



Quebec's Social and Health Survey Information: Baseline Data Report 2008 (Section 2.7)

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2.7 Sexual Behaviour and Condom Use

- 58.7% of survey respondents aged 15-19 reported having had sexual relations.
- When both sexes are considered, the greater percentage of respondents reported having had one sexual partner in a 12 month period. The greatest incidence of more than one sexual partner was reported among men 15-19 years of age. The greatest incidence of no sexual partner was reported among those 60 years old and over.
- A fairly high percentage of respondents with more than one sexual partner were living with a regular partner.
- Among heterosexual respondents having had more than one sexual partner in a 12 month period, condoms were more frequently used among occasional partners than regular partners.
- Among heterosexual respondents having had more than one sexual partner in a 12 month period, more women than men reported at least one incidence of risky sexual behaviour.
- Among heterosexual survey respondents, a greater percentage of women than men declared having been treated for a STD over a 12 month period.
- The highest percentage of persons who declared having been treated for a STD was in the 20-29 years age group.
- Anglophone respondents were less likely than Francophones to have had more than 1 sexual partner in a 12 month period.
- Among respondents having had more than one sexual partner in a 12 month period, Anglophones were more likely to have had non- cohabiting partners than Francophones.
- Anglophone heterosexual respondents having had more than one partner over a 12 month period reported a higher incidence of risky sexual behaviour than Francophones.
- Among heterosexual survey respondents, Anglophones were more likely than Francophones to have declared being treated for a STD over a 12 month period.

Table 2.7.1 – Persons having had sexual relations, population 15 and over, Quebec, 1998

	%	Pop. '000
Men	92.9	2,659
Women	93.2	2,763
Both sexes		
15-19	58.7	309
20-29	93.3	853
30-39	97.7	1,198
40-49	97.0	1,141
50+	96.4	1,920
Total	93.0	5,422

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

- 58.7% of survey respondents aged 15-19 reported having had sexual relations.

Table 2.7.2 – Persons having had their first sexual relation with penetration before the age of 15, population 15 and over, Quebec, 1998

	%	Pop. '000
Both sexes		
15-19	14.9	78
20-29	14.9	137
30-39	7.8	95
40-49	4.0	47
50-59	2.6	23
60+	2.0	22
Total	7.1	401

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

- Of the survey respondents who had their first sexual relation with penetration before the age of 15, the greatest percentage were 29 years and under.

Table 2.7.3 – Number of sexual partners in a 12 month period, according to sex and age, heterosexual population 15 and over,¹ Quebec, 1998

	No partner	One partner	More than 1 partner
	%		
Men	13.7	75.1	11.2
Women	19.3	72.8	7.9
Both sexes			
15-19	5.1**	62.2	32.7
20-29	5.8	71.0	23.2
30-39	6.3	85.6	8.2
40-49	10.3	83.8	5.9
50-59	18.5	78.2	3.3
60+	50.9	48.2	0.9**
Total	16.6	73.9	9.5
Pop. '000	898	3,785	475

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

1- Persons having had sexual relations with penetration.

** Imprecise estimate, indication only.

- When both sexes are considered, most survey respondents reported having had one sexual partner in a 12 month period. The greatest incidence of more than one sexual partner was reported among men 15-19 years of age. The greatest incidence of having no sexual partner was reported among those 60 years old and over.



Table 2.7.4 – Type of relation undertaken with partner(s) among those with one partner and those with more than one partner over a 12-month period, according to sex, heterosexual population 15 and over,¹ Quebec, 1998

	Regular partner with whom the person is living	Regular partner with whom the person is not living	Occasional partner
	%		
Persons having only one partner over a 12- month period			
Men	84.5	12.2	3.3
Women	83.8	14.4	1.8*
Total	84.2	13.3	2.5
Pop. '000	3,195	496	94
Persons having more than one partner over a 12-month period			
Men	35.4	48.5	16.1
Women	36.5	55.9	7.6**
Total	35.9	51.7	12.4
Pop. '000	170	245	60

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

1- Persons having had sexual relations with penetration.

* Interpret with caution.

** Imprecise estimate, indication only.

- Among respondents reporting having only one sexual partner over a 12 month period, the greatest percentage was living with their partner.
- Among those having more than one sexual partner over a 12 month period, the greater percentage were not living with a regular partner.
- A fairly high percentage (36%) of respondents with more than one sexual partner, were regular sexual partners with whom the person is living.

Table 2.7.5 – Number of sexual partners over a 12-month period, according to sex and age, persons separated or divorced from a parent of one of their children under 18 years of age,¹ Quebec, 1998

	No partner	One partner	More than 1 partner
	%		
Men	10.1*	68.2	21.7
Women	13.0	68.4	18.6
Both sexes			
15-29	8.7**	51.6	39.7
30-49	11.7	71.5	16.8
50+	19.9**	61.3	18.8**
Total	11.8	68.3	19.9
Pop. '000	49	280	81

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

1- Persons having had sexual relations with penetration.

