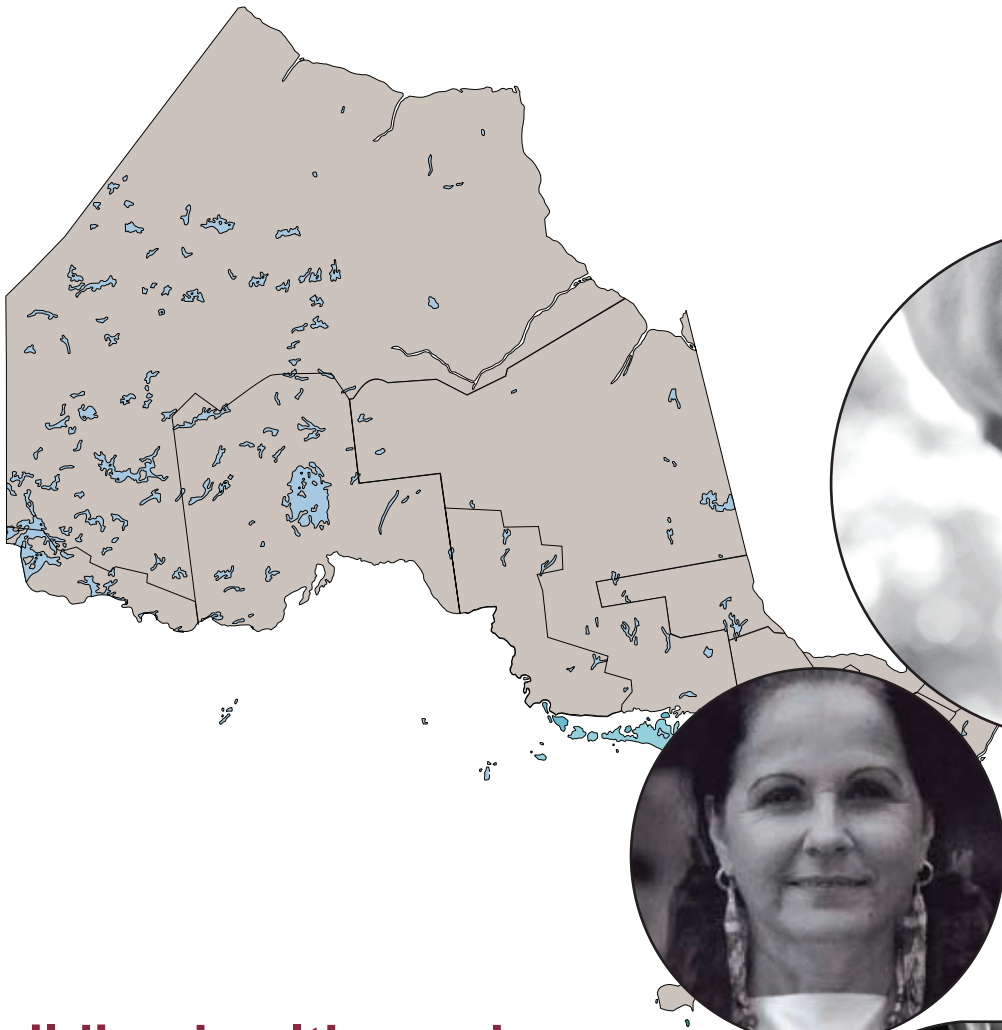


# Aboriginal Communities in Profile: Algoma, Cochrane, Manitoulin, Sudbury

THE ONTARIO  
TRILLIUM  
FOUNDATION



LA FONDATION  
TRILLIUM  
DE L'ONTARIO



**Building healthy and  
vibrant communities**



Métis Elder photo courtesy of Métis Nation of Ontario

# Table of Contents

Introduction .....	5
Ontario Trillium Foundation Granting Areas Map.....	7
Highlights of Aboriginal Communities in Profile: ACMS .....	8
Algoma, Cochrane, Manitoulin, Sudbury Area Map .....	10
Demographics .....	11
Overview.....	11
Aboriginal groups.....	12
Age Groups.....	13
On-Reserve and Off-Reserve .....	15
Urban and Rural .....	15
Mobility.....	16
Languages .....	17
Aboriginal Languages in ACMS.....	17
Mother Tongue .....	18
At Home Language.....	19
Education .....	21
Aboriginal people 15 years and over .....	21
Aboriginal people 25 to 64 years old .....	23
Undergraduate and graduate degrees.....	24
Major Fields of Study.....	25
Labour Force.....	27
Employment.....	27
Unemployment.....	27
Work Activity .....	29
Place of Work .....	30
Industry .....	31
Occupation.....	32
Income .....	33
Low-Income .....	36
Children under six.....	37
Seniors 65 years and over.....	38
First Nation Communities in ACMS.....	39
Geographical Context for ACMS .....	41
Methodology and Data Sources .....	41
Concepts and Definitions .....	42

## List of Charts

Chart 1 – Aboriginal Population 2001 and 2006.....	11
Chart 2 – Aboriginal Groups in ACMS – 2006.....	13
Chart 3 – Children, Youth, and Adult Age Groups .....	13
Chart 4 – Age Pyramid for ACMS .....	14
Chart 5 – Area of Residence for Aboriginal Groups.....	15
Chart 6 – Major Aboriginal Mother Tongue Languages .....	17
Chart 7 – Mother Tongue by Aboriginal Group .....	18
Chart 8 – Mother Tongue by Age Group .....	19
Chart 9 – Home Language Spoken for Aboriginal Population by Age Group .....	20
Chart 10 – Highest Educational Attainment 15 Years and Over .....	22
Chart 11 – Highest Educational Attainment 25 to 64 Years.....	23
Chart 12 – Aboriginal Population 25 to 64 Years with at least a Bachelor's Degree by Group .....	24
Chart 13 – Major Field of Study Population 15 Years and Over .....	25
Chart 14 – Labour Force Activity for Aboriginal Groups.....	28
Chart 15 – Labour Force Activity by Gender for Aboriginal Population.....	28
Chart 16 – Work Activity for Aboriginal and Total Populations.....	29
Chart 17 – Place of Work for Aboriginal Population 15 Years and Over.....	30
Chart 18 – Top Five Occupations for Aboriginal Population .....	32
Chart 19 – Average Before-tax Income by Gender .....	33
Chart 20 – Average Before-tax Income by Location for Aboriginal Population .....	34
Chart 21 – Average and Median Before-tax Income for Aboriginal Population.....	35
Chart 22 – Prevalence of Low-Income for Aboriginal Population by Location .....	36
Chart 23 – Prevalence of Low-Income for Aboriginal Children Under Six Years .....	37
Chart 24 – Prevalence of Low-Income for Aboriginal Seniors (65 Years and Over) .....	38

## List of Tables

Table 1 – Aboriginal Population by Gender – 2006.....	12
Table 2 – Major Field of Study for Population 15 Years and Over .....	26
Table 3 – Top Ten Industries of Employment .....	31
Table 4 – Land Area in Square Kilometres – 2006 .....	41

# Aboriginal Communities in Profile: Algoma, Cochrane, Manitoulin and Sudbury

## Introduction

Vibrant and complex, the Aboriginal community in Ontario comprises First Nations, Métis and Inuit peoples—three distinct and diverse groups with unique heritages, languages, cultural practices and spiritual beliefs.

The well-being and success of the Aboriginal community is of great importance to the Ontario Trillium Foundation (OTF) and we feel that sharing recent and pertinent information is beneficial to all of Ontario's people and communities.

To better understand the trends in Aboriginal communities in Ontario, we have asked Statistics Canada to use the most recent census information to prepare five profiles of Aboriginal communities: one for the Province overall, and one for each of four OTF regions that, for reasons of size, growth, proportion, or other distinct features, invited deeper analysis. The four OTF regions are:

- Algoma, Cochrane, Manitoulin and Sudbury (ACMS)
- Champlain
- Northwestern
- Quinte, Kingston, Rideau (QKR)

OTF appreciates the work of Statistics Canada in analyzing the data and helping to produce these reports.

*Aboriginal Communities in Profile: ACMS* has been customized to reflect Aboriginal peoples' unique circumstances, regional characteristics and trends. For your convenience, a glossary has also been included to provide definitions for the technical terms used in this document.

### A note about terminology

This report on Aboriginal peoples in ACMS relies on the information collected by Statistics Canada in the 2001 and 2006 Census, where people self-identify with at least one of Canada's three Aboriginal groups<sup>1</sup>.

Throughout this report, the terms "Aboriginal people" or "Aboriginal population" are used when referring to all people who identified with at least one Aboriginal group as part of the census.

---

<sup>1</sup> For more details see [Methodology and Data Sources](#) section

## **A note about the Census**

Each census is a snapshot of the people who took part in the survey on Census Day in that year. Some First Nations groups chose not to participate in the census or enumeration was interrupted before completion<sup>2</sup>. Over the past 10 years Statistics Canada has made a consistent effort to improve enumeration with direct outreach to First Nations communities. Greater outreach, and a greater openness among Aboriginal peoples to self-identify as part of the survey, means that the information from the 2006 Census is the most robust and accurate census to date to better understand the demographic trends among Aboriginal communities in Ontario.

---

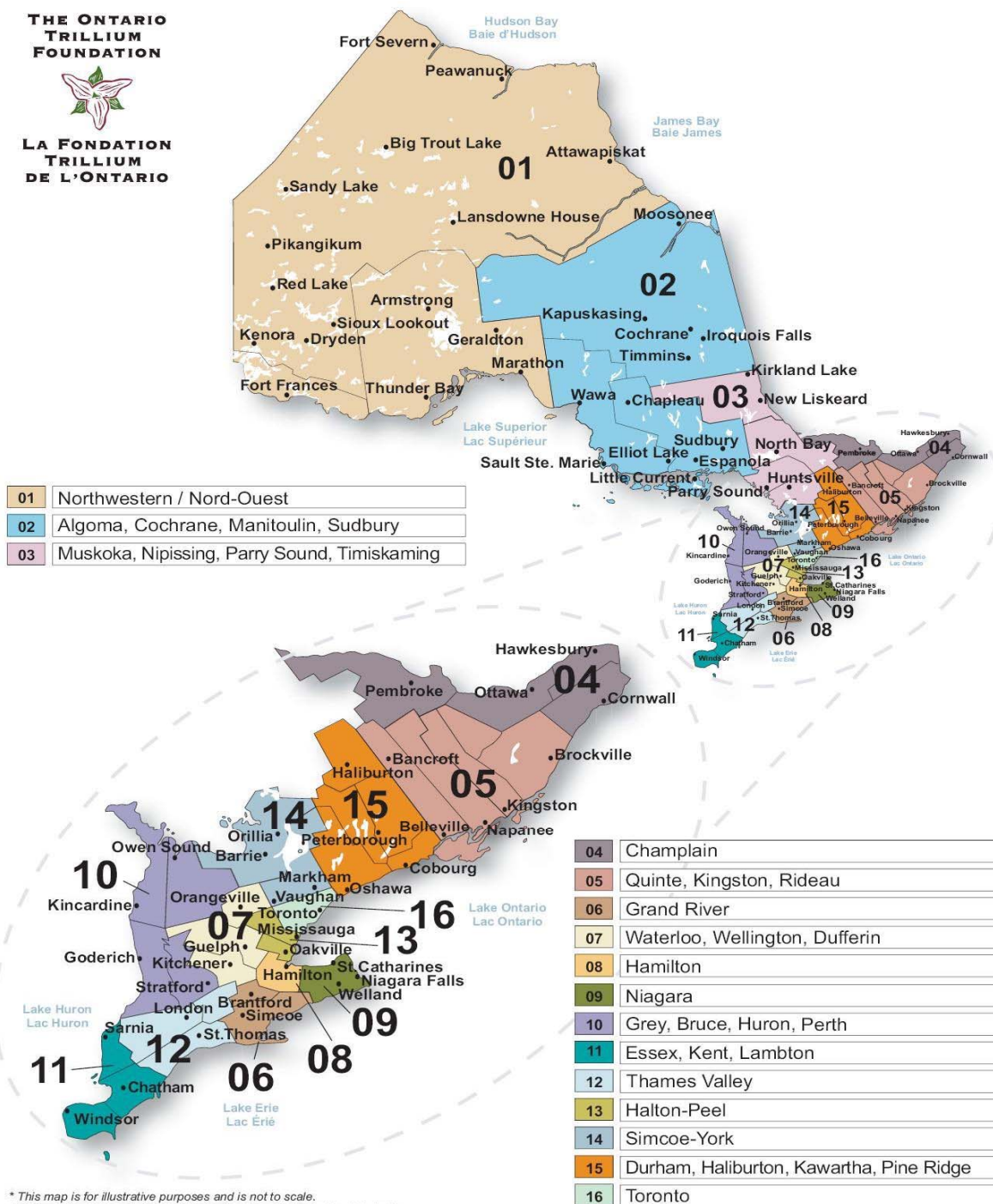
<sup>2</sup> See [Geographic Context for ACMS](#) section for more information

# Ontario Trillium Foundation Granting Areas Map

THE ONTARIO  
TRILLIUM  
FOUNDATION



LA FONDATION  
TRILLIUM  
DE L'ONTARIO



\* This map is for illustrative purposes and is not to scale.

\* Cette carte est fournie à titre d'illustration et peut ne pas être à échelle.

# Highlights of Aboriginal Communities in Profile: ACMS

## Education and employment are key challenges for Aboriginal people in ACMS

- **ACMS, like other regions in Ontario, has a young and fast-growing Aboriginal population**
- **The intersection of less education, more unemployment and fewer full-time jobs challenges the community's well-being**
- **Nearly four in ten Aboriginal children under 6 years of age live below the low-income cut-off**
- **Significant differences in educational attainment for between people living on or off-reserve**

### Growth

Like elsewhere across Ontario and all of Canada, the Aboriginal community is **growing at a much faster rate than the total population**. In ACMS, the Aboriginal community grew by one-fifth or 20% between 2001 and 2006.

### Composition

ACMS is home to a substantial Aboriginal community—40,150 people. **One in ten people in ACMS are Aboriginal.**

The majority of Aboriginal people in ACMS are First Nations. **ACMS is home to 27 distinct First Nation communities.**

ACMS has a robust Métis community. **Twenty percent of all Métis people in Ontario live in ACMS.**

The **Aboriginal community is younger** compared to the general population—in ACMS, nearly 45% of First Nations people are under the age of 25 years.

### Education, Employment and Income

While younger generations are becoming better educated, a **large proportion of First Nations people, and in particular people living on-reserve, have no certificate, degree or diploma.**

In 2006, the **unemployment rate for First Nations people was double** that of the ACMS population. Aboriginal people in ACMS are more likely to have part-time or seasonal work than full-time employment.

There is a **significant income gap Aboriginal people in ACMS—\$10,000 lower than the average for the general population in ACMS.**

A high proportion of Aboriginal people in ACMS live below the low-income cut-off. Especially disadvantaged are the youngest children—**38.7% of Aboriginal children under 6 live below the low-income cut-off.**



## Responding to trends in the area

Findings like these help provide valuable insight into the Aboriginal community within ACMS, offering communities, volunteers and not-for-profit organizations direction on priority areas where there is need for additional programs and services.

