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Social Policy

First Comprehensive Review of the Market Basket Measure of Low Income

Final Report

Michael Hatfield, Human Resources and Skills Development Canada
Wendy Pyper, Statistics Canada
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June 2010

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First Comprehensive Review of the Market Basket Measure of Low Income

Background

The Market Basket Measure of low income (MBM) was designed by a working group of Federal, Provincial and Territorial officials between 1997 and 1999 at the request of the Federal, Provincial and Territorial Ministers responsible for Social Services. Its initial purpose was to complement the existing Statistics Canada measures of low income, the Low Income Cut-offs (LICOs) and the Low Income Measure (LIM) in monitoring the impact of the National Child Benefit and associated programs on the incidence, depth and persistence of low income among children. However, it was developed as a low income measure for all age groups.

The “value added” of the MBM was to provide a more intuitive and transparent measure of low income based on a basket of goods and services representing a modest, basic standard of living (food, shelter, clothing, footwear, transportation and other common expense such as personal care, household needs, furniture, basic telephone service, school supplies and modest levels of reading material, recreation and entertainment). Its purpose was to measure the cost of this basket for a reference family of one male and one female adult aged 25-49 with two children (a girl aged 9 and a boy aged 13) in 48 geographical areas within the ten Provinces (a 49th region was added retroactive to 2005 as part of the current review). The MBM also provided a measure more sensitive to regional differences in living costs, particularly for shelter and transportation, than the LICOs and the LIM.

The intention at the time of the creation of the MBM was that the content of the basket and its definition of disposable income would be reviewed once several years of data had been collected using the original measure. This was necessary to ensure that it continued to embody a modest, basic standard of living within the current Canadian context. Following this initial comprehensive review, it was expected that the content of the basket and its definition of disposable income would be reviewed periodically.

Following the release of the fourth report based on MBM data in December 2008 covering the years from 2000 to 2006 it was determined that sufficient experience with the original measure had been obtained to undertake the first comprehensive review of the measure during 2009 and early 2010. Human Resources and Skills Development Canada (HRSDC) joined with Statistics Canada to carry out the review.

The Purpose of the Review

The purpose of the review is to ensure that the MBM, to the extent feasible, meets the following three criteria:

- 1) that the MBM “basket” continues to embody a modest basic standard of living in the Canadian context of 2010;
- 2) that the cost of purchasing this standard of living in specific geographical regions within the ten Provinces is estimated as precisely as possible; and
- 3) that the measure takes into account as fully as possible the resources available to households to purchase the content of the ‘basket.’”

Possible changes to the content of the MBM basket and to its definition of disposable income were subjected to the following four tests:

- 1) Is the change necessary to meet at least one of the three criteria referred to above?
- 2) Will the change significantly improve the quality and precision of the measure?
- 3) Will it be feasible to implement the change?
- 4) Is the change consistent in concept with the current goals and methodology of the measure and can it be implemented in such a way as to ensure historical continuity between past and future results using the measure?

Types of Changes Considered

Four types of changes were considered to the measure –

- 1) changes in the content of the components of the basket (food, clothing and footwear, shelter, transportation and other necessary goods and services);
- 2) changes in the calculation of the cost of the components of the basket;
- 3) changes in the calculation of the disposable income available to purchase the goods and services in the basket; and
- 4) changes in the boundaries of 49 geographical regions where the cost of the basket is estimated.

Decision rule for inclusion of items in the MBM basket

A decision rule was developed during the review process (described in further detail below) for the addition of items to the MBM basket. Final decision-making authority rests with HRSDC, and the decision rule has two components:

- 1) the numerical standard for including new items in the basket is that 70% of reference families nationally and in seven of the ten Provinces with at least two-thirds of the national population had expenditures on the item in question; and

- 2) items considered for inclusion must also meet the test that they contribute to social and economic inclusion and to a modest but basic standard of living in contemporary Canadian society in a way not accounted for in the current basket.

The Review Process

The Review Process occurred over the following four stages:

- 1) Consultation between HRSDC and Statistics Canada on issues identified in the creation of the measure and in the eight years of data collection and analysis using the measure;
- 2) Consultation between HRSDC and Statistics Canada with officials from all 13 Provincial and Territorial governments. Provincial and Territorial officials with an interest or expertise in low-income measurement from a policy and/or statistical perspective met in Ottawa on January 28th, 2009, to discuss proposed changes to the measure identified in Stage One and to consider issues raised by Provinces and Territories;
- 3) Consultation between HRSDC and Statistics Canada with other federal government departments and agencies¹ on July 9th, 2009 in Gatineau, Québec to discuss issues identified in Stages One and Two and to consider new proposals raised by participants; and,
- 4) Consultation between HRSDC and Statistics Canada with identified experts² in low-income measurement from outside government on August 25th and 26th, 2009, in Gatineau, Québec ensure the methodology used to update the MBM is sound.

Stage One: Initial Consultation between HRSDC and Statistics Canada

The following changes in the content of the basket were identified for consideration by HRSDC and Statistics Canada drawing on comments by users of the current measure since its initial development and reflecting developments affecting the food and transportation components of the basket:

¹ Departments and agencies represented included Indian and Northern Affairs Canada, Status of Women Canada, Citizenship and Immigration Canada, the Privy Council Office, Finance Canada, Health Canada, Public Health Canada, the Rural Secretariat of Agriculture and Food Canada, Public Safety, Treasury Board, the Policy Research Initiative, Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation, the Office of Disability Issues, the Homelessness Partnering Strategy, the Income Security and Social Development Branch, the Knowledge and Data Management Directorate and the Strategic Policy and Research Branch of HRSDC and the Income Statistics Branch of Statistics Canada.

² The experts were Charles Beach of the Department of Economics at Queen's University, Miles Corak of the Graduate School of Public and International Affairs at the University of Ottawa and formerly of Statistics Canada; Jean-Yves Duclos of the Department of Economics at Laval University and the Editor-in-chief of the *Journal of Economic Inequality*; Katherine Scott of the Canadian Council on Social Development and John Stapleton of the Metcalf Foundation and formerly of the Ontario Ministry of Community and Social Services.

- 1) **The Food Component** - The replacement of the 1998 National Nutritious Food Basket by the 2008 version of the basket as developed by the Office of Nutrition Policy and Promotion at Health Canada in consultation with Provincial and Territorial nutritionists.³
- 2) **Median Rental Shelter Costs** - Shelter costs for the MBM are currently calculated as the average of the median rental shelter costs of all two and three-bedroom units (excluding those with zero rents, those in need of major repairs and those where the rental unit is not a collective dwelling) in each geographical area.

Rental shelter costs include the cost of utilities such as water, heat and electricity and the following amenities: a refrigerator, a stove and the use of a washer and dryer.

Three options were proposed : a) maintain the current method; b) use the actual distribution of two and three-bedroom units in each geographic region instead of assuming that half of renting two-adult, two-child families use each type and c) use **half** of the median of combined owned and rented shelter costs in each geographic region.

- 3) **The Transportation Component** - Three distinct issues were identified for consideration for this component of the basket:
 - First, the five-year old Chevrolet Cavalier, the four- passenger used car currently used as a key element of this component of the basket for areas not served by public transit is no longer manufactured by General Motors. A new vehicle would need to be identified.
 - Second, it was proposed that the current standard of having only one of the adults in the reference family being licensed to operate the vehicle be replaced by one where both adults would be licensed to drive the vehicle. The implications of this change on insurance costs would also need to be considered.
 - Third, the Charlottetown metropolitan area did not have a public transit system at the time of the development of the original MBM. However, it has gradually developed such a system over the past few years. Including Charlottetown as an area served by public transit (when the system fully served the metropolitan area) should be considered.
- 4) **The “Other” Component** - Computer and Internet Services- In 1999, computer and internet services were used by fewer than half of reference families in Canada and were not included in the “Other” component of the original MBM basket. Users of the measure have suggested that, given the much more widespread use of these

³ No changes were proposed to the Clothing and Footwear component of the basket since this component of the basket had already been subjected to a thorough review in 2004 by officials in the prices division of Statistics Canada and officials from HRSDC. Changes to this component were implemented with the 2005 round of data collection and analysis has indicated that they appropriately reflect a standard of consumption for these goods consistent with the intent of the MBM measure.

services since 1999 and their contribution to family well-being, this decision should be reconsidered.

It was determined that a rule should be established for the inclusion of new items in the basket. HRSDC and Statistics Canada agreed that goods and services should be considered for inclusion in the year when they were used by a substantial majority of reference families in at least two-thirds of the Provinces with at least two-thirds of the national population.⁴

Changes considered in the calculation of disposable income were:

- 1) **Homeowners without mortgages** - It was noted that many two adult, two-child families in the lower end of the income distribution in some parts of the country lived in owned rather than rental housing and that in many cases the mortgage had already been paid on this housing. Such families are likely to have lower shelter costs than those attributed to them under the current formula. In Stage One of the review, no specific adjustment was proposed to deal with this issue. But it was highlighted for discussion in the various stages of the consultation process.
- 2) **Tenants in rent-geared-to-income housing** - It was noted that a significant minority of renting two-adult, two-child families resided in rent-geared-to-income housing. That is, their rent is capped at a fixed percentage of their income. Shelter costs for these families would likely be below those estimated using the current MBM formula for rental shelter costs. It was proposed to investigate the feasibility of adding the difference between actual and estimated rental shelter costs to disposable income to take account of the greater ability of such families to purchase the goods and services in the MBM basket.
- 3) **Financial supports for students living outside the parental residence** - Many students living on their own receive significant financial support from their parents through the payment of their tuition and/or housing costs. Questions were introduced into the Survey of Labour and Income Dynamics (SLID) questionnaire in 2006 to attempt to determine the level of this support. It was proposed to evaluate the data quality of this information to determine if reliable estimates could be generated of the impact of parental financial support on the ability of student families to purchase the goods and services in the MBM basket.

Stage Two - Results of Consultation with Provincial and Territorial Officials – January 28, 2009

To begin the discussion, HRSDC sought Provincial and Territorial concurrence on several general points. Officials agreed that:

⁴ This is the requirement for approval for changes to the Canada Pension Plan (that is, in addition to the federal government, two-thirds of the provincial governments with at least two-thirds of the population must approve of the change for it to take effect).

- the MBM is a measure of low income based on a basket of goods and services embodying a modest, basic standard of living between subsistence and social inclusion;
- the definition of disposable income used with the MBM should reflect the resources available to purchase the goods and services in the MBM basket;
- the purpose of this first comprehensive periodic review of the MBM is to assess the need to update and refresh it rather than to fundamentally redesign the measure.

With this common understanding, the discussion proceeded to several specific issues.

Tests for Proposed Changes to the MBM - It was recommended that HRSDC and Statistics Canada consider adding goods and services to the “Other” component of the basket based on whether they were used by a substantial majority (2/3 to 70% of reference families) in all regions of Canada. Candidates for inclusion must also meet the test that they contribute to social and economic inclusion and to a modest but basic standard of living in contemporary Canadian society in a way not accounted for in the current basket. The final decision will rest with HRSDC based on consultation.

The Content of the Basket

Computer services and access to the Internet - Provided they meet the tests proposed for adding goods and services to the “Other” component of the basket it was agreed that computer services and access to the internet be added to this component. The date of inclusion should be set in the year these services first passed the 70%/two-thirds threshold. Some officials suggested that a standard be set for computer and internet services and that they be included as a separate component of the basket. However, the consensus was that inclusion in the broad “Other” component of the basket would better reflect ongoing shifts in the consumption of various information/entertainment products and services (e.g. from newspapers and books to internet news and entertainment services).

Replacement of the 1998 National Nutritious Food Basket by the 2008 National Nutritious Food Basket - It was generally agreed that the new National Nutritious Food Basket should be the basis of the food component of the MBM basket. However, some jurisdictions felt that the new basket did not adequately reflect food choices of visible minority, immigrant and Aboriginal Canadians and requested further consideration of this concern.

There was also discussion about the year in which this change should be implemented with the consensus that it should be 2008 if feasible. It was noted that this change would also influence the multiplier for the “Other” component of the basket.⁵ HRSDC expressed its preference that future reviews of the measure should take place once data were

⁵ The cost of the “Other” component of the basket is based on a ratio (calculated on a three-year moving average basis). The numerator of this ratio is the average expenditures on the items in this component by the second lowest income decile of the reference family. The denominator is based on average expenditures in this decile on food, clothing and footwear. This ratio is then multiplied by the combined costs of the food and clothing and footwear components of the basket in each of the 49 geographical regions to determine the cost of the “Other” component in that region.

available from each five-year Census with any updates to the National Nutritious Food Basket being made at that time.

Calculation of the Shelter Component of the Basket - There was a lengthy discussion about the appropriate size of the reference rental unit (two or three bedrooms) with a consensus for some form of a weighted average. Two options were proposed for the reference rental unit size: a) to maintain the current weighting for two and three-bedroom unit rental housing, giving equal weight to each type of unit; and b) to use the actual distribution of two and three-bedroom rental units in each region to make this calculation. One province requested a sensitivity analysis to explore the impact of using a percentage of rental shelter costs other than the median, pointing out that the median is a relative and may be a high standard, especially in jurisdictions with high average shelter costs and wide dispersion of those costs. It was suggested that renter's insurance (content insurance for tenants) be included in the shelter component. Renter's insurance did not meet the 70%/two-thirds threshold for inclusion in the MBM basket.

This discussion concluded with a request that HRSDC and Statistics Canada consider three distinct options for future calculation of the Shelter component of the MBM basket. These were a) to maintain the current formula of using the average of median rental shelter costs for the reference family; b) to use the 25th percentile of rental shelter costs in all geographic regions or in selected regions with very high rental shelter costs; and c) to use **half** the median of **combined** owned and rented shelter costs in each geographic region.

Replacing the Chevrolet Cavalier - HRSDC and Statistics Canada were advised to consider a range of four-passenger automobiles, dropping the most and least expensive models and choosing the model closest to the median price of the remaining options. There was some discussion of using trucks rather than automobiles in rural and remote regions, but this did not receive consensus support.

Identifying New Areas Served by Public Transit - It was agreed that these changes should be made when the entire area comprising the region was served by the public transit system.

Transit Passes for Children - It was agreed that the cost of a transit pass or at least a number of transit tickets be added to the transportation component in areas served by public transit systems to take into account the fact that children would need to use the system to access recreational and cultural activities included in the "Other" items component of the basket.

It was noted that school boards in some regions served by public transit did not provide free school bus service to students, requiring them to use the public transit system. However, it was agreed that it would probably not be feasible to identify to what extent this was true in each region and to calculate the resulting cost burden.

Homeowners without Mortgages - It was agreed that on a national basis most low-income households were renters and that therefore the cost of rental housing should be the main basis for assessing the cost of shelter in the basket. However, in some rural and small-town communities where homeownership without mortgages was common among reference families in the lower end of the income distribution, failure to include these families in the sample for calculating median shelter costs could distort the estimation of shelter costs. Statistics Canada was asked to investigate including the shelter costs of homeowners without mortgages when calculating the median shelter cost in each region for reference families to determine the impact of basing shelter costs on this broader sample.

Inclusion of Dental Care - It was suggested that dental services be included in the MBM basket. Expenditures on dental services and dental insurance plans are already included in the estimate of medical expenses used to calculate disposable income, therefore it is not necessary to add dental services to the MBM basket.

The Definition of Disposable Income

Renters in Rent-Geared –to-Income Units (RGI) - Statistics Canada was asked to determine the potential of data from the Survey of Labour and Income Dynamics (SLID) to identify tenants in RGI units and the feasibility of developing a method for estimating the difference between their actual rental shelter costs and those attributed to them by the current MBM formula. Should this prove feasible, the difference could be added to the disposable income of RGI households, providing a more accurate estimate of the resources available to them to purchase the goods and services in the MBM basket. It is not yet possible to make this change but RGI shelter costs will be revisited in the next MBM review.

Transfers between Parents and Students in Different Households - It was recognized that many households consisting of full-time students receive significant financial resources from their parents either in the form of direct monetary support or by having their parents pay tuition and shelter costs. Currently these transfers are not counted as income in the hands of the student households, underestimating their ability to purchase the goods and services in the MBM basket. However, questions about these transfers have only been asked on the SLID since 2006. Moreover, these questions are currently answered by individual parents rather than as a family, raising the possibility of double counting of such transfers.

Recognizing that it could take some time to obtain reliable data on these transfers, the consensus was that they should be considered as income for the receiving household, but **not** deducted from the income of the household providing the transfer unless (as is currently the practice) the transfer resulted from a legal obligation such as alimony or child support. It is not yet technically feasible to count transfers to students but this will be revisited in the next MBM review.

These considerations would also apply to the suggestion by one jurisdiction that parent-to-child transfers between persons residing inside and outside Canada also be considered under this heading.

Other Issues

New MBM Regions in Northern Canada - All three Territories as well as Provinces including Newfoundland and Labrador (Labrador), Quebec, Ontario, Manitoba, Saskatchewan, Alberta and British Columbia would like to add the 3 northern Territories and the northern parts of their Provinces to the current 49 geographic regions where the cost of the MBM basket is estimated. Costs for things such as food are often very different in northern regions compared to rural areas in the southern parts of these Provinces. It was acknowledged that such a change, if feasible, would lead to more precise estimations of the cost of the basket in such regions. However, Statistics Canada cautioned that collecting cost data in these large geographical areas with small and scattered populations where costs might vary widely would be very difficult and that the data collected might not be statistically reliable for estimating the cost of the basket in such regions. Their view was that resolution of this issue in the current review was unlikely on feasibility grounds. HRSDC is assessing the feasibility of adding MBM geographic regions in northern Canada.

Provincial MBMs and Generating data for more intra-provincial regions - Newfoundland and Labrador is in the process of developing an MBM-type measure specifically for their jurisdiction in consultation with Statistics Canada. Quebec and Newfoundland and Labrador would also like to generate data for more geographic regions within their Provinces than the national MBM currently does.

HRSDC noted that the larger samples necessary to generate such intra-provincial regional data could only be found in income tax files which means that analysis would have to be on the basis of census rather than economic families.

However, this will not be an important difference in the future as Statistics Canada begins reporting low income results for individuals in households rather than by economic family types to become more consistent with international practice.

HRSDC had no objection to Provinces or Territories developing MBM-type measures specific to their jurisdictions as complements to rather than “replacements” for the national MBM. The need for a national MBM remained to provide a consistent standard across the country for comparing the cost of the basket and estimating the percentage of regional and Provincial populations who lacked the resources to purchase it.

Follow-up to Stages One and Two of the MBM Review

Statistics Canada investigated the issues and suggestions raised by Provincial and Territorial officials. Based on Statistics Canada’s research, officials from HRSDC and Statistics Canada made the following decisions:

Rule for inclusion of new “Other Items”- The numerical standard for including new items in the basket would be that 70% of reference families nationally and in seven of the ten Provinces with at least two-thirds of the national population had expenditures on the item in question. Under this rule, it was decided to add computer and internet services to the “Other Items” component of the basket in the year where use of these services met

that threshold. The Survey of Household Spending group was asked to review other possible candidates for inclusion using this formula.

Replacing the Chevrolet Cavalier - A list of four-passenger compact cars from the 2004 Auto Guide were reviewed as potential candidates to replace the Chevrolet Cavalier in the Transportation component of the basket in regions not served by public transit systems. Cars on the list were required to be widely available in all Provinces and likely to continue as standard products of their manufacturers. The two most expensive cars were removed from the list and a median was calculated for the remaining cars. The car closest to the median was the Ford Focus which was chosen as the replacement vehicle.

Addition of SHS code 3060 - The purchase of tires, batteries and other standard parts are necessary for the maintenance of a car in safe operating condition. Through an oversight at the time of the creation of the original MBM, these items covered by Survey of Household Spending code 3060 are not included in the Transportation component for regions not served by public transit systems. It was decided to add them to the Transportation component.

Standard for Drivers' Licenses - Currently only one of the adults in the reference family in areas not served by public transit is assumed to have a driver's license. It was agreed that this should be changed to the assumption that both adults have a driver's license. The impact of this change on the cost of automobile insurance will be determined.

