

Low income statistics by age and economic family type^{1 2 3 4}
Percentage of persons
Canada, Provinces
Annual, 2020 - 2023

Geography	Persons in low income	Market basket measure, 2023 base ^{5 6}			
		Percentage of persons in low income			
		2020	2021	2022	2023
Canada ⁷	All persons	6.8	7.9	10.3	10.9
	Persons under 18 years	5.1	6.8	10.4	11.8
	Persons 18 to 64 years	8.2	8.7	11.5	12.2
	Persons 65 years and over	3.7	6.3	6.3	5.5
	Persons in economic families ⁸	3.7	4.7	7.0	7.6
	Persons not in an economic family	22.1	23.2	26.7	26.5
Newfoundland and Labrador	All persons	6.3	7.4	9.4	10.9
	Persons under 18 years	6.2	8.9	11.1	13.7
	Persons 18 to 64 years	7.5	8.4	11.0	12.8
	Persons 65 years and over	2.8	3.6	4.3	4.4
	Persons in economic families ⁸	4.4	5.2	5.9	7.6
	Persons not in an economic family	16.5	19.2	27.9	28.0
Prince Edward Island	All persons	7.5	7.5	8.9	10.5
	Persons under 18 years	6.3	5.8	7.4	12.3
	Persons 18 to 64 years	8.8	8.8	9.9	12.0
	Persons 65 years and over	4.9	5.2	7.3	4.3
	Persons in economic families ⁸	4.1	4.8	5.9	7.5
	Persons not in an economic family	25.0	21.0	24.2	25.7
Nova Scotia	All persons	7.2	7.8	11.7	11.5
	Persons under 18 years	4.9	5.9	12.5	13.4
	Persons 18 to 64 years	9.0	8.5	12.8	12.9
	Persons 65 years and over	3.6	7.3	7.9	6.4
	Persons in economic families ⁸	3.9	4.2	7.5	7.7
	Persons not in an economic family	21.4	23.2	29.3	27.7
New Brunswick	All persons	7.1	5.9	10.1	11.3
	Persons under 18 years	4.0	5.6	10.3	14.5
	Persons 18 to 64 years	8.7	6.5	11.2	12.0
	Persons 65 years and over	5.4	4.7	7.3	6.9
	Persons in economic families ⁸	3.9	2.9	6.5	8.4
	Persons not in an economic family	22.4	19.7	26.7	24.2
Quebec	All persons	5.2	5.7	6.8	7.6
	Persons under 18 years	2.4	3.1	5.0	6.1
	Persons 18 to 64 years	6.9	6.3	8.7	9.6
	Persons 65 years and over	2.8	6.1	3.1	3.5
	Persons in economic families ⁸	2.0	2.6	3.6	4.2
	Persons not in an economic family	18.6	18.3	19.9	21.4
Ontario	All persons	7.4	8.4	11.5	12.3
	Persons under 18 years	6.2	7.6	12.1	14.1
	Persons 18 to 64 years	8.7	9.4	12.6	13.6
	Persons 65 years and over	4.0	5.9	7.4	6.2
	Persons in economic families ⁸	4.2	5.4	8.0	9.1
	Persons not in an economic family	24.7	25.1	30.3	29.5
Manitoba	All persons	7.7	9.9	12.5	12.1
	Persons under 18 years	7.0	10.7	14.4	14.8
	Persons 18 to 64 years	9.0	10.2	13.1	13.0
	Persons 65 years and over	4.0	7.9	7.8	5.7
	Persons in economic families ⁸	5.4	6.8	9.6	9.3
	Persons not in an economic family	21.0	27.3	28.4	27.7
Saskatchewan	All persons	6.8	9.5	11.4	13.2
	Persons under 18 years	6.6	9.3	13.7	16.1
	Persons 18 to 64 years	7.7	10.5	12.3	14.4
	Persons 65 years and over	3.6	5.9	5.4	5.2
	Persons in economic families ⁸	4.2	6.7	8.6	10.2
	Persons not in an economic family	20.6	24.2	26.5	29.3

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Geography	Persons in low income	Market basket measure, 2023 base ^{5 6}			
		Percentage of persons in low income			
		2020	2021	2022	2023
Alberta	All persons	5.5	7.9	9.5	9.1
	Persons under 18 years	4.2	7.4	10.8	10.5
	Persons 18 to 64 years	6.5	8.5	10.0	9.7
	Persons 65 years and over	3.0	5.9	5.8	4.3
	Persons in economic families ⁸	3.3	4.9	7.0	6.6
	Persons not in an economic family	18.9	25.7	25.3	24.3
British Columbia	All persons	8.4	9.3	12.3	12.5
	Persons under 18 years	6.3	8.2	12.0	13.5
	Persons 18 to 64 years	10.2	10.0	13.5	13.7
	Persons 65 years and over	4.2	8.1	9.0	7.8
	Persons in economic families ⁸	4.6	5.5	8.2	8.6
	Persons not in an economic family	24.6	25.6	29.7	28.6

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 Data quality indicators are based on the coefficient of variation (CV) and number of observations. Quality indicators indicate the following: A - Excellent (CV between 0% and 2%); B - Very good (CV between 2% and 4%); C - Good (CV between 4% and 8%); D - Acceptable (CV between 8% and 16%); E - Use with caution (CV between 16% and 33.3%).

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 Income estimates from the Survey of Consumer Finances and the Canadian Income Survey for the 2022 reference year and onwards include income for persons aged 15 years and over. Income estimates from the Survey of Labour and Income Dynamics and the Canadian Income Survey for reference years prior to 2022 include income data for persons aged 16 years and over.

⁴ In recent years, the Canadian Income Survey (CIS) has introduced improvements to the methods and sources used to produce income estimates. Beginning with the 2021 reference year, CIS income data were produced from the Administrative Personal Income Masterfile, a comprehensive source of personal income data generated not only from T1 tax returns, but also from associated tax slips. CIS estimates for previous years were produced using T1 tax returns only. Please consult the document Improvements to the Canadian Income Survey Methodology for the 2021 Reference Year (opens new window) for more information. More improvements were introduced with the 2022 reference year. Foremost among these improvements is a significant increase in the sample size for a large subset of the CIS content. The weighting methodology was also improved and the target population for income data was changed from persons aged 16 years and over to persons aged 15 years and over. Please consult the document Improvements to the Canadian Income Survey Methodology for the 2022 Reference Year (opens new window) for more information."

⁵ 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.

⁶ For more information on the 2023-base Market Basket Measure, please consult the document: [The proposed methodology for the 2023-base Market Basket Measure of poverty \(opens new window\)](#).

⁷ Estimates for Canada do not include the territories.

⁸ 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