

6

goal

The well-being and self-reliance of Aboriginal people will be comparable to that of other Albertans

core measure(s)

ABORIGINAL WELL-BEING

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DESCRIPTION

Employment rate, high school/post-secondary completion, and life expectancy rates.

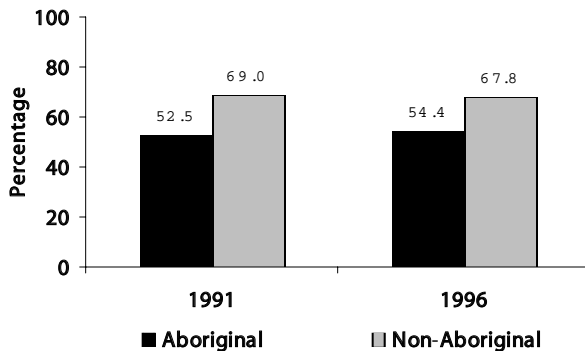
TARGET

By 2010, the difference in employment rates of Aboriginal Albertans and other Albertans will be less than 10%; the percentage of Aboriginal learners 15 years of age or older with high school completion will be 60% and 30% with post-secondary completion; the difference in life expectancy of Registered Indians in Alberta and all Albertans will be reduced by one year.

RESULTS

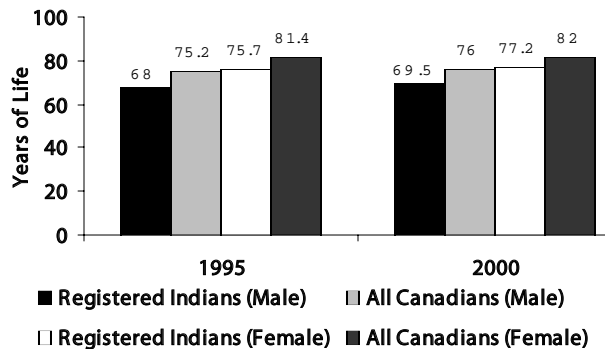
Data from the 2001 Canada Census will be available in 2003.

EMPLOYMENT RATE (ALBERTA)



Source: Statistics Canada, 1991 and 1996 Census. (Custom Tabulation, 2B Target Group Profile.)

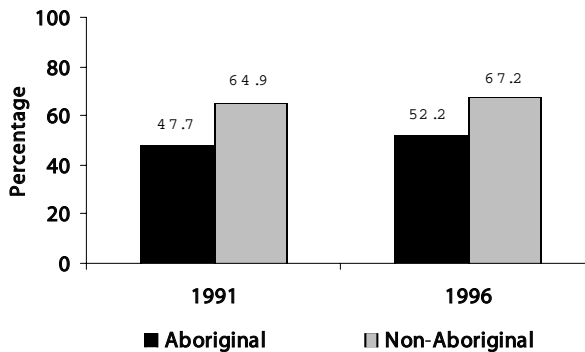
LIFE EXPECTANCY OF REGISTERED INDIANS AND CANADIAN POPULATIONS (1995 & 2000)



Source: Basic Departmental Data 2000; Information Management Branch, Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development, March 2001.

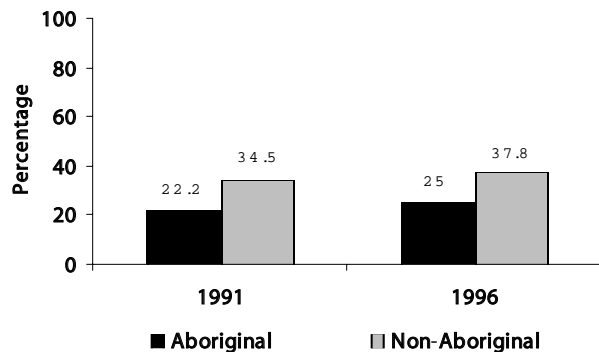
Note: Alberta data is currently unavailable. Federal data is used as a proxy.

PERCENTAGE OF POPULATION AGE 15+ WITH AT LEAST HIGH SCHOOL COMPLETION (ALBERTA)



Source: Statistics Canada, 1991 and 1996 Census. (Custom Tabulation, 2B Target Group Profile.)

PERCENTAGE OF POPULATION AGE 15+ WITH POST-SECONDARY COMPLETION (ALBERTA)



Source: Statistics Canada, 1991 and 1996 Census. (Custom Tabulation, 2B Target Group Profile.)

For more information, see the core measures methodology and related ministry measures in Appendices I and III.

DISCUSSION

This goal is intended to address the existing socio-economic disparities between Aboriginal people and other Albertans by improving Aboriginal well-being and self-reliance. “Aboriginal self-reliance” refers to the ability of First Nation, Metis and other Aboriginal communities and individuals to manage their own affairs, develop a sustainable economic base, and participate in partnerships with government and the private sector (*Strengthening Relationships, p. 11*).

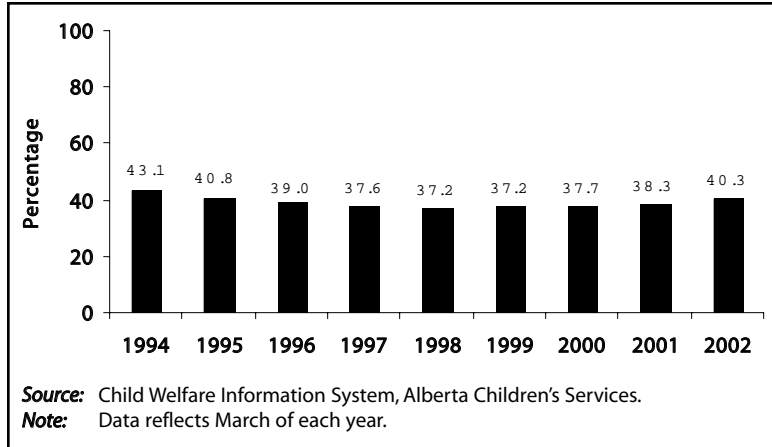
Remote Aboriginal communities often lack a strong economic base as well as access to goods, services and opportunities. Aboriginal people living in cities and towns may face discrimination and other barriers to full participation in employment. Almost half (46% in 1996) of all Aboriginal people in Alberta are under 20 years of age; these youth face a rapidly changing social, economic and work environment. Many Aboriginal people experience significant health and social challenges. Aboriginal people have expressed to the Government of Alberta that social programming by itself has failed to address the underlying economic conditions that are the basis for much of the disparity in community and individual well-being. Federal, provincial and municipal governments need to work in partnership with Aboriginal organizations and people to address these underlying conditions.

Goal 6 is supported by the Aboriginal Policy Initiative, one of the government’s cross-ministry priority policy initiatives (see Appendix IV).

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION

Child Protection Caseload

Over the past eight years, the proportion of Aboriginal children receiving protection services as a percentage of all children receiving protection services has remained relatively constant. Although a slight increase was seen during 2001 and 2002, there has been a decrease of 2.8% over the past eight years in the proportion of children receiving protection services who are Aboriginal.



Percentage of Newborns with Low or High Birth Weight - First Nations

This chart shows the percentage of First Nations babies weighing less than 2,500 grams (5.5 pounds) or weighing more than 4,500 grams (9.9 pounds). High birth weight is a probable risk factor for diabetes which is more prevalent in the First Nations population.