OTF is proud to have supported initiatives that help address these priorities and strengthen Aboriginal communities across the province. Here are a few examples of how OTF funding has supported local organizations in ACMS:

With unemployment higher among Aboriginal peoples in ACMS, the creation and operation of the **Weekngushk Film Institute**, an artist-focused film, television and new media training centre on Manitoulin Island for youth aged 16-24, is a welcomed initiative. The centre, dedicated to unlocking the creative potential of Aboriginal and diverse youth, provides hands-on training on all aspects of the film and television industries.

Enhancing the economic potential of local residents was the impetus for Garden River First Nation near Sault Ste. Marie to initiate an Aboriginal Information Technology Centre. The initiative, a collaborative that includes **the Sault Ste. Marie Indian Friendship Centre and Batchewana Band Industries**, which operates an industrial park and other businesses, sought to provide computer and information technology training to area Aboriginal people and support services to technology-related businesses.

Given nearly half the ACMS Aboriginal population is composed of children and youth, initiatives that promote the health and wellbeing of this youthful segment is important. The Urban Aboriginal Welfare Coalition undertook research to determine why more urban Aboriginal families do not become involved in foster care of Aboriginal children. **Waabinong Head Start Family Resource Centre, Nog-da-win-da-min Child and Family Services and the Algoma Children's Aid Society** partnered to identify barriers and recommend solutions to strengthen the Aboriginal community's capacity to take in foster children in the Sault Ste. Marie area.

Training youth and local community leaders to become anti-racism and anti-bullying champions in Sudbury and Espanola elementary schools was the goal of a collaborative project by **Sagamok First Nation (located near Massey, Aundeck Omni Kaning First Nation (near Little Current) and the Community Builders charity**. Youth, many of them First Nation, and youth resource workers were trained to raise awareness among grade 5-8 students about racism, bullying and social exclusion and learn how, when appropriate, to intervene in such situations.

## Algoma, Cochrane, Manitoulin, Sudbury Area Map



# Demographics

## Overview

### ***Aboriginal community in ACMS is growing at a very fast rate***

The Aboriginal community in ACMS—First Nations, Métis and Inuit peoples—grew from 33,295 people in 2001 to 40,150 in 2006. Similar to Ontario overall, this community is growing much faster than the general population. Between 2001 and 2006 in ACMS, the number of Aboriginal people grew by 20.6% even while the general population declined slightly (0.6%).

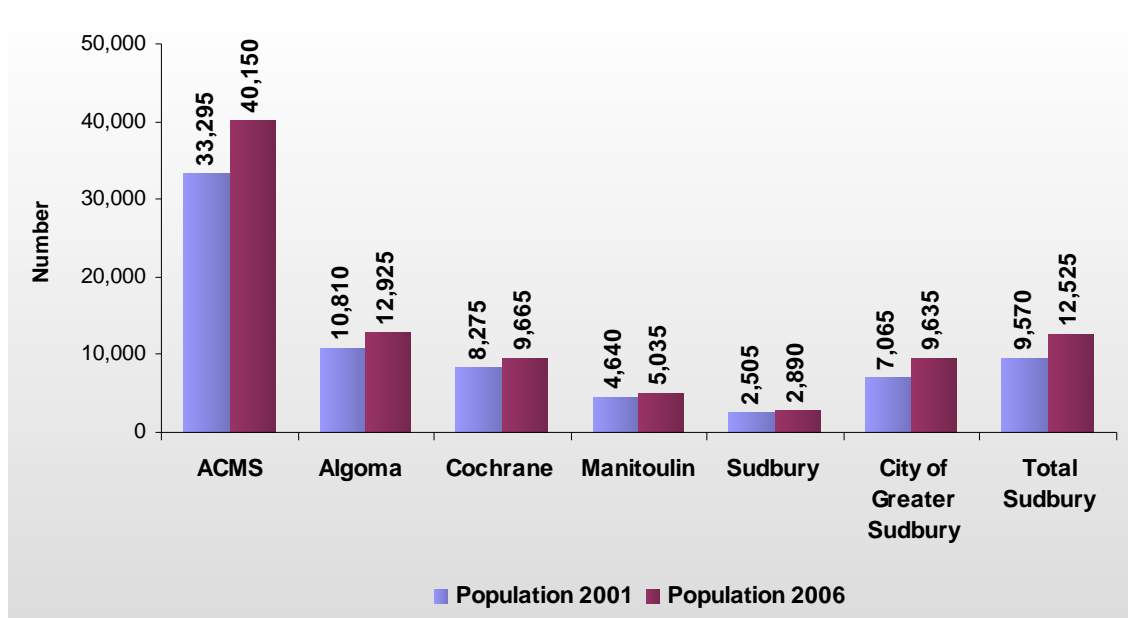
There are several factors that contribute to this strong growth rate including high birth rates, a greater number of individuals identifying themselves as Aboriginal, and a reduction in the number of incompletely enumerated First Nations Reserves since the 2001 census.

ACMS has a substantial Aboriginal population—one in ten (10.4%) people in this region are Aboriginal. In fact, one in every six (16.5%) Aboriginal people in Ontario live in ACMS.

### ***Most Aboriginal people in ACMS live in Algoma or Sudbury***

In 2006, more than half (56.2%) of all Aboriginal people in ACMS lived in Algoma District or the City of Greater Sudbury. Another one-quarter lived in Cochrane District. While Manitoulin and Sudbury District had fewer Aboriginal people than the other areas, proportionately Aboriginal people make up a greater share of the area population (38.5% in Manitoulin and 13.5% in Sudbury District). Chart 1.

**Chart 1 – Aboriginal Population 2001 and 2006**



**Source:** Statistics Canada, Census of population, 2001 and 2006

### ***Population by Gender***

In 2006, there were approximately equal numbers of females and males in the Aboriginal community in ACMS (50.6% and 49.4% respectively). In Algoma and the City of Greater Sudbury, the gender split is more similar to that of Ontario overall, where females are slightly more than half (51.5%) of the total population. Table 1.

**Table 1 – Aboriginal Population by Gender – 2006**

<b>Region</b>	<b>Males</b>	<b>Females</b>
ACMS	19,820	20,330
Algoma	6,220	6,705
Cochrane	4,860	4,800
Manitoulin	2,525	2,505
Sudbury District	1,540	1,345
City of Greater Sudbury	4,665	4,970
Total Sudbury area	6,205	6,315

**Source:** Statistics Canada, Census of population, 2006

### **Aboriginal groups**

#### ***One in five Métis people in Ontario live in ACMS***

With 15,305 people, the Métis are the second largest Aboriginal group in ACMS after First Nations. ACMS has proportionately more Métis (38.1%) people than Ontario as a whole (30.4%). One in five (20.8%) Métis people in Ontario live in ACMS. The majority of Métis people in ACMS reside in the City of Greater Sudbury (35.5%) or Algoma District (33.2%).

Almost three in five Aboriginal people in ACMS are First Nations. The ACMS area has 27 distinct First Nation communities. More details on these First Nations communities are in the section titled [First Nation Communities in ACMS](#).

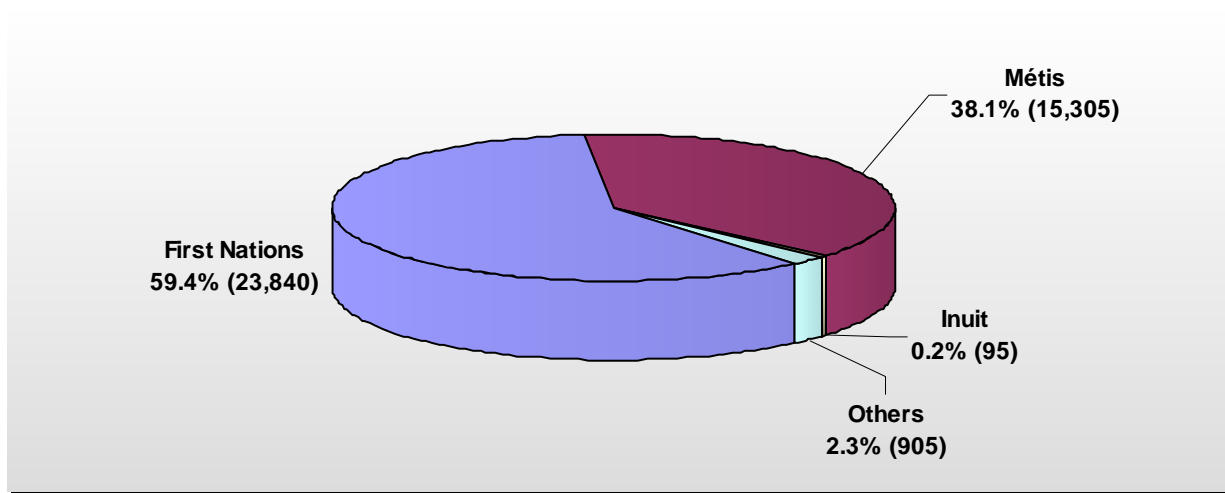
In 2006, there were 95 Inuit<sup>3</sup> people, corresponding to 0.2% of the ACMS Aboriginal community and 905 people in an “Others” group<sup>4</sup>—about 2.3% of all Aboriginal peoples in ACMS. Chart 2.

---

<sup>3</sup> Due to the small population for Inuit people no details other than some population counts are included in this report

<sup>4</sup> The “Others” group includes 200 people self-identifying with more than one Aboriginal group and 705 people who self-identified as Aboriginal but did not specify the group. “Others” will be included in charts where feasible

**Chart 2 – Aboriginal Groups in ACMS – 2006**



**Source:** Statistics Canada, Census of population, 2006

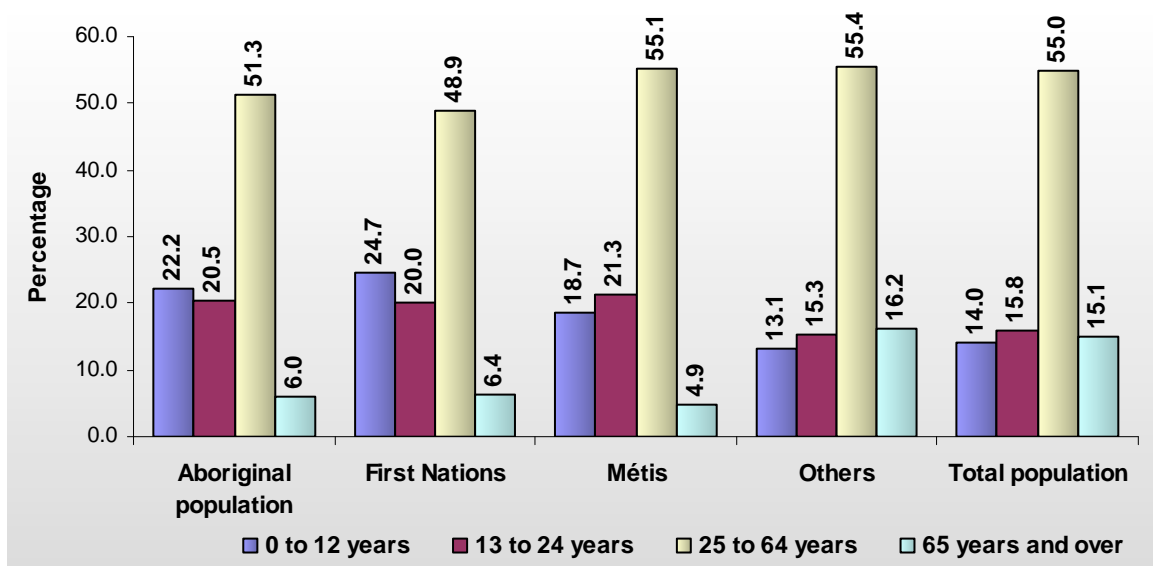
## Age Groups

### *A younger population*

Overall, the Aboriginal community is younger compared to the total population; that is, the proportion children and youth (aged 0 to 24 years) is higher. Though most Aboriginal people in ACMS are aged 25 to 64, children and youth are 42.7% of the total—much higher than in the total ACMS population (29.8%).

In contrast, seniors (aged 65 and over) make up a much smaller share of the total Aboriginal community than in the overall population (6.0% compared to 15.1%). Chart 3.

**Chart 3 – Children, Youth, and Adult Age Groups**



**Source:** Statistics Canada, Census of population, 2006

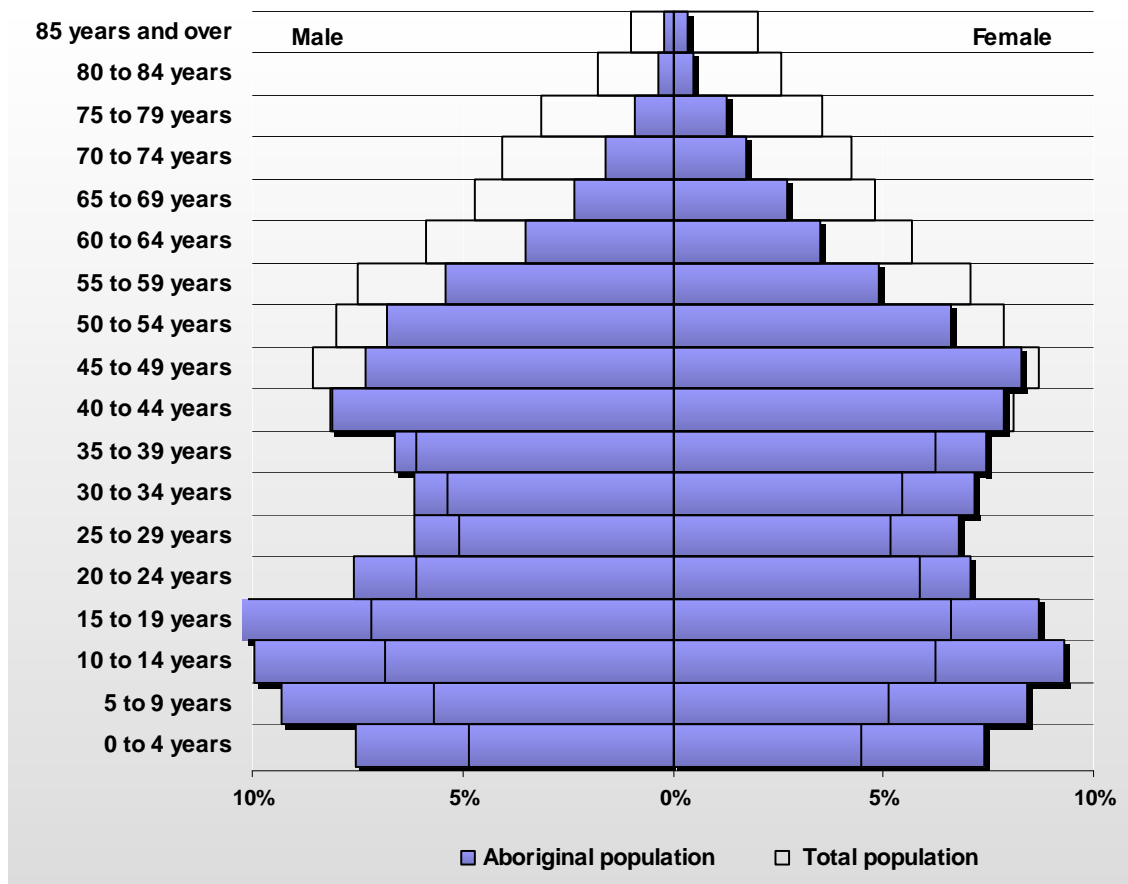
### ***First Nations are the youngest among the Aboriginal groups***

Generally, First Nations people are younger than people in the other Aboriginal groups or the overall population. In ACMS, fully one-quarter (24.7%) of all First Nations people are children under 12 years. Together with youth aged 13 to 24 years, First Nation children and youth make up 44.7% of the total population. Chart 3.

