



# Quebec's Social and Health Survey Information: Baseline Data Report 2008 (Section 2.11)

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## 2.11 Health Problems

**Table 2.11.1 – Number of health problems according to sex and age, total population, Quebec, 1998**

	No problem	1 problem	More than 1 problem	At least 1 problem
	%			
<b>Men</b>				
0-14	52.6	28.8	18.7	47.4
15-24	51.3	26.8	21.9	48.7
25-44	43.0	28.0	29.0	57.0
45-64	33.0	26.0	41.0	67.0
65 years+	18.2	17.3	64.5	81.8
<b>Total</b>	<b>41.2</b>	<b>26.5</b>	<b>32.3</b>	<b>58.8</b>
<b>Women</b>				
0-14	56.9	26.3	16.9	43.1
15-24	39.1	25.2	35.7	60.9
25-44	30.0	24.9	45.2	70.0
45-64	19.1	21.9	58.9	80.9
65 years+	10.3	12.7	77.0	89.7
<b>Total</b>	<b>30.9</b>	<b>22.9</b>	<b>46.2</b>	<b>69.1</b>
<b>Both sexes</b>				
0-14	54.7	27.5	17.8	45.3
15-24	45.3	26.0	28.7	54.7
25-44	36.5	26.5	37.0	63.5
45-64	26.0	24.0	50.1	74.0
65 years+	13.7	14.6	71.7	86.3
<b>Total</b>	<b>36.0</b>	<b>24.7</b>	<b>39.3</b>	<b>64.0</b>
<b>Population '000</b>	<b>2 583</b>	<b>1 769</b>	<b>2 821</b>	<b>4 590</b>

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

- When both sexes are considered, the greatest proportion of survey respondents (64%) reported having more than 1 or more health problems.
- A substantially greater proportion of female respondents (69.1%) report having 1 or more health problems when compared to males (58.8%). The likelihood of having 1 or more health problems increases with age for both sexes.
- 71.7% of survey respondents 65 years and over reported having more than 1 health problem. 77% of women 65 years and over reported having more than 1 health problem compared to 64.5% of the men from the same age cohort.
- 45.2% of women aged 25-44 years reported more than 1 health problem compared to 29% of the men from the same age cohort.

**Table 2.11.2 – Number and duration of health problems according to sex and age, total population, Quebec, 1998**

	No problem	Short-term problem only	1 long-term problem	More than 1 long-term problem
	%			
<b>Men</b>				
0-14	52.6	18.7	19.4	9.3
15-24	51.3	12.5	21.8	14.4
25-44	43.0	10.9	25.6	20.6
45-64	33.0	8.9	26.1	32.0
65 years+	18.2	4.0*	21.8	56.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>41.2</b>	<b>11.5</b>	<b>23.6</b>	<b>23.7</b>
<b>Women</b>				
0-14	56.9	18.0	18.4	6.8
15-24	39.1	9.5	26.1	25.3
25-44	30.0	9.8	25.2	35.1
45-64	19.1	8.1	24.7	48.1
65 years+	10.3	3.8*	16.9	68.9
<b>Total</b>	<b>30.9</b>	<b>10.0</b>	<b>22.9</b>	<b>36.2</b>
<b>Both sexes</b>				
0-14	54.7	18.4	18.9	8.1
15-24	45.3	11.1	23.9	19.7
25-44	36.5	10.3	25.4	27.7
45-64	26.0	8.5	25.4	40.2
65 years+	13.7	3.9	19.0	63.4
<b>Total</b>	<b>36.0</b>	<b>10.8</b>	<b>23.3</b>	<b>30.0</b>
<b>Population '000</b>	<b>2 583</b>	<b>771</b>	<b>1 668</b>	<b>2 151</b>

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

\* Interpret with caution.

- A greater proportion of female respondents reported having more than 1 long term health problem when compared to males.
- The likelihood of having more than 1 long term health problem increased with the accumulated years of the respondents.
- The greatest likelihood of short term health problems was reported by men and women up to 14 years of age.

