

THE COST OF LIVING IN NUNAVIK IN 2016

RESEARCH REPORT

REVISED AND EXPANDED VERSION

Jean Robitaille, Enrico Guénard, Sébastien Lévesque
and Gérard Duhaime



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Abstract

Context and objective – Université Laval was asked by the Québec government, the Kativik Regional Government and Makivik Corporation to conduct a survey in order to evaluate the cost of living in Nunavik and provide input for discussions on ways to establish effective long-term solutions to the high cost of living.

Method – The survey was conducted over a 16-month period in six selected communities in Nunavik. In all, 448 randomly-selected households took part in the survey by completing a brief questionnaire and reporting all expenditure by household members during a two-week period. The data used for the calculations covered 7,000 goods and services.

Spending structure – The survey was used to establish the spending structure of households in Nunavik. The results highlighted major differences in the spending structure when analyzed in terms of household income level: households with the lowest income devoted over 70% of their expenditure to food and shelter, in contrast to households with a higher income.

The comparative cost-of-living index for Nunavik – The survey also made it possible to establish a general cost-of-living index for Nunavik compared to the city of Québec, and indexes for each component. The index for all components was 128.7 in Nunavik and 100 in the city of Québec, meaning that the cost of living was 28.7% higher overall in Nunavik. In addition, with the exception of the shelter component, the indexes calculated for all the other components are significantly higher in Nunavik than in Québec. A basket of groceries costs, on average, 54.6% more in Nunavik; household operations are 48.7% more expensive; alcohol and tobacco products are 39.4% more expensive; recreation is 31.1% more expensive; and so on. Only shelter is less expensive in Nunavik. These differences are observed despite the cost-of-living reduction measures already in effect in the region.

Shelter – The results show the special place held by shelter in the spending structure, and the downward pressure it places on the comparative cost-of-living index for Nunavik. Even though shelter costs less in Nunavik than in the city of Québec, it still accounts for between 18.2% and 25.4% of household expenditure. Social housing currently has the effect of an important cost-of-living reduction measure for Nunavimmiut households.

Conclusion – The survey made it possible to construct a unique database that could be used for more advanced analysis on specific subjects. Further investigations could periodically update the general and component-specific indexes. This tool could be used to study the potential impacts of measures at the planning stage, and to monitor the actual impacts of any measures adopted.

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1. INTRODUCTION

In December 2013, the Québec government, the Kativik Regional Government (KRG) and Makivik Corporation signed the *Agreement on the Financing of Measures to Reduce the Cost of Living in Nunavik*. The agreement specified that a survey would be conducted to evaluate the cost of living in Nunavik.

The survey was entrusted to the Canada Research Chair on Comparative Aboriginal Conditions at Université Laval, under the direction of two Université Laval professors: G. Duhaime, from the Sociology Department, for the scientific aspects, and J. Robitaille, from the Agri-Food Economics and Consumer Sciences Department, for the methodology. The work began in the spring of 2014.

A monitoring committee, with representatives from the signatory parties to the agreement of December 2013, was established when the research activities commenced, and was kept informed of the progress of the work. In addition, a technical committee, made up of representatives from the Kativik Regional Government and Makivik Corporation, was set up to assist the Université Laval team. The technical committee met several times during the preliminary phases of the survey and was closely involved in developing all the elements of the research protocol: selection of the communities asked to take part in the survey, detailed revision of the data collection method, inclusion or exclusion of certain types of consumer purchases, communications strategy before and during the data collection, etc. The full research protocol was submitted to the Research Ethics Committee at Université Laval, which considered that the survey did not fall under its jurisdiction. The research protocol was tested during a pilot survey in the fall of 2014. Following this, the protocol was revised and approved by the technical committee. Prior to the survey itself, local data collection staff were given training, and a communications campaign was launched to inform the local authorities and general public about the survey.

A first research report was published in 2016 (Robitaille, Guénard and Duhaime, 2016). The richness of the data collected encouraged the stakeholders to further analyse the data within a second project phase. That work allowed for a more precise measurement of the cost of living in Nunavik as well as of the expenditure structure of households in the region. It also led us to introduce certain methodological refinements, making it possible to achieve a better understanding of the validity of the overall approach.

This report is thus a revised and expanded version of the initial report based on the work conducted during the second project phase; it replaces the initial report. It presents the objectives of the survey, the methods used for data collection, processing and analysis, and the main findings of the Nunavik Cost-of-Living Survey, as revised.

2. OBJECTIVE

The objective of the survey was to evaluate the cost of living in Nunavik, taking into account the consumer patterns of households in the region, the price of goods and services, and price differences between Nunavik and southern Québec.

More specifically, the survey involved cataloguing as exhaustively as possible the consumer patterns of Nunavimmiut households in terms of the goods and services they purchase in the North, calculating the costs associated with those consumer patterns according to the price structure in effect in Nunavik, and evaluating what the same goods and services would cost if subject to the price structure in effect in the city of Québec. Using the Québec city region as a geographical reference point, the aim of the study was to calculate comparative cost-of-living indexes that would shed light on the economic realities faced by private households in Nunavik.

Makivik Corporation, the Kativik Regional Government and the Québec government undertook to use the findings from the survey to define effective long-term solutions to the high cost of living in Nunavik.

3. METHOD

3.1 Theoretical approach

The methodological strategy for the research consisted in measuring as exhaustively as possible the effective demand among private households in Nunavik for the goods and services making up their main items of expenditure, and determining the price of those goods and services; establishing the price of the same goods and services in the city of Québec; and establishing the difference between the amount effectively paid by Nunavik households to make their purchases in the region, and the amount they would have had to pay to buy the same goods and services, or their equivalent, in Québec.

3.1.1 *Adaptation of a consumer price index to measure the cost of living*

Based on the data collected from a representative sample of private households in Nunavik, an adaptation of the Paasche consumer price index (International Labour Office, 2004) was used to calculate a synthetic weighted cost-of-living index for Nunavik, with the city of Québec as the reference. Simply presented, the modified Paasche price index was calculated as follows:

$$I_{\text{Paasche modified}} = \frac{\sum_i^n (P_{N_i} \times Q_{N_i})}{\sum_i^n (P_{Q_i} \times Q_{N_i})} \times 100$$

where P_N and P_Q refer to the prices, respectively in Nunavik and Québec, of various " n ", which are goods and services purchased by the households surveyed in Nunavik at the time of the survey, and Q_N refers to the quantities of goods and services purchased by the households that took part in the survey.

The decision to adapt the Paasche price index results directly from the objective of this study. The various different consumer price indexes calculated by government authorities are time-referenced (for a given reference year), whereas the index needed for this project had to be geographically referenced (Nunavik compared to the city of Québec). For this purpose, the change made to the Paasche index rectifies the reference framework for the calculation of relative indexes and sub-indexes for two distinct geographic regions.

At the theoretical level, for a consumer price index to measure the cost of living, the range of goods and services available to and purchased by the target population must be circumscribed. At the empirical level, this means that the more the goods and services used to calculate the price index are exhaustive and representative of all the goods and services making up the available consumer range of the population studied, the greater the potential the index will have to reflect the true cost of living for that population.

In practice, the various consumer price indexes are calculated using a fixed basket that contains a limited sample of the range of goods and services available to a given population. As a result, most indexes have trouble capturing the substitution effects which occur in a household's expenditure and consumer patterns when the price structure for the goods and services making up the consumer range changes. However, in this study, the adaptation of the Paasche price index was operationalized via a survey that was intended to be as exhaustive as possible. The application of the principle of aggregation subject to the law of large numbers confirms the exhaustiveness of the consumer patterns of Nunavimmiut households, at least at the time the survey was conducted.

3.2 Comparative cost-of-living index construction

The construction of the cost-of-living index by aggregation involves three steps: the classification of expenditures, the measurement of the spending structure and the calculation of the indexes.

3.2.1 *Classification of the goods and services purchased by sampled households*

In the database, the goods and services purchased in Nunavik by the households in the survey were divided into eight components subdivided into 175 product subgroups (see Appendix 9), based on the classification generally used by Statistics Canada for calculating the consumer price index (CPI). This classification was chosen for three main reasons: it reflects the economic reality faced by consumers; it meets the needs of the research project; and it uses components that are unambiguous, mutually exclusive and exhaustive. For example, a soft drink purchased in Nunavik and its price in Québec are categorized in the subgroup “Non-alcoholic beverages”, which is part of the “Food” component. The price data aggregated into this two-level classification are then used to calculate the indexes and measure the spending structure.

3.2.2 *Calculation of indexes by subgroups*

For each subgroup, the price data was converted to a simple base 100 index, where the price observed in the city of Québec represents the reference value. For example, for the subgroup “Fresh or frozen beef”, if the expenditure observed in Nunavik is \$3,245.56 and the cost for the same products is equal to \$2,074.82 in Québec, the resulting index is 156.4. This index means that the beef products purchased by Nunavimmiut households are, on average, 56.4% more expensive in Nunavik than in Québec.

3.2.3 *Calculation of component indexes and the cost-of-living index*

The last step was to measure the relative weight of each of the 175 product subgroups on the total expenditure of Nunavimmiut households. This measure is relevant not only to estimate the proportion of expenditure allocated to each expense item, but also to determine the relative weight of each subgroup within the components and the cost-of-living index. To calculate a component’s index, the proportion of each subgroup’s expenditure within the component was measured. This proportion served as a weighting factor for the simple index of each of subgroup within a component, i.e. each subgroup’s index was multiplied by its corresponding relative weight. The component index is obtained by summing these results, which correspond to each subgroup’s contributions to the index. Thus, the more a good or service occupies a large share of household spending, the more it will influence the aggregate price index, in accordance with its cost. For example, we know that 2.2% of all expenditures on food are related to the purchase of pork, and that the price index for this subgroup is 158.1. In comparison, potatoes account for 0.3% of expenditures, and the index for this subgroup is 77.8. Seeing that pork occupies a relatively larger share of household expenditures, and given that the price difference between Nunavik and Québec is high for these products, the subgroup of pork items has an upward influence on the food component, and thereby on the overall measure of the cost of living in Nunavik. Conversely, although potatoes are less expensive in Nunavik than in Québec, their small weight in the household consumption structure means that this product has little impact on the measure of the food component.

The cost-of-living index follows the same logic: the relative weight of each component is calculated on the total expenditures captured during the survey, and the component indexes are multiplied by the resulting expenditure shares. The sum of these contributions results in the cost-of-living index. In accordance with this approach, the impact of each component on the cost-of-living index is proportional to its relative weight in the total expenditure structure of the households.

3.3 Data collection

Data collection took place over a 16-month period (January 2015 to April 2016), in order to take into account seasonal variations in the consumer patterns of the Nunavimmiut and in the price structure. A pilot survey was implemented first, from mid-November to mid-December 2014, in order to validate the data collection strategy for the households involved. In Nunavik, the data was collected by local employment officers of the Kativik Regional Government, under the supervision of a field coordinator from the Université Laval research team. The local employment officers had received two days of training. In Québec, the data was collected by the Université Laval team.

3.3.1 Communities selected for the survey and sampling of households

In all, six of the fourteen communities in Nunavik were selected as the sample base for the survey: Kuujjuaq, Kangiqsualujjuaq, Tasiujaq, Puvirnituq, Salluit and Umiujaq. They were selected as being representative of Nunavik's two geographic regions (Ungava Bay and Hudson Bay) and different community sizes (large, medium and small).

Table 1

Distribution of households surveyed by community, geographic region and size, Nunavik, 2015-2016

Region	Size	Community	Sample	
			<i>n</i>	%
Ungava	Large	Kuujjuaq	148	33.0
	Medium	Kangiqsualujjuaq	69	15.4
	Small	Tasiujaq	15	3.3
		Subtotal	232	51.8
Hudson	Large	Puvirnituq	121	27.0
	Medium	Salluit	89	19.9
	Small	Umiujaq	6	1.3
		Subtotal	216	48.2
Nunavik		Total	448	100.0

In all, 450 private households were surveyed, selected randomly from the lists of addresses provided by the Kativik Municipal Housing Bureau (KMHB) and employers. However, the survey files of two households could not be located, and so this report is based on a sample of 448 households. Participation was open to all private households with at least one full year's residency in Nunavik prior to the survey.

According to the most recent published data (Duhaim et al., 2015), the number of private dwellings in Nunavik is 3,140, including 3,050 rental units and 90 owner-occupied dwellings. As a result, the sample of 448 households selected for this cost-of-living survey has a margin of error of plus or minus 4.3%, within a confidence interval of 95%, 19 times out of 20¹.

¹ In spite of the fact that the sampled households upon which relies this research report accounts for 14.3% of the 3,140 households living in private dwellings in Nunavik, as a precautionary measure, the assumption of perfect heterogeneity vis-à-vis the population of Nunavimmiut households was favored while establishing

The order in which the surveys were conducted in the six communities was designed to maximize the representation of seasonal variations in consumer patterns and in the price of the goods and services purchased by households, and to minimize the costs associated with data collection. In addition, the number of private households sampled in each community determined the number of data collection segments and the duration of the survey in each community.

