

# Women in Alberta

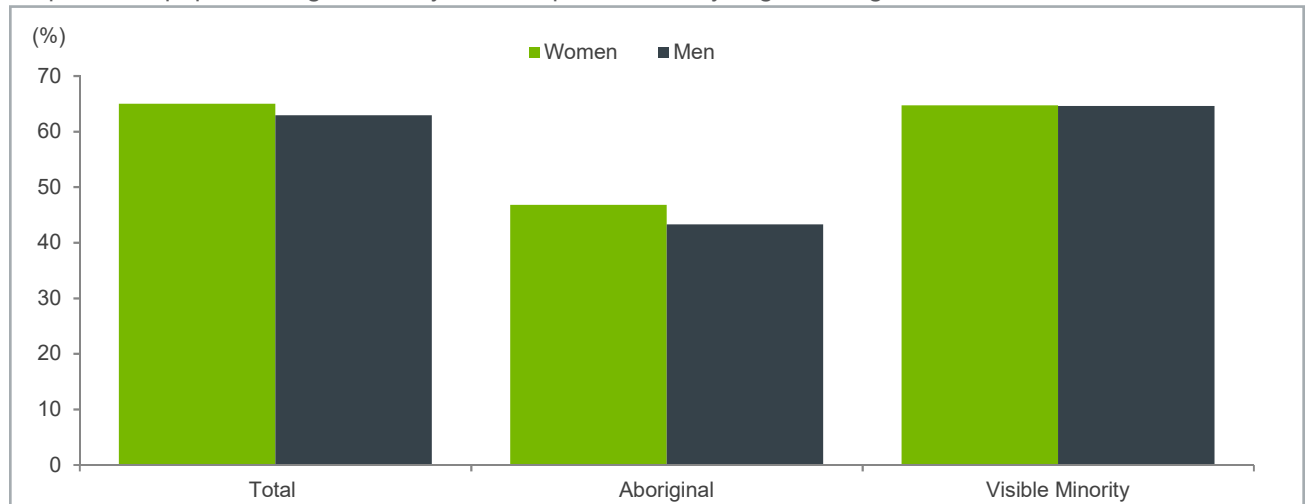
## Education

### Highest level of educational attainment

- ◆ In 2016, the majority of women (65.0%) and men in Alberta (62.9%) aged 25 to 64 reported having postsecondary education (i.e., postsecondary degrees, diplomas or certificates). Women and men in Canada had around the same level of postsecondary attainment (66.7% and 62.9%, respectively).
- ◆ Approximately 16.9% people living in Alberta did not have any type of diploma or degree (including a high school diploma). This proportion was greater among Aboriginal women (32.5%) and Aboriginal men (37.8%). Similar proportions were observed at the national level.
- ◆ Women in Alberta were less likely than men to not have a diploma or degree (16% of women compared to 17.7% of men). The opposite was true for visible minority populations, where 16.5% of women did not have a certificate, diploma or degree compared to 15.3% of men.
- ◆ In 2016, the proportion of women whose highest level of educational attainment was a high school diploma (28.4%) was slightly above that of men (27.5%) in Alberta. A high school diploma was the highest level of education for about the same proportion of women (26.5%) and men (26.4%) in Canada.

### Chart 1: Postsecondary attainment in Alberta

Proportion of population aged 25-64 years with postsecondary degree as highest level of education, Alberta, 2016



