



Crown-Indigenous Relations
and Northern Affairs Canada

Relations Couronne-Autochtones
et Affaires du Nord Canada

Report to the National Council for Reconciliation pursuant to Section 16.1 of the *National Council for Reconciliation Act*

October 1, 2026

Table of Contents

Executive Summary	5
Progress on Reconciliation Indicators	5
Key Findings and Trends	6
Challenges and Data Gaps	6
Looking Ahead.....	7
1. Introduction	8
1.1 Legislative Basis	8
1.2 Purpose of this Report	8
1.3 Reporting frame and continuity	8
2. Our Approach	8
2. Data Sources and Methodology	10
2.1 Cross-mandate data integration	10
2.2 About the data in this report	10
2.3 Applying a Distinctions-Based and GBA Plus-Informed Data Approach	11
2.4 Data limitations, gaps, and jurisdictional coverage issues	11
3. Thematic Summary Analysis	11
3.1 Children and Youth	12
3.2 Economic Outcomes	13
3.3 Health	15
3.4 Justice	16
Federal Data by Theme	19
Children and Youth	19
Data from Statistics Canada	19
Overview	19
Methodology and Data Definitions	19
Rate of children in foster care.....	20
Disparity in foster child rates between Indigenous and non-Indigenous children.....	20
Youth admissions to correctional services.....	20
Data	20
Data from Indigenous Services Canada	22
Overview	22
Methodology and Data Definitions	22
Children in Care Counts from fiscal year 2014-15 to 2022-23	23

Protection and Prevention data extracted from Public Accounts from fiscal year 2022-23 to 2024-25	24
Grants and Contributions to support First Nations Elementary and Secondary Educational Advancement	24
Grants and Contributions to support the First Nations Post-Secondary Education Strategy	24
Grants and Contributions to support the Inuit Post-Secondary Education Strategy ..	24
Grants and Contributions to support the Métis Nation Post-Secondary Education Strategy	24
Grants and Contributions to increase First Nations and Inuit Youth Participation in Education and Labour Market Opportunities	25
Data	25
Economic	29
Overview	29
Methodology and Data Definitions	29
Highest level of education	30
Total Income	30
Data	31
Health	37
Data from Indigenous Services Canada	37
Overview	37
Methodology and Data Definitions	37
Data	39
Data from Statistics Canada	42
Overview	42
Methodology and Data Definitions	43
Data	44
Data from the Public Health Agency of Canada	49
Overview	49
Methodology and Data Definitions	49
Data	50
Justice	53
Overview	53
Homicide Rates	54
Prevalence of sexual and physical assault	54
Adult custody admissions	55
Incarceration rates	55

Overrepresentation index.....	55
Custodial involvement rates	55
Indigenous offenders who completed Nationally Recognized Correctional Programs (NRCP) prior to First Release.....	56
Indigenous offenders who completed Nationally Recognized Correctional Programs prior to Sentence Expiry Date	56
Indigenous offenders with an identified need in education who upgraded their education prior to first release:	56
Median percentage of sentence served prior to first release, for offenders with moderate or high reintegration potential:	56
Percentage of successful transfers to Healing lodges for Indigenous offenders:.....	56
Percentage of offenders released under Section 84 of the <i>Corrections and Conditional Release Act</i>:	57
Data	57
Sources:	65



Executive Summary

Reconciliation is not measured by commitments alone, but by the extent those commitments contribute to meaningful improvements in the lives of First Nations, Inuit, and Métis peoples. The evidence presented in this report demonstrates both encouraging progress and persistent challenges in advancing reconciliation. Educational attainment among Indigenous Peoples continues to improve, with more Indigenous adults attaining post-secondary credentials and university degrees than previous generations. Investments in prevention-focused child and family services have contributed to declining first-time entries into care in some jurisdictions and increasing use of kinship-based care arrangements. At the same time, significant disparities remain. Indigenous Peoples continue to experience poorer health outcomes on many indicators, lower life expectancy, higher rates of victimization, and disproportionate representation within Canada's correctional system. Together, these findings illustrate that reconciliation is producing measurable results in some areas while underscoring the need for sustained effort in others.

This Annual Report brings together data, analysis, and expertise from across the Government of Canada designed to examine progress in key areas that have long been identified through the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's Calls to Action and other reconciliation commitments. Through indicators related to children and youth, economic conditions, health outcomes, and justice, the report provides a data-informed assessment of where progress is being achieved, where gaps persist, and where additional action is needed. By bringing this evidence together into a single report, the Government of Canada seeks to strengthen transparency, accountability, and a shared understanding of the outcomes that reconciliation efforts are intended to achieve.

Progress on Reconciliation Indicators

The indicators contained in this report demonstrate measurable progress across several areas affecting First Nations, Inuit, and Métis. Educational attainment has increased across Indigenous populations, contributing to improved economic opportunities and supporting improved potential for development. Child and family service systems continue to shift toward prevention-focused approaches and culturally connected care arrangements, reflecting efforts to support children and families within their communities. In health and justice systems, targeted programs and Indigenous-led initiatives have expanded, including measures designed to improve access to services, support rehabilitation, and strengthen community-based approaches.

Several themes emerge consistently throughout the report. First, long-term investments and sustained partnerships can contribute to positive outcomes. Secondly, distinctions-based and culturally responsive approaches continue to be important factors in addressing the unique needs of First Nations, Inuit, and Métis Peoples. Finally, improvements are often most evident when progress is measured over multiple years, highlighting the importance of maintaining a long-term perspective when assessing reconciliation outcomes.

Highlights include:

- Increasing educational attainment among Indigenous Peoples across distinctions.
- Growth in prevention-focused child and family services and increased use of kinship care arrangements.
- Continued investments in Indigenous-led service delivery and community-based programming.

- Evidence of positive trends across several social and economic indicators when examined over time.

Key Findings and Trends

The four thematic domains examined in this report reveal a common thread: while conditions differ substantially across distinctions and regions, progress and challenges often coexist.

In **Children and Youth (3.1)**, indicators point to ongoing efforts to reduce the overrepresentation of Indigenous children in care while supporting improved educational outcomes. Investments in prevention services, child welfare reform, and educational supports demonstrate a growing focus on early intervention and family well-being. However, Indigenous children and youth continue to face barriers that contribute to unequal outcomes.

In **Economic Outcomes (3.2)**, educational attainment among Indigenous peoples continues to improve and support economic and income growth. However, progress has generally not kept pace with that of the non-Indigenous population, and income disparities persist across many communities. Economic outcomes also continue to vary significantly among First Nations, Inuit, and Métis populations and regions.

In **Health (3.3)**, the data reveal some encouraging improvements and continuing disparities. While some indicators suggest positive movement over time, many Indigenous peoples continue to experience lower self-reported health, reduced access to health services, and shorter life expectancy than non-Indigenous Canadians. These findings underscore the important role that broader social determinants play in shaping health outcomes.

In **Justice (3.4)**, Indigenous Peoples remain disproportionately affected both as victims of crime and through their incarceration in the correctional system. Although progress has been made through Indigenous-focused programming, rehabilitation initiatives, and culturally informed approaches, significant disparities continue to be evident throughout the justice system.

Taken together, these findings reinforce the fact that advancing reconciliation requires multifaceted considerations. Improvements in one area, such as education or health, influence outcomes in others, including employment, community well-being, and interactions with the justice system.

Challenges and Data Gaps

The report also highlights important challenges associated with measuring progress on reconciliation. The availability, quality, frequency, and comparability of data vary significantly across thematic areas and organizations. In some cases, distinctions-based information remains limited or unavailable, making it difficult to fully understand the experiences of First Nations, Inuit, and Métis.

Several indicators rely on surveys, censuses, and administrative data systems that operate on different reporting cycles. As a result, some data can be updated annually, while other indicators may only become available at different intervals. It is therefore important to recognize that future editions of the Annual Report will not necessarily contain new information for every indicator each year. Consequently, the report will adapt and evolve as new evidence becomes available.

To improve transparency and support interpretation of the results, a companion survey reference table is included to list the principal surveys and data sources used throughout the report. It reports the frequency, and timing of previous and anticipated future releases. This will assist readers in understanding both the strengths and limitations of the evidence available to support future reconciliation reporting.

Looking Ahead

The findings presented in this report demonstrate the value of bringing together data, expertise, and perspectives from across the federal government. They also reinforce the importance of continuing to improve the evidence base that supports accountability for reconciliation outcomes.

Future editions of the Annual Report will continue to build on this foundation by incorporating new information as it becomes available, strengthening distinctions-based reporting, improving data quality, and growing collaboration across contributing departments and agencies. As additional evidence emerges and reporting capacity matures, the Annual Report will support a more comprehensive understanding of progress toward reconciliation.

The indicators presented in this report do not provide a complete picture of that journey, but they do offer an important view of the outcomes experienced by Indigenous Peoples today and areas where continued effort, partnership, and accountability will be required in the years ahead.

1. Introduction

1.1 Legislative Basis

This Annual Report is presented in accordance with Section 16.1 of the *National Council of Reconciliation Act* that requires the Minister of Crown-Indigenous Relations, on behalf of the Government of Canada, to provide the National Council for Reconciliation annual quantitative data on the indicators identified in section 16, which align with the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's Call to Action 55. These indicators cover key socio-economic areas, including child welfare and youth custody, education investments and outcomes, income, health, criminal victimization, and justice and corrections. The Act outlines the complementary responsibility for the National Council for Reconciliation to use this and other information to monitor, assess, and report on Canada's progress toward reconciliation. To support the Minister's obligations, Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada (CIRNAC) coordinates the collection, validation, and presentation of distinctions-based information for independent assessment and public reporting.

1.2 Purpose of this Report

The report combines quantitative evidence and analytical interpretation to support transparency, accountability, and inform dialogue on reconciliation outcomes. The Annual Report aims to establish a common evidence base to support a review by the National Council for Reconciliation.

The indicators in this report incorporate input from multiple federal departments, each contributing expertise in their area of responsibility. These indicators highlight areas of progress, identify ongoing disparities, and signal where further action is needed. In future reporting cycles, the report will aim to enhance distinctions-based reporting, increase transparency about methodologies and data sources, and provide a clearer understanding of reconciliation outcomes across Canada.

1.3 Reporting frame and continuity

This report is fundamentally different from the one presented in 2025, as it has been developed to formalize the way the Government of Canada can consistently share data with the Council. While most data collected were developed for reporting purposes outside of the legal obligation identified in the Act, the report seeks to provide disparate data in a unified way. Different themes were developed to organize data inputs towards supporting the work of the Council. This report provides the most recent data, and where possible, provides data going back to as far as 2011 for key indicators, to evaluate progress over time. Going forward, unless otherwise requested from the Council, this format and style of reporting will continue to ensure the Council's ability to track trends.

2. Our Approach

The Annual Report reflects the collective efforts of federal organizations that contribute data, analysis, programs, and policy expertise in areas that affect the lives of First Nations, Inuit, and Métis peoples.

Given the breadth of information involved, the Annual Report has been organized around thematic sections that bring together related indicators and evidence. Departmental contributions were reviewed, consolidated, and aligned to a common reporting structure to support consistency across the report. While individual organizations provided data and subject-matter expertise for their respective areas, CIRNAC integrated these contributions into a narrative that highlights findings, emerging trends, and areas where additional attention may be required. This approach allows the reader to examine both individual indicators and perspectives, combined to form a broader story that emerges when evidence is considered collectively.

As an annual report, the Report will be updated each year to provide new information, analysis, and highlight developments across the indicator framework. However, it is important to recognize that not all data sources are produced annually. Many of the surveys, censuses, and statistical programs referenced throughout this report are released on multi-year production cycles, while some administrative data collections are updated at varying intervals depending on the availability and quality of the underlying information. As a result, future editions of the Annual Report will not necessarily contain new data for every indicator each year. Rather, the report will provide updates as new information becomes available, while continuing to report on longer-term trends and outcomes where appropriate. This reflects the realities of Canada's statistical and administrative data environment and helps ensure that reporting remains accurate, reliable, and based on evidence.

Table 1: Survey Publication and Dissemination Reference Table

Survey Name	Publication Interval	Latest Results Available	Next Dissemination Date and Reference Year
Census of Population	Every 5 years	2021	2027 (2026 data)
Homicide Survey	Annual	2025	2027 (2026 data)
Survey of Safety in Public and Private Spaces	Every 5 years	2025	not scheduled
General Social Survey: Canadians' Safety	Every 5 years	2019	2026 (2025 data)
Adult Correctional Services survey	Annual	2023–24	2027 (2024-25 data)
Canadian Correctional Services Survey	Annual	2023–24	2027 (2024-25 data)
National Household Survey	One time	2011	N/A
Youth Custody and Community Services Survey	Annually	2023–24	2027 (2024-25 data)
Indigenous People's Survey	Every 5 years	2022	2029-30 (2028 data)
First Nations Information Governance Centre Regional Health Survey	5 to 7 years	2015-17	2026
Canadian Community Health Survey	Annual	2024	2026 (2025 data)
Canadian Health Survey on Children and Youth	Annual	2024	2026 (2025 data)

The Annual Report consolidates data, analysis, and expertise from across the federal government to support discussions on reconciliation, highlight progress, and identify areas for improvement. This collaborative approach aims to strengthen transparency, promote a shared understanding of outcomes, and advance ongoing reconciliation with First Nations, Inuit, and Métis.

2. Data Sources and Methodology

The data presented in this report are drawn from a variety of sources, including national statistical programs, administrative datasets, departmental reporting systems, and specialized public surveys managed by contributing organizations. Participating departments and agencies provided the data, overviews, and subject matter expertise associated with their respective indicators, while CIRNAC worked collaboratively to integrate these contributions into a reporting framework.

2.1 Cross-mandate data integration

Developing this report required extensive collaboration across the federal government. To fulfill the reporting requirements set out in Section 16.1 of the *Act*, CIRNAC worked with multiple departments and agencies to identify data sources, indicators, methodologies, and contextual information relevant to reconciliation outcomes. Contributing organizations provided data that either directly aligned with the legislated reporting requirements or served as appropriate proxy measures where direct indicators were not available. CIRNAC reviewed, integrated, and organized these contributions into a common reporting framework, bringing together evidence from diverse sources while preserving the integrity and context of the original data. Where data could be meaningfully combined, a consolidated view of outcomes was presented; where methodological differences existed, indicators were reported separately to ensure clarity and accuracy. The result is a government-wide evidence base that supports transparent reporting to the National Council for Reconciliation and helps inform its independent assessment of progress toward reconciliation, socioeconomic equity, and public accountability.

2.2 About the data in this report

At the onset, CIRNAC sought to identify high-quality, reliable data sources that are regularly collected and produce information that is representative of First Nations, Inuit, and Métis populations. Wherever possible, the most recent data available were used, and where appropriate, historical and longitudinal data were included to capture changes over time and to examine progress or lack thereof since the implementation of reconciliation-related commitments and initiatives. This approach allows readers to better understand emerging trends and the pace at which outcomes are changing.

While every effort was made to identify data corresponding to the reporting requirements set out in section 16.1 of the *National Council for Reconciliation Act*, not all indicators are currently available, complete, or consistently collected. As noted throughout this report, some data are produced only periodically through surveys, censuses, or administrative reporting systems, while other indicators continue to evolve as methodologies improve and new data sources become available.

2.3 Applying a Distinctions-Based and GBA Plus-Informed Data Approach

CIRNAC applies both a distinctions-based approach and Gender-Based Analysis Plus (GBA Plus) wherever data are available. A distinctions-based approach recognizes that First Nations, Inuit, and Métis are distinct Peoples with unique histories, cultures, and socioeconomic realities. Reporting data by distinction helps ensure that differences in outcomes are visible and supports a more accurate understanding of the diverse experiences of Indigenous people.

Applying a GBA Plus lens helps identify variations that may otherwise be hidden within aggregate data and contributes to a more nuanced understanding of the experience of Indigenous women, men, Two-Spirit, and gender-diverse people.

Despite efforts to improve data, important gaps remain. In many instances, available datasets do not contain sufficient information to support comprehensive distinctions-based analysis or GBA Plus reporting. For example, rarely does administrative data capture information on gender identities beyond women and men, or sexual orientation. As a result, the experiences and outcomes of Two-Spirit and other 2SLGBTQI+ Indigenous people are often not reflected in available evidence. These limitations should be considered when interpreting the findings presented throughout this report.

