



TECHNICAL REPORT

JAMES BAY CREE GUN SURVEY

Cree Trappers' Association

July 1998

TR1998-9e

UNEDITED

**Canadian Firearms Centre/
Centre canadien des armes à feu**

**Policy Sector/
Secteur des politiques**

TECHNICAL REPORT

JAMES BAY CREE GUN SURVEY

Cree Trappers' Association

July 1998

TR1998-9e

UNEDITED

*The present study was funded by the Canadian Firearms Centre,
Department of Justice Canada. The views expressed herein are
solely those of the author and do not necessarily
represent the views of the Department of Justice Canada*

For more information on firearms research and statistics please visit our World Wide Web site at
- http://www.cfc-ccaf.gc.ca/Research/firea_research.htm.

The Cree Trappers' Association may be contacted by mail or telephone below:

P.O. Box 59, Eastmain (Québec) J0M 1W0
Tel: (819) 997-2165 Fax: (819) 997-2168

TABLE OF CONTENTS

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT.....	VII
<u>EXECUTIVE SUMMARY</u>	IX
<u>1.0 INTRODUCTION</u>	1
1.1 Background	1
1.2 The Cree Gun Survey.....	1
1.3 Survey Design Requirements	2
1.4 Sample Design.....	2
1.5 Questionnaire Design and Testing	3
1.6 Interviewer Training.....	3
1.7 Data Collection and Data Editing.....	4
1.8 Estimation of Totals	4
1.9 Estimation of Sampling Error	4
1.10 Non-Sampling Error.....	5
<u>2.0 THE CREES OF EAST JAMES BAY</u>	7
<u>3.0 THE VOLUME OF GUNS OWNED</u>	10
3.1 Guns Owned by the Crees	10
3.2 Guns Owned by Cree Households.....	10
3.3 Guns Owned by Individuals	11
3.4 Reasons for Owning Guns.....	13
<u>4.0 GUN TRANSACTIONS</u>	14
4.1 Borrowing Guns	14
4.2 Transferring Guns.....	15
<u>5.0 FIREARM ACQUISITION CERTIFICATES AND SAFETY COURSE CERTIFICATES</u>	16
<u>6.0 GUN-RELATED SAFETY</u>	17
<u>7.0 OTHER GUN INFORMATION</u>	18
7.1 Gun Repairs.....	18
7.2 Guns Lost, Destroyed or Stolen.....	18

APPENDICES

Appendix I THE CREE GUN SURVEY DATA SHEET AND INTERVIEW SCHEDULE SELECTED DETAILED TABLES, WEIGHTS, SAMPLE CHARACTERISTICS.....	21
Appendix II SELECTED DETAILED TABLES.....	35
Appendix III WEIGHTS, SAMPLE CHARACTERISTICS AND ESTIMATES	45

LIST OF TABLES

Table A	Distribution of Cree Population, by Age, 1997.....	7
Table B	Distribution of Resident Cree Population, by Band and Location, 1997.....	8
Table C	Distribution of Cree Houses and Ratio of Occupants to Houses, By Community, 1998.....	9
Table D	Distribution of Guns Owned by the Crees as a Group, by Type of Gun, 1998.....	10
Table E	Distribution of Guns Owned by Crees as a Group, by Type of Ownership, 1998	10
Table F	Distribution of Cree Households by Number of Guns Owned, 1998	11
Table G	Distribution of individual Crees who own at least one gun, by average number of guns owned, by age and gender, 1998.....	12
Table H	Distribution of Individual Crees, by the Number of Guns they Own, 1998	12
Table I	Reasons for Crees Owning a Gun, 1998 (Gun Owners Only).....	13
Table J	Distribution of Individuals Borrowing One or More Guns during the Previous Year, by Type of Gun, by Gun-owning	

	Status of Borrower	14
Table K	Distribution of Individuals Involved in Gun Transfers during the Previous Twelve Months, by Type of Gun	15
Table L	Distribution of Valid Firearm Acquisition Certificate (FAC) and Canadian Firearm Safety Course Certificate (CFSCC) Status, 1998 (Gun Owners Years of Age and Over Only)	16
Table M	Distribution of Cree Households Owning at least One Gun by Presence of a Locker and (One or More) Trigger Locks, by Number of Guns Owned, 1998.....	17
Table N	Distribution of Cree Households, by Number of Guns Repaired During Previous Twelve Months	18
Table O	Distribution of Cree Households, by Number of Guns Lost, Destroyed, or Stolen During the Previous Twelve Months.....	19

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The author of this report wishes to acknowledge the contribution of the late Mukund Nargundkar. As well, the contribution of Jean Dumais of the Statistical Consultation Group, Social Survey Methods Division, Statistics Canada, to the methodological aspects of this survey are hereby acknowledged.

Executive Summary

Study Background

The Department of Justice Canada commissioned the Cree Trappers' Association to undertake a survey of the East James Bay Cree in Eeyou Istchee, (Québec). The survey focused on developing reliable estimates of the number of firearms and Cree gun owners in the East James Bay Cree communities. The study was also designed to estimate the number of gun transactions among the Crees and holders of valid Firearm Acquisition Certificate (FAC) and Canadian Firearms Safety Course Certificate (CFSCC). Safety practices regarding gun lockers and/or trigger locks were also surveyed.

The study was conducted between January and June, 1998. The study randomly selected four of the nine East James Bay Cree communities according to location (coastal and inland) and community size (small and large). The four communities selected for the survey were Chisasibi, Whapmagoostui, Ouje-Bougoumou, and Waswanipi, which represent approximately 47% of the total East James Bay Cree population. In total, 468 households were visited by six trained local interviewers from each of the communities; the interviews were conducted in the local Cree language.

It is important to point out that the findings reported below are population estimates based on the survey results. The survey was designed to permit reliable estimates of the number of guns and owners in the East James Bay Cree communities overall – generalizations to other Aboriginal communities should not be made. Section 1.0 of the report describes in detail the survey methodology.

Study Highlights

The following points highlight the findings.

- The vast majority of Cree households (88%) contain one or more guns, representing approximately 2,100 Cree households. Cree gun owning households contain on average roughly 6.1 guns and 1.8 gun owners.
- Overall, approximately 3,916 (41%) individuals of the East James Bay Cree own a total of 12,704 firearms. The average number of guns owned by Cree gun owners is approximately 3.1. The majority of gun owners are adult males, who also own the highest average number of firearms (3.8). In comparison, female gun owners own an average of 1.3 firearms.

- Not surprisingly, the most common type of firearm owned by the Crees is the rifle/.22 (52.8%) and shotgun (46.8%); the prevalence of handgun ownership is extremely low (0.4%). The vast majority of these guns are in working order (98%).
- Most of these firearms are *individually owned* (95.7%); 2.7% are *family owned* and 1.6% are *jointly owned*.
- For the Crees, hunting is a universal reason for owning a gun. Almost 75% of gun owners own firearms for hunting only. In one-fifth (21.8%) of cases, owning a gun serves the additional purpose of passing guns down as a legacy. Neither target practice nor gun collecting is an important additional reason to own guns.
- The incidence of individuals borrowing guns over a twelve month period is quite low among Crees who own a gun; and, very low among those who do not. Guns borrowed were overwhelmingly long guns.
- Very few Crees were involved in gun transfers during the preceding twelve months. Guns transferred were exclusively long guns. Transfers are defined as guns that were *bought or sold, received or given as a gift, inherited, or traded*.
- Two-fifths (40.0%) of adult Cree gun owners hold both a valid Firearm Acquisition Certificate (FAC) and have successfully completed the Canadian Firearms Safety Course. A little over one-third (36.3%) has neither. Seventeen percent hold a Canadian Firearms Safety Course Certificate (CFSCC) only.
- Twelve percent of Cree gun owning households contain both a gun locker and one or more safety locks. Almost one-third (31%) has either one or the other. Neither type of safety device is present in over half the Cree gun owning households. It is important to note that gun lockers and safety locks are not the only means to safely store firearms. Removal of gun bolts, use of cable locks, and gun closets or locked rooms can also provide safe gun storage.