**Table 2.11.3 – Number and duration of health problems according to certain socio-economic characteristics, population 15 and over, Quebec, 1998**

		No problem	Short-term problem only	1 long-term problem	More than 1 long-term problem
		%			
<b>Income level</b>					
	Very poor	34.2	11.6	19.8	34.5
	Poor	35.5	9.8	20.0	34.7
	Lower middle income	37.3	10.4	22.7	29.6
	Upper middle income	36.6	10.6	24.5	28.4
	High income	32.3	13.0	26.7	28.1
<b>Professional category<sup>1</sup></b>					
	Professional, senior manager	33.1	9.2	28.7	29.0
	Intermediate manager, semi-professional, technician	33.5	11.3	26.0	29.2
	Office, sales, service	33.9	10.7	25.8	29.6
	Foreman, qualified labourer	41.5	10.7	25.1	22.7
	Non-qualified worker, labourer	42.6	11.4	22.8	23.2
<b>Employment status</b>					
	Employed	39.6	10.7	25.7	27.0
	Student	43.3	10.4	24.9	21.4
	Homemaker	21.5	6.3	24.8	47.4
	Retired	15.6	4.6	20.2	59.5
	Unemployed	22.7	7.1	17.8	52.4

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

1- Active population

- Among the possible options for employment status, retired or unemployed are those most strongly associated with having more than one long term health problem.
- Those respondents who reported a very poor or poor income level were somewhat more likely to report having more than one long term problem.
- Non-qualified workers and qualified labourers were those most likely to report having no health problems. Respondents employed in office, sales and service, semi-professionals and technicians, as well as senior managers were more likely than those located in other professional categories to report having more than 1 long term problem.

**Table 2.11.4 – Prevalence of health problems according to sex, total population, Quebec, 1987 and 1998**

	Men		Women		Total		Pop '000
	1987	1998	1987	1998	1987	1998	
	%						
Headache	5.1	7.2	11.7	16.2	8.4	11.8	844
Arthritis or rheumatism	7.2	8.8	12.7	14.7	10.0	11.8	844
Other allergies	4.9	7.7	7.9	12.8	6.5	10.3	737
Back or spinal pain	7.3	9.7	8.1	10.8	7.7	10.2	733
Allergic rhinitis	6.0	9.1	6.1	9.8	6.0	9.4	677
Allergies or skin ailments	6.5	7.0	9.3	11.2	7.9	9.1	654
Arterial hypertension	4.7	7.0	7.9	10.0	6.3	8.5	611
Accidents with injuries	...	9.2	...	6.3	...	7.8	556
Other respiratory ailments	4.0	4.9	4.2	6.0	4.1	5.4	390
Digestion problems	2.8	4.1	5.0	5.8	3.9	5.0	356
Asthma	2.2	4.5	2.5	5.4	2.3	5.0	356
Heart disease	4.0	4.8	4.2	4.4	4.1	4.6	329
Mental health problems	2.4	3.4	3.6	5.1	3.0	4.3	306
Acute anxiety	2.3	2.7	4.9	5.4	3.6	4.1	292
Eye disease <sup>1</sup>	...	2.9	...	5.1	...	4.0	287
Thyroid problems	0.3*	1.3	2.3	6.2	1.3	3.7	268
Flu	3.4	3.2	4.0	4.1	3.7	3.7	265
Other joint ailments	1.7	2.2	2.9	4.0	2.3	3.1	221
Hypercholesteremia	0.3*	3.0	0.3*	2.8	0.3	2.8	206
Diabetes	1.4	2.7	1.9	2.9	1.6	2.8	202
Bronchitis or emphysema	1.8	2.0	1.9	2.6	1.9	2.3	165
Sleep disorder	1.3	1.7	2.7	2.8	2.0	2.3	162
Other digestive disorders	1.6	1.6	2.6	2.6	2.1	2.1	152
Urinary and kidney disorders	1.3	1.6	2.1	2.1	1.7	1.9	133
Other blood diseases	0.2*	2.1	0.3*	1.6	0.2	1.8	130
Fatigue	1.0	1.2	2.6	2.3	1.8	1.8	126
Anaemia	0.4*	0.5	2.2	2.5	1.3	1.5	108
Gastric and duodenal ulcers	1.9	1.4	1.5	1.4	1.7	1.4	98
Ear ailments	1.3	1.1	1.2	1.1	1.2	1.1	78
Other problems	7.2	9.5	10.0	12.2	8.6	10.9	780
Menstrual or menopause problems	...	...	2.4	7.3	...	...	265

Source: Santé Québec, *Enquête Santé Québec*, 1987.  
Institut de la statistique du Québec, *Enquête social et de santé 1998*.

