

**REVIEW OF CANADA'S COMBINED THIRD AND FOURTH REPORT ON THE
CONVENTION ON THE RIGHTS OF THE CHILD (CRC)**

Canada's response to the list of issues adopted by the Committee on the Rights of the Child in advance of the examination of Canada's combined Third and Fourth Report on the *Convention on the Rights of the Child* (CRC) (CRC/C/CAN/3-4)

September 2012

1. The following responds to the list of issues prepared by the United Nations Committee on the Rights of the Child related to the consideration of Canada's combined Third and Fourth Report on the *Convention on the Rights of the Child* (CRC), which includes an update on the *Optional Protocol to the CRC on the Involvement of Children in Armed Conflict* (OPAC). The response does not repeat information contained in this report, and provides information updated generally to March 2012.

INTRODUCTION

2. Canada has a federal system in which the Constitution of Canada confers legislative and executive powers on two levels of government, which are each sovereign in their respective spheres. There is a central government for all Canada, and a government for each province and territory. As a general rule, the Constitution gives the Parliament of Canada control over matters that are national in character, and gives the provincial and territorial legislatures jurisdiction in matters of a local nature. Each level of government has responsibility, within its respective sphere, for implementing the rights set forth in the CRC and its Optional Protocols.
3. Each level of government participated in the preparation of the present response. Where possible, responses to questions in the list of issues provide examples of measures undertaken by each level of government.
4. Under the auspices of the Continuing Committee of Officials on Human Rights, the principal forum responsible for intergovernmental consultations and information sharing on the ratification and implementation of international human rights treaties, the federal, provincial and territorial (F-P/T) governments met with civil society and Aboriginal organizations on June 19, 2012 to seek their views on key issues related to Canada's presentation of its Third and Fourth CRC Report and its Initial Report on the *Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the Sale of Children, Child Prostitution and Child Pornography*.

PART I

Issue 1: Please inform the Committee on the measures taken by the State party, if any, regarding the withdrawal of reservations to Art. 21 and 37(c) as recommended by the Committee in its previous Concluding Observations (CRC/C/15/Add.215 para. 7).

5. As discussed at paragraph 17 of Canada's Third and Fourth CRC Report, the rationale for Canada's reservation to Article 21 of the CRC remains unchanged. Following consultation with national Aboriginal organizations, Canada entered a reservation to Article 21 to ensure that it did not preclude customary adoptions and forms of alternative care among Aboriginal peoples ("custom adoptions"). Aboriginal groups have not expressed a desire for Canada to withdraw its limited reservation to Article 21.
6. With respect to the reservation to Article 37 (c) of the CRC, recent federal legislative reforms make it clear that no young person under 18 will serve their sentence in an adult institution, regardless of whether they were given an adult or youth sentence. Bill C-10,

the *Safe Streets and Communities Act*, which received Royal Assent on March 13, 2012, and is currently awaiting proclamation into force, will repeal section 76(2) of the *Youth Criminal Justice Act* and replace it with a provision that reads “no young person who is under the age of 18 years is to serve any portion of the imprisonment in a provincial correctional facility for adults or a penitentiary.”

Issue 2: Please inform the Committee on measures taken to incorporate the Convention on the Rights of the Child into national law and how it is reflected in the legal framework in its different levels, federal, provincial or territorial.

7. As explained in Canada’s Initial Report on the CRC, it is not the practice in Canada to enact one single piece of legislation to incorporate an entire international human rights convention into domestic law. Rather, Canada’s approach is to ensure that domestic legislation, policies and practices comply with the human rights treaty prior to its ratification. Many different federal, provincial and territorial laws incorporate aspects of the CRC into domestic law, which, together with constitutional measures and the numerous relevant policies, programs and other measures at all levels of government, serve to implement the CRC.

Issue 3: Please provide information on the implementation of Canada’s 2004 National Plan of Action for Children (CNPA), particularly with regard to the achievement of goals and objectives and impact by goal, sector and age group and percentage of budget allocated, at federal, provincial and territorial levels. Please also provide information on the current action plan for the implementation of children’s rights, its priorities, goals and targets, timetable and budget allocated, and if it takes the previous Committee’s Concluding Observations into consideration (CRC/C/15/Add.215, para. 13).

8. Through the implementation of initiatives that support the foundation of Canada’s 2004 national plan of action (NPA) – *A Canada Fit for Children* – Canada is achieving the four central NPA goals to support families and strengthen communities, promote healthy lives, protect children from harm and promote education and learning. While each level of government has jurisdiction over certain subject matters, Canada is committed to a structure of co-operative federalism based on continuous dialogue.
9. Some key F-P/T measures under the four central goals are described below. See the response to Part I, Issue 9, for additional information.

Supporting families and strengthening communities

10. The Government of Canada is committed to helping parents balance work and family life through the provision transfers to provinces and the territories and of over \$15.2 billion in 2011-2012 in support of early childhood development and child care, through direct spending and tax measures for families. This is the largest investment in early childhood development and child care in the history of Canada.
11. The Canada Social Transfer (CST) has been the main federal transfer to provinces and territories in support of families with children. CST cash transfers notionally allocated for

the support of families with children will be over \$1.2 billion in 2012-2013. The CST also provides cash support for post-secondary education, social assistance and social programs.

12. Introduced in 2006, the Universal Child Care Benefit is an approach to child care that both respects the role of parents in determining how best to care for their children, and recognizes the responsibility of provincial and territorial governments for the delivery of child care programs and services.
13. Through the Universal Child Care Benefit, the Government of Canada provides over \$2.6 billion annually directly to families for over two million young children, in addition to other supports including the Child Tax Credit and the Canada Child Tax Benefit, which includes the National Child Benefit Supplement.
14. The Federal Budget 2011 introduced a 15 percent non-refundable Children's Arts Tax Credit (CATC) to help families by recognizing the costs associated with children's artistic, cultural, recreational and developmental activities. The CATC is available for a wide range of activities that contribute to a child's development, and that are not eligible for the Children's Fitness Tax Credit (CFTC), introduced in 2007, which helps cover the registration and membership costs for prescribed program of physical activity. The CATC and CFTC are provided on up to \$500 of eligible fees per child under 16 years of age in respect of qualifying programs. In respect of children with a disability, the age limit is raised by two years, and an additional \$500 non-refundable amount is provided.
15. In 2007, the Government of Canada began to roll out the Enhanced Prevention Focused Approach (EPFA), a new approach to funding First Nations Child and Family Services (FNCFS) providers for on-reserve First Nation children and families on a province by province basis with ready and willing partners. By 2010, the Government of Canada was providing funds for EPFA to FNCFS service providers in six provinces: Alberta (2007), Saskatchewan (2008), Nova Scotia (2008), Quebec (2009), Prince Edward Island (2009), Manitoba (2010) and reaching about 68 percent of First Nation children and families on reserve. The Government of Canada is working to transition remaining jurisdictions by 2014-2015. Under this new approach, service providers have the funding flexibility they require to ensure enhanced prevention services are available to at-risk children and families before a situation escalates into one that requires protection.
16. The Government of Canada's funding for First Nations Child and Family Services has more than doubled over the past 14 years, from \$238 million in 1998-1999 to approximately \$600 million in 2011-2012. Under the six current tripartite frameworks, more than \$100 million per year in additional ongoing funding is now dedicated to implementing the new approach. In 2010-2011, approximately 163,700 First Nations children, up to 18 years of age, lived on reserve and had access to prevention and protection services through 105 FNCFS Agencies.
17. The Government of Canada's Assisted Living Program provides funding to assist in non-medical, social support services to children, adults and seniors residing on reserve, or

ordinarily resident on reserve, who have functional limitations due to age, health problems or disability in maintaining their independence, to maximize their level of functioning and to live in conditions of health and safety. The in-home care component of the program provides homemaker and non-medical support services; the institutional care component provides funding for non-medical support in an institutional setting; and, the adult foster care component provides supervision and care in a family setting.

18. At the provincial level, in 2008, the Government of Manitoba launched a Five-Year Agenda for Early Learning and Child Care¹ to provide high quality, accessible, affordable care for children through increased funding for new child care spaces as well as capital projects, a Workforce Stability Strategy for child-care workers and an increase in child-care facility grants.
19. In 2010, the Government of Quebec made legislative changes to the *Youth Protection Act* to provide greater stability to children living in foster care, by implementing the “projet de vie” initiative. These changes focus on six main objectives: (a) promoting stability and continuity for children; (b) promoting active participation of children and parents in decision making and selection of measures; (c) ensuring the exceptional nature of the State intervening in the lives of families; (d) reconciling the protection of children with respect for privacy; (e) updating court procedures; and (f) emphasizing placement in an intensive supervision unit as an exceptional measure.
20. The goal of Quebec’s Youth Action Strategy,² which covers the 35 years and under age group, is to provide youth with the necessary tools to promote academic and entrepreneurial success, enhance experience and training, improve living conditions, support youth having difficulties and encourage social engagement. Funding for the implementation of the 2009–2014 Youth Action Strategy is over \$2 million.
21. The Government of Nova Scotia launched the Child and Youth Strategy³ in 2007 as a multi-year, inter-sectoral initiative to identify policy opportunities, break down barriers, and develop innovative partnerships and initiatives to support children, youth and families in the province. Four key areas were at the centre of the Strategy for 2010-2011: youth engagement, collaborative service-delivery approaches, horizontal (governance) practices, and improving evaluation, data collection and sharing protocols. Examples of initiatives undertaken in support of these areas include providing youth engagement grants, and creating a plan to identify and implement data-collection practices that facilitate the sharing of information and evaluation of progress towards the outcomes of the Child and Youth Strategy.
22. In 2012, British Columbia launched the Nurse-Family Partnership (NFP) as an initiative of the Healthy Families BC prevention strategy. NFP is an evidenced-based structured, intensive, and sustained nurse home visitation program. It works to improve the health,

¹ Five-Year Agenda for Early Learning and Child Care, online:
www.gov.mb.ca/fs/childcare/familychoices/index.html.

² Additional information is available at: www.msss.gouv.qc.ca/en/sujets/groupe/youth.php.

³ Additional information is available at: www.gov.ns.ca/coms/families/childandyouthstrategy.html

wellbeing, and self- sufficiency of young, low-income, pregnant women who will be first-time mothers and their children – a population that is most likely to benefit from additional supports.

Promoting healthy lives

23. Canada is committed to promoting and maintaining the physical and mental health of all children in Canada. All levels of government have made additional funding commitments, and adopted a number of programs and initiatives since Canada's Third and Fourth CRC Report, examples of which are provided below. See also the response under Issue 10 for additional information.
24. In 1992, the Government of Canada launched Brighter Futures: Canada's Action Plan for Children, which put in place a number of initiatives aimed at promoting the health and well-being of children in support of Canada's CRC commitments, including the Brighter Futures and Building Healthy Communities Programs for First Nations and Inuit communities. Brighter Futures, which became the foundation for the health components of the 2004 Canada's National Action Plan (NPA), promotes the health and well-being of children through four broad elements: 1) Prevention (injury, surveillance, mental health initiatives); 2) Promotion (Health Babies, Breastfeeding Promotion, initiatives supporting families); 3) Protection (justice related programs regarding enforcement of family support, young offenders, missing children); and 4) Community Action (Community Action Program for Children/Canada Prenatal Nutrition Program).
25. The Canada Prenatal Nutrition Program⁴ (CPNP) funds community-based organizations to develop or enhance services that address the needs of prenatal and postpartum women facing challenging circumstances that put their health, and the health of their infant, at risk. CPNP distributes \$27.2 million annually to 320 projects across Canada. These projects serve 2,000 communities and 50,000 women and infants annually. In 2011-2012, an investment of \$31 million supported programs and services for 44,000 prenatal and postpartum women.
26. The Community Action Program for Children⁵ (CAPC) funds community-based organizations to develop and deliver comprehensive, culturally-appropriate early intervention and prevention programs that promote the health and social development of vulnerable children (0-6 years) and their families. CAPC distributes \$53.4 million annually to 441 projects across Canada. These projects serve 3,000 communities and more than 65,000 children, parents and caregivers each month.
27. The Government of Canada's Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FASD) Initiative works with partners in all levels of government, academia, professional organizations, and communities, to prevent FASD and improve outcomes for those affected.⁶ The FASD Initiative strives to increase public and professional awareness and understanding of

⁴ For additional details on the CPNP, see: www.phac-aspc.gc.ca/hp-ps/dca-dea/prog-ini/cnpn-pcnp/index-eng.php.

⁵ For additional details on the CAPC, see: www.phac-aspc.gc.ca/hp-ps/dca-dea/prog-ini/capc-pace/index-eng.php.

⁶ For additional details on the FASD Initiative, see: www.phac-aspc.gc.ca/hp-ps/dca-dea/prog-ini/fasd-etcaf/index-eng.php.

FASD and the impact of alcohol use during pregnancy, to develop and increase capacity, create effective national screening, diagnostic and data reporting tools and approaches, expand the knowledge base and facilitate information exchange and increase commitment and support for action on FASD.

28. The FASD Initiative is allocated \$3.3 million annually. A project funded under this initiative, and led by the Canadian Association of Paediatric Health Centres, is developing, implementing and evaluating a national FASD screening toolkit for children and youth identified and potentially affected by FASD. Further, the Government of Canada is funding the Centre for Addictions and Mental Health to undertake Canada's first comprehensive study on the economic costs of FASD in Canada
29. In recognition that physical activity plays an important role in the health, well-being and quality of life of Canadians, the Government of Canada works to increase the participation of children and youth in sport and recreation through support for national projects, such as ParticipACTION and Canadian Tire Jumpstart. ParticipACTION is a national not-for-profit organization dedicated to inspiring and supporting active living and sport participation for Canadians through awareness and education and by inspiring behavioural change to encourage Canadians, in particular, youth, to become more active. Canadian Tire Jumpstart is a national charitable program that helps financially disadvantaged children participate in organized sport and recreation, by covering registration, equipment and/or transportation costs.
30. The Government of Canada has been making progress on issues related to mental health through its work with children/youth, parents, schools, civil society organizations, and private industry. For example, in May 2012, the Mental Health Commission of Canada released its national strategy on mental health.⁷ The Government of Canada will continue to build on the work of the Mental Health Commission and its strategic directions, including working collaboratively with other government departments and stakeholders to ensure that children have a healthy emotional and social development to create the foundation for mental health and resilience in childhood and throughout life.
31. Since 2009, the Government of Canada, through the Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR), has funded numerous health research projects to increase knowledge in the areas of childhood obesity, maternal health, and mental health for children and youth. Between 2008-2009 and 2010-2011, CIHR funded over \$23 million in research related to childhood obesity; \$62 million in research related to mental health for children and developing youth; and \$381 million in research related to reproductive health, early child development, and child and youth health. For example, CIHR funded two grants related to "Access to Mental Health Services for Children and Youth"; the Maternal Health: From Pre-Conception to Empty Nest funding opportunity; and an India-Canada Joint Research Program on Obesity.
32. The Government of Alberta also recognizes the importance of a strong focus on mental health and wellness for all children and youth. A number of priority areas have been

⁷ The Mental Health Strategy for Canada, online www.mentalhealthcommission.ca/english/pages/default.aspx.

identified focusing on the promotion of positive mental health in Alberta schools, such as the Mental Health Capacity Building in Schools Initiative, the Adolescent Depression Pathway and the development of the Creating Connections: Alberta Addiction and Mental Health Strategy in September 2011.

33. In Manitoba, Canada's NPA is implemented through the Healthy Child Manitoba (HCM) Strategy, which is mandated by *The Healthy Child Manitoba Act*. The Strategy is led by the Healthy Child Committee of Cabinet, comprised of the 10 departments with relevant portfolios, which works with community partners, to develop, integrate, implement and evaluate policies, programs and services to help Manitoba's children, youth and their families achieve their fullest potential. The HCM focuses on child-centered public policy through the integration of financial and community-based family supports. For example, through the HCM, the Government of Manitoba launched the Youth Suicide Prevention Strategy (YSPS), which, through 19 initiatives, seeks to decrease suicide and suicidal behaviours, increase access to mental health services, and promote the mental health and well-being of youth, with a focus on Aboriginal youth.
34. British Columbia produces *Parent Resources* which is a suite of resources that provide easy-to-read, evidence-based and practical information for families. These include *Baby's Best Chance: Parent's Handbook of Pregnancy and Baby Care*; *Baby's Best Chance: A Guide for Expectant Parents (DVD)*; *Toddler's First Steps: A Best Chance Guide to Parenting Your 6- to 36-Month-Old Child (TFS)*; *Child Health Passport (CHP)*; and the *Best Chance Website* (www.bestchance.gov.bc.ca/).
35. In September 2011, the *Building Families and Supporting Youth to be Successful Act* came into force in Ontario. By making the adoption process easier, the goal of this Act is to improve health and social outcomes of children and youth who are in the care of the Children's Aid Societies.

Protecting children from harm

36. The Family Violence Initiative (FVI) and National Clearinghouse on Family Violence (NCFV)⁸ have been led by the Government of Canada since 1988. The FVI promotes public awareness of the risk factors of family violence, including child maltreatment, and the need for public involvement in responding to it; strengthens the capacity of the justice, housing, and health systems to respond; and supports data collection, research and evaluation efforts to identify effective interventions. Seven million dollars is allocated annually to support the activities of the FVI.
37. As part of the ongoing commitment under the FVI to provide public legal education and information on family violence, the Government of Canada released a new publication in 2012 entitled, *Child Abuse is Wrong: What Can I Do?*. The booklet explains the law on child abuse in Canada and helps readers identify, avoid and report potentially abusive situations in families.

⁸ For additional information, see: www.phac-aspc.gc.ca/ncfv-cnivf/initiative-eng.php and www.phac-aspc.gc.ca/ncfv-cnivf/familyviolence/initiative_e.html.

38. The Federal Victim Strategy is a wide-ranging government initiative that aims to increase the voice of the victims of crime in the criminal justice system and includes a multi-million dollar Victims Fund. The Victims Fund is available to a wide range of local, regional and national non-governmental organizations, provincial and territorial governments and individual victims of crime. The Victims Fund has contributed to measures to protect children in particularly vulnerable situations, including through:
- The creation or enhancement of Child Advocacy Centres across Canada that provide specialized, child focussed services to children and youth who have been victims of abuse or crime;
 - Funding for culturally-sensitive programs and services for Aboriginal victims and families of missing and murdered Aboriginal women;
 - Funding for provincial and territorial governments to increase access to victim services through program enhancements, including services for children and youth, as well as the purchase of testimonial aids to assist children and other vulnerable victims and witnesses.
39. The Government of Canada is deeply concerned about all forms of violence, particularly the high number of Aboriginal women and children who are affected. The Family Violence Prevention Program (FVPP) provides operational funding for a network of 41 shelters, and supports proposal-based prevention projects on reserve. The Government's Economic Action Plan 2012 has proposed funding of \$11.9 million over one year for the FVPP; these funds will allow the Government to continue with a total annual investment of \$30.4 million in family violence prevention programs and shelter services on reserve in 2012-2013.
40. The anticipated result of the FVPP is the enhanced safety and security of First Nations women and children by providing family violence prevention and protection services. In 2010-2011, approximately 3,143 women and 2,890 children accessed family violence shelter services and 270 proposal-based prevention projects were supported.
41. In addition to its funding for the First Nations Child and Family Services Program, noted above, the Government provided funding in 2008-2009 to support research on the overrepresentation of First Nations children in the child welfare system. The First Nations Component of the Canadian Incidence Study of Reported Child Abuse and Neglect (FNCIS) is a study of child welfare investigations involving First Nations children, which is embedded within a larger, cyclical national study of the reported incidence of child maltreatment: the Canadian Incidence Study of Reported Child Abuse and Neglect. The FNCIS' first report, entitled "Kiskisik Awasisak: Remember the Children. Understanding the Overrepresentation of First Nations Children in the Child Welfare System" released on November 2011,⁹ suggests that the rate of investigation for First Nations children was 4.2 times that of non-Aboriginal children.
42. Although the report does not make specific recommendations, it states that the overrepresentation of First Nations children (four First Nations children to one non-

⁹ Report online: www.cecw-cepb.ca/sites/default/files/publications/en/FNCIS-2008_March2012_RevisedFinal.pdf.

Aboriginal child) is driven predominantly by cases involving neglect, which is shown to be linked with household/family structural factors such as poverty, caregiver substance abuse, social isolation and domestic violence. The report identifies risk factors that contribute to First Nations overrepresentation in the child welfare system, such as:

- Domestic violence victimization in 43 percent of First Nations child investigations (vs. 30 percent of non-Aboriginal child investigations);
- Alcohol abuse in 40 percent of First Nations child investigations (vs. eight percent of non-Aboriginal child investigations);
- Drug/solvent abuse in 25 percent of First Nations child investigations (vs. 10 percent of non-Aboriginal child investigations);
- History of foster/group home care in 13 percent of First Nations child investigations (vs. five percent of non-Aboriginal child investigations).

43. At the provincial level, the Government of Alberta is developing new legislation to create caring, respectful and safe schools that are respectful of relationships between all individuals. The Government's Bullying Prevention Strategy¹⁰ provides resources and information on three websites and also provides a 24-hour helpline. The Strategy's goals are to raise awareness of what bullying is, identify what people can do to stop it, and encourage a change in societal attitudes towards bullying.
44. In 2008, the Government of Manitoba launched its Sexual Exploitation Strategy, a \$10 million dollar strategy to address the issue of sexual exploitation in the form of prostitution, sex trafficking, child pornography, Internet luring and child sex tourism as it affects children, youth and adults in Manitoba.¹¹ The Strategy was expanded in 2011 to include *The Child Sexual Exploitation and Human Trafficking Act* and other activities from 2011-2013, such as specialized sexual exploitation and human trafficking training for child protection agencies, child abuse co-ordinators and committees, and child protection workers.

Promoting education and learning

45. Canada's public education system falls under the jurisdiction of the provinces and territories, and all have programs in place to promote education and learning for all children in order to support their full participation in society; some examples are listed below. Some federal measures to support children's education and learning are also listed below.
46. In 2011, the Yukon Government launched the experiential Community, Heritage, Adventure, Outdoor and Skills 9 program for Whitehorse secondary school students in grades nine and ten. The program offers integration of subject areas and develops understanding and connections to First Nations knowledge, traditions, skills, values and beliefs in order to minimize disengagement from school, promote Aboriginal language development and improve graduation rates and achievement.

¹⁰ For additional information, see: www.child.alberta.ca/home/586.cfm.

¹¹ For additional information, see: www.gov.mb.ca/fs/traciastrust/index.html.

47. The Old Crow Northern Strategy, a three-year experiential and collaborative project that was also launched in the Yukon for the 2011-2012 school year, seeks to develop a rural First Nation experiential education model for kindergarten to grade 9. A major component of this project is to bring the cultural and the academic curriculum together by implementing field trips and “on the land” activities for quality experiential learning.
48. At the federal level, Registered Education Savings Plans (RESPs) are tax-assisted plans designed to help families save for the post-secondary education of their children. Contributions to an RESP are not deductible for income tax purposes and are not taxed upon withdrawal. Investment income earned in the plan is generally included in the income of the plan’s beneficiary for tax purposes upon withdrawal. A lifetime contribution limit of \$50,000 applies in respect of each beneficiary of an RESP. The Canada Education Savings Program (CESP) provides additional assistance to encourage saving in RESPs through the Canada Education Savings Grant (CESG) and the Canada Learning Bond (CLB).
49. The CESG provides a basic grant of 20 percent on the first \$2,500 in annual contributions to an RESP, which is available to all Canadians under 18 years of age regardless of their family income; and an additional grant of 10 percent on the first \$500 of contributions for families with a net income between \$42,707¹² and \$85,414 (for 2012); or 20 percent on the first \$500 of contributions for families with net income of \$42,707 or less. Every child under 18 is eligible to receive the CESG as long as they are a Canadian resident and have a valid Social Insurance Number. As of December 2011, over three million beneficiaries (aged 0-17) have received a CESG since its inception in 1998.
50. For children born on or after January 1, 2004, who are in low-income families (i.e., eligible for the National Child Benefit Supplement) or under the care of a public trustee, the CLB provides an initial payment of \$500 followed by payments of \$100 each year the child remains eligible, up to age 15 (for a maximum of \$2,000). The CLB is paid directly into an RESP, meaning that eligible families do not need to contribute to the RESP in order to receive it. As of December 2011, almost 387,000 children were in receipt of the CLB since its inception in 2004. The CLB participation rate has grown steadily, from 4.6 percent of eligible low-income children in 2006 to 24.4 percent in 2011.
51. The CESP is a statutory program. In 2011, the CESP disbursed \$703 million in CESG payments and over \$79 million in CLB payments to beneficiaries, for a total of over \$782 million.
52. The Government of Canada also supports a variety of charitable organizations involved in addressing the needs of children, including their education and learning. In 2010, for example, it announced an investment of \$20 million to support Pathways to Education Canada, a charitable organization dedicated to alleviating poverty by reducing the high school drop-out rate among at-risk youth. Working with community partners, Pathways to Education Canada is currently operating in 11 communities and has yielded impressive

¹² Net family income levels are subject to annual indexing for inflation.

results by offering a comprehensive suite of supports for young people including tutoring, career counselling, mentoring and bursaries.

53. The Government of Canada has been working with provinces and territories through the Joint Consortium for School Health (JCSH). Established in 2005, the JCSH is an intersectoral collaboration that acts as a catalyst in building the capacity of health and education systems to work together to improve the health and well-being of Canadian children and youth in the school setting. This collaborative partnership provides tools, resources, and a national forum for sharing knowledge, coordinating priorities, and aligning the work of health and education ministries throughout the country. Their membership in the Joint Consortium allows jurisdictions to leverage products and knowledge to enhance capacity within their broad school health communities.

Issue 4: Please inform the Committee whether due consideration is being given to the establishment of a national coordination mechanism, in particular between the federal, provincial and territorial authorities, for the implementation of policies, as mentioned in this Committee's previous Concluding Observations (CRC/C/15/Add.215 para. 11).

54. Canada endeavours to strengthen effective coordination in the implementation of policies on children's rights through various intergovernmental and interdepartmental mechanisms as well as agreements with Aboriginal partners.
55. As addressed at paragraphs 18 and 19 of Canada's Third and Fourth CRC Report, coordination of legislation, policies and programs related to children is achieved through various federal-provincial-territorial (F-P/T) mechanisms. Additional examples include:
- The P/T Directors of Child Welfare Committee, which reports to the P/T Deputy Ministers Responsible for Social Services, advises on emerging issues; collaborates on relevant national research and data collection activities; and provides a forum for the exchange of best practice information.
 - The Coordinating Committee of Senior Officials (CCSO) – Family Justice is a committee of family justice services and policy officials that reports to and takes direction from F-P/T Deputy Ministers responsible for Justice on family justice related matters. As an example of F-P/T collaboration, the CCSO – Family Justice and its Working Group on Child Support were key in developing the 2011 updates to the Federal Child Support Tables, found in Schedule I of the Federal Child Support Guidelines, which are used to determine child support amounts.
 - The Ad Hoc F-P/T Working Group on Family Violence, created in 2011 with representation from most provinces and territories, is mandated to examine issues related to the intersection of the family (including child protection) and the criminal justice system responses to family violence. The Group will report on the challenges posed by potentially inconsistent or conflicting justice system responses to family violence, particularly as they relate to children, and share promising practices to address these challenges.

56. In addition, Canada endeavours to strengthen coordination through interdepartmental mechanisms established in all levels of government.
57. The Interdepartmental Working Group on Children's Rights (IWGCR) referenced at paragraph 34 of Canada's Third and Fourth CRC Report enhances federal coordination on developments and best practices relating to child rights. In 2009, the IWGCR organized a conference to increase awareness among federal officials of Canada's obligations under the CRC and its Optional Protocols.
58. At the provincial level, the Government of British Columbia launched the Child Rights in Practice internal website to share information and resources for child and family staff in support of further implementation of child rights, including ways that service providers, caregivers and relevant others can effectively advocate for children and youth in care. Child and youth rights-related publications have also been produced and made publicly available.¹³
59. In 2011, the Government of the Northwest Territories endorsed the Healthy Choices Framework – a territorial-wide approach to encouraging and supporting residents to make healthy and safe choices in health and education – as a mechanism to improve interdepartmental coordination on the health of children and families, focusing on mental wellness, injury prevention, healthy sexuality, living tobacco free, healthy eating and physical activity.
60. A number of tripartite agreements have been signed between the Government of Canada, several provincial and territorial governments, and First Nations organizations that facilitate the delivery of enhanced and culturally appropriate services in areas such as health, child welfare, and education. Information regarding the eight tripartite education partnerships across Canada is provided below in response to Issue 10.

Issue 5: Please inform the Committee on whether the State party has a unified system for data collection and analysis with a child-rights focus, covering all groups of children, with disaggregated data by age, sex, provinces/territories, socio-economic background and ethnic origin.

61. Recognising Canada's federal system and shared F-P/T responsibilities on children's issues, numerous F-P/T data sources exist that together collect the data necessary to inform policy and program development for children and families.
62. Nationally, data on children is drawn from a variety of Statistics Canada sources, such as the Census of Canada, the Labour Force Survey, the Survey of Labour and Income Dynamics, the General Social Survey, the Health and Activity Limitation Survey, and the Canadian National Child-Care Study, as well as from other federal government departments (for example, the Youth in Transition Survey, the Programme for the International Student Assessment, and the Health Behaviour in School-aged Children survey). The National Longitudinal Survey of Children and Youth (NLSCY) and the

¹³ Publications available at: www.mcf.gov.bc.ca/reports_publications.htm.

Aboriginal Children's Survey (ACS) are two notable examples of data sources on children.

63. The NLSCY, a long-term study of Canadian children that followed their development and well-being from birth to early adulthood, is designed to collect information about factors influencing a child's social, emotional and behavioural development and to monitor the impact of these factors on the child's development over time. The eighth NLSCY report for the 2008-2009 data collection was released in November 2010.¹⁴ The Survey of Young Canadians (SYC) conducted in 2010 was developed following the completion of the NLSCY. The SYC covers children aged one to nine, and the same topics previously covered by the NLSCY, but will not follow children over time.
64. The ACS, established in 2006, is a national survey designed to provide a picture of the early development of Aboriginal (Métis, Inuit, and off-reserve First Nations) children and the social and living conditions in which they are learning and growing. The survey provides an extensive set of data about Aboriginal children under six years of age in urban, rural, and northern locations across Canada. It collects information every five years on a wide range of topics, including child's health, sleep, nutrition, development, nurturing, child care, school, language, behaviour, and activities. Data for the 2006 ACS was published in October 2008.¹⁵ In 2012, information will be collected on well-being of First Nations children aged 1 to 5 years old living on-reserve and in northern communities (see Issue 6 for more details).
65. In addition, Statistics Canada collects information on youth involved in the criminal justice system through: the Uniform Crime Reporting Survey, the Youth Court Survey, the Youth Community and Correctional Services Survey, the Integrated Correctional Services Survey and the Corrections Key Indicator Report for Adults and Young Offenders.
66. Provincial and territorial governments rely on Statistics Canada data and collect data within their individual jurisdictions and spheres of responsibility. For example, the Government of Alberta tracks statistics through the organisations that deliver their Victims of Crimes Fund programming. Further, provinces and territories are part of the National Child Welfare Outcomes Matrix (NOM), which provides a framework for collecting data and tracking outcomes for children and families receiving child welfare services that can be used as a common set of indicators across jurisdictions in four areas: child safety, child well-being, permanence, and family and community support. The latest version of the NOM was published in July 2009.¹⁶
67. As a further example, the Government of Manitoba, in accordance with its mandate under *The Healthy Child Manitoba Act*, monitors its HCM Strategy, reports regularly on

¹⁴ The eighth NLSCY report is available online:

www23.statcan.gc.ca/imdb/p2SV.pl?Function=getSurvey&SDDS=4450&lang=en&db=imdb&adm=8&dis=2.

¹⁵ 2006 Aboriginal Children's Survey, online: www.statcan.gc.ca/pub/89-634-x/89-634-x2008001-eng.pdf.

¹⁶ National Child Welfare Outcomes Indicator Matrix, online: www.cccw-cepb.ca/sites/default/files/publications/en/NOM_Sept09.pdf.

children's development and evaluates whether programs for children are working. The Act further requires the HCM Office to develop and deliver a Status of Manitoba Children's Outcomes Report every five years, with the first one currently under development. A key priority in this research and evaluation work is the linkage of population-based data sets to delineate the pathway of childhood development, including birth data, school readiness data, school performance data, and high school completion data. The province of Manitoba also supports other data collection activities that are relevant, such as through the funding it provides to the Manitoba Centre for Health Policy, which produces the Child Health Atlas.¹⁷

Issue 6: Please provide information on the main issues raised by the 2006 Aboriginal Children's Survey, and their follow-up in policy and programme terms, both at national, provincial and territorial levels. In this respect, please inform the Committee whether plans are underway to improve statistics in order to ensure that Aboriginal people are represented appropriately.

68. The Aboriginal Children's Survey (ACS) is described in response to Part I, Issue 5 above. The following are examples of the main results of the 2006 ACS, and some related initiatives.
69. In 2006, about 47 percent of First Nations children under six years old living off-reserve were in some form of day time child care arrangement. For 85 percent of them, it was because their parents or guardians were at work or at school and about 24 percent of them were in child care arrangements that promoted First Nations, Métis or Inuit traditional and cultural values and customs, and 15 percent were in child care arrangements where Aboriginal languages were used.
70. The First Nations and Inuit Child Care Initiative (FNICCI), which provides access to quality child care services for First Nations and Inuit children whose parents are starting a new job or participating in a training program, was created in 1995. Part of the Aboriginal Skills and Employment Training Strategy (ASETS), the FNICCI is a \$55 million program that has supported over 8,500 child care spaces in 486 First Nations and Inuit communities across Canada. In 2006, three out of four, two to five year old First Nations children living off-reserve (74 percent) read or looked at books, listened to stories and counted on a daily basis.¹⁸
71. The 2012 Government of Canada Report on the Well-Being of Canada's Young Children used 2006 ACS data on the percentage of Aboriginal children who listened to stories, read and counted at least once per day to assess young children's cognitive development.
72. Further work is being conducted using 2006 ACS data, with a focus on mental health determinants. The study "Determinants of mental health and well-being of Aboriginal children" examines the parent-reported mental health of First Nations children living off reserve, Métis children and Inuit children 2-5 years of age. Mental health problems are

¹⁷ Available online: http://mchp-appserv.cpe.umanitoba.ca/reference/Child_Health_Atlas_Update_Final.pdf.