The proportion of Métis children and youth is 40.0%, which is slightly less than First Nation people but still much higher than in the overall ACMS population (29.8%). Chart 3.

The age pyramid for ACMS illustrates in more detail the differences between the Aboriginal community and the overall ACMS population in terms of age distribution. Compared to the total population, there are proportionately more Aboriginal people in all age categories under 40 years of age and proportionately fewer in the older ones. The pyramid also shows that there are more males than females in all age groups under 25 and more females than males in all age groups 60 years and older. Chart 4.

**Chart 4 – Age Pyramid for ACMS**



**Source:** Statistics Canada, Census of population, 2006

## On-Reserve and Off-Reserve

### *Nearly half of First Nations people in ACMS live on-reserve*

Only First Nations people have reserves—therefore this section is primarily<sup>5</sup> about this group alone. In ACMS, more than four in ten (44.6%) First Nations people<sup>6</sup> live on-reserve. In this area in 2006, there were 32 reserves<sup>7</sup> or settlements. Proportionately more First Nations people live on-reserve in ACMS than in Ontario overall (29.7%).

Though people living on-reserve in ACMS are predominately First Nations (95.7%), residents also include non-Aboriginal people (3.3%), Métis (0.5%) and people in the Others group (0.5%).

## Urban and Rural

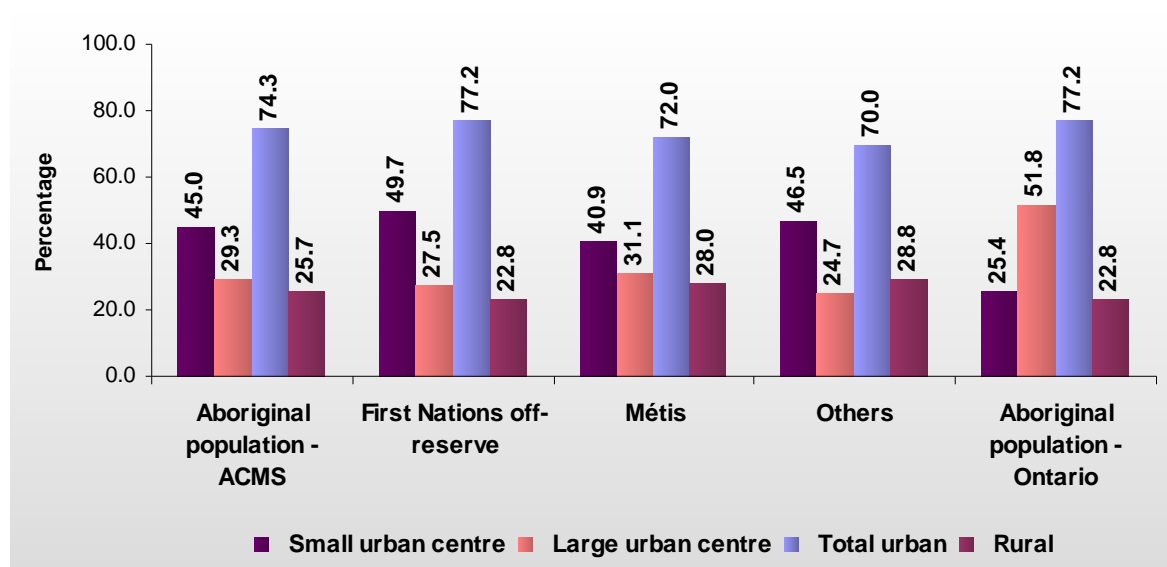
### *Urban but predominately in smaller towns and centres*

Métis and off-reserve First Nations people in ACMS are an increasingly urban population; in 2006 almost three in four (74.3%) lived in an urban centre, not unlike Ontario overall (77.2%).

Though the degree of total urbanization is similar, 45.0% of Métis and off-reserve First Nations people in ACMS lived in smaller towns and centres compared to just 25.4% for Ontario overall.

By group, off-reserve First Nations people are most likely to live in an urban centre (77.2%) but less likely to live in a rural area (22.8%). Proportionately more Métis live in rural areas compared to First Nations people. Chart 5.

**Chart 5 – Area of Residence for Aboriginal Groups**



Source: Statistics Canada, Census of population, 2006

<sup>5</sup> Additionally, 6.1% of people in the Others group indicated that they lived on-reserve

<sup>6</sup> Includes both registered and non-registered First Nations people

<sup>7</sup> One reserve was incompletely enumerated. See [Geographic Context for ACMS](#) section for more information

## Mobility

### ***Greater mobility in the Aboriginal community***

Many Aboriginal people move back and forth between urban and rural communities—as well as reserve communities for some First Nations people. Factors that may contribute to higher mobility within this community include: being younger, and being concentrated in more remote rural areas<sup>8</sup>, as well as the need for access to post-secondary schooling, employment or health services, and housing affordability.

At the time of the census<sup>9</sup>, about 43.3% of Aboriginal people in ACMS had moved from where they lived five years before—more than in the general ACMS population where 34.2% had changed address. Most Aboriginal people who moved in this period moved within the same community<sup>10</sup> (27.3%) while 14.1% moved from a different community. Very few came into ACMS from a different province, territory or country (about 1.8% in total).

By Aboriginal groups, Métis people were more likely to move in the five year period (47.8%) than were First Nations people (40.6%)

---

<sup>8</sup> Report on the Demographic Situation in Canada 2005 and 2006. Statistics Canada 91-209-XIE

<sup>9</sup> The census counts people where they are living on one particular day—for the 2006 Census this was May 16, 2006

<sup>10</sup> Community in this context refers to Census subdivision (CSD). This may be a reserve, a rural area or a municipality



# Languages

## Aboriginal Languages in ACMS

### *Decline in use and knowledge of Aboriginal languages in Ontario*

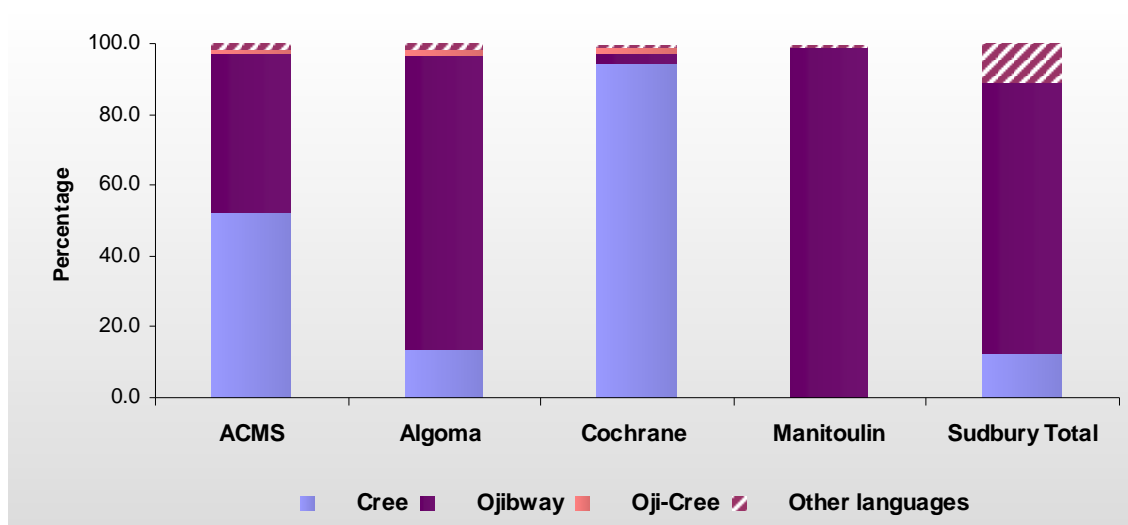
The use and knowledge of Aboriginal languages within the Aboriginal community has declined between 2001 and 2006. In 2006, 9.8% of all Aboriginal people in Ontario reported that their mother tongue was an Aboriginal language, down from 11.5% in 2001.<sup>11</sup>

Part of this decrease can be attributed to the growing tendency on the part of the individual to identify themselves as Aboriginal—especially among those of Métis heritage, where only a small proportion report being able to speak an Aboriginal language. Other factors influencing the erosion of intergenerational transmission of languages<sup>12</sup> include the prevalence of English and French in daily life; linguistic intermarriage; increased migration between Aboriginal communities as well as to and from cities and reserves; and the legacy of the residential school system.

Across ACMS, the most common Aboriginal mother tongue is Cree, followed by Ojibway.

Cochrane and Manitoulin are the areas with the most people who have an Aboriginal mother tongue—about one quarter of the Aboriginal people in each area. In Cochrane the primary Aboriginal mother tongue is Cree while in Manitoulin it is Ojibway. Relatively few people in Algoma or Sudbury have an Aboriginal mother tongue but of those that do, the majority speak Ojibway. Chart 6.

**Chart 6 – Major Aboriginal Mother Tongue Languages<sup>13</sup>**



**Source:** Statistics Canada, Census of population, 2006

<sup>11</sup> From the 2001 Census Aboriginal Population Profiles

<sup>12</sup> Adapted from Aboriginal languages in Canada: Emerging trends and perspectives on second language acquisition. Mary Jane Norris. Stats Canada–Canadian Social Trends Catalogue No. 11–008-XIE

<sup>13</sup> Total Aboriginal Population by Mother Tongue – Non-Official Languages Single Responses

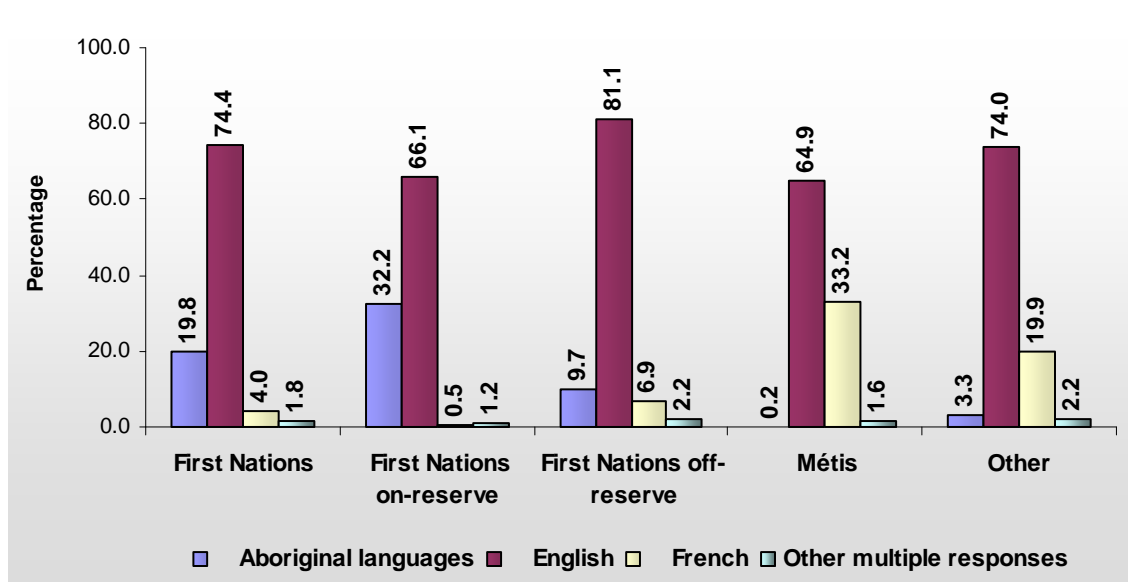
## Mother Tongue

### ***One in five First Nations people in ACMS has an Aboriginal mother tongue***

Nearly everyone with an Aboriginal language mother tongue is First Nations or Inuit. In ACMS in 2006, one in five (19.8%) First Nations people had an Aboriginal language mother tongue though the rate varied by area of residence and generation. While about one-third (32.2%) of First Nations people living on-reserve had an Aboriginal mother tongue it was one in ten (9.7%) for those living off-reserve. Chart 7.

First Nations seniors are the age group most likely to have an Aboriginal mother tongue (49.8%). Among other age groups, one-quarter (23.5%) of working age people (25 to 64 years), 12.7% of those between 15 and 24 years, and 10.6% of people under 15 years said they had an Aboriginal language mother tongue.

**Chart 7 – Mother Tongue by Aboriginal Group**



**Source:** Statistics Canada, Census of population, 2006

### ***French mother tongue common among Métis people***

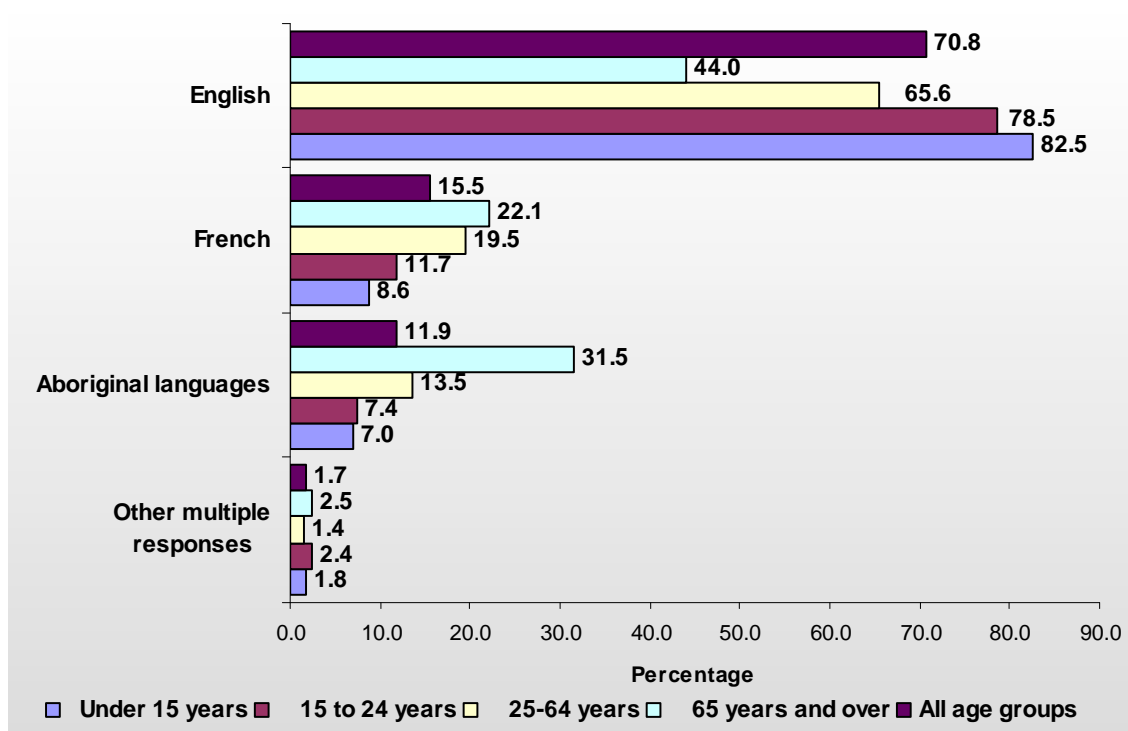
Having French as a mother tongue is not uncommon among Aboriginal people in ACMS. In 2006, 15.5% had a French mother tongue and of those people who did, the majority (81.4%) were Métis. As a group, one in three (33.2%) Métis people in ACMS has a French mother tongue. Chart 7.

