

# Through the Indigenous Student Lens

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# Advising Role Play

- In each group, two people will receive a card
- One person will be the advisor & the other the student
- Advisor card explains the academic issues the student is having
- Student card explains their background
- Without knowing details of student background, each advisor will try to resolve the issue

# Role Play Debrief

- The students can reveal their background story
- Note: each is based on actual situations which aren't uncommon
- How would advisor's approaches differ if they knew the "full story"?
- Would knowing the possibility of one of these scenarios change your advising approach?

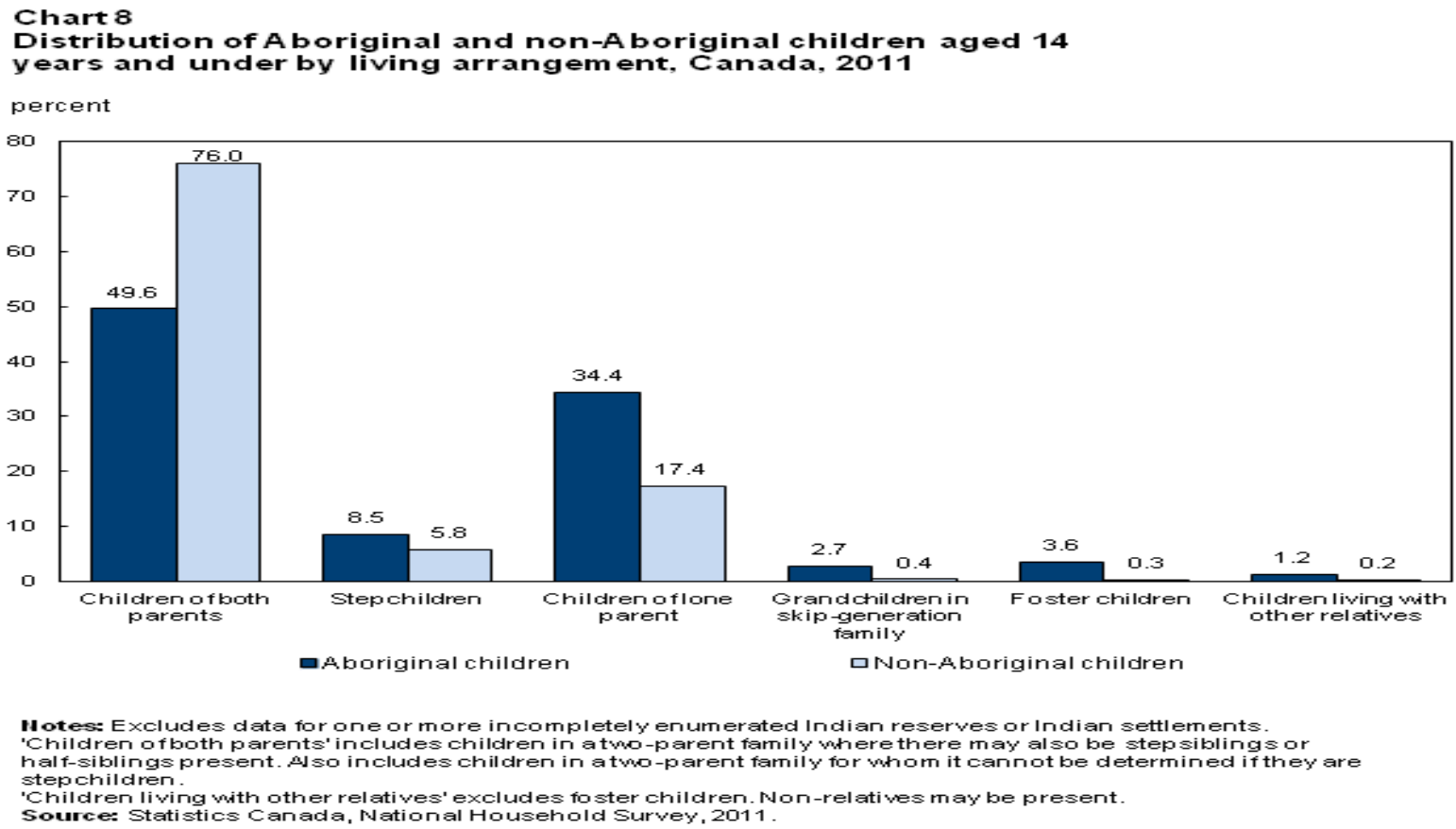
# Indigenous Demographics Outline

- Population (%)
- Living Arrangements
- Employment
- Income
- Health & Mortality
- Justice
- Literacy & Barriers to Education
- Residential Schools Legacy/Trauma

