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## ■ ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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The 1998 Canadian Incidence Study of Reported

## ■ DEDICATION

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This report is dedicated to the children and families who are served by Canadian child welfare workers. It is our sincere hope that the study contributes to improving their well-being.

In memory of Paul Steinhauer, a champion for Canada's children.

## ■ FOREWORD

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The Canadian Incidence Study of Reported Child Abuse and Neglect (CIS) provides, for the first time, national estimates of child abuse and neglect reported to, and investigated by, child welfare services in Canada. These data will strengthen our understanding of the extent of child maltreatment in Canada while also guiding our policy, program, and research responses to the problem. In addition to examining the incidence rates of child maltreatment, the study explored the characteristics of the children, youth and families who were the subject of child welfare investigations for alleged child abuse and neglect. The CIS also examines the

health surveillance activities of Health Canada has helped to guide the design and implementation of the CIS. Similarly, the evidence base that the study has to enrich program and policy development work on children's issues while providing

This report and the companion document

*Equity and Social Justice in Child Abuse and Neglect*

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## ■ EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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### Introduction

The Canadian Incidence Study of Reported Child Abuse and Neglect (CIS) is the first nation-wide study to examine the incidence of reported child maltreatment and the characteristics (of children and families) investigated by Canadian child welfare services. The primary objective (of the CIS) is to provide reliable estimates (of the scope and characteristics) (of child abuse and neglect) investigated by child welfare services across (Canada). The study includes (substantiated, suspected, and unsubstantiated child welfare investigations, but does not include reports that were screened out before investigation or cases that were investigated only by police. The CIS is not designed to document unreported cases (see Definitional Framework and Figure 1-2 in Chapter 1 for a detailed presentation of the scope of the study).

The study is designed to

1. examine the rates (of physical abuse, sexual abuse, neglect, and emotional maltreatment, as well as multiple forms) (of maltreatment,

in this report in terms of three levels of substantiation,  
according to the following definitions:





## Physical Harm

## Emotional Harm

Emotional harm was noted in 24% of child maltreatment investigations (Table 4-2). In 15% of investigations emotional harm was sufficiently severe to require treatment. In a further 9%, harm was noted but no treatment was considered to be required (Figure S-4).

Fifty-nine percent of cases in which treatment was required for emotional harm were substantiated, 24% remained suspected, and 17% were unsubstantiated.

## Alleged Perpetrators

Most child investigations involved allegations against parents: biological mothers (61%), biological fathers (38%), step-fathers/common-law partners (9%), or step-mothers/common-law partners (3%). Other than parents, relatives were the most frequently suspected perpetrators (7%, see Figure S-5). It should be noted that many non-familial allegations of abuse

are investigated by the police, not by a child welfare service. One should also note that there is overlap between alleged perpetrator classifications, since multiple perpetrators were identified for the primary category of maltreatment in 24% of child investigations.

Substantiation rates for alleged perpetrators ranged from 18% for professionals to 51% for step-mothers.









## Police Investigations and Charges

Police investigations occurred in 21% of child maltreatment investigations, and criminal charges were laid in 10% (see Table 5-5). Eight percent of physical abuse investigations and 34% of sexual abuse investigations resulted in charges laid, whereas only 2% of

## Child Age and Sex

Provincial and territorial child welfare statutes vary in terms of the age covered for child maltreatment investigations. Some jurisdictions limit their investigation mandates to children under 16, and others extend their investigations to youth up to 18. To ensure consistency in the application of definitions across Canada, CIS data are reported for children aged 0 to 15 years.

The incidence of investigated maltreatment ranged from 18.5 per 1,000 children among 12 to 15 year old males, to 25.08 per 1,000 for females in the same age group (Figure 6-10). The overall incidence rate per

1,000 children was similar among females (21.65 investigations per 1,000 children) and males (21.26 investigations per 1,000 children, see Table 6-1).

Comparisons between age and sex categories must be made with caution because investigations by category of maltreatment confound these comparisons (e.g. male children were investigated less often in cases of sexual abuse, see Table 6-3).

## Child Functioning

In 44 percent of child investigations, at least one child functioning issue was indicated by the investigating worker (see Table 6-4). The five most often indicated child functioning issues are detailed in Figure S-11. A behaviour problem in the home or community was indicated in 24% of investigations,

depression or anxiety in 11%, negative peer involvement in 10%, irregular school attendance in 9%, and developmental delay in an estimated 8% of child investigations.

Substantiation rates for cases involving these child functioning problems ranged from 40% for negative peer involvement to 50% for depression or anxiety.

## Household Structure

Twenty-nine percent of child maltreatment investigations involved children who lived with their two biological parents, and in a further 18% children lived in a two-parent blended family (Figure S-12). Forty-six percent of cases involved children living in a family led by a lone parent: 40% in a lone female parent household and 6% in a lone male parent household. Rates of substantiation ranged from 40% (lone female parent) to 46% (two-parent blended/step).

Of those investigations involving children living with a mother, 61% lived with a mother who was over 30 years old and 17% with a mother aged 25 or under. Of investigations involving children living with a father, 75% lived with a father who was over 30 years old and 10% with a father aged 25 or under (see Table 7-2).

## Source of Income

Thirty-nine percent of child maltreatment investigations involved children in families that derived their primary income from full-time employment (Figure S-13). Thirty-six percent involved children from families that received social assistance or some other form of benefits, and an additional 10% involved children who lived in families relying on part-time employment/multiple jobs or seasonal employment. In 13% of child investigations the source of income was unknown by the investigating workers, and 2% no reliable source of income was reported.

Substantiation rates ranged from 33% for cases in which the income source was unknown to 54% for cases in which no reliable source of income was identified by the investigating worker.

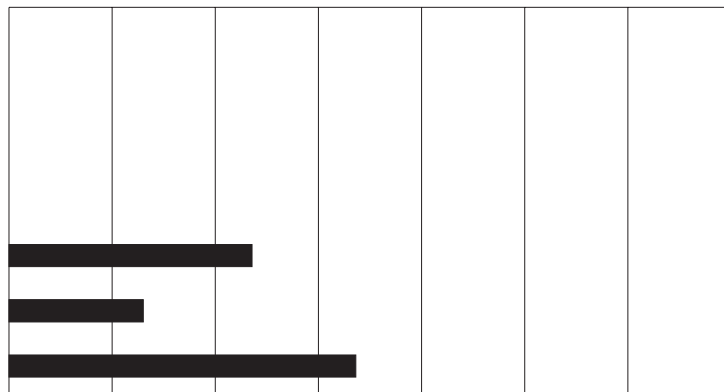
Fifty-seven percent of child investigations involved children living in rental accommodations (47% in private housing complex). In 26% of investigations children lived in purchased homes, 6% in other accommodations, 1% in shelters or hostels (see Table 7-6).

## Caregiver Functioning and Family Stressors

At least one caregiver functioning issue and/or other family stressor was identified in 73% of child investigations (see Table 7-10). The seven most frequently reported are detailed in Figure S-14. Alcohol or drug abuse was reported in 34% of investigations,

childhood history of abuse in 31%, lack of social supports in 29%, mental health problems in 24%, spousal violence in 23%, custody dispute in 11%, and criminal activity in 11% of child investigations.

