

A PROFILE OF STUDENTS WITH SPECIAL NEEDS WHO TRANSITIONED BETWEEN GOVERNMENT OF ALBERTA DISABILITY PROGRAMS

THE CHILD AND YOUTH DATA LABORATORY (CYDL) LONGITUDINAL PROJECT

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Individuals with disabilities experience several challenges when transitioning from childhood to adolescence. Thus far, few studies have used administrative data to examine government service use patterns of youth with disabilities who experience different transition pathways. This report aims to fill this gap by focusing on young Albertans with disabilities (15 to 18 years old) who transitioned between government programs using linked administrative data from six Government of Alberta ministries: Advanced Education, Children’s Services, Community and Social Services, Education, and Justice and Solicitor and General.

The analysis identifies four transition pathways: (1) students with special needs who received Family Support for Children with Disabilities (FSCD) services and transitioned to the Persons with Developmental Disabilities (PDD) program; (2) students with special needs who *did not* receive FSCD services but transitioned to the PDD program; (3) students with special needs who received FSCD services but *did not* transition to the PDD program; (4) students with special needs who *did not* receive either FSCD or PDD services. In Alberta, the FSCD program provides supports and services to families whose children are 0 to 17 years old while PDD provides services to adult with developmental disabilities who are 18 years or older (please see detailed information about the disability policy in Alberta in background section on page 3). The socio-demographic characteristics (e.g., sex, socio-economic status), health service use (e.g., high-cost health and mental health service use), and government program involvement (e.g., Income Support, Child Intervention, etc.) of these four groups are examined.

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HIGHLIGHTS

1. Among 20,689 students with special needs (15 to 18 years old) between 2005/06 and 2008/09, 6% (N=1,304) received FSCD services at some point between 2005/06 and 2008/09.
2. Among students with special needs who received FSCD services, 55% (N=668) transitioned to the PDD program at some point between 2005/06 and 2010/11.
3. Among students with special needs who *did not* receive FSCD services (N= 19,385), 3% (N=483) transitioned to the PDD program at some point between 2005/06 and 2010/11.

HIGHLIGHTS (Cont'd)

4. For students with special needs who transitioned to the PDD program, the majority had a multiple disability code in the special education program. In contrast, for students with special needs who *did not* receive either FSCD or PDD services, the majority had a learning disability code in the special education program.
5. Compared to students with special needs who transitioned to the PDD but *did not* receive FSCD services, a higher proportion of students with special needs who transitioned to the PDD program and also received FSCD services lived in high socio-economic neighborhoods.
6. Compared to students with special needs who *did not* transition to the PDD program, those who did transition to the PDD program were:
 - less likely to meet or exceed educational expectations
 - less likely to enroll in post-secondary education
 - less likely to be Income Support recipients
 - more likely to be Assured Income for Severely Handicapped recipients
7. Compared to students with special needs who transitioned to the PDD but *did not* receive FSCD services, those who received FSCD services and transitioned to the PDD program were:
 - less likely to meet or exceed educational expectations
 - less likely to have depression
 - less likely to be Income Support recipients
 - less likely to be Income Support Learners clients
 - less likely to receive Child Intervention services
 - less likely to have criminal offences
 - more likely to be high-cost health users
 - more likely to enroll in non-credential programs at publicly funded post-secondary institutions

This report is part of the Longitudinal Project by the CYDL in collaboration with Alberta partnering government ministries. Please see the last page for a brief description of the project and go to <http://policywise.com/initiatives/cydl/p2> to access other deliverables.

BACKGROUND

This section provides context on disability policy in Alberta and highlights select literature on individuals with disabilities transition from childhood, youth to adulthood.

Throughout childhood and adolescence, individuals with disabilities experience several transitions, such as transitioning into preschool during the early years (between birth and six years of age), transitioning into school, and transitioning into adulthood. Numerous studies have indicated that the transition to adulthood for youth with disabilities can be extremely challenging^{1,3,5,9,15,17}. This is because the process of finding necessary supports and services such as therapy services or employment or education opportunities, together with multiple emotional adjustments can be stressful^{2,11,14}. To ensure a successful transition process, starting an early transition plan, providing useful and accessible information and education, and providing ongoing supports before, during and after the transition period for youth with disabilities and their families is crucial^{3,8,10,12,16}.

In Alberta, the government provides a range of support services to individuals with disabilities, such as supports for students with special needs (Ministry of Education), Family Supports for Children with Disabilities (FSCD, Ministry of Community and Social Services), Persons with Developmental Disabilities (PDD, Ministry of Community and Social Services) and Assured Income for Severely Handicapped (AISH, Ministry of Community and Social Services).

The FSCD program provides a range of family-centered supports and services to families whose children are 0 to 17 years old, such as individual and family counseling, assistance with the cost of clothing and footwear needs related to the child's disability, assistance with some of the extraordinary costs for prescription drugs, prescribed formulas or medical supplies, etc. Services are meant to help strengthen families' ability to promote their child's healthy development and encourage their child's participation in activities at home and in the community (for more information about the FSCD program, please visit <http://www.humanservices.alberta.ca/disability-services/14855.html>).

The PDD and AISH programs are adult disability programs which provide support for persons who are 18 years or older. PDD supports adult Albertans with developmental disabilities to be a part of their communities and live as independently as they can. For example, the program provides supports to individuals in their home (e.g., meal planning and housekeeping), to get and keep jobs, to participate in their community activities (e.g., volunteering, sports, etc.). AISH provides financial and health benefits to eligible Albertans with a disability, such as living allowance, child benefit, cost for prescription drugs, dental, or emergency ambulance, etc. (for more information about the PDD program, please visit <http://www.humanservices.alberta.ca/disability-services/pdd.html>; for the AISH program, please visit <https://www.alberta.ca/aish-what-you-get.aspx>).

Clark, D., Seel, and Clark, M. (2009) looked at the impact of the disability policy in Alberta and the implications for transitions. The findings showed that the transition from one disability program to another disability program can be challenging, given the different definitions of disability used by different government programs. People might qualify for funding based on the criteria of one program but when transitioning to a different program under a different ministry, they find that they are no longer considered to have a disability and become ineligible for funding. For example, PDD supports adults with disabilities, which requires IQ testing with 70 as an upper limit to access services. A child/youth with disabilities who has an IQ higher than 70 is eligible for FSCD services, but might find himself/herself not eligible for the PDD program when transitioning to adulthood.

BACKGROUND (Cont'd)

Clark *et al.*'s study (2009) also indicated that regarding transitions between different disability programs, there are disconnects between funding envelopes for the same population. For example, AISH provides funding for persons 18 and over, but the program has limited communication or connection to service delivery with PDD for the same population. The transition process will be more effective when undertaken in a coordinated system.

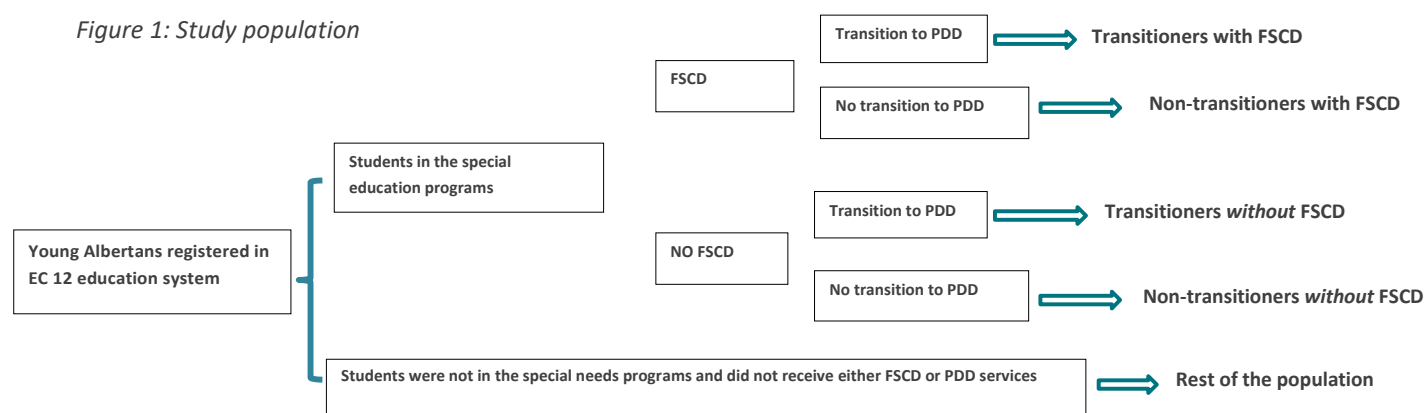
This report adds new knowledge to the existing transition studies on individuals with disabilities by using linked administrative data from six Government of Alberta ministries. The analysis looks at socio-demographic characteristics and government service use patterns among children and youth with disabilities who transitioned between different disability programs and those who *did not* transition between disability programs. The specific information included in this report are: (1) special education codes received by Albertans with disabilities who transitioned/*did not* transition between different disability programs; (2) disability conditions of Albertans who transitioned/*did not* transition between different disability programs; (3) health service use by Albertans with disabilities who transitioned/*did not* transition between different disability programs; (4) involvement of other government programs among Albertans with disabilities who transitioned/*did not* transition between different disability programs. Government and community organizations can use this information to improve outcomes for young Albertans with disabilities as well as improve the efficiency of service delivery from child/youth-to-adult disability programs.

