

Social Assistance Statistical Report:

2008

Federal-Provincial-Territorial Directors of Income Support September 2010

September 2010

Report prepared by:

Federal-Provincial-Territorial (FPT) Directors of Income Support

For further information regarding the *Social Assistance Statistical Report: 2008,* the FPT Directors of Income Support, please contact:

FPT Directors of Income Support c/o Income Security Division Human Resources and Skills Development Canada 140 Promenade du Portage Phase IV, 3rd Floor Gatineau, Quebec K1A 0J9

E-mail: NC-SP-PS-SPA-APS-GD@hrsdc-rhdcc.gc.ca

Report available on the Internet at:

http://www.hrsdc.gc.ca/eng/publications_resources/statistics/index.shtml

Ce rapport est aussi disponible en français sous le titre Rapport statistique sur l'aide sociale : 2008

You can order this publication by contacting:

Publications Services
Human Resources and Skills Development Canada
140 Promenade du Portage
Phase IV, 12th Floor
Gatineau, Quebec
K1A 0J9

Fax: 819-953-7260

Online: http://www12.hrsdc.qc.ca

This document is available on demand in alternate formats (Large Print, Braille, Audio Cassette, Audio CD, e-Text Diskette, e-Text CD, or DAISY), by contacting 1 800 O-Canada (1-800-622-6232). If you have a hearing or speech impairment and use a teletypewriter (TTY), call 1-800-926-9105.

© Her Majesty the Queen in Right of Canada, 2010

PDF

ISBN: 978-1-100-13953-1

Catalogue number: HS25-2/2008E-PDF



Table of Contents

Cnapter 1:	Summary	1
Chapter 2:	Social Assistance in Canada: An Overview	3
Chapter 3:	Newfoundland and Labrador – Income Support	13
Chapter 4:	Prince Edward Island – Social Assistance	21
Chapter 5:	Nova Scotia – Employment Support and Income Assistance	29
Chapter 6:	New Brunswick – Social Assistance	37
	A – Transitional Assistance Program (Statistics)	40
	B – Extended Benefits Program (Statistics)	43
	C – Interim Assistance Program (Statistics)	46
Chapter 7:	Quebec – Employment Assistance	49
Chapter 8:	Ontario	59
	A – Ontario Works	59
	B – Ontario Disability Support Program	67
Chapter 9:	Manitoba – Employment and Income Assistance	75
Chapter 10:	Saskatchewan – Social Assistance Programs	83
Chapter 11:	Alberta	91
	A – Alberta Works - Income Support	91
	B – Assured Income for the Severely Handicapped	99
Chapter 12:	British Columbia – Employment and Assistance	107
Chapter 13:	Yukon – Social Assistance	115
Chapter 14:	Northwest Territories – Income Assistance	121
Chapter 15:	Nunavut – Income Support	129
Appendix 1	List of Tables	133



Chapter 1

Summary

Social assistance in Canada is also known as income support, income assistance, welfare and a few other program names, depending on the jurisdiction. No matter the name, all provincial and territorial social assistance programs provide financial assistance and in-kind goods and services to cover the cost of basic living requirements for an individual or family when all other financial resources of that individual or family have been exhausted. For the purpose of this report, in Chapter 1 and 2, the term *social assistance program* has been adopted.

In recognition of the growing public demand for comprehensive information on provincial and territorial social assistance programs and caseloads, the *Social Assistance Statistical Report: 2008* is the fifth annual joint publication by federal, provincial and territorial governments. The report provides a general overview of social assistance in Canada, as well as a description of income support-related/social assistance programs in each jurisdiction.

This report does not include social assistance rates as this information is currently available to the public on most provincial and territorial government Web sites.

Methodology

The data in this report was provided by provincial and territorial ministries responsible for administering social assistance programs. It was extracted from jurisdictional data systems developed to meet their administrative and case management needs. As such, there are extensive variations in the types of data collected, the manner in which the data is reported, and in the definitions and terminology used. The data in this report should not be used for the purpose of cross-jurisdictional comparison.



Chapter 2

Social Assistance in Canada: An Overview

The formal division of powers between the federal government and the provincial and territorial governments respecting social services is based on *The Constitution Act*, 1867. The Act itself did not refer to social services; however, the legislative authority for social services has been inferred from the interpretations of sections 91 and 92 of the Act. These sections of the Act set out the division of authority between the federal and provincial governments and the constitution has been interpreted to mean that the provinces have primary jurisdiction over social services. As such, the legislation governing the provision of social assistance varies by jurisdiction.

Following the approach of their provincial or territorial counterpart, Indian and Northern Affairs Canada (INAC) has adopted similar terms and conditions of social assistance programs. Funding for social assistance activities is provided by INAC to First Nations communities, who in turn deliver programs and services to community members.¹

A Brief History of Federal Social Assistance

1966 - Canada Assistance Plan (CAP) – The federal government shared the eligible costs that provincial, territorial and municipal governments incurred in providing provincial social assistance and welfare services to persons in need.

1996 - The **Canada Health and Social Transfer (CHST)** replaced CAP. The CHST was a federal transfer provided to provinces and territories in support of provincial health care, post-secondary education, social assistance and social services, including early childhood development and early learning and child care

2004 - The CHST was replaced by the **Canada Health Transfer (CHT)** in support of health care and the **Canada Social Transfer (CST)** in support of post-secondary education, social assistance and social services, including early childhood development and early learning and child care.

Eligibility

In general, assistance may be granted to any individual or family head who has been determined, on the basis of need, to be unable to provide adequately for themselves and any dependants. Employable recipients may be required to participate in one or

¹ In Ontario, under the *1965 Indian Welfare Agreement*, Ontario assumes the responsibility of the provision of social assistance in First Nations and INAC reimburses Ontario a percentage share of provincial costs.

more employment activities as a condition of eligibility for financial assistance. Most jurisdictions require applicants to attain the age of majority prior to application, and be a resident at the time of their application and while receiving benefits.

The following groups of individuals may be eligible for social assistance:

- Canadian citizens:
- persons granted permanent resident status under the Immigration and Refugee Protection Act, and
- persons who have made a claim for refugee status or have been granted asylum in Canada under the *Immigration and Refugee Protection Act*.

Administrative Requirements

Depending on the jurisdiction, to establish initial eligibility for social assistance, an applicant may be required to:

- submit a completed application;
- provide all documentation or necessary information to verity his/her eligibility, such as proof of age, medical information related to a disability, if applicable, pay cheque stubs, etc.;
- meet a representative from the ministry and discuss the financial and social situation of the household;
- provide consent for verification of any statement made in the application and any supporting documents concerning financial resources or any other circumstances of the household;
- report any change in circumstances that may affect continuing program eligibility or the amount of assistance to which the household is entitled.

Employment Requirements

Eligible employable persons are actively encouraged or required to pursue, accept, and retain any reasonable offer of employment or re-training as an initial and continuing condition of eligibility for social assistance. Thus, many jurisdictions offer employment services and training opportunities in combination with financial assistance. Should a recipient choose not to pursue employment or retraining, he/she may be subject to penalties ranging from a specified reduction in benefits over a prescribed period of time to the full cancellation of benefits.

To ensure that those who successfully leave social assistance for employment are better off working, the federal government (Working Income Tax Benefit - WITB) and a number of provinces and territories have introduced earned income or working income supplements.

Categories of Beneficiaries

Employable Persons - A number of measures promote the entry or re-entry of employable persons into the active labour force. These measures may include different exemption levels on assets and income, lower benefit levels to reflect the

temporary nature of their reliance on social assistance, and a wide range of employment support services and programs.

Recipients may be required to sign and adhere to an individualized contract that stipulates training and rehabilitation measures to be undertaken in order to regain financial independence. However, assistance may be granted only when:

- unemployment is due to circumstances beyond the person's control;
- the person is willing to accept employment which he/she is capable of handling, or to engage in academic upgrading, re-training or other measures to reach a state of job readiness; and
- the person is making reasonable efforts to secure employment.

Single-Parent Families - A sole support parent may be required to either initiate legal proceedings against an absent spouse (or ex-spouse) including common-law partners, respecting maintenance payments, or to subrogate that right to the government. Generally, single parents are considered as employable and required to actively seek and accept reasonable employment, where the parent and dependent child(ren) are physically and mentally healthy and generally when the dependants have reached a certain age.

Persons with Disabilities - An applicant with a disability is generally required to undergo an adjudication process or submit a medical certificate completed by a licensed physician indicating the level of the impairment and the potential for rehabilitation. Evidence of a continuing disability on an annual or other basis may also be required. These requirements may be waived where the disability is obvious.

All programs have design features to assist persons with disabilities, which may include higher exemption levels on assets and income, higher basic assistance levels, special disability-related allowances, and supplementary health and medical benefits.

Persons with Multiple Barriers to Employment – Some recipients face multiple significant barriers that make it difficult to find and maintain employment. Barriers to employment may include substance abuse, child care or transportation issues, histories of long-term unemployment, and/or low basic skills.

These individuals require interventions to address their personal circumstances in order to be able to find and maintain employment. They may have higher benefit levels and exemptions to reflect their longer-term reliance on social assistance.

Aged Persons - Seniors may qualify for social assistance notwithstanding their eligibility for benefits from other federal, provincial and territorial programs. Financial hardship might be due to some age-related special needs, the number of dependants in the household, or ineligibility for Old Age Security benefits. Most jurisdictions have established higher basic assistance benefit levels or other special considerations for aged persons.

Students - Post-secondary students are generally not permitted to receive social assistance while attending university, college or trade school. Students requiring

financial assistance during their study period are generally expected to contact the appropriate student loan organization to receive financial assistance.

Financial Eligibility

Needs or Means Test - Social assistance is generally granted to eligible persons on the basis of a needs test. It takes into account the basic needs and the financial resources available to an individual or family (assets and income), and the ability of those financial resources to meet their basic needs.

Assets – A household's assets may be considered as exempt or non-exempt for the purpose of calculating the social assistance entitlement. In most jurisdictions, liquid assets are defined as any assets that are readily convertible into cash including cash-on-hand, bank accounts, stocks and bonds, or other securities. Certain exemptions are allowed with respect to actual and potential liquid assets and the property of an individual or family. A portion of the cash value of a life insurance policy may be exempt from the calculation of liquid assets.

Homeowners applying for social assistance are not required to sell their principal residence and household effects (within reason) as a condition of eligibility. Similarly, applicants are not required to sell their primary vehicle, generally as long as the value of the vehicle does not exceed an allowable limit. Provisions regarding the treatment of assets such as Registered Retirement Savings Plans and Registered Education Savings Plans vary between provinces and territories.

Assistance may be withheld, reduced or terminated where an applicant or recipient has disposed of his/her assets in an unreasonable manner in order to qualify for assistance.

Income – In addition to assets, income from all sources is examined in the calculation of entitlement to social assistance. The following types of income may be fully or partially exempt:

- Canada Child Tax Benefit;
- foster home payments;
- child welfare payments;
- GST/HST rebates:
- insurance settlements;
- federal compensation payments (such as payments to those under the Hepatitis C Program, to those infected with the human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) through blood transfusions or blood products, and to Canadian merchant mariners who served in the Second World War or the Korean War);
- involuntary deductions from pay;
- · gifts and inheritances; and
- income from full-time employment held by dependants who are students.

Partial exemptions for employment income exist in most provinces and territories. These income exemptions may be granted as an incentive for the individual to gain financial independence. The income exemption provision may take effect only after initial eligibility for social assistance has been established.

Other types of unearned income, such as Workers' Compensation benefits and Old Age Security, are non-exempt and reduce the amount of social assistance payable dollar-for-dollar.

In the determination of financial eligibility, some jurisdictional authorities may include imputed income as part of a household's income even though the household is not actually receiving money from a particular source. Living rent-free in return for janitorial or superintendent services is a common example of imputed income.

Benefits

Basic Assistance - Basic assistance is generally intended to help with the cost of food, shelter, clothing, personal and household items, and may cover regularly recurring special needs. There are three basic methods used to calculate the amount of benefits to which an individual or family are entitled:

- i. Pre-added budget method It combines all non-shelter requirements into a single support allowance. A separate shelter component is then provided.
- ii. Itemized budget method It provides a standard allowance for each of the non-shelter and shelter requirements. The sum of the individual items to which the individual or family is entitled then forms the total benefit payable.
- iii. Flat rate of assistance It provides a lump sum amount for non-shelter and shelter items based on a household's structure and the program in which it is participating.

Variables affecting the amount of shelter allowance payable include the number of beneficiaries in any given household, the type of living arrangement and the cost of fuel and utilities. In some jurisdictions, the shelter amount varies depending on the season, location and relative remoteness of the area in question.

Special Needs Assistance - Generally, this type of assistance provides items, services, or allowances related to age, disability, employment, education, training, and other special circumstances. It varies widely between jurisdictions but examples include transportation allowances, employment-related allowances, child care subsidies, drug and medical services, as well as furniture replacement, minor home repair allowances, special diet allowances, school supply allowances, and funeral services. The provision of items of special need is generally on a case-by-case basis in accordance with the applicable policies and guidelines.

Transitional Assistance - In an effort to increase labour market attachment and reduce reliance on social assistance, attempts have been made to lessen the financial impact of the transition from social assistance to employment. In some jurisdictions, child care and transportation allowances have been increased to facilitate the participation in employment and re-training activities. Extended drug cards and supplementary health benefits, valid after leaving social assistance (subject to renewal) have further lessened the financial impact of accepting employment.

Indexation - Each province and territory is responsible for deciding whether to index its benefits. Most revise their rates on an adhoc basis. Quebec annually indexes its benefits paid within their financial assistance program. Therefore, in Quebec, the benefits paid to those with severe constraints to employment are adjusted at the same indexation rates used in the personal taxation system. The benefits to those who are employable are increased at a rate corresponding to half of the fiscal indexation system.

Administration

Referral to Other Government Programs – An applicant's circumstances are reviewed to determine if social assistance is the most appropriate intervention for them. If it is determined that another governmental program may be more suitable, the applicant is referred to that program.

Method of Payment - Social assistance benefits can be paid in one or more of a variety of ways—by cash, payroll or manual cheque issue, direct deposit, voucher or authorization to purchase, or direct payment to a third-party vendor or supplier.

Case Review - As a condition of continuing eligibility for financial assistance, beneficiaries must report immediately any change in the circumstances of their household that would affect their entitlement to financial assistance. In addition, some jurisdictions require that long-term social assistance recipients be reviewed periodically, or perhaps more frequently for short-term recipients.

Recoveries and Reimbursement – Policies and procedures are in place concerning the recovery of social assistance granted to a person who was not entitled because of a change in household income or other circumstances, such as accidental or wilful representation or fraud. Certain forms of assistance may be conditional upon a formal agreement signed by the recipient to reimburse the government for such assistance.

Appeals - An applicant or recipient is entitled to file a request for reconsideration or appeal where he/she is dissatisfied with a decision affecting his/her entitlement to social assistance. Some provinces and territories have established limits on the type of issues that may be formally appealed, while others allow an individual to question any determination bearing on his/her case. Most jurisdictions have adopted a two-step appeal process. Social services personnel first conduct an internal administrative review. The applicant or recipient may then decide whether to withdraw their appeal or go forward to a formal appeals committee or board consisting of appointed members.

Children's Benefits

Prior to 1998, there was minimal coordination between the federal system, which delivered child benefits through the income tax system, and provincial/territorial systems, which delivered child benefits through social assistance programs. In July

1998, the National Child Benefit (NCB) was introduced. The NCB is a joint initiative of federal, provincial and territorial governments², including a First Nations component to support Canadian children living in low-income families. The goals of the NCB are to help prevent and reduce the depth of child poverty, to promote attachment to the labour market by ensuring that families will always be better off as a result of working; and to reduce overlap and duplication by harmonizing program objectives and benefits, and through simplified administration.

Under this initiative, a new federal child benefit, the NCB Supplement, was introduced as a component of the Canada Child Tax Benefit (CCTB). The CCTB provides a base benefit to all low- and middle-income families with children. The NCB Supplement provides an additional benefit targeted to children in low-income families, whether the parents are receiving social assistance or working.

The NCB Supplement provided provinces and territories the opportunity to adjust children's social assistance by an amount equivalent to the NCB Supplement. Resulting savings are reinvested in new or enhanced programs benefiting low-income families with children.

Approaches to Replacing Social Assistance Benefits for Children

Since the inception of the NCB initiative, three distinct approaches have evolved by which provinces and territories replace social assistance benefits for children with the NCB Supplement. First Nations follow the approach of the province or territory in which they are located. In three jurisdictions, New Brunswick, Ontario³ and Manitoba⁴, social assistance is not adjusted by federal increases to the NCB Supplement.

The Social Assistance Offset Approach - Under this approach child benefits remain within the social assistance system, but these benefits have been gradually displaced by federal increases to the NCB Supplement. Provinces and territories either deduct the NCB Supplement as an unearned income charge against social assistance or reduce their social assistance rates for children. In the case of income offset, social assistance recipients have the amount of the NCB Supplement they receive deducted from their social assistance entitlement. This approach is used in

² The Government of Quebec has stated that it agrees with the basic principles of the NCB. Quebec chose not to participate in the NCB because it wanted to assume control over income support for children in Quebec; however, it has adopted a similar approach to the NCB. The reference to the NCB as a joint federal-provincial-territorial initiative does not include Quebec.

³ Prior to July 2008, the 2004, 2005, 2006 and 2007 increases to the NCBS were flowed through to social assistance recipients, but the base amount was deducted. Beginning in July 2008, social assistance benefits for children and the Ontario Child Care Supplement for Working Families (OCCS) were restructured and the Ontario Child Benefit was introduced. As a result, no portion of the NCBS is currently deducted from social assistance.

⁴ Effective July 2000, Manitoba discontinued recovering increases in the NCB Supplement for families receiving income assistance. Effective July 2001, Manitoba stopped recovering the NCB Supplement for children age six or under. Effective January 2003, Manitoba stopped recovering the NCB Supplement for children age seven to eleven; and effective January 2004, it stopped recovering the NCB Supplement for children age 12 to 17 years.

Prince Edward Island⁵, Yukon, Northwest Territories and Nunavut. In the case of rate reduction, social assistance rates are reduced by the maximum NCB Supplement. Alberta^{6,7} uses this approach. Reinvestment funds under the social assistance offset approach are the savings in social assistance.

The Integrated Child Benefit Approach with Adjustment - Several jurisdictions restructured their social assistance system and children's benefits are now delivered through a separate income-tested child benefit program that is integrated with the CCTB. Under this approach, increases in the NCB Supplement are offset in full or in part against the provincial child benefit. In British Columbia, the savings from this offset become the province's reinvestment funds. In Saskatchewan, the amount of reinvestment funds is set at the amount that was being used for basic child benefits under the social assistance system at the time the system was restructured.

The Integrated Child Benefit Approach without Adjustment - Other jurisdictions also restructured their social assistance system as basic benefits for children were removed from the social assistance program and are now provided through a separate income-tested program integrated with the CCTB. In these cases, however, there is no offset of the NCB Supplement against provincial child benefits. The amount of reinvestment funds is set at the funds that were being used for basic child benefits under the social assistance system at the time the system was restructured and remains the same for subsequent years. Newfoundland and Labrador⁸ and Nova Scotia⁹ have adopted this approach.

Other Approach - In Quebec, children needs are covered by the Canada Child Tax Benefit and the improved Quebec Family Allowances, since January 2005, by a Tax Credit Reimbursement for Child Support. This income support to families with children allows Quebec families with children, in particular those receiving last-resort financial benefits or those with low income, to obtain transfer payments benefiting their children. Those benefits are adjusted on January 1st of each year at the same indexation rate as the personal taxation system.

⁵ Since 2001, any increases in the NCB Supplement have been used to fund an increase in the Healthy Child Allowance, which is a social assistance benefits.

⁶ In 2003, Alberta enhanced the mix of income and in-kind benefits and services to families receiving assistance through the Supports for Independence program by flowing through the full increase of the NCB Supplement. Alberta extended the flow-through of NCB Supplement increases again in 2004, 2005, 2006 and in 2007 under the new Alberta Works – Income Support program.

