

2011 Census Fast Facts

A release from the Province of British Columbia's central statistical agency

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2011 CENSUS- CHANGE IN METHODOLOGY

Compared to the 2006 Census, major changes occurred in the methodology of the 2011 Census. In 2006, a mandatory short questionnaire was completed by 80 percent of Canadian households, and an additional mandatory long questionnaire (which included the short form questions) was completed by the remaining 20 percent of the population. The 2011 Census had a single ten-item questionnaire that was completed by all households. This was followed by the voluntary National Household Survey, which was distributed to one third of Canadian households. The following article is based only on the results of the National Household Survey.

ABORIGINAL POPULATION IN CANADA

On May 8th, 2013, Statistics Canada released data on the Aboriginal population in Canada from the National Household Survey (NHS). Based on this data, 1,400,685 individuals in Canada had an Aboriginal Identity¹ which represented 4.3 percent of the nation's population. Among the provinces, Manitoba had the largest proportion of Aboriginal population at 16.7 percent followed by Saskatchewan at 15.6 percent. Newfoundland and

¹ Aboriginal identity includes persons who reported being an Aboriginal person, including: First Nations (North American Indian), Métis or Inuk (Inuit) and/or those who reported being registered or having Treaty Indian status, under the Indian Act of Canada, and/or those who reported membership in a First Nation or Indian band. Aboriginal peoples of Canada are defined in the Constitution Act, 1982, section 35 (2) as including the Indian, Inuit and Métis peoples of Canada.

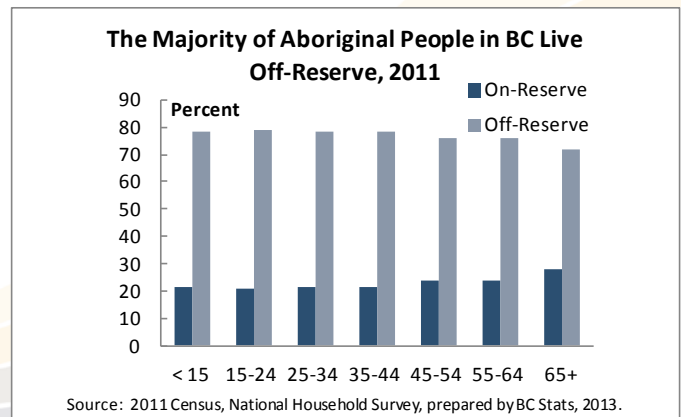
Labrador had 7.1 percent while Alberta and British Columbia were closely behind at 6.2 percent and 5.4 percent respectively.

ABORIGINAL POPULATION IN BRITISH COLUMBIA
Population Composition

Of the 232,290 Aboriginal people in B.C., 67 percent were First Nations (North American Indian) single identity while 30 percent were Métis, and just under one percent was Inuk (Inuit). The rest of the Aboriginal people identified themselves as having multiple Aboriginal identities.

Living Off-Reserve and in the North

Overall, nearly 78 percent of the Aboriginal population in B.C. lived off-reserve. The notable difference between those living on- and off-reserve can be seen in every age group.

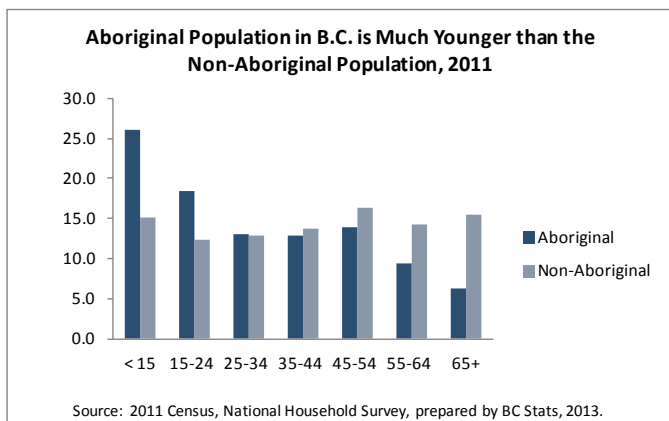


The majority of the Aboriginal population in B.C. lived in Vancouver (23.0 percent); however, they comprised only 2.3 percent of the total population in that city. The largest concentration of aboriginal people was found in Prince Rupert (38.3 percent of the total population), followed by Terrace (21.0%) and Williams Lake (20.6%).

A Much Younger Population

In B.C., the Aboriginal population was generally much younger than the non-Aboriginal population. Based on 2011 Census data, the median age for the Aboriginal population in B.C. was 29 years of age compared to 42 years of age for the non-Aboriginal population. The same figures for Canada were 28 and 41 years of age respectively.

Nearly 45 percent of the Aboriginal population in B.C. was under 25 years of age compared to nearly 28 percent of non-Aboriginal population. In contrast, only 16.0 percent of the Aboriginal population was over 55 years of age compared to 30.0 percent of the non-Aboriginal population.



Aboriginal Children

Based on 2011 NHS data, 47.4 percent of all Aboriginal children in B.C. lived with both parents compared to 72.1 percent of non-Aboriginal children. Nearly 38 percent of Aboriginal children lived in lone-parent families compared to nearly 21 percent of non-Aboriginal children in the same situation. Almost 8 percent of Aboriginal children were foster children compared to less than one percent of non-Aboriginal children.

