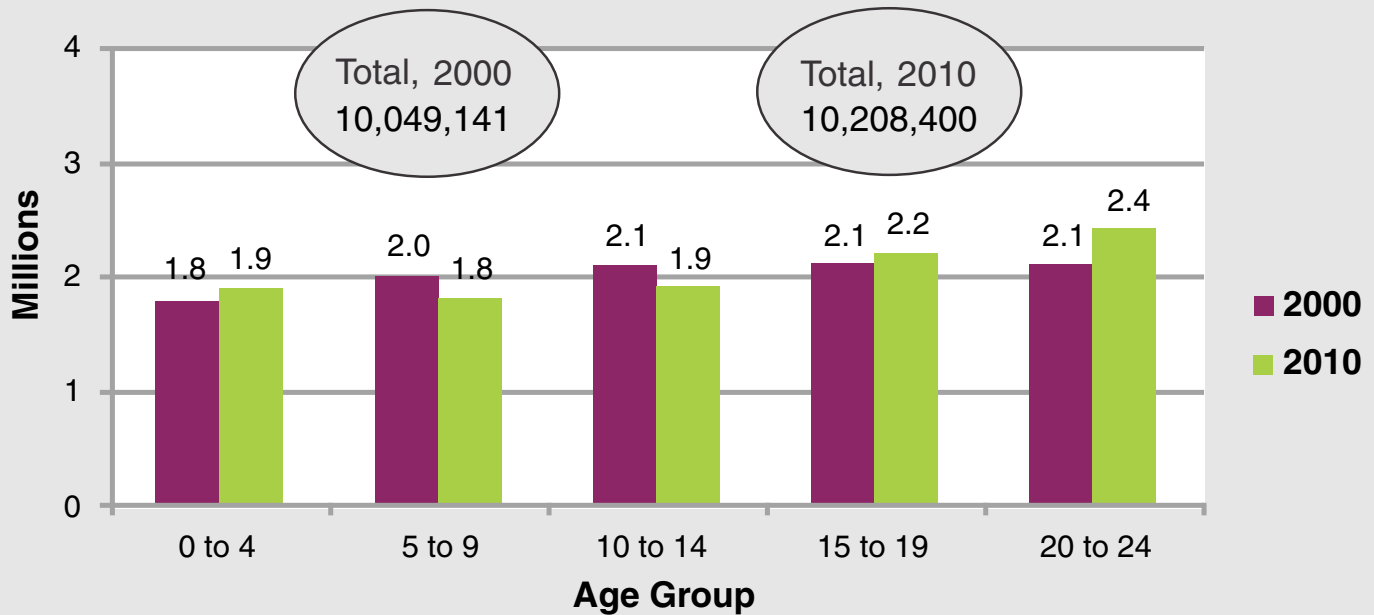




1.1.1 The Number of Children and Youth in Canada

Fig. 1.1.1 Number of children and youth from birth to 24 years, by age group, Canada, 2000 and 2010



Adapted from the Statistics Canada CANSIM database <http://cansim2.statcan.gc.ca>, table no. 051-0001 accessed on July 8, 2011

In 2010, 10,208,400 children and youth called Canada home. Of these, approximately 1.9 million were infants, toddlers and young children between the ages of birth and 4 years; 1.8 million were children aged 5 to 9 years; 1.9 million were older children and youth in early adolescence, between the ages of 10 and 14 years; 2.2 million were youth ages 15 through 19 years; and 2.4 million were young adults, ages 20 through 24 years.

Implications

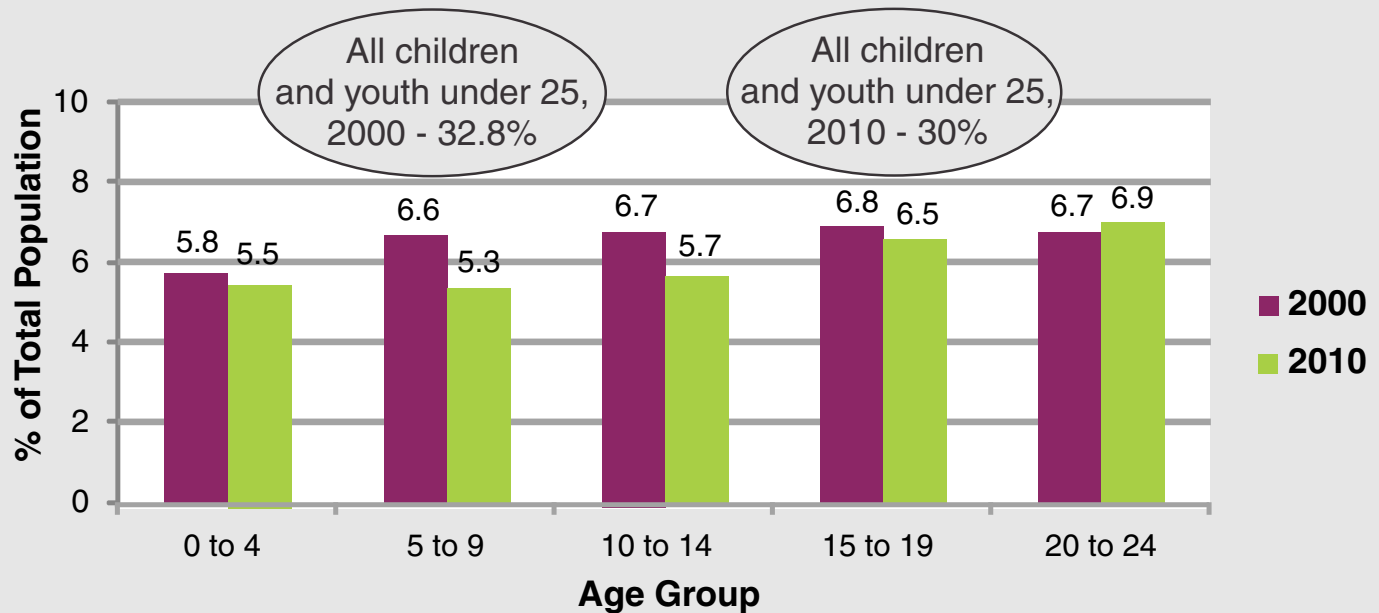
The number of children and youth living in Canada continues to increase. All of these children require caring and nurturing families and communities, as well as resources and services, so that they can reach their full potential. The relative increase in youth and young adults aged 15 to 24 years highlights the need for ensuring continuity of care when youth move from child to adult social and health services.





1.1.2 The Number of Children and Youth in Canada

Fig. 1.1.2 Proportion of the total population who were children and youth from birth to 24 years, by age group, Canada, 2000 and 2010



Adapted from the Statistics Canada CANSIM database <http://cansim2.statcan.gc.ca>, table no. 051-0001 accessed on July 8, 2011

Although the actual number of children and youth in Canada increased from 2000 to 2010, they accounted for slightly less as a proportion of the total population – 30% in 2010 compared to 33% in 2000.

In 2010, infants, toddlers and young children between the ages of birth and 14 years accounted for 16.5% of Canada's overall population compared to 19.2% in 2000.

Implications

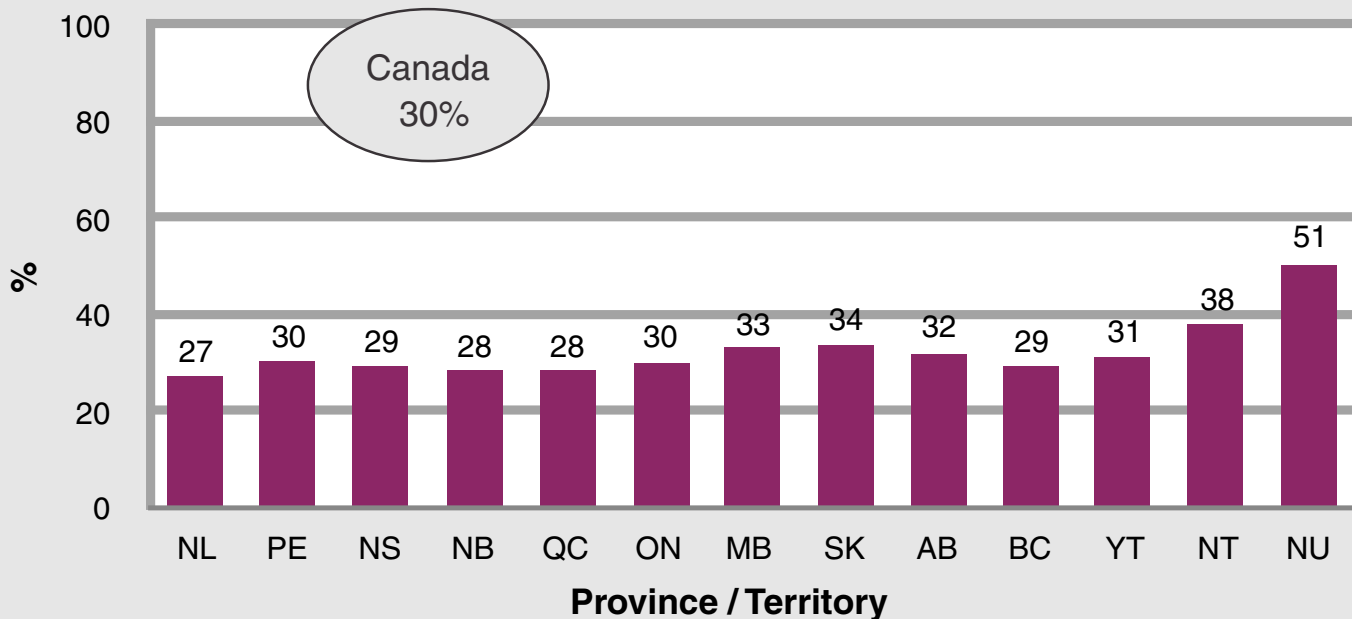
As the proportion children of various age groups, as a total of the Canadian population fluctuates, appropriate shifts in resources and services will have to be made.





1.1.3 The Number of Children and Youth in Canada

Fig. 1.1.3 Children and youth from birth to age 24, as a proportion of the total population, by province and territory, 2010



Adapted from the Statistics Canada CANSIM database <http://cansim2.statcan.gc.ca>, table no. 051-0001 accessed on July 8, 2011

As of July 1, 2010 approximately 30% of the total population in Canada was children aged from birth to 24 years. In all provinces and the Yukon, the proportion of children and youth under 25 years of age was close to the national average. However, in the Northwest Territories, 38% of all residents were children and youth and, more than half of Nunavut's population were children and youth.

Implications

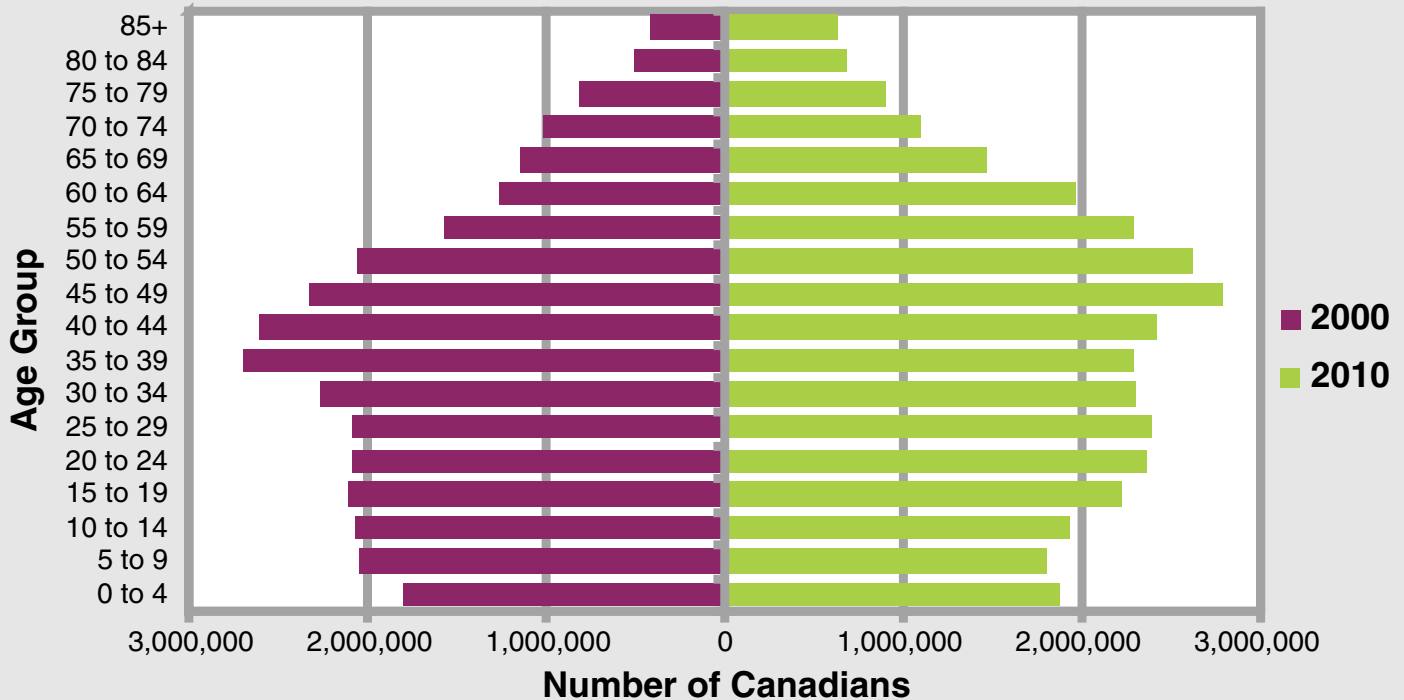
Everywhere they reside, children must have access to health care, education, early childhood learning and care, and other social supports that promote their well-being and healthy development. This is especially critical in NWT and Nunavut where children and youth make up a large proportion of the population.





