



Inuvialuit **Final Agreement** *Economic Measures* *Review*

Final Report

December 2024



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Foreword

We begin this report with our positionality. Big River Analytics Ltd. is a Métis-owned consulting firm with staff across Canada. Indigenous and non-Indigenous researchers who worked on this project are located in Ontario on the territories of many Nations, including the Huron-Wendat, the Haudenosaunee, the Mississaugas of the Credit, and the Anishinabek, with additional support from researchers located in British Columbia on Coast Salish and Tsimshian territories.



Executive Summary

The Inuvialuit Regional Corporation, Government of Canada, Government of Northwest Territories, and Government of Yukon require a “full and complete public review” of the economic measures of the Inuvialuit Final Agreement, as stipulated in section 16 of the agreement. The Section 16 Oversight Committee, which includes representatives from each party, has contracted Big River Analytics Ltd. to perform this review.

The Inuvialuit Final Agreement centers on three basic goals (or principles) that were expressed by the Inuvialuit and recognized by Canada. These goals include:

1. The preservation of Inuvialuit cultural identity and values within a changing northern society;
2. The enabling of the Inuvialuit to be equal and meaningful participants in the northern and national economy and society; and
3. The protection and preservation of the Arctic wildlife, environment and biological productivity.

The Inuvialuit Final Agreement also identifies two related objectives associated directly with economic measures. These measures relate to and support the achievement of:

1. Full Inuvialuit participation in the northern Canadian economy; and
2. Inuvialuit integration into Canadian society through development of an adequate level of economic self-reliance and a solid economic base.

The Economic Measures Review is intended to achieve several objectives. At a practical level, the review is designed to fulfill the requirements of the Inuvialuit Final Agreement. More broadly, the review aims to identify and understand economic and social trends in the Inuvialuit Settlement Region. Indirectly, the review serves to support the relationships between the parties to the Inuvialuit Final Agreement, which includes informing future investments and activities to improve the social, cultural, and economic lives of the Inuvialuit and Canadians. Lastly, the review aims to support future reviews.

It is important to note that the review is not designed to conclusively attribute causes to any identified economic or social trends (or disparities). This limitation relates to the broad and multidimensional nature of the concepts embedded within the overall principles of the Inuvialuit Final Agreement and the economic measures themselves.

The review sets out to answer the following main research questions:

1. What are the economic and social trends since the Inuvialuit Final Agreement was signed, and, in particular, since the last review conducted in 2000?
2. What activities and investments (economic and social) have been undertaken by the parties that support [full] Inuvialuit participation in the northern and Canadian economy and facilitate [an] adequate level of economic self-reliance?
3. What are the outputs of these investments [and activities], to the extent that they can be tracked and are known?

By necessity, the review also sets out to answer the following related questions:

1. How do trends in the Inuvialuit Settlement Region compare separately to trends in the full North, Inuit Nunangat, Northwest Territories, Yukon, and Canada?
2. How did internal and external factors affect the investments, activities, and trends in the Inuvialuit Settlement Region?

In order to achieve the objectives of the review and to answer the research questions, the review follows a set of key guiding principles. Primary among these principles is the use of Inuvialuit perspectives to guide the research, including the approach, application of methods, data collection, analysis, and report writing. The review is also comprehensive and objective. Appropriately, this involves following a strengths-based approach in order to properly contextualize the analysis and findings. Lastly, the review is designed to make it possible to repeat and be expanded upon for future reviews.

The review involves the collection and analysis of a considerable volume of primary and secondary data. Primary data, which serve to contextualize economic and social trends, were collected from key informants through interviews. Quantitative secondary data are used to construct a set of indicators that can identify economic and social trends for Inuvialuit communities, the Inuvialuit Settlement Region, Northwest Territories, Yukon, Inuit Nunangat, the full North, and Canada and to identify investments, activities, programs, and policies.

The economic measures objectives are broad and cross-cutting. Although extensive, the economic and social indicators available for this review can only serve as proxies, and don't capture the full extent of economic and social trends in the Inuvialuit Settlement Region over the past 20 years. The rich nuance of economic and social trends in the Inuvialuit Settlement Region since 2001 is best captured by pairing these indicators with the perspectives of key informants.

The indicators that are available paired with insights from key informants show that the Inuvialuit Regional Corporation has done well as a corporate group over the past 20 years, growing its internal capacity to deliver successful programs and initiatives for Inuvialuit, resulting in positive outcomes in education and health, among others, and leading the way in defining priorities for Inuvialuit. At the same time, there has not been significant improvement on key,

priority indicators in areas like culture and housing, and results pertaining to labour and the economy are mixed. Ultimately, key informants suggest the existence of a “two-tiered” system in the Inuvialuit Settlement Region, where some people have established a solid economic base while others face economic marginalization and worsening socioeconomic conditions. The risk of widening inequalities in the region should be considered carefully, in particular between Inuvik and other communities.

Although positive investments have been made by Inuvialuit Final Agreement parties since 2001 in the form of contracts, programs, and other funding initiatives, data limitations constrain our ability to identify correlations between funding and socioeconomic trends and outcomes. Many key informants celebrated the existence of long-term, flexible funding, which has supported the Inuvialuit Regional Corporation to invest in the growth of its departments, program and service offerings, and capacity, but, moving forward, improvements are needed in data collection practices to inform more conclusive analysis. More specifically, most data sources do not have enough observations, large enough sample sizes, or sufficiently long time horizons to be able to undertake regression analysis to identify correlations between funds and other outcomes. Future evaluations should be supported with socioeconomic data that are collected annually, identify Inuvialuit beneficiaries, and report counts where appropriate. Similarly, data on investments and activities should also be reported annually, specify the dates and duration of programs and activities, and identify Inuvialuit beneficiary recipients.

Finally, we recognize the impact and influence of external factors outside of the control of all parties on socioeconomic trends and outcomes in the region. Some of the external factors cited by key informants as having the most impact on socioeconomic trends and outcomes include the COVID-19 pandemic and climate change. While the parties do not have substantial control over these external factors, the parties can (and have in the past) take steps and successfully work together to mitigate their impact on Inuvialuit. Continued collaboration and continued investments from the parties will be needed to be able to respond to external factors that may arise in the future or continue to unfold in the Inuvialuit Settlement Region.

Terms and Acronyms

AHSUNC : Aboriginal Head Start in Urban and Northern Communities

APS : Aboriginal Peoples Survey

ASETS : Aboriginal Skills and Employment Training Strategy

ASTSIF : Aboriginal Skills and Training Strategic Investment Fund

BDIC : Northwest Territories Business Development and Investment Corporation (now Prosper NWT)

BIP : Business Incentive Policy

CFDC : Community Futures Development Corporations

CIRNAC : Crown-Indigenous and Northern Affairs Canada

CLCA : Comprehensive Land Claim Agreement

CMHC : Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation

DFO : Government of Canada Department of Fisheries and Oceans

EDO-CTI : Economic Development Officers Community Transfers Initiative

ESDC : Employment and Social Development Canada

GMVF : Genuine Mackenzie Valley Fur

GNWT : Government of Northwest Territories

ICEDO : Inuvialuit Community Economic Development Organization

ICPC : Inuit-Crown Partnership Committee

IDC : Inuvialuit Development Corporation

IFA : Inuvialuit Final Agreement

IGC : Intergovernmental Council

ILA : Inuvialuit Land Administration

IPSE : Inuit Post-Secondary Education Strategy

IRC : Inuvialuit Regional Corporation

ISSET : Indigenous Skills and Employment Training

ISR : Inuvialuit Settlement Region

ITK : Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami

NWT : Northwest Territories

PHAC : Public Health Agency of Canada

SEED : Support for Entrepreneurs and Economic Development

UNDRIP : United Nations Declaration of the Rights of Indigenous People

YG : Yukon Government

1.0 : *Background*

The Inuvialuit Final Agreement (IFA) was finalized on June 5, 1984, and came into force the following month (Government of Canada 2022). At the time, the IFA was the second comprehensive land claim agreement implemented in Canadian history (Inuvialuit Regional Corporation 2022).

The IFA identifies three basic goals (or principles) that were expressed by the Inuvialuit and recognized by the Government of Canada, namely:

1. To preserve Inuvialuit cultural identity and values within a changing northern society;
2. To enable Inuvialuit to be equal and meaningful participants in the northern and national economy and society; and
3. To protect and preserve the Arctic wildlife, environment and biological productivity.

The IFA establishes several rights, commitments, and obligations for and on behalf of the Inuvialuit, Inuvialuit Regional Corporation (IRC), and the governments of Canada, Northwest Territories (NWT), and Yukon that support the achievement of the treaty's basic goals. In particular, the Economic Measures section establishes a set of commitments, activities, and funding requirements designed to achieve a set of objectives along the path to the broader basic goals. The objectives of the Economic Measures (section 16(2)) are:

1. Full Inuvialuit participation in the northern Canadian economy; and
2. Inuvialuit integration into Canadian society through development of an adequate level of economic self-reliance and a solid economic base.

Section 16(3) also states that:

A full and complete public review of the efficacy of the provisions of [the economic measures] shall be carried out in the year 2000 by the Government and the Inuvialuit. If it is the view of the Government, after the review, that the objectives of subsection (2) have been adequately met, the obligations of the Government under this section, except under subsections (13) and (14), shall cease commencing January 1, 2001. So long as these obligations remain in effect, a like review shall be held every five years thereafter.¹

¹ Government, here, is defined collectively as the governments of Canada, NWT, and Yukon. Inuvialuit includes individual Inuvialuit, partnerships of Inuvialuit, any corporation or entity the majority of which is owned by Inuvialuit and ventures in which the Inuvialuit have an interest greater than 50%.

The initial review of the economic measures, which was completed in 2000, concluded that the economic measures had not yet been “successful in achieving all objectives set for them” (Vodden 2001). No other review has occurred since that date. As a result, a subsequent Economic Measures Review is required, and is the purpose of this report.

The Economic Measures Review is directed by the Section 16 Oversight Committee, which includes representatives from the IRC, and governments of Canada, Northwest Territories, and Yukon, and which reports to the IFA Implementation Coordinating Committee.

The report is organized as follows:

Foreword

Executive Summary

Terms and Acronyms

[1.0 : Background](#)

[2.0 : Research Framework and Methods](#)

[3.0 : Findings](#)

[4.0 : Quantitative and Qualitative Analysis](#)

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Appendices



2.0 : *Research Framework and Methods*

2.1 : Objectives of the Review

The objectives of this Economic Measures Review are to:

1. Fulfill the requirements of the IFA;
2. Identify and understand the economic and social trends in the ISR since the IFA was signed, but in particular since the date of the last review (2001);
3. Support the relationships between the parties to the IFA;
4. Inform future investments and activities to improve the social, cultural, and economic lives of the Inuvialuit and Canadians; and
5. Support future reviews.

A practical objective of the review is to meet the requirements of the Economic Measures section of the IFA. Specifically, the IFA requires a “full and complete public review of the efficacy” of the economic measures.² This requirement remains in effect.³

More broadly, the review sets out to identify and understand the economic and social trends in the ISR since the date of the last review, to determine whether the objectives of the economic measures have been met. This objective is primarily achieved through a comprehensive analysis of various types of information, including quantitative and qualitative data at both the micro and macro levels, as well as primary and secondary data.

The review may also indirectly support the ongoing and evolving relationships between the IRC and the governments of Canada, NWT, and Yukon. The review provides an opportunity to emphasize and renew the commitments of each party, as well as to define new roles. For example, the review could lead to a shared understanding of the evolving nature of treaty commitments (Coolican and Government of Canada 1985; Government of Northwest Territories 2012).

The review further supports these relationships by informing future investments and activities. One path through which this objective could be achieved is through an enhanced understanding of the relationship between investments, activities, and economic and social trends as a product of the analysis. Another is by way of recommendations to the Oversight Committee.

Given current trends and the ongoing and evolving relationships between the IRC and the governments of Canada, NWT, and Yukon, an unlikely outcome of the review is the finding that the objectives of the economic measures have been achieved. As such, an important objective is to support future reviews, including those that expand upon the approach and methods described

² Although unlikely given current trends and the relationship between the Inuvialuit and Canada, one possible outcome of the review is the termination of most obligations within section 16.

³ As noted previously, the first review, which was undertaken in 2000, concluded that the economic measures had not yet been “successful in achieving all objectives set for them” (Vodden 2001, 8).

here. In this way, the approach, methods, data, findings, and recommendations from the current review are intended to act as guideposts for future reviewers.

To fully understand these objectives, it is worthwhile noting that the review is not designed to conclusively attribute causes to any identified economic or social trends (or disparities). This limitation relates to the broad and multidimensional nature of the concepts embedded within the overall principles of the IFA and the economic measures themselves, being:

- The preservation of Inuvialuit cultural identities and values within a changing northern society;
- Full, equal, and meaningful participation in the northern and national economy;
- Inuvialuit integration into Canadian society;
- The development of an adequate level of economic self-reliance; and
- The development of a solid economic base.

2.2: Research Questions

The Economic Measures Review is intended to answer three primary research questions:⁴

1. What are the economic and social trends since the IFA was signed, and in particular since the date of the previous review?
2. What investments and activities (economic and social) have been undertaken by the parties that support [full] Inuvialuit participation in the northern and Canadian economy and facilitate [an] adequate level of economic self-reliance?
 - More specifically, where did investments and activities take place, when, and how did they impact these objectives?
3. What are the outputs of these investments [and activities], to the extent that they can be tracked and are known?
 - Did or do [these investments and activities] contribute to a positive impact on the economic and social wellbeing of the Inuvialuit?

A few implications naturally arise from these initial lines of inquiry. For instance, a comparison of trends between the ISR and other regions could inform the impact of investments, activities, and other factors on the economic and social wellbeing of the Inuvialuit. Examples include changes in program outputs, policies, demographics, and markets. As such, the review is also intended to answer the following related questions:

1. How did (or do) trends in the ISR compare separately to trends in NWT, Yukon, Inuit Nunangat, the full North, and Canada?⁵
2. How did (or do) internal and external factors affect the investments, activities, and trends in the ISR?

⁴ Minor adjustments to the questions listed in our services agreement dated May 27, 2022, are in square brackets.

⁵ The “full North” is defined as the combined geographic region of Nunavik, Nunavut, Nunatsiavut, NWT, and Yukon.

2.3 : Approach

This section of the report describes the five main principles guiding the Economic Measures Review. In summary, the review is 1) guided by Inuvialuit perspectives, and is designed to be 2) comprehensive, 3) objective, 4) strengths-based, and 5) capable of being repeated and expanded upon for future reviews.

At the highest level, Inuvialuit perspectives guide the research approach. This means that the method, analysis, and report writing are guided by the IRC's (n.d.-c) *Guidelines for Research in the Inuvialuit Settlement Region*. In alignment with these guidelines, the approach aims to integrate multi-disciplinary methods supported by Inuvialuit worldviews and knowledge, with the objective of acquiring knowledge and information that improves social, cultural, and economic conditions and promotes sustainable development.

In keeping with the guidelines, multiple sources of data and multiple methods of analysis inform the review. Quantitative data and analysis are used to identify trends and data gaps, qualitative data are used to bridge data gaps and provide context to inform the analysis of trends and key findings, while a combination of quantitative and qualitative data and analysis are used to identify and understand the contribution of investments and activities to the economic and social wellbeing of the Inuvialuit. These data are drawn from both micro-level and macro-level sources, in other words, integrating information on individual narratives and the state of the economy as a whole. Using a range of data sources and methods ensures that a more balanced and objective set of findings are identified, as the analysis is informed by multiple sources, and analysis is validated and contextualized across sources.

Importantly, the IRC research guidelines encourage the development of meaningful partnerships. As such, the review involves research with "outside" partners, as well as the integration of relevant "outside" perspectives.

The review is designed to be comprehensive in nature. A comprehensive review is consistent with the broad and multidimensional nature of the IFA's basic goals and aligns with the specific language of the economic measures themselves, including the language in section 16(3) (i.e., "a full and complete public review"). A comprehensive approach requires consideration of the theory, scope, and timeframe of the review.

In terms of theory, a comprehensive review considers how cultural, social, economic, political, and environmental indicators are interconnected. The IRC's (n.d.-c) *Guidelines for Research in the Inuvialuit Settlement Region*, the Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami's (2014) *Social Determinants of Inuit Health in Canada*, and the United Nations' (2022) *Sustainable Development Goals* all act as useful examples of comprehensive approaches.⁶ In sum, a comprehensive review recognizes that, although the language in section 16 might focus narrowly on "economic self-reliance," "participation in the economy," and a "solid economic base," meeting these economic objectives is only possible through a wholistic approach that considers general Inuvialuit wellbeing. Thus, answering the research questions requires a review of broad cultural, social, economic, legal, political, and environmental factors related to Inuvialuit experience, rather than a narrow emphasis on what might pertain to the economy. To do this, data are collected and

⁶ The principles of Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit are similarly instructive.

key findings are identified for each of the following categories: Demographic, Cultural, Social Wellbeing and Health, Education, Housing, Labour, and Economic. The social and wellbeing of Inuvialuit as a whole and the relationships between IFA parties are also considered.⁷ The relationships between IFA parties is relevant insofar as the quality of the relationship between the parties would impact the efficacy of IFA implementation, including the implementation of economic measures.

In terms of scope, the review requires the consideration of multiple factors in understanding whether and how outputs and outcomes from investments and activities influence economic and social trends. To do this, the analysis of investments and activities uses quantitative data from a variety of sources and, where possible, analyzes correlations between investments, a range of factors, and outcomes. In addition to relying on quantitative data, the scope of the comprehensive review includes qualitative data that contextualize economic and social trends, as well as investments. Qualitative data are gathered from key informants, who include Inuvialuit Elders, leaders, and community members, and federal and territorial government officials. Surfacing correlations between quantitative investments and socioeconomic trends and contextualizing these findings with qualitative data provides a greater depth in analysis.

A comprehensive approach is additionally about time, meaning that the review considers short-term and long-term trends, investments, and activities, as well as short-term and long-term internal and external factors. To do this, the analysis of socioeconomic trends, investments, activities, and external factors considers data spanning from 1996 to 2022.

Appropriately, comprehensive and objective analysis necessitates following a strengths-based approach. This includes properly contextualizing the findings, as well as avoiding what Walter (2016) summarizes as the 5 'Ds' of 'Indigenous statistics': disparity, deprivation, disadvantage, dysfunction, and difference. This involves a heavier reliance on qualitative data, such as from narratives and interviews, than is common in economic analysis.

Lastly, the approach supports future reviews by sharing the data collected with IRC in tabular form, accompanied by sufficient documentation, and clearly articulating and documenting methods in a manner that enables replication by others.⁸ This will ensure that the current review can be repeated and expanded upon in future reviews.

To the extent possible, the approach outlined here has been taken throughout the meetings and work with the Oversight Committee, both as a whole and with individual parties. In undertaking the review, efforts have been made to consolidate multiple viewpoints into the research framework and methods outlined in this report.

2.4: Methods

Primary data were collected from key informants through interviews. Secondary data were collected from the IFA parties. Primary data collected are primarily qualitative, whereas a mix of quantitative and qualitative secondary data were collected to inform the review. This section of the report details how data are collected and from where, as well as their limitations.

⁷ IFA parties consist of the Government of Canada, Government of NWT, Government of Yukon, and IRC & Inuvialuit.

⁸ In their *Economic Measures Evaluation Framework*, Ekos Research Associates Inc. (1994, 46) called for an "ongoing monitoring and evaluation system."

Additionally, this section describes the analysis approach used to answer the research questions of the Economic Measures Review. To do this, quantitative data are used to construct a set of indicators that can describe economic and social trends for Inuvialuit communities, the ISR, NWT, Yukon, Inuit Nunangat, the full North, and Canada and to identify investments, activities, programs, and policies from the parties. Quantitative data are analyzed to identify relationships between investments, activities, programs, and policies and Inuvialuit outcomes where feasible, using statistical tests to identify correlations. Qualitative data are used to contextualize findings, fill in information gaps in quantitative data, and guide what factors and considerations are important when analyzing indicators, trends, and relationships in the data.

Primary Data Collection

To collect primary data, semi-structured interviews were conducted with key informants. A total of 30 key informants participated in these interviews. These activities were directed at the following groups:

- Elders
- Leaders (e.g., IRC Chair and Board Directors, IDC Chair and Board Directors, Hamlet Mayors and Councillors, etc.)
- Development officers (e.g., IDC Directors, Managers and Coordinators, IRC Directors, Managers, and Coordinators, community development officers, economic development officers, etc.)
- Representatives from IDC wholly-owned subsidiaries, assets, joint ventures, and partnerships
- Representatives from federal and territorial governments (e.g., CIRNAC, Parks Canada, GNWT, YG)

Table 2.4.1 shows the number of informants interviewed throughout the key informant interview process for each IFA party.

Table 2.4.1. Number of Key Informants

IFA Parties	Number of Informants
Government of Canada	5
Government of NWT	11
Government of Yukon	1
IRC & Inuvialuit	13
Total	30

Purpose and Use

The main objective for primary data collection within the review is to develop an understanding of the perspectives of the Inuvialuit with respect to both the IFA and the economic and social trends occurring since 2001 (i.e., the date of the last review). To meet this aim, primary data were collected through key informant interviews designed to collect information on the following topics:

- Economic and social changes since 2001
- Investments, activities, programs, policies, relationships, or other factors that support full, equal, and meaningful participation in the northern and national economy and society
 - Compatibility with Inuvialuit interests and needs
 - Support for the preservation of Inuvialuit culture and identity
 - Facilitation of equal, meaningful, and full participation within the northern and national economy and society
 - Development of an adequate level of economic self-reliance and a solid economic base
 - Opportunities for developmental planning and coordination

A detailed plan for primary data collection, including sample questions for semi-structured interviews, was developed in coordination with the IRC. This plan was shared with the Oversight Committee for feedback and shared with key informants ahead of their participation. It is included in Appendix C.

Key informant interview summaries were reviewed and analyzed. The qualitative data generated, including data collected about investments, activities, programs, policies, and relationships, were grouped in relation to at least one of the following categories: Demographic, Cultural, Social Wellbeing and Health, Education, Housing, Labour, and Economic. Qualitative data were then used to identify trends, findings, and key context to inform the analysis of secondary data sources. This helped to better understand trends and relationships that could not be observed directly or through a review of secondary data alone.

Considerations

Key informant interviews reveal behaviours, sentiments, and interests that are not explicitly measured but are inherent to quantitative outcomes. As such, qualitative responses are subjective and influenced by key informants' unique backgrounds, the recency of events, and familiarity with different economic and social trends. While a variety of individuals were interviewed, their perspectives should not be understood as reflective of all Inuvialuit or government representatives.

Secondary Data Collection

Collection

Data on the following topics were collected from as early as 1984 to present: Demographic, Cultural, Social Wellbeing and Health, Education, Housing, Labour, and Economic from Inuvialuit communities, and the ISR, NWT, Yukon, Inuit Nunangat, the full North, and Canada. A mix of quantitative and qualitative data on investments, activities, programs, and policies, as well as internal and external factors influencing the IFA implementation were collected from the IRC and the governments of Canada, NWT, and Yukon. Most of the secondary data were sourced from the NWT Bureau of Statistics, Statistics Canada, and individual departments of the governments of Canada, NWT, and Yukon. Secondary data from Statistics Canada and the NWT Bureau of Statistics primarily cover economic and social trends, while data from federal and territorial departments primarily describe investments and activities.

Purpose and Use

Secondary data are used to develop a broad set of indicators representing economic and social trends in the ISR. These indicators are used to compare trends between Inuvialuit communities, the ISR, NWT, Yukon, Inuit Nunangat, the full North, and Canada to identify how the social and economic wellbeing of Inuvialuit has evolved throughout the implementation of the IFA. Additional analysis is undertaken to identify the relationships between investment and activities and social and economic trends.

Considerations

Data on Socioeconomic Trends

Analysis of socioeconomic trends rely on data from the 1996, 2001, 2006, 2011, 2016, and 2021 Census of Population ("Census") and the NWT Bureau of Statistics to construct indicators. The Census is a standardized survey run by Statistics Canada every five years that gathers information about people and households in Canada. The benefit of relying on the Census is that it provides the most comprehensive and comparable information on people and households across Canada over time. Data shared by the NWT Bureau of Statistics combines data from the Census with data from sampled populations in the territory through surveys conducted between 1998 and 2020. The benefit of relying on data from the NWT Bureau of Statistics is that they provide information on social wellbeing outcomes that are often not measured by the Census and that are of high relevance and interest to people living in the NWT and the full North.

Despite these benefits, analysis of long term trends are constrained by the quality and availability of relevant data over the time period of interest. More specifically, temporary changes in data collection methods, data suppression,⁹ limited reporting on

⁹ Data suppression refers to counts or percentages that have been removed from a dataset due to privacy or quality concerns.

Indigenous identity, the absence of counts,¹⁰ and the frequency of data collection limit the quantitative analysis in this review.

The Census gathers information from two mandatory data collection instruments: a short-form and a long-form questionnaire. The short-form questionnaire is distributed to all households and gathers information on age, sex, marital status, language, military service, and relationships to others in a household. The long-form questionnaire is distributed to fewer households (in 2021, 25% of households) and gathers information on education, sociocultural characteristics, mobility, labour, and daily activities, as well as the information gathered in the short-form questionnaire.

The majority of the socioeconomic indicators in this report rely on data from the Census data collected through the long-form questionnaire. The consistent use of the long-form questionnaire every Census ensures data are comparable over time, however the temporary use of the National Household Survey (NHS) in 2011 disrupts analysis of socioeconomic indicators. In 2011, Statistics Canada replaced the long-form Census questionnaire with the voluntary NHS, which was distributed to a third of households. This change was reversed in 2016, and the mandatory long-form questionnaire was reintroduced. Overall, response rates for the 2011 NHS are much lower than the long-form questionnaires in other years. For example, in the NWT, the response rate for the 2011 NHS was 83.9% while the 2016 long form Census had a response rate of 96.5%. Due to the voluntary nature of the NHS, and lower response rates, data points from 2011 may not be an accurate representation of the population during the year, particularly in smaller communities, and suppression of data is a greater issue in this year.

An additional constraint in using data from the Census, in particular in smaller communities, comes from Statistics Canada's approach to random rounding and suppression to ensure the privacy of individuals. All counts presented in the Census are randomly rounded either up or down, to a multiple of '5' or '10'. As a result, when data are summed or grouped, the total value may not match the individual values reported elsewhere (Statistics Canada, 2022). Counts of 0 may instead represent a count of 5 or 10. As such, small changes to counts (i.e. a change of 5) may be a function of random rounding. This is particularly relevant for smaller communities, where changes are represented as percentages, as a change over time may be over or understated by rounding. Statistics Canada also suppresses data for small populations. As a result of data suppression, estimates at smaller geographic levels are not available for Indigenous populations. Without this information, it is difficult to assess trends and progress towards IFA objectives in communities where substantial portions of the population are not Indigenous, as is the case in Inuvik where 35.0% of the population is non-Indigenous.

Regarding Indigenous identity, socioeconomic data shared are not disaggregated by Indigenous identity nor by IFA beneficiaries. Further, publicly available socioeconomic data do not disaggregate by Indigenous nor IFA beneficiary identity at smaller geographic levels in all Census years, specifically by ISR communities. In the 2021 Census, the variable "Enrollment under an Inuit Land Claims Agreement" was introduced, which allows us to

¹⁰ Absence of counts refers to data that were only available in percentages.

disaggregate data for IFA beneficiaries, that is, for Inuvialuit. However, this variable was only introduced in the 2021 Census, which means we are not able to produce socioeconomic trends for Inuvialuit for previous census years to speak to trends over time. A 2021 Inuvialuit Census Profile is included in this report to understand how Inuvialuit statistics may differ from the Indigenous and total populations in the ISR in 2021, and informs our interpretation of trends. The information presented in the Inuvialuit Census Profile also provides information on whether the total population or Indigenous population in the ISR can be used as proxies for Inuvialuit identity when Inuvialuit specific statistics are not available (i.e., for census years prior to 2021). Moving forward, we expect that the variable “Enrolled under an Inuit Land Claims Agreement” will continue to be included in the Census, and this 2021 Inuvialuit Census Profile can act as a benchmark for Inuvialuit socioeconomic outcomes in future reviews.

Data from the NWT Bureau of Statistics rely on Census data, thus are subject to the same constraints. Additionally, much of the data are reported as percentages, and there is limited information available on the sampling method. Consequently, the data are not suitable for testing statistical correlations between socioeconomic data and investments and activities undertaken by the parties.

The final challenge associated with the socioeconomic data is how infrequently it is collected and reported. The Census occurs every five years and the NWT Bureau of Statistics collects data every four or five years through population sample surveys. As a result, there are large gaps over time, where indicators cannot be used to understand key events that have been noted in the interviews. For example, construction of the Inuvik-Tuktoyaktuk Highway occurred between Census years.

Investments and Activities

Data on investments and activities are secondary and both quantitative and qualitative. The quantitative data are compiled from various sources, thus analysis is constrained by the distinctive characteristics of each dataset, as well as the compatibility of data fitting together (for instance, being collected for years for which there is Census data). Qualitative secondary data are primarily collected from online and public sources, thus are limited by the availability, relevance, and accuracy of those sources in answering the research questions.

Quantitative data on investments and activities were obtained from multiple federal departments and departments within the NWT and Yukon governments. As such, there are drawbacks unique to each dataset impacting what analysis is possible. Most data sources did not have enough observations, large enough sample sizes, or sufficiently long time horizon to be able to undertake regression analysis to identify correlations between funds and other outcomes. The program data from Employment and Social Development Canada (ESDC) is one notable exception. While alternative regressions and statistical analysis methods were identified for remaining investment and activities data, these analyses were restricted by incomplete reporting of times, short temporal coverage, missing and misreported programs, investments, and activities, and missing information on

beneficiaries. Overall, the quality of investments and activities data was a significant barrier to being able to effectively answer the research questions at the core of the Economic Measures Review.

Much of the investment and activities data from the Government of Canada and the GNWT are broken down annually, either by calendar year or fiscal year allowing for a more comprehensive understanding of the trends over time. However, some data sources do not categorize investments and activities by calendar year or fiscal year, including data from the Department of Fisheries and Oceans (DFO), the Canadian Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC), and Canadian Heritage. Further, some data do not span a long enough time frame to be included in correlation analysis. Consequently, it is difficult to determine a correlation between these programs and socioeconomic indicators, because for most indicators there only exists one or two data points since 2016.

In several datasets we found missing or misreported programs, investments, and activities, including inconsistencies in the classification of data from programs from the GNWT Department of Environment and Natural Resources. As such, there are challenges in identifying the impacts of programs, investments, and activities, and tracking these changes over time.

The final challenge with quantitative investment and activities data is inconsistent reporting on Indigenous identity. Various datasets do not distinguish who the investment and activities are delivered to; while all program data shared by the Government of Canada are related to the IFA, program data from the GNWT do not distinguish whether recipients are Inuvialuit. This makes it difficult to assess the impact of GNWT programs, as it is unknown how much funding is going to Inuvialuit beneficiaries specifically.

Qualitative data on investments and activities were gathered through web-based searches for program descriptions, community reports, federal and territorial press releases, and other literature sources. Reviewing these secondary sources provides context for quantitative investment and activities data, including the use of funding, the intended recipients, and funding periods. Occasionally, web-based searches for older programs and investments did not yield any results, as information for those programs was not available online at that time. Additionally, there were some cases where the program names in the data differed from what was found online. The official program names and descriptions were determined based on what seemed most reasonable given the available information.

Analysis

Research Question #1

What are the economic and social trends since the IFA was signed, in particular since the date of the previous review, and how do these compare to trends in NWT, Yukon, Inuit Nunangat, the full North, and Canada?

To identify and compare a broad set of economic and social trends for Inuvialuit communities, the ISR, NWT, Yukon, Inuit Nunangat, the full North, and Canada, secondary quantitative data are used to construct a broad set of indicators that may have been impacted by the implementation of the IFA.

The indicators are broken down into seven categories (Demographic, Cultural, Social Wellbeing and Health, Education, Housing, Labour, Economic) and designed to consider different components of the population and different levels of geography. For example, some indicators consider all age groups, while others focus on specific age groups, such as the working-age population. Some indicators allow for distinctions according to gender. Some indicators consider the general population, while others focus on Indigenous people alone, including Inuvialuit when data permit. Lastly, some indicators distinguish between the six Inuvialuit communities, while others are rolled up for the entire ISR or measured at the level of NWT, Yukon, Inuit Nunangat, the full North, and Canada. These differences are largely a function of the availability of data.

Appendix A1 provides a complete list of indicators broken down by category.¹¹ Each list includes details on units, target group, years of observation, geographic level, and data source. To appropriately answer the second question, indicators are constructed to be able to make comparisons across levels of geography where possible. In particular, indicators for NWT, Yukon, Inuit Nunangat, the full North, and Canada are constructed in a way that avoids overlap with Inuvialuit communities or with the ISR. In other words, trends between Inuvialuit communities and between the ISR and the rest of NWT, Yukon, Inuit Nunangat, the full North, and Canada can be identified and compared.

To analyze trends, where there are a sufficient number of observations, tests of significance are undertaken to identify statistically distinct trends between Inuvialuit communities and between the ISR and other geographies. In most cases, this is not possible (e.g., there are only observations for 2001, 2006, 2011, 2016, and 2022) graphical or visual analysis is used to illustrate distinct trends between Inuvialuit communities and between the ISR and other geographies.

¹¹ The listings in Appendix A match the *Information Needs Matrix* that was circulated to the Oversight Committee.

Research Questions #2 & #3

- *What investments and activities (economic and social) have been undertaken by the parties that support [full] Inuvialuit participation in the northern and Canadian economy and facilitate [an] adequate level of economic self-reliance?*
- *What are the outputs of these investments [and activities], to the extent that they can be tracked and are known?*

To understand trends for Inuvialuit and trends in the ISR within the context of investments, activities, programs, policies, and other factors, a systems-based approach to analysis is applied. This involves identifying statistical or graphical correlations between indicators, investments, and activities (e.g., annual expenditures or counts of participants or recipients). This analysis provides the strongest evidence that investments and activities contribute to a positive impact on the economic and social wellbeing of the Inuvialuit, given the multi-dimensional and interrelated relationships between investments, other factors, and outcomes.

The identification of statistical or graphical correlations between indicators, investments, and activities similarly involves considerations for both contemporaneous and lagged effects. For example, outcomes from labour market development programs may take a few years to flow through to changes in employment or income. Reports and primary data are used to identify relevant internal and external factors that influence investments, activities, programs, and trends.



3.0 : *Findings*

The Findings section identifies and discusses the main conclusions from the research. Where possible, this section provides recommendations to the Oversight Committee, including on investments, activities, next steps, and additional lines of inquiry for future reviews. Importantly, the multidimensional nature of the trends, investments, and activities is taken into account.

Overall Trends

An initial review of section 16 of the IFA was completed in 2000. It concluded that the economic measures had not yet been “successful in achieving all objectives set for them” (Vodden 2001). Specifically pertinent to this review, the initial review in 2000 also found that the economy of the ISR had not improved since the signing of the IFA. It also noted a lack of Inuvialuit-specific data and the need to develop a comprehensive strategy to consolidate, integrate, and coordinate data collection efforts. Finally, it found that uncertainty about roles and responsibilities of the different parties caused challenges to the implementation of economic measures.

This second review of the economic measures now looks to understand economic and social trends in the ISR since 2001, and the activities and investments that have been undertaken by the parties to support [full] Inuvialuit participation in the northern and Canadian economy and facilitate [an] adequate level of economic self-reliance.

The economic measures objectives are broad and cross-cutting. Although extensive, the economic and social indicators available for this review can only serve as proxies, and don’t capture the full extent of economic and social trends in the ISR over the past 20 years. The rich nuance of economic and social trends in the ISR since 2001 is best captured by pairing these indicators with the sentiments and perspectives of key informants.

Overall, key informants suggest that the IRC has done well out of the IFA as a corporate group. Over the last 20 years, the IRC has enabled significant positive investments in the ISR and grown the capacity of its departments in delivering successful programs and activities for Inuvialuit. The IRC continues to lead the way in defining priorities for Inuvialuit. At an individual level, key informants expressed that Inuvialuit are still facing challenges, many of which are reflected across social and economic indicators:

- Since 2001, there have been no significant improvements on key, priority indicators such as culture, health, or housing.
- The share of people fishing and hunting decreased in the ISR overall, as did the share of people in the ISR who speak Indigenous languages or whose mother tongue is an Inuit language.
- The prevalence of poverty remains higher in every ISR community than in the NWT, and it increased in the NWT, Inuvik, Tuktoyaktuk, and Ulukhaktok from 2004 to 2018.

- A drug epidemic has been sweeping ISR communities over the past 10 years, and especially during and since the COVID-19 pandemic.
- An increasing share of households are living in dwellings in need of major repairs, and key informants are concerned not only about the state of existing housing and infrastructure, but also about the availability and affordability of housing across the ISR and the barriers to construction that limit the development of new housing stock.
- Though education outcomes have been improving over time, volatile boom and bust economic cycles and the perception of better education and employment opportunities elsewhere may be resulting in a “brain drain” of Inuvialuit from their communities to Inuvik, or away from the ISR as a whole.

Consistently, key informants suggest that there is greater disparity and inequality in the ISR today than 20 years ago. They describe a “two-tiered system” or “parallel tracks” where some people are doing well and have been able to establish an economic base, while others are facing worsening conditions.

“There is a greater sense of economic and social marginalization today than decades ago.” - Key Informant Interview

Importantly, in this two-tiered system, many beneficiaries are doing well. Inflation-adjusted median total income for individuals in the ISR has been increasing since 2001. The number of procurement-ready businesses based in the ISR is increasing, and there is widespread optimism about the anticipated growth of the tourism and construction industries in the near to medium term. The percentage of people with a high school diploma or greater increased in all ISR communities between 2001 and 2021. Key informants identify several factors that explain improvements in educational attainment in the ISR, including increased and consistent funding for the Education and Training department at IRC.

There has been significant positive investment in the ISR through contracts and procurement, as well as programs, activities, and funding initiatives. From 2009 to 2021, for example, a total of 2,537 federal contracts amounting to \$146,792,145¹² were awarded to businesses in the ISR - a level of investment that is likely to have had positive spin-off effects on the local economy. While beneficiary-owned businesses are awarded 47.7% of these contracts, the total value of the contracts awarded to beneficiary-owned businesses is smaller (31.6% of total value) than that awarded to non-beneficiary-owned businesses (68.4% of total value). In addition to procurement, from 2009 to 2021, \$9,547,834 in funding has been disbursed in the ISR through eight labour programs for which data were provided, including programs by Employment and Social Development Canada (ESDC). These are only two examples of investments in the ISR, but serve to illustrate the efforts of IFA parties in supporting the objectives of section 16.

¹² Note that this includes an \$80 million contract for the North Warning System. It is not clear if this entire amount was for the ISR portion of the contract,

Ultimately, the socioeconomic indicators and data available for the Economic Measures Review are both extensive and limited. **We heard from key informants and understand from the secondary data available that the economic measures as of 2023 have not been met.** Meeting these will require continued time and effort, continued commitment to the relationship among the parties, and continued and sustained, flexible, long-term investments.

Relationship between Parties

Maintaining good relations and coordination between IFA parties is necessary to ensure that the responsibilities of IFA parties are met and the objectives of the IFA are fulfilled. However, some Inuvialuit key informants sense that these responsibilities are not being met, and urge that IFA parties remember “this is your agreement too.” Key informants describe the need to improve coordination between departments in IRC and rebuild relationships between IFA parties, including the IRC, and the governments of NWT, Yukon, and Canada.

The IRC is responsible for representing Inuvialuit interests within the IFA and in other intergovernmental agreements. Through various departments, socioeconomic priorities can be met, though key informants note that there are opportunities to expand the coordination of department programs, resources, and services. One key informant mentions a breakdown in communication between various departments as hindering the ability for beneficiaries to access the programs and services they need. Improving the coordination between resources and services of different departments can better support the IRC in reaching its goals. Key informants express their desire to better align education and training programs and operations with the goals of employment and community development.

The main responsibility of the Yukon Government (YG) under the IFA is the management and protection of the environment and wildlife on the North Yukon Slope. Among IFA parties, key informants identify the need for intergovernmental liaisons in central YG offices, though note that this relationship is generally functioning well. Key informants feel that the “[Government of] Yukon seems to forget about Inuvialuit” as key relationships are within the Department of Environment rather than more central offices. However, key informants highlight the collaboration between IRC and the Department of Environment, as Yukon Parks works with the IRC to recruit Inuvialuit beneficiaries to work as park rangers at Herschel Island-Qikiqtaruk Territorial Park. Management of the park incorporates IFA objectives, as shown through the staffing of Inuvialuit rangers and procurement of Inuvialuit businesses, however, one key informant notes that the outdated funding level for the park restricts YG’s capacity to go beyond these deliveries in advancing IFA objectives.

Under the IFA, the GNWT commits to involve Inuvialuit in economic policy, business, and natural resource development. Key informants describe the relationship between the GNWT and the IRC as deteriorating in recent years, though note that these tensions are between political and central offices rather than with the regional and administrative levels of government. The relationship between the IRC and GNWT, and progress to uphold the IFA, has been strained by “fights over everything” and “intense political arguing,” resulting in the IRC pulling out of some agreements and initiatives, including housing initiatives; although planned investments from each party have remained the same. Two challenges noted by key informants are disputes over the

procurement of Inuvialuit businesses and disputes over land management. Most recently, the GNWT attempted to procure gravel from companies based in Yellowknife without prior notification to the IRC, as required under section 16 of the IFA. Key informants view this issue as stemming from miscommunication and lack of understanding among political and GNWT central office figures rather than between officials with whom the IRC has working relationships. Tensions surrounding land management are also straining the relationship between the IRC and GNWT. Key informants raised that changes to cabin licensing fees, land use regulations, and fines to beneficiaries are causing increased tension between the IRC and the GNWT.

The Government of Canada supports Inuvialuit participation in economic, business, and natural resource development, as well as in the management of National Parks near the ISR. Key informants highlight the improving relationship between the Government of Canada and the IRC and value the bilateral agreements that exist with the federal government outside of the IFA implementation framework. They credit the improvements in this relationship to the Inuit-Crown Partnership Committee (ICPC), established in 2017 (CIRNAC, 2024). One of the goals of the ICPC is the implementation of Inuit Lands Claims Agreements, and its guiding principles emphasize Inuit-Crown relationship based on rights recognition, respect, and partnership, the effective realization of Inuit rights and self-determination, active Inuit involvement in decision-making, and federal investments to support socioeconomic and cultural equity for Inuit. Successes of the ICPC include the co-development of the Inuit Nunangat Housing Strategy and the Inuit Children First Initiative (CIRNAC, 2024; Government of Canada, 2019). Key informants highlight the value the Inuit Nunangat Housing Strategy will bring to the community; from 2018 to 2022 a total of 12 new housing complexes were completed to increase the supply of adequate housing in the ISR, though the impacts of this investment have yet to materialize in socioeconomic data. In addition to improving housing in the Inuit Nunangat, key informants note opportunities to increase employment in construction and other related industries. Bilateral agreements support the development of strong relationships between the federal government and IRC. However, key informants note how the success of this relationship may change depending on new leadership, budgets, and evolving priorities of the federal government.

Inuvialuit socioeconomic priorities are advanced through intergovernmental forums and councils that build relationships and enable communication between Indigenous, territorial, and federal governments. Key informants identify five intergovernmental forums and councils that the IRC participates in, though this is not a comprehensive list. These forums are the IFA Implementation Coordinating Committee, the Intergovernmental Council, NWT Council of Leaders, Modern Treaty and Self-Governing Partners, and Western Arctic-Tariuq (Offshore) Account, shown in Table 3.1. These forums aim to promote collaboration, information sharing, and coordinated decision-making on issues ranging from land and resource management to Indigenous business procurement.

Many of these intergovernmental forums are in their infancy and results have yet to come to fruition. **However, key informants highlight that these intergovernmental forums and councils have a positive impact on Inuvialuit involvement in policy design and decision-making.** Further, these forums demonstrate efforts towards enhanced collaboration and reconciliation between federal, territorial, and Indigenous governments in the NWT and Northern Canada.

Table 3.1: Intergovernmental Forums

Forum	Description
Intergovernmental Council	Formed in 2014 as a partnership between GNWT, IRC, and other Indigenous governments, the Intergovernmental Council focuses specifically on coordinating land and resource management and sharing planning and capacity-building practices, though it faces challenges around differing capacities, structures, and priorities of governments, particularly smaller Indigenous governments (IGC 2022; IGC 2020).
NWT Council of Leaders	Formed in 2021 as a partnership between GNWT, IRC, and other Indigenous governments, the NWT Council of Leaders provides a space for leaders to discuss and coordinate on climate change adaptation, economic diversification, and education and training reform through various working groups. One key informant highlights the NWT Council of Leaders-UNDRIP working group, which was developed in 2023 to ensure that legislation in the NWT upholds the rights stated by the United Nations Declaration of the Rights of Indigenous People (UNDRIP) (NWT Council of Leaders 2023). The NWT Housing Forum, another working group highlighted by key informants, is a collaborative group that allows members to share and collaborate on housing initiatives and speak in “one voice” when advocating for housing improvements at a federal level (GNWT 2023c).
Modern Treaty and Self-Governing Partners Forum	The Modern Treaty and Self-Governing Partners Forum, formed in 2021 as a partnership between the GNWT, IRC, and other Indigenous governments, supports economic development initiatives, including advancing procurement opportunities and COVID-19 pandemic recovery, and allows partners to speak in a unified voice at the federal level.
Western Arctic-Tariuq (Offshore) Accord	Formed in 2023 between CIRNAC, IRC, GNWT, and YG, the Accord aims to ensure that Inuvialuit can equally benefit from oil and gas development and residents of Yukon and NWT are “primary beneficiaries of economic activity from any oil and gas development” (CIRNAC 2023). The Accord ensures that partners fully participate in the decision-making and management and it establishes revenue-sharing agreements between partners.
IFA Implementation Coordinating Committee	Reconstituted in 1999, the IFA Implementation Coordinating Committee consists of representatives from the Inuvialuit Regional Corporation, the Government of Northwest Territories, the Yukon Territorial Government, and the Government of Canada. The purpose of the committee is to facilitate the monitoring and implementation of the IFA, and convenes regularly to raise issues and concerns and reach decisions unilaterally. The IFA implementation Coordinating Committee is the main authority overseeing this economic measures report.

Note: This is not a comprehensive list of intergovernmental forums; there are other spaces and mechanisms through which IFA parties collaborate.

Data Recommendations

There are two main objectives of the analysis intended to be done in this report. The first is to understand economic and social trends in ISR since 2001 and the second is to understand these trends in the context of investment, activities, programs, policies, and other internal or external factors that might have impacted them. Section 2.4 describes the features of the qualitative and quantitative that limit our analysis. Here, improvements to allow for further analysis in future evaluations are identified and recommended.

Socioeconomic Indicators

Data on socioeconomic indicators were sourced from the Census and the NWT Bureau of Statistics. Though these data have good temporal coverage and gather a variety of data on populations, wherever possible, future evaluations should be supported with data that are collected more frequently, identify Inuvialuit identity, and report counts where appropriate.

More frequent data collection of socioeconomic indicators would increase the number of observations that can be used in econometric and statistical analysis, and resolve gaps in analysis. However the effort and cost of undertaking these data collection activities could mean that increasing the frequency of data collection is infeasible.

It is necessary to distinguish by Inuvialuit identity to evaluate the impact of the IFA and other agreements, investments, and activities on Inuvialuit beneficiaries. These statistics may not be available due to suppression issues that stem from privacy concerns when collecting and reporting data from smaller communities. Despite this limitation, collecting and reporting socioeconomic data on Indigenous, Inuvialuit, and non-Indigenous populations is necessary to assess progress towards full economic participation and other IFA objectives.

Finally, data must include counts. This would allow for additional statistical analysis to be done, especially to determine correlations between socioeconomic indicators and investments and activities.

Investments and Activities

Data on investments and activities were sourced from various departments in the governments of Canada, NWT, and YG, resulting in disparate data and limiting statistical analysis. Data used in future evaluations should clearly report funding periods and annual funding amounts, consistently and accurately classify programs, investments, and activities, and categorize recipients and beneficiaries by Inuvialuit identity.

Future reporting must specify the duration of programs, investments, and activities, and accurately report investments and activities annually, including by calendar or fiscal year. Reporting on annual investments and activities enables statistical correlations with socioeconomic indicators over time. For data with short temporal coverage, data should continue to be reported and collected and their long-term trends and impacts will be clearer in future reviews.

Future reviews will require that data on programs, investments, and activities are accurately and consistently classified. This includes ensuring program naming conventions are consistent and noting changes in naming conventions where appropriate. Improving data classification will ensure that the intended impacts of programs, investments, and activities are identifiable and trackable over time.

It is recommended that data used in future evaluations identify if recipients and beneficiaries of programs, investments, and activities are Inuvialuit. Without Indigenous or Inuvialuit classifications, the impacts identified in this analysis are primarily aggregated. Reporting the Indigenous and Inuvialuit identity of recipients will enable a more nuanced understanding of the impacts experienced by Inuvialuit.

Future reviews would also be supported by having access to qualitative data on the wholistic impact of programs, investments, and activities on recipients and beneficiaries. Beyond measurable outcomes, such as education and employment status, programming may impact other facets of a person's life, including their sense of self and purpose.



4.0 : *Quantitative and Qualitative Analysis*

The Quantitative and Qualitative Analysis section includes a comprehensive analysis of economic and social trends in the ISR. The section also considers the investments and activities undertaken by the parties, and the extent to which these have contributed to positive impacts on the economic and social wellbeing of the Inuvialuit, including supporting [full] Inuvialuit participation in the northern and Canadian economy and facilitating [an] adequate level of economic self-reliance. Close attention is paid to the internal and external factors that influence the outputs and outcomes from the investments and activities. The section begins with a profile that provides key findings across several variables from the 2021 Census for those enrolled under the IFA. The rest of the section is organized according to seven categories of data: Demographic, Cultural, Social Wellbeing and Health, Education, Housing, Labour, and Economic. Within each category, key findings are presented first, before discussing trends, including internal and external factors that may have influenced these trends, and subsequently discussing the impacts of investments and activities on these trends. The section draws on both quantitative data and qualitative data from key informant interviews.

2021 Inuvialuit Census Profile

Given the objectives of the IFA, the fullest expression of an Economic Measures Review should report on economic and social trends for Inuvialuit specifically, not just for the Indigenous population or total population in the ISR. In 2021, Statistics Canada introduced a new variable in the Census of Population, “Enrollment under an Inuit Land Claims Agreement.” This variable identifies persons who are enrolled under the IFA in 2021 and who, therefore, are Inuvialuit. This variable allows us to derive Inuvialuit-specific data from Census data for 2021; however, we are unable to derive Inuvialuit-specific data for earlier census years to inform an analysis of trends for Inuvialuit since the signing of the IFA. Consequently, most of the trend analyses conducted in this Economic Measures Review are constrained to data that cannot be disaggregated by Inuvialuit identity.

This 2021 Inuvialuit Census Profile presents Inuvialuit-specific data pertaining to demographic, cultural, education, housing, labour, and economic variables. In future reviews, this profile can serve as a benchmark against which to understand trends for Inuvialuit over time. Further, the data presented in this 2021 Census Profile can inform our interpretation of the remainder of the Economic Measures Review: In 2021, 58.9% of the total population, 76.6% of the Indigenous population, and 94.4% of the Inuit population in the ISR is Inuvialuit (enrolled under the IFA). This suggests that the total, Indigenous, and Inuit population can serve as proxies (albeit imperfect ones) to understand trends for Inuvialuit in the ISR when Inuvialuit data are not available. This is especially true when looking at trends by community: in Paulatuk, Sachs Harbour, Tuktoyaktuk, and Ulukhaktok, more than 80% of the total,

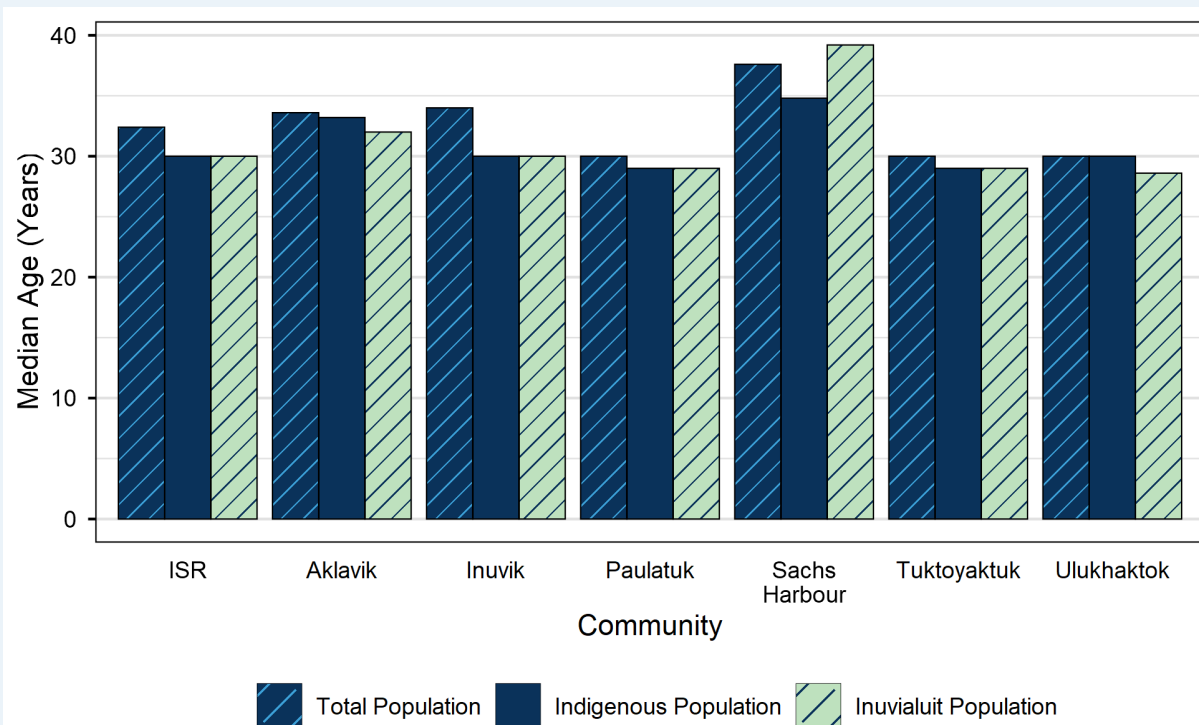
Indigenous, and Inuit population is Inuvialuit in 2021 (Table D2). Trends in Inuvik reported for the total population, however, cannot serve as good proxies for Inuvialuit trends, as only 41.7% of the total population in Inuvik is Inuvialuit.

Finally, we note that the data in this section only include persons who live in private dwellings, and do not include persons living in collective dwellings, as the Census questionnaires for collective dwellings do not include questions on Indigenous identity or enrollment in an Inuit land claims agreement. The Census data used in the rest of the report include persons living in collective dwellings which may lead to some small differences in reported statistics.

Demographic

In 2021, 5,315 persons residing in private dwellings live in the ISR – 76.9% of whom identify as Indigenous (4,085 persons), and 59.1% of whom identify as Inuit (3,140 persons). Of the total population in the ISR, 3,130 are enrolled under the IFA – that is to say, Inuvialuit make up 58.9% of the total population, 76.6% of the Indigenous population, and 94.4% of the Inuit population in the ISR. Figure 1 presents the median age for populations in the ISR by community. The median age for Inuvialuit in the ISR is lower than that of the total population in all ISR communities except for Sachs Harbour.

Figure 1: Median Age by ISR Community and Indigenous Identity, 2021

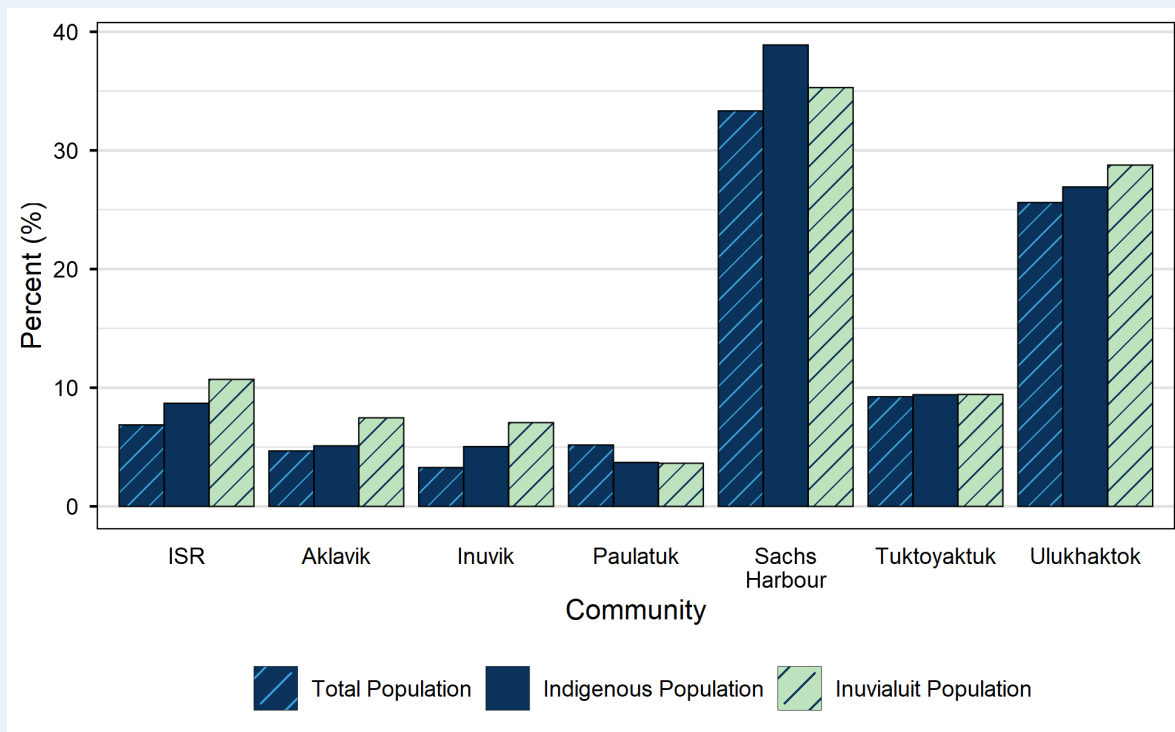


Source: 2021 Census. Statistics Canada.

Cultural

Figure 2 presents the percentage of persons with an Inuit language as their mother tongue, in 2021, by ISR community and Indigenous identity. In 2021, 335 Inuvialuit in the ISR speak an Inuit language as their mother tongue, or 10.7% of the total Inuvialuit population, unevenly distributed across ISR communities. Ulukhatok has the highest number of Inuvialuit with an Inuit language as their mother tongue (105 persons), however Sachs Harbour has the highest percentage of the Inuvialuit population with an Inuit language as their mother tongue (35.3%).

Figure 2: Percent of Persons with an Inuit Language as their Mother Tongue by ISR Community and Indigenous Identity, 2021



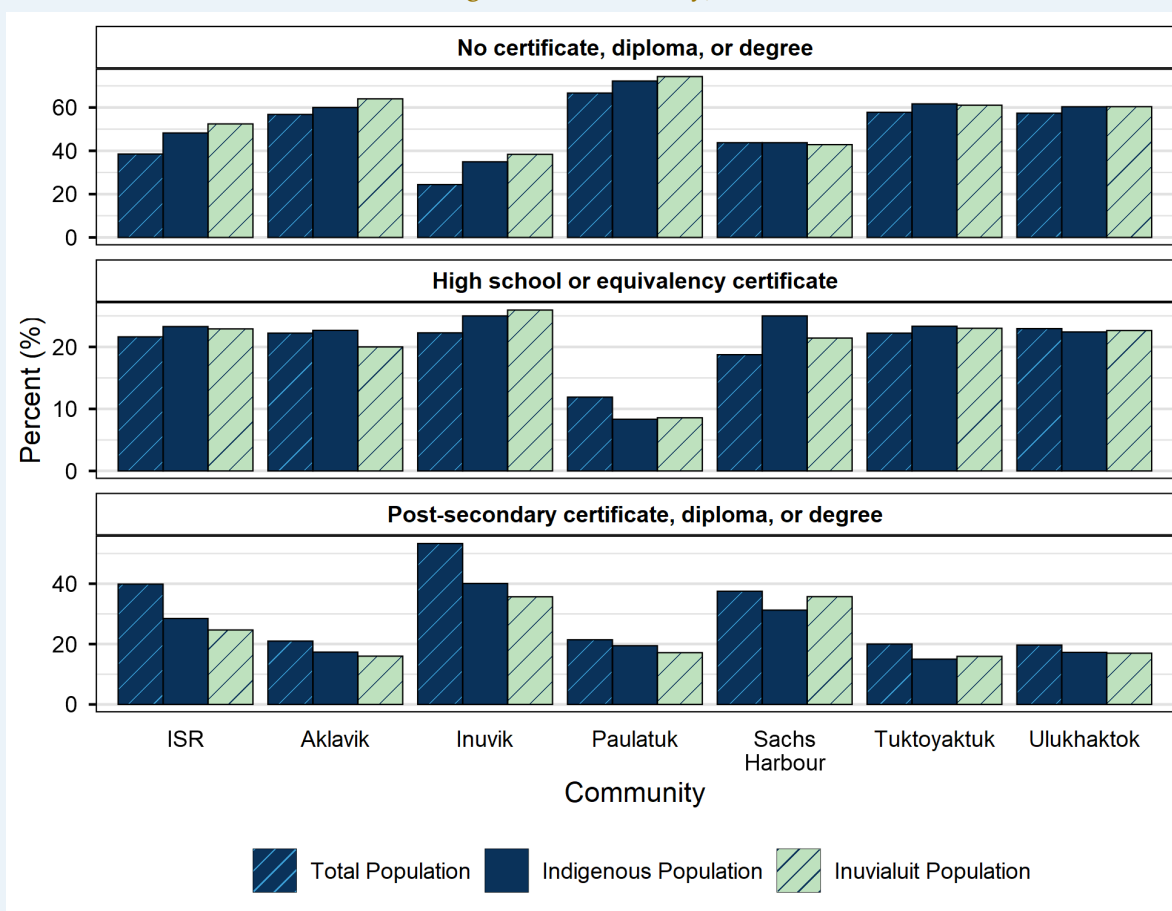
Source: 2021 Census. Statistics Canada.

In 2021, the most common Inuit language spoken in the ISR, and in most communities, is Inuvialuktun, with 220 Inuvialuit speakers. In Ulukhaktok, the most prevalent Inuit language is Inuinnaqtun, with 85 speakers out of a total of 105 persons who speak an Inuit language as their mother tongue. Inuktitut is only recorded as being spoken as a mother tongue for Inuvialuit in Inuvik, with just 10 speakers. Data on Inuvialuktun dialects were unavailable.

Education

Figure 3 presents the percentage of persons in the ISR by highest level of educational attainment, ISR community, and Indigenous identity. In 2021, 47.6% of Inuvialuit have a certificate, diploma, or degree (either high school or equivalency or a post-secondary certificate, degree, or diploma), compared to 51.8% of the Indigenous population and 61.5% of the total population. Among Inuvialuit with a certificate, diploma, or degree, 51.9% have a post-secondary credential and 48.1% have a high school or equivalency certificate as their highest attainment. In the ISR, 58.9% of Inuvialuit (or 330 persons) with a post-secondary certificate, diploma, or degree live in Inuvik, which may in part be bolstered by the local Aurora College campus. Among Inuvialuit who have earned a post-secondary certificate, degree, or diploma, and live in the ISR, the most common field of study is business, management, and public administration (165 persons), followed by architecture, engineering, and related trades (120 persons).

Figure 3: Percent of Educational Attainments by ISR Community and Indigenous Identity, 2021

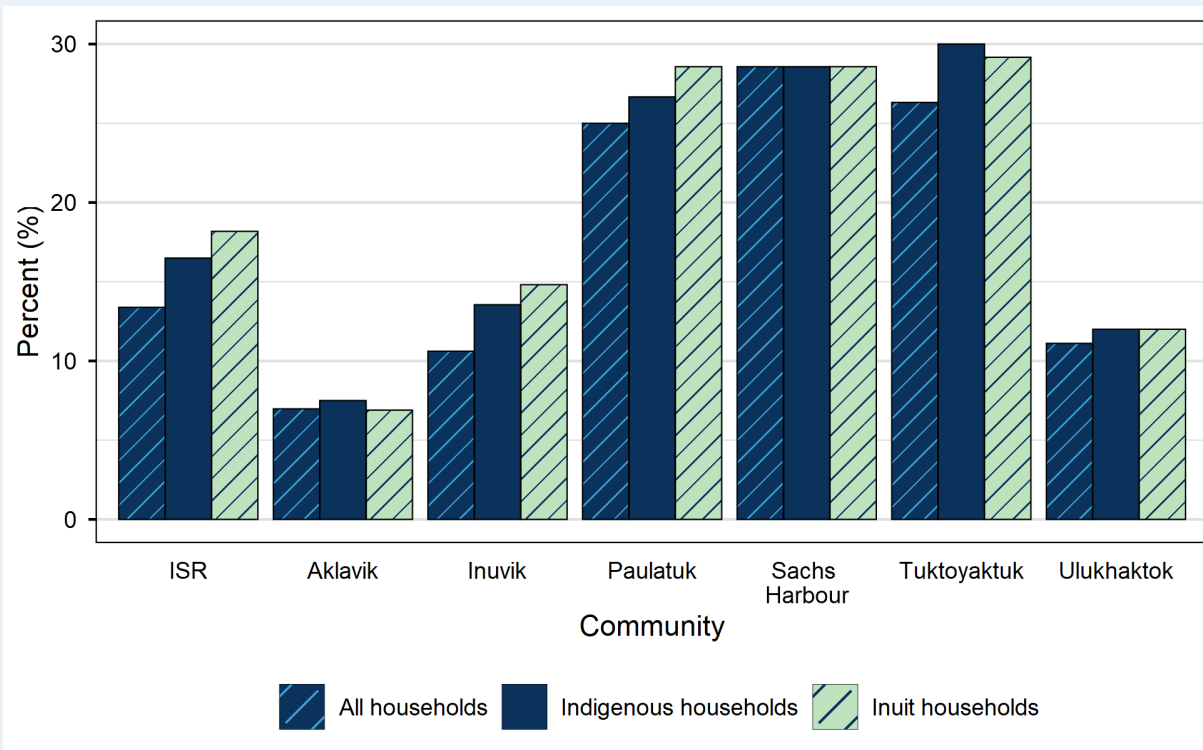


Source: 2021 Census. Statistics Canada.

Housing

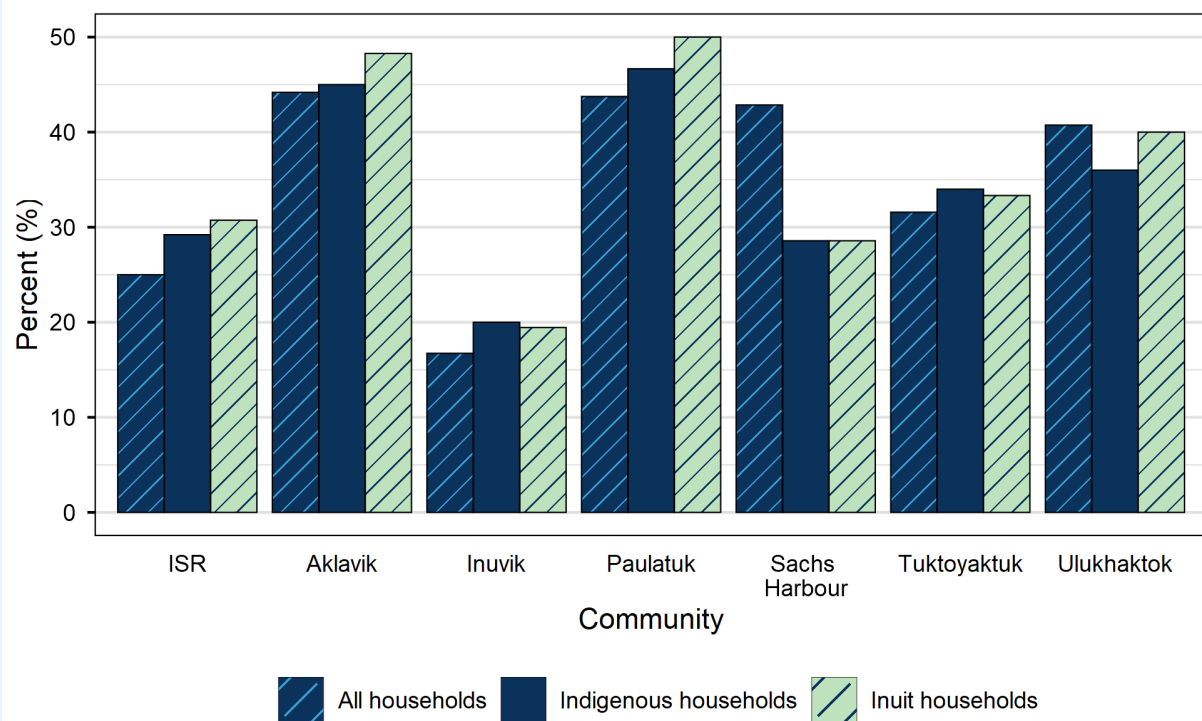
Figures 4 and 5 present the percent of households in the ISR living in unsuitable housing, and the share of households living in a dwelling in need of major repairs, respectively, by ISR community and Indigenous identity, in 2021. Due to data limitations, the profile used for this housing section is not specified by IFA enrollment and as such, we focus only upon the total population, Indigenous population, and Inuit population. Indigenous and Inuit households in the ISR, and in most communities, live in unsuitable housing and in dwellings that require major repairs at a greater rate than the total population. In 2021, 13.4% of all households in the ISR meet the criteria for unsuitability, defined as housing that contains an insufficient number of bedrooms for the size and composition of the household, and 25.0% live in dwellings that require major repairs. For Indigenous households in the ISR, 16.5% meet the criteria for unsuitability and 29.2% require major repairs. Those values increase for Inuit households, with 18.2% living in unsuitable housing and 30.7% requiring major repairs. Inuit households in Tuktoyaktuk face the highest levels of unsuitable housing at 29.2%. The greatest percentage of Inuit households needing major repairs is in Paulatuk at 50.0%.

Figure 4: Percent of Households in Unsuitable Housing by ISR Community and Indigenous Identity, 2021



Source: 2021 Census. Statistics Canada.

Figure 5: Percent of Households in Need of Major Repairs by ISR
Community and Indigenous Identity, 2021



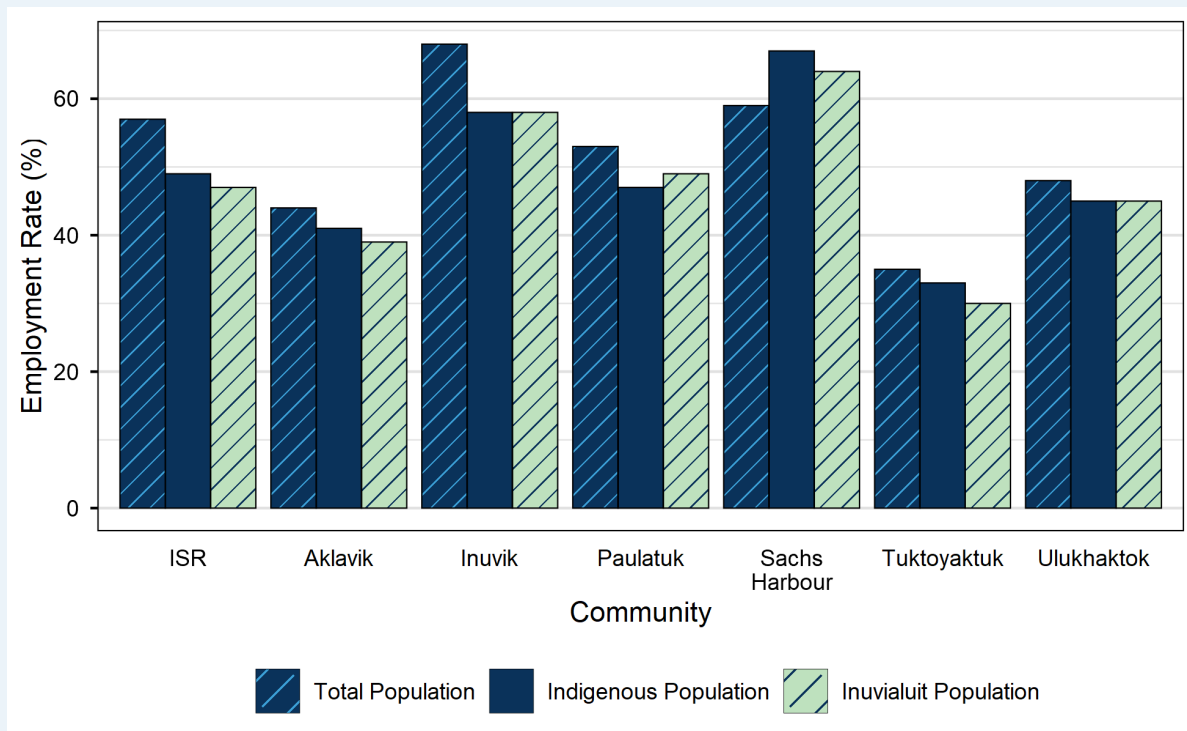
Source: 2021 Census. Statistics Canada.

Labour

Figure 6 presents the employment rate by ISR community and Indigenous identity, in 2021. In the ISR, 47.0% of the Inuvialuit workforce is employed; Inuvialuit employment rates are higher in Inuvik (58.0%), Paulatuk (49.0%), and Sachs Harbour (64.0%). Similarly, participation rates for Inuvialuit are higher in Inuvik (65.0%), Sachs Harbour (71.0%), and Ulukhaktok (64.0%) than in the ISR overall (56.0%). Tuktoyaktuk has the lowest employment and participation rates for the total population and Inuvialuit.

In 2021, unemployment rates in Ulukhaktok are higher than in any other community, at 28.0% for the total population and 32.0% for Inuvialuit. In comparison, unemployment rates in the ISR are 12.0% for the total population and 16.0% for Inuvialuit. Although the unemployment rates in Ulukhaktok for the total population and Inuvialuit are high, we note that small counts in the labour force (200 for the total population and 170 for Inuvialuit) mean that even small unemployment counts can produce striking rates.

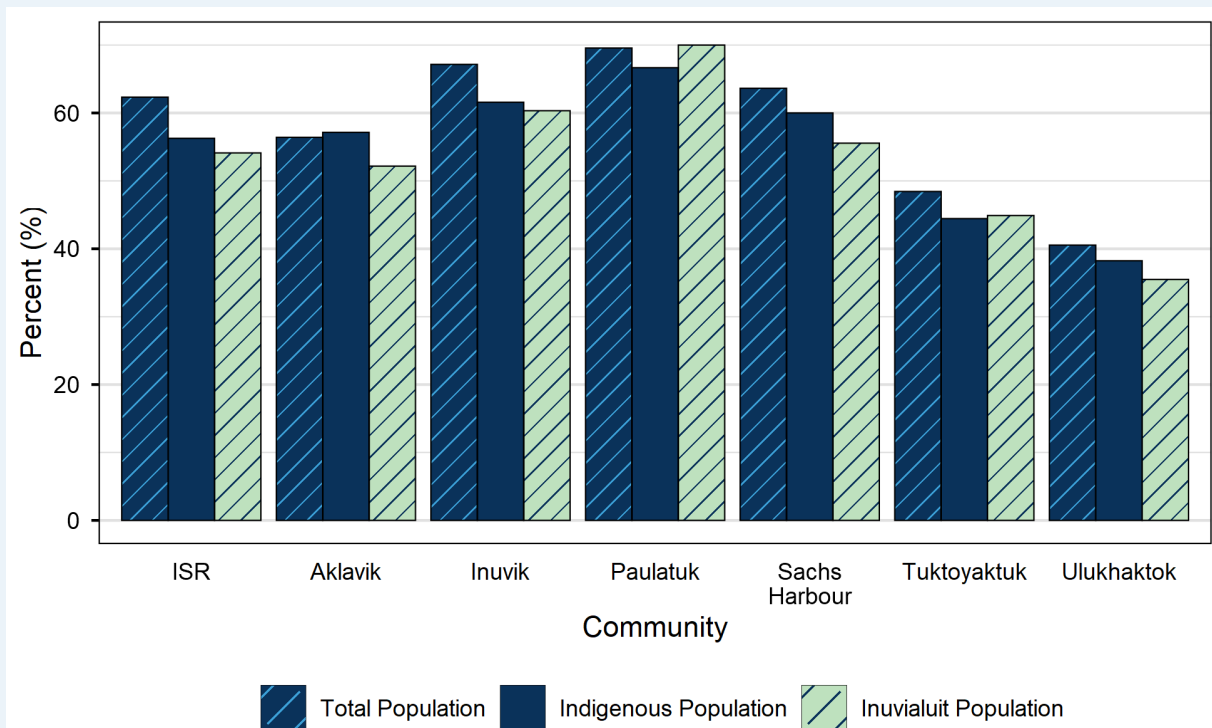
Figure 6: Employment Rate by ISR Community and Indigenous Identity, 2021



Source: 2021 Census. Statistics Canada.

Figure 7 presents the percentage of workers in the ISR who work full-time in 2021, by ISR community and Indigenous identity. In 2021, 62.3% of the working population in the ISR, work full-time hours, while 37.7% work part-time or for only part of the year. For Inuvialuit, the percentage of the working population who work full-time falls to 54.1%, and the percentage working part-time or for just part of the year is 45.9%. Across regions, the percent of workers who work full-time throughout the year is similarly lower for Inuvialuit. The community with the highest percentage of Inuvialuit workers working full-time is Paulatuk, at 70% while Ulukhaktok has the lowest percentage of full-time workers, at 35.5%.

**Figure 7: Percent of Workers that Work Full-Time by
ISR Community and Indigenous Identity, 2021**

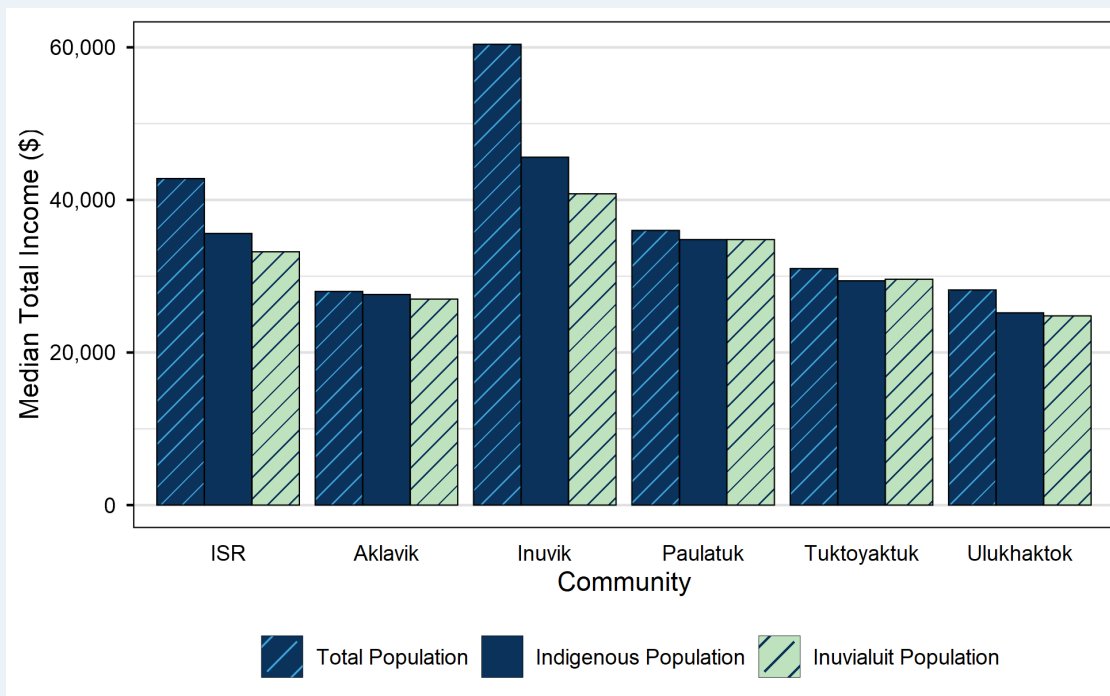


Source: 2021 Census. Statistics Canada.

Economic

Figure 8 presents the median total individual income, by ISR community and Indigenous identity, in 2021. In 2021, the median total income for Inuvialuit in the ISR is \$33,200, 22.4% below the median total income for the total population (\$42,800) and 6.7% below the median total income for the Indigenous population (\$35,600). In comparison, non-Indigenous median total income in the ISR is \$84,000 – 60.5% greater than for Inuvialuit. Inuvik has the highest median total income of all communities at \$60,400 for the total population, a difference of 32.5% as compared to the Inuvialuit median total income (\$40,800) in Inuvik. In other communities, the difference in median total income between the total population and Inuvialuit is smaller. In 2021, 12.0% of the total population and 14.0% of Inuvialuit living in the ISR are categorized as low income (after tax). Aklavik has the highest prevalence of persons categorized as low income, at 23.0% for the total population and 24.0% for Inuvialuit.

Figure 8: Median Total Individual Income by ISR Community and Indigenous Identity, 2021



Source: 2021 Census. Statistics Canada.

4.1 : Demographic

Data Overview

The Demographic section presents data on population changes using Census data from Statistics Canada (1996 to 2021).

Key Findings

There are more people living in the ISR in 2021 (5,420) than in 2001 (5,250), a total increase of 3.2%. The population increased by 1.9% annually between 2001 and 2006 (to 5,760) followed by slower growth between 2006 and 2011 (+0.1% annually to 5,775). Since 2011, the size of the population in the ISR has been decreasing. By comparison, from 2001 to 2021 the population of Canada grew by 23.3% and the population of the NWT grew by 9.9%.

People in the ISR are younger (median age of 32.8) than in the NWT (35.6 years) and in Canada (41.6 years). However, like the population in the NWT and Canada, the population in the ISR is aging: median age increased from 31.6 in 2016 to 32.8 in 2021.

The population grew between 2001 and 2021 in Inuvik, Paulatuk, Tuktoyaktuk, and Ulukhaktok, but shrunk in Aklavik and Sachs Harbour. In all ISR communities, the 60+ age group is the fastest growing population, and all ISR communities have seen a decrease in the size of the population ages 15 to 29, particularly since 2016. As an explanation, key informants note that ISR communities are experiencing a “brain drain” as young people seek employment and education opportunities either in Inuvik or outside of the ISR, especially following the oil and gas moratorium in the region.

Inuvik is the largest community in the ISR and the characteristics of its population often drive economic and social trends observed in the ISR, whereas trends and fluctuations observed in other ISR communities may result from small sample sizes.



Trends Analysis

Understanding demographic trends in the ISR provides insights into the resource, services, and program needs of communities today and expected needs in the future. At the highest level, key informants highlight two main trends related to demographics.

First, population growth and decline is tethered to “boom and bust” economic cycles in the ISR. The population grows during periods of rapid economic growth and shrinks during periods of

economic decline. For example, key informants describe the early 2000s as a period of population growth in the ISR driven by employment opportunities in what was a booming oil sector at the time. However, they note that this increase in the population was a result of transient workers coming to the region; when the oil boom eventually ended, the population shrunk as transient workers left and as other ISR residents started looking for employment opportunities elsewhere. This assessment by key informants is supported by high annualized population growth rates in the ISR and in Inuvik between 2001 and 2006, as shown in Figure D1 and Figure D2. Today, key informants note that other industries, like public administration, continue to attract workers and young professionals to the region, though to a lesser degree than the growth seen when oil and gas development was booming.

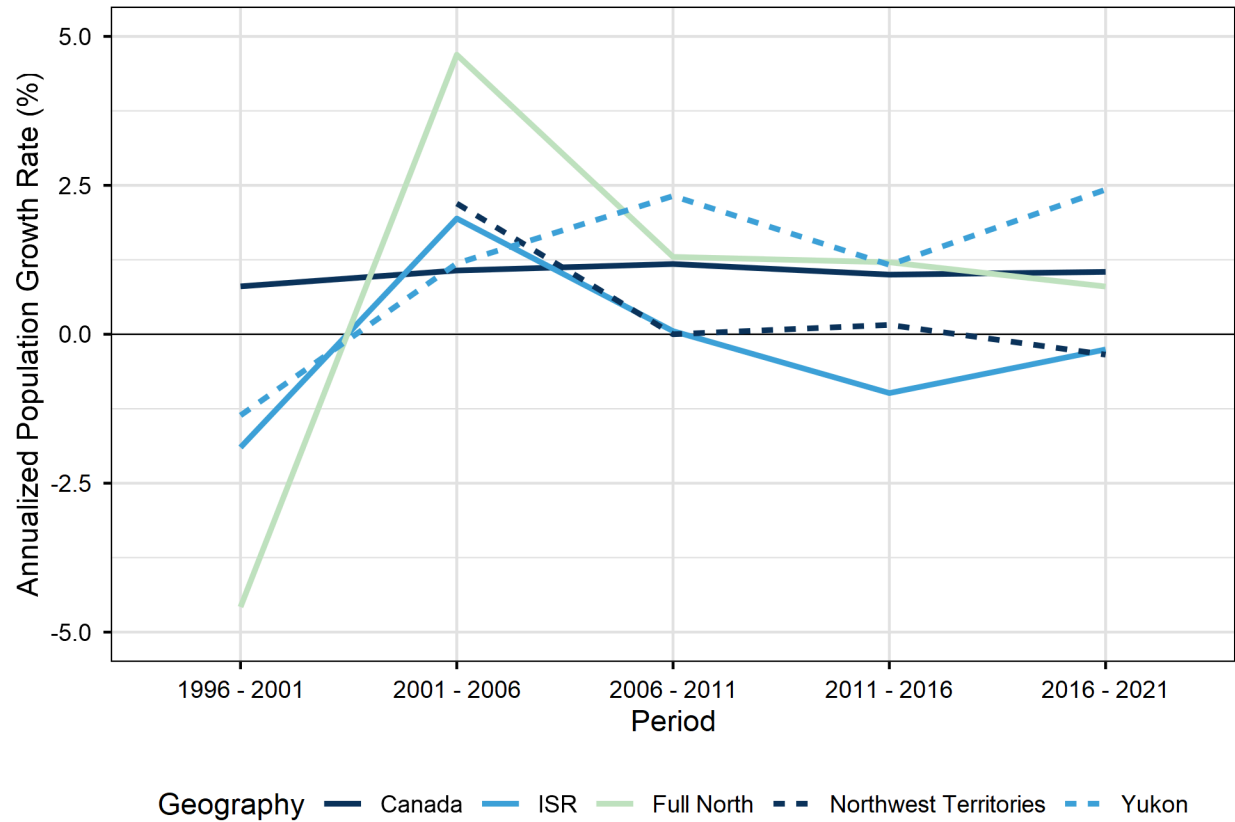
Second, key informants describe an aging population in the ISR in general and in the smaller ISR communities especially. Though high-paying jobs do attract young professionals to the ISR from elsewhere for short periods of time, key informants note that many young people from ISR communities are leaving to seek education and employment opportunities in Inuvik or elsewhere, outside of the ISR, in what they call a “brain drain.” Fewer young people in the population and in the labour force in turn means that aging community members are needing to remain in the labour force for longer.

