



Canadian
human rights
commission

Commission
canadienne des
droits de la personne

Report on Equality Rights of Women

The following symbols are used in this publication:

Symbol	Definition
E	Use with caution, coefficient (CV) of variation between 16.5% and 33.3%
F	Too unreliable to be published
**	Not significantly different from reference category ($p < 0.05$)

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CHIEF COMMISSIONER'S MESSAGE

This *Report on Equality Rights of Women* presents a national portrait of how adult women are faring in Canadian society compared to adult men. The purpose of this work is to establish benchmarks so that progress can be measured when the studies are repeated in future years. The overall results show that while in some dimensions of well-being women fare better than men, inequality still exists for women in Canada.

This report consolidates national data collected by Statistics Canada from an equality rights perspective. It measures seven dimensions of well-being: economic well-being; education; employment; health; housing; justice and safety; and political and social inclusion. However, this report does not distinguish between culture, ethnic origin and/or physical or mental ability. Rather, it presents data on the equality rights of *all* adult women compared to *all* adult men in Canada.

When compared to adult men, Canadian women are earning less across most employment sectors. Women are more likely to be unemployed. More women rely on government transfers as their major source of income and women are more disadvantaged in housing. More women report feeling unsafe in their own neighbourhoods and more women report being victims of physical violence at the hands of former spouses/partners compared to men in Canada.

From an equality rights perspective, the most pressing finding is that more Canadian women than men report experiencing discrimination in day-to-day activities—in stores, banks, restaurants, on buses, subways and planes, and when looking for a place to live.

Canadian women have made important gains on the road to equality over the years. But important gaps remain. We cannot automatically infer discrimination in every area where the data show a difference between women and men. But taken as a whole, despite progress in recent decades, the data show that women in Canada still do not have opportunity equal with men to make the lives of their choosing, free from discrimination.

David Langtry
Acting Chief Commissioner

BACKGROUND

In 2010, the Canadian Human Rights Commission (CHRC) developed the *Framework for Documenting Equality Rights* (Framework).¹ The Framework is a tool for developing a consolidated portrait of equality in Canada. It lays out the parameters for presenting reliable and policy-relevant data on equality rights for the groups protected by Canadian human rights legislation. It also identifies gaps in data related to equality issues available in Canada.

This is the third report based on the Framework. It looks at how adult women in Canada generally fare compared to adult men in Canada. This report is preceded by the CHRC's 2013 *Report on Equality Rights of Aboriginal People*, which included specific data on the equality rights of Aboriginal adult women and men in Canada. Prior to that report, the CHRC's 2012 *Report on Equality Rights of People with Disabilities* looked specifically at the equality rights of adult women and men who are living with disabilities in Canada. A forthcoming report will document the equality rights of adult women and men in Canada who self-identify as a member of a visible minority group.

INTRODUCTION

The *Report on Equality Rights of Women* presents a national portrait of adult women compared to adult men based on the seven dimensions of well-being widely considered critical from an equality rights perspective:

- economic well-being;
- education;
- employment;
- health;
- housing;
- justice and safety, and
- political and social inclusion.

This report brings together existing data from an equality rights perspective. The purpose of the report is to document the status of women and men with respect to their well-being. It is not a “report card,” nor should it be seen as an evaluation of Canada’s performance. This report will also establish benchmarks against which progress toward greater equality (or the lack of it) can be measured when the studies are repeated in future years.

¹ Canadian Human Rights Commission. (2010). *Framework for Documenting Equal Rights*.

METHODOLOGY

Data sources

The *Framework for Documenting Equality Rights* (Framework) proposes the use of pre-existing data sources to document each of the seven dimensions of well-being. This report uses several surveys conducted by Statistics Canada as sources of data.

The Framework breaks down each dimension into a series of indicators and the indicators into measures. These indicators and measures were used to identify and select the appropriate variables from each of the available surveys. The work in this regard was also informed by literature reviews and advice from experts.

Throughout this report, the age variable has been retained for as many measures as possible in order to present as precise a portrait as data would allow. Therefore, where feasible, data on adult women and men is presented for the following age groups:

- Adults: age 15 and over
- Working-age adults: age 15 to 64
- Younger working-age adults: age 25 to 54
- Older working-age adults: age 55 to 64
- Seniors: age 65 and over

The following surveys and databases were used to produce this report:

- **2005 Survey of Financial Security**²: The Survey of Financial Security provides a comprehensive picture of the net worth of Canadians. Information was collected on the value of all major financial and non-financial assets and on the money owing on mortgages, vehicles, credit cards, student loans and other debts.
- **2006**³ and **2011**⁴ **Censuses of Population**: The censuses of population are designed to provide information on the demographic and social characteristics of the people living in Canada and the housing/dwelling units they occupy.
- **2007 National Graduates Survey (Class of 2005)**⁵ : This survey collects information on educational background and work experience of people who graduated from a post-secondary institution in 2005.
- **2008 General Social Survey, Cycle 22: Social Networks**⁶: This survey collects data on social networks as well as social and civic participation. The target

² <http://www23.statcan.gc.ca/imdb/p2SV.pl?Function=getSurvey&SDDS=2620>

³ <http://www12.statcan.gc.ca/census-recensement/2006/index-eng.cfm>

⁴ <http://www23.statcan.gc.ca/imdb/p2SV.pl?Function=getSurvey&SurvId=114960&Instald=80682&SDDS=3901>

⁵ <http://www23.statcan.gc.ca/imdb/p2SV.pl?Function=getSurvey&SurvId=1455&Instald=29809&SDDS=5012>

⁶ <http://www23.statcan.gc.ca/imdb/p2SV.pl?Function=getSurvey&SurvId=44601&Instald=30687&SDDS=5024>

population is Canadians aged 15 and over who reside in the ten provinces and do not reside in institutions.

- **2009 General Social Survey, Cycle 23: Victimization**⁷: This survey asks Canadians about their experiences related to being a victim of crime, their fears and perceptions of crime, and the criminal justice system.
- **2010⁸ and 2011⁹ Canadian Community Health Surveys – Annual Components**: The CCHS gathers health-related data at the sub-provincial levels (health region or combined health regions) and provides information on health determinants, health status and health system utilization across Canada.
- **2010 General Social Survey, Cycle 24: Time Use (Time-Stress and Well-Being)**¹⁰: This survey monitors changes in one's use of time, including time-stress and well-being.
- **2010 Survey on Labour and Income Dynamics – Fifth Panel 2005-2010**¹¹: The SLID complements traditional survey data on labour market activity and income with an additional dimension: the changes experienced by individuals over time. SLID is one of the most important sources for understanding the economic well-being of Canadian families, households and individuals.
- **2011 General Social Survey, Cycle 25: Family**¹²: This survey monitors the changes in the structure of families with respect to marriages, common-law unions, children and fertility intentions.
- **Canadian Vital Statistics - Birth Database**¹³: This is an administrative survey that collects demographic information annually from all provincial and territorial vital statistics registries on all live births in Canada.
- **Canadian Vital Statistics - Death Database**¹⁴: This is an administrative survey that collects demographic and medical (cause of death) information annually from all provincial and territorial vital statistics registries on all deaths in Canada.
- **Canadian Vital Statistics - Stillbirth Database**¹⁵: This is an administrative survey that collects demographic information annually from all provincial and territorial vital statistics registries on all stillbirths (fetal deaths) in Canada.

⁷http://www23.statcan.gc.ca/imdb/p3Instr.pl?Function=assembleInstr&lang=en&Item_Id=54684

⁸<http://www23.statcan.gc.ca/imdb/p2SV.pl?Function=getSurvey&SurvId=3226&SurvVer=1&Instald=15282&InstaVer=7&SDDS=3226&lang=en&db=imdb&adm=8&dis=2>

⁹<http://www23.statcan.gc.ca/imdb/p2SV.pl?Function=getSurvey&SurvId=50653&Instald=114112&SDDS=3226>

¹⁰<http://www23.statcan.gc.ca/imdb/p2SV.pl?Function=getSurvey&SurvId=62269&Instald=56441&SDDS=4503>

¹¹<http://www23.statcan.gc.ca/imdb/p2SV.pl?Function=getSurvey&SurvId=1370&Instald=113808&SDDS=3889>

¹²http://www23.statcan.gc.ca/imdb/p2SV.pl?Function=getSurvey&SDDS=4501&Item_Id=75993&lang=en

¹³http://www23.statcan.gc.ca/imdb/p2SV.pl?Function=getSurvey&SDDS=3231&Item_Id=1627&lang=en

¹⁴http://www23.statcan.gc.ca/imdb/p2SV.pl?Function=getSurvey&SDDS=3233&Item_Id=1635&lang=en

¹⁵http://www23.statcan.gc.ca/imdb/p2SV.pl?Function=getSurvey&SDDS=3234&Item_Id=1530&lang=en

- **Integrated Criminal Court Survey**¹⁶: The objective of this survey is to develop and maintain a national criminal court database of statistical information on appearances, charges, and cases for youths and adults appearing in criminal court in Canada.

Method of analysis

As previously mentioned, the Framework suggests various indicators and measures to give meaning to the seven dimensions of well-being. For example, the dimension “Employment” proposes five indicators and a whole range of measures.

In this report, proportions are used to compare the situation of adult women to that of men. By so doing, statistically significant differences between groups can give an indication of whether inequality exists.

Information is presented as frequencies and cross tabulations in the form of tables. A short descriptive analysis is included. Measures of central tendency (mean and median) are also used.

Statistical tests were run on all comparisons to determine if differences in proportions are significant at the 0.05 level. Where differences are not significant, this is noted as a legend in the table.

Differences documented between the situation of adult women and men do not necessarily imply discrimination as defined by Canadian human rights laws. There may be a number of factors at play that account for the observed differences. However, those differences may point to areas where further study may be required.

Data limitations

There are limitations in using existing data from several surveys. None of the surveys that were used in producing this report were carried out with a direct objective of documenting equality rights. Since each survey differs in purpose, design, definitions of concepts, and sample size, no comparison between surveys is made.

In addition, some sample sizes are so low in some surveys that it is necessary to drop some measures to protect data in accordance with confidentiality requirements. Furthermore, some measures were also dropped because the value of the coefficient of variation (CV) was too high and the results were considered unacceptable.¹⁷

¹⁶ http://www23.statcan.gc.ca/imdb/p2SV.pl?Function=getSurvey&SDDS=3312&Item_Id=140545&lang=en

¹⁷ The Coefficient of Variation (CV) is used to determine the reliability of the data. The following values are used:

- When the CV is greater than 33.3%, the results are considered unacceptable and not published.
- When the CV is greater than 16.5% and less than or equal to 33.3%, the results are considered poor and must be used with caution.
- When the CV is 16.5% or less, the results are considered "acceptable" and are published without restrictions.

CHAPTER 1: SNAPSHOT OF ADULT WOMEN AND MEN IN CANADA

This chapter provides an overall look at adult women and men in Canada using the following demographic indicators:

- 1) distribution of adult women and men;
- 2) marital status of adult women and men; and
- 3) family composition of adult women and men.

Indicator One: Distribution of adult women and men

Table 1.1: Distribution of adults by age group and sex – reference year 2011

Age group	Women		Men		Total		+/-	
	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%
15 to 24	2,140,965	7.7%	2,224,625	8.0%	4,365,590	15.7%	-83,660	-0.3%
25 to 54	7,195,645	25.8%	6,969,745	25.0%	14,165,390	50.8%	225,900	0.8%
54 to 64	2,243,315	8.0%	2,149,990	7.7%	4,393,305	15.8%	93,325	0.3%
65+	2,746,280	9.9%	2,198,770	7.9%	4,945,050	17.7%	547,510	2.0%
Total adult population (15+)	14,326,205	51.4%	13,543,130	48.6%	27,869,335	100.0%	783,075	2.8%

Source: 2011 Census of Population (adapted from table: Age Groups (13) and Sex (3) for the Population of Canada, Provinces and Territories, 1921 to 2011 Censuses).
All percentages are rounded to one decimal point.

With the exception of the 15 to 24 age group, there are slightly more adult women than adult men in Canada, across all age groups.

Table 1.2: Proportion of adults by age group and sex – reference year 2011

Age group	Women	Men	+/-
15 to 24	14.9%	16.4%	-1.5%
25 to 54	50.2%	51.5%	-1.3%
54 to 64	15.7%	15.9%	-0.2%
65+	19.2%	16.2%	3.0%
Total adult population (15+)	51.4%	48.6%	2.8%

Source: 2011 Census of population: topic-Based Tabulations.

Adapted from table Age Groups (13) and Sex (3) for the Population of Canada, Provinces and Territories, 1921 to 2011 Censuses. All percentages are rounded to one decimal point.

There are proportionally less adult women aged 15 to 64 than adult men. The reverse is true when looking at the 65+ age group.

Indicator Two: Marital status of adult women and men

Table 1.3: Proportion of adults by marital status, age group and sex – reference year 2011

Marital status	15 to 54			55+			Total adult population (15+)		
	Women	Men	+/-	Women	Men	+/-	Women	Men	+/-
Married	45.8%	44.3%	1.5%	55.6%	73.6%	-18.0%	49.1%	53.2%	-4.1%
Living in common-law	14.4%	14.0%	0.4%	5.1%	7.8%	-2.7%	11.3%	12.1%	-0.9%
Widowed	0.6%	0.1%	0.5%	21.6%	6.4%	15.2%	7.6%	2.0%	5.6%
Separated	2.7%	1.5%	1.2%	2.1%	1.5%	0.6%	2.5%	1.5%	1.0%
Divorced	3.5%	2.2%	1.3%	9.5%	5.7%	3.8%	5.5%	3.3%	2.2%
Single (never married)	33.0%	37.9%	-4.9%	6.1%	5.1%	1.0%	24.0%	27.8%	-3.8%

Source: 2011 General Social Survey, Cycle 25: Family.

All percentages are rounded to one decimal point.

Missing values are excluded.

Two major observations are made while looking at the marital status of adults. First, the proportion of women aged 55+ who report being married is 18.0% lower than that of men of the same age group. Second, the proportion of women aged 55+ who report being widowed is 15.2% higher than that of men of the same age group.

Family composition of adult women and men

Table 1.4: Proportion of adults by family status, age group and sex – reference year 2011

Family status	15 to 24			25 to 54			55+			Total adult population (15+)		
	Women	Men	+/-	Women	Men	+/-	Women	Men	+/-	Women	Men	+/-
Couple only	7.0%	2.0%	5.0%	19.5%	19.2%	0.3%	48.7%	61.9%	-13.2%	27.3%	29.4%	-2.1%
Intact family ¹	58.6%	64.6%	-6.0%	51.4%	55.8%	-4.4%	10.4%	17.1%	-6.7%	38.8%	45.5%	-6.6%
Step-family ²	8.8%	9.6%	-0.8%	6.9%	7.2%	-0.3%	0.8%	1.9%	-1.1%	5.2%	6.0%	-0.8%
Lone parent family	18.3%	17.0%	1.3%	12.7%	5.6%	7.1%	5.7%	2.8%	2.9%	11.2%	6.6%	4.6%
Living alone ³	7.1%	6.9%	0.2%	9.5%	12.2%	-2.7%	34.4%	16.2%	18.2%	17.4%	12.5%	4.9%

Source: 2011 General Social Survey, Cycle 25: Family.

All percentages are rounded to one decimal point.

Missing values are excluded.

¹ Both biological parents are present in the home.

² With or without a common child.

³ No spouse/partner or children in household.

There are a few interesting observations to be made when looking at the family status of adults:

- A higher proportion of women aged 15 to 24 report being “in couple only.” The reverse is true when looking at the 55+ age group, where the proportion of women who report being “in couple only” is 13.2% lower than that of men.
- The proportion of women who report being in an intact family is lower than that of men across all age groups.
- There are proportionally more women who are in a lone parent family, regardless of the age group.
- The proportion of women aged 55+ who report living alone is 18.2% higher than that of men of the same age group.

Table 1.5: Proportion of adults who are in an intimate relationship with someone but not currently living together by age group and sex – reference year 2011

Age group	Women	Men	+/-
15 to 24	35.0%	26.8%	8.2%
25 to 54	27.3%	26.0%	1.3%
55 to 64	8.2%	19.8%	-11.6%
65+	3.4%	13.6%	-10.2%
Total adult population (15+)	54.1%	45.9%	8.2%

Source: 2011 General Social Survey, Cycle 25: Family.

All percentages are rounded to one decimal point.

Missing values are excluded.

