Public Health Ontario | Santé publique Ontario

ENHANCED EPIDEMIOLOGICAL SUMMARY

Early Years Risk Indicators using Data from the Canadian Health Survey on Children and Youth 2019

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Highlights

- In Ontario, 5.2% of parents/caregivers of children ages 1-4 years reported having "fair/poor" mental health, while 22.1% reported having "quite a bit stressful/extremely stressful" life stress.
- 7.7% of children ages 1-4 years experienced divorce/separation or death of a parent/sibling while 12.9% experienced 2 or more home moves.
- There were some significant differences in the early years' risk indicator across age, sex at birth, highest educational attainment, household income, income quintiles, low income cut-off (LICO), race and ethnic origin, Indigenous identity, and immigration status.
- There were some significant differences in the early years' risk indicator across Statistics Canada Peer Group, geographic region, and public health unit.

Introduction

This report is one in a series of summaries on child health indicators using the 2019 Canadian Health Survey on Children and Youth (CHSCY). The purpose of this summary is to describe early years' indicators among children aged 1 to 4 by sociodemographic characteristics, focusing on ones that provide a risk effect including adverse childhood experiences (ACEs). Distribution of these indicators will also be reported by Statistics Canada Peer Group, geographic region, and public health unit (PHU). In the CHSCY, survey questions for young children were measured by asking the person most knowledgeable (PMK) about the selected child in the household. In 98.6% of responses, the PMK was the parent or caregiver. Therefore, the term "parent/caregiver" will be used hereinafter in this report. The early years risk Indicators that will be explored in this report include parent/caregiver self-perceived mental health, parent/caregiver perceived life stress, experience of parental divorce or separation, experience of death of a parent or sibling, and number of home moves experienced by the child. For more information about the CHSCY data and the Ontario population characteristics, please see the CHSCY Technical Report.

ACEs refer to potentially stressful or traumatic events that occur during childhood and adolescence.[1] The experience of ACEs is associated with multiple health outcomes, including psychosocial and behavioural issues.[2] It is estimated that between half to two-thirds of Canadians experience at least one ACE before the age of 18 years.[3] ACEs data available in the CHSCY for children aged 1-4 years include parent/caregiver self-perceived mental health, experience of parental divorce or separation, and experience of death of a parent or sibling. Other indicators of adversity such as household food insecurity have been published in separate reports.

The prevalence of mental health conditions in Canada has increased over the past 10 years, especially in the younger population.[4] Poor mental health and high life stress in parents/caregivers contribute to this issue. When parents suffer from mental health issues (e.g., depression, anxiety, and stress), their children tend to display similar symptoms.[5] Moreover, the experience of stress in parents is associated with poor development in children, including behavioural problems and mental health disorders.[6,7] The experience of ACEs, including parental divorce or separation and death of a parent or sibling, also contribute to the rise in mental health conditions. Children and adolescents of divorced parents tend to suffer from a high level of internalizing and externalizing problems.[8] Similarly, experiencing a death of a parent or sibling increases mental health issues and lowers performance in school among children and adolescents.[9,10] Lastly, housing instability often creates a stressful environment for the child mental development. A higher number of house moves during early childhood is associated with adverse impacts on mental health later in life.[11]

Provincially representative early years' indicators on children in the early years are lacking, particularly before school entry. Understanding the socio-demographic and geographic factors related to early years' indicators will help public health practitioners and their community partners target interventions towards disproportionately affected Ontarians. This report provides a baseline overview of early years' indicators prior to the COVID-19 pandemic and will assist in early years' indicators investigations using future releases of the CHSCY.

Race-based and Indigenous Identity Data

The CHSCY utilizes the following socio-demographic terms to describe its variables: "Population Group", "Visible Minority", and "Aboriginal Identity". To stay current with health equity language preferred by impacted communities and to reduce unintentional harms when discussing and utilizing findings of the CHSCY, we have replaced the CHSCY terminology with the following terms in this report, where possible: "race and ethnic origin," "racialized groups," and "Indigenous".

'Race' is a social construct without a biological basis and created to categorize people into different groups based on visual traits in ways that create and maintain power differentials within society.[12] 'Ethnic origin' refers to communities' learned or adopted characteristics such as language, practices, and beliefs.[13,14] Note that the categorization of people as Indigenous, Black, and other racial categories has been historically and currently used to mark certain groups for exclusion, discrimination, and oppression. Racism, racial categorization, and racial discrimination; therefore, continue to shape the lives and opportunities of those who are categorized as "racialized people".[14] For more information on socio-demographic terminology, please refer to the Technical Notes and CHSCY Technical Report.

Race-based and Indigenous identity data are vital for the identification and monitoring of health inequities that stem from racism, bias, and discrimination[15] and to inform the design of programs and services to promote the health and well-being of racialized populations and Indigenous peoples.

Public Health Ontario (PHO) includes data and analyses on Indigenous peoples to advance understanding and support action to enhance Indigenous people's health. PHO recognizes the importance of Indigenous data sovereignty and the First Nations principles of Ownership, Control, Access and Possession (OCAP) and Métis Principles of Ownership, Control, Access and Stewardship (OCAS). We continue to strive to build processes and relationships to respectfully and meaningfully analyze and report on Indigenous data.

Results

Table 1 presents available early years risk indicators for children aged 1-4 years in the CHSCY dataset. Due to small sample sizes, experienced divorce or separation and experienced death of a parent or sibling variables were combined to be examined by socio-demographic variables.

Table 1: Percentages of early years risk indicators in CHSCY among children ages 1-4 years; Ontario, 2019

Early Years Indicator	Weighted Percentage (95% CI)
Parent/Caregiver Self-Perceived Mental Health	
Excellent/Very Good	73.2 (71.7 - 74.8)
Good	21.6 (20.1 - 23.0)
Fair/Poor	5.2 (4.5 - 5.9)
Parent/Caregiver Perceived Life Stress	
Not at all stressful/Not very stressful	27.3 (25.8 - 28.7)
A bit stressful	50.7 (49.0 - 52.3)
Quite a bit stressful/Extremely stressful	22.1 (20.7 - 23.4)
Experienced Divorce or Separation	
Yes	7.2 (6.3 - 8.1)
No	92.8 (91.9 - 93.7)
Experienced Death of a Parent or Sibling	
Yes	0.6[C] (0.3 - 0.8)
No	99.4 (99.2 - 99.7)
Experienced Divorce or Death of a parent	
Yes	7.7 (6.8 - 8.6)
No	92.3 (91.4 - 93.2)
Number of Home Moves	
Moved 0 times	59.2 (57.5 - 60.9)
Moved 1 time	27.9 (26.3 - 29.4)
Moved ≥ 2 times	12.9 (11.7 - 14.1)

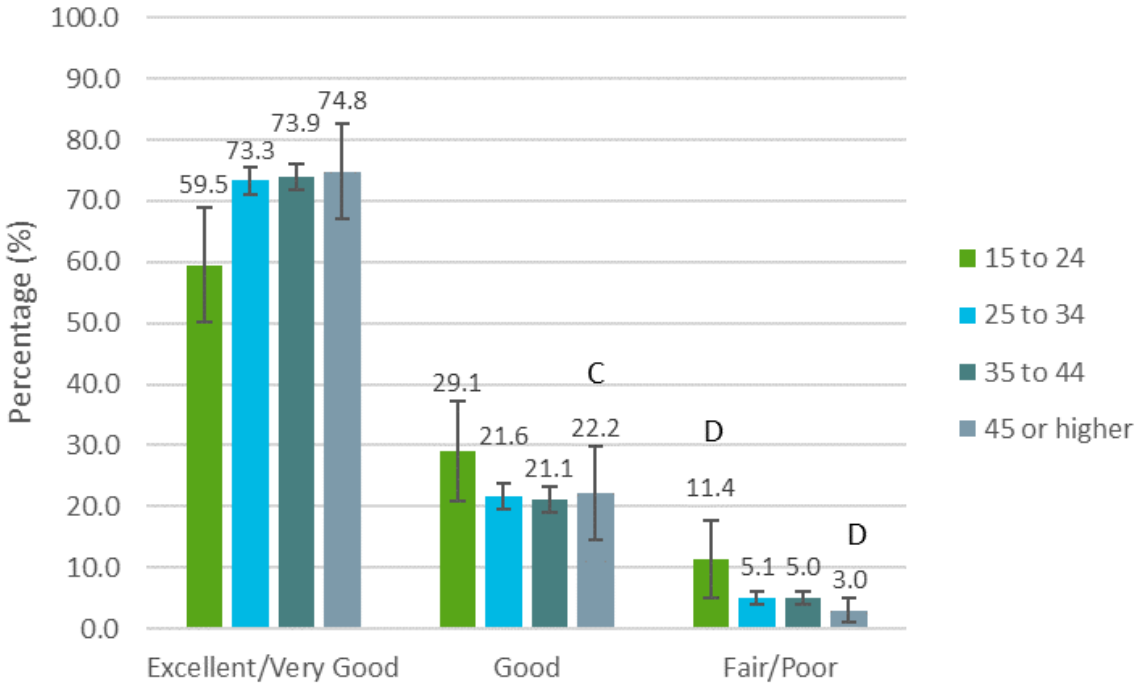
C – This estimate should be interpreted with caution due to high sampling variability

Parent/Caregiver Self-Perceived Mental Health

AGE AND SEX AT BIRTH

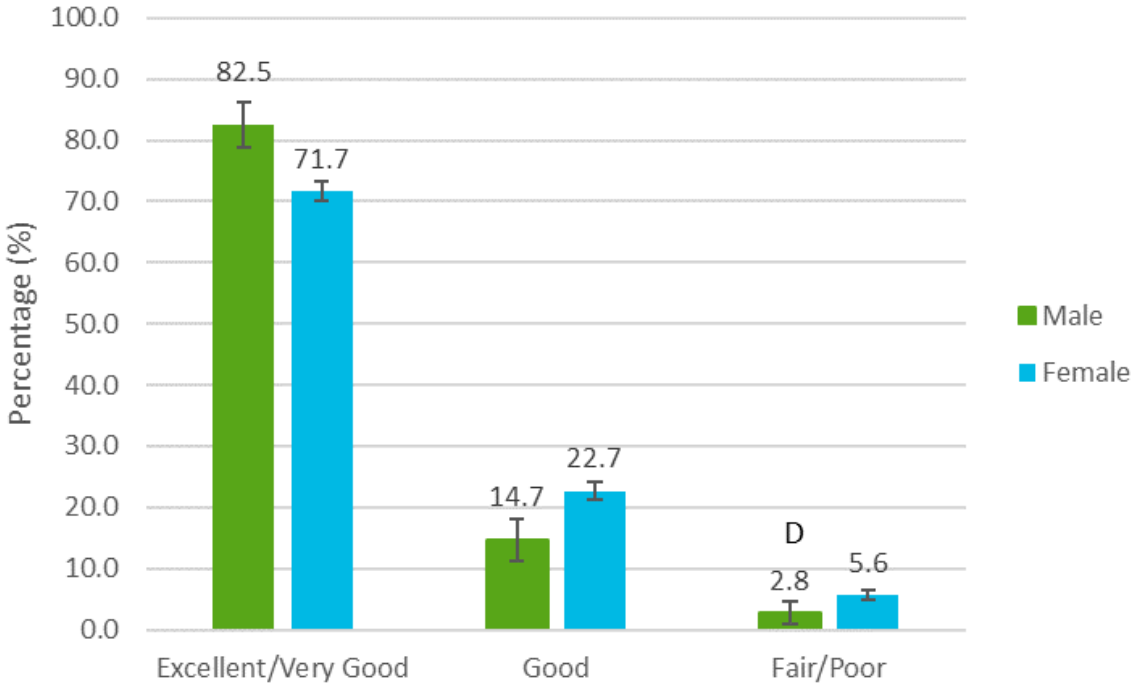
There was a significant difference in parent/caregiver self-perceived mental health across age group (Figure 1, Table 2). The highest percentage of parent/caregiver reporting “fair/poor” self-perceived mental health was in the 15 to 24 age group (11.4% [95% CI: 5.1-17.7]). Also, there was a significant difference across sex at birth (Figure 2, Table 2). Female parents/caregivers were two times more likely to report “fair/poor” self-perceived mental health compared to male parents/caregivers.

Figure 1: Percentages of parent/caregiver self-perceived mental health by parent/caregiver age in children ages 1-4 years; Ontario, 2019



C and D – This estimate should be interpreted with caution due to high sampling variability

Figure 2: Percentages of parent/caregiver self-perceived mental health by parent/caregiver sex at birth in children ages 1-4 years; Ontario, 2019



D – This estimate should be interpreted with caution due to high sampling variability

Table 2: Parent/caregiver self-perceived mental health by parent/caregiver age and sex at birth in children ages 1-4 years; Ontario, 2019

Indicator	Excellent/Very Good % (95% CI)	Good % (95% CI)	Fair/Poor % (95% CI)
Age*			
15 to 24	59.5 (50.1 - 68.9)	29.1 (20.9 - 37.2)	11.4[D] (5.1 - 17.7)
25 to 34	73.3 (71.1 - 75.6)	21.6 (19.5 - 23.7)	5.1 (4.0 - 6.2)
35 to 44	73.9 (71.7 - 76.1)	21.1 (19.0 - 23.2)	5.0 (4.0 - 6.0)
45 or higher	74.8 (67.0 - 82.6)	22.2[C] (14.5 - 29.9)	3.0[D] (1.0 - 5.0)
Sex at Birth*			
Male	82.5 (78.8 - 86.2)	14.7 (11.2 - 18.1)	2.8[D] (1.0 - 4.7)
Female	71.7 (70.0 - 73.4)	22.7 (21.2 - 24.3)	5.6 (4.8 - 6.4)

*indicates a significant difference across age and sex at birth (Rao-Scott Chi-Square Test p<0.05)
C and D – This estimate should be interpreted with caution due to high sampling variability

HIGHEST EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT – PARENT/CAREGIVER

There was an inverse relationship between parent/caregiver self-perceived mental health and the level of educational attainment of the parent/caregiver (Figure 3, Table 3). The prevalence of "fair/poor" self-perceived mental health in parents/caregivers who's highest educational attainment was high school or less was 7.5% (95% CI: 5.5-9.4), compared to 3.9% (95% CI: 2.9-4.9) in parents/caregivers who's highest educational attainment was university or more.

Figure 3: Percentages of parent/caregiver self-perceived mental health by highest level of educational attainment of parent/caregiver in children ages 1-4 years; Ontario, 2019

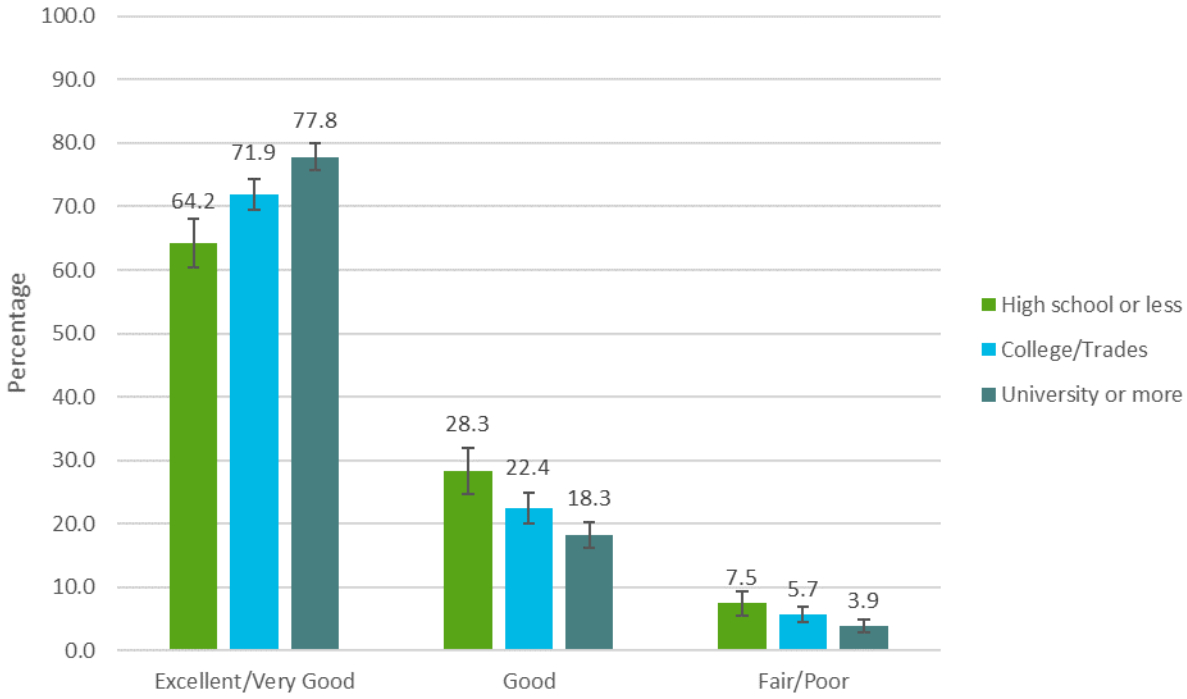


Table 3: Parent/caregiver self-perceived mental health by highest level of educational attainment of parent/caregiver in children ages 1-4 years; Ontario, 2019

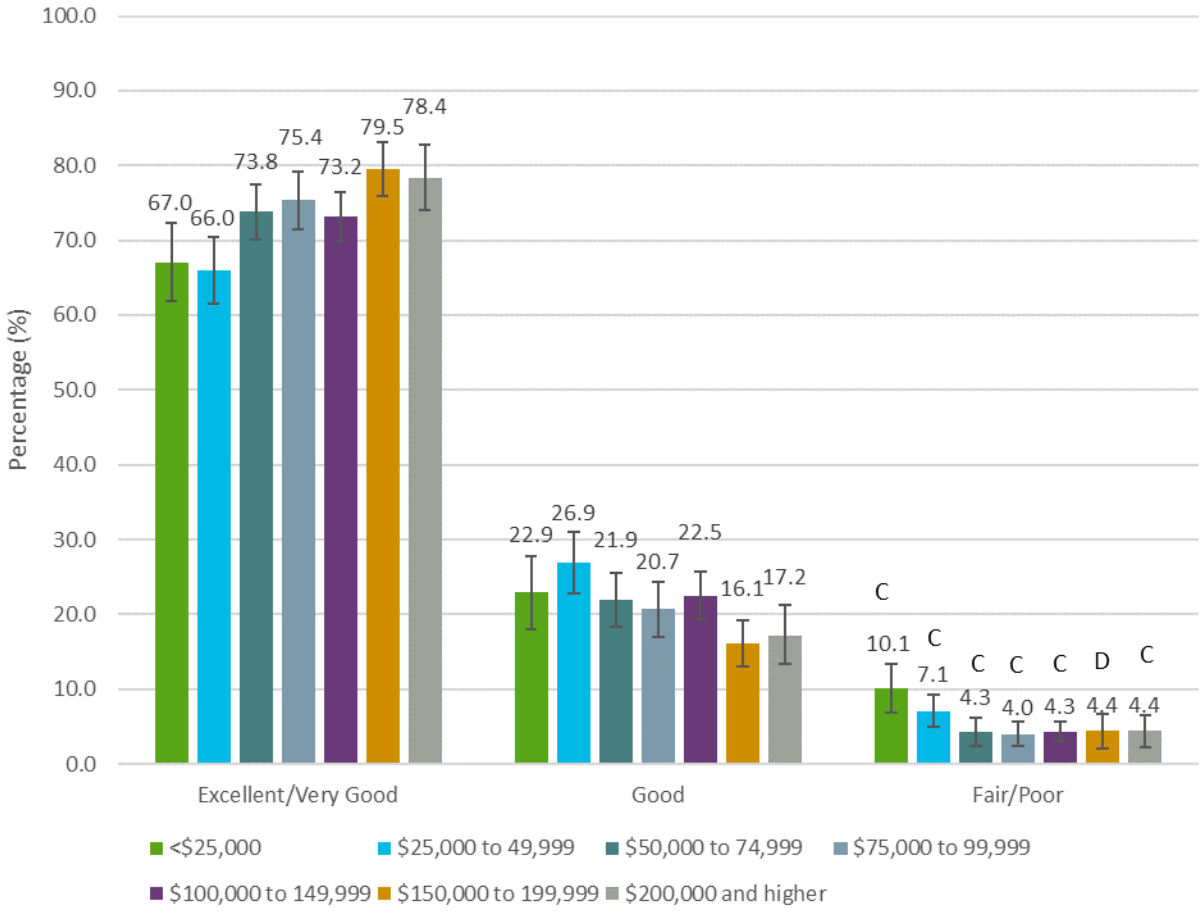
Highest Parental Education*	Excellent/Very Good % (95% CI)	Good % (95% CI)	Fair/Poor % (95% CI)
High School or less	64.2 (60.3 - 68.1)	28.3 (24.7 - 31.9)	7.5 (5.5 - 9.4)
College/ Trades	71.9 (69.4 - 74.4)	22.4 (20.0 - 24.8)	5.7 (4.4 - 7.0)
University or more	77.8 (75.7 - 79.9)	18.3 (16.3 - 20.2)	3.9 (2.9 - 4.9)

*indicates a significant difference across education attainment levels (Rao-Scott Chi-Square Test p<0.05).

