

3. Construction of the Databank from the 1999 and 2000 Rounds of the QLSCD

As for the first round of the study, construction of the databanks for the 1999 and 2000 rounds of the QLSCD is based on two main criteria: the logic of the collection, on the one hand, and the response rate to the different instruments or questionnaire sections, on the other hand. Thus, 10 files were constructed from information gathered from the 2,045 children in the 1999 round of the QLSCD. These are the nine following files: SOCIO201, MERE201, PERE201, ENFAN201, BIO201, PCM201, QAAP201, QPABS201 and INDI201; added to these is file FRAT201 containing data on a brother or sister of the target child gathered biennially. In the 2000 round, nine files were constructed from information gathered from 1,997 households.³ These have the extension 301.

The files QAAP201 and QAAP301 contain variables generated by the SAQF (Self-Administered Questionnaire for the Father) for the *biological father or the spouse of the mother living in the household*, while the files QPABS201 and QPABS301 include the variables generated by the SAQF answered by the biological father of the target child *not living in the survey household*. Since the response rate obtained for the SAQF (resident biological father or spouse) is lower, a special weighting had to be produced, and the variables for the SAQF are included in a file separate from PERE. Variables concerning non-resident biological fathers drawn from the SAQF, the ICCQ (ICCQ-Absent Biological Father) or the SAQM are not weighted, given the low response rates obtained. As a consequence, data obtained cannot be inferred to all non-resident fathers, and variables from the files QPABS and BIO101 may be used only on a descriptive basis. Table 3.1 presents the numbers of respondents to the different instruments for which data are included in the databanks from the 1998 to 2000 rounds released to date. Information on the response rates is given in the Number 1 of this series (Plante *et al.*, 2002).

The databanks from the 1999 and 2000 rounds also contain a file of derivative variables developed by the DSQ and the partners in the QLSCD (INDI201 or INDI301) to facilitate analysis. In it are different sociodemographic indicators and scale scores supplied by the research groups. These variables are described in section 7.

Here, Tables 3.2a and 3.2b describe the file composition for the 1999 and 2000 rounds of the QLSCD. All of these files were constructed using the SAS software package. These files are available in SAS format (versions 6.12 and 8) and in SPSS for Windows format.

3.1 Description of the Microdata Files for the 1999 and 2000 Rounds

Each file contains a variable called IDME (household number) to be used when two or more files are merged. All files contain one line per household. Most files also include a variable that indicates the number of the person who responded to the questionnaire or to each section of the questionnaire in the ICCQ. These variables have the values "mother," "father" or a number between 4 and 14.⁴ Tables 3.3a and 3.3b present, for each instrument or for each component, in the case of the ICCQ, the corresponding data file and the variable designating the respondent.

3. It should be noted that at the conclusion, the data taken from the Baby Diaries, from the medical records of the mother and child and from the Imitation Sorting Task (IST or 1, 2, 3 Hands Game) will be added to the QLSCD microdata files.

4. To know the relationship between the target child and a respondent whose number is between 4 and 14, consult the variables in the REL section of the ICCQ in the files SOCIO201 or SOCIO301, either BRE2Qn or CRE2Qn, with the number 2 assigned to the target child and "n" designating the respondent number (see section 3.3).

Table 3.1

Summary of number of respondents per instrument or instrument section included in the QLSCD databank, Québec, 1998, 1999 and 2000

	Round 1998	Round 1999	Round 2000	Round 1998 to 2000
	n			
ICCQ (sections SOCIODEMO/PMK and CHILD) and ICPQ	2,120	2,045	1,997	1,985
ICCQ – RESIDENT BIO. MOTHER/SPOUSE ¹	2,119	2,042	1,990	1,977
ICCQ – RESIDENT BIO. FATHER/SPOUSE ²	1,949	1,855	1,773	1,694
ICCQ – SIBLING ³	...	1,196
ICCQ – ABSENT BIO. FATHER	129 ⁴	165 ⁵	233 ⁶	64
SAQM – RESIDENT BIO. MOTHER/SPOUSE	2,051	1,966	1,934	1,839
SAQF – RESIDENT BIO. FATHER/SPOUSE	1,775	1,673	1,616	1,431
SAQF – ABSENT BIO. FATHER (SAQFABS)	44 ⁷	69 ⁸	91 ⁹	11
OFL (Observations of Family Life)	2,118	2,033	1,971	1,957

