

ABORIGINAL PEOPLE IN THE CALGARY AREA

A Statistical Profile of the Aboriginal Population of the City of Calgary and the Calgary CMA

Revised, February, 2007



KEY MESSAGES

- Most of the information in this profile of the Aboriginal population is based on the 2001 Census of Canada, and is, therefore, over five years out of date. The results of the 2006 Census should be available by December, 2007.
- The Aboriginal population of the Calgary region has been growing faster than that of any other urban center in Canada. Aboriginal people who have chosen to move to Calgary from elsewhere in Canada account for 45% of that population growth; and migrants from elsewhere in Alberta make up a further 35% of the increase. Between 1996 and 2001, 10.5 Aboriginal people took up residence in the Calgary CMA for every one who departed.
- The Aboriginal population of Calgary is widely distributed throughout the City and contributes to the growing ethnic and cultural diversity of Calgary. There are no neighbourhoods in Calgary in which the Aboriginal population exceeds 12%.
- One of the greatest strengths of the Aboriginal population of Calgary is the potential of its youthful population. Compared to the general population, there are:
 - Relatively more Aboriginal people under 25 years of age; and
 - Relatively fewer Aboriginal people over 45 years of age.

While the Aboriginal population of the Calgary area is relatively youthful, an aging trend among the Aboriginal population is now underway.

- The Aboriginal population of the City of Calgary reflects the rich cultural, ethnic, linguistic and political diversity of Aboriginal people in Alberta. The Aboriginal population self-identifies as 49% Métis and 46% North American Indian, with the balance being Inuit or multi-ethnic. First Nations languages commonly heard in Calgary include Blackfoot, Tsuu T'ina, Stoney, and Cree.
- If available provincial and national studies reflect the health status of the Aboriginal population of the Calgary area, there is reason to believe that this population experiences a relatively high incidence of many types of health problems. Challenges to the well-being of Aboriginal people reflect the underlying “determinants of health”, including: income and social status, social support networks, education, employment/working conditions, social environments, physical environments, personal health practices and coping skills, healthy child development, hereditary factors, health services, gender and culture. These problems are reflected in the relatively high incidence among the Aboriginal population of:
 - Acute and chronic health problems;
 - Lone parent families;
 - The need for child protection;
 - Family violence and victimization; and
 - Admission to probation and correctional facilities.



- The Aboriginal population of the Calgary area is less affluent than the general population; however, Aboriginal income levels are about 16% higher than for Aboriginal people province-wide:
 - The median household income for Aboriginal people in Calgary (\$47,135) is approximately 80% of median income for the Calgary CMA (\$58,861) and 90% of median income for all Albertans (\$52,524).
 - The incidence of poverty among Aboriginal people, at 51%, is about 2.5 times higher than for the rest of the population.
- Aboriginal residents of the Calgary CMA are more mobile than the rest of the population. Given the relatively low average income of Aboriginal people in the Calgary CMA, it would be reasonable to assume that many Aboriginal residents of the Calgary CMA need to move relatively frequently in pursuit of affordable housing.
- The relatively low income Aboriginal population is particularly vulnerable to the recent extreme increases in the cost of housing in the Calgary CMA. Research suggests an outstanding need for over 2,000 affordable, suitable housing units for 30% of the Aboriginal households in the Calgary CMA.
- Calgary is a major source of employment for Aboriginal people in Alberta. Aboriginal people earn about the same proportion of their total income, compared to the rest of the population; however, they make less money, and have little or no investment income.
 - The labour force participation rate among Aboriginal people in the Calgary CMA (75.3%) equals the participation rate of 75.8% for the entire population; however, there is a significant discrepancy in unemployment rates. Despite the economic boom in Alberta, and the gains made by the Aboriginal labour force to date, the unemployment rate among Aboriginal people in the Calgary area is twice as high as for the rest of the population.
- Calgary leads Alberta in Aboriginal self-employment; however, Aboriginal people are less likely to be self-employed than other residents of the Calgary CMA.



- The Aboriginal population of Calgary is making progress in closing the education gap. In the twenty years between 1981 and 2001:
 - The percentage of Aboriginal persons aged 15-24 attending school increased by 29% to over 48%, still lower than the general population at 58%.
 - The percentage of Aboriginal people aged 20-24 who have completed high school has increased to 68% (compared to 88% for the general population aged 20-24).
 - The percentage of Aboriginal women aged 20-24 who have completed post-secondary education has increased by two-thirds to 35% (compared to 50% for the general population aged 20-24).

- The Aboriginal population of the Calgary area is expected to continue to grow. In addition to the 21,910 Aboriginal residents in the Calgary CMA (in 2001), another 32,000 Aboriginal people live within a 2.5 hour drive of Calgary. If the Aboriginal population of the Calgary CMA continues to grow at the rate that it did between 1996 and 2001 (44% over five years), this compounded growth rate will result in an Aboriginal population of 65,000 people in the Calgary CMA by 2017.



KEY MESSAGES	I
WHO ARE THE ABORIGINAL PEOPLE WHO LIVE IN THE CALGARY AREA, AND HOW CAN THEY BE DESCRIBED?	1
"ABORIGINAL" PEOPLE IDENTIFY THEMSELVES, AND ARE IDENTIFIED BY OTHERS, IN VARIOUS WAYS	1
"ABORIGINAL" AS DEFINED BY OTHERS	1
THE ABORIGINAL POPULATION OF WHAT GEOGRAPHIC AREA?	3
CALGARY: FASTEST GROWING ABORIGINAL POPULATION CENTRE IN CANADA	5
URBANIZATION OF THE ABORIGINAL POPULATION IN ALBERTA	9
THE ABORIGINAL POPULATION OF ALBERTA IS HIGHLY URBANIZED	9
THE ABORIGINAL PRESENCE IN CALGARY	11
DISTRIBUTION THROUGHOUT THE CITY	11
ABORIGINAL CONTRIBUTION TO DIVERSITY IN CALGARY.....	14
POPULATION DEMOGRAPHICS	16
A YOUTHFUL ABORIGINAL POPULATION	16
THE ABORIGINAL POPULATION IS MATURING.....	18
CULTURAL AND LINGUISTIC DIVERSITY WITHIN THE ABORIGINAL POPULATION IN CALGARY	20
<i>The Métis</i>	21
<i>First Nations</i>	23
<i>The Inuit</i>	27
HEALTH STATUS	28
AVAILABLE PROVINCIAL DATA.....	29
OTHER STUDIES ON THE HEALTH STATUS OF THE ABORIGINAL POPULATION.....	29
AN ABORIGINAL PERSPECTIVE ON HEALTH AND WELL-BEING	30
INCOME AND THE INCIDENCE OF POVERTY	31
POVERTY IS AN ISSUE FOR THE ABORIGINAL POPULATION OF THE CALGARY AREA	31
MOBILITY & HOUSING	37
FAMILY LIFE AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS	39
CHILDREN IN LONE PARENT FAMILIES	39
CHILD PROTECTION.....	40
VIOLENCE AND FAMILY VIOLENCE	40
VICTIMIZATION AMONG THE ABORIGINAL POPULATION IN CANADA	41
ABORIGINAL PEOPLE AND THE JUSTICE SYSTEM	42
OFFENDING AMONG THE ABORIGINAL POPULATION IN CANADA	44
ECONOMIC PARTICIPATION AND EMPLOYMENT	45
SELF EMPLOYMENT AND BUSINESS OWNERSHIP	50



PROGRESS IN EDUCATION 53

GROWTH POTENTIAL OF THE ABORIGINAL POPULATION OF CALGARY 58

 THE “ALBERTA ADVANTAGE” 58



WHO ARE THE ABORIGINAL PEOPLE WHO LIVE IN THE CALGARY AREA, AND HOW CAN THEY BE DESCRIBED?

“Aboriginal” People Identify Themselves, and are Identified by Others, in Various Ways

The term “Aboriginal” is generally understood to include all people who are descendants of the original inhabitants of what is today Canada, but the term is not necessarily preferred by all such people.

“Aboriginal” people may identify themselves as part of:

- One or more identified groups that has legal and/or political definition (i.e., Treaty Indian, Status Indian, Registered Indian, Non-status Indian, Métis, Inuit); and/or
- One or more ethnic/cultural or linguistic groups (e.g., Nakoda, Blackfoot); and/or
- One or more communities of origin (e.g., Tsuu T’ina First Nation).

“Aboriginal” as Defined by Others

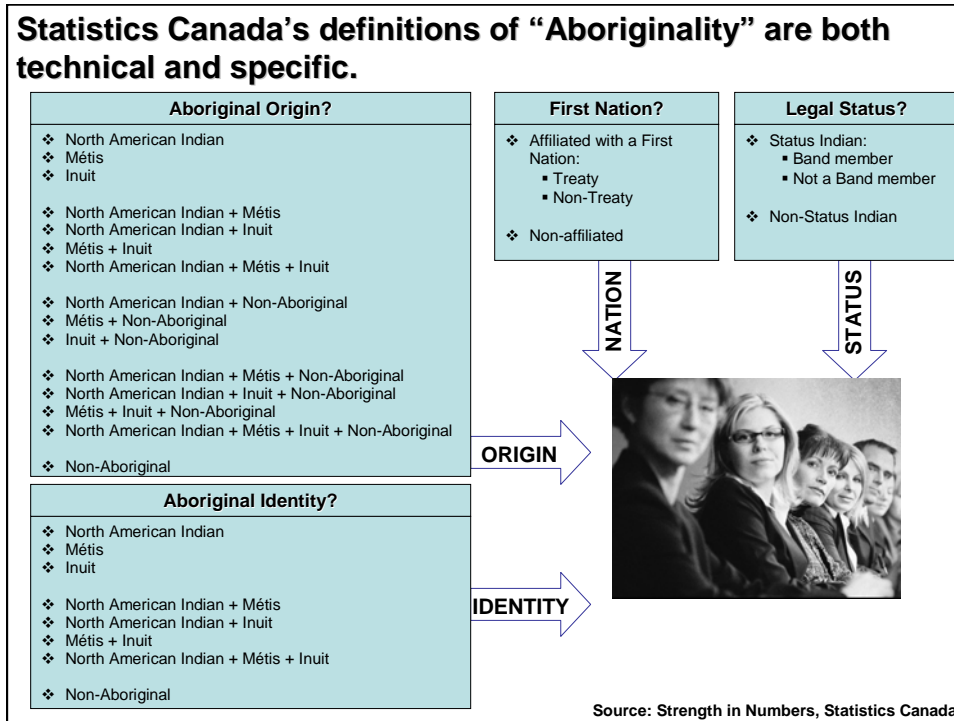
Many people of Aboriginal ancestry are sensitive to the terms used to define or describe them. It is, nevertheless, necessary to use some of these legal and statistical definitions to avoid confusion. **For the sake of clarity in attributing statistical information to its sources, terms such as “Aboriginal”, “North American Indian”, “Registered Indian” and “Indian Reserve” are used in this paper, with apologies to anyone who would prefer the use of different terminology.**

Inclusion of a person in the “Aboriginal” population is not a simple matter (see Exhibit 1). Census respondents may report “Aboriginal Origin” – inclusion of either North American Indian, Métis or Inuit people in their ancestry. Much of the statistical information reported and analyzed by the Government of Alberta pertains to the “Aboriginal Origin” population.



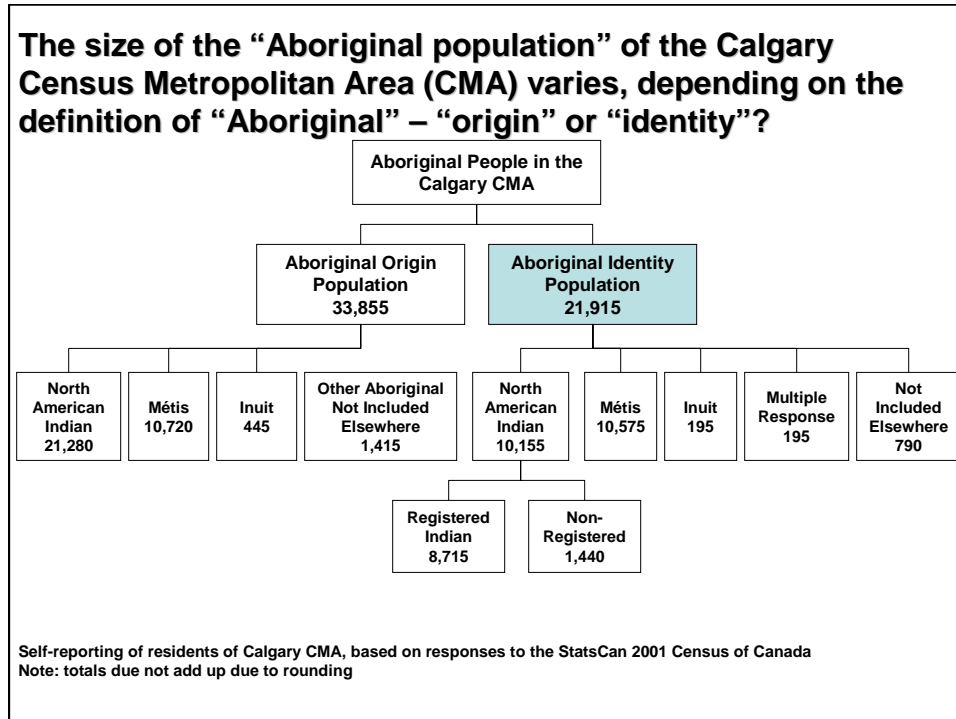
Statistics Canada collects more extensive information about the “Aboriginal Identity” population – those people who identify themselves as being part of at least one Aboriginal group (i.e., North American Indian, Métis or Inuit) and/or those people who reported themselves as being a Treaty Indian or a Registered Indian as defined in the Indian Act of Canada, and/or who are members of a First Nation (legally known as an “Indian Band”).

Exhibit 1



The “Aboriginal Origin” population of the Calgary Census Metropolitan area (CMA), at 33,855, significantly exceeds the “Aboriginal Identity” population of 21,915 (see Exhibit 2). Because Statistics Canada collects much more information about the smaller “Aboriginal Identity” population, the primary focus of population research commissioned by the Calgary Urban Aboriginal Initiative is on the “Aboriginal Identity” population.

Exhibit 2



The Aboriginal Population of What Geographic Area?

An ideal statistical profile of the Aboriginal population of Calgary would deal exclusively with information about the City’s Aboriginal population; however, no such comprehensive database exists. A statistical profile of the Aboriginal population of the City of Calgary is limited by the availability of pertinent information, and cannot be 100% current, comprehensive, or specific to the City’s Aboriginal population.

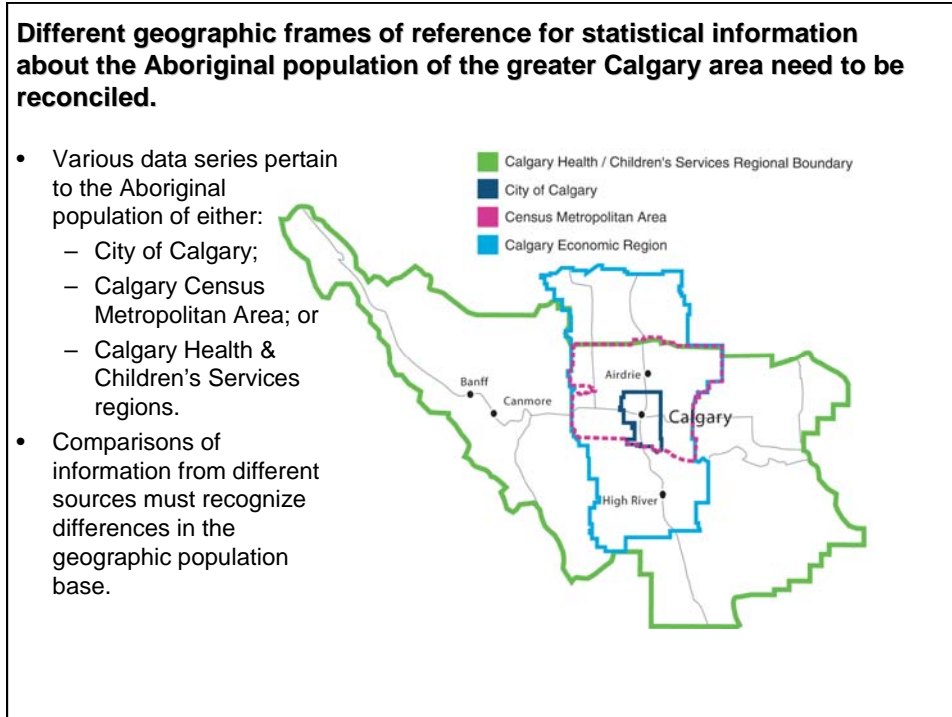
A statistical profile of the Aboriginal population of the Calgary area needs to rely on information gathered:

- By various agencies (e.g., StatsCan, Calgary Health Region, Government of Alberta, and the City of Calgary);
- At different levels of geographic detail (e.g., neighbourhood, city, Census Metropolitan Area (CMA), provincial, national); and
- With respect to different Aboriginal sub-populations (e.g., much more statistical information is available with respect to Registered Indians than for other sub-populations of the Aboriginal population of the Calgary area).



As Exhibit 3 illustrates, the different geographic frames of reference for various agencies which collect statistical information about the Aboriginal population of the greater Calgary area need to be reconciled.

Exhibit 3



Where statistical information specific to the Aboriginal population of the City of Calgary is not available, proxy data sources have been explored, in the following descending order of preference:

- Calgary Census Metropolitan Area (CMA);
- Provincial; and
- National.



CALGARY: FASTEST GROWING ABORIGINAL POPULATION CENTRE IN CANADA

The Aboriginal population of the Calgary region has been growing faster than that of any other urban center in Canada. Aboriginal people who have chosen to move to Calgary from elsewhere in Alberta and Canada account for 80% of that population growth. Between 1996 and 2001, 10.5 Aboriginal people took up residence in the Calgary CMA for every one who departed (see Exhibit 62).

Aboriginal people are integral to Calgary. The Aboriginal population of Calgary is well established and has been growing 2.5 times as fast as the City. Exhibit 4 reveals that the 21,915 Aboriginal people who live in Calgary comprise the third largest Aboriginal community in Canada (after Winnipeg at about 52,000 and Edmonton at 30,365).

Exhibit 4

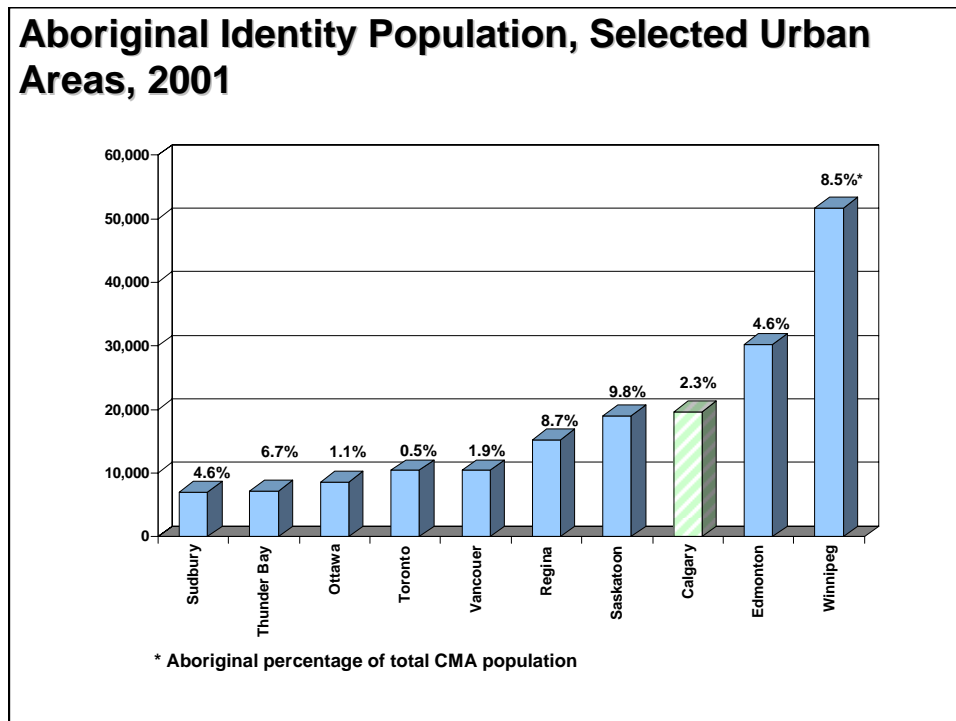


Exhibit 5 and Exhibit 6 compare the rates of growth of the Aboriginal population in Edmonton, Calgary and Winnipeg. Whether the comparison is at the level of the City or the CMA, the Aboriginal population in Calgary grew relatively faster than either Edmonton or Winnipeg between 1996 and 2001.