1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background

Sample surveys of firearm ownership in Canada undertaken during the past several years suggest that approximately 24% of Canadian households possess at least one firearm.¹ The 1991 Angus Reid Survey, a study which yielded provincial as well as national estimates, suggested that this percentage is not uniformly distributed across provinces and territories. That survey reported a lower than average level of gun ownership for Ontario (15%); a somewhat higher than average level for Alberta and Saskatchewan (35-39%); and, a disproportionately higher percentage (67%) in the case of the Yukon Territory and the Northwest Territories.

The Angus Reid Survey also estimated that among households possessing at least one firearm, the average number of firearms per household was between two and three. This number also varies across jurisdictions, with, again, higher numbers reported in Saskatchewan, the Yukon Territory and the Northwest Territories.²

These survey data suggest that in the more northern and remote parts of the country, including northern Aboriginal communities, the volume of firearm ownership may be much higher than that prevailing in communities to the south. Up to now, however, empirical information addressing this hypothesis was not available.

1.2 The Cree Gun Survey

The Cree Gun Survey was carried out by the Cree Trappers' Association during the Spring of 1998, under contract to the Department of Justice. Technical assistance was provided by the Firearms Research Unit of the Canadian Firearms Centre. The survey results were to make possible:

1. an estimate of the number of guns currently held by the Crees of East James Bay;
2. an estimate of the volume of gun transactions taking place among the Crees during a twelve month period;
3. an estimate of the number of Cree gun owners who hold a valid Firearms Acquisition Certificate (FAC) and a Canadian Firearms Safety Course Certificate (CFSCC);
4. an estimate of the number of Cree houses containing either a gun locker and/or one or more trigger locks; and,

¹ Research Note: Estimated Number of Firearms, Owners and Households with Firearms in Canada. Department of Justice, Canada, June 1998.

² Firearm Ownership in Canada. Angus Reid Group Inc. Department of Justice, Canada, March 1991.

5. other gun-related information.

In order to achieve these objectives, the survey collected a variety of information including data on gun ownership, gun transactions, FACs and CFSCCs, gun-related safety and gun repairs. Section 2.0 of this report provides a selective socio-demographic overview of the Cree population. Section 3.0 then presents information on the number of guns owned by the Crees at three different levels: by all Crees, by Cree households and by individual Crees. The reasons why Crees own guns are also explored here. Section 4.0 deals with the volume of gun transactions which took place during a twelve-month period. In Section 5.0, details on the prevalence of valid FACs and CFSCCs among Cree gun-owners are provided. Section 6.0 contains data on the frequency with which certain kinds of safety-oriented equipment can be found in Cree households while Section 7.0 describes some miscellaneous gun-related information.

1.3 Survey Design Requirements

The survey was to embrace the entire resident Cree population. It was to be capable of producing accurate estimates of totals and percentages for the Cree population as a whole, and of allowing comparison between two community locations, as well as between age and gender groups. Other breakdowns of interest included type of gun and type of gun ownership.

1.4 Sample Design

The sampling frame already existed in the lists of band members provided by the band councils and in the maps and lists of houses produced by housing authorities.

The sample size was set at not fewer than 350 houses. This number was required to ensure that the estimated sampling error, as measured by the coefficient of variation, would be less than 16% for the key estimates of population values, which themselves could be as low as $p=0.2$. A sample of this size would also, for the most part, satisfy the estimation requirements for the subsequent comparisons planned. Non-response was not expected to be a problem.

The sampling strategy was based on the need to include as few communities as possible in the sample owing to their considerable distance from one another and the resultant high costs of interviewer training and data collection. The sampling plan consisted, therefore, of two stages. First, the nine communities were stratified by two characteristics considered related to the ownership and use of guns: community location (coastal and inland) and community size (over and under 1,000). This created four strata.

In the second stage, one community was randomly selected from each of the four strata and the sample was then allocated among the four communities selected. In the case of the two small communities, all households were included. For the two large communities, a systematic sample using a 1:2 and a 1:4 sampling ratio, respectively, was employed.

At the end of the process, the sample was composed of 137 and 132 houses, respectively, from the two small communities and 114 and 146 houses, respectively, from the two large communities, for a total of 529 houses.

1.5 Questionnaire Design and Testing

The survey questionnaire – the Cree Survey Data Sheet and Interview Schedule – was designed to capture information at the house level (e.g. gun lockers, trigger locks and house guns) and at the level of the individual household member (e.g. number of guns owned, reasons for owning guns, gun transactions and FAC status). The interview process was designed to take a census of the members of each of the households selected. Information was to be provided on their behalf by the principal respondent (usually, though not invariably, the head of the primary family unit), assisted as necessary by other household members.

Early draft iterations of the questionnaire were reviewed with respect to interview process, subject content and question wording, by personnel from both the Cree Trappers' Association and the Canadian Firearms Centre. The final draft version was then pre-tested in Eastmain, one of the Cree communities not selected for inclusion in the sample. The pre-test resulted in some changes being made to the wording of questions and in greater emphasis being placed on the reference periods associated with certain questions.

1.6 Interviewer Training

Six interviewers were recruited - one from each of the two small communities and two from each of the large communities. Interviewers assembled in Eastmain and training was carried out in conjunction with the questionnaire pre-test. Interviewers were trained in English with simultaneous translation into Cree using the final version of the data sheet and the interviewers' manual, which contained the interview schedule. The actual interviews were to be conducted orally in the Cree language. Interviewers were required, therefore, to translate the instructions contained in the interview schedule and the contents of the survey data sheet into Cree. Since Cree dialects differ to some extent from one Cree community to the next, each interviewer was asked to run through his or her particular translation of the column headings and sub-headings on the data sheet. Difficulties with particular terms were then discussed and resolved among the group.

1.7 Data Collection and Data Editing

The interviews were conducted in person by the six interviewers during the months of March, April, May and June 1998. The extended data collection period was made necessary by the arrival of the annual Spring goose hunt in March and April. Many respondents were not available for interview during this event.

The results of the data collection are as follows. There were 29 refusals and 2 other non-responses. A total of 51 houses were determined to be out of the scope of the survey frame: 36 were non-existent or were either vacant or under renovation; 9 were closed up due to their owners' absence; and, 6 were disqualified because their occupants were non-natives.³ During the data collection phase, 21 additional Cree houses were identified in those communities where a census was being taken; these were added to the sample.

This resulted in 468 usable responses out of an updated in-scope sample of 499, equivalent to a response rate of 93.8%.⁴

1.8 Estimation of Totals

In order to arrive at unbiased inferences about population totals, the data obtained from the sample had to be weighted. Weighting procedures ensure that all population estimates will be unbiased. The estimation weight or expansion factor is related to the number of cases each data record (e.g. house or person) represents in the sample, as well as on how the sample has been drawn. The weight has also to account for non-response. For the present survey, once all adjustments were made, the average estimation weight was determined to be 5.3. The statistical tables presented in the sections that follow have been built using the calculated estimation weights. The numbers and percentages quoted refer to estimated numbers and percentages, unless they refer explicitly to sample counts.

1.9 Estimation of Sampling Error

Every sample statistic carries some degree of uncertainty as an estimate of its corresponding population parameter. Such uncertainty reflects the fact that different samples drawn from the same population almost always yield different estimates on the

³ In each Cree community, a small number of houses are occupied by non-natives (e.g. teachers, physicians and nurses) and their families. These were treated as out of the scope of the survey in the communities selected for study. Native households containing non-Crees were more difficult to identify and were most likely included.

