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**The Contribution of Métis to Future Labour
Force Growth in Canada**

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The Contribution of Métis to Future Labour Force Growth in Canada

Abstract

This report contributes to the debate on the role of Aboriginal people in the Canadian long-term economic growth by projecting the contribution of Métis people to future labour force growth in Canada as a whole and across regions under various projection scenarios. Based on our projections for the Métis labour force over the period 2011-2036, we find that the contribution of Métis to the total Canadian labour force is significant given their 1.2 per cent share in the total working age population in Canada. In our baseline scenario, the Métis people is projected to account for 6.4 per cent of total labour force growth. The Métis contribution is especially large in the regions with which the Métis has historical ties: namely the Prairie provinces and the Northern region. The contribution in these jurisdictions ranges from 11.8 per cent to 17.0 per cent. We find that the role of ethnic mobility is especially important for the Métis population growth. If we assume no ethnic mobility, the Métis contribution is projected to be 1.9 per cent of the total labour force growth in Canada. Nevertheless, this is still greater than the Métis share in the Canadian working age population in 2011.

The Contribution of Métis to Future Labour Force Growth in Canada

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The Contribution of Métis to Future Labour Force Growth in Canada

Executive Summary

This report contributes to the debate on the role of Aboriginal people in the Canadian long-term economic growth by projecting the contribution of Métis people to future labour force growth in Canada as a whole and across regions under various projection scenarios.

According to the 2011 National Household Survey, Métis people accounted for 1.4 per cent of the total population or 1.2 per cent of the working age population in Canada. There are several important characteristics in the Métis population.

First, the Métis population is much younger than the non-Aboriginal population. Among Métis people, 23.6 per cent were below age 15 in 2011. The corresponding share for the non-Aboriginal people was 16.6 per cent. Moreover, only 8.1 per cent of Métis people were 65 and over compared to 16.9 per cent of the non-Aboriginal people. This indicates that the growth prospect for the Métis labour force is much greater than for the non-Aboriginal population especially as their large cohort below age 15 will join the working-age population over the next couple of decades.

Second, age-specific participation rates among the Métis for ten year age groups between the ages of 25 and 64 are lower than the rates among the non-Aboriginal population. The overall Métis participation rate is higher than the non-Aboriginal participation rate, but this largely reflects the greater share of the Métis in the high-participation rate younger age groups. Closing the age-specific participation rate gaps can be a source of Métis labour force growth.

Third, the Métis population is projected to grow at a much faster rate than the non-Aboriginal population. Based on the reference population projection produced by Statistics Canada which includes continued ethnic mobility, the Métis working age population (WAP) is projected to grow 3.16 per cent per year over the 2011-2036 period while the non-Aboriginal WAP is projected to grow at 1.09 per cent annually. Even under the assumption of no ethnic mobility, the Métis working age population growth is projected to be higher than the non-Aboriginal population. This is due to a slightly higher fertility rate among Métis women resulting in source population growth of 1.4 per cent annually.

Based on our projections for the Métis labour force over the period 2011-2036, we find that the contribution of the Métis to the total Canadian labour force growth is important given that they accounted for 1.2 per cent of the total working age population in 2011. In our baseline projection (assuming 100 per cent convergence of the Métis fertility rate to that of non-Aboriginal people and the 1996-2011 average level/pattern for the Métis ethnic mobility), the Métis population is projected to account for 6.4 per cent of total labour growth in Canada. If age-specific regional participation rates among the Métis converge to those of the non-Aboriginal population, the contribution increases to 6.8 per cent.

The Métis contribution is large especially for the regions with which the Métis have deep historical ties: the Prairie provinces and the Northern region. The Métis contribution to the labour force growth in Saskatchewan is as high as 17.0 per cent. In Manitoba and the Northern region, the contribution amounts to 16.9 per cent and 11.8 per cent, respectively.

We find that the role of ethnic mobility in the Métis population growth prospect is particularly crucial. The contribution from Métis people to labour force growth falls from 6.4 per cent to 1.9 per cent if the trend toward more people declaring Métis heritage ends. Note however that 1.9 per cent share is still 58 per cent greater than the Métis share (1.2 per cent) in the total working age population in 2011.

The Contribution of Métis to Future Labour Force Growth in Canada¹

I. Introduction

Slow economic growth appears to be becoming "the new normal" in Canada and other advanced economies (Drummond and Capeluck, 2015). A major factor behind this slower growth is the low birth rate and ageing population, which reduces labour force growth. One means of boosting growth is to encourage labour force participation of groups that historically have had below average participation, such as Aboriginal Canadians.

Drummond *et al.* (2017) studied the role of the Aboriginal population in the future labour force growth in Canada. They find that the contribution from the Aboriginal population may reach 17 per cent of the total labour force growth over the period 2011-2036. This contribution rises to 21 per cent if age-specific participation rates converge to those of the non-Aboriginal by 2036. The result highlights not only the importance of the Aboriginal population in total labour force growth, but also the importance of closing the gaps in the participation rates.

The Métis population is young and fast-growing relative to the non-Aboriginal population. In addition, its age-specific participation rates for most age groups are lower than the non-Aboriginal rates. Given these characteristics, the Métis contribution to the labour force growth in Canada is potentially significant especially if their age-specific participation rates are raised to match those of the non-Aboriginal population.

This research report is a follow-up to Drummond *et al.* (2017), with the focus on the Métis population. We develop projections of the Métis contribution to Canada's labour force growth between 2011 and 2036 under various projection scenarios. We show that Métis people are expected to make a significant contribution to Canada's labour force growth in the coming decades.

The report contains six parts or sections. After the introduction, the second section of the report provides a current snapshot of the Métis population. The third section details the assumptions and data sources that underlie the projections. The fourth section presents descriptive analysis of the data. The fifth section presents the labour force projections and the projected contributions of Métis people to labour force growth in Canada and the provinces and territories. The sixth and last section concludes.

¹ The report was written in response to a request from the Métis National Council (MNC). The Centre for the Study of Living Standards thanks the MNC for financial support. We also thank Cristina Blanco Iglesias from the CSLS for her editorial support. Email: andrew.sharpe@csls.ca

II. Current Snapshot of the Métis Population

The Métis are "Aboriginal people who trace their descent to mixed First Nation and European heritage" (National Aboriginal Economic Development Board, 2012). Although they recognize the European and the Native elements in their culture, the Métis have distinct "culture, traditions, way of life, collective consciousness and nationhood" (Statistics Canada, 2013a). As a result, the Métis economic performances and demographic features are quite different from the other Aboriginal heritage groups and non-Aboriginal population.²

Based on the 2016 Census, we briefly highlight some key features of the current Métis population. The Métis population grew over the past decade at a fast rate reaching 599 thousand in 2016, up from 389 thousand in 2006. This amounts to 4.4 per cent growth per year. The Métis population growth had been much faster than the non-Aboriginal population, which rose from 30,068 thousand in 2006 to 33,732 thousand in 2016 (or 1.2 per cent growth per year).

In 2016, the Métis accounted for 1.7 per cent of the total population (1.5 per cent of the total working age population) up from 1.2 per cent (1.0 per cent) in 2006. In 2016, the Métis population were on average younger than the non-Aboriginal population. Among the Métis population, 40 per cent was in the 0-24 age group, compared to 29 per cent for the non-Aboriginal population.

The fertility rate among the Métis is low relative to other Aboriginal groups. The number of children per Métis woman was 1.8 during 2010-2011. This is much lower than 2.7 children per woman for the First Nations or 2.8 children per woman for Inuit. Nevertheless, the Métis fertility rate was slightly higher than the non-Aboriginal rate of 1.6. Given the similarity in birth rates between the Métis and non-Aboriginal population, it has been intra-generational ethnic mobility that accounts for the rapid growth in the Métis population growth.

Based on the 2011 National Household Survey, the labour participation rates for Métis for ten year age groups between the ages of 25 and 64 were lower than the non-Aboriginal rate.³ The overall Métis participation rate is, however, higher than the aggregate non-Aboriginal participation rate, reflecting the greater share of the Métis in the high-participation rate younger age groups, and to a lesser extent, higher Métis participation rates observed for the 15-24 and the 65 plus group age groups.

In terms of the geographical distribution, the majority of Métis live in the western provinces (59 per cent in 2016). As a comparison, 32 per cent of all Canadians lived in the western provinces. While 62 per cent of the total Canadian population lived in Ontario and Quebec, 33 per cent of the Métis population lived in the two provinces. Hence, the Métis population are skewed to the western provinces. In terms of individual provinces, Ontario (23 per cent) has the largest share of the Métis population followed by Alberta (19 per cent), Manitoba (15 per cent), and British Columbia (15 per cent).

² See Thomas (2015) for a broad assessment of Métis economic and social development.

³ The Aboriginal labour force statistics from the 2016 census are not yet available.

The Métis population performs better than the other Aboriginal groups in terms of income but worse than the non-Aboriginal population. The Métis median employment income in the 2016 Census was \$31,423, which was higher than the median income for the First Nations (\$23,345) or the Inuit (\$20,984). However, their median income was lower than the non-Aboriginal median income: \$34,013. According to the 2016 Census, 17 per cent of the Métis population in Canada was in the Low-income status, compared to 19 per cent for the First Nations and 14 percent for the non-Aboriginal population.⁴

III. Data and Method

A. Data

From the 2011 National Household Survey (NHS), we draw population counts and labour force participation rates for Métis and non-Aboriginal people aged 15 years and over in 2011, broken down by ten-year age category.⁵

We obtain official Statistics Canada projections of the Métis and non-Aboriginal populations in 2036 by ten-year age category and by province and territory. These projections are produced by a micro-simulation model maintained by the Demography Division at Statistics Canada (Morency *et al.*, 2015). They account for a large number of variables that affect population changes (e.g. fertility, mortality, migration, education, marriage patterns, etc.). We obtain five sets of projections:

1. the **Reference** projection;
2. the **Moderate fertility convergence** projection;
3. the **Constant fertility** projection;
4. the **No ethnic mobility** projection; and
5. the **No internal migration** projection.

Among many other assumptions, the reference projection assumes that Métis fertility (as estimated using the 2011 NHS) converges to the non-Aboriginal fertility rate by 2036; that the rate of intra-generational ethnic mobility remains constant at its 1996-2011 average level over the projection horizon:⁶ and that patterns of migration within Canada follow those of the 1996-2011 period over the projection horizon.⁷ In each of the latter four projections, one of these assumptions is modified relative to the reference projection. The moderate fertility convergence

⁴ Low-income measure or threshold refers to a fixed percentage (50 per cent) of median adjusted after-tax income of private households.

