

A Profile of Income Support Learners Clients

Child and Youth Data Laboratory (CYDL) Longitudinal Project

Introduction

The Income Support Learners program aims to help clients acquire the skills needed to secure employment, and provides financial assistance to meet basic needs and the costs associated with training. This report profiles Albertan youth (18 to 25 years old) who were funded Income Support Learners clients (henceforth known as ISL clients) at some point between 2005/06 and 2010/11. Non-funded clients, known as career information clients, were not considered in this report.

In this report, **program type** and **household type** are profiled against socio-demographic variables and crossed with ministry program use (see p. 2 for more details).

Program type includes the two funded ISL categories:

- *Work Foundations* which includes clients who upgrade basic skills (e.g., literacy and numeracy, basic education, or life skills) or pursue academic upgrading (e.g., high school upgrading or university entrance preparation).
- *Training For Work* which includes clients who engage in job training.

Household type includes:

- *Couple or single with children; Couple or single with no children*

Key findings

- Between 2005/06 and 2010/11, Income Support Learners (ISL) represented between 1.4% and 2% of Albertans between 18 and 25 years.
- ISL clients were less likely to complete high school compared to individuals who were not in the ISL program.
- Regardless of program type, the largest proportion of ISL clients were living in the lowest socio-economic neighbourhoods.
- ISL clients had higher proportions of high cost health service use and mental health service use compared to individuals who were not in the ISL program; ISL clients were also more likely to suffer from injuries.
- ISL clients with children had a higher proportion of high cost health service use compared to clients without children.
- Compared to individuals not in the ISL program, ISL clients had higher rates of residential mobility; In addition, ISL clients with no children were more likely to remain in the same residence than those with children.

This report is part of the Longitudinal Project by the CYDL in collaboration with partnering government of Alberta ministries. Please see the last page for a brief description of the project and go to <https://policywise.com> to access other deliverables.

Visit <https://visualization.policywise.com/P2dashboard> to view an interactive dashboard that summarizes this population. This report is a companion to the interactive dashboard.



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Background Literature

Providing a context for the current report, this section highlights select literature related to Income Support Learners programs and clients.

Income Support Learners is an Income Support program that aims to help clients acquire the skills needed to secure employment.

A report based on Albertans found that Income Support clients tend to be in younger age groups, with 9% under 19 years old and 31%, which is the largest proportion, between 20-29 years old. The majority of individuals on Income Support who were previously working and expected to work were single parents (62%)². International literature suggest that youth are more likely to receive income assistance if they grew up in a family that relied on income support^{3,4}.

Key barriers to permanent employment for individuals who are able to work include mental illness and addictions, lack of affordable childcare, lack of transportation, and poor skills in areas such as stress and conflict management or problem solving skills. The most common reasons for remaining on income support are a lack of work experience, health problems, child care challenges, lack of a high school diploma, and lack of self-confidence².

Re-entry into income support programs is increasingly being examined since re-entry implies that the desired outcomes for the individual, family, or program were not achieved. A large proportion of individuals re-enter income support programs, often within a few years of leaving them⁵. Albertan re-entrants tend to be female, single or single parents, 20 to 39 years old, and without a high school diploma^{5,6}.

In this report, Alberta's Income Support Learners are profiled by a range of socio-demographic characteristics, such as region, gender, high school completion, age, socio-economic status, and residential mobility. Following this, the report provides new data on government program involvement including high cost health service use, mental health service use, health care registration, use of Income Support, students with special needs, and injuries. The report demonstrates the benefits of individual-level linkage of population data to further our understanding of this vulnerable population.

Footnotes

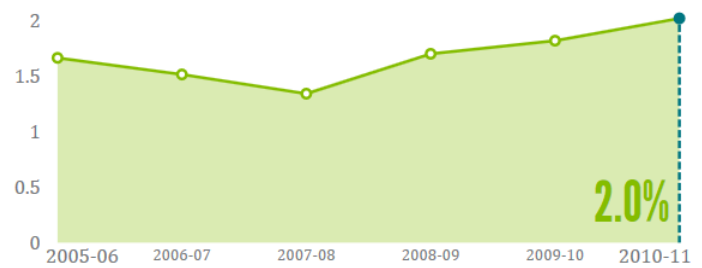
In this report, the total number of Income Support Learner clients include Work Foundations clients, Training for Work clients, and clients for whom a program type was not recorded, but who nevertheless, were in the Income Support Learners program (these clients ranged between 0.8% and 4.3% in any given year over the study period). Career Information clients are not included in this report.

Ninety-five percent confidence intervals were calculated to enable comparison of statistical differences between groups. The Cochran-Armitage trend test was used to test trends over time. Only effects that apply to a meaningful proportion of the population were noted in the text. See <https://visualization.policywise.com/P2dashboard/ISLearnersStat.xlsx>

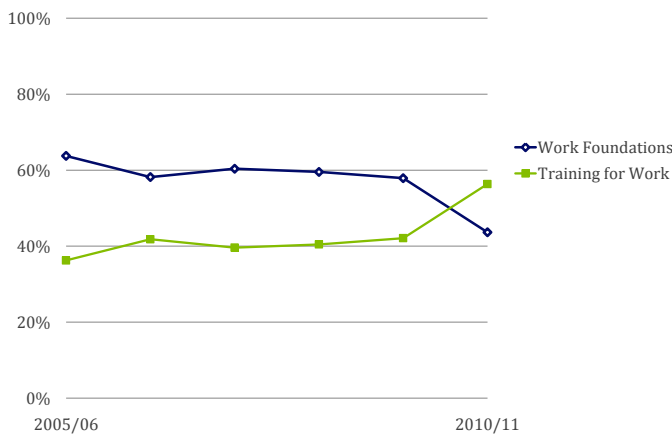
Income Support Learner (ISL) Recipients Time Trend (Table 1a: p. 10)

- Between 2005/06 and 2010/11, ISL clients represented between 1.4% and 2.0% of Albertans between 18 to 25 years.

TIME TREND (% OF POPULATION)



Percentage of Albertan youth aged 18 to 25 years, by program type over time



Program Type (Table 1b: p. 10)

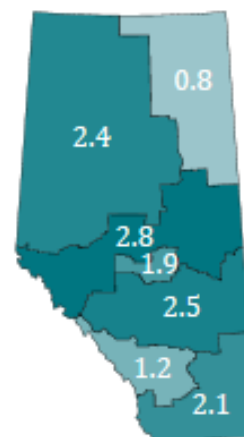
- Before 2010/11, there was a greater proportion of Work Foundations clients than Training for Work clients. In 2010/11, this pattern was reversed.

Income Support Learner (ISL) Clients by Region (Table 2, p. 11)

Regions are based on Children’s Services and Community and Social Services delivery regions (see *Definitions and notes*, p. 30; figure shows the 2010/11 study year).

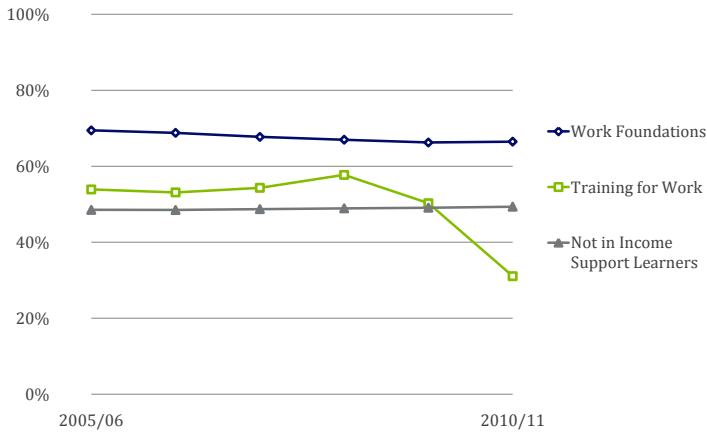
- In 2010/11, the proportion of ISL clients across Alberta ranged between 0.8% (Northeast region) and 2.8% (North Central region).