2.4 Data limitations, gaps, and jurisdictional coverage issues

Due to the scoping of this report to the federal level, important differences across provinces, territories, and Indigenous governance regions are not visible. A more granular regional analysis was not feasible for this reporting cycle because federal, provincial, and territorial data systems are not integrated, data sharing agreements are limited, and methodologies vary across jurisdictions, making many datasets difficult to compare.

Data collection practices also differ across federal mandates, resulting in inconsistencies in how variables are defined, measured, and reported. Efforts were made to standardize submissions where possible, but in some cases, data could only be presented as provided to preserve accuracy. Additionally, in some instances, data for a requested indicator has not yet been developed. For example, there is no current specific indicator or proxy for maternal health. Developing one will require further methodological development to identify appropriate and culturally relevant measures, as well as ensuring respect for Indigenous Data Sovereignty.

Despite these limitations, the evidence assembled here is a strong starting point from which the Government of Canada is striving to build through ongoing efforts to improve its data quality, comparability, and completeness.

3. Thematic Summary Analysis

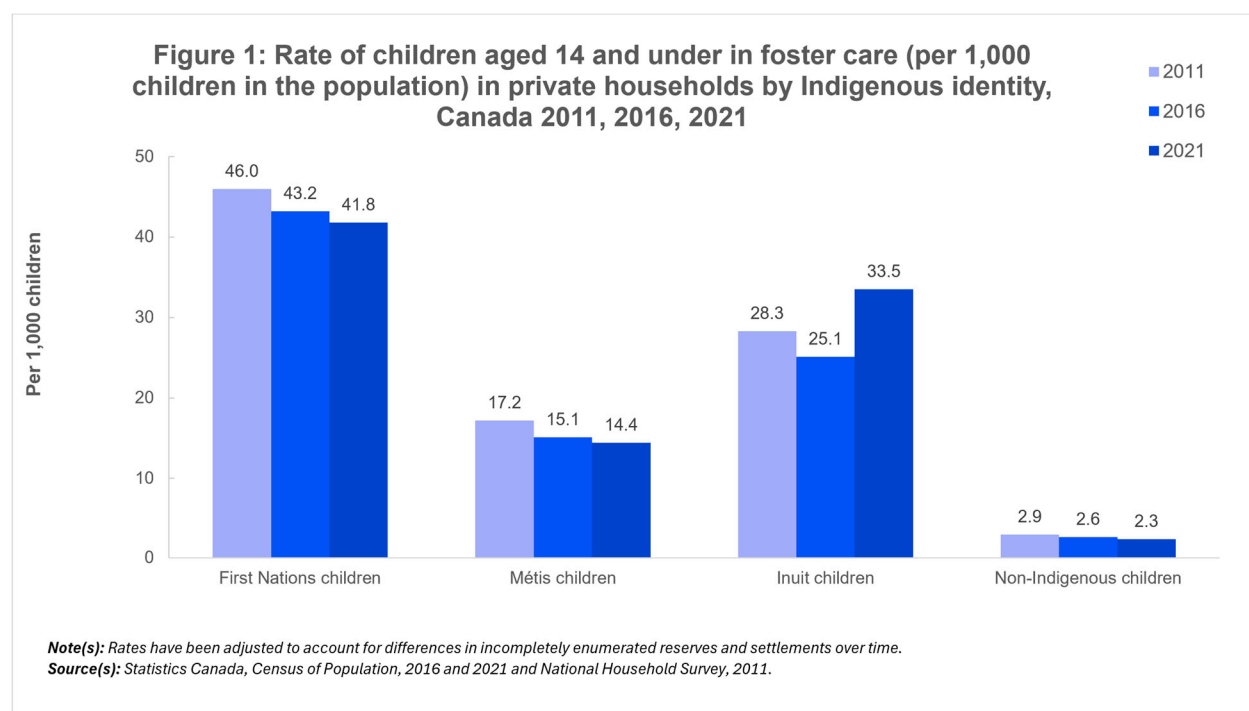
The thematic analysis in this section brings together the evidence presented from across the Government of Canada to examine four key areas: Children and Youth, Economic Outcomes, Health, and Justice. Drawing on the data provided from contributing departments and agencies, it offers a broad perspective on the aggregated conditions and outcomes of First Nations, Inuit, and Métis Peoples. The analysis that follows summarizes key findings and trends across each thematic area before presenting the detailed indicators, methodologies, and contextual information provided by contributing organizations.

3.1 Children and Youth

The indicators presented in this report examine both child welfare and educational supports, recognizing that early in life incidents can shape health, social, and economic conditions for generations to come.

The data reveal a complex picture. Some indicators suggest positive movement, including declining first-time entries into care, increasing use of kinship placements, and significant investments in prevention services designed to support families before intervention becomes necessary. Funding for elementary, secondary, and post-secondary education has also increased in recent years, reflecting continued efforts to support educational success, including through programming for language and culture, full-day kindergarten, before- and after-school care, and lifelong learning opportunities.

At the same time, substantial challenges remain. Indigenous children continue to be overrepresented in foster care and Indigenous youth remain disproportionately represented in correctional admissions. While the specific experiences of First Nations, Inuit, and Métis children differ, the data demonstrate that longstanding disparities continue to affect many Indigenous families and communities.



As seen in Figure 1, Indigenous children continue to be overrepresented in foster care; as of 2021, the foster care rate for First Nations children was 41.8 per 1,000, which is 18.2 times higher than the rate for non-Indigenous children (2.3 per 1,000 children in 2021).

Key observations:

- Positive trends are emerging for First Nations children in care living on-reserve, where first-time entries into care has seen a slow but steady decline to 14.9% and kinship care placements rose to 28.3% in 2022–23.
- Federal investments in prevention services under the First Nations Child and Family Services Program have continued to grow, from \$1.2 billion to over \$1.5 billion in 2024–25.
- Indigenous Services Canada’s investments in elementary, secondary, and post-secondary education, have similarly grown, reaching over \$3 billion in 2024–25.
- Despite this, Indigenous youth account for a disproportionate share of correctional admissions, representing 40.8% of total admissions (5,525 out of 13,546) in fiscal year 2023–24.

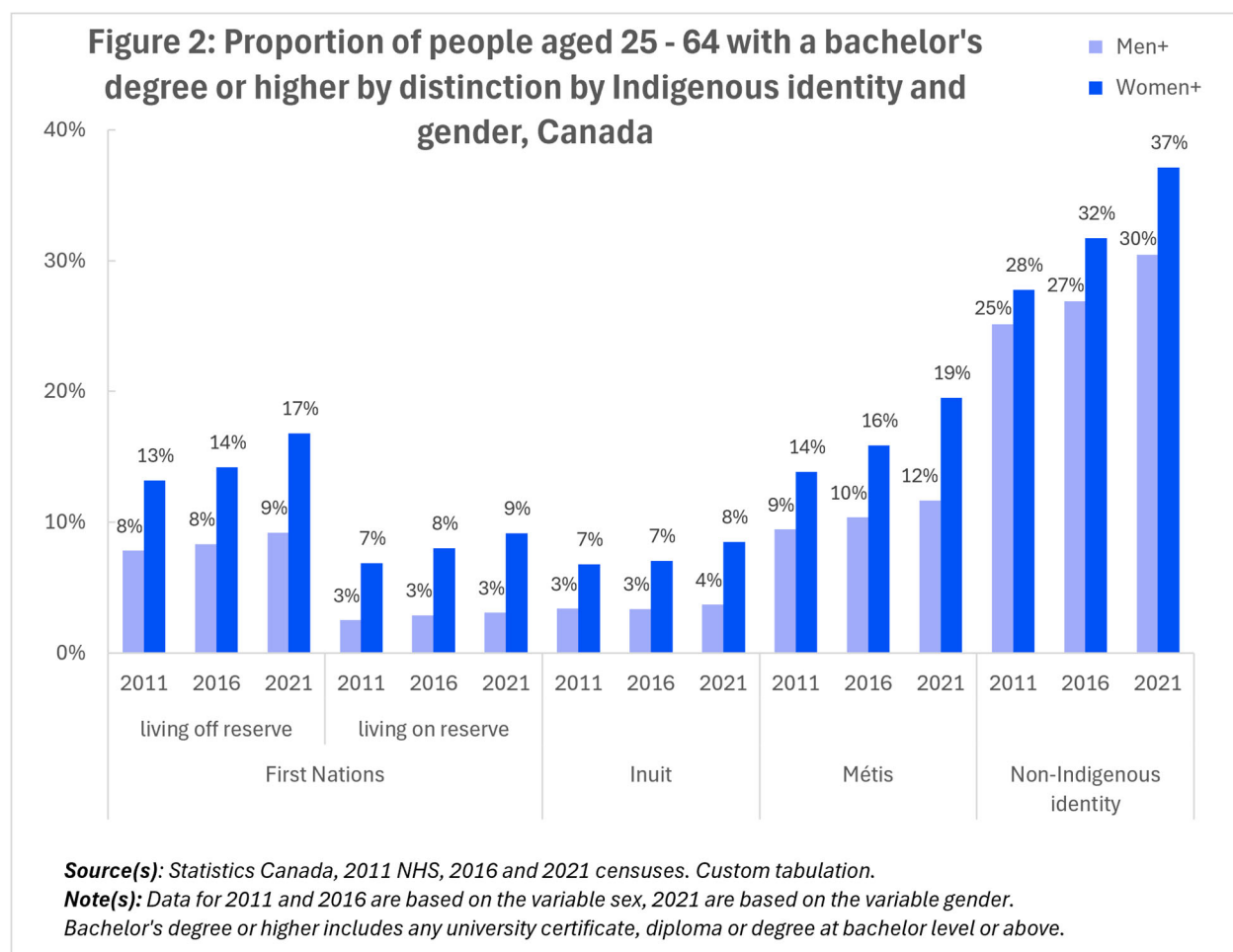
The data presented in this section provide important context for understanding how reconciliation efforts are affecting the experiences of Indigenous children and youth and where additional progress remains necessary.

3.2 Economic Outcomes

Economic improvement is a key dimension of reconciliation because it influences individual welfare, household stability, and community prosperity. Education and income are closely associated and are often used as proxy measures of opportunity, growth, and inclusion. The indicators presented in this section illustrate educational attainment and income outcomes across distinctions-based Indigenous populations, helping to identify where progress may be occurring and where socioeconomic gaps continue to persist.

The results point to meaningful improvements in educational attainment over the past decade. Across Indigenous populations, the proportion of adults without a high school diploma has declined, while the proportion attaining post-secondary credentials and university degrees has increased.

Data also show a relationship between education and income with individuals reporting higher incomes as their levels of education increases. Notably, among those with a bachelor’s degree or higher, Indigenous people, especially Indigenous women, report higher incomes than their non-Indigenous counterparts with the same level of education. Gaps in income and educational attainment are evident between Indigenous and non-Indigenous populations, particularly among First Nations communities living on reserve.



Key observations:

- Based on Statistics Canada data, the proportion of Indigenous adults aged 25 to 64 with a bachelor's degree or higher continued to increase between 2011 and 2021, but remained below the 34% reported among non-Indigenous Canadians in 2021.
- First Nations people living on-reserve reported the lowest median after-tax income (\$25,800) among the populations examined.
- Higher levels of education are associated with higher incomes across all Indigenous populations, underscoring the importance of educational attainment as a factor in economic well-being.
- Indigenous women continued to make gains in higher education attainment and, in some Indigenous populations, reported income outcomes that were comparable to or exceeded those of men within the same population group.

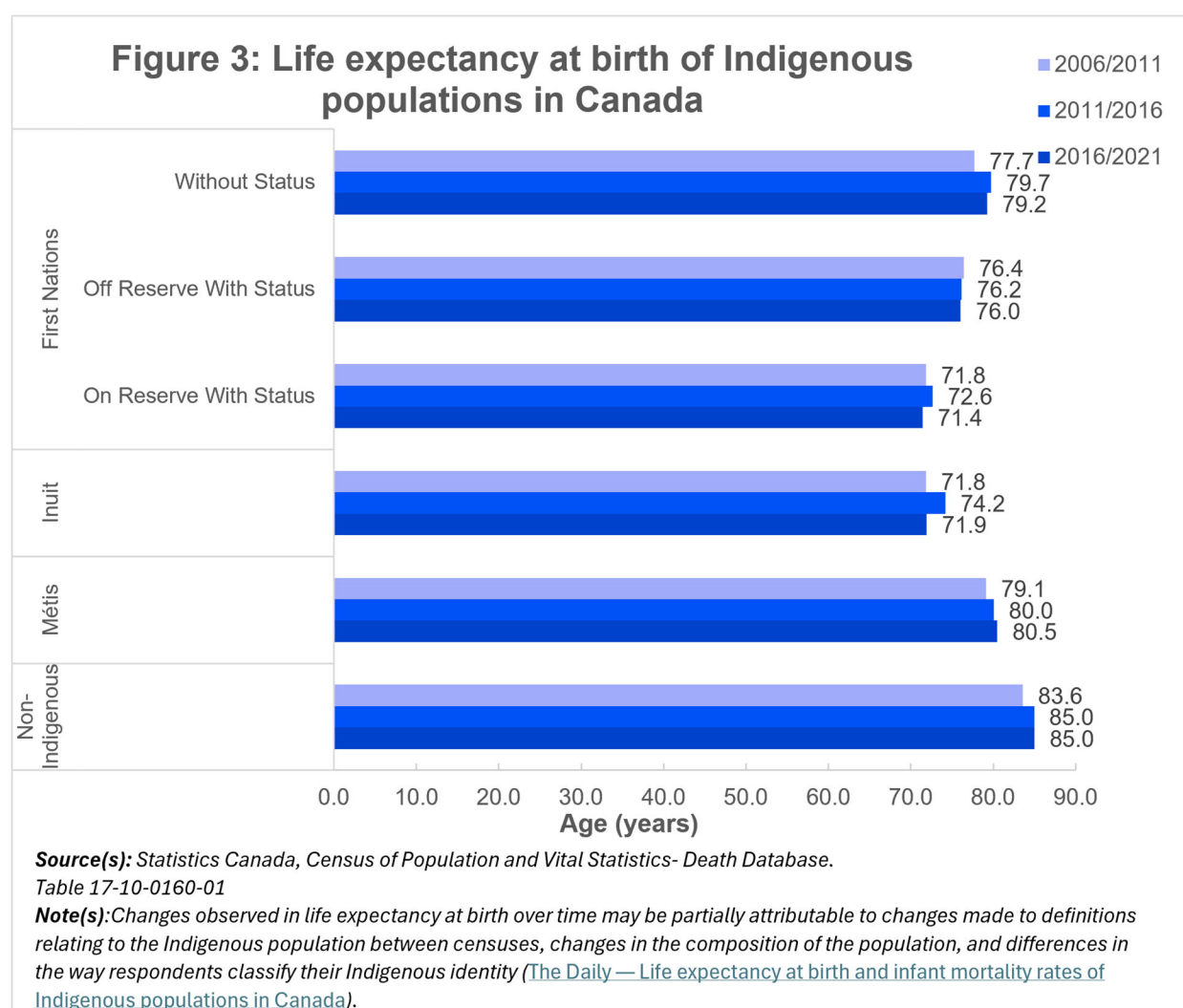
These findings demonstrate that progress is being made but that economic outcomes continue to vary considerably across Indigenous populations. As with other themes in this report, the data reinforces the importance of distinctions-based analysis and the need to examine both improvements and gaps when assessing progress toward reconciliation.

3.3 Health

Health outcomes are essential indicators of well-being and reflect the social, economic, and environmental conditions influencing individuals and communities. The Calls to Action emphasize closing persistent health gaps between Indigenous and non-Indigenous populations, acknowledging that health depends on access to care and broader factors such as housing, education, culture, infrastructure, and historical experiences.

This report examines a broad set of health indicators, including self-reported health, mental wellness, chronic disease, access to primary care, life expectancy, hospitalization, infant mortality, and tuberculosis incidence. Together, these measures provide an overview of health outcomes.

The results indicate that health disparities remain across many indicators. Indigenous populations continue to report lower self-rated health and mental health, higher rates of smoking and chronic conditions, and lower life expectancy compared to non-Indigenous populations. However, some indicators have seen improvement, including reduced infant mortality and increased life expectancy for certain Indigenous groups.