¹⁸ For additional information, see: www.statcan.gc.ca/pub/89-644-x/2010001/article/11279-eng.pdf.

being assessed by examining pro-social skills, displays of aggressive behaviours, inattention, hyperactivity and/or anxiety. Researchers will examine a number of determinants of mental health such as: sex, household size, household income, satisfaction with housing conditions, parents' self-rated health, food insecurity, and breast-feeding. The ultimate purpose is to inform policy development and improve programs that promote and protect the health of Aboriginal children at an early stage.

73. The 2006 ACS was used as the research foundation for the launch of the 2011 Best Brain Exchange to improve understanding and knowledge on the mental health and well-being of Aboriginal children. The targeted group of children for the focus of this exchange were those living in urban and northern settings under the age of six.
74. At the provincial level, the Government of Alberta, following a comprehensive review of the child intervention system,¹⁹ is enhancing the capacity and cultural competence of the system to serve Aboriginal children and families through a new Aboriginal Policy and Community Engagement Division, created to promote Aboriginal perspectives when developing programs and delivering services for Aboriginal children and families, through two large research projects on the over- and under-representation of Aboriginal people in government systems and social reconciliation through community collaboration.
75. In 2011, the Government of Quebec subsidized 3,659 child care spaces in Aboriginal communities, for a total of \$40 million per year. These spaces include infrastructure, maintenance, educators' salaries and the maintenance of programs for young children, from infants to preschool age.

Statistics relating to Aboriginal people, including children

76. The following are a few examples of measures undertaken to continue to improve statistics relating to Aboriginal people, including children.
77. The Government of Canada funded the first two cycles (2002-2003 and 2008-2010) of the First Nations Regional Health Survey (RHS), a national survey which is managed and conducted by First Nations, and collects information based on both Western and traditional understandings of health and well-being for First Nations children, adolescents and adults living on-reserve. The Government continues to support the survey while drawing heavily on RHS results for evidence-based policy development and program planning directed to First Nations children and their families. For example, data on breastfeeding identified key information gaps and the need for more targeted studies of the breastfeeding practices of First Nations women, which will be used to improve programs and services.
78. The Government of Canada funded reports on Inuit early childhood health in Canada using data from the ACS that will be used to inform policy and program development.

¹⁹ "Closing the Gap Between Vision and Reality: Strengthening Accountability, Adaptability and Continuous Improvement in Alberta's Child Intervention System", online:
www.child.alberta.ca/home/documents/childintervention/CIS_Review_Report_for_web.pdf.

Recent reports have focussed on sleep practices among Inuit infants and the prevention of Sudden Infant Death Syndrome, as well as breastfeeding rates among Inuit populations. The Government is conducting a specific study, the Canadian Maternity Experiences Survey, on Aboriginal mothers using data from the Maternal Experiences Survey.²⁰ The Government is also analyzing the nutrition-related data from the ACS as well as other sources in order to learn more about issues such as consumption of traditional foods, food insecurity, healthy eating and healthy weights, which will inform policy and program development for First Nations and Inuit communities.

79. The Indigenous Children's Health Report: Health Assessment in Action,²¹ which assessed the health status of Indigenous children in Canada, the United States, Australia and New Zealand, was released in 2009 with funding from the Government of Canada. Data from various sources, including the ACS, the APS, and the RHS, was used to produce the Canadian content of the report. The report is intended to contribute to the translation of health information into evidence-based policies, practices, and services for Aboriginal children in Canada.
80. Implementation of the fourth generation of the Aboriginal Peoples Survey (APS) is currently underway. This survey initiative is expected to produce high quality information to support a wide range of decision making activities for all levels of governments, including First Nation, Métis and Inuit organizations, particularly in the areas of Aboriginal youth, education and employment.
81. As part of this implementation, the Government of Canada is partnering with the First Nation Information Governance Centre (FNIGC) who will conduct the survey with First Nations living on-reserve and in northern First Nation communities. This survey will include supplementary questions relating to early childhood development (children aged one to five years old). As with past generations of the survey, a similar survey will be conducted with First Nations living off-reserve, Métis and Inuit peoples. The survey, carried out by Statistics Canada, contains questions relating to employability and education outcomes for Aboriginal children living off-reserve, aged six years and older.
82. The information collected from these surveys will help to provide a better understanding of challenges and the opportunities that lead to higher levels of educational attainment and employment, particularly for Aboriginal youth, both on- and off-reserve. Additional information on health, language, income, housing and mobility will be collected to ensure the continuity of the data compiled in past iterations of this survey (1991, 2001 and 2006). The results are expected to be made available incrementally between 2013 and 2016.

Issue 7: Please provide information regarding the establishment of a federal ombudsman's office responsible for children's rights, in conformity with the principles relating to the status of national institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights (Paris

²⁰ Survey results available online: www.phac-aspc.gc.ca/rhs-ssg/survey-eng.php.

²¹ For information on the Indigenous Children's Health Report: Health Assessment in Action, see: www.stmichaelshospital.com/crich/indigenous_childrens_health_report.php.

Principles), that coordinates with the ombudsmen at provincial and territorial levels, as suggested in this Committee's previous Concluding Observations (CRC/C/15/Add.215 para. 15).

83. Many issues relating to children fall within the jurisdiction of the provinces and territories and independent children's commissioners, advocates or ombudspersons have been established in most provinces and territories. Each of these institutions monitors laws, policies, programs and services for children within their jurisdiction; advise the relevant government, legislature and other competent body on specific violations of children's rights; consult one another; educate and inform the public on children's rights; and some are given a quasi-judicial competence. Their respective roles and responsibilities are further explained in Appendix 3 to Canada's Third and Fourth CRC Report. As an example of enhancements, in 2011, a new advocacy protocol was established between British Columbia's child and family services and the Representative for Children and Youth (RCY), to ensure both are committed to working together in promoting and supporting meaningful and effective advocacy on behalf of children and youth receiving government services.²²
84. In 1996, these independent offices formed the Canadian Council of Provincial Child and Youth Advocates, which meets twice yearly to share information and explore possibilities for effective advocacy.
85. In addition, F-P/T governments continue to coordinate their efforts on issues relating to children through various forums. As noted in response to Part I, Issue 4 above, the Government of Canada coordinates actions and addresses areas of greatest need through working groups and committees, both longstanding, such as the Continuing Committee of Officials on Human Rights, and more recently created such as the Interdepartmental Working Group on Children's Rights.
86. The Government of Canada acknowledges both the importance of its strong partnerships with the provinces and territories and the effective work done by established independent children's commissioners, advocates or ombudspersons in many provinces and territories. The work of those bodies and ongoing partnerships ensure that, together, Canada promotes and protects the rights of children.

Issue 8: Please provide detailed information and data, based on research or analysis, regarding respect for the views of the child, especially in judicial and administrative proceedings affecting the child, as established in article 12 of the Convention.

87. In Canada, the views of the child are taken into account in various judicial and administrative proceedings affecting the child.

²² Advocacy Protocol between The Ministry of Children and Family Development and The Representative for Children and Youth, online: www.mcf.gov.bc.ca/child_protection/pdf/rcy_advocacy_protocol.pdf.

Family Law

88. In the family law context, the views of the child may be brought to the attention of the court through representation of the child by counsel, an assessment of the child's situation by a mental health professional, testimony or an affidavit by the child, or a judicial interview.
89. In custody and access matters, the federal *Divorce Act* and provincial and territorial legislation applicable to separation, provide that all decisions related to the parenting arrangements of children must be made in the best interests of the child. While the *Divorce Act* does not list factors that the court must consider in coming to this determination, the jurisprudence has recognized that one important consideration in determining the best interests of the child is the views and preferences of the child. Provincial and territorial legislation explicitly identifies the views of the child as a factor to be taken into account when the court is making a determination.
90. For example, in 2010, Manitoba added best interests criteria in relation to child custody and access proceedings to *The Family Maintenance Act* that include the views and preferences of the child, where the court considers it appropriate to ascertain them. In 2011, the province of British Columbia passed the *Family Law Act* which:
 - Makes children's best interests the only consideration in parenting disputes and identifies children's safety as an overarching objective of the best interests of the child test;
 - Adds further best interests factors, including the history of the child's care, family violence, and consideration of civil or criminal proceedings relevant to the safety or well-being of the child; and
 - Allows that parenting agreements may be set aside if they are not in the best interests of the child.
91. The province of Manitoba also has a Brief Consultation Service that provides families, their lawyers, and the court with brief consultations regarding the wishes or concerns of children aged 11 to 16 in custody and access cases. In Saskatchewan, "Hearing Children's Voices" is an assessment service focussing on the child's perspective in separation and divorce. Once the court orders an assessment, a social worker interviews the child, who is at least 12 years old, and prepares, within a short period of time, a written report expressing the child's views for the court.
92. In Quebec, the best interest of the child is the key principle in all contexts, including family law. The Quebec *Civil Code* indicates that decisions concerning a child must be made in the child's interest and respect the child's rights by taking all relevant factors into consideration. The *Civil Code* also sets out that a court must, each time it reviews a request that involves the best interest of the child, give the child the opportunity to be heard if the child's age and maturity permit. Children over 14 years of age must be notified about proceedings that concern them.

93. In November 2011, the Government of the Northwest Territories implemented an Office of the Children's Lawyer to provide legal representation to children in custody or child welfare cases.
94. With respect to raising awareness of the importance of hearing children's voices in family law matters, the Government of Canada provided funding in 2009 to the National Judicial Institute for a project entitled *A Consultation on the Voice of the Child*. The overall goal of the project was to learn how to better bring the voice of the child into family law proceedings. In the same year, the Government also supported research in this area: *The Voice of the Child in Separation/Divorce Mediation and Other Alternative Dispute Resolution Processes: A Literature Review*.²³ The publication addresses the participation of children in the separation and/or divorce process, and in particular the integration of the child's voice in alternative dispute resolution approaches, such as mediation.

Youth Justice

95. The *Youth Criminal Justice Act* (YCJA) specifically recognizes the right of youth to be heard in the course of proceedings against them and to participate in the criminal justice process. For example, youth have the right to counsel at any stage of the proceedings. Also, at various stages of the criminal proceedings, the consent of the youth must be obtained in order to proceed with a given course of action, such as the use of extrajudicial sanctions. Under the YCJA, youth are given an opportunity to participate in meetings convened to provide advice to decision-makers, such as youth court judges and police officers, on matters relating to appropriate extrajudicial measures, conditions of release from pre-trial detention, sentences, and reintegration plans. The YCJA also provides that youth sentenced to custody must be given an opportunity to express their views with respect to determinations about levels of custody, and they must be involved in developing their reintegration plans.
96. In the province of Ontario's youth justice system, respect for the youth's view is embedded in all standards, policies and case management. For example, youth admitted to services are informed of their rights of access to advocacy and complaint mechanisms; information and support about applying to Ontario's custody Review Board for a review of decisions is provided to young persons; young persons are given the opportunity to be heard regarding their views and preferences prior to being transferred to an adult provincial correctional facility (after attaining appropriate age); and a single case manager for sentenced youth who is actively involved in the case management and reintegration planning process.

Child Victims of Crime

97. In 2006, the *Criminal Code* was amended to make the use of testimonial aids mandatory upon application in any criminal proceeding for persons under 18 years of age unless they would interfere with the proper administration of justice. Testimonial aids, which make it

²³ Birnbaum, Rachel, *The Voice of the Child in Separation/Divorce Mediation and Other Alternative Dispute Resolution Processes: A Literature Review*, online: <http://canada.justice.gc.ca/eng/pi/fcy-fea/lib-bib/rep-rap/2009/vcsdm-pvem/index.html>.

easier for vulnerable witnesses to provide their testimony, include closed-circuit television, witness screens and a support person who may be present during the delivery of testimony. In 2010, a study by Bala et al.²⁴ on the implementation of these amendments found that the judges in the four jurisdictions surveyed were using the amendments and found them helpful. Furthermore, a 2009 evaluation²⁵ examined the use of the Federal Victims Fund to purchase equipment for testimonial aids and found that the option of testifying with the assistance of testimonial aids increased the willingness of victims to testify and eased the anxiety of victims and their families.

Child Protection Proceedings

98. All provincial and territorial child protection laws provide children with the right to have their views considered by those making decisions that affect them in this context.

Immigration and Refugee Proceedings

99. Under the *Immigration and Refugee Protection Act* (IRPA), the Immigration and Refugee Board of Canada (IRB) is required to designate a representative for children under 18 years of age who are the subject of proceedings before the IRB. The role of the designated representative includes, inter alia, the responsibility to retain counsel for the minor child, to ensure the child understands the nature of the proceedings, to gather evidence in support of the child's claim and to protect the best interests of the child.
100. In terms of humanitarian and compassionate considerations in refugee protection applications, there is a statutory obligation to consider the best interests of a minor child directly affected by a decision under the IRPA. While adult applicants may present submissions from or on behalf of their dependent children, immigration officers must consider the increasing capacity of children to present their own views as they mature. The manual on Processing Claims for Refugee Protection in Canada, which includes guidelines on minor children, was updated in 2012 and contains a clear directive that children be given an opportunity to express their views in these proceedings.
101. As discussed at paragraph 100 of Canada's Third and Fourth CRC Report, the Guardianship Protocol also requires that minors be consulted about the prospective resettlement solution and given the opportunity to express their views regarding the arrangements being made for them.

Issue 9: Please provide information on the actual impact in poverty reduction, disaggregated by sex, age, minority and ethnic origin, of the various child and family benefits introduced since 2005 (Child Disability Benefit, the Universal Child Care Benefit, the Registered Disabilities Savings Plans, the Child Tax Credit and the Working Income Tax Benefit), at national, provincial and territorial levels.

102. Canada has undertaken a number of initiatives that have contributed to a reduction in poverty amongst Canadian children. The Government of Canada provides over \$14 billion per year in benefits for families with children through the Canada Child Tax

²⁴ Details of the study are online: www.justice.gc.ca/eng/pi/rs/rep-rap/2010/rr10_vic3/rr10_vic3.pdf.

²⁵ Details of the evaluation are on online: www.justice.gc.ca/eng/pi/eval/rep-rap/11/fvs-sfv/fvse-esfv.pdf.

Benefit (CCTB), including the National Child Benefit (NCB) Supplement for low-income families, and through the Universal Child Care Benefit (UCCB), and the Child Tax Credit (CTC). These initiatives have concretely improved the outcomes of low-income Canadians.

103. The CCTB provides income support to Canadian families with children to help them with the cost of raising their children. The CCTB includes a base benefit, which is paid to over 80 percent of Canadian families with children, and a NCB Supplement for low-income families. The CCTB, including the NCB Supplement, provides a tax-free monthly benefit of up to \$3,485 per year for the first eligible child under the age of 18, \$3,240 for the second child, and \$3,244 for the third and each additional child.
104. The NCB initiative has been successful in reducing the incidence of families with children living in low-income and in reducing the severity of low income for those families who continue to live below the low-income threshold. It prevented an estimated 171,100 children in 78,800 families from living in low income in 2005. The 2009 Federal Budget raised the level at which the NCB Supplement is fully phased out, and at which point the CCTB base benefit begins to be phased out, allowing families to earn additional income and still qualify for a full or partial benefit. This provides an additional annual benefit of up to \$443 for a family with two children in the 2011-2012 benefit years.
105. The UCCB provides all Canadian families with \$100 a month for every child under the age of six to assist with the cost of any form of child care they choose. As noted in the response to Issue 3, the UCCB provides over \$2.6 billion annually to 1.6 million families for over two million young children. It has also lifted an estimated 24,000 families with about 55,000 children out of low income.
106. Furthermore, the CTC, introduced in 2007, provides up to \$329 in personal income tax relief for each child under age 18 in 2012. Over 3.5 million Canadian parents claimed the CTC for an estimated expenditure of \$1.5 billion in 2011.
107. The Working Income Tax Benefit (WITB), introduced in 2007, supplements the earnings of low-income working individual and families and helps ensure that individuals and families on social assistance are financially better off as a result of working. The WITB was enhanced by \$580 million in 2009, effectively doubling the initial investment. In 2011, over \$1 billion in WITB benefits was provided to individuals and families. Furthermore, the WITB provides higher benefits to families, including single parents in recognition of the greater barriers they face to obtain employment, than to single individuals. For 2012, the WITB provides (with some provincial variation) up to \$1,762 to families and \$970 to single individuals.
108. Canada also makes significant investments annually in targeted benefits and services to Canadians with disabilities and those who care for them. For example, the Registered Disability Savings Plan (RDSP) is a tax-assisted savings plan that helps individuals with severe disabilities eligible for the Disability Tax Credit (DTC), their parents, family members and others save for their long-term financial security. The Government of

Canada supports RDSPs through Canada Disability Savings Grants (CDSGs) , which are provided at a matching rate of up to 300 percent depending on the amount contributed and family income, and Canada Disability Savings Bonds (CDSBs), which provide support of up to \$1,000 a year into the RDSPs of low- and modest-income RDSP beneficiaries. Beneficiaries, their families and others have contributed over \$220 million to these plans, and the Government has provided approximately \$450 million in support through CDSGs and CDSBs.

109. In Budget 2010, the RDSP was improved by allowing beneficiaries to carry forward unused grant and bond entitlements for a 10-year period (starting from 2008, the year RDSPs became available), in recognition that families may not be able to contribute regularly to these plans. In addition, to give parents and grandparents more flexibility in providing for a child with a disability's long-term financial security, rules were amended to allow a deceased individual's Registered Retirement Savings Plan or Registered Retirement Income Fund proceeds and certain Registered Pension Plan proceeds to be transferred, on a tax-free basis, to the RDSP of a financially dependent child or grandchild with a disability. Budget 2012 proposes a number of measures to improve RDSPs by, for example, facilitating the establishment of plans for those who may not be able to enter into a contract, providing greater access and flexibility to make withdrawals, allowing investment income earned in a RESP to be transferred on a tax-free basis to an RESP beneficiary's RDSP, and providing greater continuity for the long-term saving of beneficiaries who cease to qualify for the DTC in certain circumstances.

Issue 10: Please provide more information on the efforts in fighting the gaps between Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal children in the fulfilment of their rights to health and education. On health, please provide information on the impact on aboriginal children and youth of investment in the Maternal Child Health Program, the First Nations and Inuit Health Programs, the National Aboriginal Youth Suicide Prevention Strategy, the National Anti-Drug Strategy, the National Native Alcohol and Drug Abuse Program and Youth Solvent Abuse program, among others mentioned in the State party's report. On education, please provide information on the impact on aboriginal children and youth of the initiatives to support culturally relevant elementary, secondary and post-secondary education for First Nations and Inuit students, the Aboriginal Head Start Program and the 2008 Road Map for Linguistic Duality.

Health

110. Provincial and territorial governments have responsibility for the administration and delivery of health services, including health services for all children. The Government of Canada has primary responsibility for health services for children living on reserve.
111. Since Canada's Third and Fourth CRC Report, governments at all levels have supported a number of initiatives to help address the gaps between the health of Aboriginal and of non-Aboriginal children. The following provides examples of such initiatives.
112. Under the Pathways to Health Equity for Aboriginal Peoples, created to support the health of Aboriginal Canadians, including children, the Government of Canada

committed \$25 million over 10 years to create and carry out programs that address four critical health inequities affecting First Nations, Inuit and Métis: suicide, tuberculosis, obesity and oral health. These programs will lead to an increased understanding of how to implement programs that will reduce health inequities facing Aboriginal peoples; improved health across the four priority areas; better understanding of how to reduce health inequities and how this knowledge can be adapted and applied to other communities; and increased research capacity in the area of implementation science related to the health of Aboriginal peoples and other vulnerable populations.

113. The Government of Canada supports community-based and culturally-relevant programming, services, initiatives and strategies to improve health outcomes associated with First Nations and Inuit maternal, infant, child, and family health. The areas of focus include prenatal health, nutrition, physical, emotional and mental health, and children's oral health. Healthy child development activities are provided through community-based programs such as Aboriginal Head Start On Reserve (AHSOR), Canada Prenatal Nutrition, Maternal Child Health and FASD programs.
114. The 2010 Federal Budget announced additional funding of \$50 million over five years (2010-2015) for the AHSOR and Aboriginal Head Start in Urban and Northern Communities (AHSUNC)²⁶ programs.
115. The AHSOR supports the healthy growth of First Nations children aged 0-6 and their families living on reserve by funding community-based programs that address the physical, developmental, emotional, social, cultural, and spiritual well-being of children. In 2011-2012, AHSOR received \$59 million in funding, serving approximately 9,000 children in over 300 First Nations communities across Canada. Preliminary results from the second phase of the RHS show that children who attended an Aboriginal Head Start program were more likely to speak or understand a First Nations language, and were more likely to read – or be read to – daily than those who did not attend a program.
116. The AHSUNC is an early intervention program for First Nations, Inuit and Métis children and their parents living in urban centres and large northern communities. It addresses general health concerns in vulnerable populations and works to benefit the health, well-being and social development of Aboriginal children under the age of six in six areas: culture and language; nutrition; education; social support; health promotion; and parental involvement. The AHSUNC Strategic Fund has provided funding to improve program quality through enhanced access to training, culturally-relevant resources/assessment tools and innovative program models. AHSUNC impacts include improved school-readiness, which may decrease disparities in educational achievements between Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal children, increased participation in cultural activities, encouraged consumption of traditional foods, and improved access to daily physical activity as well as health and dental care. Since 2002, under the Federal Strategy on Early Childhood Development for First Nations and other Aboriginal children, there are annual investments of \$32.1 million for AHSUNC.

²⁶ For more information on the AHSUNC, see: www.phac-aspc.gc.ca/hp-ps/dca-dea/prog-ini/ahsunc-papacun/index-eng.php.

117. The Government launched an annual investment of \$60 million for Nutrition North Canada (NNC) on April 1, 2011, through which a subsidy is provided to registered retailers and southern suppliers to allow perishable, healthy foods to be shipped at a lower cost to isolated northern communities. As part of the program, the Government provides funding to eligible communities to support retail and community-based nutrition education activities that increase knowledge of healthy eating and develop skills in the selection and preparation of healthy store-bought and traditional foods.
118. Through the Brighter Futures and Building Healthy Communities Programs (\$89 million in 2011-2012), funding is available to all First Nations and Inuit communities to support community designed and delivered mental health, child development, parenting and injury prevention programs/services. In addition, funding supports communities to address mental health crises through activities that include the provision of: workshops, support groups on topics like anger management, healthy relationships and parenting; individual and family counselling; and crisis intervention teams.
119. In 2011-2012, the Government of Canada invested \$53.4 million in the Community Action Program for Children (CAPC), and \$27.2 million in the Canada Prenatal Nutrition Program (CPNP), both referenced in the response to Part I, Issue 3 above, with an additional \$14.2 million directed to CPNP for First Nations living on reserve and Inuit. These programs are multi-faceted and seek to address many determinants of health, including but not limited to, nutrition and food security, injury prevention, and mental health promotion. Performance measurement assessments have found a number of positive impacts linked to program participation: improved prenatal health behaviours, increased incidence of healthy birth weights, and increased breastfeeding initiation and duration, as well as improved health and social development of children, increased parenting knowledge and skills and enhanced community capacity.
120. Current and upcoming performance measurement of CAPC/CPNP²⁷ will seek to identify the most effective delivery models within the overall program design, and will assess the geographic locations of greatest need in Canada with availability of CPNP and CAPC service delivery. Assessments will review and identify core program objectives and a typology of interventions and services to develop a national outcome measurement strategy for CAPC.
121. On December 12, 2007, a motion to support “Jordan’s Principle” received unanimous support in the House of Commons. Jordan’s Principle is a “child first” principle that seeks to ensure continuity of care to First Nations children with multiple disabilities in the event of a jurisdictional dispute between federal and provincial governments. Working with provinces, the Government of Canada has facilitated the development of mechanisms across the country to address potential Jordan’s Principle cases as they arise.

²⁷ See the Summative Evaluation of the CAPC: 2004-2009 online: www.phac-aspc.gc.ca/about_apropos/evaluation/reports-rapports/2009-2010/capc-pace/overview-survol-eng.php and of the CPNP 2004-2009, online: www.phac-aspc.gc.ca/about_apropos/evaluation/reports-rapports/2009-2010/cpnp-pcnp/index-eng.php.

122. Through the Manitoba Enhanced Telehealth Capacity for Child and Adolescent Mental Health Consultation to the North program, child and adolescent psychiatry and mental health services are being delivered weekly to children and their families or caregivers in seven northern and remote First Nations communities. An external evaluation of this program will occur in 2012-2013.
123. The Government of Ontario oversees the delivery of programs and services that support healthy development and well-being of Aboriginal children and youth in a manner that recognizes the unique culture and traditions of Aboriginal communities. Aboriginal children and youth have access to provincial programs like other residents in addition to programs that specifically address the unique needs of Aboriginal children and youth. For example, the Aboriginal Healing and Wellness Strategy (AHWS) combines traditional and mainstream programs and services to help improve the health of Aboriginal people living on-reserve and in urban and rural communities. In 2008-2009, the AHWS provided direct services to more than 42,000 clients. Over 450,000 community members took part in 17,971 community-based education and awareness activities sponsored by 360 projects. In 2010, children and youth aged 0-19 years comprised 29 percent of the total clients served at the Aboriginal Health Access Centres, through programs to build skills to maintain healthy weight and active lifestyles.
124. The Government of Newfoundland and Labrador is working with partners to develop a Provincial Aboriginal Health Policy Framework to provide Aboriginal priority directions and action items intended to guide provincial programs and policies addressing Aboriginal health, including the health of Aboriginal children. The Aboriginal Health Transition Fund Adaptation Envelope in Newfoundland and Labrador saw initiatives addressing foster care, the recruitment of Inuit foster parents and a project to provide training materials for behavioural aides working with FASD.
125. The government of Newfoundland and Labrador funded three Healthy Living Projects: the Inuit Healthy Living Project focused on health promotion for preschool and primary students; the Mushuau Innu Healthy Living Project; and the Mi'kmaq Healthy Living Project, which provides culturally relevant books to Aboriginal children to engage children in positive health practices, and experience an improved sense of cultural identity and self-worth.

Maternal Child Health Program

126. From 2005-2010, the Government of Canada invested \$110 million in a Maternal Child Health (MCH) Program, which supports home visiting by nurses and family visitors for First Nations pregnant women and families with young children on reserve. In the North, the Program enhances disease prevention and health promotion activities provided by the provincial/territorial governments. The Government of Canada renewed funding for the MCH Program in 2010, investing \$170 million over the next five years.

127. The MCH Program complements the First Nations and Inuit components of the Canada Prenatal Nutrition Program (\$14 million in 2011-2012) and the Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder program (\$16 million in 2011-2012), which also aim to improve birth outcomes and the health of pregnant women.
128. According to the 2009-2010 evaluation of First Nations and Inuit maternal and child health programs, the majority of program staff and participants involved indicated that awareness of healthy behaviours had increased across a broad range of indicators as a result of information received in the programs, particularly in terms of increased awareness of maternal prenatal care and breastfeeding. Key strengths of these programs include culturally appropriate services and supports and strengthened community linkages to improve access to services.²⁸ Furthermore, First Nations and Inuit communities can choose to complement maternal and child health program investments with support from the Government's Brighter Future's Program. The program's child development, healthy babies, and parenting skills components foster community designed and led networks of social, health, medical, educational, and cultural services.

Substance Use and Abuse

129. Concerns regarding substance use continue to be a priority for First Nations and Inuit in Canada. As part of both the National Native Alcohol and Drug Abuse Program and the National Youth Solvent Abuse Program, in 2011-2012, the Government of Canada provided \$90 million for addictions programming to support a network of 58 treatment centres, as well as drug and alcohol prevention services in over 550 First Nations and Inuit communities across Canada. There are nine youth specific treatment centres servicing youth 12 to 17 years of age, and a number of the other treatment centres offer services for youth aged 18 to 24.
130. As part of the National Anti-Drug Strategy (NADS), the Federal Government is investing \$30.5 million over five years (2007-2008 to 2012-2013), with \$9.1 million ongoing, to improve access to quality addictions services for First Nations and Inuit. Since 2007-2008, NADS has contributed to: more treatment centres being re-profiled or expanded to effectively meet community needs (for example, services for youth and women, or people with co-occurring mental health issues); more treatment centres achieving accreditation; and more addiction workers receiving training and becoming certified with a recognized certification body. The program has completed an evidence-based review of on-reserve addiction services, in partnership with First Nations, which resulted in a new national framework for service delivery that is guiding strengthened programming at community, regional and national levels.
131. In 2011-2012, the Government of Canada invested \$16 million to prevent FASD births in First Nation and Inuit communities and to improve outcomes for those affected, by supporting these communities to develop culturally appropriate and evidence-based prevention and early intervention programs, raise awareness and educate front-line workers. The First Nations, Inuit and Aboriginal FASD Program is supporting mentoring projects that provide women at risk of drinking while pregnant with ongoing support and

²⁸ First Nations and Inuit Children and Youth Programs – Cluster Evaluation – Health Canada, 2010.

links to services, as well as Community Coordinator positions to increase families' access to multi-disciplinary diagnostic teams and other services.

132. In 2011, the Government of Ontario released a Comprehensive Mental Health and Addictions Strategy, *Open Minds, Healthy Minds*, with a focus on children and youth mental health in the first three years of the strategy. One of the initiatives is focused on providing additional supports for Aboriginal communities to address mental health needs for children, youth and their families, including additional workers and specific training to increase the number of Aboriginal workers available. As a result of the initiative, an additional 4,000 Aboriginal children and youth will receive culturally appropriate services to reduce the risk of serious problems, such as suicide, substance use and conflict with the law.

Suicide Prevention

133. One of the priorities of the Government of Canada is the development and implementation of a National Aboriginal Youth Suicide Prevention Strategy (NAYSPS) for First Nations on reserve and Inuit between the ages of 10 and 30. Its main goals are to strengthen protective factors, such as resiliency and reduce risk factors associated with Aboriginal youth suicide, through prevention, outreach, education and crisis response. NAYSPS supports community-based suicide prevention projects in approximately 150 First Nations and Inuit communities. The 2010 Federal Budget provided \$75 million from 2010-2015 to renew the Strategy and to continue to support First Nations and Inuit communities in addressing Aboriginal youth suicide.
134. Results indicate that the NAYSPS and associated programming have had a positive impact on indicators of Aboriginal youth resilience and mental wellness. It has also seen decreases in youth delinquency and substance abuse; increases in youth participation in school and community and youth leadership skills; increased awareness of protective and risk factors, and warning signs for suicide; and, greater visibility of suicide prevention services among youth, parents and community workers. The Strategy has also led to an increase in the ability of frontline workers to detect, prevent and intervene in the event of a suicide crisis.²⁹
135. At the provincial level, in 2009, the Government of Alberta revised its Aboriginal Youth Suicide Prevention Strategy, now known as The Honouring Life: Aboriginal Youth and Community Empowerment Strategy (AYCES), to be more aligned with resiliency, empowerment and holistic wellness approaches that are more culturally appropriate in addressing the risk factors of Aboriginal youth. Previously led by a cross-ministry steering committee, responsibility for the funding and administration of the program was transferred to Alberta Health Services. AYCES continues to support Aboriginal communities in building community capacity to address Aboriginal youth issues, such as suicide prevention, substance misuse and mental wellness.

²⁹ Chouinard, J.A., Moreau, K., Parris, S., & Cousins, J.B., *Special Study of the National Aboriginal Youth Suicide Prevention Strategy* (March 2010), online: www.socialsciences.uottawa.ca/crecs/eng/documents/nat_aborig_youth_suicide.pdf.

Education

136. The Government of Canada has responsibility for education of First Nations children living on reserve and provides funding to First Nations who administer school programs on reserve or arrange for their students to attend provincial schools.
137. Canada is committed to providing Aboriginal students with quality education, on- and off-reserve, that enables them to realize their aspirations, receive the skills they need to enter the labour market, and be full participants in a strong Canadian economy. Since Canada's Third and Fourth CRC Report, Canada has adopted the following initiatives to support culturally relevant education for Aboriginal students across Canada, at all levels of education.
138. In 2012, and in response to recommendations from the 2012 National Panel on First Nation Elementary and Secondary Education for Students on Reserve³⁰ and other reports such as the report of the Senate Standing Committee on Aboriginal Peoples *Reforming First Nations Education*, the Government of Canada made the following commitments in the 2012 Federal Budget with respect to First Nation elementary and secondary education on reserve:
- Work with willing partners to introduce a First Nation Education Act and have it in place for September 2014. The purpose is to establish the structures and standards to support strong and accountable education systems on reserve. This will set the stage for more positive education outcomes for First Nation children and youth;
 - Explore mechanisms to ensure stable, predictable and sustainable funding for First Nation elementary and secondary education;
 - Invest \$100 million over three years for First Nation education to provide early literacy programming and other supports and services to First Nation schools and students, to support readiness and strengthen their relationship with provincial school systems; and
 - Invest \$175 million over three years to build and renovate schools on reserve providing First Nation youth with better learning environments.
139. In 2010-2011, the Government of Canada invested \$1.9 billion in education to support First Nation and Inuit students across Canada, with \$1.5 billion targeted at elementary and secondary education for First Nation students living on reserve and the remaining investments targeted at post-secondary education for First Nation and Inuit students.
140. In 2008, the Government of Canada launched the Reforming First Nation Education Initiative, which sets a foundation for long-term improvements in education. The initiative includes two programs, the First Nation Student Success Program (FNSSP)³¹ to improve overall achievement of First Nation students on reserves focusing on literacy, numeracy and student retention, and the Education Partnerships Program (EPP)³² to advance formal partnerships through memoranda of understanding between First Nation

³⁰ "Nurturing the Learning Spirit of First Nation Students" (February 2012), online: http://firstnationeducation.ca/wp-content/themes/clf3/pdfs/Report_02_2012.pdf.

³¹ For additional information, see: www.aadnc-aandc.gc.ca/eng/1100100033703/1100100033704.