Human Services regions by percent of Income Support Learners clients for the 2010/11 study year



Income Support Learners clients

Percentage of Albertan youth aged 18 to 25 years, by gender (female) and program type over time



Gender by program type (Table 3; p. 12)

The graph shows gender differences by plotting females.

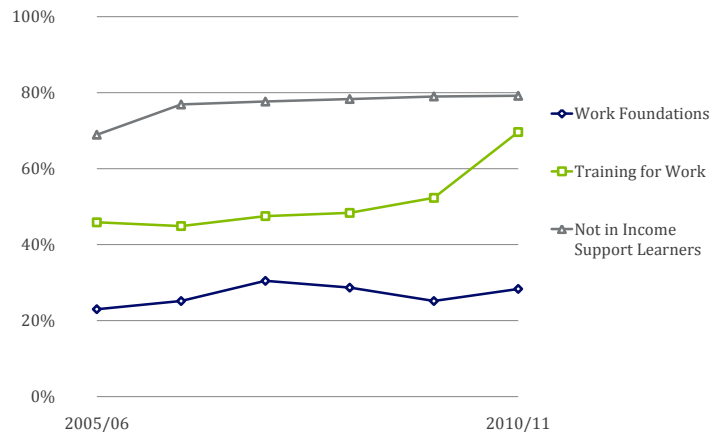
- Work Foundations clients were much more likely to be female than male.
- Compared to males, there was a higher proportion of females in the Training for Work category during most study years.

High school completion by program type (Table 4; p. 13)

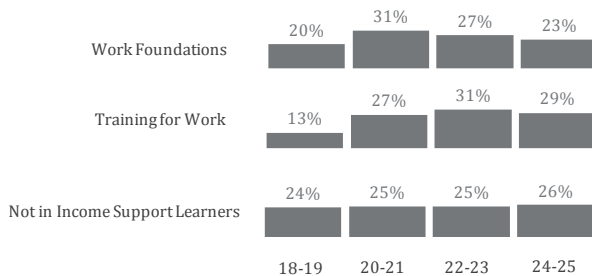
High school completion includes credential and non-credentialed completers (see Definitions and notes, p. 30).

- ISL clients were less likely to complete high school compared to individuals who were not in the ISL program.
- There was an increase in high school completion for Training for Work clients over the study period.

Percentage of Albertan youth aged 18 to 25 years old, by high school completion and client type over time



Percentage of Albertan youth aged 18 to 25 years, by age group and program type for the 2010/11 study year



Age groups by program type (Table 5; p. 14)

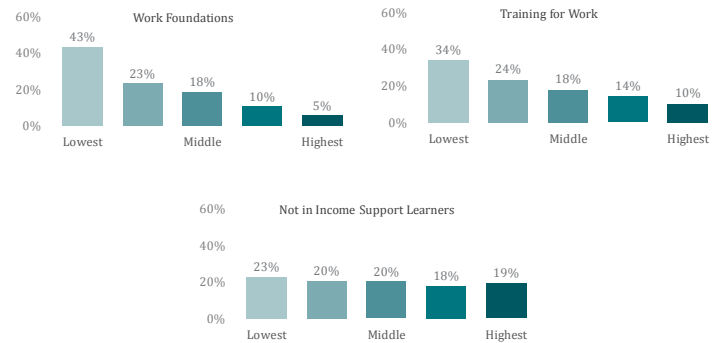
- Work Foundations and Training for Work clients were most likely to be 20 years old or older.
- Over the study period, there was an increase in the proportion of 18 to 19 year old Work Foundations clients (not shown in figure; see Table 5; p. 14).

Socio-economic status by program type (Table 6a & b, pp. 15 & 16)

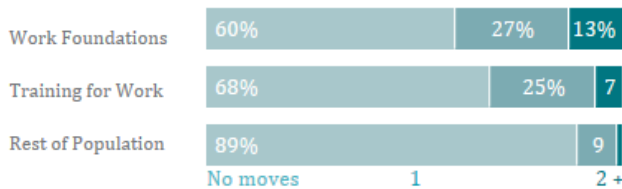
Figure shows results for the 2010/11 study year.

- Regardless of program type, the largest proportion of ISL clients were represented in the lowest socio-economic neighbourhoods.

Percentage of Albertan children and youth aged 18 to 25 years, by socio-economic status and program type for the 2010/11 study year



Residential mobility by program type (Table 7; p. 17)



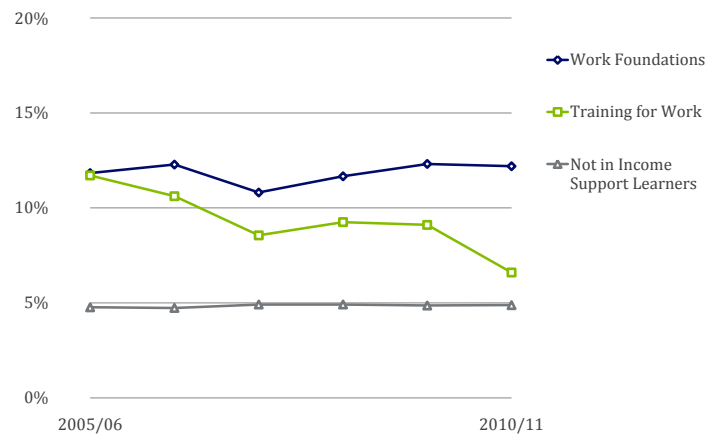
- Compared to individuals who were not ISL clients, both ISL client types had higher rates of residential mobility.
- Work Foundations clients were the least likely to remain in the same residence in 2010/11.

High cost health service use by program type (Table 8; p. 18)

High cost health users are defined as Albertans who were in the top 5% of estimated costs for their age group and gender (see *Definitions and notes*, p. 30).

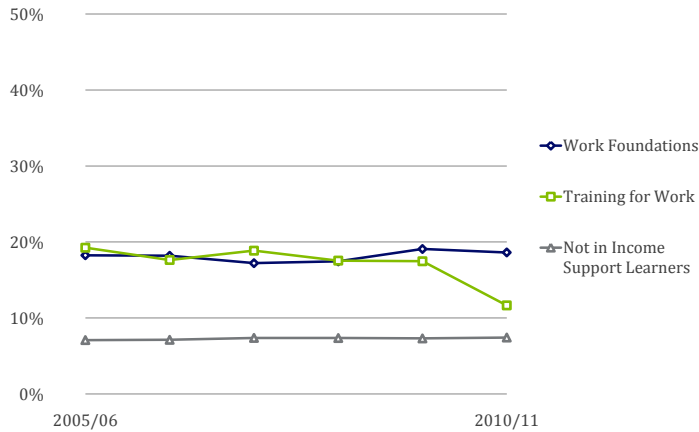
- There was a higher proportion of high cost health service users for both client types compared to individuals not in the ISL program.
- There was a decrease in the proportion of high cost health service users among Training for Work clients over the study period.

Percentage of Albertan youth aged 18 to 25 years, by high cost health service use and program type over time



Income Support Learners clients

Percentage of Albertan youth aged 18 to 25 years, by mental health service use and program type over time



Mental health service use by program type (Table 9; p. 19)

Mental health service use is defined as receipt of a diagnosis from select services. See *Definitions and Notes* for more details (p. 31).