1- Data for 1998 not comparable with that of 1987.

\* Interpret with caution.

- The prevalence of health problems increased between 1987 and 1998 in all the ailments listed with the exception of the flu, certain digestive disorders, fatigue,

gastric and duodenal ulcers, and ear ailments. The most prevalent health problems cited by survey respondents was headache, arthritis or rheumatism, other allergies, back or spinal pain, allergic rhinitis, allergies or skin ailments and arterial hypertension.

- Women report a substantially greater proportion of the listed health problems when compared to men. A greater proportion of women compared to men are observed in 21 of the 29 listed health problems from "headache" through to "other problems". In relative terms, they are more than twice as likely as men to report headaches, twice as likely to report acute anxiety, 92% more likely to report fatigue and 65% more likely to report sleep disorder, 82% more likely to report joint ailments and 67% more likely to report arthritis or rheumatism.
- A greater proportion of men report accidents with injuries (32% greater in relative terms) and certain blood diseases (24% more likely). Men and women are about equally likely to report back or spinal pain, allergic rhinitis, heart disease, hypercholesteremia, diabetes, ulcers and ear ailments.

**Table 2.11.5 – Prevalence of principal health problems according to sex, population 0 to 14 years, Quebec, 1987 and 1998**

	Boys		Girls		Total		Pop '000
	1987	1998	1987	1998	1987	1998	
	%						
<b>Allergies or skin ailments</b>	8.1	8.1	8.6	9.8	<b>8.4</b>	<b>8.9</b>	120
<b>Other allergies</b>	6.5	8.7	6.9	7.0	<b>6.7</b>	<b>7.9</b>	106
<b>Other respiratory ailments</b>	7.4	7.7	5.9	7.8	<b>6.7</b>	<b>7.7</b>	104
<b>Asthma</b>	3.9	8.4	2.7	4.7	<b>3.4</b>	<b>6.6</b>	88
<b>Accidents with injuries<sup>1</sup></b>	...	6.5	...	4.3	...	<b>5.5</b>	73
<b>Flu</b>	4.8	4.4	5.0	5.4	<b>4.9</b>	<b>4.9</b>	66
<b>Allergic rhinitis</b>	3.9	5.4	2.7	3.7	<b>3.3</b>	<b>4.6</b>	62
<b>Ear ailments</b>	3.0	2.8*	2.6	3.1*	<b>2.8</b>	<b>3.0</b>	40
<b>Headache</b>	1.4*	3.1*	2.0	2.5*	<b>1.7</b>	<b>2.8</b>	37

Source: Santé Québec, *Enquête Santé Québec*, 1987.  
Institut de la statistique du Québec, *Enquête social et de santé 1998*.

1- Data for 1998 not comparable with that of 1987.

\* Interpret with caution.

- The prevalence of principal health problems increased for the population 0-14 years between 1987 and 1998 with the exception of the flu.
- The most substantial increase was in the number of respondents from this age group who suffer from asthma and headache.
- A greater proportion of female respondents report the flu and allergies or skin ailments while more males report asthma and allergic rhinitis.

**Table 2.11.6 – Prevalence of principal health problems according to sex, population 18 to 24 years, Quebec, 1987 and 1998**

	Men		Women		Total		Pop '000
	1987	1998	1987	1998	1987	1998	
	%						
<b>Allergic rhinitis</b>	9.4	14.2	10.2	15.2	<b>9.8</b>	<b>14.6</b>	143
<b>Other allergies</b>	6.8	10.6	10.6	17.2	<b>8.7</b>	<b>13.8</b>	135
<b>Allergies or skin ailments</b>	7.0	7.1	10.5	14.0	<b>8.7</b>	<b>10.5</b>	102
<b>Headache</b>	4.0	6.1	10.8	13.3	<b>7.4</b>	<b>9.6</b>	93
<b>Accidents with injuries<sup>1</sup></b>	...	10.5	...	5.5	...	<b>8.1</b>	78
<b>Back or spinal pain</b>	4.1	4.7	4.0	7.0	<b>4.0</b>	<b>5.8</b>	57
<b>Asthma</b>	1.9*	4.2*	3.1	7.0	<b>2.5</b>	<b>5.6</b>	54
<b>Other respiratory ailments</b>	3.1	3.4*	4.3	4.3*	<b>3.7</b>	<b>3.8</b>	37
<b>Flu</b>	3.2	2.9*	3.9	3.5*	<b>3.6</b>	<b>3.2</b>	31
<b>Menstrual or menopause problems</b>	...	...	3.9	6.3	...	...	30

