Growing Up in Québec study – Childcare experience round

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.

The Growing Up in Québec study aims to better understand the factors that influence children’s well-being and development. Thousands of families from across Québec are taking part in this study. The special round on childcare experience will help reach the study’s objective by providing information on the participating children’s experiences in childcare, thus resulting in a more complete picture of these children’s lives.

The participation of educators is important to advance knowledge about young children’s development and well-being.

We are informing you today that a child who is taking part in the study attends your childcare setting. The child’s parent has given their consent for the educator to complete a questionnaire about their child. As there may be more than one child in your childcare setting who is participating in the study, we may contact more than one educator in the coming weeks.

For more information about the study, please read the back of this letter or visit the study website (statistique.quebec.ca/growingupinquebec). You can also call us at 1-866-433-7828 or e-mail us at growingupinquebec@stat.gouv.qc.ca.

Sincerely,

Daniel Florea
Chief Statistician
**Additional information**

**How did you obtain the contact information of the participating child’s educator?**

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

**Does the educator have to participate in this study?**

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

**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 du Travail, 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 asks questions about the activities done by the child, and about the child’s behaviour, relationships with his or her peers, and childcare setting.

**Confidentiality and data transmission**

The study is conducted in accordance with the *Act respecting the Institut de la statistique du Québec*. All 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 to the partners and researchers collaborating on *Growing Up in Québec*, with the exception of information that can personally identify the educator, such as their name, address and telephone number, or 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. This committee is responsible for safeguarding the respect, dignity and integrity of those participating or included in the study.