HOUSEHOLD INCOME AND LOW INCOME CUT-OFF (LICO)

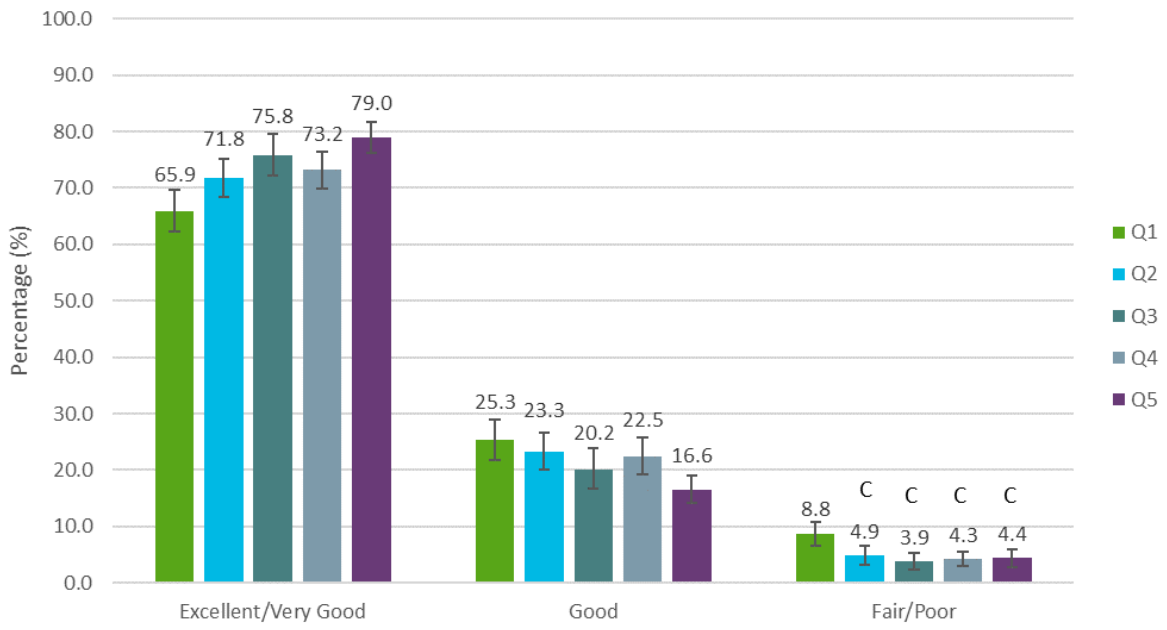
There was a significant difference in parent/caregiver self-perceived mental health across household income levels (Figure 4, Table 4). Parents/caregivers of children living in households with higher income levels were less likely to report "fair/poor" mental health, compared to children living in lower income households. Parent/caregiver self-perceived mental health was also significant by income quintiles and LICO, where a similar trend was observed (Figure 5, Table 4).

Figure 4: Percentages of parent/caregiver self-perceived mental health by household income in children ages 1-4 years; Ontario, 2019



C and D – This estimate should be interpreted with caution due to high sampling variability

Figure 5: Percentages of parent/caregiver self-perceived mental health by income quintiles in children ages 1-4 years; Ontario, 2019



C – This estimate should be interpreted with caution due to high sampling variability

Table 4: Parent/caregiver self-perceived mental health by household income, income quintiles, and low income cut-off in children ages 1-4 years; Ontario, 2019

Household income*	Excellent/Very Good % (95% CI)	Good % (95% CI)	Fair/Poor % (95% CI)
<$25,000	67.0 (61.8 - 72.3)	22.9 (18.0 - 27.7)	10.1[C] (6.8 - 13.4)
$25,000 to 49,999	66.0 (61.6 - 70.4)	26.9 (22.8 - 31.1)	7.1[C] (4.9 - 9.2)
$50,000 to 74,999	73.8 (70.1 - 77.5)	21.9 (18.4 - 25.5)	4.3[C] (2.4 - 6.2)
$75,000 to 99,999	75.4 (71.5 - 79.2)	20.7 (17.0 - 24.3)	4.0[C] (2.4 - 5.6)
$100,000 to 149,999	73.2 (69.9 - 76.5)	22.5 (19.3 - 25.7)	4.3[C] (3.0 - 5.6)
$150,000 to 199,999	79.5 (75.9 - 83.1)	16.1 (13.0 - 19.2)	4.4[D] (2.1 - 6.7)
$200,000 and higher	78.4 (74.0 - 82.7)	17.2 (13.3 - 21.2)	4.4[C] (2.3 - 6.5)
Income Quintiles*			
Q1	65.9 (62.2 - 69.6)	25.3 (21.8 - 28.9)	8.8 (6.6 - 10.9)
Q2	71.8 (68.4 - 75.2)	23.3 (20.0 - 26.6)	4.9[C] (3.2 - 6.5)
Q3	75.8 (72.1 - 79.6)	20.2 (16.7 - 23.8)	3.9[C] (2.4 - 5.4)
Q4	73.2 (69.9 - 76.5)	22.5 (19.3 - 25.7)	4.3[C] (3.0 - 5.6)
Q5	79.0 (76.2 - 81.8)	16.6 (14.2 - 19.0)	4.4[C] (2.8 - 6.0)
Low Income Cut-Off (LICO)*			
Above LICO	74.5 (72.9 - 76.2)	21.1 (19.5 - 22.7)	4.4 (3.6 - 5.2)
Below LICO	68.6 (65.1 - 72.1)	23.3 (20.0 - 26.6)	8.1 (6.2 - 10.0)

*indicates a significant difference across household income, income quintile, and low income cut-off levels (Rao-Scott Chi-Square Test p<0.05)

C and D – This estimate should be interpreted with caution due to high sampling variability

RACE AND ETHNIC ORIGIN – PARENT/CAREGIVER

There was a significant difference in parent/caregiver self-perceived mental health across race and ethnic origin (Table 5). The highest percentage of parents/caregivers reporting "excellent/very good" mental health was in those who were identified as West Asian/Arab, while the lowest was in those who were identified as White/non-racialized groups. Due to small sample sizes, many risk categories were not reportable.

Table 5: Parent/caregiver self-perceived mental health by parent/caregiver race and ethnic origin in children ages 1-4 years; Ontario, 2019

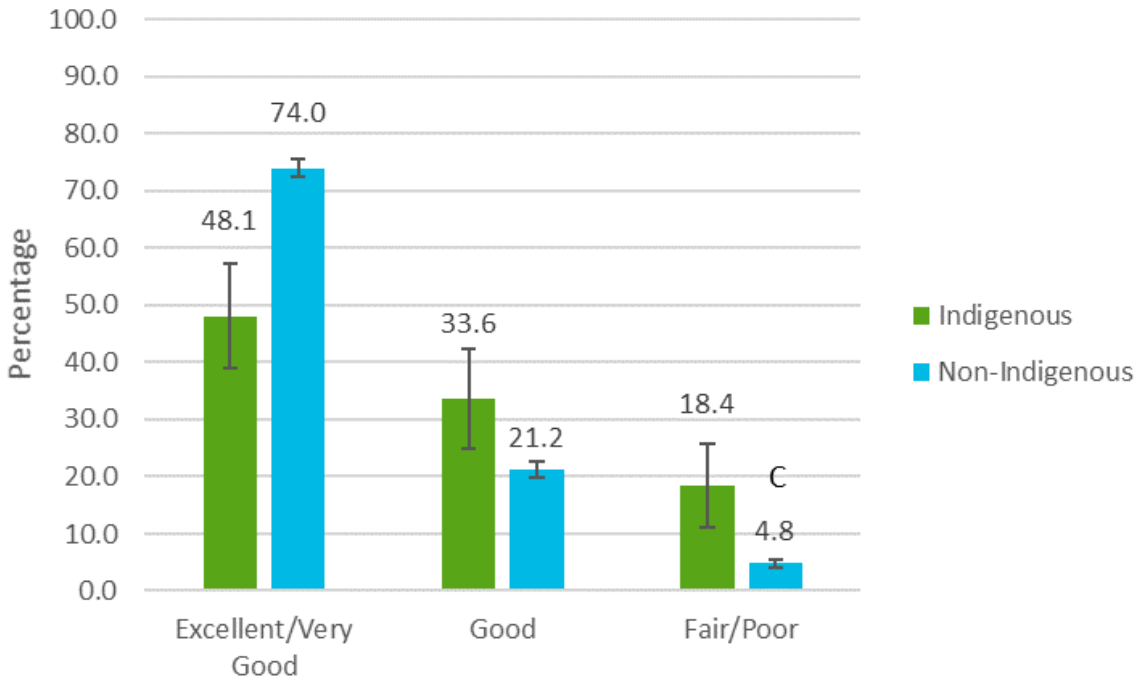
Race and Ethnic Origin*	Excellent/Very Good % (95% CI)	Good % (95% CI)	Fair/Poor % (95% CI)
Black	73.7 (66.9 - 80.4)	23.3 (16.7 - 30.0)	3.0[D] (0.9 - 5.0)
East Asian	77.9 (70.8 - 85.0)	18.0[C] (11.6 - 24.4)	NR
Latin American	83.4 (74.7 - 92.0)	13.1[D] (5.5 - 20.8)	NR
Other/Multiple	82.9 (69.1 - 96.7)	NR	NR
South Asian	82.9 (78.8 - 86.9)	15.9 (11.9 - 19.8)	NR
Southeast Asian/Filipino	78.7 (71.1 - 86.4)	18.9[C] (11.4 - 26.4)	NR
West Asian/Arab	86.1 (79.9 - 92.2)	10.7[D] (5.0 - 16.4)	NR
White/non-racialized groups†	70.5 (68.6 - 72.4)	23.5 (21.8 - 25.2)	6.0 (5.0 - 7.0)

*indicates a significant difference across race and ethnic origin levels (Rao-Scott Chi-Square Test p<0.05)
C and D – This estimate should be interpreted with caution due to high sampling variability
NR – This estimate could not be released as per Statistics Canada guidelines on unacceptable estimate quality (E)
†Excludes those identifying as Indigenous

INDIGENOUS IDENTITY – PARENT/CAREGIVER

There was a significant difference in parent/caregiver self-perceived mental health by Indigenous identity (Figure 6, Table 6). The percentage of those identifying as being Indigenous who reported "fair/poor" mental health was 18.4% (95% CI: 11.0-25.8), compared to 4.8% (95% CI: 4.1-5.5) of those who did not identify as being Indigenous. The estimate for Indigenous parent/caregiver should be interpreted with caution due to high sample variability (i.e., lower data quality).

Figure 6: Percentages of parent/caregiver self-perceived mental health by parent/caregiver Indigenous identity in children ages 1-4 years; Ontario, 2019



C – This estimate should be interpreted with caution due to high sampling variability

Table 6: Parent/caregiver self-perceived mental health by parent/caregiver Indigenous identity in children ages 1-4 years; Ontario, 2019

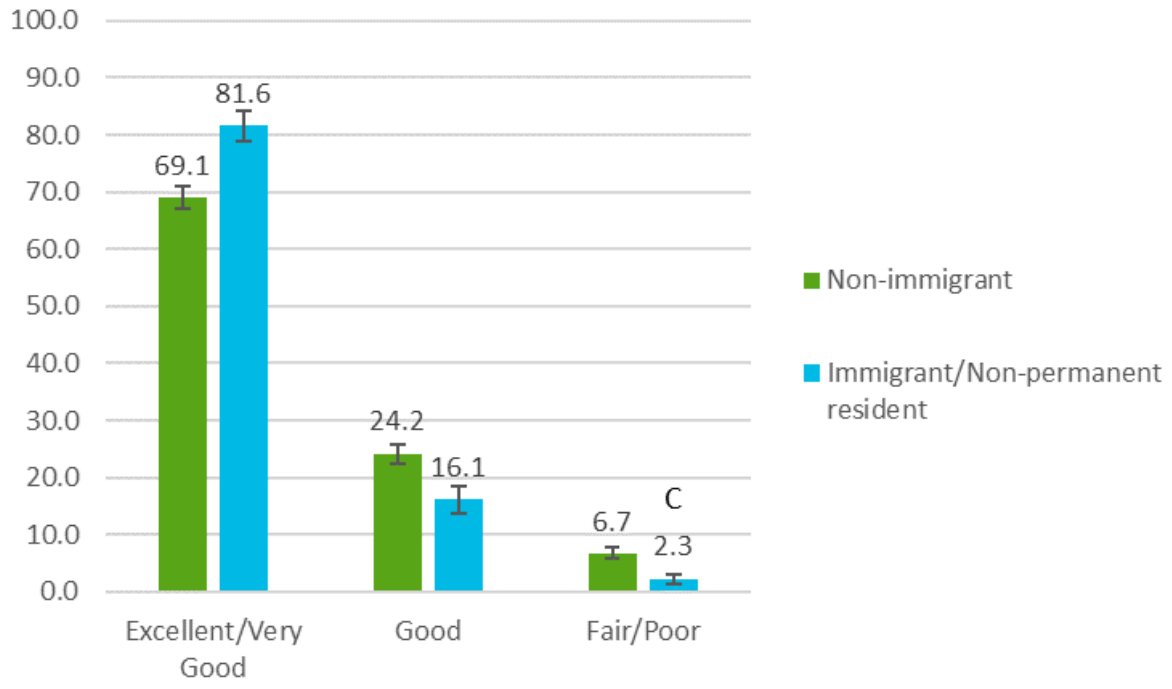
Indigenous Identity*	Excellent/Very Good % (95% CI)	Good % (95% CI)	Fair/Poor % (95% CI)
Yes	48.1 (38.9 - 57.2)	33.6 (24.8 - 42.3)	18.4[C] (11.0 - 25.8)
No	74.0 (72.4 - 75.5)	21.2 (19.8 - 22.7)	4.8 (4.1 - 5.5)

*indicates a significant difference across Indigenous identity (Rao-Scott Chi-Square Test p<0.05)
C – This estimate should be interpreted with caution due to high sampling variability

IMMIGRATION STATUS – PARENT/CAREGIVER

There was a significant difference in parent/caregiver self-perceived mental health by immigration status (Figure 7, Table 7). The percentage of immigrants/non-permanent residents who reported "fair/poor" mental health was 2.3% (95% CI: 5.7-7.8), compared to 6.7% (95% CI: 1.4-3.1) of non-immigrants.

Figure 7: Percentages of parent/caregiver self-perceived mental health by parent/caregiver immigration status in children ages 1-4 years; Ontario, 2019



C – This estimate should be interpreted with caution due to high sampling variability

Table 7: Parent/caregiver self-perceived mental health by parent/caregiver immigration status in children ages 1-4 years; Ontario, 2019

Immigration Status*	Excellent/Very Good % (95% CI)	Good % (95% CI)	Fair/Poor % (95% CI)
Non-immigrant	69.1 (67.2 - 71.0)	24.2 (22.5 - 25.9)	6.7 (5.7 - 7.8)
Immigrant/Non-permanent resident	81.6 (79.0 - 84.1)	16.1 (13.6 - 18.6)	2.3[C] (1.4 - 3.1)

*indicates a significant difference across immigration status (Rao-Scott Chi-Square Test p<0.05)
C – This estimate should be interpreted with caution due to high sampling variability

PEER GROUP

There were significant differences in parent/caregiver self-perceived mental health by Statistics Canada Peer Group (Figure 8, Table 8). The highest prevalence of "fair/poor" mental health was in group C (sparsely populated urban-rural mix areas).

Figure 8: Percentages of parent/caregiver self-perceived mental health by Statistics Canada Peer Group in children ages 1-4 years; Ontario, 2019

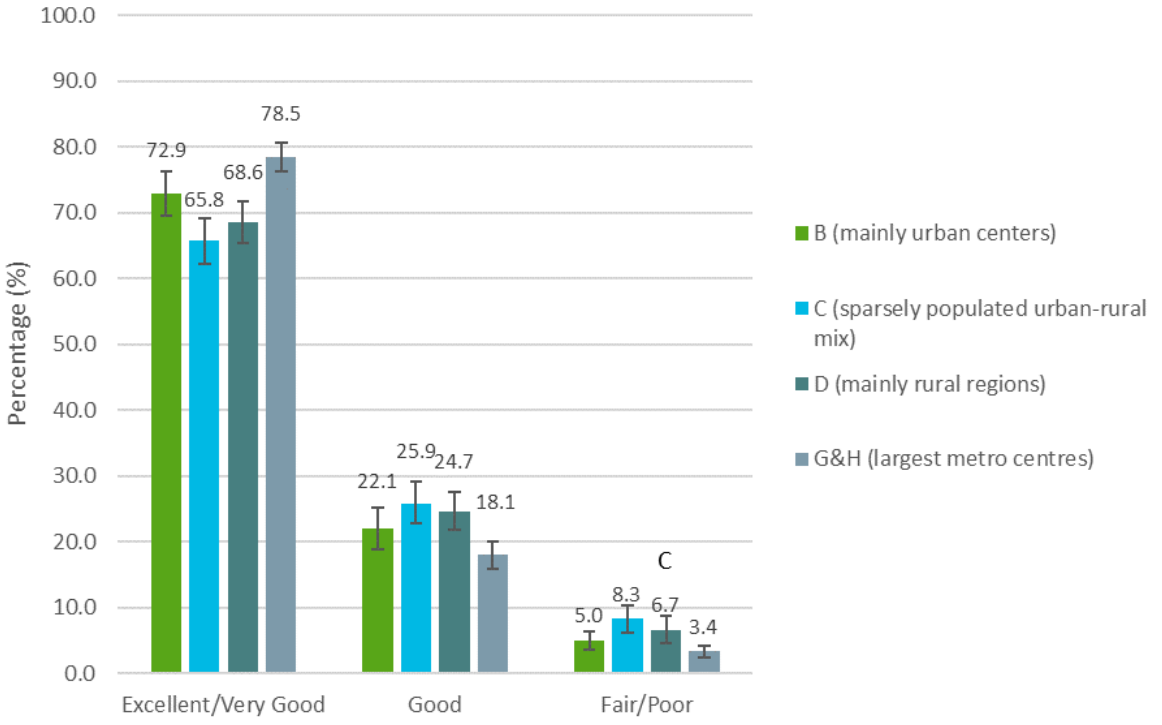


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Table 8: Parent/caregiver self-perceived mental health by Statistics Canada Peer Group in children ages 1-4 years; Ontario, 2019

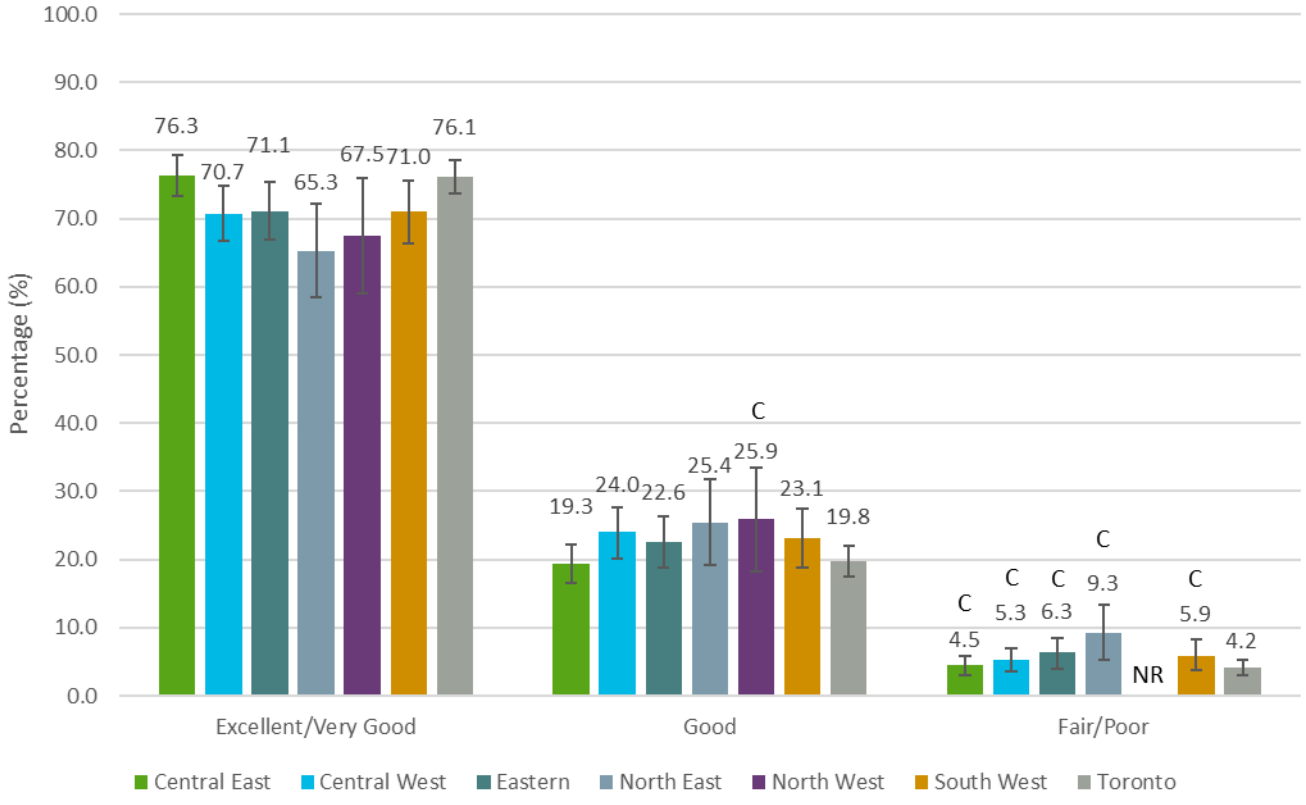
Peer Group*	Excellent/Very Good % (95% CI)	Good % (95% CI)	Fair/Poor % (95% CI)
B (mainly urban centers)	72.9 (69.6 - 76.2)	22.1 (18.9 - 25.2)	5.0 (3.6 - 6.4)
C (sparsely populated urban-rural mix)	65.8 (62.3 - 69.2)	25.9 (22.8 - 29.1)	8.3 (6.2 - 10.3)
D (mainly rural regions)	68.6 (65.4 - 71.8)	24.7 (21.9 - 27.5)	6.7[C] (4.7 - 8.8)
G&H (largest metro centres)	78.5 (76.3 - 80.7)	18.1 (16.0 - 20.1)	3.4 (2.5 - 4.3)

*indicates a significant difference across Statistics Canada Peer Groups (Rao-Scott Chi-Square Test p<0.05)
C – This estimate should be interpreted with caution due to high sampling variability

GEOGRAPHIC REGION

There was a significant difference in parent/caregiver self-perceived mental health across geographic regions (Figure 9, Table 9). Northern Ontario regions had the lowest proportion of parent/caregiver self-reporting “excellent/very good” mental health.