Substantiation rates for the caregiver functioning and family stressors ranged from 34% for custody dispute to 62% for criminal activity.



## Referral Sources

In 59% of investigations the initial referral was made by a professional (see Table 8-1(b)). The largest source of referrals was school personnel, who made 21% of maltreatment investigation referrals to child welfare services (Figure S-15). The second most common source of referral was parents, totaling 16% of cases. Twelve percent of maltreatment investigations were referred by the police. Neighbours/friends made 9% of referrals and relatives made 8%.

Substantiation rates ranged from 13% for anonymous referrals to 57% for referrals from police (see Table 8-1(a) & (b)).

Fifty-one percent of investigated children had been previously investigated because of suspected maltreatment; another 12% lived in families that had previously received child welfare services. Only 34% of

## Future Research

The CIS is a rich data set of 7,672 child maltreatment investigations with information on child and

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## ■ 1. INTRODUCTION

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police. The CIS is not designed to document unreported cases (see Definitional Framework and Figure 1-2 for a detailed presentation of the scope of the study).

Specifically, the study is designed to

1. Examine the rates of physical abuse, sexual abuse, neglect, and emotional maltreatment, as well as multiple forms of maltreatment, reported to, and

gation, grounds for removal, and timelines for determining permanent wardship.

For aboriginal people in Canada, the organization of child welfare services falls under provincial and territorial statutes and regulations, although funding for on-reserve services is provided by the federal government under the *Indian Act*.<sup>4</sup> The structure of aboriginal child welfare services is changing rapidly. A growing number of services are being provided either by fully mandated aboriginal agencies or by aboriginal counseling services that work in conjunction with mandated services.<sup>5</sup>

## Definitional Framework for the CIS

Statistics on child abuse and neglect are collected and reported in very different ways.<sup>6</sup> Confusion can easily arise because of variations in the way a particular statistic is calculated. The following discussion and framework are provided to assist readers in interpreting the statistics included in this report.

Child abuse and neglect statistics can be misinterpreted because of two types of problems: confusion about the definitions of child abuse and neglect used, and misunderstanding of the case selection and reporting methods used. Definitional differences can have considerable impact on reported rates. For example, in the U.S. *National Incidence Study*



A second source of variation in maltreatment rates arises from differences in the way statistics are collected and reported. Child maltreatment statistics can end up measuring very different things, depending on who collects them and how they are collected. Some rates refer to the number of reported incidents; others refer only to allegations that have been substantiated by a thorough investigation. Some rates are based on annual incidence counts, whereas others measure childhood prevalence. These differences limit direct comparison of maltreatment statistics derived from different data sources. However, unlike the more intractable definitional problems, these issues can be resolved by clearly specifying case selection methods. The following framework (Table 1-2) provides a basis for comparing child maltreatment statistics by considering how they are affected by different case selection methods.

*e e e e*

A first area of potential confusion in interpretation involves the use of different case selection methods. These differences limit









It is also important to distinguish between cases

## Organization of Report

The CIS Final Report presents the major descriptive findings from the CIS. These statistics are national estimates based on a representative sample of child maltreatment investigations opened by child welfare services in 1998 (see Chapter 2 for details of sampling and estimation methods used). The descriptive findings

## ■ 2. METHODOLOGY

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The CIS is the first national study examining the incidence of reported child abuse and neglect in Canada. The CIS captured information about children

questions.<sup>25</sup> In addition to information on investigated maltreatment, the EIQ collected information on uninvestigated screened-out cases as well as information on children and youth assessed because of suspected behavioural difficulties. To allow for regional analyses within Quebec, the EIQ also included all child welfare

Co-managers (see Appendix A for a list of all research associates). The Toronto research team designed the research instruments, selected the study sites, coordinated the national case selection, entered and verified data for all sites outside of Quebec, and prepared the data set, weights, and the Final Report.

To ensure active participation across Canada, case selection was conducted by a network of five regionally based research offices. Case selection in British Columbia was conducted by a team at the University of British Columbia, under the direction of Richard Sullivan. In Alberta, Saskatchewan, Manitoba, Yukon, and the Northwest Territories, case selection was conducted by a team of researchers affiliated with the Canadian Research Institute for Law and the Family, University of Calgary, under the direction of Joe Hornick. In Ontario, under the direction of Nico Trocmé, case selection was conducted by a team at the Bell Canada Child Welfare Research Unit, University of Toronto. Case selection in Newfoundland, New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, and Prince Edward Island was directed by Gale Burford and Ken Barter, Memorial University of Newfoundland.

In Quebec, CIS case selection was overseen by three Montreal-based researchers: John Wright, Université de Montréal; Micheline Mayer, Institut de recherche pour le développement social des jeunes, Centres jeunesse de Montréal; and Marc Tourigny, Université du Québec à Hull. The Montreal office was managed by Sonia HHe, Institut de recherche pour le développement social des jeunes. The Montreal office

provincial and territorial directors (see Pilot Testing, further in this chapter). Additional modifications were made to ensure comparability with the EIQ instruments

A significant challenge for the study was to overcome the variations in the definitions of maltreatment used by different jurisdictions. Rather than anchor the

Fifty-one sites were selected from a pool of 327 child welfare service areas in Canada (Figure 2-2).<sup>35</sup>

the northern territories were selected on the basis of accessibility, expected case volume, and regional representation.<sup>36</sup> In total, 986 child welfare workers participated in the case selection.

The second sampling stage involved selecting cases opened



Completion of the Maltreatment Assessment Form was anchored to the written assessments that workers recorded upon the completion of intake investigations. The length of time between the receipt of the referral and the completion of the written assessment differs according to provincial, regional, and site variations. Given that some investigations can take many months to be completed, workers were asked to complete the Maltreatment Assessment Form at the same time as their first assessment report, regardless of whether the entire investigation was yet completed.

Research associates visited the CIS sites on a regu-

The case selection form was kept as short and simple as possible to minimize the response burden and ensure a high completion rate. During pilot testing, workers estimated that the form took less than 10 minutes to complete. Item completion rates were over 95% on all items.<sup>41</sup>

The participation rate was estimated by comparing actual cases opened during the case selection period (October 1 to December 31, 1998) with the number of cases for which Maltreatment Assessment Forms were completed.<sup>42</sup>

that was then used in the custom data run.<sup>44</sup> In most cases, this involved aggregating census subdivisions only, while a few cases required aggregating enumeration areas for separate census subdivisions.<sup>45</sup>



The CIS estimates are reported on the basis of the number of child investigations conducted during 1998, as opposed to the number of investigated children. Some investigations involve children who were previously



a sufficient number of CIS sites. These tables are marked accordingly.

- The overall sample used to derive data for each table is noted at the bottom of the table along with the number of CIS sites included in the sample.



### ■ 3. INCIDENCE OF ABUSE AND NEGLECT

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This chapter presents estimates of the number of child maltreatment investigations conducted in Canada during 1998. All data are presented in terms of the estimated total number of child investigations, as well as the estimated annual incidence rate of investigations per 1,000 children aged 0 to 15.<sup>50</sup> These figures refer to child investigations and not to the number of investigated families. Thus, if several children in a family had each been reported as abused or neglected, each investigated child counted as a separate child investigation. For children investigated more than once in a year, each investigation is included in the estimates (see Chapter 1, Definitional Framework).<sup>51</sup>

jurisdictions have special investigation protocols and specific procedures in cases of abuse, even though problems arising from neglect or emotional maltreatment may have equal or more detrimental effects on children.

