



Aboriginal Self-Government in the Northwest Territories

Supplementary Booklet 4

Our Population Profile

Our Population Profile

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Age Distribution

The NWT covers 1,171,918 square kilometers:

- About 40,000 people live in 33 communities
- The population has grown by 32% since 1981
- The population is much younger than in the rest of Canada

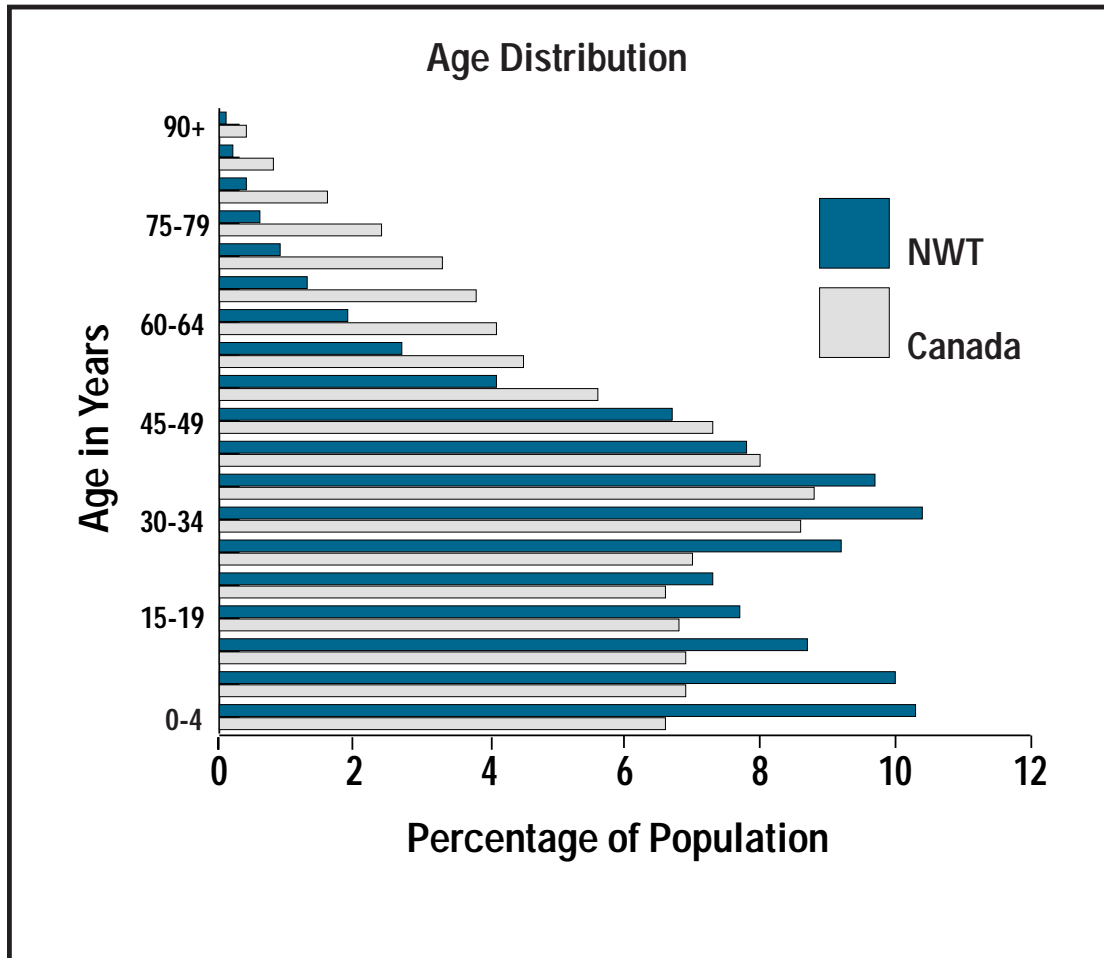


photo: NWT Archives

*Note: Figures for all charts are drawn from the 1996 Census, using the boundaries of the NWT as established in 1999.