* Interpret with caution.

** Imprecise estimate, indication only.

- Among divorced or separated survey respondents, the greater percentage reported having one sexual partner over a 12 month period.

Table 2.7.6 – Use of a condom in the last sexual relation according to the type of relationship with the partner, sex and age, heterosexual population 15 and over having one sexual partner over a 12-month period,¹ Quebec, 1998

	Regular partner with whom the person is living	Regular partner with whom the person is not living	Occasional partner
	%		
Men	9.8	36.9	61.2
Women	9.9	26.7	45.8
Both sexes			
15-19	32.8*	50.2	67.7*
20-29	18.8	32.2	75.5
30-39	14.2	27.9	49.1*
40-49	7.6	20.1*	43.1*
50+	2.7	13.7*	29.4*
Total	9.8	31.3	55.7
Pop. '000	304	153	52

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

1- Persons having had sexual relations with penetration.

* Interpret with caution.

- Among heterosexual partners having one sexual partner over a 12 month period, the greatest use of condoms was among those aged 30 years and under.

Table 2.7.7 – Use of a condom in the last sexual relation according to the type of relationship with the partners, sex and age, heterosexual population 15 and over having had more than one sexual partner over a 12-month period,¹ Quebec, 1998

	Regular partner with whom the person is living	Regular partner with whom the person is not living	Occasional partner
	%	%	
Men	24.1*	51.5	67.1
Women	23.2*	43.7	58.6
Both sexes			
15-19	43.8*	57.0	71.8
20-29	21.5*	53.0	69.1
30-39	27.5*	47.4	66.9
40-49	8.3**	34.8*	50.7
50+	0.0	23.2*	33.3**
Total	23.7	47.8	63.7
Pop. '000	34	139	167

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

1- Persons having had sexual relations with penetration.

* Interpret with caution.

** Imprecise estimate, indication only.

- Among heterosexual respondents having had more than one sexual partner in a 12 month period, condoms were used more frequently among occasional than regular partners.

Table 2.7.8 – Persons having at least one incidence of risky sexual behaviour according to sex, heterosexual population 15 and over having had more than one partner over a 12-month period,¹ Quebec, 1998

	Risky sexual behaviour	Pop.
	%	'000
Men	55.0	151
Women	63.1	127
Total	58.5	278

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

1- Persons having had sexual relations with penetration.

- Among the heterosexual survey population having had more than one sexual partner over a 12 month period, more women than men reported at least one incidence of risky sexual behaviour.

Table 2.7.9 – Persons having declared to have been treated for a STD over a 12-month period according to sex, age and the number of sexual partners, heterosexual population 15 and over,¹ Quebec, 1998

	%	Pop. '000
Men	1.3	31
Women	2.1	53
Both sexes		
15-19	5.5*	15
20-29	4.3	35
30-39	1.5*	17
40-49	1.1*	12
50+	0.3**	5
Number of sexual partners		
None	0.4**	3
1 partner	1.4	50
2 or more partners	6.4	31
Total	1.7	84

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

1- Persons having had sexual relations with penetration.

* Interpret with caution.

** Imprecise estimate, indication only.

- Among the heterosexual survey respondents, a greater percentage of women compared to men declared having been treated for a STD over a 12 month period.
- The highest percentage of persons who declared having been treated for a STD was 20-29 years of age.
- The highest percentage of persons who declared having been treated for STD over a 12 month period had one sexual partner.

Table 2.7.10 – Persons having had sexual relations according to mother tongue

N=	18211	1054	685	445
	French	English	Other	n/a
Yes	91.34%	88.43%	82.34%	61.12%
No	5.97%	6.17%	13.28%	4.27%
Refusal	2.69%	5.41%	4.38%	34.61%
	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%

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

- English and French mother tongue survey respondents were about equally likely to have had sexual relations.

Table 2.7.11 – Age of the first sexual relation according to mother tongue

N=	18211	1054	685	445
	French	English	Other	n/a
Under 15 years	7.18%	5.44%	5.74%	5.39%
Over 15 years	86.41%	80.08%	80.96%	50.56%
Unknown	6.40%	14.48%	13.30%	44.04%
	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%

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

- English mother tongue survey respondents were less likely than French mother tongue to have had their first sexual relation under the age of 15.

Table 2.7.12 – Number of sexual partners in a 12-month period according to mother tongue

N=	15730	826	760	222
	French	English	Other	n/a
None	14.11%	19.85%	18.16%	20.27%
1 partner	75.57%	70.82%	71.84%	63.51%
More than 1 partner	8.71%	7.02%	7.24%	7.66%
Unknown	1.61%	2.30%	2.76%	8.56%
	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%

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

- Anglophone respondents to the survey were more likely than Francophones to report having had no sexual partners in a 12 month period.