The younger generation is less likely to have a French mother tongue compared to previous generations. About half of all Métis seniors (49.7%) had a French mother tongue, while one-quarter (24.5%) of those 15 to 24 years, and one-fifth (22.9%) of those under 15 years did.

### ***English is the mother tongue for most young Aboriginal people in ACMS***

The majority of Aboriginal people in ACMS (70.8%) have an English mother tongue. Younger people are much more likely to say this than are older people, as about 82.5% of Aboriginal children (under 15 years) say English is their mother tongue compared to 44% of seniors. Chart 8.

**Chart 8 – Mother Tongue by Age Group**



Source: Statistics Canada, Census of population, 2006

## At Home Language

### ***Most Aboriginal people speak English at home***

English is by far the most frequent language spoken at home within the total Aboriginal community. Seniors are the group most likely to speak an Aboriginal language or French at home. Very few Aboriginal people said they more than one language at home (i.e. Aboriginal and English and/or French). Chart 9.

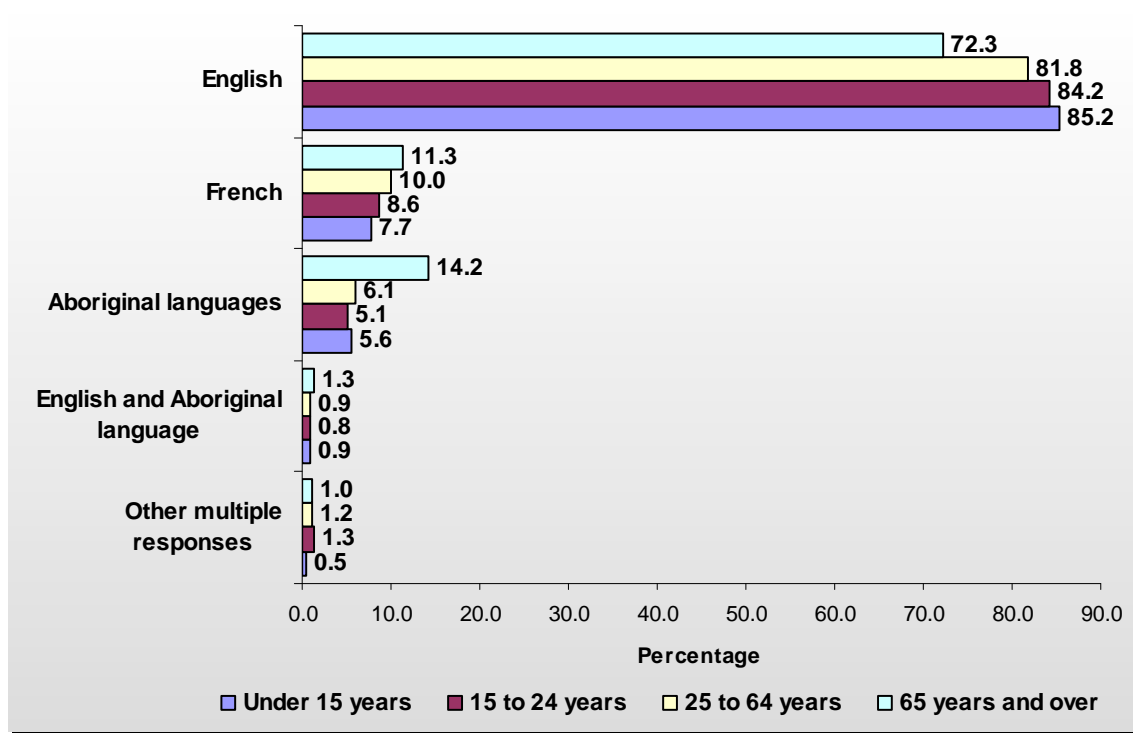
### ***One in five on-reserve First Nations people speak an Aboriginal language at home***

Most First Nations people in ACMS speak English at home (85.5%). Of the remaining, 10.5%<sup>14</sup> speak an Aboriginal language and 2% speak French. There are differences when considering where people live; while about one in five (21.8%) on-reserve people speak an Aboriginal language at home, about 4.2% of off-reserve First Nations people do.

French is the language used at home for about one in five (20.5%) Métis people in ACMS.

<sup>14</sup> Includes those who speak both English and Aboriginal languages at home

**Chart 9 – Home Language Spoken for Aboriginal Population by Age Group**



Source: Statistics Canada, Census of population, 2006

## Education

The Education section profiles the highest level of schooling that has been attained by Aboriginal people. While the overarching picture of educational attainment for Aboriginal people in ACMS is that fewer complete high school or beyond than the general population, there are significant differences in attainment depending upon a person's age group, where they live or which Aboriginal group they identify with.

In the sections below, the educational attainment for two broad age groups—all people 15 years and over, and people who are aged 25 to 64 years (the working age group)—is presented.

Across both groups, fewer Aboriginal people have completed high school or university than in the general population. However, Aboriginal people in ACMS are completing college and other non-university certificates at rates comparable to the general population, and are slightly more likely to attain apprenticeship or trades certificates than the overall population.

Across Aboriginal groups, First Nations people have lower levels of educational attainment. In particular, First Nations people living on-reserve are most at risk of not completing high school. Métis people as a group are completing high school and college at levels close to the overall ACMS population and are more likely to complete apprenticeship and trades certificates than Aboriginal people overall or the general population.

### Aboriginal people 15 years and over

In ACMS in 2006, about one in four (37.9%) Aboriginal people 15 years had no certificate, diploma or degree—about 9% percentage points higher than the total ACMS population. However, this may not adequately reflect educational accomplishment as a large proportion of this group may still be students, and because a high proportion of Aboriginal people age 65 years and over are without any certificate, diploma or degree. Chart 10.

#### ***First Nations people living on-reserve most at risk for not completing school***

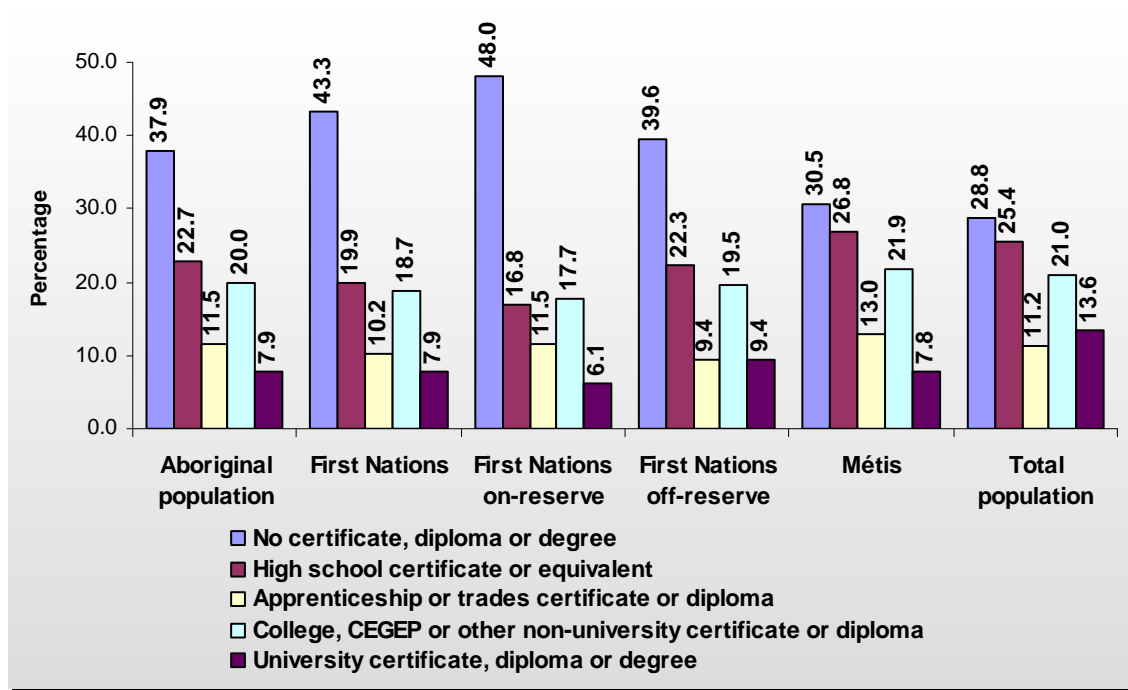
First Nations people are less likely to complete schooling when compared to all Aboriginal people or the general ACMS population. In 2006, about 43.3% of all First Nations people in ACMS had no certificate, diploma or degree.

When separating First Nation people living on-reserve to those who live off-reserve—nearly half (48.0%) of the on-reserve people had no certificate, diploma or degree, compared to 39.6% for people living off-reserve. First Nations people living on-reserve were more likely to have an apprenticeship or trades diploma than those living off-reserve—though on-reserve people were less likely to have completed high school, college or university. Chart 10.

The overall educational attainment profile for Métis people is closer to that of the overall ACMS population, though as previously noted, proportionately more Métis people complete apprenticeship, trade and college certificates and degrees than the general population. This may be due in part to the higher proportion of the Métis population aged

25 to 64, which is the group most likely to have completed some level of education.  
Chart 10.

**Chart 10 – Highest Educational Attainment 15 Years and Over**



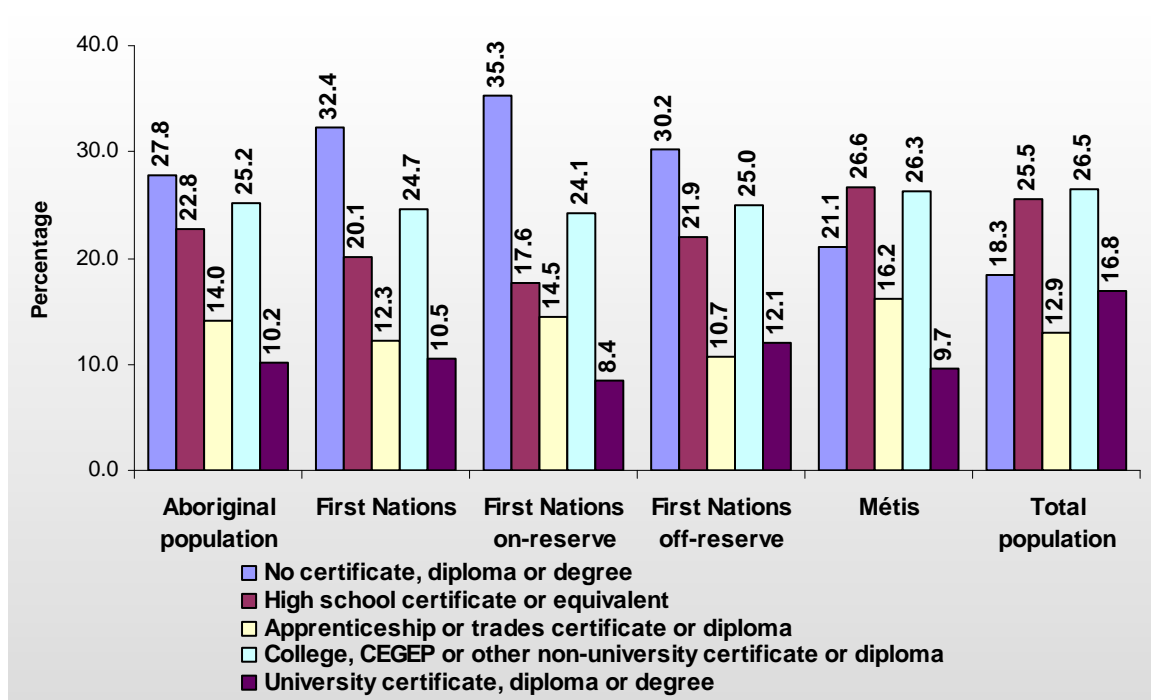
**Source:** Statistics Canada, Census of population, 2006

## Aboriginal people 25 to 64 years old

While approximately the same proportion of working-age people complete high school as all people 15 years and over, more people in the working-age group are completing higher levels of education (apprenticeship, trades, college and university). Chart 11. As well, people at the lower end of the 25 to 64 year old age range are completing more higher education than those who are at the upper end of the age range.

As noted earlier, Aboriginal people in ACMS are commonly completing apprenticeship, trades or college certificates or diplomas, and at rates higher than or comparable to the general ACMS population. Chart. 11

**Chart 11 – Highest Educational Attainment 25 to 64 Years**



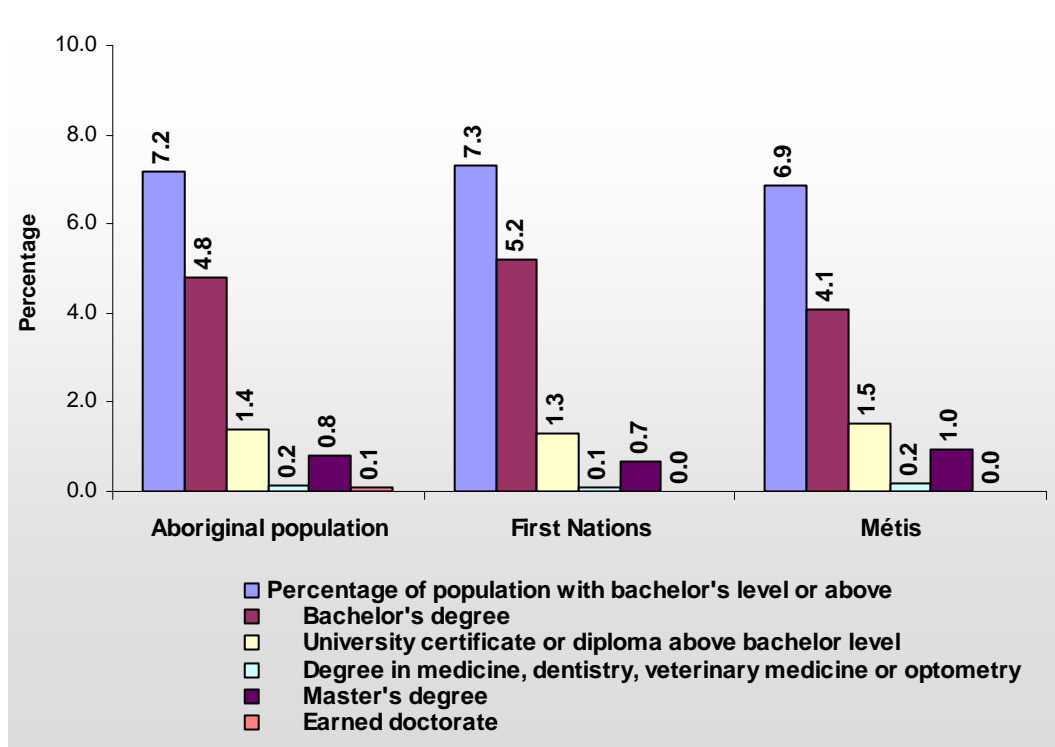
**Source:** Statistics Canada, Census of population, 2006

## Undergraduate and graduate degrees

In ACMS, 7.2% of Aboriginal people ages 25 to 64 years have an undergraduate or a graduate degree, lower than all Aboriginal people in Ontario (9.0%) or the total ACMS population (14.2%).

