

Public Health Agency of Canada
 Injury and Child Maltreatment Section
 Health Surveillance and Epidemiology Division



Canadian Incidence Study of Reported Child Abuse and Neglect (CIS)

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Project Structure

- Funders:**
 Public Health Agency of Canada
- Oversampling Funds:**
 Governments of: Alberta, British Columbia, Manitoba, Ontario, Quebec and Saskatchewan
 Centre of Excellence for Child Welfare
- Significant in-kind support:**
 Provided by every province/territory
- First Nations Advisory Committee & National Advisory Committee**
- University Sites & Institutions:**
- McGill University's Centre for Research on Children and Families
 - University of Toronto's Factor-Inwentash Faculty of Social Work;
 - University of Calgary's Faculty of Social Work
 - Université de Laval's Ecole de service social
 - Centre Jeunesse de Montréal-Institut Universitaire
 - First Nations Child and Family Caring Society.



Child Maltreatment & Children's Mental Health

- Effects of child maltreatment on children's well-being and mental health
- Child maltreatment has implications for children's mental health
- Surveillance is the foundation for intervention and prevention of child maltreatment



Children's Well-being Paramount Principles in Child Welfare Legislation Across Canada

- For example, Ontario's Child and Family Services Act

"The paramount purpose of this Act is to promote the best interests, protection and well being of children."

www.cccw-cepb.ca/legislation



Survey Research

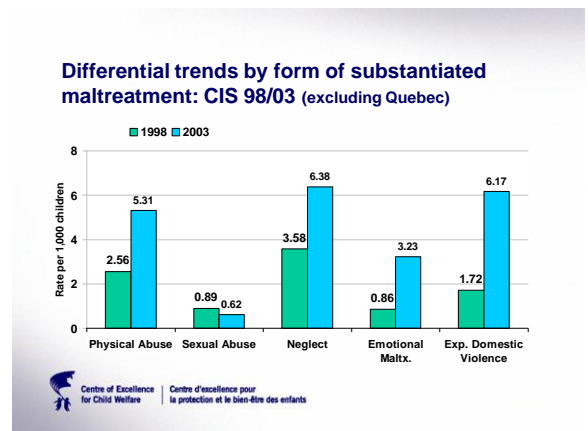
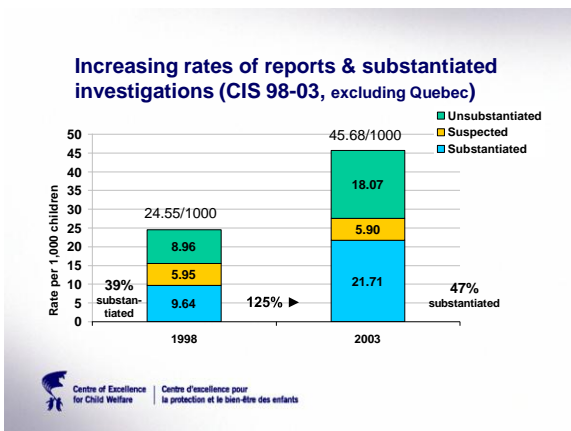
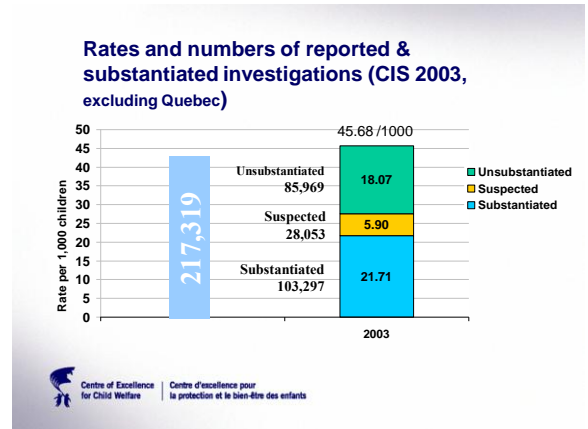
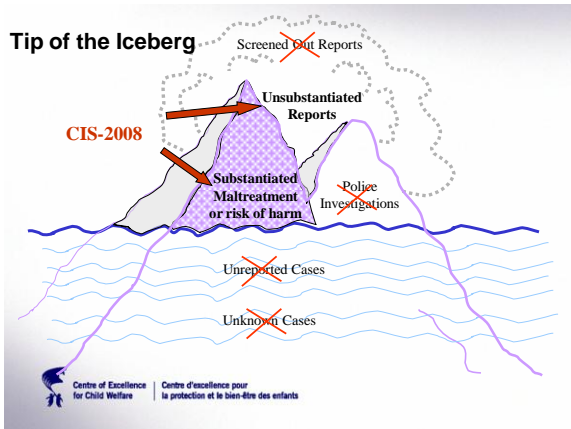
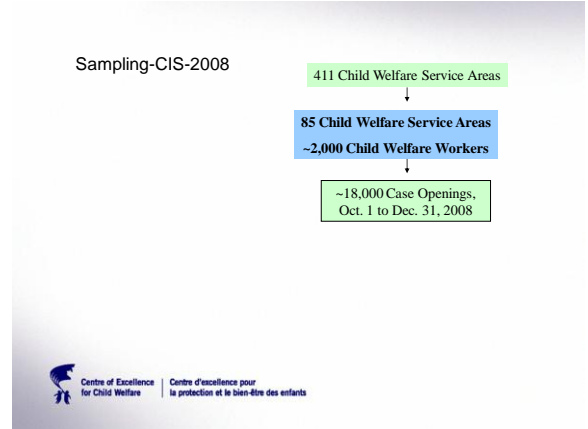
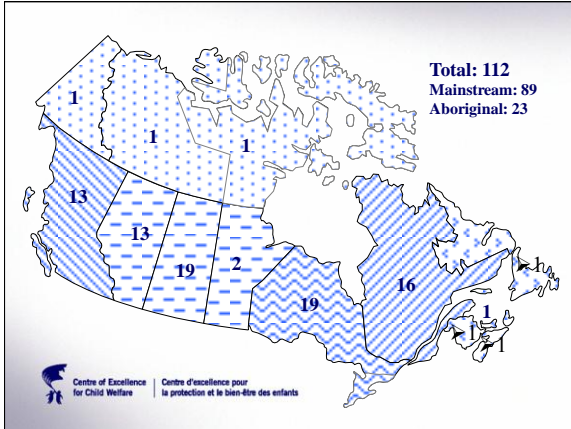
1. Large # respondents chosen through probability sampling procedures to represent the population of interest
 - Large samples to ensure precise estimates
 - Vary in sample size, sampling design & unit of analysis
2. Systematic questionnaire or interview procedures are used to ask prescribed questions of respondents and record their answers
 - Unstructured vs. structured interview
 - Descriptive vs. explanatory surveys
3. Answers are numerically coded and analyzed



