Child and Youth Data Laboratory (CYDL)

Report for Experiences of Albertan Youth Project

Key findings

This report provides a profile of 3,764 Albertan youth (aged 12 to 18 years) who received Family Support for Children with Disabilities (FSCD) program services from Human Services in 2008/09. Service categories include family support services, child-focused services, specialized services and out of home services (see Definitions and Notes, p.14). In addition, FSCD assists with some of the extraordinary costs of raising a child with a disability. To receive FSCD services, medical documentation must be provided confirming that the child has a disability or is awaiting a diagnosis; primary diagnoses categories are derived from these medical diagnoses. Not all eligible families choose to access the FSCD program and there are additional health and education programs that support children with disabilities. As such, there are more children with disabilities in the province than those that receive FSCD services.

Youth are described by FSCD service category, primary disability diagnoses, age, gender, region of residence, socio-economic status, school authority type, educational achievement and health service use. The report also provides an overview of cross-ministry service use for these youth

- 1.0% of Albertan youth aged 12 to 18 received FSCD services in 2008/09.
- Overall, the majority of youth receiving FSCD services received child-focused services and had a primary diagnosis of a developmental impairment.
- Compared to youth not receiving FSCD services, youth who
 received FSCD services were more likely to be male, younger
 than 15 years of age, to live in low middle socio-economic
 status neighbourhoods, to perform below educational
 expectations, and to have higher use of health services.
- Youth receiving FSCD services were more likely than youth not receiving FSCD services to be enrolled in Alberta's K-12 education system, to receive maltreatment-related intervention services or to receive income support.



Contents

Key findings and Context	1 to 2
Data analyses	3 to 7
Tables	8 to 13
Definitions and Notes	14 to 16
Data sources	17
References	17
About CYDL	19



Context

Families with children and youth who have disabilities may require a wide range of supports to assist them in meeting the needs of their children. Statistics Canada reports that in Alberta, approximately 5% of children and youth aged 5 to 24 years have a disability. The most common disabilities reported among children 5 to 14 years of age in Canada are learning disabilities, chronic health conditions, and speech, psychological, and developmental disabilities, while the most common disabilities reported by 15 to 24 year olds include learning disabilities, and disabilities related to pain, mobility, and agility. ²

Research indicates that families of children with disabilities are more likely to be living in low income neighbourhoods than families with non-disabled children.³ Additionally, parents of children with severe disabilities are more likely to report high levels of daily stress and find that their employment, financial situation and personal activities are significantly impacted by their child's disability. These parents also report difficulty in finding adequate help and childcare.³

Outcomes for children with disabilities improve in the context of adequate income, supported parenting (including employment leaves, flexible work schedules, availability of child care), and community supports (such as integrated delivery of health, education, social, and recreational services).⁴

The project

The current project, **Experiences of Albertan Youth**, is focused on basic understanding of the experiences of Albertan youth within and across ministries, as they relate to key indicators (age, gender, socio-economic status, educational achievement, and mental health status). It is the first project in a planned series that will link and analyze administrative data on children and youth in Alberta to inform policy, programs, and research.

List of reports for the project

Socio-economic status of Albertan youth
Educational experiences of Albertan youth
Mental health status of Albertan youth
Family Support for Children with Disabilities services
received by Albertan youth
Maltreatment-related investigations among Albertan
youth

Maltreatment-related intervention services received by Albertan youth

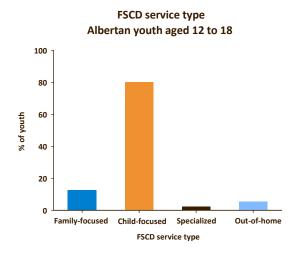
Physician visits by Albertan youth

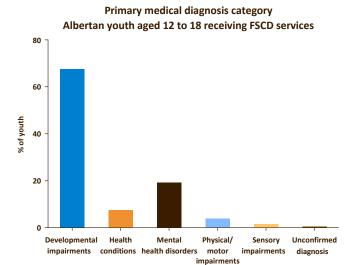
Emergency room visits by Albertan youth
Hospitalizations of Albertan youth
Offence charges among Albertan youth
Corrections involvement among Albertan youth
Post-secondary students in Alberta
Income support among Albertan youth
Educational experiences of Albertan youth with income
support activity
Least advantaged and most advantaged Albertan youth

Youth receiving services through FSCD (Table 1)

This analysis considers the highest level of FSCD services received (see *Definitions and notes*, p.15) by families of youth (age 12 to 18 years) in Alberta in 2008/09.

