

SASKATCHEWAN 2009 COVERED POPULATION PROFILE

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Summary:

This report is an overview of the 2009 Covered Population of Saskatchewan. It presents the distribution of the population by age-group, sex, type of residence and regional health authority.

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Data Source:

Saskatchewan Health Covered Population, 2009

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Purpose

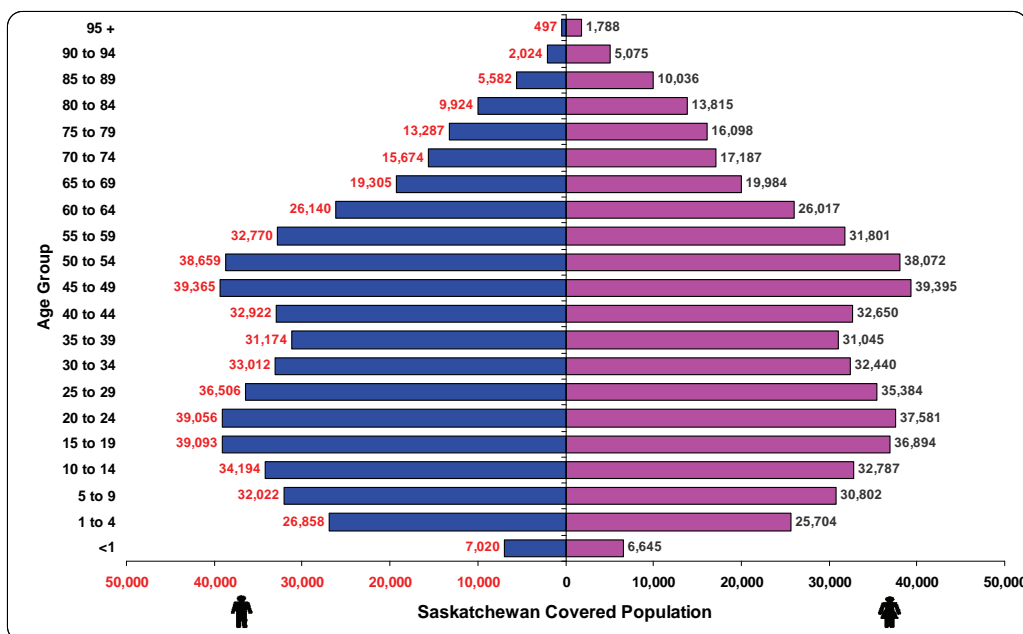
The purpose of this report is to present select demographic characteristics of the Saskatchewan (SK) Covered Population for the year 2009 based on the 2009 Saskatchewan Covered Population report released recently by the Ministry of Health.

These population characteristics may be used when assessing health behaviors, prevalence of diseases and demand for health services in the population.

The SK Covered Population is a count of all persons who are registered for Saskatchewan health coverage on June 30th. It is not a census of the SK population. When compared to the 2006 Census population for SK, the SK Covered Population was found to be slightly higher than the Census population.

The 2009 SK Covered Population was 1,036,284 people.

Distribution of the 2009 Covered Population by age-group and sex



- The large upper bulge represents the cohort known as the baby boomers, those individuals born between 1947 and 1966.
- The lower bulge is the baby boom echo, the children of the baby boomers. This group was born between 1980 and 1995.
- Overall, the distribution of males and females was similar; however, there were more female seniors (65 years or older) than male seniors.

Distribution by type of residence and five year age-groups

Definitions:

The SK Covered Population is expressed as the percentage or number of people in the described population in a given age group and/or sex and/or geographic location in a given year.

Significance:

A population's size and age/sex composition impact the health status of a region and its need for health services.

Population data provide the "denominators" used to calculate rates for most health and social indicators.

