The Health and Well-being of Aboriginal People in British Columbia
## Indicators of Aboriginal Health and Well-Being

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Terminology Used to Describe Aboriginal People in Canada and B.C. Population, 1996

Aboriginal Peoples - 139,655 (Aboriginal identity, 1996 Census)

- First Nations - 107,370
  - Status (Registered) Indians - 93,835
    - Treaty Indians
  - Non-Status Indians - 13,535
    - Non-Treaty Indians
- Métis - 25,575
- Inuit - 740
- Multiple/Other Aboriginal Identity - 5,960

Disparity between Aboriginal and Non-Aboriginal Population, Seven Census Measures of Socioeconomic Conditions, B.C., 1996

Aboriginal rate as a per cent of non-Aboriginal

Employment rate: Proportion of labour force age 15 and over employed. Employment to population ratio: Proportion of population age 15 and over employed.
Average income: Average employment income among full-year full-time workers age 15 and over.
Income self-sufficiency: Proportion of total income that comes from sources other than government transfer payments.
Post-secondary graduation: Percentage of population age 15 and over with a university degree.

Source: Statistics Canada. 1996 Census, Semi-Custom Area Profile. Data obtained from the Health Data Warehouse, B.C. Ministry of Health Services.
Fig. 3.7

Mortality Rates by Age Group, Status Indians and Other B.C. Residents, 1991 – 2000

Deaths (all causes) per 10,000 population in each age group.
Life Expectancy at Birth, Status Indians and Other B.C. Residents, 1996 – 2000


Neighbourhood income category - the B.C. population was grouped into 3 categories (terciles), after ranking enumeration areas by income per single-person equivalent within each Census Metropolitan Area.

Fig. 3.1

Infant Mortality Rate, Status Indians and Other B.C. Residents, 1951 – 2000

Rate per 1,000 Live Births

Year

Status Indians

Other B.C. Residents

Mortality Rates for All Causes of Death, Status Indians and Other B.C. Residents, 1991 – 2005 (projected)

Age standardized mortality rate per 10,000 standard population (Canada 1991 Census).
Suicide Death Rates, Status Indians and Other Residents of B.C., 1991 - 2000

Age standardized mortality rate per 10,000 standard population (Canada 1991 Census).
Note: The downward trend for Status Indians is statistically significant at the 5 per cent level.
Figure 5.11

Grade Point Average of High School Graduates, 1992 - 2000

Average GPA of students receiving Dogwood Certificates.
Health Indicators

- 20 are improving; health-related areas like heart disease and stroke, respiratory diseases and non-health related areas like housing quality, community control and high school graduation.

- 7 stayed the same; youth in justice system immunizations, dental procedures, mental health follow-up, TB, lung cancer and arthritis.

- 3 have worsened; percent and number of children in care, alcohol related deaths and HIV/AIDS deaths.

- 25 are without trend data

- 5 relate to health care utilization and suggest deficiencies
Potential Years of Life Lost, Status Indians and Other B.C. Residents, 1991-1998

- B.C.: 152
- North East: 134
- North West: 102
- South Mainland: 173
- Vancouver Island: 155

Rate per 1,000 population

Other B.C. Residents
Status Indians
Relationship between Socioeconomic Measures and Health Status, Aboriginal Population
B.C. Health Regions

Regional rankings on 7 Census measures of employment, income, and educational attainment and 5 health status measures (infant mortality, life expectancy of men and women, and potential years of life lost due to natural and external causes). Scores were calculated based on a formula that considers how much each region differs from the median value.

Fig. 4.12
Suicide Rates by Number of Protective Factors Present, First Nations Communities in B.C.

Protective factors: progress toward self-government and land claims, local control over community health services, education, and police and fire services, and presence of cultural facilities.

This chart shows the ratio of age standardized utilization rates for Status Indians compared to other B.C. residents. A ratio of 1.6 means that the Status Indian population used 60 per cent more services than others. MSP patients refer to the number of individuals who saw at least one physician (including medical health professionals such as chiropractors and physiotherapists) in 2000-01. RIWs are Resource Intensity Weights, weighted units of hospital activity used to estimate the relative costs of treating different types of patients. Residential care and home support refer to days of care in long-term care facilities and hours of home support services. Mortality is the ratio of age standardized mortality (death) rates in 1999.

Solutions

- Formal Commitments to achieve comparable health status
- Improve Standard of Living
- More Recognition and Respect
- More Holistic Approach
- More Autonomy
- More Representation
Fig. 3.1
Infant Mortality Rate, Status Indians and Other B.C. Residents, 1951 - 2000

Rate per 1,000 Live Births

Year

Status Indians

Other B.C. Residents

Fig. 5.8

Grade 4 Students Meeting Expectations for the 2000/01 Foundation Skills Assessment

- Aboriginal
- Non-Aboriginal


Provincial Health Officer’s Annual Report 2001 – The Health and Well-Being of Aboriginal People in British Columbia
Fig. 5.12
Age When Started Smoking, Current Smokers
Age 12 and Older, B.C., 1997

Per cent

Aboriginal Smokers
All B.C. Smokers

Age when started smoking

Alcohol-Related Deaths, Status Indians, 1991 - 2000


Age standardized mortality rate per 10,000 standard population (Canada 1991 Census).
Note: The downward trend for Others is statistically significant at the 5 per cent level.
Diabetes Prevalence Rates
Canadians, British Columbians & First Nations in B.C., 1996/97

Rate for Canada is unadjusted. Rates for B.C. and First Nations in B.C. are adjusted for age and gender.

Age standardized mortality rate per 10,000 standard population (Canada 1991 Census).
Acute care hospitalizations (cases) with a primary diagnosis of diabetes, alcohol and drug-related conditions, neurosis, depression, hypertension, or asthma.

Report On The Health Of British Columbians Provincial Health Officer's Annual Report 2001

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British Columbia Ministry of Health Planning Office of the Provincial Health Officer