⁵The age categories are 15-24, 25-34, 35-44, 45-54, 55-64, and 65 and over.

⁶Intra-generational ethnic mobility refers to changes in the Aboriginal identity category reported by a person over his or her lifetime. Ethnic mobility has accounted for a substantial share of Aboriginal population growth in Canada in recent decades. For example, for the period 2006-2011, it represented 52 per cent of growth in the Métis population. It is not clear that such large contributions from ethnic mobility can be expected in the future, yet that is the assumption embedded in the reference projection. According to the 2016 census, the ethnic mobility rate between 2011 and 2016 for the Métis was above the 1996-2011 average rate.

⁷The composition of the migratory flows relating to Aboriginal identity is based on the 5-year mobility variables from the 2001 and 2006 censuses and the 2011 NHS.

projection assumes that Métis fertility converges only halfway to the non-Aboriginal fertility rate by 2036. The constant fertility projection assumes that Métis fertility remains at its 2011 rate over the projection horizon. The no ethnic mobility projection assumes that the rate of ethnic mobility is zero over the projection horizon. The no internal migration projection assumes that there is no Aboriginal internal migration over the projection horizon. In all cases, the assumptions underlying the projections of the non-Aboriginal population are held unchanged and are set to be consistent with the assumptions underlying Statistics Canada's main population projections.

Morency *et al.* (2015) provide information about the projected age breakdown of the Métis in 2036. Custom tabulations on population by 10- year increments were obtained from Statistics Canada to allow more detailed simulations for Métis labour force projections by region.

For the Métis, intra-generational ethnic mobility is relatively more important for its projection since the fertility among Métis is lower than the other Aboriginal identities and only slightly higher than the non-Aboriginal. According to the 2011 NHS, the rate for the Métis was 1.8 children per woman, compared to 2.2 for the total Aboriginal population and 1.6 for the non-Aboriginal population. Moreover, there is a considerable lag for any change in the fertility rate to have a notable effect on the population growth. Thus, any change in assumptions regarding fertility rates would have little impact on the projections. Moreover, according to Morency *et al.* (2015), intra-generational ethnic mobility has been more prominent among the Métis than First Nations people, while it was not observed conclusively among Inuit. Hence, the large differences between Métis projection scenarios will be due to the uncertainty surrounding the intra-generational ethnic mobility over the projection horizon.

Although there is a great deal of uncertainty whether a high ethnic mobility rate for the Métis will continue for the next couple of decades, recent developments suggest it will persist for some time in the future. According to the 2016 Census, intra-generational ethnic mobility is still an important factor driving the Métis population growth. We calculate that 80 per cent of population growth between 2011 and 2016 was due to this factor. In October 2017, Statistics Canada identified ethnic mobility as one of the two main sources of growth for the Aboriginal population (Statistics Canada, 2017).⁸

We have estimated the mobility rate for Métis for the 2011-2016 period based on the 2011 and 2016 Census using the implied Métis population growth from the No Ethnic Mobility scenario.⁹ The mobility rate for the Métis, defined as the probability that a non-Métis person in 2011 will identify as Métis in 2016 was 0.54 per cent for the period 2011-2016. This is higher than the mobility rate of 0.2 per cent observed over the period 2006-2011 or the average mobility rate of 0.3 per cent for the period 1996-2011 (Morency *et al.*, 2015:Table 6). This is also higher than the mobility rate of 0.4 per cent observed for First Nations over the period 2006-2011. This indicates that a high mobility rate has been persistent for the Métis for the past five years. Note that the ethnic mobility rate assumed in the reference projection is *lower* than the rate observed during the 2006-2011.

⁸The other factor is natural growth, which includes increased life expectancy and relatively high fertility rates.

⁹See Appendix 2 for the detailed procedure for estimating the ethnic mobility rate. The results are reported in Appendix Table 6.

B. Method

To generate our labour force projections for the Métis, non-Métis Aboriginal, and non-Aboriginal populations in 2036, we use the following procedure:

1. Using the age-specific population and labour force participation rate estimates from the 2011 NHS, calculate the 2011 labour force for Métis, non-Métis Aboriginal, and non-Aboriginal people, for Canada and for the provinces and territories.
2. Calculate the projected Métis, non-Métis Aboriginal, and non-Aboriginal labour forces in 2036 under two alternative scenarios for the groups' respective participation rates:
 - a. Scenario 1: The age-specific gaps between the groups' labour force participation rates remain unchanged from their 2011 levels.
 - In this case, multiply each group's projected age-specific population in 2036 by their 2011 age-specific participation rate from the NHS, then sum across age categories. Thus, we assume each group's age-specific participation rates are the same in 2036 as in 2011.
 - b. Scenario 2: The age-specific gaps between Métis and non-Aboriginal labour force participation rates close by 2036. The age-specific gaps for the non-Métis Aboriginal participation rates remain unchanged from their 2011 levels.
 - In this case, multiply the projected age-specific Métis and non-Aboriginal populations in 2036 by the 2011 *non-Aboriginal* age-specific participation rates from the NHS if the Métis rate is lower than the non-Aboriginal rate. Then, sum across age categories. When the age-specific Métis rate is higher, the projected Métis population is multiplied by their own participation rates in 2011. Projections for the non-Métis Aboriginal labour force are obtained by subtracting the projected Métis labour force from the projected Aboriginal labour force under scenario 1 in Drummond *et al.* (2017). Thus, we assume that the non-Métis Aboriginal and the non-Aboriginal participation rates remain unchanged between 2011 and 2036 while the Métis age-specific participation rates change from their actual 2011 rates to the 2011 non-Aboriginal rates for the age-groups whose participation rate is lower.

With the Métis, non-Métis Aboriginal, and non-Aboriginal labour force projections from Step 2, it is easy to compute the change in each group's labour force between 2011 and 2036. The ratio of the change in the Métis labour force to the change in the total labour force is our measure of the Métis population's contribution to Canada's labour force growth over the 2011-2036 period.

IV. Descriptive Analysis

A. Population

Table 1 presents population statistics for Métis and non-Aboriginal people aged 15 and over (the working-age population).¹⁰ Panel A shows the population levels in 2011 and the projections for 2036 under the five sets of assumptions described above. Panel B shows the implied annual growth rates between 2011 and 2036.

In 2011, the Métis population was 444 thousand and accounted for 1.0 per cent of the total population in Canada (Appendix Table 1-1). Under the reference scenario, their population is projected to rise by 432 thousand over the period 2011-2036 to 867 thousand. The implied annual growth rate is 2.71 per cent. The non-Aboriginal population was 31,458 thousand in 2011 and is projected to reach 40,391 by 2036 with the implied annual growth rate of 1.0 per cent.

The Métis working-age population was 332 thousand accounting for 1.2 per cent of the total working-age population. The reference projection for the Métis working-age population is 722 thousand in 2036 with the implied annual growth rate of 3.16 per cent. The non-Aboriginal working-age population was 26.1 million in 2011. The non-Aboriginal working-age population is projected to rise at a much lower rate of 1.09 per cent annually over the 2011-2036 period and to reach 34.2 million in 2036 (Table 1).

The only projection scenario that differs significantly from the reference projection at the national level is the projection with no ethnic mobility. If the rate of ethnic mobility over the projection horizon is zero, then the Métis working-age population will rise by 1.39 per cent per year and will reach 469 thousand in 2036. What happens to the rate of intra-generational ethnic mobility will be a key determinant of the growth of the Aboriginal population in the future. In this report, we will treat the reference projection and the no ethnic mobility projection as upper and lower bounds on Métis population growth over the 2011-2036 period.

¹⁰ See Appendix Table 1-1 for the total population in 2011 and its projections.

Table 1: Population Aged 15 and Over, Métis and Non-Aboriginal, Canada and the Regions, 2011 and Projection to 2036

Panel A: Population Levels (Thousands of Persons)										
	2011			Non-Aboriginal	2036 Projections					Difference A - D
	Non-Aboriginal	Métis	% Métis		A. Reference	B. Moderate fertility convergence	Métis C. Constant fertility	D. No ethnic mobility	E. No internal migration	
Canada	26,133	332	1.23	34,231	722	723	723	469	720	253
Atlantic region	1,844	16	0.84	1,806	36	36	36	18	41	18
Quebec	6,365	32	0.49	7,711	68	68	68	38	69	30
Ontario	10,197	68	0.65	13,903	167	167	166	87	165	80
Manitoba	803	57	6.13	1,037	104	104	104	81	110	23
Saskatchewan	696	37	4.67	829	65	65	65	56	66	9
Alberta	2,731	66	2.30	4,313	159	159	160	112	150	47
British Columbia	3,461	52	1.43	4,583	120	120	120	72	116	48
Northern region	36	2	2.86	49	5	5	5	4	5	1

Panel B: Implied Population Growth Rates, 2011-2036 (Per Cent per Year)										
	Non-Aboriginal	Non-Aboriginal	A. Reference	Métis					Difference A - D	
				B. Moderate fertility convergence	C. Constant fertility	D. No ethnic mobility	E. No internal migration			
Canada	--	--	1.09	3.16	3.16	3.16	1.39	3.14	1.76	
Atlantic region	--	--	-0.08	3.30	3.30	3.30	0.47	3.84	2.82	
Quebec	--	--	0.77	3.06	3.06	3.06	0.69	3.12	2.37	
Ontario	--	--	1.25	3.66	3.66	3.63	0.99	3.61	2.67	
Manitoba	--	--	1.03	2.43	2.43	2.43	1.42	2.66	1.02	
Saskatchewan	--	--	0.70	2.28	2.28	2.28	1.67	2.34	0.61	
Alberta	--	--	1.84	3.58	3.58	3.16	2.14	3.34	1.44	
British Columbia	--	--	1.13	3.40	3.40	3.40	1.31	3.26	2.09	
Northern region	--	--	1.22	3.73	3.73	3.73	2.81	3.73	0.92	

Note: % Métis represents the percentage of the Métis population in the total Canadian population aged 15 and over.

Source: Author's calculations based on output from the Aboriginal population projection micro-simulation model described in Morency *et al.* (2015). Projections for the non-Aboriginal population are from the reference projection.