STUDY POPULATION

This report includes five groups (see *Figure 1*):

1. **Transitioners *with* FSCD**: students with special needs who received FSCD services and then transitioned to the PDD program at some point between 2005/06 and 2010/11.
2. **Transitioners *without* FSCD**: students with special needs who transitioned to the PDD program but *did not* receive FSCD services at some point between 2005/06 and 2010/11.
3. **Non-transitioners *with* FSCD**: students with special needs who received FSCD services but *did not* transition to the PDD program at some point between 2005/06 and 2010/11.
4. **Non-Transitioners *without* FSCD**: students with special needs who *did not* receive FSCD or PDD services at some point between 2005/06 and 2010/11.
5. **Rest of the population**: age-matched individuals who were enrolled in the Alberta education system but were not students with special needs and *did not* receive either FSCD or PDD services between 2005/06 and 2010/11.

Figure 1: Study population



Age range: Given that the age eligibility for receiving PDD services is 18 years or older, the analysis only considers individuals who were 15 to 18 years old in 2005/06, 16 to 18 years old in 2006/07, 17 to 18 years old in 2007/08 and 18 years old in 2008/09. This would allow at least 3 years for Albertans who were eligible to transition to the PDD program. The shaded area in *Figure 2* shows the age range that is used to build the study population.

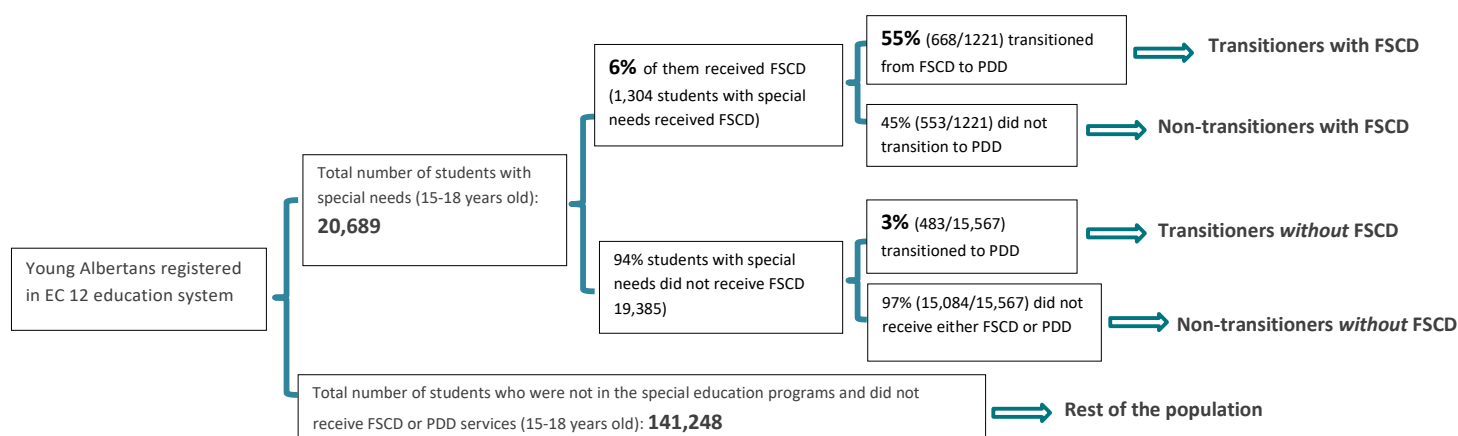
Figure 2: Age range of the study population

	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11
Age	15	16	17	18	19	20
	16	17	18	19	20	21
	17	18	19	20	21	22
	18	19	20	21	22	23

STUDY POPULATION (Table 1; p. 23)

- There were **20,689** individuals who were students with special needs (15 to 18 years old) at some point between 2005/06 and 2008/09. **6%** (N=1,304) received FSCD services at some point between 2005/06 and 2008/09. Among those, **55%** (N=668) transitioned to the PDD program during the study period (see *Figure 3*).
- Among students with special needs who *did not* receive FSCD services during the study period (N= 19,385), **3%** (N=483) transitioned to the PDD program at some point during the study period.

Figure 3. Number and percentage of the study population



Notes.

- Students who received gift/talented special education code were excluded from this study.
- Among 20,689 students with special needs, 4,083 were not eligible for either FSCD or PDD program during the study year.

1. Which special education codes were received by transitioners and non-transitioners?

- Between 2005/06 and 2010/11, the majority of transitioners received a multiple disability code, regardless of FSCD services use.
- For non-transitioners who received FSCD services, the majority received a medical/physical/sensory disability code. In comparison, the majority of non-transitioners who *did not* have FSCD services received a learning disability code.

TABLE 2: Number and percentage of transitioners and non-transitioners by special education codes (2005/06 to 2010/11 combined)

Numbers of individuals	Multiple disability	Medical/sensory/physical disability	Learning disability	Emotional/behaviour disability
Transitioners with FSCD (N=668)	386	312	<10	41
Transitioners without FSCD (N=483)	275	179	15	54
Non-transitioners with FSCD (N=554)	133	321	45	117
Non-transitioners without FSCD (N=16,664)	2,688	1,447	7,061	4,725
Percentage of individuals	Multiple disability	Medical/sensory/physical disability	Learning disability	Emotional/behaviour disability
Transitioners with FSCD	57.8%	46.7%	-	6.1%
Transitioners without FSCD	56.9%	37.1%	3.1%	11.2%
Non-transitioners with FSCD	24.0%	57.9%	8.1%	21.1%
Non-transitioners without FSCD	16.1%	8.7%	42.4%	28.4%

2. Which health diagnostic codes were received by transitioners and non-transitioners?

The analysis examined five disability conditions: Autism Spectrum Disorder, Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder, Attention Deficit Disorder, Down Syndrome, and Cerebral Palsy. The individuals who have these disabilities were defined as those who received diagnostic codes related to these five disabilities when they visited physicians, the emergency department, or were hospitalized.

- Among transitioners, a higher proportion of those who received FSCD services had Autism Spectrum Disorder, Down Syndrome and Cerebral Palsy compared to those *did not* receive FSCD services. In comparison, a higher proportion of those who *did not* receive FSCD services had Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder and Attention Deficit Disorder.

TABLE 3: Number and percentage of transitioners and non-transitioners who had Autism Spectrum Disorder, Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder, Attention Deficit Disorder, Down Syndrome and Cerebral Palsy diagnostic codes from health service use (2005/06 to 2010/11 combined)

Numbers of individuals	Autism Spectrum Disorder	Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder	Attention Deficit Disorder	Down Syndrome	Cerebral Palsy
Transitioners with FSCD (N=668)	142	15	72	67	140
Transitioners without FSCD (N=483)	54	44	81	24	49
Non-transitioners with FSCD (N=554)	74	23	123	13	38
Non-transitioners without FSCD (N=16,664)	118	72	1362	14	84
Percentage of individuals	Autism Spectrum Disorder	Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder	Attention Deficit Disorder	Down Syndrome	Cerebral Palsy
Transitioners with FSCD	21.26%	2.25%	10.78%	10.03%	20.96%
Transitioners without FSCD	11.18%	9.11%	16.77%	4.97%	10.14%
Non-transitioners with FSCD	13.36%	4.15%	22.20%	2.35%	6.86%
Non-transitioners without FSCD	0.71%	0.43%	8.17%	0.08%	0.50%

3. Which FSCD primary diagnosis codes did transitioners and non-transitioners have?

- For transitioners who received FSCD services, the highest percentage was found among those with Developmental Delay (includes both speech delay and global delay).

In comparison,

- For non-transitioners who received FSCD services, the highest percentage was found among those with various mental health conditions (e.g., Attention Deficit Disorder, mood disorder).

TABLE 4: Number and percentage of transitioners and non-transitioners by medical codes documented in the Family Support for Children with Disabilities program (2005/06 to 2010/11 combined)

Numbers of individuals	Autism Spectrum Disorder	Developmental delay	Chromosomal Anomaly	Brain conditions /impairments	Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder	Mental health	Health conditions
Transitioners with FSCD (N=668)	143	167	136	133	23	24	16
Non-transitioners with FSCD (N=554)	104	71	32	53	56	128	32
Percentage of individuals	Autism Spectrum Disorder	Developmental delay	Chromosomal Anomaly	Brain conditions /impairments	Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder	Mental health	Health conditions
Transitioners with FSCD	21.4%	25.0%	20.4%	19.9%	3.4%	3.6%	2.4%
Non-transitioners with FSCD	18.8%	12.8%	5.8%	9.6%	10.1%	23.1%	5.8%

Note. The FSCD program requires a letter or report from an appropriate health care professional identifying the child's diagnosis and/or disability or that the child's condition or impairment may lead to a disability and that the child is awaiting a medical diagnosis (retrieve from <http://www.humanservices.alberta.ca/disability-services/15663.html#medical>). For this analysis, the clients were categorized into Primary Diagnosis categories which represent the most prevalent disability conditions in Alberta.

