

# SENSE OF COMMUNITY BELONGING

## *Sense of Community Belonging:*

Age-adjusted percentage of the population aged 12 years or older who feel a somewhat strong or very strong sense of community belonging.

## *North East LHIN region:*

The North East Local Health Integration Network (NE LHIN) region boundaries normally include the North Bay Parry Sound District Health Unit (NBPSDHU) Region. However, for comparison purposes the NE LHIN region is defined as the whole of the region excluding the NBPSDHU region.

## *Data sources:*

Canadian Community Health Survey 2009/10, 2011/12, 2013/14, Statistics Canada, Share File, Ontario Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care.

## *Rate calculations:*

Crude rates were age-standardized using the Direct Method and standard 2011 Canadian population.

## *Data analysis for Canadian Community Health Survey (CCHS) data:*

The confidence intervals and variance were measured using the bootstrapping method, calculated with STATA IC/14.2 (2014).

## *Interpretation of a significant difference:*

A statistic interpreted as 'significantly different' from another is an estimate found to be statistically meaningful; the difference is unlikely due to chance. Error bars noted in figures within this report illustrate 95% confidence intervals. If there is no overlap in range between confidence intervals, the difference can be described as statistically significant.

## Overall

Between 2007 and 2014, about two of every three individuals of the age-standardized population aged 12 years or older in the NBPSDHU region reported feeling a somewhat strong or very strong sense of community belonging, similar to the percentages for Ontario (Table 1).

**Table 1. Age-Standardized Percentage (95% CI) of Individuals Aged 12 Years or Older Who Reported Feeling a Somewhat Strong or Very Strong Sense of Community Belonging, By Region, 2007 – 2014**

Time period	NBPSDHU Region	North East LHIN Region	Ontario
2007/08	60.4 <sup>Δ</sup> (55.8, 64.9)	70.3* (68.1, 72.5)	64.1 (63.3, 64.9)
2009/10	65.7 (60.6, 70.5)	71.1* (68.5, 73.6)	65.3 (64.4, 66.1)
2011/12	70.7 (66.0, 75.0)	69.4* (66.3, 72.3)	65.3 (64.4, 66.2)
2013/14	65.6 (59.9, 70.8)	67.5 (64.6, 70.2)	65.8 (64.9, 66.7)

<sup>Δ</sup> Estimate is significantly different from the North East LHIN estimate

\* Estimate is significantly different from provincial estimate

## Sense of Community Belonging: Gender

Data from 2007 to 2014 was combined to analyze sense of community belonging by gender. The age-standardized percentage of males who felt a sense of community belonging in our region was significantly lower compared to males in the North East LHIN region, but comparable to the percentage for males in Ontario (Table 2).

**Table 2. Age-Standardized Percentage (95% CI) of Individuals Aged 12 Years or Older Who Reported Feeling a Somewhat Strong or Very Strong Sense of Community Belonging, By Region & Gender, 2007 – 2014 Combined**

Gender	NBPSDHU Region	North East LHIN Region	Ontario
Male (ref.)	63.1 <sup>Δ</sup> (59.3, 66.8)	69.0* (67.0, 70.9)	64.1 (63.5, 64.8)
Female	67.5 (63.9, 71)	69.6* (67.8, 71.5)	66.0 <sup>‡</sup> (65.4, 66.6)

<sup>Δ</sup> Estimate is significantly different from the North East LHIN estimate

\* Estimate is significantly different from provincial estimate

<sup>‡</sup> Estimate is significantly different from reference group

### Adjusted Household Income:

The population's household income adjusted for family size, divided into three equally sized groups (lowest income, middle income, and highest income). Household income is divided by the squared number of persons in that household, for each person. For example, lowest income represents the one third of households with the lowest income per household size and the third tertile represents the one third of households with the highest income per household size

## Sense of Community Belonging: Age Group

Data from 2007 to 2014 was combined to analyze sense of community belonging by age group. In our region, sense of community belonging did not vary significantly by age group, however the percentage of adults aged 65 years or older who felt a sense of community belonging was significantly lower in our region compared to the North East LHIN region by about 8% (Table 3). In Ontario and the North East LHIN region, a significantly higher percentage of youth aged 12 to 17 years had a sense of community belonging compared to adults aged 18 to 64 years old.

