

StatsUpdate

Topic: **Aboriginal Peoples in Canada: Focus on Inuit in Nunavut**

2011 National Household Survey (NHS)
Released by Statistics Canada – May 08, 2013

Background: In 2011, **84.8%** of the population of Nunavut identified themselves as Inuit - up from **84.0%** in 2006.

The Inuit population is much younger than the Non-Inuit population. In 2011, children and youth under 25 years of age made up **58%** of all Inuit people in Nunavut, compared with **18%** of the Non-Inuit population. Almost four out of ten Inuit in Nunavut were under the age of 15, compared to **11%** of the Non-Inuit population. In contrast, adults aged 25 and over accounted for **42%** of all Inuit people in Nunavut, compared with **82%** of the Non-Inuit population.

Details:

Nunavut Population by Inuit Identity and Age Group, 2006 and 2011				
	2011		2006	
	Number	% of Inuit population	Number	% of Inuit population
Total Inuit population	27,070	100	24,635	100
Under 15 years	9,915	37	9,330	38
15 to 24 years	5,595	21	5,150	21
25 to 64 years	10,675	39	9,460	38
65 years and over	885	3	705	3
Total Non-Inuit population	4,335	100	4,690	100
Under 15 years	475	11	655	14
15 to 24 years	325	7	440	9
25 to 64 years	3,410	79	3,500	75
65 years and over	125	3	90	2

Source: Statistics Canada, Catalogues #99-011-X2011031 and # 97-558-XCB2006015

Notes:

1. Data may not add up to totals due to random rounding.

Note to Readers:

When comparing estimates from the 2006 Census long form and the 2011 NHS, users should take into account that the two sources represent different populations. The target population for the 2006 Census long form includes usual residents in collective dwellings and persons living abroad whereas the target population for the NHS excludes them. Moreover, the NHS estimates are derived from a voluntary survey and are therefore subject to potentially higher non-response error than the 2006 Census long form.

For the 2011 NHS estimates, the global non-response rate (GNR) is used as an indicator of data quality. This indicator combines complete non-response (household) and partial non-response (question) into a single rate. A smaller GNR indicates a lower risk of non-response bias and as a result, lower risk of inaccuracy. The threshold used for suppression is a GNR of 50% or more. At the Nunavut level, the GNR was 25.2%, which indicates acceptable quality. For more information, please refer to the NHS User Guide, 2011.

Background: According to the 2011 NHS, about **89%** of Inuit in Nunavut could converse in Inuktitut - down slightly from 2006. Older Inuit were more likely to be able to converse in Inuktitut than younger people. About **83%** of those less than 15 years of age could converse in Inuktitut, compared to **94%** of adults aged 25 and over.

In 2011, Inuktitut was the mother tongue of approximately **79%** of the Inuit population in the territory - also down from 2006. Children under 15 years of age had the lowest proportion of all age groups reporting Inuktitut as their mother tongue, while those 65 years and older had the highest percentage.

Details:

Inuit Identity Population with Knowledge of Inuktitut and with Inuktitut as Mother Tongue, by Age Group, Nunavut, 2006 and 2011				
	2011		2006	
	Number	% of Age Group	Number	% of Age Group
Total Inuit population with knowledge of Inuktitut	24,090	89	22,345	91
Under 15 years	8,260	83	8,030	86
15 to 24 years	4,900	88	4,585	89
25 to 64 years	10,055	94	9,020	95
65 years and over	875	99	705	100
Total Inuit population with Inuktitut as mother tongue	21,410	79	20,430	83
Under 15 years	7,055	71	7,085	76
15 to 24 years	4,285	77	4,105	80
25 to 64 years	9,205	86	8,560	90
65 years and over	865	98	695	99

Source: Statistics Canada, Catalogues # 99-011-X2011031 and # 97-558-X2006015

Notes:

1. Data may not add up to totals due to random rounding.
2. **Mother tongue** refers to the first language learned at home in childhood and still understood by the individual at the time of the census.
3. **Knowledge of Inuktitut** refers to the ability to conduct a conversation in Inuktitut.
4. **Inuktitut** includes all the dialects in Nunavut, including Inuinnaqtun.

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For more statistical information, visit our website at: <http://www.stats.gov.nu.ca/en/home.aspx>