Table 2

Distribution of all households surveyed by community and by quarter, Nunavik, 2015-2016

Community	Quarter						Total	
	Pilot Survey	2015				2016		
		1 st	2 nd	3 rd	4 th	1 st		
	<i>n</i>	<i>n</i>				<i>n</i>	<i>n</i>	%
Kuuujuaq	1	27	14	74	19	13	148	33.0
Kangiqsualujuaq	12	8	25	24	0	0	69	15.4
Tasiujaq	0	7	4	0	0	4	15	3.3
Puvirnituaq	0	1	10	91	19	0	121	27.0
Salluit	0	22	18	6	10	33	89	19.9
Umiujaq	0	0	6	0	0	0	6	1.3
Total	13	65	77	195	48	50	448	100.0

3.3.2 Recruitment of households, survey procedure and information collected

The households surveyed in each of the six communities selected for the survey were first contacted by a local employment officer working for the Kativik Regional Government, who checked that the household qualified to take part in the survey. If it did, the employment officer briefly presented the background and objective of the study, the procedure for the survey, and the expectations concerning the household's participation. If the household indicated its willingness to take part in the survey, one of its members was invited to meet with the local employment officer to read and sign the consent form (see Appendix 1). The first interview took place at the same time to collect information on the household's size and composition: number of members, age and gender of each member, relationship of each member to the respondent, and number of members who were beneficiaries under the James Bay and Northern Québec Agreement (JBNQA). During the interview, information was also collected on the household's total pre-tax (i.e., gross) income and its residential status (housing provided by the KMHB, housing provided by the employer, or private dwelling) (see Appendix 2). At the end of the first interview, the household's representative was given a survey kit that included the following: a daily spending log, in which the participant had to record, for two consecutive weeks, each item of expenditure by each household member; an envelope for detailed receipts from all the purchases; and an explanatory guide for completing the log (see Appendices 3 and 4).

Depending on the availability of the local employment officers in each of the six communities, one or two follow-up meetings or phone calls took place with each household representative during the two-week period for completing the log. This follow-up gave the employment officer an opportunity to ensure that the household participants were completing the spending log in

the sample margin of error, and that, even though the elected sampling strategy made use of a probabilistic two-stage stratification of the Nunavimmiut population.

accordance with the instructions. After completing the spending log, the household representatives attended a final meeting where the spending log and an envelope containing all the receipts were collected by the local employment officer, who checked with the respondent to ensure that all the information recorded in the household's log was complete and correctly documented. Once the local employment officer was satisfied that all the receipts and information had been provided by the household for the expenditure recorded in the log, the completed survey materials were sent to the field coordinator. The coordinator checked the information provided by each household again, then digitized the data and uploaded it to a secure cloud-based account for processing by the Université Laval team. The hard copies of the completed survey materials and receipts were also sent to the Université Laval team for more in-depth analysis and processing. Each household received \$100 in financial compensation for its participation.

3.3.3 Identification of prices in Québec City

Table 3

Businesses and service providers in the city of Québec used to identify the price of goods and services purchased by households in the survey, Québec, 2015-2016

Component	Company
Food	Couche-Tard, IGA, Maxi, Métro, Normandin, Stratos, Walmart
Shelter	OMHQ, SCHL
Household operations, furnishings and equipment	Ameublement Tanguay, Best Buy, Brador, Canadian Tire, Corbeil, IGA, Maxi, Meubles Ashley, Walmart
Clothing and footwear	Atmosphere, Canadian Tire, Columbia, Footlocker, FurCanada, Sears, Sewknit, Walmart
Transportation	Air Inuit, Canadian Tire, Canots Nor-West, First Air, Walmart
Health and personal care	Babies "R" Us, Brunet, Canadian Tire, Costco, IGA, Jean Coutu, Métro, Pharmaprix, Walmart
Recreation, education and reading	Canadian Tire, EB games, Entrepôt du hockey, Future Shop, Louis Garneau, Renaud-Bray, Sears, Software King, Staples, Toys "R" Us, Walmart
Alcoholic beverages and tobacco products	Couche-Tard, IGA, Métro, SAAQ

In the city of Québec, many different places were selected to identify the price of the goods and services purchased by Nunavik households participating in the survey. Several businesses and service providers had to be contacted to locate identical goods and services or, when this was not possible, to find close substitutes in order to reconstitute as faithfully as possible the range of consumer products purchased by households in Nunavik.

3.3.4 Rent data

The rent data of the participating households was provided by the Kativik Municipal Housing Bureau (KMHB), the organization that manages all social housing in Nunavik. The Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CHMC) provides data on average rental prices according to the dwelling size by census metropolitan area (CMA). This data was used as an indicator of rental prices in Québec. Nunavik rent data was categorized by dwelling types to allow for comparison with dwellings of similar size in the Québec city area. The average rental price for the following Québec CMA zones was calculated to estimate the rental price by dwelling size in Québec:

- Basse-Ville de Québec, Vanier;
- Beauport, Boischâtel, Île-d'Orléans and others;
- Charlesbourg, Stoneham and others;
- Québec des Rivières, L'Ancienne-Lorette;
- Val-Bélair, St-Émile, Loretteville and others.

Two areas, namely Haute-Ville de Québec and the region of Ste-Foy, Sillery, Cap-Rouge and Saint-Augustin-de-Desmaures were excluded from the mean rental price for Québec, since these include some of the most expensive neighborhoods in the province of Québec. Areas on the south shore were also excluded in order to limit the geographic dispersion of collection points for the price of the goods and services in the consumer profile. The monthly rental figures in Nunavik and Québec were then converted to a two-week period, in order to correspond to the span of time during which household spending was monitored in Nunavik.

By comparing the average rent for private one-bedroom, two-bedroom and three-or-more-bedroom apartments with the prices set by the KMHB for each type of dwelling in its residential buildings, a comparative index was calculated for the shelter component.

Table 4

Rental market used to identify the average price for each type of dwelling, Québec CMA, 2015

Zone	Studio		1 bedroom		2 bedrooms		3 bedrooms +	
	\$	%	\$	%	\$	%	\$	%
Basse-Ville de Québec, Vanier	488	66.4	606	45.8	744	35.2	860	37.9
Beauport, Boischâtel, Île-d'Orléans, etc.	466	9.9	601	12.3	821	14.1	1 036	17.6
Charlesbourg, Stoneham, etc.	510	11.2	652	18.8	796	20.3	903	17.8
Québec des Rivières, L'Ancienne-Lorette	569	10.6	637	16.6	753	22.6	868	17.7
Val-Bélair, St-Émile, Loretteville, etc.	491	2.0	613	6.5	733	7.8	820	9.0
Average price	497	-	620	-	767	-	896	-

3.4 Processing of data by the Université Laval research team

Once the data had been digitized and recorded in the secure account, the Université Laval team carried out the final checks and ensured that all the required information had been collected for each participating household.

Based on the digital codes printed on the receipts, the Université Laval team identified the Universal Product Code (UPC) for each article purchased by each participating household. For this purpose, computerized lists containing the UPC and a detailed description of each product available in Nunavik were drawn up with the assistance of the North West Company (NWC) and the Fédération des coopératives du Nouveau-Québec (FCNQ). In all, over 720,000 consumer articles were listed in the computerized lists of UPCs and the descriptions of products purchased by the households in the survey. Once identified, the UPCs for the goods and services purchased were entered into a database with a detailed description of the products, the quantities purchased and the prices paid.

The price of all the goods and services purchased in Nunavik was also identified in the city of Québec. When an article purchased in Nunavik could not be located in Québec, the price of a close substitute was used. This information was also recorded in the database.

3.4.1 Consumer profile captured by the survey

Over 6,700 detailed, usable receipts from approximately 52,000 purchases made by the 448 Nunavimmiut households in the survey were compiled and processed for the purposes of this study. In all, more than 7,000 separate consumer goods, representing a total expenditure of \$584,404, were reported by the surveyed households. Each of these consumer goods purchased by the households in the survey was placed in one of the eight components of goods and services (see Appendix 9). Goods and services that were identified precisely in Nunavik were used to compare prices with the city of Québec. These are 3,682 goods and services representing 83.5% of the total compiled expenditures during the survey.

3.4.2 Stratification of households in the survey based on their annual pre-tax income

Surveyed households were grouped into three separate strata based on their total annual pre-tax (i.e., gross) income, as assessed by questionnaire (see Appendix 2). The 448 households in the survey were placed into one of the following income levels: low, medium and high.

To stratify households based on their ability to pay, a low income measure (LIM) was first calculated that slightly modified the methodology routinely used by Statistics Canada (Statistics Canada, 2002). More specifically, the LIM employed by Statistics Canada is a threshold calculated on the basis of the family income, adjusted to the size and composition of the household. The adjusted income is obtained by dividing the household income by the equivalence factor² corresponding to the household size and composition. This allows the income of households of different sizes and composition to be compared. Using these adjusted household income figures, a threshold is then established defining the low-income household group. The threshold used by Statistics Canada is 50% of the median adjusted household income. For the purposes of this study, the LIM chosen to separate low-income households from other households was 75% of the median adjusted household income ($n = 162$). The decision to set the LIM at 75% rather than 50% of the median adjusted income was motivated principally by the fact that the purchasing power of a dollar of income in Nunavik is considerably less than that of a dollar in the South, owing to the higher cost of living in communities located north of the 55th parallel. A list of the low-income thresholds corresponding to the different types of households is provided in Appendix 8; the figures there are expressed in unadjusted dollars. The median adjusted income was also used to define the other income strata. Households with an adjusted income equal to or greater than 75% of the median adjusted income, but less than 200% of the median adjusted income, are included in the middle-income stratum ($n = 200$). Households with an adjusted income equal to or greater than 200% of the median adjusted income are included in the high-income stratum ($n = 86$).

3.5 Limits

The range of consumer products noted during the survey does not include all the goods and services that could be purchased. Some goods and services were excluded because of their nature, and because of the theoretical, ethical, methodological or logistical problems that would have been raised by their inclusion. Other goods and services were excluded after the data had been collected

² The adjustment of the median income uses an equivalency scale that assigns a different weighting to each household member based on his or her age. The oldest member is given an equivalence factor of 1, and the second oldest member and all members aged 16 or over are given an equivalence factor of 0.4. Members aged under 16 are given an equivalence factor of 0.3. The sum of all these equivalence factors provides the equivalence factor for the household (Paquet, 2009). This adjustment has the advantage of relating the household's nominal income to its specific needs (Duhaime and Édouard, 2012).

because of the incomplete nature of the information provided. These limiting factors are briefly discussed in the following paragraphs, along with other relevant information on the data collected.

3.5.1 Types of consumption, products and services excluded from the research protocol

The decision to exclude certain goods or services was sometimes based on the nature of the goods or services concerned. This concerns three distinct groups of products, the first being illegal substances (drugs, smuggled alcohol) and other criminal products. During the planning stage, the technical committee considered that the inclusion of these goods and services created a major risk for the overall success of the survey and for the safety of individuals, in particular those actively involved in data collection.

Secondly, the swapping of goods, the exchange of services and the free distribution of food products were excluded from the survey, since they do not generally involve any direct monetary transactions. Given the objective of the survey and the limited resources available, there was no realistic way to produce a valid measurement of these phenomena in Nunavik, or to identify comparative measurements that would be valid in the city of Québec.

Thirdly, second-hand consumer goods were not included in calculating the indexes, although some transactions of this kind were reported by a few households. This decision was made because of the lack of information on the specific characteristics of these items, and the difficulty of assessing their economic value in the city of Québec.

3.5.2 Exclusions due to the lack of information

Other goods and services were excluded after the data collection because the information collected was incomplete. This concerned two types of consumption.

First, in Kuujjuaq, the price of the products purchased at the Newviq'vi/Tullik General Store is not reflected in the indexes published in this report. The lack of digital product codes and detailed product descriptions on the receipts issued by the store made it impossible to precisely identify the articles purchased. However, these data were used to determine a more representative spending structure of the households' consumption patterns and define more precisely the weight of the food component in the cost-of-living index. In fact, the purchase amount of food bought in Newviq'vi/Tullik, which it was possible to identify, was added to the food component total expenditure. In this way, the weighting factor of the food component in the cost-of-living index calculation takes into account the food items purchased at Newviq'vi/Tullik (see section 3.2.3). Without this adjustment, the households' food expenditure in Kuujjuaq would be considerably underestimated, as would the weight of the food component in the Nunavik global cost-of-living index.