For the purpose of this report, the primary classification of maltreatment will generally be presented in order to allow summary comparisons of the four categories of maltreatment tracked by the CIS (physical abuse, sexual abuse, neglect, and emotional maltreat-

and report slightly lower rates, because the rates are category or form specific.

tions per 1,000 children).<sup>54</sup> In a further 22% (an estimated 29,668 child investigations, 4.71 investigations per 1,000 children) there was insufficient evidence to substantiate maltreatment; however, maltreatment remained suspected by the investigating worker. Thirty-three percent of investigations (an estimated 44,704 child investigations, 7.09 investigations per 1,000 children), were unsubstantiated.

## Total Family Investigations and Overall Rates of Substantiation

Table 3-2 presents the estimated number of family investigations (family-based). Although the estimates presented in this report are child-based, the family-based data are presented in this table to provide a basis for comparing CIS data with the family-based child maltreatment statistics routinely gathered in many jurisdictions. An estimated 96,014 family maltreatment reports were investigated because of alleged maltreatment. Of this number, 45% were substantiated, 22% remained suspected, and 33% were unsubstantiated.

Children living in an investigated family were not all considered to be suspected victims of maltreatment. In investigated families there was an average of 2.3 children under the age of 19, and an average of 1.43

children were investigated for each family (see Appendix I, Table 1). Children were investigated if they were reported for suspected maltreatment, or if concerns about possible maltreatment of that child arose during the investigation.

## Categories of Maltreatment

Table 3-3 presents the four categories of maltreat-

reports of 1.43 per child investigated. About 1.43 reports are estimated (see Table 3-3).

rate was 18%, 49% of investigations remained suspected, and 33% were unsubstantiated. In total, an estimated 46,745 child investigations involved physical abuse as the primary or secondary reason for the investigation.

**Sexual Abuse:**

investigations involved neglect as the second reason for investigation. Of this group, 43% were substantiated, 23% remained suspended, and 34%





or anal sexual activities.

**Sexual Activity Attempted:** Included attempts to (2.91 investigations per 1,000 children) reported for other forms of physical abuse, 26% were substantiated, 28% suspected, and 46% unsubstantiated. Shaken Baby Syndrome was identified as a reason for investigation in an estimated 598 child investigations (0.09 investigations per 1,000 children). Of that number, **Sexual Activity Completed:** Included oral, vaginal, 32% were substantiated, 27% suspected, and 41% unsubstantiated.

As shown in Table 3-6, an estimated 15,614 child investigations (2.48 investigations per 1,000 children) involved allegations of sexual abuse as either the pri-

## Sexual Abuse

The CIS tracked seven forms or subtypes of sexual abuse, ranging from sexual activity to sexual harassment. If several forms of sexual activity were involved, investigating workers were instructed to identify the most intrusive form.<sup>55</sup> It should be noted that the CIS identified only cases reported to child welfare services; many cases of child sexual abuse that do not involve parents or relatives in the home are investigated only by the police. Child welfare services become involved in extra-familial sexual abuse cases only if there are concerns about the parents' ability to protect the child.

The CIS used seven forms to classify cases of sexual abuse:



Exploitation, pornography, and prostitution were



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punitive treatment, or habitual or extreme verbal abuse (threatening, belittling, etc.).<sup>56</sup>

**Non-organic Failure to Thrive:** A child under 3 has suffered a marked retardation or cessation of growth for which no organic reason can be identified. Failure to thrive cases in which inadequate nutrition is the identified cause were classified as physical neglect. Non-organic failure to thrive is generally considered to be a form of emotional neglect; it has been classified as a separate form of emotional maltreatment because of its particular characteristics.

**Emotional Neglect:** The child has suffered or is at substantial risk of suffering from mental, emotional, or developmental problems caused by inadequate nurturance/affection.

**Exposed to Family Violence:** A child has been a



## ■ 4. CHARACTERISTICS OF MALTREATMENT

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Chapter 4 describes the characteristics of the major categories of maltreatment documented by the CIS. The characteristics of maltreatment documented include evidence of associated physical or emotional harm, the duration of the maltreatment, and children's relationships to the alleged perpetrators. The findings are presented in terms of the four major categories of primary maltreatment tracked by the CIS (physical abuse, sexual abuse, neglect, and emotional maltreatment)<sup>57</sup> and by level of substantiation. Each table also documents cases involving multiple categories of maltreatment.

The figures presented in this chapter are weighted figures derived from child maltreatment investigations conducted in 1998 in a sample of Canadian child welfare services. The sampling design and weighting procedures specific to the study should be considered before inferences are drawn from these estimates. The estimates **do not include** (1) incidents that were not reported to child welfare services, (2) reported cases that were screened out by child welfare services before being fully investigated, (3) new reports on cases already open by child welfare services, and (4) cases that were investigated only by the police.

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## Nature of Physical Harm

Investigating workers were asked to document the type of physical harm that was suspected to have been caused by the maltreatment. The nature of physical harm was recorded for up to six types of injury or health conditions:

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<sup>61</sup> Fifty per-



terms of observable child behaviours and the latter in terms of parental behaviours (e.g. constant belittling, inappropriate nurturing).

Table 4-2 presents emotional harm identified during the child maltreatment investigations. In order to rate the severity of mental/emotional harm, workers indicated whether therapeutic intervention (treatment) was required as a result of the mental or emotional distress shown by the child.

It is more difficult than in the case of physical inju



**Sexual Abuse:** Maltreatment was documented as a single incident in 33% of substantiated or suspected sexual abuse investigations, as multiple incidents over a period of less than 6 months in 19%, and as multiple incidents over more than 6 months in 32% of substantiated or suspected cases.

**Neglect:** In contrast to abuse, maltreatment was reported as a single incident in only 15% of substantiated or suspected neglect investigations. It was indicated as multiple incidents over a period of less than 6 months in 23% of these cases, and as multiple incidents over more than 6 months in 40% of substantiated or suspected cases.

**Emotional Maltreatment:** As with neglect,

the alleged perpetrator had not maltreated the child. The CIS tracked seven pre-coded classifications of alleged perpetrators:

**Mother:** Biological parent.

**Father:** Biological parent.

**Step-father:** Included common-law partner.

**Step-mother:** Included common-law partner.

**Sibling:** Sibling or half-sibling of the child.<sup>63</sup>

**Stranger:** Unknown person to the child and family.

**Other:** Any other individual.

Informchild an6zzoigIproximchoigge and sex of perpetrators w132 also collected. Perpetrators classified



**Table 4-4(b)**

of 29% for cases involving other relatives to a high of 40% for cases involving step-parents.

Parent's boyfriend/girlfriend, babysitter, and teacher were the non-familial members most frequently reported as the alleged perpetrators in physical abuse investigations.

