

3.1 FAMILIES AND HEALTH

Table 3.1.1

Family and non-family households (children of all ages) according to type, Quebec, 1987, 1992-1993 and 1998

	1987	1992-1993	1998	Pop ¹ '000
	%			
Non-family households				
Single persons	19.7	24.9	27.1	804
Other households	4.3	3.7	3.3	97
Total	24.0	28.6	30.4	901
Family households				
Couples without children	24.0	26.2	26.1	772
Two-parent families (intact)	39.5	32.5	29.0	859
Re-constituted families	2.6	3.4	4.0	118
Single-parent families	9.5	8.9	10.4	308
Other families	0.3	0.3**	0.2**	5
Total	76.0	71.4	69.6	2,062

1. Corresponds to an estimation of the number of households

**Imprecise estimate, indication only

Source: Institut de la statistique du Québec, *Enquête sociale et de santé 1998*.

Table 3.1.2

Socio-demographic characteristics of parents¹ living with at least one minor according to type of family, male and female heads of households with minors, Quebec, 1998

	Female parent				Male parent			
	Two-parent family	Re-constituted family	Single-parent family	Total	Two-parent family	Re-constituted family	Single-parent family	Total
	%							
Age group								
Less than 18 years	0.1**	0.3**	-	0.1**	0.0**	-	-	0.0**
25-34	3.9	3.9**	9.3**	4.8	1.7*	2.6**	-	1.8*
35-44	33.8	32.3	32.3	33.4	25.2	25.1	20.9*	25.0
45 years and older	14.5	8.2*	14.4	13.8	23.7	22.6	28.1*	23.8
Civil status								
Single	0.1**	-	48.9	8.4	0.1**	-	26.8*	1.2*
Married	77.7	23.1	-	58.5	77.6	22.6	0.7**	67.5
Common law	22.1	76.9	-	24.2	22.4	77.4	0.8**	28.3
Widowed, separated or divorced	0.2**	-	51.1	8.9	0.0**	-	71.8	3.0
Relative scolarity								
Very low	18.7	30.6	26.5	21.3	20.7	24.5	31.0*	21.6
Low	23.9	25.7	20.7	23.5	19.5	21.5	9.5**	19.3
Average	19.8	15.0*	18.9	19.1	15.9	14.4*	17.4**	15.7
High	18.6	15.9*	15.7	17.8	23.3	28.4	26.1	24.1
Very High	19.1	12.8*	18.3	18.2	20.6	11.3*	16.1**	19.2
Employment status								
Employed	61.7	66.6	57.8	61.6	92.4	83.6	80.6	90.8
Student	2.9	5.2**	8.8*	4.2	1.2*	2.4**	6.2**	1.5*
Homemaker	30.9	23.7	27.2	29.5	1.8*	3.9**	5.1**	2.2*
Retired	0.3**	-	0.3**	0.3**	0.5**	2.7**	1.7**	0.8*
Unemployed	4.2	4.5**	5.9*	4.5	4.1	7.4*	6.6**	4.6
Perception								
Comfortable	17.7	6.9**	5.1*	14.3	16.9	14.9*	12.1**	16.5
Sufficient income	65.2	60.2	49.3	61.9	64.0	57.9	51.9	62.8
Poor or very poor	17.1	32.9	45.6	23.8	19.1	27.1	36.1*	20.8

1. Includes persons who are not parents themselves but who are partners of a parent (reconstituted family only).

*Interpret with caution

**Imprecise estimate, indication only

Source: Institut de la statistique du Québec, *Enquête social et de santé 1998*.

Table 3.1.3

Quality of relations with minors and between partners, male and female parents according to type of family, male and female heads of households with minors, Quebec, 1998

	Female parent				Male parent			
	Two-parent family	Re-constituted family	Single-parent family	Total	Two-parent family	Re-constituted family	Single-parent family	Total
	%							
Relations with their own children								
No problem	48.9	35.2*	36.0	45.1	52.8	34.6	41.3*	50.4
Almost no problems or occasional problems	49.6	59.4	59.1	52.4	46.1	60.0	55.4	48.0
Frequent or constant problems	1.5**	5.4**	4.8**	2.5*	1.1**	5.4**	3.3*	0.1**
Relations with step-children								
No problem	-	31.8*	-	-	-	40.9	-	-
Almost no problems or occasional problems	-	39.4	-	-	-	54.7	-	-
Frequent or constant problems	-	28.8*	-	-	-	4.4*	-	-
Indicator of difficulty in relations between partners								
No difficulties	69.3	66.6	-	69.0	72.1	70.3	-	71.8
Minor difficulties	14.1	17.2*	-	14.5	12.6	15.0*	-	12.9
Average difficulties	9.6	8.4**	-	9.4	9.0	9.1**	-	9.0
Severe difficulties	7.0	7.8**	-	7.1	6.3	5.6**	-	6.2

*Interpret with caution

**Imprecise estimate, indication only

Source: Institut de la statistique du Québec, *Enquête sociale et de santé 1998*.