Formula for Calculating Rental Shelter Costs and Treatment of Homeowners without Mortgages - After extensive discussion of the alternatives suggested at the consultation with Provincial and Territorial officials it was agreed that the average of median shelter costs for two and three-bedroom dwellings should continue to be the basis for the calculation of the Shelter component of the MBM basket. However, instead of assuming an equal distribution of such units in each MBM region, the actual distribution of two and three-bedroom dwellings in each region will be used in this calculation.

Statistics Canada officials suggested that the shelter costs (utilities and property taxes) of homeowners without mortgages among reference families be included in the calculation of shelter costs as described above.

Treatment of Renters in Rent-Geared-to-Income (RGI) Housing - Statistics Canada will test the feasibility of determining the difference between actual shelter costs and median rental shelter costs using the formula described under the previous heading. If actual costs are higher than those calculated using the formula, no action would be necessary. If actual costs were lower than those calculated using the formula, the intention would be to add the difference to the disposable incomes of the families affected.

Further investigation determined that at this time it is not possible to adjust the MBM to account for tenants in RGI housing units. This will be considered again in future reviews.

Inter-Household Transfers - HRSDC and Statistics Canada confirmed agreement in principle with the decision reached at the consultation with Provincial and Territorial officials that such transfers (most commonly from parents to full-time students maintaining

their own household) should be added to the disposable income of recipients, but not deducted from the disposable incomes of donor households unless they arose from a legal obligation. It was agreed that implementing such a change would require a change in the current question to donor families on the SLID to a family from an individual basis to avoid double counting. This means that the earliest feasible date for implementing the change would be in 2011 for 2009 data.

Stage Three - Results of Consultation with other Federal Government Departments and Agencies, July 9, 2009

A consultation paper summarizing Stage One and Stage Two was circulated in advance to participants in this stage. There was general concurrence with the decisions made to date to deal with the issues identified. The following alternatives were also suggested:

Shelter Costs - One participant suggested an alternative method for dealing with the weighting of two and three-bedroom units for the calculation of shelter costs. This would be to use the two-bedroom median for two-adult, two-child families where both children were of the same sex and to use the three bedroom median where they were not.

However, this solution would work only for two-adult, two-child families and would not provide a single shelter cost estimate for reference families which could be applied to families of other sizes and configurations through the use of the LIM equivalence scale.⁶

Replacement of the Chevrolet Cavalier with the Ford Focus - It was suggested that trucks be considered along with four-passenger compact cars. However, four passenger trucks generally cost more than cars and are not as suitable as family vehicles.

The 2008 National Nutritious Food Basket - Some participants objected that a number of the items in the basket were not commonly consumed. However, the intent of this component of the basket is to measure the cost of a nutritious diet comprised of foods commonly available, not the cost of commonly-consumed food.

Stage Four - Consultation with selected experts on low- income measurement, August 25-26, 2009

An updated version of the consultation paper used in Stage Three was used in this stage. Issues discussed were as follows:

⁶ The cost of the basket for families of other sizes and configurations is calculated using the Low Income Measure equivalence scale under which the first adult in the family counts as 1.0, all other adults and the first child in a lone-parent family count as 0.4 and all other children under age 16 count as 0.3.

Frequency of MBM Reviews - HRSDC and Statistics Canada stated that the current plan was to review the MBM every five years, following the Census. There was support for a longer period between reviews. Suggestions ranged from seven to ten years. However, there was a consensus that the next review should occur after information from the 2011 census becomes available in 2013 to capture impacts of the 2008-2009 recession.

Rule for adding new items to the “Other Items” component - General support was expressed for making such decisions on the basis of a transparent rule and for the rule adopted (i.e. 70% of reference families nationally and in at least seven of the ten Provinces with two-thirds of the national population had expenditures on the item in question **and** the item materially adds to social and economic inclusion and the quality of life in the judgement of HRSDC.) Experts emphasized the importance of fully documenting the review process and the rationale for decisions taken. HRSDC and Statistics Canada gave assurances that this would be done.

Rules for deciding what year changes should be applied - The tentative preference of Statistics Canada and HRSDC was to apply conceptual changes and changes to methodology retroactively to all years (e.g. including homeowners without mortgages to determine median shelter costs and using the actual distribution of two and three-bedroom renters in each region instead of assuming an equal weighting).

However, such changes as switching to the 2008 National Nutritious Food Basket would be implemented for the 2008 income year if feasible. The impact of each individual change and of all changes combined to the MBM basket are included as appendices to this paper.

Support for Consultation with low income persons and persons with disabilities on the content of the basket - Some experts supported reviewing the current content of the basket and proposed changes to it with focus groups of low income persons and persons with disabilities from rural, remote and urban areas. As the review process dealt with technical adjustments to the MBM, rather than changes to the MBM's underlying concept, HRSDC did not undertake broad public consultations.

Addition of Computer and Internet Services to the MBM Basket - There was general support for this decision but some discussion as to which year the change should be introduced or whether it should be phased in over a period of years. Further investigation determined that the 70%/two-thirds threshold was reached in 2005.

Including a Child's Bus Pass - There was general support for including a bus pass for the 13 year-old child.

Difference in level of transportation service for areas served and not served by public transit - One expert raised the issue that owners of used cars had better and more flexible transit service than users of public transit in metropolitan centres. This was acknowledged by HRSDC but the purpose of this component was to measure the cost of getting around one's community for shopping, getting to work, recreation and medical appointments. There was no intermediate alternative to owning a used car to meet this standard in areas not served by public transit.

Standard versus automatic used car - A standard Chevrolet Cavalier has been the vehicle used up to now. Experts asked whether a standard version of the Ford Focus is available, and, if so, what percentage of sales it represents. It was determined that a standard version of the Ford Focus is widely available. No data are available on percentage of sales represented by standard and automatic versions.

The 2008 National Nutritious Food Basket - Some of the same concerns expressed in the consultation with officials from other federal departments and agencies were raised. The new basket contains more raw foods and foods less generally consumed among the low income population. On the other hand the new basket does acknowledge that a growing immigrant population is affecting what nutritious foods people actually eat. On balance the shift to the new basket was recognized as having a solid scientific basis as representing nutritious foods that people actually eat.

Using the median as the standard for shelter costs - Following discussion of various alternatives including an average of the median and actual rental shelter costs in the second income decile, it was generally agreed that the median should remain the standard. There was also general support for including the shelter costs of homeowners without mortgages in the population for counting the median. One expert, however, noted that many other families might have small mortgages which would make their shelter costs comparable to those with no mortgages. Statistics Canada noted that while it was possible to identify homeowners without mortgages, it was not possible to identify the size of the mortgage for families with mortgages.

Rent-Geared-to-Income renters - There was general agreement that an adjustment should be made to disposable income to reflect the financial advantage of living in such housing. However, one expert cautioned that for persons on social assistance the advantage of being in an RGI rental unit should not be calculated as the difference between the RGI rent and median rental shelter costs, but the social assistance cash shelter allowance which would otherwise be paid in the applicable Province or Territory. As previously noted, it is not possible to make this change at this time, but RGI shelter costs will be revisited in the next MBM review.

Transfers from Parents to Full-Time Students - There was general support for implementing this change provided the problem of obtaining reliable data could be resolved. It was recognized that this likely would not be possible for implementation in 2010.

The LIM Equivalence Scale - There was broad support for the use of this scale in calculating the cost of the basket for family sizes and configurations different from the reference family. However, experts suggested that the growth of multi-generational households might require re-visiting this scale to determine if it remains empirically valid. Recent research in Manitoba and Quebec supports its current validity.

Summary of Final Changes Made As A Result of the MBM Review

Following further work by Statistics Canada arising from issues discussed at Stages Two, Three and Four of the consultation process and a thorough examination of the calculation of the existing basket, HRSDC and Statistics Canada officials made the following changes to the calculation of the MBM:

Food

Implementation of 2008 National Nutritious Food Basket (NNFB08) - The implementation of the 2008 NNFB will be phased in. For the reference year 2008, the cost of the food component will be two-thirds of the cost using the 1998 National Nutritious Food Basket (NNFB 98) and one-third of the cost using the 2008 NNFB. For reference year 2009 the cost of the food component will be one-third of the NNFB98 and two-thirds of the NNFB08. For reference year 2010 the 2008 NNFB will be used exclusively. This strategy was decided upon when it became clear that there was a significant difference in the cost of the two baskets.

Five percent increase in the cost of the National Nutritious Food Basket to allow for “miscellaneous foods such as coffee, tea, condiments, seasoning, spices and cooking materials such as baking powder” - Health Canada has consistently recommended this adjustment to the cost of both the 1998 and 2008 National Nutritious Food Basket (NNFB), but through oversight this has not been part of the calculation of the cost of the Food component of the basket. This adjustment was made retroactively to the year 2000. In addition, corrections were made to faulty data collected on the cost of the food basket in Prince George, British Columbia for the years 2004 to 2007.

Substitution of some items in the 2008 (NNFB) - A few items in the 2008 NNFB have not been priced by Statistics Canada. Substitutes and, if necessary, an imputation process was negotiated with Health Canada so that data collection could begin on the 2008 NNFB in January 2010.⁷

Clothing and Footwear

Correction of Processing Error of cost of Clothing and Footwear and Other Items Components of the Basket 2005-2007 - The three-year moving averages for these components were incorrectly in current rather than in constant dollars over this period. This error has been corrected.

⁷ Data collection began in January 2010 for items not previously priced by the Consumer Prices Division. For reference year 2008 some items in the National Nutritious Food Basket 2008 will be substituted for with similar items priced in 2008. The 2008 prices for a small number of items will be imputed using January 2010 prices and the appropriate Consumer Price Index.

Transportation

Revised data for Gasoline (2001-2003) and Vehicle Insurance (2005-2007) - Revisions have been made to the data for gasoline costs from 2001 to 2003 and for vehicle insurance costs from 2005 to 2007. These revisions have been incorporated in the cost of the basket for these years in areas not served by public transit systems.

Substituting the Ford Focus for the Chevrolet Cavalier - In 2007 and 2008 a blended cost for the two vehicles was used with a full transition to the Focus occurring in the 2009 reference year.

Addition of Second Adult Driver - This change was implemented retroactively back to the year 2000. Changes to insurance have been imputed for the period from 2000 to 2005 and actual new insurance costs are calculated beginning in 2006. There is no longer access to the insurance database for 2000 to 2005.

Including “tires, batteries and other automotive parts” in the Transportation component - This change has been made retroactive to the year 2000 with a three-year moving average of expenditures on these items in the second decile of the two-parent, two-child family income distribution.

Shifting the Charlottetown Metro Area from private to public transportation - Evidence has been received that the entire metropolitan area has been served by public transit since September, 2008. This change will be implemented beginning in 2009.

Adding a Child’s Bus Pass - The cost of a bus pass for the 13-year old child has been added going back to 2000 imputing if necessary on the ratio of the cost of an adult to a child pass in the first year for which data are available.

Shelter

Calculation of Median Rental Shelter Costs - The weights for two and three-bedroom rental shelter costs have been calculated to reflect the actual distribution of such units in each MBM region retroactively to 2000.

Adjusting Disposable Income to account for Subsidized Rent (RGI Housing) - Investigation by Statistics Canada has revealed that the quality of SLID data on such units is not reliable for identifying such units or calculating the value of the subsidy. This issue will have to be revisited during the next MBM review after the 2011 Census which will have the capacity to identify such units.

Final revised shelter cost calculation - Two-adult; two-child homeowner households without mortgages are now included in the calculation of the median shelter costs for two and three-bedroom units retroactive to 2000. However, to be included in the sample for this calculation, both renting households and homeowners without mortgages had to have a total income equal to or less than the median income for renting two-adult, two-child households in their MBM region. Shelter costs for owners without mortgages include property taxes and utilities (heat, water and electricity). As decided earlier, the shelter

costs of two-adult, two-child families are a weighted average in each region of the median costs for two and three-bedroom units based on the actual distribution of two and three-bedroom units among two-adult, two-child households meeting the household income test just described. This change has been applied going back to 2000 using data from the 2001 and 2006 censuses and price indices for shelter costs for owners and renters in the years between censuses.

Other

Calculation errors in the Cost of the “Other Items” Component - Only one-quarter as opposed to the correct value of one-half of expenditures on food purchased in restaurants and board paid to private households were included in the denominator in calculating the ratio of expenditures on other items to expenditures on food and clothing and footwear in the second decile of two-adult, two-child families between 2005 and 2007. Also video games and DVD expenditures were double counted in the numerator from 2004 to 2007. Both these errors were corrected in the historical revision done as part of this review.

Using post-income tax deciles in the calculation of the “Other Items” component - It was agreed to explore this issue during the next review cycle following the 2011 census as such a change would be feasible only when three years of data are available after the Survey of Household Spending links to tax files beginning in 2009.

Adding Other Items in addition to Computer and Internet Services - The only other two items meeting the test of 70% of reference families in at least seven Provinces with two-thirds of the population having expenditures on them, were cellular phones and garden supplies and services. Since land line telephone service is already part of the basket it was decided not to add cellular phones. Garden supplies and services were not considered at this time to be part of a modest, but basic standard of living. However, this category is flagged for discussion in the next review of the MBM. No items were removed from the “other” component of the basket in this review.

Timing of the addition of Computer and Internet Services - The addition of computer and internet services has been backdated to 2005, the year 70% of reference families nationally and in at least seven Provinces with two-thirds of the national population first had expenditures on these items.

Inter-household Transfers (Parents to Full-Time Students living outside the parental home) - Data quality problems preclude making this change in the current review. Only after several years of data have been gathered based on questions asked at the family level on the SLID can this change be considered. This will be revisited during the next MBM review.

Additional Changes

Addition of a 49th Region - A new region for Census Agglomerations with a population between 30,000 and 99,999 has been added in New Brunswick. According to the 2006 census at least one urban area now falls into that population category (Bathurst). Thresholds have been calculated for this region beginning in 2005 to be consistent with the Low Income Cut-offs community sizes.

Calculating the impact of Changes - Statistics Canada has calculated the impact of these changes on the incidence and depth of low income as well the cost of the basket. This information is included as an appendix to this paper.

Appendix A: Methodology of the MBM (Statistics Canada)

In 2000, HRDC asked Prices Division of Statistics Canada to collect prices that would be required to calculate the MBM. Some questions to determine disposable income were also collected by the Survey of Labour and Income Dynamics (Statistics Canada 2009 SLID Survey Overview). At the same time, Statistics Canada documented the methodology behind the MBM (Michaud et al 2004).

In 2009, HRSDC began a consultation process to examine the contents of the basket and the calculation of disposable income. This process, described in the preceding sections of this document, consisted of a series of meetings with Federal, Provincial and Territorial representatives, various Federal departments and a group of academics and other experts on low income.

As a result of this consultation process, the MBM was rebased, meaning changes were made to the content of the basket. This review process also allowed Statistics Canada to incorporate some revisions, namely to integrate revised input data into the MBM and to make minor methodological improvements to the processing of the MBM.

While some of these rebasing decisions and revisions were implemented beginning only in 2008, some were made to the entire series of lines back to 2000, the beginning of the MBM. Additionally, some changes affected only certain years.

This appendix details each component of the basket, along with the methodology utilized to calculate their costs. The original basket is briefly described, along with any changes made due to the rebasing and revision exercise. The impact of the changes on the cost of the basket and its components is explained. Additionally, the incidence and depth of low income are compared based on several low income lines - the original MBM, the 2008-rebased MBM and the low income cut-off (LICO).

New region

Based on the 2006 Census, the population of Bathurst, New Brunswick increased to a level where it became part of the 30,000 to 99,999 urban size category. Since New Brunswick did not have a region of this size code in the original MBM, a new category needed to be created in the 2008-based MBM.

Following each Census, the Survey of Labour and Income Dynamics undergoes a revision to its geography variables. With the 2008 SLID release, geography will be based on the 2006 Census- based geography design. In SLID, the standard treatment of changes to geography stemming from new Census data is to introduce any new geographical classifications beginning in the year prior to the Census year. In order to produce the required statistics on low income, the MBM thresholds are merged onto the SLID database. For this reason, the new MBM region was introduced beginning in 2005.

Food Component

The Federal/Provincial/Territorial (FPT) working group specified the National Nutritious Food Basket (NNFB) for a family of four to represent a basket of food that would be appropriate for the MBM (Health Canada 1998). In 2000, Prices Division began to collect prices each month in 38 cities in order to provide the annual cost of purchasing the basket in those cities (Table A.1). For some items, prices are collected for more than one product to allow for pricing of a branded item and a generic item. Prices are collected from selected outlets in each city and the geometric mean⁸ for each item is calculated for each city.

The weekly quantities are converted to annual quantities and the prices are applied to calculate the annual cost of each item. These are then summed to calculate the cost of the food basket for each city.

To convert these city-based costs to the MBM-geography classification, population counts from the Census are used to weight the city-based costs to the MBM regions (Table A.2).

Rebasing the food component

To reflect the most current food consumption data and the latest dietary guidance, the NNFB was revised in 2008 (Health Canada 2009). As part of the extensive review of the content of the MBM, it was decided to replace the 1998 NNFB by the 2008 NNFB. The items in the 1998 and 2008 NNFBs, along with the purchase units and suggested weekly quantities for the reference family are provided in Table A.3.

When it became clear that there were significant differences in the cost of the two baskets, it was decided that the switch to the 2008 NNFB would occur over several years. For 2008, the cost of the food component is made up of two-thirds of the cost based on the 1998 NNFB and one-third of the cost based on the 2008 NNFB. For 2009, this mix will become one-third of the cost based on the 1998 NNFB and two-thirds of the cost based on the 2008 NNFB. In 2010, the cost will be based entirely on the specifications of the 2008 NNFB.

⁸ The geometric mean tends to dampen the effect of very high and very low values which could otherwise bias the average.

Impact of rebasing the food component

Since both the items included in the basket and quantities were changed in the rebasing, there was a substantial difference between the cost of the food component based on the 1998 and 2008 NNFB. However, by gradually introducing the new food component specifications, this difference was lessened.

Comparing the food component cost in 2007 based on the 1998 NNFB with the 2008 cost based on the 2008 NNFB, there was an average increase of 22.8% (Table 1). This compares to an average increase of 5.0% holding the NNFB to the 1998 specifications. By phasing in the new specifications, the cost of the food component increased by an average of 11.0% between 2007 and 2008. Since the cost of the food component is used to calculate the other expenses component, the impact of changing from the 1998 NNFB to the blended NNFB on the MBM thresholds is 1.7%, on average.

