

## 6.6 QUEBEC

Fifteen per cent of respondents to the survey reside in Quebec (n=1,220). There is a higher proportion of respondents who are dance professionals in the Quebec sample relative to the proportion found in the national sample, 16 to 35 year olds, and participants in a dance form categorized as contemporary and modern, suggesting that communications and enthusiasm related to the survey was likely higher among these segments of the dance population in Quebec.

### a) Demographic Snapshot

One in five members of the Quebec sample is male (22 per cent), reflecting the national average in the survey. The average age of respondents in Quebec is lower than the average in other provinces at 46 years compared to 43 years Canada-wide. Over half (51 per cent) of the sample is between 18 and 34 compared with 35 per cent nationally.

**Table 6.4.1: Age and Gender of Respondents – National and Quebec**

|                   | National<br>(n=8,124) | Quebec<br>(n=1,220) |
|-------------------|-----------------------|---------------------|
| <b>Gender</b>     |                       |                     |
| Men               | 21%                   | 22%                 |
| Women             | 77%                   | 77%                 |
| <b>Age</b>        |                       |                     |
| 16-17 years       | 3%                    | 5%                  |
| 18-24 years       | 15%                   | 23%                 |
| 25-34 years       | 20%                   | 28%                 |
| 35-54 years       | 23%                   | 22%                 |
| 55-64 years       | 16%                   | 9%                  |
| 65 years or older | 15%                   | 7%                  |
| <b>Mean Age</b>   | 43.0                  | 46.3                |

The educational profile in Quebec shows a larger proportion of respondents having completed a college education or trade certificate (28 per cent) as their highest degree, compared with the national (20 per cent). Six in ten (59 per cent) have obtained a university degree. There is a slightly lower proportion that has completed a graduate degree in the Quebec sample relative to the national results.

**Table 6.4.2: Respondents' Highest Level of Education Completed – National and Quebec**

| <b>Employment</b>             | <b>National<br/>(n=8,124)</b> | <b>Quebec<br/>(n=1,220)</b> |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Some high school              | 4%                            | 2%                          |
| High school                   | 15%                           | 16%                         |
| College, trade/apprenticeship | 20%                           | 28%                         |
| University (Undergraduate)    | 32%                           | 31%                         |
| University (Graduate)         | 27%                           | 20%                         |
| Prefer not to say             | 2%                            | 3%                          |

Slightly fewer respondents in Quebec work 30 hours or more per week year round (30 per cent), compared to the national figure (34 per cent), while more are students (26 per cent), or self-employed (19 per cent). The household income is lower among Quebec respondents with fewer reporting incomes over \$60,000 (22 per cent, versus 37 per cent nationally).

**Table 6.4.3: Employment Status and Income of Respondents – National and Quebec**

|   | <b>National<br/>(n=8,124)</b> | <b>Quebec<br/>(n=1,220)</b> |
|---|-------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| <b>Employment</b>                               |                               |                             |
| Employed 30 hours or more per week year round   | 34%                           | 30%                         |
| Employed less than 30 hours per week year round | 8%                            | 8%                          |
| Seasonally employed                             | 2%                            | 2%                          |
| Self-employed                                   | 15%                           | 19%                         |
| Unemployed and looking for work                 | 2%                            | 2%                          |
| Full-time student                               | 15%                           | 26%                         |
| Retired   | 18%                           | 8%                          |
| Other   | 4%                            | 4%                          |
| Prefer not to say                               | 2%                            | 2%                          |
| <b>Gross Household Income for 2012</b>          |                               |                             |
| Under \$19,999                                  | 12%                           | 22%                         |
| \$20,000 to \$39,999                            | 15%                           | 19%                         |
| \$40,000 to \$59,999                            | 13%                           | 14%                         |
| \$60,000 to \$79,999                            | 12%                           | 9%                          |
| \$80,000 to \$99,999                            | 8%                            | 6%                          |
| \$100,000 or more                               | 14%                           | 7%                          |
| Don't know / Prefer not to say                  | 27%                           | 23%                         |

## b) Dance forms

Survey respondents were asked to name up to six forms of dance they participate in, listing the most important ones first. Respondents were provided with a drop down list of 190 dance genres and also given the opportunity to type in their response, if preferred. The 190 dance forms in which respondents told us they participate were subsequently grouped with similar dance forms into 16 categories of dance for ease of discussion.<sup>32</sup> Quebec participants in the survey reported involvement in a wide variety of dance forms. Participation in one or more dance forms categorized as contemporary and modern forms of dance is most common (45 per cent), and much greater than the proportion nationally (34 per cent). Other popular dance forms pursued are under the categories of ballroom and social (23 per cent), ballet (21 per cent), urban and street dance (17 per cent, higher than the national average, 10 per cent), and European traditional and folk (15 per cent).