Objectives of the CIS

- ✓ produce national estimates of the incidence of investigated maltreatment in Canada;
- ✓ document changes & explore reasons for the change;
- ✓ examine variations in types and severity of maltreatment;
- ✓ explore the role of selected child and family characteristics on the incidence of maltreatment and on key service outcomes.





CIS-2008: Risk of Maltreatment Included

- Most provinces and territories moved towards a formalized risk assessment model in the late 1990s
- CIS-1998 and CIS-2003 did not formally measure only risk investigations
- Risk investigations were likely represented in these data and may account for part of the increase in investigations from 1998 to 2003
- CIS-2008 data collection instrument allowed workers to describe both investigated maltreatment and risk investigations



Child Maltreatment Investigations in Canada

	1998	2003	2008
Substantiated	9.82	24.44	Oct 2010
Suspected	6.06	5.45	Oct 2010
Unsubstantiated	11.55	23.70	Oct 2010
Total Maltreatment	27.43	53.59	Oct 2010
Sub risk	N/A	N/A	Oct 2010
Unknown risk	N/A	N/A	Oct 2010
No risk	N/A	N/A	Oct 2010
Total risk	N/A	N/A	Oct 2010
Total Maltreatment & Risk	27.43	53.59	Oct 2010



Child Maltreatment & Mental Health: Next Steps

- Secondary data analysis: CIS data can be used to analyze the relationship between mental health and child welfare intervention
 - Limitations of caregiver and child functioning issues
 - Directionality cannot be determined
- Collaboration!
- CIS-2008 to be released in October 2010



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