

# *Open Access Statistical Resources about Indigenous Peoples in Canada*

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# Definitions

- **Data:** raw material in many formats but is often numerical
- **Information:** data that have been recorded, classified, organized, interpreted within a framework so that meaning emerges
- **Statistics:** a common method of presenting information

**Figure 1. Data collected on the weight of 20 individuals in your classroom**

Data	Information	Statistics
20 kg, 25 kg	5 individuals in the 20-to-25-kg range	Mean weight = 22.5 kg
28 kg, 30 kg, etc.	15 individuals in the 26-to-30-kg range	Median weight = 28 kg

Statistics Canada, "Definitions" <https://www150.statcan.gc.ca/n1/edu/power-pouvoir/ch1/definitions/5214853-eng.htm>



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# Why Statistics?

- Statistics help illustrate attributes of society at a moment in time and longitudinally
- Statistics contribute to the truth and (re)conciliation process through (re)-education by seeking the facts and learning the truth

# Terminology

- **Indian** is legal term used by federal gov't (e.g. Indian Act, Treaty Indian)
- **Aboriginal** used by Statistics Canada to describe First Nations, Inuit & Métis
- **Indigenous** is widely used currently to describe First Nations, Inuit & Métis

# Resources

- Government of Canada (Statistics Canada and LAC)
- First Nations Information Governance Centre (FNIGC)
- Aboriginal Healing Foundation (AHF)
- Others

# Historical Censuses

- [Introduction to Censuses of Canada, 1665-1871](#)
- 350 statistical tables on the social and economic conditions from numerous censuses of the earliest settlements to 1871.



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1608—Quebec founded.—28 settlers wintered there, including Champlain.

(*Champlain, Edition Laverdière, tome III., page 173.*)

1613—St. John's, Newfoundland, founded.—62 persons wintered, who had been left by Whitburn.

(*The British Empire in America, Vol. I. page 7.*)

In the first relation of the Jesuits (*Relation de 1611, Vol. I., page 15, Edition Canadienne,*) will be found an estimate of the Indian population of the territories now constituting Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, the State of Maine, Parts of others of the New England States and the Lower Saint-Lawrence, as follows :

All the Souriquois.....	3,000 to 3,500
The Eteminquois as far as Pentagoet.....	2,500
From Pentagoet to Kinibequi and Chouacoet .....	3,000
The Montagnets (a tribe of the Algie race inhabiting the highlands of New England) .....	1,000
	<hr/>
	10,000

1620—Population of Quebec : 60 persons.

(*Champlain, Edition Laverdière, tome VI., page 8.*)

1622—Wintered at Newfoundland with Captain Wynn, 32 persons.

(*The British Empire in America, Vol. I., pages 10 & 11.*)

1628—Population of New France, 76, who wintered, including 20 French and the Missionary returning from the Hurons.

(*Champlain, Edition Laverdière, tome VI., pages 205 & 231.*)

Introduction to censuses of Canada, 1665 to 1871, vol. 4. p. xiv

<https://ia800602.us.archive.org/3/items/1871981871FV41873engfra/StatisticsCanada1871981871FV41873engfra.pdf>



