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# EARLY YEARS INDICATORS REPORT

OCTOBER 2014

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## BACKGROUND, METHODOLOGY, DATA SOURCES

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The *Regina Regional Intersectoral Committee* (RIC) is one of ten committees located throughout the province of Saskatchewan. RICs develop and implement integrated service delivery responses to children, youth and families and work to further human services integration. In 2011, the *Data Working Group* of the RIC began the work of developing an annual indicators report that would describe the development environment for young children in Regina.

The *Data Working Group* engaged Doug Elliott, the principal of *QED Information Systems Inc.*, a Regina consulting firm and the publisher of *Sask Trends Monitor* to do the background research. This report is the result of that research.

The opinions expressed in this document do not necessarily represent those of the members of the *Data Working Group* or the organizations that employ them. Responsibility for the accuracy of the data and the validity of the conclusions reached remains with the author.

The indicators report was structured along the lines of the Regina Children's Charter<sup>1</sup> which enumerates eight "rights of the child".

- The right to have basic needs met
- The right to be safe
- The right to be you
- The right to belong
- The right to loving relationships
- The right to lifelong learning
- The right to play and be physically active
- The right to contribute

Each chapter provides some quantitative measures for one of these rights. Statistical information is more readily available for some of the children's rights than others. In particular, there are better data sources for the right to have basic needs met than for the right to have loving relationships. We were unable to devise quantitative measures for two of the eight categories – the right to belong and the right to contribute. The *Data Working Group* will continue to search for indicators to supplement those in this report.

The Data Working Group established some guidelines for this research. These guidelines along with other methodological notes are listed below in point form.

- The "early years" were defined to be children under six years of age although this was relaxed if data for that specific age group was not available.
- Statistical information from surveys was used if the information was reliable; administrative data sources were also tapped.
- The information was sought for children living in Regina City but this was relaxed to include the surrounding area if necessary. The information was not included if only provincial-level data were available. To keep the project practical, no breakdown by neighbourhood was attempted.
- The most recent information was included even if it was out-of-date.

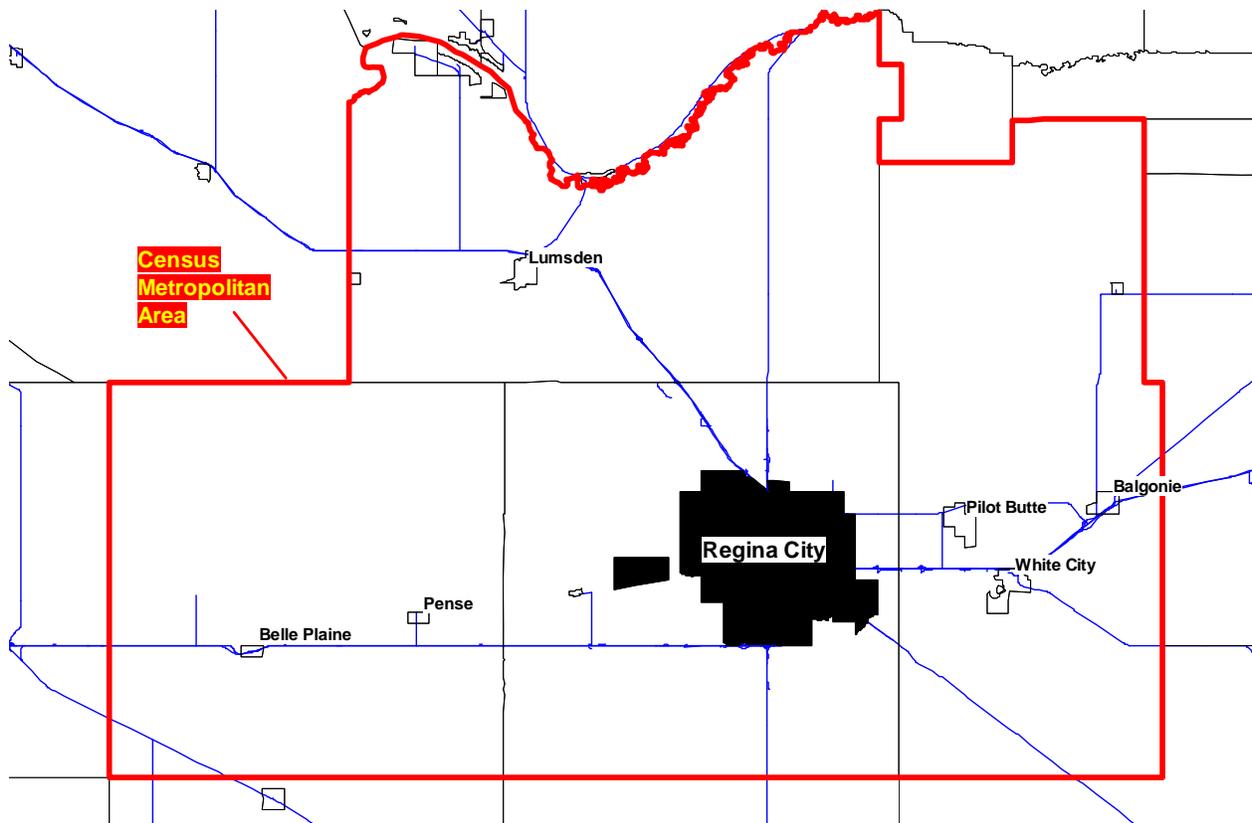
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<sup>1</sup> Available at <http://www.reginakids.ca/regina-childrens-initiative/resources/publications>

- The statistics include both input measures (the articulation of the current state) and output measures (what is being done to address the situation). For example, the right to have basic needs met includes statistics about the input measure of food insecurity and the output measure of food bank usage.
- Monthly data were converted to annual figures on a calendar year basis if possible. Some administrative data were available only on a fiscal year basis.
- No attempt was made to compare the statistics with those for other cities.

According to the 2011 Statistics Canada census, there were 14,355 children under six years of age living in Regina City in May 2011. Some census data are only available for the Regina Census Metropolitan Area (CMA); there were 15,695 children under six years of age living in the Regina CMA (see map below).

### Regina City Compared with Regina Census Metropolitan Area



## SECTION 1: BASIC NEEDS

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This section contains the indicators that describe the basic physical needs and health of young children in Regina.

The indicators in this category are listed below.

- Indicator 1.1 Food Bank Usage
- Indicator 1.2 Child Poverty rate
- Indicator 1.3 Access to Food Facilities
- Indicator 1.4 Average Family Income
- Indicator 1.5 Children in Families Receiving Social Assistance
- Indicator 1.6 Immunization Rates
- Indicator 1.7 Hospitalizations
- Indicator 1.8 Early Development Instrument - Physical Health Domain
- Indicator 1.9 Teen Parents
- Indicator 1.10 Food Security
- Indicator 1.11 High Birth Weight
- Indicator 1.12 Low Birth Weight

Several other indicators were identified by the *Data Working Group* as potential measures for basic needs but we were not able to obtain the statistics for this report.

- Usage of the “good food box” by families with young children
- Children in poor quality housing
- Physician visits by young children
- Usage of school lunch programs
- A measure of dental health

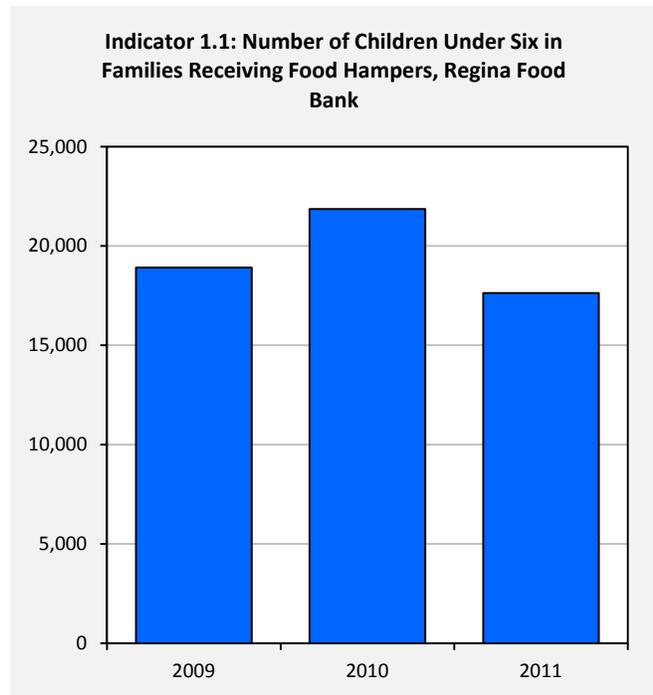
**SECTION 1            BASIC NEEDS**  
**INDICATOR #1.1    FOOD BANK USAGE**

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Families with younger children often have economic difficulties and this can show up as a problem finding enough food for the family. The Regina Food Bank is a charitable community based organization working to eliminate hunger through nutritious food distribution, education and advocacy in cooperation with the community.

The Regina Food Bank collects some demographic information about the households that receive their food hampers. The data are available for the three calendar years from 2009 to 2011 and measure the number of children under six years of age in families that receive a food hamper. Note that many of these children would have received the service more than once.

The figures show that the number of young children receiving food hampers increased from 2009 to 2010 before falling back in 2011.




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**Children Under Six Years of Age in Families Receiving Food Hampers from the Regina Food Bank**

	2009	2010	2011
Number of children under six years of age in families receiving food hampers	18,909	21,861	17,626

*Source: Regina Food Bank*

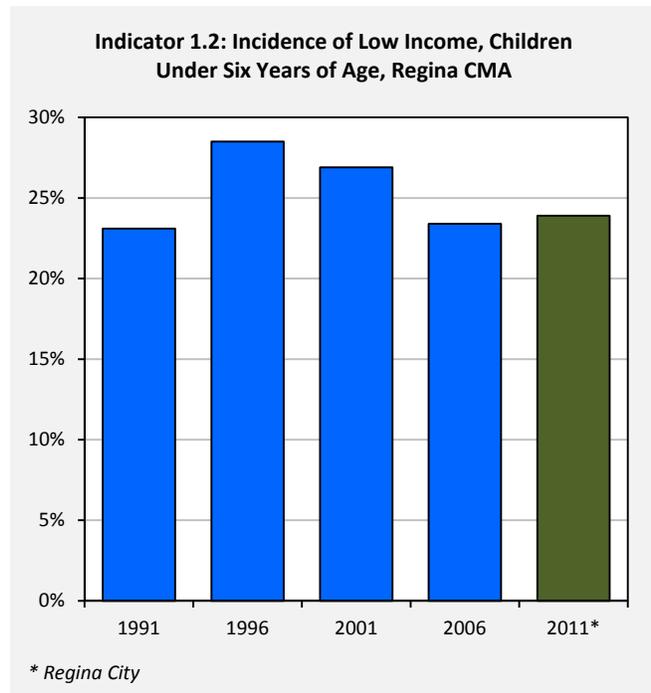
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**SECTION 1 BASIC NEEDS**  
**INDICATOR #1.2 CHILD POVERTY RATE**

This indicator measures the number of children who live in households with low incomes. Prior to 2011, the “Low Income Cut-off” or LICO was used as a measure of poverty and, in fact, was often referred to as the “poverty line”. Starting with the 2011 census, Statistics Canada replaced the LICO with the Low Income Measure (LIM). Both measures are actually measures of income inequality rather than absolute poverty. Households with incomes below the LICO/LIM typically spend a disproportionately large amount of their income on food, clothing, and shelter. They are often described as being in “straightened circumstance” rather than as being “poor”. All persons including children are considered as having low incomes if the household income is below the LICO/LIM.

The LICO varied according to the size of the community and the number of persons in the household; the LIM also varies by household size but it is the same for all communities in Canada. The LIM is set at one-half the median household income. An example of the LIM in 2011 is \$39,860 for a four-person household.

The absolute number of children living in low-income households declined from 1996 to 2006 but this was mainly because the number of children was declining. The incidence of low income among Regina children was still very high at 23.4% in 2006, down from 28.5% in 1996. The LIM cannot be compared with the LICO but the proportion of children in households with incomes below the LIM is similar at 23.9% in 2011.