Of the Aboriginal peoples, First Nations people had the highest proportion with at least a bachelor's degree (7.3%). Chart 12.

**Chart 12 –Aboriginal Population 25 to 64 Years with at least a Bachelor's Degree by Group**



### **More women graduates**

In 2006, almost double the proportion of Aboriginal women in ACMS held undergraduate or graduate degrees (9.2%) as did Aboriginal men (4.9%). Among First Nations people specifically, more women had at least a bachelor's degree (9.4%) than did men (5.0%).

Similarly in the Métis community, more women than men had completed higher education (9.2% compared to 4.8%).



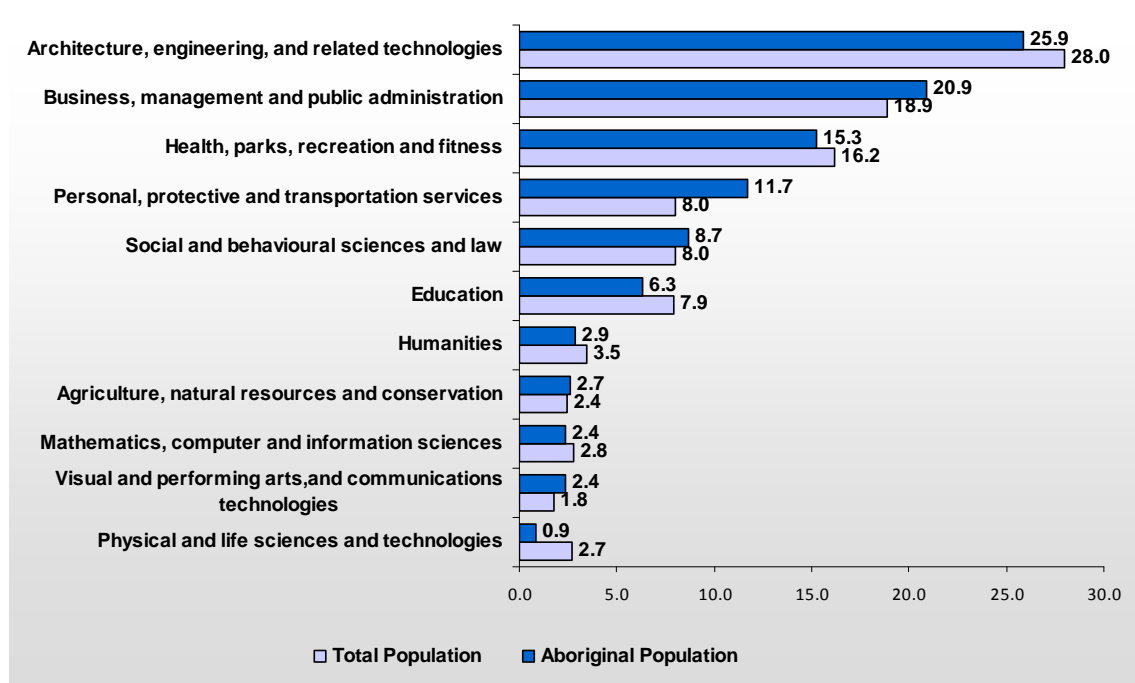
## Major Fields of Study

### *Aboriginal students in ACMS pursue studies in two major fields*

In ACMS, nearly half (45.9%) of all Aboriginal people pursuing post-secondary education reported the category of their major field of study as architecture, engineering, and related technologies, or business, management and public administration, as did the overall ACMS population.

Compared to the total population, proportionately more Aboriginal students pursue the fields of personal, protective and transportation services (11.7% compared to 8.0) and fewer study in the fields of physical and life sciences and technologies (0.9% to 2.7%) or education (6.3% to 7.9%). Chart 13 and Table 2.

**Chart 13 – Major Field of Study Population 15 Years and Over**



**Source:** Statistics Canada, Census of population, 2006

**Table 2 – Major Field of Study for Population 15 Years and Over**

<b>Field of Study</b>	<b>Aboriginal Population</b>	<b>Total Population</b>
Architecture, engineering and related technologies	3,030	41,325
Business, management and public administration	2,445	27,875
Health, parks, recreation and fitness	1,785	23,920
Personal, protective and transportation services	1,370	11,785
Social and behavioural sciences and law	1,020	11,820
Education	735	11,730
Humanities	340	5,110
Agriculture, natural resources and conservation	310	3,605
Mathematics, computer and information sciences	275	4,080
Visual and performing arts and communications technologies	275	2,610
Physical and life sciences and technologies	100	3,935

**Source:** Statistics Canada, Census of population, 2006

## Labour Force

Labour force information in this section uses responses that refer to the period of time preceding the Census in May 2006. Since that time there have been significant changes in the state of the economy in Ontario including increased unemployment rates, loss of full time jobs, and a downturn in the automotive and related manufacturing sector. Information in this section is only for the population 15 years of age and over who were either employed or looking for work during the week prior to Census Day (May 16, 2006).

Aboriginal people in ACMS have less employment, more unemployment and fewer full-time jobs than in the general population—factors that may contribute to lower income levels and impact community well-being overall. Similar to other trends in this report, First Nations and Inuit peoples experience this to a greater degree than Métis people.

## Employment

### ***Less employment in the Aboriginal community in ACMS***

In 2006, Aboriginal people in ACMS were less employed than the overall population (51.3% employment compared to 55.4%). Within the Aboriginal groups, First Nations people were the least employed (46.5%). The employment rate for Métis people was higher (58.3%) than that of the overall population in ACMS. Chart 14.

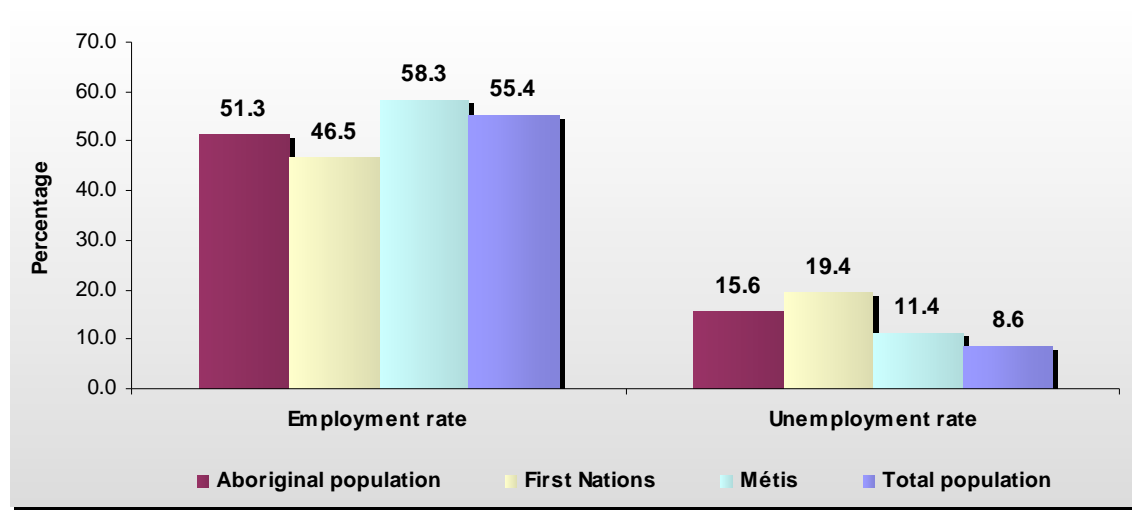
## Unemployment

### ***Unemployment rate for First Nations people more than double that of the total region***

In 2006, Ontario's overall unemployment rate was 6.4% and in ACMS it was 8.6%. At that time, unemployment in ACMS for Aboriginal people was much higher (15.6%). Unemployment within the First Nations community was highest, as the rate was more than double that of the total region and about one in five (19.4%) people in the labour force was out of work.

Although Métis people had less unemployment compared to all Aboriginal people, as a group they have more unemployment (11.4%) than the region as a whole. Chart 14.

**Chart 14 – Labour Force Activity for Aboriginal Groups**

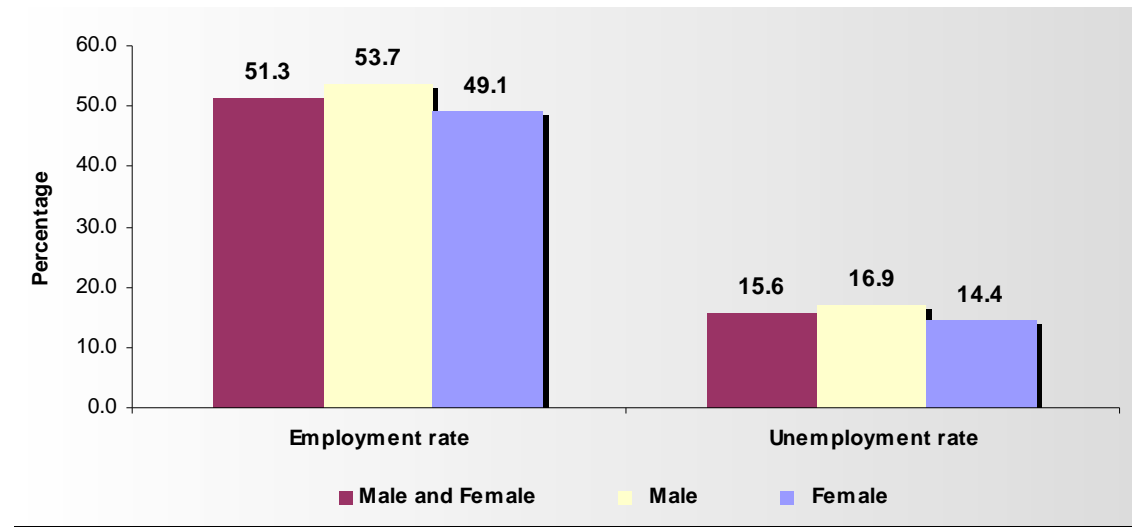


**Source:** Statistics Canada, Census of population, 2006

***More unemployment among Aboriginal men***

In 2006, Aboriginal men had a higher unemployment rate of 16.9% compared to Aboriginal women (14.4%). Aboriginal women had a lower employment (49.1%) rate than men (53.7%). Chart 15.

**Chart 15 – Labour Force Activity by Gender for Aboriginal Population**



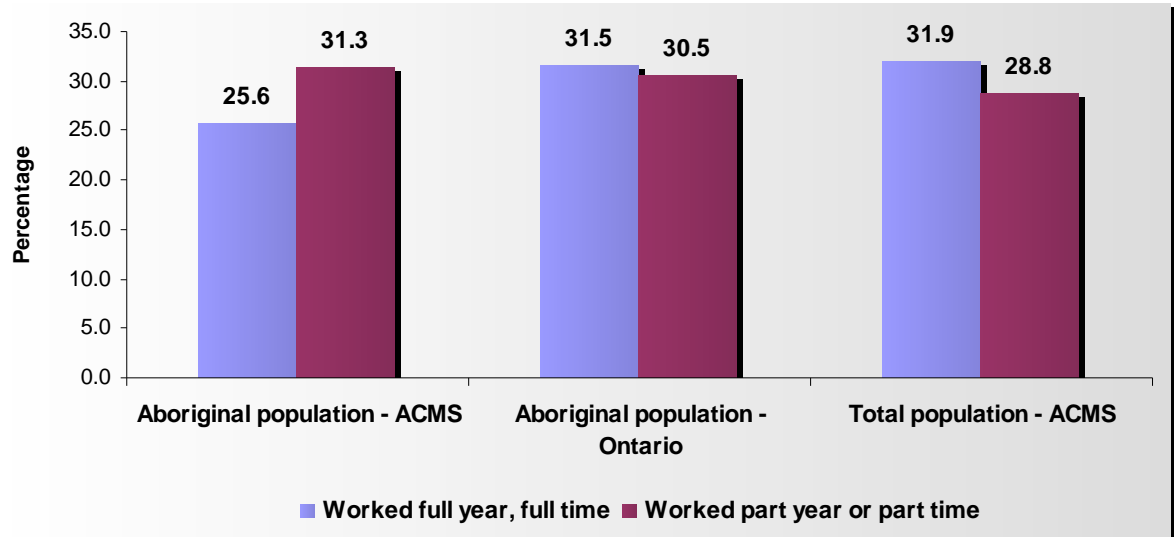
**Source:** Statistics Canada, Census of population, 2006

## Work Activity

### *Aboriginal people in ACMS less likely to work all year or full- time*

Aboriginal people in ACMS are less likely to work all of the year or full-time, than the general ACMS population or all Aboriginal people across Ontario. Unlike either of the latter two groups, Aboriginal people in ACMS are more likely to work part of the year (e.g. seasonal) or part-time than to work full-time or all of the year. Chart 16.