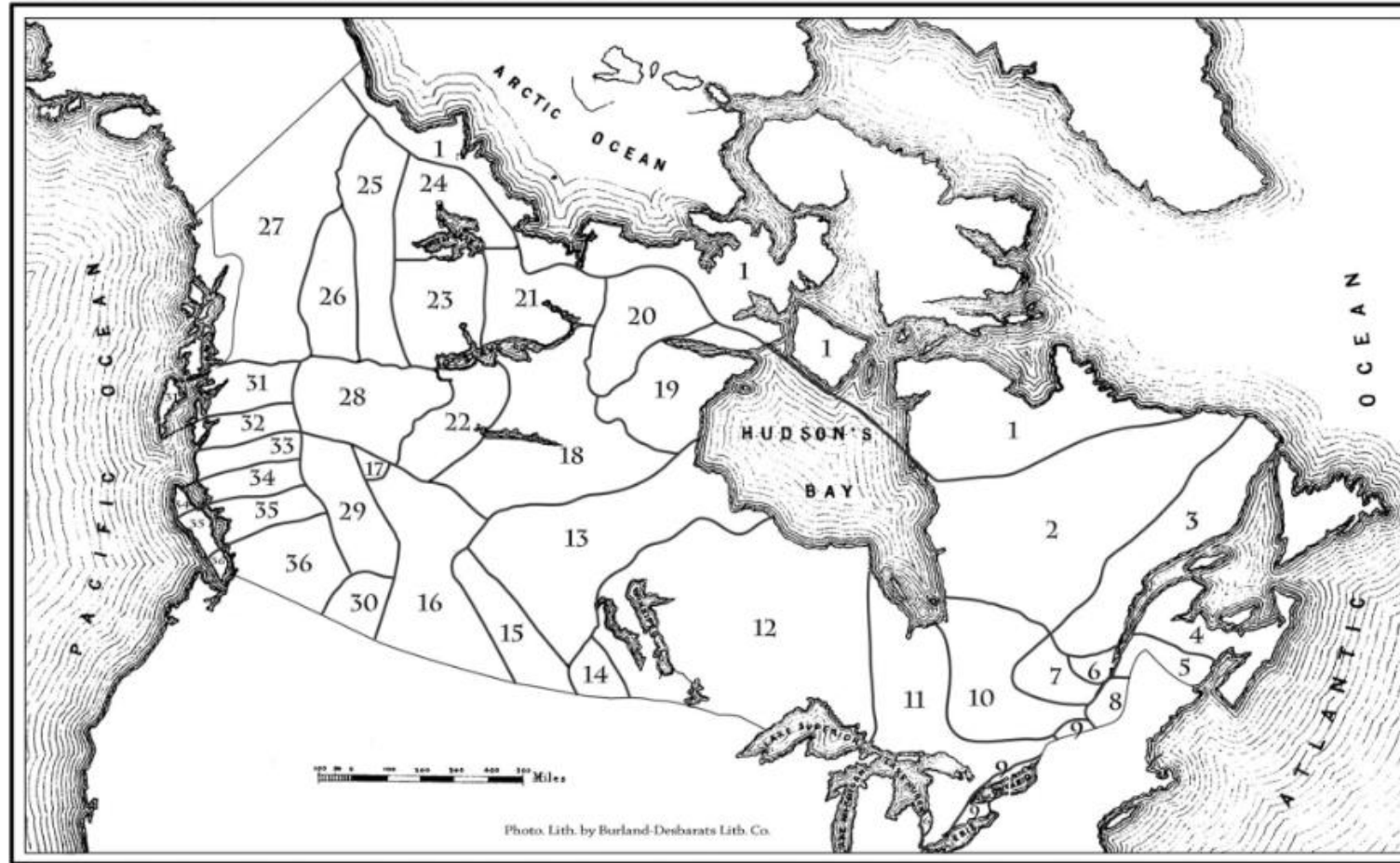
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MAP OF THE HUNTING AND FISHING GROUNDS OCCUPIED BY THE DIFFERENT TRIBES OF THE ABORIGINAL POPULATION OF CANADA, THE WHOLE REFERRING TO THE YEAR 1871.