⁴ These updates are reflected in the number of houses shown for each of the communities in the sample. No such adjustment was possible, however, for the other five communities (see Table C below).

basis of chance alone. This inherent variability is referred to as sampling error. It too must be estimated in order to place a confidence interval around the estimate. The sampling variance measures the sampling error - the differences in sample estimates resulting from all possible samples; the standard error is the square root of the sampling variance.

A relative measure of sampling error, which is employed in many sample surveys, relates the standard error of an estimate to its size. It is called the coefficient of variation or *c.v.*. This measure is very useful when comparing the precision of sample estimates where the actual size of their population parameters or the scale of their measurement varies in magnitude.

The usual 95% confidence intervals can be readily computed from the coefficient of variation, using the formula: $\text{est.} + (t \times c.v. \times \text{est.})$ and $\text{est.} - (t \times c.v. \times \text{est.})$.⁵

According to guidelines elaborated by Statistics Canada, an estimate with a *c.v.* less than 16% is considered of very good quality. An estimate having a *c.v.* between 16% and 33% should be used with caution especially when looking at differences between groups. Estimates with a *c.v.* between 33% and 50% are even less reliable while those with a *c.v.* greater than 50% should not be used to draw conclusions.

Each estimate in the tables in Appendix II is accompanied by its *c.v.*. Following contemporary practice, all estimates in both the text and tables for which the *c.v.* is greater than 33% are accompanied by an asterisk (*).

Note: Due to round-off error in assigning weights to sample counts, estimates for the same population characteristic may vary slightly from one table to another.

1.10 Non-Sampling Error

In every survey, there are two main kinds of errors: errors related to sampling and errors that occur outside the sampling process. Non-sampling error is sometimes more serious than sampling error. In the present context, some degree of non-sampling error may have arisen from such sources as out-of-date population counts and band lists, under-inclusive or over-inclusive house lists, poorly translated questions, incorrect reporting,

⁵ Because of the limits of the sample design employed in the present survey, the sampling error was estimated using balanced repeated replication on strata collapsed across community size. With only two sampled communities for each resulting stratum, some estimates may display an artificially large amount of sampling variability. For the same reason, confidence intervals should be calculated as $(\text{est} \pm 4.30 \times \text{standard error})$ rather than the more familiar $(\text{est} \pm 2 \times \text{standard error})$.

miscoded answers, error in data capture, or incorrect computation. Though invariably present in survey data, non-sampling error does not, unfortunately, lend itself to quantification.

2.0 The Crees of East James Bay

This section provides a selective socio-demographic overview of the Crees of East James Bay. Population data are presented on overall size, by age and gender as well as by community. Administrative data are also presented on the number of houses and the number of occupants per house in each community.

The total in-territory population of the Crees of East James Bay, according to the most recently agreed upon information, is 12,103, with 581 additional individuals living out of territory.⁶ Table A shows that the number of young people among the Crees is disproportionately high, with individuals under 20 years of age making up somewhat less than one half and those under 40 years well over three quarters of the population. Males and females are equally represented at each age level (see Table A-1).

Table A. Distribution of Cree Population, by Age, 1997

	Age					
	Under 20 Years	20-39 Years	40-59 Years	60-74 Years	75 Years and Over	Total
Number	5,419	4,238	1,666	540	240	12,103
%	44.8	35.0	13.7	4.5	2.0	100.0

Source: Cree Regional Authority/Grand Council of the Crees. Based on Native Population Registry maintained at Quebec City by Ministère de Santé et de Services Sociaux. Counts reported September 1997.

The Crees are composed of nine bands, the members of which live in nine widely dispersed communities. Five of these communities are to be found along the eastern coast of James Bay while four are situated inland further to the east. The nine bands, together with their respective residential population counts are shown by location in Table B.

⁶ The in-territory Cree population refers to those Crees living on land designated under the terms and conditions of the James Bay Northern Quebec Agreement. Out-of-territory Crees live elsewhere in Canada.

Table B. Distribution of Resident Cree Population, by Band and Location, 1997

Location	Band Name	Number of Residents	%
Coastal	Eastmain	515	4.5
	*Chisasibi	3,120	27.0
	Waskaganish	1,615	14.0
	Wemindji	1,025	8.9
	Whapmagoostui	666	5.7
Inland	Mistissini	2,481	21.4
	Nemaska	513	4.4
	*Ouje-Bougoumou	525	4.5
	*Waswanipi	1,112	9.6
	Total	11,572	100.0

Source: Cree Regional Authority/Grand Council of the Crees. Based on Native Population Registry maintained at Quebec City by Ministère de Santé et de Services Sociaux. Counts reported September 1997.⁷

*Selected for inclusion in the survey

Table C provides information on housing infrastructure and housing density in each of the nine communities. Altogether, there are 2,484 houses. The number of Cree occupants per house is quite uniform across communities averaging 4.7 with a range from 4.2 to 5.3 occupants per house.

⁷ Approximately 531 Cree residents are excluded from *Table B* above, because they are living In-territory but not in one of the nine communities listed.

**Table C. Distribution of Cree Houses and Ratio of Occupants to Houses,
By Community, 1998**

Community	Number of Houses	Ratio of Occupants to Houses
Eastmain	112	4.6
Chisasibi	632	4.9
Waskaganish	355	4.5
Wemindji	209	4.9
Whapmagoostui	135	4.9
Mistissini	468	5.3
Nemaska	227	4.4
Ouje-Bougoumou	125	4.2
Waswanipi	221	5.0
Total	2,484	

Source: Housing authority officials and informed individuals in the nine Cree communities, 1998.

3.0 THE VOLUME OF GUNS OWNED

In this section, based on the weighted sample findings, information is provided on the estimated number of guns owned by the Crees of East James Bay. Data are presented at three levels of ownership: the Crees as a group, Cree households, and individual Crees. Then, in the case of individual ownership, data on the reasons for owning guns are analyzed.

3.1 Guns Owned by the Crees

Table D presents the estimated number of guns owned by the Crees as a group by type of gun. The total number of guns of all types is estimated to be close to 13,000. The most common type of gun owned is the rifle/.22 followed closely by the shotgun. The prevalence of handgun ownership is extremely low. The rifle is relatively less prevalent in coastal communities where goose and other migratory bird hunting is more common (see Table D-1). Ninety-eight percent of these firearms are in working order.

Table D. Distribution of Guns Owned by the Crees as a Group, by Type of Gun, 1998

	Type of Gun			
	Rifle/.22	Shotgun	Handgun	Total
Number	6,705	5,942	57 *	12,704
%	52.8	46.8	0.4 *	100.0

Table E shows the distribution of guns owned by the Crees by type of ownership. The vast majority of guns are individually owned. Guns held jointly by two or more individuals and family guns (those belonging more to the household than to any specific individual), together make up less than 5% of all guns owned.

Table E. Distribution of Guns Owned by Crees as a Group, by Type of Ownership, 1998

	Type of Ownership			
	Individually Owned	Jointly Owned	Family Owned	Total
Number	12,154	210 *	340 *	12,704
%	95.7	1.6 *	2.7 *	100.0

3.2 Guns Owned by Cree Households

Turning now to a description of guns owned at the level of the household: Table F shows the distribution of Cree households by the number of guns they own. At least one gun can be found in the large majority (88%) of Cree households. The typical Cree household has 4-6 guns. The average number of guns per household is 5.4; this becomes somewhat higher (6.1) when only those households with at least one gun are considered. Households in coastal locations tend to have a higher average number of guns than do those in inland communities (see Table F-1).

