

*New Relationships with Aboriginal  
People and Communities in B.C.:*

# *Measuring Outcomes*

*2010 – 2011*



## 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 2010-11 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:

- An improved measure for reporting on progress on treaties and related agreements is included; data is forthcoming.
- A new education indicator for measuring the post-secondary participation rate.
- Recognition in the Health section that the reporting framework for First Nations health is under review and inclusion of a summary of important work and progress.

Note on Census Data: Where Census data are used the Aboriginal identity population was counted the same way in 2006, 2001 and 1996, providing comparable data for three consecutive census years. However, comparison of Aboriginal data across census years must adjust for incompletely enumerated reserves and settlements. Some First Nation reserves and settlements did not participate in the census as enumeration was not permitted or it was interrupted before completion. In 2006, there were 22 incompletely enumerated First Nation reserves in British Columbia compared to 30 in 2001 and 77 in 1996.

## Improving Crown – Aboriginal Relationships

Historic Crown - Aboriginal relationships in British Columbia have given rise to the present socioeconomic 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 three 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 completed treaties, incremental treaty agreements and agreements-in-principle.	Forthcoming in 2013							To be determined	<a href="#">MARR</a>
1b. How aware are British Columbians of the diversity of First Nations Cultures within B.C.? % responding: Very Aware	(2007)	26%	29%	25%	30%	30%	50%	BC Stats MARR	
1c. How aware are British Columbians that Métis people represent a distinct Aboriginal population in B.C.? % responding: Very Aware	(2009)	21%			25%	23%	50%	BC Stats MARR	

1a: The Ministry of Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation leads the province's participation in Treaties, Final Agreements, Agreements in Principle (AIPs) and Incremental Treaty Agreements (ITAs). Since 2005, two treaties have come into effect (Tsawwassen First Nation and Maa-nulth First Nations treaties), two AIPs have been initialed or signed (K'omoks First Nation and Yekooche First Nation), two ITAs signed (Klahoose First Nation and Tla-o-qui-aht First Nation) and three final agreements are in progress (Yale First Nation has been ratified and In-SHUCK-ch Nation and Tla'amin Nation have been signed by all three parties).

1b: Since 2007, BC 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.

1c: 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’.

## 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.

Education								
Indicator	Baseline	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2015 Target	Data Source
2a. Six-year completion rate at public schools only.	(2005/06)						(2014/15)*	<a href="#">Ministry of Education</a>
Aboriginal Ancestry	48%	48%	47%	49%	51%	54%	58% for Aboriginal students	
Non-Aboriginal	83%	83%	82%	82%	82%	83%	≥82% for all students	
* 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: Grade 4								<a href="#">Ministry of Education</a>
Reading	(2007/08)							
Aboriginal Ancestry	59%			53%	51%	51%	100% for all students	
All Students	74%			69%	67%	69%		
Non-Aboriginal	76%			71%	69%	71%		
Writing	(2007/08)							
Aboriginal Ancestry	53%			51%	55%	53%	100% for all students	
All Students	71%			68%	69%	73%		
Non-Aboriginal	73%			70%	71%	75%		
Numeracy	(2007/08)							
Aboriginal Ancestry	52%			48%	45%	45%	100% for all students	
All Students	70%			66%	64%	67%		
Non-Aboriginal	72%			68%	66%	69%		

Indicator	Baseline	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2015 Target	Data Source
2c. Post-secondary credential achievement rate. Proportion of the population (ages 15-64) to hold a post-secondary credential.	(2005)							<a href="#">Labour Force Survey- Annual</a>  Credential achievement rate will be equal between Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal learners  <a href="#">BC Stats</a>
Aboriginal Identity (off-reserve)	30.4%	32.8%	33.0%	33.2%	34.9%	36.9%		
First Nations (off-reserve)	26.9%	27.2%	29.7%	31.0%	32.6%	35.8%		
Métis	35.6%	40.7%	37.8%	37.1%	38.0%	38.7%		
Non-Aboriginal	48.9%	49.9%	50.9%	51.4%	51.9%	52.8%		
2d. Post-secondary participation rate. Credentials awarded to Aboriginal Students compared to Credentials awarded to non-Aboriginal students.								<a href="#">Ministry of Advanced Education</a>  To be determined.  <a href="#">Central Data Warehouse</a>  <a href="#">Student Transitions Project</a>
Credential Awarded to Aboriginal Students	2,076	2,065	2,285	2,430	2,545	Not Available		
Credentials Awarded to Non-Aboriginal Students	43,575	44,815	44,650	44,710	45,325			
2e. Early Development Instrument	Measurement Under Review							

