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BACKGROUND

SOCIAL POLICY

Closing the Aboriginal/ non-Aboriginal Education Gaps

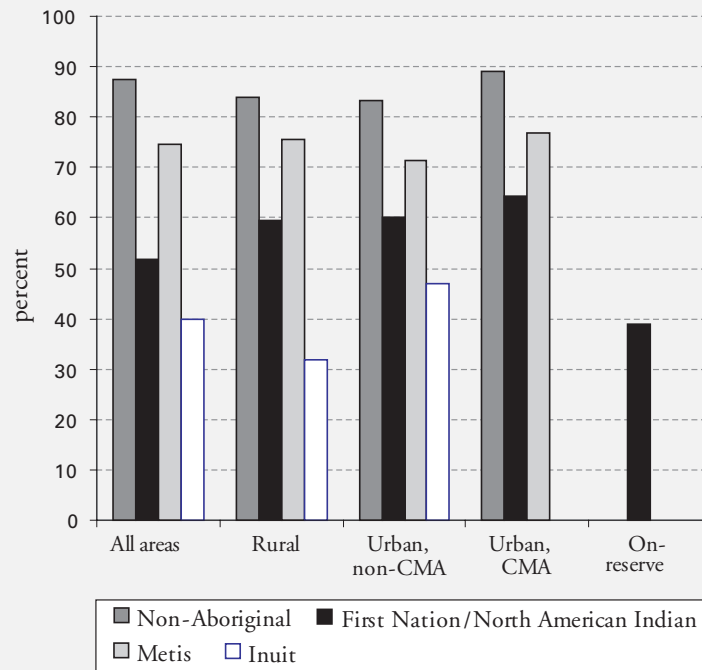
John Richards



In this issue...

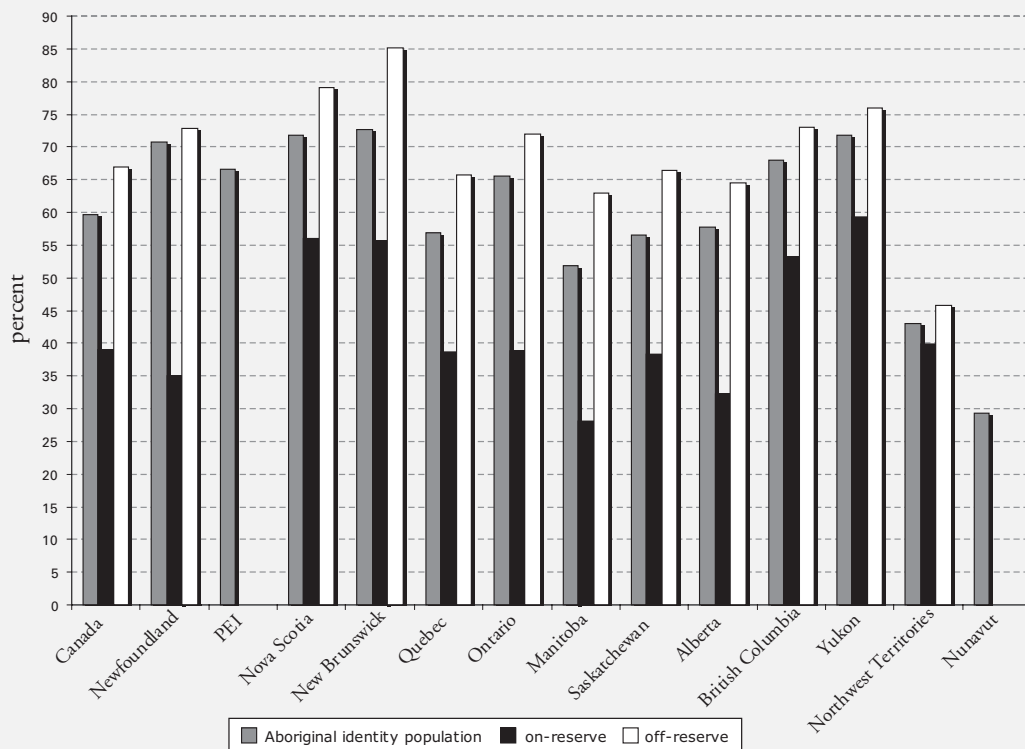
Gaps in education levels between Aboriginals and non-Aboriginals are a great social policy challenge for Canada. On-reserve, a smart approach to closing them would be the creation of Aboriginal-run school districts, independent of individual band councils. Off-reserve, the provinces should build on the practices of school districts achieving good results.

Figure 2: High-School Completion Rates, Age 20-24, by Area of Residence and Identity



Note: The figure omits several very small groups: Inuit living in Census Metropolitan Areas (CMAs) and those living on-reserve who are not North American Indian by identity. These groups are included in the "all areas" total.
 Source: Author's calculations from Canada (2008c).

Figure 3: Aboriginal High-School Completion Rates, Age 20-24, by Province/Territory and On-/Off-Reserve



Source: Author's calculations from Canada (2008c).