⁷ Canada Child Tax Benefits (including the National Child Benefit (NCB)) are fully exempt under Alberta's Assured Income for the Severely Handicapped (AISH) program. As such, AISH benefits are not reduced if a client receives the NCB Supplement.

not reduced if a client receives the NCB Supplement.

8 Newfoundland and Labrador redesigned its income support program in 1999–2000. All basic benefits for children have been removed from the newly created Income Support Program as these benefits are now provided through the combined CCTB and Newfoundland and Labrador Child Benefit. As a result, Newfoundland and Labrador does not adjust its income support benefits for increases in the NCB Supplement, nor does it adjust the Newfoundland and Labrador Child Benefit.

9 With the adverted to the NCB Supplement and NCB Supplement

⁹ With the advent of the NCB Supplement in 1998, Nova Scotia enhanced the supports available for children of low-income families by introducing the Nova Scotia Child Benefit as a provincial reinvestment initiative. In 2001, children's benefits were removed from the province's income assistance program, substantially increased and fully integrated with the CCTB to establish a single, non-taxable monthly payment for all low-income families with children. At the same time, Nova Scotia ensured that any future increases to the NCB Supplement flowed directly through to families receiving income assistance.

In 2008, provinces and territories provided NCB programs and services in six key areas: child/day care initiatives; child benefits and earned income supplements; early childhood and children-at-risk services; supplementary health benefits; youth initiatives; and other NCB programs, benefits and services. First Nations reinvestments covered a broader range of programs in five key areas: child care; child nutrition; support to parents; home-to-work transition; and cultural enrichment.

Additional information on the NCB is available in annual progress reports, which are available on the NCB Web site at: www.nationalchildbenefit.ca.



Chapter 3 - Newfoundland and Labrador

Income Support

In Newfoundland and Labrador, the provincial social assistance program is known as Income Support. The *Income and Employment Support Act* and the Income and Employment Support Regulations govern Newfoundland and Labrador's social assistance program.

Income Support provides basic benefits to adults only.

Children's basic benefits are provided through the Newfoundland and Labrador Child Benefit (see p.14).

Service Delivery

The Department of Human Resources, Labour, and Employment is responsible for the delivery of the Income Support program to adults within the province.

Eligibility

General

In order to be eligible for the Income Support program, applicants must meet the general eligibility requirements outlined in the "Social Assistance Overview" in this report.

Liquid Assets

At the time of application, applicants' liquid assets may not exceed the following allowable limits.

Newfoundland and Labrador - Liquid Asset Exemptions March 2008			
	Clients without Disabilities	Clients with Disabilities a	
Single	\$500	\$3,000	
Family \$1,500 \$5,500			
a. These clients must require supportive services.			

Earnings Exemptions

Once an application for assistance has been approved, Income Support program clients are eligible for the following monthly exemptions on earned income:

Newfoundland and Labrador - Earnings Exemptions March 2008			
	Clients without Disabilities	Clients with Disabilities a	
Single	\$75, plus 20% of income in excess of \$75.	\$150, plus 20% of income in excess of \$150.	
Family	\$150, plus 20% of income in excess of \$150.	\$250, plus 20% of income in excess of \$250.	
a. These clients must requ	ire supportive services.		

Benefits

Basic assistance consists of individual/family benefits and a shelter allowance. Individual/family benefits cover the cost of food, clothing, and utilities for adults only. Maximum individual/family benefits rates are based on the number of adults in the household. Maximum shelter allowance rates are based on the number of persons in the household (including children) and the type of accommodation.

Newfoundland and Labrador provides clients who leave social assistance for employment with an extended drug card that is valid for six months.

Children's basic benefits are paid through the Newfoundland and Labrador Child Benefit.

Newfoundland and Labrador Child Benefit

The Newfoundland and Labrador Child Benefit (NLCB) is a non-taxable amount paid monthly to help low-income families with the cost of raising children under the age of 18 years. The creation of the Newfoundland and Labrador Child Benefit, in July 1999, effectively removed children's benefits from the social assistance system.

The Canada Revenue Agency delivers the NLCB as an integrated payment with the CCTB and the NCB Supplement. The NLCB rates are based on net income and number of children. For instance, maximum NLCB benefits are paid to those families whose income is less than \$17,397 per year. Families whose annual income falls between \$17,397 and \$22,461 per year (depending on the number of children) may be eligible for partial NLCB benefits.

Effective July 2007, in addition to the National Child Benefit Supplement, families with one child may be entitled to receive \$322 per year. Families are eligible to receive \$342 per year for their second child, \$367 per year for their third child, and \$394 per year for each additional child.

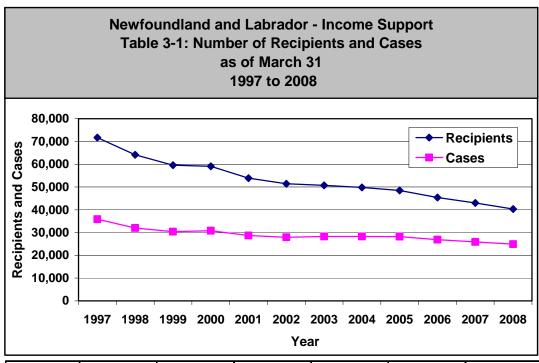
Newfoundland and Labrador Child Benefit Estimated Number of Recipients 2000-2001 to 2007-2008						
2000-01 2001-02 2002-03 2003-04						
Families	20,629	20,000	20,314	19,800		
Children	Children 33,182 32,000 31,500 30,00					
	2004-05 2005-06 2006-07 2007-08					
Families	18,834	18,246	17,329	16,258		
Children	29,306	28,393	27,072	25,297		

More Information

For more information, please consult the Newfoundland and Labrador Department of Human Resources, Labour, and Employment Web site at: www.hrle.gov.nl.ca/hrle.

STATISTICS

Recipients and Cases



	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002
Recipients	71,700	64,200	59,600	59,100	53,900	51,400
Cases	35,900	32,000	30,400	30,800	28,700	27,900
		_	_			
I	2003	2004 ^a	2005 ^a	2006	2007	2008
Recipients	2003 50,700	2004 ^a 49,800	2005 ^a 48,500	2006 45,400	2007 43,000	2008 40,300

a. The total caseload for March 2004 and March 2005 includes a small number of cases paid through other means. Additional differences are due to slight variations in the selection criterion used to derive the official count and the criterion used to produce data extracts for subsequent detailed analysis.

Cases by Reason for Assistance

Newfoundland and Labrador - Income Support Table 3-2: Number and Percentage of Cases by Reason for Assistance as of March 31, 2008				
Reason for Assistance #				
Employed	1,100	4%		
Unemployed	14,700	59%		
Disability	5,600	22%		
Sole support parent	1,100	4%		
Age-related	300	1%		
Student	500	2%		
Other ^a	1,800	7%		
Total	24,900	100%		

a. "Other" includes clients paid in the new CAPS pay system. This field did not match upon conversion from the old system. Until cases are reviewed in the new pay system and the reason for assistance field is updated, the number of cases in the "other" category will continue to be higher than previous years. Accuracy in this area will improve over time. Note: Totals may not add due to rounding.

Recipients by Family Type

Newfoundland and Labrador - Income Support Table 3-3: Number and Percentage of Recipients by Family Type as of March 31, 2008					
Family Type	Family Type #				
Adults - Single	15,200	37%			
Adults - Couple, no dependants	5,300	13%			
Adults - Single parent	5,500	13%			
Adults - Couple with dependants	Adults - Couple with dependants 3,100 8%				
Total Adults	29,000				
Children - Single parent	8,400	21%			
		7%			
Total Children (28%) 11,200					
Total Recipients	40,300	100%			
Note: Totals may not add due to rounding.	-				

Cases by Age of Head

Newfoundland and Labrador - Income Support Table 3-4: Number of Cases by Age of Head as of March 31, 2008			
Age of Head	#		
<20	600		
20-24	2,300		
25-29	2,300		
30-34	2,600		
35-39	2,700		
40-44	3,100		
45-49	3,100		
50-54	3,000		
55-59	2,800		
60-64	2,200		
65+	300		
Total	24,900		
Note: Totals may not add due to rounding.			

Cases by Education of Head

Newfoundland and Labrador - Income Support Table 3-5: Number and Percentage of Cases by Education of Head as of March 31, 2008				
Education of Head ^a #				
Primary b	7,200	29%		
Secondary ^c	13,400	54%		
Community/technical college	2,500	10%		
University	700	3%		
Other 1,000 4%				
Total	24,900	100%		

a. Education is defined as level of education attained by the head of the household as of March 31.

Note: Totals may not add due to rounding.

b. "Primary" includes Kindergarten to Grade 8.

c. "Secondary" includes Grade 9 to Grade 12.

Cases Reporting Income by Source of Income

Newfoundland and Labrador - Income Support Table 3-6: Number and Percentage of Cases Reporting Income by Source of Income, as of March 31, 2008			
Source of Income #			
Employment	900	17%	
Government transfers	2,600	49%	
Support payments	1,400	26%	
Employment Insurance 200 4%			
Other ^a			
Total ^b (includes double-counting)	5,300	100%	

a. "Other" includes training allowances and other income.

b. Total cases in these categories may include double-counting, since cases that have more than one source of income are counted for each source reported. Percentages were calculated based on 5,300 observations.

Note: Totals may not add due to rounding.

Newfoundland and Labrador - Income Support Table 3-7: Number of Cases Reporting Income as of March 31, 2008		
Reporting Income	5,000	
No Income 19,900		
Total 24,900		
Note: Totals may not add due to rounding.		



Chapter 4 - Prince Edward Island

Social Assistance

In Prince Edward Island, the provincial social assistance program is known as Social Assistance (SA). The *Social Assistance Act* and the Social Assistance Regulations govern Prince Edward Island's Social Assistance program.

Social Assistance provides basic benefits to both adults and children.

Disability supports are provided through Prince Edward Island's Disability Support Program (see p.22).

Service Delivery

The Department of Community Services, Seniors and Labour¹⁰ is responsible for the delivery of the Social Assistance program to adults and children within the province.

Eligibility

General

In order to be eligible for the Social Assistance program, applicants must meet the general eligibility requirements outlined in the "Social Assistance Overview" in this report.

Liquid Assets

At the time of application, applicants' liquid assets may not exceed the following allowable limits.

Short-Term Assistance

Single persons who are expected to receive benefits for less than four months (short-term assistance) and/or who are seasonally unemployed are entitled to retain \$50.

¹⁰ The Department of Social Services and Seniors was renamed to the Department of Community Services, Seniors and Labour in January 2010.

Long-Term Assistance¹¹

Prince Edward Island - Long-Term Assistance Liquid Asset Exemptions March 2008				
	Clients without Disabilities	Clients with Disabilities		
Single	\$200	\$900		
Single-Parent Family	\$900 plus \$300 per dependant to a maximum of \$2,400.	\$900 plus \$300 per dependant to a maximum of \$2,400.		
Childless Couple	\$1,200	\$1,800		
Two-Parent Family	\$1,200 plus \$300 per dependant to a maximum of \$2,400.	\$1,800 plus \$300 per dependant to a maximum of \$2,400.		

Earnings Exemptions

Social Assistance program clients are eligible for the following monthly exemptions on earned income:

Prince Edward Island - Earnings Exemptions March 2008		
Single	\$ 75 plus 10% of the excess	
Family	\$125 plus 10% of the excess	

Benefits

Basic assistance consists of a basic allowance and a shelter allowance. The basic allowance covers the cost of food, clothing, utilities, and personal and household items. Maximum basic allowance rates are based on the number of persons in the household and the age of the children. Maximum shelter allowance rates are based on the number of persons in the household (including children) and the type of living arrangements.

Disability Support Program

In October 2001, Prince Edward Island launched the PEI Disability Support Program. Designed to meet the unique needs of persons with disabilities, the Disability Support Program offers both financial and case planning assistance to eligible individuals. It is comprised of three components: Adult Disability Supports, Child Disability Supports, and Employment and Vocational Supports.

The Disability Support Program is available to individuals under 65 years of age who have a physical, neurological, or intellectual disability that limits their ability to perform activities necessary for their independence and well-being.

¹¹ Long-Term Assistance is for those clients expected to receive benefits for more than four months.

Individuals and families receiving benefits through the Disability Support Program must assume a portion of the cost associated with the provision of services. The amount of this contribution is based on the individual or family's ability to contribute ¹².

Persons with disabilities continue to receive financial assistance through the Social Assistance program, but now receive targeted disability-related supports through the Disability Support Program. Individuals and families receiving support through the Disability Support Program are ineligible for certain benefits provided by the Social Assistance program.

Prince Edward Island - Disability Support Program Number of Recipients 2001-2002 to 2007-2008						
2001-02 2002-03 2003-04 2004-05 2005-06 2006-07 2007-08						
691	946	1,030	1,117	1,129	1,106	1,065

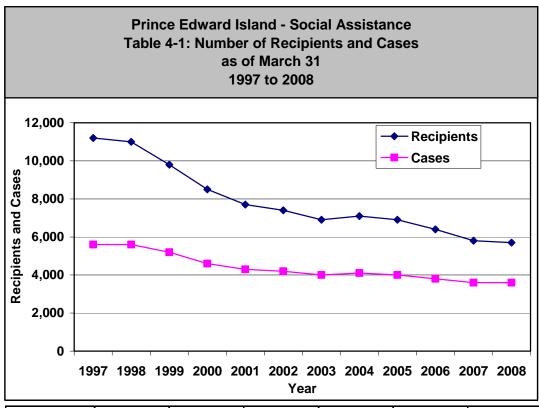
More Information

For more information, please consult the Prince Edward Island Department of Community Services, Seniors and Labour Web site at: www.gov.pe.ca/sss/index.php3

¹² In July 2007, income testing of the parents of minor children ceased.

STATISTICS

Recipients and Cases



	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002
Recipients	11,200	11,000	9,800	8,500	7,700	7,400
Cases	5,600	5,600	5,200	4,600	4,300	4,200
	2003	2004 ^a	2005	2006	2007	2008
Recipients	6,900	7,100	6,900	6,400	5,800	5,700
Cases	4,000	4,100	4,000	3,800	3,600	3,600
a. For 2004, due to changes in reporting system, February data was used.						

Cases by Reason for Assistance

Prince Edward Island - Social Assistance Table 4-2: Number and Percentage of Cases by Reason for Assistance as of March 31, 2008				
Reason for Assistance #				
Employed	400	11%		
Unemployed	800	22%		
Short term disability	200	6%		
Long term disability	2,000	56%		
High support needs ^a 200 6%				
Total 3,600 100%				
a. "High support needs" includes clients with multiple barriers to employment. Note: Totals may not add due to rounding.				

Recipients by Family Type

Prince Edward Island - Social Assistance Table 4-3: Number and Percentage of Recipients by Family Type as of March 31, 2008					
Family Type	#				
Adults - Single	2,500	44%			
Adults - Couple, no dependants	400	7%			
Adults - Single parent	700	12%			
Adults - Couple with dependants 400 7%					
Total Adults	4,000				
Children - Single parent	1,300	23%			
Children - Couple with dependants	400	7%			
Total Children (30%) 1,700					
Total Recipients 5,700 100%					
Note: Totals may not add due to rounding.					

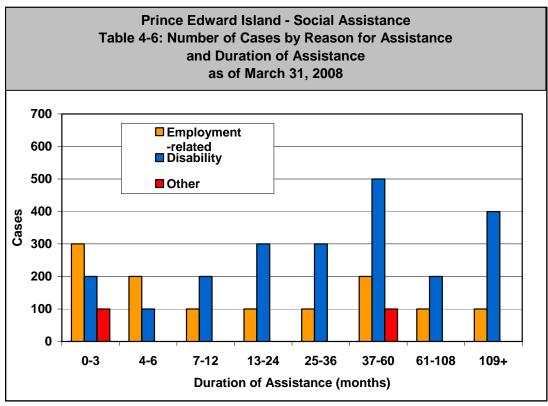
Cases by Age of Head

Prince Edward Island - Social Assistance Table 4-4: Number of Cases by Age of Head as of March 31, 2008			
Age of Head	#		
<20	100		
20-24	300		
25-29	300		
30-34	300		
35-39	300		
40-44	400		
45-49	400		
50-54	400		
55-59	400		
60-64	300		
65+	400		
Total	3,600		
Note: Totals may not add due to rounding.			

Cases by Education of Head

Prince Edward Island - Social Assistance Table 4-5: Number and Percentage of Cases by Education of Head as of March 31, 2008					
Education of Head ^a #					
Primary	900	25%			
Secondary	1,800	50%			
Community/technical college	400	11%			
University	200	6%			
Unknown	400	11%			
Total 3,600 100%					
a. Education is defined as level of education attained as of date of application.					
Note: Totals may not add due to rounding.					

Cases by Reason for Assistance and Duration of Assistance



	Reason for Assistance				
Duration of Assistance ^a (months)	Employment- related ^b	Disability ^c	Other ^d	Total	
0-3	300	200	100	600	
4-6	200	100	-	300	
7-12	100	200	-	300	
13-24	100	300	-	400	
25-36	100	300	-	500	
37-60	200	500	100	700	
61-108	100	200	-	200	
109+	100	400	-	500	
Total	1,200	2,200	200	3,600	

a. "Duration of assistance" measures length of current spell only.

Note: Totals may not add due to rounding.

b. "Employment-related" includes employed and unemployed.

c. "Disability" includes long-term disability and short-term disability.

d. "Other" includes high support needs, age related and unknown.

Cases Reporting Income by Source of Income

Prince Edward Island - Social Assistance Table 4-7: Number and Percentage of Cases Reporting Income by Source of Income, as of March 31, 2008					
Source of Income #					
Employment	500	17%			
Government transfers	2,000	69%			
Support payments	100	3%			
Employment Insurance 200 7%					
Other ^a	200	7%			
Total ^b (includes double-counting)	2,900	100%			

a. "Other" includes training allowances and other income.

b. Total cases in these categories may include double-counting, since cases that have more than one source of income are counted for each source reported. Percentages were calculated based on 2,900 observations.

Note: Totals may not add due to rounding.

Prince Edward Island - Social Assistance Table 4-8: Number of Cases Reporting Income as of March 31, 2008				
Reporting Income	2,000			
No Income	1,600			
Total 3,600				
Note: Totals may not add due to rounding.				



Chapter 5 - Nova Scotia

Employment Support and Income Assistance

In Nova Scotia, the provincial social assistance program is known as Employment Support and Income Assistance (ESIA). The *Employment Support and Income Assistance Act* and the Employment Support and Income Assistance Regulations govern Nova Scotia's Employment Support and Income Assistance program.

The Employment Support and Income Assistance program provides financial assistance and supports to help people maximize their self-sufficiency by increasing their employability and their independence.

Children's basic benefits are provided through the Nova Scotia Child Benefit (see p.30).

Service Delivery

The Department of Community Services is responsible for the delivery of the Employment Support and Income Assistance program to adults within the province.

Eligibility

General

In order to be eligible for the Employment Support and Income Assistance program, applicants must meet the general eligibility requirements outlined in the "Social Assistance Overview" in this report.

Liquid Assets

At the time of application, applicants' liquid assets may not exceed the following allowable limits.

	Nova Scotia - Liquid Asset Exemptions March 2008			
	Clients without Disabilities	Clients with Disabilities		
Single	\$500	\$500		
Family	\$1,000	\$1,000		

Earnings Exemptions

When determining initial eligibility for Employment Support and Income Assistance, earned income is considered completely in determination of eligibility. To determine

ongoing eligibility, clients are eligible for the following monthly exemptions on earned income:

Nova Scotia - Earnings Exemptions March 2008				
	Clients without Disabilities	Clients with Disabilities ^a		
Single	30% of net wages	\$150 plus 30% of the excess		
Family	30% of net wages	\$150 plus 30% of the excess		
a. These clients are in supported employment.				