Figure 9: Percentages of parent/caregiver self-perceived mental health by geographic region in children ages 1-4 years; Ontario, 2019



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NR – This estimate could not be released as per Statistics Canada guidelines on unacceptable estimate quality (E)

Table 9: Parent/caregiver self-perceived mental health by geographic region in children ages 1-4 years; Ontario, 2019

Geographic Region*	Excellent/Very Good % (95% CI)	Good % (95% CI)	Fair/Poor % (95% CI)
Central East	76.3 (73.3 - 79.3)	19.3 (16.5 - 22.1)	4.5[C] (3.1 - 5.8)
Central West	70.7 (66.7 - 74.8)	24.0 (20.2 - 27.7)	5.3[C] (3.5 - 7.0)
Eastern	71.1 (66.9 - 75.3)	22.6 (18.8 - 26.4)	6.3[C] (4.0 - 8.5)
North East	65.3 (58.4 - 72.2)	25.4 (19.1 - 31.7)	9.3[C] (5.3 - 13.3)
North West	67.5 (59.0 - 76.0)	25.9[C] (18.3 - 33.5)	NR
South West	71.0 (66.4 - 75.6)	23.1 (18.8 - 27.4)	5.9[C] (3.7 - 8.2)
Toronto	76.1 (73.7 - 78.5)	19.8 (17.5 - 22.0)	4.2 (3.1 - 5.3)

*indicates a significant difference across geographic regions (Rao-Scott Chi-Square Test p<0.05)
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PUBLIC HEALTH UNIT

There was a significant difference in parent/caregiver self-perceived mental health across public health units (Table 10). Due to small sample sizes, the lowest category of "fair/poor" self-perceived mental health was not reportable for many health units.

Table 10: Parent/caregiver self-perceived mental health by public health unit in children ages 1-4 years; Ontario, 2019

PHU Name*	Excellent/Very Good % (95% CI)	Good % (95% CI)	Fair/Poor % (95% CI)
The District of Algoma Health Unit	72.8 (60.2 - 85.5)	18.3[D] (7.0 - 29.5)	NR
Brant County Health Unit	69.7 (57.3 - 82.2)	22.8[C] (11.9 - 33.8)	NR
Durham Regional Health Unit	72.9 (65.1 - 80.7)	23.5[C] (15.9 - 31.2)	NR
Grey Bruce Health Unit	66.2 (55.7 - 76.6)	28.3[C] (18.7 - 37.9)	NR
Haldimand-Norfolk Health Unit	73.8 (63.3 - 84.2)	22.7[C] (12.9 - 32.5)	NR
Haliburton, Kawartha, Pine Ridge District Health Unit	58.3 (49.1 - 67.4)	33.6 (24.7 - 42.5)	8.1[D] (3.1 - 13.1)
Halton Regional Health Unit	77.0 (70.6 - 83.4)	19.3[C] (13.2 - 25.4)	NR
City of Hamilton Health Unit	65.2 (52.7 - 77.8)	29.0[C] (16.9 - 41.1)	NR
Hastings and Prince Edward Counties Health Unit	64.8 (54.2 - 75.4)	26.4[C] (16.7 - 36.1)	NR
Huron Perth County Health Unit	72.7 (60.6 - 84.9)	22.0[D] (10.6 - 33.3)	NR
Chatham-Kent Health Unit	77.5 (69.6 - 85.4)	16.5[C] (9.8 - 23.1)	NR
Kingston, Frontenac and Lennox and Addington Health Unit	65.5 (54.3 - 76.8)	28.8[C] (18.2 - 39.3)	NR
Lambton Health Unit	69.1 (57.3 - 80.9)	25.5[C] (14.3 - 36.7)	NR
Leeds, Grenville and Lanark District Health Unit	71.6 (60.6 - 82.6)	23.2[C] (12.8 - 33.7)	NR
Middlesex–London Health Unit	70.7 (58.5 - 82.9)	23.2[D] (11.6 - 34.8)	NR
Niagara Regional Area Health Unit	67.7 (56.1 - 79.3)	21.1[C] (11.1 - 31.1)	NR
North Bay Parry Sound District Health Unit	52.7 (38.3 – 67.0)	34.7[C] (20.8 - 48.6)	12.7[D] (4.1 - 21.2)
Northwestern Health Unit	66.4 (57.3 - 75.4)	28.3[C] (19.5 – 37.0)	NR
City of Ottawa Health Unit	76.6 (70.4 - 82.9)	16.7[C] (11.2 - 22.1)	6.7[D] (3.1 - 10.3)
Peel Regional Health Unit	81.6 (77.6 - 85.6)	16.6 (12.8 - 20.4)	1.8[D] (0.8 - 2.9)
Peterborough County–City Health Unit	66.7 (54.2 - 79.1)	24.5[C] (13.0 - 35.9)	NR
Porcupine Health Unit	67.8 (56.3 - 79.4)	29.5[C] (18.0 - 41.0)	NR

PHU Name*	Excellent/Very Good % (95% CI)	Good % (95% CI)	Fair/Poor % (95% CI)
Renfrew County and District Health Unit	67.3 (53.5 - 81.2)	30.1[C] (16.4 - 43.8)	NR
The Eastern Ontario Health Unit	56.4 (44.2 - 68.7)	38.1[C] (26.0 - 50.2)	NR
Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit	66.0 (59.0 - 73.1)	22.2 (16.5 - 27.8)	11.8[C] (6.1 - 17.5)
Sudbury and District Health Unit	68.7 (55.6 - 81.9)	23.7[D] (11.4 - 36.1)	NR
Thunder Bay District Health Unit	68.1 (56.3 - 79.8)	24.7[C] (14.2 - 35.3)	NR
Timiskaming Health Unit	62.0[C] (38.3 - 85.7)	NR	NR
Waterloo Health Unit	72.6 (64.2 - 81.1)	24.6[C] (16.3 - 32.9)	NR
Wellington–Dufferin-Guelph Health Unit	68.6 (61.8 - 75.4)	27.1 (20.4 - 33.7)	NR
Windsor–Essex County Health Unit	72.0 (64.3 - 79.7)	21.3[C] (14.6 - 28.1)	NR
York Regional Health Unit	80.4 (73.3 - 87.6)	15.8[C] (9.2 - 22.5)	NR
Oxford Elgin St. Thomas Health Unit (Southwestern)	70.3 (61.6 - 78.9)	24.6[C] (16.4 - 32.8)	NR
City of Toronto Health Unit	76.1 (73.7 - 78.5)	19.8 (17.5 - 22.0)	4.2 (3.1 - 5.3)
Ontario Total	73.2 (71.7 - 74.8)	21.6 (20.1 - 23.0)	5.2 (4.5 - 5.9)

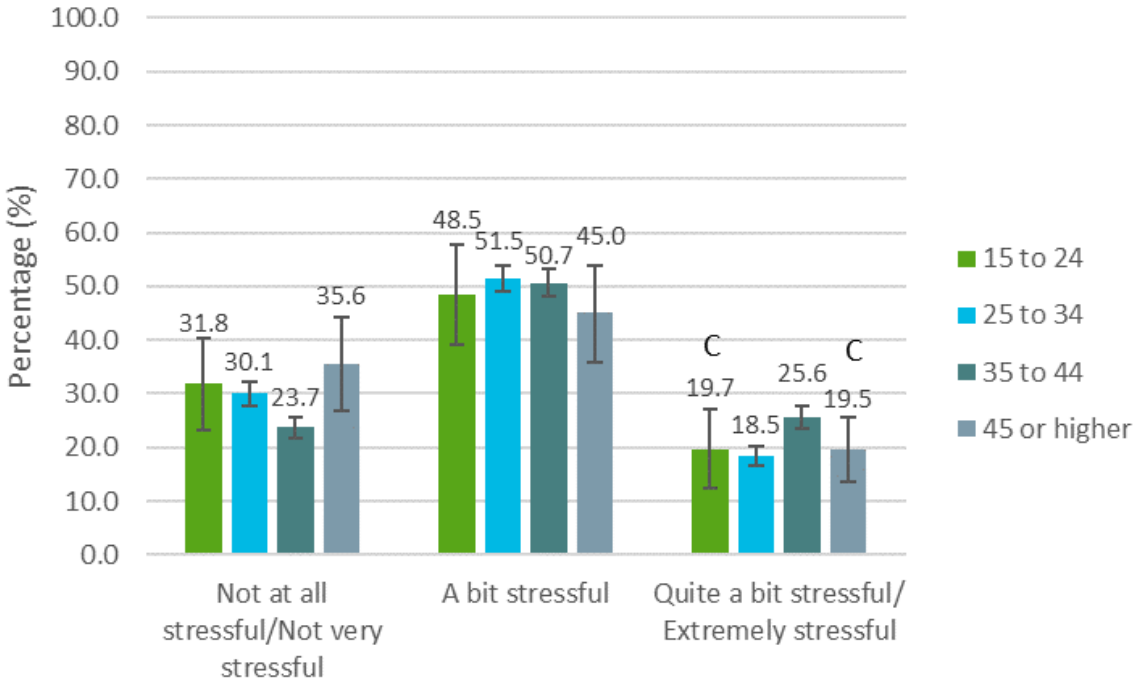
*indicates a significant difference across public health units (Rao-Scott Chi-Square Test p<0.05)
C and D – This estimate should be interpreted with caution due to high sampling variability
NR – This estimate could not be released as per Statistics Canada guidelines on unacceptable estimate quality (E)

Parent/Caregiver Perceived Life Stress

AGE AND SEX AT BIRTH

There was a significant difference in parent/caregiver perceived life stress across age group (Figure 10, Table 11). The highest percentage of parents/caregivers reporting “quite a bit stressful/extremely stressful” life stress was in the 35 to 44 age group. No significant difference in parent/caregiver perceived life stress was found across sex at birth (Table 11).

Figure 10: Percentages of parent/caregiver perceived life stress by parent/caregiver age in children ages 1-4 years; Ontario, 2019



C – This estimate should be interpreted with caution due to high sampling variability

Table 11: Parent/caregiver perceived life stress by parent/caregiver age and sex at birth in children ages 1-4 years; Ontario, 2019

Indicator	Not at all stressful/Not very stressful % (95% CI)	A bit stressful % (95% CI)	Quite a bit stressful/ Extremely stressful % (95% CI)
Age*			
15 to 24	31.8 (23.2 - 40.4)	48.5 (39.1 - 57.9)	19.7[C] (12.5 - 27.0)
25 to 34	30.1 (27.8 - 32.3)	51.5 (49.0 - 53.9)	18.5 (16.6 - 20.3)
35 to 44	23.7 (21.7 - 25.7)	50.7 (48.3 - 53.2)	25.6 (23.4 - 27.7)
45 or higher	35.6 (26.8 - 44.3)	45.0 (35.9 - 54.0)	19.5[C] (13.5 - 25.5)
Sex at Birth			
Male	28.6 (24.3 - 32.9)	51.2 (46.4 - 56.1)	20.2 (16.5 - 23.8)
Female	27.1 (25.5 - 28.6)	50.5 (48.8 - 52.3)	22.4 (20.9 - 23.9)

*indicates a significant difference across age levels (Rao-Scott Chi-Square Test p<0.05)
C – This estimate should be interpreted with caution due to high sampling variability

HIGHEST EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT – PARENT/CAREGIVER

Parent/caregiver perceived life stress did not differ significantly by highest educational attainment of parents/caregivers (Table 12).

Table 12: Parent/caregiver perceived life stress by highest level of educational attainment of parent/caregiver in children ages 1-4 years; Ontario, 2019

Highest Parental Education	Not at all stressful/Not very stressful % (95% CI)	A bit stressful % (95% CI)	Quite a bit stressful/ Extremely stressful % (95% CI)
High School or less	30.7 (27.1 - 34.4)	49.4 (45.4 - 53.4)	19.9 (16.9 - 22.9)
College/ Trades	26.3 (23.8 - 28.8)	51.5 (48.6 - 54.4)	22.2 (19.8 - 24.6)
University or more	26.6 (24.5 - 28.7)	50.6 (48.2 - 53.0)	22.9 (20.8 - 24.9)

HOUSEHOLD INCOME AND LOW INCOME CUT-OFF (LICO)

There was a significant difference in parent/caregiver perceived life stress across household income levels (Figure 11, Table 13). Parents/caregivers of children living in households at the highest and lowest household income levels were more likely to report "quite a bit stressful/extremely stressful", compared to parents/caregivers of children living in middle household income levels. This relationship was also significant by income quintiles and LICO, where a similar trend was observed (Figure 12, Table 13). Also, there was a significant difference across LICO, where parents/caregivers of children living in households below LICO were more likely to report "quite a bit stressful/extremely stressful", compared to parents/caregivers of children living in households above LICO.

Figure 11: Percentages of parent/caregiver perceived life stress by household income in children ages 1-4 years; Ontario, 2019

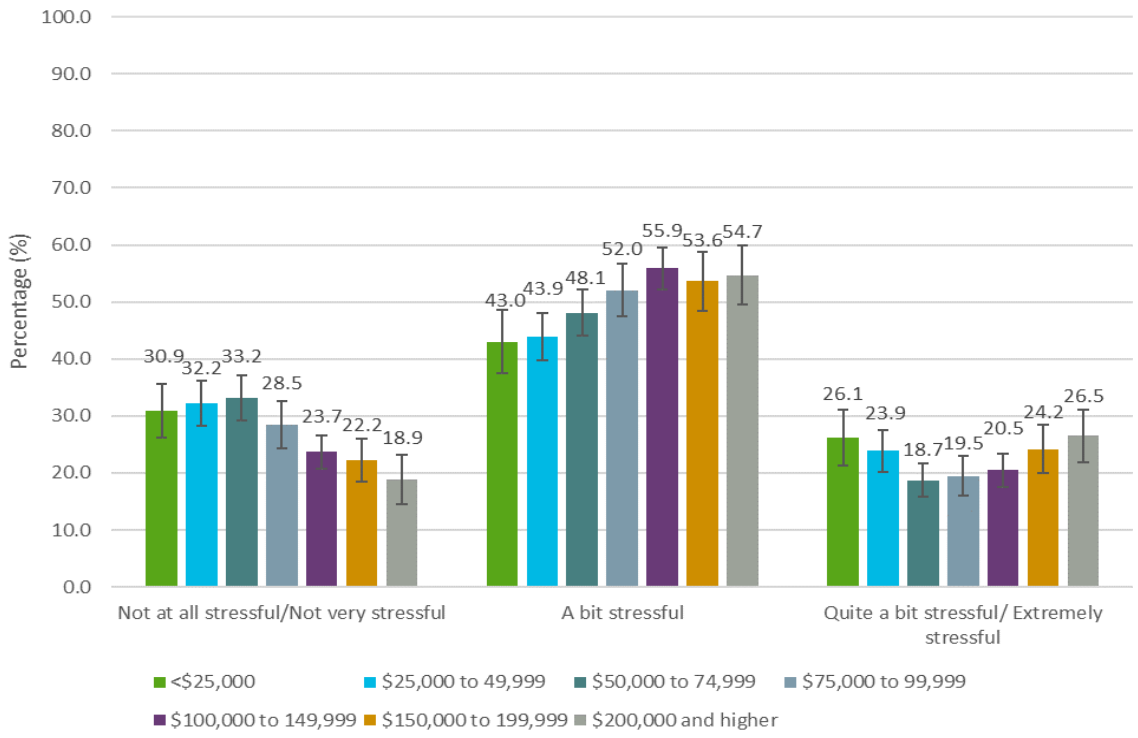


Figure 12: Percentages of parent/caregiver perceived life stress by income quintiles in children ages 1-4 years; Ontario, 2019

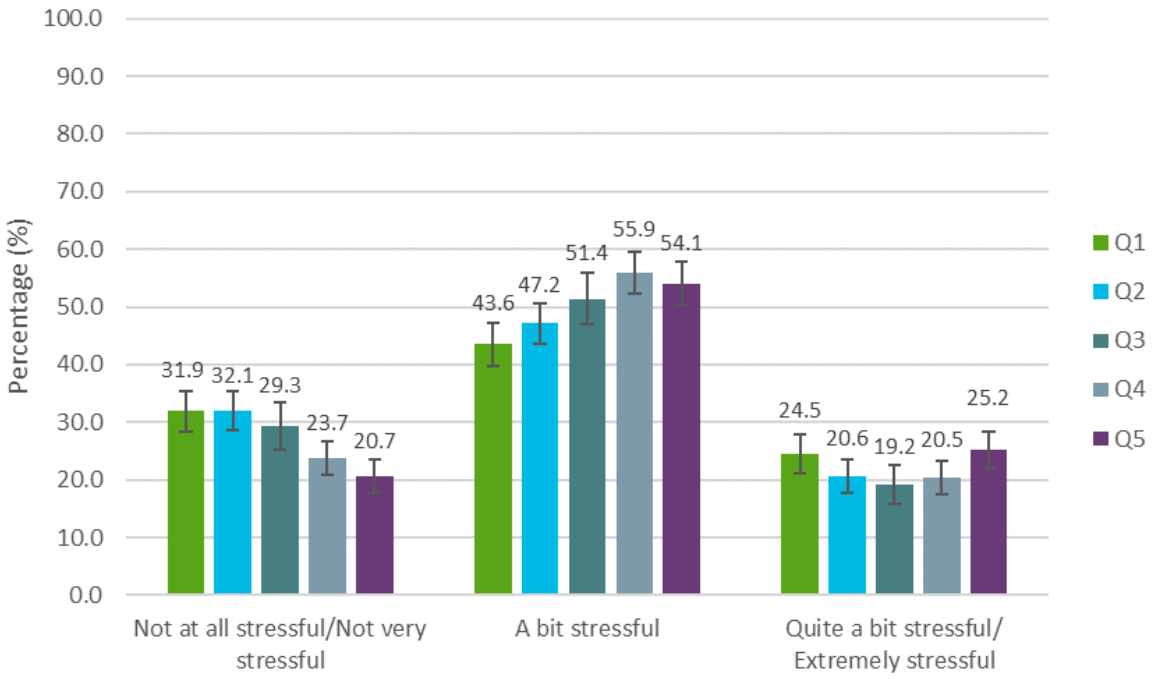


Table 13: Parent/caregiver perceived life stress by household income, income quintiles, and low income cut-off in children ages 1-4 years; Ontario, 2019

