

# Life Expectancy in the Yukon

Statistical estimates of how long Yukoners are likely to live

## In brief:

- How much longer you can expect to live is directly related to your present age. For instance, a 5 year old could expect to live many more years than someone 70 years old.
- At just about any time in her life, a woman can expect to live longer than a man her age. For instance, at birth the life expectancy of a woman is 6.0 years or 8.7% longer than that of a man.
  - \* *The life expectancy of a newborn female Yukoner is 75.1 years.*
  - \* *The life expectancy of a newborn male Yukoner is 69.1 years.*
- The difference between a woman's life expectancy and a man's generally becomes smaller in the older age categories. For instance, at age 55 the difference is 3.6 years; at age 65 it is 2 years; and at age 75 the difference is 0.7 years.

- Life expectancy of newborn Yukoners of either sex does not compare favourably with newborns in the rest of Canada. For instance, at birth the life expectancy of a woman in the rest of Canada is 8 years or 11% longer than the life expectancy of a woman in the Yukon.

\* *The life expectancy of a newborn female in the Yukon is 75.1 years; in all of Canada it is 80.9 years.*

\* *The life expectancy of a newborn male in the Yukon is 69.1 years; in all of Canada it is 74.6 years.*

- Life expectancy of newborn aboriginal Yukoners is significantly less than that of non-aboriginal Yukoners.
  - readers please note that for the purposes of this information sheet aboriginal Yukoners or people of aboriginal ancestry have been estimated based upon vital statistics records for status Indians who, based on the 1991 Census, make up approximately two-thirds of all aboriginal Yukoners.

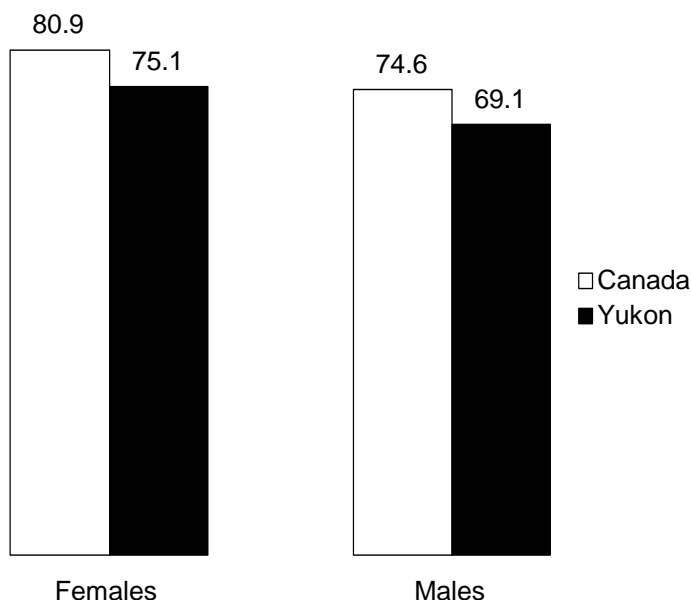
\* *The life expectancy of a newborn aboriginal female is 69.2 years; for non-aboriginal females it is 76.3 years. The difference is 7.1 years or 10.3%.*

\* *The life expectancy of a newborn aboriginal male is 61.7 years; for non-aboriginal males it is 70.3 years. The difference is 8.6 years or 13.9%.*

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The chart below shows the life expectancy of newborns in Canada compared to the Yukon figures:



As the chart to the left shows, newborn females in Canada can expect to live 5.8 years or 7.7% longer than a newborn female in the Yukon. Newborn males in Canada can expect to live 5.5 years or 8.0% longer than a newborn male in the Yukon.

Source: Statistics Canada and Yukon Bureau of Statistics

### Estimating Life Expectancy

The Yukon Bureau of Statistics has developed life expectancy estimates using existing data on 1) the annual number of deaths in the Yukon, and 2) the gender, ethnicity and age (at the time of death) of the deceased individuals. It was necessary to collect and analyze data for a number of years (10 years in fact, 1986 through to the end of 1995) since the annual number of deaths in the Yukon is so small that estimates of life expectancy based on less than 10 years of data could be unreliable. Even though these estimates of life expectancy are based on 10 years of data, readers are advised to interpret the results with caution.