Benefits

Basic assistance consists of a personal allowance and a shelter allowance. The personal allowance covers the cost of food, clothing, and miscellaneous essentials for adults in the family. The shelter allowance includes the actual amount for rent/mortgage, fuel and utilities, up to the allowed maximum. Maximum shelter allowance rates are based on the number of persons in the household (including children) and the type of accommodation.

Nova Scotia provides transitional drug coverage for twelve months to clients who leave social assistance for employment.

Children's basic benefits are paid through the Nova Scotia Child Benefit. Canada Child Tax Benefit is exempt as chargeable income.

Nova Scotia Child Benefit

The Nova Scotia Child Benefit (NSCB) is a non-taxable amount paid monthly to help low-income families with the cost of raising children under the age of 18 years. The implementation of the *Employment Support and Income Assistance Act* and Employment Support and Income Assistance Regulations in August 2001 removed children's benefits from the social assistance system.

The Canada Revenue Agency delivers the NSCB as an integrated payment with the CCTB and the NCB Supplement. The NSCB rates are based on net income and number of children. For instance, maximum NSCB benefits are paid to those families whose income is less than \$15,999 per year, while families whose annual income falls between \$15,999 and \$20,921 per year (depending on the number of children) are eligible for partial NSCB benefits.

Effective July 2001, in addition to the National Child Benefit Supplement, families with one child may be entitled to receive a NSCB benefit of up to \$445 per year. Families may be entitled to receive \$645 per year for their second child, and \$720 per year for their third and each additional child.

There continues to be a decline in the number of families receiving the Nova Scotia Child Benefit. The changing demographics and improved economy in the Province of Nova Scotia may be contributing to this decline.

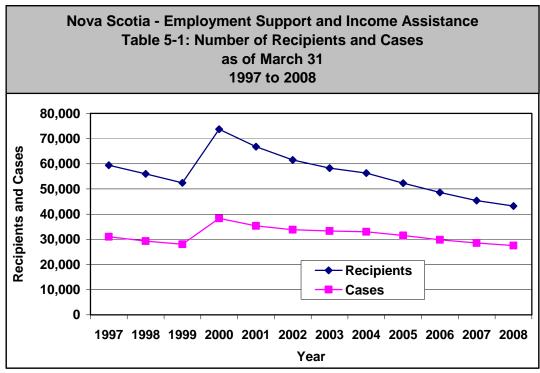
Nova Scotia Child Benefit Estimated Number of Recipients 2000-2001 to 2007-2008								
2000-01 2001-02 2002-03 2003-04								
Families	34,106	33,224	31,905	30,743				
Children	57,325	55,986	53,961	52,054				
	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08				
Families	29,247	28,215	26,762	24,836				
Children	49,690	48,033	45,511	42,468				

More Information

For more information, please consult the Nova Scotia Department of Community Services Web site at: www.gov.ns.ca/coms/.

STATISTICS

Recipients and Cases



	1997	1998	1999	2000 ^a	2001 ^b	2002
Recipients	59,400	56,000	52,400	73,700	66,800	61,500
Cases	31,000	29,300	28,000	38,300	35,300	33,800
				_	C d	
	2003	2004	2005 ^c	2006 ^c	2007 ^{c,d}	2008 ^c
Recipients	2003 58,300	2004 56,300	2005 ^c 52,300	2006 ^c 48,600	2007 c,a 45,400	43,200

a. Prior to 2000 the caseload numbers represent the Family Benefits Program caseload only. From 2000 to 2005, the data represents the combination of the previous Municipal Social Assistance and Provincial Family Benefits

b. Employment Support and Income Assistance (ESIA) replaced the Family Benefits Program (FBA) and Municipal Social Assistance (MSA) in August 2001.

c. Starting in March 2005, recipients and cases do not include Transitional Pharmacare.

d. Caseload data represents January 2007. Concurrent data for the month ending March 31, 2007 is not available.

Cases by Reason for Assistance

Nova Scotia - Employment Support and Income Assistance Table 5-2: Number and Percentage of Cases by Reason for Assistance ^a as of March 31, 2008						
Reason for Assistance #						
Employed	500	2%				
Unemployed	4,900	18%				
Short term disabled	3,200	12%				
Long term disabled	12,800	47%				
Sole support parent						
Age-related ^b	900	3%				
Student	300	1%				
Other ^c 1,700 6%						
Total	27,500	100%				

a. Cases do not include Transitional Pharmacare.

Note: Totals may not add due to rounding.

Recipients by Family Type

Nova Scotia - Employment Support and Income Assistance Table 5-3: Number and Percentage of Recipients by Family Type ^a as of March 31, 2008					
Family Type	#				
Adults - Single	18,600	42%			
Adults - Couple, no dependants	1,900	4%			
- Spouse	1,900	4%			
Adults - Single parent	6,300	14%			
Adults - Couple with dependants	1,300	3%			
- Spouse	1,300	3%			
Total Adults	31,300				
Children - Single parent	10,400	23%			
Children - Couple with dependants 2,600 6%					
Total Children (29%) 13,000					
Total Recipients 44,300 100%					

a. The above table includes 1,111 recipients receiving Transitional Pharmacare, which are not to be considered part of the 43,200 social assistance recipients that appears in Table 5-1.

Note: Totals may not add due to rounding.

b. "Age-related" includes persons 55 years and over.

c. "Other" includes clients receiving a one-time payment and clients receiving extended pharmacare (prescription drug benefits).

Cases by Age of Head

Nova Scotia - Employment Support and Income Assistance Table 5-4: Number of Cases by Age of Head ^a as of March 31, 2008			
Age of Head	#		
<20	400		
20-24	2,700		
25-29	2,800		
30-34	2,500		
35-39	2,700		
40-44	3,200		
45-49	3,600		
50-54	3,500		
55-59	3,200		
60-64	2,700		
65+	200		
Total	27,500		
. Cases do not include Transitional Pharmacare.			

Cases Reporting Income by Source of Income

Nova Scotia - Employment Support and Income Assistance Table 5-5: Number and Percentage of Cases Reporting Income, by Source of Income ^a as of March 31, 2008					
Source of Income #					
Employment	3,100	14%			
Government transfers	13,700	63%			
Support payments 3,000 14%					
Employment Insurance 300 1%					
Other ^b 1,600 7%					
Total ^c (includes double-counting) 21,700 100%					

a. Cases include Transitional Pharmacare, but for the "Employment" category only.

c. Total cases in these categories may include double-counting, since cases that have more than one source of income are counted for each source reported. Percentages are based on 21,700 observations. *Note: Totals may not add due to rounding.*

Nova Scotia - Employment Support and Income Assistance				
Table 5-6: Number of Cases Reporting Income ^a				
as of March 31, 2008				
Reporting income 13,900				
Not reporting income 13,600				
Total ^b	27,500			

a. Cases do not include Transitional Pharmacare.

Note: Totals may not add due to rounding.

b. "Other" includes clients receiving workers' compensation, training income, income tax refund, or income from rental or from room & board and roomers.

b. Due to differences in reporting systems, the total number of cases reporting income and not reporting income in the above table do not match the total number of cases in previous tables.



Chapter 6 - New Brunswick

Social Assistance

In New Brunswick, the provincial social assistance program is known as Social Assistance (SA). The *Family Income Security Act* and the Family Income Security Regulations govern New Brunswick's Social Assistance program.

Social Assistance provides basic benefits to both adults and children.

Service Delivery

The Department of Social Development¹³ is responsible for the delivery of the Social Assistance program to adults and children within the province.

Eligibility

General

In order to be eligible for the Social Assistance program, applicants must meet the general eligibility requirements outlined in the "Social Assistance Overview" in this report.

Liquid Assets

At the time of application, applicants' liquid assets may not exceed the following allowable limits.

New Brunswick - Liquid Asset Exemptions March 2008				
Clients without Clients with Disabilities Disabilities				
Single	\$1,000	\$3,000		
Single-Parent Family	\$2,000	\$3,000 for each person with a certified disability plus \$1,000 for each non-disabled person up to a maximum of \$4,000 per household.		
Childless Couple	\$2,000	\$3,000 for each person with a certified disability plus \$1,000 for each non-disabled person up to a maximum of \$4,000 per household.		
Two-Parent Family	\$2,000	\$3,000 for each person with a certified disability plus \$1,000 for each non-disabled person up to a maximum of \$4,000 per household.		

¹³ The Department of Family and Community Services was renamed to the Department of Social Development in 2008.

Earnings Exemptions

Different levels of earning exemptions are in effect for each of the three programs in place: Transitional Assistance Program, Extended Benefits Program, and Interim Assistance Program. For more information on these social assistance programs, please refer to the paragraphs below. Once an application for assistance has been approved, program clients are eligible for the following monthly exemptions on earned income:

New Brunswick - Earnings Exemptions March 2008							
Transitional Assistance Extended Benefits Interim Assistance Program Program							
Single	\$150	\$250	\$300				
Family							

There is also the Extended Wage Exemption (EWE) available. The EWE is a benefit structure separate from the usual earnings exemption (provided above). The amount of the EWE is changed according to three different time frames within the two-year duration of the benefit. The first two time frames are six months in duration each, and allow clients the option of having a percentage of their salary exempted; which results in a higher exemption than the usual earnings exemption. In months 13 through 24, the earnings exemption amount will revert back to the appropriate maximum flat rate amount; that is, the usual earnings exemption.

Benefits

Basic assistance, also known as the basic unit rate, covers the cost of food, clothing, shelter, routine transportation, fuel and utilities, as well as personal and household items. Maximum basic assistance rates are based on the three rate programs involved (see below) and the number of persons in the household.

The Social Assistance program has three rate programs: Transitional Assistance Program (TAP), Extended Benefits Program (EBP), and Interim Assistance Program (INT).

The **Transitional Assistance** provides financial assistance to individuals and families who have a variety of intermittent foreseeable needs. This is a category of financial assistance for individuals and families who have the potential to achieve self-sufficiency once barriers to their employment are addressed.

The **Extended Benefits Program** provides financial assistance to individuals and families who are certified by the Medical Advisory Board as blind, deaf, or disabled. This is a category of financial assistance for those clients who, because of their disability, have long-term predictable needs.

The **Interim Assistance** provides short-term assistance to individuals and families who are in need, yet who are expected to attain self-sufficiency in a relatively short period of time. Benefits and services provided to these clients are generally temporary in nature.

Effective September 2005, New Brunswick provides extended drug coverage for twelve months to clients who leave social assistance for employment.

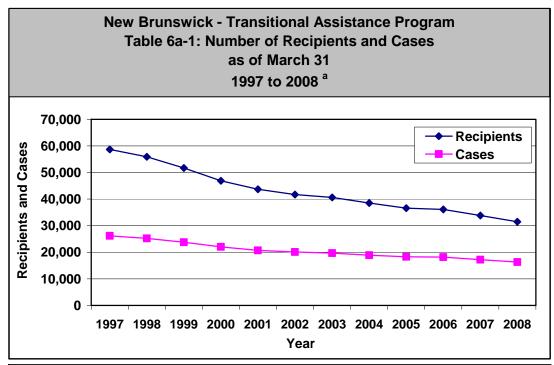
More Information

For more information, please consult the New Brunswick Department of Social Development Web site at: www2.gnb.ca/content/gnb/en/departments/social_development.html.

Social Assistance Statistical Report: 2008

STATISTICS: A – Transitional Assistance Program

Recipients and Cases



	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002
Recipients	58,700	55,900	51,700	46,900	43,700	41,700
Cases	26,200	25,200	23,800	22,000	20,700	20,100
	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
Recipients	40,600	38,500	36,600	36,100	33,800	31,500
Cases	19,700	18,900	18,300	18,200	17,200	16,300
a. Data are as of March 31, unless otherwise specified. In those cases, data are of the end of month.						

Recipients by Family Type

New Brunswick - Transitional Assistance Program Table 6a-2: Number and Percentage of Recipients by Family Type as of March 31, 2008					
Family Type	#				
Adults - Single	7,600	24%			
Adults - Couple, no dependants	2,800	9%			
Adults - Single parent	5,800	18%			
Adults - Couple with dependants 3,000 1					
Total Adults	, i				
Children - Single parent	9,200	29%			
Children - Couple with dependants 3,100					
Total Children (39%) 12,300					
Total Recipients 31,500 100%					
Note: Totals may not add due to rounding.					

Cases by Age of Head

New Brunswick - Transitional Assistance Program Table 6a-3: Number of Cases by Age of Head as of March 31, 2008		
Age of Head	#	
<20	500	
20-24	1,400	
25-29	1,700	
30-34	1,700	
35-39	1,800	
40-44	1,900	
45-49	2,000	
50-54	1,900	
55-59	2,100	
60-64	1,300	
65+	-	
Total	16,300	
Note: Totals may not add due to rounding.		

Cases Reporting Income by Source of Income

New Brunswick - Transitional Assistance Program Table 6a-4: Number and Percentage of Cases Reporting Income, by Source of Income, as of March 31, 2008 Source of Income # Employment 2,000 6% Government transfers 22,800 73% 5,900 19% Support payments Employment Insurance 100 1% 600 2% Other a Total b (includes double-counting) 31,400 100%

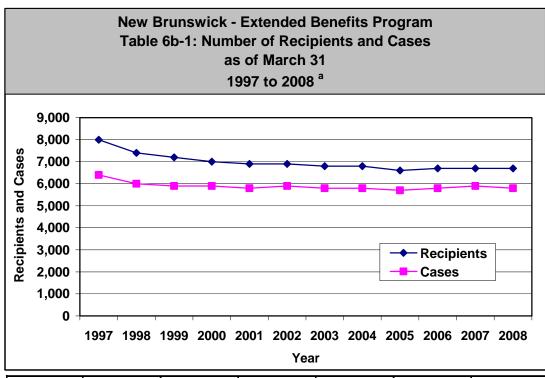
a. "Other" includes training allowances and other income.

b. Total cases in these categories may include double-counting, since cases that have more than one source of income are counted for each source reported. Percentages were calculated based on 31,400 observations.

Note: Totals may not add due to rounding.

STATISTICS: B – Extended Benefits Program

Recipients and Cases



	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002
Recipients	8,000	7,400	7,200	7,000	6,900	6,900
Cases	6,400	6,000	5,900	5,900	5,800	5,900
	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
Recipients	6,800	6,800	6,600	6,700	6,700	6,700
Cases	5,800	5,800	5,700	5,800	5,900	5,800
a. Data are as of March 31, unless otherwise specified. In those cases, data are as of the end of month.						

Recipients by Family Type

New Brunswick - Extended Benefits Program Table 6b-2: Number and Percentage of Recipients by Family Type as of March 31, 2008				
Family Type	#			
Adults - Single	5,200	78%		
Adults - Couple, no dependants	800	12%		
Adults - Single parent	100	1%		
Adults - Couple with dependants	200	3%		
Total Adults	6,300			
Children - Single parent	200	3%		
Children - Couple with dependants	200	3%		
Total Children (6%)	400			
Total Recipients 6,700 100%				
Note: Totals may not add due to rounding.				

Cases by Age of Head

New Brunswick - Extended Benefits Program Table 6b-3: Number of Cases by Age of Head as of March 31, 2008			
Age of Head	#		
<20	100		
20-24	400		
25-29	400		
30-34	500		
35-39	600		
40-44	700		
45-49	800		
50-54	800		
55-59	700		
60-64	800		
65+	-		
Total	5,800		
Note: Totals may not add due to rounding.			

Cases Reporting Income by Source of Income

New Brunswick - Extended Benefits Program Table 6b-4: Number and Percentage of Cases Reporting Income, by Source of Income as of March 31, 2008 Source of Income # 400 4% Employment 6,300 Government transfers 66% 2% Support payments 200 2,600 27% Other a 100% 9,500 **Total** b (includes double-counting)

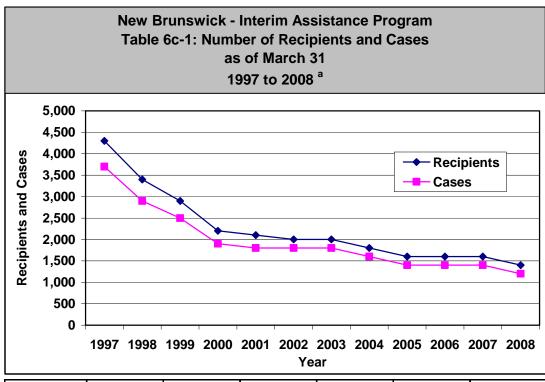
a. "Other" includes training allowances and other income.

b. Total cases in these categories may include double-counting, since cases that have more than one source of income are counted for each source reported. Percentages were calculated based on 9,500 observations.

Note: Totals may not add due to rounding.

STATISTICS: C – Interim Assistance Program

Recipients and Cases



	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002
Recipients	4,300	3,400	2,900	2,200	2,100	2,000
Cases	3,700	2,900	2,500	1,900	1,800	1,800
	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
Recipients	2,000	1,800	1,600	1,600	1,600	1,400
Cases	1,800	1,600	1,400	1,400	1,400	1,200
a. Data are as of March 31, unless otherwise specified. In those cases, data are as of the end of the month.						

Recipients by Family Type

New Brunswick - Interim Assistance Program Table 6c-2: Number and Percentage of Recipients by Family Type as of March 31, 2008				
Family Type	#			
Adults - Single	1,100	79%		
Adults - Couple, no dependants	200	14%		
Adults - Single parent	-	-		
Adults - Couple with dependants	-	-		
Total Adults	1,300			
Children - Single parent	-	-		
Children - Couple with dependants	-	-		
Total Children (7%)	100	7%		
Total Recipients 1,400 100%				
Note: Totals may not add due to rounding.				

Cases by Age of Head

New Brunswick - Interim Assistance Program Table 6c-3: Number of Cases by Age of Head as of March 31, 2008		
Age of Head	#	
<20	-	
20-24	200	
25-29	100	
30-34	200	
35-39	100	
40-44	200	
45-49	200	
50-54	200	
55-59	-	
60-64	-	
65+	-	
Total	1,200	
Note: Totals may not add due to rounding.		

Cases Reporting Income by Source of Income

New Brunswick - Interim Assistance Program Table 6c-4: Number and Percentage of Cases Reporting Income, by Source of Income, as of March 31, 2008 Source of Income # **Employment** 200 17% Government transfers 900 75% 100 8% Others a **Total** b (includes double-counting) 1,200 100%

a. The category "Others" also includes Support Payments and Employment Insurance.

b. Total cases in these categories may include double-counting, since cases that have more than one source of income are counted for each source reported. Percentages were calculated based on 1,200 observations.

Note: Totals may not add due to rounding.



Chapter 7- Quebec

Last-Resort Financial Assistance

In Quebec, the provincial social assistance program is known as Last-Resort Financial Assistance which includes the Social Assistance Program and the Social Solidarity Program. The *Individual and Family Assistance Act*¹⁴ and the Individual and Family Assistance Regulation govern Quebec's Last-Resort Financial Assistance program.

The Last-Resort Financial Assistance provides basic benefits to adults only. Between September 1997 and January 2005, children's basic benefits were provided through the Quebec Family Allowance. Since January 2005, children's basic benefits have been provided through the Child Assistance Measure.

Service Delivery

The Department of Employment and Social Solidarity is responsible for the Last-Resort Financial Assistance program to adults within the province.

Eligibility

General

In order to be eligible for the Last-Resort Financial Assistance programs, applicants must meet the general eligibility requirements outlined in the "Social Assistance Overview" in this report.

