The 2012 Aboriginal Peoples Survey

Initial Findings

The Education and Employment Experiences of First Nations People Living Off Reserve, Inuit, and Métis

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Outline

• Background on APS
• Initial results from the APS
• Further analysis
• How to obtain data
Background

Aboriginal Peoples Survey – 4 cycles

• Data on several different themes - education, health, language, employment, housing, mobility

2012 APS: Thematic Approach
• Focus on education and employment with a health supplement
Content of 2012 APS

- **Education Component**
- **Employment Component**
- **Core Content**
  - Identity, Language, Housing, Mobility, Household composition
- **Health Supplement**
  - Access to health care, Measure of physical health, Mental health, Injuries, Smoking, Drinking, and Drug use, Food insecurity, Support
Sample

Sample of about 51,000 allowing estimates to be produced by region, Aboriginal group, education group

Regions:
Provinces (Atlantic provinces combined), Territories, 4 Inuit regions

Aboriginal groups:
First Nations (with and without Status), Métis, Inuit

Education groups:
Current attendees in Grade 1 to 6
Current attendees in Grade 7 to 12
Completers: High school diploma or equivalent
Leavers: no High School diploma, not attending grade 1 to 12

Excludes reserves and selected First Nations communities in Yukon & NWT
Objective of initial analysis

• Provide insight into why off-reserve First Nations people, Inuit and Métis might stay in or drop out of school, how having an education affects their experiences with finding work and earning an income, and what their future educational aspirations may be.
Education Pathways

Individual enters formal school system

Individual leaves school one or more times

COMPLETERS
Those who have a high school diploma or equivalent

LEAVERS
Those who were not attending school at the time of the survey and had not completed high school (“leavers”)

Individual may pursue education beyond high school level


Statistics Canada • Statistique Canada
High school completion

Population aged 18 to 44 with a high school diploma or equivalent, by Aboriginal identity, Canada


Statistics Canada • Statistique Canada
Returning to high school

Dropping out of school not necessarily the end of studies

Among completers, 14% of off-reserve First Nations people, 15% of Inuit, and 9% of Métis left school at least once, before returning to obtain high school credentials.
Characteristics associated with completing high school

• **Personal characteristics**
  – Good grades
  – Participated in activities outside of school hours
  – Read books during last year in school
  – Close friends who thought completing high school was very important
  – Close friends who planned on furthering their education beyond high school

• **School characteristics**
  – Felt safe and happy at school during last year in school
  – Received support from school staff during last year in school

• **Family characteristics**
  – Mother and/or father with at least a high school education
Characteristics associated with NOT completing high school

• **Personal characteristics**
  – Skipping classes
  – Arriving late
  – Changing schools frequently (First Nations people living off reserve and Métis only)

• **Family characteristics**
  – Siblings who dropped out of school
Reasons for not completing high school

Men and women reported different reasons

• **Men**
  – A desire to work
  – Money problems
  – School problems
  – Lack of interest

• **Women**
  – Most commonly reported reason was pregnancy or childcare responsibilities
Some leavers complete postsecondary school

Population aged 18 to 44 with a certificate, diploma or degree above the high school level, by completers and leavers and by Aboriginal identity, Canada

Leavers graduated from shorter programs

High school completers and leavers tended to graduate from different types of postsecondary programs

• Leavers most often finish a trades certificate or a college diploma from a program of less than one year

• Completers most often complete a university degree, college diploma from a one- or two-year program or a trades certificate
Completers more likely to be employed

Percentage employed for completers and leavers aged 18 to 44, by Aboriginal identity, Canada


Statistics Canada • Statistique Canada
Reasons for unemployment

Reasons unemployed people report not being able to find work:

• Shortage of jobs
• Lack of education or training
• Work inexperience
• No transportation available (First Nations people living off reserve only)
• Not knowing where to look for work (Inuit only)
• Not knowing what type of job they wanted (Métis only)
Median Employment Income

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>First Nations people living off reserve</th>
<th>Leavers</th>
<th>Completers</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Inuit</td>
<td>$20,000 to $30,000</td>
<td>$30,000 to $40,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Métis</td>
<td>$20,000 to $30,000</td>
<td>$30,000 to $40,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Educational aspirations

Population aged 18 to 44 who reported plans to return to school or to take further training, by Aboriginal identity, Canada

APS Releases

**November 25th**
- *The Daily* analysis giving summary of finding in the report
- Video giving summary of findings in the report
- APS regional data tables (available upon request)

**Winter 2014**
- Concepts and Methods Guide
- APS data available in the Research Data Centres

**Later in 2014**
- Report on Inuit health
- Report on Métis employment
- Report on school experiences of First Nation children and youth living off reserve
- APS data tables on the Statistics Canada website (CANSIM tables)
- Public Use Microdata File (PUMF)
Questions / Comments?

• Visit our website [www.statcan.gc.ca/aps](http://www.statcan.gc.ca/aps) to access information on the APS

• For access to articles and data on Aboriginal peoples, visit [www.statcan.gc.ca/aboriginalpeoples](http://www.statcan.gc.ca/aboriginalpeoples)

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