MBM Geo-Code		cost based on:			% change based on:			
		1998 NNFB	1998 NNFB	2008 NNFB	1998 NNFB in both years	1998 NNFB in 2007 and 2008 NNFB in 2008	cost based on blended ¹ basket	% change - 1998 NNFB in 2007 and blended basket in 2008
Province	Region	2007	2008	2008	2007 to 2008	2007 to 2008	2008	2007 to 2008
Newfoundland and Labrador	rural	8,765	9,142	10,660	4.3%	21.6%	9,648	10.1%
	< 30,000	8,765	9,142	10,660	4.3%	21.6%	9,648	10.1%
	St. John's	8,521	8,931	10,424	4.8%	22.3%	9,429	10.6%
Prince Edward Island	rural	8,150	8,568	10,057	5.1%	23.4%	9,064	11.2%
	< 30,000	8,150	8,568	10,057	5.1%	23.4%	9,064	11.2%
	Charlottetown	8,150	8,568	10,057	5.1%	23.4%	9,064	11.2%
Nova Scotia	rural	8,427	8,872	10,503	5.3%	24.6%	9,416	11.7%
	< 30,000	8,427	8,872	10,503	5.3%	24.6%	9,416	11.7%
	30,000 to 99,999	8,427	8,872	10,503	5.3%	24.6%	9,416	11.7%
	Halifax	8,183	8,563	9,868	4.6%	20.6%	8,998	10.0%
	Cape Breton	8,162	8,593	9,982	5.3%	22.3%	9,056	11.0%
New Brunswick	rural	8,308	8,746	10,020	5.3%	20.6%	9,170	10.4%
	< 30,000	8,308	8,746	10,020	5.3%	20.6%	9,170	10.4%
	30,000 to 99,999	8,308	8,746	10,020	5.3%	20.6%	9,170	10.4%
	Fredericton	8,255	8,706	10,319	5.5%	25.0%	9,243	12.0%
	Saint John	8,202	8,693	10,171	6.0%	24.0%	9,186	12.0%
	Moncton	7,861	8,339	9,760	6.1%	24.2%	8,813	12.1%
Québec	rural	7,611	8,062	9,671	5.9%	27.1%	8,598	13.0%
	< 30,000	7,611	8,062	9,671	5.9%	27.1%	8,598	13.0%
	30,000 to 99,999	7,611	8,062	9,671	5.9%	27.1%	8,598	13.0%
	100,000 to 499,999	7,611	8,062	9,671	5.9%	27.1%	8,598	13.0%
	Québec City	7,669	8,122	9,620	5.9%	25.4%	8,621	12.4%
	Montréal	7,775	8,209	9,784	5.6%	25.8%	8,734	12.3%
Ontario	rural	7,216	7,636	8,767	5.8%	21.5%	8,013	11.1%
	< 30,000	7,216	7,636	8,767	5.8%	21.5%	8,013	11.1%
	30,000 to 99,999	7,216	7,636	8,767	5.8%	21.5%	8,013	11.1%
	100,000 to 499,999	7,309	7,759	9,066	6.2%	24.0%	8,194	12.1%
	Ottawa	7,409	7,816	9,094	5.5%	22.7%	8,242	11.2%
	Hamilton/Burlington	6,903	7,379	8,761	6.9%	26.9%	7,840	13.6%
	Toronto	7,343	7,748	9,068	5.5%	23.5%	8,188	11.5%

Table 1 (cont'd)

MBM Geo-Code		cost based on:			% change based on:			
		1998	1998	2008	1998 NNFB in both years	1998 NNFB in 2007 and 2008 NNFB in 2008	cost based on blended ¹ basket	% change - 1998 NNFB in 2007 and blended basket in 2008
Province	Region	2007	2008	2008	2007 to 2008	2007 to 2008	2008	2007 to 2008
Manitoba	rural	7,883	8,158	9,420	3.5%	19.5%	8,578	8.8%
	< 30,000	7,883	8,158	9,420	3.5%	19.5%	8,578	8.8%
	Brandon	7,883	8,158	9,420	3.5%	19.5%	8,578	8.8%
	Winnipeg	7,677	8,035	9,224	4.7%	20.2%	8,432	9.8%
Saskatchewan	rural	7,674	8,075	9,455	5.2%	23.2%	8,535	11.2%
	< 30,000	7,674	8,075	9,455	5.2%	23.2%	8,535	11.2%
	30,000 to 99,999	7,674	8,075	9,455	5.2%	23.2%	8,535	11.2%
	Saskatoon	7,795	8,207	9,364	5.3%	20.1%	8,593	10.2%
	Regina	7,628	7,993	9,292	4.8%	21.8%	8,426	10.5%
Alberta	rural	8,033	8,420	10,121	4.8%	26.0%	8,987	11.9%
	< 30,000	8,033	8,420	10,121	4.8%	26.0%	8,987	11.9%
	30,000 to 99,999	8,033	8,420	10,121	4.8%	26.0%	8,987	11.9%
	Edmonton	7,750	8,109	9,289	4.6%	19.9%	8,502	9.7%
	Calgary	7,971	8,371	9,619	5.0%	20.7%	8,787	10.2%
British Columbia	rural	8,139	8,373	9,804	2.9%	20.4%	8,850	8.7%
	< 30,000	8,139	8,373	9,804	2.9%	20.4%	8,850	8.7%
	30,000 to 99,999	8,139	8,373	9,804	2.9%	20.4%	8,850	8.7%
	100,000 to 499,999	8,428	8,744	10,066	3.8%	19.4%	9,185	9.0%
	Vancouver	8,275	8,693	10,032	5.0%	21.2%	9,139	10.4%
Average change:					5.0%	22.8%		11.0%
Maximum change:					6.9%	27.1%		13.6%
Minimum change:					2.9%	19.4%		8.7%

¹ Blended Basket = (2/3 1998 NNFB, 1/3 2008 NNFB)

As a result of the timing of the release of details in the 2008 NNFB and the lead time required for Consumer Prices Division (CPD) to collect prices, the prices of some items have been imputed for 2008 and will need to be imputed for 2009. These items are sweet potatoes, whole grain pita bread, Italian salad dressing, frozen strawberries, bran flakes with raisins, toasted Os cereal and dry lentils. Prices for these items were first collected in January 2010 and these prices were converted to 2008 dollars using the applicable annual provincial CPIs for 2008 and January 2010 (Table A.4).

Several of the new items specified in the 2008 NNFB had close substitutes already priced by CPD. These substitutes were shelled peanuts (instead of dry roasted peanuts), frozen mixed vegetables (instead of frozen snap beans and frozen peas), tomato juice (instead of vegetable juice cocktail) and fruit cocktail (instead of canned peaches). The prices of the close substitutes were utilized instead of the specified items.

Revision to food component

To account for the cost of miscellaneous foods used in meal preparations, Health Canada recommends that an additional five percent be added to the cost of the food basket (Health Canada 1998 and Health Canada 2009). These miscellaneous items include

spices, seasonings, condiments, baking supplies, soup, coffee and tea. While Health Canada's 1998 NNFB included this top-up, through oversight the original version of the MBM did not include this amount. During the rebasing process, the cost of the food component has been revised to include the five percent increase retroactively to 2000.

Due to data revisions, the value of the food basket for the three smallest community sizes in British Columbia has been revised for 2004 to 2007. Prices for these community sizes are all based on Prince George.

Impact of revisions to food component

The increase in the cost of the food component to account for miscellaneous foods caused an increase of five percent for each MBM-region. When combined with the impact on the other expenses component, the impact of this change on the total cost of the MBM averaged 2.3% in 2007.

The impact of the data revision for Prince George, British Columbia on the food component ranges from 3.1% in 2004 to 4.9% in 2007. When combined with the impact on the other expenses component, the total impact of this revision on the MBM thresholds in the three regions in British Columbia ranges from 1.3% in 2004 to 2.4% in 2007.

The impact of using prices from January 2010 for items which had not previously been priced or of substituting items is unknown. However, using the imputation methods described, in 2008, these items contribute roughly 6.3% of the cost of the food basket. Imprecision introduced by this imputation is minimal.

Overall impact of rebasing and revisions

On the whole, the food component increased by 5% across all the MBM regions, with the exception of the MBM regions within British Columbia that included the Prince George revision.

Clothing Component

Initially in 2000, the clothing and footwear component was composed of items specified by the Winnipeg Social Planning Council. These items made up the Acceptable Level of Living (A.L.L.) basket and were chosen as they were the most recent clothing and footwear basket developed in Canada and they reflected a similar standard to that of the MBM – clothing and footwear for common work, school and social occasions. Additionally, the development of the content had significant input from low-income persons.

However, because of price collection difficulties and because the basket represented a standard of consumption somewhat above the level that the MBM was to reflect, an alternative clothing and footwear component was developed in 2002 (Hatfield 2002). The quantity and quality of the items was defined more specifically and a different replacement schedule was utilized.

In 2005, Statistics Canada began to collect prices for this new specification. Prices were collected from outlets⁹ and the arithmetic mean of the cheapest three price observations in the year is calculated for each item for each of the 11 cities used in the MBM (Table A.1).

These prices, combined with the quantities specified and the replacement schedule result in the cost of the basket items (Table A.5). Since the current sample size for clothing prices is small, the cost of the clothing component is based on a three-year moving average.

Because prices prior to 2005 were not available for the new specification, the costs of the clothing component for 2000 to 2004 were calculated based on the 2005 values and then adjusted using the provincial CPI for clothing and footwear.

Rebasing the clothing component

Because the clothing component was subject to a thorough review in 2004, there were no proposed changes in this rebasing exercise.

Revisions to the clothing component

Minor data revisions were necessary for 2000 to 2005 due to minor revisions of the prices of one item in the clothing basket. For 2005 to 2007, the three year moving average was calculated using current dollars instead of constant dollars.

Impact of revisions to clothing component

The impact of the data revision to the clothing basket is minor. For example, in 2005 the impact on the clothing component of these revisions ranged from -1.2% for New Brunswick to 0.8% for Saskatchewan. The impact on the overall MBM was negligible, at around +/- 0.1%.

The impact of the methodological correction was also minor. For example, in 2007 the impact¹⁰ on the clothing component was in the range of -1.9% for Saskatchewan to 0.3% for Prince Edward Island. The impact on the overall MBM was negligible, with a range of - 0.16% to 0.03%.

Overall impact of rebasing and revisions

On the whole, the average impact of all revisions to the clothing component on the component ranged from -2.7% for Toronto in 2006 to 0.8% for regions in Saskatchewan in 2005.

Shelter Component

In the original MBM, the FPT Working Group recommended that the shelter cost for the reference family of four be based on the average of the median prices for rental units with

⁹ The number of outlets varies by item.

¹⁰ This includes the impact of the data revision.

two or three bedrooms including utilities (electricity, heat and water) and some amenities (refrigerator, stove, clothes washer and dryer). Excluded from this calculation are collective dwellings, those in need of major repairs and rent-free units.

Data was drawn from several sources.

1) The Canadian Census of Population

The Census of Population is conducted every five years and has a large sample size allowing examination at a detailed geographical level. The long form (asked of 20 % of households in Canada) includes several questions on housing: tenure (rented or owned), the number of bedrooms and the requirements for repairs and renovations. For renters, it asks whether electricity, heat and water costs are included in the rent and if not, it asks the costs for these utilities, along with the rental price. There is no information on whether or not the rent reported by the respondent is subsidised. For owners, it asks the amount of property taxes, utilities and the mortgage payment.

2) The LFS Rent Supplement Survey

The Labour Force Survey (LFS) Rent Supplement collects a broad range of information on rental dwellings. Of interest to the MBM, it asks respondents about what is included in the rent, in particular refrigerators, stoves, washers and dryers. It does not ask, however, the cost of elements not included in rent.

The Rent Supplement Survey has the same population coverage and restrictions as the Labour Force Survey. In particular, military barracks, Indian reserves, collective dwellings and dwellings located in special areas (such as institutions and remote areas) are excluded. The LFS Rent Supplement is conducted on a monthly basis, with one-sixth of the sample replaced each month. As such, its sample size is too small to produce reliable estimates at the level of province/community size level. Estimates used in the MBM are at the provincial level.

3) The Survey of Household Spending (SHS)

The SHS is an annual survey that began in 1997 as a redesign of the Family Expenditure Survey (FAMEX). SHS provides data for expenditures on household furnishings, appliances and equipment. In 2008, the SHS sampled 15,443 households. For Canada as a whole, the average expenditure on fridges, stoves and washers and dryers is calculated for households of two adults and two children in the second income decile. Due to the small sample sizes, a three-year moving average is calculated for appliance costs.

For each MBM region, the average of the median serviced rent (including appliances) of two and three bedroom units was calculated. Amounts for 2000 were based on the 1996 Census, adjusted using the appropriate CPIs¹¹. Amounts for 2002 to 2005 were a blend of the 2001 and 2006 results. 2007 was based on the 2006 Census with adjustments using the appropriate CPIs.

¹¹ Each portion of shelter cost is adjusted by the appropriate CPI. Rents were adjusted using the CPI for rented accommodations. Expenditures on appliances were adjusted using the CPI for household equipment.

Rebasing the Shelter Component

There were two changes recommended during the consultation process. Firstly, since dwellings are not equally distributed between two- and three-bedroom units, it was recommended that a weighted average of shelter costs be utilized. Based on the MBM restrictions and the 2006 Census, two-thirds of rental dwellings were two bedroom units in 35 of the 49 MBM regions (Table 3). The rural areas in most provinces were more evenly split between two- and three-bedroom units. A similar pattern was observed in the rental dwelling counts generated from the 2001 Census (Table 2).

Table 2											
Distribution of dwellings and annual shelter cost, MBM universe, 2001 Census											
MBM Geo-Code		Distribution of dwellings						Annual shelter cost ¹			
		Owners without mortgages		Renters		Owners without mortgages	Renters	Owners without mortgages		Renters	
		2 Bdrm	3 Bdrm	2 Bdrm	3 Bdrm			2 Bdrm	3 Bdrm	2 Bdrm	3 Bdrm
Province	Region	%						\$			
Newfoundland and Labrador	rural	33.9	66.1	51.4	48.6	78.8	21.2	2,112	2,520	5,400	5,844
	< 30,000	33.7	66.3	53.8	46.2	47.0	53.0	2,700	3,012	5,784	5,640
	St. John's	31.8	68.2	62.1	37.9	31.5	68.5	3,204	3,600	6,600	6,180
Prince Edward Island	rural	39.2	60.8	61.5	38.5	76.6	23.4	2,496	2,556	5,940	5,820
	< 30,000	35.0	65.0	60.2	39.8	36.8	63.2	3,000	3,048	6,336	6,456
	Charlottetown	37.3	62.7	72.3	27.7	27.6	72.4	3,276	3,660	6,780	7,680
Nova Scotia	rural	44.2	55.8	53.0	47.0	79.8	20.2	2,364	2,652	6,000	6,120
	< 30,000	41.6	58.4	72.6	27.4	41.5	58.5	2,928	3,264	6,300	6,312
	30,000 to 99,999	40.6	59.4	73.3	26.7	56.0	44.0	2,580	3,168	6,600	6,900
	Halifax	38.8	61.2	74.7	25.3	33.5	66.5	2,952	3,708	7,524	8,340
	Cape Breton	39.8	60.2	60.5	39.5	42.6	57.4	2,928	3,384	6,348	6,600
New Brunswick	rural	44.7	55.3	62.9	37.1	74.9	25.1	2,196	2,460	5,220	5,400
	< 30,000	44.1	55.9	73.9	26.1	43.1	56.9	2,880	3,096	5,700	4,956
	Fredericton	44.9	55.1	79.5	20.5	44.6	55.4	2,664	3,168	7,320	7,500
	Saint John	45.3	54.7	67.0	33.0	38.5	61.5	2,976	3,276	5,808	5,772
	Moncton	43.0	57.0	77.6	22.4	39.0	61.0	2,976	3,612	6,900	7,200
Québec	rural	47.1	52.9	67.2	32.8	65.1	34.9	2,328	2,592	4,800	5,280
	< 30,000	41.7	58.3	73.5	26.5	36.5	63.5	2,952	3,096	5,040	5,364
	30,000 to 99,999	42.3	57.7	74.7	25.3	28.9	71.1	3,108	3,372	5,328	5,856
	100,000 to 499,999	43.9	56.1	74.5	25.5	25.4	74.6	3,000	3,372	5,520	6,000
	Québec City	46.9	53.1	80.4	19.6	26.9	73.1	3,204	3,672	6,000	6,540
	Montréal	44.2	55.8	76.1	23.9	25.2	74.8	3,756	4,404	6,348	7,200
Ontario	rural	43.1	56.9	55.2	44.8	78.1	21.9	3,072	3,576	6,912	7,740
	< 30,000	40.5	59.5	72.5	27.5	51.5	48.5	3,384	3,744	7,104	7,596
	30,000 to 99,999	38.9	61.1	72.7	27.3	47.8	52.2	3,336	3,804	7,200	8,100
	100,000 to 499,999	36.5	63.5	72.8	27.2	46.2	53.8	3,576	4,104	7,800	8,736
	Ottawa	37.5	62.5	66.8	33.2	33.4	66.6	3,504	4,596	9,192	10,608
	Hamilton/Burlington	34.3	65.7	71.2	28.8	49.1	50.9	3,840	4,476	8,040	9,000
	Toronto	35.8	64.2	74.4	25.6	43.7	56.3	3,600	4,800	10,500	11,964
Manitoba	rural	48.8	51.2	56.9	43.1	78.9	21.1	2,292	2,688	4,968	4,380
	< 30,000	52.3	47.7	72.5	27.5	55.6	44.4	2,592	3,132	6,000	5,844
	Brandon	39.9	60.1	72.7	27.3	35.8	64.2	3,072	3,300	6,540	5,496
	Winnipeg	47.2	52.8	77.4	22.6	43.5	56.5	3,228	4,044	6,576	6,432

Table 2 (cont'd)

MBM Geo-Code		Distribution of dwellings						Annual shelter cost ¹			
		Owners without mortgages		Renters		Owners without mortgages	Renters	Owners without mortgages		Renters	
		2 Bdrm	3 Bdrm	2 Bdrm	3 Bdrm			2 Bdrm	3 Bdrm	2 Bdrm	3 Bdrm
Province	Region	%						\$			
Saskatchewan	rural	47.4	52.6	46.6	53.4	80.2	19.8	2,556	2,868	4,644	5,304
	< 30,000	48.1	51.9	67.7	32.3	59.4	40.6	2,796	3,276	5,544	5,976
	30,000 to 99,999	45.8	54.2	66.1	33.9	35.5	64.5	2,748	3,516	5,844	6,132
	Saskatoon	44.8	55.2	71.5	28.5	31.1	68.9	2,820	3,660	6,600	7,680
	Regina	44.1	55.9	70.9	29.1	35.8	64.2	3,288	3,996	6,660	6,900
Alberta	rural	45.0	55.0	51.7	48.3	75.9	24.1	2,856	3,168	6,000	6,696
	< 30,000	43.7	56.3	66.9	33.1	50.9	49.1	3,144	3,696	6,696	8,280
	30,000 to 99,999	42.6	57.4	67.1	32.9	38.7	61.3	2,640	3,324	7,320	8,700
	Edmonton	37.6	62.4	68.4	31.6	40.2	59.8	3,060	3,804	7,260	8,604
	Calgary	39.8	60.2	67.5	32.5	39.7	60.3	3,096	4,020	8,952	10,332
British Columbia	rural	54.3	45.7	62.1	37.9	71.0	29.0	2,100	2,496	7,200	7,896
	< 30,000	52.1	47.9	66.0	34.0	54.4	45.6	2,328	2,952	6,804	8,160
	30,000 to 99,999	55.1	44.9	68.0	32.0	47.9	52.1	1,992	2,976	7,080	8,724
	100,000 to 499,999	62.0	38.0	75.7	24.3	52.1	47.9	2,004	3,444	8,340	9,960
	Vancouver	51.0	49.0	72.4	27.6	46.0	54.0	2,232	3,900	9,120	11,400

¹ For renters = rent + hydro + heat + water For owners = property taxes + hydro + heat + water

Table 3
Distribution of dwellings and annual shelter cost, MBM universe, 2006 Census

MBM Geo-Code		Distribution of dwellings						Annual shelter cost ¹			
		Owners without mortgages		Renters		Owners without mortgages	Renters	Owners without mortgages		Renters	
		2 Bdrm	3 Bdrm	2 Bdrm	3 Bdrm			2 Bdrm	3 Bdrm	2 Bdrm	3 Bdrm
Province	Region	%						\$			
Newfoundland and Labrador	rural	35.0	65.0	54.0	46.0	76.1	23.9	2,676	2,976	5,964	6,264
	< 30,000	33.8	66.2	59.8	40.2	44.6	55.4	3,156	3,624	6,276	6,000
	St. John's	37.5	62.5	63.0	37.0	28.9	71.1	3,696	4,476	7,200	7,356
Prince Edward Island	rural	45.1	54.9	60.5	39.5	74.9	25.1	3,300	3,504	7,200	6,804
	< 30,000	38.5	61.5	68.4	31.6	33.0	67.0	3,792	4,236	6,900	8,400
	Charlottetown	32.8	67.2	77.6	22.4	26.9	73.1	3,504	4,764	7,788	9,300
Nova Scotia	rural	43.8	56.2	54.5	45.5	78.4	21.6	2,796	3,240	6,696	6,996
	< 30,000	41.0	59.0	74.2	25.8	37.3	62.7	3,684	3,876	7,200	7,404
	30,000 to 99,999	39.4	60.6	74.5	25.5	52.5	47.5	3,096	3,504	7,320	7,656
	Halifax	43.3	56.7	74.1	25.9	33.4	66.6	3,396	4,440	8,640	9,564
	Cape Breton	41.7	58.3	58.7	41.3	46.9	53.1	3,336	4,104	6,900	6,900
New Brunswick	rural	47.1	52.9	61.0	39.0	72.2	27.8	2,496	2,928	5,976	5,640
	< 30,000	42.6	57.4	73.3	26.7	41.8	58.2	3,252	3,564	6,120	6,000
	30,000 to 99,999	47.6	52.4	74.5	25.5	46.0	54.0	3,408	3,204	5,760	4,800
	Fredericton	40.2	59.8	80.1	19.9	38.2	61.8	3,036	3,852	8,784	9,096
	Saint John	45.4	54.6	69.1	30.9	37.0	63.0	3,408	4,104	6,660	6,996
Québec	Moncton	42.0	58.0	80.3	19.7	33.6	66.4	3,456	4,032	7,764	8,400
	rural	47.0	53.0	69.6	30.4	65.7	34.3	2,808	3,156	5,340	5,904
	< 30,000	41.4	58.6	75.4	24.6	34.0	66.0	3,360	3,576	5,496	5,724
	30,000 to 99,999	41.8	58.2	75.5	24.5	30.2	69.8	3,348	3,756	5,940	6,420
	100,000 to 499,999	46.2	53.8	77.1	22.9	24.6	75.4	3,456	3,804	6,180	6,780
	Québec City	47.8	52.2	80.6	19.4	28.5	71.5	3,552	3,996	6,900	7,500
Montréal	45.2	54.8	77.6	22.4	26.2	73.8	3,996	4,800	7,416	8,304	