Key observations:

- Despite increases across all Indigenous groups, life expectancy continues to be lower among Indigenous peoples, with the 2016–2021 gap between total Indigenous populations (77.2 years) and non-Indigenous (84.9 years) persisting at nearly eight years.
- Health disparities remain evident in chronic conditions; for example, the prevalence of Type 2 Diabetes for First Nations adults living on reserve is 14.6%, which is 3.5 times higher than the non-Indigenous rate.
- Access to primary healthcare remains a significant challenge in remote regions, with only 22.5% of Inuit living in Inuit Nunangat reporting regular access to a provider in 2022.
- Smoking rates are disproportionately high among several populations, notably Inuit in Inuit Nunangat at 71.5%, a rate 6.3 times higher than that of the non-Indigenous population.
- Tuberculosis (TB) continues to disproportionately affect Inuit communities, with a 2024 incidence rate of 186.9 per 100,000 compared to the national average of 6.1.

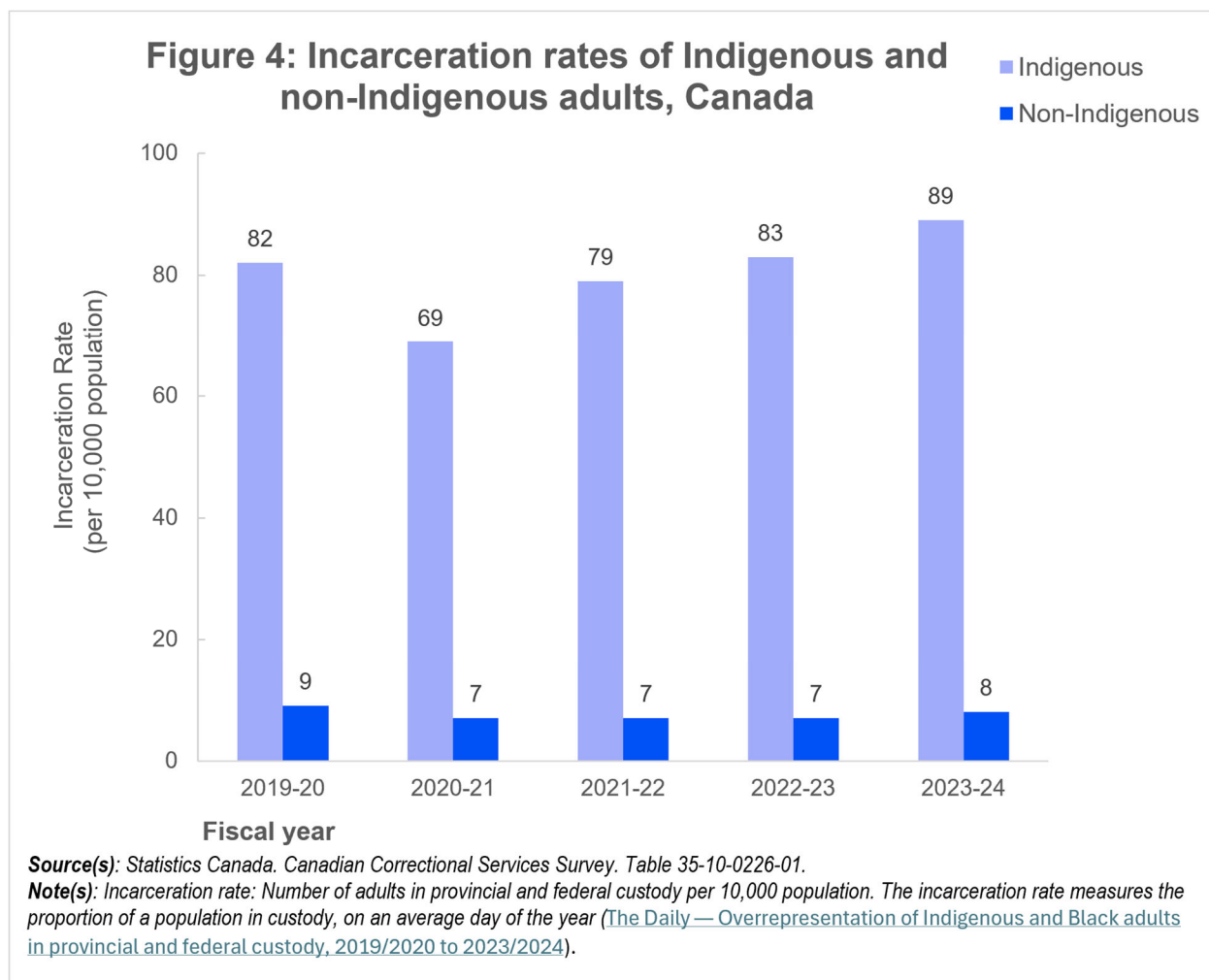
Collectively, these findings demonstrate that improvements in health outcomes are occurring in some areas, but that significant disparities continue to affect many Indigenous communities. The results underline the importance of sustained partnerships, culturally appropriate services, and continued investment in addressing the broader determinants of health.

3.4 Justice

Justice is central to reconciliation because safety, fairness, and trust in public institutions are essential components of healthy and prosperous communities. The Truth and Reconciliation Commission identified the need to address both the victimization of Indigenous Peoples and their overrepresentation within Canada's justice and correctional systems. The indicators included in this report examine experiences of victimization, rates of homicide, intimate partner violence, incarceration, and correctional outcomes.

The data show that Indigenous Peoples continue to experience disproportionate impacts both as victims of crime and through their interactions with the justice system. Rates of homicide victimization, physical assault, sexual assault, and intimate partner violence remain higher among Indigenous populations than among non-Indigenous populations. At the same time, Indigenous adults remain significantly overrepresented in provincial, territorial, and federal correctional systems.

Alongside these challenges, the report also identifies signs of progress within correctional programming and reintegration efforts. Increasing numbers of Indigenous offenders are completing educational upgrades and correctional programming before release, while participation in Healing Lodges and community-supported release processes has expanded over time. These initiatives seek to support successful reintegration while recognizing the importance of Indigenous communities, cultures, and traditions in rehabilitation efforts.



Key observations:

- Indigenous adults account for a disproportionate share of adults in correctional systems relative to their share of the Canadian population at 10.2 times higher than for non-Indigenous adult.
- Indigenous peoples continue to experience disproportionate high rates of victimization, including homicide and violent crime, more than eight times higher compared with non-Indigenous Canadians.
- Successful transfers to Healing Lodges increased from 191 in 2020-21 to 304 in 2025-26, while maintaining a 95% success rate.
- Community-supported releases under Section 84 increased from 289 in 2020-21 to 525 in 2025-26, reflecting greater involvement of Indigenous communities in offender reintegration.

These findings illustrate both the scale of the remaining challenges and the importance of continued efforts to improve outcomes across the justice system. As with the other themes in this report, progress must be understood not only through individual indicators, but through the broader goal of reducing disparities and strengthening the conditions that support safe, healthy, and thriving Indigenous communities.

The thematic chapters that follow were prepared in collaboration with federal departments and agencies responsible for the programs, data collection, and subject-matter experts associated with each of them. It presents detailed indicators, methodologies, and contextual analysis provided by those contributing departments. Each chapter highlights key trends, explains what the indicators measure, and provides insight into the factors influencing observed results. Collectively, these sections form the evidence base upon which this report assesses progress toward reconciliation and identifies opportunities for continued improvement.

Federal Data by Theme

Children and Youth

Statistics Canada¹, Indigenous Services Canada²

Data from Statistics Canada

This section reports on the following segments of 16.1 of the Minister's Annual Report:

- a comparison of the number of Indigenous and non-Indigenous children in care, reasons for their apprehension and total spending on preventative care services by child welfare agencies;
- the progress made on eliminating the overrepresentation of Indigenous children in youth custody;

Overview

From 2011 to 2021, Indigenous children remained overrepresented among foster children living in private households. In 2021, the foster care rate was 41.8 per 1,000 children among First Nations children, 14.4 among Métis children, 33.5 among Inuit children, compared with 2.3 among non-Indigenous children (Table 1). While rates declined for both First Nations and Métis children over this period, the declines were proportionally larger among non-Indigenous children. As a result, disparities relative to non-Indigenous children increased, with the foster care rate among First Nations children rising from 15.6 times that of non-Indigenous children in 2011 to 18.2 times in 2021, and the rate among Métis children increasing from 5.8 to 6.2 times that of non-Indigenous children during the same time period (Table 2). Inuit children followed a different trend, with foster care rates increasing between 2011 and 2021. Combined with the decline in foster care rates among non-Indigenous children, this resulted in a more pronounced increase in the disparity, with Inuit foster care rate rising from 9.6 times the non-Indigenous rate in 2011 to 14.6 times in 2021.

From 2019 to 2024, Indigenous youth represented a disproportionately high share of admissions to correctional services (Table 3). Although data show admissions have declined since 2019–2020, Indigenous youth continue to be overrepresented among those entering correctional services.

Methodology and Data Definitions

Data for the Children and Youth section are primarily derived from the Census of Population (including the 2011 National Household Survey) and the Youth Custody and Community Services Survey (YCCS).

Data on foster children living in private households are drawn from the 2011 National Household Survey (NHS) and the 2016 and 2021 censuses, which provide a comprehensive national

¹For inquiries relating to Statistics Canada data, contact the Centre for Indigenous Statistics and Partnerships (statcan.cisp-partnerships-cspa-partenariats.statcan@statcan.gc.ca)

²For inquiries relating to Children and Youth-related data held at Indigenous Services Canada, contact Pierre-Jean Alasset (pierre-jean.alasset@sac-isc.gc.ca), Yannick Côté (Yannick.cote@sac-isc.gc.ca), and Hannah Tanti (hannah.tanti@sac-isc.gc.ca).

overview of distinctions-based Indigenous populations living both on and off reserve. Foster children are identified through the household relationship question and refer to children reported as a “foster child of Person 1” (the household reference person). These data capture foster children living in private households and do not include children in other forms of out-of-home care, such as specialized or residential care (group or treatment care) or children awaiting placement. As foster care is self-reported, the identification of foster children may vary depending on how respondents interpret the category, including in cases of kinship care. To account for differences in incompletely enumerated reserves and settlements over time, only census subdivisions completely enumerated in all three cycles of interest (2011, 2016 and 2021) are included in this analysis. Due to this adjustment, counts and percentages in this paper differ slightly from previously released statistics.

The YCCS collects annual administrative data from provinces and territories on the delivery of youth correctional services. These combined sources provide data needed to track youth over time.

Rate of children in foster care

- Definition: Foster care rates represent the number of children in foster care per 1,000 children aged 14 and under in the population total for that group.
- Unit of measure: Rate per 1,000 children

Disparity in foster child rates between Indigenous and non-Indigenous children

- Definition: Disparity statistics represent the ratio of the total Indigenous, First Nations, Métis or Inuit foster child rate to the non-Indigenous foster child rate in Canada.

Youth admissions to correctional services

- Definition: This data represents the number of admissions into correctional services (e.g. sentenced custody, remand and community supervision).

Data

Table 1: Rate of children aged 14 and under in foster care (per 1,000 children in the population) in private households by Indigenous identity, Canada, 2011, 2016 and 2021.

	First Nations children	Métis children	Inuit children	Non-Indigenous children
	Rate per 1,000			
2011	46.0	17.2	28.3	2.9
2016	43.2	15.1	25.1	2.6
2021	41.8	14.4	33.5	2.3

Note(s): Rates have been adjusted to account for differences in incompletely enumerated reserves and settlements over time.

Source(s): Statistics Canada, Census of Population, 2016 and 2021 (3901) and National Household Survey, 2011 (5178).

Table 2: Disparity in foster child rate between Indigenous and non-Indigenous children aged 14 and under in private households by Indigenous identity, Canada, 2011, 2016, 2021.

	First Nations children	Métis children	Inuit children	Total Indigenous children ¹
	Rate ratios			
2011	15.6	5.8	9.6	12.4
2016	16.9	5.9	9.9	13.2
2021	18.2	6.2	14.6	14.1

¹ Total Indigenous children includes multiple Indigenous responses and Indigenous responses not included elsewhere.

Note(s): Disparity statistics in this chart have been adjusted to account for differences in incompletely enumerated reserves and settlements over time.

Source(s): Statistics Canada, Census of Population, 2016 and 2021 (3901) and National Household Survey, 2011 (5178).

Table 3: Youth admissions to total correctional services in provinces and territories, by Indigenous identity, from fiscal year 2019-20 to 2023-24

Indigenous identity	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24
Total, admissions by Indigenous identity	17,528	10,107	9,654	11,027	13,546
Indigenous	7,270	4,312	3,994	4,382	5,525
Non-Indigenous	9,787	5,504	5,378	6,288	7,583
Indigenous identity unknown	471	291	282	357	438

Note(s): See embedded footnotes for the customizable table here: [Youth admissions to correctional services, by Indigenous identity and sex](#).

Source(s): Statistics Canada, Youth Custody and Community Services Survey (YCCS) (3323).

Sources

Statistics Canada. 2024. [Indigenous foster children living in private households: Rates and household characteristics](#). The Daily. Released April 18, 2024. Ottawa: Statistics Canada.

Hahmann, Tara, Hyunji Lee, and Sylvie Godin. 2024. [Indigenous foster children living in private households: Rates and sociodemographic characteristics of foster children and their households](#). Ottawa: Statistics Canada.

Statistics Canada. 2025. [Youth admissions to correctional services, by Indigenous identity and sex](#). Table 35-10-0007-01. Released September 23, 2025. Ottawa: Statistics Canada.

Statistics Canada. 2025. [Correctional services statistics: Interactive dashboard](#). Released November 19, 2025. Ottawa: Statistics Canada.

Data from Indigenous Services Canada

This section reports on the following segments of 16.1 of the Minister's Annual Report:

- a comparison of the number of Indigenous and non-Indigenous children in care, reasons for their apprehension and total spending on preventative care services by child welfare agencies.
- a comparison of the funding for the education of Indigenous children on and off reserves.

Overview

Indigenous Services Canada (ISC) has prepared the data pertaining to children and youth to aid with comparison of the number of Indigenous and non-Indigenous children in care, reasons for their apprehension and total spending on preventative care services by child welfare agencies.

Note that for our purposes, ISC has provided information where ISC are the data owners of the tables/data. In addition, the Public Health Agency of Canada confirmed that their report related to the Canadian Child Welfare Information System is still under review. As a result, they do not have any new data to share at this time.

Under the First Nations Child and Family Services (FNCFS) Program, indicators show the number of children in care has remained relatively stable despite significant growth in the First Nations population. First-time entries into care has declined and kinship care placements have increased. Aside from 2022-23 where over \$1.3 billion was spent on total prevention services, it is close to \$1.5 billion that has been spent each year on these services since then.

In accordance with the principle of First Nations control of First Nations education, First Nations are best placed to make decisions on how to allocate funding to meet the needs of the schools and students in their communities and to determine their own education priorities. In 2024-25, Indigenous Services Canada funded 535 First Nations-administered education programs across Canada, and supported approximately 120,180 First Nations students ordinarily resident on reserve. Approximately 85,070 of these students attended First Nations schools.³

Methodology and Data Definitions

Administrative and survey-based data from Statistics Canada are utilized to monitor progress in reducing the number of Indigenous children in care, ensuring equitable funding of Indigenous children's education and progress on the overrepresentation of Indigenous children and youth in custody.

Data are primarily drawn from administrative census surveys, such as ISC Education Information System, which captures essential information related to employment, education, health, language, income, housing, and mobility for Indigenous communities.

³ Source: Education Information System, current as of April 1, 2025. Data collection instrument: Nominal Roll Education and Staff Census Report (#462572).

Children in Care Counts from fiscal year 2014-15 to 2022-23

The children in care count is based on eligible placement expenses for a First Nation child on reserve or ordinarily resident on reserve that are receiving services funded by the FNCFS Program (federally funded), captured in the FNCFS Information Management System. When counting children in care, the count is based on a point in time, the last day of the fiscal year (March 31st). Data provided here is from July 14, 2026.

Percentage of First Nations children living on- reserve in care: GC InfoBase

This indicator monitors the proportion of First Nations children on reserve in care, a group that is over-represented in the child welfare system. This indicator supports the ISC's objective of advancing child and family well-being by keeping children together with their families.