1. The number of respondents is equal to the number of mothers/spouses resident in the household, excluding several cases for which this section of the questionnaire could not be generated due to a technical problem.
2. The number of respondents is equal to the number of fathers/spouses resident in the household, excluding several cases for which this section of the questionnaire could not be generated due to a technical problem.
3. The number of respondents is equal to the number of children with eligible siblings.
4. Out of a total of 177 households in which the biological father does not live in the household. To start with, we had available information drawn from the ICCQ for two of the three absent biological mothers in this round. These data were not retained because the number of non-resident biological mothers in the study was too small.
5. Out of a total of 222 households in which the biological father does not live in the household. To start with, we had available information on seven absent biological mothers, of whom four had returned an SAQM. These data were not retained because the number of non-resident biological mothers in the study was too small.
6. Out of a total of 271 households in which the biological father is non-resident. To start with, we had available information on eight absent biological mothers, of whom four had returned an SAQM. These data were not retained because the number of non-resident biological mothers in the study was too small.
7. Out of 96 non-resident biological fathers eligible to receive this questionnaire – that is, having contact with the target child at least once a month (see question "COMPS-START0" in ICCQ-absent bio. father); three more non-resident biological fathers who returned their questionnaire must be added, for an estimated response rate of 44%.
8. Out of 129 non-resident biological fathers eligible to receive this questionnaire – that is, having contact with the target child at least once a month (see question "COMPS-START0" in ICCQ-absent bio. father); four more non-resident biological fathers who returned their questionnaire must be added, for an estimated response rate of 52%.
9. Out of 167 non-resident biological fathers eligible to receive this questionnaire – that is, having contact with the target child at least once a month (see question "COMPS-START0" in ICCQ-absent bio. father); 12 more non-resident biological fathers who returned their questionnaire must be added, for an estimated response rate of 51%.

Source: *Institut de la statistique du Québec, QLSCD 1998-2002.*

Table 3.2a

Composition of files in the databank for the 1999 round of the QLSCD, children 17 months old¹

QUESTIONNAIRE AND SECTION²	SOCIO201	MERE201	ENFAN201	PERE201	PCM201	QAAP201	QPABS201	BIO201	INDI201	FRAT201
ICCQ – SOCIODEMO										
<i>CONT</i>										
<i>DEM</i>										
<i>REL</i>										
<i>HHL D</i>										
ICCQ – PARENT										
<i>SOC (new members only)³</i>										
<i>EDA</i>										
<i>LFS</i>										
<i>INC</i>										
<i>HLA⁴</i>										
<i>FNC</i>										
<i>SUP</i>										
ICCQ – ABSENT BIO. PARENT										
<i>COMPS</i>										
<i>CU2 (Q8e and Q16)</i>										
<i>LFS</i>										

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QUESTIONNAIRE AND SECTION²	SOCIO201	MERE201	ENFAN201	PERE201	PCM201	QAAP201	QPABS201	BIO201	INDI201	FRAT201
ICCQ – CHILD										
<i>DVS, HLT, MED, TMP, LIT, ACT, BEH, MSD, WAB, PAR, CAR</i>										
ICCQ – SIBLING										
ICPQ										
SAQM (except questions 77 to 88 of section 9)										
SAQM (questions 77 to 88 of section 9 “About Your Child’s Biological Father”)										
SAQF (bio. fathers/spouses)										
SAQF (absent bio. fathers)										
OFL										
DERIVATIVE VARIABLES										

1. Except for the weightings file POIDS201 (see sub-section 3.3.1, below).
2. The names of sections of the ICCQ are those used in the original (English) version of the NLSCY questionnaire.
3. The sociodemographic information from section SOC of the ICCQ (e.g., country of birth, ethnic origin, etc.) was gathered only for new members (biological parents or new spouses not living in the household in the previous round). For reasons of confidentiality, the information was omitted from the MERE and PERE files and was used only for updating the derived variables in the second round (file INDI201).
4. HLA-Q1 to HLA-Q7c: files MERE201 and PERE201.
HLA-Q2a, HLA-Q12a to HLA-Q12l: file PCM201 only.

