Holiday Greetings:

Wishing you happiness this holiday season and throughout the coming year from the Statistics Canada Aboriginal Liaison Program team.

We look forward to continuing to provide you with quality service in the upcoming year.

Happy Holidays!

Christmas... by the numbers

Here are some facts on Christmas in Canada

Christmas trees

1,535,836 — The number of fresh-cut Christmas trees exported from Canada to the United States in 2013.

1,574,847 — The number of fresh-cut Christmas trees exported from Canada to the rest of the world in 2013.

2,381 — The number of farms that grew Christmas trees in Canada in 2011. According to the 2011 Census of Agriculture, this agricultural activity is concentrated in Quebec, Nova Scotia, Ontario, British Columbia and New Brunswick.

$56.2 million — The total value of artificial Christmas trees imported to Canada in 2013, up from $49.5 million in 2012.

Christmas gifts

$401.4 million — The value of toys, games and hobby supplies, including electronic games purchased at large retailers in Canada in December 2013, up 192.1% from average monthly sales of $137.4 million for this category in 2013 and up 38.1% from November 2013.
$528.6 million — The value of televisions and audio and video equipment purchased at large retailers in Canada in December 2013, up 129.0% from average monthly sales of $230.8 million for this category in 2013 and up 63.9% from November 2013.

Holiday lights
Light-emitting diodes (LEDs) have emerged as an energy-efficient alternative to conventional incandescent lighting. Festive holiday lighting has proven to be particularly well-suited to LED technology.

33% — The proportion of Canadian households that reported using LED holiday lights in 2011, up from 29% in 2007. The highest rate of reported use of LED holiday lights in 2011 was in Nova Scotia, at 45%.

Festively named places in Canada
You (or Santa Claus!) can ‘visit’ these and other places using the NHS Profile or the Census Profile.

Chimney, Christmas Island, Cranberry, Cranberry Junction, Cranberry Portage, L'Enfant-Jésus, Gift Lake, Holly, Noëlville, Reindeer Station, Sled Lake, Snowflake, Stocking Harbour, Turkey Point.

Releases:

Aboriginal Languages and Selected Vitality Indicators in 2011

On October 16, 2014, Statistics Canada released the article “Aboriginal Languages and Selected Vitality Indicators in 2011”. Aboriginal languages are of great importance to the identity of many First Nations people, Inuit and Métis in Canada. The assessment of language vitality or endangerment, through the measurement of various factors, can provide useful information to help ensure the continuity of a language. This paper illustrates how the 2011 Census of Population and the 2011 National Household Survey (NHS) can be used to measure some of the factors that provide information related to the vitality of Aboriginal languages.

In the 2011 Census of Population, 213,490 people reported an Aboriginal mother tongue. The Cree languages, Inuktitut and Ojibway were the most frequently reported Aboriginal languages. Dene, Innu/Montagnais and Oji-Cree were other Aboriginal languages with a mother tongue population size of 10,000 or more. However, about 25 Aboriginal languages were reported as mother tongue by less than 500 people.

According to the 2011 NHS, about one in six Aboriginal people can conduct a conversation in an Aboriginal language. Additionally, more than 52,000 Aboriginal people were able to converse in an Aboriginal language that was different from their mother tongue, suggesting that these individuals acquired an Aboriginal language as a second language. On the other side, about 14,000 Aboriginal people who reported an Aboriginal mother tongue have lost their ability to converse in that language. The
Labour Force Characteristics of the Métis: Findings from the 2012 Aboriginal Peoples Survey

On December 9, 2014, Statistics Canada released the article Labour force characteristics of the Métis: Findings from the 2012 Aboriginal Peoples Survey (catalogue no. 89-653-X). A comparatively young and growing population, Métis represent an emerging force within the Canadian labour market. Comparisons within the Labour Force Survey reveal that Métis have labour market characteristics that closely resemble those of the total population in Canada. This study profiles the labour market characteristics of Métis aged 15 years and over using the 2012 Aboriginal Peoples Survey. Employment, unemployment and additional factors such as occupation, job tenure and job permanence were considered.

The overall employment rate for the Métis population was similar to that of the total Canadian population in 2012. According to data from the 2012 Labour Force Survey (LFS), the employment rate of the Métis population was 60.7% compared with 61.8% for the Canadian population. The 2012 Aboriginal Peoples Survey (APS) shows that Métis employment rates were highest in Canada’s western provinces, with Alberta (68.1%), Manitoba (67.6%), British Columbia (66.1%) and Saskatchewan (65.9%) all above the national average.