The proportion of women in the 15 to 24 and 25 to 54 age groups who report being in an intimate relationship with someone but not currently living with them is higher than that of men. The reverse is true when looking at the 55 to 64 and 65+ age groups.

Table 1.6: Proportion of adults aged 15+ who report why there are in an intimate relationship with someone but are not currently living together by reason and sex – reference year 2011

Reason	Women	Men	+/-
Both decided to live apart	28.9%	23.5%	5.4%
Respondent wants to live apart	6.0%	5.9%	0.1%**
Spouse/partner wants to live apart	0.6%	1.5%	-0.9%
Respondent is constrained by circumstances	48.1%	49.5%	-1.4%
Both have not considered living together	16.3%	19.5%	-3.2%

Source: 2011 General Social Survey, Cycle 25: Family.

All percentages are rounded to one decimal point.

Missing values are excluded.

** Difference between women and men is not statistically significant at 0.05.

Almost 50% of women and men report being “constrained by circumstances” as a reason why they are currently not living with their intimate partner or spouse.

Table 1.7: Proportion of adults aged 15+ who report on why their partner/spouse wants to live apart by main reason and sex – reference year 2011

Main reasons	Women	Men	+/-
Financial reasons	8.8%	8.5%	0.3%
To keep independence	16.1%	21.0%	-4.8%
Because of children	4.3%	6.1%	-1.9%
Not ready to live together	51.0%	53.6%	-2.6%
Other	11.2%	10.8%	0.4%

Source: 2011 General Social Survey, Cycle 25: Family.
 All percentages are rounded to one decimal point.
 Missing values are excluded.

More than 50% of women and men report “not ready to live together” as the main reason that their partner/spouse wants to live apart.

CHAPTER 2: EDUCATION

Education has an influence on income levels and economic well-being. It is also a key determinant of health,¹⁸ equity and empowerment.¹⁹

This chapter examines access to the educational system by women compared to men using the following six indicators:

- 1) educational enrolment;
- 2) educational attainment;
- 3) drop-out from high school;
- 4) access to educational support
- 5) confidence in the school system; and
- 6) discrimination while attending school or classes.

The right to education is recognized in international human rights instruments ratified by Canada, including the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (article 13) and the Convention on the Rights of the Child (article 28).

Article 10 of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women recognizes that women have equal rights with men in the field of education.

Indicator One: Educational enrolment

Data on enrolment is widely used internationally to assess the degree to which countries are meeting their obligations regarding their citizens' right to education.²⁰

This indicator looks at:

- enrolment in high school; and
- enrolment in post-secondary education.

¹⁸Frank, J.W. and Mustard, J.F. (1994). The Determinants of Health from a Historical Perspective. *Daedalus*, 123 (4), 1-17.

¹⁹ United Nations Development Programme. (2006). *Human development report*.

²⁰ Canadian Human Rights Commission. (2010). *Framework for Documenting Equal Rights*.

Enrolment in high school

Table 2.1: Proportion of adults aged 15+ enrolled in high school by sex – reference year 2010

Women	Men	+/-
26.1%	31.8%	-5.7%

Source: 2010 Survey on Labour and Income Dynamics.
All percentages are rounded to one decimal point.
Missing values are excluded.

The proportion of women enrolled in high school is lower than that of men.

Enrolment in post-secondary education

Table 2.2: Proportion of adults aged 15+ enrolled in post-secondary education by type of post-secondary institution and sex – reference year 2010

Type of post-secondary institution	Women	Men	+/-
Apprenticeship program	33.0% ^E	49.6%	-16.6% ^E
Trade school	6.0%	10.4%	-4.4%
Business or commercial school	1.8% ^E	2.2% ^E	0.4%
College or applied arts/tech inst.	18.6%	20.4%	-1.8%
CEGEP	7.8%	6.0%	1.8%
University	44.1%	33.2%	10.9%

Source: 2010 Survey on Labour and Income Dynamics.
All percentages are rounded to one decimal point.
Missing values are excluded.

^E Use with caution.

The proportion of women enrolled in university is 10.9% higher than that of men. On the other hand, women are proportionally 16.6% less likely to be enrolled in an apprenticeship program than men.

Indicator Two: Educational attainment

Education attainment is defined as the highest level of education a person has completed. It is an indicator of a person's knowledge and skill level, predicts the likelihood of success in the workforce, and reflects what skills are available to society and the labour market.²¹ In short, Canada's prosperity and competitiveness depend on the skills of its workforce. Trends in attainment may also reflect changes in access to education and the equity of education systems.²²

Highest educational attainment

Table 2.3: Highest educational attainment of adults aged 15+ by level of attainment and sex – reference year 2010

Level of attainment	Women	Men	+/-
Never attended school	0.5%	0.3% ^E	0.2% ^E
Below high school	18.9%	19.7%	-0.8%
Graduated from high school	14.5%	13.3%	1.2%
Some university/postsecondary (no certificate)	7.7%	8.6%	-0.9%
Some university/postsecondary (with certificate)	6.2%	6.1%	0.1%
Non-university/postsecondary (with certificate)	29.3%	29.3%	0.0%**
University certificate below bachelor	2.5%	2.1%	0.4%
Bachelor's Degree ¹	15.3%	14.2%	1.1%
Graduate level ²	5.1%	6.5%	-1.4%

Source: 2010 Survey on Labour and Income Dynamics.

All percentages are rounded to one decimal point.

Missing values are excluded.

^E Use with caution.

** Difference between women and men is not statistically significant at 0.05.

¹ Bachelor's Degree includes degree in medicine, dentistry, veterinary medicine, optometry or first professional degree in law.

² Graduate level includes university certificate or diploma above Bachelor's, Master's Degree and Doctorate (PhD).

The proportion of women who have high school as their highest educational attainment is slightly higher than that of men.

When looking at post-secondary level, the proportion of women with a bachelor degree as their highest educational attainment is higher than that of men, but lower at the graduate level.

²¹ Human Resources and Skills Development Canada. (2010). *Indicators of Well-being in Canada: Learning – Educational Attainment*. Retrieved from <http://www4.hrsdc.gc.ca/>

²² Statistics Canada. (2007). *Education Indicators in Canada: Report of the Pan-Canadian Education Indicators Program 2007*.

Indicator Three: Drop-out from high school²³

Table 2.4: Proportion of adults aged 20 to 24 who dropped-out from high school by sex – reference year 2010

Women	Men	+/-
5.3%	8.3%	-3.0%

Source: 2010 Survey on Labour and Income Dynamics.
All percentages are rounded to one decimal point.
Missing values are excluded.

The proportion of women aged 20 to 24 who dropped-out from high school is 3.0% lower than that of men of the same age group.

Indicator Four: Access to educational support

This indicator looks at access to educational support using the following measures:

- usage of government-sponsored student loans;
- type of government-sponsored student loans;
- average amount of government-sponsored student loans owed;
- difficulty repaying student loans; and
- default on student loans.

Usage of governmental-sponsored student loans

Table 2.5: Proportion of adults aged 15+ who borrowed money from governmental-sponsored student loans by sex – reference year 2007

Women	Men	+/-
46.8%	41.4%	5.4%

Source: 2007 National Graduates Survey (Class of 2005)
All percentages are rounded to one decimal point.
Missing values are excluded.

The proportion of women who borrowed money from governmental-sponsored student loans is slightly higher than that of men.

²³ For the purpose of this report, dropping out of high school means not attending any type of school during the reference year and having a highest education attainment that is below high school certificate or diploma.

Table 2.6: Proportion of adults aged 15+ who used government-sponsored student loans by level of certificate and sex – reference year 2007

Level of certificate	Women	Men	+/-
Trade/vocational diploma or certificate	36.2%	27.2%	9.0%
College or CEGEP diploma or certificate	43.0%	36.0%	7.0%
University diploma or certificate (below Bachelor's level)	47.5%	40.9%	6.6%
Bachelor's Degree or first professional degree	50.3%	50.7%	-0.4%**
University diploma or certificate above Bachelor's level (below Master's level)	57.1%	64.6%	-7.5%
Master's Degree	51.8%	47.5%	4.3%
Doctorate	49.3%	44.3%	5.0%

2007 National Graduates Survey (Class of 2005)
 All percentages are rounded to one decimal point.
 Missing values are excluded.

** Differences between women and men are not statistically significant at 0.05.

Women are proportionally more likely to have used government-sponsored student loans than men, regardless of their level of certificate. The exception to this is in the “Bachelors Degree or first professional degree” group and the “University diploma or certificate above Bachelor’s Level (below Master’s Level)” group.

Type of government-sponsored student loans

Table 2.7: Proportion of adults aged 15+ who report on the type of government-sponsored student loans they received by type of government-sponsored student loans and sex – reference year 2007

Government-sponsored student loans	Women	Men	+/-
Canada Student Loan Program	7.9%	6.9%	1.0%
Provincial Student Loan Program	34.9%	38.9%	-4.0%
Both	57.2%	54.3%	2.9%

Source: 2007 National Graduates Survey (Class of 2005)
 All percentages are rounded to one decimal point.
 Missing values are excluded.

The proportion of women who used government-sponsored student loans from the “Canada Student Loan Program” is slightly higher than that of men, while the opposite is true for the “Provincial Student Loan Program”.

Average amount of government-sponsored student loans owed

Table 2.8: Average government-sponsored student loans amount owed by adults aged 15+ by sex – reference year 2007

Women	Men	+/-
\$13 404	\$12 667	\$737

Source: 2007 National Graduates Survey (Class of 2005)

All numbers are rounded to the nearest whole number.

Amount are in dollars.

The average amount of government-sponsored student loans owed is slightly higher for women compared to men.

Difficulty repaying student loans

Table 2.9: Proportion of adults aged 15+ who report difficulty in repaying their student loans by sex – reference year 2007

Women	Men	+/-
22.5%	20.1%	2.4%

Source: 2007 National Graduates Survey (Class of 2005).

All percentages are rounded to one decimal point.

Missing values are excluded.

The proportion of women who report difficulty in repaying their student loans is slightly higher than that of men.

Table 2.10: Proportion of adults aged 15+ who report difficulty in repaying their student loans by level of certification and sex – reference year 2007

Level of certification	Women	Men	+/-
Trade/vocational diploma or certificate	24.0%	15.1%	8.9%
College or CEGEP diploma or certificate	27.5%	20.4%	7.1%
University diploma or certificate (below Bachelor's level)	17.8% ^E	19.9% ^E	-2.1% ^E
Bachelor's Degree or first professional degree	21.0%	21.7%	-0.7%
University diploma or certificate (above Bachelor's level)	17.2%	19.7%	-2.5%

Source: 2007 National Graduates Survey (Class of 2005).

All percentages are rounded to one decimal point.

Missing values are excluded.

^E Use with caution.

Proportionally, more women with certification below the university level report difficulty in repaying their student loans than men. On the other hand, women with university certification are proportionally less likely to report difficulty in repaying their student loans than men.

Default on student loans

Table 2.11: Proportion of adults aged 15+ who report defaulting on their student loans by sex – reference year 2007

Women	Men	+/-
7.1%	7.8%	-0.7%

Source: 2007 National Graduates Survey (Class of 2005).
All percentages are rounded to one decimal point.
Missing values are excluded.

The proportion of women who report defaulting on their student loans is slightly lower than that of men.

Indicator Five: Confidence in the school system

Table 2.12: Proportion of adults who report on their level of confidence in the school system by level of confidence, age group and sex – reference year 2008

Level of confidence	15 to 24			25 to 54			55 to 64			65+			Total adult population (15+)		
	Women	Men	+/-	Women	Men	+/-	Women	Men	+/-	Women	Men	+/-	Women	Men	+/-
A great deal of confidence	22.5%	26.2%	-3.8%	18.9%	19.3%	-0.5%	17.5%	20.8%	-3.3%	20.9%	24.2%	-3.2%	19.6%	21.4%	-1.8%
Quite a lot of confidence	56.6%	56.0%	0.6%	59.4%	58.4%	1.0%	57.8%	55.3%	2.5%	56.9%	53.4%	3.5%	58.4%	56.9%	1.4%
Not very much confidence	14.7%	18.0%	-3.3%	19.5%	19.0%	0.5%	20.8%	22.6%	-1.8%	19.9%	19.8%	0.1%**	19.5%	18.9%	0.6%
No confidence at all	2.9%	3.1%	-0.1%	2.7%	2.7%	0.0%**	2.0%	3.1%	-1.0%	2.3%	2.5%	-0.2%	2.6%	2.8%	-0.2%

Source: 2008 General Social Survey, Cycle 22: Social Networks.

All percentages are rounded to one decimal point.

Missing values are excluded.

** Differences between women and men are not statistically significant at 0.05.

Regardless of age group, the proportion of women who report having a “great deal of confidence” in the school system is lower than that of men.

Indicator Six: Discrimination while attending school or classes

Table 2.13: Proportion of adults who report experiencing discrimination while attending school or classes in the last five years by age group and sex – reference year 2009

Age group	Women	Men	+/-
15 to 24	47.8%	42.3%	5.5%
25+	10.3%	7.6%	2.7%
Total adult population (15+)	17.5%	16.2%	1.3%

Source: 2009 General Social Survey, Cycle 23: Victimization.
All percentages are rounded to one decimal point.
Missing values are excluded.

The proportion of women who report experiencing discrimination while attending school or classes is higher than that of men across all age groups.

CHAPTER 3: EMPLOYMENT

The right to equal treatment at work is guaranteed in all human rights legislation in Canada. Employment is linked to higher levels of income and can significantly improve quality of life. It provides the opportunity to interact with others and the tools for a more independent life. Employment is also an important indicator of social inclusion.

Article 6 and 7 of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights recognize the right to work, the opportunity to earn a living and the right to just and favourable work conditions.

This chapter examines the employment situation of adult women and men using the following five indicators:

- 1) status in the labour force;
- 2) relationship between specialization and employment;
- 3) work-related benefits;
- 4) quality of work; and
- 5) access to income support.

Indicator One: Status in the labour force

Status in the labour force is measured by:

- whether a person has single or multiple employment status;
- employment by type of industry sector;
- type of employment;
- work location; and
- chronic unemployment.

Article 11 of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women recognizes the same rights between women and men in terms of employment.

Article 13 states that women should have the same right to family benefits as men.

Single or multiple status in the labour force ²⁴

Table 3.1: Labour force status of adults by age group and sex – reference year 2010

Labour force status	15 to 24			25 to 54			55+			Total adult population (15+)		
	Women	Men	+/-	Women	Men	+/-	Women	Men	+/-	Women	Men	+/-
Employed all year	37.5%	31.9%	5.6%	68.7%	75.9%	-7.2%	37.9%	48.6%	-10.7%	56.2%	62.3%	-6.1%
Unemployed all year	3.4% ^E	3.4% ^E	0.0% ^{E**}	1.5%	1.9%	-0.4%	1.7% ^E	2.3%	-0.6% ^E	1.8%	2.2%	-0.4%
Not in the labour force all year	17.1%	18.3%	-1.2%	14.4%	7.0%	7.4%	51.7%	38.2%	13.5%	24.5%	16.4%	8.0%
Employed part-year, unemployed part-year	8.6%	13.7%	-5.1%	5.9%	8.7%	-2.8%	2.1%	3.9%	-1.8%	5.3%	8.3%	-3.0%
Employed part-year, not in the labour force part-year	16.4%	14.8%	1.6%	4.2%	3.0%	1.2%	3.9%	4.2%	-0.3%	5.9%	5.2%	0.7%
Unemployed part-year, not in the labour force part-year	5.4%	6.6%	-1.2%	1.8% ^E	0.9% ^E	0.9% ^E	1.3% ^E	1.1% ^E	0.2% ^E	2.2%	1.9%	0.3%
Employed, unemployed and not in the labour force during the year	11.7%	11.3%	0.4%	3.6%	2.5%	1.1%	1.3%	1.7%	-0.4%	4.2%	3.7%	0.4%

Source: 2010 Survey on Labour and Income Dynamics.

All percentages are rounded to the nearest one decimal point. Missing values are excluded.

^E Use with caution.

** Difference between women and men is not statistically significant at 0.05.

²⁴ Multiple labour force status refers to an individual whose labour status changed during the reference year.

With the exception of the 15 to 24 age group, the proportion of women employed all year is lower than that of men. The largest difference is found in the 55+ age group, where the proportion of women employed all year is 10.7% lower than that of men.

Proportionally, more women aged 25 to 54 and 55+ are not in labour force all year than men. The largest difference is found in the 55+ age group, where the proportion of women not in the labour force all year is 13.5% higher than that of men.