**Sexual Abuse:** Sexual abuse cases represented

## ■ 5. INVESTIGATION OUTCOMES

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Five interventions during investigation were documented by the Maltreatment Assessment Form: (1) provision of ongoing child welfare services; (2) referrals to other services; (3) placement of children in out-of-home care; (4) application to child welfare court; and (5) police involvement and criminal charges. The data presented in this chapter should be interpreted with care because they track only case events that occurred during the investigation. Additional referrals for services, admissions to out-of-home care, court applications, and criminal charges are likely to occur for cases kept open after the initial investigation. It

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**Table 5-1**  
**Ongoing Child Welfare Services in Child Maltreatment Investigations by Primary Category of Investigated Maltreatment and by Level of Substantiation in Canada in 1998\***

	Investigated Maltreatment					Multiple Categories
	Primary Category					
	Physical Abuse	Sexual Abuse	Neglect	Emotional Maltreatment	Total	
Case to Be Closed	67% 27,243	67% 9,613	62% 33,124	60% 15,345	<b>64% 85,325</b>	47% 14,931
Substantiated	26%	26%	26%	45%	<b>30%</b>	37%
Suspected	20%	23%	20%	30%	<b>22%</b>	29%
Unsubstantiated	54%	51%	54%	25%	<b>48%</b>	34%
Case to Stay Open	31% 12,804	31% 4,514	35% 18,869	38% 9,747	<b>34% 45,934</b>	51% 16,034
Substantiated	51%	63%	73%	70%	<b>65%</b>	79%
Suspected	27%	21%	19%	26%	<b>23%</b>	17%
Unsubstantiated	22%	16%	8%	4%	<b>12%</b>	4%
Other	2% 804	2% 240	3% 1,440	2% 941	<b>2% 3,025</b>	2% 732
Substantiated	23%	—	40%	31%	<b>34%</b>	48%
Suspected	42%	—	35%	57%	<b>41%</b>	39%
Unsubstantiated	35%	—	25%	12%	<b>25%</b>	13%
<b>Total</b>	<b>100% 40,851</b>	<b>100% 14,367</b>	<b>100% 53,433</b>	<b>100% 25,633</b>	<b>100% 134,284</b>	<b>100% 31,697</b>

**Emotional Maltreatment:** An estimated 9,747 emotional maltreatment investigations (38%) were reported as remaining open. Emotional maltreatment was substantiated in 70% of these investigations.

**Multiple Maltreatment:** Fifty-one percent of child investigations involving multiple categories of maltreatment (an estimated 16,034) remained open after the initial investigation; 79% of these cases were substantiated.

## Child and Family Referrals

The CIS tracked referrals made to programs designed to offer services beyond the parameters of “ongoing child welfare services”. Workers were asked to indicate all applicable referral classifications identified for the family or child. This included referrals made internally to a specialized program provided by a child welfare agency/office as well as referrals made

externally to other agencies or services. A referral selection was meant to indicate whether a formal referral had been made, not whether the child or family had actually started to receive services.

Fifteen referral categories were tracked:

**Family Preservation/Reunification Program:**

Family or home-based service designed to support families, reduce risk of out-of-home placement, or reunify children in care with their families (e.g. Family Preservation, Home Builders).

**Parent Support Program:**

Any group program designed to offer support or education (e.g. Parents Anonymous, parenting instruction course, Parent Support Association).

**Other Family/Parent Counseling:** Includes programs for family therapy/counseling or couple counseling (e.g. family service bureau, mental health centre).

**Drug/Alcohol Counseling:** Addiction programs (any substance) for caregiver(s).

**Welfare/Social Assistance:** Referral for social assistance to address financial concerns of the household.

**Food Bank:** Referral to any food bank.

**Shelter Services:** Regarding family violence or homelessness.

**Domestic Violence Counseling:** Regarding domestic violence, abusive relationships, or the effects of witnessing violence.

**Psychiatric/Psychological Services:** Child referral to psychological or psychiatric services (trauma, high-risk behaviour or intervention).

**Special Education Referral:** Any specialized school program to meet a child's educational, emotional, or behavioural needs.

**Recreational Program:** Referral to a community recreational program (e.g. organized sports leagues, community recreation, Boys and Girls Clubs).

**Victim Support Program:** Child-focused support program related to victim support.

**Medical/Dental Services:** Any specialized service to address the child's immediate medical or dental health needs.

**Other Child Counseling:** Any other child-focused counseling service (e.g. counseling centre, mental health centre, family service bureaus, drug or alcohol counseling).

**Other Referral:** Any other form of child- or family-focused referral.

As shown in Table 5-2(b), a minimum of one child or family referral was made for more than 60% of child maltreatment investigations, representing an estimated 81,058 child investigations. Fifty-four percent of these cases were substantiated, 23% remained suspected, and 23% were unsubstantiated. Thirty-three percent of investigations had at least one child referral, and 47%

23% were unsubstantiated. Likewise, 57% of cases were referred to a family referral service. Child's education was a concern in 15% of cases, and 12% of cases were referred to a community

A referral for family and parent counseling occurred in 23% of sexual abuse investigations, of which 64% were substantiated. A referral was made to parent support programs for 13% of child investigations with sexual abuse as the primary category of mal-



**Table 5-2(b)**  
**Child-Focused Referrals to Other Services in Child Maltreatment Investigations by Primary Category of Investigated Maltreatment and by Level of Substantiation in Canada in 1998\***

Investigated Maltreatment					Multiple Categories
Primary Category					
Physical Abuse	Sexual Abuse	Neglect	Emotional Maltreatment	Total	





CIS court involvement figures should be treated as underestimates of the true rate of court involvement. Court status was tracked in terms of three possible worker responses:

**Application Made:** An application to child welfare court was submitted.

**Application Considered:** The child welfare worker considered whether or not to submit an application to child welfare court.

**No Application Considered:** Court involvement was not considered.

As seen in Table 5-4, applications to child welfare court were made in an estimated 5,595 child investigations (5%) and considered in an additional 7,256 (6%). Seventy-four percent of investigations involving a court application were substantiated, 18% remained suspected, and 8% were unsubstantiated.

**Physical Abuse:** Applications to child welfare court were made in 5% of physical abuse investigations. Almost two-thirds (63%) of these were substantiated after the initial investigation. An application to



**Table 5-5**  
**Police Investigations and Charges Laid in Child Maltreatment Investigations by Primary Category of Investigated Maltreatment and by Level of Substantiation in Canada in 1998\***

Investigated Maltreatment

## ■ 6. CHILD CHARACTERISTICS

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**Physical Abuse:** Fifty-seven percent of physical abuse investigations involved boys and 43% involved girls (Table 6-3). The larger proportion of boys is particularly noteworthy in the 4-11 year old group: 13,474 investigations involved boys compared with an estimated 8,086 involving girls. By adolescence, male and female youth were equally represented.

**Table 6-3**  
**Age and Sex of Children Investigated in Child Maltreatment Investigations by Primary Category of Investigated Maltreatment and by Level of Substantiation in Canada in 1998\***

	Investigated Maltreatment										Multiple Categories	
	Primary Category											
	Physical Abuse		Sexual Abuse		Neglect		Emotional Maltreatment		Total			
<b>0-3 Years</b>												
Male	10%	4,189	6%	781	14%	7,917	16%	4,081	<b>13%</b>	<b>16,968</b>	of Substantiated	of speglated

**Emotional Maltreatment:** As with cases of



**Physical Abuse:** The five most often indicated child functioning issues in cases of investigated physical abuse were general behaviour problems (31%), negative peer involvement (13%), depression (11%), developmental delay (9%), and violence toward others (8%). Overall, a physical, emotional, or cognitive health issue was reported in 26% of physical abuse investigations, involving 10,803 estimated child investigations. A behavioural issue was indicated in 39% of investigations (an estimated 16,044).