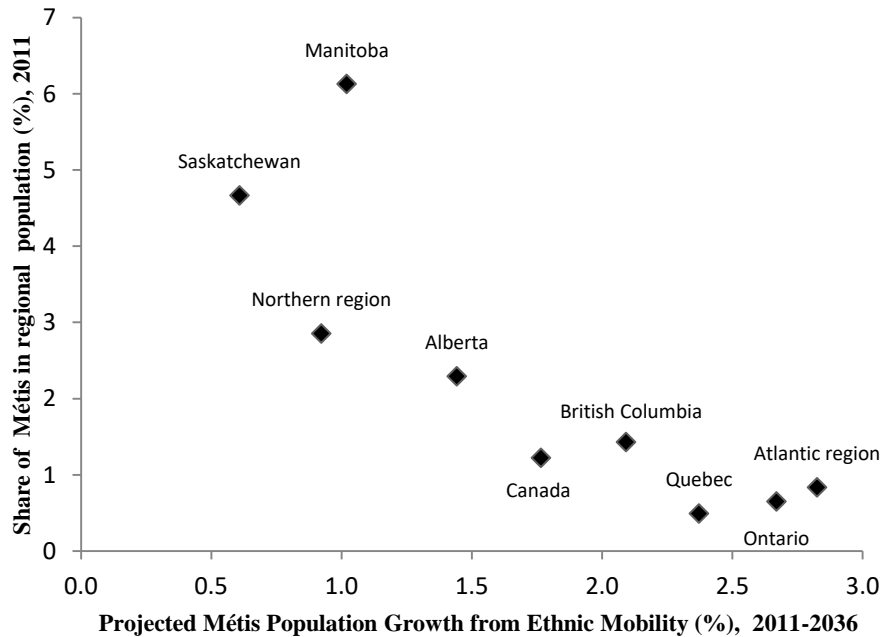
Métis people also account for a large share in the total working-age population in the Prairie provinces and the Northern Region in 2011. The share of the Métis in the working-age population was 6.13 percent in Manitoba, 4.67 per cent in Saskatchewan, and 2.86 per cent in the Northern region. These numbers are much higher than other regions where the share tends to be below 2.0 per cent.

The projected growth rate of the Métis working-age population differs substantially across regions. Under the reference projection, projected Métis population growth ranges from a low of 2.28 per cent per year in Saskatchewan to a high of 3.73 per cent per year in the Northern region.¹¹ The Prairie provinces are projected to have *relatively* lower growth rates in their Métis working-age population over the projection horizon. In contrast, the regions with a much lower share of the Métis in regional working-age population are projected to have much higher growth rates over the horizon. For example, only 0.65 per cent of the working-age population in Ontario

¹¹The Northern region encompasses Nunavut, the Northwest Territories, and Yukon. The Atlantic region encompasses Newfoundland and Labrador, Prince Edward Island, Nova Scotia and New Brunswick.

was Métis in 2011. However, the province is projected to have 3.66 per cent annual growth in the Métis population over the projection horizon, reflecting a higher rate of intergenerational ethnic mobility.

Chart 1: Relationship between the Métis Share in Working Age Population in 2011 and Métis Population Growth from Ethnic Mobility, 2011-2036



Changes in assumptions regarding fertility rates do not affect the Métis population projection. This reflects the fact that the fertility rates among Métis people are very similar to those of non-Aboriginal people and that a change in the fertility rate barely affects the labour force by 2036. Moreover, a change in the fertility rate takes 15 years to have any effect on working age population growth. The implied growth rates under the constant fertility scenario are essentially the same as those under the reference scenario.

Without ethnic mobility Quebec, Ontario, and the Atlantic Region see their Métis growth rates fall substantially. Particularly, Quebec and the Atlantic Region are projected to grow by only 0.69 and 0.47 per cent per year and reach Métis populations of 38,000 and 18,000, respectively. This compares to the reference projections where the annual Métis population growth is 3.06 per cent in Quebec to a population of 68,000 and 3.30 per cent in the Atlantic Region to a population of 36,000 by 2036.

One interesting observation is that the regions with a smaller Métis share in the working age population tend to have a greater ethnic mobility as reflected by the difference between the implied annual growth rates for the reference and no ethnic mobility scenarios (Chart 1). This implies that non-Aboriginal people in the regions with a small Métis share in the working age population are more likely to declare their Métis identity over time. The Atlantic region, Quebec,

and Ontario have a very small Métis share in their working age population. In those regions, we expect to see a larger proportion of non-Aboriginal people declaring their Métis heritage over time.

The fifth assumption of no internal migration affects several regions. However, the changes in the population growth are far less than the case with no ethnic mobility. The largest change occurs for Saskatchewan in which the annual growth rate falls by 1.6 percentage point from its reference projection. This implies that Saskatchewan saw a large number of Métis people migrating into the province over the past period, and hence internal migration is likely to play an important role in the Métis population growth in the province if the past trend continues.

B. Age Breakdown

Table 2 shows the age breakdown of the Métis and non-Aboriginal populations in 2011 and in 2036 under the five projection scenarios. The Métis population was substantially younger than the non-Aboriginal population in 2011.¹² Among Métis people, 23.5 per cent were below age 15. The corresponding share among non-Aboriginal people was 16.6 per cent, 6.9 percentage points lower. At the other end of the age spectrum, 6.0 per cent of Métis people were aged 65 and over, compared to 14.1 per cent among non-Aboriginal people (a gap of 8.1 percentage points). The share of the population that was aged 15-64 was slightly larger among Métis than among non-Aboriginal people (70.5 per cent and 69.3 per cent, respectively). Overall, the working-age population comprised 83.4 per cent of the non-Aboriginal population and 76.5 per cent of the Métis population.

Table 2: Age Composition of the Métis and Non-Aboriginal Total Population, Canada, 2011 and Projection for 2036

	2011		2036 Projection					
	Non-Aboriginal	Métis	Non-Aboriginal	Métis				
				A. Reference	B. Moderate fertility convergence	C. Constant fertility	D. No ethnic mobility	E. No internal migration
0-14	16.6	23.5	15.3	16.7	17.2	17.6	17.9	16.8
15-64	69.3	70.5	60.0	64.2	63.9	63.7	62.2	64.0
65+	14.1	6.0	24.7	19.1	19.0	18.9	19.8	19.1
Working-age (15+)	83.4	76.5	84.7	83.4	82.9	82.7	82.0	83.1

Source: Figures for 2011 are the author's calculations based on the 2011 National Household Survey. Projections to 2036 are from Morency *et al.* (2015), Table A-1.

The Métis population is expected to remain relatively youthful in 2036, although the age breakdown will move somewhat closer to that of the non-Aboriginal population. Under the reference projection, the share of Métis people below age 15 declines substantially from 23.5 per

¹²However, the Métis population is older than other Aboriginal groups. This is due to the lower Métis birth rate and to the fact that historically, ethnic mobility occurred among older people for the Métis, compared to other Aboriginal identity groups. However, ethnic mobility among older people has declined. Recently, the age profile of people changing their identity to the Métis is similar to that of the receiving population (Morency *et al.*, 2015).

cent to 16.7 per cent. As a result, the working-age population share rises from 76.5 per cent to 83.4 per cent. Thus, a substantial part of Métis labour force growth over the projection horizon is expected to come from the aging of the population, with the current large cohort of people aged 0-14 moving into working age. Among non-Aboriginal people, the share of 15 and over in the total population is projected to rise only slightly, from 83.4 to 84.7 per cent.

Panel A in Table 3 displays the absolute size and distribution of the *working-age* population in 2011 for the five 10-year age groups from 15 to 64 and the 65 and over age group for Canada for the non-Aboriginal and Métis populations. The Métis working age population is much younger, with 57.3 per cent in the three youngest age groups (15-24, 25-34 and 35-44), compared to 47.5 per cent for the non-Aboriginal population.

Panel B shows the absolute size and distribution of the working-age population in 2036 (with the reference projection) by 10-year age groups for Canada for the non-Aboriginal and Métis populations. By 2036, the aging of both the Métis and non-Aboriginal population will have reduced the share of working age population in the 15-44 age groups to 47.8 per cent and 41.7 per cent respectively, with the gap between shares being 6.1 percentage points, down from 9.8 per cent in 2011. Both Métis and non-Aboriginal populations will have the highest proportions of the working-age population in the 65+ category. However, the Métis population is projected to be skewed to the younger cohorts, while the non-Aboriginal is projected to be proportioned mainly to the older end of the spectrum (with Métis people having 16.0 per cent in the 15-24 age group compared to 13.0 per cent at the non-Aboriginal national level under the reference projection, and 23.0 percent in the 65-and-over category compared to 29.2 per cent).

Table 3: Working Age Population by Age Category, Métis and Non-Aboriginal Populations, Canada, 2011 and 2036 projections

Panel A, 2011							
	15-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	Working-age (15+)
Non-Aboriginal (thousands)	4,040	4,103	4,261	5,091	4,223	4,413	26,133
Métis (thousands)	74	60	56	70	45	27	332
Share Non-Aboriginal (%)	15.5	15.7	16.3	19.5	16.2	16.9	100.0
Share Métis (%)	22.3	18.1	16.9	21.1	13.6	8.1	100.0
Panel B, 2036 Projections (Reference case)							
	15-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	Working-age (15+)
Non-Aboriginal (thousands)	4,462	4,689	5,145	5,293	4,655	9,988	34,232
Métis (thousands)	116	110	120	116	95	166	723
Share Non-Aboriginal (%)	13.0	13.7	15.0	15.5	13.6	29.2	100.0
Share Métis (%)	16.0	15.2	16.6	16.0	13.1	23.0	100.0

Note: See Appendix table 2a, 2b, and 2c for breakdowns by region. The data sources are 2011 National Household Survey and author's calculations based on output from the Aboriginal population projection micro-simulation model described in Morency *et al.* (2015).