- There were 3,764 youth (aged 12 to 18 years) who received FSCD services, representing 1.0% of 365,112 Albertan youth in that age range.
- Of those receiving FSCD services, the majority (80%) received child-focused services, 13% received familyfocused services, 5% received out-of-home placement services, and 2% received specialized services.





Primary medical diagnosis category

Primary diagnosis (Table 2)

This analysis looks at the primary medical diagnosis (see *Definitions and Notes*, p.15) for youth (aged 12 to 18 years) who received FSCD services in 2008/09.

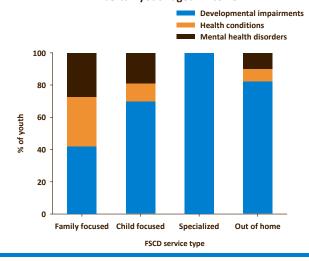
Most youth receiving FSCD services had a primary diagnosis of developmental impairment (68%), followed by mental health disorder (19%), health condition (7%), physical/motor impairment (4%), sensory impairments (1.5%) and lastly unconfirmed conditions (0.5%). Under the unconfirmed conditions category, youth received FSCD services while awaiting a formal diagnosis.

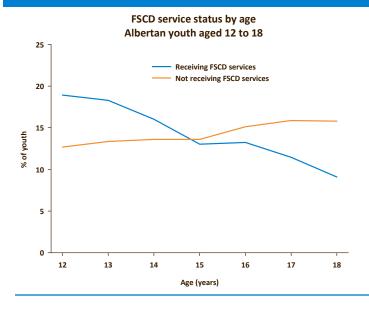
FSCD service group by primary diagnosis category (Table 3)

This analysis looks at youth (aged 12 to 18 years) grouped according to the highest level of service received by the primary diagnosis category. Primary diagnosis categories were re-grouped into developmental impairments, health conditions and mental health disorders. Physical/motor and sensory impairments were merged into health conditions, and unconfirmed diagnoses were excluded.

- Most youth receiving FSCD services had a primary diagnosis of developmental impairment.
- Health and mental health conditions were most predominant in the family-focused group.

FSCD service group by primary diagnosis category Albertan youth aged 12 to 18



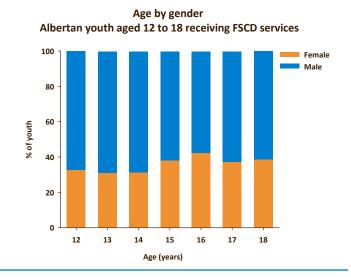


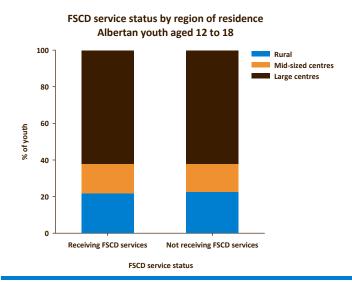
FSCD service status by age (Table 4)

 Youth receiving FSCD services tended to be younger than youth not receiving FSCD services.

Age by gender (Table 5)

- Overall there were more males than females receiving FSCD services, regardless of their age.
- Within an age group, the percentage of female youth receiving services increased with age.





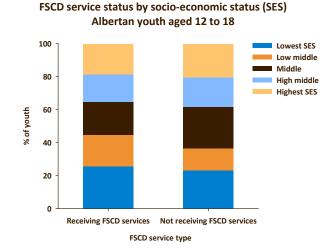
Region of residence (Table 6)

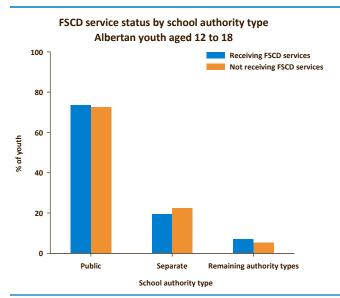
 There were no region of residence differences between youth receiving FSCD services and youth not receiving FSCD services.

Socio-economic status (Table 7)

Socio-economic status captures the social and material environments in which youth live. See *Definitions and Notes* (p.14).

- Youth receiving FSCD services were more likely to live in the low middle (19%) socio-economic neighbourhoods than youth not receiving FSCD services (13%).
- 20% of youth receiving FSCD services lived in the middle socio-economic neighbourhoods compared to 25% of youth not receiving services from the FSCD program.





