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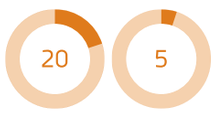
SOCIAL DETERMINANTS OF HEALTH

This infographic can be found in the NCCAH fact sheet *Housing as a Social Determinant of First Nations, Inuit and Métis Health* (2017). This fact sheet provides a review of the living and housing conditions of Indigenous households in Canada. The fact sheet begins by presenting demographic data, housing statistics and the rates of homelessness, followed by samples of innovative community-based housing initiatives, developments and options that are underway in Canada to improve the living conditions of Indigenous peoples. It concludes with the acknowledgement that investments in sustainable housing and related infrastructure are essential to addressing housing issues and ultimately reducing Indigenous health disparities.

DEMOGRAPHICS

While there have been some improvements over the past decade in the availability and quality of housing for Indigenous people, these have so far failed to keep pace with demographic pressures.

GROWTH RATE



Between 2006 and 2011, the collective Indigenous population growth rate of 20% far exceeded that of the non-Indigenous population of Canada at 5% (Statistics Canada, 2015a).

AGE

The median age of Indigenous people is 28 compared to 41 years for non-Indigenous Canadians (Statistics Canada, 2015a). Inuit are the youngest of the three Indigenous groups, with a median age of 23.

POPULATION INCREASE

Estimated demographic projections by 2036 (Statistics Canada, 2015b)

between **1,965,000** and **2,633,000**

Indigenous households projected increase between **986,000** and **1,214,000**

Indigenous on-reserve households projected increase between **191,000** and **208,000**

Indigenous people now comprise 4.3 % of the total population of Canada, of which identify as (approximately):

First Nations	851,560
Métis	451,795
Inuit	59,445

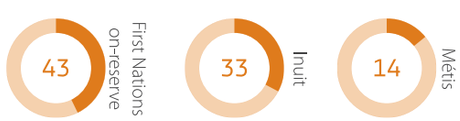
(Statistics Canada, 2015a)

HOUSING CONDITIONS

7x Close to half (49.3%) of all First Nations people live on reserve (Statistics Canada, 2015a). Statistics Canada (2015a) reports that, "[m]ore than one-quarter (27%) of First Nations people living on reserve were living in **crowded conditions** in 2011, about 7 times the proportion of non-Aboriginal people nationally" (p. 14).

10x According to the most recent data, "nearly **4 in 10** (39%) Inuit living in Inuit Nunangat lived in **crowded homes**, about 10 times the proportion of non-Indigenous people (4%) nationally" (Statistics Canada, 2015a, p. 14).

Homes needing major repairs, compared to 7% nationally (Statistics Canada, 2015a).



Strategies to improve Indigenous housing for measurable health outcomes will require significant investments in housing and services that are congruent with population growth and with localized needs.

HOMELESSNESS

SIGNIGICANT BARRIERS IN ACCESSING SERVICES AND HEALTH CARE

Indigenous women represent 35 % of the homeless population in many of Canada's urban centres (Patrick, 2014).

Percent of homeless identifying as Indigenous*

Hwang (2001) reports that the homeless are at risk of dying prematurely and suffer from a wide range of health problems stemming from the physical and social conditions under which they live. They are admitted to hospital up to five times more than the general population. (*See pg. 6 of the accompanying fact sheet for citations.)

GROWING URBANIZATION

DISPARITIES IN HOUSING

The number of urban Indigenous households jumped by 83.8% between 1996 and 2006 (CMHC, 2011). Growing urbanization over this ten year period has translated into an increase of 218,310 to 401,145 urban dwellings, of which were occupied by:

204,845	Métis
156,235	Status Indians
78,005	Non-Status Indians
15,950	Inuit

2011 home ownership for Status First Nations people living off-reserve was 51 % **compared to 70% of non-Indigenous Canadians** (CMHC, 2016).

11 % of urban Indigenous households were overcrowded in 2011 **compared to 4%** of non-Indigenous households (Statistics Canada 2015a).

INVESTMENTS NEEDED

NATIONAL COLLABORATING CENTRE FOR ABORIGINAL HEALTH
CENTRE DE COLLABORATION NATIONALE DE LA SANTÉ AUTOCHTONE

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