NOTE TO READERS

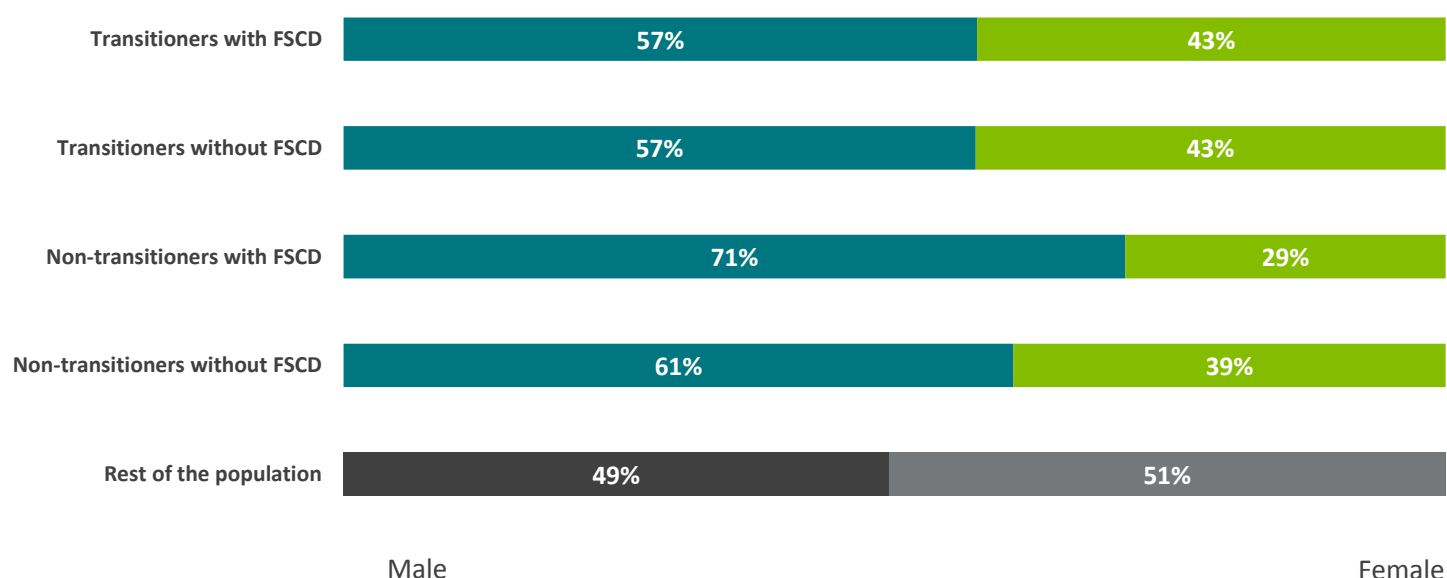
Readers should be aware of the following study limitations when interpreting the results from this report.

- Ninety-five percent confidence intervals were calculated to enable comparison of statistical differences between groups. Only effects that apply to a meaningful proportion of the population were noted in the text.
- The order of receiving health services or involvement in government programs cannot be identified. The main focus of this report is to look at the health service use and government program involvement among transitioners, non-transitioners and the age-matched general population at some point between 2005/06 and 2010/11. The sequence of receiving health services or involvement in government programs cannot be identified. Thus, results cannot be interpreted with respect to causality.

SEX (Table 5; p. 23)

- For both transitioners and non-transitioners, a higher proportion were males than females. This finding is expected because the study population was a subset of students with special needs. Among students with special needs, about 60% were males between 2005/06 and 2010/11 (Please visit <https://visualization.policywise.com/P2dashboard> for more information about students with special needs).

Percentage of transitioners, non-transitioners, and the rest of the population by sex between 2005/06 and 2010/11



Note:

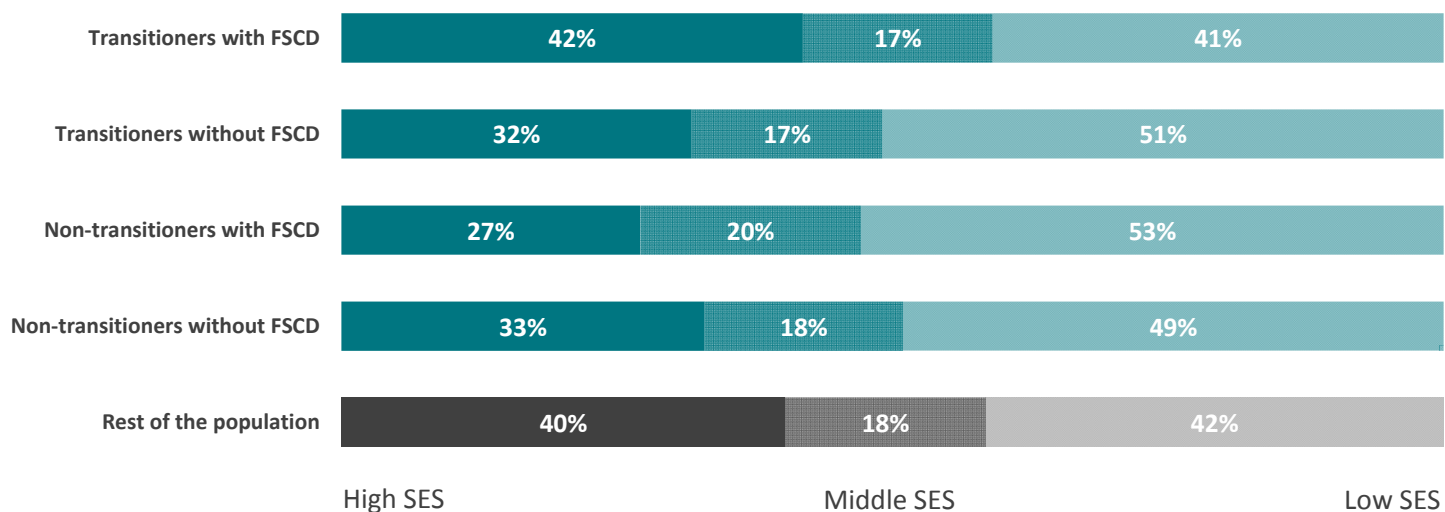
- Recall that **transitioners** were students with special needs who transitioned to the PDD program. **Non-transitioners** were students with special needs who *did not* transition to the PDD program. The **rest of the population** are those who were in the Alberta education system but were not students with special needs and *did not* receive either FSCD or PDD services during the study period.

SOCIO-ECONOMIC STATUS (Table 6; p. 24)

Socio-economic status (SES) captures the social and material environments in which individuals lived. See *Definitions and notes* for more details (p. 37). For this analysis, the high SES group includes those who lived in the highest SES and high-middle SES neighborhood. The low SES group includes those who lived in the lowest SES or low-middle SES neighborhood. The middle SES group includes those who lived in the middle SES neighborhood.

- For transitioners, a higher proportion of those who transitioned from the FSCD program lived in high SES neighborhood compared to those who *did not* have FSCD services.

Percentage of transitioners, non-transitioners, and the rest of population by socio-economic status between 2005/06 and 2010/11

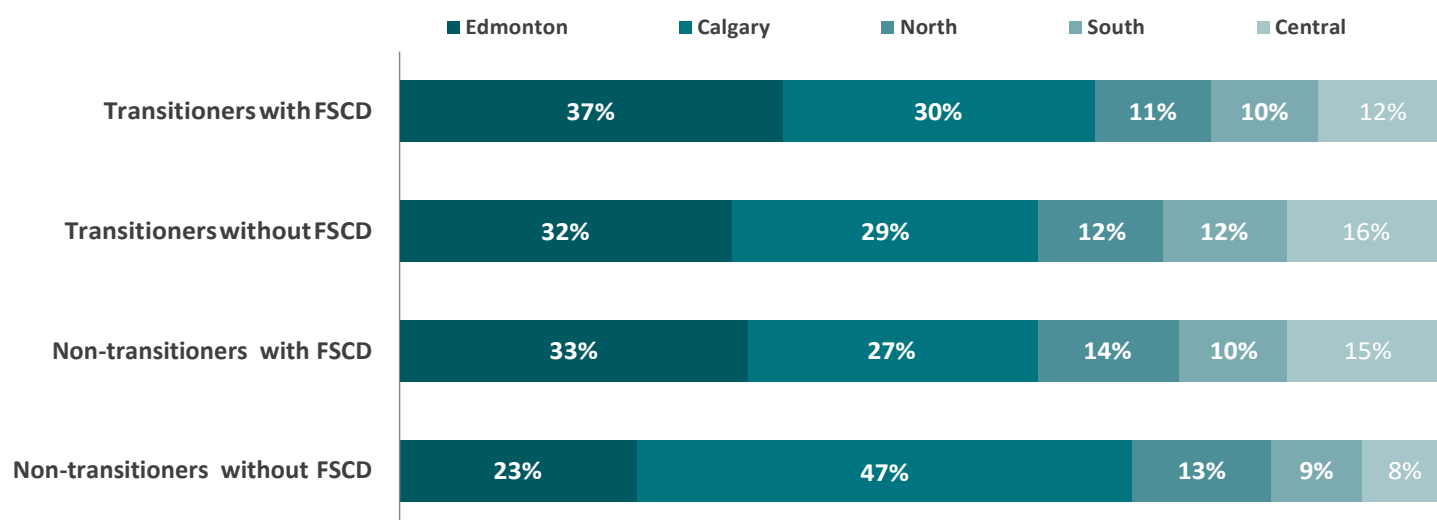


SERVICE DELIVERY REGIONS (Table 7; p. 25)

Children's Services (CS) and Community and Social Services (CSS) service delivery regions were used for regional analyses (see *Definitions and Notes* on page 36). Dissemination areas from the 2006 Statistics Canada Census were used to determine region. Those with missing dissemination areas are excluded from analyses. There are seven regions (Northwest, Northeast, North Central, Edmonton, Central, Calgary, South). This analysis combines Northwest, Northeast, and North Central regions.