**Child Poverty in Regina Census Metropolitan Area**

	1991	1996	2001	2006	2011*
Number of children under 6 years of age	17,905	16,305	13,750	12,650	14,495
In households with before-tax income below the low income cut-off (LICO) in the previous year	4,135	4,645	3,695	2,960	...
In households with after-tax income below the Low Income Measure (LIM)	...	...	...	...	3,465
Incidence of low income	23.1%	28.5%	26.9%	23.4%	23.9%

\* Regina City rather than the Regina CMA  
 Source: Statistics Canada Census

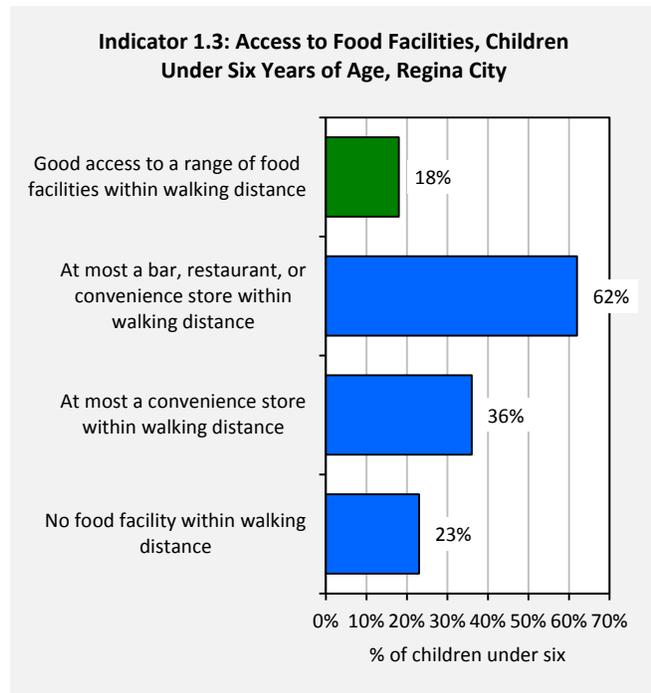
**SECTION 1 BASIC NEEDS**  
**INDICATOR #1.3 ACCESS TO FOOD FACILITIES**

A recent study by *Sask Trends Monitor* for the Regina Qu'Appelle Health Region mapped restaurants and grocery stores in Regina and compared them with the characteristics of neighbourhoods. This enables an estimation of how far the household is to the nearest grocery store or restaurant and whether or not any are within walking distance.

Note that access to these food facilities do not limit a parent's choices, *a priori*, to either "good" or "bad" food but some kinds of stores and restaurants offer a greater variety of food choices than others. A lot will depend on what the customer chooses to purchase. Nevertheless, healthy choices will be harder to find in some kinds of stores and restaurants than in other kinds.

Using the same methodology that is used in that report, a special tabulation found that the majority of the 9,875 young children living in Regina (in 2006) lived in neighbourhoods where the nearest food facility is either a full-service restaurant (37%) or a convenience store (29%). The nearest food facility is a supermarket for only 2% of households with young children.

Using 750 metres as a comfortable walking distance, the table shows that the majority (68%) of young children live in neighbourhoods where the only food available within walking distance is, at best, a convenience store and/or a restaurant. In fact, 23% live in neighbourhoods with no food facility within walking distance. At the other end of the scale, 18% live in neighbourhoods with both a supermarket, a convenience store, and a full-service restaurant within walking distance.



**Access to Food Facilities for Regina Children**

	Population under six years of age	No food facility within walking distance	At most a convenience store within walking distance	Only bars, restaurants, or convenience stores within walking distance	Good access to a range of food facilities within walking distance
Number	9,875	2,595	3,230	1,325	1,775
Percent	100%	23%	36%	62%	18%

Source: *Sask Trends Monitor* based on methodology in "Accessing Health Food Choices in Regina" report

**SECTION 1 BASIC NEEDS**  
**INDICATOR #1.4 AVERAGE FAMILY INCOMES**

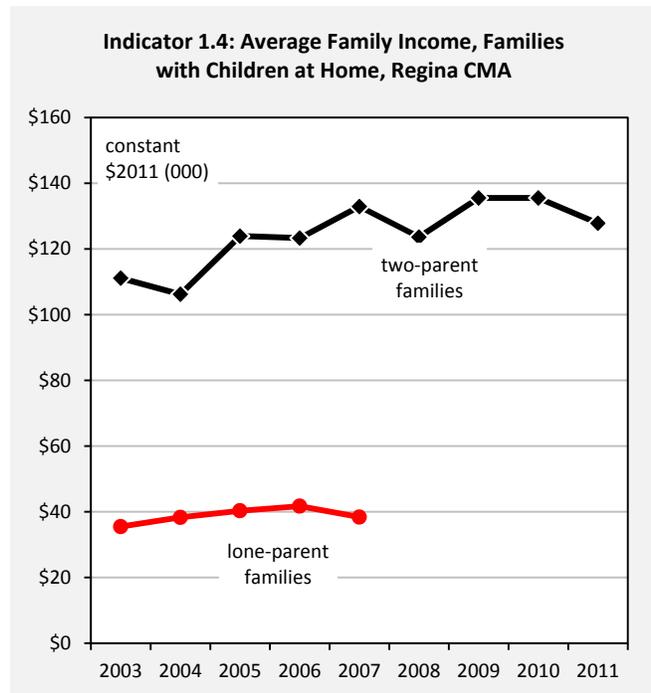
This indicator measures the average income among families with children at home. The data are not readily available for the specific target group of families with children under six years of age so the indicator includes families with children of any age living at home.

A “family” includes lone-parent families and those living in both marriage and common-law relationships. Other relatives or non-relatives may also be living in the household.

The source for these data is the annual Survey of Consumer Finances conducted by Statistics Canada and the figures represent incomes for those families living in the Regina Census Metropolitan Area. The income figures are adjusted for inflation – they are reported in constant 2011 dollars.

In spite of annual fluctuations, there is evidence of a gradual upward trend in incomes for Regina families with children at home. In 2011, the average family income was \$127,800 which was 3.6% higher than in was five years earlier.

The incomes for lone-parent families are not available after 2007 but the older figures show that incomes are much lower than in two-parent families and not increasing as quickly.



**Average Family Incomes for Families with Children at Home, Regina Census Metropolitan Area, Constant \$2011**

	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
Two-parent families	\$106,200	\$123,900	\$123,300	\$132,900	\$123,600	\$135,500	\$135,500	\$127,800
Lone-parent families	\$38,300	\$40,300	\$41,700	\$38,400	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a

... sample size too small for reliable data

Source: Statistics Canada Survey of Consumer Finances, CANSIM Table 202-0410

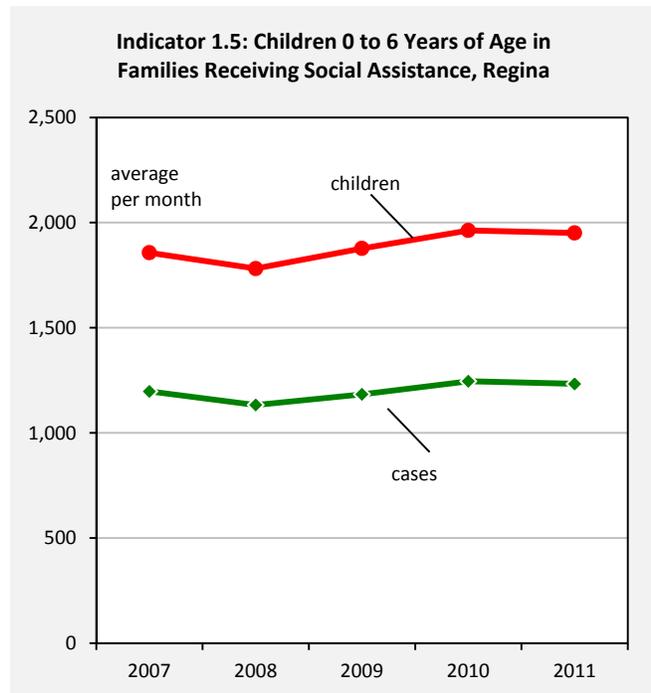
**SECTION 1 BASIC NEEDS**  
**INDICATOR #1.5 CHILDREN IN FAMILIES RECEIVING SOCIAL ASSISTANCE**

The Ministry of Social Services provides three programs for families in financial distress.

1. The Saskatchewan Assistance Program (SAP) is a last-resort program of income assistance for families.
2. The Transitional Employment Allowance (TEA) provides financial support to people who are participating in employment services or transitioning to a job.
3. The Saskatchewan Assured Income for Disability Program (SAID) provides an income for persons with significant long-term disabilities.

The table below shows the number of families and the number of children in any of these three programs over the past five years.

In an average month in 2011, there were 1,233 Regina families with young children who were receiving some form of social assistance. The number of children in these families was approximately 2,000. The figures are virtually unchanged over the past five years.



**Monthly Average of Children in Families Receiving Social Assistance, Regina**

	2006	2007	2008	2009	2011
Number of cases (families)	1,198	1,133	1,184	1,246	1,233
Number of children 0 to 6 years of age	1,857	1,781	1,877	1,963	1,951

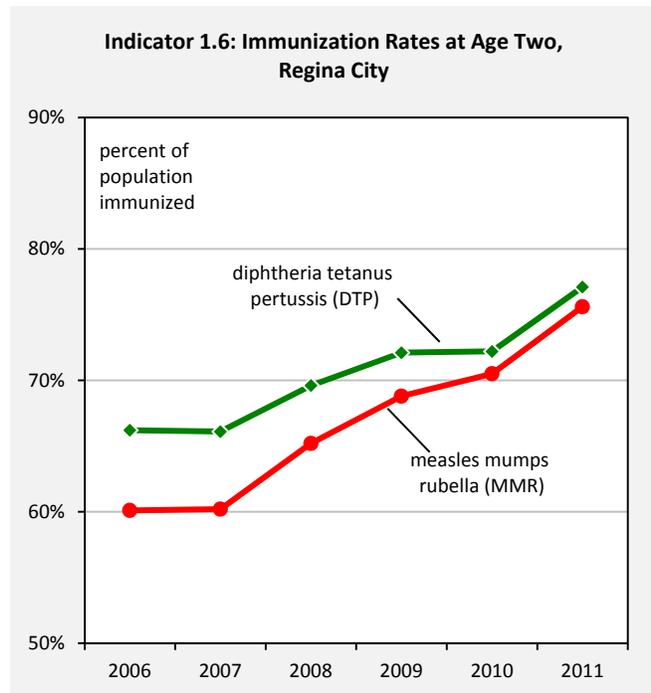
Source: Saskatchewan Ministry of Social Services

**SECTION 1 BASIC NEEDS**  
**INDICATOR #1.6 IMMUNIZATION RATES**

Immunization is one of the most important public health interventions for protecting individuals and the community from serious diseases. Even though the incidence of vaccine preventable diseases is low in the RQHR, many of them are prevalent in other parts of the world and can be brought into the city from other parts of Canada and the world.

The Regina Qu'Appelle Health Region calculates immunization coverage of children aged two years and seven years who are complete for vaccination against diphtheria, tetanus, and pertussis (DTP) and measles, mumps, and rubella (MMR). These figures exclude children who receive immunization from First Nations agencies or who arrive from outside the province or country and who have not yet accessed the region's immunization services.

The figures show that immunization rates are on an upward trend at both ages and for both types of vaccines. The greatest improvements are among infants (those under 2 years of age) where the coverage for measles, mumps, and rubella has increased from 60% to 76% in the past five years.



**Immunization Rates, Regina City**

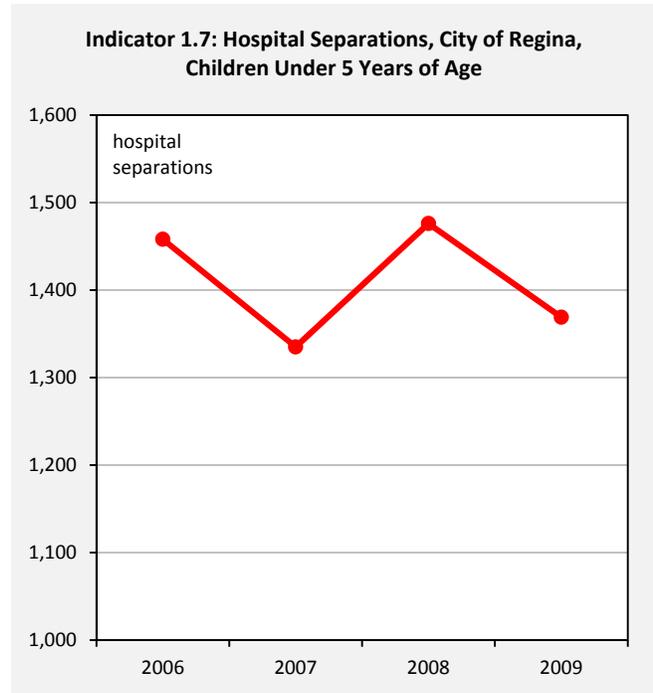
		2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
At age 2	diphtheria tetanus pertussis (DTP)	66%	66%	70%	72%	72%	77%
	measles mumps rubella (MMR)	60%	60%	65%	69%	71%	76%
At age 7	diphtheria tetanus pertussis (DTP)	75%	73%	75%	76%	76%	76%
	measles mumps rubella (MMR)	86%	87%	88%	90%	90%	92%

Source: Regina Qu'Appelle Health Region tabulation from SIMS

**SECTION 1 BASIC NEEDS**  
**INDICATOR #1.7 HOSPITALIZATIONS**

The number of hospital separations<sup>1</sup> is one measure of the health of Regina children. Hospital separation rates are not necessarily a measure of prevalence or incidence of a disease in the population, but they can be used as proxy for this. Hospitalization data captures those illnesses or injuries serious enough to have children admitted to hospital for at least one day.