Employment by type of industry sector

Employment by type of industry sector is measured by:

- employment by industry sector; and
- total median earnings from paid job by industry sector.

Employment by industry sector

Table 3.2: Employment of adults by industry sector, age group and sex – reference year 2010

Industry sector	15 to 54			55+			Total adult population (15+)		
	Women	Men	+/-	Women	Men	+/-	Women	Men	+/-
Agriculture	1.3%	2.5%	-1.2%	2.1%	4.0%	-1.9%	1.5%	2.8%	-1.3%
Forestry, fishing, mining, oil and gas	0.9%	3.2%	-2.3%	0.6% ^E	3.4%	-2.8% ^E	0.8%	3.2%	-2.4%
Utilities	0.4% ^E	1.4%	-1.0% ^E	F	1.0% ^E	F	0.5%	1.3%	-0.8%
Construction	2.0%	12.0%	-10.0%	2.1% ^E	10.8%	-8.7% ^E	2.0%	11.8%	-9.8%
Manufacturing	5.4%	12.9%	-7.5%	5.2%	13.7%	-8.5%	5.4%	13.1%	-7.7%
Trade	16.1%	15.2%	0.9%	14.4%	11.8%	2.6%	15.8%	14.6%	1.2%
Transportation and warehousing	2.3%	6.2%	-3.9%	2.8% ^E	9.0%	-6.2% ^E	2.4%	6.7%	-4.3%
Finance, insurance, real estate and leasing	7.1%	4.9%	2.2%	7.5%	5.7%	1.8%	7.2%	5.0%	2.2%
Professional, scientific and technical services	6.3%	7.4%	-1.1%	7.2%	8.8%	-1.6%	6.4%	7.6%	-1.2%
Educational services	10.4%	5.4%	5.0%	11.2%	6.4%	4.8%	3.8%	4.9%	-1.1%
Health care and social assistance	20.1%	3.8%	16.3%	21.9%	4.0%	17.9%	10.5%	5.6%	5.0%
Information, culture and recreation	5.4%	5.6%	-0.2%	3.4%	3.7%	-0.3%	20.4%	3.8%	16.6%
Accommodation and food services	7.9%	5.5%	2.4%	5.6%	2.5%	3.1%	5.1%	5.3%	-0.2%
Other services	5.2%	3.5%	1.7%	5.9%	5.5%	0.4%	7.5%	5.0%	2.5%
Public administration	5.6%	5.7%	-0.1%	4.2%	5.1%	-0.9%	5.3%	3.9%	1.4%
Business, building and other support services	3.5%	4.9%	-1.4%	5.0%	4.9%	0.1%	5.4%	5.6%	-0.2%

Source: 2010 Survey on Labour and Income Dynamics

All percentages are rounded to the nearest one decimal point.

Missing values are excluded.

^E Use with caution.

F To unreliable to be published.

A few observations are worth discussing when looking at the proportion of women and men employed by industry sector. First, the proportions of women in the 15 to 54 age group and the 55+ age group who work in the construction sector are respectively 10% and 8.7% lower than those of men. The same observation can be made for the manufacturing sector, where the proportion of women in both age groups are respectively 7.5% and 8.5% less than those of men.

When looking at the education services sector, the proportions of women in the 15 to 54 and 55+ age groups are 5% and 4.8% higher than those of adult men. Finally, the proportions of adult women in both those same age groups who work in the health care and social assistance sector are respectively 16.3% and 17.9% higher than those of adult men.

Total median earnings from paid job by industry sector

Table 3.3: Total median earnings from paid job²⁵ of adults by industry sector, age group and sex – reference year 2010

Industry sector	Women		Men		+/-	
	15 to 54	55+	15 to 54	55+	15 to 54	55+
Agriculture	\$14,166	\$20,659	\$25,034	\$30,000	-\$10,868	-\$9,341
Forestry, fishing, mining, oil and gas	\$33,984	\$68,034	\$55,066	\$54,236	-\$21,082	\$13,798
Utilities	\$53,732	\$45,892	\$73,245	\$68,909	-\$19,513	-\$23,017
Construction	\$30,456	\$19,734	\$38,040	\$41,720	-\$7,584	-\$21,986
Manufacturing	\$31,516	\$27,813	\$42,054	\$42,054	-\$10,538	-\$14,241
Trade	\$15,645	\$19,351	\$27,118	\$35,246	-\$11,473	-\$15,895
Transportation and warehousing	\$34,134	\$20,425	\$48,395	\$45,544	-\$14,261	-\$25,119
Finance, insurance, real estate and leasing	\$35,047	\$40,038	\$50,055	\$53,385	-\$15,008	-\$13,347
Professional, scientific and technical services	\$34,682	\$31,657	\$52,477	\$67,847	-\$17,795	-\$36,190
Educational services	\$41,094	\$36,441	\$51,612	\$54,513	-\$10,518	-\$18,072
Health care and social assistance	\$34,036	\$35,045	\$40,038	\$48,220	-\$6,002	-\$13,175
Information, culture and recreation	\$20,076	\$29,822	\$33,235	\$50,283	-\$13,159	-\$20,461
Accommodations and food services	\$10,326	\$16,491	\$11,738	\$19,719	-\$1,412	-\$3,228
Other services	\$21,727	\$18,250	\$33,147	\$31,396	-\$11,420	-\$13,146
Public administration	\$49,549	\$44,432	\$62,580	\$61,102	-\$13,031	-\$16,670
Business, building and other support services	\$16,223	\$21,013	\$24,378	\$25,415	-\$8,155	-\$4,402

Source: 2010 Survey on Labour and Income Dynamics.
All numbers are rounded to the nearest whole number.
Missing values are excluded.

Women have a lower total median earning than men, with the exception of women aged 55+ who work in the forestry, fishing, mining, and oil and gas sector.

²⁵ Amounts includes tips, bonuses and commissions.

The differences between the total median earning between women and men aged 15 to 54 are all above \$10,000, except for construction, health care and social assistance, accommodation and food services and business, building and other support services. In addition, a difference of more than \$20,000 in total median earning between women and men aged 15 to 54 is found in the forestry, fishing, mining, oil and gas sectors. The smallest difference is found in the accommodations and food services sector.

When looking at the total median earning between women and men aged 55+, the differences are above \$10,000 with the exception of three sectors: agriculture; accommodation and food services; and business, building and other support services.

In addition, a difference of more than \$20,000 in total median earning between women and men aged 55+ is found in the following sectors: utilities; construction; transportation and warehousing; professional, scientific and technical services; and information, culture and recreation. The smallest difference is found in the business, building and other support services sector.

Type of employment

Type of employment is measured by:

- non-permanent employment; and
- involuntary part-time employment.

Non-permanent employment

Table 3.4: Proportion of adults holding non-permanent employment by age group and sex – reference year 2010

Age group	Women	Men	+/-
15 to 24	36.4%	40.3%	-3.9%
25 to 54	12.5%	11.9%	0.6%
55+	15.7%	18.7%	-3.0%
Total adult population (15+)	17.0%	17.7%	-0.7%

Source: 2010 Survey on Labour and Income Dynamics.
All percentages are rounded to the nearest one decimal point.
Missing values are excluded.

The proportion of women in the 15 to 24 and 55+ age groups who hold non-permanent employment is lower than that of men.

Table 3.5: Proportion of adults holding non-permanent employment by type of non-permanent employment, age group and sex – reference year 2010

Type of non-permanent employment	15 to 24			25 to 54			55+			Total adult population (15+)		
	Women	Men	+/-	Women	Men	+/-	Women	Men	+/-	Women	Men	+/-
Seasonal job	28.1%	42.4%	-14.3%	13.3%	30.6%	-17.3%	19.5%	37.2%	-17.7%	19.5%	36.2%	-16.7%
Temporary, term or contract job ¹	38.4%	32.6%	5.8%	62.4%	56.9%	5.5%	43.7%	56.9%	-13.2%	51.2%	45.0%	6.1%
Casual job	33.6%	25.2%	8.4%	24.3%	12.5%	11.8%	36.8%	21.8%	15.0%	29.4%	18.8%	10.5%

Source: 2010 Survey on Labour and Income Dynamics.

All percentages are rounded to the nearest one decimal point.

Missing values are excluded.

¹ Includes non-seasonal work or work done through a temporary help agency

The proportion of women who hold seasonal job is substantially lower than that of men in all age groups. On the other hand, women are proportionally more likely to hold a casual job than men, regardless of age group.

Involuntary part-time employment

Table 3.6: Proportion of adults who work part-time but want to work full-time by age group and sex – reference year 2010

Age Group	Women	Men	+/-
15 to 24	22.1%	26.0%	-3.9%
25 to 54	33.0%	43.7%	-10.7%
55+	19.5%	29.5%	-10.0%
Total adult population (15 +)	27.3%	32.7%	-5.5%

Source: 2010 Survey on Labour and Income Dynamics.
All percentages are rounded to the nearest one decimal point.
Missing values are excluded.

The proportion of women who work part-time but want to work full-time is lower than that of men in all age groups.

Work location

Table 3.7: Proportion of adults who report usually working from home by age group and sex – reference year 2010

Age Group	Women	Men	+/-
15 to 24	5.5%	6.2%	-0.7%
25 to 54	21.2%	23.5%	-2.3%
55 to 64	21.2%	26.8%	-5.6%
65+	38.8%	41.3%	-2.5%
Total adult population (15+)	18.9%	21.7%	-2.8%

Source: 2010 General Social Survey, Cycle 24: Time Use (Time-Stress and Well-Being)
All percentages are rounded to one decimal point.
Missing values are excluded.

In all age groups, women are less likely to work from home than men.

Table 3.8: Proportion of adults aged 15+ who report on the main reason for working from home by sex – reference year 2010

Main reason	Women	Men	+/-
Care ¹	12.3%	4.2%	8.1%
Requirement of the job, no choice	20.5%	24.2%	-3.7%
Home is usual place of work	36.5%	28.9%	7.6%
Better working conditions	20.2%	23.9%	-3.7%
Save time, money	6.3%	10.4%	-4.1%
Live too far from work to commute	1.5%	2.9%	-1.4%
Other	2.8%	5.5%	-2.7%

Source: 2010 General Social Survey, Cycle 24: Time Use (Time-Stress and Well-Being)

All percentages are rounded to one decimal point.

Missing values are excluded.

¹ "Care" includes care for children, other family members or loved ones. It also includes other personal or family responsibilities.

When looking at the main reason why women and men work from home, a higher proportion of women (36.5%) than men (28.9%) report that their home is the usual place of work. The largest difference between women and men is found in the "care" category where the proportion of women is 8.1% higher than that of men.

Chronic unemployment

The term "chronically unemployed" refers to those who spend the most time in unemployment within a given period of time.²⁶

Table 3.9: Proportion of adults aged 15+ who are chronically unemployed by sex – reference year 2010

Women	Men	+/-
9.9%	9.3%	0.6%

Source: Survey on Labour and Income Dynamics – Fifth Panel 2005-2010.

All percentages are rounded to the nearest one decimal point.

Missing values are excluded.

The proportion of women who are chronically unemployed is slightly higher than that of men.

²⁶ In this report, the population under study is from the fifth panel cohort of the *Survey of Labour and Income Dynamics* (SLID). The cohort was studied for four years (2007-2010) by examining the employment status of respondents every week. The unemployed population consists of individuals who were in the labour market and experienced at least one instance of unemployment during the four years. For people that were employed, the percentages were calculated based on the accumulated unemployment weeks of individuals over the total weeks in the labour market. The percentages were then ordered from smallest to largest with the last decile (10%) in the sequence representing the population experiencing chronic unemployment. In other words, the chronically unemployed were considered to be the remaining 10% of unemployed individuals who had spent most of their time in unemployment. This last group represents an important disadvantaged segment of the unemployed cohort.

Indicator Two: Relationship between specialization and employment

This indicator looks at the degree to which people self-report being in occupations that are closely related to their educational specialization.²⁷

Table 3.10: Proportion of adults who report holding a job related to their specialization by degree of “relatedness”, age group and sex – reference year 2010

Level of “relatedness”	15 to 24			25 to 54			55+			Total adult population (15+)		
	Women	Men	+/-	Women	Men	+/-	Women	Men	+/-	Women	Men	+/-
Closely related	23.3%	19.6%	3.7%	47.8%	45.8%	2.0%	43.0%	42.6%	0.4%	43.3%	41.5%	1.9%
Somewhat related	14.0%	12.9%	1.1%	17.5%	16.4%	1.1%	18.1%	18.4%	-0.3%	17.1%	16.2%	0.8%
Not at all related	62.7%	67.6%	-4.9%	34.7%	37.9%	-3.2%	38.7%	39.0%	-0.3%	39.6%	42.3%	-2.7%

Source: 2010 Survey on Labour and Income Dynamics.

All percentages are rounded to the nearest one decimal point.

Missing values are excluded.

A large proportion of both women and men aged 15 to 24 report holding a job that is not at all related to their specialization. In addition, the proportion of women who report holding a job that is not at all related to their specialization is lower than that of men in all age groups.

²⁷ The *Framework for Documenting Equality Rights* proposed reporting on the “recognition of foreign qualifications”. In this report, the indicator has been modified to “recognition of qualifications”. One measure has been retained.

Indicator Three: Work-related benefits

This indicator looks at work-related benefits using the following measures:

- availability of employer-sponsored medical insurance/health plan;
- availability of employer-sponsored pension plan;
- availability of employer-sponsored life/disability insurance; and
- union membership and/or coverage by a collective agreement.

Availability of employer-sponsored medical insurance/health plan

Table 3.11: Proportion of adults who are covered by an employer-sponsored medical insurance/health plan by age group and sex – reference year 2010

Age group	Women	Men	+/-
15 to 24	25.7%	25.4%	0.3%
25 to 54	68.4%	75.6%	-7.2%
55+	62.9%	70.2%	-7.3%
Total adult population (15+)	60.5%	66.5%	-6.0%

Source: 2010 Survey on Labour and Income Dynamics.
All percentages are rounded to the nearest one decimal point.
Missing values are excluded.

The proportions of women in the 25 to 54 and 55+ age groups who are covered by an employer-sponsored medical insurance/health plan are lower than that of men.

Availability of employer-sponsored pension plan

Table 3.12: Proportion of adults who are covered by an employer-sponsored pension plan by age group and sex – reference year 2010

Age group	Women	Men	+/-
15 to 24	12.7%	14.7%	-2.0%
25 to 54	52.2%	52.3%	-0.1%
55+	46.7%	47.3%	-0.6%
Total adult population (15+)	44.9%	45.3%	-0.5%

Source: 2010 Survey on Labour and Income Dynamics.
All percentages are rounded to the nearest one decimal point.
Missing values are excluded.

The proportion of women who are covered by an employer-sponsored pension plan is slightly lower than that of men in all age groups.

Availability of employer-sponsored life/disability insurance

Table 3.13: Proportion of adults who are covered by an employer-sponsored life/disability insurance by age group and sex – reference year 2010

Age group	Women	Men	+/-
15 to 24	17.4%	18.8%	-1.4%
25 to 54	62.4%	67.9%	-5.5%
55+	55.6%	64.2%	-8.6%
Total adult population (15+)	53.9%	59.3%	-5.4%

Source: 2010 Survey on Labour and Income Dynamics.

All percentages are rounded to the nearest one decimal point.

Missing values are excluded.

Regardless of age, women are proportionally less likely to be covered by an employer-sponsored life/disability insurance than men.

Union membership and/or coverage by a collective agreement

Table 3.14: Proportion of adults who are either a member of a union and/or covered by a collective agreement by degree of protection, age group and sex – reference year 2009

Degree of protection	15 to 24			25 to 54			55+			Total adult population (15+)		
	Women	Men	+/-	Women	Men	+/-	Women	Men	+/-	Women	Men	+/-
Member of a union and covered by a collective agreement	12.9%	14.9%	-2.0%	33.3%	30.7%	2.6%	33.3%	32.1%	1.2%	29.7%	28.3%	1.4%
Covered by a collective agreement, but not a union member	2.3% ^E	1.4% ^E	0.9% ^E	2.4%	2.3%	0.1%	2.0% ^E	3.8% ^E	-1.8% ^E	2.3%	2.3%	0.0%**
Not a member of a union nor covered by a collective agreement	84.2%	83.7%	0.5%	64.5%	67.0%	-2.5%	64.7%	64.1%	0.6%	67.9%	69.4%	-1.4%

Source: 2010 Survey on Labour and Income Dynamics.

All percentages are rounded to the nearest one decimal point.

Missing values are excluded.

^E Use with caution.