Source: *Institut de la statistique du Québec, QLSCD 1998-2002.*

Table 3.2b

Composition of files in the databank for the 2000 round of the QLSCD, children 29 months old¹

QUESTIONNAIRE SECTION²	AND	SOCIO301	MERE301	ENFAN301	PERE301	PCM301	QAAP301	QPABS301	BIO301	INDI301
ICCQ – SOCIODEMO										
<i>CONT</i>										
<i>DEM</i>										
<i>REL</i>										
<i>HHL D</i>										
ICCQ – PARENT										
<i>SOC (new members only)³</i>										
<i>EDA</i>										
<i>LFS</i>										
<i>INC</i>										
<i>HLA⁴</i>										
<i>SAF</i>										
<i>SUP</i>										
ICCQ – ABSENT BIO. PARENT										
<i>COMPS</i>										
<i>LFS</i>										

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QUESTIONNAIRE AND SECTION²	SOCIO301	MERE301	ENFAN301	PERE301	PCM301	QAAP301	QPABS301	BIO301	INDI301
ICCQ – CHILD									
<i>DVS, VID, HLT, WAB, LIT, ACT, BEH, MSD, PAR, CU2, CAR, SOC</i>									
ICPQ									
SAQM									
SAQF (bio. fathers/spouses)									
SAQF (absent bio. fathers)									
OFL									
DERIVATIVE VARIABLES									

1. Except for the weightings file POIDS301 (see section 3.3.1, below).
2. The names of sections of the ICCQ are those used in the original (English) version of the NLSCY questionnaire.
3. The sociodemographic data from section SOC of the ICCQ (e.g., country of birth, ethnic origin, etc.) were gathered only for new members (biological parents or new spouses not living in the household in previous rounds). For reasons of confidentiality, the information was omitted from the MERE and PERE files and was used only for updating the derivative variables in the third round (file INDI301).
4. HLA-Q1 to HLA-Q7c: files MERE301 and PERE301.
HLA-Q13aa, HLA-Q13a to HLA-Q13p: file MERE301 only.

Source: *Institut de la statistique du Québec, QLSCD 1998-2002.*

Table 3.3a

Variable identifying the person responding to the 1999 round of the QLSCD by instrument, questionnaire or questionnaire section included in the microdata databank

INSTRUMENT AND QUESTIONNAIRE	FILE	VARIABLE DESIGNATING THE RESPONDENT
ICCQ – SOCIODEMO	SOCIO201	BPCMPID (in file PCM201)
ICCQ – BIO. MOTHER/SPOUSE	MERE201	BRPMQ01
ICCQ – BIO. FATHER/SPOUSE	PERE201	BRPQ01
ICCQ – PMK sections	PCM201	BPCMPID
ICCQ – ABSENT BIO. FATHER	BIO201	BPCMPID (in file PCM201)
ICCQ – CHILD	ENFAN201	BRPEQ01
ICCQ – SIBLING	FRAT201	BRPRQ01
ICPQ	PCM201	BQIEQ01 ¹
SAQM	MERE201	BQMMQ01
SAQM (questions 77 to 88 of section 9 "About Your Child's Biological Father")	BIO201	BQMMQ01 (in file MERE201)
SAQF – BIO. FATHER/SPOUSE	QAAP201	BQPQ01
SAQF – ABSENT BIO. FATHER	QPABS201	BQPAQ01
OFL	SOCIO201	... (filled out by interviewer)

1. It should be noted that we used a slightly different convention to identify this variable in each of the rounds: AQIFQ00 in the 1998 round and CQIFQ01 in the 2000 round.

Source: *Institut de la statistique du Québec, QLSCD 1998-2002.*

Table 3.3b

Variable identifying the person responding to the 2000 round of the QLSCD by instrument, questionnaire or questionnaire section included in the microdata databank

INSTRUMENT AND QUESTIONNAIRE	FILE	VARIABLE DESIGNATING THE RESPONDENT
ICCQ – SOCIODEMO	SOCIO301	CPCMPID (in file PCM301)
ICCQ – MOTHER	MERE301	CRPMQ01
ICCQ – BIO. FATHER/SPOUSE	PERE301	CRPJQ01
ICCQ – PMK sections	PCM301	CPCMPID
ICCQ – ABSENT BIO. FATHER	BIO301	CPCMPID (in file PCM301)
ICCQ – CHILD	ENFAN301	CRPEQ01
ICPQ	PCM301	CQIFQ01 ¹
SAQM	MERE301	CQMMQ01
SAQF – BIO. FATHER/SPOUSE	QAAP301	CQPJQ01
SAQF – ABSENT BIO. FATHER	QPABS301	CQPAQ01
OFL	SOCIO301	... (filled out by the interviewer)

1. It should be noted that we used a slightly different convention to identify this variable in each of the rounds: AQIFQ00 in the 1998 round and CQIFQ01 in the 1999 round.

