

DATA SOURCES

The primary data for *The Progress of Canada's Children and Youth 2006* have been calculated by researchers at the Canadian Council on Social Development using information from the databases listed below. Additional data sources follow and they are listed according to the section of *Progress* in which they were used. Sources for the charts are provided with each chart.

Primary Data Sources:

National Longitudinal Survey of Children and Youth

The National Longitudinal Survey of Children and Youth (NLSCY), developed by Statistics Canada and Human Resources Development Canada, collects information on over 20,000 children (newborns to 15 years of age). Starting in 1994, the NLSCY will survey these children every two years until they reach adulthood. In the first cycle of the survey, both the child's primary caregiver and teacher were asked to provide information, as were children aged 10 and 11. In the second cycle of the survey in 1996, children aged 12 and 13 were also included, and in the third survey cycle in 1998, children aged 14 and 15 were included. The NLSCY includes a broad range of family, household, and community characteristics affecting child development. Data used in this *Progress* report are from the 1994, 1996, 1998, 2000, and 2002 surveys.

Canadian Community Health Survey

The Canadian Community Health Survey (CCHS), conducted by Statistics Canada, collects information regarding health determinants, health status, and health system utilization across Canada. The CCHS targets persons aged 12 or older who are living in private dwellings in the 10 provinces and three territories. The CCHS covers approximately 98% of the Canadian population aged 12 or older. Data used in this *Progress* report are from the Cycle 1.1 (2001) and Cycle 2.1 (2003) surveys.

National Population Health Survey

The National Population Health Survey (NPHS), conducted by Statistics Canada, collects information related to the health of the Canadian population. A cross-section of information is obtained by surveying all members of the survey households (58,000 individuals). To collect longitudinal information, one respondent per household, aged 12 years or older, is surveyed (18,000 individuals). Data used in this *Progress* report are from the 1994/95, 1996/97, and 1998/99 surveys.

Survey of Labour and Income Dynamics

Started in 1993, the Survey of Labour and Income Dynamics (SLID) is an ongoing longitudinal survey that interviews each sample member over a six-year period. The longitudinal nature of this survey as well as its extensive data content allows analysis of issues related to the labour market and income, including low income and changes in income over time. Data used in this issue of *Progress* are from the 1994, 1996, 1998, 2000, and 2002 surveys.

Census of the Population, 1996 & 2001

Statistics Canada's 1996 and 2001 Censuses provide national coverage of the entire Canadian population, including variables on demographic, social, cultural, labour force, and income data,

as well as details on dwellings, households, and families. Generally, data are presented for Canada, the provinces, territories and for Census Metropolitan Areas. Some tables include comparisons with data from earlier Censuses.

Survey of Household Spending

This survey offers information about spending on a wide variety of goods and services, as well as data on dwelling characteristics and household ownership of equipment. The survey collects information such as household and family expenditures for food, shelter, child care, health care, recreation, reading materials, education, taxes, pension contributions, and much more. It also collects data such as the type of dwelling, tenure (owned or rented), number of rooms, and heating equipment used, as well as information on household equipment and vehicles. This survey replaces HFE and FAMEX. Data used in this *Progress* report are from the 1999 and 2002 surveys.

Labour Force Survey

Statistics Canada's Labour Force Survey (LFS) collects monthly information on the labour market activities of Canada's working-age population, including specific subgroups in the population. The microdata capture personal characteristics for all individuals in the household – such as information on age, gender, marital status, educational attainment, and family characteristics – as well as detailed labour force characteristics for household members aged 15 and older – such as information about hours of work, wages, occupation, duration of unemployment, and the like. Data are available by province and for the three largest Census Metropolitan Areas of Montreal, Toronto, and Vancouver.

Survey of Approaches to Educational Planning

This new survey was conducted by Statistics Canada in partnership with Human Resources Development Canada. Done in October 1999 as a supplement to the Labour Force Survey, it is the first household survey to collect detailed information on how Canadians prepare for their children's post-secondary education. Data concerning 20,353 children aged 18 and under were collected, including detailed information on both the children and the households. The survey identified financial preparations made by parents to prepare for their children's post-secondary education – such as savings being set aside, potential demands for student loans, and the like – along with non-financial preparations such as communicating parental aspirations and expectations, the extent of parents' involvement in children's learning and schooling, and their attitudes and practices concerning homework and television viewing.

Ethnic Diversity Survey

The Ethnic Diversity Survey was developed by Statistics Canada, in partnership with the Department of Canadian Heritage, to provide information on the ethnic and cultural backgrounds of people in Canada and how these backgrounds relate to their lives today.

The survey covered topics such as ethnic or cultural ancestry and identity, family background, religion, language use, social networks, interactions with others, and civic participation. The survey was conducted from April to August 2002. About 42,500 people aged 15 and older were interviewed by telephone in the 10 provinces.

