

Economic Security: Poverty

This economic security fact sheet includes an analysis of current data on poverty in Canada:

- Quick facts;
- Measuring poverty using LICO and MBM measures;
- Individual, family and child poverty;
- Depth and duration of poverty; and,
- Provincial poverty data tables.

Other economic security fact sheets examine incomes for different family types and levels of geography, as well as expenditure patterns among Canadian households, with a focus on food security and housing affordability.

Quick Facts on Poverty in Canada

- Approximately 3.5 million Canadians were living in poverty in 2004 – more than 11% of the population.
- The proportion of Canadian families living in poverty declined slightly, from 8.5% in 2003 to 7.8% in 2004. In all, 684,000 economic families were living below the poverty line in 2004.
- Rates of poverty in 2004 were lowest among elderly families (2.1%) and highest among female lone-parent families (35.6%).
- 865,000 Canadian children under the age of 18 lived in poverty in 2004 – one of every eight children.

Measuring Poverty

Low Income Cut-offs (LICO):

Low income cut-offs (LICO) are established by Statistics Canada using data from the Family Expenditure Survey (now known as the Survey of Household Spending). LICO indicates the level of income at which a family may be living in “straitened circumstances” because it spends a greater proportion of its income – 20 percentage points more – on necessities of food, shelter and clothing than does the average family of a similar size.

Separate cut-offs are determined for seven sizes of family – from unattached individuals to families of seven or more persons – and for five sizes of communities – from rural areas to urban areas with a population of 500,000+. (See table below)

Statistics Canada does not refer to the LICO as poverty lines, although they concede that LICO identifies “those who are substantially worse off than the average.” And in the absence of official poverty lines, the LICO are used by many analysts to study the economic security of Canadian families and report on important trends over time.

Statistics Canada's After-tax LICOs, 2005 (1992 base)					
Family Size	Community Size				
	Rural areas	Population		100,000	
		less than 30,000	30,000 to 99,999	499,999	to Population 500,000+
1 person	\$11,264	\$12,890	\$14,380	\$14,562	\$17,219
2 persons	\$13,709	\$15,690	\$17,502	\$17,723	\$20,956
3 persons	\$17,071	\$19,535	\$21,794	\$22,069	\$26,095
4 persons	\$21,296	\$24,373	\$27,190	\$27,532	\$32,556
5 persons	\$24,251	\$27,754	\$30,962	\$31,351	\$37,071
6 persons	\$26,895	\$30,780	\$34,338	\$34,769	\$41,113
7 or more persons	\$29,539	\$33,806	\$37,713	\$38,187	\$45,155

Source: Statistics Canada. *Low Income Cut-offs for 2005 and Low Income Measures for 2004*, Cat. 75F0002MIE.

Welfare Incomes:

In Canada, social assistance or welfare is the safety net of last resort. It provides money to meet the basic needs of families and individuals who have exhausted all other means of financial support. Each province maintains its own welfare system, with rules to regulate eligibility for benefits, rates of assistance, and the amount of other income that recipients are allowed to keep.

The National Council of Welfare tracks information on social assistance. Drawing on their important work, we present information on welfare incomes for four typical household types: a single person, a single person with a disability, a lone-parent family with a 2-year-old child, and a couple with two children aged 10 to 15.

- Nearly 1.7 million Canadians – 5% of the population – relied on welfare in 2005, including almost half a million children.
- In 2005, annual welfare income for a single employable person was lowest in New Brunswick (\$3,201) and highest in Newfoundland/Labrador (\$7,189). Between 2004 and 2005, welfare benefits for single employable individuals went down in most provinces. Saskatchewan reported an increase of 4.4%, and rates in Nova Scotia and Manitoba remained constant.
- For couples with two children, annual welfare incomes were again lowest in New Brunswick (\$17,567) and highest in Prince Edward Island (\$21,213). The largest gains in 2005, across all households, were among couples with two children in Quebec, where welfare benefits rose by 10% over the previous year.
- Among lone-parent families with one child, welfare incomes were generally down in 2005. The only exceptions were in Quebec, which reported a 5% increase, and in Saskatchewan, with a gain of 1.9%.
- British Columbia was the only province in 2005 to increase welfare incomes for people with disabilities. Between 2004 and 2005, welfare benefits for this group rose by 6.3%.

Market Basket Measure (MBM):

The Market Basket Measure (MBM) of poverty was developed to complement existing measures such as the LICOs. The MBM is based on average household expenditures and is calculated by costing a basket of goods and services – including food, shelter, clothing and transportation – in several communities. Thresholds are then determined to represent the level of income needed by households to cover the costs of these basic goods and services. Both the MBM and the LICO are useful tools for assessing low income, and used in combination, they provide a detailed portrait of low income in Canada.

- In 2002, the most recent year for which MBM data are available, the poverty rate in Canada was 13.7% – 2.1 percentage points higher than the poverty rate derived using after-tax LICOs.
- Between 2000 and 2002, the incidence of low income dropped from 14.8% to 13.7%, according to the MBM. (Using Statistics Canada's after-tax LICO, the overall low-income rate dropped from 12.5% to 11.6%.)
- Between 2000 and 2002, the rate of low income among children dropped from 18.4% to 16.9%. Among seniors, the low-income rate fell slightly, from 5.8% to 5.6%.
- Among all families, the low-income rate fell from 17.7% in 2000 to 16.3% in 2002, using the MBM. However, the rate among lone-parent families rose from 38.4% to 41.1%, and among female lone-parent families it increased from 42.5% to 45.6% over that period.