** Difference between women and men is not statistically significant at 0.05.

Regardless of sex, more than 60% of adults in all age groups are not members of a union, nor are covered by a collective agreement. In addition, with the exception of the 15 to 24 age group, the proportion of women who are members of a union and are covered by a collective agreement is slightly higher than that of men.

Indicator Four: Quality of work

This indicator looks at quality of work using the following measures:

- job satisfaction; and
- work-life balance.

Job satisfaction

Table 3.15: Proportion of adults who report on their level of satisfaction towards their job by level of satisfaction, age group and sex – reference year 2010

Level of satisfaction	15 to 54			55+			Total adult population (15+)		
	Women	Men	+/-	Women	Men	+/-	Women	Men	+/-
Very satisfied	25.8%	26.2%	-0.4%	35.8%	41.8%	-6.0%	27.5%	29.1%	-1.6%
Satisfied	49.7%	49.1%	0.6%	48.7%	47.1%	1.6%	49.5%	48.7%	0.8%
Neither satisfied or dissatisfied	14.2%	14.9%	-0.7%	8.7%	5.2%	3.5%	13.3%	13.1%	0.1%
Dissatisfied	10.2%	9.7%	0.5%	6.9%	5.8%	1.1%	9.7%	9.0%	0.7%

Source: 2010 General Social Survey, Cycle 24: Time Use (Time-Stress and Well-Being)

All percentages are rounded to one decimal point.

Missing values are excluded.

The proportion of women who report being dissatisfied with their job is slightly higher than that of men across all age groups.

Table 3.16: Proportion of adults aged 15+ who report on the reason they are dissatisfied towards their job by reason and sex – reference year 2010

Reason	Women	Men	+/-
Not enough time for family	35.8%	35.4%	0.4%
Spends too much time on main job/ activity	34.1%	32.2%	1.9%
Not enough time for other activities	20.2%	25.1%	-4.9%
Employment-related reasons	26.0%	27.9%	-1.9%
Cannot find suitable employment	5.3%	5.3%	0.0%**
Health reasons	6.8%	3.0%	3.8%
Family-related reasons	4.0%	3.0%	1.0%

Source: 2010 General Social Survey, Cycle 24: Time Use (Time-Stress and Well-Being)

All percentages are rounded to one decimal point.

Missing values are excluded.

** Difference between women and men is not statistically significant at 0.05.

When looking at the reason women and men are dissatisfied with their job, the proportion of women who report “not enough time for family,” “spends too much time on job/main activity,” “health reasons” or “family-related reasons” is higher than that of men.

Work-life balance

Table 3.17: Proportion of adults who report how frequently it is difficult to fulfill their family responsibilities because of the amount of time they spent on their job, by frequency, age group and sex – reference year 2010

Frequency	15 to 54			55+			Total adult population (15+)		
	Women	Men	+/-	Women	Men	+/-	Women	Men	+/-
All the time	1.9%	2.8%	-0.9%	2.0%	2.6%	-0.6%	1.9%	2.7%	-0.8%
Most of the time	10.6%	11.7%	-1.1%	7.3%	5.0%	2.3%	10.0%	10.5%	-0.4%
Sometimes	54.5%	52.5%	2.0%	40.7%	39.4%	1.3%	52.2%	50.2%	2.1%
Never	33.0%	33.0%	0.0%**	49.9%	53.0%	-3.1%	35.8%	36.6%	-0.8%

Source: 2010 General Social Survey, Cycle 24: Time Use (Time-Stress and Well-Being)

All percentages are rounded to one decimal point.

Missing values are excluded.

** Difference between women and men is not statistically significant at 0.05.

The proportion of women who report that it is difficult “all the time” to fulfill family responsibilities because of the amount of time they spend on their job is slightly lower than that of men across all age groups.

Table 3.18: Proportion of adults aged 15+ who report how frequently it is difficult to concentrate or fulfill their work because of their family responsibilities by frequency and sex – reference year 2010

Frequency	Women	Men	+/-
All of the time	1.1%	0.8%	0.3%
Most of the time	4.1%	3.4%	0.7%
Sometimes	45.8%	43.2%	2.6%
Never	49.0%	52.6%	-3.6%

Source: 2010 General Social Survey, Cycle 24: Time Use (Time-Stress and Well-Being)

All percentages are rounded to one decimal point.

Missing values are excluded.

A proportion of nearly 50% of women and men report that it is “never” difficult to concentrate or fulfill their work because of their family responsibilities. However, a proportion of more than 40% of women and men report that it is “sometimes” difficult to concentrate or fulfill their work because of their family responsibilities.

Indicator Five: Access to income support

This indicator looks at access to income support using the following measures:

- Employment Insurance (EI) benefits; and
- social assistance.

Employment Insurance (EI) benefits

Table 3.19: Proportion of adults who have received Employment Insurance benefits by age group and sex – reference year 2010

Age group	Women	Men	+/-
15 to 24	4.9%	8.1%	-3.2%
25 to 54	16.6%	16.1%	0.5%
55 to 64	8.8%	12.1%	-3.3%
65+	2.6%	5.7%	-3.1%
Total adult population (15+)	12.4%	13.5%	-1.1%

Source: 2010 Survey on Labour and Income Dynamics.
All percentages are rounded to the nearest one decimal point.
Missing values are excluded.

With the exception of the 25 to 54 age group, the proportion of women who have received Employment Insurance benefits is lower than that of men in all age groups.

Social assistance

Table 3.20: Proportion of adults who have received social assistance by age group and sex – reference year 2010

Age group	Women	Men	+/-
15 to 24	4.3%	3.5%	0.8%
25 to 54	7.2%	4.6%	2.6%
55+	8.8%	3.4%	5.4%
Total adult population (15+)	7.1%	4.1%	3.0%

Source: 2010 Survey on Labour and Income Dynamics.
All percentages are rounded to the nearest one decimal point.
Missing values are excluded.

The proportion of women who have received social assistance is higher than that of men in all age groups.

CHAPTER 4: ECONOMIC WELL-BEING

Defining and understanding economic well-being is a complex exercise. It requires the examination of several indicators and measures, as no single indicator fully captures the picture.

The right to fair wages, equal remuneration for work of equal value, social security and an adequate standard of living are listed in the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (articles 6-11).

This chapter gives a portrait of the economic well-being of women and men using three indicators:²⁸

- 1) household after-tax income;²⁹
- 2) low income; and
- 3) wealth.

If not noted otherwise, all data on income is presented using the total after-tax income.³⁰

²⁸ Data used for longitudinal analysis is extracted from the 5th panel cohort of the *Survey of Labour and Income Dynamics*. Cross-sectional analysis was carried out using data specific to the reference year 2010.

²⁹ For this purpose of this report, income refers to the sum of one's market income and government transfers.

³⁰ Statistics Canada recommends the use of after-tax income for two reasons: first, after-tax income reflects the entire "...redistributive impact of Canada's tax/transfer system, by including the effect of transfers [and the] effect of income taxes"; and second, "...since the purchase of necessities is made with after-tax dollars...", after-tax income can be used to draw more precise conclusions about the overall economic well-being of individuals: Giles, Philip. (2004). *Low-Income Measurement in Canada*. Income Research Paper Series. Statistics Canada, Income Statistics Division. Catalogue no. 75F0002MIE – No. 011, p. 9.

Indicator One: Household after-tax income

This indicator looks at the household after-tax income using the following measures:

- adjusted median household after-tax income; and
- adjusted median household after-tax income by quintile.

Adjusted median household after-tax income

Table 4.1: Adjusted median household after-tax income³¹ by age group and sex – reference year 2010

Age group	Women	Men	+/-	
			\$	%
15 to 24	\$37,797	\$39,017	-\$1,220	-3.1%
25 to 54	\$40,841	\$42,211	-\$1,730	-3.2%
55 to 64	\$37,705	\$42,815	-\$5,110	-11.9%
65+	\$30,643	\$34,336	-\$3,693	-10.8%

Source: 2010 Survey on Labour and Income Dynamics.
All numbers are rounded to the nearest whole number.
All percentages are rounded to the nearest one decimal point.
Missing values are excluded.
Amounts are in dollars.

Women have a lower adjusted median household after-tax income compared to men in all age groups. The largest difference is found in the 55 to 64 age group where the adjusted median household after-tax income of women is 11.9% less than men.

³¹ The median income is the mid-point where, by definition, half of the population falls above the median line and half falls below. The median income measure was chosen over the commonly used average/mean income, in part because median income provides better information about the distribution of income in the population.

Adjusted median household after-tax income by quintile

Table 4.2: Adjusted median household after-tax income by quintile, age group and sex – reference year 2010

Quintile	15 to 24			25 to 54			55 to 64			65+		
	Women	Men	+/-	Women	Men	+/-	Women	Men	+/-	Women	Men	+/-
Lowest 20%	\$16,540	\$16,868	-\$328	\$17,490	\$18,410	-\$920	\$14,682	\$16,356	-\$1,674	\$17,828	\$19,634	-\$1,806
Second 20%	\$28,513	\$28,832	-\$319	\$30,124	\$31,034	-\$910	\$27,400	\$30,908	-\$3,508	\$23,156	\$26,626	-\$3,470
Third 20%	\$37,805	\$39,057	-\$1,252	\$40,881	\$42,211	-\$1,330	\$37,690	\$42,808	-\$5,118	\$30,663	\$34,340	-\$3,677
Fourth 20%	\$49,936	\$51,813	-\$1,877	\$52,906	\$54,013	-\$1,107	\$50,514	\$57,971	-\$7,430	\$41,057	\$45,035	-\$3,978
Highest 20%	\$73,028	\$75,891	-\$2,863	\$76,402	\$76,845	-\$443	\$74,814	\$83,828	-\$9,014	\$58,852	\$62,954	-\$4,102

Source: 2010 Survey on Labour and Income Dynamics.

All numbers are rounded to the nearest whole number.

Missing values are excluded

Amounts are in dollars.

Regardless of age, women have a lower adjusted median household after-tax income across all quintiles. Differences range from \$319 to \$9,014 in favour of men.

Indicator Two: Low-income

This indicator looks at low-income using the following measures:

- low-income status;³²
- average low-income gap ratio;
- persistent low-income status; and
- government transfers as major source of income.

In this report, the 2010 Survey Labour Income Dynamics low income measure³³ threshold is used to identify those in low-income status.

Low-income status

Table 4.3: Proportion of adults in low-income status by age group and sex – reference year 2010

Age group	Women	Men	+/-
15 to 24	47.3%	44.6%	2.7%
25 to 54	37.3%	34.2%	3.1%
55 to 64	32.1%	27.7%	4.4%
65+	34.2%	30.7%	3.5%
Total adult population (15+)	37.5%	34.4%	3.1%

Source: 2010 Survey on Labour and Income Dynamics.

All percentages are rounded to one decimal point.

Missing values are excluded.

The proportion of women in low-income status is higher than that of men in all age groups, particularly in the 55 to 64 and 65+ age groups. The largest proportion of both women and men in low-income status is found in the 15 to 24 age group.

In addition, the proportion of both women and men in low-income status decreases as age increases, but slightly increases in the 65+ age group.

³² A person in low-income status is someone whose income falls below the low-income measure threshold.

³³The low income measure is a fixed percentage (50%) of the median adjusted household income. Reference: Statistics Canada. (2010). Low Income Lines, 2008-2009. *Income Research Paper Series*. Catalogue no. 75F0002M – No. 005, page 10.

Average low-income gap ratio

A household is considered to be in low-income status when its income falls below the low income threshold. The low-income gap ratio is a percentage that expresses how far a household income falls below the low-income threshold.

Once it has been determined that a household is in low-income status, and by how many dollars, the low-income gap ratio can then be calculated. For example if the low income measure threshold is \$20,000 and the income of a household is \$15,000, the low-income gap would be \$5000. To calculate the low-income gap ratio for this household, we divide the gap by the low-income measure threshold: $\$5,000/\$20,000 = 25\%$. Therefore, the low-income gap ratio for this household would be 25%. In other words, the income of the household falls 25% below the low-income measure threshold.

For this report, the 2010 Survey Labour Income Dynamics after-tax low income measure threshold for 2010 was used to calculate average low-income gap ratios.

Table 4.4: Average low-income gap ratios of adults by age group and sex – reference year 2010

Age group	Women	Men
15 to 24	16.1%**	15.6%**
25 to 54	12.5%	11.3%
55 to 64	10.9%	9.4%
65+	6.6%**	6.2%**

Source: 2010 Survey on Labour and Income Dynamics.

All percentages are rounded to one decimal point.

Missing values are excluded.

** Differences between women and men are not statistically significant at 0.05.

Women's average low-income gap ratio is higher than that of men in all age groups. In addition, the average low-income gap ratio for both women and men is higher in the 15 to 24 age group and decreases as age increases.

Persistent low-income status

In this report, persistent low-income status is defined as having been in low-income status for four consecutive years (2007-2010).³⁴

Table 4.5: Proportion of adults in persistent low-income status by age group and sex – reference years 2007-2010

Age group	Women	Men	+/-
15 to 24	22.4%	18.4%	4.0%
25 to 54	22.0%	19.4%	2.6%
55 to 64	8.7%	10.9%	-2.2%
65+	17.2% ^E	18.9% ^E	-1.7% ^E
Total adult population (15+)	20.2%	18.0%	2.2%

Source: Survey on Labour and Income Dynamics – Fifth Panel 2005-2010.

All percentages are rounded to one decimal point.

Missing values are excluded.

^E Use with caution

Women in the 15 to 24 and 25 to 54 age groups are proportionally more likely to be in persistent low-income than men. The reverse is true when looking at the 55 to 64 and 65+ age groups.

³⁴ Low income was determined through the Low-Income Measure used in the Survey of Labour and Income Dynamics, which is a fixed percentage (50%) of median adjusted household income. Persistent low-income was calculated using the following formula:

$$\frac{\text{The number of people who experienced persistent low-income based on sex}}{\text{The total number of people from the same characteristics above}} \times 100\%$$

Proportion in Persistent low-income status = $\frac{\text{The number of people who experienced persistent low-income based on sex}}{\text{The total number of people from the same characteristics above}} \times 100\%$

Government transfers as major source of income

Table 4.6: Proportion of adults who receive government transfers as their major source of income³⁵ by age group and sex – reference year 2010

Age group	Women	Men	+/-
15 to 24	12.4%	11.0%	1.4%
25 to 54	20.7%	9.8%	10.9%
55 to 64	24.7%	15.5%	9.2%
65+	73.3%	55.7%	17.6%
Total adult population (15+)	29.6%	18.0%	11.6%

Source: 2010 Survey on Labour and Income Dynamics.

All percentages are rounded to one decimal point.

Missing values are excluded.

Regardless of age, the proportion of women who receive government transfers as their major source of income is higher than that of men. The largest differences are found in the 25 to 54 and 65+ age groups, where the proportions are respectively 10.9% and 17.6% higher than those of men.

³⁵Government transfers include all federal and provincial government transfers such as Employment Insurance, social assistance, Old Age Security, Canada child tax benefit, etc.

Indicator Three: Wealth

This indicator looks at wealth using the following measures:

- median net worth;³⁶ and
- median net worth by quintile

Median net worth

Table 4.7: Median net worth of adults aged 15+ who are the major income earners by sex – reference year 2005

Women	Men	+/-
\$73,750	\$132,400	-\$58 650

Source: 2005 Survey of Financial Security.
All numbers are rounded to the nearest whole number.
Missing values are excluded.
Amounts are in dollars.

The median net worth of women is substantially lower than that of men.

³⁶ The 2005 Survey of Financial Security (SFS) calculates “net worth” by adding all assets of a family and subtracting all debts. In other words, “a family’s net worth can be thought of as the amount of money they would have if they liquidated their assets and paid off all of their debts.” In addition, data from the SFS 2005 are collected per family unit and not per individual in the family. Reference: Statistics Canada. (2006). *The Wealth of Canadians: An Overview of the Results of the Survey of Financial Security - 2005*. Pensions and Wealth Research Paper Series. p 8.

Median net worth by quintile

Table 4.8: Median net worth of adults aged 15+ who are the major income earners by quintile and sex – reference year 2005

Quintile	Women	Men	+/-	
			Amount	%
Lowest 20%	\$250	\$1,150	-\$900	(-78.3%)
Second 20%	\$14,066	\$39,470	-\$25,404	(-64.4%)
Third 20%	\$73,750	\$132,400	-\$58,650	(-44.3%)
Fourth 20%	\$201,200	\$285,500	-\$84,300	(-29.5%)
Highest 20%	\$540,800	\$673,800	-\$133,000	(-19.7%)

Source: 2005 Survey of Financial Security.

