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Aboriginal Mobility and Migration within Canada's Friendship Centre Areas: Patterns, Levels, and Implications Based on the 2006 Census

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Introduction

This chapter explores the patterns and levels of geographical mobility among Aboriginal populations within friendship centre (FC) catchment areas across Canada, in both densely and sparsely populated areas. Catchment areas include both existing and “gap” areas—the latter deemed to have the potential to become FC areas given their significant Aboriginal populations. The analysis considers the two major types of mobility: residential mobility (i.e., moves or changes in dwelling within the same community) and migration (i.e., moves between different communities). A major focus is the assessment of mobility and migration patterns in relation to the different population sizes of FC catchment areas. The size of the total (Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal) population in a catchment or community area is an important consideration, given the findings from census-based research showing that Aboriginal populations experience significantly different rates of mobility and migration depending on their place of residence, whether on-reserve or in rural and urban areas (small or large). For example, in urban areas Aboriginal populations tend to experience higher rates of mobility overall compared to the non-Aboriginal population. Large volumes of in- and out-migration combine with quite high levels of residential movement to produce substantial population turnover or “churn” among urban Aboriginal populations.

The study consists of three major sections. The first part of the analysis is intended to assess the levels, patterns, and rates of mobility across friendship centres on the basis of three major dimensions: population size of the FC community or catchment area, gender differences, and regional variations. The second part discusses the regional and existing gap characteristics of individual FC community or catchment areas with either relatively very high or low Aboriginal mobility or migration rates. The third part explores the relationship between mobility and community well-being (CWB) at the catchment-area level. The catchment-level analysis attempts to establish whether there is a pattern of association between mobility and community well-being, along

with its individual components of labour force, income, and housing (with the exception of education). The findings and implications from this study's empirical-based analysis may serve to better inform policy and program-related aspects of Aboriginal mobility and migration.

Data, Concepts, Methodology, and Limitations

Census Data on Aboriginal Mobility and Migration

This study uses data on mobility status (five years ago and one year ago) from the 2006 census, based on retrievals provided by the National Association of Friendship Centres (NAFC). Levels and rates of residential and migration mobility and, where numbers permit, gender-specific measures, are used to assess and compare the extent of mobility across FC areas. Data analyzed in this study for the Aboriginal population are specifically for the population reporting an Aboriginal identity (comprising North American Indian, Métis or Inuit, and/or registered Indian and/or band members) in the 2006 census. Given population size limitations, the analysis is restricted to the Aboriginal population as a whole. Similarly, age breakdowns are not provided, although some gender-specific results are provided. In addition to mobility data, the study incorporates community well-being indicators that have been developed for each FC catchment area from census data on education, labour force, income, and housing, to explore the relationship between mobility and community well-being across catchment areas. (For details on CWB indicators, please see **Chapter 6**.)

Mobility and Migration Concepts and Definitions

Canada's census collects mobility and migration data using two questions: (1) Where did you live five years ago? and (2) Where did you live one year ago? Both questions provide residential and migration data, and in the case of migration flows, the same level of geographic detail at the sub-provincial level. Data from either question can be configured to distinguish three population subgroups, including:

- Non-movers, who lived at the same residence at the outset of the reference period (i.e., either five years ago or one year ago)
- Migrants, who lived in a different community or Census Subdivision (CSD) (e.g., municipality, town, reserve) at the outset of the reference period
- Residential movers, who lived at a different residence in the same community at the outset of the reference period

Combined, these latter two groups comprise the total population of movers during the reference period. The migration components of the analyses presented in this chapter use data from both the five-year and one-year mobility question. Only in-migration to a catchment area was included in the data retrievals.

Census Geography and Catchment Area Concepts and Calculations

This analysis derives from 2006 census mobility and migration data provided for 304 friendship centre catchment areas, including 116 existing FC areas and 188 “gap” non-reserve areas, where a friendship centre is potentially needed based on the presence of significant Aboriginal populations. These catchment areas were developed by NAFC using an approach of customized aggregations of census geography (for details, please see **Chapter 2**).

Community Friendship Centre versus Community Census Subdivision

In this article, the terms “catchment areas” and “communities” are used interchangeably in reference to friendship centre areas, both existing and gap. However, it is also important to note that for purposes of census migration definitions, the term “community” in reference to migration from one community to another does not denote the customized geography of an FC community or catchment area, but rather a Census Subdivision (CSD) (e.g., municipality, reserve) which is the geographic unit for distinguishing a migrant mover (different CSD) from a non-migrant or residential mover (different dwelling but in same CSD).

Overlapping Catchment Areas and Calculations

It should be noted that the 304 catchment or community areas overlap, that is, they are not mutually exclusive. However, the catchment area itself represents the unit of analysis, corresponding to the concept of an FC catchment area or community. Consequently, mobility and migration rates at the national level for various FC characteristics, such as community population size, are averaged across the individual catchment areas. Given that the various analyses across the 304 catchment areas have not been undertaken separately for existing and gap FCs, Canada-level averages are not provided separately for existing and gap catchment areas.

Unique Existing Catchment Areas and Calculations

A separate set of mobility and migration retrievals were developed for the 116 existing FC catchment areas, which were specially adjusted for overlapping areas to yield “unique” geographic areas. Consequently, totals of movers and population summed over the 116 areas could be derived without double counting, such that rates are calculated directly, but for existing FCs only at provincial and national levels using unique mutually exclusive catchment areas. Hence, these direct calculations of unique-based rates from total numbers of movers (residential or migrant) and corresponding population totals differ from averages of individual rates of the 304 overlapping catchment areas.

Total Canada: Level Measures of Mobility and Migration Rates

This analysis employs rates derived from both the “overlapping existing and gap” and “unique existing” FC areas in profiling a national-level picture of NAFC-based Aboriginal mobility and migration. As well, for purposes of providing a

“total Canada” perspective that includes Aboriginal communities and reserves outside of existing and gap FC areas, corresponding Canada-level measures calculated independently of NAFC data are provided for reference. It is important to note that these three sets of rates are not directly comparable, but nevertheless do offer different perspectives according to three types of measures: average rates of “overlapping total FC areas” (304); national-level rates of unique existing FC areas (116); and the total Canada rates, based on the country as a whole. **Table 8.3** (page 187) presents these three different sets of rates for five-year and one-year mobility rates, which are referenced in the analytical discussion.

Analytical Approaches and Limitations

Limitations with Calculations and Interpretations of Averages of Rates

As the previous discussion indicates, averages of the mobility and migration rates of the individual catchment areas were calculated for different sets of areas across various categories (e.g., community population size) and regions. Rates of individual catchment areas were not weighted in these calculations of averages, but were instead simply summed and divided by the number of areas in the category or region. Given that the unit of analysis in this study is the catchment area itself (corresponding to the concept of an FC catchment area or community), it was decided that each FC or gap location should be given equal weight in the calculation of averages. In other words, mobility rates from areas with larger populations would not be assigned greater weight than those rates from areas with smaller populations. As a consequence, these unweighted averages of rates cannot be, nor are they intended to be, the same as the rate for the category (e.g., communities with populations of less than 10,000) or region as a whole.

However, this approach of using unweighted averages does pose limitations and must be interpreted cautiously for a number of reasons. First, unweighted averages of mobility or migration rates can yield anomalies in the comparison of averages between the “total population” (Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal) and the two population subgroups of Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal. While it is the case that the rate for the total population for each individual area must and does lie between the rates for the two Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal subgroups, this is not always the situation for the unweighted averages. These anomalies are particularly pronounced for some categories, such as locations with small community population sizes (less than 10,000), and especially those communities that are largely Aboriginal, where Aboriginal rates of mobility tend to be lower, rather than higher than non-Aboriginal rates, in contrast to urban communities with larger populations and the overall situation at the Canada level.

A second concern is the interpretation of unweighted mobility rates of a particular category or region. For example, unweighted rates for the same region cannot be interpreted as the mobility rate for the region as a whole. Rather, these unweighted averages simply reflect the arithmetic average of the mobility rates of

the different individual catchment areas within the region, but are not necessarily similar to the mobility rates of the region itself, and can, in fact, sometimes differ significantly from overall rates.

On the other hand, the corresponding averages of five-year mobility rates weighted separately for Aboriginal, non-Aboriginal, and total populations respectively, across a set of unique locations within a region, can be safely interpreted as the mobility rate for the region overall. Algebraically weighting the individual mobility rates of a set of catchment areas in a region is the same as calculating the regional mobility directly from the region's total numbers of movers and persons aged five and up (the sum of the region's individual areas). While it is possible to obtain mobility rates at the regional level with the unique existing FC area geography, it is not possible for the region's gap areas, given that corresponding unique geographies are not available. On the other hand, in the absence of unique geographies, an approximation of a regional rate would be more appropriate with the application of weighted, rather than unweighted averages.

Table 8.1 on page 179 illustrates the effects of not weighting in the calculation of averages of five-year mobility rates for individual existing FC and gap locations for Canada and Saskatchewan. First, unweighted averages of mobility rates are provided for FC and gap non-unique locations combined: at the Canada-level, the unweighted total population rate averaged over 304 locations, at 389 movers per 1,000 population, did not lie between the corresponding subpopulation figures, with averaged Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal rates of 458 and 418 (406 with rates for small non-Aboriginal populations of less than 50 suppressed).

Similar anomalies occurred for unweighted rates averaged over Saskatchewan's sixteen existing FC and gap locations. Rates from the total and the two subgroup populations in smaller, largely Aboriginal communities with significantly lower non-Aboriginal populations can affect these averages, as illustrated in **Table 8.2** on page 180. In most of the province's FC and gap areas, Aboriginal populations post higher five-year mobility rates than non-Aboriginal residents, but in three of the province's locations (Division No. 18 Unorganized, Buffalo Narrows, and La Loche) Aboriginal rates were lower, at about a third of non-Aboriginal rates. In these three largely Aboriginal communities, the mobility rate for the total population is slightly higher, for example at 314 per 1,000 in Buffalo Narrows, but much more similar to the Aboriginal rate, at 275, and significantly lower than the non-Aboriginal rate of 894 per 1,000. Buffalo Narrows' mobility rate for the total population reflects its 94% Aboriginal and 6% non-Aboriginal composition. When rates from these three communities are excluded, the unweighted rates averaged over the remaining areas yield a total population average that does in fact lie between the Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal averages.

However, in terms of method, these anomalies, which are effectively the artifact of unweighted rates, disappear with the application of rates separately weighted according to the shares of Aboriginal, non-Aboriginal, and total populations distributed across the individual areas, as illustrated for Saskatchewan in

Table 8.2, along with resulting rates for both Canada and Saskatchewan in **Table 8.1**. For example, for Canada the average total population mobility rate of 436 movers per 1,000 falls between the average Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal rates of 531 and 433 per 1,000 respectively. At the same time, though, if geographies are non-unique (overlapping), weighted averages cannot be considered as totally representative of Canada- or Saskatchewan-level rates. They nevertheless provide a better approximation than the unweighted averages of national- or regional-level rates. This is effectively demonstrated at the Canada level for the 116 existing FCs in the comparison of weighted rates between unique and non-unique (not adjusted for overlapping geographies) areas. At the national level, mobility rates of Aboriginal, non-Aboriginal, and total populations for the unique-based areas, of 544, 433, and 436 compare very closely to the non-unique-based weighted averages of 545, 431, and 435 respectively, while both sets differ with respect to the corresponding unweighted averages of 498, 412, and 408 respectively.

Limitations with Analysis of Patterns and Relationships

It should be noted that within the context of analyzing patterns and relationships associated with mobility and migration there are some limitations associated with factors such as population size, overlapping geography (e.g., regression undertaken with the 116 unique existing catchment areas, but not with the overlapping 304 FC areas), and the inability to control for the effects of different variables, since analysis is often limited to one dimension due to small numbers. For example, analyses of mobility and migration along just one dimension, such as size of the FC total catchment population, or level of FC community well-being can mask differences in Aboriginal group or regional composition. As previous research (Norris and Clatworthy 2003; Clatworthy and Norris 2007, forthcoming) has demonstrated, Aboriginal groups—registered Indians, non-registered Indians, Métis, and Inuit—do differ in the extent of their mobility and migration across distinct geographies of reserves, rural areas, and urban centres large and small, as well as provinces and territories. Similarly, the relationship of mobility and migration with community well-being also reflects the association with urbanization (community population size), which cannot be controlled for in this analysis due to small numbers. As well, in terms of analyzing and interpreting the relationships between mobility and other variables, such as well-being, it is important to remember that from the viewpoint of “ecological fallacy,” the unit of analysis, for example in exploring the association between Aboriginal residential mobility and housing, is the catchment area, not the individual.