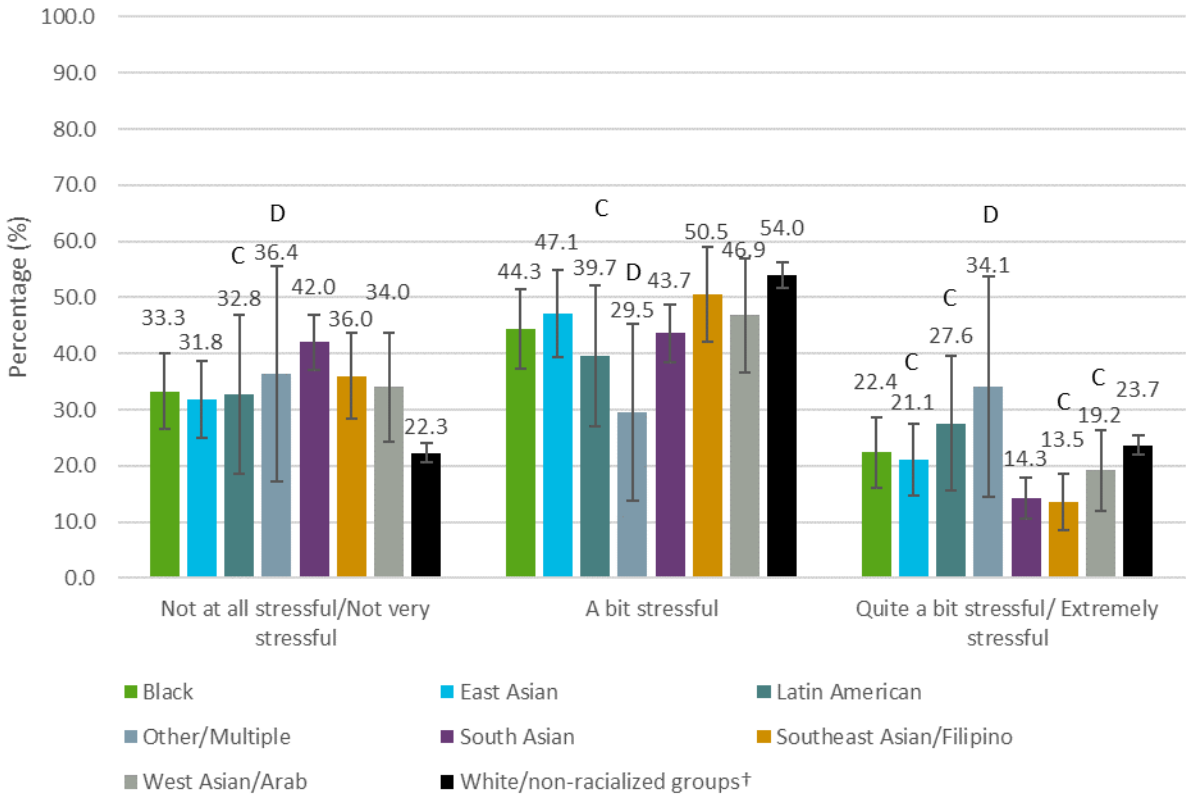
Household income*	Not at all stressful/Not very stressful % (95% CI)	A bit stressful % (95% CI)	Quite a bit stressful/ Extremely stressful % (95% CI)
<$25,000	30.9 (26.1 - 35.6)	43.0 (37.4 - 48.6)	26.1 (21.2 - 31.1)
$25,000 to 49,999	32.2 (28.3 - 36.2)	43.9 (39.7 - 48.0)	23.9 (20.2 - 27.6)
$50,000 to 74,999	33.2 (29.2 - 37.1)	48.1 (44.0 - 52.2)	18.7 (15.8 - 21.7)
$75,000 to 99,999	28.5 (24.3 - 32.6)	52.0 (47.4 - 56.7)	19.5 (16.0 - 23.0)
$100,000 to 149,999	23.7 (20.8 - 26.6)	55.9 (52.2 - 59.5)	20.5 (17.6 - 23.4)
$150,000 to 199,999	22.2 (18.4 - 26.0)	53.6 (48.5 - 58.7)	24.2 (19.9 - 28.5)
$200,000 and higher	18.9 (14.5 - 23.2)	54.7 (49.5 - 59.9)	26.5 (21.9 - 31.0)
Income Quintiles*			
Q1	31.9 (28.5 - 35.3)	43.6 (39.8 - 47.3)	24.5 (21.2 - 27.8)
Q2	32.1 (28.7 - 35.5)	47.2 (43.7 - 50.7)	20.6 (17.8 - 23.5)
Q3	29.3 (25.2 - 33.4)	51.4 (46.9 - 56.0)	19.2 (15.9 - 22.6)
Q4	23.7 (20.8 - 26.6)	55.9 (52.2 - 59.5)	20.5 (17.6 - 23.4)
Q5	20.7 (17.8 - 23.6)	54.1 (50.4 - 57.8)	25.2 (22.0 - 28.4)
Low Income Cut-Off (LICO)*			
Above LICO	25.9 (24.2 - 27.5)	52.6 (50.7 - 54.5)	21.5 (20.0 - 23.1)
Below LICO	32.2 (29.0 - 35.4)	43.8 (40.3 - 47.3)	24.0 (21.0 - 27.1)

*indicates a significant difference across household income, income quintile, and low income cut-off levels (Rao-Scott Chi-Square Test p<0.05)

RACE AND ETHNIC ORIGIN – PARENT/CAREGIVER

There was a significant difference in parent/caregiver perceived life stress across race and ethnic origin (Figure 13, Table 14). The highest percentage of parents/caregivers reporting "quite a bit stressful/extremely stressful" was in those who were identified as Other/Multiple, while the lowest was in those identifying as Southeast Asian/Filipino. These estimates should be interpreted with caution due to high sample variability (i.e., lower data quality).

Figure 13: Percentages of parent/caregiver perceived life stress by parent/caregiver race and ethnic origin in children ages 1-4 years; Ontario, 2019



C and D – This estimate should be interpreted with caution due to high sampling variability
†Excludes those identifying as Indigenous

Table 14: Parent/caregiver perceived life stress by parent/caregiver race and ethnic origin in children ages 1-4 years; Ontario, 2019

Race and Ethnic Origin*	Not at all stressful/Not very stressful % (95% CI)	A bit stressful % (95% CI)	Quite a bit stressful/ Extremely stressful % (95% CI)
Black	33.3 (26.5 - 40.1)	44.3 (37.2 - 51.5)	22.4 (16.0 - 28.7)
East Asian	31.8 (25.0 - 38.6)	47.1 (39.4 - 54.8)	21.1[C] (14.6 - 27.6)
Latin American	32.8[C] (18.6 - 46.9)	39.7[C] (27.1 - 52.2)	27.6[C] (15.6 - 39.5)
Other/Multiple	36.4[D] (17.3 - 55.5)	29.5[D] (13.7 - 45.2)	34.1[D] (14.5 - 53.7)
South Asian	42.0 (37.0 - 47.0)	43.7 (38.5 - 48.8)	14.3 (10.7 - 17.9)
Southeast Asian/Filipino	36.0 (28.4 - 43.7)	50.5 (42.1 - 58.9)	13.5[C] (8.5 - 18.5)
West Asian/Arab	34.0 (24.3 - 43.7)	46.9 (36.7 - 57.0)	19.2[C] (12.0 - 26.4)
White/non-racialized groups†	22.3 (20.6 - 24.0)	54.0 (51.8 - 56.2)	23.7 (22.0 - 25.5)

*indicates a significant difference across race and ethnic origin levels (Rao-Scott Chi-Square Test p<0.05)
C and D – This estimate should be interpreted with caution due to high sampling variability
†Excludes those identifying as Indigenous

INDIGENOUS IDENTITY – PARENT/CAREGIVER

No significant difference for parent/caregiver perceived life stress was found across Indigenous identity (Table 15).

Table 15:Parent/caregiver perceived life stress by parent/caregiver Indigenous identity in children ages 1-4 years; Ontario, 2019

Indigenous Identity	Not at all stressful/Not very stressful % (95% CI)	A bit stressful % (95% CI)	Quite a bit stressful/ Extremely stressful % (95% CI)
Yes	20.6[C] (13.6 - 27.6)	50.7 (41.7 - 59.8)	28.7[C] (20.1 - 37.3)
No	27.4 (26.0 - 28.9)	50.7 (49.0 - 52.4)	21.9 (20.5 - 23.3)

C – This estimate should be interpreted with caution due to high sampling variability

IMMIGRATION STATUS – PARENT/CAREGIVER

There was a significant difference in parent/caregiver perceived life stress by immigration status (Figure 14, Table 16). The percentage of immigrants/non-permanent residents who reported “quite a bit stressful/extremely stressful” was 16.7% (95% CI: 14.5-18.9), compared to 24.7% (95% CI: 22.8-26.5) of non-immigrants.

Figure 14: Percentages of parent/caregiver perceived life stress by parent/caregiver immigration status in children ages 1-4 years; Ontario, 2019

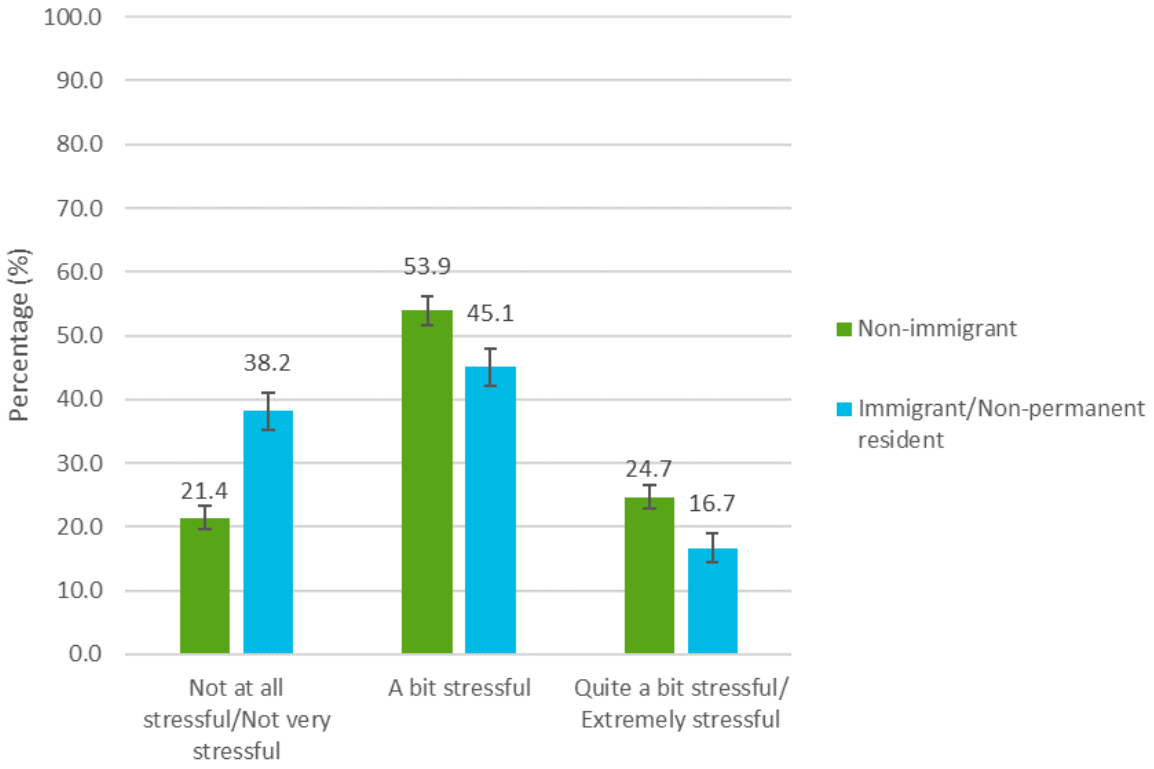


Table 16: Parent/caregiver perceived life stress by parent/caregiver immigration status in children ages 1-4 years; Ontario, 2019

Immigration Status*	Not at all stressful/Not very stressful % (95% CI)	A bit stressful % (95% CI)	Quite a bit stressful/ Extremely stressful % (95% CI)
Non-immigrant	21.4 (19.7 - 23.2)	53.9 (51.7 - 56.1)	24.7 (22.8 - 26.5)
Immigrant/Non-permanent resident	38.2 (35.3 - 41.1)	45.1 (42.2 - 48.0)	16.7 (14.5 - 18.9)

*indicates a significant difference across immigration status (Rao-Scott Chi-Square Test p<0.05)

PEER GROUP

There were significant differences in parent/caregiver perceived life stress by Statistics Canada Peer Group (Figure 15, Table 17). The highest prevalence of "quite a bit stressful/extremely stressful" was 24.8% (95% CI: 21.7-27.9) in group C (sparsely populated urban-rural mix). However, these differences were small.

Figure 15: Percentages of parent/caregiver perceived life stress by Statistics Canada Peer Group in children ages 1-4 years; Ontario, 2019

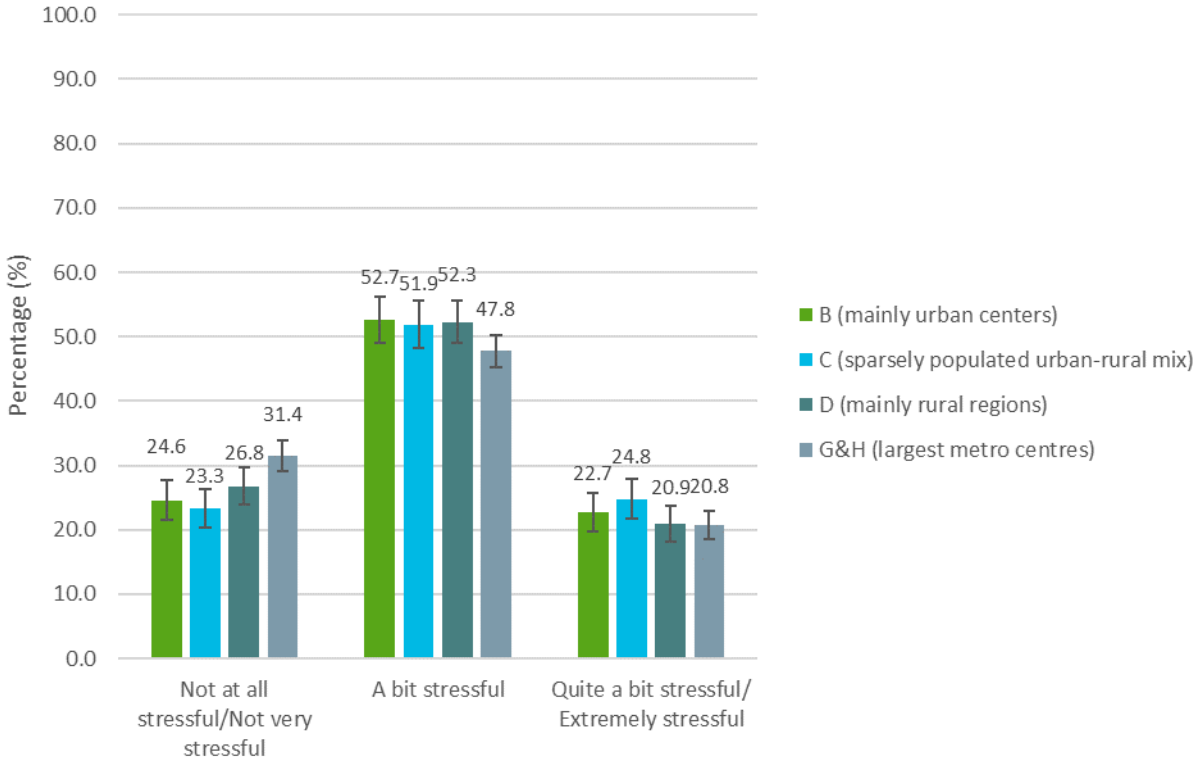


Table 17: Parent/caregiver perceived life stress by Statistics Canada Peer Group in children ages 1-4 years; Ontario, 2019

Peer Group*	Not at all stressful/Not very stressful % (95% CI)	A bit stressful % (95% CI)	Quite a bit stressful/ Extremely stressful % (95% CI)
B (mainly urban centers)	24.6 (21.5 - 27.8)	52.7 (49.0 - 56.3)	22.7 (19.7 - 25.7)
C (sparsely populated urban-rural mix)	23.3 (20.3 - 26.3)	51.9 (48.3 - 55.6)	24.8 (21.7 - 27.9)
D (mainly rural regions)	26.8 (23.9 - 29.7)	52.3 (49.0 - 55.7)	20.9 (18.1 - 23.7)
G&H (largest metro centres)	31.4 (29.1 - 33.8)	47.8 (45.2 - 50.3)	20.8 (18.6 - 22.9)

*indicates a significant difference across Statistics Canada Peer Groups (Rao-Scott Chi-Square Test p<0.05)

GEOGRAPHIC REGION

No significant difference for parent/caregiver perceived life stress was found across geographic regions (Table 18).

Table 18: Parent/caregiver perceived life stress by geographic region in children ages 1-4 years; Ontario, 2019

Geographic Region	Not at all stressful/Not very stressful % (95% CI)	A bit stressful % (95% CI)	Quite a bit stressful/ Extremely stressful % (95% CI)
Central East	30.7 (27.8 - 33.6)	48.3 (45.0 - 51.6)	20.9 (18.2 - 23.7)
Central West	25.3 (21.6 - 29.1)	52.1 (47.9 - 56.3)	22.6 (19.3 - 25.9)
Eastern	26.3 (22.1 - 30.5)	49.0 (44.3 - 53.8)	24.6 (20.5 - 28.7)
North East	20.9 (15.1 - 26.8)	55.7 (48.5 - 62.9)	23.4 (17.7 - 29.0)
North West	24.6[C] (17.3 - 31.9)	54.1 (45.4 - 62.8)	21.3[C] (13.8 - 28.8)
South West	23.6 (19.9 - 27.3)	55.7 (50.8 - 60.6)	20.7 (16.4 - 25.0)
Toronto	28.5 (26.0 - 31.0)	49.3 (46.6 - 52.0)	22.2 (19.9 - 24.5)

C – This estimate should be interpreted with caution due to high sampling variability

PUBLIC HEALTH UNIT

There was a significant difference in parent/caregiver perceived life stress across public health units (Table 19).

Table 19: Parent/caregiver perceived life stress by public health unit in children ages 1-4 years; Ontario, 2019

PHU Name*	Not at all stressful/Not very stressful % (95% CI)	A bit stressful % (95% CI)	Quite a bit stressful/ Extremely stressful % (95% CI)
The District of Algoma Health Unit	16.3[D] (8.0 - 24.5)	55.5 (41.7 - 69.3)	28.2[C] (14.8 - 41.7)
Brant County Health Unit	21.0[D] (10.5 - 31.5)	46.4 (32.9 - 59.9)	32.6[C] (19.8 - 45.3)
Durham Regional Health Unit	28.5 (20.5 - 36.4)	51.7 (42.6 - 60.8)	19.8[C] (12.4 - 27.2)
Grey Bruce Health Unit	27.8[C] (18.2 - 37.4)	55.5 (44.9 - 66.0)	16.7[C] (8.9 - 24.5)
Haldimand-Norfolk Health Unit	26.9[C] (16.4 - 37.4)	53.2 (41.0 - 65.4)	20.0[D] (9.8 - 30.2)
Haliburton, Kawartha, Pine Ridge District Health Unit	26.1[C] (17.9 - 34.2)	50.6 (41.7 - 59.5)	23.3[C] (15.6 - 31.0)
Halton Regional Health Unit	23.3 (17.3 - 29.3)	49.8 (42.4 - 57.1)	26.9 (20.6 - 33.3)
City of Hamilton Health Unit	30.7[C] (19.0 - 42.4)	53.7 (41.3 - 66.2)	15.6[D] (7.1 - 24.1)
Hastings and Prince Edward Counties Health Unit	22.2[C] (13.6 - 30.8)	56.1 (45.2 - 66.9)	21.7[C] (12.5 - 30.9)
Huron Perth County Health Unit	33.3[C] (20.9 - 45.7)	48.8 (35.9 - 61.8)	17.9[D] (8.3 - 27.4)