Exhibit 5

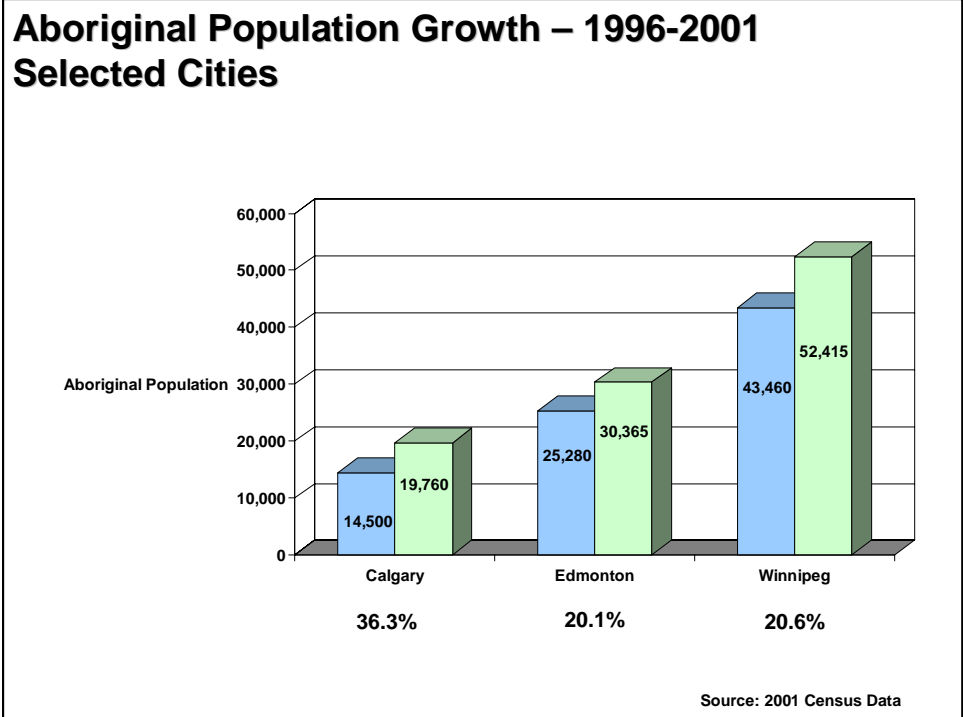


Exhibit 6

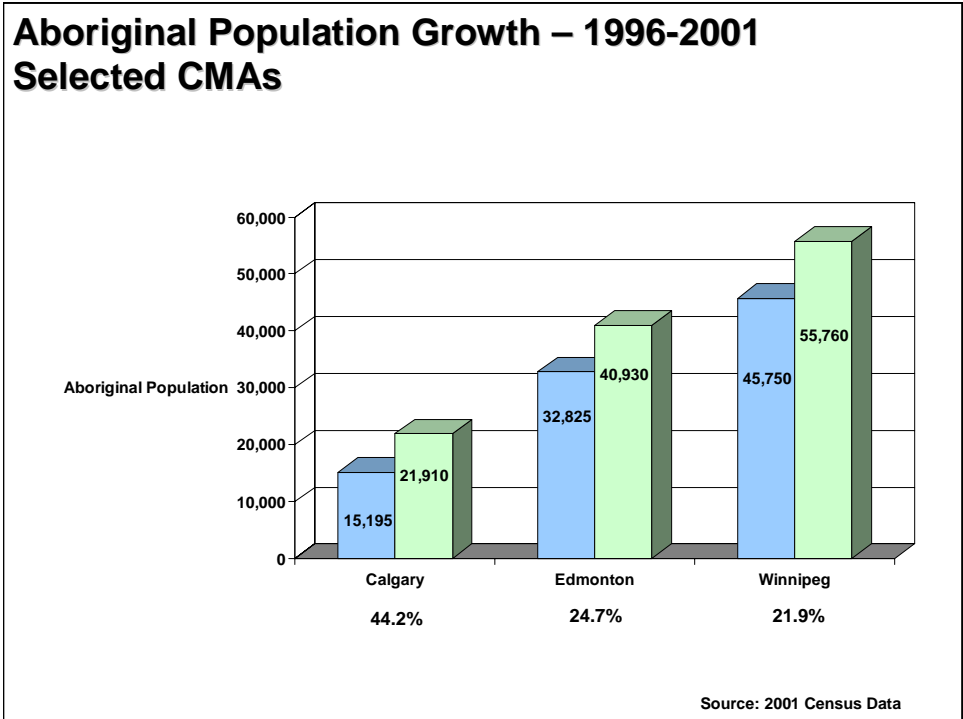
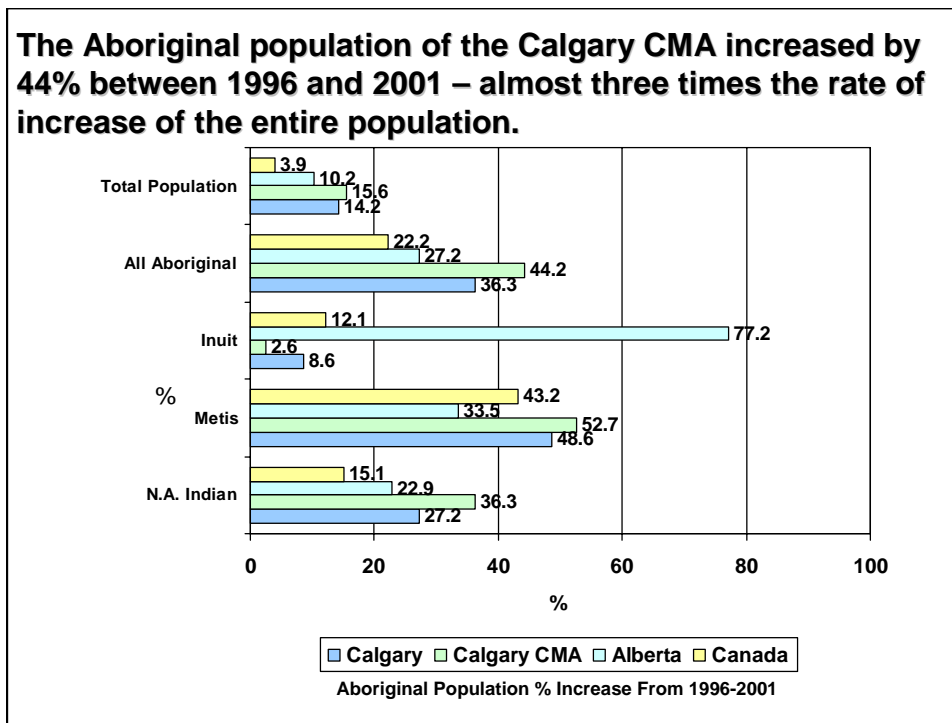


Exhibit 7 compares growth rates of various segments of the population among the City of Calgary, the Calgary CMA, Alberta and Canada. It is worth noting that:

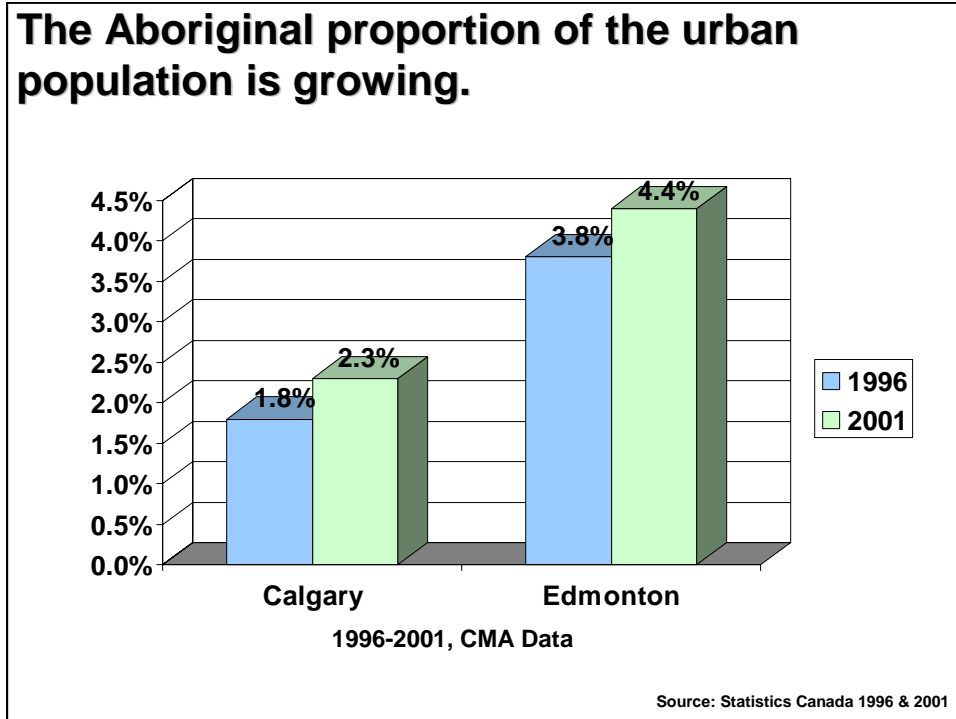
- The population of the City of Calgary grew 14.2% in the 1996 - 2001 period - three and one half times more than the population of Canada (3.9%);
- The Aboriginal population of the City of Calgary grew 36.3%, two and one-half times the rate of the City's population in the same 5 year period; and
- The Aboriginal population of the Calgary CMA grew 44.2%, almost three times the rate of increase of the population of the CMA.

Exhibit 7



The Aboriginal proportion of the population of Calgary is growing. In the 1996 thru 2001 period, the Aboriginal population grew from 1.8% of the total population to 2.3% (see Exhibit 8).

Exhibit 8



URBANIZATION OF THE ABORIGINAL POPULATION IN ALBERTA

The Aboriginal Population of Alberta is Highly Urbanized

Exhibit 9 reveals that the Aboriginal population in Alberta is more highly urbanized than in the rest of Canada, with a correspondingly smaller proportion of the population resident on Reserves. The fact that Alberta has such a relatively large and highly urbanized Métis population accounts for the relatively great extent of urbanization of the Aboriginal population in Alberta.

Exhibit 9

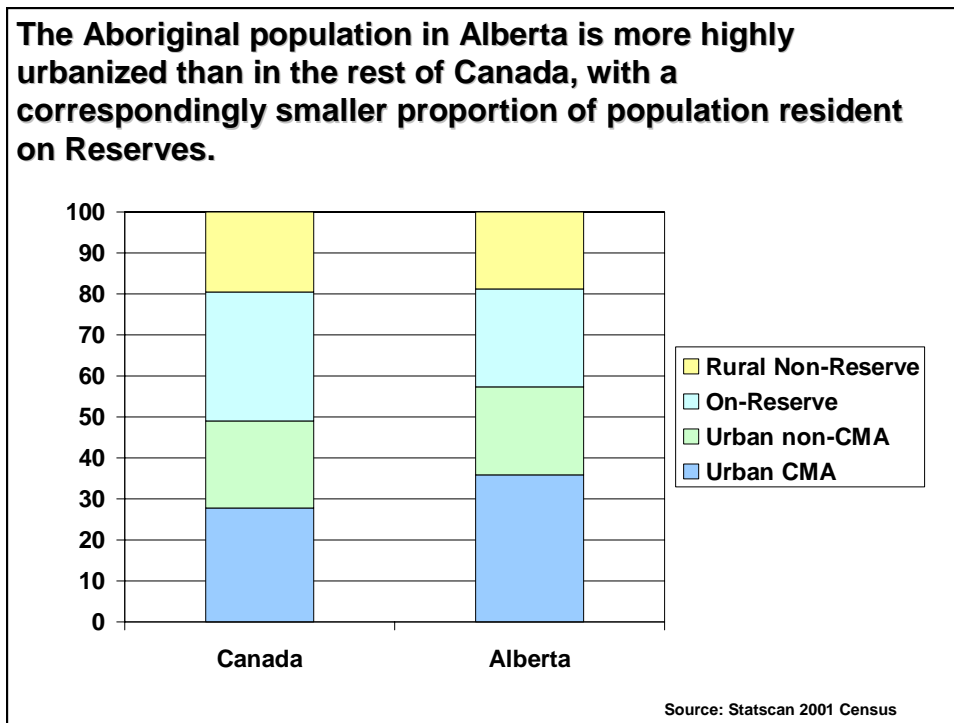


Exhibit 10 summarizes the change in the Aboriginal population of the seven largest urban centres in Alberta between 1996 and 2001. The urban proportion of the Aboriginal population in Alberta appears to be stable, at about 49%.

Exhibit 10

The urban proportion of the Aboriginal population in Alberta is stable, at about 49%.

	1996		2001		
	Aboriginal Population	% Alberta's Aboriginal Population	Aboriginal Population	% Alberta's Aboriginal Population	% Increase
SOUTH					
Calgary CMA	15,195	12.4%	21,910	14.0%	1.6%
Lethbridge	1,810	1.5%	2,290	1.5%	0%
Medicine Hat	1,335	0.9%	950	0.8%	-0.1%
CENTRAL					
Edmonton CMA	32,825	26.7%	40,930	26.2%	-0.5%
Red Deer	2,075	1.7%	2,675	1.7%	0%
NORTH					
Fort McMurray	4,570	3.7%	5,130	3.3%	-0.4%
Grande Prairie	1,890	1.5%	2,610	1.7%	0.2%
Total Major Urban Centres	59,315	48.3%	76,880	49.2%	
Total Alberta	122,835	100%	156,220	100%	

Source: Statscan Census 1996, 2001



THE ABORIGINAL PRESENCE IN CALGARY

Distribution Throughout the City

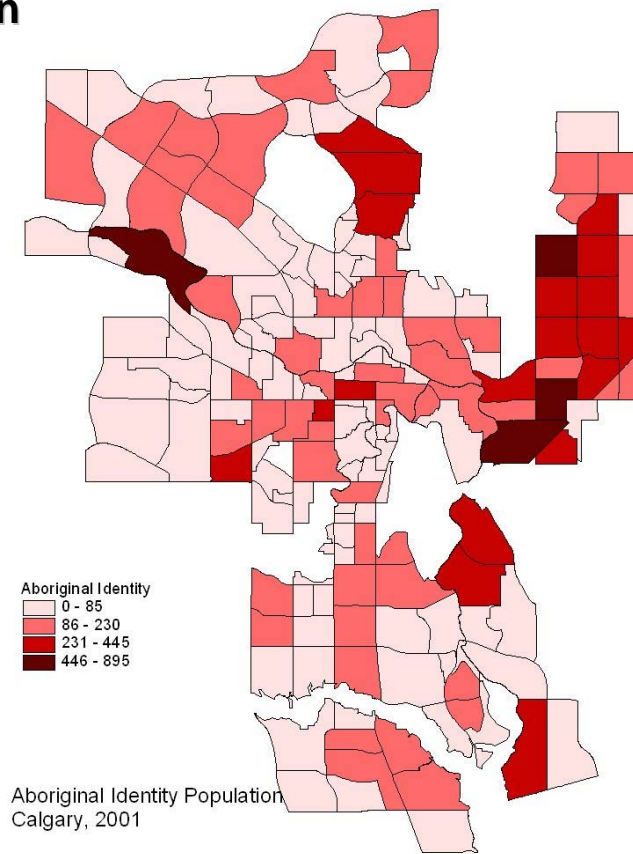
The Aboriginal population of Calgary is widely distributed throughout the City and contributes to the growing ethnic and cultural diversity of Calgary.

Exhibit 11 shows that the Aboriginal population is widely distributed across Calgary, with several areas of higher concentration in the centre and east areas of the city.



Exhibit 11

The Aboriginal population of Calgary is distributed throughout the City, with several areas of higher concentration.

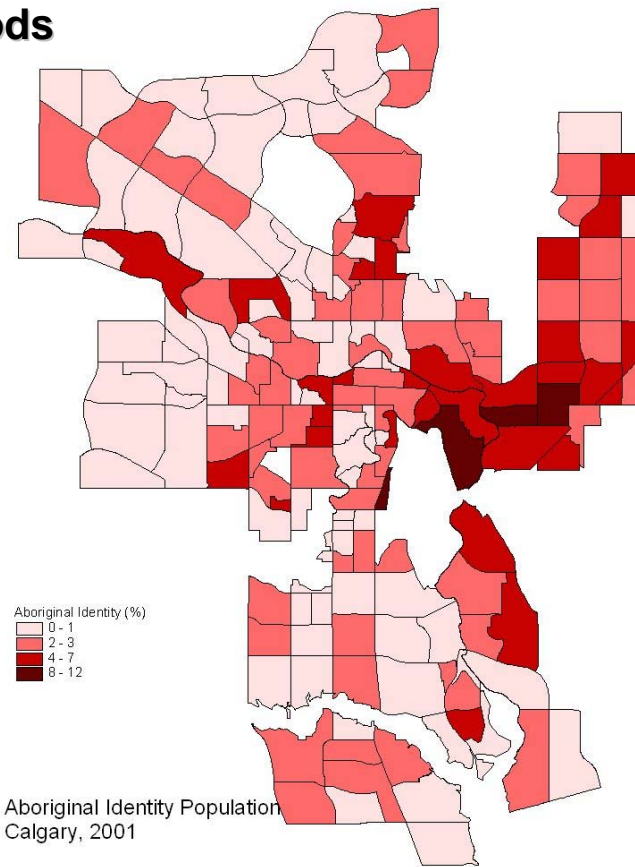


As Exhibit 12 illustrates, there are no neighbourhoods in Calgary in which the Aboriginal population exceeds 12%.



Exhibit 12

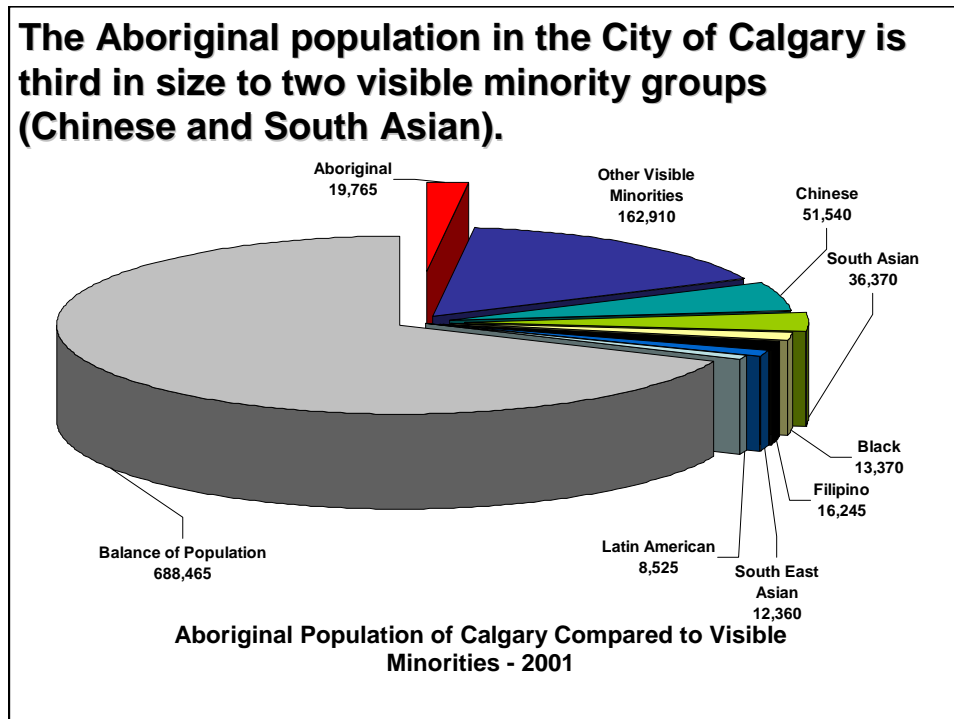
**The are no neighbourhoods
in Calgary where the
Aboriginal population
exceeds 12%.**



Aboriginal Contribution to Diversity in Calgary

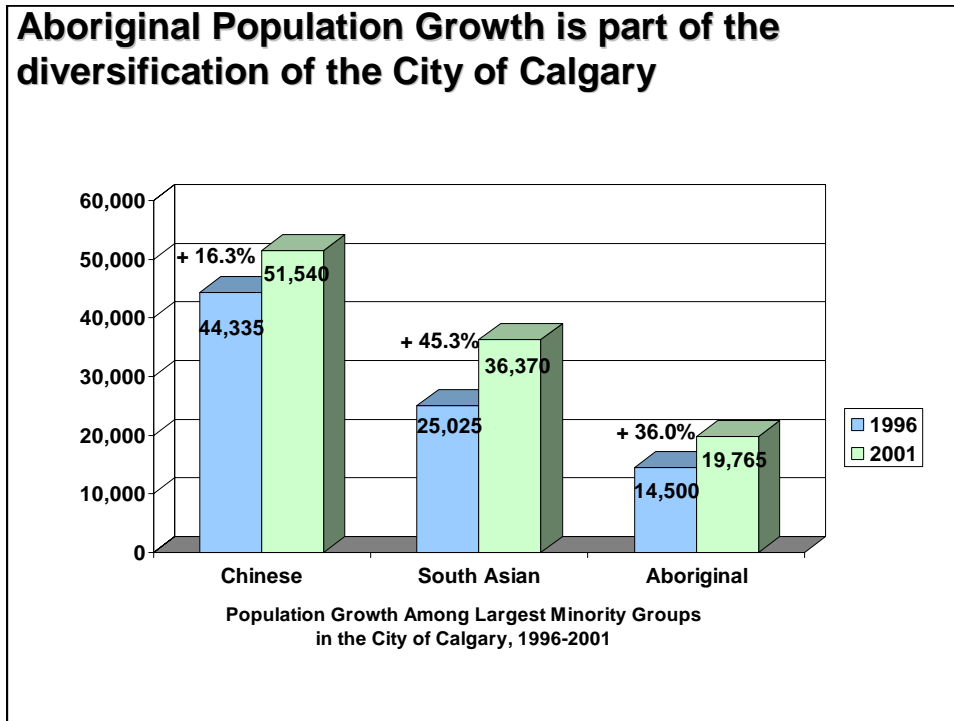
The Aboriginal population contributes to the “cultural mosaic” of the City of Calgary, and is third in size to the Chinese and South Asian visible minority groups (see Exhibit 13). The Aboriginal population in the City of Calgary is about 20% larger than the Filipino population.

Exhibit 13



The growth rates of visible minority populations in the years 1996 thru 2001 has been rapid. As shown in Exhibit 14, the Aboriginal population growth rate of 36% for the period was exceeded only by that of the South Asian population at 45%.