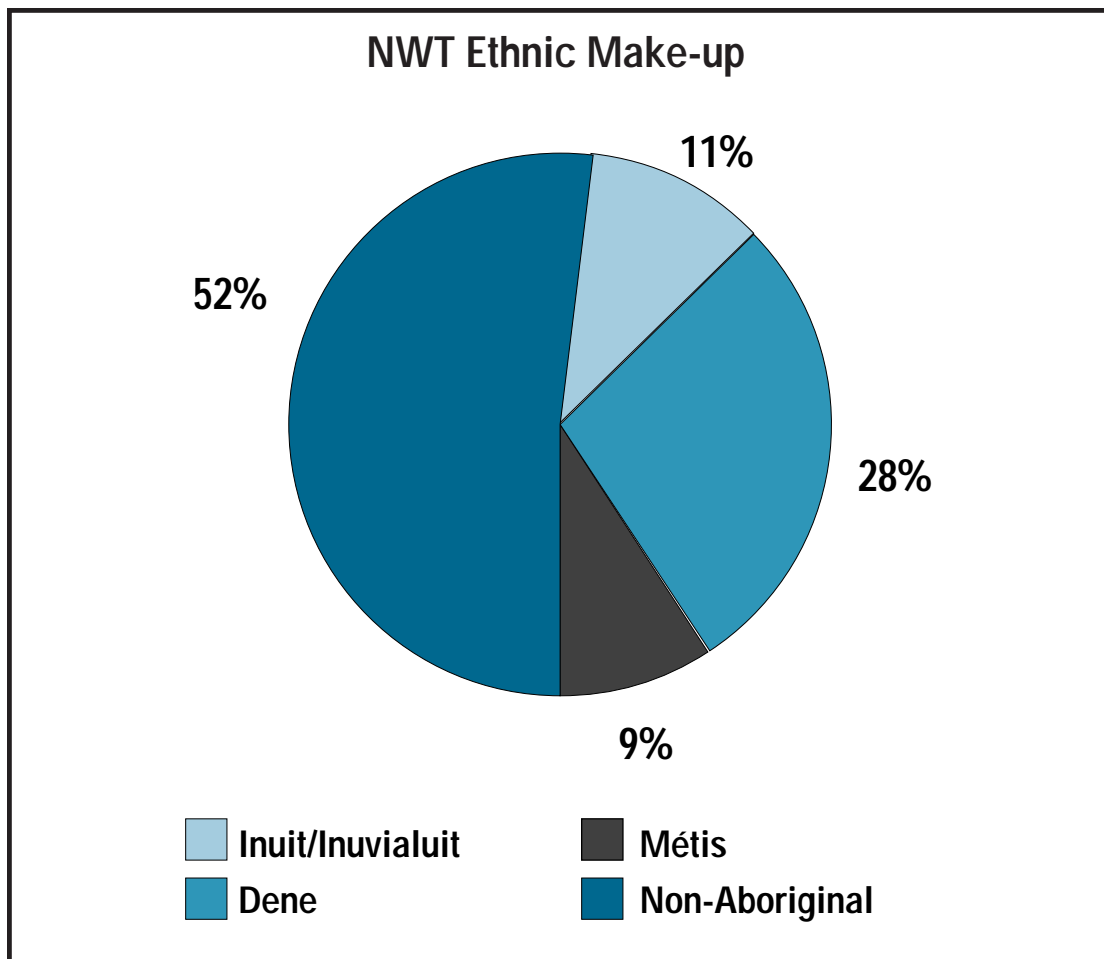
Ethnic Make-up

People living in the NWT come from many backgrounds:

- 48% of the population is Aboriginal
 - 28% are Dene
 - 11% are Inuit or Inuvialuit
 - 9% are Metis
- 52% of the population is non-Aboriginal