All numbers are rounded to the nearest whole number.

All percentages are rounded to one decimal point.

Missing values are excluded.

Amounts are in dollars.

The median net worth of women is substantially lower than that of men in all quintiles. The largest difference in percentage is found in the lowest 20% quintile where the median net worth of women is 78.3% lower than that of men. The differences in percentage of median net worth between women and men decrease as quintiles increase.

CHAPTER 5: HOUSING

This chapter examines housing conditions of adult women and men using the following three indicators:

- 1) quality and affordability of housing;
- 2) homelessness; and
- 3) discrimination in housing.³⁷

“Adequate housing” is a human right identified in section 11 of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights.

Indicator One: Quality and affordability of housing

This indicator looks at quality and affordability of housing using the following measures:

- core housing need;
- housing in need of major repair;
- expenditure of more than 30% of before-tax income household on housing; and
- expenditure of more than 50% of before-tax household income on housing.

Core housing need

The Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation uses the concept of “core housing need,” which comprises the following elements:

- the physical condition of the dwelling, which determines the adequacy of shelter (e.g. whether housing is in need of major repairs);
- the size of the dwelling, or the potential crowding situation in the dwelling (e.g. whether the housing has sufficient bedrooms for the size and make-up of the occupying household); and
- affordability, which is the value in relation to typical rents in the area. It refers to whether the housing costs are less than 30% of before-tax household income.

The Corporation has established standards for each of these elements. “A household is said to be in core housing need if its housing fails to meet one of these standards and if it is unable to pay the median rent for alternative local housing meeting all standards without spending 30% or more of its before-tax income”.³⁸

³⁷ This indicator refers to discrimination when looking for a place to live or when renting or buying a home.

³⁸Luffman, Jacqueline. (2006). Measuring Housing Affordability. *Perspectives on Labour and Income*. Vol. 7. No. 11. Catalogue No. 75-001-XIE, page 16.

Table 5.1: Proportion of adults living in households in core housing need by age group and sex – reference year 2006

Age group	Women	Men	+/-
15 to 29	11.9%	10.0%	1.9%
30 to 44	11.7%	9.3%	2.4%
45 to 64	9.3%	8.1%	1.2%
65+	14.0%	7.4%	6.6%
Total adult population (15+)	11.3%	8.8%	2.6%

Source: Adapted from Canadian Mortgage and Housing Corporation (census-based housing indicators and data)
All percentages are rounded to one decimal point.

The proportion of women living in households in core housing need is higher than that of men in all age groups. The largest difference is found in the 65+ age group, where the proportion of women living in core housing need is 6.6% higher than that of men.

Housing in need of major repair

Table 5.2: Proportion of adults who live in housing that need major repairs by age group and sex – reference year 2006

Age group	Women	Men	+/-
15 to 54	8.0%	7.8%	0.2%
55+	5.9%	6.0%	-0.1%
Total adult population (15+)	7.4%	7.3%	0.1%

Source: 2006 Census of Population.
All percentages are rounded to one decimal point.
Missing values are excluded.

A slightly higher proportion of women aged 15 to 54 live in housing that need major repairs compared to men of the same age group.

Expenditure of more than 30% of before-tax household income on housing

Table 5.3: Proportion of adults who spend more than 30% of their before-tax household income on housing³⁹ by age group and sex – reference year 2006

Age group	Women	Men	+/-
15 to 24	50.7%	44.8%	5.9%
25 to 54	28.2%	20.7%	7.5%
55 to 64	29.1%	16.4%	12.7%
65+	35.0%	14.9%	20.1%
Total adult population (15+)	31.1%	19.4%	11.7%

Source: 2006 Census of Population.

All percentages are rounded to one decimal point.

Missing values are excluded.

The proportion of women who spend more than 30% of their before-tax household income on housing is notably higher than that of men in all age groups. Furthermore, the differences in proportions increase as age increases. The largest difference is found in the 65+ age group where the proportion of women is more than twice that of men.

³⁹ It should be noted that not all individuals spending more than 30% of their before-tax income on housing are necessarily experiencing housing affordability problems. This is particularly true of households with high incomes.

Expenditure of more than 50% of before-tax household income on housing

Table 5.4: Proportion of adults who spend more than 50% of before-tax household income on housing⁴⁰ by age group and sex – reference year 2006

Age group	Women	Men	+/-
15 to 24	29.0%	24.6%	4.4%
25 to 54	12.3%	9.0%	3.3%
55 to 64	14.1%	7.8%	6.3%
65+	11.4%	4.4%	7.0%
Total adult population (15+)	13.2%	8.3%	4.9%

Source: 2006 Census of Population.

All percentages are rounded to one decimal point.

Missing values are excluded.

The proportion of women who spend more than 50% of their before-tax household income on housing is higher than that of men in all age groups. The largest difference is found in the 65+ age group, where the proportion of women is more than twice that of men.

Indicator Two: Homelessness

This indicator looks at adults who have experienced homelessness.

Table 5.5: Proportion of adults who have experienced homelessness by age group and sex – reference year 2009

Age group	Women	Men	+/-
15 to 54	1.9%	2.2%	-0.3%
55 to 64	1.1%	3.3%	-2.2%
65+	0.5%	1.9%	-1.4%
Total adult population (15+)	1.5%	2.3%	-0.8%

Source: 2009 General Social Survey, Cycle 23: Victimization.

All percentages are rounded to one decimal point.

Missing values are excluded.

The proportion of women who have experienced homelessness is slightly lower than that of men in all age groups.

⁴⁰ It should be noted that not all individuals spending more than 50% of their before-tax income on housing are necessarily experiencing housing affordability problems. This is particularly true of households with high incomes.

Indicator Three: Discrimination in housing

Table 5.6: Proportion of adults who report discrimination in housing in the last five years by age group and sex – reference year 2009

Age group	Women	Men	+/-
15 to 54	11.0%	7.7%	3.3%
55+	4.5%	7.4%	-2.9%
Total adult population (15+)	8.8%	6.4%	2.4%

Source: 2009 General Social Survey, Cycle 23: Victimization.
All percentages are rounded to one decimal point.
Missing values are excluded.

The proportion of women aged 15 to 54 who report discrimination in housing is higher than that of men. The reverse is true when looking at the 55+ age group.

CHAPTER 6: HEALTH

The *Canada Health Act* emphasizes that "...continued access to quality health care without financial or other barriers will be critical to maintaining and improving the health and well-being of Canadians."⁴¹

The International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (article 12) provides that States Parties recognize the "right of everyone to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health."

This chapter examines health issues for adult women and men using the following seven indicators:

Article 12 of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women states women should have access to the same level of health care services as men.

- 1) access to health services;
- 2) body mass index;
- 3) life expectancy;
- 4) mental health;
- 5) confidence in the health care system;
- 6) impacts of health conditions on work; and
- 7) discrimination when dealing with public hospital or health care workers.

Indicator One: Access to health services

Access to health services is a central indicator for well-being. It is a pillar of the *Canada Health Act* and a direct indicator of Canadians' fundamental rights to universal health care.⁴²

The following measures are used to document this indicator:

- unmet health care needs;
- reason for not receiving necessary health care;
- access to a regular doctor; and
- reason for not having access to a regular medical doctor.

⁴¹*Canada Health Act*, R.S.C., 1985, c. C-6.

⁴² Canadian Human Rights Commission. (2010). *Framework for Documenting Equal Rights*.

Unmet health care needs

Table 6.1: Proportion of adults who report unmet health care needs by age group and sex – reference year 2010

Age group	Women	Men	+/-
15 to 54	15.2%	10.8%	4.4%
55+	9.6%	9.4%	0.2%
Total adult population (15+)	13.4%	10.3%	3.1%

Source: 2010 Canadian Community Health Surveys – Annual Component.
All percentages are rounded to one decimal point.
Missing values are excluded.

The proportion of women who report unmet health care needs is higher than that of men in all age groups.

Reason for not receiving necessary health care

Table 6.2: Proportion of adults who report why they did not receive necessary health care by reason, age group and sex – reference year 2010

Reason	15 to 54			55+			Total adult population (15+)		
	Women	Men	+/-	Women	Men	+/-	Women	Men	+/-
Not available in the area	11.4%	8.1%	3.3%	9.7%	11.5%	-1.8%	11.0%	9.1%	1.9%
Not available at the time needed	19.5%	11.7%	7.8%	19.9%	19.6%	0.3%	19.6%	13.9%	5.7%
Waiting time too long	34.7%	42.5%	-7.8%	39.0%	40.6%	-1.6%	35.7%	42.0%	-6.3%
Cost	9.6%	8.5% ^E	1.1% ^E	9.6%	8.7% ^E	0.9% ^E	9.6%	8.6%	1.0%

Source: 2010 Canadian Community Health Surveys – Annual Component.
All percentages are rounded to one decimal point.
Missing values are excluded.
^E Use with caution.

Women are proportionally more likely than men, across all age groups, to report that the reason they did not receive necessary health care is because health care was not available at the time they needed it or because of cost. Men on the other hand are proportionally more likely to report that the waiting time was too long across all age groups.

The proportion of women aged 15 to 54 who report that the reason they did not receive necessary health care is because health care was not available in the area is higher than that of men in the same age group. The reverse is true when looking at women and men aged 55+.

Access to a regular medical doctor

Table 6.3: Proportion of adults aged 15+ who report not having a regular medical doctor by sex – reference year 2011

Women	Men	+/-
11.2%	19.8%	-8.6%

Source: 2011 Canadian Community Health Surveys – Annual Component.
All percentages are rounded to one decimal point.
Missing values are excluded.

The proportion of women who report not having a regular medical doctor is 8.6% lower than that of men.

Reason for not having access to a regular medical doctor

Table 6.4: Proportion of adults aged 15+ who report on the reason for not having a regular medical doctor by reason and sex – reference year 2011

Reason	Women	Men	+/-
No medical doctor available in the area	20.3%	13.4%	6.9%
No medical doctor taking new patients	22.3%	20.6%	1.7%

Source: 2011 Canadian Community Health Surveys – Annual Component.
All percentages are rounded to one decimal point.
Missing values are excluded.

When looking at the reason why adults do not have a regular medical doctor, the proportion of women who report that no medical doctor is available in the area or no medical doctor is taking new patients is respectively 6.9% and 1.7% higher than that of men.

Indicator Two: Body mass index

This indicator looks at the body mass index (BMI) of adults. BMI data comes from the 2011 Canadian Community Health Survey where respondents were asked to self-report their weight and height. This information was then used by Statistics Canada to calculate the person's BMI.⁴³

Table 6.5: BMI of adults aged 18+ by BMI category and sex – reference year 2011

BMI category	Women	Men	+/-
Underweight	4.0%	F	F
Normal weight	51.8%	38.9%	12.9%
Overweight	27.4%	40.2%	-12.8%
Obese - Class I	11.2%	15.4%	-4.2%
Obese - Class II	3.8%	3.3%	0.5%
Obese - Class III	1.9%	1.1% ^E	0.8% ^E

Source: 2011 Canadian Community Health Surveys – Annual Component.

All percentages are rounded to one decimal point.

Missing values are excluded.

^E Use with caution.

F Too unreliable to be published.

A substantially higher proportion of women are classified as being of “normal weight” compared to men. The proportion of women who are classified as being “overweight” is substantially lower than that of men.

The proportion of women who are in the “Obese – Class I” is slightly lower than that of men, while the reverse is true when looking at the “Obese – Class II” and “Obese – Class III” categories.

⁴³ The variable assigns adult respondents aged 18 and over, excluding women aged 18 to 49 who were pregnant or did not answer the pregnancy question, to one of the following categories, according to their BMI:

- Underweight (BMI less than 18.50): increased health risk
- Normal weight (BMI between 18.50 and 24.99): least health risk
- Overweight (BMI between 25.00 and 29.99): increased health risk
- Obese - class I (BMI between 30.00 and 34.99): high health risk
- Obese - class II (BMI between 35.00 and 39.99): very high health risk
- Obese - class III (BMI above 40.00): extremely high health risk

Indicator Three: Life expectancy

Life expectancy shows the number of years a person would be expected to live on the basis of the mortality statistics for a given observation period. It allows for reliable comparisons of the overall state of health of a population over time and among countries, and is a measure of overall quality of life.⁴⁴

Table 6.6: Life expectancy at birth and at age 65 by sex – reference years 2007/2009

Life expectancy (in years)	Women	Men	+/-
At birth	83.3	78.8	4.5
At age 65	21.6	18.5	3.1

Source: Adapted from CANSIM table 102-0512.

Women have a longer life expectancy at birth and at age 65 than men.

⁴⁴ Statistics Canada. (2007). *Health Indicators*. Catalogue. No. 82-221-XIE.

Indicator Four: Mental health

This report considers mental health as a separate health indicator and looks at self-reported mental health. An individual's perception of his or her mental health is considered to be a predictor of actual health status, complementing other health status indicators.⁴⁵ In addition, although awareness of mental health-related disabilities is increasing, people with mental health problems continue to face stigma, as well as barriers to employment and access to services.

This indicator looks at the following:

- life stress;
- work-related stress;
- mood disorder; and
- anxiety disorder.

Life stress

Table 6.7: Proportion of adults aged 15+ who report on their level of life stress by level of stress and sex – reference year 2011

Level of life stress	Women	Men	+/-
Not at all stressful	9.8%	13.6%	-3.8%
Not very stressful	23.0%	23.4%	-0.4%
A bit stressful	42.1%	40.8%	1.3%
Quite a bit stressful	21.5%	18.7%	2.8%
Extremely stressful	3.7%	3.5%	0.2%

Source: 2011 Canadian Community Health Surveys – Annual Component.
All percentages are rounded to one decimal point.
Missing values are excluded.

Women are proportionally less likely than men to report their level of life stress as being “not at all stressful.”

⁴⁵Health Canada. (2006). *Healthy Canadians: A Federal Report on Comparable Health Indicators 2006*.

Work-related stress

Table 6.8: Proportion of adults aged 15+ who report on their work-related stress by level of stress and sex – reference year 2011

Level of work-related stress	Women	Men	+/-
Not at all stressful	9.0%	11.1%	-2.1%
Not very stressful	19.4%	19.6%	-0.2%
A bit stressful	41.2%	42.2%	-1.0%
Quite a bit stressful	24.8%	22.5%	2.3%
Extremely stressful	5.6%	4.5%	1.1%

Source: 2011 Canadian Community Health Surveys – Annual Component.

All percentages are rounded to one decimal point.

Missing values are excluded.

A slightly larger proportion of women report that their work is “quite a bit stressful” or “extremely stressful.”

Mood disorder

Table 6.9: Proportion of adults aged 15+ who report having a diagnosed mood disorder by sex – reference year 2011

Women	Men	+/-
9.6%	5.1%	4.5%

Source: 2011 Canadian Community Health Surveys – Annual Component.

All percentages are rounded to one decimal point.

Missing values are excluded.

Women are proportionally more likely to report having a diagnosed mood disorder than men.

Anxiety disorder

Table 6.10: Proportion of adults aged 15+ who report having a diagnosed anxiety disorder by sex – reference year 2011

Women	Men	+/-
8.1%	4.8%	3.3%

Source: 2011 Canadian Community Health Surveys – Annual Component.

All percentages are rounded to one decimal point.

Missing values are excluded.

The proportion of women who report having a diagnosed anxiety disorder is higher than that of men.

Indicator Five: Confidence in the health care system

Table 6.11: Proportion of adults who report on their level of confidence in the health care system by level of confidence, age group and sex – reference year 2008

Level of confidence	15 to 24			25 to 54			55 to 64			65+			Total adult population (15+)		
	Women	Men	+/-	Women	Men	+/-	Women	Men	+/-	Women	Men	+/-	Women	Men	+/-
Great deal of confidence	24.6%	29.7%	-5.0%	18.0%	19.5%	-1.5%	18.9%	25.0%	-6.1%	29.8%	33.4%	-3.6%	21.2%	24.0%	-2.8%
Quite a lot of confidence	57.2%	54.6%	2.6%	55.2%	53.9%	1.3%	51.4%	51.0%	0.4%	46.3%	46.1%	0.2%	53.5%	52.5%	1.0%
Not very much confidence	15.7%	13.8%	1.9%	23.2%	23.0%	0.2%	25.5%	20.8%	4.7%	20.7%	17.7%	3.0%	21.9%	20.4%	1.5%
No confidence at all	2.5%	1.9%	0.6%	3.6%	3.7%	-0.1%	4.3%	3.2%	1.1%	3.2%	2.8%	0.4%	3.4%	3.2%	0.2%

Source: 2008 General Social Survey, Cycle 22: Social Networks.
 All percentages are rounded to one decimal point.
 Missing values are excluded.