School authority type (Table 8)

This and the following analysis are limited to youth who received FSCD services and were registered in the K-12 education system in Alberta in 2008/09. See *Definitions and Notes* (p.15).

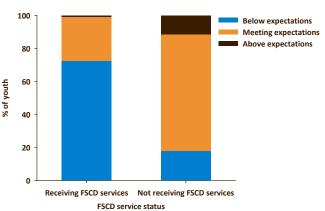
- Youth receiving FSCD services attended schools in each authority type at a similar rate to Albertan youth not receiving FSCD services.
- Most youth were registered in public schools, regardless of their FSCD status.

School authority type does not include information about home schooling status.

Educational achievement (Table 9)

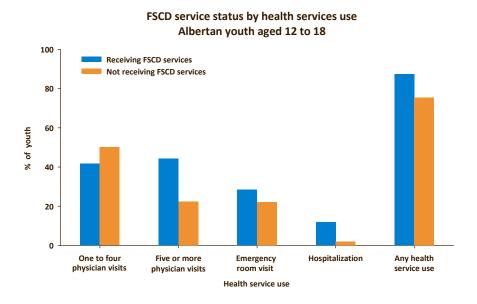
- 72% of youth receiving FSCD services performed below educational expectations, compared to 18% of youth not receiving FSCD services.
- Youth not receiving FSCD services were more likely to have met (71%) or exceeded (11%) educational expectations.

FSCD service status by educational achievement Albertan youth aged 12 to 18



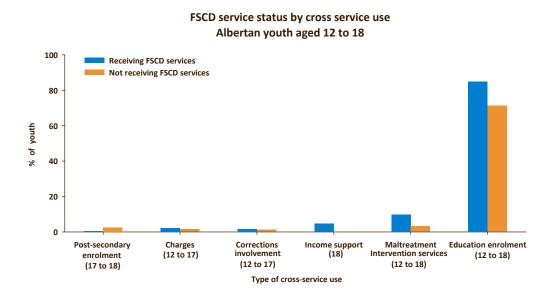


Health service use (Table 10)



- Youth who received FSCD services were more likely to have used any health services, to have five or more
 physician visits, to have visited an emergency room or been hospitalized at least once, compared to youth
 not receiving FSCD services.
- Youth not receiving FSCD services were most likely to have one to four physician visits.

Cross service use (Table 11)



This analysis looks at the cross-ministry service use of youth (aged 12 to 18 years) who received FSCD services in 2008/09. Youth were considered in this analysis if they were registered with the Alberta Health Care Insurance Plan (AHCIP; see *Definitions and Notes*, p.16). The effects should be interpreted with caution; they cannot be generalized to youth not registered with the AHCIP. 6.6% of youth who received FSCD program services in 2008/09 were not registered with AHCIP.

- Youth (aged 12 to 18 years) receiving FSCD program services were most likely to be enrolled in Alberta's K12 education system, to receive maltreatment intervention services, or to have received income support
 (income support data were available only for youth aged 18 years), than youth not receiving FSCD services.
- Youth (aged 17 to 18 years) receiving FSCD program services were less likely to be enrolled in postsecondary institutions than youth not receiving FSCD services.

Tables

Table 1. Number and percent of youth receiving services from Family Support for Children with Disabilities (FSCD), Albertan youth aged 12 to 18 years, 2008/09

	FSCD service group	Total
Number of youth	Family focused	469
	Child focused	3,017
	Specialized services	80
	Out of home	198
	Any FSCD services	3,764
	Not receiving FSCD services	361,348
	Total youth aged 12 to 18 years	365,112
	, ,	,
Percent of youth	Family focused	0.1
,	Child focused	0.8
	Specialized services	0.0
	Out of home	0.1
	Any FSCD services	1.0
	Not receiving FSCD services	99.0
	Total youth aged 12 to 18 years	100.0
Percent of youth receiving FSCD services	Family focused	12.5
	Child focused	80.2
	Specialized services	2.1
	Out of home	5.3
	Any FSCD services	100.0

Table 2. Number and percent of youth receiving services from Family Support for Children with Disabilities (FSCD) by primary diagnosis category, Albertan youth aged 12 to 18 years, 2008/09