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INDEX

A

Aboriginal children and youth
 birth rate, 6
 demographics, 5, 6, 11
 education, 65-6
 employment, 3
 family income, 15, 18
 friends, 55
 health, 45-6
 housing, 35, 36
 abuse, 57
 accidents *See* injuries
 additional information, 3
 ADHD, 51
 adoptions, 10
 alcohol *See* drinking
 allergies, 50
 asthma, 50
 Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder, 51

B

balance of work and family, 12
 belonging, 55
 birth
 to lesbian couples, 10
 rates, 6, 9
 weight, 45
 See also pregnancy
 blended families, 10
 breastfeeding, 45, 46
 bullying, 58, 59

C

charitable giving, 39, 41, 42
 charitable organizations, 41
 child abuse, 57
 child care
 family expenditures on, 18
 numbers of children in, 29-31
 See also day camps
 cities *See* urban settings
 common-law relationships, 9, 13
 community organizations, 40-2
 cost of raising a child, 19
 counselling, 35, 43
 crime rates, 21, 29, 55-6
 See also illegal activities
 culture, 24, 41
 custody, 10

D

day camps, 28
 day care *See* child care
 death rates, 45
 debt, 19, 34-5, 72
 diet, 24

disabilities

 Aboriginal children with, 45
 children with, 20-1, 31-2, 45, 46-7
 parents with, 15
 See also learning disabilities
 discrimination, 58
 diversity, 6-7
 divorce, 9, 10, 16
 drinking, 26, 45, 52, 53
 drivers, 25, 26
 drugs, 51, 53
 dysfunctional families, 13

E

eating, 49, 50
 See also breastfeeding
 economic security, 19
 education
 benefits of recreation on, 29
 for children with disabilities, 33
 expenditures on, 18, 33
 learning assessments, 64, 67
 levels attained, 62
 parental involvement, 63
 of parents, 12, 30
 post-secondary, 12, 34-5, 61, 62,
 66, 68, 72-3
 school readiness, 60, 61
 See also schools
 elder care, 12
 employment
 of parents, 12, 15, 32, 50
 of youth, 19, 68-73
 environmental hazards, 20-3

F

families
 blended, 10
 expenditures, 18-19
 extended, 11
 size of, 8, 9
 See also income
 family functioning, 9, 12, 13, 36, 54-7
 family violence, 36
 fathers *See* men
 First Nations *See* Aboriginal
 children and youth
 friends, 54-6, 59

G

government transfers, 15

H

health
 chronic conditions, 50
 effects of air quality on, 20-3
 information on, 35
 of parents, 13
 sexual, 53
 toxins, 20-4
 of youth, 44-5
 See also disabilities; nutrition



health care
 access to, 37
 information on, 35
 HIV/AIDS, 53
 homelessness, 36
 housing, 13, 35-6, 41

I

illegal activities, 16, 29, 59.
See also crime rates
 immigrant children and youth
 community involvement, 40-1
 discrimination, 58
 education, 65, 66
 family income, 15, 18
 numbers of, 5, 7
 income
 average, 14
 and bullying, 58
 and education, 33, 34, 62, 63
 effect on child care, 30
 effect on children, 14-15
 expenditures on housing, 35
 and family expenditures, 19
 and health care, 13, 37
 and Internet access, 65
 and mental health, 13
 and recreation, 28
 and student employment, 71
 and volunteerism, 56

infants, 5, 45
 injuries, 21, 25-6, 45, 46.
See also abuse
 Internet, 59, 65

K

Kids Help Phone, 35

L

languages, 6-7
 lead, 23
 learning assessments, 64, 67
 learning disabilities, 23
 literacy, 67

lone-parent families, 9-12
 child care subsidies, 31
 family income, 15, 16, 18
 housing, 35

M

marriage, 9, 10, 13
 men, heading lone-parent
 families, 10
 money
 from parents, 71
 youth earnings, 73
See also government transfers;
 income; subsidies
 mothers
 age of when giving birth, 9
 employment, 9, 12
 teen, 53, 66
See also parents
 multiple-family households, 11

N

National Child Benefit, 15
 neglect, 57
 Northern Canada, 6, 24, 33
 nutrition, 45, 46, 49, 50

O

obesity *See* weight
 overweight *See* weight

P

parents
 children's relationships with, 54-6
 education level of, 12, 30
 employment, 32
 giving money to children, 71
 health of, 13
 involvement in children's
 education, 61, 63
 marital relationships, 9-11
 parenting styles, 13
 physical activity, 48-9.
See also recreation
 political action, 39-40, 42-3

population, children and youth
 as percentage of, 4
 poverty, 15, 18, 50.
See also income
 pregnancy
 effect of pollution on, 21
 teen, 53, 66
 preschoolers, 5, 13, 31, 60.
See also child care

R

recreation, 26, 28-9, 34, 41, 48.
See also physical activity
 refugees, 7

S

safety, 20-7, 42
 same-sex families, 10
 schools
 bullying, 58
 education regarding voting, 40
 effect of poverty on success at, 16
 enrollment in, 29, 32
 homework, 64, 65
 physical activity, 48
 private, 32
 safety at, 42
 students' feelings about, 61-2, 64
 students with jobs, 70-1, 73
See also education; learning
 disabilities
 second-hand smoke, 23
 sexual harassment, 58, 59
 sexuality, 53
 shelters, 36, 57
 smoking, 23, 45, 52
 Social Assistance, 16
 sports, 46. *See also* recreation
 stress, 44
 subsidies, 31, 36
 substance abuse, 23, 26, 45, 51,
 52, 53

T

television, 58
 tobacco *See* smoking

U

unemployment *See* employment
 UNICEF ranking of Canada, 17
 urban settings, 5-7, 6, 11, 20-2

V

violence, 57, 58. *See also* crime
 visible minority children and youth
 discrimination, 58
 education, 65, 66
 employment, 73
 family income, 15, 18
 geographic location, 7
 groups, 43
 volunteerism, 39, 40, 41, 56
 voting, 39-40

W

water quality, 24
 weight
 at birth, 45
 overweight and obesity, 45, 49
 women, heading lone-parent
 families, 10, 15, 16
See also mothers
 working poor, 50

Y

youth adults
 education, 62, 63, 66, 69
 employment, 68-9, 72
 health care for, 37
 place in families, 13
 youth
 civic involvement, 39, 40, 42, 43
 employment, 68-73
 health care for, 37
 homeless, 36
 injuries, 25
See also education

