Definition/Description:

The dependency ratio is a derived variable. It is defined as the proportion of the dependent population to the population of working age.

The dependent population is the combined total of those aged 0 - 14 and those aged 65 and over. The working age population is defined as those aged 15-64 years. The ratio represents the number of dependent persons per 100 persons of working age.

This indicator is used in population studies to measure the portion of the population that is economically dependent upon another. It demonstrates the relative size of the economically dependent population compared to the economically independent population. The larger the value, the larger the economically dependent population within a community area. This is a useful measure given it speaks to the relative wealth of the community as a whole.

Source:

The data source for this indicator was the Manitoba Health Population Health Registry File, June 2002. All numerical values and tables were generated by the Population Health and Health System Analysis Unit, Winnipeg Regional Health Authority.

Findings:

Dependency Ratio per 100 Working Age Population, June, 2002

Community Area	Dependency Ratio
St James-Assiniboia (01)	52.89
Assiniboine South (002)	47.20
Fort Garry (03)	45.18
St Vital (04)	47.29
St. Boniface (05)	47.56
Transcona (006)	44.99
River East (07)	49.95
Seven Oaks (08)	48.34
Inkster (09)	48.18
Point Douglas (10)	56.15
Downtown (11)	47.89
River Heights (12)	46.00
Winnipeg Health Region	**48.46**

Note: Downtown CA value calculated excluding persons in care from population counts.

Highlights:

- For the WHR, the dependency ratio ranges from a high of 56 in the Point Douglas CA to a low of 45 in the Transcona CA. This indicates that Point Douglas has just over 56 dependent persons for every 100 persons of working age compared to Transcona which has approximatley 45.
- The dependency ratio for the WHR overall is 48.46. This suggests that the economically dependent population compared to the economically independent population is relatively similar.