	FSCD primary diagnosis category	Total
Number of youth	Developmental impairments	2,544
	Health conditions	283
	Mental health disorders	721
	Physical/motor impairments	144
	Sensory impairments	55
	Unconfirmed impairments	17
	Total	3,764
Percent of youth receiving FSCD services	Developmental impairments	67.6
	Health conditions	7.5
	Mental health disorders	19.2
	Physical/motor impairments	3.8
	Sensory impairments	1.5
	Unconfirmed impairments	0.5
	Total	100.0

Table 3. Number and percent of youth by Family Support for Children with Disabilities (FSCD) service group and primary diagnosis category, Albertan youth aged 12 to 18 years, 2008/09

	Primary diagnosis category*	FSCD service group				
		Family focused	Child focused	Specialized services	Out of home	Total
Number of youth	Developmental impairments	191	2,110	80	163	2,544
	Health conditions	139	328	-	15	482
	Mental health disorders	124	577	-	20	721
	Total	454	3,015	80	198	3,747
Percent of youth	Developmental impairments	42.1	70.0	100.0	82.3	67.9
	Health conditions	30.6	10.9	-	7.6	12.9
	Mental health disorders	27.3	19.1	-	10.1	19.2
	Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

^{*}Primary diagnosis categories are not mutually exclusive

Table 4. Number and percent of youth by Family Support for Children with Disabilities (FSCD) service status and age, Albertan youth aged 12 to 18 years, 2008/09

	Age		FSCD service status	
		Receiving FSCD	Not receiving FSCD	Tatal
		services	services	Total
Number of youth	12	712	45,801	46,513
	13	688	48,242	48,930
	14	603	49,147	49,750
	15	490	49,151	49,641
	16	498	54,614	55,112
	17	431	57,326	57,757
	18	342	57,067	57,409
	Total	3,764	361,348	365,112
Percent of youth	12	18.9	12.7	12.7
	13	18.3	13.4	13.4
	14	16.0	13.6	13.6
	15	13.0	13.6	13.6
	16	13.2	15.1	15.1
	17	11.5	15.9	15.8
	18	9.1	15.8	15.7
	Total	100.0	100.0	100.0

Table 5. Number and percent of youth receiving Family Support for Children with Disabilities (FSCD) services by age and gender, Albertan youth aged 12 to 18 years, 2008/09

	Gender		Age						
		12	13	14	15	16	17	18	Total
Number of youth	Female	232	214	189	187	211	161	132	1,326
	Male	480	474	414	303	287	270	210	2,438
	Total	712	688	603	490	498	431	342	3,764
Percent of youth	Female	32.6	31.1	31.3	38.2	42.4	37.4	38.6	35.2
	Male	67.4	68.9	68.7	61.8	57.6	62.6	61.4	64.8
	Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

Table 6. Number and percent of youth by Family Support for Children with Disabilities (FSCD) service status and region of residence, Albertan youth aged 12 to 18 years, 2008/09

	Region of residence		FSCD service status	
		Receiving FSCD	Not receiving FSCD	Total
		services	services	TOLAI
Number of youth	Rural	820	81,157	81,977
	Mid-sized centres	605	54,875	55,480
	Large centres	2,339	222,994	225,333
	Total	3,764	359,026	362,790
Percent of youth	Rural	21.8	22.6	22.6
	Mid-sized centres	16.1	15.3	15.3
	Large centres	62.1	62.1	62.1
	Total	100.0	100.0	100.0

Tables (continued)

Table 7. Number and percent of youth by Family Support for Children with Disabilities (FSCD) service status and socio-economic status (SES), Albertan youth aged 12 to 18 years, 2008/09

	Socio-economic status		FSCD service status	
		Receiving FSCD	Not receiving FSCD	Total
		services	services	Total
Number of youth	Lowest SES	956	81,980	82,936
	Low middle	707	46,644	47,351
	Middle	739	87,850	88,589
	High middle	632	63,992	64,624
	Highest SES	695	72,099	72,794
	Total	3,729	352,565	356,294
Percent of youth	Lowest SES	25.6	23.3	23.3
	Low middle	19.0	13.2	13.3
	Middle	19.8	24.9	24.9
	High middle	16.9	18.2	18.1
	Highest SES	18.6	20.4	20.4
	Total	100.0	100.0	100.0

Table 8. Number and percent of youth receiving services from Family Support for Children with Disabilities (FSCD) by school authority type, Albertan youth aged 12 to 18 years, 2008/09