1.1.4 The Number of Children and Youth in Canada

Fig. 1.1.4 Population pyramid, by age and sex, Canada, 2010



Adapted from the Statistics Canada CANSIM database <http://cansim2.statcan.gc.ca>, table no. 051-0001 accessed on July 8, 2011

Looking at the total population of Canada by age group for 2000 compared to 2010 illustrates the overall trend towards an aging population. For the ten year period 2000 to 2010 there was a 5% decrease in the population aged 0 to 14 years while the population aged 15 to 24 increased by 10%. At the opposite end of the spectrum the number of those aged 80 and over increased by 48% from 2000 to 2010.

The baby boomer "bulge" can be seen moving from age 35 to 44 in 2000 to age 45 to 54 in 2010.

Implications

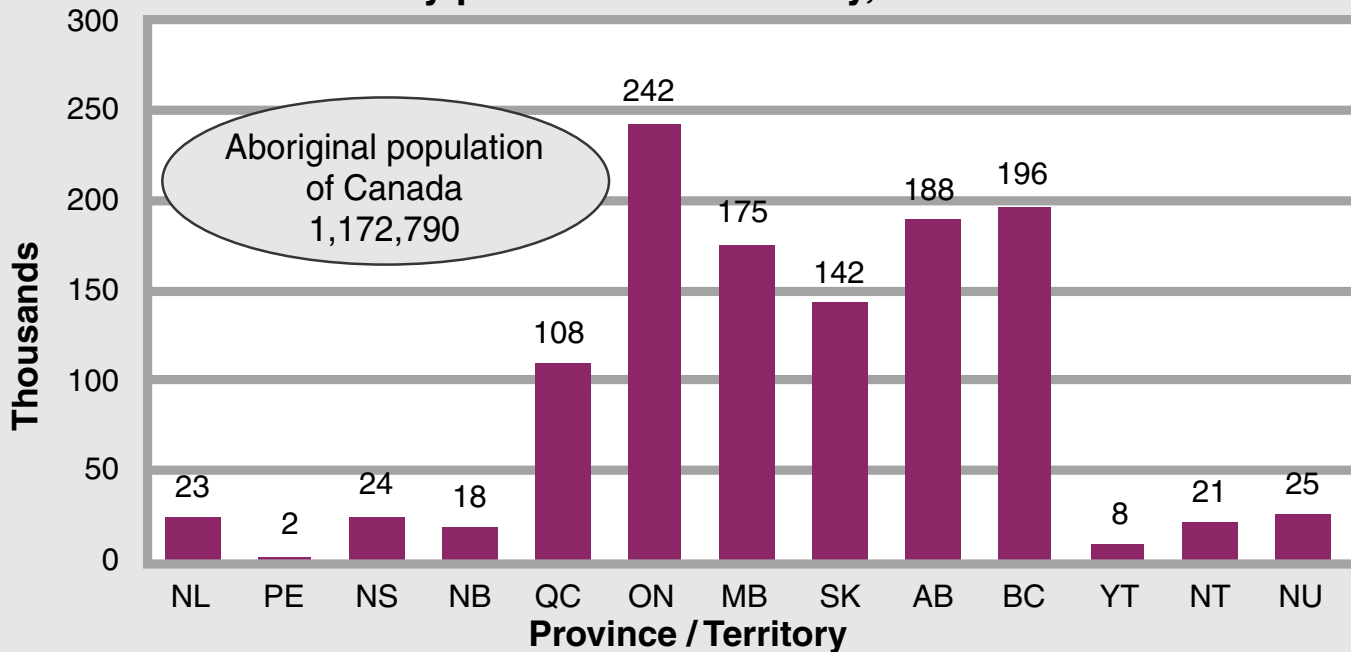
The increasing life expectancy of Canada's older population and retirement of the aging baby boomer generation will create challenges for Canada's economic and health care system in the future.





1.2.5 Aboriginal Children and Youth in Canada

Fig. 1.2.5 Population reporting Aboriginal identity, by province and territory, 2006



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> on July 8, 2011

Aboriginal Canadians are those who identify as First Nations/North American Indian, Métis or Inuit. According to the 2006 Census, Canada's total Aboriginal population was 1,172,790 people.

While the largest Aboriginal population (242,495) is in Ontario, many Aboriginal people live on the Prairies — Manitoba (175,395) and Saskatchewan (141,890) — as well as in the western provinces — Alberta (188,365) and British Columbia (196,075).

Implications

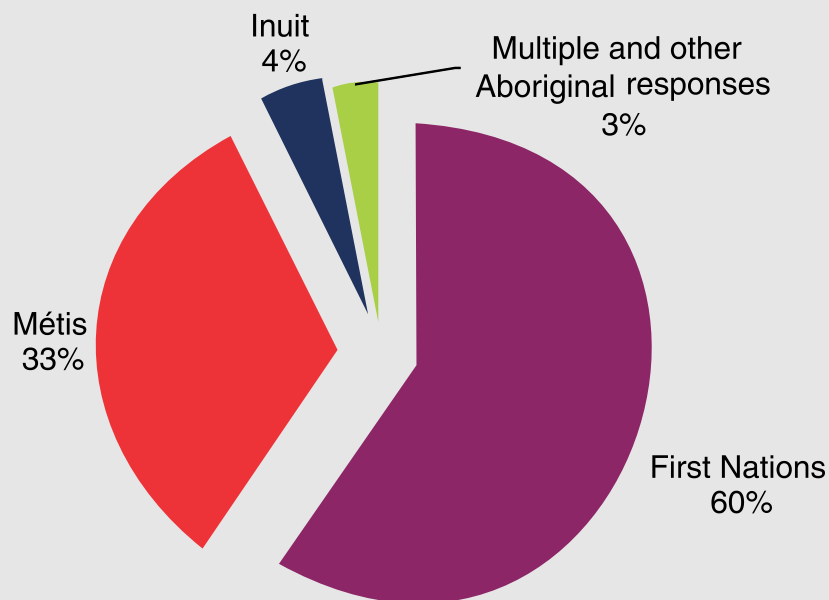
In the years to come, there is expected to be huge demands on Canada's labour market because of the increasing number of retiring baby boomers. As the non-Aboriginal youth and young adult population shrinks, there is potential for Aboriginal youth to benefit significantly. In preparation, Canada's leaders need to find ways to ensure that Aboriginal children and youth receive the education and employment skills necessary to take advantage of the opportunities that will inevitably unfold, and to have the opportunity to fully participate in Canadian society.





1.2.6 Aboriginal Children and Youth in Canada

Fig. 1.2.6 Canada's Aboriginal population, by Aboriginal identity, 2006, Total = 1,172,795



Adapted from Statistics Canada, at <http://www12.statcan.gc.ca/census-recensement/2006/dp-pd/tbt/Rp-eng.cfm?LANG=E&APATH=3&DETAIL=0&DIM=0&FL=A&FREE=0&GC=0&GID=0&GK=0&GRP=1&PID=89122&PRID=0&PTYPE=88971,97154&S=0&SHOWALL=0&SUB=731&Temporal=2006&THEME=73&VID=0&VNAMEE=&VNAMEF=> on July 8, 2011

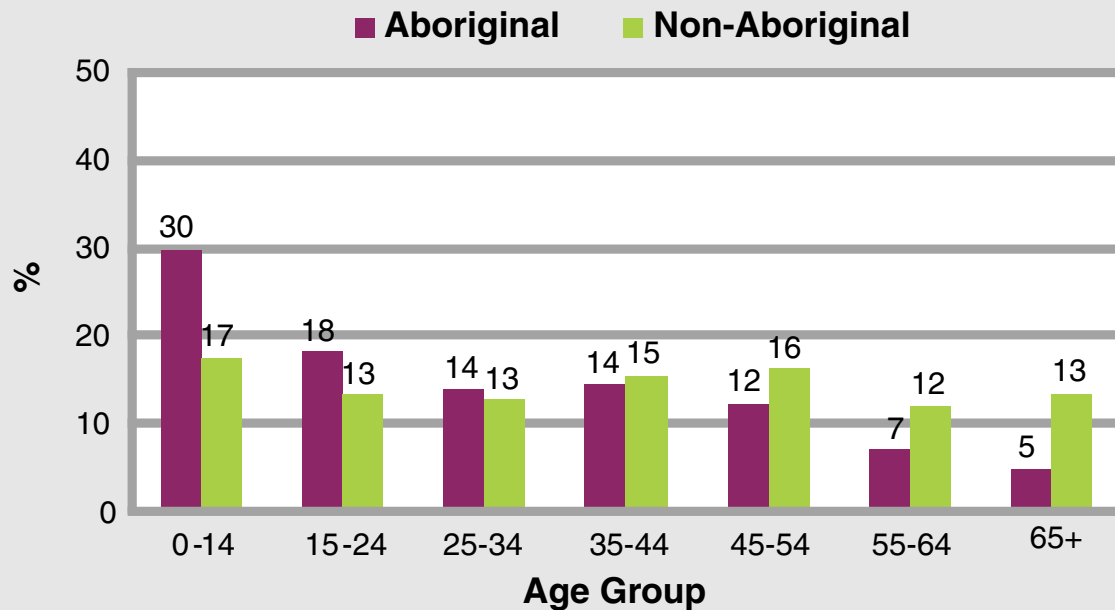
In 2006, the majority of people in Canada who identified as Aboriginal were of First Nations/North American Indian heritage (60%). One third (33%) identified as Métis and 4% as Inuit. It must be noted that 3% of people who reported Aboriginal identity were of multiple Aboriginal backgrounds or of an Aboriginal background other than First Nations, Métis or Inuit.





1.2.7 Aboriginal Children and Youth in Canada

Fig. 1.2.7 Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal populations by age group, as a proportion of their total populations, Canada, 2006



Adapted from Statistics Canada, at <http://www12.statcan.gc.ca/census-recensement/2006/dp-pd/tbt/Rp-eng.cfm?LANG=E&APATH=3&DETAIL=0&DIM=0&FL=A&FREE=0&GC=0&GID=0&GK=0&GRP=1&PID=89122&PRID=0&PTYPE=88971,97154&S=0&SHOWALL=0&SUB=731&Temporal=2006&THEME=73&VID=0&VNAMEE=&VNAMEF=> accessed on July 8, 2011

Aboriginal communities in Canada are young communities. Thirty percent of the Aboriginal population in Canada is under 15 years of age, a further 18% are between 15 and 24 years.

Implications

According to population projections released by Statistics Canada in 2005, Aboriginal people could account for a growing share of the young adult population over the next decade. By 2017, Aboriginal people aged 20 to 29 could make up 30% of those in their 20s in Saskatchewan, 24% in Manitoba, 40% in the Yukon Territory and 58% in the Northwest Territories. Already, more than 80% of Nunavut's population aged 20 to 29 is Aboriginal, and the proportion is expected to grow.¹ Seniors represent a smaller proportion of the Aboriginal population than the non-Aboriginal population – this is due in part to higher mortality rates and reduced life expectancy in the Aboriginal population.

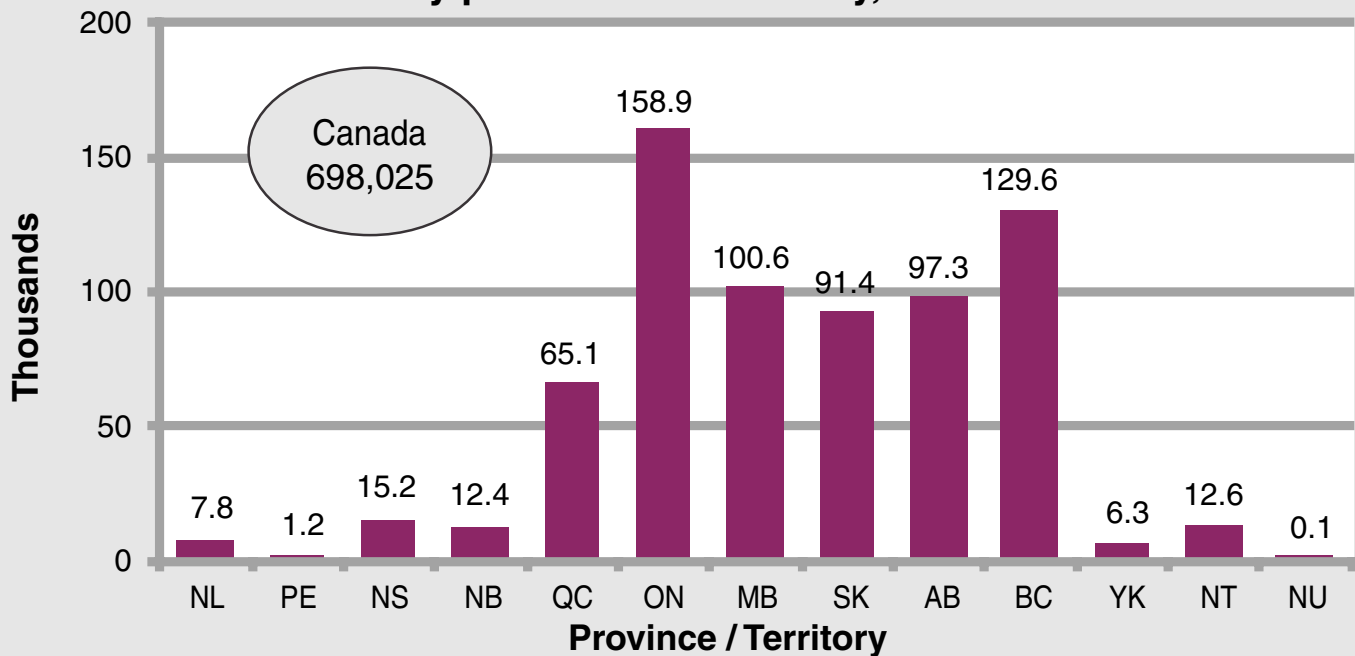
¹ Statistics Canada. 2006 Census: Aboriginal Peoples in Canada in 2006: Inuit, Métis and First Nations, 2006 Census. <http://www12.statcan.ca/census-recensement/2006/as-sa/97-558/p4-eng.cfm>