“Aging people are still working because there is no one else. All the kids left and went to Inuvik.” - Key Informant Interview

Figures D1 to D5 and Tables D1 to D4 show demographic trends in the ISR and other geographies from 2001 to 2021 using data from Statistics Canada. Figure D1 shows annualized population growth rates in the ISR, NWT, Yukon, Full North, and Canada, while Figure D2 shows the same for each ISR community.

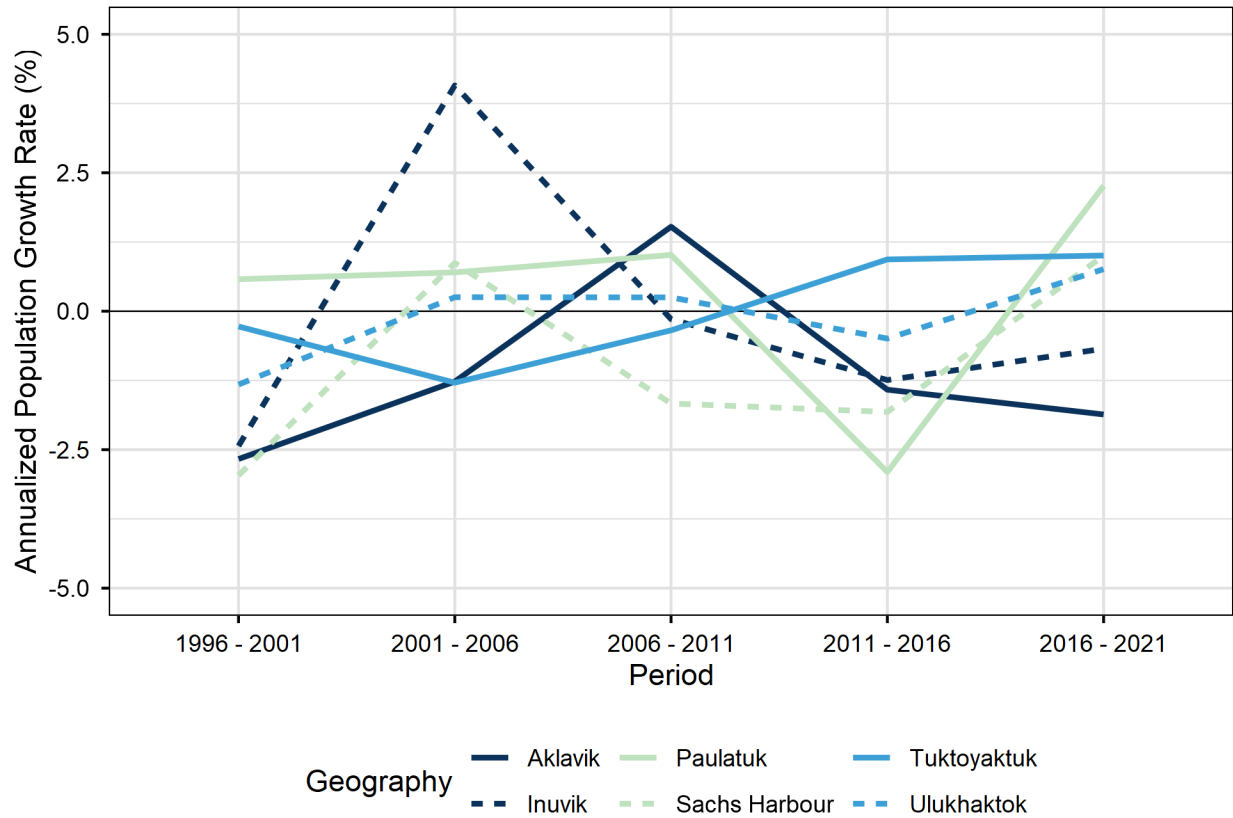
Between 2001 and 2021, the Canadian population has steadily increased by approximately 1.0% per year, for an overall growth of 23.3%. Over the same period, the population in the ISR fluctuated; between 2001 and 2006, the population in the ISR grew by 1.9% per year (faster than the Canadian population), followed by a much smaller increase (0.1% per year) between 2006 and 2011. Among ISR communities, the highest rate of population growth occurred in Inuvik from 2001 to 2006 (4.1% per year). The increase in population in the ISR and in Inuvik between 2001 and 2006 may reflect the increase in economic opportunities as the oil industry expanded, as noted in key informant interviews. Key informants express that following the oil boom, the population in the ISR declined, a trend that is also seen in changes to the annualized population growth rate: since 2011, it has remained below zero in the ISR and in Inuvik, though the population is 3.2% larger in the ISR in 2021 (5,420) than it was in 2001 (5,250).

Figure D1. Annualized Population Growth Rates
in Canada, Full North, ISR, NWT, & Yukon, 1996 to 2021



Source: Custom Request, 1996 - 2021 Census, Statistics Canada. Note: Annualized population growth rate is the annualized rate at which a population grows over a five year period.

Figure D2. Annualized Population Growth Rates
by ISR Community, 1996 to 2021

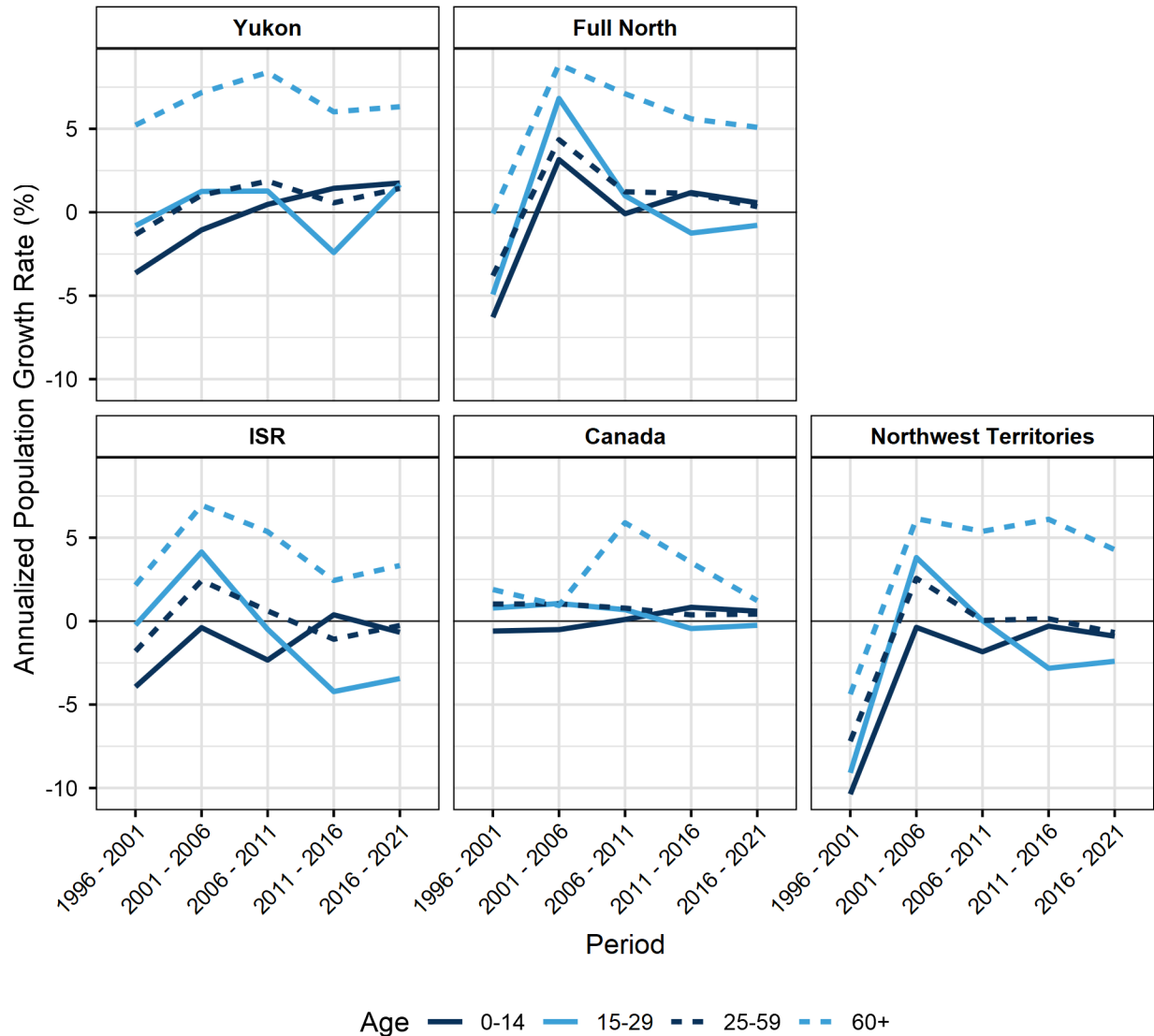


Source: Custom Request, 1996 - 2021 Census, Statistics Canada.

Figure D3 shows the annualized population growth rate by age group in the ISR, NWT, Yukon, Full North, and Canada between 1996 and 2021, while Figure D4 shows the same by ISR community. The relative growth rates of different age groups and an increasing median age indicate whether a population is aging.

In 2021, the 60 years and older (60+) population in the ISR, NWT, and Canada had a larger annualized growth rate than other age groups. Further, from 2016 to 2021 the median age increased in the ISR (31.6 to 32.8), NWT (34.0 to 35.6), and Canada (41.2 to 41.6). In other words, people in the ISR, NWT, and in Canada are aging, but people in the ISR remain younger than in the NWT and Canada.

Figure D3. Annualized Population Growth Rates by Age Group in Canada, Full North, ISR, NWT, & Yukon, 1996 to 2021

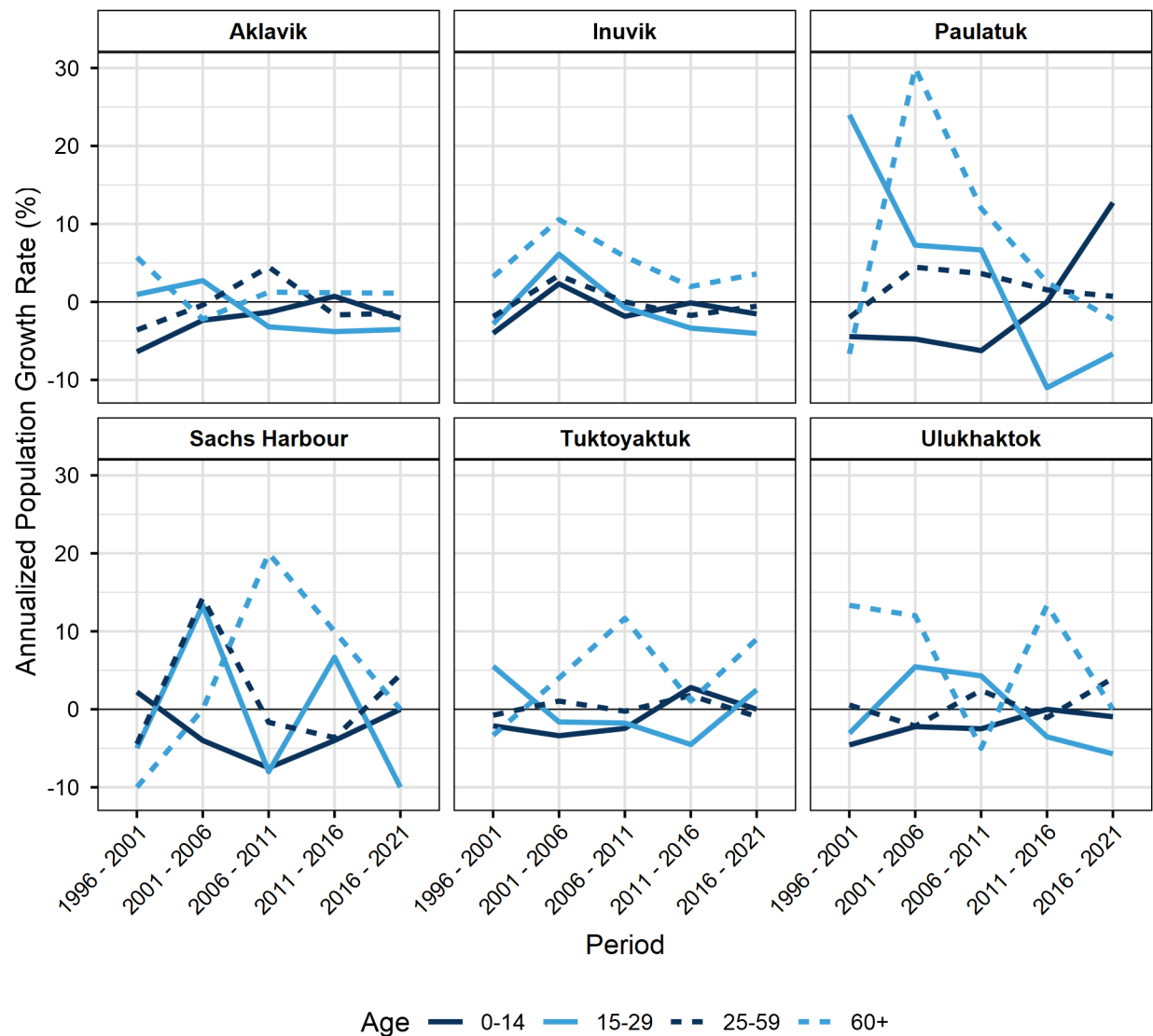


Source: Custom Request, 1996 - 2021 Census, Statistics Canada.

Between 2016 and 2021, the 60+ population was the fastest growing in Aklavik (1.1% per year), Inuvik (3.6% per year), and Tuktoyaktuk (9.0% per year), indicating that these communities have aging populations. In contrast, the 60+ population shrank in Paulatuk (-2.2% per year) and did not change in Sachs Harbour and Ulukhaktok. Despite differences in annualized growth rates, the share of people aged 60+ in each community is greater in 2021 than in 2001, suggesting aging populations in all ISR communities.

Between 2016 and 2021, the 15 to 29 population is the fastest shrinking age group in Aklavik, Inuvik, Paulatuk, Sachs Harbour, and Ulukhaktok. Key informant interviews highlight that young people are leaving their community to avoid high costs of living and to pursue educational or employment opportunities elsewhere.

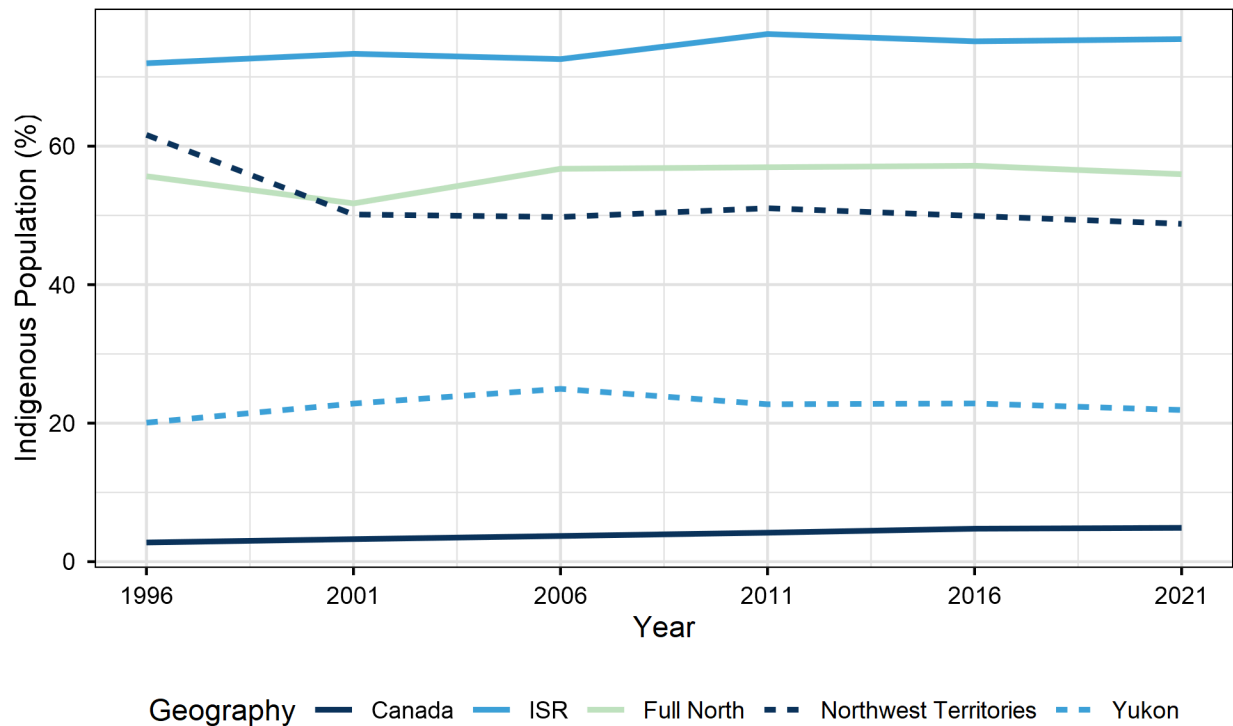
Figure D4. Annualized Population Growth Rates by Age Group and ISR Community, 1996 to 2021



Source: Custom Request, 1996 - 2021 Census, Statistics Canada.

Figure D5 shows the share of the total population that is Indigenous in the ISR, NWT, Yukon, Full North, and Canada. In 2021, three quarters (75.5%) of the population in the ISR is Indigenous, up 3.5 percentage points since 1996. Between 1996 and 2021, the share of Indigenous people in Canada also increased from 2.8% to 4.9%, whereas it declined in the NWT from 61.6% to 48.8%.

Figure D5. Percent of Total Population that is Indigenous in Canada, Full North, ISR, NWT, & Yukon, 1996 to 2021



Source: Custom Request, 1996 - 2021 Census, Statistics Canada.

Table D1 shows the total population and share of the total population that is Indigenous in each ISR community and in the ISR as a whole for each Census year from 2001 to 2021. Between 2001 and 2021, total population grew in Inuvik, Paulatuk, Tuktoyaktuk, and Ulukhaktok, but shrunk in Aklavik and Sachs Harbour. Because Inuvik is the largest ISR community, changes in this community, including cultural, social, education, housing, and labour changes discussed throughout this report, are expected to drive changes in the ISR overall.

The majority of the population in all ISR communities is Indigenous; the share of the total population that is Indigenous is lower in Inuvik than in other ISR communities. Between 2001 and 2021, the share of Indigenous people increased in Aklavik, Inuvik, Paulatuk, and Ulukhaktok and decreased slightly in Sachs Harbour and Tuktoyaktuk. However, due to the small population size, observed changes may reflect random fluctuations rather than significant trends. The impacts of small population size on interpretations of various measures of cultural, social, education, housing, and labour outcomes are noted in other sections of this report.

Table D1. Total and Indigenous Population by ISR Community, 2001 to 2021

Regions	2001		2021		Change	
	Total (#)	Indigenous (%)	Total (#)	Indigenous (%)	Change in Total Population (%)	Change in % Indigenous (p.p.)
Aklavik	630	91.3	535	91.6	-15.1	0.3
Inuvik	2,895	58.2	3,135	63.5	8.3	5.3
Paulatuk	285	80.7	295	93.2	3.5	12.5
Sachs Harbour	115	95.7	105	90.5	-8.7	-5.2
Tuktoyaktuk	930	94.1	940	90.4	1.1	-3.7
Ulukhaktok	395	94.9	410	95.1	3.8	0.2
ISR	5,250	73.3	5,420	75.5	3.2	2.2

Source: Custom Request, 1996 - 2021 Census, Statistics Canada. Note: In 2011, the optional National Household Survey replaced the mandatory Census of Population, lowering rates of response. As a result, the number of people with Indigenous identity in some communities, like Aklavik, may be undercounted. Change in Inuit population presented Figure B1.1 in Appendix B.

Table D2 shows the share of the total, Indigenous, and Inuit population that is enrolled under the IFA in the ISR and ISR communities in 2021. In 2021, 58.9% of the total population, 76.6% of the Indigenous population, and 94.4% of the Inuit population in the ISR is enrolled under the IFA; as such, in cases where Inuvialuit data are unavailable, total population, Indigenous population, or Inuit population can be used as proxies, albeit imperfect ones. Socioeconomic outcomes and trends for Inuvialuit should be extrapolated from total and Indigenous population data with some caution, particularly in Inuvik where Inuvialuit make up only 41.7% of the total population.

Table D3 shows the count and percentage of the female and male populations in the ISR, NWT, Yukon, Full North, and Canada in 2001 and 2021. In both 2001 and 2021 a greater share of the ISR population is male than female.

Table D4 shows the count and percentage of the female and male populations in ISR communities in 2001 and 2021. In 2021, a greater proportion of the population in Paulatuk, Aklavik, and Tuktoyaktuk is male, while a greater share of the population in Inuvik, Sachs Harbour, and Ulukhaktok is female.

Table D2. Population Enrolled Under the IFA, ISR Community, 2021

Regions	2021			
	Population Enrolled Under IFA (#)	Share of the Total Population that is Enrolled Under IFA (%)	Share of the Indigenous Population that is Enrolled Under IFA (%)	Share of Inuit Population that is Enrolled Under IFA (%)
Aklavik	335	62.6	68.4	89.1
Inuvik	1,275	41.7	64.2	92.9
Paulatuk	275	94.8	100.0	100.0
Sachs Harbour	85	81.0	94.4	94.4
Tuktoyaktuk	795	86.4	93.5	96.9
Ulukhaktok	365	89.0	93.6	94.7
ISR	3,130	58.9	76.6	94.4

Source: 2021 Census. Statistics Canada. Note: Counts only reflect the number of people in private households, and not those living in collective dwellings. This may lead to some small differences in reported statistics.

Table D3. Female and Male Populations in Canada, Full North, ISR, NWT, & Yukon, 2001 and 2021

Regions	2001				2021				% Change	
	Female (x1,000)	Female (%)	Male (x1,000)	Male (%)	Female (x1,000)	Female (%)	Male (x1,000)	Male (%)	Female	Male
Canada	15,300.2	51.0	14,706.9	49.0	18,765.7	50.7	18,226.2	49.3	22.6%	23.9%
Full North	45.4	48.9	47.4	51.1	66.6	49.5	67.9	50.5	46.8%	43.3%
ISR	2.6	49.2	2.7	50.8	2.7	49.9	2.7	50.1	4.8%	1.9%
NWT	18.2	48.8	19.1	51.2	20.2	49.3	20.8	50.7	10.9%	9.0%
Yukon	14.2	49.6	14.4	50.4	20.1	50.0	20.1	50.0	41.4%	39.1%

Source: Custom Request, 1996 - 2021 Census, Statistics Canada. Note: Percent changes are calculated as the change from 2001 to 2021.

Table D3. Female and Male Populations by ISR Community, 2001 and 2021

Regions	2001				2021				% Change	
	Female (#)	Female (%)	Male (#)	Male (%)	Female (#)	Female (%)	Male (#)	Male (%)	Female	Male
Aklavik	295	46.8	335	53.2	245	45.8	290	54.2	-16.9%	-13.4%
Inuvik	1,430	49.4	1,465	50.6	1,625	51.8	1,515	48.2	13.6%	3.4%
Paulatuk	150	52.6	135	47.4	130	43.3	170	56.7	-13.3%	25.9%
Sachs Harbour	60	52.2	55	47.8	55	55.0	45	45.0	-8.3%	-18.2%
Tuktoyaktuk	435	47.0	490	53.0	445	47.3	495	52.7	2.3%	1.0%
Ulukhaktok	210	53.2	185	46.8	205	50.6	200	49.4	-2.4%	8.1%

Source: Custom Request, 1996 - 2021 Census, Statistics Canada. Note: Percent changes are calculated as the change from 2001 to 2021.

4.2 : Cultural

Data Overview

The Cultural Trends Analysis section presents data on several socioeconomic indicators related to harvesting, arts, and language. These data are sourced from the NWT Bureau of Statistics (data available from 1984 to 2019), Census data on language from Statistics Canada (from 2001 to 2021), and data on trapping from the Government of the NWT (GNWT) Department of Executive and Indigenous Affairs (from 2020 to 2022).

The Cultural Investments and Activities section presents funding data related to arts and language from the Aboriginal Head Start In Urban and Northern Communities Program (from 2017 to 2023), various programs funded by Canadian Heritage (from 1999 to 2021), and Arts Funding from the GNWT Department of Education, Culture and Language (from 2001 to 2023). Data on harvesting are also presented for several programs from the GNWT Department of Environment and Natural Resources (from 2015 to 2022).

Key Findings

Between 1999 and 2019, **the share of households eating 50% or more meat and fish from harvesting activities decreased in the ISR and in most ISR communities**. This change would suggest either a decline in harvesting activities in the ISR or changes in distribution and sharing practices of harvested foods. Over the same time period, **the share of people fishing and hunting decreased in the ISR overall and in Inuvik, Sachs Harbour, and Tuktoyaktuk**, but increased in Aklavik, Paulatuk, and Ulukhaktok.

Key informants describe a number of **interrelated pressures that contribute to lower harvesting activities**, including regulatory changes, climate change, decreasing numbers of wildlife (muskox, caribou, and char), higher costs of fuel and equipment, lower income from harvesting activities, and higher costs of living, in addition to challenges transmitting knowledge to younger generations.

Key informants note that **time spent on the land** as well as the **traditional economy** (including traditional activities such as fishing, hunting, trapping, or arts and crafts) **have expanded since the COVID-19 pandemic** as employment patterns changed and people accessed benefits from stimulus packages related to the pandemic. In part, this change is also due to factors unrelated to the pandemic like the growth of cruise ship tourism in the region, the opening of the Country Foods Processing Plant in 2021, and the success of on-the-land programs. Data from the Genuine Mackenzie Valley Fur Program show the **total number of active harvesters in the ISR remained stable** between 2020 and 2022, though it fluctuated slightly by community. There was also an overall **increase in the number of pelts harvested** over the same time period.

Between 2001 and 2021, the percentage of people in the ISR who speak Indigenous languages, who have an Inuit language mother tongue, and who speak an Inuit language at home all decreased. The share of people with an Inuit language mother tongue only increased in Sachs Harbour, while decreasing in other ISR communities, the ISR, the NWT, and Canada.

Between 2013 and 2018, **the percentage of people who produced arts and crafts decreased in the NWT but increased in the ISR.** Key informants anticipate the cruise ship industry to bolster arts and crafts in the region, but would like to see a modern facility in the ISR that provides workshops and programs related to arts and crafts, including carving and printing, and formal diplomas related to arts and crafts.

There are data quality issues that prevent an in-depth understanding of the trends of some of the cultural indicators.



Trends Analysis

Harvesting, arts and crafts, and language retention are critical measures of the strength and preservation of Inuvialuit cultural identity and values within a changing northern economy, and as such they are particularly relevant indicators when assessing progress towards the IFA's economic measures. Language and culture shape thought, relationships, and worldviews. Language retention and revitalization among citizens leads to cultural continuity and wellbeing and the vitality of Indigenous languages is a key marker of cultural persistence. Harvesting and access to traditional foods is associated with improved health, food security, and social and cultural wellbeing, while additionally providing income opportunities and opportunities for economic self-reliance (Kenny et al. 2018; Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami 2021). More generally, connection to and transmission of cultural identity is inextricably linked to other social determinants of health.

Data from the NWT Bureau of Statistics and Statistics Canada indicate that the share of people eating harvested meat or fish, the share of people hunting, fishing, and trapping, and the share of people who speak Indigenous languages all decreased in the ISR between 1999 and 2019, signaling what one key informant described as “cultural erosion.” When speaking with key informants, several interrelated factors emerge that are perceived as currently having a negative impact on the preservation of Inuvialuit cultural identity and values, including climate change, financial barriers (e.g., the high cost of equipment and fuel to get out on the land), regulatory barriers (e.g., increasing cabin fees and fines), and barriers in the transmission of cultural knowledge due to the ongoing legacies of colonialism and residential schools, and the loss of Elders.

Despite these and other challenges, key informants highlight the success of recent initiatives that have supported connection to Inuvialuit culture, including the Country Foods

Processing Plant, Project Jewel,¹³ and improvements to educational curricula intended to support language learning. Key informants describe people spending more time on the land and a growth in the traditional economy since the COVID-19 pandemic. Quantitative data on harvesting from the NWT Bureau of Statistics do not extend past 2019, but data from the Genuine Mackenzie Valley Fur Program show some indication of the increases described by key informants. From 2020 to 2022, the total number of active harvesters remained stable in the ISR, and there was an increase in the number of pelts harvested, particularly in Aklavik. At the same time, the total number of pelts sold decreased from 2020 to 2022. Ultimately, there are insufficient panels of data since 2019 to confidently conclude the degree to which the traditional economy has changed since the COVID-19 pandemic.

“There are fewer trappers today than 10 years ago. There used to be 20-30, and now we’re lucky if there are two or three. Why? We lost our Elders. They passed away or haven’t passed their knowledge on.” - Key Informant Interview

Harvesting

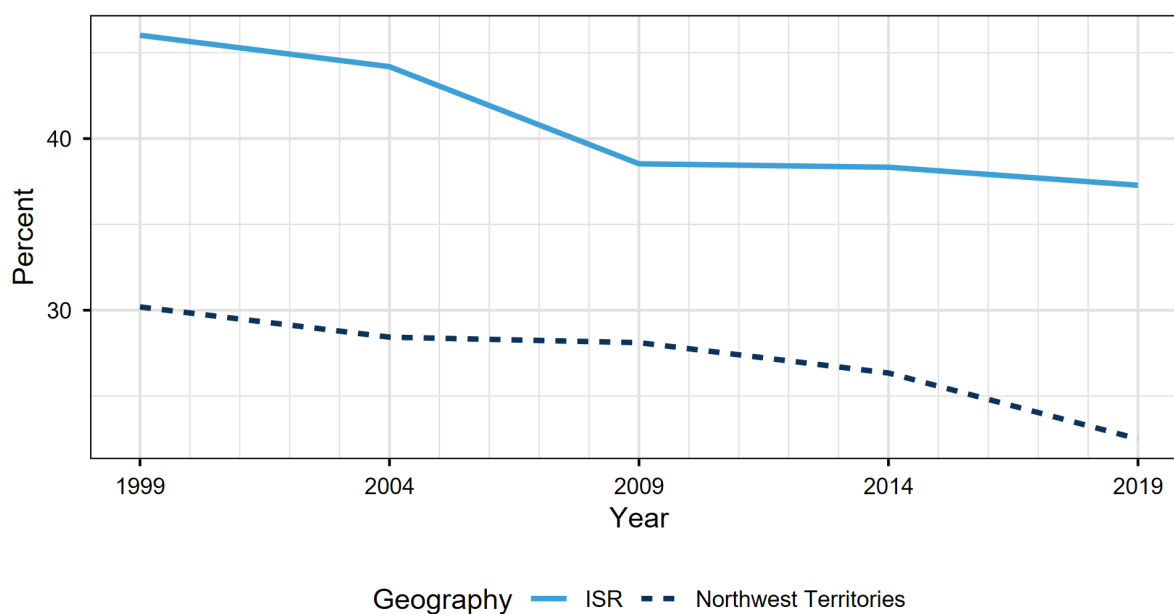
Figure C1 shows the percentage of households that source 50% or more of the meat or fish they eat from harvesting activities, in the ISR and NWT, between 1999 and 2019. Over this time period, the percentage of households eating 50% or more of harvested meat or fish decreased by 8.7 percentage points in the ISR (from 46.0% to 37.3%) and by 7.7 percentage points in the NWT (from 30.2% to 22.5%).

Figure C2 shows the percentage of households that source 50% or more of the meat or fish they eat from harvesting activities, by ISR community. The share of households that source the meat or fish they eat from harvesting activities is considerably lower in Inuvik relative to other communities. Between 1999 and 2019, the share of households eating 50% or more of harvested meat and fish decreased in Inuvik, Aklavik, Tuktoyaktuk, and Ulukhaktok, and increased in Paulatuk and Sachs Harbour. Decreases in this indicator over time across the ISR and ISR communities suggest that either fewer people are hunting, fishing, and trapping; there is lower yield from harvesting activities; or fewer people are distributing, trading, or gifting harvested meats and fish to other households.

“Muskox and caribou numbers are dropping. Char numbers are dropping. Grizzlies are moving. The ice is disappearing. As a hunter, I was noticing that there was not much caribou left, and that really worried me, that my kids wouldn’t be able to hunt and fish.” - Key Informant Interview

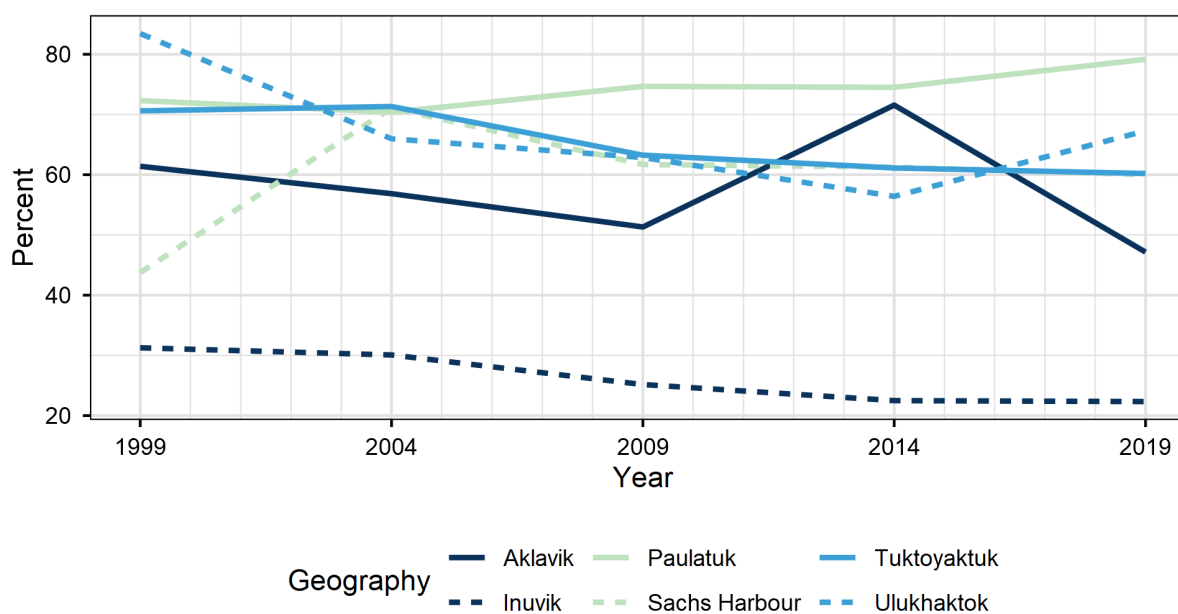
¹³ Project Jewel is an on-the-land cultural support program offered by the IRC. It aims to provide wholistic, community-driven, culturally sensitive, and relevant wellness programming for individuals, families and communities within the ISR (Project Jewel, n.d-b.).

Figure C1. Percent of Households Eating 50% Or More Harvested Meat or Fish, ISR & NWT, 1999 to 2019



Source: NWT Bureau of Statistics.

Figure C2. Percent of Households Eating 50% Or More Harvested Meat or Fish, ISR Communities, 1999 to 2019

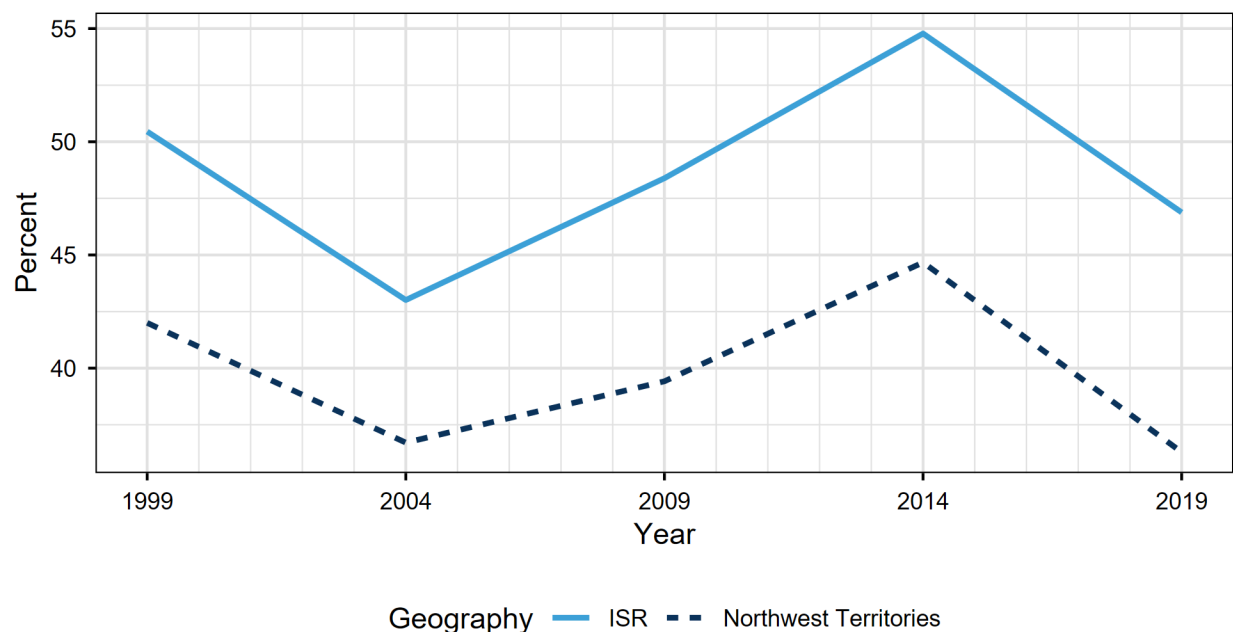


Source: NWT Bureau of Statistics. Note: Changes in the share of households eating at least 50% harvested meats and fish in smaller communities may appear larger due to random rounding.

Figure C3 shows the percentage of people (Indigenous and non-Indigenous) who hunted or fished in the ISR and NWT between 1999 and 2019. Over this time period, the share of people hunting and fishing decreased in the ISR (50.5% to 46.9%) and in the NWT (42.0% to 36.3%). The share of people hunting and fishing has been steadily decreasing in both the ISR and NWT since 2014. This trend could be due, in part, to changes to the Wildlife Act in 2014 and Lands Act in 2018. Changes to government regulations have included increasing licensing, tag, and recreational cabin fees, as well as limiting access for non-beneficiaries¹⁴ who don't have approval from Indigenous harvesting committees (Environment and Natural Resources 2014). Because the data are not specific to Inuvialuit beneficiaries or Indigenous people in the ISR, they do not shed light on how beneficiaries have been impacted by changing regulations. That said, key informants note that the increase in recreational cabin license fees and fines has meant that more beneficiaries face costs that they are unable to pay, and this has created additional financial barriers to living off the land. Further, some key informants view increasing cabin licensing fees for beneficiaries as infringements on inherent treaty rights.

Figure C4 shows the percentage of people hunting and fishing in ISR communities between 1999 and 2019. Over this time period, the share of people hunting and fishing decreased in Inuvik, Tuktoyaktuk, and Sachs Harbour, but increased in Aklavik, Paulatuk, and Ulukhaktok.

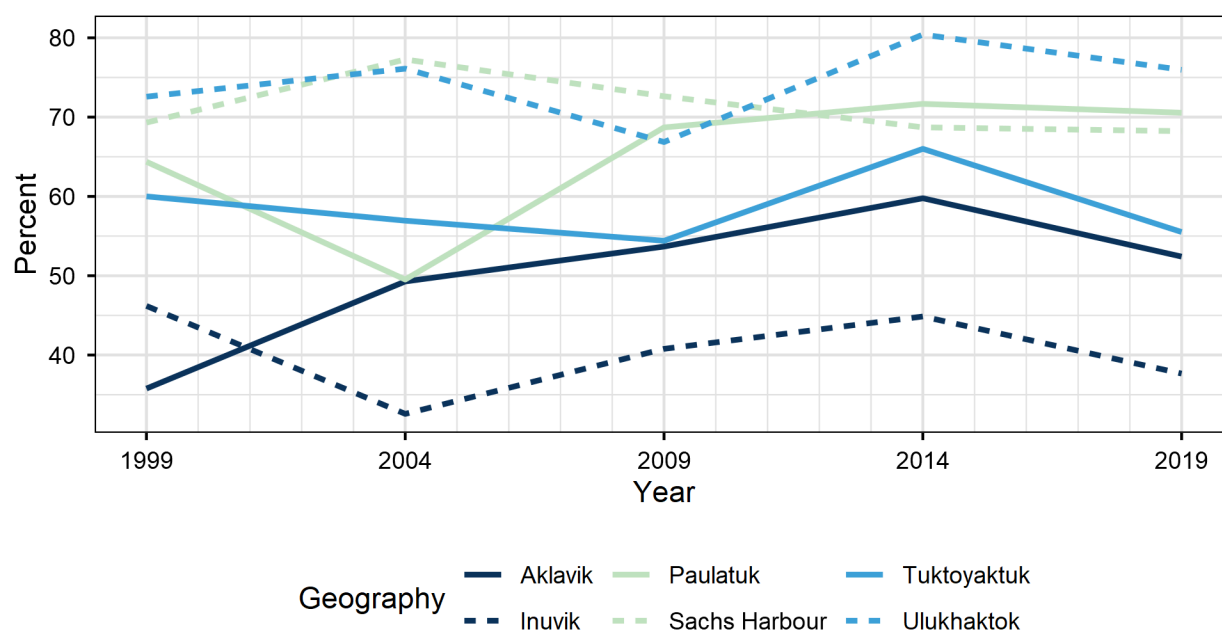
**Figure C3. Percent of Persons Who Hunted or Fished,
ISR & NWT, 1999 to 2019**



Source: NWT Bureau of Statistics.

¹⁴ This is a possible factor due to data on harvesting, hunting and fishing being for the whole-NWT, including the non-Indigenous population, but would not affect Inuvialuit in the ISR.

Figure C4. Percent of Persons Who Hunted or Fished,
ISR Communities, 1999 to 2019

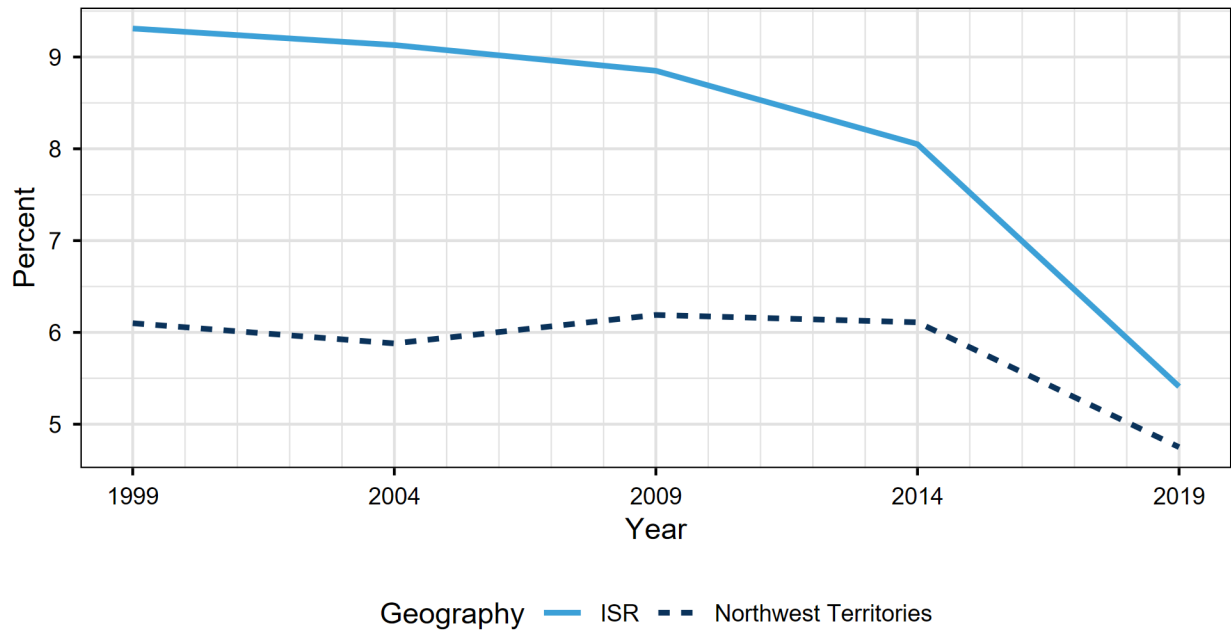


Source: NWT Bureau of Statistics.

Figure C5 shows the percentage of people who trapped in the ISR and NWT between 1999 and 2019. Over this time period, trapping decreased in the ISR and in the NWT, with the largest decline occurring between 2014 to 2019.

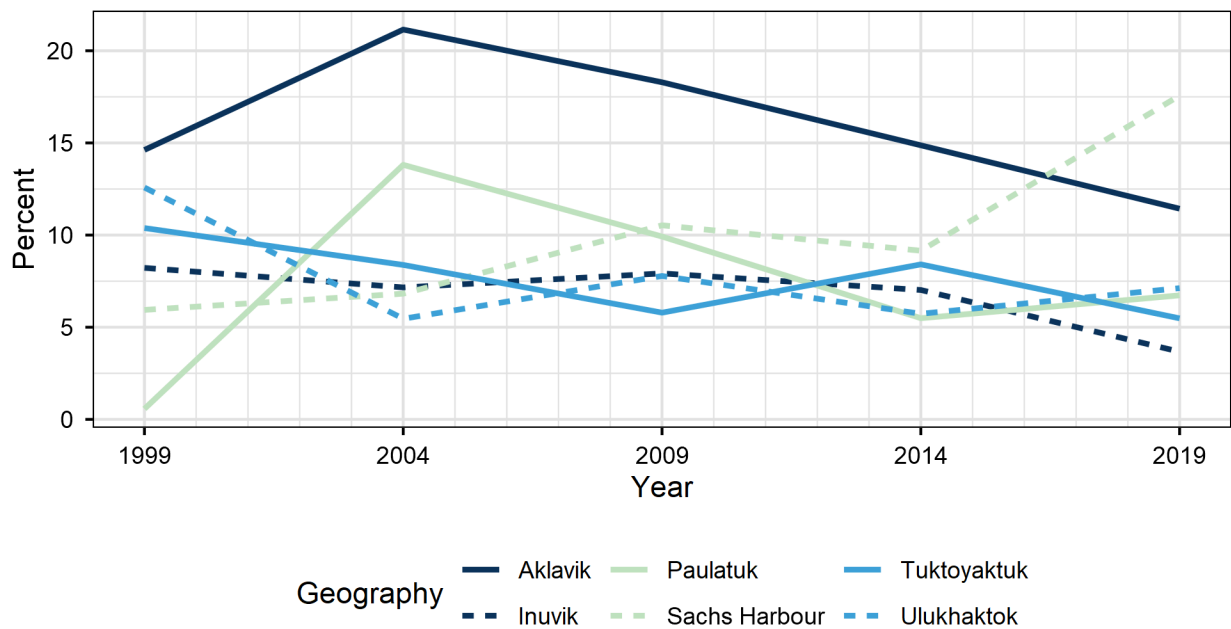
Figure C6 shows the percentage of people who trapped in ISR communities between 1999 and 2019. Over this time period, trapping increased in Sachs Harbour (5.9% to 17.6%) and Paulatuk (0.6% to 6.7%). All other communities experienced a decline in trapping activities. Changes in smaller communities may appear larger due to random rounding and smaller sample sizes.

Figure C5. Percent of Persons Who Trapped, ISR & NWT, 1999 to 2019



Source: NWT Bureau of Statistics.

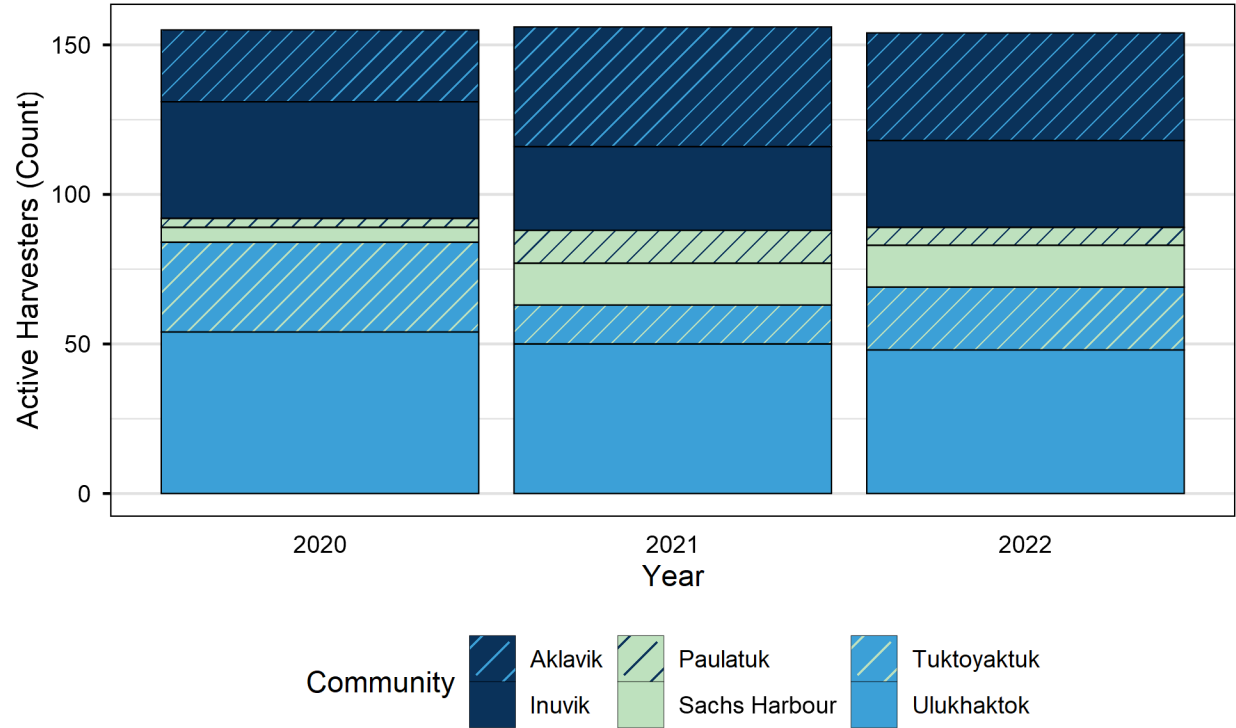
Figure C6. Percent of Persons Who Trapped, ISR Communities, 1999 to 2019



Source: NWT Bureau of Statistics. Note: Changes in smaller communities may appear larger due to random rounding.

Figures C7 to C11 present data from the Genuine Mackenzie Valley Fur Program, including yield from pelt and fur harvesting between 2020 and 2022. Figure C7 shows the number of active harvesters in ISR communities between 2020 and 2022. Over this time period, Ulukhaktok consistently has maintained the highest number of active harvesters. The total number of harvesters in the ISR has remained stable while the number of harvesters increased in Aklavik, Paulatuk, and Sachs Harbour, but decreased in Inuvik, Tuktoyaktuk, and Ulukhaktok.

Figure C7. Active Harvesters, ISR Communities, 2020 to 2022

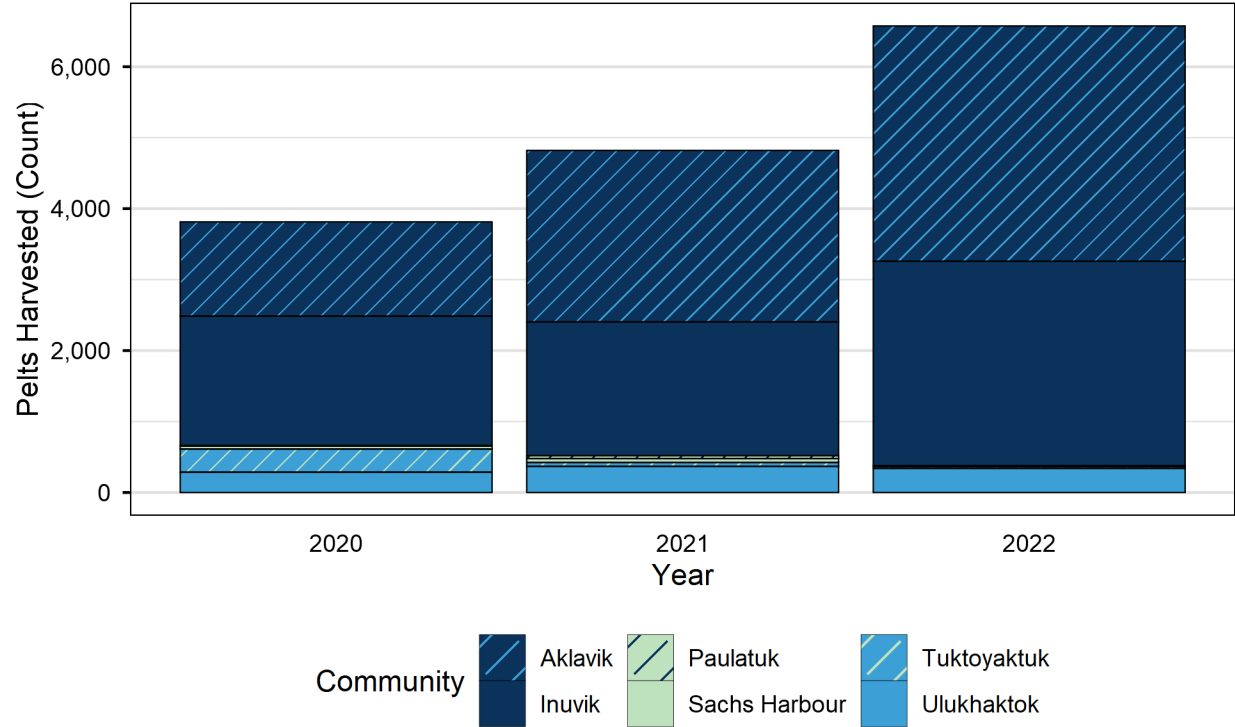


Source: GNWT Department of Executive Indigenous Affairs.

Figure C8 shows the number of pelts harvested between 2020 and 2022. Over this time period, the total number of pelts harvested in the ISR increased. Looking by community, the total number of pelts harvested in Aklavik and Inuvik increased, but decreased in all other communities. The increase in the number of pelts harvested in Aklavik and Inuvik could be explained by the opening of the Country Foods Processing Plant in 2021, as well as stimulus payments distributed during the COVID-19 pandemic, which may have provided harvesters with financial means to cover their costs, as key informants note that the high cost of equipment is often a barrier to harvesting activities.

“Gas, ammunition, skidoo, boots, etc. Participation in traditional lifestyles is expensive.” - Key Informant Interview

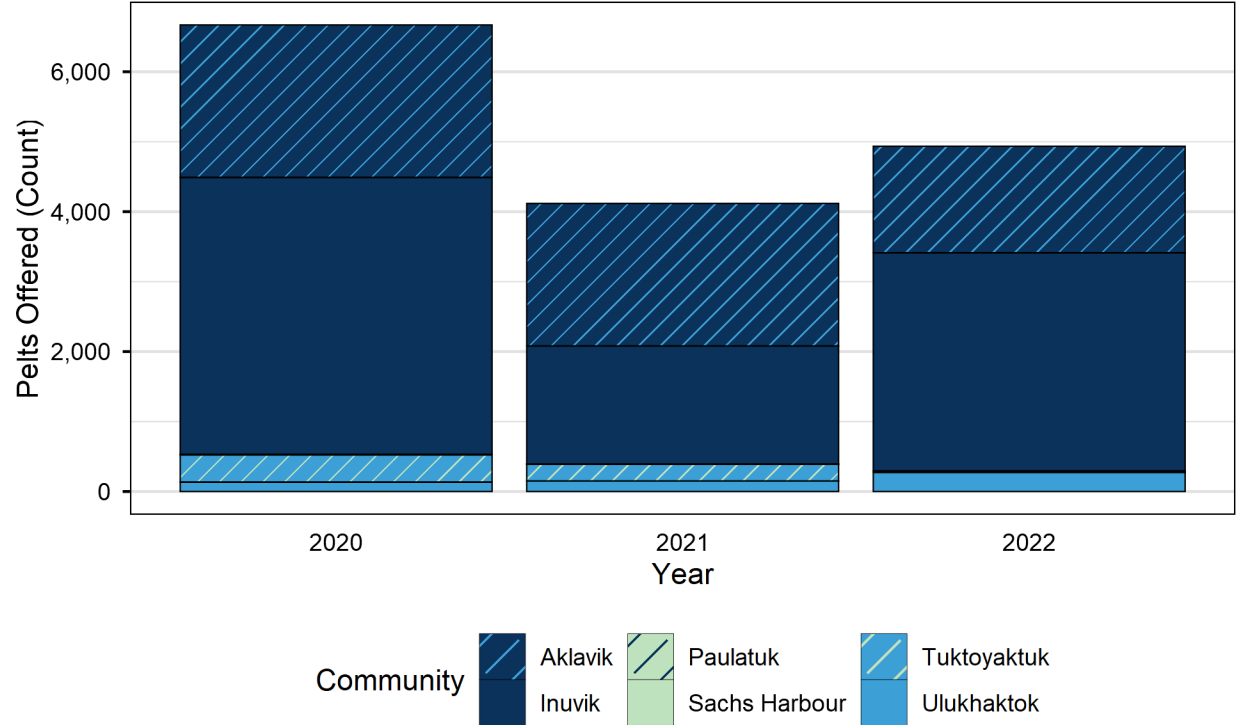
Figure C8. Pelts Harvested, ISR Communities, 2020 to 2022



Source: GNWT Department of Executive Indigenous Affairs.

Pelts are not always harvested and sold in the same year. Figure C9 shows the number of pelts offered across ISR communities, from 2020 to 2022, meaning the number of pelts that were put up for sale. The number of pelts offered was highest in 2020. The decline between 2020 and 2021 is mostly due to a large drop in the number of pelts offered in Inuvik. In 2022, the number of pelts offered by Inuvik increased from 2021, but was still lower than 2020. The number of pelts offered in 2022 in Aklavik also decreased in 2022, overall leading to a lower total number of pelts offered than in 2020. This is all despite the number of pelts harvested increasing for both Inuvik and Aklavik from 2020 through 2022.

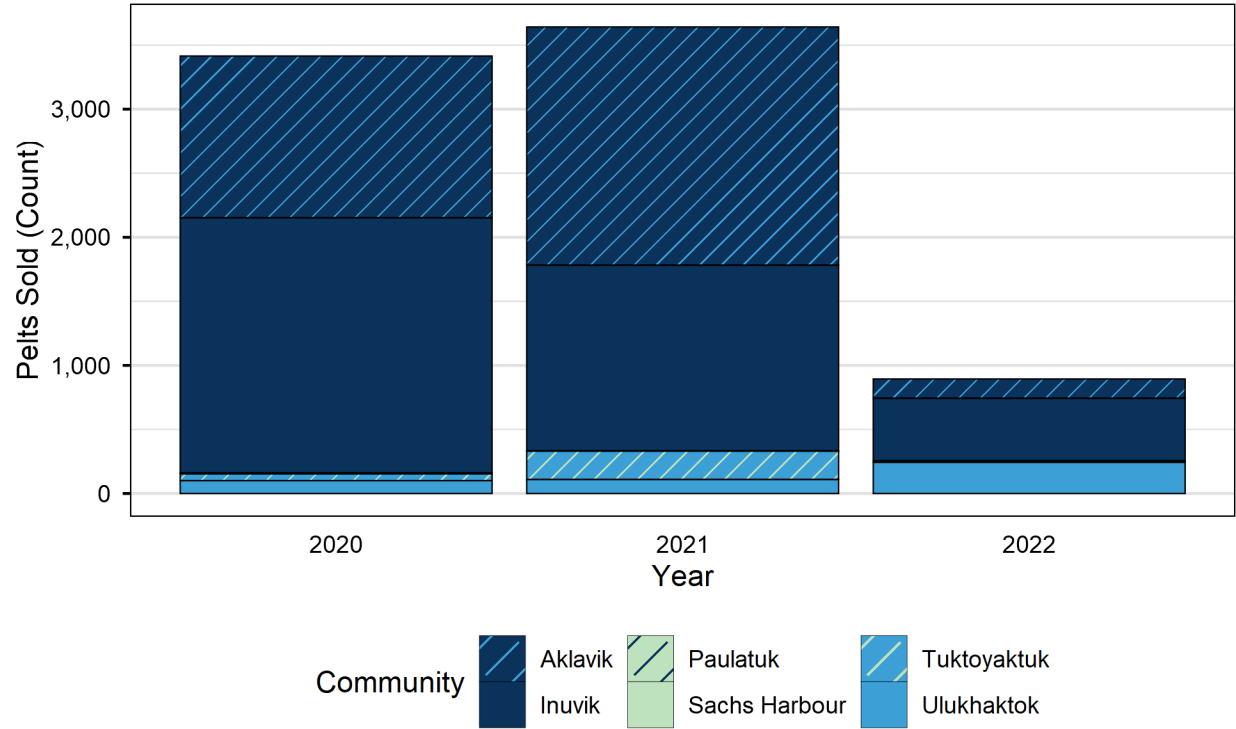
Figure C9. Pelts Offered, ISR Communities, 2020 to 2022



Source: GNWT Department of Executive Indigenous Affairs.

Figure C10 shows the number of pelts sold across ISR communities from 2020 to 2022. Over this time period, there is a notable decrease in the overall number of pelts sold in the ISR. This decline is most pronounced in Aklavik and Inuvik, while Ulukhaktok experienced a slight increase in pelts sold. In 2020 and 2021, over half of the pelts offered in the ISR were sold, yet in 2022, less than one-fifth of these pelts reached the market. This decrease in pelt sales could be attributed to factors such as diminished market demand or a reduction in pelt quality. Additionally, it's important to consider that not all harvested pelts are sold; some may be traded, gifted, or retained for private use.

Figure C10. Pelts Sold, ISR Communities, 2020 to 2022



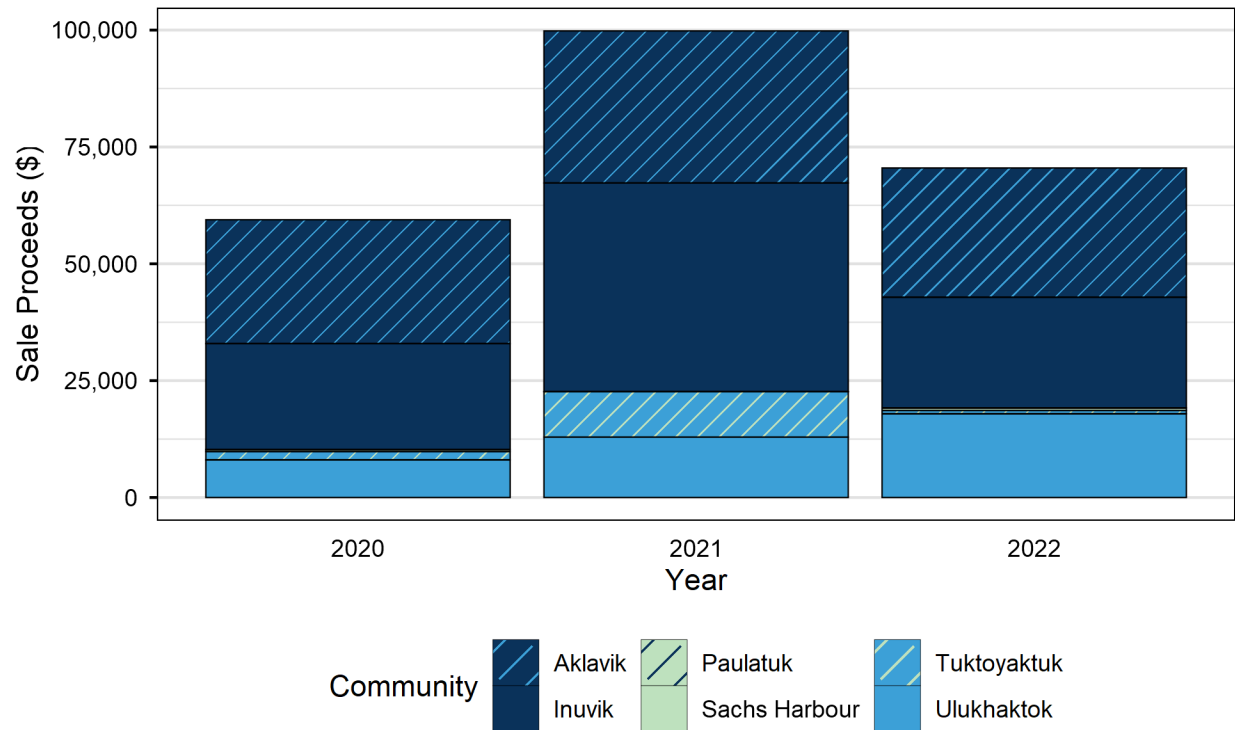
Source: GNWT Department of Executive Indigenous Affairs.

Figure C11 illustrates sale proceeds of pelts in ISR communities over a three-year period from 2020 to 2022. A notable trend is the substantial increase in overall proceeds from 2020 to 2021, followed by a marked decrease in 2022. Each community exhibits unique patterns of change. In 2021, Aklavik and Inuvik show a significant rise in sale proceeds, with Inuvik, in particular, seeing proceeds almost doubling from the previous year. However, by 2022, Inuvik's proceeds diminish, aligning more closely with 2020 levels. Paulatuk, Sachs Harbour, Tuktoyaktuk, and Ulukhaktok demonstrate relatively stable proceeds throughout the three years, with minor fluctuations. From key informants, we heard that proceeds are often insufficient, and few hunters and trappers can make enough income from hunting and trapping to support themselves and their families.

“It’s impossible to own your own home if hunting and trapping is your only source of income. And it’s hard to be proud of being a harvester or a hunter if you can’t make enough income to support you.”

- Key Informant Interview

Figure C11. Sale Proceeds of Pelts, ISR Communities, 2020 to 2022



Source: GNWT Department of Executive Indigenous Affairs.

Table C1 shows the percentage of people who gathered berries in the ISR and NWT in 2014 and 2019. Relative to 2014, a higher percentage of people gathered berries in 2019 in the ISR. The largest increase in berry gathering occurred in Paulatuk (up 26.9 percentage points), while the largest decrease occurred in Ulukhaktok (down 18.8 percentage points).

**Table C1. Percent of Persons Who Gathered Berries,
ISR, NWT, & ISR Communities, 2014 and 2019**

Geography	2014	2019	Change (p.p.)
Aklavik	45.9	40.2	-5.7
Inuvik	32.2	34.2	2.0
Paulatuk	27.7	54.6	26.9
Sachs Harbour	1.6	6.1	4.5
Tuktoyaktuk	55.5	55.3	-0.2
Ulukhaktok	52.7	33.9	-18.8
ISR	38.2	38.6	0.4
NWT	28.3	26.4	-1.9

Source: NWT Bureau of Statistics.

Arts and Crafts

Table C2 shows the percentage of people producing arts and crafts in the ISR in 2013 and 2018. Key informants note that, although there have been “patchwork programs” supporting crafts and arts in ISR communities, funding has not been sufficient to sustain longer-term initiatives. However, key informants hope that increasing tourism to the ISR will provide opportunities to bolster arts and crafts production. Tourism from cruise ships in the ISR have already provided crafters, as well as guides and traditional cooks, with short-term, high paying employment opportunities. Key informants anticipate that cruise ship tours will continue to grow in popularity, and increase employment opportunities for crafters.

From 2013 to 2018, the percent of people who produced arts and crafts decreased in the NWT (down 1.7 percentage points) but increased in the ISR (up 0.8 percentage points). Among ISR communities, the percentage of people producing arts and crafts decreased in Aklavik (down 6.0 percentage points) and Inuvik (down 0.1 percentage points), while increasing in other communities. Ulukhaktok had the largest increase (up 16.7 percentage points), and in 2018 had the highest share of people producing arts and crafts (57.0%).

Table C2. Percent of Persons Who Produced Arts & Crafts, ISR, NWT, & ISR Communities, 2013 and 2018

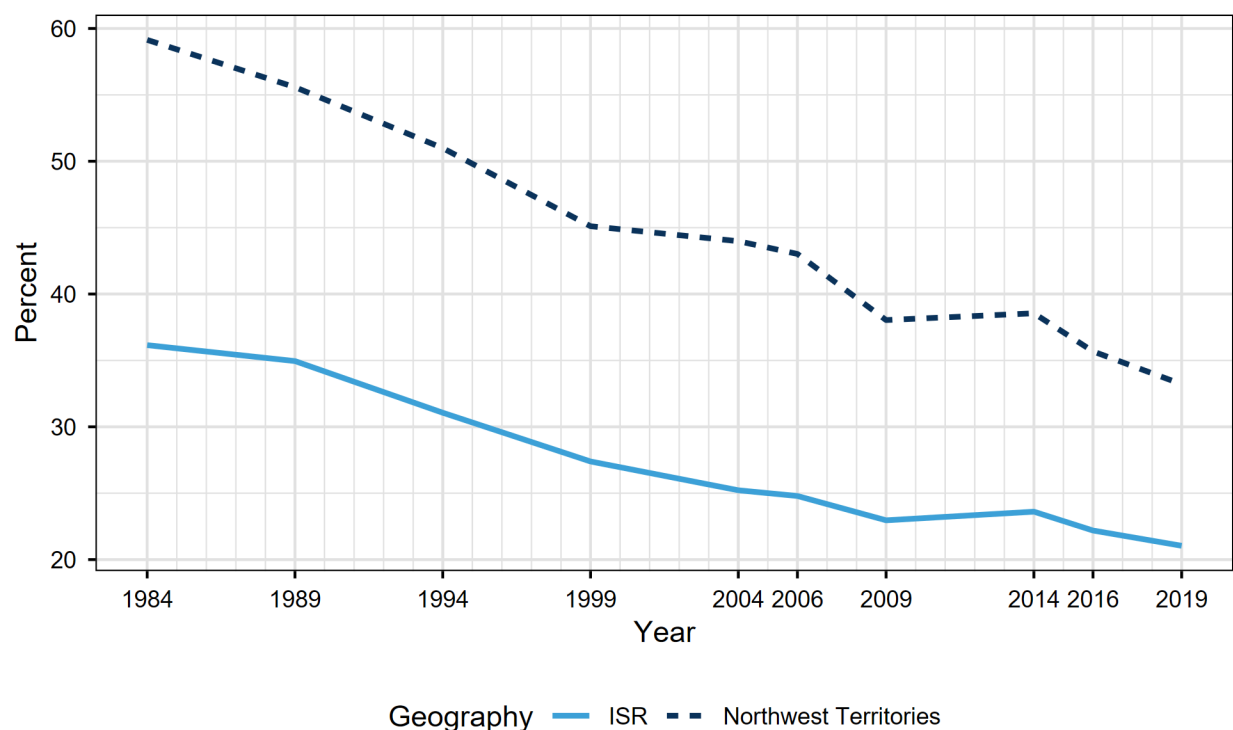
Geography	2013	2018	Change (p.p.)
Aklavik	24.4	18.4	6.0
Inuvik	24.5	24.4	-0.1
Paulatuk	34.8	37.2	2.4
Sachs Harbour	40.4	41.8	1.4
Tuktoyaktuk	28.0	30.5	2.5
Ulukhaktok	40.3	57.0	16.7
ISR	27.2	28.0	0.8
Northwest Territories	23.3	21.6	-1.7

Source: NWT Bureau of Statistics.

Language

Figures C12 to C17 shows the prevalence of Indigenous and Inuit language speakers in the ISR, NWT, ISR communities, and Canada. Figure C12 shows the percentage of Indigenous people 15 years and older who speak an Indigenous language in the ISR and NWT, from 1984 to 2019. Over this time period, the percentage of Indigenous people ages 15 and over who speak an Indigenous language decreased by 25.9 percentage points in the NWT (from 59.1% to 33.2%) and by 15.2 percentage points in the ISR (from 36.2% to 21.0%).

Figure C12. Percent of Indigenous Persons 15+ who Speak an Indigenous Language, ISR & NWT, 1984 to 2019



Source: NWT Bureau of Statistics. Note: In 1999 NWT and Nunavut split and this may have impacted this statistic.

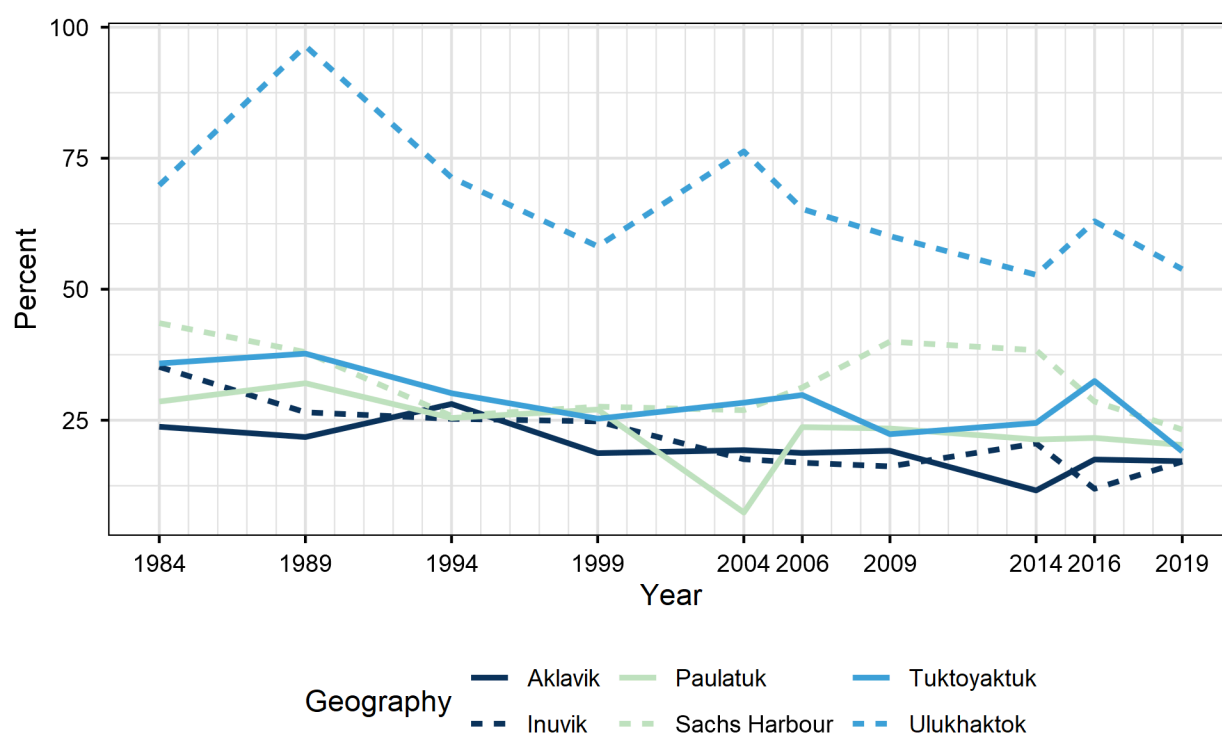
“Most of us don’t know our language.” - Key Informant Interview

Figure C13 shows the percentage of Indigenous people, 15 years and over, who speak an Indigenous language by ISR community, from 1984 to 2019. In ISR communities, Indigenous languages include Inuvialuktun dialects, Uummarmiutun, Sallirmiutun, and Kangiryuarmiutun (IRC, 2024). While these dialects are the languages that we would like to understand, disaggregated data on these dialects are not available. Data from the NWT Bureau of Statistics collate all

Indigenous languages, including non-Inuit languages such as Gwich'in and Dene. Data from Statistics Canada collate all Inuit languages, including Inuktitut languages.

In all ISR communities, the percentage of people who speak an Indigenous language is decreasing over time. Ulukhatok has higher rates of Indigenous language speakers than other ISR communities and the ISR overall, though the share of Indigenous language speakers has declined by 16.0 percentage points (from 69.8% in 1984 to 53.8% in 2019). In all other communities, a minority of Indigenous people speak an Indigenous language.

Figure C13. Percent of Indigenous Persons 15+ who Speak an Indigenous Language, ISR Communities, 1984 to 2019

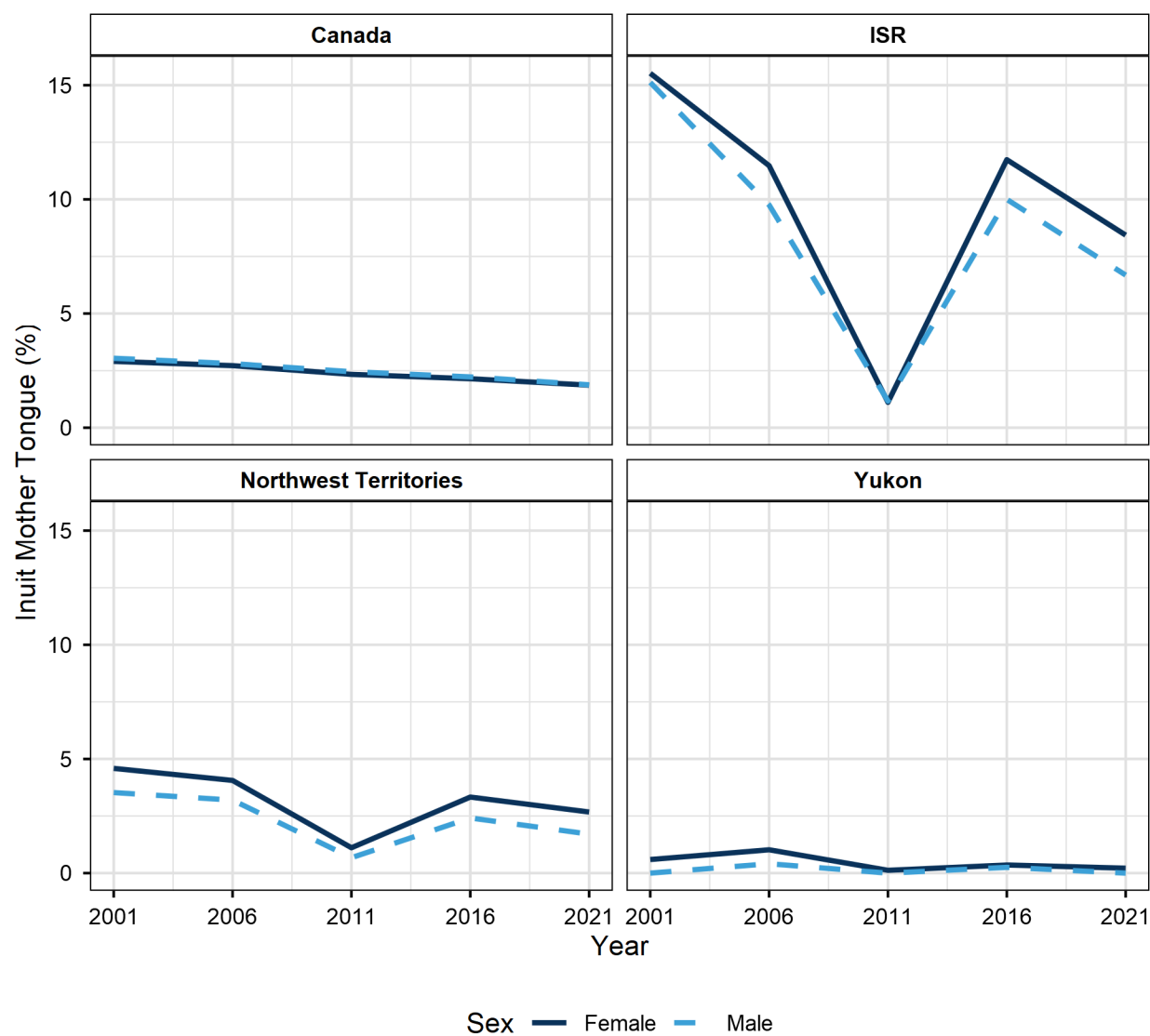


Source: NWT Bureau of Statistics.

Figure C14 shows the percentage of the Indigenous female and male population whose mother tongue is an Inuit language in the ISR, NWT, Yukon, and Canada from 2001 to 2021. A mother tongue is the first language a person learns and still understands. From 2001 to 2021, the percentage of the Indigenous female and male populations with an Inuit language mother tongue decreased. In 2021, a greater share of the female population than male population have an Inuit language mother tongue in all regions except Canada, where 1.9% of the Indigenous female and male populations have an Inuit language mother tongue. In 2021, the share of the Indigenous female and male populations with an Inuit language mother tongue are highest in the ISR and NWT, and lowest in Yukon. The dip in 2011 seen in both Figure C14 and Figure C15 is likely due to changes to the National Household Survey (NHS). Although language questions appeared on both

the short form Census questionnaire and the optional NHS in 2011, Indigenous identity was only asked in the NHS. If the sample of the Indigenous population in the ISR that responded to the NHS was less than other Census years then this could cause the rate to drop in 2011.

Figure C14. Percent of Indigenous Persons whose Mother Tongue is an Inuit Language, Canada, ISR, NWT & Yukon, 2001 to 2021

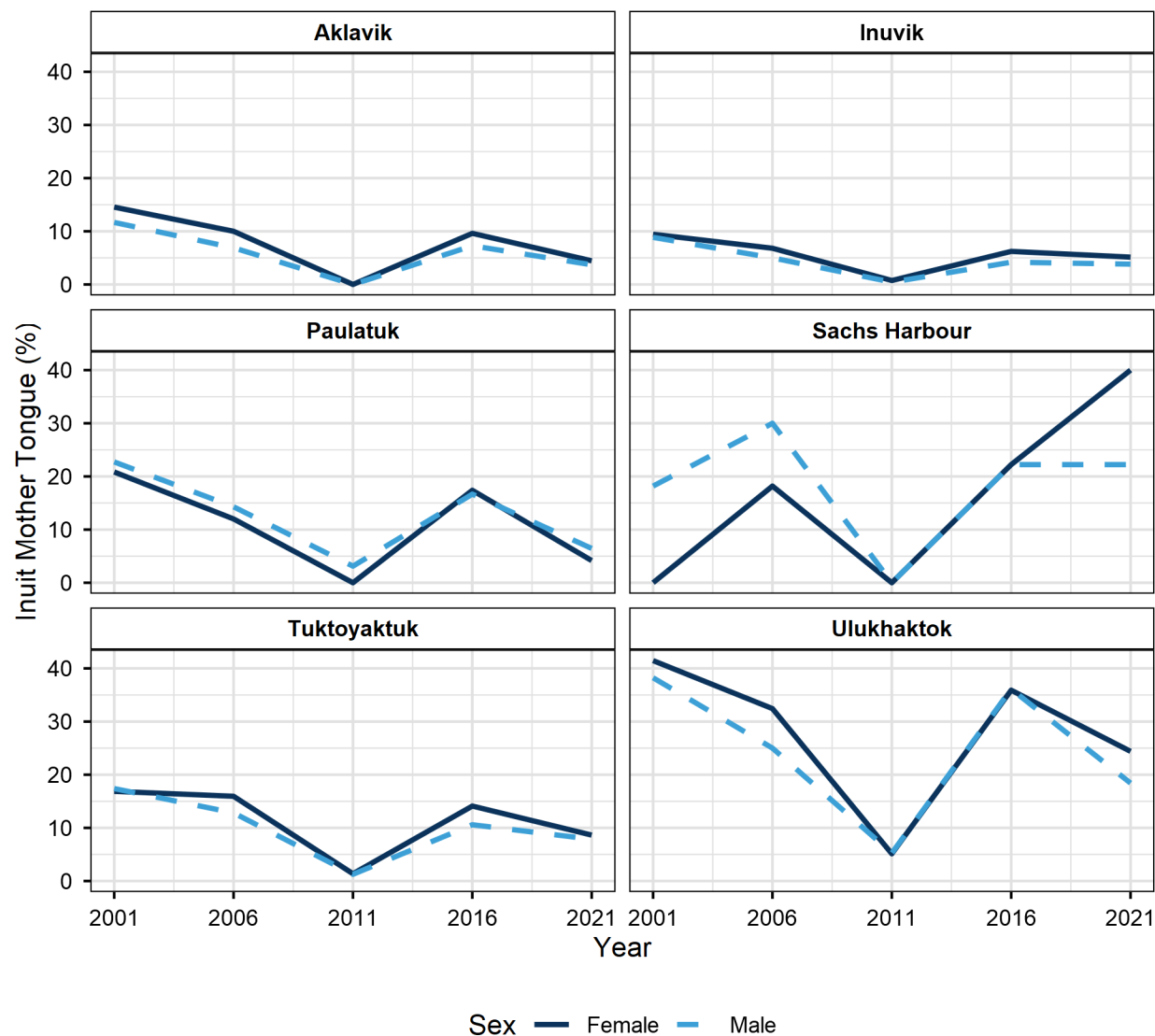


Source: Custom Request, 1996 - 2021 Census, Statistics Canada. Note: 2011 data may not be reliable.

Figure C15 shows the percentage of the Indigenous female and male populations whose mother tongue is an Inuit language by ISR community. In 2021, the spoken Inuit languages in ISR communities are the Inuvialuktun dialects Uummarmiutun, Sallirmiutun, and Kangiryuarmiutun (IRC, 2024). From 2001 to 2021, the percentage of female and male populations with an Inuit

language mother tongue is decreasing in all communities, with the exception of Sachs Harbour. In 2021, a greater share of Indigenous females than males have an Inuit language mother tongue, except in Paulatuk. The share of the Indigenous female and male populations with an Inuit language mother tongue are highest in Sachs Harbour and Ulukhaktok, and lowest in Aklavik and Inuvik.