Secondly, not all the consumer goods purchased and documented on the cash register receipts provided by the surveyed households could be identified by the Université Laval team because of a lack of information about the specific characteristics of certain consumer goods. These goods, representing 16.5% of the surveyed households' consumer expenditure, could not be documented with enough precision to be used in the calculation of the indexes presented in this report. More specifically, two components – household operations, furnishings and equipment, on the one hand, and clothing and footwear on the other, for which 52.2% and 44.7% respectively of reported spending were linked to a price identified at a Québec business – have an underestimated relative weight, without an adjustment, with respect to their actual impact on the overall cost of living. For example, the telecommunications services in the household operations and furnishings component could not be associated with an equivalent in the city of Québec, given that the technical

information³ available for each subscription package was, in all reported cases, imprecise and unreliable. As a result, the expenditure for these services could not be used to calculate the indexes. The same difficulty arose when identifying the Québec price for designer or popular brands of clothing. The databases consulted and the product descriptions on the bills were examined, but to no avail; it was not possible to identify the characteristics of each item with enough certainty and precision to locate it at a Québec business.

3.5.3 *Comparability issues*

To measure price differences that are specifically due to geographic location, price indexes should be calculated by comparing the prices of identical goods and services with the same qualities or characteristics. In some cases, it was impossible to establish a price comparison between two identical goods, so the solution was to choose the closest possible substitute.

Concerning food, some cuts of meat made it difficult to compare quality due to a lack of information on the receipts. Sometimes, the brand or the format of the products identified in Nunavik could not be found in the Québec stores that were selected for collecting prices. Similarly, eggs, fruits and vegetables purchased in bulk did not allow for an exhaustive comparison, due to a lack of information on the type of product, price per kilo or other information that could facilitate the clear identification of the product bought and the price paid.

The comparison of rents in Nunavik with those in the city of Québec also required establishing a basis for comparison, despite differences in construction and the various municipal services available. Housing conditions in the city of Québec are very different from Nunavik. Nevertheless, it was decided to establish a housing price ratio between the two regions by comparing the cost of housing, regardless of the characteristics of the construction or the services offered in the municipality of residence. Contrary to all other price indexes calculated in this survey, the rent index was determined by comparing dwellings with similar functions rather than their intrinsic properties. Although this bias has a limited impact on the results, it is an exception to the established method of comparing goods and services.

3.5.4 *Cost-of-living reduction measures effects on the data*

The cost-of-living reduction measures currently in force have varying effects on the collected data (see Appendix 10). Since the survey focuses on the prices that consumers actually pay, the data include the discounts that are applied at the moment of purchase. The programs involved are the Food and Other Essentials Program, the Gasoline Program and the Nutrition North Canada program. Cost reductions under those programs that take the form of a reimbursement are not included in the data, which may cause the price of the eligible products and services to be overestimated. These programs are the Airfare Reduction Program and the Household Appliance and Harvesting Equipment Program. This overestimation of the real cost to the consumer may affect some subgroups of the transportation component, as well as certain subgroups of the household furnishings and equipment component.

³ For Internet services, the information concerned upload and download speeds (measured in megabits per second) and available bandwidth (measured in gigabits) under an agreement between the household and the service provider.

4. RESULTS

4.1 Introduction

This section first presents the spending structure that reflects the consumer patterns for all the Nunavimmiut households in the survey, based on the eight components of goods and services used by Statistics Canada to calculate the CPI (see Appendix 9).

Secondly, the spending structure is broken down by the ability to pay of the households in the survey. The households were grouped into one of three strata: low income, medium income, and high income.

Thirdly, the comparative cost-of-living index calculated on the basis of all spending that reflects the consumer patterns of private households in Nunavik (CCLIN) is presented. This comparative index measures the gap between the cost of living for Nunavimmiut households generated by the price structure in Nunavik at the time of the survey for the goods and services they consume, and the cost of living that would be generated for the same consumer patterns by the price structure in the city of Québec. The index calculated for all spending is also broken down into eight sub-indexes, one for each component of goods and services.

Finally, the comparative cost-of-living index for the whole of Nunavik is broken down according to the households' pre-tax ability to pay. The Nunavimmiut households in the survey are separated into three income strata, and a comparative cost-of-living index is presented for each. Once again, the index for each income stratum is then broken down into eight sub-indexes, based on the eight components of goods and services (see Appendix 9).

In all, four comparative cost-of-living indexes (the index for all households in Nunavik and the three indexes for the three strata of household income) and 32 comparative sub-indexes (the four comparative cost-of-living indexes broken down by eight components of goods and services) are presented in this section.

4.2 Spending structure for all the Nunavimmiut households in the survey

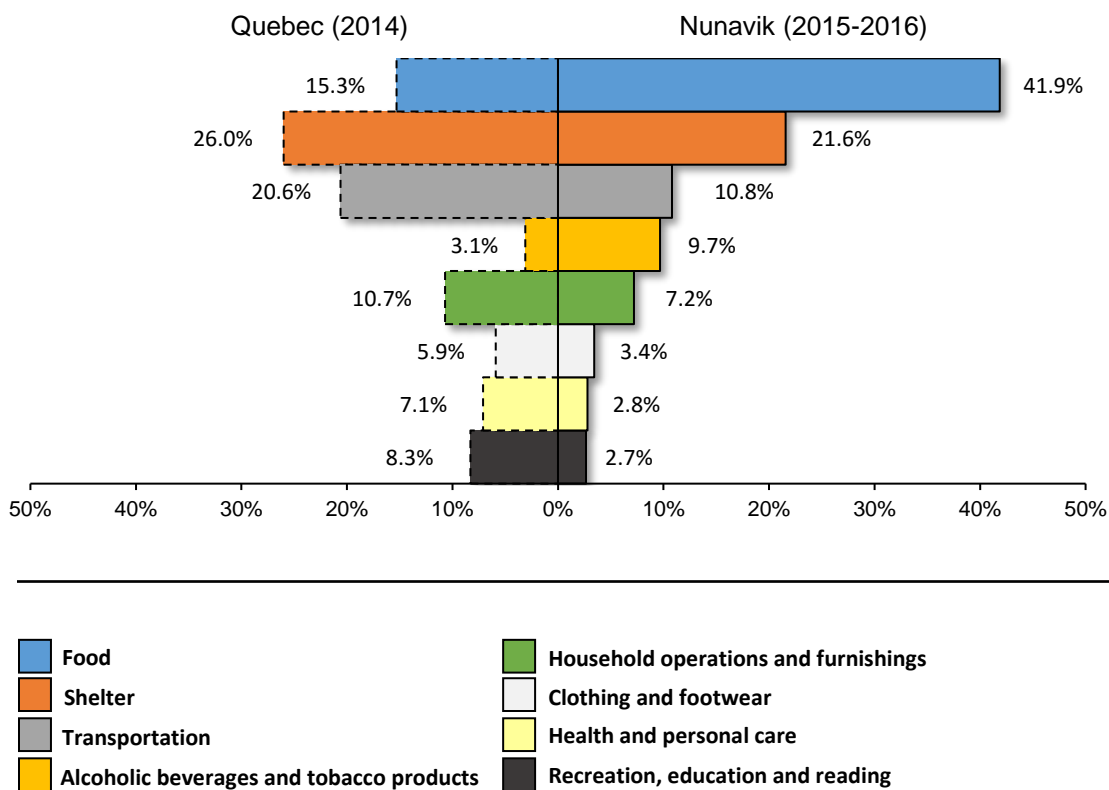
For all the 448 households surveyed, food is the biggest spending item, at 41.9% of reported spending. Shelter comes second, at 21.6% of documented spending, and transportation third at 10.8% of reported spending. Alcoholic beverages and tobacco products are fourth, at 9.7% of reported spending, and household operations and furnishings come fifth at 7.2% of reported spending. Clothing and footwear come sixth, at 3.4% of spending, and health and personal care seventh, at 2.8% of reported spending. Finally, recreation, education and reading come last, with 2.7% of reported spending.

Nunavik's spending structure differs from that for the province of Québec as a whole⁴. Notably, the expenditure share devoted to food in Nunavik is more than twice that allocated to food in Québec. Moreover, taken together, food and shelter account for 41.3% of the total spending in Québec, whereas these two components add up to more than 63% in Nunavik – a considerable difference.

⁴ The reported percentages for Québec province are drawn from Statistics Canada's Survey of Household Spending (Statistics Canada, 2015).

Figure 1

Reported spending structure for households, Québec province and Nunavik, 2014, 2015-2016



4.2.1 Spending structure for households in the survey, by income level

Since a household's spending structure may vary significantly depending on its ability to pay, the households in the survey were placed in three mutually exclusive strata based on their total pre-tax annual income. As mentioned in section 3.4.2 of this report, the 448 households in the survey were grouped into three income levels using a low income measure (LIM).

Figure 2 presents the spending structure of the surveyed households by income level, for each of the eight components of goods and services that reflect their consumer patterns.

This figure clearly shows that Nunavimmiut low-income households spend more of their budget on food than medium-income and high-income households. While 45.1% of the total spending of low-income households is on food, the percentage drops to 41.6% for medium-income households and 38.2% for high-income households.

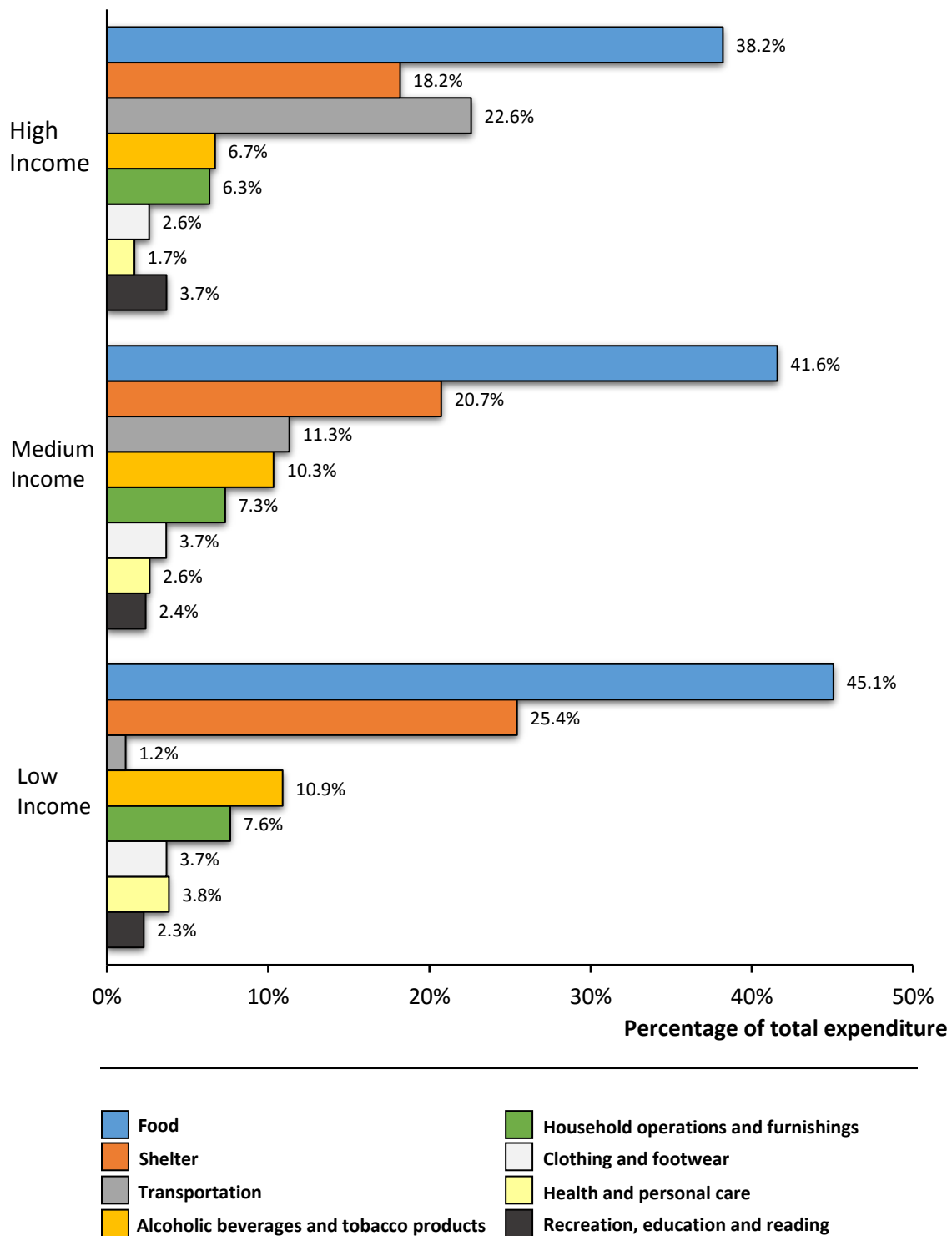
Similarly, low-income households also devote more of their expenditures to shelter, which represents 25.4% of their spending, compared to 20.7% and 18.2% for medium-income households and high-income households, respectively. Combined spending on food and shelter accounts for 70.5% of the budget of low-income households, compared to 62.3% for medium-income households and 56.4% for high-income households.

For transportation, the data show that high-income households are the ones that spend the largest percentage of their total budget on transportation, at 22.6%, compared to 11.3% for medium-income households and only 1.2% for low-income households. While transportation is the smallest component in terms of its relative weight in the spending structure of low-income households, it is

the second largest component in the spending structure of high-income households, ranking even above shelter in terms of its relative weight.

