

6. Confidence Limits and Validation

The sample of cases produces results which are accurate for the population of as a whole within ± 2.2 percentage points 95 out of 100 times.

In order to validate the sample, we compared our data for the age category of the population with figures provided by Statistics Canada. Table B outlines the percentage of respondents in each age category for the sample, and the corresponding population figures. As these figures suggest, the sample drawn for this study reflects the more general characteristics of the adult population.

Table B

SAMPLE VALIDATION

<u>SAMPLE</u> (n=1,992) %	<u>UNIVERSE</u> ¹ (N=1) %	
<u>AGE</u>		
18-19 years of age	3	5
20-24 years of age	9	13
25-29 years of age	14	13
30-34 years of age	14	11
35-39 years of age	15	10
40-44 years of age	10	8
45-49 years of age	7	7
50-54 years of age	6	7
55-59 years of age	6	7
60-64 years of age	6	6
65 years and older	10	14

¹ Adult population of Canada. Source: 1981 Census of Canada Catalogue.

While the most sophisticated procedures have been used to collect and analyse the information presented herein, it must be remembered that surveys are not predictions. They are designed to measure public opinion within identifiable statistical limits of accuracy at specific points in time. This survey is in no way a prediction of opinion or behaviour at any future point in time.