Figure C15. Percent of Indigenous Persons whose Mother Tongue is an Inuit Language, ISR Communities, 2001 to 2021

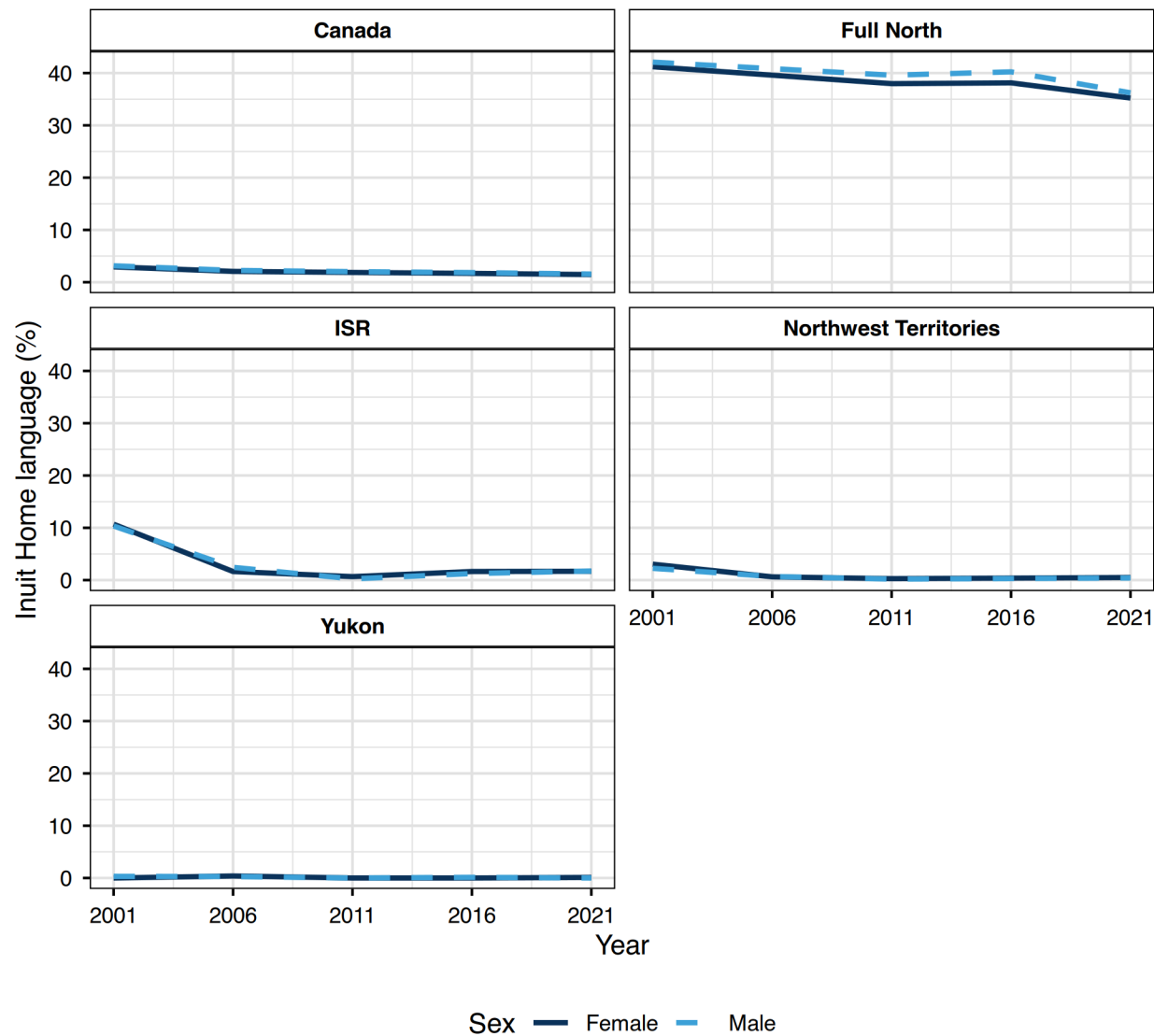


Source: Custom Request, 1996 - 2021 Census, Statistics Canada. Note: 2011 data may not be reliable.

Figure C16 shows the percentage of Indigenous female and male populations who speak an Inuit language at home. In 2021, the spoken Inuit languages in ISR communities are the Inuvialuktun

dialects Uummarmiutun, Sallirmiutun, and Kangiryuarmiutun (IRC, 2024). From 2001 to 2021, the percentage of female and male populations speaking an Inuit language at home decreased in all geographies. The ISR experienced the largest decline in the share of females and males speaking an Inuit language at home from 2001 to 2021 (down 9.0 and 8.6 percentage points, respectively). Similar declines are seen in the share of Indigenous female and male populations who speak an Inuit language at work (see Appendix B2).

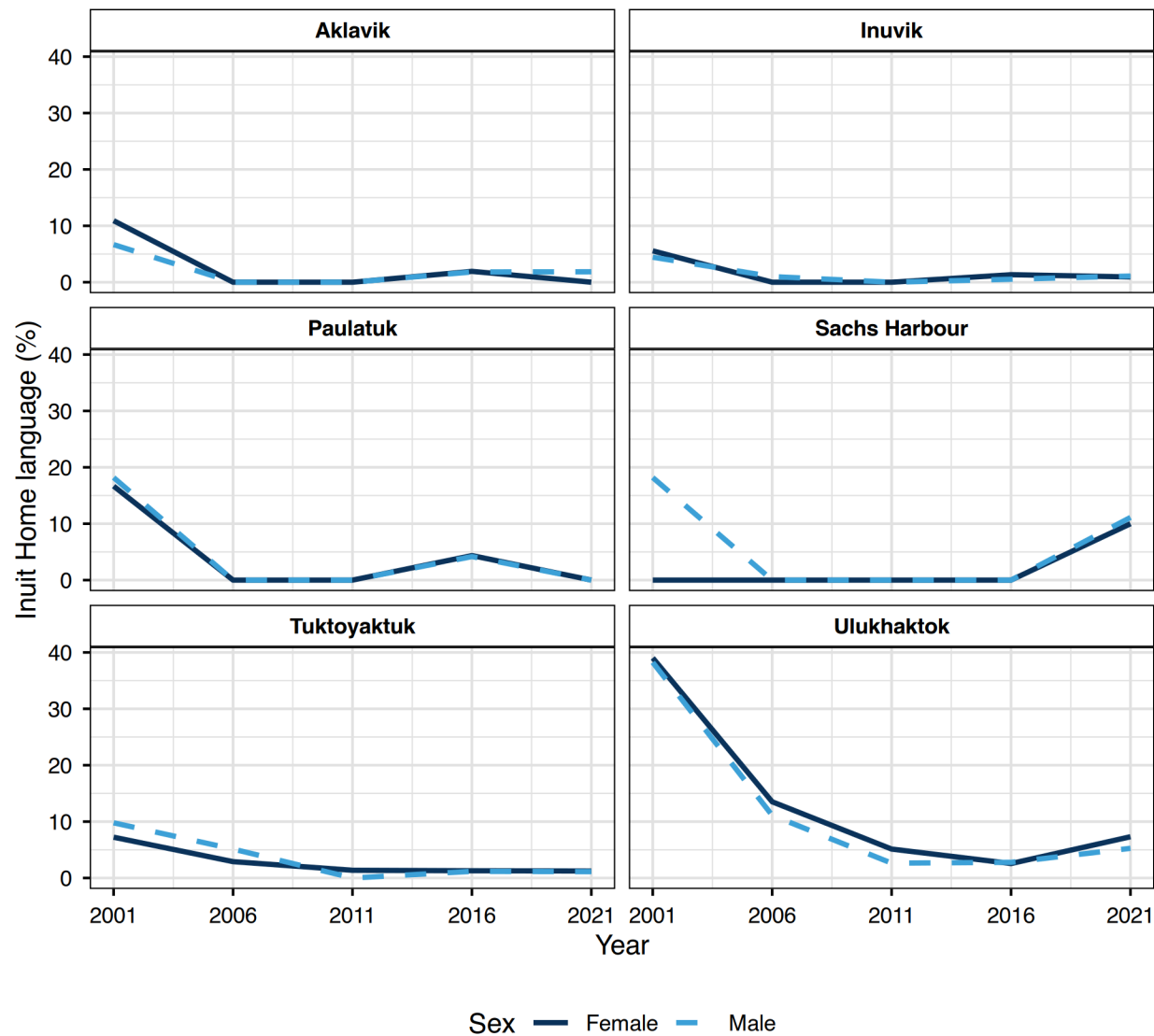
Figure C16. Percent of Indigenous Persons who Speak an Inuit Language at Home, Canada, ISR, NWT, Full North & Yukon, 2001 to 2021



Source: Custom Request, 1996 - 2021 Census, Statistics Canada.

Figure C17 shows the percentage of Indigenous female and male populations across ISR communities who speak an Inuit language at home. In 2021, the spoken Inuit languages in ISR communities are the Inuvialuktun dialects Uummarmiutun, Sallirmiutun, and Kangiryuarmiutun (IRC, 2024). In all communities the number and percentage of people speaking an Inuit language at home has decreased. Similarly, the use of Inuit language at work has decreased in all ISR communities (see Appendix B2).

Figure C17. Percent of Indigenous Persons who Speak an Inuit Language at Home, ISR Communities, 2001 to 2021



Source: Custom Request, 1996 - 2021 Census, Statistics Canada. Note: Percentage changes in Sachs Harbour may reflect changes in random rounding.

Investments and Activities

The following section considers investments and activities made by IFA parties pertaining to culture, including harvesting, arts and crafts, and language. Data permitting, statistical or graphical correlations between relevant indicators, investments, and activities are identified to consider whether the investments and activities made have contributed positively to the cultural wellbeing of the Inuvialuit in a changing northern economy. Language and arts investment and activities are presented first, before considering harvesting. For each subsection, key findings and limitations are presented, before discussing results.

Language and Arts

Key Findings

Since 1999, **there has been a total of \$9,131,213 in funding disbursed in the ISR through nine different language and arts programs** for which data were made available, including funding from Canadian Heritage and Aboriginal Head Start in Urban and Northern Communities.

There is **a positive correlation between the amount of arts funding awarded by the GNWT and the percent of persons who produce arts and crafts** in Ulukhaktok and Tuktoyaktuk.

Limitations

Data for the Aboriginal Head Start in Urban and Northern Communities program only exist starting in the 2017/2018 fiscal year. Given this program is for children, anticipated changes would not be measured by socioeconomic indicators which often focus on populations ages 15+.

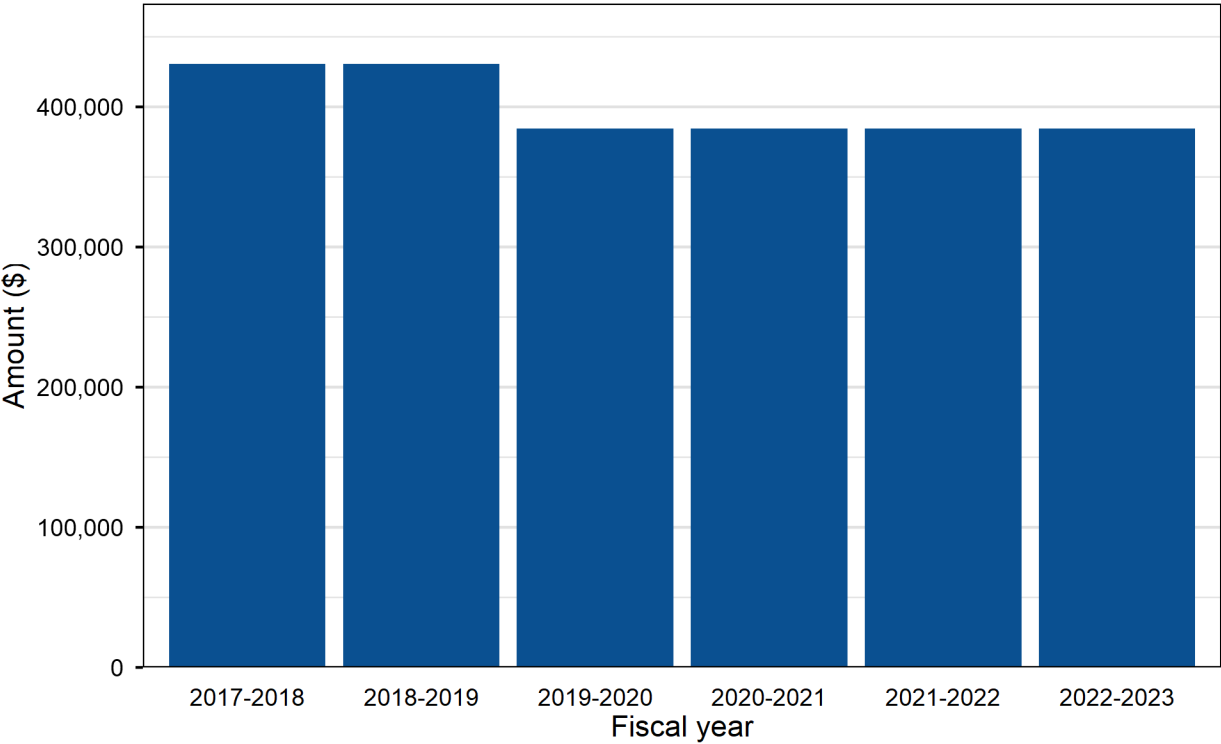
It is difficult to determine the trend of funding amounts over time for Indigenous Languages and Cultural Connections for Aboriginal Youth because the funding is not consistently classified by fiscal year.

There are limited years of data for which there is both funding and socioeconomic data, making it difficult to analyze correlation between cultural indicators and government investments and activities.

Figure C16 shows Aboriginal Head Start in Urban and Northern Communities (AHSUNC) funding, from 2017 to 2023. The AHSUNC provides funding from the Public Health Agency of Canada (PHAC) to Indigenous communities to develop and deliver programs that support early childhood development for Indigenous children (Public Health Agency of Canada, 2023). AHSUNC focuses on culture and language, school readiness, health promotion, nutrition, social support, and parental involvement, and early childhood development sites are managed locally to best fit the needs of communities. AHSUNC is only active in two ISR communities, Inuvik and Paulatuk.

In the 2017/2018 and 2018/2019 fiscal years, \$430,631 in funding was allocated in the ISR each year. This funding envelope was reduced to \$384,471 in the 2019/2020 fiscal year and has remained at that level since. Because AHSUNC is a program designed for young children, and because funding started in the 2017/2018 fiscal year, the program is expected to have lagged effects on socioeconomic indicators, particularly those that only consider the 15+ population.

Figure C16: Aboriginal Head Start in Urban and Northern Communities Funding, 2017 to 2023



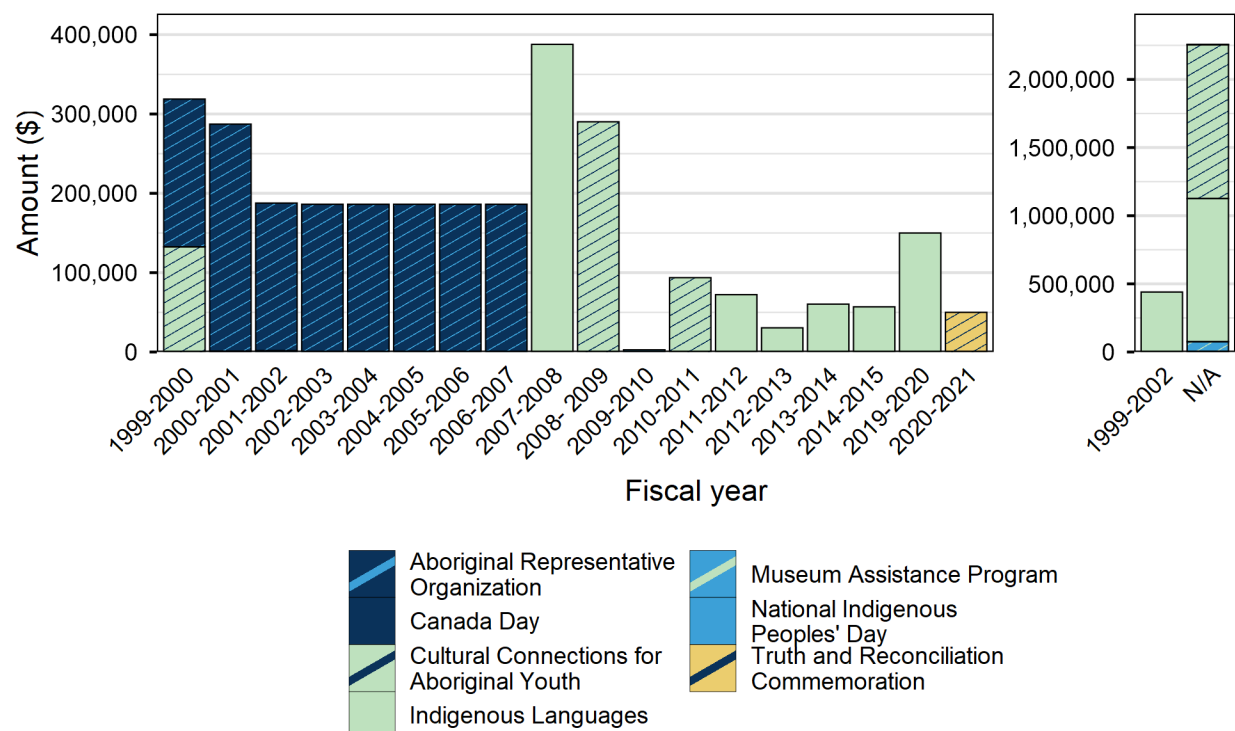
Source: PHAC.

Figure C17 presents Canadian Heritage Funding by program, from 1999 to 2021. There are several different programs funded by Canadian Heritage:

- **Celebrate Canada** funds activities and initiatives organized on Canada Day, National Indigenous Peoples Day, and National Day of Truth and Reconciliation, as well as other holidays and days of note.
- **Truth and Reconciliation Commemoration** funds initiatives that increase awareness and commemorate the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation, and of the history and legacy of residential schools (Canadian Heritage 2023a,b).
- The **Museum Assistance** program provides museums and related heritage institutions with funding to preserve and present Indigenous and heritage collections (Canadian Heritage 2023c). Their funding is not classified by any fiscal year.
- **Indigenous Languages** and **Cultural Connections for Aboriginal Youth** are two programs that could impact several socioeconomic indicators of interest, however, \$2,618,920 in funding for these programs was not classified by fiscal year. Without knowing in which fiscal years this funding was distributed, it is difficult to ascertain how the level of funding has changed and the impact it may have had on socioeconomic indicators over time.

Accurately classifying all program data by a fiscal year in the future would allow for more in-depth analysis to understand how funding for these programs relate to socioeconomic indicators.

Figure C17: Canadian Heritage Funding by Program, 1999 to 2021



Source: Canadian Heritage.

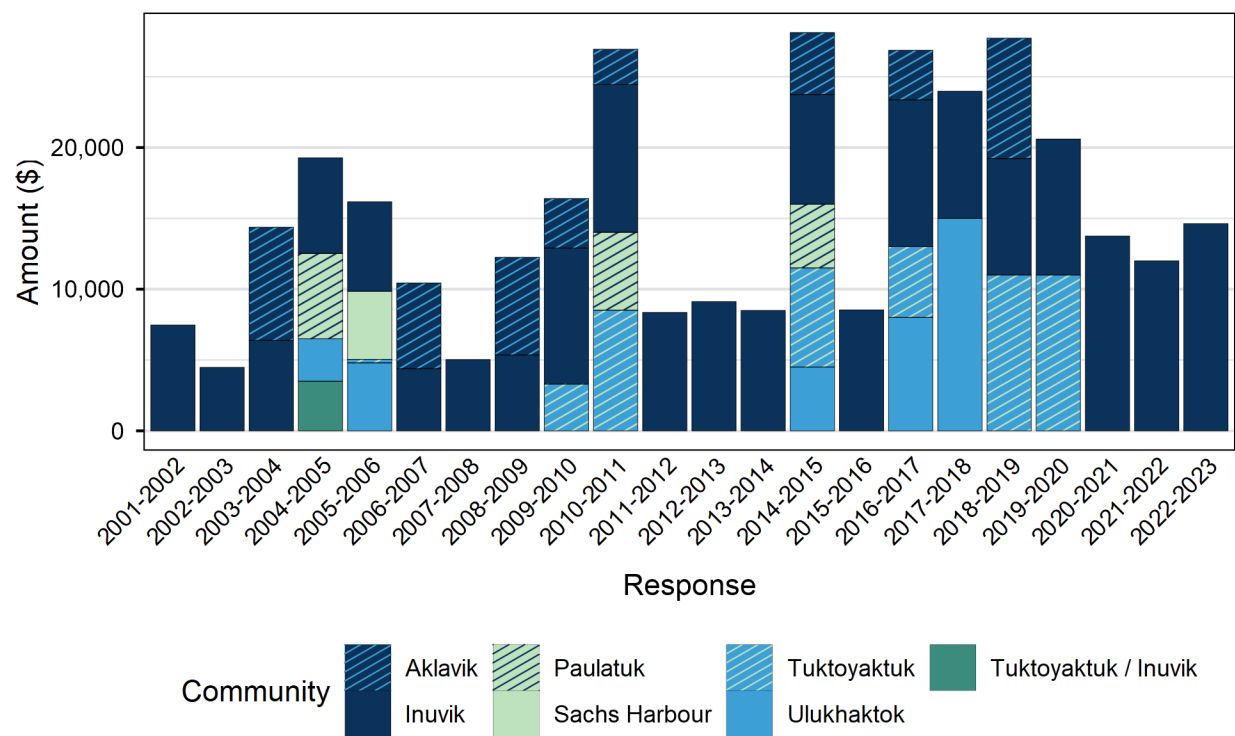
Figure C18 presents the average arts funding awarded by GNWT Education, Culture, and Employment to ISR communities from 2001 to 2023. Generally, funding increased over the reporting period until the 2019/2020 fiscal year, after which it dropped and stabilized. In most years, Inuvik receives the largest share of arts funding from GNWT Education, Culture and Employment. Notable exceptions are in 2017/2018 when Kangikyoakmiot Numiktut in Ulukhaktok received \$15,000, and in 2018/2019 when the Tuktoyaktuk Music Festival received \$11,000.

The most relevant socioeconomic indicator for this funding is the percent of persons who produced arts and crafts in the ISR, ISR communities, and the NWT (Table C2 in Trends Analysis). These data from the NWT Bureau of Statistics were collected in 2013 and 2018. To compare the percent of persons who produced arts and crafts to funding levels, total funding was summed over two five-year lags, 2008 to 2013 and 2013 to 2018. To examine any correlation, the percentage point change from 2013 to 2018 in the percent of persons who produced arts and crafts is compared to the change in the funding levels between 2008 to 2013 and 2013 to 2018.

There is a positive correlation between the amount of arts funding awarded by the GNWT and the percent of persons who produce arts and crafts in Ulukhaktok and Tuktoyaktuk. Ulukhaktok and Tuktoyaktuk had the largest increases in arts funding from GNWT (+\$32,000 and +\$14,186 respectively) and there was a 16.7 and 2.5 percentage point increase in the percent of persons who produced arts and crafts in Ulukhaktok and Tuktoyaktuk, respectively. There is also a positive correlation between total funding (+\$181,386) in the ISR and the percent of persons who

produced arts and crafts, however the rate only increased by 0.8 percentage points (Table C3). For specific communities, the only apparent positive correlation is for Ulukhaktok and Tuktoyaktuk.

Figure C18: Average Arts Funding Awarded to ISR Communities, 2001 to 2023



Source: GNWT Department of Education, Culture, and Employment. Note: Annual Arts funding awarded is scaled by the number of recipients in each ISR community.

Table C3: Changes Between Arts Funding Awarded to ISR Communities and Percent of Persons Who Produced Arts & Crafts, 2008 to 2018

Percent of Persons Who Produced Arts & Crafts				Arts Funding (\$)		
Geography	2013	2018	Change (p.p.)	2008 - 2013	2013 - 2018	Change (\$)
Aklavik	24.4	18.4	-6.0	12,900	21,000	8,100
Inuvik	24.5	24.4	-0.1	189,400	323,000	133,600
Paulatuk	34.8	37.2	2.4	11,000	4,500	-6,500
Sachs Harbour	40.4	41.8	1.4	0	0	0
Tuktoyaktuk	28	30.5	2.5	11,814	26,000	14,186
Ulukhaktok	40.3	57	16.7	0	32,000	32,000
ISR	27.2	28	0.8	225,114	406,500	181,386

Source: NWT Bureau of Statistics, GNWT Department of Education, Culture, and Employment.
Big River Analytics calculations.

Harvesting

Key Findings

Since 2015, a total of \$9,410,535 in funding has been disbursed through 10 harvesting programs for which data are available.

Funding allocated by the GNWT for harvesting increased by 48.2%, growing from \$896,221 in 2016 to \$1,328,428 in 2019. Despite this substantial infusion of funds, there was an observed decline in harvesting activity for the ISR as a whole from 2014 to 2019, suggesting external factors are impacting access to and participation in harvesting in the ISR.

The most apparent correlation exists between GNWT funding and the percent of persons who trap in Sachs Harbour. Sachs Harbour saw a 121% increase in funding (2016 to 2019) and a 8.44 percentage point increase in the percent of persons who trap (2014 to 2019).

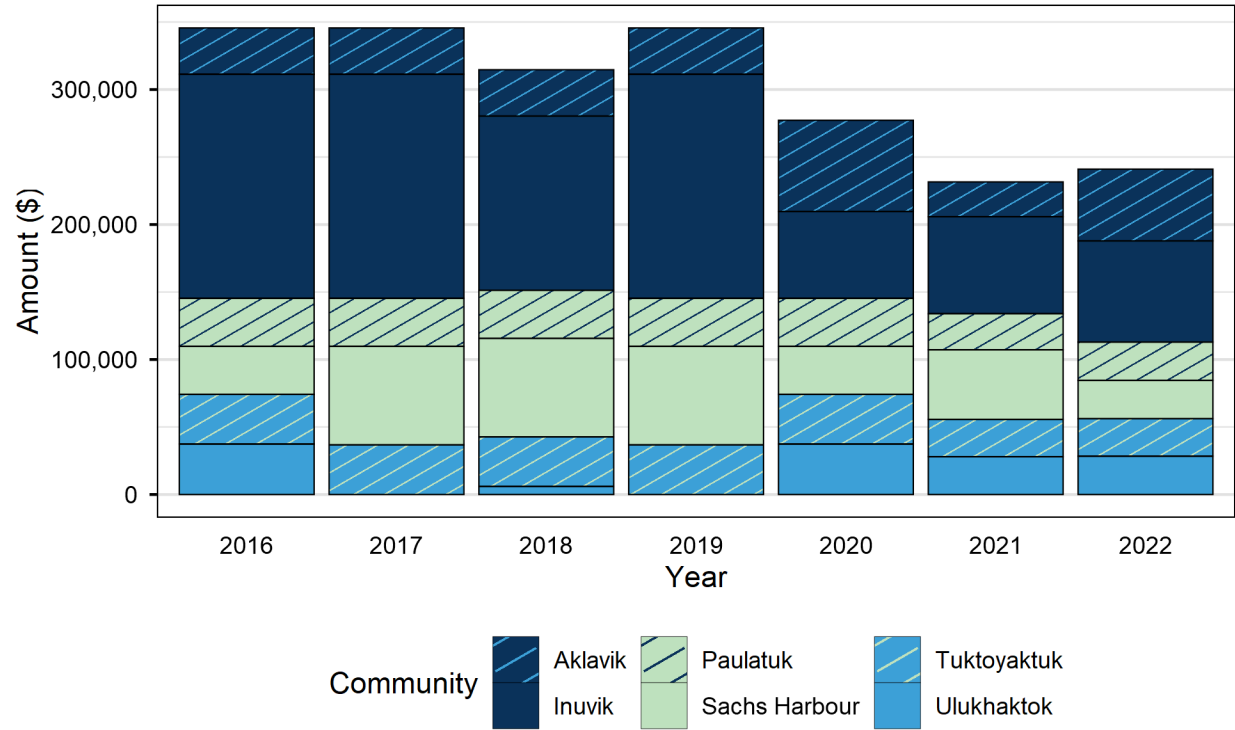
Limitations

Statistical tests to identify the significance of correlations are not possible given the limited amount of socioeconomic harvesting data.

This section presents funding from seven GNWT programs for harvesting activities (hunting, trapping, and fishing). For most programs, data are available back to 2016 by ISR community.

Figure C19 presents funding from the Community Harvesters Program between 2016 and 2022. The Community Harvesters Assistance Program provides funding to hunters and trappers through Local Wildlife Committees and Renewable Resource Councils to cover capital and operating costs of harvesting activities (e.g., small tools, storage equipment) (Environment and Climate Change, 2024c). Total funding to the ISR from the Community Harvesters Assistance Program has decreased since 2019. In 2019 total funding was \$345,637, and this decreased by 30.3% to \$241,032 in 2022. This seems to be related to the COVID-19 pandemic. The average yearly funding from 2016 to 2019 was \$337,893 and the average yearly funding from 2020 to 2022 was \$249,946. This overall trend applies to most communities, where each community has seen reductions in funding. Table C4 presents the average yearly pre- and post-pandemic Community Harvesters Assistance Program for each community.

Figure C19: Community Harvesters Assistance Program, ISR Communities, 2016 to 2022



Source: GNWT, Department of Environment and Natural Resources.

Table C4: Community Harvesters Assistance Program, Pre- and Post-Pandemic Average Yearly Funding, ISR Communities, 2016 to 2022

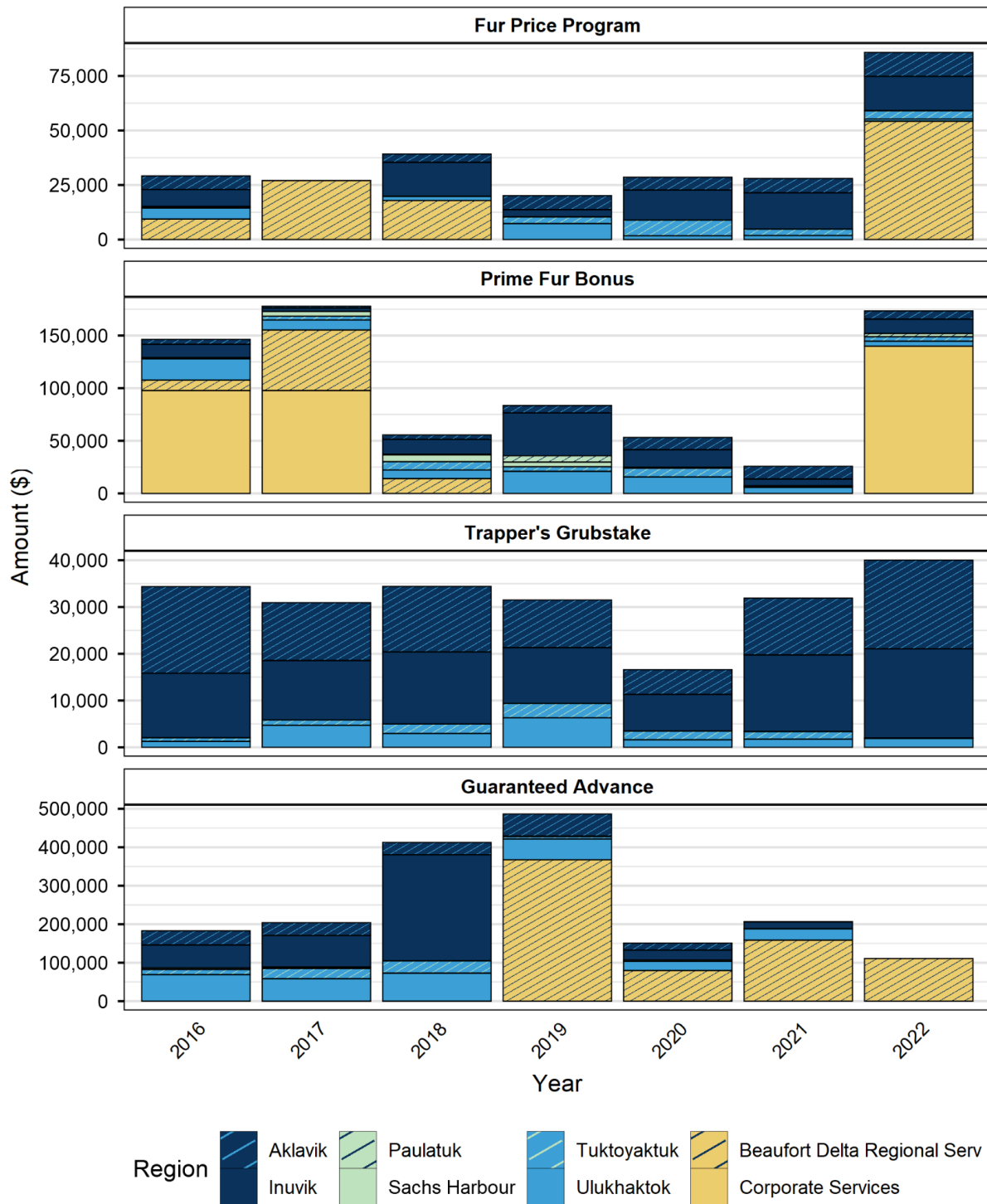
Average Year Funding			
Community	2016 - 2019	2020 - 2022	% Change
Aklavik	\$34,302	\$48,812	42.3%
Inuvik	\$156,755	\$70,393	-55.1%
Paulatuk	\$35,600	\$30,233	-15.1%
Sachs Harbour	\$63,635	\$38,533	-39.4%
Tuktoyaktuk	\$36,755	\$30,692	-16.5%
Ulukhaktok	\$10,846	\$31,283	188.4%
ISR	\$337,893	\$249,946	-30.3%

Source: GNWT, Department of Environment and Natural Resources.

The Genuine Mackenzie Valley Fur (GMVF) Program consists of six programs that promote trapping in the NWT, five of which are presented in Figures C20 and C21 (Environment and Climate Change 2024c). The Trappers Recognition program is not shown, as it does not administer any funding. Included programs are:

- **Fur Price Program:** protects the livelihoods of trappers by ensuring that the market price of furs is stable against unanticipated declines, and paying costs associated with selling furs in auction (including shipping and drumming).
- **Prime Fur Bonus Program:** incentivizes trappers to provide high quality furs by providing additional funds to those who sell fur for values at or exceeding the cash advance.
- **Trapper's Grubstake:** provides trappers funds to offset the start-up costs associated with beginning the trapping season, and is determined by previous pelt sales.
- **Guaranteed Fur Advance:** provides cash advances to trappers selling quality pelts, allowing them to continue trapping while waiting for the sale of furs. When items are sold for less than anticipated in the cash advance, the GMVF absorbs the loss. When items are sold for more than the anticipated cash advance, trappers receive the additional proceeds and can access the Prime Fur Bonus Program.
- **Hide and Fur Program:** provides NWT artisans the support they need to get access to raw materials at affordable prices. By providing NWT artists with access to raw materials at affordable prices allows artists to profit from traditional arts.

Figure C20: Genuine Mackenzie Valley Fur Program,
ISR Communities, 2016 to 2022



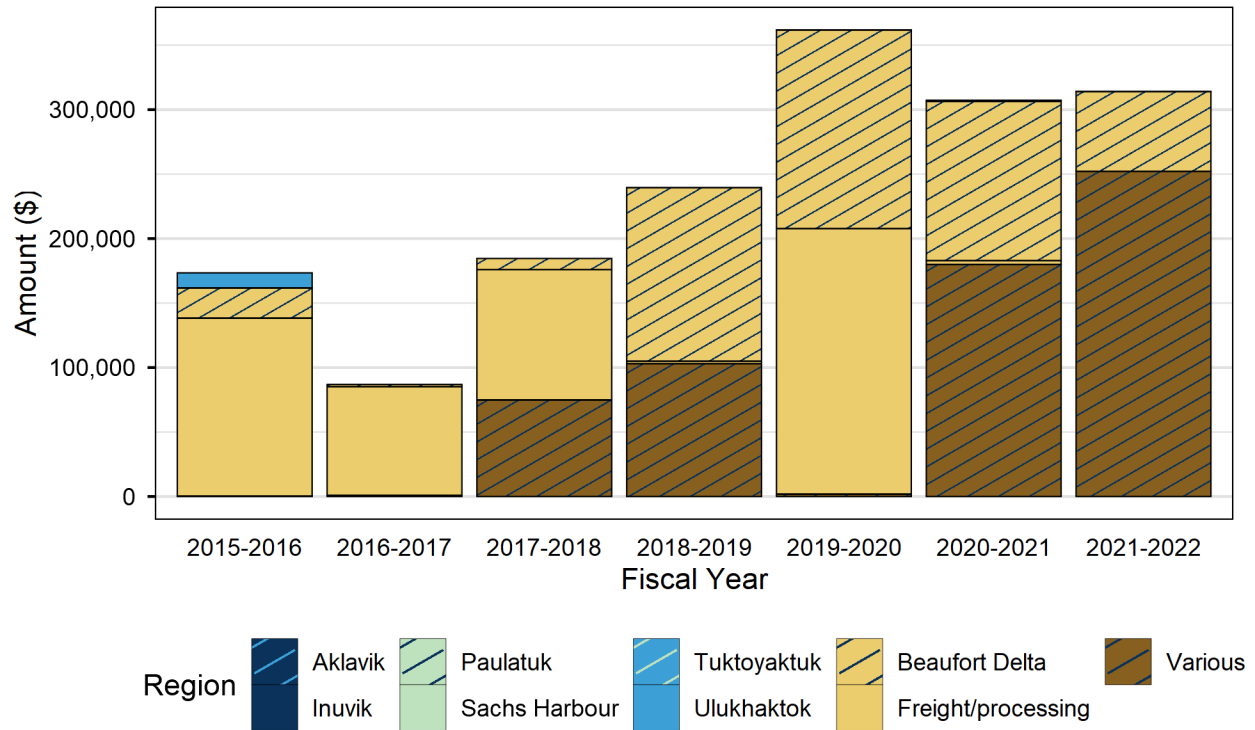
Source: GNWT, Department of Environment and Natural Resources. Note. Data from Beaufort Delta exclude funding awarded to specified ISR communities and initiatives.

Figure C20 presents annual funding amounts for four of the five trapping programs by ISR community, and by corporate services and Beaufort Regional Service.¹⁵ The Fur Price Program funding had a yearly average of \$28,698 from 2016 to 2021. Funding in 2022 was substantially higher than previous years at \$85,807. The Prime Fur Bonus had three years of funding that were much higher than other program years (2016, 2017, and 2022). The high value of the Prime Fur Bonus funding these years was due to large amounts of funding attributed to corporate services, which may include payments to other communities outside of the ISR. Trapper's Grubstake funding has been consistent throughout the years of available data, except for 2020 when it was 51.0% lower than the average funding of other years. The Guaranteed Advance Program funding increased to \$486,436 in 2019, but since then has remained at a much lower level, with an annual average of \$156,191 from 2020 to 2022. The Beaufort Regional Service received the largest proportion of Guaranteed Advance Program funding during the last four years of available data.

Figure C21 shows procurement from the GMVF Hide & Fur Program for ISR communities from 2015 to 2022. Besides some procurement being classified as being for Ulukhatok in the 2015/2016 fiscal year, the rest of procurement is classified as Beaufort Delta, freight/processing and various. Data classified as freight/processing and various may include payments made to communities outside of the ISR, making it difficult to comment on the trends of funding in the ISR over time.

¹⁵ Beaufort Regional Service (Beaufort-Delta Region) is the northernmost administrative region in the NWT. It consists of 8 communities: Inuvik, Aklavik, Paulatuk, Sachs Harbour, Tuktoyaktuk, Ulukhaktok, Fort McPherson, and Tsiigehtchic.

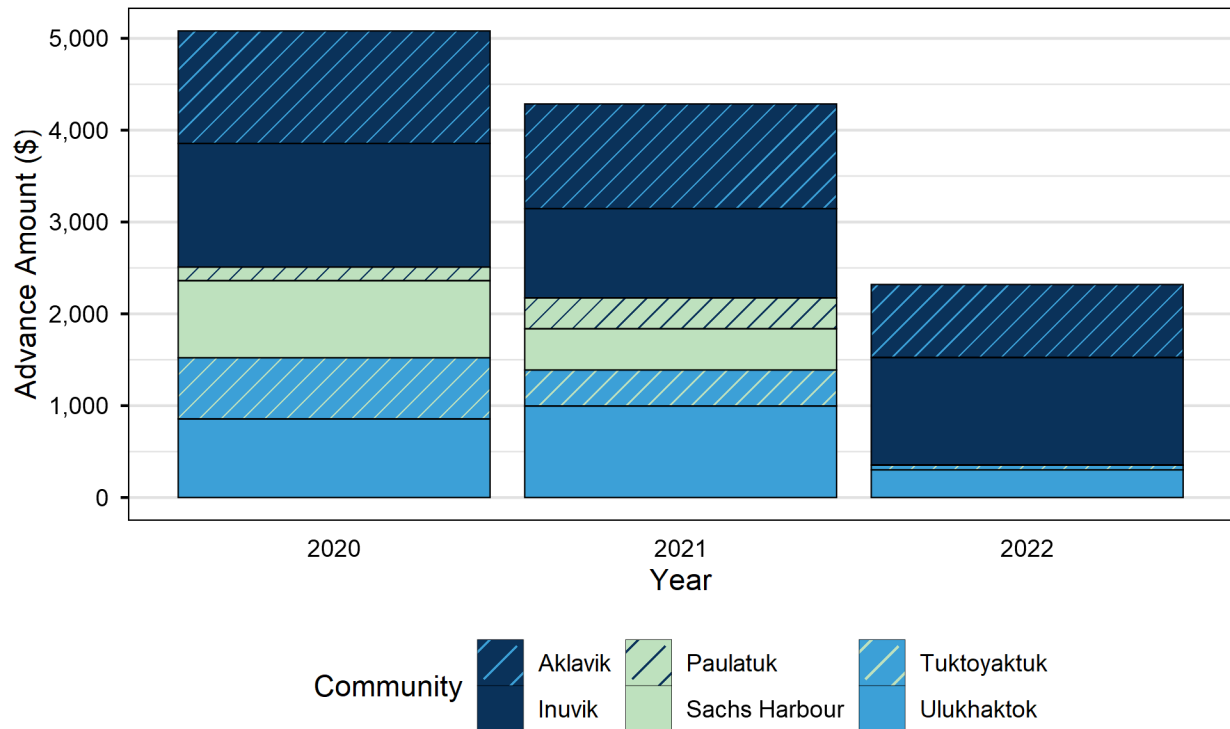
Figure C21: Genuine Mackenzie Valley Hide & Fur Program,
ISR Communities, 2015 to 2022



Source: GNWT, Department of Environment and Natural Resources. Note. Data from Beaufort Delta exclude funding awarded to specified ISR communities and initiatives

Figure C22 shows the value of the average advance amounts provided through the Genuine Mackenzie Valley Fur Program. These amounts, determined by market values, are paid to harvesters prior to the sale of pelts. The decline in average advance amounts between 2020 and 2022 may reflect a decline in the demand or market value of pelts.

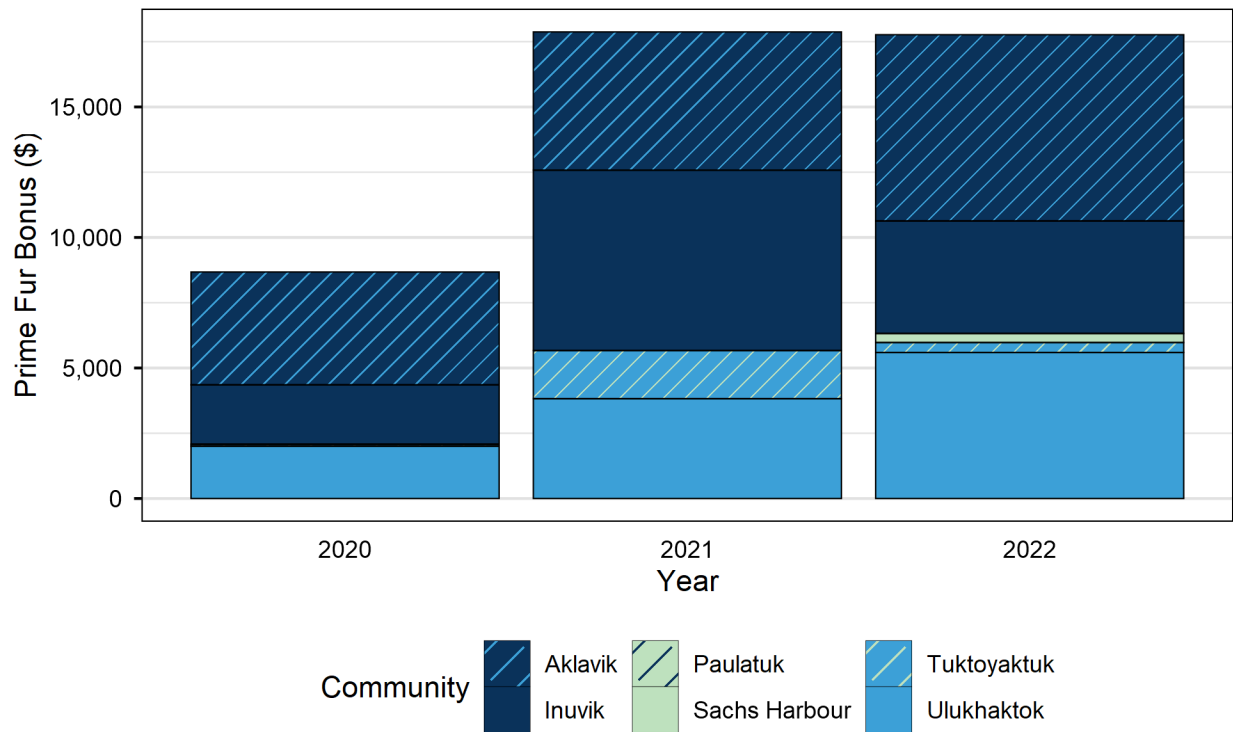
Figure C22. Average Advance Amount, ISR Communities, 2020 to 2022



Source: GNWT Department of Executive Indigenous Affairs. Note: Advance amounts are scaled by the number of active harvesters per year.

Figure C23 shows the value of prime fur bonuses distributed in ISR communities from 2020 to 2022. Prime fur bonuses are given to harvesters delivering high quality pelts that have sold at higher than market values. Despite the decrease in the number of pelts sold from 2020 to 2022, total prime fur bonuses in the ISR increased (near doubling) from 2020 to 2022, and also increased in all ISR communities. This suggests either an increase in the quality of pelts sold, or that the type of pelt sold is higher quality.

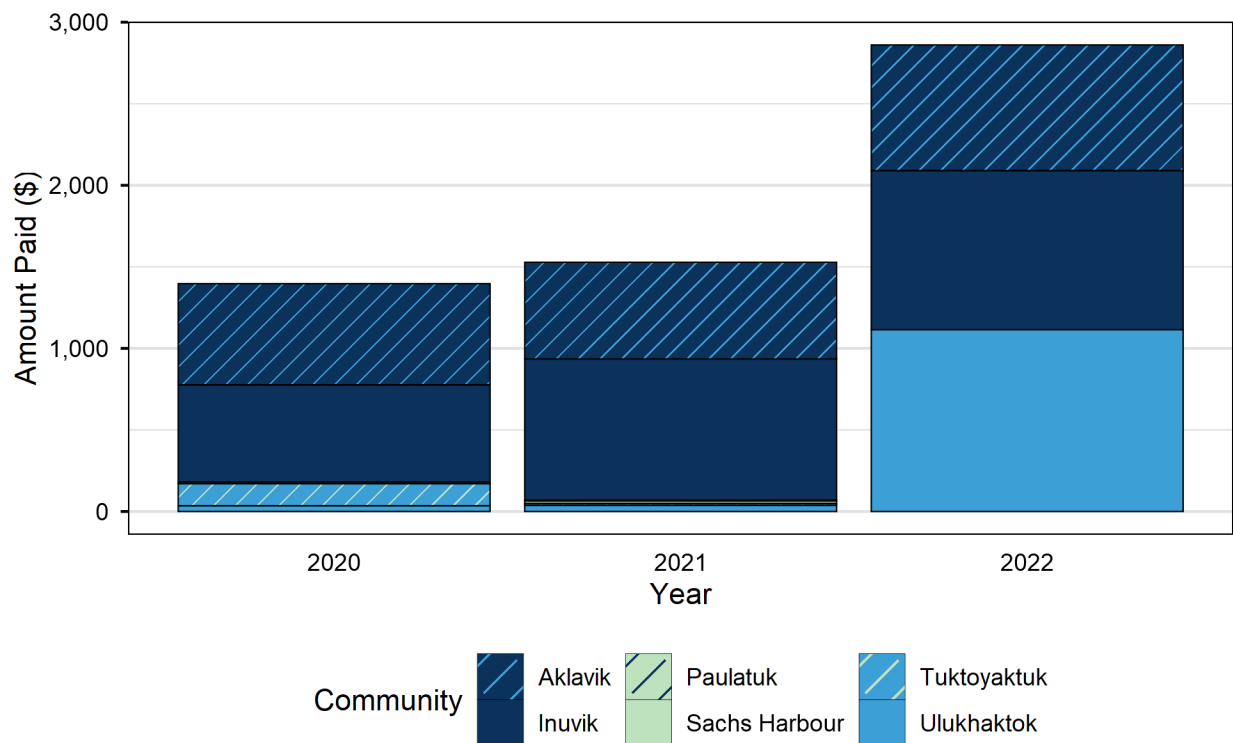
Figure C23. Prime Fur Bonus, ISR Communities, 2020 to 2022



Source: GNWT Department of Executive Indigenous Affairs.

Figure C24 shows the average value of grubstake amounts paid to trappers in ISR communities from 2020 to 2022. Grubstake amounts are given to trappers to cover season upstart costs, the value of which are determined by the previous season's pelt or fur sales. Key informants expressed that equipment is really expensive and creates a big barrier to living off the land. In 2022, the average value of grubstake amounts paid to eligible harvesters is greater than in 2020. Specifically, payments in Inuvik, Aklavik, and Tuktoyaktuk increased, while they decreased in remaining communities. This overall increase in the average value of grubstake amounts occurred while the number of pelts eligible for grubstake increased (see Figure C25) and the number of eligible harvesters decreased (see Figure C26).

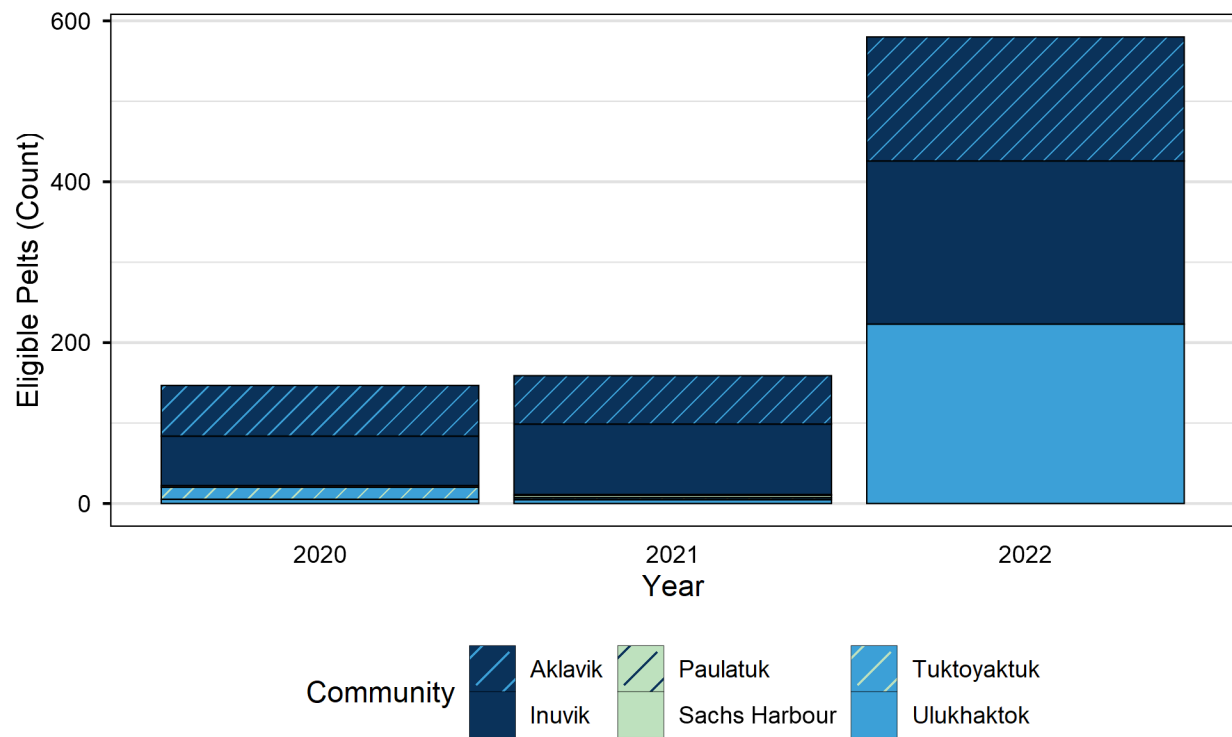
Figure C24. Average Grubstake Amount Paid, ISR Communities, 2020 to 2022



Source: GNWT Department of Executive Indigenous Affairs. Note: Grubstakes amounts are scaled by the number of grubstake eligible harvesters.

Figure C25 shows the average number of Grubstake Eligible Pelts in ISR communities over a span of three years, from 2020 to 2022. Pelts are eligible if they are from approved species and in good quality, meaning the fur is prime and clean, good dense fur coverage and well-handled. From 2020 to 2021 there was little change in the average number of eligible pelts harvested in each community, however the average number of eligible pelts rapidly increased in 2022. While this reflects an increase in the number of pelts harvested, due to favourable environmental conditions or migration patterns, this increase also captures the sharp decline in the number of grubstake eligible harvesters, as shown in Figure C26.

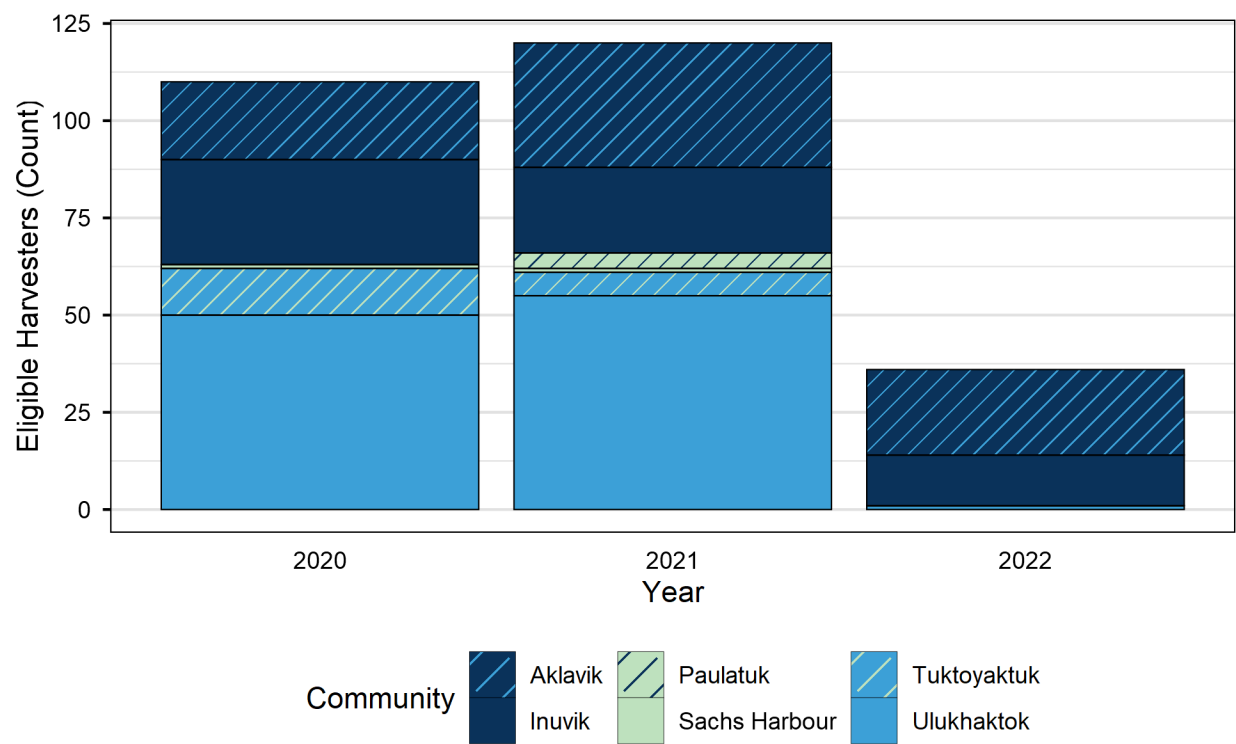
Figure C25. Average Grubstake Eligible Pelts, ISR Communities, 2020 to 2022



Source: GNWT Department of Executive Indigenous Affairs. Note: Grubstakes amounts are scaled by the number of grubstake eligible harvesters.

Figure C26 illustrates the distribution of Grubstake Eligible Harvesters within ISR communities from 2020 to 2022, as reported by the GNWT Department of Executive Indigenous Affairs. A downward trend is observed in the count of eligible harvesters across all communities over the three-year span, driven by Ulukhaktok, where the number of eligible harvesters fell from close to 60 to zero between 2021 and 2022. The reduction in eligible harvesters in 2022 may be due to temporary COVID-19 incentives that were in place during 2020 and 2021. Harvester eligibility is determined by pelts sold in previous years, but the COVID-19 incentive lifted the cap on the number of pelts a harvester could sell in 2020 and 2022. Because there was no cap, this may have led to harvesters selling more pelts than they normally would in 2020 and 2021, leading them to become ineligible for Grubstake in 2022.

Figure C26. Grubstake Eligible Harvesters, ISR Communities, 2020 to 2022

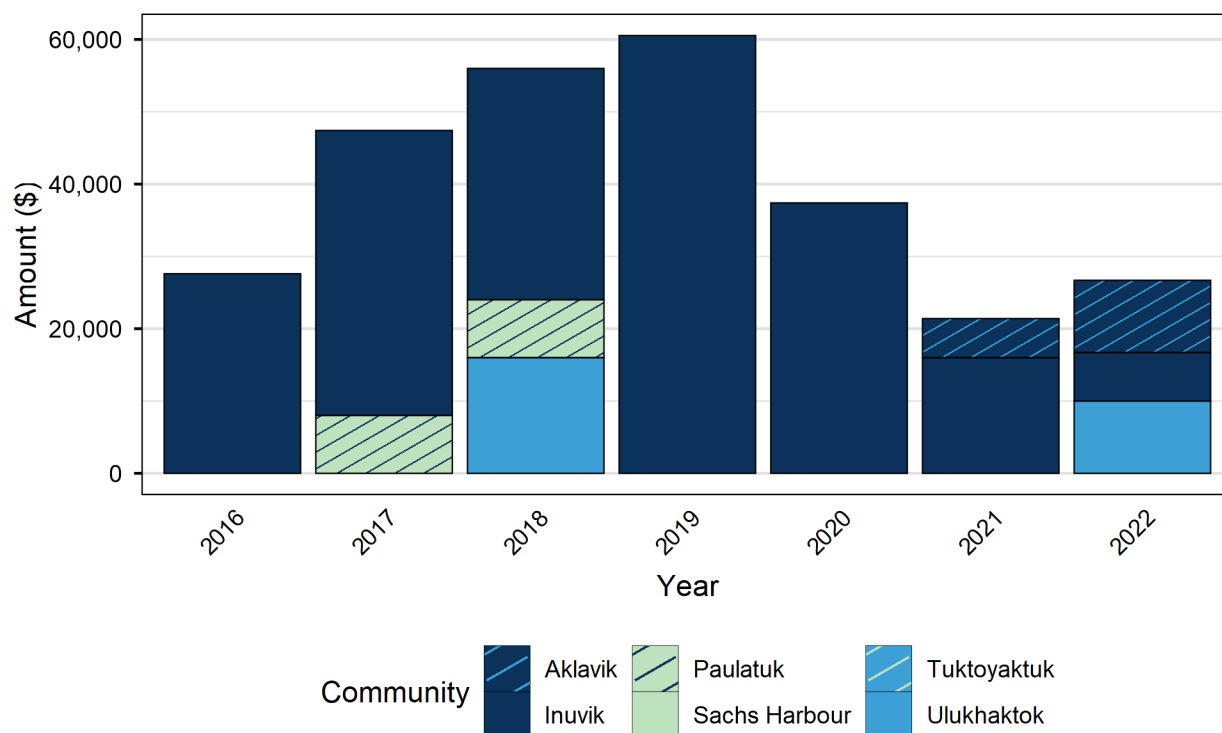


Source: GNWT Department of Executive Indigenous Affairs.

Figure C27 shows funding for the Take a Kid Trapping Program from 2016 to 2022. Take a Kid Trapping program introduces children to traditional harvesting practices, hunting, trapping, fishing, and outdoor survival. Programs are delivered through schools and Indigenous organizations, and funding goes towards the purchase of necessary tools and equipment (Environment and Climate Change 2024b). A similar trend to some other programs is apparent with the Take a Kid Trapping program, with funding increasing until 2019 and then dropping in 2020, and remaining at lower

levels since then. Inuvik received the majority of funding every year except 2022, where funding to Inuvik made up 25.1% of the total.

Figure C27: Take a Kid Trapping Program, ISR Communities, 2016 to 2022



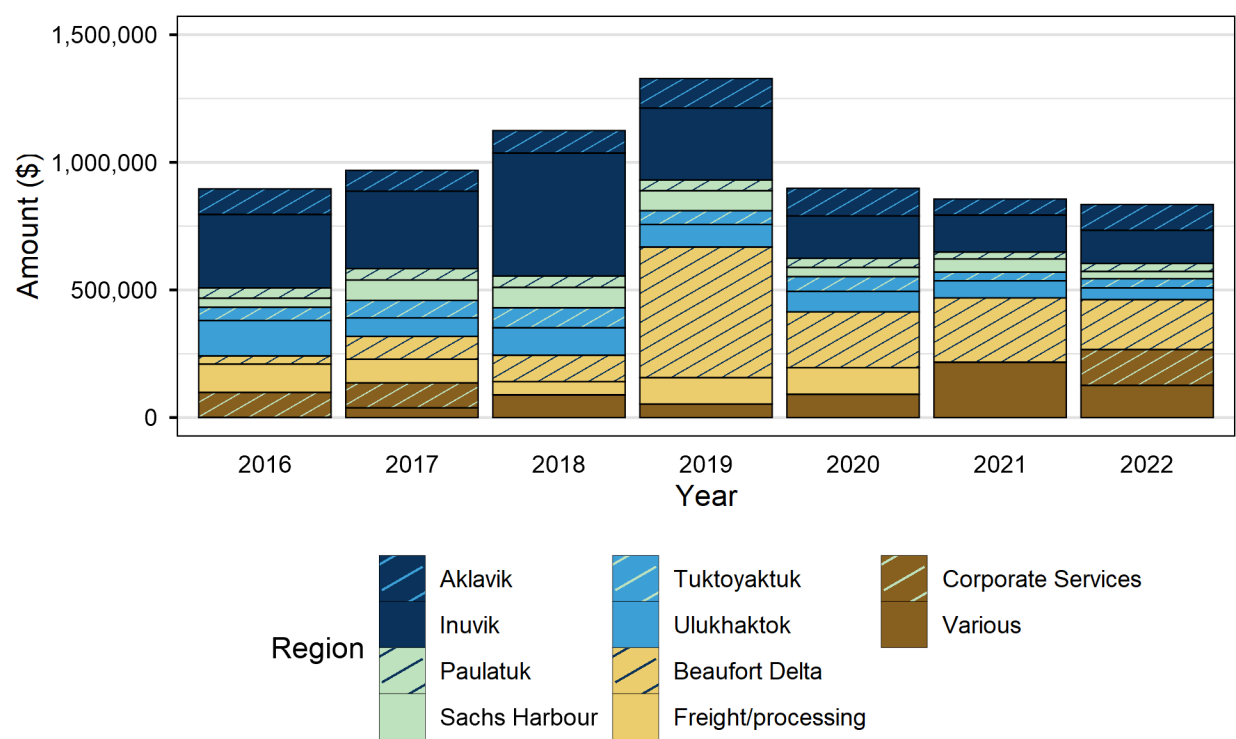
Source: GNWT, Department of Environment and Natural Resources.

Figure C28 consolidates funding data from the six GNWT harvesting-related programs within the ISR discussed throughout this section, providing a comprehensive view of funding trends over time. This aggregation enables analysis of the impact of total program funding on cultural indicators and outcomes of interest. The data show a general uptrend in funding from 2016 to 2019, followed by a notable decline in 2020, and subsequent stabilization at lower funding levels.

Three cultural indicators are considered relevant for correlation analysis: 1) the proportion of households consuming 50% or more harvested meat or fish, 2) the percentage of individuals engaged in hunting or fishing activities, and 3) the percentage involved in trapping. However, the ability to draw a direct correlation between funding and trends in these cultural indicators is constrained by the limited availability of concurrent data points. The comparison is anchored on the nearest available data, aligning the 2016 and 2019 funding figures with socioeconomic data from 2014 and 2019. Table C5 juxtaposes the funding evolution from 2016 to 2019 against the trajectory of socioeconomic indicators over the same time period.

Notably, funding allocated by the GNWT for trapping and harvesting increased by 48.2%, growing from \$896,221 in 2016 to \$1,328,428 in 2019. Despite this substantial infusion of funds, there was an observed decline in harvesting activity for the ISR as a whole from 2014 to 2019. Looking by ISR community, the relationship between increased funding and socioeconomic outcomes is ambiguous, and there is no clear indication of correlation between funding and results reflected in the indicators. Sachs Harbour stands out with a significant funding boost of 121%, coinciding with an 8.44 percentage point uptick in the percent of persons who trap.

Figure C28: Combined Harvesting Program Funding, ISR Communities & Other Funding Categories, 2016 to 2022



Source: GNWT, Department of Environment and Natural Resources. Note. Data from Beaufort Delta excludes funding awarded to specified ISR communities and initiatives.

Table C5: Summary of Changes in GNWT Harvesting Funding (2016 to 2019) and Socioeconomic Harvesting Indicators (2014 to 2019)

	Funding	50% Harvested or Trapped Meat or Fish	Hunted or Fished	Trapped
Geography	% Change	Change (p.p.)	Change (p.p.)	Change (p.p.)
ISR	48.2	- 1.1	- 7.9	- 2.6
Aklavik	14.7	- 24.1	- 3.4	- 7.4
Inuvik	-1.7	- 0.2	- 3.4	- 7.2
Paulatuk	10.4	4.7	- 1.1	1.2
Sachs Harbour	121.0	- 1.3	- 0.5	8.4
Tuktoyaktuk	3.1	- 10.9	- 4.4	1.4

Source: GNWT, Department of Environment and Natural Resources.

Finally, Figure C29 shows the value of funding from the Government of Canada Department of Fisheries and Oceans (DFO) awarded to projects taking place in the ISR from 1998 to 2021. Funding from DFO includes the Coastal Restoration Fund and the Indigenous Habitat Participation Program. Projects funded through these two programs generate data on the impacts of climate change and human activity on the environment and livelihoods of residents in the ISR, and identify ways to conserve and restore ecosystems in the ISR to ensure the continuity of traditional harvesting activities. Key informants express serious concern over the impacts of climate change on harvesting, housing, and infrastructure; ice thinning, permafrost melting, coastal erosion, and slumping already have visible impacts on the ISR, and affect the health and safety of Inuvialuit.

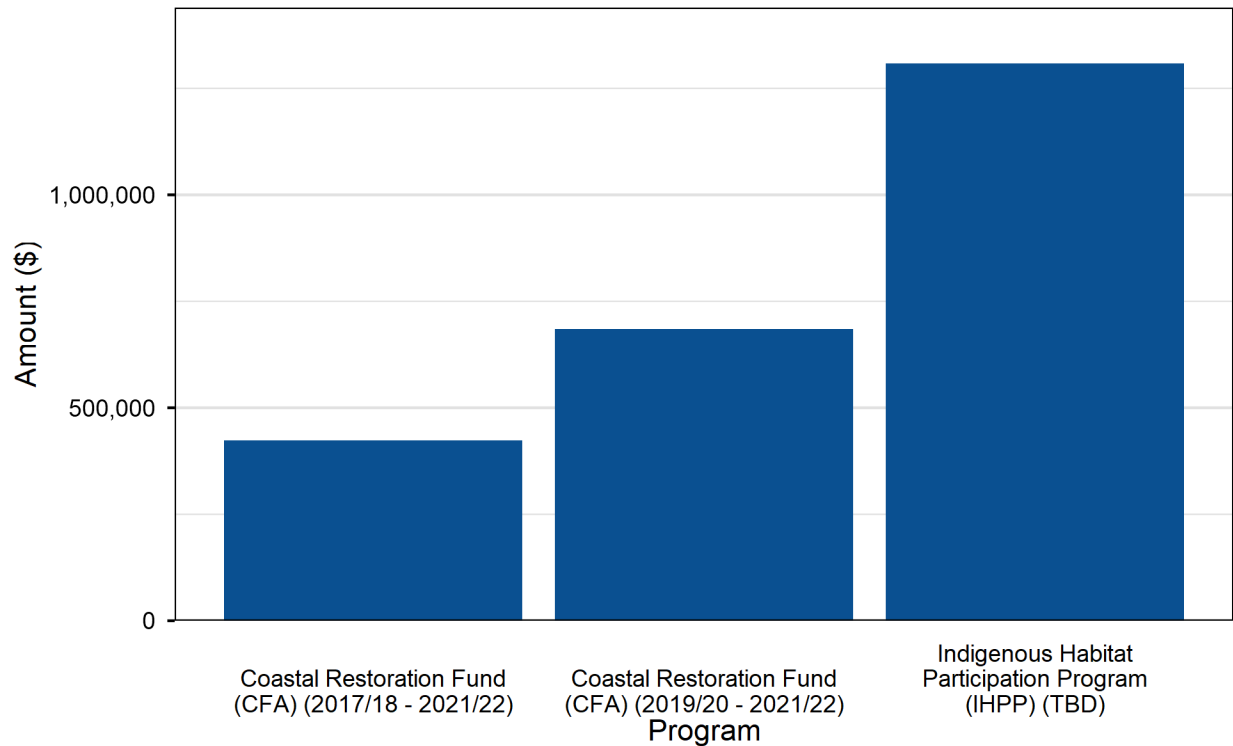
“The people in the Arctic are seeing the effects of global warming first hand and are seeing it happen first. In the last 20 years there is less ice, earlier melts, later freeze ups. Starting in 2000 we’ve been seeing our landscape changing every year, especially on the ocean. It worries me.”

- Key Informant Interview

From 2017 to 2022, Aurora Research Institute received a total of \$423,212 through the Coastal Restoration Fund to assess the effects of thaw slumping on coastal waters of the ISR and identify ways to mitigate these impacts. Similarly, from 2019 to 2022 Dalhousie University received \$684,591 to determine coastal restoration needs across the ISR, identifying culturally important coastal sites and aquatic species as well as factors harming these aquatic species.

The Inuvialuit Game Council, and its partners IRC, the Joint Secretariat, and Paulatuk Hunters and Trappers Committee, received a total of \$1,308,670 through the Indigenous Habitat Participation Fund for three projects. These projects assess the impacts of climate change, increasing human activity, and the Inuvik-Tuktoyaktuk Highway on fish, ecosystems, and harvesting activities. Further, these projects identify conservation practices relying on both scientific and traditional Indigenous knowledge.

Figure C29. Department of Fisheries and Oceans Funding



Source: Department of Fisheries and Oceans (DFO).

4.3 : Social Wellbeing and Health

Data Overview

The social wellbeing and health trends analysis section examines poverty, food, and a variety of health indicators from the NWT Bureau of Statistics and the Aboriginal Peoples Survey (APS), now the Indigenous Peoples Survey (IPS). Indicators from the NWT Bureau of Statistics include the percent of people living in low income from 2004 to 2020, and food price indices from 2000 to 2019. Indicators from the APS include food security and balance of foods in 2017, use of drugs and alcohol in 2012 and 2017, and measures of general and mental health in 2012 and 2017. At the time of this report there are no investment and activities data available.

Key Findings

Key informants describe widening **inequities in social wellbeing and health outcomes in ISR communities**. While some people are thriving, others continue to face significant challenges that impact their social wellbeing and health. Factors driving this change include rapid changes in culture and language, high costs of living, and drug and alcohol use that erode individual health and interpersonal relationships.

The share of people living in low income has been consistently much higher in every ISR community than in the NWT. From 2004 to 2018, the prevalence of poverty increased in the NWT, Inuvik, Tuktoyaktuk, and Ulukhaktok, but decreased in Aklavik and Paulatuk. From 2018 to 2020, all geographies saw the percentage of people living in low income decrease, which could be due, in part, to the distribution of pandemic-related stimulus payments in 2020. Data in Sachs Harbour are suppressed and excluded from this analysis.

Food is consistently at least 40% more expensive in the ISR than it is in Yellowknife. Relative to Yellowknife, food is, on average, most expensive in Paulatuk (on average 94% more expensive than Yellowknife between 2000 and 2019) and least expensive in Inuvik (on average 50% more expensive than Yellowknife between 2000 and 2019).

While 4.0% and 5.6% of Inuvialuit in the ISR self-report having poor general health in 2012 and 2017, respectively, **key informants state that improving health remains a priority in the ISR**. Additional data are required to better understand the health outcomes of Inuvialuit.

Additional information on health and wellbeing should be available in the upcoming years once the National Inuit Health Survey is completed and results are released.



Trends Analysis

Key informants highlight positive developments that have occurred in the ISR over the past couple of decades related to social wellbeing and health, including a decline in suicide rates and increased access to health and wellbeing resources and funding. Wellbeing programs and initiatives have been successful across Inuit Nunangat, the ISR, and within communities. Looking forward, the ITK Poverty Reduction Strategy is expected to support income, health, education and early learning, housing, food security, and livelihoods of Inuit across Inuit Nunangat, thereby improving outcomes across the social determinants of health. Additionally, key informants highlight that the School Food Program has already successfully fed students across the ISR, improving school attendance and food security. Complementary quantitative data assessing the impact of this program would be useful, but were not provided for this review. Other initiatives and programs across the ISR have also been noted successes, including the Country Foods Processing Plant, opened in 2021. At a community level, key informants note that people are actively breaking cycles of addiction and substance abuse, supported by an increasing number of support groups that encourage people to heal through community and community belonging, including Project Jewel, which supports Inuvialuit through land-based and cultural activities.

At the same time, key informants also describe a divergence in social wellbeing and health trends in ISR communities over the last 20 years: while some people are thriving, others continue to face significant challenges that impact their social wellbeing and health. Key informants describe three of these challenges in further detail: 1) the loss of or disconnection from Inuvialuit culture due to the rapid cultural and linguistic change that Inuvialuit have had to undergo, especially so over the course of a few generations, as a result of the legacy of residential schools and colonialism, 2) high costs of living and food insecurity in the ISR, and 3) the prevalence of drugs and alcohol in ISR communities. Importantly, these challenges are interconnected, and they are further impacted by and have an impact on other social determinants of health, including mental wellness, education, housing, and employment.

First, key informants made it clear that culture plays a central role in Inuvialuit identity and contributes to both individual and community mental, emotional, spiritual, and physical health and wellbeing, as well as a sense of community belonging. Conversely, the erosion of culture can adversely affect mental health and wellbeing, leading to depression, anxiety, substance abuse and even suicide (Kirmayer, Brass & Tait, 2000). The rapid transition away from a traditional way of life that Inuvialuit have had to undergo within a few generations, as well as the long-term cumulative impacts of colonialism and residential schools, continue to have deeply negative consequences for Inuvialuit.

“My parents lived off the land. They lived a traditional lifestyle where they didn’t have to work. For our generation, that isn’t an option. If you don’t work, you don’t get anything and live off income assistance.” - Key Informant Interview

Key informants shine a light on the social and economic pressures that exist today to both attain formal education and employment and learn, exercise, and maintain traditional activities. Key

informants note that it is “hard to be proud of being a harvester or a hunter if you can’t make income to support you. And it is hard to be a member of the community if you don’t know how to hunt and fish.” Balancing traditional and western ways of life is not necessarily challenging for all Inuvialuit, but those who struggle to balance both experience feelings of shame, loss, and disconnection from their identity, which in turn impacts their social wellbeing and health.

“There has been a rapid change from a nomadic life and full independence to being expected to do well in school. The culture change has been so fast. So many people have been hurt in a bad way. People are hurting and struggling. Most of us don’t know our language. Loss of culture is a shameful thing we have to deal with. We are dealing with who we are as people.”

- Key Informant Interview

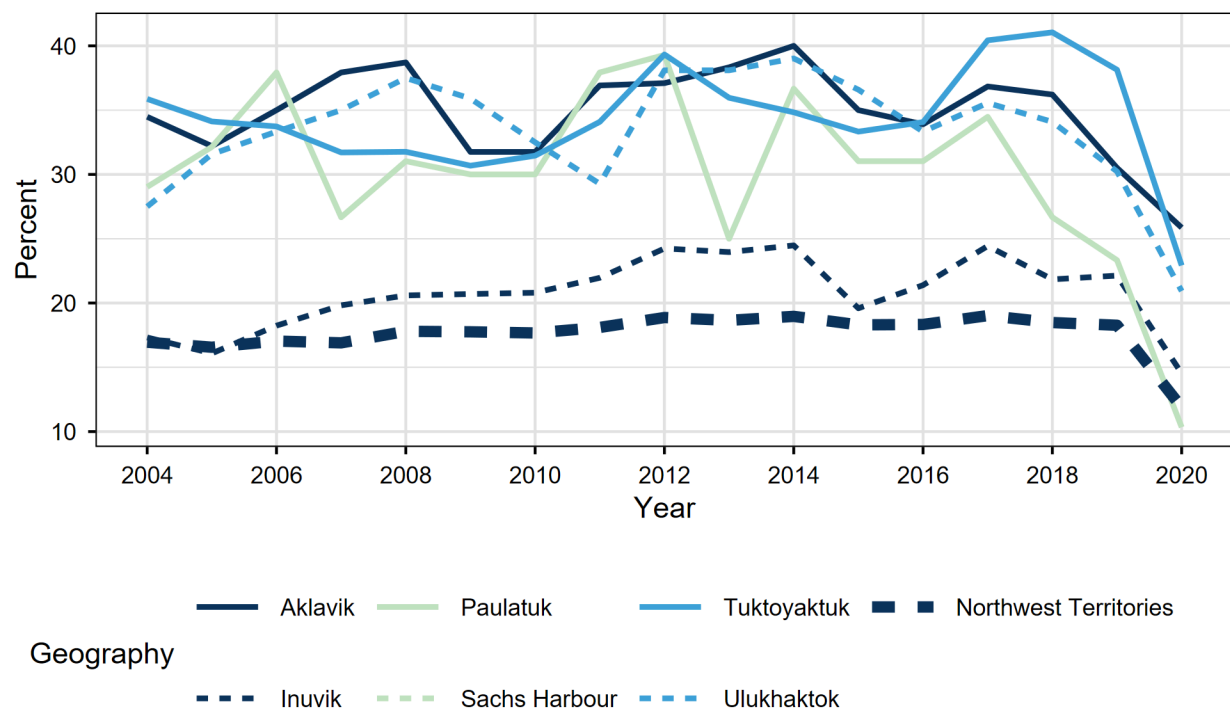
Second, key informants express concern that the high costs of living in ISR communities, paired with low income, exacerbate mental health and interpersonal challenges that take a toll on physical health. Various key informants note that many Inuvialuit are not able to afford basic necessities, including food imported from the south, their homes, equipment for harvesting, or fuel. As a result, people struggle to save and participate in harvesting activities, rousing feelings of shame and loss among residents. Further, the high cost of food results in food insecurity, which has direct consequences on social determinants of health including education and employment.

Figure S1 and Table S1 show a measure of poverty and food security, respectively, for people in the ISR using data from the NWT Bureau of Statistics. Poverty and food security indicators provide insights into the social wellbeing and health of Inuvialuit. Health Canada has described income as “the most important determinant of health” (Little, 2006) and the World Health Organization (WHO) states that higher incomes are linked to better health (WHO, 2013). In its 2014 report, *Social Determinants of Inuit Health in Canada*, Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami (ITK) states that “access to higher incomes allow for greater disposable income within families and can alleviate cycles of poverty. Overall, the impacts of income on health are strongly connected with a number of other determinants such as education attainment and employment status.” That is, ITK recognizes that poverty reduction and income growth impact and are impacted by individual and community health, education, employment, and other determinants of health and wellbeing (ITK, 2018). The release of Qanuippitaa? National Inuit Health Survey results will provide a more comprehensive understanding of social wellbeing and health trends within ISR communities and Inuit Nunangat more broadly, though there is no release date set at the time of writing this report. The survey will provide information on mental wellness, health services, housing, safety and security, education, income, livelihoods, and culture and language relevant to Inuit (Qanuippitaa? National Inuit Health Survey, 2021).

Figure S1 shows the share of people living in low income in the NWT and ISR communities between 2004 and 2020, measuring the prevalence of poverty in these communities. People within a household are classified as living in low-income based on an

after-tax low-income threshold by household size. Sachs Harbour and the ISR are excluded from this analysis, due to data suppression. The share of people living in low income has been consistently much higher in every ISR community than in the NWT. From 2004 to 2018 the percentage of people living in low income increased in the NWT, Inuvik, Tuktoyaktuk, and Ulukhaktok, while it decreased in Aklavik and Paulatuk. From 2018 to 2020, the share of people living in low income decreased in all geographic regions.

Figure S1. Percent of People Living in Low Income, NWT & ISR Communities, 2004 to 2020



Source: NWT Bureau of Statistics. Notes: Data for Sachs Harbour are suppressed and not presented in the figure.

Table S1 shows the food price index in ISR communities from 2000 to 2019. The food price index shows the price of a bundle of goods relative to Yellowknife, shedding light on the cost of food and food insecurity in ISR communities, a concern expressed by key informants. Food in the ISR is consistently over 40% more expensive than it is in Yellowknife. Relative to Yellowknife, food is, on average, most expensive in Paulatuk (on average 94% more expensive than Yellowknife between 2000 and 2019) and least expensive in Inuvik (on average 50% more expensive than Yellowknife between 2000 and 2019). In 2019, after the completion of the Inuvik-Tuktoyaktuk Highway, Tuktoyaktuk and Inuvik had the lowest food price indices in the ISR, suggesting a relationship between accessibility, travel distance, and food prices.

The food price index does not account for inflationary pressures, so additional data are necessary to fully understand changes in costs of food and factors that influence costs. Further, these data do not capture the period of the COVID-19 pandemic, during which stimulus packages were distributed and the Country Foods Processing Plant was opened, both of which may have had an impact on access to food and food prices.

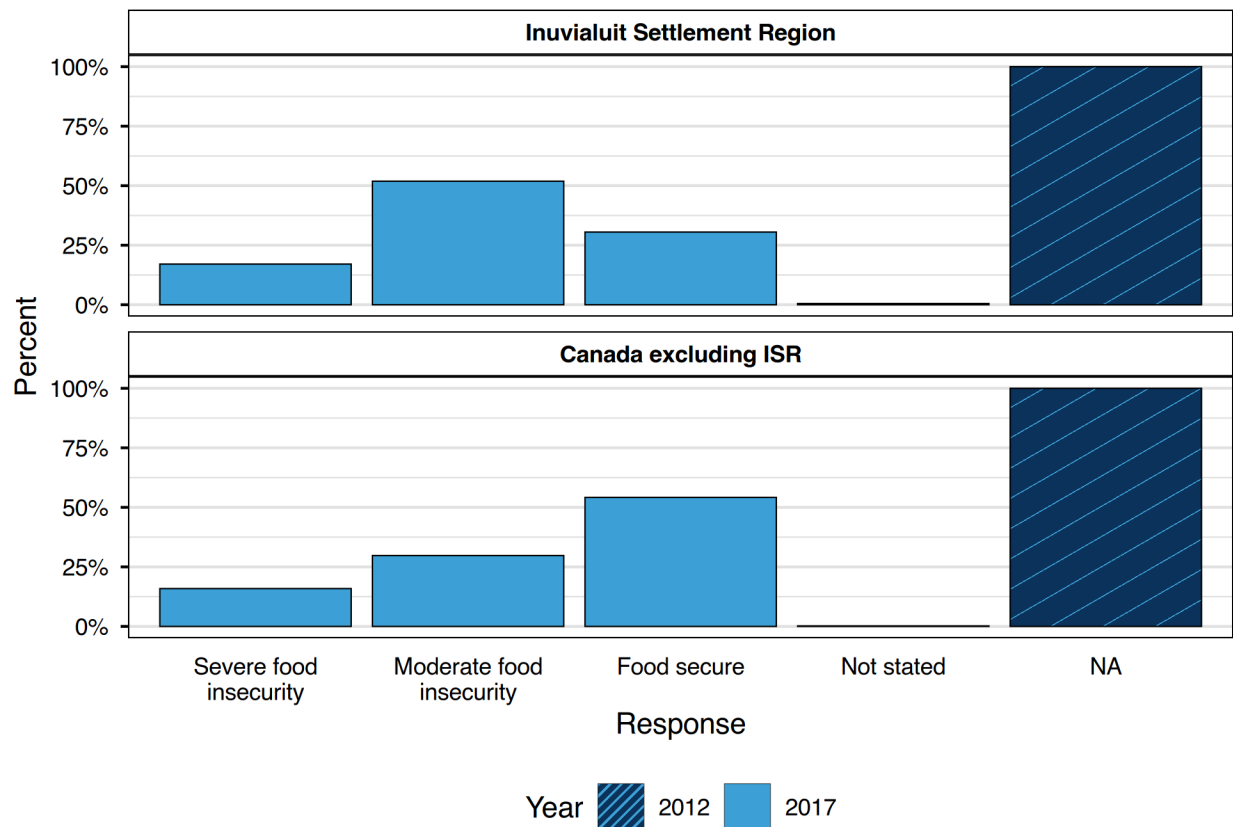
Table S1. Food Price Indices, ISR Communities, 2000 to 2019

	2000	2001	2004	2010	2012	2015	2019
Aklavik	167	183	183	174	174	170	162
Inuvik	146	147	140	150	149	157	159
Paulatuk	174	193	222	196	198	185	187
Sachs Harbour	200	188	197	177	189	175	197
Tuktoyaktuk	189	165	206	162	168	162	158
Ulukhaktok	186	182	188	204	195	186	180

Source: NWT Bureau of Statistics. Note: The index is relative to Yellowknife (=100), so comparisons over time cannot be conducted accurately. Changes over time do not reflect inflation/deflation, instead indicating changes in prices relative to Yellowknife.

