

# CCPA REVIEW

Economic & Social Trends

May 2008

## Manitoba in 2006 – a Census Snapshot

Statistics Canada recently released data on a number of aspects of the 2006 Census, including population, families, the labour force, and education among other areas. This article summarizes some of the highlights of these data for Manitoba.

### Manitoba's population is growing slowly and aging.

Manitoba's population reached 1,148,410 in 2006 an increase of about 45,000 over the 2001 population. This was a 2.6% increase over the five year period, a rate of growth that was about half the Canadian average.

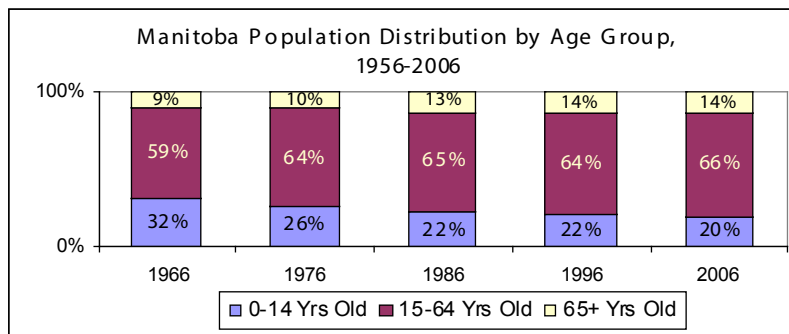
Manitoba's population has been aging since the 1960s. In 1966 32% of the population was made up of children under the age of 16, but by 2006 this had fallen to 20%. Over the same time period, the population 56 or older increased from 9% to 14% of the total provincial population.

Some age groups have been growing while others have been shrinking. From 2001 to 2006

the largest growth was found among the population 45-64 years old, which increased by more than 43,000, or 17%, while the population 25-44 years old decreased by more than 15,000, or about 5%. As of 2006, Manitoba's population pyramid was becoming narrower at the bottom (ages 0-14) and wider in the middle (ages 40-54). This trend is expected to continue, with the implication that the working age population (ages 15-64) will start to decrease as the largest age cohorts reach 65 over the next 15-20 years.

### The Aboriginal population in Manitoba is relatively young and growing.

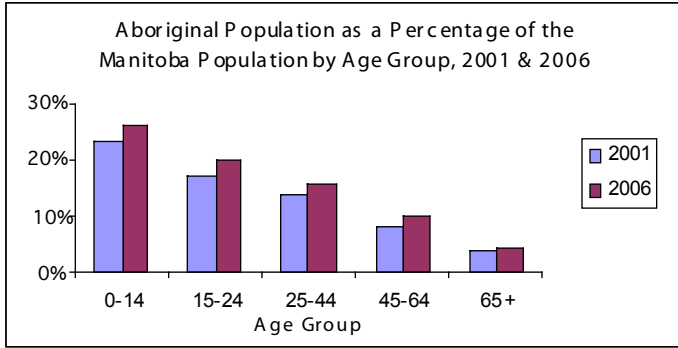
The Aboriginal identity population (including First Nations, Métis and Inuit), which grew from about 150,000 in 2001 to 175,000 in 2006, is younger and is growing more quickly than the general Manitoba population. As a result, the Aboriginal population makes up an increasing percentage of Manitoba's population,



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especially among younger age groups. By 2006, more than 25% of children (0-14 years old) and about 20% of youth (15-24 years old) in Manitoba were Aboriginal. Among the prime working age population of 25-44 years, about 16% were Aboriginal in 2006. These proportions will continue to increase in the coming years.



### The number of lone parent families is increasing in Manitoba.

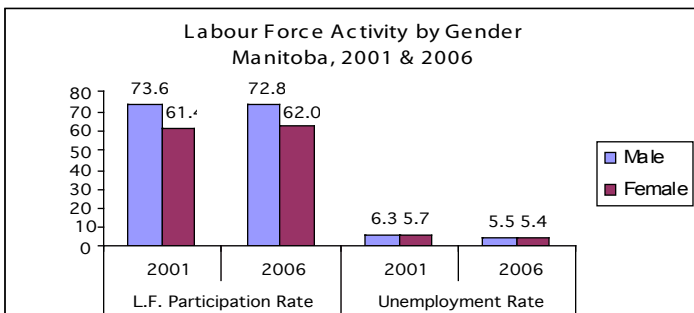
In 2006 there were 448,780 private households in Manitoba, which included 312,805 families. The largest proportion of families (72%) were defined as married couple families and another 11% were common law couple families. The remaining 17% were lone parent families, most of whom were female lone parent families. Changes in the numbers and composition of families from 2001 to 2006 are shown in the following table.