Figure 2

Spending structure for households in the survey by income level, Nunavik, 2015-2016



Alcoholic beverages and tobacco products represent 10.9% of the spending of low-income households, compared to 10.3% for medium-income households and 6.7% for high-income households. Ranked third in terms of relative weight in the spending structure of low-income households, alcoholic beverages and tobacco products rank fourth and fifth for medium-income households and high-income households, respectively.

The spending structure of the households surveyed shows that, regardless of income level, household operations and furnishings account for roughly the same percentage of the expenditures of all Nunavimmiut households: 7.6% of total reported spending for low-income households, 7.3% for medium-income households, and 6.3% for high-income households.

Clothing and footwear represent 3.7% of total reported spending for low-income households, compared to 3.7% for medium-income households and 2.6% for high-income households.

Health and personal care accounts for 3.8% of total reported spending for low-income households, 2.6% for medium-income households, and 1.7% for high-income households.

Lastly, the spending structure of the households in the survey shows that high-income households devote the largest percentage of their budget to recreation, education and reading. It represents 3.7% of their total spending, compared to 2.4% for medium-income households, and 2.3% for low-income households.

4.3 Comparative cost-of-living index and sub-indexes for each of the eight components for all households in the survey

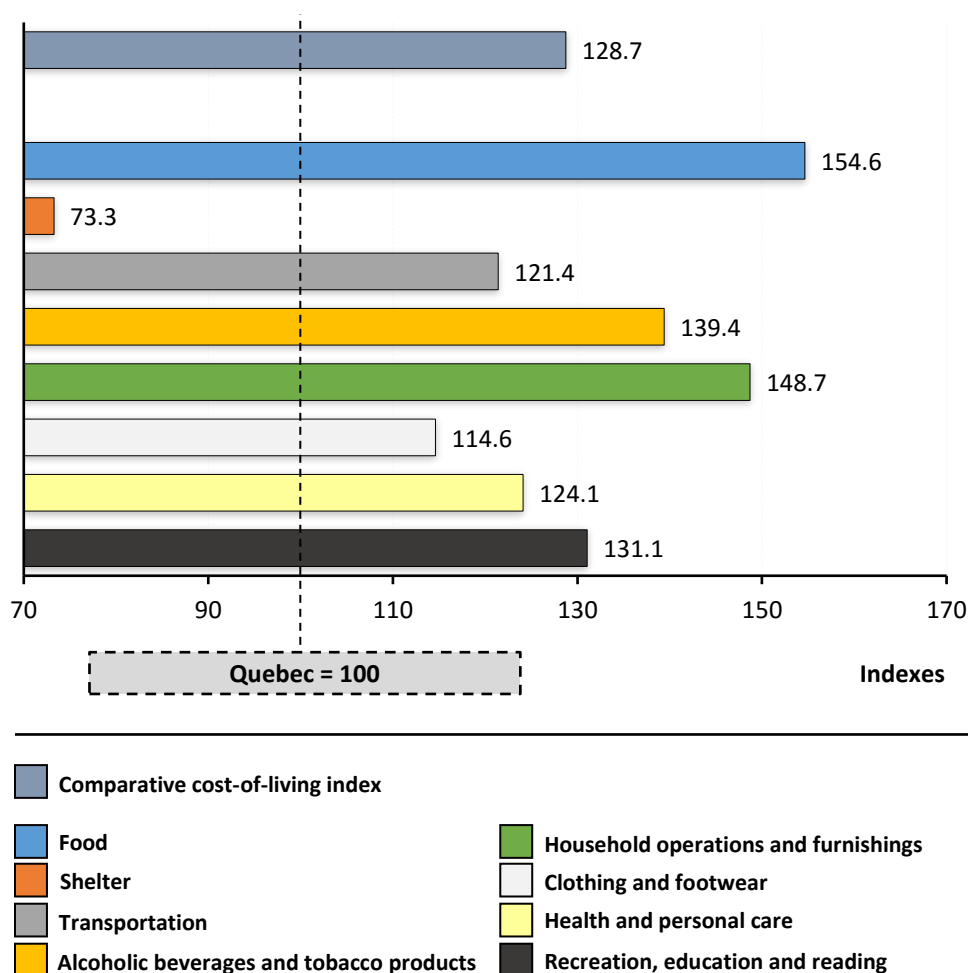
The global comparative cost-of-living index for Nunavik is 128.7 points, reflecting the fact that overall, and considering the specific spending structure of the Nunavimmiut, it costs 28.7% more to live in Nunavik than in the city of Québec. The breakdown of sub-indexes by component in Figure 3 provides more detail.

More specifically, looking at the sub-indexes for each spending component in the CCLIN, we see that:

- it costs 54.6% more to live in Nunavik in terms of spending on food;
- the costs associated with shelter, mainly rent, are 26.7% lower than in the city of Québec;
- transportation costs are 21.4% higher in Nunavik. Spending on plane tickets accounts for a large percentage of reported spending in this component. However, given that the price of plane tickets is the same in Nunavik as in the city of Québec (the sub-index is 100), this has a downward effect on the index of the transportation component;
- the consumption of goods in the alcoholic beverages and tobacco products component costs 39.4% more in Nunavik than in Québec;
- goods and services in the component of household operations and furnishings are 48.7% more expensive in Nunavik than in the South;
- clothing and footwear are 14.6% more expensive than in the South;
- Nunavimmiut households pay on average 24.1% more for health and personal care;
- goods and services in the recreation, education and reading component are, on average, 31.1% more expensive than in the city of Québec.

Figure 3

Cost of living index in Nunavik by spending component, Nunavik, 2015-2016



4.3.1 Comparative cost-of-living indexes and sub-indexes for each of the eight cost of living components, by income level

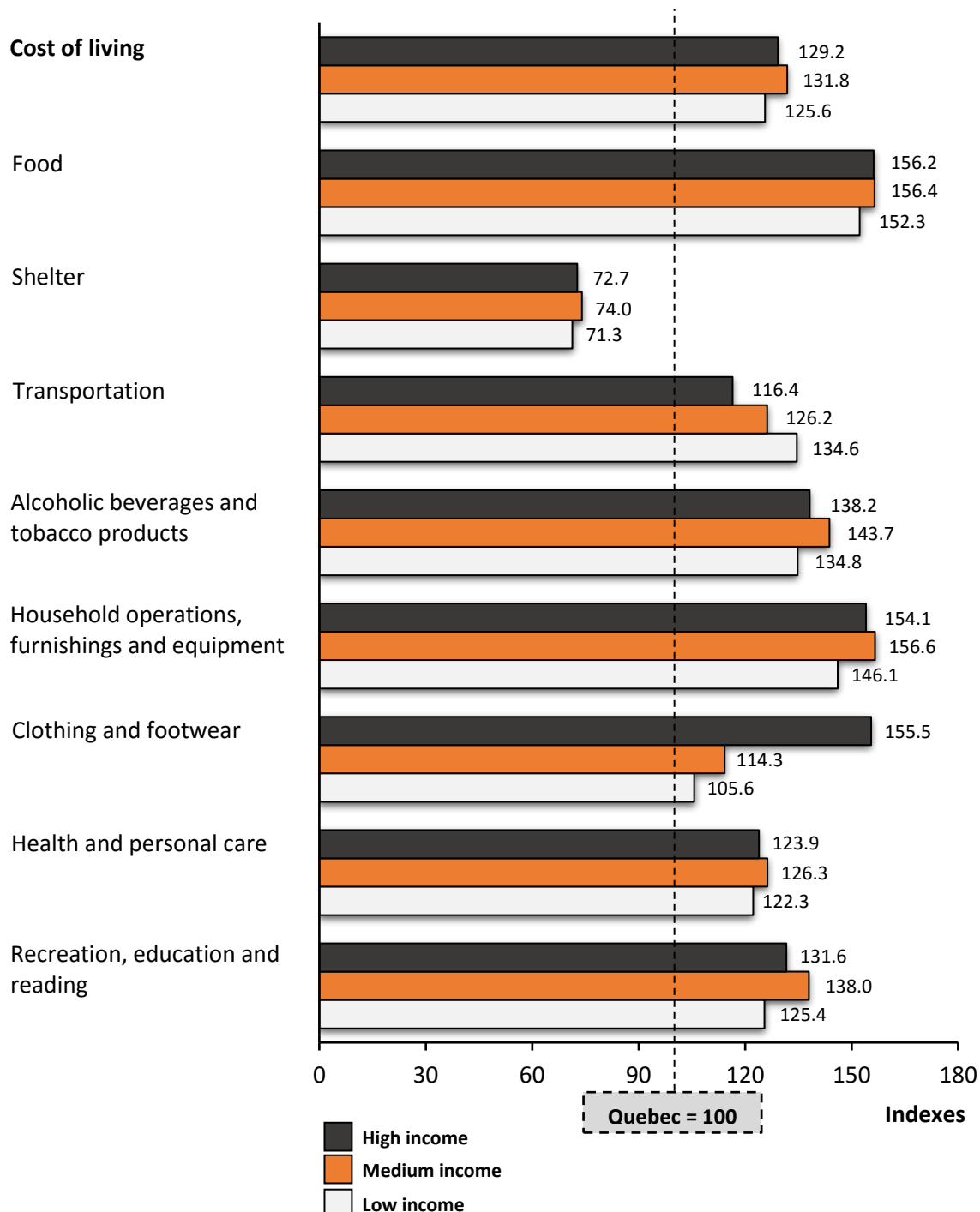
Figure 4 shows that the comparative cost-of-living index for Nunavik varies slightly depending on the income level of the households concerned. The index of 125.6 for low-income households is 3.6 points below the index for high-income households (129.2) and 6.2 points below the index for medium-income households (131.8). These differences between the indexes are explained mainly by the fact that the percentage of total expenditure for each component varies, sometimes considerably, according to income level. Thus, the nature of the expenditure and the price of the goods and services play an important role in the calculation of the indexes.

The transportation component in the CCLIN for high-income households has a high relative weight (22.6%) and shows a low price differential, at 116.4. The principal expenditure reported by high-income households was for plane tickets. Since the price of airfare is the same in Nunavik as it is in the South, this has a downward influence on the transportation price index. However, the purchase of a canoe by a medium-income household, at a price in the North about 40% above that in the South, also had a major impact on the results obtained.

The variations between income levels noted in the index for the clothing and footwear component can be traced to the fact that, in general, the higher the household income, the more the clothing and footwear purchased tends to be of well-known name brands. Similarly, the price paid in the North compared to the South was particularly high for these designer brands, and this had a double impact on the index by emphasizing the differences in the index between the income levels.

Figure 4

Cost-of-living index in Nunavik by spending component and by income level, Nunavik, 2015-2016



4.4 Conclusion

First of all, the survey allowed us to determine the spending structure of households in Nunavik, which in turn brought to light major differences depending on the level of household income. The results of the survey also made it possible to establish a comparative cost-of-living index for Nunavik, and separate indexes for specific goods and services components. The indexes calculated separately for each component showed that, except for shelter, prices are always higher in Nunavik than in the city of Québec. Thus, for the same basket of groceries that would cost \$100 in Québec, Nunavimmiut households have to pay \$154.60 in Nunavik, and so on.

In addition, comparative indexes were calculated by household income level. These calculations showed that the individual indexes for households with the lowest income were generally lower than the individual indexes for households with the highest income. These results may reflect consumer patterns that vary by income level. The households with the lowest income, which already have to devote over 70% of their expenditure to the two items of food and shelter, are apparently inclined to choose the least costly goods and services whenever possible.

Lastly, the results highlight the special place that shelter occupies in the spending structure, and the downward pressure it places on the comparative cost-of-living index for Nunavik. Even though shelter costs less in Nunavik than in the city of Québec, it still accounts for between 18.2% and 25.4% of overall household expenditure.

5. DISCUSSION

The objective of this study was to evaluate the cost of living in Nunavik, taking into account the consumer patterns of households in the region, the price of goods and services, and the price differences between Nunavik and southern Québec. To do this, we had to list as exhaustively as possible the goods and services purchased by households, calculate the costs based on the current price structure in Nunavik, and then evaluate the costs that would have been paid under the current price structure in the city of Québec. The survey of 448 households over a period of more than one year allowed us to largely meet our objective.

Nevertheless, given the limits inherent in this study, it is important to recall that the results need to be interpreted with some caution. Although we have already discussed in detail certain limits associated with the consumer profile captured by the survey (see Section 3.6.4), other limits also exist. Some of these were identified when we presented our methodological choices, whereas others have not been addressed, inasmuch as they arise from the specificities which characterize Nunavik. Because an understanding of these limits is essential for grasping the true significance of the research results, we will point them out here.

