

Skills Development in Working-Age Adults: Gaps between Indigenous and non-Indigenous Outcomes

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Closing the skills gap between working-age Indigenous and non-Indigenous Canadians is essential for the economic success of Canada's Indigenous peoples. According to the 2012 International Assessment of Adult Competencies (PIAAC), Indigenous people scored less than non-Indigenous people in all three domains of cognitive skills: literacy, numeracy and problem solving in technology-rich environments. Closing gaps in educational attainment should be a priority, especially in primary and secondary education. The PIAAC gaps between Indigenous and non-Indigenous people with the same level of education vary across the regions, which suggests there are lessons to learn from different provincial approaches.