

# Introduction to Populations of Special Interest

In addition to populations identified by where they live (e.g. geographical boundaries) populations can be defined by other characteristics such as age, gender, ethnicity and by those having a unique combination of attributes. Populations of Special Interest describe populations within the Winnipeg Health Region that are not bound by certain geographies. The following Populations of Special Interest have been chosen to report on:

- Aboriginal People
- Children and Youth
- Senior Population
- Persons with Disabilities
- Immigrants
- Women - *pending*
- Men - *pending*

These populations require monitoring on an ongoing basis for several reasons as there may be: expected growth in population size, lack of information, disparities among the determinants of health, increased burden of illness, barriers that may affect access to health services and unique health issues.

Each population of special interest contains the following:

- Population Characteristics
- Health Issues
- Factors that Impact these Health Issues in the Population
- Summary of the Key Issues

The profiles provide a preliminary view on each population using available data. Data limitations prevent a comprehensive review of the health outcomes and determinants of health in these populations. Due to current initiatives underway, the profiles for men and women have not been included at this time. These profiles will be updated in this report within the year.