Table 3.1.4

Health indicators of parents of minors according to type of family, both sexes, families with minors, Quebec, 1998

	Two-parent family	Re-constituted family	Single-parent family	Total
	%			
Number of times alcohol consumed¹				
14 or more	6.0	11.8	6.0*	6.6
7-13	12.8	12.6	10.0*	12.5
1-6	36.5	30.8	35.9	35.8
None	31.0	30.8	30.3	30.9
Former drinker or abstinent	13.7	14.1	17.9	14.2
Use of tobacco				
Regular smoker	28.3	53.7	49.0	33.6
Occasional smoker	3.0	1.4**	2.1**	2.7
Former smoker	36.9	24.8	26.9	34.4
Never smoked	31.9	20.0	21.9	29.3
Food insecurity				
Yes	5.7	8.4	21.3	7.8
No	94.3	91.6	78.7	92.2
Indicator of psychological distress				
Low or average	82.5	70.8	67.8	79.5
High	17.5	29.2	32.2	20.5
Perception of state of health				
Excellent, very good or good	94.1	92.3	90.0	93.5
Average or poor	5.9	7.7*	10.0*	6.5
Number of health problems				
No problem	38.5	34.7	26.0	36.6
1 problem	27.8	27.0	22.6	27.1
More than 1 problem	33.8	38.3	51.4	36.3
Consumption of medication²				
None	53.5	50.0	41.5	51.7
1 or 2	37.2	38.4	43.4	38.1
3 or more	9.3	11.7	15.1	10.2

1. In the course of a seven-day period.

2. In the course of a two-day period.

*Interpret with caution

**Imprecise estimate, indication only

Source: Institut de la statistique du Québec, *Enquête social et de santé 1998*.

Table 3.1.5

Health indicators of parents of minors according to the sex of the parent and the type of family, male and female parents with minors, Quebec, 1998

	Female parent			Total	Male parent			Total
	Two-parent family	Re-constituted family	Single-parent family		Two-parent family	Re-constituted family	Single-parent family	
	%							
Number of times alcohol consumed ¹								
14 or more	2.0	7.5	4.2**	2.9	9.9	15.6*	15.9**	10.8
7-13	8.3	10.1*	10.0*	8.8	17.3	14.7*	10.0**	16.7
1-6	36.5	35.7	33.8	35.9	36.4	25.9	46.7	35.5
None	36.7	31.7	33.3	35.6	25.5	30.2	14.1**	25.7
Former drinker or abstinent	16.5	14.9*	18.7	16.7	10.9	13.5*	13.4**	11.3
Use of tobacco								
Regular smoker	26.9	58.3	49.1	34.3	29.5	49.5	47.8	32.8
Occasional smoker	3.0*	0.9**	2.3**	2.7	2.9*	2.0**	1.0**	2.7
Former smoker	35.8	24.3	26.0	32.8	38.0	25.0	32.9*	36.1
Never smoked	34.2	16.5*	22.5	30.3	29.6	23.5	18.4**	28.4
Food insecurity								
Yes	5.7	8.5*	24.0	9.2	5.7	8.5*	8.3**	6.2
No	94.3	91.5	76.0	90.8	94.3	91.5	91.7	93.8
Indicator of psychological distress								
Low or average	79.4	66.6	67.4	75.9	85.4	75.1	70.2	83.5
High	20.6	33.4	32.6	24.1	14.6	24.9	29.8*	16.5
Perception of state of health								
Excellent, very good or good	94.5	92.3	90.1	93.5	93.8	92.5	90.2	93.5
Average or poor	5.5	7.7*	10.0*	6.5	6.2	7.5*	9.8**	6.5
Number of health problems								
No problem	32.7	29.0	24.6	30.9	44.2	40.4	32.9	43.3
1 problem	26.5	23.8	20.9	25.2	29.1	30.3	31.1	29.3
More than 1 problem	40.8	47.3	54.5	43.9	26.7	29.4	36.1	27.4
Consumption of medication ²								
None	43.2	39.4	37.4	41.8	63.9	60.7	61.7	63.4
1 or 2	45.3	43.8	45.8	45.2	29.2	32.6	32.2*	29.7
3 or more	11.5	16.8	16.9	13.0	7.0	6.7*	6.1**	6.9

1. In the course of a seven-day period.

2. In the course of a two-day period.

*Interpret with caution

**Imprecise estimate, indication only

Source: Institut de la statistique du Québec, *Enquête sociale et de santé 1998*.