- Among transitioners, a high proportion was represented in Calgary and Edmonton region.

Percentage of transitioners and non-transitioners by Children's Services and Community and Social Services' service delivery regions



Background notes:

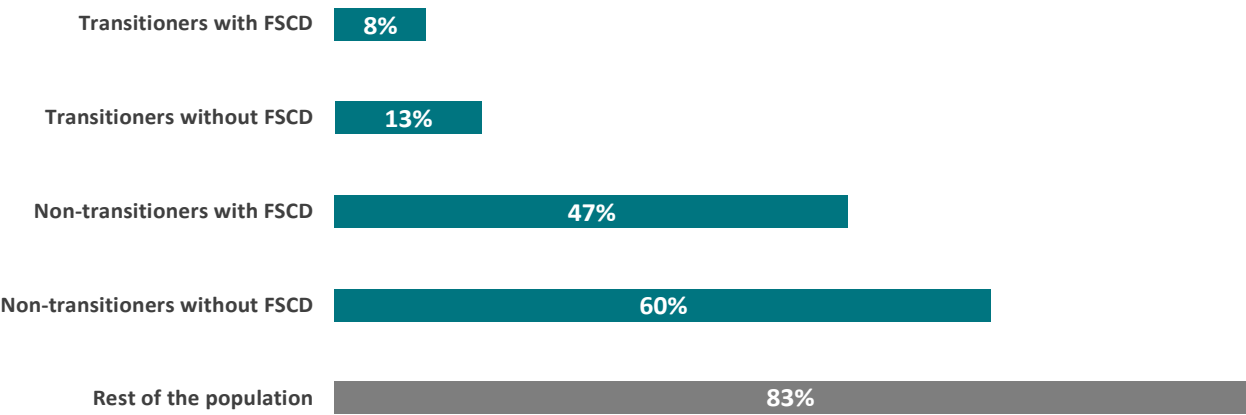
- A higher proportion of FSCD clients were represented in Edmonton and the South region compared to other regions (Please refer to *the profile report of children and youth whose families received FSCD services* created by the Child and Youth Data Lab, <https://visualization.policywise.com/P2dashboard>).
- A higher proportion of PDD clients were represented in the Central and the South region compared to other regions (Please visit <https://visualization.policywise.com/P2dashboard> for more information on young Albertans received Persons with Developmental Disabilities).

EDUCATIONAL ACHIEVEMENT (Table 8; p. 26)

Educational achievement was categorized as exceeding expectations, meeting expectations, or performing below expectations for a student's age and grade. Please see *Definitions and Notes* on page 36 for detailed information on educational achievement. This analysis considers two categories: below educational expectations and meeting/exceeding educational expectations.

- A lower proportion of transitioners met or exceeded educational expectations compared to non-transitioners. Please note that in order to be eligible for the PDD program, a person must have a 'significant limitation in intellectual capacity' which means an IQ score of 70 or below. This explains why the majority of transitioners performed below educational expectations (For more information about the eligibility of the PDD program, please visit <http://www.humanservices.alberta.ca/disability-services/pdd-guide.html>).

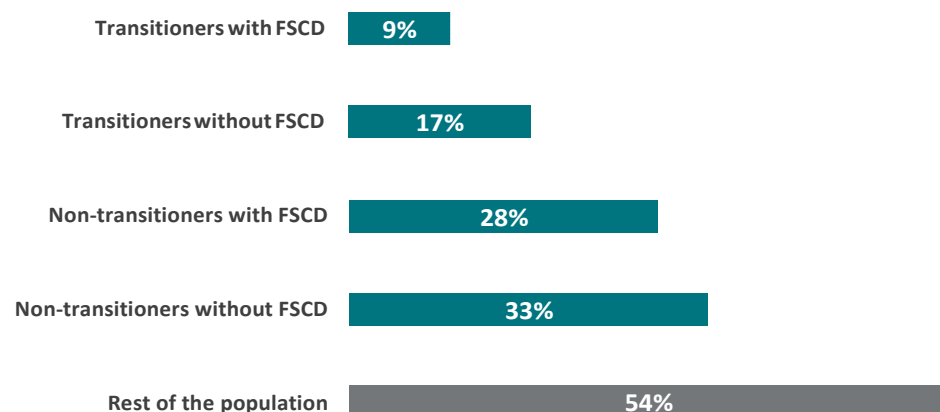
Percentage of transitioners, non-transitioners, and the rest of the population who met or exceeded educational achievement between 2005/06 and 2010/11



POST-SECONDARY ENROLMENT (Table 9a, 9b; p. 27)

- A lower proportion of transitioners were enrolled in publicly funded post-secondary institutions compared to non-transitioners.
- Compared to transitioners without FSCD services, a lower proportion of transitioners with FSCD services were enrolled in publicly funded post-secondary institutions.
- A further analysis showed that among transitioners who were enrolled in publicly-funded post-secondary institutions over 80% attended non-credential programs (e.g., open studies, academic upgrading). In comparison, among non-transitioners who were enrolled in publicly-funded post-secondary institutions, about 70% were enrolled in credential programs (e.g., certification program, bachelor degree, master/doctoral degree. Please see Table 9b for more details).

*Percentage of transitioners, non-transitioners, and the rest of the population who enrolled in **post-secondary education** between 2005/06 and 2010/11*

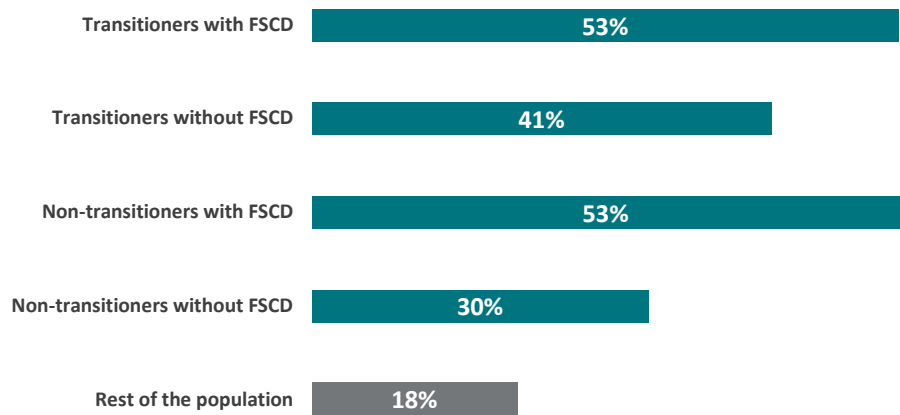


HIGH-COST HEALTH SERVICE USE (Table 10; p. 28)

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 service users were those in the top 5% of estimated costs for their age groups and sex.

- For both transitioners and non-transitioners, a higher proportion of those who received FSCD services were high cost health service users compared to those without FSCD services.

*Percentage of transitioners, non-transitioners, and the rest of the population who were **high cost health users** between 2005/06 and 2010/11:*

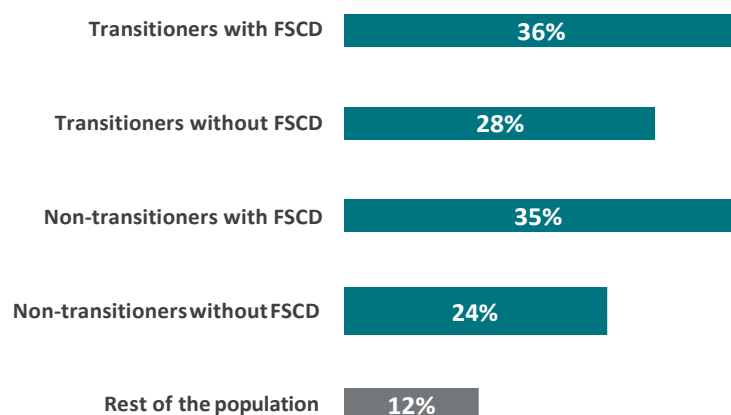


HOSPITALIZATIONS (Table 11; p. 29)

Hospitalizations refer to admissions to hospitals for assessment or treatment. Please see *Definitions and Notes* on page 37 for detailed information on hospitalization.

- For transitioners:
 1. The top 5 reasons for transitioners with FSCD services who were hospitalized are: epilepsy and recurrent seizures, pneumonia, status epilepticus, convulsion, and pneumonitis due to inhalation of food and vomit.
 2. The top 5 reasons for transitioners *without* FSCD services who were hospitalized are: conduct disorders, autistic disorder, schizoaffective disorder, reaction to severe stress and pneumonia.
- For non-transitioners, a higher proportion of those who received FSCD services were hospitalized compared to those without FSCD services.
 1. The top 5 reasons for non-transitioners with FSCD services who were hospitalized are: encounter for other aftercare and medical care, schizophrenia, cystic fibrosis, neutropenia, and autistic disorder.
 2. The top 5 reasons for non-transitioners without FSCD services who were hospitalized are: major depressive disorder, reaction to severe stress, perineal laceration during delivery, acute appendicitis, and abdominal and pelvic pain.