**Chart 16 – Work Activity for Aboriginal and Total Population**



**Source:** Statistics Canada, Census of population, 2006

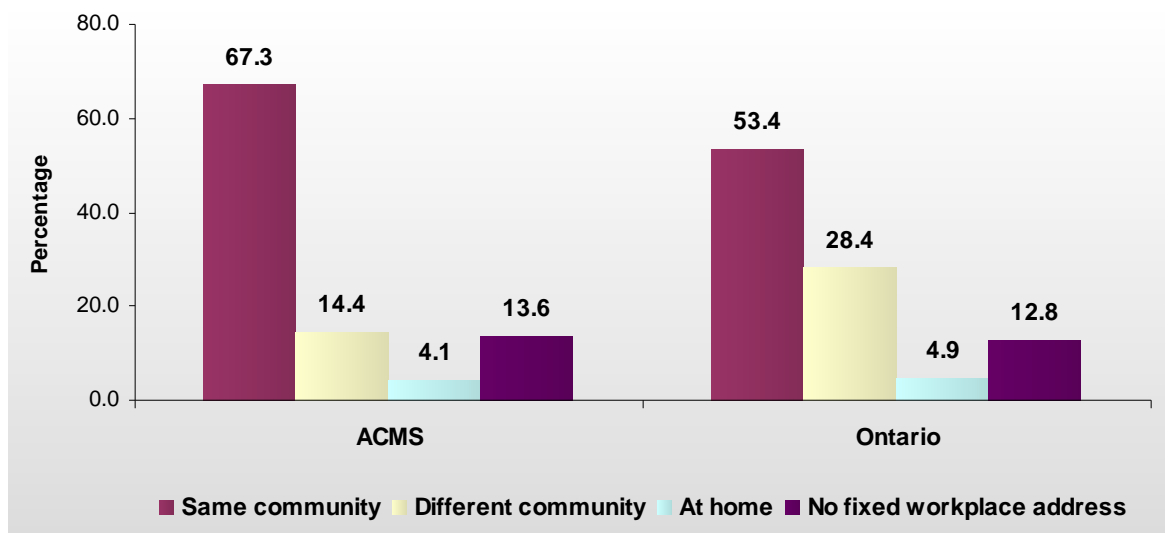
## Place of Work

### ***Aboriginal workforce in ACMS is most likely to work and live in the same community***

In ACMS in 2006, two-thirds of Aboriginal people<sup>15</sup> (67.3%) worked within the same community<sup>16</sup> that they lived in. This was higher than for all Aboriginal people in Ontario where just over half (53.4%) worked in the same community where they resided.

Approximately one in seven Aboriginal people (14.4%) in ACMS work in a different community from where they live. Aboriginal workers in ACMS are slightly more likely to have no fixed workplace address<sup>17</sup> (13.6%) compared to all Aboriginal workers across Ontario (12.8%)—something that may be reflective of occupations and industries common to this area. Chart 17.

**Chart 17 – Place of Work for Aboriginal Population 15 Years and Over**



Source: Statistics Canada, Census of population, 2006

<sup>15</sup> In the employed labour force aged 15 years and over

<sup>16</sup> Community in this context refers to Census subdivision (CSD). This may be a reserve, a rural area or a municipality

<sup>17</sup> No fixed workplace address includes building and landscape contractors, travelling salespersons, independent truck drivers, etc. (Statistics Canada Census Dictionary 2005)

## Industry

### ***Health care and social assistance and Public administration were the top two industries for employment of Aboriginal peoples in ACMS***

The industry categories of health care and social assistance and public administration employed the highest number of Aboriginal people in ACMS. This is slightly different to the total ACMS population where several other industries had higher numbers of employees. The ranking by industry is also slightly different for First Nations and Métis people with public administration being eighth for Métis people while it is second for First Nations people.

By proportion of employment, Aboriginal people, and particularly First Nations people, were less likely to be employed in retail trade even though this was the top employment industry in ACMS in 2006. Proportionately fewer First Nations people worked in manufacturing, which was the third top industry in ACMS. Compared to the overall population, First Nations people were more likely to be employed in public administration and health care and social assistance industries.

Métis people were likely to be more employed in administrative and support, waste management and remediation, and construction industries and less so in other top ACMS industry areas such as retail, education, and health care and social assistance. Table 3.

**Table 3 – Top Ten Industries of Employment**

Rank	Industry	Aboriginal population	First Nations	Métis	Total population
1	Health care and social assistance	2,360	1,480	820	23,655
2	Public administration	1,885	1,400	475	13,855
3	Retail trade	1,740	870	810	24,510
4	Accommodation and food services	1,535	820	680	14,215
5	Construction	1,315	675	620	12,040
6	Manufacturing	1,215	520	655	17,265
7	Educational services	1,115	630	480	15,350
8	Administrative and support, waste management and remediation services	1,060	490	555	9,700
9	Transportation and warehousing	970	495	460	10,085
10	Other services (except public administration)	780	330	420	9,970

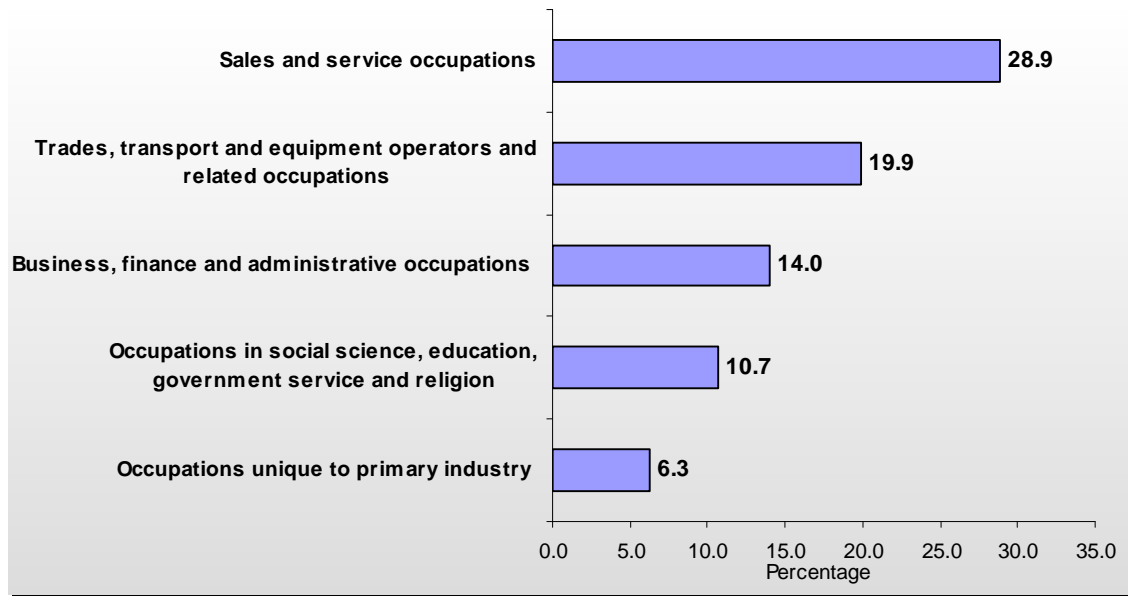
**Source:** Statistics Canada, Census of population, 2006

## Occupation

### ***Sales and service most frequently reported occupations***

Almost half (48.8%) of the Aboriginal labour force in ACMS region was employed either in sales and service, or trades, transport and equipment operator's occupations. Aboriginal people in ACMS were more likely to be employed in trades, transport, equipment operators and related occupations than the overall ACMS population. Chart 18.

**Chart 18 – Top Five Occupations for Aboriginal Population**



**Source:** Statistics Canada, Census of population, 2006



## Income

The Income section compares and highlights differences in income levels between the Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal population; among Aboriginal groups; by gender, and finally, across geographic areas.

Overall, Aboriginal people in ACMS have lower income levels compared to the non-Aboriginal population—on average about 30% less. Across Aboriginal groups, Métis people have the highest average income while First Nations people have the lowest, possibly indicative of the differences in educational attainment and employment levels between these groups, and in the case of people living in remote areas, the availability of work.

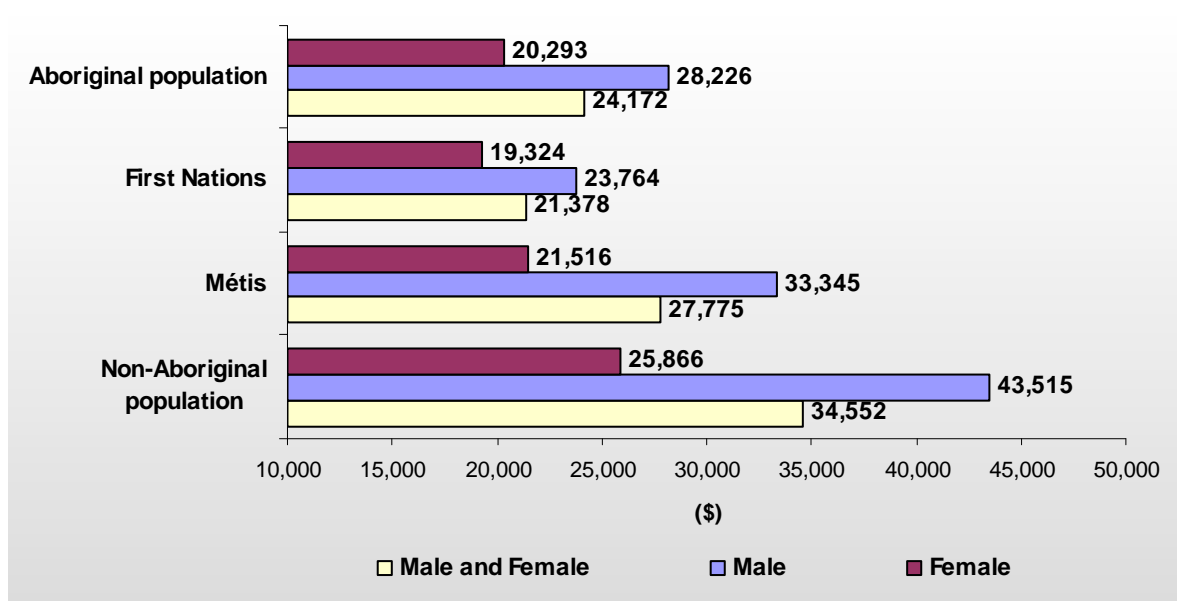
There is less of a gap in income level between Aboriginal men and women than in the non-Aboriginal population—which may be influenced by factors such as greater unemployment among Aboriginal men than women; more women with higher educational attainment; and substantially lower income levels for Aboriginal men compared to non-Aboriginal men.

In 2005<sup>18</sup>, Aboriginal people in ACMS had slightly lower average incomes compared with Aboriginal people for Ontario overall. While the average income for Aboriginal people in ACMS was \$24,172, in Ontario it was about \$1,800 higher.

### ***\$10,000 average income gap***

There is a substantial income gap between Aboriginal people and non-Aboriginals. In 2005 the average annual income of Aboriginal people in ACMS was \$24,172—about \$10,000 less than that reported by the non-Aboriginal population (\$34,552). Chart 19.

**Chart 19 – Average Before-tax Income by Gender**



Source: Statistics Canada, Census of population, 2006

<sup>18</sup> Refers to 2005 before-tax annual income levels as reported in the 2006 Census

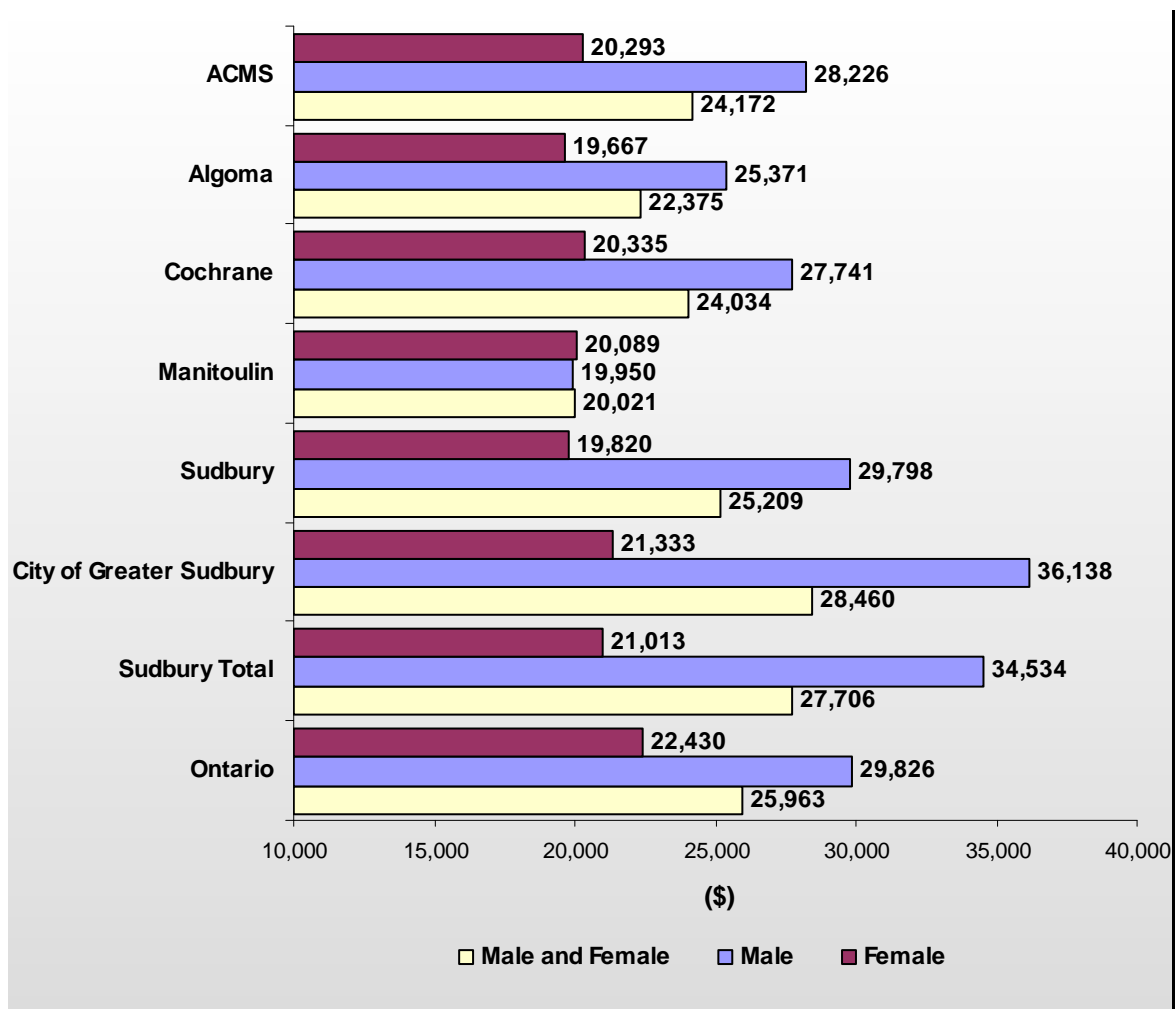
### ***Income disparity among Aboriginal groups***

Within the different Aboriginal groups, income levels varied significantly. First Nations people earned an average income of \$21,378—about 25% less than people in the Métis community (\$27,775). First Nations and Métis people earned less than the non-Aboriginal population. Chart 19.

### ***Gender wage gap is smaller for First Nations people***

Aboriginal men in ACMS had an average income in 2005 that was \$7,933 higher than for women. First Nations people had less of a gender-based income gap (\$4,440) than did either Métis people (\$11,829) or the non-Aboriginal population (\$17,649). The only exception to this was in Manitoulin where women reported slightly higher average incomes than men. Charts 19 and 20.