One key informant states that food insecurity remains an issue in the ISR. Food insecurity indicates a household's experience with: concerns over food running out before having enough money to purchase more; disruptions of eating patterns, including cutting meal size and skipping meals; hunger; and the balance of meals (Statistics Canada, 2018; Health Canada 2020). Figure S2 shows the percentage of Inuvialuit facing severe, moderate, and low (i.e., food secure) food insecurity in 2017. There are no available data on food insecurity in 2012. In 2017, 51.9% of Inuvialuit in the ISR face moderate food insecurity, that is, more than half of households compromised on the quality or quantity of food (Health Canada, 2020). While 17.1% of Inuvialuit in the ISR face severe food insecurity, only 30.5% are food secure. In comparison, 54.2% of Inuvialuit living outside the ISR are food secure, 29.8% face moderate food insecurity, and 15.9% face severe food insecurity. These differences may be attributed to high food prices and inaccessibility of food in the ISR, including due to travel distance.

Figure S2. Percent of Inuvialuit, Food Insecurity, ISR & Canada, 2012 & 2017



Source: APS. Note: 2012 data do not include the incidence of food security among Inuvialuit.

Lastly, key informants note the continued impact of substance use on mental health and community wellbeing. Substance use is directly linked with social determinants of health discussed throughout this and other sections (including loss of culture and language, income, food insecurity, and poor housing conditions). In other words, it is symptomatic of deeper social and economic issues, as well as the legacy of colonialism (Nelson, 2012). Key informants describe an increase in the prevalence of drugs and alcohol in ISR communities over the past 10 years that has worsened mental and physical health, community and familial relationships, and economic and educational outcomes.

“Gaps and disparities are becoming bigger because of the introduction of drugs. This is a new epidemic that wasn’t here 10 years ago. We’ve seen it destroy families and take its toll, and we’re at a loss for what to do.”

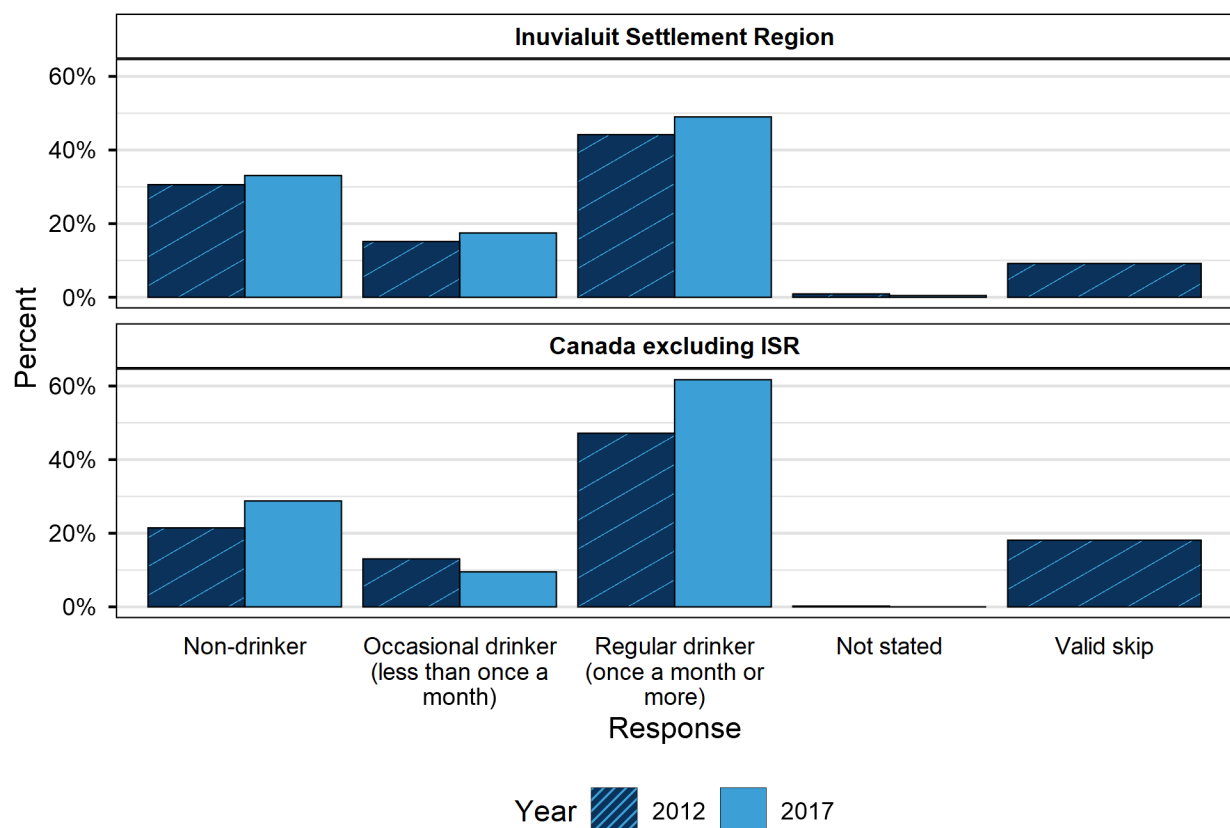
- Key Informant Interview

Figure S3 shows the percentage of Inuvialuit in the ISR and Canada by drinking habits. From 2012 to 2017, the share of regular Inuvialuit drinkers in the ISR increased from 44.2% to 49.0%, a trend

that aligns with key informant sentiments. Despite the increase in regular drinkers in the ISR, the share of regular drinkers is lower than the share of regular drinkers in the rest of Canada (47.2% and 61.7%). Similarly, the share of Inuvialuit non-drinkers in the ISR (30.6% and 33.1%) is higher than in the rest of Canada (21.5% and 28.8%).

Key informants describe an increase in drug use in the ISR over a decade. Quantitative data on drug use are only available for 2017; 59.5% of Inuvialuit in the ISR report not using drugs, while 37.1% of Inuvialuit report using drugs in the past 12 months. Additional data are needed to better understand trends and characteristics of drug use, especially since the COVID-19 pandemic.

Figure S3. Percent of Inuvialuit, Type of Drinker, ISR & Canada, 2012 & 2017



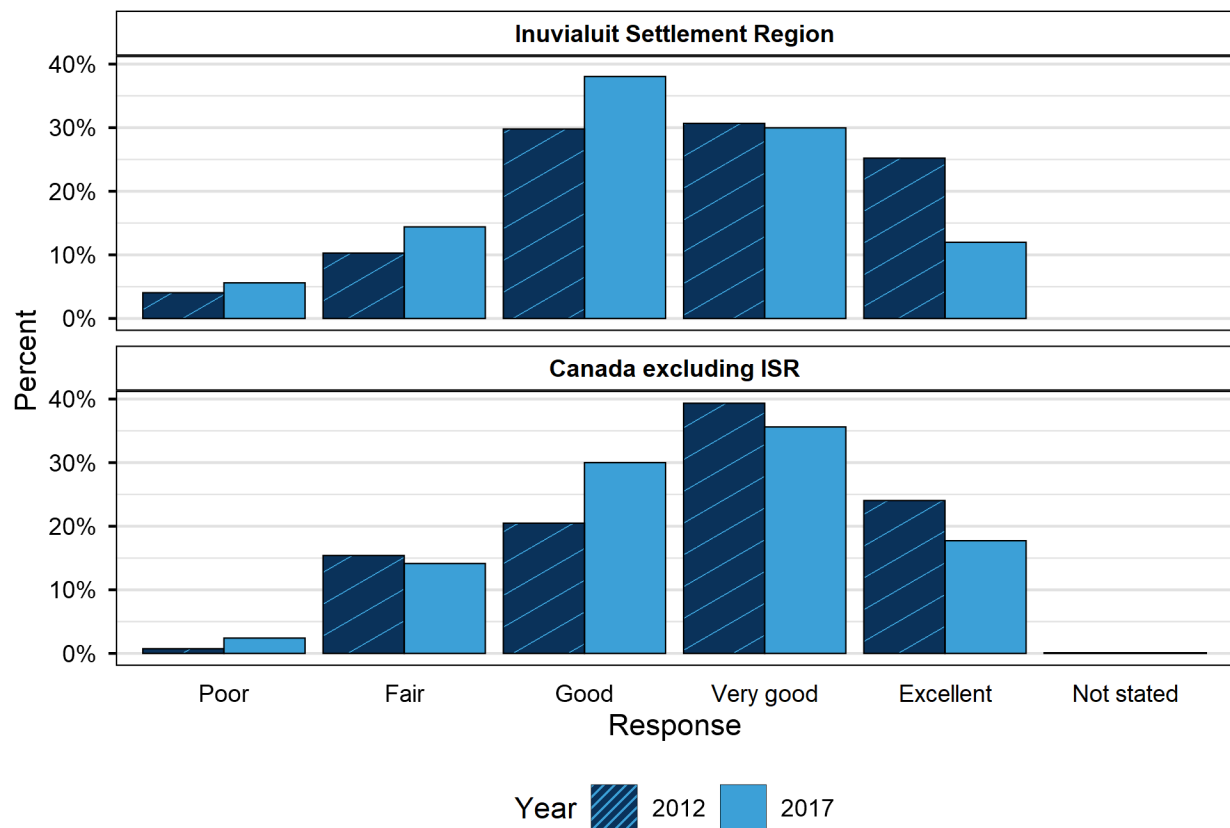
Source: APS

Key informants highlight how individuals are building community and creating support systems to address cycles of addiction and abuse. This illustrates the importance of community relationships to overcome these long-standing challenges.

“Peers are what can bring down or uplift. Support networks. There is a lot more of that. People talking more, breaking cycles on addictions, abuse, taking a stand on those things. A lot of it is the natural social environment of support. It’s a supportive generation.” - Key Informant Interview

Overall, key informants view health as a persistent issue in the ISR and improving health is a priority. Figure S4 shows the self-reported general health of Inuvialuit in the ISR and the rest of Canada in 2012 and 2017. General health includes physical health, injury, and disease, as well as mental and social wellbeing (Statistics Canada, 2018). From 2012 to 2017, the share of Inuvialuit living in the ISR reporting poor health increased from 4.0% to 5.6% while the share reporting very good or excellent health decreased from 55.9% to 41.9%. Despite an increase in poor health reporting, a greater share of Inuvialuit report good health in the ISR (38.1%) than in the rest of Canada (30.0%) in 2017. Additional health data are required to determine long-term health trends, and to make comparisons to other geographies and populations, as well as investment data to evaluate the impact of interventions on Inuvialuit.

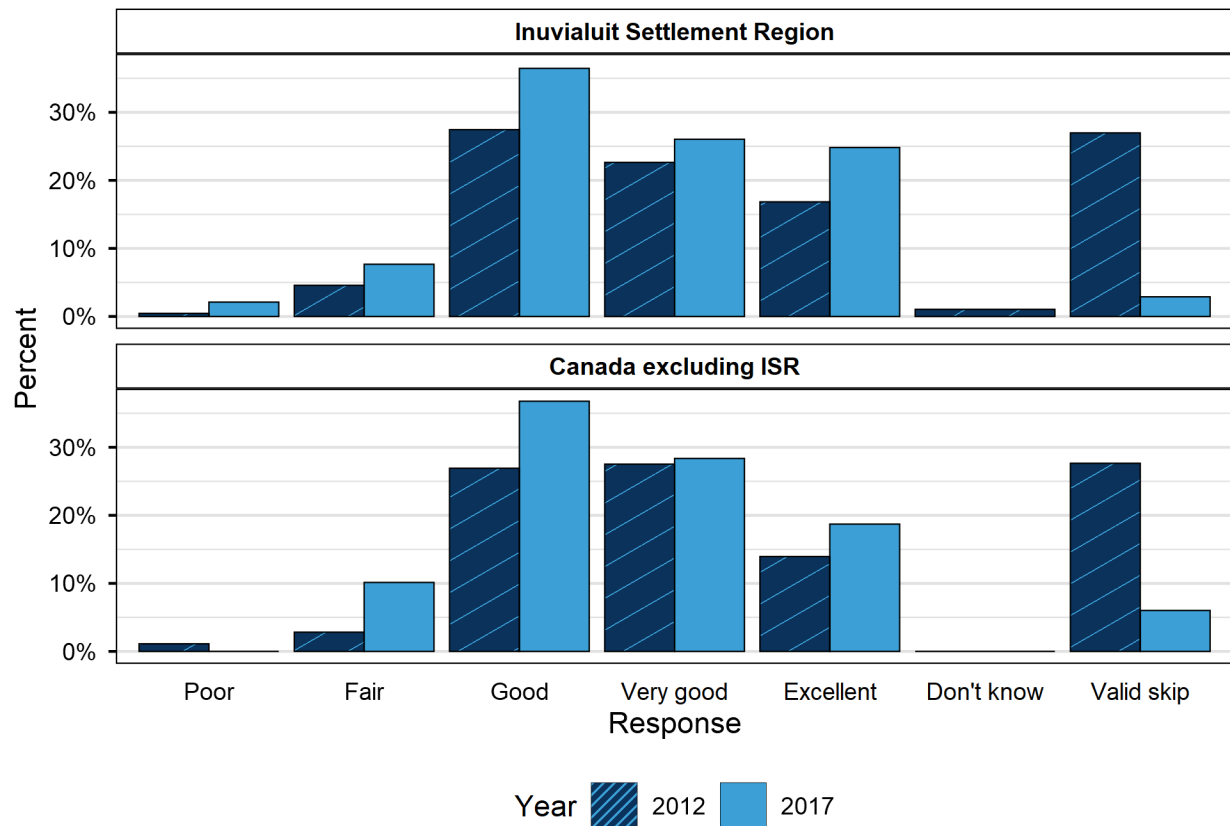
Figure S4. Percent of Inuvialuit, General Health (Self-Reported), ISR & Canada, 2012 & 2017



Source: APS

Figure S5 shows the self-reported mental health of Inuvialuit living in the ISR and in the rest of Canada. In 2012 and 2017, a higher share of Inuvialuit in the ISR (16.8% and 24.8%) than in the rest of Canada (13.9% and 18.7%) report having excellent mental health. From 2012 to 2017, the share of Inuvialuit in the ISR reporting poor mental health increased by 1.7 percentage points to 2.1%. While the slight increase in people reporting poor mental health may be unfavorable, it may reflect a promising increase in mental health awareness. Despite an increase in people reporting poor mental health, an increasing share of Inuvialuit report having good (up 9 percentage points to 36.5%), very good (3.4 percentage points 26.0%), and excellent (8 percentage points 24.8%) mental health. We note that these data present self-reported mental health before the COVID-19 pandemic, which key informants state had negative consequences on mental health. As such, self-reported mental health in 2021 and today may be lower than 2017 levels.

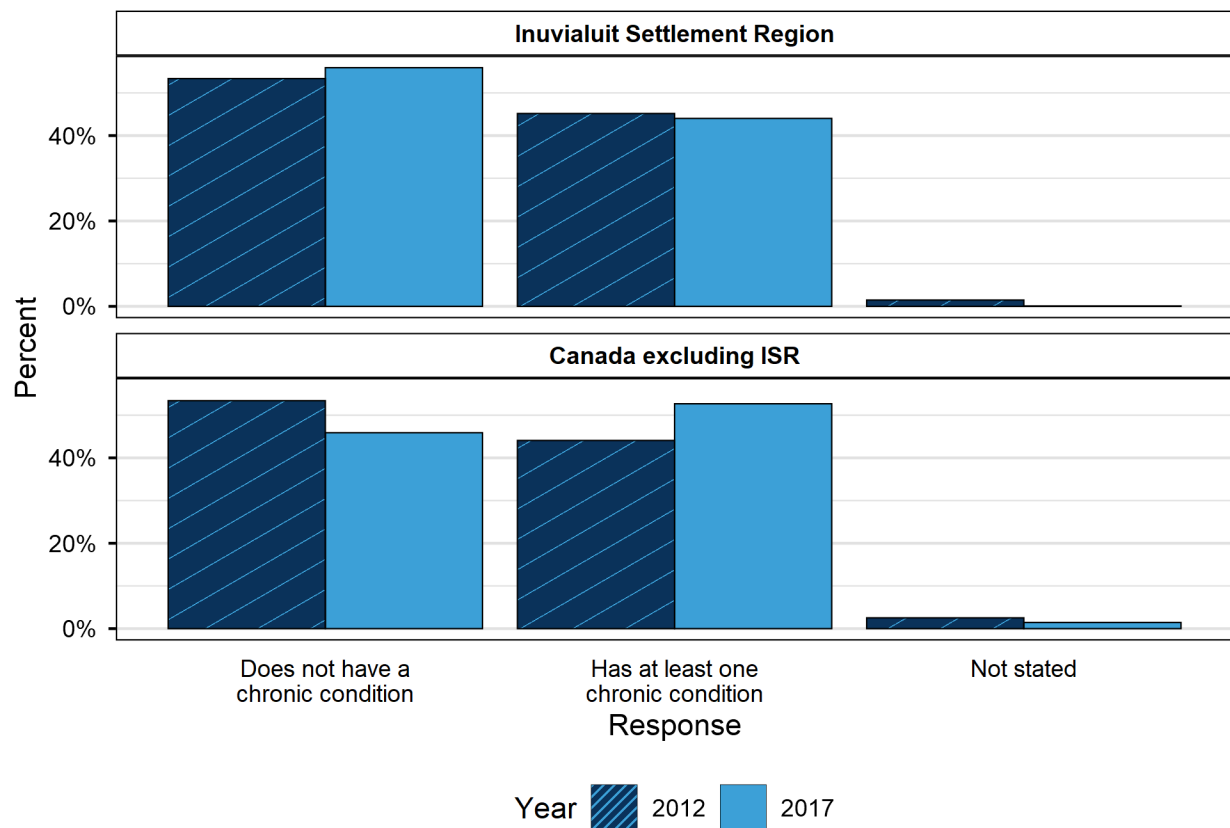
Figure S5. Percent of Inuvialuit, Mental Health (Self-Reported), ISR & Canada, 2012 & 2017



Source: APS

Figure S6 shows the percentage of Inuvialuit with at least one chronic health condition in the ISR and Canada including the ISR. Chronic health conditions are diagnosed long-term physical and mental health conditions (e.g. arthritis, diabetes, cancer, and mood and anxiety disorders) (Statistics Canada, 2018). From 2012 to 2017, the percentage of people living in the ISR with no chronic health conditions increased from 53.3% to 55.9%, and the percentage of people living with at least one chronic health condition decreased from 45.2% to 44.0%. Over the same period, the share of Inuvialuit living across Canada with at least one chronic condition increased from 44.1% to 52.7%; this increase may represent greater access to receive diagnoses or migration of ISR residents with chronic health conditions.

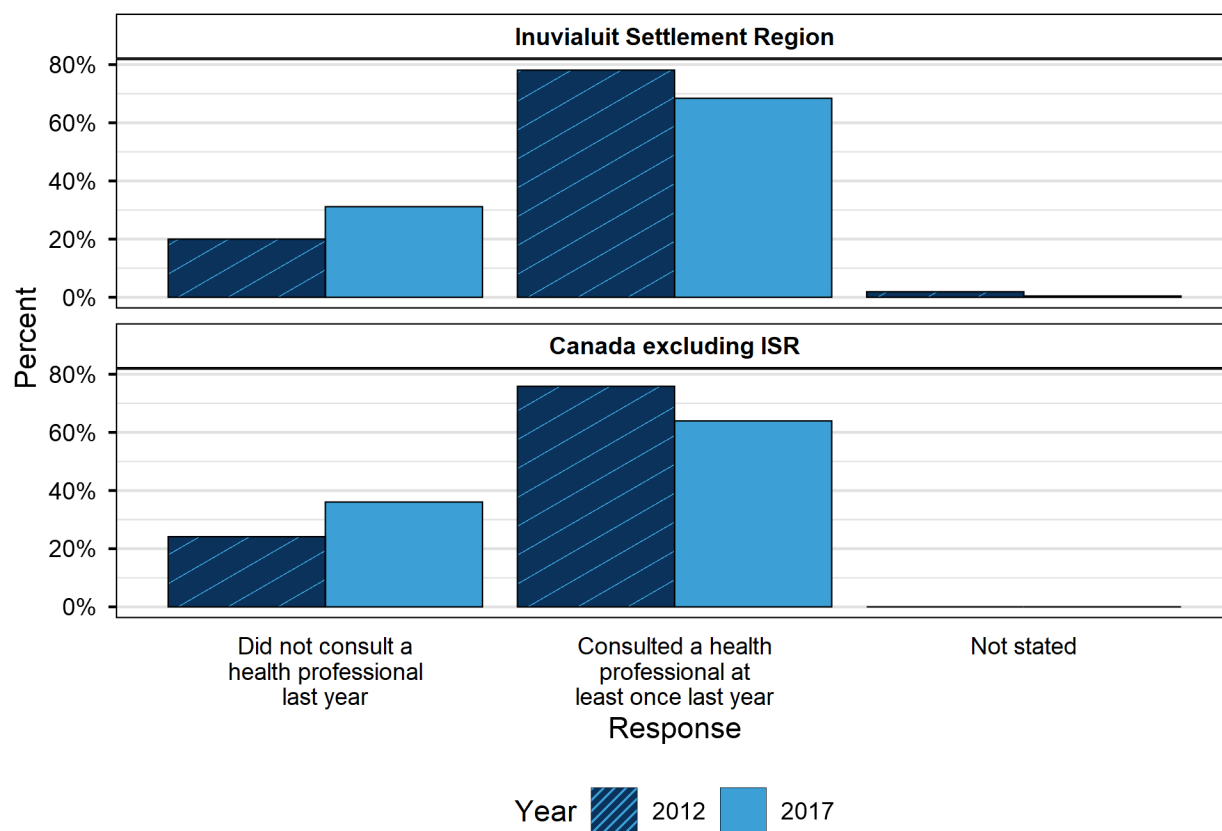
Figure S6. Percent of Inuvialuit, Chronic Health Condition Status, ISR & Canada, 2012 & 2017



Source: APS

Figure S7 shows the percentage of Inuvialuit living in the ISR and Canada who consulted a health care professional in the last 12 months. Health care professionals include family doctors, nurses, psychologists, social workers, and counsellors (Statistics Canada, 2018). In 2012 and 2017 the share of Inuvialuit who consulted health care professionals at least once is higher in the ISR (78.1% and 68.4%) than in Canada (75.9% and 63.9%). From 2012 to 2017, the share of Inuvialuit consulting health care professionals decreased in both geographies; this may suggest a decrease in health-seeking behaviours, or reflect an increased difficulty in accessing health care services and professionals. Additional data on health care investments are needed to better understand the health landscape.

Figure S7. Percent of Inuvialuit, Consulted a Health Care Professional in Last 12 Months, ISR & Canada, 2012 & 2017



Source: APS

4.4 : Education

Data Overview

Rates of education attainment are examined in the Education Trends Analysis section, drawing from the 2001 to 2021 Census.

Key Findings

Between 2001 and 2021, **the share of the population in the ISR with a high school diploma or greater increased from 50.3% to 61.9%**. Over the same period, the educational attainment gap between the ISR and Canada increased by 5.4 percentage points.

In 2021, **a greater share of women than men have a high school diploma or greater, or post-secondary certification in the ISR, NWT, Canada, and Inuit Nunangat**; in the ISR, 65.6% of women have a high school diploma or greater compared to 57.5% of men, and 42.9% of women have a post-secondary certification, compared to 36.8% of men.

From 2001 to 2021, the percentage of people with a high school diploma or greater increased in all ISR communities; however, Inuvik (75.4%) is the only community in the ISR where the majority of the population has a high school diploma or greater in 2021.

Key informants identify several factors that explain improvements in educational attainment in the ISR, including increased funding for the Education and Training department at IRC, and funding provided by ESDC, ISET, IPSE, through bilateral agreements, and regional partnerships and initiatives like those provided through Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami.

More data by age, gender, Indigenous and Inuvialuit identity, immigration status, and certification type are needed to fully understand changes in educational attainment in the ISR over the last 20 years. In particular, the analysis in this section does not control for immigration, which may inflate the educational attainment gap between populations in the ISR and Canada.



Trends Analysis

Access to education is associated with improved employment outcomes and income security, greater economic self-reliance, improved health outcomes, and improved housing outcomes. Education should be understood to include “early childhood development, primary school, secondary school, post-secondary school, and job skills training as well as learning in informal

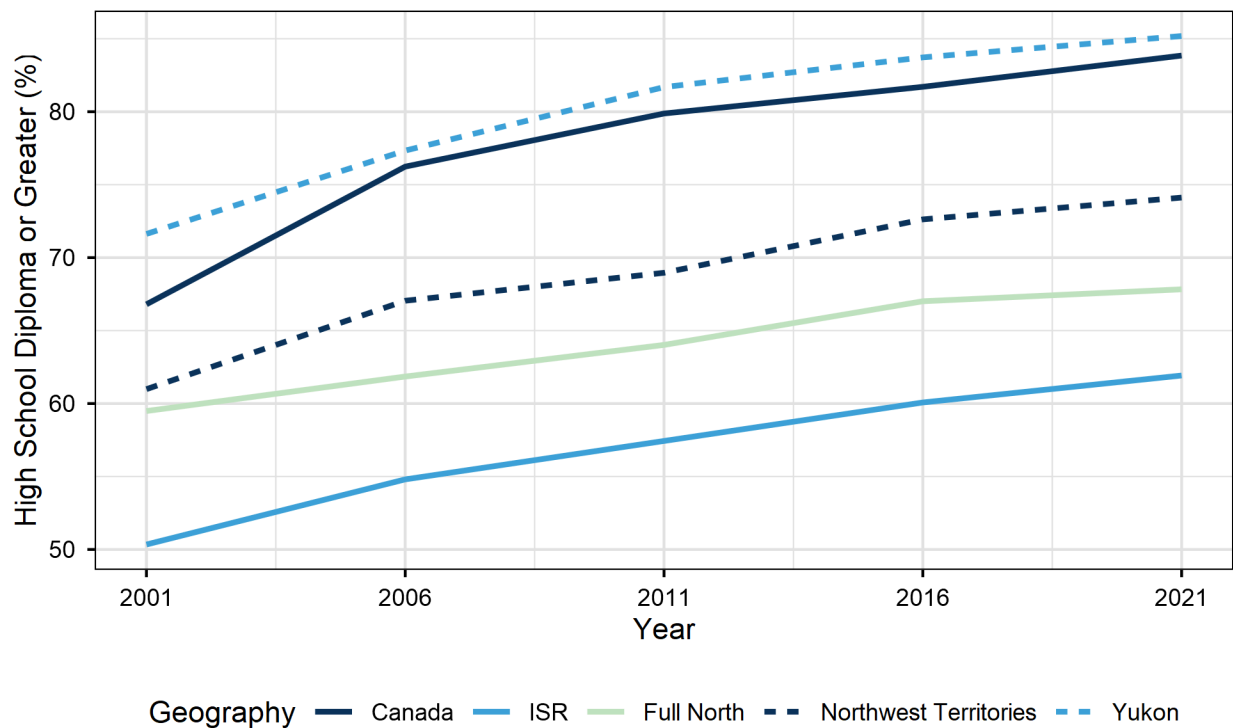
settings such as while participating in on-the-land activities” (Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami, 2014). Although this is the case, data that track job skills training and participation in on-the-land activities are limited, and most indicators in this section focus on formal education. Key informants highlight an expansion in educational support and programming since 2017 and celebrate improvements in educational attainment among younger generations, despite historic shortages of educational resources in the ISR. Despite gains, key informants note opportunities to continue to improve departmental and intergovernmental coordination in connecting training and employment opportunities, better retain teachers and other staff (e.g., academic advisors), limit “brain drain” out of the ISR, and ensure education and training is culturally relevant.

Data on investments and activities related to education specifically were not received in time for inclusion in this report. However, the GNWT Department of Education, Culture and Employment notes that supports provided by the District Education Authority and divisional education councils have contributed to educational attainment, as well as supporting and promoting Inuvialuit worldviews and knowledge in schools and the classrooms, including through on-the-land programming. Further, GNWT programs, funding, and supports exist for student wellness, to improve education attainment, and to promote Indigenous culture and language use in the schools and classrooms. Early childhood programs and services have also been expanding over the last decade, including the Junior Kindergarten program.

"A real success story is that more beneficiaries know how to get the assistance they need." - Key Informant Interview

Figures Ed1 to Ed3 and Tables Ed1 and Ed2 present education data from Statistics Canada. Figure Ed1 shows the percentage of people with a high school diploma or greater in the ISR, NWT, Yukon, and Canada between 2001 and 2021. Across all geographies, the percentage of people with a high school diploma or greater increased from 2001 to 2021, indicating that educational attainment is improving. Canada had the largest increase in educational attainment, increasing by 17.0 percentage points to 83.8%. In the NWT, educational attainment increased by 13.1 percentage points to 74.1%, while in the ISR, educational attainment increased the least by 11.6 percentage points to 61.9%. Between 2001 and 2021, the gap in educational attainment between the ISR and Canada increased by 5.4 percentage points. Similarly, the educational attainment gap between the ISR and NWT increased by 1.5 percentage points. Note that the gap in educational attainment between the ISR and Canada could be inflated by external factors, such as immigration. Canada's immigration system favours people with high levels of education; thus, immigrants are likely to have higher educational attainment than people living in Canada at time of entrance. The increase in the educational attainment gap between the ISR and NWT could be due to a variety of reasons, but generally aligns with the gaps observed between the ISR and NWT across many indicators, not just education.

Figure Ed1. Percent of Persons with a High School Diploma or Greater, Canada, ISR, NWT & Yukon, 2001 to 2021



Source: Custom Request, 1996 - 2021 Census, Statistics Canada.

Note: Only considers population ages 15 years and older.

Table Ed1 shows the percentage of women and men with no certification, a high school diploma or equivalent, and post-secondary certification in the ISR, NWT, Yukon, and Canada. In all geographies, a greater share of women than men have a high school diploma or greater. Gender-based differences in educational attainment are consistent with gender-based differences observed across jurisdictions in high school drop-out rates, academic achievement and engagement, aspirations for post-secondary education, and employment opportunities (Bushnik, Barr-Telford and Bussière, 2004; Turcotte, 2011; Deng, 2021). Like Canada and the NWT, a higher percentage of women (42.9%) than men (36.8%) in the ISR have a post-secondary certificate. Additional data are required to understand whether educational attainment differs by other characteristics (e.g., age, Indigenous identity, certification type, immigrant status, etc.).

Figure Ed2 shows the percentage of people with a high school diploma or greater in Inuit Nunangat from 2001 to 2021. Like the ISR, an increasing share of the population in Nunatsiavut and Nunavut have a high school diploma or greater. In 2021, a majority of the population in ISR (61.9%) and Nunatsiavut (63.4%) had a high school diploma or greater.

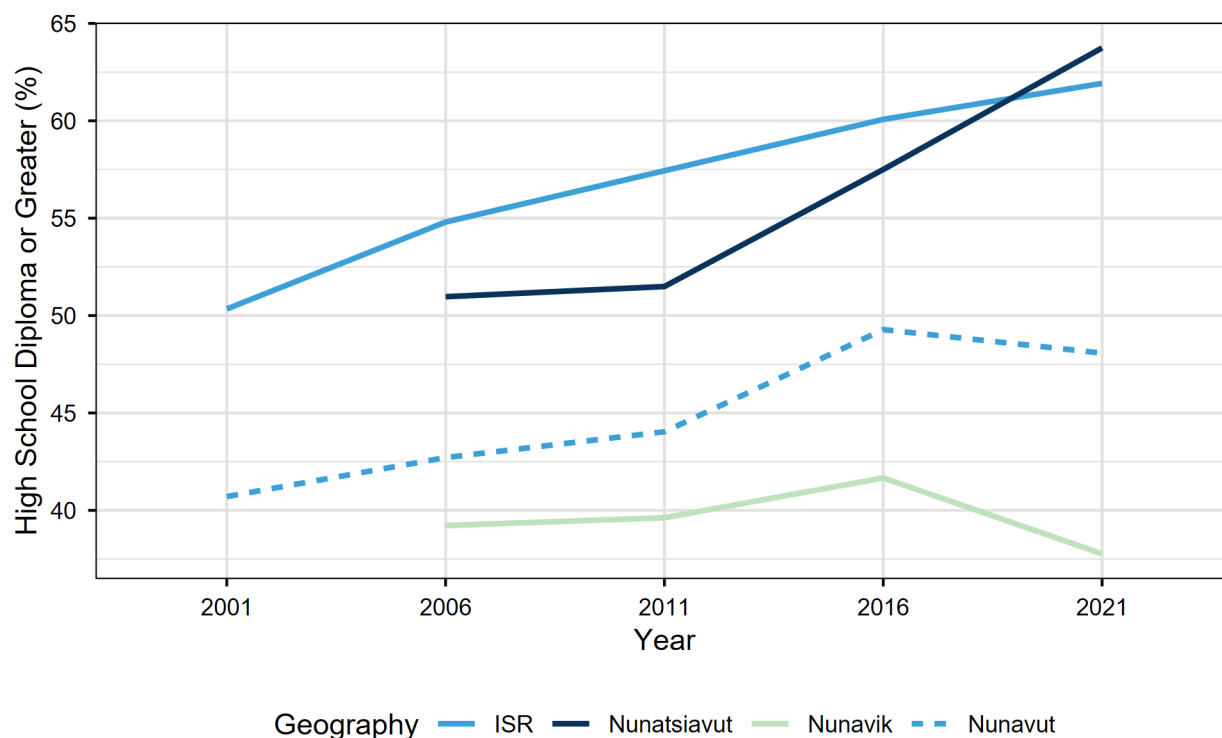
Table Ed1. Percent of Women and Men by Highest Certification,
Canada, ISR, NWT, & Yukon, 2021

	Canada		ISR		NWT		Yukon	
	Women	Men	Women	Men	Women	Men	Women	Men
No Certification	15.3	17.1	34.4	42.5	23.5	28.2	11.7	17.9
High School Diploma or greater	84.7	82.9	65.6	57.5	76.5	71.8	88.3	82.1
<i>High School Diploma</i>	26.3	27.1	22.4	20.8	24.0	24.5	25.1	26.0
<i>Post-secondary Certification</i>	58.4	55.9	42.9	36.8	52.5	47.2	63.2	56.0

Source: Custom Request, 1996 - 2021 Census, Statistics Canada.

Note: Only considers population ages 15 years and older.

Figure Ed2. Percent of Persons with a High School Diploma or Greater, ISR, Nunatsiavut, Nunavik, & Nunavut, 2001 to 2021



Source: Custom Request, 1996 - 2021 Census, Statistics Canada.

Note: Only considers population ages 15 years and older.

Table Ed2 shows the percentage of women and men with no certification, a high school diploma or equivalent, and post-secondary certification in Inuit Nunangat in 2021. Similar to Canada and NWT, a greater share of women than men in all Inuit Nunangat have a high school diploma or greater. A greater share of women than men have post-secondary certification in the ISR (42.9% compared to 36.8%), Nunatsiavut (36.3% compared to 29.9%), and Nunavut (30.8% compared to 28.3%). A greater share of men than women have post-secondary certification in Nunavik (18.5% of women compared to 19.2% of men).

Table Ed2. Percent of Women and Men by Highest Certification, ISR, Nunatsiavut, Nunavik, & Nunavut, 2021

	ISR		Nunatsiavut		Nunavik		Nunavut	
	Women	Men	Women	Men	Women	Men	Women	Men
No Certification	34.4	42.5	31.0	41.4	61.2	63.3	50.5	53.3
High School Diploma or greater	65.6	57.5	69.6	58.6	38.8	36.7	49.5	46.7
<i>High School Diploma</i>	22.4	20.8	33.3	28.7	20.5	17.6	18.6	18.3
<i>Post-secondary certification</i>	42.9	36.8	36.3	29.9	18.5	19.2	30.8	28.3

Source: Custom Request, 1996 - 2021 Census, Statistics Canada. Note: Only considers population ages 15 years and older. Random rounding means the sum of values may not be equivalent to total values.

Figure Ed3 shows the percentage of people with a high school diploma or greater in ISR communities from 2001 to 2021. Across all communities, the share of people with a high school diploma or greater has increased, suggesting that educational attainment is improving.

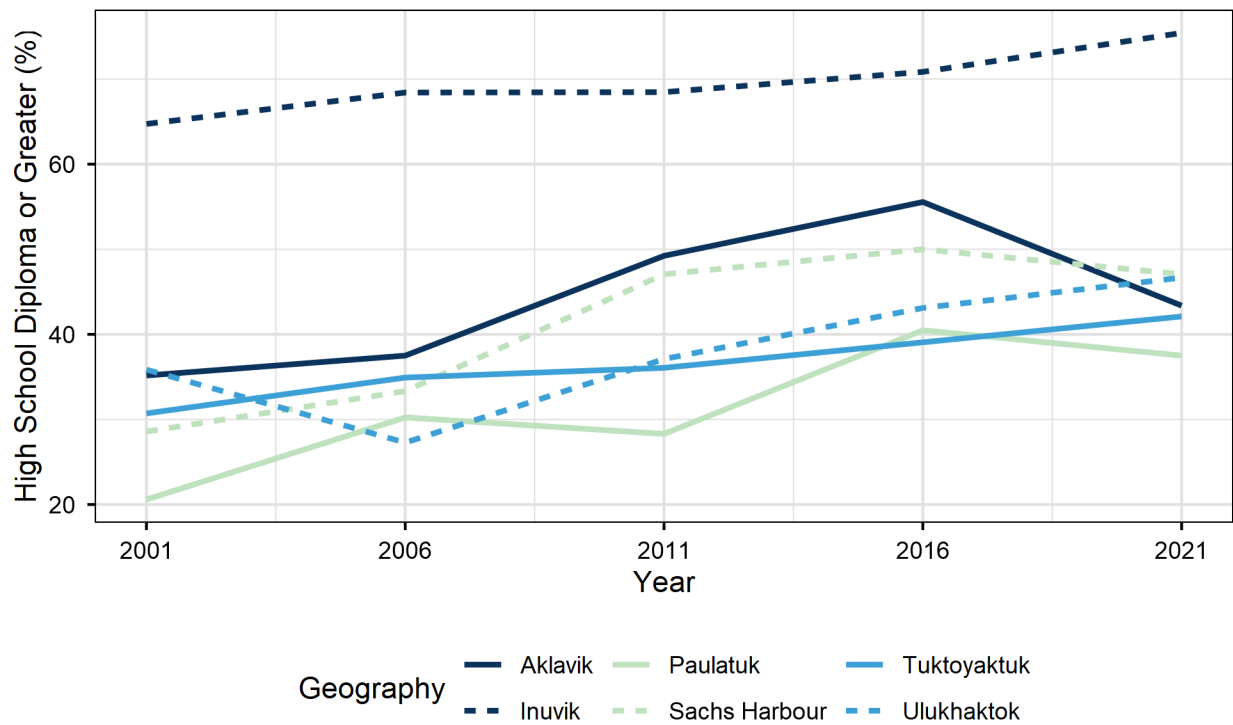
Key informants identify several factors that explain improvements in educational attainment in the ISR. These factors include increased funding for the Education and Training department at IRC, including funding provided by ESDC, ISET, IPSE, through bilateral agreements, and regional partnerships and initiatives like those provided through Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami. Increasing funding has allowed for more programming, including programs such as the School Food Program, which has been successful at increasing school attendance, programs for early childhood development, and career development centres that support beneficiaries with education and training.

“Child development centres and free daycare allow people to pursue education and get a job. Programs allow individuals to then take those steps to set and achieve their goals.” - Key Informant Interview

Inuvik has the greatest share of people with a high school diploma or greater in 2021, compared to other ISR communities. As expressed in key informant interviews, the high level of educational attainment in Inuvik may be the outcome of there being more educational opportunities than in smaller communities, paired with the effects of people who have higher levels of education moving to Inuvik from elsewhere. We note that from 2016 to 2021, the share of people with a high school diploma or greater diploma decreased in Aklavik, Paulatuk, and Sachs Harbour; this

decrease may be a result of random rounding, migration, or COVID-19 school closures and other related irregularities.

Figure Ed3. Percent of Persons with a High School Diploma or Greater, ISR Communities, 2001 to 2021



Source: Custom Request, 1996 - 2021 Census, Statistics Canada. Note: Only considers population ages 15 years and older. Changes to educational attainment in smaller communities may appear larger due to random rounding.

4.5 : Housing

Data Overview

The Housing Trends Analysis section examines several indicators on housing tenure, dwelling age, adequacy, suitability, and core housing need. Most indicators come from the 2001 to 2021 Census with additional data from the NWT Bureau of Statistics from 2001 to 2019. The Housing Investments and Activities section presents data on housing funding from CMHC from 2000 to 2020, and from the Inuit Housing Project from 2016 to 2022.

Key Findings

From 2001 to 2021, rates of homeownership declined in the ISR and in ISR communities (with the exception of Inuvik), and in 2021 the majority of households are renters. As heard in key informant interviews, most people rely on public housing as there is limited private housing stock in the ISR. In contrast, the majority of households in the NWT and in Canada are homeowners.

As heard in key informant interviews and seen in Statistics Canada data, **dwelling are aging**. An increasing share of dwellings, built in the 1960s/70s, are approaching 50+ years of age in the ISR. Aging dwellings will place increased burdens on households and housing service providers to conduct repairs to ensure the safety and health of residents.

An increasing share of households are living in dwellings in need of major repairs, that is, they reside in inadequate housing, in the ISR and in ISR communities. The share of households in need of only regular maintenance or minor repairs is decreasing, suggesting that minor wear and tear accumulates to major adequacy problems as buildings age, climate change intensifies, and access to repair services and resources (e.g. labour, materials) is overextended. In turn, adequacy issues increase health risks and can affect people's ability to work or attend school.

Crowding, as measured by the share of households with 6+ residents, **impacts fewer than 10% of households in the ISR, however crowding in the ISR increased from 2014 to 2019**. Increasing crowding may be due to preference (eg. multi-generational families) or, as noted by key informants, could be a symptom of more people experiencing homelessness and couch surfing. Additional data are required to better understand what is leading to increases in the share of 6+ person households.

The share of households in Core Housing Need (CHN) is increasing in the ISR and NWT. However, CHN does not fully reflect the share of households struggling with housing as it does

not consider the high cost of available housing or people who are unhoused.

Overall, key informants have major concerns about the state of housing in the ISR, and feel housing conditions have not improved since the IFA was signed.



Trends Analysis

Key informants describe a housing crisis in the ISR, across key housing indicators including housing availability, affordability, and adequacy. At the highest level, decades of underfunding at a federal and territorial level are understood to have lowered the capacity of governments and community corporations to meet housing demand, resulting in less social housing, insufficient operation and maintenance funding, and tension between IFA parties. Today, key informants see housing as a priority area, and the IRC is seeking opportunities to increase funding through bilateral relationships with the federal government, outside of IFA implementation mechanisms. Plans are being developed to increase the supply of housing and develop new homeownership and rental programs to address housing needs.

Figures H1 to H13 present quantitative data on housing tenure, age, and conditions for households in the ISR and ISR communities from Statistics Canada and the NWT Bureau of Statistics. These data highlight trends in housing since 2001 (data permitting), and are further supported and contextualized by key informant interview findings.

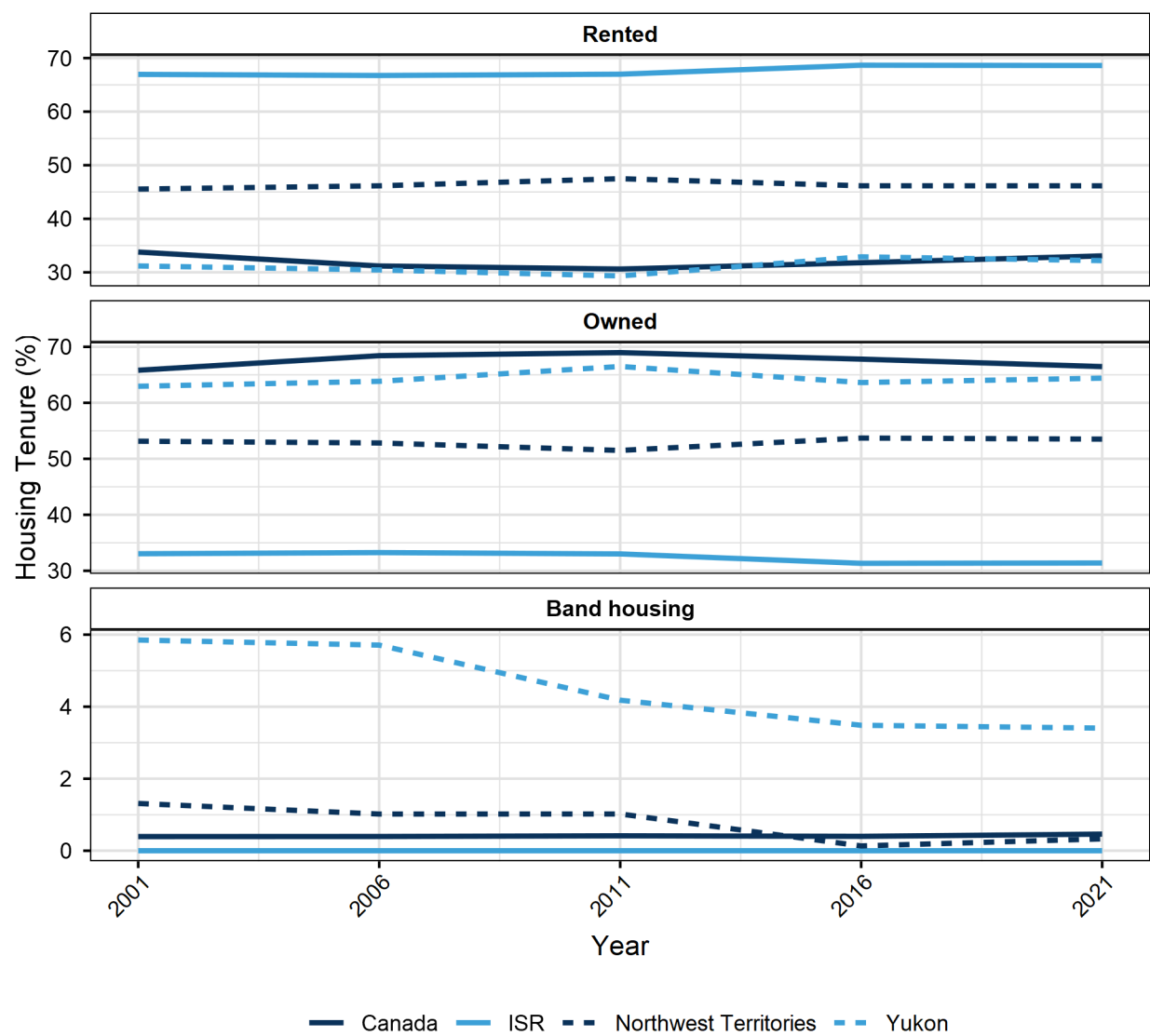
Tenure

Figure H1 shows the percentage of households who live in band housing, own, and rent in Canada, Full North, ISR, NWT, and Yukon from 2001 to 2021. Over this time period, the share of owner households in the ISR decreased from 33.1% to 31.4% and the share of renters increased from 67.1% to 68.6%. In contrast, the share of owner households increased slightly in Canada (65.8% to 66.5%), NWT (53.2% to 53.5%), and Yukon (63.0% to 64.4%). While the majority of households across Canada, NWT, and Yukon are homeowners, the majority of households in the ISR are renters. The difference between the share of homeowners in the NWT and Canada and the ISR is increasing over time.

Studies have found that homeownership is associated with intergenerational wealth generation and higher socioeconomic outcomes (Mirdamadi and Khalid, 2023; National Aboriginal Capital Corporation Association 2005). Despite recent housing investments by IRC, including new builds, key informants are concerned with housing availability in the ISR generally, and are especially concerned with barriers to homeownership. Given the limited supply of privately owned housing stock, residents have to rely on public housing, which is also in short supply. Housing shortages have resulted in long waitlists. Some key informants feel that the model of social housing in which rents are scaled relative to income (i.e., rents increase as

incomes increase) has caused harm by disincentivizing employment and preventing some people from accessing housing altogether.

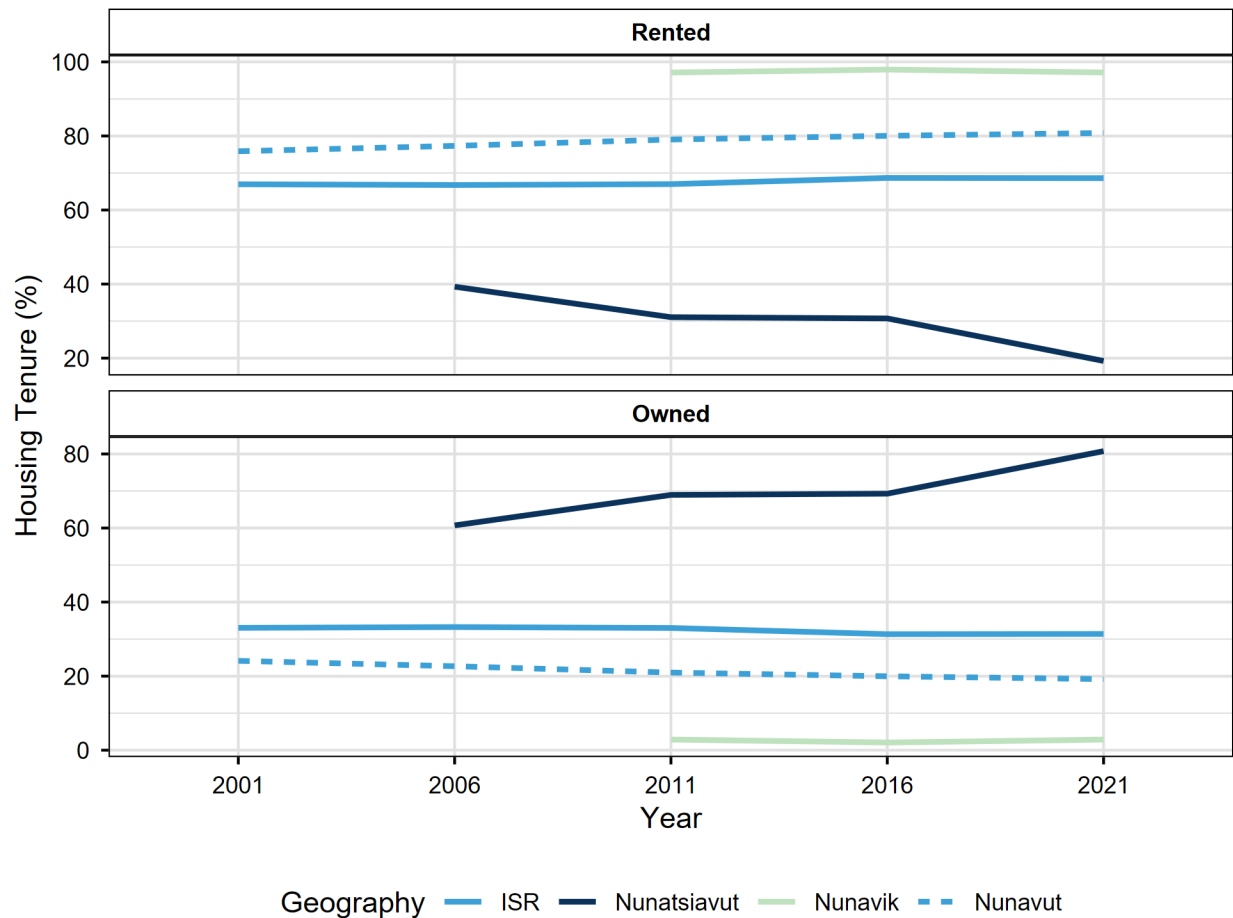
Figure H1. Percent of Households by Tenure, Canada, Full North, ISR, NWT & Yukon, 2001 to 2021



Source: Custom Request, 1996 - 2021 Census, Statistics Canada.

Figure H2 shows the percentage of owner households in the ISR, Nunatsiavut, Nunavik, and Nunavut from 2001 to 2021. From 2001 to 2021, homeownership rates are higher in the ISR than in Nunavik and Nunavut, but lower than in Nunatsiavut. Further, while the rates of homeownership saw small changes between 2001 and 2021 in the ISR (33.1% to 31.4%), Nunavik (2.9% to 2.1%), and Nunavut (22.7% to 19.2%), Nunatsiavut saw a large increase in homeownership between 2006 and 2021 (60.7% to 80.8%), which is primarily due to Torngat Regional Housing Association giving away 300 homes to tenants in Nunatsiavut in 2020 (CBC News, 2020; Nunatsiavut Government, 2020).

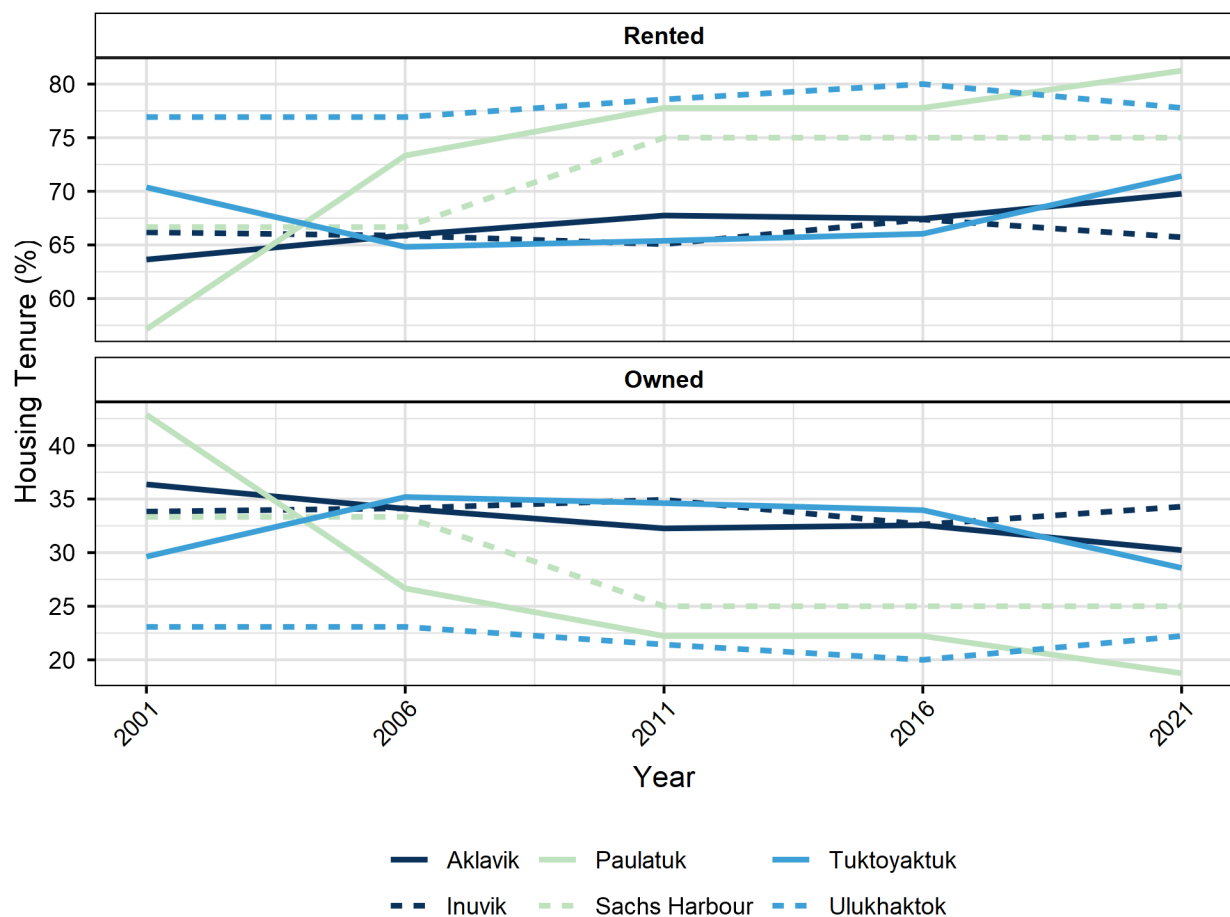
Figure H2. Percent of Households by Tenure, ISR, Nunatsiavut, Nunavik & Nunavut, 2001 to 2021



Source: Custom Request, 1996 - 2021 Census, Statistics Canada.

Figure H3 shows the percentage of owner and renter households in ISR communities from 2001 to 2021. From 2001 to 2021, the total number of households increased in Paulatuk, Inuvik, and Tuktoyaktuk, to 80, 1220, and 285 households respectively. Minor changes occurred in Sachs Harbour and Ulukhaktok (+5 households), and Aklavik (-5). Over the same time period, the share of homeowners decreased and the share of renters increased in all ISR communities, except Inuvik and Tuktoyaktuk. Paulatuk saw the largest decrease in the share of owner households from 46.2% in 2001 to 18.8% in 2021; the community has the lowest rate of homeownership and the highest rate of renters (81.3%). Inuvik has the highest rate of owner households (34.4%) and the lowest rate of renter households (66.0%) in 2021.

Figure H3. Percent of Households by Tenure, ISR Communities, 2001 to 2021

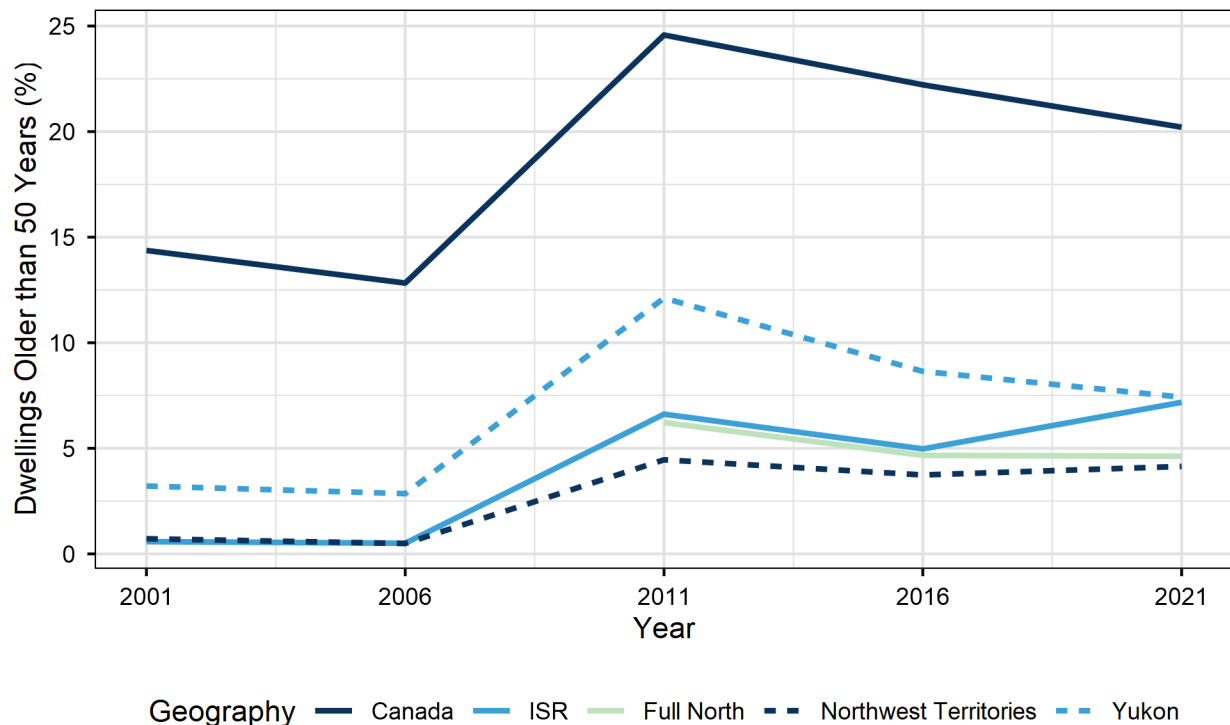


Source: Custom Request, 1996 - 2021 Census, Statistics Canada. Note: Changes in the percentage of households owned may appear larger in smaller communities than in larger communities due to random rounding.

Dwelling Age

Figure H4 presents the share of households living in dwellings older than 50 years, that is, living in dwellings constructed during the 1970s or earlier, in the ISR, NWT, Yukon, Full North, and Canada, between 2001 and 2021. The share of households living in dwellings older than 50 years increased considerably between 2006 and 2011 in all geographies, as dwellings constructed during the 1960s turned 50. Trends diverge after 2016, with the share of households living in dwellings older than 50 years decreasing in Yukon and Canada but increasing in the ISR and NWT.

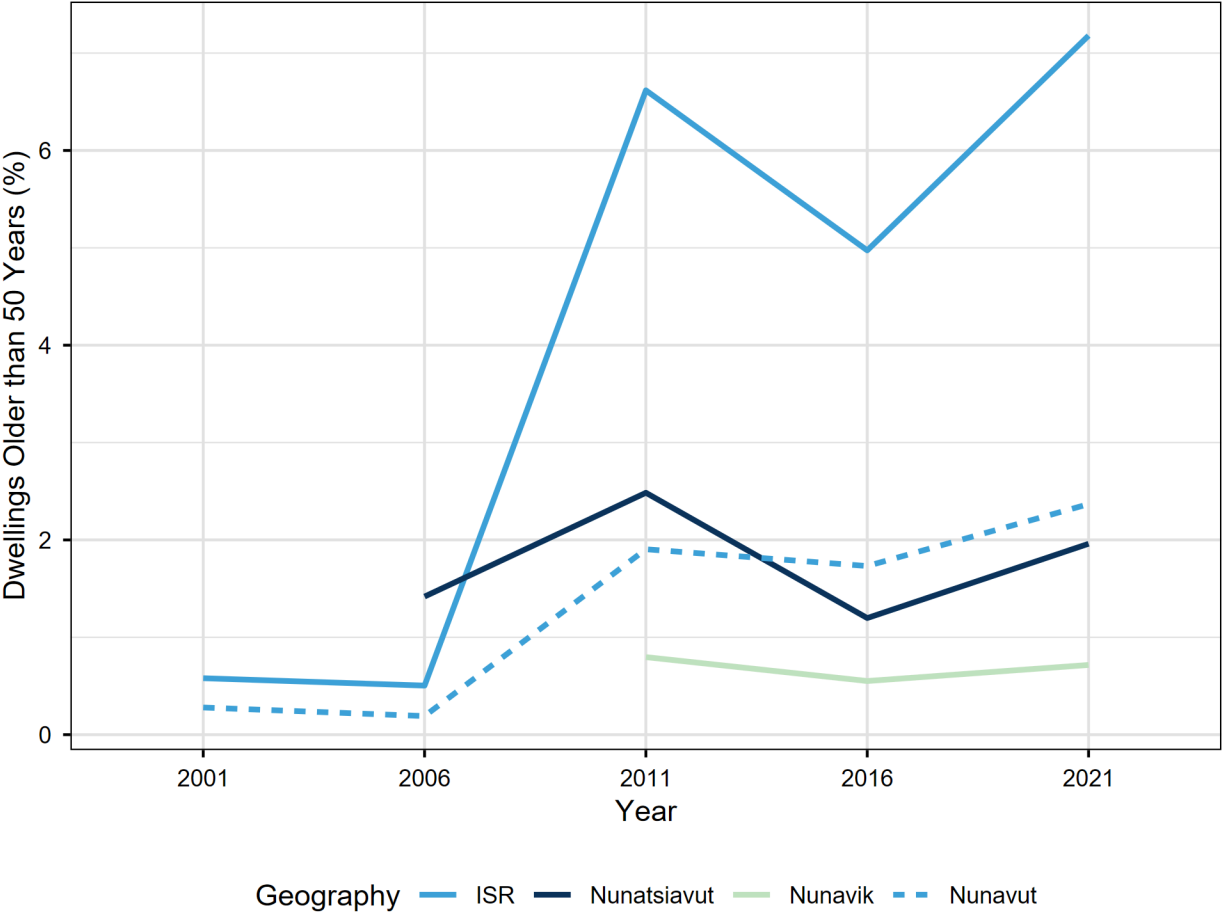
Figure H4. Percent of Households Living in Dwellings Older than 50 Years, Canada, Full North, ISR, NWT & Yukon, 2001 to 2021



Source: Custom Request, 1996 - 2021 Census, Statistics Canada.

Figure H5 shows the percentage of households living in dwellings older than 50 years in the ISR, Nunatsiavut, Nunavik, and Nunavut from 2001 to 2021. Data are not available for Nunatsiavut before 2006 and are not available in Nunavik before 2011. From 2001 to 2021, the share of households living in dwellings older than 50 years increased in the ISR from 0.6% to 7.2%, as housing from the 1960s ages. The ISR has a greater percentage of households living in dwellings older than 50 years than other regions in Inuit Nunangat.

Figure H5. Percent of Households Living in Dwellings Older than 50 Years, ISR, Nunatsiavut, Nunavik & Nunavut, 2001 to 2021

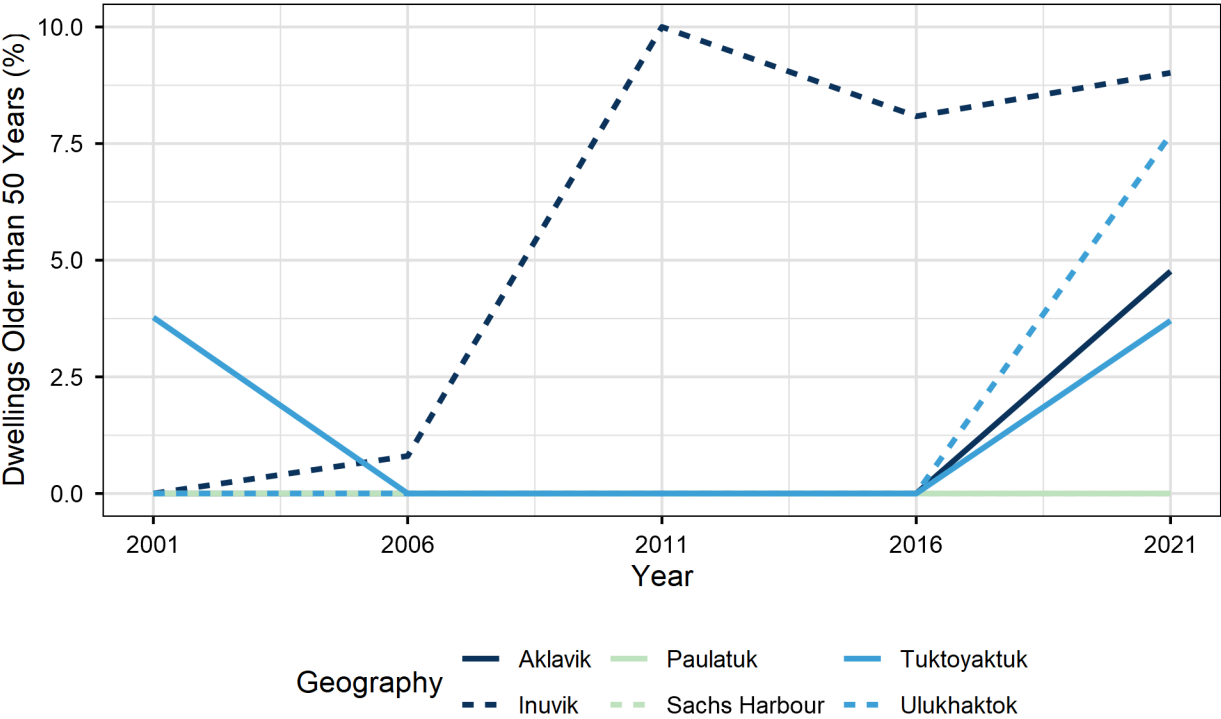


Source: Custom Request, 1996 - 2021 Census, Statistics Canada.

Figure H6 shows the percentage of households living in dwellings older than 50 years in ISR communities between 2001 and 2021. From 2001 to 2021 an increasing share of households live in dwellings that are 50 years or older in all communities, with exception of Paulatuk and Tuktoyaktuk. In Inuvik, the largest increase in the share of households living in dwellings older than 50 years occurred between 2006 and 2011, from 0.8% (or 10 households) to 10.0% (or 135 households), as housing constructed during the establishment of Inuvik turned 50. In 2021, Inuvik (9.0% or 110 households) has the highest share of households living in dwellings older than 50 years, followed by Ulukhaktok (7.7% or 10 households), Aklavik (4.8% or 10 households), and Tuktoyaktuk (3.7% or 10 households).

As dwellings age, more resources are required to maintain and repair them, increasing the financial burden on individual households and service providers. Concerns with the condition of housing in the ISR are widespread among key informants, who describe a high prevalence of dwellings in need of major repairs. One key informant notes that housing, particularly aging dwellings constructed in the 1960s, is “falling apart...dilapidated.”

Figure H6. Percent of Households Living in Dwellings Older than 50 Years, ISR Communities, 2001 to 2021



Source: Custom Request, 1996 - 2021 Census, Statistics Canada. Note: Changes in smaller communities may appear larger due to random rounding.

Housing Adequacy

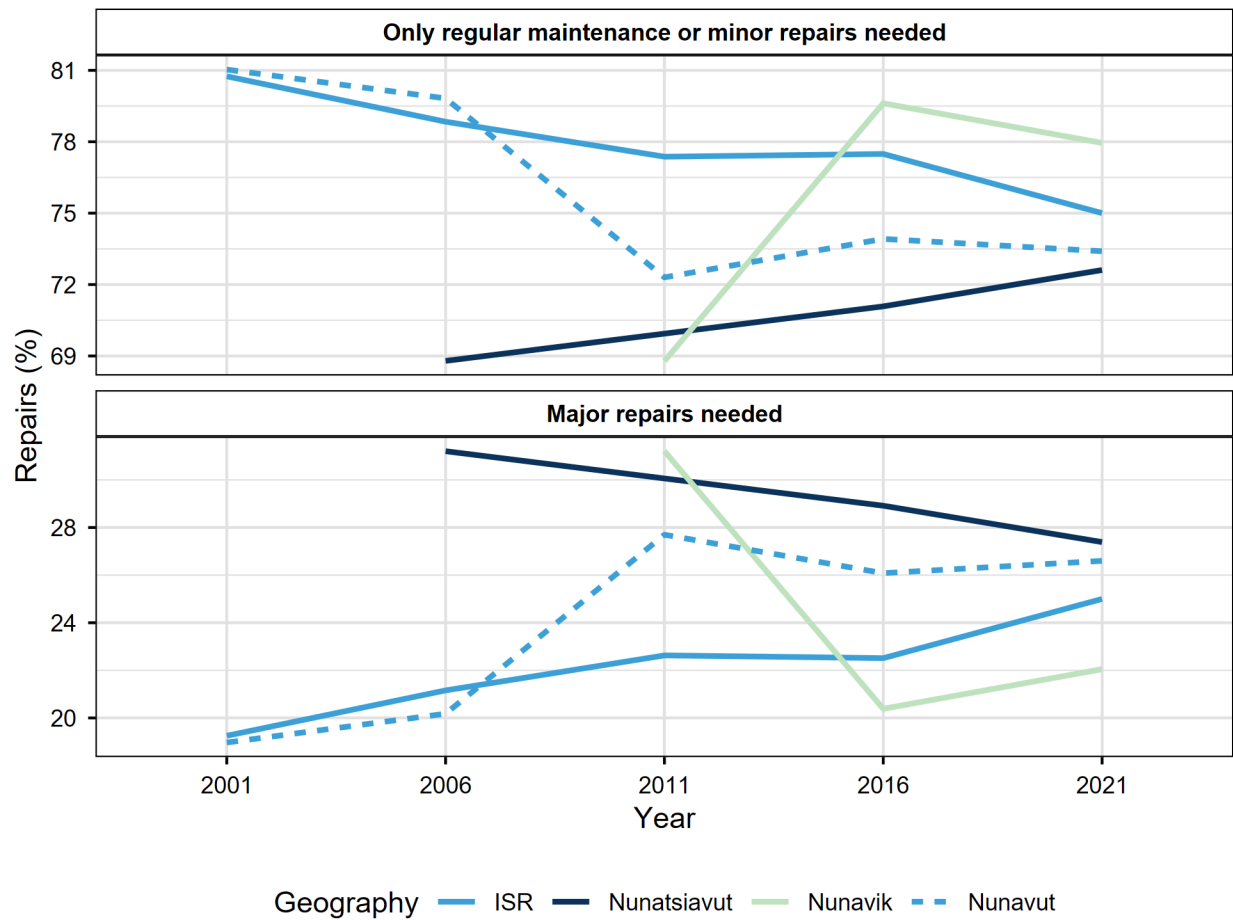
Figure H7 shows the percentage of households living in dwellings that need major repairs, and that only need regular maintenance and minor repairs in the ISR, NWT, Yukon, Full North, and Canada between 2001 and 2021. Dwellings are considered adequate if they are only in need of regular maintenance or minor repairs, while a dwelling is inadequate if it is in need of major repairs, including structural, plumbing, and electrical repairs. Conducting regular maintenance and minor repairs lowers the need for major repairs in the future. In all regions, the majority of households live in adequate dwellings that require only regular maintenance and minor repairs. However, while the share of households living in adequate dwellings increased between 2001 and 2021 in Canada (91.8% to 93.9%) and the Yukon (86.1% to 87.7%), it decreased in the NWT (84.0% to 81.6%) and ISR (80.7% to 75.0%). From 2001 to 2021, the percentage of households living in inadequate dwellings increased in the ISR from 19.3% to 25.0%, and remains higher than in the NWT, which increased from 16.0% to 18.4%.

Inadequate housing puts the safety and physical health of residents at risk from mold, fires, and tuberculosis, which in turn has repercussions on educational or economic outcomes and mental health and wellbeing. Housing repairs are known to have positive impacts on health and, in turn, indirectly support other social and economic outcomes (Stephens, 2010; Thomson et al., 2013; Ige et al., 2019; Finlay and Kohen, 2022). Despite efforts to repair existing housing stock or construct new stock, key informants note that there is limited capacity to undertake repair and construction projects, as “there are only so many local construction companies.” Weather and geography are additional challenges to repair and construction projects: the construction season in the ISR is very short and some communities are very remote, making it both logistically difficult and expensive to bring in the necessary equipment and materials for repairs and construction. Further, the impacts of climate change, such as melting of permafrost, coastal erosion, and increasing extreme weather events, may increase the need for major repairs in the ISR over time (IRC 2021; Canadian Climate Institute 2022), and are already being felt by Inuvialuit “first hand.” Exacerbating the issue, we know that housing degrades over time, and a new build today will require major repairs in 20 years. As a result, key informants describe being in an “endless cycle” of continuously needing to fix housing. Ultimately, key informants note that housing adequacy challenges are likely to persist as dwellings age, as the population in the ISR increases, and as climate change impacts worsen over time.

“The challenge at this point is the limited capacity to undertake all the projects that are needed within a very short construction season.”

- Key Informant Interview

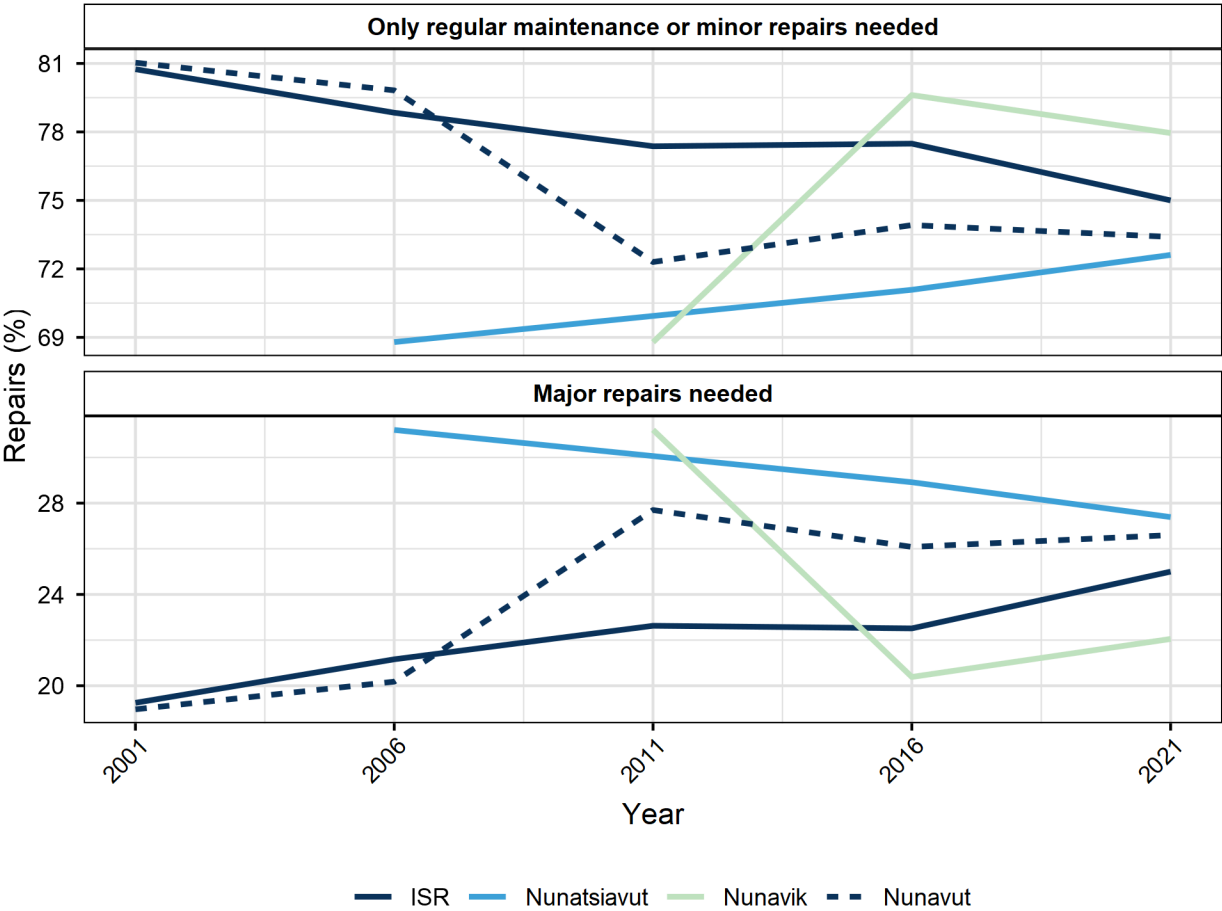
Figure H7. Percent of Households by Dwelling Adequacy, Canada, Full North, ISR, NWT & Yukon, 2001 to 2021



Source: Custom Request, 1996 - 2021 Census, Statistics Canada.

Figure H8 shows the percentage of households living in inadequate and adequate housing in the ISR, Nunatsiavut, Nunavik, and Nunavut from 2001 to 2021. The share of households living in inadequate dwellings decreased in Nunavik (31.2% to 22.1%) and Nunatsiavut (31.2% to 27.4%) from 2001 to 2021. Over the same period, the share of households living in inadequate dwellings increased in the ISR (19.3% to 25.0%) and Nunavut (19.0% to 26.6%).

Figure H8. Percent of Households by Dwelling Adequacy, ISR, Nunatsiavut, Nunavik & Nunavut, 2001 to 2021

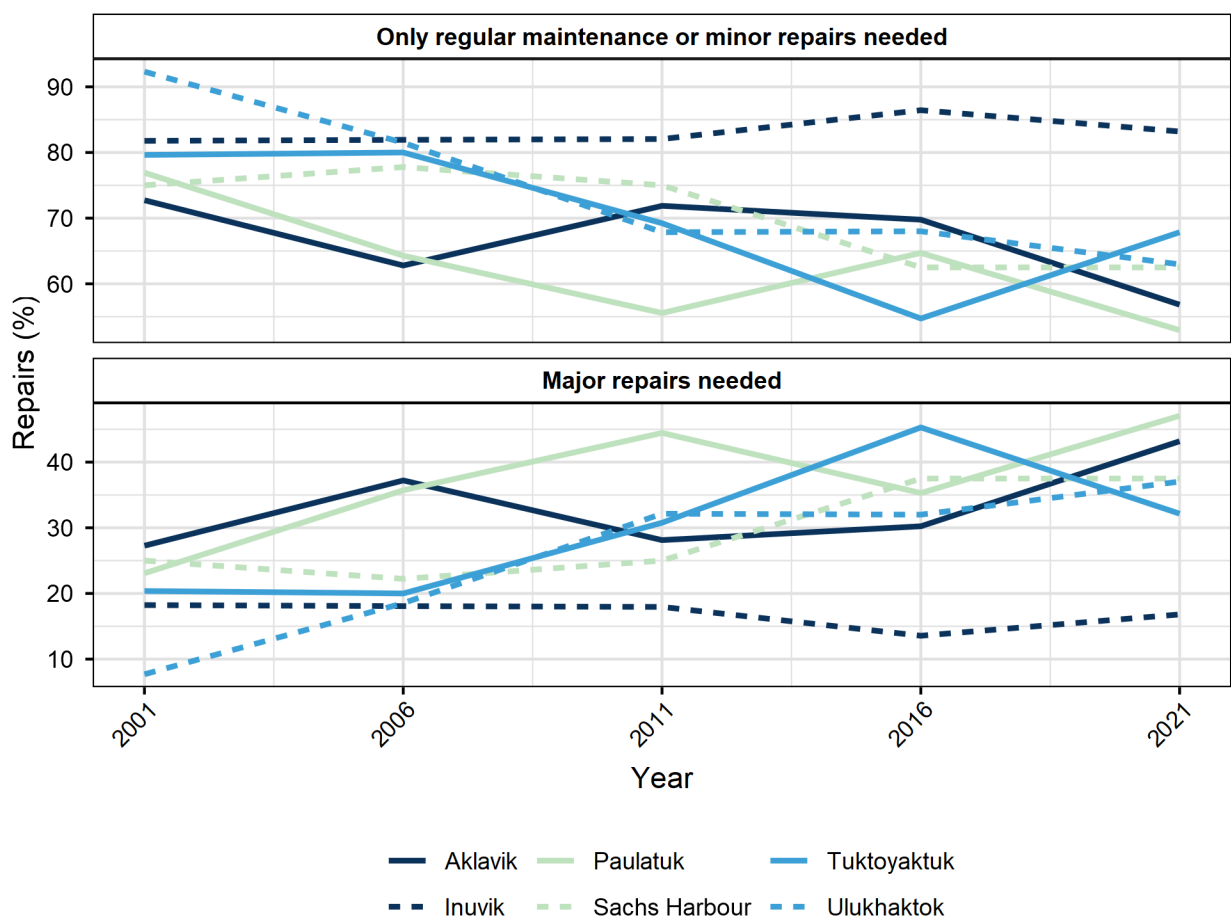


Source: Custom Request, 1996 - 2021 Census, Statistics Canada.

Figure H9 shows the percentage of households living in inadequate or adequate dwellings in ISR communities from 2001 to 2021. From 2001 to 2021, Inuvik was the only community where the share of households living in adequate dwellings increased, from 81.8% (830 households) to 83.2% (1,015 households). Ulukhaktok had the largest decline in the share of households in adequate dwellings, from 92.3% to 63.0% (or 120 to 85 households). In 2021, Inuvik is the only community where the share of households living in inadequate dwellings is lower than the NWT

rate (18.4%); in all other communities, at least 30.0% of households live in inadequate dwellings, with Paulatuk having the highest rate of dwelling inadequacy (47.1%).

Figure H9. Percent of Households by Dwelling Adequacy, ISR Communities, 2001 to 2021



Source: Custom Request, 1996 - 2021 Census, Statistics Canada. Note: Changes in smaller communities may appear larger due to random rounding.

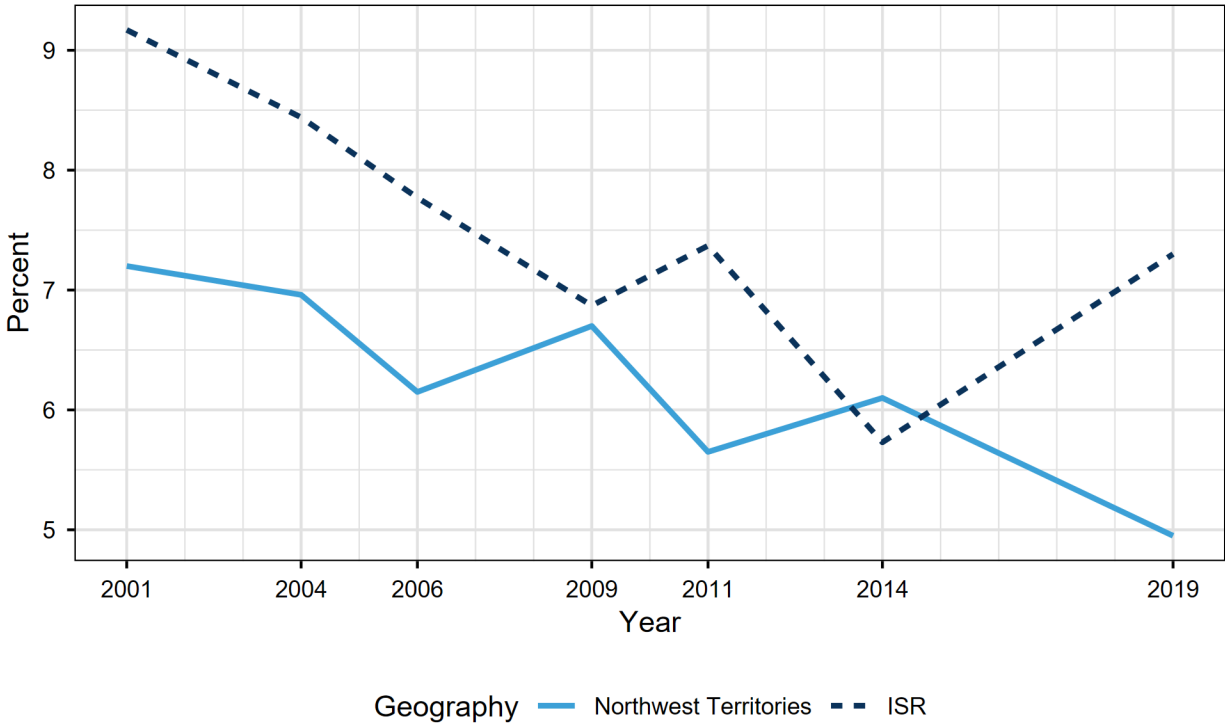
Housing Suitability (Crowding)

Figure H10 shows the percentage of households with six or more people in the ISR and the NWT, from 2001 to 2019. The number of people per dwelling is an approximate measure of crowding that has health and safety implications on residents, as expressed in key informant interviews.