Source: *Institut de la statistique du Québec, QLSCD 1998-2002.*

3.2 Convention for Designating Variables

The master instrument for the QLSCD 1998-2002, the Interviewer Completed Computerized Questionnaire (ICCQ), draws in large part on the National Longitudinal Study of Children and Youth (NLSCY) conducted by Statistics Canada since 1994 among more than 20,000 children. For this reason, the convention for designating variables in the QLSCD duplicates that used for the NLSCY.

Here are the names of the variables:

X SE C Q nnx

where:

X: relates to the study round:

"A" corresponds to the 1998 round (5 months);

"B" corresponds to the 1999 round (17 months);

"C" corresponds to the 2000 round (29 months).

SE: relates to a section of the ICCQ or a paper instrument (see Table 3.4).

C: corresponds to the person signified by the variable:

"E" signifies that the variable relates to the child;

"R" signifies that the variable relates to the selected brother or sister (1999 round);

"M" signifies that the variable relates to the mother;

"J" signifies that the variable relates to the resident father/spouse;

"F" signifies that the variable relates to the household;

"A" signifies that the variable relates to the absent biological father.

In the Sociodemographic Questionnaire (for questions in the REL section only), the PMK is asked about the relationships among all members of the household. These details are required in order to identify the variable for each person. The following notation is used:

"1" if the variable relates to the biological mother/spouse in the 1998 round;

"2" if the variable relates to the target child;

"3" if the variable relates to the biological father/spouse in the 1998 round;

"4" if the variable relates to the 4th person;

"5" if the variable relates to the 5th person;

and so on.

Q: relates to the type of variable where:

"Q" signifies that the variable relates to a question that was asked directly in one of the questionnaires;

"S" signifies that the variable represents a score calculated from a scale used in a questionnaire;

"T" signifies that the score calculated for a scale used in the questionnaire has been standardized, that is, recalculated to a value of between 0 and 10;

"L" signifies that the score calculated for a scale in a given round is based only on longitudinal items, that is, items common to all rounds;

"D" signifies that the variable was calculated on the basis of other questions asked in the questionnaire;

"M" signifies information related to a date (by month);

"A" signifies information related to a date (by year).

nnx: relates to identification of the question (or of the person in the REL section). In general, nn is a sequential number assigned to the variable and x is a sequential alphabetic indicator for a series of similar variables.

PLEASE NOTE: In some cases, the last three characters in the variable are not sufficient to identify a question correctly (e.g., questions comprising more than one response item). In such cases, the last four characters were used to identify the variable (most often by replacing the letter "Q").

Example: section CU2 question 15B
(11 possible responses) = > CC2E**15BA** to
CC2E**15BK**.

We thus replaced the "Q" in the fifth place.

Table 3.4

Content of the sections of the ICCQ and paper questionnaires in the 1999 and 2000 rounds of the QLSCD

QUESTIONNAIRE AND SECTION	LETTER INDICATING THE SECTION (2 nd AND 3 rd VARIABLE'S COLUMN) ¹	CONTENT ²
ICCQ (Interviewer Completed Computerized Questionnaire):		
• ICCQ – SOCIODEMOGRAPHIC		
CONT	CO	Contact (language of interview, members of the household)
DEM	XAGE_n, XSEXE_n, XSTAT_n	Basic sociodemographic data (for all household members)
REL	RE	Relationships among household members
HHL	HH	Housing conditions
• ICCQ – PARENT		
EDA	ED	Highest education level (information gathered in the 1999 and 2000 rounds for new members only), school attendance and literacy
LFS	LF	Occupation and employment
INC	IN	Sources of income, total household income and income of the PMK
HLA	HL	Health (general status, smoking, consumption of drugs, medications and alcohol). Information gathered in one round only: height, weight and feelings of depression (scale of questions asking about the week preceding the study) (1999 round); chronic health problems and limitations of activities, feelings of depression or sadness (1 q. for the week preceding the study) and lifetime episodes of depression (2000 round)
FNC (1999 round only)	FN	Family Functioning
SAF (2000 round only)	SF	Neighbourhood safety
SUP	SU	Social support
SOC	SD	Sociodemographic information (new members only)