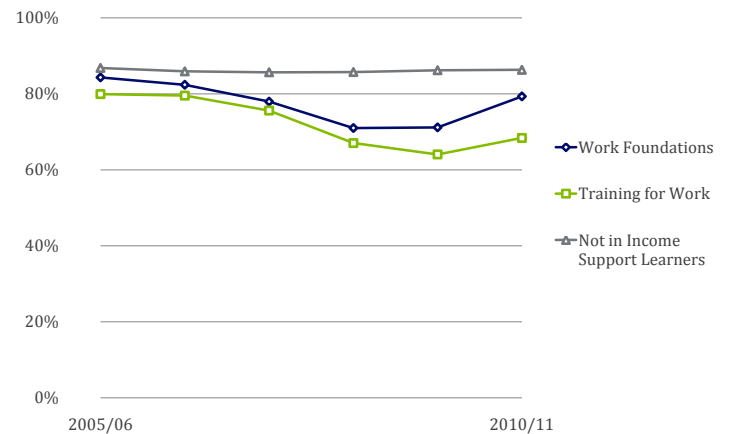
- Both program types had a higher proportion of clients with mental health service use compared to individuals not in the ISL program.
- The proportion of Training for Work clients receiving mental health services decreased over the study period.

Alberta Health care registry by program type (Table 10; p. 20)

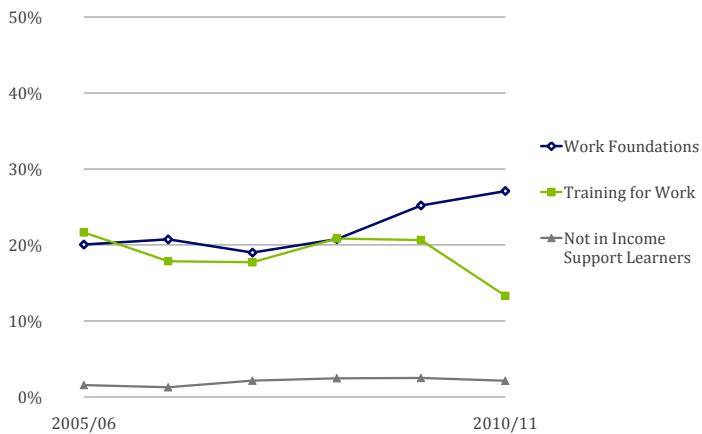
The Alberta Health Care Registry includes all children or youth who are eligible to receive insured hospital and physician services. See *Definitions and Notes* (p. 30) for more details.

- A lower proportion of ISL clients were in the Alberta health care registry compared to individuals not in the ISL program.
- There was a decrease in the proportion of Alberta Health Care registrants among Training for Work and Work Foundations clients over time.

Percentage of Albertan youth aged 18 to 25 years, by health registry and program type over time



Percentage of Albertan youth aged 18 to 25 years, by Income Support and program type over time



Income Support by program type (Table 11; p. 21)

Income Support provides financial assistance to Albertans who do not have the resources to meet their basic needs (see *Definitions and notes*, p. 30).

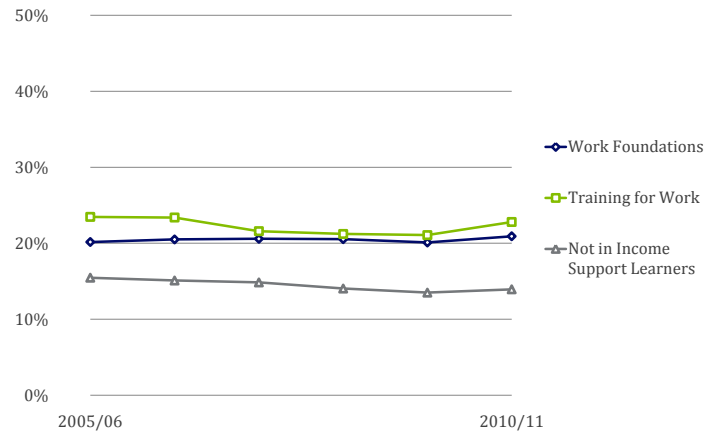
- Regardless of program type, a greater proportion of ISL clients received income support compared to individuals not in the Income Support Learners program.
- Over the study period, there was a decrease in the proportion of Training for Work clients who accessed Income Support and an increase among Work Foundations clients.

Injury/Harm by program type (Table 12; p. 22)

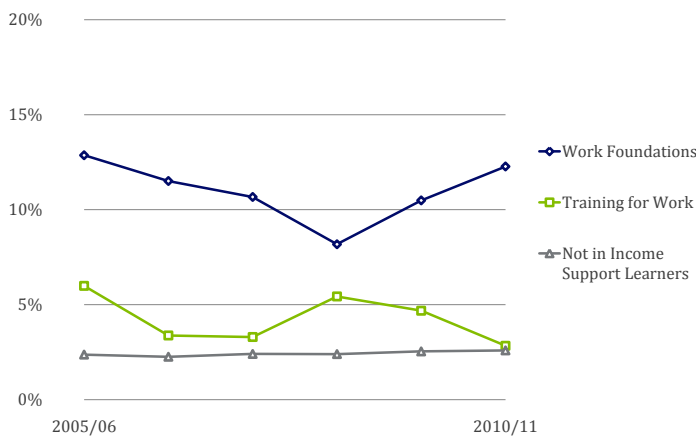
For the definition of "Injury/Harm", see page 30.

- Compared to Albertans who were not in the ISL program, a greater proportion of ISL clients suffered from an injury(ies) over the study period

Percentage of Albertan youth aged 18 to 25 years, by injury/harm and program type over time



Percentage of Albertan youth aged 18 to 20 years, by students with special needs and program type over time



Students with special needs by program type (Table 13; p. 23)

Students with special needs receive special education programming services. This analysis only considers 18 to 20 years olds.(see *Definitions and notes*, p. 31).

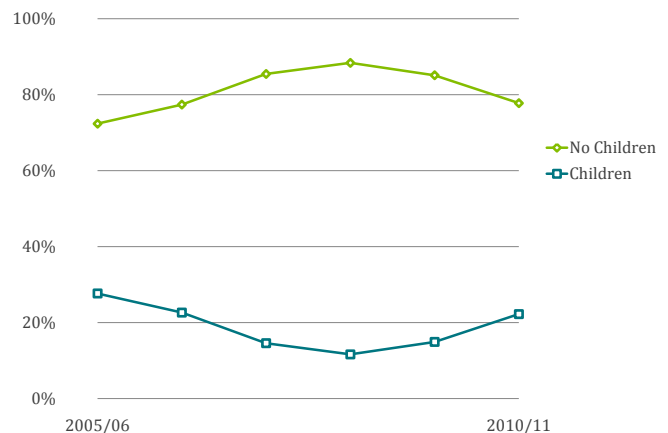
- Over the study period, a greater proportion of Work Foundations clients between 18 and 20 years were students with special needs compared to Training for Work clients.

Household type (Table 14; p. 24)

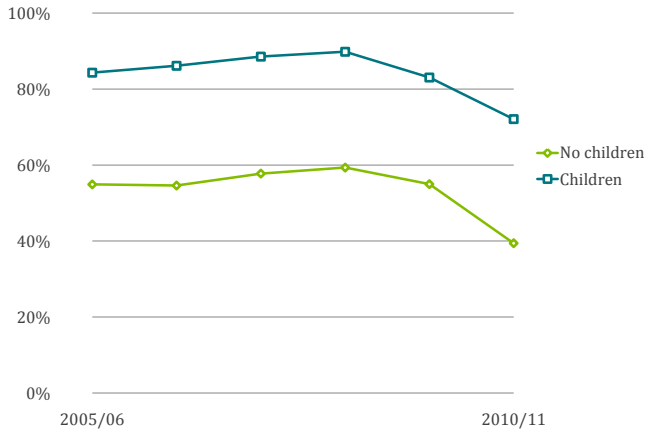
Household type includes two categories: *Couple or single with children; Couple or single with no children*

- The majority of ISL clients did not have children.
- Over the study period, there was a decrease in the proportion of ISL clients without children.
- Starting in 2008/09, there was an increase in the proportion of ISL clients with children.