It should also be noted that these estimates of life

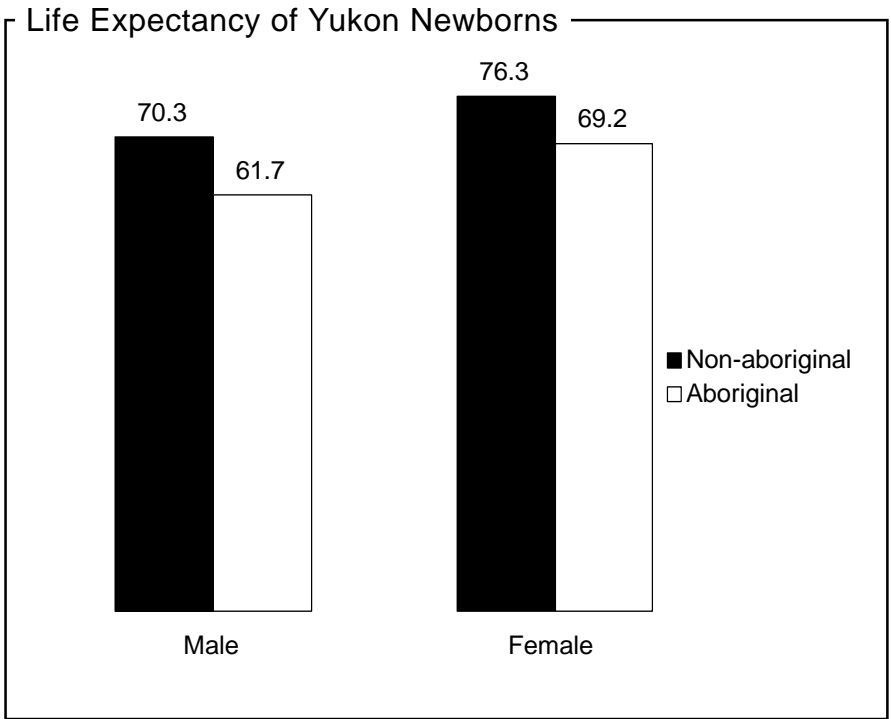
expectancy are calculated using life table methodology, which is based solely on the mortality data collected in the Yukon (number of deaths, age/sex/ethnicity of the deceased). As such, an individual's personal health or family history regarding longevity, for instance, are not taken into consideration.

Separate estimates of life expectancy are shown for men and for women. In addition, the estimates for each sex are further broken down into aboriginal/non-aboriginal figures. Where available, life expectancy figures for Canada as a whole are provided for comparison.

This is the second time life expectancy estimates for the Yukon have been published by

the Bureau of Statistics. The first time was in March of 1991 (the estimates were actually for the period 1978 to 1989). Differences in methodology do not permit a comparison of the two estimates.

As would be expected, life expectancy varies greatly with age. For instance, a 5 year old could be expected to live much longer than someone 50 years of age. Consequently, this information sheet shows life expectancy broken down by the current age of the individual. Not every age is shown since the methodology would not permit that level of detail. However, an age category is listed for every 5 years, namely, 1 year olds, 5 year olds, 10 year olds, etc..