³² For additional information, see: www.aadnc-aandc.gc.ca/eng/1100100033760/1100100033761.

education organizations, provinces and Canada to improve First Nation student outcomes. In 2010-2011, the Government of Canada invested \$56 million in FNSSP and \$6 million in EPP initiatives, which is part of the \$1.5 billion for elementary and secondary education programs mentioned above.

141. The FNSSP enables on-reserve schools to develop student success plans, conduct student assessments, and put in place performance measurement systems to track and report on school and student progress. The program helps educators on reserve to plan and make improvements in the three priority areas of literacy, numeracy and student retention. To date, over 90 percent of First Nation students in band-operated schools across the country are benefitting from this program.
142. The EPP brings together partners from the Government of Canada, First Nation regional organizations and provincial ministries of education for collaborative efforts benefitting First Nation students who attend First Nation and provincial schools. As of 2011-2012, eight tripartite education agreements covering 52 percent of Canada's First Nation students are in place and supported by the program. Six agreements have been signed since 2008: New Brunswick (2008), Manitoba (2009), Alberta (2010), Prince Edward Island (2010), a sub-regional agreement with the Saskatoon Tribal Council (2010), and a sub-regional agreement in Quebec (2012), in addition to pre-existing agreements in British Columbia (1999) and Nova Scotia (1997).
143. In addition, on January 27, 2012, Canada, British Columbia, and First Nations Education Steering Committee, on behalf of BC First Nations, signed a Tripartite Education Framework Agreement, which defines and formalizes the roles and responsibilities, structures, and supports that need to be in place to ensure that First Nation students in BC have access to quality, comparable education whether the classroom is located on or off reserve.
144. The Government of Canada understands that preserving and strengthening Aboriginal cultures, traditions and languages contributes to improved educational outcomes for First Nation students. Through the Cultural Education Centres Program,³³ the Government of Canada provided over \$18 million in funding from 2009-2011 to support First Nations and Inuit for Aboriginal languages and culture in elementary and secondary education. Approximately 100 on reserve Centres received funding to conduct cultural and educational programs in 387 First Nation communities. Support is provided through the New Paths Program, First Nation Student Success Program and the Elementary and Secondary Education Program³⁴ to allow First Nations and their organizations to develop curricula for First Nation schools that are culturally relevant to the student population.
145. At the post-secondary education level, in 2009-2012, the Government of Canada invested over \$61 million in the Indian Studies Support Program (ISSP),³⁵ which provides financial assistance to on-reserve Aboriginal institutions and to provincial institutions for

³³ For additional information, see: www.aadnc-aandc.gc.ca/eng/1100100033700.

³⁴ For additional information, see: www.aadnc-aandc.gc.ca/eng/1100100033676/1100100033677.

³⁵ For additional information, see: www.aadnc-aandc.gc.ca/eng/1100100033691.

the development and delivery of college and university level courses tailored to meet the needs of First Nation and Inuit students. In 2010-2011, \$21 million was provided to 48 institutions implementing 154 programs, for example, the creation of a Native Language Teacher Program at a Canadian university. In February 2012, the Government announced \$27 million over five years for a new Northern Adult Basic Education Program,³⁶ to assist capacity enhancements by northern colleges, which provide Community Learning Centres across the three territories. Activities eligible for funding include development of culturally-appropriate materials and recruitment and training of Aboriginal educators.

146. The Government of Canada recognizes that certain supports, such as child care, are sometimes required to help facilitate an individual's training and education. As part of the Aboriginal Skills and Employment Training Strategy, a \$1.68 billion, five year strategy until 2015 to increase Aboriginal participation in the labour market, the Government of Canada is investing \$55 million per year to support more than 8,500 child care spaces in over 450 sites in First Nations and Inuit communities.
147. The Government of Canada also supports small-scale innovative education projects with the goal of identifying principles that contribute to improved Aboriginal education outcomes off-reserve. The Government focuses its off-reserve education efforts on developing culturally appropriate curriculum in partnership with provinces, easing student transition and improving student retention and high school graduation.
148. The Government's Urban Aboriginal Strategy (UAS) is a partnership initiative, cost-shared with provinces, to improve the social and economic opportunities of Aboriginal people in urban centres, including through education. Since 2007, the UAS has invested over \$5.7 million in 87 education-related projects within the designated centres.
149. At the territorial level, the Northwest Territories Aboriginal Student Achievement Education Plan is a territory-wide plan to eliminate the achievement gap between Aboriginal and other students. Adopted in July 2011, the plan has contributed to improving the education success of Aboriginal youth in the Northwest Territories in four priority areas: 1) early childhood development and child care; 2) student and family support; 3) Aboriginal language and culture curriculum and resource development; and 4) literacy. The budget for the plan is \$1.26 million.
150. In 2009, the Government of the Northwest Territories implemented two new career development programs – Career Focusing and Smart Focusing – to help all students identify their innate talents and build career and secondary school programming plans that are built upon these strengths. These programs are reaching over 70 percent of the secondary school student population. In the three years of program implementation, student self-assessments consistently show that they strongly feel that they have benefitted from the program. Students indicate that they are grateful for the development of a plan for secondary school programming that will lead to “work that fits” for them based on strengths identified through the programs.

³⁶ For additional information, see: www.north.gc.ca/pr/nabe-eng.asp.

151. At the provincial level, the Government of Alberta is working in collaboration with Aboriginal teachers, Elders and community members to ensure that First Nations, Métis and Inuit perspectives are appropriately included in curriculum and resources for Kindergarten to Grade 12 education across all subject areas. For example, the “Walking Together: First Nations, Métis and Inuit Perspectives in Curriculum”, an online professional development resource for teachers, was launched in 2012.³⁷
152. In addition, the tripartite education agreement for First Nations education between the Government of Canada, the Government of Alberta and the Assembly of Treaty Chiefs in Alberta noted above, commits all parties to a common vision where on reserve First Nation students are achieving or exceeding the full educational outcomes, levels and successes of all Alberta students. The agreement also provides a framework for collaboration to develop a long-term strategic plan by 2012 on a range of issues to improve the services and quality of education for First Nation students, supported by the establishment of an Indigenous Knowledge and Wisdom Centre and the creation of an Alberta First Nations Education Circle to oversee the implementation of the agreement and strategic plan.
153. The Government of Manitoba has developed a three-year (2009-2012) early childhood strategy in Manitoba’s First Nations communities, including developing and evaluating early childhood and school-based development programming and supports for First Nations families on-reserve.
154. In January 2007, the Government of Ontario launched the Aboriginal Education Strategy, to support learning and achievement for Aboriginal students, with the release of the Ontario First Nation, Métis and Inuit Education Policy Framework.³⁸ The Framework is the foundation for delivering quality education to all First Nations, Métis, and Inuit students in Ontario and provides the strategic policy context within which the education ministry, school boards, and schools work together to improve the academic achievement of First Nation, Métis and Inuit students. The Framework includes 10 performance measures to gauge the progress in meeting its goals, including reducing gaps in student outcomes.
155. The Government of Ontario has been working in partnership with the Government of Canada and the Chiefs of Ontario to support First Nation student achievement and facilitate a successful transition between on-reserve First Nation schools and off-reserve provincial schools. Priorities identified in the approved Terms of Reference include early literacy and numeracy, family and community engagement, learning assessment and infrastructure support.
156. The Newfoundland and Labrador Government has engaged with both Innu and Inuit school boards to develop culturally relevant curriculum-support materials for Kindergarten Health (Inuit) and Social Studies (Innu) in students’ traditional language.

³⁷ Available at www.learnalberta.ca/content/aswt/.

³⁸ The Framework is available online: www.edu.gov.on.ca/eng/aboriginal/fnmiFramework.pdf.

The Government also actively assists Aboriginal school jurisdictions with the development of high quality local courses to address specific needs identified by the local community, such as life skills, land-based programs, culture support, and language development.

Roadmap to Canada's Linguistic Duality

157. The Roadmap for Canada's Linguistic Duality 2008-2013 reaffirms the Government of Canada's commitment to promote linguistic duality and enhance the vitality of English- and French-speaking minority communities. In 2011, the Government consulted key stakeholders on the Roadmap's implementation and progress. The Mid-term Report³⁹ shows that progress has been achieved in key areas. Of particular relevance, the Government of Canada is investing in youth and supporting early childhood education and literacy in the minority official language, through various initiatives, including:
- Support to Education in the Minority Language, aimed at strengthening education and schools in the language of the minority for official-language minority communities (OLMCs), which enables official-language minority schools to improve their programs and attract a greater share of the overall student population;
 - The Family Literacy Initiative, which increases access to family literacy services for francophone households in OLMCs by reaching families, care-givers and educators, through research, strengthened networks and new partnerships;
 - Strengthening the Capacity of Non-Governmental Organizations for Early Childhood Development, which promotes early childhood development while strengthening and improving access to programs and services, and parent networks in francophone OLMCs across the country; and
 - Readiness to Learn in Minority Francophone Communities, a pilot research project on the impacts of a French-language preschool program on the linguistic and cultural development and on the readiness to learn of young francophone children living in OLMCs.

Issue 11: Please provide information on specific measures taken to reduce inequities affecting children belonging to minorities and other groups of children in vulnerable situation, such as Roma children, Afro-Canadians, refugee and migrant children, at national, provincial and territorial levels.

158. The Government of Canada undertakes initiatives to enhance respect for and awareness of Canada's ethno-cultural and religious diversity and to promote the elimination of barriers that discriminate and keep individuals from fully participating in Canadian society. Canada's *Multiculturalism Act* and programs promote equality before the law and the full participation of all Canadians in society and the economy, including newcomers and youth of all ethno-cultural and religious backgrounds. The initiatives include funding projects and events through Inter-Action, Canada's Multiculturalism Grants and Contributions Program, that fosters intercultural and interfaith understanding as well as those aimed at reducing barriers to participation in society and the economy.

³⁹ The Mid-term Report is available online: www.pch.gc.ca/pgm/slo-ols/strat-eng.cfm.

They also engage and empower youth to develop the skills and experiences that support socio-economic integration. Examples of such programs include:

- a one-year project in 2010, the Youth Volunteer Crew, to help ethno-cultural youth at-risk (Hispanic, Portuguese, Somali, Afghani, Turkish, Arabic and Roma), aged 13-18, develop skills for civic participation through community service and to sensitize partner organizations to barriers faced by ethno-cultural youth;
- a three-year project (2010-2013), the Young Women, Future Leaders, to help increase the economic and community participation of ethno-cultural minority young women, aged 16-25 (South Asian, North African, Black, East Asian, Arabic, Caribbean, and Latin American);
- a week-long event in 2011 to engage 3,000 culturally diverse children, aged 10-13, and their parents, in activities exploring topics such as bullying, exclusion and lack of acceptance to promote an understanding of racial diversity and cultural differences;
- a three-year “Youth Mentorship and Cultural Sensitization Program and Soccer Program” to support the integration of the African immigrant community and to establish an ongoing youth mentorship program.

159. Public education and marketing events and initiatives, including for children, are also undertaken as part of Black History Month and Asian Heritage Month.⁴⁰ The Government of Canada also supports the intergovernmental Task Force for International Cooperation on Holocaust Education, Remembrance and Research, which works with non-governmental organizations to develop educational material aimed at youth.⁴¹

160. At the provincial level, for example, the Government of Quebec, as part of its Youth Action Strategy, established the “Comité des jeunes issus des communautés culturelles et des minorités visibles”. This committee, which includes 15 young people, advises the government on the development and monitoring of policy and youth action plans regarding issues related to the integration of young people from ethno cultural minority communities.

Youth Justice System

161. The Declaration of Principle in Section 3 of the *Youth Criminal Justice Act* (YCJA), which sets out the policy framework for the interpretation of the legislation, provides that measures taken against young persons who commit offences should “respect gender, ethnic, cultural and linguistic differences and respond to the needs of aboriginal young persons and of young persons with special requirements.” With respect to sentencing, Section 38(1)(d) of the YCJA requires that “all available sanctions other than custody that are reasonable in the circumstances should be considered for all young persons, with particular attention to the circumstances of aboriginal young persons.”

162. The province of Ontario’s youth justice service system provides community and custodial services that are informed by research and rehabilitative programming, creates

⁴⁰ See for example, the Teachers and Youth Web Corner, online: www.cic.gc.ca/english/games/index.asp.

⁴¹ Further information on the ITF’s education mandate and its guidelines for teaching online: www.holocausttaskforce.org/about-the-itf/stockholm-declaration.html and www.holocausttaskforce.org/education/guidelines-for-teaching.html.

opportunities for at-risk youth and is responsive to the risks, needs and strengths of youth. Programs and services are reflective of specialized client services such as mental health, Aboriginal youth, female programming and diversity.

Immigrant Settlement and Adaptation

163. Through the Settlement Program, the Government of Canada funds programs to support permanent residents and refugees, including children and youth, to successfully establish themselves and integrate into Canadian society. These programs facilitate settlement for all family members, including equipping them to pursue the best interests of their children. Services are available to newcomers under the various program streams including Information and Awareness Services, Language Learning and Skills Development, Employment-related Services, Community Connections, Needs Assessment and Referrals and Support Services. Newcomer children and youth may indirectly benefit through the services their parents access, and from referrals to other organizations. Support services within some activities also include childcare services, which offer multiple advantages for newcomer children and their parents. The main areas of children and youth settlement programming are:
 - In-school and after-school services and programs
 - Programming focused on social, cultural and recreational activities with peers, including after-school programs and summer camps
 - Programming tailored toward assisting youth and their families to better understand the education system in Canada
 - Mentoring and leadership development
 - Information and referrals to mainstream service providing organizations.
164. A school-based outreach program, Settlement Workers in Schools, assists recent immigrants by providing information and orientation, counselling, identification of needs and interpretation and translation when required. It offers clients immediate essential services to support their transition into the Canadian school setting; supports family involvement in the student's school life; increases client's ability to access appropriate and timely community services, and provides services and benefits in the client's first language or by arranging translators; increases community awareness and involvement in the integration process; and strengthens newcomers' ability to cope with the challenges of integration. The pilot began in the province of Ontario and the model is now being delivered in the provinces of British Columbia, Saskatchewan and Alberta.
165. The Government of Manitoba established, within its General Child and Family Services Authority (General Authority), a "Newcomers Unit" tasked with providing services to new Canadians. Following an extensive consultation process with community members, a three-message framework was developed to guide the development of new informational materials in a variety of formats and translated into multiple languages. The General Authority is also working with community members and its agencies to design a training program to increase understanding of the New Canadian experience among those working in the child welfare system.

166. In Quebec, an organisation is being established to assess the physical health and well-being of refugee children and asylum-seeking children upon their arrival in Quebec. Measures regarding intercultural training for practitioners who work with youth and families are being developed. The results of the establishment of the organisation and the intercultural training will be observed over the next few years.

Education and Health Initiatives

167. In addition to the initiatives outlined in the response to Part I, Issue 10 above, other measures have been adopted at the provincial level to improve the situation of vulnerable children in the areas of education and health.
168. For example, the Government of Alberta's inclusive education funding formula considers marginalized and minority groups of children in schools such as Aboriginal children, refugee youth, and children in care to enable provincial schools to address the additional needs of these students. A partnership of Government of Alberta ministries is collaborating to cross-match data from the ministries in order to create a more complete picture of the experiences of youth aged 12-24 through a Child and Youth Data Laboratory. The new data generated through this effort will be used to inform programming and policy across the provincial government.
169. The Healthy Child Manitoba Strategy supports parenting and healthy development programs to vulnerable families in Manitoba, including through the Families First Home Visiting Program, which provides parenting and social support to at-risk families, and the Healthy Baby Pre-natal Benefit, which supports low-income pregnant women with monthly financial assistance to support nutrition during pregnancy.

Issue 12: Please inform whether there has been progress in ensuring that all provinces and territories have adapted their adoption legislation to the 1993 Hague Convention on the protection of children and co-operation in respect of intercountry adoption.

170. Canada ratified the *Hague Convention on Protection of Children and Co-operation in Respect of Intercountry Adoption* in 1996. As of February 2006, all provinces and territories have adopted implementing legislation, and therefore the Hague Convention applies in all Canadian jurisdictions.
171. Provincial and territorial legislation ensure that intercountry adoptions are made in the best interests of the child, with respect for their fundamental rights and in accordance with the principles and safeguards provided by the Hague Convention. The legislative measures include licensing and monitoring agencies and placing restrictions on fees to prevent unethical adoption practices and child trafficking. Canada has designated a Federal Central Authority and a Central Authority for each of the provinces and territories. Within their respective jurisdictions, the provincial and territorial Central Authorities are responsible for the management of individual intercountry adoption files and for ensuring that practices are in compliance with the Convention. Their responsibilities include the issuing of a letter on behalf of the Receiving State confirming

its agreement that an adoption may proceed, as required by Article 17(c) of the Convention.

172. In accordance with the Hague Convention, working collaboratively to protect children is essential to ensure the effectiveness of Convention safeguards, and also to prevent abuses and avoidance of the Convention. Regular F/P-T teleconferences, annual F/P-T conferences and FPT coordination in preparation for Hague Special Commission meetings on the Convention encourage adoption authorities in Canada to enhance their practices under the Hague Convention to more effectively address the challenges and difficulties that arise in the area of intercountry adoption.

Issue 13: Please inform the Committee whether application of the Youth Criminal Justice Act is uniform in all provinces and territories and whether there are protection gaps especially regarding adult sentences for children 14 to 15 years of age. Please also inform the Committee on the current status of Bill C-10, the Omnibus Crime Bill, intended to amend the Youth Criminal Justice Act, as well as provide information on how this draft is consistent with the State Party's international obligations under the Convention.

173. The *Youth Criminal Justice Act* (YCJA) is a federal law that applies across Canada. There are no protection gaps for children 14 to 15 years of age.
174. The provincial and territorial governments are responsible for the administration of justice, including youth criminal justice and the implementation of the YCJA. For example, the province of Ontario has a dedicated, integrated youth justice system that is separate from the adult system and aligned with the principles, provisions and sentencing options under the YCJA. Programs and services for all youth under age 18 include prevention, diversion, alternatives to custody, structured community programming, probation, and open and secure custody. All youth under age 18 who receive an adult sentence are placed in a youth facility. Since the coming into force of the YCJA in 2003, Ontario has had only eight youths under age 18 receive adult sentences (one 15-year-old, four 16-year-olds and three 17-year-olds).
175. Following the adoption of Bill C-10, Quebec's Minister of Justice committed to setting the minimum age that an adult sentence may be imposed at 16 years old. The government will pass an order in council to implement this decision.

Bill C-10

176. Part 4 of Bill C-10, noted in response to Part I, Issue 1 above, contains several amendments to the YCJA, including a provision to prohibit the imprisonment of youth under 18 in adult correctional facilities.
177. The amendments remove provisions of the YCJA requiring young persons to rebut the presumption in favour of the imposition of an adult sentence applying for certain serious violent offences. In *R. v. D.B.*,⁴² the Supreme Court of Canada found that these provisions were unconstitutional as they contravened the fundamental principle of justice of

⁴² *R. v. D.B.*, [2008] 2 S.C.R. 3, online: <http://scc.lexum.org/en/2008/2008scc25/2008scc25.html>.

diminished moral blameworthiness or culpability of young persons, within the meaning of section 7 of the *Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms*, and as expressed in Article 40(1) of the CRC. Bill C-10 also amends the Declaration of Principle in Section 3 of the YCJA to recognize that the youth justice system must be based on the presumption of diminished moral blameworthiness or culpability, in accordance with the principles for juvenile justice spelled out in Article 40 (1) of the CRC.

178. With the amendments to the YCJA, Canada will continue to uphold its obligations under the CRC, including to promote the rehabilitation and reintegration of young people into society in accordance with the general principles in Article 4 of the CRC.

Issue 14: Please inform the Committee on the current status of Bill C-4, on Preventing Human Smugglers from Abusing Canada's Immigration System Act, as well as provide information on how this draft is consistent with the State Party's international obligations under the Convention.

179. The Government of Canada re-introduced Bill C-4, *Preventing Human Smugglers from Abusing Canada's Immigration System Act*, on June 16, 2011, in order to combat the threat posed by human smuggling. The human smuggling provisions of Bill C-4 were subsequently merged with other proposed changes to Canada's immigration and refugee system in Bill C-31, *Protecting Canada's Immigration System Act*, tabled in Parliament on February 16, 2012, and given Royal Assent on June 28, 2012.
180. With the passage of the Bill, Canada's IRPA has been amended to improve Canada's immigration and refugee regime with the three-fold goal of 1) providing faster protection to refugee claimants, 2) ensuring faster removal of unsuccessful claimants, and 3) deterring abuse of Canada's asylum system. Canada's legal obligations require every eligible claim to be heard and the amendments to IRPA ensure that this will continue to be the case for all eligible claimants, including minor children.
181. In order to improve the efficiency of Canada's asylum system, the amended Act provides 12-month bar on access to Humanitarian and Compassionate (H&C) applications when an individual has received a final negative refugee status determination decision by the Immigration and Refugee Board (IRB). The legislation provides for an exception to this proposal which will allow H&C applications that include best interest of the child considerations to be examined in order to ensure Canada is meeting its international commitments.
182. Under the amended IRPA, Canada continues to uphold its obligations under the CRC, including the commitment under Article 22 to take measures to ensure a child who is seeking refugee status receives appropriate protection and humanitarian assistance. Under the legislation, all eligible refugee claimants will continue to have their claim heard by the IRB. The legislation also respects the commitments under Article 37 of the CRC, according to which the arrest, detention or imprisonment of a child shall be in conformity with the law and shall be used only as a measure of last resort, and under Article 3, that the best interests of the child are a primary consideration.

183. The amended legislation treats children differently than adults. More specifically, children under the age of 16 are exempt from the mandatory detention provision for individuals who arrive in Canada by way of an irregular arrival as designated by the Minister of Public Safety. Consideration for the best interests of the child will help determine how and where accommodation for these children will take place. Designated foreign nationals 16 years of age or older will be detained until:
- they are ordered released by the IRB at a review of the reasons for their detention, which would be held within 14 days after they are taken into detention, or as soon as possible thereafter, and at six-month intervals after that initial review;
 - a final determination allowing their claim for refugee protection or application for protection is made; or
 - the Minister of Public Safety orders their release either on his own initiative if, in the Minister's opinion, the reasons for detention no longer exist, or on request if there are exceptional circumstances that warrant the release.
184. As evidenced by jurisprudence, older adolescents can and have in the past been found to be inadmissible for security reasons and, as such, Canada needs to be able to adequately assess their admissibility. While 16- and 17-year olds are subject to mandatory detention, the best interests of the child, as outlined in section 60 of the IRPA, will be taken into account when the IRB reviews the reasons for their detention or when the Minister considers whether to release the minor if the reasons for detention no longer exist or there are exceptional circumstances.
185. Detention facilities run by the Canada Border Services Agency comply with national detention standards that include the provision of health care (including medical services), food services (including satisfying any dietary and religious requirement), personal hygiene and a dedicated area for prayers. In addition, access to interpreters, visitors and counsel, as well as unlimited access to local calls, written communication and complaint mechanisms are addressed in the national standards. Access to education for school age children and recreational activities are provided to minors who have been detained over seven days. Television, board games, coloring books and crayons, magazines, books and newspapers are also available.

Issue 15: Please provide information on progress in implementing this Committee's recommendations in its previous Concluding Observations regarding the implementation of the Optional Protocol on the involvement of children in armed conflict, especially regarding extra-territorial jurisdiction and age of voluntary recruitment. Please also provide updated information regarding the case of Omar Khadr.

Extra-territorial jurisdiction for violations of the provisions of the OPAC

186. Canada generally does not extend its jurisdiction to prosecute offences committed by Canadians or permanent residents abroad unless required to do so by treaty obligations. No such justification exists in the case of violations of the provisions of the OPAC.

187. Nevertheless, Canada adopted the *Crimes Against Humanity and War Crimes Act* in 2000 implementing the Rome Statute, by which authors of genocide, crimes against humanity and war crimes, including that of “conscripting or enlisting children under the age of 15 years or using them to participate actively in hostilities,” may be prosecuted for that offence if present in Canada after the time the offence is alleged to have been committed.

Age of voluntary recruitment

188. The Canadian Forces are comprised of three components: the Regular Force; the Reserve Force; and the Special Force. The Reserve Force is further comprised of four sub-components, which are the Primary Reserve, the Cadet Organizations Administration and Training Service, the Canadian Rangers and the Supplementary Reserve. The minimum age of enrolment into most of the components of the Canadian Forces is 17 years of age. However, individuals may be enrolled in the Royal Military College of the Canadian Forces at age 16.
189. Canada is not currently taking measures to give priority in the recruitment process to those who are the oldest. The *Canadian Human Rights Act* prohibits discrimination on the basis of age in relation to employment, except where the age requirement is a bona fide occupational requirement. It also permits termination or refusal of employment on the basis of failure to reach a minimum age provided for in a law or regulation that applies to that employment. Canada also has other legislation, the *Canada Labour Code* and the Canada Labour Standards Regulation, which protects children under the age of 18 from certain types of employment and does not allow for employment where the work would likely be injurious to their life, health, education or welfare.
190. The Canadian Forces provide valuable education, training and employment opportunities to young Canadians. As provided by section 34 of the *National Defence Act*, the Canadian Forces do not under any circumstances deploy persons under the age of 18 into areas where hostilities are taking place. The Canadian Forces has further implemented a policy requiring that Canadian Forces members under the age of 17 must be enrolled in a full time educational program.

Omar Khadr

191. On July 27, 2002, Omar Khadr, a Canadian citizen, then aged 15, was captured by US forces in Afghanistan. Mr. Khadr was transferred to Guantanamo Bay in October 2002. On October 25, 2010, Mr. Khadr pleaded guilty before the U.S. military commission in Guantanamo Bay to all of the charges against him, including the murder of Sergeant First Class Christopher Speer in violation of the law of war, attempted murder in violation of the law of war, conspiracy, providing material support for terrorism, and spying. In accordance with a plea agreement negotiated between Mr. Khadr and the prosecutors, Mr. Khadr was sentenced by a military judge to eight years of confinement. He is currently serving his sentence in the detention facilities in Guantanamo Bay.
192. In 2008, the Supreme Court of Canada found that Canadian officials who interviewed Mr. Khadr while he was detained at Guantanamo Bay had participated in foreign state conduct that violated Canada’s international human rights obligations. This subsequently

required disclosure of information obtained in those interviews to Mr. Khadr.⁴³ Canada subsequently provided such disclosure.

193. Mr. Khadr then sought an order that Canada request his repatriation from the United States as a remedy for these same interviews, conducted in 2003 and 2004 by Canadian officials in Guantanamo Bay. In 2010, the Supreme Court issued a declaration that interviews conducted by Canadian officials in Guantanamo Bay breached Mr. Khadr's rights, but left it "to the government to decide how best to respond to this judgment in light of current information, its responsibility for foreign affairs, and in conformity with the Charter."⁴⁴ In response to that decision, Canada sought assurances from the United States that information derived from the interviews conducted by Canadian officials would not be used against Mr. Khadr in his Military Commission trial.⁴⁵
194. On April 27, 2010, the US responded that the Military Commission process provides protection against the use of statements improperly obtained, but did not provide the specific assurance sought. On July 5, 2010, the Federal Court allowed Mr. Khadr's application for judicial review of Canada's response to the Supreme Court's declaration, and ordered the government to consult with Mr. Khadr and continue to advance potential remedies for the breach of his rights until the breach was cured, ameliorated or all remedies were exhausted. Canada appealed this judgment. On March 9, 2011, the Federal Court of Appeal determined the appeal was moot in light of Mr. Khadr's guilty plea before the Military Commission, pursuant to which Mr. Khadr remains detained at Guantanamo Bay.

PART II

In this section the Committee invites the State party to provide a brief update on the information presented in its report regarding:

195. The following provides information on legislation, policies, programmes and institutions not addressed in Part I.

(a) New bills or enacted legislation and any accompanying regulations

Violence against children

196. Bill S-2, the *Protecting Victims From Sexual Offenders Act*, came into force on April 15, 2011. It requires individuals convicted of a sexual offence abroad to be included on the national Sex Offender Registry. In addition, any individual entering Canada who at any time has been convicted abroad of a sexual offence must report to police within seven days so that they may be included on the Registry. Bill S-2 also made registration automatic upon domestic conviction for any sexual offence. Every individual required to

⁴³ *Canada (Justice) v. Khadr*, 2008 SCC 28, online: <http://scc.lexum.org/en/2010/2010scc3/2010scc3.html>.

⁴⁴ *Canada (Prime Minister) v. Khadr*, 2010 SCC 3, para 39, online: <http://scc.lexum.org/en/2010/2010scc3/2010scc3.html>.

⁴⁵ Statement by Minister of Justice in response to the SCC's decision, online: www.justice.gc.ca/eng/news-nouv/nr-cp/2010/doc_32482.html.

register must report regularly to police and provide personal data, such as their home and business addresses, their vehicle information, and they must also report any plans they have to travel either domestically or abroad.

197. The *Protecting Children from Online Sexual Exploitation Act* requires those who provide Internet services to the public to make a report to a designated agency when they are advised of an Internet address where child pornography may be available to the public. Those providers are also required to notify police and safeguard evidence if they believe that their Internet service is being or has been used to commit a child pornography offence.
198. The *Child and Family Services Amendment Act* (Child Pornography Reporting) came into force in Manitoba in April 2009. The Act amends *The Child and Family Services Act* to include child pornography in the existing definition of child abuse and puts in place mandatory reporting of child pornography. In 2009-2010, there was a 126 percent increase in reporting from Manitobans and 17 reports were forwarded to Child and Family Services about either a potential child victim or suspect in Manitoba. In 2010-2011 the number of reports from Manitoba increased by 10 percent from the previous year and the reports sent to Child and Family Services increased marginally by four percent.
199. The *Justice for Victims of Child Pornography Act*, which came into effect on June 16, 2011, provides that if a resident of Manitoba was involved in conduct that would constitute a child pornography offence, the Minister may apply to a provincial court for an order requiring the person to pay damages for injuries and other losses suffered by a child who is depicted in the child pornography in question, whether or not that child has been identified. Damages are paid into a special fund to compensate victims and otherwise address child pornography.
200. In the province of Newfoundland and Labrador, the *Children and Youth Care and Protection Act*, came into force on June 30, 2011. Its two aims are to enhance the Protective Intervention Program and offer provision of services to youth who are in need of protection up to age 21. The Act, among other things, reduces the number of temporary court orders for children in the care of the province; promotes better permanency planning; requires a detailed plan of care for children to be filed with the courts; provides for a publication ban on identifying information about the child and their families subject to the Act; establishes a process for monitoring all children in care or under a supervision order; and supports youth in need of protection for longer periods as they transition into adulthood. The new legislation recognizes the risk of emotional harm and living in a situation where there is a risk of violence as grounds for protective intervention. It also introduces a new statutory legislative review process.

Health

201. The Government of Canada enacted the *Cracking Down on Tobacco Marketing Aimed at Youth Act*, which came into force on July 5, 2010. The Act added further restrictions on tobacco advertising, as well as minimum packaging requirements for little cigars and

blunt wraps, which ended the practice of selling these products in single units and/or “kiddy-packs.” The Act also banned the use of certain additives, including flavours in cigarettes, little cigars and blunt wraps (excluding menthol), as they contribute to making such products more appealing to youth.

202. The Government of Canada has also worked closely with the provinces and territories to effectively ban the advertising of tobacco products, establish minimum age of purchase, and to ensure that fewer people are exposed to tobacco products, either through advertising or display at retail. As of June 19, 2012, retailers may only sell packages of cigarettes and little cigars that display new, larger health warning messages and related labels. The new health warnings now cover 75 percent of the front and back of the main panel package and include a Canada-wide quit line phone number and web address, which link smokers to provincial and territorial counselling and resources to help them quit smoking. A 2012 evaluation of health warning messages suggests that 51 percent of smokers report getting their information about the health effects of smoking from cigarettes packages, and that smokers are most likely to recall (without prompting) health warning messages related to the theme that smoking is harmful to children, such as the impact of smoking during pregnancy or the impact of second-hand smoke on children.⁴⁶
203. On June 20, 2011, the *Canada Consumer Product Safety Act* (CCPSA) was introduced, and designed to address or prevent dangers to health or safety posed by consumer products in Canada, including those that circulate within Canada and those that are imported. Under this Act, the Federal Government prohibited the sale, manufacture, import or advertisement in Canada of bottles containing Bisphenol A (BPA) in order to reduce the exposure of newborns and infants to BPA.

Youth Justice

204. The Government of Ontario has an integrated youth justice system, separate from the adult system that provides a full range of dedicated services to youth aged 12-17 at the time of the offence. In April 2009, the *Child and Family Services Statute Law Amendment Act* established a modern legislative framework to govern the integrated youth justice system.

Poverty

205. In Quebec, *An Act to Establish an Early Childhood Development Fund* was proclaimed in September 2009. This Act establishes a fund “to contribute to ... the support of the overall development of children, five years and under, living in poverty, in order to encourage their successful entry into school and the continuation of their schooling.”⁴⁷

⁴⁶ 2012 Baseline Evaluation of Canadian Graphic Health Warning Messages, online: <http://epe.lac-bac.gc.ca/100/200/301/pwgsc-tpsgc/por-ef/health/2012/075-11/report.pdf>

⁴⁷ *Loi instituant le fonds pour le développement des jeunes enfants* (L.R.Q., c. F-4.0022), Article 1, online : http://www2.publicationsduquebec.gouv.qc.ca/dynamicSearch/telecharge.php?type=2&file=%2F%2FF4_0022%2FF4_0022.htm.