School authority type **FSCD** service status Receiving FSCD Not receiving FSCD Total services services Number of youth Public 191,332 2,332 189,000 Separate 614 58,037 58,651 Remaining authority types 224 13,854 13,630 Total 3,170 260,667 263,837 Percent of youth Public 73.6 72.5 72.5 Separate 19.4 22.3 22.2 Remaining authority types 7.1 5.2 5.3 100.0 100.0 100.0

Table 9. Number and percent of youth receiving services by Family Support for Children with Disabilities (FSCD) service status and educational achievement, Albertan youth aged 12 to 18 years, 2008/09

	Educational achievement		FSCD service status	
		Receiving FSCD services	Not receiving FSCD services	Total
Number of youth	Below expectations	2,228	45,511	47,739
	Meeting expectations	817	179,544	180,361
	Above expectations	33	29,261	29,294
	Total	3,078	254,316	257,394
Percent of youth	Below expectations	72.4	17.9	18.5
	Meeting expectations	26.5	70.6	70.1
	Above expectations	1.1	11.5	11.4
	Total	100.0	100.0	100.0

Table 10. Number and percent of youth by Family Support for Children with Disabilities (FSCD) service status and health service use, Albertan youth aged 12 to 18 years, 2008/09

	Health service use*		FSCD service status	
		Receiving FSCD	Not receiving FSCD	Total
		services	services	TOTAL
Number of youth	One to four physician visits	1,572	181,160	182,732
	Five or more physician visits	1,669	80,724	82,393
	Emergency room visit	1,075	80,328	81,403
	Hospitalization	452	7,438	7,890
	Any health service use	3,293	272,453	275,746
	No health service use	471	88,895	89,366
	Total	3,764	361,348	365,112
Percent of youth	One to four physician visits	41.8	50.1	50.0
	Five or more physician visits	44.3	22.3	22.6
	Emergency room visit	28.6	22.2	22.3
	Hospitalization	12.0	2.1	2.2
	Any health service use	87.5	75.4	75.5
	No health service use	12.5	24.6	24.5

 $[\]hbox{*Health service use categories are not mutually exclusive}$

Table 11. Number and percent of youth by Family Support for Children with Disabilities (FSCD) service status and type of cross-service use, Albertan youth aged 12 to 18 years, 2008/09*

	Type of cross-service use		FSCD service status	
		Receiving FSCD	Not receiving FSCD	Total
		services	services	TOLAI
Number of youth	Maltreatment intervention services	345	10,642	10,987
	Post-secondary enrolment	16	8,575	8,591
	Income support	162	393	555
	Charges	75	5,191	5,266
	Corrections involvement	57	4,384	4,441
	Education enrolment	2,985	235,954	238,939
	Health registry	3,518	331,359	334,877
Percent of youth	Maltreatment intervention services	9.8	3.2	3.3
	Post-secondary enrolment	0.5	2.6	2.6
	Income support	4.6	0.1	0.2
	Charges	2.1	1.6	1.6
	Corrections involvement	1.6	1.3	1.3
	Education enrolment	84.8	71.2	71.4
	Health registry	100.0	100.0	100.0

^{*}Only youth registered in the Alberta Health Care Insurance Plan were included in this analysis