Liquid Assets

At the time of application, applicants' liquid assets may not exceed the following allowable limits:

¹⁴ The Quebec National Assembly adopted the *Individual and Family Assistance Act* on June 16, 2005. This Act replaces the *Act respecting income support, employment assistance and social solidarity.*

Quebec - Liquid Asset Exemptions at Application March 2008				
General application to Social Assistance Program and the Social Solidarity Program a				
Number of Adults Number of Children Liquid Assets				
1	0	\$862		
1	1	\$1,232		
1	2	\$1,460		
2	0	\$1,282		
2	1	\$1,529		
2 2 \$1,757				
Individual and Family Assistance Regulation , Article 52 and 155				

Once an application for assistance has been approved, clients' liquid assets may not exceed the following allowable limits:

Quebec - Liquid Asset Exemptions					
For the purpose of calculating the benefit level					
March 2008					
	Social	Social			
	Assistance	Solidarity			
	Program ^a	Program ^b			
Independent adult, family of an ineligible student's spouse, or an adult who is a minor sheltered with her dependent child.	\$1,500	\$2,500			
Other families	\$2,500	\$5,000			
Additional amounts for minor dependent children:					
1 adult and 1 child	\$370	\$370			
1 adult and 2 children	\$598	\$598			
2 adults and 1 child	\$247	\$247			
2 adults and 2 children	\$475	\$475			
^a Individual and Family Assistance Regulation, Articles 131, 132. ^b Individual and Family Assistance Regulation, Articles 163					

Earnings Exemptions

Once an application for assistance has been approved, the beneficiaries of the Last-Resort Financial Assistance are eligible for the following monthly exemptions on earned income:

Quebec - Earnings Exemptions March 2008					
Clients with no limitations to employment a to employment b Clients with temporary limitations to employment b comployment b com					
Single	\$200	\$200	\$100		
Single-parent family	\$200	\$200	\$100		
Two-parent family	\$300	\$300	\$100		

^a Exemption under the Social Assistance Program.

Benefits

Financial assistance consists of a basic benefit, paid monthly, which may be supplemented by an allowance for individuals who are facing temporary or severe employment limitations. The basic benefit covers the cost of food and clothing, shelter, as well as personal and household items for adults only. Maximum basic benefit rates are based on family composition.

In order to receive a benefit for temporary limitations to employment, an applicant must be 55 years of age or older, unable to participate in the labour market for health reasons for a period of no more than 12 months, caring for a child who does not yet attend school (5 years of age or under) or is disabled, or pregnant. In order to receive the solidarity allowance (allowance awarded to people with severe employment limitations in the Social Solidarity Program), the person's physical or mental state must be significantly altered or deficient for what will most likely be a permanent or indeterminate period of time.

The program also offers advance payment of the tax credit for the Quebec sales tax (TVQ).

Quebec Family Allowance

The Quebec Family Allowance was a non-taxable amount paid monthly to help low-income families with the cost of raising children under 18 years of age. The creation of the Quebec Family Allowance in September 1997 effectively had removed children's benefits from the social assistance system.

The Régie des rentes du Québec was responsible for administering the Quebec Family Allowance.

In August 2004, families were entitled to receive a Family Allowance in the amount of \$625 per year per child. Single-parent families could also receive an additional family supplement of \$1,300 per year. An additional amount of \$1,431 was provided for each child with disabilities.

b Exemption under the Social Solidarity Program.

Single-parent families with one child and whose income was less than \$20,603 per year were paid maximum Family Allowance benefits. Single-parent families with one child and whose annual income fell between \$20,603 and \$51,600 per year were eligible for partial Family Allowance benefits.

Maximum Family Allowance benefits were paid to two-parent families with one child and whose income was less than \$24,005 per year. Two-parent families with one child and whose annual income fell between \$24,005 and \$51,600 per year were eligible for partial Family Allowance benefits.

Quebec Family Allowance/Child Assistance Measure ^a Estimated Number of Recipients 2001 - 2008						
2001 2002 2003 2004 b						
Families	554,007	538,660	516,230	503,520		
Children	989,020	959,313	918,470	893,280		
	2005 2006 2007 ° 2008 °					
Families	873,108	874,996	886,880	884,330		
Children	1,494,566	1,494,661	1,488,370	1,480,910		

a. The Child Assistance Measure replaced the Quebec Family Allowance on January 1, 2005...

Child Assistance Measure

In 2004-2005 Budget Speech, the Quebec government announced a new Child Assistance Measure to increase support for families. The Child Assistance Measure came into force on January 1, 2005, to cover the basic needs of dependent children under 18 years old. Child Assistance replaces and improves upon three measures: the Family Allowance, the non-refundable tax credit for dependent children and tax reduction for families. This measure provides more generous assistance than the Family Allowance, particularly to low-income families.

The amount of the Child Assistance Measure varies. Its amount is based on the following factors: net family income, the number of dependent children under the age of 18, and the type of family (single-parent or two-parent).

The maximum amounts paid for 2008, are as follows: for a family with one child: \$2,116 per year; for a family with two children: \$3,174; for a family with three children: \$4,232; and for a family with four children: \$5,818.

For each additional child, an amount of \$1,586 is added to the maximum of \$5,818. Single-parent families are entitled to a supplement of \$741, which is added to the basic Child Assistance Measure amount.

b. These figures are from April 1, 2004 to December 31, 2004.

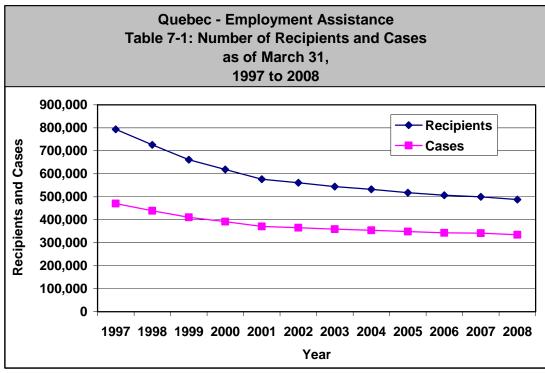
c.Projected data.

More information

For more information, please consult the Quebec Department of Employment and Social Solidarity Web site at: www.mess.gouv.qc.ca/solidarite-sociale/programmes-mesures/assistance-emploi/Index_en.asp.

STATISTICS

Recipients and Cases¹⁵



	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002
Recipients	793,300	725,700	661,300	618,900	576,600	560,800
Cases	470,400	439,300	410,600	391,900	371,300	365,600
	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007 ^a	2008 ^b
Recipients	544,200	532,200	518,200	506,500	499,600	488,100
Cases	359,300	354,600	348,700	343,300	341,500	335,100

a. For 2007, the data consist of 213,800 cases and 350,300 recipients for the Social Assistance Program and 127,800 cases and 149,400 recipients for the Social Solidarity Program.

b. For 2008, the data consist of 205,300 cases and 336,800 recipients for the Social Assistance Program and 129,700 cases and 151,300 recipients for the Social Solidarity Program.

¹⁵ In Quebec, statistics are reported under the heading of "*ménages prestataires*", i.e. households. As the concept is the same as the one used for "cases" in other jurisdictions, the latter is used throughout the English version as an equivalent.

Cases by Type of Benefit

Quebec - Employment Assistance Table 7-2: Number and Percentage of Cases by Type of Benefits, as of March 31, 2008					
Type of Benefits	#				
Social Assistance - Basic benefit (housed beneficiaries) a	123,300	37%			
Social Assistance - Allowance - temporary constraints b	78,500	23%			
Social Assistance - Combined allowance ^c	3,500	1%			
Total Social Assistance 205,300					
Social Solidarity - Allowance d	126,500	38%			
Social Solidarity - Basic benefit (housed beneficiaries) ^a 3,200 1%					
Total Social Solidarity 129,700					
Total	335,100	100%			

a. "Basic benefit (housed beneficiaries)": Basic amount applicable to a housed adult admitted to a home-care centre, reception centre, general hospital, rehabilitation centre, as well as to a former inmate housed in a recognized institution for the purpose of his/her social rehabilitation.

Recipients by Family Type

Quebec - Employment Assistance Table 7-3: Number and Percentage of Recipients by Family Type, as of March 31, 2008				
Family Type	#			
Adults - Single	252,500	52%		
Adults - Couple, no dependants	32,200	7%		
Adults - Single parent	45,000	9%		
Adults - Couple with dependants	41,500	9%		
Adults - Spouse of students ^a	800	0.16%		
Total adults	372,000			
Children - Single parent	72,300	15%		
Children - Couple with dependants 43,900 9%				
Total children (24%) 116,200				
Total 488,100 100%				

a. "Spouse of students": An adult whose spouse is studying full-time at the post-secondary level and is receiving benefits from the financial assistance program of the Ministry of Education. This category includes adults only, since the needs of the children of either spouse are met by the student spouse. Note: Totals may not add due to rounding.

b. "Allowance - temporary constraints": Where a single adult/adult member of the family is subject to temporary employment constraints.

c. "Combined allowance": Where the two adults in the household are subject to temporary employment

d. "Allowance": Amount applicable to single adult or couple recipients of the Social Solidarity Program. Note: Totals may not add due to rounding.

Cases by Age of Head

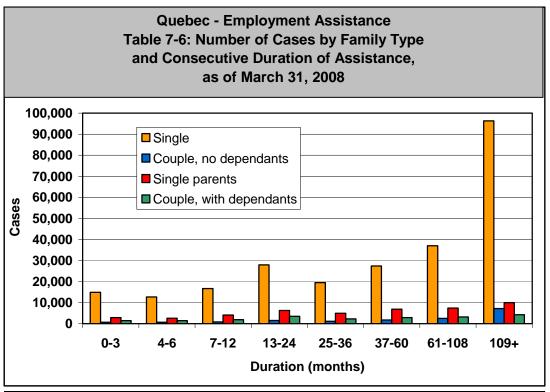
Quebec - Employment Assistance Table 7-4: Number of Cases by Age of Head, as of March 31, 2008			
Age of Head	#		
<21	11,200		
21-24	20,400		
25-29	30,600		
30-34	29,800		
35-39	31,900		
40-44	39,500		
45-49	44,500		
50-54	44,000		
55-59	42,500		
60-64	37,700		
65+	2,900		
Total	335,100		
Note: Totals may not add due to rounding.	-		

Cases by Education of Head

Quebec - Employment Assistance Table 7-5: Number and Percentage of Cases by Education of Head, as of March 31, 2008				
Education of Head ^a	#			
Primary	28,600	9%		
Secondary	167,900	50%		
College	17,200	5%		
University	15,400	5%		
Unknown 106,100 32%				
Total 335,100 100%				

Social Assistance Statistical Report: 2008

Cases by Family Type and Consecutive Duration of Assistance



Duration	Family Type						
(months)	Single	Couple no	Single	Couple, with	Spouse of	Total	
(months)		dependants	Parent	dependants	Student ^a		
0-3	14,900	700	2,900	1,400	100	20,000	
4-6	12,700	700	2,600	1,400	100	17,300	
7-12	16,700	800	4,100	1,900	100	23,700	
13-24	27,900	1,500	6,300	3,500	200	39,300	
25-36	19,500	1,100	4,900	2,300	100	28,000	
37-60	27,400	1,700	6,900	2,900	100	38,900	
61-108	37,000	2,500	7,400	3,200	100	50,200	
109+	96,300	7,200	10,000	4,200	-	117,600	
Total	252,500	16,100	45,000	20,700	800	335,100	

a. "Spouse of students": An adult whose spouse is studying full-time at the post-secondary level and is receiving benefits from the financial assistance program of the Ministry of Education. This category includes adults only, since the needs of the children of either spouse are met by the student spouse.

Note: Totals may not add due to rounding.

Cases Reporting Income by Source of Income

Quebec - Employment Assistance Table 7-7: Number and Percentage of Cases Reporting Income, by Source of Income, as of March 31, 2008				
Source of income #				
Employment	27,000	27%		
Employment-Assistance allowance	6,800	7%		
Employment Insurance	1,400	1%		
Parental contribution 12,500 12%				
Other ^a 52,800 52%				
Total ^b (includes double-counting)	100,500	100%		

a. "Other" includes salary grants and other sources of income.

b. Total cases in these categories may include double-counting, since cases that have more than one source of income are counted for each source reported. Percentages were calculated based on 100,500 observations. *Note: Totals may not add due to rounding.*

Quebec - Employment Assistance Table 7-8: Number of Cases Reporting Income, as of March 31, 2008			
Reporting Income	97,000		
No Income 238,100			
Total 335,100			
Note: Totals may not add due to rounding.			



Chapter 8 - Ontario

A - Ontario Works

Ontario's social assistance system is composed of two programs that provide income and employment assistance to people in financial need:

- Ontario Works provides people with basic income support while helping them prepare for, find and maintain employment. The *Ontario Works Act, 1997*, and its Regulations govern the Ontario Works program.
- The Ontario Disability Support Program helps people with disabilities with financial as well as employment assistance (see p. 67). The *Ontario Disability Support Program Act*, 1997, and its Regulations govern the program.

Service Delivery

Under Ontario Works legislation, delivery agents are designated for a geographical area. Ontario Works delivery agents include 47 Consolidated Municipal Service Managers (CMSMs) / District Social Services Administration Boards (DSSABs) and 100 First Nations who deliver the program across the province.

Eligibility

General

Eligibility for Ontario Works is based on an applicant's personal and financial circumstances such as place of residence, status in Canada, age, income, assets, and participation in employment assistance activities.

Asset Limits

When determining eligibility, applicants' and recipients' assets may not exceed the following allowable limits.

Ontario - Ontario Works - Asset Limits March 2008			
Single	\$572		
Single-Parent Family	\$1,550 plus \$500 for each additional dependant		
Childless Couple \$989			
Two-Parent Family	\$1,630 plus \$500 for each additional dependant		

Earnings Exemptions

An Ontario Works client is eligible for a 50% exemption on their monthly earned income after the receipt of three continuous months of assistance.

Benefits

Basic financial assistance consists of three components: income assistance for basic needs and shelter, mandatory and discretionary benefits, and emergency assistance.

The basic needs allowance assists with the cost of food, clothing, and personal needs. Maximum basic needs allowance rates are based on family type and the number of adult members in the benefit unit. A supplement for sole-support parents is also provided through the basic needs allowance. The shelter allowance pays an amount equal to a recipient's actual shelter costs, up to a maximum that is based on the number of persons (including children) in the benefit unit.

A number of mandatory benefits are provided within Ontario Works, such as:

- dental and vision care for children;
- drug coverage;
- benefits to help individuals start-up and maintain housing;
- guide dog allowance;
- benefits to assist individuals in maintaining full-time employment;
- benefits to assist individuals with expenses related to starting a new job or employment assistance activity; and
- advance (up front) child care.

Recipients, spouses and any dependants may also be eligible to receive a range of discretionary benefits on a case-by-case basis at the discretion of the Ontario Works Administrator. Discretionary benefits include:

- dental care for adults;
- vision care for adults;
- prosthetic appliances;
- vocational training and re-training;
- travel and transportation that is not for health-related purposes; and
- moving expenses.

In addition, Ontario Works provides extended drug coverage for up to six months to clients who leave social assistance for employment. Under extenuating circumstances, drug coverage can be extended for an additional six months after the first six month period.

Emergency assistance may be provided if the applicant is not currently in receipt of social assistance, is not serving a period of ineligibility, and if the applicant has not received emergency assistance in the past six months. The provision of financial assistance in an emergency may include an amount for basic needs, shelter and benefits.

When a member of a benefit unit receives or is pending receipt of income that is likely to cover the same period for which financial assistance is being paid, an agreement to reimburse must be completed.

Each member of the benefit unit who is 65 years of age or older receives an Advanced Age Allowance in addition to the standard amount for social assistance.

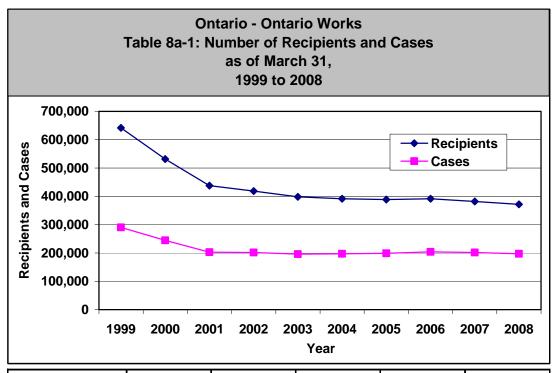
A single parent or member of a family benefit unit is eligible for assistance if enrolled in a full-time post-secondary program provided the portion of student loan for personal living costs does not exceed his/her budgetary requirements. In these situations, Ontario Works will provide a top-up to cover the difference between the personal living costs amount included in the loan(s) and his/her budgetary requirements as long as all other eligibility requirements are met.

More Information

For more information, please consult the Ontario Ministry of Community and Social Services Web site at: www.mcss.gov.on.ca/en/mcss/index.aspx.

STATISTICS

Recipients and Cases



	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003
Recipients	642,000	531,500	437,600	418,400	398,200
Cases	290,500	244,500	202,600	201,700	195,900
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
Recipients	2004 391,300	2005 388,700	2006 391,800	2007 382,000	2008 372,000

Recipients by Family Type

Ontario - Ontario Works Table 8a-2: Number and Percentage of Recipients by Family Type as of March 31, 2008				
Family Type		#		
Adults				
Single	Cases	108,600	29%	
Couple, no dependants	Cases	5,400	3%	
	Spouses	5,400		
Single parent	Cases	67,600	20%	
-	Dependants 18 and over ^a	5,900		
Couple with dependants	Cases	15,300	9%	
·	Spouses	15,300		
	Dependants 18 and over "	2,000		
Total Adults		225,500		
Children				
Single parent	Children under 18	114,100	31%	
Couple with dependants	Children under 18	32,500	9%	
Total Children (40%)		146,500		
Total Recipients		372,000	100%	
a. "Dependants 18 and over" are categ	porized as dependent adults, other than spo	ouses.		

Note: Totals may not add due to rounding.

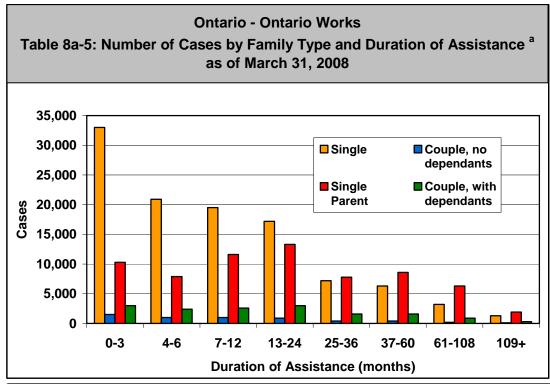
Cases by Age of Head

Ontario - Ontario Works Table 8a-3: Number of Cases by Age of Head as of March 31, 2008			
Age of Head	#		
<20	11,800		
20-24	31,100		
25-29	29,100		
30-34	24,800		
35-39	24,600		
40-44	24,800		
45-49	20,800		
50-54	14,500		
55-59	9,100		
60-64	5,600		
65+	700		
Total	196,900		
Note: Totals may not add due to rounding.			

Cases by Education of Head

Ontario - Ontario Works Table 8a-4: Number and Percentage of Cases by Education of Head as of March 31, 2008				
Education of Head	#			
Primary	16,200	8%		
Secondary 137,100 70%				
Post secondary	42,100	21%		
Unknown 1,500 1%				
Total 196,900 100%				
Note: Totals may not add due to rounding.	•			

Cases by Family Type and Duration of Assistance



Duration of		Family Type				
Assistance (months)	Single	Couple, no dependants	Single Parent	Couple, with dependants	Total	
0-3	33,000	1,500	10,300	3,000	47,800	
4-6	20,900	1,000	7,900	2,400	32,200	
7-12	19,500	1,000	11,600	2,600	34,800	
13-24	17,200	900	13,300	3,000	34,400	
25-36	7,200	400	7,800	1,600	16,900	
37-60	6,300	400	8,600	1,600	16,800	
61-108	3,200	200	6,300	900	10,500	
109+	1,300	100	1,900	300	3,600	
Total	108,600	5,400	67,600	15,300	196,900	

a. Data for number of cases by reason for assistance not available. Note: Totals may not add due to rounding.

B - Ontario Disability Support Program

In Ontario, the provincial social assistance program for persons with disabilities is known as the Ontario Disability Support Program (ODSP). The *Ontario Disability Support Program Act* and its Regulations govern the program.