Data

- First Nations children ordinarily residing on reserve in care nationally. A breakdown by type of care (foster, institutional, group home and kinship) is available.
- Children ordinarily residing on reserve nationally (population information in the- Indian Registry System).

Percentage of children in care who are placed with a family member (kinship care): GC InfoBase

The program assumes that kinship care is associated with cultural suitability. This indicator supports the ISC's objective of advancing child and family well-being by keeping children together with their families.

Data

- First Nations children ordinarily residing on-reserve placed with a family member.
- Kinship care: An alternate residence for a Child in Care, regulated in accordance with the standards of the reference province of territory, similar to a foster home but involving placement with the extended family of the Child in Care.

Percentage of First Nations children and youth living on- reserve in care who came into care for the first time: GC InfoBase

The implementation of a focused approach on prevention and early intervention in the following years will help reduce the number of children first coming into care.

Tracking/monitoring around children coming into care for the first time is based on the assumption that a new expense associated with a child that did not have an expense since April 1, 2013, is attributable to a new case. In other words, a new expense (of any amount) after April 1, 2013, is equated with a child coming into care for the first time.

Data

- New children and youth on reserve or in the Yukon in care, and served by First Nations Child and Family Services Program, with a start pay date of eligible expenses within the current fiscal year.
- Children on reserve or in the Yukon in care, served by First Nations Child and Family Services, that were serviced throughout the fiscal year.

Protection and Prevention data extracted from Public Accounts from fiscal year 2022-23 to 2024-25⁴

For Protection Services, ISC provides funds to First Nations child and family services agencies that are established, managed and controlled by First Nations, and delegated by provincial authorities to provide provincially delegated services.

Where there is no delegated First Nations child and family services agency (such as the Yukon), or whenever there is a bilateral service agreement between Canada and the Provincial/Territorial government, ISC funds the appropriate provincial or territorial governments to provide these services.

Please note that the FNCFS Program is not delivered in the Northwest Territories or Nunavut. Funding for child and family services for First Nations in the Northwest Territories and Nunavut is provided to the territorial government through transfer payment agreements.

Grants and Contributions to support First Nations Elementary and Secondary Educational Advancement

- Grants and Contributions funding amounts taken from administrative data sources from Indigenous Service Canada

Grants and Contributions to support the First Nations Post-Secondary Education Strategy

- Grants and Contributions funding amounts taken from administrative data sources from Indigenous Service Canada

Grants and Contributions to support the Inuit Post-Secondary Education Strategy

- Grants and Contributions funding amounts taken from administrative data sources from Indigenous Service Canada

Grants and Contributions to support the Métis Nation Post-Secondary Education Strategy

- Grants and Contributions funding amounts taken from administrative data sources from Indigenous Service Canada

⁴ NOTE: Allocation for Prevention services, since April 2022, are provided to First Nations, FNCFS delegated agencies and FNCFS service providers authorized by a First Nation. (More info: <https://sac-isc.gc.ca/eng/1710354957413/1710354990384>). The amount provided reflects the total amount funded by the First Nations Child and Family Services (FNCFS) Program.

Grants and Contributions to increase First Nations and Inuit Youth Participation in Education and Labour Market Opportunities

- Grants and Contributions funding amounts taken from administrative data sources from Indigenous Service Canada

Sources:

- GC InfoBase (see links above in Methodology and Data Definitions)
- Data extracted from Public Accounts

Data

Table 1: Number of First Nations Child and Family Services (FNCFS) children in care as of March 31st of each fiscal year from 2014-15 to 2022-23.

	2014-15	2015 - 16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23
Number of First Nation children in care	8,422	8,543	9,082	9,245	9,318	9,337	9,461	9,498	9,354

Note: The children in care count is based on eligible placement expenses for a First Nation child on reserve or ordinarily resident on reserve that are receiving services funded by the FNCFS Program (federally funded), captured in the FNCFS Information Management System. When counting children in care, the count is based on a point in time, the last day of the fiscal year (March 31st). Data as of July 14, 2026

Table 2: First Nations, First Nations Child and Family Services (FNCFS) funding allocation: Protection and Prevention Public Accounts by fiscal year

	2022 - 23	2023 - 24	2024 - 25
Functional area description	Dollars (\$)		
CFS Prevention	1,315,540,663	1,493,528,408	1,507,689,690
Maintenance — Group homes	105,028,821	107,283,158	162,843,259
Maintenance — Foster homes	392,990,103	447,489,363	590,882,102
Maintenance — Institutions	23,276,689	34,838,493	35,282,762
Maintenance — Kinship Care	22,905,504	33,247,940	30,067,416
Maintenance — Post-adoption subsidy	4,732,158	5,387,712	5,772,112

Operations — CFS	634,209,431	747,091,827	722,760,689
Grand Total	2,498,683,370	2,868,866,902	3,055,298,031
Total Protection	1,183,142,707	1,375,338,493	1,547,608,341
Total Prevention	1,315,540,663	1,493,528,408	1,507,689,690

Note: Allocation for Prevention services, since April 2022, are provided to First Nations, First Nations Child and Family Services (FNCFS) delegated agencies and FNCFS service providers authorized by a First Nation. (More info: <https://sac-isc.gc.ca/eng/1710354957413/1710354990384>). The amount provided reflects the total amount funded by the FNCFS Program.

For Protection Services, Indigenous Services Canada provides funding through funding agreements to First Nations child and family services agencies that are established, managed and controlled by First Nations, and delegated by provincial authorities to provide provincially delegated services.

Where there is no delegated First Nations child and family services agency (such as the Yukon), or whenever there is a bilateral service agreement between Canada and the Provincial / Territorial Government, Indigenous Services Canada funds the appropriate provincial or territorial governments to provide these services.

Please note that the FNCFS Program is not delivered in the Northwest Territories or Nunavut. Funding for child and family services for First Nations in the Northwest Territories and Nunavut is provided to the territorial government through transfer payment agreements.

As of July 7th 2026, data extracted from Public Accounts

Table 3: First Nations, First Nations Child and Family Services (FNCFS) children in care, select indicators

Indicator	2015 - 16	2016 - 17	2017 - 18	2018 - 19	2019 - 20	2020 - 21	2021 - 22	2022 - 23
Percentage of First Nations children on-reserve in care	5.0%	5.4%	5.5%	5.6%	5.9%	5.9%	6.1%	6.2%
Percentage of children in care who are placed with a family member (kinship care)	16.2%	18.1%	20.5%	23.4%	25.1%	26.9%	27.9%	28.3%

Percentage of First Nations children and youth on reserve in care who came into care for the first time	19.3%	20.5%	18.0%	16.4%	15.8%	15.1%	14.6%	14.9%
---	-------	-------	-------	-------	-------	-------	-------	-------

Table 4: Grants and Contributions to support First Nations Elementary and Secondary Educational Advancement

	2022-23 Actual Spending (\$)	2023-24 Actual Spending (\$)	2024-25 Actual Spending (\$)
Grants	408,360,258	495,422,508	648,984,883
Contributions	2,388,377,648	2,555,002,456	2,558,613,826
Total Program	2,796,737,906	3,050,424,964	3,207,598,709

Source: Education program documents. Includes grants provided under the New Fiscal Relationship Grant.

Table 5: Grants and Contributions to support the First Nations Post-Secondary Education Strategy

	2022-23 Actual Spending (\$)	2023-24 Actual Spending (\$)	2024-25 Actual Spending (\$)
Grants	84,825,139	105,631,957	134,645,068
Contributions	434,801,952	357,086,889	347,865,629
Total Program	519,627,091	462,718,846	482,510,697

Source: Education program documents. Includes grants provided under the New Fiscal Relationship Grant.

Table 6: Grants and Contributions to support the Inuit Post-Secondary Education Strategy

	2022-23 Actual Spending (\$)	2023-24 Actual Spending (\$)	2024-25 Actual Spending (\$)
Grants	-	-	-
Contributions	11,950,820	11,025,958	12,525,502
Total Program	11,950,820	11,025,958	12,525,502

Source: Education program documents.

Table 7: Grants and Contributions to support the Métis Nation Post-Secondary Education Strategy

	2022-23 Actual Spending (\$)	2023-24 Actual Spending (\$)	2024-25 Actual Spending (\$)
Grants	-	-	-
Contributions	47,009,816	39,765,968	39,765,968
Total Program	47,009,816	39,765,968	39,765,968

Source: Education program documents.

Table 8: Grants and Contributions to increase First Nations and Inuit Youth Participation in Education and Labour Market Opportunities

	2022-23 Actual Spending (\$)	2023-24 Actual Spending (\$)	2024-25 Actual Spending (\$)
Grants	-	-	-
Contributions	92,806,932	77,825,460	78,497,967
Total Program	92,806,932	77,825,460	78,497,967

Source: Education program documents.

Economic

Statistics Canada ⁵

This section reports on the following segment of 16.1 of the Minister's Annual Report:

- a comparison of the educational and income attainments of Indigenous and non-Indigenous persons

Overview

Economic statistics show income disparities between Indigenous and non-Indigenous populations. According to Census 2021, the median after-tax income for Indigenous people aged 15 and over was \$32,400, about 87% of the \$37,200 reported for non-Indigenous people (Table 1). Income levels vary by Indigenous identity and residence. First Nations people living on reserve had a median after-tax income of \$25,800, which is significantly lower than that of the non-Indigenous population. Métis reported a median income of \$35,600, closer to the non-Indigenous figure. Gender analysis reveals that, among non-Indigenous people, women's median after-tax income (\$33,600) was 81% of men's (\$41,200). In contrast, First Nations women living on reserve (\$29,200) and Inuit women (\$33,200) reported higher median incomes than their male counterparts, who earned \$23,000 and \$29,000, respectively.

Analysis of educational attainment from 2011 to 2021 shows positive trends among all Indigenous groups (Table 2). The proportion of adults aged 25 to 64 without a high school diploma declined. For example, among First Nations people living on reserve, this proportion fell from 47% to 40%, and among Métis, from 21% to 15%. The share of individuals with a bachelor's degree or higher also increased across all Indigenous groups. Among Métis, this share rose from 12% in 2011 to 16% in 2021. For First Nations people living off reserve, it increased from 11% to 13%, and for those living on reserve and Inuit, from 5% to 6%. Women drove much of this growth in higher education. In 2021, 19% of Métis women, 17% of First Nations women living off reserve, and 8% of Inuit women held a bachelor's degree or higher, compared to 12%, 9%, and 4% of their male counterparts, respectively. Despite these gains, the share of non-Indigenous adults with a bachelor's degree or higher also increased, from 26% to 34%. Consequently, the gap between Indigenous and non-Indigenous populations widened from 15 to 18 percentage points between 2011 and 2021.

The 2021 Census shows a positive link between education and income, with higher educational attainment associated with higher median after-tax incomes. For First Nations people living on reserve and Inuit, the median after-tax income gap between those with a bachelor's degree or higher and those with less than a high school diploma exceeded \$30,000 (Table 3). Among those with a bachelor's degree or higher, First Nations people living on and off reserve, as well as Métis and Inuit, reported higher median after-tax incomes than non-Indigenous individuals with the same education level.

Methodology and Data Definitions

The economic indicators presented are from the Census of Population (2016, 2021) and the National Household Survey (2011). To improve data quality and reduce respondent burden,

⁵ For inquiries relating to Statistics Canada data, contact the Centre for Indigenous Statistics and Partnerships (statcan.cisp-partnerships-cspa-partenariats.statcan@statcan.gc.ca)

income data was retrieved by Statistics Canada through a record linkage with personal income tax and benefits files provided by the Canada Revenue Agency (CRA) for the year preceding the Census. Income statistics from the 2021 Census reflect 2020 incomes for individuals living in private households. The year 2020 saw the introduction and enhancement of several government income-support programs in response to the economic impact of the COVID-19 pandemic which may be reflected in income statistics.

To support comprehensive analysis and isolate outcomes for specific populations, several key variables are used for data disaggregation across all economic indicators. Indigenous identity refers to individuals who identify as First Nations, Inuit, and/or Métis, as well as those reporting Registered or Treaty Indian status or membership in a First Nation or Indian band. Individuals are considered to be living on-reserve if their usual place of residence is within a census subdivision defined as on reserve.

To account for differences in incompletely enumerated reserves and settlements over time, only census subdivisions completely enumerated in all three cycles of interest (2011, 2016 and 2021) are included in this analysis. Due to this adjustment, counts and percentages in this paper differ slightly from previously released statistics.

Highest level of education

- Highest level of education refers to the highest level of education that a person has successfully completed and is derived from the educational qualifications' questions, which asked for all certificates, diplomas and degrees to be reported. This variable is reported for persons aged 15 years and older in private households.
- Categories:
 - *No certificate, no diploma or degree*
 - *High (secondary) school diploma or equivalency certificate*: Includes only people who have this as their highest educational credential. It excludes persons with a post-secondary certificate, diploma or degree.
 - *Post-secondary certificate or diploma below bachelor level*: Includes apprenticeship and trade certificates or diploma, college, CEGEP and other non-university certificates or diplomas as university certificates or diplomas below the bachelor level.
 - *Bachelor's degree or higher*: Includes bachelor's degrees, university certificates or diplomas above the bachelor level, professional degrees in medicine, dentistry, veterinary medicine or optometry, master's degrees, and earned doctorates.

Total Income

- Total income refers to the sum of certain incomes (in cash and, in some circumstances, in kind) of the statistical unit during a specified reference period. After-tax income refers to total income less income taxes of the statistical unit during a specified reference period. Income taxes refers to the sum of federal income taxes, provincial and territorial income taxes, less abatement where applicable. Provincial and territorial income taxes include health care premiums in certain jurisdictions. Abatement reduces the federal income taxes payable by persons residing in Quebec or in certain self-governing Yukon First Nation settlement lands (for detailed definitions, see: Total income and After-tax income).

Data

Table 1: Median total income (\$) and median after-tax income (\$) by Indigenous identity, residence on or off reserve and gender, population aged 15 years and over in private households, Canada - 25% Sample data

Population	Median total income (\$)			Median after-tax income (\$)		
	Total	Men+	Women +	Total	Men+	Women +
Indigenous identity ¹	34,800	36,000	34,000	32,400	33,200	32,000
First Nations	32,400	31,400	32,800	30,600	29,800	31,200
First Nations living on reserve	26,200	23,200	29,600	25,800	23,000	29,200
First Nations living off reserve	34,800	35,600	34,000	32,400	32,800	32,000
Inuit	33,200	30,600	35,200	31,400	29,000	33,200
Métis	39,200	43,600	36,000	35,600	38,800	33,200
Non-Indigenous	41,200	46,800	37,200	37,200	41,200	33,600

Note(s): See embedded footnotes for the customizable table here: [Income statistics by Indigenous identity and residence by Indigenous geography: Canada, provinces and territories](#)

¹ Indigenous identity includes multiple Indigenous responses and Indigenous responses not included elsewhere.

To protect respondent confidentiality given the relatively small size of the non-binary population, gender is reported using a two-category variable (Men+ and Women+), where non-binary persons are distributed into these two categories as denoted by the "+" symbol.

Source(s): Statistics Canada, Census of Population, 2021 (3901).

Table 2–2011: Distribution of highest level of education by Indigenous identity and sex at birth, population aged 25 to 64 living in private households, Canada: 2011 National Household Survey (NHS)

Highest certificate, diploma or degree	First Nations on reserve	First Nations off reserve	Métis	Inuit	Non-Indigenous identity
Total — Sex at birth					
Total — Highest certificate, diploma or degree	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
No certificate, diploma or degree	47%	26%	21%	48%	12%
High (secondary) school diploma or equivalency certificate	18%	24%	24%	16%	23%
Postsecondary certificate or diploma below bachelor level	31%	39%	43%	30%	38%

Bachelor's degree or higher	5%	11%	12%	5%	26%
Male					
Total — Highest certificate, diploma or degree	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
No certificate, diploma or degree	50%	28%	23%	50%	13%
High (secondary) school diploma or equivalency certificate	17%	25%	24%	15%	23%
Postsecondary certificate or diploma below bachelor level	31%	40%	43%	32%	39%
Bachelor's degree or higher	3%	8%	9%	3%	25%
Female					
Total — Highest certificate, diploma or degree	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
No certificate, diploma or degree	43%	24%	18%	47%	11%
High (secondary) school diploma or equivalency certificate	20%	24%	25%	17%	24%
Postsecondary certificate or diploma below bachelor level	31%	39%	43%	29%	38%
Bachelor's degree or higher	7%	13%	14%	7%	28%

Note(s): Data for 2011 and 2016 are based on the variable sex (sex at birth), whereas data for 2021 are based on the variable gender. Results should therefore be compared with caution across census years.