**Sexual Abuse:** The five most often reported child functioning issues indicated in cases of investigated sexual abuse were depression/anxiety (17%), behaviour problem (17%), inappropriate sexual behaviour (14%), negative peer involvement (10%), and school attendance problem (10%). Sixty-three percent of sexual



**Table 6-4(b)**  
**Child Functioning (Behavioural) in Child Maltreatment Investigations by Primary Category of Investigated Maltreatment and by Level of Substantiation in Canada in 1998\***

	Investigated Maltreatment					Multiple Categories
	Primary Category				Total	
	Physical Abuse	Sexual Abuse	Neglect	Emotional Maltreatment		
Behavioural Functioning						

## Investigated Maltreatment

## ■ 7. HOUSEHOLD CHARACTERISTICS

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Chapter 7 provides an overview of the characteristics of the households of investigated children tracked by the CIS. Household characteristics include household composition, sibling information, housing information, aboriginal heritage, source of household income, and parental functioning and family stressors. For the purpose of the CIS, a household was defined as the primary residence of the child when the investigation was launched. The findings are presented by the primary category of maltreatment and the level of substantiation. Each table also documents cases involving multiple categories of maltreatment.

The figures presented in this chapter are weighted figures derived from child maltreatment investigations conducted in 1998 in a sample of Canadian child welfare services. The sampling design and weighting procedures specific to the study should be considered before inferences are drawn from these estimates. The estimates **do not include** (1) incidents that were not reported to child welfare services, (2) reported cases that were screened out by child welfare services before being fully investigated, (3) new reports on cases already open by child welfare services, and (4) cases that were investigated only by the police.

### Parents and Caregivers in the Home

The CIS gathered information on up to two of the child's parents or other caregivers.<sup>71</sup>er cegivers.



household. Substantiation rates ranged from a low of 34% for female parent households to a high of 53% for investigation of children living in households classified "other".

**Neglect:** Unlike abuse investigations, over half of all neglect investigations involved lone-parent families<sup>75</sup> — 49% female-parent households and 6% male-parent households — where only 24% of investigations involved children from households with two biological parents, and 13% involved two-parent blended



*Table 7-2(b)*  
*Age of Fathers\*\* in Child Maltreatment Investigations by Primary Category of Investigated Maltreatment and by Level of Substantiation in Canada in 1998\**

from a low of 14% for children living with mothers aged 22-25 to a high of 41% for those whose mothers were over 40. Similarly, substantiation rates differed with the father's age, from under 13% (fathers aged 25 and under) to 42% (fathers over 40).

**Sexual Abuse:** In 73 percent of sexual abuse investigations involving children living with their mothers, the mothers were over 30, and in only 6% of cases they were 25 and under. With regard to fathers, in 83% of

investigations the fathers were over 30. Substantiation rates for children living with mothers ranged from a low of 20% (mothers between 22 and 25) to a high of 43% (mothers between 31 and 40). With respect to fathers, substantiation rates ranged from 34% for fathers over 40 years to 42% for fathers between 31 and 40 years.

**Neglect:** Cases of neglect more often involved younger parents than did cases of abuse. In 20% of

neglect investigations involving children living with



the subject of investigation, 33% had siblings who were not investigated, and 30% had no siblings. Substantiation rates ranged from a low of 28% for cases involving children with two or more siblings, none investigated, to 50% for cases in which there were two or more siblings, at least one of whom was also investigated.

**Neglect:** Fifty-three percent of neglect investigations involved children with at least one additional sibling who was also the subject of investigation. Eighteen percent had siblings who were not investigated, and 29% had no siblings. Substantiation rates range from 41% for cases with one uninvestigated sibling to 45% for cases with one investigated sibling.

**Emotional Maltreatment:** In 61% of investigations of emotional maltreatment the child had at least one sibling who was also the subject of investigation. Fifteen percent had siblings who were not investigated, and 24% had no siblings. Substantiation rates in cases of emotional maltreatment were generally high. The rates range from 33% for cases with two or more uninvestigated siblings to 62% for cases with two or

who was also the subject of investigation, 21% had





**Sexual Abuse:** Thirty-six percent of sexual abuse investigations involved children who were living in purchased homes, 35% were living in private market rentals, and 7% in public housing complexes. As with cases of physical abuse, substantiation rates were highest for investigations involving children in purchased homes, and lowest for children living in other accommodations.

Twelve percent of sexual abuse investigations involved children living in unsafe housing conditions, and 61% of these investigations were substantiated

(Table 7-7). Sixty-three percent involved children who had not moved in the previous 6 months, and 15% of investigated children had moved at least once (Table 7-8).

**Neglect:**





and 4% living off-reserve. Substantiation rates were 30% for on-reserve and 34% for off-reserve.

**Sexual Abuse:** Eleven percent of sexual abuse cases involved children who had at least one parent who was of aboriginal heritage, 8% living on-reserve and 3% living off-reserve. Substantiation rates were 15% in cases involving children living on-reserve and 19% off-reserve.

**Neglect:** Fifteen percent of neglect investigations involved children who had at least one parent who was of aboriginal heritage, 5% living on-reserve and 10% off-reserve. Substantiation rates were 21% in cases involving children living on-reserve and 63% in cases involving children with at least one aboriginal parent living off-reserve.

**Emotional Maltreatment:** Fourteen percent of emotional maltreatment investigations involved children with at least one parent of aboriginal heritage, 3% living on-reserve and 11% living off-reserve. Substantiation rates were 53% for on-reserve and 71% off-reserve.

**Multiple Categories of Maltreatment:** Seventeen percent of investigations of multiple categories of maltreatment involved children with at least one parent of aboriginal heritage, 5% living on-reserve and 12% living off-reserve. Substantiation rates were 40% in cases involving children living on-reserve and 72% in cases off-reserve.

## Caregiver Functioning and Family Stressors

Concerns related to caregiver functioning and family stressors were examined by investigating workers using a checklist of 10 items that could apply to either caregiver. Where applicable, the reference point for identifying concerns about caregiver functioning was the previous 6 months.<sup>80</sup> The checklist included:

**Alcohol or Drug Abuse:** Use of alcohol is known or suspected to pose a problem for the family, or at least one caregiver is known or suspected to abuse prescription drugs, illegal drugs, or other substances.

**Criminal Activity:** At least one caregiver is known or suspected to allow criminal acts to be committed with the children's knowledge, or is absent because of incarceration.

**Cognitive Impairment:** The cognitive ability of at least one caregiver is known or suspected to have an impact on the quality of care provided in the family.

**Mental Health Problems:** At least one caregiver is known or suspected to have mental health problems.

**Physical Health Issues:** At least one caregiver is known or suspected to have a chronic illness, frequent hospitalizations, or physical disability.

**Lack of Social Supports:** At least one caregiver is known or suspected to be socially isolated or lacking in social supports.