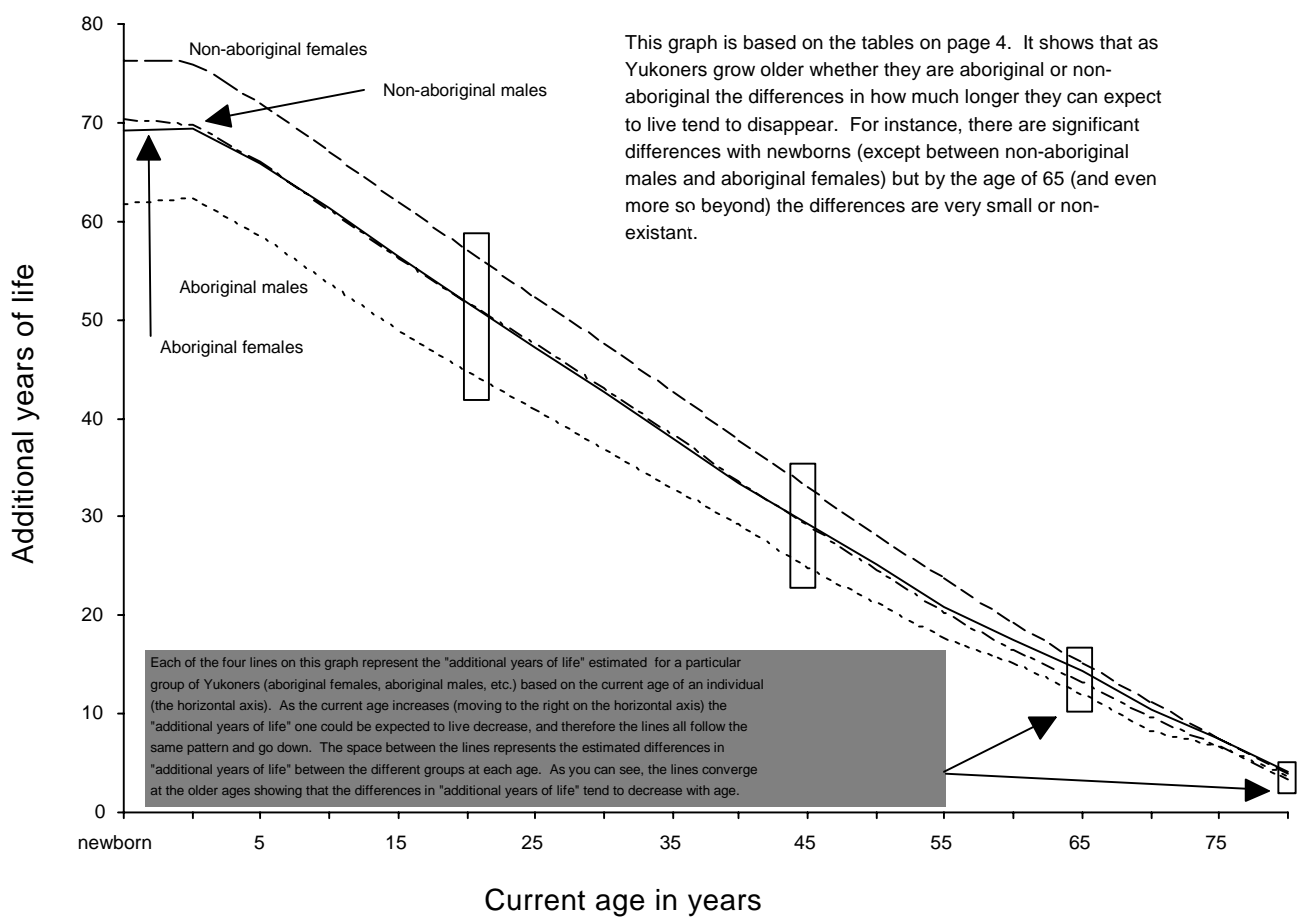


Female, **non-aboriginal** Yukon newborns outlive their male counterparts by 6.0 years or **8.5%**.

Female, **aboriginal** Yukon newborns outlive their male counterparts by 7.5 years or **12.2%**.

The difference between the life expectancy of a non-aboriginal newborn and an aboriginal newborn (of either sex) may be attributable to: 1) proportionately more aboriginal infant deaths and, 2) proportionately more accidental deaths for aboriginal Yukoners (particularly for males between the ages of 15 and 45).

**Life Expectancy: a comparison based on current age**



## Life Expectancy: Female Yukoners

**\*How to interpret the Life Expectancy Tables**

Looking at the 1 year old age category in table 1, the estimated additional years of life listed is 75.8 years. Consequently, a one year old non-aboriginal female has a projected life expectancy of:

$$\begin{aligned}
 & 1.0 \quad (\text{current age}) \\
 & + 75.8 \quad (\text{estimated additional years of life}) \\
 & = \underline{76.8} \quad (\text{projected age at time of death})
 \end{aligned}$$

**Table 1: Non-aboriginal**

| Current Age | Estimated Additional Years of Life | Projected Age at Time of Death |
|-------------|------------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| newborn     | 76.3                               | 76.3                           |
| 1 yr *      | 75.8                               | 76.8                           |
| 5 yrs       | 71.9                               | 76.9                           |
| 10 yrs      | 67.0                               | 77.0                           |
| 15 yrs      | 62.0                               | 77.0                           |
| 20 yrs      | 57.1                               | 77.1                           |
| 25 yrs      | 52.3                               | 77.3                           |
| 30 yrs      | 47.5                               | 77.5                           |
| 35 yrs      | 42.6                               | 77.6                           |
| 40 yrs      | 37.7                               | 77.7                           |
| 45 yrs      | 33.0                               | 78.0                           |
| 50 yrs      | 28.2                               | 78.2                           |
| 55 yrs      | 23.8                               | 78.8                           |
| 60 yrs      | 19.2                               | 79.2                           |
| 65 yrs      | 15.1                               | 80.1                           |
| 70 yrs      | 11.3                               | 81.3                           |
| 75 yrs      | 7.4                                | 82.4                           |
| 80 yrs      | 4.0                                | 84.0                           |