This indicator measures the number of hospital separations for children living in Regina and under the age of five. Over the last four years the number has varied from 1,335 to 1,476 with no apparent upward or downward trend. There was, however, a sharp decline in the diseases of the digestive system from 2008 to 2009.



**Hospital Separations, Regina Children Ages 0 to 4, by Main Reason for Admission**

	2006	2007	2008	2009
Diseases of the respiratory system	583	489	546	589
Diseases of the digestive system	226	222	219	65
All others conditions	649	624	711	715
Total	1,458	1,335	1,476	1,369

Source: Regina Qu'Appelle Health Region from Saskatchewan Health data

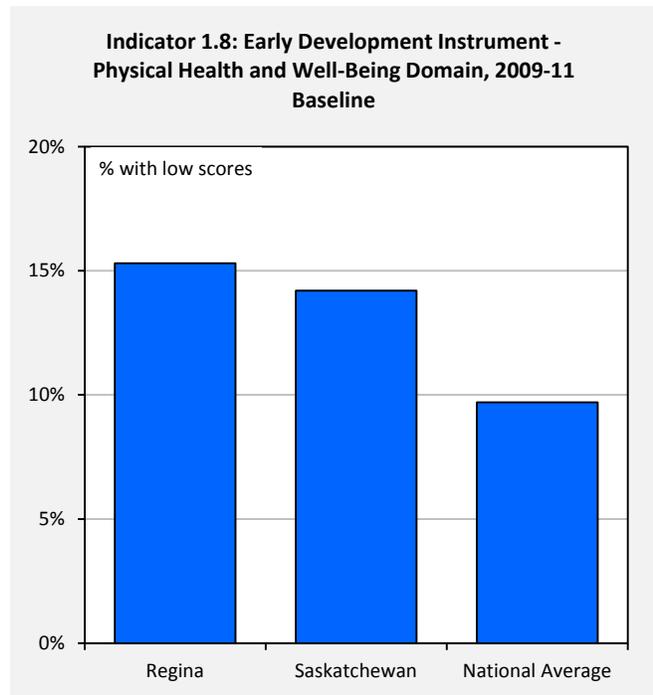
<sup>1</sup> A hospital separation is a discharge from a hospital due to death, discharge home, or transfer to another facility.

**SECTION 1 BASIC NEEDS**  
**INDICATOR #1.8 EDI – PHYSICAL HEALTH DOMAIN**

The Early Development Instrument (EDI) was developed by the Offord Centre for Child Studies at McMaster University in Canada. It is based on a checklist of children’s development measured when they are in kindergarten. The questionnaire is completed by the teachers. The EDI has been established as a valid survey to gauge child well-being during the kindergarten year. It measures development in five separate domains – the physical health and well-being domain is used here as a measure of basic needs.

EDI results are measured against the Canadian averages established by the Offord Centre. Children in the 76th to 100th percentile in EDI scores are very ready for school. Children scoring in the 26th to the 75th percentile are considered ready to take advantage of school opportunities. Children scoring in the 11th to 25th percentile are at risk for challenges in the school environment. Children with scores in the bottom 10th percentile of EDI scores are considered to be vulnerable for challenges succeeding in the school environment.

The table below shows the proportion of Regina children scoring in the lowest 10th percentile on the EDI’s physical health domain. These children are probably not fully ready to meet the demands of school. The proportion with low scores, at 15.3%, is slightly higher than the provincial average.



**Early Development Instrument – Physical Health and Well-Being Domain, 2009-11 Baseline**

	National Average	Saskatchewan	Regina
Percent with low scores (10 <sup>th</sup> percentile)	9.7%	14.2%	15.3%

Source: Early Years Branch, Ministry of Education

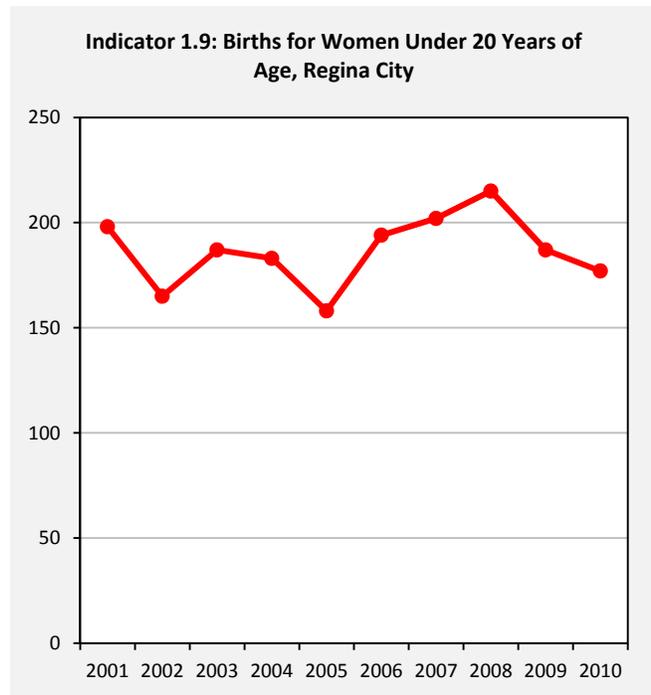
**SECTION 1 BASIC NEEDS**  
**INDICATOR #1.9 TEEN PARENTS**

Pregnant teenagers face many of the same obstetric issues as older women but there are additional medical concerns for young mothers. The social stigma that once attended teen pregnancies may have diminished but the risks of serious health consequences remain for babies born to mothers still in their teens. Children of teenagers are more likely to have low birth weights and to suffer the associated health problems. Pregnant teens themselves are also at greater risk of health problems such as anemia, hypertension, renal disease, eclampsia and depressive disorders.

Teenage pregnancy also has economic consequences. Childbearing may curtail education and thereby reduce a young woman’s employment prospects in a job market that requires ever higher levels of training. To maintain an adequate standard of living, dual earning has become the norm in most households and this is often impossible for young parents.

For these reasons, the number of births to women under twenty years of age was chosen as an indicator of the basic needs of young children.

In Regina city, the number of births to women under twenty years of age has fluctuated at just under 200 births per year in the ten years from 2001 to 2010.



**Births to Women Under Twenty Years of Age, Regina City**

	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
Number of births	198	165	187	183	158	194	202	215	187	177

Source: Regina Qu'Appelle Health Region from Saskatchewan Health data

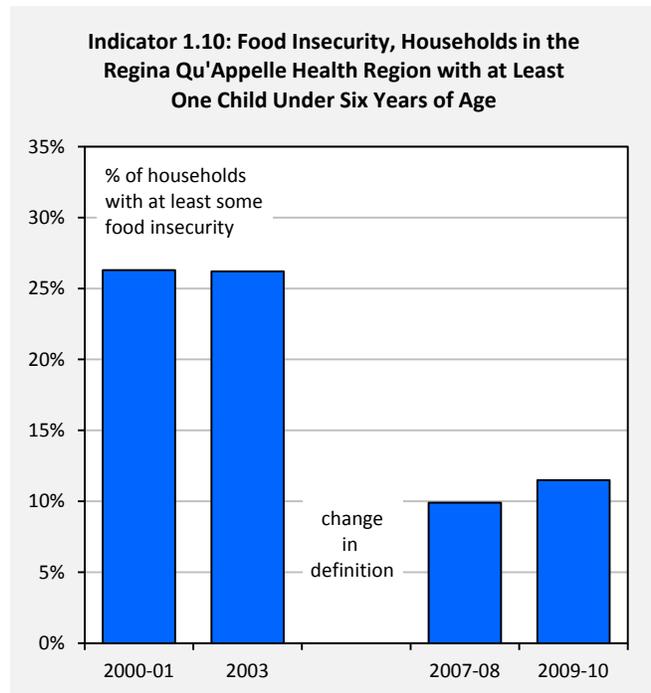
**SECTION 1 BASIC NEEDS**  
**INDICATOR #1.10 FOOD SECURITY**

This indicator measures food security among households with young children which is one of the basic needs for children. The data are derived from the Canada Community Health Survey which is conducted every two years by Statistics Canada.

An overall measure of food security is derived from responses to eighteen questions about the situation in the household in the previous twelve months. The questions are about both the quantity and quality of food available and whether or not some members of the household had to eat less than they felt they should.

The questions and therefore the incidence have changed in the most recent two years so the data cannot be compared with the results in 2000-01 and 2003. For example, the 2007-08 and 2009-10 surveys do not indicate food insecurity if there was only one positive response among the eighteen questions about the quantity and quality of food available.

In 2009-10, one in nine households (11.5%) with young children reported at least some food insecurity. This is a slight increase from 2007-08.



**Food Security for Households with at Least One Child Under Six Years of Age, Regina Qu'Appelle Health Region**

		2000-01	2003	2007-08	2009-10
Number of households with youngest child under six years of age		27,551	23,315	23,110	26,938
Percent of total	No food insecurity	73.7%	73.8%	90.1%	88.5%
	At least some food insecurity	26.3%	26.2%	9.9%	11.5%
	Total	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

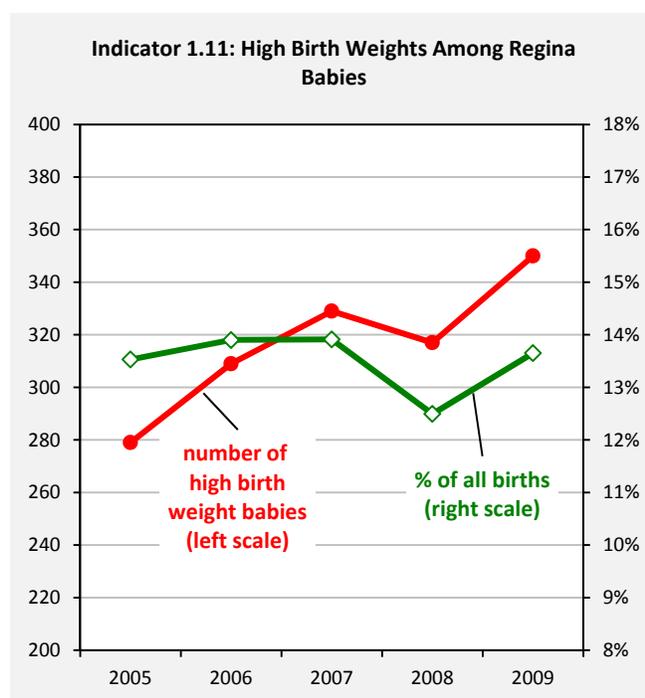
Source: Special tabulation from the Statistics Canada Canadian Community Health Survey microdata

## SECTION 1 BASIC NEEDS

### INDICATOR #1.11 HIGH BIRTH WEIGHTS

This indicator measures the number of babies born to Regina mothers who are classified as having a high birth weight, namely more than 4,000 grams (about 9 pounds). High birth weight babies are at an increased risk of perinatal asphyxia, hypoglycaemia and fetal death. Associated maternal complications include prolonged labour, caesarean delivery, prolonged hospital stay and higher mortality from coronary heart disease for the mother. High birth weight is associated with subsequent childhood and adult obesity. The long-term chronic disease consequences of childhood overweight or obesity are of serious public health concern. Babies with this high birth weight have a lower probability of survival and poor or abnormal growth and development.

The number of high birth weight babies born to Regina mothers is increasing in absolute terms, growing from 279 in 2005 to 350 in 2009. As a proportion of all births, however, the number of high birth weight babies has been nearly constant between 13% and 14% of all births in Regina.