Table 4: Labour Force Participation Rates of the Métis and Non-Aboriginal Populations by Age Category, Canada and the Regions, 2011

Panel A. Non-Aboriginal							
	15-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	Working-age (15+)
Canada	61.2	86.0	87.3	85.5	62.7	13.3	66.2
Atlantic region	61.6	86.4	87.4	83.0	57.7	10.1	63.0
Quebec	61.2	86.4	88.1	85.6	57.3	10.7	64.6
Ontario	58.8	85.3	86.4	85.0	63.5	13.3	65.7
Manitoba	67.1	86.4	90.0	89.2	67.0	15.8	68.7
Saskatchewan	71.4	88.3	91.8	90.2	70.6	20.2	70.8
Alberta	67.7	87.4	88.4	87.9	72.7	20.8	73.9
British Columbia	59.4	84.6	86.1	84.7	63.7	13.4	64.9
Northern region	63.3	88.4	95.1	95.5	80.2	29.2	83.8
Panel B. Métis							
	15-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	Working-age (15+)
Canada	61.3	83.3	83.5	81.5	59.6	17.6	69.5
Atlantic region	64.5	89.4	89.8	79.9	54.7	6.6	69.9
Quebec	55.1	80.3	87.8	82.7	45.7	14.7	64.8
Ontario	65.0	83.9	80.1	76.9	60.3	9.0	67.7
Manitoba	62.1	86.4	86.0	83.9	59.6	22.0	71.0
Saskatchewan	56.0	78.8	84.5	84.7	61.6	16.7	68.6
Alberta	63.1	84.2	84.1	83.5	64.8	28.2	73.3
British Columbia	60.1	80.1	78.9	80.4	65.1	21.0	68.1
Northern region	61.5	94.1	81.8	90.0	75.0	50.0	80.8
Panel C. Gap between Non-Aboriginal and Métis Rates							
	15-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	Working-age (15+)
Canada	-0.1	2.6	3.8	4.0	3.1	-4.4	-3.3
Atlantic region	-2.8	-3.0	-2.4	3.1	3.0	3.5	-6.9
Quebec	6.2	6.1	0.3	2.9	11.6	-4.0	-0.2
Ontario	-6.1	1.4	6.3	8.1	3.2	4.3	-2.1
Manitoba	5.1	0.0	4.0	5.3	7.4	-6.2	-2.3
Saskatchewan	15.4	9.5	7.2	5.5	9.0	3.6	2.2
Alberta	4.6	3.3	4.3	4.4	8.0	-7.4	0.5
British Columbia	-0.8	4.5	7.2	4.3	-1.3	-7.7	-3.2
Northern region	1.8	-5.8	13.3	5.5	5.2	-20.8	3.0

Source: Author's calculations based on the 2011 National Household Survey.

C. Labour Force Participation Rates

Table 4 presents the labour force participation rates in 2011 for the Métis and non-Aboriginal working-age populations at the regional level by age groups. At the national level, the participation rates were 69.5 per cent and 66.2 per cent for Métis and non-Aboriginal people, respectively. The aggregate participation rate of the Métis is higher than the non-Aboriginal by 3.3 percentage points.¹³ Note that the higher *aggregate* participation rate is due to different age distribution. Appendix Table 3 presents the Métis participation rates that would have been observed if the Métis population had the same age distribution as the non-Aboriginal population. The table also reports gaps between the non-Aboriginal rates and the counterfactual rates. At the aggregate level, the counterfactual Métis participation rate is *lower* than the non-Aboriginal rate by 1.5 percentage points.

Within every other 10-year age category between ages 15 and 64, the participation gap is positive except for the 15-24 and the 65 plus category in which the Métis have slightly higher rates.¹⁴ The two mid-age groups (35-44 and 45-54) exhibit the largest positive participation rate gaps between the Métis and non-Aboriginal populations. The gap is 3.8 points for the 35-44 age group and 4.0 points for the 45-54 age group. This is significant as the two age groups take proportionally larger shares among the Métis population than the non-Aboriginal and they are projected to remain so in 2036 (as shown in Table 3).

There are large variations across regional age-specific gaps in the participation rates. The age group 15-24 and 65 plus have the most extreme variations across the regions. For the 15-24 group, the gap ranges from -6.1 percentage points in Ontario to 15.4 percentage points in Saskatchewan. For the 65 and older, the gap ranges from -20.8 in the Northern region to 4.3 in Ontario.

Table 5 provides an estimate of what the labour force would have been in Canada *in 2011* if there had been no differential in 10-year age group participation rates between the Métis and non-Aboriginal populations. Panel B presents the regional effect of closing age-specific participation rate gaps. The Métis counterfactual labour force in 2011 at the regional level is derived by multiplying their 2011 regional age-specific population by the corresponding regional age-specific non-Aboriginal (Métis) participation rate if the Métis rate is lower (higher). Panel A contains the regional age-specific participation rates with the gaps closed.¹⁵

First, at the national level, closing the gaps raises the labour force in 2011 by 8,000 (3.4 per cent increase). We observe that the effect is quite significant at the regional level. The variations in the effect across the regions reflect different age distribution in the regional

¹³ Negative gap implies that the Métis rate is higher than the non-Aboriginal rate.

¹⁴ This may reflect less schooling among the younger Métis and less pension benefit for the older Métis resulting in higher participation rates among the two age groups.

¹⁵ We've placed the non-Aboriginal participation rate if a given age-specific rate is lower than the corresponding non-Aboriginal rate. Otherwise, the Métis rates are shown.

populations (see Panel B in Appendix Table 2a) as well as a varying extent of age-specific gaps in regional participation rates (see Panel C in Table 4). For example, in Saskatchewan, a large gap in the participation rate is found for the age group 15-24: 15.4 percentage points. Moreover, Saskatchewan has a large share of the regional population in the age group 15-24. Accordingly, the province exhibits a fairly substantial effect of closing the gaps on its regional labour force.

Table 5: Effect of Closing the Participation Gap in 2011, by Region

Panel A: Participation Rate and Population by Age Group, 2011							
	Métis Participation Rate with Gaps Closed (%)						Working-age (15+)
	15-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	
Canada	61.3	86.0	87.3	85.5	62.7	17.6	71.9
Atlantic region	64.5	89.4	89.8	83.0	57.7	10.1	65.2
Quebec	61.2	86.4	88.1	85.6	57.3	14.7	69.7
Ontario	65.0	85.3	86.4	85.0	63.5	13.3	71.7
Manitoba	67.1	86.4	90.0	89.2	67.0	22.0	74.8
Saskatchewan	71.4	88.3	91.8	90.2	70.6	20.2	77.9
Alberta	67.7	87.4	88.4	87.9	72.7	28.2	77.7
British Columbia	60.1	84.6	86.1	84.7	65.1	21.0	70.9
Northern region	63.3	94.1	95.1	95.5	80.2	50.0	85.2

Panel B: Effect of Closing the Age-Specific Participation Gap in 2011 by Region			
	Actual labour force, 2011 (Thousands of persons)	Counterfactual labour force, 2011 (Thousands of persons)	Per cent change (%)
Métis			
Canada	230	238	3.4
Atlantic region	12	12	3.8
Quebec	21	23	7.5
Ontario	46	49	5.9
Manitoba	40	42	5.4
Saskatchewan	26	29	13.5
Alberta	48	51	5.9
British Columbia	35	37	4.1
Northern region	2	2	5.4
Non- Métis Aboriginal	360	360	0.0
Non-Aboriginal	17,309	17,309	0.0
Total	17,899	17,907	0.0

Source: Author's calculations based on the 2011 National Household Survey and Table 6 in Drummond *et al.* (2017).

Note: Note that we do not close the gaps for the non-Métis Aboriginal people.

V. Labour Force Projections

Table 6 presents the CSLs labour force projections for the Métis and non-Aboriginal populations for Canada and the regions to 2036 based on the reference population projections.¹⁶ Scenarios 1 and 2 contain projections under two alternative assumptions about the evolution of the participation rate gap:

Scenario 1: the participation rate gaps by *age category* between Métis and non-Aboriginal people remains unchanged over the 2011-2036 period.

Scenario 2: the participation rates by *age category* (across all regions) for the Métis population converge to those of the non-Aboriginal population over the 2011-2036 period.

Table 6 reports our labour projections under the reference assumptions. Under scenario 1 (and using the reference population projection), the Métis labour force in Canada is projected to grow by 213 thousand, from 230 thousand in 2011 to 443 thousand in 2036. The total labour force is projected to grow by 3,318 thousand. As a result, the projected Métis share of total labour force *growth* is 6.4 per cent. The Métis share of the total labour force is projected to grow as well. The projected Métis share of the total labour force in 2036 is 2.1 per cent, which is higher than 1.3 per cent observed in 2011 (As calculated from labour force figures in Table 6). Under scenario 2, the Métis age-specific participation rates rise to those of the non-Aboriginal population. This raises the increase of the Métis labour force to 458 thousand and increases the Métis share of total labour force growth to 6.8 per cent. Note that the difference between the two scenarios is not substantial at the national level.¹⁷

As noted earlier, the population projections from Statistics Canada are sensitive to assumptions about the rate of intra-generational ethnic mobility. The projections discussed in the preceding paragraph are based on the reference projection, which assumes that the rate of ethnic mobility remains at its average level from recent years over the projection horizon.

¹⁶ In Table 6, we also have projections for the Non-Métis Aboriginal population. The non-Métis Aboriginal labour force projections were computed by subtracting the projected Métis working-age population from the projected Aboriginal working-age population in Drummond *et al.* (2017) and then multiplying the resulting residual by the participation rate of the non-Métis Aboriginal acquired from the 2011 NHS. In principle, separate projections for First Nations and Inuit should be obtained. However, we expect that the resulting labour force projections are similar.

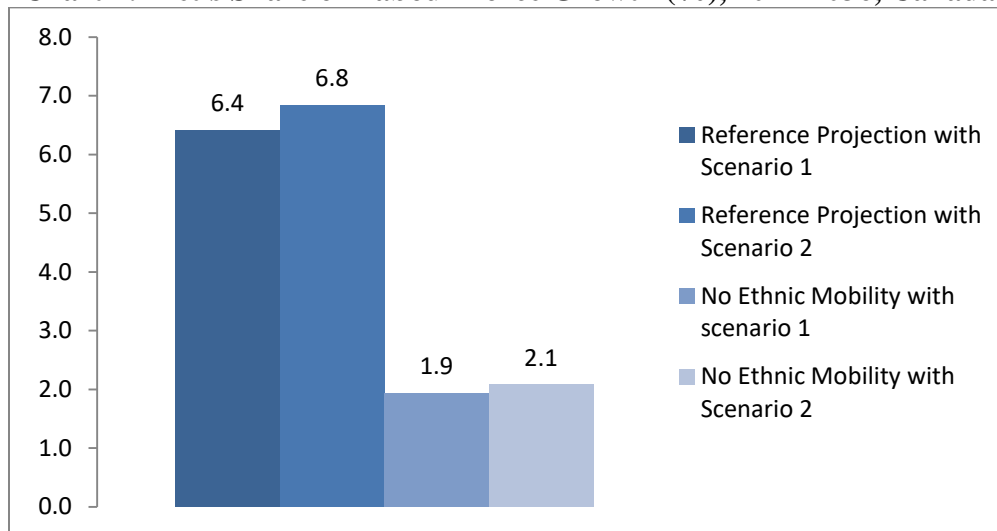
¹⁷ Note that our method for computing the scenario 2 projections introduces an upward bias in our projections. We close the gaps *only* when the Métis rate is lower than the non-Aboriginal rate while keeping the age-specific rates that are higher. To assess the degree of upward bias introduced by this method, we report an alternative scenario projection in Appendix Table 5. Under this scenario, we simply apply the non-Aboriginal rates for all the age groups. The Métis labour force in 2036 is projected to be lower under the alternative scenario. The upward bias is approximately 7,000 at the national level. At the regional level, the bias ranges from 411 (Atlantic region) to 5,000 (Saskatchewan).