Percentage of transitioners, non-transitioners, and the rest of the population who were hospitalized between 2005/06 and 2010/11

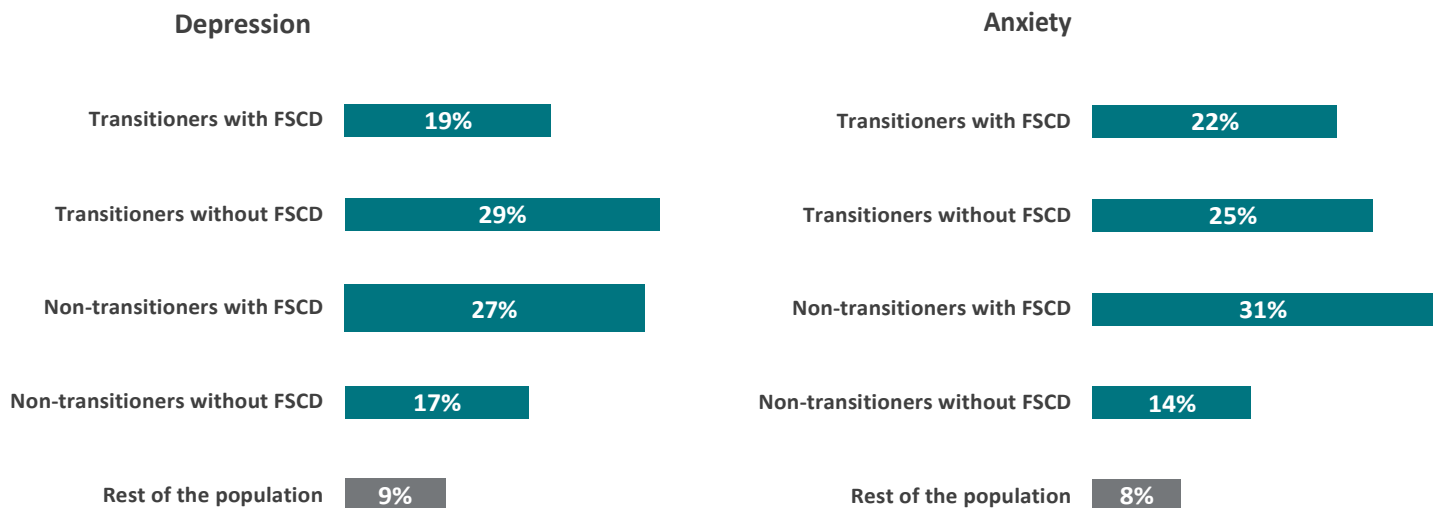


MENTAL HEALTH (Table 12a, 12b; p. 30)

Individuals were considered to have depression or anxiety condition if they had a diagnostic code for depression or anxiety from physician visits, or ambulatory care, or hospitalizations or Assure Income for Severely Handicapped program. For the definition of depression or anxiety condition, please see *Definitions and Notes* on page 36.

- For transitioners without FSCD services, a higher proportion had depression compared to transitioners who had FSCD services.
- A higher proportion of non-transitioners with FSCD services had both depression and anxiety compared to transitioners with FSCD services.

Percentage of transitioners, non-transitioners, and the rest of the population who received mental health services for depression and anxiety between 2005/06 and 2010/11

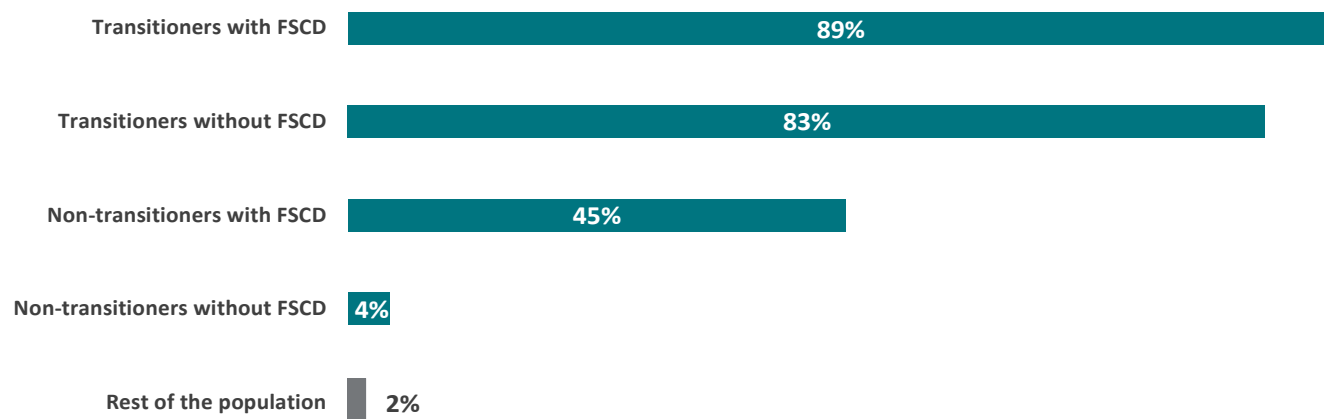


ASSURED INCOME FOR THE SEVERELY HANDICAP (Table 13; p. 31)

The **Assured Income for the Severely Handicapped (AISH)** program provides financial and health-related assistance to Albertan adults (aged 18 and older) who have a severe handicap condition that is permanent and substantially limits their ability to earn a living.

- Over 80% of transitioners were AISH recipients at some point between 2005/06 and 2010/11. The percentage is higher than non-transitioners.
- Compared to transitioners without FSCD services, a higher proportion of transitioners with FSCD services were AISH recipients during the study period.
- Among non-transitioners, a higher proportion of those with FSCD services were AISH recipients compared to those without FSCD services.

*Percentage of transitioners, non-transitioners, and the rest of the population who received **AISH** between 2005/06 and 2010/11*

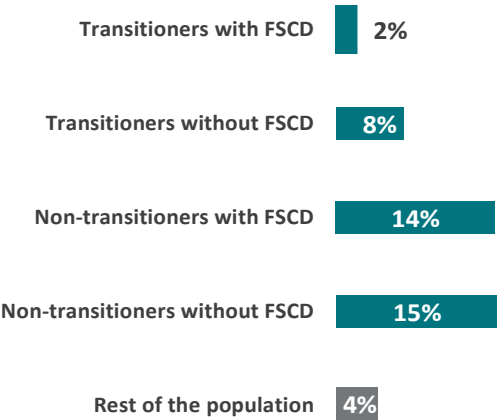


INCOME SUPPORT (Table 14; p. 31)

Income Support provides financial assistance to individuals (aged 18 and older) who are unable to meet their basic needs.

- A lower proportion of transitioners were Income Support recipients compared to non-transitioners.
- Among transitioners, those without FSCD services were more likely to be Income Support recipients compared to those with FSCD services.

*Percentage of transitioners, non-transitioners, and the rest of the population who were **Income Support recipient** at some point between 2005/06 and 2010/11*

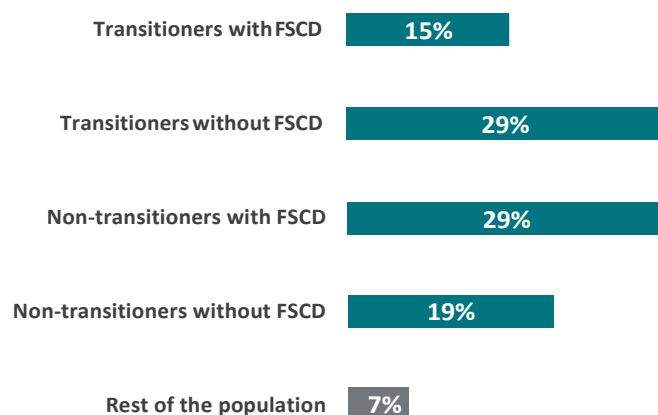


INCOME SUPPORT LEARNERS (Table 15; p. 32)

Income Support Learners provides assistance to individuals who are in training, including basic costs to maintain their household as well as supplemental, health, and training benefits.

- Among transitioners, a lower proportion of those with FSCD services were Income Support Learners clients compared to transitioners without FSCD services.
- Among non-transitioners, a higher proportion of those with FSCD services were Income Support Learners clients compared to those without FSCD services.
- Transitioners with FSCD services were less likely to be Income Support Learners clients compared to non-transitioners with FSCD services.