Definitions and Notes

- The study population for this project consisted of all Albertan youth who were registered with the Alberta Health Care Insurance Plan in 2008/09 or who received selected services from one or more of the participating ministries in 2008/09. "All Albertan youth" refers to this study population.
- The study year was fiscal year 2008/09. With the exception of Education and Enterprise and Advanced Education data, all data were for services provided between April 1, 2008 and March 31, 2009, with age determined on March 31, 2009.
 - Data for Enterprise and Advanced Education were for services provided between September 1, 2008 and June 30, 2009, with age determined on March 31, 2009.
 - Data for Education were for services provided to youth who were 12 to 19 years old on September 30, 2008. As a result, youth turning 12 between October 1, 2008 and March 31, 2009 were not included in the Education data but were included in other ministries' data. This resulted in the number of 12 year olds in the Education data being lower (approximately 50% lower) than that of 13 to 17 year olds.
 - Furthermore, although Education only provides services to youth who are under 20, the provision of services is defined by age at September 30. Youth who turned 20 between October 1, 2008 and March 31, 2009 were included in the Education data, resulting in the inclusion of 20 year olds in some analyses of Education data.
- Cross-ministry analyses included only youth that were linked across the relevant ministries. This means that not all youth in the project were represented in every analysis. As well, only youth with a value for a given indicator were included in analyses involving that indicator (i.e., missing values were excluded).
- Age, gender, and postal code (translated into Statistics Canada dissemination areas) were provided for each
 individual by each participating ministry. In the case of discrepancies between ministries, the most common
 value for an indicator was chosen. In the event of two or more most common values, the value for the
 indicator was chosen randomly from the most common values.
- Dissemination areas of residence were used by CYDL to determine **region of residence**. Urban areas included large centres with urban core populations greater than 100,000 (i.e., Edmonton and Calgary metropolitan areas) and mid-sized centres with urban cores greater than 10,000; all other areas were categorized as rural.
- Socio-economic status (SES) captures the social and material environments in which youth live. A youth was assigned a socio-economic status via an index based on the Statistics Canada dissemination area in which he or she resided⁵. Six indicators were included in the index: percent without a high school diploma, the employment ratio, average income, percent of single families, percent of persons living alone, and percent of persons separated, divorced, or widowed. Socio-economic status values fell into five quintiles.
- Educational achievement was computed by Alberta Education using age, grade, school type, special education codes, provincial achievement test scores, home education status, number of high school credits earned, number of higher level courses taken, average grade in higher level courses, possession of an Alberta Education certificate or diploma, and Alexander Rutherford scholarship eligibility. Educational achievement was categorized as *above, meeting,* or *below expectations* for a student's age and grade. An educational achievement rating was not available for 12 to 14 year old youth without scores on provincial achievement tests, for youth in 'other' schools (accredited post-secondary institutions offering high school courses for credit to adults; most youth in these schools were between 18 and 20 years), and for home-schooled high school youth with no credits.



Definitions and Notes (continued)

• Family Support for Children with Disabilities (FSCD) is a ministry of Human Services program that provides a range of supports and services to families that strengthen their ability to support and care for their child with a disability based on their needs. In addition to information, referral and advocacy, services and supports may include:

Family Support Services may include assistance with counseling, extraordinary clothing and footwear costs, costs to attend medical appointments and respite.

Child-Focused Services are provided when a child has a confirmed diagnosis and assessment information to specify their individual needs. These services include respite services, aide supports, child care supports, and health-related supports.

Specialized Services are available for children with severe disabilities and/or multiple needs. A Multi-Disciplinary Team is part of the review of complex cases and assists in determining services that are appropriate to the health and developmental needs of the child.

Out of Home Services provide long-term living arrangements and short-term relief care to accommodate the needs of severely disabled, medically fragile children and their families.

For the purposes of analysis, families were grouped according to the highest level of service received. For instance, all families that received Out of Home Services were counted in the Out of Home Group regardless of any other services they received. Similarly, only families who did not receive other Child Focused, Specialized or Out-of Home services were included in the Family Support Group.

• Primary medical diagnosis categories are Developmental impairments (Autism spectrum disorder, cerebral palsy, chromosomal anomaly, fetal alcohol spectrum disorder, etc.), Health conditions (Cancer, seizure disorder, metabolic/immune disorder, etc.), Mental health conditions (Attention deficit hyperactivity disorder, Tourette's syndrome, schizophrenia, etc.), Physical/motor impairments (Spina Bifida, muscular dystrophy, musculo-skeletal system conditions, etc.), Sensory impairments (Visual impairment/blind, hearing impairment/deaf, etc.) and unconfirmed diagnosis (conditions awaiting formal diagnosis from a professional).

School authority types

There is one publicly-funded system of education in Alberta. The public system includes public, separate, Francophone and charter schools.

- Public schools are non-denominational schools.
- **Separate** schools are established under rights guaranteed by the Constitution of Canada for the minority religion (Protestant or Roman Catholic).
- **Francophone** schools provide instruction in French to children whose parents have rights under section 23 of the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms.
- **Charter** schools are autonomous public schools designed to meet the needs of students through a specific program or approach. They must be non-religious.

Private schools operate outside the public education system. Private schools may charge tuition and other fees. There are two kinds of private schools.

- Accredited private schools must offer the Alberta Program of Studies with certificated teachers; they
 may be partially funded or non-funded.
- Registered private schools are not required to offer the Program of Studies and are not funded.

Other schools are accredited post-secondary institutions offering high school courses for credit to adults.

Schools on First Nations reserves are not funded by Alberta Education; students who attended these schools are not included in the study population.