(b) New institutions, their mandates and funding

206. In early 2012, the Government of British Columbia announced the creation of a new Provincial Office of Domestic Violence, to be accountable for ensuring all domestic violence policies, programs and services are effective and delivered in a comprehensive and unified way across government.⁴⁸

(c) Newly adopted and implemented policies and programmes and their scope

Custody and access

207. F-P/T governments have collaborated in examining a number of issues related to custody and access, including compliance with access provisions in agreements and court orders.
208. As part of this process, the F-P/T governments looked at some of the latest findings in the difficult area of access compliance, and at models and approaches that have been used successfully in Canada and elsewhere to deal with access difficulties, including denial of access, non-exercise of access, and access frustration. In 2009, this led to recommendations in programs, services and process issues, legal remedies, compliance with access between jurisdictions, and research.⁴⁹ For example, recommendations included that jurisdictions offer information programs or resources for children, as resources permit.
209. Several jurisdictions offer children's education programs, websites specifically designed for children and parent education. For example, in Prince Edward Island, the Positive Parenting from Two Homes for Kids Program, a school-based program for children experiencing changes in their lives as a result of parental separation, divorce, or parenting from two homes, was recently expanded to schools across the province. The province of British Columbia created a website hosted by the Justice Education Society of B.C. which includes guides to separation and divorce written for children and teens. The new British Columbia *Family Law Act*, noted in response to Part I, Issue 8 above, includes provisions which ensure children have time with their parents by creating a range of remedies and tools for non-compliance that will ensure parents receive, and follow through on, parenting time they are given. Lastly, parent education, which is mandatory in several jurisdictions, emphasizes issues affecting children in families where parents are undergoing separation or divorce.
210. Amendments to the Federal Child Support Guidelines came into force on December 31, 2011. These amendments have updated the Federal Child Support Tables (Federal Tables) used to determine child support amounts. These changes are intended to ensure that the Federal Tables reflect parents' ability to pay to support their children and to establish a fair standard of support for children while ensuring that they continue to benefit from the financial means of both their parents after separation.

⁴⁸ For additional information, see: http://www2.news.gov.bc.ca/news_releases_2009-2013/2012CFD0011-000281.htm.

⁴⁹ The recommendations are available online: http://canada.justice.gc.ca/eng/pi/fcy-fea/lib-bib/tool-util/other-autre/fpt_rec-rec_fpt.html.

211. The Supporting Families Experiencing Separation and Divorce Initiative (SFI) is a five-year family law Initiative that began on April 1, 2009. Through the Supporting Families Fund, the Government of Canada has devoted \$80 million dollars between 2009 and 2014 to funding family justice services run by provinces and territories. Services like mediation, parent information sessions and support recalculation services (available in some provinces) will all help parents come to lasting but flexible custody and access agreements that are in the best interests of their children – all without going to court. Funding is also provided to non-government organizations for developing family law information and training resources. Through the SFI, the Government continues to assist provinces and territories in their efforts to enforce family orders and agreements.

Health

212. The Government of Canada is also focusing its anti-smoking efforts in core areas of federal responsibility, which includes on-reserve First Nations and Inuit living in Inuit communities (where smoking rates are higher than the national average). Funding for tobacco-related interventions aimed at reducing tobacco use will be aligned with broader disease prevention strategies, such as the National Lung Health Framework. In addition, the Government of Canada will continue to support the new toll-free quit line that appears on cigarette and little cigar packages; implement a marketing awareness and outreach campaign targeted at young adult smokers; and continue promoting anti-smoking messages to all Canadians.
213. In September 2010, F-P/T Ministers of Health released “Curbing Childhood Obesity: A Federal-Provincial-Territorial Framework for Action to Promote Healthy Weights” to make childhood obesity a collective priority, to champion this issue, and to coordinate complementary actions within many areas of Canadian society to help create the conditions for healthy weights so that children have the healthiest possible start in life.⁵⁰
214. In 2009 the Children’s Task Group of the F-P/T Committee on Health and the Environment drafted the National Strategic Framework on Children’s Environmental Health to provide guidance for action plans on children’s environmental health.⁵¹
215. The Environmental Health Guide for Canadians, Hazardcheck, was developed to raise awareness among Canadians about environmental hazards and to inform them of what they can do to reduce their risk of exposure to carbon monoxide, mould, radon, second-hand smoke, and lead. As children are at a greater risk from some environmental hazards than adults due to their physical size, physiology and behaviours, this guide also provide parents with information on how to create a healthy home environment.⁵²

⁵⁰ For additional information, see: www.phac-aspc.gc.ca/hp-ps/hl-mvs/framework-cadre/2011/overview-resume-eng.php.

⁵¹ For additional information, see: www.hc-sc.gc.ca/ewh-semt/pubs/contaminants/Framework_children-cadre_enfants/index-eng.php.

⁵² For additional information, see: www.healthycanadians.gc.ca/init/hazards-risques-eng.php.

216. Reflecting a commitment to the prevention and treatment of illicit drug use, approximately \$577 million from 2006 to 2011 has been invested into prevention, treatment, and enforcement activities:
- The Drug Strategy Community Initiatives Fund Contribution Program contributes approximately \$9.59 million annually to fund health promotion and prevention community-based projects to reduce illicit drug use among youth aged 10 to 24.
 - A total of \$10 million over five years (2007-2012) is provided to the Canadian Centre on Substance Abuse for the development of A Drug Prevention Strategy for Canada's Youth, which provides national leadership and mobilizes collective efforts to ensure an integrated and effective youth drug prevention response.
 - In 2008, as part of the Prevention Action Plan, the Government of Canada launched a five year, \$30 million national youth prevention mass media campaign with an objective of increasing the awareness of youth about the dangers of experimenting with illicit drugs. The campaign targeted two audiences: youth aged 13-15 and their parents. Results indicated that the campaign generated a high level of engagement by youth.
 - The Drug Treatment Funding Program is a federal contribution initiative under the National Anti-Drug Strategy Treatment Action Plan that provides \$124.5 million over five years (2007-2012) to provinces, territories and other key stakeholders.
217. Since 2009, through its the Healthy Child Manitoba Strategy, the Government of Manitoba, in partnership with provincial departments and community-based stakeholders, has implemented the following new initiatives:
- Healthy Buddies: a peer mentoring initiative that pairs younger students with older students to teach about nutrition, physical activity and positive self-image.
 - Life Skills Training: an evidence-based program that teaches children how to make healthy choices throughout their lives by improving personal self-management skills, general social skills and self-esteem, and drug resistance skills.
 - Communities that Care: a tested community-wide initiative to promote positive, healthy development of children and youth, including healthy behaviours, by providing opportunities, skills, and recognition in families, schools, communities and peer-groups.
218. The Ontario Ministry of Children and Youth Services is improving and expanding the range of supports and services for children and youth with Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD). The plan focuses on community-based services (Applied Behaviour Analysis), Intensive Behavioural Intervention (IBI) service enhancements, improvement of service system capacity, improvement of parent education and supports, enhanced school-based supports and enhanced transition supports.

Intercountry Adoption

219. Canada is committed to the internationally recognized principles that intercountry adoptions must take place in the best interests of the child and with respect for his or her fundamental rights. These principles constitute essential safeguards to prevent the abduction, the sale of, or traffic in children. The Federal Moratorium Policy outlines the

roles and responsibilities of the Government of Canada in support of provincial and territorial adoption authorities on whether or not to impose a moratorium on adoptions from a given State of Origin whose adoption practices raise serious concerns about the respect of the children's best interests and the protection of their fundamental rights. A Provincial and Territorial Moratorium Policy outlines provincial and territorial roles and responsibilities when considering the imposition of a moratorium on adoption activity with a given State of Origin. Both Federal and Provincial-Territorial policies were adopted in 2011.

Support to families

220. In 2011, the Government expanded eligibility for Employment Insurance (EI) special benefits coverage (maternity, parental, sickness and compassionate care) to self-employed individuals, who now have the choice to voluntarily opt into the program. The change offers the self-employed the choice of participating in an insurance program that provides income protection to cope with major life events, such as giving birth, caring for a newborn or newly adopted child, being sick or injured, or caring for a gravely ill family member.
221. The EI program provides parental benefits to individuals who are adopting a child or caring for a newborn. For Canadian Forces members whose parental leave is deferred or interrupted because of military requirements, Budget 2010 extended the period in which they are eligible by another 52 weeks.
222. Beginning on January 1, 2013, the new Federal Income Support for Parents of Murdered or Missing Children will provide support to eligible parents who suffer a loss of income as a result of taking time away from work to cope with a child's death or disappearance that was caused by a *Criminal Code* offence.
223. In 2011, a new Family Caregiver Tax Credit was introduced that gives a 15 percent non-refundable credit on an amount of \$2,000 that will provide tax relief to caregivers of all types of infirm dependent relatives including, for the first time, spouses, common-law partners and minor children.⁵³ The credit can be claimed starting in the 2012 tax year.
224. The Disability component of the Social Development Partnerships Program provides \$11 million annually to support projects intended to improve the participation and integration of persons with disabilities, including children, in all aspects of Canadian society.⁵⁴ More specifically, the Program supports not-for-profit organizations across Canada in tackling barriers faced by persons with disabilities with respect to social inclusion.

Affordable housing

225. The federal government invests about \$1.7 billion annually so that low income households living in existing social housing can continue to have access to affordable,

⁵³ Budget Plan 2011, Chapter 4.2: "Supporting Families and Communities", online: www.budget.gc.ca/2011/plan/chap4b-eng.html.

⁵⁴ For additional information, see: www.hrsdc.gc.ca/eng/community_partnerships/sdpp/index.shtml#sa.

sound and suitable housing. Overall, some 605,000 low-income households across Canada, including families with children, benefit from this federal investment.

226. The Government spends an estimated \$296 million annually to address housing needs of Aboriginals on-reserve. Approximately \$143 million is spent annually to support housing needs of Aboriginal households off-reserve.
227. Canada's Economic Action Plan in 2009 provided a one-time investment of more than \$2 billion to build new and renovate existing social housing benefiting, among others, low-income households with children. This included \$600 million for new housing and repairs to existing social housing on-reserve and in the North. On July 4, 2011, F-P/T governments announced the new Investment in Affordable Housing 2011–2014 Framework⁵⁵ with a combined investment of \$1.4 billion. The Framework guides the remaining three years of the federal housing commitment, announced as part of more than \$1.9 billion in housing and homelessness investments until March 31, 2014, and forms the basis for bilateral arrangements for affordable housing with provincial and territorial governments. Under the bilateral arrangements, provinces and territories will fully cost-match the federal funding and deliver provincially-designed housing programs. Provinces and territories have the flexibility to invest in a range of initiatives to address local housing needs, including for example, support for low-income households, seniors and persons with disabilities, and accommodations for victims of family violence. The homelessness investment is reflected in the Government of Canada's Homelessness Partnering Strategy (HPS), which was renewed at its existing funding level of \$134.8 million per year until March 31, 2014. The HPS takes a community-based approach to address the needs of homeless and at-risk Canadians.

Law Enforcement

228. In June 2009, the Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP) Youth Officer Training Program was finalized. This initiative and associated learning objectives provide front-line Youth Officers with the tools, knowledge, practice and skills required to support National Youth Services' mandate and goals. National Youth Services operates on the principle of crime prevention through social development and focuses on addressing the root causes of crime. The goal is to reduce youth crime and victimization and help youth stay safe in their homes and communities. The Youth Engagement Section connects and consults with youth, using the feedback to refine RCMP strategies and resources to assist front-line members.

Immigration

229. In January 2012, the Immigration and Refugee Board (IRB) published a Designated Representative's Guide setting out the role and responsibilities of designated representatives.⁵⁶ The Guide applies to both children under the age of 18 and individuals who cannot understand the nature of IRB proceedings. This new program helps ensure the best interests of children will be protected at all times in proceedings before the IRB.

⁵⁵ For background information on the Framework, see <http://actionplan.gc.ca/eng/media.asp?id=4310>.

⁵⁶ Designated Representative's Guide, online: www.irb-cisr.gc.ca/Eng/tribunal/drrd/Pages/index.aspx.

Protecting children from harm

230. In 2010, the Government of Canada announced \$5.25 million dollars in funding over five years for the creation and enhancement of Child Advocacy Centres (CACs). In 2012, that amount was increased by an additional \$5 million dollars over five years. CACs provide a coordinated approach to addressing the needs of children implicated in the judicial system either as victims of or as witnesses to crime. CACs seek to minimize system-induced trauma by providing a single, child-friendly setting for child victims or witnesses and their families to seek services, and by reducing the number of interviews and questions directed at children during the investigation or court preparation process.
231. Under the auspices of the federal Family Violence Initiative, the Government of Canada created an Interdepartmental Working Group on Forced Marriage and “Honour” Based Violence, which acts as a focal point for collaborative actions and liaises with community organisations and justice system officials to prevent and address these forms of family violence which affect youth. The working group has participation from 15 federal departments and agencies. In addition, since 2010, the Government of Canada has organized a series of workshops on so-called honour based violence and forced marriage by bringing together sector-specific groups from across the country that have had direct experience with this form of family violence. Workshops have been held with police, Crown prosecutors and front-line service providers and will be held with child protection representatives.
232. The Government of Quebec has implemented various measures through government action plans pertaining to domestic violence and sexual abuse of children. The Government Action Plan 2004-2009 on Domestic Violence includes 15 measures that focus on the security and well-being of children, including early detection of exposure to domestic violence and psychosocial intervention with children exposed to this violence.
233. Quebec’s Action Plan 2008–2013 on Sexual Assault also includes 15 commitments that focus on the security and well-being of children, which include promoting the respect of physical and psychological integrity and equality in gender relations; preventing and identifying sexual assault; raising awareness and providing information about sexual assault and hypersexualization, in particular for day care personnel. One component of this action plan specifically addresses “Interventions for Child Victims of Sexual Abuse.”

(d) Newly ratified human rights instruments

234. Canada signed the United Nations *Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities* on March 30, 2007 and ratified it on March 11, 2010, with the support of all provincial and territorial governments.
235. Canada expressed its support for the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples in 2010.⁵⁷

⁵⁷ Canada’s Statement of Support on the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, online: www.aadnc-aandc.gc.ca/eng/1309374239861.

236. On October 27, 2011, Canada tabled a resolution at the UN General Assembly on the International Day of the Girl-Child, which passed by consensus in December 2011. The aim of this international day, to be celebrated on October 11, is to make a difference in the lives of girls and young women as citizens and as powerful voices of change in their families, their communities and their nations. This day also aims to help promote equal treatment and opportunities for girls around the world and freedom from violence and abuse.

PART III

Issue 1: Please provide consolidated budget information for the last 5 years on budget lines regarding children and social sectors, by indicating percentage of each budget line in terms of the total national budget and GNP.

Table 1

	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11
	(\$billions) ²				
Children's Benefits¹	11.2	11.9	11.9	12.3	12.7
Total Program Expenses	188.3	199.5	207.9	244.8	239.6
% of Program Expenses	5.9	6.0	5.7	5.0	5.3
Total Budgetary Revenues	236.0	242.4	233.1	218.6	237.1
% of Budgetary Revenues	4.7	4.9	5.1	5.6	5.4
Gross National Product (GNP)³	1,454.6	1,528.3	1,563.7	1,528.1	1,619.4
% of GNP	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8

¹ Includes only federal children's benefits (CCTB and UCCB).
² Data on children's benefits, program expenses and budgetary revenues reflect the public accounts. A number of measures also provide support through the tax system but are not included in the public accounts (e.g. the Child Tax Credit). These other measures are presented in the annual tax expenditure reports.
³ Source: Statistics Canada

Canada Social Transfer

237. In addition to direct spending and tax measures for families, the federal government supports programs for children, including early childhood education and care, through a notional allocation of cash transfers to provinces and territories. Provincial and territorial governments have the responsibility to design and deliver these programs and are accountable to their citizens and legislatures for outcomes achieved and dollars spent.
238. Since 2004-2005, the Canada Social Transfer (CST) has been the main federal transfer program providing financial support to provinces and territories for post-secondary education, social assistance and social services and programs for children (prior to 2004-2005, funding was transferred through the Canada Health and Social Transfers (CHST)). Since 2007-2008, the CST has been notionally allocated to identify the federal contributions to each of these areas: 10 percent of the CST is notionally allocated for

support for children, 31 percent for post-secondary education, while the other 59 percent is notionally allocated for other social programs.

239. Total CST levels are set in legislation to grow by three percent annually. As a result of the automatic escalator, CST cash transfers to provinces and territories will reach \$11.9 billion in 2012-2013, over \$1.2 billion of which is notionally allocated to support programs for children

Issue 2: Please provide data (disaggregated by age, sex, socio-economic background and ethnic group) regarding the situation of children deprived of a family environment and separated from their parents, for the last three years on the number of children:

- (a) Separated from their parents, (b) Placed in institutions and (c) Placed with foster families

National Data

240. Currently, Canada's data collection systems for asylum claimants do not allow for the disaggregation of statistics by unaccompanied minors. However, data is collected on the number of asylum claimants who are children. In 2011, Canada received 5,821 asylum claimants under the age of 18 (23 percent of all claimants received). It should be noted however, that the Government of Canada has funded the development of a tool called the Refugee Claimant Continuum, which will allow data collection on unaccompanied minors seeking asylum.

First Nations Children

241. The following statistics reflect the number of First Nations children ordinarily resident on reserve between the ages of 0 and 18 years old who have been separated from their parents (information disaggregated by age, sex, socio-economic background and ethnic group is unavailable)

Table 2

	2008-2009	2009-2010
Children in Care¹	8,661	8,682
Kinship Care	750	877
Placed in Institutions or Group Homes	825	650
Placed with Foster Families	7,086	7,155
Post-Adopted Subsidies²	127	141
Notes: 1. In 2007, the federal government took action to help First Nations Child and Family Services providers to improve outcomes by introducing the Enhanced Prevention Focused Approach to funding First Nations child welfare on a jurisdiction by jurisdiction basis. It is important to remember that significant and lasting changes will not happen overnight. Although some of the early results of this approach have been positive and encouraging, this evidence-based approach will take generations to be able to assess its impact. 2. Adopted domestically – (track through post-adoption subsidies). 2010-2011 Statistics for Children in Care are not yet available.		

(d) **Adopted domestically or through intercountry adoptions**

Intercountry Adoptions via Citizenship, 2009-2011

242. Depending on the circumstances of each intercountry adoption and adoptive parents' status in Canada, some adoptees can apply directly for a grant of Canadian citizenship, while others must become permanent residents first.⁵⁸ The data below reflects these regulations and shows intercountry adoptions via citizenship and via permanent residence

Table 3: Canada – adoptions via citizenship. New citizens by age group and gender (in persons), 2009-2011

	2009	2010	2011
0-5	657	638	539
Female	398	370	305
Male	257	255	225
Unknown	1	3	6
Unspecified	1	10	3
6-11	401	294	256
Female	218	155	147
Male	183	139	109
12-17	140	104	131
Female	80	64	80
Male	60	40	51
18-25	83	77	96
Female	34	43	60
Male	49	34	36
26-35	28	15	16
Female	12	6	10
Male	16	9	6
36-45	10	21	13
Female	--	5	6
Male	--	5	7
Unknown	0	1	0
Unspecified	0	10	0
46-55	--	5	7
Female	0	--	--
Male	--	--	--
56-65	--	0	--
Female	0	0	--
Male	--	0	--

⁵⁸ For more information on these processes, see: www.cic.gc.ca/english/immigrate/adoption/choose.asp.

66+	0	0	--
Male	0	0	--
Total	1,321	1,154	1,063
Source: Citizenship and Immigration Canada, GCMS Answers, February 2012. Due to privacy considerations, some cells in this table have been suppressed and replaced with the notation "--". As a result, components may not sum to the total indicated.			

Table 4: Canada - Adoptions via citizenship - New citizens by age group, gender and places of Birth (in persons), 2011⁵⁹

Top 10 Places of birth (for total adoptions)	Age groups								Total
	0-5	6-11	12-17	18-25	26-35	36-45	46-55	56-65	
China, People's Republic of	187	22	--	--	0	0	0	0	214
Female	143	15	--	--	0	0	0	0	163
Male	44	7	0	0	0	0	0	0	51
United States of America	59	39	31	36	7	9	--	--	187
Female	31	21	15	17	--	--	--	--	96
Male	28	18	16	19	--	--	--	0	91
Ethiopia	60	27	--	--	0	0	0	0	94
Female	25	--	--	--	0	0	0	0	41
Male	35	--	--	0	0	0	0	0	53
Vietnam, Socialist Republic of	66	--	--	--	--	0	0	0	74
Female	27	--	--	0	--	0	0	0	32
Male	39	--	0	--	0	0	0	0	42
Haiti	15	19	9	7	0	0	0	0	50
Female	--	10	--	7	0	0	0	0	36
Male	--	9	--	0	0	0	0	0	14
Russian Federation	24	8	--	--	0	0	0	0	40
Female	8	--	--	--	0	0	0	0	18
Male	16	--	--	--	0	0	0	0	22
Colombia	16	--	--	--	0	0	0	0	30
Female	8	--	--	0	0	0	0	0	15

⁵⁹ Adult adoption refers to the grant of citizenship and permanent residence to a person 18 years of age or older where there is a genuine relationship of parent and child between the person and the adoptive parent before the person attained the age of 18 years and at the time of adoption as per Canada's *Citizenship Act and Immigration and Refugee Protection Act*. In addition, the legislation and regulations allow for such adoptions provided that other requirements are satisfied, for example the adoption must be in accordance with the laws of the place where it took place and it should not be undertaken to gain status or privilege under the Act in Canada. See www.cic.gc.ca/english/resources/manuals/op/op03-eng.pdf (for the permanent resident route) and www.cic.gc.ca/english/resources/manuals/cp/cp14-eng.pdf (for the citizenship route) for more information.

Male	8	--	0	--	0	0	0	0	15
Philippines	7	16	--	--	0	0	0	0	28
Female	--	9	--	--	0	0	0	0	15
Male	--	7	--	--	0	0	0	0	13
Ukraine	--	--	14	0	0	0	0	0	28
Female	0	--	--	0	0	0	0	0	16
Male	--	--	--	0	0	0	0	0	12
Belize	--	7	--	--	--	0	0	0	17
Female	--	--	--	--	--	0	0	0	12
Male	--	--	--	0	0	0	0	0	5
India	--	6	--	--	--	0	0	0	17
Female	--	--	--	--	--	0	0	0	--
Male	0	--	0	--	0	0	0	0	--
Kazakhstan	--	--	--	--	0	0	0	0	17
Female	--	--	--	--	0	0	0	0	8
Male	9	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	9
Total for the Top 10									796
Other places									267
Grand total for 2011									1,063

Source: Citizenship and Immigration Canada, GCMS Answers, February 2012.

Due to privacy considerations, some cells in this table have been suppressed and replaced with the notation "--". As a result, components may not sum to the total indicated.

Table 5: Canada - Adoptions via citizenship - New citizens by age group, gender and places of birth (in persons), 2010

Top 10 Places of birth (total adoptions)	Age groups							Total
	0-5	6-11	12-17	18-25	26-35	36-45	46-55	
China, People's Republic of	246	49	11	--	0	--	0	310
Female	188	36	--	--	0	0	0	234
Male	58	13	--	--	0	0	0	--
Vietnam, Socialist Republic of	129	--	0	0	--	--	--	140
Female	--	--	0	0	--	0	--	82
Male	--	--	0	0	0	0	0	57
United States of America	28	27	20	15	9	--	--	105
Female	10	13	14	9	--	--	0	51
Male	18	14	6	6	--	--	--	54
Ethiopia	35	28	--	--	0	0	0	68
Female	21	--	--	0	0	0	0	34
Male	14	--	--	--	0	0	0	34
Haiti	7	32	--	--	0	0	0	50
Female	--	20	--	--	0	0	0	34
Male	--	12	--	--	0	0	0	16

Russian Federation	14	22	--	--	0	0	0	47
Female	6	12	--	--	0	0	0	24
Male	8	10	--	--	0	0	0	23
Ukraine	14	20	--	--	0	0	0	41
Female	--	6	--	0	0	0	0	12
Male	--	14	--	--	0	0	0	29
Kazakhstan	28	--	0	0	0	--	0	36
Female	--	--	0	0	0	0	0	15
Male	--	--	0	0	0	0	0	20
Colombia	14	14	--	--	0	0	0	31
Female	6	--	--	0	0	0	0	13
Male	8	--	--	--	0	0	0	18
Korea, Republic Of	26	--	0	--	0	0	0	31
Female	10	--	0	--	0	0	0	13
Male	16	--	0	0	0	0	0	18
Philippines	6	10	--	8	--	0	0	27
Female	--	5	--	--	0	0	0	10
Male	--	5	--	--	--	0	0	17
Total for the Top 10								886
Other places								268
Grand total for 2010								1,154

Source: Citizenship and Immigration Canada, GCMS Answers, February 2012.

Due to privacy considerations, some cells in this table have been suppressed and replaced with the notation "--". As a result, components may not sum to the total indicated.

Table 6: Canada - Adoptions via citizenship - New citizens by age group, gender and places of birth (in persons), 2009

Top 10 Places of birth (total adoptions)	Age groups						Total
	0-5	6-11	12-17	18-25	26-35	36-45	
China, People's Republic of	252	63	--	--	0	0	323
Female	219	--	--	--	0	0	269
Male	33	--	--	0	0	0	54
Unspecified	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
United States of America	52	64	28	21	9	6	180
Female	27	28	13	8	--	--	81
Male	25	36	15	13	--	--	99
Vietnam, Socialist Republic of	133	10	--	--	0	0	147
Female	69	--	--	--	0	0	77
Male	64	--	--	0	0	0	70
Ethiopia	46	30	--	--	0	0	80
Female	14	22	--	--	0	0	40
Male	32	8	0	0	0	0	40
Russian Federation	25	22	--	--	0	0	57
Female	--	10	--	--	0	0	18

Male	--	12	--	--	0	0	39
Ukraine	9	37	--	--	0	0	56
Female	--	13	--	0	0	0	26
Male	--	24	--	--	0	0	30
Haiti	--	33	12	5	--	0	54
Female	0	20	--	--	--	0	31
Male	--	13	--	--	--	0	23
Kazakhstan	34	8	0	0	0	0	42
Female	--	--	0	0	0	0	18
Male	--	--	0	0	0	0	24
Philippines	0	23	11	--	--	--	39
Female	0	10	--	--	0	0	16
Male	0	13	--	--	--	--	23
South Africa, Republic Of	26	--	--	--	0	0	33
Female	10	--	--	0	0	0	13
Male	15	--	0	--	0	0	19
Unspecified	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
Total for the Top 10							1,011
Other places							310
Grand total for 2009							1,321
Source: Citizenship and Immigration Canada, GCMS Answers, February 2012.							
Due to privacy considerations, some cells in this table have been suppressed and replaced with the notation "--".							
As a result, components may not sum to the total indicated.							

Intercountry Adoptions via Permanent Residence

Table 7: Canada – Adoptions via permanent residence. Children to be adopted and children adopted by Canadian citizens or permanent residents via permanent residence, male and female, aged 0 to 29, by place of birth, 2003-2011 (in persons)**

Place of Birth	Total	Place of Birth	Total	Place of Birth	Total	Place of Birth	Total	Place of Birth	Total
Albania	15	Algeria	***	Republic of Kosovo	***	Argentina	***	Armenia	40
Australia	***	The Bahamas	***	Bangladesh	15	Barbados	***	Belarus	80
Belize	10	Republic of Benin	***	Bermuda	***	Bhutan	***	Bolivia	***
Bosnia and Herzegovina	***	Brazil	20	Bulgaria	55	Burkina Faso	5	Burundi	5
Cambodia	65	Republic of Cameroon	20	Canada	5	Central Africa Republic	***	Chile	***
People's Republic of China	5,015	Colombia	270	Democratic Republic of Congo	65	Republic of the Congo	***	Costa Rica	***
Croatia	***	Czech Republic	***	Dominica	10	Dominican Republic	***	Ecuador	25

Egypt	***	El Salvador	10	Eritrea	***	Ethiopia	635	Fiji	20
France	***	Gabon	***	Georgia	35	Ghana	80	Greece	***
Grenada	5	Guatemala	10	Republic of Guinea	20	Guyana	75	Haiti	1,010
Honduras	10	Hong Kong	20	Hungary	***	India	390	Republic of Indonesia	***
Iran	15	Iraq	***	Côte d'Ivoire	10	Jamaica	175	Japan	10
Jordan	***	Kazakhstan	140	Kenya	10	Democratic People's Republic of Korea	65	Republic of Korea	685
Laos	***	Latvia	5	Lebanon	***	Lesotho	***	Liberia	60
Lithuania	***	Macao	***	Madagascar	***	Malawi	10	Malaysia	10
Republic of Mali	5	Mauritania	***	Mauritius	***	Mexico	35	Moldova	15
Mongolia	***	Morocco	10	Mozambique	***	Burma	5	Namibia	***
Nepal	40	The Netherlands Antilles	***	The Netherlands	***	New Zealand	***	Nicaragua	***
Republic of the Niger	***	Nigeria	40	Norway	***	Pakistan	130	Palestinian Authority (Gaza/West Bank)	***
Peru	15	Philippines	600	Poland	15	Portugal	5	Romania	20
Russian Federation	725	Rwanda	15	Samoa	***	Saudi Arabia	***	Senegal	5
Republic of Serbia	***	Serbia and Montenegro	15	Sierra Leone	15	Singapore	***	Slovak Republic	5
Somalia	***	Republic of South Africa	65	Spain	***	Sri Lanka	30	St. Lucia	10
St. Vincent and the Grenadines	30	Republic of Sudan	5	Suriname	5	Swaziland	10	Sweden	***
Taiwan	130	United Republic of Tanzania	10	Thailand	165	Togolese Republic	***	Tonga	***
Republic of Trinidad & Tobago	15	Tunisia	5	Turkey	20	Uganda	30	Ukraine	210
United Kingdom And Colonies	15	United States of America	670	Vanuatu	***	Socialist Republic of Vietnam	255	Yugoslavia	***
Zambia	15	Zimbabwe	10	Grand Total	12,780				

Source: Citizenship & Immigration Canada, RDM as of January 2012.

Table 8: Canada - Adoptions via permanent residence. Children to be adopted and children adopted by Canadian citizens or permanents resident via permanent residence, by sex and age group, 2009-2011 (in persons) **

Gender	Age Group - 5 Years	2009	2010	2011
Male	0 to 4	285	280	235
	5 to 9	35	35	30
	10 to 14	25	15	20
	15 to 19	25	20	20
	20 to 24	***	10	10
	25 to 29	0	***	***
Male Total		375	360	325
Female	0 to 4	335	330	250
	5 to 9	45	55	40
	10 to 14	20	25	25
	15 to 19	25	35	35
	20 to 24	10	15	10
	25 to 29	***	***	***
Female Total		445	450	365
Gender not stated	0 to 4	0	0	0
	5 to 9	0	0	0
Gender not stated Total		0	0	0
Grand Total		810	815	690
	0 to 4	625	610	490
	5 to 9	85	90	70
	10 to 14	50	45	45
	15 to 19	50	55	60
	20 to 24	10	15	15
	25 to 29	***	***	***
Grand Total		810	815	690

Source: Citizenship & Immigration Canada, RDM as of January 2012.

Table 9: Canada - Adoptions via permanent residence. Children to be adopted and children adopted by Canadian citizens or permanents resident via permanent residence, by place of birth and age group, year 2011 (in persons)**

Top 10 Places of birth (total adoptions in 2011)			
Age group	Male	Female	Total
China, People's Republic of			
0 to 4	25	105	
5 to 9	0	***	
10 to 14	0	0	
15 to 19	***	***	
20 to 24	0	***	
Total	20	105	125

Haiti			
0 to 4	10	15	
5 to 9	5	5	
10 to 14	***	10	
15 to 19	***	5	
Total	25	35	65
Ethiopia			
0 to 4	20	25	
5 to 9	***	***	
10 to 14	***	***	
15 to 19	***	***	
Total	25	35	60
Philippines			
0 to 4	20	15	
5 to 9	***	10	
10 to 14	5	10	
15 to 19	***	***	
Total	25	30	60
Republic of Korea			
0 to 4	50	5	
5 to 9	***	0	
10 to 14	0	0	
15 to 19	0	***	
Total	50	10	55
Russian Federation			
0 to 4	40	20	
Total	40	20	55
India			
0 to 4	10	5	
5 to 9	***	5	
10 to 14	***	***	
15 to 19	***	10	
20 to 24	***	***	
25 to 29	***	0	
Total	10	25	40
Colombia			
0 to 4	10	15	
5 to 9	5	5	
10 to 14	***	0	
Total	20	20	35
United States of America			
0 to 4	10	15	
5 to 9	0	0	

10 to 14	***	0	
15 to 19	***	***	
Total	15	15	30
Democratic Republic of Congo			
0 to 4	***	***	
5 to 9	***	***	
10 to 14	***	***	
15 to 19	***	***	
19 to 24	***	0	
Total	10	5	20
Kazakhstan			
0 to 4	5	***	
Total	5	***	15
Pakistan			
0 to 4	10	***	
5 to 9	0	***	
Total	10	***	15
Thailand			
0 to 4	10	10	
5 to 9	***	0	
10 to 14	0	0	
15 to 19	0	***	
Total	10	15	15
Nigeria			
0 to 4	***	***	
5 to 9	0	0	
10 to 14	0	0	
15 to 19	***	0	
20 to 24	***	0	
Total	5	***	10
Taiwan			
0 to 4	5	5	
5 to 9	0	***	
Total	5	5	10
Ukraine			
0 to 4	***	***	
5 to 9	***	***	
10 to 14	***	0	
Total	10	***	10
Total adoptions via PR from all places, including the top 10	325	365	690
Source: Citizenship & Immigration Canada, RDM as of January 2012.			

Table 10: Canada - Adoptions via permanent residence. Children to be adopted and children adopted by Canadian citizens or permanent residents via permanent residence, by place of birth and age group, year 2010**

Top 10 Places of birth (total adoptions in 2010)			
Age group	Male	Female	Total
China, People's Republic of			
0 to 4	35	125	
5 to 9	0	***	
10 to 14	0	***	
15 to 19	***	0	
Total	35	130	165
Haiti			
0 to 4	35	45	
5 to 9	5	15	
10 to 14	5	5	
15 to 19	***	10	
Total	50	70	120
Republic of Korea			
0 to 4	45	20	
5 to 9	0	0	
10 to 14	0	***	
15 to 19	***	***	
20 to 24	0	***	
Total	45	20	65
Philippines			
0 to 4	20	15	
5 to 9	5	***	
10 to 14	***	5	
15 to 19	***	***	
Total	40	25	60
Russia Federation			
0 to 4	30	20	
5 to 9	0	***	
Total	30	25	55
Ethiopia			
0 to 4	20	15	
5 to 9	5	5	
10 to 14	0	0	
15 to 19	0	0	
20 to 24	0	***	
Total	25	25	45

India			
0 to 4	***	5	
5 to 9	***	***	
10 to 14	***	***	
15 to 19	5	10	
20 to 24	***	5	
Total	20	25	40
United States of America			
0 to 4	25	15	
5 to 9	***	0	
10 to 14	0	***	
Total	25	15	40
Colombia			
0 to 4	10	10	
5 to 9	***	5	
Total	15	15	35
Pakistan			
0 to 4	10	15	
5 to 9	***	0	
Total	10	15	30
Vietnam, Socialist Republic Of			
0 to 4	10	15	
Total	10	15	25
Total adoptions via PR from all places, including the top 10	360	450	815
Source: Citizenship & Immigration Canada, RDM as of January 2012.			