**Table 6.4.4: Top Dance Types in Quebec, Compared to National**

|                               | <b>National<br/>(n=8,124)</b> | <b>Quebec<br/>(n=1,220)</b> |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Contemporary and modern       | 34%                           | 45%                         |
| Ballroom and social           | 26%                           | 23%                         |
| European traditional and folk | 21%                           | 15%                         |
| Ballet                        | 19%                           | 21%                         |
| Urban/street                  | 10%                           | 17%                         |

## c) Intensity of Involvement in Dance

Intensity of involvement in dance among Quebec respondents is similar to that found nationally. More than one in three respondents in Quebec (36 per cent) participates in four or more dance forms. They participate in dance 8.8 hours per week on average. They have been involved in dance for an average of 17.3 years, which is slightly less than the national average (18.8 years). This is likely driven by the higher proportion of young respondents in Quebec.

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<sup>32</sup> Categories and the list of known dance forms were developed by the study management team. Throughout the survey collection, previously unlisted dance forms were added and categorized.

**Table 6.4.5: Intensity of Dance Involvement – National and Quebec**

|                                  | <b>National<br/>(n=8,124)</b> | <b>Quebec<br/>(n=1,220)</b> |
|----------------------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Number of Dance Forms            |                               |                             |
| One                              | 20%                           | 18%                         |
| Two                              | 15%                           | 15%                         |
| Three                            | 25%                           | 30%                         |
| Four or more                     | 40%                           | 36%                         |
| Average hours danced per week    | 9.5                           | 11.9                        |
| Average number of years in dance | 18.8                          | 17.3                        |

#### d) Type of Involvement in Dance

Quebec has a larger proportion of respondents who consider themselves to be a dance professional and/or earn income in dance through professional fees or salaries (35 per cent). This is compared with the national average of 27 per cent. Leisure dance participants who earn no income from dance make up 60 per cent of Quebec respondents, compared to 67 per cent nationally.

**Table 6.4.6: Dance Professionals and Leisure Dance Participants – National and Quebec**

| <b>Status</b>  | <b>National<br/>(n=8,124)</b> | <b>Quebec<br/>(n=1,220)</b> |
|--|-------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Dance professional                                   | 27%                           | 35%                         |
| Not professional, but receive some income from dance | 6%                            | 5%                          |
| Not professional and receive no dance income         | 67%                           | 60%                         |

Dance forms categorized as contemporary and modern and/or ballet are far more frequently pursued among dance professionals than leisure dance participants in Quebec, reflecting the national pattern. Dance forms classified as ballroom and social dance are more frequently practiced by leisure dance participants than they are by dance professionals. The same pattern is true for dance forms categorized as contemporary and modern dance. European traditional and folk, and country dance and Canadian are also somewhat more commonly pursued by leisure dance participants than by dance professionals. The incidence of involvement in urban/ street forms of dance is the same across the two segments.

**Table 6.4.7: Dance Professionals and Leisure Dance Participants in Quebec across Most Common Types of Dance**

| Dance Category                | Leisure Dance Participant | Dance Professional |
|-------------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------|
| Contemporary and modern       | 34%                       | 65%                |
| Ballroom and social           | 29%                       | 12%                |
| Ballet                        | 16%                       | 29%                |
| Urban / street                | 17%                       | 16%                |
| European traditional and folk | 19%                       | 9%                 |
| Country dance and Canadian    | 18%                       | 6%                 |

Survey respondents were asked to provide details about their involvement in their top three dance forms. Each individual may therefore have provided information on how they are involved, and how they were educated in one, two or three dance forms. Survey responses are treated independently (i.e., considering up to three responses per respondent answering the survey) where results are reported by dance form. In all other instances, results are reported per respondent. Whether an individual indicated they are taking classes in one, two or three dance forms, for example, the response of “taking classes” is counted only once, unless results are described for specific dance forms.