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QUESTIONNAIRE AND SECTION	LETTER INDICATING THE SECTION (2 nd AND 3 rd VARIABLE'S COLUMN) ¹	CONTENT ²
ICCQ (Interviewer Completed Computerized Questionnaire):		
• ICCQ – ABSENT BIOLOGICAL PARENT		
COMPS	CS	Contact with target child
CU2 (1999 round only)	C2	Childcare arrangements
LFS	LF	Occupation and employment
HLT	HL	Health (general health, height, weight, injuries, asthma, visits to health professionals and hospitalizations). Other information gathered in one round only: chronic conditions (1999 round); degree of physical activity and taking of medications (2000 round).
MED (1999 round only)	MD	General health status and special medical care received at birth
WAB	WA	Mother's employment after the birth
TMP (1999 round only)	TM	Temperament
LIT	LT	Reading to the child, activities for learning to read and write
ACT	AC	Educational activities (with a distinction between regular and occasional activities in the 2000 round)
BEH	BE	Behaviour
MSD	MS	Motor and social development
PAR	PR	Parenting practices
CU2 (2000 round only)	C2	Family history and legal custody
CAR	CR	Childcare arrangements
SOC (2000 round only)	SD	Language(s) spoken by child

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QUESTIONNAIRE AND SECTION	LETTER INDICATING THE SECTION (2 nd AND 3 rd VARIABLE'S COLUMN) ¹	CONTENT ²
ICCQ (Interviewer Completed Computerized Questionnaire):		
• ICCQ – SIBLING (1999 round only)		
DVS	DS	Relationship with the respondent
HLT	HL	Health (general health, height, weight, injuries, chronic conditions, visits to health professionals, taking medications)
MED	MD	Mother's lifestyle habits during the pregnancy, general health status of child at birth, postnatal depression and hospitalization of the mother
EDU	ED	School attendance
LIT	LT	Reading to the child, activities for learning to read and write and visits to libraries
BEH	BE	Behaviour
REL	RE	Relationships with peers, parents, siblings and teacher(s)
PAR	PR	Parenting practices
SOC	SD	Sociodemographic information
ICPQ (Interviewer Completed Paper Questionnaire):		
	QI	Relationship with target child, diet, infections, taking of antibiotics and oral and dental hygiene habits (including taking a fluoride supplement). Other information gathered in one round only: behaviour (1999 round), support by grandparents, vocabulary ³ and perception of socioeconomic situation (2000 round).

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QUESTIONNAIRE AND SECTION	LETTER INDICATING THE SECTION (2 nd AND 3 rd VARIABLE'S COLUMN) ¹	CONTENT ²
SAQM (Self-Administered Questionnaire for the Biological Mother or spouse residing in the household):		
	QM	Relationship with target child, child's sleep habits, mother/child relationship, work/family balance (section "Pace of Day-to-Day Life"), conjugal satisfaction, satisfaction at work and data on the absent biological father (atmosphere at time of separation, contacts and financial support). Other information gathered in one round only: planning for births and food insecurity, consumption of drugs, medications and alcohol, sharing of household tasks and consumption of medications, alcohol and drugs by the non-resident biological father (1999 round); mother's relationship with her parents during childhood (2000 round).
SAQF (Self-Administered Questionnaire for the Biological Father or spouse residing in the household):		
	QP	Relationship with target child, perception of child's behaviour, father/child relationship, work/family balance (section "Pace of Day-to-Day Life"), conjugal satisfaction and satisfaction at work. Other information gathered in one round only: perception of child's temperament, parenting practices, consumption of alcohol, drugs and medications and family functioning (1999 round); lifetime episodes of depression, level of conjugal satisfaction, father's relationship with his parents during childhood (2000 round).