PHU Name*	Not at all stressful/Not very stressful % (95% CI)	A bit stressful % (95% CI)	Quite a bit stressful/ Extremely stressful % (95% CI)
Chatham-Kent Health Unit	27.6[C] (19.5 - 35.8)	55.8 (46.6 - 65.1)	16.5[C] (9.4 - 23.7)
Kingston, Frontenac and Lennox and Addington Health Unit	20.2[C] (11.9 - 28.5)	51.8 (40.9 - 62.7)	28.0[C] (17.9 - 38.2)
Lambton Health Unit	33.1[C] (21.5 - 44.8)	52.3 (40.0 - 64.5)	14.6[D] (5.8 - 23.4)
Leeds, Grenville and Lanark District Health Unit	33.5[C] (22.2 - 44.8)	47.1 (35.3 - 58.9)	19.4[C] (10.6 - 28.2)
Middlesex–London Health Unit	17.7[C] (9.0 - 26.3)	57.3 (44.9 - 69.8)	25.0[C] (13.5 - 36.6)
Niagara Regional Area Health Unit	25.3[C] (15.4 - 35.1)	49.6 (38.1 - 61.1)	25.2[C] (15.1 - 35.2)
North Bay Parry Sound District Health Unit	14.4[D] (5.3 - 23.4)	65.0 (52.8 - 77.2)	20.7[C] (10.8 - 30.6)
Northwestern Health Unit	27.6[C] (18.6 - 36.6)	56.9 (46.9 - 67.0)	15.5[C] (8.8 - 22.1)
City of Ottawa Health Unit	26.5 (19.9 - 33.2)	47.9 (40.4 - 55.5)	25.6 (19.3 - 31.8)
Peel Regional Health Unit	38.1 (33.4 - 42.8)	44.4 (39.5 - 49.2)	17.5 (13.9 - 21.2)
Peterborough County–City Health Unit	NR	60.8 (48.3 - 73.3)	27.8[C] (16.7 - 39.0)
Porcupine Health Unit	26.4[C] (15.4 - 37.3)	51.7 (39.7 - 63.6)	22.0[C] (11.8 - 32.2)
Renfrew County and District Health Unit	26.1[C] (14.2 - 37.9)	62.0 (49.0 - 74.9)	NR
The Eastern Ontario Health Unit	28.6[C] (17.2 - 40.0)	40.5 (28.7 - 52.4)	30.8[C] (19.1 - 42.6)
Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit	22.3 (16.7 - 27.9)	49.9 (43.0 - 56.9)	27.7 (21.3 - 34.2)
Sudbury and District Health Unit	24.8[D] (11.9 - 37.7)	52.0 (37.1 - 66.9)	23.3[C] (12.4 - 34.1)
Thunder Bay District Health Unit	23.1[C] (13.1 - 33.1)	52.7 (40.6 - 64.7)	24.2[C] (13.6 - 34.8)
Timiskaming Health Unit	NR	53.7[C] (29.2 - 78.3)	NR
Waterloo Health Unit	23.3[C] (15.4 - 31.2)	54.3 (44.7 - 63.9)	22.4[C] (14.7 - 30.1)
Wellington–Dufferin-Guelph Health Unit	25.0 (18.3 - 31.7)	54.7 (46.9 - 62.5)	20.4[C] (14.0 - 26.8)
Windsor–Essex County Health Unit	17.7[C] (11.0 - 24.4)	60.0 (51.3 - 68.7)	22.3[C] (14.5 - 30.1)
York Regional Health Unit	29.7 (22.7 - 36.6)	48.7 (40.6 - 56.9)	21.6[C] (14.7 - 28.5)
Oxford Elgin St. Thomas Health Unit (Southwestern)	30.3 (22.3 - 38.4)	51.5 (42.0 - 61.0)	18.2[C] (10.9 - 25.4)

PHU Name*	Not at all stressful/Not very stressful % (95% CI)	A bit stressful % (95% CI)	Quite a bit stressful/ Extremely stressful % (95% CI)
City of Toronto Health Unit	28.5 (26.0 - 31.0)	49.3 (46.6 - 52.0)	22.2 (19.9 - 24.5)
Ontario Total	27.3 (25.8 - 28.7)	50.7 (49.0 - 52.3)	22.1 (20.7 - 23.4)

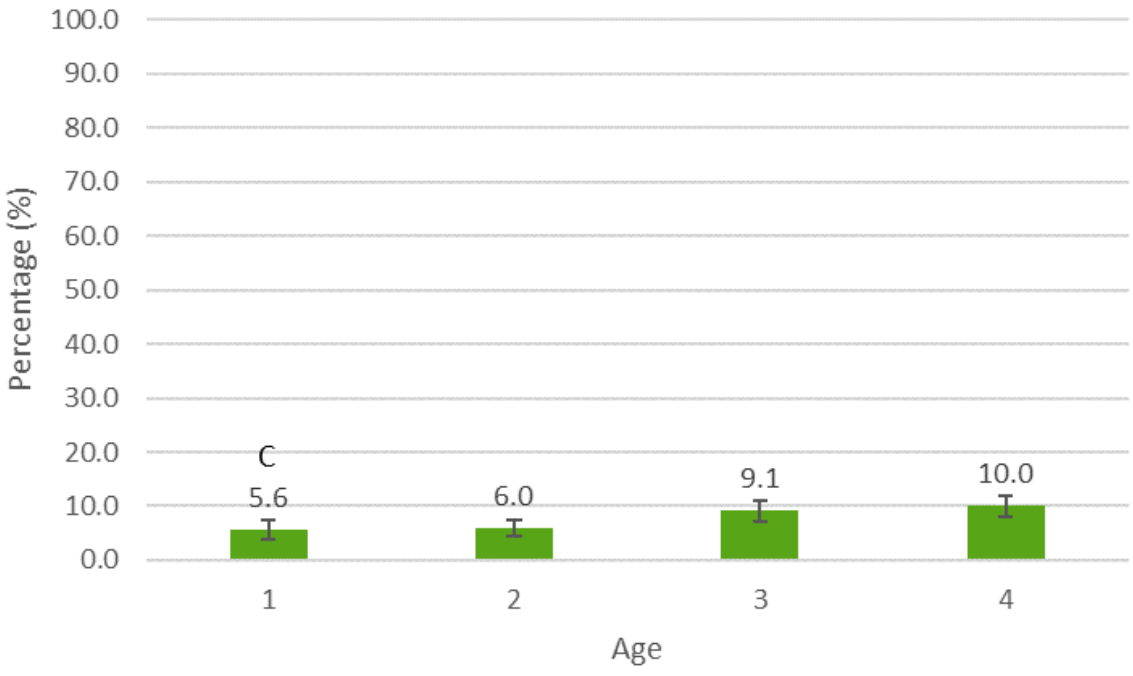
*indicates a significant difference across public health units (Rao-Scott Chi-Square Test p<0.05)
C and D – This estimate should be interpreted with caution due to high sampling variability
NR – This estimate could not be released as per Statistics Canada guidelines on unacceptable estimate quality (E)

Experienced Divorce/Death of a Parent

AGE AND SEX AT BIRTH

There was a significant difference in experience of divorce/death of a parent across age (Figure 16, Table 20). As age increased, the percentage of children who experienced divorce/death of a parent increased. No significant difference in experience of divorce/death of a parent was found across sex at birth (Table 20).

Figure 16: Percentages of experience of divorce/death of a parent by age in children ages 1-4; Ontario, 2019



C – This estimate should be interpreted with caution due to high sampling variability

Table 20: Experience of divorce/death of a parent by age and sex at birth in children ages 1-4 years; Ontario, 2019

Indicator	Experienced divorce/death of a parent % (95% CI)
Age*	
1	5.6[C] (3.8 - 7.4)
2	6.0 (4.4 - 7.5)
3	9.1 (7.2 - 10.9)
4	10.0 (8.1 - 12.0)
Sex at Birth	
Male	8.2 (6.9 - 9.5)
Female	7.1 (5.9 - 8.3)

*indicates a significant difference across age (Rao-Scott Chi-Square Test p<0.05)
C – This estimate should be interpreted with caution due to high sampling variability

HIGHEST PARENTAL EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT

There was an inverse relationship between experience of divorce/death of a parent and highest parental educational attainment (Figure 17, Table 21). Experience of a divorce/death of a parent was 3.3% (95% CI: 2.5-4.1) for children who's highest parental educational attainment was a university degree or more, compared to 17.5% (95% CI: 14.1-20.8) for children who's highest parental educational attainment was a high school degree or less.

Figure 17: Percentages of experience of divorce/death of a parent by highest parental educational attainment in children ages 1-4; Ontario, 2019

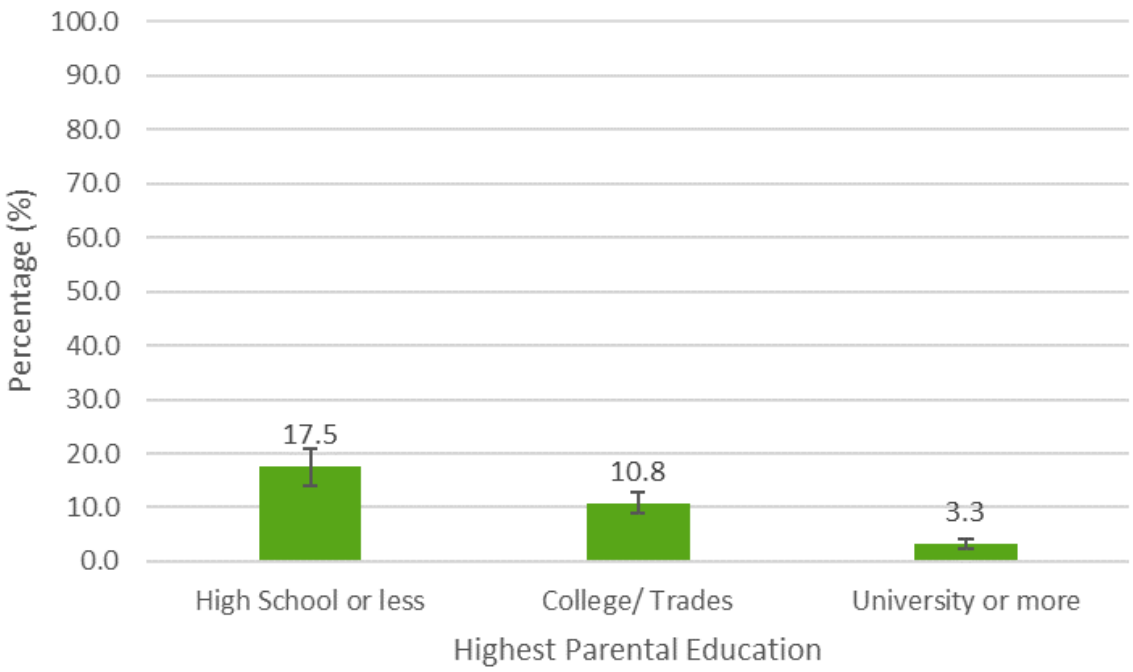


Table 21: Experience of divorce/death of a parent by highest parental educational attainment in children ages 1-4 years; Ontario, 2019

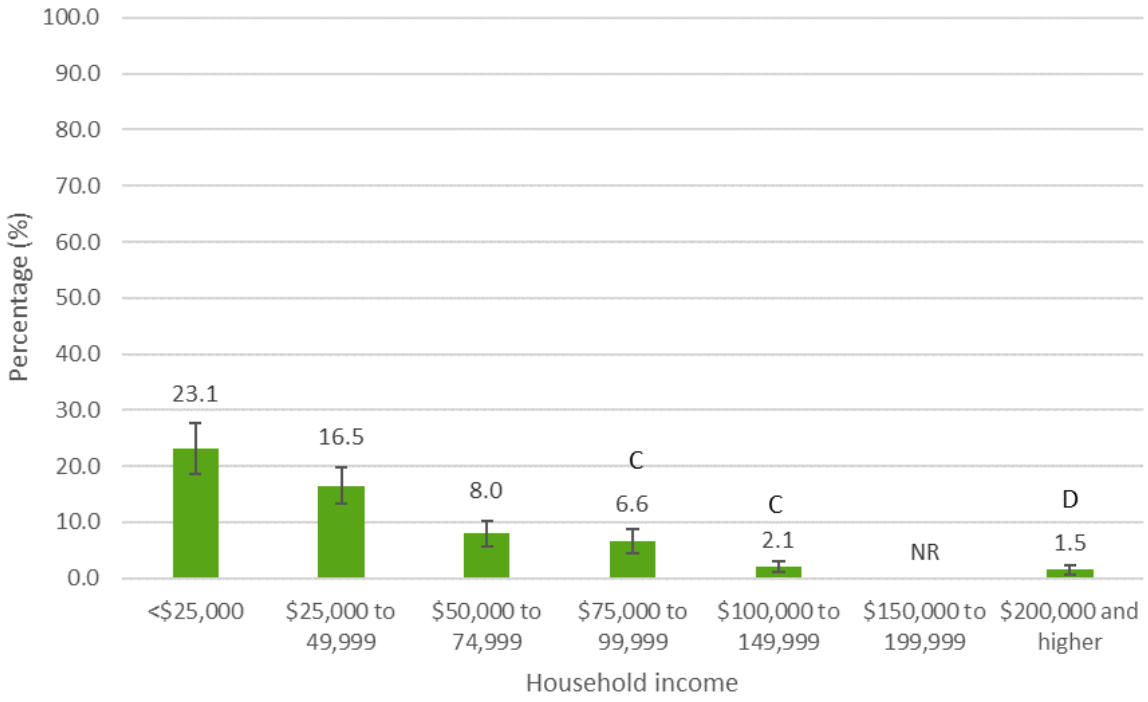
Highest Parental Education*	Experienced divorce/death of a parent % (95% CI)
High School or less	17.5 (14.1 - 20.8)
College/ Trades	10.8 (8.9 - 12.7)
University or more	3.3 (2.5 - 4.1)

*indicates a significant difference across education attainment levels (Rao-Scott Chi-Square Test p<0.05).

HOUSEHOLD INCOME AND LOW INCOME CUT-OFF (LICO)

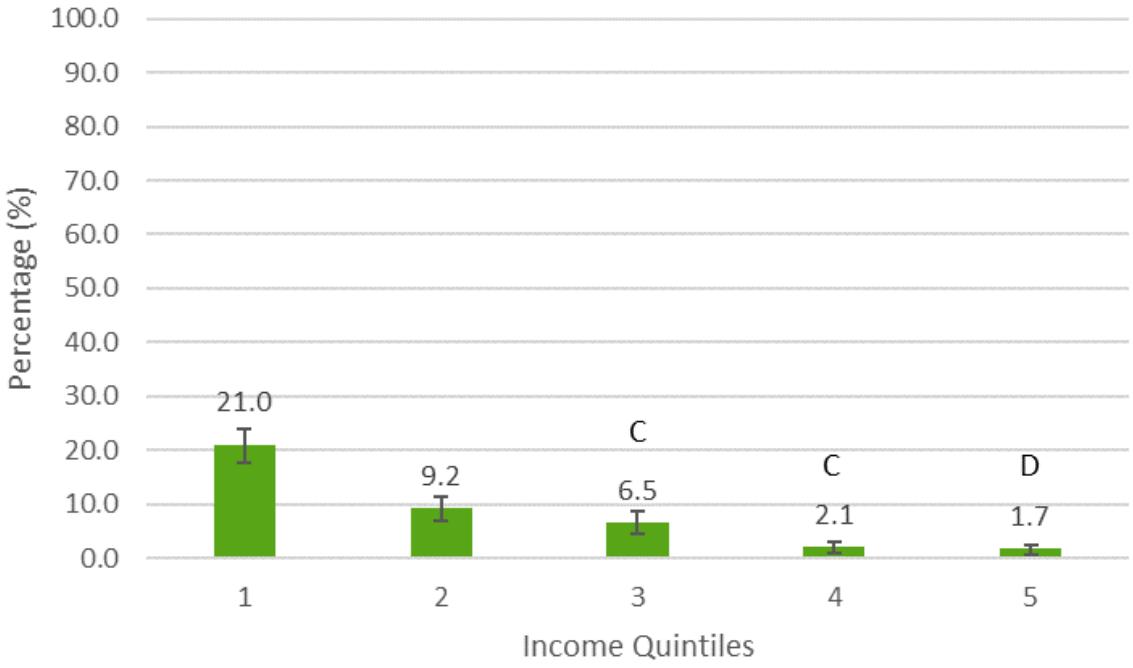
There was a significant difference in experience of divorce/death of a parent across household income levels (Figure 18, Table 22). Higher household income levels were less likely to report experience of divorce/death of a parent, compared to lower household income levels. This relationship was also significant by income quintiles and LICO, where a similar trend was observed (Figure 19, Table 22).

Figure 18: Percentages of experience of divorce/death of a parent by household income in children ages 1-4; Ontario, 2019



C and D – This estimate should be interpreted with caution due to high sampling variability
NR – This estimate could not be released as per Statistics Canada guidelines on unacceptable estimate quality (E)

Figure 19: Percentages of experience of divorce/death of a parent by income quintiles in children ages 1-4; Ontario, 2019



C and D – This estimate should be interpreted with caution due to high sampling variability

Table 22: Experience of divorce/death of a parent by household income, income quintiles, and low income cut-off in children ages 1-4 years; Ontario, 2019

Household income*	Experienced divorce/death of a parent % (95% CI)
<$25,000	23.1 (18.6 - 27.7)
$25,000 to 49,999	16.5 (13.3 - 19.8)
$50,000 to 74,999	8.0 (5.7 - 10.3)
$75,000 to 99,999	6.6[C] (4.4 - 8.8)
$100,000 to 149,999	2.1[C] (1.1 - 3.0)
$150,000 to 199,999	NR
$200,000 and higher	1.5[D] (0.6 - 2.4)
Income Quintiles*	
Q1	21.0 (17.8 - 24.1)
Q2	9.2 (7.0 - 11.3)
Q3	6.5[C] (4.4 - 8.7)
Q4	2.1[C] (1.1 - 3.0)
Q5	1.7[D] (0.8 - 2.5)
Low Income Cut-Off (LICO)*	
Above LICO	5.1 (4.2 - 5.9)
Below LICO	17.1 (14.4 - 19.8)

*indicates a significant difference across household income, income quintile, and low income cut-off levels (Rao-Scott Chi-Square Test p<0.05)
C and D – This estimate should be interpreted with caution due to high sampling variability
NR – This estimate could not be released as per Statistics Canada guidelines on unacceptable estimate quality (E)

RACE AND ETHNIC ORIGIN – CHILD

There was a significant difference in experience of divorce/death of a parent across race and ethnic origin (Table 23). The highest percentage was observed in those who were identified as Black, while the lowest was in those who were identified as East Asian. These estimates should be interpreted with caution due to high sample variability (i.e., lower data quality). Due to small sample sizes, many risk categories were not reportable.

Table 23: Experience of divorce/death of a parent by race and ethnic origin in children ages 1-4 years; Ontario, 2019

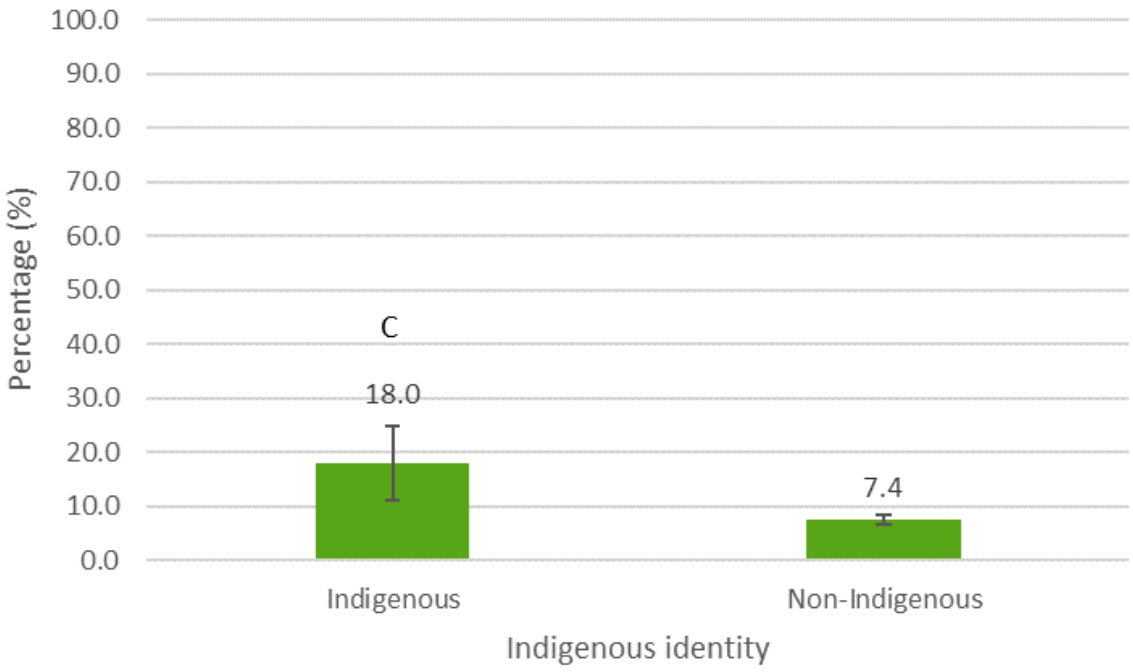
Race and Ethnic Origin*	Experienced divorce/death of a parent % (95% CI)
Black	14.0[C] (9.5 - 18.6)
East Asian	5.2[C] (2.7 - 7.7)
Latin American	NR
Other/Multiple	8.2[D] (3.7 - 12.7)
South Asian	NR
Southeast Asian/Filipino	9.1[D] (3.7 - 14.5)
West Asian/Arab	NR
White/non-racialized groups†	7.9 (6.7 - 9.1)

*indicates a significant difference across race and ethnic origin levels (Rao-Scott Chi-Square Test p<0.05)
C and D – This estimate should be interpreted with caution due to high sampling variability
NR – This estimate could not be released as per Statistics Canada guidelines on unacceptable estimate quality (E)
†Excludes those identifying as Indigenous

INDIGENOUS IDENTITY – CHILD

There was a significant difference in experience of divorce/death of a parent by Indigenous identity (Figure 20, Table 24). More than half of children who were identified as being Indigenous experienced divorce/death of a parent (18.0% [95% CI: 11.0-24.9]), compared to 7.4% (95% CI: 6.5-8.3) in those who were identified as being non-Indigenous. The estimate for children who were identified as being Indigenous should be interpreted with caution due to high variability in the estimates (i.e., lower data quality).