*Percentage of transitioners, non-transitioners, and the rest of the population who were **Income Support Learners** clients at some point between 2005/06 and 2010/11:*

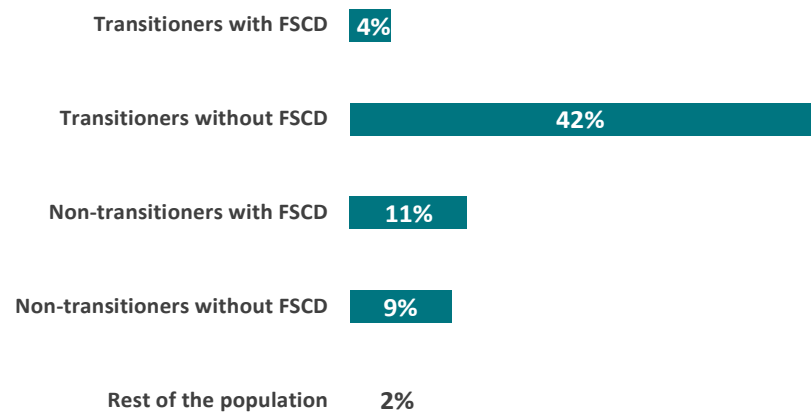


CHILD INTERVENTION (Table 16a, 16b; p. 33)

Child Intervention services are focused on ensuring the safety and well-being of children and helping families and communities to meet their needs.

- A higher proportion of transitioners without FSCD received Child Intervention services compared to transitioners with FSCD services (*Please note that only parents who retain legal guardianship of their child can receive FSCD and Child Intervention services at the same time*).
- A further analysis showed that among transitioners without FSCD services who received Child Intervention services, about 76% received In Care services (In Care services include both Temporary and Permanent In Care services) and about 81% signed Supports for Financial Agreements when they turned to 18 years old at some point during the study period (please see Table 16b for more details).

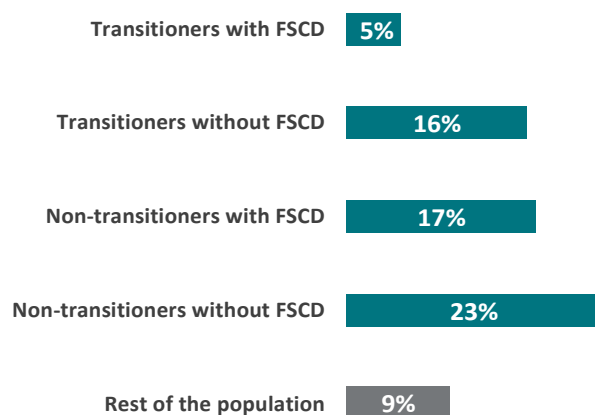
*Percentage of transitioners, non-transitioners, and the rest of the population who were in the **Child Intervention** system at some point between 2005/06 and 2010/11:*



CRIMINAL OFFENCES (Table 17a, 17b; p. 27)

- Among transitioners and non-transitioners, those who had FSCD services were less likely to have criminal offence charges compared to those without FSCD services (for more details about types of criminal offence charges, please see Table 17b on page 34).
- For transitioners with FSCD services, the proportion of those who had criminal offences was lower than the general population (5% vs. 9%).

*Percentage of transitioners, non-transitioners, and the rest of the population who had **criminal offences** between 2005/06 and 2010/11*



TABLES

TABLE 1: Number of transitioners, non-transitioners and rest of the population

Numbers of individuals	Total
Transitioners with FSCD	668
Transitioners without FSCD	483
Non-transitioners with FSCD	553
Non-transitioners without FSCD	15,084
Rest of the population	141,248

TABLE 5: Number and percentage of transitioners, non-transitioners, and the rest of the population by sex

Sex			Sex		
Numbers of individuals			Percentages of individuals		
Transitioners with FSCD	Female	284	Transitioners with FSCD	Female	42.51
	Male	384		Male	57.49
	Total	668		Total	100.00
Transitioners without FSCD	Female	206	Transitioners without FSCD	Female	42.65
	Male	277		Male	57.35
	Total	483		Total	100.00
Non-Transitioners with FSCD	Female	161	Non-Transitioners with FSCD	Female	29.06
	Male	393		Male	70.94
	Total	554		Total	100.00
Non-Transitioners without FSCD	Female	6,536	Non-Transitioners without FSCD	Female	39.22
	Male	10,128		Male	60.78
	Total	16,664		Total	100.00
Rest of the population	Female	71,392	Rest of the population	Female	50.54
	Male	69,856		Male	49.46
	Total	141,248		Total	100.00

TABLES

TABLE 6: Number and percentage of transitioners, non-transitioners, and the rest of the population by socio-economic status

Socio-economic status			Socio-economic status		
Number of individuals			Percentage of individuals		
Transitioners with FSCD	Lowest	264	Transitioners with FSCD	Lowest	40.93
	Middle	111		Middle	17.21
	Highest	270		Highest	41.86
	Total	645		Total	100.00
Transitioners without FSCD	Lowest	240	Transitioners without FSCD	Lowest	52.86
	Middle	91		Middle	20.04
	Highest	123		Highest	27.09
	Total	454		Total	100.00
Non-Transitioners with FSCD	Lowest	274	Non-Transitioners with FSCD	Lowest	50.93
	Middle	93		Middle	17.29
	Highest	171		Highest	31.78
	Total	538		Total	100.00
Non-Transitioners without FSCD	Lowest	7,825	Non-Transitioners without FSCD	Lowest	49.04
	Middle	2,876		Middle	18.02
	Highest	5,256		Highest	32.94
	Total	15,957		Total	100.00
Rest of the population	Lowest	51,918	Rest of the population	Lowest	41.58
	Middle	22,669		Middle	18.15
	Highest	50,283		Highest	40.27
	Total	124,870		Total	100.00

TABLES

TABLE 7: Number and percentage of transitioners and non-transitioners by Childrens Services and Community and Social Services' service delivery regions

Regions			Regions		
Number of individuals			Percentage of individuals		
Transitioners with FSCD	Edmonton	244	Transitioners with FSCD	Edmonton	36.53
	Calgary	199		Calgary	29.79
	North	74		North	11.08
	South	68		South	10.18
	Central	83		Central	12.43
Total		668	Total		100.00
Transitioners without FSCD	Edmonton	153	Transitioners without FSCD	Edmonton	31.68
	Calgary	142		Calgary	29.40
	North	57		North	11.80
	South	56		South	11.59
	Central	75		Central	15.53
Total		483	Total		100.00
Non-transitioners with FSCD	Edmonton	184	Non-transitioners with FSCD	Edmonton	33.21
	Calgary	152		Calgary	27.44
	North	76		North	13.72
	South	58		South	10.47
	Central	84		Central	15.16
Total		554	Total		100.00
Non-transitioners without FSCD	Edmonton	3,752	Non-transitioners without FSCD	Edmonton	22.60
	Calgary	7,856		Calgary	47.32
	North	2,197		North	13.23
	South	1,437		South	8.66
	Central	1,361		Central	8.20
Total		16,603	Total		100.00

TABLES

TABLE 8: Number and percentage of transitioners, non-transitioners, and rest of the population by educational achievement

Educational achievement					
Number of individuals			Percentage of individuals		
Transitioners with FSCD	Below expectations	600	Transitioners with FSCD	Below expectations	91.74
	Meeting/above expectations	54		Meeting/above expectations	8.26
	Total	654		Total	100.00
Transitioners without FSCD	Below expectations	418	Transitioners without FSCD	Below expectations	86.72
	Meeting/above expectations	64		Meeting/above expectations	13.28
	Total	482		Total	100.00
Non-Transitioners with FSCD	Below expectations	296	Non-Transitioners with FSCD	Below expectations	53.43
	Meeting/above expectations	258		Meeting/above expectations	46.57
	Total	554		Total	100.00
Non-Transitioners without FSCD	Below expectations	6,736	Non-Transitioners without FSCD	Below expectations	40.46
	Meeting/above expectations	9,914		Meeting/above expectations	59.54
	Total	16,650		Total	100.00
Rest of the population	Below expectations	24,402	Rest of the population	Below expectations	17.38
	Meeting/above expectations	116,023		Meeting/above expectations	82.62
	Total	140,425		Total	100.00

TABLES

TABLE 9a: Number and percentage of transitioners, non-transitioners, and rest of the population by post-secondary education

post-secondary education			post-secondary education		
Number of individuals		Percentage of individuals			
Transitioners with FSCD	Post-secondary education	62	Transitioners with FSCD	Post-secondary education	9.28
	No post-secondary education	606		No post-secondary education	90.72
	Total	668		Total	100.00
Transitioners without FSCD	Post-secondary education	80	Transitioners without FSCD	Post-secondary education	16.56
	No post-secondary education	403		No post-secondary education	83.44
	Total	483		Total	100.00
Non-Transitioners with FSCD	Post-secondary education	155	Non-Transitioners with FSCD	Post-secondary education	27.98
	No post-secondary education	399		No post-secondary education	72.02
	Total	554		Total	100.00
Non-Transitioners without FSCD	Post-secondary education	5,424	Non-Transitioners without FSCD	Post-secondary education	32.55
	No post-secondary education	11,240		No post-secondary education	67.45
	Total	16,664		Total	100.00
Rest of the population	Post-secondary education	74,512	Rest of the population	Post-secondary education	54.26
	No post-secondary education	62,800		No post-secondary education	45.74
	Total	137,312		Total	100.00