Source(s): Statistics Canada, Census of Population, National Household Survey, 2011 ([5178](#)).

Table 2–2016: Distribution of highest level of education by Indigenous identity and sex at birth, population aged 25 to 64 living in private households, Canada: 2016 Census

Highest certificate, diploma or degree	First Nations on reserve	First Nations off reserve	Métis	Inuit	Non-Indigenous identity
Total — Sex at birth					
Total — Highest certificate, diploma or degree	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
No certificate, diploma or degree	42%	24%	18%	44%	11%
High (secondary) school diploma or equivalency certificate	21%	26%	27%	18%	24%

Postsecondary certificate or diploma below bachelor level	32%	38%	42%	32%	36%
Bachelor's degree or higher	5%	12%	13%	5%	29%
Male					
Total — Highest certificate, diploma or degree	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
No certificate, diploma or degree	46%	27%	21%	45%	12%
High (secondary) school diploma or equivalency certificate	19%	27%	27%	18%	24%
Postsecondary certificate or diploma below bachelor level	32%	38%	42%	34%	37%
Bachelor's degree or higher	3%	8%	10%	3%	27%
Female					
Total — Highest certificate, diploma or degree	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
No certificate, diploma or degree	38%	21%	15%	43%	9%
High (secondary) school diploma or equivalency certificate	22%	26%	26%	19%	23%
Postsecondary certificate or diploma below bachelor level	32%	39%	43%	31%	36%
Bachelor's degree or higher	8%	14%	16%	7%	32%

Note(s): Data for 2011 and 2016 are based on the variable sex (sex at birth), whereas data for 2021 are based on the variable gender. Results should therefore be compared with caution across census years.

Source(s): Statistics Canada, Census of Population, 2016 (3901)

Table 2–2021: Distribution of highest level of education by Indigenous identity and gender, population aged 25 to 64 living in private households, Canada: 2021 Census

Highest certificate, diploma or degree	First Nations on reserve	First Nations off reserve	Métis	Inuit	Non-Indigenous identity
Total — Gender					
Total — Highest certificate, diploma or degree	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

No certificate, diploma or degree	40%	21%	15%	44%	9%
High (secondary) school diploma or equivalency certificate	26%	30%	29%	23%	23%
Postsecondary certificate or diploma below bachelor level	28%	36%	41%	27%	34%
Bachelor's degree or higher	6%	13%	16%	6%	34%
Male					
Total — Highest certificate, diploma or degree	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
No certificate, diploma or degree	44%	24%	18%	47%	11%
High (secondary) school diploma or equivalency certificate	26%	32%	30%	22%	24%
Postsecondary certificate or diploma below bachelor level	27%	35%	40%	27%	35%
Bachelor's degree or higher	3%	9%	12%	4%	30%
Female					
Total — Highest certificate, diploma or degree	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
No certificate, diploma or degree	35%	18%	12%	41%	8%
High (secondary) school diploma or equivalency certificate	27%	28%	28%	24%	21%
Postsecondary certificate or diploma below bachelor level	29%	37%	41%	27%	34%
Bachelor's degree or higher	9%	17%	19%	8%	37%

Note(s): Data for 2011 and 2016 are based on the variable sex (sex at birth), whereas data for 2021 are based on the variable gender. Results should therefore be compared with caution across census years.

Source(s): Statistics Canada, Census of Population 2021 (3901)

Table 3. Median after-tax income (\$) by highest level of education, gender and Indigenous identity, population aged 25 to 64 living in private households — 25% Sample data

Highest certificate, diploma or degree	First Nations on reserve	First Nations off reserve	Métis	Inuit	Non-Indigenous identity
Total — Gender					

Total — Highest certificate, diploma or degree	31,600	38,800	42,800	39,600	44,000
No certificate, diploma or degree	25,200	29,000	30,800	31,800	31,000
High (secondary) school diploma or equivalency certificate	30,600	35,200	38,000	40,000	37,600
Postsecondary certificate or diploma below bachelor level	39,600	43,200	45,600	48,400	44,800
Bachelor's degree or higher	57,600	58,000	60,400	72,000	55,600
Men+					
Total — Highest certificate, diploma or degree	27,000	39,600	47,200	36,000	48,400
No certificate, diploma or degree	22,000	28,600	33,200	28,200	34,400
High (secondary) school diploma or equivalency certificate	26,800	36,400	42,400	38,000	41,600
Postsecondary certificate or diploma below bachelor level	34,800	47,600	53,200	51,600	50,800
Bachelor's degree or higher	48,400	60,400	65,500	72,000	61,600
Women+					
Total — Highest certificate, diploma or degree	36,400	38,000	39,600	42,400	40,800
No certificate, diploma or degree	29,200	29,200	28,200	35,600	27,600
High (secondary) school diploma or equivalency certificate	34,800	34,000	34,400	42,400	33,600
Postsecondary certificate or diploma below bachelor level	43,600	40,800	40,800	46,800	40,400
Bachelor's degree or higher	60,000	57,200	58,400	72,000	51,600

Note(s): See embedded footnotes for the customizable table here: [Indigenous identity by highest level of education and income statistics: Canada, provinces and territories, census metropolitan areas and census agglomerations with parts](#). Median after-tax income in this table has been adjusted to account for differences in incompletely enumerated reserves and settlements over time.

To protect respondent confidentiality given the relatively small size of the non-binary population, gender is reported using a two-category variable (Men+ and Women+), where non-binary persons are distributed into these two categories as denoted by the “+” symbol.

Source(s): Statistics Canada, Census of Population, 2021 (3901).

Sources

Statistics Canada. 2022. *Income statistics by Indigenous identity and residence by Indigenous geography: Canada, provinces and territories.* Table 98-10-0281-01. Released September 21, 2022. Ottawa: Statistics Canada.

Melvin, Alexandria. 2023. *Postsecondary educational attainment and labour market outcomes among Indigenous peoples in Canada, findings from the 2021 Census.* *Insights on Canadian Society*. Released October 27, 2023. Ottawa: Statistics Canada.

Health

Indigenous Services Canada⁶, Statistics Canada⁷, Public Health Agency of Canada⁸

Data from Indigenous Services Canada

This section reports on the following segment of 16.1 of the Minister's Annual Report:

- the progress made on closing the gaps between Indigenous and non-Indigenous communities in a number of health indicators

Overview

Health inequities between Indigenous and non-Indigenous populations in Canada persist across several critical health indicators for both children and adults. The results for children's self-rated general health show that Indigenous children aged 1 to 11 were less likely than their non-Indigenous counterparts to report their health as "excellent" or "very good" with Inuit living in Inuit Nunangat and First Nations on- reserve both 1.2 times lower.

Differences between Indigenous and non-Indigenous populations are also observed in Self-rated mental health results among adult populations (ages 18+). First Nations adults living off reserve were 1.6 times less likely to rate their mental health as "excellent" or "very good" than non-Indigenous adults. While approximately half of First Nations people living on- reserve (50.5%) reported their mental health as "excellent" or "very good", corresponding to 1.4 times lower than the non-Indigenous rate.

Smoking and chronic disease diagnoses are also substantially higher amongst Indigenous than non-Indigenous adults. Daily and occasional smoking ranged from 2.1 times higher among Métis to 6.3 times higher among Inuit living in Inuit Nunangat when compared to non-Indigenous adults. Type 2 diabetes diagnosis among First Nations adults living on reserve was approximately 3.5 times higher than the non-Indigenous population. Conversely, Inuit living in Inuit Nunangat reported the lowest rates of Type 2 diabetes 1.2 times lower than the non-Indigenous prevalence.

Methodology and Data Definitions

Nationally representative survey results from Statistics Canada's Indigenous People's Survey, (IPS) and the First Nations Information Governance Centre's Regional Health Survey, (RHS) can be used to report on select key health and health related indicators for each distinctions-based Indigenous population. Statistics Canada's surveys are also the source of non-Indigenous results (Canadian Community Health Survey (CCHS), and the Canadian Health Survey of Children and Youth (CHSCY).

Contributing department contact:

⁶ For inquiries related to Health indicators provided by Indigenous Services Canada, contact Veeran-Anne Singh (veeran-anne.singh@sac-isc.gc.ca) or Martha Ahmadi (martha.ahmadi@sac-isc.gc.ca).

⁷ For inquiries related to Health data provided by Statistics Canada, contact Vivian O'Donnell (vivian.odonnell@statcan.gc.ca)

⁸ For inquiries related to Health data provided by Public Health Agency of Canada, contact Mike Poitras (Mike.Poitras@phac-aspc.gc.ca), Director of Indigenous Relations Division

The results for indicators among individuals aged 18 years and older were age-standardized to the Indigenous population from the 2001 Census to allow for appropriate comparisons between Indigenous and non-Indigenous populations.

It is important to note that while other data sources have information on Indigenous identity (e.g., CCHS and CHSCY), data comprehensiveness and the reliability of estimates may vary considerably depending on the specific estimate due to their design. Surveys designed to be nationally representative of the Canadian population include only a small number of Indigenous respondents in each survey cycle. While aggregation of data from multiple survey cycles can increase the sample size and support the production of estimates for Indigenous populations, estimates may still have greater sampling variability for smaller population groups or lower prevalence indicators, and combining multiple cycles may limit the ability to examine changes over time. For example, CCHS distinctions-based estimates for health indicators have large confidence intervals when compared to distinctions-based estimates for the same health indicators from the IPS, a nationally representative survey of the Canadian Indigenous population living off-reserve. These larger confidence intervals indicate low precision in the estimate and limit the ability to detect statistically significant changes over time. Thus, the preferred source of Indigenous health and health-related indicators are those surveys that are designed to reflect nationally representative distinctions-based Indigenous populations.

Statistics Canada took steps to improve the representation of Indigenous populations in the CCHS through Statistics Canada's Disaggregated Data Action Plan (DDAP). Beginning in 2021, the CCHS increased its sample size from DDAP population groups, including First Nations, Inuit and Métis. Beginning in 2023, the CCHS further enhanced this approach by using the 2021 Census long-form as an additional sampling frame to target households with members belonging to DDAP population groups. This approach has increased the representation of Indigenous respondents in the CCHS and supports greater disaggregation of health indicators for Indigenous populations. However, the resulting estimates should still be assessed based on the sample size, precision and level of disaggregation required for the specific indicator.

The target populations and associated national surveys included in this section are:

First Nations living on-reserve

- Regional Health Survey 2015-16, First Nations Information Governance Centre

First Nations living off-reserve, Inuit & Inuit living in Inuit Nunangat, and Métis

- Indigenous Peoples Survey 2022, Statistics Canada

Non-Indigenous

- Canadian Community Health Survey 2015-16 & 2022, Statistics Canada
- Canadian Health Survey of Children and Youth 2019 & 2023, Statistics Canada

Proportions are presented for each of the indicators by distinction using the following calculations:

Children's self-rated general health (1–11 years)

- Proportion of survey respondents aged 1–11 who self-reported excellent or very good general health

Self-rated mental health (18+)

- Proportion of survey respondents aged 18+ who self-reported excellent or very good mental health

Smoking (18+)

- Proportion of survey respondents aged 18+ who reported smoking cigarettes daily or occasionally

Diabetes — Type 2 (18+)

- Proportion of survey respondents aged 18+ who self-reported receiving a diagnosis of Type 2 diabetes

Access to a primary care provider (18+)

- Proportion of survey respondents aged 18+ who reported having regular access to a primary care provider.

Data

Table 1. Self-rated health of children ages 1–11, crude estimates and comparisons to the non-Indigenous population, by distinctions-based population^{1,2,3}

Indicator	Distinctions-based population	Crude estimate (%)	Comparison to the non-Indigenous population
Proportion of survey respondents aged 1–11 who self-reported excellent or very good general health	First Nations on-reserve	78.0	1.2x lower
	First Nations off-reserve	81.0	1.1x lower
	Inuit	79.0	1.1x lower
	Inuit living in Inuit Nunangat	76.0	1.2x lower
	Métis	85.3	1.1x lower
	non-Indigenous (2019)	91.0	For comparison to First Nations on-reserve
	non-Indigenous (2023)	90.0	For comparison to all other Indigenous, off-reserve populations

¹ Estimates for First Nations on-reserve are from the Regional Health Survey 2015-16.

² Estimates for First Nations off-reserve, Inuit, Inuit living in Inuit Nunangat and Métis are from the Indigenous Peoples Survey 2022.

³ Estimates for the non-Indigenous population are from the Canadian Health Survey on Children and Youth, with 2019 results used for comparisons to First Nations on-reserve and 2023 results used for comparisons to all other distinctions-based populations.

Table 2. Self-rated mental health ages 18+, crude estimates and age-standardized comparisons to the non-Indigenous population, by distinctions-based population^{1,2,3}

Indicator	Distinctions-based population	Crude estimate (%)	Age-standardized comparison to the non-Indigenous population ⁴
	First Nations on-reserve	50.5	1.4x lower

Proportion of survey respondents aged 18+ who self-reported excellent or very good mental health	First Nations off-reserve	34.5	1.6x lower
	Inuit	37.6	1.4x lower
	Inuit living in Inuit Nunangat	40.6	1.3x lower
	Métis	39.9	1.4x lower
	non-Indigenous (2015/16)	71.8	For comparison to First Nations on-reserve
	non-Indigenous (2022)	55.2	For comparison to all other Indigenous, off-reserve populations

¹ Estimates for First Nations on-reserve are from the Regional Health Survey 2015-16.

² Estimates for First Nations off-reserve, Inuit, Inuit living in Inuit Nunangat and Métis are from the Indigenous Peoples Survey 2022.

³ Estimates for the non-Indigenous population are from the Canadian Community Health Survey, with 2015-16 results used for comparisons to First Nations on-reserve and 2022 results used for comparisons to all other distinctions-based populations.

⁴ All populations were age-standardized to the 2001 Census Indigenous population.

Table 3. Smoking ages 18+, crude estimates and age-standardized comparisons to the non-Indigenous population, by distinctions-based population^{1,2,3}

Indicator	Distinctions-based population	Crude estimate (%)	Age-standardized comparison to the non-Indigenous population ⁴
Proportion of survey respondents aged 18+ who reported smoking cigarettes daily or occasionally	First Nations on-reserve	53.5	2.6x higher
	First Nations off-reserve	30.4	2.7x higher
	Inuit	57.4	5.1x higher
	Inuit living in Inuit Nunangat	71.5	6.3x higher
	Métis	24.0	2.1x higher
	non-Indigenous (2015/16)	19.4	For comparison to First Nations on-reserve
	non-Indigenous (2022)	12.0	For comparison to all other Indigenous, off-reserve populations

¹ Estimates for First Nations on-reserve are from the Regional Health Survey 2015-16.

² Estimates for First Nations off-reserve, Inuit, Inuit living in Inuit Nunangat and Métis are from the Indigenous Peoples Survey 2022.

³ Estimates for the non-Indigenous population are from the Canadian Community Health Survey, with 2015-16 results used for comparisons to First Nations on-reserve and 2022 results used for comparisons to all other distinctions-based populations.

⁴ All populations were age-standardized to the 2001 Census Indigenous population.

Table 4. Diabetes type 2 ages 18+, crude estimates and age-standardized comparisons to the non-Indigenous population, by distinctions-based population^{1,2,3}

Indicator	Distinctions-based population	Crude estimate (%)	Age-standardized comparison to the non-Indigenous population ⁴
Proportion of survey respondents aged 18+ who self-reported receiving a diagnosis of Type 2 diabetes	First Nations on-reserve	14.6	3.5x higher
	First Nations off-reserve	10.4	1.9x higher
	Inuit	4.9	comparable
	Inuit living in Inuit Nunangat	4.0	1.2x lower
	Métis	9.3	1.3x higher
	non-Indigenous (2015/16)	6.4	For comparison to First Nations on-reserve
	non-Indigenous (2022)	7.7	For comparison to all other Indigenous, off-reserve populations

¹ Estimates for First Nations on-reserve are from the Regional Health Survey 2015-16.