### Change in Number of Families, Manitoba, 2001-2006

Family Type	2001	2006	Change (#)	Change (%)
Couple families	253,695	259,595	5,900	2.3%
Male Lone-parent	9,060	10,280	1,220	13.5%
Female Lone-parent	40,100	42,930	2,830	7.1%

### The gap between men and women in labour force participation has decreased slightly.

In 2006 Manitoba had 611,280 active labour force participants, 53% of whom were men, and 47% women. At 67%, the province's labour force partici-

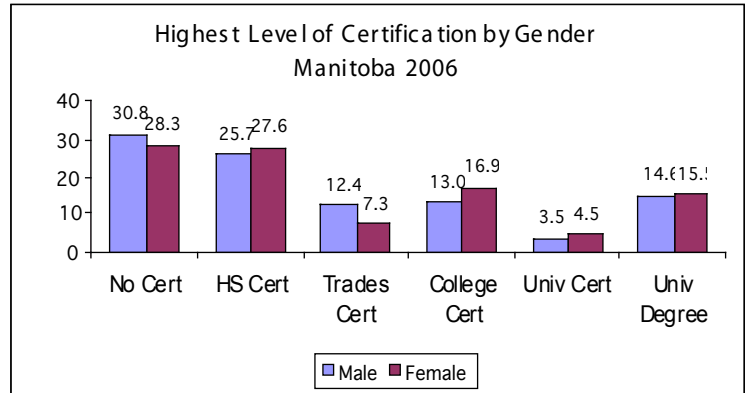


pation rate was the same as it had been in 2001, but the provincial unemployment of 5.5% was lower than in 2001, when it stood at 6.1%.

The differences in both participation and unemployment rates between men and women were smaller in 2006 than they were in 2001. While men's participation rate declined slightly, women's participation rate increased slightly. The same was true for unemployment rates, with men's unemployment rate declining and women's increasing.

### 44% of Manitobans have some type of post-high school certification but 29% have not completed high school.

As of 2006, about 44% of adult Manitobans had completed at least one form of certification past high school. This included 15% who had completed a college diploma or certificate, and another 15% who



had completed a university degree. In addition 10% had completed a trades or apprenticeship certificate, and 4% had completed a university certificate below the Bachelor level.

The majority of the population, however, did not have any certification beyond high school. This group was more-or-less equally divided between those with a high school certificate (27%) and those without a certificate (29%).

The certification levels and types of certification differ between women and men. In general, higher proportions of women than men have completed various types of educational certification. Women are more likely than men to have completed high school certification and they are also more likely to have completed most types of post-secondary certification, with the exception of trades certification. The proportion of men with trades or apprenticeship certification (12.4%) is five percentage points higher than the proportion of women (7.3%).

**Aboriginal educational levels are relatively low, but are increasing.**

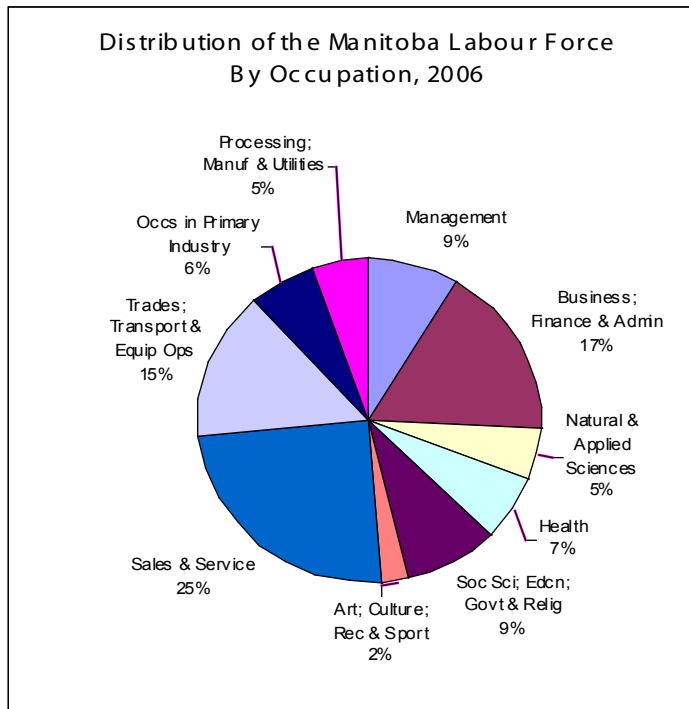
In 2006, 50% of the Aboriginal adult population did not have any certification, while 21% had high school certification and 12% had college certification. The remainder of the Aboriginal population were divided among those with trades certification (9%), those with university certificates (3%) and those with university degrees (6%).