#### Number of High Birth Weight Babies, Regina City

	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
Number of high birth weight babies	279	309	329	317	350
Number of births	2,062	2,223	2,365	2,537	2,564
High birth weight babies as a percentage of all births	13.5%	13.9%	13.9%	12.5%	13.7%

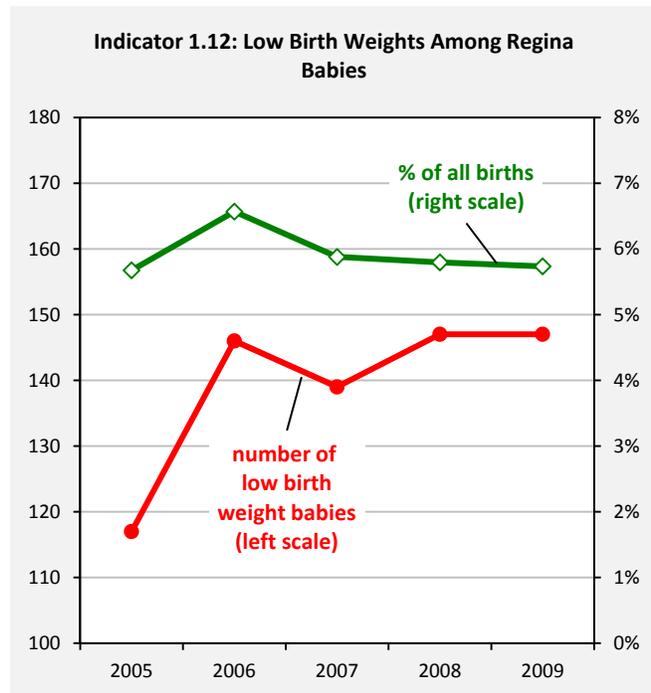
Source: Regina Qu'Appelle Health Region

**SECTION 1 BASIC NEEDS**  
**INDICATOR #1.12 LOW BIRTH WEIGHTS**

This indicator measures the number of babies born to Regina mothers who are classified as having a low birth weight, namely less than 2,500 grams (about 5½ pounds). Babies with this lower birth weight often have a lower probability of survival and poor or abnormally slow growth and development. In particular, they are more likely to die within their first year of life. They are at risk of having health and developmental problems including learning difficulties, hearing and visual impairments, chronic respiratory problems and are also at risk for developing chronic diseases later in life.

Risk factors associated with low birth weight include: socio-economic disadvantage, poor health and nutrition of the mother during pregnancy, maternal smoking, consumption of drugs and alcohol while pregnant and experiencing abuse while pregnant.

After increasing sharply in 2006, the number of low birth weight babies born to Regina mothers has been virtually unchanged over the four years since then. The proportion of total births is effectively constant near 6% of all births in Regina.



**Number of Low Birth Weight Babies, Regina City**

	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
Number of low birth weight babies	117	146	139	147	147
Number of births	2,062	2,223	2,365	2,537	2,564
Low birth weight babies as a percentage of all births	5.7%	6.6%	5.9%	5.8%	5.7%

Source: Regina Qu'Appelle Health Region

## SECTION 2: THE RIGHT TO BE SAFE

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This section contains the indicators that pertain to the right of young children to be safe.

The indicators in this category are listed below.

- Indicator 2.1 Number of Fires Caused by Children
- Indicator 2.2 Fire Prevention Activities
- Indicator 2.3 Police per Capita
- Indicator 2.4 General Crime Rate
- Indicator 2.5 Child-Specific Crime Rates
- Indicator 2.6 Vehicle Accidents
- Indicator 2.7 Deaths for Children Under Six
- Indicator 2.8 Injury Rates for Children Under Six

One other indicator was identified by the *Data Working Group* as a potential measure but we were not able to obtain the relevant statistics for this report.

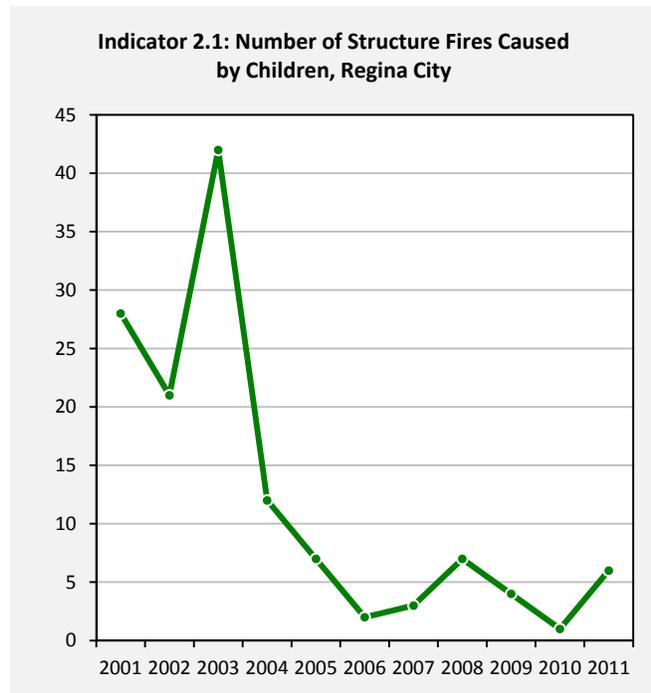
- Number of child protection cases

**SECTION 2 THE RIGHT TO BE SAFE**  
**INDICATOR #2.1 NUMBER OF FIRES CAUSED BY CHILDREN**

Young children are at risk of serious injury or death in house fires and this is particularly true for fires that are caused by children because they are obviously in harm’s way. (The four most common causes of fires from 2006 to 2010 were i) intentional, ii) careless cooking, iii) careless smoking, and iv) electrical.)

In this indicator, we are measuring the number of structure fires in the city, that is, excluding such thing as grass fires, fires in garbage bins, or vehicle fires. Although there are annual fluctuations, the number of structure fires in Regina is on a downward trend. In 2011, for example, there were 139 fires which is 20% fewer than in 2001. One of the reasons for this downward trend is a sharp drop in the number of fires caused by children. There were an average of 26 fires started by children from 2001 to 2004. In the most recent five years, the average has been 4 fires per year.

Part of the reason for the decline is preventive measures undertaken by the Fire Department. These are described in the next indicator.



**Fires in Regina City**

	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
Number of structure fires	173	183	165	129	174	177	164	162	151	127	139
Fires caused by children	28	21	42	12	7	2	3	7	4	1	6

Source: City of Regina Fire Department

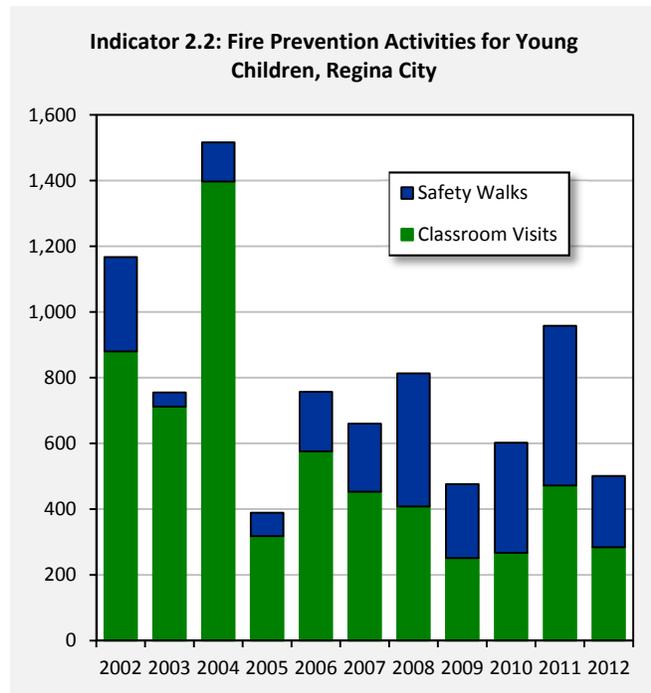
**SECTION 2 THE RIGHT TO BE SAFE**  
**INDICATOR #2.2 FIRE PREVENTION ACTIVITIES**

The Regina City Fire Department undertakes a number of fire-prevention activities targeted to young children. The number of children involved in two such initiatives is chosen for this indicator.

Firefighters visit schools with young children to provide key messages about fire safety including match and lighter safety, kitchen fire and burn safety, fire survival, escape planning, and smoke alarms. In 2012, there were 284 children involved in these classroom visits.

Another activity is “safety walks” in priority neighbourhoods. Firefighters walk with children in neighbourhoods with a high fire risk and identify fire risks. In 2012, there were 217 children attending these safety walks.

The figures show that in a typical year, there are 500 to 1,000 young children involved in these prevention activities.



**Number of Children Participating in Fire Prevention Activities, Regina City**

	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Classroom visits	880	712	1,397	318	576	453	408	251	267	472	284
Safety walks	287	43	119	71	181	207	405	225	335	486	217

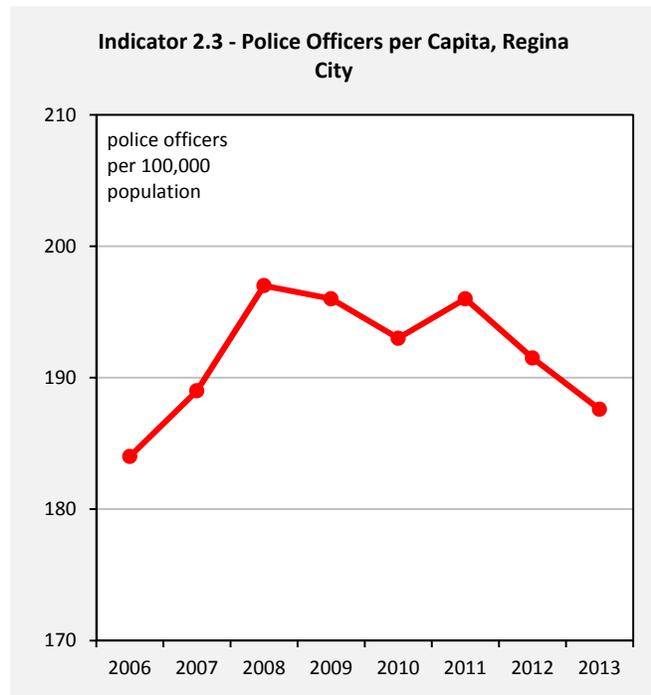
Source: City of Regina Fire Department

**SECTION 2 THE RIGHT TO BE SAFE**  
**INDICATOR #2.3 POLICE OFFICERS PER CAPITA**

The number of police officers in the city is an indirect measure of safety in the sense that more police officers will typically mean a more visible deterrent to crime and more rapid response to dangerous situations.

These statistics are compiled by the Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics and available from the Regina Police Service. They cover the city of Regina and report the number of police officers in full-time equivalents as of May 15<sup>th</sup> for the year in question.

The number of police offers has increased in the past five years with the increase matching the rate of population growth. That means that the number of police officers per 100,000 population has fluctuated near 190 for the past five years with some evidence of a gradual downward trend since 2011.



**Police Officers per Capita, Regina City**

	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
Number of police officers	362	373	379	389	385	388
Police Officers per 100,000 population	197	196	193	196	192	188

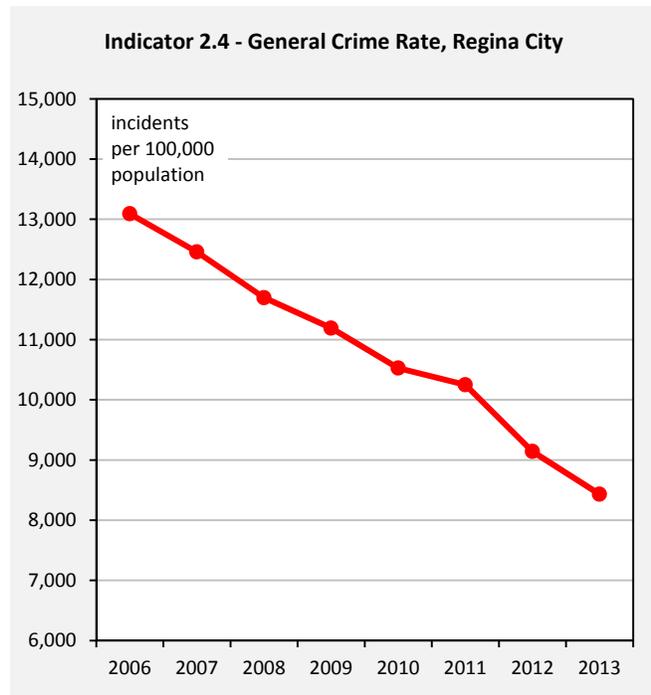
Source: Regina Police Service

**SECTION 2 THE RIGHT TO BE SAFE**  
**INDICATOR #2.4 GENERAL CRIME RATE**

The general police-reported crime rate in Regina will be an indicator of how safe the city is generally and therefore indirectly how safe it is for young children.