² Estimates for First Nations off-reserve, Inuit, Inuit living in Inuit Nunangat and Métis are from the Indigenous Peoples Survey 2022.

³ Estimates for the non-Indigenous population are from the Canadian Community Health Survey, with 2015-16 results used for comparisons to First Nations on-reserve and 2022 results used for comparisons to all other distinctions-based populations.

⁴ All populations were age-standardized to the 2001 Census Indigenous population.

Table 5. Access to a primary care provider ages 18+, crude estimates and age-standardized comparisons to the non-Indigenous population, by distinctions-based population^{1,2,3}

Indicator	Distinctions-based population	Crude estimate (%)	Age-standardized comparison to the non-Indigenous population ⁴
Proportion of survey respondents aged 18+ who reported having regular access to a primary care provider.	First Nations on-reserve	78.7	1.1x lower
	First Nations off-reserve	75.8	1.1x lower
	Inuit	39.5	2.1x lower
	Inuit living in Inuit Nunangat	22.5	3.8x lower
	Métis	78.8	1.1x lower
	non-Indigenous (2015/16)	84.6	For comparison to First Nations on-reserve
	non-Indigenous (2022)	85.8	For comparison to all other Indigenous, off-reserve populations

¹ Estimates for First Nations on-reserve are from the Regional Health Survey 2015-16.

² Estimates for First Nations off-reserve, Inuit, Inuit living in Inuit Nunangat and Metis are from the Indigenous Peoples Survey 2022.

³ Estimates for the non-Indigenous population are from the Canadian Community Health Survey, with 2015-16 results used for comparisons to First Nations on-reserve and 2022 results used for comparisons to all other distinctions-based populations.

⁴ All populations were age-standardized to the 2001 Census Indigenous population.

Data from Statistics Canada

This section reports on the following segment of 16.1 of the Minister's Annual Report:

- the progress made on closing the gaps between Indigenous and non-Indigenous communities in several health indicators

Overview

When examining gaps between Indigenous and non-Indigenous communities across a range of health indicators, some changes are evident; however, patterns are not uniform across Indigenous identity groups or living situations.

Infant mortality remains a key indicator of population health and broader socio-economic conditions. Between the 2004–2006 and 2014–2016 periods, the infant mortality rate among the Indigenous population declined from 9.5 to 7.7 deaths per 1,000 live births (Table 1, below). Over the same period, the rate among the non-Indigenous population decreased from 5.1 to 4.2 deaths per 1,000 live births, resulting in a smaller gap between the two populations.

Disparities in life expectancy at birth between Indigenous and non-Indigenous populations also persist. During the 2016–2021 period, life expectancy for Indigenous peoples (77.2 years) was approximately eight years lower than non-Indigenous people (84.9 years). Life expectancy was 71.4 years among First Nations people living on reserve and 71.9 years among Inuit (Table 2). Age-standardized hospitalization rates for acute care—an indicator of population health and health service use—were consistently higher among Indigenous people than among the non-Indigenous population for both women and men (Table 3). Rates were highest among First Nations people living on reserve and were also higher among Inuit living in Inuit Nunangat (excluding Nunavik), First Nations people living off reserve, and Métis people.

Differences in suicide mortality rates provide one indicator of disparities in mental health and well-being. Between 2011 and 2016, suicide rates (per 100,000 population) were significantly higher among First Nations (24.3), Métis (14.7^E), and Inuit (72.3) populations than among the non-Indigenous population (8.0) (Table 4). Disparities were greatest among youth and young adults aged 15 to 24 years. Among First Nations individuals living on reserve, the suicide rate was approximately twice that of those living off reserve. It is important to note that rates varied considerably by First Nations band, with just over 60% reporting no suicides during this period.⁹

Variations in health outcomes are accompanied by differences in health-related behaviours, including alcohol consumption. Among Indigenous people, 27.0% reported heavy drinking, compared with 19.1% of non-Indigenous people. However, similar proportions of Indigenous (24.2%) and non-Indigenous (23.9%) people reported not consuming alcohol in the previous year. Among Inuit, 34.2% reported not consuming alcohol during that period (Table 5). Demographic patterns, measured through the total fertility rate, show that in 2016 fertility was higher among Indigenous women (1.9 children per woman) than among non-Indigenous women (1.6). Inuit women and Registered First Nations women had the highest fertility rates, at 2.8 and 2.2 children per woman, respectively (Table 6).

⁹Kumar, Mohan B., and Michael Tjepkema. 2019. *Suicide among First Nations People, Métis and Inuit (2011–2016): Findings from the Canadian Census Health and Environment Cohort (CanCHEC)*. Statistics Canada. <https://www150.statcan.gc.ca/n1/pub/99-011-x/99-011-x2019001-eng.htm>.

Methodology and Data Definitions

Key health and health-related indicators are reported using a combination of nationally representative survey data and administrative record linkages. Primary data sources include the Census of Population (2006, 2016), the 2011 National Household Survey (NHS), and the Canadian Community Health Survey (CCHS). These datasets are integrated with the Canadian Vital Statistics — Birth, Death, and Stillbirth Databases and the Discharge Abstract Database (DAD) through Statistics Canada's Social Data Linkage Environment. Specifically, the Canadian Birth-Census Cohorts (CanBCC) and the Canadian Census Health and Environment Cohorts (CanCHECs) are utilized to identify Indigenous identity—information not typically available in standard vital statistics—allowing for disaggregated reporting for First Nations, Inuit, and Métis. Sampling weights are applied across these sources to ensure results are representative of the target populations and to mitigate bias arising from missed record linkages. For indicators involving mortality and hospitalization, rates are age-standardized using the direct method—typically to the 2011 Indigenous population distribution—to allow for meaningful comparisons across groups with different age structures.

The following definitions and methodologies apply to the select health indicators:

Infant Mortality Rate: This variable is derived from the Canadian Birth-Census Cohorts (CanBCC), a linked dataset created through the linkage of vital statistics (birth and death information) with the Census of Population long-form questionnaire. The CanBCC enables the identification of Indigenous identity and supports the production of disaggregated infant mortality estimates for different population groups in Canada.

Life Expectancy at Birth: This variable is derived from Canadian Census Health and Environment Cohorts (CanCHECs) (2006, 2011, 2016), which link Census long-form and NHS records to the Canadian Vital Statistics — Death database. Age-specific mortality rates observed during three five-year follow-up periods (2006–2011, 2011–2016, and 2016–2021) were used to construct life tables and estimate life expectancy at birth. Sampling weights were applied to produce estimates that are representative of the population living in private households.

- Definition: A derived variable estimating the average number of years a newborn is expected to live if current mortality patterns continue throughout their lifetime.

Age-standardized Acute-Care Hospitalization Rate (ASHR): This variable is derived from CanCHECs which links the 2006 Census long-form questionnaire and 2011 NHS to the Discharge Abstract Database (DAD) via Statistics Canada's Social Data Linkage Environment. Sampling weights were applied to make the cohorts representative of the target populations and to reduce bias because of missed links. Hospitalization records from five years following each cohort (2006–2011 and 2011–2016) were analyzed to examine acute-care hospitalizations among Indigenous and non-Indigenous populations. The data excludes Quebec residents, because Quebec does not submit hospitalization data to the Discharge Abstract Database. Rates were standardized using the direct method across six age groups (0–9, 10–19, 20–29, 30–39, 40–49, and 50 years and older).

- Definition: Number of acute-care hospital stays, as classified using the most responsible diagnosis record in the DAD, per 100,000 person-years at risk.
- Unit of measure: Rate per 100,000 person-years.

Age-standardized Mortality Rate (ASMR): This is a derived variable from data taken from the 2011 CanCHECs, a linked dataset with 2011 NHS linked to the Canadian Vital Statistics — Death database (CVSD). Suicide deaths were classified using the underlying cause of death recorded on death certificates and coded according to the International Classification of Diseases and Related Health Problems 10th Revision (ICD-10). Sampling weights were applied to make the cohort representative of the target population and to reduce bias because of missed links. This data set excludes institutional residents (e.g., nursing homes, hospitals, correctional facilities), people living in collective dwellings (e.g., hotels, rooming houses) and individuals not enumerated by the 2011 NHS. The rates are age-standardized, meaning differences in age structure between populations have been adjusted for, allowing comparisons that are independent of differences in population age composition.

- Definition: Number of deaths attributed to intentional self-harm (e.g. suicide) per 100,000 person-years at risk.
- Unit of measure: Age-standardized rate per 100,000 population.

Alcohol Consumption: Heavy Drinking Derived from the Canadian Community Health Survey (CCHS) — a cross-sectional survey that collects information related to health status, health care utilization and health determinants for the Canadian population. The indicator “never had alcoholic drinks in the past 12 months” identifies respondents who reported no alcohol consumption during that period. Survey weights are applied so that estimates are representative of the target population, and results are subject to sampling variability and other standard survey limitations.

- Definition: Proportion of the population aged 18+ reporting the consumption of five or more drinks (males) or four or more drinks (females) on one occasion, at least once a month in the past year.

Total Fertility Rate (TFR): Estimates were derived from 2016 Census data using the own-children method which is a method that indirectly estimates fertility.

- Definition: A synthetic measure of the average number of children a woman would have over her lifetime as modelled using demographic characteristics for population projections.

Data

Table 1: Infant mortality rates of Indigenous populations in Canada

	2004 - 2006	2014 - 2016
Indigenous identity	Rate per 1,000 live births	
Total, Indigenous and Non-Indigenous identity	5.4	4.6
Total, Indigenous identity	9.5	7.7
Métis	7.7 ^E	5.2 ^E
Inuk (Inuit)	11.8 ^E	13.5 ^E
First Nations, Registered or Treaty Indians	11.5	9.6
First Nations, Registered or Treaty Indians living on reserve	11.3	10.0 ^E

First Nations, Registered or Treaty Indians living off reserve	11.7 ^E	8.1 ^E
Non-Indigenous identity	5.1	4.2

Note(s): ^E use with caution.

Note that estimates for the population identifying as First Nations (North American Indian) and not as Métis or Inuk (Inuit), and who also did not report a Registered or Treaty Indian Status, are not included due to insufficient sample size.

See embedded footnotes for the customizable table here: [Infant mortality rates of Indigenous populations in Canada](#).

Source(s): Statistics Canada, Census of Population (3901), Vital Statistics — Birth Database (3231), Vital Statistics — Death database (3233), Vital Statistics — Stillbirth Database (3234).

Table 2: Life expectancy at birth of Indigenous populations in Canada

	2006 - 2011	2011 - 2016	2016 - 2021
Indigenous identity	Years		
Total, Indigenous and Non-Indigenous identity	83.3	84.6	84.6
Total, Indigenous identity	76.2	77.0	77.2
Métis	79.1	80.0	80.4
Inuk (Inuit)	71.8	74.1	71.9
First Nations, Registered or Treaty Indians	73.8	74.2	73.9
First Nations, Registered or Treaty Indians living on reserve	71.8	72.6	71.4
First Nations, Registered or Treaty Indians living off reserve	76.4	76.1	76.0
First Nations, without Registered or Treaty Indian Status	77.7	79.7	79.2
Non-Indigenous identity	83.5	84.9	84.9

Note(s): See embedded footnotes for the customizable table here: [Life expectancy at birth of Indigenous populations in Canada](#).

Source(s): Statistics Canada, Census of Population (3901), Vital Statistics — Death database (3233).

Table 3: All-cause age-standardized acute-care hospitalization rates per 100,000 population, by population group and sex, Canada, excluding Quebec, 2006 and 2011 Canadian Census Health and Environment Cohorts (CanCHEC)

Sex at birth	Year	First Nations people	First Nations people	Inuit living in Inuit Nunangat	Métis	Non-Indigenous people
--------------	------	----------------------	----------------------	--------------------------------	-------	-----------------------

		living on reserve	living off reserve	(excluding Nunavik)		
		ASHR per 100,000 person-years at risk				
Females	2006	19,854	12,611	13,643	9,953	6,837
	2011	17,523	11,126	13,497	8,971	6,539
Males	2006	11,812	7,540	8,036	6,375	4,683
	2011	10,840	6,896	7,294	5,813	4,491

Note(s): ASHR = Age-standardized and acute-care hospitalization rate. Births are included for females.

Collective dwellings were excluded from the 2006 CanCHEC to make rates comparable to the 2011 CanCHEC. See Disclosers section.

Source(s): Statistics Canada, 2006 and 2011 Canadian Census Health and Environment Cohorts (2006 Census data linked to 2006/2007 to 2010/2011 DAD records, and 2011 National Household Survey data linked to 2011/2012 to 2015/2016 DAD records).

Table 4: Age-standardized suicide rates (number of deaths by suicide per 100,000 person-years at risk) among First Nations, Métis and Inuit (2011-2016): Findings from the 2011 Canadian Census Health and Environment Cohort (CanCHEC)

Sex at birth	First Nations people	Métis	Inuit	Non-Indigenous people
	Suicide-related ASMR per 100,000 person-years at risk			
Total	24.3	14.7 ^E	72.3	8.0
Females	19.5	7.2 ^E	35.4 ^E	3.9
Males	29.6	22.6 ^E	109.3	12.3

Note(s): ^E Use with caution.

5.6-year follow-up period: May 10, 2011 to December 31, 2016.

ASMR = Age standardized mortality rate (standardized to the Indigenous population estimated by the 2011 National Household Survey; in 5-year age groups except for those aged 1–4 and those aged 85+.

Excluded from data: institutional population at time of census collection (e.g., nursing homes, jails), population living in collective households (e.g., motels, hotels, rooming houses), persons not enumerated by the 2011 National Household Survey.

Source(s): Statistics Canada, 2011 Canadian Census Health and Environment Cohort integrating the 2011 National Household Survey with Canadian Vital Statistics — Death database (2011–2016).

Table 5: Alcohol consumption for First Nations, Métis, and Inuit people living off reserve from 2023 to 2024 in Canada

Health Indicator	Indigenous Group	Percent (%)
Heavy drinking	Total, Indigenous people	27.0
	First Nations (North American Indian)	29.6
	Métis	25.0
	Inuk (Inuit)	21.7
	Non-Indigenous people	19.1
Never had alcoholic drinks in the past 12 months	Total, Indigenous people	24.2
	First Nations (North American Indian)	25.2
	Métis	22.5
	Inuk (Inuit)	34.2
	Non-Indigenous people	23.9

Note(s): See embedded footnotes for the customizable table here: [Health indicators for First Nations people living off reserve, Métis and Inuit, by region and sex, two-year period estimates.](#)

Source(s): Statistics Canada, Canadian Community Health Survey—Annual Component (CCHS) (3226).

Table 6: Total fertility rate by Indigenous identity, Canada, 2016

Indigenous identity	Total Fertility Rate (children per woman)
Total, Indigenous population	1.9
Registered or Treaty Indians	2.2
First Nations, without Registered or Treaty Indian status	1.5
Métis	1.6
Inuit	2.8
Non-Indigenous population	1.6

Note(s): The paper associated with this table uses the identity groups Métis without Registered or Treaty Indian status and Inuit without Registered or Treaty Indian status. For clarity and readability, this table shortens these labels to Métis and Inuit. The underlying population definitions remain unchanged.

Total fertility rates were not included for other Indigenous people without Registered or Treaty Indian status (respondents who self-identify with more than one Indigenous group or reported being a member of a First Nation/Indian band without reporting being a Registered or Treaty Indian or self-identifying with an Indigenous group).

Source(s): Statistics Canada, Census of Population (3901).

Disclosure

Geographic Limitations: Acute-care hospitalization data exclude Quebec as the province does not submit data to the Discharge Abstract Database.

Target Population: Data from CanCHEC and CanBCC cohorts represent the non-institutionalized household population; residents of collective dwellings (e.g., nursing homes, correctional facilities) are excluded. Collective dwellings were excluded from the 2006 CanCHEC to make rates comparable to the 2011 CanCHEC. Collective dwellings refer to dwellings of a commercial, institutional or communal nature. Collective dwellings also include rooming or lodging houses, hotels, motels, tourist homes, nursing homes, hospitals, staff residences, communal quarters of military camps, work camps, jails, missions, group homes, and so on. Collective dwellings may be occupied by usual residents or solely by foreign or temporary residents. A sampling weight was applied to make the cohort more representative of the target population and to reduce bias because of missed links.