Women are proportionally less likely to report a “great deal of confidence” in the health care system than men in all age groups.

Indicator Six: Impacts of health conditions on work

Table 6.12: Proportion of adults who report they missed any days of work in the past 3 months because of a chronic health condition⁴⁶ by age group and sex – reference year 2010

Age group	Women	Men	+/-
15 to 54	7.4%	3.8%	3.6%
55+	4.9%	5.7%	-0.8%
Total adult population (15+)	6.9%	4.1%	2.8%

Source: 2010 Canadian Community Health Surveys (CCHS) – Annual Component.

All percentages are rounded to one decimal point.

Missing values are excluded.

The proportion of women aged 15 to 54 who report missing any days at work in the last 3 months because of a chronic condition is higher than that of men. The reverse is true when looking at women and men aged 55+.

⁴⁶ Chronic health condition such as asthma, arthritis, high blood pressure, diabetes, etc.

Indicator Seven: Discrimination when dealing with public hospital or health care workers

Table 6.13: Proportion of adults who report discrimination when dealing with public hospital or health care workers by age group and sex – reference year 2009

Age group	Women	Men	+/-
15 to 54	14.2%	6.6%	7.6%
55+	16.5%	9.2%	7.3%
Total adult population (15+)	14.7%	7.1%	7.6%

Source: 2009 General Social Survey, Cycle 23: Victimization.
All percentages are rounded to one decimal point.
Missing values are excluded.

The proportion of women who report discrimination when dealing with public hospital or health care workers is substantially higher than that of men across both age groups. The difference is 7.3% in the 15 to 54 age group and 7.6% in the 55+ age group.

CHAPTER 7: JUSTICE AND SAFETY

This chapter looks at how adult women and men fare in terms of treatment in the administration of justice and in terms of their personal safety. Ten indicators are used:

- 1) experience with the justice system;
- 2) confidence in the justice system;
- 3) contact with the police;
- 4) confidence in the police;
- 5) discrimination when dealing with the police or in courts;
- 6) domestic violence;
- 7) hate crimes;
- 8) victim of crime;
- 9) vulnerability to crime, and
- 10) admission to shelters.

Human rights apply to all individuals, including those who have been detained, arrested, charged, convicted and imprisoned. Equality of treatment in the administration of justice should be reflected in all aspects of the experience of persons who come into contact with the criminal justice system. In addition, international law sets standards on how individuals must be treated in the administration of justice and also guarantees the right to life and the security of the person.

For more information, see: United Nations. (2005). *Implementation of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights – Canada*.

Indicator One: Experience with the justice system

The power of the State to arrest, detain and punish is a closely scrutinized one, and one that is subject to many restrictions under Canadian constitutional law, criminal law and international human rights law. National and international laws require equal treatment, without discrimination, for those who come in contact with the justice system.

Four measures are used to document this indicator:

- contact with the justice system;
- custodial remand;
- decision rendered by the justice system; and
- parole.

Contact with the justice system

Table 7.1: Proportion of adults who had any contact with the Canadian criminal courts by age group and sex – reference year 2009

Age group	Women	Men	+/-
15 to 24	12.7%	16.4%	-3.7%
25 to 54	19.5%	28.7%	-9.2%
55 to 64	21.2%	31.0%	-9.8%
65+	11.9%	24.2%	-12.3%
Total adult population (15+)	17.4%	26.3%	-8.9%

Source: 2009 General Social Survey, Cycle 23: Victimization.
 All percentages are rounded to one decimal point.
 Missing values are excluded.

The proportion of women who have had contact with Canadian criminal courts is lower than that of men in all age groups. Differences increase with age.

Custodial remand⁴⁷

Table 7.2: Median⁴⁸ number of days in custodial remand for adults aged 18+ by type of offence and sex – reference year 2010

Type of offence	Women	Men	+/-
Total offences	106	120	-14
Total Criminal Code offences	100	119	-19
Criminal Code offences (without traffic)	99	114	-15
Crimes against the person	128	162	-34
Crimes against property	92	103	-11
Administration of justice ¹	71	66	5
Other Criminal Code offences ²	130	148	-18
Criminal Code traffic offences ³	116	155	-39
Other federal statutes offences ⁴	147	120	27

Source: Adult Criminal Courts from the adult component of the Integrated Criminal Court Survey. Adapted from CANSIM table 252-0055.

¹ Includes offences such as breach of probation, fail to comply with order, etc.

² Includes offences related to weapons, prostitution, disturbing the peace and residual criminal code offences.

³ Includes impaired driving and other criminal code traffic offences.

⁴ Other federal statutes offences refer to offences against Canadian Federal Statutes, such as the *Customs Act*, *Employment Insurance Act*, *Firearm Act*, *Food and Drugs Act*, *Income Tax Act*, *Controlled Drugs and Substance Act* and the *Narcotic Control Regulations*. This offence category excludes Criminal Code of Canada offences.

With the exception of offences related to other federal statutes and to the administration of justice, the number of days in custodial remand in days is lower for women compared to men for all types of offence.

⁴⁷ Custodial remand refers to the period when a person is held in custody awaiting a further court appearance.

⁴⁸ The mid-point of the number of days taken to complete a case, from the first to last court appearance.

Decisions rendered by the justice system

Table 7.3: Decisions rendered by the justice system for adults aged 18+ by type of decision and sex⁴⁹ – reference years 2011/2012

Type of decision	Women	Men	+/-
Guilty	38.2%	42.5%	-4.3%
Acquitted	2.7%	3.6%	-1.0%
Stayed or withdrawn	57.3%	52.1%	5.2%
Other decisions	1.8%	1.8%	0.0%

Source: Adult Criminal Courts from the adult component of the Integrated Criminal Court Survey. Adapted from CANSIM table 252-0053.

All percentages are rounded to one decimal point.

The proportion of women who are either found “guilty” or “acquitted” is lower than that of men.

Table 7.4: Decisions for total criminal code-related charges for adults aged 18+ by type of decision and sex⁵⁰ – reference years 2011/2012

Type of decision	Women	Men	+/-
Guilty	38.6%	41.8%	-3.2%
Acquitted	2.5%	3.8%	-1.3%
Stayed or withdrawn	57.4%	52.9%	4.5%
Other decisions	1.5%	1.5%	0.0%

Source: Adult Criminal Courts from the adult component of the Integrated Criminal Court Survey. Adapted from CANSIM table 252-0053.

All percentages are rounded to one decimal point.

The proportion of women who are either found “guilty” or “acquitted”, is lower than that of men.

⁴⁹ Sex is determined on the basis of the accused name in Quebec, producing a relatively higher rate of sex unknown and information on the sex of the accused is not available for Manitoba. In addition, charges and cases where sex of the accused is unknown or where the accused is a company are excluded.

⁵⁰ Ibid

Parole

Table 7.5: Rates of parole granted by type of release and sex – reference years 2010/2011

Type of release	Women	Men	+/-
Day parole ¹	80.6%	60.8%	19.8%
Full parole ²	61.5%	38.1%	23.4%

Source: Public Safety Canada, *Corrections and Conditional Release Statistical Overview* (2011 Annual Report). Adapted from table D1.

All percentages are rounded to one decimal point.

¹ Day parole is a type of conditional release granted by the Parole Board of Canada whereby offenders are permitted to participate in community-based activities in preparation for full parole or statutory release. The conditions require offenders to return nightly to an institution or half-way house unless otherwise authorized by the Parole Board of Canada.

² Full parole is a type of conditional release granted by the Parole Board of Canada whereby the remainder of the sentence is served under supervision in the community.

The proportion of women who were granted either day parole or full parole is substantially higher than that of men.

Table 7.6: Percentage of “sentence served” at time of parole by type of release and sex – reference years 2010/2011

Type of release	Women	Men	+/-
First day parole ¹	29.2%	31.7%	-2.5%
First full parole ²	36.6%	37.9%	-1.3%

Source: Public Safety Canada, *Corrections and Conditional Release Statistical Overview* (2011 Annual Report). Adapted from table D4.

All percentages are rounded to one decimal point.

¹ Day parole is a type of conditional release granted by the Parole Board of Canada whereby offenders are permitted to participate in community-based activities in preparation for full parole or statutory release. The conditions require offenders to return nightly to an institution or half-way house unless otherwise authorized by the Parole Board of Canada.

² Full parole is a type of conditional release granted by the Parole Board of Canada whereby the remainder of the sentence is served under supervision in the community.

Women tend to have served a slightly lower percentage of their sentence before being granted either first day parole or first full parole.

Indicator Two: Confidence in the justice system

This indicator looks at the level of confidence reported by adults in the justice system and courts.

Table 7.7: Proportion of adults who report on their level of confidence in the justice system and courts by degree of confidence, age group and sex – reference year 2009

Level of confidence	15 to 24			25 to 54			55 to 64			65+			Total adult population (15+)		
	Women	Men	+/-	Women	Men	+/-	Women	Men	+/-	Women	Men	+/-	Women	Men	+/-
Great deal of confidence	11.8%	18.0%	-6.2%	11.0%	14.0%	-3.0%	7.4%	13.6%	-6.2%	13.5%	14.7%	-1.2%	11.0%	14.7%	-3.7%
Quite a lot of confidence	58.0%	59.8%	-1.8%	49.6%	45.5%	4.1%	45.8%	43.7%	2.1%	41.4%	39.5%	1.9%	49.0%	46.8%	2.2%
Not very much confidence	27.9%	19.2%	8.7%	33.7%	33.1%	0.6%	39.0%	34.9%	4.1%	38.5%	36.9%	1.6%	34.4%	31.5%	2.9%
No confidence at all	2.3%	3.0%	-0.7%	5.7%	7.5%	-1.8%	7.8%	7.7%	0.1%	6.5%	8.9%	-2.4%	5.6%	6.9%	-1.3%

Source: 2009 General Social Survey, Cycle 23: Victimization.

All percentages are rounded to one decimal point.

Missing values are excluded.

The proportion of women who report having a “great deal of confidence” in the justice system and courts is lower than that of men in all age groups.

Indicator Three: Contact with the police

This indicator looks at adults who came into contact with the police either for a traffic violation, as victims of crime, or when being arrested.

Table 7.8: Proportion of adults who came into contact with the police by type of contact, age group and sex – reference year 2009

Type of contact	15 to 54			55+			Total adult population (15+)		
	Women	Men	+/-	Women	Men	+/-	Women	Men	+/-
For a traffic violation	12.5%	21.3%	-8.9%	5.2%	12.3%	-7.2%	10.1%	18.7%	-8.6%
As a victim of crime	6.9%	8.3%	-1.4%	3.5%	3.5%	0.0%**	5.8%	6.9%	-1.1%
By being arrested	0.6%	1.8%	-1.2%	0.1%	0.3%	-0.3%	0.4%	1.3%	-0.9%

Source: 2009 General Social Survey, Cycle 23: Victimization

All percentages are rounded to one decimal point.

Missing values are excluded.

** Difference between women and men is not statistically significant at 0.05.

In general, there are proportionally fewer women who came into contact with the police either for a traffic violation, as a victim of crime, or when being arrested.

Indicator Four: Confidence in the police

This indicator looks at the degree of confidence adults have in the police.

Table 7.9: Proportion of adults who report on their degree of confidence in the police by degree of confidence, age group and sex – reference year 2009

Degree of confidence	15 to 24			25 to 54			55 to 64			65+			Total adult population (15+)		
	Women	Men	+/-	Women	Men	+/-	Women	Men	+/-	Women	Men	+/-	Women	Men	+/-
Great deal of confidence	21.8%	21.2%	0.6%	30.0%	29.2%	0.8%	33.5%	34.0%	-0.5%	41.7%	40.8%	0.9%	32.2%	30.2%	2.0%
Quite a lot of confidence	59.2%	61.7%	-2.5%	55.4%	53.7%	1.7%	52.8%	51.2%	1.6%	48.7%	47.7%	1.0%	54.5%	53.8%	0.7%
Not very much confidence	17.1%	13.1%	4.0%	12.9%	14.3%	-1.4%	12.2%	12.3%	-0.1%	8.3%	9.7%	-1.4%	12.7%	13.2%	-0.5%
No confidence at all	1.9%	4.0%	-2.1%	1.7%	2.8%	-1.1%	1.5%	2.5%	-1.0%	1.3%	1.8%	-0.5%	1.6%	2.8%	-1.2%

Source: 2009 General Social Survey, Cycle 23: Victimization.

All percentages are rounded to one decimal point.

Missing values are excluded.

The most notable observation is that women are proportionally less likely to report “no confidence at all” in the police than men across all age groups.

Indicator Five: Discrimination when dealing with the police or courts

Table 7.10: Proportion of adults who report being discriminated against when dealing with the police or courts by age group and sex – reference year 2009

Age group	Women	Men	+/-
15 to 54	6.5%	14.2%	-7.7%
55+	5.6%	10.8%	-5.2%
Total adult population (15+)	6.3%	13.6%	-7.3%

Source: 2009 General Social Survey, Cycle 23: Victimization.

All percentages are rounded to one decimal point.

Missing values are excluded.

The proportion of women who report being discriminated against when dealing with the police or courts is much lower than that of men in all age groups.

Indicator Six: Domestic violence

This indicator looks at domestic violence using the following measures:

- emotional abuse (lifetime) by current spouse/partner;
- financial abuse (lifetime) by current spouse/partner;
- physical violence by current spouse/partner in the past five years;
- emotional abuse (lifetime) by ex-spouse/partner;
- financial abuse (lifetime) by ex-spouse/partner; and
- physical violence by ex-spouse/partner in the past five years.

Emotional abuse (lifetime) by current spouse/partner

Table 7.11: Proportion of victimized adults who report emotional abuse during their lifetime by current spouse/partner by type of emotional abuse, age group and sex – reference year 2009

Type of emotional abuse	15 to 54			55 to 64			65+			Total adult population (15+)		
	Women	Men	+/-	Women	Men	+/-	Women	Men	+/-	Women	Men	+/-
Limits contact with family or friends	2.2%	2.6%	-0.4%	1.3%	1.6%	-0.3%	1.7%	2.5%	-0.8%	2.0%	2.4%	-0.5%
Puts you down or calls you names to make you feel bad	3.5%	2.8%	0.7%	4.2%	1.5%	2.7%	4.8%	3.4%	1.4%	3.8%	2.6%	1.1%
Does not want you to talk to other women or men	3.1%	6.2%	-3.1%	1.7%	1.5%	0.2%	3.0%	1.9%	1.1%	2.8%	4.6%	-1.8%
Demands to know who you are with and where you are at all times	3.9%	6.8%	-3.0%	2.1%	4.3%	-2.3%	5.1%	3.4%	1.6%	3.7%	5.8%	-2.1%

Source: 2009 General Social Survey, Cycle 23: Victimization.
 All percentages are rounded to one decimal point.
 Missing values are excluded.

The proportion of women who report that their current spouse/partner put them down or called them names to make them feel bad, is higher than that of men across all age groups. The opposite is true when looking at the “limits contact with family and friends” category.

Table 7.12: Proportion of victimized adults aged 15+ who report emotional abuse during their lifetime by current spouse/partner by type of emotional abuse and sex – reference year 2009

Type of emotional abuse	Women	Men	+/-
Harms or threats to harm someone close to you	0.5%	0.3%	0.2%
Damages or destroys your possessions or property	0.7%	0.3%	0.4%

Source: 2009 General Social Survey, Cycle 23: Victimization.
 All percentages are rounded to one decimal point.
 Missing values are excluded.

A slightly higher proportion of women report that their current spouse/partner harmed or threatened to harm someone close to them, or damaged or destroyed their possessions or property.

Financial abuse (lifetime) by current spouse/partner

Table 7.13: Proportion of victimized adults aged 15+ who report that their current spouse/partner prevents them from knowing about or having access to the family income during their lifetime, even if they asks by sex – reference year 2009

Women	Men	+/-
1.1%	0.5%	0.6%

Source: 2009 General Social Survey, Cycle 23: Victimization.
 All percentages are rounded to one decimal point.
 Missing values are excluded.

The proportion of women who report that their current spouse/partner prevents them from knowing about or having access to the family income is slightly higher than that of men.

