

Low income statistics by age and economic family type ^{1 2 3}

Percentage of persons

Canada, Provinces

Annual, 2015 - 2021

Geography	Persons in low income	Market basket measure, 2018 base ^{4 5}						
		Percentage of persons in low income						
		2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Canada ⁶	All persons	14.5	12.9	11.9	11.2	10.3	6.4	7.4
	Persons under 18 years	16.3	13.9	11.7	10.6	9.4	4.7	6.4
	Persons 18 to 64 years	15.7	14.0	13.4	12.8	11.8	7.8	8.2
	Persons 65 years and over	7.1	7.1	6.1	6.0	5.7	3.1	5.6
	Persons in economic families ⁷	10.9	9.4	8.6	7.6	7.0	3.4	4.4
	Persons not in an economic family	32.8	30.8	28.8	29.1	26.9	20.9	21.9
Newfoundland and Labrador	All persons	13.0	12.2	11.3	11.4	11.2	7.0	8.1
	Persons under 18 years	15.2	13.0	11.5	11.5	15.3	7.9	9.9
	Persons 18 to 64 years	13.7	13.3	12.6	13.7	11.9	8.1	8.9
	Persons 65 years and over	8.8	8.0	6.9	4.4	6.0	3.4	4.7
	Persons in economic families ⁷	8.8	9.2	6.8	8.5	8.6	5.2	5.9
	Persons not in an economic family	39.2	30.9	37.5	28.3	26.0	16.8	19.9
Prince Edward Island	All persons	15.7	13.9	15.4	13.4	12.3	7.6	7.4
	Persons under 18 years	17.6	18.5	17.3	12.5	14.6	7.2	4.4
	Persons 18 to 64 years	15.8	14.1	16.2	14.3	13.2	8.7	8.8
	Persons 65 years and over	13.2	8.3	10.7	11.5	6.9	4.5	5.7
	Persons in economic families ⁷	11.9	10.5	11.2	8.8	8.6	4.5	4.3
	Persons not in an economic family	36.3	32.0	37.0	37.3	31.1	23.3	22.7
Nova Scotia	All persons	16.8	16.4	15.1	13.8	12.0	7.7	8.6
	Persons under 18 years	20.6	19.9	20.0	15.8	10.9	5.5	6.1
	Persons 18 to 64 years	17.6	18.1	16.4	14.9	13.6	9.5	9.1
	Persons 65 years and over	10.4	7.9	6.9	8.8	8.0	4.5	9.1
	Persons in economic families ⁷	11.9	12.1	11.1	9.3	7.7	4.3	4.5
	Persons not in an economic family	39.3	36.3	33.4	33.6	31.0	22.8	26.1
New Brunswick	All persons	16.2	13.9	12.6	10.8	9.9	7.6	6.7
	Persons under 18 years	19.9	16.4	15.5	11.9	12.4	6.1	7.2
	Persons 18 to 64 years	16.6	14.3	13.8	12.2	10.5	9.0	7.0
	Persons 65 years and over	11.2	10.0	6.6	5.9	6.1	5.1	5.6
	Persons in economic families ⁷	12.2	9.6	9.3	6.7	6.6	4.4	3.7
	Persons not in an economic family	36.7	35.3	28.8	30.5	25.4	22.6	20.7
Quebec	All persons	13.5	11.0	10.9	9.8	8.9	4.8	5.2
	Persons under 18 years	13.9	10.9	10.4	7.6	6.3	2.3	3.0
	Persons 18 to 64 years	15.3	12.0	12.5	11.8	10.8	6.4	6.0
	Persons 65 years and over	6.8	7.3	6.0	5.7	5.4	2.3	4.9
	Persons in economic families ⁷	9.8	7.2	7.6	6.2	5.2	1.9	2.4
	Persons not in an economic family	30.1	27.2	24.9	25.2	24.6	16.9	16.7
Ontario	All persons	15.1	13.7	12.3	11.8	10.9	6.8	7.7
	Persons under 18 years	18.0	15.2	12.2	12.0	11.5	5.6	6.8
	Persons 18 to 64 years	16.4	15.0	14.1	13.3	12.1	8.1	8.7
	Persons 65 years and over	6.1	6.7	5.6	5.7	6.0	3.3	5.1
	Persons in economic families ⁷	11.9	10.4	9.0	8.4	8.0	3.8	4.8
	Persons not in an economic family	33.9	32.2	30.8	30.7	26.9	23.2	23.4
Manitoba	All persons	14.1	12.4	11.2	11.1	11.5	6.8	8.8
	Persons under 18 years	19.3	15.5	12.8	13.1	13.5	6.0	9.5
	Persons 18 to 64 years	14.2	13.1	12.1	11.7	12.2	8.2	9.5
	Persons 65 years and over	5.9	4.9	5.4	6.1	5.6	2.3	5.8
	Persons in economic families ⁷	11.7	10.0	8.4	8.2	8.3	4.6	6.1
	Persons not in an economic family	27.7	26.1	27.8	28.1	29.5	18.7	23.9
Saskatchewan	All persons	12.2	11.1	11.9	10.8	11.9	6.7	9.1
	Persons under 18 years	16.7	12.5	14.4	11.5	12.7	6.6	8.5
	Persons 18 to 64 years	12.0	11.6	12.5	12.1	13.2	7.7	10.4
	Persons 65 years and over	6.1	6.9	5.5	4.6	5.9	2.9	5.5
	Persons in economic families ⁷	9.6	8.3	9.2	8.0	8.7	4.1	6.4
	Persons not in an economic family	26.3	26.2	26.8	26.2	29.4	20.3	23.8

