the operation or setting-up of such enterprises, whether or not goods were sold or services were rendered, and whether or not a profit was made;
- ▶ Did work on a freelance or contract basis;
- ▶ Operated a direct distributorship selling and delivering products, such as cosmetics, newspapers, brushes or cleaning products; or
- ▶ Fished, hunted or trapped, whether for profit or for maintenance of their community.

The ratio was calculated out of the experienced labour force* defined by Statistics Canada as:

- ▶ persons who worked mainly for wages, salaries, commissions, tips, piece-rates, or payments 'in kind' (payments in goods or services rather than money);
- ▶ persons who worked mainly for themselves, with or without paid help, operating a business, farm or professional practice, alone or in partnership;
- ▶ persons who worked without pay in a family business, farm or professional practice owned or operated by a related household member; unpaid family work does not include unpaid housework, unpaid childcare, unpaid care to seniors and volunteer work.

**The job reported was the one held in the week (Sunday to Saturday) prior to enumeration (May 16, 2006) if the person was employed, or the job of longest duration since January 1, 2005, if the person was not employed during the reference week. Persons with two or more jobs in the reference week were asked to provide information for the job at which they worked the most hours.*

The self-employment data show that there was a decline in the proportion of Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal peoples who are self-employed in 2006, with a greater decline experienced in the Aboriginal population. For 2011, the self-employment data for Métis and non-Aboriginal peoples were not available in the recently released National Household Survey (NHS) data tables. The National Household Survey replaced the long form Census survey and is also conducted every five years.

6f: Census questions relating to education changed substantially between 2001 and 2006. Therefore valid comparisons cannot be made between the two censuses. According to the 2006 Census, 14.4 per cent of the Métis population (age 15+) (representing 6,315 Métis people) completed an apprenticeship or trades certificate or diploma, compared to only 10.8 per cent of the non-Aboriginal population. In 2011, the National Household Survey replaced the long form Census survey. While the results showed an increase in the percentage of Métis and non-Aboriginal population who completed an apprenticeship or trades certificate or diploma, the gap between the two groups have also increased by 0.4 percentage points.

URBAN ABORIGINAL POPULATION

ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITIES- URBAN ABORIGINAL POPULATION				
INDICATOR	BASELINE	2011	2015 TARGET	DATA SOURCE
7a. Unemployment rate <i>Aboriginal Identity-off reserve, urban</i> <i>Non-Aboriginal</i>	(2006) 12% 5.6%	n/a	Differential will be reduced substantially	Census
7b. Employment to population ratio <i>Aboriginal Identity-off reserve, urban</i> <i>Non-Aboriginal</i>	(2006) 59.3% 61.9%	n/a	Differential will be reduced substantially	B.C. Stats
7c. Self-employment status. Incorporated and unincorporated <i>Aboriginal Identity-off reserve, urban</i> <i>Non-Aboriginal</i>	(2006) 9% 15.2%	n/a	Differential will be reduced substantially	
7d. % with Apprenticeship or trades certificate or diploma <i>Aboriginal Identity-off reserve, urban</i> <i>Non-Aboriginal</i>	(2006) 12.6% 10.8%	n/a	No gap currently exists	

7a: Conducted every five years, the Census provides a statistical portrait of Canada's population, including Aboriginal peoples, at a particular point in time. In 2006, the unemployment rate for the urban Aboriginal population living off-reserve was higher than for the non-Aboriginal population, representing a difference of 6.4 percentage points. In 2011, these comprehensive labour market data were collected via the National Household Survey (NHS); however, the NHS 2011 data tables that were released by Statistics Canada do not contain the data specific to off-reserve Aboriginal populations in urban areas at this time.

Similar information is available from the Labour Force Survey (LFS) which is conducted by Statistics Canada every month. The survey provides the labour market status of Aboriginal peoples aged 15+ who are living off-reserve in British Columbia, Alberta, Saskatchewan and Manitoba. Based on the 2013 LFS results, the unemployment rate for off-reserve Aboriginal populations in urban areas was 11.3 per cent and 6.4 per cent for the non-Aboriginal group resulting in a 4.9 percentage points gap. These results from the Labour Force Survey cannot be compared with data from Census 2006 due to differences in the methodologies used. For consistency, the table above would be updated with data from NHS 2011 when available.

7b: Employment to population ratio is $\text{Employment rate} = (\text{Employed}/\text{population 15 and over}) \times 100$

The employment rate for a particular group (age, sex, marital status, geographic area, etc.) is the number of employed persons in that group, expressed as a percentage of the population 15 years of age and over, in that group.

Note: In past censuses, this was called the Employment–population ratio. Refers to the number of persons employed in the week (Sunday to Saturday) prior to Census Day (May 16, 2006), expressed as a percentage of the total population 15 years of age and over. As of 2006, there was a 2.6 percentage point difference between the employment to population ratio between the two population groups.

In 2011, these comprehensive labour market data were collected via the National Household Survey (NHS); however, the NHS 2011 data tables that were released by Statistics Canada do not contain the data specific to off-reserve Aboriginal populations in urban areas at this time.

Similar information is available from the Labour Force Survey (LFS) which is conducted by Statistics Canada every month. The survey

provides the labour market status of Aboriginal peoples aged 15+ who are living off-reserve in British Columbia, Alberta, Saskatchewan and Manitoba. In the 2013 Labour Force Survey results, the employment to population ratio gap between the two groups was 10.8 percentage points with the non-Aboriginal group having the higher employment rate (71.4 per cent) compared to the Aboriginal population in urban areas (60.6 per cent). These results from the Labour Force Survey cannot be compared with the previous data from Census 2006 due to differences in the methodologies used. For consistency, the table above would be updated with data from NHS 2011 when available.