**Table 3. Age-Standardized Percentage (95% CI) of Individuals Aged 12 Years or Older Who Reported Feeling a Somewhat Strong or Very Strong Sense of Community Belonging, By Region & Age Group, 2007 – 2014 Combined**

Age Group (Years)	NBPSDHU Region	North East LHIN Region	Ontario
12-17 (ref.)	73.6 (65.2, 80.5)	75.7 (71.2, 79.6)	75.6 (74.4, 76.7)
18-24	58.1 (46.0, 69.3)	62.9‡ (56.8, 68.6)	59.5‡ (57.7, 61.3)
25-44	65.4 (60.3, 70.2)	67.0*‡ (64.0, 69.8)	61.4‡ (60.6, 62.1)
45-64	65.2 (60.2, 69.9)	71.5*‡ (69.2, 73.7)	66.4‡ (65.5, 67.2)
65 or older	63.0 <sup>Δ</sup> (58.4, 67.3)	71.3* (69.1, 73.4)	67.2‡ (66.4, 68.0)

<sup>Δ</sup> Estimate is significantly different from the North East LHIN estimate

‡ Estimate is significantly different from reference group

\* Estimate is significantly different from provincial estimate

## Sense of Community Belonging: Adjusted Household Income

Data from 2009 to 2014 was combined to analyze sense of community belonging by adjusted household income. Sense of community belonging did not vary significantly by adjusted household income level in our region (Table 4). In the North East LHIN region and Ontario, a significantly lower percentage of the population in low income households had a sense of community belonging compared to high income households.

**Table 4. Age-Standardized Percentage (95% CI) of Individuals Aged 12 Years or Older Who Reported Feeling a Somewhat Strong or Very Strong Sense of Community Belonging, By Region & Adjusted Household Income Level, 2007 – 2014 Combined**

Income Level	NBPSDHU Region	North East LHIN Region	Ontario
<b>Low income</b>	59.3 (54.7, 63.7)	65.4‡ (62.9, 67.9)	62.5‡ (61.7, 63.4)
<b>Mid income</b>	70.8 (66.6, 74.7)	68.6‡ (66.1, 71.1)	66.6 (65.9, 67.3)
<b>High income (ref.)</b>	65.3 <sup>Δ</sup> (60.4, 69.9)	73.7* (71.5, 75.7)	65.9 (65.2, 66.6)

‡ Estimate is significantly different from reference group

### Sense of Community Belonging: Education

Data from 2011 to 2014 was combined to analyze sense of community belonging by highest level of education completed. Sense of community belonging did not vary by the highest level of education completed in any of the three regions (Table 5).

**Table 5. Age-Standardized Percentage (95% CI) of Individuals Aged 12 Years or Older Who Reported Feeling a Somewhat Strong or Very Strong Sense of Community Belonging, By Region & Highest Level of Education Completed, 2007 – 2014 Combined**

Education	NBPSDHU Region	North East LHIN Region	Ontario
<b>Less than high school</b>	64.4 (55.8, 72.2)	61.0 (54.4, 67.2)	63.6 (61.3, 65.8)
<b>Completed high school</b>	60.2 (52.8, 67.3)	67.1 (62.7, 71.2)	66.3 (64.9, 67.7)
<b>Trade/Apprenticeship/ College/University or higher (ref.)</b>	69.9 (64.5, 74.7)	69.7 (65.3, 73.8)	66.5 (65.5, 67.5)

### Sense of Community Belonging: Aboriginal identity

Data from 2011 to 2014 was combined to analyze sense of community belonging by Aboriginal identity. Sense of community belonging did not vary significantly by Aboriginal identity in our region or Ontario (Table 6). In the North East LHIN region, a significantly lower percentage of those who identified as Aboriginal felt a sense of community belonging, about 10% lower than those who did not identify as Aboriginal.

**Table 3 Age-Standardized Percentage (95% CI) of Individuals Aged 12 Years or Older Who Reported Feeling a Somewhat Strong or Very Strong Sense of Community Belonging, By Region & Aboriginal Identity, 2011 – 2014 Combined**

Aboriginal Identity	NBPSDHU Region	North East LHIN Region	Ontario
<b>Identified as Aboriginal</b>	66.0 (56.8, 74.2)	58.7‡ (51.5, 65.6)	62.3 (59.1, 65.4)
<b>Did not identify as Aboriginal (ref.)</b>	67.1 (63.1, 70.9)	69.5* (67.3, 71.7)	65.7 (65.0, 66.3)

‡ Estimate is significantly different from reference group

\* Estimate is significantly different from provincial estimate