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Geography	Persons in low income	Market basket measure, 2018 base ^{4 5}						
		Percentage of persons in low income						
		2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Alberta	All persons	9.4	10.1	8.5	8.8	7.7	5.5	7.8
	Persons under 18 years	12.3	10.8	7.8	8.8	6.9	4.2	7.5
	Persons 18 to 64 years	9.5	10.9	9.8	9.9	8.9	6.5	8.3
	Persons 65 years and over	3.1	4.3	2.9	3.4	3.5	2.9	5.9
	Persons in economic families ⁷	7.5	7.8	6.4	6.2	5.5	3.3	4.9
	Persons not in an economic family	20.8	23.7	20.8	24.0	20.9	19.1	25.3
British Columbia	All persons	18.6	16.0	14.6	13.3	11.9	7.6	8.8
	Persons under 18 years	16.8	17.4	13.4	11.1	7.3	5.0	7.9
	Persons 18 to 64 years	20.8	17.4	16.3	15.2	14.8	9.5	9.5
	Persons 65 years and over	11.7	9.1	9.7	8.5	6.4	3.7	7.0
	Persons in economic families ⁷	13.1	11.0	10.0	8.3	7.1	3.9	5.2
	Persons not in an economic family	43.5	38.5	35.4	35.1	33.2	23.7	24.0

Corrections:

On February 24, 2020, estimates of Quebec and Canada after-tax income for 2017 were corrected, leading to a revision of the low income measure (LIM) after-tax thresholds for 2017. As a result, LIM estimates were revised for all geographies, while Market Basket Measure (MBM) and after-tax low income cut-off (LICO) estimates were revised for Quebec, Canada and Quebec census metropolitan areas.

Footnotes:

¹ For information on data quality indicators, please see:

<https://www150.statcan.gc.ca/t1/tb1/en/tv.action?pid=1110013501>

² Estimates are based on data from the following surveys: the Survey of Consumer Finances (SCF) from 1976 to 1992, a combination of the SCF and the Survey of Labour and Income Dynamics (SLID) from 1993 to 1997, the SLID from 1998 to 2011 and the Canadian Income Survey (CIS) beginning in 2012. For more information, see Statistics Canada, 2015, "Revisions to 2006 to 2011 income data", Income Research Paper Series, Cat. no. 75F0002MIE - No. 003. Also, two previous revisions of income data are described in Cotton, Cathy, 2000, "Bridging Two Surveys: An Integrated Series of Income Data from SCF and SLID 1989-1997", Statistics Canada, Cat. No. 75F0002MIE - No. 002, and Lathe, Heather, 2005, "Survey of Labour and Income Dynamics: 2003 Historical Revision", Statistics Canada, Cat. No. 75F0002MIE - No. 009.

³ Estimates from the Survey of Consumer Finances include income data for persons aged 15 years and over. Estimates from the Survey of Labour and Income Dynamics and the Canadian Income Survey include income data for persons aged 16 years and over.

⁴ The Market Basket Measure (MBM) is based on the cost of a specific basket of goods and services representing a modest, basic standard of living. It includes the costs of food, clothing, shelter, transportation and other items for a reference family. These costs are compared to the disposable income of families to determine whether or not they fall below the poverty line.

⁵ Changes were made to the Market Basket Measure series. For more information, please consult the document Report on the second comprehensive review of the Market Basket Measure.

⁶ Estimates for Canada do not include the territories.

⁷ An economic family refers to a group of two or more persons who live in the same dwelling and are related to each other by blood, marriage, common-law, adoption or a foster relationship.

Source: Centre for Income and Socioeconomic Well-being Statistics, Statistics Canada, Table 11-10-0135-01