Percentage of Albertan youth aged 18 to 25 years, by household type over time



Percentage of Albertan youth aged 18 to 25 years, by gender (female) and household type over time



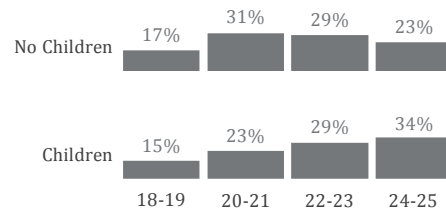
Gender by household type (Table 15; p. 25)

- The majority of clients with children were female, though the proportion of these female clients decreased over the study period.

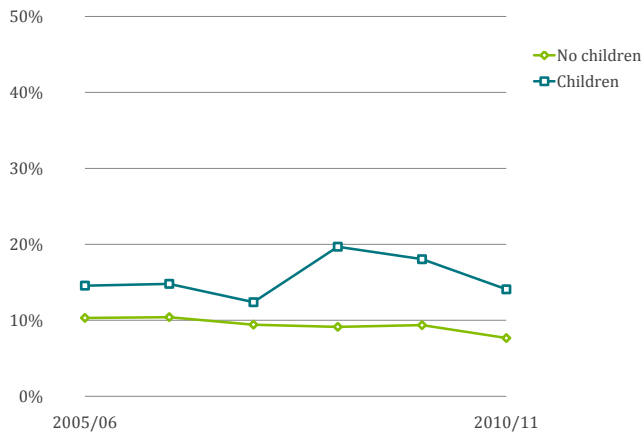
Age groups by household type (Table 16; p. 26)

- A greater proportion of ISL clients with children were represented in the older age groups (20 to 25) compared to the youngest age group (18 to 19).

Percentage of Albertan children and youth aged 0 to 25 years, by age group and household for the 2010/11 study year



Percentage of Albertan youth aged 18 to 25 years, by high cost health service use and household type over time



High cost health service use by household type (Table 17; p. 27)

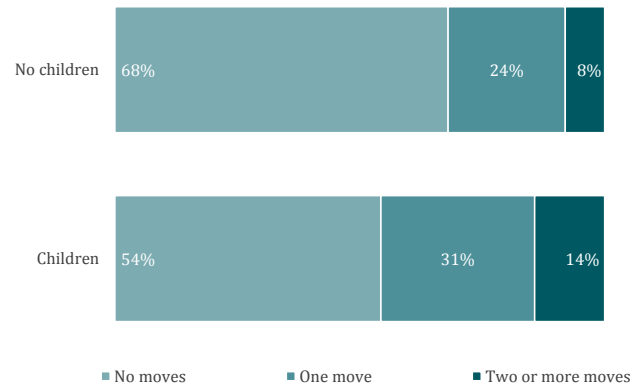
High cost health service users are defined as Albertans who were in the top 5% of estimated costs for their age group and gender (see *Definitions and notes*, p. 30).

- There was a higher proportion of clients with children who were high cost health service users compared to clients without children.
- There was a decrease in the proportion of high cost health service users over the study period for clients without children.

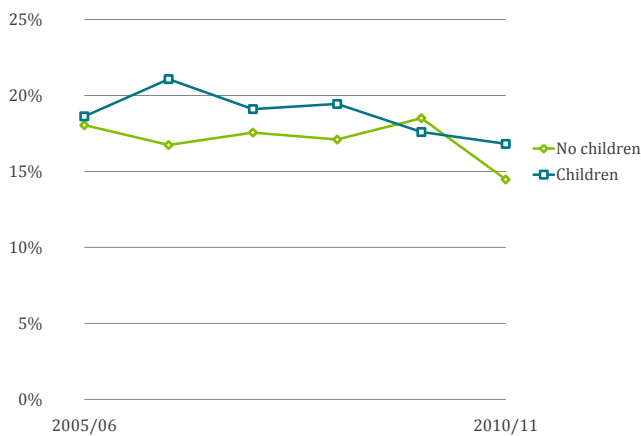
Residential mobility by household type (Table 18; p. 28)

- ISL Clients without children were more likely to remain in the same residence in 2010/11 compared to clients with children; this proportion increased over time (see table 18 page 28 for numbers and percentages.)

Percentage of Albertan youth aged 18 to 25 years, by residential mobility and household for the 2010/11 study year



Percentage of Albertan youth aged 18 to 25 years, by mental health service use and household type over time



Mental health service use by household type (Table 19; p. 29)

Mental health service use is defined as receipt of a diagnosis from select services. See *Definitions and Notes* for more details (p. 31).

- Over the study period, there was a decrease in mental health service use for ISL clients both with and without children.

Tables

TABLE 1a: Number and percentage of Albertan youth aged 18 to 25 years who were in the Income Support Learners program (funded clients), by study year

Income Support Learners Clients	Study year					
	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11
Number of Income Support Learners Clients	7,705	7,334	6,665	8,624	9,281	10,349
Total Population (18 to 25 years)	442,467	462,089	487,352	500,527	503,141	506,601
Percentage of Income Support Learners Clients	1.7%	1.6%	1.4%	1.7%	1.8%	2.0%

TABLE 1b: Number and percentage of Albertan youth aged 18 to 25 years, by funded program type over time

Program type	Study year					
	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11
Number of individuals						
Work Foundations	4,697	4,151	3,991	5,062	5,263	4,377
Training for Work	2,670	2,984	2,619	3,439	3,826	5,652
Not in Income Support Learners	434,762	454,755	480,687	491,903	493,860	496,252
Total N (only Income Support Learners clients)	7,367	7,135	6,610	8,501	9,089	10,029
Total N (including those not in Income Support Learners)	442,129	461,890	487,297	500,404	502,949	506,281
Percentage of individuals (Income Support Learners only)						
Work Foundations	63.76	58.18	60.38	59.55	57.91	43.64
Training for Work	36.24	41.82	39.62	40.45	42.09	56.36
Total %	100	100	100	100	100	100
Percentage of individuals (incl. those not in Income Support Learners)						
Work Foundations	1.06	0.90	0.82	1.01	1.05	0.86
Training for Work	0.60	0.65	0.54	0.69	0.76	1.12
Not in Income Support Learners	98.33	98.46	98.64	98.30	98.19	98.02
Total %	100	100	100	100	100	100

TABLE 2: Number and percentage of Albertan youth aged 18 to 25 who were Income Support Learners clients, by region over time

Region	Study year					
	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11
Number in Income Support Learners						
Calgary	1,922	1,751	1,507	1,899	1,814	2,054
Central	801	737	677	916	1,170	1,383
Edmonton	2,483	2,380	2,256	2,967	2,868	2,885
North Central	794	690	505	567	627	697
Northeast	127	166	116	111	133	83
Northwest	748	684	610	736	796	625
South	777	835	696	761	806	796
Total N	7,652	7,243	6,367	7,957	8,214	8,523
Number not in Income Support Learners						
Calgary	140,877	147,006	155,607	160,407	162,050	163,003
Central	47,216	49,067	52,123	52,475	52,870	52,718
Edmonton	130,915	135,612	140,387	143,845	146,142	147,826
North Central	20,199	20,817	22,616	23,179	23,288	23,486
Northeast	7,432	8,019	9,243	10,078	10,470	10,940
Northwest	22,689	23,683	25,070	25,368	25,363	25,391
South	31,822	32,416	34,498	35,247	35,526	35,856
Total N	401,150	416,620	439,544	450,599	455,709	459,220
Total Number (Income Support Learners + not in Income Support Learners)						
Calgary	142,799	148,757	157,114	162,306	163,864	165,057
Central	48,017	49,804	52,800	53,391	54,040	54,101
Edmonton	133,398	137,992	142,643	146,812	149,010	150,711
North Central	20,993	21,507	23,121	23,746	23,915	24,183
Northeast	7,559	8,185	9,359	10,189	10,603	11,023
Northwest	23,437	24,367	25,680	26,104	26,159	26,016
South	32,599	33,251	35,194	36,008	36,332	36,652
Total N	408,802	423,863	445,911	458,556	463,923	467,743
Percentage of Individuals in Income Support Learners by region						
Calgary	1.35	1.18	0.96	1.17	1.11	1.24
Central	1.67	1.48	1.28	1.72	2.17	2.56
Edmonton	1.86	1.72	1.58	2.02	1.92	1.91
North Central	3.78	3.21	2.18	2.39	2.62	2.88
Northeast	1.68	2.03	1.24	1.09	1.25	0.75
Northwest	3.19	2.81	2.38	2.82	3.04	2.40
South	2.38	2.51	1.98	2.11	2.22	2.17