Table 11: Canada - Adoptions via permanent residence. Children to be adopted and children adopted by Canadian citizens or permanent residents via permanent residence, by place of birth and age group, year 2009 (in persons)**

Top 10 Places of birth (total adoptions in 2009)			
Age group	Male	Female	Total
China, People's Republic of			
0 to 4	25	100	
5 to 9	0	***	
10 to 14	0	***	
15 to 19	***	***	
20 to 24	0	***	
Total	25	105	130
Ethiopia			
0 to 4	30	45	
5 to 9	10	10	

10 to 14	***	***	
15 to 19	0	0	
20 to 24	***	***	
Total	35	55	95
Haiti			
0 to 4	30	35	
5 to 9	10	5	
10 to 14	0	***	
15 to 19	***	***	
Total	35	50	90
Republic of Korea			
0 to 4	40	25	
5 to 9	0	0	
10 to 14	0	***	
15 to 19	0	***	
20 to 24	***	0	
Total	40	25	70
United States of America			
0 to 4	30	35	
5 to 9	***	***	
10 to 14	***	***	
15 to 19	***	***	
20 to 24	0	***	
Total	30	40	70
Russian Republic			
0 to 4	40	15	
5 to 9	0	***	
10 to 14	0	0	
15 to 19	0	***	
Total	40	20	65
Philippines			
0 to 4	15	10	
5 to 9	***	5	
10 to 14	***	***	
15 to 19	***	***	
20 to 24	0	***	
Total	20	30	50
India			
0 to 4	5	15	
5 to 9	0	***	
10 to 14	***	***	
15 to 19	10	5	
20 to 24	0	***	

Total	20	20	45
Colombia			
0 to 4	10	10	
5 to 9	***	5	
10 to 14	***	***	
15 to 19	***	***	
Total	10	10	25
Vietnam, Socialist Republic Of			
0 to 4	10	10	
5 to 9	0	0	
10 to 14	0	***	
Total	10	15	25
Jamaica			
0 to 4	0	***	
5 to 9	0	0	
10 to 14	10	***	
15 to 19	***	5	
Total	10	10	15
Total adoptions via pr from all places, including the top 10	375	445	810
Source: Citizenship & Immigration Canada, RDM as of January 2012.			

Notes on Tables 7 through 11: Due to privacy considerations, the figures in this table have been subjected to random rounding. Under this method, all figures in the table are randomly rounded either up or down to multiples of *5*. All values between 0 and 5 are shown as ***. As a result of random rounding, data may not sum up to the totals indicated. Data for 2011 are preliminary estimates and are subject to change. For 2003-2010, these are updated numbers and different from those of Facts and Figures 2010 (www.cic.gc.ca/english/resources/statistics/menu-fact.asp).

Provincial Data⁶⁰

243. Child intervention refers to supports and services provided to support a child's safety and well-being. The focus is on supporting families to be healthy and supporting children to grow up in safe and nurturing homes. Children may receive supports while remaining with their parents or legal guardians or while they are in the care of the province. Whenever possible, services are provided while the child remains in the family home as long as the child's safety is not at risk. If this is not an option, the child or youth may need to be removed from the home and placed in a more stable home while the parents or legal guardian(s) work on making things better. When a child is "in care" it means that as an only option to protect a child's safety and well-being, the province has brought the child into its care and has assumed parental responsibility for the child.

⁶⁰ Data is provided for four provinces by way of example.

Table 12: Children's Aid Society Adoption

Age	2008		2009		2010		Total		Grand Total
	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	
0	17	19	15	24	15	19	47	62	109
1	79	92	94	99	106	101	279	292	571
2	76	89	62	95	91	121	229	305	534
3	53	50	54	57	76	65	183	172	355
4	28	31	26	37	45	58	99	126	225
5	28	39	24	28	34	37	86	104	190
6	28	16	20	33	24	36	72	85	157
7	19	15	18	21	20	18	57	54	111
8	11	18	9	14	15	18	35	50	85
9	11	12	9	14	15	14	35	40	75
10	12	14	11	9	11	14	34	37	71
11	6	12	4	5	9	10	19	27	46
12	4	5	4	3	4	9	12	17	29
13	5	5	2	1	6	4	13	10	23
14	4	3	2	4	3	8	9	15	24
15	3	1	2	1	3	1	8	3	11
16	1	1	0	2	1	0	2	3	5
17		2	1	1	1	1	2	4	6
18		1		1	1		1	2	3
18+				1	2		2	1	3
Total	385	425	357	450	482	534	1,224	1,409	2,633
Source: Adoptions and Crown Wards (ACW) Information System									

Table 13: Private Adoption

Age	2008		2009		2010		Total		Grand Total
	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	
0	28	33	28	32	17	29	73	94	167
1	9	18	19	23	13	18	41	59	100
2	2	0	2	1	2	1	6	2	8
3	1	3	1	3		1	2	7	9
4	1					1	1	1	2
5				1			0	1	1
6	1		1				2	0	2
7			1			1	1	1	2
8							0	0	0
9			1				1	0	1
10							0	0	0

11							0	0	0
12							0	0	0
13							0	0	0
14						1	0	1	1
15	1				1		2	0	2
16					1		1	0	1
17							0	0	0
18							0	0	0
18+						1	0	1	1
Total	43	54	53	60	34	53	130	167	297
Source: Adoptions and Crown Wards (ACW) Information System									

Table 14: International Adoption⁶¹

Age	2008		2009		2010		Total		Grand Total
	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	
0	74	42	66	41	43	22	183	105	288
1	50	54	62	60	55	48	167	162	329
2	17	28	14	25	14	19	45	72	117
3	14	11	8	12	18	10	40	33	73
4	10	4	19	8	2	5	31	17	48
5	6	1	3	0	5	3	14	4	18
6	6	4	0	4	2	6	8	14	22
7	4	1	4	2	0	2	8	5	13
8	1	1	4	2	0	1	5	4	9
9	0	4	2	1	0	1	2	6	8
10	1	2	5	1	0	1	6	4	10
11	5	7	1	2	3	0	9	9	18
12	2	1	2	0	1	0	5	1	6
13	1	3	0	0	2	0	3	3	6
14	2	5	4	1	0	1	6	7	13
15	2	1	0	0	1	0	3	1	4
16	3	6	1	1	2	1	6	8	14
17	2	1	1	1	2	0	5	2	7
18	4	2	2	0	0	1	6	3	9
18+	3	2	2	0	2	1	7	3	10
Total	207	180	200	161	152	122	559	463	1,022
Source: Adoptions and Crown Wards (ACW) Information System.									

Table 15: Children's Aid Society, Private and International Adoption

Age	2008		2009		2010		Total		Grand Total
	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	
0	119	94	109	97	75	70	303	261	564
1	138	164	175	182	174	167	487	513	1000

⁶¹ International adoption is also referred to as intercountry adoption.

2	95	117	78	121	107	141	280	379	659
3	68	64	63	72	94	76	225	212	437
4	39	35	45	45	47	64	131	144	275
5	34	40	27	29	39	40	100	109	209
6	35	20	21	37	26	42	82	99	181
7	23	16	23	23	20	21	66	60	126
8	12	19	13	16	15	19	40	54	94
9	11	16	12	15	15	15	38	46	84
10	13	16	16	10	11	15	40	41	81
11	11	19	5	7	12	10	28	36	64
12	6	6	6	3	5	9	17	18	35
13	6	8	2	1	8	4	16	13	29
14	6	8	6	5	3	10	15	23	38
15	6	2	2	1	5	1	13	4	17
16	4	7	1	3	4	1	9	11	20
17	2	3	2	2	3	1	7	6	13
18	4	3	2	1	1	1	7	5	12
18+	3	2	2	1	4	2	9	5	14
Total	635	659	610	671	668	709	1,913	2,039	3,952

Source: Adoptions and Crown Wards (ACW) Information System.

Note: The ACW Information System is updated on an ongoing basis following receipt of final Adoption Orders from Provincial Courts.

Government of Alberta

244. Whenever possible, permanency is achieved by returning a child to his or her family. When this is not possible, private guardianship or adoption is considered.

Table 16: Number of Adoption and Private Guardianship Orders

Monthly Average	2008/09	2009/10	2010/12
Number of children, <i>in the permanent care of the Director</i> , for whom Adoption or Private Guardianship Orders are granted	550	551	531

Government of Quebec

Table 17: Number of adoptions, 2009-2011

	2009-2010	2010-2011
Regular adoption	302	305
International adoption	452	490

Government of Newfoundland and Labrador

Table 18: Adopted domestically or through intercountry adoption

2009	2010	2011
18	42	22

Issue 3: Please specify the number of children with disabilities, up to the age of 18, disaggregated by age, sex and ethnic group, for the last three years, regarding children:

(a) Living with their families

National Data

245. From the 2006 Participation and Activity Limitation Survey, there were 202,350 children with disabilities in Canada under the age of 15 living with their families, corresponding to a disability rate of approximately 3.7 percent. This represents an increase from 2001 (3.3 percent). The disability among young children under the age of five was estimated at 1.7 percent, compared to a disability rate of 4.6 percent for children age five to 14. There were 90,060 youth with disabilities in Canada in 2006 aged 15 to 19, with a disability rate of about 4.6 percent.⁶² Boys had a higher disability rate than girls especially for children under 15 (4.6 percent versus 1.7 percent) but also for youth aged 15-19 (1.7 percent versus 4.4 percent).⁶³

(b) In institutions

National Data

246. According the 2006 Census of Population, approximately 2,070 children under the age of 15 lived in health care and related facilities such as facilities for persons with a disability, special care facilities, or home and treatment centres for children with psychiatric disorders or developmental disabilities. Approximately 61.1 percent of children living in health and disability institutions were boys.

Provincial Data⁶⁴

Government of Manitoba

247. Manitoba's Inclusion Support Program⁶⁵ provides grants to assist licensed child care centres, nursery schools, family child care and group child care homes to better support the needs of children with cognitive or physical disabilities or behavioural issues, serving

⁶² Advancing the Inclusion of People with Disabilities 2009, online:
www.hrsdc.gc.ca/eng/disability_issues/reports/fdr/2009/page00.shtml.

⁶³ Disability in Canada: A 2006 Profile (2011), online:
www.hrsdc.gc.ca/eng/disability_issues/reports/disability_profile/2011/disability_profile.pdf.

⁶⁴ Data is provided for two provinces by way of example.

⁶⁵ For more information on the Inclusion Support Program, see: www.gov.mb.ca/fs/childcare/inclusion.html.

1,484 children in 2010-2011. The following data highlights children with disabilities who are eligible for Children's disABILITY Services (CDS) and who live with their families. CDS had 4,124 children who had an "eligible" program status as of March 31, 2011 (the 2010-2011 fiscal year).

Table 19: Children with disabilities who are eligible for Children's disABILITY Services (CDS) and who live with their families

	Male	Female
0-6 years	741	359
7-12 years	1,204	474
13+ years	914	432
Total	2,859	1,265

Government of Quebec

a) Living with their families; and b) In institutions

Table 20

2009-2010	0-11 years			12-17 years			Grand Total
	IR	FTR	Total	IR	FTR	Total	
Intellectual disability	115	154	269	337	370	707	976
Physical disability	39	1	40	38	6	44	84
Pervasive developmental disorders (PDD)	11	3	14	20	9	29	43
Grand total	165	158	323	395	385	780	1,103
Legend: FTR – Family-type resource IR – Intermediate resource (other than family type)							

Table 21

2010-2011	0-11 years			12-17 years			Grand Total
	IR	FTR	Total	IR	FTR	Total	
Intellectual disability	127	117	244	373	273	646	890
Physical disability	40	1	41	38	7	45	86
Pervasive developmental disorders (PDD)	36	4	40	27	8	35	75
Grand total	203	122	325	438	288	726	1,051
Legend: FTR – Family-type resource IR – Intermediate resource (other than family type)							

(c) Attending regular schools; and (d) Attending special schools

National Data

248. In 2006, 165,880 children with disabilities age five to 14 were attending school or being tutored at home through the school system. Approximately 60.5 percent of these were

attending regular schools with no special education classes, 23.4 percent were attending regular school with at least some special education classes, and 7.4 percent were attending special education schools.⁶⁶ The latter represents an increase from 2001 (6.1 percent). Disability severity is significantly correlated with attending special education schools: 14.5 percent of children with severe or very severe disabilities attended special schools in 2006 compared to 3.0 percent of children with mild or moderate disabilities.

Provincial Data⁶⁷

Government of Alberta

249. The Family Support for Children with Disabilities (FSCD) Program is a voluntary program aimed at supporting the families of children with disabilities in Alberta. The following table illustrates the number of children with disabilities and their families who received family centred supports and services from the FSCD program from 2009-2010 to 2011-2012.

Table 22: Family Support for Children with Disabilities Program, Child Caseload Profile by Age and Gender

		2009-2010	2010-2011	2011-2012
Child Age	0-5	1,912	1,897	2,031
	6-12	4,085	4,004	4,098
	13-15	1,610	1,581	1,555
	16-17	814	793	828
All	All Ages	8,421	8,275	8,512
Gender	Female	2,771	2,683	2,666
	Male	5,650	5,592	5,846

Issue 4: Please provide disaggregated data (including by age, sex and ethnic group, urban/rural areas) for the last three years on:

(a) **The enrolment and completion rates in percentages of the relevant group in pre-primary schools, in primary schools and in secondary schools;**

National Data

First Nations, living on reserve

Enrolment

250. The Government of Canada does not fund pre-primary schools on reserve, therefore this data is not available. There is no national standard division between primary and

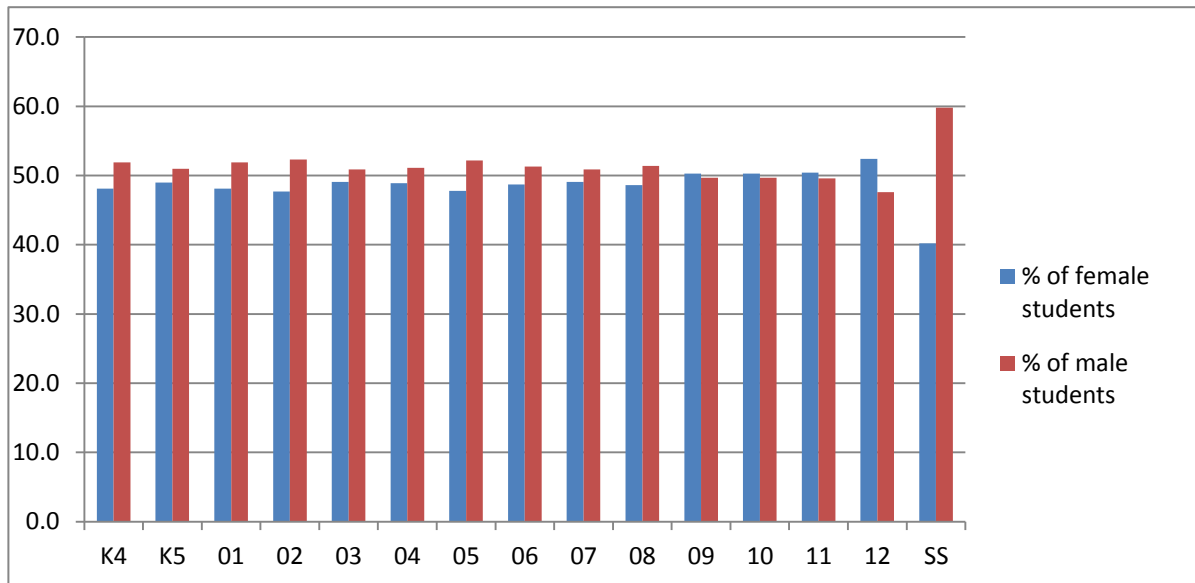
⁶⁶ Advancing the Inclusion of People with Disabilities 2009, online: www.hrsdc.gc.ca/eng/disability_issues/reports/fdr/2009/page00.shtml.

⁶⁷ Data is provided for one province by way of example.

secondary schools; band-operated schools on reserve may begin or end at any grade level. For this reason, data for all grade levels is provided.

Table 23

Proportion of male and female First Nations students living on reserve, nationally, 2008-2009, by grade, Nominal Roll.



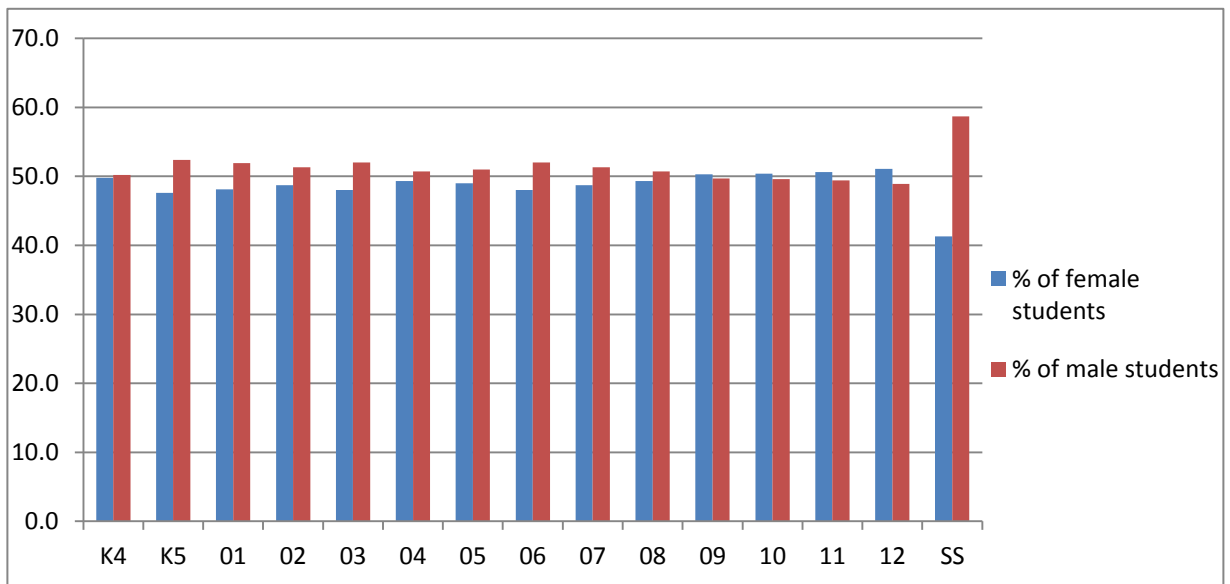
Source: Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada, Nominal Roll, departmental tabulations

Note: "SS" is a category for students who are attending school but may not be associated with a specific grade.

	Grades														
	K4	K5	01	02	03	04	05	06	07	08	09	10	11	12	SS
Female	48.1	49.0	48.1	47.7	49.1	48.9	47.8	48.7	49.1	48.6	50.3	50.3	50.4	52.4	40.2
Male	51.9	51.0	51.9	52.3	50.9	51.1	52.2	51.3	50.9	51.4	49.7	49.7	49.6	47.6	59.8

Table 24

Proportion of male and female First Nations students living on reserve, nationally, 2009-2010, by grade, Nominal Roll.



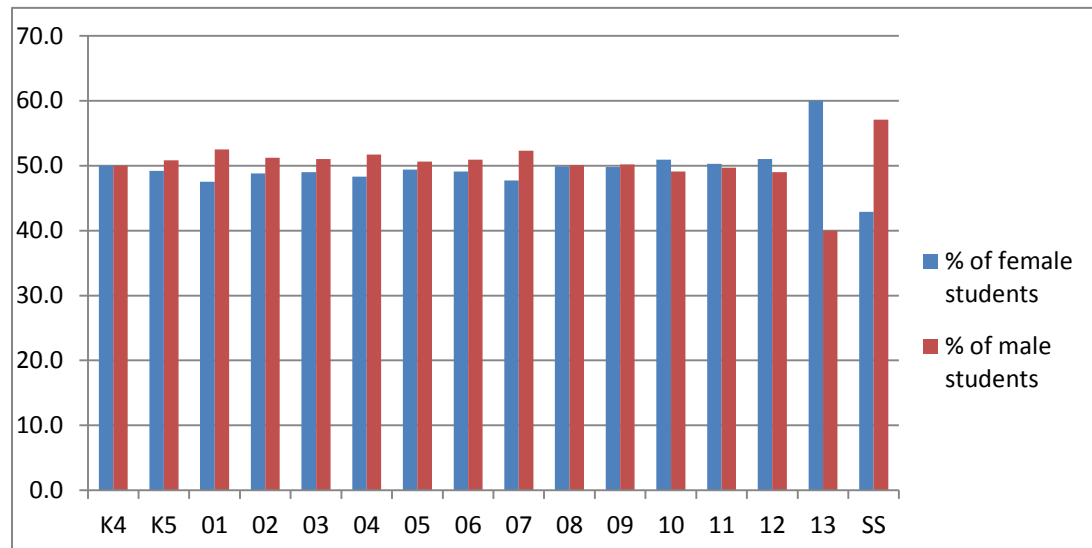
Source: Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada, Nominal Roll, departmental tabulations

Note: "SS" is a category for students who are attending school but may not be associated with a specific grade.

	Grades														
	K4	K5	01	02	03	04	05	06	07	08	09	10	11	12	SS
Female	49.8	47.6	48.1	48.7	48.0	49.3	49.0	48.0	48.7	49.3	50.3	50.4	50.6	51.1	41.3
Male	50.2	52.4	51.9	51.3	52.0	50.7	51.0	52.0	51.3	50.7	49.7	49.6	49.4	48.9	58.7

Table 25

Proportion of male and female First Nations students living on reserve, nationally, 2010-2011, by grade, Nominal Roll.



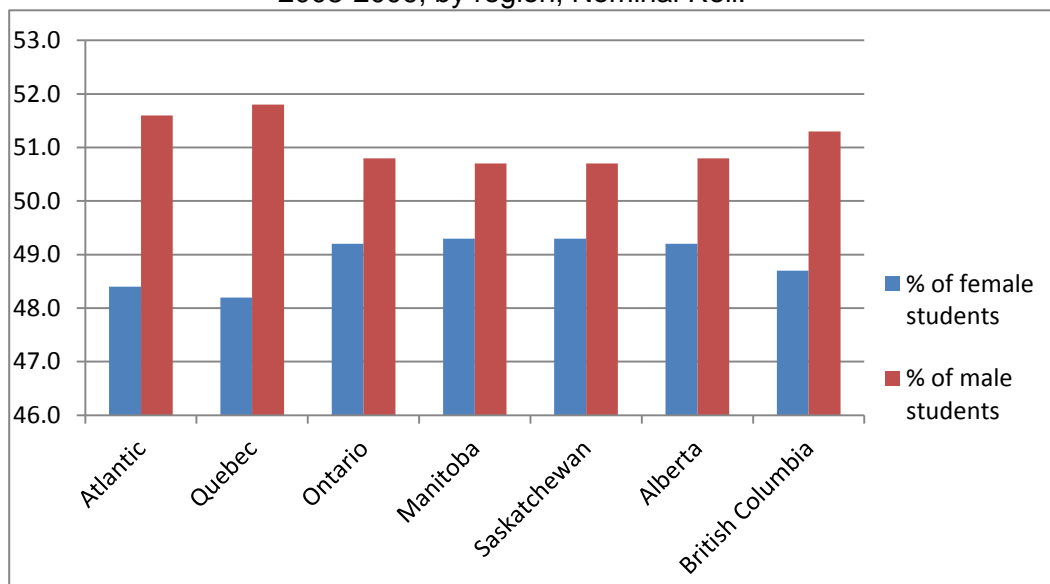
Source: Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada, Nominal Roll, departmental tabulations

Note: "SS" is a category for students who are attending school but may not be associated with a specific grade.

	Grades															
	K4	K5	01	02	03	04	05	06	07	08	09	10	11	12	13	SS
Female	50.0	49.2	47.5	48.8	49.0	48.3	49.4	49.1	47.7	49.9	49.8	50.9	50.3	51.0	60.0	42.9
Male	50.0	50.8	52.5	51.2	51.0	51.7	50.6	50.9	52.3	50.1	50.2	49.1	49.7	49.0	40.0	57.1

Table 26

Proportion of male and female First Nation students living on reserve, all grades, 2008-2009, by region, Nominal Roll.

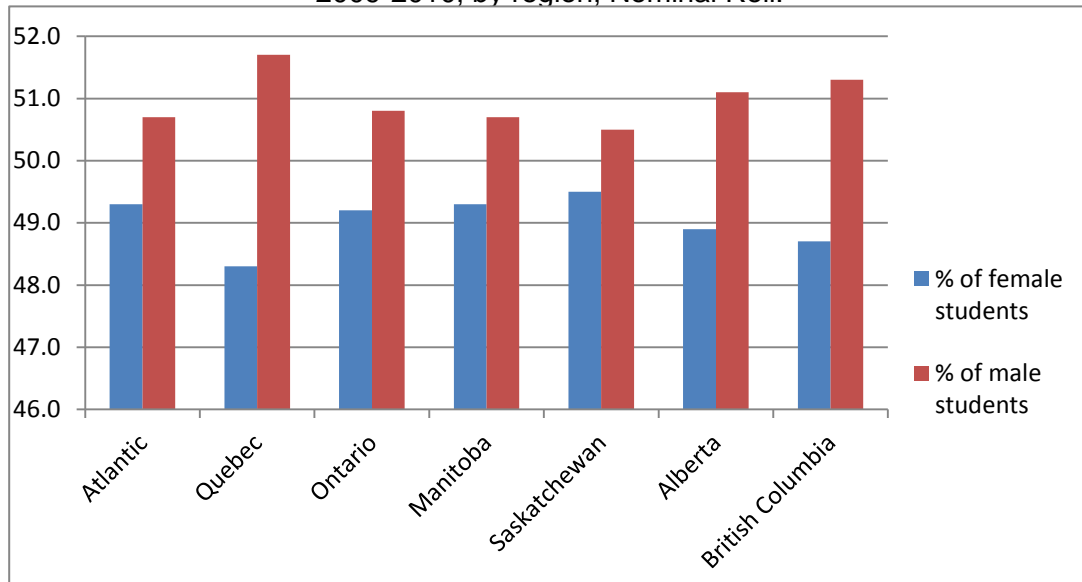


Source: Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada, Nominal Roll, departmental tabulations

	Grades						
	Atlantic	Quebec	Ontario	Manitoba	Saskatchewan	Alberta	British Columbia
Female	48.4	48.2	49.2	49.3	49.3	49.2	48.7
Male	51.6	51.8	50.8	50.7	50.7	50.8	51.3

Table 27

Proportion of male and female First Nation students living on reserve, all grades, 2009-2010, by region, Nominal Roll.

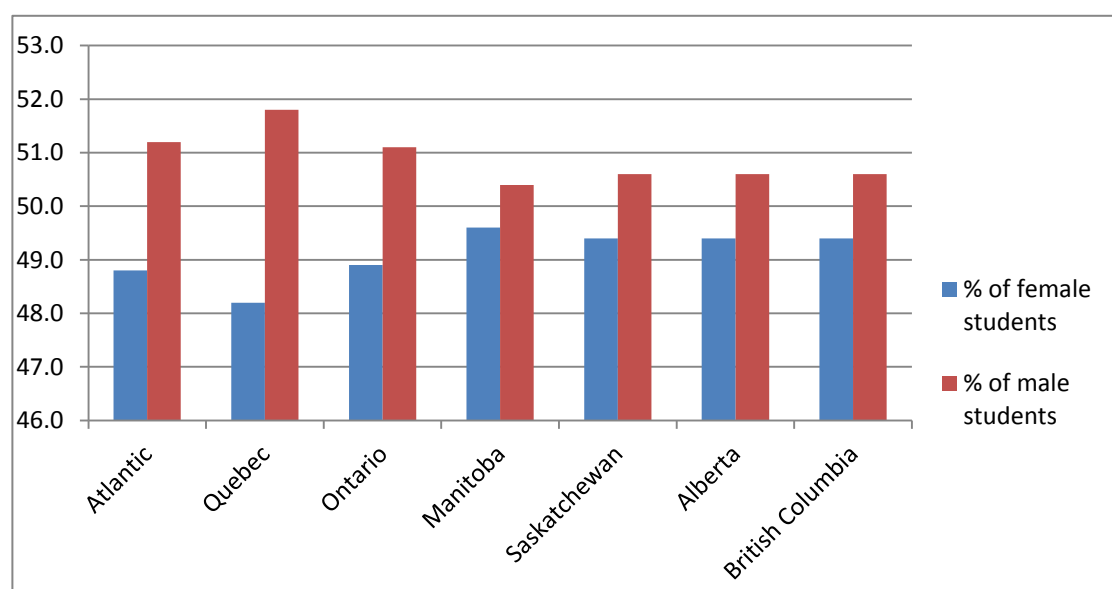


Source: Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada, Nominal Roll, departmental tabulations

	Grades						
	Atlantic	Quebec	Ontario	Manitoba	Saskatchewan	Alberta	British Columbia
Female	49.3	48.3	49.2	49.3	49.5	48.9	48.7
Male	50.7	51.7	50.8	50.7	50.5	51.1	51.3

Table 28

Proportion of male and female First Nation students living on reserve, all grades, 2010-2011, by region, Nominal Roll.



Source: Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada, Nominal Roll, departmental tabulations

	Grades						
	Atlantic	Quebec	Ontario	Manitoba	Saskatchewan	Alberta	British Columbia
Female	48.8	48.2	48.9	49.6	49.4	49.4	49.4
Male	51.2	51.8	51.1	50.4	50.6	50.6	50.6

Completion

251. The Government of Canada uses a graduation rate to demonstrate completion. The graduation rate is calculated by dividing the number of graduates by the number of students enrolled in their final year of elementary/secondary education, i.e. Grade 12 of all regions except Quebec which has Secondary 5 (Grade 11 equivalent) as their final year of elementary/secondary education. At this time, the 2009-2010 graduation rate is the latest data available.

Table 29: High school graduation rates of First Nations students living on reserve, nationally, from 2007-08 – 2009-10, Nominal Roll (percentage)

Year	Graduation Rate
2007-2008	34
2008-2009	36
2009-2010	33
Source: National Nominal Roll database as of census date of September 30	
Content: All students, All ages, All genders, All school Types, All Statuses,	

Methodology: Graduation rate by School Type and Funding Region. Percentage rate has been calculated as follow: Number of graduates divided by total number of students from which deceased have been subtracted.
Graduates for Quebec region include grades 11 to 13 and for rest of Canada it includes grades 12 to 13.

Table 30: High school graduation rate of First Nations students living on reserve, by region for 2007-2008, Nominal Roll (percentage)

	ATLANTIC	QUEBEC	ONTARIO	MANITOBA	SASKATCHEWAN	ALBERTA	BRITISH COLUMBIA	NATIONALLY
Provincial	45.95%	46.55%	35.23%	27.33%	38.60%	44.42%	47.24%	39.46%
Private		28.57%	43.64%	75.47%			64.29%	51.63%
Band Operated		20.11%	12.81%	32.73%	44.34%	22.47%	22.59%	27.74%
Total	45.95%	30.22%	25.86%	32.05%	42.30%	33.60%	41.29%	34.16%

Source: National Nominal Roll database as of census date of September 30

Content: All students, All ages, All genders, All school Types, All Statuses, All funding regions

Methodology: Graduation rate by School Type and Funding Region. Percentage rate has been calculated as follow: Number of graduates divided by total number of students from which deceased have been subtracted.
Graduates for Quebec region include grades 11 to 13 and for rest of Canada it includes grades 12 to 13.

Table 31: High school graduation rate of First Nations students living on reserve, by region for 2008-2009, Nominal Roll (percentage)

	ATLANTIC	QUEBEC	ONTARIO	MANITOBA	SASKATCHEWAN	ALBERTA	BRITISH COLUMBIA	NATIONALLY
Provincial	71.43%	40.12%	33.00%	28.50%	45.75%	34.13%	49.56%	39.68%
Private		65.91%	32.79%	62.50%			75.00%	48.26%
Band Operated		28.63%	18.40%	33.08%	48.46%	22.74%	26.57%	30.63%
Total	73.02%	36.31%	26.95%	31.89%	47.00%	28.35%	45.05%	35.69%

Source: National Nominal Roll database as of census date of September 30

Content: All students, All ages, All genders, All school Types, All Statuses,

Methodology: Graduation rate by School Type and Funding Region. Percentage rate has been calculated as follow: Number of graduates divided by total number of students from which deceased have been subtracted.
Graduates for Quebec region include grades 11 to 13 and for rest of Canada it includes grades 12 to 13.

Table 32: High school graduation rate of First Nations students living on reserve, by region for 2009-2010, Nominal Roll (percentage)

	ATLANTIC	QUEBEC	ONTARIO	MANITOBA	SASKATCHEWAN	ALBERTA	BRITISH COLUMBIA	NATIONALLY
Provincial	71.51%	50.00%	33.39%	28.18%	40.63%	36.01%	45.00%	39.14%
Private		62.79%	30.95%	41.03%			68.18%	41.38%
Band Operated	64.71%	32.68%	14.54%	24.91%	43.56%	22.80%	26.53%	26.67%
Total	70.59%	41.19%	25.32%	26.40%	42.15%	29.89%	40.97%	33.31%

Source: National Nominal Roll database as of census date of September 30

Content: All students, All ages, All genders, All school Types, All Statuses,

Methodology: Graduation rate by School Type and Funding Region. Percentage rate has been calculated as follow: Number of graduates divided by total number of students from which deceased have been subtracted.
Graduates for Quebec region include grades 11 to 13 and for rest of Canada it includes grades 12 to 13.

