

Terminology

Indigenous is an umbrella term that includes:

- First Nations
- Inuit
- Métis

Terminology

Read page 1 of the Terminology handout.

While reading:

- Underline or highlight any information that is new to you
- write a question mark “?” beside any statements that you have questions about or you could use some clarification on



HOW TO TALK ABOUT
**INDIGENOUS
PEOPLE**



Terminology Can Vary

Terminology has changed over time and continues to evolve.

Someone may have grown up identifying as “Aboriginal” or “Indian” and prefer to continue to identify with those terms, despite others finding those terms offensive or problematic.

You may hear still hear “Indian” used to refer to the *Indian Act* or *Status Indians*

Additional examples:

“Aboriginal” may still be the preferred term for some people instead of “Indigenous”.

A First Nations person who is Ojibway may prefer to be referred as “Anishinabek” which means the original people in their own language.

It is always best to ask individuals for their preferred term in a good way.

Terminology may seem confusing or complicated, but there are numerous different nations or groups.

Governments and organizations within Canada utilize various terms as well.



Terminology

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Indigenous Peoples are everywhere!

- Indigenous Nations have always been here
- Each Nation has their own language and dialect, cultures, traditions, beliefs, and forms of government
- This map shows the homelands of hundreds of different Indigenous Nations
- Indigenous Nations have been greatly impacted by settlers with many negative consequences on identities, languages, cultures, traditions, and beliefs
- Despite the many negative impacts, Indigenous Nations have been resilient and are still here today



Distinct Nations

“In Canada, Indigenous Nations carry thousands of linguistic dialects that spread over 50 unique Indigenous languages with different community customs, practices and traditions that are immersed in unique political and social circumstances.

This includes the names Indigenous Peoples use to describe themselves.”

From: *Cultural Appropriation vs. Appreciation*
<https://etfofnmi.ca/wp-content/uploads/2019/09/cultural.pdf>



WATCH!
Cultural Differences Video
By: Bob Joseph

Video Link:
<https://youtu.be/UOHOGUev2as>

Distinct Nations

“Many other communities will use their language to name their Indigenous group and the peoples of that group will use that name to describe themselves and their connection to a larger collective.

For example, Anishinaabe is a name used by the Ojibway and is interpreted to mean “the original people.” Another example is Haudenosaunee which means “people of the longhouse” and is used by Mohawk and five other distinct nations under this confederacy.”

From: *Cultural Appropriation vs. Appreciation*

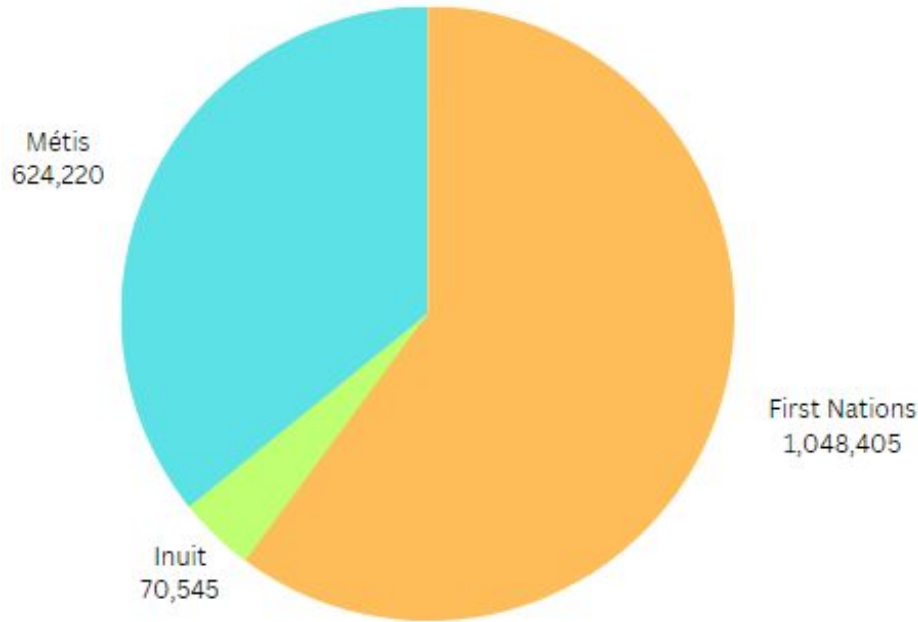
<https://etfofnmi.ca/wp-content/uploads/2019/09/cultural.pdf>

Indigenous Populations in Canada

- The 2021 Census counted 1.8 million Indigenous people, accounting for 5.0% of the total population in Canada, up from 4.9% in 2016.
- The Indigenous population grew by 9.4% from 2016 to 2021, surpassing the growth of the non-Indigenous population over the same period (+5.3%). However, this growth was not as rapid as in years past. For example, from 2011 to 2016, the Indigenous population grew by 18.9%—more than double the 2021 growth rate.
- The Indigenous population living in large urban centres—801,045 people—has grown by 12.5% from 2016 to 2021.

The Indigenous population is still the fastest growing population in Canada.

Indigenous Populations in Canada - Data from 2021



First Nations

For the first time, the Census of Population enumerated more than 1 million First Nations people living in Canada (1,048,405).

Inuit

There were 70,545 Inuit living in Canada, with just over two-thirds (69.0%) living in Inuit Nunangat—the homeland of Inuit in Canada.

Métis

There were 624,220 Métis living in Canada, up 6.3% from 2016.

Terminology Reflection

Use your Terminology Chart to complete the questions on the reflection handout.