Note: Refer to the Economic Opportunities section for information on apprenticeships, trades and training.

2a: The six-year completion rate is the percentage of Grade 8 students that graduate with a BC Certificate of Graduation, or BC 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 per cent 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 BC 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.

For the purposes of this report, credential data is reported on the Calendar Year (CY) (from January 1 to December 31) whereas the Ministry of Advanced Education's Service Plan reports credential data on the fiscal year (April 1 to March 31).

Data Sources for the credentials awarded: Source: Student Transitions Project, Fall 2010 Submission, Consolidated Credentials Pivot.

The following are important to note when analyzing the numbers provided:

- Not included are Apprenticeship, Short certificate and Other credential types, and programs that do not offer a credential under any of the above listed credential types.
- Aboriginal identity is self-declared by students at a public post-secondary institution, or identified through linkages to the B.C. K-12 education system where students with Aboriginal ancestry can self-identify as Aboriginal. The Non-Aboriginal category includes students whose Aboriginal identity is unknown.
- Diploma category includes Diploma, Advanced diploma, Graduate diploma, and Post-degree diploma. Certificate category includes Certificate, Advanced certificate, Graduate certificate, and Post-degree certificate. Bachelor category includes Bachelors degree and First professional degree.
- Data excludes international and off-shore students.
- Each number has been rounded to the nearest 5. 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 organizations, such as the Aboriginal Housing Management Association to create safe, secure and culturally appropriate housing for youth, women, elders and those struggling with addictions. As part of this commitment, the Province undertook an extensive engagement process with Aboriginal groups. The information gathered through this process is used to develop ways to provide safe, affordable and culturally appropriate housing to B.C.'s Aboriginal people living off-reserve.

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	2015 Target	Data Source
3a. Core Housing Need (CHN). Off-reserve Aboriginal Non-Aboriginal	(2001) 28.5% 15.3%	22.3% 14.2%	N/A				Equitable to non-Aboriginal population	<a href="#">Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation Census</a>
3b. Percentage of households reporting major repairs. Aboriginal Households Non-Aboriginal Households	(2006) 17.7% 6.8%	N/A				To be Determined	<a href="#">Census</a> <a href="#">BC Stats</a>	
3c. Percentage of First Nations with access to broadband facilities.  Number of First Nations with access to broadband facilities	(2007/08) 42%  85 of 203 Nations	61%  123	73%  148	77%  157	(2016/17) 203 with at least consumer connectivity. As many as possible will have industrial connectivity.	<a href="#">Ministry of Labour, Citizens' Services and Open Government</a> <a href="#">All Nations Trust Company</a>		

Indicator	Baseline	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2015 Target	Data Source
3d. Number of long-term drinking water advisories on reserves.	(2005) 19	18	23	18	23	24	No federal target established at this time.	<a href="#">Health Canada</a>
3e. Number of people on reserves affected by long-term drinking water advisories.	(2005) 3,123	2,422	3,094	2,335	3,784	3,532	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 2010-11, 9 more First Nations had access to backhaul or transport infrastructure than the previous year (substantially achieving the target set of 160), and the ministry has set a target of increasing the number of communities with backhaul or transport connectivity to 170 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.

The Transformative Change Accord: First Nations Health Plan (TCA: FNHP) lists seven possible indicators to track progress on closing the gap in health outcomes for First Nations in BC. Since the TCA: FNHP, significant progress has been made toward improving the accessibility and quality of data to measure these seven, as well as additional, indicators of First Nations health and well-being. However, further work is required to fill gaps in data and build and improve the tools, processes, and systems required to effectively and appropriately monitor and measure First Nations health outcomes.