Table 33: High school graduation rate of First Nations living on reserve, by gender for 2008-2009, Nominal Roll (percentage)

Gender	Graduation Rate
Female	37.2
Male	35.4
Total	36.3
Source: Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada, Nominal Roll, departmental tabulations.	
Notes:	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The graduation rate was calculated by dividing the number of graduates by the number of students enrolled in their final year of elementary/secondary education, i.e. Grade 12 for all regions except Quebec which has Secondary 5 (Grade 11 equivalent) as their final year of elementary/secondary education. 2. The Nominal Roll is a census of First Nations students ordinarily resident on reserve in attendance on September 30 of each school year. 3. The Quebec Inuit/Cree/Naskapis Nations and the Atlantic Region Mi'kmaw Kina'matnewey are not included as they are under Self-Government Agreements that do not require them to report on graduation rates. 	

Table 34: High school graduation rate of First Nations living on reserve, by gender for 2009-2010, Nominal Roll (percentage)

Gender	Graduation Rate
Female	34
Male	32
Total	33
Source: Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada, Nominal Roll, departmental tabulations.	
Notes:	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The graduation rate was calculated by dividing the number of graduates by the number of students enrolled in their final year of elementary/secondary education, i.e. Grade 12 for all regions except Quebec which has Secondary 5 (Grade 11 equivalent) as their final year of elementary/secondary education. 2. The Nominal Roll is a census of First Nations students ordinarily resident on reserve in attendance on September 30 of each school year. 3. The Quebec Inuit/Cree/Naskapis Nations and the Atlantic Region Mi'kmaw Kina'matnewey are not included. 	

Provincial/Territorial Data⁶⁸

Government of Alberta

Table 35: Alberta Student Population by Authority System for 2011/2012

Source: Alberta Education, "Student Population," <http://www.education.alberta.ca/apps/statistics/quickfacts/page2.asp>

Alberta Education Student	Early Childhood Services	Grade 1 to 6	Grade 7 to 9	Grade 10 to 12	Ungraded	Total
Public	Y	34,331	178,095	90,158	113,703	416,287
	N	189	999	550	4,783	6,521
Separate	Y	12,975	62,663	31,653	31,976	139,267
	N	179	922	431	491	2,023
Francophone	Y	1,064	3,125	1,097	708	5,994
	N	0	0	0	5	5
Charter	Y	598	4,467	2,017	771	7,853
	N	0	0	0	0	0
ECS Priv Operator	Y	4,140	0	0	0	4,140
	N	0	0	0	0	0
Private School	Y	2,021	12,073	5,848	4,635	24,577
	N	266	149	172	681	1,268
Other ECS to Grade 12 Education Providers	Y	0	0	0	0	0
	N	1,287	4,556	1,935	3,643	11,421
All Schools & Authorities	Y	55,129	260,423	130,773	151,793	598,118
	N	1,921	6,626	3,088	9,603	21,238

(accessed on September 12, 2012)

Government of Manitoba

Table 36: Manitoba High School Graduation Rate Public and Funded Independent Schools Graduates to Grade 9 Enrolment Four Years Previous June 2008 to June 2011

Graduation Year	Public and Funded Independent High School Graduates	Year of Grade 9 Enrolment Four Years Previous	Grade 9 Enrolment Four Years Previous	Percentage Graduates to Grade 9 Enrolments
Jun-08	12,901	Sept 2004	16,332	79.0
Jun-09	13,053	Sept 2005	16,141	80.9
Jun-10	12,922	Sept 2006	15,625	82.7

⁶⁸ Data is provided for four provinces and one territory by way of example.

Jun-11	13,296	Sept 2007	15,926	83.5
Source: Manitoba's High School Graduation Rate report; www.edu.gov.mb.ca/k12/docs/reports/grad_rate/grad_rate.pdf				

Government of Ontario

Table 37: Student Enrolment, 2007-2008 to 2009-2010

School Level	2007-2008	2008-2009	2009-2010
Elementary			
Total Enrolment	1,371,485	1,355,440	1,343,303
Female	668,846	661,279	655,082
Male	702,639	694,161	688,221
Secondary			
Total Enrolment	716,103	715,296	718,087
Female	344,060	343,295	344,435
Male	372,043	372,001	373,652
Source: Ontario School Information System (OnSIS) 2007-2008 to 2009-2010. Notes: Data includes public and Roman Catholic schools. Data excludes private schools, publicly funded hospital and provincial schools, care, treatment and correctional facilities, summer, night and adult continuing education day schools.			

Government of Newfoundland and Labrador

Table 38 Percentage of total enrolment (%)

School year	Primary (K-6)		Secondary (Gr 7 - 12/Level III)	
	Male	Female	Male	Female
2008/09	50.9	49.1	51.4	48.6
2009/10	51.0	49.0	51.5	48.5
2010/11	50.9	49.1	51.3	48.7

Table 39: Provincially

School year	Number of students who were:		Provincial graduation (pass) rate (%)
	Eligible to graduate	An actual graduate	
2008/09	5,516	4,982	90.3
2009/10	5,450	5,025	92.2
2010/11	5,024	4,606	91.7

Table 40: By gender

School year	Provincial graduation (pass) rate (%)	
	Female	Male
2008/09	92.4	88.2
2009/10	93.1	91.4
2010/11	92.4	90.9

Government of Yukon Territory**Table 41**

	2008-2009	2009-2010	2010-2011
Yukon graduation rates (percentage)	62	69.2	68

Source: Yukon Government Department of Education, Annual Report 2008-2009, 2009-2010, 2010-2011.
Note that percentage rate has been calculated as follows: Number of graduates divided by total number of Yukon residents of graduation age.

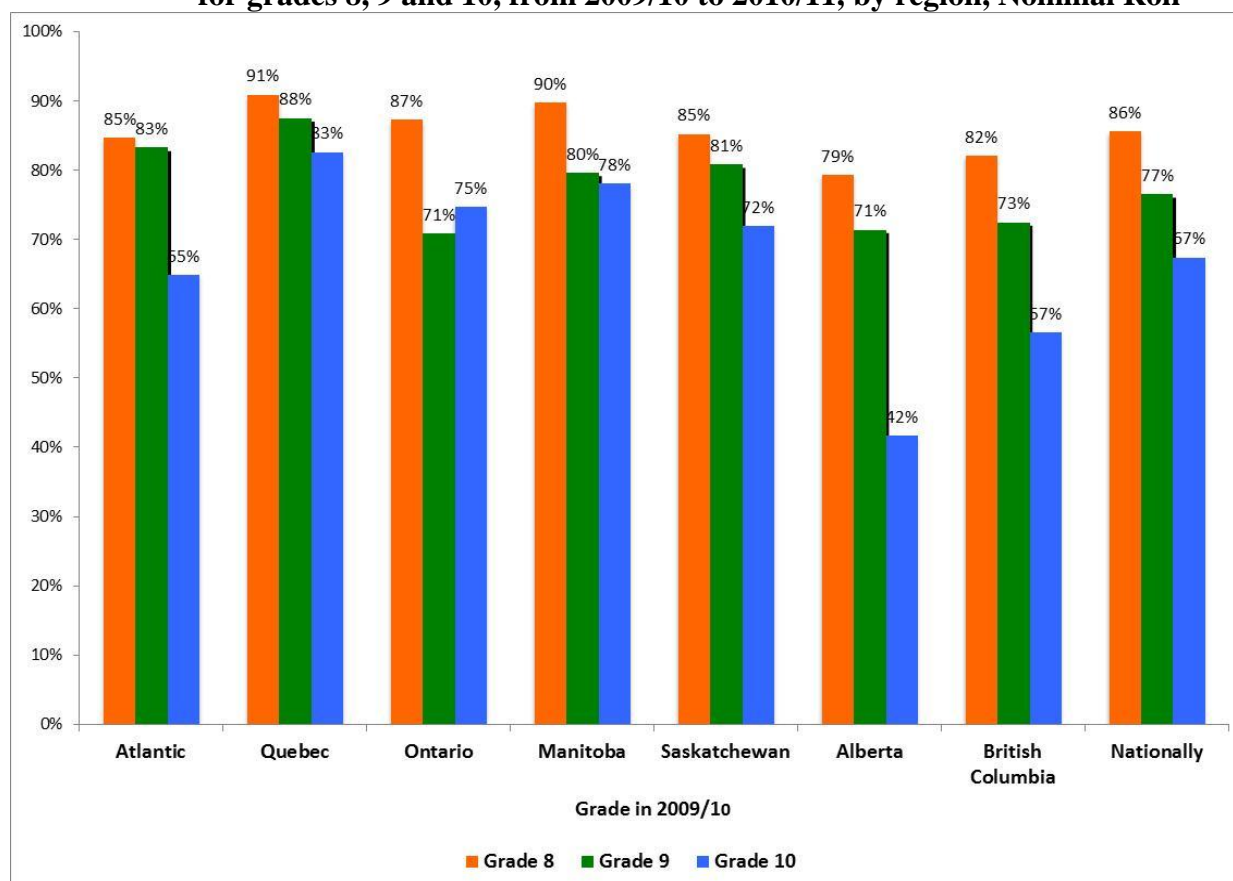
Government of Northwest Territories**Table 42: Secondary School Graduates (percentage)**

	NWT Total		
	2008-2009	2009-2010	2010-2011
Aboriginal	44	43	37
Non-Aboriginal	69	66	82
NWT Total	53	52	52

(b) Number and percentage of drop-outs and repetitions**National Data**

252. In place of drop-out or repetition data, the Government of Canada collects and reports on student retention. The student retention rate captures the percentage of students who are enrolled in the current year compared to the number of students who were enrolled in the previous year. At the time of this data request, the Government of Canada is only able to provide student retention rates for Grades 8, 9 and 10 from 2009-2010 to 2010-2011 by region.

Table 43: Retention of elementary/secondary First Nations students living on reserve for grades 8, 9 and 10, from 2009/10 to 2010/11, by region, Nominal Roll



Source: Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada, Nominal Roll, departmental tabulations.

The graph should be interpreted as follows: the column represents the percentage of students who were in the indicated grade in the 2009/10 school year who returned to school in 2010/11, regardless of the grade.

Notes:

1. Retention rates were calculated by first removing those students in 2009/10 who were deceased in 2010/11, and those students in 2010/11 who were not included in the Nominal Roll of 2009/10.
2. The retention rate was then calculated by dividing the number of students on the Nominal Roll in 2010/11 by the number on the Nominal Roll in 2009/10.
3. The Nominal Roll is a census of First Nations students ordinarily resident on reserve in attendance on September 30 of each school year.
4. The Quebec Inuit/Cree/Naskapis Nations and the Atlantic Region Mi'kmaw Kina'matnewey are not included.

Provincial Data⁶⁹

Government of Alberta

Table 44: Annual dropout rate (percentage) of students aged 14-18*

2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10
4.7	5.0	4.8	4.3	4.2
Source: Alberta Education, Annual Report 2010-2011, Results Analysis, p.15 www.education.alberta.ca/media/6552075/resultsanalysis.pdf (accessed on September 12, 2012). * Drop-outs are those who have been registered in the previous school year, are no longer in school this year but have not graduated. Eventual completion is not reflected in these figures.				

(c) Ratio teacher per pupil

Federal Data

253. In the past, recipients have not submitted data required to calculate the student teacher ratio in band-operated schools in a consistent way. For this reason, the Government of Canada is unable to provide student-teacher ratio data at this time. This challenge is being addressed by attaching the teacher information to the upcoming Nominal Roll (yearly student census report from schools), which will make reporting on this data mandatory and part of the compliance process.

Provincial/Territorial Data⁷⁰

Government of Manitoba

Table 45

School Year	Pupil Teacher Ratio
2008/09	17.3
2009/10	17.5
2010/11	17.6
Source: Manitoba Education Frame Report (2008-2011) www.edu.gov.mb.ca/k12/finance/frame_report	

Government of Newfoundland and Labrador

Table 46

School Year	Pupil Teacher Ratio
2008/09	12.1
2009/10	11.9

⁶⁹ Data is provided for one province by way of example.

⁷⁰ Data is provided for two provinces and one territory by way of example.

2010/11	11.8
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Government of Yukon

Table 47

School Year	Pupil Teacher Ratio Rural	Pupil Teacher Ratio Urban
2011/2012	8.12	11.7

Issue 5: Please provide disaggregated statistical data (including by age, sex and ethnic group, including aboriginal children and those living in reserves, and region) on adolescent health, including early pregnancy, sexually transmitted diseases (STDs), mental health, suicide, drug, alcohol and tobacco consumption and abuse, as well as rates of infant and child mortality and of malnutrition for the last three years.

National Data

Live births to adolescent mothers

Table 48: Average annual rate of live births in Canada (per 1,000 females), 2004-2008

Age Group	Total
10-17 years	3.1
18-19 years	28.2
Source: Public Health Agency of Canada, Perinatal Health Indicators for Canada 2011. Ottawa, 2012.	

Table 49: Live birth rates in Canada (per 1,000 females), 2006-2008*

Age Group	2006	2007	2008
10-14 years	0.2	0.2	0.2
15-17 years	7.6	8.0	8.2
18-19 years	27.8	28.4	28.1
*Ontario data are excluded due to data quality issues Source: Public Health Agency of Canada, Perinatal Health Indicators for Canada 2011. Ottawa, 2012.			

Table 50: Percentage of Female First Nations youth (aged 12-17) who reported having been pregnant (out of those who reported being sexually active) (%)

Female	17.5
Source: 2008/10 First Nations Regional Longitudinal Health Survey.	

Mental Health & Well-being

Table 51: Canadian students reporting high levels of emotional problems, by grade and sex (%), 2010*

Sex	Grade 6	Grade 7	Grade 8	Grade 9	Grade 10
Male	27	26	25	29	28
Female	35	37	32	43	44

Source: Freeman, J. et al. 2011. *The Health of Canada's Young People: a mental health focus*. Ottawa: Public Health Agency of Canada.
 *Data from the 2010 Canadian Health Behaviour in School-aged Children (HBSC) study. "Grade" refers to year of schooling. Grades 6 to 10 roughly correspond to children aged 11 to 15 years.

Table 52: Canadian students reporting high levels of behavioural problems, by grade and sex (%), 2010*

Sex	Grade 6	Grade 7	Grade 8	Grade 9	Grade 10
Male	30	36	40	46	48
Female	27	31	36	40	45

Source: Freeman, J. et al. 2011. *The Health of Canada's Young People: a mental health focus*. Ottawa: Public Health Agency of Canada.
 *Data from the 2010 Canadian Health Behaviour in School-aged Children (HBSC) study. "Grade" refers to year of schooling. Grades 6 to 10 roughly correspond to children aged 11 to 15 years.

Table 53: Canadian students reporting high levels of emotional well-being, by grade and sex (%), 2010*

Sex	Grade 6	Grade 7	Grade 8	Grade 9	Grade 10
Male	56	49	40	33	30
Female	46	41	31	23	21

Source: Freeman, J. et al. 2011. *The Health of Canada's Young People: a mental health focus*. Ottawa: Public Health Agency of Canada.
 *Data from the 2010 Canadian Health Behaviour in School-aged Children (HBSC) study. "Grade" refers to year of schooling. Grades 6 to 10 roughly correspond to children aged 11 to 15 years.

Table 54: Canadian students reporting high levels of prosocial behaviour, by grade and sex (%), 2010*

Sex	Grade 6	Grade 7	Grade 8	Grade 9	Grade 10
Male	30	25	22	23	22
Female	45	39	37	36	34

Source: Freeman, J. et al. 2011. *The Health of Canada's Young People: a mental health focus*. Ottawa: Public Health Agency of Canada.
 *Data from the 2010 Canadian Health Behaviour in School-aged Children (HBSC) study. "Grade" refers to year of schooling. Grades 6 to 10 roughly correspond to children aged 11 to 15 years.

Table 55: Adolescent suicide rate in Canada (per 100,000), 2006-2008*

Age Group	2006	2007	2008
Males			
10-14 years	1.2	1.7	1.6
15-19 years	9.8	11.4	12.1

Females			
10-14 years	1.7	1.5	0.9
15-19 years	3.7	5.0	6.2
* Rates aged standardized to the 1991 Canadian population. Source: Public Health Agency of Canada, Perinatal Health Indicators for Canada 2011. Ottawa, 2012.			

Table 56: Percentage of First Nations youth (aged 12 to 17 years) who felt sad, blue, or depressed for at least two weeks in a row in the past 12 months (%)

Overall	25.4
Males	17.2
Females	33.8
Source: 2008/10 First Nations Regional Longitudinal Health Survey.	

Table 57: Percentage of First Nations youth (aged 12 to 17 years) who had thought about committing suicide (%)

Overall	16.5
Males	11.2
Females	22.2
Source: 2008/10 First Nations Regional Longitudinal Health Survey.	

Table 58: Percentage of First Nations youth (aged 12 to 17 years) who had attempted suicide (%)

Overall	5.9
Males	3.6
Females	8.3
Source: 2008/10 First Nations Regional Longitudinal Health Survey.	

Other health indicators

Table 59: Assorted health indicators, ages 12-19 years (percent), Canada, 2010

Indicator	Males	Females	Total
Perceived mental health, very good or excellent	73.9	76.6	75.3
Perceived mental health, fair or poor	3.7	3.9	3.8
Life satisfaction, satisfied or very satisfied	97	96.9	96.9
Perceived life stress, quite a lot (15+ years)	13.7	23.2	18.3
Sense of belonging to local community, somewhat strong or very strong	73.4	74.0	73.7
Diagnosed with a mood disorder	2.0	4.0	3.0

Current smoker, daily or occasional	13.1	9.4	11.3
Current smoker, daily	6.8	5.1	6.0
Exposure to second-hand smoke at home	16.1	13.7	14.9
Exposure to second-hand smoke in vehicles/public places	26.3	27.5	26.9
5 or more drinks on one occasion, at least once a month in the past year	16.3	11.2	13.8
Fruit and vegetable consumption, 5 times or more per day	48.3	50.4	49.3

Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Community Health Survey, CANSIM table 105-0501.

Table 60: Percentage of First Nations youth (aged 12 to 17 years) who reported using illicit drugs in the past 12 months (%)

Substance	Group	% Using Substance in Past 12 Months
Cannabis	Overall	36.2
	Females	36.3
	Males	36.1
Hallucinogens	Overall	3.9
	Females	4.5
	Males	3.4
Amphetamines	Overall	3.6
	Females	4.8
	Males	2.5
Cocaine or Crack	Overall	2.8
	Females	3.0
	Males	2.6
Sedatives or Sleeping Pills	Overall	2.2
	Females	3.0
	Males	1.5
Illicit or Prescription Opioids	Overall	1.3
	Females	1.5
	Males	1.1
Inhalants (Solvents, Glue, Gas)	Overall	1.1
	Females	1.1
	Males	1.1

Source: 2008/10 First Nations Regional Longitudinal Health Survey.

Table 61: Percentage of First Nations youth (aged 12 to 17 years) who had NOT consumed alcohol in the past 12 months (%)

Overall	61.0
Males	64.7
Females	57.1

12-14 years old	79.3
15-17 years old	42.7
Source: 2008/10 First Nations Regional Longitudinal Health Survey.	

Table 62: Percentage of First Nations youth (aged 12 to 17 years) who engaged in binge drinking (5 or more drinks on one occasion) 2-3 times per month or more often (out of those who had consumed alcohol in the past 12 months) (%)

Overall	31.9
12-14 years old	23.0
15-17 years old	35.0
Source: 2008/10 First Nations Regional Longitudinal Health Survey.	

Table 63: Percentage of First Nations youth (aged 12 to 17 years) who smoked daily in the past 12 months (%)

Overall	20.4
Males	16.4
Females	24.5
12-14 years old	11.1
15-17 years old	29.6
Source: 2008/10 First Nations Regional Longitudinal Health Survey.	

Table 64: Canada: Tobacco, Alcohol and Drug Use - Prevalence (%) among students in Grades 7 - 12 (age approximately 12-18 years)

	N	Lifetime use	Use in Past Year	Use in Past Month	Lifetime use			Use in Past Year			Use in Past Month		
					≤14 years	15-16 years	≥17 years	≤14 years	15-16 years	≥17 years	≤14 years	15-16 years	≥17 years
Alcohol	2,468,623	n/a	53	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	32	68	82	n/a	n/a	n/a
Tobacco	2,468,623	37	n/a	15	26	46	55	n/a	n/a	n/a	9	19	24
Drugs:													
Marijuana	2,468,623	n/a	27	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	15	37	44	n/a	n/a	n/a
Cocaine	2,468,623	n/a	3	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	2	4	5	n/a	n/a	n/a
Inhalants	2,468,623	n/a	2	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	3	2	1	n/a	n/a	n/a
Tranquilizers	2,468,623	n/a	2	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	2	3	2	n/a	n/a	n/a
Stimulants non amphetamine	2,468,623	n/a	4	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	3	4	4	n/a	n/a	n/a
Amphetamine	2,468,623	n/a	3	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	3	3	2	n/a	n/a	n/a
Heroin	2,468,623	n/a	1	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	1	1	1	n/a	n/a	n/a

Source: 2008-2009 Youth Smoking Survey (YSS)

Notes: Questions on tobacco were asked of students in Grades 6-12 while alcohol and drug questions were asked of students in Grades 7-12. For consistency in reporting, YSS data in these tables are limited to students in Grades 7-12

Data are provided by grade only, age is derived from the reported grade: Age less than 14 years is associated with Grades 7 through 9; age 15-16 is

associated with Grades 10 and 11; and age 17 and older is associated with Grade 12.

Tobacco

- "lifetime" tobacco use reflects the % of students who had ever "tried" a cigarette even just a puff.
- "past year" data on smoking are not available from the 2008-09 YSS.
- "past month" tobacco use reflects percentage of students who smoke one or more cigarettes at least one day in the past 30 days

Alcohol

- "lifetime" alcohol use is not available from 2008-2009 YSS.
- "past year" alcohol reflects students who had a drink for the last 12 months (answer to the question " In the last 12 months, how often did you have a drink of alcohol that was more then just a sip?").
- "past month" alcohol data are not available from 2008-09 YSS.

Drugs

- "lifetime" use of drugs is not available from 2008-2009 YSS.
- "past year" reflect the responses to use of each drug used in the last 12 months.
- "past month" use of drugs data are not available from 2008-09 YSS.

Table 65: Canada: Tobacco, Alcohol and Drug Use – Prevalence (%) among students in Grades 7-12 (age approximately 12-18 years)

	N	Total Past Year Use	Use in Past Year							
			Sex		Grades 7 to 9			Grades 10 to 12		
			Male	Female	Overall	Male	Female	Overall	Male	Female
Alcohol	1,204,975	53	54	51	32	34	30	72	73	72
Tobacco	2,468,623	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Drugs:										
Marijuana	636,565	27	31	24	15	17	12	39	43	36
Cocaine	70,329	3	4	3	2	2	2	4	5	4
Inhalants	50,177	2	3	2	3	3	3	2	2	1
Tranquilizers	52,611	2	3	2	2	2	1	3	3	3
Stimulants (non amphetamine)	82,925	4	4	4	3	3	3	5	4	5
Amphetamine	62,397	3	3	2	3	3	2	3	4	2
Heroin	28,626	1	2	1	1	2	1	1	2	1

Source: 2008-2009 Youth Smoking Survey (YSS)

Questions on tobacco are asked of students in Grades 6-12 while alcohol and drug questions are asked of students in Grades 7-12.

For consistency in reporting, YSS data in these tables are limited to students in Grades 7-12

Data are provided by grade only, age is derived from the reported grade: Age less than 14 years is associated with Grades 7 through 9; age 15-16 is associated with Grades 10 and 11; and age 17 and older is associated with Grade 12.

Alcohol

- 'lifetime' alcohol use is not available from 2008-2009 YSS.
- 'past year' alcohol reflects students who had a drink for the last 12 months (answer to the question " in the last 12 months, how often did you have a drink of alcohol that was more than just a sip?").
- "past month" alcohol data are not available from 2008-09 YSS.

Tobacco

"past year" data on smoking are not available from the 2008-09 YSS.

Drugs

- "lifetime" use of drugs is not available from 2008-2009 YSS.
- "past year" reflect the responses to use of each drug used in the last 12 months.
- "past month" use of drugs data are not available from 2008-09 YSS.

Physical Activity

Table 66: Physical activity during leisure time amongst Canadian adolescents aged 12-19 years, moderately active or active 2009-2010^{1,2}

Sex	Characteristics	2009	2010
Male	Percent	77.2	75.8
	Low 95% confidence interval (percent)	75.1	73.5
	High 95% confidence interval (percent)	79.3	78.0
Female	Percent	64.6	65.4
	Low 95% confidence interval (percent)	62.2	62.9
	High 95% confidence interval (percent)	67.0	67.8

Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Community Health Survey, CANSIM table 105-0501.

¹Population aged 12 and over who reported a level of physical activity, based on their responses to questions about the nature, frequency and duration of their participation in leisure-time physical activity.

²Respondents are classified as active, moderately active or inactive based on an index of average daily physical activity over the past 3 months. For each leisure time physical activity engaged in by the respondent, an average daily energy expenditure is calculated by multiplying the number of times the activity was performed by the average duration of the activity by the energy cost (kilocalories per kilogram of body weight per hour) of the activity. The index is calculated as the sum of the average daily energy expenditures of all activities.

Respondents are classified as follows: 3.0 kcal/kg/day or more = physically active; 1.5 to 2.9 kcal/kg/day = moderately active; less than 1.5 kcal/kg/day = inactive.

Table 67: Mean steps taken per day, 2008-2011

Child age and sex	2008-2009	2009-2010	2010-2011
11-14 years	11,580	11,521	11,148
Male	12,350	12,242	11,805
Female	10,730	10,743	10,522
15-19 years	9,907	10,160	9,586
Male	10,553	10,680	10,087
Female	9,221	9,616	9,134

Source: CANPLAY 2008-11, Canadian Fitness and Lifestyle Research Institute.

Infant and child mortality

254. The Canadian infant mortality rate was 5.0 per 1,000 live births in 2006, and 5.1 per 1,000 live births in both 2007 and 2008. The Canadian child mortality rate was 0.2 per 1,000 live births each year in 2006, 2007 and 2008.

Table 68: Deaths in Canada (mortality rate per 1,000 population), 2008

Age Group	Males	Females	Total
<1 year	5.5	4.6	5.1
1-4 years	0.2	0.2	0.2
5-9 years	0.1	0.1	0.1
10-14 years	0.2	0.1	0.1
15-19 years	0.5	0.3	0.4

Source: Statistics Canada, Vital Statistics – Deaths, CANSIM table 102-0504.

Food Insecurity

Table 69: Household food insecurity measures, by presence of children in the household (percent of households), Canada, 2007/2008

Presence of Children	Household FI	Adult FI	Child FI
Children < 18	9.7 (9.2 10.2)	9.2 (8.7 9.7)	5.1 (4.7 5.5)
Children 0-5 years	10.7 (9.8 11.6)	10.3 (9.3 11.1)	4.9 (4.3 5.6)
Children 6-17 years	9.0 (8.4 9.6)	8.5 (8.0 9.1)	5.2 (4.7 5.7)

Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Community Health Survey, CANSIM table 105-0546.

Table 70: Household food insecurity measures, by living arrangement (percent of households), Canada, 2007/2008

Presence of Children	Household FI	Adult FI	Child FI
Couple with child(ren) < 18 yrs old	6.0 (5.6 6.5)	5.7 (5.3 6.2)	2.8 (2.5 3.2)
Lone parent with child(ren) < 18 yrs old	23.0 (21.2 24.7)	22.1 (20.3 23.8)	13.5 (12.2 14.9)

Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Community Health Survey, CANSIM table 105-0545.

Table 71: Reported Cases and Rates (per 100,000)¹ of Chlamydia by Age Group and Sex, Canada, 2007-2009²

Year		Sex	10-14	15-19	20-24	25-29
2007	Cases	Male	36	3,689	9,328	5,604
		Female	486	16,035	18,313	7,508
		Unspecified ³	1	18	18	10
		Total	523	19,742	27,659	13,122
	Rates per 100,000	Male	3.4	321.1	801.2	498.9
		Female	48.4	1,471.6	1,654.4	677.4
		Total	25.4	882.0	1,217.8	588.0
2008	Cases	Male	43	4,141	10,368	6,210
		Female	472	18,161	20,281	8,707
		Unspecified ³	0	16	23	12
		Total	515	22,318	30,672	14,929
	Rates per 100,000	Male	4.2	357.9	883.6	538.5
		Female	48.0	1,650.9	1,820.8	767.2
		Total	25.6	988.8	1,341.0	652.5
2009	Cases	Male	56	4,549	10,742	6,600
		Female	519	18,902	21,125	9,164
		Unspecified ³	0	9	26	24
		Total	575	23,460	31,893	15,788
	Rates per 100,000	Male	5.5	394.4	900.7	556.7
		Female	53.9	1,720.3	1,871.4	788.4

	Total	29.1	1,041.7	1,373.8	672.4
¹ Rate per 100,000 population. Population estimates provided by Statistics Canada. (Source: Statistics Canada, Demography Division, Demographic Estimates Section, July Population Estimates, 1997-2005 final intercensal estimates, 2006 final postcensal estimates, 2007-2008 updated postcensal estimates, 2009 preliminary postcensal estimates.) ² 2009 data are preliminary and changes are anticipated. Data were verified with provinces and territories as of November, 2010. ³ Unspecified sex includes transgender cases. Source: Hepatitis C and STI Surveillance and Epidemiology Section, Community Acquired Infections Division, Centre for Communicable Diseases and Infection Control, Public Health Agency of Canada, 2010. Note: Small variability may exist between data reported by the provinces/territories and the Public Health Agency of Canada. Provincial/territorial data are definitive should a discrepancy exist.					

Table 72: Reported Cases and Rates (per 100,000)¹ of Gonorrhea by Age Group and Sex, Canada, 2007-2009²

Year		Sex	10-14	15-19	20-24	25-29
2007	Cases	Male	12	828	1,782	1,326
		Female	82	1,640	1,671	748
		Unspecified ³	0	0	2	0
		Total	94	2,468	3,455	2,074
	Rates per 100,000	Male	1.1	72.1	153.1	118.1
		Female	8.2	150.5	151.0	67.5
		Total	4.6	110.3	152.1	92.9
2008	Cases	Male	16	817	1940	1,412
		Female	98	1,829	1,836	906
		Unspecified ³	0	1	2	1
		Total	114	2,647	3,778	2,319
	Rates per 100,000	Male	1.6	70.6	165.3	122.4
		Female	10.0	166.3	164.8	79.8
		Total	5.7	117.3	165.2	101.4
2009	Cases	Male	8	705	1,684	1,226
		Female	68	1600	1,682	823
		Unspecified ³	0	3	4	1
		Total	76	2,308	3,370	2,050
	Rates per 100,000	Male	0.8	61.1	141.2	103.4
		Female	7.1	145.6	149.0	70.8
		Total	3.8	102.5	145.2	87.3

¹ Rate per 100,000 population. Population estimates provided by Statistics Canada. (Source: Statistics Canada, Demography Division, Demographic Estimates Section, July Population Estimates, 1997-2005 final intercensal estimates, 2006 final postcensal estimates, 2007-2008 updated postcensal estimates, 2009 preliminary postcensal estimates.)

² 2009 data are preliminary and changes are anticipated. Data were verified with provinces and territories as of November, 2010.

³ Unspecified sex includes transgender cases. Source: Hepatitis C and STI Surveillance and Epidemiology Section, Community Acquired Infections Division, Centre for Communicable Diseases and Infection Control, Public Health Agency of Canada, 2010.

Note: Small variability may exist between data reported by the provinces/territories and the Public

Table 73: Reported Cases and Rates (per 100,000)¹ of Infectious Syphilis² by Age Group and Sex, Canada, 2007-2009³

Year		Sex	10-14	15-19	20-24	25-29
2007	Cases	Male	1	12	72	105
		Female	2	14	26	35
		Unspecified ⁴	0	0	0	0
		Total	3	26	98	140
	Rates per 100,000	Male	0.1	1.0	6.2	9.3
		Female	0.2	1.3	2.3	3.2
		Total	0.1	1.2	4.3	6.3
2008	Cases	Male	0	13	111	160
		Female	1	24	44	37
		Unspecified ⁴	0	0	0	0
		Total	1	37	155	197
	Rates per 100,000	Male	0.0	1.1	9.5	13.9
		Female	0.1	2.2	4.0	3.3
		Total	0.0	1.6	6.8	8.6
2009	Cases	Male	0	39	155	209
		Female	0	13	38	39
		Unspecified ⁴	0	0	0	0
		Total	0	52	193	248
	Rates per 100,000	Male	0.0	3.4	13.0	17.6
		Female	0.0	1.2	3.4	3.4
		Total	0.0	2.3	8.3	10.6

¹ Rate per 100,000 population. Population estimates provided by Statistics Canada. (Source: Statistics Canada, Demography Division, Demographic Estimates Section, July Population Estimates, 1997-2005 final intercensal estimates, 2006 final postcensal estimates, 2007-2008 updated postcensal estimates, 2009 preliminary postcensal estimates.)

² Infectious syphilis includes primary, secondary and early latent stages.

³ 2009 data are preliminary and changes are anticipated. Data were verified with provinces and territories as of November, 2010.

⁴ Unspecified sex includes transgender cases. Source: Hepatitis C and STI Surveillance and Epidemiology Section, Community Acquired Infections Division, Centre for Communicable Diseases and Infection Control, Public Health Agency of Canada, 2010.

Note: Small variability may exist between data reported by the provinces/territories and the Public Health Agency of Canada. Provincial/territorial data are definitive should a discrepancy exist.