Survey respondents were first asked to describe how they are involved in their dance form(s). More than two-thirds of respondents from Quebec (69 per cent) indicate that they perform for an audience or compete in a dance form. They most frequently perform at performing arts facilities (78 per cent, greater than the national average, 66 per cent), and at festivals or special events (74 per cent, slightly less than the national average, 79 per cent). Performing at community events, however, is reported significantly less frequently among Quebec respondents than among those from elsewhere. Performances in schools are more frequent than the national average.

**Table 6.4.8: Proportion who Perform/Compete and Where they Perform – National and Quebec**

|   | National<br>(n=8,124) | Quebec<br>(n=1,220) |
|---|-----------------------|---------------------|
| % who perform/compete   | 58%                   | 69%                 |
| Opportunities for Performing/Competing (of those who perform) |                       |                     |
| Festivals or special events                                   | 79%                   | 74%                 |
| Community events  | 71%                   | 47%                 |
| Performances presented in performing arts hall or facility    | 66%                   | 78%                 |
| Schools   | 36%                   | 44%                 |
| Competitions  | 32%                   | 35%                 |
| Performances recorded for television                          | 21%                   | 16%                 |
| Restaurants, theme parks, cruise ships, etc                   | 17%                   | 15%                 |

In addition to performing and competing, the majority of dance participants in Quebec (73 per cent) say they dance with a group (marginally lower than the national average of 78 per cent). Over half (56 per cent) are involved in choreographing, creating or devising dance (higher than the 46 per cent nationally). Almost half (46 per cent) teach dance.

**Table 6.4.9: Non-performance Ways Respondents are Involved in Dance – National and Quebec**

|                                      | National<br>(n=8,124) | Quebec<br>(n=1,220) |
|--------------------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------|
| Dance with a group                   | 78%                   | 73%                 |
| Choreograph, create, or devise dance | 46%                   | 56%                 |
| Teach dance                          | 44%                   | 46%                 |

The next table isolates Quebec respondents involved in the most common dance forms, indicating for each the proportion that teach, dance with a group, and choreograph, devise, or create dance. Among people involved in one or more dance forms categorized as contemporary and modern, ballet, and urban/street dance in Quebec, teaching, dancing with a group, and choreographing are all activities the majority of respondents do. Among those involved in ballroom and social, European traditional and folk, and country dance and Canadian categories of dance, dancing with a group is common. Fewer say that they are involved in teaching or choreographing, although a not insignificant proportion also teach and/or choreograph, create, or devise.

**Table 6.4.10: Non-performance Ways Respondents are Involved in Dance in Quebec Across Most Common Types of Dance**

| Dance Category                | Teach | Dance with a Group | Choreograph, Create, Devise |
|-------------------------------|-------|--------------------|-----------------------------|
| Contemporary and modern       | 53%   | 74%                | 76%                         |
| Ballroom and social           | 39%   | 74%                | 36%                         |
| Ballet                        | 56%   | 71%                | 74%                         |
| Urban / street                | 52%   | 82%                | 71%                         |
| European traditional and folk | 46%   | 76%                | 35%                         |
| Country dance and Canadian    | 41%   | 80%                | 29%                         |

Survey respondents were asked to indicate whether they participate with a performing company, troupe or crew<sup>33</sup>, a dance school or studio, a community group, dance club or association, or some other group, in one of their dance forms. Unlike the national results, the majority of respondents in Quebec participate in dance through a school or studio (72 per cent), likely driven by the higher proportion of dance professionals in the Quebec sample. Almost half (47 per cent) participate with a performing troupe,

<sup>33</sup> Crew is a term used for a group of street dance or hip hop dancers who usually compete ('battle') and perform together.

crew or company, which is also higher than the national average. A similar proportion participates through a community group, dance club, or association (43 per cent), although this is considerably lower than the national average, again, likely driven by the lower portion of the Quebec sample who are leisure dance participants.