# Indigenous Population

- Population: 1,673,875 (4.9%)
  - SK: 157,740 (15.6%)
  - 56% of the Indigenous population is in the Western Provinces
- Population increase: Since 2006, the Aboriginal population has grown by 42.5%—more than 4x the growth rate of the national population
- Median age: 32.1 years old (40.9 is the national average)
- 0-64 age: 92.7% (nationally: 85.7%)

# Living Arrangements

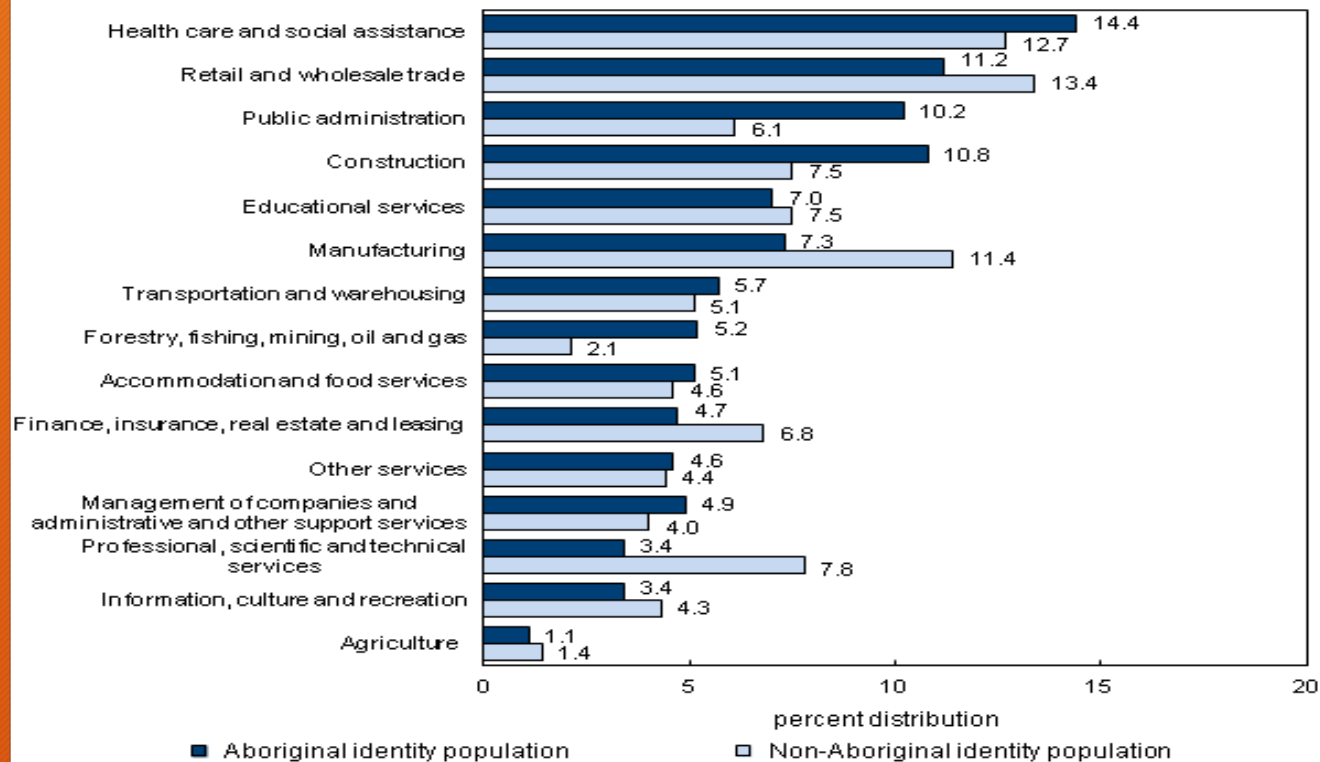


# Living Arrangements

- 14,000 Aboriginal children aged 14 and younger (4%) were living in foster care (10x the proportion of the national population)
- 27% of First Nations people living on reserve were living in crowded conditions in 2011 (7x the proportion of national population)
- Houses needing major repairs:
  - 7% of the national population in Canada
  - 43% First Nations people living on reserve
  - 14% of Urban First Nations, Métis, and Inuit