TABLE 3: Number and percentage of Albertan youth aged 18 to 25 years, by gender and program type over time

Program type	Gender	Study year					
		2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11
Number of individuals							
Work Foundations	Female	3,262	2,855	2,703	3,387	3,482	2,906
	Male	1,435	1,295	1,288	1,670	1,774	1,466
	Total	4,697	4,150	3,991	5,057	5,256	4,372
Training for Work	Female	1,439	1,585	1,422	1,980	1,919	1,752
	Male	1,231	1,399	1,196	1,450	1,898	3,885
	Total	2,670	2,984	2,618	3,430	3,817	5,637
Not in Income Support Learners	Female	210,978	220,552	234,121	240,610	242,358	244,936
	Male	223,758	234,184	246,549	251,271	251,476	251,297
	Total	434,736	454,736	480,670	491,881	493,834	496,233
Percentage of individuals							
Work Foundations	Female	69.45	68.80	67.73	66.98	66.25	66.47
	Male	30.55	31.20	32.27	33.02	33.75	33.53
	Total	100	100	100	100	100	100
Training for Work	Female	53.90	53.12	54.32	57.73	50.28	31.08
	Male	46.10	46.88	45.68	42.27	49.72	68.92
	Total	100	100	100	100	100	100
Not in Income Support Learners	Female	48.53	48.50	48.71	48.92	49.08	49.36
	Male	51.47	51.50	51.29	51.08	50.92	50.64
	Total	100	100	100	100	100	100

TABLE 4: Number and percentage of Albertan youth aged 18 to 25 years, by high school completion and program type over time

Program type	High school completion	Study year					
		2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11
Number of individuals		2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11
Work Foundations	Completed	95	150	252	387	452	552
	Not Completed	318	446	575	962	1,344	1,396
	Total	413	596	827	1,349	1,796	1,948
Training for Work	Completed	39	167	219	371	585	1,558
	Not Completed	46	205	242	396	533	679
	Total	85	372	461	767	1,118	2,237
Not in Income Support Learners	Completed	17,532	47,463	79,742	110,705	141,834	172,138
	Not Completed	7,904	14,250	22,929	30,621	37,722	45,230
	Total	25,436	61,713	102,671	141,326	179,556	217,368
Percentage of individuals		2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11
Work Foundations	Completed	23.00	25.17	30.47	28.69	25.17	28.34
	Not Completed	77.00	74.83	69.53	71.31	74.83	71.66
	Total	100	100	100	100	100	100
Training for Work	Completed	45.88	44.89	47.51	48.37	52.33	69.65
	Not Completed	54.12	55.11	52.49	51.63	47.67	30.35
	Total	100	100	100	100	100	100
Not in Income Support Learners	Completed	68.93	76.91	77.67	78.33	78.99	79.19
	Not Completed	31.07	23.09	22.33	21.67	21.01	20.81
	Total	100	100	100	100	100	100

TABLE 5: Number and percentage of Albertan youth aged 18 to 25 years, by age group and client type over time

Program type	Age groups	Study year					
		2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11
Number of individuals		2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11
Work Foundations	18-19	770	709	694	1,055	1,135	869
	20-21	1,459	1,312	1,271	1,584	1,601	1,350
	22-23	1,493	1,207	1,137	1,335	1,418	1,160
	24-25	975	923	889	1,088	1,109	998
	Total	4,697	4,151	3,991	5,062	5,263	4,377
Training for Work	18-19	431	517	415	574	578	718
	20-21	750	819	737	906	1,056	1,540
	22-23	764	849	733	1,005	1,119	1,772
	24-25	725	799	734	954	1,073	1,622
	Total	2,670	2,984	2,619	3,439	3,826	5,652
Not in Income Support Learners	18-19	105,996	109,507	116,759	120,566	120,166	119,029
	20-21	109,206	113,232	117,178	118,558	121,869	124,511
	22-23	111,523	116,399	122,046	124,078	123,109	123,378
	24-25	108,037	115,617	124,704	128,701	128,716	129,334
	Total	434,762	454,755	480,687	491,903	493,860	496,252
Percentage of individuals		2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11
Work Foundations	18-19	16.39	17.08	17.39	20.84	21.57	19.85
	20-21	31.06	31.61	31.85	31.29	30.42	30.84
	22-23	31.79	29.08	28.49	26.37	26.94	26.50
	24-25	20.76	22.24	22.28	21.49	21.07	22.80
	Total	100	100	100	100	100	100
Training for Work	18-19	16.14	17.33	15.85	16.69	15.11	12.70
	20-21	28.09	27.45	28.14	26.34	27.60	27.25
	22-23	28.61	28.45	27.99	29.22	29.25	31.35
	24-25	27.15	26.78	28.03	27.74	28.04	28.70
	Total	100	100	100	100	100	100
Not in Income Support Learners	18-19	24.38	24.08	24.29	24.51	24.33	23.99
	20-21	25.12	24.90	24.38	24.10	24.68	25.09
	22-23	25.65	25.60	25.39	25.22	24.93	24.86
	24-25	24.85	25.42	25.94	26.16	26.06	26.06
	Total	100	100	100	100	100	100

TABLE 6a: Number of Albertan children and youth aged 18 to 25 years, by socio-economic status and program type over time

Program type	Socio-economic status	Study year					
		2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11
Number of individuals							
Work Foundations	Lowest	2,015	1,830	1,566	1,910	1,930	1,515
	Low middle	999	866	789	1,016	1,052	810
	Middle	773	621	648	754	736	641
	High middle	377	364	428	489	502	367
	Highest	207	180	204	283	258	192
	Total	4,371	3,861	3,635	4,452	4,478	3,525
Training for Work	Lowest	1,116	1,135	961	1,156	1,194	1,452
	Low middle	522	632	483	652	736	1,001
	Middle	442	496	411	539	521	763
	High middle	247	310	258	332	357	607
	Highest	165	179	182	215	231	435
	Total	2,492	2,752	2,295	2,894	3,039	4,258
Not in Income Support Learners	Lowest	94,712	96,752	102,234	102,276	101,345	100,928
	Low middle	84,206	86,266	89,520	90,875	90,506	89,949
	Middle	78,857	82,064	86,095	87,890	88,260	88,645
	High middle	63,552	67,023	71,839	75,158	77,328	78,799
	Highest	64,900	69,159	73,914	78,196	81,967	84,358
	Total	386,227	401,264	423,602	434,395	439,406	442,679

TABLE 6b: Percentage of Albertan children and youth aged 18 to 25 years, by socio-economic status and program type over time

Program type	Socio-economic status	Study year					
		2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Work Foundations	Lowest	46.10	47.40	43.08	42.90	43.10	42.98
	Low middle	22.86	22.43	21.71	22.82	23.49	22.98
	Middle	17.68	16.08	17.83	16.94	16.44	18.18
	High middle	8.63	9.43	11.77	10.98	11.21	10.41
	Highest	4.74	4.66	5.61	6.36	5.76	5.45
	Total	100	100	100	100	100	100
Training for Work	Lowest	44.78	41.24	41.87	39.94	39.29	34.10
	Low middle	20.95	22.97	21.05	22.53	24.22	23.51
	Middle	17.74	18.02	17.91	18.62	17.14	17.92
	High middle	9.91	11.26	11.24	11.47	11.75	14.26
	Highest	6.62	6.50	7.93	7.43	7.60	10.22
	Total	100	100	100	100	100	100
Not in Income Support Learners	Lowest	24.52	24.11	24.13	23.54	23.06	22.80
	Low middle	21.80	21.50	21.13	20.92	20.60	20.32
	Middle	20.42	20.45	20.32	20.23	20.09	20.02
	High middle	16.45	16.70	16.96	17.30	17.60	17.80
	Highest	16.80	17.24	17.45	18.00	18.65	19.06
	Total	100	100	100	100	100	100