Table 6: Labour Force Projections for 2036, Métis and Non-Aboriginal Populations, Canada and the Provinces, Reference Projection

Scenario 1: Participation Rate Gap Remains Unchanged														
	Labour force, 2011				Labour force, 2036				Change in labour force, 2011-2036				Share of change (%)	
	Métis	Non-Métis Aboriginal	Non- Aboriginal	Total	Métis	Non-Métis Aboriginal	Non- Aboriginal	Total	Métis	Non-Métis Aboriginal	Non- Aboriginal	Total	Métis	Non-Métis Aboriginal
	Canada	230	359	17,309	17,898	443	748	20,025	21,217	213	389	2,717	3,318	6.4
Atlantic region	12	28	1,162	1,202	20	50	910	981	8	22	-252	-222	--	--
Quebec	21	43	4,113	4,178	37	95	4,345	4,477	16	52	231	300	5.5	17.3
Ontario	46	92	6,696	6,834	96	199	8,121	8,415	50	106	1,425	1,581	3.2	6.7
Manitoba	40	34	552	626	66	70	643	780	26	37	91	154	16.9	23.8
Saskatchewan	26	29	493	548	40	65	527	632	14	36	34	85	17.0	42.4
Alberta	48	45	2,017	2,110	107	106	2,872	3,086	59	61	856	976	6.0	6.3
British Columbia	35	69	2,246	2,350	75	127	2,633	2,835	39	58	387	485	8.1	12.1
Northern region	2	19	30	51	5	33	35	73	3	14	5	22	11.8	64.9
Scenario 2: Participation Rate Gap Closes by 2036														
	Labour force, 2011				Labour force, 2036				Change in labour force, 2011-2036				Share of change(%)	
	Métis	Non-Métis Aboriginal	Non- Aboriginal	Total	Métis	Non-Métis Aboriginal	Non- Aboriginal	Total	Métis	Non-Métis Aboriginal	Non- Aboriginal	Total	Métis	Non-Métis Aboriginal
	Canada	230	359	17,309	17,898	458	748	20,025	21,232	228	389	2,717	3,333	6.8
Atlantic region	12	28	1,162	1,202	21	50	910	981	9	22	-252	-221	--	--
Quebec	21	43	4,113	4,178	40	95	4,345	4,480	19	52	231	302	6.3	17.1
Ontario	46	92	6,696	6,834	103	199	8,121	8,422	57	106	1,425	1,588	3.6	6.7
Manitoba	40	34	552	626	70	70	643	783	30	37	91	158	18.7	23.3
Saskatchewan	26	29	493	548	45	65	527	638	20	36	34	90	21.8	40.0
Alberta	48	45	2,017	2,110	113	106	2,872	3,092	65	61	856	982	6.6	6.2
British Columbia	35	69	2,246	2,350	78	127	2,633	2,838	43	58	387	488	8.7	12.0
Northern region	2	19	30	32	5	33	35	73	3	14	5	22	12.8	64.2

Note: See Appendix Table 4a, 4b, 4c, 4d for Moderate Fertility Convergence, Constant Fertility, No Ethnic Mobility, and No Internal Migration projections. The data sources are 2011 National Household Survey and author's calculations based on output from the Aboriginal population projection micro-simulation model described in Morency *et al.* (2015)

Chart 2: Métis Share of Labour Force Growth (%), 2011-2036, Canada



If it is assumed that the rate of ethnic mobility is zero over the projection horizon, the projected Métis working-age population growth is approximately 35 per cent lower. In terms of annual growth rates, the rate falls from 3.16 per cent to 1.39 per cent as we change the assumption from the reference scenario to the no ethnic mobility scenario (as shown in Table 1). Similarly, the projected Métis labour force growth over 2011-2036 is 92.6 per cent in scenario 1 and 99.1 per cent in scenario 2 under the reference projections. If we assume no ethnic mobility, however, the growth falls to 25.7 per cent and 27.4 per cent, respectively (as calculated from labour force figures in Appendix Table 4c).

Hence, the reference projection and the no ethnic mobility projection may represent upper and lower bounds on Métis population/labour force growth over the 2011-2036 period. A high rate of ethnic mobility cannot persist indefinitely, though it may persist for some time into the future. Note that, according to the 2016 Census, ethnic mobility was still a very important factor contributing to the Métis population growth for the period 2011-2016, accounting for four fifths of Métis working age population growth (Appendix Table 6).

Appendix Table 4c presents our labour force projections under the assumption of no ethnic mobility. Under scenario 1 (i.e. no closure of the participation rate gap), the Métis labour force is projected to increase by 59 thousand (by 213 thousand with the reference projection) accounting for 1.9 per cent of the total labour force growth for Canada. Under scenario 2 (i.e. the participation rate gap closes), Métis labour force growth rises by 63 thousand (by 228 thousand with the reference projection) accounting for 2.1per cent of the total labour force growth. The Métis population represents approximately 1.4 per cent of the total labour force in 2036 under both scenarios.

The comparison between these two projections under both scenarios are shown at the national level in Chart 2 and at regional level in Chart 3. At the national level, the Métis share in the total labour force growth is significantly lower with no ethnic mobility assumption. With no

ethnic mobility under scenario 1, the Métis share is 1.9 per cent, which is 4.5 percentage points lower than the Métis share under the reference projection. Note, however, that 1.9 per cent contribution is still 58 per cent greater than the Métis share (1.2 per cent) in the total working age population in 2011.

A. Regional Perspective

These projected Métis contributions to the future labour force growth are important given their 1.2 per cent share in the total working age population in Canada. They convey a clear message that the Métis population is important to Canada's long-term economic growth prospects. Yet the national numbers are dwarfed by the projected Métis contributions within some regions. The Métis contributions are estimated to be particularly significant for the regions with which they had deep historical ties: the Prairie provinces and the Northern region. Under scenario 1, Métis people are projected to account for 16.9 per cent of labour force growth in Manitoba, 17.0 per cent in Saskatchewan, and 11.8 per cent in the Northern Region (Chart 3).¹⁸

The Métis contributions to projected labour force growth remain important within the Prairie provinces and the Northern region even with no ethnic mobility (see Appendix Table 4d). Even when a primary source of population growth disappears, the Métis is expected to account for 8.2 per cent, 11.0 per cent, and 8.4 per cent of the labour force growth in Manitoba, Saskatchewan, and the Northern region, respectively. This is in sharp contrast to other provinces where the Métis is projected to account for 0.2 to 2.7 per cent of the labour force growth with no ethnic mobility.

However, Manitoba and Saskatchewan experience the largest *drops* in their Métis labour force growth under the assumption of zero intergenerational ethnic mobility, losing 8.7 and 11.0 percentage-points, respectively in scenario 1.¹⁹ Additionally, Quebec, Ontario, and British Columbia also experience large drops in their Métis labour force growth. With no ethnic mobility, Quebec is projected to experience a *fall* in the Métis labour force over the horizon declining from 12,000 in 2011 to 11,000 in 2036.²⁰ The Métis share of labour force growth in Ontario and British Columbia is projected to lose 3.0 and 5.9 percentage points respectively if no

¹⁸ However, if we take into account the Métis share in the working age population in the regions, the Prairie provinces and the Northern region do not necessarily receive the largest contribution from the Métis over the period 2011-2036. We can assess the relative importance of the Métis labour force growth by dividing the Métis contribution by the 2011 Métis share in the regional working age population. The ratio is 2.76 for Manitoba, 3.64 for Saskatchewan, and 4.13 for the Northern region. These are lower than 11.22 for Quebec, 4.92 for Ontario, and 5.94 for British Columbia. If we assume no ethnic mobility, the Prairie provinces and the Northern region get the largest contribution even if we account for the 2011 Métis share in the regional working age population (1.34 for Manitoba, 2.36 for Saskatchewan, and 2.94 for the Northern region versus 0.41 for Quebec, 0.62 for Ontario, and 1.75 for British Columbia). This is due to high ethnic mobility observed for Quebec, Ontario, and British Columbia.

¹⁹ A similar extent of decline is observed under scenario 2.

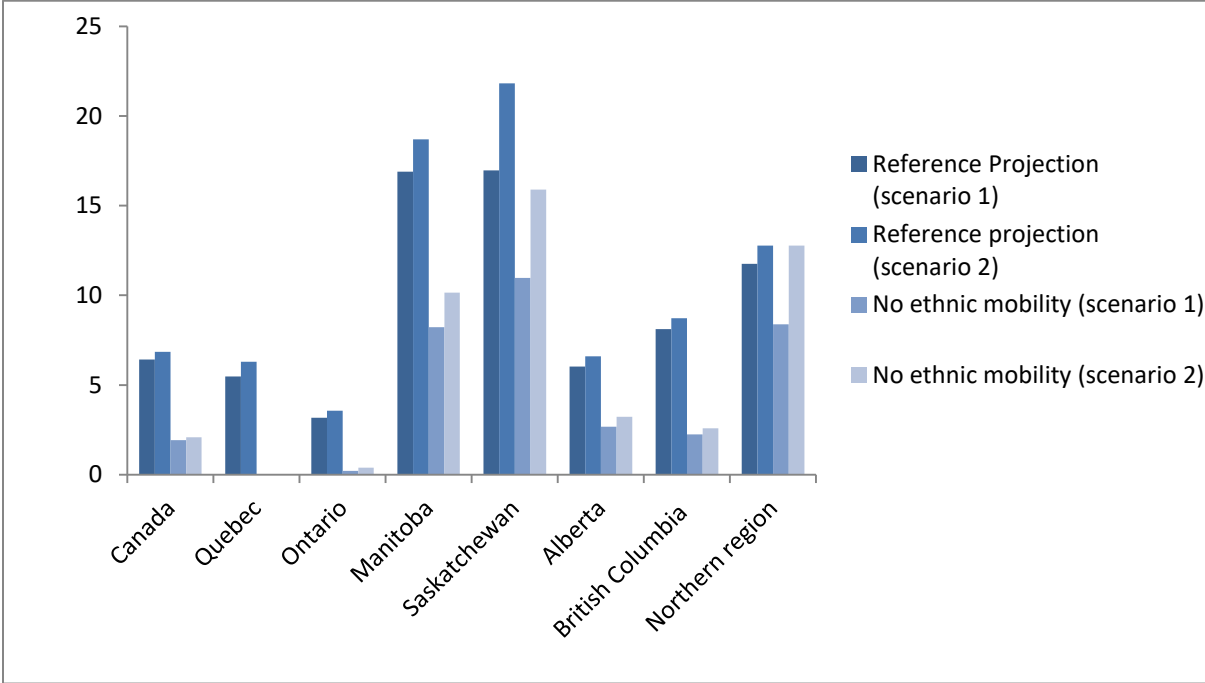
²⁰ Under scenario 1, Quebec experiences a *fall* in the labour force for the period 2011-2036 despite their population growth is positive. This is due to the low population growth for Quebec (see No Ethnic Mobility projection in Table 1) and to the ageing of the regional population such that a larger share of the population is concentrated in the 55-64 and the 65 plus groups whose participation rates are low; 45.7 per cent and 6.6 per cent respectively.

