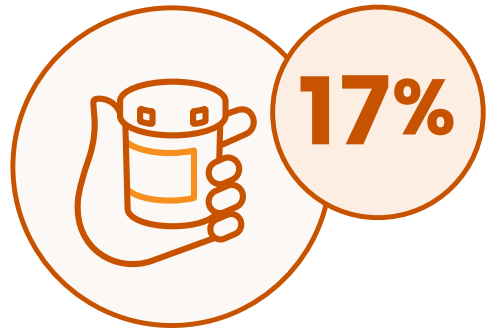


Life Literacy Statistics



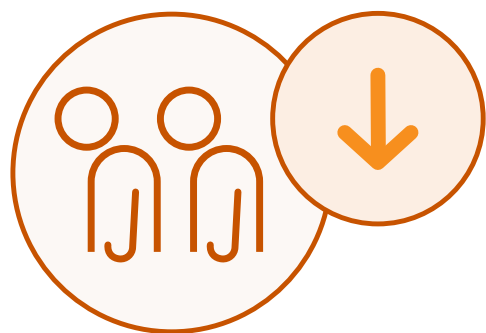
48% of adult Canadians have literacy skills that fall below a high school level, which negatively affects their ability to function at work and in their personal lives.



17% function at the lowest level, where they may, for example, be unable to read the dosage instructions on a medicine bottle.



55% of adult Canadians score in the three lowest skill levels in numeracy, up from 49.8% in 2003.



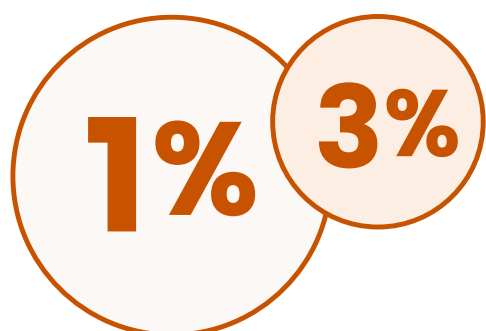
People with lower literacy skills are more likely to be unemployed than those who scored higher.



Canada ranked 11th out of the 23 OECD countries evaluated by the PIAAC (*The Programme for the International Assessment of Adult Competencies*) on the percentage of adults with suitable literacy skills.



Literacy had the most notable effect when measured against other factors that affect differences in pay, followed by education.



A 1% rise in literacy rates would ultimately lead to a 3% rise in GDP.