Figure 20: Percentages of experience of divorce/death of a parent by Indigenous identity in children ages 1-4; Ontario, 2019



C – This estimate should be interpreted with caution due to high sampling variability

Table 24: Experience of divorce/death of a parent by Indigenous identity in children ages 1-4 years; Ontario, 2019

Indigenous Identity*	Experienced divorce/death of a parent % (95% CI)
Yes	18.0[C] (11.0 - 24.9)
No	7.4 (6.5 - 8.3)

*indicates a significant difference across Indigenous identity (Rao-Scott Chi-Square Test p<0.05)
C – This estimate should be interpreted with caution due to high sampling variability

IMMIGRATION STATUS – CHILD

No significant difference in experience of divorce/death of a parent was found across immigration status (Table 25).

Table 25: Experience of divorce/death of a parent by immigration status in children ages 1-4 years; Ontario, 2019

Immigration Status	Experienced divorce/death of a parent % (95% CI)
Non-immigrant	7.7 (6.8 - 8.6)
Immigrant/Non-permanent resident	6.4[D] (2.4 - 10.4)

D – This estimate should be interpreted with caution due to high sampling variability

PEER GROUP

There were significant differences in experience of divorce/death of a parent by Statistics Canada Peer Group (Figure 21, Table 26). The highest prevalence of experience of divorce/death of a parent was in group C (sparsely populated urban-rural mix).

Figure 21: Percentages of experience of divorce/death of a parent by Statistics Canada Peer Group in children ages 1-4; Ontario, 2019

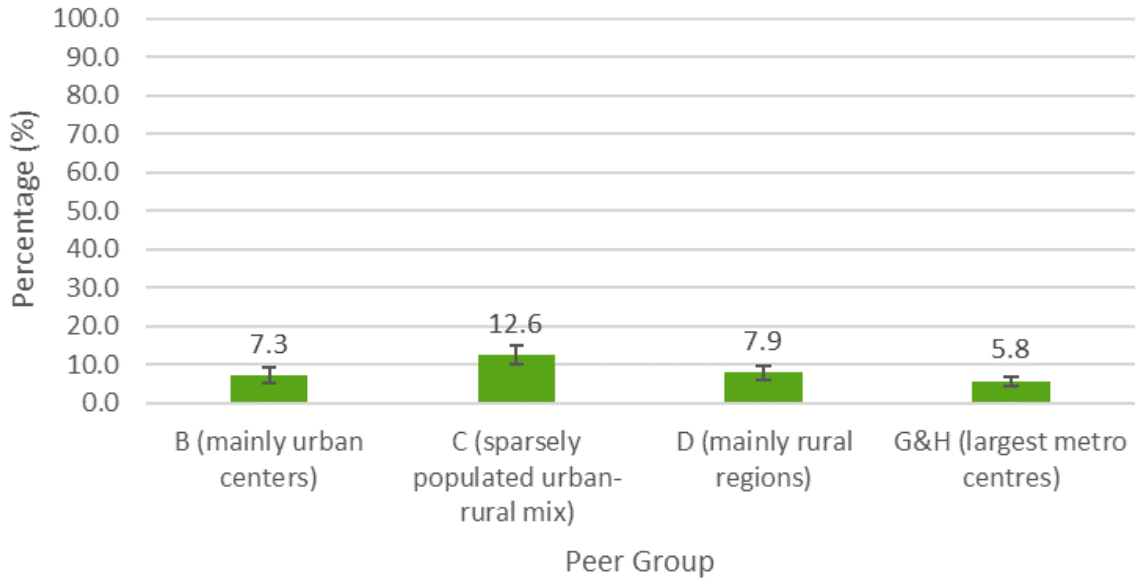


Table 26: Experience of divorce/death of a parent by Statistics Canada Peer Group in children ages 1-4 years; Ontario, 2019

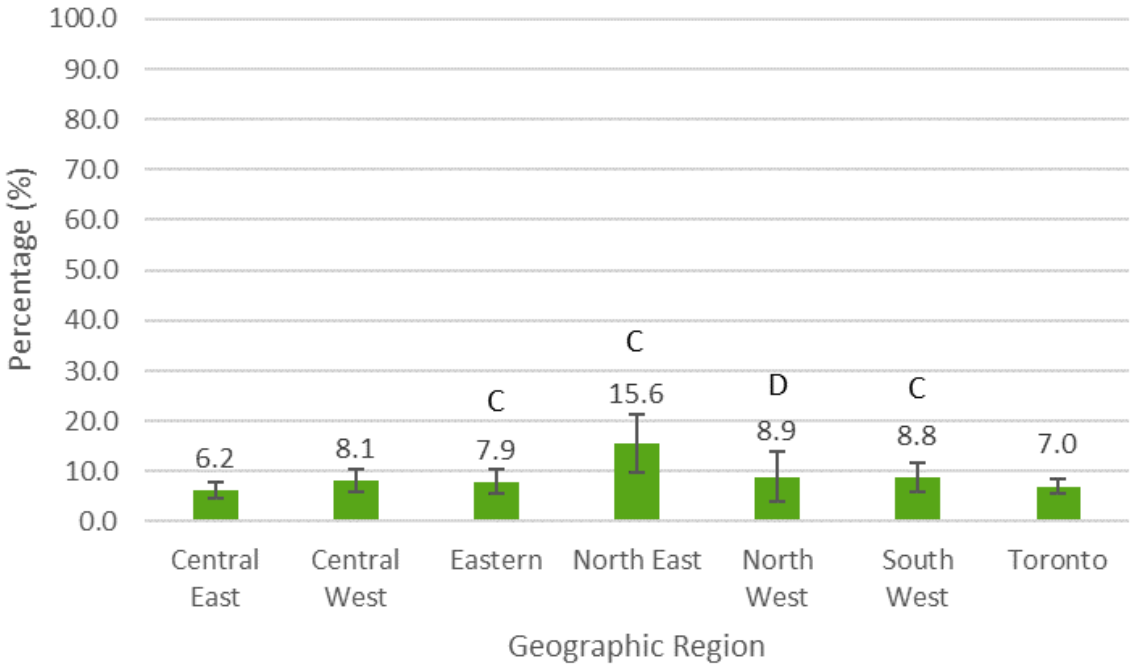
Peer Group*	Experienced divorce/death of a parent % (95% CI)
B (mainly urban centers)	7.3 (5.4 - 9.1)
C (sparsely populated urban-rural mix)	12.6 (10.0 - 15.2)
D (mainly rural regions)	7.9 (6.0 - 9.9)
G&H (largest metro centres)	5.8 (4.6 - 7.0)

*indicates a significant difference across Statistics Canada Peer Groups (Rao-Scott Chi-Square Test p<0.05)

GEOGRAPHIC REGION

There was a significant difference in experience of divorce/death of a parent across geographic regions (Figure 22, Table 27). North East region had the highest percentage of experience of divorce/death of a parent.

Figure 22: Percentages of experience of divorce/death of a parent by geographic region in children ages 1-4; Ontario, 2019



C and D – This estimate should be interpreted with caution due to high sampling variability

Table 27: Experience of divorce/death of a parent by geographic region in children ages 1-4 years; Ontario, 2019

Geographic Region*	Experienced divorce/death of a parent % (95% CI)
Central East	6.2 (4.6 - 7.8)
Central West	8.1 (5.9 - 10.3)
Eastern	7.9[C] (5.5 - 10.3)
North East	15.6[C] (9.8 - 21.3)
North West	8.9[D] (3.9 - 14.0)
South West	8.8[C] (5.9 - 11.7)
Toronto	7.0 (5.5 - 8.5)

*indicates a significant difference across geographic regions (Rao-Scott Chi-Square Test p<0.05)
C and D – This estimate should be interpreted with caution due to high sampling variability

PUBLIC HEALTH UNIT

There was a significant difference in experience of divorce/death of a parent across public health units (Table 28). Due to small sample sizes, many risk categories were not reportable.

Table 28: Experience of divorce/death of a parent by public health unit in children ages 1-4 years; Ontario, 2019

PHU Name*	Experienced divorce/death of a parent % (95% CI)
The District of Algoma Health Unit	NR
Brant County Health Unit	NR
Durham Regional Health Unit	7.7[D] (3.4 - 12.1)
Grey Bruce Health Unit	NR
Haldimand-Norfolk Health Unit	NR
Haliburton, Kawartha, Pine Ridge District Health Unit	11.4[D] (5.5 - 17.2)
Halton Regional Health Unit	7.3[D] (3.2 - 11.4)
City of Hamilton Health Unit	NR
Hastings and Prince Edward Counties Health Unit	11.2[D] (4.5 - 17.9)
Huron Perth County Health Unit	NR
Chatham-Kent Health Unit	NR
Kingston, Frontenac and Lennox and Addington Health Unit	10.0[D] (4.1 - 15.9)
Lambton Health Unit	NR
Leeds, Grenville and Lanark District Health Unit	NR
Middlesex–London Health Unit	NR
Niagara Regional Area Health Unit	12.2[D] (4.1 - 20.4)
North Bay Parry Sound District Health Unit	18.0[D] (5.8 - 30.2)
Northwestern Health Unit	12.7[D] (6.4 - 19.0)
City of Ottawa Health Unit	6.4[D] (2.8 - 10.0)
Peel Regional Health Unit	5.1[C] (2.8 - 7.4)
Peterborough County–City Health Unit	16.1[D] (5.7 - 26.5)
Porcupine Health Unit	17.0[D] (7.8 - 26.2)
Renfrew County and District Health Unit	NR
The Eastern Ontario Health Unit	14.0[D] (4.9 - 23.1)
Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit	8.3[D] (4.1 - 12.5)
Sudbury and District Health Unit	NR
Thunder Bay District Health Unit	NR
Timiskaming Health Unit	NR
Waterloo Health Unit	8.8[D] (3.1 - 14.5)
Wellington–Dufferin-Guelph Health Unit	7.2[D] (3.3 - 11.1)
Windsor–Essex County Health Unit	NR
York Regional Health Unit	NR
Oxford Elgin St. Thomas Health Unit (Southwestern)	8.8[D] (4.0 - 13.7)
City of Toronto Health Unit	7.0 (5.5 - 8.5)
Ontario Total	7.7 (6.8 - 8.6)

*indicates a significant difference across public health units (Rao-Scott Chi-Square Test p<0.05)
C and D – This estimate should be interpreted with caution due to high sampling variability
NR – This estimate could not be released as per Statistics Canada guidelines on unacceptable estimate quality (E)

Number of Home Moves

AGE AND SEX AT BIRTH

There was a significant difference in number of home moves across age (Figure 23, Table 29). As age increased, the number of home moves experienced by the child increased. No significant difference in number of home moves was found across sex at birth (Table 29).

Figure 23: Percentages of number of home moves by age in children ages 1-4; Ontario, 2019

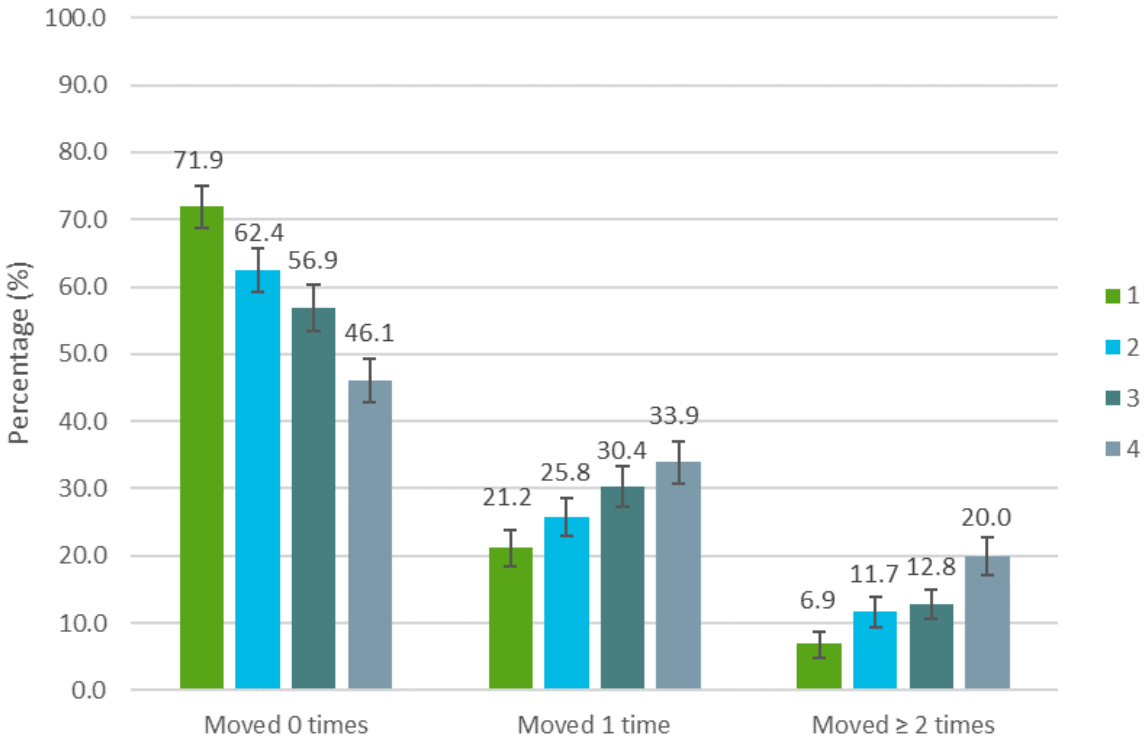


Table 29: Number of home moves by age and sex at birth in children ages 1-4; Ontario, 2019

Indicator	Moved 0 times % (95% CI)	Moved 1 time % (95% CI)	Moved ≥ 2 times % (95% CI)
Age*			
1	71.9 (68.8 - 75.1)	21.2 (18.4 - 23.9)	6.9 (4.9 - 8.8)
2	62.4 (59.2 - 65.7)	25.8 (23.0 - 28.7)	11.7 (9.4 - 14.0)
3	56.9 (53.4 - 60.3)	30.4 (27.3 - 33.4)	12.8 (10.6 - 15.0)
4	46.1 (42.8 - 49.4)	33.9 (30.7 - 37.1)	20.0 (17.2 - 22.7)
Sex at Birth			
Male	57.5 (55.2 - 59.9)	29.1 (26.9 - 31.2)	13.4 (11.7 - 15.1)
Female	61.0 (58.5 - 63.5)	26.6 (24.6 - 28.7)	12.4 (10.7 - 14.1)

*indicates a significant difference across age (Rao-Scott Chi-Square Test p<0.05)

HIGHEST PARENTAL EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT

There was an inverse relationship between highest parental educational attainment and number of home moves (Figure 24, Table 30). As highest parental educational attainment increased, the number of home moves experienced by the child decreased.

Figure 24: Percentages of number of home moves by highest parental educational attainment in children ages 1-4; Ontario, 2019

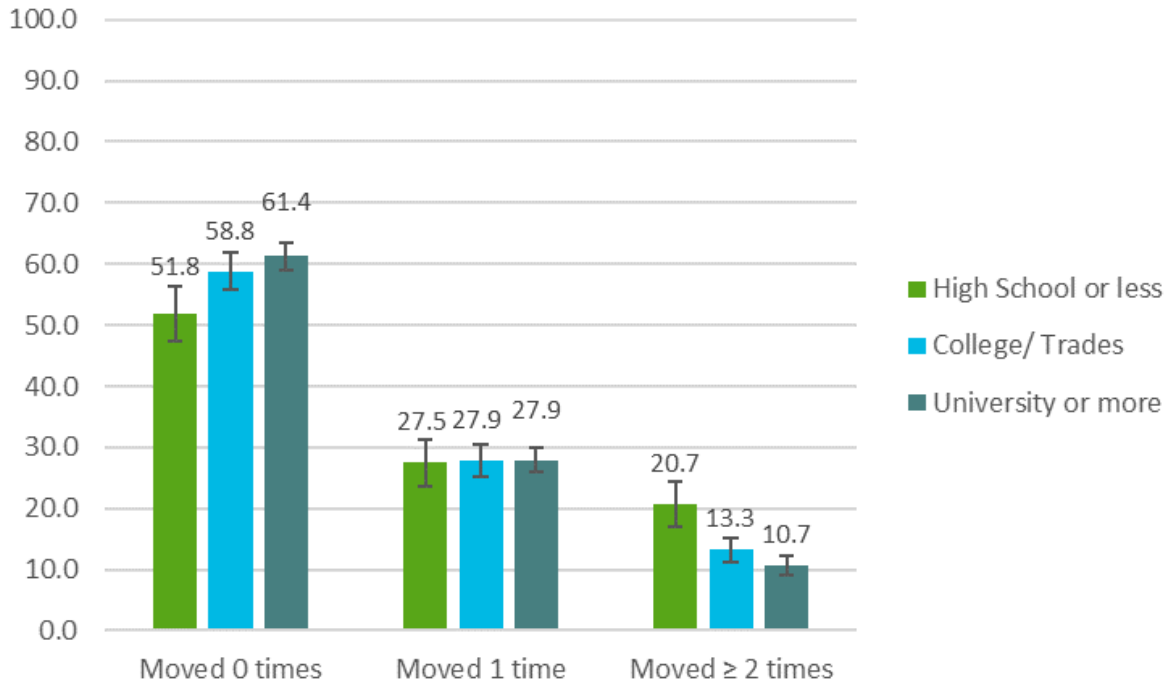


Table 30: Number of home moves by highest parental educational attainment in children ages 1-4; Ontario, 2019

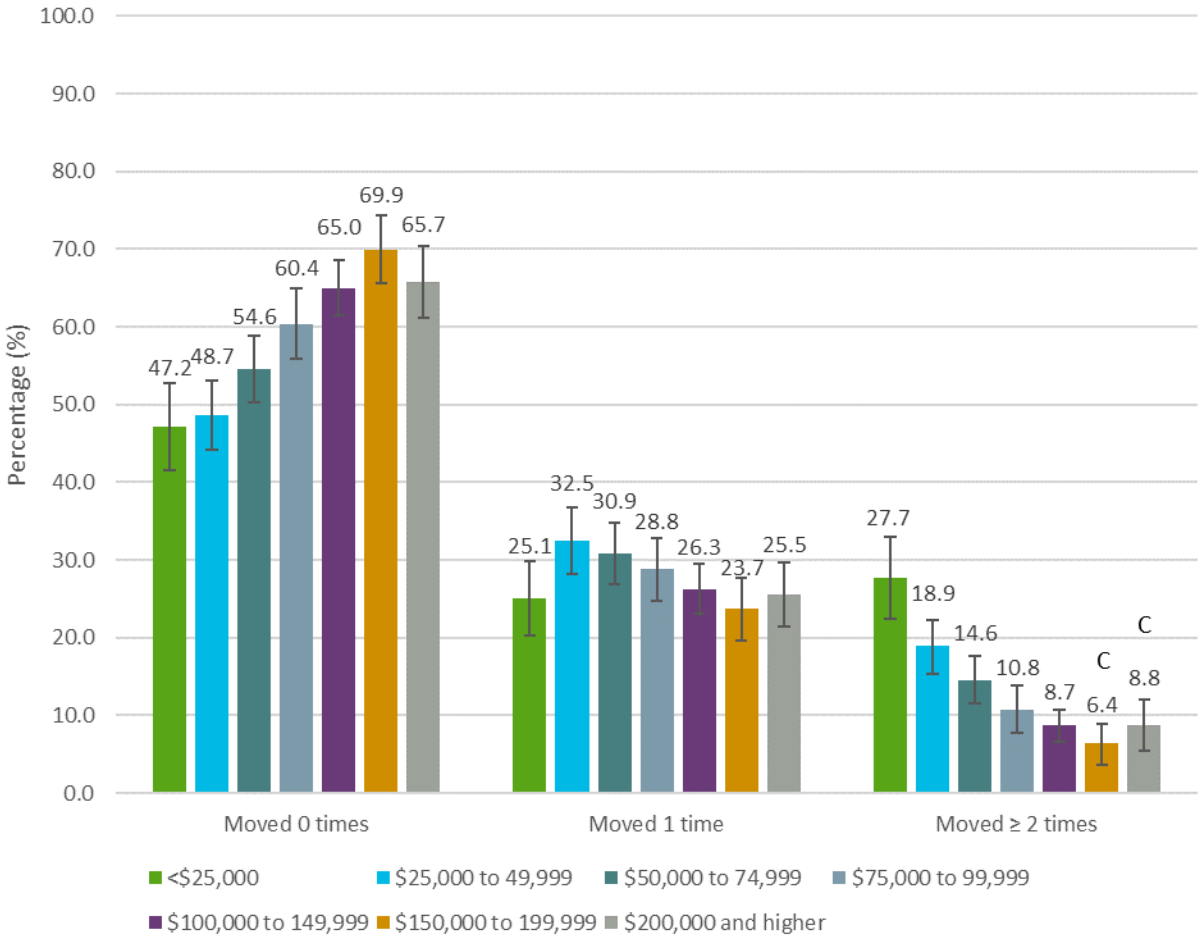
Highest Parental Education*	Moved 0 times % (95% CI)	Moved 1 time % (95% CI)	Moved ≥ 2 times % (95% CI)
High School or less	51.8 (47.3 - 56.4)	27.5 (23.6 - 31.3)	20.7 (16.9 - 24.5)
College/ Trades	58.8 (55.8 - 61.8)	27.9 (25.3 - 30.6)	13.3 (11.3 - 15.2)
University or more	61.4 (59.1 - 63.6)	27.9 (25.9 - 30.0)	10.7 (9.2 - 12.2)

*indicates a significant difference across education attainment levels (Rao-Scott Chi-Square Test $p<0.05$).

