Educational and Labour Market Challenges and Prospects for Aboriginal Young Adults in Canada

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Overview of Presentation

I. Introduction and Context
II. Educational Attainment of Aboriginal Young Adults
III. Labour Market Performance of Aboriginal Youth
IV. CSLS Estimates of Closing the Aboriginal Education Gap
V. Factors Affecting the Labour Market Prospects of Aboriginal Young People
   A. Commodity Prices
   B. Retraining Opportunities
   C. Education
   D. Social Support
VI. Conclusion

Source: Statistics Canada, Data Tables from the 1996 Census (Catalogue Number 93F0025XDB96002), 2001 Census (Catalogue Number 97F0011XCB2001002), 2006 Census (Catalogue Number 97-558-XCB2006006), and 2011 National Household Survey (Catalogue Number 99-011-X2011026).

Source: Statistics Canada, Data Tables from the 1996 Census (Catalogue Number 93F0025XDB96002), 2001 Census (Catalogue Number 97F0011XCB2001002), 2006 Census (Catalogue Number 97-558-XCB2006006), and 2011 National Household Survey (Catalogue Number 99-011-X2011026).

Source: Statistics Canada, Data Tables from the 2001 Census (Catalogue Number 97F0011XCB2001001), 2006 Census (Catalogue Number 97-558-XCB2006006), and 2011 National Household Survey (Catalogue Number 99-011-X2011026).

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Share of population aged 15-24 with any certificate, diploma, or degree by Aboriginal identity, Canada, 2001, 2006, 2011 (%)

Source: Statistics Canada, Data Tables from the 2001 Census (97F0011XCB2001042), 2006 Census (Catalogue Number 97-560-XCB2006028), 2011 National Household Survey (Catalogue Number 99-012-X2011044)
Share of population aged 20-24 with any certificate, diploma, or degree by Aboriginal identity, Canada, 2006 and 2011 (%)

Source: Statistics Canada, Data Tables from the 2006 Census (Catalogue Number 97-560-XCB2006028), 2011 National Household Survey (Catalogue Number 99-012-X2011044)
First Nations aged 20-24 with any certificate, diploma, or degree, Canadian provinces and territories, 2011 (%)

Panel A: Off Reserve

Panel B: On Reserve

Source: Statistics Canada, Data Tables from the 2011 National Household Survey (Catalogue Number 99-012-X2011044). Some provinces / territories excluded due to small sample size.
Share of population aged 25-44 with at least a post-secondary credential, 2001, 2006, 2011, Canada

Source: Statistics Canada, Data Tables from the 2001 Census (97F0011XCB2001042), 2006 Census (Catalogue Number 97-560-XCB2006028), 2011 National Household Survey (Catalogue Number 99-012-X2011044)
Share of population aged 25-34 with at least a post-secondary credential by Aboriginal identity, Canada, 2006 and 2011 (%)

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Panel A: Off Reserve

Panel B: On Reserve

Source: Statistics Canada, Data Tables from the 2011 National Household Survey (Catalogue Number 99-012-X2011044). Some provinces / territories excluded due to small sample size.
Share of population aged 25-44 with at least a bachelor's degree, by Aboriginal identity Canada, 2001, 2006, 2011 (%)

Source: Statistics Canada, Data Tables from the 2001 Census (97F0011XCB2001042), 2006 Census (Catalogue Number 97-560-XCB2006028), 2011 National Household Survey (Catalogue Number 99-012-X2011044)
Share of population aged 25-34 with at least a bachelor's degree by Aboriginal identity, Canada, 2006 and 2011 (%)

Source: Statistics Canada, Data Tables from the 2006 Census (Catalogue Number 97-560-XCB2006028), 2011 National Household Survey (Catalogue Number 99-012-X2011044)
First Nations aged 25-34 with a university degree, Canadian provinces and territories, 2011 (%)

Panel A: Off Reserve

Panel B: On Reserve

Source: Statistics Canada, Data Tables from the 2011 National Household Survey (Catalogue Number 99-012-X2011044). Some provinces / territories excluded due to small sample size.
Distribution of Highest Educational Attainment by Aboriginal Identity, Total Population Aged 25-34, Canada, 2011 (%)

Source: Statistics Canada, Data Tables from the 2011 National Household Survey (Catalogue Number 99-012-X2011044).
Distribution of Highest Educational Attainment by Aboriginal Identity, Labour Force Aged 25-34, Canada, 2011, (%)

Source: Statistics Canada, Data Tables from the 2011 National Household Survey (Catalogue Number 99-012-X2011044).
Distribution of Highest Educational Attainment by Aboriginal Identity, Total Population Aged 15-24, Canada, 2011 (%)

Source: Statistics Canada, Data Tables from the 2011 National Household Survey (Catalogue Number 99-012-X2011044).

Source: Statistics Canada, Data Tables from the 2011 National Household Survey (Catalogue Number 99-012-X2011044).