1.2.8 Aboriginal Children and Youth in Canada

Fig. 1.2.8 Population reporting First Nations identity, by province and territory, 2006



Adapted from Statistics Canada, at <http://www12.statcan.gc.ca/census-recensement/2006/dp-pd/tbt/Rp-eng.cfm?LANG=E&APATH=3&DETAIL=0&DIM=0&FL=A&FREE=0&GC=0&GID=0&GK=0&GRP=1&PID=89122&PRID=0&PTYPE=88971,97154&S=0&SHOWALL=0&SUB=731&Temporal=2006&THEME=73&VID=0&VNAMEE=&VNAMEF=> accessed on July 8, 2011

In 2006, the largest populations of Métis and First Nations Canadians resided in the provinces west of Québec. Ontario is home to 158,900 First Nations and 73,600 Métis. BC has the next largest population with 129,600 First Nations and 59,400 Métis, followed by Manitoba (100,600 First Nations and 71,800 Métis), Alberta (97,300 First Nations and 85,500 Métis), Saskatchewan (91,400 First Nations and 48,100 Métis) and Québec (65,100 First Nations and 18,000 Métis).

Approximately 15,200 First Nations and 7,700 Métis reside in Nova Scotia, which is more than in any of the other Atlantic provinces.

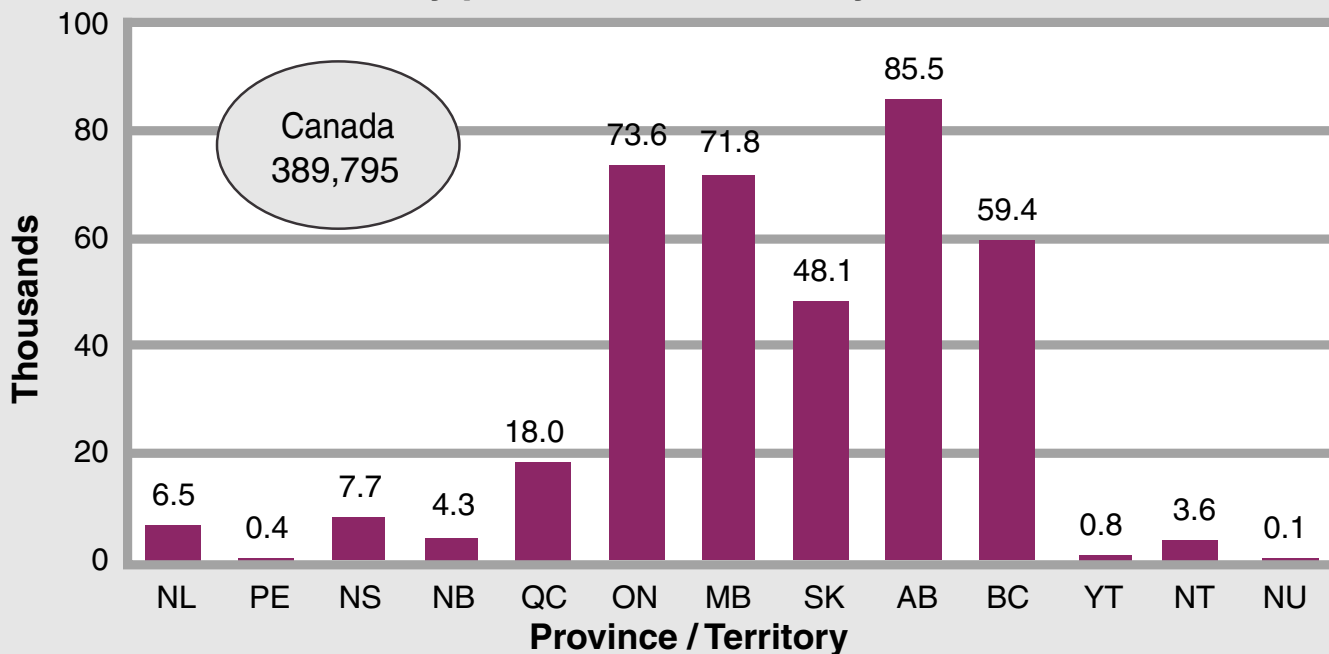
Among the territories, the Northwest Territories is home to largest population of First Nations (12,600) and Métis (3,600), followed by the Yukon (6,300 First Nations and 800 Métis). Fewer than 1,000 First Nations or Métis reside in Nunavut.





1.2.9 Aboriginal Children and Youth in Canada

Fig. 1.2.9 Population reporting Métis identity, by province and territory, 2006



Adapted from Statistics Canada, at <http://www12.statcan.gc.ca/census-recensement/2006/dp-pd/tbt/Rp-eng.cfm?LANG=E&APATH=3&DETAIL=0&DIM=0&FL=A&FREE=0&GC=0&GID=0&GK=0&GRP=1&PID=89122&PRID=0&PTYPE=88971,97154&S=0&SHOWALL=0&SUB=731&Temporal=2006&THEME=73&VID=0&VNAMEE=&VNAMEF=> accessed on July 8, 2011

In 2006, the largest populations of Métis and First Nations Canadians resided in the provinces west of Québec. Ontario is home to 158,900 First Nations and 73,600 Métis. BC has the next largest population with 129,600 First Nations and 59,400 Métis, followed by Manitoba (100,600 First Nations and 71,800 Métis), Alberta (97,300 First Nations and 85,500 Métis), Saskatchewan (91,400 First Nations and 48,100 Métis) and Québec (65,100 First Nations and 18,000 Métis).

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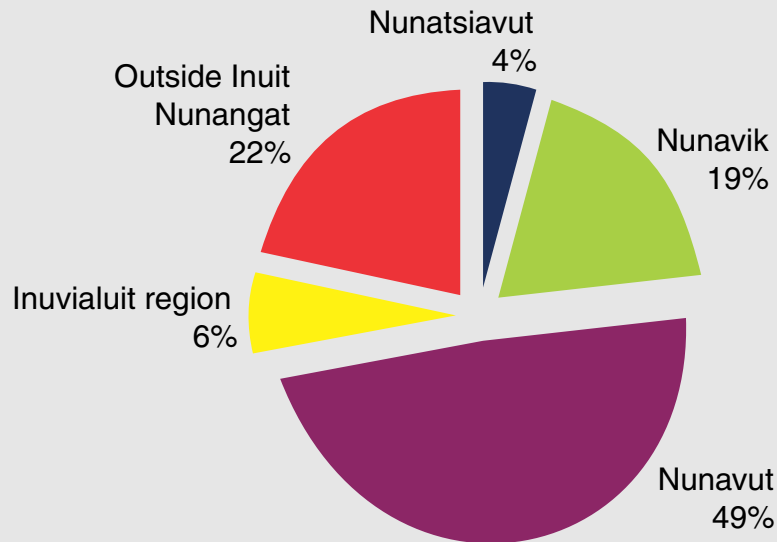
Among the territories, the Northwest Territories is home to largest population of First Nations (12,600) and Métis (3,600), followed by the Yukon (6,300 First Nations and 800 Métis). Fewer than 1,000 First Nations or Métis reside in Nunavut.





1.2.10 Aboriginal Children and Youth in Canada

Fig. 1.2.10 Distribution of the Inuit population, by region, Canada, 2006, Total = 50,485



Adapted from Statistics Canada, at <http://www.statcan.gc.ca/pub/89-636-x/2008001/tab/tab1-eng.htm> accessed on July 8, 2011

“Inuit Nunangat” is the Inuktitut expression for “Inuit homeland.” The Inuit Nunangat consists of four regions that extend across northern Canada. Inuit have inhabited this region for 5,000 years.

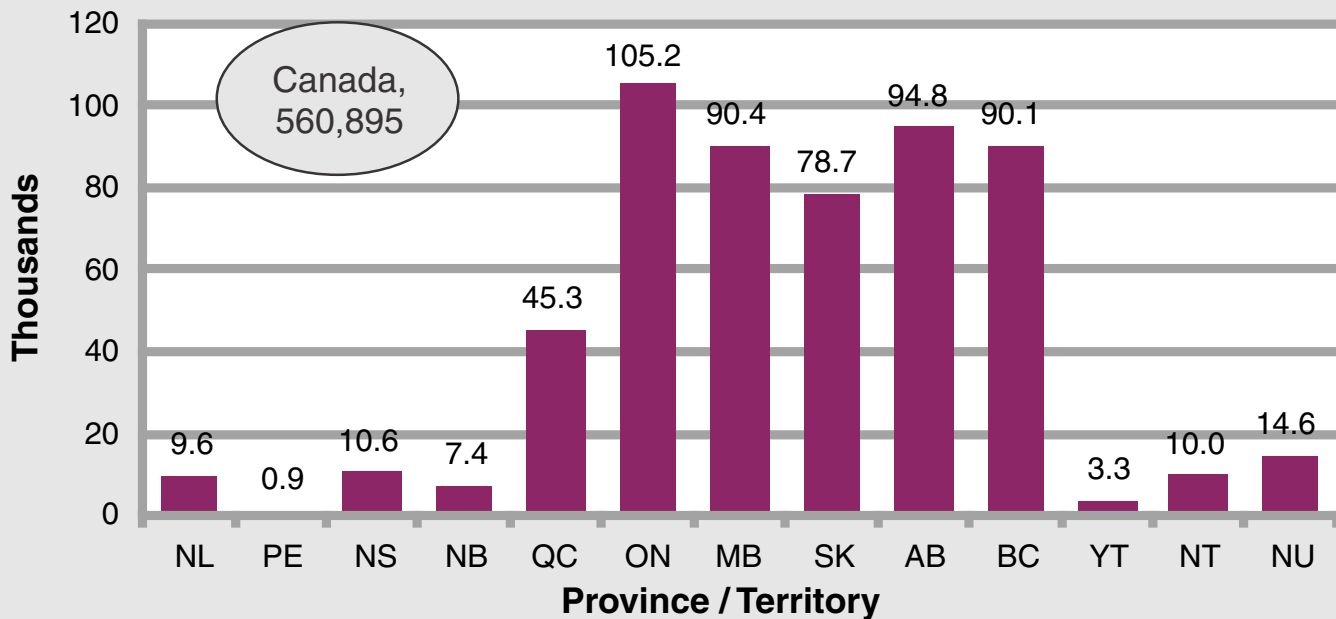
In 2006, the majority of Inuit (78%) lived in Inuit Nunangat. Of the total Inuit population in Canada, 49% lived in Nunavut, 19% in Nunavik in northern Quebec, 6% in the Inuvialuit region of the Northwest Territories and 4% in Nunatsiavut in northern Labrador.





1.2.11 Aboriginal Children and Youth in Canada

Fig. 1.2.11 Number of children and youth 0 to 24 years reporting an Aboriginal identity, by province and territory, 2006



Adapted from Statistics Canada, at <http://www40.statcan.gc.ca/101/cst01/demo40a-eng.htm>, <http://www40.statcan.gc.ca/101/cst01/demo40b-eng.htm>, <http://www40.statcan.gc.ca/101/cst01/demo40c-eng.htm> and <http://www40.statcan.gc.ca/101/cst01/demo40d-eng.htm> accessed on July 8, 2011

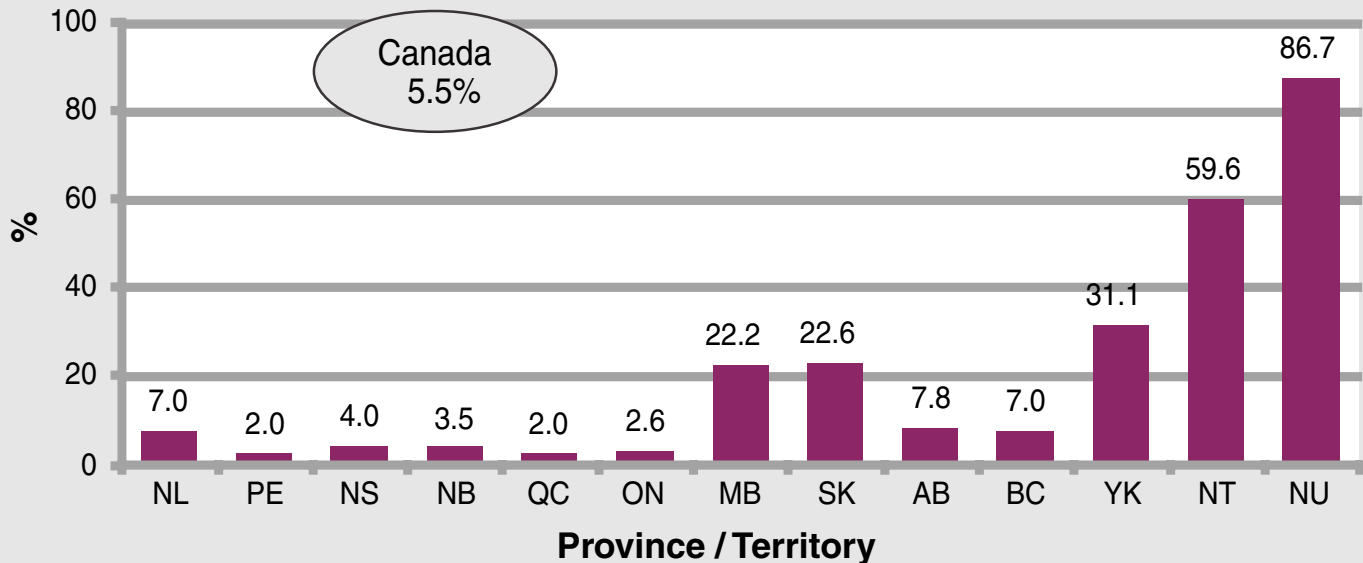
In 2006, over 560,000 Aboriginal children and youth under 25 years of age lived in Canada. The greatest number of these children and youth lived in Ontario (105,205) and many others lived in Manitoba (90,360), Saskatchewan (78,680), Alberta (94,805) and British Columbia (90,065). Fewer Aboriginal children and youth lived in the Atlantic provinces. Although the total number of Aboriginal children and youth in the territories appears low compared to some provinces, the proportion far exceeds the proportion of non-Aboriginal children and youth in the territories.