Data Reliability: Estimates marked with “E” should be used with caution due to high sampling variability. Certain cohorts (e.g., non-Status First Nations) may be excluded from specific mortality indicators due to insufficient sample sizes.

Sources

Statistics Canada. 2025. Infant mortality rates of Indigenous populations in Canada. Table 17-10-0161-01. Released June 3, 2025. Ottawa: Statistics Canada.

Statistics Canada. 2025. Life expectancy at birth of Indigenous populations in Canada. Table 17-10-0160-01. Released June 3, 2025. Ottawa: Statistics Canada.

Bougie, Evelyne. 2021. Acute-care hospitalizations among First Nations people, Inuit and Métis: Results from the 2006 and 2011 Canadian Census Health and Environment Cohorts. Health Reports. Ottawa: Statistics Canada.

Kumar, Mohan B., and Michael Tjepkema. 2019. Suicide among First Nations people, Métis and Inuit (2011–2016): Findings from the 2011 Canadian Census Health and Environment Cohort (CanCHEC). Ottawa: Statistics Canada.

Statistics Canada. 2025. Health indicators for First Nations people living off reserve, Métis and Inuit, by region and sex, two-year period estimates. Table 13-10-0926-01. Released December 16, 2025. Ottawa: Statistics Canada.

Statistics Canada. 2021. Projections of the Indigenous populations and households in Canada, 2016 to 2041: Overview of data sources, methods, assumptions and scenarios. Demosim: Reports and Analytical Studies, Catalogue no. 17-20-0001, no. 2021001. Ottawa: Statistics Canada.

Data from the Public Health Agency of Canada

This section reports on the following segment of 16.1 of the Minister's Annual Report:

- the progress made on closing the gaps between Indigenous and non-Indigenous communities in a number of health indicators

Overview

Tuberculosis (TB) has been a notifiable disease in Canada since 1924, and the Public Health Agency of Canada (PHAC) continues to leverage national surveillance to work toward TB elimination. Total annual TB cases in Canada have risen from 1,626 in 2015 to 2,251 in 2024.

Despite representing a smaller percentage of total cases, Indigenous Peoples are disproportionately affected by TB, accounting for 11.3% of individuals with the disease in 2024. Inuit living in Inuit Nunangat experience the highest incidence rates in the country, reaching 186.9 per 100,000 in 2024—a rate significantly higher than both the overall national average of 6.1 per 100,000 and the average for Canadian-born non-Indigenous population (0.4 per 100,000). While Inuit case counts appear low in percentage terms (6.1% in 2024), this is an artifact of their smaller population size.

First Nations populations also face high incidence rates (13.5 per 100,000 in 2024), while rates for the Métis (1.3 per 100,000) remain below the national average. These inequities are driven by Indigenous-specific determinants, including colonial policies, geographic remoteness, and limited access to culturally safe care and infrastructure in the North.

Regarding lethality, the national case-fatality rate (CFR) has remained stable, ranging from 3.6% to 6.5%. While the CFR for the Indigenous population has consistently been among the lowest, it reached 4.1% for Inuit and 7.3% for First Nations people in 2023.

Methodology and Data Definitions

PHAC works alongside federal, provincial and territorial public health authorities and public health laboratories, to monitor TB's impact on the Canadian populations. Data on all new cases of tuberculosis disease reported in Canada and in this report is captured through the Canadian Tuberculosis Reporting System. These administrative and surveillance-based data are complemented by population estimates from Statistics Canada to calculate incidence rates across groups.

The **Canadian Tuberculosis Reporting System (CTBRS)** gathers anonymous information on individuals with TB across: demographics, clinical data, medical history and social risk factors.

Selected indicators include:

Annual case counts/percentages (table 1): Using data from the CTBRS, this indicator measures the number of new or relapsed TB cases recorded within a calendar year (January 1 to December 31).

- **Measurement:** Case counts represent the raw number of reported cases for all ages. Percentages represent the distribution of the total TB burden among specific population groups.
- **Numerator:** The total number of TB cases reported for a specific identity group (e.g., Inuit, First Nations, Métis, or foreign-born).
- **Denominator (for percentages):** The total number of TB cases reported in Canada during the same surveillance year.

Annual incidence rate of TB disease (table 2): This indicator measures the frequency of new TB cases per 100,000 population, allowing for comparisons between groups of different sizes.

TB-related case fatality rate (table 3): Derived from the CTBRS, this measures the lethality of the disease by representing the proportion of individuals diagnosed with TB who died due directly or indirectly to the illness.

- **Measurement:** The CFR is expressed as a percentage. It captures deaths among all ages and identifies the severity of the disease's impact within a given year.

Data

Tuberculosis Data

Table 1. Cases (%) of TB disease recorded annually in Canada 2015 – 2024¹

Population Group	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Born outside Canada	1,178	1,232	1,320	1,315	1,428	1,317	1,279	1,475	1,678	1,901
	72.4 %	72.3 %	75.0 %	76.5 %	84.0 %	82.7 %	80.2 %	79.2 %	80.4 %	84.5 %
Inuit	112	113	142	136	134	58	103	99	148	138
	6.9%	6.6%	8.1%	7.9%	7.9%	3.6%	6.5%	5.3%	7.1%	6.1%
First Nations	157	209	155	150	146	132	142	187	151	113
	9.7%	12.3 %	8.8%	8.7%	8.6%	8.3%	8.9%	10.0 %	7.2%	5.0%
Métis	12	10	18	14	12	15	10	10	12	6
	0.7%	0.6%	1.0%	0.8%	0.7%	0.9%	0.6%	0.5%	0.6%	0.3%
Canadian-born non-Indigenous	167	139	124	103	92	70	61	91	97	93
	10.3 %	8.2%	7.0%	6.0%	5.4%	4.4%	3.8%	4.9%	4.7%	4.1%
Canada	1,626	1,703	1,759	1,718	1,701	1,592	1,595	1,862	2,086	2,251

¹**Source:** The Public Health Agency of Canada, the Canadian Tuberculosis Reporting System (CTBRS) 2015–2024, last updated 2026.

N.B.: Numbers for the Inuit were lowest between 2020 and 2022, and it is hypothesized that it may have been due to COVID-19 pandemic.

Table 2. Annual Incidence Rate (per 100,000 population) of TB disease in Canada 2015 – 2024¹

Population Group	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Born outside Canada	15	14.3	15.2	14.9	15.9	14.5	12.6	14.3	15.8	17.4
Inuit	168.6	171.9	211.2	197.4	190.2	80.5	140.3	133.2	202.8	186.9
First Nations	15	23.5	17.1	16.3	15.5	13.8	14.7	19.1	18.6	13.5
Métis	2	1.9	3.4	2.6	2.2	2.7	1.8	1.8	2.7	1.3
Canadian-born, non-Indigenous	0.6	0.6	0.5	0.4	0.4	0.3	0.3	0.4	0.4	0.4
Canada	4.6	4.9	5	4.8	5.1	4.7	4.9	5.1	5.8	6.1

¹**Source:** The Public Health Agency of Canada, the Canadian Tuberculosis Reporting System (CTBRS) 2015–2024, last updated 2026.

Table 3. TB-related case fatality Rate (%) by population group 2014 – 2023¹

Population group	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
All population groups	5.6	6.5	5.1	4.9	5.5	3.6	4.6	5.2	5.5	5.1
Born outside Canada	5.6	6.5	4.7	4.8	5.1	3.5	4.7	5.7	5.8	5.1
Canadian-born, non-Indigenous	6.5	7.2	9.4	6.5	16.5	7.6	1.4	4.9	7.7	5.2
First Nations	4.9	5.7	3.3	3.2	4.7	3.4	6.8	7	4.3	7.3
Inuit	3.4	0	0	2.8	0.7	0	0	2.9	0	4.1
Métis	10.5	25	10	5.6	0	0	0	20	20	16.7
Canada	5.6	6.5	5.1	4.9	5.5	3.6	4.6	5.2	5.5	5.1

Source: The Public Health Agency of Canada Canadian Tuberculosis Reporting System (CTBRS) 2014–2023, last updated 2026.

Sources

Surveillance Systems: The CTBRS collects non-nominal demographic (age, sex, indigeneity) and clinical data (diagnostic classification, risk factors).

Further details on these two surveillance systems, including the computation of the reported TB disease incidence rates are available online (<https://health-infobase.canada.ca/tuberculosis/about.html>).

Additional information on the dynamic of TB disease in different population groups in Canada can be found in the following link (<https://health-infobase.canada.ca/tuberculosis/epidemiology-report.html#popgroup>).

Anomalies: Data from 2020 show a notable decline in TB cases, particularly among Inuit populations. This is hypothesized to be an artifact of the COVID-19 pandemic, which may have affected both transmission dynamics and health-seeking behavior.

Justice

Statistics Canada¹⁰, Correctional Service Canada¹¹

This section reports on the following segments of 16.1 of the Minister's Annual Report:

- The progress made on reducing the rate of criminal victimization of Indigenous persons, including data related to homicide, family violence and other crimes.
- The progress made on reducing the overrepresentation of Indigenous persons in the justice and correctional systems.

Overview

First Nations people, Inuit and Métis continue to face higher rates of victimization and are overrepresented in Canada's criminal justice system. Homicide victimization rates for Indigenous people have remained more than eight times higher than those for non-Indigenous populations in recent years, with no sustained reduction in this disparity.

Self-reported data from 2025 show that rates of sexual and physical assault remain higher among Indigenous people. Indigenous women (5.7%) were nearly twice as likely as non-Indigenous women (3.1%) to have experienced sexual assault in the previous year. Similarly, physical assault prevalence for Indigenous men (9.8%) was about double that of non-Indigenous men (4.8%).

The proportion of Indigenous peoples who experienced intimate partner violence—including emotional, economic, physical, and sexual forms of violence - was also higher among Indigenous women (20%) and Indigenous men (17%) than it was among non-Indigenous people (13% of women and 12% of men).

Indigenous adults remain disproportionately represented in custody admissions and incarcerated populations. The Overrepresentation Index, which adjusts for age and gender, shows that in 2023-24, the incarceration rate for Indigenous adults was 10.2 times higher than for non-Indigenous adults. This disparity is greater for Indigenous women, with an index of 18.2. Additionally, 2.6% of the Indigenous population spent at least one day in custody in 2023-24, compared to 0.3% of the non-Indigenous population.

Correctional Service Canada data indicate progress in preparing Indigenous offenders for reintegration. Over the past six fiscal years, more Indigenous offenders have addressed educational and programming needs before release. Education upgrades prior to first release increased from 62.3% in 2020-21 to 79.2% in 2025-26, and correctional program completions rose from 63.6% to 75.1%. Completion rates for correctional programs before sentence expiry and the median percentage of sentence served prior to first release have remained stable.

The use of culturally responsive reintegration pathways have grown significantly. Successful Transfers to Healing Lodges increased from 191 in 2020-21 to 304 in 2025-26, with a consistent 95% success rate. Section 84 releases, which involve Indigenous communities in release

¹⁰ Statistics Canada: the Centre for Indigenous Statistics and Partnerships (statcan.cisp-partnerships-cspa-partenariats.statcan@statcan.gc.ca)

¹¹ Correctional Service Canada: Edith Brassard, Director, Strategic and Corporate Services, Indigenous Initiatives Sector (Edith.Brassard@csc-scc.gc.ca)

planning, nearly doubled from 289 to 525 over the same period. These increases reflect greater engagement with rehabilitative supports and continued efforts to advance Indigenous-led approaches to healing, reintegration, and community involvement in corrections. Through the optimization of existing Healing Lodge capacity and the development of new bed spaces, more Indigenous offenders can access culturally grounded environments that support successful reintegration. Ongoing assessments of Expressions of Interest across multiple regions, particularly for Indigenous women, demonstrate tangible progress toward expanding Indigenous-run Healing Lodge capacity.

Methodology and Data Definitions

Administrative and self-reported data from Statistics Canada are used to monitor efforts to reduce criminal victimization of Indigenous persons and address their overrepresentation in the criminal justice system. Primary sources include the Homicide Survey, the Integrated Correctional Services Survey (ICSS), and the Canadian Correctional Services Survey (CCSS), which offer standardized national data on police-reported incidents and custodial populations. Additional data are sourced from CSC's offender management system and reported through *Performance Direct* and the *National Indigenous Plan*. Data are presented over a six-year period to show trends, and only federally served Indigenous peoples are included.

Self-reported survey data from the Survey of Safety in Public and Private Spaces (SSPPS) complements these sources. Self-reported data are essential for capturing victimization experiences not reflected in police-reported crime statistics.

To ensure transparency and comparability, variables such as the Overrepresentation Index are age- and gender-adjusted to account for demographic differences between Indigenous and non-Indigenous populations.

Homicide Rates

- Using data from the Homicide Survey, this indicator measures the rate of police-reported homicide victims (murder, manslaughter and infanticide) per 100,000 population. Table 1 integrates administrative crime data (homicide counts) with demographic population estimates and provides a standardized rate to measure homicide victimization.
 - Unit of measure: Rate per 100,000 population
- Indigenous identity is based on police-reported information and includes categories for Indigenous identity (with further breakdowns for First Nations, Métis, Inuit and Indigenous identity not otherwise specified), non-Indigenous identity and unknown identity.

Prevalence of sexual and physical assault

- Derived from the Survey of Safety in Public and Private Spaces (SSPPS), this represents the percentage of the population aged 15+ who reported experiencing at least one incident of sexual or physical assault in the 12 months preceding the survey.
- Sexual assault refers to experiences such as: unwanted sexual touching, sexual attacks, attempted or completed forced sexual activity, and sexual activity where the victim was unable to consent. Physical assault includes acts such as being threatened with physical harm, pushed, grabbed, hit, kicked, beaten, choked, or threatened with or attacked using a weapon. These definitions encompass incidents committed by both intimate partners and non-intimate partners and align broadly with *Criminal Code* definitions.
 - Measurement: Estimates are based on self-reported survey data from persons aged 15 years and older living in Canada, not living on an Indigenous reserve,

and are weighted to represent the Canadian population. The table includes point estimates (percentages) and associated 95% confidence intervals.

- Note: prevalence measures in this report indicate whether a respondent experienced victimization but do not account for the frequency or severity of incidents. As a self-reported survey, the SSPPS captures victimization experiences that may not be reflected in police-reported statistics.

Intimate partner violence

- Derived from the 2025 Survey of Safety in Public and Private Spaces (SSPPS), this represents the percentage of the population aged 15+ who reported experiencing intimate partner violence the 12 months preceding the survey.

Adult custody admissions

- Utilizing data from the Integrated Correctional Services Survey (ICSS), this provides annual counts of entries into provincial or territorial custodial programs for adults aged 18 and older.
 - Measurement: Represents total custodial entries; a single individual may be counted multiple times if admitted more than once during the fiscal year.

Incarceration rates

- Derived from the Canadian Correctional Services Survey, this reports the standardized rate of adults in federal and provincial/territorial custody per 10,000 population.
 - Unit of measure: Rate per 10,000 population
- Incarceration rates are based on the average custodial population and therefore reflect the prevalence of incarceration on a typical day rather than admissions, length of custody or recidivism. Collection and reporting of data by correctional services can vary across jurisdictions, and data reflect an end-of-year snapshot. As such, the Overrepresentation Index complements these rates by providing an age- and gender-adjusted measure of disparity between Indigenous and non-Indigenous incarceration rates.

Overrepresentation index

- Calculated using data from the Canadian Correctional Services Survey, this relative measure compares the incarceration rate of Indigenous adults to that of non-Indigenous adults.
 - Measurement: An index value where 1.0 indicates equal representation. Index values greater than 1.0 indicate higher incarceration rates among Indigenous adults. For example, an index of 8.0 indicates that the incarceration rate for Indigenous adults is eight times that of non-Indigenous adults after accounting for differences in age and gender composition.

Custodial involvement rates

- Using data from the Canadian Correctional Services Survey, this measures the proportion of a population that spent at least one day in federal or provincial/territorial custody during the fiscal year.

- Custodial involvement rates do not capture the length of custody, frequency of admissions, or recidivism. It does, however, provide insight into the extent of correctional system contact among Indigenous and no-Indigenous populations.
- Of note, unlike incarceration rates (which reflect the average number of individuals in custody on a typical day), custodial involvement rates measure the proportion of individuals who experienced custody at any point during the year and is considered a broader measure to identify populations that are affected by custodial supervision.

