

# Intergenerational income mobility: The lasting effects of growing up in a lower-income family

New data from the Longitudinal and International Study of Adults on a cohort of Canadians born between 1963 and 1979<sup>1</sup> reveal differences in their life course, depending on whether they grew up in a lower or higher income family.<sup>2</sup>

## CANADIANS WHO HAD LOWER FAMILY INCOME WHEN THEY WERE CHILDREN...

## CANADIANS WHO HAD HIGHER FAMILY INCOME WHEN THEY WERE CHILDREN...

were less likely to have parents with a university degree<sup>3</sup>

14.0%



57.5%

were more likely to have parents with a university degree<sup>3</sup>

were more likely to have a non-official language as a mother tongue

9.6%



3.4%

were less likely to have a non-official language as a mother tongue

were less likely to live with both parents at age 15

71.9%



90.6%

were more likely to live with both parents at age 15

were less likely to have a university degree

25.3%



65.8%

were more likely to have a university degree

were less likely to be married or cohabitating as adults

62.0%



75.3%

were more likely to be married or cohabitating as adults

were more likely to report being in poor or fair health as adults

10.5%



5.4%

were less likely to report being in poor or fair health as adults

had lower family income as adults<sup>4</sup>

\$48,600



\$81,400

had higher family income as adults<sup>4</sup>

1. The data cover Canadians born between 1963 and 1979, except immigrants who arrived at 16 years of age or later.

2. Lower- and higher-income families are identified by ranking all families according to the parents' average pre-tax family income when the children were between 15 and 19 years of age. Lower-income families are those where income was in the bottom 20% of all families, and higher-income families are those where income was in the top 20% of all families.

3. The proportion of Canadians whose mother or father have a university degree.

4. Income is measured as average pre-tax family income at the age of 30 to 34 years. These values are then averaged across individuals from lower-income families and across individuals from higher-income families.

Source: Longitudinal and International Study of Adults, 2014.

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