# Employment

**Chart 16**  
**Employment distribution of the Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal identity population aged 25 to 54 years, by industry, Canada, 2010**



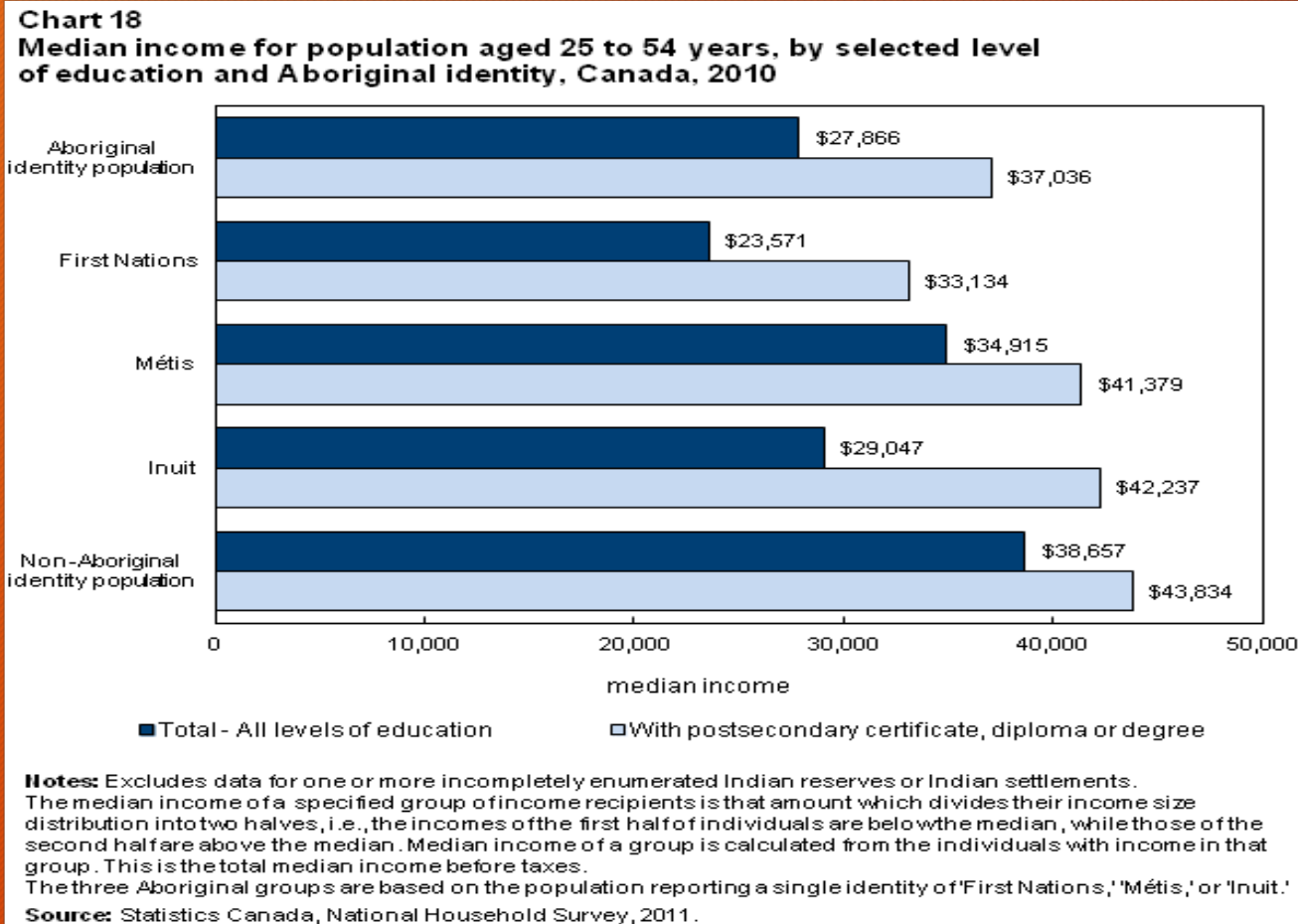
**Note:** Data exclude people living on reserves and in the territories.