Source: Santé Québec, *Enquête Santé Québec*, 1987.  
Institut de la statistique du Québec, *Enquête social et de santé 1998*.

1- Data for 1998 not comparable with that of 1987.

\* Interpret with caution.

- The prevalence of principal health problems increased for the population 18-24 years between 1987 and 1998 with the exception of the flu and certain respiratory ailments.
- The incidence of asthma more than doubled between 1987 and 1998 for the 18-24 age group. A greater proportion of female respondents in this age group report headache, allergies or skin ailments, other allergies and back or spinal pain as health problems compared to men.



**Table 2.11.7 – Prevalence of principal health problems according to sex, population 25 to 44 years, Quebec, 1987 and 1998**

	Men		Women		Total		Pop '000
	1987	1998	1987	1998	1987	1998	
	%						
Headache	7.6	10.4	18.4	23.8	<b>13.0</b>	<b>17.0</b>	396
Allergic rhinitis	8.0	13.2	8.4	14.0	<b>8.2</b>	<b>13.6</b>	316
Other allergies	5.3	8.9	9.1	16.5	<b>7.2</b>	<b>12.7</b>	294
Back or spinal pain	10.7	12.5	10.1	12.2	<b>10.4</b>	<b>12.4</b>	287
Allergies or skin ailments	6.0	6.7	11.1	13.2	<b>8.6</b>	<b>9.9</b>	229
Accidents with injuries <sup>1</sup>	...	10.8	...	6.8	...	<b>8.8</b>	205
Arthritis or rheumatism	5.5	6.9	7.4	9.3	<b>6.4</b>	<b>8.1</b>	188
Other respiratory ailments	2.5	3.6	3.7	5.8	<b>3.1</b>	<b>4.7</b>	109
Acute anxiety	2.4	2.9	5.2	6.3	<b>3.8</b>	<b>4.6</b>	107
Mental health problems	2.5	3.5	4.1	5.6	<b>3.3</b>	<b>4.5</b>	105
Digestion problems	2.3	3.6	5.0	5.5	<b>3.7</b>	<b>4.5</b>	105
Asthma	1.3	3.6	2.2	5.7	<b>1.7</b>	<b>4.5</b>	105

Source: Santé Québec, *Enquête Santé Québec*, 1987.  
Institut de la statistique du Québec, *Enquête social et de santé 1998*.

1- Data for 1998 not comparable with that of 1987.

\* Interpret with caution.

- The prevalence of all the listed principle health problems increased for the population aged 25 to 44 years from 1987 to 1998.
- The most notable increases are evidenced in the incidence of asthma, other allergies, allergic rhinitis, respiratory ailments and mental health problems.
- Women of the 25-44 years age group report a notably higher incidence of health problems compared to men with the exception of accidents with injuries, back or spinal pain and allergic rhinitis. Women of this age group are twice as likely as men to report headache, acute anxiety and allergies or skin ailments.

**Table 2.11.8 – Prevalence of principal health problems according to sex, population 45 to 64 years, Quebec, 1987 and 1998**

