

Preface

Statistics Canada conducts its *Census of Population* every five years with the most recent census having occurred in 2006. The Census provides information on the demographic, social and economic conditions of the population on Census day (May 16 in 2006).

While the Census aims to enumerate all permanent residents of Canada, it will miss some residents while counting others more than once. In acknowledgement of this Statistics Canada publishes a net undercount that is used to adjust the population count. Based on these adjustments BC Stats produces quarterly and annual population estimates.

The City of Surrey's Planning Department also maintains building permit statistics. The number of existing buildings (updated with new constructions and demolitions) provides an accurate estimate of occupied dwellings. The dwelling count is combined with Statistics Canada Census variables to produce the City of Surrey's demographic profiles.

Where possible a comparison is made between the current and previous censuses. A regional comparison is also provided between Surrey and key municipal neighbours. Finally, for the purpose of this and other fact sheets, Surrey is divided into six communities: Cloverdale, Fleetwood, Guildford, Newton, South Surrey, and Whalley. City Centre is also identified as a sub-community planning area within Whalley. Unless otherwise indicated, statistical information provided at the community and sub-community level is based on a twenty percent sample of the Census enumeration.

Aboriginal Peoples

The 2006 Census includes two statistics related to Canada’s Aboriginal population: Aboriginal identity and registered Indian status. Additionally, it provides an ethnic breakdown of the general population from which information on Aboriginal ancestry is extracted. All Aboriginal populations in this fact sheet refer to urban (i.e. off-reserve) populations only.

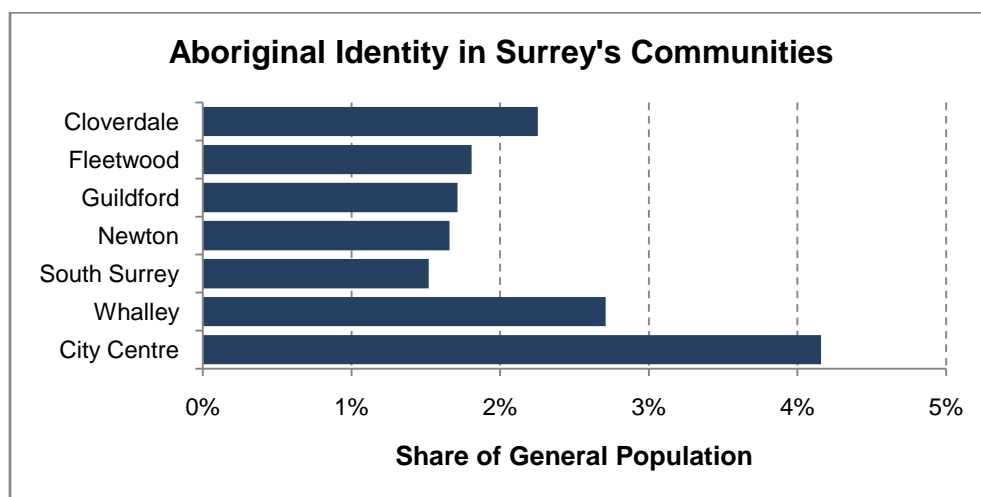
Aboriginal Identity

Aboriginal identity as defined by the Census refers to those individuals who identify with an Aboriginal group, those who report being a Treaty or Registered Indian, or those who report being a member of a First Nation or Indian band.

Between 2001 and 2006 Surrey’s Aboriginal population grew by 10.6% (from 6,900 to 7,630). This lags the growth in Surrey’s general population, which was 13.6% during that period. This is counter to the overall trend in Canada where growth in the Aboriginal population has outstripped that of the general population.

Aboriginal Identity in Surrey’s Communities

Among Surrey’s communities the largest numbers of Aboriginals lived in Whalley and Newton in 2006. Overall, 2.7% of Whalley’s population identified themselves as Aboriginal. City Centre, within Whalley, had an even higher proportion of Aboriginals among its residents (4.2%).