Incidence of Low Income, by Family Type, Age and Gender, Canada				
	MBM			LICO
	2000	2001	2002	After-tax income, 2002
All Persons	14.8	13.6	13.7	11.6
Under age 18	18.4	16.8	16.9	12.2
Aged 18 to 64	15.2	14	14.1	12.1
Aged 65+	5.8	5.5	5.6	7.6
Men	14.0	13	13.2	10.7
Under age 18	18.2	16.9	17.7	12.7
Aged 18 to 64	13.9	12.9	13.0	11.0
Aged 65+	5.0	5.1	5.3	4.9
Women	15.6	14.2	14.1	12.4
Under age 18	18.7	16.6	15.9	11.8
Aged 18 to 64	16.5	15.1	15.2	13.1
Aged 65+	6.5	5.8	5.9	9.7
All Families	17.7	16.7	16.3	15.5
Economic Families (of two or more)	12.0	10.8	11.2	8.6
Elderly families	4.7	3.9	4.5	2.9
Elderly married couples	2.5	2.8	3.1	1.9
Other elderly families	12.8	8.2	10.0	6.9
Non-elderly families	13.2	11.9	12.3	9.5
Married couples	9.7	8.7	9.0	7.1
Two-parent families with children	11.9	10.6	9.8	6.5
Married couples with other relatives	5.8	6.3	7.1	5.0
Lone-parent families	38.4	37.3	41.1	34.2
Male lone-parent families	18.6	17.8	21.8	12.2
Female lone-parent families	42.5	41.4	45.6	39.4
Other non-elderly families	13.2	9.8	12.0	10.8
Unattached Individuals	29.5	28.7	26.5	29.5
Men	28.6	28.4	26.2	27.1
Women	30.4	29.1	26.7	32.0
All elderly	12.0	11.6	10.0	19.4
Elderly men	14.2	13.9	11.8	15.9
Elderly women	11.2	10.7	9.4	20.7
All non-elderly	35.8	34.8	32.5	33.2
Non-elderly men	31.0	30.8	28.7	29.0
Non-elderly women	42.3	40.3	37.6	39.0

Notes: An economic family is defined as a group of two or more persons who live in the same dwelling and are related to each other by blood, marriage, common law or adoption.
An unattached individual is a person who lives alone or with others to whom they are not related, such as a roommate or lodger.

Source: Human Resources and Skills Development Canada. *Low Income in Canada 2000-2002 using the Market Basket Measure*. Ottawa: HRSDC, June 2006.

In the following section, low-income figures are calculated using *after-tax* LICOs. For information on poverty based on total income, see Statistics Canada's *Income in Canada 2004*, Cat. 75-202-XIE.

Individuals in Poverty

- In 2004, 3.4 million Canadians were living in poverty – 11.2% of the total population. Poverty rates were highest among children and youth under the age of 18 (at 12.8%) and lowest among seniors over age 65 (at 5.6%).
- Provincially, poverty rates for individuals were highest in British Columbia (14.2%) in 2004, and lowest in Prince Edward Island (6%).
- For people under age 18, poverty rates were highest in British Columbia (18.1%) and lowest in Prince Edward Island (4.6%).
- Among individuals of working age (18 to 64 years), poverty rates were again highest in British Columbia (14.3%) and lowest in Prince Edward Island (6.9%).
- Among Canada's seniors (aged 65+), poverty rates in 2004 were lowest in Saskatchewan (1.9%) and highest in Quebec (9.3%).

Number and Per cent of Persons in Low Income, Canada, 2000 to 2004						
Using After-tax LICOs, 1992 base						
	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	% change 2000 to 2004
Per cent	12.5%	11.2%	11.6%	11.6%	11.2%	
Number	3,741,000	3,394,000	3,536,000	3,587,000	3,479,000	-7.0%

Source: Statistics Canada. *Income Trends in Canada 2004*, Cat. 75-202-XIE.