**Childhood History of Abuse:** Either caregiver is known or suspected to have a history of childhood maltreatment.

**Spousal Violence:** Either caregiver is known or suspected to be in a violent relationship.

**Custody Disputes:** At least one caregiver is known or suspected to be involved in a custody dispute.

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**s6use**

**Neglect**





The substantiation level for emotional maltreatment ranged from 42% in cases identifying cognitive impairment to 68% when criminal activity was

## ■ 8. REFERRAL AND AGENCY CHARACTERISTICS

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Chapter 8 describes referral and agency characteristics, including referral sources, malicious and unsubstantiated referrals, previous investigations, agency size and structure, and investigating workers' professional training and years of experience. As with the previous chapters, the tables are presented in terms of the estimated number of child maltreatment investigations in Canada in 1998, by primary category of maltreatment and level of substantiation.

The figures presented in this chapter are weighted figures derived from child maltreatment investigations

Over 59% of all referrals (an estimated 79,504) were made by professionals through their contact with children. The largest source of referrals was school personnel, who referred an estimated 29,040 child investigations to child welfare services, representing 21% of all investigations. The police referred 12% of investigations, and health personnel referred another 5%. Non-professional community sources referred 14% (estimated 11,134), including 8% from neighbors/family members (5,504).

## Malicious Referrals

Most provincial and territorial child welfare statutes require that professionals and members of the public report suspected maltreatment. Reporters are not expected to attempt to verify their suspicions prior

to reporting. After an investigation, 33% of cases tracked by the CI&H731cunted the uionube sn tiaect.re

*Table 8-1(b)*  
*All Referral Sources (Professional) in Child Maltreatment Investigations by Primary Category of atment Inveed*

who knew that the allegation was false. Investigating workers classified such referrals as “malicious.”

Table 8-2(a) shows unsubstantiated and malicious reports for investigated children by primary category of maltreatment and by level of substantiation, and

Table 8-2(b) provides a breakdown of malicious referrals by source of report. Most unsubstantiated reports were considered to have been made in good faith, but 4% of all allegations of maltreatment (an estimated 5,322) were judged to have been intentionally false. In another 5% of cases the investigating worker was

unable to determine whether or not an unsubstantiated report had been made in good faith.

**Primary Categories of Maltreatment:** Most of the reports that were judged to be malicious involved

considered to be responsible for half of all malicious

**Table 8-3**  
**Previous Investigations in Child Maltreatment Investigations by Primary Category of Investigated Maltreatment and by Level of Substantiation in a Non-representative Sample of Canadian Jurisdictions in 1998\*/\*\***

**Neglect:** Fifty-eight percent of neglect investigations had been previously investigated because of suspected maltreatment, 28% involved children who lived in families with no previous record of services, and 9% had previously received child welfare services at least once. Unlike abuse, neglect cases involving previously investigated children were more often substantiated (40%).

**Emotional Maltreatment:** Fifty-seven percent of cases of emotional maltreatment had been previously investigated because of suspected maltreatment, and another 9% involved families that had previously received child welfare services. Regardless of service history, substantiation rates were generally high in cases of emotional maltreatment, ranging from 64% among those with a repeated child welfare service history to 49% among those previously investigated.



**Physical Abuse:** Fifty-eight percent of physical abuse investigations were conducted by large agencies/offices, of which 34% were substantiated. Twenty-six percent of physical abuse investigations were con-

**Sexual Abuse:** Fifty-two percent of sexual abuse investigations were conducted by large agencies/offices, 37% of which were substantiated. Medium agencies/offices conducted 33% of sexual abuse investigations, and small agencies/offices conducted 15% of investigations. Medium agencies/offices substantiated 31% of investigations, and small agencies/offices had the highest sexual abuse substantiation rate, at 55%.

**Neglect:** Fifty-three percent of neglect cases were

## Urban and Rural Service Area

The 51 CIS sites represented the levels of population density across Canada. The CIS sites were categorized into one of three service area classifications:

**Large Metropolitan Service Area:** Providing child welfare services to densely populated urban settings, including suburban sites within a metropolitan site.

**Mixed Urban/Rural Service Area:** Providing child welfare services to sites with a wide population density range.

**Primarily Rural Service Area:** Providing child welfare services primarily to sparsely populated areas.

Table 8-6 presents child investigations by child welfare services based on population density. Mixed urban/rural service areas investigated 46% of cases (an estimated 62,676). Large metropolitan service areas conducted 30% of investigations, and primarily rural child welfare services conducted 24%. Overall substantiation rates ranged from 49% for primarily rural service areas to 39% for large metropolitan service areas.

**Physical Abuse:** Mixed urban/rural services conducted 45% of physical abuse investigations and substantiated 33%. Large metropolitan services investigated 33% and substantiated physical abuse in 29% of cases. Primarily rural services investigated 22% of cases of physical abuse and substantiated 43% of those cases.

**Sexual Abuse:** Forty-eight percent of sexual abuse

were providing ongoing services such as counseling, case management, and monitoring. Workers in other positions, such as supervisors and night-duty workers, conducted 4% of investigations. Forty-four percent of cases investigated by generalists were substantiated, 26% remained suspected, and 30% were unsubstanti-



**Neglect:**

**Multiple Categories of Maltreatment:** Cases involving multiple categories were disproportionately investigated by workers with less than a year of experi

Social Work (MSW), 18% by workers with an “other” bachelor’s degree, 9% by workers with an “other” college diploma or certificate, and 1% by workers with either an “other” Masters degree or “other” education. Fifty percent of cases investigated by workers with a college diploma or certificate were substantiated, followed by 40% investigated by workers with an “other” bachelor’s degree. Substantiation rates were lowest in cases investigated by workers with an MSW (29%).

**Physical Abuse:** Workers with a BSW conducted 59% of physical abuse investigations, workers with a bachelor’s degree conducted 23%, and workers with an MSW conducted 12%. Between 22% and 32% of cases investigated by workers with BSWs or MSWs were substantiated.

**Sexual Abuse:** Workers with a BSW or an MSW investigated three-quarters of sexual abuse cases. As with physical abuse, sexual abuse cases investigated by workers with professional social work degrees were less often substantiated (28% of cases investigated by BSWs) than were those investigated by workers without a professional social work degree (31% of those with a college diploma or certificate and 62% of those with a Bachelor’s degree were substantiated).

**Neglect:** Workers with a BSW conducted 58% of neglect investigations, and workers without a professional social work degree conducted 30%. Substantiation rates varied from a high of 52% for investigations conducted by workers with an “other” college diploma or certificate to 28% for investigations conducted by workers with an MSW.

**Emotional Maltreatment:** Workers with a BSW conducted 64% of emotional maltreatment investigations followed by workers with an “other” bachelor’s degree (15%), by workers with an MSW (30%). Investigations conducted by workers with an MSW (29%) followed by workers with an “other” bachelor’s degree (15%) and workers with an MSW (32/29).



required; 62% of these investigations were substantiated (Table 4-1).