**Chart 20 – Average Before-tax Income by Location for Aboriginal Population**



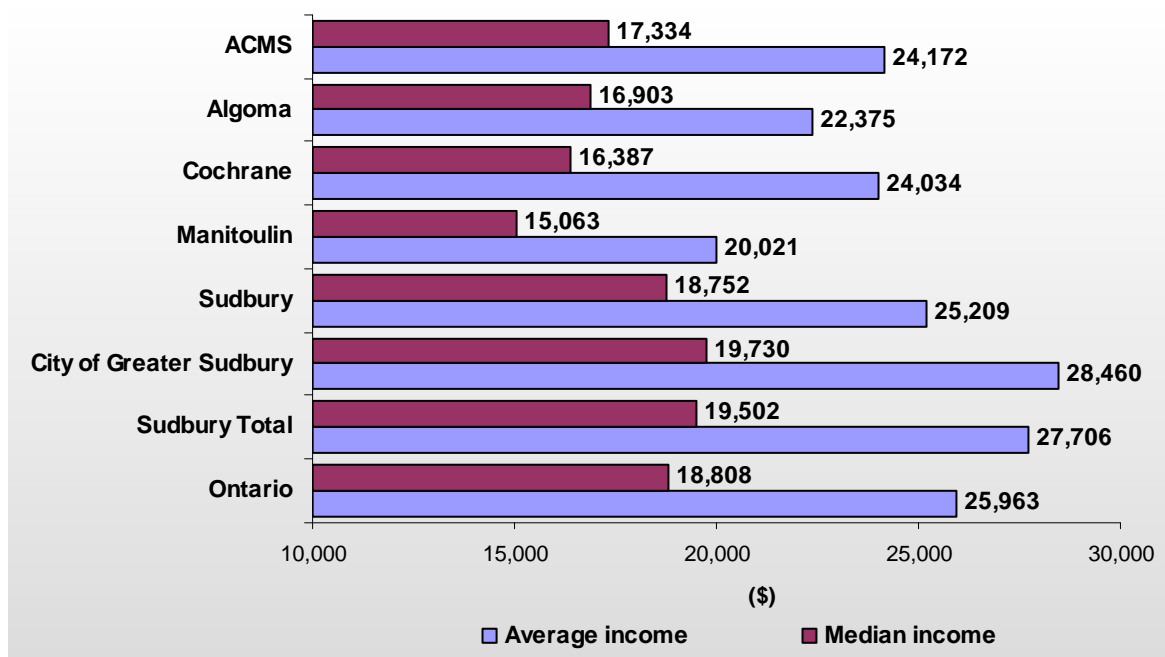
Source: Statistics Canada, Census of population, 2006

### ***Regional variation in average incomes***

The ACMS region is large, accounting for about one-quarter of the total land area in Ontario so it's not surprising to find a wide range of average incomes across this area. In 2005, the average income for Aboriginal people in ACMS ranged from \$20,021 in

Manitoulin to \$28,460 for people living in the City of Greater Sudbury. Aboriginal people in Greater Sudbury had an average income nearly \$2,500 higher than the average for Aboriginal people in Ontario overall and nearly \$4,300 higher than the ACMS average for Aboriginal people. Chart 20.

**Chart 21 – Average and Median Before-tax Income for Aboriginal Population**



Source: Statistics Canada, Census of population, 2006

***ACMS has lower average and median incomes compared to Ontario***

In 2005, Aboriginal people in ACMS had average and median<sup>19</sup> incomes of \$24,172 and \$17,334 while Ontario had \$25,963 and \$18,808. Greater Sudbury was the only community in which average and median incomes were higher for Aboriginal peoples than incomes across Ontario. Chart 21.

<sup>19</sup> Median income represents the middle point, meaning one half of individuals have incomes above this level and one half have incomes below. The median is a distribution measure that is less affected by the presence of extreme values than the average

## Low-Income

The next section looks at Aboriginal people<sup>20</sup> living below the low-income cut-off from three perspectives—all Aboriginal people, those who are youngest and those who are oldest.

The low-income cut-off is one way of expressing a degree of poverty for individuals or families. The cut-off measures which families or unattached individuals spend 20% more on average on food, shelter and clothing than comparable families or individuals. The cut-off in income levels is differentiated by family size and whether people live in urban or rural communities.

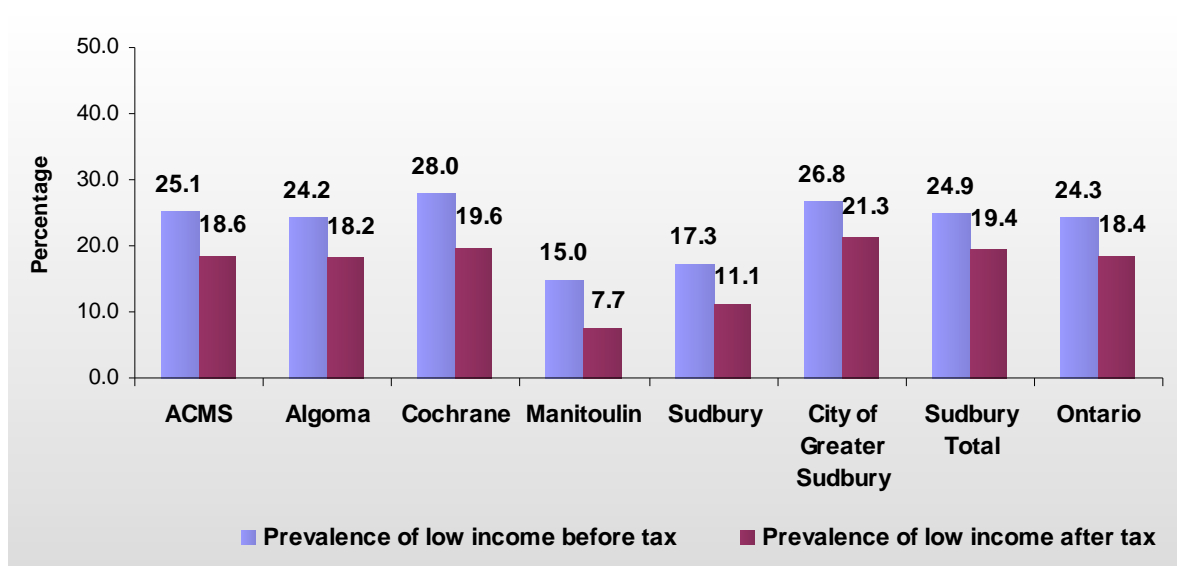
The information in the charts below is provided in two forms, before and after tax. After-tax income better reflects what families have available to spend and is more equally distributed than before-tax income since those with higher incomes pay taxes at a higher rate.

### ***Living below the low-income cut-off is greater among the Aboriginal community***

In 2005, while 14.7%<sup>21</sup> of the total population in Ontario lived below the low-income cut-off, in the Aboriginal community, the proportion was 24.3%<sup>22</sup>.

In ACMS overall, one in four people lived below the cut-off (25.1%), slightly higher than the provincial figure (24.3%) for all Aboriginal people. Chart 22.

**Chart 22 – Prevalence of Low-Income for Aboriginal Population by Location**



**Source:** Statistics Canada, Census of population, 2006

<sup>20</sup> Persons in private households

<sup>21</sup> Source: Statistics Canada catalogue no. 97-563-XCB2006028. Persons in private households and before-tax income

<sup>22</sup> Before-tax income and persons in private households

## Children under six

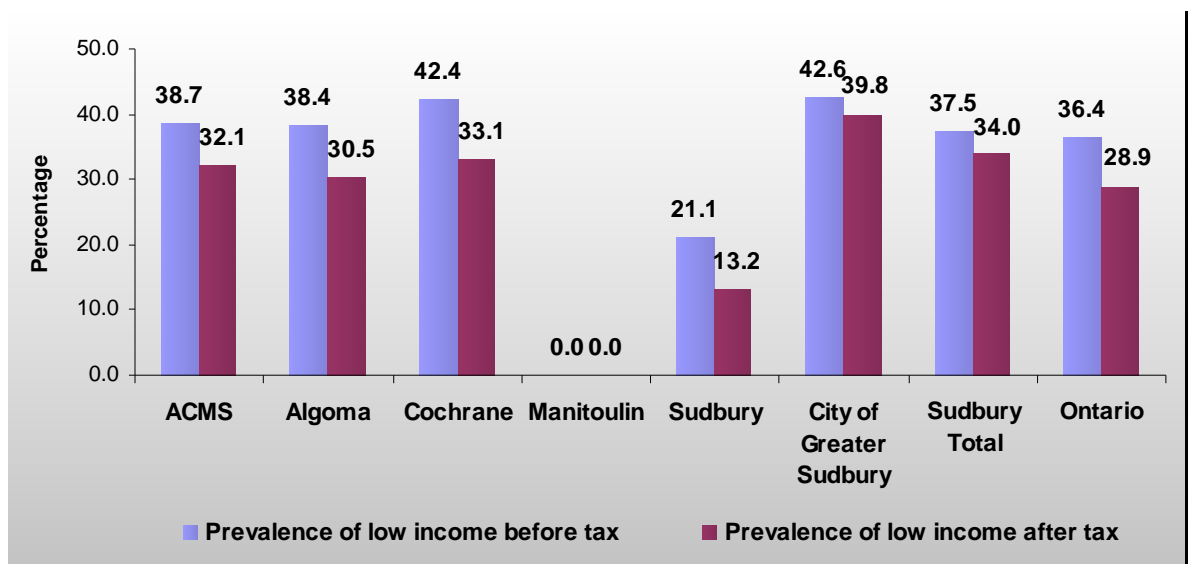
In 2005 in Ontario, 36.4% of Aboriginal children under six years of age lived below the low-income<sup>23</sup> cut-off. In contrast, 19.3% of all children under six years in the Ontario population were considered low-income.

### ***Nearly four in ten Aboriginal children under six in ACMS live in low-income***

In ACMS, the proportion of Aboriginal children living below the low-income cut-off was higher than the provincial figure (38.7% compared to 36.4%).

Aboriginal children in Greater Sudbury and Cochrane had the highest incident of living in low-income (42.6% and 42.4% respectively) among the areas charted. Chart 23.

**Chart 23 – Prevalence of Low-Income for Aboriginal Children Under Six Years**



Source: Statistics Canada, Census of population, 2006

<sup>23</sup> As measured using Statistics Canada's Low Income Cut-Offs before-tax

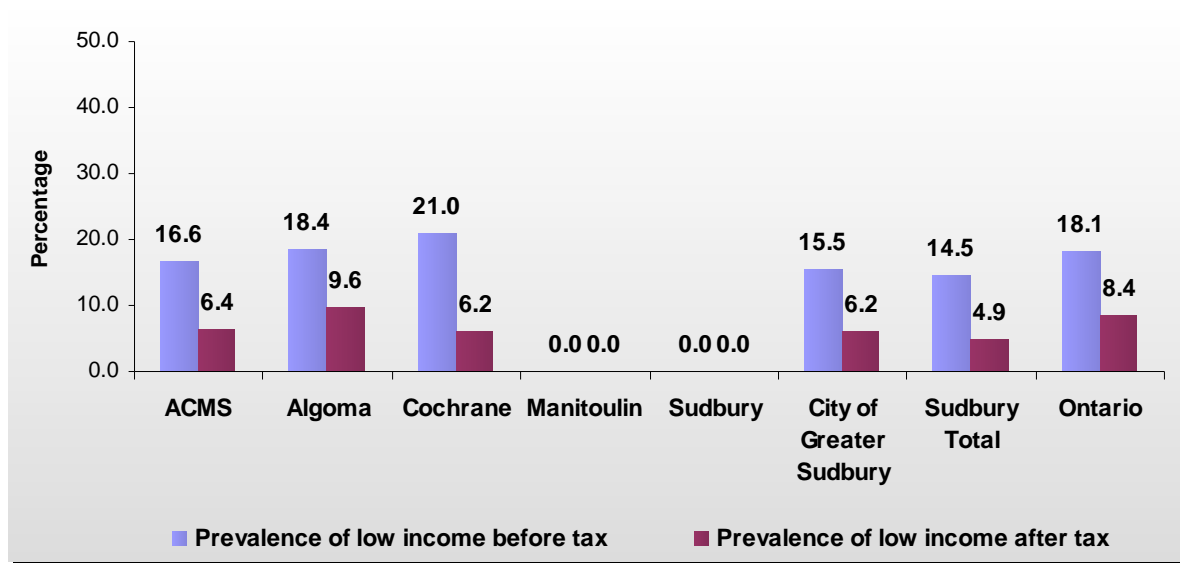
## Seniors 65 years and over

### *One in six Aboriginal seniors in ACMS live below the low-income cut-off*

In 2005, one in six (16.6%) of Aboriginal seniors in ACMS were living below the low-income cut-off<sup>24</sup>, slightly less than Aboriginal seniors for all of Ontario (18.1%)

The incidence of living below the cut-off ranged from 21.0% in Cochrane to 15.5% in the City of Greater Sudbury. Chart 24.