Table 3 (cont'd)

MBM Geo-Code		Distribution of dwellings						Annual shelter cost ¹			
		Owners without mortgages		Renters		Owners without mortgages	Renters	Owners without mortgages		Renters	
		2 Bdrm	3 Bdrm	2 Bdrm	3 Bdrm			2 Bdrm	3 Bdrm	2 Bdrm	3 Bdrm
Province	Region	%						\$			
Ontario	rural	42.6	57.4	57.1	42.9	79.1	20.9	3,816	4,428	7,740	8,724
	< 30,000	42.2	57.8	73.9	26.1	49.2	50.8	4,224	4,716	7,800	8,148
	30,000 to 99,999	38.3	61.7	74.3	25.7	45.3	54.7	4,152	4,812	8,100	8,940
	100,000 to 499,999	37.6	62.4	71.7	28.3	42.4	57.6	4,332	5,004	8,880	9,600
	Ottawa	36.6	63.4	68.4	31.6	33.5	66.5	3,996	5,352	10,368	12,000
	Hamilton/Burlington	35.9	64.1	71.6	28.4	45.3	54.7	4,488	5,448	9,084	10,500
	Toronto	36.5	63.5	74.8	25.2	41.6	58.4	3,900	5,736	11,448	13,200
Manitoba	rural	48.5	51.5	56.2	43.8	80.3	19.7	2,496	3,024	5,940	5,100
	< 30,000	48.4	51.6	73.2	26.8	51.5	48.5	2,988	3,624	6,792	5,844
	Brandon	44.1	55.9	76.8	23.2	35.7	64.3	3,288	3,480	7,200	6,504
	Winnipeg	45.2	54.8	77.9	22.1	44.0	56.0	3,384	4,296	7,788	7,344
Saskatchewan	rural	40.8	59.2	54.6	45.4	82.8	17.2	3,360	3,756	5,580	6,204
	< 30,000	44.4	55.6	69.0	31.0	57.6	42.4	3,612	4,284	6,300	7,080
	30,000 to 99,999	44.0	56.0	64.9	35.1	34.1	65.9	3,408	4,248	6,576	7,584
	Saskatoon	48.5	51.5	71.4	28.6	30.3	69.7	3,216	4,704	7,380	8,604
	Regina	44.4	55.6	69.4	30.6	36.0	64.0	3,612	4,896	7,596	8,040
Alberta	rural	44.0	56.0	45.8	54.2	79.3	20.7	3,504	3,972	7,236	7,800
	< 30,000	45.4	54.6	70.3	29.7	49.6	50.4	3,816	4,500	7,956	9,480
	30,000 to 99,999	44.4	55.7	67.8	32.2	41.6	58.4	3,180	4,020	8,400	10,296
	Edmonton	39.9	60.1	67.8	32.2	40.0	60.0	3,600	4,608	8,832	10,680
	Calgary	41.9	58.1	65.5	34.5	38.5	61.5	3,396	4,704	9,864	11,400
British Columbia	rural	54.0	46.0	60.6	39.4	75.6	24.4	2,292	2,736	7,200	8,400
	< 30,000	50.7	49.3	69.1	30.9	56.7	43.3	2,676	3,276	7,200	8,316
	30,000 to 99,999	56.5	43.5	69.6	30.4	51.0	49.0	2,328	3,456	7,920	9,600
	100,000 to 499,999	59.6	40.4	77.1	22.9	51.1	48.9	2,208	3,996	9,456	12,000
	Vancouver	52.2	47.8	73.6	26.4	48.0	52.0	2,400	4,584	10,056	12,360

¹ For renters = rent + hydro + heat + water For owners = property taxes + hydro + heat + water

Secondly, the consultation process concluded that homeowners without mortgages should be included in the shelter component since, especially in rural and small communities, homeownership without mortgages is common among reference families in the lower part of the income distribution. HRSDC recommended that to be included in this calculation, both renting households and homeowners without mortgages would have to meet an income test. Their household income would have to be less than or equal to the median household income of renters of 2- and 3- bedroom units (Table 4).

Table 4
Median income of renters, by MBM region and Census year

MBM Geo-Code		2001	2006
Province	Region	current \$	
Newfoundland and Labrador	rural	20,560	22,933
	< 30,000	20,286	24,208
	St. John's	24,853	27,462
Prince Edward Island	rural	28,011	28,986
	< 30,000	27,402	31,363
	Charlottetown	28,871	31,288
Nova Scotia	rural	25,312	29,521
	< 30,000	24,930	28,866
	30,000 to 99,999	25,634	29,712
	Halifax	32,817	37,400
	Cape Breton	17,966	23,171
New Brunswick	rural	23,633	24,969
	< 30,000	24,506	27,868
	30,000 to 99,999	..	26,691
	Fredericton	32,757	32,626
	Saint John	25,893	30,473
	Moncton	29,298	31,664
Québec	rural	26,421	29,688
	< 30,000	25,746	29,075
	30,000 to 99,999	27,017	31,361
	100,000 to 499,999	28,439	31,678
	Québec City	32,176	37,358
	Montréal	33,987	37,422
Ontario	rural	33,517	37,997
	< 30,000	30,209	33,412
	30,000 to 99,999	28,812	33,233
	100,000 to 499,999	33,312	36,187
	Ottawa	44,127	43,927
	Hamilton/Burlington	34,335	36,980
	Toronto	44,000	44,085
Manitoba	rural	26,906	32,955
	< 30,000	26,969	30,557
	Brandon	27,110	33,803
	Winnipeg	30,655	35,171
Saskatchewan	rural	28,830	31,317
	< 30,000	26,904	31,029
	30,000 to 99,999	25,299	29,905
	Saskatoon	27,605	31,088
	Regina	28,644	33,885
Alberta	rural	37,427	44,580
	< 30,000	36,164	43,239
	30,000 to 99,999	36,774	43,642
	Edmonton	36,873	42,891
	Calgary	40,750	43,581
British Columbia	rural	31,320	34,126
	< 30,000	29,756	34,908
	30,000 to 99,999	27,400	33,130
	100,000 to 499,999	35,960	40,319
	Vancouver	41,624	45,333
.. not available for a specific reference period			

Shelter cost for homeowners without mortgages were obtained from the 2001 and 2006 Census. These costs include property taxes, utilities (heat, water and electricity) and the full amount of expenditures on appliances by reference families in the second income decile. As expected, these costs are substantially lower than shelter cost for renters.

Impact of rebasing

In 2007, the impact of using the weighted average of two- and three-bedroom rental units on the shelter component ranged from an increase of 0.9% (\$67) in rural PEI to a decrease of 12% (-\$1,475) in Vancouver (Table 5).

Table 5					
Impact of the two and three bedroom renters weighted average on the Shelter Component, by MBM region, for 2007					
MBM Geo-Code		Before Rebasing	Weighted Average - Renters	Change	
Province	Region	\$	\$	\$	%
Newfoundland and Labrador	rural	6,422	6,223	-199	-3.1
	< 30,000	6,934	6,285	-649	-9.4
	St. John's	8,381	7,382	-999	-11.9
Prince Edward Island	rural	7,128	7,195	67	0.9
	< 30,000	7,990	7,529	-461	-5.8
	Charlottetown	9,052	8,290	-762	-8.4
Nova Scotia	rural	7,451	6,961	-490	-6.6
	< 30,000	7,729	7,380	-349	-4.5
	30,000 to 99,999	7,934	7,534	-400	-5.0
	Halifax	10,034	9,016	-1,018	-10.1
	Cape Breton	7,584	7,028	-556	-7.3
New Brunswick	rural	6,437	5,995	-442	-6.9
	< 30,000 ¹	6,908	6,084	-824	-11.9
	Fredericton	9,729	9,011	-718	-7.4
	Saint John	7,482	6,918	-564	-7.5
	Moncton	8,811	8,048	-763	-8.7
Québec	rural	6,201	5,798	-403	-6.5
	< 30,000	6,304	5,839	-465	-7.4
	30,000 to 99,999	6,851	6,350	-501	-7.3
	100,000 to 499,999	6,790	6,613	-177	-2.6
	Québec City	7,901	7,321	-580	-7.3
	Montréal	8,509	7,927	-582	-6.8
Ontario	rural	8,893	8,349	-544	-6.1
	< 30,000	8,881	8,072	-809	-9.1
	30,000 to 99,999	9,287	8,501	-786	-8.5
	100,000 to 499,999	10,366	9,278	-1,088	-10.5
	Ottawa	12,373	11,097	-1,276	-10.3
	Hamilton/Burlington	10,863	9,684	-1,179	-10.9
	Toronto	13,477	12,113	-1,364	-10.1
Manitoba	rural	6,149	5,750	-399	-6.5
	< 30,000	7,357	6,728	-629	-8.5
	Brandon	7,839	7,237	-602	-7.7
	Winnipeg	8,961	7,899	-1,062	-11.9
Saskatchewan	rural	6,414	6,054	-360	-5.6
	< 30,000	7,443	6,747	-696	-9.4
	30,000 to 99,999	7,682	7,144	-538	-7.0
	Saskatoon	8,968	7,961	-1,007	-11.2
	Regina	8,883	7,963	-920	-10.4

Table 5 (cont'd)

MBM Geo-Code		Before Rebasing	Weighted Average - Renters	Change	
Province	Region	\$	\$	\$	%
Alberta	rural	8,658	8,066	-592	-6.8
	< 30,000	10,187	8,989	-1,198	-11.8
	30,000 to 99,999	10,887	9,627	-1,260	-11.6
	Edmonton	11,015	10,070	-945	-8.6
	Calgary	12,002	11,096	-906	-7.5
British Columbia	rural	8,456	7,826	-630	-7.5
	< 30,000	8,632	7,697	-935	-10.8
	30,000 to 99,999	9,379	8,593	-786	-8.4
	100,000 to 499,999	11,504	10,222	-1,282	-11.1
	Vancouver	12,329	10,854	-1,475	-12.0

¹ In order to do a consistent comparison between the 2000 base and 2008 base, Bathurst had to be regrouped into the "< 30,000" category

The inclusion of homeowners without mortgages had a substantial impact on the shelter component. The degree of the impact depended on various factors including distributions of dwellings and shelter cost differences. In general, MBM regions that had more homeowners without mortgages than renters combined with large difference in shelter costs between renters and homeowners without mortgages experienced the greatest impacts. For example, a rural area may have a large difference in terms of dwelling counts between homeowners without mortgages and renters, but rural areas tend to have smaller differences in their relative costs compared to urban areas, with respect to the shelter costs of homeowners without mortgages and the shelter costs of renters. Therefore, the overall impact is lessened. Regions that had even, or almost even, distributions of dwelling counts for homeowners without mortgages and renters may still experience large differences stemming from the rebasing, depending on the relative differences between the shelter costs of owning or renting.

The addition of homeowners without mortgages overshadowed the change to the weighted average of two and three bedroom units. In 2007, the combined impact of these two rebasing decisions on the shelter component ranged from a decrease of 12% (-\$814) in Québec cities with a population of 100,000 to 499,999, to a decrease of 52.4% (-\$4,428) in rural British Columbia (Table 6). When looking at the total MBM threshold, these impacts ranged from a decrease of 3.3% in Québec cities to a decrease of almost 16% in British Columbian cities with a population of 100,000 to 499,999 (Table 7).

Table 6
Impact of both the two and three bedroom renters and home owners without mortgages
weighted average on the Shelter Component, by MBM region, for 2007

MBM Geo-Code		Before Rebasings	Weight Average - both Renters and Home Owners without mortgages	Change	
Province	Region	\$	\$	\$	%
Newfoundland and Labrador	rural	6,422	3,931	-2,491	-38.8
	< 30,000	6,934	5,190	-1,744	-25.2
	St. John's	8,381	6,570	-1,811	-21.6
Prince Edward Island	rural	7,128	4,606	-2,522	-35.4
	< 30,000	7,990	6,501	-1,489	-18.6
	Charlottetown	9,052	7,325	-1,727	-19.1
Nova Scotia	rural	7,451	4,181	-3,270	-43.9
	< 30,000	7,729	6,193	-1,536	-19.9
	30,000 to 99,999	7,934	5,534	-2,400	-30.2
	Halifax	10,034	7,476	-2,558	-25.5
	Cape Breton	7,584	5,694	-1,890	-24.9
New Brunswick	rural	6,437	3,847	-2,590	-40.2
	< 30,000 ¹	6,908	5,093	-1,815	-26.3
	Fredericton	9,729	7,034	-2,695	-27.7
	Saint John	7,482	5,878	-1,604	-21.4
	Moncton	8,811	6,723	-2,088	-23.7
Québec	rural	6,201	4,185	-2,016	-32.5
	< 30,000	6,304	5,166	-1,138	-18.1
	30,000 to 99,999	6,851	5,629	-1,222	-17.8
	100,000 to 499,999	6,790	5,976	-814	-12.0
	Québec City	7,901	6,421	-1,480	-18.7
	Montréal	8,509	7,120	-1,389	-16.3
Ontario	rural	8,893	5,333	-3,560	-40.0
	< 30,000	8,881	6,506	-2,375	-26.7
	30,000 to 99,999	9,287	6,887	-2,400	-25.8
	100,000 to 499,999	10,366	7,522	-2,844	-27.4
	Ottawa	12,373	9,134	-3,239	-26.2
	Hamilton/Burlington	10,863	7,791	-3,072	-28.3
	Toronto	13,477	9,346	-4,131	-30.7
Manitoba	rural	6,149	3,660	-2,489	-40.5
	< 30,000	7,357	5,181	-2,176	-29.6
	Brandon	7,839	6,013	-1,826	-23.3
	Winnipeg	8,961	6,325	-2,636	-29.4
Saskatchewan	rural	6,414	4,598	-1,816	-28.3
	< 30,000	7,443	5,590	-1,853	-24.9
	30,000 to 99,999	7,682	6,282	-1,400	-18.2
	Saskatoon	8,968	6,983	-1,985	-22.1
	Regina	8,883	6,941	-1,942	-21.9
Alberta	rural	8,658	5,292	-3,366	-38.9
	< 30,000	10,187	7,037	-3,150	-30.9
	30,000 to 99,999	10,887	7,465	-3,422	-31.4
	Edmonton	11,015	8,070	-2,945	-26.7
	Calgary	12,002	8,758	-3,244	-27.0
British Columbia	rural	8,456	4,028	-4,428	-52.4
	< 30,000	8,632	5,198	-3,434	-39.8
	30,000 to 99,999	9,379	5,810	-3,569	-38.1
	100,000 to 499,999	11,504	6,655	-4,849	-42.2
	Vancouver	12,329	7,455	-4,874	-39.5

¹ In order to do a consistent comparison between the 2000 base and 2008 base, Bathurst had to be regrouped into the "< 30,000" category

Table 7
Impact of both the two and three bedroom renters and home owners without mortgages weighted average on the MBM Threshold, by MBM region, for 2007

MBM Geo-Code		Before Rebasings	Weight Average - both Renters and Home Owners without mortgages	Change	
Province	Region	\$	\$	\$	%
Newfoundland and Labrador	rural	29,308	26,817	-2,491	-8.5
	< 30,000	29,820	28,076	-1,744	-5.8
	St. John's	28,544	26,733	-1,811	-6.3
Prince Edward Island	rural	28,603	26,081	-2,522	-8.8
	< 30,000	29,465	27,976	-1,489	-5.1
	Charlottetown	30,527	28,800	-1,727	-5.7
Nova Scotia	rural	29,967	26,697	-3,270	-10.9
	< 30,000	30,245	28,709	-1,536	-5.1
	30,000 to 99,999	28,012	25,612	-2,400	-8.6
	Halifax	29,761	27,203	-2,558	-8.6
	Cape Breton	27,037	25,147	-1,890	-7.0
New Brunswick	rural	28,893	26,303	-2,590	-9.0
	< 30,000 ¹	29,364	27,549	-1,815	-6.2
	Fredericton	29,681	26,986	-2,695	-9.1
	Saint John	27,202	25,598	-1,604	-5.9
	Moncton	27,946	25,858	-2,088	-7.5
Québec	rural	25,861	23,845	-2,016	-7.8
	< 30,000	25,964	24,826	-1,138	-4.4
	30,000 to 99,999	24,283	23,061	-1,222	-5.0
	100,000 to 499,999	24,492	23,678	-814	-3.3
	Québec City	25,810	24,330	-1,480	-5.7
	Montréal	26,560	25,171	-1,389	-5.2
Ontario	rural	28,440	24,880	-3,560	-12.5
	< 30,000	28,428	26,053	-2,375	-8.4
	30,000 to 99,999	26,478	24,078	-2,400	-9.1
	100,000 to 499,999	27,856	25,012	-2,844	-10.2
	Ottawa	30,032	26,793	-3,239	-10.8
	Hamilton/Burlington	27,538	24,466	-3,072	-11.2
	Toronto	31,729	27,598	-4,131	-13.0
Manitoba	rural	27,192	24,703	-2,489	-9.2
	< 30,000	28,400	26,224	-2,176	-7.7
	Brandon	26,156	24,330	-1,826	-7.0
	Winnipeg	27,256	24,620	-2,636	-9.7
Saskatchewan	rural	27,018	25,202	-1,816	-6.7
	< 30,000	28,047	26,194	-1,853	-6.6
	30,000 to 99,999	25,596	24,196	-1,400	-5.5
	Saskatoon	27,292	25,307	-1,985	-7.3
	Regina	26,835	24,893	-1,942	-7.2
Alberta	rural	29,200	25,834	-3,366	-11.5
	< 30,000	30,729	27,579	-3,150	-10.3
	30,000 to 99,999	29,355	25,933	-3,422	-11.7
	Edmonton	29,215	26,270	-2,945	-10.1
	Calgary	30,951	27,707	-3,244	-10.5
British Columbia	rural	29,219	24,791	-4,428	-15.2
	< 30,000	29,395	25,961	-3,434	-11.7
	30,000 to 99,999	27,575	24,006	-3,569	-12.9
	100,000 to 499,999	30,956	26,107	-4,849	-15.7
	Vancouver	31,768	26,894	-4,874	-15.3

¹ In order to do a consistent comparison between the 2000 base and 2008 base, Bathurst had to be regrouped into the "< 30,000" category

In Quebec, the smaller impacts seem to be due to the smaller differences in cost between renters and homeowners without mortgages. For British Columbia, the larger cost differences between renters and owners, combined with the relatively even split between owners and renters in urban areas with 30,000 persons or more led to the large decreases in the shelter component costs.

Differences due to the rebasing of the shelter component were the most prominent in British Columbia, where all regions experienced the largest decreases. The cost of the shelter component decreased by over 38% in each region in BC and the overall cost of the MBM decreased by over 11% in each region in BC (Table 7).

