



L.M.I. Newsletter

Labour Market Information

FIRST NATIONS LABOUR FORCE FACTS:

2.1 UNEMPLOYMENT

According to the 2011 National Household Survey (NHS), there were 61,435 (18.3%) First Nations people unemployed across Canada. The unemployment rate for non-aboriginal population was 7.5%. According to the Six Nations Haudenosaunee Labour Force Survey of 2009 Six Nations' Unemployment rate was 25.3%.

2.2 EMPLOYMENT RATES

The NHS 2011 findings show that 274,800 First Nations people were employed. The Employment rate was low at 46.4% while the employment rate for the non-aboriginal population was 61.2%.

2.3 PARTICIPATION RATES

First Nations people of Canada had a participation rate of 46.4% compared to the non-aboriginal population which had a 66.2% participation rate.¹

2.4 LABOUR FORCE POPULATION

First Nations people account for 58.8% or 592,765 of the Aboriginal labour force in Canada. First Nations labour force population represents 2.2% of the Canadian Labour force.¹

¹Source: Statistics Canada, National Household Survey, 2011

Feature

Employment

To talk about labour and employment levels, an explanation of some terminology is helpful.

The **Employment rate** is a measurement of the number of employed as a percentage of the population. Whereas the

Participation rate

measures the number of people employed plus the number of people looking for work as a percentage of the population. The participation rate is a measurement of the healthiness of the labour

force. A high participation rate is a good indication the labour force is operating at full capacity. When there is a low participation rate, it can signify a problem(s) that hinders the labour force to perform optimally.

At first thought, a low **Unemployment rate** may be considered to be an indicator of a good economy, however, if the low unemployment rate is coupled

with a low participation rate, there are definite problems. This is because a low participation rate is a measurement of the labour force, not the general population. It excludes people that are not job searching but would otherwise be

Employment rate =	$\frac{\text{Number of Employed ages 15 and over}}{\text{Population ages 15 years and over}}$
Participation rate =	$\frac{\text{Labour Force}}{\text{Population ages 15 years and over}}$
Unemployment rate =	$\frac{\text{Number of Unemployed}}{\text{Labour Force}}$

[Labour force = Employed + Unemployed]

capable of participating. This is often a result of people becoming discouraged due to a real or even perceived shortage of work and therefore have given up their job search.

Among the Aboriginal identity population, in the selected areas of Ontario; Brantford; Hamilton; and St.Catharines-Niagara, all are below the participation rate of 66.2% for the non-Aboriginal population of Canada. [see Table 1]

Table 1

Selected Labour Force Characteristics of the Aboriginal identity population

Selected Labour Force Characteristics	Ontario	Brantford CMA	Hamilton CMA	St.Catharines-Niagara CMA
Participation rate	61.9	53.3	63.4	58.2
Employment rate	53.3	43.9	57.1	50.1
Unemployment rate	13.9	17.6	10.0	14.0

Source: Statistics Canada, National Household Survey (2011)

Monthly Labour Force Information for Reference Week of April 13 to 19, 2014

	Canada	Ontario	Brant CMA	Hamilton CMA	St.Catharines/Niagara CMA
Participation Rate	66.1%	66.1%	66.5%	64.6%	63.2%
Employment Rate	61.5%	61.2%	61.7%	60.4%	58.0%
Unemployment Rate	6.9%	7.4%	7.0%	6.4%	8.2%

Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Survey, released May 9, 2014

Rates

First Nations Employment Rates

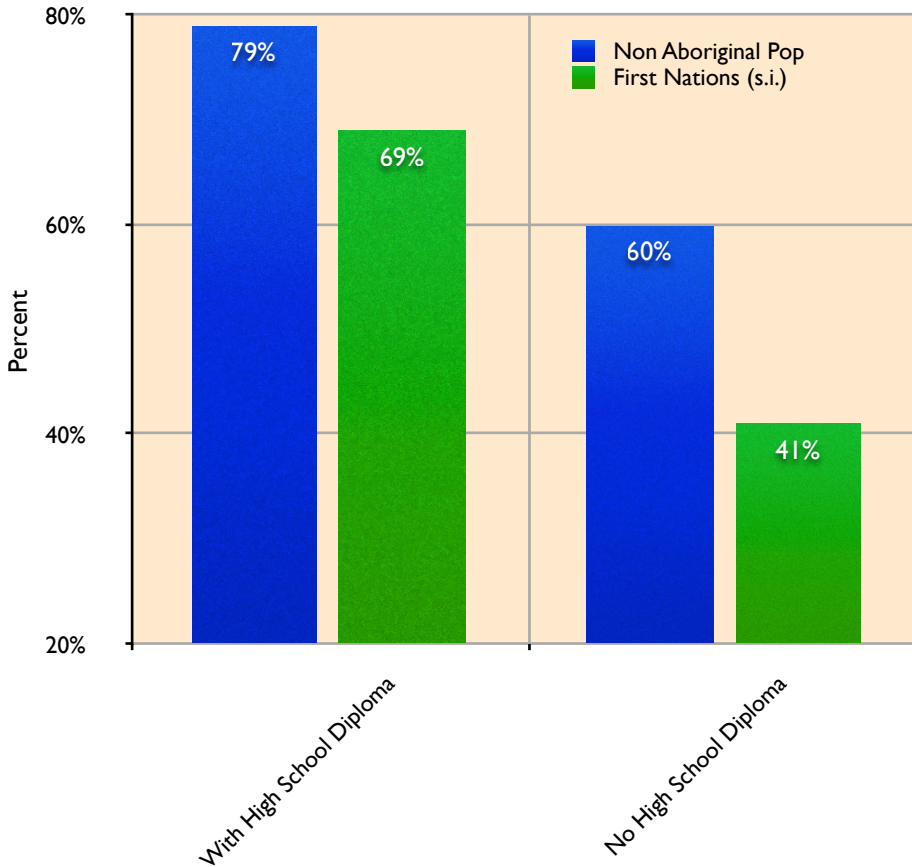
The National Household Survey 2011 found the Employment rates for First Nations people to be lower than the Non-Aboriginal population, both with, or without a high school diploma. While First Nations people with a high school diploma had a rate ten percentage points lower than the non-aboriginal population. The variance was greater for those without a high

First Nations people have a lower employment rate, both with or without a high school diploma, compared to the non-aboriginal population.

school diploma. This group had a nineteen percent (19%) variance from the non-aboriginal population in the same category. [see Figure 1]

Figure 1

Employment rate (%) by level of education for population between 25 and 64 years of age, Canada, 2011



Source: Statistics Canada, National Household Survey 2011

ABOUT THE DATA

Data in this newsletter was sourced from the 2011 National Household Survey and published by Statistics Canada.

First Nations data has limited variables. Not all First Nations are included in this data due to various reasons including but not limited to non-participation. Six Nations participated in the 2011 National Household Survey.

Data was compiled into aggregate totals and information to specific First Nations is not available.

MAKING IT BETTER

If you have a questions about the information provided in this newsletter or if you would like to know more about a specific topic, please email to paul@greatsn.com

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