Map of the hunting and fishing grounds occupied by the different tribes of the Aboriginal Population of Canada, Census of 1871 <https://www150.statcan.gc.ca/n1/pub/98-187-x/4151278-eng.htm#part2>



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# More Historical Censuses

- [Historical Statistics of Canada, 2nd edition](#) (1867 – mid 1970s)
- 1,088 statistical tables on the social, economic and institutional conditions



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# Statistics Canada

- Turned 100 years in 2018
- Provides statistical information and analysis about Canada's economy and society
- 4 indicators define Indigenous Peoples:
  - ancestry/ethnic origin
  - identity (First Nation, Inuit, Metis)
  - member of a band/First Nation
  - registered/Treaty Indian as defined by Indian Act



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# 2016 Census

## Highlights

- 50% increase in declaring Indigenous ancestry
- 180,000 reported having Indigenous ancestry in SK (16% total population)
- Specific First Nations ancestry groups released for first time
- 977,000 First Nations, 587,000 Métis, 65,000 Inuit



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- Population very young and growing rapidly (5% of Canada)
- Average age 32.1 and almost 10 years younger than non-Indigenous
- Grew by 42.5% between 2006 to 2016
- 228,765 spoke an Indigenous language at home



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- Median income based on level of education much lower
- Large discrepancy for homes in need of major repair
- Children overrepresented among foster children in SK
- Adults overrepresented in correctional services
- Homicide rate 6X higher



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## Regional discussion report: Review of First Nations, Métis and Inuit questions on the census

[Text](#)[Related information](#)[📄 PDF \(99 KB\)](#)

**Released: 2019-04-15**

Statistics Canada is preparing for the 2021 Census to ensure the collection of accurate and timely data for First Nations, Métis and Inuit populations in Canada.

From September 2017 to February 2018, Statistics Canada undertook a series of regional discussions across the country to talk to First Nations people, Métis and Inuit. These discussions focused on the questions asked in the census and in other Statistics Canada surveys to produce data about First Nations people, Métis and Inuit.

The last major review of these questions was done in 2007 prior to the 2011 National Household Survey.

The goal of this report is to summarize the feedback heard in the regional discussions. This feedback was used to prepare questions that will be tested in the 2019 Census Test.



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# Aboriginal Peoples Survey [\(APS\)](#)

- Managed by StatsCan in consultation with Indigenous organizations
- Numerous demographic and socio-economic characteristics of children/youth and adults living off reserve
- Previous surveys are 1991, 2001, 2006, and 2011
- Data online starting with 2006 survey



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## 2017 APS Survey

- Data released Nov. 2018
- APS response rate was 76% from approximately 24,000
- Includes a Nunavut Inuit Supplement (NIS)
- APS-NIS response rate was 84.5%.

## 2017 APS and NIS

- 3 data sets released:
- Off-reserve First Nations people entering the labour force
- Self-employment among Métis
- Harvesting and handicraft activities among Inuit

# Library and Archives Canada [Indigenous Heritage](#)


- Indian Affairs Annual Reports 1864-1990
- Indian Affairs Record Group 10
- Report of the Royal Commission on Aboriginal Peoples



**FNIGC | CGIPN**

First Nations Information Governance Centre  
Le Centre de gouvernance de l'information des Premières Nations

# FNIGC Data Online

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## Welcome to FNIGC Data Online

FNIGC Data Online is an online service from the First Nations Information Governance Centre (FNIGC), Canada's premier source of information about First Nations people living on reserve and in northern communities across Canada. This application provides unprecedented access to FNIGC's published data in the form of charts, tables and graphs that can be exported for use in presentations, reports and academic papers, including the *First Nations Regional Health Survey (FNRHS, or RHS)* and the *First Nations Regional Early Childhood, Education and Employment Survey (FNREEES)*.

For more information and context about the data found on the FNIGC Data Online Tool, please refer to our national reports, which can be found here:

[First Nations Regional Early Childhood, Education and Employment Survey Report](#)

[First Nations Regional Health Survey \(2008/10\) Report](#)

[First Nations Regional Health Survey \(2015/16\) Report](#)

All data produced are aggregated nationally and weighted to represent First Nations people living on reserve and in northern communities across Canada. There are currently 222 tables and 171 charts online.