Respondents who were unemployed were asked to identify the factors that caused them difficulty in finding work. The most commonly reported difficulty for Métis was a shortage of jobs (62.5%). Just over half (51.1%) reported not having the experience required for available jobs, while a slightly smaller number reported not having enough education or training for available jobs.

You can find more information on characteristics of Métis workers by clicking on the following link: http://www.statcan.gc.ca/pub/89-653-x/89-653-x2014004-eng.pdf (PDF) or at http://www5.statcan.gc.ca/olc-ce/olc.action?ObjId=89-653-X2014004&ObjType=46&lang=en&limit=0.
The 2011 National Household Survey (NHS) Public Use Microdata Files (PUMFs) contain samples of anonymous responses to the 2011 NHS questionnaire. The files have been carefully scrutinized to ensure the complete confidentiality of the respondents.

With many variables, this comprehensive tool is a valuable resource for policy analysts, pollsters, social researchers and anyone interested in modelling and performing statistical regression analysis using National Household Survey data.

Microdata files are unique among NHS products in that they give users access to non-aggregated data. The PUMF users can group and manipulate the variables to suit their data and research requirements. Tabulations excluded from other NHS products can be created or relationships between variables can be analyzed using different statistical tests. PUMFs provide quick access to a comprehensive social and economic database about Canada and its people.

For more information on the Individual File, click on this link:
http://www5.statcan.gc.ca/olc-cel/olc.action?objId=99M0001X2011001&objType=46&lang=en&limit=0

For more information on the newly released Hierarchical File, follow this link:
http://www5.statcan.gc.ca/olc-cel/olc.action?ObjId=99M0002X2014001&ObjType=46&lang=en

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Did You Know?

A Selection of Aboriginal Health Data

Select health indicators from the Canadian Community Health Survey

2007-2010 data on First Nations people living off reserve, Métis, Inuit and non-Aboriginal people
  • Health-at-a-Glance: Select health indicators of First Nations people living off reserve, Métis and Inuit
  • CANSIM Table 105-0512: Health indicator profile, by Aboriginal identity, age group and sex, four year estimates, Canada, provinces and territories
  • CANSIM Table 105-0513: Health indicator profile, by Aboriginal identity and sex, age-standardized rate, four year estimates, Canada, provinces and territories

Health region peer groups with low, average, high and very high proportions of Aboriginal people: Peer group description

Life expectancy and probability of survival data

1991-2006 data for the population with First Nations and Métis ancestry as well as 1994-5 and 2004-2008 data for Inuit regions
  • Health Reports: Remaining life expectancy at age 25 and probability of survival to
Learning Corner:

The Various Aboriginal Concepts in Statistics Canada’s Data

There are many different ways of identifying Aboriginal peoples in Statistics Canada data. There is no single or "correct" definition of Aboriginal peoples. There are many different ways of looking at the data. The choice of a concept depends on what the data will be used for.

- **Aboriginal ancestry** refers to the ethnic or cultural origins of a person’s ancestors. This refers to YOUR HISTORY, where your people came from.
- **Aboriginal identity** refers to YOU and asks, Is this person an Aboriginal person,
that is, First Nations (North American Indian), Métis, or Inuk (Inuit)? For example, I may report a Cree ancestry because I have a great-grandparent who was Cree, but I do not consider myself to be an Aboriginal person.

- People can also indicate if they are members of a First Nation/Indian band and/or if they are status Indians (Registered or Treaty Indians as defined by the Indian Act).

All of our data is self-reported. Respondents decide how to best answer the questions as they apply to them.

Counts of Aboriginal people varies by Aboriginal concept, Canada, 2011 National Household Survey

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**Regional news:**

**Professional Workshop Calendar – Winter 2015**

**Professional Workshops**

These focus on the understanding of data and its proper use, and survey methodology. Theoretical content is reinforced with discussion and skill-building exercises. These workshops are aimed at first time and occasional learners as well as experienced researchers looking for a refresher course or a source of new ideas.
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<tr>
<td>January 2015</td>
<td><strong>Understanding and Interpreting Data (2 days)</strong></td>
<td>Winnipeg</td>
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<td>Winnipeg</td>
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<td>27</td>
<td><strong>Introduction to Basic Statistics</strong></td>
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Please let us know if you wish to attend a course that is not currently scheduled. We may be offering the course in another location or add sessions to the calendar. Custom courses can be arranged for larger groups.

For more information or to register, please contact us.

**Phone:** 1-888-799-0050  
**Fax:** 1-877-287-4369  
(toll free in western provinces and the territories)  
**Email:** West.Info@statcan.gc.ca  
**Online registration:** [http://www.statcan.gc.ca/services/workshop-atelier-eng.htm](http://www.statcan.gc.ca/services/workshop-atelier-eng.htm)

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