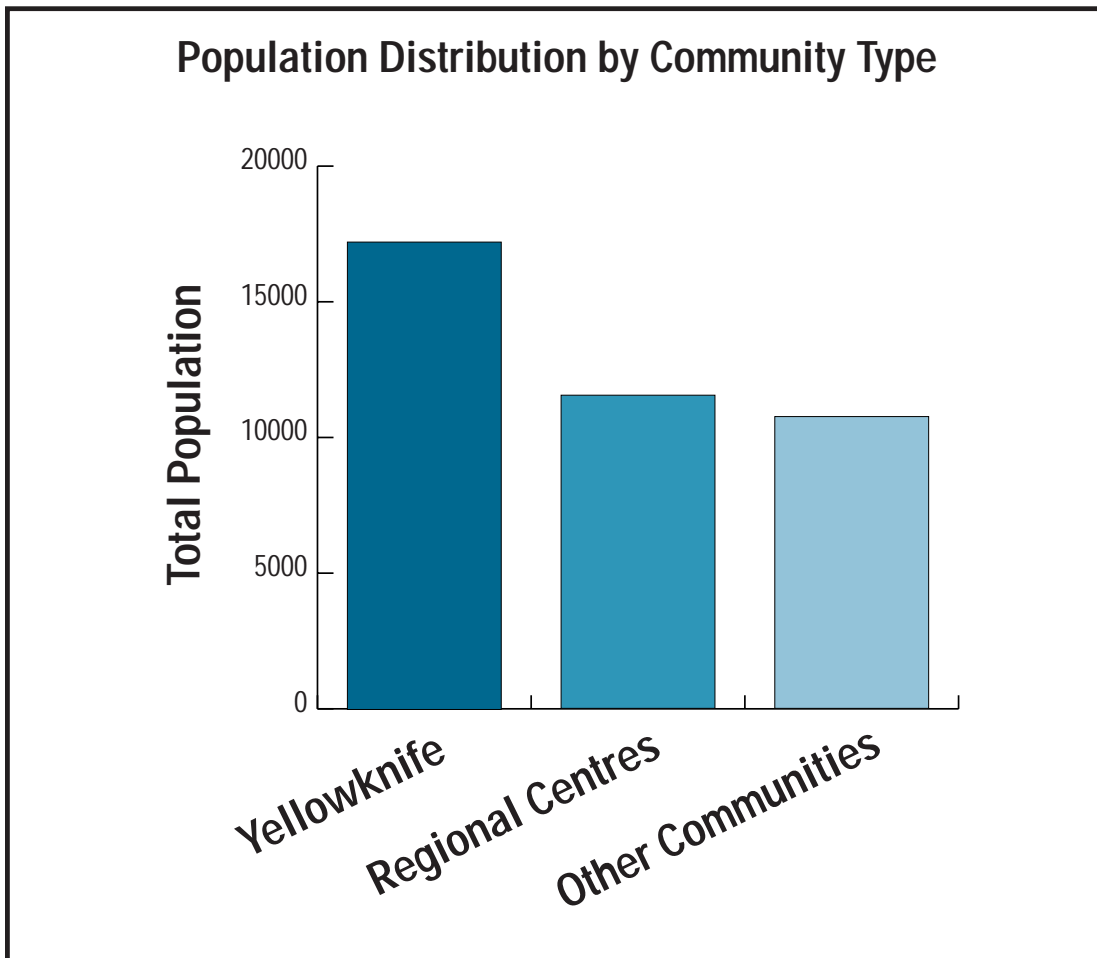


Metis jig
photo: Jeri Hermann



Population Distribution by Community Type

- 44% of the people in the NWT live in Yellowknife
- 29% live in the five other "regional centres" (Inuvik, Norman Wells, Fort Smith, Hay River and Fort Simpson)
- 27% live in the remaining 27 communities



There are 3,420 Aboriginal people living in Yellowknife. This is more than in any other single community in the NWT.

