

# Saskatchewan Aboriginal Peoples

## 2011 National Household Survey

### ABORIGINAL IDENTITY

New data from the 2011 National Household Survey (NHS) shows Saskatchewan's population of self-identified Aboriginals was 157,740 or 15.6% of the total population. This was the second highest proportion among provinces, following Manitoba.

The largest component in this group remains members of the First Nations people of the province. In the 2011 NHS, 103,205 individuals reported this single identity which corresponds to 10.2% of the population, the highest among provinces. The self-identified Métis population was 52,450 persons, or 5.2% of the population, which trails only Manitoba among provinces. There were also 290 individuals in the province that identified as Inuit.

In the 2006 Census, 141,890 persons self-identified as Aboriginal. Of these, 91,400 self-identified as First Nations people, while 48,115 self-identified as Métis. Additionally, 215 individuals self-identified as Inuit.

Table 1 highlights provincial shares of Aboriginal population for the 2011 National Household Survey.

### FIRST NATIONS OVERVIEW

Of the 103,205 self-identified First Nations individuals living in Saskatchewan in 2011, 54,950, or 53.2% lived on reserve.

In the 2011 NHS, 16,000 individuals, or 6.2% of the population of the City of Saskatoon self-identified as First Nations. For the City of Regina 13,745 persons or 6.6% self-identified as First Nations, while for the City of Prince Albert similar figures were 9,605 persons or 23.5%.

In 2006, 5.4 per cent of the population of the City of Saskatoon self-identified as First Nations. The similar totals for the Cities of Regina and Prince Albert were 5.2% and 18.0% respectively.

### MÉTIS OVERVIEW

Of the 54,450 Métis persons identified by the 2011 NHS, 10,695 live in the City of Saskatoon, making up 4.2% of the total population. In the City of Regina, 7,720 persons, or 3.7% of the total population are Métis. In Prince Albert the Métis comprise 6170 persons, or 15.1% of the City's population.

In 2006, 4.3% of the population of the City of Saskatoon self-identified as Metis. The similar totals for the Cities of Regina and Prince Albert were 3.8% and 17.1% respectively.

**Table 1: Percentage of Canadians Self-Identifying as Aboriginal by Province or Territory, 2011 National Household Survey**

	CAN	NFLD	PEI	NS	NB	QUE	ONT	MAN	SASK	ALBT	BC	YT	NWT	NT
First Nations	2.6%	3.8%	1.1%	2.4%	2.2%	1.1%	1.6%	9.7%	10.2%	3.3%	3.6%	19.8%	32.7%	0.4%
Metis	1.4%	1.5%	0.3%	1.1%	0.7%	0.5%	0.7%	6.7%	5.2%	2.7%	1.6%	2.5%	5.7%	0.4%
Inuit	0.2%	1.2%	0.0%	0.1%	0.1%	0.2%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.1%	0.0%	0.5%	10.6%	85.4%

Does not include other or multiple Aboriginal identities

Source: Statistics Canada, 2011 National Household Survey

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### **ABORIGINAL AGE DISTRIBUTION**

In the 2011 NHS, the median age of self-identified Aboriginals living in Saskatchewan is 22.6 years, significantly lower than for non-Aboriginal at 40.9 years. For First Nations people in the province, the median age was 20.4 years, while it was 28.0 years for Métis persons.

In 2011, 53,780 Aboriginals in Saskatchewan were under the age of 15, or 34.1% of the total Aboriginal population. Among the non-Aboriginal population, there were 142,475 individuals under the age of 15, or 16.7% of the population.

In the 2006 Census, 66,710 individuals self-identified as Aboriginals in Saskatchewan in 2006 were in the 0-19 age group, or 47.0% of the total. The corresponding percentage for the non-Aboriginal population was 24.1%.

### **ABORIGINAL LANGUAGES**

In the 2011 NHS, 38,380 individuals self-identifying as Aboriginal indicated having knowledge of at least one Aboriginal language, including 27,470 individuals with knowledge of at least one Cree language, 8,850 with knowledge of the Dene language, 1,485 with knowledge of Ojibway and 630 with knowledge of a Siouan language. Finally, 38,380 persons or 24.3% of all self-identified Aboriginals indicated having an Aboriginal language as one of their mother tongues.

Additional information on Aboriginal peoples including labour force activity, educational attainment and income statistics will be made available with future 2011 National Household Survey releases.

Data in this report are based on the 2011 National Household Survey and 2006 Census of Canada, which may not be directly comparable due to methodological changes. For more details, contact the Saskatchewan Bureau of Statistics at (306) 787-6327 or visit [www.stats.gov.sk.ca](http://www.stats.gov.sk.ca).