Table F. Distribution of Cree Households by Number of Guns Owned, 1998

N=2,365	Number of Guns Owned						
	0	1-3	4-6	7-9	10-12	12-14	15 or More
Number	274	547	833	389	186	89	47 *
%	11.6	23.1	35.2	16.4	7.9	3.8	2.0 *

3.3 Guns Owned by Individuals

The number of Cree individuals who own at least one gun is estimated to be about 4000 – or approximately 41% of the Cree population. Collectively, they own approximately 13,000 guns. The average number of guns owned by gun owners is estimated to be 3.1. Table G provides information on the number of Cree individuals who own at least one gun, for three separate age groups: adults, children between 12 and 17 years, and children under 12 years. The percentage of ownership is further broken down by gender within each age group. From the data, it is clear that while a sizeable minority of adult females owns at least one gun, gun ownership occurs largely among male Crees. The vast majority of men, and a two thirds of boys aged between 12-17 years own at least one gun; and, the percentage, though small, is not insignificant even among boys under 12 years.

When percentages in the two community locations are compared, clear differences emerge. A substantially higher percentage of males in each age group in coastal communities own at least one gun compared with their counterparts in inland communities; on the other hand, a slightly higher proportion of females in inland communities report owning a gun (see Table G- 1).

Table G. Distribution of individual Crees who own at least one gun, by average number

of guns owned, by age and gender, 1998

N=3,916	Age and Gender							
	18 Years & Older		12-17 Years		Under 12 Years		All Ages	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
Number	2,740	523	429	10	203 *	10 *	3,372	544
Group Size	3,026	2,866	658	451	1,447	1,137	5,130	4,454
% of Population	90.6	18.3	65.2	2.3	14.0 *	0.9 *	65.7	12.2
Average Number of Guns Owned	3.8	1.3	1.8	1.0 *	1.2 *	1.0 *	3.4	1.3

Table H now considers all Crees and shows how they are distributed on the basis of the number of guns they own including no guns at all. Of the 41% who are gun owners almost half of them own 4 or more guns.

Table H. Distribution of Individual Crees, by the Number of Guns they Own, 1998

N=9,584	Number of Guns Owned							
	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7 or More
Number of Crees	5,702	936	784	685	683	396	211	188
%	59.5	9.8	8.2	7.1	7.1	4.1	2.2	2.0

Note: The slight discrepancy between Tables G and H in the estimated number of all gun owners is due to round-off error in assigning weights to sample counts.

The number of guns owned tends to be higher in coastal communities than is the case in inland communities (see Table H-1).

3.4 Reasons for Owning Guns

Table I reveals that for the Crees, hunting is a universal reason for owning a gun. Indeed, for three quarters of gun owners, it is the only reason. Owning a gun for reasons other than hunting is invariably additional to the hunting reason. In one fifth of cases, owning a gun also serves the additional purpose of passing a valued family possession on as a legacy from one generation to the next. On the other hand, neither target practice nor gun collecting is an important additional reason for Cree gun owners as a group to own a gun.⁸

Table I. Reasons for Crees Owning a Gun, 1998 (Gun Owners Only)

N=3,916	Reasons for Owning			
	Hunting Only	Hunting & Legacy	Hunting & Target Practice	Hunt & Collecting
Number Of Gun Owners	2,857	854	262 *	70 *
%	73.0	21.8	6.7 *	1.8 *

Note: A small percentage of gun owners own their guns for two or three of these reasons in combination, in addition to the hunting reason. As a result, the estimated numbers and their corresponding percentage points shown above overlap to a slight extent.

⁸ During the course of developing the questionnaire, it was determined that self-defence was not a relevant reason for Crees to own a gun.

4.0 Gun Transactions

In this section, information is presented on the number of gun transactions engaged in by the Crees of East James Bay during the twelve month period prior to the survey. The gun transactions surveyed fall into two broad groups: borrowing guns and transferring guns. Within each group, separate data are available on long guns and on handguns, and on the number of individuals involved.

4.1 Borrowing Guns

Table J provides information on the number of individuals who borrowed one or more guns during the previous twelve months. Borrowers are separated into gun owners and those who do not own a gun. These data indicate that the incidence of individuals borrowing guns is quite low among gun owners and very low among those who do not.⁹

Guns borrowed were overwhelmingly long guns.¹⁰

Table J. Distribution of Individuals Borrowing One or More Guns during the Previous Year, by Type of Gun, by Gun-owning Status of Borrower

STATUS OF BORROWER	Type of Gun					
	Long Gun		Handgun		All Guns	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
Owns a gun (N=3,916)	475 *	12.13 *	4 *	0.10 *	479 *	12.23 *
Does not own a gun (N=5,668)	245 *	4.32 *	0 *	0.00 *	245 *	4.32 *
Total (N=9,584)	721 *	7.51 *	4 *	0.04 *	725 *	7.55 *

⁹ An analysis of the composition of the combined group of gun borrowers in the sample suggests that they are almost invariably male and that while they include mostly adults, some children 12-17 years and a few under 12 years were reported to have borrowed guns.

¹⁰ The large majority of borrowers in the sample were involved in borrowing one gun only.

4.2 Transferring Guns

In the context of the present survey, gun transfers are defined to include guns that were *bought or sold, received or given as a gift, inherited, or traded*. Table K describes the number of individuals who were involved in one or other of these transactions. It is very clear that, overall, there were very few individuals involved in gun transfers involving either type of gun during the preceding twelve months. And, given that gun transfers involve a transaction between two individuals (e.g. the giver and the receiver), the actual number of gun transfers would be approximately half that of the individuals involved (depending on how many non-Crees were involved in the transactions).

Table K. Distribution of Individuals Involved in Gun Transfers during the Previous Twelve Months, by Type of Gun

N=9,584	Type of Gun		
	Long Gun	Handgun	Total
Number	359	0 *	359
%	3.8	0.0 *	3.8

Guns transferred were exclusively long guns.¹¹

¹¹ An examination of gun transfers in the sample suggests that two thirds of the individuals involved had engaged in the exchange of one gun only.

5.0 FIREARM ACQUISITION CERTIFICATES AND SAFETY COURSE CERTIFICATES

This section of the report provides information on the prevalence of valid Firearm Acquisition Certificates (FACs) among Crees 18 years and older.¹² Data are presented only for those who own at least one gun since very few - approximately 1.0% - of those who do not own a gun have either a valid Firearms Acquisition Certificate (FAC), a Canadian Firearm Safety Course Certificate (CFSCC), or both. Table L limits itself, accordingly, to information on valid FACs and on CFSCCs as well as on combinations of the two among adult Cree gun owners. Two fifths of these has a valid FAC; one sixth has a CFSCC; and, over one third has neither. When gender differences are introduced (see Table L-1), it is clear that a much higher proportion of men have both a valid FAC and a CFSCC: over two thirds of female gun owners hold neither a valid FAC nor a CFSCC.

Table L: Distribution of Valid Firearm Acquisition Certificate (FAC) and Canadian Firearm Safety Course Certificate (CFSCC) Status, 1998 (Gun Owners 18 Years of Age and Over Only)

	FAC(Y)	FAC(N) CFSCC(Y)	FAC(N) CFSCC(N)	FAC (APP)	Other Status	Total
Number	1,308	553	1,183	145	75	3,264
%	40.0	17.0	36.3	4.4	2.3	100.0

Y: Yes; N: No; App: Applied for

Note: The slight discrepancy between Tables G and M in the estimated number of gun owners 18 years of age and over is due to round-off error in assigning weights to sample counts.

¹² Children 12-17 years old are eligible to take the CFSCC. An informal analysis of this group revealed that 3 per cent of all children sampled from the 12-17 year age group, hold a CFSCC. All of them are boys and all of them are gun owners. They represent 8 per cent of the male gun-owner sub-group in the sample.