ODSP provides income support and benefits, including health-related benefits, to eligible people with disabilities and their families who are in financial need. It also provides employment supports to people with disabilities on a voluntary basis.

Service Delivery

The Ministry of Community and Social Services is responsible for the delivery of ODSP through a network of nine regional offices and 45 local offices located throughout the province with employment support services provided through a network of approximately 150 community-based service providers.

Eligibility

General

To be eligible for ODSP, an applicant must live in Ontario, be 18 years of age or older, be in financial need, and have assets no greater than the limits set out in the program. The ministry takes into account a variety of factors related to an applicant's circumstances, including assets and income from all sources, family size and make up, and type of accommodation.

An applicant who qualifies financially for ODSP also needs to go through a disability determination process to determine if he or she is a person with a disability, as defined under the *ODSP Act*, unless he or she is a member of a prescribed class, such as someone receiving Canada Pension Plan Disability benefits, a person who is aged 65 or over and not eligible for Old Age Security or a resident of certain institutions.

Asset Limits

Applicants' and recipients' assets may not exceed the following allowable limits.

	Ontario - Ontario Disability Support Program Asset Limits
	March 2008
Single	\$5,000 plus \$500 for each additional dependant
Couple	\$7,500 plus \$500 for each additional dependant

Earnings Exemptions

Once an application for assistance has been approved, a 50% exemption rate applies to earned income. For people on ODSP who are in post-secondary school full-time (or at least 40% of full course load for persons with disabilities under ODSP), earned income is fully exempt.

In addition, an ODSP recipient and each eligible family member who earns money from a job or through a training program and who is not in full-time post-secondary education will receive an extra \$100 a month to help with employment costs, such as transportation or work clothing.

The ODSP earnings exemptions are applied to net employment earnings for the purpose of reducing chargeable income in order to encourage recipients to pursue employment.

Benefits

Services provided through the ODSP can be categorized as either income support or employment supports.

Income support consists of a basic needs amount and a shelter allowance. The basic needs amount helps with the cost of food, clothing, transportation, personal and non-shelter needs. Maximum basic needs rates are based on the number of members in the benefit unit, the ages of the children in the unit, and the unit's geographical location. Maximum shelter allowance rates are based on actual costs up to a maximum set according to family size or the type of accommodation arrangement such as board and lodge.

In addition, the ODSP provides supplemental health care benefits such as drug and dental coverage, and assistance with the costs of vision care, medical transportation, diabetic supplies, assistive devices and mobility device repairs and batteries.

Employment Supports provide employment-related goods and services, such as job placement assistance and job retention supports, to help people with disabilities find and keep jobs. Services are provided through a network of community-based services providers. Participation in Employment Supports is voluntary. A person does not need to be receiving income support to qualify for the Employment Supports program.

As a condition of eligibility, all adults members of an ODSP benefit unit who do not have a disability, and who do not meet the criteria for non-referral, are referred to Ontario Works to receive employment assistance to help them become and stay employed. ODSP recipients with disabilities may also voluntarily participate in Ontario Works employment assistance.

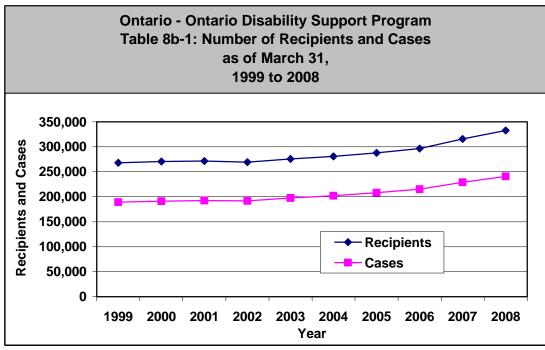
More Information

For more information, please consult the Ontario Ministry of Community and Social Services Web site at:

www.mcss.gov.on.ca/en/mcss/programs/social/odsp/index.aspx.

STATISTICS

Recipients and Cases



	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003
Recipients	268,100	270,600	271,600	269,200	275,700
Cases	189,100	191,300	192,300	191,700	197,500
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
Recipients	280,700	287,800	296,600	315,700	332,600
Cases	202,200	208,100	215,300	228,900	240,700

Cases by Reason of Assistance

Ontario - Ontario Disability Support Program Table 8b-2: Number and Percentage of Cases by Reason for Assistance as of March 31, 2008				
Reason for Assistance	#			
Disability ^a	233,900	97%		
Age 65 and over	5,100	2%		
Other	1,700	1%		
Total	240,700	100%		

a. "Disability" is defined as a substantial physical or mental impairment that is continuous or recurrent and expected to last one year or more. The impairment must substantially restrict the person in one or more activities of daily living.

Note: Totals may not add due to rounding.

Recipients by Family Type

Ontario - Ontario Disability Support Program Table 8b-3: Number and Percentage of Recipients by Family Type as of March 31, 2008					
Family Type		#			
Adults					
Single	Cases	186,400	56%		
Couple, no dependants	Cases	20,300	12%		
' '	Spouses	20,300			
Single parent	Cases	20,200	8%		
	Dependants 18 and over ^a	5,200			
Couple with dependants	Cases	13,800	9%		
	Spouses	13,800			
	Dependants 18 and over ^a	3,400			
Total Adults		283,300			
Children					
Single parent	Children under 18	25,200	8%		
Couple with dependants	Children under 18	24,100	7%		
Total Children (15%)		49,300	-		
Total Recipients		332,600	100%		
a "Dependents 19 and over" are ester	porized as dependent adults, other than so	011000			

a. "Dependants 18 and over" are categorized as dependent adults, other than spouses. Note: Totals may not add due to rounding.

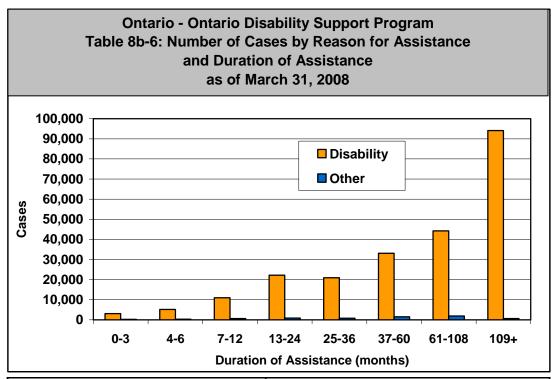
Cases by Age of Head

Ontario - Ontario Disability Support Program Table 8b-4: Number of Cases by Age of Head as of March 31, 2008				
Age of Head	#			
<20	4,300			
20-24	14,900			
25-29	15,600			
30-34	17,200			
35-39	21,300			
40-44	29,600			
45-49	36,300			
50-54	35,200			
55-59	31,500			
60-64	26,400			
65+	8,400			
Total	240,700			
Note: Totals may not add due to rounding.	•			

Cases by Education of Head

Ontario - Ontario Disability Support Program Table 8b-5: Number and Percentage of Cases by Education of Head as of March 31, 2008					
Education of Head ^a	#				
Primary	36,300	15%			
Secondary	143,300	60%			
Post secondary	41,300	17%			
Unknown 19,700 8%					
Total 240,700 100%					
a. Education is defined as level of education attained as of date of application.					
Note: Totals may not add due to rounding.					

Cases by Reason for Assistance and Duration of Assistance



	Reas	Reason for Assistance			
Duration of Assistance ^a (months)	Disability	Other ^b	Total		
0-3	3,100	200	3,300		
4-6	5,200	300	5,500		
7-12	11,000	600	11,600		
13-24	22,200	900	23,200		
25-36	20,900	800	21,800		
37-60	33,100	1,500	34,600		
61-108	44,200	1,900	46,000		
109+	94,100	600	94,700		
Total	233,900	6,800	240,700		

a. "Duration of assistance" measures length of current spell only.

Note: Totals may not add due to rounding.

b. "Other" includes rehabilitated, age 65 and over and other.



Chapter 9 - Manitoba

Employment and Income Assistance

In Manitoba, the provincial social assistance program is known as Employment and Income Assistance (EIA). The *Employment and Income Assistance Act* and its Regulation govern Manitoba's Employment and Income Assistance program.

Employment and Income Assistance provides basic benefits to both adults and children.

Service Delivery

The Department of Family Services and Consumer Affairs¹⁶ is responsible for the delivery of the Employment and Income Assistance program to adults and children within the province.

Eligibility

General

In order to be eligible for the Employment and Income Assistance program, applicants must meet the general eligibility requirements outlined in the "Social Assistance Overview" in this report.

Liquid Assets

Employable clients are not allowed liquid assets at application, but are allowed the following levels after enrolment. Other clients are allowed the following liquid assets at the time of application and after enrolment.

¹⁶ The Department of Family Services and Housing was renamed the Department of Family Services and Consumer Affairs in November 2009.

Manitoba - Liquid Asset Exemptions March 2008					
	Disabilities	Employable	Other ^a		
Single	\$4,000	\$400	\$1,000		
Childless	\$6,000	\$800	\$2,000		
Couple					
Two-Parent	\$6,000 plus \$1,000 for	\$800 plus \$400 for each	\$2,000 plus \$500 for		
Family	each dependent child	dependent child up to a	each dependent child		
	up to a maximum of	maximum of \$2,000.	up to a maximum of		
	\$8,000.		\$3,000.		
a. Includes single	parents and aged persons.	•	•		

Earnings Exemptions

Employment and Income Assistance program clients are eligible for the following monthly exemptions on earned income ¹⁷:

Manitoba - Earnings Exemptions ^a March 2008					
Clients without	Clients without Clients with Single Parents Single Parents with				
Disabilities ^b Disabilities ^c without Disabilities Disabilities					
\$200 plus 30% of the	\$200 plus 30% of the	\$200 plus 30% of the	\$200 plus 30% of the		
net remainder	net remainder	net remainder	net remainder		

a. Earnings exemptions apply to each employed person in the household. The earnings of children who are in fulltime attendance at an approved educational institution are totally exempt.

Benefits

Basic assistance consists of a basic allowance and a shelter allowance. The basic allowance covers the cost of food and clothing, as well as personal and household needs. Maximum basic allowance rates are based on the provision of a shelter payment, the household's composition, as well as the number of children in the household and their ages. Maximum shelter allowance rates are based on the number of persons in the household (including children).

More Information

For more information, please consult the Manitoba Department of Family Services and Consumer Affairs Web site at: www.gov.mb.ca/fs/index.html.

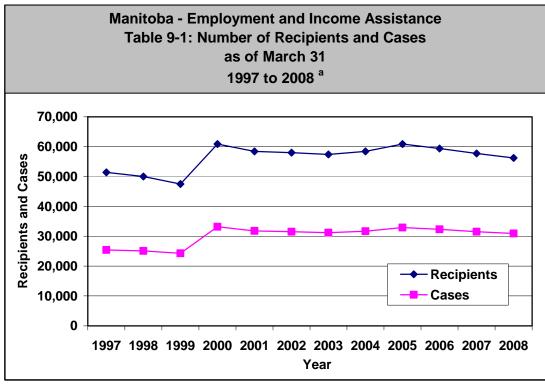
b. Able-bodied employable persons (general assistance)

c. Persons with disabilities and aged persons who are not single parents.

¹⁷ Applicants and new clients are eligible only for the basic exemption (\$200). Clients are eligible for the additional percentage after receiving Employment and Income Assistance for one month.

STATISTICS

Recipients and Cases



	1997	1998	1999	2000 ^b	2001	2002
Recipients	51,400	50,000	47,500	60,900	58,400	58,000
Cases	25,400	25,100	24,300	33,200	31,800	31,500
	2003	2004	2005 °	2006	2007	2008
Recipients	2003 57,400	2004 58,400	2005 ^c 60,900	2006 59,400	2007 57,700	2008 56,200

a. Municipal program caseloads are not included in the above table.

b. Effective April, 1999, the Province assumed responsibility for the delivery and administration of municipal assistance in the City of Winnipeg.

c. Effective June 1, 2004, the Province assumed responsibility for the delivery and administration of municipal assistance in rural and northern Manitoba.

Cases by Reason for Assistance

Manitoba - Employment and Income Assistance Table 9-2: Number and Percentage of Cases by Reason for Assistance as of March 31, 2008				
Reason for Assistance	#			
Unemployed	4,800	16%		
Disability	17,900	58%		
Sole support parent	8,000	26%		
Other ^a	200	1%		
Total	30,900	100%		

a. "Other" includes aged, children under age 18 who head their own household, children whose parents are unable to support them and who live in a household not in receipt of income assistance, persons requiring the protection of a crisis facility, and persons granted eligibility as a special case under the discretion of the Minister.

Note: Totals may not add due to rounding.

Recipients by Family Type

Manitoba - Employment and Income Assistance Table 9-3: Number and Percentage of Recipients by Family Type as of March 31, 2008				
Family Type	#			
Adults - Single	19,200	34%		
Adults - Couple, no dependants	1,800	3%		
Adults - Single parent	9,200	16%		
Adults - Couple with dependants	2,900	5%		
Total Adults	33,200			
Children - Single parent	19,100	34%		
Children - Couple with dependants	4,000	7%		
Children - Head of household ^a	100			
Total Children (41%)	23,100			
Total Recipients	56,200	100%		

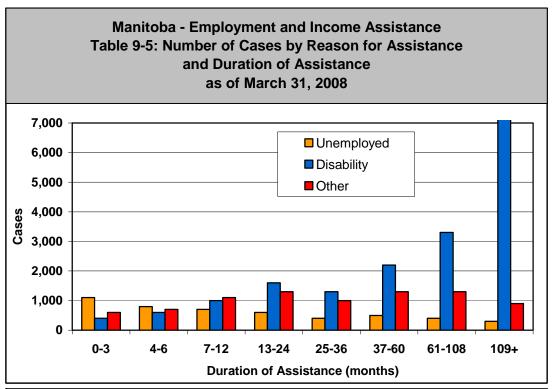
a. "Children - Head of household" includes children under age 18 who head their own household, as well as children whose parents are unable to support them and who live in a household not in receipt of income assistance.

Note: Totals may not add due to rounding.

Cases by Age of Head

Manitoba - Employment and Income Assistance Table 9-4: Number of Cases by Age of Head as of March 31, 2008		
Age of Head	#	
<20	1,100	
20-24	3,800	
25-29	3,900	
30-34	3,400	
35-39	3,500	
40-44	3,500	
45-49	3,400	
50-54	3,100	
55-59	2,700	
60-64	2,100	
65+	200	
Total	30,900	
Note: Totals may not add due to rounding.	·	

Cases by Reason for Assistance and Duration of Assistance



	Reason for Assistance			
Duration of Assistance ^a (months)	Unemployed	Disability	Other ^b	Total
0-3	1,100	400	600	2,200
4-6	800	600	700	2,100
7-12	700	1,000	1,100	2,800
13-24	600	1,600	1,300	3,600
25-36	400	1,300	1,000	2,700
37-60	500	2,200	1,300	4,000
61-108	400	3,300	1,300	4,900
109+	300	7,300	900	8,500
Total	4,800	17,900	8,200	30,900

a. "Duration of assistance" is based on the length of time since case last became active.

Note: Totals may not add due to rounding.

b. "Other" includes single parent, aged, children under age 18 who head their own household, children whose parents are unable to support them and who live in a household not in receipt of income assistance, persons requiring the protection of a crisis facility, and persons granted eligibility as a special case under the discretion of the Minister.

Cases Reporting Income by Source of Income

Manitoba - Employment and Income Assistance Table 9-6: Number and Percentage of Cases Reporting Income, by Source of Income, as of March 31, 2008				
Source of Income #				
Employment	3,200	40%		
Government transfers	2,600	33%		
Support payments ^a 1,500 19%				
Employment Insurance 200 3%				
Other b 500 6%				
Total ^c (includes double-counting) 8,000 100%				

a. "Support payments" do not include maintenance payments assigned directly to Employment and Income Assistance. There were an additional estimated 3,000 Employment and Income Assistance cases with maintenance payments as of March 31, 2008 that are not reflected in the data.

c. Total cases in these categories may include double-counting, since cases that have more than one source of income are counted for each source reported. Percentages were calculated based on 8,000 observations. *Note: Totals may not add due to rounding.*

Manitoba - Employment and Income Assistance Table 9-7: Number of Cases Reporting Income as of March 31, 2008		
Reporting Income 7,500		
No Income 23,300		
Total 30,900		
Note: Totals may not add due to rounding.		

b. "Other" includes training allowances and other income.



Chapter 10 - Saskatchewan

Social Assistance Programs

In Saskatchewan, the provincial social assistance programs include the Saskatchewan Assistance Program (SAP) and the Transitional Employment Allowance (TEA). The Saskatchewan Assistance Act, and the Saskatchewan Assistance Program. The Saskatchewan Assistance Program. The Saskatchewan Assistance Act and the Transitional Employment Allowance Regulations govern the Transitional Employment Allowance.

The Saskatchewan Assistance Program and the Transitional Employment Allowance provide basic benefits to adults only. Children's basic benefits are provided through the Canada Child Tax Benefit and the National Child Benefit Supplement.

Service Delivery

The Ministry of Social Services¹⁸ is responsible for the delivery of the Saskatchewan Assistance Program to adults within the province.

Eligibility

General

In order to be eligible for the Saskatchewan Assistance Program, applicants must meet the general eligibility requirements outlined in the "Social Assistance Overview" in this report.

Liquid Assets

At the time of application, applicants' liquid assets may not exceed the following allowable limits.

Saskatchewan - Liquid Asset Exemptions March 2008		
Single	\$1,500	
Family	\$3,000 plus \$500 for each additional dependant	

¹⁸ The Department of Community Resources was renamed to Ministry of Social Services effective November 2007.

Earnings Exemptions¹⁹

Once an application for assistance has been approved, Saskatchewan Assistance Program clients are eligible for the following monthly exemptions on earned income:

Saskatchewan - Earnings Exemptions March 2008				
	Clients without Disabilities	Clients with Disabilities		
Single	\$50 plus 25% of the remaining income, to a maximum of \$200.	\$100 plus 25% of the remaining income, to a maximum of \$225.		
Childless Couple	\$75 plus 25% of the remaining income, to a maximum of \$275.	\$125 plus 25% of the remaining income, to a maximum of \$300.		
Single Parent Family	\$125	\$200		
Two-Parent Family	\$125	\$200		

Benefits

Basic assistance under the Saskatchewan Assistance Program consists of an adult basic allowance, a shelter allowance, and utility allowances. The adult basic allowance covers the cost of food, clothing, and personal and household items. Maximum shelter allowance rates are based on household size (including children) and geographic location²⁰. Utility allowances (electricity, home heating and water) are based on actual costs.

Transitional Employment Allowance

The Transitional Employment Allowance, introduced in 2003, provides short-term assistance for job-ready people while they seek work or participate in employment services. A flat-rate allowance is provided for basic needs, covering food, clothing, personal and household items, and shelter. Flat-rate allowances are also provided for utilities. Rates are based on household size and geographic location. A centralized, provincial contact centre administers the Transitional Employment Allowance.

Saskatchewan Rental Housing Supplement

The Saskatchewan Rental Housing Supplement (SRHS) is designed to help lowincome tenant families and individuals access quality and affordable housing. Supplements are available to low-income people on income assistance or in the

²⁰ Effective May 1, 2005, a four-tier scale is being used.

¹⁹ These exemptions do not apply to farmers, self-employed clients or, for the first three months on assistance, to those Saskatchewan Assistance Program clients who are capable of full-time work.

workforce. The SRHS took effect in April 2005. It is delivered through a centralized, provincial contact centre.