Percentage of Persons Living in Low Income, by Age Group,						
Canada and Provinces, 2000 to 2004, using after-tax LICOs, 1992 base						
		2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
Canada	All persons	12.5	11.2	11.6	11.6	11.2
	Under age 18	13.8	12.1	12.2	12.5	12.8
	Aged 18 to 64	12.9	11.7	12.1	12.2	11.7
	Aged 65+	7.6	6.7	7.6	6.8	5.6
Newfoundland and Labrador	All persons	13.2	11.1	11.4	12.2	12.2
	Under age 18	17.7	13.7	14.0	15.8	16.7
	Aged 18 to 64	13.4	11.6	12.2	13.0	12.7
	Aged 65+	3.6	3.4	2.2	2.1	2.3
Prince Edward Island	All persons	9.1	7.5	7.3	6.5	6.0
	Under age 18	7.7	5.8	7.1	4.7	4.6
	Aged 18 to 64	10.2	8.9	7.8	7.6	6.9
	Aged 65+	5.9	3.7	5.8	4.5	4.0
Nova Scotia	All persons	11.6	10.6	9.9	11.2	9.9
	Under age 18	12.5	13.3	12.7	14.4	11.9
	Aged 18 to 64	12.5	11.2	10.2	11.5	10.5
	Aged 65+	5.7	3.0	4.1	5.1	4.2
New Brunswick	All persons	9.2	8.7	9.7	9.7	8.3
	Under age 18	10.5	9.5	10.3	10.9	8.8
	Aged 18 to 64	9.8	9.7	10.9	10.6	9.4
	Aged 65+	3.4	2.3	2.9	2.9	2.7
Quebec	All persons	14.8	13.8	12.3	12.3	11.2
	Under age 18	16.0	14.5	11.3	10.9	10.9
	Aged 18 to 64	14.9	14.1	12.6	13.1	11.7
	Aged 65+	12.1	10.6	11.8	10.3	9.3
Ontario	All persons	10.8	9.3	10.7	10.4	10.6
	Under age 18	12.8	10.3	11.7	11.4	12.8
	Aged 18 to 64	11.0	9.6	11.2	11.1	11.1
	Aged 65+	6.1	5.2	5.6	4.9	3.8
Manitoba	All persons	13.4	11.5	12.2	12.6	11.1
	Under age 18	16.7	15.6	16.2	16.9	12.8
	Aged 18 to 64	13.0	10.6	11.3	12.0	11.4
	Aged 65+	9.4	8.7	9.1	8.1	6.7
Saskatchewan	All persons	10.9	9.7	8.6	9.8	10.1
	Under age 18	13.0	10.7	8.9	12.9	10.9
	Aged 18 to 64	12.0	10.9	9.9	10.4	11.7
	Aged 65+	2.5	2.8	3.0	1.8	1.9
Alberta	All persons	11.1	10.0	9.3	10.7	10.5
	Under age 18	12.3	10.9	9.2	11.0	11.7
	Aged 18 to 64	11.9	10.7	10.3	11.7	11.3
	Aged 65+	2.4	2.2	2.3	3.5	2.5
British Columbia	All persons	15.1	14.1	16.0	15.3	14.2
	Under age 18	14.1	14.0	18.3	18.7	18.1
	Aged 18 to 64	16.5	15.1	16.1	15.2	14.3
	Aged 65+	9.6	9.1	11.7	10.4	8.0

Source: Statistics Canada. *Income Trends in Canada 2004*, Cat. 75-202-XIE.

Families in Poverty

- In 2004, 7.8% of all Canadian families were living in poverty. This figure was down from 9% in 2000.
- Families in British Columbia reported the highest poverty rates in 2004, with 10.3% living below the LICO. Family poverty rates were lowest in Prince Edward Island, at 3.2%.
- Canada's elderly families had the lowest poverty rates in 2004 (2.1%), but single seniors did not fare as well. In particular, elderly women living on their own had high rates of poverty – 17% in 2004 – while 11.6% of elderly men were poor.
- Across the country, elderly families in Quebec and Manitoba had the highest poverty rates in 2004 – 3.4% and 3.5% respectively – while elderly families in Saskatchewan had the lowest rate, at 0.5%.