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



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

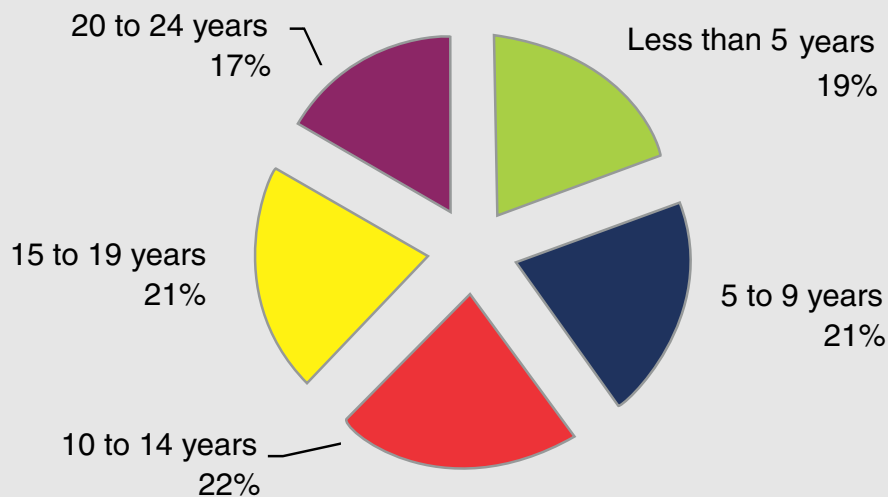
Resources and services that are culturally unique must be available wherever Aboriginal children and youth live.





1.2.13 Aboriginal Children and Youth in Canada

Fig. 1.2.13 Distribution of children and youth reporting Aboriginal identity, by age group, Canada, 2006, Total = 560,895



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

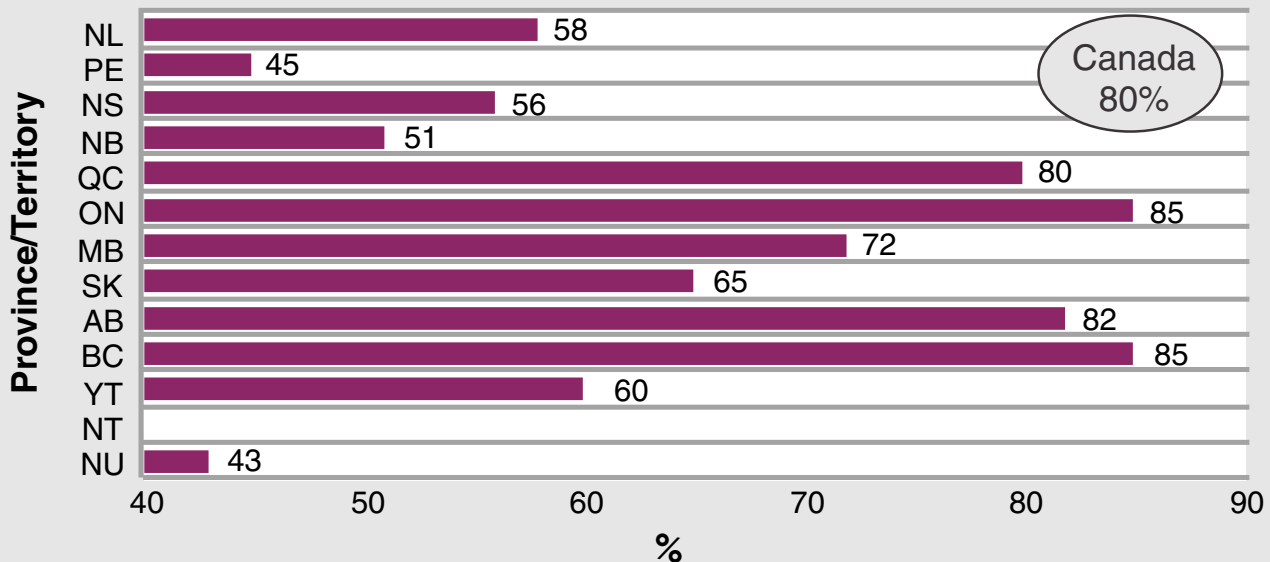
Of the over 560,000 Aboriginal children and youth under 25 living in Canada at the time of the 2006 Census, 19% were infants, toddlers and young children under the age 5 years; 21% were children between the ages of 5 and 9 years; 22% were older children and young adolescents aged 10 to 14 years; 21% were youth ages 15 through 19 years and 17% were youth aged 20 to 24 years.





1.3.14 Urban and Rural Composition

Fig. 1.3.14 Percentage of the population living in urban centres, Canada, provinces and territories, 2006



Adapted from Statistics Canada, at <http://www40.statcan.ca/101/cst01/demo62a-eng.htm>, accessed on November 28, 2011

In 2006, 80% of Canadians lived in urban centres. Urban living was most common in Ontario and British Columbia, where 85% of the population lived in urban centres. Urban living remained the dominant choice of people in many provinces and territories at 82% in Alberta, 80% in Québec, 72% in Manitoba, 65% in Saskatchewan, and 60% in the Yukon.

The Atlantic provinces were more closely divided between urban and rural living. In Newfoundland and Labrador, 58% of the population lived in an urban centre; in Nova Scotia, 56% lived in an urban centre. At 51% of its population living within an urban community, New Brunswick was the most evenly split between urban and rural living.

Prince Edward Island and Nunavut were the only exceptions to the national trend. The majority of their populations (65% and 67%, respectively) lived in rural rather than urban communities.

Implications

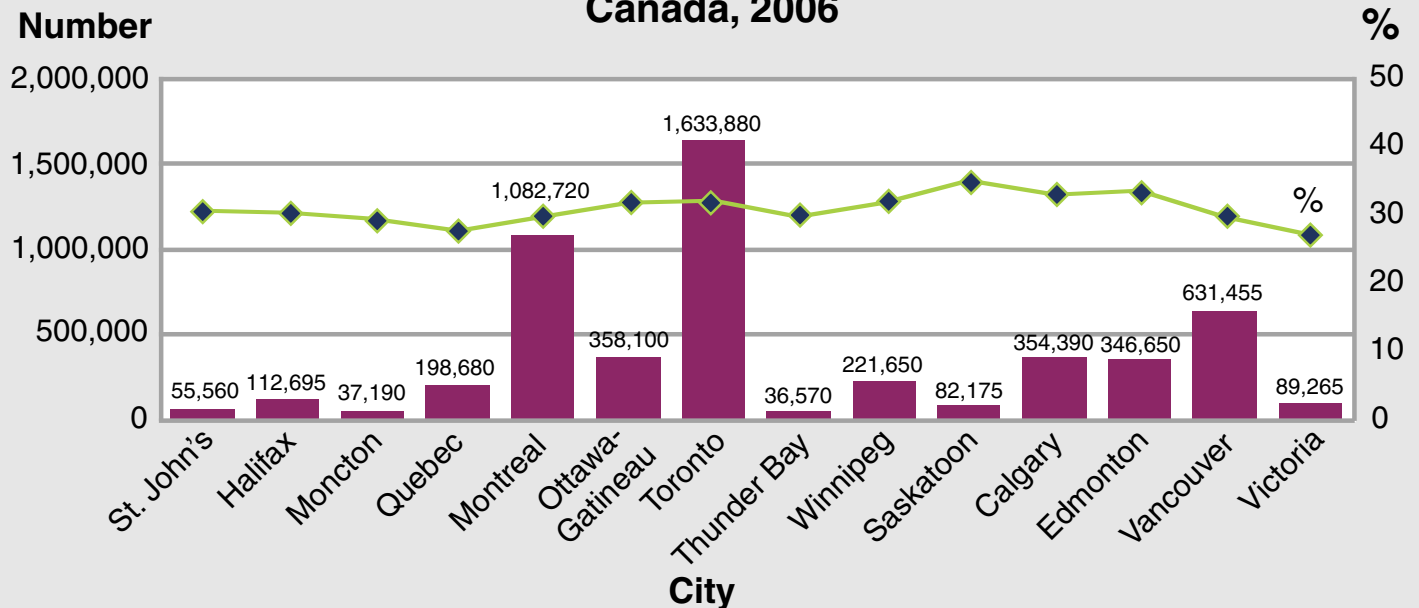
Where Canadians live is trending toward urban sprawl. At the time of the 2006 Census, about 80% of Canadians lived in urban communities and many of those resided in or close to densely populated city centres. Large Canadian cities, such as Vancouver, Edmonton, Calgary, Winnipeg, Ottawa-Gatineau, Toronto and Montreal, have become more ethnically and culturally diversified compared to rural towns and villages because new immigrants to the country are choosing to live in urban centres.





1.3.15 Urban and Rural Composition

Fig. 1.3.15 Children and youth under 25 in select large urban areas, and as a proportion of the total population in each urban area, Canada, 2006



Adapted from Statistics Canada, at <http://www12.statcan.gc.ca/census-recensement/2006/dp-pd/tbt/Rp-eng.cfm?TABID=1&LANG=E&A=R&APATH=3&DETAIL=0&DIM=0&FL=A&FREE=0&GC=01&GID=837928&GK=1&GRP=1&O=D&PID=88991&PRID=0&PTYPE=88971,97154&S=0&SHOWALL=0&SUB=0&Temporal=2006&THEME=66&VID=0&VNAMEE=&VNAMEF=&D1=0&D2=0&D3=0&D4=0&D5=0&D6=0>, accessed on November 28, 2011

In 2006, 5.2 million children and youth under the age of 25 lived in 14 of the country's largest urban areas. Of these children and youth, 64% — or 3.3 million young people — lived in Vancouver, Toronto and Montreal.

The children and youth in these 14 urban centres accounted for 31% of the total population. This proportion was fairly consistent across cities, from 27% in Victoria to 35% in Saskatoon.

Implications

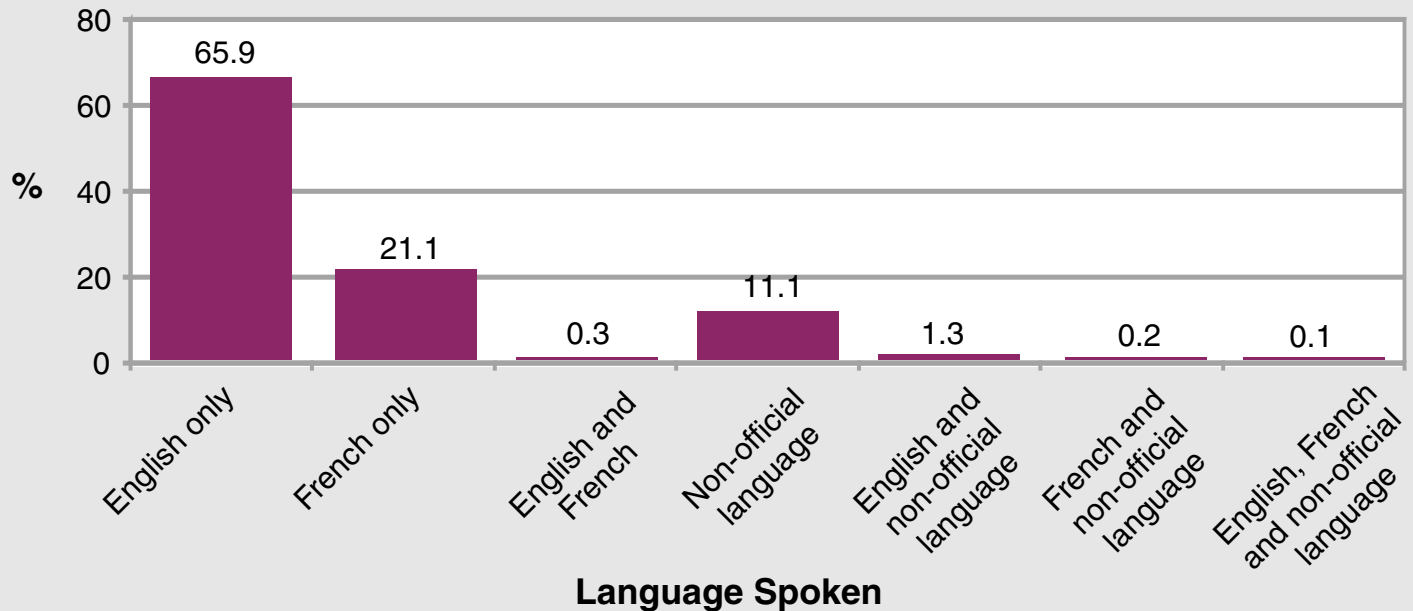
The proportion of the population that is under age 25 is comparable in each city. Cities must be able to accommodate the needs of youngsters as they develop, learn and grow.