**Source:** Statistics Canada, Labour Force Survey, 2008-2010.

The 2011 National Household Survey shows an employment rate of 62.5 % among Indigenous people of core working age (aged 25 to 64 ). The comparable rate for the national population is 75.8 %.

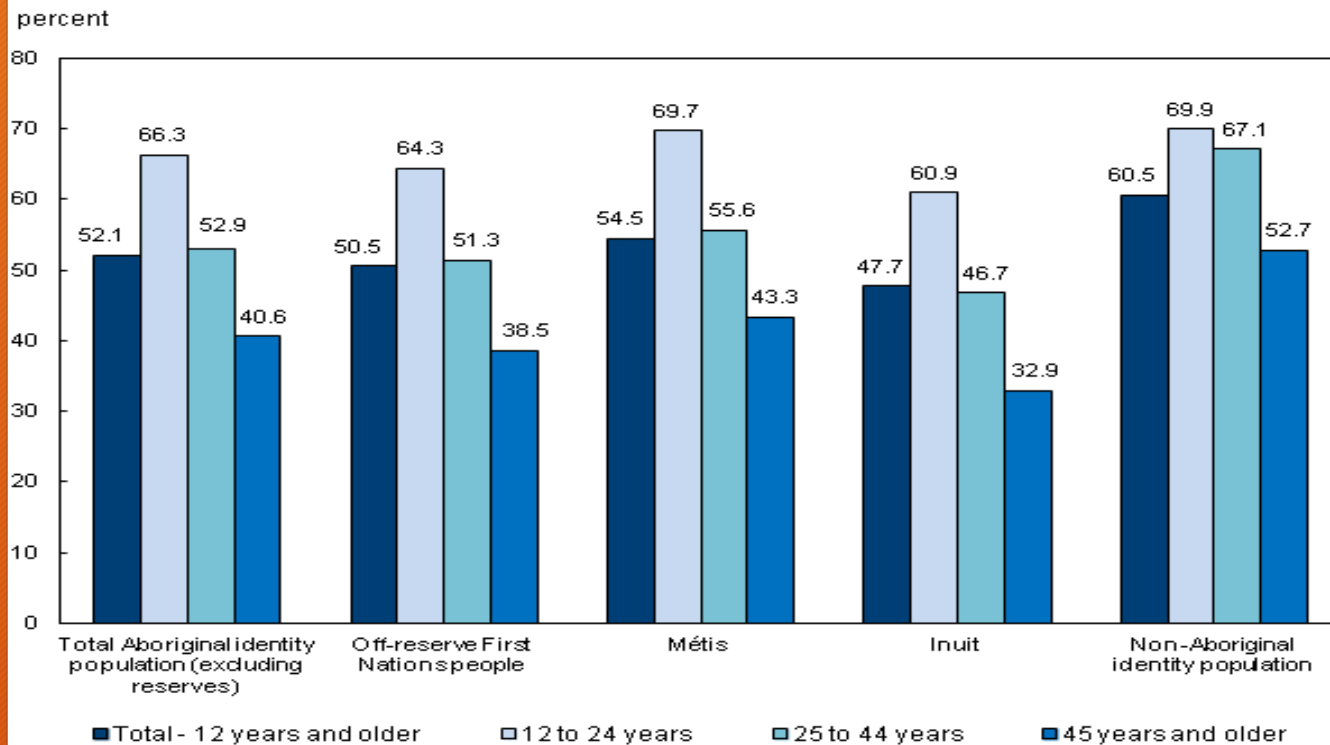


# Income



# Health

**Chart 19**  
Excellent or very good self-rated overall health of population aged 12 years and older, by Aboriginal identity and age group, Canada, 2012