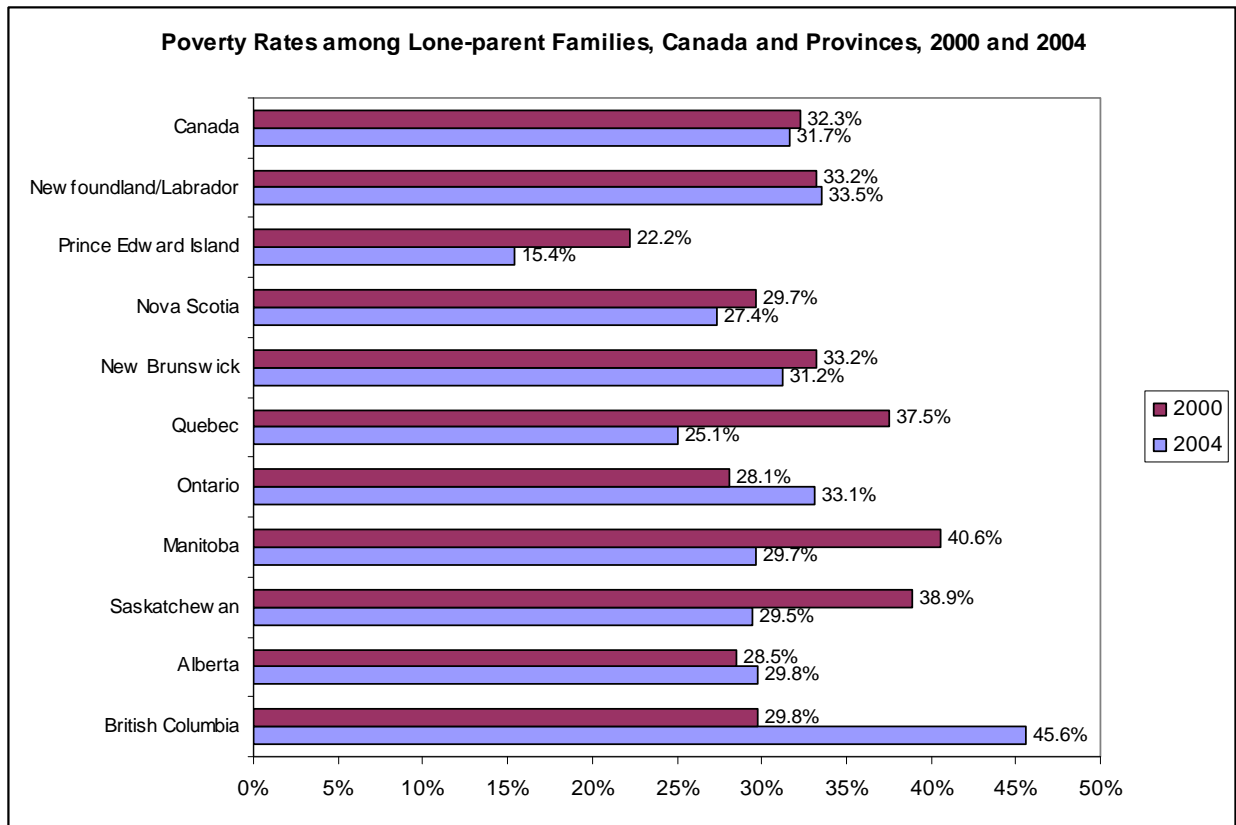
Per cent of Families in Low Income, Canada, 2000 to 2004					
Using After-tax LICOs, 1992 base					
	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
Economic families of two or more persons	9.0	7.9	8.6	8.5	7.8
Elderly families	3.1	2.5	2.9	2.7	2.1
Non-elderly families	10.0	8.8	9.5	9.5	8.8
Married couples without children	6.9	6.4	7.1	6.6	6.2
Two-parent families with children	8.3	6.9	6.5	6.7	6.7
Lone-parent families	32.3	30.1	34.2	34.0	31.7
Male lone-parent families	12.3	12.3	12.2	12.8	14.2
Female lone-parent families	36.3	33.8	39.4	38.8	35.6
Unattached Individuals	32.9	30.8	29.5	29.6	29.6
Elderly men	17.6	16.8	15.9	14.7	11.6
Elderly women	21.6	18.6	20.7	18.9	17.0
Non-elderly men	32.1	30.3	29.0	30.7	31.5
Non-elderly women	44.3	42.1	39.0	38.0	38.4

Notes: An economic family is defined as a group of two or more persons who live in the same dwelling and are related to each other by blood, marriage, common law or adoption.
An unattached individual is a person who lives alone or with others to whom they are not related, such as a roommate or lodger.

Source: Statistics Canada. *Income Trends in Canada 2004*, Cat. 75-202-XIE.

(Note: Provincial data on low-income families by household type, 2000 to 2004, are available on pages 12 to 15 of this fact sheet.)

- Lone-parent families also struggled with very high rates of poverty. In 2004, 31.7% were living in low income. Poverty rates among lone-parent families were highest in British Columbia (45.6%) and lowest in Prince Edward Island (15.4%).
- Female-headed lone-parent families had much higher poverty rates than male-led lone-parent families – 35.6% compared to 14.2% in 2004. Between 2000 and 2004, poverty rates among all lone-parent families remained virtually unchanged, after making significant gains in the mid- to late-1990s when their poverty rate dropped from 45.0% to 32.3%.
- While some provinces recorded minor fluctuations in poverty rates among lone-parent families between 2000 and 2004, rates for such families in British Columbia jumped from 29.8% to 45.6%.



Source: Statistics Canada. *Income Trends in Canada, 2004*.