HOUSEHOLD INCOME AND LOW INCOME CUT-OFF (LICO)

There was a significant difference in number of home moves across household income levels (Figure 25, Table 31). Higher household income levels had lower number of home moves, compared to lower household income levels. This relationship was also significant by income quintiles and LICO, where a similar trend was observed (Figure 26, Table 31).

Figure 25: Percentages of number of home moves by household income in children ages 1-4; Ontario, 2019



C – This estimate should be interpreted with caution due to high sampling variability

Figure 26: Percentages of number of home moves by income quintiles in children ages 1-4; Ontario, 2019

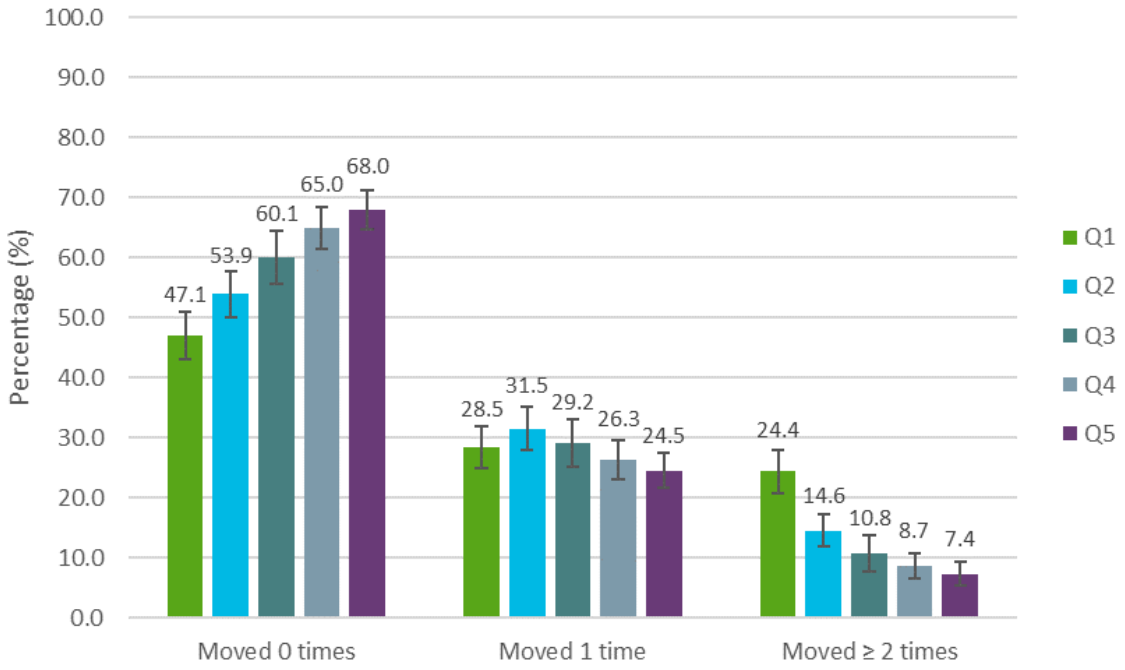


Table 31: Number of home moves by household income in children ages 1-4; Ontario, 2019

Household income*	Moved 0 times % (95% CI)	Moved 1 time % (95% CI)	Moved ≥ 2 times % (95% CI)
<$25,000	47.2 (41.6 - 52.8)	25.1 (20.3 - 29.9)	27.7 (22.4 - 33.0)
$25,000 to 49,999	48.7 (44.2 - 53.1)	32.5 (28.2 - 36.8)	18.9 (15.4 - 22.3)
$50,000 to 74,999	54.6 (50.3 - 58.9)	30.9 (26.9 - 34.8)	14.6 (11.6 - 17.6)
$75,000 to 99,999	60.4 (55.9 - 65.0)	28.8 (24.7 - 32.8)	10.8 (7.8 - 13.9)
$100,000 to 149,999	65.0 (61.5 - 68.5)	26.3 (23.1 - 29.6)	8.7 (6.7 - 10.7)
$150,000 to 199,999	69.9 (65.6 - 74.3)	23.7 (19.7 - 27.7)	6.4[C] (3.7 - 9.0)
$200,000 and higher	65.7 (61.1 - 70.4)	25.5 (21.4 - 29.7)	8.8[C] (5.5 - 12.1)
Income Quintiles*			
Q1	47.1 (43.1 - 51.1)	28.5 (24.9 - 32.0)	24.4 (20.8 - 28.0)
Q2	53.9 (50.1 - 57.7)	31.5 (27.9 - 35.1)	14.6 (12.0 - 17.2)
Q3	60.1 (55.6 - 64.5)	29.2 (25.1 - 33.2)	10.8 (7.8 - 13.7)
Q4	65.0 (61.5 - 68.5)	26.3 (23.1 - 29.6)	8.7 (6.7 - 10.7)
Q5	68.0 (64.8 - 71.2)	24.5 (21.6 - 27.5)	7.4 (5.4 - 9.5)
Low Income Cut-Off (LICO)*			
Above LICO	62.4 (60.6 - 64.2)	27.0 (25.4 - 28.6)	10.6 (9.4 - 11.8)
Below LICO	47.7 (44.0 - 51.5)	31.1 (27.5 - 34.6)	21.2 (18.2 - 24.2)

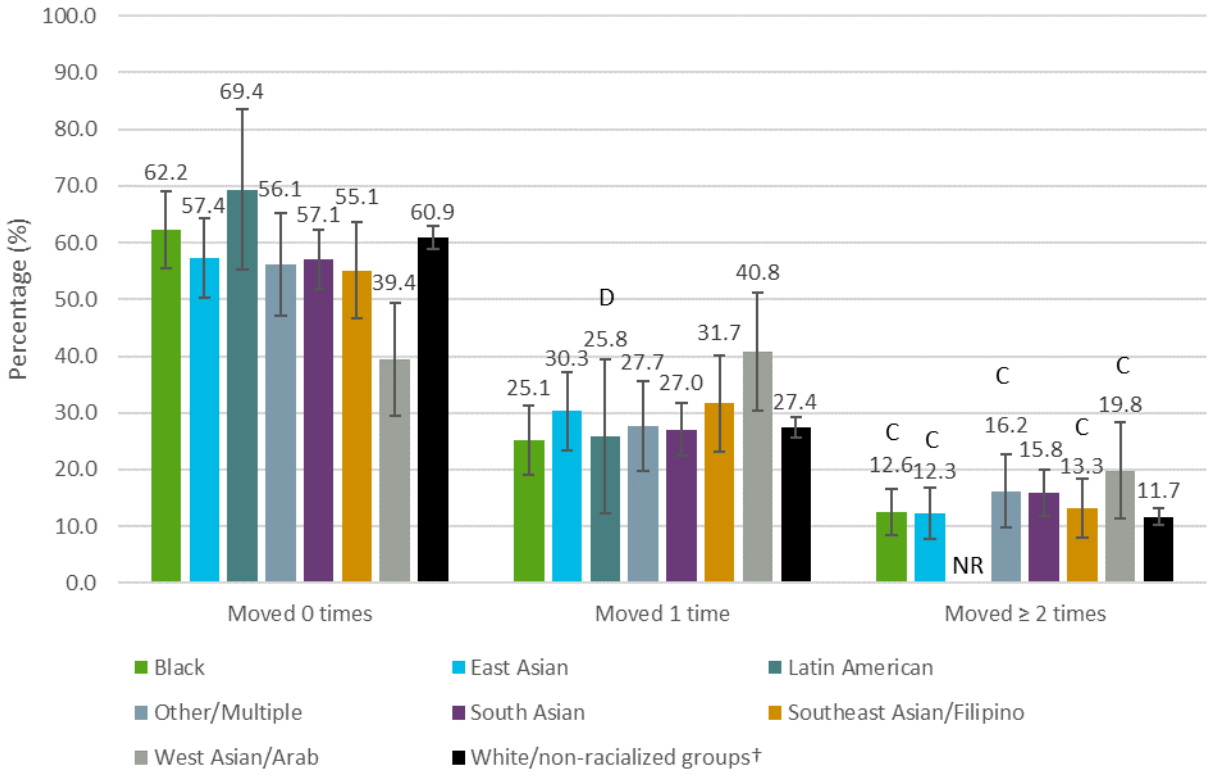
*indicates a significant difference across household income, income quintile, and low income cut-off levels (Rao-Scott Chi-Square Test p<0.05)

C – This estimate should be interpreted with caution due to high sampling variability

RACE AND ETHNIC ORIGIN – CHILD

There was a significant difference in number of home moves across race and ethnic origin (Figure 27, Table 32). The highest percentage of moving two or more times was observed in those who were identified as West Asian/Arab (19.8% [95% CI: 11.4-28.3]), while the lowest was in those who were identified as White (11.7% [95% CI: 10.3-13.2]). Estimates and those who identify as West Asian/Arab should be interpreted with caution due to high variability in the estimates (i.e., lower data quality).

Figure 27: Percentages of number of home moves by race and ethnic origin in children ages 1-4; Ontario, 2019



C and D – This estimate should be interpreted with caution due to high sampling variability
NR – This estimate could not be released as per Statistics Canada guidelines on unacceptable estimate quality (E)
†Excludes those identifying as Indigenous

Table 32: Number of home moves by race and ethnic origin in children ages 1-4; Ontario, 2019

Race and Ethnic Origin*	Moved 0 times % (95% CI)	Moved 1 time % (95% CI)	Moved ≥ 2 times % (95% CI)
Black	62.2 (55.5 - 69.0)	25.1 (19.1 - 31.2)	12.6[C] (8.5 - 16.7)
East Asian	57.4 (50.4 - 64.4)	30.3 (23.4 - 37.2)	12.3[C] (7.7 - 16.9)
Latin American	69.4 (55.2 - 83.6)	25.8[D] (12.2 - 39.5)	NR
Other/Multiple	56.1 (47.1 - 65.2)	27.7 (19.8 - 35.5)	16.2[C] (9.8 - 22.6)
South Asian	57.1 (51.9 - 62.3)	27.0 (22.4 - 31.7)	15.8 (11.8 - 19.9)
Southeast Asian/Filipino	55.1 (46.6 - 63.6)	31.7 (23.1 - 40.2)	13.3[C] (8.1 - 18.4)
West Asian/Arab	39.4 (29.5 - 49.3)	40.8 (30.4 - 51.2)	19.8[C] (11.4 - 28.3)

Race and Ethnic Origin*	Moved 0 times % (95% CI)	Moved 1 time % (95% CI)	Moved ≥ 2 times % (95% CI)
White/non-racialized groups†	60.9 (58.8 - 63.0)	27.4 (25.6 - 29.2)	11.7 (10.3 - 13.2)

*indicates a significant difference across race and ethnic origin levels (Rao-Scott Chi-Square Test p<0.05)
C and D – This estimate should be interpreted with caution due to high sampling variability
NR – This estimate could not be released as per Statistics Canada guidelines on unacceptable estimate quality (E)
†Excludes those identifying as Indigenous

INDIGENOUS IDENTITY – CHILD

No significant difference in number of home moves was found across Indigenous identity (Table 33).

Table 33: Number of home moves by Indigenous identity in children ages 1-4; Ontario, 2019

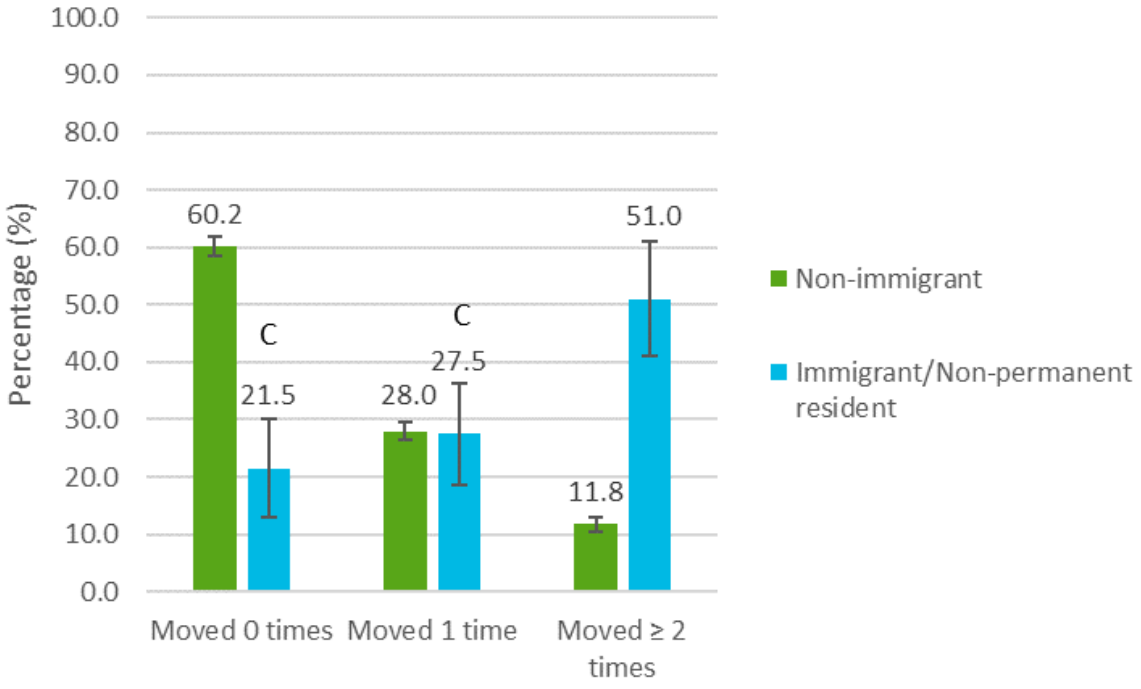
Indigenous Identity	Moved 0 times % (95% CI)	Moved 1 time % (95% CI)	Moved ≥ 2 times % (95% CI)
Yes	53.0 (44.0 - 61.9)	28.4 (20.1 - 36.8)	18.6[C] (11.7 - 25.5)
No	59.4 (57.7 - 61.1)	27.9 (26.3 - 29.4)	12.7 (11.5 - 13.9)

C – This estimate should be interpreted with caution due to high sampling variability

IMMIGRATION STATUS – CHILD

There was a significant difference in number of home moves across immigration status (Figure 28, Table 34). 51.0% (95% CI: 41.0-60.9) of immigrant/non-permanent resident children experienced two or more home moves, compared to 11.8% (95% CI: 10.6-13.0) of non-immigrant children.

Figure 28: Percentages of number of home moves by immigration status in children ages 1-4; Ontario, 2019



C – This estimate should be interpreted with caution due to high sampling variability

Table 34: Number of home moves by immigration status in children ages 1-4; Ontario, 2019

Immigration Status*	Moved 0 times % (95% CI)	Moved 1 time % (95% CI)	Moved ≥ 2 times % (95% CI)
Non-immigrant	60.2 (58.5 - 62.0)	28.0 (26.4 - 29.5)	11.8 (10.6 - 13.0)
Immigrant/Non-permanent resident	21.5[C] (13.0 - 30.0)	27.5[C] (18.7 - 36.3)	51.0 (41.0 - 60.9)

*indicates a significant difference across immigration status (Rao-Scott Chi-Square Test p<0.05)
C – This estimate should be interpreted with caution due to high sampling variability

PEER GROUP

There was a significant difference in number of home moves across Statistics Canada Peer Group; however, these differences were small (Figure 29, Table 35).

Figure 29: Percentages of number of home moves by Statistics Canada Peer Group in children ages 1-4; Ontario, 2019

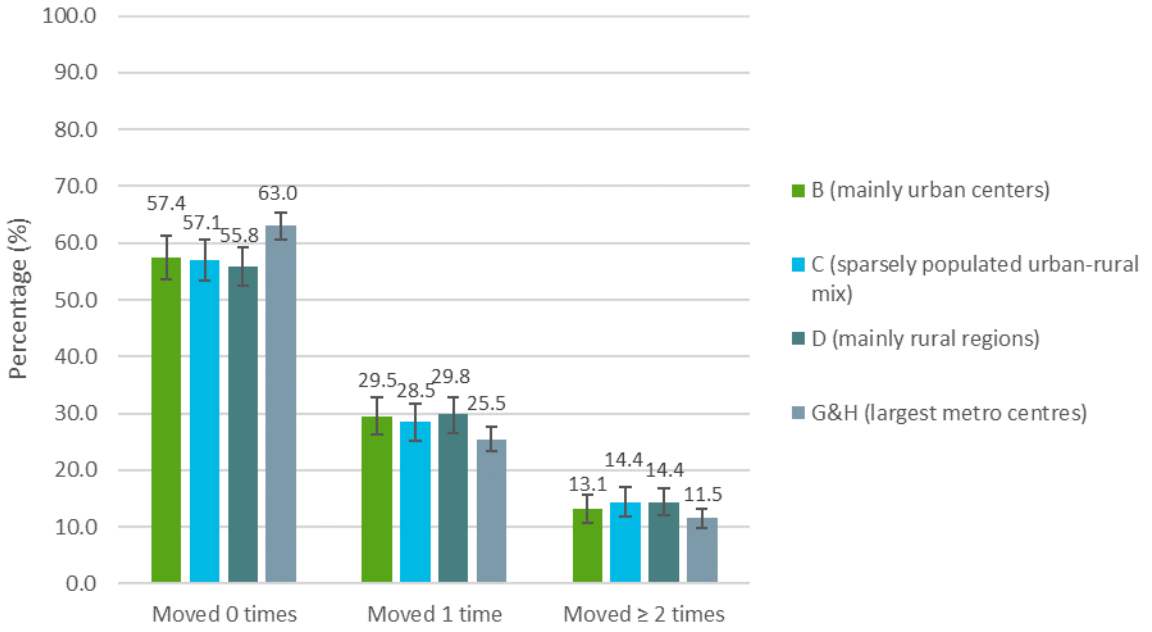


Table 35: Number of home moves by Statistics Canada Peer Group in children ages 1-4; Ontario, 2019

Peer Group*	Moved 0 times % (95% CI)	Moved 1 time % (95% CI)	Moved ≥ 2 times % (95% CI)
B (mainly urban centers)	57.4 (53.7 - 61.2)	29.5 (26.2 - 32.8)	13.1 (10.6 - 15.6)
C (sparsely populated urban-rural mix)	57.1 (53.5 - 60.7)	28.5 (25.2 - 31.8)	14.4 (11.8 - 17.0)
D (mainly rural regions)	55.8 (52.4 - 59.3)	29.8 (26.6 - 32.9)	14.4 (12.0 - 16.9)
G&H (largest metro centres)	63.0 (60.6 - 65.4)	25.5 (23.3 - 27.7)	11.5 (9.8 - 13.2)

*indicates a significant difference across Statistics Canada Peer Groups (Rao-Scott Chi-Square Test p<0.05)

GEOGRAPHIC REGION

No significant difference in number of home moves was found across geographic regions (Table 36).

Table 36: Number of home moves by geographic region in children ages 1-4; Ontario, 2019

Geographic Region	Moved 0 times % (95% CI)	Moved 1 time % (95% CI)	Moved ≥ 2 times % (95% CI)
Central East	59.6 (56.3 - 62.9)	27.7 (24.6 - 30.7)	12.8 (10.6 - 14.9)
Central West	56.8 (52.7 - 61.0)	31.2 (27.3 - 35.1)	11.9 (9.1 - 14.8)
Eastern	57.1 (52.1 - 62.1)	28.5 (24.0 - 33.0)	14.4 (10.8 - 18.0)
North East	57.7 (50.6 - 64.7)	24.4 (18.4 - 30.4)	18.0[C] (12.1 - 23.8)

Geographic Region	Moved 0 times % (95% CI)	Moved 1 time % (95% CI)	Moved ≥ 2 times % (95% CI)
North West	60.7 (51.9 - 69.5)	26.7 (18.9 - 34.5)	12.5[D] (6.2 - 18.9)
South West	58.9 (54.0 - 63.8)	26.6 (22.2 - 31.0)	14.5 (11.0 - 18.1)
Toronto	63.1 (60.3 - 65.9)	25.8 (23.4 - 28.3)	11.1 (9.2 - 13.0)

C and D – This estimate should be interpreted with caution due to high sampling variability

PUBLIC HEALTH UNIT

No significant difference in number of home moves was found across public health units (Table 37).