Revisions

There were only minor revisions made to the shelter component. Firstly, estimates from the 2001 Census were used for 2000, with adjustments made using the appropriate CPIs. Secondly, for 2000 to 2002, the SHS underwent a rebasing of its survey weights. The MBM (2008 base) used estimates based on these new SHS estimates. These revisions had a negligible effect on the cost of the shelter component.

Transportation Component

The MBM includes a component to meet the basic transportation needs of the reference family members for work, school, shopping and participation in community activities. The transportation component was specified by the FPT Working Group as one of the following:

- in urban areas served by public transit: 2 monthly adult transit passes and 12 round trip taxi trips per year (Table A.6)
- in areas not served by public transit: the cost of operating a vehicle and of purchasing a five-year-old car once every five years (Table A.7).

Original recommendations on where to apply public and private Transit

The MBM transportation component calls for a separate calculation for public and private transit. In defining the original MBM content, coverage of the Canadian population by public transit systems was determined using data from the Canadian Urban Transit Association and the Quebec Ministry of Transportation. Coverage rates indicate that:

- Rural areas, as expected, had virtually no coverage
- Less than one-third of all urban areas under 30,000 were served by public transit, though estimates vary from province to province
- The vast majority of all urban areas with 30,000+ population were served by public transit.

Based on these results, the following treatment was applied at the time of the initial construction of the MBM:

- Urban areas 500,000+ and Urban areas 100,000 – 499,999 - The public transportation component applied since transit systems were present in every urban centre in these categories.
- Urban areas 30,000 – 99,999, except Charlottetown - Of the 49 centres in this category, 46 had public transit systems. It was proposed that the public transportation component be applied to all centres in this size class except for Charlottetown.
- Charlottetown, P.E.I. – At the time of the initial construction of the MBM, Charlottetown was not served by public transit. Since Charlottetown was the only centre of this size in the province, it was recommended that the private transportation component be applied.
- Urban areas less than 30,000 and rural areas – The private transportation component applied to these two categories. There was a separate private transportation calculation for each province.

Public Transportation Component

The transportation component is based on public transit in 27 of the MBM regions including all urban areas with populations over 100,000 and most in the 30,000 to 99,999 size category. It consists of the total annual cost of two monthly adult transit passes and 12 round-taxi trips per year.

Public transit fares

Public transit fares collected in 49 cities are used in the MBM. Since transit fares are priced twice yearly¹², the average of the two observations represents the monthly cost of one adult pass. This is multiplied by 24 (2 adults x 12 months) to give an annual value. Where monthly passes are not available, 40 adult ticket fares substitute for one monthly adult pass in the calculation.

Whenever public transit quotes are available from CPD from more than one city in an urban size category in a province, the public transit estimate is based on a population-weighted average of the surveyed cities.

Taxi fares

The MBM specifies 12 taxi fares per reference family per year. In 2000, the cost was set at \$16 each or \$192 per year in all urban size categories where public transportation applies. This amount is updated annually using the movement in the provincial CPIs for taxis and other local and commuter transportation.

¹² If an increase is expected in a non-pricing month, an extra pricing is done.

Total public transportation component

The annual public transit fare values calculated for each urban size category are combined with the annual amount for taxi fares, giving the total public transportation component cost for each urban size category within each province.

Rebasing public transportation

Children living in areas served by public transportation may need to use the transit system to access various activities included in the MBM (such as museums and sporting events). During the consultation process, it was recommended to include the cost of one transit pass for the 13 year old. This change was applied retroactively starting in 2000.

Since prices for children's bus passes were not available prior to 2007, the values were imputed by computing a ratio of the price of an adult pass to the price of the child's pass in 2007. This ratio was then applied to the cost of an adult pass in 2000 to 2006 to estimate the cost of a children's bus pass in 2000 to 2006.

Beginning in 2005, the Census Agglomeration (CA) of Charlottetown began to have some public transit service, starting in the city of Charlottetown itself in September. Charlottetown, however, is only one part of the CA, making up just over half of the population of the CA in 2006. Service in the rest of the CA began in 2008 and by September 2008, coverage extended to the other two cities (towns) making up the CA of Charlottetown. As such, Charlottetown remains part of the private transportation component until 2009 when it will be switched to the public transportation component.

Impact of rebasing public transportation component

For 2007, the inclusion of one child's bus pass increased the cost of the transportation component by an average of almost 31% (Table 8). The impact ranged from 23% in Montréal to 38% in Toronto. In terms of the impact on the total cost of the MBM, the inclusion of the child's bus pass led to an average increase of almost 2%. Urban areas in British Columbia with populations between 30,000 and 499,999 were impacted the least (1.4%) while Toronto was impacted the most at 3.2%.

Table 8								
Impact of addition of one child's bus pass on transportation component and total MBM threshold, by MBM region, for 2007								
MBM Geo-Code		Change	Transportation Component			Total MBM Threshold		
			Before Rebasing	Only Public Transportation Rebasing	Change	Before Rebasing	Only Public Transportation Rebasing	Change
Province	Region	\$	\$	\$	%	\$	\$	%
Newfoundland and Labrador	St. John's	456	1,734	2,190	26.3	28,544	29,000	1.6
Nova Scotia	30,000 to 99,999	499	1,631	2,130	30.6	28,012	28,511	1.8
	Halifax	504	1,684	2,188	30.0	29,761	30,265	1.7
	Cape Breton	480	1,444	1,924	33.3	27,037	27,517	1.8
New Brunswick	Fredericton	480	1,816	2,296	26.4	29,681	30,161	1.6
	Saint John	468	1,672	2,140	28.0	27,202	27,670	1.7
	Moncton	528	1,648	2,176	32.0	27,946	28,474	1.9
Québec	30,000 to 99,999	415	1,463	1,878	28.3	24,283	24,697	1.7
	100,000 to 499,999	548	1,733	2,281	31.6	24,492	25,039	2.2
	Québec City	534	1,843	2,377	29.0	25,810	26,344	2.1
	Montréal	420	1,810	2,230	23.2	26,560	26,980	1.6
Ontario	30,000 to 99,999	660	1,807	2,467	36.5	26,478	27,138	2.5
	100,000 to 499,999	671	1,952	2,623	34.4	27,856	28,527	2.4
	Ottawa	717	1,957	2,674	36.7	30,032	30,749	2.4
	Hamilton/Burlington	672	1,807	2,479	37.2	27,538	28,210	2.4
	Toronto	1,005	2,641	3,646	38.1	31,729	32,735	3.2
Manitoba	Brandon	588	1,622	2,210	36.3	26,156	26,744	2.2
	Winnipeg	578	1,940	2,518	29.8	27,256	27,834	2.1
Saskatchewan	30,000 to 99,999	452	1,491	1,943	30.3	25,596	26,048	1.8
	Saskatoon	528	1,700	2,228	31.1	27,292	27,820	1.9
	Regina	480	1,604	2,084	30.0	26,835	27,315	1.8
Alberta	30,000 to 99,999	504	1,462	1,966	34.5	29,355	29,859	1.7
	Edmonton	504	1,661	2,165	30.3	29,215	29,719	1.7
	Calgary	564	2,045	2,609	27.6	30,951	31,515	1.8
British Columbia	30,000 to 99,999	380	1,477	1,857	25.7	27,575	27,954	1.4
	100,000 to 499,999	427	1,660	2,087	25.7	30,956	31,383	1.4
	Vancouver	480	1,898	2,378	25.3	31,768	32,248	1.5
Average change:					30.7			1.9
Maximum change:					38.1			3.2
Minimum change:					23.2			1.4

Revisions to public transportation component

No revisions were necessary to the public transportation component.

Private transportation component

Calculation of the private transportation component involves estimating values for each of the private transportation items identified by the MBM specifications, and then summing to give the total private transportation component. Various sources were used which cover different geographic areas and have different frequencies.

Annual private transportation component:

Private Transportation Component

- = (1/5 X Cost of a five year old car, including interest charges)
- + (Annual drivers license fee) + (Annual vehicle registration fee)
- + (Annual mandatory vehicle) + (Cost of 1,500 litres of gasoline)
- + (cost of two oil changes and one tune up)

Purchase price of a used car

The MBM specifications for the private transportation component allow for the purchase of a five-year-old, four-door compact car, once every five years. Purchase price includes interest charges for a 36-month loan on the entire purchase amount. The source of the price for the used vehicle is the *Canadian Red Book – Official Used Car Valuations*, an acceptable benchmark for used vehicle valuations in the automobile sector.

The make and model specified by HRDC was a four-door, four-cylinder Chevrolet Cavalier. Prices published in the *Red Book* are based on Toronto prices but factors are provided for adjusting for provincial price variations. Using these prices and adjustment factors along with the appropriate sales taxes, monthly¹³ vehicle price estimates by province are calculated. The monthly prices are then averaged to convert them to an annual average price.

Interest charges are added to cover the cost of a loan for the entire purchase price. Since loan rates vary with time, depending on market conditions, an average annual interest rate is calculated. This rate is based on monthly quotes provided by representative financial institutions. The annual interest rate then determines total interest charges for a 36-month loan for the vehicle's entire purchase price. Total interest charges, divided by five, give the annual interest charge for the loan. The annual purchase price plus the annual interest charge gives the total annual price, by province, of purchasing the MBM-specified vehicle.

Driver's license

Provincial driver's licence fees are surveyed annually by CPD. Where licence fees cover more than one year, an annual rate is calculated.

Vehicle registration

Provincial and territorial vehicle registration fees are priced annually by CPD.

¹³ The Red Book changed its publication frequency to nine times per year in 2009.

Mandated vehicle insurance

The MBM specifies mandated vehicle insurance, meaning only the basic insurance required by law, including coverage to drive a vehicle to work. Specifications assume that the drivers have had six years without an accident. There are separate MBM mandated vehicle insurance calculations for each province. Where only one centre is surveyed in a province, prices quoted for that centre represent mandated vehicle insurance for the entire province.

Where price quotes are available from more than one urban centre in a province, the cost is based on a population-weighted average of the smaller cities surveyed. There are two reasons for omitting the larger cities. First, many of the centres surveyed are classified in larger urban areas where the public transportation component applies, and insurance quotes should be restricted as much as possible to centres where the private transportation component applies. Second, insurance rates tend to be higher in the larger, more traffic-congested urban areas: if price quotes from the largest centres were incorporated, they would overestimate vehicle insurance costs in the smaller urban and rural areas where the private transportation component applies.

Annual mandated insurance prices are derived from CPD vehicle insurance quotes. In some jurisdictions, mandatory insurance is included with driver's licences (Manitoba and Québec), while in others, vehicle owners must arrange for their own auto insurance coverage. Price quotes in each province are adjusted to take individual provincial situations into account.

Gasoline

The MBM specifies 1,500 litres of gasoline for the private transportation component. Gasoline is surveyed monthly by CPD. Given the variability in gasoline prices over time, the individual city values provided by CPD are the arithmetic mean of the monthly geometric mean prices, multiplied by 1,500.

Calculation of gasoline prices is also restricted to the smallest surveyed centres in each province. As with price quotes for other items, most of the centres surveyed for gasoline are the larger urban areas. Restricting gasoline estimates to smaller centres minimizes the potential price impact of greater competition among outlets in larger centres. As a result, gasoline prices are based on quotes from only one urban centre in seven provinces (PEI, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Ontario, Manitoba, Alberta, BC) and from two or three in the other provinces.

Vehicle maintenance

The MBM specifies annual vehicle maintenance as one annual tune-up and two oil changes. These items are priced twice a year by CPD. The estimates for annual tune-ups and oil changes are based on population-weighted averages of the surveyed centres.

Total private transportation component

The annual estimate of each private transportation item is summed within each MBM region, producing the MBM private transportation component value.

Rebasing private transportation component

The consultation process undertaken by HRSDC recommended several changes to the private transportation basket. Since the reference family is comprised of two adults, HRSDC agreed to the suggestion that the basket should contain the costs associated with both adults being drivers. This includes the addition of the cost of a second driver's licence and any additional insurance costs. Since it was not possible to determine the cost of insurance for two drivers for the years 2000 to 2005, it was decided that the first year (2006) in which insurance for two drivers was available would be pushed back using the provincial CPIs for automotive vehicle insurance premiums.

For 2007, the impact of adding the cost of an additional driver's licence and additional insurance costs to the reference family means a change ranging from -4.4% to 2.1% on the transportation component, and a change ranging from -0.7% to 0.3% on the overall MBM threshold.

In the 2000-base MBM, the automobile was a four-door, four-cylinder Chevrolet Cavalier. In 2005, Chevrolet ceased manufacturing the Cavalier so it needed to be replaced in the MBM. Using the Canadian Consumer Buying Guide, a list was compiled of "small sedans". Models no longer offered in 2008 were eliminated and prices were obtained using the Red Book for the remaining models. Two models appeared to be outliers – more expensive imported cars beyond the definition of a basic model specified by the MBM. The model selected for the MBM was the car whose value was closest to the median value of the remaining six automobiles. The model chosen was the four-door Ford Focus sedan.

Looking at the 2007 Red Book values for 2002¹⁴ automobiles, there is a significant difference in the values of these two automobiles. While the annual average price of the Cavalier was about \$4,800, for the Focus, it was almost \$6,400. This difference (33%) would result in a noticeable break in the private transportation component. To smooth the transition between the Cavalier and Focus, the Focus was introduced gradually to the basket. Up to 2006, the Cavalier was used. However, in 2007, two-thirds of the value of the Cavalier and one-third of the value of the Focus were used. In 2008, one-third of the value of the Cavalier and two-thirds of the value of the Focus were used. Beginning in 2009, the full value of the Focus will be used in the MBM. Similarly, insurance costs for the Focus were introduced on a gradual basis.

¹⁴ Model year

For 2007, the impact of changing the automobile in the transportation component was on average 3.7%, or \$147 (Table 9). As this change is introduced on a phased-in basis, the impact was moderated. The impact of changing the automobile to the MBM basket as a whole was roughly half-a-percent.

MBM Geo-Code		Change	Transportation Component			Total MBM Threshold		
			Before Rebasing	Blended Car Only	Change	Before Rebasing	Blended Car Only	Change
Province	Region	\$	\$	\$	%	\$	\$	%
Newfoundland and Labrador	rural	152	4,055	4,207	3.7	29,308	29,459	0.5
	< 30,000	152	4,055	4,207	3.7	29,820	29,971	0.5
Prince Edward Island	rural	152	3,703	3,855	4.1	28,603	28,756	0.5
	< 30,000	152	3,703	3,855	4.1	29,465	29,618	0.5
	Charlottetown	152	3,703	3,855	4.1	30,527	30,680	0.5
Nova Scotia	rural	149	4,069	4,218	3.7	29,967	30,116	0.5
	< 30,000	149	4,069	4,218	3.7	30,245	30,394	0.5
New Brunswick	rural	149	4,231	4,380	3.5	28,893	29,041	0.5
	< 30,000	149	4,231	4,380	3.5	29,485	29,633	0.5
	30,000 to 99,999	149	4,231	4,380	3.5	28,899	29,047	0.5
Québec	rural	146	3,691	3,837	4.0	25,861	26,006	0.6
	< 30,000	146	3,691	3,837	4.0	25,964	26,109	0.6
Ontario	rural	146	4,163	4,309	3.5	28,440	28,586	0.5
	< 30,000	146	4,163	4,309	3.5	28,428	28,574	0.5
Manitoba	rural	145	4,348	4,493	3.3	27,192	27,337	0.5
	< 30,000	145	4,348	4,493	3.3	28,400	28,545	0.5
Saskatchewan	rural	145	4,181	4,326	3.5	27,018	27,163	0.5
	< 30,000	145	4,181	4,326	3.5	28,047	28,192	0.5
Alberta	rural	138	3,536	3,674	3.9	29,200	29,338	0.5
	< 30,000	138	3,536	3,674	3.9	30,729	30,867	0.5
British Columbia	rural	149	4,044	4,193	3.7	29,219	29,367	0.5
	< 30,000	149	4,044	4,193	3.7	29,395	29,543	0.5
Average change:					3.7			0.5
Maximum change:					4.1			0.6
Minimum change:					3.3			0.5

While the 2000-base MBM includes oil changes and a tune-up, it does not include any other expenses related to the maintenance of the automobile. To cover these costs, expenditures on tires, batteries and other automotive parts were added to the private transportation component retroactively to 2000. These expenditures were obtained from the Survey of Household Spending item number 30600. To stay in line with the methodology of the MBM, spending was restricted to those in the 2nd income decile for the reference family. Because of the small sample size, this was based on the three-year moving average at the Canada-wide level.

The impact of adding the additional maintenance costs (\$289) to the basket increased the cost of the transportation component from 6.6% in Manitoba to 8.2% in Alberta for 2007. As the three-year moving average is used, this impact is fairly stable over time. In terms of the overall cost of the basket, this addition added roughly 1% to the MBM, in 2007.

The addition of an extra driver, and therefore the cost of another driver's licence and insurance, impacted the transportation component by roughly half-a-percentage point across all MBM regions, for 2007 and had a negligible impact on the overall MBM thresholds.

When taken together¹⁵, the impact of changing the car led to a change in the transportation component ranging from -2.0% in both Nova Scotia and Manitoba to 6.2% in Ontario for 2007. In 2007, the impact on the overall MBM thresholds ranges from -0.3% in both Nova Scotia and Manitoba to 0.9% in Ontario.

Revising the private transportation component

There were two areas where price revisions were necessary. The prices of gasoline between 2001 and 2003 were revised, leading to almost a half-percentage point decrease in the cost of the Transportation Component. Insurance costs were revised for 2005 to 2007. The largest impact of the revised insurance cost was seen in Manitoba (-4.9%), compared to an increase of 2.4 percentage points in Ontario, for 2007.

Overall impact of rebasing and revisions

In general, after all the rebasing and revisions, regions covered by public transportation experienced a greater impact than those covered by private transportation. The average impact over all years on the transportation component for these regions, was about 31% and had an average range of 23% to 43%, for all the rebased years (Table 10). These changes were entirely due to the addition of one child's bus pass to the transportation component.

¹⁵ This includes the blended value of the car, the blended price of insurance for both cars and the additional driver.