First, the study is based on a probability sampling scheme which involves a margin of error. Consequently, the results cannot be considered as 100% exact, although they do provide us with reliable orders of magnitude regarding the phenomena under study. Second, the household income measure relies upon a procedure which asked respondents to situate their household's total yearly pre-tax income within a given range. Although this income measure could be considered somewhat rudimentary, it was favoured by the technical research committee because it allowed us to avoid the intrusive nature of more precise measurement procedures, and it helped respondents focus their efforts on appropriately detailing the spending of their household members, which represented new information. Furthermore, this rudimentary measure of income was judged sensitive enough to enable the grouping of all sampled households into three large economic strata (i.e., low, medium, and high income households). In certain cases, comparisons were made with KMHB data in an effort to validate reported household income, while taking into account the particular characteristics of the data. Third, the low income measures we used for the grouping of the surveyed households

into the three economic strata rely on well-reasoned and explicit decisions; other decisions could have led to different results. Finally, when interpreting or comparing Nunavik's expenditure shares for each component to those of Québec, certain characteristics that are specific to household consumption in Nunavik must be kept in mind. For instance, in Nunavik, a portion of the food component is freely obtained from the community freezer and the customary sharing of game. Although we did not try to assess this portion of the food component, it is an important factor which undoubtedly impacts the expenditure share devoted to this component. Similarly, the expenditure share associated with health care differs in Nunavik, in part because some services are provided for free, which is not the case in the rest of Québec. Expenditure shares related to transportation also show important differences compared to Québec. Here, given the lack of a regional road network, Nunavimmiut must travel by plane to get from one community to another. All these specificities that characterize Nunavik must be taken into account when interpreting the results of this research, and when developing programs aimed at reducing the cost of living in Nunavik.

The results of this study confirm that the cost of living in Nunavik is significantly higher than in the city of Québec, something which had already been suggested by various studies on consumer prices in Nunavik conducted periodically over the last fifteen years (Duhaime and Caron, 2013; 2011; Bernard, 2006a; 2006b; Duhaime et al., 2000). However, our study is more than a simple price comparison; it is a comparison that takes into account the actual consumption structure of Nunavimmiut households. This is a very important difference, since it illustrates the real effect of price differences on people's household expenditures.

But the results also raise important questions regarding any eventual efforts aimed at reducing the price gap between Nunavik and the city of Québec. For example, should measures be introduced to reduce the price of all goods and services, or only those with the largest price differential (such as food, or household operations, furnishings and equipment), with or without consideration for the volume of consumption? The question is all the more relevant given the differences that continue to be observed despite cost-of-living reduction measures that have already been implemented in the region. By all indications, these have been insufficient to reduce the differences.

Should such measures be universal, or should they target the households with the lowest incomes, which are forced to devote most of their budget to food and housing? Any intervention targeting low-income households would require very serious reflection. To be effective, it would have to be carefully calibrated and take into account the day-to-day realities of poverty in Nunavik. Our results tend to show that low-income households do not consume in the same way as other households, probably because they have no choice. From this point of view, universal measures would likely have little actual impact on the high cost of living these households must face.

Finally, what should be done about social housing? Our results indicate that social housing currently has the effect of a cost-of-living reduction measure. The plans to increase the revenue generated by available social housing may run counter to efforts to reduce price differences between Nunavik and the rest of Québec, and may actually distort basic social policy objectives.

A more in-depth examination of the data collected during the cost-of-living survey in Nunavik could provide valuable input for a debate on these questions, which is essential in our view. The database we constructed is unique and extremely detailed, and could provide the basis for more advanced analyses on specific subjects. For example, we could measure, *a posteriori*, the actual impact of the cost-of-living reduction measures in effect during the survey period. In addition, the indexes created and published here could be periodically updated through follow-up surveys, creating an important tool to study the potential impact of any planned measure. It would be possible, for instance, to calculate new indexes that take into account potential price reductions for certain goods and services, or the funding needed to reduce the price differences to a target threshold that is judged to be acceptable. Lastly, the tool could be used to monitor the actual impact

of cost-of-living reduction measures that the sponsors of this research intend to adopt once the current discussions have been completed. This would represent a significant advance compared to previous programs, where the actual impact on household budgets remains unclear.

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7. LIST OF APPENDICES

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CONSENT FORM

COST-OF-LIVING SURVEY IN NUNAVIK

Presentation

This study is under the direction of Gérard Duhaime, professor at the Faculty of Social Sciences, Department of Sociology, Université Laval.

Before you agree to take part in this study, please take the time to read and understand the following information. This document explains the purpose of this study, as well as its procedures, benefits, risks and inconveniences. We invite you to ask the person presenting you this document any questions that you consider useful.

The Survey

The goal of this study is to evaluate the cost of living in Nunavik by taking into account the consumption habits of the residents of the region, the prices of goods and services, and the price differences between Nunavik and southern Québec.

Your Participation

By participating to this research project, you voluntarily agree to:

- Meet with your assigned KRG field representative. You shall expect to meet your field representative **4 times** during the two weeks your household is being surveyed. Whereas the first meeting with your field representative would normally take about one hour of your time, the three other meetings would be shorter (i.e., between 15 and 30 minutes each meeting) inasmuch as the purpose of these meetings is mainly to assist you in the process of recording the daily expenses of your household members in the two-week diary.
- Complete a short questionnaire-interview about your household composition, housing arrangement, and overall household income. This questionnaire-interview is to be completed during the first meeting with your field representative, and shall take approximately 30 minutes. Another 30 minutes would be used to instruct you on how to suitably record your household daily expenses in the two-week diary.
- Record daily expenditures of your household for two weeks (i.e., 14 days) in a diary form, and provide detailed receipts or other purchase records of these expenses. This should take few minutes each day.

Benefits, Risks and Potential Inconveniences Related To Your Participation

Initials _____

By taking part in this study, you will help us to better document the cost of living in Nunavik. Your participation will contribute to improve knowledge about the cost of living in Nunavik. With this knowledge, regional authorities intend to come to a permanent agreement with the Government of Québec to reduce the cost of living in Nunavik. In other words, one main benefit of your participation is to take part in the effort to improve the economic situation of Nunavik residents.

You will receive an incentive payment of \$100 to cover any inconvenience which could be associated with your participation in this study.

Other than the time you devote to the survey, one disadvantage could be that recording your everyday expenditures may cause some tension in your household. If anything of that nature occurs and causes you concern, if you are willing to discuss it with your field representative, under the strictest confidentiality, she/he could help you find assistance from appropriate resources.

Voluntary Participation and Right to Withdraw

You are free to choose whether or not to participate in this study. You can also withdraw from the project without prejudice and without having to justify your decision.

If you decide to end your participation, you must notify the interviewer whose contact information is included in this document. In that event, all your personal information will be destroyed.

Privacy and Data Management

The following measures will be implemented to ensure the confidentiality of the information provided by the participants:

- The names of the participants will not be included in any reports.
- All the documents will be codified, and only the researchers will have access to the personal information.
- The data will be included in a database, with the exception of all the information that may allow the identification of persons and households.
- The data will be used for scientific publications, but the participants will never be identifiable in any way.
- Individual participant data will never be disclosed.
- Even though the KRG is involved in this study, your participation will have no impact on the services you receive or may receive from the KRG.
- Research material will be kept under lock and key and destroyed on May 2016.

Initials _____

- The database will be kept under lock and key, and will be kept for further analysis. It will ultimately be destroyed by May 2020.

Acknowledgments

Your collaboration is essential to us and we thank you for your participation.

Signatures

I, the undersigned, _____ freely consent to participate in this study entitled "Cost-of-Living Survey in Nunavik". I have read the form and I understand the purpose, nature, benefits, risks and inconveniences of this research project. I am satisfied with the explanations, clarifications and answers that the interviewer has provided me regarding my potential participation in this project.

Participant's signature

Date

I explained the purpose, nature, benefits, risks and inconveniences of the study to the participant. I answered the participant's questions to the best of my knowledge and made sure that the participant understands.

Interviewer's signature

Date

Additional Information

If you have any questions about the study and your participation, or if you want to withdraw from the study, please contact [interviewer's name and contact information]:

Complaints or Comments

Any complaint or comment about this research project should be sent to the Office of the Ombudsman of Université Laval:

Pavillon Alphonse-Desjardins, bureau 3320
2325, rue de l'Université
Université Laval
Québec (Québec) G1V 0A6
Information - Secrétariat: (418) 656-3081
Toll-free number: 1-866-323-2271

Initials _____

E-mail: info@ombudsman.ulaval.ca

Participant's Copy

Initials _____

Cost-of-living Survey in Nunavik

Questionnaire-Interview

(HOUSEHOLD COMPOSITION, HOUSING ARRANGEMENT AND INCOME)

Interview Date				HOUSE NUMBER	
DD		MM			

1. Respondent's name		
<hr/>		
2. Telephone number		
<hr/>		
3. Community/Village		
<input type="checkbox"/> Salluit	<input type="checkbox"/> Umiujaq	<input type="checkbox"/> Puvirnituq
<input type="checkbox"/> Tasiujaq	<input type="checkbox"/> Kuujjuaq	<input type="checkbox"/> Kangiqsualujjuaq

Person	Name (First name, last name)	Gender <i>Check (✓)</i>	Age			Is this person a JBNQA beneficiary ?	How is this person related to the respondent ?						
			Years old	Less than 1 year	Don't know		Spouse	Parent	Child	Foster child	Grand child	Other relative	Other
1		Female () Male ()		()	()	Yes () No ()	RESPONDENT						
2		Female () Male ()		()	()	Yes () No ()	()	()	()	()	()	()	()
3		Female () Male ()		()	()	Yes () No ()	()	()	()	()	()	()	()
4		Female () Male ()		()	()	Yes () No ()	()	()	()	()	()	()	()
5		Female () Male ()		()	()	Yes () No ()	()	()	()	()	()	()	()
6		Female () Male ()		()	()	Yes () No ()	()	()	()	()	()	()	()
7		Female () Male ()		()	()	Yes () No ()	()	()	()	()	()	()	()
8		Female () Male ()		()	()	Yes () No ()	()	()	()	()	()	()	()
9		Female () Male ()		()	()	Yes () No ()	()	()	()	()	()	()	()
10		Female () Male ()		()	()	Yes () No ()	()	()	()	()	()	()	()
11		Female () Male ()		()	()	Yes () No ()	()	()	()	()	()	()	()
12		Female () Male ()		()	()	Yes () No ()	()	()	()	()	()	()	()
13		Female () Male ()		()	()	Yes () No ()	()	()	()	()	()	()	()
14		Female () Male ()		()	()	Yes () No ()	()	()	()	()	()	()	()
15		Female () Male ()		()	()	Yes () No ()	()	()	()	()	()	()	()
16		Female () Male ()		()	()	Yes () No ()	()	()	()	()	()	()	()
17		Female () Male ()		()	()	Yes () No ()	()	()	()	()	()	()	()
18		Female () Male ()		()	()	Yes () No ()	()	()	()	()	()	()	()

1. What is your best estimate of your HOUSEHOLD'S total income from all sources before taxes and deductions during the last year?

- () Less than \$20,000
- () \$20,000 to \$39,999
- () \$40,000 to \$59,999
- () \$60,000 to \$79,999
- () \$80,000 to \$99,999
- () \$100,000 to \$119,999
- () \$120,000 to \$139,999
- () \$140,000 to \$159,999
- () \$160,000 to \$179,999
- () \$180,000 and over
- () Refused
- () Do not know

2. Your house is:

- () KMHB house
() Employer house
() Private house
() Other

3. How many bedrooms in your dwelling?

_____ Bedroom(s)

Comments

[illegible]

Your Daily Expenses

Help us learn about the buying habits of people in Nunavik.

When you write down how you spend money in this diary, you will help us understand more about the products and services that are bought by the people in Nunavik.

Diary Start Date				Diary End date				HOUSE NUMBER
DD		MM		DD		MM		

1. Respondent's name

2. Telephone number

3. Community/Village
<input type="checkbox"/> Salluit <input type="checkbox"/> Umiujaq <input type="checkbox"/> Puvirnituk
<input type="checkbox"/> Tasiujaq <input type="checkbox"/> Kuujjuaq <input type="checkbox"/> Kangiqsualujjuaq

I will return on:

First meeting _____

Second meeting _____

Third meeting _____

Last meeting _____

If you have any questions, please call:

Field representative's name:	Telephone:
Field representative supervisor's name:	Telephone:

Section 1

*Expenses for which you CAN provide detailed receipts or
other purchase records*

Section 1:	Expenses for which you <u>CAN</u> provide <u>detailed receipts</u> or <u>other purchase records</u>
-------------------	--

Section 1:	Expenses for which you <u>CAN</u> provide <u>detailed receipts</u> or <u>other purchase records</u>
-------------------	--

[illegible]

Section 2

*Expenses for which you CANNOT provide detailed receipts
or other purchase records*

Section 2: Expenses for which you CANNOT provide detailed receipts or other purchase records

Item #	Date of expense dd/mm	Description of the item purchased Write ONLY ONE item per line. (See the Diary Guide for help with this section.)						Cost of item Do not include taxes	
		<u>DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE ITEM PURCHASED</u>	BRAND NAME	MODEL NUMBER	SIZE OR QUANTITY	BOUGHT IN NUNAVIK?			
				(if relevant)	(if relevant)	(if relevant)	(Circle)		\$
1	/					Yes	No	.	
2	/					Yes	No	.	
3	/					Yes	No	.	
4	/					Yes	No	.	
5	/					Yes	No	.	
6	/					Yes	No	.	
7	/					Yes	No	.	
8	/					Yes	No	.	
9	/					Yes	No	.	
10	/					Yes	No	.	
11	/					Yes	No	.	
12	/					Yes	No	.	
13	/					Yes	No	.	
14	/					Yes	No	.	
15	/					Yes	No	.	
16	/					Yes	No	.	
17	/					Yes	No	.	
18	/					Yes	No	.	
19	/					Yes	No	.	
20	/					Yes	No	.	