6.0 Gun-Related Safety

In addition to obtaining information about gun ownership, reasons for owning, gun transactions, and FAC status *for each household member*, the Cree Gun Survey also asked questions directed at the level of the *house*. The first set of questions at this level concerned the presence of certain devices for the safe storage of guns: specifically, whether the house had a gun locker and whether there was one or more trigger locks. Data on these two particular safety devices are presented in combined form in Table M, since this information is likely to be more useful when it is considered in this way. Only those households in which at least one gun is owned by its members are considered.

Table M. Distribution of Cree Households Owning at least One Gun by Presence of a Gun Locker and (One or More) Trigger Locks, by Number of Guns Owned, 1998

N=2,091	Gun Safety Provisions				
	Gun Locker (Y)	Gun Locker (N)	Gun Locker (Y)	Gun Locker (N)	Total
	Trigger Lock (Y)	Trigger Lock (N)	Trigger Lock (N)	Trigger Lock (Y)	
Number	251	1,191	299	350 *	2,091
%	12.0	57.0	14.3	16.7 *	100.0

Y: Yes; N: No;

Overall, one-eighth of Cree houses whose members own at least one gun have both a gun locker and one or more safety locks. This percentage is reinforced by close to one third of houses having one or other safety device. Nevertheless, it remains that over half the Cree houses where there is at least one gun do not have either of these particular safety devices.¹³

The prevalence of gun lockers and safety locks appears to peak in those houses where the number of guns owned is between 4 and 6 (see Table M-1).

¹³ It should be borne in mind that gun lockers and safety locks are not the only means whereby the requirement for the safe storage of guns can be met. Removal of gun bolts, use of cable locks, and the provision of a gun closet or room can also provide adequate safe gun storage.

7.0 Other Gun Information

This section of the report contains information on two miscellaneous areas related to gun ownership among the Crees. These areas deal with gun repairs and with guns lost, destroyed or stolen. Questions pertaining to these areas were directed at the principal respondent who reported on behalf of the household.¹⁴

7.1 Gun Repairs

Table N shows the incidence of gun repairs among Cree households during the previous twelve months. The data reveal that only one tenth of all households have had occasion to have any guns repaired. In the vast majority of cases, only one gun has been involved.

Table N. Distribution of Cree Households, by Number of Guns Repaired During Previous Twelve Months

	Number of Guns				Total
	0	1	2	3 or More	
Number	2,103	215	27 *	20 *	2,365
%	88.9	9.1	1.1 *	0.9 *	100.0

7.2 Guns Lost, Destroyed or Stolen

As Table O shows, the incidence pattern just reported for gun repairs is mirrored almost exactly in the case of Cree households having guns lost, destroyed or stolen during the previous twelve months.¹⁵ One eighth of all households reported gun separations of this nature – one gun per household in the vast majority of cases.

Table O. Distribution of Cree Households, by Number of Guns Lost, Destroyed,

¹⁴ Two other questions, one on the perceived value of having a communal gun storage depot, and the other on the extent to which Cree households can understand and complete gun-related application forms, were also asked of the principal respondent. The open-ended question format precluded, for several reasons, the use of these data.

¹⁵ The survey design prevents a further breakdown between firearms reported lost/destroyed and those reported stolen.

or Stolen During the Previous Twelve Months

	Number of Guns				
	0	1	2	3 or More	Total
Number	2,074	247 *	20 *	24 *	2,365
%	87.7	10.4 *	0.9 *	1.0 *	100.0

APPENDIX I

THE CREE GUN SURVEY DATA SHEET AND INTERVIEW SCHEDULE

INTERVIEWER'S WORKSHEET

Total Number of persons: _____

	<u>Name</u>	<u>Sex</u>	<u>Age</u>
1.	=====		
2.	=====		
3.	=====		
4.	=====		
5.	=====		
6.	=====		
7.	=====		
8.	=====		
9.	=====		

Who is the main RESPONDENT?

Any other Respondent?

GUN SURVEY INTERVIEW SCHEDULE

Structure of the Schedule

The interview schedule is composed of four sections as follows:

- A. Introducing Yourself at the Door**
- B. Determining Household Composition**
- C. Scheduling Interviews with Respondents**
- D. Conducting the Interview**

A. Introducing Yourself at the Door

Using the **House Code and Interviewer's Log Book** provided, enter the Community Code and the correct Household Code on a Cree Gun Survey Data Sheet.

Say to the person who answers the door:

(Introduction)

Hello, my name is..... I work for the Cree Trappers' Association in Eastmain. As you may have heard on the radio, the Cree Trappers' Association is carrying out a gun survey among the Cree people. New Canadian gun laws are expected to come into force by October 1, 1998. Under these new gun laws, all gun owners must be licenced by the year 2001 and all guns must be registered by 2003. The Cree Trappers' Association feels that in order to apply these laws wisely in the Cree territory, we need to have more information about the importance of guns to the Crees. That is why we have decided to carry out this Cree Gun Survey. Today we are calling on households in your area.

If the person who answers the door appears to be over 18 years of age, **Go to B**

Otherwise say:

May I speak with an adult member of your household?

If an adult member is available,

Repeat Introduction Then **Go to B**

If an adult member is not available, arrange a time for you to return when an adult is expected to be at home.

End this phase of the interview now.

When you return, and when an adult member of the household is available,

Repeat Introduction Then Go to B

B. Determining Household Composition

To an adult member of the household, Say:

To begin with, I would like to know how many people live in this house, at least most of the time?

On the back fold of the Survey Data Sheet, enter the total number of persons living in the household in the space provided.

Now say:

Could I now ask you for the first name and age of each member of this household?

Using the **Band List** provided, verify the name, sex, and age of each member of the household. Enter the information on the Interviewer's Worksheet on the back fold of the Survey Data Sheet.

In *consultation with the person answering the door*, determine who is the person best suited to act as respondent for the Survey. **Remember to select as the respondent someone who is in a position to answer accurately most if not all the questions, not only about himself or herself but also about most other members of the household.** Determine also at this time whether this respondent is going to require the assistance of one or more additional members in order to be able to provide all the information that is required. Make a note of the names of these individuals (other respondents) on your Interviewer's Worksheet.

C. Scheduling Interviews with Respondents

Find out if the respondent is available now or, if not, when would be the best time to talk with him or her. Enter your appointment in your **House Code and Interviewer's Log Book**.

Before proceeding with the interview itself, transcribe **neatly** the information on "Names", "Sex", and "Age" of each member of the household onto the front face of the Survey Data Sheet

D. Conducting the Interview

The following seven question areas are to be administered to the respondent selected for each household. In general, the interview is expected to take approximately forty-five minutes.

Remember, however, that in the case of some households, the respondent will have to rely on information from one or more other household members in order to provide you with all the information you need. Or, you may have to speak with them yourself. This may require that you return to the house a second or even a third time. If this turns out to be the case, the interview will obviously take longer.

1. Assuring Confidentiality and Anonymity:

Say:

*Before we begin this interview, I want to assure you that this survey has been designed to be **confidential and anonymous**. All information provided by you will be treated as confidential. I will not disclose any part of it to anyone other than those directly involved in the research. We will be using first names only to identify household members. Your family or last name will not appear anywhere on the Survey Data Sheet where your answers are being recorded. This will ensure that completed Data Sheets, once returned to Eastmain for analysis, will be anonymous. We are not in any way interested in the responses of individuals. Our only interest in the survey information is to know more about Cree communities and the Cree people as a whole.*

2. Gun-related Information:

Say:

I would first like to ask you some questions about the members of your household. All these questions are about guns.