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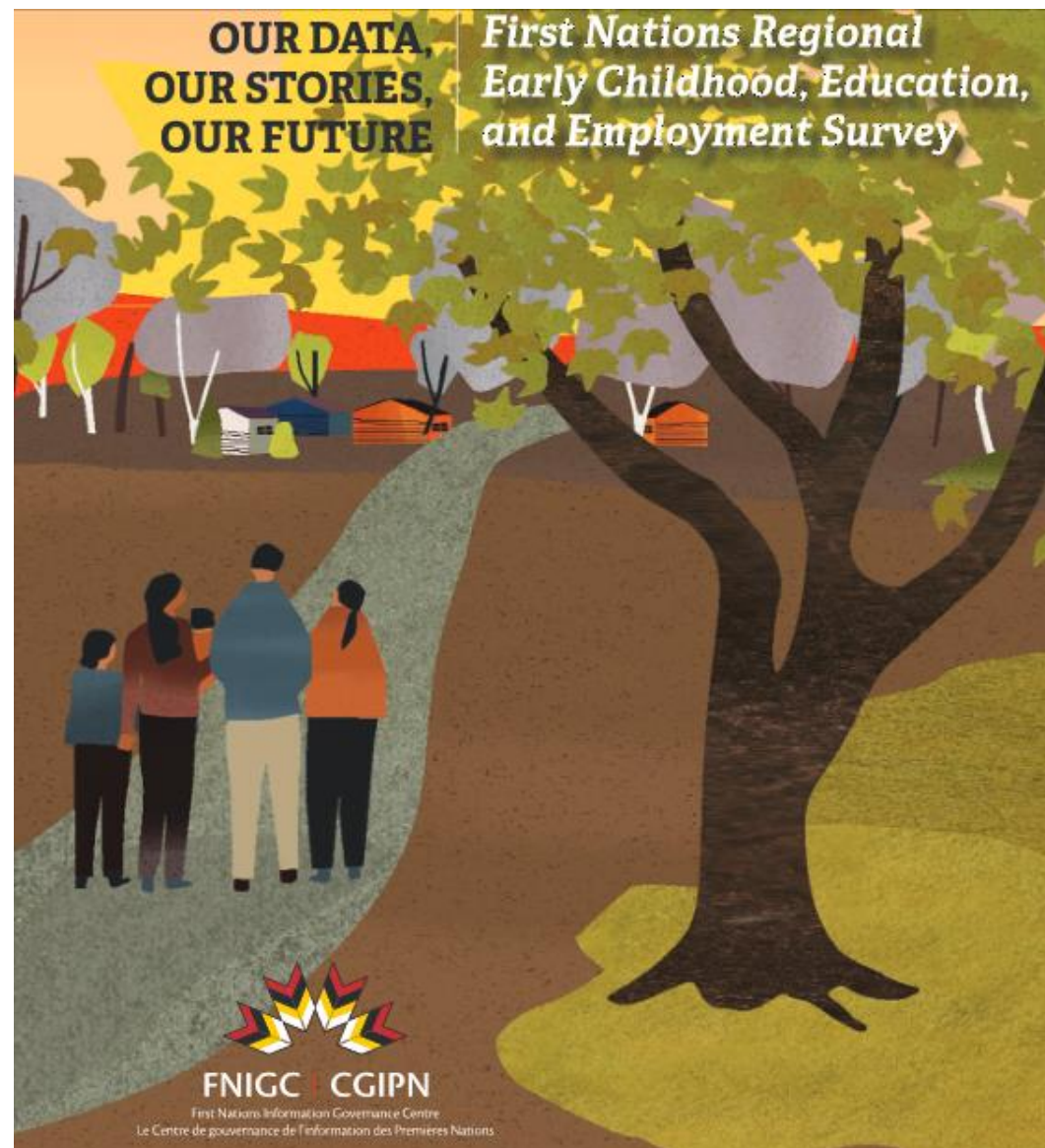
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# First Nations Information Governance Centre