1.4.16 Language

Fig. 1.4.16 Proportion of the Canadian population (all ages), by language spoken most often at home, 2006



Adapted from Statistics Canada, at <http://www12.statcan.gc.ca/census-recensement/2006/dp-pd/hlt/97-555/T402-eng.cfm?Lang=E&T=402&GH=4&SC=1&S=99&O=A>, accessed on November 28, 2011

Canada has two official languages: English and French. The 2006 Census found that approximately 89% of Canadians spoke at least one official language in the home. The majority — 20,584,770 people or 66% of the overall population — were exclusively English-speaking, while 6,608,125 (21%) were exclusively French-speaking. Less than 2% of the population were bi- or multilingual in the home. Of the population — 11% or 3,472,130 people — spoke only a non-official language at home.

Implications

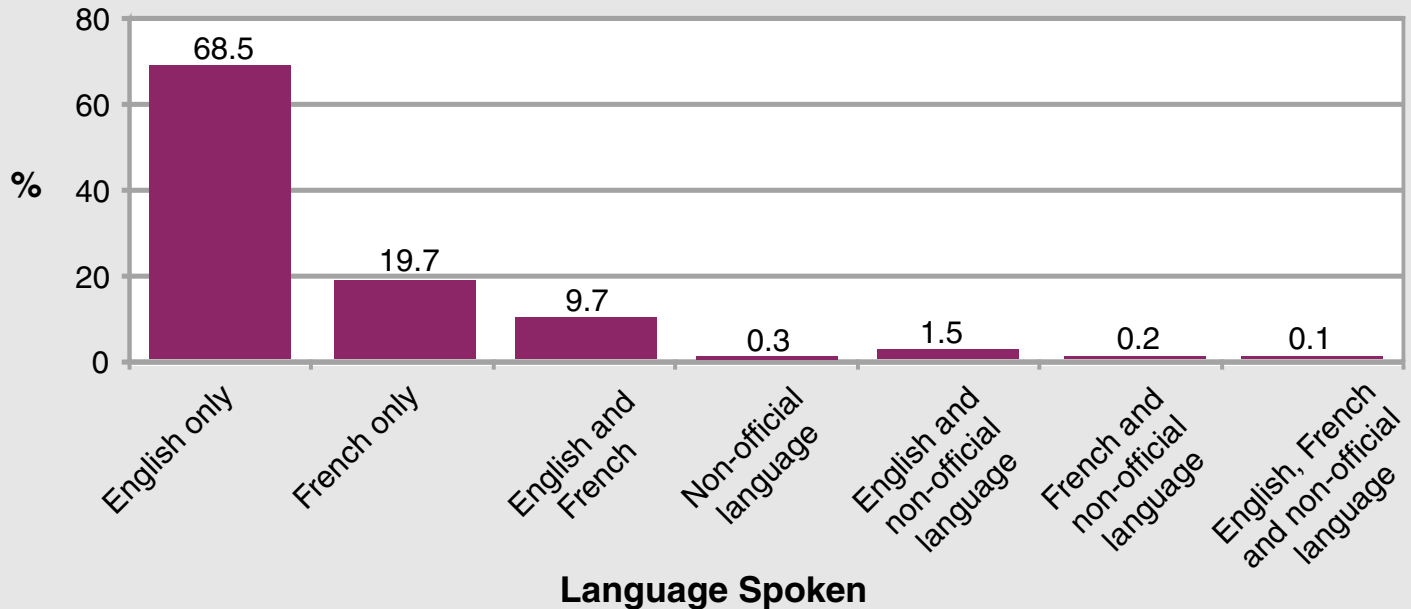
Canada is truly a multilingual country. With 11% of the population speaking neither English nor French at home, there is a great need for resources and services to be provided in a linguistically appropriate fashion.





1.4.17 Language

Fig. 1.4.17 Proportion of Canadian children under 25 years, by language spoken most often at home, 2006



Adapted from Statistics Canada, at <http://www12.statcan.gc.ca/census-recensement/2006/dp-pd/hlt/97-555/T402-eng.cfm?Lang=E&T=402&GH=4&SC=1&S=99&O=A>, accessed on November 28, 2011

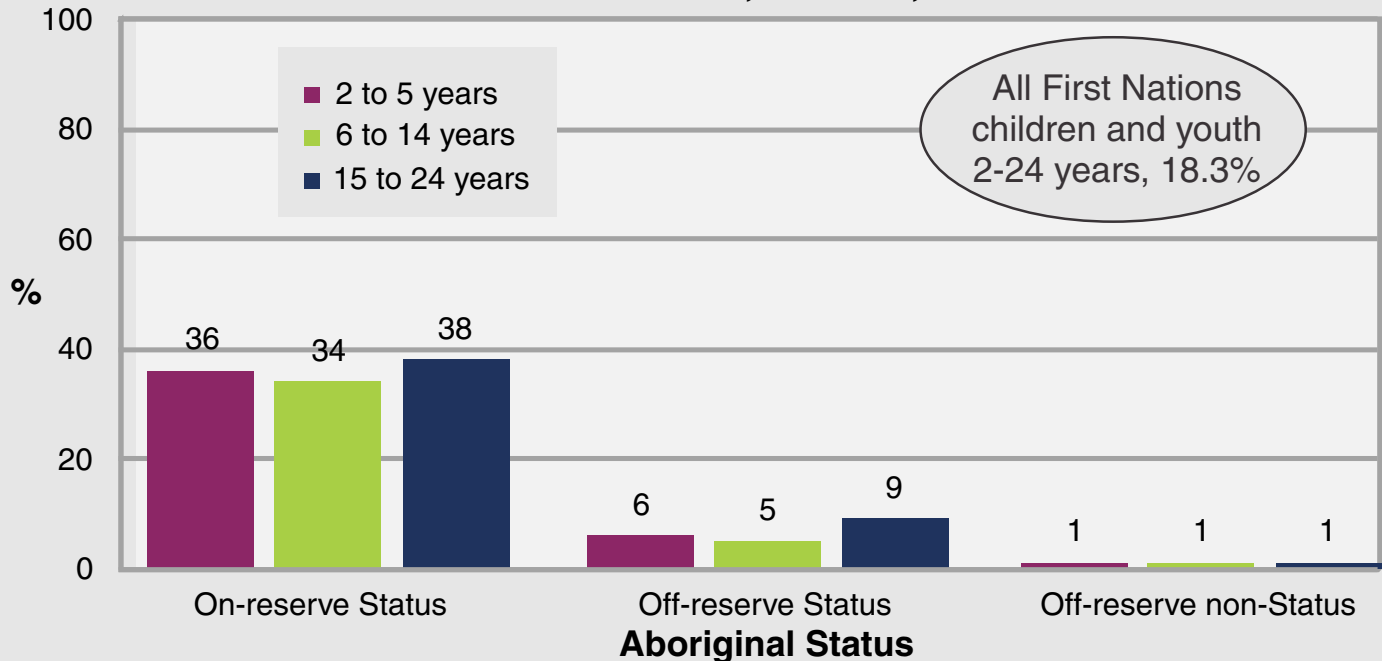
As one might expect, the languages spoken at home by children and youth under age 25 are, for the most part, proportionally similar to the general population. In 2006, there were 6,700,710 children and youth — about 68% of the population under 25 — who spoke only English in the home. There were 1,929,455 children and youth who spoke only French in the home, representing about 20% of the under 25 population. Almost 10% of children and youth under age 25 spoke solely a non-official language in the home.





1.4.18 Language

Fig. 1.4.18 Proportion of First Nations children and youth 2 to 24 years with an Aboriginal mother tongue, by Status and residence, on- vs. off-reserve, Canada, 2006



Adapted from Statistics Canada, at <http://www.statcan.gc.ca/pub/11-008-x/2010002/c-g/11336/desc/desc001-eng.htm>, accessed on November 28, 2011

In Canada, approximately 60 distinct indigenous languages are spoken. According to the 2006 Census, 18% of all First Nations children and youth 2 to 24 years old had an Aboriginal mother tongue. This was markedly more prevalent among Status children and youth living on-reserve. On-reserve, 38% of Status First Nations youth ages 15 through 24 years spoke an Aboriginal mother tongue, as did 34% of those ages 6 to 14 years and 36% of young children ages 2 to 5 years. Once off-reserve, speaking with an Aboriginal mother tongue was reported by only 9% of Status youth ages 15 to 24 years, 5% of children ages 6 to 14 years and 6% of children ages 2 to 5 years. Off-reserve non-Status First Nations children and youth were least likely to speak an Aboriginal mother tongue, with only 1% of the under 25 population in each age group reporting doing so.

Implications

The threat of their languages disappearing means that Aboriginal people's distinctive world view, the wisdom of their ancestors and their ways of being human could vanish as well.

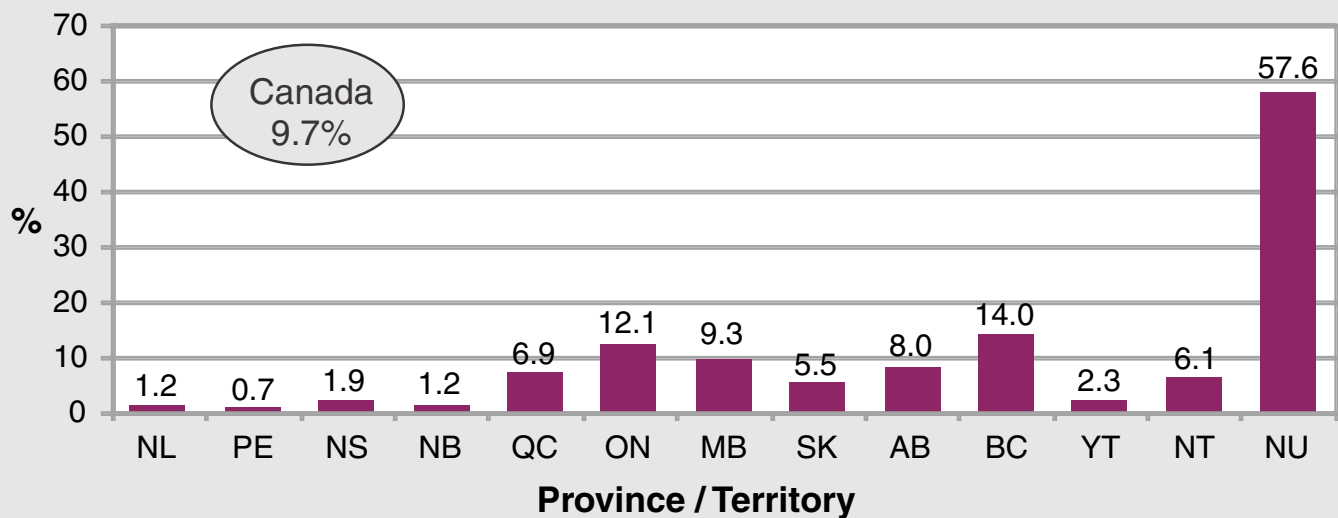
- Report of the Royal Commission on Aboriginal Peoples, 1996





1.4.19 Language

Fig. 1.4.19 Proportion of Canadian children and youth under 25 years speaking only a non-official language most often at home, by province and territory, 2006



Adapted from Statistics Canada, at <http://www12.statcan.gc.ca/census-recensement/2006/dp-pd/hlt/97-555/T402-eng.cfm?Lang=E&T=402&GH=4&SC=1&S=99&O=A>, accessed on November 28, 2011

Canada's language diversity — that is, the use of languages other than English and French — is mainly affected by its Aboriginal and immigrant populations. Increasingly, Canadians have non-official mother tongues and speak non-official languages in the home. From 2001 to 2006, almost 20% more people reported speaking a non-official language in the home.¹

The proportion of children and youth who speak only a non-official language in the home varies greatly by province and territory. In Nunavut, 58% of children and youth under 25 years speak a language other than English and French at home. That proportion is 14% in British Columbia, 12% in Ontario and 9% in Manitoba.