(Guns Owned)

*Thinking first about yourself..... which of the following types of guns do you yourself own, and how many of them do you have? **Please include all your guns including those that you keep in the bush and in cachés as well as here in the house.***

Read the list of gun types - rifles, .22s, shotguns, and handguns, pausing after each one and allowing sufficient time for the respondent to make his or her reply. Enter each number on the Data Sheet in the column entitled "Number of Guns Owned". **Remember, all spaces must be filled:** If the respondent reports having no guns of a particular type, enter 0 in the corresponding space on the Data Sheet.

If the reported total number of guns owned is zero, Go to **Other Guns Used**

Otherwise say:

(Working Guns)

How many of these are working guns?

Enter the reported number of working guns in the column entitled “Working Guns”.

Now say:

(Reason for Owning)

People can own guns for different reasons..... I wonder if I could ask you about the reason or reasons why you own these guns (this gun)?

A space has been provided in the Data Sheet for five different reasons for owning guns. These are labelled “Hunt” for hunting; “Legacy” for keeping guns either as a keepsake from earlier generations or in order to pass them down to future generations; “Target” for target or practice shooting; “Collect” for gun collecting; and, “Other”, for any other reason given besides the first four.

Allow sufficient time for the respondent to make his or her reply. **Do not prompt the respondent with the different reasons provided in the Data Sheet.** In the space provided, enter a check mark for each of the reasons given by the respondent. If the respondent does not give all five reasons the first time around - Hunt, Legacy, Target, Collect and Other, say:

Is there any other reason? Again, Do not Prompt.

Enter a check mark for any additional reasons provided by the respondent in the space provided.

Now say:

(Other Guns Used)

*Over and above any guns that you yourself may own..... are there any guns that you do not own but that you have used **during the past twelve months**;... and, if so, how many of these are we talking about?*

Read out the two broad categories of guns, long guns and handguns, pausing after each one and allowing sufficient time for the respondent to make his or her reply. Enter each number on the Data Sheet in the column entitled “Number of Other Guns Used”. **Once again, remember that all spaces must be filled.** If the respondent reports having used no other guns of a particular category, enter 0 in the corresponding space on the Data Sheet.

Then say:

(Gun Transfers)

*Turning now to Gun Transfers..... by which we mean **guns that you either bought or sold... received or gave as a gift..... inherited... or traded.** Can you tell me.....if you yourself were*

*involved in any gun transfers **during the past year**, what kind of guns and how many of them we are talking about?*

Read out the two broad categories of guns, long guns and handguns, pausing after each one and allowing sufficient time for the respondent to make his or her reply. Enter each number on the Data Sheet in the column entitled “Number of Gun Transfers”. **All spaces must be filled.** If the respondent reports not having engaged in gun transfers involving guns of a particular category, enter 0 in the corresponding space on the Data Sheet.

Then say:

(Safety Course)

Next, I would like to ask you about the Firearm Safety Course that the Cree Trappers’ Association has been offering in Cree communities since 1994. Have you yourself taken this course?

Enter Yes(Y) or No(N) in the column entitled “Safety Course”

Say:

(FAC)

Do you have a valid FAC?

If necessary, explain what a Firearms Acquisition Certificate is: (a permit that authorizes an individual to buy or otherwise acquire a gun of any kind)

Enter Yes(Y) or No(N) in the column entitled “FAC”.

.....

Now, move down to the next member of the household listed on the Data Sheet

Say:

(Guns Owned)

*Now thinking about(say the name of the next person on the list)... which of the following types of guns does..... own, and how many of them does he/she have? Please include all her/his guns **including those that he/she keeps in the bush and in cachés as well as here in the house.***

Read the list of gun types - rifles, .22s, shotguns, and handguns, pausing after each one and allowing sufficient time for the respondent to make his or her reply. Enter each number on the long sheet in the column entitled "Number of Guns Owned". **Remember, all spaces must be filled.** If the respondent reports that the household member has no guns of a particular type, enter 0 in the corresponding space on the Data Sheet. If the respondent reports not knowing how many guns of a particular type, enter DK. If the total number of guns owned is zero, Go to **Other Guns Used**

Otherwise say:

(Working Guns)

How many of these are working guns?

Enter the reported number of working guns in the column entitled "Working guns". If the respondent reports not knowing how many guns are working guns, enter DK.

Now say:

(Reason for Owning)

People can own guns for different reasons..... I wonder if I could ask you about the reason or reasons why (you believe)..... owns these guns (this gun)?

Allow sufficient time for the respondent to make his or her reply. **Do not prompt.** In the space provided, enter a check mark for each of the reasons given by the respondent. If the respondent does not give all five reasons the first time around - Hunt, Legacy, Target, Collect and Other, say:

Is there any other reason? Again, Do not Prompt.

Enter any additional reasons provided by the respondent in the space provided.

Now say:

(Other Guns Used)

*Over and above any guns that herself/himself may own..... are there any other guns that..... does not own but that she/he has used **during the past twelve months**;..... and, if so, how many of these are we talking about?*

Read out the two broad categories of guns, long guns and handguns, pausing after each one and allowing sufficient time for the respondent to make his or her reply. Enter each number on the long sheet in the column entitled "Number of Other Guns Used". **Once again, remember that all spaces must be filled.** If the respondent reports that the family member has used no other guns of a particular category, enter 0 in the corresponding space on the Data Sheet. If the respondent does not know, enter DK.

Now Say:

(Gun Transfers)

*Thinking now about Gun Transfers, by which we mean **guns that.....either bought or sold..... received or gave as a gift..... inherited..... or traded.** Can you tell me if was involved in gun transfers during the past year,..... what kind of guns were involved and how many of them are we talking about?*

Read out the two broad categories of guns, long guns and handguns, pausing after each one and allowing sufficient time for the respondent to make his or her reply. Enter each number on the Data Sheet in the column entitled "Number of Gun Transfers". All spaces must be filled. If the respondent reports that the family member did not engage in any transfers involving a gun of a particular category, enter 0 in the corresponding space on the Data Sheet. If the respondent does not know, enter DK.

Then say:

(Safety Course)

Next, I would like to ask you about the Firearm Safety Course that the Cree Trappers' Association has been offering in Cree communities since 1994. Has..... taken this course?

Enter Yes(Y), No(N) or Don't Know (DK) in the column entitled "Safety Course".

Say:

(FAC)

Does..... have a valid FAC?

Enter Yes(Y), No(N) or Don't Know (DK) in the column entitled "FAC".

.....

.....

Now move on down the list of household members until information on all members has been obtained.

Bear in mind that, in some cases, where adult children are living at home or the household composition is relatively complex, your respondent may have to rely on information from one or more other members of the household. Or, you may have to speak with them yourself.

Note also that in the case of younger members of the household, questions dealing with Safety Course and FAC will not be relevant. And, in the case of very young children, none of the questions will apply, in which case you may simply draw a line through all the columns corresponding to that name.

3. Information on Jointly Owned and House Guns:

Say:

(Jointly Owned Guns)

In some Cree households, there are sometimes guns that are jointly owned by two or more people. Over and above the guns that we have already listed for the household members..... Are there any jointly owned guns in your household? What kind of guns are we talking about?

Read the list of gun types - rifles, shotguns and handguns, pausing after each one and allowing sufficient time for the respondent to make his or her reply. **Remember that all spaces must be filled.** Enter each number on the long sheet in the place entitled "Jointly Owned guns".

Now, say:

(House guns)

In some Cree households, there are sometimes guns to be found which do not belong to anybody in particular: they simply belong to the house. Over and above the guns that we have already listed for individual members..... as well as the jointly owned guns we have just talked about.....are there any house guns in this house? What kind of guns are we talking about?

Read the list of gun types - rifles, shotguns and handguns, pausing after each one and allowing sufficient time for the respondent to make his or her reply. **Remember that all spaces must be filled.** Enter each number on the long sheet in the place entitled "House Guns".