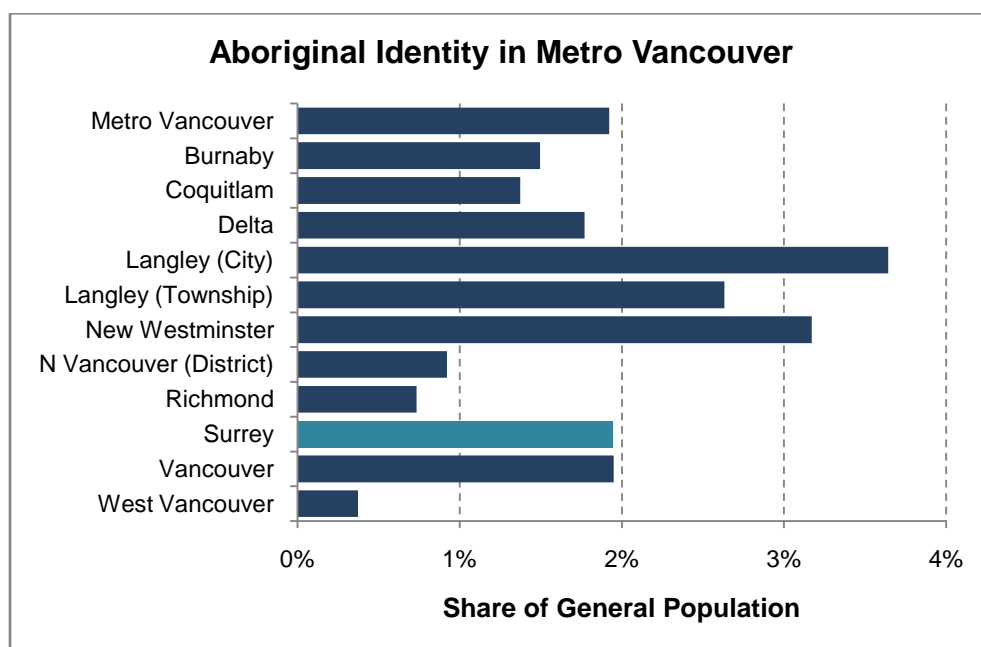
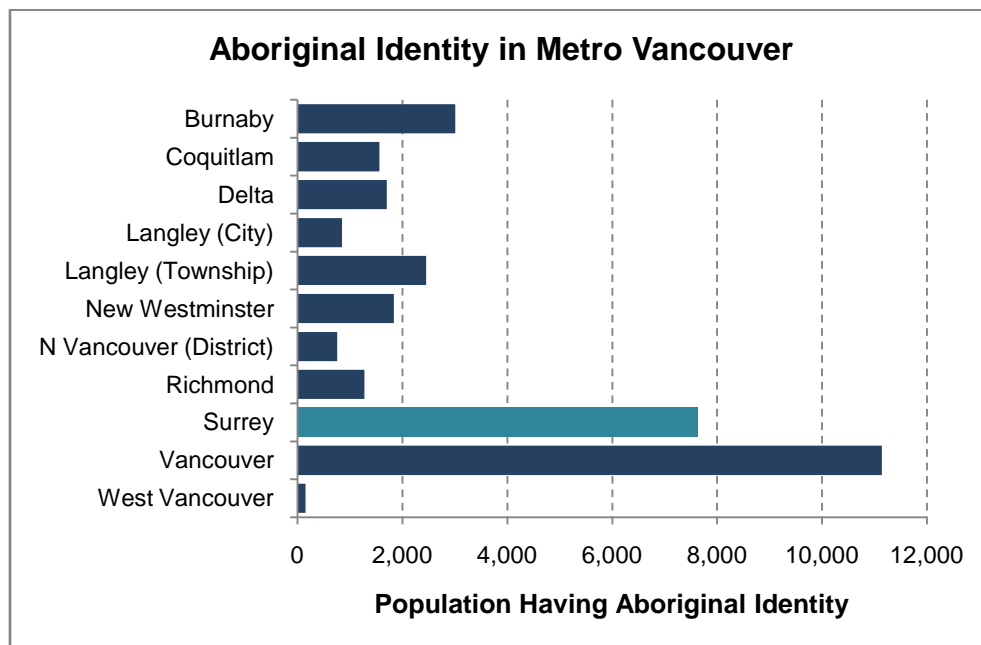