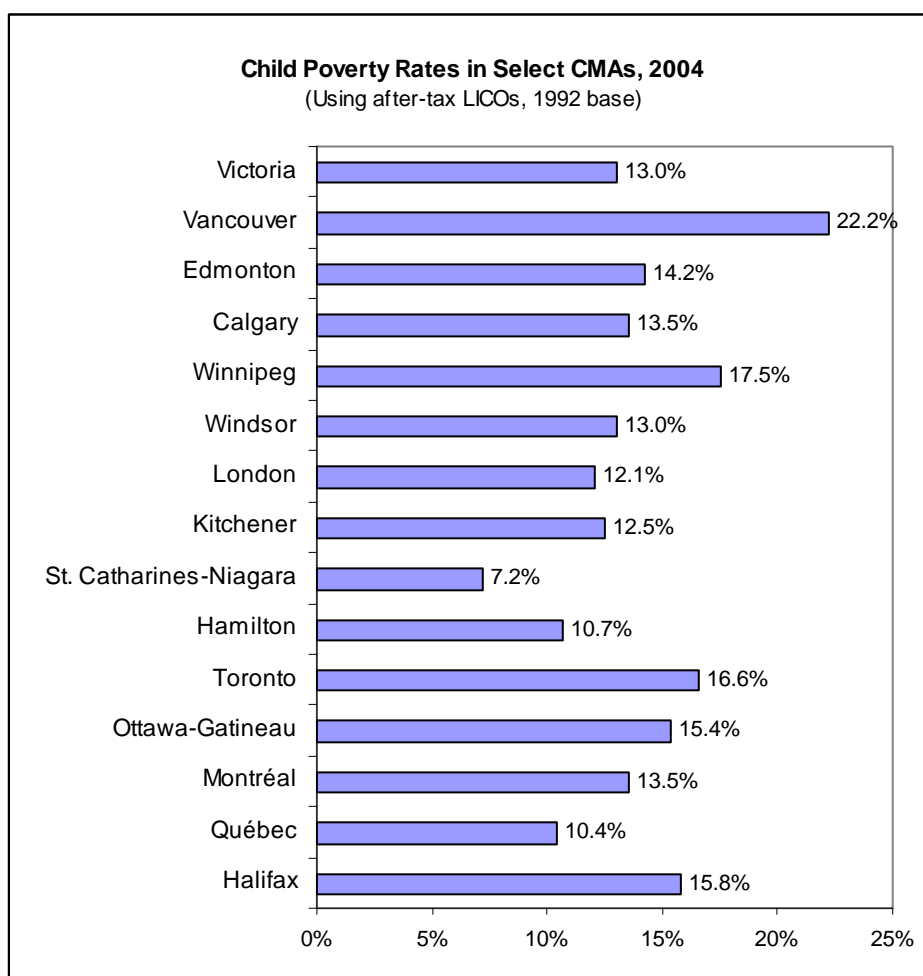
Child Poverty

- There were 865,000 Canadian children under age 18 living in poverty in 2004.
- Between 2000 and 2004, the child poverty rate dropped by only one percentage point – from 13.8% to 12.8%. Child poverty rates went down in all provinces between 2000 and 2004, except in British Columbia, where the rate rose four percentage points.
- In 2004, child poverty rates were highest in British Columbia (18.1%) and lowest in Prince Edward Island (4.6%).

	2000		2001		2002		2003		2004	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Canada	955,000	13.8	835,000	12.1	839,000	12.2	850,000	12.5	865,000	12.8
Newfoundland/Labrador	20,000	17.7	15,000	13.7	15,000	14.0	16,000	15.8	17,000	16.7
Prince Edward Island	*	7.7	*	5.8	*	7.1	*	4.7	*	4.6
Nova Scotia	25,000	12.5	26,000	13.3	25,000	12.7	27,000	14.4	22,000	11.9
New Brunswick	17,000	10.5	15,000	9.5	16,000	10.3	17,000	10.9	13,000	8.8
Quebec	251,000	16.0	225,000	14.5	173,000	11.3	166,000	10.9	165,000	10.9
Ontario	351,000	12.8	285,000	10.3	324,000	11.7	313,000	11.4	353,000	12.8
Manitoba	44,000	16.7	41,000	15.6	42,000	16.2	43,000	16.9	33,000	12.8
Saskatchewan	31,000	13.0	24,000	10.7	20,000	8.9	29,000	12.9	24,000	10.9
Alberta	91,000	12.3	81,000	10.9	68,000	9.2	80,000	11.0	86,000	11.7
British Columbia	123,000	14.1	121,000	14.0	155,000	18.3	157,000	18.7	151,000	18.1

Notes: Data calculated using after-tax LICOs, 1992 base.
 * Number is too small to be released.
 Source: Statistics Canada. *Income Trends in Canada 2004*, Cat. 75-2012-XIE.

- In 2004 in Canada's large urban centres (or census metropolitan areas), child poverty rates were highest in the CMAs of Vancouver (22.2%) and Winnipeg (17.7%). The lowest child poverty rate was reported in the CMA of St. Catharines-Niagara (7.2%).



Note: A Census Metropolitan Area or CMA is defined as “a very large urban area (known as the urban core), together with adjacent urban and rural areas (known as

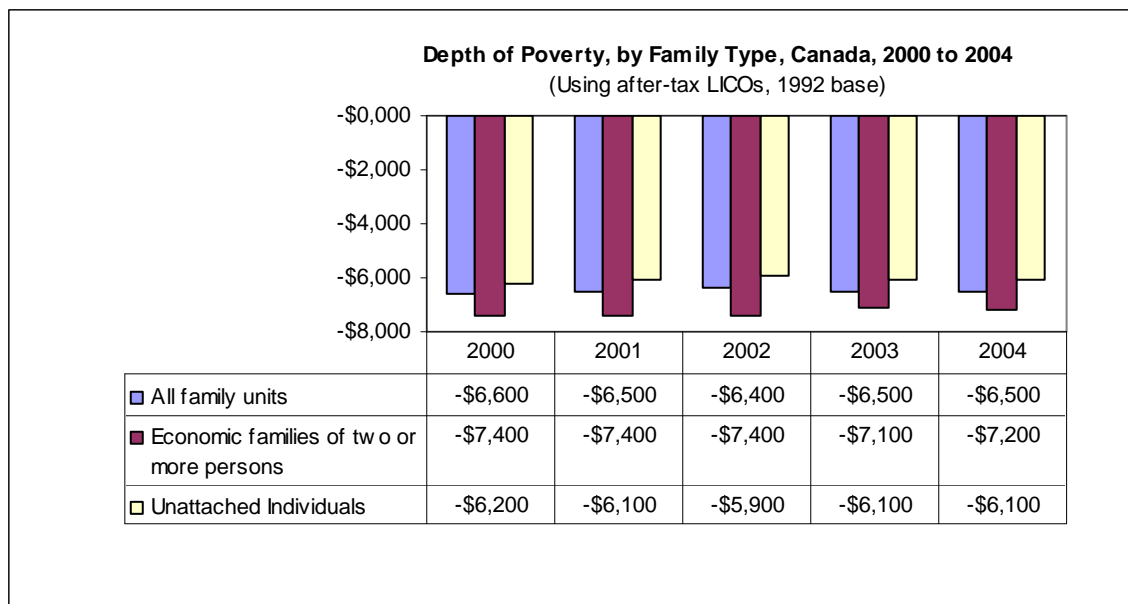
urban and rural fringes) that have a high degree of social and economic integration with the urban core.” A CMA has one or more urban core populations of at least 100,000, based on the previous Census.