These statistics are compiled by the Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics and available from the Regina Police Service. They cover the city of Regina and report the number of incidents reported to and verified by the police. All criminal code offenses and federal drug offenses are included. The crime severity index is a measure of how serious the crimes are using the length of a typical sentence to measure the severity of the crime.

While still high, both the crime rate and the crime severity index are rapidly and steadily declining in Regina. The crime rate has declined by an average of 6.3% per year from 2008 to 2013. The decline in the crime severity index is even more pronounced with a drop that averages 8.0% per year.



**Crime Rate in Regina City**

	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
Crime Rate (incidents per 100,000 population)	11,697	11,193	10,528	10,250	9,142	8,431
Crime Severity Index (2006=100)	174	151	140	130	122	115

Source: Regina Police Service

**SECTION 2 THE RIGHT TO BE SAFE**  
**INDICATOR #2.5 CHILD-SPECIFIC CRIME RATES**

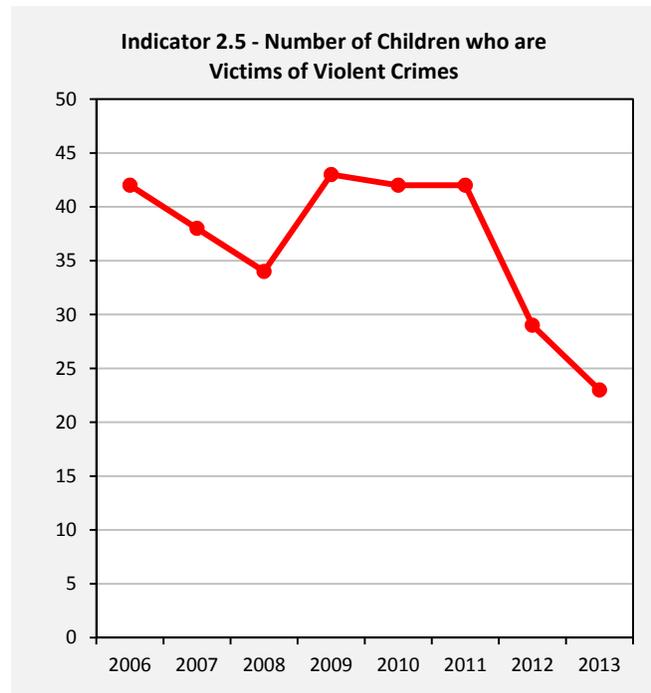
This indicator is a measure of crime that directly involves young children in the sense that the children were the direct victims of violent crimes or were involved in situations of domestic violence.

These statistics are compiled by the Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics and available from the Regina Police Service. They cover the city of Regina.

The number of children who were victims of violent crimes fluctuated near 40 per year from 2006 to 2011 before dropping to near 25 in 2012 and 2013.

The number of occurrences of abandoned or abused children reflects the number of reported incidents of child abuse. The number of such occurrences has been near 200 per year for the past five years.

The number of children involved in domestic incidents increased from the mid-2000s to the most recent year but this will reflect the fact that officers are more likely to report the presence of children in the household during these kinds of incidents than they were in the past.



**Child-Specific Crime Rates in Regina**

	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
Victims of violent crimes, children 0 to 6 years of age	43	42	42	29	23
Occurrences of abandoned or abused children	244	205	188	233	206
Children aged 0-6 who were involved in at least one reportable domestic occurrence	551	655	681	687	674

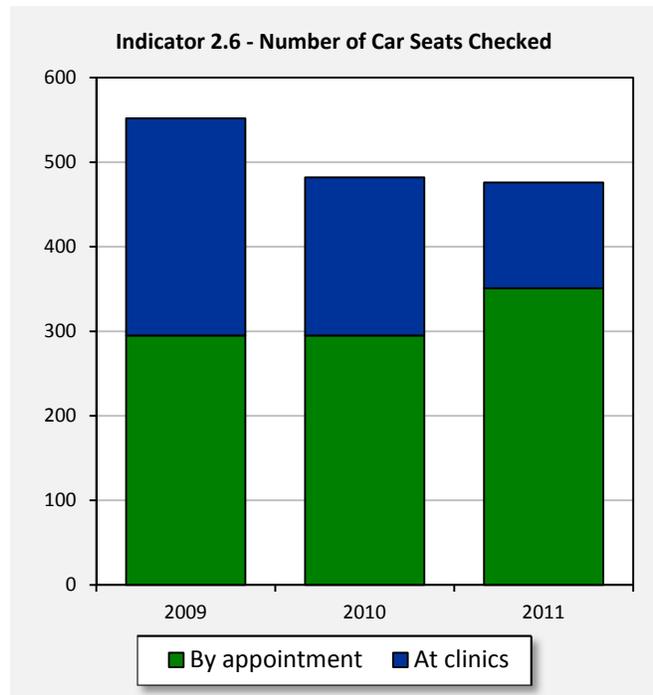
Source: Regina Police Service

**SECTION 2 THE RIGHT TO BE SAFE**  
**INDICATOR #2.6 VEHICLE ACCIDENTS**

In the last five years, there have been four motor vehicle collisions that resulted in a child under seven years of age being injured because of improper use of a restraint device (3 in 2009 and 1 in 2006). Each collision involved one child. The effect was three minor injuries and one moderate injury to the children.

In the data table, car seat appointments are one-on-one education sessions to check car seats. Clinics are multiple sessions in a 3 to 4 hour period where a number of car seats are checked.

The number of car seats checked over the past three years has been approximately 500 per year.



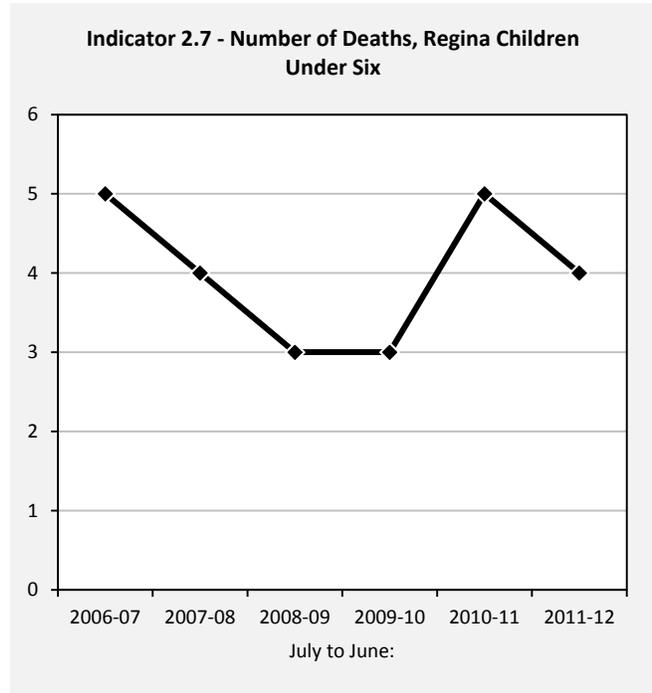
**Children Involved in Motor Vehicle Accidents, Regina City**

	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
Number of motor vehicle accidents involving children with improper child restraint use	1	0	0	3	0	0
Number of appointments to have car seats checked	...	...	...	295	295	351
Number of car seats checked at clinics	...	...	...	257	187	125

Source: SGI  
 ... = not available

**SECTION 2 THE RIGHT TO BE SAFE**  
**INDICATOR #2.7 DEATHS FOR CHILDREN UNDER SIX**

The number of children who die from all causes will be an extreme indicator for the number of children who are not safe. The number of deaths is very small, however, so trends are difficult to establish. In the last five census years (which run from July 1 to June 30), the number of deaths has averaged four per year.



**Number of Deaths, Ages 0 to 5, Regina Census Metropolitan Area**

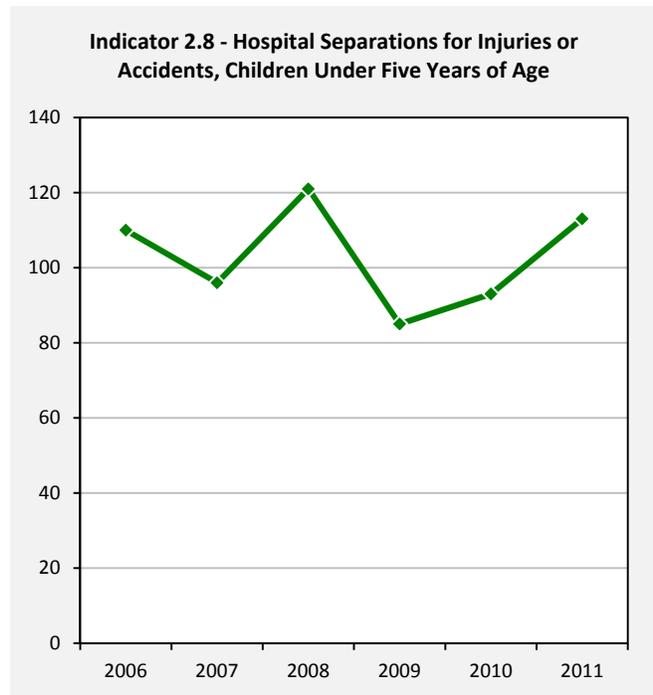
	2006/2007	2007/2008	2008/2009	2009/2010	2010/2011	2011/12
Number of Deaths	5	4	3	3	5	4

Source: Statistics Canada Census CANSIM Table 051-0047

**SECTION 2 THE RIGHT TO BE SAFE**  
**INDICATOR #2.8 INJURY RATES FOR CHILDREN UNDER SIX**

There are two indicators for the number of injuries to children and both are based on interaction with the health care system. Therefore they will not include minor injuries that do not involve a trip to the doctor or hospital. The group of codes in the International Classification of Diseases called “injuries and poisonings” will capture injuries, poisonings, drug overdoses, burns, and frostbite<sup>1</sup>. This indicator has both the number of children who receive physician services for these kinds of conditions and those children who are admitted to hospital with a primary diagnosis of injury or poisonings.

The number of children admitted to hospital for injuries and poisonings in 2011 was 113 which is near the five-year average of 102.



**Injuries or Poisonings for Regina Children Ages 0 to 4**

	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
Number of hospital separations	110	96	121	85	93	113
Number of physician services	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a

Source: Regina Qu'Appelle Health Region and Saskatchewan Health

<sup>1</sup> The ICD codes include injuries and poisonings arising from complications of surgery and medical care but these are excluded from the counts.

## SECTION 3: THE RIGHT TO BE YOU

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This section contains the indicators that pertain to the right of young children “to be you”.

The indicators in this category are listed below.

- Indicator 3.1 Ethnic Diversity
- Indicator 3.2 Language Diversity
- Indicator 3.3 Aboriginal Identity
- Indicator 3.4 Early Development Instrument – Social Competence Domain
- Indicator 3.5 Recent Immigrants

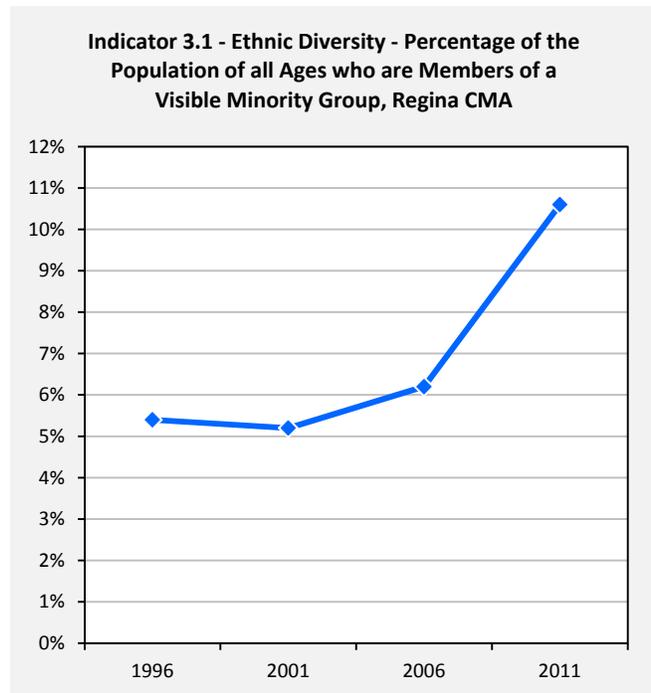
**SECTION 3 THE RIGHT TO BE YOU**  
**INDICATOR #3.1 ETHNIC DIVERSITY**

Membership in a visible minority group is one of the best measures of ethnic diversity available from the Statistics Canada Census. This indicator is based on responses to the following question.