intergenerational ethnic mobility is assumed. This reflects high ethnic mobility in the three provinces (see Chart 1). The Métis shares in the other regions do not fall more than the national average (4.5 percentage-points in scenario 1).

For the projections in Appendix Tables 4a (moderate fertility convergence) and 4b (constant fertility), there is essentially no change in the Métis share in the total labour force growth from the reference projections. This is due to the fact that a change in the fertility rate has an effect on the population growth with a considerable lag. The effect of a change in assumption for the fertility rate would start to materialize only around 2030. Additionally, although the fertility rate of the Métis is higher than the non-aboriginal, the difference is not significant (higher by 0.2 percentage point). Hence, there would be little impact on the Métis projection even if their fertility rate were to converge to that of the non-aboriginal population.

Appendix Table 4d shows that the no internal migration assumption has negligible effects nationally. At the regional level, however, the change in assumption affects Manitoba and Saskatchewan’s projections to a significant extent. Under scenario 1, the Métis share of labour force growth falls by 5.2 and 7.8 percentage points in Manitoba and Saskatchewan, respectively.²¹ This implies that Métis people migrating to the two provinces account for a significant part in the Métis population growth. The other regions, except for British Columbia, also experience decreases in the share but the extent is much smaller. British Columbia experiences an increase in the Métis share by 4 percentage points if we assume no internal migration; from 8.1 per cent to 12.1 per cent. This implies that there are many Métis people migrating out of British Columbia to other regions. Hence, internal migration is an important factor in the Métis population/labour force growth for British Columbia.

Chart 3: Métis Share of Labour Force Growth (%), 2011-2036, by Region



²¹Similar patterns are observed under scenario 2.

VI. Conclusion

Using 2011 NHS data and official Statistics Canada population projections for Métis people, we generated projections of the Métis contribution to Canada's labour force growth between 2011 and 2036 for Canada and the regions under various scenarios. In scenario 1, we project that Métis people will contribute between 1.9 and 6.4 per cent of Canada's total labour force growth over the 2011-2036 period depending on the assumption we make for the Métis ethnic mobility rate.²² The Métis share in the future labour force growth is greater than their share in the total working age population in 2011 even if we assume no ethnic mobility.

The regional data shows that the Métis population will contribute as much as 17.0 per cent (or 16.5 per cent in scenario 2) for Saskatchewan, or as little as 3.2 per cent (or 3.5 per cent in scenario 2) in Ontario. The Métis contribution will be especially important to the Prairie provinces and the Northern region. In those jurisdictions, Métis people will contribute at least 8 per cent of labour force growth over the 2011-2036 period even if no ethnic mobility is assumed.

We showed that intra-generational ethnic mobility is especially important for the Métis projections. A change in the fertility rate would take a long time to have any notable effect on the population growth. Also, the Métis fertility rate is very similar to that of non-Aboriginal people. Any change in the assumption for the fertility rate would have a little impact on our projections for 2036.²³ Hence, the lower bounds of these ranges are based on the assumption of no ethnic mobility over the projection horizon; the upper bounds are based on the assumption that the rate of ethnic mobility maintains its current value over the projection horizon. The truth will probably turn out to lie somewhere between these two extreme assumptions. Reasonable point estimates are given by the midpoint of the two range: Métis contributions of 4.2 per cent under scenario 1 and 4.2 per cent under scenario 2.

This study supports the implications from Drummond *et al.* (2017) that Canada's future economic growth rate will be heavily influenced by the Aboriginal population. The Métis are an important Aboriginal group accounting for more than a third of the total Aboriginal population in 2011. The Métis population is projected to grow much faster and to stay younger than the non-Aboriginal population. Hence, the role of Métis people will be important for the long-term economic growth in Canada.

²² If the participation rate gap does close (scenario 2), the projected Métis contribution is 2.0 to 6.6 per cent of total labour force growth over the period (see Table 6).

²³ No internal migration assumption has a notable impact at the regional-level projections but the impact is smaller than that of no ethnic mobility assumption.

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Appendix 1: Tables

Appendix Table 1: Working Age Population by Age Category, Métis and Non-Aboriginal Populations, Canada and the Provinces, 2011

	Panel A. Non-Aboriginal						Working-age (15+)
	15-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	
Canada	4,040	4,103	4,261	5,091	4,223	4,413	26,133
Atlantic region	257	251	288	366	340	341	1,844
Quebec	944	1,005	993	1,238	1,070	1,115	6,365
Ontario	1,646	1,547	1,705	2,000	1,585	1,714	10,197
Manitoba	126	126	124	152	131	143	803
Saskatchewan	108	114	102	128	113	131	696
Alberta	450	525	487	528	394	347	2,731
British Columbia	504	528	556	669	583	621	3,461
Northern region	5	8	7	9	6	2	36
	Panel B. Métis						
	15-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	Working-age (15+)
Canada	74	60	56	70	45	27	332
Atlantic region	3	2	3	4	3	1	16
Quebec	6	5	5	7	6	3	32
Ontario	14	11	2	15	10	6	58
Manitoba	14	12	9	10	8	5	58
Saskatchewan	10	7	6	8	4	3	38
Alberta	17	13	12	13	7	4	66
British Columbia	12	9	8	11	8	4	52
Northern region	0.4	0.6	0.4	0.6	0.2	0.1	2

Source: 2011 National Household Survey.

Appendix Table 1-1: Total Population, Métis and Non-Aboriginal, Canada and the Regions, 2011 and Projection to 2036

Panel A: Population Levels (Thousands of Persons)										
	2011			Non-Aboriginal	2036 Projections					Difference A - D
	Non-Aboriginal	Métis	% Métis		A. Reference	B. Moderate fertility convergence	Métis C. Constant fertility	D. No ethnic mobility	E. No internal migration	
Canada	31,458	444	1.03	40,391	867	873	877	571	865	296
Atlantic region	2,200	23	1.05	2,046	42	42	42	22	49	20
Quebec	7,596	41	0.44	9,066	80	81	81	45	81	35
Ontario	12,333	86	0.50	16,457	199	200	199	105	197	94
Manitoba	978	78	5.04	1,238	125	126	126	98	133	27
Saskatchewan	848	53	4.29	982	78	80	82	68	81	10
Alberta	3,360	91	1.62	5,205	194	195	196	138	181	56
British Columbia	4,095	68	1.18	5,340	144	145	145	89	139	55
Northern region	50	4	2.99	58	6	6	6	5	6	1

Panel B: Implied Population Growth Rates, 2011-2036 (Per Cent per Year)										
	Non-Aboriginal	Métis	Non-Aboriginal	Métis					Difference A - D	
				A. Reference	B. Moderate fertility convergence	C. Constant fertility	D. No ethnic mobility	E. No internal migration		
Canada	--	--	1.00	2.71	2.74	2.76	1.01	2.70	1.70	
Atlantic region	--	--	-0.29	2.44	2.44	2.44	-0.18	3.07	2.62	
Quebec	--	--	0.71	2.71	2.76	2.76	0.37	2.76	2.34	
Ontario	--	--	1.16	3.41	3.43	3.41	0.80	3.37	2.61	
Manitoba	--	--	0.95	1.90	1.94	1.94	0.92	2.16	0.99	
Saskatchewan	--	--	0.59	1.56	1.66	1.76	1.00	1.71	0.56	
Alberta	--	--	1.77	3.07	3.10	3.12	1.68	2.79	1.39	
British Columbia	--	--	1.07	3.05	3.08	3.08	1.08	2.90	1.96	
Northern region	--	--	0.60	1.64	1.64	1.64	0.90	1.64	0.74	

Note: % Métis represents the percentage of the Métis population in the total Canadian population.

Source: Author's calculations based on output from the Aboriginal population projection micro-simulation model described in Morency *et al.* (2015). Projections for the non-Aboriginal population are from the reference projection.

Appendix Table 2a: Age Distribution of the Working Age Population, Métis and Non-Aboriginal Populations, Canada and the Provinces, 2011

	Panel A. Non-Aboriginal						Working-age (15+)
	15-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	
Canada	15.5	15.7	16.3	19.5	16.2	16.9	100.0
Atlantic region	14.0	13.6	15.6	19.9	18.4	18.5	100.0
Quebec	14.8	15.8	15.6	19.4	16.8	17.5	100.0
Ontario	16.1	15.2	16.7	19.6	15.5	16.8	100.0
Manitoba	15.7	15.7	15.5	19.0	16.3	17.8	100.0
Saskatchewan	15.5	16.4	14.6	18.3	16.3	18.9	100.0
Alberta	16.5	19.2	17.8	19.3	14.4	12.7	100.0
British Columbia	14.6	15.2	16.1	19.3	16.9	17.9	100.0
Northern region	14.6	21.0	18.2	25.0	16.8	4.3	100.0
	Panel B. Métis						Working-age (15+)
	15-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	
Canada	22.3	18.1	16.9	21.1	13.6	8.1	100.0
Atlantic region	18.8	12.5	18.8	25.0	18.8	6.3	100.0
Quebec	18.8	15.6	15.6	21.9	18.8	9.4	100.0
Ontario	24.1	19.0	3.4	25.9	17.2	10.3	100.0
Manitoba	24.1	20.7	15.5	17.2	13.8	8.6	100.0
Saskatchewan	26.3	18.4	15.8	21.1	10.5	7.9	100.0
Alberta	25.8	19.7	18.2	19.7	10.6	6.1	100.0
British Columbia	23.1	17.3	15.4	21.2	15.4	7.7	100.0
Northern region	17.4	26.1	17.4	26.1	8.7	4.3	100.0

Source: 2011 National Household Survey.