Indigenous offenders who completed Nationally Recognized Correctional Programs (NRCP) prior to First Release

- Using data taken from CSC's offender management system, this variable reports on Indigenous offenders who completed an NRCP before they were released for the first time. The First Release Population includes: offenders who leave custody on day parole, full parole, statutory release, long term supervision and warrant expiry.

Indigenous offenders who completed Nationally Recognized Correctional Programs prior to Sentence Expiry Date

- Using data taken from CSC's offender management system this variable reports on Indigenous offenders who completed an NRCP before they reached their Sentence Expiry Date (SED) in the same sentence.

Indigenous offenders with an identified need in education who upgraded their education prior to first release:

- Using data taken from CSC's offender management system this variable reports on the total number of offenders who increased their education level, completed a specific course, or received an educational assessment indicating their education need was addressed prior to being released for the first time. The First Release Population includes: offenders who leave custody on day parole, full parole, statutory release, long term supervision and warrant expiry.

Median percentage of sentence served prior to first release, for offenders with moderate or high reintegration potential:

- Using data taken from CSC's offender management system this variable reports on the median percentage of time served by Indigenous offenders from admission to federal custody prior to first release. The population represented are only those who have been assessed with a moderate or high reintegration potential. The First Release Population includes: offenders who leave custody on day parole, full parole, statutory release, long term supervision and warrant expiry.

Percentage of successful transfers to Healing lodges for Indigenous offenders:

- Using data taken from CSC's offender management system this variable reports on the number of successful transfers to Healing Lodges for Indigenous offenders. The transfer is considered successful if there is no reclassification to higher security or institutional transfer within 120 days of the effective date of the original transfer to the Healing Lodge.

Percentage of offenders released under Section 84 of the *Corrections and Conditional Release Act*:

- Using data taken from CSC's offender management system this variable reports the total number of offenders who were released with a release plan that involved an Indigenous community in the release planning process.

Data

Table 1: Number and rate (per 100,000 population) of homicide victims in Canada, by Indigenous identity and gender

Statistics	Number of homicide victims					Homicide rates per 100,000 population				
Indigenous Identity	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
	Number					Rate per 100,000 population				
Total, by Indigenous identity	802	888	798	797	672	2.10	2.28	1.99	1.93	1.61
Indigenous identity	195	229	197	232	203	9.91	11.44	9.68	11.17	9.59
First Nations (North American Indian)	127	159	142	162	148	10.90	13.41	11.76	13.14	11.76
Métis	12	6	6	13	7	1.82	0.90	0.89	1.88	1.00
Inuk (Inuit)	10	9	9	9	17	13.12	11.52	11.3	11.06	20.45
Indigenous person, Indigenous group unknown	46	55	40	48	31	..	..	..	..	..
Non-Indigenous identity	574	633	572	535	447	1.58	1.71	1.5	1.37	1.13
Unknown Indigenous identity	33	26	29	30	22	..	..	..	..	..

Note(s): See embedded footnotes for the customizable table here: [Number and rate \(per 100,000 population\) of homicide victims, by Indigenous identity and gender.](#)

Source(s): Statistics Canada, Homicide Survey (3315).

Table 2: Physical and sexual assault experienced in the past 12 months, by Indigenous identity and gender, 2025

Type of assault, gender, and Indigenous identity		percent	95% confidence interval	
			from	to
Sexual assault				
Women	Non-Indigenous†	3.1	2.8	3.3
	Indigenous ¹²	5.7*	4.5	7.3
	First Nations	6.9*	4.9	9.6
	Métis	4.7	3.2	6.9
	Inuk	5.9	3.4	10.0
Men	Non-Indigenous†	1.0	0.8	1.2
	Indigenous	2.7*	1.8	4.1
	First Nations	3.2*	1.8	5.6
	Métis	2.4	1.3	4.5
	Inuk	F	F	F
Physical assault				
Women	Non-Indigenous†	3.5	3.3	3.8
	Indigenous ¹³	8.3*	6.9	10.1
	First Nations	10.7*	8.3	13.6
	Métis	6.1*	4.3	8.7
	Inuk	12.1*	8.0	18.0
Men	Non-Indigenous†	4.8	4.5	5.2
	Indigenous	9.8*	8.0	12.1
	First Nations	9.9*	7.3	13.4
	Métis	9.9*	6.6	16,7
	Inuk	10.6*	4.5	5.2

Note(s): * significantly different from reference category ($p < 0.05$)

† reference category

F too unreliable to be published

Source(s): Statistics Canada, Survey of Safety in Public and Private Spaces (5256).

¹² The same report provides 2018 estimates for the proportions of Indigenous women and men who experienced sexual assault in the previous 12 months: 5.2% for Indigenous women and 2.0% for Indigenous men. These proportions did not differ significantly from the corresponding estimates for 2025 (see Charts 6 and 7 in [this report](#) for additional details).

¹³ The same report provides 2018 estimates for the proportions of Indigenous women and men who experienced physical assault in the previous 12 months: 6.3% for Indigenous women and 14.3% for Indigenous men. These proportions did not differ significantly from the corresponding estimates for 2025 (see Charts 6 and 7 in [this report](#) for additional details).

Table 3: Intimate partner violence experienced in the past 12 months, by Indigenous identity and gender, 2025

Intimate partner violence ¹⁴ , gender, and Indigenous identity		percent	95% confidence interval	
			from	to
Women	Non-Indigenous†	13.3	12.7	13.9
	Indigenous	19.5*	17.0	22.4
	First Nations	20.0*	15.9	24.8
	Métis	18.2*	14.7	22.3
	Inuk	26.2*	19.0	34.9
Men	Non-Indigenous†	12.1	11.5	12.7
	Indigenous	17.0*	14.2	20.3
	First Nations	17.8*	13.3	23.4
	Métis	16.5*	12.7	21.0
	Inuk	18.9	12.7	27.1

Note(s): * significantly different from reference category ($p < 0.05$)

† reference category

F too unreliable to be published

Source(s): Statistics Canada, *Survey of Safety in Public and Private Spaces (5256)*.

Table 4: Adult custody admissions to correctional services in Canada by Indigenous identity by fiscal year

Indigenous identity	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24
Total, custodial admissions by Indigenous identity	227,226	144,007	149,921	164,301	182,521
Indigenous identity	67,702	44,955	46,633	49,797	56,466

¹⁴ Includes psychological, economic, physical, and sexual forms of violence committed by a current or former legally married spouse, common-law partner, dating partner, or other intimate partner. Percent calculations exclude those who have never been in an intimate partner relationship or who did not have contact with any current or former partner in the 12 months preceding the survey.

Non-Indigenous identity	158,601	98,235	102,605	113,723	125,082
Indigenous identity unknown	923	817	683	781	973

Note(s): See embedded footnotes for the customizable table here: [Adult custody admissions to correctional services by Indigenous identity](#).

Source(s): Statistics Canada, Adult Correctional Services ([3306](#)).

Table 5: Incarceration rates of adults in federal and provincial custody in Canada, by fiscal year (rate per 10,000 population)

Indigenous identity, age group and gender		2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24
Indigenous						
Total, age group	Total, gender	82	69	79	83	89
	Men	150	129	147	151	163
	Women	17	13	17	18	21
18 to 24 years	Total, gender	80	63	73	75	80
	Men	136	107	125	127	133
	Women	21	16	19	21	25
25 to 34 years	Total, gender	155	134	150	156	167
	Men	273	239	264	271	287
	Women	38	29	35	41	47
35 to 44 years	Total, gender	115	101	126	133	146
	Men	214	191	233	244	269
	Women	23	18	27	31	33
45 to 54 years	Total, gender	51	43	50	54	61
	Men	99	85	99	106	118
	Women	6	5	6	6	8
55 years and older	Total, gender	17	15	16	16	17
	Men	35	31	33	34	36
	Women	1	1	1	1	1
Non-Indigenous						
Total, age group	Total, gender	9	7	7	7	8
	Men	17	13	13	14	15
	Women	1	1	1	1	1
18 to 24 years	Total, gender	10	7	7	7	7
	Men	18	13	13	13	13
	Women	1	1	1	1	1
25 to 34 years	Total, gender	18	14	14	14	14
	Men	33	25	25	25	26
	Women	3	2	2	2	2
35 to 44 years	Total, gender	14	11	12	13	14
	Men	27	22	23	24	26
	Women	2	1	1	2	2
45 to 54 years	Total, gender	8	6	6	7	8
	Men	15	11	12	14	15
	Women	1	1	1	1	1
55 years and older	Total, gender	2	2	2	2	2
	Men	5	4	4	5	5

	Women	0	0	0	0	0
--	-------	---	---	---	---	---

Note(s): See embedded footnotes for the customizable table here: [Incarceration rates of adults in federal and provincial custody by Indigenous identity](#)

Source(s): Statistics Canada, Canadian Correctional Services Survey (5251).

Table 6: Overrepresentation Index of Indigenous adults, in comparison to the non-Indigenous adult population in federal and provincial custody in Canada

Gender	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24
Total, gender	8.1	8.8	10.1	10.0	10.2
Men	7.7	8.5	9.6	9.4	9.6
Women	12.6	14.6	17.9	18.4	18.2

Note(s): See embedded footnotes for the customizable table here: [Overrepresentation Index of Indigenous adults, in comparison to the non-Indigenous adult population in federal and provincial custody](#)

Source(s): Statistics Canada, Canadian Correctional Services Survey (5251).

Table 7: Custodial involvement rate of adults in federal and provincial custody by Indigenous identity (proportion of population experiencing incarceration)

Indigenous identity, age group and gender		2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24
Indigenous						
Total, age group	Total, gender	2.4	2.0	2.3	2.4	2.6
	Men	4.0	3.4	3.9	4.1	4.3
	Women	0.9	0.6	0.8	0.9	1.0
18 to 24 years	Total, gender	2.5	1.9	2.2	2.3	2.4
	Men	3.7	3.0	3.3	3.5	3.6
	Women	1.2	0.8	1.0	1.1	1.2
25 to 34 years	Total, gender	4.6	3.7	4.3	4.5	4.7
	Men	7.2	6.1	6.9	7.1	7.3
	Women	1.9	1.3	1.6	1.9	2.1
35 to 44 years	Total, gender	3.5	3.0	3.7	4.0	4.4
	Men	5.9	5.2	6.3	6.8	7.4
	Women	1.2	1.0	1.2	1.4	1.7
45 to 54 years	Total, gender	1.5	1.2	1.5	1.6	1.9
	Men	2.7	2.3	2.7	2.9	3.4
	Women	0.4	0.3	0.4	0.4	0.5
	Total, gender	0.4	0.3	0.4	0.4	0.5

55 years and older	Men	0.8	0.6	0.7	0.8	0.9
	Women	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.1
Non-Indigenous						
Total, age group	Total, gender	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.3
	Men	0.5	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.5
	Women	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1
18 to 24 years	Total, gender	0.4	0.3	0.2	0.3	0.3
	Men	0.6	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4
	Women	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
25 to 34 years	Total, gender	0.6	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4
	Men	1.0	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7
	Women	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
35 to 44 years	Total, gender	0.5	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.5
	Men	0.9	0.6	0.7	0.7	0.8
	Women	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
45 to 54 years	Total, gender	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.3
	Men	0.5	0.3	0.4	0.4	0.5
	Women	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
55 years and older	Total, gender	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.1
	Men	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
	Women	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Note(s): See embedded footnotes for the customizable table here: [Custodial involvement rate of adults in federal and provincial custody by Indigenous identity](#)

Source(s): Statistics Canada, Canadian Correctional Services Survey (5251).

Table 8: Proportion (%) of Indigenous offenders who completed a Nationally Recognized Correctional Program (NRCP) who had an identified NRCP need, by fiscal year

Indigenous Offenders Groups	Fiscal Year					
	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26
Prior to First Release	63.6%	59.8%	65.2%	73.3%	74.7%	75.1%
Before Sentence Completion Date	73.2%	68.2%	64.7%	67.1%	70.9%	74.7%

Note(s): Data is presented over 6 years to provide trend information. Only data related to federally serving Indigenous peoples is presented here.

Source(s): CSC's offender management system and reported through CSC's performance reporting tools, Performance Direct and the National Indigenous Plan.

Table 9: Proportion (%) of Indigenous offenders who upgraded their education prior to first release of those with an identified need to upgrade their education, by fiscal year

	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26
Indigenous offenders	62.3	62.2	70.3	75.6	80.5	79.2

Note(s): Data is presented over 6 years to provide trend information. Only data related to federally serving Indigenous peoples is presented here.

Source(s): CSC's offender management system and reported through CSC's performance reporting tools, Performance Direct and the National Indigenous Plan.

Table 10: Median percentage (%) of sentence served prior to first release, for offenders with moderate or high reintegration potential

	Fiscal Year					
	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26
Indigenous offenders	52.7	52.5	48.5	45.6	48.5	54.1

Note(s): Data is presented over 6 years to provide trend information. Only data related to federally serving Indigenous peoples is presented here.

Source(s): CSC's offender management system and reported through CSC's performance reporting tools, Performance Direct and the National Indigenous Plan.

Table 11: Percentage (%) of successful transfers to Healing Lodges for Indigenous offenders

	Fiscal Year					
	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26
Successful transfer to Healing Lodges	191	185	240	344	356	304
Transfer to Healing Lodge	200	194	256	369	392	318
Percentage	95.5%	95.4%	93.8%	93.2%	90.8%	95.6%

Note(s): Data is presented over 6 years to provide trend information. Only data related to federally serving Indigenous peoples is presented here.

Source(s): CSC's offender management system and reported through CSC's performance reporting tools, Performance Direct and the National Indigenous Plan.

Table 12: Percentage of offenders released under Section 84 of the *Corrections and Conditional Release Act* with an established release plan that was developed with the involvement of an Indigenous community

	Fiscal Year					
	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26
Released to a CCRA Section 84 Location	289	340	381	462	471	525

Established CCRA Section 84 release plan	482	560	599	704	776	888
Percentage	60.0%	60.7%	63.6%	65.6%	60.7%	59.1%

Note(s): Data is presented over 6 years to provide trend information. Only data related to federally serving Indigenous peoples is presented here.

Source(s): CSC's offender management system and reported through CSC's performance reporting tools, Performance Direct and the National Indigenous Plan.

Sources:

Statistics Canada. 2025. [Number and rate \(per 100,000 population\) of homicide victims, by Indigenous identity and gender](#). Table 35-10-0125-01. Released July 22, 2025. Ottawa: Statistics Canada.

Cotter, Adam, and Mylène Burczycka. 2026. [Gender differences in experiences of violence and unwanted sexual behaviour in Canada, 2025](#). *Juristat* 46(1). Ottawa: Statistics Canada. Custom tabulations based on [Table 4: Sexual assault in the past 12 months, by gender and selected characteristics of the victim, 2025](#) and [Table 5: Physical assault in the past 12 months, by gender and selected characteristics of the victim, 2025](#).

Cotter, Adam. (forthcoming, 2026). Intimate partner violence in Canada, 2025: An overview. *Juristat*. Statistics Canada Catalogue no. 85-002-X. Ottawa: Statistics Canada.

Perreault, Samuel. 2022. [Victimization of First Nations people, Métis and Inuit in Canada](#). *Juristat* 42(1). Ottawa: Statistics Canada.

Statistics Canada. 2025. [Adult custody admissions to correctional services by Indigenous identity](#). Table 35-10-0016-01. Released September 23, 2025. Ottawa: Statistics Canada.

Statistics Canada. 2026. [Incarceration rates of adults in federal and provincial custody by Indigenous identity](#). Table 35-10-0226-02. Released January 27, 2026. Ottawa: Statistics Canada.

Statistics Canada. 2026. [Overrepresentation Index of Indigenous adults, in comparison to the non-Indigenous adult population in federal and provincial custody](#). Table 35-10-0229-01. Released January 27, 2026. Ottawa: Statistics Canada.

Statistics Canada. 2026. [Custodial involvement rate of adults in federal and provincial custody by Indigenous identity](#). Table 35-10-0226-03. Released January 27, 2026. Ottawa: Statistics Canada.

Public Safety Canada. 2026. *Performance Direct & National Indigenous Plan*. Data current to the end of fiscal year 2025/2026.

Statistics Canada. 2025. [Homicide in Canada, 2024](#). Infographic 11-627-M2025060. Ottawa: Statistics Canada.