	Cloverdale	Fleetwood	Guildford	Newton	South Surrey	Whalley	City Centre	City Total
Aboriginal identity	850	905	895	1,815	910	2,255	730	7,630
Share of Population	2.3%	1.8%	1.7%	1.7%	1.5%	2.7%	4.2%	1.9%

Aboriginal Identity in Metro Vancouver

In 2006 Surrey had the second highest number of people identifying themselves as Aboriginal in Metro Vancouver. Surrey's 7,630 Aboriginals accounted for 18.9% of the region's aboriginal population. Besides Surrey and Vancouver (11,140 aboriginals, 27.6% of Metro Vancouver's total) no other municipality had more than a ten percent share of the region's aboriginal population.

Aboriginals make up 1.9% of Surrey's population. Likewise, 1.9% of the City of Vancouver's population and 1.9% of Metro Vancouver's population are Aboriginal.

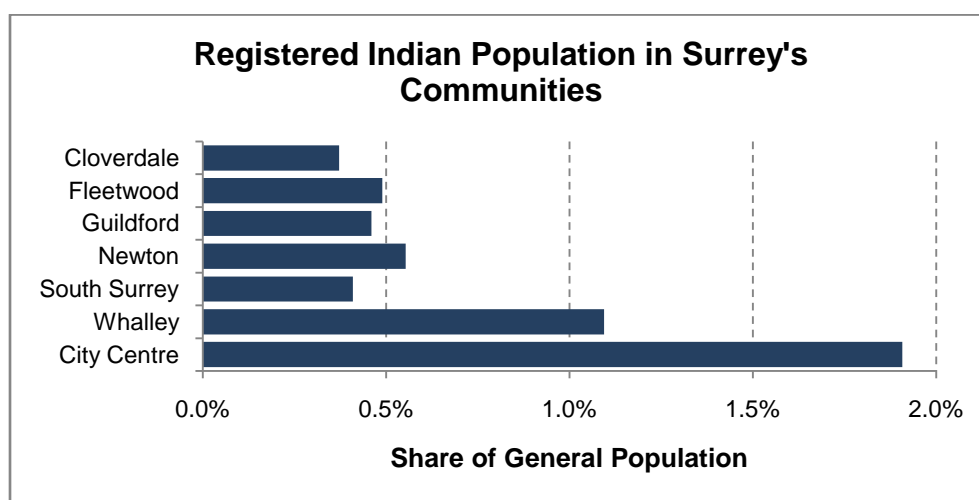


Registered Indian Status

Registered or Treaty Indians are those individuals who are registered under the Indian Act of Canada and can trace descent from a band that signed a treaty. The number of Registered Indians in Surrey increased marginally between 2001 and 2006 from 2,325 to 2,390. This represents a slight decrease from 0.7% of the population to 0.6%.