Section 3

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

PLEASE DO NOT WRITE ON THE NEXT PAGES

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

PLEASE DO NOT WRITE ON THIS PAGE

Your assigned field representative will ask you the questions on this page when he/she returns
to pick up this Diary of Daily Expenses.

1. Did you write “no spending” in the diary for the days with no spending for all members of your household?

1. Yes 2. No 3. Sometimes 4. Made at least one purchase every day

2. Some expenses such as gas and other related vehicle costs, lottery tickets, cigarettes and newspapers, meals and beverages bought outside your home, leisure activities, or hair salon and postal services are easily forgotten. Did you or any member of your household, forget to record any of these expenses, or any other expense, in the diary?

1. Yes – go to #3 2. No – go to #4

3. Please list the items that have been missed. Interviewer: Enter the description used by the respondent.

	Date (dd/mm)	<u>DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE ITEM PURCHASED</u>	BRAND NAME (if relevant)	MODEL NUMBER (if relevant)	SIZE OR QUANTITY (if relevant)	BOUGHT IN NUNAVIK? (Circle)		Cost \$ ¢	
1.	/					Yes	No		.
2.	/					Yes	No		.
3.	/					Yes	No		.
4.	/					Yes	No		.
5.	/					Yes	No		.
6.	/					Yes	No		.
7.	/					Yes	No		.
8.	/					Yes	No		.
9.	/					Yes	No		.
10.	/					Yes	No		.

4. During the 14 days when you were recording your purchases in the diary, were any member of your household away from home ?

1. Yes – go to #5 2. No – Thank you for participating in this survey

5. Whose member(s) of your household were away from home during those two weeks? How long? And why?

Interviewer: Write down the names, the duration and the reason why they were away from home

	Name	Duration (days)	Reason why this member was away from home
1.			
2.			
3.			
4.			
5.			
6.			
7.			
8.			

Cost-of-Living Survey in Nunavik

Diary Guide (for filling out the Diary of Daily Expenses)

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Overview

What is the diary?

The diary is to be used to record **ALL** goods and services your household spends money on over a 14-day period (i.e., two weeks). It is divided into **three distinct sections** and comes with an **ENVELOPE** to collect your **detailed receipts** and **other purchase records** (e.g., catalog/Internet invoices, utility bills, telephone bills, etc.).

The three distinct sections of the diary are the following:

SECTION 1: *Expenses for which you **CAN** provide detailed receipts or other purchase records*

SECTION 2: *Expenses for which you **CANNOT** provide detailed receipts or other purchase records*

SECTION 3: The **FOR OFFICE USE ONLY** section which will be filled out by your field representative after the 14-day period covered by the diary.

Purpose of the diary

In order to accurately evaluate the cost of living in Nunavik, we need your help to learn about your household members' spending habits. When you write down how you spend your money in this diary, you are helping us understand more about the variety of products and services that are bought by the people of Nunavik.

We understand that this task may take time. However, your information is very important since it will be used to provide practical guidance to policy makers for tailoring suitable solutions to the specific needs of people living in Nunavik.

Important tips for using the diary and saving time while filling it out

- 1) **Keep the diary journal and this guide handy so that you remember to enter items and amounts as your household members are making purchases.**

It is faster to record the goods and services your household has spent money on daily rather than trying to recall items and amounts after longer periods of time, especially casual purchases for which you may not have a detailed receipt.

- 2) **Ask your household members to GET DETAILED RECEIPTS of their various purchases.**

In order to accurately assess the cost of living of Nunavik households, we need accurate information about the expenses of your household members. This is why it is essential for us to get copies of your **detailed receipts** and **other purchase records** (e.g., catalog/Internet invoices, utility bills, telephone bills, cable bills, Internet bills, etc.).

- 3) **Talk to the people of your household every day to find out how they spent their money, and do not forget to remind them to get detailed receipts of their purchases.**

Include payments of goods and services made by:

- ***Cash***
- ***Check***
- ***Debit card***
- ***Credit card***
- ***Store Charge card***
- ***Gift certificate***
- ***Money order***

How to record expenses of your household in the diary

The appropriate way for recording your household expenses in the diary depends on whether or not you can provide detailed receipts or other purchase records (e.g., catalog/Internet invoices, utility bills, telephone, cable and Internet bills, etc.) for your purchases.

SECTION 1: Expenses for which you CAN provide detailed receipts or other purchase records

For each of the expenses where you CAN provide a detailed receipt (or a copy of it), you will need to record:

- 1) The date of the expense in the diary.
- 2) A short general description of the expense.
- 3) A receipt number.***
- 4) The total amount paid.

*** **VERY IMPORTANT:** *Note that receipt numbers to be recorded in the diary are sequential numbers (e.g., 1, 2, 3, etc.) which YOU will write on each receipt or any other purchase record you provide.*

The only information we need from your detailed receipts is the item(s) description(s), the price(s) of purchased item(s), the place and date of purchase, and your hand-written sequential number which matches the sequential receipt number you recorded in the diary.

All detailed receipts and other purchase records you submit will be destroyed in a manner that fully complies with our **Confidentiality Policy** as soon as the relevant expense information has been recorded. ***Please feel free to ask your assigned field representative to make photocopies of your original receipts for those purchased items on which warranties might apply.***

SECTION 2: Expenses for which you CANNOT provide detailed receipts or other purchase records

For each of the expenses where you CANNOT provide a detailed receipt, you will need to record:

- 1) The date of the expense in the diary.
- 2) A **detailed** description of **EACH** item purchased, including ***brand name, model number, size or quantity*** when this information is deemed relevant.***
- 3) Whether each item was bought in Nunavik or not.
- 4) The cost, **before taxes**, of each item purchased.

***** VERY IMPORTANT:** *Note that when you cannot provide a detailed receipt or any other purchase record for a particular expense, we absolutely need a detailed description of the item(s) bought. The item description you provide in the diary should be detailed in a way that will allow us to know EXACTLY what has been purchased.*

What to do for days with no spending?

If no one in your household had any spending on a given day, write **the date** and the words "***no spending***" in **SECTION 1**.

Recording expenses for which you have detailed receipts or other purchase records in SECTION 1 of the diary

Date of expense

Always include the date, using two digits for each day and month.

Short/general description of the expense

Write ONLY one short/general description of the expense per line. Record **ALL** purchases of goods and services, including food and beverages purchased from stores as well as meals, snacks and drinks purchased from restaurants, fast-food outlets, and bars.

Receipt number

Write the number of the receipt (or other purchase record) which matches the sequential number you wrote on the cash register receipt (or other purchase record) you provide. Do not forget to insert your detailed receipts and other purchase records in the envelope that comes with the diary.

Cost

Record the **total amount** indicated on the receipt, invoice or bill.

EXAMPLES of how to record expenses for which you HAVE detailed receipts or other purchase records in SECTION 1 of the diary

Section 1: Expenses for which you <u>CAN</u> provide <u>detailed receipts</u> or <u>other purchase records</u>			
Date of expense <u>dd/mm</u> <i>Example (15/03)</i>	Description of the expense Write ONLY ONE expense per line. <i>(See the Diary Guide for help with this section.)</i> SHORT/GENERAL DESCRIPTION OF THE EXPENSE	Receipt #	Cost Total amount on the receipt, invoice or bill \$. ¢
02/01	House stuffs	1	28 . 32
02/01	Hockey Equipment	2	180 . 79
02/01	Men's Mitts - Hunter Support	3	70 . 00
02/01	Groceries	4	201 . 83
03/01	Candy - pop	5	8 . 16
04/01	*** NO SPENDING ***		.
05/01	Household furniture	6	51 . 23
05/01	4 meals + soft drink - Restaurant	7	79 . 28
05/01	Groceries & lotteries	8	111 . 64
06/01	*** NO SPENDING ***		.
07/01	One month daycare - Coop	9	211 . 70
08/01	*** NO SPENDING ***		.
09/01	Beer, cigarettes and wine - Marché Turenne inc.	10	318 . 44
09/01	Fox Fur - Hunter support	11	30 . 00
10/01	Clothing - Northern	12	28 . 11
10/01	Groceries	13	40 . 00
10/01	Baby diapers	14	67 . 91
11/01	Gas for skidoo	15	39 . 34
11/01	Telephone Bill - (e-bill)	16	180 . 00
12/01	Sewing materials	17	74 . 65
12/01	Groceries	18	28 . 03
12/01	Cigarettes	19	17 . 80
13/01	*** NO SPENDING ***		.

Recording expenses for which you do not have detailed receipts or other purchase records in SECTION 2 of the diary

Date of expense

Always include the date, using two digits for each day and month.

Detailed description of the item purchased

Write a detailed description of EACH item purchased. Record only one item per line. Any purchase of goods and services, including food and beverages purchased from stores as well as meals, snacks and drinks purchased from restaurants, fast-food outlets and bars for which you cannot provide detailed receipts should be detailed in this section. **The item description you provide should be detailed in a way that will allow us to know EXACTLY what has been purchased.**

Brand name (if relevant)

When relevant, write the brand name of the purchased item.

Model number (if relevant)

When relevant, write the model number of the purchased item.

Size or quantity (if relevant)

When relevant, write the size or the quantity of the purchased item.

Bought in Nunavik?

For each item recorded in this section of the diary, indicate if it was bought in Nunavik by circling "Yes" or "No".

Cost of item

Record the cost of the good or service after deducting any coupons, rebates or subsidies which may apply. **Do not include taxes** (unless already included in the cost, such as gas, cigarettes, etc.). Write the exact amount for each item.

**EXAMPLES of how to record expenses for which you DO NOT HAVE detailed receipts
or other purchase records in SECTION 2 of the diary**

Section 2: Expenses for which you CANNOT provide detailed receipts or other purchase records

Item #	Date of expense dd/mm	Description of the item purchased Write ONLY ONE item per line. (See the Diary Guide for help with this section.)					Cost of item Do <u>not</u> include taxes \$ €	
		<u>DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE ITEM PURCHASED</u>	BRAND NAME (if relevant)	MODEL NUMBER (if relevant)	SIZE OR QUANTITY (if relevant)	BOUGHT IN NUNAVIK? (Circle)		
1	02/01	KMHB apartment monthly rent				<input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No	560	.00
2	05/01	Frozen Pizza	McCain	Deluxe	900g	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No	15	.59
3	05/01	Frozen Fries	McCain	Superfries	2 kg	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No	12	.69
4	08/01	Breakfast for 1 person at Kuujuaq Inn : 2 eggs with bacon and potatoes + coffee				<input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No	12	.29
5	09/01	1.6 cubic foot, 1250 watts Microwave oven with Inverter technology	Panasonic	NN-SD767W	1	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input checked="" type="radio"/> No	239	.95
6	11/01	2% Milk	Beatrice		1 liter	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No	2	.95
7	12/01	1 pack of 25 cigarettes	Du Maurier		1 pack	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No	16	.90
8	/					<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No		.
9	/					<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No		.
10	/					<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No		.
11	/					<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No		.

General notes on what to include as household expenses and what to leave out

Remember to include these expenses if they occur within the 14-day period for which you have to fill out the diary:

- All your expenses, both goods and services, for all members of your household.
- Rent payments/insurance payments.
- Regular/typical household bills (electricity, oil, telephone services, television services, Internet services, etc.).
- Items or services purchased for people who do not live with you.
- Expenses made while on a trip away from home, such as airplane tickets, hotel rooms, gas, souvenirs, restaurants meals, entry or admittance fees to tourist attractions, theme parks, museums, etc.
- Expenses for occasional services, such as babysitting, hairdresser, postal services, etc.
- Expenses for secondary residences and/or hunting or fishing camps, etc.
- Any expense related to hunting, fishing or trapping equipment.
- Purchases of construction materials for home improvements or for building/repairing hunting, fishing and/or trapping camps.
- Purchases of vehicles (cars, trucks, snowmobiles, ATVs, boats, etc.).
- Gas for vehicles and all vehicle-related costs (maintenance, repairs, accessories, tires, etc.).
- Convenience store purchases such as cigarettes, lottery tickets, beers or other alcoholic beverages, newspapers, magazines, candies, etc.
- Expenses for movie and game rentals.
- Less frequent purchases such as household appliances, indoor/outdoor furniture, electronic or computer equipment, etc.
- Lunches or beverages purchased at school or work.
- Beverages purchased in bars including alcoholic drinks, and all snacks, beverages and meals purchased from any type of restaurant.