Table 74: Percentage of First Nations youth who reported that they had been tested for an STI/HIV/AIDS (%)

	Tested for an STI	Tested for HIV/AIDS
Overall	9.6	6.8
Males	5.3	5.1
Females	14.2	8.5

12-14 years old	3.4	3.8
15-17 years old	16.0	9.9
Source: 2008/10 First Nations Regional Longitudinal Health Survey		
Notes: STI refers to sexually transmitted infections		

Provincial Data⁷¹

Government of Manitoba

255. With respect Youth Suicides, the Office of the Children’s Advocate for Manitoba advised that the number of children in care who committed suicide was three for 2009-2010, two for 2010-2011, and zero for 2011-2012.
256. In addition, the Youth Health Survey is a self-report census of students in Manitoba in Grades 9 through 12, conducted in 2009. The report is produced by Partners in Planning for Healthy Living⁷². This report contains information on the health status of Manitoba children relating to physical activity, healthy eating, smoking, alcohol, drug use and well-being.
257. The following results from Youth Health Survey (YHS) - conducted through all Health Regions in Manitoba from 2005-2008 – are for Grade 9 to 12 students. Many adolescents begin smoking in Grade 9 (with 16 percent smoking occasionally or daily) and 27 percent of grade 12 students smoking at least occasionally. Twenty-one percent of boys and girls smoke. Thirty-seven percent of Grade 9 students have had at least one drink of alcohol in the past 30 days, compared to 69 percent of Grade 12 students. Forty-five percent of males and 47 percent of females have not had alcohol in the past 30 days. Fourteen percent of Grade 9 students have tried street drugs at least once in the past 30 days compared to 26 percent of Grade 12 students. Seventy-six percent of boys and 80 percent of girls have not had any street drugs in the past 30 days. Students were asked if during the past 12 months, they ever felt so sad or hopeless they stopped doing some usual activities for a while: 37 percent of all students said “yes” to this question.

Table 75: Pregnancy per 1,000 female residents aged 15-19

	2008/2009	2009/2010	2010/2011
Crude Rate	91.3	89.0	79.6
Source: Hospital Discharge Abstracting System.			

Table 76: Sexually Transmitted Infections (STI) among Youth 15-19 years, Manitoba 2008-2010

	Total STI among youth, 15-19 years			
	Female		Male	
	Cases	Rate per 100,000	Cases	Rate per 100,000
2008	1984	4329.2	647	1460.3

⁷¹ Data is provided for two provinces as an example.

⁷² For more information on the Youth Health Survey, see: www.healthincommon.ca/wp-content/uploads/Youth-Health-Survey-Report-2009.pdf

2009	1740	4028.5	606	1346.5
2010	1719	3972.2	595	1314.9
Source: Epidemiology & Surveillance, Public Health, Manitoba Health, April 5, 2012.				

Table 77: Treatment prevalence of depression in children aged 10-19: 2006/2007-2010/2011 (percentage)

Female	16.6
Male	8.8
Total	12.6
Source: Medical Claims and Hospital Discharge Abstracting System.	

Table 78: Treatment prevalence of anxiety disorders in children aged 10-19: 2006/2007-2010/2011 (percentage)

Female	7.2
Male	3.6
Total	5.4
Source: Medical Claims and Hospital Discharge Abstracting System.	

Table 79: Suicide deaths in Manitoba by gender and age

		Calendar Year		
		2008	2009	2010
Female	0 to 17 years	8	13	8
Male	0 to 17 years	3	7	7
Source: Manitoba Vital Statistics.				

Table 80: Manitoba Children 12-19: 5 or more drinks on one occasion, at least once a month in the past year

	2008	2009	2010
Percent	20.6	11.8E	13.9E
Low 95% confidence interval, percent	14.4	7.3E	8.8E
High 95% confidence interval, percent	26.7	16.2E	19E
Source: CCHS CANSIM Table 105-0501. Population aged 12 to 19 who reported having 5 or more drinks on one occasion, at least once a month in the past year.			
Legend:			
E = Use with caution			

Table 81: Manitoba Children 12 to 19: Current smoker, daily or occasional

	2008	2009	2010
Percent	17.5E	12.1E	7.6 E
Low 95% confidence interval, percent	11.3E	7 E	3.8 E
High 95% confidence interval, percent	23.6E	17.1 E	11.3 E
Source: CCHS CANSIM Table 105-0501. Population aged 12 to 19 who reported being a current smoker.			
Legend:			
E = Use with caution			

Table 82: Manitoba crude child mortality rate per 100,000 children aged 1-19 by fiscal year

	2008/2009	2009/2010
Female	25.0	29.5
Male	34.1	42.9
Manitoba	29.7	36.4
Source: Manitoba Vital Statistics.		

Table 83: Manitoba crude mortality rates per 1,000 infants less than one year of age

	2008/2009	2009/2010
Female	5.8	5.9
Male	6.7	6.2
Manitoba	6.3	6.0
Source: Manitoba Vital Statistics		

Government of Quebec

Table 84: Number and rate of adolescent pregnancy from 2004 to 2008, Quebec
(including live births, stillbirths, induced abortions practiced in institutions or private clinics or women's health centres and spontaneous abortions)

	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008p*
14-17 years					
Number	2,632	2,522	2,642	2,556	2,604
Rate per 1,000	14.6	13.4	13.6	13.0	13.4
18-19 years					
Number	5,282	5,203	4,944	5,097	5,184
Rate per 1,000	57.7	58.0	56.0	55.8	53.4
*Note: p (provisional) refers to data collected during a section of the year					

Table 85: Number of declared cases of the genital infection *Chlamydia trachomatis* from 2008 to 2010, Quebec (The genital infection *Chlamydia trachomatis* represents more than 90% of infections transmitted sexually and by blood)

	Male			Female			Total		
	2008	2009	2010	2008	2009	2010	2008	2009	2010
15-19 years	677	744	812	3,907	4,112	4,266	4,586	4,859	5,080
20-24 years	1,645	1,772	1,933	3,613	3,987	4,365	5,261	5,764	6,306

Table 86: Suicide amongst youth aged 15-19 years from 2005 to 2009, Quebec

	2005	2006	2007	2008*	2009*
Both sexes					
Number	52	35	41	42	37
Rate per 100,000	11.2	7.3	8.3	8.4	7.3
Males					
Number	37	24	35	30	27
Rate per	15.6	9.8	13.9	11.7	10.4

100,000					
Females					
Number	15	11	6	12	10
Rate per 100,000	6.6	4.7	2.5	4.9	4.1

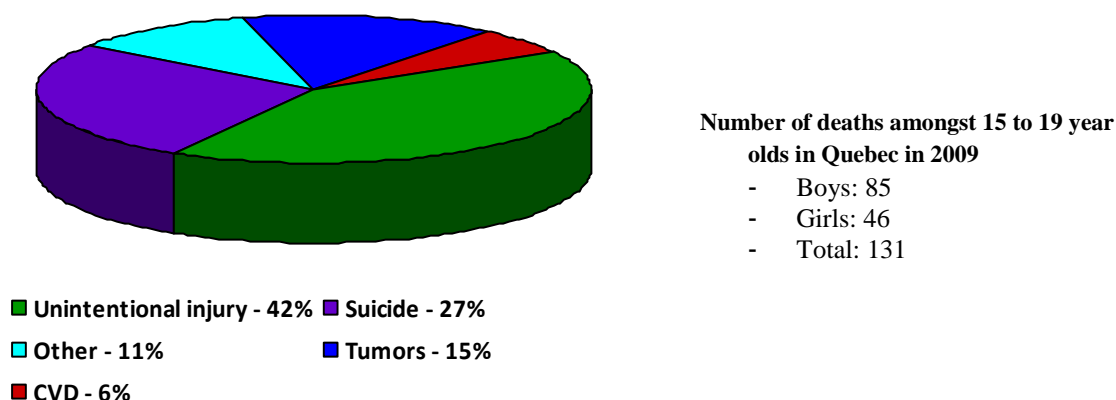
Table 87: Proportion of youth aged 12-19 years that smoke daily or occasionally and youth exposed to second-hand smoke at home, Quebec

	2007-2008	2009-2010
Both sexes		
Smokers	15.4	15.5
Exposed to second-hand smoke at home	23.9	23.3
Males		
Smokers	15.7	17.5
Exposed to second-hand smoke at home	25.4	25.5
Females		
Smokers	15.1	13.3
Exposed to second-hand smoke at home	22.3	21.1
Source: Canadian Community Health Survey		

Table 88: Proportion of young people that used drugs at least once during the last year, by sex and year of schooling from 2000 to 2008, Quebec

	2000			2004			2008		
	Boys	Girls	Total	Boys	Girls	Total	Boys	Girls	Total
USERS									
All secondary school students	44.7	41.0	42.9	35.5	37.2	36.4	28.8	26.7	27.8
Cannabis									
All secondary school students	42.6	38.4	40.6	34.9	36.1	35.5	28.4	25.9	27.2
Secondary I	18.1	12.4	15.3	15.1	14.7	14.9	9.4	5.7	7.6
Secondary II	35.7	35.7	35.7	29.0	29.5	29.2	19.7	17.3	18.5
Secondary III	50.2	47.7	49.0	36.0	37.8	36.9	30.3	27.3	28.9
Secondary IV	51.9	43.7	47.8	51.1	48.8	49.9	39.0	37.4	38.2
Secondary V	64.9	56.6	60.6	57.4	58.9	58.2	49.3	44.1	46.6
Hallucinogens									
All secondary school students	15.8	15.4	15.6	11.1	11.3	11.2	7.3	8.0	7.6
Secondary V	27.2	22.5	24.7	20.1	21.7	21.0	14.7	13.2	13.9

Table 89: Distribution of causes of death amongst youth aged 15 to 19 years, Quebec, 2009*



Source: Infocentre de santé publique, Institut national de santé publique du Québec

Issue 6: Please provide disaggregated statistical data (including by age, sex and ethnic group) on children infected or affected by HIV/AIDS, as well as information on programs implemented to address the problems of these children.

National Data

Table 90: Number of positive HIV test reports in Canada, 2009-2010

	2009	2010
Age		
<1 year	0	1
1 - 4 years	7	6
5 - 9 years	5	4
10 - 14 years	11	4
15 - 19 years	49	46
Total	72	61
Sex		
Male	30	37
Female	42	24
Total	72	61
Race/Ethnicity		
White	7	3
Black	3	2
Asian	1	0
Latin American	0	1
Aboriginal - First Nations	7	3
Aboriginal - Métis	2	1
Aboriginal - Non specified	4	4

Not Reported	48	47
Total	72	61
Race/Ethnicity – males		
White	4	1
Black	0	2
Asian	1	0
Latin American	0	1
Aboriginal - First Nations	1	1
Aboriginal - Métis	1	0
Aboriginal - Non specified	0	0
Not Reported	23	32
Total	30	37
Race/Ethnicity - females		
White	3	2
Black	3	0
Asian	0	0
Latin American	0	0
Aboriginal - First Nations	6	2
Aboriginal - Métis	1	1
Aboriginal - Non specified	4	4
Not Reported	25	15
Total	42	24
TOTAL	72	61
Source: Unpublished data, 2012; PHAC, Centre for Communicable Diseases and Infection Control, Surveillance and Epidemiology Division.		

Table 91: Number of reported AIDS cases in Canada, 2009-2010¹

	2009	2010
Age		
<1 year	0	1
1 - 4 years	1	1
5 - 9 years	0	0
10 - 14 years	0	0
15 - 19 years	2	1
Total	3	3
Sex		
Male	1	1
Female	2	2
Total	3	3
Race/Ethnicity		
White	1	1

Aboriginal - First Nations	1	1
Unreported	1	1
Total	3	3
Race/Ethnicity – males		
White	0	0
Aboriginal - First Nations	0	1
Not Reported	1	0
Total	1	1
Race/Ethnicity - females		
White	1	1
Aboriginal - First Nations	1	0
Not Reported	0	1
Total	2	2
TOTAL	3	3
Source: Unpublished data, 2012; PHAC, Centre for Communicable Diseases and Infection Control, Surveillance and Epidemiology Division. ¹ Some important caveats about the data: Our surveillance system does not allow us to monitor or report on the number of individuals "infected or affected" by HIV and/or AIDS. We are only able to report those diagnosed cases that are reported to us each year. As such, the data provided here will only tell you the numbers of individuals aged 0-19 in Canada who were diagnosed with HIV and/or AIDS for the years 2009 and 2010. It should be kept in mind that these numbers thus represent an underestimate of the true number of those living with HIV.		

Provincial Data⁷³

Government of Manitoba

Table 92: HIV among Youth 15-19 years, Manitoba 2008-2010

	HIV among Youth, 15-19 years			
	Female		Male	
	Cases	Rate per 100,000	Cases	Rate per 100,000
2008	7	16.3	1	2.3
2009	6	13.9	1	2.2
2010	2	4.6	1	2.2
Source: Epidemiology & Surveillance, Public Health, Manitoba Health, April 5, 2012.				

Table 93: HIV among children, under 15 years, Manitoba 2008-2010

	HIV among Youth, under 15 years			
	Female		Male	
	Cases	Rate per 100,000	Cases	Rate per 100,000
2008	0	0.0	0	0.0
2009	0	0.0	0	0.0
2010	1	0.9	0	0.0
Source: Epidemiology & Surveillance, Public Health, Manitoba Health, April 5, 2012.				

⁷³ Data is provided from four provinces by way of example.

Government of Ontario

258. Data on HIV rates among Aboriginal communities is limited, but indicates a growing problem. An analysis of AIDS cases in 2004 found that while Aboriginal peoples made up about 1.1 percent of all cases in Ontario, this proportion has increased over time (from 0.0 percent of cases in 1981-1984 to 3.2 percent of cases in 2000-2004).
259. In 2010, 32.2 percent of new positive HIV test reports among Aboriginal persons were under the age of 29, as compared to 20.8 percent among Non-Aboriginal youth.
260. Implemented in 1995, the Ontario Aboriginal HIV/AIDS Strategy (OAHAS) has evolved to respond to the changing epidemic within the Aboriginal population. The Strategy has embraced two fundamental principles since its inception:
- Recognition that OAHAS is a distinct strategy based on the distinct needs of Aboriginal people. While issues and factors may be similar to the mainstream population, Aboriginal differences must be respected.
 - Greater Involvement of People Living with HIV/AIDS strengthens the capacity and coordination of networks of people living with HIV/AIDS and community-based organizations.
261. The OAHAS *ALL ABOUT YOUTH* program was developed in response to the growing epidemic among Aboriginal youth, and engages them in designing and developing their own approaches to promoting healthy sexuality and healthy relationships, to prevent further spread in all communities. Ontario provides funding for support, care, treatment, health promotion and education programs for children living with, and affected by, HIV/AIDS. Specifically:
- Two HIV clinical services for children living with HIV/AIDS - Hospital for Sick Children in Toronto and Children's Hospital of Eastern Ontario in Ottawa;
 - Teresa Group Child and Family Services, an AIDS Service Organization (ASO) that provides practical assistance, support groups, counselling services and other care for children and families affected by HIV/AIDS;
 - Free infant formula available across the province to all children exposed to HIV/AIDS;
 - A network of AIDS Service Organizations (ASO) provides support services to children living with and affected by HIV/AIDS. ASOs report that children between the ages of 1-19 represent between 11 percent and 28 percent of their client base.
 - Prenatal HIV Testing Program promotes HIV testing of pregnant women and women considering pregnancy in Ontario. With a test uptake rate of over 95 percent (as of 2009), testing has resulted in a five-fold reduction in transmissions, from 15 per year to three.

Table 94: Number and proportion of HIV-infected children born in any country to HIV-positive mothers residing in Ontario by period of birth and mother's race/ethnicity, 1984 to 2010

Period of birth	White		Black		Aboriginal		Asian		South Asian		Latin American		Other	
	No.	% ¹	No.	% ¹	No.	% ¹	No.	% ¹	No.	% ¹	No.	% ¹	No.	% ¹
1984-89	15	40.5	15	40.5	0	0.0	2	5.4	2	5.4	1	2.7	2	5.4
1990-94	18	23.1	51	65.4	0	0.0	2	2.6	4	5.1	3	3.8	0	0.0
1995-99	8	14.5	43	78.2	1	1.8	2	3.6	0	0.0	1	1.8	0	0.0
2000-04	4	11.4	26	74.3	1	2.9	1	2.9	1	2.9	1	2.9	1	2.9
2005-10	3	27.3	7	63.6	1	9.1	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
Total	48	22.2	142	65.7	3	1.4	7	3.2	7	3.2	6	2.8	3	1.4
Source: Dr. Lindy Samson, Ontario Region, Canadian Pediatric AIDS Research Group.														
1 Raw proportion of cases with known mother's race/ethnicity.														

Government of Quebec

262. In Quebec, 27 new cases of HIV amongst children under 15 years (12 boys et 15 girls) and 27 new case of HIV amongst children aged 15 to 19 years (16 boys et 11 girls) were diagnosed from April 2002 to December 2010. No data are available concerning ethnic origin by age group. There is a cohort of infected children followed by the Maternal and Child AIDS Centre at the Sainte-Justine Hospital.

Government of Newfoundland and Labrador

263. The number of cases of HIV and STDs in adolescents is too low to report as they could be identifiable, thus this cannot be provided as disaggregated data. For education related to prevention the Department of Education includes sexual health in their curriculum and Regional Health Authorities support this in their work with schools and through some regional specific projects. We do not know of any projects aimed specifically at Aboriginal children. All persons identified with HIV are treated and followed through the HIV program within Eastern Health.

Issue 7: Please provide appropriate disaggregated data (including by age, sex, ethnic group and type of crime) for the last three years, in particular on the number of:⁷⁴

(a) Children who have allegedly committed a crime, reported to the police

264. The tables below provide the number of children accused of committing a crime, by age and gender, in 2009 and 2010. The tables include offences under the *Criminal Code*

⁷⁴ The surveys (i.e., the UCR2, ICC/YCS, and the YCCS) on which the following data are based are collected annually by the Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics (CCJS) at Statistics Canada. The data presented are the most recent data available from CCJS.

(CC), as well as other offences such as traffic offences (MV). The data in Tables 95 and 96 are based on police-reported incidents collected from the Incident-based Uniform Crime Reporting Survey (UCR2).⁷⁵

National Data

Table 95: Number of children accused of a crime, by age and gender, 2009

Violation	Accused Age and Sex									Total
	<12			12 to 14			15 to 17			
	Female	Male	Unknown	Female	Male	Unknown	Female	Male	Unknown	
Homicide	0	1	0	2	5	0	4	61	0	73
Attempted murder	0	0	0	4	5	0	11	50	0	70
Criminal negligence causing death	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	3
Sexual assault - level 3 - aggravated	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	5	0	7
Sexual assault - level 2 - weapon/ bodily harm	1	2	0	2	12	0	3	17	0	37
Sexual assault - level 1	23	189	4	37	999	8	29	1,009	7	2,305
Sexual Violations against children ¹	4	33	0	16	152	2	14	155	0	376
Other Sex Violations ²	0	0	0	0	12	1	3	24	0	40
Assault - level 3 - aggravated	0	3	0	14	51	0	54	309	0	431
Assault - level 2 - weapon/ bodily harm	42	371	0	380	1,482	5	900	3,431	8	6,619
Assault - level 1	226	1,064	19	2,457	4,458	31	4,553	8,163	58	21,029
Other Assaults	0	5	0	18	34	0	52	198	0	307
Firearms - Use, discharge, point	0	18	0	4	78	0	11	148	0	259
Assault Peace Officer	1	4	0	99	90	0	412	676	1	1,283
Forcible confinement/ Kidnapping	2	2	0	11	51	0	31	207	0	304
Abduction	0	0	0	2	0	0	1	1	0	4
Robbery	7	12	0	151	604	1	398	3,021	5	4,199
Extortion	1	0	0	4	41	0	12	93	0	151

⁷⁵ Note that all UCR2 based data in Tables 1, 2, 24, 25 and 29 exclude data from the Montreal Police Service and represent 99 percent of the population of Canada.

Criminal harassment/threatening phone calls	26	90	1	320	536	5	548	914	11	2,451
Uttering threats	102	384	3	922	1,720	20	1,361	3,605	36	8,153
Other violent CC violations	0	22	0	29	110	0	48	170	0	379
Arson	36	280	2	122	587	0	61	599	0	1,687
Break and enter	132	501	2	740	3,187	10	1,017	7,711	26	13,326
Theft over \$5000	2	2	0	27	61	0	53	151	4	300
Theft of motor vehicle	7	34	0	258	707	1	636	3,022	8	4,673
Theft \$5000 and under	405	963	6	5,720	6,791	31	10,847	16,702	86	41,551
Possess stolen property	27	55	0	746	1,365	1	1,768	4,902	3	8,867
Fraud	8	25	0	168	192	1	648	1,259	8	2,309
Mischief	427	2,189	10	1,660	7,573	35	2,965	13,525	55	28,439
Prostitution	0	0	0	0	0	0	15	7	0	22
Weapon Violations	3	104	1	71	651	2	150	1,971	5	2,958
Administration of Justice Violations	29	66	2	1,300	2,493	17	3,787	10,268	38	18,000
Disturb the peace	36	134	0	648	922	4	2,031	4,055	16	7,846
Child pornography	0	0	0	12	20	0	13	60	0	105
Other CC Violations	17	60	1	161	518	1	453	1,831	9	3,051
Drug Violations	14	46	0	705	2,174	9	2,377	12,208	33	17,566
Other Federal Statutes	2	15	1	447	797	1	1,727	4,600	5	7,595
Dangerous Operation of MV Violations	0	2	0	20	54	0	92	578	0	746
Impaired Operation of MV Violations	0	0	0	5	19	0	245	838	0	1,107
Other CC Traffic Violations	0	0	0	8	15	0	71	273	1	368
TOTAL	1,580	6,676	52	17,291	38,566	186	37,402	106,820	423	208,996
Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Uniform Crime Reporting Survey.										
Notes:										
* refers to persons charged and not charged.										
1. Sexual interference, invitation to sexual touching, sexual exploitation, luring a child via a computer.										
2. Sexual exploitation of a person with a disability, incest, corrupting morals of a child, anal intercourse, bestiality - commit or compel person, voyeurism.										

Table 96: Number of children accused of a crime, by age and gender, 2010

Table 50: Number of children accused of a crime, by age and gender, 2010										
Violation	Accused Age and Sex									Total
	<12			12 to 14			15 to 17			
	Female	Male	Unknown	Female	Male	Unknown	Female	Male	Unknown	
Homicide	0	0	0	1	0	0	4	45	0	50

Attempted murder	0	0	0	0	5	0	6	37	0	48
Criminal negligence causing death	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	3	0	5
Sexual assault - level 3 - aggravated	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	7	0	8
Sexual assault - level 2 - weapon/ bodily harm	0	1	0	0	14	0	3	14	0	32
Sexual assault - level 1	30	195	1	40	945	0	39	975	3	2,228
Sexual Violations against children ¹	11	49	0	16	187	2	9	170	0	444
Other sex violations ²	0	2	0	1	36	0	1	39	0	79
Assault - level 3 - aggravated	0	2	0	17	42	0	50	229	0	340
Assault - level 2 - weapon/ bodily harm	30	345	2	341	1,267	5	823	2,961	5	5,779
Assault - level 1	246	1,010	6	2,220	4,210	14	4,450	7,435	35	19,626
Other Assaults	1	3	0	18	34	0	52	167	1	276
Firearms - Use, discharge, point	0	35	0	3	63	1	6	138	0	246
Assault Peace Officer	1	11	0	129	145	0	516	919	1	1,722
Forcible confinement/ Kidnapping	2	1	0	9	52	0	15	197	0	276
Abduction	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1
Robbery	3	14	0	142	550	0	443	3,047	8	4,207
Extortion	1	0	0	2	43	0	14	87	0	147
Criminal harassment/ Threatening Phone Calls	42	68	1	301	476	2	560	891	4	2,345
Uttering threats	84	340	2	846	1,650	3	1,567	3,354	9	7,855
Other Violent CC Violations	8	15	0	31	134	0	59	165	1	413
Arson	54	260	0	79	522	1	49	502	0	1,467
Break and Enter	136	418	0	536	2,669	7	914	6,610	14	11,304
Theft over \$5000	1	2	0	19	51	0	48	129	1	251
Theft of Motor Vehicle	16	30	0	230	572	1	563	2,504	4	3,920
Theft \$5000 and under	404	868	3	4,952	6,136	17	9,847	13,681	37	35,945
Possess stolen property	13	46	0	664	1,131	4	1,656	4,153	6	7,673
Fraud	9	13	0	112	185	2	486	1,055	3	1,865
Mischief	433	1,979	6	1,589	6,379	12	2,872	12,542	21	25,833

Prostitution	0	0	0	1	1	0	16	4	0	22
Weapon Violations	9	89	0	64	553	1	170	1,833	4	2,723
Administration of Justice Violations	19	42	0	1,146	2,069	6	3,715	10,107	21	17,125
Disturb the peace	42	109	0	546	860	2	1,946	3,703	7	7,215
Child pornography	1	1	0	17	34	1	17	59	0	130
Other CC Violations	13	68	0	130	517	0	410	1,633	2	2,773
Drug Violations	16	43	0	734	2,265	4	2,690	13,109	17	18,878
Other Federal Statutes	1	9	0	506	704	0	1,784	4,865	3	7,872
Dangerous Operation of MV violations	0	1	0	18	55	0	75	507	1	657
Impaired Operation of MV violations	0	0	0	12	12	0	227	774	1	1,026
Other CC traffic violations	1	0	0	4	20	1	90	257	0	373
TOTAL	1,627	6,069	21	15,476	34,589	86	36,195	98,907	209	193,179

Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Uniform Crime Reporting Survey.

Notes:

* refers to persons charged and not charged.

1. Sexual interference, invitation to sexual touching, sexual exploitation, luring a child via a computer.

2. Sexual exploitation of a person with a disability, incest, corrupting morals of a child, anal intercourse, bestiality - commit or compel person, voyeurism.

Provincial Data⁷⁶

Government of Nova Scotia

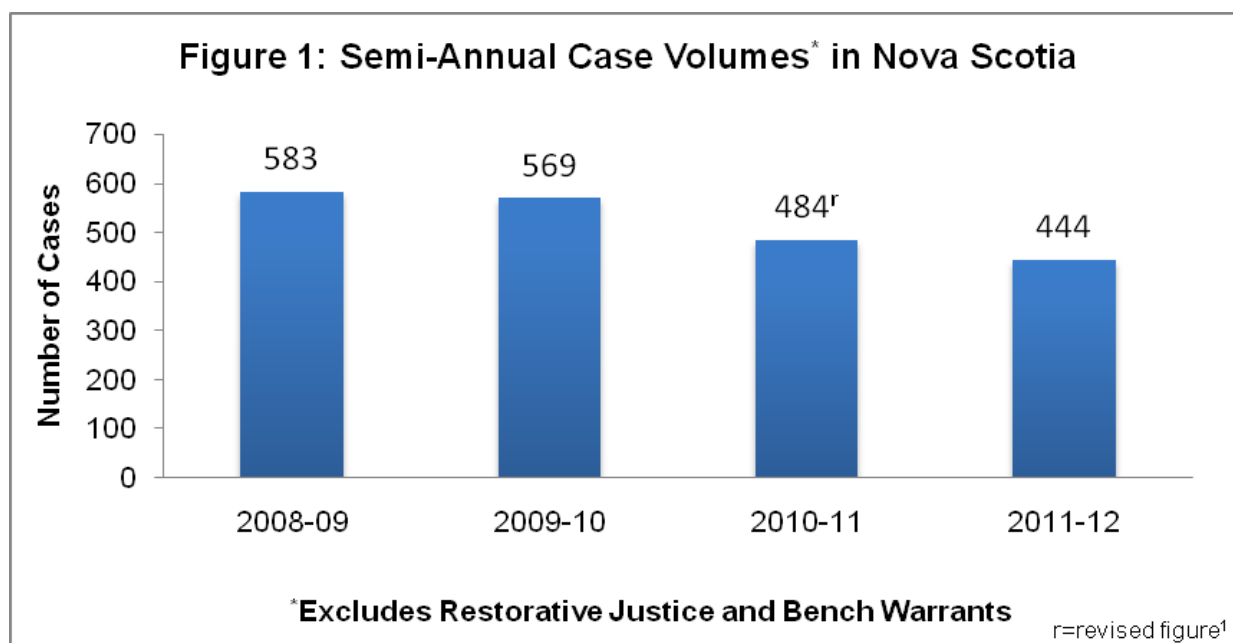
265. Data for this report are drawn from the Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics (CCJC) and the Uniform Crime Reporting Survey (UCR2).

Table 97: Number and Rate of Accused Youth in Nova Scotia

Number and Rate of Youth Accused of Crime in Nova Scotia									
Year	Total Criminal Code violations (excluding traffic)		Total Violent Violations		Total Property Crime Violations		Total Other Criminal Code Violations		
	Total Youth Accused	Rate Youth Accused	Total Youth Accused	Rate Youth Accused	Total Youth Accused	Rate Youth Accused	Total Youth Accused	Rate Youth Accused	
2008	6876	9848	1952	2796	3643	5218	1281	1835	
2009	6390	9448	1810	2676	3432	5075	1148	1697	
2010	5853	8903	1759	2676	3008	4575	1086	1652	
Notes: Includes Criminal Code offences other than CC traffic offences									
Youth accused refers to the number of youth 12 to 17 years of age who were either charged (or recommended for charging) by police or diverted from the formal criminal justice system through the use of warnings, cautions, referrals to community programs, etc.									
Source: Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Uniform Crime Reporting Survey (Beyond 20/20)									

⁷⁶ Data is provided for two provinces by way of example.

Table 98: Case volumes in Youth Court



Government of Ontario

Table 99: Youth Accused of a Criminal Offence (Ontario)

Youth (aged 12- 17 years) Accused of a Criminal Offence (excluding traffic) by Police Ontario, 2008 to 2010					
Statistics	Youth Males Charged	Youth Females Charged	Total, youth charged	Total, youth not charged*	Total Youth Charged / Not Charged
2008	20,880	6,910	27,790	29,921	57,711
2009	19,744	6,428	26,172	29,279	55,451
2010	17,439	5,811	23,250	26,499	49,749

*Total youth not charged cannot be further subdivided by gender.
 *The data could include a small number of persons under the age of 12 that are identified in association with criminal incidents, but who cannot be charged because of their age.
 Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Uniform Crime Reporting Survey.

(b) Children who have been sentenced and type of punishment or sanctions related to offences including length of deprivation of liberty

National Data

266. Information is available from multiple sources on the number of children who have been sentenced and the type of punishment or sanctions related to offences: data on court outcome for fiscal years 2007-2008 to 2009-2010, data on admissions to youth custody

by most serious offence for fiscal years 2006-2007 to 2008-2009, and data on the length of custody for fiscal years 2007-2008 to 2009-2010.

Court Outcome

267. Data are available for the number of youth (ages 12 to 17) found guilty of an offence under federal statutes including the *Criminal Code* of Canada, the *Controlled Drugs and Substances Act* (CDSA), the YCJA, the *Young Offenders Act* (YOA), and all other federal statute offences. The numbers presented in Table 100 are based on court-reported data collected by the Integrated Criminal Court Survey (ICCS) and the Youth Court Survey (YCS). Data are presented for the 2007-2008 to 2009-2010 fiscal years.

Table 100: Number and percentage of charges and cases with a decision of guilt

Offence Type	Fiscal Year					
	2007-2008		2008-2009		2009-2010	
	Charges (%)	Cases (%)	Charges (%)	Cases (%)	Charges (%)	Cases (%)
Crimes against the Person	17,387 (45%)	9,113 (59%)	17,966 (44%)	9,146 (59%)	16,693 (44%)	8,511 (58%)
Crimes against Property	26,793 (44%)	12,520 (55%)	25,713 (43%)	11,848 (53%)	24,596 (42%)	11,213 (51%)
Administration of Justice	17,451 (47%)	4,109 (65%)	17,406 (47%)	4,224 (66%)	16,432 (45%)	3,934 (65%)
Other Criminal Code	3,400 (33%)	1,776 (58%)	3,620 (34%)	1,746 (57%)	3,403 (33%)	1,736 (60%)
Criminal Code (without Traffic)	65,031 (45%)	27,518 (58%)	64,705 (44%)	26,964 (57%)	61,124 (43%)	25,394 (56%)
Criminal Code Traffic	1,759 (52%)	985 (80%)	1,612 (51%)	913 (78%)	1,657 (55%)	878 (81%)
Total Criminal Code	66,790 (45%)	28,503 (59%)	66,317 (44%)	27,877 (58%)	62,781 (43%)	26,272 (56%)
Other Federal Statutes	22,655 (54%)	6,665 (66%)	23,395 (55%)	6,979 (66%)	21,483 (54%)	6,180 (65%)
Total Offences	89,445 (47%)	35,168 (60%)	89,712 (46%)	34,856 (59%)	84,264 (45%)	32,452 (58%)

Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Uniform Crime Reporting Survey.

Admissions to Youth Custody

268. The tables below provide the number of admissions⁷⁷ to youth custody by most serious offence for the fiscal years 2006-2007 to 2008-2009. The numbers presented in

⁷⁷ Admissions are collected each time a person begins any type of custodial or community supervision. The same person can be included several times in the admission counts where the individual moves from one type of legal status to another or re-enters the system the same year. As such, admissions to sentenced custody represent the number of entries within a fiscal year, regardless of the individual's legal status before or after sentenced to custody and include cases where a sentenced custody followed a remand.

Tables 101 to 112 are based on court-reported data collected from the Youth Custody and Community Services Survey (YCCS).⁷⁸

Table 101: Admissions to Youth Custody by Most Serious Offence, 2006/2007

Most Serious Offence	Pre-Trial Admissions	Secure Custody Admissions	Open Custody Admissions	Total Custodial Admissions
Total Violent Offences	4,203	456	554	5,213
Total Property Offences	3,086	323	450	3,859
Other Criminal Code Offences	3,199	155	192	3,546
Total Other Offences	1,311	181	243	1,735
Unknown Offences	798	297	324	1,419
Total	12,597	1,412	1,763	15,772

Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Youth Correctional Services Survey.

Table 102: Admissions to Youth Custody by Most Serious Offence, 2007/2008

Most Serious Offence	Pre-Trial Admissions	Secure Custody Admissions	Open Custody Admissions	Total Custodial Admissions
Total Violent Offences	4,209	409	520	5,138
Total Property Offences	3,039	249	413	3,701
Other Criminal Code Offences	3,726	188	249	4,163
Total Other Offences	1,525	200	313	2,038
Unknown Offences	288	145	237	670
Total	12,787	1,191	1,732	15,710

Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Youth Correctional Services Survey.