Table 10
Transportation component: Differences between 2000 base and 2008 base,
by MBM region, 2000 to 2007

Public:									
MBM Geo-Code		2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Province	Region	%							
Newfoundland and Labrador	St. John's	27.3	26.2	26.2	26.4	26.3	26.1	26.3	26.3
Nova Scotia	30,000 to 99,999	31.4	31.2	31.2	31.0	30.7	30.6	30.5	30.6
	Halifax	30.7	30.6	30.5	30.4	30.1	30.0	30.0	30.0
	Cape Breton	34.0	33.8	33.8	33.6	33.2	33.1	32.8	33.3
New Brunswick	Fredericton	25.9	26.5	26.5	26.5	26.3	26.5	26.1	26.4
	Saint John	31.6	29.0	29.0	28.7	28.5	28.4	28.7	28.0
	Moncton	29.9	32.0	31.9	31.6	31.4	31.4	31.9	32.0
Québec	30,000 to 99,999	28.6	28.3	29.0	29.0	28.6	28.4	28.4	28.3
	100,000 to 499,999	33.0	31.9	31.9	31.9	31.8	31.7	31.4	31.6
	Québec City	29.8	29.2	29.4	29.4	29.3	29.1	28.9	29.0
	Montréal	23.3	23.1	23.3	23.4	23.6	23.5	23.3	23.2
Ontario	30,000 to 99,999	45.8	43.5	43.5	43.2	43.2	43.6	43.4	36.5
	100,000 to 499,999	34.7	34.6	34.6	34.4	34.5	34.3	34.0	34.4
	Ottawa	37.1	37.7	37.8	37.6	37.5	37.3	37.7	36.7
	Hamilton/Burlington	34.1	35.0	35.2	35.1	35.0	34.8	34.6	37.2
	Toronto	35.1	35.4	35.4	35.4	35.3	35.2	35.0	38.1
Manitoba	Brandon	24.7	24.5	24.8	24.8	25.2	25.0	25.0	36.3
	Winnipeg	29.7	29.7	29.7	29.8	29.9	29.8	29.8	29.8
Saskatchewan	30,000 to 99,999	29.5	30.6	30.3	30.3	30.7	30.7	30.6	30.3
	Saskatoon	33.5	33.4	33.4	33.6	33.9	34.0	34.2	31.1
	Regina	29.2	29.9	29.8	30.0	30.1	30.0	30.0	30.0
Alberta	30,000 to 99,999	31.7	32.2	32.2	32.2	32.1	32.1	32.0	34.5
	Edmonton	38.0	39.0	38.9	39.1	39.0	38.9	38.5	30.3
	Calgary	29.4	29.0	29.2	29.7	29.5	29.7	29.4	27.6
British Columbia	30,000 to 99,999	24.9	26.4	26.4	26.4	26.3	26.2	25.8	25.7
	100,000 to 499,999	24.5	25.7	25.7	25.6	25.7	25.8	25.6	25.7
	Vancouver	25.7	25.4	25.3	25.3	25.2	25.4	25.1	25.3
Private:									
Newfoundland and Labrador	rural	5.2	4.2	4.7	8.0	8.3	7.9	8.1	11.2
	< 30,000	5.2	4.2	4.7	8.0	8.3	7.9	8.1	11.2
Prince Edward Island	rural	6.4	5.4	6.1	5.9	7.7	7.6	9.4	12.0
	< 30,000	6.4	5.4	6.1	5.9	7.7	7.6	9.4	12.0
	Charlottetown	6.4	5.4	6.1	5.9	7.7	7.6	9.4	12.0
Nova Scotia	rural	0.0	-0.9	-1.8	-3.3	0.6	-1.0	0.6	5.1
	< 30,000	0.0	-0.9	-1.8	-3.3	0.6	-1.0	0.6	5.1
New Brunswick	rural	7.0	5.9	4.1	3.4	5.3	4.0	5.8	7.9
	< 30,000 ¹	7.0	5.9	4.1	3.4	5.3	..	..	..
Québec	rural	3.7	3.1	3.2	5.6	7.0	6.4	8.2	11.7
	< 30,000	3.7	3.1	3.2	5.6	7.0	6.4	8.2	11.7
Ontario	rural	8.6	8.3	5.9	6.5	7.5	6.2	7.6	13.2
	< 30,000	8.6	8.3	5.9	6.5	7.5	6.2	7.6	13.2
Manitoba	rural	3.7	3.2	2.4	2.0	3.2	2.1	1.6	4.6
	< 30,000	3.7	3.2	2.4	2.0	3.2	2.1	1.6	4.6
Saskatchewan	rural	8.0	8.3	7.0	6.8	8.2	7.6	8.7	10.9
	< 30,000	8.0	8.3	7.0	6.8	8.2	7.6	8.7	10.9
Alberta	rural	1.9	1.4	2.6	5.4	6.9	7.8	10.5	13.6
	< 30,000	1.9	1.4	2.6	5.4	6.9	7.8	10.5	13.6
British Columbia	rural	4.2	3.9	4.1	4.4	5.7	7.0	7.9	11.6
	< 30,000	4.2	3.9	4.1	4.4	5.7	7.0	7.9	11.6

¹ Starting in 2005, the creation of the "30,000 to 99,999" category prevented a comparison between the 2000 base and 2008 base

.. not available for a specific reference period

The average impact over all years on the transportation component for all MBM regions that had private transportation was about 5.8% and had an average range of -0.1% to 9%, for all the rebased years. The averages for MBM regions having private transportation were slightly skewed because of the introduction of the blended new car in 2007. In 2007, the average impact on the transportation component for all regions having private transportation was 10.3% and ranged from 4.6% in regions in Manitoba to 13.6 % in regions in Alberta.

Other expenses component

The MBM has a final component defined for other expenses, to cover other goods and services that would be considered necessities according to the current societal norms. The methodology for pricing other expenses does not utilize the pricing of items as other parts of the MBM does. Instead, it is based on expenditures on selected other items and items of food and clothing. These, together with the cost of the food and clothing components, result in an estimate of the cost of other expenses.

All calculations of expenditures are based on the reference families (two parents, two children for the whole year) in the second income (before tax) decile of the SHS. A multiplier is calculated as the ratio of the average spending on other goods and services to the average spending on food and clothing (Table A.8).

$$\text{Multiplier} = \frac{\text{Average expenditures on other goods and services}}{\text{Average expenditures on food and clothing}}$$

To help reduce variability due to the small sample size (reference families in the second decile), the multiplier is calculated for the reference year and the two previous years and these values are averaged. Then this multiplier is applied to the cost of the food and clothing component to estimate the cost of other expenses.

Other expenses component

$$= 3 \text{ year average multiplier} \times (\text{cost of food} + \text{clothing component})$$

While the multiplier is at the Canada-level, it is applied to the MBM-region level cost of the food and clothing components. This means that the other expenses component is region-specific.

Rebasing other expenses component

During the consultation process, it was recommended that a complete examination of spending patterns for reference families be undertaken. If more than 70% of reference families in 7 out of 10 provinces and for Canada spent on an item, it would be considered for inclusion in the other expenses component. Not all items meeting that threshold would be included, as the items also needed to materially add to the quality of life to be measured by the MBM.

Two items (“Computer equipment and supplies” and “internet access services”) fulfilled these requirements, reaching the 70% threshold in eight and nine provinces respectively starting in 2005 (Tables 11 and 12).

Table 11					
Expenditures on Computer Equipment and Supplies, 2003-2007					
Percentage of Reference Families who spent:	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Newfoundland and Labrador	68%	69%	77%	81%	75%
Prince Edward Island	69%	66%	72%	75%	59%
Nova Scotia	74%	76%	75%	82%	78%
New Brunswick	64%	61%	58%	61%	77%
Québec	60%	67%	71%	77%	68%
Ontario	75%	67%	79%	82%	83%
Manitoba	67%	60%	67%	76%	74%
Saskatchewan	72%	72%	70%	83%	73%
Alberta	73%	73%	75%	84%	80%
British Columbia	74%	82%	75%	87%	80%
CANADA	70%	70%	75%	81%	78%
Average expenditure of 2nd decile reference families:					
CANADA	\$213	\$318	\$273	\$396	\$299
Source: SHS					

Table 12					
Expenditures on Internet Access Services, 2003-2007					
Percentage of Reference Families who spent:	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Newfoundland and Labrador	59%	66%	72%	87%	82%
Prince Edward Island	49%	76%	77%	82%	76%
Nova Scotia	48%	72%	86%	87%	91%
New Brunswick	55%	60%	67%	68%	88%
Québec	60%	67%	77%	84%	77%
Ontario	68%	76%	80%	89%	90%
Manitoba	61%	70%	80%	78%	78%
Saskatchewan	56%	69%	81%	79%	74%
Alberta	73%	76%	82%	90%	89%
British Columbia	60%	82%	81%	95%	89%
CANADA	64%	74%	79%	87%	85%
Average expenditure of 2nd decile reference families:					
CANADA	\$141	\$245	\$265	\$352	\$302
Source: SHS					

Impact of rebasing other expenses component

The addition of computer equipment and supplies and internet access services added \$273 and \$265 in 2005 respectively, the first year of inclusion. By 2007, the MBM reference families spent, on average, about \$300 on each of these categories. Since the multiplier is a three-year average, the full impact of the addition of these two items was not felt until 2007.

Revisions of other expenses component

For reference years 2005 to 2007, only one-quarter as opposed to one-half of expenditures on food purchased in restaurants and board paid to private households was included in the denominator of the other expenses multiplier.

For reference years 2004 to 2007, expenditure on videos, DVDs and games were double-counted in the numerator of the other expenses multiplier.

For reference years 2000 to 2002, the values generated by the Survey of Household Spending were reweighted, and affected both the numerator and the denominator for the reference years 2000 to 2004, since the multiplier is based on a three-year moving average.

Impact of revisions

The impact of including only one-quarter as opposed to one-half of expenditures of food purchases from restaurants and board paid to private households caused a 1.4% decrease in the other expenses component, in 2005, the first year the error occurred. There was no significant impact on the MBM threshold overall. Since the multiplier is a three-year moving average, the largest discrepancies were found in 2007, with the impact causing a 4% decrease in the other expenses component and a 1% decrease in the overall MBM threshold.

The impact of double-counting the expenditures on video, DVDs and games caused a half-a-percent increase in the other expenses component of the MBM, across all regions for 2004. In 2007, this double-counting caused around a 1.5% increase in the other expenses component, across all regions. There was no significant impact on the overall MBM threshold, for any of the affected years.

The impact of the reweighting on the other expenses component was negligible, at a little less than half-a-percent, and there was almost no impact on the overall MBM threshold for 2002. Reference year 2002 experienced the greatest effect of the SHS reweighting, as all three years in its moving average were impacted.

Overall impact of rebasing and revisions

In general, the average impact of all the rebasing and revisions on the other expenses component ranged from 0.8% to 11.1% between 2000 to 2007 (Table 13). The smallest differences occurred in 2000, but the lines started to diverge in the subsequent years. The largest impacts occurred in the years after 2005, when more of the newly-added expenses (Computer equipment and internet access services) began to be realized.

Table 13
Other expenses component: Differences between 2000 base and 2008 base,
by MBM region, 2000 to 2007

MBM Geo-Code		2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Province	Region	%							
Newfoundland and Labrador	rural	1.0	3.9	4.4	4.4	3.8	4.2	11.1	8.6
	< 30,000	1.0	3.9	4.4	4.4	3.8	4.2	11.1	8.6
	St. John's	0.9	3.8	4.3	4.4	3.8	4.2	11.1	8.6
Prince Edward Island	rural	0.7	3.6	4.0	4.1	3.5	4.0	11.0	8.8
	< 30,000	0.7	3.6	4.0	4.1	3.5	4.0	11.0	8.8
	Charlottetown	0.7	3.6	4.0	4.1	3.5	4.0	11.0	8.8
Nova Scotia	rural	0.6	3.5	4.0	4.1	3.5	4.1	10.6	8.7
	< 30,000	0.6	3.5	4.0	4.1	3.5	4.1	10.6	8.7
	30,000 to 99,999	0.6	3.5	4.0	4.1	3.5	4.1	10.6	8.7
	Halifax	0.6	3.5	4.0	4.1	3.5	4.1	10.6	8.7
	Cape Breton	0.6	3.5	4.0	4.0	3.5	4.0	10.6	8.7
New Brunswick	rural	0.4	3.3	3.8	3.9	3.3	3.7	10.8	8.6
	< 30,000	0.4	3.3	3.8	3.9	3.3	3.7	10.8	8.6
	Fredericton	0.4	3.3	3.8	3.8	3.3	3.7	10.8	8.6
	Saint John	0.4	3.3	3.8	3.8	3.3	3.7	10.8	8.6
	Moncton	0.4	3.3	3.8	3.8	3.2	3.6	10.7	8.6
Québec	rural	0.8	3.8	4.2	4.3	3.7	4.2	11.2	8.7
	< 30,000	0.8	3.8	4.2	4.3	3.7	4.2	11.2	8.7
	30,000 to 99,999	0.8	3.8	4.2	4.3	3.7	4.2	11.2	8.7
	100,000 to 499,999	0.8	3.8	4.2	4.3	3.7	4.2	11.2	8.7
	Québec City	0.8	3.8	4.2	4.3	3.7	4.2	11.2	8.7
Montréal	0.8	3.8	4.2	4.3	3.7	4.2	11.2	8.7	
Ontario	rural	0.3	3.3	3.7	3.8	3.3	3.9	10.4	8.7
	< 30,000	0.3	3.3	3.7	3.8	3.3	3.9	10.4	8.7
	30,000 to 99,999	0.3	3.3	3.7	3.8	3.3	3.9	10.4	8.7
	100,000 to 499,999	0.4	3.3	3.8	3.9	3.3	3.9	10.4	8.7
	Ottawa	0.5	3.4	3.9	4.0	3.3	3.9	10.4	8.7
	Hamilton/Burlington	0.3	3.2	3.7	3.8	3.2	3.8	10.4	8.7
	Toronto	0.5	3.4	3.9	4.0	3.4	3.9	10.5	8.7
Manitoba	rural	0.8	3.7	4.2	4.3	3.7	4.2	10.7	8.5
	< 30,000	0.8	3.7	4.2	4.3	3.7	4.2	10.7	8.5
	Brandon	0.8	3.7	4.2	4.3	3.7	4.2	10.7	8.5
	Winnipeg	0.8	3.8	4.2	4.3	3.7	4.2	10.7	8.5
Saskatchewan	rural	1.0	3.9	4.4	4.4	3.8	4.3	10.6	8.3
	< 30,000	1.0	3.9	4.4	4.4	3.8	4.3	10.6	8.3
	30,000 to 99,999	1.0	3.9	4.4	4.4	3.8	4.3	10.6	8.3
	Saskatoon	1.0	4.0	4.4	4.5	3.9	4.3	10.6	8.4
	Regina	1.0	3.9	4.4	4.4	3.8	4.3	10.6	8.3
Alberta	rural	1.0	3.9	4.3	4.4	3.8	4.1	11.0	8.8
	< 30,000	1.0	3.9	4.3	4.4	3.8	4.1	11.0	8.8
	30,000 to 99,999	1.0	3.9	4.3	4.4	3.8	4.1	11.0	8.8
	Edmonton	0.9	3.9	4.3	4.4	3.8	4.1	10.9	8.8
	Calgary	0.9	3.8	4.3	4.4	3.8	4.1	11.0	8.8
British Columbia	rural	1.1	3.9	4.4	4.4	6.2	7.1	15.1	12.7
	< 30,000	1.1	3.9	4.4	4.4	6.2	7.1	15.1	12.7
	30,000 to 99,999	1.1	3.9	4.4	4.4	6.2	7.1	15.1	12.7
	100,000 to 499,999	1.1	4.0	4.4	4.5	3.8	4.3	11.2	8.8
	Vancouver	1.0	3.9	4.4	4.4	3.8	4.2	11.2	8.8
Average change:		0.8	3.7	4.1	4.2	3.7	4.3	11.1	8.9
Maximum change:		1.1	4.0	4.4	4.5	6.2	7.1	15.1	12.7
Minimum change:		0.3	3.2	3.7	3.8	3.2	3.6	10.4	8.3

Overall MBM Threshold

All five components that comprise the overall MBM threshold have in some way been rebased or revised. Each component's impact on the MBM total varied in magnitude, with the shelter component having the largest influence and the clothing component having the smallest.

The combined effects of all the components tended to push the overall MBM threshold levels down across all regions, and for most years. Average decreases over the period for most provinces ranged from 3.3% to 7.2% (Table 14). Two provinces were outside of this range. In Québec, the impact of the changes to the threshold was the smallest with an overall average decrease of 1.4%. At the other extreme, thresholds in British Columbia decreased the most (10% on average).

Table 14									
MBM thresholds: Differences between 2000 base and 2008 base, by MBM region, 2000 to 2007									
MBM Geo-Code		2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Province	Region	%							
Newfoundland and Labrador	rural	-7.9	-7.0	-6.8	-6.4	-5.9	-5.5	-3.3	-3.2
	< 30,000	-5.5	-4.0	-3.7	-3.3	-3.0	-2.7	-0.7	-0.7
	St. John's	-3.9	-2.7	-2.7	-2.7	-2.8	-2.6	-0.5	-1.0
Prince Edward Island	rural	-7.0	-7.7	-7.3	-7.2	-6.4	-5.7	-3.5	-3.6
	< 30,000	-4.0	-3.2	-2.9	-2.8	-2.3	-1.9	0.1	0.0
	Charlottetown	-3.4	-3.5	-3.3	-3.3	-2.9	-2.5	-0.7	-0.7
Nova Scotia	rural	-10.2	-9.7	-9.9	-10.2	-9.6	-9.3	-7.4	-6.6
	< 30,000	-4.5	-4.9	-4.7	-4.7	-3.9	-3.5	-1.4	-0.8
	30,000 to 99,999	-6.0	-5.9	-5.8	-5.7	-5.6	-5.1	-3.0	-2.9
	Halifax	-4.5	-4.9	-4.9	-5.1	-5.2	-5.0	-3.4	-3.4
	Cape Breton	-4.3	-3.0	-3.1	-3.3	-3.4	-3.2	-1.5	-1.3
New Brunswick	rural	-6.7	-6.8	-6.9	-7.0	-6.6	-6.4	-4.0	-4.2
	< 30,000 ¹	-2.8	-3.6	-3.8	-3.9	-3.6	..	..	..
	Fredericton	-6.9	-7.1	-6.9	-6.7	-6.5	-6.0	-3.7	-3.9
	Saint John	-2.3	-2.3	-2.2	-2.3	-2.3	-2.1	0.4	-0.3
	Moncton	-3.6	-4.5	-4.4	-4.5	-4.5	-4.1	-1.7	-2.0
Québec	rural	-6.3	-5.6	-5.7	-5.3	-5.1	-4.7	-2.6	-2.5
	< 30,000	-2.2	-2.2	-2.1	-1.7	-1.5	-1.2	0.9	0.9
	30,000 to 99,999	-1.6	-0.9	-0.8	-0.9	-1.1	-0.9	1.0	0.5
	100,000 to 499,999	-1.9	-1.0	-0.6	-0.2	0.2	0.9	3.2	2.7
	Québec City	-2.0	-1.0	-1.0	-1.2	-1.4	-1.3	0.4	0.0
	Montréal	-2.1	-1.5	-1.5	-1.5	-1.5	-1.4	0.4	-0.1
Ontario	rural	-12.4	-10.3	-10.9	-10.9	-10.3	-9.7	-8.0	-7.4
	< 30,000	-7.9	-6.3	-6.7	-6.6	-6.0	-5.6	-3.8	-3.3
	30,000 to 99,999	-8.3	-6.3	-6.2	-6.0	-5.4	-4.3	-2.4	-3.2
	100,000 to 499,999	-8.9	-7.4	-7.3	-7.1	-6.8	-6.2	-4.4	-4.5
	Ottawa	-6.7	-6.3	-6.5	-6.8	-6.8	-6.5	-5.1	-5.3
	Hamilton/Burlington	-9.2	-8.7	-8.5	-8.3	-7.9	-7.3	-5.6	-5.6
	Toronto	-8.6	-9.6	-9.5	-9.3	-9.1	-8.7	-7.1	-7.0
Manitoba	rural	-6.2	-6.3	-6.7	-6.9	-6.7	-6.6	-5.2	-4.9
	< 30,000	-5.8	-6.0	-6.1	-6.0	-5.7	-5.4	-3.9	-3.6
	Brandon	-4.1	-3.4	-3.3	-3.3	-3.3	-3.1	-1.5	-1.1
	Winnipeg	-4.9	-4.9	-5.2	-5.4	-5.5	-5.4	-3.9	-4.1

Table 14 (cont'd)									
MBM Geo-Code		2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Province	Region	%							
Saskatchewan	rural	-5.0	-4.8	-5.2	-5.2	-4.6	-4.4	-2.7	-1.7
	< 30,000	-5.1	-4.8	-5.1	-5.0	-4.5	-4.2	-2.5	-1.8
	30,000 to 99,999	-2.4	-2.2	-2.3	-2.2	-2.0	-1.7	-0.2	-0.2
	Saskatoon	-2.3	-3.7	-3.7	-3.6	-3.5	-3.3	-1.7	-2.0
Alberta	Regina	-2.8	-4.5	-4.4	-4.3	-4.1	-3.9	-2.3	-2.1
	rural	-8.3	-8.8	-9.4	-9.4	-9.4	-9.5	-6.9	-6.4
	< 30,000	-7.1	-7.3	-7.8	-7.7	-7.8	-7.9	-5.7	-5.4
	30,000 to 99,999	-4.4	-6.6	-7.2	-7.5	-7.9	-8.3	-6.4	-6.5
British Columbia	Edmonton	-4.1	-5.3	-5.7	-6.0	-6.1	-6.1	-4.2	-5.0
	Calgary	-3.7	-7.8	-7.8	-7.6	-7.6	-7.2	-5.1	-5.4
	rural	-11.3	-11.7	-12.3	-12.7	-10.9	-10.3	-8.1	-8.0
	< 30,000	-9.2	-8.6	-8.9	-9.3	-7.5	-6.9	-4.7	-4.6
	30,000 to 99,999	-10.5	-8.5	-8.9	-9.3	-7.8	-7.4	-5.2	-5.7
	100,000 to 499,999	-14.0	-12.2	-12.5	-12.5	-12.6	-12.5	-10.6	-10.9
	Vancouver	-12.7	-12.3	-12.4	-12.4	-12.4	-12.0	-10.2	-10.5
	Average change:	-5.9	-5.8	-5.9	-5.9	-5.6	-5.3	-3.4	-3.4
Maximum change:	-1.6	-0.9	-0.6	-0.2	0.2	0.9	3.2	2.7	
Minimum change:	-14.0	-12.3	-12.5	-12.7	-12.6	-12.5	-10.6	-10.9	

¹ Starting in 2005, the creation of the "30,000 to 99,999" category prevented a comparison between the 2000 base and 2008 base

.. not available for a specific reference period

Smaller differences between the 2000- and 2008-based MBM thresholds in Québec can be attributed to the shelter component where the rebasing and revisions had the least impact. On average over the period, within the regions in Québec, the cost of the shelter component was 20% lower in the 2008-base, substantially smaller than in any other province.