Source: Statistics Canada, Census 2016

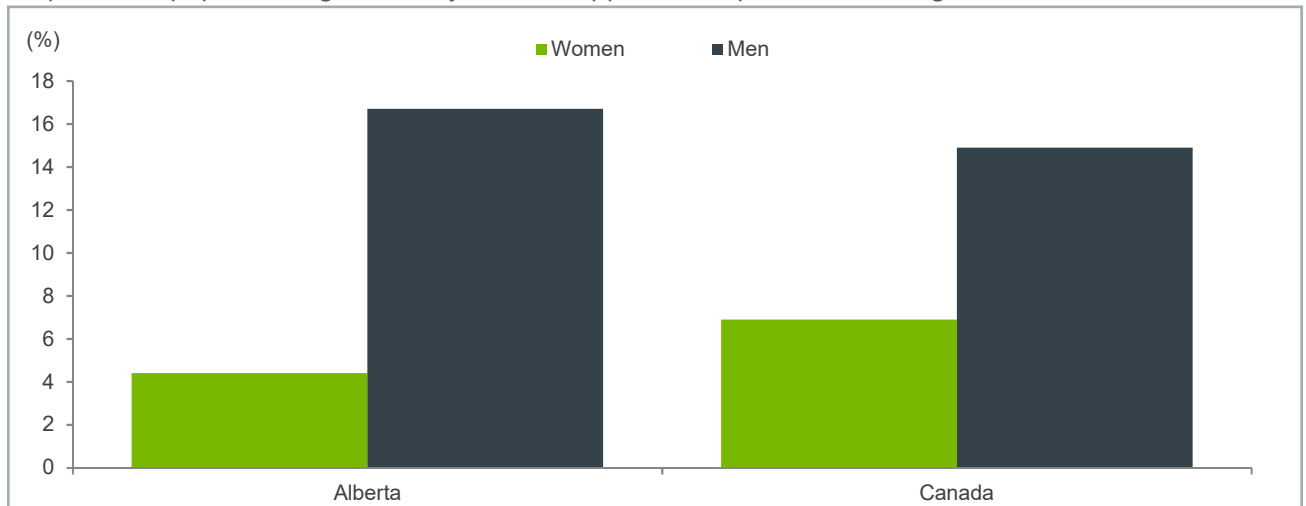
- ◆ In Alberta, Aboriginal women aged 25 to 64 (46.8%) had higher postsecondary attainment than Aboriginal men (43.3%). Similar proportions were observed for Aboriginal women and men across Canada.
- ◆ Visible minority women aged 25 to 64 in Alberta were just as likely to have postsecondary education (65%) as other women in Alberta; visible minority men (64.6%), however, had more postsecondary education than all men. These proportions are slightly higher than those of visible minorities at the national level.

### Postsecondary attainment

- ◆ In 2016, a higher proportion of women had a college or non-university degree or diploma as their highest level of education than men in Alberta (22.8% and 15.6%, respectively) and across Canada (22% and 16.6%, respectively).
- ◆ In Alberta, men aged 25 to 64 were nearly four times more likely than women to have an apprenticeship or trade accreditation (16.7% compared to 4.4%). By comparison, men in Canada were about twice as likely as women to hold an apprenticeship or trade (14.9% compared to 6.9%). Similar proportions were observed for Aboriginal men and women in Alberta and Canada.
- ◆ Visible minority individuals in Alberta had lower proportions of apprenticeships and trades accreditation (6.3% of men and 2.7% of women). At the national level, these proportions were more than double that of Alberta for men (13.6%), but just slightly higher for women (3.8%).

### Chart 2: Apprenticeship or trades attainment was higher for men in Alberta and Canada

Proportion of population aged 25-64 years with apprenticeship or trades as highest level of education, 2016



