The story of Canada in Report Card 11 is one of a country stuck in the middle. The League Table of Child Well-being ranks 29 affluent nations on an average of 26 indicators across five dimensions: Material Well-being, Health and Safety, Education, Behaviours and Risks, and Housing and Environment. Canada has a middle rank in the League Table of Child Well-being, and this position has not budged since we last measured it a decade ago.

What are children saying?
Canada’s ranking drops by seven places (to number 24) when children’s views of their life satisfaction are taken into account. It is also a concern that this level has fallen over the past decade.

Put children first!
Child well-being can be influenced by policy choices, and in order to do that, the Canadian government needs to:

- Provide information on how much money is being spent on children
- Publish regular state-of-children reports to identify progress and emerging concerns
- Ensure the rights of children are prioritized in policy decisions
- Establish a National Children’s Commissioner

UNICEF Report Card 11, Canada’s Overall Ranking

- Educational achievement by age 15
- Eating fruit
- Exercise
- Smoking
- Air pollution
- Child poverty gap
- Low family affluence
- Low birthweight
- Eating breakfast daily
- Teenage births
- Alcohol use
- Fighting
- Relative child poverty
- Infant mortality
- Immunization
- Participation in further education
- NEET (not in education, employment or training)
- Overweight
- Cannabis use
- Bullying
- National homicides
- Children’s life satisfaction

Canada RANKED 17th

- Improved in past decade
- Worsened in past decade

Did you know?
Canada was the first country to introduce a survey of early childhood development indicators.

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Take action!