Exhibit 14

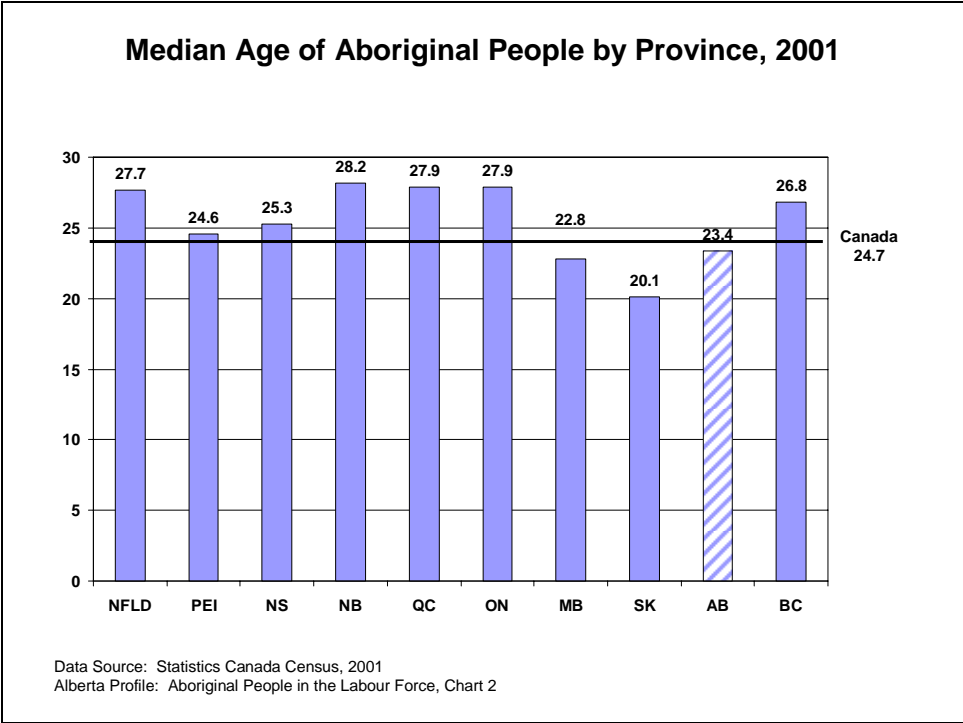


POPULATION DEMOGRAPHICS

A Youthful Aboriginal Population

One of the greatest strengths of the Aboriginal population of Calgary is the potential of its youthful population. As Exhibit 15 shows, the Aboriginal population of Alberta (median age of 23.4 years) is slightly younger than the national average.

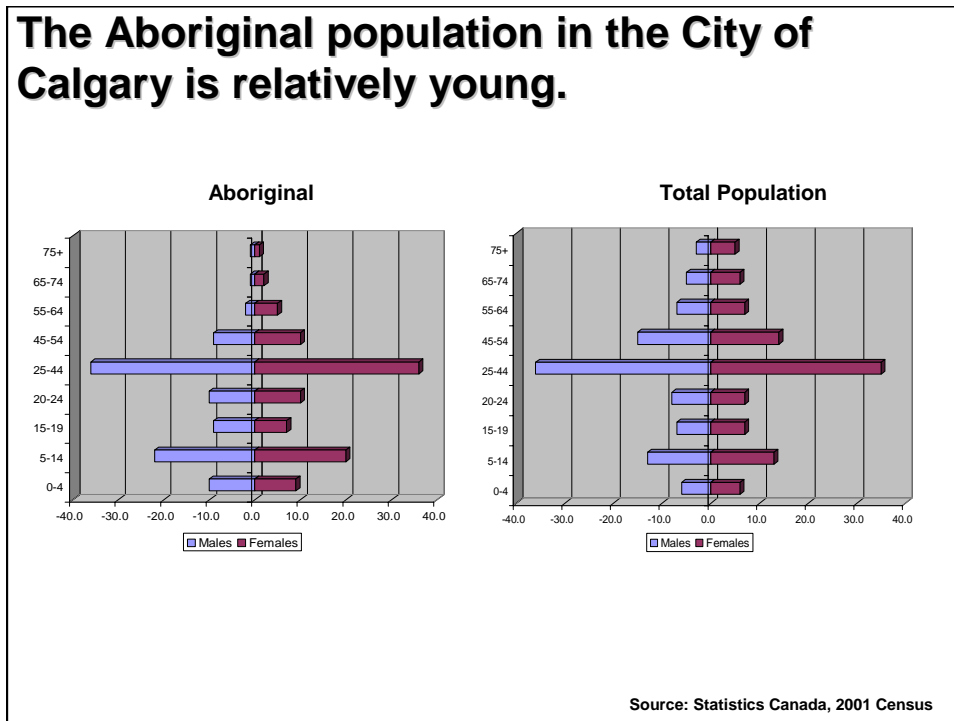
Exhibit 15



The age distribution of the urban Aboriginal population of the City of Calgary (see Exhibit 16) differs from the entire urban population:

- There are relatively more Aboriginal people under 25 years of age;
- There are relatively fewer Aboriginal people over 45 years of age; and
- Nearly one-third of Aboriginal people are under 15 years of age, as compared to 20.8% of the total population.

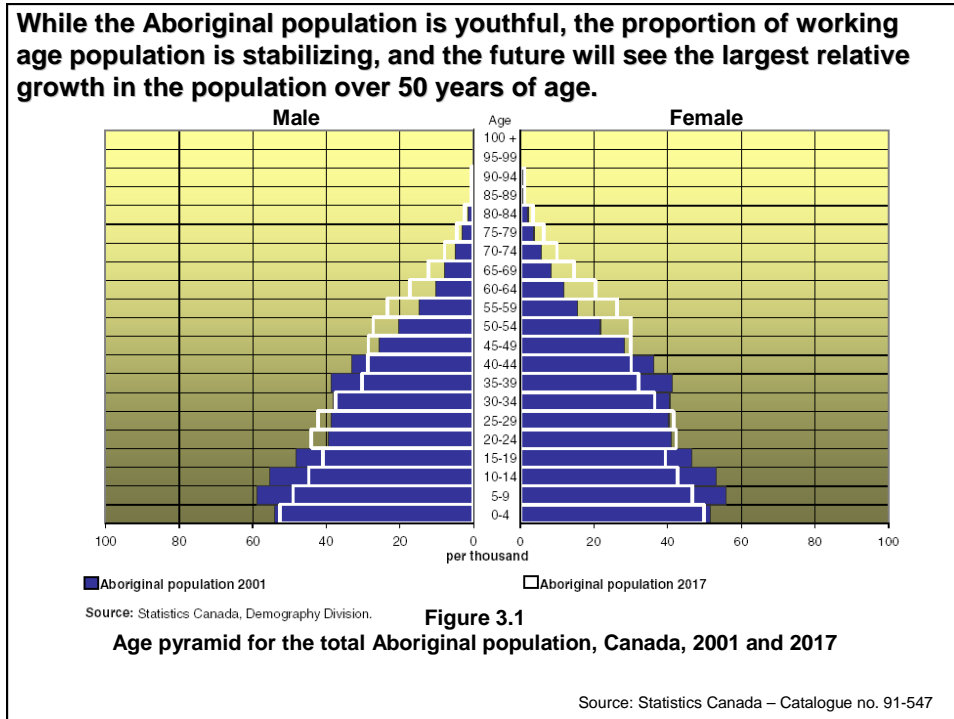
Exhibit 16



The Aboriginal Population is Maturing

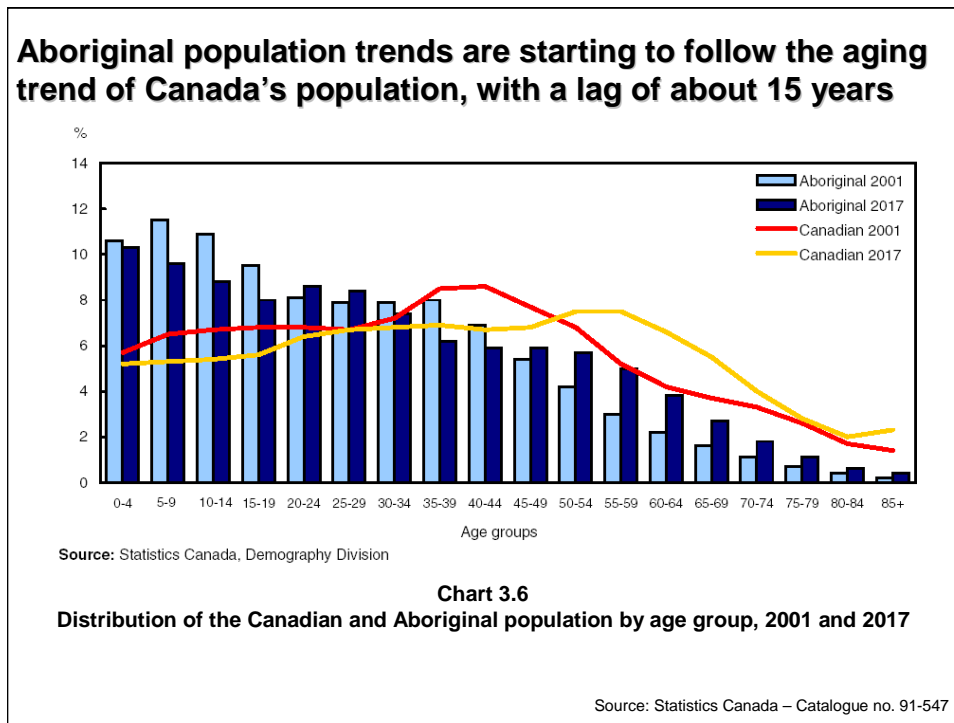
Statistics Canada recently published a forecast of the growth and other changes in the Aboriginal population of Canada to the year 2017. As Exhibit 17 illustrates, the proportion of the Aboriginal population under the age of 20 is expected to drop significantly, with a corresponding increase in the proportion of the Aboriginal population over 45 years of age.

Exhibit 17



While the Aboriginal population of the Calgary area is relatively youthful, a declining fertility rate underlies a national aging trend among the Aboriginal population. Exhibit 18 suggests that Aboriginal population trends are starting to follow the aging trend of Canada's population, with a lag of about 15 years.

Exhibit 18



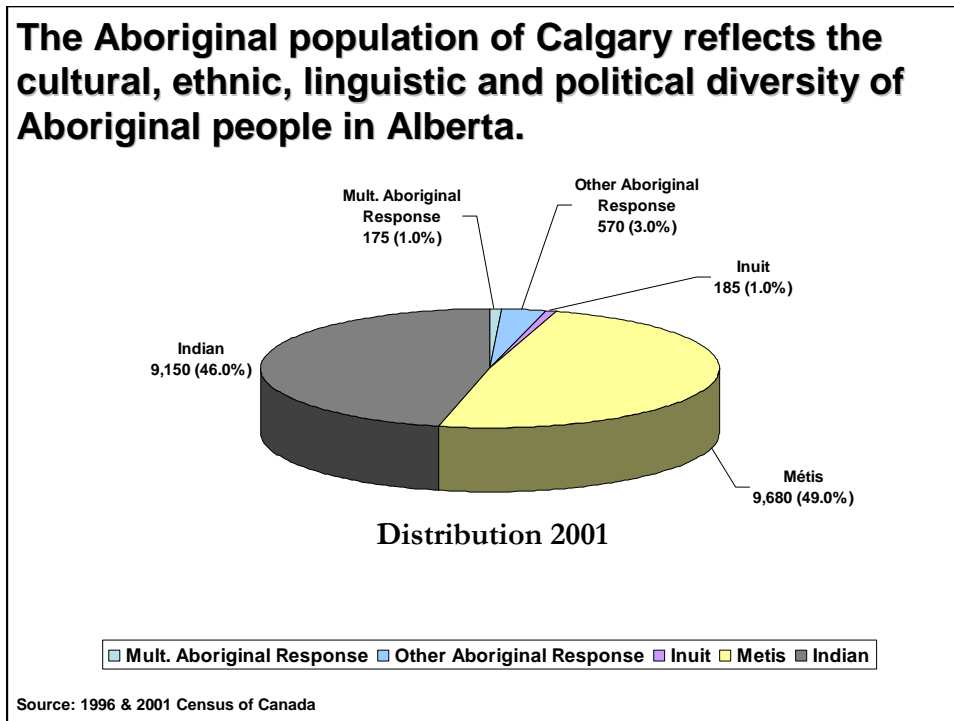
The Aboriginal population will continue to be young relative to Canada's population, the proportion of population between 20 and 35 is expected to remain relatively stable, and a relative increase in the number of Aboriginal seniors will increase the demand for services for the older population.



Cultural and Linguistic Diversity within the Aboriginal Population in Calgary

The Aboriginal population of Calgary reflects the cultural, ethnic, linguistic and political diversity of Aboriginal people in Alberta – and Canada (see Exhibit 19).

Exhibit 19



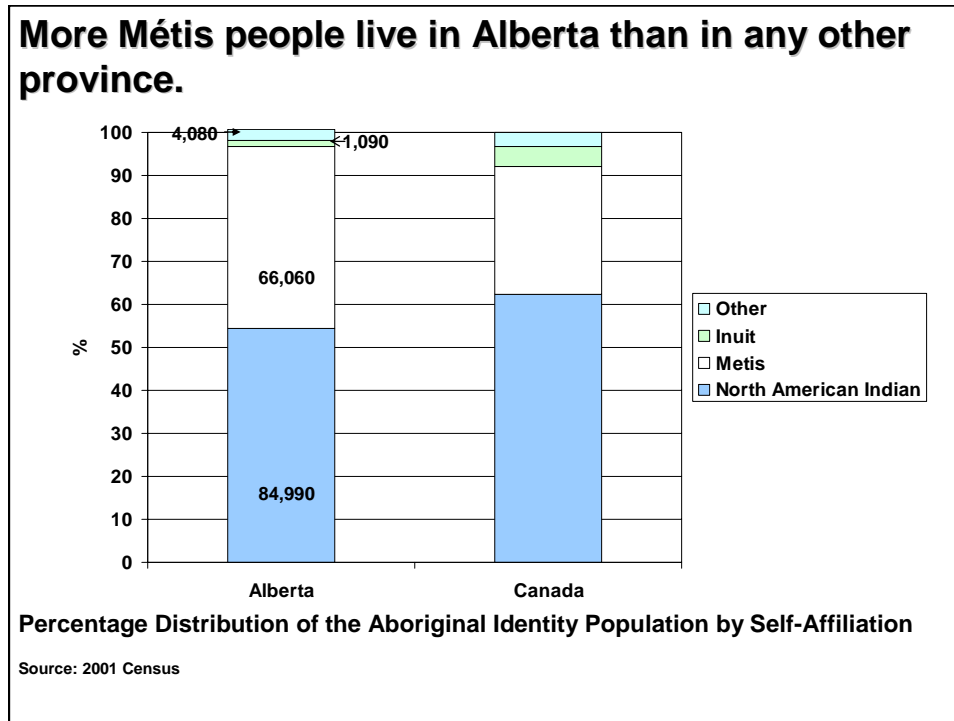
The Aboriginal population self-identifies as 49% Métis and 46% North American Indian, with the balance being Inuit or multi-ethnic. First Nations languages commonly heard in Calgary include Blackfoot, Tsuu T'ina, Stoney, and Cree.



The Métis

Over 66,000 Métis live in Alberta, more than in any other province (see Exhibit 20). Almost 10,000 Métis live in the Calgary.

Exhibit 20



The major service centres for the eight Métis Settlements located in central and northern Alberta are shown in Exhibit 21.



Exhibit 21

Métis Jurisdictional Boundaries in Alberta

Metis Settlements

	2001 Cens Population
1. Paddle Prairie	550
2. Peavine	580
3. Gift Lake	780
4. East Prairie	380
5. Buffalo Lake	690
6. Kikino	870
7. Elizabeth	560
8. Fishing Lake	420

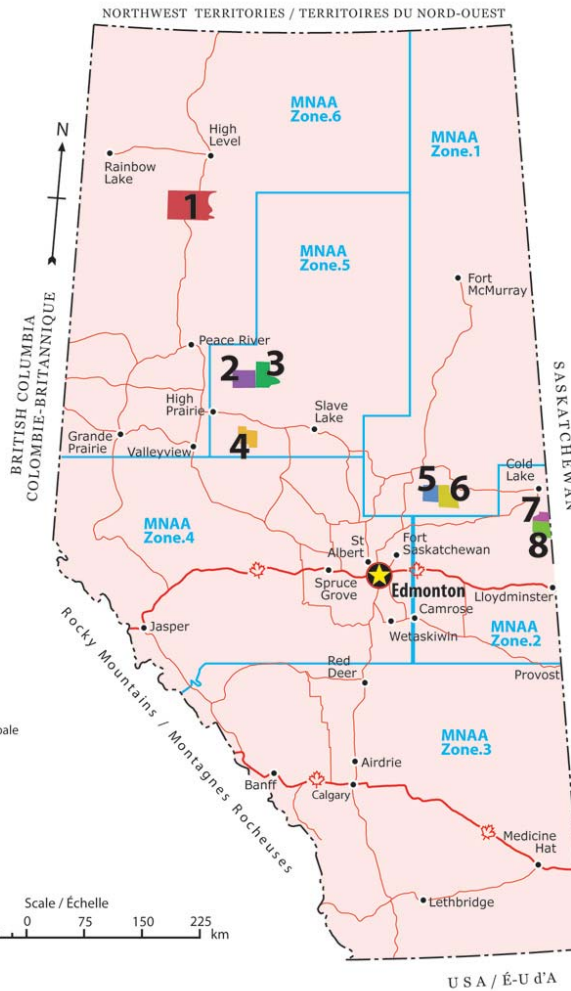
Total Population of
Metis Settlements

4,830

Metis Nation of Alberta
Association Regional Zones

LEGEND / LÉGENDE
Major road /
Route principale

Scale / Échelle
75 0 75 150 225
km



First Nations

The 92,060 members of First Nations whose Reserves are located within the boundaries of the Province of Alberta (at the end of 2004, according to Indian and Northern Affairs Canada) have an extensive history associated with the site of the present day City of Calgary. Calgary is within the boundaries of Treaty 7 (see Exhibit 22).



First Nation Reserves in Alberta

Alexander.....	134
Alexis	133, 232-234
Athabasca Chipewyan	201, 201A-G
Beaver	164, 164A
Beaver Lake	131
Bigstone Cree	166, 166A-D, 183
Blood Tribe	148, 148A
Chipewyan Prairie	194, 194A-B
Cold Lake	149, 149A-B
Dene Tha'	207, 209-214
Driftpile River	150
Duncan's	151A, 151K
Enoch	135
Ermineskin	138, 138A
Fort McKay	174, 174A-B
Fort McMurray	175, 176, 176A-B
Frog Lake	121, 122
Heart Lake	167
Horse Lake	152B-C
Kapawe'no	229, 230, 231, 150B-D
Kehewin	123
Little Red River	162, 215
Loon River Cree	No Reserve
Louis Bull	138B
Lubicon Lake	No Reserve
Mikisew Cree	217-225
Montana	139
O'Chiese	203, 203A
Paul	133A-C
Peigan	147, 147B
Saddle Lake	125, 128
Samson Cree	137A
Sawridge	150G-H
Siksika	146
Stoney	142, 142B, 143, 144, 144A, 216
Sturgeon Lake	154, 154A-B
Sucker Creek	150A
Sunchild Cree	202
Swan River	150E-F
Tallcree	163, 163A-B, 173, 173A-C
Tsuu T'ina Nation	145
Whitefish Lake	155, 155A-B
Woodland Cree	226-228

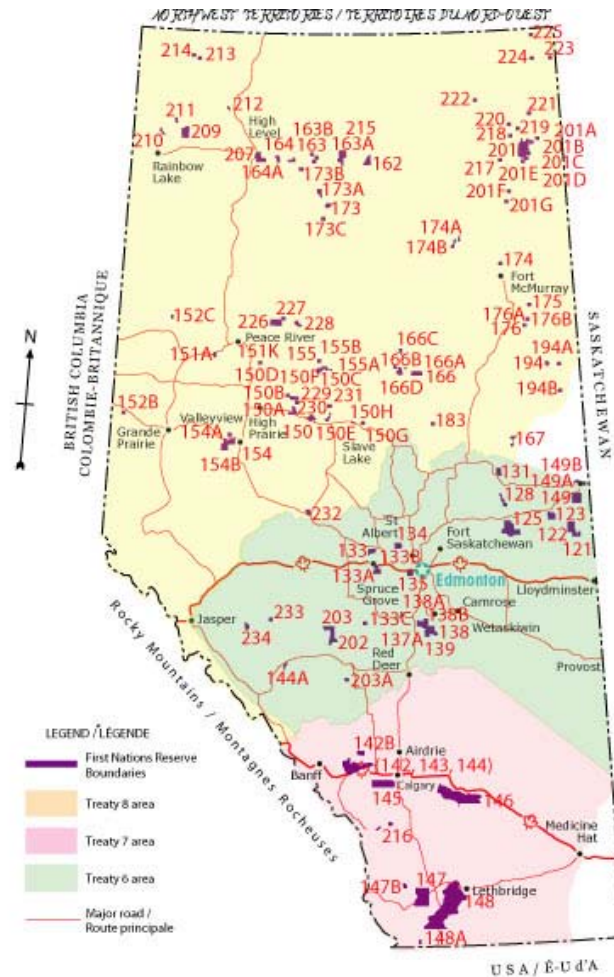
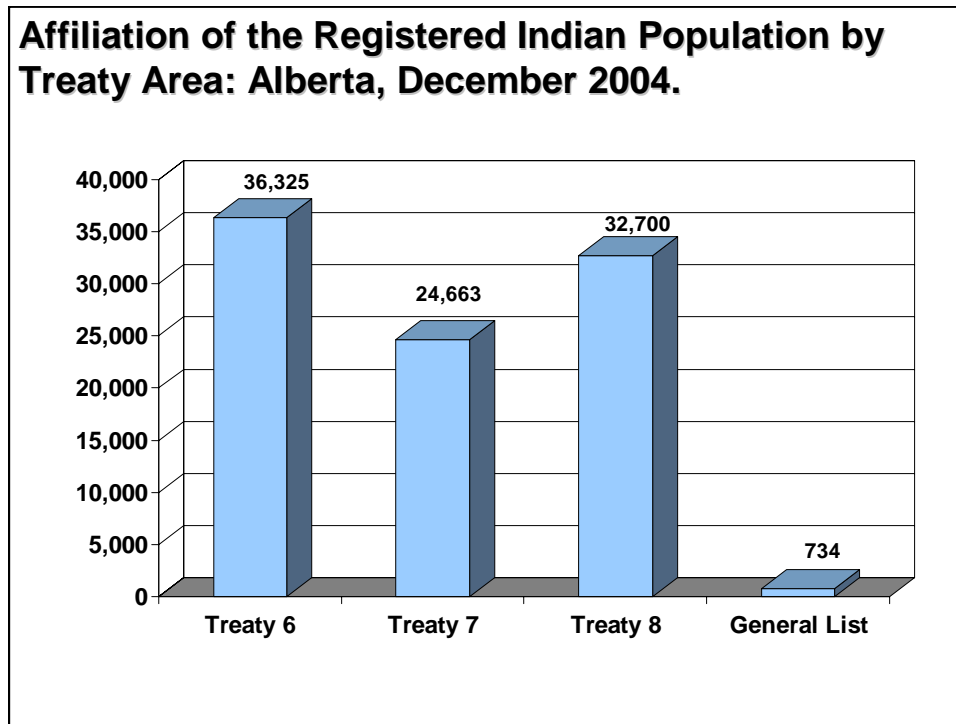


Exhibit 23 summarizes the affiliation of the Registered Indian population of Alberta by Treaty area.