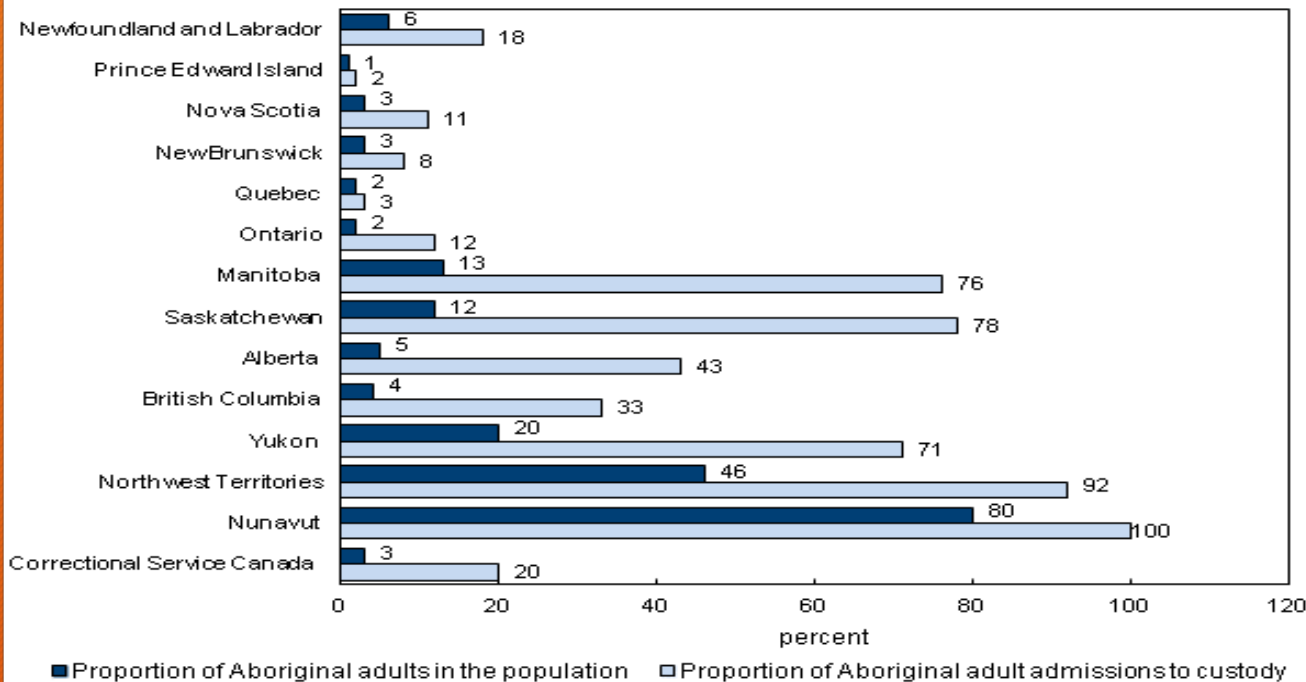
Sources: Statistics Canada, Aboriginal Peoples Survey, 2012 and Canadian Community Health Survey, 2012.

Among off-reserve First Nations people 12 years and older, 22% lived in households that experienced food insecurity, 3x the proportion of the national population (7%).

Food insecurity was a problem for a larger percentage of First Nations females (26%) than First Nations males (16%).

# Justice

**Chart 22**  
**Admissions to sentenced custody by Aboriginal identity and proportion of Aboriginal people in total population, by jurisdiction, Canada, 2011/2012**



**Notes:** Excludes data for one or more incompletely enumerated Indian reserves or Indian settlements. The calculation of percentages excludes admissions for which Aboriginal identity was unknown. The provincial/territorial figures represent admissions in provincial/territorial facilities. Correctional Service Canada (CSC) figures represents admissions to federal facilities.

**Sources:** Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Adult Correctional Services Survey, 2011/2012 and National Household Survey, 2011.

## Violent Crime Victim Rates

- Indigenous: 198 per 1000 people
- Nationally: 94 per 1000 people

## Sexual Assault Rate

- Indigenous: 70 per 1000 people
- Nationally: 23 per 1000 people

# Literacy Statistics

Average literacy and numeracy scores of population aged 16 to 55 years, by Aboriginal identity, Canada and oversampled populations, 2012

	Aboriginal identity population	Non-Aboriginal identity population	Aboriginal identity population	Non-Aboriginal identity population
	Literacy score		Numeracy score	
Canada	260	274	244	266
Ontario	269	276	252	267
Manitoba	259	276	245	267
<b>Saskatchewan</b>	<b>248</b>	<b>274</b>	<b>232</b>	<b>266</b>
British Columbia	266	275	250	267
Yukon	242	288	224	274
Northwest Territories	229	280	210	271
Nunavut	207	290	187	279

Source: Statistics Canada, International Survey of Adults, Programme for the International Assessment of Adult Competencies, 2012.