IMPORTANT NOTES:

- **Include all expenses, whether paid for by cash, credit card, prepaid credit card, debit card, cheque or postal money order.**
- **For each item purchased using a credit card or on an instalment plan, record the whole amount on the day that the expense was made.**
- **Do not include payments for which you have been, or will be, reimbursed.**
- **Do not include expenses charged against a business**

THANK YOU!

Appendix 5. Informative poster of the cost-of-living survey (French)

À titre de composante essentielle de l'entente sur les **mesures de réduction du coût de la vie au Nunavik**, cette enquête vise à orienter le gouvernement vers des solutions visant à réduire le coût de la vie des Nunavimmiuts.

Nous pourrions donc contacter votre ménage prochainement, car **nous avons besoin de votre collaboration dans le cadre de cet important projet d'enquête!**

Les ménages contactés recevront **100\$ pour leur participation** à cette enquête.

ENQUÊTE DE 2015 SUR LE COÛT DE LA VIE AU NUNAVIK

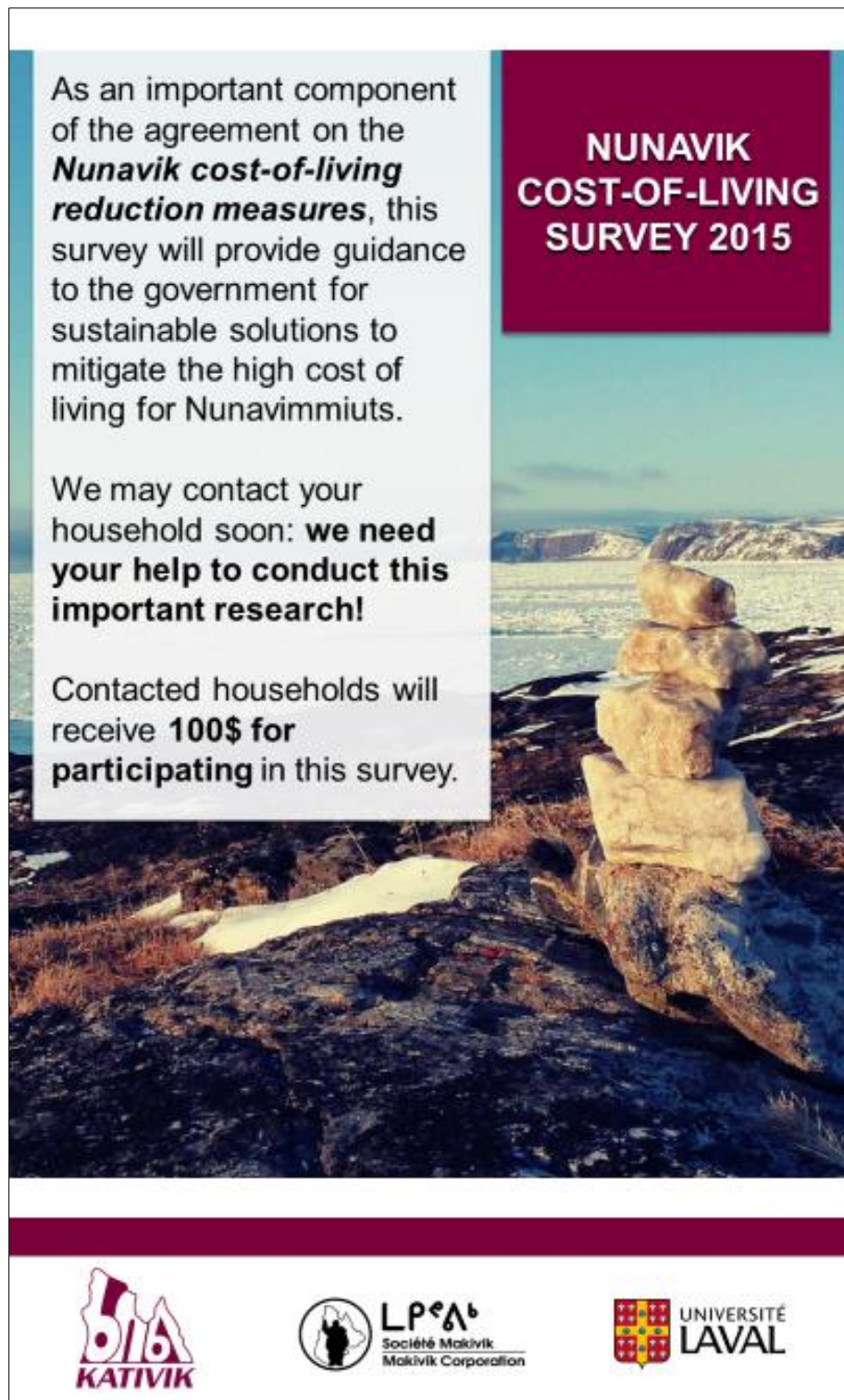


LP&A
Société Makivik
Makivik Corporation



UNIVERSITÉ
LAVAL

Appendix 6. Informative poster of the cost-of-living survey (English)




The poster features a background image of a rocky landscape with a stack of stones in the foreground and a body of water in the distance. The text is arranged in a white box on the left and a maroon box on the right.


As an important component of the agreement on the ***Nunavik cost-of-living reduction measures***, this survey will provide guidance to the government for sustainable solutions to mitigate the high cost of living for Nunavimmiuts.


We may contact your household soon: **we need your help to conduct this important research!**

Contacted households will receive **100\$ for participating** in this survey.

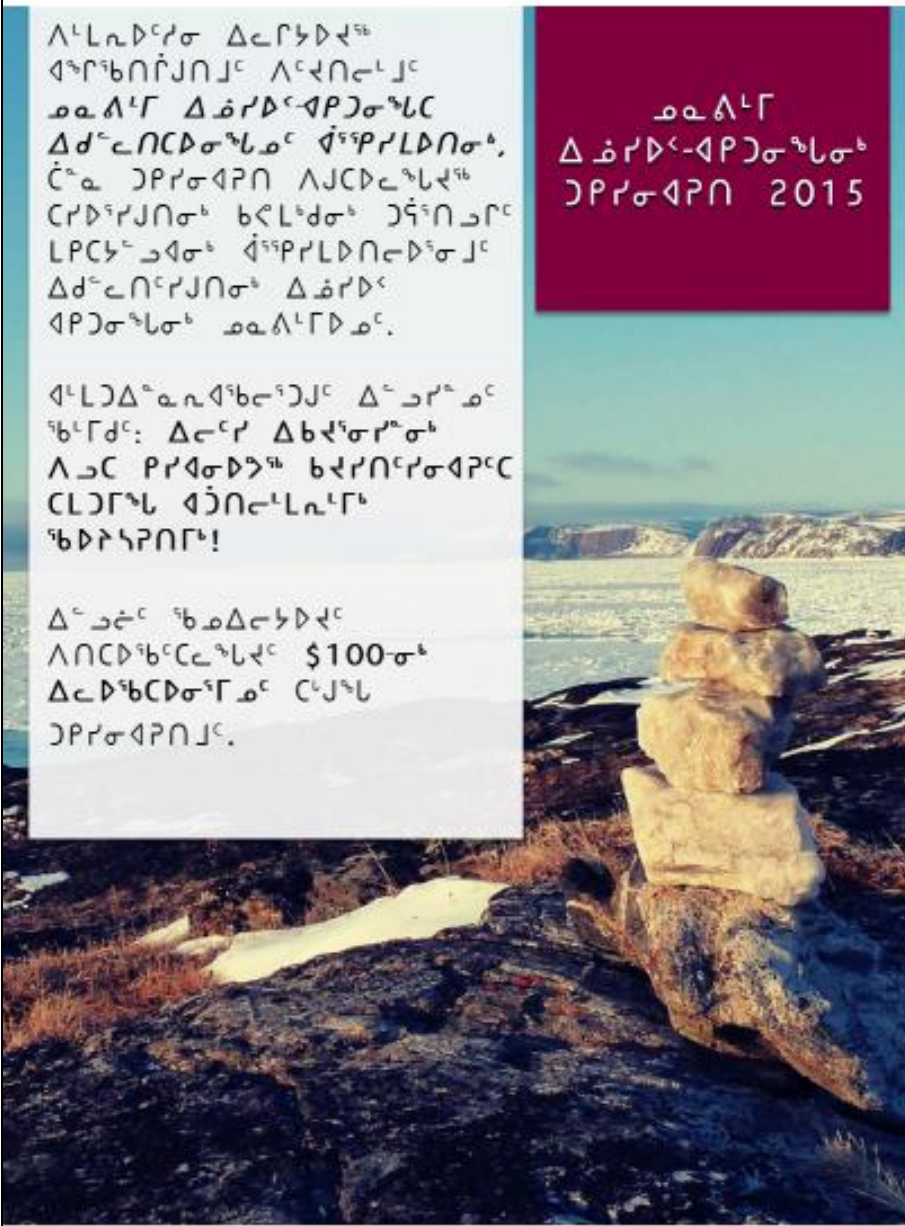
**NUNAVIK
COST-OF-LIVING
SURVEY 2015**

 **KATIVIK**

 **LPAA**
Société Makivik
Makivik Corporation

 **UNIVERSITÉ
LAVAL**

Appendix 7. Informative poster of the cost-of-living survey (Inuktitut)



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**Annexe 8. Low income measures (LIM) by household's size and composition, Nunavik,
2015-2016**

Household composition	Household		Adjusted income, pre-tax		
	<i>Equivalence factor</i>	<i>n</i>	Median	75% Median	200% Median
			\$		
1 adult (16 years old and over)	1.0	42	20,081	15,061	40,162
1 adult + 1 child (under 16)	1.4	13	28,114	21,085	56,227
1 adult + 2 children	1.7	12	34,138	25,603	68,276
1 adult + 3 children	2.0	7	40,162	30,122	80,324
1 adult + 4 children	2.3	5	46,186	34,640	92,373
2 adults	1.4	47	28,114	21,085	56,227
2 adults + 1 child	1.7	45	34,138	25,603	68,276
2 adults + 2 children	2.0	29	40,162	30,122	80,324
2 adults + 3 children	2.3	25	46,186	34,640	92,373
2 adults + 4 children	2.6	19	52,211	39,158	104,422
2 adults + 5 children	2.9	7	58,235	43,676	116,470
2 adults + 6 children	3.2	2	64,259	48,195	128,519
3 adults	1.8	24	36,146	27,109	72,292
3 adults + 1 child	2.1	16	42,170	31,628	84,341
3 adults + 2 children	2.4	13	48,195	36,146	96,389
3 adults + 3 children	2.7	11	54,219	40,664	108,438
3 adults + 4 children	3.0	12	60,243	45,182	120,486
3 adults + 5 children	3.3	5	66,268	49,701	132,535
3 adults + 6 children	3.6	1	72,292	54,219	144,584
4 adults	2.2	17	44,178	33,134	88,357
4 adults + 1 child	2.5	11	50,203	37,652	100,405
4 adults + 2 children	2.8	20	56,227	42,170	112,454
4 adults + 3 children	3.1	8	62,251	46,689	124,503
4 adults + 4 children	3.4	7	68,276	51,207	136,551
4 adults + 5 children	3.7	2	74,300	55,725	148,600
4 adults + 6 children	4.0	1	80,324	60,243	160,649
4 adults + 7 children	4.3	1	86,349	64,761	172,697
4 adults + 10 children	5.2	1	104,422	78,316	208,843
5 adults	2.6	4	52,211	39,158	104,422
5 adults + 1 child	2.9	3	58,235	43,676	116,470
5 adults + 2 children	3.2	9	64,259	48,195	128,519
5 adults + 3 children	3.5	7	70,284	52,713	140,568
5 adults + 4 children	3.8	4	76,308	57,231	152,616
5 adults + 6 children	4.4	1	88,357	66,268	176,714
5 adults + 7 children	4.7	1	94,381	70,786	188,762
6 adults	3.0	1	60,243	45,182	120,486
6 adults + 1 child	3.3	1	66,268	49,701	132,535
6 adults + 2 children	3.6	2	72,292	54,219	144,584
6 adults + 3 children	3.9	2	78,316	58,737	156,632
6 adults + 4 children	4.2	1	84,341	63,255	168,681
6 adults + 5 children	4.5	1	90,365	67,774	180,730
6 adults + 7 children	5.1	1	102,414	76,810	204,827
7 adults	3.4	1	68,276	51,207	136,551
7 adults + 1 child	3.7	2	74,300	55,725	148,600
7 adults + 2 children	4.0	2	80,324	60,243	160,649
7 adults + 5 children	4.9	1	98,397	73,798	196,795
8 adults + 2 children	4.4	1	88,357	66,268	176,714