TABLE 9b: Transitioners and non-transitioners by credential and non-credential post-secondary education programs

post-secondary education			post-secondary education		
Number of individuals		Percentage of individuals			
Transitioners with FSCD who were enrolled in post-secondary education (N=62)	Credential	14	Transitioners with FSCD who were enrolled in post-secondary education (N=62)	Credential	22.58
	Non-credential	51		Non-credential	82.26
Transitioners without FSCD who were enrolled in post-secondary education (N=80)	Credential	<10	Transitioners without FSCD who were enrolled in post-secondary education (N=80)	Credential	-
	Non-credential	75		Non-credential	93.75
Non-Transitioners with FSCD who were enrolled in post-secondary education (N=155)	Credential	107	Non-Transitioners with FSCD who were enrolled in post-secondary education (N=155)	Credential	69.03
	Non-credential	74		Non-credential	47.74
Non-Transitioners without FSCD who were enrolled in post-secondary education (N=5,424)	Credential	4,225	Non-Transitioners without FSCD who were enrolled in post-secondary education (N=5,424)	Credential	77.89
	Non-credential	2,374		Non-credential	43.77

Note. Credential programs include bachelor/master/PhD program, certification, and university transfer

TABLES

TABLE 10: Number and percentage of transitioners, non-transitioners, and rest of the population by high-cost health service use

High cost health service			High cost health service		
Number of individuals			Percentage of individuals		
Transitioners with FSCD	Yes	346	Transitioners with FSCD	Yes	52.58
	No	312		No	47.42
	Total	658		Total	100.00
Transitioners without FSCD	Yes	196	Transitioners without FSCD	Yes	41.18
	No	280		No	58.82
	Total	476		Total	100.00
Non-Transitioners with FSCD	Yes	286	Non-Transitioners with FSCD	Yes	52.67
	No	257		No	47.33
	Total	543		Total	100.00
Non-Transitioners without FSCD	Yes	4,847	Non-Transitioners without FSCD	Yes	30.19
	No	11,206		No	69.81
	Total	16,053		Total	100.00
Rest of the population	Yes	20,502.00	Rest of the population	Yes	18.39
	No	90,976.00		No	81.61
	Total	111,478.00		Total	100.00

TABLES

TABLE 11: Number and percentage of transitioners, non-transitioners, and rest of the population by hospitalizations

Hospitalizations			Hospitalizations		
Number of individuals			Percentage of individuals		
Transitioners with FSCD	Yes	239	Transitioners with FSCD	Yes	35.63
	No	430		No	64.37
	Total	668		Total	100.00
Transitioners without FSCD	Yes	136	Transitioners without FSCD	Yes	28.16
	No	347		No	71.84
	Total	483		Total	100.00
Non-Transitioners with FSCD	Yes	194	Non-Transitioners with FSCD	Yes	35.02
	No	360		No	64.98
	Total	554		Total	100.00
Non-Transitioners without FSCD	Yes	3,986	Non-Transitioners without FSCD	Yes	23.92
	No	12,678		No	76.08
	Total	16,664		Total	100.00
Rest of the population	Yes	17,211	Rest of the population	Yes	12.19
	No	124,033		No	87.81
	Total	141,244		Total	100.00

TABLES

TABLE 12a: Number and percentage of transitioners, non-transitioners, and rest of the population who had depression

Depression			Depression		
Number of individuals			Percentage of individuals		
Transitioners with FSCD	Yes	123	Transitioners with FSCD	Yes	18.69
	No	535		No	81.31
	Total	658		Total	100.00
Transitioners without FSCD	Yes	136	Transitioners without FSCD	Yes	28.57
	No	340		No	71.43
	Total	476		Total	100.00
Non-Transitioners with FSCD	Yes	148	Non-Transitioners with FSCD	Yes	27.26
	No	395		No	72.74
	Total	543		Total	100.00
Non-Transitioners without FSCD	Yes	2,681	Non-Transitioners without FSCD	Yes	16.70
	No	13,372		No	83.30
	Total	16,053		Total	100.00
Rest of the population	Yes	10,199.00	Rest of the population	Yes	9.15
	No	101,279.00		No	90.85
	Total	111,478.00		Total	100.00

TABLE 12b: Number and percentage of transitioners, non-transitioners, and rest of the population who had anxiety

Anxiety			Anxiety		
Number of individuals			Percentage of individuals		
Transitioners with FSCD	Yes	146	Transitioners with FSCD	Yes	22.15
	No	513		No	77.85
	Total	659		Total	100.00
Transitioners without FSCD	Yes	121	Transitioners without FSCD	Yes	25.42
	No	355		No	74.58
	Total	476		Total	100.00
Non-Transitioners with FSCD	Yes	168	Non-Transitioners with FSCD	Yes	30.88
	No	376		No	69.12
	Total	544		Total	100.00
Non-Transitioners without FSCD	Yes	2,306	Non-Transitioners without FSCD	Yes	14.36
	No	13,758		No	85.64
	Total	16,064		Total	100.00
Rest of the population	Yes	8,920	Rest of the population	Yes	8.00
	No	102,559		No	92.00
	Total	111,479		Total	100.00

TABLES

TABLE 13: Number and percentage of transitioners, non-transitioners, and rest of the population who were Assured Income for Severely Handicap (AISH) recipients

AISH			AISH		
Number of individuals			Percentage of individuals		
Transitioners with FSCD	AISH	597	Transitioners with FSCD	AISH	89.37
	No AISH	71		No AISH	10.63
	Total	668		Total	100.00
Transitioners without FSCD	AISH	402	Transitioners without FSCD	AISH	83.23
	No AISH	81		No AISH	16.77
	Total	483		Total	100.00
Non-Transitioners with FSCD	AISH	250	Non-Transitioners with FSCD	AISH	45.13
	No AISH	304		No AISH	54.87
	Total	554		Total	100.00
Non-Transitioners without FSCD	AISH	623	Non-Transitioners without FSCD	AISH	3.74
	No AISH	16,041		No AISH	96.26
	Total	16,664		Total	100.00
Rest of the population	AISH	247.00	Rest of the population	AISH	0.18
	No AISH	134,532.00		No AISH	99.82
	Total	134,779.00		Total	100.00

TABLE 14: Number and percentage of transitioners, non-transitioners, and rest of the population who were Income Support recipients

Income Support			Income Support		
Number of individuals			Percentage of individuals		
Transitioners with FSCD	Income Support	14	Transitioners with FSCD	Income Support	2.10
	No Income Support	564		No Income Support	97.90
	Total	668		Total	100.00
Transitioners without FSCD	Income Support	38	Transitioners without FSCD	Income Support	7.87
	No Income Support	445		No Income Support	92.13
	Total	483		Total	100.00
Non-Transitioners with FSCD	Income Support	80	Non-Transitioners with FSCD	Income Support	14.44
	No Income Support	474		No Income Support	85.56
	Total	554		Total	100.00
Non-Transitioners without FSCD	Income Support	2,455	Non-Transitioners without FSCD	Income Support	14.73
	No Income Support	14,209		No Income Support	85.27
	Total	16,664		Total	100.00
Rest of the population	Income Support	5,160	Rest of the population	Income Support	3.83
	No Income Support	129,619		No Income Support	96.17
	Total	134,779		Total	100.00

TABLES

TABLE 15: Number and percentage of transitioners, non-transitioners, and rest of the population who were Income Support Learners

Income Support Learners			Income Support Learners		
Number of individuals			Percentage of individuals		
Transitioners with FSCD	Income Support Learners	99	Transitioners with FSCD	Income Support Learners	14.82
	No Income Support Learners	569		No Income Support Learners	85.18
	Total	668		Total	100.00
Transitioners without FSCD	Income Support Learners	139	Transitioners without FSCD	Income Support Learners	28.78
	No Income Support Learners	344		No Income Support Learners	71.22
	Total	483		Total	100.00
Non-Transitioners with FSCD	Income Support Learners	159	Non-Transitioners with FSCD	Income Support Learners	28.70
	No Income Support Learners	395		No Income Support Learners	71.30
	Total	554		Total	100.00
Non-Transitioners without FSCD	Income Support Learners	3,111	Non-Transitioners without FSCD	Income Support Learners	18.67
	No Income Support Learners	13,553		No Income Support Learners	81.33
	Total	16,664		Total	100.00
Rest of the population	Income Support Learners	9,775	Rest of the population	Income Support Learners	7.25
	No Income Support Learners	125,004		No Income Support Learners	92.75
	Total	134,779		Total	100.00

TABLES

TABLE 16a: Number and percentage of transitioners, non-transitioners, and rest of the population who received Child Intervention services

Child Intervention					
Number of individuals			Percentage of individuals		
Transitioners with FSCD	Child Intervention	26	Transitioners with FSCD	Child Intervention	3.89
	No Child Intervention	642		No Child Intervention	96.11
	Total	668		Total	100.00
Transitioners without FSCD	Child Intervention	202	Transitioners without FSCD	Child Intervention	41.82
	No Child Intervention	281		No Child Intervention	58.18
	Total	483		Total	100.00
Non-Transitioners with FSCD	Child Intervention	59	Non-Transitioners with FSCD	Child Intervention	10.65
	No Child Intervention	495		No Child Intervention	89.35
	Total	554		Total	100.00
Non-Transitioners without FSCD	Child Intervention	1,540	Non-Transitioners without FSCD	Child Intervention	9.24
	No Child Intervention	15,124		No Child Intervention	90.76
	Total	16,664		Total	100.00
Rest of the population	Child Intervention	2,132	Rest of the population	Child Intervention	1.51
	No Child Intervention	139,116		No Child Intervention	98.49
	Total	141,248		Total	100.00