- First Nations-run organization that produces information about First Nations people living on reserve and in Northern communities
- Rooted in Traditional and Western understandings of health and well-being
- Three comprehensive survey reports published in last ten years



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## Highlights

- Provides a snapshot of the early experiences of children as they navigate the historic and ongoing impacts of European colonization
- Intergenerational impacts include the legacy of residential schools, loss of traditional lands and self-determination
- Nearly 60% of children had at least one grandparent or great-grandparent who had attended residential school
- 39% of children lived in households with incomes of less than \$20,000

- 90% of adults were the child's biological parents; 75.0% were the child's mother and 15.4% were the child's father
- 21.3% of children received regular child care
- Approx. 33% of primary female and male caregivers had a First Nations language as their mother tongue
- 81.1% of children have knowledge of a First Nations language, even if only a few words



NATIONAL REPORT OF  
**The First Nations Regional Health Survey**  
PHASE 3: VOLUME 1



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## Highlights

- 75% of youth abstained from alcohol consumption in the previous year vs. 61% in Phase 2
- 10% of youth smoked daily vs. 20% in Phase 2
- 47% employment rates is lower than the general Canadian population

## The First Nations Data Centre

Welcome to the First Nations Data Centre (FNDC), a knowledge exchange service of the First Nations Information Governance Centre (FNIGC).

Located at FNIGC's Ottawa office, the FNDC provides access to unpublished and record-level data from FNIGC's respected survey work, including the First Nations Regional Health Survey (FNRHS, or RHS) and the First Nations Regional Early Childhood, Education and Employment Survey (FNREEES, or REEES).

The first service of its kind, the FNDC offers data access to individuals pursuing academic research, policy development, and program planning and evaluation on a pay-per-use basis. The data cannot be used for commercial purposes.

The goal of the FNDC is to encourage the dissemination and knowledge transfer of FNIGC's First Nations data among researchers, academics,



### EXPLORE THE FNDC

#### Welcome

Data Request Tool

#### Data Access at the First Nations Data Centre

> Regional Level Data

> Costing Structure

> Survey Themes



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# THE POWER OF DATA

**SAIK'UZ FIRST NATION** – Located deep in the heart of the British Columbia interior, about a 10-hour drive north of Vancouver, the small, secluded community of Saik'uz is proudly and unmistakably off-the-beaten path—but that doesn't mean it's a stranger to the power of data.

Just ask Stanley Thomas.

Having grown up in the tiny and tight-knit Carrier community of just over 1,000, Thomas (a former Saik'uz Chief) says that while the remote community of Saik'uz (pronounced Sai-cuz) might operate on a slower speed, data has always played a big role in its day-to-day routines.

"Data, to me, we've had it all our lives" he says "but it isn't always written down: it's in here" he adds, pointing to his temple.

## Saik'uz First Nation


Where data is a long-standing tradition



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 Aboriginal Healing Foundation


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RESEARCH SERIES


 [Cultivating Canada: Reconciliation through the Lens of Cultural Diversity.](#)

 AHF Final Report: [Volume 1](#) (A Healing Journey: Reclaiming Wellness) - 20mb PDF | [Volume 2](#) (Measuring Progress: Program Evaluation) - 28mb PDF | [Volume 3](#) (Promising Healing Practices in Aboriginal Communities) - 16mb PDF | [Final Report Summary](#) - 17mb PDF | [Final Report in Inuktitut](#) - 17mb PDF

 [AHF Case Studies](#)

 [A Compendium of Aboriginal Healing Foundation Research](#)

 [The Indian Residential Schools Settlement Agreement's Common Experience Payment and Healing: A Qualitative Study Exploring Impacts on Recipients](#)

 [Residential Schools, Prisons, and HIV/AIDS among Aboriginal People in Canada: Exploring the Connections](#)



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# Other Resources

- [National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation](#)
- [Hudson's Bay Company Archives](#)
- [Think Tanks](#)

**Thank You!**

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