Background and Summary of Research Findings to Date on Aboriginal Mobility and Migration

Previous research on Aboriginal mobility and migration (Clatworthy and Norris 2007, forthcoming) has highlighted some key considerations in understanding

Table 8.1: NAFC Weighted and Unweighted Measures of Five-Year Mobility Rates, Canada and Saskatchewan, 2006 Census

Five-Year Rate Measures	Canada — Level			Saskatchewan		
	Unweighted Averages of Non-Unique Areas	Regional Rate or Weighted Averages Based on Non-Unique Areas	Unique Based Rates of Existing FC Areas	Unweighted Averages of Non-Unique Area	Regional Rate or Weighted Averages Based on Non-Unique Areas	Unique Based Rates of Existing FC Areas
Existing FC and Gap Locations	304 FC and Gap Areas in Canada			16 FC and Gap Areas in Saskatchewan		
Total Population (Aboriginal + Non-Aboriginal)	389.2 (Table 8.3)	436.4	n/a	371.9 (Figure 8.7a)	427.8	n/a
Aboriginal Population	457.6 (Table 8.3)	531.1	n/a	470.9 (Figure 8.7a)	551.3	n/a
Non-Aboriginal Population	418.3* (Not used)	433.3	n/a	436.3 (Figure 8.7a)	405.5	n/a
Non-Aboriginal Excluding Populations of Less than 50 (291 Areas)	405.9** (Table 8.3)	—	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Aboriginal/Non-Aboriginal Ratio	1.09*; 1.13**	1.23	n/a	1.08 (Figure 8.7a)	1.36	n/a
Existing FCs Only	116 Existing FCs in Canada			12 Existing FCs in Saskatchewan (***Note: No overlapping geography; all areas unique)		
Total Population (Aboriginal + Non-Aboriginal)	408.4	436.6	436.1 (Tables 8.3 and 8.4a)	371.6	430.3***	430.2 (Table 8.4a)
Aboriginal Population	497.9	544.7	543.5 (Tables 8.3 and 8.4a)	487.5	573.8***	566.9 (Table 8.4a)
Non-Aboriginal Population	411.7	430.8	432.7 (Tables 8.3 and 8.4a)	430.4	406.1***	406.8 (Table 8.4a)
Aboriginal/Non-Aboriginal Ratio	1.21	1.26	1.25 (Tables 8.3 and 8.4a)	1.13	1.41***	1.4 (Table 8.4a)

Table 8.2: Examples of Calculations of NAFC Weighted and Unweighted Measures of 2006 Five-Year Mobility Rates for Existing FC and Gap Locations in Saskatchewan

SK Mobility Data	Total Population (Aboriginal and Non-Aboriginal)					Aboriginal Population				Non-Aboriginal Population				
	Total Pop. Age 5+		Movers Age 5+	Crude Mobility Rate		Pop. Age 5+	Crude Mobility Rate		Pop. Age 5+	Crude Mobility Rate		Pop. Age 5+	Crude Mobility Rate	
	Pop.	Weight		Unweighted	Weighted		Unweighted	Weighted		Unweighted	Weighted		Unweighted	Weighted
Place Names	1	2	3	4	5 = 4 * 2	1	4	5	1	4	1	4	5	
Gap Locations														
Meadow Lake No. 588	8,320	0.016	2,810	337.7	5.5	3,390	389.4	17.0	4,925	302.5	3.5			
Air Ronge	5,985	0.012	2,625	438.6	5.2	4,470	443.0	25.4	1,520	427.6	1.5			
Moose Jaw	30,340	0.060	12,770	420.9	25.1	1,435	606.3	11.2	28,910	411.4	27.6			
Division No. 18, Unorganized	2,045	0.004	600	293.4	1.2	1,790	245.8	5.7	245	673.5	0.4			
Existing FC Locations														
Buffalo Narrows	2,325	0.005	730	314.0	1.4	2,180	275.2	7.7	140	892.9	0.3			
Carlyle	1,605	0.003	515	320.9	1.0	45	444.4	0.3	1,560	317.3	1.1			
Fort Qu'Appelle	2,965	0.006	1,085	365.9	2.1	730	520.5	4.9	2,235	313.2	1.6			
Ile-de-la-Crosse	3,085	0.006	1,035	335.5	2.0	2,930	336.2	12.7	150	333.3	0.1			
La Loche	3,135	0.006	745	237.6	1.5	2,995	215.4	8.3	150	666.7	0.2			
La Ronge	5,990	0.012	2,630	439.1	5.2	4,470	443.0	25.4	1,515	429.0	1.5			
Meadow Lake	9,590	0.019	3,165	330.0	6.2	4,485	350.1	20.2	5,105	312.4	3.7			
North Battleford	17,120	0.034	7,185	419.7	14.1	3,135	701.8	28.3	13,990	356.3	11.6			
Prince Albert	36,690	0.072	15,890	433.1	31.2	11,575	617.3	97.8	25,105	348.3	20.3			
Regina	167,665	0.329	70,200	418.7	138.0	14,640	651.0	122.4	153,025	396.5	140.8			
Saskatoon	195,655	0.384	89,355	456.7	175.6	18,040	682.4	158.1	177,610	433.8	178.8			

Yorkton	16,355	0.032	6,355	388.6	12.5	1,550	612.9	12.2	14,805	365.4	12.6
Unweighted and Weighted Averages of 16 Mobility Rates	508,870	1.000	217,695	371.9	427.8	77,860	470.9	551.3	430,990	436.3	405.5
*Rate calculation at region level: Movers/Pop. 5+	427.8					551.3			405.5		
Rates of 13 Areas without Division No. 18, Buffalo Narrows, La Loche				392.7			522.9			365.2	
12 Existing FC Locations											
Unweighted and Weighted Rates				371.6	430.3		487.5	573.8		430.4	406.1
*Region's Movers/Pop.	430.3					573.8			406.1		

patterns and rates, such as residential (reserve, rural, and urban) distributions of different Aboriginal groups, degree of urbanization, age and gender differences, reasons for migration, and various socio-economic factors such as employment and housing. The following provides a brief summary of findings on just a couple of key aspects of Aboriginal mobility and migration, and is not intended to be exhaustive.

Urbanization

The degree of urbanization among Aboriginal groups is an important factor in explaining the differentials in their mobility rates. Aboriginal mobility varies significantly by location, such that mobility rates generally are highest in large urban areas of Census Metropolitan Areas (CMAs), relatively high in smaller non-CMA urban areas, relatively low in rural areas, and lowest on reserves. Significantly, in urban areas, mobility rates among Aboriginal residents notably exceed those of the non-Aboriginal populations.

Age-Gender Patterns of Mobility and Migration

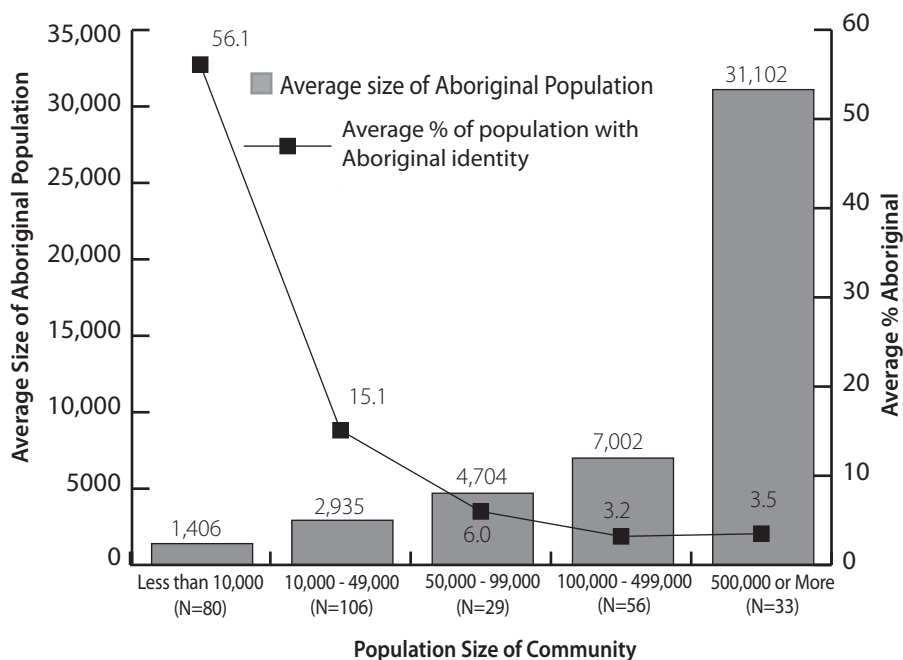
Research findings (Clatworthy and Norris 2007, forthcoming) demonstrate that demographic differences can affect comparisons of crude mobility rates across Aboriginal groups, geographies, locations, and regions. The propensity to move or migrate does vary by age and gender, being most likely at the young adult ages (e.g., 20 to 29). Consequently, comparisons of overall crude rates across different populations reflect differences in age-gender structure as well as age-gender specific differences in their propensity to move. Given the younger age structure of the Aboriginal population, non-Aboriginal comparisons should be based on age-standardized rates, although this is not possible with the FC community-level data owing to small numbers. However, with respect to the higher Aboriginal than non-Aboriginal crude mobility rates in urban areas, it is worth noting that results of age-standardized rates at the Canada- and provincial-levels still yield mostly similar patterns of comparison (Norris and Clatworthy, forthcoming). The fact that Aboriginal/non-Aboriginal differences in urban areas still persist, even after controlling for age, indicates that the Aboriginal propensity to migrate is greater regardless of different age structures, suggesting that there are other contributing factors at play. In the following analysis of catchment areas, the classification of each of the 304 different areas by the size of their total population provides a proxy for assessing the impact of residence and urbanization on Aboriginal mobility and migration.

NAFC Catchment Areas: Selected Characteristics

An important dimension of Aboriginal mobility and migration analysis is the size of the total population in catchment areas—given previous research findings on rural and urban aspects of Aboriginal migration noted earlier. **Figure 8.1** on the following page provides the distribution of the 304 catchment areas classified by

population ranges of catchment areas. In addition to showing the number and average population size of the Aboriginal catchment population within each population range, the figure also gives the proportion of the total population with an Aboriginal identity averaged over the catchment areas within that population range. Clearly, while the average size of the Aboriginal population increases significantly as the total population catchment increases, the average proportion of the total catchment population reporting an Aboriginal identity decreases from 56% in catchment areas with total populations of less than 10,000 people, to about 3% in catchment areas with populations of 100,000 or more.

Figure 8.1: Average Size and Percentage of Catchment Population Reporting an Aboriginal Identity by Population Size of Community Areas, Canada, 2006



Mobility and Migration Rates by Catchment Community Population Size

Five-Year and One-Year Crude Mobility Rates by Population Size of Catchment Area

The 2006 census-based data on five-year and one-year crude mobility rates measures the number of movers per 1,000 population over the 2001–06 and 2005–06 periods respectively. Both the five-year and one-year rates show that Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal populations differ in their degree of mobility, and that these differences tend to vary with the population size of the catchment area. First, regardless of community size, Aboriginal mobility is higher than non-Aboriginal mobility, as indicated overall at the Canada-level averages of five-year and one-year mobility rates for the 304 FC community catchment areas. Overall, Aboriginal five-year rates of 458 movers per 1,000 population are higher than non-Aboriginal rates of 405 per 1,000. Similarly, over the 2005–06 one-year period, corresponding Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal rates are 195 and 149 respectively. While one-year mobility rates are similar to the five-year mobility in Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal variations across catchment population size, differences between the two populations tend to be more pronounced for the one-year mobility, with Aboriginal rates 1.31 times higher than non-Aboriginal rates, compared to the corresponding five-year mobility ratio of 1.13 (see **Table 8.3** on page 187).

National NAFC averages for existing FCs only, based on adjusted non-overlapping catchment areas, yield corresponding Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal five-year rates of 544 and 433 movers per 1,000 respectively, and one-year rates of 244 and 149 respectively (see **Table 8.3**). Calculations for Canada as a whole, separate from NAFC data, also yield higher Aboriginal than non-Aboriginal five-year mobility rates of 449 and 408 respectively, and one-year rates of 194 and 139 respectively.

Mobility rates of both Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal populations tend to vary according to the total population size of the catchment area, such that both five-year and one-year Aboriginal mobility tends to be lower than non-Aboriginal mobility in smaller rural areas, but higher in larger urban areas. For example, as shown in **Figure 8.2a** on page 186, in the case of five-year mobility, in catchment areas with total populations of less than 10,000, relatively fewer (384 per 1,000) Aboriginal people had moved compared to 466 per 1,000 non-Aboriginal residents. In contrast, in catchment areas with total populations of 500,000 or more, Aboriginal rates were higher than those of non-Aboriginal residents, at 569 and 438 per 1,000 respectively. Thus, while the Aboriginal to non-Aboriginal ratio of five-year mobility rates is 0.8 among small-population catchment areas of less than 10,000 people; it reverses and increases to 1.21 for catchment areas with populations of between 10,000 and 99,999. The ratio reaches 1.3 for populations

of 100,000 to 499,000 and for populations of 500,000 or more (see **Figure 8.2a**). Similar findings occur with the one-year mobility rates, such that in catchment areas with populations of less than 10,000, Aboriginal rates were 0.87 lower at 156 per 1,000, compared to 179 of non-Aboriginal residents. As with the five-year (but even more pronounced), in catchment areas with total populations of 500,000 or more, Aboriginal one-year rates over the 2005–06 period are notably higher—1.63 times greater at 248 movers per 1,000, compared to the non-Aboriginal rate of just 152. Again, while the Aboriginal to non-Aboriginal ratio of mobility rates is lower than 1.00 among catchment populations of less than 10,000, it reverses and increases to 1.38 for catchment areas with populations of between 10,000 to 49,999, rising steadily to 1.43 for populations between 50,000 to 99,999, reaching 1.61 for 100,000 to 500,000, and then 1.63 for populations of 500,000 plus (see **Figure 8.2b** on page 186).

Regression results for existing FC areas measuring the relationship between five-year mobility and total catchment population size indicate that Aboriginal mobility is positively correlated with community population size (log) although the relationship is not very strong. Larger communities have higher rates of Aboriginal mobility, such that each ten-fold increase in the size of the community results in an increase of 62.3 in the mobility rate.

Five-Year and One-Year Crude Migration Rates by Population Size of Catchment Area

The 2006 census data on five-year and one-year crude migration rates measures the number of migrants—those who moved between communities—per 1,000 population, over the 2001–06 and 2005–06 periods respectively. Compared to mobility rates, the overall pattern of Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal differences in migration rates is not quite the same, and tends to be less pronounced. In fact, between 2001 and 2006, Aboriginal people changed their community of residence at a rate of about 202 migrants per 1,000—lower than the observed rate of 215 per 1,000 in the non-Aboriginal population.

In the case of the one-year rate, though, the Aboriginal migration rate was 82 per 1,000, somewhat higher than the non-Aboriginal rate of 71 per 1,000 (see **Table 8.3**). In the case of existing FC communities only, five-year migration yielded higher Aboriginal than non-Aboriginal migration rates, at 211 and 182 migrants per 1,000 respectively. One-year migration rates were also higher, with corresponding rates of 82 and 54 migrants per 1,000 respectively (see **Table 8.3**). Calculations for Canada as a whole, separate from NAFC-based data, reveal that overall Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal migration rates are similar for the five-year rates, at 191 and 188 respectively. In the case of one-year rates, Aboriginal rates are higher than non-Aboriginal, at 76 and 58 respectively (see **Table 8.3**).