*“Is this person white, Chinese, South Asian (e.g. East Indian, Pakistani, Sri Lankan, etc.), Black, Filipino, Latin American, Southeast Asian (e.g. Cambodian, Indonesian, Laotian, Vietnamese, etc.), Arab, West Asian (e.g., Afghan, Iranian, etc.), Japanese, Korean, or Other”*

In the past, this indicator has only been published for adults, namely those 15 years of age and older. In the 2011 National Household Survey (the name for the new “voluntary census”), the data are published for the ethnic diversity of children as well. This indicator suggests that the ethnic diversity of young children will be higher than for their parents.

The figures show the rapid increase from 2006 to 2011 in the proportion of Regina's population who are members of a visible group.



**Membership in a Visible Minority Group, Regina Census Metropolitan Area, Ages 15 and Older**

		1996	2001	2006	2011
Member of a visible minority group as % of the total population	All ages	5.4%	5.2%	6.2%	10.6%
	Under 15 years	...	...	...	14.9%

Source: Statistics Canada Census and National Household Survey

**SECTION 3 THE RIGHT TO BE YOU**  
**INDICATOR #3.2 LANGUAGE DIVERSITY**

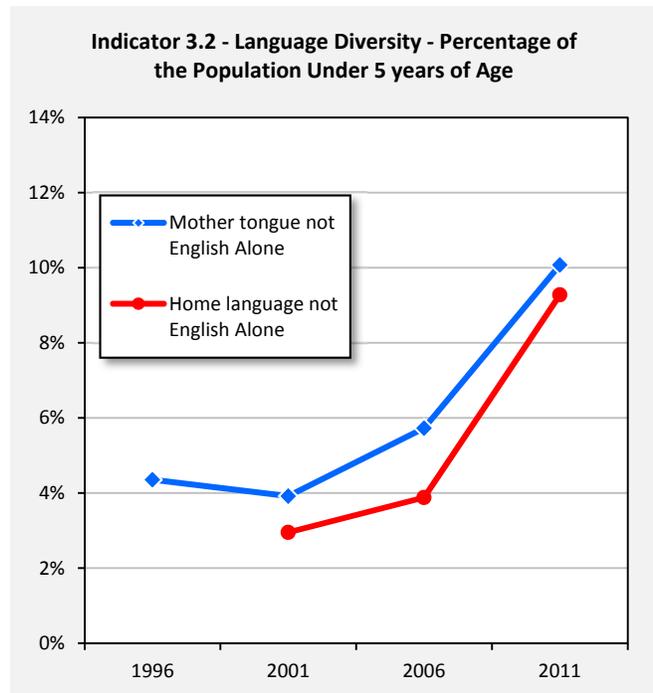
This indicator measures the diversity in languages spoken which might be considered part of the “right to be you”. Of course, it is also important for children to learn English in order to be successful at school.

Two measures of language in the Statistics Canada census are used for this indicator. The first is the mother tongue which is the language learned at home in childhood and still understood by the individual at the time of the census. The second is the home language which refers to the language spoken most often at home.

The table shows the number of young children according to their mother tongue and whether or not they normally speak that language at home. The figures are for the Regina CMA.

Of course, the vast majority of young children in Regina have English as their mother tongue and virtually all of these usually speak English at home. But language diversity is increasing among children in the Regina CMA.

In 2011, 10% of children have a mother tongue that is not solely English compared with 6% in 2006 and 4% in 2001.



**Language Diversity, Regina Census Metropolitan Area, Population Under Five Years of Age**

		1996	2001	2006	2011
Mother tongue	English	12,845	10,910	9,960	11,875
	English and another language	100	90	60	225
	All others	485	355	545	1,095
	Total	13,430	11,355	10,565	13,205
Home language	English	...	11,020	10,155	11,980
	English and another language	...	75	85	325
	All others	...	255	330	900
	Total	...	11,355	10,565	13,205

Source: Statistics Canada Census

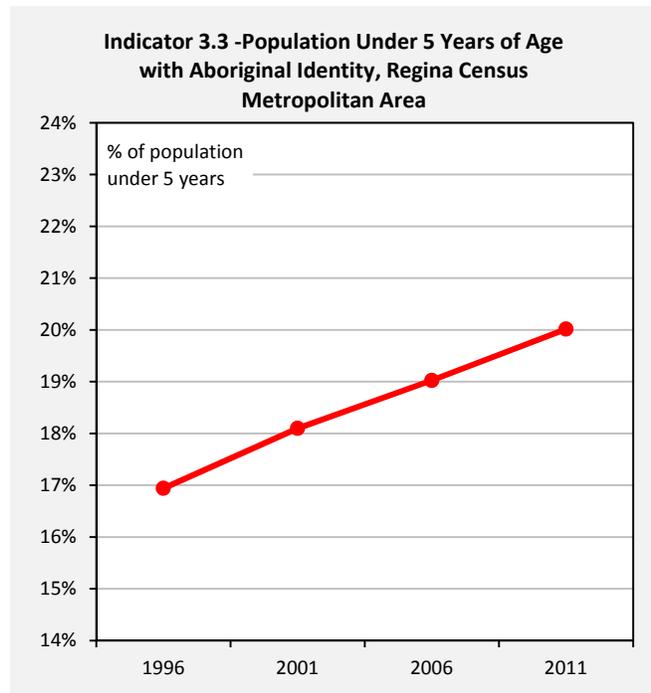
**SECTION 3 THE RIGHT TO BE YOU**  
**INDICATOR #3.3 ABORIGINAL IDENTITY**

The most recent statistics describing the number of young Aboriginal children in Regina is from the 2011 National Household Survey (the name for the new “voluntary census”). The data in this section use the concept of Aboriginal “identity” which refers to those persons who:

- reported identifying with at least one Aboriginal group, i.e. North American Indian, Métis or Inuit (Eskimo), and/or
- reported being a Treaty Indian or a Registered Indian as defined by *The Indian Act* of Canada and/or
- were members of an Indian Band or First Nation.

Over time, patterns in Aboriginal self-identification have changed so caution should be exercised in analyzing trends over time in Aboriginal identity. In recent years, a growing number of people who had not previously identified with an Aboriginal group are now doing so.

The number of young Aboriginal people in Regina declined in absolute terms from 1996 to 2006 but increased from 2006 to 2011. However, the proportion of all children under 5 years of age has grown steadily from 17% in 1996 to 20% in 2011.



**Aboriginal Identity, Regina Census Metropolitan Area, Population Under Five Years of Age**

	1996	2001	2006	2011
First Nations Identity	1,480	1,405	1,315	1,710
Métis and Other Aboriginal Identity	795	650	705	940
Aboriginal Total	2,275	2,055	2,010	2,655
Total Children Under Five Years of Age	13,430	11,355	10,565	13,265
Aboriginal as Percentage of the Total	16.9%	18.1%	19.0%	20.0%

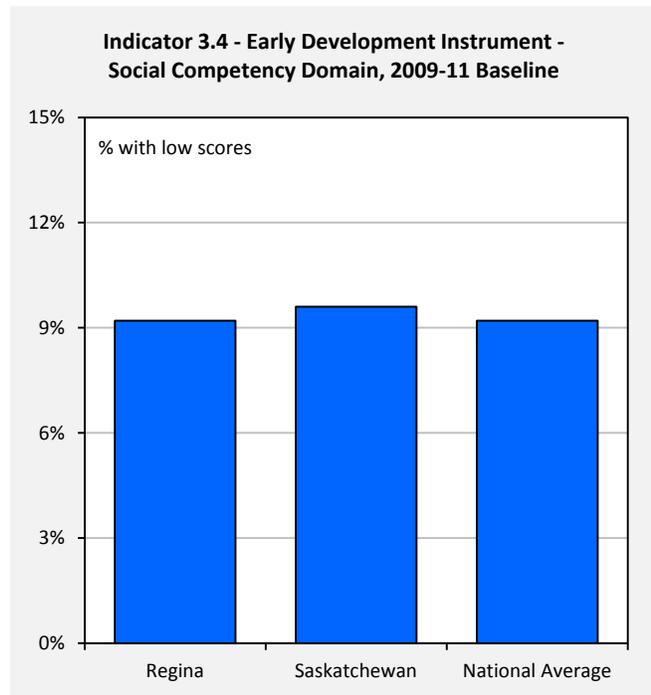
Source: Statistics Canada Census and National Household Survey

**SECTION 3 THE RIGHT TO BE YOU**  
**INDICATOR #3.4 EDI – SOCIAL COMPETENCY DOMAIN**

The Early Development Instrument (EDI) was developed by the Offord Centre for Child Studies at McMaster University in Canada. It is based on a checklist of children’s development measured when they are in kindergarten. The questionnaire is completed by the teachers. The EDI has been established as a valid survey to gauge child well-being during the kindergarten year. It measures development in five separate domains – the social competency domain is used here as a measure of “the right to be you”.

EDI results are measured against the Canadian averages established by the Offord Centre. Children in the 76th to 100th percentile in EDI scores are very ready for school. Children scoring in the 26th to the 75th percentile are considered ready to take advantage of school opportunities. Children scoring in the 11th to 25th percentile are at risk for challenges in the school environment. Children with scores in the bottom 10th percentile of EDI scores are considered to be vulnerable for challenges succeeding in the school environment.

The table below shows the proportion of Regina children scoring in the lowest 10th percentile on the EDI’s social competency domain. These children are probably not fully ready to meet the demands of school. The proportion with low scores is near the provincial and national averages.



**Early Development Instrument – Social Competency Domain, 2009-11 Baseline**

	National Average	Saskatchewan	Regina
Percent with low scores (10 <sup>th</sup> percentile)	9.2%	9.6%	9.2%

Source: Early Years Branch, Ministry of Education

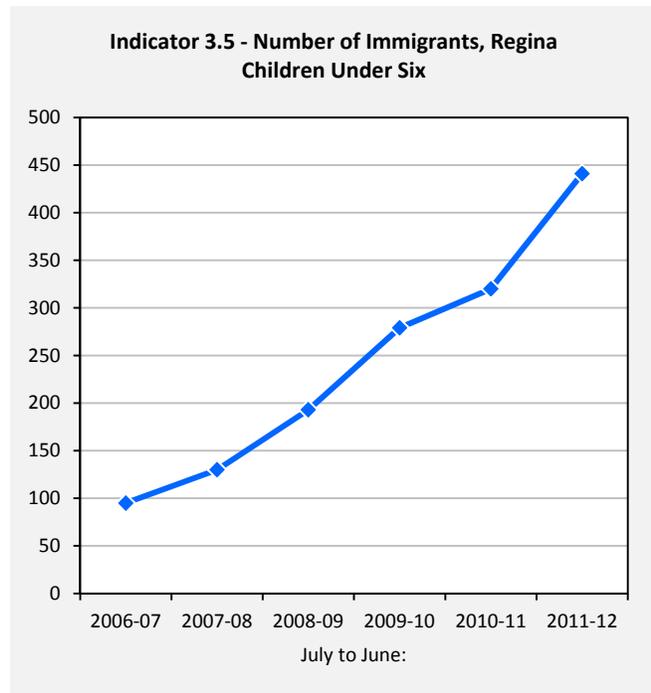
**SECTION 3 THE RIGHT TO BE YOU**  
**INDICATOR #3.5 RECENT IMMIGRANTS**

The number of immigrants to Regina who are under six years of age is a measure of the challenge in affording children the “right to be you” because many immigrant children will be from visible minority groups or have language barriers.

These figures are estimates from Citizen and Immigration Canada for the Regina Census Metropolitan Area. They cover the children who move to Regina directly from other countries. That is, they do not include recent immigrants who move to the city from other parts of Canada or Saskatchewan nor do they measure the number who move to other provinces after coming to Regina. They also exclude children who are born to recent immigrants.

The number of immigrants to Regina is increasing rapidly because the provincial government’s Saskatchewan Immigrant Nominee Program has led to a rapid influx of immigrants to the province and many of these immigrants are young families moving to Regina.

In the twelve months from July 2011 to June 2012, the number of children moving to Regina from other countries is estimated at 441 which is more than double the number three years ago.