**Table 6.4.11: How Respondents Participate – National and Quebec**

|  | <b>National<br/>(n=8,124)</b> | <b>Quebec<br/>(n=1,220)</b> |
|--|-------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Community group, dance club or association | 65%                           | 43%                         |
| Dance school or studio                     | 57%                           | 72%                         |
| Performing company, troupe or crew         | 33%                           | 47%                         |

The next table isolates segments of the Quebec sample involved in the most common dance categories, showing for each one the proportions that perform with performing companies, with dance schools, and/or with community groups. Participation with a dance school or studio is quite common across all of the top dance forms, although it is lowest for those who are involved in country dance and Canadian. More than half of participants in contemporary and modern, ballet, and urban/street categories of dance also participate with a performing company, troupe, or crew. The majority of Quebec participants in some form of European traditional and folk, and/or country dance and Canadian dance participate with a community group, dance club, or association.

**Table 6.4.12: How Respondents in Quebec Participate across Most Common Types of Dance**

| <b>Dance Category</b>         | <b>With a performing company, troupe, or crew</b> | <b>With a dance school or studio</b> | <b>With a community group, dance club or association</b> |
|-------------------------------|---|--------------------------------------|--|
| Contemporary and modern       | 61%   | 79%                                  | 26%  |
| Ballroom and social           | 37%   | 80%                                  | 55%  |
| Ballet                        | 53%   | 93%                                  | 20%  |
| Urban / street                | 57%   | 84%                                  | 40%  |
| European traditional and folk | 32%   | 49%                                  | 63%  |
| Country dance and Canadian    | 30%   | 35%                                  | 74%  |

Four in ten Quebec respondents in the survey (40 per cent) receive money for their participation in one or more forms of dance, compared to 33 per cent nationally. The majority of these people also receive occasional honoraria or fees (72 per cent) and many receive professional fees or salaries (56 per cent). Some receive grants (27 per cent) and cash prizes or awards (13 per cent). Fees and honoraria are particularly prevalent in Quebec relative to the national occurrence. The average amount

received by leisure dance participants in Quebec is marginally lower than the national average received (although based on only 53 respondents).

**Table 6.4.13: Proportion who Receive Money from Dance and Type of Income – National and Quebec**

|  | National<br>(n=8,124) | Quebec<br>(n=1,220) |
|--|-----------------------|---------------------|
| % receive money for dance                        | 33%                   | 40%                 |
| Type of income                                   |                       |                     |
| Professional fees or salaries                    | 67%                   | 56%                 |
| Occasional honoraria or fees                     | 60%                   | 72%                 |
| Grants to individuals                            | 21%                   | 27%                 |
| Cash prizes and awards                           | 16%                   | 13%                 |
| Average amount (Leisure dance participants only) | \$730                 | \$646               |

### e) Background and Reasons for Dance

Seven in ten respondents in Quebec have learned one or more forms of dance through a dance school or studio, which is greater than the proportion found nationally (60 per cent). Other common methods of learning among respondents in Quebec are through recreational or community dance groups/clubs (39 per cent, although less so than found nationally, 58 per cent); through post-secondary education (34 per cent, compared to 23 per cent nationally); through self-teaching (32 per cent); and through one-on-one instruction (27 per cent).

**Table 6.4.14: Methods of Learning Dance – National and Quebec**

|   | National<br>(n=8,124) | Quebec<br>(n=1,220) |
|---|-----------------------|---------------------|
| Dance school, studio, or academy                    | 60%                   | 70%                 |
| Recreational or community dance group or dance club | 58%                   | 39%                 |
| Self-taught   | 30%                   | 32%                 |
| One-on-one instruction                              | 28%                   | 27%                 |
| Post-secondary college or university                | 23%                   | 34%                 |
| Elementary and/or secondary school curriculum       | 11%                   | 14%                 |

People dance for many reasons, often in combination. Survey respondents were asked to identify the main reasons (up to five) that they are involved in dance. The top reasons respondents in Quebec say they participate in dance are enjoyment (87 per cent), exercise or fitness (66 per cent), artistic

expression (65 per cent), social connection (45 per cent), and cultural connection (37 per cent). Quebec dance participants are more likely than the national sample to cite artistic expression and cultural connection as reasons for their involvement in dance, both reasons that are more often given by dance professionals in Quebec. Leisure dance participants in Quebec, like those in other provinces, are more likely to say enjoyment, exercise/fitness, and social connection are their top reasons for participating in dance.