¹ Statistics Canada. *The Evolving Linguistic Portrait, 2006 Census*. (Catalogue no. 97-555-XIE)

Implications

Language is the heartbeat of a culture. When a culture's language is endangered, so are its stories, literature, songs, traditions and discourse. Most notably in Canada, the Quebecois have been battling English Canada for the protection and distinction of the French language and the Quebecois culture. In response, Canada's official languages are French and English, which mandates that the federal government conduct its business in both official languages and provide government services in both languages. This includes encouraging provincial, territorial, and municipal governments to conduct themselves and to provide services in both English and French. The province of Quebec is officially French unilingual and is not required to provide services in English. The government provides grants and contributions to groups representing French-speaking minorities in the other provinces to assist with the establishment of an infrastructure of cultural support and services.¹

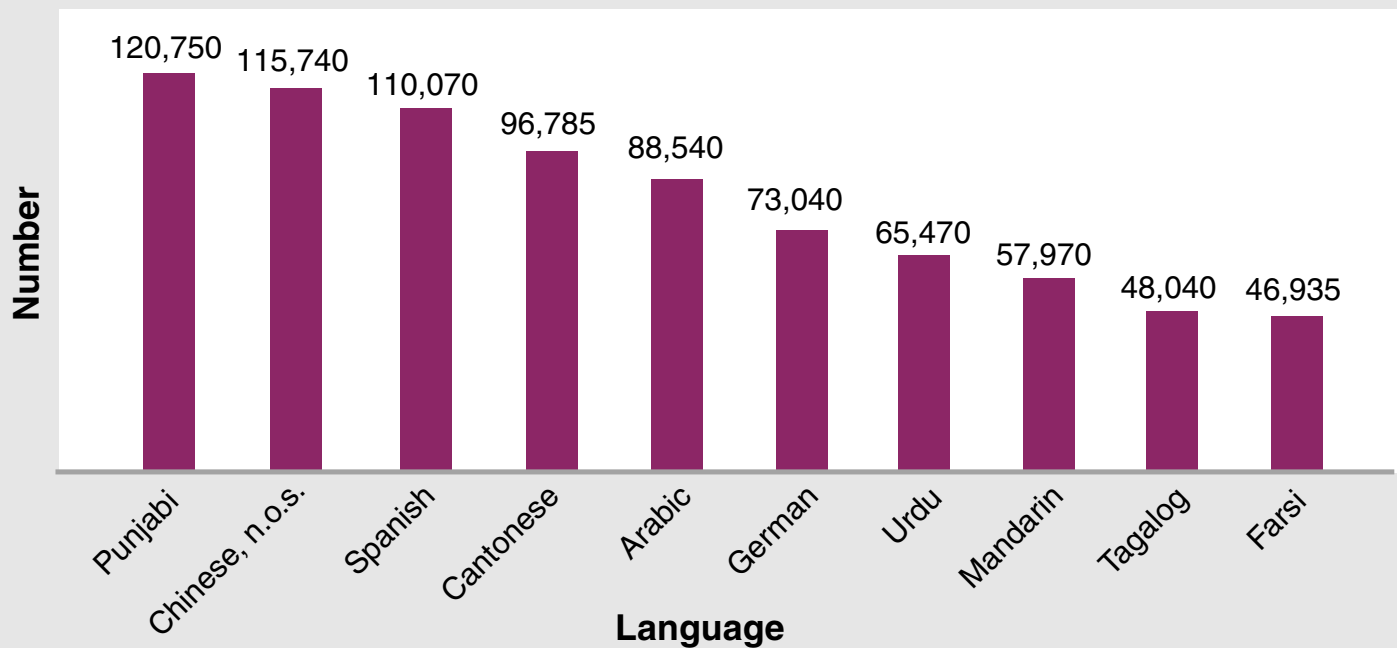
¹ Official Languages Act - 1985, c. 31 (4th Supp.). Act current to July 11, 2010. Department of Justice. Accessed on May 2, 2011.





1.4.20 Language

Fig. 1.4.20 Top 10 non-official languages spoken at home by children and youth under 25 years, Canada, 2006



Adapted from Statistics Canada, at <http://www12.statcan.gc.ca/census-recensement/2006/dp-pd/tbt/Rp-eng.cfm?LANG=E&APATH=3&DETAIL=0&DIM=0&FL=A&FREE=0&GC=0&GID=0&GK=0&GRP=1&PID=89273&PRID=0&PTYPE=88971,97154&S=0&SHOWALL=0&SUB=0&Temporal=2006&THEME=70&VID=0&VNAMEE=&VNAMEF=>, accessed on November 28, 2011

On the 2006 Census, about 1.1 million children and youth under 25 reported speaking a non-official language in the home, either solely or in combination with English and/or French. Ordered by popularity of use, the four non-official languages most often spoken at home by children and youth across Canada were Punjabi, Chinese, Spanish and Cantonese.

The popularity of non-official languages was different from province-to-province and across territories.





1.4.21 Language

Fig. 1.4.21 Top three non-official languages spoken at home, children and youth 0 to 24, Canada, provinces and territories, 2006

Canada	Punjabi (120,750)	Chinese, n.o.s. (115,740)	Spanish (110,070)
Newfoundland & Labrador	Montagnais-Naskapi (980)	Spanish (285)	Chinese, n.o.s. (225)
Prince Edward Island	Spanish (95)	Chinese, n.o.s. (55)	Mandarin (50)
Nova Scotia	Mi'kmaq (1,785)	Arabic (1,635)	Chinese, n.o.s. (725)
New Brunswick	Mi'kmaq (900)	Chinese, n.o.s. (530)	Arabic (325)
Quebec	Spanish (36,870)	Arabic (33,325)	Italian (18,105)
Ontario	Chinese, n.o.s. (53,185)	Urdu (51,425)	Punjabi (50,300)
Manitoba	German (14,940)	Cree (7,280)	Tagalog (5,075)
Saskatchewan	Cree (9,470)	Dene (3,780)	German (3,760)
Alberta	German (20,345)	Chinese, n.o.s. (12,270)	Punjabi (11,935)
British Columbia	Punjabi (51,730)	Cantonese (34,305)	Chinese, n.o.s. (31,780)
Yukon	German (100)	Vietnamese (40)	Mandarin (40)
Northwest Territories	Dogrib (595)	Hare (225)	Inuktituk, n.i.e. (170)
Nunavut	Inuktituk, n.i.e. (11,100)	Inuinnaqtun (35)	Spanish (10)

Adapted from Statistics Canada, at <http://www12.statcan.gc.ca/census-recensement/2006/dp-pd/tbt/Rp-eng.cfm?LANG=E&APATH=3&DETAIL=0&DIM=0&FL=A&FREE=0&GC=0&GID=0&GK=0&GRP=1&PID=89273&PRID=0&PTYPE=88971,97154&S=0&SHOWALL=0&SUB=0&Temporal=2006&THEME=70&VID=0&VNAMEE=&VNAMEF=>, accessed on November 28, 2011.

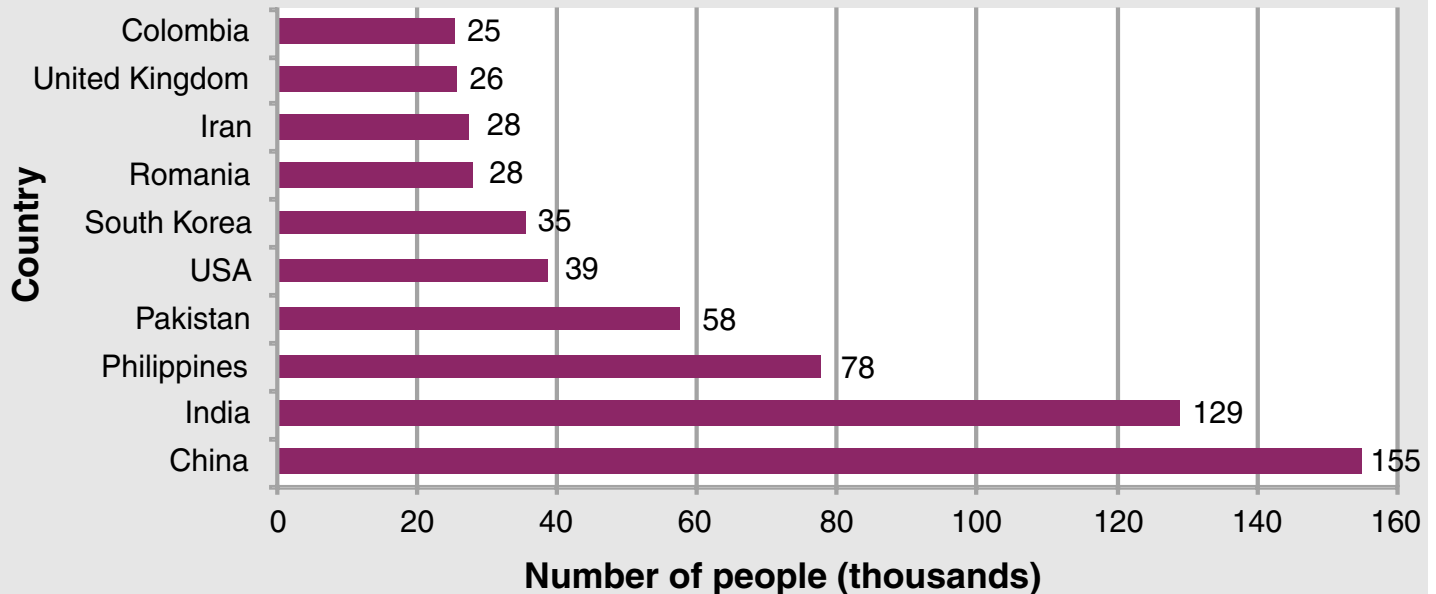
The top non-official languages that are spoken at home by children and youth vary considerably by province and territory. In 2006, the top three non-official languages spoken at home by children and youth under 25 in British Columbia were Punjabi, Cantonese and Chinese (not specified). In Québec, they were Spanish, Arabic and Italian. In Manitoba, the three languages were German, Cree and Tagalog, while in Saskatchewan they were Cree, Dene and German.





1.5.22 Families Immigrating to Canada

Fig. 1.5.22 Number of recent immigrants coming to Canada, by leading countries of origin, 2001 to 2006



Adapted from Statistics Canada, at <http://www40.statcan.gc.ca/l01/cst01/demo24a-eng.htm>, accessed on November 28, 2011

Immigration is a key component of net population growth in Canada. The below-replacement fertility rate (1.7 children per woman in 2007)¹ suggests that immigration will become the primary source of population growth.²

The 2006 Census estimated that 1,110,000 people immigrated to Canada between January 1, 2001, and May 16, 2006.³ Immigrants from the 10 leading countries of origin accounted for 54% of all recent immigrants to Canada. Most came from China and various other regions of Asia, including the Middle East. Many others immigrated from the United States, Romania, the United Kingdom and Colombia.

¹OECD Factbook 2010. (doi: 10.1787/20752288-2010-table-can).

²Citizenship and Immigration Canada. Pursuing Canada's Commitment to Immigration: The Immigration Plan for 2002.

³Statistics Canada, 2007. Immigration in Canada: A portrait of the foreign-born population, 2006 Census. Ottawa, Statistics Canada. (Catalogue no. 97-557-XWE2006001)

Implications

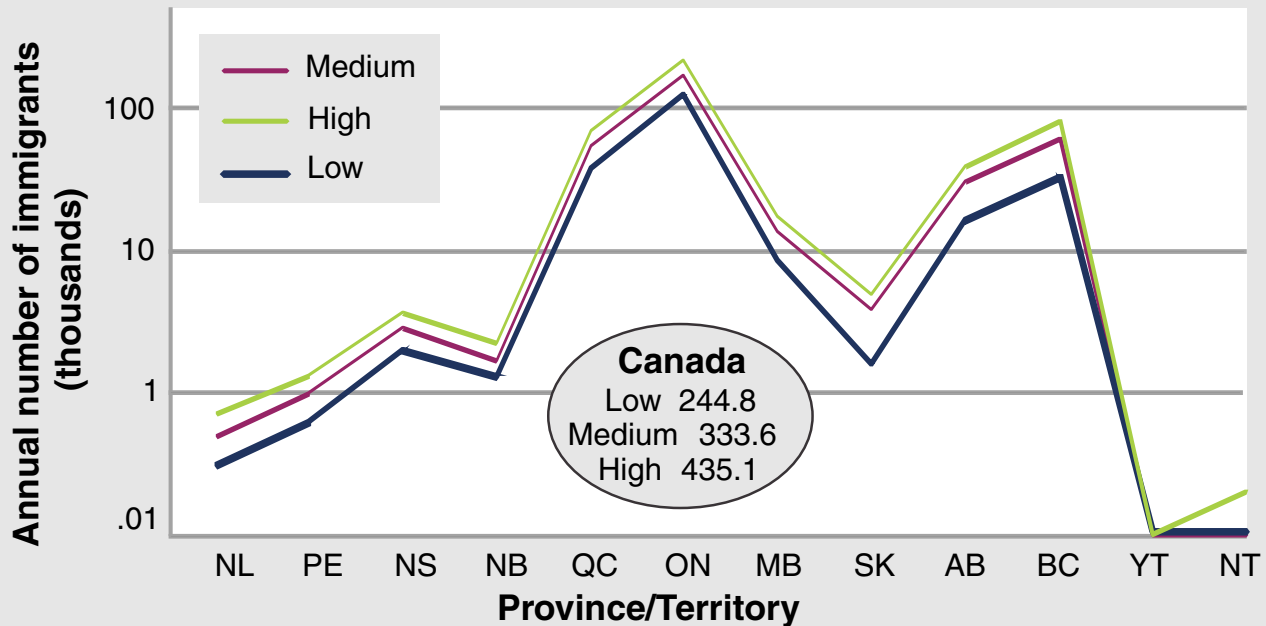
Starting life anew in a foreign country is not without obstacles. Many new immigrants to Canada must secure employment, enrol in school, find housing, learn a new language and the customs, register for health care, make friends and familiarize themselves with the expectations of their new neighbourhood. Social services, including church groups, job assistant programs and life skills training, can help to smooth the transition.





