



Quebec's Social and Health Survey Information: Baseline Data Report 2008 (Section 2.16)

2.16	Incapacity and Activity Limitations	1
	Table 2.16.1 – Evolution of the rate of incapacity, according to sex and age, population in a private household, Quebec, 1998	1
	Table 2.16.2 – Days of incapacity according to type of incapacity, the presence or absence of long-term activity limitations and sex, population in a private household, Quebec, 1998	2
	Table 2.16.3 – Evolution of the rate of incapacity, according to sex and age, population in a private household, Quebec, 1998	2
	Table 2.16.4 – Rate of activity limitations according to certain socio-economic characteristics and sex, population in a private household, Quebec, 1998.....	3
	Table 2.16.5 – Cause of incapacity by mother tongue, Quebec, 1998.....	4

2.16 Incapacity and Activity Limitations

- The rate of incapacity of survey respondents increased from 1987 to 1992-1993 through to 1998.
- The greatest increase was observed among women from 1992-1993 to 1998.
- The highest rate of incapacity was reported by those 65 years or more.
- Among survey respondents who reported the presence of activity limitations, a greater percentage reported moderate incapacity such as being incapable of working, doing housework or going to school.
- There was an increase in the rate of limitations related to osteoarticular, respiratory and mental causes from 1987 to 1998.
- The cause of incapacity most frequently cited by survey respondents was mental followed by osteoarticular (bone/joint).
- There was a higher rate of activity limitations reported among survey respondents with low income and scolarity levels.
- Anglophone respondents reported a higher rate of activity limitations than Francophones and Anglophone women exhibited a higher rate than Anglophone men.

Table 2.16.1 – Evolution of the rate of incapacity, according to sex and age, population in a private household, Quebec, 1998

	1987	1992-1993	1998	Pop '000
	%			
Men	7.1	6.4	8.2	290
Women	7.6	8.0	110.4	376
Both sexes				
0-14 years	3.1	2.2	2.3	31
15-24 years	3.1	3.6	4.0	39
25-44 years	5.3	6.1	7.4	172
45-64 years	13.4	10.2	14.0	239
65 years or more	21.7	22.7	26.7	77
Total	7.4	7.2	9.3	665

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

- The rate of incapacity of survey respondents increased from 1987 to 1992-1993 through to 1998.
- The greatest increase was observed among women from 1992-1993 to 1998.
- The highest rate of incapacity was reported by those 65 years or more.

Table 2.16.2 – Days of incapacity according to type of incapacity, the presence or absence of long-term activity limitations and sex, population in a private household, Quebec, 1998

	Heavy ¹	Moderate ²	Light ³	Total
	Days			
Men				
Limited in activities	18.8	54.0	24.5	97.3
Not limited in activities	1.9	2.8	2.7	7.3
Women				
Limited in activities	18.1	44.2	38.2	100.5
Not limited in activities	2.2	2.6	4.7	9.5
Both sexes				
Limited in activities	18.4	48.4	32.3	99.1
Not limited in activities	2.1	2.7	3.7	8.4

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

- 1- Required to stay in bed or on a couch all day, or nearly.
- 2- Incapable of working, doing housework or going to school.
- 3- Required to moderate activities.

- Among survey respondents who reported the presence of activity limitations, a greater percentage reported moderate incapacity such as being incapable of working, doing housework or going to school.
- Women were more apt to report being limited in their activities than men.

Table 2.16.3 – Evolution of the rate of incapacity, according to sex and age, population in a private household, Quebec, 1998

	1987	1992-1993	1998	Pop '000
	%			
Cause				
Osteoarticular	24.0	26.6	26.8	178
Cardiovascular	15.9	13.1	13.7	91
Respiratory	7.6	12.9	10.7	71
Mental	5.6	6.0	8.3	55
Trauma	10.3	7.3	8.2	54
Other	35.7	34.3	32.3	216
Origin				
External	21.9	18.7	18.3	123
Other	78.1	81.3	81.7	543
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	665

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

- There was an increase in the rate of limitations related to osteoarticular, respiratory and mental causes from 1987 to 1998.

Table 2.16.4 – Rate of activity limitations according to certain socio-economic characteristics and sex, population in a private household, Quebec, 1998

		Men	Women	Total
Income level		%		
	Very poor	16.0	17.8	16.9
	Poor	12.7	15.7	14.4
	Lower middle income	9.0	10.0	9.5
	Upper middle income	5.4	8.2	6.8
	High income	6.0*	6.4*	6.2
Relative scolarity (15 years and older)				
	Very low	12.2	17.7	14.9
	Low	10.2	10.6	10.4
	Average	8.6	10.5	9.6
	High	7.9	11.9	9.7
	Very High	5.3	9.0	7.2
Employment status (15 years and older)				
	Student	2.7*	5.4*	4.1
	Employed	4.3	6.1	5.1
	Homemaker	16.1*	14.8	14.9
	Unemployed	35.1	47.6	40.1
	Retired	23.4	24.4	23.9
Professional category (15 years and older)				
	Professional, senior manager	3.1**	6.3**	4.7*
	Intermediate manager, semi-professional, technician	3.8*	5.5*	4.6
	Office, sales, service	4.3*	6.3*	5.6
	Foreman, qualified labourer	3.9	4.0**	3.9
	Non-qualified worker, labourer	6.1*	6.8**	6.3
Mother tongue (15 years and older)				
	French	9.3	12.1	10.8
	English	7.3*	12.2	9.8
	Other	5.6*	9.1	7.4

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

* Interpret with caution

** Imprecise estimate, indication only

- There was a higher rate of activity limitations reported among survey respondents with low income and scolarity levels.
- Those respondents who were unemployed, homemakers or retired reported a much higher rate of activity limitations than those employed or students.

Table 2.16.5 – Cause of incapacity by mother tongue, Quebec, 1998

	N=	18211	1029	1045	445
		French	English	Other	n/a
Osteoarticular (bone/joint)		1.80%	2.24%	1.15%	1.80%
Cardiovascular		0.57%	0.68%	0.48%	0.00%
Respiratory		0.93%	1.46%	0.00%	1.12%
Mental		2.33%	2.33%	1.53%	3.37%
Trauma		0.50%	0.49%	0.57%	0.00%
Other		4.25%	4.57%	3.25%	4.04%
Not applicable		89.62%	88.24%	92.63%	87.87%
		100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%

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

- The cause of activity limitations most frequently cited by survey respondents was mental followed by osteoarticular (bone/joint).
- Anglophones were more likely to report respiratory, osteoarticular and cardiovascular causes than Francophones.