Exhibit 23



Throughout the late 1990s, Alberta netted a gain of over 300 North American Indian people per year through inter-provincial migration.¹ North American Indians who are members of First Nations which are not based in Alberta are not counted among the 92,000 Registered Indians associated with First Nations in Alberta; conversely, some members of First Nations within the boundaries of Alberta may reside outside the Province.

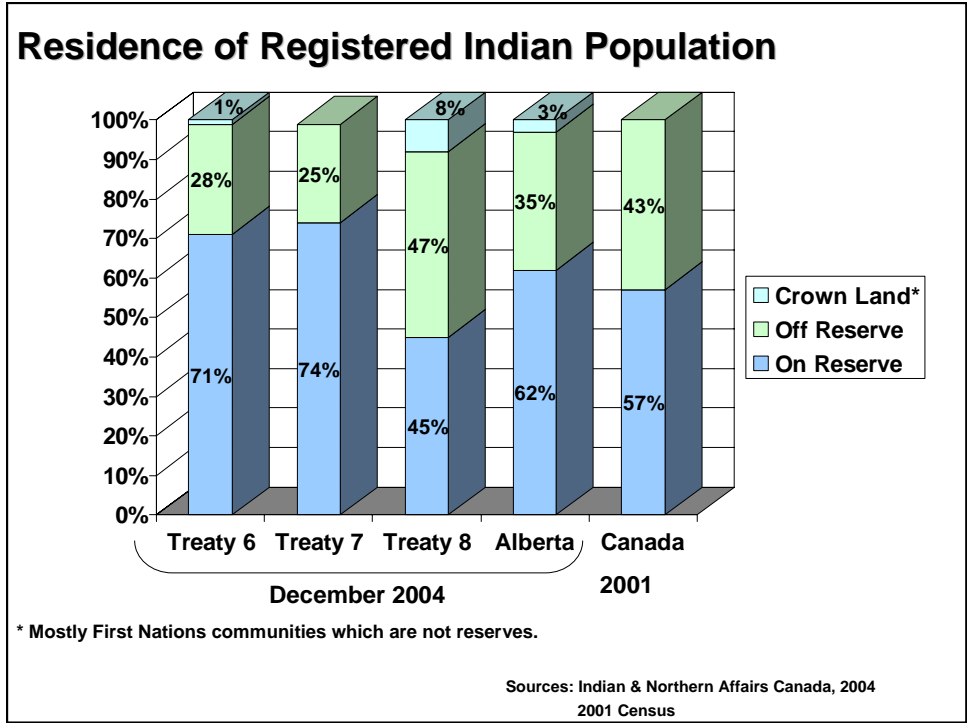
Exhibit 24 reveals that the proportion of North American Indians registered with First Nations in Alberta living on First Nations Reserves (62%) is higher than the Canadian average of 48%.

Most of the Registered Indians resident on Crown land in the Treaty 8 area reside in predominantly First Nations communities (e.g., Fort Chipewyan, Little Buffalo, Trout Lake, Peerless Lake, Chipewyan Lakes, Garden River). First Nations members who live “off Reserve” reside in cities, towns and urban areas.

¹ Statscan Catalogue No. 91-547, p.22



Exhibit 24



First Nations in Alberta maintain their own governments and are organized into Tribal Councils. As Exhibit 25 illustrates, the primary traditional languages of First Nations in Alberta are Cree, Stoney, Chipewyan, Saulteaux, Dene, Beaver, Blackfoot, and Tsuu T'ina.

Exhibit 25

Political and Linguistic Affiliation of First Nations in Alberta

Treaty 6		
Tribal Council	First Nation	Traditional Language(s)
Unaffiliated Treaty 6 First Nations	Paul Band Saddle Lake	Stoney & Cree Cree
Four Nations	Louis Bull Montana Ermineskin Cree Samson Cree	Cree Cree Cree Cree
Tribal Chiefs Ventures Inc.	Beaver Lake Cold Lake Frog Lake Heart Lake Whitefish Lake Kehewin Cree	Cree Chipewyan Cree Cree Cree Cree
Yellowhead Tribal Council	O'Chiese Sunchild Alexis Nakota Sioux Alexander Enoch Cree	Cree & Saulteaux Cree Stoney Cree Cree
Treaty 7		
Tribal Council	First Nation	Traditional Language(s)
Treaty 7 Management Corporation	Siksika Tsuu T'ina Nakoda (Stoney) Kainai Piikani	Blackfoot Tsuu T'ina Stoney Blackfoot Blackfoot



Treaty 8		
Tribal Council	First Nation	Traditional Language(s)
Unaffiliated First Nations	Bigstone Cree Peerless Lake Smith's Landing Lubicon Lake Indian Nation	Cree Cree Chipewyan Cree
Athabasca Tribal Council	Mikisew Cree Athabasca Chipewyan Chipewyan Prairie Fort McKay Fort McMurray	Cree Chipewyan Chipewyan Chipewyan Cree
Kee Tas Kee Now Tribal Council	Whitefish Lake Woodland Cree Loon River	Cree Cree Cree
Lesser Slave Lake Tribal Council	Driftpile Kapawe'no Sawridge Sucker Creek Swan River	Cree Cree Cree Cree Cree
Western Cree Tribal Council	Horse Lake Duncan's Sturgeon Lake Cree	Cree Cree Cree
North Peace Tribal Council	Beaver Tallcree Little Red River Cree Dene Tha'	Beaver Cree Cree Dene

The Inuit

The Inuit population of the City of Calgary remains relatively small at 185 people in 2001.



HEALTH STATUS

Recipients of health services are seldom asked to self-identify as Aboriginal people; however, financial transactions between Canada and the Provinces to fund health services for registered Indians provide some basis for tracking the utilization of health services by that population. Province-wide and national studies about the health conditions of the Aboriginal population are the primary sources of information about the health status of the Aboriginal population, and most of these studies do not include the non-status Indian and Metis populations. The extent to which these studies reflect the health status of the Aboriginal population of the Calgary area is unknown.

Consequently, very little reliable statistical information is available about the health status of the Aboriginal population in Calgary. If available provincial and national studies do reflect the health status of the Aboriginal population of the Calgary area, there is reason to believe that this population experiences a relatively high incidence of many types of health problems.

Exhibit 26

Health Status of the Aboriginal Population

- An Aboriginal perspective on Health:
 - “The well being of the mind, body, spirit and emotions of Aboriginal children, adults, families and communities”.
- No available statistics on the health status of the Aboriginal population of the Calgary area, but provincial and national studies suggest a relatively high incidence of health problems.
- “Determinants of Health” include: Income and Social Status, Social Support Networks, Education, Employment/Working Conditions, Social Environments, Physical Environments, Personal Health Practices and Coping Skills, Healthy Child Development, Biology and Genetic Endowment, Health Services, Gender and Culture



Available Provincial Data

In 2000, First Nations members in Alberta sought health care services at higher rates than non-First Nations people. For example:

- Diagnoses for mental disorders are more prevalent: First Nations people were:
 - 2.5 times more likely to seek treatment for anxiety,
 - 1.4 times more likely to seek help for an affective disorder (e.g., depression); and
 - 2.9 times more likely to see a physician for the treatment of schizophrenia.²
- First Nations individuals were 7 times more likely to seek help from a physician for a substance abuse problem.
- First Nations women were marginally less likely to give birth to a low birth weight baby, and were more likely to give birth to a high birth weight baby.
- First Nations members are more likely to seek services for respiratory disorders including pneumonia, asthma, and chronic obstructive pulmonary disease.

Aboriginal people are almost twice as likely to develop diabetes as Albertans in general.³ First Nations members are 2.6 times more likely to seek a physician's help with diabetes and 4 times more likely to go to an emergency department for this illness.

Seventy-four percent of Aboriginal adults rated their health as good or better, while 88% of the adult Edmonton CMA population rated their health good or better.⁴

Other Studies on the Health Status of the Aboriginal Population

AIDS/HIV is increasing among the Aboriginal population. In 1997, the AIDS prevalence among Aboriginal Canadians was 33.2 per 100,000 or 11 times higher than for the average Canadian.⁵

Urban Aboriginal people are twice as likely to smoke as their non-Aboriginal counterparts. Similarly, Aboriginal people are twice as likely to be obese as non-Aboriginal urban dwellers.⁶

Aboriginal people are believed to have higher proportion of Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FASD) than non-Aboriginal people, which is found at a rate of 4-8 per 1000 births in Canada.⁷

² Cardinal, J.C. et al (2004, "First Nations in Alberta: A Focus on Health Service Use". Edmonton, Alberta Health and Wellness

³ StatsCan: 2001 Aboriginal Population Profile

⁴ Health of Canadians Living in Census Metropolitan Areas, Jason Gilmore Statistics Canada, July 2004, p.32

⁵ Health Canada

⁶ How Healthy Are We? Annual Report of the Medical Officers of Health, Capital Health, January 2003, p.15

⁷ Health Canada



An Aboriginal Perspective on Health and Well-Being

The Wisdom Committee of the Alberta Mental Health Board suggests an inclusive definition of Health from an Aboriginal perspective:

“The well being of the mind, body, spirit and emotions of Aboriginal children, adults, families and communities...”⁸

The Population Health Agency of Canada identifies "determinants of health," factors outside the health care system or sector which significantly affect health. These "determinants of health" - a range of individual and collective factors and conditions, and their interactions, which have been shown to be correlated with health status - currently include:

1. Income and Social Status;
2. Social Support Networks;
3. Education;
4. Employment/Working Conditions;
5. Social Environments;
6. Physical Environments;
7. Personal Health Practices and Coping Skills;
8. Healthy Child Development;
9. Biology and Genetic Endowment;
10. Health Services;
11. Gender; and
12. Culture.

The following sections of this report delve into some of the causal factors which may contribute to the suspected, relatively high incidence of health problems among the Aboriginal population of the Calgary area, by summarizing available statistical information related to some of the determinants of health.

⁸ AMHB Wisdom Committee, 2004, quoted in *Aboriginal Mental Health: A Framework for Alberta - Healthy Aboriginal People in Healthy Communities*, © 2006 Alberta Mental Health Board

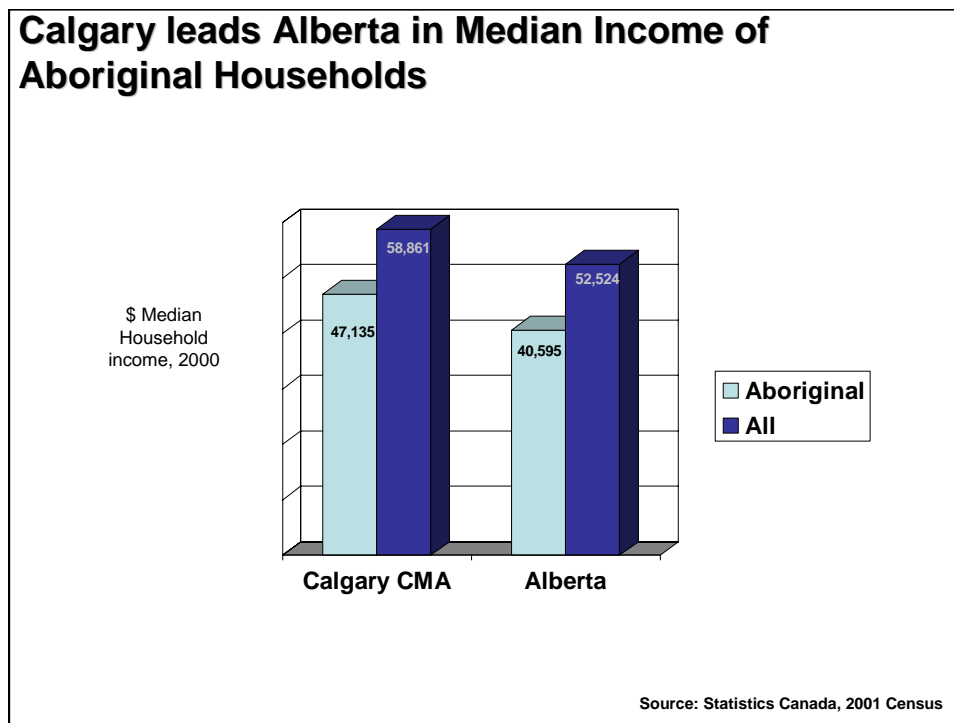


INCOME AND THE INCIDENCE OF POVERTY

Poverty is an Issue for the Aboriginal Population of the Calgary Area

The Aboriginal population of the Calgary area is less affluent than the general population (see Exhibit 27).

Exhibit 27



The median household income for Aboriginal people in Calgary (\$47,135) is approximately 80% of median income for the Calgary CMA (\$58,861) and 90% of median income for all Albertans (\$52,524).

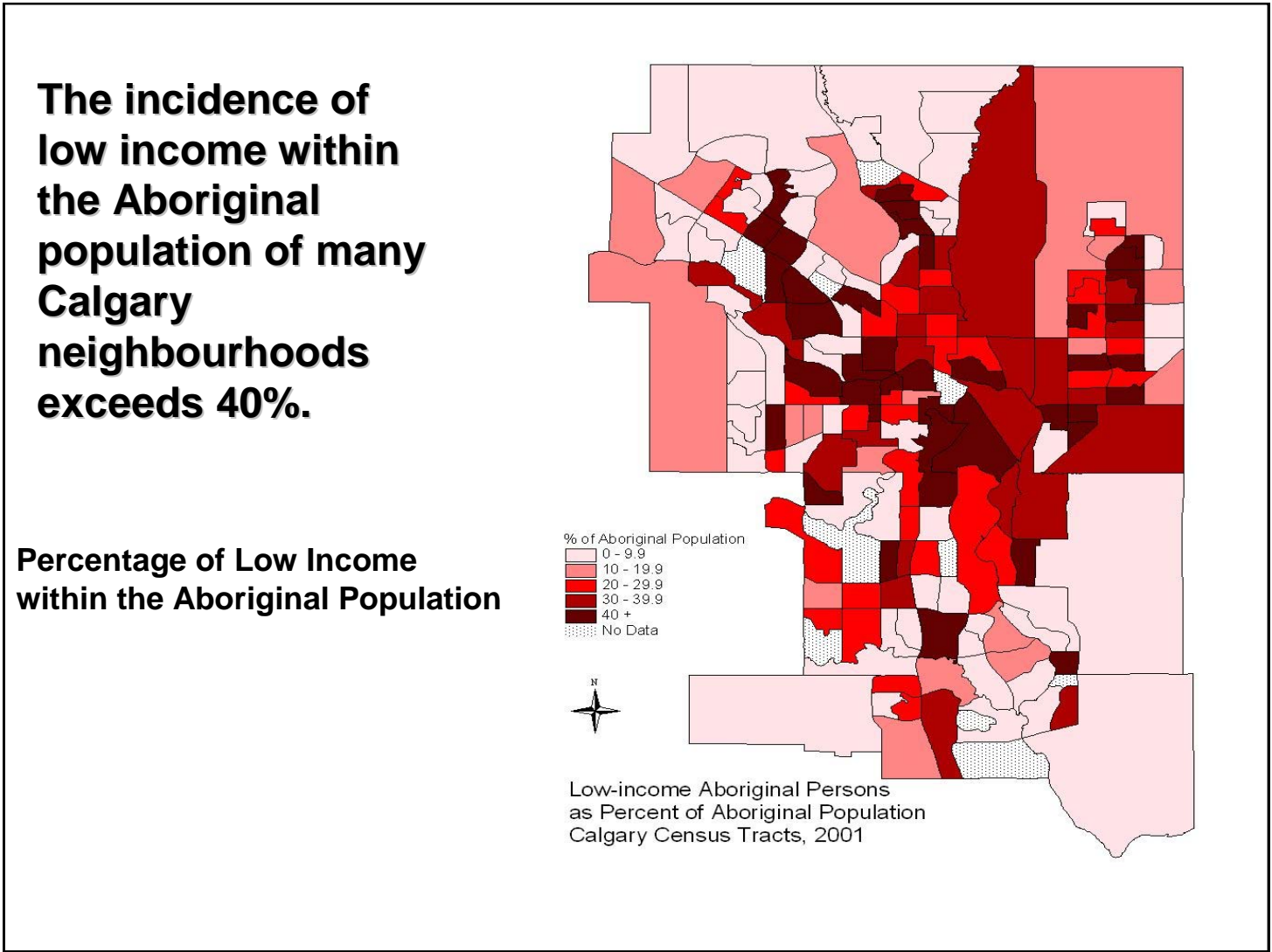
The incidence of poverty among Aboriginal people is much higher than for the rest of the population. One half of the Aboriginal people in the Calgary CMA (51%) were living in poverty in 2001. This was more than double the rate for the urban area's population in general, which was 21%.

A person is deemed to be in "low income" if their income is less than $\frac{1}{2}$ of the median income in their metropolitan area, adjusting for family size. This is referred to as the low-income-cut-off or LICO. In Calgary, this threshold was \$33,600 (in constant year 2,000 dollars) for a family with two adults and two children. The incidence of low income among the Aboriginal population in many Calgary neighbourhoods exceeds 40% (see Exhibit 28).





Exhibit 28

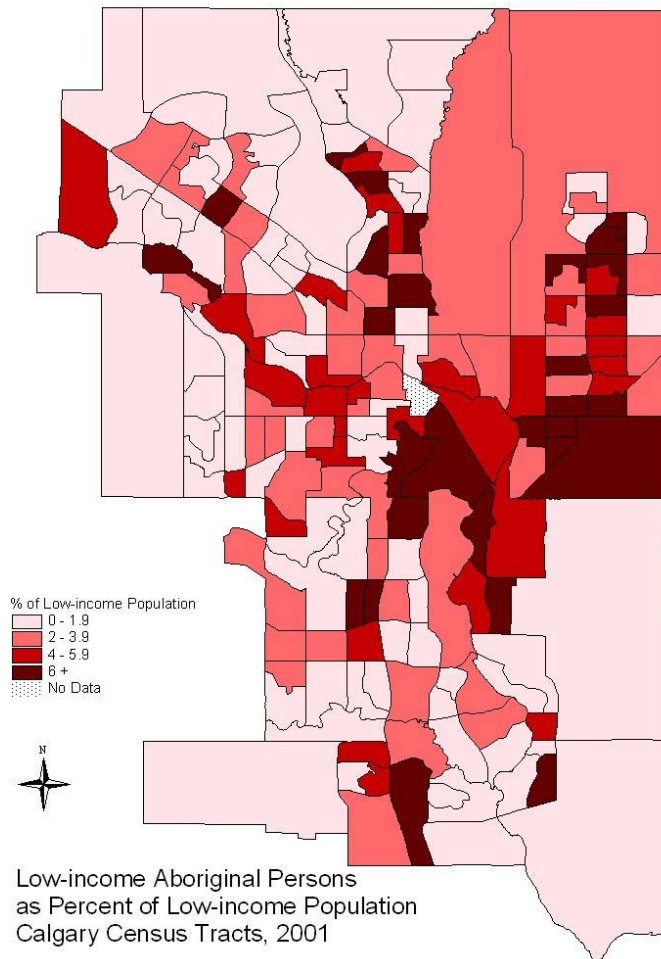


While Aboriginal people comprise only 2.3% of the City's population, over 6% of the low income population of many neighbourhoods is Aboriginal (see Exhibit 29).