Source: Statistics Canada. *Income Trends in Canada 2004*.

Depth of Poverty

The low income gap represents the difference between the average income of a poor household and the appropriate Low Income Cut-off (LICO).

- In 2004, the average low income gap among economic families was \$7,200. In other words, it would require \$7,200 to bring the average low-income family of two or more persons *up to* the poverty line. The low income gap among Canada’s economic families remained relatively stable between 2000 and 2004, dropping by a modest \$100.
- Among the provinces, British Columbia had the largest low income gap in 2004, at \$8,500. Newfoundland/Labrador reported the lowest average gap among economic families, at \$4,800.
- For unattached individuals, the average low income gap in 2004 was \$6,100. As with economic families, the gap remained virtually unchanged between 2000 and 2004. British Columbia again reported the largest low income gap among unattached individuals in 2004, at \$6,600.



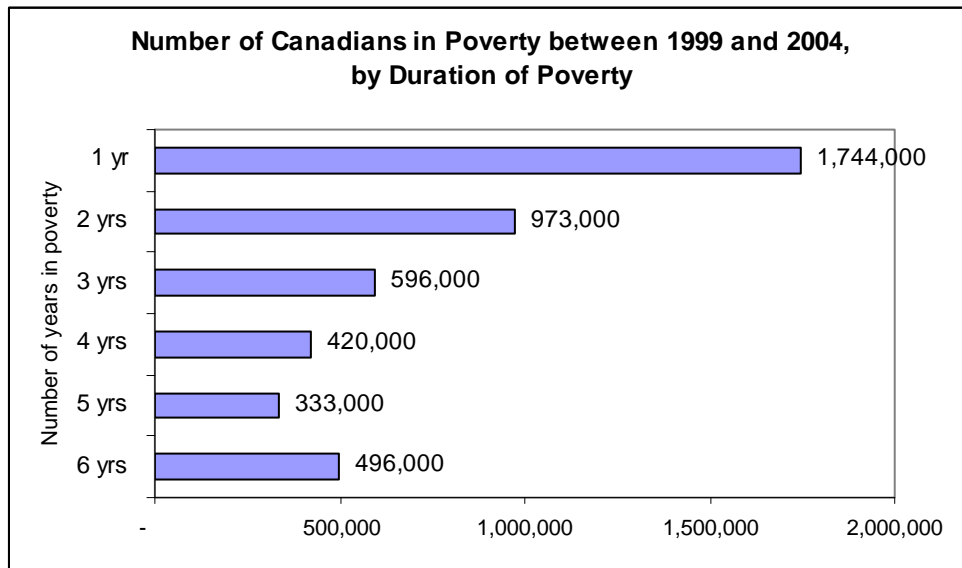
Notes: An economic family is defined as a group of two or more persons who live in the same dwelling and are related to each other by blood, marriage, common law or adoption.

An unattached individual is a person who lives alone or with others to whom they are not related, such as roommate or lodger.

Source: Statistics Canada. *Income Trends in Canada 2004*, Cat. 75-202-XIE.

Duration of Poverty

- Between 1999 and 2004, approximately 4.5 million Canadians experienced poverty for at least one year.
- Just under two million Canadians lived in poverty for one year over that period, and almost half a million lived in poverty for all six years.
- Women were more likely than men to live in poverty for extended periods of time. Between 1999 and 2004, 2.5% of women lived in poverty for all six years, compared to 1.8% of men.
- Among children, 121,000 lived in poverty each year over that period.



Source: Statistics Canada. *Income Trends in Canada, 2004*. Cat. 75-202-XIE

Provincial Poverty Data Tables:

Low Income Families, by Household Type and Province, 2000 to 2004						
Using after-tax LICOs, 1992 base						
Province and Household Type	% Living in Low Income					% change 2000 to 2004
	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	
Newfoundland and Labrador						
Economic families, two or more persons	11.0	9.0	8.5	9.2	9.2	-1.8
Elderly families	2.3	1.0	1.3	F	1.4	-0.9
Non-elderly families	12.5	10.3	9.8	10.7	10.5	-2.0
Married couples	11.2	10.3	8.9	7.8	9.5	-1.7
Two-parent families with children	10.2	7.7	7.3	7.9	9.5	-0.7
Lone-parent families	41.1	32.1	38.0	44.3	33.5	-7.6
Male lone-parent families	F	F	F	F	F	
Female lone-parent families	43.3	33.5	40.7	48.0	38.4	-4.9
Unattached individuals	33.2	32.2	38.4	39.4	35.9	2.7
Elderly men	F	F	F	F	F	
Elderly women	15.3	13.9	9.3	F	F	
Non-elderly men	38.8	41.6	47.0	51.0	41.8	3.0
Non-elderly women	49.9	42.4	53.5	55.5	57.5	7.6
Prince Edward Island						
Economic families, two or more persons	7.0	5.7	5.0	3.6	3.2	-3.8
Elderly families	7.4	5.4	F	F	F	
Non-elderly families	6.9	5.8	5.2	3.3	3.8	-3.1
Married couples	9.2	7.8	5.4	3.0	2.7	-6.5
Two-parent families with children	4.5	3.5	4.2	3.8	2.1	-2.4
Lone-parent families	22.2	19.4	17.6	F	15.4	-6.8
Male lone-parent families	F	F	F	F	F	
Female lone-parent families	25.5	20.4	18.2	F	13.8	-11.7
Unattached individuals	29.8	24.6	27.2	28.8	27.1	-2.7
Elderly men	F	F	F	F	F	
Elderly women	13.2	7.8	13.3	10.0	13.6	0.4
Non-elderly men	30.8	26.9	32.5	39.4	34.6	3.8
Non-elderly women	49.9	41.4	36.9	40.8	37.0	-12.9
Nova Scotia						
Economic families, two or more persons	8.8	7.6	7.5	8.6	6.4	-2.4
Elderly families	3.4	1.9	2.3	1.9	1.7	-1.7
Non-elderly families	9.8	8.7	8.5	10.0	7.4	-2.4
Married couples	10.1	8.5	4.1	6.9	4.2	-5.9
Two-parent families with children	7.6	7.2	5.5	8.0	6.2	-1.4
Lone-parent families	29.7	30.9	38.6	38.2	27.4	-2.3
Male lone-parent families	F	F	F	F	F	
Female lone-parent families	31.2	32.5	35.0	38.2	27.8	-3.4
Unattached individuals	31.2	28.1	26.4	27.3	30.2	-1.0
Elderly men	12.1	F	F	15.5	F	
Elderly women	14.2	6.5	10.5	12.3	10.9	-3.3
Non-elderly men	35.2	34.8	32.3	30.8	36.5	1.3
Non-elderly women	42.9	41.2	35.6	36.4	38.5	-4.4

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Low Income Families, by Household Type and Province (continued)						
	% Living in Low Income					% change 2000 to 2004
	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	
New Brunswick						
Economic families, two or more persons	6.8	7.0	7.9	8.2	6.7	-0.1
Elderly families	0.6	0.6	1.0	1.6	1.2	0.6
Non-elderly families	7.9	8.1	9.1	9.3	7.7	-0.2
Married couples	6.1	6.8	8.1	7.8	7.6	1.5
Two-parent families with children	6.2	3.3	5.8	5.5	4.3	-1.9
Lone-parent families	33.2	41.4	34.1	39.0	31.2	-2.0
Male lone-parent families	F	F	F	F	F	
Female lone-parent families	38.4	44.0	38.2	44.9	34.8	-3.6
Unattached individuals	28.6	27.2	26.1	23.7	24.3	-4.3
Elderly men	F	F	F	7.8	F	
Elderly women	11.2	7.2	8.5	4.8	6.2	-5.0
Non-elderly men	34.8	34.6	34.6	30.9	30.5	-4.3
Non-elderly women	42.1	42.9	38.0	37.9	37.0	-5.1
Quebec						
Economic families, two or more persons	10.5	9.4	9.0	8.7	7.3	-3.2
Elderly families	3.7	2.7	4.9	2.7	3.4	-0.3
Non-elderly families	11.6	10.5	9.7	9.6	7.9	-3.7
Married couples	8.4	8.0	8.3	7.4	6.1	-2.3
Two-parent families with children	8.8	8.6	5.3	5.8	5.7	-3.1
Lone-parent families	37.5	31.8	33.5	29.8	25.1	-12.4
Male lone-parent families	20.1	11.7	10.0	8.9	14.1	-6.0
Female lone-parent families	41.6	36.5	40.2	35.1	28.5	-13.1
Unattached individuals	37.8	35.5	31.3	31.4	30.6	-7.2
Elderly men	19.3	21.4	17.4	15.3	12.4	-6.9
Elderly women	37.5	32.6	32.7	31.0	28.3	-9.2
Non-elderly men	34.1	30.4	25.9	30.2	32.7	-1.4
Non-elderly women	45.9	46.2	40.0	36.4	33.0	-12.9
Ontario						
Economic families, two or more persons	7.8	6.6	8.1	7.8	7.7	-0.1
Elderly families	3.4	2.1	1.9	2.8	1.4	-2.0
Non-elderly families	8.5	7.4	9.1	8.6	8.8	0.3
Married couples	4.8	5.1	5.3	4.8	6.1	1.3
Two-parent families with children	7.8	6.2	6.6	6.2	6.8	-1.0
Lone-parent families	28.1	26.4	34.9	33.0	33.1	5.0
Male lone-parent families	4.9	9.1	11.3	7.9	14.3	9.4
Female lone-parent families	32.6	29.7	39.7	37.7	36.6	4.0
Unattached individuals	30.1	27.9	27.7	27.9	28.8	-1.3
Elderly men	18.0	14.4	16.0	14.4	9.0	-9.0
Elderly women	16.6	14.8	15.5	13.6	11.6	-5.0
Non-elderly men	30.5	29.0	28.7	30.2	31.6	1.1
Non-elderly women	40.7	37.3	37.2	36.8	39.8	-0.9