**The Number of Immigrants to the Regina Census Metropolitan Area, Ages 0 to 5**

	Census year (July to June)					
	2006/2007	2007/2008	2008/2009	2009/2010	2010/2011	2011/12
New immigrants moving directly to the Regina CMA	95	130	193	279	320	441

Source: Statistics Canada CANSIM Table 051-0047

## SECTION 4: THE RIGHT TO LOVING RELATIONSHIPS

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This section contains the indicators that pertain to the right of young children to have loving relationships.

The indicators in this category are listed below.

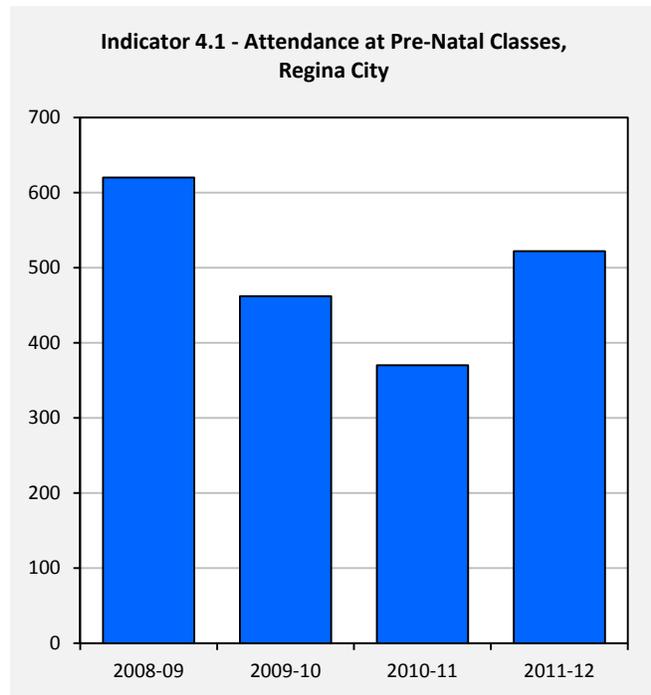
- Indicator 4.1 Attendance at pre-natal programs
- Indicator 4.2 Assessment of Risk Factors
- Indicator 4.3 Early Development Indicators – Emotional Maturity Domain

**SECTION 4 THE RIGHT TO LOVING RELATIONSHIPS**  
**INDICATOR #4.1 ATTENDANCE AT PRE-NATAL PROGRAMS**

Attendance at pre-natal programs may be an indirect measure of the right to a loving relationship because it may indicate that the parent(s) are determined to learn how to be successful. Prenatal classes offer information on healthy pregnancies, labour and delivery, breastfeeding, caring for the baby, and ways to help the family adjust to the new child. There is a \$10 charge for class materials.

Note that attendance will be lower among women who are having their second or third child.

The figures show a drop in attendance from 2008-09 to 2010-11 with a rapid increase in 2011-12. The same pattern is evident among the women who attend.



**Attendance at Pre-Natal Classes Conducted by the Regina Qu'Appelle Health Region, Regina City**

	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12
Total attendance	620	462	370	522
Number of women	317	233	185	267

Source: Regina Qu'Appelle Health Region

**SECTION 4 THE RIGHT TO LOVING RELATIONSHIPS**  
**INDICATOR #4.2 ASSESSMENT OF RISK FACTORS**

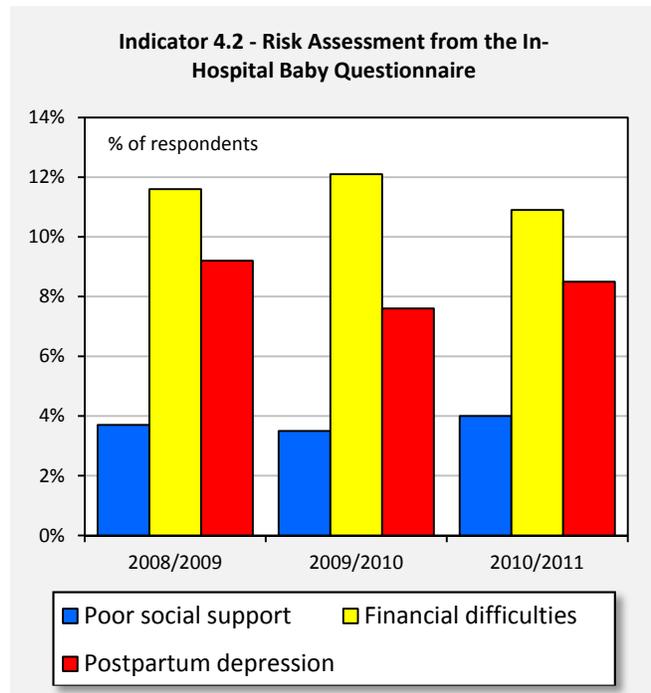
Women who are having a baby fill out a voluntary survey when they are in the hospital for delivery. The survey assesses a number of risk factors including those that are indicative of potential physical health problems.

The overall risk indicator and three specific measures from this survey were captured as proxy measures for the right to a loving relationship:

- mother has poor social support (in either a two-parent or lone-parent family);
- financial difficulties;
- postpartum depression or psychosis; and
- the overall risk factor.

Note that these surveys measure the risk of a poor relationship between the mother and child and are not evidence that a loving relationship is absent.

There is no evidence of an upward or downward trend in these indicators over the past three years. Two of the four indicators registered declines from 2009-10 to 2011-12 and two registered increases.



**Assessment of Risk Factors, Selected Results from the In-Hospital Baby Questionnaire, Regina City**

	2008/2009	2009/2010	2010/2011
Number of surveys	2,357	2,208	2,163
Percent of Moms with poor social support	3.7%	3.5%	4.0%
Percent of Moms reporting financial difficulties	11.6%	12.1%	10.9%
Percent of Moms reporting postpartum depression or psychosis	9.2%	7.6%	8.5%
Percent with high risk factors (score of 20 or more)	7.3%	7.3%	6.2%

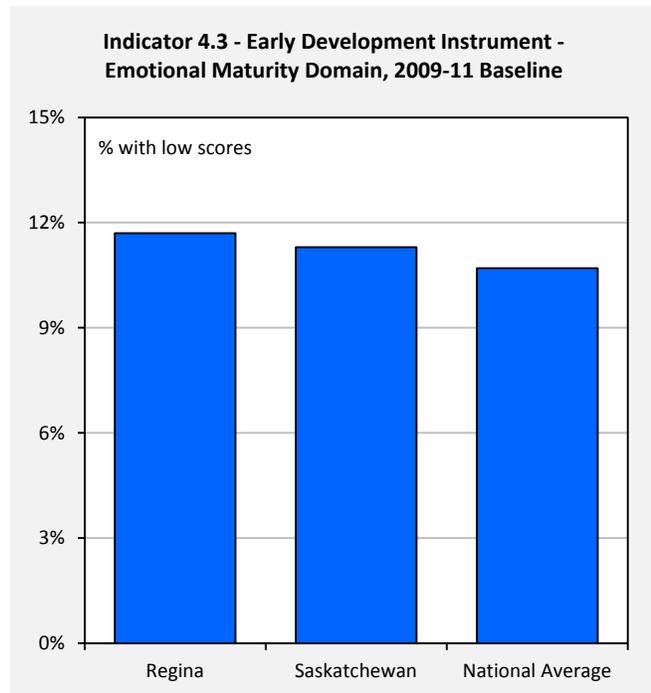
Source: Regina Qu'Appelle Health Region

**SECTION 4 THE RIGHT TO LOVING RELATIONSHIPS**  
**INDICATOR #4.3 EDI - EMOTIONAL MATURITY DOMAIN**

The Early Development Instrument (EDI) was developed by the Offord Centre for Child Studies at McMaster University in Canada. It is based on a checklist of children’s development measured when they are in kindergarten. The questionnaire is completed by the teachers. The EDI has been established as a valid survey to gauge child well-being during the kindergarten year. It measures development in five separate domains – the emotional maturity domain is used here as a measure of the right to loving relationships.

EDI results are measured against the Canadian averages established by the Offord Centre. Children in the 76th to 100th percentile in EDI scores are very ready for school. Children scoring in the 26th to the 75th percentile are considered ready to take advantage of school opportunities. Children scoring in the 11th to 25th percentile are at risk for challenges in the school environment. Children with scores in the bottom 10th percentile of EDI scores are considered to be vulnerable for challenges succeeding in the school environment.

The table below shows the proportion of Regina children scoring in the lowest 10th percentile on the EDI’s emotional maturity domain. These children are probably not fully ready to meet the demands of school. The proportion of Regina’s children with low scores is slightly higher than the provincial and national averages.



**Early Development Instrument – Emotional Maturity Domain, 2009-11 Baseline**

	National Average	Saskatchewan	Regina
Percent with low scores (10 <sup>th</sup> percentile)	10.7%	11.3%	11.7%

Source: Early Years Branch, Ministry of Education

## SECTION 5: THE RIGHT TO LIFELONG LEARNING

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This section contains the indicators that pertain to the right of young children to have access to lifelong learning.

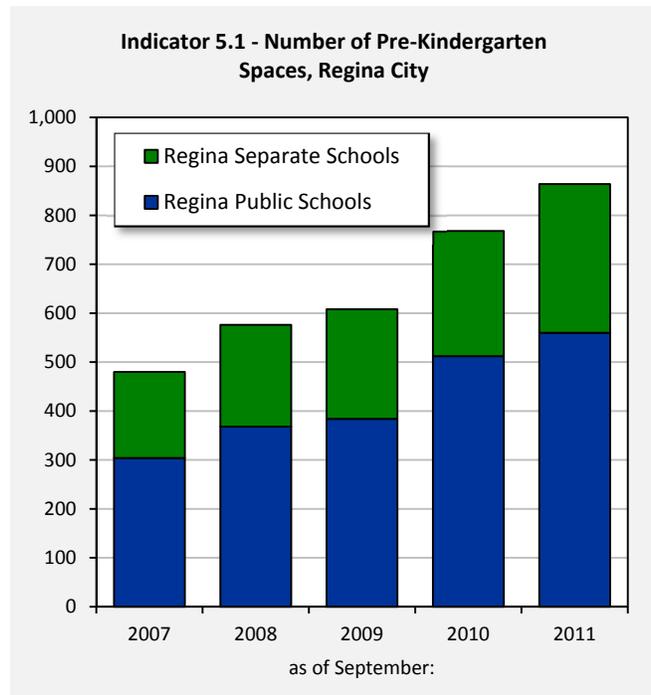
The indicators in this category are listed below.

- Indicator 5.1 Availability of Pre-Kindergarten Programs
- Indicator 5.2 Enrollment in Kindergarten Programs
- Indicator 5.3 Infant Care and Day Spaces
- Indicator 5.4 Attendance at Regina Public Library Programs
- Indicator 5.5 Early Development Instrument

**SECTION 5 THE RIGHT TO LIFELONG LEARNING**  
**INDICATOR #5.1 AVAILABILITY OF PRE-KINDERGARTEN PROGRAMS**

The number of pre-kindergarten spaces available in Regina schools is a good indicator of how many young children living in the city have the opportunity to begin the life-long learning at an early age. The pre-kindergarten program funded by the provincial government is designed for three-year-old and four-year-old children. Children who would benefit most from enhanced programming are prioritized for enrolment.

The number of pre-kindergarten spaces is increasing dramatically in Regina, growing by an average of nearly 100 spaces per year from 2007-08 to 2011-12, the equivalent of 16% per year. About two-thirds of the spaces are in the public school system.



**Number of Pre-Kindergarten Spaces, Regina Schools**

	As of September 30th				
	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
Regina Public Schools	304	368	384	512	560
Regina Separate Schools	176	208	224	256	304
Total	480	576	608	768	864

Source: Early Years Branch, Saskatchewan Ministry of Education

## SECTION 5 THE RIGHT TO LIFELONG LEARNING

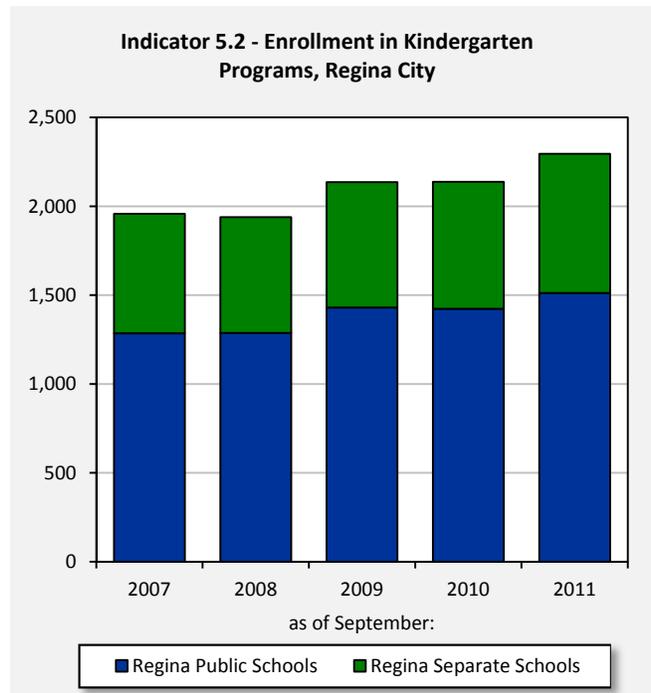
### INDICATOR #5.2 ENROLLMENT IN KINDERGARTEN PROGRAMS

An effective kindergarten program builds on the principles of early learning and pays particular attention to the environment and the roles of conversation and play in children’s learning experiences. This makes enrollment in kindergarten programs a useful indicator for the right to lifelong learning.