As with mobility rates, both five-year and one-year rates of migration vary according to the population size of the catchment area. Most notably, Aboriginal migration was substantially lower than non-Aboriginal migration in smaller

Figure 8.2a: Average Five-Year (2001–06) Crude Mobility Rates by Aboriginal and Non-Aboriginal Populations, by Population Size of Catchment Areas, Canada

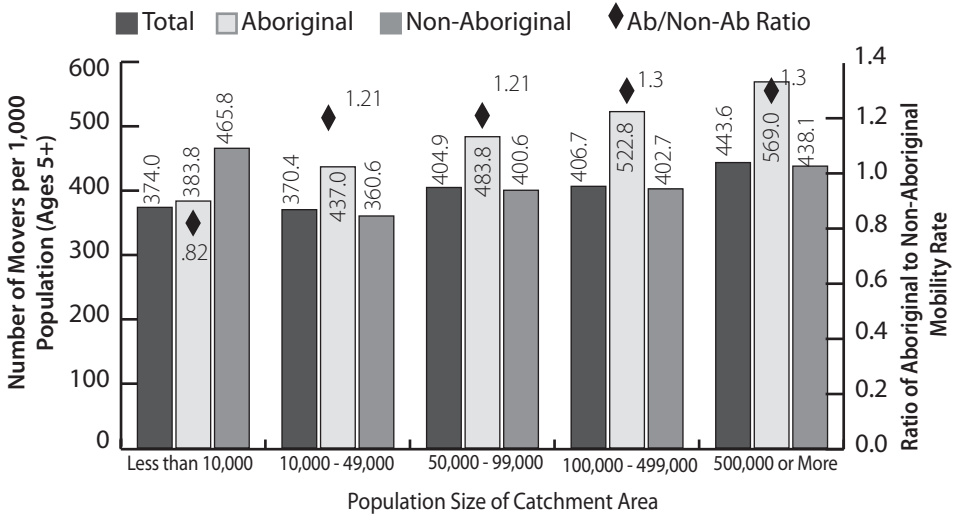


Figure 8.2b: Average One-Year (2005–06) Crude Mobility Rates by Aboriginal and Non-Aboriginal Populations, by Population Size of Catchment Areas, Canada

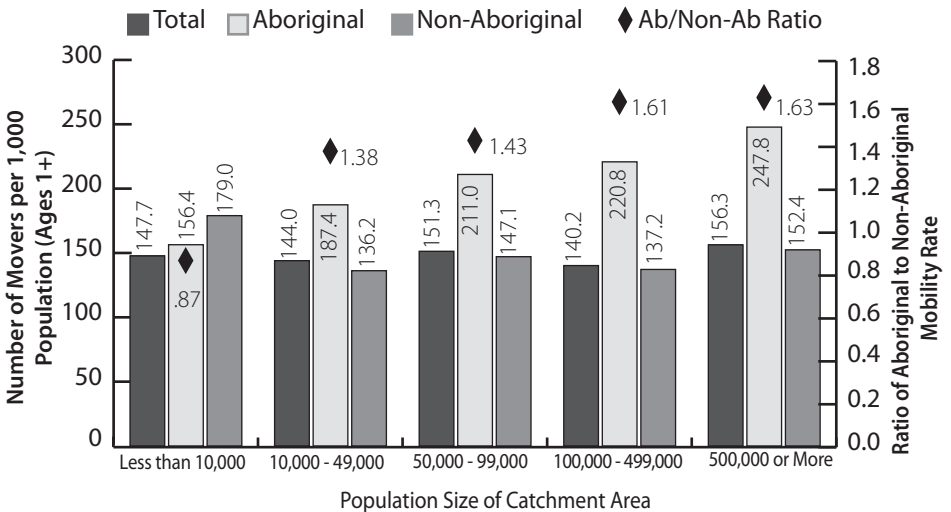


Table 8.3: Canada-Level NAFC and Total Measures of Five-Year and One-Year Mobility and Migration Rates, 2006 Census

Canada-Level Measures	Total			Aboriginal			Non-Aboriginal			Aboriginal/Non-Aboriginal Ratio		
	Mobility	Migration	Residential	Mobility	Migration	Residential	Mobility	Migration	Residential	Mobility	Migration	Residential
Five-Year Rates												
NAFC Measure Based on Totals of 116 Unique Existing Catchment Areas	436.1	183.0	309.8	543.5	211.4	421.2	432.7	182.1	306.4	1.26	1.16	1.37
NAFC Measure Based on Averages of 304 Existing and Gap Catchment Areas	389.2	182.9	309.8	457.6	201.7	421.2	405.9	214.9	306.4	1.13	0.94	1.37
Total Canada Independent of NAFC Measures	408.7	188.3	408.1	448.6	190.7	435.0	407.2	188.2	407.1	1.10	1.01	1.07
One-Year Rates												
NAFC Measure Based on Totals of 116 Unique Existing Catchment Areas	151.7	55.0	102.2	243.6	82.2	175.9	148.7	54.2	99.9	1.64	1.52	1.76
NAFC Measure Based on Averages of 304 Existing and Gap Catchment Areas	146.3	64.3	87.8	194.3	82.0	123.3	148.5	71.0	83.0	1.31	1.16	1.49
Total Canada Independent of NAFC Measures	140.8	58.2	87.7	193.8	76.1	127.4	138.8	57.5	86.2	1.40	1.32	1.48

rural areas, but it was the reverse in larger urban areas with somewhat higher rates. In catchment areas with populations of less than 10,000 just 145 of every 1,000 Aboriginal people had changed communities between 2001 and 2006 (on average). This was less than half (0.48) of the rate of 304 for non-Aboriginal residents (see **Figure 8.3a** on page 189). From 2005 to 2006, in the case of the one-year rates, just 64 per 1,000 Aboriginal residents had migrated, a ratio of 0.61 of the rate of 105 for the non-Aboriginal population (see **Figure 8.3b** on page 189).

In contrast, in catchment areas with populations of between 100,000 and 499,999, the five-year Aboriginal migration rate is 1.28 times greater than that of the non-Aboriginal population, with corresponding rates of 241 and 188 respectively. The Aboriginal migration rate of 88 is 1.53 times greater than the non-Aboriginal rate of 58. Similar to mobility rates, Aboriginal migration rates are lower than non-Aboriginal rates, with ratios of less than 1.00 in catchment populations of less than 10,000, but they reverse in larger community populations of 10,000 or more, with Aboriginal rates higher and ratios greater than 1.00. The five-year and one-year ratios average 1.36 and 1.13 respectively in catchment areas with populations between 10,000 and 49,999; and 1.53 and 1.28 respectively for communities between 100,000 and 500,000 (see **Figure 8.3b**).

Regression Results Based on Unique Existing Catchment Areas

Regression results for the relationship between five-year migration (not undertaken for one-year rates) and total population size indicate that Aboriginal migration, like mobility overall, is also positively correlated with community population size for existing catchment areas. However, the relationship is very weak and less pronounced than that for mobility overall; each ten-fold increase in the size of the community results in an increase of 20.5 in the migration rate.

One-Year Residential Crude Mobility Rates by Population Size of Catchment Area

Rates based on the 2006 census data on one-year crude residential mobility measure the number of residential movers—those who changed dwellings within the same community over the 2005–06 period per 1,000 non-migrant population. Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal differences are greatest for one-year residential mobility, with significantly higher Aboriginal rates of 123 residential movers per 1,000 non-migrant population, 1.49 times higher than the rate of 83 for the non-Aboriginal population for the 304 FC communities (see **Table 8.3**). Although Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal rates are higher at 175 and 100 movers per 1,000 respectively for existing FC areas only, the Aboriginal rate compares even higher with a ratio of 1.76. However, calculations for Canada as a whole, separate from NAFC-based data, yield Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal mobility rates of 127 and 86 respectively, which is more similar to those observed for all 304 FC communities (see **Table 8.3**). Nevertheless, all three measures clearly indicate substantially higher rates of one-year residential mobility for Aboriginal than non-Aboriginal residents.

Figure 8.3a: Average Five-Year (2001–06) Crude Migration Rates of Catchment Population by Aboriginal and Non-Aboriginal Populations, by Population Size of Catchment Areas, Canada

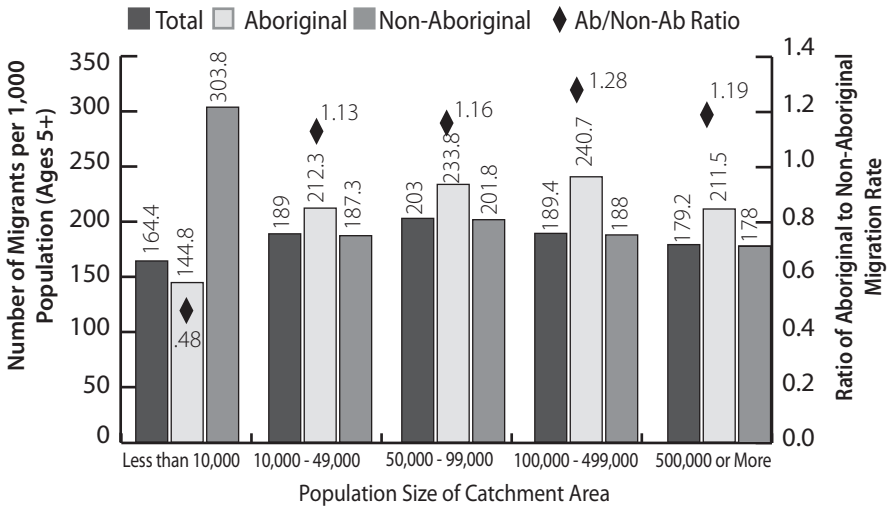
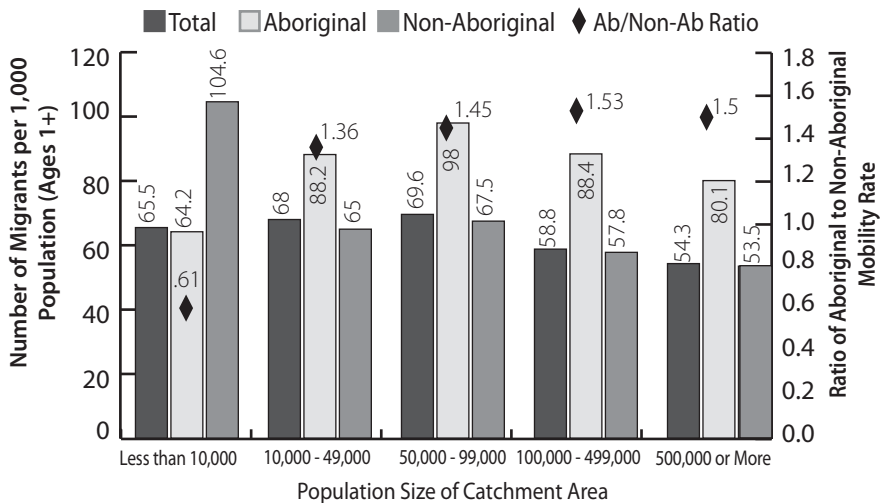


Figure 8.3b: Average One-Year (2005–06) Crude Migration Rates of Catchment Population by Aboriginal and Non-Aboriginal Populations, by Population Size of Catchment Areas, Canada

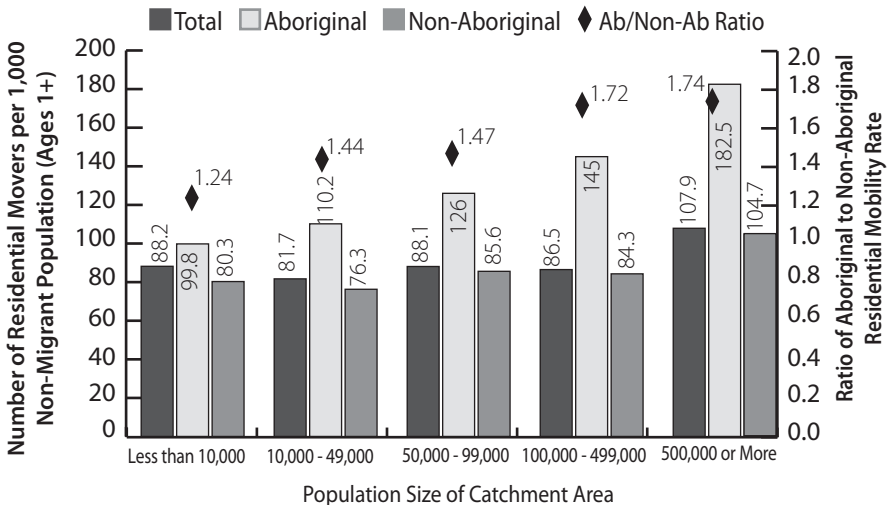


Compared to non-Aboriginal populations, Aboriginal populations experience higher one-year residential mobility across all catchment areas, but most significantly in those with large populations. Thus, residential mobility increases notably with population size. For example, 99 per 1,000 Aboriginal people living in catchment populations of less than 10,000 had moved in the last year compared to 80 of non-Aboriginal residents. In catchment populations of 500,000 or more, Aboriginal rates of residential mobility over the 2005–06 period are notably higher—1.74 times greater, with 183 per 1,000, compared to just 105 per 1,000 non-Aboriginal residents. While the Aboriginal to non-Aboriginal ratio of mobility rates is 1.24 among catchment populations of less than 10,000, it is substantially higher in larger populations, reaching 1.72 in communities between 100,000 and 500,000, and 1.74 in communities of 500,000 or more (see **Figure 8.4**, below). These findings are consistent with previous research, which also suggests that the higher residential Aboriginal mobility in urban areas is associated with factors such as inadequate housing and low rates of home ownership (Clatworthy and Norris 2007, forthcoming).