Reducing crowding in households will improve efforts to limit the spread of disease, such as respiratory diseases, COVID-19, and tuberculosis (World Health Organization, 2018; Varshney, Glodjo, and Adalbert, 2022). However, this measure cannot fully evaluate the extent and reasons for crowding of a household, nor preferences regarding living arrangements and household structures. Additional data that measure self-assessed satisfaction or concern with suitability and crowding, or alternatively that measure the size of dwellings, the number of bedrooms in a dwelling, permanency of living arrangements, as well as the relationships between members of households (i.e., the presence of children), can better inform our understanding of crowding.

From 2001 to 2019, the share of households with six or more persons decreased in both the ISR (9.2% to 7.3%) and NWT (7.2% to 5.0%), though it remains higher in the ISR. While the decrease in the NWT was maintained over the period, the share of households with six or more persons increased in the ISR from 2014 to 2019. The divergence between the ISR and NWT may be attributed to the rise in housing shortages, homelessness, couch surfing in the ISR, concerns expressed by key informants, or preferences for larger households.

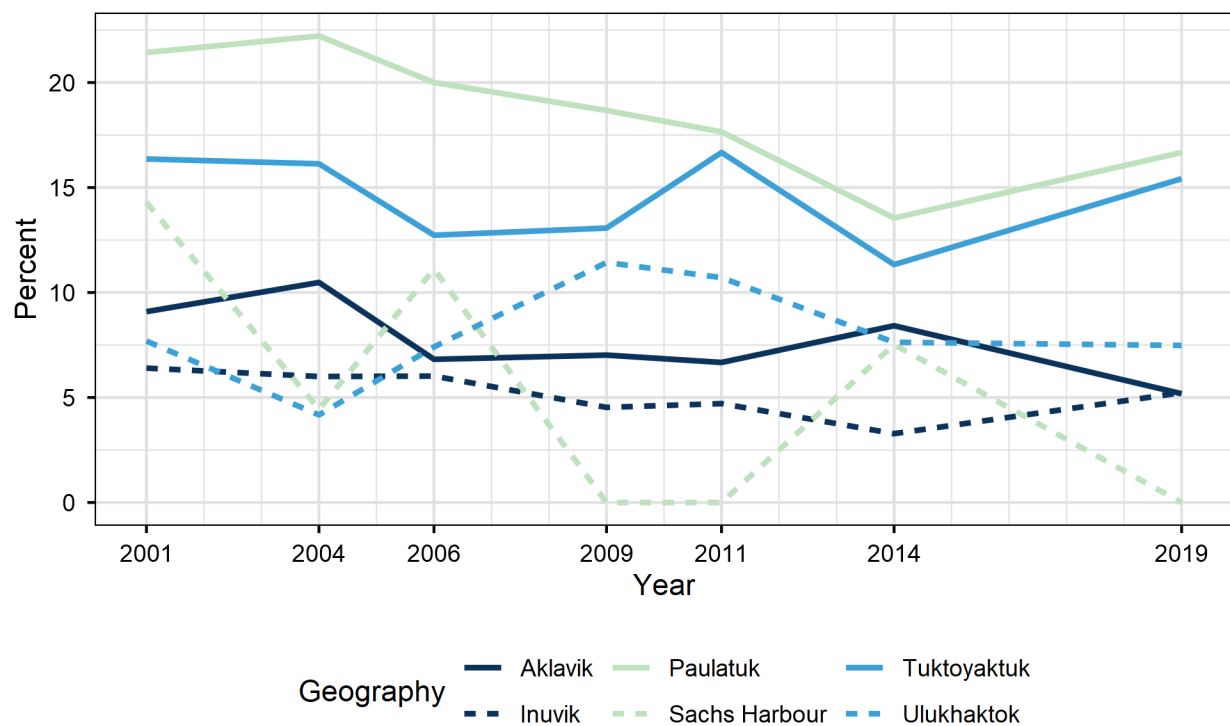
Figure H10. Percent of Households with Six or More Persons, ISR & NWT, 2001 to 2019



Source: NWT Bureau of Statistics.

Figure H11 shows the percentage of households with six or more persons in ISR communities from 2001 to 2019. From 2001 to 2019, all ISR communities experienced a decline in the share of households with six or more persons, with Sachs Harbour experiencing the largest decrease, from 14.3% to 0%. The increase in the share of households with six or more persons from 2014 to 2019 seen in the total ISR is attributed to increases in Inuvik (3.3% to 5.2%), Paulatuk (13.6% to 16.7%), and Tuktoyaktuk (11.3% to 15.4%).

Figure H11. Percent of Households with Six or More Persons, ISR Communities, 2001 to 2019



Source: NWT Bureau of Statistics. Note: Changes in smaller communities may appear larger due to random rounding.

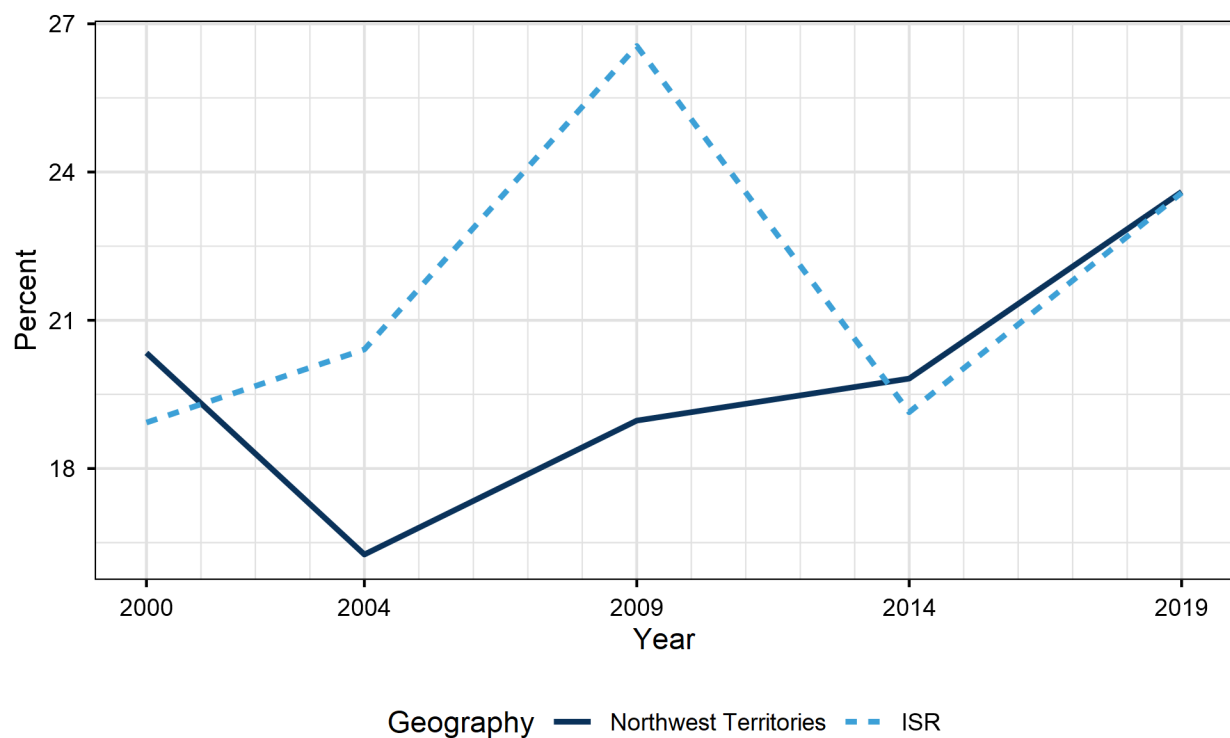
Core Housing Need

Figure H12 shows the percentage of households in core housing need in the ISR and NWT from 2000 to 2019. A household is in core housing need (CHN) if it falls below adequacy, suitability, or affordability standards, and it would need to spend 30% or more of its before-tax household income to access local housing that meets all three standards. In 2000, the ISR had a lower rate of CHN among households (18.9%) compared to the NWT (20.3%). However, in 2009, CHN spiked in the ISR to 26.6%. The exact cause of this spike is unclear, as well as the policies that may have contributed to its resolution. However, Canada's 2009 Budget allocated additional funds to

northern and Indigenous housing, and the Northwest Territory Housing Corporation matched these funds in the 2009-2010 fiscal year (Northwest Territories Housing Corporation, 2010). This additional support may have played a role in the reduction of CHN following the 2009 spike.

The prevalence of CHN is related to the share of households that live in inadequate, unaffordable, or unsuitable dwellings, and the share of households that would have to spend more than 30% of income to live in acceptable local housing. Factors impacting adequacy, suitability, and affordability standards, including aging housing, high costs of maintenance, climate change, and housing shortages (as mentioned in key informant interviews), also impact CHN. However, CHN does not capture the costs of available housing alternatives and may not reflect the full extent of housing challenges in the ISR. The cost of acceptable housing alternatives is measured using median rent in the local market or the carrying-costs of new housing, and does not reflect the high costs of available housing in the ISR reported by key informants, who expressed severe concerns about the unaffordability of housing, including high rents and utility costs. Key informants view housing unaffordability and the high cost of living in the ISR as a barrier to keeping people in community and attracting workers, particularly teachers, to the region.

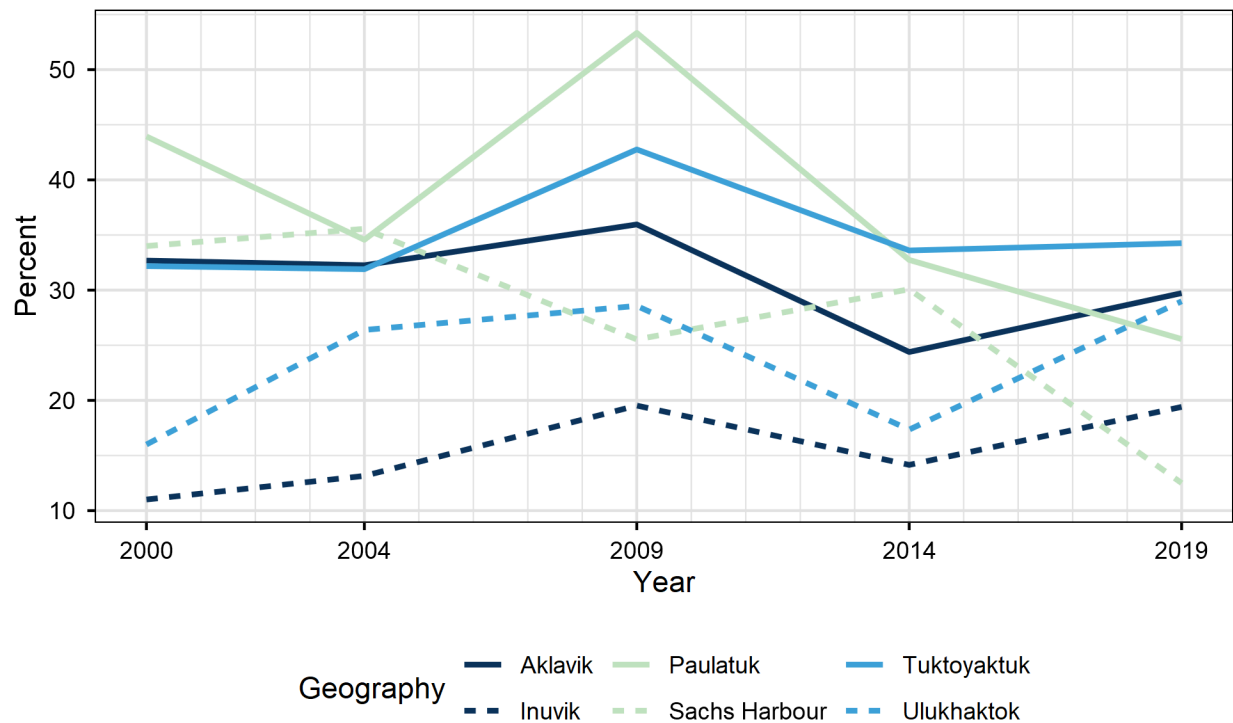
Figure H12. Percent of Households in Core Housing Need, ISR & NWT, 2000 to 2019



Source: NWT Bureau of Statistics.

Figure H13 shows the percentage of households in CHN in ISR communities from 2000 to 2019. From 2000 to 2019, the percentage of households in CHN increased in Inuvik (11.0% to 19.4%), Tuktoyaktuk (32.2% to 34.3%), and Ulukhaktok (16.0% to 29.0%), but decreased in Aklavik (32.7% to 29.7%), Sachs Harbour (32.2% to 12.5%), and Paulatuk (43.9% to 25.6%). Only Inuvik and Sachs Harbour have lower rates of CHN than the total ISR and NWT (23.6%) in 2019.

Figure H13. Percent of Households in Core Housing Need, ISR Communities, 2000 to 2019



Source: NWT Bureau of Statistics. Note: Changes in smaller communities may appear larger due to random rounding.

Investments and Activities

The following section considers investments and activities made by IFA parties and by the Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC) pertaining to housing. Data permitting, statistical or graphical correlations between relevant indicators, investments, and activities are identified to consider whether the investments and activities made have contributed to a positive impact on Inuvialuit housing outcomes. Key findings and data limitations are presented first, before discussing results.

Key Findings

Since 2000, a total of \$66,189,376 in funding has been invested in the ISR through four housing programs for which data were provided.

No clear correlation could be established between the investments and funding from the Government of Canada and changes in housing outcomes. For example, no correlation could be established between core housing need and funding from the Inuit Nunangat Housing Strategy, nor between crowding measures and funding from the Inuit Nunangat Housing Strategy.

Data are insufficiently collected and reported, limiting possible assessments of the impact of housing investments on housing outcomes.

Limitations

Funding information from CMHC does not categorize investment amounts disbursed annually, preventing any assessment of the impact of these investments on housing outcomes.

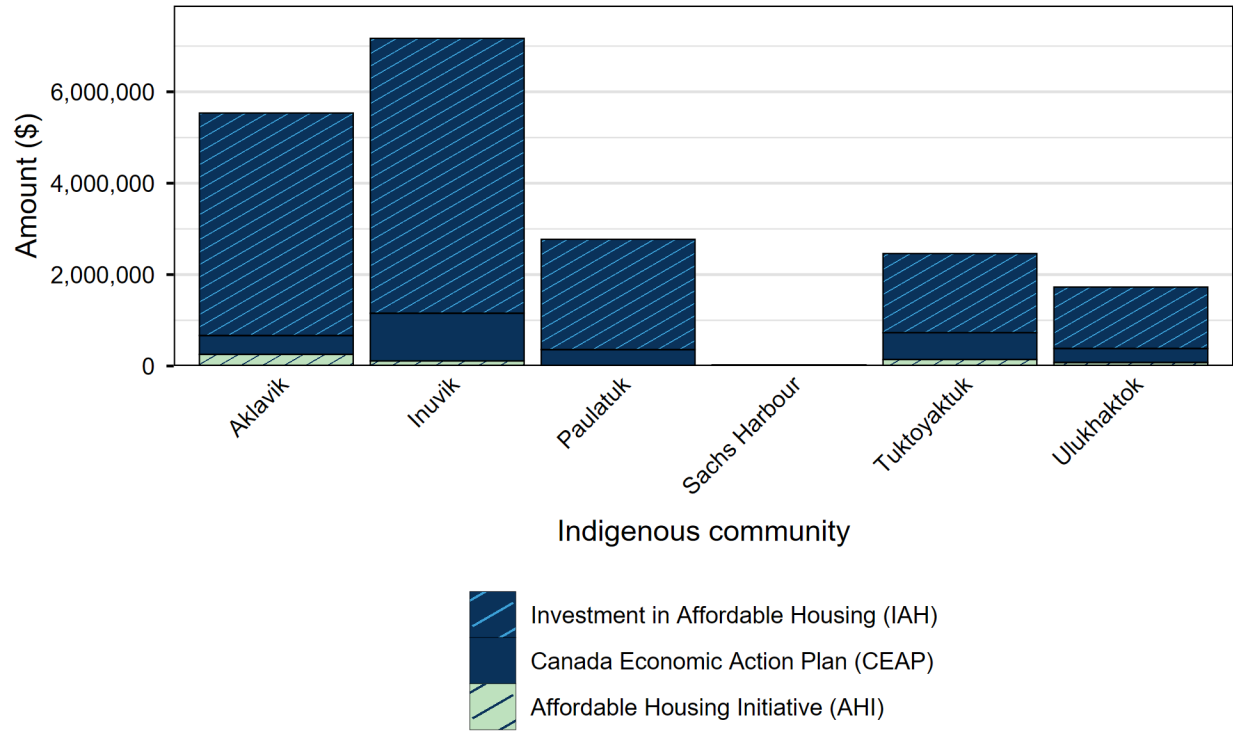
The timeframe for which Government of Canada investment data exist and the timeframe of housing trends data do not sufficiently overlap, limiting the ability to assess the impact of investments on housing outcomes.

Figure H14 shows the total amount of funding provided by CMHC to ISR communities from 2000 to 2020, through the Investment in Affordable Housing (IAH), Canada Economic Action Plan, and Affordable Housing Initiative (AHI) programs. The IAH provides funding through bilateral agreements between CMHC and provinces and territories, to increase the supply of affordable housing, improve the quality of and renovate housing, improve housing affordability, and foster independent living (CMHC 2022). Canada's Economic Action Plan, from 2009 to 2013, was

initiated to support infrastructure construction and development following the global recession (Infrastructure Canada 2012). The AHI previously delivered funding for off-reserve affordable housing before it was combined with other off-reserve renovation programs under the IAH.

Inuvik receives the highest amount of total combined funding from all three housing investment programs (amounting to \$7,169,402). In comparison, Sachs Harbour receives the least amount of funding through these CMHC initiatives (\$25,000). In all ISR communities, most funding comes from the IAH program. The data shared by CMHC do not include funding over time, therefore measuring the impact of these funding initiatives on housing outcomes is not possible.

Figure H14. Canadian Mortgage and Housing Corporation Funding by Program and Community, 2000 to 2020



Source: CMHC. Note: In Aklavik and Inuvik funding recipients are under the IFA as well as the Gwich'in CLCA.

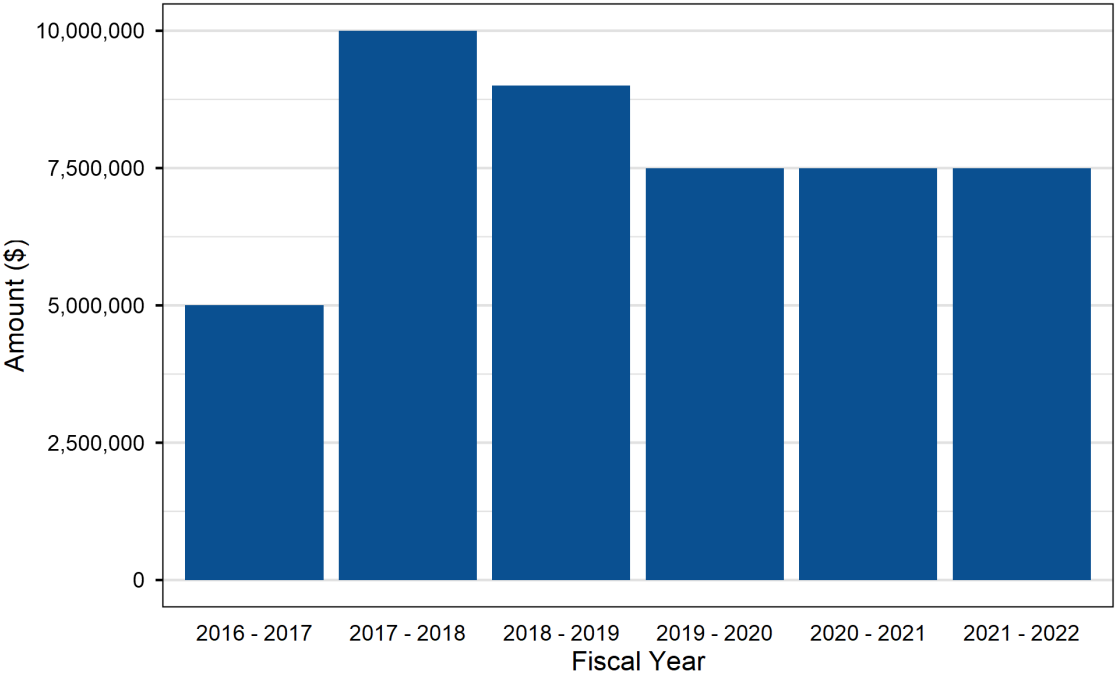
Figures H15 and H16 show funding commitments and housing project completions made by the Government of Canada through federal budgets and the Inuit Nunangat Housing Strategy. The Inuit Nunangat Housing Strategy, initiated in 2018, is a partnership between the Government of Canada, Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami, IRC, and other Inuit leaders, developed to improve housing outcomes in Inuit Nunangat. Specifically, the main priority of the Inuit Nunangat Housing Strategy is to reduce crowding while improving affordability and adequacy of housing (Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada, 2019).

Figure H15 shows the total amount of funding provided to IRC through the federal government and the Inuit Nunangat Housing Strategy per fiscal year. More funding under the Inuit Nunangat Housing Strategy was deliberately allocated in the two first fiscal years. So although funding appears to decrease over time, the federal government is not reducing their funding for Inuit housing. Though not shown in the data available for this report, substantial amounts of housing funding continue to be provided to the IRC.

Figure H16 shows the cost per square foot (sf) of completed housing construction projects, specifically duplexes, triplexes and fourplexes, in ISR communities through the Inuit Nunangat Housing Strategy from 2018 to 2022. The largest number of projects was completed in 2018 (four projects costing a total of \$1,960/sf) and in 2019 (five projects costing a total of \$2,856/sf). Between 2020 and 2022, only one project per year has been completed in the ISR. The decrease in project completions between 2020 and 2022 may be related to COVID-19 pandemic closures and supply chain slowdowns.

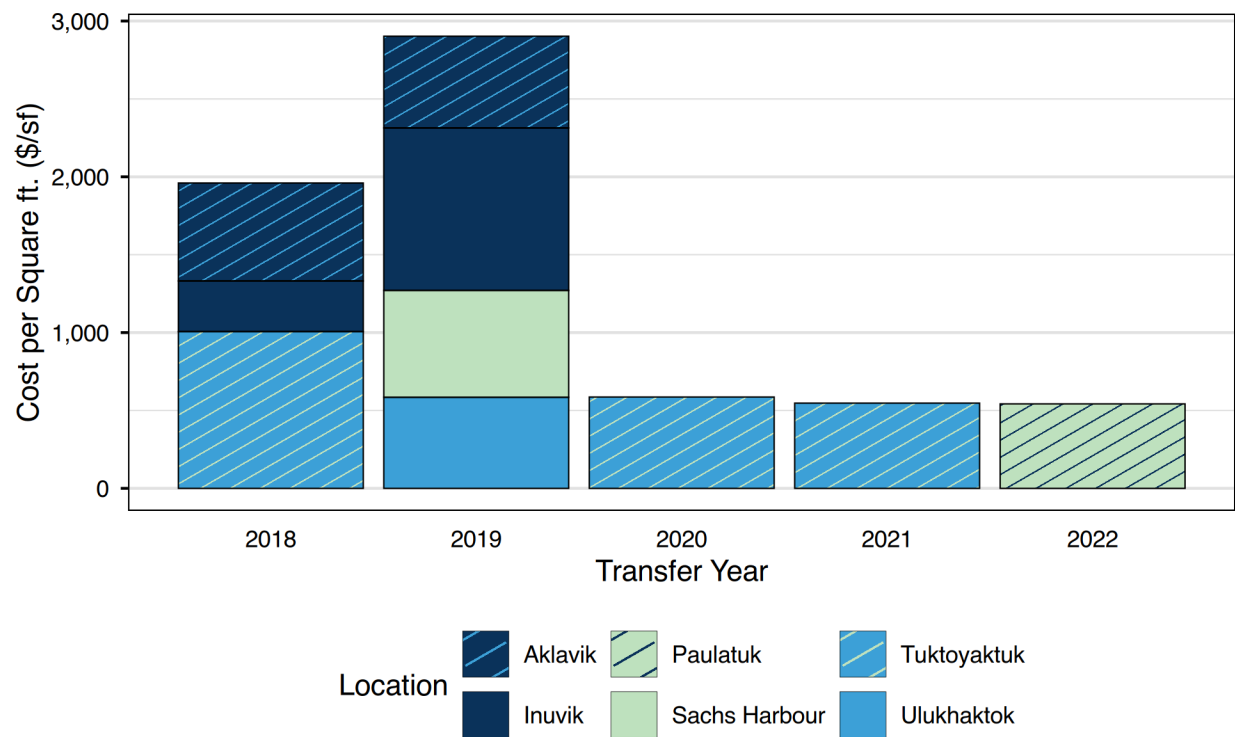
It is unclear if funding through the Inuit Nunangat Housing Strategy has impacted housing outcomes, specifically adequacy, aging, core housing need, and crowding measures, as the data measuring housing outcomes are sparse and the period over which outcome data and investment data overlap is short. This does not mean housing investments are not successful, only that the data are too limited to conduct any conclusive correlation analysis. For example, the largest decrease in the percent of households with 6 or more persons (-7.52 pp) and in the percent of households in core housing need (-17.58 pp) occurred in Sachs Harbour, though the community received the least amount of funding. Further, despite completing a total of 12 housing projects, valuing \$22,772,444 (an equivalent of \$6,538/sf) since 2018, the percentage of dwellings needing major repairs increased in the ISR and most ISR communities. Additional data on new housing construction and housing repairs (e.g., building permit values), whether or not funded by a project such as the Inuit Housing Project, would allow for a more complete understanding of how housing supply and the quality of housing is changing in the ISR.

Figure H15. Inuit Housing Project Committed Funding, 2016 to 2022



Source: IRC.

Figure H16. Inuit Housing Completed Projects Cost per square footage by Community, 2018 to 2022



Source: IRC. Note: Values are the cost per square foot to complete a housing project.

4.6 : Labour

Data Overview

The Labour Trends Analysis section examines several indicators related to the labour market in the ISR. All data are sourced from the 2001 to 2021 Census. The Investments and Activities section presents data from ESDC programs (from 1999 to 2001) and several GNWT Department of Education, Culture, and Employment programs (from 2010 to 2022).

Key Findings

Key informants note two challenges in the ISR labour market: **1) employment is vulnerable to economic boom-and-bust cycles**, and **2) employment opportunities do not match the skills, interests, or confidence of workers**. Despite challenges, key informants are optimistic about future employment opportunities that new industries will bring, including tourism, as well as opportunities to improve training and build the capacity of the workforce.

From 2001 to 2021, **female and male participation and employment rates in the ISR decreased**, while unemployment rates also decreased slightly. These trends could, in part, be the result of aging populations (between 2016 and 2021, the median age in the ISR increased from 31.6 to 32.8 and the share of people 60 years and older increased), economic downturn (for instance, the “bust” cycle that has followed the oil boom), discouraged job seekers, and/or mismatch between skills and job requirements. Decreases in the labour force participation rate could also be a result of increased enrolment in education or training programs.

From 2001 to 2021, **declines in female participation and employment rates in the ISR are smaller than declines in corresponding male rates**; this could be due to female workers working in more stable industries, such as public administration, relative to male workers. Higher female than male educational attainment in the ISR could also be contributing to greater employment stability for women.

From 2001 to 2021 **female and male participation, employment, and unemployment rates decreased in most ISR communities**. Despite the overall decline in employment, key informants note that there are **periods of increasing employment opportunities during economic booms**, like the early-2000s oil boom and construction of the Inuvik-Tuktoyaktuk Highway.

In 2016, Indigenous workers have lower employment and participation rates than the total population in the ISR, NWT, and Canada, and higher unemployment rates. This is true for both men and women, across all ISR communities.

Median income in all ISR communities, except for Inuvik, is lower than median income in the NWT and Canada, but increased at a faster rate between 2001 and 2021. The increases in median incomes may be attributed to improvements in educational attainment, though more data on education, occupation, and demographics would be needed to determine what factors are driving these increases.



Trends Analysis

The state of the labour market, including participation, employment, and unemployment rates in the ISR, provides insight into economic self-reliance and participation in the Northern economy. Participation in the labour force contributes to financial stability and the ability to meet basic needs such as food, housing, and health expenses. Labour force participation is connected with individual self-reliance, self-determination, and income generation that are themselves connected to many social determinants of health. The employment rate also signals the efficiency of the labour market in providing job opportunities.

When discussing labour trends in the ISR, it is important to stress that “formal” employment does not encompass all the ways in which Inuvialuit generate income and support themselves and their families. Many Inuvialuit work in the “informal” or traditional economy, harvesting country foods, producing goods, handicraft and artwork, and providing voluntary services in their communities (Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami, 2014). These activities are not accurately captured in formal labour market statistics such as the employment, participation, and unemployment rates discussed throughout this section, but their importance should not be discounted. A reduction in participation rates, for instance, could be an indicator of increased engagement in traditional activities, which would not indicate economic distress.

Key informants describe an ISR labour market in which there is a mismatch between employer needs and the skills, interests, and confidence of workers in the labour force. High-paying vacant positions remain unfilled for long periods of time and could be due to limited interest in entering the formal workforce as well as barriers to apply (for example, lack of confidence in the ability to meet experience or job requirements at the application stage). High-paying positions often require highly skilled workers, and may remain unchanged as a result from lower skills acquisition, particularly limited post-secondary certification, among residents in the ISR. In 2023 in the NWT, the Statistics Hot Jobs Report identifies that ten of 15 of the most in demand jobs require some post-secondary certification or extensive work experience (TEER 0 to TEER3) (NWT Bureau of Statistics, 2023b). From 2023 to 2032, the Occupational Demand Projections anticipates 79.3% of job openings in the Beaufort Delta will require the workforce to have post-secondary certification or extensive work experience (TEER 0 to TEER 3) (NWT Bureau of Statistics, 2023a).

Some positions, however, are filled quickly and signal the kinds of opportunities that Inuvialuit value. These include openings at the Country Foods Processing Plant as well as opportunities related to tourism, including cruise ship tourism. At the time of interviews, key

informants mention that the Country Foods Processing Plant employs six full-time staff. Key informants are optimistic that the tourism industry will continue to grow, generating employment opportunities that Inuvialuit value. However, they identify the need for more training and capacity building to ensure the opportunities generated by growth in the tourism industry can be fully realized and accessed by Inuvialuit.

“There is no training to respond to tourism opportunities, and we are behind the eight ball on developing the infrastructure needed to receive tourists.” - Key Informant Interview

Key informants describe the existence of a “boom and bust” cycle in the ISR, whereby there is a rollercoaster of economic activity driven by major industries expanding and contracting, rather than steady economic growth over time. Key informants see the early 2000s and the period from 2014 to 2018 as moments of important industry expansion and economic prosperity that increased employment, drew workers to the region (growing the labour force), and created conditions ripe for business development in the ISR. This analysis is validated in the quantitative data, which show the number of people in the labour force and employed in Aklavik, Inuvik, and Tuktoyaktuk increasing in 2006 and 2016, driven first by expansions in the oil industry, predominantly in Inuvik, and then by the construction of the Inuvik-Tuktoyaktuk Highway. Key informants suggest that since 2016, the labour force has been impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic, including pandemic-related closures, and industry changes, such as a slower tourism industry and issues hiring and retaining workers. The impact of the COVID-19 pandemic up until 2021 appears in quantitative data for most geographies (see figures L1, L2, and L3), but its longer term impacts on the labour force should be evaluated in future reviews.

“In the early 2000s, there was oil-driven employment. At that time, money was everywhere in the community. There were lots of transient workers, restaurants, pubs, bars, hotels. You could not be unemployed at that time. Everything was booming. That fizzled out in 2010/2011, but when the construction of the Inuvik-Tuk highway began, again, employment was plentiful. Now that the road is complete, there are no more large infrastructure projects. People are struggling, to say the least.”

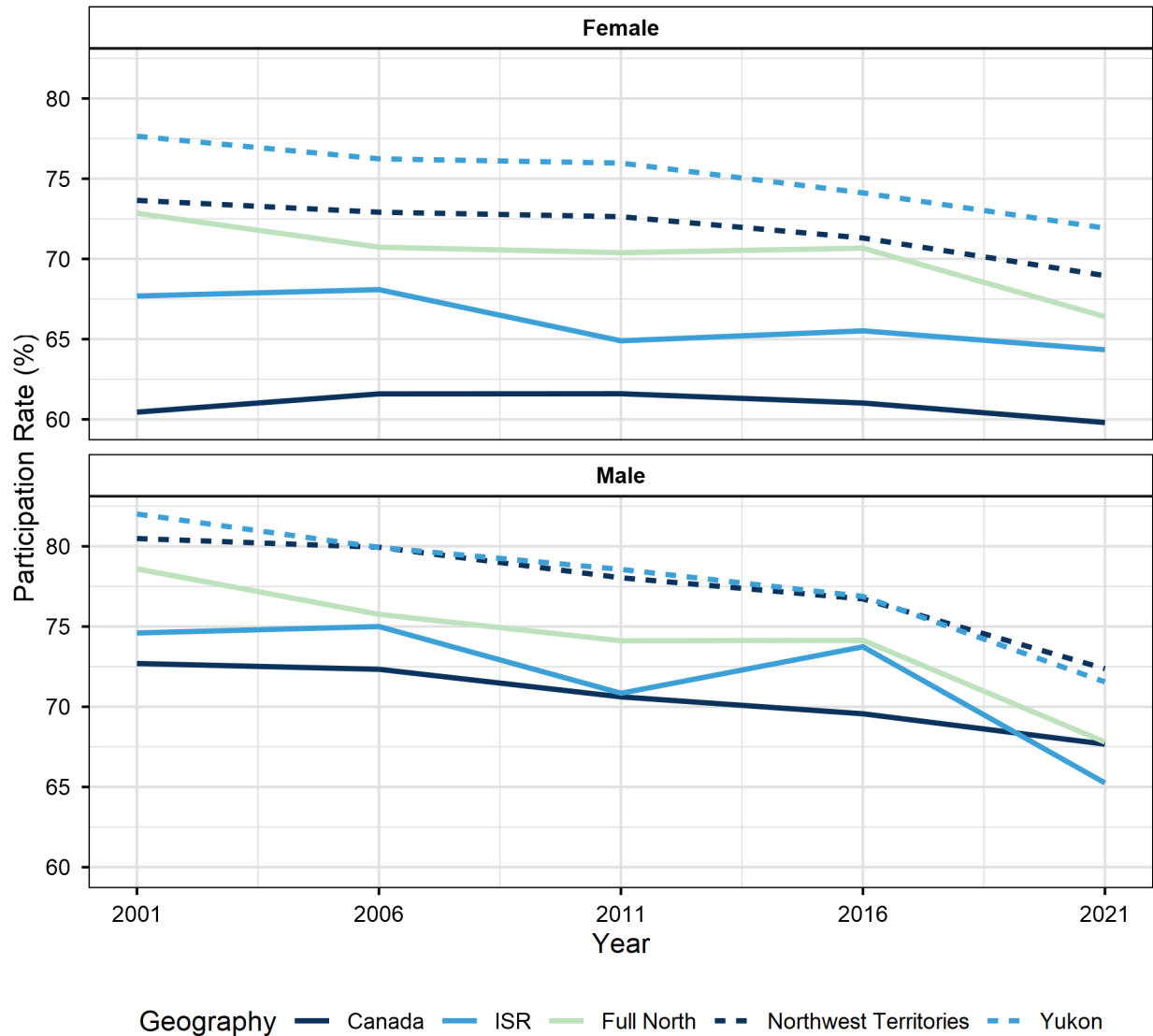
- Key Informant Interview

Figure L1 shows female and male participation rates for the entire (i.e., Indigenous and non-Indigenous) population living in the ISR, NWT, Yukon, Full North, and Canada between 2001 and 2021. The participation rate shows the share of the population 15 years and older that is employed or seeking employment and is associated with a population's ability, interest, and need

to work. From 2001 to 2021, participation rates decreased in all geographies, and the decrease was more pronounced for male workers than female workers.

Changes in participation rates in the ISR appear tied to local industry changes. From 2001 to 2006, both female and male participation rates rose 0.4 percentage points as the oil industry expanded. Participation rates then decreased, by 3.2 and 4.2 percentage points, respectively, as the economy entered a “bust” cycle. Similarly, female and male participation rates increased by 0.6 and 2.9 percentage points, respectively, from 2011 to 2016 as the construction industry expanded, before decreasing from 2016 to 2021 by 1.2 and 8.5 percentage points, respectively. Male participation rates appear more sensitive to industry expansion and contractions than female participation rates, particularly contractions from 2016 to 2021 in the construction industry (-85 male workers) and real estate and rental and leasing industry (-45 male workers).

Figure L1. Labour Force Participation Rate by Sex, Canada, Full North, ISR, NWT, & Yukon, 2001 to 2021

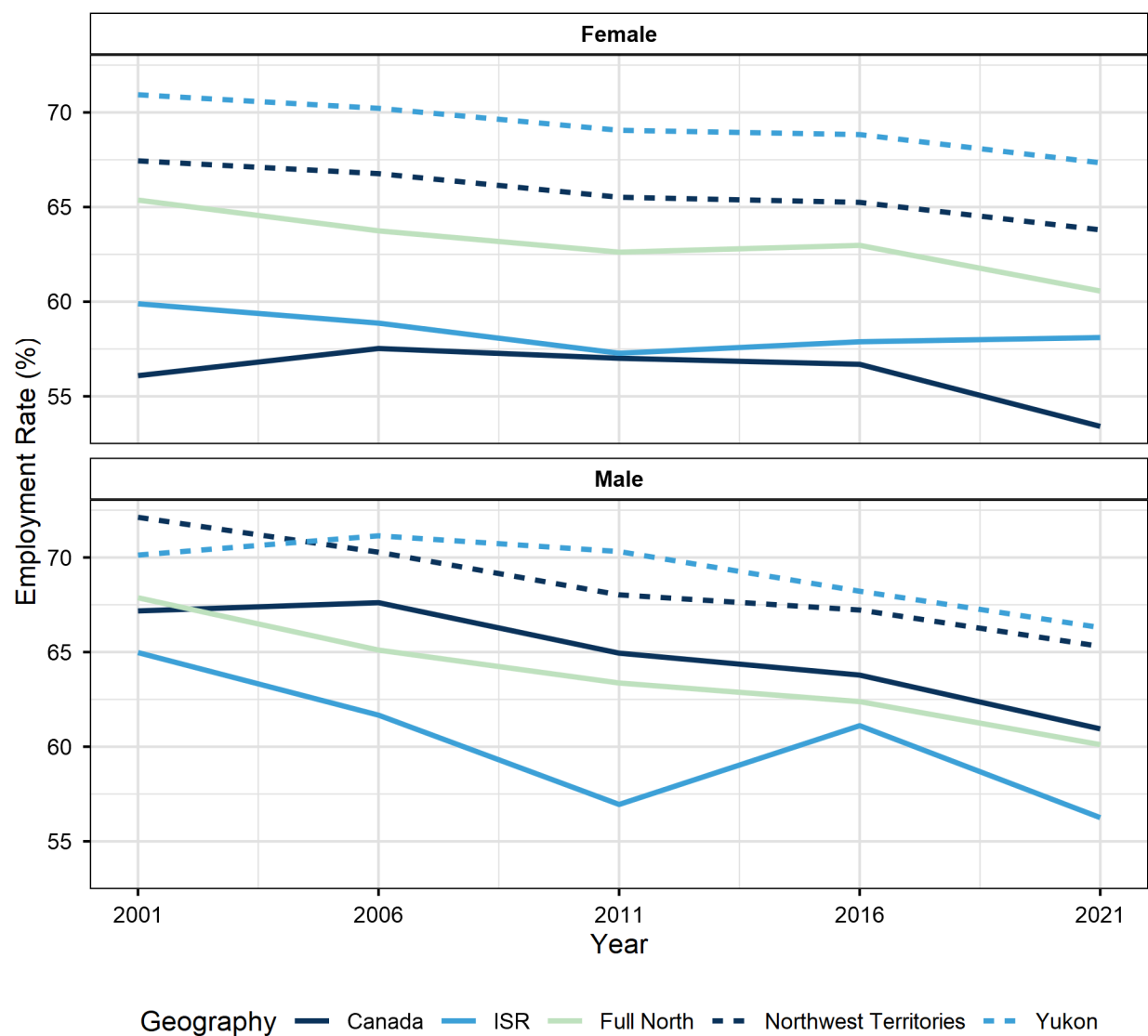


Source: Custom Request, 1996 - 2021 Census, Statistics Canada. Note: Data presented for the entire (i.e., Indigenous and non-Indigenous) population.

Figure L2 shows female and male employment rates for the entire (i.e., Indigenous and non-Indigenous) population in the ISR, NWT, Yukon, Full North, and Canada, between 2001 and 2021. The employment rate shows the percentage of the population 15 years and older that is employed, and illustrates the utilization of potential workers and their skills in the economy. From 2001 to 2021, female and male employment rates decreased in all geographies. Like participation rates, the decrease in employment rate is more pronounced for male workers than female workers. Similar to the male participation rate, the 4.9 percentage point decline in the employment

rate from 2016 to 2021 may be related to male workers being employed in industries more impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic, including the construction industry. Unlike participation rates, the employment rate for female workers in the ISR does not seem closely tied to industry expansions and contractions.

Figure L2. Employment Rate by Sex, Canada, Full North, ISR, NWT, & Yukon, 2001 to 2021

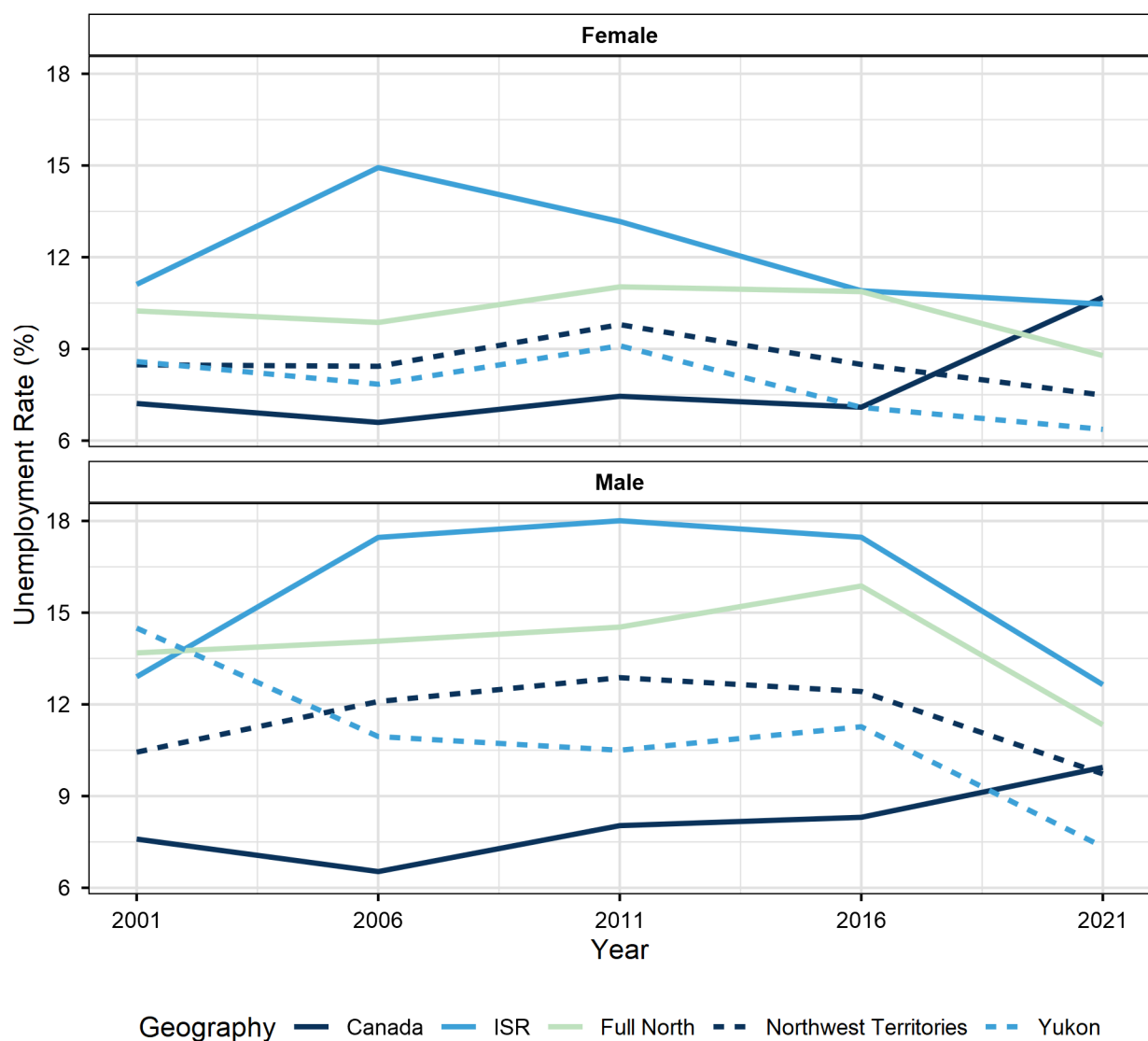


Source: Custom Request, 1996 - 2021 Census, Statistics Canada.
Note: Data presented for the entire (i.e., Indigenous and non-Indigenous) population.

Figure L3 shows female and male unemployment rates for the entire (i.e., Indigenous and non-Indigenous) population in the ISR, NWT, Yukon, Full North, and Canada, between 2001 and

2021. The unemployment rate measures the percentage of people in the labour force who are not employed but are actively seeking jobs; and indicates whether the skills or interests of the labour force match employer needs. From 2001 to 2021, female and male unemployment rates in Canada increased, with notable increases between 2016 and 2021 likely related to the COVID-19 pandemic, while female and male unemployment rates decreased in the ISR and the NWT over the same period. Despite decreases in the female and male unemployment rates since 2001, female and male unemployment rates in the ISR are consistently higher than in the NWT.

Figure L3. Unemployment Rate by Sex, Canada, Full North, ISR, NWT, & Yukon, 2001 to 2021



Source: Custom Request, 1996 - 2021 Census, Statistics Canada.
 Note: Data presented for the entire (i.e., Indigenous and non-Indigenous) population.

Table L1 shows female and male labour force statistics for the entire (i.e., Indigenous and non-Indigenous) population by ISR community. Between 2001 and 2021, female and male participation, employment, and unemployment rates decreased in the majority of ISR communities. In 2021, participation and employment rates are highest in Inuvik. Changes seen in Sachs Harbour may be attributed to rounding and should be interpreted with caution.

Table L1. Participation, Employment, and Unemployment Counts and Rates by Sex, ISR Communities, 2001 and 2021

		2001	2021	2001	2021
Region	Statistic	Female		Male	
Aklavik	Labour Force	120	110	140	110
	Participation Rate	57.1	56.4	57.1	51.2
	Employed	90	95	100	80
	Employment Rate	42.9	48.7	40.8	37.2
	Unemployed	30	10	40	30
	Unemployment Rate	25	9.1	28.6	27.3
Inuvik	Labour Force	770	875	870	855
	Participation Rate	74.8	72.6	83.7	75.7
	Employed	720	805	820	775
	Employment Rate	69.9	66.8	78.8	68.6
	Unemployed	55	70	55	80
	Unemployment Rate	7.1	8	6.3	9.4
Paulatuk	Labour Force	40	50	60	60
	Participation Rate	50	55.6	63.2	54.5
	Employed	35	50	45	55
	Employment Rate	43.8	55.6	47.4	50
	Unemployed	10	10	15	0
	Unemployment Rate	25	20	25	0
Sachs Harbour	Labour Force	25	25	25	30
	Participation Rate	71.4	55.6	71.4	75
	Employed	20	25	20	25
	Employment Rate	57.1	55.6	57.1	62.5

		2001	2021	2001	2021
Region	Statistic	Female		Male	
	Unemployed	0	0	10	0
	Unemployment Rate	0	0	40	0
Tuktoyaktuk	Labour Force	170	135	215	145
	Participation Rate	56.7	42.2	65.2	40.8
	Employed	130	115	155	115
	Employment Rate	43.3	35.9	47	32.4
	Unemployed	40	20	60	25
	Unemployment Rate	23.5	14.8	27.9	17.2
Ulukhaktok	Labour Force	90	95	85	105
	Participation Rate	64.3	63.3	68	70
	Employed	80	75	75	75
	Employment Rate	57.1	50	60	50
	Unemployed	0	25	0	30
	Unemployment Rate	0	26.3	0	28.6

Source: Custom Request, 1996 - 2021 Census, Statistics Canada. Note: The number of people in the labour force, employed, and unemployed does not include people who work in ISR communities for short and intermittent periods.

Table L2 shows the number of female and male workers in the labour force and female and male participation rates in Aklavik, Inuvik, and Tuktoyaktuk between 2001 and 2021. Aklavik, Inuvik, and Tuktoyaktuk are the only communities where changes in the labour force count over time are greater than 10. Because smaller changes may reflect random rounding, labour force counts for other ISR communities are shown in Appendix B5. Changes in the participation rate over time can mask changes in the number of people able and interested in working; for example, a decrease in the participation rate may reflect an increase in the underlying size of the working-age population, that includes people 15 years and older that are not in the labour force, while the number of people working or seeking employment is unchanged.

In Aklavik, Inuvik, and Tuktoyaktuk, changes in the number of people in the labour force resemble industry expansions and contractions described by key informants. From 2001 to 2006, the number of female and male workers in Inuvik increased, aligning with the oil industry expansion described by key informants. After 2011, the female and male labour forces in Inuvik decreased, in alignment with the contraction in the oil industry described by key informants. From 2011 to 2016, Aklavik and Tuktoyaktuk experienced increases in their female and male labour forces. The increase in female and male labour forces aligns with the expansion in the construction industry during the construction of the Inuvik-Tuktoyaktuk Highway, as described by key informants. The female and male labour forces in all three ISR communities, with the

exception of the female workforce in Inuvik, declined from 2016 to 2021 likely driven by pandemic-related closures.

**Table L2. Labour Force Count and Participation Rate,
Aklavik, Inuvik, & Tuktoyaktuk, 2001 to 2021**

Region		2001	2006	2011	2016	2021
Female						
Aklavik	Count	120	105	70	125	110
	Rate	57.1	51.2	48.3	59.5	56.4
Inuvik	Count	770	1,010	1,020	870	875
	Rate	74.8	75.9	72.1	70.7	72.6
Tuktoyaktuk	Count	170	150	135	155	135
	Rate	56.7	50.0	46.6	50.8	42.2
Male						
Aklavik	Count	140	140	80	150	110
	Rate	57.1	60.9	44.4	65.2	51.2
Inuvik	Count	870	1,040	1,105	895	855
	Rate	83.7	84.2	81.3	79.6	75.7
Tuktoyaktuk	Count	215	210	180	210	145
	Rate	65.2	63.6	57.1	62.7	40.8

Source: Custom Request, 1996 - 2021 Census, Statistics Canada. Note: The labour force count does not include people who work in ISR communities for short and intermittent periods.

Table L3 shows the total count of female and male workers employed and female and male employment rates in Inuvik and Tuktoyaktuk, from 2001 to 2021. Aklavik, Inuvik, and Tuktoyaktuk are the only communities where changes in the number of people employed are greater than 10; other ISR communities, shown in Table B5.4 in Appendix B5, experienced smaller changes that may reflect random rounding. The number of people employed may better indicate employment opportunities, whereas the employment rate reflects the number of people employed relative to the total working-age population.

Like changes in the labour force, changes in the number of people employed in Aklavik, Inuvik, and Tuktoyaktuk resemble industry changes that key informants describe. The number of female and male workers employed in Inuvik increases from 2001 to 2006, before decreasing until 2011. From 2011 to 2016, the number of people employed increases in Aklavik and Tuktoyaktuk, aligning with the expansion of the construction industry described by key

informants. After 2016, the number of people employed in all three communities decreases again, possibly reflecting contractions in industries due to lower investment as well as the COVID-19 pandemic.

Table L3. Number of People Employed and the Employment Rate, Aklavik, Inuvik, & Tuktoyaktuk, 2001 to 2021

Region		2001	2006	2011	2016	2021
Female						
Aklavik	Count	90	95	65	100	95
	Rate	42.9	46.3	44.8	47.6	48.7
Inuvik	Count	720	905	905	800	805
	Rate	69.9	68.0	64.0	65.0	66.8
Tuktoyaktuk	Count	130	105	115	125	115
	Rate	43.3	35.0	39.7	41.0	35.9
Male						
Aklavik	Count	100	90	50	100	80
	Rate	40.8	39.1	27.8	43.5	37.2
Inuvik	Count	820	920	935	805	775
	Rate	78.8	74.5	68.8	71.6	68.6
Tuktoyaktuk	Count	155	140	120	145	115
	Rate	47.0	42.4	38.1	43.3	32.4

Source: Custom Request, 1996 - 2021 Census, Statistics Canada. Note: The number of people employed does not include people who work in ISR communities for short and intermittent periods.

Table L4 shows the participation, employment, and unemployment rates for the Inuit, Indigenous and total (Indigenous and non-Indigenous) male and female populations in ISR communities in 2016. Indigenous participation and employment rates are lower than the total participation and employment rates in the majority of ISR communities. Similarly, Indigenous unemployment rates are higher than total unemployment rates, for both male and female workers, in the majority of ISR communities. Generally for the Inuit population in ISR communities, participation rates are lower, employment rates are lower, and unemployment rates are higher compared to the Indigenous and total populations. Sachs Harbour is a notable exception, however the rates for Sachs Harbour should be interpreted with caution due to low population counts.

Table L4: Labour Force Statistic Rates for Total and Indigenous Populations in ISR Communities, 2016

Region	Sex	Participation Rate (%)			Employment Rate (%)			Unemployment Rate (%)		
		Inuit	Indigenous	Total	Inuit	Indigenous	Total	Inuit	Indigenous	Total
Aklavik	Male	65.2	65.9	65.2	39.1	39.0	43.5	46.7	40.7	33.3
	Female	56.5	59.0	59.5	47.8	46.2	47.6	15.4	17.4	16.0
Inuvik	Male	71.4	72.6	79.6	59.5	62.2	71.6	18.3	14.3	10.1
	Female	63.0	64.1	70.7	56.0	57.5	65.0	11.1	10.3	7.5
Paulatuk	Male	68.4	68.4	68.2	47.4	52.6	54.5	30.8	23.1	26.7
	Female	76.5	66.7	78.9	52.9	55.6	63.2	23.1	33.3	20.0
Sachs Harbour	Male	85.7	71.4	87.5	71.4	71.4	75.0	0.0	40.0	28.6
	Female	71.4	57.1	62.5	71.4	57.1	62.5	40.0	0.0	0.0
Tuktoyaktuk	Male	62.7	62.3	62.7	40.7	41.0	43.3	35.1	34.2	31.0
	Female	47.3	41.9	50.8	36.4	33.9	41.0	23.1	23.1	19.4
Ulukhaktok	Male	63.0	65.4	67.9	44.4	46.2	50	23.5	29.4	21.1
	Female	53.6	53.6	53.3	46.4	46.4	43.3	20.0	13.3	18.8

Source: Custom Request, 2016 Census, Statistics Canada. Note: Inuit labour force statistics not available prior to 2016. 2021 Inuit labour force statistics are presented in the 2021 Inuvialuit Census Profile. In smaller communities, changes in participation rates may appear larger than changes in the number of people employed due to random rounding; that is, a 5 person increase in the number of people employed may reflect random rounding to protect individuals privacy.

Table L5 shows the industries with the most female workers in ISR communities, the ISR, NWT, and Canada in 2001 and 2021. In 2001 and 2021, health care, public administration, and educational services employ the largest share of the female labour force in the ISR and across ISR communities. In the ISR, the number of women in public administration and educational services increased from 2001 to 2021.

Table L6 shows the industries with the most male workers in ISR communities, the ISR, NWT, and Canada in 2001 and 2021. In 2001 and 2021, construction and public administration employ the largest share of the total male labour force in the NWT, the ISR, and all ISR communities.

Table L5. Number of Female Workers in Top 3 Industries, in the ISR, ISR Communities, NWT, & Canada, 2001 and 2021

Geography	Top Industries	2001	2021
Aklavik	Educational services	20	30 ↑
	Public administration	20	25 ↑
	Health care and social assistance	30	20 ↓
Inuvik	Public administration	155	265 ↑
	Health care and social assistance	180	185 ↑
	Educational services	90	115 ↑
Paulatuk	Health care and social assistance	-	15 ↑
Sach's Harbour	-	-	-
Tuktoyaktuk	Educational services		30 ↑
	Public administration	25	25 →
	Health care and social assistance	35	25 ↓
	Retail trade	25	- ↓
	Construction	25	- ↓
Ulukhaktok	Public administration	25	25 →
	Retail trade	15	20 ↑
	Health care and social assistance	-	15 ↑
	Educational services	20	15 ↓
ISR	Public administration	235	360 ↑
	Health care and social assistance	265	260 ↓
	Educational services	145	210 ↑
Northwest Territories	Public administration	2,080	3,310 ↑
	Health care and social assistance	1,645	1,920 ↑
	Educational services	1,065	1,330 ↑
Canada	Health care and social assistance	1,235,470	1,976,030 ↑
	Retail trade	957,915	1,122,480 ↑
	Educational services	673,445	976,670 ↑

Sources: Custom Request, 1996 - 2021 Census, Statistics Canada. Note: Industry data at 2-digit (sector) NAICS. Counts 10 or under have been suppressed from this table. Colour coding corresponds to industry to make finding common industries easier.

Table L6. Number of Male Workers in Top 3 Industries in the ISR, ISR communities, NWT, & Canada, 2001 and 2021

Geography	Top Industries	2001	2021
Aklavik	Public administration	20	25 ↑
	Construction	20	20 →
	Retail trade	15	- ↓
	Mining, quarrying, and oil and gas extraction	15	- ↓
Inuvik	Public administration	140	185 ↑
	Construction	130	125 ↓
	Retail trade	-	80 ↑
	Transportation and warehousing	90	- ↓
Paulatuk	Public administration	-	20 ↑
Sachs Harbour	-	-	-
Tuktoyaktuk	Public administration	40	35 ↓
	Construction	65	30 ↓
	Retail trade	-	15 →
	Transportation and warehousing	25	- ↓
Ulukhaktok	Public administration	40	30 ↓
	Retail trade	-	20
ISR	Public administration	260	305 ↑
	Construction	245	205 ↓
	Retail trade	-	125 ↑
	Transportation and warehousing	145	- ↓
Northwest Territories	Public administration	2,230	2,880 ↑
	Construction	1,325	1,200 ↓
	Retail trade	-	1,075 ↑
	Mining, quarrying, and oil and gas extraction	1,160	- ↓
Canada	Construction	775,630	1,269,060 ↑
	Manufacturing	1,534,105	1,095,160 ↓
	Retail trade	796,975	1,027,160 ↑

Source: Custom Request, 1996 - 2021 Census, Statistics Canada. Note: Industry data at 2-digit (sector) NAICS. Counts 10 or under have been suppressed from this table. Colour coding corresponds to industry to make finding common industries easier.

Investments and Activities

The following section considers investments and activities made by IFA parties pertaining to the labour market in the ISR and ISR communities. Data permitting, statistical or graphical correlations between relevant indicators, investments, and activities are identified to consider whether the investments and activities made have contributed to a positive impact on Inuvialuit labour market outcomes. Key findings and data limitations are presented first, before discussing results.

Key Findings

From 2009 to 2021, a total of \$29,062,389 in funding was disbursed in the ISR through eight labour programs for which data were provided.

The combined funding from GNWT employment programs in the ISR has increased since 2015, more than tripling to \$1,303,606 in 2022.

There has been an increase in female and youth participation in ESDC programs over the last 10 fiscal years.

Return to school ESDC action plans are more popular among female clients than they are among male clients. However, employment action plans are more popular overall.

Regression analysis shows that short-term ESDC action plans and non-school action plans are associated with greater odds of employment at the end of an action plan. This may be explained by several factors, including that shorter action plans may better suit individuals who are already close to job readiness.

Limitations

There are some inconsistencies in the ESDC program participation and completion data, as well as in reporting participation in NWT programs.

Lack of Inuvialuit and Indigenous specific employment over time data makes inferences of correlation difficult.

Employment and Social Development Canada

Figures L9 to L14 summarize investments made through Employment and Social Development Canada (ESDC) and outcomes of investments. While investment outcomes are useful to track, they do not reflect all the wholistic impacts of ESDC programming. ESDC clients view success beyond employment and education outcomes; as such future reviews must include qualitative data on investment impacts. ESDC program investments include:

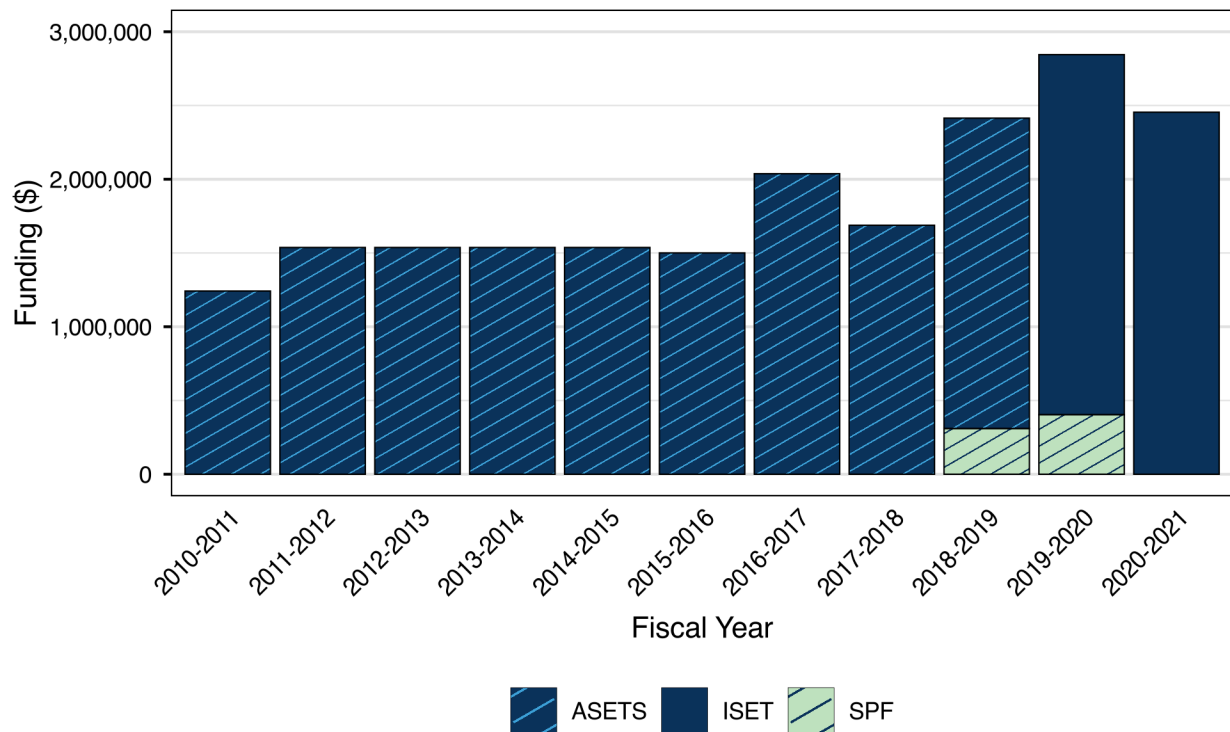
- **Aboriginal Human Resources and Development Strategy (AHRDS)** (from 1999 to 2009): provided federal funding to Indigenous organizations to design and deliver programs that assist Indigenous people to prepare for and become employed, support youth to transition from secondary to post-secondary or employment opportunities, and provide child care.
- **Aboriginal Skills and Training Strategic Investment Fund (ASTSIF)** (from 2009 to 2011): Federal funding that provided short-term support to employment training initiatives.
- **Skills and Partnership Fund (SPF)** (from 2010 to present): funds projects where Indigenous organizations and industry players partner to provide skills development and training-to-employment of Indigenous workers. Complements the ASETS and ISET programs.
- **Aboriginal Skills and Employment Training Strategy (ASETS)** (from 2010 to 2018): provided funding to Indigenous organizations to support human resources development programs and services.
- **Indigenous Skills and Employment Training (ISET) Program** (from 2019 to present): a distinctions-based program that provides funding to Indigenous organizations to increase Indigenous participation in the labour force and reduce the gap in employment outcomes between Indigenous and non-Indigenous people. Formerly the Aboriginal Skills and Employment Training Strategy (ASETS), ISET builds on previous programs to ensure greater access to training and employment services for all Indigenous people. Through its flexible funding envelope, the ISET program enables service delivery organizations to provide wraparound services to clients that support them on a wholistic journey towards skill development and employment. By being responsive to the unique needs of each client, the ISET program is known to support self-confidence and wellbeing, all the while reducing barriers to skills and employment.

Figures L9 to L14 present ESDC program data, including funding data as well as data on the number of total, youth, female, and male clients served, and the type of intervention received.¹⁶ Figure L9 shows the value of funding provided to the ASETS, ISET, and SPF programs by fiscal year from 2010 to 2021. The total funding provided by these three programs from 2010 to 2021 is \$20,331,539. Approximately \$2 million in funding was provided through the ASTSIF program from 2009 to 2011. Funding peaked in the 2019/2020 fiscal year at \$2,844,736 with both the ISET as

¹⁶Table A2.L6. in Appendix A2 shows the number of total, employed, and school clients, and completed interventions for ARHDS, ASETS, SPF & ISET programs from 1999 to 2021 in the ISR.

well as SPF project funding when both the ISET and SPF program were operating during the same fiscal year.

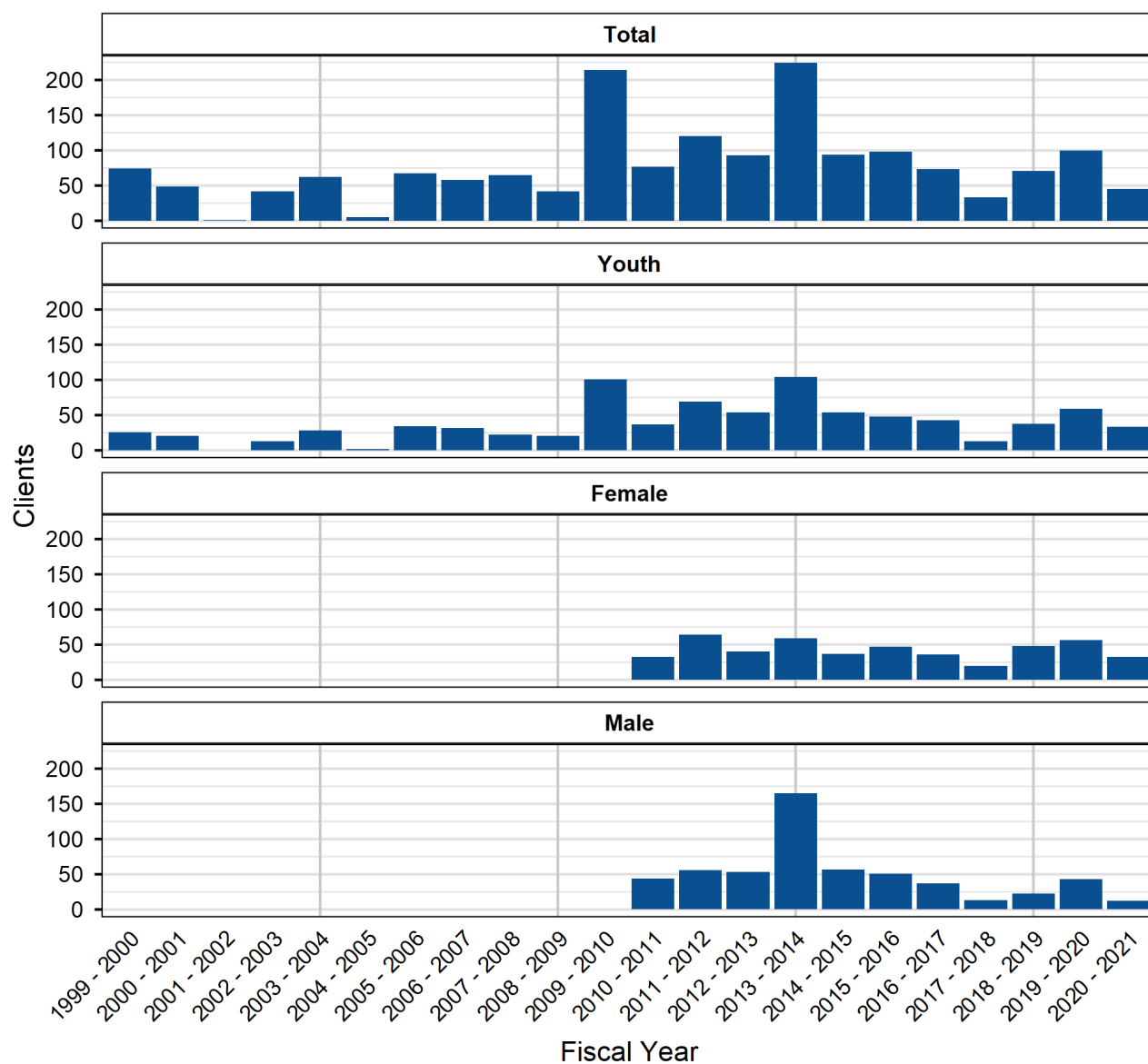
Figure L9. Economic and Social Development Canada Funding, 2010 to 2021



Source: ESDC.

The top panel in Figure L10 shows the total number of clients served by AHRDS, ASETS, SPF, and ISET programs from 1999 to 2022 in the ISR. The lower three panels show the count broken down across youth (ages 15 to 30), female, and male clients. In total, there were 1,707 clients served across all four programs, with an average of 74.2 clients served per year. There was a notable increase in the share of youth and female clients in the last ten fiscal years (2010/2011 to 2020/2021).

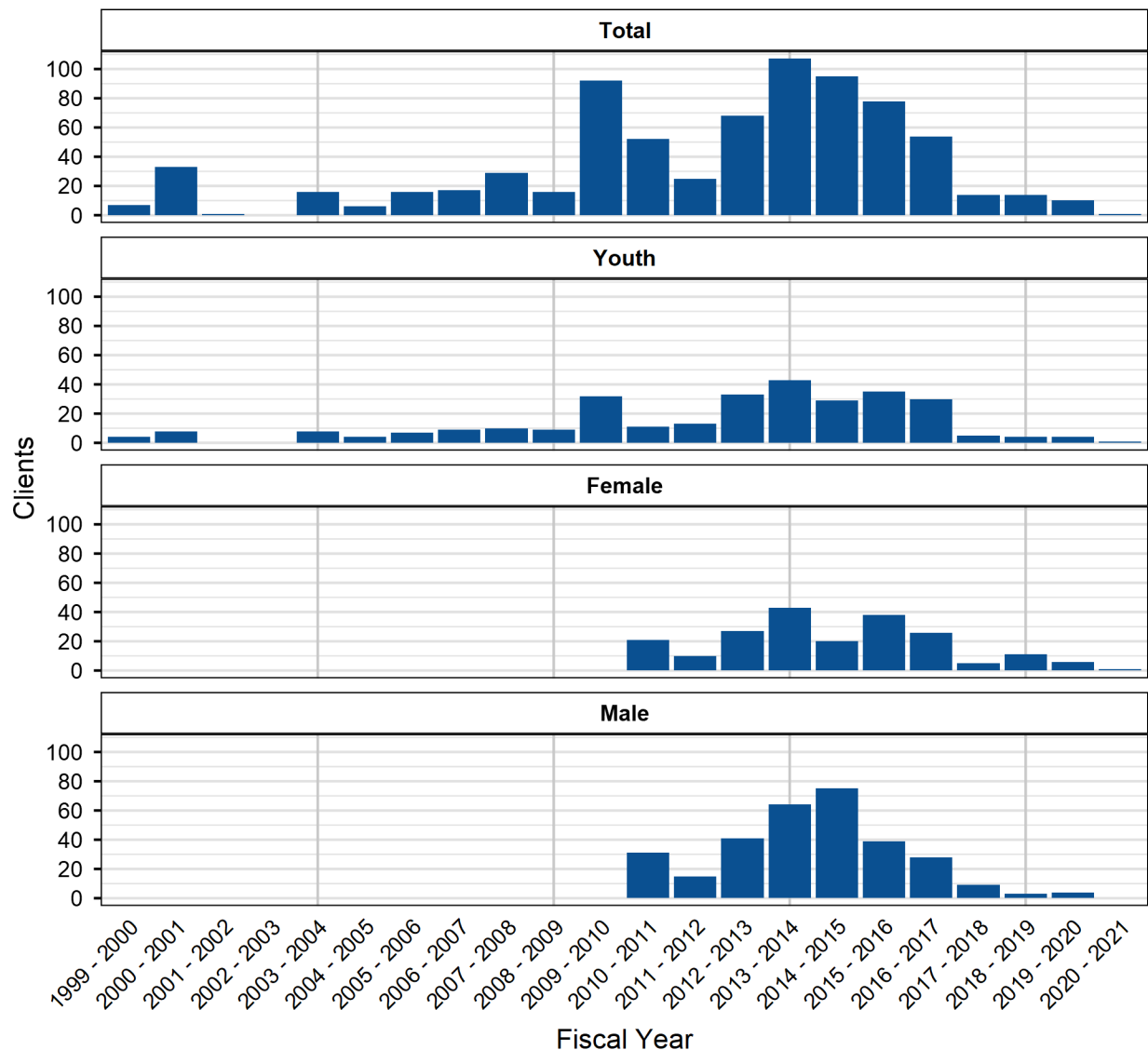
Figure L10. ARHDS, ASETS, SPF & ISET Total Clients, ISR, 1999 to 2021



Source: ESDC. Note: There may be instances of double counting due to overlaps in programming. Clients include new and ongoing clients.

Figure L11 shows the number of clients (total, youth, female, and male) enrolled in employment action plans served by ARHDS, ASETS, SPF, and ISET programs from 1999 to 2022 in the ISR. In total, there were 751 clients enrolled in employment action plans, with an average of 34 clients served per year. On average, from 2010 to 2020, 43% of employed clients are youth and 45% are female. The percentage of female employed clients has increased to over 50% in the second to last fiscal years (2018/2019 and 2019/2020). Prior to this, the female share was consistently below half.

Figure L11. ARHDS, ASETS, SPF & ISET Employed Clients, ISR, 1999 to 2021

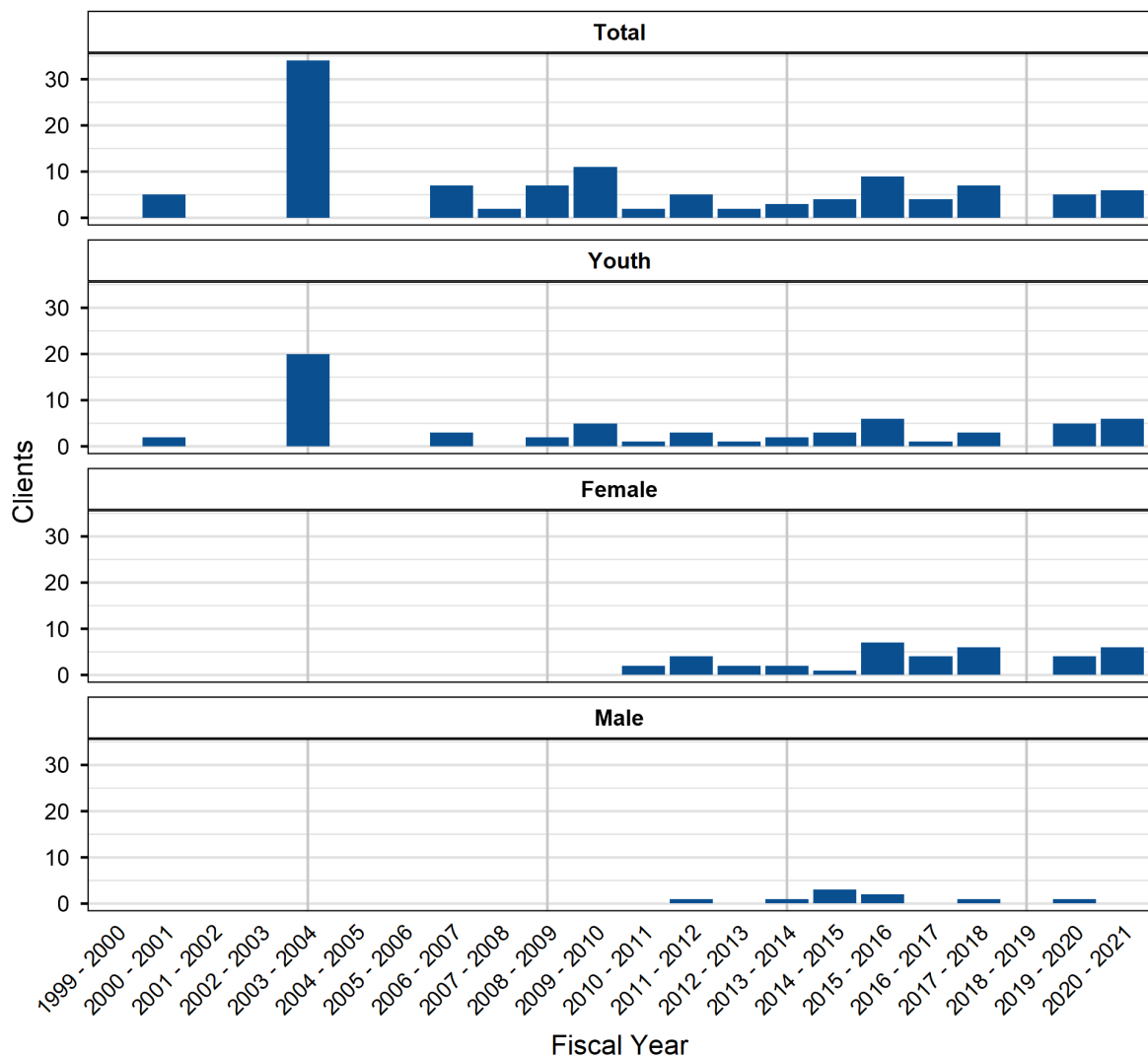


Source: ESDC. Note: Client outcomes can be reported up to 6-months after interventions are completed, so the number of employed clients may be greater than the total number of clients in a given year. Clients include new and ongoing clients.

Figure L12 shows the number of clients (total, youth, female, and male) enrolled in return to school action plans served by ARHDS, ASETS, SPF, and ISET programs from 1999 to 2022 in the ISR. In total, there were 113 clients enrolled in return to school action plans, with an average of 5.1 clients served per year. Return to school clients are more likely to be female, comprising around 80% of the average clientele each year from 2010/2011 to 2020/2021. Over the same period, around 60% of return to school clients were youth. Data suggest that employment action plans

are generally more common than return to school action plans, except for the fiscal years 2003/2004 and 2020/2021. The 2003/2004 spike in clients returning to school may include former clients six months after completing their interventions.

Figure L12. ARHDS, ASETS, SPF & ISET Returned to School Clients, ISR, 1999 to 2021

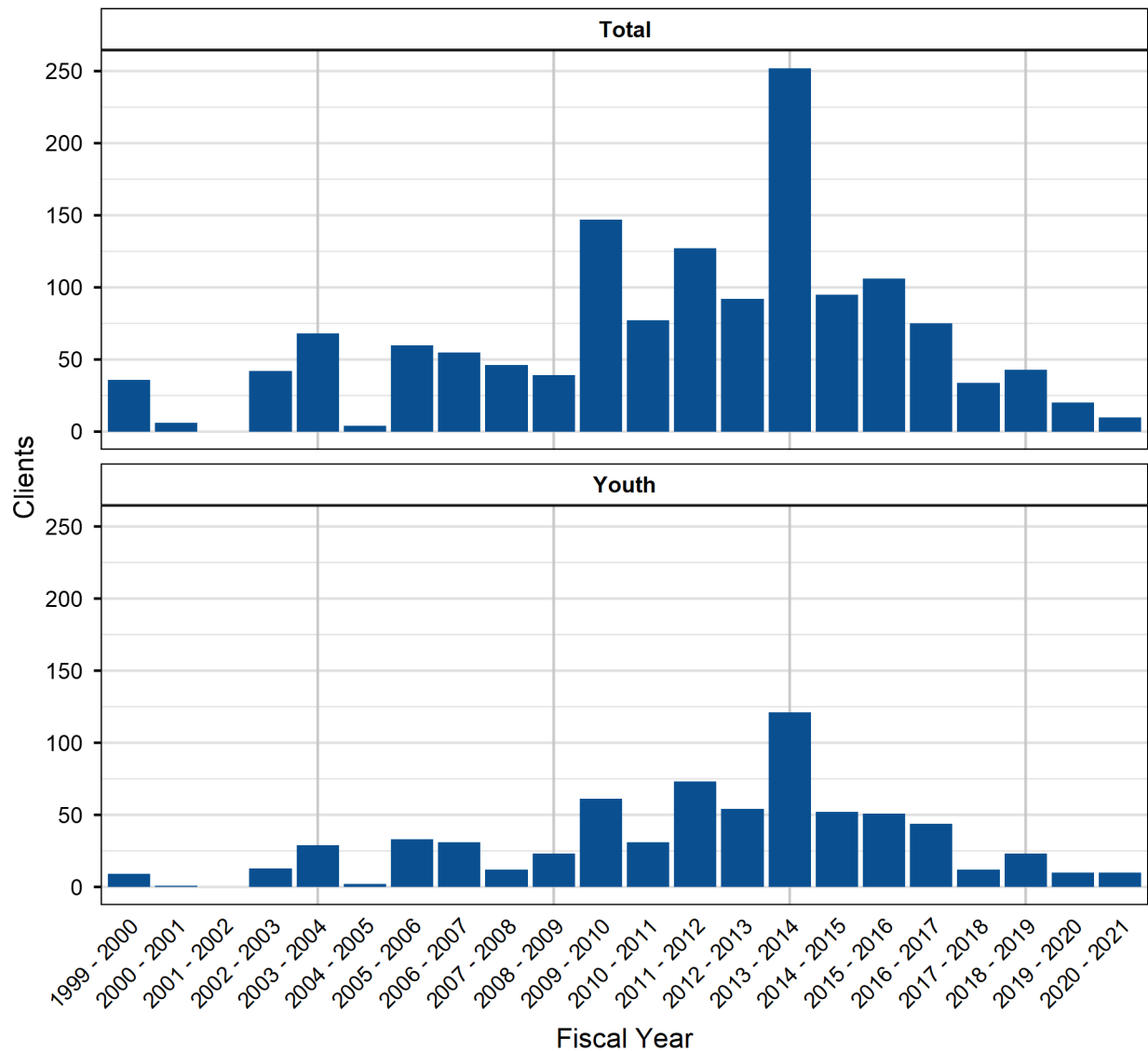


Source: ESDC. Note: Client outcomes can be reported up to 6-months after interventions are completed, so the number of clients enrolled in school may be greater than the total number of clients in a given year. Clients include new and ongoing clients.

Figure L13 shows the number of clients (total and youth) who have completed AHRDS, ASETS, SPF, and ISET interventions from 1999 to 2021 in the ISR. In total, 1,434 interventions have been completed, with an average of 65.2 interventions completed each year. Youth comprise 695 of the total completed interventions and on average make up 45.8% of completed interventions each

year. There are seven fiscal years where the number of completed interventions is greater than the number of total clients enrolled in ESDC programs (2003/2004, 2011/2012, and 2013/2014 to 2017/2018), showing that clients often complete multiple interventions per year.

Figure L13. ARHDS, ASETS, SPF & ISET Interventions Completed, ISR, 1999 to 2021



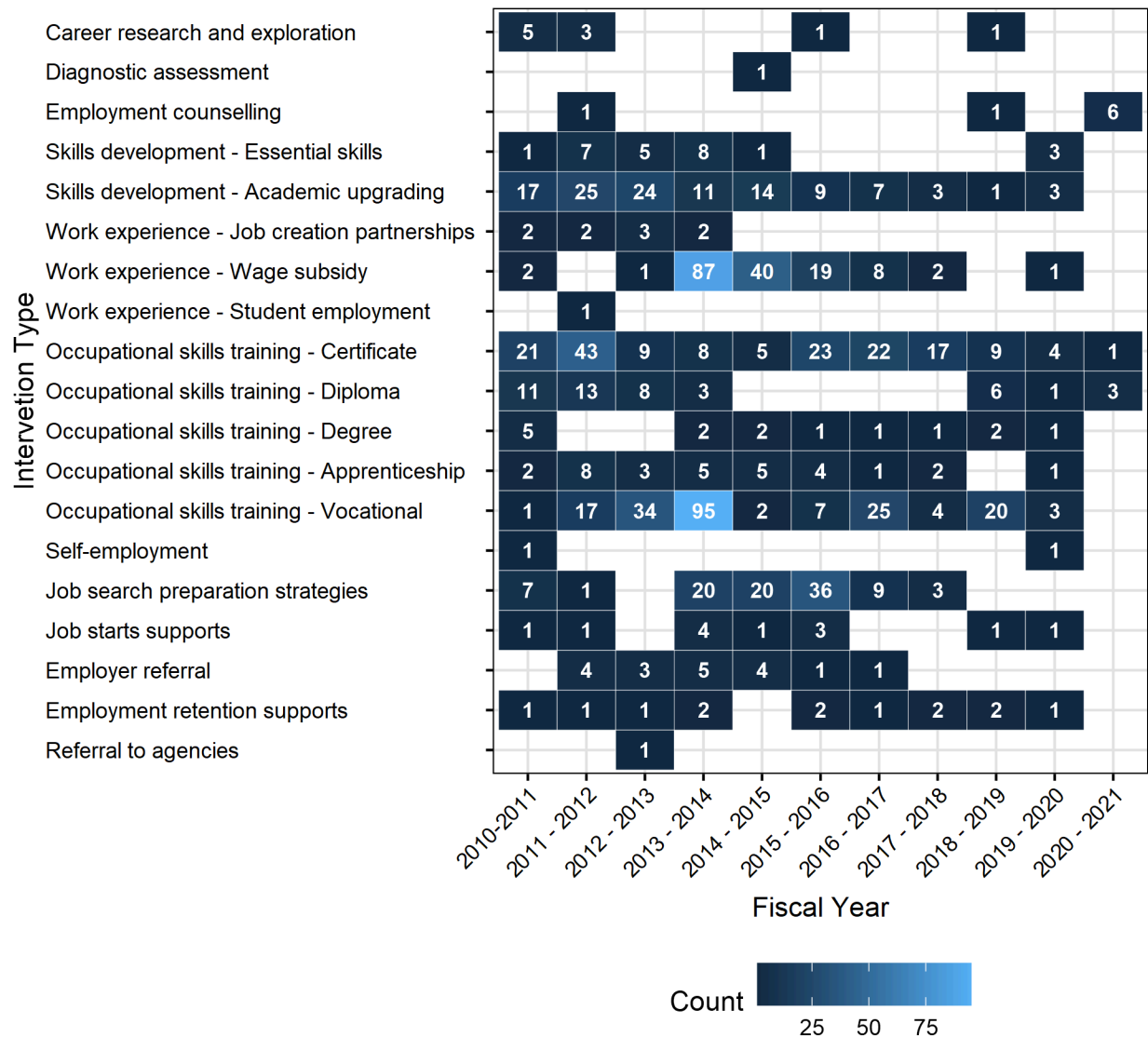
Source: ESDC. Note: Clients include new and ongoing clients.