Registered Indian Status in Surrey's Communities

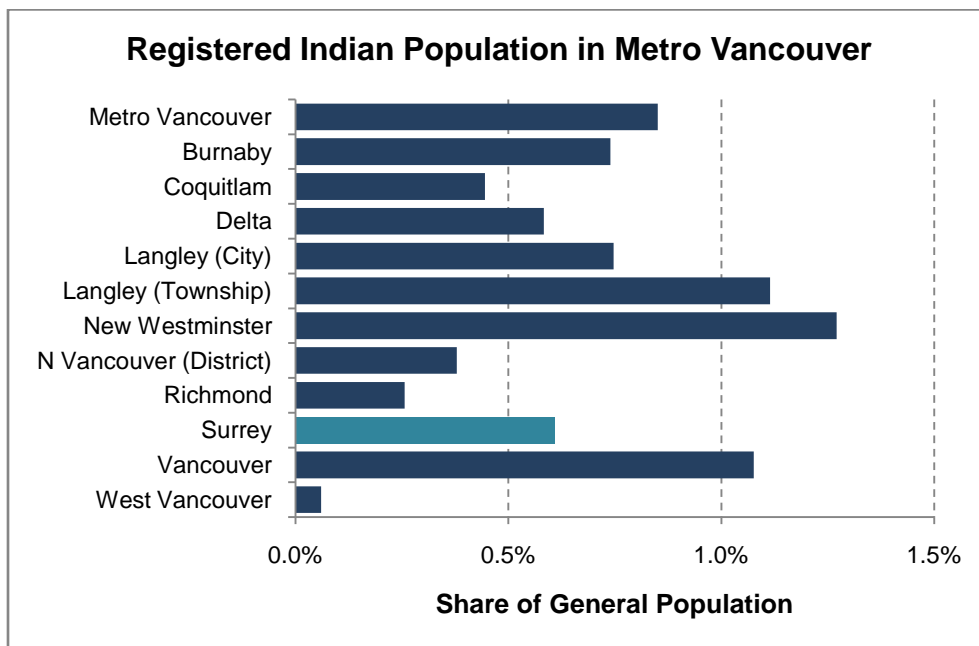
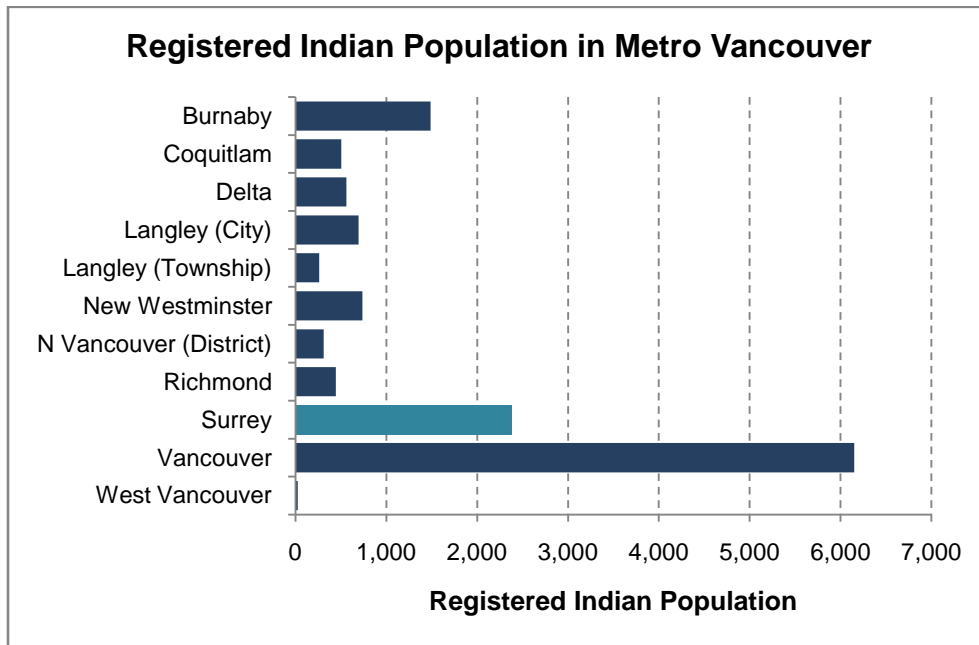
The greatest numbers of Registered Indians resided in Whalley and Newton in 2006. The highest concentrations were in Whalley and specifically in the City Centre area of Whalley where 1.9% of the population reported Registered Indian status.