However, Aboriginal educational levels are increasing in all age groups. Between 2001 and 2006 the proportion of Aboriginal youth with certification (mostly high school level) increased from 26% to 32%. Among Aboriginal people 25-44 years old the proportion with certification increased from 53% to 61%, and among those 45-64 years old the proportion increased from 41% to 55%.

**Most of the Manitoba labour force is found in three major occupational groups.**

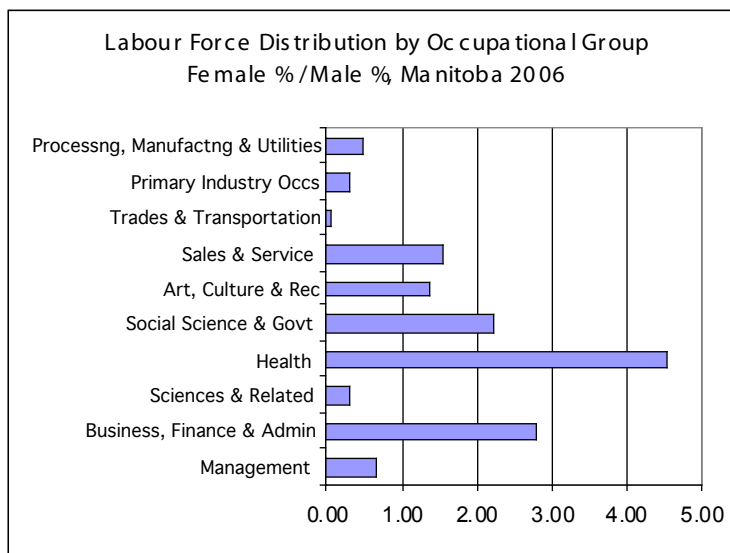
The largest proportions of the Manitoba labour force are found within three occupational groups: Sales & Service occupations (25%), Business, Finance & Administrative occupations (17%), and Trades, Transportation & Equipment Operating occupations (15%). These three occupational groups accounted for 57% of the Manitoba labour force in 2006.

For most the most part, the occupational distribution of Manitobans is similar to the occupational distribution among Canadians in general. The major exception to this is the set of occupations unique to primary industries, such as agriculture, mining, and forestry, where



Manitoba has a much higher proportion than the Canadian average. Manitoba also has smaller proportions of the labour force in Arts, Culture and Recreational occupations, and in occupations related to Natural or Applied Sciences, compared to the overall Canadian distribution.

The distributions of women and men in various occupations are quite different. As shown in the following figure, women are underrepresented in Processing & Manufacturing occupations, Primary Industry occupations, Natural and Applied Science occupations, and especially in Trades and Transportation occupations. The Trades and Transportation group of occupations account for less than 2% of the female work force, but make up 27% of the male work force. In other words, male workers are more than 15 times as likely to be in this occupation group as are female workers. On the other hand, women are greatly overrepresented in some occupational groups, such as Social Sciences and related occupations, Business, Financial and Administrative occupations, and especially in Health occupations, in which the proportion of the female work force (11%) is more than four times the proportion of the male work force (2.5%).



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**Women and men continue to work in different occupations.**

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**Conclusions**

The 2006 Census shows that Manitoba has undergone changes in its population and will continue to change in future years. The population has been aging and a large segment will be reaching retirement age in the coming years. Educational attainment is generally high and increasing, but a substantial minority of the

population continues to lack a high school certificate, which can limit labour force participation and economic growth.

There is a growing Aboriginal population that will help fill the expected demand for labour as the general population ages. It will be important to focus on increasing the educational qualifications of the Aboriginal population so that the economy can fully benefit from this growing work force.

The number and proportion of lone parent families in Manitoba continues to increase, and there will continue to be a need to address the issues affecting these families.

There are continuing differences between women and men in terms of labour force participation and occupations. While the participation of women has increased it is still ten percentage points below that of men, and women continue to be greatly overrepresented in areas such as health, business and administration and greatly underrepresented in areas such as trades, science-related occupations and primary industry occupations.

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