

The Indigenous Well-Being Cycle

Current

Housing

Many young teens must move off reserve in order to attend high school. In doing so, they leave their families and communities behind. They are often faced with countless adversities like having to adapt to poor living conditions that might include a lack of food, transportation and health-related resources.

Education

It's important for education to be more accessible for Indigenous students. The number of students receiving a trade and college certification is improving, but the Indigenous population's rate of obtaining university degrees is low. The education system as a whole is failing Indigenous peoples.

Income + Labour

The level of education an Indigenous student receives has a direct impact on their future and integration into the work force. There is significantly less Indigenous peoples who are unemployed and out of the work force. Consistently, the higher the education, the greater the numbers of employment.

Today we see the pride of Indigenous communities growing stronger.

However, Indigenous communities lack the necessary living, educational and economic support from the government.

Future

The significance of a young teen living on reserve and connecting with their culture is considerably overlooked.



First Nations Peoples On and Off Reserve

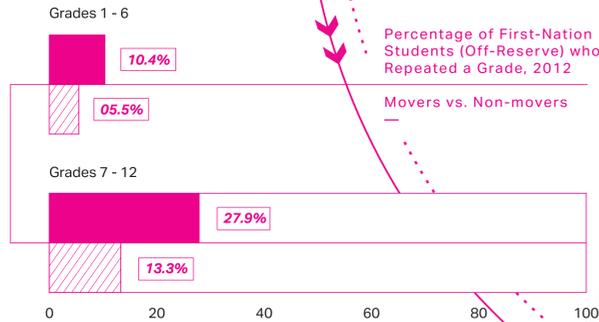
34.7%

Gr. 1-6

Must move off-reserve for regular school progression:

62.7%

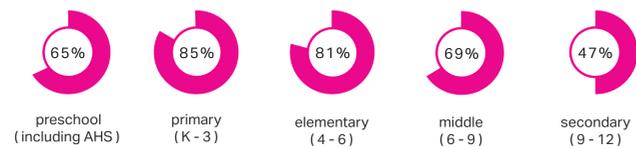
Gr. 7-12



Percentage of First-Nation Students (Off-Reserve) who Repeated a Grade, 2012

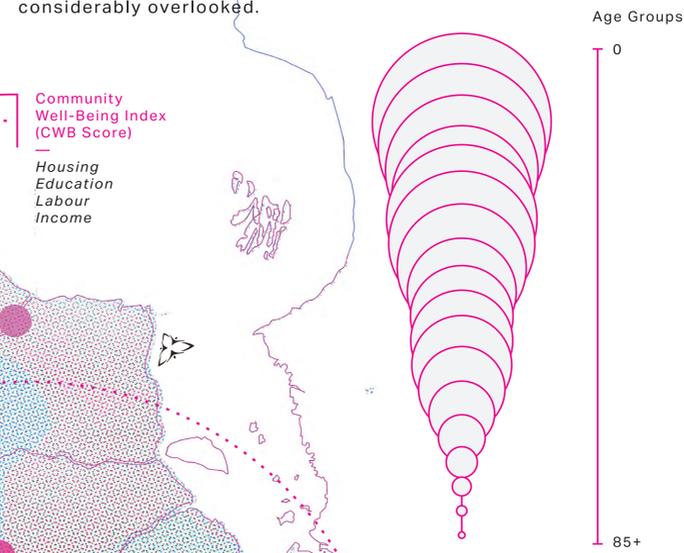
Movers vs. Non-movers

Proportion of Communities that Offer School Programming in the Following Grades



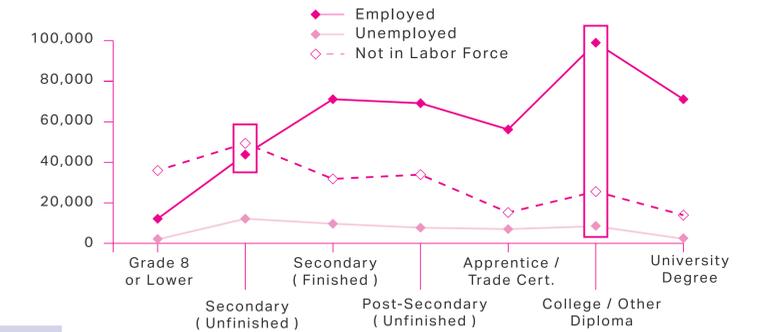
Average Education Score

28
14



Projection of Indigenous population by age group 2017

Educational Attainment vs Labour Force Status



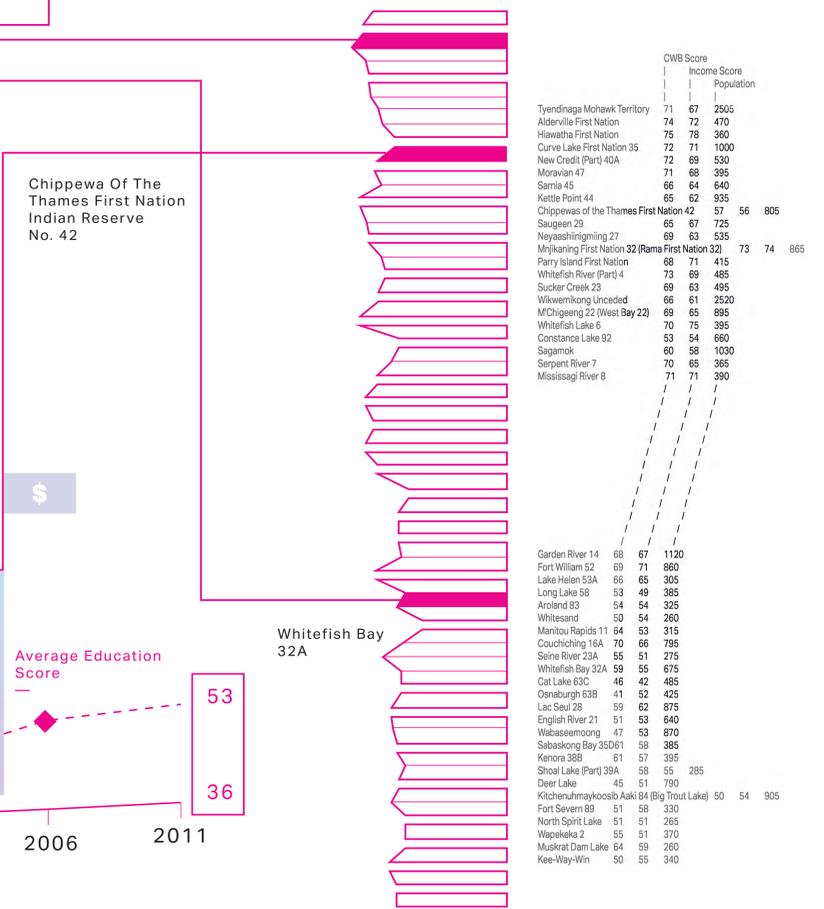
\$14,000

Median salary of Indigenous peoples with no post-secondary education

\$32,000

Median salary of Indigenous peoples with post-secondary education

Income scores of Indigenous Communities in Ontario



Average Education Score

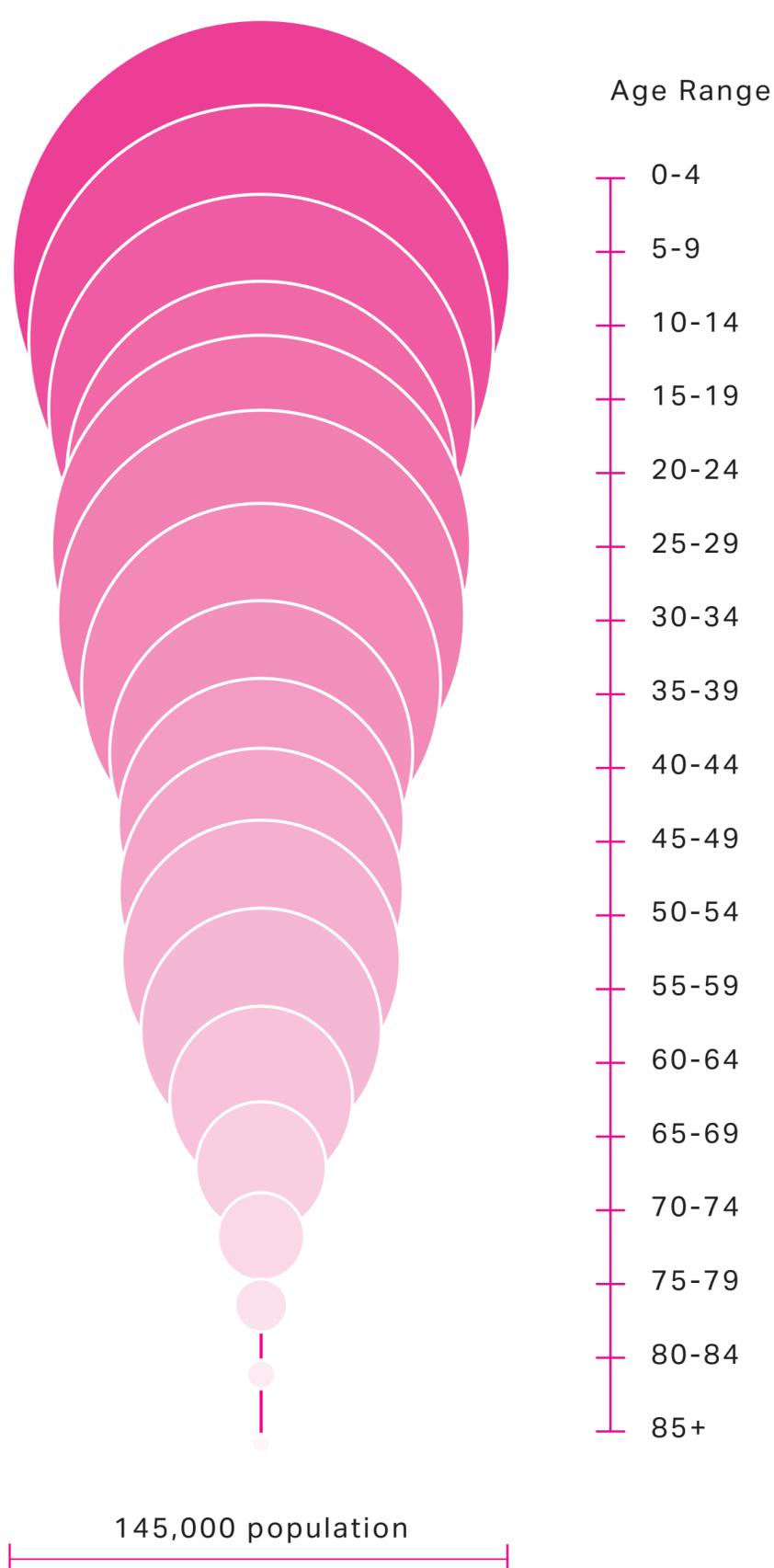
53

36

◆ Non-Aboriginals — First Nations

Future

If any part of the cycle fails, it impacts the entire well-being of Indigenous communities



The rapid growth of the Indigenous population is a substantial reason for resolving the gaps within the well-being index.

Action Plan

Consistent evidence shows the detrimental effects based on a lack of educational resources.

In order to improve the accessibility of education, specifically towards those living in smaller reserves, we propose an educational system similar to that of a self-reliant learning program. The program is designed to meet the unique needs of adult students, allowing them to develop a self-paced learning program.

When implemented they are cost efficient, promote independence and allow the student the opportunity to discover new knowledge and skills, while staying on reserve. This program could be tailored and offered to a younger, self-driven generation. Ultimately, strengthening both the individual, their family and the community.

With the appropriate support, a comprehensive action plan can be executed.