**Table 6.4.15: Top Five Reasons for Involvement in Dance – National and Quebec**

|                     | <b>National<br/>(n=8,124)</b> | <b>Quebec<br/>(n=1,220)</b> |
|---------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Enjoyment           | 88%                           | 87%                         |
| Exercise or fitness | 74%                           | 66%                         |
| Artistic expression | 52%                           | 65%                         |
| Social connection   | 61%                           | 45%                         |
| Cultural connection | 24%                           | 37%                         |

In an open ended question, survey respondents were invited to describe “why dance is important to you, or how dance has made a difference in your life?”. Many survey respondents, leisure dance participants and dance professionals alike, said that dance provides them with the benefit of deeper social connections. Respondents say dance stimulates their mental and physical well-being and is a great source of joy, stress relief, and exercise. Many say that dance is a way to express themselves constructively and creatively. Many also feel that participating in dance has taught them life skills like discipline, cooperation, openness, drive, and perseverance.

*“La danse me sert de sortie face au stress, aux problèmes divers de ma vie, c'est une façon d'oublier tout ceci, de se défouler et de se changer les idées tout en faisant un bon exercice. C'est un mélange de plaisir, de concentration, de thérapie, de compétition et santé.”*  
 –17 year old female leisure dance participant (hip hop, contemporary)

*“Des voyages, des rencontres, du plaisir, de la culture et tout cela en travaillant - et ça continue!”*  
 –62 year old male dance professional (Quebec traditional, Quebec gigue, square)

As another indication of their involvement in dance, survey respondents were asked about the average number of live dance performances they typically attend in a year. Respondents in Quebec are similar to the national average in their attendance of live dance performances. In an average year, Quebec respondents say they attend 8.0 live dance performances, compared to 7.2 performances for respondents nationally.

## f) Dance Professionals

As already described, 35 per cent of the sample described themselves as dance professionals or reported dance income in the form of professional fees or salaries. This definition is used to identify “dance professionals”<sup>34</sup> throughout the report. Dance professionals in the survey provided information about their income and hours of dance, as well as some background on their years of earning dance income and amount of formal dance training.

Dance professionals in the survey are involved in dance forms cutting across all categories of dance. The most popular forms of dance represented include contemporary and modern (65 per cent) and ballet (29 per cent). As found nationally, dance professionals pursue ballroom and social, country dance and Canadian, European folk and period dance categories at a much lower rate than found among leisure dance participants.

Among dance professionals in Quebec, 75 per cent of those in the survey say that they have received training through a dance school or program prior to earning income. The average number of years of training is 7.5 years (compared with 9.5 nationally). Since receiving that training the average number of years of earning dance income is 11.7 years. Just under half (47 per cent) have pursued individual training through an apprenticeship, or with a mentor, elder or guru. Those who have pursued this type of training prior to earning dance income report an average of 5.1 years of training, which is marginally lower than found nationally.

**Table 6.4.16: History of Dance Training and Income among Dance Professionals – National and Quebec**

|   | <b>National<br/>(n=2,197)</b> | <b>Quebec<br/>(n=428)</b> |
|---|-------------------------------|---------------------------|
| Percentage receiving training through school or program prior to earning dance income                                       | 79%                           | 75%                       |
| Average number of years of school/program training  | 9.5                           | 7.5                       |
| Percentage receiving individualized training (e.g., apprenticeship, with mentor, elder, guru) prior to earning dance income | 53%                           | 47%                       |
| Average number of years of individualized training  | 5.7                           | 5.1                       |
| Average years of earning dance income   | 11.7                          | 11.7                      |

Nearly one in four professionals from Quebec is primarily a dancer (38 per cent). Just over one in three dance professionals responding from Quebec describe their primary role as teachers (35 per cent),

<sup>34</sup> It should be noted that this is not the definition of professional artists used by the Canada Council for the Arts or Ontario Arts Council in funding/policy decisions.

which is considerably less than the concentration found overall. One in five (21 per cent) are primarily choreographers.

**Table 6.4.17: Primary Roles among Dance Professionals – National and Quebec**

|               | <b>National<br/>(n=2,197)</b> | <b>Quebec<br/>(n=428)</b> |
|---------------|-------------------------------|---------------------------|
| Teacher       | 47%                           | 35%                       |
| Dancer        | 32%                           | 38%                       |
| Choreographer | 16%                           | 21%                       |