

## 2.20 CONSUMPTION OF MEDICATION

Table 2.20.1

**Persons having consumed at least one medication and persons having consumed at least three medications or more in the course of a two-day period according to sex and age, total population, Quebec, 1987, 1992-1993 and 1998**

	At least 1 medication			Pop '000	3 medications or more			Pop '000
	1987	1992- 1993	1998		1987	1992- 1993	1998	
	%				%			
<b>Men</b>								
0-14 years	34.9	40.0	35.7	246	2.2*	3.3	3.6	25
15-24 years	23.6	28.7	24.9	124	1.7**	2.7*	3.1*	16
25-44 years	26.9	34.6	35.3	415	2.4	5.2	7.0	83
45-64 years	42.9	49.2	55.1	464	8.2	14.1	17.9	151
65 years or more	66.8	72.2	77.4	269	23.3	38.1	45.6	158
<b>Total</b>	<b>34.5</b>	<b>41.4</b>	<b>42.8</b>	<b>1,519</b>	<b>5.1</b>	<b>9.2</b>	<b>12.2</b>	<b>433</b>
<b>Women</b>								
0-14 years	37.1	42.6	36.4	240	2.0*	4.6	3.2*	21
15-24 years	56.1	60.2	61.7	293	5.3	8.7	8.2	39
25-44 years	52.5	58.2	60.3	692	8.1	11.7	13.2	152
45-64 years	63.1	70.0	75.9	660	19.0	28.5	35.9	312
65 years or more	76.4	86.8	86.4	405	33.6	49.4	56.1	263
<b>Total</b>	<b>54.7</b>	<b>61.4</b>	<b>63.2</b>	<b>2,291</b>	<b>11.5</b>	<b>18.0</b>	<b>21.7</b>	<b>787</b>
<b>Both sexes</b>								
0-14 years	36.0	41.3	36.0	486	2.1	3.9	3.4	46
15-24 years	39.6	44.1	42.9	418	3.5	5.6	5.6	55
25-44 years	39.8	46.4	47.7	1,108	5.3	8.4	10.1	234
45-64 years	53.3	59.8	65.7	1,124	13.7	21.4	27.1	463
65 years or more	72.4	80.6	82.5	674	29.3	44.6	51.6	422
<b>Total</b>	<b>44.7</b>	<b>51.5</b>	<b>53.1</b>	<b>3,809</b>	<b>8.3</b>	<b>13.7</b>	<b>17.0</b>	<b>1,219</b>

\*Interpret with caution

\*\*Imprecise estimate, indication only

Sources: Santé Québec, enquête *Santé Québec 1987* et *Enquête sociale et de santé 1992-1993*.  
Institut de la statistique du Québec, *Enquête sociale et de santé 1998*.

Table 2.20.2

**Persons having consumed at least one prescription medication and persons having consumed at least one non-prescription medication in the course of a two-day period according to sex and age, total population, Quebec, 1987, 1992-1993 and 1998**

	Prescribed medication				Non-prescribed medications			
	1987	1992-1993	1998	Pop	1987	1992-1993	1998	Pop
	%			'000	%			'000
<b>Men</b>								
0-14 years	16.1	15.2	14.7	101	22.6	29.3	25.7	177
15-24 years	8.4	9.6	8.2	41	16.7	21.5	19.8	98
	11.0	13.5	14.0	165	18.4	25.2	25.8	303
45-64years	30.6	31.8	37.3	314	17.8	25.7	28.9	243
65 years or more	56.6	64.3	67.9	236	20.3	26.8	30.9	107
<b>Total</b>	<b>19.2</b>	<b>21.7</b>	<b>24.1</b>	<b>856</b>	<b>19.0</b>	<b>25.8</b>	<b>26.2</b>	<b>929</b>
<b>Women</b>								
0-14 years	16.5	16.7	13.4	89	23.7	31.1	26.8	177
15-24 years	42.5	46.8	49.9	237	23.9	29.0	26.8	128
25-44years	32.7	33.2	36.3	417	29.4	37.1	39.1	449
45-64years	46.2	52.5	56.6	491	31.2	39.7	45.0	390
65 years or more	67.1	76.2	78.5	368	25.7	36.4	39.0	183
<b>Total</b>	<b>37.4</b>	<b>41.0</b>	<b>44.3</b>	<b>1,603</b>	<b>27.4</b>	<b>35.4</b>	<b>36.6</b>	<b>1,327</b>
<b>Both sexes</b>								
0-14 years	16.3	15.9	14.1	190	23.1	30.2	26.2	353
15-24 years	25.2	27.8	28.5	278	20.2	25.2	23.2	226
25-44years	21.9	23.3	25.0	582	23.9	31.1	32.4	752
45-64years	38.6	42.3	47.1	805	24.7	32.8	37.0	634
65 years or more	62.7	71.2	74.0	604	23.4	32.4	35.5	290
<b>Total</b>	<b>28.5</b>	<b>31.4</b>	<b>34.3</b>	<b>2,459</b>	<b>23.3</b>	<b>30.6</b>	<b>31.4</b>	<b>2,255</b>