	Men		Women		Total		Pop '000
	1987	1998	1987	1998	1987	1998	
	%						
<b>Arthritis or rheumatism</b>	13.0	15.3	26.0	23.9	<b>19.7</b>	<b>19.7</b>	336
<b>Back or spinal pain</b>	11.4	14.8	13.0	14.9	<b>12.2</b>	<b>14.9</b>	254
<b>Arterial hypertension</b>	11.8	13.7	16.9	15.7	<b>14.5</b>	<b>14.7</b>	252
<b>Headache</b>	5.8	7.8	13.5	20.9	<b>9.8</b>	<b>14.5</b>	247
<b>Other allergies</b>	2.2	5.5	6.3	11.8	<b>4.3</b>	<b>8.7</b>	149
<b>Accidents with injuries<sup>1</sup></b>	...	9.1	...	7.6	...	<b>8.3</b>	142
<b>Allergic rhinitis</b>	3.6	6.4	4.1	9.5	<b>3.9</b>	<b>8.0</b>	136
<b>Allergies or skin ailments</b>	4.4	6.1	7.2	9.4	<b>5.8</b>	<b>7.8</b>	133
<b>Heart disease</b>	8.5	8.2	6.8	4.4	<b>7.6</b>	<b>6.3</b>	108
<b>Thyroid problems</b>	0.5**	1.9*	4.7	10.6	<b>2.7</b>	<b>6.3</b>	108
<b>Hypercholesteremia</b>	0.7**	7.1	0.7**	5.3	<b>0.7*</b>	<b>6.2</b>	106
<b>Mental health problems</b>	3.5	4.2	5.3	7.5	<b>4.4</b>	<b>5.9</b>	100
<b>Menstrual or menopause problems</b>	...	...	4.4	19.5	...	...	169

Source: Santé Québec, *Enquête Santé Québec*, 1987.  
Institut de la statistique du Québec, *Enquête social et de santé 1998*.

1- Data for 1998 not comparable with that of 1987.

\* Interpret with caution.

\*\* Imprecise estimate. Indication only.

- The prevalence of principal health problems increased for the population 45 to 64 years of age from 1987 to 1998 with the exception of arthritis or rheumatism and heart disease. The prevalence of arterial hypertension remained much the same from 1987 to 1998.
- A greater proportion of female respondents from this age group reported headache, other allergies, mental health problems, arthritis or rheumatism, allergies or skin ailments, and allergic rhinitis than male respondents. Men were more likely to report heart disease and hypercholesteremia.

**Table 2.11.9 – Prevalence of principal health problems according to sex, population 65 years and over, Quebec, 1987 and 1998**

	Men		Women		Total		Pop '000
	1987	1998	1987	1998	1987	1998	
	%						
<b>Arterial hypertension</b>	19.2	30.8	33.6	41.8	<b>27.6</b>	<b>37.1</b>	303
<b>Arthritis or rheumatism</b>	27.2	24.9	40.1	42.1	<b>34.7</b>	<b>34.8</b>	284
<b>Heart disease</b>	22.9	24.3	20.1	22.3	<b>21.3</b>	<b>23.2</b>	1889
<b>Eye disease<sup>1</sup></b>	...	15.2	...	25.4	...	<b>21.1</b>	172
<b>Back or spinal pain</b>	8.2	13.3	11.7	17.6	<b>10.2</b>	<b>15.8</b>	129
<b>Digestion problems</b>	8.0	10.6	12.7	13.9	<b>10.7</b>	<b>12.5</b>	102
<b>Thyroid problems</b>	0.8**	4.5*	4.8	16.9	<b>3.1</b>	<b>11.6</b>	95
<b>Diabetes</b>	5.6	10.6	7.4	11.3	<b>6.6</b>	<b>11.0</b>	90
<b>Sleep disorder</b>	8.4	8.8	12.9	12.1	<b>11.0</b>	<b>10.7</b>	88
<b>Hypercholesteremia</b>	0.6**	9.6	0.8**	10.3	<b>0.7*</b>	<b>10.0</b>	82

Source: Santé Québec, *Enquête Santé Québec*, 1987.  
Institut de la statistique du Québec, *Enquête social et de santé 1998*.

1- Data for 1998 not comparable with that of 1987.

\* Interpret with caution.

\*\* Imprecise estimate. Indication only.

- The prevalence of principal health problems increased for the population 65 years and over between 1987 and 1998 with arthritis or rheumatism and sleep disorder remaining stable.
- A greater proportion of female respondents 65 years and over reported suffering from the listed health problems when compared to males with the exception of heart disease. Men and women are about equally likely to report diabetes and hypercholesteremia.