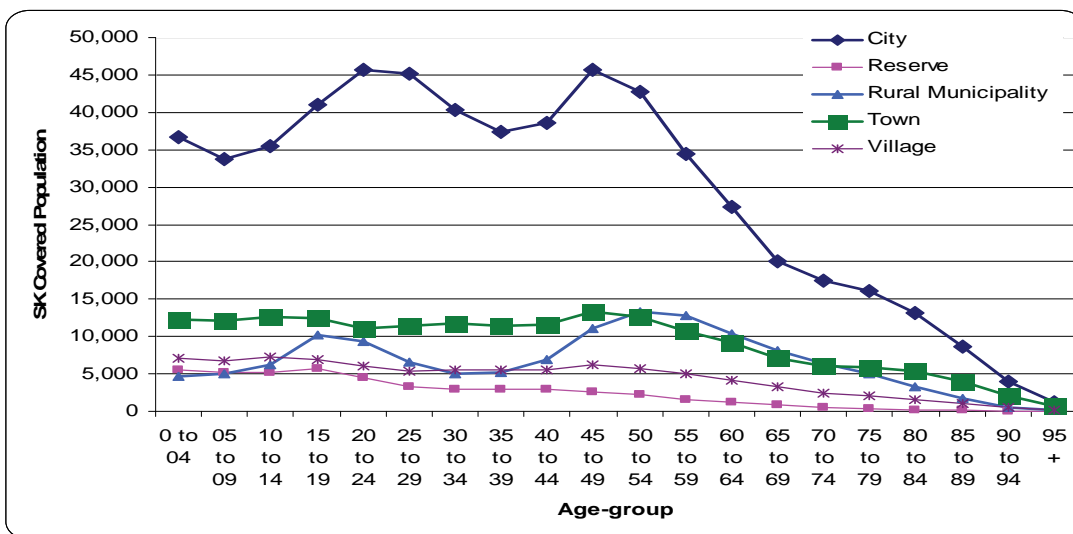
The population data are useful to target subpopulations and to determine required services in planning prevention and promotional interventions.

Limitations:

The SK Covered Population is presented more as a descriptor than an indicator.

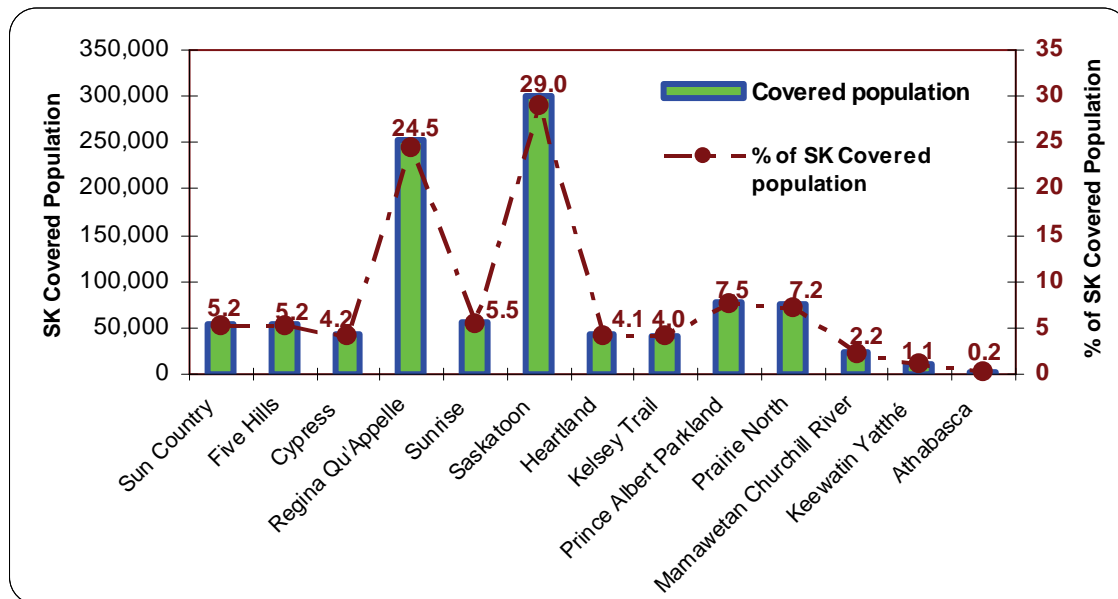
Source:

SK Covered Population was derived using the Person Registry System (PRS) based on eligibility for health insurance coverage in Saskatchewan.



