



Growing Up in Québec Study – Preschool Experiences Round

February 2023

To the Director
«NOMMDG»
«ADR1» «ADR2»
«ADR3» QC «CPPL»

Information Letter

Dear Sir or Madam,

More than 20 years after the first edition of the *Québec Longitudinal Study of Child Development*, the Institut de la statistique du Québec (Statistique Québec) is conducting the second edition of the study, called *Growing Up in Québec*.

What do I have to do as the director of a preschool institution?

You have nothing to do! This letter simply aims to inform you that at least one child participating in the study attends your institution, and that the child's educator or teacher may be invited to complete an online questionnaire about them, since we have obtained the consent of the child's parent. If the educator or teacher agrees to participate, she¹ will have to complete the questionnaire **outside of her work hours**. Since parents rarely have the personal contact information of their child's educator or teacher, we may have to contact her at her workplace for a short conversation.

What is the *Growing Up in Québec* study?

The objective of this study is to better understand the factors that influence children's well-being and development. Thousands of families throughout Québec are taking part in it. The *Preschool Experiences* round will help us reach this objective by providing us with information on the participating children's experiences in childcare or in 4-year-old kindergarten, thus resulting in a more complete picture of these children's lives.

The participation of educators or teachers is therefore important to advance knowledge about young children's development and well-being.

For more information about *Growing Up in Québec*, please see the back of this letter or the study website (statistique.quebec.ca/growingupinquebec). You can also contact Statistique Québec at 1-866-433-7828 or at growingupinquebec@stat.gouv.qc.ca.

Sincerely,

Simon Bergeron
Chief Statistician

¹ We used the feminine since most childcare educators and 4-year-old kindergarten teachers are women.

Additional information

How did you obtain the contact information of the participating child's educator or teacher?

The parents of the child who is participating in the study gave us her contact information. They consented to us contacting her for this round of the study.

Is the educator or teacher's participation mandatory?

The educator or teacher's participation is voluntary but **important**, because it will allow us to collect information on certain aspects of the child's life in their childcare or school setting.

Who are the partners of the study?

This study is funded by the Lucie and André Chagnon Foundation, the Ministère de la Famille, the Ministère de la Santé et des Services sociaux, the Ministère de l'Éducation, the Ministère de l'Emploi et de la Solidarité sociale, the Conseil de gestion de l'assurance parentale, and Statistique Québec.

What topics are covered in the questionnaire?

The questionnaire focuses on the child's activities, behaviour, relationships with peers and with the educator or teacher, as well as on certain characteristics of their childcare or school environment.

Confidentiality and data transmission

This study is conducted in accordance with the *Act respecting the Institut de la statistique du Québec*. All of the information collected in this study is **confidential** and will only be used for statistical purposes. Statistique Québec will transmit the answers provided by the educator or teacher to the partners and researchers collaborating on *Growing Up in Québec*, **except** any personal identifying information such as their name, address and telephone number, or any information that can identify their workplace. Before the data are made available to them, these partners and researchers have to sign a confidentiality agreement that meets Statistique Québec's standards.

Ethics

The study was reviewed by the ethics committee appointed by Statistique Québec. The ethics committee is responsible for safeguarding the respect, dignity and integrity of those participating or included in the study.