**Table 2.11.10 – Prevalence of diabetes according to age and sex, total population, Quebec, 1987 and 1998**

	Men		Women		Total		Pop '000
	1987	1998	1987	1998	1987	1998	
	%						
<b>0-14 years</b>	0.2**	0.1**	0.0**	0.1**	<b>0.1**</b>	<b>0.1**</b>	1
<b>15-24 years</b>	0.4**	0.3**	0.3**	0.1**	<b>0.4**</b>	<b>0.2**</b>	2
<b>25-44 years</b>	0.6*	1.2*	0.8*	1.7*	<b>0.7</b>	<b>1.4</b>	33
<b>45-64 years</b>	3.2	5.2	3.7	3.7	<b>3.5</b>	<b>4.4</b>	75
<b>65 years and older</b>	5.6	10.6	7.4	11.3	<b>6.7</b>	<b>11.0</b>	90
<b>Total</b>	<b>1.4</b>	<b>2.7</b>	<b>1.9</b>	<b>2.9</b>	<b>1.6</b>	<b>2.8</b>	<b>202</b>

Source: Santé Québec, *Enquête Santé Québec*, 1987.  
Institut de la statistique du Québec, *Enquête social et de santé 1998*.

1- Data for 1998 not comparable with that of 1987.

\* Interpret with caution.

\*\* Imprecise estimate. Indication only.

- Between 1987 and 1998 the greatest increase in the prevalence of diabetes was located among men in the 65 years and over age cohort followed by women in the same age group.
- Men 45-64 years of age were more likely to report diabetes as a health problem when compared to women of the same age group.

**Table 2.11.11 – Prevalence of heart disease according to age and sex, total population, Quebec, 1987 and 1998**

	Men		Women		Total		Pop '000
	1987	1998	1987	1998	1987	1998	
	%						
<b>0-14 years</b>	0.5**	0.2**	0.4**	0.1**	<b>0.5**</b>	<b>0.2**</b>	2
<b>15-24 years</b>	0.2**	0.4**	0.6**	0.5**	<b>0.4**</b>	<b>0.5**</b>	5
<b>25-44 years</b>	1.0*	1.0*	1.3	1.2*	<b>1.1</b>	<b>1.1</b>	25
<b>45-64 years</b>	8.5	8.2	6.8	4.4	<b>7.6</b>	<b>6.3</b>	108
<b>65 years and older</b>	22.9	24.3	20.1	22.3	<b>21.3</b>	<b>23.2</b>	189
<b>Total</b>	<b>4.0</b>	<b>4.8</b>	<b>4.2</b>	<b>4.4</b>	<b>4.1</b>	<b>4.6</b>	<b>329</b>

Source: Santé Québec, *Enquête Santé Québec*, 1987.  
Institut de la statistique du Québec, *Enquête social et de santé 1998*.

1- Data for 1998 not comparable with that of 1987.

\* Interpret with caution.

\*\* Imprecise estimate. Indication only.

- The prevalence of heart disease increased somewhat for the 65 years and over age group between 1987 and 1998.

- Male respondents 45-64 years of age were substantially more likely (46% in relative terms) to report heart disease than females.
- Men and women of the 65 years and over age group were about equally likely to report heart disease.

**Table 2.11.12 – Impact of asthma on the use of services and the limitation of activities, total population, Quebec, 1998**

	Asthma	
	Yes	No
<b>Consultation with a doctor in the course of a period of two weeks</b>	24.4%	14.1%
<b>Hospitalization in the course of a period of 12 months</b>	15.2%	5.9%
<b>Two hospitalizations or more in a period of 12 months</b>	40.7%	19.6%
<b>Average annual numbers of days of incapacity</b>	36.0 days	15.9 days

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

- Survey respondents with asthma were much more likely than those without asthma to consult with a doctor in the course of a two week period.
- Asthma sufferers were more than two and half times more likely than non-sufferers to be hospitalized in the course of a 12 month period.
- Survey respondents with asthma were twice as likely as those without asthma to have undergone two or more hospitalizations in a 12 month period.
- Asthma sufferers reported 36 annual days of incapacity compared to the 15.9 days reported by respondents without asthma.

**Table 2.11.13 – Number of health problems by mother tongue, Quebec, 1998**

	N=	18211	1029	1045	445
		French	English	Other	n/a
<b>No problem</b>		31.22%	28.28%	38.56%	31.24%
<b>One problem</b>		24.47%	24.30%	23.16%	22.25%
<b>More than one problem</b>		44.31%	47.42%	38.28%	46.52%
		100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%

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

- Anglophone respondents were somewhat more likely than Francophones to report more than one health problem and less likely to report no health problems.