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Low Income Families, by Household Type and Province (continued)						
	% Living in Low Income					% change 2000 to 2004
	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	
Manitoba						
Economic families, two or more persons	9.6	7.9	8.5	8.7	8.0	-1.6
Elderly families	4.1	2.8	2.4	3.4	3.5	-0.6
Non-elderly families	10.6	8.8	9.7	9.6	8.8	-1.8
Married couples	5.8	6.0	6.8	5.7	5.4	-0.4
Two-parent families with children	8.1	6.2	8.8	9.5	7.5	-0.6
Lone-parent families	40.6	38.2	35.7	33.4	29.7	-10.9
Male lone-parent families	F	F	18.6	F	F	
Female lone-parent families	43.8	41.1	39.0	36.7	34.7	-9.1
Unattached individuals	32.1	28.1	28.2	28.6	28.4	-3.7
Elderly men	15.1	16.3	17.7	14.9	9.7	-5.4
Elderly women	24.6	22.6	24.6	20.4	16.2	-8.4
Non-elderly men	34.4	28.9	27.6	28.2	32.2	-2.2
Non-elderly women	42.7	36.6	34.4	38.7	36.3	-6.4
Saskatchewan						
Economic families, two or more persons	8.5	6.8	5.8	7.0	7.0	-1.5
Elderly families	0.7	1.2	0.7	0.7	0.5	-0.2
Non-elderly families	10.2	8.1	6.9	8.3	8.3	-1.9
Married couples	8.1	6.4	6.2	5.5	6.0	-2.1
Two-parent families with children	6.0	5.4	3.0	5.4	5.7	-0.3
Lone-parent families	38.9	26.1	28.3	33.4	29.5	-9.4
Male lone-parent families	F	F	F	F	28.2	
Female lone-parent families	42.1	29.1	32.4	37.2	29.7	-12.4
Unattached individuals	26.3	26.5	25.3	23.6	27.0	0.7
Elderly men	F	6.2	F	F	F	
Elderly women	6.7	6.8	8.4	3.9	5.1	-1.6
Non-elderly men	34.9	31.9	31.3	32.7	35.0	0.1
Non-elderly women	43.1	45.2	40.3	34.3	42.3	-0.8
Alberta						
Economic families, two or more persons	7.3	6.8	5.8	7.1	7.0	-0.3
Elderly families	F	0.3	0.7	1.1	0.5	
Non-elderly families	8.3	7.6	6.5	7.9	7.9	-0.4
Married couples	5.1	5.8	6.0	7.7	6.6	1.5
Two-parent families with children	7.8	6.4	5.5	6.0	5.7	-2.1
Lone-parent families	28.5	26.1	22.9	30.7	29.8	1.3
Male lone-parent families	F	F	F	F	F	
Female lone-parent families	32.8	31.0	28.5	37.1	37.5	4.7
Unattached individuals	30.4	26.7	28.5	30.7	28.2	-2.2
Elderly men	F	F	F	F	6.3	
Elderly women	8.4	4.5	9.1	9.3	8.5	0.1
Non-elderly men	28.8	26.9	29.3	32.4	26.6	-2.2
Non-elderly women	47.9	41.4	40.1	42.4	42.5	-5.4

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Low Income Families, by Household Type and Province (continued)						
	% Living in Low Income					% change 2000 to 2004
	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	
British Columbia						0.0
Economic families, two or more persons	11.3	10.3	12.5	11.7	10.3	-1.0
Elderly families	4.0	5.4	5.7	4.4	3.2	-0.8
Non-elderly families	12.5	11.1	13.6	13.0	11.6	-0.9
Married couples	9.9	6.2	10.9	8.8	6.4	-3.5
Two-parent families with children	10.2	7.3	10.1	10.1	9.3	-0.9
Lone-parent families	29.8	35.2	41.2	45.1	45.6	15.8
Male lone-parent families	F	F	15.1	25.7	F	
Female lone-parent families	33.3	38.8	46.6	49.9	49.1	15.8
Unattached individuals	34.4	34.4	32.9	31.7	31.4	-3.0
Elderly men	27.9	27.8	25.6	25.0	20.9	-7.0
Elderly women	21.4	19.5	25.6	24.0	21.0	-0.4
Non-elderly men	31.6	33.1	32.2	30.0	30.4	-1.2
Non-elderly women	47.9	46.7	41.3	40.2	41.6	-6.3

Notes: F indicates that data cannot be released due to small sample size.
Low-income figures are calculated using after-tax LICOs, 1992 base.
An economic family is defined as a group of two or more persons who live in the same dwelling and are related to each other by blood, marriage, common law or adoption.
An unattached individual is a person who lives alone or with others to whom they are not related, such as a roommate or lodger.
Source: Calculations by the Canadian Council on Social Development using data from Statistics Canada's *Income Trends in Canada 2004*, Cat. 75-202-XIE.

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