From a bigger picture perspective, further work is required to determine what ways First Nations would like to measure their wellness. Although the existing seven indicators address specific health concerns, there is an understanding that these indicators alone address only a small portion of the complete First Nations health picture.

The Provincial Health Officer's (PHO) *Pathways to Health and Healing, 2nd Report on the Health and Well-being of Aboriginal People in British Columbia* is the most recent Provincial Health Officer's report on Aboriginal Peoples' health. The data below is drawn from this report.

Summary of important work and progress:

- Implementation of the Tripartite Data Quality Sharing Agreement (TDQSA) – including creation of the First Nations Client File (FNCF) – allows Tripartite partners, as well as external researchers, to access better quality First Nations data and use existing data sources more effectively. The FNCF is a valuable tool that empowers public health professionals, policy-makers, clinicians, community leaders and researchers to use accurate, quality data to answer any number of broad health and social questions and inform key program and policy decisions. The necessary mechanisms and processes for full implementation of the TDQSA are undergoing further development and refinement.
- The *Consensus Paper: British Columbia First Nations Perspectives on a new health governance arrangement* lays out seven directives to guide the development of a new health governance arrangement that is community-driven and nation-based<sup>1</sup>. In alignment with these directives, it is necessary that First Nations communities drive how their health is defined, measured, and reported. Processes for community engagement are required and are currently in development.
- First Nations Health Society (FNHS) is working collaboratively with provincial and federal agencies to improve access to and quality of First Nations data and to ensure that existing systems and mechanisms of reporting on health are better able to meet

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<sup>1</sup> First Nations Health Society. [Consensus Paper: British Columbia First Nations Perspectives on a new health governance arrangement](#).

the needs of First Nations. Through these partnerships there is potential to fill gaps in health information that could meet the requirements of the Tripartite partners to monitor and measure First Nations health.

- As part of the implementation of the new First Nations Health Authority, the Tripartite partners are currently working on the development of a Health Indicators Framework. Through this framework and its development, agreement will be reached on appropriate measures for First Nations health. It is expected that the seven indicators that were included in the TCA:FNHP will be integrated into this framework.
- Health information on Métis Nation BC Citizens in British Columbia will become available as a result of an information-sharing agreement signed between Métis Nation BC and the provincial government. The Métis Public Health Surveillance Program will enable the ministry to identify consenting Métis Citizens from among existing databases and report on specific health outcomes and chronic diseases.
- Visit the [First Nations Health Council](#) for further information.

The table below contains data taken from the 2007 PHO report “[Pathways to Health and Healing, 2nd Report on the Health and Well-being of Aboriginal People in British Columbia](#)”. As data becomes available from the First Nations Client File, the indicators and accompanying data will be updated to align with new reporting guidelines.

<b>Health</b>				
<b>Indicator</b>	<b>Baseline</b>	<b>2006</b>	<b>2015 Target</b>	<b>Data Source</b>
4a. Life Expectancy (years)	(1997-2001)	(2002-2006)	Gap will be reduced to less than 3 years.	<a href="#">Health Canada (Status Verification File)</a>  <a href="#">BC Client Registry</a>  <a href="#">BC Vital Statistics</a>
Status Indian	74	75		
Other B.C. population	80	81		
4b. Age Standardized Mortality (Rate per 10,000)	(1997-2001)	(2002-2006)	Reduce gap by 35%	
Status Indian	84	74		
Other B.C. Population	58	53		
4c. Youth Suicide. (15 to 24 years old, rate per 10,000)	(2001-2003)	(2004-2006)	Reduce gap by 50%	
Status Indian	4	3		
Other B.C. population	1	1		