Yellowknife
photo: NWT Archives

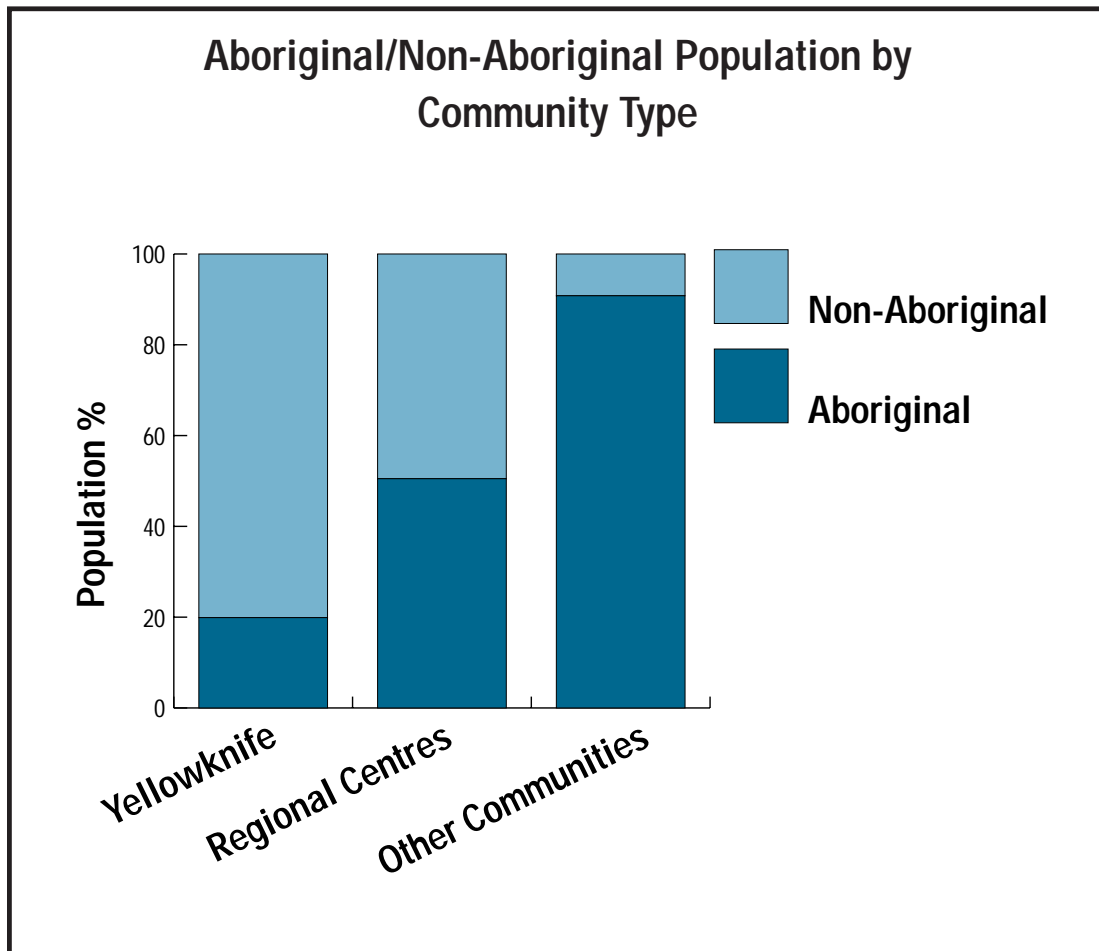
Aboriginal/Non-Aboriginal Population by Community Type

Aboriginal people make up:

- 20% of population of Yellowknife
- Half of the population of the five "regional centres"
- 90% of the population of the other 27 communities



Kakisa (Deh Cho region)
photo: NWT Archives



Aboriginal/Non-Aboriginal Population by Settlement Area and Region

Aboriginal people make up:

- 92% of the Inuvialuit Settlement Region
- 70% of the Gwich'in Settlement Area
- 71% of the Sahtu Settlement Area
- 21% of the North Slave region
- 78% of the Deh Cho region
- 69% of the South Slave region

The City of Yellowknife is part of the North Slave region:

- Aboriginal people make up 91% of the population of the North Slave region if the City of Yellowknife is not included.

The Inuvialuit Settlement Region and the Gwich'in and Sahtu Settlement Areas are defined in the Inuvialuit, Gwich'in and Sahtu land claim agreements.

The North Slave, Deh Cho and South Slave regions are administrative districts of the Government of the Northwest Territories that may not correspond to claim settlement areas.