Appendix Table 2b: Working Age Population by Age Category, Métis and Non-Aboriginal Populations, Canada and the Provinces, Projection for 2036, Reference Projection

	Panel A. Non-Aboriginal						Working-age (15+)
	15-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	
Canada	4,462	4,689	5,145	5,293	4,655	9,988	34,232
Atlantic region	188	186	220	262	268	684	1,808
Quebec	975	1,014	1,132	1,176	1,078	2,336	7,711
Ontario	1,825	1,951	2,156	2,132	1,856	3,983	13,903
Manitoba	144	142	155	162	139	296	1,038
Saskatchewan	113	104	112	133	114	254	830
Alberta	631	658	687	714	574	1,047	4,311
British Columbia	581	627	676	705	618	1,376	4,583
Northern region	7	7	8	8	8	11	49

	Panel B. Métis						Working-age (15+)
	15-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	
Canada	116	110	120	116	95	166	723
Atlantic region	5	5	5	6	5	10	36
Quebec	10	10	10	10	9	19	68
Ontario	26	24	27	27	22	40	166
Manitoba	16	16	17	17	14	24	104
Saskatchewan	11	10	11	11	8	14	65
Alberta	28	28	28	26	19	30	159
British Columbia	19	18	21	20	16	27	121
Northern region	1	1	1	1	1	1	6

Source: Author's calculations based on output from the Aboriginal population projection micro-simulation model described in Morency *et al.* (2015).

Appendix Table 2c: Age Distribution of the Working Age Population, Métis and Non-Aboriginal Populations, Canada and the Provinces, Projection for 2036, Reference Projection

	Panel A. Non-Aboriginal						Working-age (15+)
	15-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	
Canada	13.0	13.7	15.0	15.5	13.6	29.2	100.0
Atlantic region	10.4	10.3	12.2	14.5	14.8	37.8	100.0
Quebec	12.6	13.2	14.7	15.3	14.0	30.3	100.0
Ontario	13.1	14.0	15.5	15.3	13.3	28.6	100.0
Manitoba	13.9	13.7	14.9	15.6	13.4	28.5	100.0
Saskatchewan	13.6	12.5	13.5	16.0	13.7	30.6	100.0
Alberta	14.6	15.3	15.9	16.6	13.3	24.3	100.0
British Columbia	12.7	13.7	14.8	15.4	13.5	30.0	100.0
Northern region	14.3	14.3	16.3	16.3	16.3	22.4	100.0
	Panel B. Métis						Working-age (15+)
	15-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	
Canada	16.0	15.2	16.6	16.0	13.1	23.0	100.0
Atlantic region	13.9	13.9	13.9	16.7	13.9	27.8	100.0
Quebec	14.7	14.7	14.7	14.7	13.2	27.9	100.0
Ontario	15.7	14.5	16.3	16.3	13.3	24.1	100.0
Manitoba	15.4	15.4	16.3	16.3	13.5	23.1	100.0
Saskatchewan	16.9	15.4	16.9	16.9	12.3	21.5	100.0
Alberta	17.6	17.6	17.6	16.4	11.9	18.9	100.0
British Columbia	15.7	14.9	17.4	16.5	13.2	22.3	100.0
Northern region	16.7	16.7	16.7	16.7	16.7	16.7	100.0

Source: Author's calculations based on output from the Aboriginal population projection micro-simulation model described in Morency *et al.* (2015).

Appendix Table 3: Counterfactual Labour Force Participation Rates of the Métis, using the age distribution of the non-Aboriginal population, Canada, by Region, 2011

	Working-age (15+) (%)	Gap between Non-Aboriginal and Métis Rates (%)
Canada	64.7	1.6
Atlantic region	62.4	0.6
Quebec	60.9	3.7
Ontario	62.6	3.1
Manitoba	66.2	2.5
Saskatchewan	62.7	8.1
Alberta	70.7	3.2
British Columbia	63.9	1.0
Northern region	81.0	2.8

Source: Author's calculations based on the 2011 NHS.

Appendix Table 4a: Labour Force Projections for 2036, Métis and Non-Aboriginal Populations, Canada and the Provinces, Moderate Fertility Convergence Projection

Scenario 1: Participation Rate Gap Remains Unchanged														
	Labour force, 2011				Labour force, 2036				Change in labour force, 2011-2036				Share of change (%)	
	Métis	Non-Métis Aboriginal	Non- Aboriginal	Total	Métis	Non-Métis Aboriginal	Non- Aboriginal	Total	Métis	Non-Métis Aboriginal	Non- Aboriginal	Total	Métis	Non-Métis Aboriginal
Canada	230	359	17,309	17,539	456	752	20,025	21,233	225	393	2,717	3,694	6.1	10.6
Atlantic region	12	28	1,162	1,174	19	50	910	979	7	22	-252	-195	--	--
Quebec	21	43	4,113	4,134	39	96	4,345	4,479	18	52	231	345	5.1	15.2
Ontario	46	92	6,696	6,742	99	199	8,121	8,419	53	107	1,425	1,677	3.2	6.4
Manitoba	40	34	552	592	64	71	643	778	24	37	91	186	12.9	20.0
Saskatchewan	26	29	493	518	42	113	527	683	16	84	34	164	10.0	51.2
Alberta	48	45	2,017	2,065	102	107	2,872	3,081	54	62	856	1,016	5.3	6.1
British Columbia	35	69	2,246	2,281	81	128	2,633	2,841	45	59	387	560	8.1	10.5
Northern region	2	19	30	32	5	32	35	72	3	14	5	40	6.5	34.4
Scenario 2: Participation Rate Gap Closes by 2036														
	Labour force, 2011				Labour force, 2036				Change in labour force, 2011-2036				Share of change (%)	
	Métis	Non-Métis Aboriginal	Non- Aboriginal	Total	Métis	Non-Métis Aboriginal	Non- Aboriginal	Total	Métis	Non-Métis Aboriginal	Non- Aboriginal	Total	Métis	Non-Métis Aboriginal
Canada	230	359	17,309	17,898	459	752	20,025	21,236	229	393	2,717	3,338	6.8	11.8
Atlantic region	12	28	1,162	1,202	21	50	910	981	9	22	-252	-222	--	--
Quebec	21	43	4,113	4,178	40	96	4,345	4,481	19	52	231	303	6.3	17.3
Ontario	46	92	6,696	6,834	103	199	8,121	8,423	57	107	1,425	1,589	3.6	6.7
Manitoba	40	34	552	626	70	71	643	784	30	37	91	158	18.6	23.5
Saskatchewan	26	29	493	548	46	67	527	640	20	38	34	92	22.1	40.6
Alberta	48	45	2,017	2,110	112	107	2,872	3,091	64	62	856	981	6.5	6.3
British Columbia	35	69	2,246	2,350	77	128	2,633	2,838	42	59	387	488	8.6	12.1
Northern region	1.9	19	30.3	51	5	32	35	73	3	14	5	22	13.1	63.2

Source: 2011 National Household Survey and author's calculations based on output from the Aboriginal population projection micro-simulation model described in Morency *et al.* (2015)

Appendix Table 4b: Labour Force Projections for 2036, Métis and Non-Aboriginal Populations, Canada and the Provinces, Constant Fertility Projection

Scenario 1: Participation Rate Gap Remains Unchanged														
	Labour force, 2011				Labour force, 2036				Change in labour force, 2011-2036				Share of change (%)	
	Métis	Non-Métis Aboriginal	Non- Aboriginal	Total	Métis	Non-Métis Aboriginal	Non- Aboriginal	Total	Métis	Non-Métis Aboriginal	Non- Aboriginal	Total	Métis	Non-Métis Aboriginal
Canada	230	359	17,309	17,898	445	758	20,026	21,228	214	398.4	2,717.2	3,330	6.4	12.0
Atlantic region	12	28	1,162	1,202	43	50	910	1,004	32	22.2	-252.3	-199	--	--
Quebec	21	43	4,113	4,178	37	96	4,345	4,479	16	53.0	231.5	301	5.5	17.6
Ontario	46	92	6,696	6,834	96	200	8,121	8,417	50	108.3	1,424.9	1,583	3.2	6.8
Manitoba	40	34	552	626	67	72	643	783	27	38.7	91.5	157	17.0	24.7
Saskatchewan	26	29	493	548	40	68	527	636	15	39.0	34.5	88	16.9	44.1
Alberta	48	45	2,017	2,110	106	66	2,873	3,045	58	20.7	856.3	935	6.2	2.2
British Columbia	35	69	2,246	2,350	74	99	2,632	2,805	39	30.3	386.0	455	8.5	6.7
Northern region	2	19	30	51	5	32	35	72	2.6	13.2	5.2	21	12.4	62.9
Scenario 2: Participation Rate Gap Closes by 2036														
	Labour force, 2011				Labour force, 2036				Change in labour force, 2011-2036				Share of change (%)	
	Métis	Non-Métis Aboriginal	Non- Aboriginal	Total	Métis	Non-Métis Aboriginal	Non- Aboriginal	Total	Métis	Non-Métis Aboriginal	Non- Aboriginal	Total	Métis	Non-Métis Aboriginal
Canada	230	359	17,309	17,898	460	758	20,026	21,243	229	398	2,717	3,345	6.9	11.9
Atlantic region	12	28	1,162	1,202	44	50	910	1,004	32	22	-252	-198	--	--
Quebec	21	43	4,113	4,178	40	96	4,345	4,481	19	53	231	304	6.3	17.5
Ontario	46	92	6,696	6,834	103	200	8,121	8,424	57	108	1,425	1,590	3.6	6.8
Manitoba	40	34	552	626	70	72	643	786	30	39	91	160	18.8	24.1
Saskatchewan	26	29	493	548	46	68	527	641	20	39	34	94	21.7	41.6
Alberta	48	45	2,017	2,110	112	66	2,873	3,092	64	62	856	982	6.5	6.3
British Columbia	35	69	2,246	2,350	77	99	2,632	2,837	42	60	386	487	8.6	12.2
Northern region	2	19	30	51	5	32	35	73	3	14	5	22	12.8	64.2

Source: 2011 National Household Survey and author's calculations based on output from the Aboriginal population projection micro-simulation model described in Morency *et al.* (2015).