Source: Statistics Canada, Census 2016

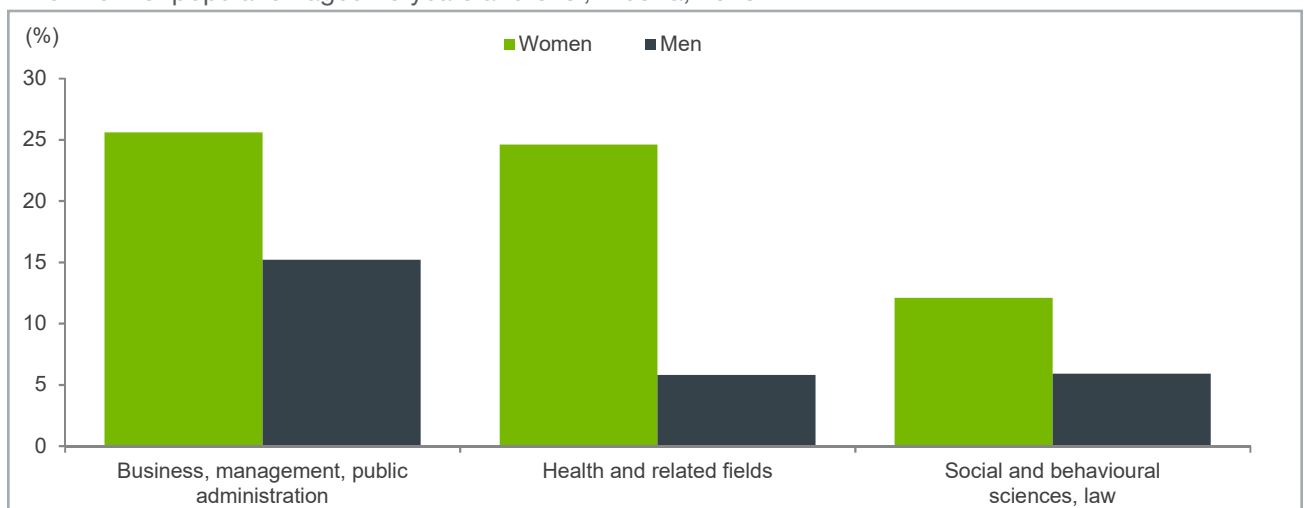
- ◆ In Alberta, the proportions of visible minority individuals with a university degree at the bachelor level or above (36.8% of women and 35.7% of men) were higher than the overall provincial proportions (25.0% of women and 21.7% of men).
- ◆ More Aboriginal women had a bachelor and above degrees as their highest level of education (9.4%) than Aboriginal men in Alberta (5.7%). This was also true for Canada as a whole.

### Top postsecondary fields of study

- ◆ In 2016, three categories were included in the top four lists of fields of study for men and women in Alberta (based on the highest proportion of individuals enrolled): business, management and public administration (15.2% of men and 25.6% of women), health and related fields (5.8% of men and 24.6% of women), and social and behavioural sciences and law (5.9% of men and 12.1% of women).
- ◆ Education was one of the top four fields of study that applied to women only (10.4% of women compared to 3.3% of men enrolled). Architecture, engineering, and related technologies had the highest enrollment of men (47.3%), but was not in the top four list for women (5.3% of women).
- ◆ For visible minority men in Alberta, mathematics, computer and information sciences (4.3%) replaced social and behavioural sciences and law (1.7%) in the top four fields of study.
- ◆ In 2016, business, management, and public administration was the top field of study for all women (25.6%), Aboriginal women (11.6%) and visible minority women in Alberta (16.4%). This was also the top category for women at the national level.
- ◆ Architecture, engineering, and related technologies was the top field of study for men in Alberta, accounting for 47.3% of male postsecondary attainment. This category was also the top category for Aboriginal (19.6%) and visible minority men (23.3%). At the national level, this category accounted for 39.6% of male postsecondary attainment.