Indicator	Baseline	2006	2015 Target	Data Source
4d. Infant Mortality (Rate per 1,000 live births)	(1997-2001)	(2002-2006)	Reduce gap by 50%	<a href="#">Health Canada (Status Verification File)</a>  BC Client Registry  <a href="#">BC Vital Statistics</a>
Status Indian	8	9		
Other B.C. Population	4	4		
4e. Prevalence of Diabetes (percent)	(2001/02)	(2006/07)	Reduce gap by 33%	Medical Service Plan Discharge Abstract Database (DAD) Pharmanet
Status Indian	6%	7%		
Other B.C. population	4%	5%		
4f. Proportion of labour force aged 15 and over in health occupations	(2006)		To be determined.	<a href="#">Census</a>  <a href="#">BC Stats</a>
Aboriginal Identity	3.2%			
First Nations single response	2.7%			
Métis single response	4.1%			
Aboriginal Identity-off reserve, urban	3.6%			
Non-Aboriginal	5.6%			
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 2002 and 2006 can expect to live approximately 75 years, while other residents can expect to live approximately 81 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 1.4 times greater than for other British Columbians.

4c: Youth suicide rates measure deaths among 15 to 24 year-olds who deliberately take their own lives. The measure is expressed as a rate per 10,000 people. The rate of youth suicide for Status Indians is about three times that of other youth. Youth suicide is not an issue for every First Nations community. 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. About nine of every 1,000 Status Indian infants die in their first year, compared with a rate of about four infant deaths among other British Columbians. There is an average of 24 Status Indian infant deaths each year. The main cause of infant deaths are perinatal conditions related to maternal health, birth trauma, infections, respiratory and cardiovascular disorders.

4e: The Provincial Health Officer reports the prevalence rate of diabetes among Status Indians is 6.7% as compared to 4.8% in other British Columbians, with approximately 7,100 Status Indians having already been diagnosed with diabetes. Increased testing proposed in the First Nations Health Plan will capture existing unreported cases of diabetes. Although there is no conclusive evidence, possible explanations for the increase in the prevalence rates in the Aboriginal population and other British Columbians may be in part attributed to increased testing for diabetes, and that more people are living longer with diabetes.

4f: The measure for the proportion of labour force aged 15 and over in a health occupation is calculated by taking the number of individuals in health occupations by population identity groups, dividing by the total number of individuals in all occupations for that same identity group, represented as a percentage. For example, according to the 2006 census, there are 87,715 people identified as Aboriginal aged 15 and over represented in all occupations in B.C. and 2,800 of that population are in a health occupation. The resulting calculation tells us that 3.2% of all of the Aboriginal identity population aged 15 and over are in a health occupation. The 'all occupations' category refers to the experienced labour force population and therefore includes persons who were employed and persons who were unemployed who worked for pay or in self-employment since January 1, 2005. The 2006 Census occupation data are classified according to the [National Occupational Classification for Statistics](#) (NOC-S). Health occupations are those " primarily concerned with providing health care services directly to patients and providing support to health care delivery".

4g: There are no routinely collected measures for childhood obesity for First Nations in B.C. An ongoing mechanism for collecting relevant data is under development.

## 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	2015 Target	Data Source
5a. Unemployment rate. Off reserve Aboriginal Identity Non-Aboriginal	(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%	Differential will be reduced substantially.	<a href="#">Labour Force Survey- Annual</a>  <a href="#">BC Stats</a>
5b. Unemployment rate. Aboriginal Identity Non-Aboriginal	(2001) 22.5% 8%	15% 5.6%	N/A				Differential will be reduced substantially.	<a href="#">Census</a>  <a href="#">BC Stats</a>
5c. Median employment income. Aboriginal Identity Non-Aboriginal	(2000) \$35,848 \$44,076	(2005) \$34,601 \$42,540	N/A				Differential will be reduced substantially.	
5d. Employment to population ratio. Aboriginal Identity Non-Aboriginal	(2001) 48.7 60	55.3 61.9	N/A				Differential will be reduced substantially.	