Regression Results Based on Unique Existing Catchment Areas

For existing FC areas, regression results on the relationship between one-year residential Aboriginal mobility and total population size indicate that Aboriginal one-year mobility is positively correlated with community population size (log), although the relationship is not very strong; model fit is significant but linear relationship is weak. Larger communities have higher rates of Aboriginal mobility, such that each ten-fold increase in the size of the community results in an increase of 29.2 in the one-year residential mobility rate.

Figure 8.4: Average One-Year Crude Residential Mobility Rates of Aboriginal and Non-Aboriginal Populations, by Population Size of Catchment Areas, Canada, 2005–06



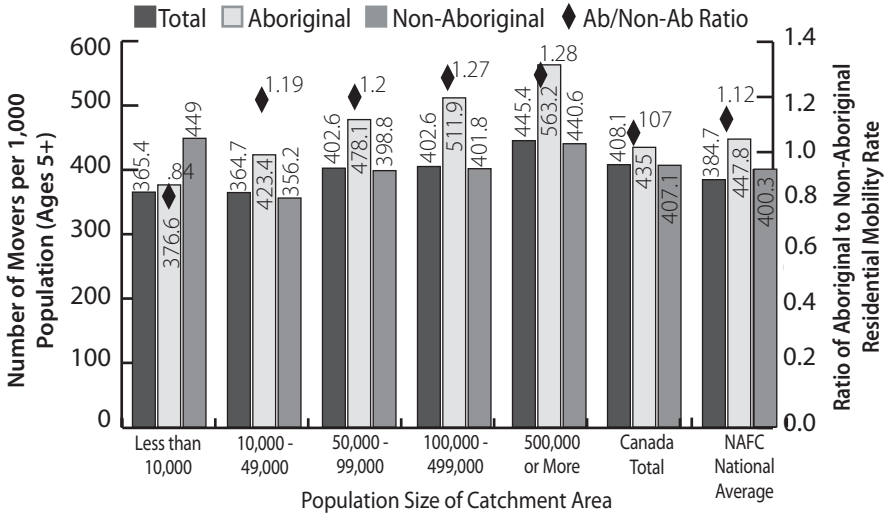
Mobility and Migration Rates by Gender

Analysis of mobility and migration rates by age and gender provides insight into the process and role of migration across the life cycle of individuals. Here, due to data constraints, the focus is limited to gender patterns associated with five-year mobility. Mobility and migration tend to be associated with education, labour force transitions (employment, job loss, and retirement), and household and family formation and dissolution (marriage, divorce, widowhood). As demonstrated in previous research (Clatworthy and Norris 2007; Norris et al. 2004; Norris and Clatworthy 2003; Norris 1985, 1990), these events and life-cycle stages are age and gender dependent among Aboriginal populations, just as they are for the general population. Accordingly, Aboriginal mobility rates have consistently followed the standard age pattern for all Canadians: low over the school-age years, peaking during the young adult years of 20 to 29, and then declining fairly steadily thereafter, with young women in the 15 to 29 age group displaying higher mobility than their male counterparts. Some of this gender difference among youth and young adults is attributable to females marrying at a younger age and entering the labour force earlier, events that are frequently associated with geographical movement.

Patterns of the relationship between mobility and population size are similar for both males and females, such that Aboriginal mobility and migration tends to increase with population size. For both Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal populations, women tend towards slightly higher rates of mobility and migration. However, it would appear that gender differences in both mobility and migration rates are greater among the Aboriginal population, especially in some of the larger catchment areas, such as those with populations of between 100,000 to 499,999, in which Aboriginal mobility rates are 532 per 1,000 for females and 512 per 1,000 for males, compared to those of the non-Aboriginal population, which are practically the same for females and males, at 404 and 402 respectively (see **Figures 8.5a** and **8.5b** on page 192). Similarly, gender differentials in Aboriginal migration rates are greater at this population size, at 252 per 1,000 for females and 228 for males, compared to non-Aboriginal female and male rates—both at 188 (see **Figures 8.6a** and **8.6b** on page 193).

Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal population contrasts tend to be somewhat more pronounced for females, based on Aboriginal/non-Aboriginal ratios of mobility and migration. For example, female Aboriginal mobility rates are 1.32 times higher than those of their non-Aboriginal counterparts in larger catchment areas (500,000 or more), compared to 1.28 for males. They are 0.79 lower in small areas (less than 10,000), compared to 0.84 for males. As well, in catchment areas with populations of 100,000 to 499,999, migration rates of Aboriginal females are 1.34 times higher than those of their non-Aboriginal counterparts, compared to 1.21 for males.

Figure 8.5a: Average Five-Year Crude Mobility Rates of Males by Aboriginal and Non-Aboriginal Populations, by Population Size of Catchment Areas, Canada, 2001–06



Figures 8.5b: Average Five-Year Crude Mobility Rates of Females by Aboriginal and Non-Aboriginal Populations, by Population Size of Catchment Areas, Canada, 2001–06

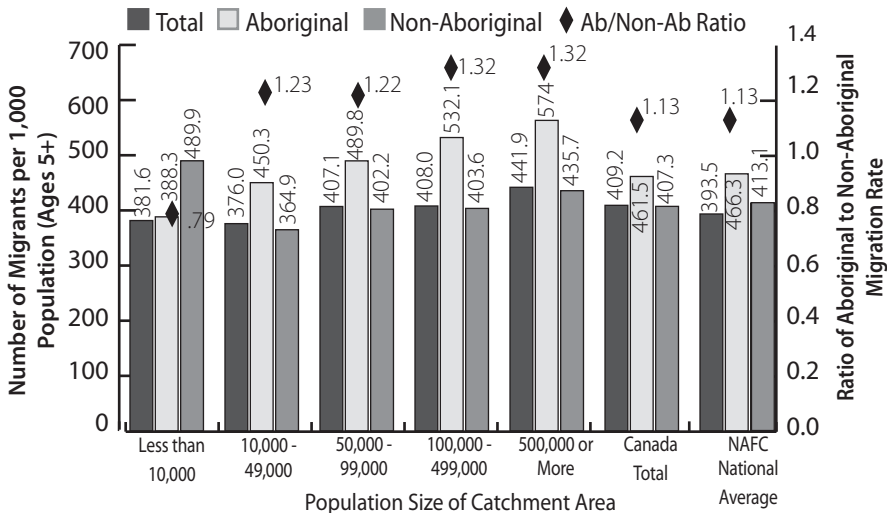


Figure 8.6a: Average Five-Year Crude Migration Rates of Males by Aboriginal and Non-Aboriginal Populations, by Population Size of Catchment Areas, Canada, 2001–06

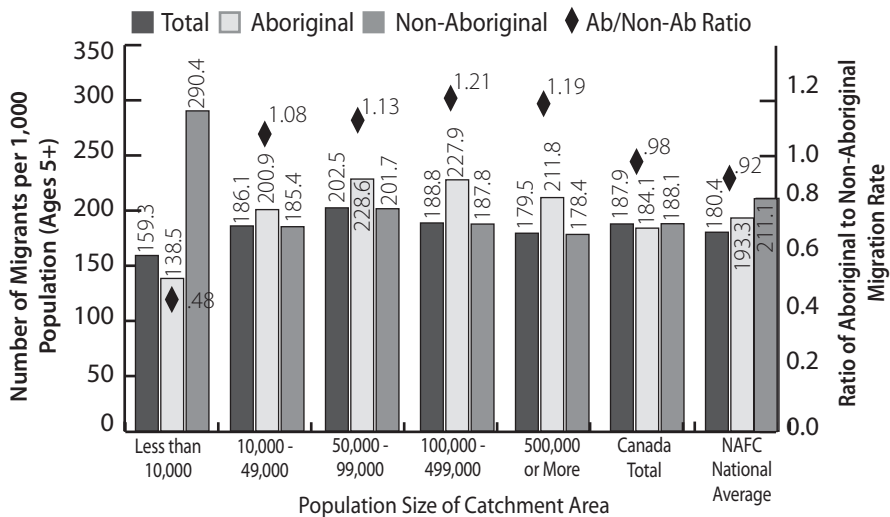
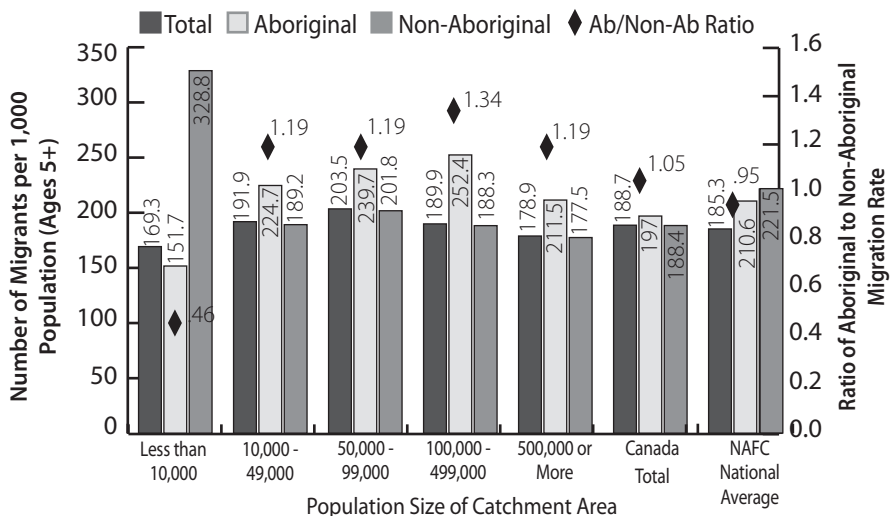


Figure 8.6b: Average Five-Year Crude Migration Rates of Females by Aboriginal and Non-Aboriginal Populations, by Population Size of Catchment Areas, Canada, 2001–06



Mobility and Migration Rates by Regions of Catchment Areas

The following analysis of mobility and migration rates by catchment area regions is provided for the Aboriginal population overall, although, as noted earlier, Aboriginal groups do differ in their patterns and rates of mobility and migration, as well as in their residential distributions, by reserves, rural, and urban areas. Regional differences in Aboriginal composition and residential distributions underlie regional variations in mobility and migration.

Five-Year and One-Year Crude Mobility Rates by Regions of Catchment Area

Both the five-year and one-year mobility rates of the Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal populations vary across the different regions of Canada, although patterns differ between the two populations with contrasts being more pronounced for the one-year period. For Aboriginal populations overall, five-year rates over the 2001–06 period increased steadily from east to west, from a rate of 390 movers per 1,000 population in the Atlantic provinces, to a high of 513 per 1,000 in British Columbia. In Northern Canada, Aboriginal mobility was at its lowest, with a rate of 368. One-year Aboriginal mobility rates over 2005–06 are also higher in the Western provinces, but highest in Saskatchewan, instead of British Columbia, at a rate of 233 movers per 1,000. They are again lowest in Northern and Atlantic Canada with rates of 139 and 157 movers respectively.

While non-Aboriginal five-year mobility rates were also lower in the Atlantic provinces, their range and variation were less pronounced than for Aboriginal rates (apart from the North), such that five-year mobility rates of non-Aboriginal populations were similar across the provinces of Saskatchewan, Alberta, and British Columbia—between 427 and 436 movers per 1,000. Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal contrasts were at their greatest in Northern Canada, where 597 non-Aboriginal residents had moved over the five-year period, compared to just 368 Aboriginal residents. This is largely a reflection of the lower mobility of Inuit residing in rural areas and smaller urban centres, and the in-migration of non-Aboriginal residents from outside of the North.

In Northern Canada, Aboriginal residents are much less likely to have moved compared to non-Aboriginal residents with lower rates over both five-year and one-year periods, at about 0.6 of non-Aboriginal rates. Elsewhere in the country the reverse is true, especially in Manitoba—the province with the highest Aboriginal to non-Aboriginal ratio for both one- and five-year mobility—where Aboriginal residents were 1.3 times more likely than non-Aboriginals to move over the five-year 2001–06 period (see **Figure 8.7a** on page 195), and even more so with the one-year period, at 1.6 times more likely than other non-Aboriginal Manitobans to move from 2005 to 2006 (see **Figure 8.7b** on page 195).

Figure 8.7a: Average Five-Year Crude Mobility Rates of Catchment Population by Aboriginal and Non-Aboriginal Populations, by Regions, Canada, 2001–06

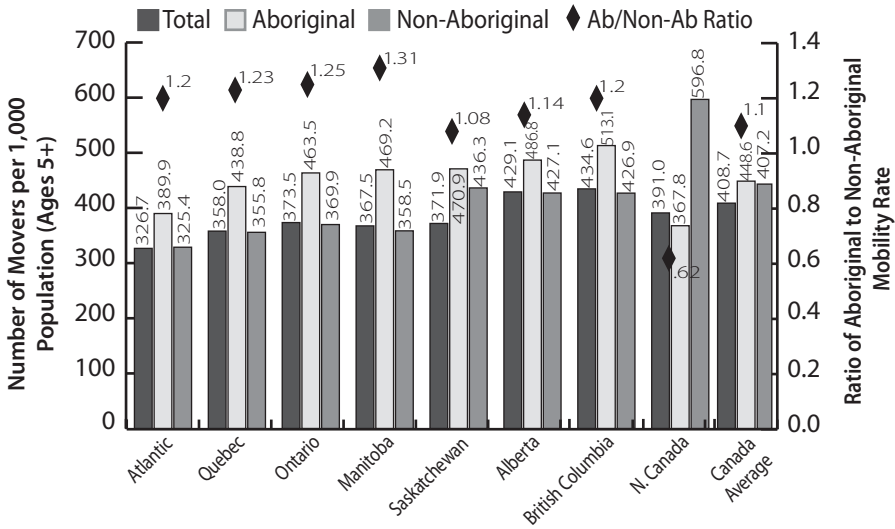
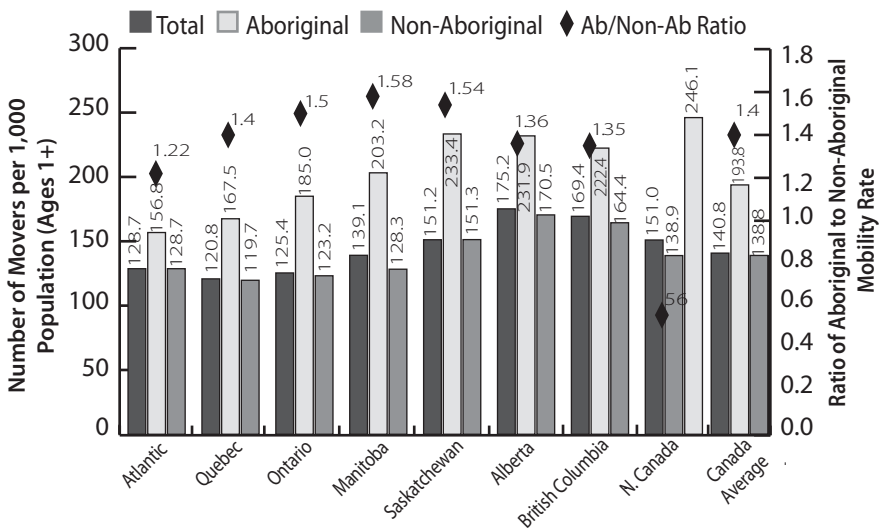


Figure 8.7b: Average One-Year Crude Mobility Rates of Catchment Population by Aboriginal and Non-Aboriginal Populations, by Regions, Canada, 2001–06



Five-Year and One-Year Crude Migration Rates by Regions of Catchment Area

Regional variations in migration rates reflect the effects of both interprovincial and intraprovincial migration—that is, volumes associated with net in- or out-migration to a province, territory, or corresponding region, along with internal migration within the area. And, while these factors are not analyzed separately, they nevertheless contribute to observed regional variations in migration.