There are two programs under the SRHS:

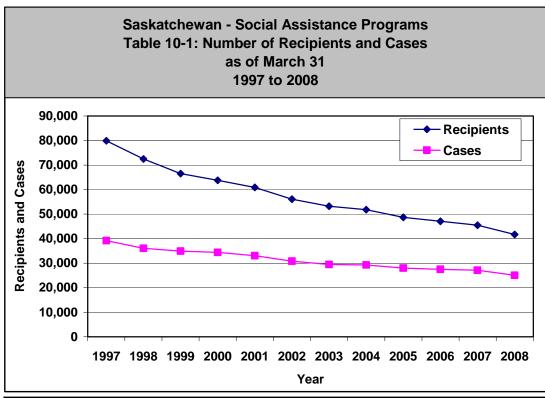
- The Family Rental Housing Supplement is available to families with children under the age of 18. Eligibility is based on family size, location, rent, household income and the rental property meeting minimum health and safety standards.
- The Disability Rental Housing Supplement is available to families, single
 individuals, and couples without children where at least one family member has a
 disability that produces a recognized housing impact. Supports that address the
 housing impact of the disability must be in place at the time of application.
 Eligibility is based on household size, location, rent, household income, and the
 rental property meeting minimum health and safety standards.

More Information

For more information, please consult the Saskatchewan Ministry of Social Services Web site at: www.socialservices.gov.sk.ca/.

STATISTICS

Recipients and Cases



	1997 ^a	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002
Recipients	79,900	72,500	66,500	63,800	60,900	56,100
Cases	39,200	36,100	34,900	34,400	33,100	30,800
	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
Recipients	53,200	51,800	48,700	47,100	45,500	41,700
Cases	29,500	29,300	28,000	27,500	27,100	25,100
a. Northern Ban	a. Northern Bands receiving manual payments from 1994 to 1997 are included in the above table.					

Cases by Reason for Assistance

Saskatchewan - Social Assistance Programs Table 10-2: Number and Percentage of Cases by Reason for Assistance as of March 31, 2008				
Reason for Assistance #				
Employed ^a	700	3%		
Unemployed ^b	3,100	12%		
Health ^c	18,200	73%		
Sole support parent ^d	200	1%		
Student ^e	600	2%		
Other ^f 2,300 9%				
Total 25,100 100%				

a. "Employed" includes clients expecting income and those receiving an income supplement.

Note: Totals may not add due to rounding.

Recipients by Family Type

Saskatchewan - Social Assistance Programs Table 10-3: Number and Percentage of Recipients by Family Type as of March 31, 2008				
Family Type	#			
Adults - Single	17,200	41%		
Adults - Couple, no dependants	1,700	4%		
Adults - Single parent	6,200	15%		
Adults - Couple with dependants 1,900 5%				
Total Adults	26,900			
Children - Single parent	12,500	30%		
Children - Couple with dependants	2,200	5%		
Total Children (35%) 14,800				
Total Recipients 41,700 100%				
Note: Totals may not add due to rounding.				

b. "Unemployed" includes clients who quit working, or were fired, laid off, etc.

c. "Health" includes mental and physical health restrictions.

d. "Sole support parent" includes single parents receiving assistance for child care needs and loss of spousal support.

e. "Student" includes clients attending school and post-secondary students with no jobs.

f. "Other" includes all reasons for assistance not named in the above categories, including: pending appeal and refugee claimant, as well as miscellaneous codes no longer in use.

Cases by Age of Head

Saskatchewan - Social Assistance Programs Table 10-4: Number of Cases by Age of Head as of March 31, 2008		
Age of Head	#	
<20	1,300	
20-24	3,400	
25-29	2,900	
30-34	2,500	
35-39	2,600	
40-44	2,800	
45-49	2,800	
50-54	2,500	
55-59	2,200	
60-64	1,800	
65+	300	
Total	25,100	
Note: Totals may not add due to rounding.		

Cases by Education of Head

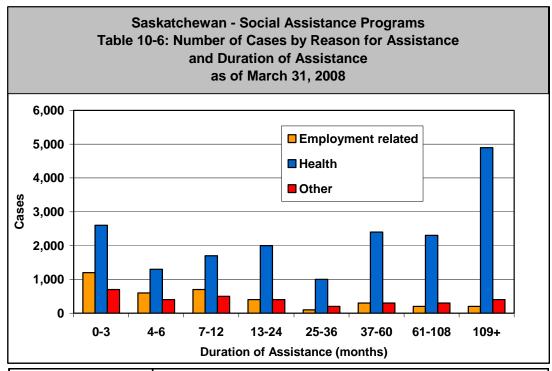
Saskatchewan - Social Assistance Programs Table 10-5: Number and Percentage of Cases by Education of Head as of March 31, 2008				
Education of Head ^a #				
Primary	5,400	22%		
Secondary	14,000	56%		
Post secondary ^b	700	3%		
Unknown	5,000	20%		
Total	25,100	100%		

a. Education is defined as level of education attained as of date of application.

Note: Totals may not add due to rounding.

b. "Post secondary" includes community/technical college, university and other post secondary.

Cases by Reason for Assistance and Duration of Assistance



	Reason for Assistance			
Duration of Assistance ^a (months)	Employment- related ^b	Health	Other ^c	Total
0-3	1,200	2,600	700	4,400
4-6	600	1,300	400	2,300
7-12	700	1,700	500	3,000
13-24	400	2,000	400	2,800
25-36	100	1,000	200	1,300
37-60	300	2,400	300	3,000
61-108	200	2,300	300	2,900
109+	200	4,900	400	5,500
Total	3,800	18,200	3,100	25,100

a. "Duration of assistance" measures length of current spell only.

b. "Employment-related" includes employed and unemployed.

c. "Other" includes sole support parent, student and other.

Note: Totals may not add due to rounding.

Cases Reporting Income by Source of Income

Saskatchewan - Social Assistance Programs Table 10-7: Number and Percentage of Cases Reporting Income, by Source of Income, as of March 31, 2008 Source of Income # **Employment** 1,500 33% 1,700 Government transfers 37% Support payments 600 13% Training allowance 100 2% 100 **Employment Insurance** 2% 600 Other 13% 4,600 100% Total a (does not include double-counting)

 a. Cases receiving income from more than one source are counted only once; therefore, not all sources of income are counted in all categories. However, the total number of cases reporting income sources does not include doublecounting.

Note: Totals may not add due to rounding.

Saskatchewan - Social Assistance Programs Table 10-8: Number of Cases Reporting Income as of March 31, 2008		
Reporting Income 4,500		
No Income 20,600		
Total 25,100		
Note: Totals may not add due to rounding.		



Chapter 11 - Alberta

A – Alberta Works - Income Support

In Alberta, the provincial social assistance program is known as Alberta Works - Income Support. The *Income and Employment Supports Act* and the Income Supports, Health and Training Benefits Regulations govern the Alberta Works - Income Support program.

Alberta Works - Income Support provides basic benefits to both adults and children. It includes four components: Employment and Training Services, Income Support, Child Support Services, and Health Benefits.

Alberta Works - Income Support replaced the Supports for Independence program effective April 1, 2004.

Social assistance for persons with severe disabilities is provided through Alberta's Assured Income for the Severely Handicapped (AISH) program (see p. 99).

Service Delivery

Alberta Employment and Immigration²¹ is responsible for the delivery of the Alberta Works - Income Support program to adults and children within the province.

Eligibility

General

In order to be eligible for Alberta Works - Income Support, applicants must meet the general eligibility requirements outlined in the "Social Assistance Overview" in this report.

Liquid Assets²²

At the time of application for Alberta Works - Income Support, applicants' liquid assets may not exceed the following allowable limits.

²¹ In March 2008 the Ministry was reorganized and the name changed to Alberta Employment and Immigration.

²² This table applies to the Expected to Work and the Not Expected to Work client groups only.

Alberta - Alberta Works - Income Support Cash and Liquid Asset Exemptions		
March 2008		
Expected to Work a Not Expected to Work a		
Cash and liquid assets of the same value as	Cash and liquid assets of up to twice the	
one month of core benefits. value of one month of core benefits.		
a. See below for description.		

Earnings Exemptions²³

Once an application for assistance has been approved, Alberta Works - Income Support clients are eligible for the following monthly exemptions on earned income:

Alberta - Alberta Works - Income Support Earnings Exemptions March 2008		
Singles	\$115 per month plus 25% of additional earnings	
Single-Parent Family	\$230 per month plus 25% of additional earnings	
Couples (with or without children)	\$115 per month plus 25% of additional earnings for each working adult	

Benefits

Core benefits consist of a core essential benefit and a core shelter benefit. The core essential benefit covers the cost of food, clothing, household and personal needs, the installation of a telephone, as well as laundry and transportation. The core shelter benefit is for rent, mortgage, utilities, heating fuel, municipal taxes, insurance, condominium fees, lot rental, homeowner's maintenance and damage deposit.

The amount of the monthly core benefit depends on family size, the number of adults in the family unit, the ages of the children in the family unit, the family unit's level of employability, and available financial resources.

Alberta Works - Income Support clients are placed in one of three client groups: Expected to Work, Not Expected to Work, or Learners.

The "Expected to Work" category includes those individuals and families that:

- Are working full-time or part-time, but whose income is less than the financial benefits provided under Alberta Works - Income Support;
- Are able to work, but unable to find employment; or
- Are temporarily not available for work for a short time due to illness, or the presence of a child under twelve months of age, fleeing an abusive relationship, etc.

_

²³ This table applies to the Expected to Work and the Not Expected to Work client groups only.

The "Not Expected to Work" category includes those individuals and families that::

- Have a permanent disability as defined by the AISH program, but require benefits that are not provided under the AISH program; or
- Have multiple barriers or suffer from a chronic medical condition that inhibits their ability to seek and accept employment, but are not considered as having a permanent disability as defined by the AISH program.

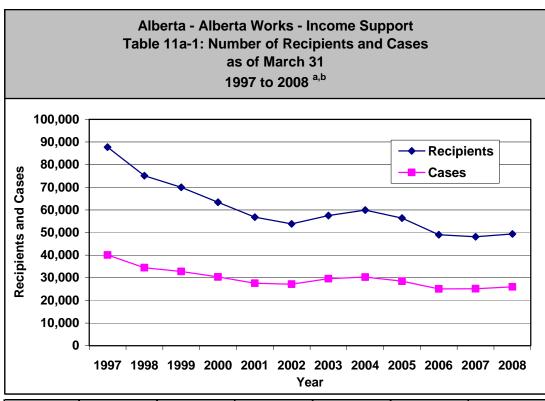
The "Learners" category includes those individuals and families that are participating in occupational training or attending classes or courses to improve their employability. Tuition, books, supplies, and a living allowance may be provided.

More Information

For more information, please consult the Alberta Employment and Immigration Web site at: www.employment.alberta.ca/.

STATISTICS

Recipients and Cases



	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002
Recipients	87,700	75,100	70,000	63,400	56,800	53,800
Cases	40,100	34,500	32,800	30,400	27,600	27,200
	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
Recipients	2003 57,500	2004 59,900	2005 56,400	2006 49,000	2007 48,100	2008 49,400

a. Children in Need (CIN) are not included.

b. Assured Income for the Severely Handicapped (AISH) is covered in a separate section.

Cases by Reason for Assistance

Alberta - Alberta Works - Income Support Table 11a-2: Number and Percentage of Cases by Reason for Assistance as of March 31, 2008			
Reason for Assistance	#		
Employed	3,000	12%	
Unemployed	6,500	25%	
Short term disability ^a	4,700	18%	
Long term disability b	11,800	45%	
Total	26,000	100%	

a. "Short-term disability" includes clients whose circumstances make them unavailable for work or training at present, but who will likely be able to return to work in the future. This category includes those with short-term medical problems or family responsibilities, and single persons age 50 years or older, who are unlikely to obtain continuous employment.

Note: Totals may not add due to rounding.

Recipients by Family Type

Alberta - Alberta Works - Income Support Table 11a-3: Number and Percentage of Recipients by Family Type as of March 31, 2008			
Family Type	#		
Adults - Single	14,600	30%	
Adults - Couple, no dependants	1,800	4%	
Adults - Single parent	9,100	18%	
Adults - Couple with dependants	2,800	6%	
Total Adults	28,200		
Children - Single parent	17,800	36%	
Children - Couple with dependants	3,400	7%	
Total Children (43%)	21,200		
Total Recipients 49,400 100%			
Note: Totals may not add due to rounding.			

b. "Long-term disability" includes clients who may never be able to return to full time work in the labour force. Often these clients suffer from multiple barriers, such as a combination of medical impairment, lack of education, and poor work history. This category may include AISH clients who have been transferred to the Alberta Works - Income Support program to access supplemental benefits which are not available through AISH.

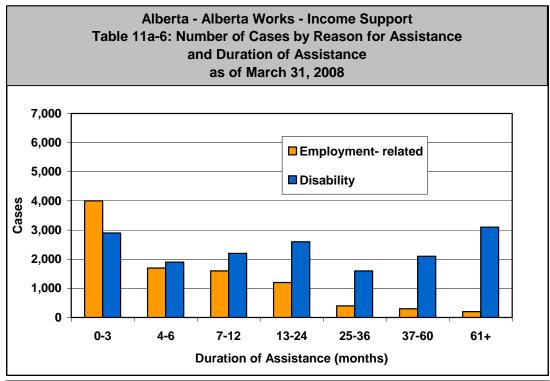
Cases by Age of Head

Alberta - Alberta Works - Income Support Table 11a-4: Number of Cases by Age of Head as of March 31, 2008		
Age of Head	#	
<20	600	
20-24	2,900	
25-29	3,200	
30-34	3,000	
35-39	3,200	
40-44	3,300	
45-49	3,300	
50-54	2,600	
55-59	1,900	
60-64	1,400	
65+	400	
Total	26,000	
Note: Totals may not add due to rounding.		

Cases by Education of Head

Alberta - Alberta Works - Income Support Table 11a-5: Number and Percentage of Cases by Education of Head as of March 31, 2008		
Education of Head ^a	#	
Primary	6,100	23%
Secondary	15,900	61%
Community/technical college	1,800	7%
University	400	2%
Other post secondary	1,400	5%
Unknown	300	1%
Total	26,000	100%
a. Education is defined as level of education attained as of date Note: Totals may not add due to rounding.	of application.	

Cases by Reason for Assistance and Duration of Assistance



	Reason for Assistance		
Duration of Assistance ^a (months)	Employment- related ^b	Disability ^c	Total
0-3	4,000	2,900	6,900
4-6	1,700	1,900	3,600
7-12	1,600	2,200	3,900
13-24	1,200	2,600	3,900
25-36	400	1,600	2,000
37-60	300	2,100	2,400
61+	200	3,100	3,300
Total	9,400	16,500	26,000

a. "Duration of assistance" is based upon the length of time since case last become active.

b. "Employment-related" includes employed and unemployed.

c. "Disability" includes long-term and short-term disability.

Note: Totals may not add due to rounding.

Cases Reporting Income by Source of Income

Alberta - Alberta Works - Income Support Table 11a-7: Number and Percentage of Cases Reporting Income, by Source of Income, as of March 31, 2008			
Source of Income	#		
Employment	2,400	46%	
Government transfers	1,400	27%	
Support payments	1,100	21%	
Employment Insurance	200	4%	
Other ^a	100	2%	
Total ^b (includes double-counting)	5,200	100%	

a. "Other" includes training allowances and other income.

b. Total cases in these categories may include double-counting, since cases that have more than one source of income are counted for each source reported. Percentages were calculated based on 5,200 observations.

Note: Totals may not add due to rounding.

Alberta - Alberta Works - Income Support Table 11a-8: Number of Cases Reporting Income as of March 31, 2008		
Reporting Income 4,800		
No Income 21,100		
Total 26,000		
Note: Totals may not add due to rounding.		

B - Assured Income for the Severely Handicapped

In Alberta, the provincial income assistance program for adults with a severe and permanent disability that substantially limits their ability to earn a livelihood is known as Assured Income for the Severely Handicapped (AISH). The Assured Income for the Severely Handicapped Act, the Assured Income for the Severely Handicapped General Regulation and the Applications and Appeals (Ministerial) Regulation govern Alberta's AISH program.

AISH provides program recipients with a monthly living allowance, health benefits, a child benefit and personal benefits.

Service Delivery

Alberta Seniors and Community Supports is responsible for the delivery of AISH throughout the province.

Eligibility

General

In order to be eligible for AISH, recipients must meet the eligibility criteria for severe handicap, age, residency, assets, and income.

Assets

The assets of AISH recipients and their cohabiting partners may not exceed \$100,000. Assets considered part of the \$100,000 limit include cash or cash equivalent assets, investments, and business/farm or other property. Key assets not included in the \$100,000 limit are a client's principal residence, a vehicle and an adapted vehicle. Other exempt assets include insurance payments for damages or stolen goods, special compensation payments and locked-in retirement accounts.

Income Exemptions

The level of benefits that a recipient receives from AISH depends on the type and amount of income of the recipient and his/her cohabiting partner. Under AISH, income is classified into four categories: fully exempt (e.g. income tax refunds, an education or training grant, a goods and service tax credit), partially exempt (e.g. interest/investment, rental income), non-exempt (e.g. Canada Pension Plan Disability Benefits, Employment Insurance) and employment income.

The level of exemption on partially exempt income and employment income varies depending on the composition of the household. AISH provides the following income exemptions:

Alberta - Assured Income for the Severely Handicapped Employment Income Exemptions March 2008		
Single Person, Childless Couple (both AISH)	\$400 of net employment income, plus 50% of any amount between \$400 and \$1,000.	
Single Parent, Childless Couple (one AISH), Couple with Children (both AISH) ^a	\$975 of net employment income, plus 50% of any amount between \$975 and \$2,000.	
a. Only one AISH recipient qualifies for this exemption. The other AISH client qualifies as a single person.		

Alberta - Assured Income for the Severely Handicapped Partial Income Exemptions March 2008		
Single Person, Childless Couple (both AISH)	\$200 of partially exempt income, plus 25% of additional amount.	
Single Parent, Childless Couple (one AISH), Couple with Children (both AISH) ^a	\$775 of partially exempt income, plus 25% of additional amount.	
a. Only one AISH recipient qualifies for this exemption. The other AISH client qualifies as a single person.		

Benefits

AISH provides a monthly living allowance, health benefits, a child benefit, and personal benefits.

The health benefits are available to the recipient, his/her spouse/cohabiting partner, and dependent children under the age of 18 years, or under the age of 20 years if attending high school, who reside with the recipient. The health benefits include prescription drugs, dental, optical, emergency ambulance, and essential diabetic supplies. AISH recipients also receive premium-free Alberta Health Care Insurance²⁴, and an exemption of the Alberta Aids to Daily Living (AADL) cost-share portion.

The child benefit and personal benefits are provided to recipients with \$3,000 or less in assets. The child benefit is intended to help cover the cost of raising dependent children. Personal benefits help AISH recipients to meet their extra needs, such as special diets, specialized clothing related to their disability, caring for a guide animal, and assistance with health-related travel. Recipients who live in facilities, as defined by the Assured Income for the Severely Handicapped General Regulation, receive a modified living allowance (Modified AISH). Modified AISH includes the facility daily accommodation rate plus a personal allowance.

Recipients who become ineligible for AISH due to excess Canada Pension Plan Disability and/or employment income may be eligible for the Alberta Adult Health Benefit, which provides the same health benefits as the AISH program. Rapid

²⁴ Alberta Health Care Insurance premiums were eliminated for all Albertans in January 2009.

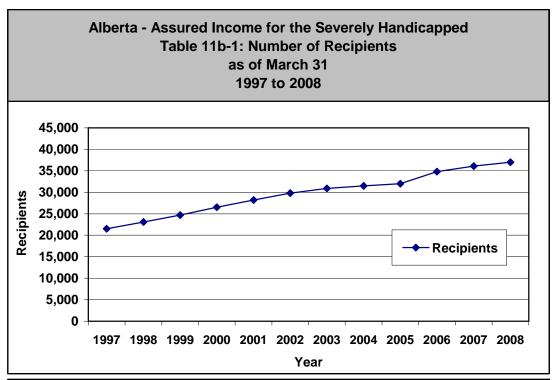
reinstatement of AISH benefits is also available for those eligible former AISH recipients who need to come back onto AISH within 2 years due to a reduction in their employment earnings.

More Information

For more information, please consult the Alberta Seniors and Community Supports Web site at: www.seniors.gov.ab.ca/AISH/.