Exhibit 29

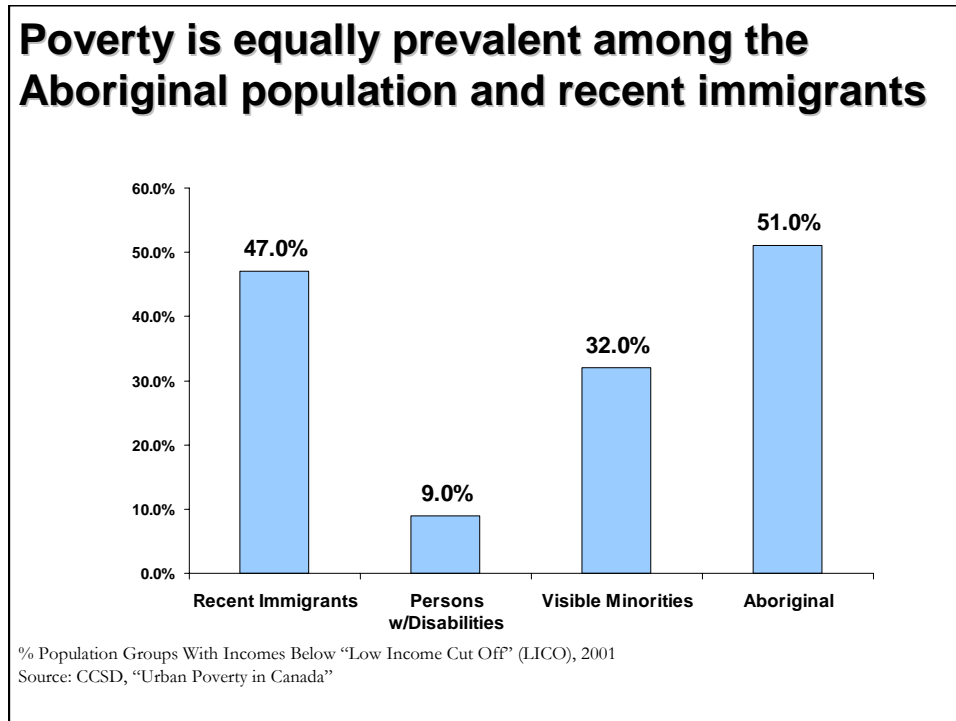
**While Aboriginal people
comprise only 2.3% of the
City's population, over
6% of the low income
population of many
neighbourhoods is
Aboriginal.**

**Percentage of Aboriginal People
within the Urban Low Income
Population**



As Exhibit 30 illustrates, the incidence of poverty among the Aboriginal population in Calgary (51%) is similar to the incidence among immigrants who have been in Calgary for less than five years (47%), and much higher than the rate for visible minorities (32%).

Exhibit 30

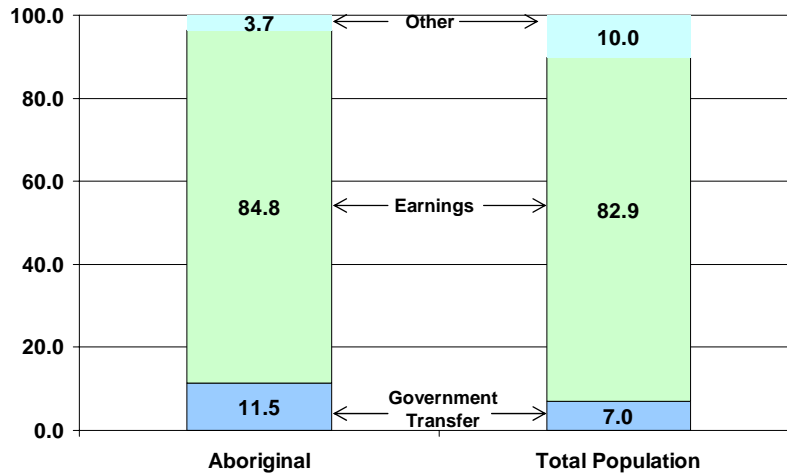


Despite higher unemployment rates, Aboriginal people over the age of 15 in the Calgary CMA, earn about 85% of their income. This is slightly higher than for all people in the Calgary CMA who earn 83% of their income (see Exhibit 31). While Aboriginal people earn about the same proportion of their total income, compared to the rest of the population, they make less money, and have little or no investment income.



Exhibit 31

Earnings account for a higher percentage of income among the Aboriginal population of the Calgary CMA (84.8%) than the total population (82.9%)



Source: Derived from Statistics Canada (2001)

Exhibit 27 also reveals that income levels among Aboriginal people in the Calgary area are about 16% higher than for Aboriginal people province-wide.

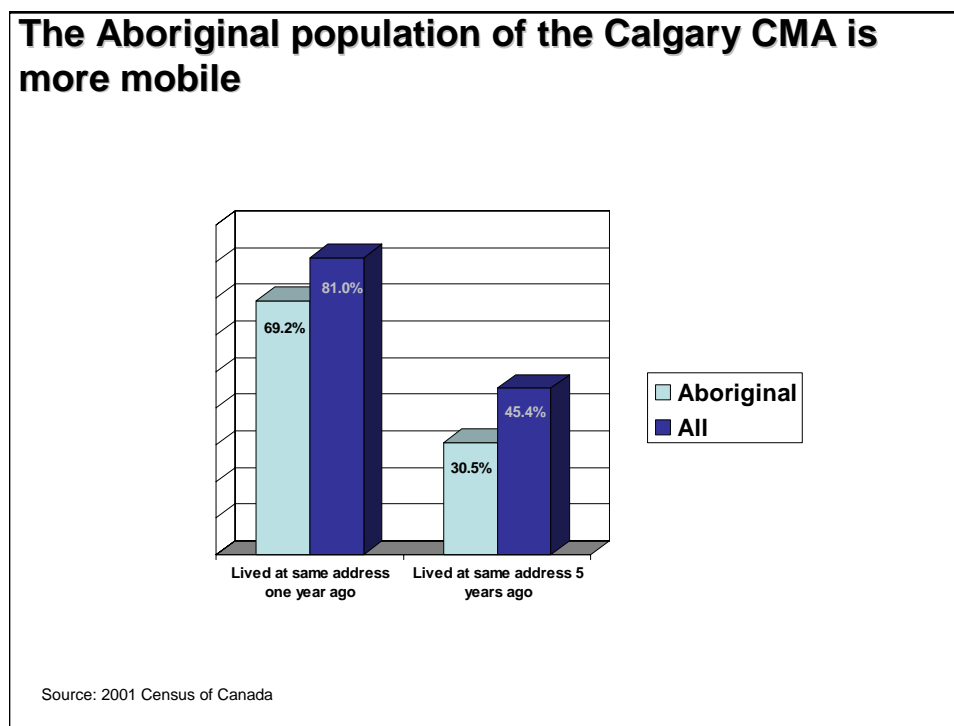


MOBILITY & HOUSING

Aboriginal residents of The Calgary CMA are more mobile than the rest of the population (see Exhibit 32)

- While 81% of the entire population was at the same address the previous year, only 69% of the Aboriginal population did not move in the previous year.
- Aboriginal people were half again as likely as the total population to have moved during the five years previous to 2001.⁹

Exhibit 32



Given the relatively low average income of Aboriginal people in the Calgary CMA, it would be reasonable to assume that many Aboriginal residents of The Calgary CMA need to move relatively frequently in pursuit of affordable housing.

Information available from the 2001 Census does not reflect the dramatic changes in the Calgary housing market over the past two years, namely:

- An unprecedented increase in home prices; and
- A very low vacancy rate in rental housing, with increasing pressure on rents.

⁹ StatsCan: 2001 Aboriginal Population Profile



Available statistical information about the housing situation of the Aboriginal population of the Calgary area is, therefore, badly out of date.

The relatively low income Aboriginal population is particularly vulnerable to the recent extreme increases in the cost of housing.

According to the 2001 Census, only 43% of Aboriginal residents of the City of Calgary own their own home, compared to 69% for the entire population.

In 2001, 2,065 Aboriginal households in the Calgary CMA were considered to be in “Core Housing Need)¹⁰, spending more than 30% of their income on housing:

- 1,675 renter households, including 40% of percent of Aboriginal renter households in the City of Calgary (as compared to 18% for the entire population); and
- 390 homeowner households.

This suggests an outstanding need for over 2,000 affordable, suitable housing units for Aboriginal households in the Calgary CMA to house 30% of Aboriginal households.

The incidence of homelessness among the Aboriginal population is estimated to be 6.5 times as high as for the whole population. An estimated 21% of the homeless youth in the Calgary are Aboriginal people.

¹⁰ StatsCan: 2001 Aboriginal Population Profile



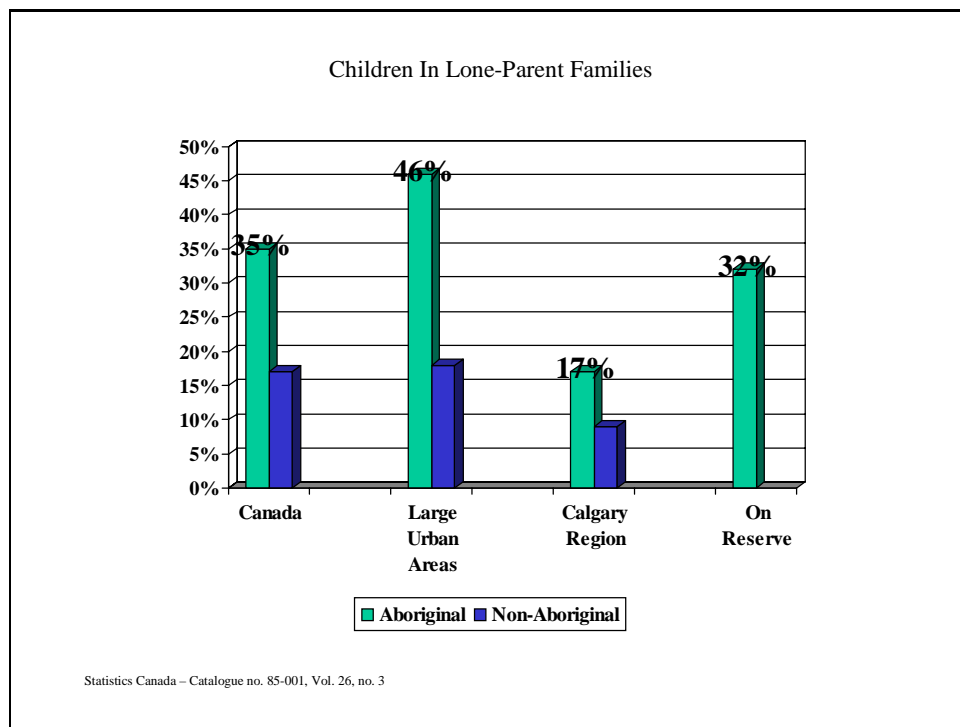
FAMILY LIFE AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS

Challenges to the well-being of Aboriginal people reflect the underlying “determinants of health”, including: income and social status, social support networks, education, employment/working conditions, social environments, physical environments, personal health practices and coping skills, healthy child development, hereditary factors, health services, gender and culture.

Children in Lone Parent Families

As shown in Exhibit 33, compared to other families in the Calgary CMA, Aboriginal families are almost twice as likely to be headed by a lone parent (17%) than the rest of the population (9%). The relatively high incidence of income below the low income cut-off, among the Aboriginal population may well reflect a relatively higher proportion of lone parent families among Aboriginal people in Calgary.

Exhibit 33



Across Canada, Aboriginal children are significantly more likely to be members of a lone-parent family. In 2001, about 35% of Aboriginal children under the age of 15 lived in a lone-parent family compared to 17% of non-Aboriginal children. In large urban areas, the rate for Aboriginal children climbs to 46% vs. 18% for non-Aboriginal children.



Child Protection

Aboriginal children are much more likely to require child protection services:¹¹

- Twenty five percent of the total, average monthly child protection caseload in the Calgary Region addresses Aboriginal families.
- Seventy two percent of Aboriginal children with an open child welfare file are in temporary care.
- Only 18% of all Aboriginal children receiving services live in their own homes, a decrease of 2% from 2002-2003.

Compared to other children in the Calgary Region:

- Aboriginal children and youth are over seven times more likely to receive child protection services than non-Aboriginal children and youth; and
- Aboriginal children and youth are almost 10 times more likely to be children in care under Permanent Guardianship Orders.

Violence and Family Violence

No statistical reports are available on the incidence of violence among the Aboriginal population of the Calgary area; therefore, the extent to which the national and provincial experience of Aboriginal people prevails in the Calgary area is unknown.

Statistic Canada's 2004 national General Social Survey on Victimization reports that, in the preceding 5 years, 41% of Aboriginal people reported being violently assaulted by their current and/or previous spouses and common-law partners. This compares to 27% of non-Aboriginal people. Among women, the rate was 54% vs. 37% for non-Aboriginal people. Life threatening assaults, and assaults witnessed by children were reported in one third of these assaults. A summary of key findings of that study is presented in Exhibit 34.

¹¹ Statistics Canada, "Family Violence in Canada: A Statistical Profile", 2001



Exhibit 34

Victimization Among The Aboriginal Population In Canada

Juristat: Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics
Statistics Canada – Catalogue no. 85-002-XIE, Vol. 26, no. 3

1. According to the 2004 General Social Survey (GSS), Aboriginal people were three times more likely than non-Aboriginal people to experience a violent victimization (319 versus 101 incidents per 1,000 population). This is consistent with findings from the 1999 GSS, the last time the victimization survey was conducted.
2. Violent incidents were much more likely to be committed against younger Aboriginal people than they were against their older counterparts. Those aged 15 to 34 years were nearly two and a half times more likely to experience a violent victimization compared to those who were 35 years and older (461 incidents versus 192 incidents per 1,000 population).
3. Violent incidents committed against Aboriginal people were more likely to be perpetrated by someone who was known to the victim (56%), such as a relative, friend, neighbour or acquaintance, compared to violent incidents committed against non-Aboriginal victims (41%). Aboriginal people were victimized by a stranger in 25% of all violent incidents, compared to 45% of incidents committed against non-Aboriginal victims.
4. Consistent with what was found in 1999, 21% of Aboriginal people reported having experienced some form of physical or sexual violence by a spouse in the 5 years preceding the 2004 survey. This compares to 6% of non-Aboriginal people who experienced spousal violence over the same time period.
5. Aboriginal people are much more likely to be victims of homicide than non-Aboriginal people. Between 1997 and 2000, the average homicide rate for Aboriginal people was 8.8 per 100,000 population, almost seven times higher than that for non-Aboriginal people (1.3 per 100,000 population).

A study conducted in Edmonton reported similar results. Aboriginal people are almost three times more likely to report being assaulted by a spouse than non-Aboriginal people. Almost half of Aboriginal spousal violence victims experienced life-threatening violence.¹²

First Nations people in Alberta experience more physical trauma than the general population. For example:

- In 2000, First Nations persons were more likely to receive treatment at an emergency department for all types of injuries;
- First Nations people are 6.8 times more likely to go to an emergency department for services related to an assault; and
- First Nations children are more likely to be seen by a physician for injuries sustained from a fall than their non-First Nations counterparts.

¹² Edmonton and Area Child and Family Services, Area 6, "Better Results for Children, Youth and Families: 2003-2004 Annual Report"

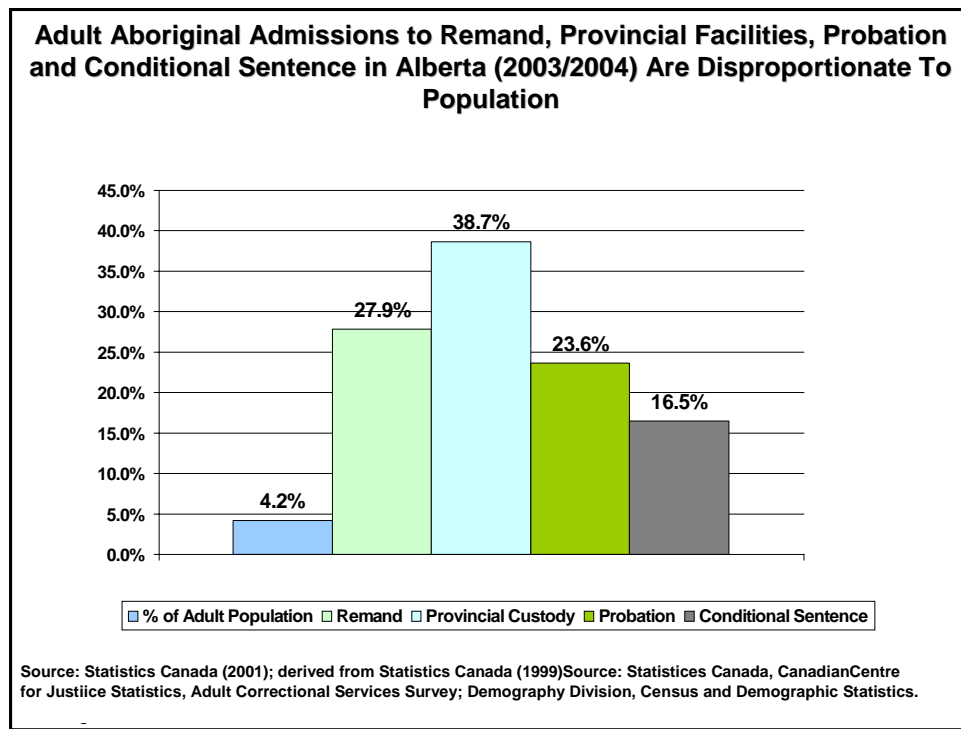


Aboriginal People and the Justice System

No statistical reports are available on the incidence of arrest and incarceration among the Aboriginal population of the Calgary area; therefore, the extent to which the national and provincial experience of Aboriginal people prevails in the Calgary area is unknown.

Aboriginal people make up approximately 4% of the adult population in Alberta, but their incidence of admissions to probation and correctional facilities is many times what would be expected based on relative population size (see Exhibit 35).

Exhibit 35



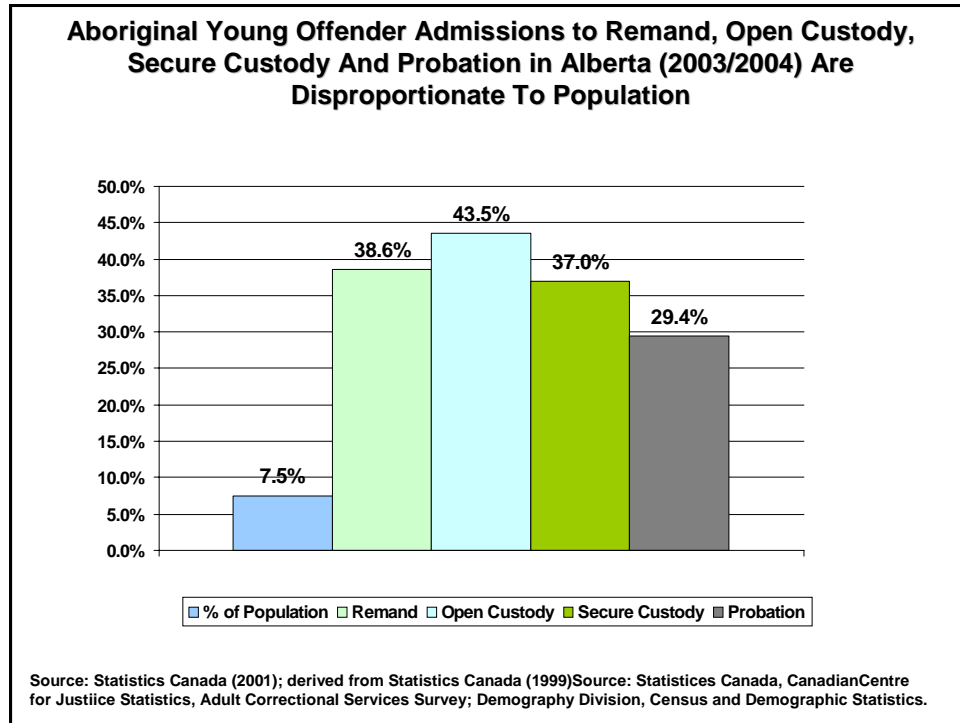
In 2001/02, Aboriginal people represented 31 per cent of adult in-house correctional center counts and 36% of young offender in-house correctional center counts.¹³

As with the adult Aboriginal population, Aboriginal youth who account for 7.5% of their age group's population, are many times more likely to be admitted to probation and correctional facilities (see Exhibit 36).

¹³ StatsCan: 2001 Aboriginal Population Profile



Exhibit 36



Street gangs, the membership of which is often based on ethnicity, are a current phenomenon of Canadian cities. In Alberta, the predominant Aboriginal-based street gangs – Red Alert, Indian Posse and Alberta Warriors – are based largely in Edmonton and Calgary. Aboriginal-based gang recruitment typically focuses on Aboriginal youth, creating the next generation of street gang members. Aboriginal-based street gangs reportedly possess lower level criminal capabilities while demonstrating a high propensity for violence.¹⁴

¹⁴ Criminal Intelligence Services Canada, "Aboriginal-based Organized Crime" (2004) Ottawa http://www.solgen.gov.ab.ca/corrections/offenders_youth.aspx?id=2851



Statistic Canada's 2004 national General Social Survey on Victimization reports that Aboriginal people are more likely than the rest of the population to be admitted to the custody of the corrections system (see Exhibit 37).

Exhibit 37

Offending Among The Aboriginal Population In Canada

Juristat: Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics
Statistics Canada – Catalogue no. 85-002-XIE, Vol. 26, no. 3

1. Between 1997 and 2000, Aboriginal people were 10 times more likely to be accused of homicide than were non-Aboriginal people (11.2 accused persons per 100,000 Aboriginal population compared to 1.1 accused persons per 100,000 non-Aboriginal population).
2. Both for Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal adults, the number of admissions to sentenced custody decreased between 1994/1995 and 2003/2004. This decrease was more substantial for non-Aboriginal adults, resulting in an increase in the proportionate representation of Aboriginal people among sentenced custody admissions over the same time period.
3. In 2003/2004, as compared to their representation in the adult and youth populations, Aboriginal adults and youth were highly represented in admissions to all types of correctional services. Furthermore, trends in both adult and youth corrections have shown that the proportional representation of Aboriginal people among females admitted to correctional services has been greater than that for males.



ECONOMIC PARTICIPATION AND EMPLOYMENT

Growth in Aboriginal employment, at three times the provincial rate since 1996, has been a major contributor to Alberta’s capacity to handle economic growth (Exhibit 38).