Figure L14 shows the number of completed interventions between 2010 and 2021 in the ISR by type for ASETS, SPF, and ISET programs.¹⁷ It shows that more academic upgrading interventions

¹⁷Interventions completed by type were unavailable for the ARHDS program.

were completed from 2010 to 2014 rather than 2015 to 2019 (averaging 18.2 versus five completed interventions each year, respectively). Wage subsidy interventions had a high number of completed interventions, peaking in the 2013/2014 fiscal year with 87 completed interventions. Certificate and vocational training had the most completed interventions among occupational skills training programs (averaging 17.4 and 22.8 completed interventions each year, respectively). Job search preparation strategies was another common intervention that had a high number of completed programs from 2013 until 2017 (averaging 21.3 completed interventions each year from 2013 until 2017). Notably, in the 2020/2021 fiscal year, employment counselling, diploma training, and certificate training were the only intervention types with completed interventions, with employment counselling having the most (six completed interventions).

Figure L14. ASETS, SPF & ISET Interventions Completed by Type, ISR, 2010 to 2021



Source: ESDC.

Three regression models were constructed to investigate the association between the number of clients funded through ESDC programs and employment levels in the ISR. Although there are some statistically significant results of these models, the relationships are small and not economically significant. This is likely due to limitations of the data, mainly that the studied ESDC programs are only available for the Indigenous population, whereas data on employment levels over time were only available for the total population, and participants of the studied ESDC programs in the ISR may not stay in the ISR when obtaining employment, and would therefore not necessarily be reflected in employment data for the ISR.

Because of these limitations and because of the risk of misinterpretation, the results of these regressions are not presented in this report. Instead, we shift our focus to individual experiences with the ASETS and ISET program.

Individual-level data on ASETS and ISET program participation was provided for IRC Education, Training, and Capacity clients. These data include action plan start and end dates, action plan outcomes (employed, self-employed, unemployed, incomplete, returned to school, or unspecified), type of intervention received, employment insurance (EI) status, barriers to employment, and socio-demographic characteristics. The ideal dataset tracks clients' employment outcomes several years after the action plan has ended to capture the full effects of ESDC program participation. However, due to limited outcome variables, we restrict the analysis to employment status at the end of the action plan. We are attempting to answer the question "what characteristics lead to employment at the end of an action plan?"

We combine data from both ASETS (2010 to 2019) and ISET (2019 to 2021) programs into a single dataset due to limited sample size from ISET alone. The analysis includes all Indigenous identities who receive funding through IRC. According to IRC's website (n.d.-a), the corporation assists enrolled beneficiaries of the Inuvialuit Final Agreement in improving their skills and finding employment. Approximately 99% of the clients in the data are Inuit. We run logistic regression analysis with the binary outcome variable indicating whether the client was employed at the end of the action plan. We code the action plan outcome variable equal to one if the client is recorded as employed or self-employed, otherwise the variable equals zero. The key predictors include an indicator for short-term action plans, defined as action plans three months or less in duration, and an indicator for action plans focusing on academic upgrading (school action plans). Additionally, we control for the year the action plan was complete, self reported barriers to employment including remoteness, lack of marketable skills, and lack of experience, and several socio-demographic variables: gender, number of dependents, marital status (married or equivalent), employment insurance status (current, former, or non-claimant), and community of residence.

Table B5.7 shows the results from the regression. The following findings are significant at the 5% level. We find that short-term action plans are associated with greater odds of employment at the end of an action plan compared to longer action plans. Specifically, for clients with action plans less than or equal to three months in duration, the odds of being employed at the end of an action plan are 2.94 times the odds of employment for those with longer action plans. Shorter action plans may better suit individuals already close to job readiness, potentially increasing their odds of employment. Additionally, short-term action plans are likely to have more specific and attainable goals, which may lead to faster employment outcomes compared to longer action plans. The time frame we analyze in the regression may be better suited to short-term action plans than longer ones, which likely explains the preference for short-term plans in our results. A longer time frame that tracks employment of clients across several years may be more appropriate to capture the full effect of participation in long-term action plans. Comparatively, the odds of employment for clients who participated in school action plans are 0.29 times the odds of employment for those in action plans focusing on employment directly.

This is likely due to the time frame of the analysis and school actions often resulting in continued education.

For current EI claimants, the odds of employment at the end of an action plan are 3.96 times the odds of employment for non-claimants, whereas the odds of employment for former EI claimants are 1.84 times the odds of employment for non-claimants. Current and former EI claimants are likely to have more recent work experience compared to long-term unemployed individuals. This recent experience, along with any additional support available to EI claimants, likely explains the employment results we observe.

Socio-demographic characteristics and barriers to employment included in the model are not statistically significant but indicate the direction of relationships between variables. Males have slightly lower odds of employment at the end of an action plan compared to females. Clients who are married or in equivalent relationships have greater odds of employment than those who are single, divorced, or widowed. Additionally, there is a negative relationship between the number of dependents and the odds of employment at the end of an action plan. Those who report remoteness as a barrier to employment have similar odds of employment as those who did not. Those who report lacking marketable skills and those who report lacking experience have lower odds of employment than those who do not. It is important to reiterate that these results are not statistically significant and should not be interpreted as definitive in the population.

The community of residence variable compares action plan employment outcomes between Inuvik and every other community in the ISR. The results show that there are no statistically significant differences between Inuvik and other communities' odds of employment at the end of an action plan. However, the findings suggest that clients from Aklavik and Sachs Harbour have lower odds of employment compared to those from Inuvik, whereas clients from Tuktoyaktuk, Paulatuk, and Ulukhaktok have higher odds of employment. These results are likely statistically insignificant due to the limited sample sizes of clients living outside of Inuvik.

We include an indicator for the year the action plan ends to control for economic conditions that might impact employment odds. Clients with action plans that end from 2012 to 2019 have larger odds of being employed at the end of their action plan compared to those with action plans ending in 2011. However, the differences for action plans ending in 2019 are not statistically significant. Conversely, clients with action plans ending in 2020 and 2021 have smaller odds of employment compared to those ending in 2011. This finding is not statistically significant and is likely attributed to COVID-19 and the subsequent economic slowdown.

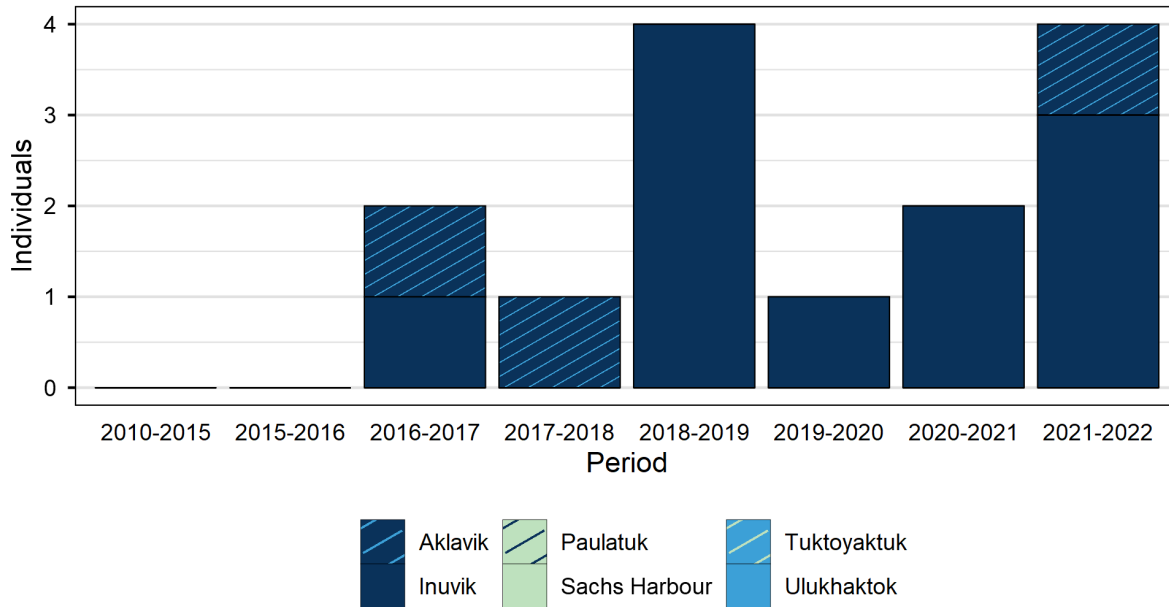
Several factors likely contribute to bias in our results. First, the association between school action plans and continuing education leads to lower employment rates for clients in school action plans at the end of their action plan. Other metrics for measuring the effects of ESDC program participation on those who return to school are required and go beyond the limits of this analysis. We drop clients from our model who do not have an end date recorded for their action plan (114 observations). In the ISET program, this likely results from an action plan still in progress, whereas in the ASETS program, it may be due to measurement error (i.e., data entry mistakes, incomplete records, or other human errors/technical issues). We exclude important predictors of employment status from the model due to quality issues, including education level and age. Notably, some clients are recorded with lower education levels at the end of their

program than the start, leading to the removal of this variable from the model. Furthermore, age is not recorded at the end of the action plan, and as a result, is also excluded from the model. Other variables that may impact employment status but are not included in the model are previous work experience and health status. Our model does not account for the industry or sector of employment due to a large number of missing National Occupation Classification (NOC) codes in the data. Given that industry or sector of employment can influence employment opportunities, particularly during industry expansions and contractions, the exclusion of this variable may introduce bias in the results. Future reviews may be supported by qualitative data, such as interviews with ISET clients, to better understand the wholistic impacts of the ISET program that are not captured by current reporting requirements.

Government of Northwest Territories

Figures L15 through L22 present various data on employment programs from the GNWT Department of Education, Culture, and Employment. Figure L15 shows the number of individuals supported through the self-employment program in ISR communities from 2010 to 2022. The Self-Employment Program provides financial support to individuals who are starting their own business or taking over an existing business that they had not previously owned. Applicants are chosen based on their business idea, personal suitability, financial risks and resources available to them. All individuals that have received support in the ISR have been residents of either Inuvik or Aklavik, with the vast majority being in Inuvik (78.6%). Since 2016 there has been an average of 2.3 individuals supported with the 2018/2019 and 2021/2022 fiscal years having the most (four) individuals supported.

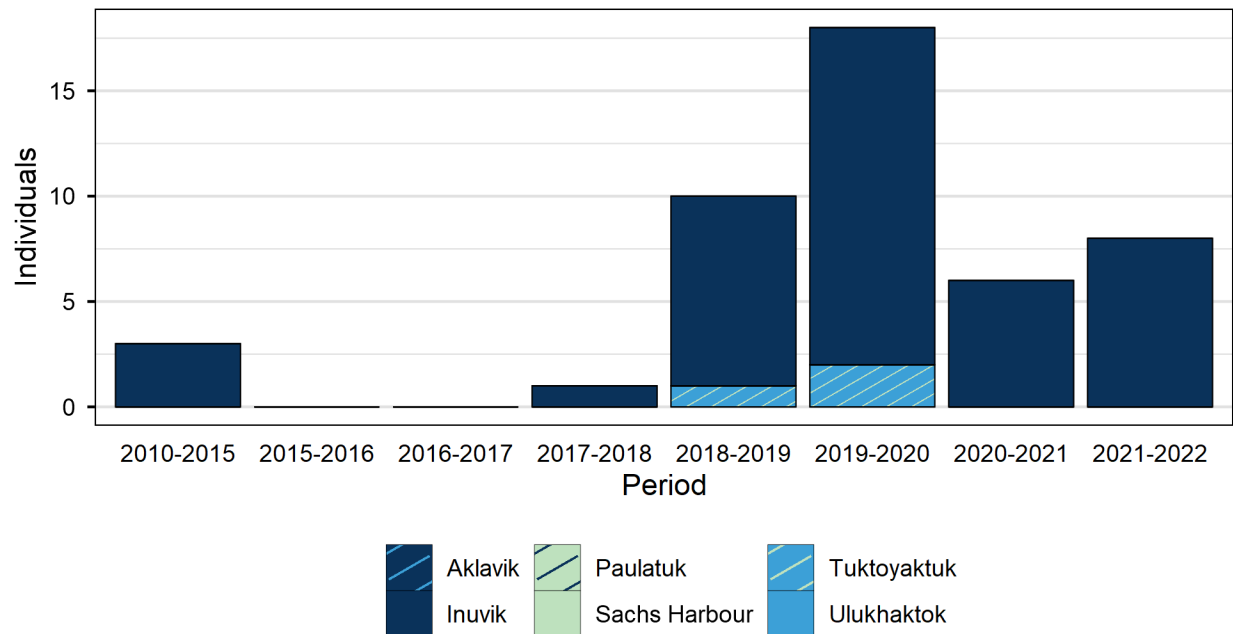
Figure L15. Individuals Supported, Self-Employment Program, ISR Communities, 2010 to 2022



Source: GNWT Department of Education, Culture, and Employment.

Figure L16 shows the number of individuals supported through the skills development program in ISR communities from 2010 to 2022. The Skills Development Program provides financial support to individuals participating in short-term training opportunities that develop essential employable skills such as literacy and numeracy, academic upgrading, workplace essential skills, life skills, employment readiness programs, pre-employment training courses, skill-specific training programs, and post-secondary programs. There have been relatively more individuals supported through the skills development program in recent years. The 2019/2020 fiscal year had the most individuals supported at 18. Almost all individuals supported were residents of Inuvik, with only a few others supported in Tuktoyaktuk from 2018 to 2020. This may be due to more training programs being offered in Inuvik as the major population centre for the region.

Figure L16. Individuals Supported, Skills Development Program, ISR Communities, 2010 to 2022



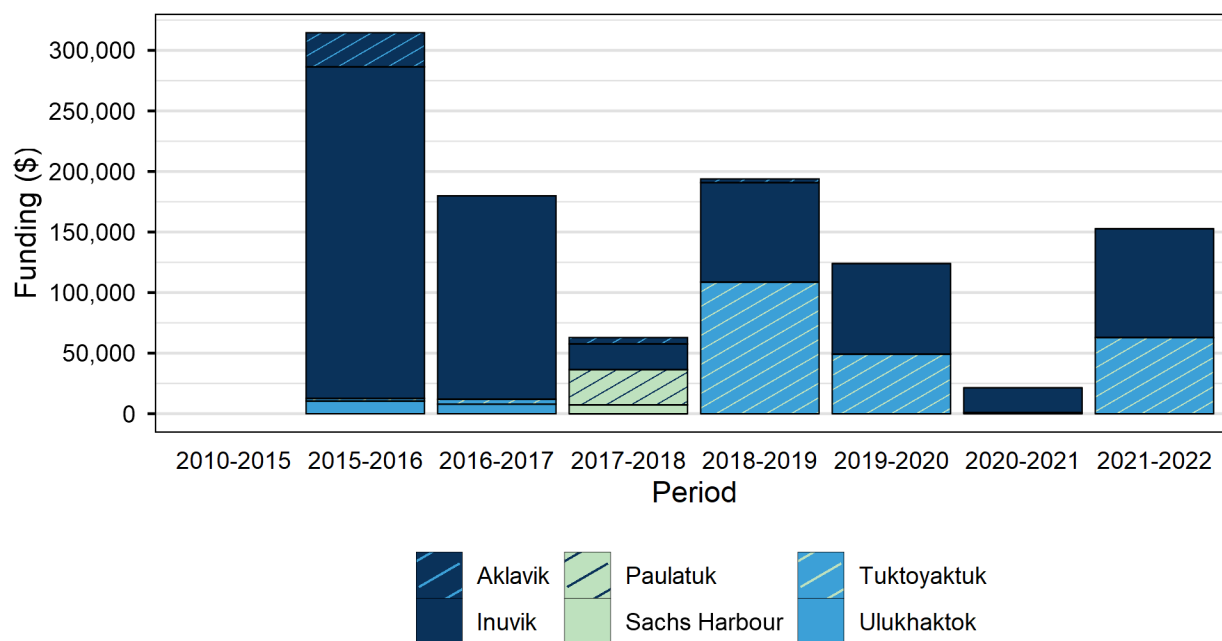
Source: GNWT Department of Education, Culture, and Employment.

Figures L17 to L19 show data on the Wage Subsidy Program for ISR communities from 2010 to 2022. The Wage Subsidy Program provides funding to employers for them to hire NWT residents that have limited experience and education. The funding helps offset the employers hiring and training costs and allows individuals to obtain employment they otherwise might not qualify for. Figure L17 shows the total funding provided to employers in ISR communities from 2010 to 2022. Total funding was highest in the 2015/2016 fiscal year at \$314,568. Since then, funding has generally trended downward.

Figure L18 shows the number of employers supported through the Wage Subsidy program for ISR communities from 2010 to 2022. Similar to total funding, the 2015/2016 fiscal year had the most employers supported in the ISR with 34 employers supported and has trended downward since then. In the 2020/2021 fiscal year, funding was only given to Inuvik, however there were also employers supported in Tuktoyaktuk and Ulukhaktok.

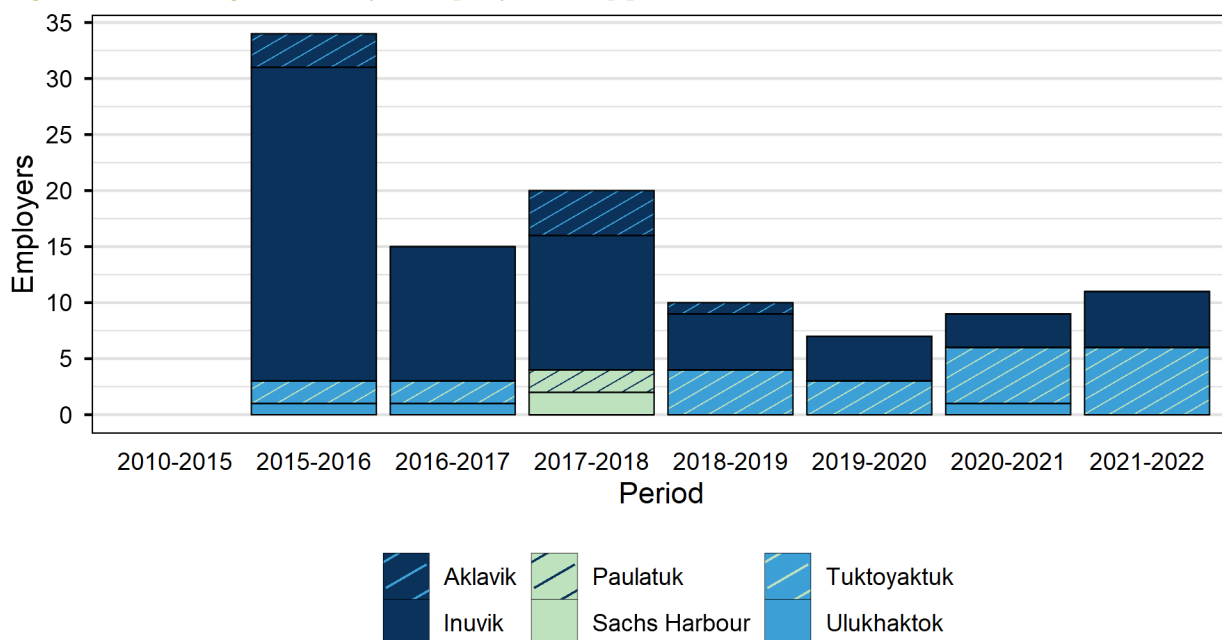
Figure L19 shows the number of employees supported through the Wage Subsidy program for ISR communities from 2010 to 2022. Overall, the data on employees is not consistent with data on employers supported or the total funding provided. It is not clear if this is an issue with how these data are reported, but due to there being inconsistencies between the funding provided, employers supported, and employees supported it is difficult to analyze the trends of this program over time.

Figure L17. Total Funding, Wage Subsidy Program, ISR Communities, 2010 to 2022



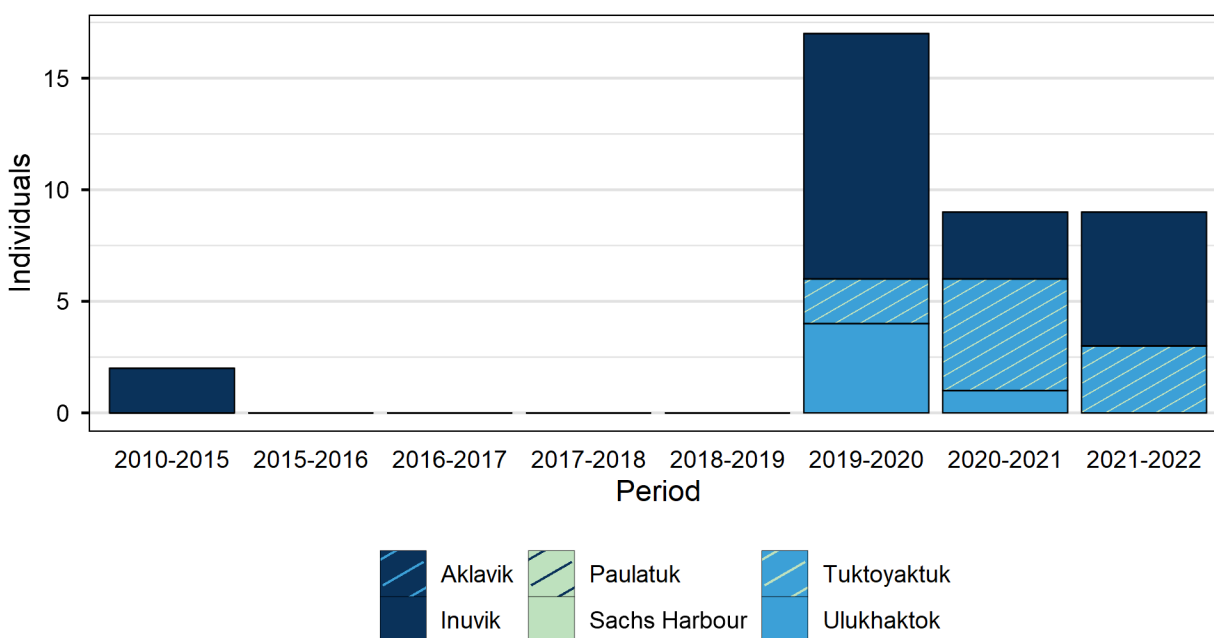
Source: GNWT Department of Education, Culture, and Employment.
Note: Data from 2010 to 2015 could not be broken down by fiscal year.

Figure L18. Wage Subsidy, Employers Supported, ISR Communities, 2010 to 2022



Source: GNWT Department of Education, Culture, and Employment.
Note: Data from 2010 to 2015 could not be broken down by fiscal year.

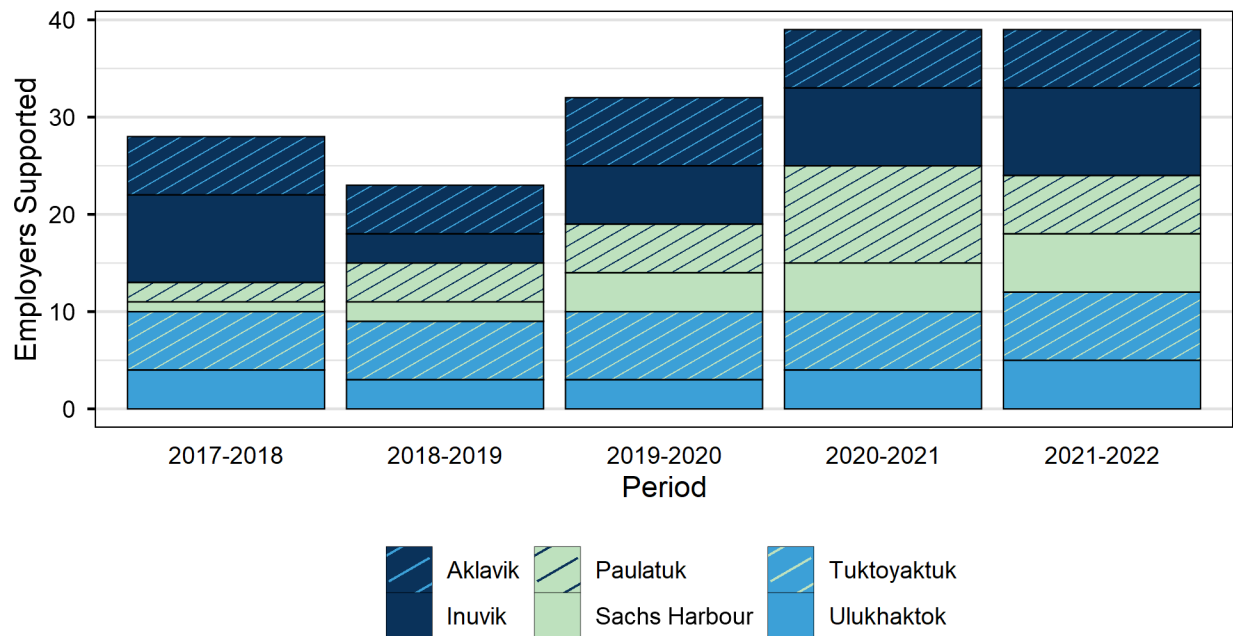
Figure L19. Wage Subsidy, Employees Supported, ISR Communities, 2010 to 2022



Source: GNWT Department of Education, Culture, and Employment.
 Note: Data from 2010 to 2015 could not be broken down by fiscal year.

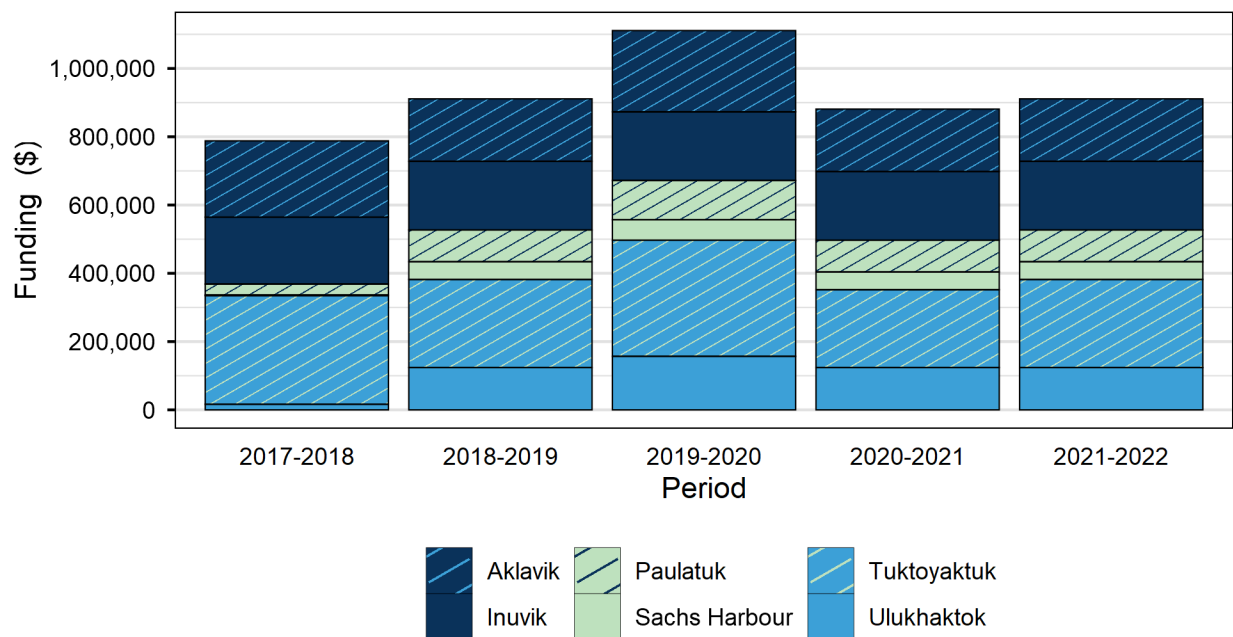
Figures L20 to L22 presents data on the Small Community Employment Support program for ISR communities from 2017 to 2022. The Small Community Employment Support program provides wage subsidies to employers in small NWT communities who offer training in the workplace to unemployed individuals. Organizations in all six ISR communities qualify for this funding, among other communities in NWT. The Small Community Employment Support program has provided an average of \$920,398 in funding per year, supported an average 32.2 employers per year, and supported an average of 108 jobs per year since 2017. Although funding peaked in the 2019/2020 fiscal year (\$1,111,000), the number of employers and the number of jobs supported has increased since 2018 and both peaked in the 2021/2022 fiscal year (39 employers and 138 jobs).

Figure L20. Employers Supported, Small Community Employment Support Program, ISR Communities, 2017 to 2022



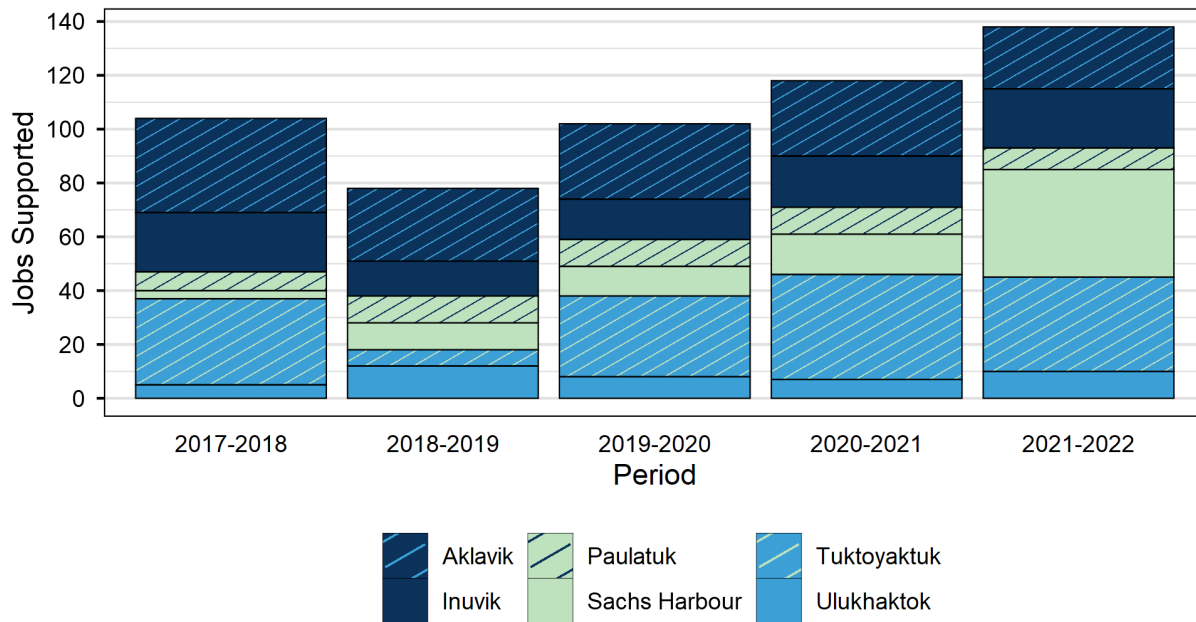
Source: GNWT, Department of Education, Culture, and Employment.

Figure L21. Funding Provided, Small Community Employment Support Program, ISR Communities, 2017 to 2022



Source: GNWT, Department of Education, Culture, and Employment.

Figure L23. Jobs Supported, Small Community Employment Support Program, ISR Communities, 2017 to 2022



Source: GNWT Department of Education, Culture, and Employment.

In addition to the programs presented above there are an additional five programs that provided employment support since 2010. The Community Training Partnership program provides support for third-party organizations to deliver community and regional activities aimed at increasing skills development. From 2010 to 2015 the program supported 12 programs for a total of \$307,674 funding, solely in Inuvik. In the 2015/2016 fiscal year it supported four programs for a total of \$49,635 funding in Inuvik. Finally, in the 2021/2022 fiscal year it provided \$200,000 in funding for one program in Tukttoyaktuk.

The Employee Training program offers funding to employers to offset the cost of training employees. In the 2018/2019 fiscal year there was \$20,650 funding provided in Inuvik supporting 2 employers. In the 2019/2020 fiscal year, there was \$1,230 funding provided in Inuvik supporting 2 employers and 11 employees. In the 2020/2021 fiscal year there was no funding provided, but one employer and one employee were supported in Tukttoyaktuk. In the 2021/2022 fiscal year there was \$4,000 funding provided, and one employment and one employee supported in Tukttoyaktuk.

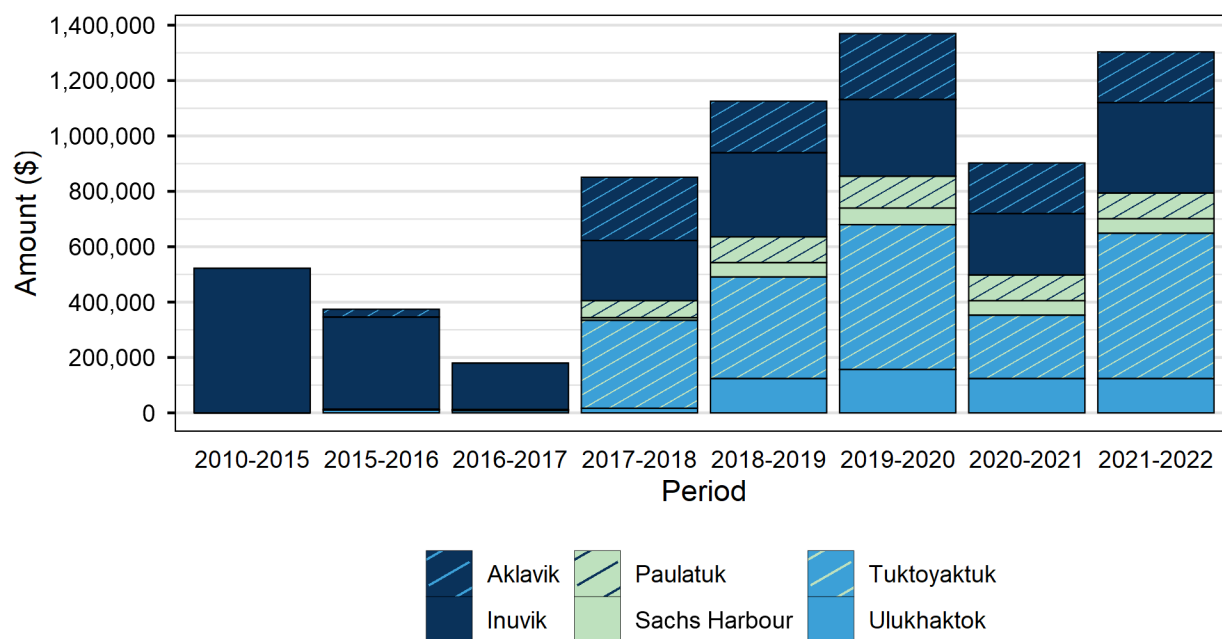
Employment Assistance Services provides targeted funding to fill gaps in local and regional services. From 2010 to 2015, there were 38 contracts in place and 32 clients served across Aklavik, Inuvik, Paulatuk, Tukttoyaktuk and Ulukhaktok. Since then there have only been 6 contracts in place in Inuvik from 2015 to 2020, and one client served in the 2016/2017 fiscal year.

The Job Creation Partnership program provides support to organizations to work experience projects that support unemployed individuals. In the 2021/2022 fiscal year there was one project in Inuvik funded with \$35,880 funding provided.

The Strategic Workforce Initiative supports organizations with labour market activities that promote labour force development, workforce adjustments, and human resources planning. From 2010 to 2015 seven projects in Inuvik were supported with a total of \$214,735 in funding, as well as an additional \$10,000 in funding in the 2015/2016 fiscal year. In the 2019/2020 fiscal year there were two projects supported in Tuktoyaktuk for a total of \$133,460 in funding.

Figure L24 presents the combined funding from all GNWT employment programs from 2010 to 2022. Overall, the combined funding to the ISR from all programs seems to be increasing over time, increasing from \$374,203 in 2015/2016 to \$1,303,606 in 2021/2022. As apparent with other funding sources, there is a drop in the 2020/2021 fiscal year which is likely due to the COVID-19 pandemic. However, the funding was relatively high again in the 2021/2022 fiscal year indicating funding is returning to at least pre-pandemic levels.

Figure L24. Combined NWT Employment Programs Funding, ISR Communities, 2017 to 2022



Source: GNWT Department of Education, Culture, and Employment.

4.7 : Economic

Data Overview

The Economic Trends Analysis section examines median total income from the Census (2001 to 2021), personal income by source (in 2012 and 2021) from the NWT Bureau of Statistics, and BIP approved businesses from the GNWT Department of Industry, Tourism and Investment (2016 to 2022). The Investments and Activities section presents data on contracts with the Government of Canada from CIRNA (2009 to 2021), contracts with the GNWT from GNWT Department of Finance (2017 to 2022), contracts with the Government of Yukon (2001 to 2022), Canadian Northern Economic Development Agency funding (2009 to 2020), loans and grants from the GNWT Business Development and Investment Corporation (2000 to 2022), data on Inuvialuit employment on Herschel Island-Qikiqtaruk Territorial Park (2011 to 2022), and funding from several other programs through the GNWT department Industry, Tourism and Investment (2008 to 2022).

Key Findings

Key informants describe a **“two-tiered” economic system in the ISR**, in which some people have established a solid economic base while others face economic marginalization and worsening socioeconomic conditions.

Total median income for individuals in the ISR has been increasing since 2001. However, the difference in median total income between individuals in Inuvik and individuals in Aklavik, Paulatuk, Tuktoyaktuk, and Ulukhaktok also increased, suggesting that income inequality is increasing in the ISR.

The **number of procurement-ready businesses based in the ISR is increasing**, though more data are required to understand if these businesses are Inuvialuit-owned and if they are successfully securing government contracts.

Key informants are optimistic about the **future growth of the tourism and construction industries**, but highlight the need to improve education and training to increase the capacity of Inuvialuit businesses to fully realize these opportunities.

Inuvialuit businesses and entrepreneurs have limited access to capital and financing, which hinders start-ups and economic growth. Key informants expressed optimism about new and upcoming initiatives designed to improve access to financing.

Key informants express a desire for **centralized lists of procurement-ready Inuvialuit businesses and validated information on the procurement process to increase procurement opportunities to Inuvialuit businesses**, as set in the conditions outlined in the IFA.



Trends Analysis

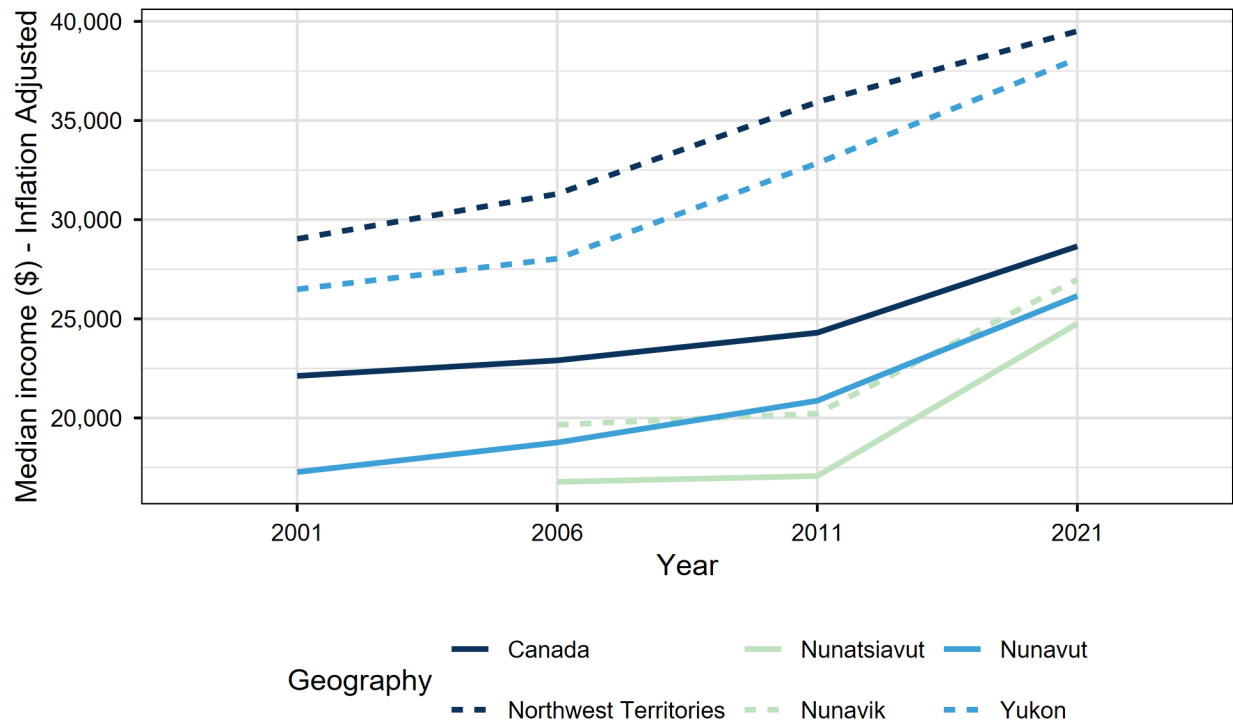
Section 16 of the IFA outlines two economic measures objectives: 1) full Inuvialuit participation in the northern Canadian economy, and 2) Inuvialuit integration into Canadian society through the development of an adequate level of economic self-reliance and a solid economic base. When asked about progress towards these two objectives, key informants describe the existence of “parallel tracks” within the ISR, or a “two-tiered” economic system in which some people have been able to achieve economic self-reliance, while others face growing economic marginalization and worsening socioeconomic conditions. This dual economic system has resulted in some Inuvialuit having greater access to resources and better socioeconomic wellbeing, while others feel left behind. While it is important to celebrate the success of those who are doing well today, overall, key informants feel that there is greater economic disparity and inequality in the ISR today relative to 20 years ago.

“Some people have been able to establish an economic base, but there is a terrible amount of inequality in the ISR and in the North in general.”

- Key Informant Interview

Figure E1 shows the inflation-adjusted median total income for individuals living in Canada, the NWT, Nunatsiavut, Nunavik, Nunavut, and Yukon between 2001 and 2021; the unadjusted median total income is shown in Appendix B6. An increase in median total income over time can indicate improved economic opportunities, such as higher-paying jobs, and can lead to improvements in socioeconomic outcomes (e.g. better housing and greater food security). Median total income includes all income from employment, investments, government payments, and other sources, before taxes. From 2001 to 2021, median total income increased by 29.6% in Canada (\$28,657 in 2021) and by 36.1% in the NWT (\$39,508 in 2021).

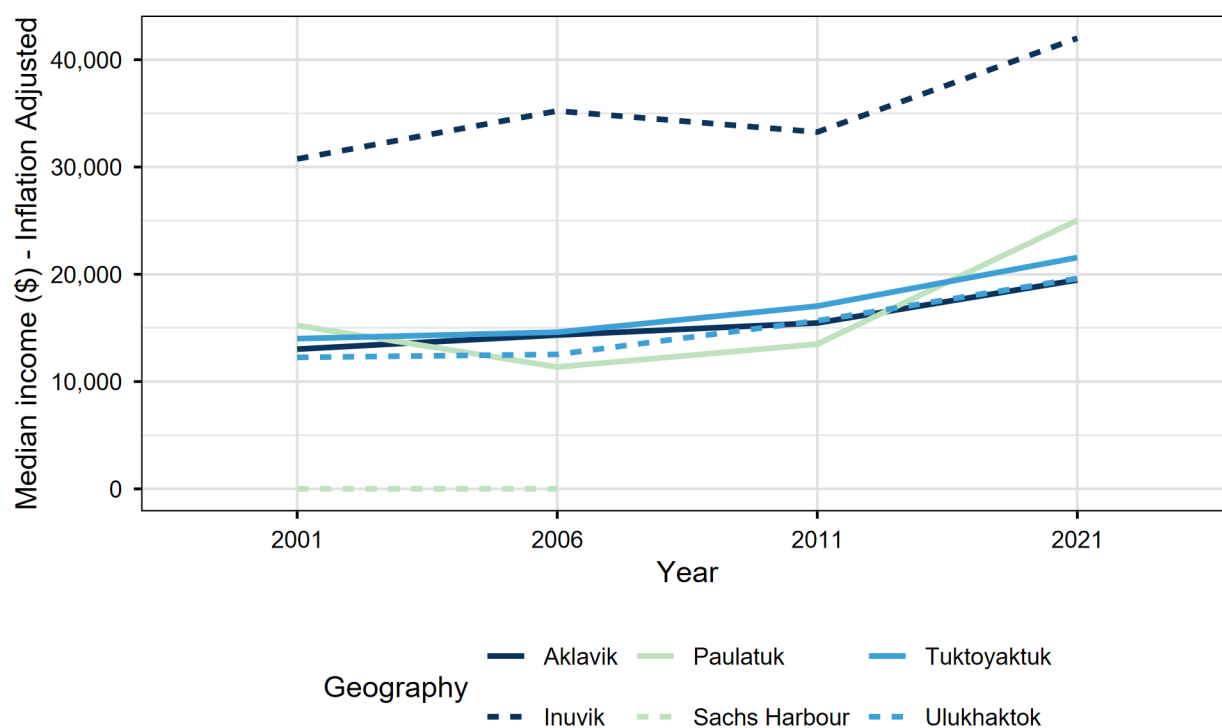
Figure E1. Inflation-Adjusted Median Total Individual Income in Canada, NWT, Nunatsiavut, Nunavik, Nunavut, & Yukon, 2001 to 2021



Source: Custom Request, 1996 - 2021 Census, Statistics Canada. Note: Median total incomes are adjusted for inflation and presented in 2001 values.

Figure E2 shows the inflation-adjusted median total income for individuals living in ISR communities between 2001 and 2021; the unadjusted median total income is shown in Appendix B6. Over this period, median total income in all ISR communities increased at a faster rate than the increases in median total income in Canada and the NWT; the largest increases occurred in Paulatuk (64.4% to \$25,040 in 2021) and Ulukhaktok (60.0% to \$19,615 in 2021). Though Inuvik experienced the smallest increase in median total income from 2001 to 2021 (36.6% to \$42,012), it remains the community with the highest median income in the ISR. Further, the difference in median total income between Inuvik and Aklavik, Paulatuk, Tuktoyaktuk, and Ulukhaktok all increased between 2001 and 2021. The increasing difference in median total income in Inuvik relative to other ISR communities may suggest rising inequality within the ISR, as described by key informants.

Figure E2. Inflation-Adjusted Median Total Income in ISR Communities, 2001 to 2021



Source: Custom Request, 1996 - 2021 Census, Statistics Canada. Note: Median total incomes are adjusted for inflation and presented in 2001 values. Median total income for Sachs Harbour is suppressed between 2006 and 2021.

Table E1 shows personal income by source in ISR communities, the ISR, and NWT in 2012 and 2021. In 2012 and 2021, the share of personal income from government transfers is higher in the ISR (19.6% and 24.7%,) on average than in the NWT (8.0% and 12.0%). Similarly, the share of personal income from employment income is lower in the ISR on average (76.3% and 72.1%) than in the NWT (86.0% and 80.0%). The increase in the share of personal income from government transfers seen in all geographies is likely due to the distribution of pandemic-related assistance.

Table E1. Personal Income Source by ISR Communities, ISR, and NWT, in 2012 and 2021

	2012			2021		
	Employment Income (%)	Other Income (%)	Government Transfers (%)	Employment Income (%)	Other Income (%)	Government Transfers (%)
Aklavik	71.6	4.7	23.7	70.1	3.5	26.4
Inuvik	85.6	5.1	9.3	83.2	4.7	12.1
Paulatuk	75.5	3.2	21.3	72.3	1.0	26.7
Tuktoyaktuk	70.5	4.6	24.9	63.5	3.8	32.7
Ulukhaktok	78.6	2.7	18.7	71.2	3.0	25.8
ISR	76.3	4.1	19.6	72.1	3.2	24.7
NWT	86.0	6.0	8.0	80.0	8.0	12.0

Source: NWT Bureau of Statistics. Note: Sachs Harbour is excluded as the population is too small.

A strong economy, supported by a locally trained workforce, improves workforce outcomes and sustainability, leading to better health outcomes. Key informants state that “everything is tangled into the economy,” economic outcomes have consequences on and are impacted by mental and physical health and wellbeing, interpersonal relationships, housing, education, and employment. By and large, key informants feel there have been no significant improvements in priority indicators such as housing, health, and education since the last Economic Measures Review. Consequently, there have also been no widespread improvements in economic outcomes for Inuvialuit since 2001; rather, key informants describe a “two-tiered” system where improvements are confined to some people but not shared by all.

Economic challenges raised by key informants include highly volatile economic growth (i.e., “boom and bust” cycles), high costs of living, barriers to procurement, and barriers to accessing loans and financing to support businesses and entrepreneurship. Each is discussed in more detail. First, key informants note that the economy in the ISR is highly volatile and vulnerable to industry “boom and bust” cycles. In the early 2000s, an oil boom increased economic activity in the ISR, attracting transient workers, increasing employment, and expanding the number of secondary industries in accommodation and food services. Key informants note that once the oil boom ended, in 2010 and 2011, economic opportunities dipped until the construction of the Inuvik-Tuktoyaktuk Highway brought a new wave of economic opportunities. Key informants note that the highway created opportunities to expand the tourism industry in the ISR, though these opportunities were stalled by the COVID-19 pandemic and have not yet fully recovered.

Second, key informants raise concerns about the high costs of living in the ISR, including the costs of housing, food, and fuel. Housing unaffordability, experienced in the high costs to rent,

purchase, and maintain dwellings, deters people from living in ISR communities. High costs of food can lead to food insecurity and worsening health, education, and employment outcomes. Key informants state that the high cost of fuel prevents harvesters from hunting, fishing, and trapping, as it becomes expensive to travel to traditional harvesting sites. Further, key informants worry that the costly expenses prevent people from saving; low rates of saving place people at higher financial risk in emergencies or during economic downturns.

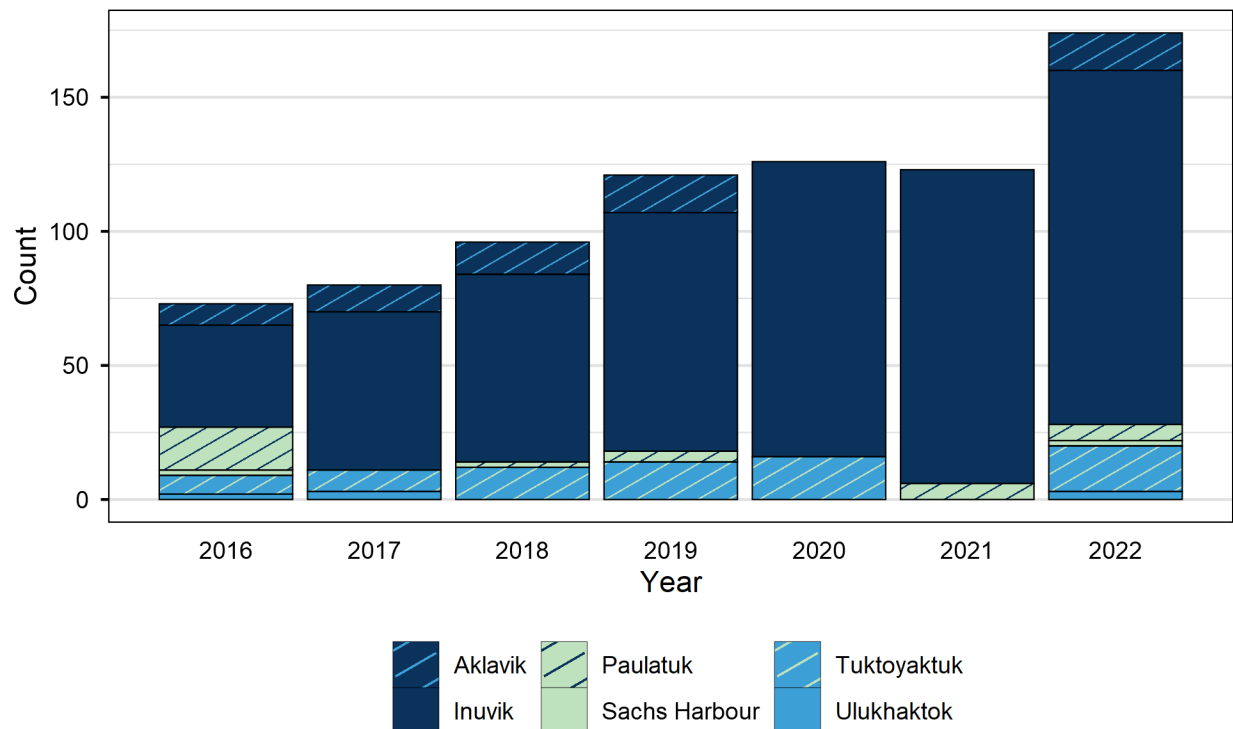
Third, key informants highlight the importance of procurement to advance economic growth and provide employment opportunities for Inuvialuit. Under the IFA, proposed projects cannot tender non-Inuvialuit businesses without first informing Inuvialuit of procurement opportunities. However, key informants identify issues with misinformation and lack of clarity about the procurement process among government parties and suggest that a centralized source of information could reduce barriers to procurement for Inuvialuit businesses.

Key informants celebrate the fact that the number of Inuvialuit businesses is increasing and their capacity is growing, including the number of businesses recognized on the Inuvialuit Business List (IBL).¹⁸ At the same time, Inuvialuit businesses and entrepreneurs face challenges when accessing capital funding for start-up companies, and are forced to rely on private savings, which may not be possible for individuals already facing financial challenges. Key informants express the need to improve capital and loan access to Inuvialuit entrepreneurs and businesses; and while government agencies already provide capital and loan funding, there is interest in the IRC playing this role.

Figure E3 shows the number of businesses from ISR communities that are on the Businesses Incentive Policy (BIP) List. The NWT Department of Industry, Tourism, and Investment's BIP gives registered BIP Approved Businesses preference on government contracts to promote economic growth in the NWT (Industry, Tourism, and Investment 2023a). The increase in BIP Approved Businesses from the ISR suggests that there is an increase in procurement-ready businesses, particularly in Inuvik. These data do not indicate whether businesses are Inuvialuit-owned and operated, nor do they indicate if businesses are securing government contracts.

¹⁸ The Inuvialuit Businesses List (IBL), maintained by the IRC, lists procurement-ready businesses and gives them priority to contracting opportunities

Figure E3. BIP Approved Businesses, ISR Communities, 2016 to 2022



Source: Government of NWT.

Finally, key informants express optimism about emerging opportunities in tourism and construction, as well as employment opportunities in industries that complement and support tourism and construction (e.g., transportation and warehousing or art, entertainment, and recreation, among others). Key informants are optimistic that the Inuvik-Tuktoyaktuk Highway will continue to generate tourism opportunities for the region, while tourism from cruise ships is expected to grow, and already provides short-term high-paying employment for Inuvialuit in Sachs Harbour, including guides and artisans and crafters. However, some key informants are concerned about the impact of expanding tourism on the environment, and note that existing infrastructure cannot yet support large influxes of tourists. In parallel, the Inuit Nunangat Housing Strategy co-developed by the Inuit-Crown Partnership Committee is an opportunity to increase the supply of housing in Inuit Nunangat, which in and of itself is expected to create opportunities for Inuvialuit construction businesses to grow, in addition to improving housing outcomes and indirectly improving employment and education outcomes of residents of the ISR.

Investments and Activities

This section presents federal and territorial investments made in the ISR and ISR communities. These investments include programming, funding, and services provided by the Government of Canada, the GNWT, and the Government of Yukon. Statistical correlation analysis was limited to Community Future funding due to the quality and availability of data.

Key Findings

From 2001 to 2022 the total value of contracts awarded to Inuvialuit businesses by the Government of Canada, GNWT, and YG amounted to \$441,352,580.

From 2009 to 2021, 2,537 federal contracts (amounting to \$146,792,145) were awarded to businesses in the ISR. Despite being awarded 47.7% of contracts, **beneficiaries are awarded lower value federal government contracts than non-beneficiaries in the ISR** (\$46,328,347 compared to \$100,474,798).

The total amount of funding from various economic development programs administered by the GNWT Department of Industry, Tourism, and Investment tripled from \$321,180 in 2002 to \$1,145,184 in 2022.

Economic development funding from the GNWT Department of Industry, Tourism, and Investment positively impacts income in the ISR. Regressions show a \$10 per capita increase in SEED Program funding is associated with a 0.38 to 0.49 percentage point increase in the probability of filing a tax return greater than \$50,000.

Limitations

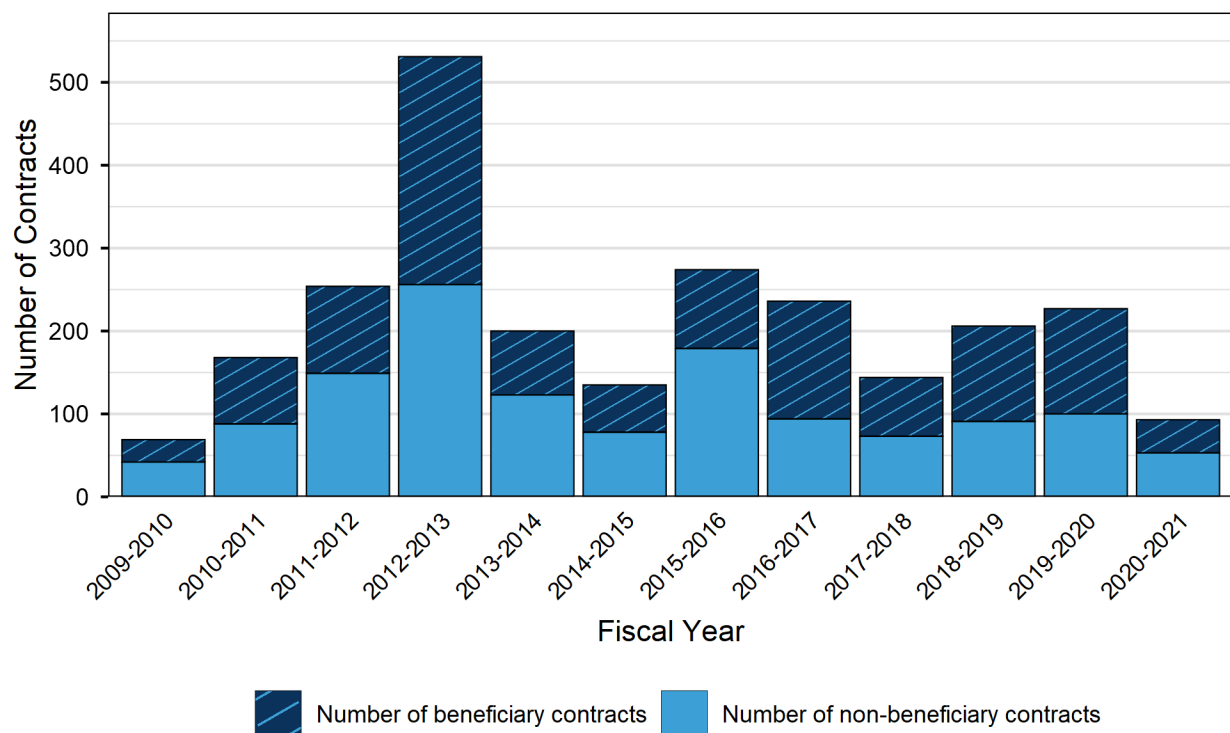
Procurement data from the GNWT do not state if contracts are awarded to Inuvialuit recipients; as such, evaluating the impact on socioeconomic wellbeing is limited.

Federal and territorial funding are distributed to programs intended to advance specific economic development goals, such as growing the agriculture and tourism industries. As such, evaluating the impact of these programs requires data on these specific agriculture and tourism outcomes, data which are not available.

Figures E4 to E7 present data on the total and Comprehensive Land Claim Agreement (CLCA) value of federal contracts awarded to beneficiaries and non-beneficiaries in the ISR from 2009 to 2021. The total value of federal contracts is the entire amount awarded by a federal department. The CLCA value of federal contracts is the value of the delivery of a good, service, or construction within a comprehensive land claim agreement area, that is, the ISR. In this dataset, beneficiaries are Indigenous contractors with CLCAs, including the IRC, and some Inuvialuit-owned businesses and Hunters and Trappers Committees, while non-beneficiaries are contractors not covered by CLCAs, located within or outside the ISR. There are instances where contractors can change beneficiary classification; this change in classification may be due to changes in the share of beneficiary ownership or errors in reporting.

Figure E4 shows the number of federal contracts awarded to beneficiaries and non-beneficiaries in the ISR. From 2009 to 2021, 2,537 federal contracts were awarded in the ISR. Of these, 1,211 (47.7%) were awarded to beneficiaries and 1,326 (52.3%) were awarded to non-beneficiaries. The highest number of federal contracts (531) were awarded in the 2012/2013 fiscal year, with the majority going to beneficiaries (51.8%).

Figure E4. Number of Federal Contracts in the ISR, 2009 - 2021

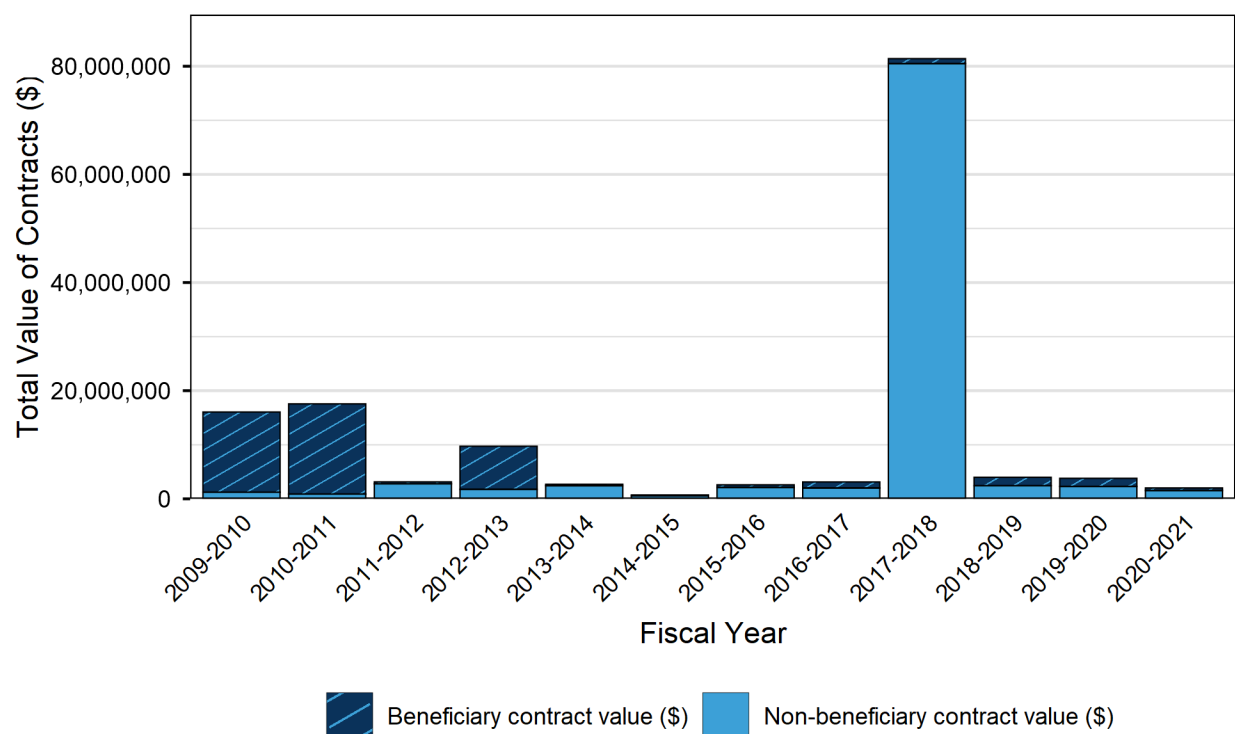


Source: CIRNAC.

Figures E5 and E6 show the total value of contracts awarded by federal departments and agencies to the ISR from 2009 to 2021; Figure E6 omits funding awarded during the 2017/2018 fiscal year to improve the legibility of funding awarded in other fiscal years. From 2009 to 2021, the total value of contracts amounted to \$146,792,145, with non-beneficiaries in the ISR receiving \$100,474,798 (68.4%). Despite beneficiaries receiving 47.7% of federal contracts from 2009 to 2021, their contracts only make up 31.6% (\$46,328,347) of the total value of federal contracts. The largest amount of funding (\$81,408,794) was distributed, primarily to non-beneficiaries, during the 2017/2018 fiscal year. The spike in funding is related to a \$79 million contract awarded for the upgrading and maintenance of National Defense facilities in the ISR.

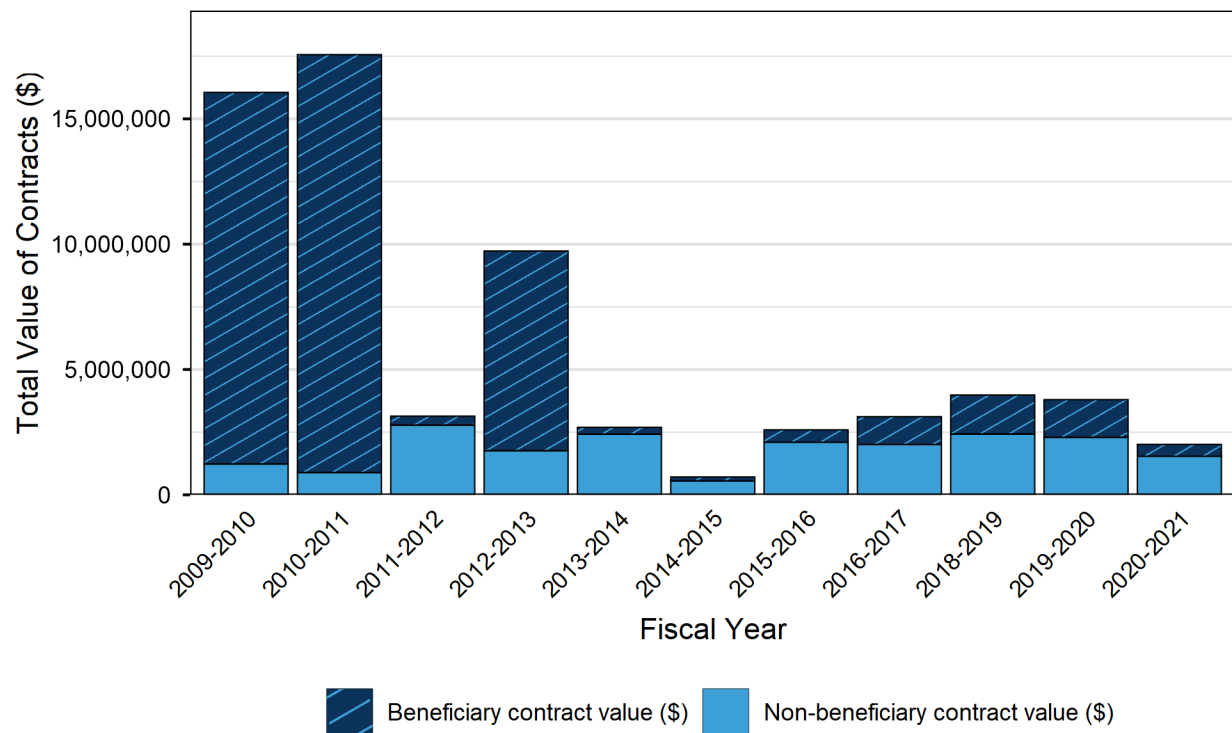
Beneficiaries were awarded the largest contracts in the 2009/2010 and 2010/2011 fiscal years, at \$14,824,431 and \$16,677,411, respectively. These contracts were awarded by Defence Construction Canada and Public Works and Government Services Canada for the remediation and clean-up of contaminated sites in the ISR. The total value of contracts awarded to beneficiaries is smaller in the 2020/2021 fiscal year than in most other fiscal years.

Figure E5. Total Value of Contracts in the ISR, 2009 - 2021



Source: CIRNAC.

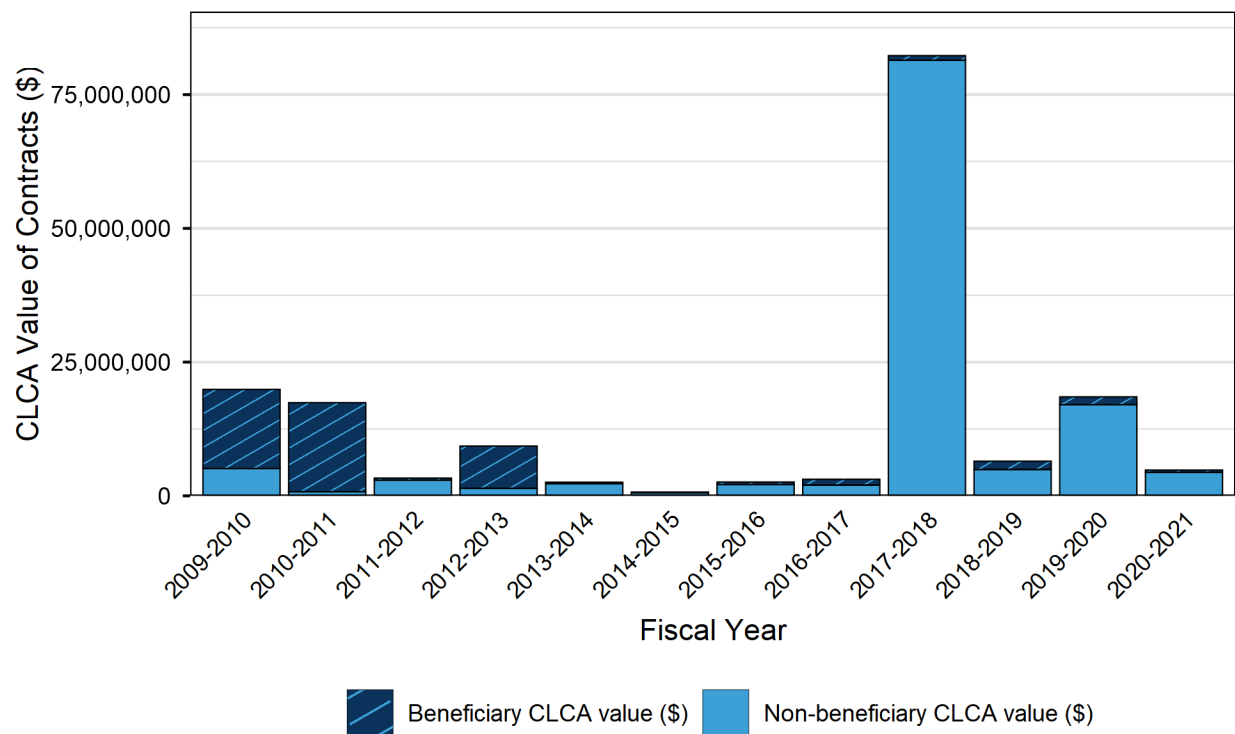
Figure E6. Total Value of Contracts in the ISR, 2009 - 2021



Source: CIRNAC. Note: The 2017/2018 fiscal year is omitted from this figure to improve the legibility of funding awarded during other fiscal years.

Figure E7 shows the total value of federally contracted activities that occurred within the ISR. From 2009 to 2021, the total CLCA value of contracts was \$170,947,605, higher than the total value of federal contracts awarded (\$146,792,145). Only 27.0% of the total CLCA value is allocated to beneficiaries. The highest CLCA value of contracts (\$82,294,013) was awarded in the 2017/2018 fiscal year, primarily to non-beneficiaries for the upgrading and maintenance of National Defense facilities in the ISR.

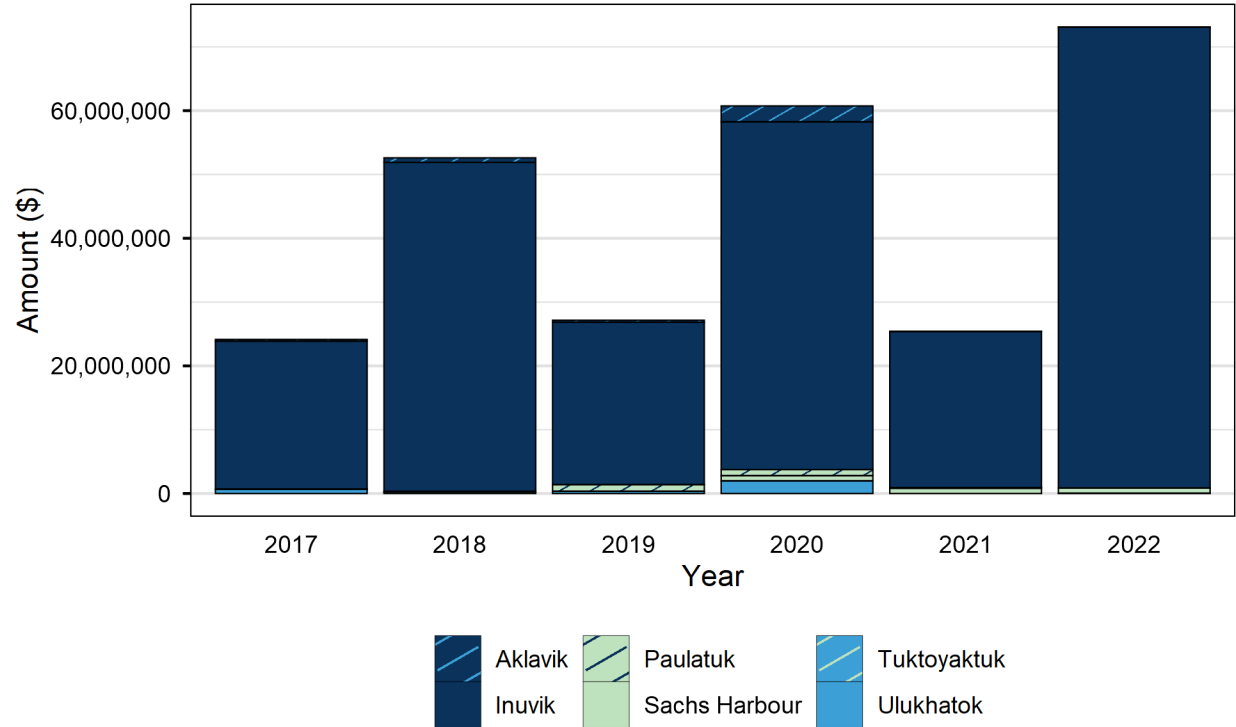
Figure E7. Total Comprehensive Land Claim Agreement Value of Contracts in the ISR, 2009 - 2021



Source: CIRNAC.

Figure E8 shows the total value of procurement contracts awarded by the GNWT to businesses in ISR communities from 2017 to 2022. Across all communities, 675 contracts were awarded amounting to a total of \$263,207,336 from 2017 to 2022. Over this period, Inuvik was awarded the most territorial contracts (632) and the highest value contracts (\$251,340,190) relative to other communities. Though the value of contracts awarded has fluctuated annually, there is a general upward trend. The data do not report which businesses were awarded these contracts, if sub-contracted businesses were involved, why businesses were –and were not– awarded contracts, nor whether the businesses are Inuvialuit-owned.

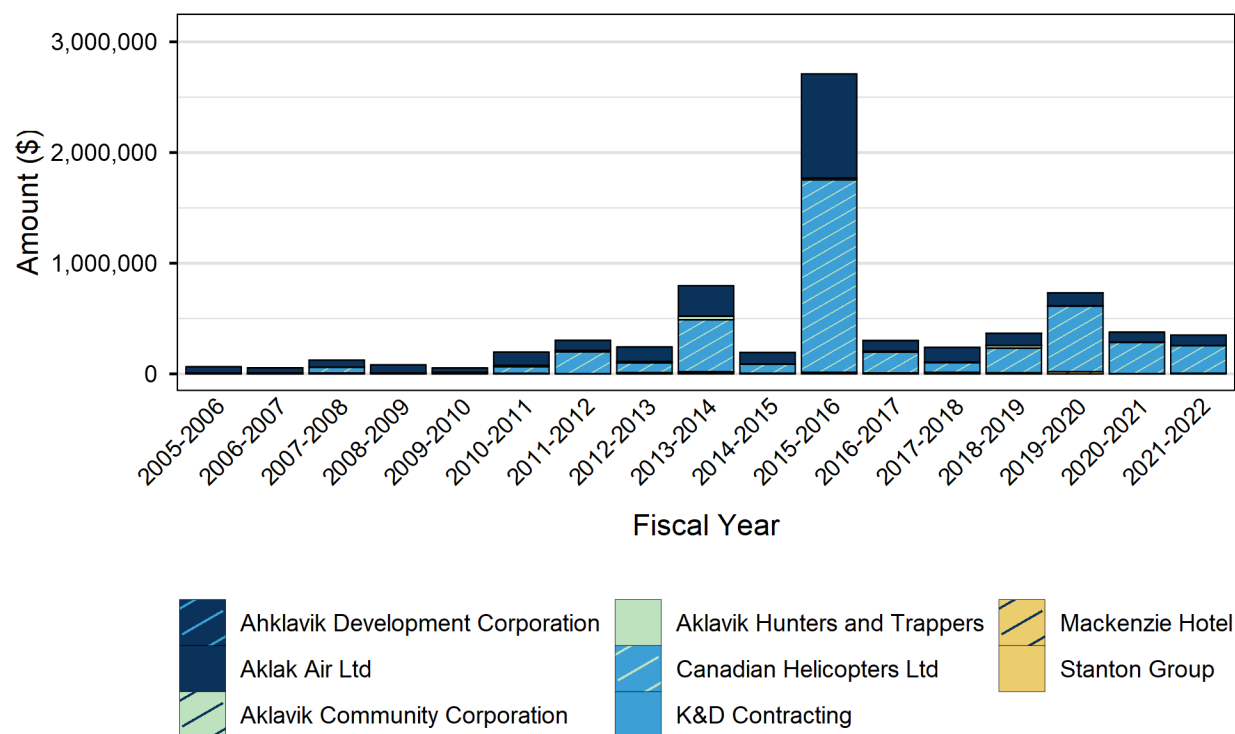
Figure E8. Total Value of GNWT Contracts in ISR Communities with GNWT, 2017 to 2022



Source: GNWT. Note: There is no procurement data available for Tuktoyaktuk.

Figure E9 shows the values of contracts from the Government of Yukon awarded to Inuvialuit-owned businesses from 2001 to 2022. Four of these businesses, Mackenzie Delta Hotel Group, Canadian Helicopters Ltd, K & D Contracting, and Ahklavik Development Corporation, are listed as BIP Approved Businesses, and K & D Contracting, Canadian Helicopters Ltd, and Staton Group are listed on the IBL. By appearing on the BIP Approved Businesses and IBL and successfully being awarded contracts, these Inuvialuit-owned businesses show that they have the business capacity needed to satisfy procurement opportunities. From 2001 to 2022, the total value of contracts awarded to Inuvialuit-owned businesses increased. The largest contract values were awarded to Canadian Helicopters Ltd (\$1,740,139) and Aklak Air Ltd (\$941,968) during the 2015/16 fiscal year. The construction of the Inuvik-Tuktoyaktuk highway at this time may have been an attributing factor to the larger contract values. Activities associated with these contracts include Herschel Island-Qikiqtaruk Territorial Park crew changes and wildlife programs fieldwork.

Figure E9. Value of YG Contracts with Inuvialuit Businesses, 2001 to 2022

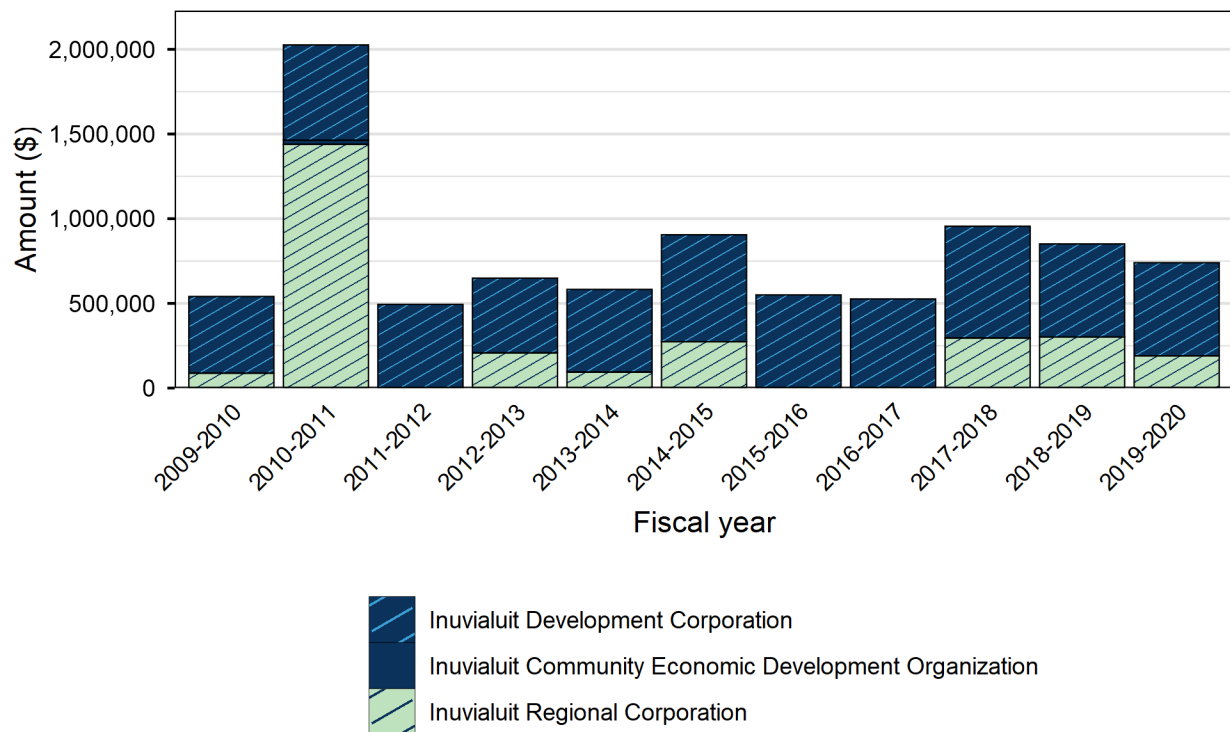


Source: Government of Yukon.

Figure E10 shows the value of funding from the Canadian Northern Economic Development Agency to Inuvialuit recipients from 2009 to 2020. The Canadian Northern Economic Development Agency provides programming that supports economic diversification, business and community development, and innovation in the North, and provides funding to organizations

that support the economic development of Inuvialuit and other Indigenous communities (Canadian Northern Economic Development Agency 2023). From 2009 to 2019 the total amount of funding to IDC, ICEDO, and IRC increased, however funding amounts fluctuate annually.

**Figure E10. Canadian Northern Economic Development Agency
Funding by Recipient, 2009 to 2020**

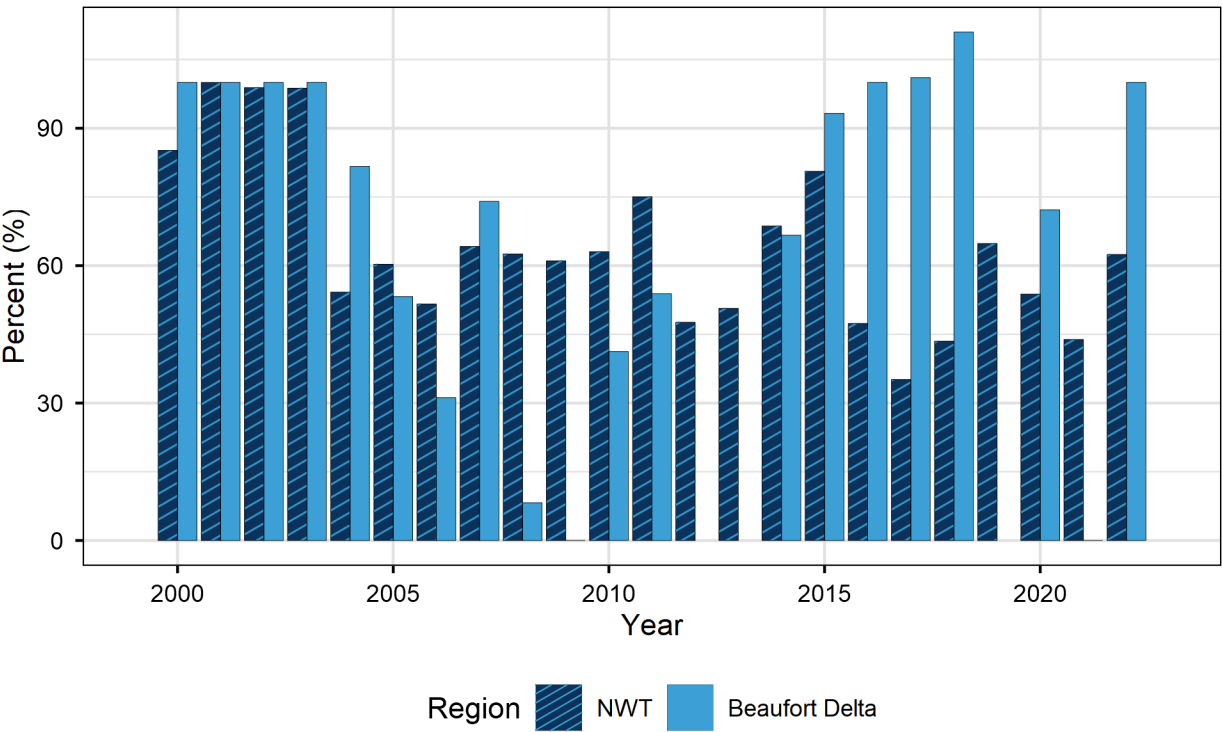


Source: Canadian Northern Economic Development Agency.