In general, British Columbia experienced the largest decreases in terms of percentage change, when comparing the overall MBM threshold costs before and after rebasing. Vancouver and large urban areas in British Columbia (100,000 and 499,999) experienced the greatest percentage differences, with decreases of 11% each in 2007. Once again the driving factor influencing these large differences was the change in methodology of the shelter component. For instance, the average decrease in British Columbia for the shelter component was 42%, while the other provinces experienced an average decrease of 27%. Within the province of British Columbia, rural areas experienced the greatest decreases between the before and after rebasing numbers for the shelter component, at 52%. However, this difference was tempered by the revision of the food component and the resulting adjustment to the other expenses component for Prince George beginning in 2004. As a result, the post-rebasing difference in the overall MBM threshold for this region narrowed through the mid-2000s.

Determination of MBM disposable income

MBM definition of disposable income

The income concept used for MBM is the income available to purchase the goods and services that are contained in the MBM basket. The general approach is to begin with total income and to subtract income taxes and other non-discretionary expenses from that amount. This extends the traditional after-tax income concept, which takes income taxes into account but does not consider any other expenses.

Total Income refers to income from all sources including government transfers.

To calculate MBM income, subtract the following from Total Income.

- **Income tax**, that is, federal and provincial taxes on income, capital gains and RRSP withdrawals, after taking into account exemptions, deductions, non-refundable tax credits, and the refundable Quebec abatement.
- **CPP/QPP contributions** that are deducted from earnings due to paid employment. (*Receipts* from CPP/QPP are included in Total Income.)
- **Employment Insurance (EI) contributions** that are deducted from earnings due to paid employment. (*Receipts* from EI are included in Total Income.)
- **Registered Pension Plan (RPP) contributions** that are deducted from earnings due to paid employment.
- **Union and professional dues** including union dues, fees associated with collective agreements, professional membership dues and liability or malpractice insurance premiums.
- **Child/spousal support payments** *paid* to a former spouse or partner, as covered by an agreement to pay a fixed amount on a regular basis. (*Receipts* from support payments are included in Total Income.)
- **Work-related child care expenses** incurred for child care which enable the parent(s) or guardian(s) to work for pay.
- **Out-of-pocket medical expenses** for medically recommended health care and equipment.
- **Public health insurance premiums** as required in some provinces.

The components are factored into the calculation of MBM income at the individual level. The result is then summed for all economic family members to derive the MBM income for the economic family. The economic family MBM income is then compared to the annual cost for the MBM basket of goods and services for the appropriate category to determine whether the family is above or below the MBM line.

Source of income data

The Survey of Labour and Income Dynamics (SLID) provides the income amounts that are used to estimate MBM rates. SLID is a longitudinal survey designed to capture changes in

the economic well-being of individuals and families over time. The SLID sample is composed of two panels with a combined sample size of approximately 35,000 households. A panel is surveyed for a period of six consecutive years. A new panel is introduced every three years, so there are always two overlapping panels in the survey.

To reduce response burden, respondents can give Statistics Canada permission to use their tax information for the purposes of SLID. Those who do so are only contacted for the labour interviews. For 2007, over 80% of SLID's respondents gave their consent to the use of administrative tax records.

Deductions from total income

The non-discretionary expenses described in the MBM specifications are obtained in a variety of ways: tax data (for SLID respondents who give permission), reported values in the SLID labour and income interviews, direct calculation based on published algorithms and imputation from SHS.

Rebasing and revision

There were no changes to the calculation of disposable income in this review.

Low income statistics

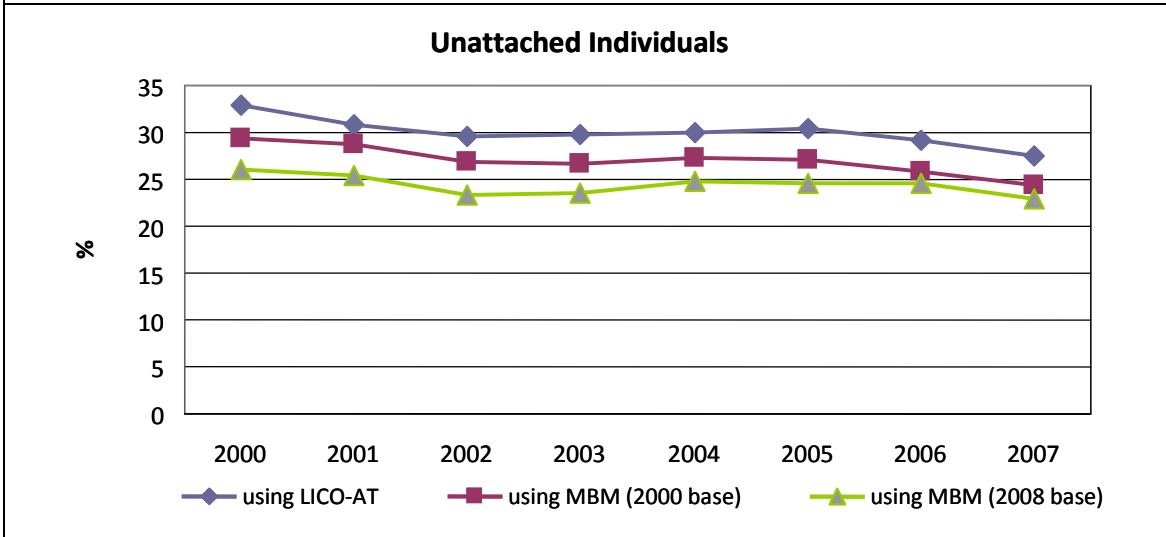
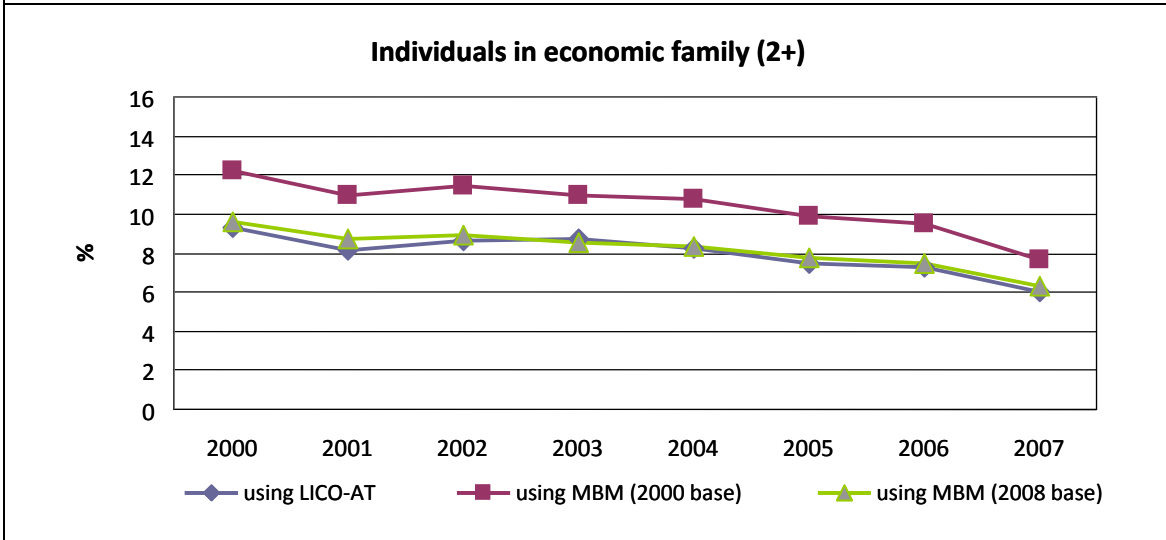
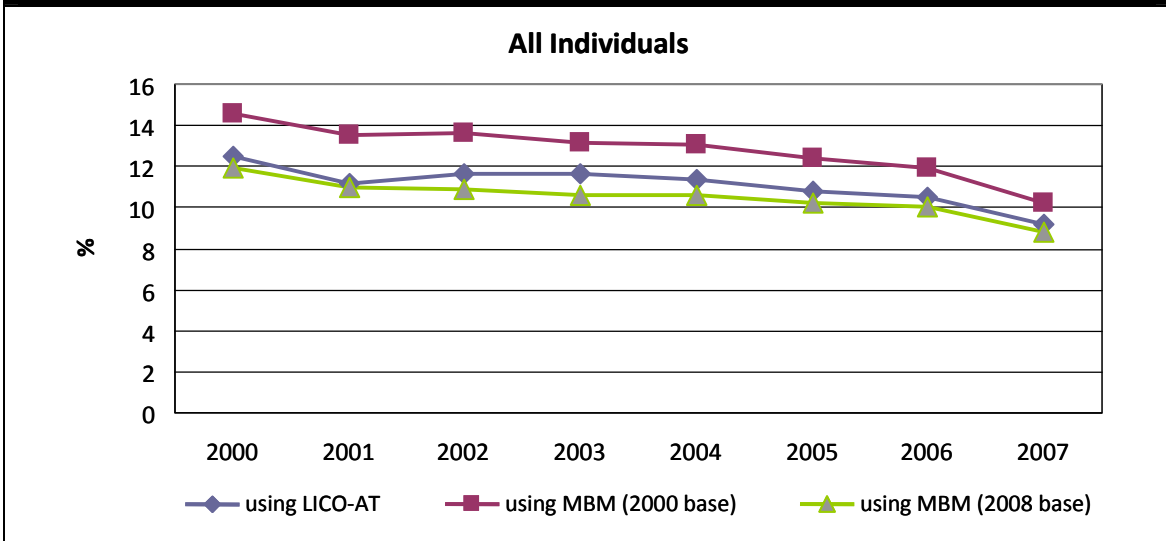
Incidence

Comparing the low-income thresholds and disposable income, the incidence of low income can be calculated. The incidence of low income for individuals is the percentage of individuals living in families whose disposable income falls below the threshold¹⁶. Since the review process has changed the MBM thresholds, the incidences of low income have been impacted.

Since the MBM (2008 base) thresholds are lower than the 2000 base for the years 2000 to 2007, the incidences of low income are lower in those years. When looking at individuals living in families, the incidences were lower by about just over 2.5 percentage points through the early part of the decade with the difference narrowing through the middle of the decade (Chart 1). By 2007, the difference in the incidences using the two bases of the MBM was only 1.4 percentage points (10.2% for the 2000-base compared to 8.8% for the 2008-base). The incidences based on the LICO-AT follow a similar pattern to both versions of the MBM, but are much closer to the incidences using 2008-base MBM.

¹⁶ With the release of 2008 Income in Canada, there is a change in the way that low income statistics are produced. In previous years, the incidence of low income was based at the family level. For example, x% of families were living in low-income. To account for differences in family size, statistics were presented by detailed family type, such as for married couples with children or married couples without children. Beginning with the 2008 release, all low-income statistics are based at the individual level. This means that what will now be reported is, for example, x% of individuals living in married couple families with children were in low-income.

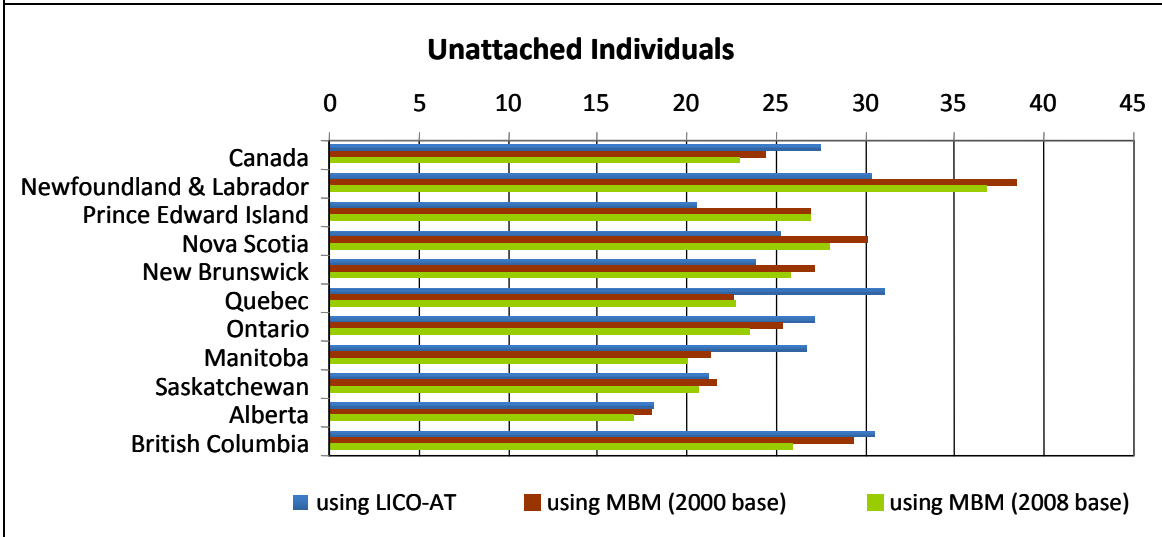
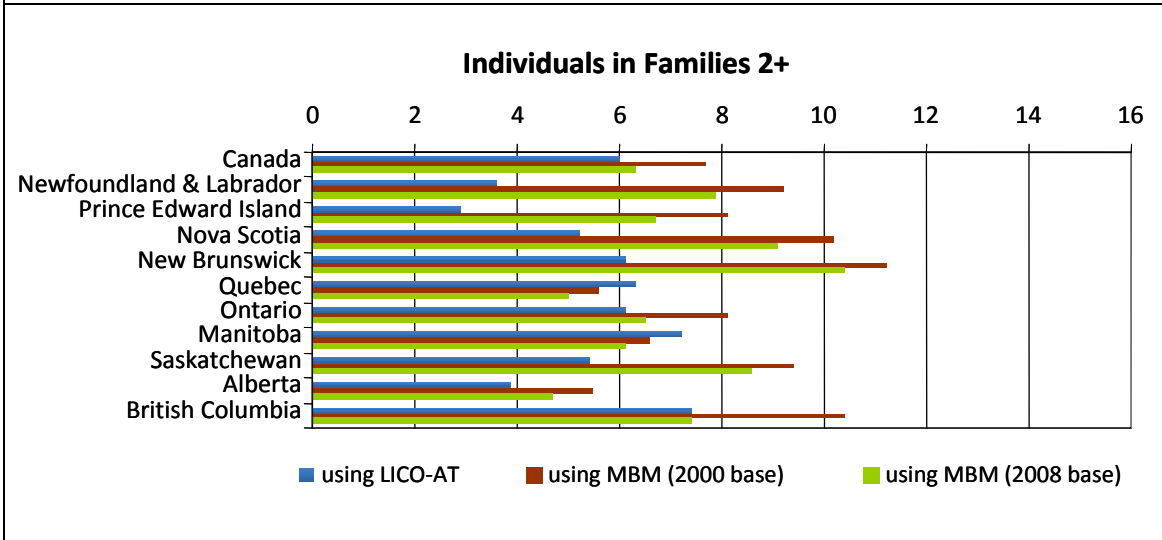
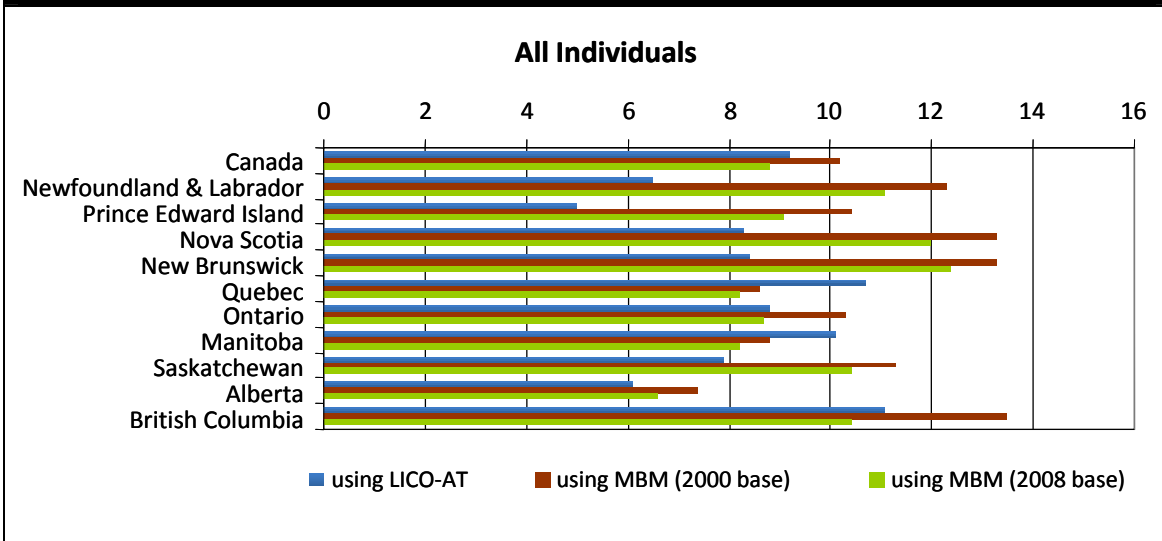
Chart 1
Incidence of low income – Revision to historical MBM low income rates from 2000 to 2007



For unattached individuals, the incidences were lower by 3.3 percentage points in 2000 and narrowed through the middle of the decade. By 2007, the difference in the incidences using the two bases of the MBM was only 1.4 percentage points (24.4% for the 2000-base compared to 23.0% for the 2008-base). While the incidences using the LICO-AT follow a similar pattern to both bases of the MBM, the rates using the LICO-AT are higher than those using either base of the MBM. The difference between the incidences based on the LICO-AT and the MBM (2008 base) was almost 7 percentage points in 2000 and declined to 4.5 percentage points in 2007.

When looking at the incidences of low income by province in 2007 and comparing the levels using the two bases of the MBM, British Columbia has been the most affected. For all individuals, the low income rate in British Columbia was 13.5% in 2007 using the 2000-base MBM (Chart 2). As a result of rebasing and revisions to the MBM basket, the incidence of low income was 10.4%. These differences held for individuals in families and the unattached. The cost of the shelter component in British Columbia is the driving factor of these differences – the cost of the shelter component was lower by an average of 42% in the regions in BC, substantially larger differences than in other regions.

Chart 2
Incidence of low income – Revision to historical MBM incidence of low income by province, 2007



Depth

Comparing the low-income thresholds and the disposable income, the depth of low income can be calculated. For those families whose disposable income is below the threshold, the depth of low income is the difference between their disposable income and their low income threshold, expressed as a percentage of the threshold. Although the review process has changed the MBM thresholds, low income depths have not been significantly impacted (Charts 3 and 4).