Indicator	Baseline	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2015 Target	Data Source
5e. Self-employment status. Incorporated and unincorporated Aboriginal Identity Non-Aboriginal	(2001) 9.3% 14.7%	8.5% 14.5%	N/A				Differential will be reduced substantially.	<a href="#">Census BC Stats</a>
5f. Self-identified Aboriginals as percentage of those attending technical training at a public post-secondary institution.	(2005/06) 4.5%	5.4%	6.4%	7.7%	9.1%	8.8%	Aboriginal participation will be increased.	<a href="#">Central Data Warehouse</a>
5g. % with Apprenticeship or trades certificate or diploma. Aboriginal Identity Non-Aboriginal	(2006) 12.5% 10.8%	N/A				No gap currently exists.	<a href="#">Census BC Stats</a>	

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. B.C. sponsored 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 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 2.4 percentage points.

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 more comprehensive survey, with a much larger sample size. Census data also includes 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).

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.

5d: 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. There was an increase in the proportion of Aboriginal people 15 years and older who are employed in 2006, reducing the gap in this indicator by 4.7 percentage points since 2001.

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.

5f: Industry Training Authority (ITA) derives its Aboriginal Status data from the Ministry of Advanced Education. This data does not include individuals who attended non-public training or those who did not attend any training during the period, nor does it include those registered in Foundation or high school programs. Aboriginal identity is self-declared by students at a public post-secondary institution, or identified through linkages to the B.C. K–12 education system where students with Aboriginal ancestry can self-identify as Aboriginal. The Non-Aboriginal category

includes students whose Aboriginal identity is unknown. Data is reflective of 15 of B.C.'s public post-secondary institutions, including nine colleges, five universities, and one institute. Data is based on enrolments by Fiscal Years, April 1 to March 31.

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.

## Métis Population

Economic Opportunities- Métis Population								
Indicator	Baseline	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2015 Target	Data Source
6a. Unemployment rate. Métis off-reserve Non-Aboriginal population	(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%	Differential will be reduced substantially.	<a href="#">Labour Force Survey- Annual</a>  <a href="#">BC Stats</a>
6b. Unemployment rate. Métis Single Response Non-Aboriginal	(2001) 15.9% 8%	9.4% 5.6%	N/A				Differential will be reduced substantially.	<a href="#">Census</a>  <a href="#">BC Stats</a>
6c. Median employment income. Métis Single Response Non-Aboriginal	(2000) \$39,315 \$44,076	(2005) \$38,035 \$42,540	N/A				Differential will be reduced substantially.	
6d. Employment to population ratio. Métis Single Response Non-Aboriginal	(2001) 57.8 60	64.4 61.9	N/A				No gap currently exists.	
6e. Self-employment status. Incorporated and unincorporated Métis Single Response Non-Aboriginal	(2001) 12.0% 14.7%	10.9% 14.5%	N/A				Differential will be reduced.	<a href="#">Census</a>  <a href="#">BC Stats</a>
6f. % with Apprenticeship or trades certificate or diploma. Métis Single Response Non-Aboriginal	(2006) 14.4%	10.8%	N/A				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. B.C. sponsored 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.

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.

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).

6d: 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. 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.

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.

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% of the Métis population (age 15+) (representing 6,315 Métis people) completed an apprenticeship or trades certificate or diploma, compared to only 10.8% of the non-Aboriginal population.

## Urban Aboriginal Population

Economic Opportunities- Urban Aboriginal Population			
Indicator	Baseline	2015 Target	Data Source
7a. Unemployment rate. Aboriginal Identity-off reserve, urban Non-Aboriginal	(2006) 12% 5.6%	Differential will be reduced substantially.	<a href="#">Census</a>  <a href="#">BC Stats</a>
7b. Employment to population ratio. Aboriginal Identity-off reserve, urban Non-Aboriginal	(2006) 59.3 61.9	Differential will be reduced substantially.	
7c. Self-employment status. Incorporated and unincorporated Aboriginal Identity-off reserve, urban Non-Aboriginal	(2006) 9% 15.2%	Differential will be reduced substantially.	
7d. % with Apprenticeship or trades certificate or diploma. Aboriginal Identity-off reserve, urban Non-Aboriginal	(2006) 12.6% 10.8%	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.

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.

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.

Self-employment rates were lower for the urban Aboriginal population by 6.2 percentage points than for the non-Aboriginal population.

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.



## 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 (Indian), 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.



**Ministry of  
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