Definitions and Notes (continued)

- Physician visits reflect fee claims made by physicians for services provided when patients visit their offices. In
 this report, multiple claims by a given physician for a given patient on the same day were counted as a single
 visit. Reasons for physician visits were not available for this project.
- **Emergency room visits** refer to visits to emergency departments for assessment or treatment.
- Hospitalizations refer to admissions to hospital for assessment or treatment.
- New and returning Alberta residents, if they are eligible, must register for Alberta Health Care Insurance Plan coverage to receive insured health services. Youth in the "health registry" refers to all youth who are insured in Alberta. This includes any eligible youth who is a permanent resident of Alberta, living at least 183 days per year in the province. Members of the Canadian Armed Forces, Royal Canadian Mounted Police and federal penitentiary inmates are not eligible (they receive coverage from the federal government), but dependents of these non-eligible residents, who reside in Alberta, are eligible. Use this note only if you have an analysis subset to those in the registry.
- Participation in **post-secondary** education refers to enrolment in a post-secondary institution in Alberta. Youth enrolled in apprenticeship programs were not included.
- Maltreatment-related interventions occur when the safety or well-being of a youth is threatened.
- **Income support** refers to financial benefits provided to individuals and couples who cannot meet their basic needs.
- Youth with corrections involvement have appeared before the Court or a Justice of the Peace for an offence charge and have been remanded in custody or placed under pre-trial supervision in the community awaiting further court dates, or have been found guilty and sentenced to a community disposition (i.e. Fine, Probation, Community Service Work, Deferred Custody) and/or custody (in which the sentence is served in a young offender facility).
- Youth with **offence charges** include those charged with criminal offences or administrative offences related to criminal offences (e.g., failure to appear in court, breach of probation, etc.).
- Participation in **education** refers to enrolment in the kindergarten to grade 12 education system in Alberta. No data were available for students who attended schools on First Nations reserves or in Lloydminster.

Data sources

Ministry	Database	Use in this report
Enterprise and Advanced Education	Learner Enrolment Reporting System (LERS)	Post-secondary education enrolment data
Education	Corporate Data Warehouse (CDW)	Primary and secondary education achievement data
Health	Inpatient – Discharge Abstract Database (DAD)	Hospitalization data
Health	Ambulatory Care (ACCS)	Emergency room visit data
Health	Practitioner Payments (SESE)	Physician visit data
Health	Alberta Health Care Insurance Plan Population Registry (AHCIP registry)	Population registry
Human Services	Child Youth Information Module (CYIM)	Maltreatment and intervention data
Human Services	Family Support for Children with Disabilities Information System (FSCDIS)	Family Supports for Children with Disabilities data
Human Services	Central Client Directory (CCD)	Income support data
Justice and Solicitor General	Justice Online Information Network (JOIN)	Offence data
Justice and Solicitor General	Alberta Community Offender Management System (ACOM)	Corrections data (community)
Justice and Solicitor General	Correctional Offender Management Information System (CoMIS)	Corrections data (custody)

References

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Family Support f	or Children with Dis	abilities services r	received by Alberta	n youth

The Child and Youth Data Laboratory

The **Child and Youth Data Laboratory** (CYDL) links and analyzes administrative data from child- and youth-serving ministries in the Government of Alberta. The ministries participate in research design and provide data elements that contribute to answering research questions.

The CYDL's research provides groundbreaking opportunities to understand relationships between critical factors in the lives of children and youth in Alberta. The research results can be used to inform policy and program development and evaluation, both within and across ministries, and to inspire further research.

The CYDL is managed by the **Alberta Centre for Child, Family and Community Research** (ACCFCR). The Centre has evolved over its eight year history as a public-sector, innovative resource for evidence. The Centre develops, supports and integrates research across sectors and disciplines to provide a strong, evidence-based foundation for identifying and promoting effective public policy and service delivery to improve the well-being of children, families, and communities in Alberta, Canada, and internationally.

Our partners

This project was carried out on behalf of six ministries of the Government of Alberta. Each ministry collaborated extensively with the CYDL on this project, and their dedication to the project is gratefully acknowledged:

Enterprise and Advanced Education
Education
Health
Human Services
Aboriginal Relations
Justice and Solicitor General

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Contact CYDL

www.research4children.com Click on "Data"

Xinjie Cui, Director 780 944 8631 xcui@research4children.com Leslie Twilley, Senior Scientist 780 408 8734 ltwilley@research4children.com Cecilia Bukutu, Research Scientist 780 408 8732 cbukutu@research4children.com



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