Appendix Table 4c: Labour Force Projections for 2036, Métis and Non-Aboriginal Populations, Canada and the Provinces, No Ethnic Mobility Projection

Scenario 1: Participation Rate Gap Remains Unchanged														
	Labour force, 2011				Labour force, 2036				Change in labour force, 2011-2036				Share of change (%)	
	Métis	Non-Métis Aboriginal	Non- Aboriginal	Total	Métis	Non-Métis Aboriginal	Non- Aboriginal	Total	Métis	Non-Métis Aboriginal	Non- Aboriginal	Total	Métis share	Non-Métis Aboriginal
Canada	230	359	17,309	17,898	289	628	20,026	20,943	59	269	2,717	3,045	1.9	8.8
Atlantic region	12	28	1,162	1,202	11	27	910	948	-1	-1	-252	-254	--	--
Quebec	21	43	4,113	4,178	20	72	4,345	4,437	-1	29	231	259	--	11.2
Ontario	46	92	6,696	6,834	49	150	8,121	8,320	3	58	1,425	1,486	0.2	3.9
Manitoba	40	34	552	626	51	66	643	761	11	32	91	135	8.2	24.0
Saskatchewan	26	29	493	548	34	65	527	627	9	36	34	79	11.0	45.5
Alberta	48	45	2,017	2,110	73	92	2,873	3,039	25	48	856	929	2.7	5.1
British Columbia	35	69	2,246	2,350	45	106	2,632	2,783	10	37	386	432	2.2	8.5
Northern region	2	19	30	51	4	33	35	72	2	14	5	21	8.4	67.4
Scenario 2: Participation Rate Gap Closes by 2036														
	Labour force, 2011				Labour force, 2036				Change in labour force, 2011-2036				Share of change (%)	
	Métis	Non-Métis Aboriginal	Non- Aboriginal	Total	Métis	Non-Métis Aboriginal	Non- Aboriginal	Total	Métis	Non-Métis Aboriginal	Non- Aboriginal	Total	Métis	Non-Métis Aboriginal
Canada	230	359	17,309	17,898	294	628	20,026	20,948	63	269	2,717	3,049	2.1	8.8
Atlantic region	12	28	1,162	1,202	11	27	910	949	-1	-1	-252	-254	--	--
Quebec	21	43	4,113	4,178	22	72	4,345	4,439	0	29	231	261	0.0	11.1
Ontario	46	92	6,696	6,834	52	150	8,121	8,322	6	58	1,425	1,488	0.4	3.9
Manitoba	40	34	552	626	54	66	643	764	14	32	91	138	10.1	23.5
Saskatchewan	26	29	493	548	39	65	527	631	13	36	34	84	15.9	43.0
Alberta	48	45	2,017	2,110	79	92	2,873	3,044	30	48	856	934	3.2	5.1
British Columbia	35	69	2,246	2,350	46	106	2,632	2,784	11	37	386	434	2.6	8.5
Northern region	2	19	30	51	5	33	35	73	3	14	5	22	12.8	64.2

Source: 2011 National Household Survey and author's calculations based on output from the Aboriginal population projection micro-simulation model described in Morency *et al.* (2015).

Appendix Table 4d: Labour Force Projections for 2036, Métis and Non-Aboriginal Populations, Canada and the Provinces, No Internal Migration Projection

Scenario 1: Participation Rate Gap Remains Unchanged														
	Labour force, 2011				Labour force, 2036				Change in labour force, 2011-2036				Share of change (%)	
	Métis	Non-Métis Aboriginal	Non- Aboriginal	Total	Métis	Non-Métis Aboriginal	Non- Aboriginal	Total	Métis	Non-Métis Aboriginal	Non- Aboriginal	Total	Métis	Non-Métis Aboriginal
Canada	230	359	17,309	17,898	441	748	20,040	21,230	211	389	2,732	3,332	6.3	11.7
Atlantic region	12	28	1,162	1,202	24	57	1,033	1,114	12	29	-130	-88	--	--
Quebec	21	43	4,113	4,178	37	95	4,532	4,665	16	52	419	487	3.4	10.6
Ontario	46	92	6,696	6,834	96	200	7,966	8,262	49	108	1,271	1,428	3.5	7.5
Manitoba	40	34	552	626	70	72	740	882	30	38	188	257	11.7	14.9
Saskatchewan	26	29	493	548	41	52	624	717	16	23	131	170	9.2	13.4
Alberta	48	45	2,017	2,110	100	61	2,695	2,856	52	16	679	746	6.9	2.1
British Columbia	35	69	2,246	2,350	70	98	2,473	2,641	35	29	227	291	12.1	9.8
Northern region	2	19	30	51	5	33	40	78	3	14	10	27	9.7	53.6
Scenario 2: Participation Rate Gap Closes by 2036														
	Labour force, 2011				Labour force, 2036				Change in labour force, 2011-2036				Share of change (%)	
	Métis	Non-Métis Aboriginal	Non- Aboriginal	Total	Métis	Non-Métis Aboriginal	Non- Aboriginal	Total	Métis	Non-Métis Aboriginal	Non- Aboriginal	Total	Métis	Non-Métis Aboriginal
Canada	230	359	17,309	17,898	456	748	20,040	21,245	226	389	2,732	3,347	6.7	11.6
Atlantic region	12	28	1,162	1,202	25	57	1,033	1,115	13	29	-130	-87	--	--
Quebec	21	43	4,113	4,178	40	95	4,532	4,668	19	52	419	490	3.9	10.6
Ontario	46	92	6,696	6,834	102	200	7,966	8,268	56	108	1,271	1,434	3.9	7.5
Manitoba	40	34	552	626	74	72	740	886	34	38	188	260	12.9	14.7
Saskatchewan	26	29	493	548	47	52	624	738	21	38	131	190	11.1	19.7
Alberta	48	45	2,017	2,110	106	61	2,695	2,897	57	51	679	787	7.3	6.5
British Columbia	35	69	2,246	2,350	73	98	2,473	2,671	38	55	227	321	11.9	17.3
Northern region	2	19	30	51	5	33	40	79	3	16	10	28	10.1	55.0

Source: 2011 National Household Survey and author's calculations based on output from the Aboriginal population projection micro-simulation model described in Morency *et al.* (2015).

Appendix Table 5: Alternative Scenario Labour Force Projections for 2036, Reference Projection

Participation Rate Gap Closed for all Age Groups in the Métis population														
	Labour force, 2011				Labour force, 2036				Change in labour force, 2011-2036				Share of change (%)	
	Métis	Non-Métis Aboriginal	Non- Aboriginal	Total	Métis	Non-Métis Aboriginal	Non- Aboriginal	Total	Métis	Non-Métis Aboriginal	Non- Aboriginal	Total	Métis	Non-Métis Aboriginal
Canada	230	359	17309	17898	451	748	20025	21224	221	389	2717	3326	6.6	11.7
Atlantic region	12	28	1162	1202	21	50	910	981	9	22	-252	-221	--	--
Quebec	21	43	4113	4178	39	95	4345	4479	18	52	231	302	6.1	17.2
Ontario	46	92	6696	6834	101	199	8121	8420	55	106	1425	1586	3.5	6.7
Manitoba	40	34	552	626	68	70	643	782	28	37	91	156	17.9	23.5
Saskatchewan	26	29	493	548	45	65	527	638	20	36	34	90	21.8	40.0
Alberta	48	45	2017	2110	111	106	2872	3090	63	61	856	979	6.4	6.3
British Columbia	35	69	2246	2350	75	127	2633	2836	40	58	387	485	8.3	12.0
Northern region	2	19	30	51	5	33	35	73	3	14	5	22	11.7	64.9

Source: 2011 National Household Survey and author's calculations based on output from the Aboriginal population projection micro-simulation model described in Morency *et al.* (2015).

Appendix 2: Estimating Intra-generational Ethnic Mobility Rate for Métis in Canada, 2011-2016

First, we need to estimate the change in the Métis population arising from sources other than intra-generational ethnic mobility for the period 2011-2016 in Canada. They include factors such as fertility rate, mortality rate, and international migration. We use the implied annual growth rate based on the No Ethnic Mobility scenario constructed by Statistics Canada to estimate the counterfactual Métis population level in 2016. In this scenario, ethnic mobility rate is assumed to be zero while other factors are assumed to be the same as the reference scenario.²⁴

Then, we subtract the counterfactual population level from the actual level observed in the 2016 Census. The difference can be attributed to the change in the population arising from ethnic mobility. Following the method adopted in the Demosim, we compute ethnic mobility rate for the period 2011-2016 by dividing the change in the population due to ethnic mobility by the population that was non-Aboriginal, non-immigrant and not belonging to a visible minority group in 2011.²⁵ The denominator represents the pool of population that can potentially declare themselves as the Métis over the projection period. Thus, the ratio is the mobility rate reflecting the probability of an individual joining the Métis group over the period 2011-2016.

Appendix Table 6: Estimates of mobility rate for the period 2011-2016.

	Actual Métis population in 2011	Actual Métis population in 2016	Actual annual population growth (%)	Counterfactual Métis population in 2016	Counterfactual annual population growth (%)	Difference between actual and counterfactual in 2016	Mobility rate (%)
Total	443,940	587,540	5.77	466,816	1.01	120,724	0.54
15 and over	331,670	456,555	6.60	355,370	1.39	101,185	0.55

Note: We use the implied annual growth rate from the No Ethnic Mobility assumption to compute the counterfactual Métis population in 2016. 1.39 per cent and 1.01 per cent. The number of the population that was non-Aboriginal, non-immigrant and not belonging to a visible minority group in 2011 is 22,341 thousands (for total) and 18,548 thousand (for 15 and over). Actual population level for the Métis in 2016 is based on the 2016 Census.

²⁴Refer to Morency *et al.* (2015) for the assumptions regarding factors such as fertility rate, mortality rate, international migration, and trends in marital status.

²⁵Demosim is a micro-simulation demographic projection model of Statistics Canada designed to project the Canadian population according to various ethnocultural characteristics. See Statistics Canada (2015) for further information on computing mobility rates.