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QUESTIONNAIRE AND SECTION	LETTER INDICATING THE SECTION (2 nd AND 3 rd VARIABLE'S COLUMN) ¹	CONTENT ²
SAQFABS (Self-Administered Questionnaire for the Absent Biological Father):		
	QP	Relationship with target child, perception of child's behaviour, father/child relationship, work/family balance (section "Pace of Day-to-Day Life"), conjugal satisfaction, satisfaction at work, atmosphere at time of separation and satisfaction with contact with the child. Other information gathered in one round only: perception of the child's temperament, parenting practices, consumption of alcohol, drugs and medications and family functioning (1999 round); lifetime episodes of depression, conjugal satisfaction and relationship between the father and his parents during childhood (2000 round).
OFL (Observations of Family Life):		
	IF	Child's behaviour, mother/child relationship, housing conditions and physical environment

1. Excludes certain variables for which the information is drawn from other sources (e.g., *Master Birth Register*) and certain derived variables for which a convention specific to the QLSCD was developed.
2. Refers to the general content of the questionnaires administered in the 1999 and 2000 rounds. For a given questionnaire section or theme, the questions might vary from one round to another (for more details on the content of each round, see Part I of this paper).
3. For reasons mentioned in section 4.2, data on vocabulary have not been integrated into the microdata files of the 1999 round.

Source: *Institut de la statistique du Québec, QLSCD 1998-2002.*

3.3 Content of the Data Files

Files SOCIO201 and 301

These files contain the variables resulting from the Observations of Family Life questionnaire and the ICCQ (sections CONT, DEM, REL and HHLD), notably age, sex and civil status of household members, relationships between household members and some information about the dwelling (tables 3.2a and b).

The section REL (relationships between household members) was not recoded according to the convention due to its complex structure. To represent these relationships, the variables are defined as: XREIQJ

where

- X = study round (B for 1999 and C for 2000);
- RE = indicates the section RELATION;
- I = indicates the first person defined by this relationship I = 1, 2, ..., 12;
- Q = (as per the convention);
- J = indicates the second person defined by this relationship J = I, ..., 12.

For example, BRE1Q2 indicates the relationship between the 1st person (mother) and the 2nd person (target child) in the household.

Note: In this section, we ask about interpersonal relationships only for $I < J$. For example, we are interested in the relationship (BRE1Q2) between the mother ($I = 1$) and the target child ($J = 2$), but we do not ask about the relationship (BRE2Q1) between the target child ($I = 2$) and the mother ($J = 1$); the computer automatically applies only the inverse relationship. Variables in which I is larger than J are thus of no use and are not included in the databank.

Note that the 1st person is almost always the biological mother,⁵ the 2nd person is **always** the target child and the 3rd person is the biological father/spouse.⁶ Persons numbered 4 to 14 are others living in the household.

5. In just a few cases, these are foster mothers.

6. All spouses (stepfather of target child) having joined the household after the 1998 round hold a position whose number may range from 4 to 12.

Files MERE201 and 301

These files contain the SAQM questions (except for questions 77 to 88 in the 1999 round on the absent biological father; see BIO201) and the questions in the ICCQ concerning the mother.⁷ It should be noted that sections INC, FNC, SAF and SUP are included in the PMK file because they concern the household and not the mother directly.

Files ENFAN201 and 301

These files contain all the sections from the Child's Questionnaire of the ICCQ covering the target child when he/she was aged about 17 months (ENFAN201) or 29 months (ENFAN301).

File FRAT201

This file contains data from the sections of the Child's Questionnaire of the ICCQ covering the sibling selected in the 1999 round (0 to 13 years of age) ($n = 1,197$). If the target child has more than one brother or sister, this information was collected for the brother or sister (including half-brothers or half-sisters by marriage or foster family) the closest in age. Since the age of the brother or sister varies from one target child to another, questions about siblings may differ from one household to another.

Files PERE201 and 301

These files contain the data from the Parents' Questionnaire (resident father/spouse) of the ICCQ.⁸

7. It should be noted that for technical reasons one ICCQ-Mother (idme = 6,186) was not generated in the 2000 round.

8. Due to technical problems, two ICCQs addressed to the resident father/spouse were not generated in the 2000 round (idme 7,280 and 7,872).