TABLE 16b: Types of Child Intervention services received by transitioners and non-transitioners (2005/06 and 2010/11 combined)

Number of individuals			Percentage of individuals		
Transitioners with FSCD who received Child Intervention services (N=26)	Not In Care	16	Transitioners with FSCD who received Child Intervention services	Not In Care	61.54
	In Care	17		In Care	65.38
	Supports for financial agreements	<10		Supports for financial agreements	-
Transitioners without FSCD who received Child Intervention services (N=202)	Not In Care	14	Transitioners without FSCD who received Child Intervention services	Not In Care	6.93
	In Care	153		In Care	75.74
	Supports for financial agreements	164		Supports for financial agreements	81.19
Non-Transitioners with FSCD who received Child Intervention services (N=59)	Not In Care	44	Non-Transitioners with FSCD who received Child Intervention services	Not In Care	74.58
	In Care	20		In Care	33.90
	Supports for financial agreements	10		Supports for financial agreements	16.95
Non-Transitioners without FSCD who received Child Intervention services (N=1,540)	Not In Care	736	Non-Transitioners without FSCD who received Child Intervention services	Not In Care	47.79
	In Care	822		In Care	53.38
	Supports for financial agreements	594		Supports for financial agreements	38.57

Note. Not In Care and In Care services are available for Child Intervention clients who were 0 to 17 years old.

Supports for financial agreements services are available for Child Intervention clients who were 18 to 22 years old from 2005/06 and 2010/11.

TABLES

TABLE 17a: Number and percentage of transitioners, non-transitioners, and the rest of the population who were charged with criminal offences

Criminal Offences			Criminal Offences		
Number of individuals			Percentage of individuals		
Transitioners with FSCD	Criminal Offences	36	Transitioners with FSCD	Criminal Offences	5.39
	No Criminal Offences	632		No Criminal Offences	94.61
	Total	668		Total	100.00
Transitioners without FSCD	Criminal Offences	79	Transitioners without FSCD	Criminal Offences	16.36
	No Criminal Offences	404		No Criminal Offences	83.64
	Total	483		Total	100.00
Non-Transitioners with FSCD	Criminal Offences	95	Non-Transitioners with FSCD	Criminal Offences	17.15
	No Criminal Offences	459		No Criminal Offences	82.85
	Total	554		Total	100.00
Non-Transitioners without FSCD	Criminal Offences	3,839	Non-Transitioners without FSCD	Criminal Offences	23.04
	No Criminal Offences	12,825		No Criminal Offences	76.96
	Total	16,664		Total	100.00
Rest of the population	Criminal Offences	13,199	Rest of the population	Criminal Offences	9.34
	No Criminal Offences	128,049		No Criminal Offences	90.66
	Total	141,248		Total	100.00

TABLE 17b: Number and percentage of transitioners, non-transitioners, and the general population who were charged with criminal offences

Criminal Offences			Criminal Offences		
Number of individuals			Percentage of individuals		
Transitioners with FSCD (N=36)	property-related	23	Transitioners with FSCD (N=36)	property-related	63.89%
	violent-related	25		violent-related	69.44%
	administrative	17		administrative	47.22%
Transitioners without FSCD (N=79)	property-related	51	Transitioners without FSCD (N=79)	property-related	64.56%
	violent-related	46		violent-related	58.23%
	administrative	53		administrative	67.09%
Non-Transitioners with FSCD (N=95)	property-related	63	Non-Transitioners with FSCD (N=95)	property-related	66.32%
	violent-related	49		violent-related	51.58%
	administrative	49		administrative	51.58%
Non-Transitioners without FSCD (N=3,839)	property-related	2,513	Non-Transitioners without FSCD (N=3,839)	property-related	65.46%
	violent-related	1,640		violent-related	42.72%
	administrative	2,161		administrative	56.29%

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DEFINITIONS AND NOTES

- **Age, sex, 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.
- **All years** refers to the indicator occurring at any point across the six study years unless otherwise specified.
- Individuals who had **anxiety** were defined if they had diagnostic code for anxiety from physician visits, or ambulatory care, or hospitalizations (ICD-9: 300-300.3, 300.5-300.9, 313-313.9; ICD-10: F40-F41.1, F41.3-F42.9, F44-F45.2, F48-F48.9, F68.0, F93-F94.9, F99) or had AISH medical code for anxiety between 2005/06 and 2010/11.
- The **Assured Income for the Severely Handicapped (AISH)** program provides financial and health-related assistance to Albertan adults (aged 18 and older) who have a severe handicap that is permanent and substantially limits ability to earn a living.
- **Child Intervention** services are focused on meeting the safety and well-being of children and helping families and communities to meet these needs. The Child Intervention program provides services to children and youth between the ages of 0 and 17 years who are or may be at risk of being abused, neglected or otherwise in need of intervention. As well, young adults (18-22 years of age) may also be eligible for post-intervention supports through the use of Support and Financial Assistance Agreements to help them transition to adulthood.
- **Children's Services (CS) and Community and Social Services (CSS) service delivery regions** were used for regional analyses. Dissemination areas from the 2006 Statistics Canada Census were used to determine region. 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.
- Individuals with **criminal offences** include those (aged 12 or older) charged with offences under various federal statutes.
- **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).
- Individuals who had **depression** were defined if they had diagnostic code for depression from physician visits, or ambulatory care, or hospitalizations (ICD-9: 295.7, 296-296.99, 298.0, 300.4, 309.0-309.1, 311-311.9; ICD-10: F25-F25.9, F30-F33.9, F34, F34.1-F34.9, F38-F39.9, F41.2, F43.2, F53.0) between 2005/06 and 2010/11.
- **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 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), for home-schooled high school youth with no credits, and for students in grades lower than 3.



DEFINITIONS AND NOTES (Cont'd)

- The **Family Support for Children with Disabilities (FSCD)** program provides a wide range of child- and family-centered supports and services to children and youth (aged 0 to 17 years) with a disability.
- **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 service users were those in the top 5% of estimated costs for their age groups and sexes.
- **Hospitalizations** refer to admissions to hospital for assessment or treatment. **Hospital service type** was defined by the main patient service code (the patient service that contributes to the longest portion of a patient's stay; see the Canadian Institute for Health Information's DAD Abstracting Manual¹ for codes). Categories of services were labelled general medicine (patient service codes 01 to 29, 55, 56, 58, 60 to 63, 66 to 76, 82, 91, 96, 99), surgery/procedure (patient service codes 30 to 49, 81, 87), psychiatry (patient service codes 64, 65), or pregnancy-related (patient service codes 51 to 54, 59). Canadian Institute for Health Information (2006). DAD Abstracting Manual All Provinces Information 2006-2007 Edition. CIHI: Ottawa.
- **Income Support** provides financial assistance to individuals (aged 18 and older) who are unable to meet their basic needs.
- **Income Support Learners** provides assistance to individuals who are in training, including basic costs to maintain their household as well as supplemental, health, and training benefits.
- The **Persons with Developmental Disability (PDD)** program funds a range of programs and services to help adult Albertans (aged 18 and older) with developmental disabilities be part of their communities and live independently.
- **Post-secondary** students are individuals (aged 17 or older) enrolled in publicly funded universities, public colleges, technical institutes, and non-profit private university colleges in Alberta.
- The FSCD clients were categorized into detailed **Primary Diagnosis** categories to allow for in-depth exploration of the most prevalent conditions in Alberta. The analysis includes nine categories: (1) Autism Spectrum Disorder (2) Developmental Delay: includes Global delays and Speech delays (3) ADD & ADHD: Attention Deficit Disorders & Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (4) Other Mental Health Conditions (exclude ADD & ADHD) (5) Chromosomal Anomaly: includes Angelman Syndrome, Down's Syndrome, Fragile X Syndrome, and PraderWillis Syndrome (6) Brain Conditions or Impairments (7) Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (8) Health Conditions: includes blood disease/disorder, cardiovascular disease, dento-facial and/or cranio-facial anomaly, digestive system disorder, disease of the skin and/or subcutaneous tissue, endocrine, nutritional metabolic or immune disorder, genito-urinary condition, neoplasm and/or cancer, premature birth, respiratory condition (9) All Other Conditions or Impairments: developmental concern, physical/ motor concern, mental health concern, sensory concern, health/medial concern, unconfirmed conditions or impairment.
- **Socio-economic status (SES)** captures the social and material environments in which individuals lived. For each year of the study period, an individual was assigned a dissemination area level socio-economic status via an index based on Statistics Canada 2006 Census data¹³. 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 of 2006 census.
- **Students with special needs** (aged 2.5 to 19) who receive special education programming services.

DEFINITIONS AND NOTES (Cont'd)

- **Study population:** The study included individuals with a date of birth between April 1, 1980 and March 31, 2011 and who were registered in the Alberta Health Care Insurance Plan (AHCIP) full-time for at least one year 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 as of March 31st in the study year (e.g. 2005/06 is shown as 2006).

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 analyze 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 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 Education Health Children's Services
Community and Social Services Justice and Solicitor General

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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.

