

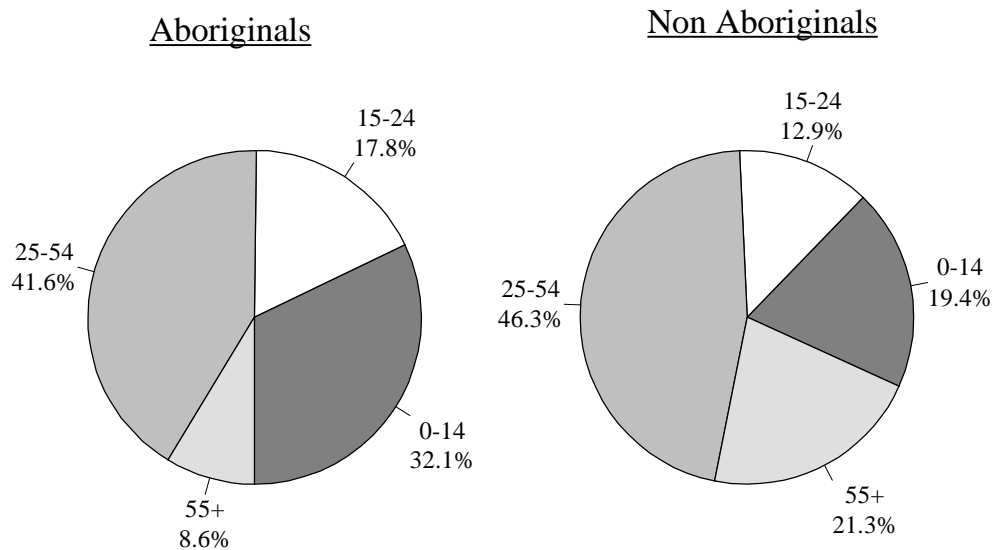
BC STATS

1996 Census Fast Facts

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Focus on BC Aboriginals: A Youthful Population

50% of Aboriginal People in British Columbia
Are Less Than 25 Years Old



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- In 1996, 3.8 per cent of the population in British Columbia reported an aboriginal identity.
- The age structure of the Aboriginal community is very different from that of the non-aboriginal population. Almost fifty per cent of the aboriginal population is less than 25 years old compared to just over 32 per cent of the non-aboriginal population.
- Children under the age of five make up 10.8 per cent of the aboriginal population and only 6.1 per cent of the non-aboriginal population. Although the fertility rate of Aboriginal women is higher than that of non-aboriginal women, the gap between the two has continued to narrow over time and forecasters expect that trend will continue.
- While the proportion of young Aboriginals is higher than that of non-aboriginals, the reverse is true when looking at the elderly population. Aboriginals 55 years of age and over constitute 8.5 per cent of aboriginal population while in the non native community the elderly account for 21.3 per cent.

**Age Structure of the Aboriginal and Non-Aboriginal
Population in British Columbia - 1996**

<u>Age Group</u>	Aboriginals					
	<u>Total</u>	<u>% of Total</u>	<u>Males</u>	<u>% of Total</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>% of Total</u>
0-4	15,065	10.8	7,755	11.4	7,310	10.2
5-9	15,360	11.0	7,900	11.6	7,460	10.4
10-14	14,380	10.3	7,520	11.0	6,860	9.6
15-19	12,840	9.2	6,690	9.8	6,145	8.6
20-24	11,950	8.6	5,705	8.4	6,240	8.7
25-34	24,250	17.4	11,310	16.6	12,935	18.1
35-44	21,160	15.2	9,715	14.2	11,445	16.0
45-54	12,670	9.1	6,070	8.9	6,605	9.2
55-64	6,900	4.9	3,230	4.7	3,670	5.1
65 and over	<u>5,080</u>	3.6	<u>2,305</u>	3.4	<u>2,770</u>	3.9
	139,655		68,205		71,450	

<u>Age Group</u>	Non-Aboriginals					
	<u>Total</u>	<u>% of Total</u>	<u>Males</u>	<u>% of Total</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>% of Total</u>
0-4	218,140	6.1	111,500	6.3	106,635	6.0
5-9	231,370	6.5	119,045	6.8	112,330	6.3
10-14	240,735	6.8	124,000	7.1	116,735	6.5
15-19	230,145	6.5	118,800	6.8	111,350	6.2
20-24	228,130	6.4	113,405	6.5	114,725	6.4
25-34	556,435	15.7	274,040	15.6	282,395	15.8
35-44	611,085	17.2	301,355	17.1	309,730	17.3
45-54	476,485	13.4	240,030	13.7	236,455	13.2
55-64	313,400	8.8	156,870	8.9	156,525	8.7
65 and over	<u>444,170</u>	12.5	<u>199,085</u>	11.3	<u>245,085</u>	13.7
	3,550,100		1,758,135		1,791,965	

Source: Statistics Canada, 1996 Census of Canada

Prepared by: BC STATS.