

The Health of Canada's Children: A CICH Profile

A Perspective on Yukon

The *Health of Canada's Children: A CICH Profile, 3rd Edition*, is based on a comprehensive review of national and provincial data sources and extensive consultations with experts from many fields.

The *CICH Profile* contains ten chapters and 398 charts pertaining to the health and well-being of children and youth. It provides a relevant and clear picture of where our children are today, and gives some direction for where we might assist them as they explore their futures.

The following information from the *CICH Profile* addresses the health and well-being of children and youth in the Yukon.

Population statistics:

- In the Yukon, 60% of the population lives in an urban area compared to 78% of the entire Canadian population.
- 9% of the population in the Yukon speaks a language other than English or French at home. The figure for Canada was 16% in 1996.
- 20% of people in the Yukon are Aboriginal, a higher proportion than in the provinces where the composition ranges from 1% to 12%.
- 31% of the Yukon's residents are under the age of 20 compared with the Canadian average of 27%.
- In 1996, 24% of families in the Yukon were headed by a lone-parent. The figure for Canada was 20% for the same year.

Pregnancy and birth statistics:

- In 1995, there were 16 live births per 1,000 population in the Yukon, down from 20 in 1990. The Canadian rates for these two time periods were 15 in 1990 and 13 in 1995.
- In 1995, 6.1% of male infants and 2.2% of female infants in the Yukon were born weighing less than 2,500 grams. Low birth weight, particularly very low birth weight, increases the risk of both short and long term health problems.

- In 1994, the teen pregnancy rate in the Yukon was 88 for every 1,000 women aged between 15 and 19 years. The lowest rate for that year was 32 in both Newfoundland and Prince Edward Island, and the highest was 137 in the Northwest Territories.

Death rates:

- The infant death rate in Northwest Territories and the Yukon combined was 11 in every 1,000 live births in 1995. The overall Canadian rate for the same year was 6/1,000.
- Death rates for all age groups less than 20 years of age were substantially greater for the Yukon and Northwest Territories combined than for any other area in Canada in 1995.

Child care places:

- 68% of children in regulated child care in the Yukon were subsidized according to figures compiled for 1998. For the same year, the Canadian rate was 31%, and the range was from 9% to 68%.

For information about the sources of the data, please refer to *The Health of Canada's Children: A CICH Profile, 3rd Edition*. To order your copy of the *CICH Profile*, please contact:



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Dedicated to the Health and Well-being of Children and Youth