Patterns of regional differences in migration rates tend to vary from those observed for total mobility rates. For example, Aboriginal populations in Alberta posted the highest migration rates in both the five-year and one-year periods, with 256 five-year migrants per 1,000 population over 2001–06, and a one-year rate of 115 migrants per 1,000 over 2005–06. These variations likely reflect the effects of interprovincial migration, consistent with Clatworthy's findings (2009: 47), that over the 2001–06 period only Alberta and the Yukon recorded net inflows of Aboriginal migrants. Similarly, the effects of net out-migration from Saskatchewan, as noted in the same report, could be a contributing factor to Saskatchewan having the lowest observed five-year rate of Aboriginal migration among the Western provinces, with 193 migrants per 1,000. Migration rates were even lower in the Atlantic provinces and Quebec. With respect to the one-year migration rate, among the other Western provinces, Manitoba, instead of Saskatchewan, posted the lowest Aboriginal rate, at 76.5. Like the five-year provincial rates, though, one-year provincial rates were also lower in Atlantic Canada and Quebec and, overall, at their lowest among Aboriginal people in Northern Canada.

Contrasts in regional migration rates between Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal populations are also driven by differences in residential and interprovincial migration patterns between the two populations. Aboriginal residents least likely to have migrated or changed communities were those living in Northern Canada, with the Aboriginal five-year migration rate of 104 migrants per 1,000 residents. This was a quarter of the non-Aboriginal rate of 436 per 1,000 residents. The corresponding one-year Aboriginal migration rate was 43 migrants per 1,000, about 0.28 of the corresponding non-Aboriginal rate of 155. Aboriginal people in Saskatchewan also experienced lower rates of five-year migration than their non-Aboriginal counterparts, with a migration ratio of 0.7. Elsewhere in the country the reverse was true, especially in the Atlantic region and in Quebec, where Aboriginal people were 1.3 times more likely to move than non-Aboriginal residents (see **Figure 8.8a** on page 197). As observed with total mobility rates outside of the North, in terms of Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal population contrasts, the one-year contrasts in migration were more pronounced than their corresponding five-year ratios, such that Aboriginal people were even more likely than non-Aboriginal residents to have migrated over the one-year. For example, in Manitoba, Aboriginal residents were 1.5 times more likely than other non-Aboriginal Manitobans to have changed communities in 2005 or 2006 (see **Figure 8.8b** on page 197) as compared to 1.13 times over the 2001–06 period (see **Figure 8.8a**).

Figure 8.8a: Average Five-Year Crude Migration Rates of Catchment Population by Aboriginal and Non-Aboriginal Populations, by Region, Canada, 2001–06

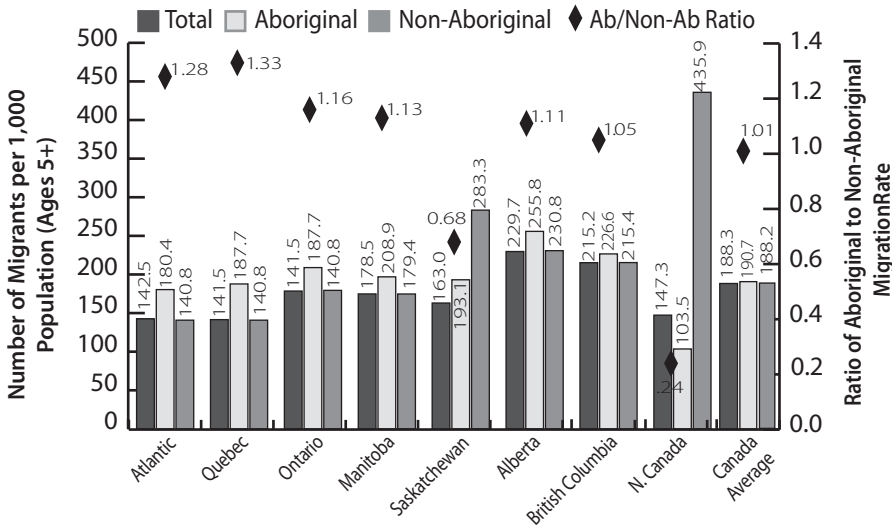
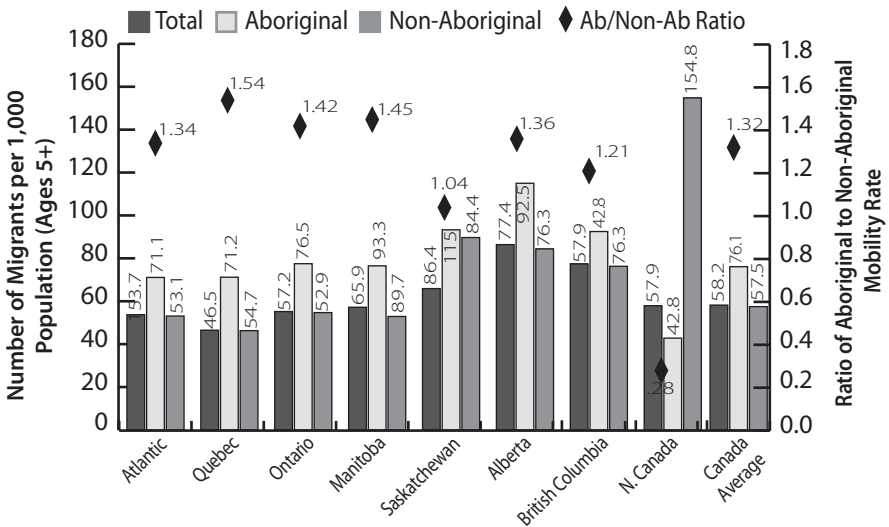


Figure 8.8b: Average One-Year Crude Migration Rates of Catchment Population by Aboriginal and Non-Aboriginal Populations, by Region, Canada, 2001–06



Five-Year and One-Year Crude Residential Mobility Rates by Regions of Catchment Area

Five-year residential mobility rates of Aboriginal populations in FC areas show a steady increase from east to west, from a low of 318 residential movers in Atlantic Canada to a rate of 507 per 1,000 in British Columbia. In the case of one-year residential mobility, the highest rate was experienced by Aboriginal people in Saskatchewan community areas, at a rate of 158 residential migrants per 1,000 over 2005–06. These patterns reflect regional variations in Aboriginal group composition, mobility, and geography. As previous research (Clatworthy and Norris 2007, forthcoming) has demonstrated, Aboriginal people in urban areas experience the highest residential mobility, especially in Western Canada. It is notably higher than that of non-Aboriginal urban populations, with mobility being most pronounced for registered Indians among the different Aboriginal populations. On the other hand, the residential mobility of registered Indians on-reserve is more similar to that of other Canadians. All of these patterns contribute to the regional variations observed in the residential mobility of catchment areas.

While Aboriginal/non-Aboriginal contrasts in rates of residential mobility across regions tend to be similar between five-year and one-year periods, they also differ in some respects. In particular, in Northern Canada the five-year Aboriginal residential mobility rate is 0.6 of the non-Aboriginal rate, compared to the one-year ratio of just 1.09 (see **Figure 8.9b** on page 199). In regions outside of Northern Canada, Aboriginal residents were more likely than non-Aboriginal populations to change dwellings within the same community. In the case of five-year movement in Manitoba, Aboriginal residents were 1.3 times more likely to move (see **Figure 8.9a** on page 199). By far the greatest Aboriginal/non-Aboriginal contrast observed in one-year residential mobility occurred in Saskatchewan, where Aboriginal residents are 2.3 times more likely to move than the province's non-Aboriginal population. Similarly, in FC areas in Ontario, Manitoba, and British Columbia, Aboriginal residents were at least 1.5 times more likely to move during the 2005–06 period, while Aboriginal/non-Aboriginal population contrasts were least pronounced in Northern and Atlantic Canada respectively, where Aboriginal residential mobility was also at its lowest (see **Figure 8.9b**).

Five-Year and One-Year Mobility and Migration Rates by Regions Based on Unique Existing FC Catchment Areas

The preceding analysis of regional variations in mobility and migration was based on averages of the 304 existing and potential FC catchment areas. For reference purposes, a corresponding set of mobility and migration rates based on unique, non-overlapping values for the 116 existing catchment areas are provided in **Table 8.4a** on page 200 (five-year) and **Table 8.4b** on page 201 (one-year).

Figures 8.9a: Average Five-Year Crude Residential Mobility Rates of Catchment Population by Aboriginal and Non-Aboriginal Populations, by Regions, Canada

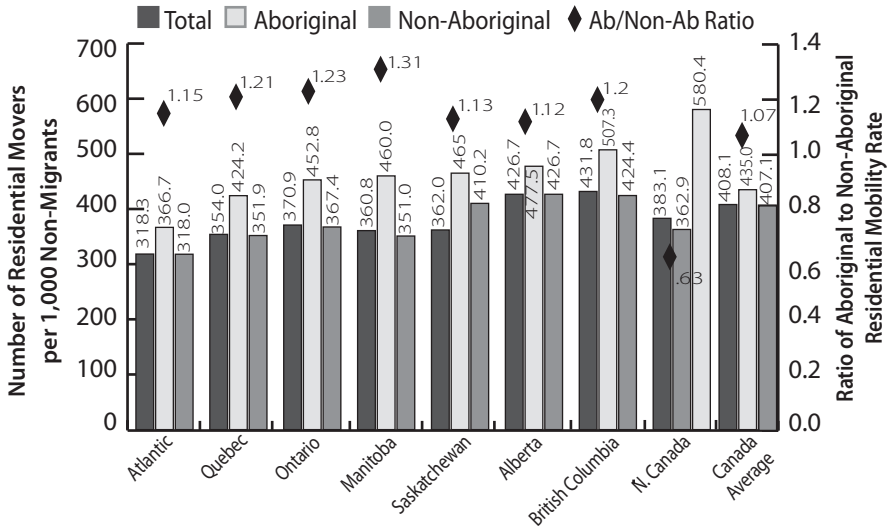


Figure 8.9b: Average One-Year Crude Residential Mobility Rates of Catchment Population by Aboriginal and Non-Aboriginal Populations, by Regions, Canada

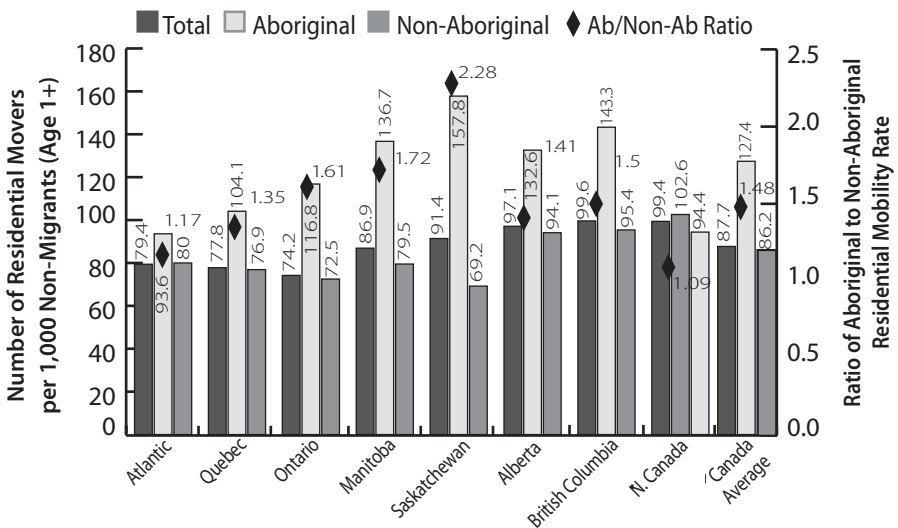


Table 8.4a: Five-Year Mobility and Migration Rates by Region, Based on Unique Existing FC Catchment Areas, 2006 Census