Figures E11 and E12 show funding provided by Prosper NWT to businesses in the ISR and the NWT. Prosper NWT, formerly known as the Northwest Territories Business Development and Investment Corporation (BDIC) provides flexible financing options and programs and services that support existing and aspiring businesses in the territory. Financial support includes loans, contributions, venture investments, and subsidies.

Figure E11 shows the share of the total loan amounts (principal dollars) approved relative to the total loan amounts applied for by all businesses in the NWT and the Beaufort Delta in a given year. The total value of loans committed or approved to businesses in the Beaufort Delta Region from 2000 to 2022 was \$14.7 million.

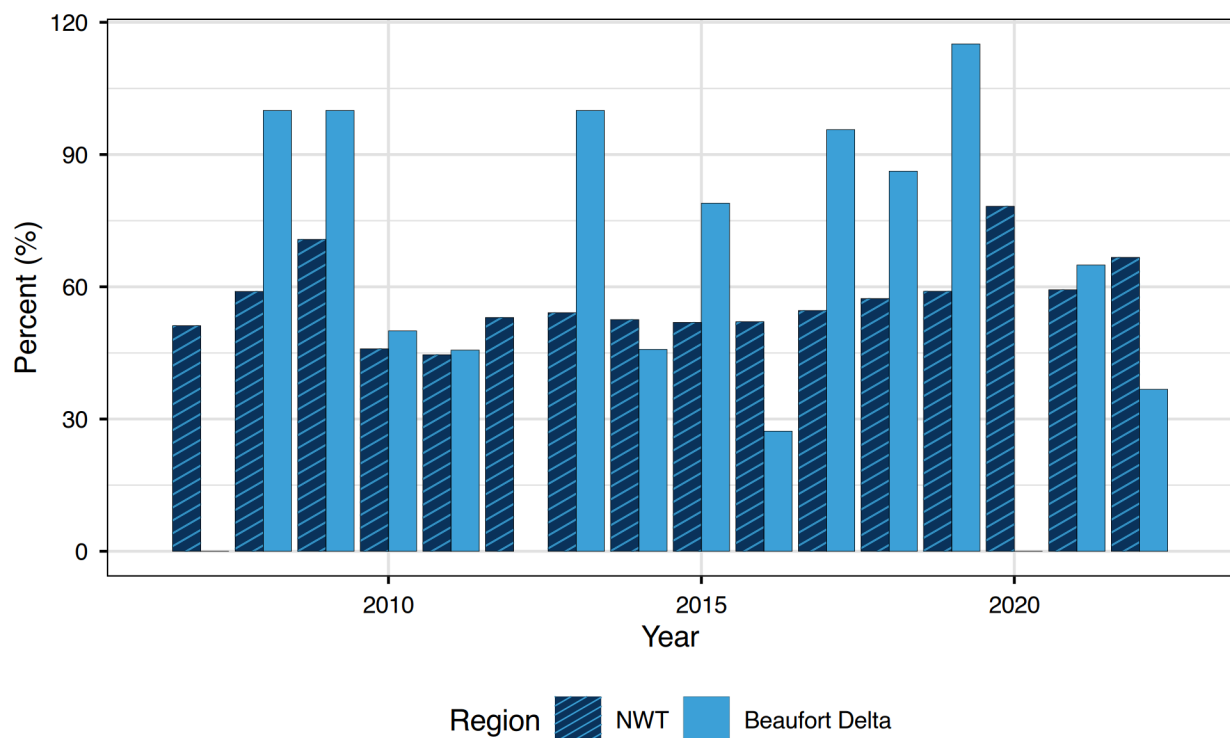
Figure E11. Percent of Application Loan Amount Committed, Beaufort Delta & NWT, 2000 to 2022



Source: Business Development and Investment Corporation/Prosper NWT. Note: The percent of application loan amounts committed may not reflect percent of application loan amounts disbursed.

Figure E12 shows the share of the total contribution funds disbursed relative to the total contribution funds applied for by businesses located in the NWT and Beaufort Delta from 2007 to 2022. A total of \$392,000 in contributions was approved for businesses in the Beaufort Delta region by Prosper NWT between 2007 and 2022. All businesses across the NWT apply for more funding than the amount disbursed. In 2019, the amount of funding disbursed to businesses in the Beaufort Delta exceeded the amount of funding initially applied for.

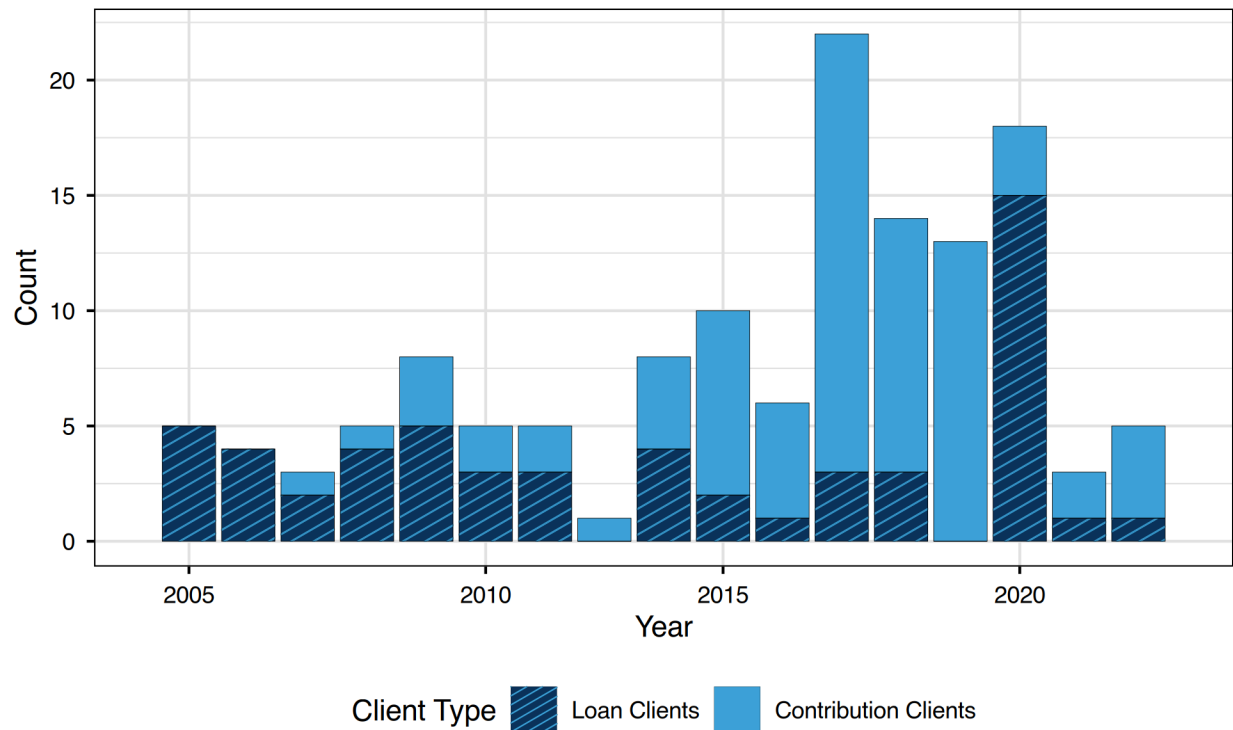
Figure E12. Percent of Total Contribution Funds Disbursed Relative to Applied, Beaufort Delta & NWT, 2007 to 2022



Source: Business Development and Investment Corporation/Prosper NWT..

Figure E13 shows the total number of businesses in the Beaufort Delta that applied for financial support, loans, and contributions, with BDIC/Prosper NWT. From 2005 to 2022, a total of 135 businesses in the Beaufort Delta applied for financial support with the BDIC/Prosper NWT, through loans and contributions.

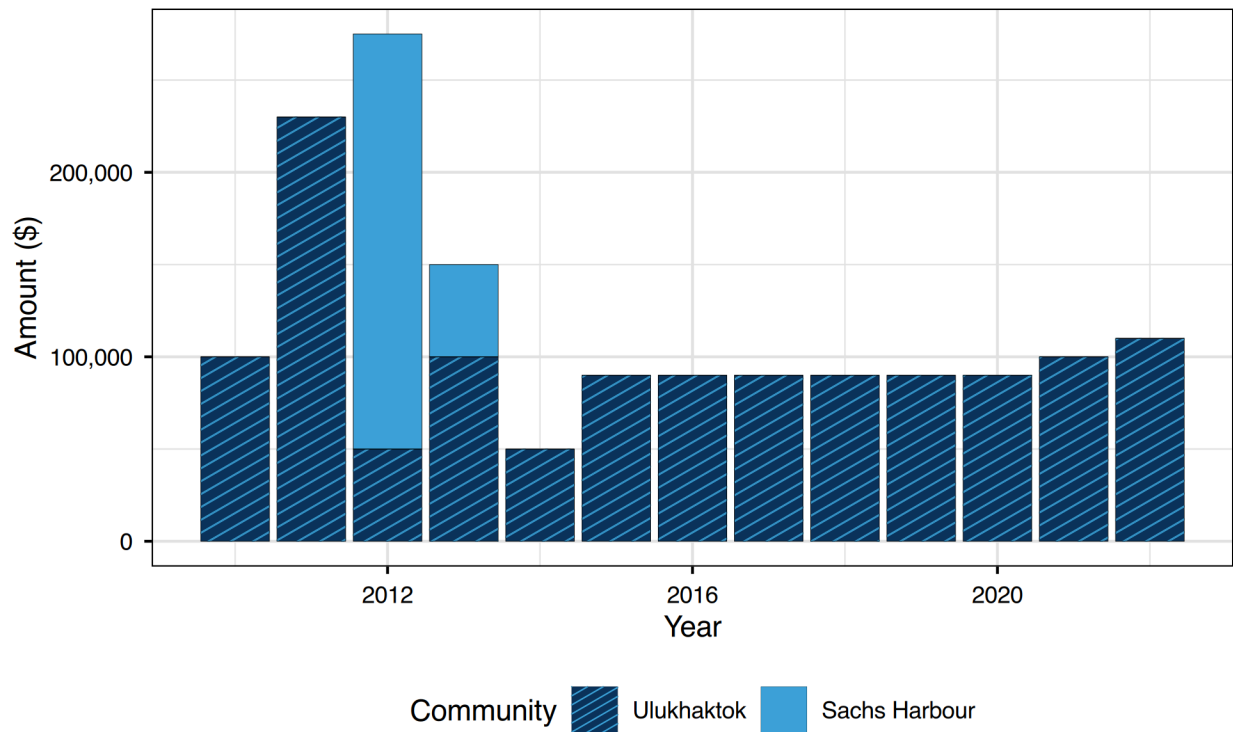
Figure E13. Number of Businesses in the Beaufort Delta with Funding Applications to BDIC/Prosper NWT



Source: Business Development and Investment Corporation/Prosper NWT.

Figure E14 shows the annual subsidies provided by BDIC, now Prosper NWT, to the subsidiary companies located in the Beaufort Delta. From 2010 to 2022, a total of \$1.56 million of subsidies have been provided to the subsidiary companies in the Beaufort Delta. There have been two subsidiary companies, owned by BDIC/Prosper NWT, located in the Beaufort Delta region: the Ulukhaktok Arts Centre and the Muskox subsidiary located in Sachs Harbour. Subsidies provided to BDIC/Prosper NWT subsidiaries are used to support operations, marketing, and employment in the ISR and NWT broadly. Subsidies spiked in 2011, due to financing to Ulukhaktok Arts Centre, and 2012, due to the incorporation of the Muskox Subsidiary in Sachs Harbour. Subsidies to the Ulukhaktok Arts Centre have since remained stable near \$100,000 per year, though have increased from 2020 to 2022. It is unclear how subsidies have been directly used; additional data would provide greater detail on how subsidies are used in the companies and their greater impact on the community.

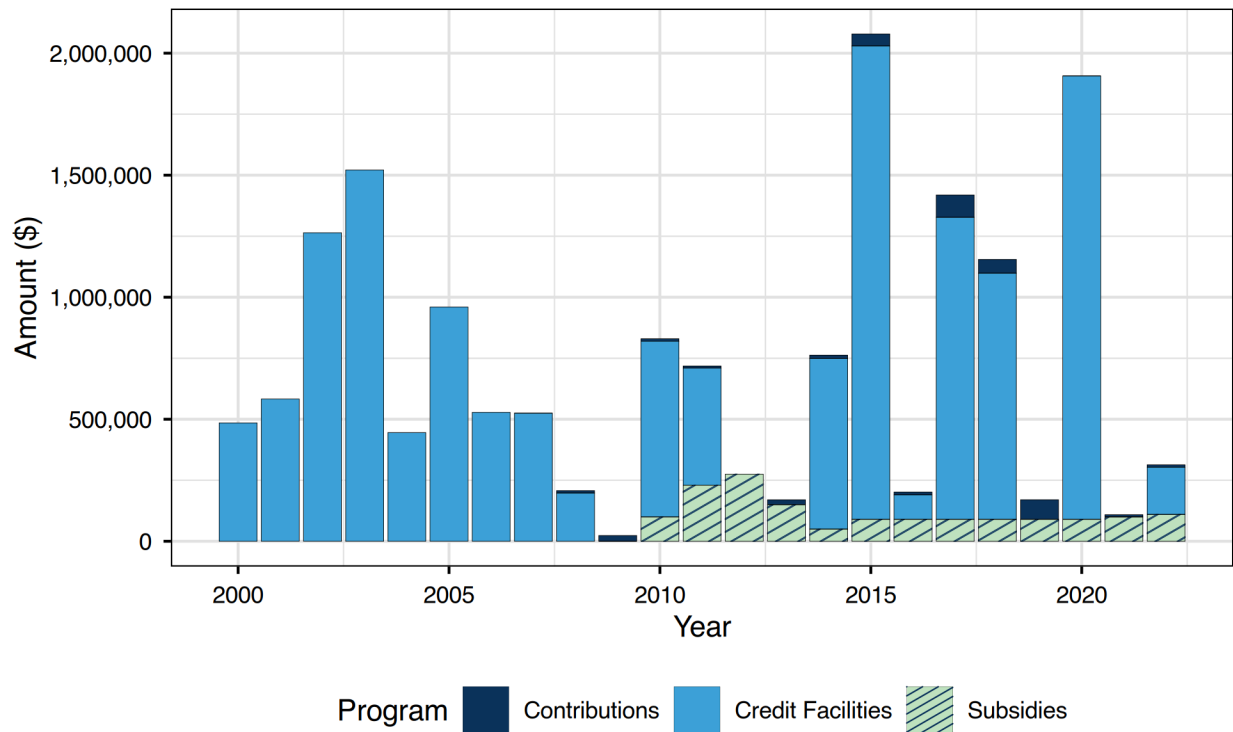
Figure E14. Annual Subsidies to BDIC Subsidiaries, Ulukhaktok, Sachs Harbour and the ISR, 2010 to 2022



Source: Business Development and Investment Corporation/Prosper NWT. Note: BDIC subsidiaries are based in Ulukhaktok and Sachs Harbour.

Figure E15 shows the total funding provided, including total committed loans and contributions and subsidies disbursed, to businesses in the Beaufort Delta from the BDIC/Prosper NWT. From 2000 to 2022, a total of \$12.4 million has been provided by the BDIC/Prosper NWT to businesses and subsidiary companies located in the Beaufort Delta.

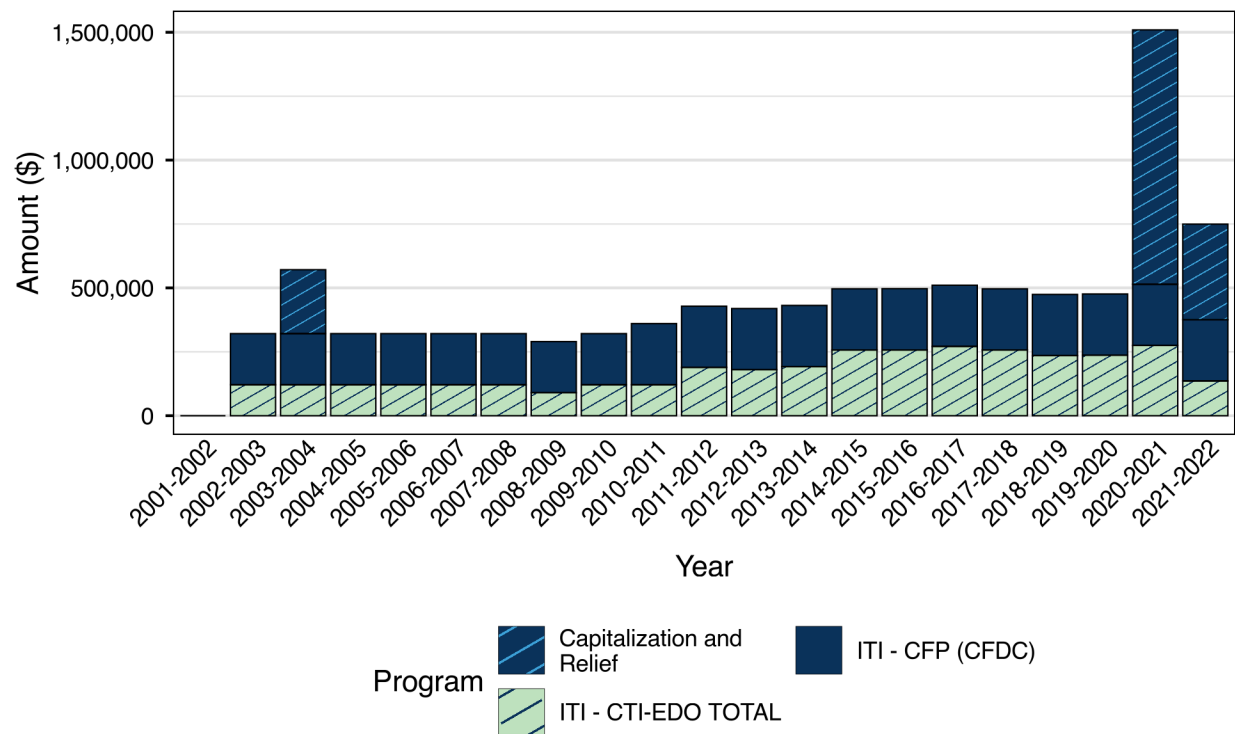
Figure E15. Total Funding Provided to Businesses in the Beaufort Delta from BDIC/Prosper NWT



Source: Business Development and Investment Corporation/Prosper NWT.

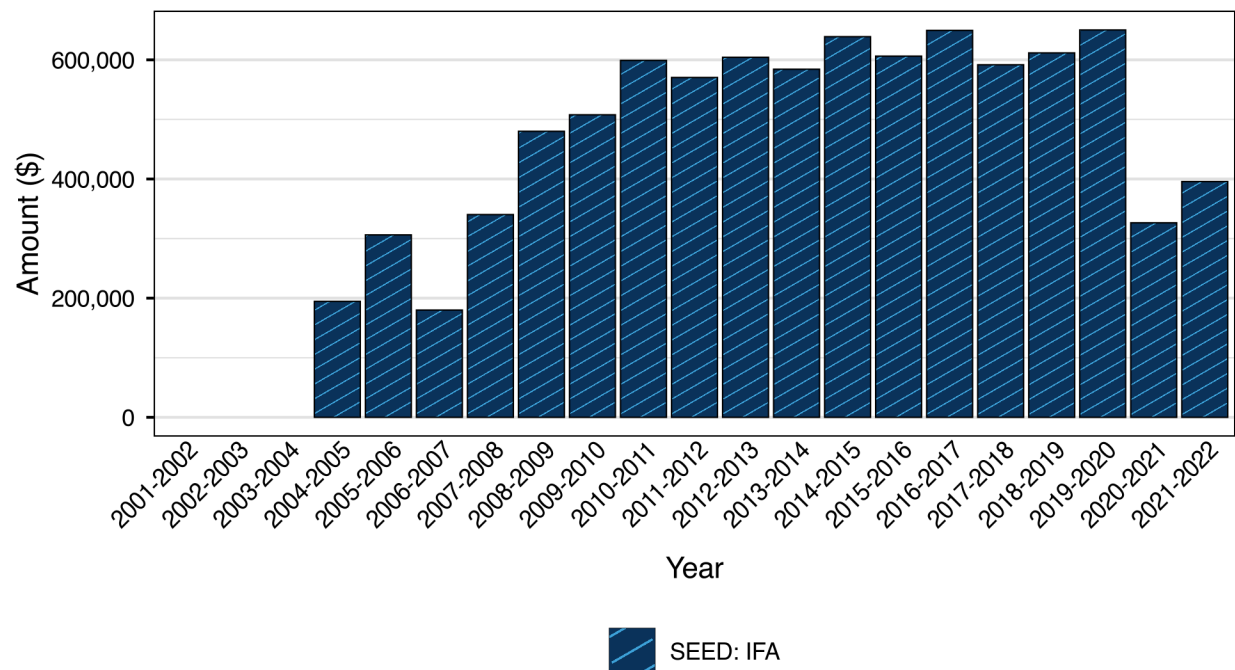
Figure E16a shows the value of funding amounts provided by the GNWT Department of Industry, Tourism, and Investment to a set of programs, including the Community Futures Development Corporations (CFDC), Capitalization and Relief, and the Economic Development Officer Community Transfer Initiative (EDO-CTI). Figure E16b shows the value of funding amounts provided by the Support for Entrepreneurs and Economic Development (SEED) program. CFDCs manage and distribute Community Futures program funding to meet local economic development priorities, through the provision of business loans, entrepreneurship training and counseling, wage subsidies to unemployed entrepreneurs, and business information services (Industry, Tourism, and Investment 2020). These CFDCs also manage the distribution of Capitalization and Relief funding to support NWT businesses. The EDO-CTI provides salary and operations funding to NWT communities to obtain Economic Development Officers who support and deliver economic and business development programs. The SEED program, which replaced the Business Development Fund in the 2008/2009 fiscal year, provides funding to businesses, entrepreneurs, and organizations to grow, develop capacity, and invest. From 2002 to 2022, the amount of funding distributed through these programs increased, from \$321,180 to \$1,145,184. The highest amount of funding distributed was in the 2020/2021 fiscal year (\$1,835,803), and is likely related to COVID-19 pandemic-relief efforts.

Figure E16a. Funding for Economic Development by Community Future and Community Transfer Initiative, 2001 to 2022



Source: GNWT, Department of Industry, Tourism and Investment.

Figure E16b. Funding for Economic Development by the SEED Program, 2001 to 2022



Source: GNWT, Department of Industry, Tourism and Investment. Note: No SEED Policy funding numbers prior to 2004/2005,

Table B6.1 in Appendix B6 reports the average mean effect from multivariate regression analysis of a binary indicator for the number of tax filers who report an income greater than \$50,000 in the ISR (greater than \$50,000 equals 1, less than \$50,000 equals 0) on per capita economic development funding, including SEED program, Community Future, and Community Transfer Initiative funding. (Figure E16a and E16b). The results from the regression models suggest that when economic development funding increases the likelihood of having an income greater than \$50,000 increases. However, without additional data, this relationship may reflect the impact of other factors.

Model 1 is the baseline model and it regresses the count of tax filers with incomes greater than \$50,000 on per capita funding to economic development programs. Model 1 shows that a \$10 per capita increase in SEED program funding is associated with a 0.49 percentage point increase in the probability of filing a tax return greater than \$50,000, holding Community Future and Community Transfer Initiative funding constant.

Model 2 adds economic period fixed effects and finds a \$10 per capita increase in SEED program funding is associated with a 0.05 percentage point increase in the probability of filing a tax return greater than \$50,000. Although the result shows the same direction as the baseline model, it indicates that the outcome is not stable across model specifications and loses statistical significance.

Model 3 drops economic period effects and adds controls for the value of Yukon contracts with Inuvialuit businesses (Figure E9). The results are similar in direction, magnitude and statistical significance as the baseline model.

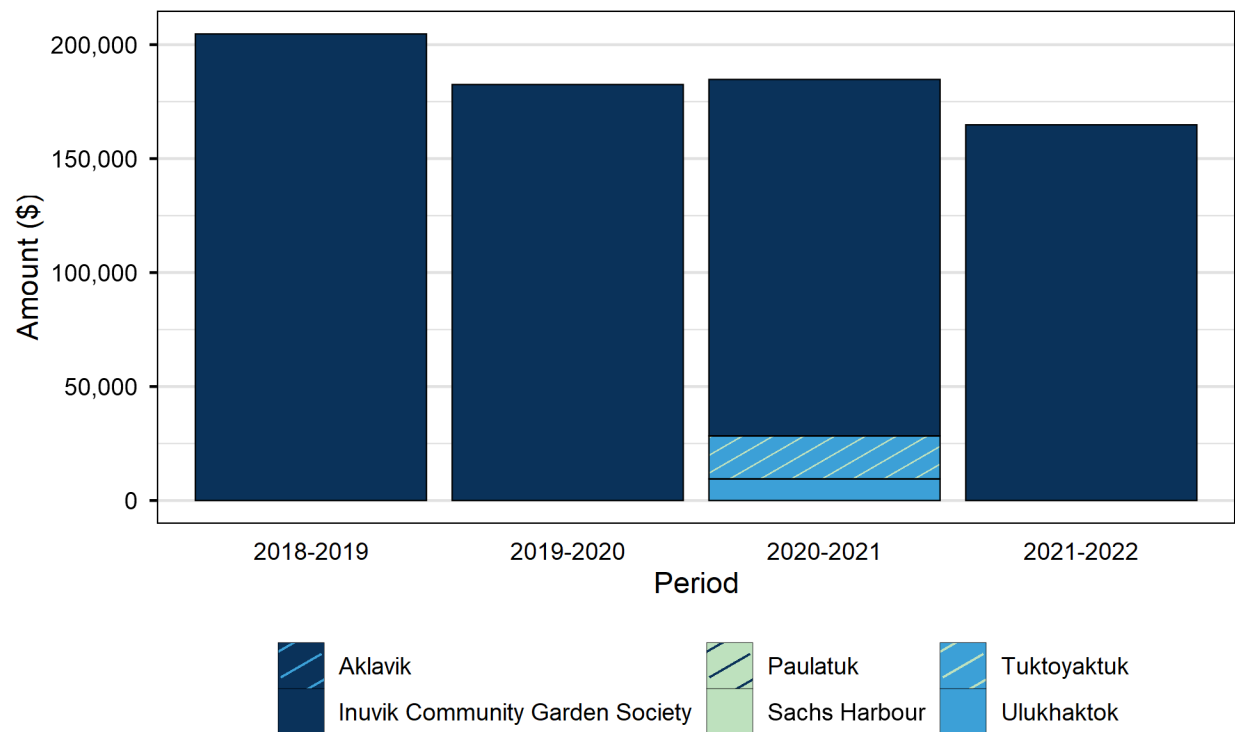
The final model, in addition to the controls in model 3, adds controls for other forms of funding and contracts awarded in the ISR, including CLCA contract values (Figure E7), Canadian Northern Economic Development Agency funding (Figure E10), and tourism funding (Figure E20). Unfortunately, we had incomplete data (only years 2017 to 2022) on GNWT contract values in the ISR (Figure E8), and therefore were unable to include it in the regression model. The model drops 5 observations due the added controls having limited years of data available. The model suggests that a \$10 per capita increase in economic development funding is associated with a 0.38 percentage point increase in the probability of filing a tax return greater than \$50,000. Although the result shows a similar direction and magnitude as the baseline mode, it is not statistically significant. The coefficient on CLCA indicator suggests that, even though CLCA contracts provide the highest values of contracts in the ISR, there is a minimal positive association with raising incomes above \$50,000.

The results from the models should be interpreted with caution as we are unable to control for every factor that might contribute to incomes fluctuating above or below \$50,000. Additionally, we are unable to limit the sample to only include the working-age population. Therefore, the correlations may be biased by those under the age of 15 and those over the age of 65, who are less likely to file a tax return.

Figures E17 to E18 show the value of funding for agriculture programs provided by the GNWT Department of Industry, Tourism, and Investment to recipients in ISR communities. Agriculture programs support the development of agriculture production and processing and improve food security for residents of the ISR. Funding programs include the Canadian Agriculture Partnership, Growing Forward and Growing Forward 2, and the Northern Food Development Program.

Figure E17 shows the value of funding through the Canadian Agriculture Partnership program provided to ISR communities from 2018 to 2022. The Canadian Agriculture Partnership is a five-year agreement between the Government of Canada and the GNWT to improve innovation and resiliency in the agriculture and agri-food production sectors; in 2023 it was renewed for an additional five years (GNWT 2023a). The Inuvik Community Garden Society is the largest recipient of Canadian Agricultural Partnership funding, however, the value of funding they receive decreased between 2018 and 2022 (GNWT 2023a). Tuktoyaktuk and Ulukhaktok are the only other communities to receive funding through the Sustainable Canadian Agriculture Partnership program.

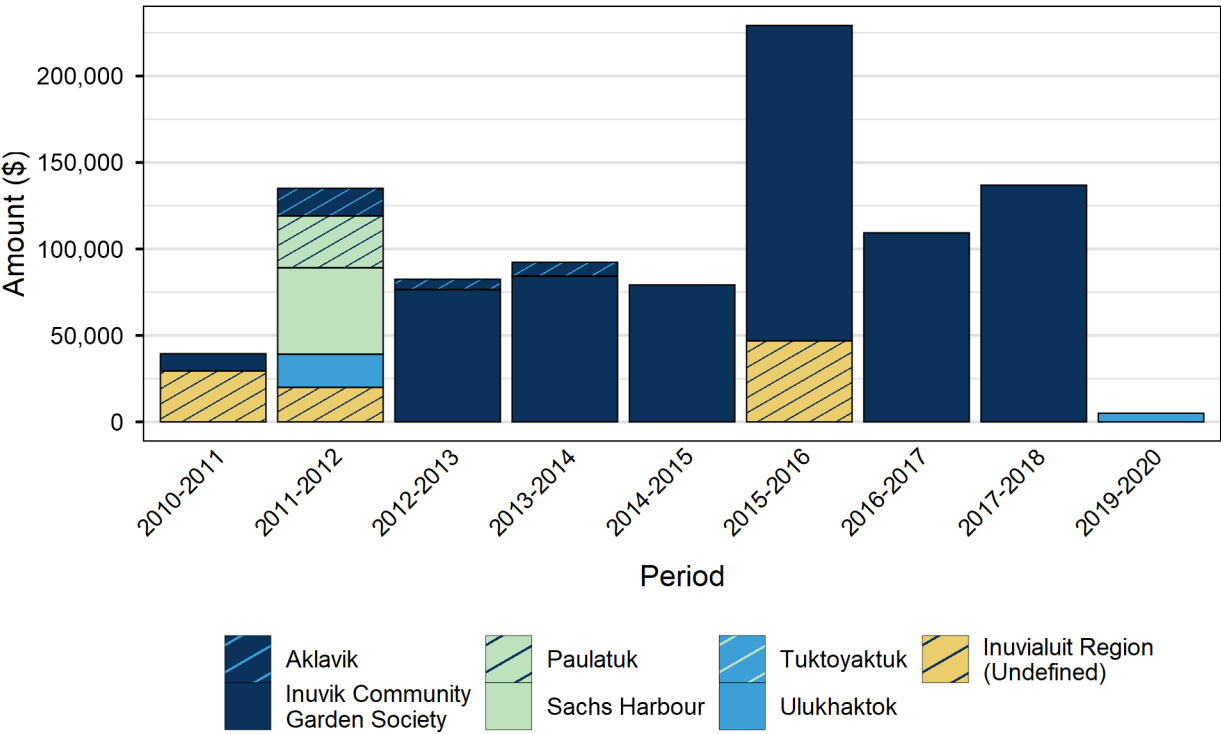
Figure E17. Canadian Agriculture Partnership Funding by Recipient, 2018 to 2022



Source: GNWT, Department of Industry, Tourism, and Investment. Note: From 2018 to 2022, Aklavik, Paulatuk, and Sachs Harbour did not receive any funding through the Canadian Agriculture Partnership.

Figure E18 shows the value of funding through the Growing Forward and Growing Forward 2 programs provided by the GNWT to recipients based in undefined regions of the ISR and ISR communities from 2010 to 2020. The Growing Forward programs are partnerships between the Government of Canada and the GNWT that support individuals, businesses, non-profit organizations, and Indigenous governments involved in agriculture production or processing (Industry, Tourism, and Investment 2023c). The Inuvik Community Garden Society is the recipient of the largest amount of funding in most years except from 2010 to 2012 and the 2019/2020 fiscal year.

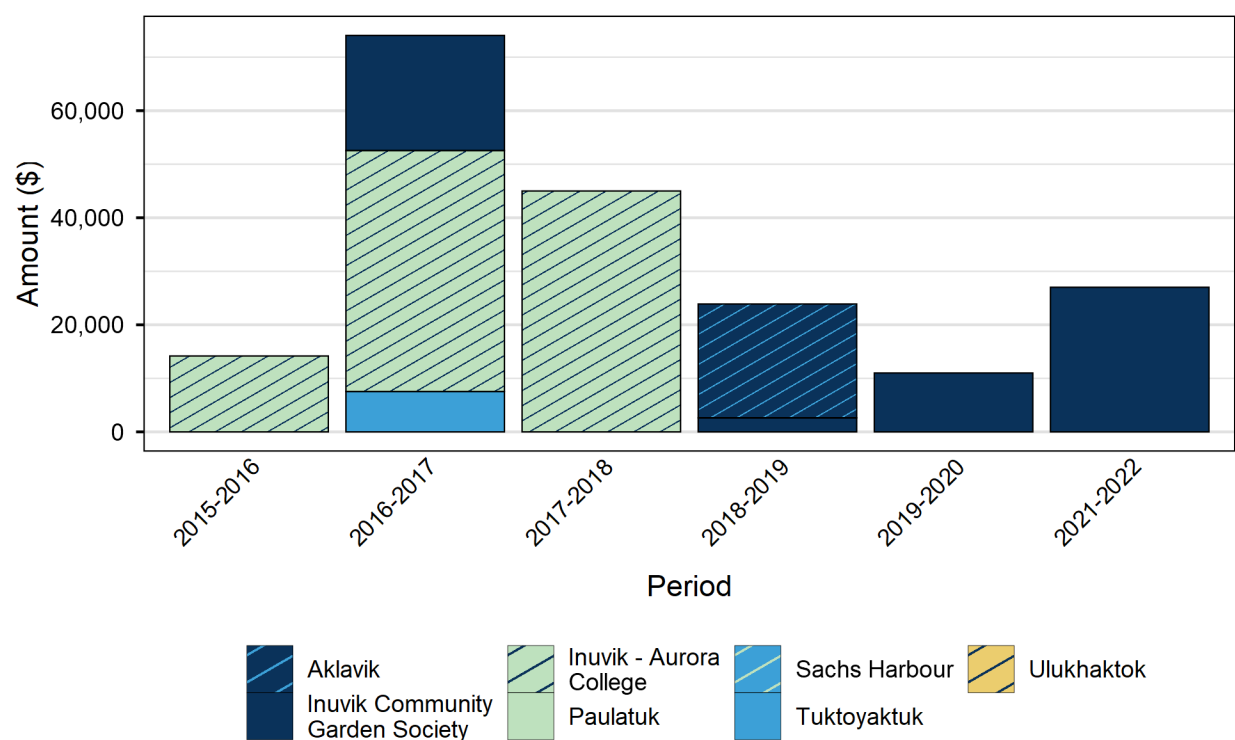
Figure E18. Growing Forward and Growing Forward 2 Funding by Recipient, 2010 to 2020



Source: GNWT, Department of Industry, Tourism and Investment.

Figure E19 shows the value of funding through the Northern Food Development Program provided to ISR communities and community organizations from 2015 to 2022. The Northern Food Development Program provides funding to food producers, harvesters, and processors for equipment, supplies, marketing, capacity building, sales, and utility rebates, increasing local food availability to consumers (Industry, Tourism, and Investment 2023b). In all years, except the 2018/2019 fiscal year, organizations based in Inuvik received the most funding.

Figure E19. Northern Food Development Program Funding by Recipient, 2015 to 2022



Source: GNWT, Department of Industry, Tourism and Investment.

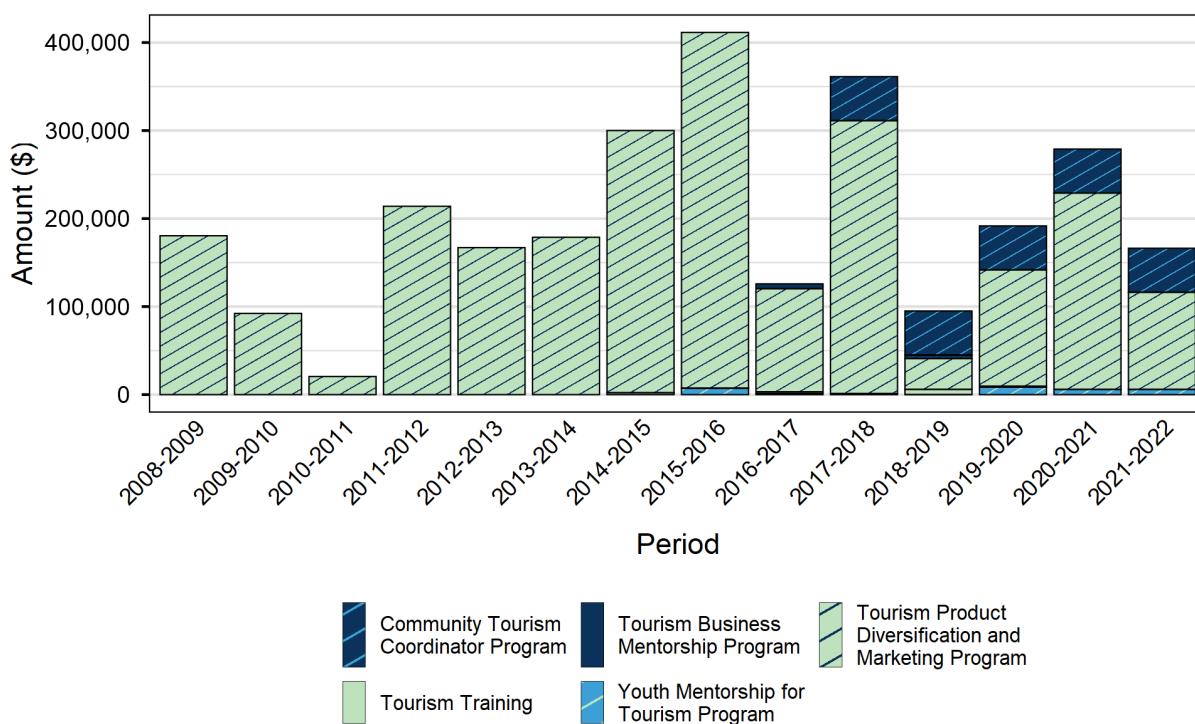
Figure E20 shows the amount of funding available to tourism programs in the ISR provided by the GNWT Department of Industry, Tourism, and Investment from 2008 to 2022. These programs aim to support the future demands of the tourism industry as it grows (GNWT 2023b). Programs include:

- **Community Tourism Coordinator Program:** provides qualified organizations with funding to hire and maintain coordinators who support community tourism initiatives.

- **Tourism Business Mentorship Program:** provides opportunities for operators to learn from experienced tourism operators.
- **Tourism Product Diversification and Marketing Program:** provides funding to existing tourism programs to reinvent, expand, and improve products and operations to meet changing demands.
- **Tourism Training Fund:** provides funding to individuals and businesses to develop the capacity of tourism workers.
- **Youth Mentorship for Tourism Program:** connects students and young professionals interested in the tourism industry with experienced industry professionals to learn.

The total value of funding provided to all tourism programs in the 2021/2022 fiscal year (\$166,300) is about \$10,000 less than in the 2008/2009 fiscal year (\$180,500), though funding amounts are highly variable. Since the 2015/2016 (\$411,512) and 2017/2018 (\$361,250) fiscal years, total tourism funding has decreased despite key informants expecting growth in the tourism industry. In every fiscal year the majority of funding is awarded to the Tourism Product Diversification and Marketing Program; the most funding the program received was in the 2015/2016 fiscal year (\$404,000).

Figure E20. Tourism Funding by Program, ISR, 2008 to 2022



Source: GNWT, Department of Industry, Tourism, and Investment

Finally, we present data for Herschel Island-Qikiqtaruk Territorial Park. Herschel Island-Qikiqtaruk Territorial Park was founded in 1987 as a result of the IFA. Approximately every 10 years, Yukon Parks and Inuvialuit partners collaborate to set out park management objectives, which include the conservation of ecosystems, wildlife, and biodiversity, as well as maintaining Inuvialuit cultural sites and supporting beneficiaries to engage in and maintain traditional activities and knowledge (Government of Yukon, 2018).

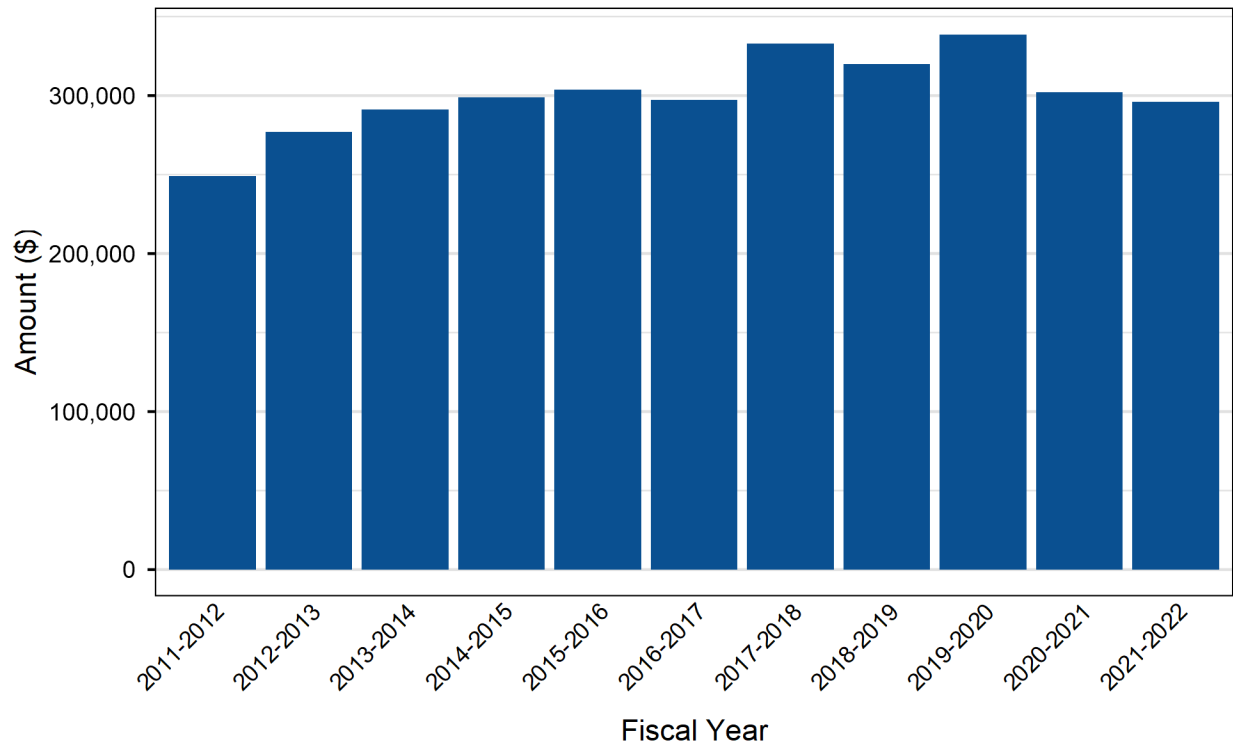
“The big commitment in the management plan is reconnection. Inuvialuit engagement with the park and connection to that actual place. Getting more and more youth there to connect. That is part of our goal, to facilitate Inuvialuit connecting with this place.” - Key Informant Interview

Each year between 2011 and 2022, Herschel Island-Qikiqtaruk Territorial Park employed four Inuvialuit park rangers seasonally, and one Inuvialuit senior park ranger permanently, with additional Inuvialuit park rangers filling causal roles from time to time as needed. If tourism to the ISR and surrounding National and Territorial parks expands, as key informants expect it will, there may be opportunities to increase employment opportunities for Inuvialuit. In the case of Herschel Island-Qikiqtaruk Territorial Park, more employment opportunities would be dependent upon the capacity of operational funding to support additional salary expenses. As heard in key informant interviews, the Yukon Government’s IFA implementation funding agreement with the Government of Canada provides the operational funding for the park. Negotiated in 2004, this funding level is now 20 years old and hasn’t adjusted based on needs or inflation. Consequently, there are few resources to provide training opportunities for Inuvialuit or to facilitate more engagement with beneficiaries and youth in particular. From 2005 to 2022, the Yukon Government reported no spending towards providing training opportunities to assist Inuvialuit in qualifying for employment opportunities at the park, as directed by s.12(42) of the IFA.

“Twenty years ago, there were more staff. Staff numbers have tightened up due to budget restraints.” - Key Informant Interview

Figure E21 shows the total pay received by Inuvialuit rangers working in Herschel Island-Qikiqtaruk Territorial Park every fiscal year. From 2011 to 2021 the total pay received by Inuvialuit rangers has increased.

Figure E21. Personnel Pay for Inuvialuit Rangers on Herschel Island-Qikiqtaruk Territorial Park, 2011 to 2022



Source: Government of Yukon.

“In terms of more direct engagement of citizens, economic opportunities for local businesses or Inuvialuit businesses, or small tour operators, those types of things, we [at the Government of Yukon] struggle and don’t have a lot of resources to make that any different.” - Key Informant Interview



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Appendices

Appendix A: Indicators

Seven categories of indicators were selected to answer the research questions: demographic, cultural, social wellbeing and health, education, housing, labour, and economic. Each subsection of this appendix provides a table describing each indicator within the corresponding category. The first column of each table specifies the indicator, including details on units, target group (e.g., age restrictions), and years of availability. The second column describes the geographic granularity of the indicator. The third column details the data source for the indicator. The fourth, and last, column states if the data were received in time for this report.

Indicators were selected to answer the following questions:

1. What are the economic and social trends since the IFA was signed?
2. How did (or do) trends in the ISR compare separately to trends in NWT, Yukon, Inuit Nunangat, the full North, and Canada?

A1. Demographic

Table A1.1 provides details on proposed demographic indicators.

Table A1. – Demographic Indicators

Indicator	Geography(s)	Data Source(s)	Data Status
<i>Annualized Population Growth Rate (%) – General Population – All Ages – 2001, 2006, 2011, 2016, 2021</i>	Inuvialuit communities, ISR, NWT, Yukon, Inuit Nunangat, full North, Canada	<i>Population Estimates by Community – Community Totals</i> (NWT Bureau of Statistics), <i>Census of Population</i> (Statistics Canada)	Data received.
<i>Annualized Population Growth Rate (%) – Indigenous Population – All Ages – 2001, 2006, 2011, 2016, 2021</i>	Inuvialuit communities, ISR, NWT, Yukon, Inuit Nunangat, full North, Canada	<i>Population Estimates by Community – Community Population by Ethnicity</i> (NWT Bureau of Statistics), <i>Census of Population</i> (Statistics Canada)	Data received.
<i>Annualized Population Growth Rate (%) – General Population – Major Age Classes – 2001, 2006, 2011, 2016, 2021</i>	Inuvialuit communities, ISR, NWT, Yukon, Inuit Nunangat, full North, Canada	<i>Population Estimates by Community – Community Population by Age Group</i> (NWT Bureau of Statistics), <i>Census of Population</i> (Statistics Canada)	Data received.
<i>Annualized Population Growth Rate (%) – General Population – Working-Age Population (15 Years or Older) – 2001, 2006, 2011, 2016, 2021</i>	Inuvialuit communities, ISR, NWT, Yukon, Inuit Nunangat, full North, Canada	<i>Population Estimates by Community – Community Population by Age Group</i> (NWT Bureau of Statistics), <i>Census of Population</i> (Statistics Canada)	Data received.
<i>Annualized Population Growth Rate (%) – General Population – By Sex – 2001, 2006, 2011, 2016, 2021</i>	Inuvialuit communities, ISR, NWT, Yukon, Inuit Nunangat, full North, Canada	<i>Population Estimates by Community – Community Population by Sex</i> (NWT Bureau of Statistics), <i>Census of Population</i> (Statistics Canada)	Data received.
<i>Dependency Ratios (%) – General Population – 2001, 2006, 2011, 2016, 2021</i>	Inuvialuit communities, ISR, NWT, Yukon, Inuit Nunangat, full North, Canada	<i>Population Estimates by Community – Community Population by Sex</i> (NWT Bureau of Statistics), <i>Census of Population</i> (Statistics Canada)	Data received.

Note: Major age classes include: 0 to 14 years, 15 years or older, 15 to 24 years, 25 to 59 years, and 60 years or older.
Dene, Métis, and non-Indigenous peoples may represent large proportions of the general population in some communities (e.g., Aklavik and Inuvik).

A2. Cultural

Table A1.2 provides details on proposed cultural indicators.

Table A2. – Cultural Indicators

Indicator	Geography(s)	Data Source(s)	Data Status
<i>Ability to Speak an Indigenous Language (%)</i> – Indigenous Population – 15 Years or Older – 1999, 2004, 2009, 2014, 2019	Inuvialuit communities. ISR, NWT	<i>Indigenous Language by Community</i> (NWT Bureau of Statistics)	Data received.
<i>Inuit Mother Tongue (%)</i> – Indigenous Population – All Ages – By Sex – 2001, 2006, 2011, 2016, 2021	Inuvialuit communities, ISR, NWT, Yukon, Inuit Nunangat, full North, Canada	<i>Census of Population</i> (Statistics Canada)	Data received.
<i>Inuit Language Used Most Often at Home (%)</i> – Indigenous Population – All Ages – By Sex – 2001, 2006, 2011, 2016, 2021	Inuvialuit communities, ISR, NWT, Yukon, Inuit Nunangat, full North, Canada	<i>Census of Population</i> (Statistics Canada)	Data received.
<i>Inuit Language Used Most Often at Work (%)</i> – Indigenous Population – All Ages – By Sex – 2006, 2011, 2016, 2021	Inuvialuit communities, ISR, NWT, Yukon, Inuit Nunangat, full North, Canada	<i>Census of Population</i> (Statistics Canada)	Data received.
<i>Persons Who Produced Arts and Crafts (%)</i> – General Population – 15 Years or Older – 2013, 2018	Inuvialuit communities, ISR, NWT	<i>Engagement in Traditional Activities Production of Arts and Crafts</i> (NWT Bureau of Statistics)	Data received.
<i>Persons Who Gathered Berries (%)</i> – General Population – 15 Years or Older – 2013, 2018	Inuvialuit communities, ISR, NWT	<i>Engagement in Traditional Activities Berry Gathering</i> (NWT Bureau of Statistics)	Data received.
<i>Hunted or Fished in the Year (%)</i> – General Population – 15 Years or Older – 1998, 2003, 2008, 2013, 2018	Inuvialuit communities, ISR, NWT	<i>Hunted or Fished by Community</i> (NWT Bureau of Statistics)	Data received.
<i>Trapped in the Year (%)</i> – General Population – 15 Years or Older – 1998, 2003, 2008, 2013, 2018	Inuvialuit communities, ISR, NWT	<i>Trapped by Community</i> (NWT Bureau of Statistics)	Data received.
<i>Households Where 75% or More (Most or All) of the Meat or Fish Eaten in the Household was Obtained through Hunting or Fishing (%)</i> – General Population – All Households – 1998, 2003, 2008, 2013, 2018	Inuvialuit communities, ISR, NWT	<i>Households Eating Meat or Fish from Hunting or Fishing by Community</i> (NWT Bureau of Statistics)	Data received.

Note: Some indicators cannot be compared with other regions (e.g., traditional activities).

A3. Social Wellbeing and Health

Table A1.3 provides details on proposed social indicators.

Table A3. – Social Indicators

Indicator	Geography(s)	Data Source(s)	Data Status
<i>One-Parent Families (%)</i> – All Families – 2001, 2006, 2011, 2016, 2021	Inuvialuit communities, ISR, NWT, Yukon, Inuit Nunangat, full North, Canada	Census of Population (Statistics Canada)	Data not received.
<i>Persons in Low Income (After Tax) (%)</i> – General Population – 2001–2020	Inuvialuit communities, ISR, NWT	<i>Persons in Low Income (After Tax)</i> (NWT Bureau of Statistics)	Data received.

Note: Some indicators cannot be compared with other regions (e.g., persons in low income).

A4. Education

Table A1.4 provides details on proposed education indicators.

Table A4. – Education Indicators

Indicator	Geography(s)	Data Source(s)	Data Status
<i>High School Diploma or Greater (%) – General Population – 15 Years or Older – 1999, 2001, 2004, 2006, 2009, 2011, 2014, 2016, 2019</i>	Inuvialuit communities, ISR, NWT	<i>High School Diploma or Higher by Community</i> (NWT Bureau of Statistics)	Data received.
<i>High School Diploma or Greater (%) – General Population – 15 Years or Older – 2001, 2006, 2011, 2016, 2021</i>	Inuvialuit communities, ISR, NWT, Yukon, Inuit Nunangat, full North, Canada	<i>Census of Population</i> (Statistics Canada)	Data received.
<i>Annualized Population Growth Rate (%) – General Population – Working-Age Population (15 Years or Older) – 2001, 2006, 2011, 2016, 2021</i>	Inuvialuit communities, ISR, NWT, Yukon, Inuit Nunangat, full North, Canada	<i>Population Estimates by Community – Community Population by Age Group</i> (NWT Bureau of Statistics), <i>Census of Population</i> (Statistics Canada)	Data received.
<i>High School Diploma or Greater (%) – Indigenous Population – 15 Years or Older – 2001, 2006, 2011, 2016</i>	Inuvialuit communities, ISR, NWT, Yukon, Inuit Nunangat, full North, Canada	<i>Census of Population – Aboriginal Population Profile</i> (Statistics Canada)	Data not received.
<i>Annualized Population Growth Rate (%) – Indigenous Population – Working-Age Population (15 Years or Older) – 2001, 2006, 2011, 2016, 2021</i>	Inuvialuit communities, ISR, NWT, Yukon, Inuit Nunangat, full North, Canada	<i>Population Estimates by Community – Community Population by Age Group</i> (NWT Bureau of Statistics), <i>Census of Population – Aboriginal Population Profile</i> (Statistics Canada)	Data received.

Note: Some indicators cannot be compared with other regions. Some data are suppressed in the Census of Population – Aboriginal Population Profiles due to small population sizes (e.g., Sachs Harbour). Statistics Canada has not set a date for the release of the 2021 Indigenous Population Profiles.

A5. Housing

Table A1.5 provides details on proposed housing indicators.

Table A5. - Housing Indicators

Indicator	Geography(s)	Data Source(s)	Data Status
<i>Households with 6 or More People (%) – All Households – 2001, 2004, 2006, 2009, 2011, 2014, 2019</i>	Inuvialuit communities, ISR, NWT	<i>Households with 6 or More People by Community</i> (NWT Bureau of Statistics)	Data received.
<i>Households in Core Need (%) – All Households – 2009, 2014, 2019</i>	Inuvialuit communities, ISR, NWT	<i>Historical Housing Problems and Core Need by Community</i> (NWT Bureau of Statistics)	Data received.
<i>Inadequate Housing (%) – All Households – 2009, 2014, 2019</i>	Inuvialuit communities, ISR, NWT	<i>Historical Housing Problems and Core Need by Community</i> (NWT Bureau of Statistics)	Data received.
<i>Home Ownership (%) – All Homes – 2001, 2004, 2006, 2009, 2011, 2014, 2019</i>	Inuvialuit communities, ISR, NWT	<i>Home Ownership by Community</i> (NWT Bureau of Statistics)	Data received.
<i>Owned Dwellings (%) – All Dwellings – 2001, 2006, 2011, 2016, 2021</i>	Inuvialuit communities, ISR, NWT, Yukon, Inuit Nunangat, full North, Canada	<i>Census of Population</i> (Statistics Canada)	Data received.
<i>Rented Dwellings (%) – All Dwellings – 2001, 2006, 2011, 2016, 2021</i>	Inuvialuit communities, ISR, NWT, Yukon, Inuit Nunangat, full North, Canada	<i>Census of Population</i> (Statistics Canada)	Data received.
<i>Homes Needing Major Repairs (%) – All Homes – 2001, 2004, 2006, 2009, 2011, 2014, 2019</i>	Inuvialuit communities, ISR, NWT	<i>Homes Needing Major Repairs by Community</i> (NWT Bureau of Statistics)	Data received.
<i>Dwellings Requiring Only Regular Maintenance or Minor Repairs (%) – All Dwellings – 2001, 2006, 2011, 2016, 2021</i>	Inuvialuit communities, ISR, NWT, Yukon, Inuit Nunangat, full North, Canada	<i>Census of Population</i> (Statistics Canada)	Data received.
<i>Dwellings Older than 50 Years (%) – All Dwellings – 2001, 2006, 2011, 2016, 2021</i>	Inuvialuit communities, ISR, NWT, Yukon, Inuit Nunangat, full North, Canada	<i>Census of Population</i> (Statistics Canada)	Data received.

Note: Some indicators cannot be compared with other regions.

A6. Labour

Table A1.6 provides details on proposed education indicators.

Table A6. – Labour Indicators

Indicator	Geography(s)	Data Source(s)	Data Status
<i>Participation Rate (%) – General Population – 15 Years or Older – 1999, 2004, 2006, 2009, 2011, 2014, 2016, 2019</i>	Inuvialuit communities. ISR, NWT	<i>Labour Force Characteristics by Community</i> (NWT Bureau of Statistics)	Data received.
<i>Participation Rate (%) – General Population – 15 Years or Older – By Sex – 2001, 2006, 2011, 2016, 2021</i>	Inuvialuit communities, ISR, NWT, Yukon, Inuit Nunangat, full North, Canada	<i>Census of Population</i> (Statistics Canada)	Data received.
<i>Participation Rate (%) – Indigenous Population – 15 Years or Older – By Sex – 2001, 2006, 2011, 2016</i>	Inuvialuit communities, ISR, NWT, Yukon, Inuit Nunangat, full North, Canada	<i>Census of Population – Aboriginal Population Profile</i> (Statistics Canada)	Data received.
<i>Employment Rate (%) – General Population – 15 Years or Older – 1999, 2004, 2006, 2009, 2011, 2014, 2016, 2019</i>	Inuvialuit communities. ISR, NWT	<i>Labour Force Characteristics by Community</i> (NWT Bureau of Statistics)	Data received.
<i>Employment Rate (%) – General Population – 15 Years or Older – By Sex – 2001, 2006, 2011, 2016, 2021</i>	Inuvialuit communities, ISR, NWT, Yukon, Inuit Nunangat, full North, Canada	<i>Census of Population</i> (Statistics Canada)	Data received.
<i>Employment Rate (%) – Indigenous Population – 15 Years or Older – By Sex – 2001, 2006, 2011, 2016</i>	Inuvialuit communities, ISR, NWT, Yukon, Inuit Nunangat, full North, Canada	<i>Census of Population – Aboriginal Population Profile</i> (Statistics Canada)	Data received.
<i>Unemployment Rate (%) – General Population – 15 Years or Older – 1999, 2004, 2006, 2009, 2011, 2014, 2016, 2019</i>	Inuvialuit communities. ISR, NWT	<i>Labour Force Characteristics by Community</i> (NWT Bureau of Statistics)	Data received.
<i>Unemployment Rate (%) – General Population – 15 Years or Older – By Sex – 2001, 2006, 2011, 2016, 2021</i>	Inuvialuit communities, ISR, NWT, Yukon, Inuit Nunangat, full North, Canada	<i>Census of Population</i> (Statistics Canada)	Data received.
<i>Unemployment Rate (%) – Indigenous Population – 15 Years or Older – By Sex – 2001, 2006, 2011, 2016</i>	Inuvialuit communities, ISR, NWT, Yukon, Inuit Nunangat, full North,	<i>Census of Population – Aboriginal Population Profile</i> (Statistics	Data received.

Indicator	Geography(s)	Data Source(s)	Data Status
	Canada	Canada)	
<i>Employment by Industry (%) – General Population – 15 Years or Older – By Sex – 2001, 2006, 2011, 2016, 2021</i>	Inuvialuit communities, ISR, NWT, Yukon, Inuit Nunangat, full North, Canada	<i>Census of Population</i> (Statistics Canada)	Data received.
<i>Employment by Industry (%) – Indigenous Population – 15 Years or Older – By Sex – 2001, 2006, 2011, 2016</i>	Inuvialuit communities, ISR, NWT, Yukon, Inuit Nunangat, full North, Canada	<i>Census of Population – Aboriginal Population Profile</i> (Statistics Canada)	Data not received.
<i>Employment by Occupation (%) – General Population – 15 Years or Older – By Sex – 2001, 2006, 2011, 2016, 2021</i>	Inuvialuit communities, ISR, NWT, Yukon, Inuit Nunangat, full North, Canada	<i>Census of Population</i> (Statistics Canada)	Data not received.
<i>Employment by Occupation (%) – Indigenous Population – 15 Years or Older – By Sex – 2001, 2006, 2011, 2016</i>	Inuvialuit communities, ISR, NWT, Yukon, Inuit Nunangat, full North, Canada	<i>Census of Population – Aboriginal Population Profile</i> (Statistics Canada)	Data not received.
<i>Annualized Population Growth Rate (%) – General Population – Working-Age Population (15 Years or Older) – 2001, 2006, 2011, 2016, 2021</i>	Inuvialuit communities, ISR, NWT, Yukon, Inuit Nunangat, full North, Canada	<i>Population Estimates by Community – Community Population by Age Group</i> (NWT Bureau of Statistics), <i>Census of Population</i> (Statistics Canada)	Data received.
<i>Employment Income (Median) – General Population – 15 Years or Older – 2001, 2006, 2011, 2016, 2021</i>	Inuvialuit communities, ISR, NWT, Yukon, Inuit Nunangat, full North, Canada	<i>Census of Population</i> (Statistics Canada)	Data received. The ISR and full North do not have estimates as medians cannot be aggregated.
<i>Employment Income (Median) – Indigenous Population – 15 Years or Older – 2006, 2011, 2016</i>	Inuvialuit communities, ISR, NWT, Yukon, Inuit Nunangat, full North, Canada	<i>Census of Population – Aboriginal Population Profile</i> (Statistics Canada)	Data not received.

Note: Some indicators cannot be compared with other regions. Some data are suppressed in the Census of Population – Aboriginal Population Profiles due to small population sizes (e.g., Sachs Harbour). Statistics Canada has not set a date for the release of the 2021 Indigenous Population Profiles.

Appendix B: Additional Figures & Tables

The following section includes supplementary figures and tables presenting socioeconomic trends and investment data.

B1. Demographic

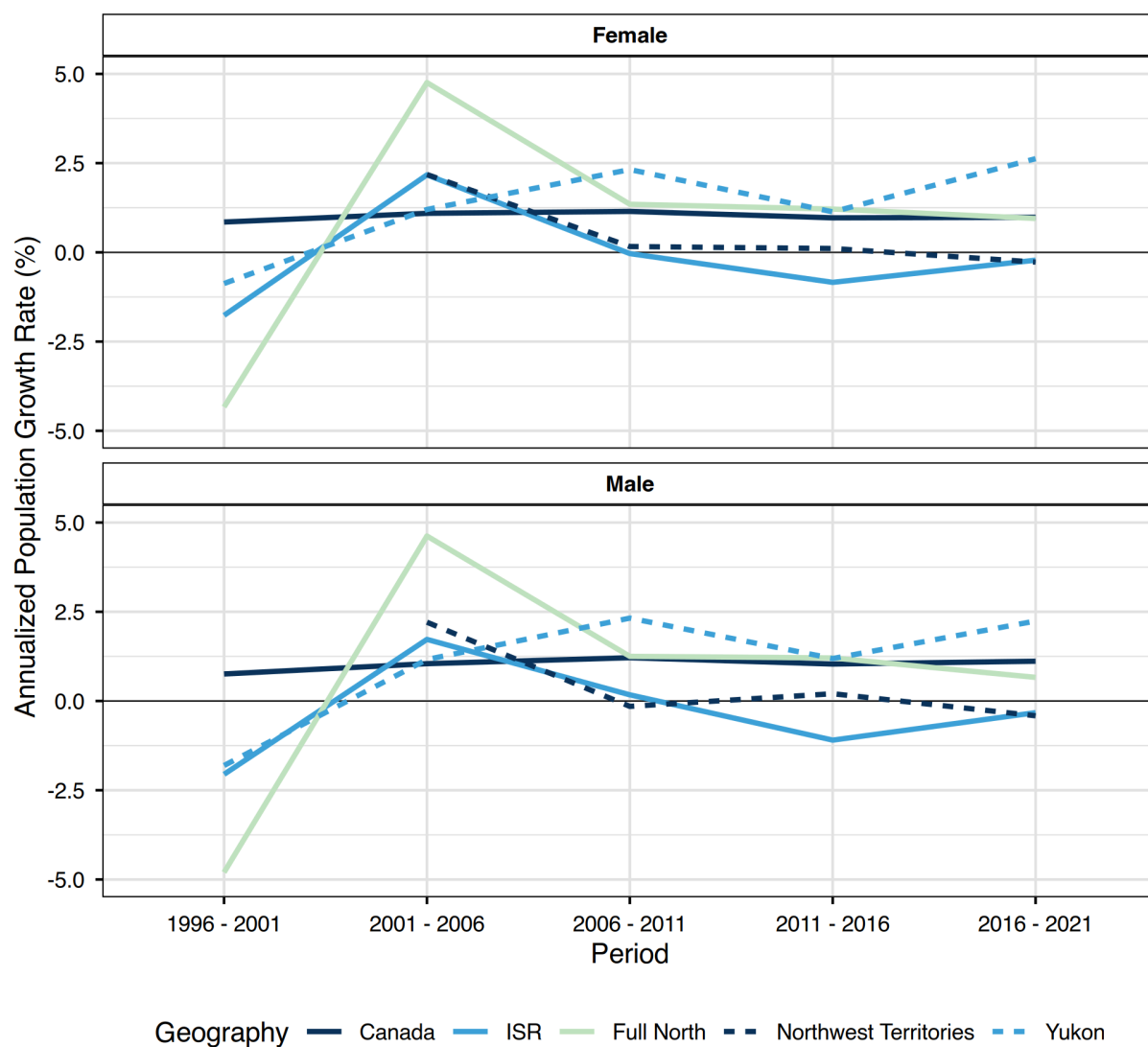
Table B1.1 and Figures B1.1 to B1.4 present demographic trends for the ISR, Canada, NWT, Yukon, Full North, Inuit Nunangat, and ISR communities from 1996 to 2001.

Table B1.1. Total and Inuit Populations by ISR Communities, 2001 and 2021

Regions	2001		2021		Change
	Total (#)	Inuit (%)	Total (#)	Inuit (%)	Change in % Inuit (p.p.)
Aklavik	625	60.0	535	59.8	-0.2
Inuvik	2,855	36.8	3,035	41.4	4.6
Paulatuk	285	-	290	93.1	-
Sachs Harbour	115	-	105	90.5	-
Tuktoyaktuk	930	90.3	920	88.6	-1.7
Ulukhaktok	395	94.9	405	93.8	-1.1
ISR	5,250	-	5,310	59.2	-

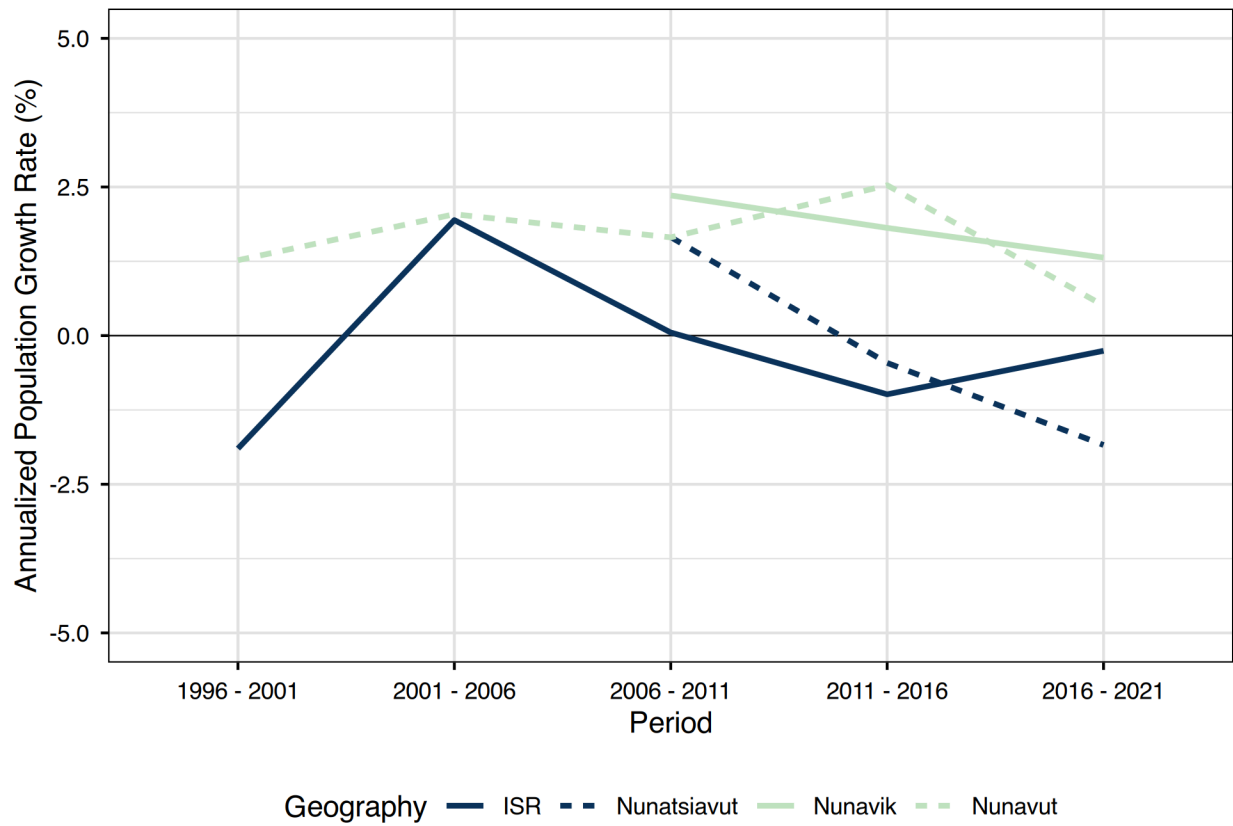
Source: Custom Request, 1996 - 2021 Census, Statistics Canada. 2001 APS and 2021 IPS. Note: Total and Inuit counts are based on private dwellings. No data are available for Paulatuk and Sachs Harbour in 2001 due to small population counts. No comparable regional data is available for the ISR.

Figure B1.1. Annualized Population Growth by Sex, Canada, NWT, Yukon, ISR, & Full North, 1996 to 2021



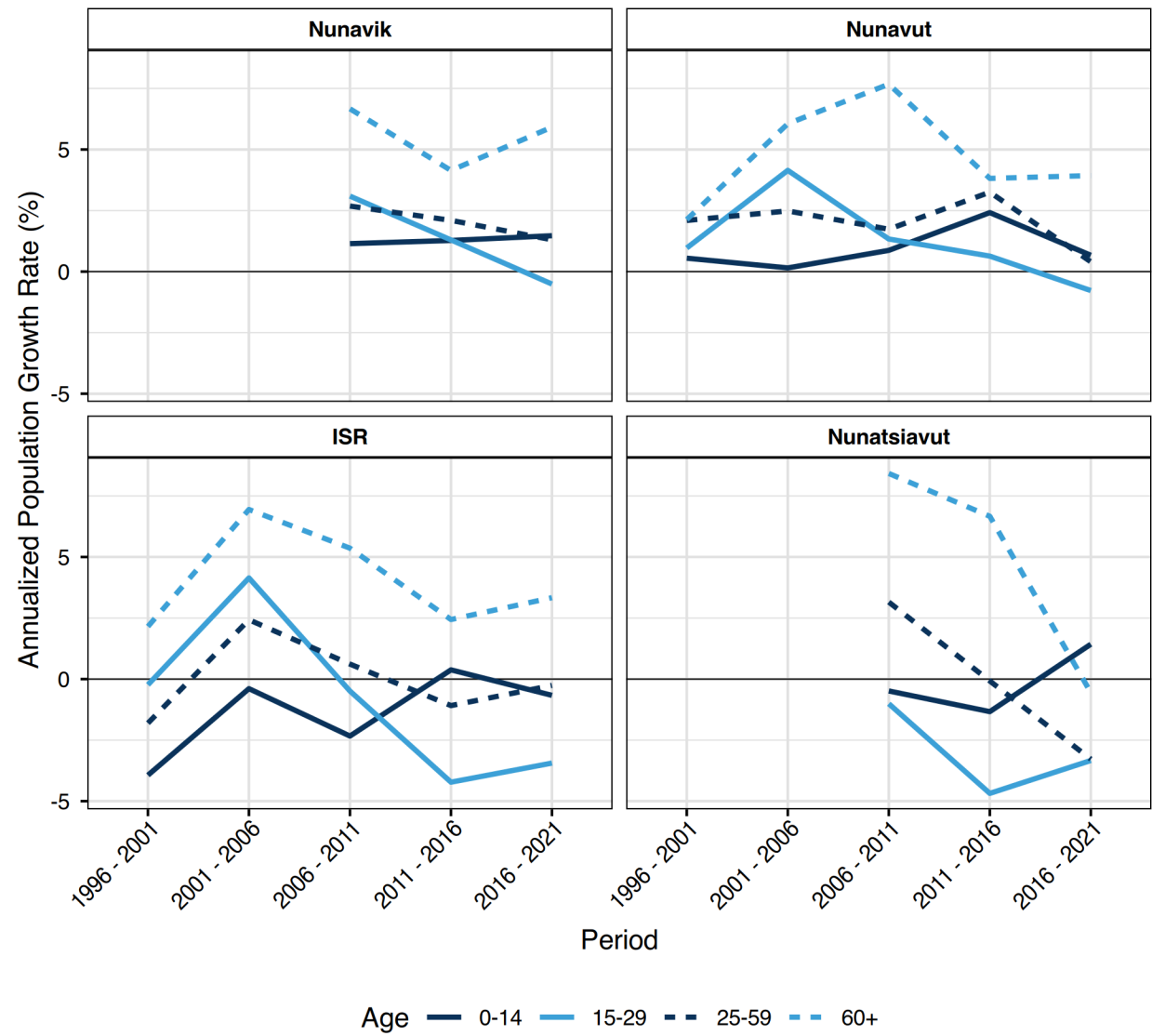
Source: Custom Request, 1996 - 2021 Census, Statistics Canada.

Figure B1.2. Annualized Population Growth, ISR, Nunatsiavut, Nunavik, & Nunavut, 1996 to 2021



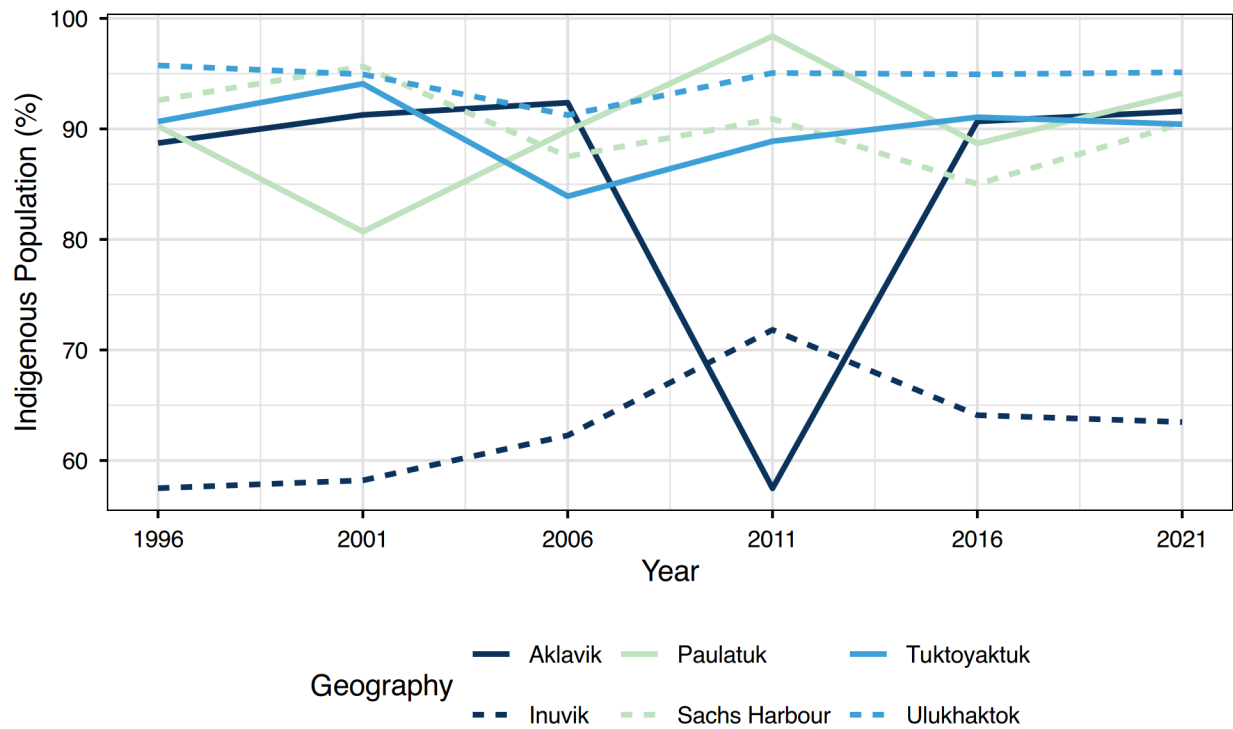
Source: Custom Request, 1996 - 2021 Census, Statistics Canada.

Figure B1.3. Annualized Population Growth by Age Group, ISR, Nunatsiavut, Nunavik, & Nunavut, 1996 to 2021



Source: Custom Request, 1996 - 2021 Census, Statistics Canada.

Figure B1.4. Percent of Total Population that is Indigenous, ISR Communities, 1996 to 2021

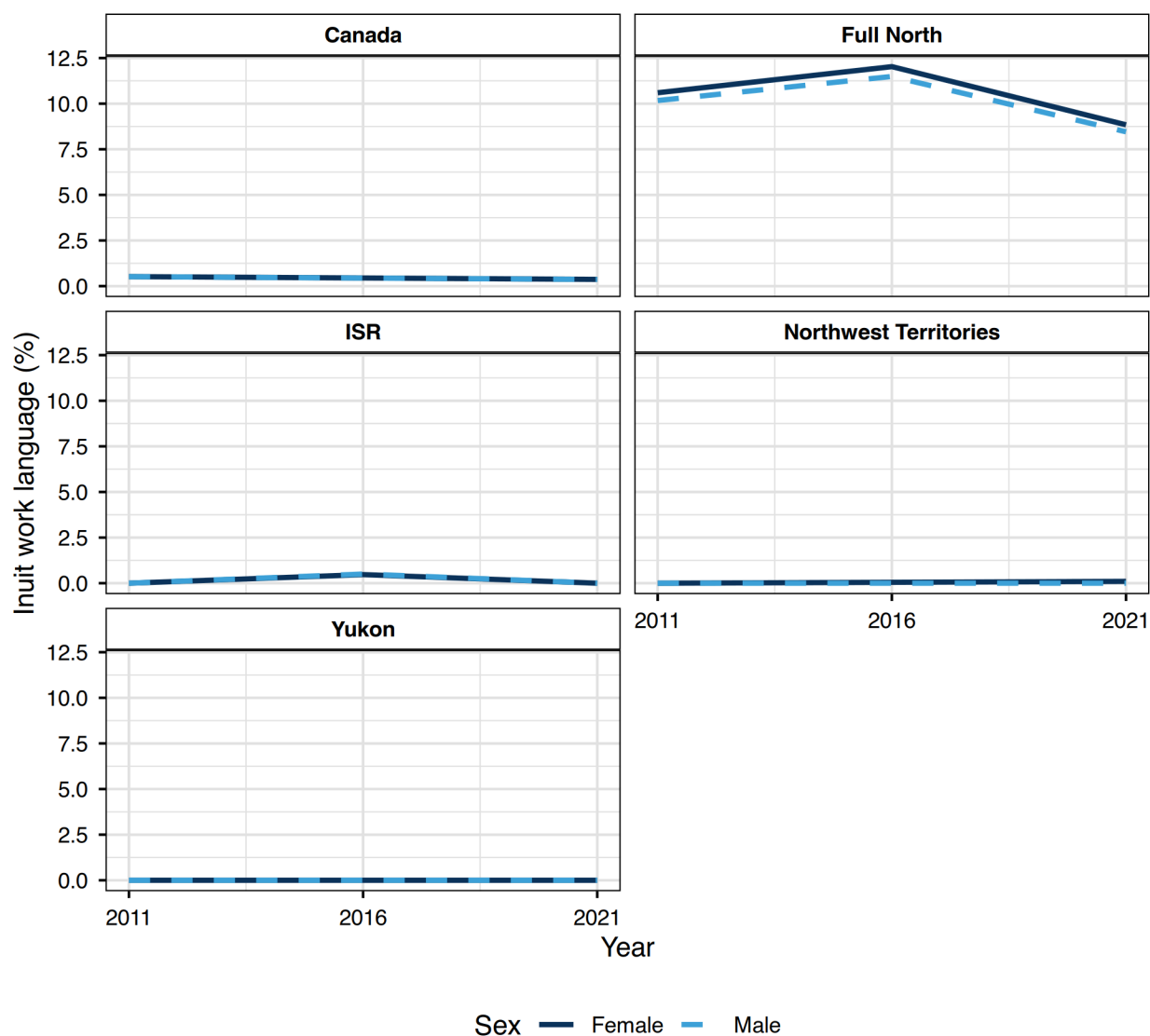


Source: Custom Request, 1996 - 2021 Census, Statistics Canada. Note: Drop in 2011 for Aklavik may be due to a problem with a lower response rate with the 2011 National Household Survey.

B2. Cultural

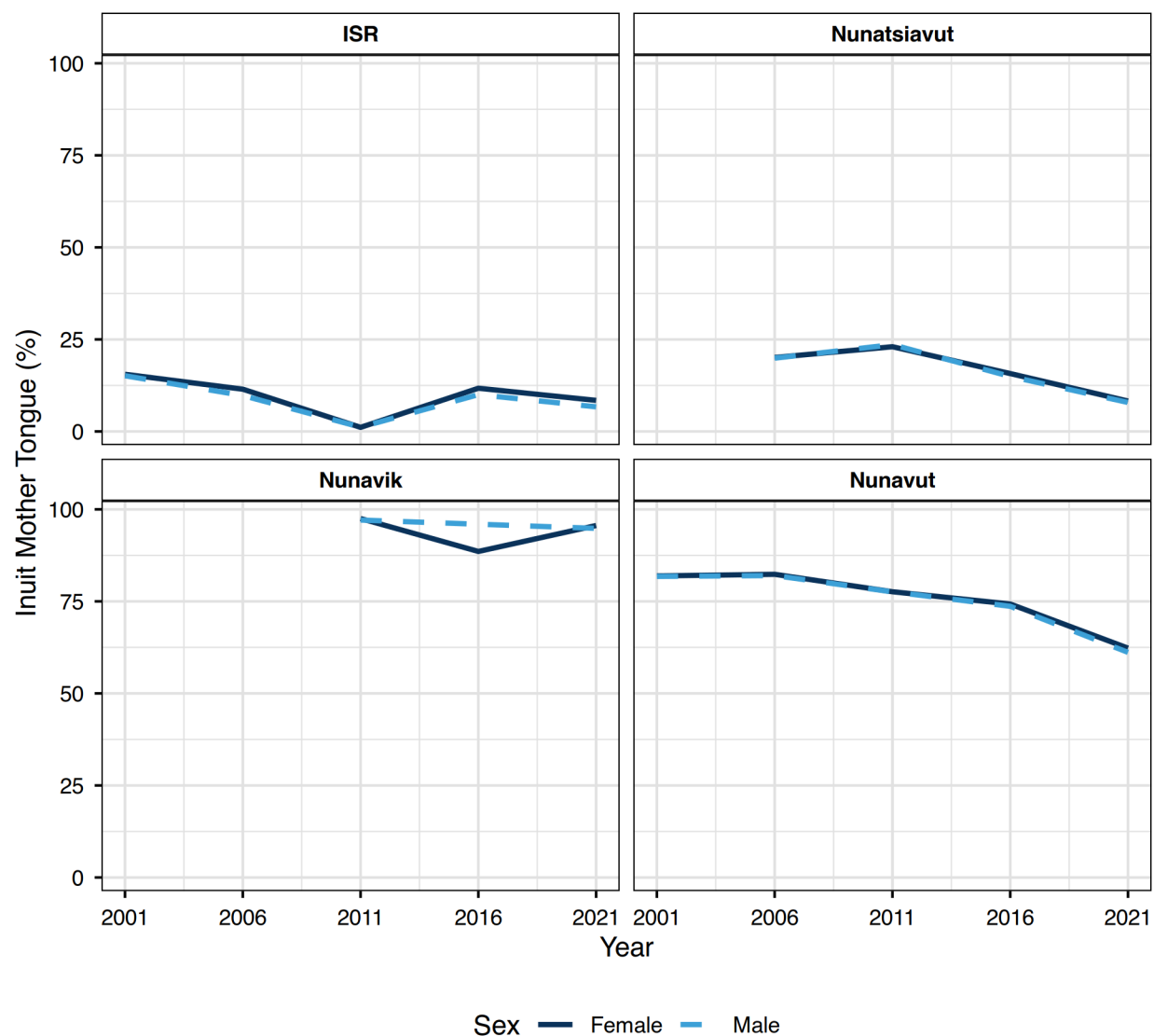
Figures B2.1 to B2.4 present trends in Inuit language use at work in the ISR, Canada, NWT, Yukon, Inuit Nunangat, and ISR communities from 2001 to 2021.