Files BIO201 and 301

These files contain sociodemographic information on the non-resident biological father, if applicable, gathered from the respondent. The data were collected with the Absent Biological Parent Questionnaire of the ICCQ developed specifically for the present study. Also included in file BIO201 is information on the family history of the absent biological father gathered by proxy from the mother in the SAQM in the 1999 round (n = 198 out of 222 non-resident biological fathers).⁹ Due to the low response rates obtained for a number of variables, the data in this file are not weighted and may be used for descriptive purposes only.

Files PCM201 and 301

These files contain variables extracted from the ICPQ¹⁰ (Interviewer Completed Paper Questionnaire) and the sections of the Parents' Questionnaire (ICCQ) addressed specifically to the PMK – that is, in almost all cases, the biological mother of the target child.

Files QAAP201 and 301

These files contain the data from the SAQF (Self-Administered Questionnaire for the Father) for fathers (biological or not) living in the household – that is, whose primary residence is the target household.

Thus, fathers *temporarily* absent for work-related reasons (e.g., business trip), for studies or for another reason are considered to be living in the household.

Fichiers QPABS201 and 301

These files contain the variables from the SAQF (Self-Administered Questionnaire for the Father) for biological fathers not living in the household – that is, whose primary residence is not the household. Because too few of these questionnaires were returned, the variables in this file cannot be weighted

and the variables must be used only for descriptive purposes.

Files INDI201 and 301

These files contain a number of derivative variables (sociodemographic indicators, scale scores, etc.) developed by the *DSQ* and the research groups. These variables are presented in detail in section 7.

3.3.1 Content of Weighted Variables Files

Files POIDS201 and 301

These files contain the weighted variables to be used for analyses involving the data for the first three rounds for the questionnaires ICCQ, ICPQ, SAQM, SAQF and OFL presented above, in order to be able to infer results from the target population. Unlike in the first round, these variables are contained in a separate file rather than being integrated into the corresponding files. Among the reasons for this is the growing number of weights due to the longitudinal nature of the study and the fact that the choice of weights to be used must be made based on the type of analysis sought, that is, by taking account of both the instruments from which the retained variables are drawn and the rounds under consideration.

It is important to recall here that among the 2,223 households taking part in the first round of the study and on which the data presented in Volume 1 of this series were presented, only 2,120 were retained for longitudinal follow-up. In addition, new sample weights had to be calculated by the *Direction de la méthodologie, de la démographie et des enquêtes spéciales, ISQ* for the 1998 round, and these are included in the file POIDS201 (PEPCM1M and PEQAAP1M).

9. It should be noted, however, that file BIO201 contains 214 entries. This number corresponds to the number of non-resident fathers for whom we have some information, issuing either from the ICCQ- absent biological parent or from the SAQM. Therefore, eight biological fathers for whom we have no information are excluded from the file.

10. Except for questions on vocabulary (see section 4).

Tables 3.5a and 3.5b show the content of files POIDS201 and POIDS301. For the 1998 round, a single weight was created for all instruments except the SAQF for resident fathers/spouses, for which a particular weight was assigned, and data on absent biological fathers (files BIO101 and QPABS101), for which no weight was calculated. For the 1999 and 2000 rounds, the weights were designed essentially in a longitudinal perspective as a function of the analyses presented in this volume or planned by the research groups associated with the QLSCD; they therefore do not cover all hypothetical situations. In general, in analyses involving data from the 1998 and 1999 rounds, if we look at the entire target population (children whose biological father or mother's spouse is or is not living in the household) and no other variable from the SAQF in any round is involved, the weight PEPCM2 is used. For analyses restricted to children whose father lives in the household, the sample weight PEPERE2 or PEQAAP2 is used, depending on whether the variables from the ICCQ-Father or the SAQF are used. For analyses based on data from all three rounds taken simultaneously, three weights have been calculated depending on whether the variables from the SAQM or the SAQF are involved. Section 5.1 contains supplementary information to be used depending on the cross-tabulation desired.