**Chart 24 – Prevalence of Low-Income for Aboriginal Seniors (65 Years and Over)**



Source: Statistics Canada, Census of population, 2006

<sup>24</sup> As measured using Statistics Canada's Low Income Cut-Offs before-tax

## First Nation Communities in ACMS

Name of First Nation	Tribal Council / Political Organization	Treaty
<b>Algoma District</b>		
Batchewana First Nation	North Shore Tribal Council / Association of Iroquois and Allied Indians	Robinson-Huron Treaty
Garden River First Nation	North Shore Tribal Council / Anishinabek Nation - Union of Ontario Indians (UOI)	Robinson-Huron Treaty
Michipicoten First Nation	Unaffiliated / Anishinabek Nation - Union of Ontario Indians (UOI)	Robinson-Superior Treaty
Missanabie Cree - Michipicoten First Nation	Mushkegowuk Council / Nishnawbe Aski Nation - NAN	Treaty 9
Mississauga First Nation	North Shore Tribal Council / Anishinabek Nation - Union of Ontario Indians (UOI)	Robinson-Huron Treaty
Sagamok Anishnawbek First Nation	North Shore Tribal Council / Anishinabek Nation - Union of Ontario Indians (UOI)	Robinson-Huron Treaty
Serpent River First Nation	North Shore Tribal Council / Anishinabek Nation - Union of Ontario Indians (UOI)	Robinson-Huron Treaty
Thessalon First Nation	North Shore Tribal Council / Anishinabek Nation - Union of Ontario Indians (UOI)	Robinson-Huron Treaty
<b>Cochrane District</b>		
Albany (Fort Albany) First Nation and Kashechewan First Nation	Mushkegowuk Council / Nishnawbe Aski Nation - NAN	Treaty 9
Constance Lake First Nation	Matawa First Nations / Nishnawbe Aski Nation - NAN	Treaty 9
Flying Post First Nation	Independent / Nishnawbe Aski Nation - NAN	Treaty 9
Moose Cree First Nation	Mushkegowuk Council / Nishnawbe Aski Nation - NAN	Treaty 9
Taykwa Tagamou Nation	Mushkegowuk Council / Nishnawbe Aski Nation - NAN	Treaty 9
Wahgoshig First Nation	Wabun Tribal Council / Nishnawbe Aski Nation - NAN	Treaty 9
<b>Manitoulin District</b>		
Aundeck-Omni-Kaning First Nation	United Chiefs & Councils of Manitoulin Island / Anishinabek Nation - Union of Ontario Indians (UOI)	Manitoulin Island Treaty
M'Chigeeng First Nation	United Chiefs & Councils of Manitoulin Island / Anishinabek Nation - Union of Ontario Indians (UOI)	Manitoulin Island Treaty

<b>Name of First Nation</b>	<b>Tribal Council / Political Organization</b>	<b>Treaty</b>
Sheguiandah First Nation	United Chiefs & Councils of Manitoulin Island / Anishinabek Nation - Union of Ontario Indians (UOI)	Manitoulin Island Treaty
Sheshegwaning First Nation	United Chiefs & Councils of Manitoulin Island / Anishinabek Nation - Union of Ontario Indians (UOI)	Manitoulin Island Treaty
Whitefish River First Nation	United Chiefs & Councils of Manitoulin Island / Anishinabek Nation - Union of Ontario Indians (UOI)	Robinson-Huron Treaty
Wikwemikong First Nation	Unaffiliated / Anishinabek Nation - Union of Ontario Indians (UOI)	Manitoulin Island Treaty
Zhiibaahaasing First Nation	United Chiefs & Councils of Manitoulin Island / Anishinabek Nation - Union of Ontario Indians (UOI)	Manitoulin Island Treaty
<b>Sudbury District</b>		
Brunswick House First Nation	Wabun Tribal Council / Nishnawbe Aski Nation - NAN	Treaty 9
Chapleau Cree First Nation	Mushkegowuk Council / Nishnawbe Aski Nation - NAN	Treaty 9
Chapleau Ojibway First Nation	Wabun Tribal Council / Nishnawbe Aski Nation - NAN	Treaty 9
Mattagami First Nation	Wabun Tribal Council / Nishnawbe Aski Nation - NAN	Treaty 9
Wahnapitae First Nation	Waabnoong Bemjiwang Association of First Nations / Anishinabek Nation - Union of Ontario Indians (UOI)	Robinson-Huron Treaty
Whitefish Lake First Nation	North Shore Tribal Council / Anishinabek Nation - Union of Ontario Indians (UOI)	Robinson-Huron Treaty



## Geographical Context for ACMS

Algoma, Cochrane, Manitoulin, and Sudbury includes the Census Divisions (CD) of Algoma District, Cochrane District, Manitoulin District and Sudbury District plus the City of Greater Sudbury. The data presented in this report is based on Statistics Canada Census of Population and uses the Standard Geographic Areas from the Census.

Some First Nations reserves and settlements did not participate in the Census as enumeration was not permitted, or it was interrupted before completion. In 2006, there were 22 incompletely enumerated First Nations reserves in Canada, compared to 30 in 2001 and 77 in 1996.

Most of the people living on incompletely enumerated First Nations reserves and settlements have registered status. Consequently, the impact of incomplete enumeration will be greatest on data for First Nations people registered under the *Indian Act*.

This area contained 32 First Nations reserves or settlements. Factory Island 1 was the only reserve within ACMS that was incompletely enumerated in 2006.

There were eight municipalities with zero (0) population and they will not be included in any charts or tables.

The land area of this region was 236,457.4 square kilometres, around 26% of the land area in Ontario. Cochrane accounted for 60% of the land area in ACMS while Algoma covered 20%. Greater Sudbury accounted for the smallest portion, at only 1.4% of the land area in ACMS.

**Table 4 – Land Area in Square Kilometres – 2006**[Error! Not a valid link.](#) **Source:** Statistics Canada, Census of population, 2006

## Methodology and Data Sources

Throughout this report we refer to Aboriginal people. This information is based on what Statistics Canada refers to as the Aboriginal identity population, which refers to those people who report identifying with at least one Aboriginal group, that is, North American Indian, Métis or Inuit, and/or those who reported being a Treaty Indian or a Registered Indian, as defined by the *Indian Act of Canada*, and/or those who reported they were members of an Indian band or First Nation.

Statistics Canada, Census of population, 2001 and 2006.

## Concepts and Definitions

Additional concepts and more detailed definitions may be found in the [Statistics Canada Census Dictionary](#)

### **Aboriginal ancestry**

Refers to those persons who reported at least one Aboriginal ancestry including First Nations, Métis or Inuit to the ethnic origin question. 'Ethnic origin' refers to the ethnic or cultural origins of the respondent's ancestors.

### **Aboriginal identity**

Refers to those persons who reported identifying with at least one Aboriginal group, that is, First Nations, Métis or Inuit, and/or those who reported being a Treaty or a Registered First Nations person, as defined by the *Indian Act* of Canada, and/or those who reported they were members of a First Nation. Multiple responses are permitted.

### **After-tax income**

Refers to total income minus federal, provincial and territorial income taxes paid for calendar year 2005. After-tax income is the total income from all sources minus income tax, which better reflects what families have available to spend. After-tax income is also more equally distributed than before-tax income since those with higher incomes pay taxes at a higher rate. Total income refers to income from all sources, including employment income, income from government programs, pension income, investment income and any other money income. Federal, provincial and territorial taxes paid refer to taxes on income, after taking into account exemptions, deductions, non-refundable tax credits and the Quebec abatement. These taxes are obtained from the income tax files for persons who allowed access to their income tax data and from direct responses on the questionnaire for others.

### **Average Income**

Average income of individuals refers to the weighted mean total income of individuals 15 years of age and over who reported income for 2005. Average income is calculated from unrounded data by dividing the aggregate income of a specified group

### **Census division (CD)**

Census division (CD) is the general term for provincially legislated areas (such as county and regional district) or their equivalents. Census divisions are intermediate geographic areas between the province/territory level and the municipality (census subdivision).

### **Census metropolitan area (CMA) and census agglomeration (CA)**

Area consisting of one or more neighbouring municipalities situated around a major urban core. A census metropolitan area must have a total population of at least 100,000 of which 50,000 or more live in the urban core. A census agglomeration must have an urban core population of at least 10,000. To be included in the CMA or CA, other adjacent municipalities must have a high degree of integration with the central urban area, as measured by commuting flows derived from census place of work data.

### **Census subdivision (CSD)**

Census subdivision (CSD) is the general term for provincially legislated areas (such as city, town, and township) or their equivalents for statistical reporting purposes (e.g. a

reserve or an unorganized territory). Census subdivisions are the lower geographic areas and are usually part of a Census Division. These areas may also be referred to as municipality, community, and area of residence.

### **Employment rate**

Refers to the number of persons employed in the week (Sunday to Saturday) prior to Census Day (May 16, 2006), expressed as a percentage of the total population 15 years of age and over.

$$\text{Employment rate} = \frac{\text{Employed}}{\text{Population 15 years and over (excluding institutional residents)}} \times 100$$

The employment rate for a particular group (age, sex, marital status, geographic area, etc.) is the number of employed persons in that group, expressed as a percentage of the population 15 years of age and over, in that group.

### **First Nation (Government)**

A First Nation is a group of people for whose collective use and benefit lands have been set apart or money is held by the Crown, or declared to be a First Nation for the purposes of the Indian Act. Each First Nation has its own governing council, usually consisting of one chief and several councillors. Community members choose the chief and councillors by election, or sometimes through custom. The members of a First Nation generally share common values, traditions and practices rooted in their ancestral heritage. (Definition from INAC—Indian and Northern Affairs Canada)

### **First Nations People**

First Nations people are one of the three Aboriginal groups recognized in the Canadian Constitution. This term is used to describe the group of all Aboriginal peoples who are not Inuit or Métis. A First Nations member is an individual who is recognized as being a member of a First Nation as defined either by the First Nation itself or the *Indian Act*.

### **Home Language**

Refers to the language spoken most often or on a regular basis at home by the individual at the time of the census.

### **Highest certificate, diploma or degree**

Information indicating the person's most advanced certificate, diploma or degree. This is a derived variable obtained from the educational qualifications questions, which asked for all certificates, diplomas and degrees to be reported. There is an implied hierarchy in this variable (secondary school graduation, registered apprenticeship and trades, college, university) which is loosely tied to the 'in-class' duration of the various types of education. However, at the detailed level a registered apprenticeship graduate may not have completed a secondary school certificate or diploma, nor does an individual with a master's degree necessarily have a certificate or diploma above the bachelor's degree level. Therefore, although the sequence is more or less hierarchical, it is a general rather than an absolute gradient measure of academic achievement.

**Income – collection methodology in 2006**

For the first time in 2006, the Census offered respondents the option to have Statistics Canada access their tax records rather than complete the census income questions. 82.4% of all respondents completing the census long form chose the tax option. There are some differences between tax data and self-reported income data—the former are generally more precise and small amounts are better reported. Additionally, the use of tax data means that the census can produce estimates of after-tax income.

**Income status after-tax**

Refers to the position of an economic family or persons not in economic families 15 years of age and over in relation to Statistics Canada's low-income after-tax cut-offs.

**Income status before-tax**

Refers to the position of an economic family or a person 15 years of age and over not in an economic family in relation to Statistics Canada's low-income before-tax cut-offs.

**Indian Act**

The Canadian federal legislation first passed in 1876 that sets out certain federal government obligations, and regulates the management of First Nations reserve lands. The act has been amended several times, most recently in 2000.

**Inuit**

"Inuit" means "people" in Inuktitut, the language of Inuit people. Most Inuit people live in the Northwest Territories, Nunavut, Northern Quebec and Labrador.

**Labour force**

Refers to persons who were either employed or unemployed during the week (Sunday to Saturday) prior to Census Day (May 16, 2006). Includes only population 15 years of age and over, excluding institutional residents.

**Low-Income (Incidence of)**

The incidence of low-income is the proportion or percentage of economic families or unattached individuals who spend 20% more than average on food, shelter and clothing in a given classification below the low-income cut-offs. These incidence rates are calculated from unrounded estimates of economic families and unattached individuals 15 years of age and over.

**Low-Income Cut-offs (LICOs)**

Income levels at which families or unattached individuals spend 20% more than average on food, shelter and clothing. Measures of low-income known as low-income cut-offs (LICOs) were first introduced in Canada in 1968 based on 1961 Census income data and 1959 family expenditure patterns. At that time, expenditure patterns indicated that Canadian families spent about 50% of their total income on food, shelter and clothing. It was arbitrarily estimated that families spending 70% or more of their income (20 percentage points more than the average) on these basic necessities would be in straitened circumstances. With this assumption, low-income cut-off points were set for five different sizes of families.

Subsequent to these initial cut-offs, revised low-income cut-offs were established based on national family expenditure data from 1969, 1978, 1986 and 1992. These data

indicated that Canadian families spent, on average, 42% in 1969, 38.5% in 1978, 36.2% in 1986 and 34.7% in 1992 of their total income on basic necessities. Since 1992, data from the expenditure survey have indicated that this proportion has remained fairly stable. By adding the original difference of 20 percentage points to the basic level of expenditure on necessities, new low-income cut-offs were set at income levels differentiated by family size and degree of urbanization. Since 1992, these cut-offs have been updated yearly by changes in the consumer price index. Below is the 2005 matrix of low-income cut-offs:

Low-income before-tax cut-offs (1992 base) for economic families and persons not in economic families, 2005

Family size	Size of Area of Residence				
	Rural (farm and non-farm)	Small urban regions	30,000 to 99,999	100,000 to 499,999	500,000 or more
1	14,303	16,273	17,784	17,895	20,778
2	17,807	20,257	22,139	22,276	25,867
3	21,891	24,904	27,217	27,386	31,801
4	26,579	30,238	33,046	33,251	38,610
5	30,145	34,295	37,480	37,711	43,791
6	33,999	38,679	42,271	42,533	49,389
7+	37,853	43,063	47,063	47,354	54,987

Source: Statistics Canada. Income Research Paper Series, *Low-Income Cut-offs for 2006 and Low-Income Measures for 2005*. Statistics Canada Catalogue no. 75F0002MIE, no. 004.

### Major Field of study

Main subject area of the person's highest certificate, diploma or degree after high school. The major field of study classification structure consists of 10 broad or major categories: educational, recreational and counselling services; fine and applied arts; humanities and related fields; social sciences and related fields; commerce, management and business administration; agricultural, biological, nutritional, and food sciences; engineering and applied sciences; applied science technologies and trades; health professions and related technologies; and mathematics, computer and physical sciences.

### Median Income

The median income of a specified group of income recipients is that amount which divides their income size distribution into two halves, i.e. the incomes of the first half of individuals are below the median, while those of the second half are above the median. Median income is calculated from the unrounded number of individuals (e.g. men 45 to 54 years of age) with income in that group.

### Métis

People of mixed First Nations and European ancestry who identify themselves as Métis people, as distinct from First Nations people, Inuit or non-Aboriginal people. The Métis have a unique culture that draws on their diverse ancestral origins, such as Scottish, French, Ojibway and Cree.

**Mother tongue**

Refers to the first language learned at home in childhood and still understood by the individual at the time of the census.

**Non- Registered or Non-Status persons**

A non-status person is one who identifies as First Nation but is not registered under the *Indian Act*.

**Proportion**

A proportion refers to how many responses fall into a given response category in relation to the total responses. It is calculated by dividing the frequency of the response category by the total number of responses to the question.

**Registered or Status persons**

A Status or Registered person is one who identifies as First Nation and is registered under the *Indian Act*. The act sets out the requirements for determining who has status.

**Reserve**

A reserve is a tract of federally owned land with specific boundaries that is set apart for the use and benefit of a First Nation group and that is governed by Indian and Northern Affairs Canada (INAC).

**Rural area**

Rural areas include all territory lying outside urban areas. Taken together, urban and rural areas cover all of Canada.

Rural population includes all population living in the rural fringes of census metropolitan areas (CMAs) and census agglomerations (CAs), as well as population living in rural areas outside CMAs and CAs.

**Status person**

See Registered Status.

**Treaty Indian**

A Status or Registered person who belongs to a First Nation that signed a treaty with the Crown.

**Tribal Council**

A Tribal Council is an organization established by a number of First Nations with common interests who voluntarily join together to provide advisory program and/or services to Member First Nations. (Definition from INAC—Indian and Northern Affairs Canada)

**Unemployment rate**

Refers to the unemployed expressed as a percentage of the labour force in the week (Sunday to Saturday) prior to Census Day (May 16, 2006).

$$\text{Unemployment rate} = \frac{\text{Unemployed}}{\text{Labour force}} \times 100$$

The unemployment rate for a particular group (age, sex, marital status, geographic area, etc.) is the unemployed in that group, expressed as a percentage of the labour force in that group, in the week prior to enumeration.

**Urban area**

An urban area has a minimum population concentration of 1,000 persons and a population density of at least 400 persons per square kilometre, based on the current census population count. All territory outside urban areas is classified as rural. Taken together, urban and rural areas cover all of Canada.