Figure B2.1. Percent of Indigenous Persons Who Speak an Inuit Language at Work, Canada, Full North, ISR, NWT & Yukon, 2011 to 2021



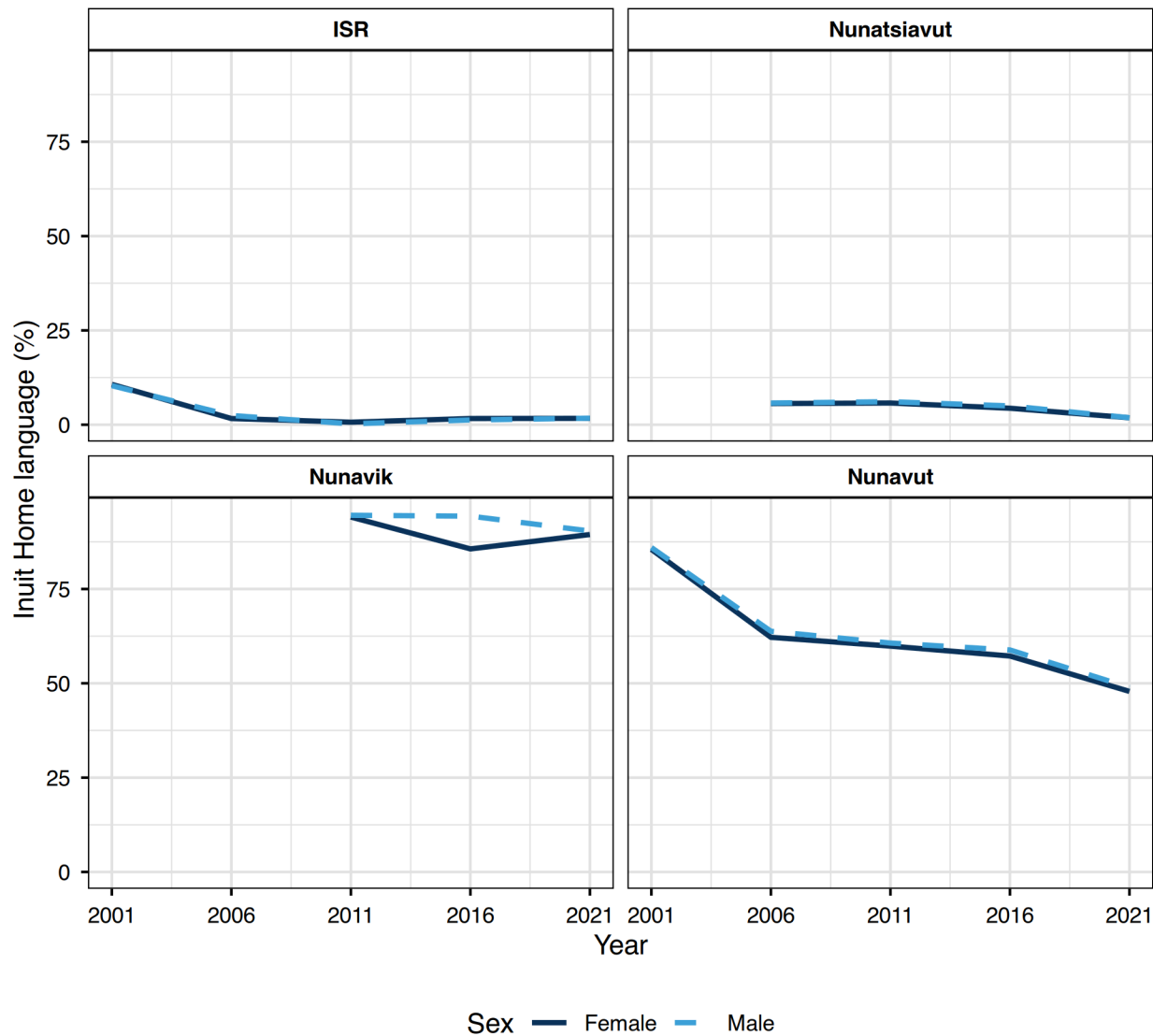
Source: Custom Request, 1996 - 2021 Census, Statistics Canada.

Figure B2.2. Percent of Indigenous Persons whose Mother Tongue is an Inuit Language, ISR, Nunatsiavut, Nunavik, & Nunavut, 2001 to 2021



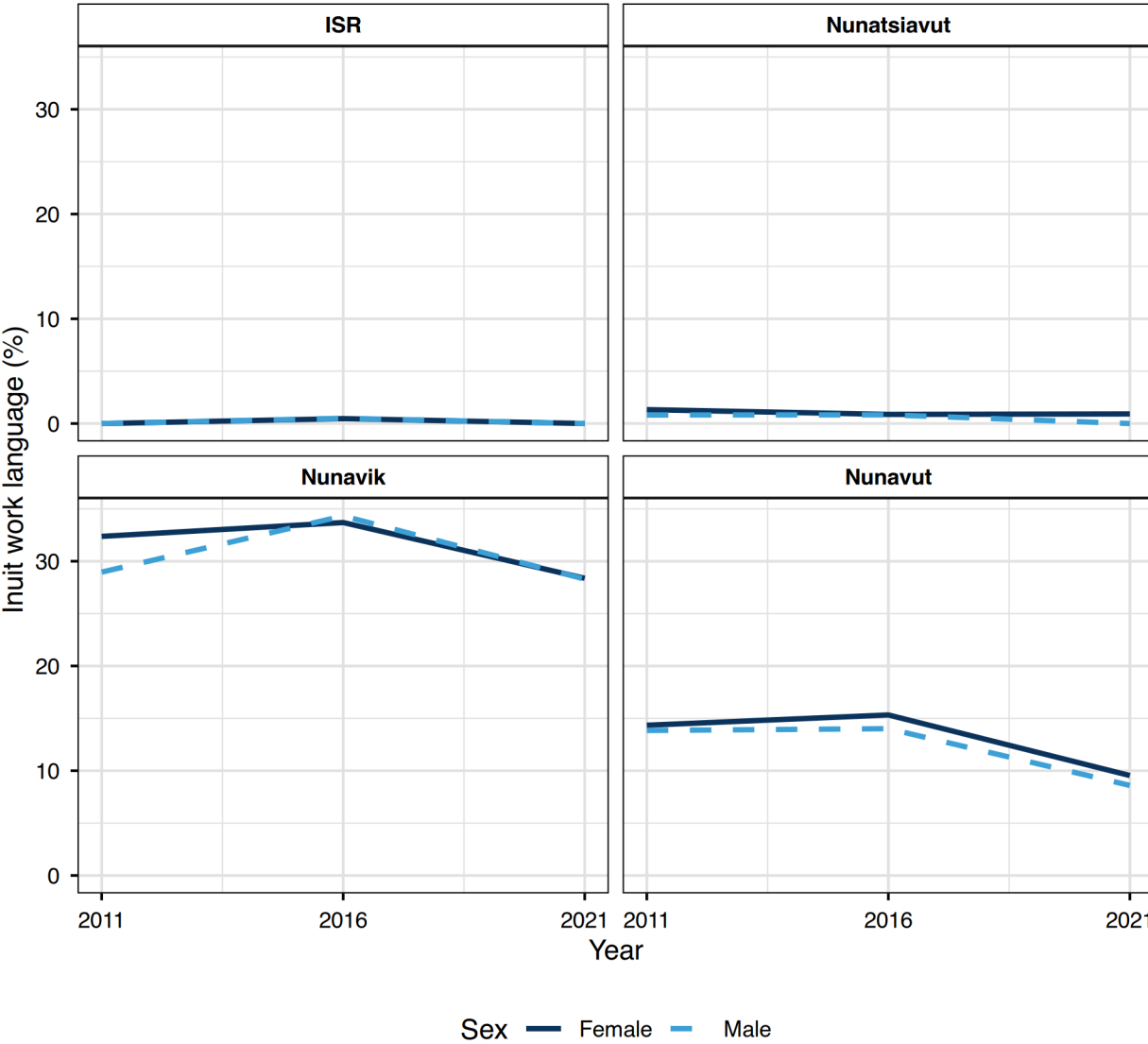
Source: Custom Request, 1996 - 2021 Census, Statistics Canada. Note: 2011 data may not be reliable.

Figure B2.3. Percent of Indigenous Persons who Speak an Inuit Language at Home, ISR, Nunatsiavut, Nunavik, & Nunavut, 2001 to 2021



Source: Custom Request, 1996 - 2021 Census, Statistics Canada.

Figure B2.4. Percent of Indigenous Persons Who Speak an Inuit Language at Work, ISR, Nunatsiavut, Nunavik, & Nunavut, 2011 to 2021



Source: Custom Request, 1996 - 2021 Census, Statistics Canada.

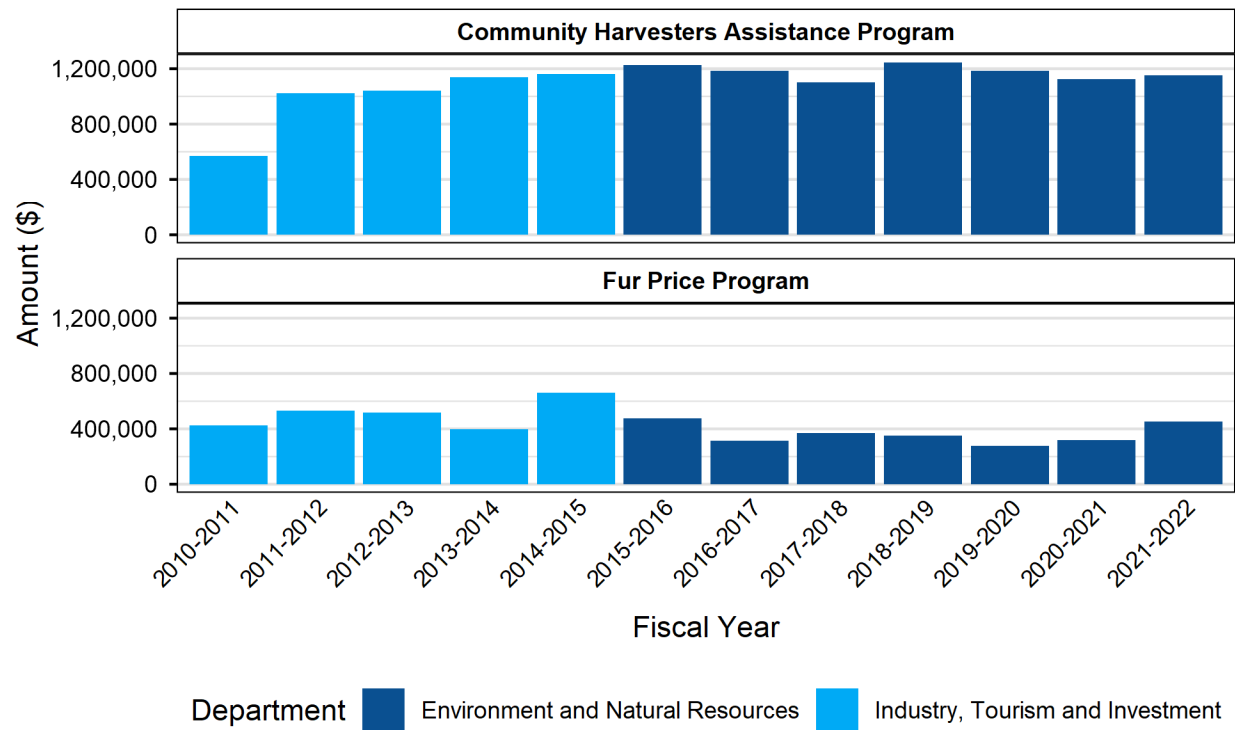
Table B2.1. Percent of Indigenous Persons Who Speak an Inuit Language at Work, ISR Communities, 2011 to 2021

Sex	Region	2011	2016	2021
Female	Aklavik	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
	Inuvik	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
	Paulatuk	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
	Sachs Harbour	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
	Tuktoyaktuk	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
	Ulukhaktok	0.00%	5.13%	0.00%
Male	Aklavik	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
	Inuvik	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
	Paulatuk	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
	Sachs Harbour	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
	Tuktoyaktuk	0.00%	2.35%	0.00%
	Ulukhaktok	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%

Source: Custom Request, 1996 - 2021 Census, Statistics Canada.

Figure B2.5 shows funding data for the Genuine Mackenzie Valley Program from 2010 to 2022.

Figure B2.5. Genuine Mackenzie Valley & Community Harvesters Assistance Program, Public Accounts, 2010 to 2022

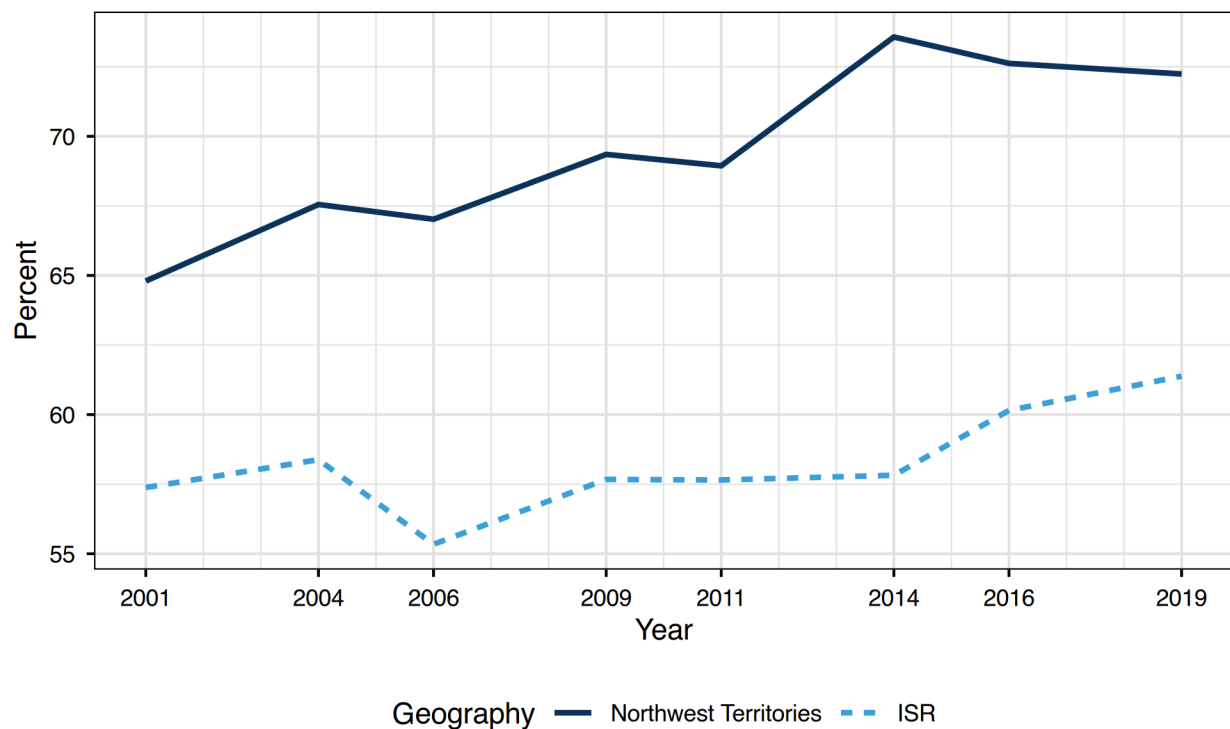


Source: Government of NWT.

B3. Education

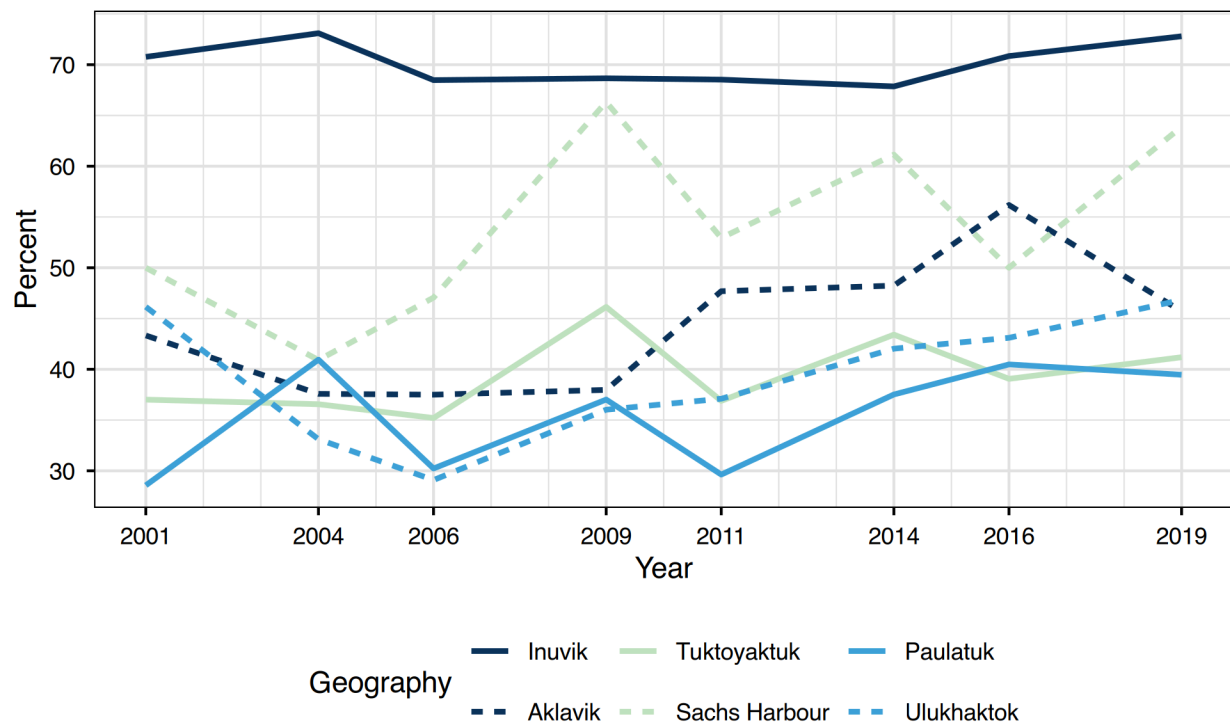
Figures B3.1 and B3.2 show trends in high school completion in the ISR, NWT, and ISR communities from 2001 to 2019.

Figure B3.1. Percent of Persons that Have Completed High School, ISR & NWT, 2001 to 2019



Source: NWT Bureau of Statistics.

Figure B3.2. Percent of Persons that Have Completed High School,
ISR Communities, 2001 to 2019

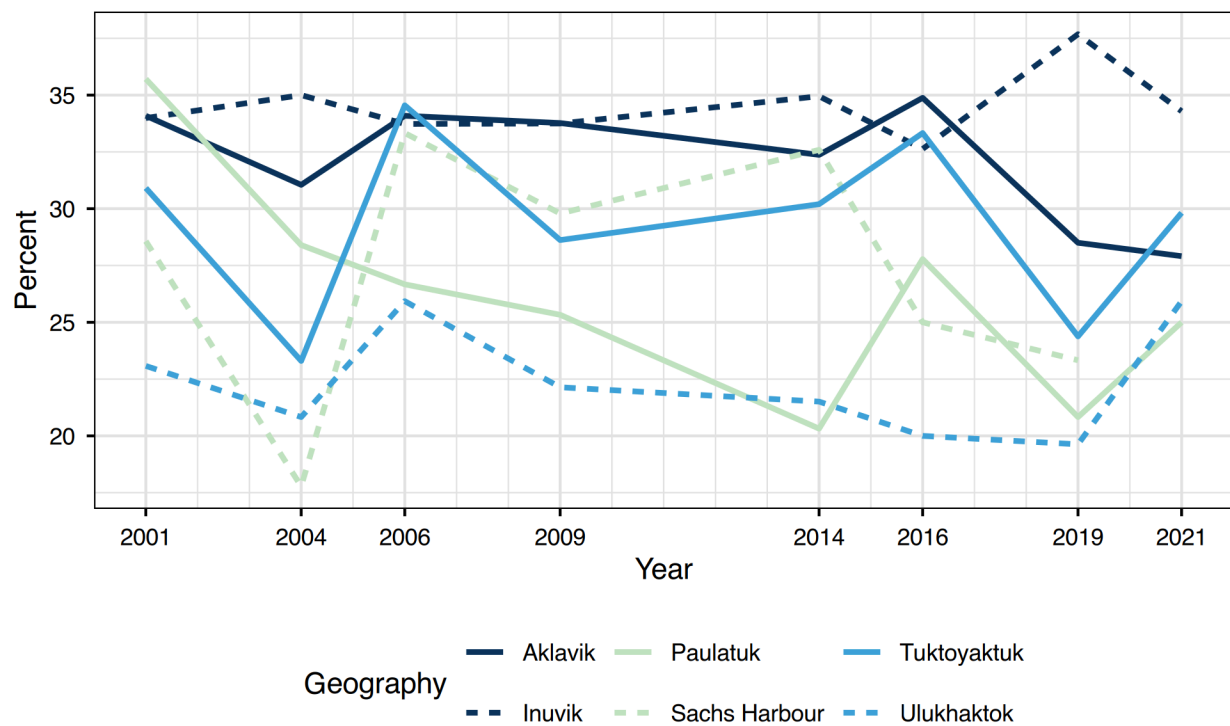


Source: NWT Bureau of Statistics.

B4. Housing

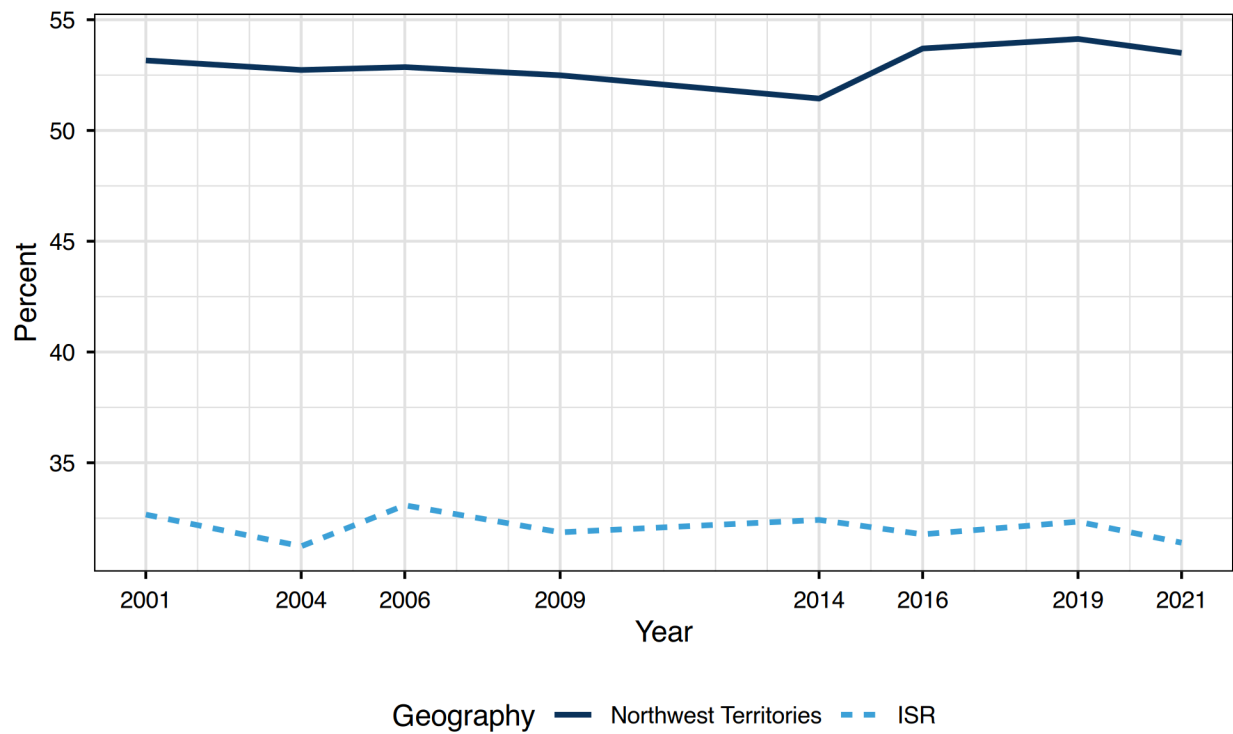
Figures B4.1 to B4.6 show trends in housing tenure and adequacy in the ISR, NWT, Canada, Yukon, Inuit Nunangat, and ISR communities from 2001 to 2021.

Figure B4.1. Percent of Households Owned, ISR Communities, 2001 to 2021



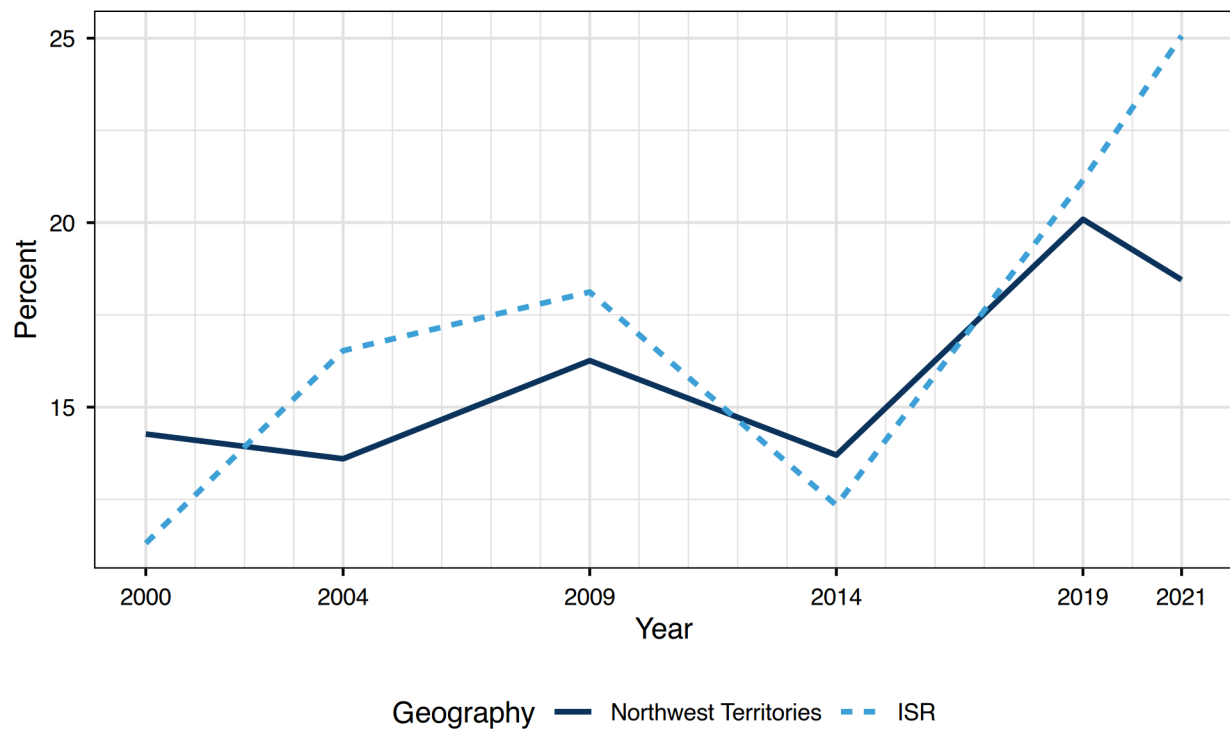
Source: NWT Bureau of Statistics. Note: Results from 2004, 2009, 2014, and 2019 are collected from the NWT Community Housing Survey and in some communities are only a sample of the population.

Figure B4.2. Percent of Households Owned, ISR & NWT, 2001 to 2021



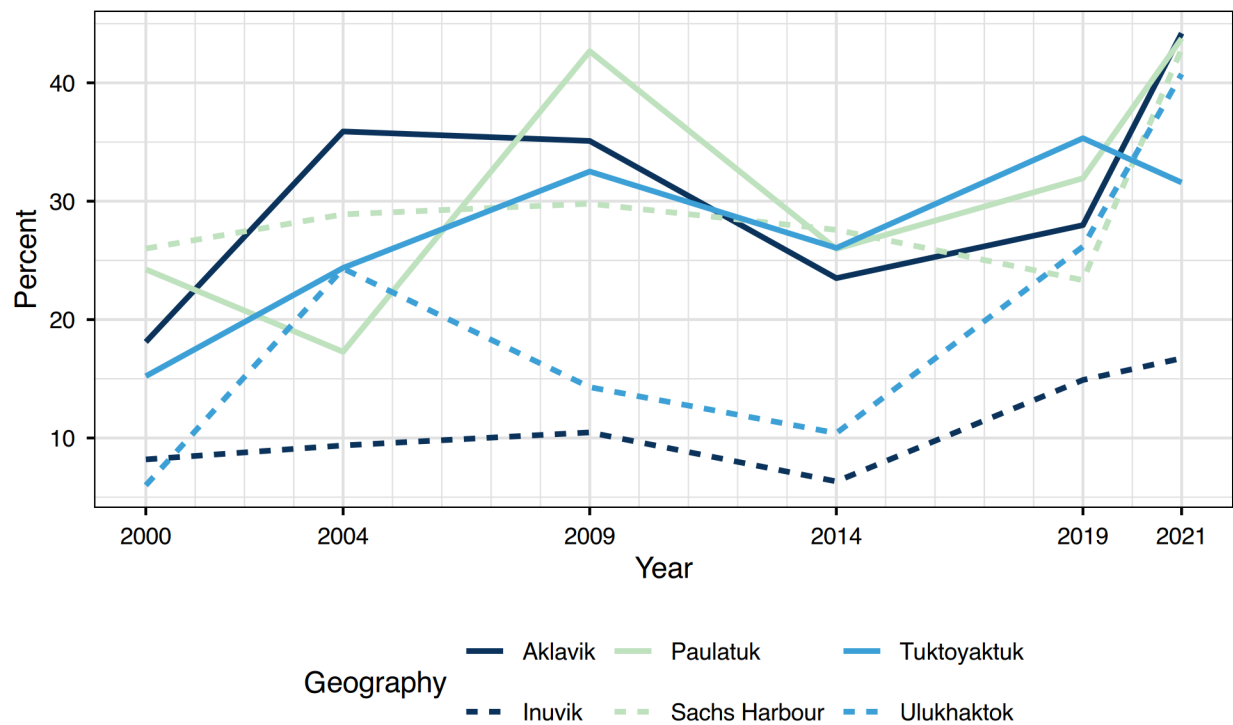
Source: NWT Bureau of Statistics.

Figure B4.3. Percent of Households with Adequacy Problem, ISR & NWT, 2000 to 2021



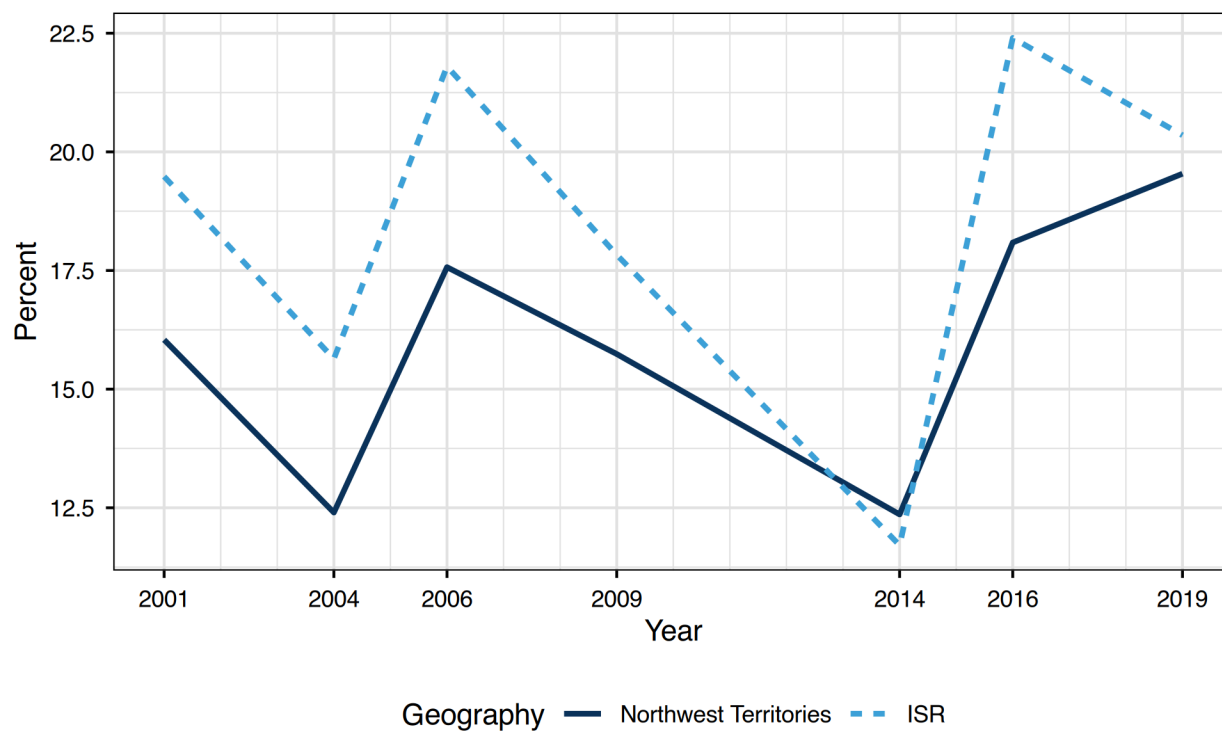
Source: NWT Bureau of Statistics.

Figure B4.4. Percent of Households with Adequacy Problem, ISR Communities, 2000 to 2021



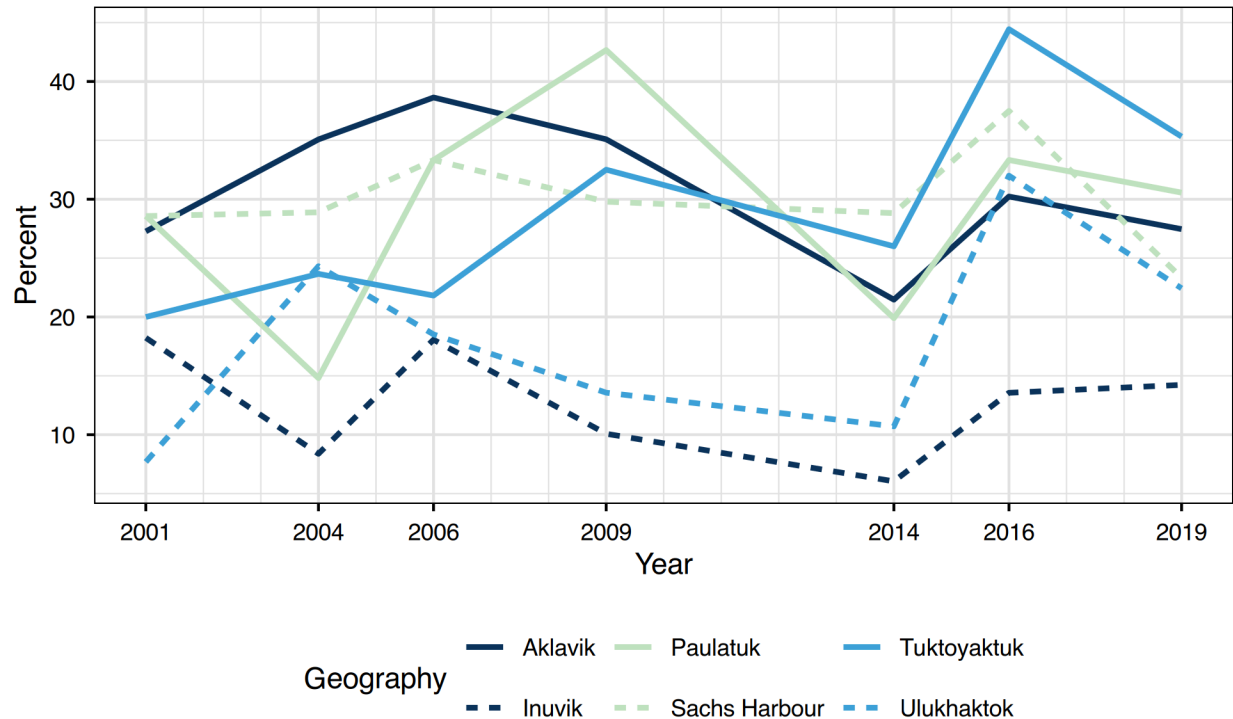
Source: NWT Bureau of Statistics.

Figure B4.5. Percent of Households in Need of Major Repairs,
ISR & NWT, 2001 to 2019



Source: NWT Bureau of Statistics.

Figure B4.6. Percent of Households in Need of Major Repairs,
ISR Communities, 2001 to 2019



Source: NWT Bureau of Statistics. Note: Changes in smaller communities may appear larger due to random rounding.

B5. Labour

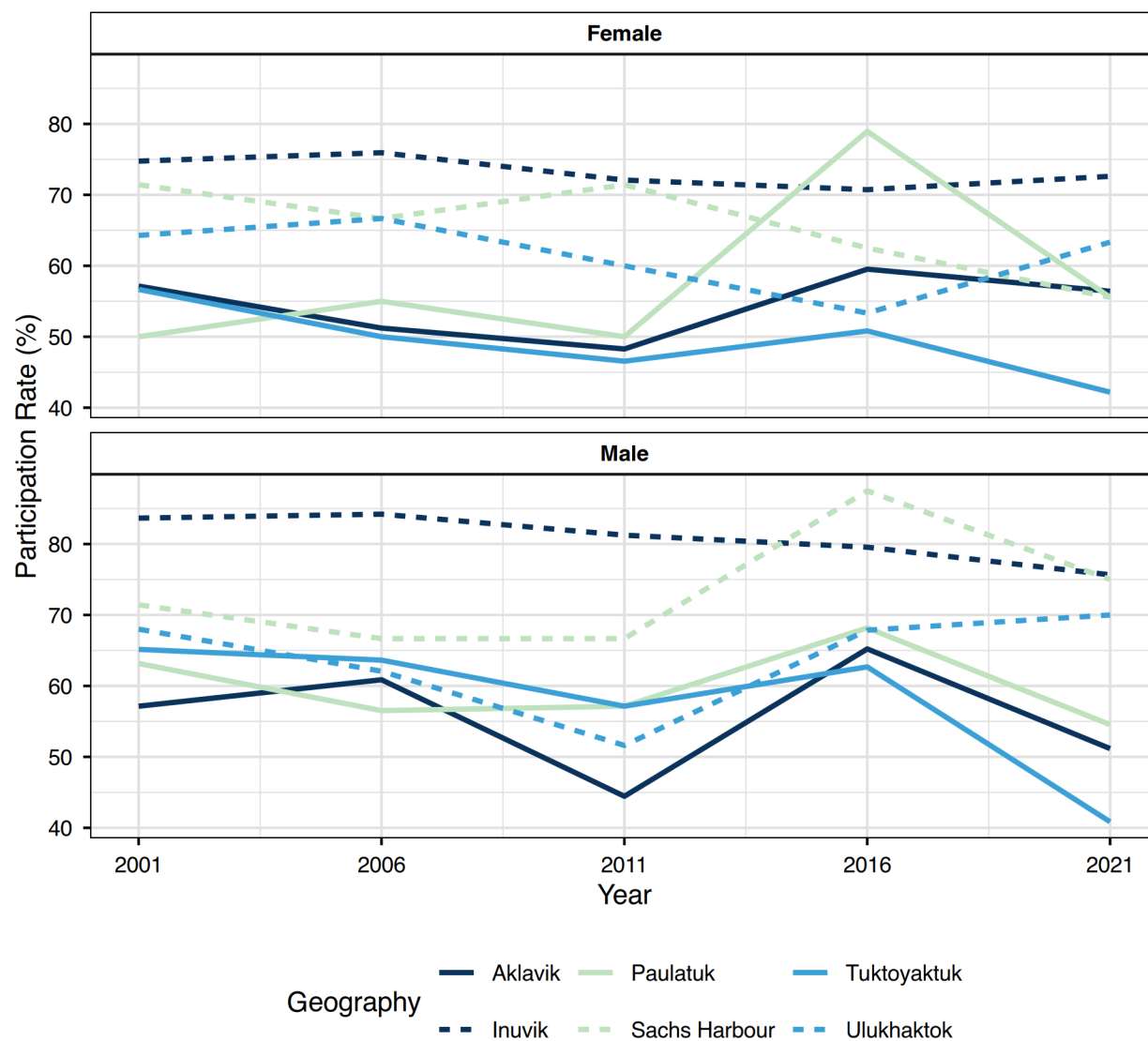
Tables B5.1 to B5.5 and Figures B5.1 to B5.6 show trends in labour force statistics in ISR communities and Inuit Nunangat from 2001 to 2021.

Table B5.1. Working-Age Population and Population Not in the Labour Force, ISR Communities, 2001 to 2021

Region	Sex	2001		2006		2011		2016		2021	
		Total 15+ pop.	Not in labour force	Total 15+ pop.	Not in labour force	Total 15+ pop.	Not in labour force	Total 15+ pop.	Not in labour force	Total 15+ pop.	Not in labour force
Aklaavik	Male	245	100	230	95	180	95	230	80	215	110
	Female	210	95	205	100	145	75	210	85	195	85
Inuvik	Male	1040	165	1235	195	1360	255	1125	225	1130	280
	Female	1030	255	1330	325	1415	390	1230	360	1205	330
Paulatuk	Male	95	30	115	50	140	60	110	35	110	55
	Female	80	45	100	40	130	65	95	25	90	35
Sachs Harbour	Male	35	15	45	15	45	15	40	10	40	0
	Female	35	10	45	15	35	15	40	15	45	20
Tuktoyaktuk	Male	330	120	330	115	315	140	335	125	355	205
	Female	300	130	300	150	290	155	305	155	320	175
Ulukhaktok	Male	125	40	145	55	155	75	140	45	150	50
	Female	140	55	135	40	150	60	150	65	150	60

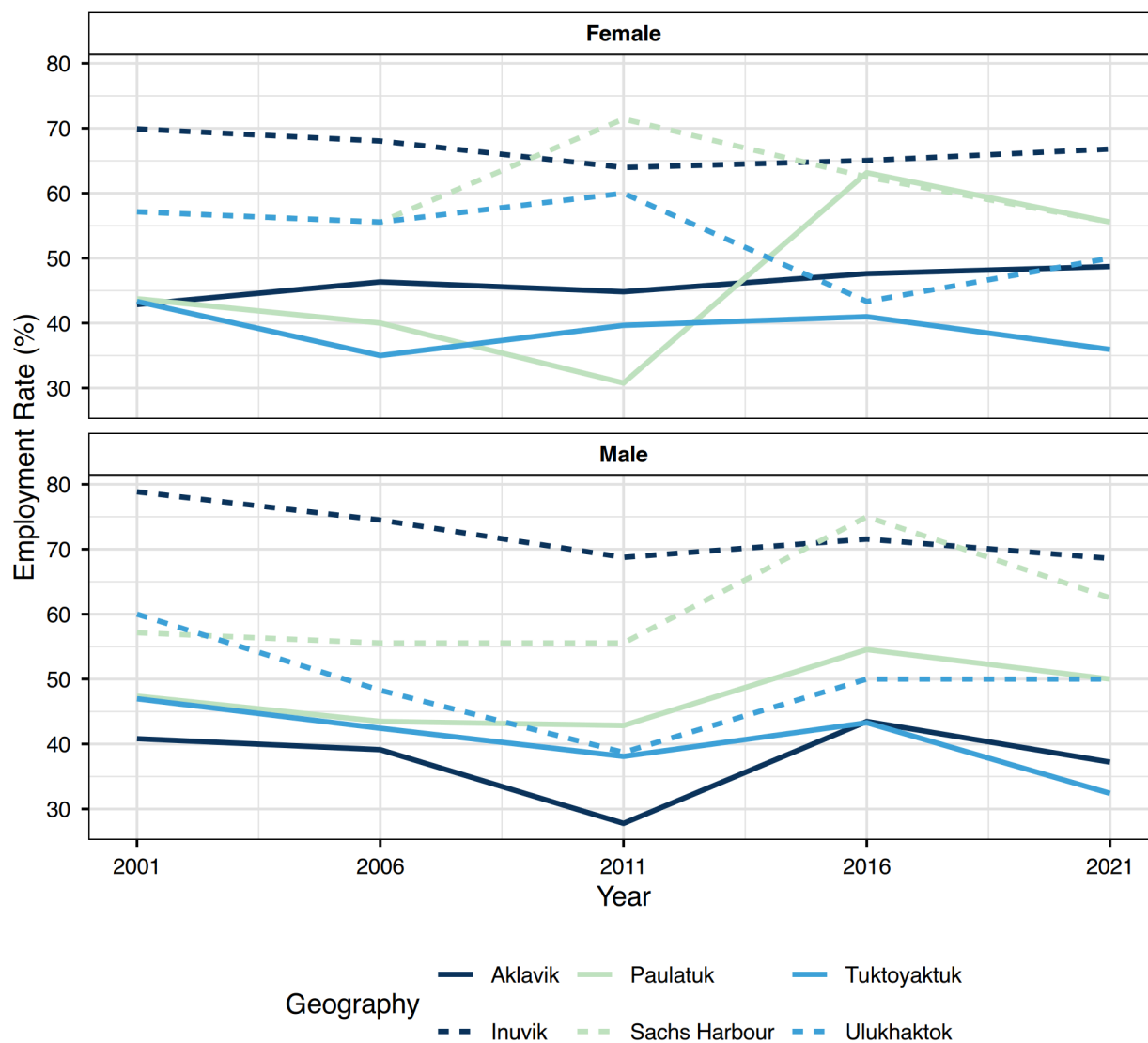
Source: Custom Request, 1996 - 2021 Census, Statistics Canada.

Figure B5.1. Labour Force Participation Rate by Sex,
ISR Communities, 2001 to 2021



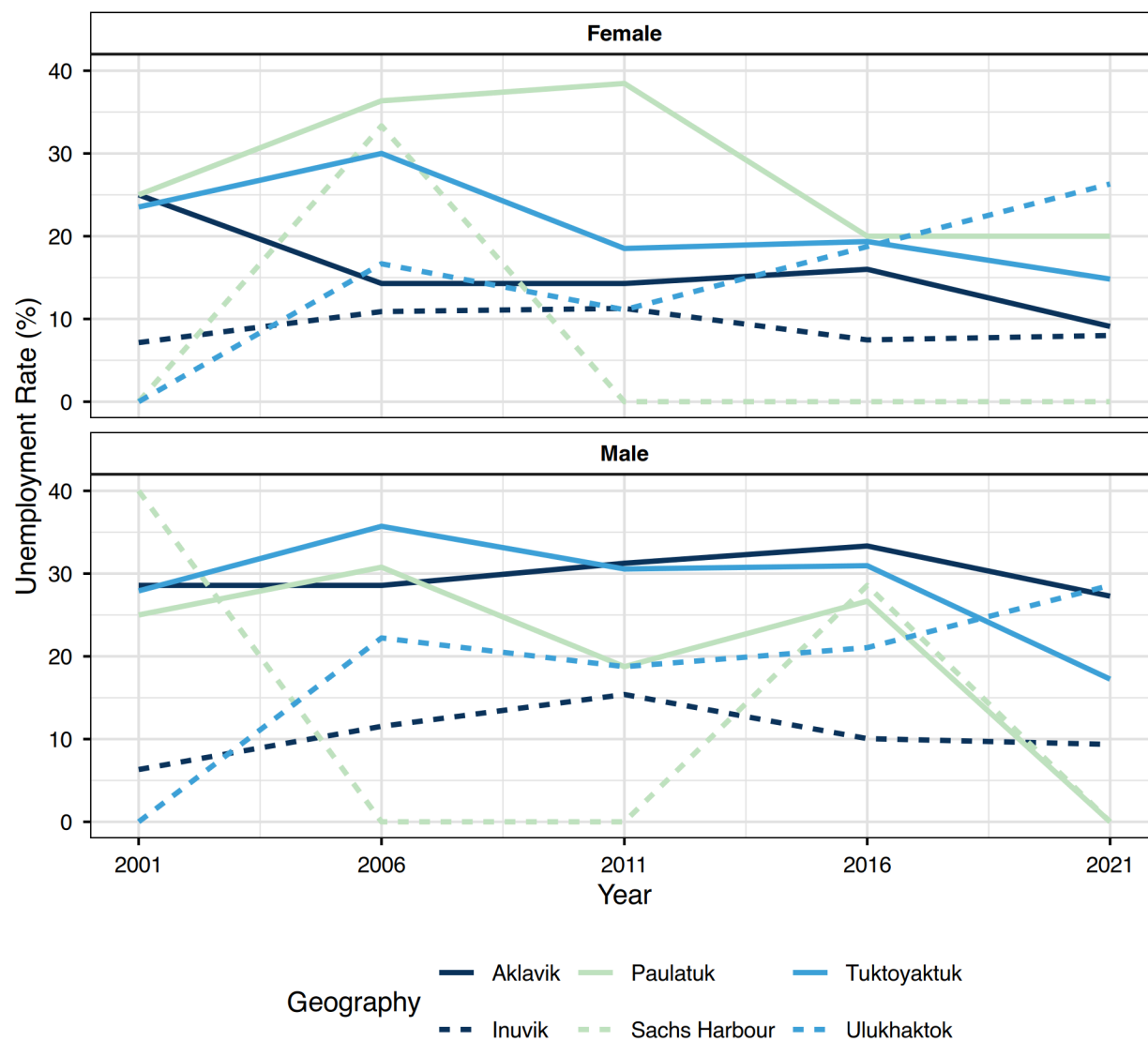
Source: Custom Request, 1996 - 2021 Census, Statistics Canada. Note: In smaller communities, changes in participation rates may appear larger than changes in the number of people employed due to random rounding; that is, a 5 person increase in the number of people in the labour force may reflect random rounding to protect individuals privacy.

Figure B5.2. Population Employment Rate by Sex,
ISR Communities, 2001 to 2021



Source: Custom Request, 1996 - 2021 Census, Statistics Canada. Note: In smaller communities, changes in employment rates may appear larger than changes in the number of people employed due to random rounding; that is, a 5 person increase in the number of people employed may reflect random rounding to protect individuals privacy.

Figure B5.3. Population Unemployment Rate by Sex,
ISR Communities, 2001 to 2021



Source: Custom Request, 1996 - 2021 Census, Statistics Canada. Note: In smaller communities, changes in unemployment rates may appear larger than changes in the number of people unemployed due to random rounding; that is, a 5 person increase in the number of people employed may reflect random rounding to protect individuals privacy.

Table B5.2 Indigenous Participation, Employment, and Unemployment Rates by Sex, ISR Communities, 2006

Region	Sex	Participation Rate (%)	Employment Rate (%)	Unemployment Rate (%)
		Indigenous	Indigenous	Indigenous
Paulatuk	Male	52.4	38.1	52.4
	Female	58.8	35.3	58.8
Inuvik	Male	75.4	58.5	75.4
	Female	68.3	56.9	68.3
Aklavik	Male	58.1	37.2	58.1
	Female	50.0	44.7	50.0
Tuktoyaktuk	Male	62.5	39.3	62.5
	Female	46.9	30.6	46.9
Sachs Harbour	Male	0	0	0.0
	Female	0	0	0
Ulukhaktok	Male	58.3	45.8	58.3
	Female	68.0	56.0	68.0

Source: Custom Request, 1996 - 2021 Census, Statistics Canada.

**Table B5.3 Labour Force Count and Participation Rate by Sex,
ISR Communities, 2001 to 2021**

Region		2001	2006	2011	2016	2021
Female						
Aklavik	Count	120	105	70	125	110
	Rate	57.1	51.2	48.3	59.5	56.4
Inuvik	Count	770	1,010	1,020	870	875
	Rate	74.8	75.9	72.1	70.7	72.6
Paulatuk	Count	40	55	65	75	50
	Rate	50.0	55.0	50.0	78.9	55.6
Sachs Harbour	Count	25	30	25	25	25
	Rate	71.4	66.7	71.4	62.5	55.6
Tuktoyaktuk	Count	170	150	135	155	135
	Rate	56.7	50.0	46.6	50.8	42.2
Ulukhaktok	Count	90	90	90	80	95
	Rate	64.3	66.7	60.0	53.3	63.3
Male						
Aklavik	Count	140	140	80	150	110
	Rate	57.1	60.9	44.4	65.2	51.2
Inuvik	Count	870	1,040	1,105	895	855
	Rate	83.7	84.2	81.3	79.6	75.7
Paulatuk	Count	60	65	80	75	60
	Rate	63.2	56.5	57.1	68.2	54.5
Sachs Harbour	Count	25	30	30	35	30
	Rate	71.4	66.7	66.7	87.5	75.0
Tuktoyaktuk	Count	215	210	180	210	145
	Rate	65.2	63.6	57.1	62.7	40.8
Ulukhaktok	Count	85	90	80	95	105
	Rate	68.0	62.1	51.6	67.9	70.0

Source: Custom Request, 1996 - 2021 Census, Statistics Canada.

Table B5.4. Number of People Employed and Employment Rate by Sex,
ISR Communities, 2001 to 2021

Region		2001	2006	2011	2016	2021
Female						
Aklavik	Count	90	95	65	100	95
	Rate	42.9	46.3	44.8	47.6	48.7
Inuvik	Count	720	905	905	800	805
	Rate	69.9	68.0	64.0	65.0	66.8
Paulatuk	Count	35	40	40	60	50
	Rate	43.8	40.0	30.8	63.2	55.6
Sachs Harbour	Count	20	25	25	25	25
	Rate	57.1	55.6	71.4	62.5	55.6
Tuktoyaktuk	Count	130	105	115	125	115
	Rate	43.3	35.0	39.7	41.0	35.9
Ulukhaktok	Count	80	75	90	65	75
	Rate	57.1	55.6	60.0	43.3	50.0
Male						
Aklavik	Count	100	90	50	100	80
	Rate	40.8	39.1	27.8	43.5	37.2
Inuvik	Count	820	920	935	805	775
	Rate	78.8	74.5	68.8	71.6	68.6
Paulatuk	Count	45	50	60	60	55
	Rate	47.4	43.5	42.9	54.5	50.0
Sachs Harbour	Count	20	25	25	30	25
	Rate	57.1	55.6	55.6	75.0	62.5
Tuktoyaktuk	Count	155	140	120	145	115
	Rate	47.0	42.4	38.1	43.3	32.4
Ulukhaktok	Count	75	70	60	70	75
	Rate	60.0	48.3	38.7	50.0	50.0

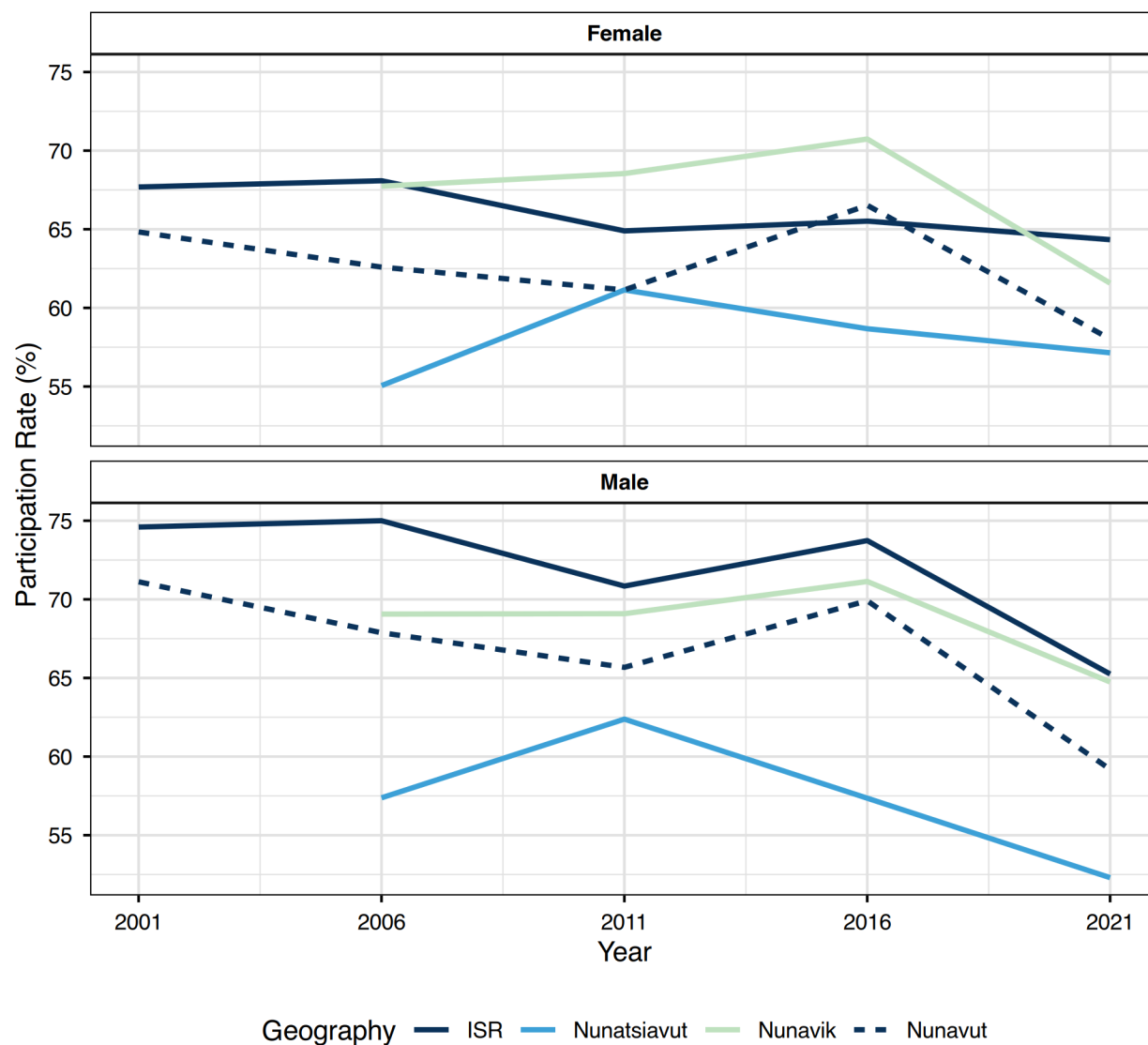
Source: Custom Request, 1996 - 2021 Census, Statistics Canada.

**Table B5.5. Number of People Unemployed and Unemployment Rate
by Sex, ISR Communities, 2001 to 2021**

Region		2001	2006	2011	2016	2021
Female						
Aklavik	Count	30	15	10	20	10
	Rate	25.0	14.3	14.3	16.0	9.1
Inuvik	Count	55	110	115	65	70
	Rate	7.1	10.9	11.3	7.5	8.0
Paulatuk	Count	10	20	25	15	10
	Rate	25.0	36.4	38.5	20.0	20.0
Sachs Harbour	Count	0	10	0	0	0
	Rate	0.0	33.3	0.0	0.0	0.0
Tuktoyaktuk	Count	40	45	25	30	20
	Rate	23.5	30.0	18.5	19.4	14.8
Ulukhaktok	Count	0	15	10	15	25
	Rate	0.0	16.7	11.1	18.8	26.3
Male						
Aklavik	Count	40	40	25	50	30
	Rate	28.6	28.6	31.3	33.3	27.3
Inuvik	Count	55	120	170	90	80
	Rate	6.3	11.5	15.4	10.1	9.4
Paulatuk	Count	15	20	15	20	0
	Rate	25.0	30.8	18.8	26.7	0.0
Sachs Harbour	Count	10	0	0	10	0
	Rate	40.0	0.0	0.0	28.6	0.0
Tuktoyaktuk	Count	60	75	55	65	25
	Rate	27.9	35.7	30.6	31.0	17.2
Ulukhaktok	Count	0	20	15	20	30
	Rate	0.0	22.2	18.8	21.1	28.6

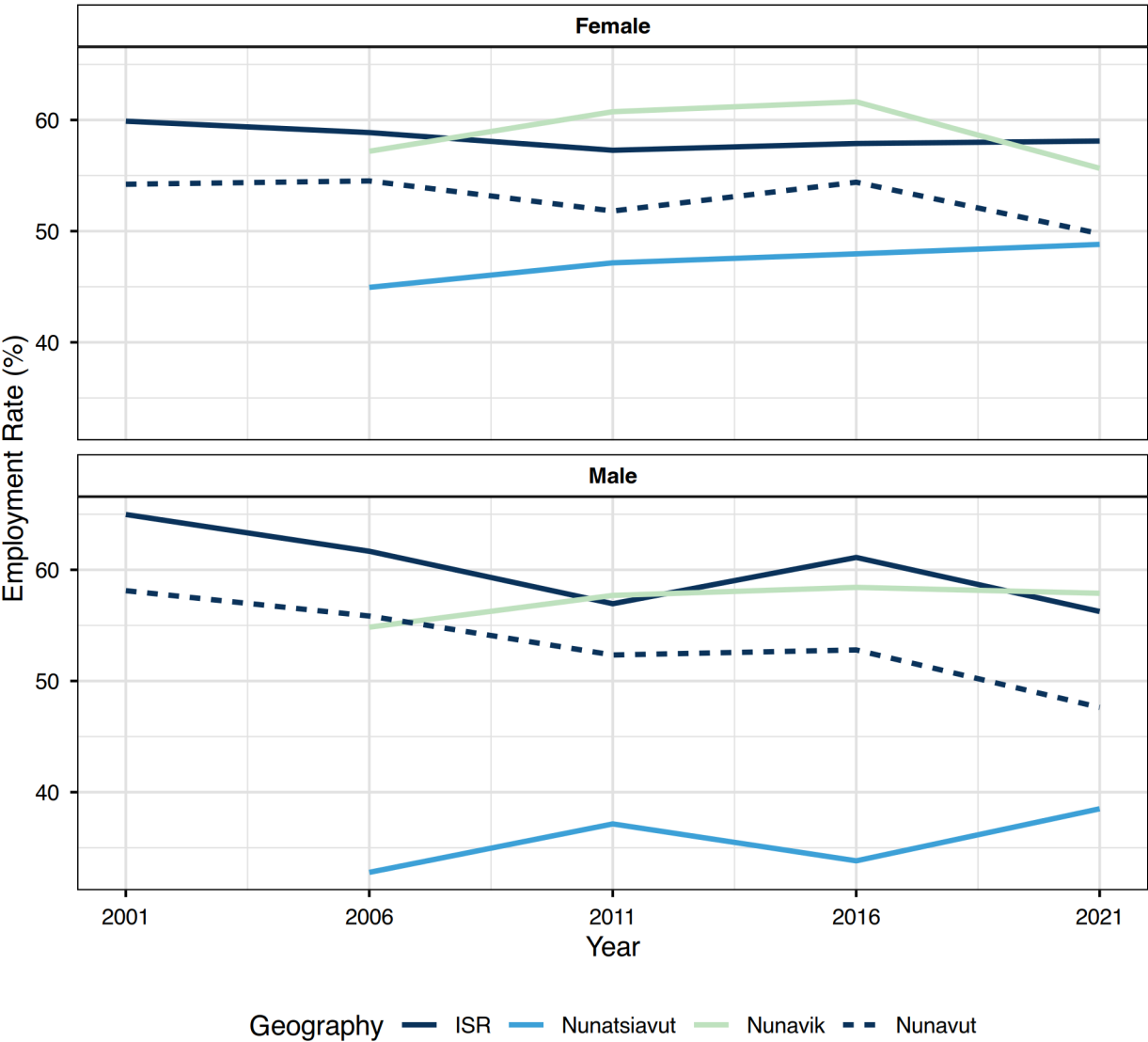
Source: Custom Request, 1996 - 2021 Census, Statistics Canada.

Figure B5.4. Population Participation Rate by Sex, ISR, Nunatsiavut, Nunavik, & Nunavut, 2001 to 2021



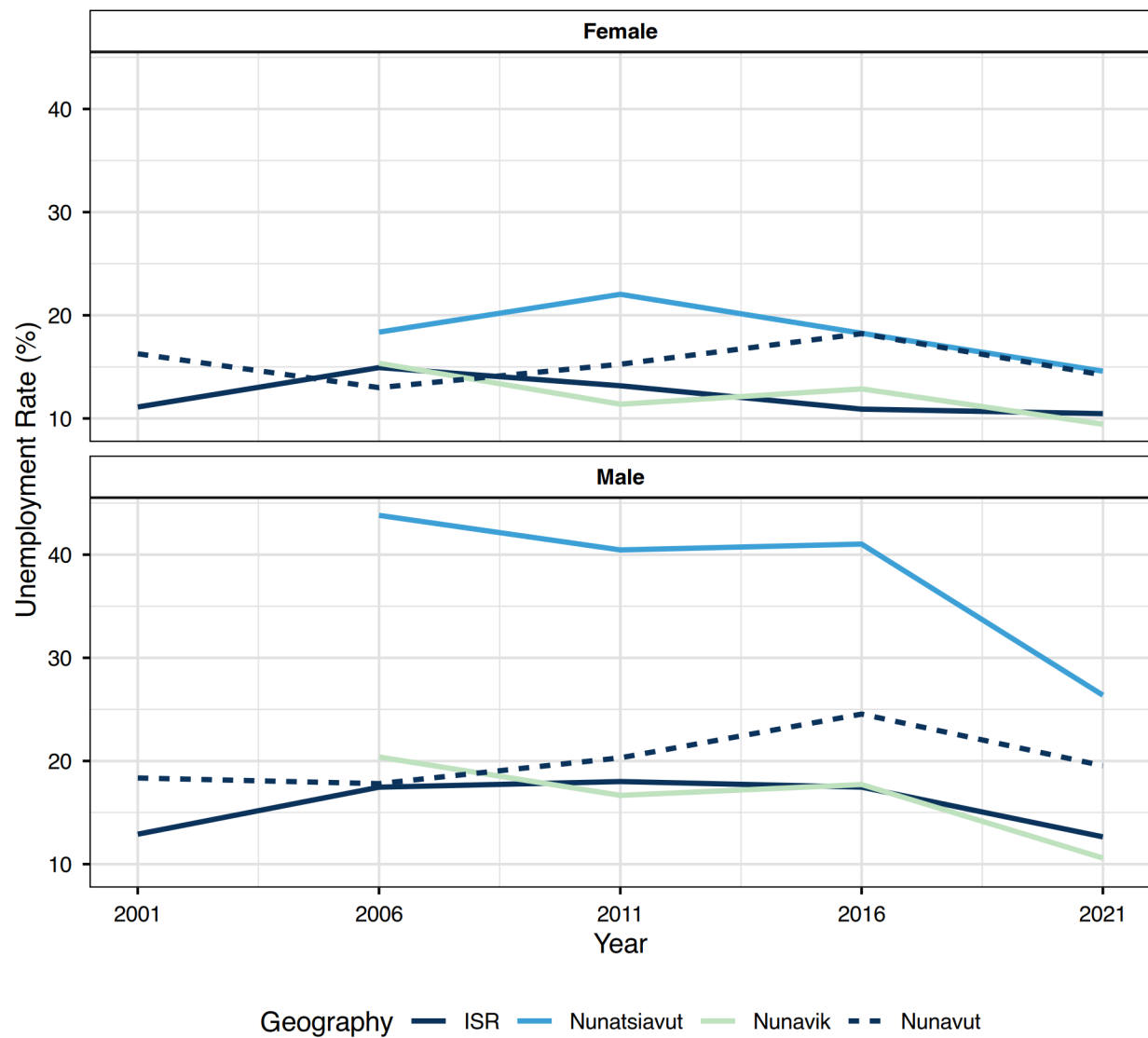
Source: Custom Request, 1996 - 2021 Census, Statistics Canada.

Figure B5.5. Population Employment Rate by Sex, ISR, Nunatsiavut, Nunavik, & Nunavut, 2001 to 2021



Source: Custom Request, 1996 - 2021 Census, Statistics Canada. Note: No data available for Nunatsiavut and Nunavik prior to 2006.

Figure B5.6. Population Unemployment Rate by Sex, ISR, Nunatsiavut, Nunavik, & Nunavut, 2001 to 2021



Source: Custom Request, 1996 - 2021 Census, Statistics Canada. Note: No data available for Nunatsiavut and Nunavik prior to 2006.

Tables B5.6 and B5.7 present data on ESDC program outcomes and statistical relationships between ESDC program outcomes and socioeconomic data.

Table B5.6. Number of ARHDS, ASETS, SPF & ISET Total Clients, Employed Clients, Return to School Clients, and Completed Interventions, ISR, 1999 to 2021

Fiscal Year	Total Clients	Employed Clients	Return to School Clients	Completed Interventions
1999 - 2000	74	7	0	36
2000 - 2001	49	33	5	6
2001 - 2002	1	1	0	0
2002 - 2003	42	0	0	42
2003 - 2004	62	16	34	68
2004 - 2005	5	6	0	4
2005 - 2006	67	16	0	60
2006 - 2007	58	17	7	55
2007 - 2008	65	29	2	46
2008 - 2009	42	16	7	39
2009 - 2010	214	92	11	147
2010 - 2011	77	52	2	77
2011 - 2012	120	25	5	127
2012 - 2013	93	68	2	92
2013 - 2014	224	107	3	252
2014 - 2015	94	95	4	95
2015 - 2016	98	78	9	106
2016 - 2017	73	54	4	75
2017 - 2018	33	14	7	34
2018 - 2019	71	14	0	43
2019 - 2020	100	10	5	20
2020 - 2021	45	1	6	10

Source: ESDC

Table B5.7. Characteristics Associated with Employment at the end of ASETS/ISETS Programs

Predictor Variables	Odds Ratios	Lower 95% Confidence Interval	Upper 95% Confidence Interval
Intercept	0.21 ***	0.09	0.46
Short Action Plan	2.95 ***	1.85	4.71
School Action Plan	0.29 ***	0.19	0.45
EI Claimant	3.96 ***	2.13	7.36
Former EI Claimant	1.84 ***	1.17	2.90
Male	1.00	0.67	1.51
Married	1.31	0.86	1.98
Number of Dependants	0.97	0.82	1.15
Barrier - Remoteness	1.00	0.44	2.28
Lack of Marketable Skills	0.93	0.55	1.60
Lack of Experience	0.83	0.49	1.40
Aklavik	0.65	0.31	1.36
Paulatuk	1.50	0.47	4.75
Sachs Harbour	0.65	0.20	2.14
Tuktoyaktuk	1.10	0.68	1.80
Ulukhaktok	1.69	0.56	5.08
Action Plan End in 2012	11.89 ***	5.38	26.28
Action Plan End in 2013	15.56 ***	6.55	36.97
Action Plan End in 2014	28.10 ***	11.89	66.43
Action Plan End in 2015	13.68 ***	5.54	33.83
Action Plan End in 2016	14.71 ***	5.88	36.80
Action Plan End in 2017	11.92 ***	4.22	33.67
Action Plan End in 2018	2.89 **	1.16	7.17
Action Plan End in 2019	1.86	0.74	4.67
Action Plan End in 2020	0.27	0.03	2.28
Action Plan End in 2021	0.44	0.04	4.56
Number of observations	743		

Source: Individual-level data provided by ESDC. Note: Logit regressions of a binary employment outcome at the end of an action plan on action plan length, action plan type, action plan end date, community of residence, self-reported barriers to employment, and socio-demographic characteristics. Odds ratios are calculated by exponentiating logged odds ratios. 95% confidence intervals are reported. *p<0.1; **p<0.05; ***p<0.01. EI stands for Employment Insurance.

Table B5.8 Indigenous and Inuit Youth Participation, Employment, and Unemployment Rates by Age Group, ISR, 2016 & 2021

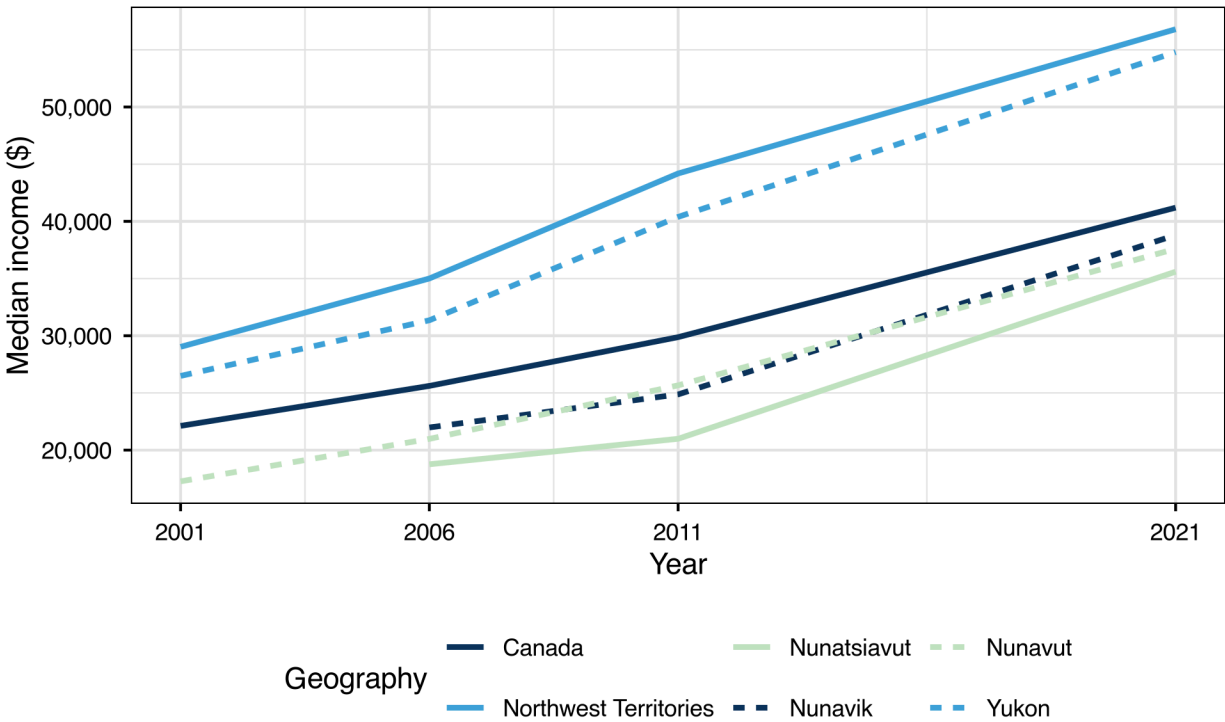
Identity	Age Group	Participation Rate (%)		Employment Rate (%)		Unemployment Rate (%)	
		2016	2021	2016	2021	2016	2021
Indigenous	15 to 24	50.0	46.4	37.0	37.5	24.6	19.2
	25 to 64	74.6	67.5	61.5	57.3	17.6	15.0
	65 and older	21.4	17.1	17.9	14.3	16.7	16.7
Inuit	15 to 24	49.0	45.5	36.0	37.5	28.6	20.0
	25 to 64	73.1	64.4	58.8	54.3	19.6	16.3
	65 and older	20.0	13.7	17.5	13.7	25.0	0.0

Source: Statistics Canada, Indigenous Population Profile 2021, 2016.

B6. Economic

Figure B6.1 shows the median total income for individuals living in Canada, the NWT, Nunatsiavut, Nunavik, Nunavut, and Yukon between 2001 and 2021. This figures is not adjusted for inflation.

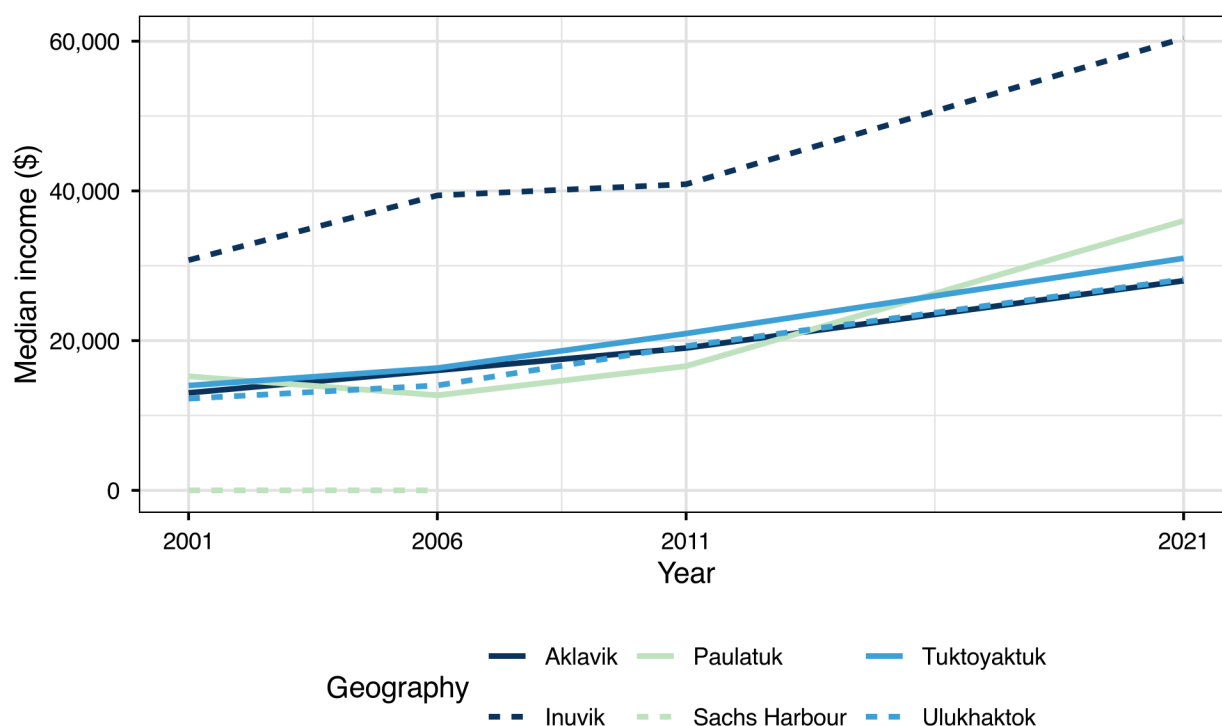
Figure B6.1 Median Total Individual Income in Canada, NWT, Nunatsiavut, Nunavik, Nunavut, & Yukon, 2001 to 2021



Source: Custom Request, 1996 - 2021 Census, Statistics Canada.

Figure B6.2 shows the median total income for individuals living in ISR communities between 2001 and 2021. This figure is not adjusted for inflation.

Figure B6.2 Median Total Individual Income in ISR Communities,
2001 to 2021



Source: Custom Request, 1996 - 2021 Census, Statistics Canada.

Table B6.1 presents the results of logistic regressions in Models 1 to 4, that is the estimated causal impact of economic development funding on the probability of having an income greater than \$50,000. Model 1, the baseline model, regresses the number of tax filers with income greater than \$50,000 in the ISR on the count of total economic development funding, including SEED program, Community Futures and Community Transfer Initiative. Model 2 regresses the number of tax filers with income greater than \$50,000 in the ISR on total economic development funding with economic period fixed effects. Model 3 regresses the number of tax filers with income greater than \$50,000 in the ISR on total economic development funding controlling for funding through Yukon business contracts. Model 4 regresses the number of tax filers with income greater than \$50,000 in the ISR on total economic development funding controlling for funding through Yukon business contracts, CLC Agreement contract values, Canadian North funding, and tourism funding.

The values in Table B6.1 show the estimated casual impacts of a \$10 per capita increase in economic development funding on income. Specifically, the values present the percentage point change in the probability of filling a tax return greater than \$50,000 when economic development funding increases by \$10 per capita. For example, Model 1 shows that a \$10 per capita increase in SEEDs funding is associated with a 0.49 percentage point increase in the

probability of filing a tax return greater than \$50,000. Values with asterisks (*) indicate that the results are less likely to be due to random chance, whereas values without asterisks indicate results are more likely to be due to change.

Table B6.1. Total Economic Development Funding and Reported Tax Income Greater than \$50,000 in the ISR

Predictor Variables	Number of tax filers with incomes > \$50,000 in ISR			
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
SEED Program Funding	0.0049*** (0.0006)	0.0005 (0.0016)	0.0048*** (0.0006)	0.0038 (0.0068)
Other Funding for Economic Development	0.0039 *** (0.0003)	0.0018 *** (0.0005)	0.0039 *** (0.0003)	0.0100* (0.0054)
Yukon Business Contracts			0.0000 (0.0001)	0.0005 *** (0.0002)
CLC Agreement Contract Value				0.0000 *** (0.0000)
Canadian North Funding				-0.0003 (0.0004)
Tourism Funding				-0.0056 *** (0.0017)
Economic Period Fixed Effects	None	Included	None	None
Observations	16	16	16	11

Source: GNWT. Note: Logistic regressions of a binary count of tax incomes greater than \$50,000 on Economic Development funding in the Inuvialuit Settlement Region. SEED stands for the Support for Entrepreneurs and Economic Development (SEED) program. Other funding for economic development includes Community Futures and Community Transfer Initiative. Coefficients are Average Marginal Effects. Standard errors in parenthesis. *p<0.1; **p<0.05; ***p<0.01.

Appendix C: Key Informant Interviews

C1. Key Informant Interview Guide: Inuvialuit Beneficiaries and Officials

The Inuvialuit Regional Corporation, along with the governments of Canada, NWT, and Yukon is conducting an Economic Measures Review of the Inuvialuit Final Agreement (IFA), which was finalized in 1984. The last Economic Measure Review was completed in 2000. The current Economic Measures Review covers the period from 2001 to 2023.

Big River Analytics Ltd. has been contracted to support the Economic Measure Review. Big River is an Indigenous-owned consulting firm that was founded in 2011 with the objective of providing statistical and analytical capacity to benefit Indigenous Peoples, communities, governments, and organizations. Big River has committed to conducting a Review that is guided by Inuvialuit perspectives, comprehensive, and objective.

Substantial data has been collected to understand trends in the economic and social wellbeing of the Inuvialuit, including data on population, families, households, culture, traditional activities, education, labour, income, prices, and housing, as well as data on investments and activities made by the territorial and federal governments (e.g., expenditures and number of participants). Where possible, comparisons in trends will be made between Inuvialuit communities or the Inuvialuit Settlement Region and Northwest Territories (NWT), Yukon, Inuit Nunangat, the Full North (Nunavik, Nunavut, Nunatsiavut, NWT, and Yukon), and Canada.

Staff from Big River are carrying out semi-structured interviews with Elders, Leaders (e.g., members of IRC Executive, Inuvialuit Development Corporation (IDC) Executive, Hamlet Mayors and Councillors), and Development Officers (e.g., IDC Directors, Managers and Coordinators, IRC Directors, Managers, and Coordinators, community development officers, economic development officers), and Inuvialuit Beneficiaries, where possible.

The purpose of the semi-structured interviews is to gain an Inuvialuit perspective in order to understand the trends in economic and social wellbeing in context. This means using narratives to understand the data. Examples of interview topics include the following:

- Recent trends in the traditional economy (time on the land, hunting, fishing, gathering, country foods, arts and crafts)
- Activities and investments that have:
 - Supported the preservation of Inuvialuit culture and identity.

- Supported full, equal, and meaningful Inuvialuit participation in the northern and national economy and society, and
- Facilitated an adequate level of Inuvialuit economic self-reliance and a solid economic base
- Compatibility of investments and activities with Inuvialuit interests and needs
- Internal and external factors affecting the investments, activities, and economic and social trends
- Opportunities for developmental planning and coordination amongst the IFA parties

C2. Key Informant Interview Guide: Federal and Territorial Government Representatives

The Inuvialuit Regional Corporation, along with the governments of Canada, NWT, and Yukon is conducting an Economic Measures Review of the Inuvialuit Final Agreement (IFA), which was finalized in 1984. The last Economic Measure Review was completed in 2000. The current Economic Measures Review covers the period from 2001 to 2023.

Big River Analytics Ltd. has been contracted to support the Economic Measure Review. Big River is an Indigenous-owned consulting firm that was founded in 2011 with the objective of providing statistical and analytical capacity to benefit Indigenous Peoples, communities, governments, and organizations. Big River has committed to conducting a Review that is guided by Inuvialuit perspectives, comprehensive, and objective.

Substantial data have been collected to understand trends in the economic and social wellbeing of the Inuvialuit, including data on population, families, households, culture, traditional activities, education, labour, income, prices, and housing, as well as data on investments and activities made by the territorial and federal governments (e.g., expenditures and number of participants). Where possible, comparisons in trends will be made between Inuvialuit communities or the Inuvialuit Settlement Region and Northwest Territories (NWT), Yukon, Inuit Nunangat, the Full North (Nunavik, Nunavut, Nunatsiavut, NWT, and Yukon), and Canada.

Staff from Big River are carrying out semi-structured interviews with Inuvialuit Elders, Leaders (e.g., members of IRC Executive, Inuvialuit Development Corporation (IDC) Executive, Hamlet Mayors and Councillors), and Development Officers (e.g., IDC Directors, Managers and Coordinators, IRC Directors, Managers, and Coordinators, community development officers, economic development officers), as well as representatives from the territorial and federal governments.

The purpose of the semi-structured interviews is to better understand and contextualize the trends in economic and social wellbeing in the Inuvialuit Settlement Region. This means using narratives to understand the data. Questions will include, but may not be limited to:

- **Intention of the IFA** - When it comes to 1) full Inuvialuit economic participation and 2) the development of a solid economic base and self-reliance, what do you see, in your own words, as key trends over the last two decades?
- **Activities & investments** - What activities and investments made in the last 20 years do you think have:
 - Supported the preservation of Inuvialuit culture and identity.

- Supported full, equal, and meaningful Inuvialuit participation in the northern and national economy and society, and
- Facilitated an adequate level of Inuvialuit economic self-reliance and a solid economic base
- What internal & external factors do you see affecting the investments, activities, and economic and social trends?
- Gov-to-Gov: What opportunities do you see for renewed developmental planning and coordination amongst the IFA parties?