Table 3.1.6**Quality of relations with their ex-partners, separated parents according to sex, Quebec, 1998**

	Mothers	Fathers	Total
		%	
Climate at separation			
Good or fairly good	58.4	64.9	61.2
Poor or very poor	441.7	35.1	38.8
Contacts with the other parent			
Yes	74.2	82.9	78.0
No	25.8	17.1	22.0
Current climate with the other parent			
Good or fairly good	83.5	83.5	83.5
Poor or very poor	16.5	16.5	16.5
Satisfaction with the financial involvement of the other parent			
Satisfied	48.4	70.7	58.1
Not satisfied	51.6	29.3	41.9

Source: Institut de la statistique du Québec, *Enquête social et de santé 1998*.

Table 3.1.7**Family and non-family households by mother tongue, Quebec, 1998**

	N=	18211	1029	1045	445
		French	English	Other	n/a
Person alone		11.93%	15.26%	11.00%	18.65%
Couple without children		26.90%	25.56%	23.44%	28.09%
Other household		2.56%	3.11%	2.58%	4.04%
Two-parent with children		42.85%	40.52%	49.19%	33.03%
Reconstituted with children		1.34%	1.26%	1.15%	0.00%
Reconstituted without children		4.77%	3.98%	2.58%	5.39%
Single mother		7.18%	7.48%	8.52%	9.66%
Single father		2.02%	2.24%	1.24%	0.00%
Other family		0.44%	0.58%	0.00%	0.00%
		100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%

Source: Institut de la statistique du Québec, *Enquête sociale et de santé 1998*.

Table 3.1.8**Type of family with minor children by mother tongue, Quebec, 1998**

	N=	7748	393	450	132
		French	English	Other	n/a
Two-parent		75.01%	74.55%	81.11%	70.45%
Reconstituted family without common children		8.65%	8.14%	4.44%	11.36%
Reconstituted family with common children		3.10%	3.31%	2.44%	0.00%
Single mother		10.62%	11.70%	11.78%	15.91%
Single father		2.62%	2.29%	0.00%	0.00%
		100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%

Source: Institut de la statistique du Québec, *Enquête sociale et de santé 1998*.

Table 3.1.9**Number of children in families with minor children by mother tongue, Quebec, 1998**

	N=	7748	393	450	132
		French	English	Other	n/a
1 child		45.24%	46.82%	45.78%	44.70%
2 children		40.32%	37.40%	32.89%	35.61%
3 children or more		14.44%	15.78%	21.33%	19.70%
		100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%

Source: Institut de la statistique du Québec, *Enquête social et de santé 1998*.

Table 3.1.10**Age of the youngest child in families with minors by mother tongue, Quebec, 1998**

	N=	7748	393	450	132
		French	English	Other	n/a
0-5 years		33.21%	37.66%	40.44%	38.64%
6-14 years		42.63%	42.75%	40.67%	38.64%
15-17 years		24.16%	19.59%	18.89%	22.73%
		100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%

Source: Institut de la statistique du Québec, *Enquête social et de santé 1998*.

Table 3.1.11**Type of relationship with minor children by mother tongue, Quebec, 1998**

	N=	6302	341	226	99
		French	English	Other	n/a
No problem		46.14%	43.70%	58.41%	53.42%
Almost no problem		30.86%	35.78%	23.89%	26.03%
Occasional problem		20.04%	17.30%	15.93%	16.44%
Frequent problem		1.62%	2.05%	0.00%	0.00%
Constant problem		0.71%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
Refusal		0.62%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
		100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%

Source: Institut de la statistique du Québec, *Enquête social et de santé 1998*.

Table 3.1.12**Divorced or separated from the other parent by mother tongue, Quebec, 1998**

	N=	18211	1054	685	99
		French	English	Other	n/a
Yes		7.84%	7.40%	3.36%	4.27%
No		26.41%	24.86%	29.05%	11.91%
Refusal		0.36%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
		100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%

Source: Institut de la statistique du Québec, *Enquête social et de santé 1998*.

Table 3.1.13**Satisfaction with the financial involvement of the other parent by mother tongue, Quebec, 1998**

	N=	1407	74	52	19
		French	English	Other	n/a
Very satisfied		51.67%	41.89%	40.38%	26.32%
More or less satisfied		16.13%	20.27%	13.46%	31.58%
Unsatisfied		25.80%	28.38%	38.46%	26.32%
Unknown		6.40%	9.46%	0.00%	0.00%
		100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%

Source: Institut de la statistique du Québec, *Enquête social et de santé 1998*.