A Growth in the Métis population

In 2011, the Métis population comprised of a little over one-third of all Aboriginal peoples in Canada. Of all the provinces, Alberta had the highest proportion of the Métis population at 44 percent, followed by Manitoba at 40 percent. British Columbia had the third highest proportion of Métis population in Canada at 30 percent. The Métis population in Canada and B.C. has seen the fastest growth compared to all other Aboriginal populations.

MORE INFORMATION

The final data from the National Household Survey are on income, earnings, housing, and shelter costs and will be released on August 14th, 2013. Both 2006 and 2011 Census data are available for a variety of sub-provincial regions such as development regions, census subdivisions, CMAs and CAs on [Open Data](#) on the BC Stats website. To access this information, please visit our website at:

<http://www.bcstats.gov.bc.ca/Home.aspx>

For more information on the NHS, please visit the Statistics Canada website:

<http://www12.statcan.gc.ca/nhs-enm/2011/dp-pd/prof/index.cfm?Lang=E>

Aboriginal Population Composition (Counts), B.C., National Household Survey, 2011

Age Groups	Aboriginal identity	First Nations (North American Indian)	Métis	Inuk (Inuit)	Multiple Aboriginal identities	Aboriginal identities not included elsewhere
0 - 4	19,835	14,390	4,920	95	295	135
5 - 9	19,420	13,830	5,040	135	265	155
10 - 14	21,425	14,710	6,005	260	310	140
15 - 19	23,235	15,675	6,820	220	330	190
20 - 24	19,445	13,325	5,510	145	175	290
25 - 34	30,430	20,300	9,165	155	275	530
35 - 44	29,915	20,205	8,720	280	360	345
45 - 54	32,395	20,595	10,625	125	240	800
55 - 64	21,775	13,165	7,795	120	115	585
65 +	14,425	8,825	4,870	35	115	575
Total	232,300	155,020	69,470	1,570	2,480	3,745

Source: 2011 Census, National Household Survey, prepared by BC Stats, 2013

Aboriginal Population as a Percentage of total B.C. Population, National Household Survey, 2011

Age Groups	0 - 4	5 - 9	10 - 14	15 - 19	20 - 24	25 - 34	35 - 44	45 - 54	55 - 64	65 +
Aboriginal identity	9%	9%	9%	9%	7%	5%	5%	5%	4%	2%

Source: 2011 Census, National Household Survey, prepared by BC Stats, 2013

Aboriginal Population Components (percentages), B.C., National Household Survey, 2011

Age Groups	First Nations (North American Indian)	Métis	Inuk (Inuit)	Multiple Aboriginal identities	Aboriginal identities not included elsewhere
0 - 4	73%	25%	0.5%	1%	1%
5 - 9	71%	26%	1%	1%	1%
10 - 14	69%	28%	1%	1%	1%
15 - 19	67%	29%	1%	1%	1%
20 - 24	69%	28%	1%	1%	1%
25 - 34	67%	30%	1%	1%	2%
35 - 44	68%	29%	1%	1%	1%
45 - 54	64%	33%	0.4%	1%	2%
55 - 64	60%	36%	1%	1%	3%
65 +	61%	34%	0.2%	1%	4%

Source: 2011 Census, National Household Survey, prepared by BC Stats, 2013

Median Age of Aboriginal Population, Canada, Provinces, and Territories, National Household Survey, 2011

Canada, Provinces and Territories	Aboriginal identity	First Nations (North American Indian)	Métis	Inuk (Inuit)	Multiple Aboriginal identities	Aboriginal identities not included elsewhere
Canada	27.7	25.9	31.4	22.8	24.9	39.4
Newfoundland & Labrador	33.6	34.6	33.1	30.7	40.3	38.0
Prince Edward Island	30.1	31.3	29.4	17.8	0.0	36.5
Nova Scotia	30.8	27.5	36.6	31.4	33.9	44.6
New Brunswick	31.3	27.6	40.9	20.2	26.8	46.9
Quebec	32.7	31.3	38.8	21.3	33.1	46.0
Ontario	31.2	29.6	34.8	25.2	27.9	35.9
Manitoba	24.4	21.0	29.6	25.8	15.5	36.9
Saskatchewan	22.6	20.4	28.0	15.1	21.2	39.6
Alberta	25.3	23.0	28.2	25.0	25.0	30.3
British Columbia	28.9	27.5	31.7	21.7	21.0	47.0
Yukon	30.7	31.3	30.7	19.0	16.2	45.3
Northwest Territories	26.4	25.8	30.6	24.8	18.3	36.8
Nunavut	21.3	28.1	35.1	21.2	20.8	33.9

Source: 2011 Census, National Household Survey, prepared by BC Stats, 2013

Aboriginal Children in Families in B.C., National Household Survey, 2011

Descriptions	Aboriginal identity	Non-Aboriginal identity
Children of only one spouse/partner in a couple (stepchildren)	11.8%	6.3%
Children of both spouses/partners in a couple, excluding stepchildren	47.4%	72.1%
Children of lone parents	37.5%	20.9%
Grandchildren living with grandparent(s) with no parents present	3.3%	0.7%
Foster children	7.4%	0.5%

Source: 2011 Census, National Household Survey, prepared by BC Stats, 2013