Table 3.5a

Composition of file POIDS201 including the weighted variables to be used with the data in microdata files SOCIO, PCM, MERE, PERE, ENFAN, QAAP and INDI in the 1998¹ and 1999 rounds of the QLSCD²

Variable	Variable name in the file	Description
IDME	<i>Numéro de ménage</i> (Household number)	Number of the household to which the target child belongs, to be used when merging files.
PEPCM1M (n = 2,120)	<i>Pds échantillonnel PCM E1 modifié</i> (Sample wt PMK E1 modified)	Cross-sectional sample weights from the 1998 round for all instruments except the SAQF (weight PEQAAP1M). This weight can thus be used for all analyses in which data from the file QAAP101 are not included.
PEQAAP1M (n = 1,855)	<i>Pds échantillonnel QAAP E1 modifié et E1-E2</i> (Sample wt SAQF E1 modified and E1-E2)	Cross-sectional sample weights for analyses involving data from the SAQF of the 1998 round (QAAP101) with or without other data from this round. The weight PEQAAP1M can also be used for longitudinal analyses using one variable from the SAQF from the 1998 round and any other variable from the 1999 round except for those from the SAQF (weight PEQAAP2).
PEPCM2 (n = 2,045)	<i>Pds échantillonnel PCM E1-E2</i> (Sample wt PMK E1-E2)	Longitudinal sample weights for analyses involving most data from the SAQM (except for section 9 of the 1999 round included in file BIO201) or from the ICCQ for both rounds, except for those from the ICCQ-Father from the 1999 round (weight PEPERE2). This weight may thus be used for all analyses in which data from file PERE201 or files QAAP101 and 201 are not involved.
PEPERE2 ³ (n = 1,855)	<i>Pds échantillonnel PERE E1-E2</i> (Sample wt PERE E1-E2)	Longitudinal sample weights for analyses involving data from file ICCQ-Father (file PERE201) and any other data from either round except for those from files QAAP101 and 201.
PEQAAP2 (n = 1,673)	<i>Pds échantillonnel QAAP E1-E2</i> (Sample wt SAQF E1-E2)	Longitudinal sample weights for analyses involving a variable from the 1999 round and any other data from either round.

1. Excluding the over-sample of 103 respondent households.

2. Not considered here are data on absent biological fathers included in the BIO and QPABS of either round. These data, as we recall, are not weighted and may be used only in descriptive analyses, even if variables that could be weighted are involved. Also excluded here are data on siblings (file FRAT201), which are not analyzed in the present volume. It is possible, however, to use these variables as characteristics of the target child in the same way as those included in file ENFAN by grouping children with no siblings in a separate category (see section 4). To restrict the analyses to the sub-group of children without siblings, however, an adjustment of weights may be required (Desgroseilliers *et al.*, 2000).

3. In the 1999 round, specific longitudinal sample weights were created for the data in the ICCQ-Father so that the sum of these weights is equal to the total number of resident fathers/spouses. In the 1998 round, such an adjustment was not made since the number of resident fathers/spouses was very similar to the sum of the sample weights (Desgroseilliers *et al.*, 2000).

Source: *Institut de la statistique du Québec, QLSCD 1998-2002.*

Table 3.5b

Composition of file POIDS301 including the weighted variables to be used with the data from microdata files SOCIO, PCM, MERE, PERE, ENFAN, QAAP and INDI for rounds 1998 to 2000 of QLSCD¹

Variable	Variable name in the file	Description
IDME	<i>Numéro de ménage</i> (Household number)	Number of the household to which the target child belongs, to be used when merging files.
PEPCM3 (n = 1,997)	<i>Pds échantillonnal PCM E3 ou longit.</i> (Sample wt PMK E3 or longit.)	Sample weights for cross-sectional analyses involving any data in the 2000 round except for those from the SAQF and for longitudinal analyses excluding those involving data from the SAQF of one or another round or data from the SAQM from the three rounds.
PEQAAML (n = 1,839)	<i>Pds échantillonnal QAAM longitudinale</i> (Sample wt SAQM longitudinale)	Longitudinal sample weights for analyses involving data from the SAQM from all three rounds (MERE files) alone or with data from other files excluding those from the SAQF from any round.
PEQAAPL (n = 1,431)	<i>Pds échantillonnal QAAP longitudinale</i> (Sample wt SAQF longitudinale)	Longitudinal sample weights for analyses involving data from the SAQF of the three rounds alone or with data from the SAQM from any round or data from other files.

1. See notes 1 and 2 of the preceding table.

Source: *Institut de la statistique du Québec, QLSCD 1998-2002.*