**Table 2: Aboriginal**

| Current Age | Estimated Additional Years of Life | Projected Age at Time of Death |
|-------------|------------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| newborn     | 69.2                               | 69.2                           |
| 1 yr        | 69.3                               | 70.3                           |
| 5 yrs       | 65.8                               | 70.8                           |
| 10 yrs      | 61.3                               | 71.3                           |
| 15 yrs      | 56.4                               | 71.4                           |
| 20 yrs      | 51.6                               | 71.6                           |
| 25 yrs      | 47.1                               | 72.1                           |
| 30 yrs      | 42.6                               | 72.6                           |
| 35 yrs      | 38.0                               | 73.0                           |
| 40 yrs      | 33.5                               | 73.5                           |
| 45 yrs      | 29.3                               | 74.3                           |
| 50 yrs      | 25.1                               | 75.1                           |
| 55 yrs      | 20.8                               | 75.8                           |
| 60 yrs      | 17.5                               | 77.5                           |
| 65 yrs      | 14.3                               | 79.3                           |
| 70 yrs      | 10.5                               | 80.5                           |
| 75 yrs      | 7.4                                | 82.4                           |
| 80 yrs      | 4.1                                | 84.1                           |

## Life Expectancy: Male Yukoners

**Table 1: Non-aboriginal**

| Current Age | Estimated Additional Years of Life | Projected Age at Time of Death |
|-------------|------------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| newborn     | 70.3                               | 70.3                           |
| 1 yr        | 69.8                               | 70.8                           |
| 5 yrs       | 66.0                               | 71.0                           |
| 10 yrs      | 61.1                               | 71.1                           |
| 15 yrs      | 56.2                               | 71.2                           |
| 20 yrs      | 51.7                               | 71.7                           |
| 25 yrs      | 47.5                               | 72.5                           |
| 30 yrs      | 43.0                               | 73.0                           |
| 35 yrs      | 38.3                               | 73.3                           |
| 40 yrs      | 33.6                               | 73.6                           |
| 45 yrs      | 29.0                               | 74.0                           |
| 50 yrs      | 24.6                               | 74.6                           |
| 55 yrs      | 20.3                               | 75.3                           |
| 60 yrs      | 16.5                               | 76.5                           |
| 65 yrs      | 13.1                               | 78.1                           |
| 70 yrs      | 9.6                                | 79.6                           |
| 75 yrs      | 6.7                                | 81.7                           |
| 80 yrs      | 3.4                                | 83.4                           |

**Table 2: Aboriginal**

| Current Age | Estimated Additional Years of Life | Projected Age at Time of Death |
|-------------|------------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| newborn     | 61.7                               | 61.7                           |
| 1 yr        | 62.3                               | 63.3                           |
| 5 yrs       | 58.6                               | 63.6                           |
| 10 yrs      | 53.7                               | 63.7                           |
| 15 yrs      | 48.9                               | 63.9                           |
| 20 yrs      | 44.6                               | 64.6                           |
| 25 yrs      | 40.9                               | 65.9                           |
| 30 yrs      | 36.7                               | 66.7                           |
| 35 yrs      | 32.8                               | 67.8                           |
| 40 yrs      | 29.2                               | 69.2                           |
| 45 yrs      | 24.7                               | 69.7                           |
| 50 yrs      | 21.3                               | 71.3                           |
| 55 yrs      | 17.7                               | 72.2                           |
| 60 yrs      | 15.1                               | 75.1                           |
| 65 yrs      | 12.0                               | 77.0                           |
| 70 yrs      | 8.3                                | 78.3                           |
| 75 yrs      | 6.7                                | 81.7                           |
| 80 yrs      | 3.8                                | 83.8                           |

Additional Information:

The Yukon Government  
Executive Council Office

Bureau of Statistics, (A-8C)

Box 2703, Whitehorse, Yukon Y1A 2C6

Telephone: (867) 667-5640; Fax: (867) 393-6203

Email: ybsinfo@gov.yk.ca

Website: www.yukonweb.com/government/ybs