TABLE 7: Number and percentage of Albertan youth aged 18 to 25 years, by residential mobility and program type over time

Program type	Residential mobility	Study year					
		2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11
Number of individuals		2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11
Work Foundations	No moves	2,097	1,999	1,852	2,199	2,262	1,995
	One Move	1,101	879	774	868	936	904
	Two or more moves	571	370	342	370	424	438
	Total	3,769	3,248	2,968	3,437	3,622	3,337
Training for Work	No moves	1,284	1,496	1,240	1,455	1,698	2,574
	One Move	519	550	461	526	499	946
	Two or more moves	221	195	180	224	185	253
	Total	2,024	2,241	1,881	2,205	2,382	3,773
Not in Income Support Learners	No moves	268,162	277,340	292,054	314,987	351,960	357,123
	One Move	63,832	63,797	68,377	61,155	39,118	38,096
	Two or more moves	13,790	12,594	13,643	11,123	6,130	5,877
	Total	345,784	353,731	374,074	387,265	397,208	401,096
Percentage of individuals		2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11
Work Foundations	No moves	55.64	61.55	62.40	63.98	62.45	59.78
	One Move	29.21	27.06	26.08	25.25	25.84	27.09
	Two or more moves	15.15	11.39	11.52	10.77	11.71	13.13
	Total	100	100	100	100	100	100
Training for Work	No moves	63.44	66.76	65.92	65.99	71.28	68.22
	One Move	25.64	24.54	24.51	23.85	20.95	25.07
	Two or more moves	10.92	8.70	9.57	10.16	7.77	6.71
	Total	100	100	100	100	100	100
Not in Income Support Learners	No moves	77.55	78.40	78.07	81.34	88.61	89.04
	One Move	18.46	18.04	18.28	15.79	9.85	9.50
	Two or more moves	3.99	3.56	3.65	2.87	1.54	1.47
	Total	100	100	100	100	100	100

TABLE 8: Number and percentage of Albertan youth aged 18 to 25 years, by high cost health service use and program type over time

Program type	High cost health user	Study year					
		2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11
Number of individuals		2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11
Work Foundations	High cost health user	446	399	321	401	446	407
	Not high cost health user	3,323	2,849	2,647	3,036	3,176	2,930
	Total	3,769	3,248	2,968	3,437	3,622	3,337
Training for Work	High cost health user	237	238	161	204	217	249
	Not high cost health user	1,787	2,003	1,720	2,001	2,165	3,524
	Total	2,024	2,241	1,881	2,205	2,382	3,773
Not in Income Support Learners	High cost health user	16,496	16,750	18,380	19,029	19,326	19,589
	Not high cost health user	329,288	336,981	355,694	368,236	377,883	381,508
	Total	345,784	353,731	374,074	387,265	397,209	401,097
Percentage of individuals		2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11
Work Foundations	High cost health user	11.83	12.28	10.82	11.67	12.31	12.20
	Not high cost health user	88.17	87.72	89.18	88.33	87.69	87.80
	Total	100	100	100	100	100	100
Training for Work	High cost health user	11.71	10.62	8.56	9.25	9.11	6.60
	Not high cost health user	88.29	89.38	91.44	90.75	90.89	93.40
	Total	100	100	100	100	100	100
Not in Income Support Learners	High cost health user	4.77	4.74	4.91	4.91	4.87	4.88
	Not high cost health user	95.23	95.26	95.09	95.09	95.13	95.12
	Total	100	100	100	100	100	100

TABLE 9: Number and percentage of Albertan youth aged 18 to 25 years, by mental health service use and program type over time

Program type	Mental Health Service Use	Study year					
		2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11
Number of individuals		2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11
Work Foundations	With Service	688	591	511	600	692	622
	Without Service	3,083	2,658	2,458	2,838	2,936	2,719
	Total	3,771	3,249	2,969	3,438	3,628	3,341
Training for Work	With Service	390	395	355	387	416	440
	Without Service	1,636	1,846	1,527	1,819	1,966	3,336
	Total	2,026	2,241	1,882	2,206	2,382	3,776
Not in Income Support Learners	With Service	24,511	25,225	27,587	28,510	29,044	29,789
	Without Service	321,419	328,679	346,677	358,955	368,399	371,546
	Total	345,930	353,904	374,264	387,465	397,443	401,335
Percentage of individuals		2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11
Work Foundations	With Service	18.24	18.19	17.21	17.45	19.07	18.62
	Without Service	81.76	81.81	82.79	82.55	80.93	81.38
	Total	100	100	100	100	100	100
Training for Work	With Service	19.25	17.63	18.86	17.54	17.46	11.65
	Without Service	80.75	82.37	81.14	82.46	82.54	88.35
	Total	100	100	100	100	100	100
Not in Income Support Learners	With Service	7.09	7.13	7.37	7.36	7.31	7.42
	Without Service	92.91	92.87	92.63	92.64	92.69	92.58
	Total	100	100	100	100	100	100

TABLE 10: Number and percentage of Albertan youth aged 18 to 25 years, by health registry and program type over time

Program type	Health registry	Study year					
		2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11
Number of individuals		2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11
Work Foundations	Registered	3,769	3,248	2,968	3,437	3,622	3,337
	Not registered	700	694	838	1,403	1,467	869
	Total	4,469	3,942	3,806	4,840	5,089	4,206
Training for Work	Registered	2,024	2,241	1,881	2,205	2,382	3,773
	Not registered	508	576	607	1,083	1,336	1,743
	Total	2,532	2,817	2,488	3,288	3,718	5,516
Not in Income Support Learners	Registered	345,784	353,731	374,074	387,265	397,209	401,097
	Not registered	52,471	57,869	62,491	64,376	63,453	63,511
	Total	398,255	411,600	436,565	451,641	460,662	464,608
Percentage of individuals		2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11
Work Foundations	Registered	84.34	82.39	77.98	71.01	71.17	79.34
	Not registered	15.66	17.61	22.02	28.99	28.83	20.66
	Total	100	100	100	100	100	100
Training for Work	Registered	79.94	79.55	75.60	67.06	64.07	68.40
	Not registered	20.06	20.45	24.40	32.94	35.93	31.60
	Total	100	100	100	100	100	100
Not in Income Support Learners	Registered	86.82	85.94	85.69	85.75	86.23	86.33
	Not registered	13.18	14.06	14.31	14.25	13.77	13.67
	Total	100	100	100	100	100	100

TABLE 11: Number and percentage of Albertan youth aged 18 to 25 years, by Income Support and program type over time

Program type	Income Support Client	Study year					
		2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11
Number of individuals							
Work Foundations	Yes	942	861	758	1,051	1,326	1,186
	No	3,755	3,290	3,233	4,011	3,937	3,191
	Total	4,697	4,151	3,991	5,062	5,263	4,377
Training for Work	Yes	578	533	464	717	790	752
	No	2,092	2,451	2,155	2,722	3,036	4,900
	Total	2,670	2,984	2,619	3,439	3,826	5,652
Not in Income Support Learners	Yes	6,763	5,768	10,279	12,070	12,290	10,554
	No	427,999	448,987	470,408	479,833	481,570	485,698
	Total	434,762	454,755	480,687	491,903	493,860	496,252
Percentage of individuals							
Work Foundations	Yes	20.06	20.74	18.99	20.76	25.19	27.10
	No	79.94	79.26	81.01	79.24	74.81	72.90
	Total	100	100	100	100	100	100
Training for Work	Yes	21.65	17.86	17.72	20.85	20.65	13.31
	No	78.35	82.14	82.28	79.15	79.35	86.69
	Total	100	100	100	100	100	100
Not in Income Support Learners	Yes	1.56	1.27	2.14	2.45	2.49	2.13
	No	98.44	98.73	97.86	97.55	97.51	97.87
	Total	100	100	100	100	100	100