The Regina Public School Board had, in 2012, 43 schools that offer a kindergarten program. The total enrollment, as of September 2011, was 1,512 students, an average annual increase of 4.2% from enrollment of 1,285 in 2007.

The Regina Separate School Board had, in 2012, 23 schools that offer a kindergarten program. The total enrollment, as of September 2011, was 783 students, an average annual increase of 3.9% from enrollment of 1,285 in 2007.

Total enrollment in Regina was 2,295 as of September 2011, a 4.1% increase from the 1,958 in 2007.



#### Enrollment in Kindergarten, Regina Schools

	As of September 30th				
	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
Regina Public Schools	1,285	1,287	1,430	1,423	1,512
Regina Separate Schools	673	652	706	715	783
Total	1,958	1,939	2,136	2,138	2,295

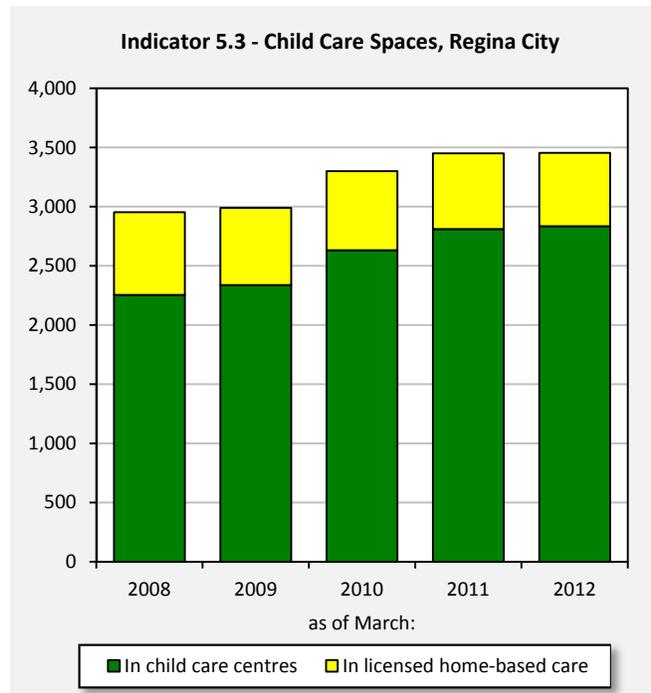
Source: Early Years Branch, Saskatchewan Ministry of Education

**SECTION 5 THE RIGHT TO LIFELONG LEARNING**  
**INDICATOR #5.3 INFANT AND DAY CARE SPACES**

There are a variety of different child care arrangements that parents choose. These include arrangements that are not regulated by governments such as live-in caregivers and care by family members. Licensed child care facilities, on the other hand, are monitored by the provincial Ministry of Education and are used here as one indicator of the right to lifelong learning.

Child care facilities fall into two categories – child care homes and child care centres. In child care homes the caregiver looks after the children in their own home with a maximum of eight children in a family home and twelve children in a group home. Up to three or six children, respectively, may be infants or toddlers. In child care centres, infant spaces are tracked separately.

The number of child care spaces in Regina has grown from just under 3,000 in 2008 to nearly 3,500 in 2012. This is equivalent to an increase of 4.0% per year. All of the increase has been in child care centres; the number of spaces in home-based care has declined.



**Number of Infant and Child Care Spaces, Regina City**

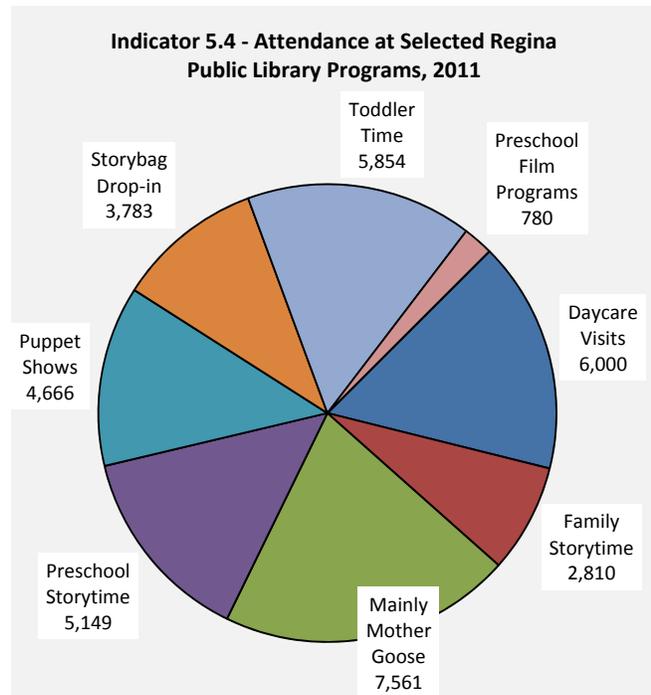
		As of March 31st				
		2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Child care centres	Infant spaces	135	141	174	189	189
	Other spaces	2,119	2,196	2,458	2,621	2,645
	Total	2,254	2,337	2,632	2,810	2,834
Home-based child care		699	652	668	640	621
Total		2,953	2,989	3,300	3,450	3,455

Source: Early Years Branch, Saskatchewan Ministry of Education

**SECTION 5 THE RIGHT TO LIFELONG LEARNING**  
**INDICATOR #5.4 ATTENDANCE AT REGINA PUBLIC LIBRARY PROGRAMS**

The Regina Public Library offers several programs that are geared toward pre-school children at the various locations in Regina. Attendance at these will depend on how often they offered, their popularity, and the number of pre-school children in the city.

The table below shows that the number of programs and attendance in 2011.



**Number of Programs and Attendance, Regina Public Library Programs Geared Towards Children**

	2011	
	Programs	Attendance
Daycare Visits	279	6,000
Family Storytime	168	2,810
Mainly Mother Goose	306	7,561
Preschool Storytime	262	5,149
Puppet Shows	84	4,666
Storybag Drop-in	483	3,783
Toddler Time	264	5,854
Preschool Film Programs	20	780
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,866</b>	<b>36,603</b>

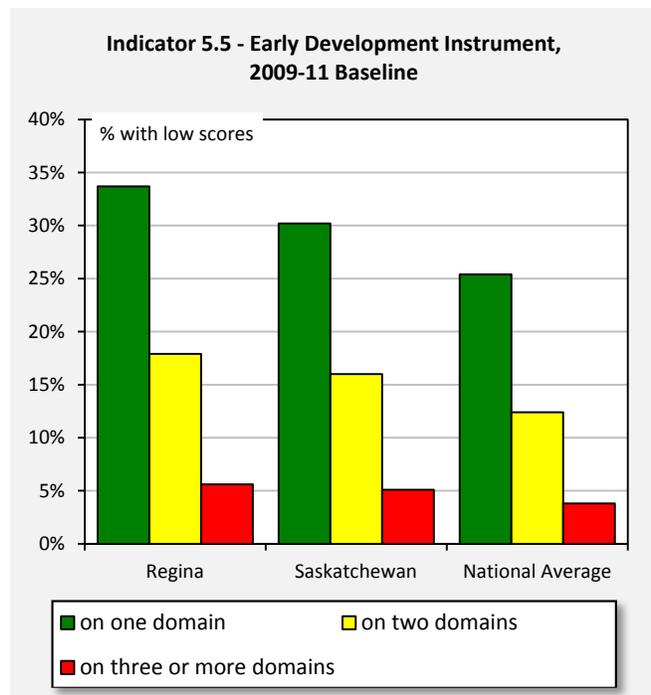
Source: Regina Public Library

**SECTION 5 THE RIGHT TO LIFELONG LEARNING**  
**INDICATOR #5.5 EARLY DEVELOPMENT INSTRUMENT**

The Early Development Instrument (EDI) was developed by the Offord Centre for Child Studies at McMaster University in Canada. It is based on a checklist of children’s development measured when they are in kindergarten. The questionnaire is completed by the teachers. The EDI has been established as a valid survey to gauge child well-being during the kindergarten year. It measures development in five separate domains with the overall EDI used here as a measure of the right to lifelong learning.

EDI results are measured against the Canadian averages established by the Offord Centre. Children in the 76th to 100th percentile in EDI scores are very ready for school. Children scoring in the 26th to the 75th percentile are considered ready to take advantage of school opportunities. Children scoring in the 11th to 25th percentile are at risk for challenges in the school environment. Children with scores in the bottom 10th percentile of EDI scores are considered to be vulnerable for challenges succeeding in the school environment.

The table below shows that a third of Regina children score in the lowest 10th percentile on one of the EDI’s five domains. This is well above the provincial and national averages. The proportion of Regina’s children who have low scores in multiple domains is also above the national average.



**Early Development Instrument, Regina City, 2009-11 Baseline**

Percent with low scores (10 <sup>th</sup> percentile)	National Average	Saskatchewan	Regina
On one domain	25.4%	30.2%	33.7%
On two domains	12.4%	16.0%	17.9%
On three or more domains	3.8%	5.1%	5.6%

Source: Early Years Branch, Ministry of Education

## SECTION 6: THE RIGHT TO PLAY AND BE PHYSICALLY ACTIVE

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This section contains the indicators that pertain to the right of young children to play and be physically active.

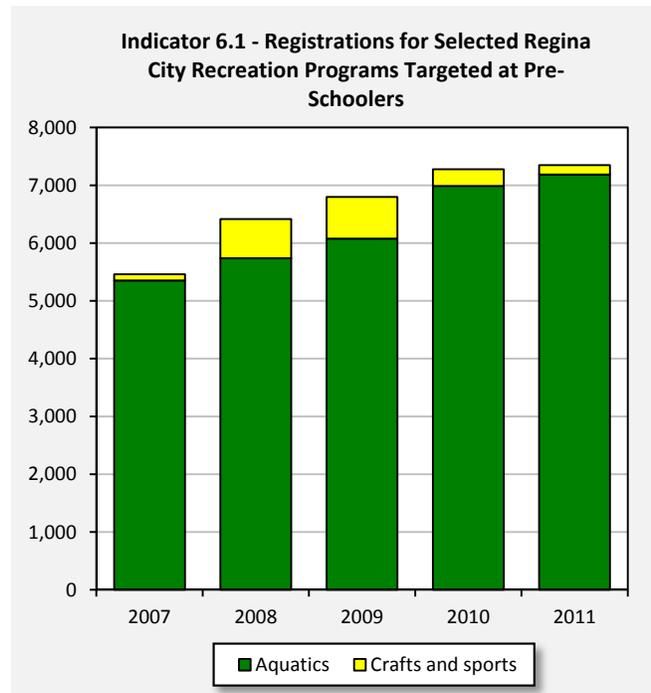
We were able to find only one indicator in this category.

- Indicator 6.1 Participation in Sports and Recreation Programs

**SECTION 6 THE RIGHT TO PLAY AND BE PHYSICALLY ACTIVE**  
**INDICATOR #6.1 PARTICIPATION IN SPORTS AND RECREATION PROGRAMS**

The City of Regina tracks the number of participants in the recreation programs that are offered to pre-school children in city facilities. Although the offerings span a range of sports, culture, and craft programs, the bulk of the registrations are for aquatic programs run by the Red Cross.

The number of program registrations has increased from 5,460 in 2007 to 7,348 in 2011. This is equivalent to an average annual increase of 7.7% per year.



**Registrations for Recreation Programs at Regina City Facilities**

	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
Aquatic programs	5,353	5,739	6,076	6,988	7,186
Other programs	107	677	721	290	162
Total	5,460	6,416	6,797	7,278	7,348

Source: City of Regina