1.5.23 Families Immigrating to Canada

Fig. 1.5.23 Annual number of immigrants projected (2035/36) according to low, medium and high immigration, Canada, provinces and territories (thousands)



Adapted from Statistics Canada, at <http://www.statcan.gc.ca/pub/91-520-x/2010001/tablesectlist-listetableauxsect-eng.htm>, accessed on November 28, 2011

The number of immigrants admitted to Canada each year evolves with projected population growth.

Under the low assumption for patterns of immigration set out by the 2009 Immigration Plan as formulated by Citizenship and Immigration Canada,¹ 244,800 people would immigrate to Canada in 2035/36; under the medium assumption, 333,600 immigrants would come; and under the high assumption, 435,100 would come.

In each of the three scenarios, about 1/2 of all immigrants would settle in Ontario, just under 1/5th in British Columbia, about 1/8th in Québec and almost 1/10th in Alberta. The remainder would be scattered in pockets throughout the country.

¹ Statistics Canada. *Population Projections for Canada, Provinces and Territories, 2009 to 2036*. Catalogue no. 91-520-X. Statistics Canada: Ottawa.

Implications

Canada's population growth depends on immigration more than it does on natural increase. To plan workforce, housing, education and health care needs effectively requires that different patterns of immigration be considered. It is also critical to know where immigrants are most likely to settle. Current trends indicate that Ontario will continue to absorb the greatest proportion of new immigrants to Canada until 2036, followed by the Western Provinces and Québec. However, more new immigrants are considering life in the Prairies.¹

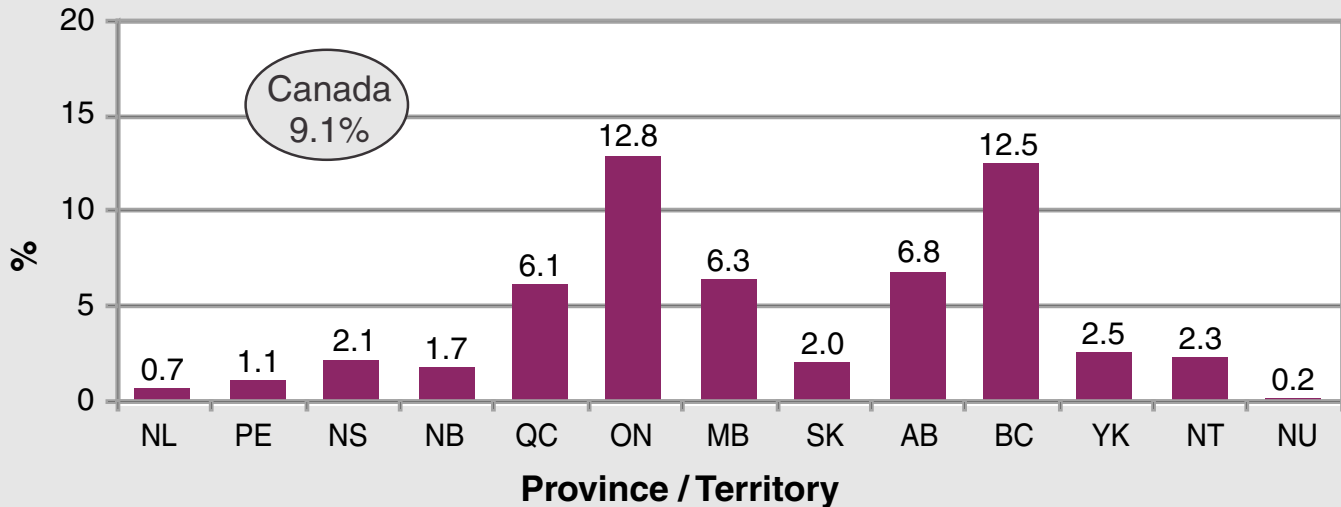
¹ Statistics Canada. *Population Projections for Canada, Provinces and Territories, 2009 to 2036*. Catalogue no. 91-520-X. Statistics Canada: Ottawa.





1.5.24 Families Immigrating to Canada

Fig. 1.5.24 Proportion of children and youth under 25 who have immigrated to Canada, by province and territory, 2006



Adapted from Statistic Canada, at <http://www12.statcan.gc.ca/census-recensement/2006/dp-pd/tbt/Rp-eng.cfm?LANG=E&APATH=3&DETAIL=0&DIM=0&FL=A&FREE=0&GC=0&GID=0&GK=0&GRP=1&PID=89443&PRID=0&PTYPE=88971,97154&S=0&SHOWALL=0&SUB=0&Temporal=2006&THEME=72&VID=0&VNAMEE=&VNAMEF=>, accessed on November 28, 2011

In 2006, there were 894,960 children and youth under age 25 living in Canada who had immigrated from another country, which represented 9.1% of the total population of children and youth in Canada. Of those, 345,705 were between birth and 15 years old, and 549,255 were aged 15 through 24 years.

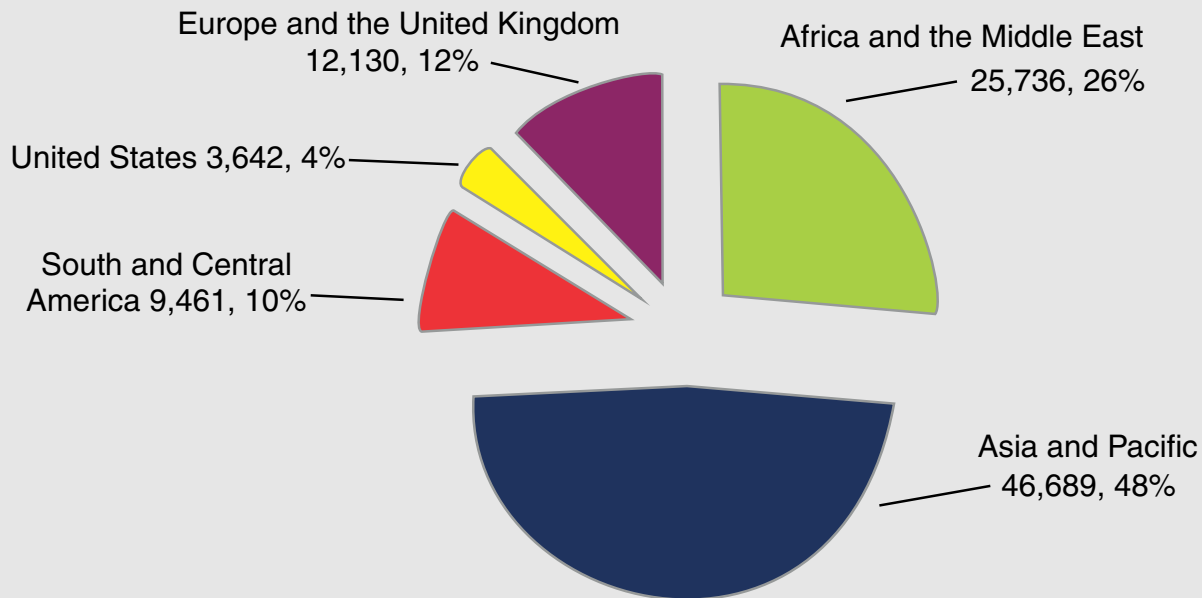
There was substantial interprovincial variation. More immigrant children and youth lived in Ontario — almost 500,000, or almost 13% of the total population of children and youth in the province — than any other province. British Columbia had over 151,000 children and youth who had immigrated to Canada, accounting for 12.5% of the province's total population of children and youth. In Québec, immigrant children and youth accounted for only 6.1% of the total child and youth population.





1.5.25 Families Immigrating to Canada

Fig. 1.5.25 Distribution of permanent Canadian residents under age 25, by region of origin, 2010, Total = 97,702



Adapted from Citizen and Immigration Canada, data from facts and figures 2010 – immigration overview: permanent and temporary residents, at <http://www.cic.gc.ca/english/resources/statistics/facts2010/permanent/09.asp>, accessed on November 28, 2011

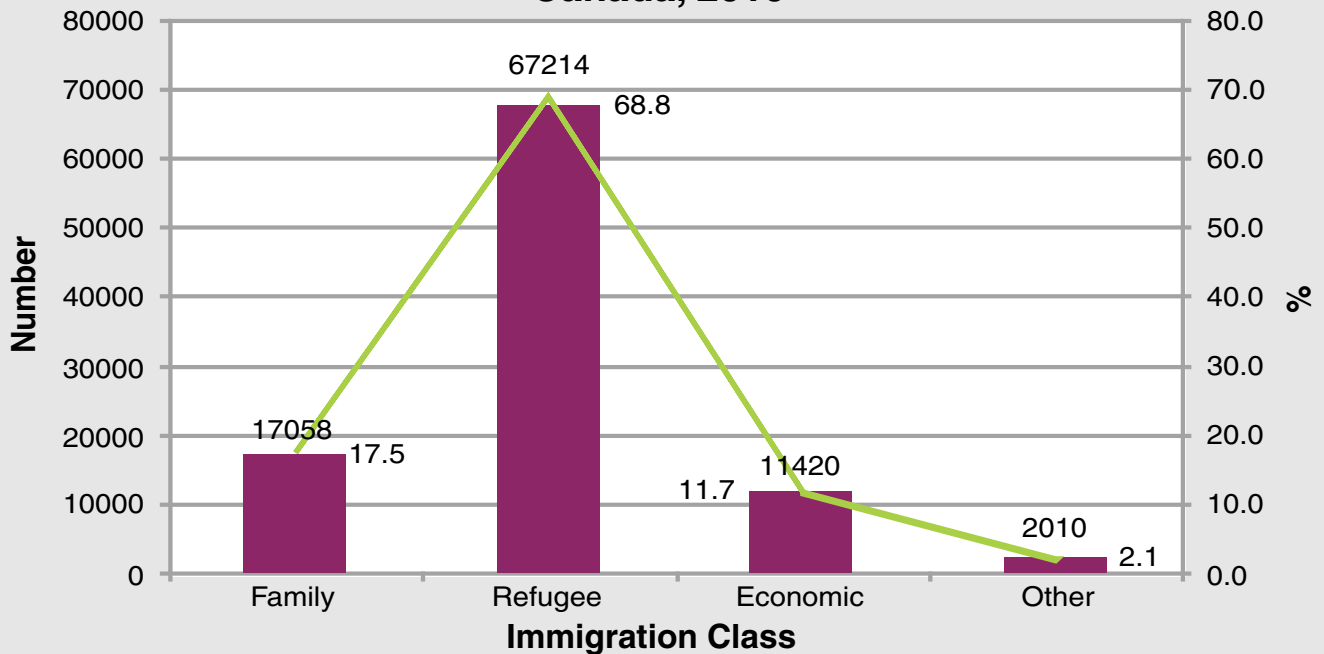
In 2010, Citizenship and Immigration Canada reported that 48% of the 97,702 children from birth to 24 years who had become permanent residents of Canada came from Asia and Pacific. Another 26% came from Africa and the Middle East.





1.5.26 Families Immigrating to Canada

Fig. 1.5.26 Number of permanent residents under age 25, by immigration class, and proportion of permanent residents in each immigration class, Canada, 2010



Adapted from *Citizen and Immigration Canada, data from facts and figures 2010 – immigration overview: permanent and temporary residents*, at <http://www.cic.gc.ca/english/resources/statistics/facts2010/permanent/05.asp>, <http://www.cic.gc.ca/english/resources/statistics/facts2010/permanent/06.asp>, accessed on November 28, 2011

Immigrants to Canada are grouped into four classes: Economic, Family, Refugee and Other.

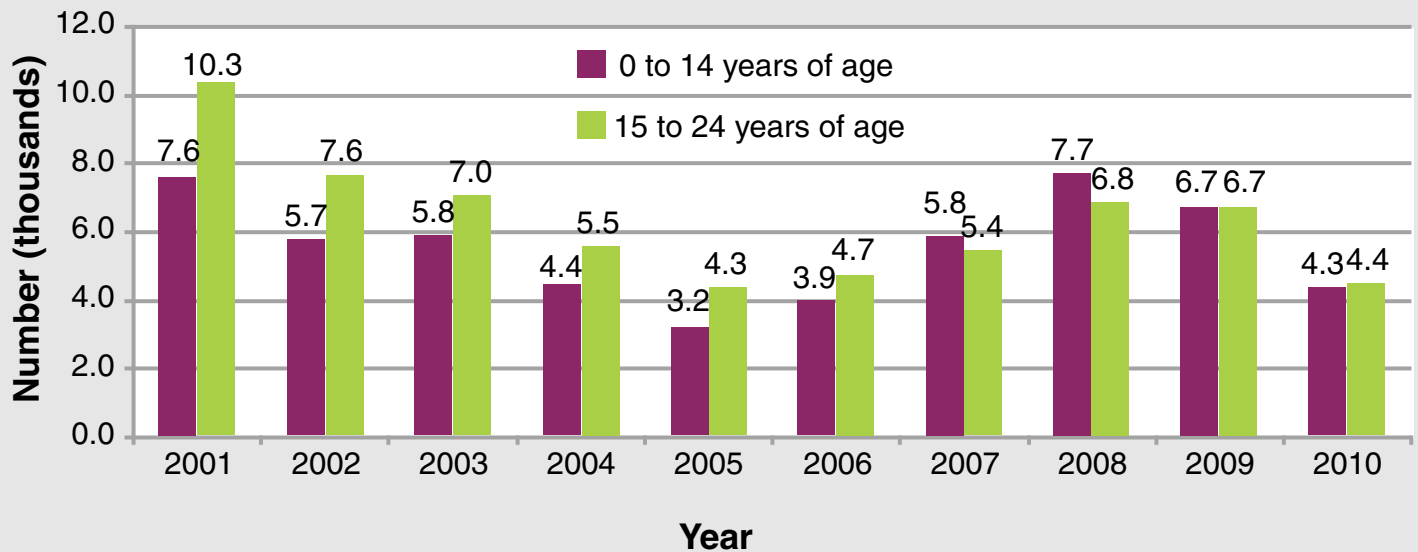
In 2010, 280,681 immigrants became permanent residents of Canada. Of those, 97,702 were children and youth between birth and 24 years of age. Of the permanent residents under age 25, 67,214 received residency status under the Economic immigration class. Of those who immigrated to join family members already living in Canada (Family class immigrants), there were 17,058 children and youth. Another 11,420 people under age 25 obtained permanent residency status in Canada as refugees after fleeing their home countries.