TABLE 12: Number and percentage of Albertan youth aged 18 to 25 years, by injury/harm and program type over time

Program type	Injury/Harm	Study year					
		2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11
Number of individuals							
Work Foundations	Yes	760	666	611	706	728	698
	No	3,009	2,582	2,357	2,731	2,894	2,639
	Total	3,769	3,248	2,968	3,437	3,622	3,337
Training for Work	Yes	475	524	406	468	502	860
	No	1,549	1,717	1,475	1,737	1,880	2,913
	Total	2,024	2,241	1,881	2,205	2,382	3,773
Not in Income Support Learners	Yes	53,462	53,415	55,551	54,385	53,650	55,890
	No	292,322	300,316	318,523	332,880	343,559	345,207
	Total	345,784	353,731	374,074	387,265	397,209	401,097
Percent of individuals							
Work Foundations	Yes	20.16	20.50	20.59	20.54	20.10	20.92
	No	79.84	79.50	79.41	79.46	79.90	79.08
	Total	100	100	100	100	100	100
Training for Work	Yes	23.47	23.38	21.58	21.22	21.07	22.79
	No	76.53	76.62	78.42	78.78	78.93	77.21
	Total	100	100	100	100	100	100
Not in Income Support Learners	Yes	15.46	15.10	14.85	14.04	13.51	13.93
	No	84.54	84.90	85.15	85.96	86.49	86.07
	Total	100	100	100	100	100	100

TABLE 13: Number and percentage of Albertan youth aged 18 to 25 years, by students with special needs and program type over time

Program type	Students with special needs	Study year					
		2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11
Number of individuals		2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11
Work Foundations	Yes	152	129	113	126	174	157
	No	1,029	992	946	1,414	1,485	1,122
	Total	1,181	1,121	1,059	1,540	1,659	1,279
Training for Work	Yes	40	26	21	47	42	33
	No	628	744	616	818	855	1,130
	Total	668	770	637	865	897	1,163
Not in Income Support Learners	Yes	3,353	3,295	3,714	3,828	4,088	4,131
	No	138,184	142,704	150,496	155,905	156,708	155,271
	Total	141,537	145,999	154,210	159,733	160,796	159,402
Percentage of individuals		2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11
Work Foundations	Yes	12.87	11.51	10.67	8.18	10.49	12.28
	No	87.13	88.49	89.33	91.82	89.51	87.72
	Total	100	100	100	100	100	100
Training for Work	Yes	5.99	3.38	3.30	5.43	4.68	2.84
	No	94.01	96.62	96.70	94.57	95.32	97.16
	Total	100	100	100	100	100	100
Not in Income Support Learners	Yes	2.37	2.26	2.41	2.40	2.54	2.59
	No	97.63	97.74	97.59	97.60	97.46	97.41
	Total	100	100	100	100	100	100

TABLE 14: Number and percentage of Albertan youth aged 18 to 25 years, by household type over time

Household type	Study year					
	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11
Number of individuals						
No children	5,575	5,675	5,695	7,621	7,898	8,048
Children	2,130	1,659	970	1,003	1,383	2,301
Total N	7,705	7,334	6,665	8,624	9,281	10,349
Percentage of individuals						
No children	72.36	77.38	85.45	88.37	85.10	77.77
Children	27.64	22.62	14.55	11.63	14.90	22.23
Total %	100	100	100	100	100	100

TABLE 15: Number and percentage of Albertan youth aged 18 to 25 years, by gender and household type over time

Household type	Gender	Study year					
		2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11
Number of individuals							
No children	Female	3,061	3,098	3,288	4,514	4,334	3,165
	Male	2,514	2,576	2,406	3,092	3,549	4,864
	Total	5,575	5,674	5,694	7,606	7,883	8,029
Children	Female	1,796	1,429	859	901	1,146	1,657
	Male	334	230	111	102	234	642
	Total	2,130	1,659	970	1,003	1,380	2,299
Percentage of individuals							
No children	Female	54.91	54.60	57.74	59.35	54.98	39.42
	Male	45.09	45.40	42.26	40.65	45.02	60.58
	Total	100	100	100	100	100	100
Children	Female	84.32	86.14	88.56	89.83	83.04	72.07
	Male	15.68	13.86	11.44	10.17	16.96	27.93
	Total	100	100	100	100	100	100

TABLE 16: Number and percentage of Albertan children and youth aged 0 to 25 years, by age group and household type over time

Household type	Age groups	Study year					
		2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11
Number of individuals		2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11
No children	18-19	990	1,038	976	1,473	1,505	1,373
	20-21	1,778	1,798	1,769	2,266	2,388	2,473
	22-23	1,652	1,592	1,598	2,096	2,186	2,330
	24-25	1,155	1,247	1,352	1,786	1,819	1,872
	Total	5,575	5,675	5,695	7,621	7,898	8,048
Children	18-19	303	236	155	208	294	336
	20-21	524	391	255	262	312	519
	22-23	689	514	281	265	385	670
	24-25	614	518	279	268	392	776
	Total	2,130	1,659	970	1,003	1,383	2,301
Total N		7,705	7,334	6,665	8,624	9,281	10,349
Percentage of individuals		2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11
No children	18-19	17.76	18.29	17.14	19.33	19.06	17.06
	20-21	31.89	31.68	31.06	29.73	30.24	30.73
	22-23	29.63	28.05	28.06	27.50	27.68	28.95
	24-25	20.72	21.97	23.74	23.44	23.03	23.26
	Total	100	100	100	100	100	100
Children	18-19	14.23	14.23	15.98	20.74	21.26	14.60
	20-21	24.60	23.57	26.29	26.12	22.56	22.56
	22-23	32.35	30.98	28.97	26.42	27.84	29.12
	24-25	28.83	31.22	28.76	26.72	28.34	33.72
	Total	100	100	100	100	100	100

TABLE 17: Number and percentage of Albertan youth aged 18 to 25 years, by high cost health service use and household type over time

Household type	High cost health service user	Study year					
		2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11
Number of individuals		2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11
No children	High cost health service user	427	434	379	446	465	415
	Not high cost health service user	3,713	3,735	3,645	4,435	4,501	4,996
	Total	4,140	4,169	4,024	4,881	4,966	5,411
Children	High cost health user	269	212	105	163	207	267
	Not high cost health user	1,578	1,221	743	665	940	1,629
	Total	1,847	1,433	848	828	1,147	1,896
Percentage of individuals		2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11
No children	High cost health service user	10.31	10.41	9.42	9.14	9.36	7.67
	Not high cost health service user	89.69	89.59	90.58	90.86	90.64	92.33
	Total	100	100	100	100	100	100
Children	High cost health service user	14.56	14.79	12.38	19.69	18.05	14.08
	Not high cost health service user	85.44	85.21	87.62	80.31	81.95	85.92
	Total	100	100	100	100	100	100

TABLE 18: Number and percentage of Albertan youth aged 18 to 25 years, by residential mobility and household type over time