STATISTICS

Recipients



	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002
Recipients ^a	21,500	23,100	24,700	26,500	28,200	29,800
	2003	2004 ^b	2005	2006	2007	2008

a. AISH provides financial assistance only to the individual with the disability, and not the recipient's family. Therefore, the number of cases and recipients is the same.

b. In the above table, 2004 data does not include 829 AISH recipients who left the program for the Alberta Adult Health Benefit (AAHB).

Recipients by Medical Condition

Alberta - Assured Income for the Severely Handicapped Table 11b-2: Number and Percentage of Recipients by Medical Condition as of March 31, 2008			
Medical Condition	#		
Physical disabilities	17,100	46%	
Mental illness disorders	11,800	32%	
Cognitive disorders	8,100	22%	
Total 37,000 100%			
Note: Totals may not add due to rounding.			

Recipients by Family Type

Alberta - Assured Income for the Severely Handicapped Table 11b-3: Number and Percentage of Recipients by Family Type as of March 31, 2008			
Family Type	#		
Single	33,000	89%	
Couple with no children	1,400	4%	
Single parent	1,800	5%	
Couple with children	700	2%	
Total	37,000	100%	
Note: Totals may not add due to rounding.			

Recipients by Age

Alberta - Assured Income for the Severely Handicapped Table 11b-4: Number of Recipients by Age as of March 31, 2008		
Age	#	
18-19	800	
20-24	3,000	
25-29	3,000	
30-34	2,900	
35-39	3,200	
40-44	4,100	
45-49	5,200	
50-54	5,200	
55-59	4,900	
60-64	4,500	
65+	200	
Total	37,000	
Note: Totals may not add due to rounding.		

Recipients by Education

Alberta - Assured Income for the Severely Handicapped Table 11b-5: Number and Percentage of Recipients by Education ^a as of March 31, 2008			
Education	#		
Grade school	29,000	78%	
Post secondary ^b	2,200	6%	
Trades	300	1%	
University	1,500	4%	
Unknown	4,000	11%	
Total 37,000 100%			

a. Education is defined as level of education attained as of date of application. This is not a required question on the AISH application form. Responses are not confirmed or updated if a client's level of education changes and the "unknown" is high.

Note: Totals may not add due to rounding.

b. "Post secondary" includes community/technical college and other post secondary.

Recipients Reporting Income by Source of Income

Alberta - Assured Income for the Severely Handicapped Table 11b-6: Number and Percentage of Recipients Reporting Income, by Source of Income as of March 31, 2008					
Source of Income	Source of Income #				
Employment ^a	6,700	33%			
Canada Pension Plan Disability	6,200	30%			
Other partially-exempt income b 7,500 37%					
Total ^c (includes double-counting)	20,400	100%			

a. Category "employment includes employment and self-employment income.

Note: Totals may not add due to rounding.

Alberta - Assured Income for the Severely Handicapped Table 11b-7: Number of Recipients Reporting Income as of March 31, 2008		
Reporting Income	17,300	
No Income 19,800		
Total 37,000		
Note: Totals may not add due to rounding.		

b. "Other partially-exempt income" includes farm, business, rental and investment income received by a client or cohabiting partner as well as pension income received by a cohabiting partner.

c. Total clients in these categories may include double-counting, since recipients that have more than one source of income are counted for each source reported. Percentages were calculated based on 20,400 observations.



Chapter 12 - British Columbia

Employment and Assistance

In British Columbia, the provincial social assistance program is known as Employment and Assistance (BCEA). The *British Columbia Employment and Assistance for Persons with Disabilities Act*, the British Columbia Employment and Assistance Regulations, and the British Columbia Employment and Assistance for Persons with Disabilities Regulations govern British Columbia's Employment and Assistance program.

Employment and Assistance provides basic support and shelter benefits to family units. Children's basic support benefits are provided separately through the British Columbia Family Bonus²⁵ (see p.109).

Service Delivery

The Ministry of Social Development²⁶ is responsible for the delivery of Employment and Assistance to adults within the province.

Eligibility

General

In order to be eligible for Employment and Assistance, applicants must meet the general eligibility requirements outlined in the "Social Assistance Overview" in this report.

Prior to applying for Employment and Assistance, all adults in the family unit must complete an applicant orientation program and, prior to their application interview, complete a reasonable work search within the three-week period. There are six exemptions to the work search requirement. In addition, at least one person in the family unit must demonstrate that they have received remuneration for at least 840 hours of paid employment, or earned at least \$7,000 in gross employment income in each of any two consecutive years prior to applying for assistance. There are 16 exemptions to this requirement in order to avoid hardship.

²⁵ Children aged 18 years living in a family receiving social assistance are paid a support allowance equivalent to the British Columbia Family Bonus (BCFB). For the purpose of British Columbia Employment and Assistance, children are defined as persons less than 19 years of age, while the BCFB is paid only for children under 18 years of age.

²⁶ The Ministry of Employment and Income Assistance was renamed to Ministry of Housing and Social Development effective March 2009, and then to Ministry of Social Development in October 2010.

Liquid Assets

At the time of application for Employment and Assistance, applicants' liquid assets may not exceed the following allowable limits.

British Columbia - Liquid Asset Exemptions March 2008					
Clients without Disabilities a Clients with Disabilities					
Single	\$1,500	\$3,000			
Single-Parent Family	\$2,500	\$5,000			
Childless Couple \$2,500 \$5,000					
Two-Parent Family \$2,500 \$5,000					
a. The amount of cash assets may not exceed one month of social assistance plus \$150 for single or \$250 for families.					

Earnings Exemptions

Employment and Assistance clients are eligible for the following monthly exemptions on earned income following three months on assistance:

British Columbia - Earnings Exemptions March 2008			
A single individual with Persons with Disabilities (PWD)	\$500		
A single individual with Persons with Persistent Multiple Barriers (PPMB)	\$500		
A family unit where both individuals have PWD designation	\$750		
A family unit where only one individual has PWD designation	\$500		
A single parent who cares for a child with a severe disability where the disability of the child precludes the caregiver from working outside the home for more than 30 hours a week.	\$300		

Benefits²⁷

Basic assistance consists of a support allowance and a shelter allowance. The support allowance covers the cost of food, clothing, personal and household items. Maximum support allowance rates are based on the composition of the family unit and the age or marital/common law status of the applicant. The shelter allowance pays actual shelter costs to a maximum amount. Maximum shelter allowance rates are based on the number of persons in the family unit.

²⁷ Effective April 1, 2002, social assistance for singles and childless couples is limited to two years out of every five. This limit is waived for recipients in compliance with their employment obligations under an Employment Plan, as well as under many other conditions.

Employment and Assistance has three rates schedules: Income Assistance, Disability Assistance, and Hardship Assistance. Income Assistance rates apply to two separate groups of clients across a range of family types. One group is classed as employable and these clients receive an assistance rate that is based on a temporary need for assistance. The other group consists of clients with persistent multiple barriers to employment (PPMB) and their rate is higher than employable clients since they typically require income assistance over a longer time period. Disability Assistance rates apply to all households that include at least one person aged 18 years or older who has a severe and confirmed mental or physical impairment that restricts their ability to perform daily living activities and that is expected to continue for at least two years. Hardship Assistance rates apply to those persons requiring temporary financial assistance on a month-to-month basis who are not eligible for income or disability assistance for a number of specific reasons, but present circumstances of undue hardship if no assistance is provided.

British Columbia Family Bonus

The British Columbia Family Bonus (BCFB) is a tax-free monthly benefit paid to lowand modest-income families with children. The program was implemented in 1996, two years prior to the implementation of the NCB. In 1998, the BCFB was combined with the Canada Child Tax Benefit into a single monthly payment for families with children. The BCEIB and the BCFB are tax-free monthly benefits that make it more attractive for those on income assistance to seek work and to remain employed.

The BCFB has been reduced by a portion of increased to the NCB Supplement since 1998. Since July 2005, only a small number of large families still receive basic BCFB in addition to the NCB Supplement. The combined BCFB and NCB Supplement have increases steadily. For example, the maximum monthly benefit for a first child was \$103 in July 1998. As of July 2008, it had increased to \$168.75.

British Columbia Family Bonus (including BC Earned Income Benefit) ^a Estimated Number of Recipients 2000-2001 to 2007-2008						
2000-2001 2001-2002 2002-2003 2003-2004						
Families	205,286	204,000	194,000	203,700		
Children	370,253 364,433 368,637 348,390					
		- -	<u> </u>	_		
2004-2005 b 2005-2006 b 2006-2007 b 2007-2008 b						
Families	190,310	143,900	103,050	91,340		
Children	340,760	245,700	191,900	167,800		

a. The BC Earned Income Benefit (BCEIB) was introduced in July 1998 as an additional incentive for low-income families to seek work and remain employed. The BCEIB pays an additional monthly amount based upon the earned income that a family receives from working.

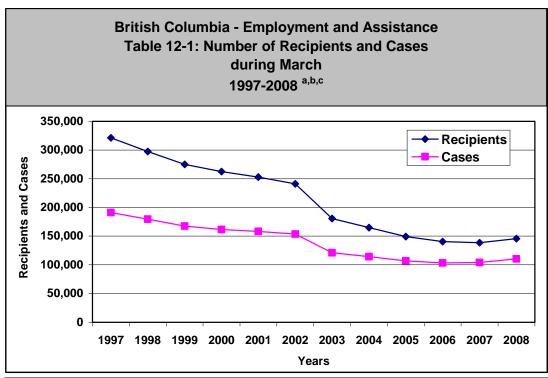
More Information

For more information, please consult the British Columbia Ministry of Social Development Web site at: www.gov.bc.ca/hsd/index.html.

b. As of 2004-2005, the number of families and children benefiting from the BC Family Bonus starts to decline as a result of the full offset of the BC Family Bonus for most families with one child.

STATISTICS

Recipients and Cases



	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002 d
Recipients	321,300	297,400	275,200	262,400	252,900	241,200
Cases	191,200	179,700	167,700	161,600	158,400	153,700
	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
Recipients	180,700	165,000	149,300	140,500	138,700	145,700
Cases	121,100	114,300	106,800	103,400	104,300	110,500

a. Cases and recipients include: basic or temporary assistance, hardship assistance, age 60-64, children in home of relative (CIHR), persons with disability (Handicapped or Disability Benefits II), persons with persistent multiple barriers (Unemployable or Disability Benefits I), and seniors in receipt of basic assistance.

b. No transients are included in data.

c. Data represents all actual cases active during the month of March.

d. Employment and Assistance (EA) replaced BC Benefits (Income Assistance) in 2002.

Cases by Reason for Assistance

British Columbia - Employment and Assistance Table 12-2: Number and Percentage of Cases by Reason for Assistance during March 2008					
Reason for Assistance #					
Expected to work ^a	21,400	19%			
Temporarily excused from working b	11,700	11%			
Child in the home of a relative c	4,700	4%			
Persons with disabilities d 65,900 60%					
Persistent multiple barriers ^e 7,000 6%					
Total	110,500	100%			

- a. Includes EA recipients who are expected to search for and accept employment. It also includes persons who are expected to work with a temporary medical condition.
- b. Includes single parents with children under age 3 years or who are caring for a child with a physical or mental condition, seniors over age 64 years, persons in a special care facility or hospital, participating in drug or alcohol treatment, recently separated from an abusive spouse/relative, caring for a spouse with a physical or mental condition, or who do not meet landed immigrant requirements.
- c. Benefit paid under EA to a relative who is taking care of a child where the parents are unable to provide the financial contributions required for the child's support and shelter needs.
- d. Refers to cases which include a person 18 years of age or over with a severe mental or physical impairment, which restricts the person's ability to perform daily living activities. The person must require an assistive device, the help or supervision of another person, or the services of an assistance animal to perform daily living activities.
- e. Includes EA recipients who have barriers that seriously impede their ability to work. Their medical condition must have existed for at least one year and be expected to continue for at least two more years. They are excused from working.

Note: Totals may not add due to rounding.

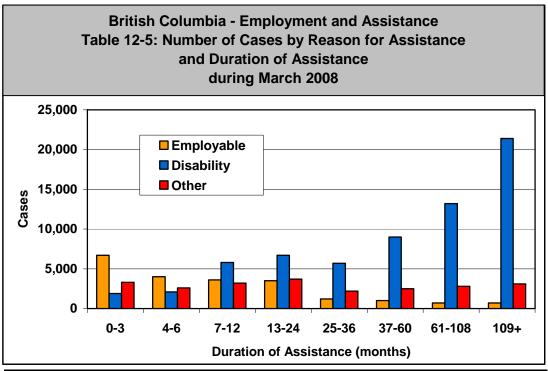
Recipients by Family Type

British Columbia - Employment and Assistance Table 12-3: Number and Percentage of Recipients by Family Type during March 2008					
Family Type	#				
Adults - Single	84,800	58%			
Adults - Couple, no dependants	7,900	5%			
Adults - Single parent	14,600	10%			
Adults - Couple with dependants	5,000	3%			
Total Adults	112,300				
Children - Single parent	23,600	16%			
Children - Couple with dependants	5,100	4%			
Children in the Home of a Relative	4,700	3%			
Total Children (23%) 33,400					
Total Recipients 145,700 100%					
Note: Totals may not add due to rounding.					

Cases by Age of Head

British Columbia - Employment and Assistance Table 12-4: Number of Cases by Age of Head during March 2008			
Age of Head	#		
<20	6,600		
20-24	8,800		
25-29	9,700		
30-34	9,600		
35-39	11,500		
40-44	13,900		
45-49	15,600		
50-54	14,200		
55-59	11,600		
60-64	8,300		
65+	900		
Total	110,500		
Note: Totals may not added due to rounding.			

Cases by Reason for Assistance and Duration of Assistance



Duration of Assistance ^a (months)	Employable ^b	Disability ^c	Other ^d	Total
0-3 months	6,700	1,900	3,300	11,900
4-6 months	4,000	2,100	2,600	8,700
7-12 months	3,600	5,800	3,200	12,600
13-24 months	3,500	6,700	3,700	13,900
25-36 months	1,200	5,700	2,200	9,100
37-60 months	1,000	9,000	2,500	12,500
61-108 months	700	13,200	2,800	16,700
109+ months	700	21,400	3,100	25,200
Total	21,400	65,900	23,300	110,500

a. "Duration of Assistance" measures length of current spell only.

Note: Totals may not added due to rounding.

b. "Employable" includes cases that are expected to work.

c. "Disability" includes cases with persons with disabilities.

d. "Other" includes children living in the home of relatives, cases with persistent multiple barriers and cases temporarily excused from working.



Chapter 13 - Yukon

Social Assistance

In the Yukon, the territorial social assistance program is known as Social Assistance (SA). The *Social Assistance Act* and the Social Assistance Regulations govern the Yukon's Social Assistance program.

The Social Assistance program provides basic benefits and supplementary benefits to both eligible adults and children.

Service Delivery

The Department of Health and Social Services is responsible for the delivery of the Social Assistance program to adults and children within the territory.

Eligibility

General

In order to be eligible for the Social Assistance program, applicants must meet the general eligibility requirements outlined in the "Social Assistance Overview" in this report.

Liquid Assets

At the time of application, applicants' liquid assets may not exceed the following allowable limits.

	Yukon - Liquid Asset Exemptions March 2008				
	Clients without Disabilities	Clients with Disabilities			
Single	\$500	\$1,500			
Family	\$1,000 (for a family unit of 2) plus \$300 for each additional dependant.	\$2,500 (2 or more persons)			
		An additional exemption up to \$1,500 for each person deemed permanently excluded from the labour force or a single parent or a dependent child under the age of 19 where such an amount has been placed irrevocably in trust for his or their future funeral or burial expenses or education.			

Earnings Exemptions

Once an application for assistance has been approved, Social Assistance clients are eligible for the following monthly exemptions on earned income:

Yukon - Earnings Exemptions March 2008			
	\$100 of all income plus 25% of earned income, after the third consecutive month of receiving assistance.		
	\$150 of all income plus 25% of earned income, after the third consecutive month of receiving assistance.		

Benefits

Basic assistance consists of a basic allowance and a shelter allowance. The basic allowance covers the cost of food, clothing, and personal and household items. The maximum basic assistance rates are based on the household's size, its composition, and its geographical location.²⁸ Maximum shelter allowance rates are based on the number of persons in the household (including children).

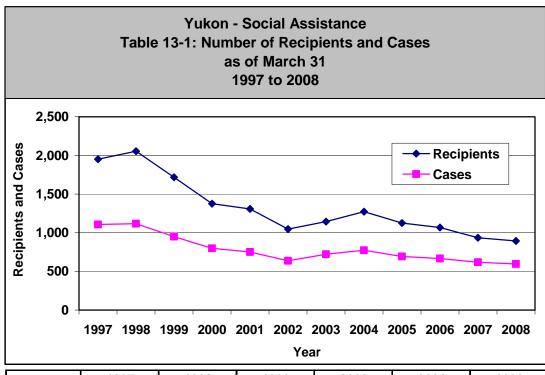
More Information

For more information, please consult the Yukon's Department of Health and Social Services Web site at: www.hss.gov.yk.ca/index.php.

²⁸ The amount of financial assistance that a family is entitled to receive is linked to a three-tier scale based on location. Tier 1 encompasses Whitehorse, while Tiers 2 and 3 include Dawson City, Mayo, Carcross, Carmacks, and Old Crow.

STATISTICS

Recipients and Cases



	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002
Recipients	1,952	2,055	1,717	1,376	1,308	1,048
Cases	1,108	1,117	949	798	751	637
	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
Recipients	1,144	1,272	1,126	1,067	936	895

Cases by Reason for Assistance

Yukon - Social Assistance Table 13-2: Number and Percentage of Cases by Reason for Assistance as of March 31, 2008					
Reason for Assistance #					
Employable	296	50%			
Physical Illness/Disability	107	18%			
Mental Illness	33	6%			
Developmental Disability	31	5%			
Over 60	68	11%			
Children ^a	32	5%			
Unsuitable for employment	28	5%			
Total 595 100%					

a. Children: applicants receiving SA (exempt from seeking employment) for reasons of taking care of one or more of his or her own children under the age of 6 years, or children of any age with a severe disability.

Recipients by Family Type

Yukon - Social Assistance Table 13-3: Number and Percentage of Recipients by Family Type as of March 31, 2008					
Family Type #					
Adults - Single	428	48%			
Adults - Couple, no dependants	50	6%			
Adults - Single parent	114	13%			
Adults - Couple with dependants	56	6%			
Total Adults	648				
Children - Single parent	194	22%			
Children - Couple with dependants	53	6%			
Total Children (28%)	Total Children (28%) 247				
Total Recipients	895	100%			

Cases by Age of Head

Yukon - Social Assistance Table 13-4: Number of Cases by Age of Head as of March 31, 2008					
Age of Head #					
15-19	20				
20-29	116				
30-39	89				
40-49	156				
50-59	146				
60-64	58				
65+	10				
Total	595				

Cases by Education of Head

Yukon - Social Assistance Table 13-5: Number and Percentage of Cases by Education of Head as of March 31, 2008						
Education of Head #						
< Grade 6	21	4%				
Grade 7-9	95	16%				
Grade 10-11	194	33%				
Grade 12 175 29						
Other ^a	91	15%				
Unknown	19	3%				
Total	595	100%				
Company Includes Chariel Education Destin Apprentias Journal man Contificate Destin Tech Contificate / Destin						

a. Other: Includes Special Education, Partial Apprentice, Journeyman Certificate, Partial Tech Certificate/Partial College Diploma, Tech Certificate/College Diploma, Partial University, University/Professional Graduate.

Cases Reporting Income by Source of Income

Yukon - Social Assistance Table 13-6: Number and Percentage of Cases Reporting Income, by Source of Income, as of March 31, 2008					
Source of Income #					
Employment	78	38%			
Government transfers	97	47%			
Support payments	21	10%			
Employment Insurance 5 2%					
Other ^a 6 3%					
Total ^b (includes double-counting) 207 100%					

a. Other includes: training allowances (non-government), pensions (other than universal government pensions), rental income, and other sources of income not mentioned above.

b. Total cases in these categories may include double-counting, since cases that have more than one source of income are counted for each source reported. Percentages were calculated based on 207 observations.