Region	Total Population Rates			Aboriginal Rates			Non-Aboriginal Rates			Aboriginal/Non-Aboriginal Ratio		
	Mobility	Migration	Residential	Mobility	Migration	Residential	Mobility	Migration	Residential	Mobility	Migration	Residential
Atlantic Region	391.9	157.3	278.4	461.9	216.6	315.0	390.6	156.2	277.8	1.2	1.4	1.1
Quebec	410.1	166.5	292.2	474.4	180.6	358.6	409.5	166.4	291.7	1.2	1.1	1.2
Ontario	428.0	181.2	301.4	505.2	193.5	386.5	426.7	181.0	300.1	1.2	1.1	1.3
Manitoba	393.0	136.4	297.1	552.6	176.3	456.8	373.3	131.5	278.4	1.5	1.3	1.6
Saskatchewan	430.2	156.9	324.2	566.9	205.5	454.7	406.8	148.5	303.3	1.4	1.4	1.5
Alberta	493.6	204.4	363.5	582.1	259.2	436.2	489.1	201.6	360.0	1.2	1.3	1.2
British Columbia	475.9	224.0	324.5	564.3	229.2	434.5	472.0	223.8	319.8	1.2	1.0	1.4
Northern Canada	506.2	232.2	356.9	488.1	183.3	373.5	514.7	256.1	348.2	0.9	0.7	1.1
Total Canada	436.1	183.0	309.8	543.5	211.4	421.2	432.7	182.1	306.4	1.3	1.2	1.4

Table 8.4b: One-Year Mobility and Migration Rates by Region, Based on Unique Existing FC Catchment Areas, 2006 Census

Region	Total Population Rates			Aboriginal Rates			Non-Aboriginal Rates			Aboriginal/Non-Aboriginal Ratio		
	Mobility	Migration	Residential	Mobility	Migration	Residential	Mobility	Migration	Residential	Mobility	Migration	Residential
Atlantic Region	144.1	50.2	98.9	175.3	58.8	12.8	143.5	50.0	98.5	1.2	1.2	1.3
Quebec	133.2	47.2	90.2	185.4	74.0	120.5	132.8	47.0	90.0	1.4	1.6	1.3
Ontario	139.4	20.2	93.9	206.6	68.7	148.3	138.2	49.9	93.0	1.5	1.4	1.6
Manitoba	144.1	41.4	107.2	246.3	36.6	195.4	130.9	38.5	96.0	1.9	1.7	2.0
Saskatchewan	174.3	55.5	125.9	290.6	93.6	217.3	153.1	48.5	110.0	1.9	1.9	2.0
Alberta	195.4	70.7	134.3	278.6	105.1	193.9	191.1	68.9	131.3	1.5	1.5	1.5
British Columbia	176.8	74.2	110.8	242.4	91.3	166.3	173.9	73.5	108.4	1.4	1.2	1.5
Northern Canada	202.6	67.9	144.4	212.4	59.7	162.1	197.4	72.0	135.9	1.1	0.8	1.2
Total Canada	151.7	55.0	102.2	243.6	82.2	175.9	148.7	54.2	99.9	1.6	1.5	1.8

Regional Characteristics of Selected FC Catchment Areas with High or Low Aboriginal Mobility and Migration Rates

FC Communities with High Rates of One-Year Residential Mobility (Exceeding 200 per 1,000 Non-migrants) and Five-Year Migration (Exceeding 200 per 1,000 Population)

Out of the 304 individual FC catchment areas in this study, 36 communities (or 12%) had Aboriginal residential mobility rates in excess of 200 residential movers per 1,000 non-migrant population over the 2005–06 period, while 33 (of the 36), or 11%, of communities posted Aboriginal migration rates in excess of 200 per 1,000. The locations of high residential mobility communities were split 50/50 between existing and gap FC areas; the high migration communities 45/55. **Table 8.5** on page 203 provides a listing of the individual communities with Aboriginal rates of residential mobility exceeding 200 residential movers per 1,000 non-migrants. **Table 8.6** on page 204 lists those communities with Aboriginal migration rates in excess of 200 migrants per 1,000 population. Contrasts between Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal rates were more pronounced for one-year residential mobility than for five-year migration; on average, rates of Aboriginal residential mobility were twice those of the corresponding non-Aboriginal population (see **Table 8.5**), while rates of Aboriginal migration were one and a half times the non-Aboriginal rates (see **Table 8.6**). In a number of communities, Aboriginal rates were even higher—in some cases with residential rates at least two and a half times those of non-Aboriginal residents. In Pincher Creek, Saskatchewan, Aboriginal migration rates were three times the non-Aboriginal rate. Particularly noteworthy are the communities of Dauphin, Manitoba, and North Battleford, Saskatchewan, where Aboriginal residents experienced significantly higher rates of both residential mobility and migration, changing dwellings at about four times the rate, and moving between different communities (CSDs) about twice as much as their non-Aboriginal neighbours.

FC Communities with Aboriginal Five-Year Crude Migration Rates (Exceeding 200 per 1,000, by Regions, by Existing and Gap FCs, Canada)

The majority of both high Aboriginal residential mobility and high Aboriginal migration communities are mainly in the west, with 31 of the 36 (86%) high-residential FC areas located in the four Western provinces, a slightly higher proportion compared to 70% or 31 of the 33 high-migration FC communities. Alberta accounts for the largest regional shares of both high residential mobility communities, with 11 (or 30%), and high-migration communities, with 12 (or 36%). Over half of FC areas with high rates of Aboriginal residential mobility are located in two provinces: Alberta (11) and Manitoba (10), with another 10 in

Table 8.5: FC Communities with Aboriginal One-Year Crude Residential Mobility Rates Exceeding 200 per 1,000, by Region, by Existing and Gap FCs, Canada

One-Year Residential Mobility Rates Exceeding 200 per 1,000			No. of Residential Movers per 1,000 Non-Migrant Population		Aboriginal/ Non-Aboriginal Ratio
Community	Region	NAFC Status	Aboriginal	Non-Aboriginal	Residential Mobility Rate
Dauphin	MB	Existing	209.9	48.5	4.33
North Battleford	SK	Existing	315.9	81.1	3.90
Prince Albert	SK	Existing	219.3	78.2	2.81
Regina	SK	Existing	291.8	114.1	2.56
Trois-Rivières	QC	Gap	217.6	88.7	2.45
Saskatoon	SK	Existing	293.2	122.4	2.40
Brandon	MB	Existing	228.5	100.9	2.26
Charlottetown	Atlantic	Existing	232.3	103.9	2.24
Moose Jaw	SK	Gap	217.2	99.2	2.19
St. Andrews	MB	Gap	218.5	101.9	2.14
Campbell River	BC	Gap	222.9	104.5	2.13
Cranbrook	BC	Gap	250.0	117.4	2.13
Winnipeg	MB	Existing	216.5	103.9	2.08
Medicine Hat	AB	Gap	272.1	132.0	2.06
Rockwood	MB	Gap	202.2	99.3	2.04
Ritchot	MB	Gap	211.9	104.4	2.03
St. Clements	MB	Gap	202.6	100.2	2.02
Selkirk	MB	Existing	200.0	99.5	2.01
Thompson	MB	Existing	232.5	115.7	2.01
Steinbach	MB	Gap	207.3	104.8	1.98
Edmonton	AB	Existing	240.6	122.4	1.97
Moncton	Atlantic	Gap	203.8	104.7	1.95
London	ON	Existing	206.2	107.0	1.93
Fort Saskatchewan	AB	Gap	234.0	121.9	1.92
Sturgeon County	AB	Gap	229.7	120.2	1.91
Victoria	BC	Existing	209.6	111.3	1.88
Nanaimo	BC	Existing	219.1	117.3	1.87
Spruce Grove	AB	Gap	221.2	120.4	1.84
Stony Plain	AB	Gap	223.7	121.8	1.84
Prince George	BC	Existing	208.0	122.1	1.70
Calgary	AB	Existing	233.4	145.7	1.60
Foothills No. 31	AB	Gap	228.9	143.2	1.60
Rocky View No. 44	AB	Gap	224.2	143.5	1.56
Airdrie	AB	Gap	220.1	143.2	1.54
Red Deer	AB	Existing	206.3	137.1	1.50
Yellowknife	N. Canada	Existing	215.6	170.0	1.27
Average	—	—	227.4	113.1	2.01

Table 8.6: FC Communities with Aboriginal Five-Year Crude Migration Rates Exceeding 200 per 1,000, by Region, by Existing and Gap FCs, Canada

Five-Year Residential Mobility Rates Exceeding 200 per 1,000			No. of Migrants per 1,000 Population		Aboriginal/ Non-Aboriginal Ratio
Community	Region	NAFC Status	Aboriginal	Non-Aboriginal	Migration Ratio
Pincher Creek	AB	Existing	527.3	178.3	2.96
Dauphin	MB	Existing	365.9	158.2	2.31
North Battleford	SK	Existing	350.9	160.1	2.19
Labrador City	Atlantic	Gap	333.3	152.2	2.19
Swan River	MB	Existing	329.4	155.9	2.11
Owen Sound	ON	Existing	361.1	180.0	2.01
Thompson	MB	Existing	364.6	204.4	1.78
Moncton	Atlantic	Gap	339.0	199.6	1.70
Athabasca	AB	Existing	340.8	202.4	1.68
Brockville	ON	Gap	309.4	190.5	1.62
Brandon	MB	Existing	335.1	207.2	1.62
Leduc	AB	Gap	373.5	232.1	1.61
Fort Qu'Appelle	SK	Existing	363.0	228.2	1.59
Joliette	QC	Existing	358.0	233.9	1.53
Wetaskiwin	AB	Gap	333.3	221.0	1.51
Saint-Jean-sur-Richelieu	QC	Gap	314.8	210.3	1.50
Steinbach	MB	Gap	370.2	261.4	1.42
Grande Prairie	AB	Existing	427.1	311.2	1.37
Kelowna	BC	Existing	321.9	236.4	1.36
Red Deer	AB	Existing	369.4	271.3	1.36
Saint-Jérôme	QC	Gap	382.8	281.5	1.36
Mountain View County	AB	Gap	406.4	299.9	1.36
Grande Prairie County No. 1	AB	Gap	414.3	309.4	1.34
Ajax	ON	Gap	344.4	259.9	1.33
Penticton	BC	Existing	320.2	255.1	1.26
Central Okanagan	BC	Gap	305.7	244.4	1.25
Okotoks	AB	Gap	391.0	321.6	1.22
Vernon	BC	Existing	301.2	252.4	1.19
Barrie	ON	Existing	330.2	277.2	1.19
Salmon Arm	BC	Gap	338.7	298.0	1.14
Edson	AB	Existing	303.5	268.0	1.13
Yellowhead County	AB	Gap	300.0	267.1	1.12
High Level	AB	Existing	358.0	340.9	1.05
Average			354.1	238.5	1.48

Saskatchewan (5) and British Columbia (5). Only 27% of high-migration communities are located in provinces east of Manitoba. Unlike other regions, the majority (8 of 11) of Alberta's high-residential mobility communities are gap areas (see **Tables 8.7a and 8.7b** on pages 206 and 207).

Regions vary in the extent to which Aboriginal residents within their FC communities experience high residential mobility and migration. Western provinces tend to have the highest shares—especially Manitoba, where Aboriginal residential mobility rates exceeding 200 per 1,000 occur in 46% of the province's existing and 25% of its gap FC communities, and where high rates of Aboriginal migration were posted in 36% of existing (and 5% of gap) communities. For other Western provinces, high residential mobility occurs in about a third of communities in Saskatchewan, about 20% in Alberta (almost 25% in gap areas of the province), and about 11% in British Columbia. High rates of Aboriginal migration also occurred in Alberta—in 30% of existing and 18% of gap FC communities, and in about 17% and 13% of existing communities in Saskatchewan and British Columbia respectively.

FC Communities with Low Rates of One-Year Residential Mobility (Below 50 per 1,000 Non-migrants) and Five-Year Migration (Below 200 per 1,000)

Out of the 304 individual FC catchment areas, 23 (about 8%) experienced very low rates of residential mobility among their Aboriginal populations—below 50 per 1,000 over the 2005–06 period, and 35 posted relatively low rates of five-year Aboriginal migration—below 200 migrants per 1,000 over the 2001–06 period. For both residential mobility and migration, communities with low Aboriginal rates can be characterized as mainly gap areas in Northern Canada (see **Tables 8.8 and 8.9** on pages 208 and 209).

In most low-mobility communities, rates of Aboriginal residents are significantly lower than those of their non-Aboriginal counterparts, in contrast to communities where Aboriginal rates are high. On average, in communities where Aboriginal mobility is low, Aboriginal residential mobility rates are about two-thirds (63%) (see **Table 8.8**) of non-Aboriginal rates, while Aboriginal migration rates are only 18% of non-Aboriginal rates (see **Table 8.9**). Many of the communities where Aboriginal mobility and migration are low tend to have comparatively larger shares of Aboriginal populations than high-mobility communities. As well, in some areas, the non-Aboriginal population is very small or practically non-existent, such that corresponding non-Aboriginal rates cannot be calculated (e.g., residential rates in Old Crow, Arctic Bay, Repulse Bay). However, in a few communities, Aboriginal rates are either the same as non-Aboriginal rates (e.g., residential rates in Newmarket, Temiskaming Shores; migration rates in Barrington, Argyle, Queens in Atlantic Canada), or even higher—up to one and a half times higher (e.g., residential rates in the community area of Tay; migration rates in Cape Breton).