In the case of the more complex households, make sure that there is no duplication between sub-groups as far as the total number of house guns in a particular household is concerned.

4. Safe Storage:

Say:

Now, I would like to ask you two questions about safe storage practices.

First, does your household have access to a gun locker?

Enter Yes(Y), No(N) or Don't Know (DK) in the space entitled "Gun Locker". Then say:

And, second, do you or does anyone in your household own one or more trigger locks?

Enter Yes(Y), No(N) or Don't Know (DK) in the space entitled "Trigger Lock".

5. Gun Repairs:

Say:

*Now, I would like to move on to the topic of gun repairs. First, did any one in your household **in the past year** take one or more of their guns to a certified gunsmith outside of (say name of community) in order to have it repaired?*

Enter Yes(Y), No(N) or Don't Know (DK) in the space entitled "Gun Repairs".

If answer was Yes(Y), say:

How many firearms were involved altogether?

Enter the number of repairs reported in the space entitled "Number of Repairs" on the Data Sheet. **If respondent hesitates or says that he/she does not know or is not sure of the number, ask him/her to make their best guess.**

6. Guns Lost Destroyed or Stolen:

Say:

*Now I would like to ask you whether, **in the past year**, you or anyone in your household had one or more guns lost or destroyed or stolen..... and, if so, how many of them are we talking about?*

Enter Yes(Y), No(N) or Don't Know (DK) in the space under "Guns Lost, Destroyed or Stolen" on the Data Sheet.

If answer was Yes(Y), say:

How many firearms were involved?

Enter the reported number of guns lost destroyed or stolen in the space entitled “Number of Guns Lost, Destroyed or Stolen” on the Data Sheet. **If respondent hesitates or is not sure of the exact number, ask him/her to make their best guess.**

7. Additional Information:

Say:

I would like to end this interview by asking you two more questions.

Do you think that it would be a good thing if there was a common gun storage depot in your community?

Note Respondent’s answer in the box provided for “Additional Information” on the Survey Data Sheet. Encourage the respondent to give reasons for his/her opinion.

Then say:

Finally, I would like to know whether there is anyone in your household who is able to fill out an FAC application form?

Note response in the box provided for “Additional Information”. Add any details if offered.

End of Interview

End the interview by thanking the respondent for his/her assistance on behalf of the Cree Trappers’ Association.

APPENDIX II

SELECTED DETAILED TABLES

Table A-1: Distribution of in-territory Cree population, by age and sex, 1998

Age Group	Male		Female		Total	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
0-4	784	12.9	724	12.0	1,508	12.6
5-9	743	12.2	701	11.6	1,444	11.9
10-14	623	10.3	621	10.3	1,244	10.3
15-19	603	9.9	620	10.3	1,223	10.1
20-24	664	10.9	653	10.8	1,317	10.9
25-29	602	9.9	592	9.8	1,194	9.9
30-34	487	8.0	485	8.0	927	8.0
35-39	377	6.2	378	6.3	755	6.2
40-44	269	4.4	299	5.0	568	4.7
45-49	207	3.4	220	3.7	427	3.5
50-54	204	3.4	222	3.7	426	3.5
55-59	113	1.9	132	2.2	245	2.0
60-64	124	2.1	120	2.0	244	2.0
65-69	79	1.3	80	1.3	159	1.3
70-74	68	1.1	69	1.1	137	1.1
75+	124	2.1	116	1.9	240	2.0
Total	6,071	100.0	6,032	100.0	12,103	100.0

Source: Cree Regional Authority/Grand Council of the Crees. Based on Native Population Registry maintained at Quebec City by Ministère de Santé et de Services Sociaux. Counts reported September 1997.

Table D-1: Distribution of guns owned by type of gun, by location, 1998

	Type of Gun			
	Rifle/.22	Shotgun	Handgun	All Types
<u>LOCATION</u>				
COASTAL				
Estimate	4,160	3,938	23 *	8,121
c.v. (%)	3.1	1.7	100.0	2.7
Per Cent	51.2	48.5	0.3 *	100.0
INLAND				
Estimate	2,545	2,004	34 *	4,583
c.v. (%)	19.8	10.5	40.4	15.3
Per Cent	55.5	43.7	0.8 *	100.0
<u>TOTAL</u>				
Estimate	6,705	5,942	57 *	12,704
c.v.(%)	7.8	3.7	45.4	5.8
Per Cent	52.8	46.8	0.4 *	100.0

Table E-1: Distribution of guns owned by Crees as a group, by type of ownership, 1998

	Type of Ownership			
	Individually Owned	Jointly Owned	Family Owned	Total
Number	12,154	210 *	340 *	12,704
c.v. (%)	6.3	37.6	61.8	5.8
Per Cent	95.7	1.6 *	2.7 *	100.0

Table F-1: Distribution of guns owned by Cree households, by location, 1998

N=2,365	Number of Guns Owned						
	0	1-3	4-6	7-9	10-12	13-15	15 or More
	<u>COASTAL</u>						
Estimate	114 *	224	556 *	248	132 *	66	23
c.v.(%)	68.9	5.0	42.3	5.0	46.1	28.8	5.0
Per Cent	8.4 *	16.4	40.8 *	18.2	9.7 *	4.8	1.7
	<u>INLAND</u>						
Estimate	160	323	277	141	54	23	24 *
c.v.(%)	18.4	0.3	5.6	21.4	12.0	31.2	67.2
Per Cent	16.0	32.2	27.6	14.1	5.4	2.3	2.4 *
	<u>TOTAL</u>						
Estimate	274	547	833	389	186	89	47 *
c.v.(%)	30.6	2.1	32.9	28.3	8.4	22.9	34.8
Per Cent	11.6	23.1	35.2	16.4	7.9	3.8	2.0 *

	Number	c.v. (%)
Average number of guns per household	5.4	5.4
Gun-owning houses only	6.1	6.8

Table G-1: Distribution of individual Crees who own at least one gun, by average number of guns owned, by location, by age and gender , 1998

N=3,916	Age and Gender							
	18 Years & Older		12-17 Years		Under 12 Years		All Ages	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
	<u>COASTAL</u>							
Estimate	1,721	295	335	5 *	168 *	6 *	2,224	307
c.v. (%)	2.5	24.0	11.8	100.0	61.8	100.0	1.0	23.3
Per Cent	96.5	17.3	84.4	2.5 *	24.6 *	1.0 *	72.7	12.1
Average Number of Guns Owned	3.9	1.2	1.9	1.0	1.2	1.0	3.4	1.2
	<u>INLAND</u>							
Estimate	1,020	228	94 *	5 *	35	4 *	1,149	237
c.v. (%)	11.6	23.7	49.6	100.0	13.4	100.0	13.9	23.2
Per Cent	82.1	20.1	36.3 *	2.0 *	6.3	1.0 *	55.9	12.5
Average Number of Guns Owned	3.7	1.4	1.5	1.0	1.1	1.0	3.4	1.4
	<u>TOTAL</u>							
Estimate	2,740	523	429	10 *	203 *	10 *	3,372	544
c.v. (%)	4.6	17.0	14.2	70.7	51.2	72.1	4.8	16.1
Per Cent	90.5	18.4	65.1	2.3 *	14.3 *	0.9 *	65.8	12.3
Average Number of Guns Owned	3.8	1.3	1.8	1.0	1.2	1.0	3.4	1.3