- Physical harm primarily involved bruises, cuts, and scrapes (69% of harm situations), or other health conditions (24%). Rates of substantiation for physical harm ranged from a low of 34% for broken bones to a high of 65% for other health conditions (Table 4-1(b)).
- Thirty-nine percent of investigations (an estimated 34,045) involved situations that had been ongoing for more than 6 months (71% substantiated), 17% involved situations that had been ongoing for less than 6 months (68% substantiated), and 23% involved single incidents (72% substantiated, see
- Most investigations involved allegations against parents:<sup>85</sup> mothers (61%), fathers (38%), and step-fathers/common-law partners (9%) or step-mothers/common-law partners (3%). Other than parents, relatives were the most frequently identified perpetrators (7%, , and 234(a)). Substantiation rates for investigations with at least one relative as the alleged perpetrator ranged from 25% (foster family/adoptive parents) to 51% (step-mother). Only 6% of all maltreatment investigations involved suspected non-familial members as the alleged perpetrator: 1% of investigations focused on a family friend, a parent's boyfriend/girlfriend, or a babysitter, and 1% or less ayners (3%). Other than parenm pealthanestigations with at least

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either with a relative, neighbours, or some other community care provider (68% of these cases were substantiated). In these circumstances, child welfare

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- Fifty-nine percent of all referrals were made by professionals through their contact with children, and 45% of these cases were substantiated. The largest source of referrals was school personnel, who referred an estimated 29,040 children to child welfare services, representing 21% of all referrals (see Table 8-1(b)).
- Non-professional sources referred 34% of cases, 42% of which were substantiated. Parents referred an estimated 21,212 children (16% of all investigations, see Table 8-1(a)).
- Although most unsubstantiated reports were considered to have been made in good faith, 4% of

other sources does provide a useful perspective. However, **these reference points should be interpreted with caution**, since the statistics from other sources have been derived using different methodologies and definitions as well as different child welfare systems. The definitional framework and methodologic considerations presented in Chapters 1 and 2 explain many of the difficulties inherent in comparing such statistics.

Statistics from six other sources are outlined below in order to provide some context for interpreting the CIS findings.

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### **Federal/Provincial/Territorial Working Group on Child and Family Services Information**

In 1994, the Federal/Provincial/Territorial Working Group on Child and Family Services Information produced *Child Welfare in Canada: The Role of Provincial and Territorial Authorities in Cases of Child Abuse*,<sup>86</sup> the first national report to outline the roles and responsibilities of provincial and territorial child welfare services and to present summary aggregate statistics on child welfare investigations and children in out-of-home care. A second edition of the report was published in 1998 and contains provincial and territorial child welfare statistics for 1994–95, 1995–96, and 1996–97. Because of differences in child welfare statutes, in the organization of child welfare services, and in the way child welfare statistics are kept (see Chapter 2), no national estimates of child abuse and neglect can be generated by the Federal/Provincial/Territorial Working Group documents. Rates of investigation, for example, cannot be compared because some jurisdictions count children whereas others count families, and some count all referrals whereas others count only cases of substantiated abuse. As a result, the rates taken

provinces,<sup>88</sup> representing 48% of the national volume of reported crime. Although the number of police agencies reporting to the UCRII is increasing, the sample is not nationally representative. Analysis of the 1993 UCRII data, using child population statistics from jurisdictions reporting to the UCRII, found that

identified and removed. Data were weighted to represent the total number of children in the United States and annualized to provide estimates for a full year.

The NIS 3 reported an overall maltreatment rate of 41.9 investigations per 1,000 children, a 98% increase in all maltreated children since the NIS 2 (1986).<sup>92</sup> Nine investigations per 1,000 children involved physical abuse as a primary or secondary form of maltreatment, 4.5 per 1,000 children involved sexual abuse, and 29.2 per 1,000 children involved neglect, including emotional neglect. The reported NIS estimates cannot be directly compared with CIS estimates because they include cases that were not investigated by child protective services, only 33% of cases identified by the NIS 3 having been investigated by child protection services. The rate of substantiated child maltreatment cases investigated by child protection services was 13.8 investigations per 1,000 children. In comparison, the rate reported by the CIS is 9.71 substantiated investigations per 1,000 children.

**Child Protection Australia 1997–98<sup>93</sup>**



**APPENDIX A**  
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---

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## Data Analysis

Assistance in developing the sampling design, custom area files, weights, and confidence intervals was provided by Statistics Canada. We would particularly like to thank Korina Besednik, Andrea Durning and Jane Mulvihill from Statistics Canada for their assistance.

## APPENDIX B

### National Advisory Committee and Health Canada Staff

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The National Advisory Committee provided consultation for the design of the study, in particular with respect to the enlistment strategies and survey instruments. Health Canada staff played an active role throughout the study, providing feedback, consultation, and support at all phases of the project.

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## APPENDIX C

### Glossary of Terms

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The following is an explanatory list of terms used throughout the Final Report of the Canadian Incidence Study of Reported Child Abuse and Neglect (CIS).

**Age Group:**



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## APPENDIX D

### Maltreatment Assessment Form

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The Maltreatment Assessment Form consists of three pages:

- Intake Face Sheet;
- Household Information Sheet; and
- Child Information Sheet

Research Centre for Child and Family Studies, Faculty of Social Work, University of Toronto











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- examine severity of maltreatment in terms of chronicity and evidence of harm/risk;
- examine determinants of health for reported children and their families;
- monitor short-term investigation outcomes, including substantiation rates, placement in care, use of child welfare court and criminal prosecution.

**SAMPLE**

Thirty Child Welfare Service Areas (CWSA) across Canada were randomly selected

**CONFIDENTIALITY**

Confidentiality will be maintained at all times during data collection and analysis. To







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- **Drug/Alcohol Counseling:** Addiction program (any substance) for caregiver(s).
- **Welfare/Social Assistance:** Referral for social assistance to address financial

- **Self-Harming Behaviour**

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### **SECTION (16) SUBSTANTIATION**

Indicate the level of substantiation at this point in your investigation.

- **Unfounded:** A case is "Unfounded" if you are convinced that the child has not been maltreated.
- **Suspected:** A case is "Suspected" if you do not have enough evidence to be convinced that the child has been maltreated.







## SUBJECT INDEX

Alleged Perpetrator	16	Housing Accommodations	10
Alleged Perpetrator Description	19	Introduction	1
Assessment Worker's Name	7	Mental or Emotional Harm	17
Caregiver (A) and Caregiver (B)	8	Name and Position of Other Writers	7
Caregiver Functioning	10	Neglect/Failure to Protect	14
Case Number	7	Ob.87.52jetives	1
Case Status Inyormation	11	Other Adults	9
Child Functioning	12	Out of Home Placement	18
Child Maltreatment Alleged	18	Physical Harm	17
Children in the Home			18
Completing the CIS Maltreatment Assessment			
	3	Rationale for Study	1
Contact With Caregiver	9	Reason for Referral/Screening Out	7
Criminal Court	19	Referral to Another Agency/Service	11
Date Referral Received	5	Response spon79j2058our7	

## APPENDIX F Case Vignettes

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The following are the case vignettes used during training sessions to ensure that workers understood how to complete the Maltreatment Assessment Form.

  
 Intake Assessment: Vignette – Rebecca

  
 File Number:

During Rebecca's interview both the police and I were present. The interview was videotaped. Rebecca stated that the first incident occurred a few months ago when she and her sister were sleeping over at their father's. When visiting Mr Smith the girls share the same bed. Rebecca reported that her father came into the bedroom, bent over the bed and touched her breasts under her pyjamas, rubbing them with his fingers. Her father didn't say anything.