Household type	Residential mobility	Study year					
		2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11
Number of individuals		2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11
No children	No moves	2,548	2,703	2,593	3,198	3,358	3,681
	One Move	1,118	1,078	1,015	1,200	1,152	1,295
	Two or more moves	474	388	416	483	456	435
	Total	4,140	4,169	4,024	4,881	4,966	5,411
Children	No moves	973	878	521	506	691	1,030
	One Move	542	374	221	210	302	595
	Two or more moves	332	181	106	112	154	271
	Total	1,847	1,433	848	828	1,147	1,896
Percentage of individuals		2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11
No children	No moves	61.55	64.84	64.44	65.52	67.62	68.03
	One Move	27.00	25.86	25.22	24.59	23.20	23.93
	Two or more moves	11.45	9.31	10.34	9.90	9.18	8.04
	Total	100	100	100	100	100	100
Children	No moves	52.68	61.27	61.44	61.11	60.24	54.32
	One Move	29.34	26.10	26.06	25.36	26.33	31.38
	Two or more moves	17.98	12.63	12.50	13.53	13.43	14.29
	Total	100	100	100	100	100	100

TABLE 19: Number and percentage of Albertan youth aged 18 to 25 years, by mental health service use and household type over time

Household type	Mental Health Service Use	Study year					
		2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11
Number of individuals							
No children	Service use	748	698	707	835	920	784
	No service use	3,396	3,472	3,319	4,048	4,051	4,633
	Total	4,144	4,170	4,026	4,883	4,971	5,417
Children	Service use	344	302	162	161	202	319
	No service use	1,503	1,131	686	667	946	1,578
	Total	1,847	1,433	848	828	1,148	1,897
Percentage of individuals							
No children	Service use	18.05	16.74	17.56	17.10	18.51	14.47
	No service use	81.95	83.26	82.44	82.90	81.49	85.53
	Total	100	100	100	100	100	100
Children	Service use	18.62	21.07	19.10	19.44	17.60	16.82
	No service use	81.38	78.93	80.90	80.56	82.40	83.18
	Total	100	100	100	100	100	100

Definitions and notes

- **Age, gender,** and postal code (translated into Statistics Canada **dissemination areas**) were provided for each individual by each participating program. In the case of discrepancies between programs, 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.
- The **Alberta Health Care Registry (also known as the Alberta Health Care Insurance Plan Registry)** includes all study participants (aged 0 to 30) who are eligible to receive insured hospital and physician services.
- **Children’s Services and Community and Social Services service delivery regions** are used for regional analyses. Dissemination areas from the 2006 Census were used to determine regions. Those with missing dissemination areas are excluded from analyses. There are seven regions (Northwest, Northeast, North Central, Edmonton, Central, Calgary, South); the boundaries for these regions are shown on the map.
- **Cross-ministry analyses included only study participants who were linked across the relevant programs.** This means that not all participants in the project were represented in every analysis. As well, only participants with a value for a given indicator were included in analyses involving that indicator (i.e., missing values were excluded).
- **High cost health service use:** Cost estimates per type of service across physician visits (general practitioner or specialist), ambulatory care visits (emergency or other ambulatory care), and hospitalizations (by type of service) were obtained from the Canadian Institute for Health Information. Estimated costs per visit were summed across all visits for each individual. High cost health users were those in the top 5% of estimated costs for their age groups and genders.
- **High School completion** is based on being a credentialed completer or non-credentialed completer during the study period. A credentialed completer has a high school diploma, high school equivalency diploma, or a certificate of achievement. A non-credentialed completer has post-secondary attendance, apprenticeship, or achieved academic standing with course completion, but does not have a diploma or certificate as found with credentialed completers. High school completers include all students who took up to five years to complete high school starting from grade 10.
- **Household type** clients are categorized as a couple with children, couple with no children, single with children, or single with no children. Due to the small number of individuals, categories were aggregated (children or no children).
- **Injury/harm** is defined by the presence or absence of injury diagnostic codes (a single ICD-10CA: V01-Y89.9) in Alberta Health and Wellness’ databases (Inpatient-Discharge Abstract Database and Ambulatory care). Only Albertans who were registered with the Alberta Health Care Insurance plan for the full fiscal year were included.
- **Income Support** provides financial assistance to individuals (aged 16 and older) who are unable to meet their basic needs.
- **Income Support Learners** provides assistance to individuals (aged 16 and older) who are in training, including basic costs to maintain their household, supplemental benefits, health benefits, and training benefits.



Definitions and notes (continued)

- **Mental health service** is defined by the presence or absence of mental health diagnosis codes (two or more of ICD-9: 290-309.9, 311-314.9, 316, or a single ICD-10CA: F00-F06.9, F09-F69, F84-F99, G31.2, G44.2, R41.0) in Alberta Health databases (Inpatient—Discharge Abstract Database, Ambulatory Care, and Practitioner Payments), or in the Family Support for Children with Disabilities (FSCD) or the Assured Income for the Severely Handicapped (AISH) information systems. Only Albertans who were registered with the Alberta Health Care Insurance Plan for the full fiscal year or who had a mental health service with FSCD or AISH were included. Mental health service use is a proxy for presence of a mental health condition; some youth with mental health conditions may not have accessed mental health services in Alberta during the year, and some mental health service use may have occurred for youth who did not in fact have mental health conditions.
 - **Program type** is divided into two categories: *Work Foundations* clients who upgrade basic skills (e.g., literacy and numeracy, basic education, or life skills) or do academic upgrading (e.g., high school upgrading or university entrance preparation); *Training for Work* clients who engage in job training.
 - **Report population:** For this report, age groups were equated across study years. This meant that individuals over the age of 25 years were excluded from analyses by year, because no study participants were older than 25 years in the first study year.
 - **Residential mobility** is defined as the number of unique postal codes within the Alberta Health Care Insurance Plan registry during the study period. Health care premiums ceased to be collected on January 1st, 2009; addresses in the registry have been updated less often since that time, reducing their accuracy.
 - **Socio-Economic Status (SES)** captures the social and material environments in which youth lived. A youth was assigned a socio-economic status via an index based on the Statistics Canada dissemination area in which he or she resided⁷. Six indicators were included in the index: percent without a high school diploma, the employment rate, 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.
 - **Students with special needs** (aged 2.5 to 19) receive special education programming services.
 - **Study population:** The study included individuals with a date of birth between April 1, 1980 and March 31, 2011 and who received services from one of the programs in the study or were registered in the Alberta Health Care Insurance Plan between April 1, 2005 and March 31, 2011. The youngest study participants were those born in the last study year. The oldest study participants were 25 years old at the end of the first study year and consequently 30 years old at the end of the last study year.
 - **Tables** are shown by fiscal year.
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The Child and Youth Data Laboratory

The Child and Youth Data Laboratory’s (CYDL’s) Longitudinal Project (*Experiences of Albertan Children and Youth over Time, 2005/06 to 2010/11*) is a joint initiative between PolicyWise for Children & Families and participating ministries in the Government of Alberta. The mandate of the CYDL is to link and analyse administrative data from Government ministries, to provide evidence for policy and program development.

The CYDL is managed by **PolicyWise for Children & Families**. PolicyWise is a not-for-profit organization whose mission is to develop and integrate evidence to inform, identify and promote effective public policy and service delivery to improve the well-being of children, families and communities in Alberta, Canada and internationally.

This project

The current project, **The CYDL Longitudinal Project**, focuses on understanding the experiences of Albertan children and youth as they develop. The focus is service use within and across ministries, as it is related to key indicators and to the passage of time. Studying experiences over several years of development adds a valuable level of richness to an already ground-breaking initiative, providing detailed insight into the factors that help to shape our children and youth as they develop.

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:

- Advanced Education
Community and Social Services
- Education
Indigenous Relations
- Health
Justice and Solicitor General
- Children’s Services

Prepared by:

Navjot Lamba and Xinjie Cui

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Contact CYDL

info@policywise.com
(780) 944 8630
www.policywise.com

This study is based in part on data provided by the Government of Alberta. The interpretation and conclusions contained herein are those of the researchers and do not necessarily represent the views of the Government of Alberta. The Government of Alberta does not express any opinion in relation to this study.

Notes

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