	Cloverdale	Fleetwood	Guildford	Newton	South Surrey	Whalley	City Centre	City Total
Registered Indian	140	245	240	605	245	910	335	2,385
Share of Population	0.4%	0.5%	0.5%	0.6%	0.4%	1.1%	1.9%	0.6%

Registered Indian Status in Metro Vancouver

Surrey's 2,390 Registered Indians in 2006 made up 13.4% of the region's total. This was second to Vancouver whose 6,150 Registered Indians comprised 34.5% of the region's total. Registered Indians comprise a very small portion of the region's general population (on average 0.9%). In Surrey 0.6% of the population was a Registered Indian.

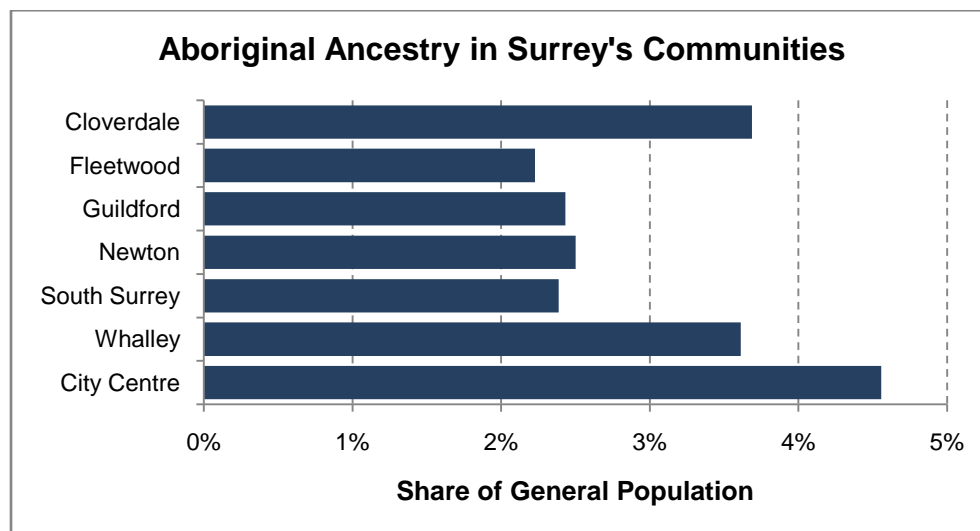


Aboriginal Ancestry

Information on Aboriginal ancestry is based on data collected on ethnic origin. Aboriginal ancestry includes three ethnic groups: North American Indian, Métis, and Inuit. The number of people reporting Aboriginal ancestry increased from 10,275 to 10,950 between 2001 and 2006. This represents a decline from 3.0% to 2.8% of the general population.

Aboriginal Ancestry in Surrey's Communities

Whalley and Newton were home to the largest numbers of people claiming Aboriginal ancestry in 2006 with 3,005 and 2,735 persons respectively. However, as a share of the general population Cloverdale and Whalley ranked first and second with 3.7% and 3.6% respectively. The sub-community of City Centre surpassed Whalley as a whole with 4.6% of its population claiming Aboriginal ancestry.



	Cloverdale	Fleetwood	Guildford	Newton	South Surrey	Whalley	City Centre	City Total
Aboriginal Ancestry	1,390	1,115	1,270	2,735	1,430	3,005	800	10,950
Share of Population	3.7%	2.2%	2.4%	2.5%	2.4%	3.6%	4.6%	2.8%

Aboriginal Ancestry in Metro Vancouver

In 2006 there were 10,950 people in Surrey who claimed Aboriginal ancestry. This amounts to 18.7% of the region's total. Only Vancouver was home to more people with Aboriginal ancestry. Its 14,785 accounts for 27.2% of the region's total. Aboriginal ancestry is claimed by 2.8% of the region's population. The same percent of Surrey's population also has Aboriginal ancestry.