Rebecca reported that the second incident occurred on the next visit. Her father came into her bedroom reached



Headlines for the above are available in the following links: [Headlines for the above are available in the following links](#) and [Headlines for the above are available in the following links](#) agreed and in the following links: [Headlines for the above are available in the following links](#) and [Headlines for the above are available in the following links](#) faY'smily)CYaped aYtmyuget.

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The following is the information form completed by the investigating workers.

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## APPENDIX H

### Variance Estimates and Confidence Intervals

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The following is a description of the method employed to develop the sampling error estimation for

this variance. The sampling variability that was calculated was the variability due to the randomness of the cluster selected. Had a different cluster been selected, then a different estimate would have been obtained. The sampling variance and sampling error calculated are an attempt to measure this variability. Thus, the measured variability is due to the cluster. We did not measure the variability, however, because only three months were sampled, not a full year, and in some situations only every second case was sampled.

To calculate the variance, the stratified design allowed us to assume that the variability between strata was zero and that the total variance at the Canadian level was the sum of the variance for each stratum.

Calculating the variance for each stratum was a problem, because only one cluster had been chosen in each. To overcome this problem we used the approach

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**Appendix H, Table 3-1**  
**Estimate of Child Investigations in Canada in 1998**

Variable	Estimate	Standard Error	Coefficient of Variation	Confidence Interval	
				Lower	Upper
Child Investigations	10.1%	162,445			
Incidence Per Thousand		21.52	2.18	10.1%	17.26

**Appendix H, Table 3-2**  
**Estimate of Family Investigations in Canada in 1998**

Variable	Estimate	Standard Error	Coefficient of Variation	Confidence Interval	
				Lower	Upper
Family Investigations	9,991	10.4%	76,432	115,596	

**Appendix H, Table 3-3**  
**Categories of Maltreatment in Child Maltreatment Investigations by Investigation Classification Level and by Level of Substantiation in Canada in 1998**

Variable	Estimate	Standard Error	Coefficient of Variation	Confidence Interval	
				Lower	Upper
Physical Abuse: Primary/Second		46,745	4,134	8.8%	54,848
Incidence per Thousand		7.42	8.8%	6.13	
Sexual Abuse: Primary/Second		15,614	1,827	11.7%	19,196
Incidence per Thousand		2.48	11.7%	1.91	
Neglect: Primary/Second	6,629	10.4%	76,947		
Incidence per Thousand		10.15	10.4%	8.09	
Emotional Maltreatment: Primary/Second		44,465	5,630	12.7%	55,499
Incidence per Thousand		7.06	12.7%	5.31	

**Appendix H, Table 3-5**  
**Primary or Secondary Forms of Physical Abuse in Child Maltreatment Investigations by Level of Substantiation in**  
**Canada in 1998**

Variable

**Appendix H, Table 3-7**  
**Primary or Secondary Forms of Neglect in Child Maltreatment Investigations by Level of Substantiation in**  
**Canada in 1998**



**Appendix H, Table 4-1(c)**

**Medical Treatment Required in Child Maltreatment Investigations by Nature of Physical Harm in Canada in 1998**

Variable	Estimate	Standard Error	Coefficient of Variation	Confidence Interval	
				Lower	Upper

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**Appendix H, Table 5-3**

**Out-of-Home Placement in Child Maltreatment Investigations by Primary Category of Investigated Maltreatment and by Level of Substantiation in Canada in 1998**

Variable	Estimate	Standard Error	Coefficient of Variation	Confidence Interval	
				Lower	Upper
No Placement Required	113,231	12,275	10.8%	89,172	137,290
Placement Considered	4,732	468	Informal Placement		
Placement in Foster Care or Other Child Welfare Setting	11,058	1,279	11.6%	13,565	

**Appendix H, Table 5-4**

**Applications to Child Welfare Court in Child Maltreatment Investigations by Primary Category of Investigated Maltreatment and by Level of Substantiation in a Non-representative Sample of Canadian Jurisdictions in 1998**

Variable	Estimate	Standard Error	Coefficient of Variation	Confidence Interval	
				Lower	Upper
No Court Considered	105,337	12,667	12.0%	80,511	130,163
Application Considered	7,256	630	8.7%	6,021	8,491
Application Made	5,595	954	17.1%	3,725	7,465

**Appendix H, Table 5-5**

**Applications to Child Welfare Court in Child Maltreatment Investigations by Primary Category of Investigated Maltreatment and by Level of Substantiation in a Non-representative Sample of Canadian Jurisdictions in 1998**

Variable	Estimate	Standard Error	Coefficient of Variation	Confidence Interval	
				Lower	Upper
No Court Considered	105,337	12,667	12.0%	80,511	130,163
Application Considered	7,256	630	8.7%	6,021	8,491
Application Made	5,595	954	17.1%	3,725	7,465

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**Appendix H, Table 7-4**  
**Investigated Siblings in Child Maltreatment Investigations by Primary Category of Investigated Maltreatment and by Level of Substantiation in Canada in 1998**

Variable	Estimate	Standard Error	Coefficient of Variation	Confidence Interval	
				Lower	Upper
No Siblings	36,105	3,965	11.0%	28,333	43,877
One Sibling, Not Investigated	19,572	2,163	11.0%	15,333	23,811
One Sibling, Investigated	30,815	3,349	10.9%	24,251	37,379
Two Siblings, None Investigated	12,944	1,217	9.4%	10,558	15,330
Two Siblings, at Least One Investigated	34,941	3,382	9.7%	28,313	41,569

**Appendix H, Table 7-6**  
**Housing Type in Child Maltreatment Investigations by Primary Category of Investigated Maltreatment and by Level of Substantiation in Canada in 1998**

Variable	Estimate	Standard Error	Coefficient of Variation	Confidence Interval	
				Lower	Upper
Rental Unit in Public Housing Complex	12,709	2,325	18.3%	8,151	17,267
Private Rental Accommodation	63,246	6,530	10.3%	50,447	76,045

**Appendix H, Table 7-8**

**Family Moves Within the Last Six Months in Child Maltreatment Investigation<sup>1</sup> by Primary Category of Investigated Maltreatment and by Level of Substantiation in a Non-representative Sample of Canadian Jurisdiction<sup>1</sup> in 1998**

Variable	Estimate	Standard Error	Coefficient of Variation	Confidence Interval	
				Lower	Upper

**Appendix H, Table 8-1**  
**All Referral Sources in Child Maltreatment Investigations by Primary Category of Investigated Maltreatment and by Level of Substantiation in Canada in 1998**

Variable

kstimate

**Appendix H, Table 8-3**  
**Previous Investigations in Child Maltreatment Investigations by Primary Category of Investigated Maltreatment and by**



**Appendix H, Table 8-9**  
**Child Maltreatment Investigations by High School Completed University Degree for Investigating Worker by Primary**

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## **APPENDIX I**

### **Supporting Data for Additional Report Findings**

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The following are the data tables for the special variables mentioned throughout the Final Report for the Canadian Incidence Study of Reported Child Abuse and Neglect.