Exhibit 38

Employment growth among Aboriginal people has been almost three times higher than for all Albertans

Aboriginal People Labour Force Statistics, Alberta, 1996 and 2001

	Alberta Totals			Aboriginal People		
	1996	2001	% Change	1996	2001	% Change
Working Age Population	2,055,020	2,322,020	13.0%	77,570	102,525	32.2%
Employed	1,379,710	1,608,840	16.6%	37,420	55,980	49.6%
Unemployed	107,270	87,920	(18.0%)	10,040	9,800	(2.4%)

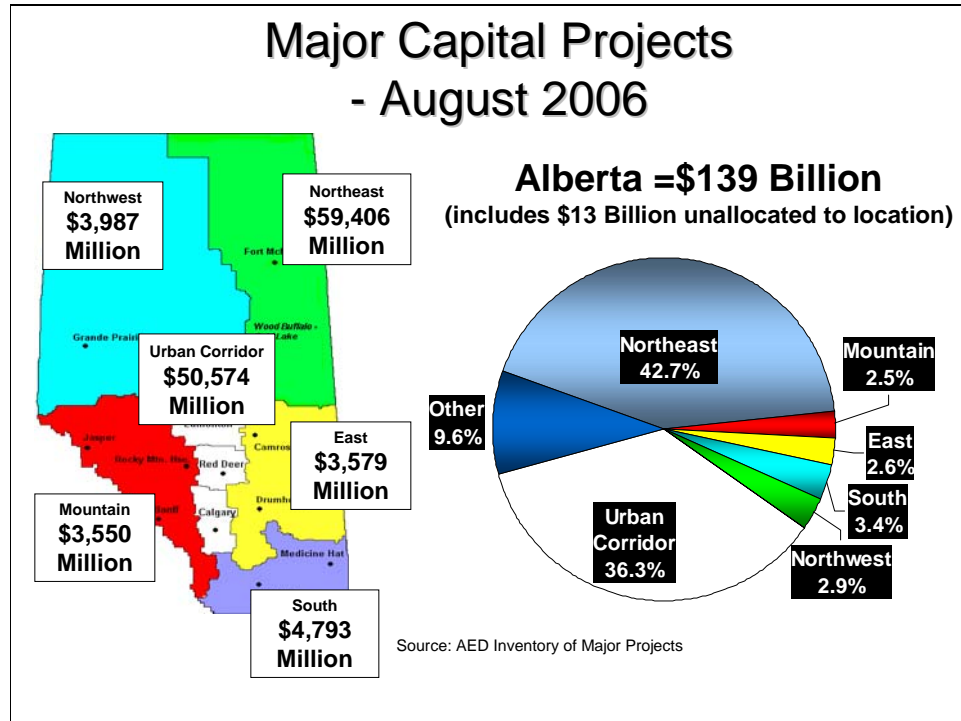
Data Source: Statistics Canada Census, 1996 and 2001
 Note: Alberta data includes the values for Aboriginal people
 Alberta Profile: Aboriginal People in the Labour Force, Table 3



The Calgary Region is the southern anchor of Alberta's urban corridor, which is the target for over \$50 billion in investment in major projects (see

Exhibit 39).

Exhibit 39



Calgary is a major source of employment for off-Reserve Aboriginal people in Alberta. As shown in

Exhibit 40 and Exhibit 41, the Calgary Region is home to approximately 17% of the off-Reserve Aboriginal labour force, and provides 28% of Aboriginal employment off-Reserve.



Exhibit 40

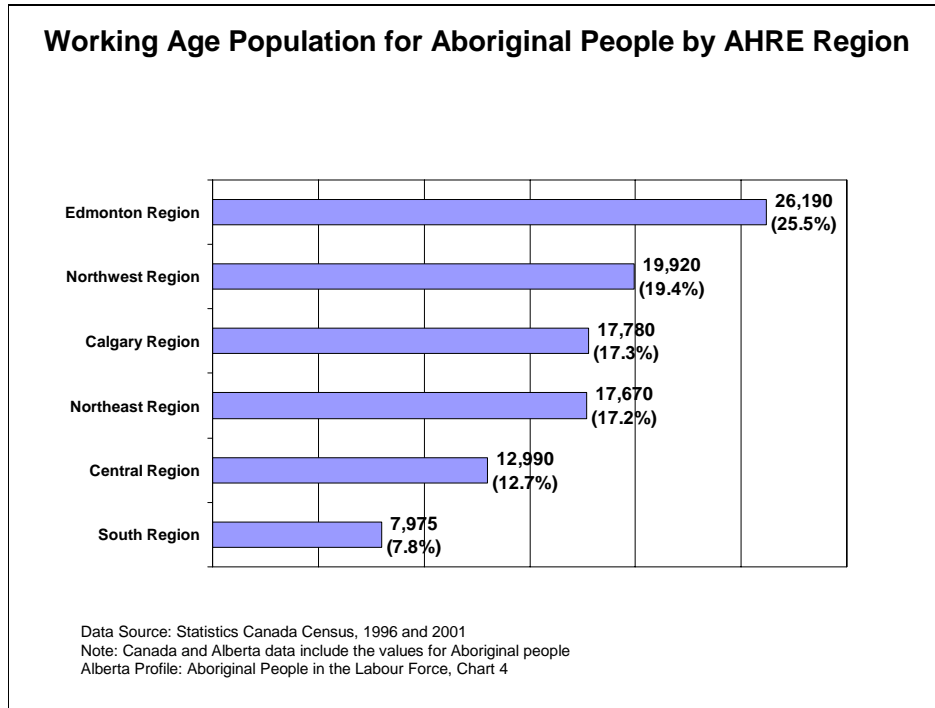
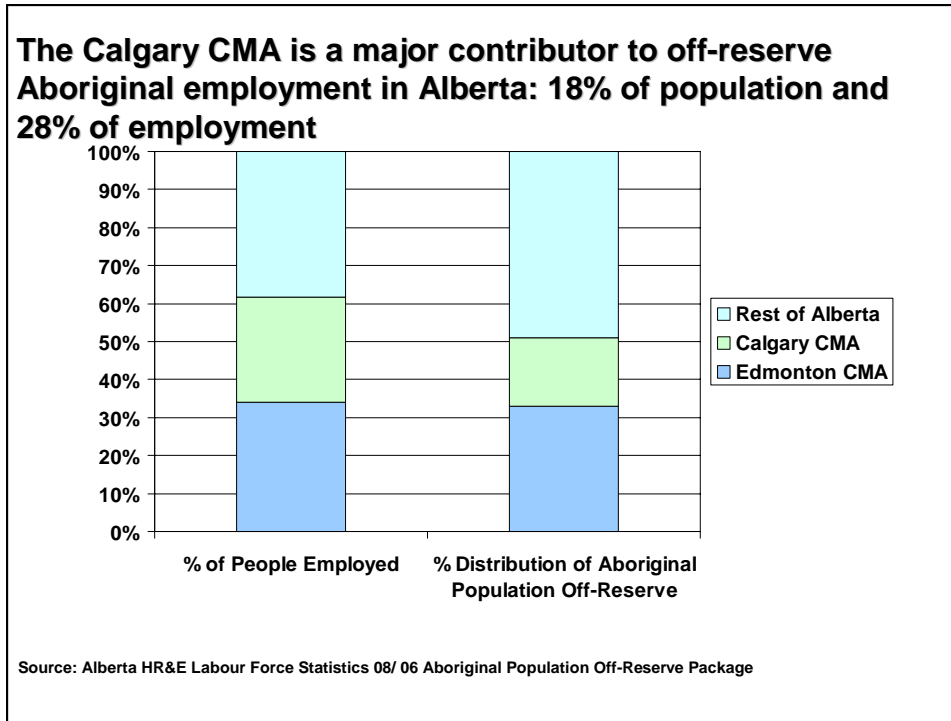


Exhibit 41

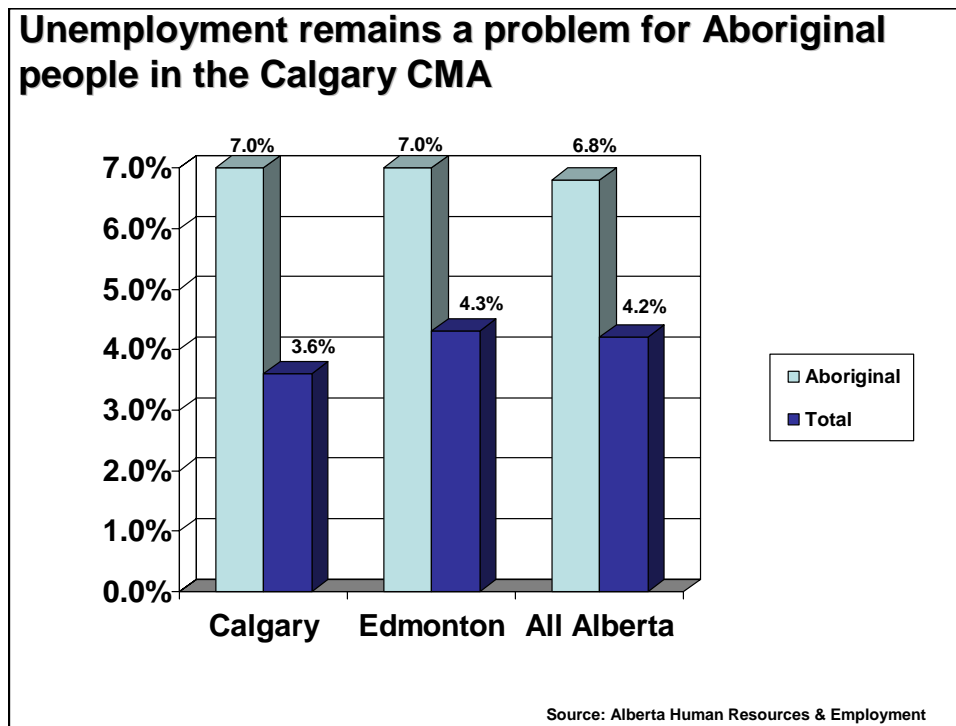


The labour force participation rate among Aboriginal people in the Calgary CMA (75.3%) equals the participation rate of 75.8% for the entire population; however, there is a significant



discrepancy in unemployment rates. Despite the economic boom in Alberta, and the gains made by the Aboriginal labour force to date, the unemployment rate among Aboriginal people in the Calgary area is twice as high as for the rest of the population (see Exhibit 42).

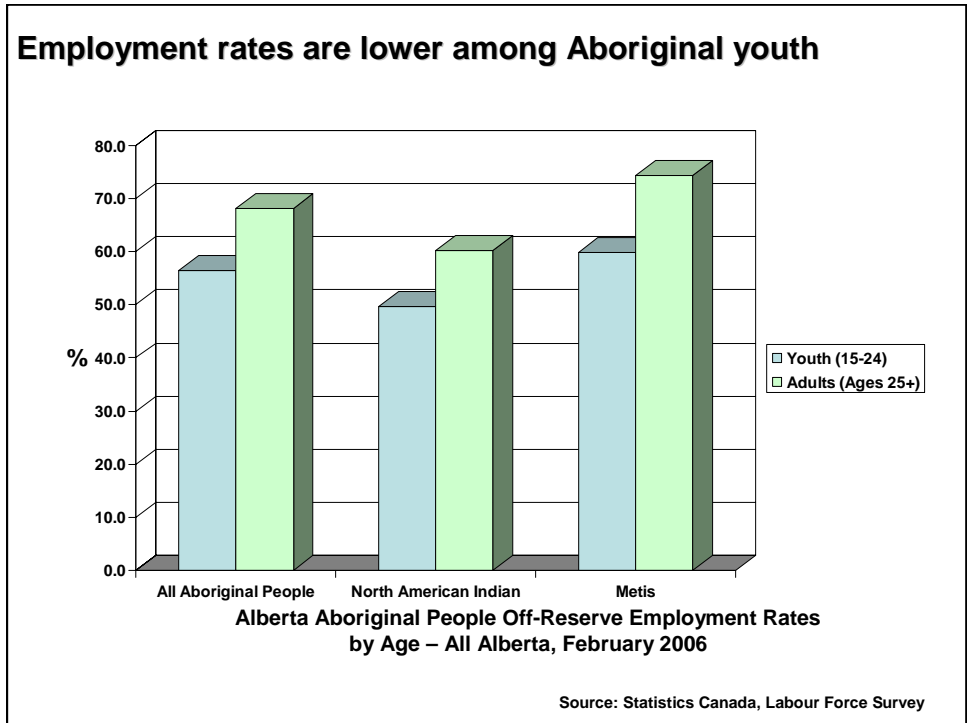
Exhibit 42



Unemployment is more prevalent among the fast growing youth population, aged 15-24, than among adults over 25 years of age (see Exhibit 43).



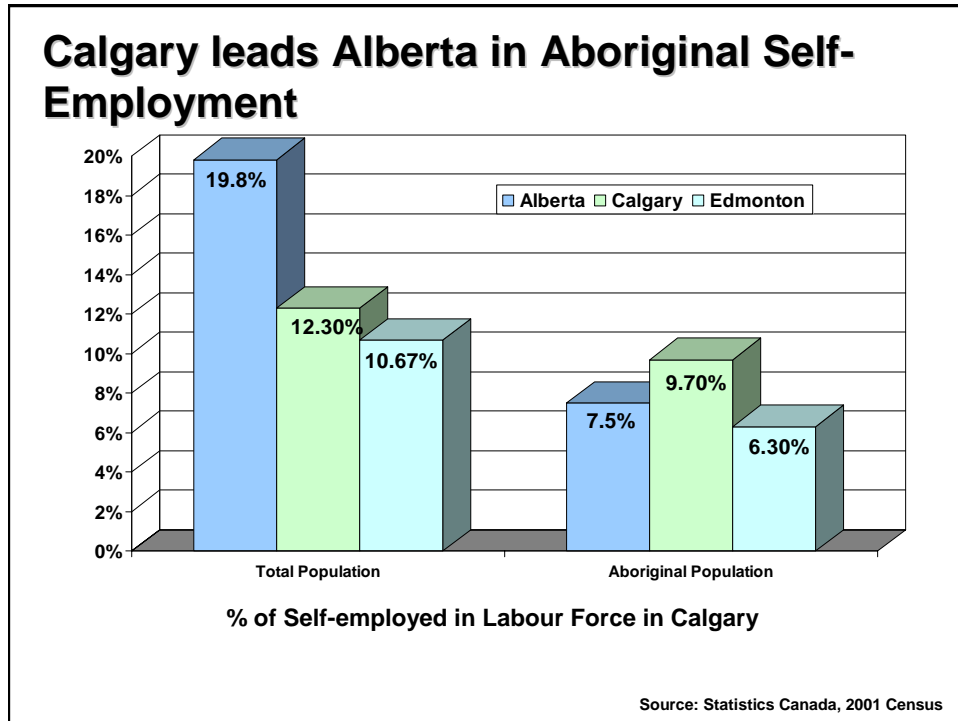
Exhibit 43



Self Employment and Business Ownership

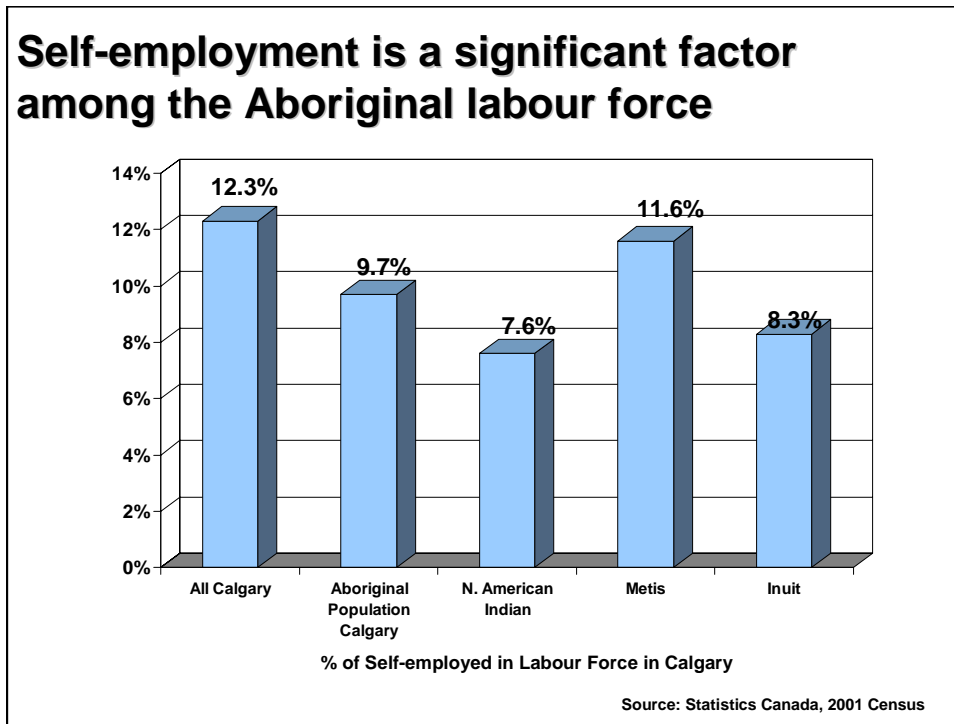
Calgary leads Alberta in Aboriginal self-employment. Exhibit 44 compares the percentage of the self-employed Aboriginal work force in Calgary (9.7%) to Edmonton (6.3%) and the province as a whole (7.5%).

Exhibit 44



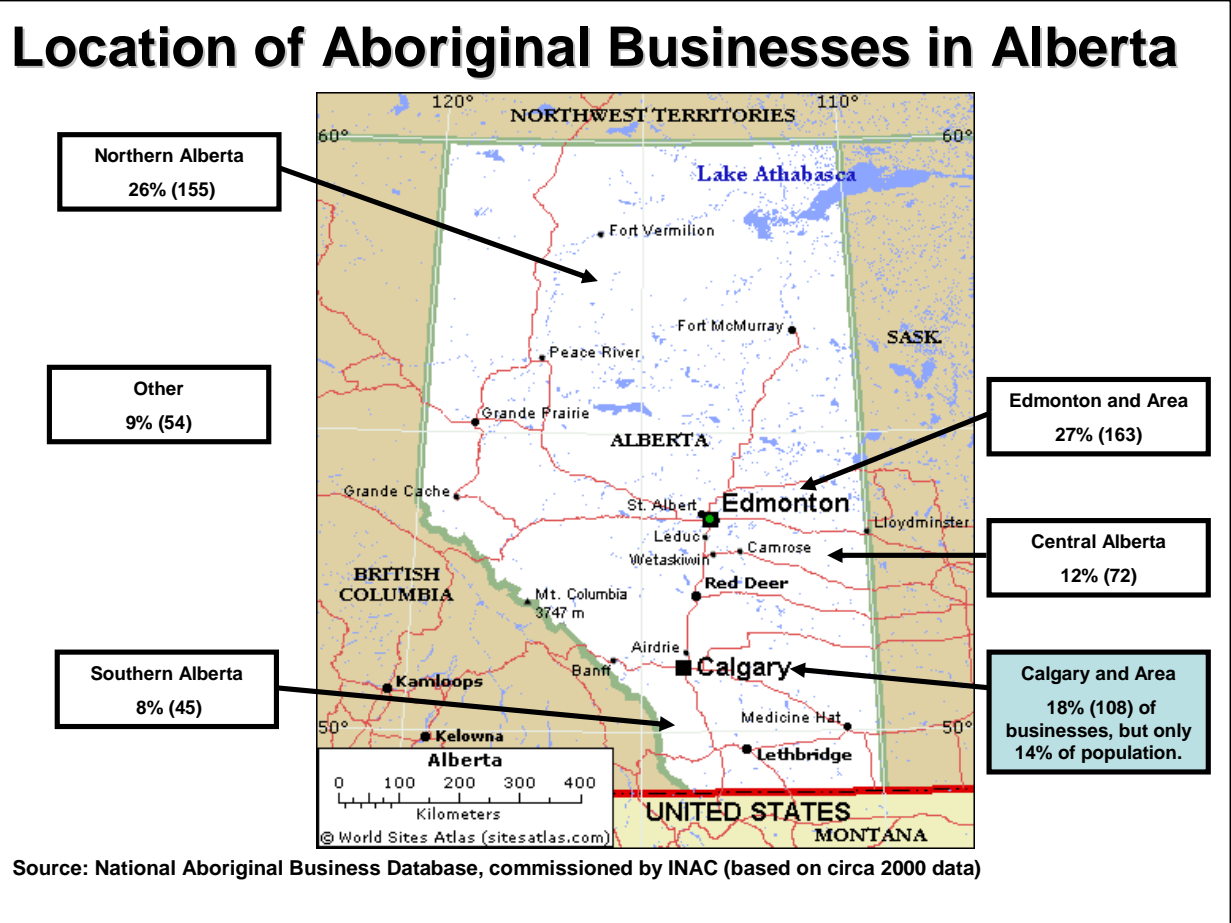
With the exception of the Metis population, however, Aboriginal people are less likely to be self-employed than other residents of the Calgary CMA (see Exhibit 45).

Exhibit 45



Approximately 18% of Aboriginal businesses in Alberta are located in the Calgary area (see Exhibit 46).