**Table H -1: Distribution of individual Crees, by the number of guns they own,
by location, 1998**

N=9,584	Number of Guns Owned								
	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7 or More	Total
	<u>COASTAL</u>								
Estimate	3,130 *	561	504	377	535	309	151	77 *	5,643
c.v. (%)	36.6	1.0	25.0	3.5	26.0	37.7	13.6	53.7	19.0
Per Cent	55.5 *	9.9	8.9	6.7	9.5	5.5	2.7	1.4 *	100.0
	<u>INLAND</u>								
Estimate	2,572	375	280	308	149	87	61	111 *	3,941
c.v. (%)	1.0	15.5	15.2	30.7	11.9	27.3	17.2	35.9	6.5
Per Cent	65.3	9.5	7.1	7.8	3.8	2.2	1.5	2.8 *	100.0
	<u>TOTAL</u>								
Estimate	5,702	936	784	685	683	396	211	188	9,584
c.v. (%)	20.1	6.3	17.0	13.9	20.5	30.0	10.9	30.5	11.5
Per Cent	59.5	9.8	8.2	7.1	7.1	4.1	2.2	2.0	100.0

Table I-1: Reasons for owning a gun, 1998 (gun owners only)

N=3,916	Reasons for Owning			
	Hunting Only	Hunting & Legacy	Hunting & Target Practice	Hunting & Collecting
Estimate	2,857	854	262 *	70 *
c.v. (%)	17.0	27.7	73.9	64.5
Per Cent	73.0	21.8	6.7 *	1.8 *

Table J-1: Distribution of individuals borrowing one or more guns during the previous year, by type of gun, by gun-owning status of borrower

Status of Borrower	Type of Gun								
	Long Gun			Handgun			Both Types		
	Estimate	c.v. (%)	%	Estimate	c.v. (%)	%	Estimate	c.v. (%)	%
Owns a gun (N=3,916)	475 *	60.2	12.13 *	4 *	100.0	0.10 *	479 *	59.0	12.23 *
Does not own a gun (N=5,668)	245 *	78.3	4.32 *	0 *	100.0	0.00 *	245 *	78.3	4.32 *
Total (N=9,584)	721 *	66.4	7.51 *	4 *	100.0	0.04 *	725 *	65.5	7.55 *

Table K-1: Distribution of individuals involved in gun transfers, by type of gun

N=9,584	Type of Gun		
	Long Gun	Handgun	Total
Estimate	359	0 *	359
c.v. (%)	30.0	00.0	30.0
Per Cent	3.8	0.0 *	3.8

Table L-1: Distribution of Firearm Acquisition Certificate (FAC) and Canadian Firearm Safety Course Certificate (CFSCC) status, 1998 (gun owners 18 years and over)

Status	Males			Females			Total		
	Number	c.v. (%)	Per Cent	Number	c.v. (%)	Per Cent	Number	c.v. (%)	Per Cent
FAC (Y)	1,227 *	42.8	44.8 *	80 *	59.5	15.3 *	1,308 *	43.9	40.1 *
FAC (N)	497 *	45.8	18.1 *	56	21.5	10.7	553 *	43.3	16.9 *
CFSCC (Y)									
FAC (N) + CFSCC (N)	818 *	39.3	29.9 *	366	16.3	70.0	1,183	24.5	36.3
FAC (APP)	162	21.4	5.9	11	5.0	2.1	145	28.4	4.4
Other Status	36 *	89.7	1.3 *	10 *	70.7	1.9 *	75 *	40.6	2.3 *
Total Gun Owners 18 Years and Over	2,740	4.6	100.0	523	17.0	100.0	3,264	5.3	100.0

Y: Yes ; N: No ; App: Applied for

Table M-1: Distribution of Cree households owning at least one gun by presence of a gun locker and (one or more) trigger locks, by number of guns owned, 1998

N=2,091	Number of Guns Owned			
	1-3	4-6	7 or More	Total
Gun Locker (Y) Trigger Lock (Y)				
Estimate	16 *	131	104	251
c.v. (%)	79.0	31.0	12.6	25.0
Per Cent	6.4 *	52.2	41.4	12.0
Gun Locker (N) Trigger Lock (N)				
Estimate	412	441	338	1,191
c.v. (%)	6.4	16.5	24.5	6.4
Per Cent	28.2	30.2	23.1	57.0
Gun Locker (Y) Trigger Lock (N)				
Estimate	36 *	112 *	151 *	299
c.v. (%)	53.0	55.2	63.1	15.1
Per Cent	12.0	52.5 *	50.5 *	14.3
Gun Locker (N) Trigger Lock (Y)				
Estimate	83	150 *	117 *	350 *
c.v. (%)	15.7	41.3	68.5	43.7
Per Cent	28.4	42.4 *	33.1 *	16.7 *

Y: Yes ; N: No

Total Houses Owning At Least One Gun

**Estimate - 2,091
c.v. (%) - 7.8
Per Cent - 100.0**

Table N-1: Distribution of Cree households, by number of guns repaired during previous twelve months

	Number of Guns				Total
	0	1	2	3 or More	
Estimate	2,103	215	27 *	20 *	2,365
c.v. (%)	3.7	12.7	70.7	54.6	3.4
Per Cent	88.9	9.1	1.1 *	0.9 *	100.0

Table O-1: Distribution of Cree households, by number of guns lost, destroyed, or stolen, during the previous twelve months

	Number of Guns				Total
	0	1	2	3 or More	
Estimate	2,074	247 *	20 *	24 *	2,365
c.v. (%)	7.0	48.6	54.6	46.8	3.4
Per Cent	87.7	10.4 *	0.9 *	1.0 *	100.0

APPENDIX III

WEIGHTS, SAMPLE CHARACTERISTICS AND ESTIMATES

Determination of House and Person Weights

Stratum	Coastal	Coastal	Inland	Inland
Community	Chisasibi	Whapmagoostui	Ouje-Bougoumou	Waswanipi
Number Households	650	137	132	224
COMMUNITY WEIGHT	1.125	5.339	3.954	2.330
NUMBER HOUSEHOLDS SAMPLED	146	137	132	144
HOUSEHOLD WEIGHT	4.452	1.0	1.0	1.965
CORRECTED NUMBER HOUSEHOLDS	128	135	125	111
RESPONSE	120	122	125	101
NON-RESPONSE ADJUSTMENT	1.067	1.107	1.0	1.099
FINAL HOUSEHOLD WEIGHT	5.344	5.908	3.955	5.032
FINAL PERSONAL WEIGHT	5.344	5.908	3.955	5.032

Characteristics of the Sample

	Number of Households	Number of Persons
Chisasibi	120	628
Whapmagoostui	122	387
Ouje-Bougoumou	125	466
Waswanipi	101	417
TOTAL	468	1,898

Population Estimates Produced from the Weighted Sample

1. Number of Cree Houses

Estimated Number of All Cree Houses: 2,365
 Sampling Error:¹⁶ 80.7
 Number from Community Sources: 2,484

2. Number of Resident Crees¹⁷

Estimated Number of All Cree Residents: 9,584
 Sampling Error: 1099.9
 Number from Published Sources: 11,572

3. Distribution of estimated resident Cree population, by age group, by gender

Age Group	Estimated Males		Estimated Females	
	Number	%	Number	%
Under 12 Years	1,447	28.2	1,137	25.5
12-17 Years	658	12.8	451	10.1
18 Years and Over	3,026	59.0	2,866	64.3
Total	5,130	100.0	4,454	100.0

4. Distribution of estimated and published resident Cree population, by age group

Age Group	Estimated Residents		Published Sources – Residents	
	Number	%	Number	%
Under 12 Years	2,583	27.0	3,327	28.8
12-17 Years	1,109	11.6	1,409	12.2
18 Years and Over	5,891	61.5	6,836	59.0
Total	9,584	100.0	11,572	100.0

¹⁶ “Sampling Error” of an estimate is a measure indicating how much difference can be expected on average between the (unknown) true value and the various estimates that would be obtained from the various possible samples, if these were to be realized under the conditions that prevailed during the actual survey.

¹⁷ Differences between “estimates” and “census counts” are to be expected and are a natural phenomenon of sample surveys.