- Cities were the largest category by residence type. Their populations peaked at two age-groups: young adults (20-24 years) and middle-aged adults (45-49 years).
- In Rural Municipalities, the population had the highest peak at the 50-54 year age-group, followed by a smaller peak at the teenager age-group of 15-19 years.
- The Reserves population had a small peak at a teenager age-group of 15-19 years,

Distribution by health authorities



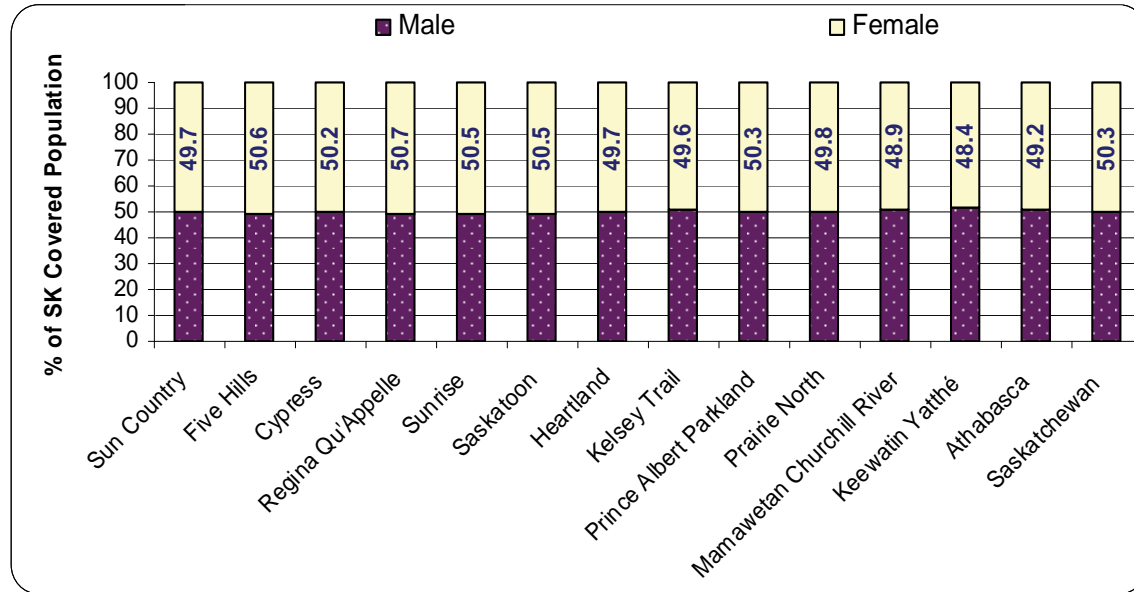
- The majority of the SK Covered Population (53.5%) resided in its two largest regional health authorities (RHAs), Saskatoon (29.0%) and Regina Qu'Appelle (24.5%).
- The percentage of the Covered Population residing in each of the other RHAs was less than 10%, ranging from 0.2% in Athabasca to 7.5% in Prince Albert Parkland.

Distribution by health authorities and sex

Additional Information:

The total populations by residence type are listed below with their respective population size in 2009:

Cities:	584,526
Towns:	183,595
Rural Municipalities:	131,910
Villages:	88,243
Reserves:	48,010