- Anglophone respondents were about less likely than Francophones to have had more than 1 sexual partner in a 12 month period.

Table 2.7.13 – Type of multiple sexual partner in a 12-month period according to mother tongue

	N=	1370	58	55	17
		French	English	Other	n/a
Cohabiting		32.70%	34.48%	21.82%	0.00%
Non-cohabiting		39.49%	48.28%	45.45%	58.82%
Occasional only		11.09%	0.00%	9.09%	0.00%
Unknown		16.72%	10.34%	23.64%	0.00%
		100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%

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

- Among those having had more than one sexual partner in a 12 month period, Anglophones were more likely to have non-cohabiting partners.

Table 2.7.14 – Use of a condom in the last sexual relation according to mother tongue

	N=	12081	615	386	148
		French	English	Other	n/a
Yes		11.85%	14.47%	20.21%	11.49%
No		87.58%	84.55%	79.53%	83.78%
Refusal		0.57%	0.98%	0.00%	4.73%
		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 to report using condoms in their last sexual relation when compared with Francophones.



Table 2.7.15 – Frequency of use of a condom in sexual relations in a 12-month period according to mother tongue

N=	12081	615	386	148
	French	English	Other	n/a
Never	76.65%	74.31%	66.06%	73.65%
Rarely	5.74%	5.04%	6.99%	4.73%
Occasionally	3.82%	3.58%	5.18%	0.00%
Half the time	1.66%	1.46%	2.07%	0.00%
Most of the time	2.13%	2.44%	4.92%	0.00%
Always or nearly always	7.84%	11.06%	12.69%	6.08%
No sexual relations in the period	0.74%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
Refusal	1.43%	1.46%	1.81%	8.78%
	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 using condoms most of the time, or always and nearly always, in their sexual relations in a 12 month period.

Table 2.7.16 – Use of a condom in the last sexual relation with a regular partner with whom the person is living according to mother tongue, heterosexual population 15 and over having had more than one sexual partner over a 12-month period,¹ Quebec, 1998*

N=	463	20	12
	French	English	Other
Yes	24.41%	30.00%	41.67%
No	75.38%	70.00%	58.33%
	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%

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

1- Persons having had sexual relations with penetration.

* Interpret with caution.

- Anglophone survey respondents having had more than one sexual partner over a 12 month period were more likely to report the use of a condom in last sexual relation with a regular person with whom they are living than Francophones.

Table 2.7.17 – Use of a condom in the last sexual relation with a regular partner with whom the person is not living according to mother tongue, heterosexual population 15 and over having had more than one sexual partner over a 12-month period,¹ Quebec, 1998*

N=	827	42	33	13
	French	English	Other	n/a
Yes	91.34%	88.43%	82.34%	61.12%
No	5.97%	6.17%	13.28%	4.27%
Refusal	2.69%	5.41%	4.38%	34.61%
	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%

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

1- Persons having had sexual relations with penetration.

* Interpret with caution.

- Anglophone and Francophone heterosexual survey respondents were about equally likely to have used a condom in the last sexual relation with a regular partner with whom they are not living.

Table 2.7.18 – Use of a condom in the last sexual relation with an occasional partner according to mother tongue, heterosexual population 15 and over having had more than one sexual partner over a 12-month period,¹ Quebec, 1998*

N=	740	37	33
	French	English	Other
Yes	59.86%	59.46%	78.79%
No	39.86%	40.54%	21.21%
	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%

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

1- Persons having had sexual relations with penetration.

* Interpret with caution.

- Anglophone and Francophone survey respondents were equally likely to use a condom in last sexual relation with an occasional partner.

Table 2.7.19 – Incidence of risky sexual behaviour according to mother tongue, heterosexual population 15 and over having had more than one partner over a 12-month period,¹ Quebec, 1998*

	N=	1370	58	55	17
		French	English	Other	n/a
No risky behaviour		34.23%	27.59%	34.55%	0.00%
Risky behaviour		48.32%	60.34%	41.82%	58.82%
Unknown		17.45%	12.07%	23.64%	0.00%
		100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%

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

1- Persons having had sexual relations with penetration.

* Interpret with caution.

- Anglophone heterosexual respondents having had more than one partner over a 12-month period reported a higher incidence of risky sexual behaviour than Francophones.

Table 2.7.20 – Persons having declared to have been treated for a STD over a 12-month period according to mother tongue, heterosexual population 15 and over,¹ Quebec, 1998

	N=	16634	932	564	272
		French	English	Other	n/a
Yes		1.54%	1.72%	2.30%	0.00%
No		92.32%	91.31%	89.54%	70.22%
Refusal		6.14%	6.97%	8.16%	28.68%
		100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%

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

1- Persons having had sexual relations with penetration.

- Among heterosexual survey respondents, Anglophones were more likely than Francophones to have declared being treated for a STD over a 12 month period.