**Table 2.11.14 – Duration of health problems by mother tongue, Quebec, 1998**

	N=	18211	1029	1045	445
		French	English	Other	n/a
<b>No problem</b>		31.22%	28.28%	38.56%	31.24%
<b>Short term problem only</b>		9.31%	8.65%	9.86%	7.19%
<b>One long term problem</b>		24.90%	24.39%	22.68%	22.70%
<b>More than one long term problem</b>		34.57%	38.68%	28.90%	38.88%
		100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%

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

- Anglophone survey respondents were more likely than Francophones to report more than one long term health problem. Anglophones were less likely than Francophones to report no health problems or short term problems only.

**Table 2.11.15 – Prevalence of health problems by mother tongue, Quebec, 1998**

	N=	18211	1029	1045	445
		French	English	Other	n/a
<b>Headache</b>		14.36%	17.01%	14.55%	11.24%
<b>Arthritis or rheumatism</b>		13.83%	17.01%	13.11%	17.53%
<b>Other allergies</b>		10.54%	12.83%	7.46%	10.11%
<b>Back or spinal pain</b>		12.71%	11.08%	10.53%	15.73%
<b>Allergic rhinitis</b>		8.73%	12.15%	8.23%	5.84%
<b>Allergies or skin ailments</b>		9.15%	10.40%	7.37%	6.74%
<b>Arterial hypertension</b>		10.25%	13.70%	11.00%	14.83%
<b>Accidents with injuries</b>		8.75%	9.14%	6.32%	8.09%
<b>Other respiratory ailments</b>		4.69%	5.34%	4.31%	3.60%
<b>Digestion problems</b>		5.86%	6.12%	3.64%	7.87%
<b>Asthma</b>		4.66%	6.32%	2.39%	5.84%
<b>Heart disease</b>		5.58%	5.25%	5.07%	8.76%
<b>Mental health problems</b>		4.44%	7.00%	2.87%	6.97%
<b>Acute anxiety</b>		4.85%	3.21%	3.73%	6.29%
<b>Eye disease</b>		4.03%	5.93%	3.44%	5.62%
<b>Thyroid problems</b>		4.88%	6.12%	3.64%	6.07%
<b>Flu</b>		3.97%	2.82%	1.91%	4.04%
<b>Other joint ailments</b>		3.58%	4.28%	2.58%	4.94%
<b>Hypercholesteremia</b>		4.06%	2.33%	1.72%	3.37%
<b>Diabetes</b>		3.20%	3.11%	3.73%	6.74%
<b>Bronchitis or emphysema</b>		2.58%	2.43%	0.86%	2.47%

<b>Sleep disorder</b>	2.73%	1.75%	2.11%	3.60%
<b>Other digestive disorders</b>	2.40%	3.21%	1.24%	2.70%
<b>Urinary and kidney disorders</b>	2.05%	2.72%	1.91%	3.15%
<b>Other blood diseases</b>	2.53%	2.14%	1.91%	3.60%
<b>Fatigue</b>	2.22%	1.26%	1.44%	2.47%
<b>Anaemia</b>	1.50%	2.14%	2.68%	1.80%
<b>Gastric and duodenal ulcers</b>	1.71%	2.43%	1.91%	2.70%
<b>Ear ailments</b>	0.67%	0.58%	0.57%	0.00%
<b>Other problems</b>	11.46%	13.22%	10.33%	12.13%
<b>Menstrual or menopause problems</b>	5.69%	4.08%	2.58%	3.37%

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

- In 17 of 30 listed ailments, a greater proportion of Anglophone survey respondents are affected than Francophones.
- When compared to Francophones, a greater percentage of Anglophones report suffering from the 7 most prevalent health problems reported by respondents with the exception of back or spinal pain.
- In relative terms, Anglophones are 58% more likely to report mental health problems, 47% more likely to report eye disease, 43% more likely to report anaemia, 42% more likely to report gastric ulcers and duodenal ulcers, 39% more likely to report allergic rhinitis and 36% more likely to report asthma than Francophones.