Community vs. Indigenous Services Canada Data

The Covid-19 Discrepancy

As of May 10, 2020, there are 465 reported cases of COVID-19 in Indigenous communities, according to community-sourced data. Indigenous Services Canada (ISC) is reporting just 175 cases, revealing a gap of 290 cases.

4 Reasons for this Data Discrepancy:

1. Lack of disaggregated data collection that includes racial or ethnic identity by Canadian agencies or organizations.
2. The division of power (and jurisdiction) between provincial and federal governments has led to sub-standard social services delivery to Indigenous communities and as a result, poor data collection.
3. Erasure of the urban Indigenous population - ISC reporting reflects on-reserve populations only.
4. Lack of transparency and accountability of leadership, both Canadian and Indigenous.

COVID-19 Related Deaths

- 2 deaths reported by ISC
- 7 deaths reported by community

There is insufficient data/no reported cases of COVID-19 amongst the Indigenous population in the Yukon, Northwest Territories, Nunavut, the Maritimes or Manitoba. The Manitoba statistic is suspect due to the large population of urban Indigenous people in the province.

Read the full analysis in this Yellowhead Brief: Colonialism of the Curve: Indigenous Communities and Bad Covid Data

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