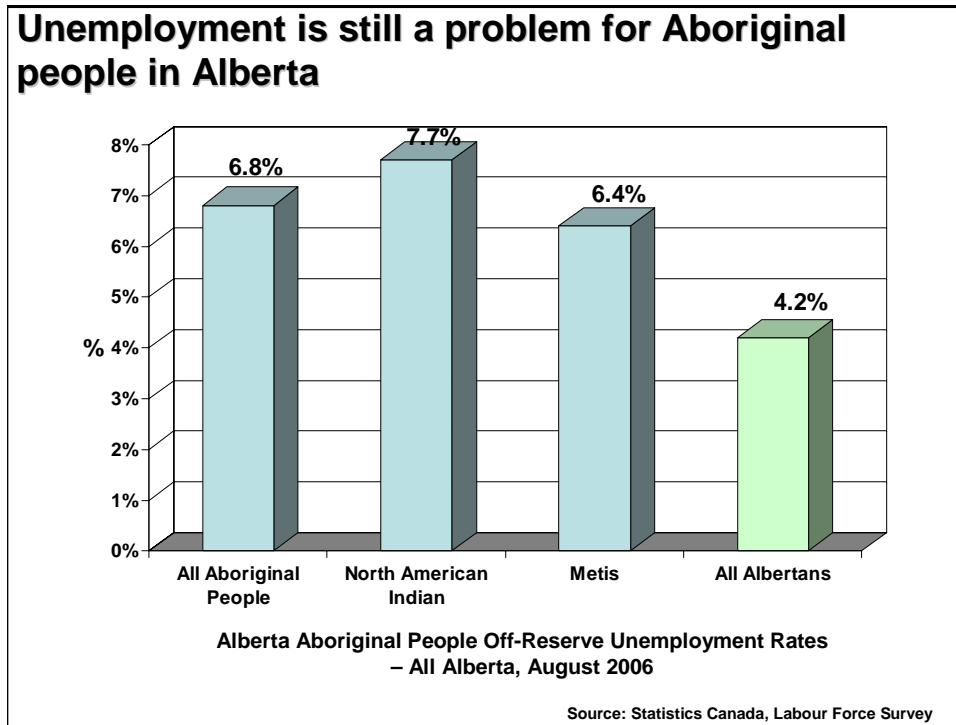
Exhibit 46



PROGRESS IN EDUCATION

Lower unemployment levels among the Métis, may reflect higher levels of educational attainment (see Exhibit 47).

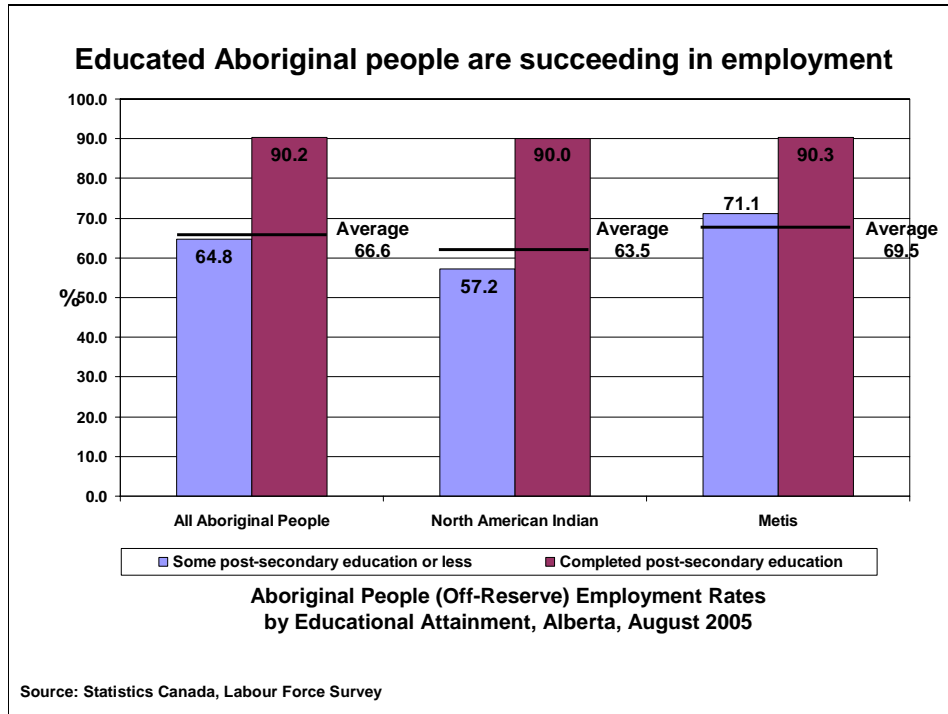
Exhibit 47



Analysis of Census data suggests a strong link between educational attainment and employment (see Exhibit 48). Employment rates among Aboriginal people who have completed post-secondary education are much higher than among Aboriginal people with less education.



Exhibit 48



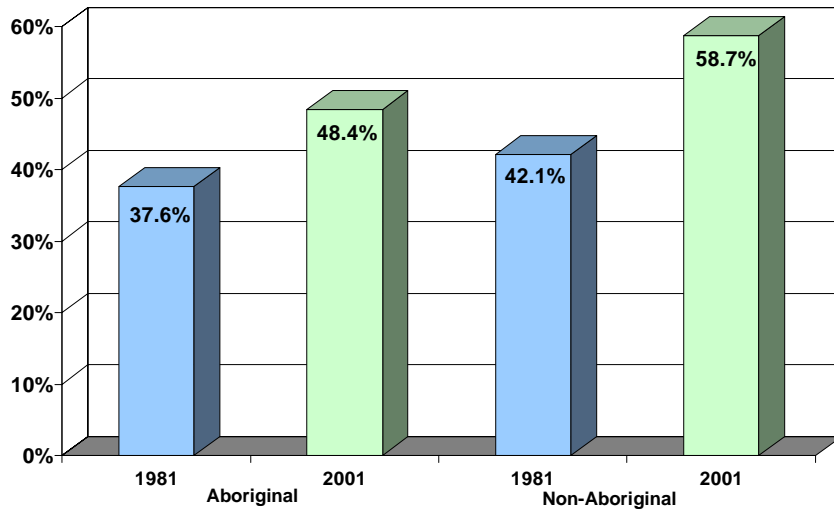
The Aboriginal population of Calgary is making progress in closing the education gap. In the twenty years between 1981 and 2001:

- The percentage of Aboriginal persons aged 15-24 attending school increased by 29% to over 48%, has not kept up with the increase among the general population at 58% (Exhibit 49);
- The percentage of Aboriginal people aged 20-24 who have completed high school (Exhibit 50) has increased to 68% (compared to 88% for the general population aged 20-24); and
- The percentage of Aboriginal women aged 20-24 who have completed post-secondary education (Exhibit 51) has increased by two-thirds to 35% (compared to 50% for the general population aged 20-24).



Exhibit 49

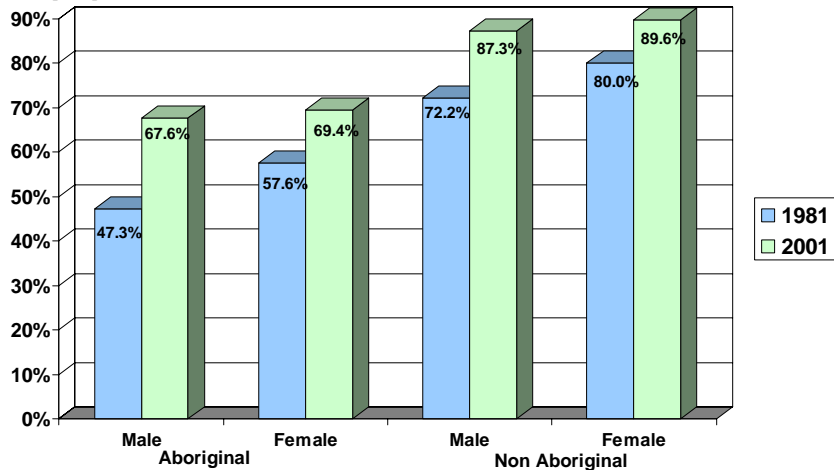
School attendance rates for Aboriginal youth are increasing, but not as fast as for the rest of the population.



School attendance rates, Calgary CMA, Aboriginal & Non-Aboriginal Persons aged 15-24, 1981-2001

Exhibit 50

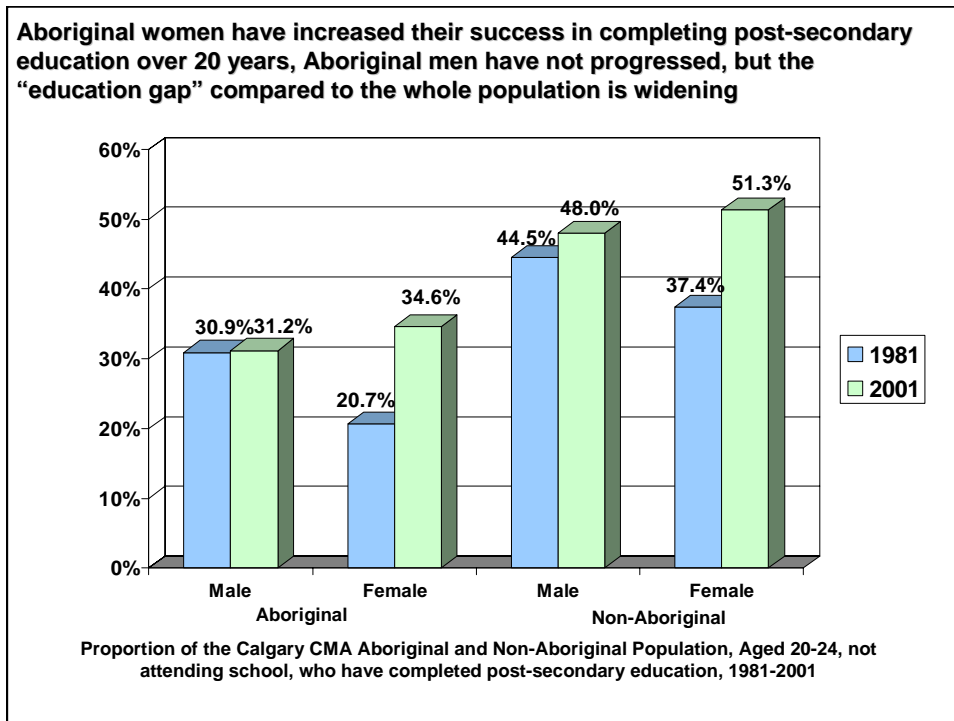
Aboriginal people in the Calgary CMA are investing in completing high school, but progress still lags behind the whole population



Proportion of the Calgary CMA Aboriginal & Non-Aboriginal Population Aged 20-24 who have completed high school education, 1981 - 2001



Exhibit 51



In general, Aboriginal students in the public school system drop out of high school more often than their non-Aboriginal peers:

- The main reasons that Albertan Aboriginal youth report for not completing elementary or high school vary by gender. The majority of women drop out of school for family reasons, including pregnancy or the need to care for children, while most young men left school because they wanted to find work.
- Similarly, the main reasons Aboriginal people aged 25 - 44 did not finish post-secondary education include family responsibilities (24%), and financial reasons (22%).¹⁵ Men were mostly likely to state financial reasons whereas women were more likely to indicate that family responsibilities posed barriers to completion.

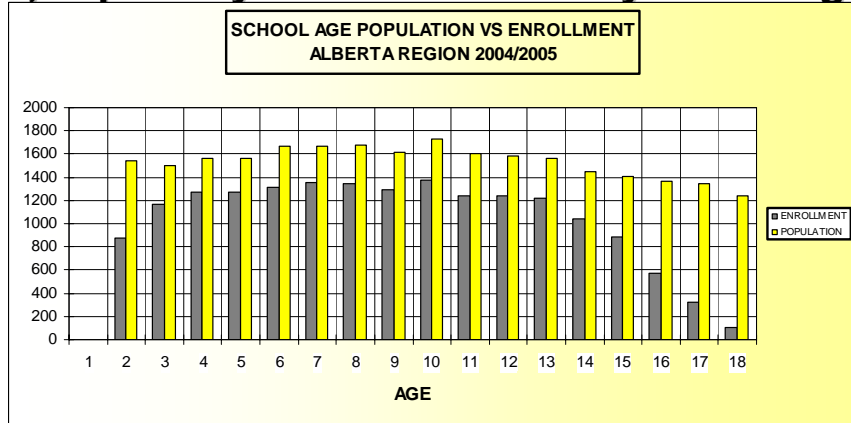
The educational achievements of the Aboriginal population of the Calgary area stand in contrast to the situation on Indian Reserves in Alberta, where Indian & Northern Affairs Canada reports that school enrollment rates are low (Exhibit 52), and junior and senior high school enrollment rates are in decline (Exhibit 53).

¹⁵ StatsCan: 2001 Aboriginal Population Profile



Exhibit 52

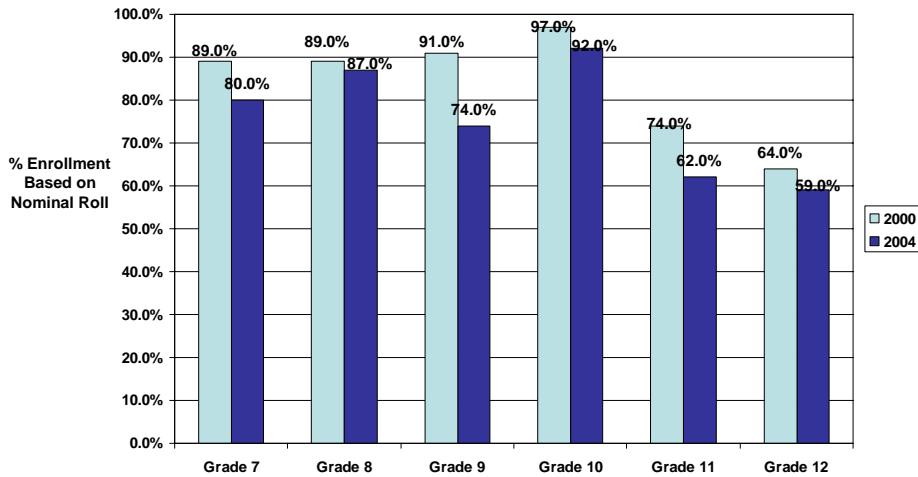
School enrollment rates, among First Nations members resident on-Reserve, are low, especially for those over 13 years of age



Source: Indian and Northern Affairs Canada, Year in Review, 2004-05

Exhibit 53

Junior and Senior High School Enrollment Rates for the First Nations Population, Resident on-reserve, have decreased since 2000



Source: Indian and Northern Affairs Canada, Year in Review, 2004-05



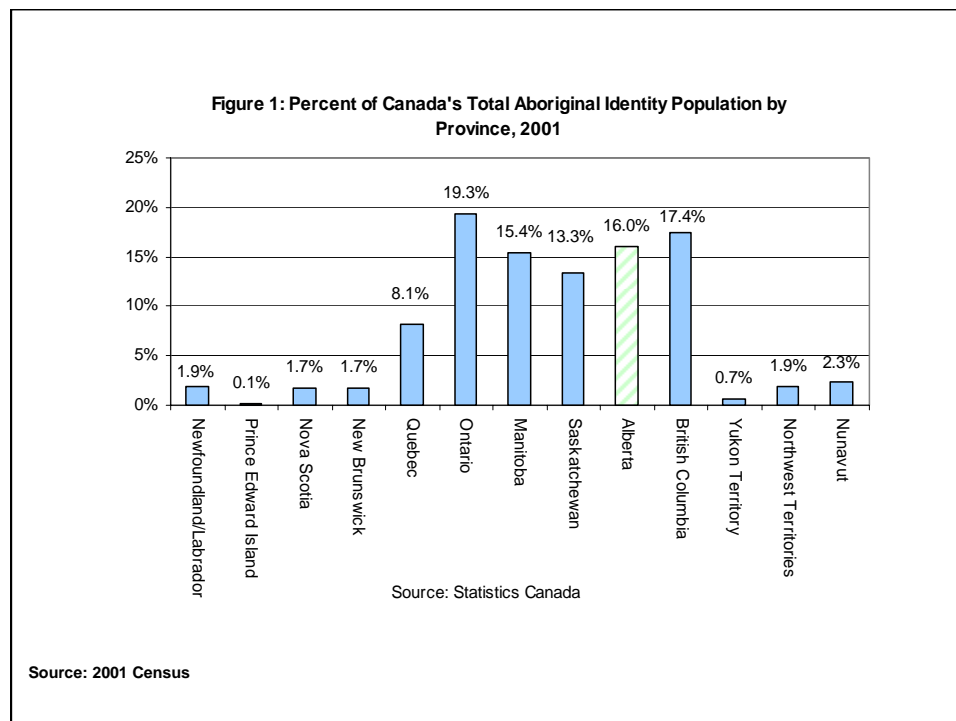
Growth Potential of the Aboriginal Population of Calgary

The Aboriginal population of the Calgary area is expected to continue to grow. In addition to the 21,910 Aboriginal residents in the Calgary CMA (in 2001), another 32,000 Aboriginal people live within a 2.5 hour drive of Calgary. If the Aboriginal population of the Calgary CMA continues to grow at the rate that it did between 1996 and 2001 (44% over five years), this compounded growth rate will result in an Aboriginal population of 65,000 people in the Calgary CMA by 2017.

The “Alberta Advantage”

Sixteen percent of the Aboriginal population of Canada resides in Alberta (Exhibit 54), making Alberta the third largest Aboriginal population centre in Canada.

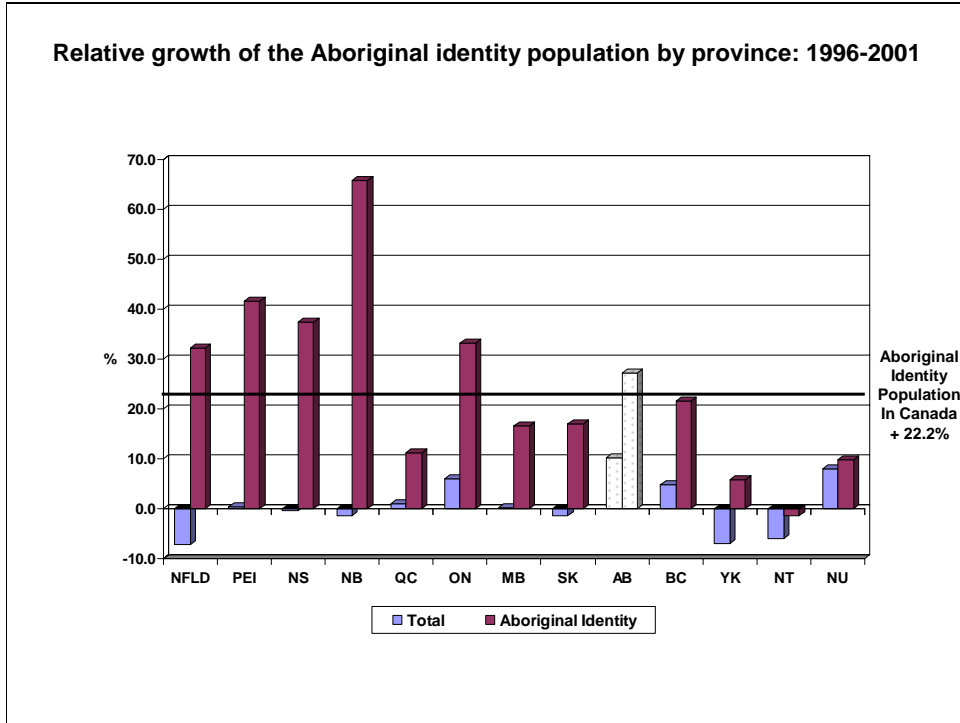
Exhibit 54



Net migration of Aboriginal people from out of province has been contributing to the growth of the Aboriginal population in Alberta (see Exhibit 55, which summarizes an analysis of the Aboriginal population flows into and out of the provinces between 1996 and 2001.).



Exhibit 55



The Aboriginal population of Alberta has potential for significant growth through continued migration from out of province. Sixty two percent of the Aboriginal population of Canada resides in the four western provinces, 5% in Canada’s north and the balance in Ontario and the eastern provinces (see Exhibit 56).