Sources: Santé Québec, enquête *Santé Québec 1987* et *Enquête sociale et de santé 1992-1993*.  
Institut de la statistique du Québec, *Enquête social et de santé 1998*.

Table 2.20.3

Persons having consumed at least one medication, prescription or non-prescription, in the course of a two-day period according to income level, relative scolarity and ethno cultural group, total population, Quebec, 1998

	Prescribed medication	Non-prescribed medication	Prescribed and non-prescribed medication
	%		
<b>Income level</b>			
Very poor	35.8	30.2	52.5
Poor	37.1	28.3	53.2
Lower middle income	34.3	31.3	52.6
Upper middle income	33.3	31.4	52.3
High income	33.5	36.3	57.4
<b>Total</b>	<b>34.3</b>	<b>31.4</b>	<b>53.1</b>
<b>Relative scolarity</b>			
Very low	38.7	28.9	54.8
Low	37.3	31.2	55.0
Average	42.7	32.6	59.7
High	38.6	34.5	57.5
Very High	39.3	39.6	61.7
<b>Total</b>	<b>39.3</b>	<b>33.4</b>	<b>57.8</b>
<b>Ethno cultural group<sup>1</sup></b>			
Majority	40.0	33.8	58.5
Minority (2 <sup>nd</sup> or 3 <sup>rd</sup> generation)	36.5	37.0	60.0
Minority (1 <sup>st</sup> generation)	31.9	28.8	49.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>39.2</b>	<b>33.5</b>	<b>57.7</b>

1. Population 15 and over

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

**Table 2.20.4**

**Number of medications consumed over a two-day period by mother tongue, Quebec, 1998**

	N=	18211	1029	1045	445
		<b>French</b>	<b>English</b>	<b>Other</b>	<b>n/a</b>
<b>No medication</b>		42.63%	36.44%	49.19%	43.15%
<b>1-2 medications</b>		37.31%	38.29%	35.12%	32.81%
<b>3 or more medications</b>		19.78%	24.98%	15.60%	24.04%
<b>Unknown</b>		0.27%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
		100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%

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

**Table 2.20.5**

**Persons consuming prescribed medications over a two-day period by mother tongue, Quebec, 1998**

	N=	18211	1029	1045	445
		<b>French</b>	<b>English</b>	<b>Other</b>	<b>n/a</b>
<b>Yes</b>		39.84%	42.18%	32.92%	44.27%
<b>No</b>		59.80%	57.05%	66.89%	55.51%
<b>Unknown</b>		0.36%	0.78%	0.00%	0.00%
		100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%

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

**Table 2.20.6**

**Persons self-administering medications over a two-day period by mother tongue, Quebec, 1998**

	N=	18211	1029	1045	445
		<b>French</b>	<b>English</b>	<b>Other</b>	<b>n/a</b>
<b>Yes</b>		31.86%	37.12%	28.71%	29.89%
<b>No</b>		67.63%	61.81%	71.00%	69.89%
<b>Unknown</b>		0.51%	1.07%	0.00%	0.00%
		100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%

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