Table 37: Number of home moves by public health unit in children ages 1-4; Ontario, 2019

PHU Name	Moved 0 times % (95% CI)	Moved 1 time % (95% CI)	Moved ≥ 2 times % (95% CI)
The District of Algoma Health Unit	57.2 (44.4 - 70.0)	29.0[C] (16.8 - 41.2)	NR
Brant County Health Unit	55.4 (42.5 - 68.4)	36.6[C] (23.5 - 49.6)	NR
Durham Regional Health Unit	51.5 (42.6 - 60.3)	35.1 (26.6 - 43.5)	13.5[C] (7.3 - 19.6)
Grey Bruce Health Unit	53.3 (42.5 - 64.1)	31.8[C] (21.6 - 42.0)	14.9[D] (6.9 - 22.9)
Haldimand-Norfolk Health Unit	60.8 (49.0 - 72.7)	27.0[C] (16.4 - 37.5)	12.2[D] (3.9 - 20.5)
Haliburton, Kawartha, Pine Ridge District Health Unit	52.1 (42.7 - 61.5)	32.3 (23.6 - 41.0)	15.6[C] (8.6 - 22.6)
Halton Regional Health Unit	61.3 (54.5 - 68.1)	27.1 (21.1 - 33.2)	11.6[C] (6.9 - 16.4)
City of Hamilton Health Unit	63.7 (51.8 - 75.5)	28.4[C] (17.1 - 39.7)	NR
Hastings and Prince Edward Counties Health Unit	64.9 (54.8 - 75.0)	19.1[C] (11.0 - 27.1)	16.1[D] (8.1 - 24.0)
Huron Perth County Health Unit	61.5 (49.1 - 73.9)	20.5[C] (10.5 - 30.4)	18.1[D] (7.9 - 28.2)
Chatham-Kent Health Unit	58.9 (49.3 - 68.6)	31.5 (22.5 - 40.6)	9.5[D] (3.7 - 15.4)
Kingston, Frontenac and Lennox and Addington Health Unit	62.8 (52.3 - 73.3)	31.3[C] (21.3 - 41.4)	NR
Lambton Health Unit	62.6 (49.9 - 75.3)	26.5[C] (14.6 - 38.5)	NR
Leeds, Grenville and Lanark District Health Unit	58.2 (46.6 - 69.9)	27.7[C] (16.8 - 38.7)	14.0[D] (5.7 - 22.4)
Middlesex–London Health Unit	61.4 (48.8 - 74.1)	22.9[C] (11.9 - 33.9)	15.7[D] (6.6 - 24.8)
Niagara Regional Area Health Unit	47.5 (36.2 - 58.9)	37.1[C] (26.0 - 48.1)	15.4[D] (6.6 - 24.2)

PHU Name	Moved 0 times % (95% CI)	Moved 1 time % (95% CI)	Moved ≥ 2 times % (95% CI)
North Bay Parry Sound District Health Unit	54.1 (40.3 - 67.9)	24.0[C] (13.3 - 34.6)	22.0[D] (8.7 - 35.2)
Northwestern Health Unit	54.0 (43.7 - 64.3)	32.7[C] (22.8 - 42.6)	13.2[D] (6.2 - 20.3)
City of Ottawa Health Unit	56.3 (48.5 - 64.0)	29.9 (22.9 - 36.9)	13.8[C] (8.3 - 19.4)
Peel Regional Health Unit	60.4 (55.6 - 65.3)	25.8 (21.3 - 30.3)	13.8 (10.5 - 17.1)
Peterborough County–City Health Unit	73.0 (61.2 - 84.9)	21.3[D] (10.4 - 32.1)	NR
Porcupine Health Unit	63.7 (52.1 - 75.4)	18.9[C] (9.7 - 28.2)	17.3[D] (7.9 - 26.7)
Renfrew County and District Health Unit	56.5 (41.7 - 71.3)	32.0[C] (17.5 - 46.5)	NR
The Eastern Ontario Health Unit	49.6 (36.6 - 62.6)	25.5[C] (14.4 - 36.6)	24.9[C] (13.2 - 36.6)
Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit	53.9 (46.6 - 61.2)	29.7 (23.1 - 36.3)	16.3 (11.6 - 21.1)
Sudbury and District Health Unit	57.0 (42.2 - 71.8)	24.6[D] (11.9 - 37.3)	18.4[D] (5.9 - 30.9)
Thunder Bay District Health Unit	64.2 (52.1 - 76.2)	23.7[C] (13.2 - 34.2)	NR
Timiskaming Health Unit	61.3[C] (37.1 - 85.6)	NR	NR
Waterloo Health Unit	52.1 (42.2 - 62.0)	32.3 (23.5 - 41.0)	15.6 [D] (7.9 - 23.3)
Wellington–Dufferin-Guelph Health Unit	57.4 (50.1 - 64.7)	33.0 (25.9 - 40.0)	9.6[C] (5.4 - 13.8)
Windsor–Essex County Health Unit	59.7 (50.3 - 69.0)	28.0[C] (19.5 - 36.5)	12.3[D] (5.8 - 18.8)
York Regional Health Unit	66.4 (59.2 - 73.6)	24.2 (17.8 - 30.5)	9.5[D] (4.7 - 14.2)
Oxford Elgin St. Thomas Health Unit (Southwestern)	52.5 (42.9 - 62.0)	30.7 (22.1 - 39.2)	16.9[C] (9.2 - 24.6)
City of Toronto Health Unit	63.1 (60.3 - 65.9)	25.8 (23.4 - 28.3)	11.1 (9.2 - 13.0)
Ontario Total	59.2 (57.5 - 60.9)	27.9 (26.3 - 29.4)	12.9 (11.7 - 14.1)

C and D – This estimate should be interpreted with caution due to high sampling variability
NR – This estimate could not be released as per Statistics Canada guidelines on unacceptable estimate quality (E)

Discussion

The CHSCY is a valuable data source for better understanding early years' indicators for children ages 1-4 years in Ontario. To our knowledge, this is the first report using a representative sample to describe early years' risk indicators for this age group. This discussion will briefly examine the risk indicators for children ages 1-4 in Ontario as measured by the CHSCY and in the context of other available data sources.

Parent/Caregiver Self-Perceived Mental Health and Life Stress

The CHSCY estimates that 5.2% of parents/caregivers in Ontario report having "fair/poor" mental health, while 22.1% report having "quite a bit stressful/extremely stressful" life stress.

Our findings indicate that there were significant differences in parent/caregiver self-perceived mental health across age. The highest differences were found between the lowest (15 to 24) and highest (45+) age groups, with comparable mental health in the 25 to 34 and 35 to 44 age groups. However, this should be interpreted with caution due to high sampling variability. Conversely, parents/caregivers in the 35 to 44 age group reported the highest prevalence of "quite a bit stressful/extremely stressful" life stress. This is similar to estimates from the 2021 and 2022 Canadian Community Health Survey (CCHS), where the highest levels of stress was found in this age group in Ontario.[16]

For sex at birth, female parents/caregivers were more likely to report having "fair/poor" mental health. This is similar to evidence in the literature showing that mothers experience more mental issues in the postnatal phase compared to fathers.[17] Conversely, no significant differences were found across sex at birth for perceived life stress.

As parent/caregiver educational attainment increased, parents/caregivers were less likely to report "fair/poor" mental health. Similarly, multiple studies have shown that higher education has a significant impact on mitigating mental health issues.[18,19] Conversely, no significant difference was found across perceived life stress.

As household income increased, parents/caregivers were less likely to report "fair/poor" mental health. However, a different trend was observed for life stress, where parents/caregivers of children living in the highest and lowest household income levels were more likely to report "quite a bit stressful/extremely stressful". This is inconsistent with literature evidence, where the distribution of life stress and mental health issues follow a similar trend across socioeconomic status (SES).[20] Compared to higher SES, individuals from lower SES tend to suffer from more stressful life situations and higher risks of developing mental health problems.[21] However, similar findings to the CHSCY data were found using the 2015-16 and 2017-18 CCHS, where the highest income households had better mental health management, but higher perceived work stress compared to lower income households.[22]

There were significant differences across race and ethnic origin across both parent/caregiver self-perceived mental health and life stress. However, this should be interpreted with caution due to high sampling variability. Being from a racialized background in Canada is associated with experiences of racism and life stressors.[23,24] However, the impact of these stressors on perceived mental health and life stress may appear to be smaller due to the difference in cultural perception of mental health across racialized groups.[24] Similarly, non-immigrants were less likely to report "fair/poor" mental health and "quite a bit stressful/extremely stressful" life stress compared to immigrants/non-permanent residents. These findings could be due to the healthy immigrant effect, where immigrants have better mental health than non-immigrants upon arrival to Canada, but tend to worsen with increased length of time in Canada.[25]

Significant differences were found across Indigenous identity for parent/caregiver self-perceived mental health. The high rates of "fair/poor" parent/caregiver self-perceived mental health in those who identified as being Indigenous are likely due to historical and ongoing systemic racism and colonialism, which have resulted in mental health inequalities on Indigenous populations in Canada.[26] Conversely, no significant difference in parent/caregiver life stress was found across Indigenous identity.

There were some significant differences in parent/caregiver self-perceived mental health and life stress across Statistics Canada Peer Group, geographic region and public health unit. The highest prevalence of parents/caregivers reporting "fair/poor" self-perceived mental health and "quite a bit stressful/extremely stressful" life stress was in group C (sparsely populated urban-rural mix). Research in

the literature has shown inconclusive evidence regarding the association between geographical location and mental health outcomes. While no research has found conclusive differences in urban and rural areas experience of mental health issues,[27] there is some evidence that mental health depends on variations within the rural and urban regions.[28]

Experienced Divorce/Death of a parent

In the 2019 CHSCY, 7.2% of children ages 1-4 years in Ontario experienced parental divorce/separation. This makes up almost half of parental divorce/separation experienced in children ages 1-17 years in Ontario (16%).[29] Also, compared to the national prevalence of 3% in children ages 1-17 years,[29] experience of death of a parent/sibling in children ages 1-4 years in Ontario was only 0.6%. However, this should be interpreted with caution due to small sample sizes. In total, 7.7% of children ages 1-4 years in Ontario experienced divorce/separation or death of a parent/sibling.

As age increased, the prevalence of experience of divorce/death of a parent increased, which is similar to the national trend in Canada, where 24% of children have experienced divorce/separation by ages 12-17 years.[29] No significant differences were found across sex at birth. However, it should be note that experience of divorce/death of a parent impacts children differently. Boys face greater difficulties in adjusting to parental divorce/separation and tend to display more negative developmental effects due to living in single parent households.[30]

There was a significant difference across educational attainment, where as education level increased, experience of divorce/death of a parent decreased. Similarly, significant differences were found across household income, income quintiles, and LICO. Those from a higher household income were less likely to experience divorce/death of a parent compared to those from lower household incomes. Similar to multiple studies conducted in the United States, SES plays an important role in determining the risk of divorce/separation and death of a parent/sibling.[31–33]

No significant difference was found across race and ethnic origin or immigration status in the experience of divorce/death of a parent. However, this should be interpreted with caution, due to high sampling variability.

Children who were identified as being Indigenous were more likely to experience divorce/death of a parent compared to those who were identified as being non-Indigenous. The long-lasting impact of historical and ongoing systemic racism and colonialism, including low income and familial instability, may contribute to these higher rates.[26]

Experience of parent divorce/death was significant across Statistics Canada Peer Group, geographic region and public health unit. The highest prevalence of experience of divorce/death of a parent was in group C (sparsely populated urban-rural mix).

Number of Home Moves

In children ages 1-4 years in Ontario, 27.9% experienced a home move once while 12.9% experienced a home move 2 or more times. While various other indicators (e.g., homelessness) contribute to housing insecurity, a high number of home moves during this sensitive period of development is a significant indicator of adverse health outcomes later in life.[34] Although no national comparators exist for this age group, an analysis using the 2018 Canadian Housing Survey (CHS) showed comparable results in the general population, where 35.0% of households have moved at least once in the five years prior to the survey.[35]

Our findings indicate that as age increased, children were more likely to experience home moves. Although there is a scarcity of evidence in the literature on this age group, this trend is expected given

the increase in timeframe for the child to experience home moves. Similarly, no significant difference was found across sex at birth.

Lower parental educational attainment and lower household income were both associated with increased number of home moves. These trends emphasize the role SES plays in the experience of housing. Parents from low SES households often allocate larger portions of their income to rent or mortgage payments.[36] Despite a significant increase in housing costs over the past 10 years in Ontario, household incomes have not increased at a comparable rate.[37] This exacerbated the housing crisis and led to the increased displacement of low SES households from their homes.[36] However, the federal government has set out a plan to address this through the National Housing Strategy, which aims to increase affordability of housing and reduce homelessness by 2027.[38]

Significant differences in the experience of home moves were observed across race and ethnic origin. The highest rates were found among racialized groups, including West Asians/Arabs. These findings align with data from the 2016 and 2021 Canadian censuses, where those from West Asian, Korean, and Arab backgrounds were most likely to need core housing in Canada.[39] Similarly, higher rates of home moves were found among immigrants/non-permanent residents, which is consistent with the literature. This can be attributed to multiple factors, including housing unaffordability and higher unemployment rates among immigrants.[40] Given the intersection between race and ethnic origin and immigration status, the high number of home moves experienced by these groups raises concern.

No significant difference was found across Indigenous identity in the experience of home moves.

Although some differences were found across Statistics Canada Peer Group, these differences were small and no significant difference was found across geographic region and public health units. The lowest rates of moving 2 or more times was found in group G & H (largest population centres with high population density).

Limitations

Several limitations are considered in the CHSCY. Firstly, due to the cross-sectional nature of the survey, causal inferences about the relationship between the indicators and socio-demographic characteristics cannot be made. Secondly, the use of perception for parent/caregiver mental health and life stress may not accurately reflect objective mental health statuses.[41] Also, due to sample size limitations, it was not possible to separately assess the experience of divorce/separation and death of a parent/sibling by sociodemographic indicators. Lastly, housing instability is a multifaceted concept, and the use of home moves as an indicator may not truly represent the risk categories for housing instability.[34]

Technical notes

Data Source

This report examined the Ontario portion of the 2019 Canadian Health Survey on Children and Youth (CHSCY), which used the Canadian Child Tax Benefit (CCB) as the sampling frame to select children and youth between the ages of 1 to 17 years old as of January 31, 2019.

- Children living in private dwellings across 10 provinces and 3 territories were eligible.
- Children living on First Nation reserves or other Indigenous settlements were excluded from the survey. Further, children living in foster care and children and youth who were institutionalized were excluded.

Indicators

PARENT/CAREGIVER SELF-PERCEIVED MENTAL HEALTH

Self-perceived mental health – PMK (PHO-derived from the categorical variable GEN_025)

- In general, how is your mental health?
- PMK-reported for children ages 1-4 years.
- Three categories: Excellent/Very good, Good, Fair/Poor.

PARENT/CAREGIVER PERCEIVED LIFE STRESS

Self-perceived life stress – PMK (PHO-derived from the categorical variable GEN_040)

- Thinking about the amount of stress in your life, how would you describe most of your days?
- PMK-reported for children ages 1-4 years.
- Three categories: Not at all stressful/Not very stressful, A bit stressful, Quite a bit stressful/Extremely stressful.

EXPERIENCED DIVORCE OR SEPARATION/EXPERIENCED DEATH OF A PARENT OR SIBLING

Experienced the separation or divorce of a parent (FHS_010)

- Has this child experienced the separation or divorce of a parent?
- PMK-reported for children ages 1-4 years.
- Dichotomous – yes, no.

Experienced the death of a parent or sibling (FHS_015)

- Has this child experienced the death of a parent or sibling?
- PMK-reported for children ages 1-4 years.
- Dichotomous – yes, no.

The two variables were combined to derive a divorce/separation or death of a parent/sibling variable.

NUMBER OF HOME MOVES

Moved homes - number of times - lifetime (PHO-derived from the continuous variable FHS_030)

- Since this child's birth, how often has he moved homes?
- PMK-reported for children ages 1-4 years.
- Three categories: 0 times, 1 time, ≥ 2 times.

SOCIO-DEMOGRAPHIC VARIABLES

The socio-demographic variables used in this analysis include age, sex at birth, household income, education of person most knowledgeable (PMK) of the child and their spouse, race and ethnic origin (including Indigenous identity), and immigration status. For more information on these sociodemographic variables and how they were recoded please see the full Technical Report.

- Child age was categorized into 4 levels: (1 year, 2 years, 3 years, and 4 years).
- Child sex at birth was categorized as male or female.
- PMK age was categorized into 4 levels: (15-24 years, 25-34 years, 35-44 years, and 45+ years).
- PMK sex at birth was categorized as male or female.
- Household income was categorized into 7 levels: (<$24,999, $25,000-$49,999, $50,000-$74,999, $75,000-$99,999, $100,000-$149,999, $150,000-$199,999, and $200,000+).
- Income quintiles: income divided into five equal groups, each group is known as a quintile. Quintile one (Q1) represents the lowest 20% of the data distribution and quintile five (Q5) is the highest 20%.
- Low-income cut-off (LICO) measure is a dichotomous variable describing low or high income. It was calculated using Canadian 2019 before-tax income adjusted for community and household size.[42]
- Highest Educational Attainment of the PMK was categorized into three groups (high-school or less, college/vocational/university certificate or diploma, and university or more).
- Highest Parental Educational Attainment of the PMK or PMK Spouse was categorized into three groups (high-school or less, college/vocational/university certificate or diploma, and university or more).
- Race and ethnic origin were categorized as South Asian, Black, East Asian, Southeast Asian/Filipino, West Asian/Arab, White/Not a Racialized Group, Latin American, and other (or multiple). Because Indigenous identity is included in these analyses as a separate variable, we excluded respondents who answered 'yes' to Indigenous identity (who are otherwise automatically included in the White/Non-racialized category, as per Statistics Canada methods).
- Indigenous identity (First Nations, Inuit or Métis) was defined as 'Yes' or 'No'.
- Immigration status was categorized as non-immigrant and immigrant/non-permanent resident.

GEOGRAPHIC VARIABLES

The proportion of children was categorized by Statistics Canada Peer Groups and by major geographic regions.

Statistics Canada Peer Groups[43] are based on the following list:

- Group B – Mainly urban centres with moderate population density.
    - Durham Region Health Department, Halton Region Public Health, City of Hamilton Public Health Services, Middlesex-London Health Unit, Ottawa Public Health, Region of Waterloo Public Health and Emergency Services, Windsor-Essex County Health Unit.
- Group C – Sparsely populated urban-rural mix.
    - Algoma Public Health, Brant County Health Unit, Chatham-Kent Public Health, Eastern Ontario Health Unit, Haliburton, Kawartha, Pine Ridge District Health Unit, Hastings Prince Edward Public Health, Kingston, Frontenac and Lennox & Addington Public Health, Lambton Public Health, Niagara Region Public Health, North Bay Parry Sound District Health Unit, Porcupine Health Unit, Peterborough Public Health, Public Health Sudbury & Districts, Thunder Bay District Health Unit, Timiskaming Health Unit.
- Group D – Mainly rural.
    - Grey Bruce Health Unit, Haldimand-Norfolk Health Unit, Huron Perth Public Health, Leeds, Grenville & Lanark District Health Unit, Northwestern Health Unit, Renfrew County and District Health Unit, Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit, Southwestern Public Health, Wellington-Dufferin-Guelph Public Health.
- Group G&H – Largest population centres with high population density.
    - City of Toronto, Peel Public Health, York Region Public Health.

The major **geographic regions** are the following:

- North West – Northwestern Health Unit, Thunder Bay District Health Unit.
- North East – Porcupine Health Unit, Timiskaming Health Unit, Public Health Sudbury & Districts, Algoma Public Health, North Bay and Parry Sound District Health Unit.
- South West – Windsor-Essex County Health Unit, Chatham-Kent Public Health, Southwestern Public Health, Lambton Public Health, Middlesex-London Health Unit, Huron Perth Public Health, Grey Bruce Health Unit.
- Central West – Wellington-Dufferin-Guelph Public Health, Halton Region Public Health, City of Hamilton Public Health Services, Niagara Region Public Health, Region of Waterloo Public Health and Emergency Services, Haldimand-Norfolk Health Units, Brant County Health Unit.
- Toronto Public Health.
- Central East – Peel Public Health, York Region Public Health, Durham Region Health Department, Haliburton, Kawartha, Pine Ridge District Health Unit, Peterborough Public Health, Simcoe-Muskoka District Health Unit.
- East – Renfrew County and District Health Unit, Hastings Prince Edward Public Health, Kingston, Frontenac and Lennox & Addington Public Health, Leeds, Grenville & Lanark District Health Unit, Ottawa Public Health, Eastern Ontario Health Unit.

Data Analysis

SAS 8.2 Enterprise Guide was used to conduct all statistical analysis. Bivariate analyses were conducted between the covariates and each early years' indicator. Significant differences were determined using chi-squared tests.

- PROC SURVEY commands were used with bootstrap replications (n=1,000) and bootstrap weights provided by Statistics Canada. Using these, point estimates and 95% confidence intervals were calculated.
- Statistics Canada approved guidelines were used to report outcomes, where estimates with coefficients of variation (CV) with less than 0.15% were reported without warnings.

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