

The Health of Canada's Children and Youth: A CICH Profile **Contextual Module**

Section 1 - The Children and Youth of Canada

1.2.12 Aboriginal Children and Youth in Canada

Fig. 1.2.12 Percentage of the total population of children and youth 0 to 24 years reporting an Aboriginal Identity, by province and territory, 2006 100 86.7 Canada 5.5% 80 59.6 60 % 40 31.1 22.6 22.2 20 7.8 7.0 7.0 4.0 3.5 2.0 2.0 2.6 0 NL PE NS NB QC ON MB SK AB BC YK NT NU **Province / Territory** Adapted from Statistics Canada, at http://www40.statcan.gc.ca/l01/cst01/demo40a-eng.htm, http://www40.statcan.gc.ca/l01/cst01/

demo40b-eng.htm, http://www40.statcan.gc.ca/l01/cst01/demo40c-eng.htm and http://www40.statcan.gc.ca/l01/cst01/demo40d-eng.htm accessed on July 8, 2011

According to the 2006 Census, 5.5% of the population of Canadian children and youth between 0 and 24 years identified as Aboriginal. The proportion varied greatly by province and territory. While the number of children and youth with Aboriginal identity may be highest in Ontario – the proportion of Aboriginal children and youth is much higher west of Ontario and in the Territories. In the Northwest Territories and Nunavut, over half of all children and youth reported Aboriginal identity. That proportion was almost a third in the Yukon. Over 20% of all children and youth in Manitoba and Saskatchewan reported Aboriginal identity compared with around 2% in Ontario and Québec.

Implications

Resources and services that are culturally unique must be available wherever Aboriginal children and youth live.