



Quebec's Social and Health Survey Information: Baseline Data Report 2008 (Section 2.1)

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2.1 Tobacco Use

- Anglophone and Francophone survey respondents were about equally likely, some 30%, to be regular cigarette smokers.
- Among Anglophone respondents who claimed to be cigarette smokers, 90% reported smoking daily.
- Of the current non-smokers who responded to the survey, Anglophones were more likely than Francophones to have never smoked cigarettes in the past, less likely to have smoked on occasion and less likely to have smoked daily.
- Close to 32% of current English-speaking non-smokers reported smoking daily in the past.

Table 2.1.1 – Current cigarette smoker by mother tongue

N=	18211	1054	685	445
	French	English	Other	n/a
Yes, regularly	30.08%	29.98%	17.08%	29.66%
Yes, on occasion	4.36%	5.60%	5.99%	6.29%
No	63.68%	63.28%	74.60%	57.53%
Refusal	1.89%	1.14%	2.34%	6.52%
	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%

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

- Anglophone and Francophone survey respondents were about equally likely (30%) to be regular cigarette smokers. Anglophones were more likely to be occasional smokers than Francophones.

Table 2.1.2 – Daily cigarette smoker by mother tongue

N=	6271	375	158	160
	French	English	Other	n/a
Yes	90.53%	89.60%	81.01%	89.38%
No	8.87%	9.87%	18.99%	9.38%
Refusal	0.61%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%

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

- Anglophone survey respondents to the survey were more likely than Francophones to say they do not smoke cigarettes daily. Close to 90% of Anglophone respondents reported being daily cigarette smokers.

Table 2.1.3 – Past experience with cigarette smoking of current non-smokers, by mother tongue

	N=	12534	718	557	302
		French	English	Other	n/a
Never smoked		42.21%	46.66%	52.78%	35.76%
Smoked on occasion		18.66%	16.30%	23.16%	19.87%
Have smoked daily		33.44%	31.48%	18.31%	29.47%
Refusal		5.70%	5.57%	5.75%	14.90%
		100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%

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

- Of the current non-smokers who responded to the survey, Anglophones were more likely to have never smoked cigarettes in the past, less likely to have smoked on occasion and less likely to have smoked daily. Close to 32% of current English-speaking non-smokers reported smoking daily in the past.

Table 2.1.4 – Age of start of daily smoking, current daily smokers by mother tongue

	N=	5677	330	216	143
		French	English	Other	n/a
12 or under		10.78%	8.48%	4.63%	12.59%
13-15		36.02%	31.52%	31.02%	37.06%
16-19		38.81%	40.91%	35.65%	30.77%
20-24		8.72%	10.91%	17.59%	10.49%
25 or older		5.14%	6.97%	10.19%	6.99%
Unknown		0.53%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
		100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%

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

- Among current daily smokers, Francophone survey respondents tended to start smoking at a younger age (12 – 15 years) than Anglophones. More Anglophones than Francophones started smoking between 16 and 24 years of age.

Table 2.1.5 – Smoke down to the filter, daily smokers by mother tongue

N=	5677	336	128	143
	French	English	Other	n/a
Yes	95.67%	96.13%	85.16%	90.91%
No	4.12%	3.57%	13.28%	6.29%
Refusal	0.21%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%

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

- Among daily smokers, Anglophone and Francophone survey respondents were about equally likely to smoke down to the filter.

Table 2.1.6 – Daily consumption of cigarettes, daily smokers by mother tongue

N=	5677	330	216	143
	French	English	Other	n/a
1-10 a day	19.02%	23.94%	33.33%	23.08%
11-25 a day	69.07%	63.33%	58.80%	61.54%
26 or more a day	11.27%	11.52%	6.02%	13.29%
Unknown	0.63%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%

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

- Among daily smokers, the greatest percentage of both Anglophones and Francophones report smoking 11-25 cigarettes a day.
- A greater percentage of Francophone respondents reported smoking 11-25 cigarettes daily compared to Anglophones.

Table 2.1.7 – Exposure to second-hand smoke at home by mother tongue

N=	18211	1029	1045	445
	French	English	Other	n/a
Every day or nearly every day	35.46%	34.99%	24.40%	33.03%
Once a week	9.07%	6.90%	7.27%	8.76%
Once a month	13.18%	10.40%	8.52%	6.07%
Never	32.13%	40.62%	41.72%	22.70%
Unknown	10.16%	7.09%	18.09%	29.44%
	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%

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

- Anglophone (34.46%) and Francophone (35.46%) survey respondents were about equally likely to be exposed to second-hand smoke at home on a daily basis.
- Anglophone respondents (40.62%) were more likely than Francophones (32.13%) to report never being exposed to second-hand smoke at home.

Table 2.1.8 – Exposure to second-hand smoke outside the home by mother tongue

	N=	18211	1029	1045	445
		French	English	Other	n/a
Every day or nearly every day		23.17%	23.62%	18.28%	21.57%
Once a week		32.97%	32.94%	28.04%	21.57%
Once a month		22.89%	25.75%	21.63%	12.36%
Never		7.87%	8.45%	14.26%	9.66%
Unknown		13.10%	9.23%	17.80%	34.83%
		100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%

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

- Francophone (23.17%) and Anglophone (23.62%) survey respondents are equally likely to report exposure to second-hand smoke outside the home on a daily basis.



Table 2.1.9 – Type of use of cigarettes according to certain demographic and socio-economic characteristics, population 15 years and older, 1998

	Non-smoker			Current smoker		
	Never smoked	Former smoker	Total	Occasional smoker	Regular smoker	Total
	%					
Civil status						
Married	31.6	41.6	73.1	2.0	24.9	26.9
Common law	26.8	29.4	56.2	3.7*	40.1	43.8
Widowed separated or divorced	29.3	34.3	63.5	2.0**	34.5	36.5
Single	38.7	22.7	61.4	6.6	32.0	38.6
Income level						
Very poor	28.1	25.7	53.9	3.3**	42.8	46.1
Poor	30.3	28.1	58.4	4.1*	37.5	41.6
Lower middle income	32.7	32.7	65.4	3.5	31.1	34.6
Upper middle income	32.0	35.2	67.3	3.2	29.5	32.7
High income	36.8	40.8	77.6	3.9*	18.5	22.4
Scolarity						
Very low	27.5	26.0	53.4	2.2*	44.4	46.6
Low	29.4	32.1	61.4	3.1*	35.5	38.6
Average	32.7	33.6	66.3	3.5*	30.2	33.7
High	31.3	38.2	69.5	4.2	26.2	30.4
Very high	40.5	38.1	78.6	4.2	17.1	21.4

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

- * Interpret with caution
- ** Imprecise estimate, indication only

- The likelihood of being a regular smoker is associated with common law and widowed/ separated /or divorced civil status, very poor and poor income levels and low and very low levels of scolarity.
- Respondents who were non-smokers were more likely to be single, to have high income and very high levels of scolarity.