7c: Statistics Canada defines the self-employed as persons who worked in their own farm, business or professional practice including persons who:

- ▶ Spent time in the operation or setting-up of such enterprises, whether or not goods were sold or services were rendered, and whether or not a profit was made;
- ▶ Did work on a freelance or contract basis;
- ▶ Operated a direct distributorship selling and delivering products, such as cosmetics, newspapers, brushes or cleaning products; or
- ▶ Fished, hunted or trapped, whether for profit or for maintenance of their community.

Based on 2006 Census results, self-employment rates were lower for the urban Aboriginal population by 6.2 percentage points than for the non-Aboriginal population. In 2011, these comprehensive labour market data were collected via the National Household Survey (NHS); however, the NHS 2011 data tables that were released by Statistics Canada do not contain the data specific to the off-reserve Aboriginal population in urban areas at this time.

Similar information is available from the Labour Force Survey (LFS) which is conducted by Statistics Canada every month. The survey provides the labour market status of Aboriginal peoples aged 15+ who are living off-reserve in British Columbia, Alberta, Saskatchewan and Manitoba. These data have been collected for all provinces since 2007. In 2013 (LFS), the proportion of urban Aboriginal population who were self-employed was lower than the proportion of self-employed non-Aboriginal population by 6.9 percentage points. The Labour Force Survey results cannot be compared with the previous data from Census 2006 due to differences in the methodologies used. For consistency, the table above would be updated with data from NHS 2011 when available.

7d: Census questions relating to education changed substantially between 2001 and 2006. Therefore valid comparisons cannot be made between the two censuses. According to the 2006 Census, a larger percentage of the urban Aboriginal population (age 15+) (representing 10,580 urban Aboriginal people) completed an apprenticeship or trades certificate or diploma, compared to the non-Aboriginal population. In 2011, the National Household Survey replaced the long form Census survey and is conducted every five years. These data were not available in the recently released NHS 2011 data tables.

DEFINITIONS

ABORIGINAL: The term “Aboriginal peoples of Canada” is defined in the *Constitution Act* of 1982, Part II, Section 35(2), as including “the Indian, Inuit and Métis peoples of Canada”. Canada’s Aboriginal population is distinct and diverse. “First Nation” is the term generally preferred by Indian peoples of Canada. The term “Indian” is still used when referring to legislation or government statistics.

ABORIGINAL ANCESTRY: Refers to a person who can trace his or her ancestry to Aboriginal linguistic family whose traditional lands fell in total or in part in the geographic area that is now Canada. Aboriginal ancestry also refers to a person who has been accorded Aboriginal rights by legislation, for example, by marriage to an Aboriginal person.

ABORIGINAL IDENTITY: Aboriginal identity refers to a person who reports he or she identifies with, or is a member of, an organic political or cultural entity that stems historically from the original persons of North America. The term includes the Indian (First Nation), Inuit and Métis peoples of Canada.

ABORIGINAL IDENTITY- OFF RESERVE, URBAN: Refers to the Aboriginal Identity population who live in an urban area. Does not include the Aboriginal population living on First Nation reserves.

INDIAN ACT: The *Indian Act* is federal legislation, which dates from 1876. There have been over twenty major changes to the original Act since then. The Act is administered by the Minister of Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development. The Act deals with registered Indians, Band Councils, and the system of Indian reserves.

FIRST NATIONS: Officially called Indians in the *Indian Act*, this term refers to the indigenous peoples of North America located in what is now Canada, and their descendents, who are not Inuit or Métis. For the purposes of Aboriginal identification within British Columbia, the term “First Nation(s)” is the generally preferred term in place of “Indian”. For statistical and analytical purposes, these terms are considered interchangeable and representative of the same population.

RURAL: Rural areas include all territory lying outside urban areas. Taken together, urban and rural areas cover all of Canada. Rural population includes all population living in the rural fringes of census metropolitan areas (CMAs) and census agglomerations (CAs), as well as population living in rural areas outside CMAs and CAs.

STATUS INDIAN (SI): A person who is registered as an Indian under the *Indian Act*. The Act sets out the requirements for determining who is an Indian for the purposes of the *Indian Act*.

URBAN: An urban area has a minimum population concentration of 1,000 persons and a population density of at least 400 persons per square kilometre, based on the current census population count. All territory outside urban areas is classified as rural. Taken together, urban and rural areas cover all of Canada. Urban population includes all population living in the urban cores, secondary urban cores and urban fringes of census metropolitan areas (CMAs) and census agglomerations (CAs), as well as the population living in urban areas outside CMAs and CAs.

NON-STATUS: First Nations (Indian) people who do not meet the criteria for registration, or have chosen not to be registered, under the *Indian Act*.

MÉTIS: Métis means a person who self-identifies as Métis, is of historic Métis Nation Ancestry, is distinct from other Aboriginal Peoples and is accepted by the Métis Nation. (*Definition adopted by the Métis National Council at their 2002 Annual General Assembly and further implemented by the Métis Nation British Columbia in 2003.*)

Métis people identify themselves, and are recognized, as distinct from First Nations, Inuit or European descendants. The distinct Métis culture arose after contact with the first European explorer/settlers but prior to colonialism. (General definition.)

MÉTIS OFF-RESERVE: Includes the Métis population living in both urban and rural areas, but not those who live on a First Nation reserve.

MÉTIS SINGLE RESPONSE: Includes those persons who identified as Métis only.

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