Source: Statistics Canada, Data Tables from the 2001 Census (Catalogue Number 97F0011XCB2001044), 2006 Census (Catalogue Number 97-564-XCB2006002), and 2011 National Household Survey (Catalogue Number 99-012-X2011044).
Unemployment Rate by Aboriginal Identity, Ages 25-44, Canada, 2001, 2006, 2011 (%)

Source: Statistics Canada, Data Tables from the 2001 Census (Catalogue Number 97F0011XCB2001044), 2006 Census (Catalogue Number 97-564-XCB2006002), and 2011 National Household Survey (Catalogue Number 99-012-X2011044).
Unemployment Rate by Aboriginal Identity, Ages 15-24, 2001, 2006, 2011, Canada (%)

Source: Statistics Canada, Data Tables from the 2001 Census (Catalogue Number 97F0011XCB2001044), 2006 Census (Catalogue Number 97-564-XCB2006002), and 2011 National Household Survey (Catalogue Number 99-012-X2011044).
Employment Rates by Aboriginal Identity and Educational Attainment, Ages 25-34, Canada, 2011 (%)

Source: Statistics Canada, Data Tables from the 2011 National Household Survey (Catalogue Number 99-012-X2011044).
Difference between employment rates by Aboriginal identity, university degree vs no credentials, Ages 25-34, Canada, 2011, percentage points

Source: Statistics Canada, Data Tables from the 2011 National Household Survey (Catalogue Number 99-012-X2011044).
Labour Force Participation Rates by Aboriginal Identity and Educational Attainment, Ages 25-34, Canada, 2011 (%)

Source: Statistics Canada, Data Tables from the 2011 National Household Survey (Catalogue Number 99-012-X2011044).
Difference between participation rates by Aboriginal identity, university degree vs no credentials, Ages 25-34, Canada, 2011, percentage points

Source: Statistics Canada, Data Tables from the 2011 National Household Survey (Catalogue Number 99-012-X2011044).
Unemployment Rates by Aboriginal Identity and Educational Attainment, Ages 25-34, Canada, 2011 (%)

Source: Statistics Canada, Data Tables from the 2011 National Household Survey (Catalogue Number 99-012-X2011044).
Difference between unemployment rates by Aboriginal identity, university degree vs no credentials, Ages 25-34, Canada, 2011, percentage points

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Unemployment Rates by Aboriginal Identity and Educational Attainment, Ages 20-24, Canada, 2011 (%)

Source: Statistics Canada, Data Tables from the 2011 National Household Survey (Catalogue Number 99-012-X2011044).
Estimating the Gains from Closing the Educational Attainment Gap

• The CSLS has released a series of reports estimating the economic benefits from closing the gap
• The most recent, Calver (2015), estimated the benefits of closing a projected education gap in 2031, based on recent trends in educational attainment
• Estimates based upon data from the National Household Survey (2011), projections of the Aboriginal population in 2031 produced by Statistics Canada, and projections of aggregate economic conditions by researchers at the university of Toronto
Estimating the Gains from Closing the Educational Attainment Gap

- Assume that an Aboriginal person who attains a higher level of education will achieve (on average) the outcomes observed among the similar Aboriginal population with that credential.
- Controls for age, sex, and province/territory of residence.
- Estimates intended as aspirational, but are infeasible in practice (unrealistic to think sufficient numbers of those aged 25+ will go back to school and catch up).
Potential Gains from Eliminating the Aboriginal Educational Attainment Gap by 2031, Canada

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age in 2031</th>
<th>Employment (thousands)</th>
<th>GDP (2010 dollars, billions)</th>
<th>Average Aboriginal Employment Income (2010 dollars)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>15+</td>
<td>89.97</td>
<td>$28.34</td>
<td>$11,623</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25-34 in 2031 (about 9-18 today)</td>
<td>17.98</td>
<td>$4.48</td>
<td>$8,412</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Share of Total Population Living in the Territories or Western Provinces by Aboriginal Identity, 2011 (%)
Distribution of Total Population by Aboriginal Identity, Urban, Rural, and On Reserve, Canada, 2006

Source: 2006 Census, Catalogue Number 97-558-XCB2006006
Share of employment in occupations unique to primary industry by Aboriginal identity, Canada, 2013 (%)
Aboriginal Skills and Training Employment Strategy (ASETS)

• Aboriginal agreement holders design and deliver employment programs and services suited to the needs of their clients

• All Aboriginal people, regardless of status or location, may access its programs and services, which include:
  – skills development
  – training for high-demand jobs
  – job finding
  – programs for youth
  – programs for urban and Aboriginal people with disabilities
  – access to child care
Private Sector Initiatives

Example: Zibi redevelopment project in Ottawa / Gatineau.

• Project being developed on traditionally Algonquin land

• Developer has signed agreement with Algonquins of Ontario stating that it will hire and train Aboriginal tradespeople, generate opportunities for Aboriginal business and entrepreneurship, and create mentorship programs for Aboriginal youth (Ottawa Citizen, August 20th, 2015)
Average per-student funding, First Nation schools and provincial schools, 1996-2011

* Per-student funding is calculated using the following formula: Core Funding allocated by Federal Government for First Nation education (FN school OR provincial/private school) / Nominal roll (FN school OR provincial/private school). Source: Indian and Northern Affairs Canada, Financial Information (1996-2011); Indian and Northern Affairs Canada, Nominal roll statistics (1996-2011)

Note: 2012/2013 value same as for 2011/2012 due to lack of information for 2012/2013 school year.
Recent CSLS Research on Aboriginal Issues