**Chart 3: Women and men in Alberta share three of four top postsecondary fields of study**

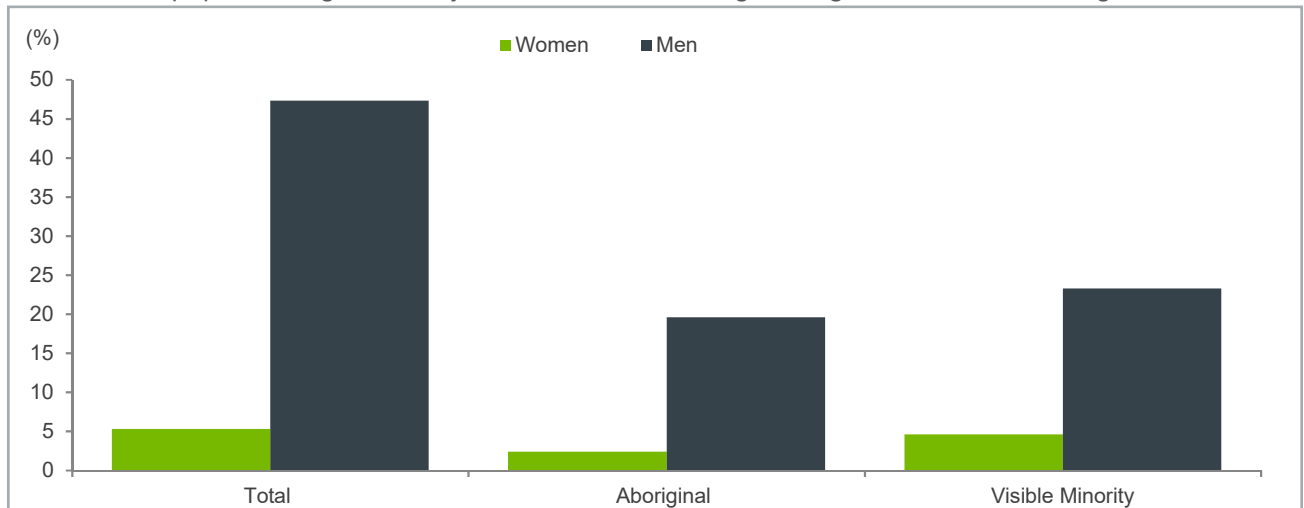
Enrollment of population aged 15 years and over, Alberta, 2016



Source: Statistics Canada, Census 2016

**Chart 4: Architecture, engineering, and related technologies was the top field for men in Alberta**

Enrollment of population aged 24-64 years in architecture, engineering and related technologies, 2016



Source: Statistics Canada, Census 2016

**Table 1: Highest level of postsecondary attainment**

Alberta and Canada, 2016

Category of Postsecondary	Total		Aboriginal		Visible Minority	
	Number	Proportion (%)	Number	Proportion (%)	Number	Proportion (%)
<b>Alberta Women</b>						
Apprenticeship or trades	67,305	4.2	4,960	5.1	9,930	2.7
College; CEGEP/ other certificate or diploma	364,895	22.8	22,065	22.9	55,720	15.3
University - below bachelor	57,750	3.6	2,750	2.9	17,085	4.7
University - bachelor & above	401,425	25.0	9,065	9.4	134,255	36.8
<b>Alberta Men</b>						
Apprenticeship or trades	242,160	15.1	14,315	16.4	22,100	6.3
College; CEGEP/ other certificate or diploma	250,585	15.6	10,685	12.3	43,835	12.6
University - below bachelor	36,875	2.3	1,120	1.3	13,190	3.8
University - bachelor & above	348,510	21.7	4,965	5.7	124,500	35.7
<b>Canada Women</b>						
Apprenticeship or trades	893,650	6.1	40,970	9.4	121,145	3.8
College; CEGEP/ other certificate or diploma	3,226,885	22.0	143,780	22.5	513,710	16.2
University - below bachelor	481,395	3.3	18,165	2.8	129,240	4.1
University - bachelor & above	3,589,300	24.5	68,550	10.7	1,071,415	33.8
<b>Canada Men</b>						
Apprenticeship or trades	1,906,610	6.4	90,215	15.4	165,025	5.7
College; CEGEP/ other certificate or diploma	2,326,940	23.1	82,340	14.1	389,045	13.4
University - below bachelor	331,940	3.4	9,070	1.6	101,675	3.5
University - bachelor & above	3,070,320	25.7	36,890	6.3	992,575	34.2

Source: Statistics Canada, Census 2016