1.5.27 Families Immigrating to Canada

Fig. 1.5.27 Total entries of children and youth under 25 who were refugee claimants, Canada, 2001 to 2010



Adapted from Citizen and Immigration Canada, data from facts and figures 2010 – immigration overview: permanent and temporary residents, at <http://www.cic.gc.ca/english/resources/statistics/facts2010/temporary/29.asp>, accessed on November 28, 2011

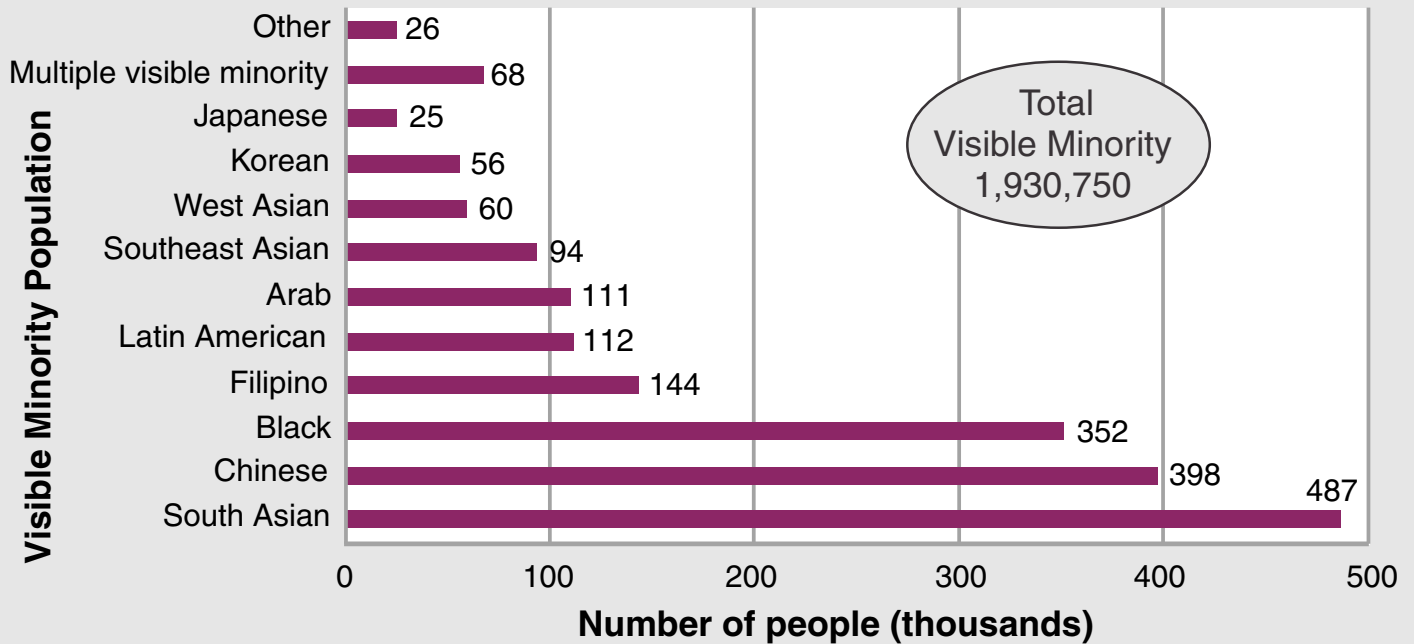
In 2010, among temporary residents, there were approximately 4,300 children from birth to 14 and another 4,400 youth from 15 to 24 who were refugee claimants. This compares to 7,600 children under 15 and 10,300 youth 15 to 24 in 2001.





1.6.28 Children and Families from Visible Minorities

Fig. 1.6.28 Visible minority population under age 25, by leading country of origin, Canada, 2006



Adapted from Statistics Canada, at <http://www40.statcan.gc.ca/l01/cst01/demo50a-eng.htm>, accessed on November 28, 2011

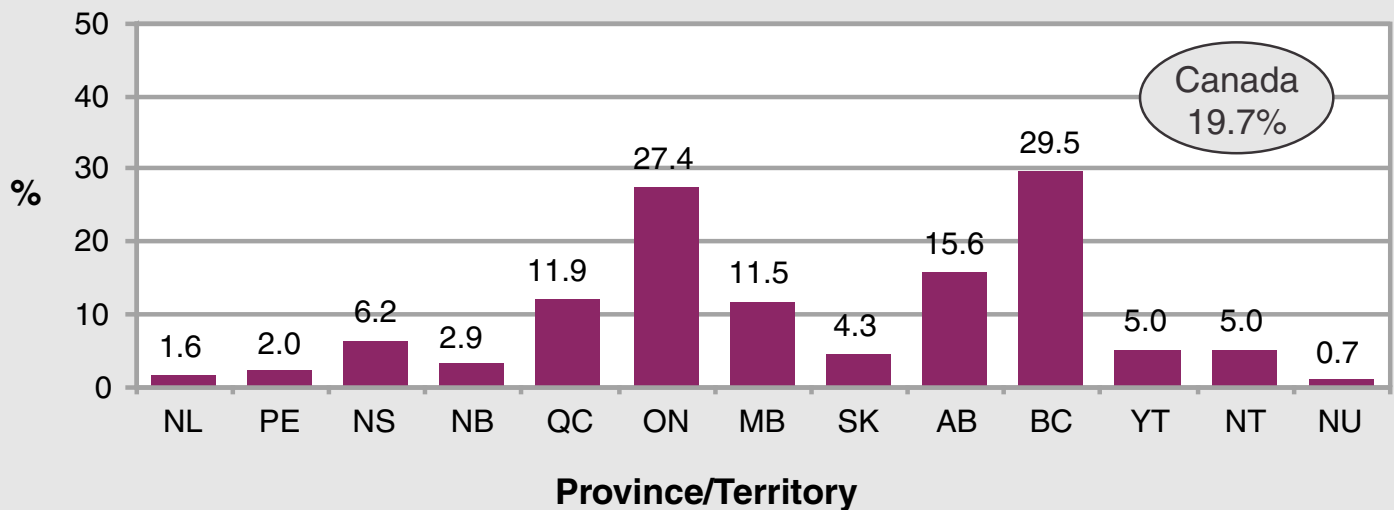
At the time of the 2006 Census, 1,930,750 Canadian children and youth, from birth to 24 years, were visible minorities. They came from a broad range of ethnic and cultural backgrounds. Most were of South Asian (486,630), Chinese (397,855) or Black (351,670) heritage. Many other visible minority children and youth came from the Philippines (143,665), from within Latin America (111,800) and from Arab nations (110,635). There were 93,625 children and youth from Southeast Asia and another 60,030 with roots in unspecified parts of West Asia. Korean children and youth numbered 56,220 in Canada, with 25,190 Japanese children living here. Almost 100,000 visible minority children and youth identified themselves as being either of mixed ethnic heritage (67,730) or as belonging to another ethnic minority (25,680).





1.6.29 Children and Families from Visible Minorities

Fig. 1.6.29 Proportion of children and youth under 25 years who are a member of a visible minority group, by province and territory, 2006



Adapted from Statistics Canada, at <http://www12.statcan.gc.ca/census-recensement/2006/dp-pd/tbt/Rp-eng.cfm?LANG=E&APATH=3&DETAIL=0&DIM=0&FL=A&FREE=0&GC=0&GID=0&GK=0&GRP=1&PID=92342&PRID=0&PTYPE=88971,97154&S=0&SHOWALL=0&SUB=0&Temporal=2006&THEME=80&VID=0&VNAMEE=&VNAMEF=>, accessed on November 28, 2011

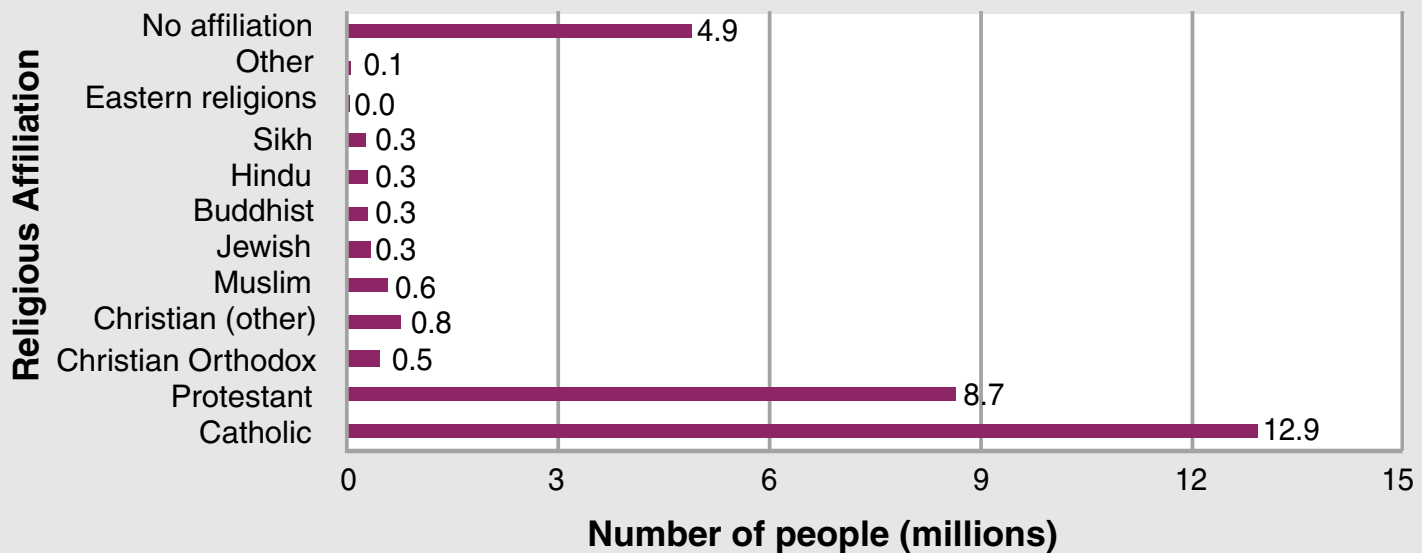
In 2006, almost one in five of Canada's children and youth under 25 were in a visible minority group. Of Canada's visible minority population, 96% under the age of 25 lived in four provinces. Ontario was home to 1,050,840 visible minority children and youth, almost three times as many as in British Columbia, which had 358,910 visible minorities under age 25. However, the proportion of youth who were in a visible minority population was slightly higher in British Columbia at 30% than in Ontario at 28%. Québec had the third largest population of visible minority children and youth, with 261,555 under the age of 25, or 12% of the province's youth population.





1.6.30 Children and Families from Visible Minorities

Fig. 1.7.30 Population of Canada, by religious affiliation, 2001



Adapted from Statistics Canada, at <http://www40.statcan.ca/101/cst01/demo30d-eng.htm>, accessed on November 28, 2011

The 2001 Census categorized religions among Canadians into 12 affiliations, including a category for non-believers and/or people who do not subscribe to an organized faith. In 2001, 12.9 million people, or 44% of the total population, identified as Catholic; 8.7 million people, or 29% of the total population, identified as Protestant; almost 500,000, or 2% of the population, reported being Christian Orthodox; and another 780,000, or 3% of Canadians, belonged to a different Christian sect. Collectively, 77% of all Canadians identified with one of these four Christian denominations.

Several religious minorities were reported as well. Almost 600,000 people, or 2% of the population, identified as Muslim; 329,995 people, or 1% of the population, identified as Jewish; 300,345 (1%) identified as Buddhist; 297,200 (1%) identified as Hindu; and 278,410 (1%) identified as Sikh.

The largest minority, consisting of almost 500,000 Canadians, or 17% of the total population, reported no religious affiliation.

Implications

Religion and faith play a central role in the lives of many Canadians, though not all. Canadians who subscribe to any one of several religions may practice their faiths to varying degrees. Religion is important because it can influence the core values and beliefs of a person or a group, which in turn can affect his/her/their community life. Religion can determine whether a child is enrolled in public versus Catholic schools, political persuasion, dietary practices and observation of religious holidays, to cite a few examples. Degree of religiosity also affects social integration and carries implications for the debate about "reasonable accommodation" of religious minorities. As Canada welcomes an increasing number of immigrants each year, making religious accommodations for people of faith is a contentious issue and an increasingly important one. Regrettably, no new data has been collected on Canadians and religions since the 2001 Census.