Appendix 9. List of subgroups by major component

Food	
Food purchased from stores	
Meat	
Fresh or frozen meat (excluding poultry)	
1	Fresh or frozen beef
2	Fresh or frozen pork
3	Other fresh or frozen meat (excluding poultry)
Fresh or frozen poultry	
4	Fresh or frozen chicken
5	Other fresh or frozen poultry
Processed meats	
6	Ham and bacon
7	Other processed meat
Fish, seafood and other marine products	
Fish	
8	Fresh or frozen fish (including portions and fish sticks)
9	Canned and other preserved fish
10	Seafood and other marine products
Dairy products and eggs	
Dairy products	
11	Fresh milk
12	Butter
13	Cheese
14	Ice cream and related products
15	Other dairy products
Eggs	
16	Eggs
Bakery and cereal products	
Bakery products	
17	Bread, rolls and buns
18	Cookies and crackers
19	Other bakery products
Cereals products	
20	Rice and rice-based mixes
21	Breakfast cereal and other cereal products (excluding baby food)
22	Pasta products
23	Flour and flour-based mixes

* : Subgroup for which no expenditure was recorded in Nunavik

Food (continued)		
	Fruits, fruit preparations and nuts	
	Fresh fruits	
	24	Apples
	25	Oranges
	26	Bananas
	27	Other fresh fruit
	Fruit juices, fruits otherwise preserved and fruit preparations	
	28	Fruit juices
	29	Other preserved fruit and fruit preparations
	Nuts	
	30	Nuts
	Vegetables and other vegetable preparations	
	Fresh vegetables	
	31	Potatoes
	32	Tomatoes
	33	Lettuce
	34	Other fresh vegetables
	Vegetables otherwise preserved and other vegetable preparations	
	35	Frozen and dried vegetables
	36	Canned vegetables and other vegetable preparations
	Other food and non-alcoholic beverages	
	37	Sugar and syrup
	38	Confectionery
	39	Margarine
	40	Other edible fats and oils
	41	Coffee
	42	Tea
	43	Condiments, spices and vinegars
	44	Soup
	45	Baby foods
	46	Pre-cooked frozen food preparations
	47	All other food preparations
	48	Non-alcoholic beverages
	Food purchased from restaurants	
	49	Food purchased from table-service restaurants
	50	Food purchased from fast food and take-out restaurants
*	51	Food purchased from cafeterias and other restaurants

* : Subgroup for which no expenditure was recorded in Nunavik

Shelter		
	Shelter	
	Rented accommodation	
	52	Rent
*	53	Tenants' insurance premiums
	54	Tenants' maintenance, repairs and other expenses
	Owned accommodation	
*	55	Mortgage interest cost
*	56	Homeowners' replacement cost
*	57	Property taxes and other special charges
*	58	Home owners' and mortgage insurance
*	59	Home owners' maintenance and repairs
*	60	Other owned accommodation expenses
	Water, fuel and electricity	
*	61	Electricity
*	62	Water
*	63	Natural gas
*	64	Fuel oil and other fuels

* : Subgroup for which no expenditure was recorded in Nunavik

Transportation		
Private transportation		
Purchase, leasing and rental of passenger vehicles		
Purchase and leasing of passenger vehicles		
	111	Purchase of passenger vehicles
*	112	Leasing of passenger vehicles
	113	Rental of passenger vehicles
Operation of passenger vehicles		
	114	Gasoline
	115	Passenger vehicle parts, accessories and supplies
	116	Passenger vehicle maintenance and repair services
*	117	Passenger vehicle insurance premiums
*	118	Passenger vehicle registration fees
	119	Drivers' licences
*	120	Parking fees
*	121	All other passenger vehicle operating expenses
Public transportation		
*	122	City bus and subway transportation
*	123	Taxi and other local commuter transportation services
	124	Air transportation
*	125	Rail, highway bus and other inter-city transportation
*	126	Other public transportation

* : Subgroup for which no expenditure was recorded in Nunavik

Alcoholic beverages and tobacco products		
	Alcoholic beverages	
	Alcoholic beverages in licensed establishments	
	* 167	Beer served in licensed establishments
	* 168	Wine served in licensed establishments
	169	Liquor served in licensed establishments
	Alcoholic beverages from stores	
	170	Beer purchased from stores
	171	Wine purchased from stores
	172	Liquor purchased from stores
	* 173	Other alcoholic beverages purchased in stores
	Tobacco products and smoker's supplies	
	174	Cigarettes
	175	Other tobacco products and smoker's supplies

* : Subgroup for which no expenditure was recorded in Nunavik

Household operations, furnishings and equipment		
Household operations		
Communications		
65	Telephone services	
66	Postal and other communications services	
67	Internet access services	
68	Telephone equipment	
Child care and housekeeping services		
69	Child care services	
* 70	Housekeeping services	
Household cleaning products		
71	Detergents and soaps (other than personal care)	
72	Other household cleaning products	
Paper, plastic and aluminium foil supplies		
73	Paper supplies	
74	Plastic and aluminium foil supplies	
Other household goods and services		
75	Pet food and supplies	
76	Seeds, plants and cut flowers	
77	Other horticultural goods	
78	Other household supplies	
* 79	Other household services	
* 80	Financial services	
Household furnishings and equipment		
Furniture and household textiles		
81	Upholstered furniture	
82	Wooden furniture	
83	Other furniture	
84	Window coverings	
85	Bedding and other household textiles	
86	Area rugs and mats	
Household equipment		
87	Cooking appliances	
* 88	Refrigerators and freezers	
89	Laundry and dishwashing appliances	
90	Other household appliances	
91	Non-electric kitchen utensils, tableware and cookware	
92	Household tools (including lawn, garden and snow removal equipment)	
93	Other household equipment	
Services related to household furnishings and equipment		
* 94	Services related to household furnishings and equipment	
95	Other household furnishings and equipment	

* : Subgroup for which no expenditure was recorded in Nunavik

Clothing and footwear		
	Clothing	
	96	Women's clothing
	97	Men's clothing
	98	Children's clothing
	Footwear	
	99	Women's footwear (excluding athletic)
	100	Men's footwear (excluding athletic)
	101	Children's footwear (excluding athletic)
	102	Athletic footwear
	Clothing accessories, watches and jewellery	
	* 103	Leather clothing accessories
	104	Other clothing accessories
	105	Watches
	106	Jewellery
	Clothing material and notions and clothing services	
	107	Clothing material and notions
	* 108	Laundry services
	* 109	Dry cleaning services
	* 110	Other clothing services

* : Subgroup for which no expenditure was recorded in Nunavik

Health and personal care		
	Health care products and services	
	Health care products	
	127	Prescribed medicines
	128	Non-prescribed medicines
	129	Eye care goods
	130	Other health care goods
	Health care services	
	* 131	Eye care services
	* 132	Dental care services
	133	Other health care services
	Personal care products and services	
	Personal care products	
	134	Personal soap
	135	Toiletry items and cosmetics
	136	Oral hygiene products
	137	Other personal care supplies and equipment
	Personal care services	
	138	Personal care services

* : Subgroup for which no expenditure was recorded in Nunavik

Recreation, education and reading	
Recreation	
Recreational equipment and services (excluding recreational vehicles)	
	Sporting and exercise equipment
139	Sporting and exercise equipment
	Toys, games (excluding video games) and hobby supplies
140	Toys, games (excluding video games) and hobby supplies
	Digital computing equipment and devices
141	Computer equipment, software and supplies
142	Multipurpose digital devices
143	Photographic equipment and supplies
	Other recreational equipment and services
144	Other recreational equipment
145	Recreational services
Recreational vehicles	
	Purchase and operation of recreational vehicles
* 146	Purchase of recreational vehicles and outboard motors
* 147	Fuel, parts and accessories for recreational vehicles
* 148	Insurance, licences and other services for recreational vehicles
Home entertainment equipment, parts and services	
149	Audio equipment
150	Video equipment
* 151	Rental of digital media
152	Purchase of digital media
153	Other home entertainment equipment, parts and services
Travel, cultural and recreational services	
* 154	Traveller accommodation
* 155	Travel tours
* 156	Spectator entertainment (excluding video and audio subscription services)
157	Video and audio subscription services
* 158	Use of recreational facilities and services
* 159	All other cultural and recreational services
Education and reading	
Education	
* 160	Tuition fees
161	School textbooks and supplies
* 162	Other lessons, courses and education services
Reading material (excluding textbooks)	
* 163	Newspapers
* 164	Magazines and periodicals
165	Books and reading material (excluding textbooks)
* 166	Other reading material (excluding textbooks)

* : Subgroup for which no expenditure was recorded in Nunavik

Appendix 10. Nunavik cost-of-living reduction measures and their impact on the results of the survey

This appendix provides a brief description of the public programs and other measures affecting the cost of living in Nunavik at the time of the survey. It also indicates whether these programs and measures are taken into account in the survey data and whether they affect the indexes published here. This information needs to be considered for a precise interpretation of the indexes.

Programs administered by the Kativik Regional Government

Elders' Assistance

This measure is an income supplement for seniors. It is intended for people aged 60 and over who are beneficiaries of the James Bay and Northern Quebec Agreement (JBNQA) and who have lived in Nunavik for at least one year. Eligible people receive two payments of \$875 per year: one on January 15 and one on July 15. Since this program takes the form of an allocation, it has no impact on the interpretation of the survey results.

Airfare Reduction Program

This program aims to reduce the cost of air travel. It is intended for the beneficiaries of the JBNQA, whether they live in Nunavik or elsewhere in Quebec. This measure takes the form of a refund of up to 30% of the price of airfare up to a maximum of \$1,050 per year. Eligible trips include travel for personal purposes:

- eligible persons residing in Nunavik can fly to any destination in Quebec;
- beneficiaries outside of Nunavik can fly to any Nunavik community.

Eligible trips also include family emergencies:

- compassionate travel to accompany a patient;
- compassionate travel for a death in immediate family.

This reduction measure takes the form of a refund upon presentation of a receipt and a boarding pass. It is not factored into our data because the survey only includes the price of airfare at the time the tickets were purchased. The actual cost for the beneficiaries may therefore be overestimated in our results.

Country Food Community Support Program

This program aims to increase the availability of country food in communities. This measure takes the form of a subsidy of \$10,000 to each community plus an additional allocation according to the size of the local Inuit population. This subsidy is used to cover the full transportation costs between communities and half of country food purchase costs. Due to problems of comparability, country food products purchased by the households in this survey were not taken into account. Hence, this program does not affect the survey data.

Household Appliance and Harvesting Equipment Program

This program aims to reduce the cost of household appliances and vehicles and equipment needed for subsistence production. This measure takes the form of a refund (on proof of purchase) determined by the type of product purchased. For furniture and appliances, people aged 18 and over who have been living in Nunavik for a year are eligible for a refund of \$350 for each purchase over \$500 (including transportation), up to a maximum annual amount of \$1,750. These items include refrigerators, bed frames, mattresses, washing machines, dryers, freezers, sewing machines, dishwashers, kitchen table and chairs, stoves, couches and dressers.

For vehicles and equipment, people aged 18 and over who have been living in Nunavik for a year and who are beneficiaries of the JBNQA are eligible for a \$1,000 refund for each purchase over \$1,500 for the following products: freighter canoe, boat, boat trailer, all-terrain vehicle, outboard motor, snowmobile and snowmobile trailer. For the following items, 30% of the costs are covered up to \$500: Qamutiik, Boggan load sled and ice auger. The costs of shipping a vehicle for repairs are covered up to \$1,000 as well, as are the costs associated with their return, for up to one return shipment per year.

Since the survey data measure the price of products at their purchase, they may overestimate the actual cost for people who are eligible for this program because the measure takes the form of a refund upon presentation of a receipt.

Food and Other Essentials Program

This program aims to reduce the price of a set of common consumer products. It is available to all Nunavimmiut and reduces the price of more than 1,500 eligible items in FCNQ stores, Northern stores and the Newviq'vi store in Kuujuaq by 20 to 40%. Eligible products include food, housekeeping products, clothing, personal care products and certain articles for use with vehicles. Our survey data include prices actually paid by consumers; they therefore include the discounts provided by this program.

Gasoline Program

This program aims to reduce the price of gasoline in order to encourage the practice of traditional subsistence activities. This measure is available to all JBNQA beneficiaries aged 16 and over and takes the form of a gasoline discount applied on the purchase upon presentation of the discount card. Again, our survey focuses on the prices actually paid by consumers; the data therefore include the discounts provided by this program.

Other program

Nutrition North Canada

Administered by the Minister of Indigenous and Northern Affairs, the program aims to help make nutritious perishable food more accessible in communities that lack year-round surface transportation. This measure takes the form of a subsidy for retailers in isolated communities and Southern suppliers. The subsidy must be used to reduce the transportation costs of eligible food products, thus making these more accessible to consumers. Consumers can also order products directly from Southern suppliers participating in this program. Eligible products are divided into two levels of subsidy. The higher subsidy rate only applies to nutritious perishable foods. In addition to the nature of the food products, the subsidy rate also depends on the location of the community, with higher subsidies going to more isolated communities. The program also contributes to the shipment to eligible communities of traditional foods processed for commercial purposes. As the survey data focus on prices actually paid by consumers, they include the discounts provided by this program.