# Barriers to Education

Table 2

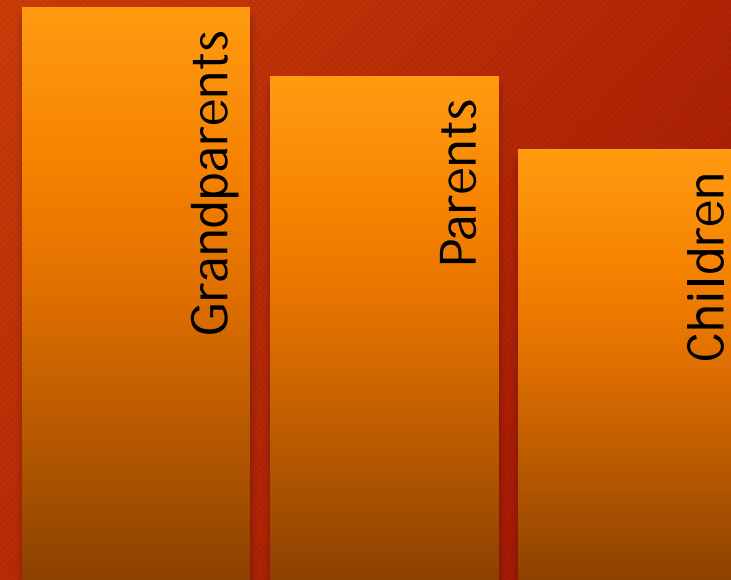
Barriers to further education or training, by Aboriginal identity, high school completers and leavers aged 18 to 44 years, Canada, 2012

	Off-reserve First Nations people		Métis		Inuit	
	completers	leavers	completers	leavers	completers	leavers
	percent					
Time constraints	24	38	21	48	26	39
Courses don't match needs	19	26	18	30	27	27
Lack of confidence/preparedness	20	42	19	46	22	32
Not a personal priority	25	45	24	41	27	43
Cost	34	42	37	52	18	19
Personal/family responsibilities	31	50	24	46	37	52
Personal health	10	21	6	13	7	12

Source: Statistics Canada, Aboriginal Peoples Survey, 2012.

# Residential Schools Legacy/Trauma

- Isolation/alienation
- Unresolved grief
- Anger toward school & parents
- Shame & Self-hatred
- Internalized racism
- Fear of authority
- Low self-esteem
- Self-destructive behaviors (substance abuse, addictions, suicidal behaviors)
- Aggressive behavior
- Difficulty with parenting skills
- Lack of initiative
- Dependency on others



# Tips for Advising Indigenous Students

## 1. Literacy & Numeracy: First year support & transition

*Classes* - Rdwt 120, Amth 091-092, Acad 100, Indg 104

*Tutoring* - Math, English, and Sciences

## 2. Cost: Single largest concern of Indigenous students

*Income* - Scholarships, bursaries and casual work

*Emergency Support* - Rent, bills, groceries, daycare, books

# Tips for Advising Indigenous Students

3. Time: Congested lifestyle requires accommodations

*Space* - Study, tutoring and building community needs

*Assignments* - Extensions & deferrals

4. Family: Services to help students easier access to solutions

*Housing* - Neighborhood & safety

*Daycare* - Close to school or home



# Tips for Advising Indigenous Students

## 5. Authority: Reshaping the relationship of authority

*Distance* - Close the distance between student & advisor

*Trust* - Empathizing with their situation (school & home)

## 6. Isolation: Self-defeating behaviors

*Opportunities* - Community building, invites to events and cohorts

*Updates* - Checking in on students (attendance & assignments)

## 7. Support Systems: Programming for needs of student

*Services*: Counseling & dedicated personnel

Questions?  
Comments?  
Discussion.

# Bibliography

- National Household Survey (NHS) 2011 - <http://www12.statcan.gc.ca/nhs-enm/2011/dp-pd/prof/index.cfm?Lang=E>
- Aboriginal People's Survey: <http://www5.statcan.gc.ca/olc-ocel/olc.action?objId=89-653-X&objType=2&lang=en&limit=0>
- Stats Canada: <http://www.statcan.gc.ca/pub/89-645-x/89-645-x2015001-eng.htm>
- Stats Canada 2016 Highlights: <http://www.statcan.gc.ca/daily-quotidien/171025/dq171025a-eng.htm>
- Manitoba Trauma Information and Education Centre: <http://trauma-informed.ca/trauma-and-first-nations-people/residential-schools/>