Exhibit 56

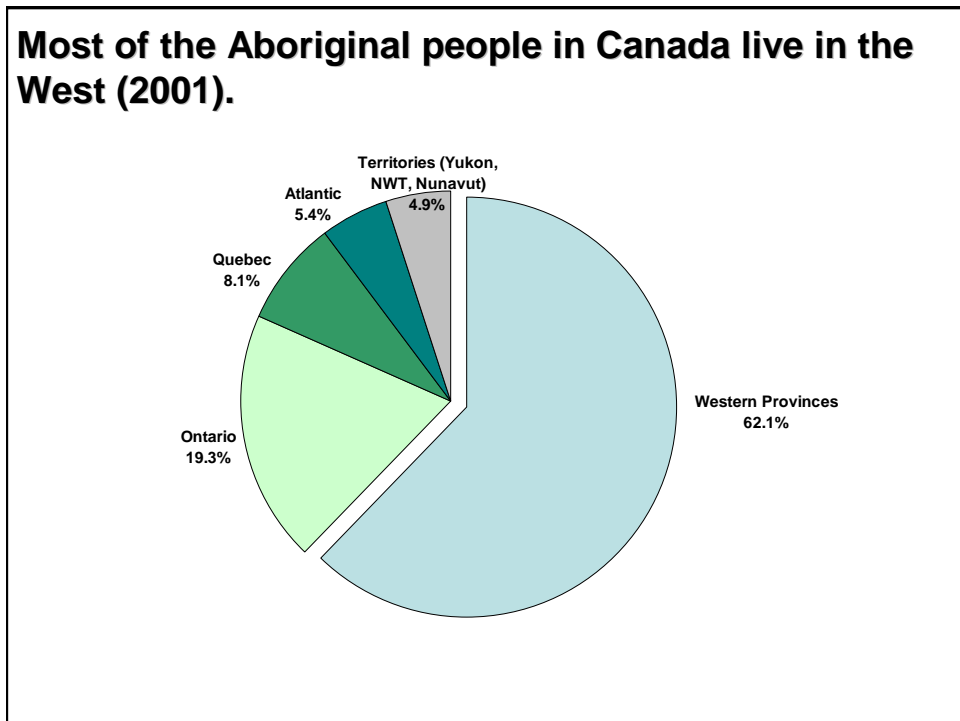


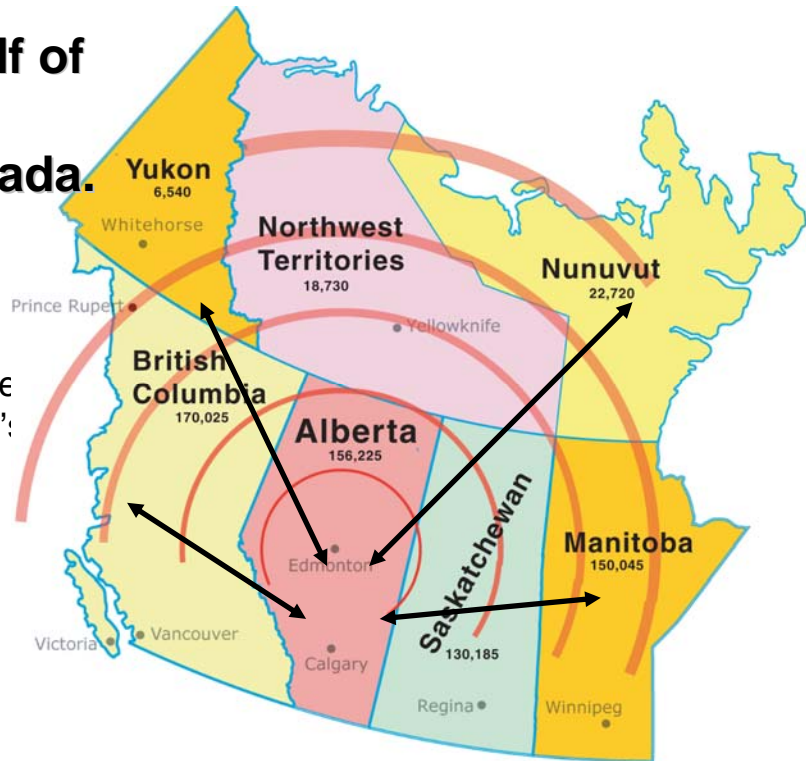


Exhibit 57 illustrates Calgary's strategic location as business, transportation and service centre for half of Canada's Aboriginal population is attracting both business and migration.

Exhibit 57

Alberta is a major destination for half of the Aboriginal population in Canada.

- Calgary's strategic location as business, transportation and service centre for half of Canada's Aboriginal population is attracting both business and migration.



Numbers represent total Aboriginal identity population in each jurisdiction.



There is significant uncertainty inherent in any forecast of the future size of the Aboriginal population anywhere in Canada. The population projections developed by Statistics Canada encompassed five scenarios, each based on a different set of assumptions. Statistics Canada projects growth ranging from 22% to 44% in the Aboriginal population of Alberta between 2001 and 2017, based on a number of scenarios summarized in Exhibit 58 and Exhibit 59.

Exhibit 58

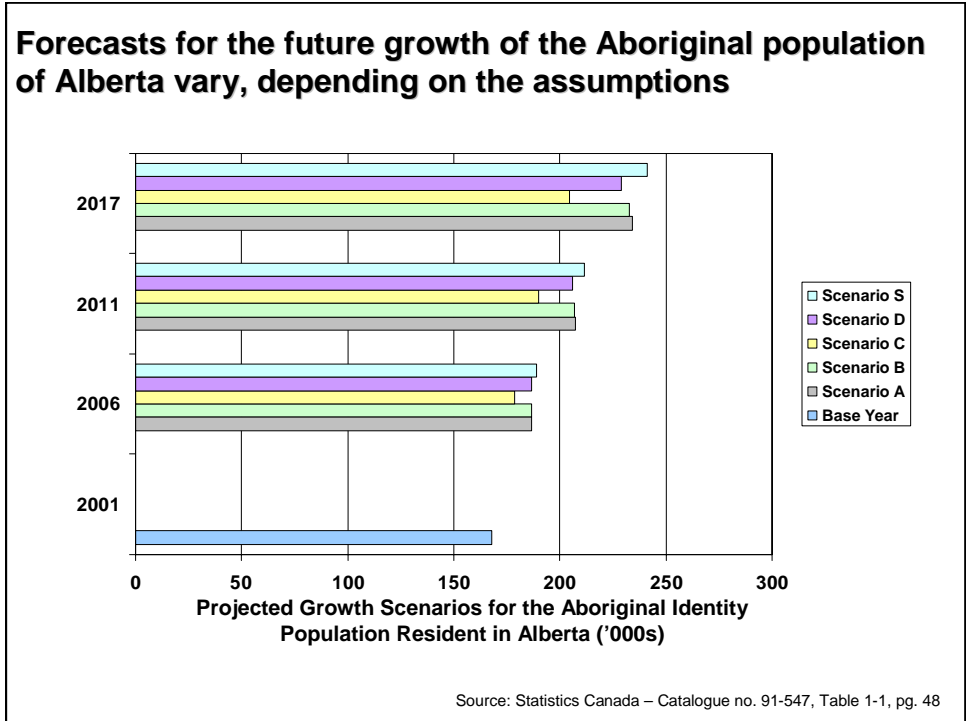
StatsCan scenarios based on factors affecting the growth rate of the Aboriginal Identity population of Canada.

Factor	Scenario				
	A High Growth	B Medium Growth	C	D	S
Fertility	Constant	Moderate Decline	Moderate Decline	Rapid Decline	"Imperfect ¹ Continuity" Mother-to-Child
Mortality	Declining	Declining	Declining	Declining	Declining
Migration Trends	Same as 1996-2001	Same as 1996-2001	Same as early '90s	Same as 1996-2001	Same as 1996-2001

¹ Legal and behaviour factors related to "Aboriginality" mean that a child doesn't necessarily have the same Aboriginal Identity as its mother. This "exits and enters" phenomenon, as identified by StatsCan, means that increase in the Aboriginal identity population can't be accounted for by fertility rates alone. (StatsCan Catalogue 91-547, p. 19)

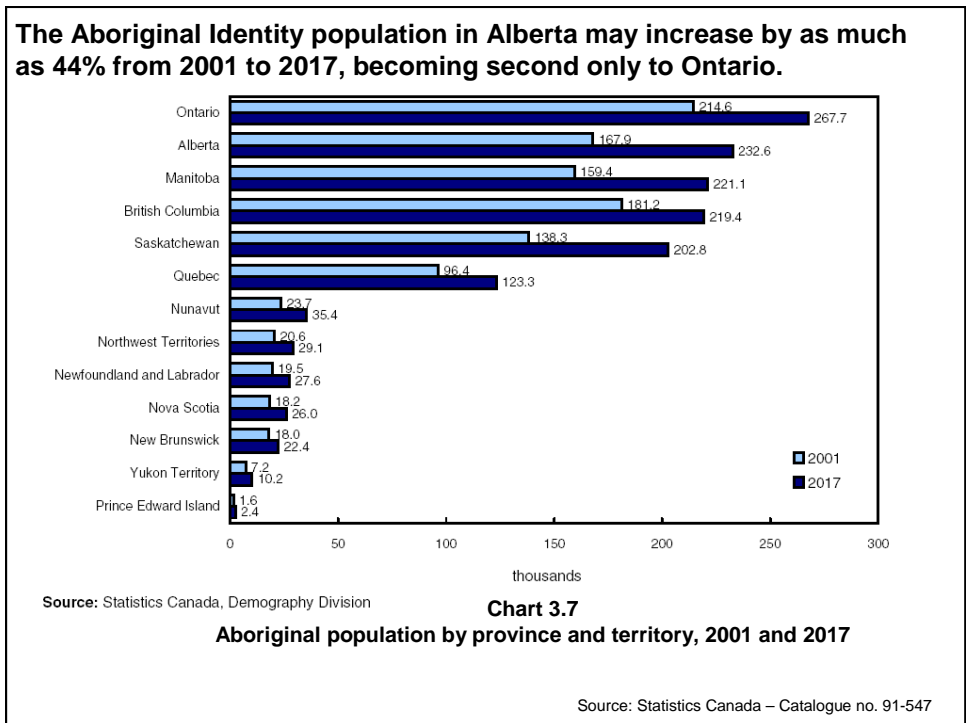


Exhibit 59



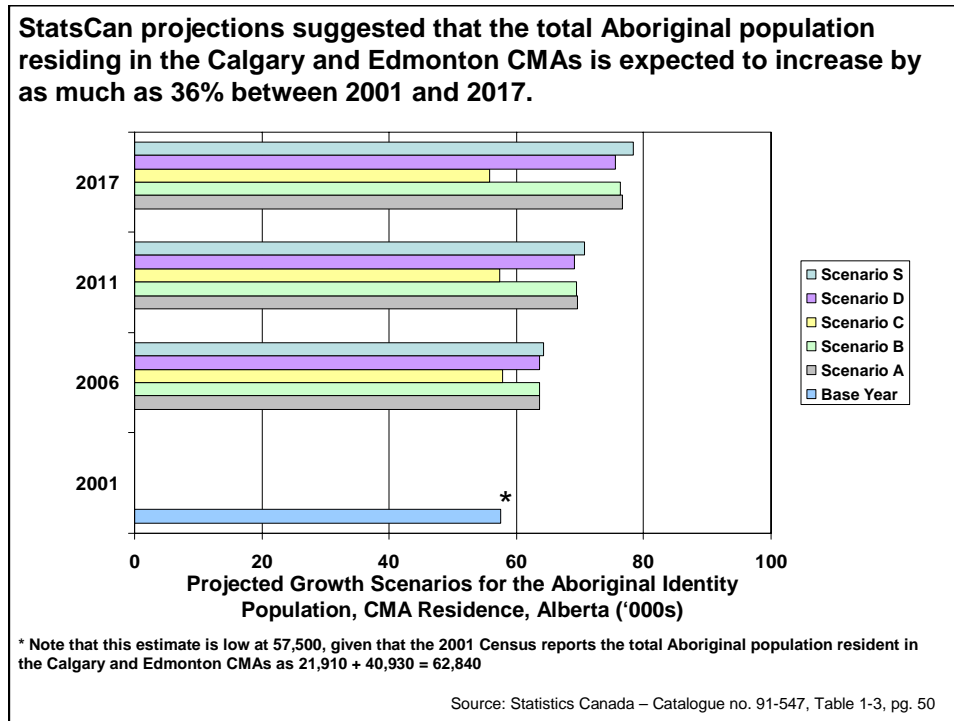
As Exhibit 60 illustrates, a 44% increase in the Aboriginal identity population of Alberta would make that population second only Ontario in size.

Exhibit 60



The Statistics Canada study projected more modest growth for the total Aboriginal population of the Edmonton and Calgary CMAs, to 2017, projecting maximum total growth of 36% in the Aboriginal population of the CMAs (see Exhibit 61).

Exhibit 61



It is interesting that the Statistics Canada study apparently under-reported the Aboriginal population of the census metropolitan areas in Alberta in 2001 by 8.5% (compared to information from the 2001 Census).

Statistics Canada did not prepare a range of population projections specific to the Calgary CMA. If, however, StatsCan’s forecast scenarios are applied to the Calgary CMA, the Aboriginal population of the Calgary CMA in 2017 would be expected to range between 19,455 (a reduction in the size of the Aboriginal population) to a maximum of 36,345.

There is, however, ample evidence to suggest that the future Aboriginal population of the Calgary CMA will exceed the maximum level suggested by the StatsCan forecast model.

With reference to Exhibit 62, information from the 2001 Census was used to estimate changes between 1996 and 2001 in:

- The number of Aboriginal people born in the Calgary CMA (i.e., the entire 2001 Aboriginal population under the age of 5 who did not move into the Calgary CMA); and



- The number of Aboriginal people who left the Calgary CMA, either through out-migration or death, by subtracting the net increase in Aboriginal population from the estimate of the total number of Aboriginal people who are new to the Calgary CMA.

Exhibit 62

“Drivers” of the Increase in the Aboriginal Population of the Calgary CMA: New arrivals account for 80% of the increase from 1996 to 2001

Drivers	#	%
Children born to 1996 residents	1,489	20.1%
People over 5 Years of age in 2001		
Moved from elsewhere in Alberta	2,275	30.7%
Moved from out of province	3,105	41.8%
Born to people who relocated into Calgary	551	7.4%
Total Increase	7,420	100%
Net Increase	6,715	90.5%
Estimated departures and deaths	705	9.5%

Between 1996 and 2001, 10.5 Aboriginal people took up residence in the Calgary CMA for every one who departed

Between 1996 and 2001, 10.5 Aboriginal people took up residence in the Calgary CMA for every one who departed ($7420/705=10.5$). Between 1996 and 2001, the net Aboriginal population in the Calgary CMA increased at the rate of 1,343 ($6715/5$) people per year, and $[(1489+551)/5]$ 408 of each year’s newcomers were children born to Aboriginal residents of Calgary. Aboriginal people who were born in Calgary account for approximately 20% of the increase of the City’s Aboriginal population between 1996 and 2001. Aboriginal people who are new to Calgary, and their children under the age of 5 years, account for 80% of the increase.

If prevailing migration patterns of Aboriginal people continue, the Aboriginal population of the Calgary CMA will continue to grow:

- Aboriginal people from out of province, and their offspring, accounted for 45% of the increase in the Aboriginal population of the Calgary CMA between 1996 and 2001. As Exhibit 56 and Exhibit 57 illustrate, over half of the Aboriginal population of Canada might be expected to consider Calgary as a potential future home.
- Aboriginal people who moved to Calgary from elsewhere in Alberta accounted for a further 34% of growth in the Aboriginal population between 1996 and 2001. As Exhibit 63 illustrates, over 30,000 Aboriginal people currently reside within the Calgary trading area,



but outside the Calgary CMA (i.e., within a 2.5 hour drive of downtown). If they all chose to relocate to the Calgary CMA, the Aboriginal population would increase by 150%.



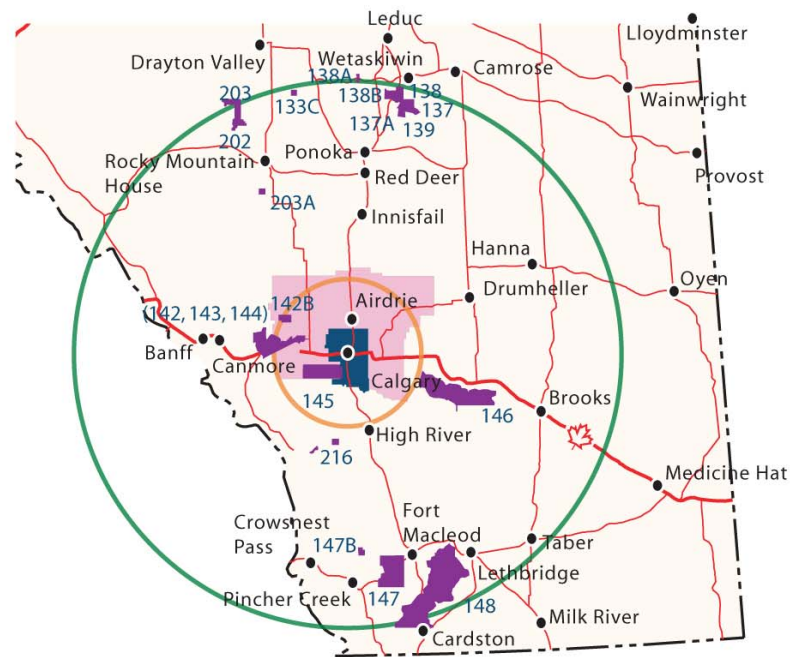
Aboriginal Population within the Calgary Trading Area

Cumulative Aboriginal Population

■ City of Calgary	19,760
■ Including Census Metropolitan Area	21,910
■ Including Aboriginal Population within 1 Hour Drive of Calgary	23,893
■ Including Aboriginal Population within 2.5 Hour Drive of Calgary	54,637

First Nations Reserves

■ Buck Lake	133C
■ Ermineskin	138
■ Louis Bull	138B
■ Montana	139
■ O'Chiese	203, 203A
■ Pigeon Lake	138A
■ Samson	137, 137A
■ Siksika	146
■ Stoney	142, 142B, 143, 144
■ Sunchild	202
■ Tsuu T'ina Nation ...	145

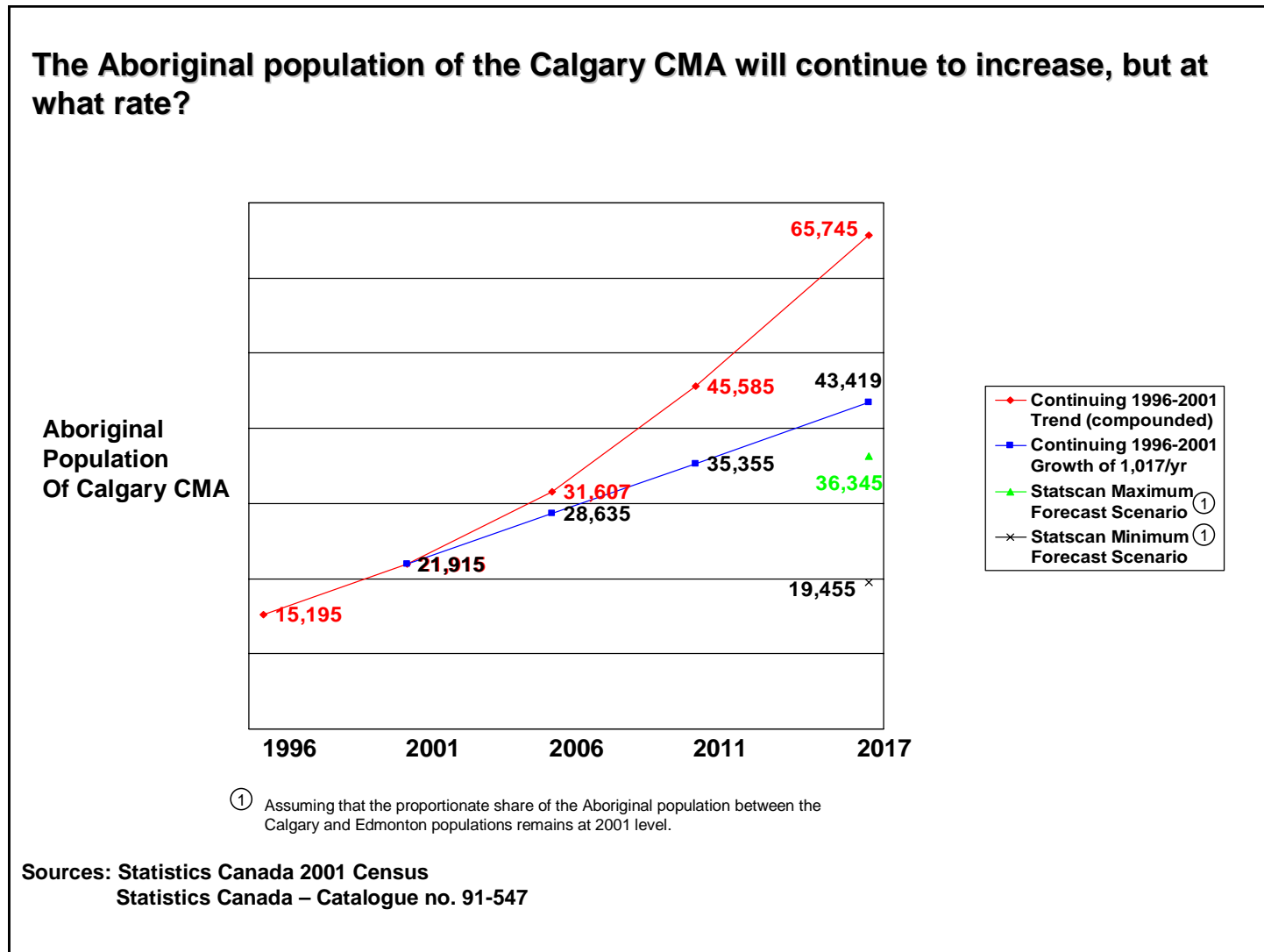


There is under-reporting of the Aboriginal population because a number of First Nations did not participate in the census along with the lack of census data for areas with less than 200 Aboriginal people. Almost 40% of Alberta's Aboriginal population is near by.



A summary of several scenarios for potential growth of the Aboriginal population of Calgary is presented as Exhibit 64.

Exhibit 64



The lower estimates, based on the StatsCan forecast models, factor in an anticipated increase of the proportion of the Aboriginal population living on-reserve. While this might be a national trend, this is an unlikely scenario for Alberta.

- The proportion of the North American Indian population of Alberta resident on-reserves is already 62% (and 74% in the Treaty 7 area of southern Alberta), significantly higher than the national average of 48%. The First Nations leadership in Alberta also reports an inability to keep up with the escalating demand for housing on-reserve, and there appears to be no feasible financial strategy to satisfy the escalating demand for housing in the First Nations communities. The feasibility of a significant migration of the North American Indian population in Alberta to the Reserve communities, is, therefore, in question.
- It is also noteworthy that few, if any, of the Métis, who comprise over 42% of the Aboriginal population in Alberta, are eligible for residency on the Reserves.

An increase in urbanization of the Aboriginal population of Alberta is more likely.

If Aboriginal population of the Calgary CMA continues to grow at the prevailing rate of 1,343 people per year, the Aboriginal population of the Calgary CMA will reach 43,419 people by 2017. If the Aboriginal population of the Calgary CMA continues to grow at the rate that it did between 1996 and 2001 (44% over five years), this compounded growth rate would be expected to result in an Aboriginal population of 66,745 people in the Calgary CMA by 2017.

While prospects for the economy of the Calgary area remain buoyant, there is a question as to the extent to which the lack of availability of affordable housing will deter further migration of Aboriginal people into the Calgary CMA at the high rates seen in recent years.