Table 103: Admissions to Youth Custody by Most Serious Offence, 2008/2009

Most Serious Offence	Pre-Trial Admissions	Secure Custody Admissions	Open Custody Admissions	Total Custodial Admissions
Total Violent Offences	4,013	410	481	4,904
Total Property Offences	2,764	246	360	3,370
Other Criminal Code Offences	3,317	114	191	3,622
Total Other	1,351	164	292	1,807

⁷⁸ Excludes Prince Edward Island, Quebec, Alberta and Nunavut due to missing data. Also excludes pre-trial detention for Saskatchewan.

Offences				
Unknown Offences	256	209	278	743
Total	11,701	1,143	1,602	14,446
Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Youth Correctional Services Survey				

Admissions to Youth Custody by Gender, Age and Aboriginal Identity

269. Data are also available for admissions to youth custody for fiscal years 2006-2007 to 2008-2009 by gender, age and Aboriginal identity. For ease of reading, the tables are presented separately by fiscal year.

Admissions to Youth Custody by Gender

Table 104: Admissions to Youth Custody by Gender, 2006-2007

Admission Type	Male	Female	Unknown	Total
Pre-Trial Admissions	9,943	2,649	5	12,597
Secure Custody Admissions	1,178	232	2	1,412
Open Custody Admissions	1,441	320	2	1,763
Total Custodial Admissions	12,562	3,201	9	15,772
Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Youth Correctional Services Survey.				

Table 105: Admissions to Youth Custody by Gender, 2007-2008

Admission Type	Male	Female	Unknown	Total
Pre-Trial Admissions	10,107	2,680	0	12,787
Secure Custody Admissions	1,022	168	1	1,191
Open Custody Admissions	1,424	308	0	1,732
Total Custodial Admissions	12,553	3,156	1	15,710
Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Youth Correctional Services Survey.				

Table 106: Admissions to Youth Custody by Gender, 2008-2009

Admission Type	Male	Female	Unknown	Total
Pre-Trial Admissions	9,137	2,564	0	11,701
Secure Custody Admissions	831	143	169	1,143
Open Custody Admissions	1,304	298	0	1,602
Total Custodial Admissions	11,272	3,005	169	14,446

Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Youth Correctional Services Survey.

Admissions to Youth Custody by Age

Table 107: Admissions to Youth Custody by Age, 2006-2007

Youth Age	Pre-Trial Admissions	Secure Custody Admissions	Open Custody Admissions	Total Custodial Admissions
12 year olds	148	3	10	161
13 year olds	645	29	63	737
14 year olds	1,659	94	173	1,926
15 year olds	2,661	238	359	3,258
16 year olds	3,368	357	486	4,211
17 year olds	3,722	501	519	4,742
18 year olds	393	190	153	736
Age Unknown	1	0	0	1
Total	12,597	1,412	1,763	15,772

Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Youth Correctional Services Survey.

Table 108: Admissions to Youth Custody by Age, 2007-2008

Youth Age	Pre-Trial Admissions	Secure Custody Admissions	Open Custody Admissions	Total Custodial Admissions
12 year olds	110	1	4	115
13 year olds	594	22	38	654
14 year olds	1,551	74	129	1,754
15 year olds	2,814	190	325	3,329
16 year olds	3,444	305	492	4,241
17 year olds	3,826	426	527	4,779
18 year olds	440	173	217	830
Age Unknown	8	0	0	8
Total	12,787	1,191	1,732	15,710

Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Youth Correctional Services Survey.

Table 109: Admissions to Youth Custody by Age, 2008-2009

Youth Age	Pre-Trial Admissions	Secure Custody Admissions	Open Custody Admissions	Total Custodial Admissions
12 year olds	100	0	5	105
13 year olds	525	13	32	570
14 year olds	1,351	65	105	1,521
15 year olds	2,525	192	275	2,992
16 year olds	3,229	315	407	3,951
17 year olds	3,558	395	583	4,536
18 year olds	412	163	195	770
Age Unknown	1	0	0	1
Total	11,701	1,143	1,602	14,446

Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Youth Correctional Services Survey.

Admissions to Youth Custody by Aboriginal Identity

Table 110: Admissions to Youth Custody by Aboriginal Identity, 2006-2007

Admission Type	Aboriginal	Non-Aboriginal	Unknown	Total
Pre-Trial Admissions	2,670	9,860	67	12,597
Secure Custody Admissions	434	971	7	1,412
Open Custody Admissions	571	1,176	16	1,763
Total Custodial Admissions	3,675	12,007	90	15,772

Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Youth Correctional Services Survey.

Table 111: Admissions to Youth Custody by Aboriginal Identity, 2007-2008

Admission Type	Aboriginal	Non-Aboriginal	Unknown	Total
Pre-Trial Admissions	3,016	9,759	12	12,787
Secure Custody Admissions	348	842	1	1,191
Open Custody Admissions	599	1,123	10	1,732
Total Custodial Admissions	3,963	11,724	23	15,710

Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Youth Correctional Services Survey.

Table 112: Admissions to Youth Custody by Aboriginal Identity, 2008-2009

Admission Type	Aboriginal	Non-Aboriginal	Unknown	Total
Pre-Trial Admissions	2,847	8,852	2	11,701
Secure Custody Admissions	296	678	169	1,143
Open Custody Admissions	585	1,009	8	1,602
Total Custodial Admissions	3,728	10,539	179	14,446

Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Youth Correctional Services Survey.

Length of Custody

270. Data are available on the length of custody for youth aged 12 to 17 at the time of the offence, who appear in court accused of offences under federal statutes including the *Criminal Code*, the *Controlled Drugs and Substances Act* (CDSA), the YCJA, the YOA, and all other federal statute offences. The numbers presented are based on court-reported data collected from the Integrated Criminal Court Survey (ICCS) and the Youth Court Survey (YCS) and are presented for the fiscal years 2007-2008 to 2009-2010.

Table 113: Length of custody by age group, 2007-2008

Length of Custody	Age Group		
	12 to 15	16 to 17	Other
1 month or less	897	1,668	35
>1 to 3 months	476	967	17
>3-6 months	266	614	5
>6 to 12 months	102	258	8
>12 to <24 months	11	53	3
24 months or more	9	19	2
Unknown	61	124	14
Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Youth Correctional Services Survey.			

Table 114: Length of custody by age group, 2008-2009

Length of Custody	Age Group		
	12 to 15	16 to 17	Other
1 month or less	860	1,584	51
>1 to 3 months	434	892	15
>3-6 months	305	604	11
>6 to 12 months	93	235	2
>12 to <24 months	19	51	2
24 months or more	4	20	3
Unknown	63	125	11
Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Youth Correctional Services Survey.			

Table 115: Length of custody by age group, 2009-2010

Length of Custody	Age Group		
	12 to 15	16 to 17	Other
1 month or less	748	1,501	39
>1 to 3 months	406	796	20
>3-6 months	207	515	7
>6 to 12 months	73	200	3
>12 to <24 months	3	43	1
24 months or more	5	15	0
Unknown	61	130	5
Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Youth Correctional Services Survey.			

Provincial Data⁷⁹

Government of Ontario

Table 116: Youth Admission to Secure Custody (Ontario)

Youth Admissions to Secure Custody/Detention 2008-2009 to 2010-2011			
Source: YOTIS	Male	Female	Total
	2008-2009		
Custody	522	89	611
Detention	4,437	627	5,064
Total	4,959	716	5,675
Average length of stay (Custody) (days)	88.3	62.4	84.5
Median length of stay (Custody) (days)	54.5	40.0	50.0
Average length of stay (Detention) (days)	29.1	19.8	27.9
Median length of stay (Detention) (days)	7.0	7.0	7.0
	2009-2010		
Custody	445	65	510
Detention	3,134	569	3,703
Total	3,579	634	4,213
Average length of stay (Custody) (days)	82.5	49.9	78.4
Median length of stay (Custody) (days)	40.0	31.0	40.0
Average length of stay (Detention) (days)	38.7	18.8	35.8
Median length of stay (Detention) (days)	8.0	7.0	8.0
	2010-2011		
Custody	377	53	430
Detention	2,552	542	3,094
Total	2,929	595	3,524
Average length of stay (Custody) (days)	143.4	62.5	133.4
Median length of stay (Custody) (days)	52.0	30.0	45.5
Average length of stay (Detention) (days)	43.0	19.1	39.2
Median length of stay (Detention) (days)	9.0	6.0	9.0
Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Youth Correctional Services Survey.			

⁷⁹ Data is provided for two provinces by way of example.

Table 117: Youth Admission to Open Custody (Ontario)

Youth Admissions to Open Custody/Detention 2008-2009 to 2010-2011			
Source: YOTIS	Male	Female	Total
	2008-2009		
Custody	582	130	712
Detention	2,368	1,111	3,479
Total	2,950	1,241	4,191
Average length of stay (Custody) (days)	79.0	52.2	74.1
Median length of stay (Custody) (days)	60.0	37.5	60.0
Average length of stay (Detention) (days)	13.7	10.8	12.8
Median length of stay (Detention) (days)	4.0	4.0	4.0
	2009-2010		
Custody	573	145	718
Detention	2,960	977	3,937
Total	3,533	1,122	4,655
Average length of stay (Custody) (days)	75.8	54.2	71.4
Median length of stay (Custody) (days)	60.0	30.0	50.0
Average length of stay (Detention) (days)	13.2	13.5	13.2
Median length of stay (Detention) (days)	4.0	5.0	4.0
	2010-2011		
Custody	537	141	678
Detention	2,846	879	3,725
Total	3,383	1,020	4,403
Average length of stay (Custody) (days)	74.1	52.2	69.5
Median length of stay (Custody) (days)	60.0	30.0	49.0
Average length of stay (Detention) (days)	11.9	17.6	13.3
Median length of stay (Detention) (days)	3.0	3.0	3.0
Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Youth Correctional Services Survey.			

Table 118: Youth Admissions to Probation (Ontario)

Youth Admissions to Probation, 2008-2009 to 2010-2011 (includes probation orders, conditional discharge, deferred custody, community supervision and conditional supervision)			
Source: YOTIS	Male	Female	Total
	2008-2009		
Probation	7,509	2,074	9,583

Average length of stay (days) - Probation Orders	472.3	438.2	364.8
Median length of stay (days) - Probation Orders	365.0	365.0	365.0
	2009-2010		
Probation	7,007	1,898	8,905
Average length of stay (days) - Probation Orders	465.4	435.9	459.4
Median length of stay (days) - Probation Orders	365.0	365.0	365.0
	2010-2011		
Probation	5,898	1,583	7,481
Average length of stay (days) - Probation Orders	479.5	429.1	468.7
Median length of stay (days) - Probation Orders	403.0	365.0	366.0
Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Youth Correctional Services Survey.			

Government of Newfoundland and Labrador

Table 119: Individual Youth remanded or sentence to Secure Custody

	April 1, 2010 to March 31, 2011	April 1, 2011 to March 31, 2012
Total	103	99
Male	72	68
Female	31	31

Table 120: Total number of Admissions sentenced or remanded to Secure Custody
(includes total number of admissions, thereby it captures some youth several times over if they had numerous admission periods)

	April 1, 2010 to March 31, 2011	April 1, 2011 to March 31, 2012
Total	270	267
Male	173	97
Female	192	75

Table 121: Average Age of Youth Admitted

	April 1, 2010 to March 31, 2011	April 1, 2011 to March 31, 2012
Male	15.77	14.64
Female	15.75	15.03

Table 122: Average Length of Stay: Pre Trial Detention

April 1, 2010 to March 31, 2011	20.89 days
April 1, 2011 to March 31, 2012	22.58 days

Table 123: Average Length of Secure Custody Sentences

April 1, 2010 to March 31, 2011	107.72 days
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April 1, 2011 to March 31, 2012	136.97 days
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Table 124: Ethnic Groups sentenced or remanded to the NL Youth Center
(includes Innu, Inuit, Metis, Muslim, and Italian)

April 1, 2010 to March 31, 2011	6 Admissions (5 Male + 1 Female)
April 1, 2011 to March 31, 2012	12 Admissions (10 Male + 2 Female)

(c) **Number of children charged under the *Criminal Code***

National Data

271. The following tables provide the total number of children charged with *Criminal Code* offences, by age and gender, in 2009 and 2010. The table includes offences under the *Criminal Code*, as well as other offences such as traffic offences. The numbers presented in Tables 125 and 126 below are based on police-reported incidents collected through the Incident-based Uniform Crime Reporting Survey (UCR2).

Table 125: Number of children charged with Criminal Code offences, by age and gender, 2009

Violation	Accused Age and Sex						Total
	12 to 14			15 to 17			
	Female	Male	Unknown	Female	Male	Unknown	
Homicide	2	5	0	4	61	0	72
Attempted murder	4	4	0	11	50	0	69
Criminal negligence causing death	0	0	0	0	3	0	3
Sexual assault - level 3 – aggravated	0	0	0	1	4	0	5
Sexual assault - level 2 - weapon/bodily harm	1	7	0	2	13	0	23
Sexual assault - level 1	10	476	4	14	614	4	1,122
Sexual Violations against children ¹	6	63	1	6	91	0	167
Other Sex Violations ²	0	6	1	1	12	0	20
Assault - level 3 – aggravated	5	43	0	45	288	0	381
Assault - level 2 - weapon/bodily harm	249	738	2	636	2,474	4	4,103
Assault - level 1	808	1,236	3	2,010	3,829	7	7,893
Other Assaults	11	17	0	38	145	0	211
Firearms - Use, discharge, point	1	32	0	7	92	0	132
Assault Peace Officer	64	67	0	322	560	1	1014
Forcible confinement/Kidnapping	6	33	0	29	186	0	254
Abduction	1	0	0	1	0	0	2

Robbery	130	520	1	352	2,755	4	3,762
Extortion	3	27	0	12	63	0	105
Criminal harassment/Threatening Phone Calls	24	54	0	56	170	1	305
Uttering threats	160	485	0	327	1,515	7	2,494
Other Violent CC Violations	11	27	0	23	95	0	156
Arson	37	201	0	27	375	0	640
Break and Enter	333	1,640	2	509	5,204	13	7,701
Theft over \$5000	13	27	0	22	77	1	140
Theft of Motor Vehicle	107	388	0	301	1,848	3	2,647
Theft \$5000 and under	923	1,341	2	2,774	5,568	11	10,619
Possess stolen property	211	720	1	833	3,362	3	5,130
Fraud	69	54	0	308	677	2	1,110
Mischief	311	1,628	6	636	4,503	5	7,089
Prostitution	0	0	0	8	6	0	14
Weapon Violations	23	258	1	94	12,11	0	1,587
Administration of Justice Violations	1,018	2,079	3	3,185	8,922	14	15,221
Disturb the peace	45	44	0	144	375	1	609
Child pornography	0	4	0	1	20	0	25
Other CC Violations	59	156	0	233	964	1	1,413
TOTAL	4,645	12,380	27	12,972	46,132	82	76,238

Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Uniform Crime Reporting Survey.

Notes:

1. Sexual interference, invitation to sexual touching, sexual exploitation, luring a child via a computer.

2. Sexual exploitation of a person with a disability, Incest, corrupting morals of a child, anal intercourse, bestiality - commit or compel person, voyeurism.

Table 126: Number of children charged with Criminal Code offences, by age and gender, 2010

Violation	Accused Age and Sex						Total
	12 to 14			15 to 17			
	Female	Male	Unknown	Female	Male	Unknown	
Homicide	1	0	0	3	45	0	49
Attempted murder	0	5	0	6	37	0	48
Criminal negligence causing death	0	0	0	2	3	0	5
Sexual assault - level 3 - aggravated	0	1	0	0	5	0	6
Sexual assault - level 2 - weapon/bodily harm	0	12	0	2	14	0	28
Sexual assault - level 1	14	454	0	27	626	1	1,122

Sexual Violations against children ²	8	61	0	1	87	0	157
Other Sex Violations ³	0	24	0	0	27	0	51
Assault - level 3 – aggravated	15	36	0	47	213	0	311
Assault - level 2 – weapon/bodily harm	214	668	3	605	2,138	2	3,630
Assault - level 1	704	1,229	1	1,959	3,546	8	7,447
Other Assaults	10	17	0	42	145	1	215
Firearms - Use, discharge, point	0	16	0	3	97	0	116
Assault Peace Officer	81	88	0	379	684	0	1,232
Forcible confinement/Kidnapping	6	45	0	12	182	0	245
Robbery	121	470	0	395	2,696	7	3,689
Extortion	1	26	0	10	66	0	103
Criminal harassment/Threatening Phone Calls	13	49	0	57	191	0	310
Uttering threats	150	429	0	370	1,324	0	2,273
Other Violent CC Violations	0	40	0	26	84	0	150
Arson	27	206	0	24	301	0	558
Break and Enter	225	1,467	4	491	4,450	12	6,649
Theft over \$5000	0	7	0	19	67	0	93
Theft of Motor Vehicle	94	340	1	302	1,621	2	2,360
Theft \$5000 and under	838	1,239	2	2,666	4,830	7	9,582
Possess stolen property	203	549	2	762	2,841	2	4,359
Fraud	32	57	2	227	560	2	880
Mischief	305	1,283	1	605	4,030	1	6,225
Prostitution	1	1	0	15	2	0	19
Weapon Violations	28	214	0	82	1,147	2	1,473
Administration of Justice Violations	900	1,686	5	3,098	8,778	14	14,481
Disturb the peace	25	39	0	148	381	0	593
Child pornography	2	5	0	1	18	0	26
Other CC Violations	55	156	0	190	891	0	1,292
TOTAL	4,073	10,919	21	12,576	42,127	61	69,777

Source: Statistics Canada, CCJS, Incident-based Uniform Crime Reporting survey, March 2012 Extraction

Note: Excludes Montreal Police Service due to the unavailability of Accused data.

1. In 2010, full-year data provided by police services in all 10 provinces and 3 territories represented 99% of the population of Canada.
2. Sexual interference, invitation to sexual touching, sexual exploitation, luring a child via computer.
3. Sexual exploitation of a person with a disability, incest, corrupting morals of a child, anal intercourse, bestiality – commit or compel person, voyeurism.

(d) Detention facilities for juvenile delinquents and their capacity

272. Each province and territory in Canada has detention facilities for juvenile delinquents that vary in quantity and capacity depending on the jurisdiction.⁸⁰

Government of Northwest Territories

Table 127: Detention Facilities

Indicator	2009	2010	2011
Detention facilities for youth and their capacity	2 (capacity 39)	2 (capacity 39)	1 (capacity 25)
Children detained in these detention facilities and average length of their detention	14	15	8

Government of Newfoundland and Labrador

273. The Newfoundland and Labrador Youth Centre is the only secure custody/remand facility for the Province of Newfoundland and Labrador. It has the capacity to hold 60 youth. The Province of Newfoundland and Labrador also have an overnight holding facility which has five beds (St. John's Youth Detention Centre (SJYDC)). In addition, the following lock-ups across the Province are designated as places of temporary detention for young offenders; Nain, Port Saunders, Corner Brook, Gander, Clarenville, Happy Valley Goose Bay, Stephenville, Deer Lake, Grand Falls-Windsor, Marystown. The designation of these lockups is subject to the time limitations and conditions listed in the "Standards of Care for the Operation of Police Lockups as Designated Places of Temporary Detention and Secure Custody for Young Persons". These Standards are imposed on the Police by the Provincial Cabinet as a condition of the designation of a lockup.

(e) Children detained in these facilities and children detained in adult facilities;

274. Please see data provided for question 7 (b) for the number of children detained in facilities.

Government of Newfoundland and Labrador

275. The data set out in question 7(b) include the number of youth at the aforementioned facilities. There are no youth detained in adult facilities.

⁸⁰ Information is provided for one territory and one province by way of example.

(f) Children kept in pre-trial detention and the average length of their detention

276. The following table provides numbers for the total number of youth released⁸¹ from pre-trial detention by the time served for fiscal years 2006-2007, 2007-2008 and 2008-2009. Based on these data, the most common length of time youth spent in pre-trial detention was one week or less, followed by between one week to one month. The numbers in Table 128 below are based on court-reported data collected by the Youth Custody and Community Services Survey (YCCS).⁸²

Table 128: Total releases of youth from pre-trial detention by time served

Time Served	Fiscal Year		
	2006/2007	2007/2008	2008/2009
1 week or less served	6,893	7,066	6,293
> greater than 1 week to 1 month	3,297	3,268	3,070
greater than 1 month to 6 months	2,070	2,184	2,070
> greater than 6 months to 1 year	120	140	133
> greater than 1 year to 2 years	32	36	45
> greater than 2 years	8	10	4
Time Served Unknown	91	92	98
Total number of releases	12,511	12,796	11,713

Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Youth Correctional Services Survey.

Government of Newfoundland and Labrador

277. The data set out in question 7(b) include numbers of youth in pre-trial detention (remand) over the past two years, and average length of remand.

(g) Reported cases of abuse and maltreatment of children occurred during their arrest and detention

Government of Newfoundland and Labrador

278. Over the past two years there have been two cases where youth have made allegations of abuse/maltreatment during their arrest and detention. Both cases were reported to the police who investigated both cases. Both allegations were unfounded.

⁸¹ Releases represent the end of a legal status in correctional services and do not necessarily represent the end of supervision by correctional services. The same person can be included several times in the release counts where the individual moves from one type of legal status to another. As such, releases from remand represent the number of terminations of remand within a fiscal year, regardless of the individual's legal status after being remanded. They include cases where a remand was followed directly by a custodial sentence, by a period of community supervision, or be an entry into the community without supervision.

⁸² Excludes Prince Edward Island, Quebec, Saskatchewan, Alberta and Nunavut due to missing data.

Issue 8: Please provide data on social protection measures, disaggregated by age, sex, socioeconomic background and ethnic group, and urban/rural areas), for the last three years, on:

- (a) **The number of children involved in sexual exploitation, including prostitution, pornography and trafficking;**

Sexual Violations (including sexual exploitation)

279. The following table provides the number of children (individuals under 18 years of age), by age and gender, who were victims of Sexual Violations (Sexual Violations include Sexual Interference, Invitation to Sexual Touching, Sexual Exploitation and Luring a Child via a Computer) in 2009 and 2010. The numbers presented in Table 129 below are based on police-reported incidents collected through the Incident-based Uniform Crime Reporting Survey (UCR2).

Table 129: Number of child victims of Sexual Violations, by age and gender, 2009 and 2010

Year	Victim Age and Sex									Total
	<12			12 to 14			15 to 17			
	Female	Male	Unknown	Female	Male	Unknown	Female	Male	Unknown	
2009	966	357	1	906	143	2	450	83	1	2,909
2010	1,053	425	2	998	183	1	506	71	1	3,240
Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Uniform Crime Reporting Survey.										

Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Uniform Crime Reporting Survey.

Prostitution

280. The following table provides the number of youth (aged 15-17) charged and not charged with prostitution-related offences, by gender, in 2009 and 2010. The numbers presented in Table 130 below are based on police-reported incidents collected through the Incident-based Uniform Crime Reporting Survey (UCR2).

Table 130: Youth accused of prostitution-related offences, 2009 and 2010

Year	Accused Age and Sex						Total
	15 to 17						
	Female			Male			
	Charged	Not Charged	Total	Charged	Not Charged	Total	
2009	8	7	15	6	1	7	22
2010	15	1	16	2	2	4	20

Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Uniform Crime Reporting Survey.

Child Pornography

281. The following table provides the number of incidents of child pornography (includes the production, distribution, possession and accessing of child pornography). The numbers presented in Table 131 below are based on police-reported incidents collected through the Incident-based Uniform Crime Reporting Survey (UCR2). Data on the number of child

victims involved in these incidents are not available. At this time, the UCR2 Survey does not collect victim-related information on child pornography offences.

Table 131: Number of incidents of child pornography, 2009 and 2010

Year	Number of Incidents
2009	1,714
2010	2,332

Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Uniform Crime Reporting Survey.

Human Trafficking

282. The following information on trafficking in Canada is based on Royal Canadian Mounted Police data. Although the extent of human trafficking in Canada is difficult to determine, the following available statistics, as of February 2012, provide some context:
- There have been 15 convictions under human trafficking specific offences in the *Criminal Code* enacted in 2005. This does not include the numerous other convictions for human trafficking related conduct under other criminal offences.
 - Approximately 56 cases are currently before the courts, involving at least 94 accused and 159 victims.
 - At least 26 of these victims were under the age of 18 at the time of the alleged offence.

Provincial Data

Government of Alberta

283. Alberta's *Protection of Sexually Exploited Children Act* (PSECA) focuses on supportive interventions with young people who are engaging or attempting to engage in prostitution. Young people who are trading sexual acts for food, shelter, clothing or other items are deemed to be sexually exploited. PSECA is the only stand-alone legislation in Canada which specifically addresses child sexual exploitation as child abuse.
284. The following numbers of sexually exploited children have come to the attention of the PSECA program area in the past three fiscal years:
- 2009-2010 fiscal year: 101 children
 - 2010-2011 fiscal year: 124 children
 - 2011-2012 fiscal year: 136 children
285. For the children that came to the attention of the program area over these years, 29 percent were Aboriginal (status, non-status and Métis), 54 percent were Caucasian, and 17 percent other (for example, Asian, Black, mixed race). Male children represented five percent of the children across the years.

Government of Manitoba

286. The numbers of children in Manitoba who are sexually exploited is unknown. It is estimated that 400 children in Winnipeg are exploited in the visible sex trade on the streets each year. It is thought that since only 20 per cent of sexual exploitation occurs on the street that the total number of children sexually exploited “behind closed doors”, or by other means than street sex trade involvement would be into the thousands.
- (b) The number of children involved in sexual exploitation who received rehabilitation treatment**

Government of Manitoba

287. The numbers of sexually exploited children in Manitoba who receive rehabilitative services annually in the form of specialized programs is not tracked; however, currently there are 35 program spaces and 42 bed spaces in residential care facilities for sexually-exploited children and youth. Additionally, there are a range of other rehabilitative service programs in Manitoba where exploited children and youth are among those accessing the service.
- (c) The number of children involved in child labour who are under 16**
288. Under Canada’s Constitution, each of Canada’s fourteen governments (federal, ten provincial and three territorial) has exclusive authority to legislate with respect to labour matters within their own jurisdiction. All jurisdictions regulate the employment of children, and support a range of policies and programs which aim to protect the physical and mental development of children as well as prevent child labour. These include:
- compulsory school attendance until at least the age of 16;
 - employers are prohibited from employing children who are required to attend school during school hours;
 - application of general employment standards and occupational health and safety legislation and regulations to young workers;
 - specific measures restricting working hours for young workers and prohibiting night work;
 - regulated access to certain kinds of work, including hazardous work;
 - economic and social programs to alleviate poverty, including financial assistance to low-income families so parents do not rely on children to support family earnings;
 - child assistance and child welfare programs;
 - vocational training and apprenticeship programs;
 - child prostitution and child pornography, as well as human trafficking and forced labour involving children are recognized as crimes in the *Criminal Code*.
289. As part of its Labour Force Survey, Statistics Canada has the following data concerning young workers who are employed under 16 years old. Of note, Statistics Canada provides information for its Labour Force Survey exclusively for those aged 15 years and older. The International Labour Organization has developed guidelines for national statistical

organizations to assist them with determining the minimum age of young workers in view of collecting accurate data. Those guidelines state that the minimum age should be set in accordance with the intensity of participation in economic activity, and the ability of the country to measure this economic activity among young people with acceptable accuracy. The tabulations recommended by the United Nations for census tabulations on labour market activity indicate a minimum age of 15 years.

Table 132: Labour force estimates by sex and age group, Canada, annual average (in thousands)

Sex	Labour force characteristic	2009			2010			2011		
		Age								
		15 and over	15	16	15 and over	15	16	15 and over	15	16
Both sexes	Population	27,298.2	415.4	423.9	27,658.5	408.9	421.6	27,987.3	409.6	409.0
	Employment	16,813.1	81.3	145.3	17,041.0	72.0	135.8	17,306.2	68.1	128.2
	Full-time	13,578.9	6.1	15.3	13,736.7	5.1	12.3	13,995.0	6.3	14.5
	Part-time	3,234.2	75.2	130.0	3304.4	66.9	123.5	3,311.2	61.8	113.7
Male	Population	13,447.0	212.0	217.1	13,624.9	211.5	213.6	13,788.8	205.6	213.2
	Employment	8,760.7	39.1	65.9	8,911.6	32.2	62.8	9,085.1	32.6	58.3
	Full-time	7,707.2	3.7	8.9	7,830.9	2.9	7.9	7,979.5	4.0	8.7
	Part-time	1,053.4	35.4	57.0	1,080.7	29.2	55.0	1,105.6	28.6	49.6
Female	Population	13,851.2	203.5	206.8	14,033.6	197.4	208.0	14,198.5	204.0	195.8
	Employment	8,052.4	42.2	79.4	8,129.5	39.8	73.0	8,221.1	35.5	69.9
	Full-time	5,871.7	2.4	6.4	5,905.8	2.2	4.5	6,015.6	2.3	5.8
	Part-time	2,180.8	39.8	73.0	2,223.7	37.7	68.5	2,205.6	33.2	64.1
Source: Labour Force Survey, Statistics Canada, V0412_12										

Government of Manitoba

290. *The Employment Standards Code* of Manitoba strictly controls the circumstances in and conditions under which children under the age of 16 may work, requiring them to obtain a permit and limiting the circumstances in which they may obtain them. The following number of permits were issued by the Employment Standards Branch to children under the age of 16 in compliance with Manitoba's *Employment Standards Code*.

- April 2008 to April 2009 - approx 3,600
- April 2009 to April 2010 - approx 2,900
- April 2010 to April 2011 - approx 2,200

(d) The number of children in street situation

291. There were over 34,000 entries into the Canadian Police Information Centre database related to runaway children in 2011. Many of these are repeat runaways with the same individual running away numerous times. Further, many runaways return home at some point but there is no reliable data regarding the length of time they stay on the street. There is no data available regarding how many of these runaways remain on the street permanently. Definitive numbers for “street children” are therefore not available.

Issue 9: In addition, the State party may list areas affecting children that it considers to be of priority with regard to the implementation of the Convention.

Government of Canada

292. The Government of Canada is taking steps to improve educational outcomes for First Nations students through education programs designed to help students succeed. With the support of funding under the First Nation Student Success Program, participating schools are developing school success plans tailored to increase efforts in three priority areas of literacy, numeracy and student retention. Schools are also monitoring progress, implementing student learning assessment processes and establishing performance measurement systems; all of which are helping them to monitor success, inform instruction, set priorities and engage in planning to increase student success over time.
293. The Government of Canada also recognizes that cooperative and collaborative efforts among governments and First Nations are essential aspects to improving First Nation education outcomes. In order to foster and deepen these relationships, tripartite education partnerships have been established, and Memorandums/Letters of Understanding signed and implemented with a number of provinces and regional First Nation organizations. These partnerships allow for tripartite collaboration and decision making on shared priorities and concerns. In an effort to improve education outcomes for First Nations learners, tripartite partnerships also leverage provincial knowledge and expertise on improving education standards and services. An important source for establishing and furthering these partnerships is the Education Partnerships Program. The Government has committed to introduce a First Nation Education Act and work with willing partners to establish the structures and standards needed to support strong and accountable education systems on reserve.
294. The Government of Canada fully recognizes the importance of programming that reduces the gap in life chances between Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal children. The Government provides annual funding to support culturally relevant and community based programs and services that promote improved health outcomes for First Nations and Inuit children and their families. The Government will continue to work with Aboriginal partners, experts, provincial and territorial governments and stakeholders to support children in these communities.

295. Drug use/abuse is another major area of concern, and relates directly to Article 33 of the Convention. More information on Canada's youth-oriented NADS anti-drug initiatives is available online: www.nationalantidrugstrategy.gc.ca/fund-fin/ps-sp.html and www.nationalantidrugstrategy.gc.ca/prevention/youth-jeunes/index.html
296. Research has shown that youth engagement, particularly on youth health issues, decreases rates of negative behaviours among youth, such as alcohol, marijuana and hard drug use, school failure and drop-out, sexual activity and teen pregnancy, anti-social and criminal behaviour, and depression. Youth engagement also promotes positive outcomes such as healthy relationships, reduced violence, and greater awareness of youth rights. The Government of Canada is working with youth and other stakeholders to strengthen these aspects of our engagement efforts and related programming. For example, the Government has recently supported a number of events to engaged diverse groups of young Canadians on policy and research activities such as 1) how technology affects their health (2010), 2) the 2011 Chief Public Health Officer's Report on Youth and Young Adults (2011), and the Health Behaviour in School-aged Children study (2011 and 2012).

Provincial/Territorial Governments

Government of Alberta

297. The Government of Alberta sees a need to establish permanency for children, whether through a return to a biological family or adoption/private guardianship within a caring and stable family when reunification with biological family is not possible.
298. The Government of Alberta is committed to continuing to implement an inclusive education system where each student has an educational experience where they feel welcomed, they belong, and they receive a quality education. This is regardless of their first language, cultural background, ability, disability, gender, age or any other identifying factor. One way that they are working to accomplish this is through the implementation of the *Framework for Student Learning: Competencies for Engaged Thinkers and Ethical Citizens with an Entrepreneurial Spirit*. This document describes a future in education that acknowledges the need for competencies to be more central in the education of Alberta's young people. Alberta has created a new provincial curriculum which will support the development of competencies and enable students to become engaged thinkers and ethical citizens with an entrepreneurial spirit.

Government of Manitoba

299. To implement the *Convention on the Rights of the Child* effectively, the Government of Manitoba sees a number of areas that require attention. These would be the improvement of conditions and therefore outcomes for Aboriginal children; the prevention of child sexual exploitation; improve the sexual and reproductive health and well-being of youth and the improvement of health care and services for mothers and children. There is also a need to improve the mental, emotional and behavioural health of children and youth, which could see a decrease in bullying, suicidal ideation/attempts/death and increase pro-

social behaviour. Attention should also be paid to increasing the number of children with healthy weights and reducing childhood obesity.

Government of Northwest Territories

300. High rates of substance abuse and poor mental and physical health as a result of Indian Residential Schools leads to children and families in the Northwest Territories experiencing a much higher than average incidence of poor mental health, addictions and suicide. The effects from Residential Schools affect the rights to family environment and education in the Convention.