Between 2012 and 2017*, 2.3 million Canadians (80% of parents) took a leave (paid or unpaid) from their job for the birth or adoption of a child.

More women than men take leave for the birth or adoption of a child:
- 9 in 10 mothers took a leave from work
- 7 in 10 fathers took a leave from work

Men and women take different types of leave for the birth or adoption of a child:
- 88% of mothers took maternity and/or parental leave
- 46% of fathers took paternity and/or parental leave
- 42% of fathers took annual leave

Mothers take longer periods of leave than fathers:
- Just over 8 in 10 mothers took 27 to 52 weeks of maternity and/or parental leave
- Nearly 1 in 2 fathers took 5 weeks or less of paternity and/or parental leave

In Quebec, the type of leave taken for the birth or adoption of a child is mainly maternity/paternity and/or parental leave**
- 85% Mothers
- 24% Fathers
- 96% Mothers
- 93% Fathers

*The collection period of the survey was from February 1 to November 30, 2017. Therefore births and adoptions in December 2017 are not accounted for in the results.
**As opposed to other types of leave such as annual leave.

Notes:
1. This infographic has been made possible through the collaboration and financial support of Women and Gender Equality Canada.
2. The data refer to parents who were paid workers or self-employed before the birth or adoption of a child (between 2012 and 2017).