Yukon - Social Assistance Table 13-7: Number of Cases Reporting Income as of March 31, 2008				
Reporting Income 207				
No Income 388				
Total	595			



Chapter 14 - Northwest Territories

Income Assistance

In the Northwest Territories, the territorial social assistance program is known as Income Assistance (IA). The *Social Assistance Act* and the Income Assistance Regulations²⁹ govern the Northwest Territories' Income Assistance program.

The Income Assistance program provides basic and enhanced benefits to both adults and children.

Service Delivery

The Department of Education, Culture, and Employment is responsible for the delivery of the Income Assistance program to adults and children within the territory.

Eligibility

General

In order to be eligible for the Income Assistance program, applicants must meet the general eligibility requirements outlined in the "Social Assistance Overview" in this report.

Assets

At the time of application, applicants' current assets may not exceed the following allowable limits. Persons with disabilities are entitled to retain \$5,000. Aged persons are also entitled to retain \$5,000. For all other applicants, all assets are reviewed and may be included in the calculation of eligibility.

Earnings Exemptions

Once an application for assistance has been approved, Income Assistance clients are eligible for the following monthly exemptions on earned income:

²⁹ The Social Assistance Regulations was renamed to the Income Assistance Regulations in 2007.

Northwest Territories - Earnings Exemptions March 2008							
	Clients without Disabilities Clients with Disabilities						
Single	\$200 plus 15% of any earned	\$200 plus 15% of any earned					
income in excess. income in excess.							
Family \$400 plus 15% of any earned \$400 plus 15% of		\$400 plus 15% of any earned					
	income in excess.	income in excess.					

Benefits

Basic assistance consists of allowances for food, room and board or accommodations, utilities and fuel. The basic allowance rates are based on the family's size and its geographical location. Room and board or accommodation allowance rates are based on an applicant's eligibility, family size and what is available in the community. The actual amount of fuel and utilities is paid.

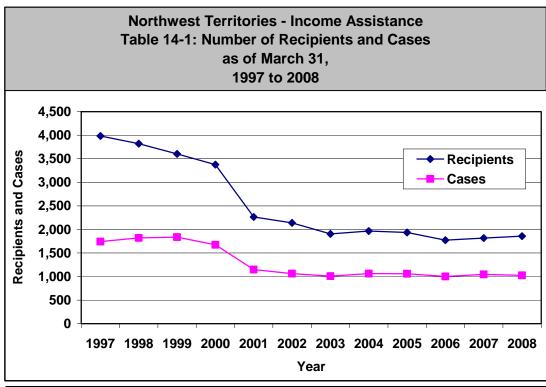
An enhanced benefit is also available for persons with disabilities, seniors and to applicants who participate in a program, such as employment or volunteering. The enhanced benefit provides allowances for clothing, furnishings, security deposits, emergencies and day care.

More Information

For more information, please consult the Northwest Territories Department of Education, Culture, and Employment Web site at: www.ece.gov.nt.ca.

STATISTICS

Recipients and Cases



	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002
Recipients	3,985	3,820	3,604	3,376	2,266	2,140
Cases	1,743	1,820	1,837	1,675	1,148	1,064
	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
Recipients	2003 1,904	2004 1,965	2005 1,937	2006 1,773	2007 1,817	2008 1,859

Cases by Reason for Assistance

Northwest Territories - Income Assistance Table 14-2: Number and Percentage of Cases by Reason for Assistance as of March 31, 2008					
Reason for Assistance #					
Employment 178 17%					
Disability	359	35%			
Other	490	48%			
Total 1,027 100%					

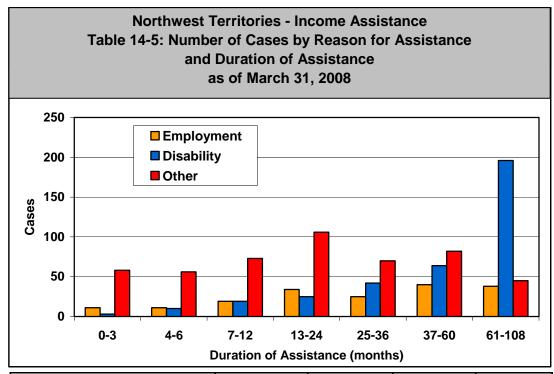
Recipients by Family Type

Northwest Territories - Income Assistance Table 14-3: Number and Percentage of Recipients by Family Type as of March 31, 2008			
Family Type	#		
Adults - Single	658	35%	
Adults - Couple, no dependants	106	6%	
Adults - Single parent	241	13%	
Adults - Couple with dependants	186	10%	
Total Adults	1,191		
Children - Single parent	464	25%	
Children - Couple with dependants	204	11%	
Total Children (36%)	668		
Total Recipients	1,859	100%	

Cases by Age of Head

Northwest Territories - Income Assistance Table 14-4: Number of Cases by Age of Head as of March 31, 2008		
Age of Head	#	
<20	33	
20-24	182	
25-29	128	
30-34	94	
35-39	112	
40-44	105	
45-49	86	
50-54	89	
55-59	93	
60-64	91	
65+	14	
Total	1,027	

Cases by Reason for Assistance and Duration of Assistance



Duration of Assistance ^a				
(months)	Employment	Disability	Other	Total
0-3	11	3	58	72
4-6	11	10	56	77
7-12	19	19	73	111
13-24	34	25	106	165
25-36	25	42	70	137
37-60	40	64	82	186
61-108	38	196	45	279
Total	178	359	490	1,027
a. "Duration of Assistance" measures length	as of March 2008.			

Cases Reporting Income by Source of Income

Northwest Territories - Income Assistance Table 14-6: Number and Percentage of Cases Reporting Income, by Source of Income, as of March 31, 2008 Source of Income # 182 25% Employment Government transfers 440 61% Support payments 3% 18 **Employment Insurance** 1% 8 71 10% Other a 719 100% **Total** b (includes double-counting)

b. Total cases in these categories may include double-counting, since cases that have more than one source of income are counted for each source reported. Percentage were calculated based on 719 observations.

Northwest Territories - Income Assistance Table 14-7: Number of Cases Reporting Income as of March 31, 2008	
Reporting Income	532
No Income 495	
Total	1,027

a. Other includes: training allowances.



Chapter 15 - Nunavut

Income Support

In Nunavut, the territorial social assistance program is known as Income Support. The *Social Assistance Act* and the Social Assistance Regulations govern Nunavut's Income Support program.

The Income Support program provides basic and extended benefits to eligible heads of households and their dependants.

Service Delivery

The Department of Education is responsible for the delivery of the Income Support program within the territory.

Eligibility

General

In order to be eligible for the Income Support program, applicants must meet the general eligibility requirements outlined in the "Social Assistance Overview" in this report.

Assets

At the time of application, applicants' assets may not exceed the following allowable limits. Persons with disabilities are entitled to retain \$5,000. Aged persons are also entitled to retain \$5,000.

Earnings Exemptions

Once an application for assistance has been approved, Income Support clients are eligible for the following monthly exemptions on earned income:

Nunavut - Earnings Exemptions March 2008			
	Clients without Disabilities	Clients with Disabilities	
Single	\$200	\$200	
Family	\$400	\$400	

Benefits

Income Support consists of basic benefits and extended benefits. The basic benefits cover the cost of food, shelter, and utilities. The food allowance component of basic benefits may be used to purchase personal and/or household items. The food allowance rates are based on family size and geographic location. Maximum shelter allowance rates are based on an applicant's eligibility, family size and what is available in the community. Established approval levels are required for rents that are in excess of \$2,500. The actual cost of fuel and utilities is paid.

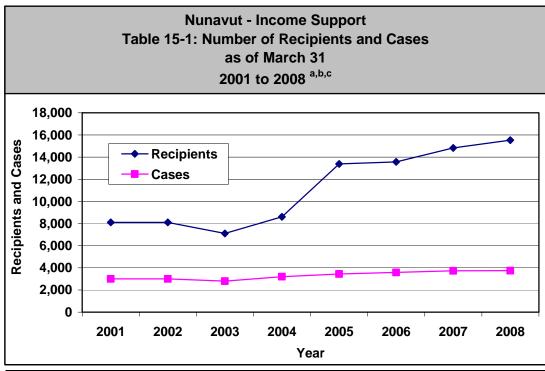
An extended benefit is also available for persons with disabilities, seniors and applicants who participate in a program, such as employment, education/training or volunteering. The extended benefit provides allowances for clothing, furnishings, security deposits, emergencies and day care.

More Information

For more information, please consult Nunavut's Department of Education, Web site at: www.edu.gov.nu.ca.

STATISTICS

Recipients and Cases



	2001	2002	2003	2004
Recipients	8,100	8,100	7,100	8,600
Cases	3,000	3,000	2,800	3,200
	2005	2006	2007	2008
Recipients	13,380	13,562	14,820	15,523
Cases	3,440	3,594	3,725	3,740

a. Nunavut is still operating without an electronic case management information system, and therefore unable to provide detailed profile data.

b. Number of recipients from 2001 to 2004, represents the number of recipients as of March 31.

c. Number of recipients from 2005 to 2008, represents the total number of recipients estimated during the year.

Chapter 3 – N	ewfoundland and Labrador	
Table 3-1:	Number of Recipients and Cases, as of March 31, 1997 to 2008	16
Table 3-2:	Number and Percentage of Cases by Reason for Assistance, as of March 31, 2008	17
Table 3-3:	Number and Percentage of Recipients by Family Type, as of March 31, 2008	17
Table 3-4:	Number of Cases by Age of Head, as of March 31, 2008	18
Table 3-5:	Number and Percentage of Cases by Education of Head, as of March 31, 2008	18
Table 3-6:	Number and Percentage of Cases Reporting Income, by Source of Income, as of March 31, 2008	19
Table 3-7:	Number of Cases Reporting Income, as of March 31, 2008	19
Chapter 4 – P	rince Edward Island	
Table 4-1:	Number of Recipients and Cases, as of March 31, 1997 to 2008	24
Table 4-2:	Number and Percentage of Cases by Reason for Assistance, as of March 31, 2008	25
Table 4-3:	Number and Percentage of Recipients by Family Type, as of March 31, 2008	25
Table 4-4:	Number of Cases by Age of Head, as of March 31, 2008	26
Table 4-5:	Number and Percentage of Cases by Education of Head, as of March 31, 2008	26
Table 4-6:	Number of Cases by Reason for Assistance and Duration of Assistance, as of March 31, 2008	27
Table 4-7:	Number and Percentage of Cases Reporting Income, by Source of Income, as of March 31, 2008	28
Table 4-8:	Number of Cases Reporting Income, as of March 31, 2008	28
Chapter 5 – N	ova Scotia	
Table 5-1:	Number of Recipients and Cases, as of March 31, 1997 to 2008	32
Table 5-2:	Number and Percentage of Cases by Reason for Assistance, as of March 31, 2008	33
Table 5-3:	Number and Percentage of Recipients by Family Type, as of March 31, 2008	33
Table 5-4:	Number of Cases by Age of Head, as of March 31, 2008	34
Table 5-5:	Number and Percentage of Cases Reporting Income, by Source	35
Table 5-6:	of Income, as of March 31, 2008 Number of Cases Reporting Income, as of March 31, 2008	35
	3,	
Chapter 6		
	ck – Transitional Assistance Program	
Table 6a-1:	Number of Recipients and Cases, as of March 31, 1997 to 2008	40
Table 6a-2:	Number and Percentage of Recipients by Family Type, as of March 31, 2008	41
Table 6a-3:	Number of Cases by Age of Head, as of March 31, 2008	41
Table 6a-4:	Number and Percentage of Cases Reporting Income, by Source of Income, as of March 31, 2008	42
New Brunswi	ck – Extended Benefits Program	
Table 6b-1:	Number of Recipients and Cases, as of March 31, 1997 to 2008	43
Table 6b-2:	Number and Percentage of Recipients by Family Type, as of March 31, 2008	44
Table 6b-3:	Number of Cases by Age of Head, as of March 31, 2008	44

Table 6b-4:	Number and Percentage of Cases Reporting Income, by Source of Income, as of March 31, 2008	45
New Brunswick	- Interim Assistance Program	
Table 6c-1:	Number of Recipients and Cases, as of March 31, 1997 to 2008	46
Table 6c-2:	Number and Percentage of Recipients by Family Type, as of March 31, 2008	47
Table 6c-3:	Number of Cases by Age of Head, as of March 31, 2008	47
Table 6c-4:	Number and Percentage of Cases Reporting Income, by Source of Income, as of March 31, 2008	48
Chapter 7 – Que	ebec	
Table 7-1:	Number of Recipients and Cases, as of March 31, 1997 to 2008	54
Table 7-2:	Number and Percentage of Cases by Type of Benefits, as of March 31, 2008	55
Table 7-3:	Number and Percentage of Recipients by Family Type, as of March 31, 2008	55
Table 7-4:	Number of Cases by Age of Head, as of March 31, 2008	56
Table 7-5:	Number and Percentage of Cases by Education of Head, as of March 31, 2008	56
Table 7-6:	Number of Cases by Family Type and Duration of Assistance, as of March 31, 2008	57
Table 7-7:	Number and Percentage of Cases Reporting Income, by Source of Income, as of March 31, 2008	58
Table 7-8:	Number of Cases Reporting Income, as of March 31, 2008	58
Chapter 8	: a Waylea	
Ontario – Ontar Table 8a-1:		62
Table 8a-2:	Number of Recipients and Cases, as of March 31, 1999 to 2008 Number and Percentage of Recipients by Family Type, as of	63
T	March 31, 2008	
Table 8a-3:	Number of Cases by Age of Head, as of March 31, 2008	63
Table 8a-4:	Number and Percentage of Cases by Education of Head, as of March 31, 2008	64
Table 8a-5:	Number of Cases by Family Type and Duration of Assistance, as	G E
	of March 31, 2008	65
	io Disability Support Program	
Table 8b-1:	Number of Recipients and Cases, as of March 31, 1999 to 2008	70
Table 8b-2:	Number and Percentage of Cases by Reason for Assistance, as of March 31, 2008	71
Table 8b-3:	Number and Percentage of Recipients by Family Type, as of March 31, 2008	71
Table 8b-4:	Number of Cases by Age of Head, as of March 31, 2008	72
Table 8b-5:	Number and Percentage of Cases by Education of Head, as of March 31, 2008	72
Table 8b-6:	Number of Cases by Reason for Assistance and Duration of Assistance, as of March 31, 2008	73
Chapter 9 - Mar		
Table 9-1:	Number of Recipients and Cases, as of March 31, 1997 to 2008	77
Table 9-2:	Number and Percentage of Cases by Reason for Assistance, as of March 31, 2008	78
Table 9-3:	Number and Percentage of Recipients by Family Type, as of March 31, 2008	78
Table 9-4:	Number of Cases by Age of Head, as of March 31, 2008	79

Table 9-5:	Number of Cases by Reason for Assistance and Duration of Assistance, as of March 31, 2008	80
Table 9-6:	Number and Percentage of Cases Reporting Income, by Source	
Table 9-0.	of Income, as of March 31, 2008	81
Table 9-7:	Number of Cases Reporting Income, as of March 31, 2008	81
Table 5-1.	Number of Cases Reporting Income, as of March 51, 2000	01
Chapter 10 – Sa	askatchewan	
Table 10-1:	Number of Recipients and Cases, as of March 31, 1997 to 2008	86
Table 10-2:	Number and Percentage of Cases by Reason for Assistance, as	
	of March 31, 2008	87
Table 10-3:	Number and Percentage of Recipients by Family Type, as of	87
	March 31, 2008	07
Table 10-4:	Number of Cases by Age of Head, as of March 31, 2008	88
Table 10-5:	Number and Percentage of Cases by Education of Head, as of	88
	March 31, 2008	00
Table 10-6:	Number of Cases by Reason for Assistance and Duration of	89
	Assistance, as of March 31, 2008	00
Table 10-7:	Number and Percentage of Cases Reporting Income, by Source	90
T	of Income, as of March 31, 2008	
Table 10-8:	Number of Cases Reporting Income, as of March 31, 2008	90
Chapter 11		
	ta Works - Income Support	
Table 11a-1:	Number of Recipients and Cases, as of March 31, 1997 to 2008	94
Table 11a-2:	Number and Percentage of Cases by Reason for Assistance, as	
	of March 31, 2008	95
Table 11a-3:	Number and Percentage of Recipients by Family Type, as of	95
	March 31, 2008	
Table 11a-4:	Number of Cases by Age of Head, as of March 31, 2008	96
Table 11a-5:	Number and Percentage of Cases by Education of Head, as of	96
-	March 31, 2008	
Table 11a-6:	Number of Cases by Reason for Assistance and Duration of	97
Table 11a-7:	Assistance, as of March 31, 2008	
Table TTa-7.	Number and Percentage of Cases Reporting Income, by Source of Income, as of March 31, 2008	98
Table 11a-8:	Number of Cases Reporting Income, as of March 31, 2008	98
Table TTa 6.	Trumber of Guses reporting mosmo, as of materior, 2000	50
Alberta – Assui	red Income for the Severely Handicapped	
Table 11b-1:	Number of Recipients, as of March 31, 1997 to 2008	102
Table 11b-2:	Number and Percentage of Recipients by Medical Condition, as	103
	of March 31, 2008	103
Table 11b-3:	Number and Percentage of Recipients by Family Type, as of	103
	March 31, 2008	
Table 11b-4:	Number of Recipients by Age, as of March 31, 2008	104
Table 11b-5:	Number and Percentage of Recipients by Education, as of	104
Table 445 C	March 31, 2008	
Table 11b-6:	Number and Percentage of Recipients Reporting Income, by	105
Toble 11h 7:	Source of Income, as of March 31, 2008	105
Table 11b-7:	Number of Recipients Reporting Income, as of March 31, 2008	105
Chapter 12 – Bi	ritish Columbia	
Table 12-1:	Number of Recipients and Cases, during March 1997 to 2008	110
Table 12-2:	Number and Percentage of Cases by Reason for Assistance,	
	during March 2008	111
Table 12-3:	Number and Percentage of Recipients by Family Type during	111
	March 2008	111

Table 12-4:	Number of Cases by Age of Head during March 2008	112
Table 12-5:	Number of Cases by Reason for Assistance and Duration of Assistance during March 2008	113
Chapter 13 –	Yukon	
Table 13-1:	Number of Recipients and Cases, as of March 31, 1997 to 2008	117
Table 13-2:	Number and Percentage of Cases by Reason for Assistance, as of March 31, 2008	118
Table 13-3:	Number and Percentage of Recipients by Family Type, as of March 31, 2008	118
Table 13-4:	Number of Cases by Age of Head, as of March 31, 2008	119
Table 13-5:	Number and Percentage of Cases by Education of Head, as of March 31, 2008	119
Table 13-6:	Number and Percentage of Cases Reporting Income, by Source of Income, as of March 31, 2008	120
Table 13-7:	Number of Cases Reporting Income, as of March 31, 2008	120
Chapter 14 –	Northwest Territories	
Table 14-1:	Number of Recipients and Cases, as of March 31, 1997 to 2008	123
Table 14-2:	Number and Percentage of Cases by Reason for Assistance, as of March 31, 2008	124
Table 14-3:	Number and Percentage of Recipients by Family Type, as of March 31, 2008	124
Table 14-4:	Number of Cases by Age of Head, as of March 31, 2008	125
Table 14-5:	Number of Cases by Reason for Assistance and Duration of Assistance, as of March 31, 2008	126
Table 14-6:	Number and Percentage of Cases Reporting Income, by Source of Income, as of March 31, 2008	127
Table 14-7:	Number of Cases Reporting Income, as of March 31, 2008	127
Chapter 15 –	Nunavut	
Table 15-1:	Number of Recipients and Cases, as of March 31, 2001 to 2008	131