Table 8.7a: Number of FC Communities with High or Low Aboriginal Residential Mobility (Movers per 1,000) and Migration Rates (Migrants per 1,000)

Region	HIGH Mobility and Migration Rates						LOW Mobility and Migration Rates									
	Total Number of FC Communities			One-Year Residential Mobility Rates			Five-Year Migration Rates			One-Year Residential Mobility Rates			Five-Year Migration Rates			
	Existing	Gap	Total	Exceeding 200 per 1,000	Gap	Total	Exceeding 200 per 1,000	Gap	Total	Below 50 per 1,000	Gap	Total	Below 200 per 1,000	Gap	Total	
Atlantic	5	16	21	1	1	2	0	2	2	2	0	3	3	0	4	4
Quebec	8	14	22	0	1	1	1	2	3	3	1	1	2	0	2	2
Ontario	27	53	80	1	0	1	2	2	4	4	0	5	5	0	0	0
Manitoba	11	20	31	5	5	10	4	1	5	5	0	5	5	0	0	0
Saskatchewan	12	4	16	4	1	5	2	0	2	2	0	0	0	2	1	3
Alberta	20	34	54	3	8	11	6	6	12	12	0	3	3	0	3	3
British Columbia	24	20	44	3	2	5	3	2	5	5	0	0	0	0	0	0
Northern Canada	9	27	36	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	4	4	2	21	23
Total FC Communities	116	188	304	18	18	36	18	15	33	33	1	21	22	4	31	35

Table 8.7b: Percentage of FC Communities with High or Low Aboriginal Residential Mobility (Movers per 1,000) and Migration Rates (Migrants per 1,000)

Region	HIGH Mobility and Migration Rates						LOW Mobility and Migration Rates								
	One-Year Residential Mobility Rates			Five-Year Migration Rates			One-Year Residential Mobility Rates			Five-Year Migration Rates					
	Exceeding 200 per 1,000			Exceeding 200 per 1,000			Below 50 per 1,000			Below 200 per 1,000					
	Percent Distribution of FC Communities by Existing, Gap			Existing	Gap	Total	Existing	Gap	Total	Existing	Gap	Total	Existing	Gap	Total
Atlantic	23.8	76.2	100.0	20.0	6.3	9.5	0.0	12.5	9.5	0.0	18.8	14.3	0.0	25.0	19.0
Quebec	36.4	63.6	100.0	0.0	7.1	4.5	12.5	14.3	13.6	12.5	7.1	9.1	0.0	14.3	9.1
Ontario	33.8	66.3	100.0	3.7	0.0	1.3	7.4	3.8	5.0	0.0	9.4	6.3	0.0	0.0	0.0
Manitoba	35.5	64.5	100.0	45.5	25.0	32.3	36.4	5.0	16.1	0.0	25.0	16.1	0.0	0.0	0.0
Saskatchewan	75.0	25.0	100.0	33.3	25.0	31.3	16.7	0.0	12.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	16.7	25.0	18.8
Alberta	37.0	63.0	100.0	15.0	23.5	20.4	30.0	17.6	22.2	0.0	8.8	5.6	0.0	8.8	5.6
British Columbia	54.5	45.5	100.0	12.5	10.0	11.4	12.5	10.0	11.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Northern Canada	25.0	75.0	100.0	11.1	0.0	2.8	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	14.8	11.1	22.2	77.8	63.9
Total FC Communities	38.2	61.8	100.0	15.5	9.6	11.8	15.5	8.0	10.9	0.9	11.2	7.2	3.4	16.5	11.5

Table 8.8: FC Communities with Aboriginal One-Year Crude Residential Mobility Rates Below 50 per 1,000, by Region, by Existing and Gap FC Community Areas, Canada, 2006 Census

One-Year Residential Mobility Rates Below 50 per 1,000			No. of Residential Movers per 1,000 Non-Migrant Population		Aboriginal/ Non-Aboriginal Ratio
Community	Region	NAFC Status	Aboriginal	Non-Aboriginal	Residential Mobility Ratio
Lakeland County	AB	Gap	0.0	0.0	—
Division No. 21, Unorganized	MB	Gap	17.0	—	—
Old Crow	N. Canada	Gap	48.8	—	—
Repulse Bay	N. Canada	Gap	37.9	—	—
Arctic Bay	N. Canada	Gap	33.6	—	—
Algoma, Unorganized, North Part	ON	Gap	0.0	62.9	—
Alexander	MB	Gap	49.3	34.0	1.45
Tay	ON	Gap	47.9	38.2	1.25
Powerview-Pine Falls	MB	Gap	44.7	37.2	1.20
Temiskaming Shores	ON	Gap	46.8	47.6	0.98
Newmarket	ON	Gap	38.6	39.9	0.97
Kirkland Lake	ON	Gap	47.9	58.1	0.82
Taché	MB	Gap	31.3	43.7	0.71
De Salaberry	MB	Gap	35.5	53.8	0.66
Joliette	QC	Existing	41.1	64.0	0.64
Brazeau County	AB	Gap	42.3	66.1	0.64
Stephenville Crossing	Atlantic	Gap	48.5	76.6	0.63
Division No. 4, Subdivision E	Atlantic	Gap	42.9	80.9	0.53
Baie-Comeau	QC	Gap	35.8	68.8	0.52
Labrador City	Atlantic	Gap	35.4	80.5	0.44
Mackenzie No. 23	AB	Gap	30.1	77.1	0.39
Arviat	N. Canada	Gap	24.5	87.0	0.28
Average	—	—	35.4	56.5	0.63

Table 8.9: FC Communities with Aboriginal Five-Year Crude Migration Rates Below 200 per 1,000, by Region, by Existing and Gap FCs, Canada

Five-Year Residential Mobility Rates Below 200 per 1,000			No. of Migrants per 1,000 Population		Aboriginal/ Non-Aboriginal Ratio
Community	Region	NAFC Status	Aboriginal	Non- Aboriginal	Migration Ratio
Arctic Bay	N. Canada	Gap	81.1	—	—
Kimmirut	N. Canada	Gap	73.5	—	—
Old Crow	N. Canada	Gap	73.2	—	—
Clyde River	N. Canada	Gap	71.9	—	—
Taloyoak	N. Canada	Gap	62.0	—	—
Aklavik	N. Canada	Gap	61.2	—	—
Coral Harbour	N. Canada	Gap	56.0	—	—
Hall Beach	N. Canada	Gap	54.5	—	—
Sanikiluaq	N. Canada	Gap	32.3	—	—
Qikiqtarjuaq	N. Canada	Gap	25.0	—	—
Cape Breton	Atlantic	Gap	97.0	63.2	1.54
Barrington	Atlantic	Gap	73.0	67.1	1.09
Argyle	Atlantic	Gap	75.3	78.8	0.96
Queens	Atlantic	Gap	92.2	104.2	0.88
Baie-Comeau	QC	Gap	63.9	104.7	0.61
Mansfield-et- Pontefract	QC	Gap	90.9	163.7	0.56
Northern Lights No. 22	AB	Gap	96.8	202.4	0.48
Cardston	AB	Gap	95.9	202.4	0.47
Fort Providence	N. Canada	Existing	82.0	400.0	0.20
Gjoa Haven	N. Canada	Gap	75.1	384.6	0.20
Tuktoyaktuk	N. Canada	Gap	53.0	280.0	0.19
Kugaaruk	N. Canada	Gap	83.3	444.4	0.19
Fort Rae	N. Canada	Existing	93.2	523.8	0.18
Baker Lake	N. Canada	Gap	73.0	413.8	0.18
Pond Inlet	N. Canada	Gap	99.5	647.1	0.15
Igloolik	N. Canada	Gap	95.0	631.6	0.15
Division No. 18, Unorganized	SK	Gap	95.0	653.1	0.15
Fort McPherson	N. Canada	Gap	56.3	466.7	0.12
Pangnirtung	N. Canada	Gap	73.4	625.0	0.12
Buffalo Narrows	SK	Existing	82.6	857.1	0.10
Cape Dorset	N. Canada	Gap	60.6	631.6	0.10
Kugluktuk	N. Canada	Gap	56.9	600.0	0.09
Arviat	N. Canada	Gap	39.9	500.0	0.08
La Loche	SK	Existing	35.1	600.0	0.06
Lakeland County	AB	Gap	0.0	174.4	0.00
Average	—	—	69.4	392.8	0.18

Regional locations of FC communities with low rates of Aboriginal mobility or migration differ from those of high mobility or migration areas, tending to be more concentrated in the east, central areas, and Northern Canada rather than in the west, while low-migration areas are mainly in the North. Well over half of the 23 communities with low Aboriginal residential mobility rates are located in Ontario (5), Manitoba (5), and Northern Canada (4) combined, with none in Saskatchewan or British Columbia. All of these community areas (with the exception of 1 in Quebec) are gap FC catchments. Two-thirds of the 35 communities with low Aboriginal migration rates are located in Northern Canada, with the remaining in the Atlantic provinces (4), Quebec (2), Saskatchewan (3), and Alberta (3) (see **Table 8.7a**).

Low rates of Aboriginal residential mobility seem most pronounced in the regions of Eastern, Central, and Northern Canada, which tend to have the highest shares of communities with low residential mobility rates of less than 50 per 1,000 Aboriginal residents (see **Table 8.7b**), while low rates of Aboriginal migration are most pronounced in Northern Canada, especially in gap communities, where 78% have migration rates of less than 200 per 1,000, with a corresponding proportion of 22% in existing FC communities. Similarly, low-migration communities represent 17% and 25% of existing and gap communities, respectively, in Saskatchewan, and 25% of gap communities in Atlantic Canada. Interestingly, Manitoba has the highest provincial proportions of both high and low residential mobility communities, with rates of Aboriginal residential mobility in excess of 200 per 1,000 non-migrants in 46% of its existing FC communities and rates below 50 per 1000 non-migrants in 25% of its gap communities. Elsewhere in Canada, communities with residential mobility rates of less than 50 movers per 1,000 occur in 19% and 15% of gap communities in Atlantic and Northern Canada respectively (see **Table 8.7b**).

Mobility and Migration Rates by Community Well-Being of Catchment Areas

High population turnover among Aboriginal populations in many communities—both rural and urban—has disruptive effects on individuals, families, communities, and service providers, and, hence, considerable implications for the well-being of Aboriginal people. Mobility and its implications are linked with all the major dimensions of community well-being—education, labour force, income, and housing. In fact, findings from the Aboriginal Peoples Survey point to housing as a primary reason for migration between cities and reserves, and for residential moves within cities.

Aboriginal people experience higher residential mobility and population turnover in larger urban areas than in smaller rural and urban areas, and on-reserve. It appears that more highly mobile urban Aboriginal populations tend to be economically marginalized, characterized by family instability, dissolution,

and a high proportion of female lone parents. Yet, at the same time, the lower residential rates of mobility outside of urban areas, on reserves, and in smaller rural areas do not necessarily imply adequate housing situations; rather, lower residential mobility can also be associated with insufficient housing and few opportunities to change dwellings due to lack of alternative housing within the community area. This part of the study explores the relationship between mobility rates and indicators of community well-being at the catchment-area level, and attempts to establish if there is a pattern of association between mobility and community well-being at the catchment-area level of analysis. Some of the individual components of CWB (education, labour force, income, and housing) are also analyzed in assessing patterns of relationships with mobility.

To begin, the analysis of CWB of Aboriginal populations in the 304 existing and gap FC catchment areas yielded four categories of CWB composite scores, including "very low," "low," "average," and "high." None of the catchment areas resulted in a classification of very high for their Aboriginal populations. Also, a CWB score could not be calculated for one of the catchment areas due to small counts. In practically half (49.5%) of the 304 catchment areas, Aboriginal CWB scores were low or very low, with nearly one-third (31%) of catchment areas in the very low category. In close to half (48%) of catchment areas, Aboriginal CWB scores placed within the average category, and just under 3% in the high category. In this analysis of the 304 existing and gap FC catchment areas, rates of Aboriginal one-year residential and five-year mobility and migration are analyzed in relation to these four categories of Aboriginal CWB at the catchment-area level, for both composite CWB scores and the individual component scores for housing, income, and labour market.

Selected Mobility and Migration Rates by CWB Composite Score of Catchment Areas

Results of the analysis of 304 catchment areas suggest that one-year residential rates and five-year mobility and migration rates are positively associated with CWB, such that communities with high Aboriginal CWB scores also tend to have high rates of Aboriginal mobility and migration (see **Figure 8.10** on page 212). This relationship appears to be most pronounced in the case of five-year migration rates based on the contrast in rates between high and very low CWB categories. Compared to Aboriginal populations living in catchment areas with very low Aboriginal CWB scores, the rate of migration among Aboriginal people residing in high CWB catchment areas was 1.8 times greater (269 migrants versus 149 per 1,000 population). Similarly, the rate of five-year mobility was 1.4 times greater, and one-year residential mobility 1.3 times greater.

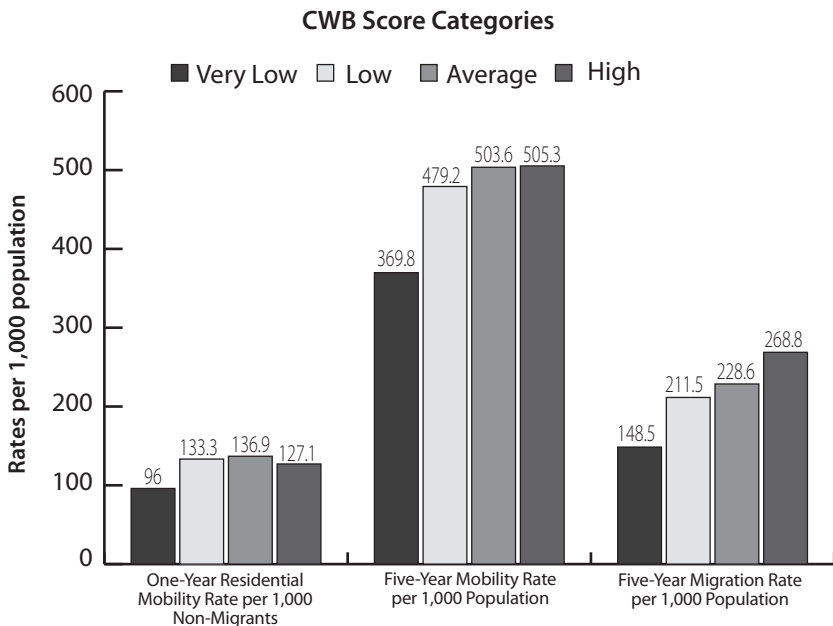
A separate regression analysis exploring the relationship between mobility, migration, and CWB scores was undertaken for the 116 existing FC catchment areas. As such, since they do not reflect the gap catchment areas, the results do not correspond directly to the data presented in **Figure 8.10**. Nevertheless, the

regression-based results for existing FC catchment areas do support the observations from **Figure 8.10** that FC communities with higher scores tend to have higher rates of mobility and migration. However, the same general conclusion applied to all three sets of rates, that while the mobility or migration rate is positively correlated with the Aboriginal CWB score (the model fit is significant with the slope coefficient (b) significantly different from 0), the relationship is weak. Specifically for each of the three sets of regressions, each increase of 1 in the CWB score results in an increase of 6.9 in the five-year mobility rate, 4.1 in the five-year migration rate, and 2.7 in the one-year residential mobility rate.