Physical violence by current spouse/partner in the past five years

Table 7.14: Proportion of victimized adults aged 15+ who self-report physical violence by current spouse/partner in the past five years by type of physical violence and sex – reference year 2009

Type of physical violence	Women	Men	+/-
Threats to hit you with their fist or anything else that could have hurt you	1.5%	1.9%	-0.4%
Throws anything at you that could have hurt you	1.2%	2.0%	-0.8%
Pushes, grabs or shoves you in a way that could have hurt you	2.4%	1.6%	0.8%
Slaps you	0.7%	1.8%	-1.1%
Kicks, bites or hits you with their fist	0.4%	1.4%	-1.0%
Hit s you with something that could have hurt you	0.4%	0.6%	-0.2%

Source: 2009 General Social Survey, Cycle 23: Victimization.
 All percentages are rounded to one decimal point.
 Missing values are excluded.

The proportion of women who reported being victims of physical violence by their current spouse/partner is slightly lower than that of men in all types of physical violence with the exception of the third category.

Emotional abuse (lifetime) by ex-spouse/partner

Table 7.15: Proportion of victimized adults who report emotional abuse in their lifetime by ex-spouse/partner by type of emotional abuse, age group and sex – reference year 2009

Type of emotional abuse	15 to 24			25 to 64			65+			Total adult population (15+)		
	Women	Men	+/-	Women	Men	+/-	Women	Men	+/-	Women	Men	+/-
Tried to limit contact with family or friends	29.4%	24.4%	5.0%	20.6%	20.6%	0.0%**	15.4%	13.3%	2.1%	26.6%	22.3%	4.3%
Put you down or called you names to make you feel bad	51.6%	33.5%	18.1%	41.9%	31.9%	10.0%	31.0%	20.3%	10.7%	48.1%	31.6%	16.5%
Did not want you to talk to other men or women	38.4%	36.4%	2.0%	25.4%	24.0%	1.4%	15.8%	14.2%	1.6%	34.1%	31.0%	3.0%
Demanded to know who you were with and where you were all the time	32.5%	29.9%	2.6%	16.4%	20.8%	-4.4%	14.5%	11.6%	2.9%	28.1%	25.7%	2.4%
Damaged or destroyed your possessions or property	26.8%	16.5%	10.3%	15.0%	12.3%	2.7%	11.9%	5.9%	6.0%	23.4%	14.3%	9.1%

Source: 2009 General Social Survey, Cycle 23: Victimization.

All percentages are rounded to one decimal point.

Missing values are excluded.

** Difference between women and men is not statistically significant at 0.05.

The proportion of women who report being victims of emotional abuse by their ex-spouse/partner is higher than that of men across all types of emotional abuse, except for the 25 to 64 age group where a higher proportion of men report receiving demands to know who they were with and where they were all the time.

Financial abuse (lifetime) ex-spouse/partner

Table 7.16: Proportion of victimized adults who report that their ex-spouse/partner prevented them from knowing about or having access to the family income during their lifetime, even if they asked by age group and sex – reference year 2009

Age group	Women	Men	+/-
15 to 54	20.1%	11.3%	8.8%
55 to 64	15.6%	10.7%	4.9%
65+	15.3%	5.8%	9.5%
Total adult population (15+)	18.9%	10.5%	8.3%

Source: 2009 General Social Survey, Cycle 23: Victimization.
 All percentages are rounded to one decimal point.
 Missing values are excluded.

The proportion of women who report that their ex-spouse/partner prevented them from knowing about or having access to the family income is higher than that of men across all age groups. The largest difference is found in the 65+ age group where the proportion of women is 9.5% higher than that of men.

Physical violence by ex-spouse/partner in the past five years

Table 7.17: Proportion of victimized adults aged 15+ who report physical violence by ex-spouse/partner in the past five years by type of physical violence and sex – reference year 2009

Type of physical violence	Women	Men	+/-
Threatened to hit you with their fist or anything else that could have hurt you	13.9%	9.0%	4.9%
Threw anything that could have hurt you	10.7%	9.8%	0.9%
Pushed, grabbed or shoved you in a way that could have hurt you	15.4%	7.2%	8.2%
Slapped you	7.3%	8.1%	-0.8%
Kicked, bit or hit you with their fist	6.3%	6.0%	0.3%
Hit you with something that could have hurt you	6.3%	5.7%	0.6%
Beat you	5.0%	2.1%	2.9%
Choked you	4.6%	0.9%	3.7%
Used or threatened to use a gun or knife on you	3.2%	1.0%	2.2%

Source: 2009 General Social Survey, Cycle 23: Victimization.
 All percentages are rounded to one decimal point.
 Missing values are excluded.

With the exception of being slapped, women are proportionally more likely to report having been victims of physical violence by their ex-spouse/partner for all types of physical violence than men.

Indicator Seven: Hate crimes

This indicator looks at adults who report being victims of hate crimes⁵¹ — crimes that the victim reports as being motivated by hate.

Table 7.18: Proportion of victimized adults who report hate crimes by age group and sex – reference year 2009

Age group	Women	Men	+/-
15 to 24	8.5%	4.9%	3.6%
25 to 54	3.8%	3.9%	-0.1%
55+	3.6%	2.3%	1.3%
Total adult population (15+)	4.9%	3.9%	1.0%

Source: 2009 General Social Survey, Cycle 23: Victimization.

All percentages are rounded to one decimal point.

Missing values are excluded.

The proportion of women in the 15 to 24 and 55+ age groups who report being victims of hate crimes is higher than that of men. The largest difference is found in the 15 to 24 age group, where the proportion of women is 3.6% higher than that of men.

Table 7.19: Proportion of victimized adults aged 15+ who report hate crimes related to their sex – reference year 2009

Women	Men	+/-
25.8%	6.8%	19.0%

Source: 2009 General Social Survey, Cycle 23: Victimization.

All percentages are rounded to one decimal point.

Missing values are excluded.

A substantially higher proportion of women compared to men report being victims of hate crimes that were related to their sex.

⁵¹ Respondent could have report more than one hate crimes.

Indicator Eight: Victim of crime

This indicator looks at victimized adults who report crime.

Table 7.20: Proportion of victimized adults aged 15+ who report at least one crime against them by type of crime and sex – reference year 2009

Type of crime ¹	Women	Men	+/-
Sexual assault ²	2.5%	1.4%	1.1%
Robbery ³	1.0%	1.7%	-0.7%
Assault ⁴	8.9%	12.5%	-3.6%
Threat ⁵	1.7%	4.0%	-2.3%
Break and enter ⁶	9.1%	9.7%	-0.6%
Motor vehicle theft ⁷	1.1%	1.6%	-0.5%
Theft of personal property ⁸	29.6%	24.8%	4.8%
Theft of household property ⁹	27.8%	30.0%	-2.2%
Vandalism ¹⁰	34.2%	33.8%	0.4%

Source: 2009 General Social Survey, Cycle 23: Victimization.

All percentages are rounded to one decimal point.

Missing values are excluded.

¹ Categories are mutually exclusive.

² Forced sexual activity, an attempt at forced sexual activity, or unwanted sexual touching, grabbing, kissing or fondling.

³ Theft in which the perpetrator had a weapon or there was violence or the threat of violence against the victim.

⁴ An attack (victim hit, slapped, grabbed, knocked down or beaten), a face-to-face threat of physical harm that the respondent believed would be carried out, or an incident with a weapon present. It excludes sexual assault.

⁵ Only includes threats that were face-to-face and that the respondent believed would be carried out.

⁶ Illegal entry into a residence or other building on the victim's property.

⁷ Theft of a car, truck, van, motorcycle, moped or other vehicle or part of a motor vehicle.

⁸ Theft of personal property such as money, credit cards, clothing, jewellery, a purse or a wallet. Unlike robbery, the perpetrator does not confront the victim.

⁹ Theft of household property such as liquor, bicycles, electronic equipment, tools or appliances.

¹⁰ Willful damage of personal or household property.

A higher proportion of women and men report being victims of “theft of personal property,” of “theft of household property” or of “vandalism.”

Table 7.21: Proportion of victimized adults aged 15+ who report on the most serious crime against them by type crime and sex – reference year 2009

Type of crime	Women	Men	+/-
Sexual assault ¹	2.0%	0.8%	1.2%
Robbery ²	0.7%	1.0%	-0.3%
Assault ³	2.4%	4.5%	2.1%
Break and enter ⁴	3.2%	3.2%	0.0%
Motor vehicle theft ⁵	2.5%	2.9%	-0.4%
Theft of personal property ⁶	7.2%	5.8%	1.4%
Theft of household property ⁷	4.1%	5.4%	-1.3%
Vandalism ⁸	3.3%	3.4%	0.1%

Source: 2009 General Social Survey, Cycle 23: Victimization.

All percentages are rounded to one decimal point.

Missing values are excluded.

¹ Excludes spousal/partner and ex-spousal/ex-partner abuse.

² Includes attempted robbery.

³ An attack (victim hit, slapped, grabbed, knocked down or beaten), a face-to-face threat of physical harm that the respondent believed would be carried out, or an incident with a weapon present. It excludes sexual assault and includes only threats that were face-to-face and that the respondent believed would be carried out.

⁴ Includes attempted break and enter.

⁵ Includes attempted theft of a motor vehicle, or theft or attempted theft of motor vehicle parts.

⁶ Includes attempted theft of personal property.

⁷ Includes attempted theft of household property such as liquor, bicycles, electronic equipment, tools or appliances.

⁸ Willful damage of personal or household property.

Women are proportionally more likely than men to report “sexual assault,” “assault,” “theft of personal property” or “vandalism” as the most serious crime against them.

Indicator Nine: Vulnerability to crime

This indicator looks at vulnerability to crime using the following measures:

- perceived vulnerability to crime when walking alone in one’s area after dark;
- perceived vulnerability to crime while waiting for or using public transportation alone after dark;
- perceived vulnerability to crime when alone at home in the evening or at night;
- personal safety from crime; and
- change in degree of crime in neighbourhood.

Perceived vulnerability to crime when walking alone in one’s area after dark

Table 7.22: Proportion of adults who report feeling unsafe when walking alone in their area after dark by level of safety, age group and sex – reference year 2009

Level of safety	15 to 54			55 to 64			65+			Total adult population (15+)		
	Women	Men	+/-	Women	Men	+/-	Women	Men	+/-	Women	Men	+/-
Very safe	26.4%	53.1%	-26.7%	22.8%	54.8%	-32.0%	15.1%	46.3%	-31.2%	24.0%	52.3%	-28.4%
Reasonably safe	48.9%	40.3%	8.6%	41.5%	37.8%	3.7%	26.0%	33.7%	-7.7%	43.9%	39.0%	4.9%
Somewhat unsafe	15.8%	4.8%	11.0%	16.7%	5.1%	11.6%	10.3%	6.3%	4.0%	15.0%	5.1%	9.9%
Very unsafe	4.8%	1.1%	3.7%	7.5%	1.1%	6.4%	9.2%	2.2%	7.0%	5.9%	1.3%	4.6%
Does not walk alone	4.1%	0.6%	3.5%	11.5%	1.1%	10.4%	39.5%	11.5%	28.0%	11.2%	2.3%	9.0%

Source: 2009 General Social Survey, Cycle 23: Victimization.
 All percentages are rounded to one decimal point.
 Missing values are excluded.

The proportion of women who report feeling “very unsafe” and “somewhat unsafe” when walking alone in their area after dark is notably higher than that of men in all age groups. Furthermore, more women report not walking alone in their area after dark than men, especially women in the 65+ age group.

Perceived vulnerability to crime while waiting for or using public transportation alone after dark

Table 7.23: Proportion of adults aged 15+ who report on their degree of worry while waiting for or using public transportation alone after dark by degree of worry and sex – reference year 2009

Degree of worry	Women	Men	+/-
Very worried	5.7%	1.4%	4.3%
Somewhat worried	52.0%	25.0%	27.0%
Not worried at all	42.4%	73.6%	-31.2%

Source: 2009 General Social Survey, Cycle 23: Victimization.
 All percentages are rounded to one decimal point.
 Missing values are excluded.

The proportion of women who report feeling “very worried” while waiting for or using public transportation alone after dark is 4.3% higher than men. As well, more than 50% of women reported being “somewhat worried” in these types of situations.

Perceived vulnerability to crime when alone at home in the evening or at night

Table 7.24: Proportion of adults who report on their degree of worry when alone at home in the evening or at night by degree of worry, age group and sex – reference year 2009

Degree of worry	15 to 64			65+			Total adult population (15+)		
	Women	Men	+/-	Women	Men	+/-	Women	Men	+/-
Very worried	1.9%	0.5%	1.4%	2.3%	0.3%	2.0%	1.9%	0.5%	1.5%
Somewhat worried	22.8%	9.1%	13.7%	15.1%	10.3%	4.7%	21.5%	9.3%	12.2%
Not worried at all	74.8%	90.0%	-15.2%	79.3%	88.5%	-9.1%	75.6%	89.8%	-14.2%
Never alone	0.6%	0.4%	0.2%	3.3%	0.9%	2.4%	1.1%	0.5%	0.6%

Source: 2009 General Social Survey, Cycle 23: Victimization.
 All percentages are rounded to one decimal point.
 Missing values are excluded.

The proportions of women who report feeling “very worried” or “somewhat worried” when alone at home in the evening or at night are higher than those of men in all age groups.

Personal safety from crime

Table 7.25: Proportion of adults who report on their degree of satisfaction regarding their personal safety from crime by degree of satisfaction, age group and sex – reference year 2009

Degree of satisfaction	15 to 64			65+			Total adult population (15+)		
	Women	Men	+/-	Women	Men	+/-	Women	Men	+/-
Very satisfied	41.7%	53.2%	-11.5%	46.4%	54.5%	-8.1%	42.5%	53.4%	-10.9%
Somewhat satisfied	50.4%	41.6%	8.8%	44.0%	40.2%	3.8%	49.3%	41.4%	7.9%
Somewhat dissatisfied	6.3%	3.6%	2.7%	6.3%	3.4%	2.9%	6.3%	3.6%	2.7%
Very dissatisfied	1.2%	1.3%	-0.1%	1.7%	1.0%	0.7%	0.6%	0.4%	0.2%

Source: 2009 General Social Survey, Cycle 23: Victimization.

All percentages are rounded to one decimal point.

Missing values are excluded.

A lower proportion of women report being “very satisfied” about their personal safety from crime compared to that of men in all age groups.

Change in degree of crime in neighbourhood

Table 7.26: Proportion of adults who report on changes in the degree of crime in their neighborhood during the last five years by degree of crime, age group and sex – reference year 2009

Degree of crime	15 to 24			25 to 54			55 to 64			65+			Total adult population (15+)		
	Women	Men	+/-	Women	Men	+/-	Women	Men	+/-	Women	Men	+/-	Women	Men	+/-
Increased	28.1%	23.3%	4.8%	31.7%	25.5%	6.2%	28.4%	23.3%	5.1%	28.2%	24.7%	3.5%	30.1%	24.7%	5.4%
Decreased	6.1%	7.1%	-1.0%	4.8%	6.7%	-1.9%	5.3%	9.3%	-4.0%	4.0%	6.7%	-2.7%	4.9%	7.1%	-2.2%
About the same	65.8%	69.6%	-3.8%	63.4%	67.8%	-4.4%	66.3%	67.4%	-1.1%	67.8%	68.6%	-0.8%	65.0%	68.2%	-3.2%

Source: 2009 General Social Survey, Cycle 23: Victimization.
 All percentages are rounded to one decimal point.
 Missing values are excluded.

Regardless of age, a higher proportion of women than men report that crime in their neighborhood increased in the last five years.

Indicator Ten: Admission to shelters

This indicator looks at the admission of victimized women and children to shelters.

Table 7.27: One-day snapshot of victimized women aged 15+ residing in shelters for reasons of abuse by reason – reference year 2010

Reason	Percentage of women residing in shelters
Physical abuse	15.4%
Sexual abuse	7.2%
Financial abuse	11.3%
Psychological abuse	18.9%
Threats	11.4%
Harassment	7.9%
Other abuse	2.8%
To protect children from physical abuse	3.6%
To protect children from sexual abuse	1.4%
To protect children from psychological abuse	6.9%
To protect children from threats	3.1%
To protect children from neglect	2.3%
To protect children from witnessing abuse of their mother	7.4%
Reasons unknown	0.5%

Source: 2010 Transition Home Survey. Adapted from CANSIM table 256-0014.

All percentages are rounded to one decimal point.

¹ Categories are not mutually exclusive. Respondents may have indicated multiple reasons for seeking shelter

Of the total victimized women who were residing in shelters in 2010: 18.9% were in shelters for reasons of psychological abuse, 15.4% were in shelters for reasons of physical abuse, and 11.4% were in shelters for reasons of threats.