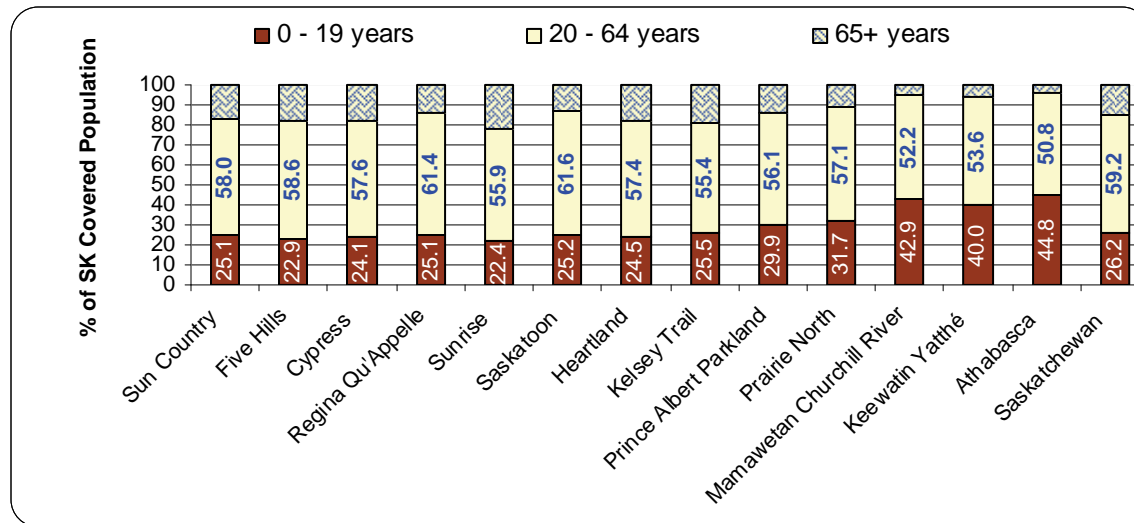


- The proportions of males and females varied only very slightly across health authorities.

Distribution by health authorities and age-groups

Health Authorities in Saskatchewan had the following total populations in 2009:

Sun Country:	54,138
Five Hills:	54,046
Cypress:	43,398
Regina Qu'Appelle:	253,809
Sunrise:	56,806
Saskatoon:	300,638
Heartland:	42,926
Kelsey Trail:	41,906
Prince Albert Parkland:	77,668
Prairie North:	74,550
Mamawetan Churchill River:	22,766
Keewatin Yatthé:	11,199
Athabasca:	2,435



- People aged 20-64 years comprised the largest age group in the SK Covered Population (59.2%) as well as in all RHAs, ranging from 50.8% in the Athabasca Health Authority to 61.6% in the Saskatoon RHA.
- Athabasca Health Authority, Mamawetan Churchill River RHA and Keewatin Yatthé RHA had the highest proportions of youth under 20 years, 44.8, 42.9 and 40.0%, respectively.
- Sunrise RHA had the highest proportion of seniors (65 years or older) in its population (21.7%). Other RHAs with the proportion of seniors exceeding the provincial average (14.6%) were Kelsey Trail (19.1%), Five Hills (18.5%), Cypress (18.3%), Heartland (18.1%) and Sun Country (16.9%).

Technical Notes

Data source

- The 2009 Saskatchewan Covered Population was used in this report.
- The Saskatchewan Covered Population is not the census population, but an annual population count of people who are eligible for provincial health insurance benefits as of June 30th of that year.
- All Saskatchewan residents are included except: a) members of the Canadian Armed Forces, members of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police, and inmates of federal prisons, all of whom are covered by the federal government; and b) people not yet meeting the residency requirement (coverage begins on the first day of the third calendar month following their move to Saskatchewan).
- Saskatchewan residents moving elsewhere remain eligible for coverage for the same period, and anyone whose coverage extends through June (i.e., who left the province April 1st or later) is included in the report.
- Residents who died and had coverage any time in June are included.
- Age distribution is calculated as of June 30th.
- The population under “Reserve” reflects the best estimate of the Registered Indian people living on Saskatchewan reserves.
- In rural areas, the rural municipality is the smallest geographic unit about which the information is collected.
- The boundaries of Rural Municipalities (RMs) and health authorities (RHAs) are not coterminous. The RM is apportioned across RHAs when it crosses the boundaries of the latter, instead of assigning the RM to a specific RHA.

Limitations

- One of the known limitations is that in cases where the correspondence address is different from the residence address, and only the former is available, it might have resulted in inaccuracies in the distribution of the Covered Population by place of residence.
- The recent health card renewal was in December 2008. Changes which occurred after this renewal may not all have been reflected in the PRS at the time the Covered Population figures were produced.

Relevant information links

- Full text of the Saskatchewan Covered Population Book:
<http://www.health.gov.sk.ca/covered-population-2009>.
- Detailed yearly databases of the Saskatchewan Covered Population:
<http://www.health.gov.sk.ca/population-stats>.
- Saskatchewan and Canada Census 2006 population profiles:
<http://www12.statcan.gc.ca/census>