Community Well-Being, Mobility, and Population Size

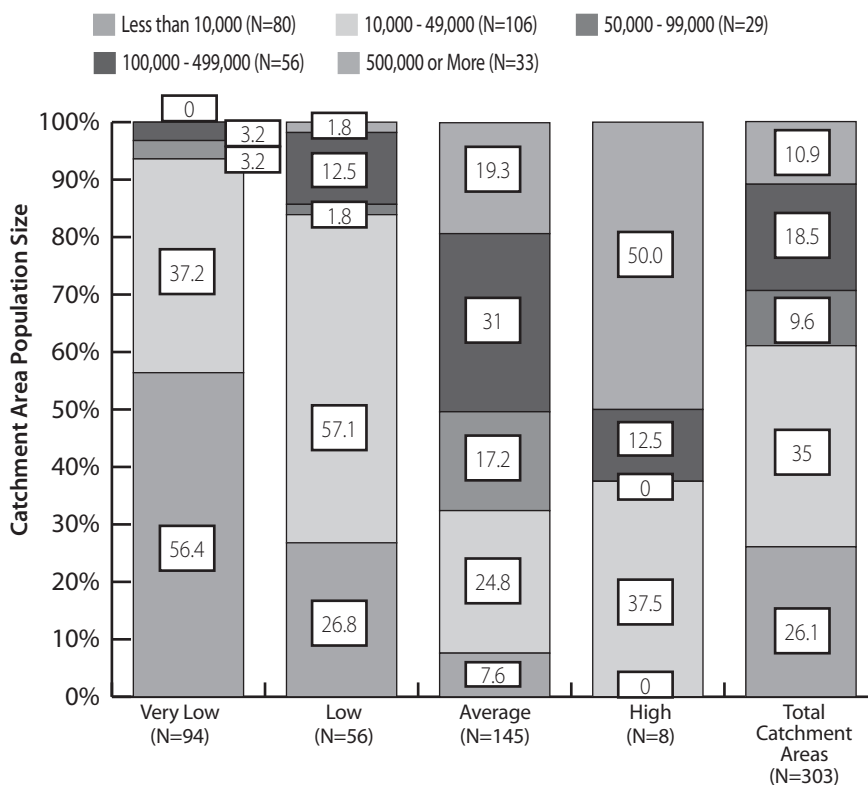
At first glance, the findings from the CWB analysis that suggest a positive association between community well-being and mobility seem counterintuitive, given the research regarding high rates of mobility/migration or “churn,” its causes, and disruptive effects in relation to well-being. However, there are a number of considerations in assessing these findings. First, to some extent, this analysis of mobility and migration rates in relation to CWB scores is limited in that various compositional differences, including catchment population size, cannot be easily controlled for owing to small numbers. However, this is a relevant consideration given that the larger the FC catchment population, the higher Aboriginal mobility and migration tend to be.

Figure 8.10: Average One-Year Residential Mobility and Five-Year Mobility and Migration Rates of Aboriginal Population by CWB Composite Score of FC Catchment Area, Canada, 2006



Thus the extent to which CWB categories vary in the size of their catchment areas can be an important consideration in assessing these findings on the relationship between mobility/migration and well-being. Within this context, **Figure 8.11** (below) illustrates the variation across CWB categories in the total population size of their catchment areas. Among catchment areas with very low Aboriginal CWB scores, the vast majority (94%) have populations of fewer than 50,000, and over half (56%) have populations of less than 10,000. This is in sharp contrast to those catchment areas with high CWB scores where 50% are large centres of 500,000 or more. This suggests, then, that some of the high rates of Aboriginal mobility and migration associated with high CWB areas can be partly explained by the fact that nearly two-thirds of these areas have catchment populations of at least 100,000—50% with populations of 500,000 or more, and 13% between 100,000 and 500,000 (see **Figure 8.11**). High rates of Aboriginal population turnover, including in-migration and residential mobility, have been observed in large urban centres.

Figure 8.11: Population Size Composition of FC Catchment Areas within CWB Score Categories, Canada, 2006

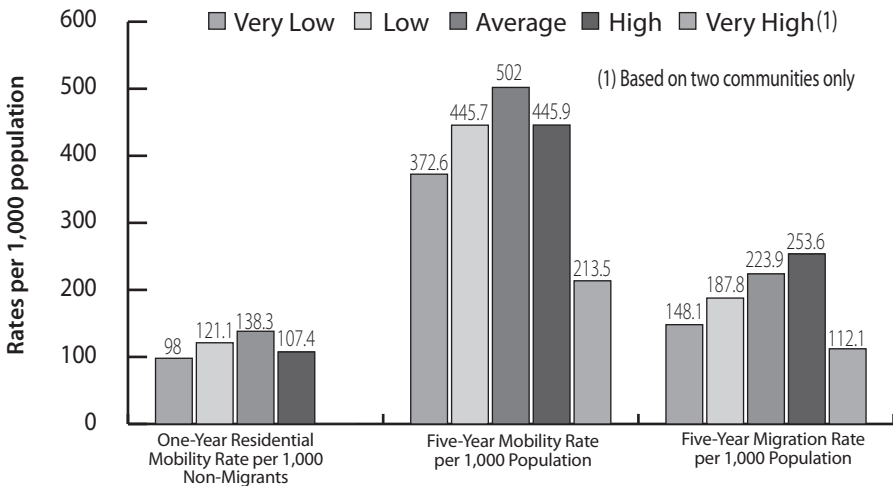


Another related consideration is the fact that this analysis is not based on a complete picture of migration, since data retrievals include only in-migrants to the catchment area, and do not include out-migrants from the catchment area. In other words, this analysis does not include both inflows and outflows of migrants to the catchment area that are normally associated with churn, which is an additional confounding factor in assessing the association of well-being with mobility and migration.

Selected Mobility and Migration Rates by CWB Housing Score of Catchment Areas

All three sets of mobility and migration rates are positively associated with CWB, such that communities with high Aboriginal CWB scores for housing also tend to have high rates of Aboriginal mobility and migration, while the lowest rates occur in communities with very low CWB scores for housing (apart from the two FC community areas with very high housing scores) (see **Figure 8.12**, below). However, compared to the total composite score, five-year mobility rates and one-year residential rates appear to peak among Aboriginal populations in catchment areas with average CWB housing scores, and to lessen with high housing scores. This finding seems to be reasonable given that mobility—especially residential mobility—tends to be strongly driven by housing needs, and in those areas where the Aboriginal housing situation is high with respect to quality and quantity, the impetus for relocating may be lower. This effect does not appear to be the case for migration, perhaps reflecting the fact that other factors, in addition to housing, tend to be more at play in migration than residential mobility.

Figure 8.12: Average One-Year Residential Mobility and Five-Year Mobility/Migration Rates of Aboriginal Residents, by CWB Housing Component Score of FC Community Area, Canada, 2006



Selected Mobility and Migration Rates by CWB Income Score of Catchment Areas

The association between mobility/migration and income appears to be less pronounced than that observed with housing, as well as with the CWB composite score in general. While there is an overall increase in mobility and migration rates with higher income scores, the range and contrast in rates, especially five-year migration, between very low and high income scores is less than that observed for corresponding housing score, and CWB composite scores. In the case of one-year residential mobility, rates peak with high scores of income, instead of average scores, as observed with housing and CWB composite scores (see **Figure 8.13**, below).

Selected Mobility and Migration Rates by CWB Labour-Market Score of Catchment Areas

The examination of the association between Aboriginal mobility/migration and labour-market scores of catchment areas refers to five-year mobility and migration rates only, and excludes one-year residential migration since the labour-market aspect is not as major a consideration as housing, for example, in short-term residential mobility. However, in the case of five-year mobility and migration, rates are clearly associated with labour-market scores, such that communities with high labour-force participation and employment scores tend to have high mobility and migration rates; this relationship appears to be most pronounced in the case of migration rates. Compared to Aboriginal populations living in catchment areas with very low labour-market scores, the rate of migration among Aboriginal

Figure 8.13: Average One-Year Residential Mobility and Five-Year Mobility and Migration Rates of Aboriginal Population by CWB Income Component Score of FC Community Area, Canada, 2006

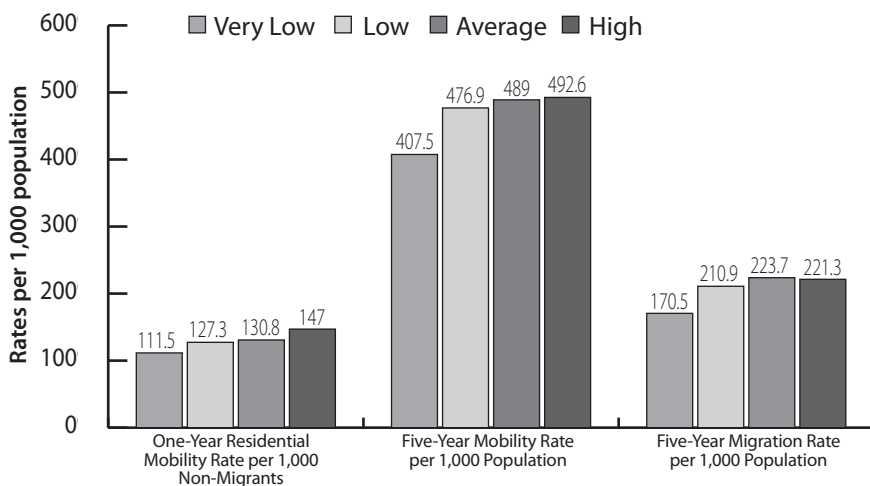
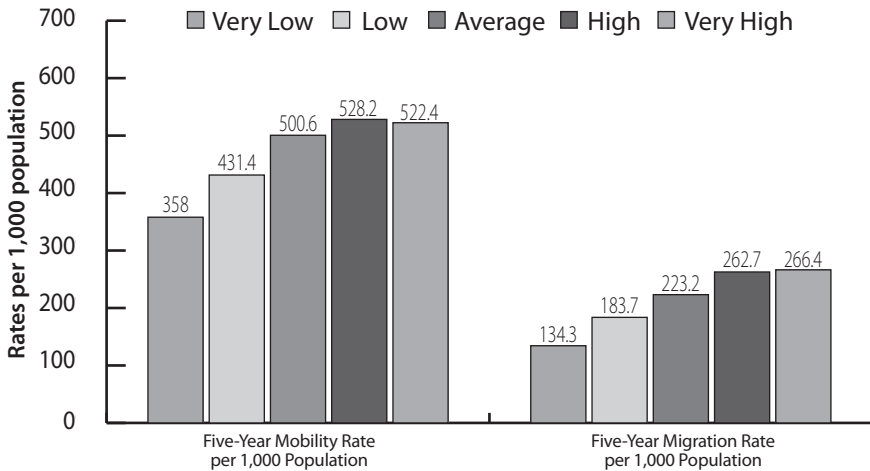


Figure 8.14: Average Five-Year Mobility and Migration Rates of Aboriginal Population by CWB Labour Market Component Score of FC Catchment Area, Canada, 2006



people residing in high and very high labour-market areas was about 2.0 times greater (266 migrants versus 134 per 1,000 population). Similarly, the five-year mobility rate was 1.5 times greater (see **Figure 8.14**, above). These findings are consistent with the fact that employment can be a major reason for migration (Clatworthy and Norris 2007).

Discussion and Conclusion

The findings of this study demonstrate significant variation across FC communities in Aboriginal mobility and migration. An important characteristic in that variation is the degree of urbanization of an FC community catchment area, approximated by the size of its total (Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal) population. Rates of Aboriginal mobility and migration tend to increase with larger catchment populations. As well, contrasts in FC areas between Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal residents vary by population size, such that within catchment populations of less than 10,000, Aboriginal residents generally move or migrate to a lesser extent than their non-Aboriginal counterparts, whereas in larger populations—especially in large urban areas of 100,000 or more—it is the opposite situation, with significantly higher Aboriginal rates of mobility and migration. These Aboriginal/non-Aboriginal contrasts are generally more pronounced with residential mobility than with migration rates, and more with the one-year than five-year period, reflecting the relatively larger volume of one-year to five-year mobility for the Aboriginal population.

Gender differentials in mobility and migration are more pronounced for Aboriginal than non-Aboriginal populations, especially in the more urbanized, larger catchment populations, where Aboriginal women generally experience higher rates of mobility and migration than Aboriginal men, and greater Aboriginal/non-Aboriginal contrasts in rates.

Regional variations in Aboriginal mobility and migration are also significant, with total mobility steadily increasing from east to west, and at its lowest in Northern Canada. Aboriginal/non-Aboriginal contrasts are also more pronounced in the West—although these patterns tend to vary between residential mobility and migration, and one-year and five-year periods.

Results from the CWB analysis suggesting a positive association between community well-being and mobility seemed counterintuitive, and additional analysis showed that this could likely be largely attributed to the effects of catchment population size. An additional confounding factor in this analysis of the association between well-being and Aboriginal mobility is that it includes in-migrants to, but not out-migrants from, catchment areas, since both inflows and outflows are normally associated with high mobility or churn.

With respect to further research, the CWB analysis could incorporate out-migrants as well as in-migrants. As well, other aspects of Aboriginal migration in FC community areas could be explored, including origin-destination flows, net migration, and components of Aboriginal growth in FC areas, including ethnic mobility, as well as migration and natural increase. In conclusion, these findings have policy and program implications for the needs and services of Aboriginal people in FC communities, especially in relation to the significantly high levels of residential mobility and migration experienced by Aboriginal residents in their transition to larger urban areas from Aboriginal communities and smaller rural areas, and in the need for greater residential stability.

References

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