CHAPTER 8: POLITICAL ENGAGEMENT AND SOCIAL INCLUSION

Engagement and social inclusion reflect political, civic involvement and social cohesion, and have direct implications for economic well-being.⁵²

Canadian legislation as well as article 25 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights recognize the right to vote and to participate in public life without discrimination.

This chapter focuses on three indicators:

- 1) political engagement;
- 2) social inclusion; and
- 3) discrimination in daily life.

Article 7 of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women states women should be equal to men in the political and public life.

Article 13 states that women should have the same right to participate in recreational activities, sports and all aspects of cultural life as men.

⁵² Putnam, R. (2000). *Bowling Alone: The Collapse and Revival of American Community*. New York, NY: Simon & Schuster.

Indicator One: Political engagement

Political engagement looks at adults who voted in the federal, provincial and local/municipal elections.

Table 8.1: Proportion of adults aged 18+ who voted in the elections by level of election, age group and sex – reference year 2008

Level of election	18 to 24			25 to 54			55 to 64			65+			Total adult population (18+)		
	Women	Men	+/-	Women	Men	+/-	Women	Men	+/-	Women	Men	+/-	Women	Men	+/-
Federal	44.5%	45.7%	-1.2%	71.0%	71.2%	-0.2%	87.0%	86.0%	1.0%	87.4%	80.2%	7.2%	73.4%	73.3%	0.1%
Provincial	43.4%	44.0%	-0.6%	71.0%	70.2%	0.8%	88.4%	87.2%	1.2%	89.2%	89.1%	0.1%	73.8%	72.6%	1.2%
Local/municipal	34.3%	29.0%	5.3%	58.0%	53.5%	4.5%	75.1%	73.8%	1.3%	79.8%	82.4%	-2.6%	61.8%	58.1%	3.7%

Source: 2008 General Social Survey, Cycle 22: Social Networks .
 All percentages are rounded to one decimal point.
 Missing values are excluded.

The largest difference in the voting patterns is found for women and men aged 65+ who voted in the federal election, where the proportion of women is 7.2% higher than that of men. It is interesting to note that the proportion of both women and men who voted in the federal, provincial and local/municipal elections increases as age increases.

Indicator Two: Social inclusion

This indicator looks at social inclusion using the following measures:

- sense of belonging to local community;
- volunteerism;
- participation in activities and/or civic groups; and
- contact with hate or violence on the Internet.

Sense of belonging to local community

Table 8.2: Proportion of adults who report their sense of belonging to their local community by sense of belonging, age group and sex – reference year 2008

Sense of belonging	15 to 24			25 to 54			55 to 64			65+			Total adult population (15+)		
	Women	Men	+/-	Women	Men	+/-	Women	Men	+/-	Women	Men	+/-	Women	Men	+/-
Very strong	13.6%	14.6%	-1.1%	20.8%	18.9%	1.9%	28.1%	27.9%	0.2%	33.8%	32.8%	1.0%	22.9%	21.4%	1.4%
Somewhat strong	53.5%	50.3%	3.2%	53.4%	53.5%	-0.1%	50.3%	52.0%	-1.7%	51.0%	51.4%	-0.5%	52.6%	52.4%	0.1%
Somewhat weak	22.8%	24.9%	-2.0%	18.1%	19.2%	-1.1%	15.1%	13.9%	1.1%	11.5%	10.8%	0.8%	17.3%	18.2%	-0.9%
Very weak	10.1%	10.2%	-0.1%	7.7%	8.4%	-0.7%	6.5%	6.1%	0.4%	3.7%	5.0%	-1.3%	7.7%	7.9%	-0.2%

Source: 2008 General Social Survey, Cycle 22: Social Networks.

All percentages are rounded to one decimal point.

Missing values are excluded.

Differences in proportions between women and men who report on their sense of belonging to their local community are minimal. However, it is interesting to note that the proportion of both women and men who report a “very strong” sense of belonging to their local community increases with age.

Volunteerism

Table 8.3: Proportion of adults who did volunteer work for an organization in the last 12 months by age group and sex – reference year 2010

Age group	Women	Men	+/-
15 to 24	49.4%	41.0%	8.4%
25 to 54	39.8%	35.1%	4.7%
55 to 64	38.5%	35.7%	2.8%
65+	34.5%	35.1%	-0.6%
Total adult population (15+)	40.2%	36.1%	4.0%

Source: 2010 General Social Survey, Cycle 24: Time Use (Time-Stress and Well-Being)
All percentages are rounded to one decimal point.
Missing values are excluded.

With the exception of the 65+ age group, women are proportionally more likely to do volunteer work than men.

Participation in activities and/or civic groups

Table 8.4: Proportion of adults who participated in at least one civic group⁵³ in the past 12 months by age group and sex – reference year 2008

Age group	Women	Men	+/-
15 to 24	66.9%	69.6%	-2.7%
25 to 54	65.0%	67.9%	-2.9%
55 to 64	62.8%	69.0%	-6.2%
65+	51.8%	60.7%	-8.9%
Total adult population (15+)	62.7%	67.3%	-4.6%

Source: 2008 General Social Survey, Cycle 22: Social Networks.
All percentages are rounded to one decimal point.
Missing values are excluded.

The proportion of women who participated in at least one civic group in the past 12 months is lower than that of men across all age groups.

⁵³Civic groups include unions or professional associations, political parties or groups, sports or recreational organizations, cultural, educational or hobby organizations, religion-affiliated groups, school groups, neighborhood, civic or community associations, service clubs, fraternal organizations, or other.

Table 8.5: Proportion of adults who participated in civic groups in the past 12 months by type of civic group, age group and sex – reference year 2008

Type of civic group	15 to 24			25 to 54			55 to 64			65+			Total adult population (15+)		
	Women	Men	+/-	Women	Men	+/-	Women	Men	+/-	Women	Men	+/-	Women	Men	+/-
Union or professional association	16.4%	16.9%	-0.6%	35.6%	38.9%	-3.3%	27.6%	37.7%	-10.1%	7.3%	16.5%	-9.3%	26.6%	31.8%	-5.2%
Political party or group	2.4%	4.7%	-2.3%	4.3%	5.9%	-1.6%	6.6%	10.3%	-3.6%	6.6%	11.4%	-4.8%	4.7%	7.1%	-2.4%
Sports or recreational organization ¹	35.8%	49.1%	-13.3%	27.0%	34.0%	-7.0%	19.5%	25.8%	-6.3%	15.4%	20.5%	-5.1%	25.3%	33.5%	-8.2%
Cultural, educational or hobby organization ²	25.7%	18.3%	7.4%	19.6%	18.0%	1.7%	23.9%	21.1%	2.8%	20.6%	18.8%	1.8%	21.4%	18.6%	2.8%
Religious-affiliated group ³	17.9%	11.5%	6.4%	16.2%	14.0%	2.2%	20.7%	17.4%	3.3%	23.6%	20.2%	3.4%	18.4%	14.9%	3.5%
School group, neighbourhood, civic or community association ⁴	34.5%	28.0%	6.4%	24.7%	16.0%	8.7%	17.8%	16.1%	1.7%	14.3%	13.4%	0.9%	23.5%	17.7%	5.8%
Service club or fraternal organization ⁵	4.1%	4.2%	-0.1%	6.3%	8.5%	-2.2%	13.0%	15.5%	-2.5%	14.6%	21.6%	-7.1%	8.3%	10.7%	-2.4%

Source: 2008 General Social Survey, Cycle 22: Social Networks.

All percentages are rounded to one decimal point.

Missing values are excluded.

¹Such as a hockey league, health club, or golf club.

²Such as a theatre group, book club or bridge club.

³Such as a church youth group or choir.

⁴Such as PTA, alumni, block parents or neighborhood watch.

⁵Such as Kiwanis, Knights of Columbus or the Legion.

Regardless of age, women are proportionally more likely than men to participate in: cultural, education or hobby organizations; religious-affiliated groups; and school groups, neighborhood, civic or community associations. On the other

hand, there are proportionally more men than women across all age groups who participate in: union or professional associations; political parties or groups; sports or recreational activities; or in service club or fraternal organizations.

Contact with hate or violence on the Internet

Table 8.6: Proportion of adults who came across content that promotes hate or violence against a particular group while on the Internet by age group and sex – reference year 2009

Age group	Women	Men	+/-
15 to 24	26.3%	32.5%	-6.2%
25 to 54	10.0%	17.0%	-7.0%
55+	6.0%	9.1%	-3.1%
Total adult population (15+)	12.2%	18.3%	-6.1%

Source: 2009 General Social Survey, Cycle 23: Victimization.

All numbers are rounded to the nearest whole number.

Missing values are excluded.

The proportion of women who came across content that promotes hate or violence against a particular group while on the Internet is lower than that of men across all age groups.

Table 8.7: Proportion of adults who came across content that promotes hate or violence while on the Internet and felt that women were being targeted – by age group and sex – reference year 2009

Age group	Women	Men	+/-
15 to 24	15.3%	18.9%	-3.6%
25 to 54	22.7%	15.3%	7.4%
55+	18.6%	19.4%	-0.8%
Total adult population (15+)	19.2%	17.0%	2.2%

Source: 2009 General Social Survey, Cycle 23: Victimization.

All numbers are rounded to the nearest whole number.

Missing values are excluded.

Proportionally, slightly fewer women than men in the 15 to 24 and 55+ age groups came across content that promotes hate or violence while on the Internet and felt that women were being targeted. However, the proportion of women aged 25 to 54 who report the coming across such content is 7.4% higher than that of men.

Indicator Three: Discrimination in daily life

This indicator looks at discrimination in daily life using the following measures:

- overall discrimination;
- discrimination because of personal characteristics;
- discrimination in service or leisure;
- discrimination on the street;
- discrimination in a store, bank or restaurant;
- discrimination in transportation; and
- discrimination when crossing the border into Canada.

Overall discrimination

Table 8.8: Proportion of adults who report discrimination, by age group and sex – reference year 2009

Age group	Women	Men	+/-
15 to 24	21.8%	22.0%	-0.2%
25 to 54	19.2%	14.6%	4.6%
55 to 64	15.2%	11.8%	3.4%
65+	6.0%	4.3%	1.7%
Total adult population (15+)	16.7%	14.0%	2.8%

Source: 2009 General Social Survey, Cycle 23: Victimization.
All percentages are rounded to one decimal point.
Missing values are excluded.

With the exception of the 15 to 24 age group, the proportion of women who report discrimination is higher than that of men.

Discrimination because of personal characteristics

Table 8.9: Proportion of adults who report discrimination because of their personal characteristics, by characteristic, age group and sex – reference year 2009

Personal characteristics	15 to 24			25 to 54			55 to 64			65+			Total adult population (15+)		
	Women	Men	+/-	Women	Men	+/-	Women	Men	+/-	Women	Men	+/-	Women	Men	+/-
Sex	6.9%	2.1%	4.8%	8.9%	3.1%	5.7%	6.2%	1.7%	4.5%	1.2%	0.4%	0.8%	6.8%	2.4%	4.4%
Ethnicity or culture	7.2%	7.1%	0.1%	6.2%	6.7%	-0.5%	3.4%	5.5%	-2.0%	1.0%	1.0%	0.0**%	5.1%	5.8%	-0.7%
Race of colour	6.5%	7.1%	-0.6%	6.0%	6.5%	-0.4%	3.1%	4.6%	-1.5%	1.0%	0.7%	0.3%	4.8%	5.5%	-0.7%
Religion	4.4%	4.6%	-0.2%	3.0%	2.1%	0.9%	2.0%	1.5%	0.5%	1.2%	0.8%	0.4%	2.7%	2.2%	0.5%
Age	7.5%	5.8%	1.7%	2.8%	2.1%	0.7%	5.2%	2.8%	2.4%	2.9%	1.5%	1.4%	3.9%	2.8%	1.1%
Language	2.7%	3.9%	-1.2%	3.8%	3.5%	0.3%	2.9%	2.5%	0.4%	0.7%	0.8%	-0.1%	2.9%	3.0%	-0.1%

Source: 2009 General Social Survey, Cycle 23: Victimization.

All percentages are rounded to one decimal point.

Missing values are excluded.

** Difference between women and men is not statistically significant at 0.05.

The proportion of women who report discrimination because of their sex or their age is higher than that of men across all age groups. In addition, with the exception of the 15 to 24 age group, women are proportionally more likely to report discrimination because of their religion or their language.

Table 8.10: Proportion of adults who report discrimination because of their physical appearance, other than their skin colour, by age group and sex – reference year 2009

Age group	Women	Men	+/-
15 to 24	8.4%	7.6%	0.8%
25 to 54	5.1%	3.4%	1.7%
55+	1.7%	1.3%	0.4%
Total adult population (15+)	4.5%	3.5%	1.0%

Source: 2009 General Social Survey, Cycle 23: Victimization.
All percentages are rounded to one decimal point.
Missing values are excluded.

Regardless of age, the proportion of women who report discrimination because of their physical appearance, other than their skin colour, is higher than that of men.

Discrimination in service or leisure

Table 8.11: Proportion of adults who report discrimination in at least one service or leisure,⁵⁴ by age group and sex – reference year 2009

Age group	Women	Men	+/-
15 to 24	68.5%	75.9%	-7.4%
25 to 54	59.9%	57.6%	2.3%
55 to 64	56.1%	46.3%	9.8%
65+	61.2%	54.0%	7.2%
Total adult population (15+)	61.1%	60.6%	0.5%

Source: 2009 General Social Survey, Cycle 23: Victimization.
All percentages are rounded to one decimal point.
Missing values are excluded.

With the exception of the 15 to 24 age group, the proportion of women who report discrimination in at least one service or leisure is higher than that of men.

⁵⁴ Service or leisure includes on the street, in a store, bank or restaurant, on a bus, train, airplane, subway, light rapid transit, ferry, etc, in sports or sports organizations or when crossing the border into Canada.

Discrimination on the street

Table 8.12: Proportion of adults who report discrimination on the street by age group and sex – reference year 2009

Age group	Women	Men	+/-
15 to 24	34.2%	51.0%	-16.8%
25 to 54	29.1%	33.6%	-4.5%
55 to 64	20.5%	22.2%	-1.7%
65+	26.3%	28.0%	-1.7%
Total adult population (15+)	28.7%	36.2%	-7.5%

Source: 2009 General Social Survey, Cycle 23: Victimization.

All percentages are rounded to one decimal point.

Missing values are excluded.

The proportion of women who report being discriminated against on the street is lower than that of men across all age groups. The largest difference is found in the 15 to 24 age group, where the proportion of women who report such discrimination is 16.8% lower than that of men.

Discrimination in a store, bank or restaurant

Table 8.13: Proportion of adults who report discrimination in a store, bank or restaurant by age group and sex – reference year 2009

Age group	Women	Men	+/-
15 to 24	44.7%	30.5%	14.2%
25 to 54	41.2%	33.3%	7.9%
55 to 64	40.5%	24.9%	15.6%
65+	42.6%	37.8%	4.8%
Total adult population (15+)	41.8%	31.7%	10.1%

Source: 2009 General Social Survey, Cycle 23: Victimization.

All percentages are rounded to one decimal point.

Missing values are excluded.

The proportion of women who report being discriminated against in a store, bank or restaurant is higher than that of men across all age groups. The largest differences are found in the 15 to 24 and 55 to 64 age groups.

Discrimination in transportation⁵⁵

Table 8.14 Proportion of adults who report discrimination in transportation by age group and sex – reference year 2009

Age group	Women	Men	+/-
15 to 24	22.7%	18.3%	4.4%
25 to 54	14.3%	13.7%	0.6%
55+	10.7%	8.8%	1.9%
Total adult population (15+)	17.9%	14.0%	3.9%

Source: 2009 General Social Survey, Cycle 23: Victimization.

All percentages are rounded to one decimal point.

Missing values are excluded.

The proportion of women who report being discriminated against in transportation is higher than that of men across all age groups.

Discrimination when crossing the border into Canada

Table 8.15: Proportion of adults who report discrimination when crossing the border into Canada by age group and sex – reference year 2009

Age group	Women	Men	+/-
15 to 54	9.0%	10.5%	-1.6%
55+	8.3%	9.0%	-0.8%
Total adult population (15+)	8.8%	10.3%	-1.5%

Source: 2009 General Social Survey, Cycle 23: Victimization.

All percentages are rounded to one decimal point.

Missing values are excluded.

The proportion of women who report discrimination when crossing the border into Canada is lower than that of men across age groups.

⁵⁵ Transportation includes bus, train, subway, ferry, etc.

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