Chart 3
Depth of low income – Revision to historical MBM depth of low income rates from 2000 to 2007

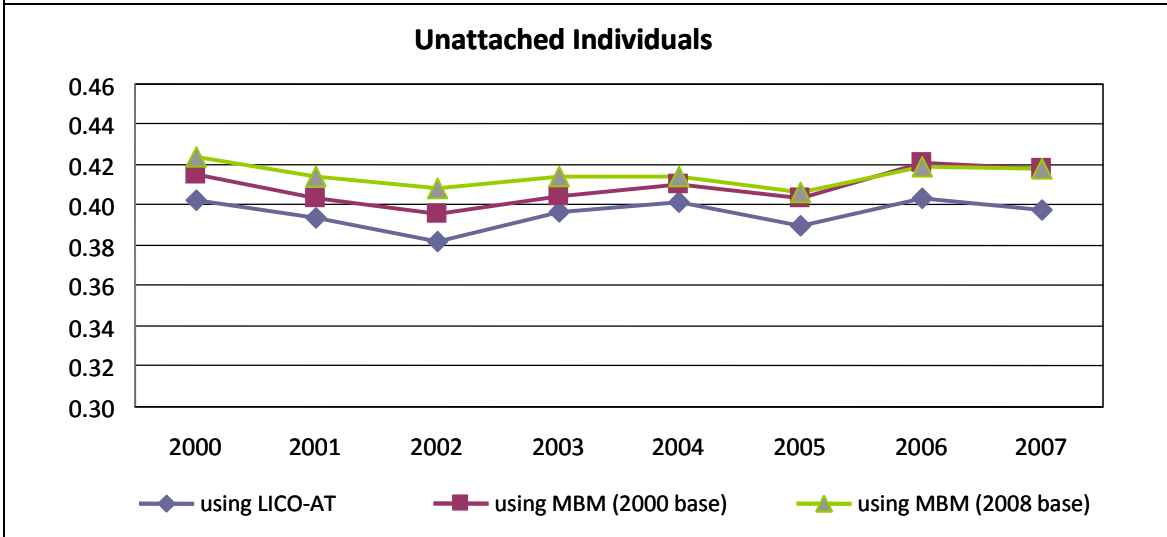
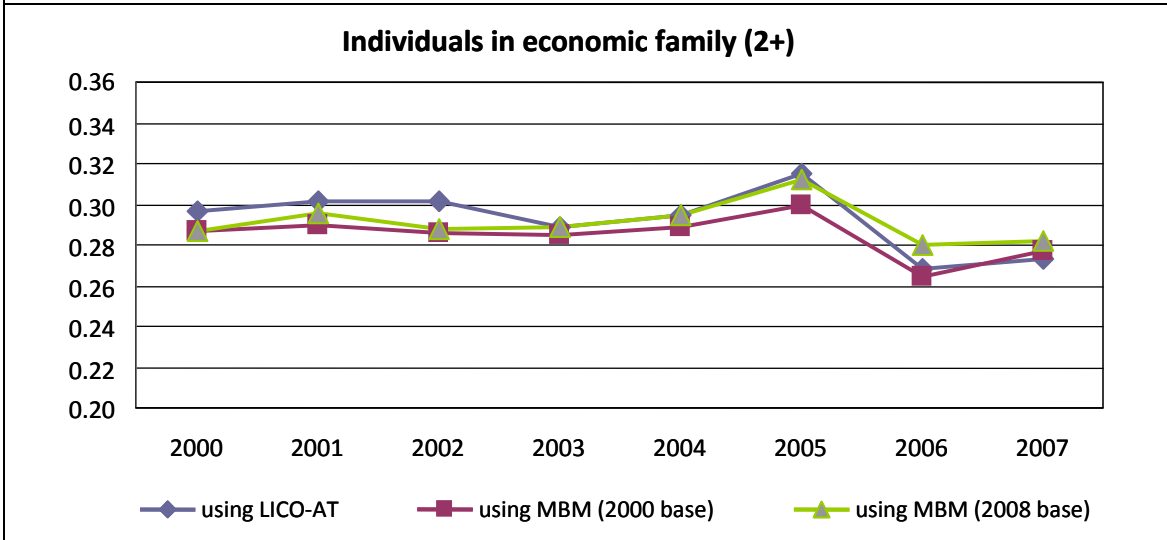
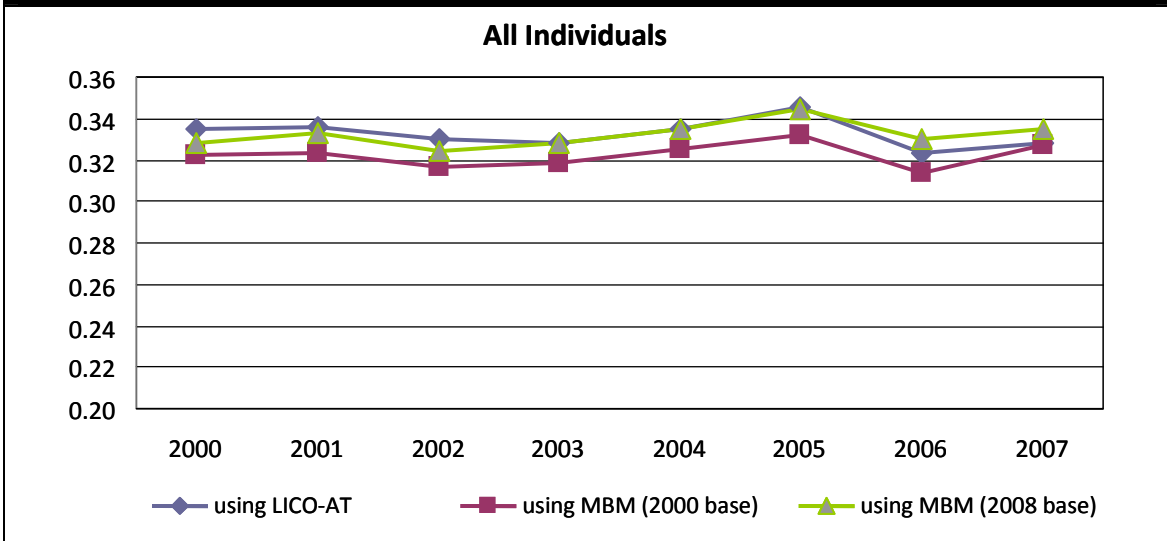
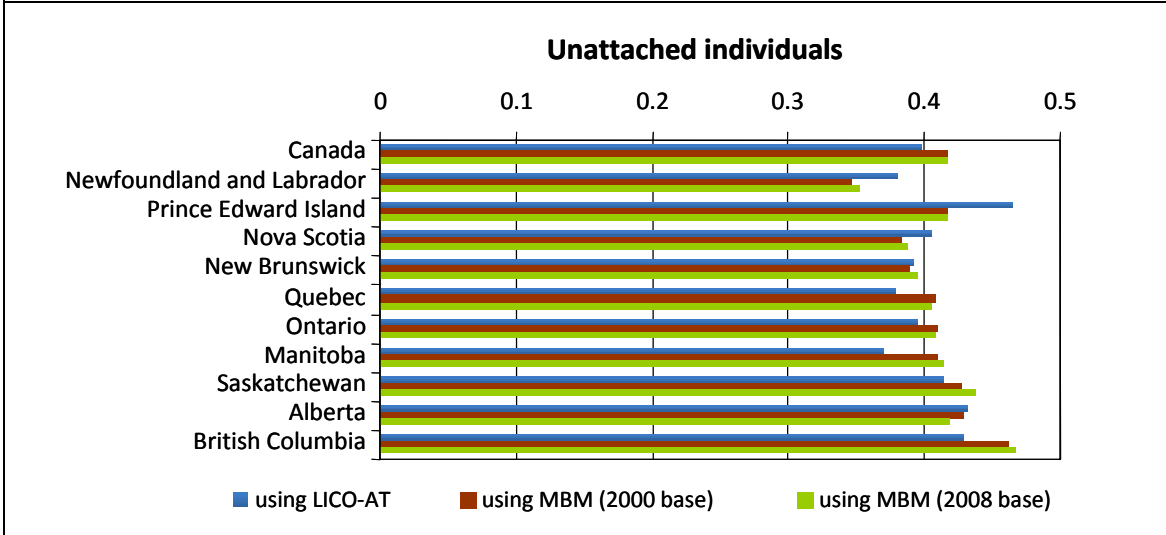
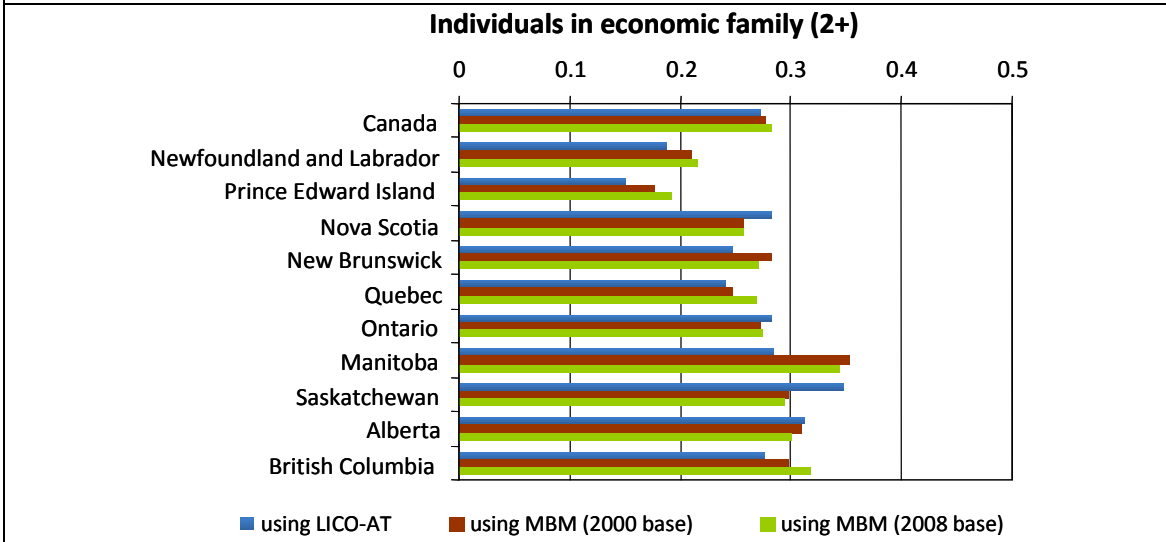
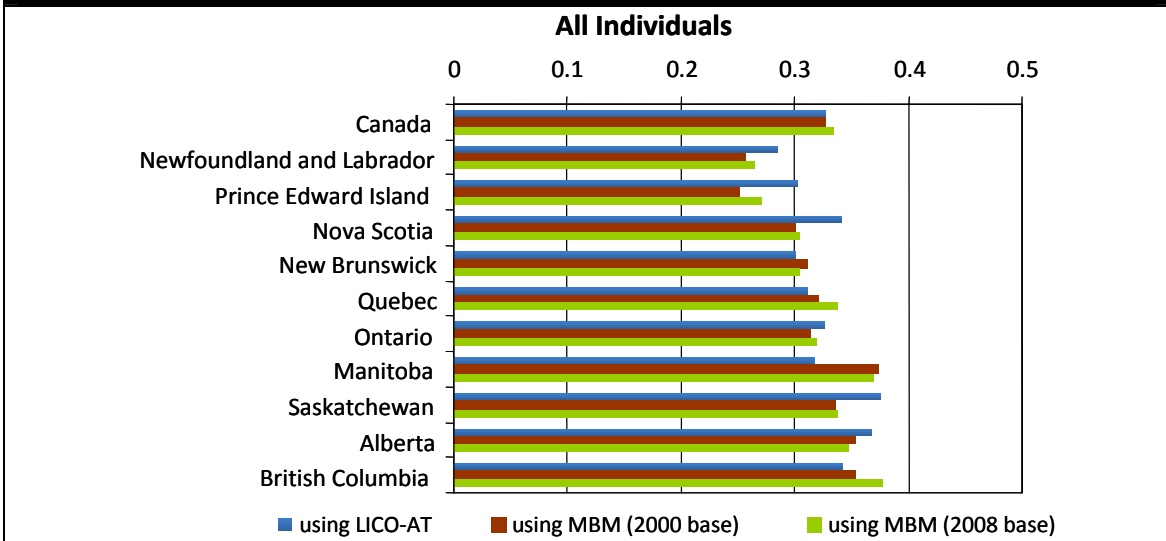


Chart 4
Depth of low income – Revision to historical MBM depth of low income by province, 2007



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Appendix B: Methodology of the MBM – MBM Components (Statistics Canada)

Table A.1				
Cities in which food and clothing prices are collected, by MBM region				
MBM Geo-Code		Food	Clothing	
Province	Region			
Newfoundland and Labrador	rural	Corner Brook	St. John's	
		Grand Falls		
	< 30,000	Corner Brook	St. John's	
		Grand Falls		
	St. John's	St. John's	St. John's	
Prince Edward Island	rural	Charlottetown/ Summerside	Charlottetown/ Summerside	
	< 30,000	Charlottetown/ Summerside	Charlottetown/ Summerside	
	Charlottetown	Charlottetown/ Summerside	Charlottetown/ Summerside	
Nova Scotia	rural	Truro	Halifax	
	< 30,000	Truro	Halifax	
	30,000 to 99,999	Truro	Halifax	
	Halifax	Halifax	Halifax	
	Cape Breton	Sydney	Halifax	
New Brunswick	rural	Bathurst	Saint John	
	< 30,000	Bathurst	Saint John	
	30,000 to 99,999	Bathurst	Saint John	
	Fredericton	Fredericton	Saint John	
	Saint John	Saint John	Saint John	
	Moncton	Moncton	Saint John	
Québec	rural	Chicoutimi/Jonquière	Montréal	
		Sherbrooke		
		Trois-Rivières		
	< 30,000	Chicoutimi/Jonquière	Montréal	
		Sherbrooke		
		Trois-Rivières		
	30,000 to 99,999	Chicoutimi/Jonquière	Montréal	
		Sherbrooke		
		Trois-Rivières		
	100,000 to 499,999	Chicoutimi/Jonquière	Montréal	
		Sherbrooke		
		Trois-Rivières		
	Québec City	Québec City	Montréal	
	Montréal	Montréal	Montréal	
Ontario	rural	Sarnia	Ottawa	
	< 30,000	Sarnia	Ottawa	
	30,000 to 99,999	Sarnia	Ottawa	
	100,000 to 499,999	London	Ottawa	
		Windsor		
		Sudbury		
		Thunder Bay		
		Ottawa	Ottawa	Ottawa
		Hamilton/Burlington	Hamilton/Burlington	Ottawa
	Toronto	Toronto	Toronto	

Table A.1 (cont'd)

MBM Geo-Code		Food	Clothing
Province	Region		
Manitoba	rural	Brandon	Winnipeg
	< 30,000	Brandon	Winnipeg
	Brandon	Brandon	Winnipeg
	Winnipeg	Winnipeg	Winnipeg
Saskatchewan	rural	Moose Jaw	Regina
		Prince Albert	
	< 30,000	Moose Jaw	Regina
		Prince Albert	
	30,000 to 99,999	Moose Jaw	Regina
		Prince Albert	
Saskatoon	Saskatoon	Regina	
Regina	Regina	Regina	
Alberta	rural	Lethbridge	Edmonton
	< 30,000	Lethbridge	Edmonton
	30,000 to 99,999	Lethbridge	Edmonton
	Edmonton	Edmonton	Edmonton
	Calgary	Calgary	Edmonton
British Columbia	rural	Prince George	Vancouver
	< 30,000	Prince George	Vancouver
	30,000 to 99,999	Prince George	Vancouver
	100,000 to 499,999	Kelowna	Vancouver
		Abbotsford-Mission	
		Victoria	
Vancouver	Vancouver	Vancouver	

Table A.2
Population counts used in the MBM

CMA	Geographic Name	1996	2001	2006
1	St. John's (N.L.)	174,051	172,918	181,113
10	Grand Falls-Windsor (N.L.)	20,378	18,981	13,558
15	Corner Brook (N.L.)	27,945	25,747	26,623
105	Charlottetown (P.E.I.)	57,224	58,358	58,625
205	Halifax (N.S.)	332,518	359,183	372,858
215	Truro (N.S.)	44,102	44,276	45,077
225	Cape Breton (N.S.)	117,849	109,330	105,928
305	Moncton (N.B.)	113,491	117,727	126,424
310	Saint John (N.B.)	125,705	122,678	122,389
320	Fredericton (N.B.)	78,950	81,346	85,688
328	Bathurst (N.B.)	25,415	23,935	31,424
406	Baie-Comeau (Que.)	31,795	28,940	29,808
408	Saguenay (Que.)	160,454	154,938	151,643
421	Québec (Que.)	671,889	682,757	715,515
430	Thetford Mines (Que.)	27,760	26,323	26,107
433	Sherbrooke (Que.)	147,384	153,811	186,952
440	Victoriaville (Que.)	40,438	41,233	48,893
442	Trois-Rivières (Que.)	139,956	137,507	141,529
444	Shawinigan (Que.)	59,851	57,304	56,434
447	Drummondville (Que.)	65,119	68,451	78,108
450	Granby (Que.)	58,872	60,264	68,352
452	Saint-Hyacinthe (Que.)	50,027	49,536	55,823
454	Sorel-Tracy (Que.)	..	40,956	48,295
459	Saint-Jean-sur-Richelieu (Que.)	76,461	79,600	87,492
462	Montréal (Que.)	3,326,510	3,426,350	3,635,571
465	Salaberry-de-Valleyfield (Que.)	39,563	39,028	39,672
485	Rouyn-Noranda (Que.)	39,096	36,308	39,924
501	Cornwall (Ont.)	62,183	57,581	58,485
505	Ottawa - Gatineau (Que.)	100,702	102,898	242,124
505	Ottawa - Gatineau (Ont.)	323,340	774,072	812,129
521	Kingston (Ont.)	143,416	146,838	152,358
522	Belleville (Ont.)	93,442	87,395	91,518
529	Peterborough (Ont.)	100,193	102,423	116,570
532	Oshawa (Ont.)	268,773	296,298	330,594
535	Toronto (Ont.)	4,263,757	4,682,897	5,113,149
537	Hamilton (Ont.)	624,360	662,401	692,911
539	St. Catharines - Niagara (Ont.)	372,406	377,009	390,317
541	Kitchener (Ont.)	382,940	414,284	451,235
543	Brantford (Ont.)	100,238	86,417	124,607
550	Guelph (Ont.)	105,420	117,344	127,009
555	London (Ont.)	398,616	432,451	457,720
556	Chatham-Kent (Ont.)	..	107,709	108,589
559	Windsor (Ont.)	278,685	307,877	323,342
562	Sarnia (Ont.)	86,480	88,331	88,793
568	Barrie (Ont.)	118,695	148,480	177,061
575	North Bay (Ont.)	64,785	63,681	63,424
580	Greater Sudbury / Grand Sudbury (Ont.)	160,488	155,601	158,258
586	Timmins (Ont.)	47,499	43,686	42,997
590	Sault Ste. Marie (Ont.)	83,619	78,908	80,098
595	Thunder Bay (Ont.)	125,562	121,986	122,907

Table A.2 (cont'd)

CMA	Geographic Name	1996	2001	2006
602	Winnipeg (Man.)	667,209	671,274	694,668
610	Brandon (Man.)	40,581	41,037	48,256
705	Regina (Sask.)	193,652	192,800	194,971
715	Moose Jaw (Sask.)	34,829	33,519	33,360
725	Saskatoon (Sask.)	219,056	225,927	233,923
745	Prince Albert (Sask.)	41,706	41,460	40,766
805	Medicine Hat (Alta.)	56,570	61,735	68,822
810	Lethbridge (Alta.)	63,053	67,374	95,196
825	Calgary (Alta.)	821,628	951,395	1,079,310
830	Red Deer (Alta.)	60,075	67,707	82,772
835	Edmonton (Alta.)	862,597	937,845	1,034,945
860	Wood Buffalo (Alta.)	36,124	42,602	52,643
913	Penticton (B.C.)	41,276	41,574	43,313
915	Kelowna (B.C.)	136,541	147,739	162,276
925	Kamloops (B.C.)	84,914	86,491	92,882
930	Chilliwack (B.C.)	66,254	69,776	80,892
932	Abbotsford (B.C.)	136,480	147,370	159,020
933	Vancouver (B.C.)	1,831,665	1,986,965	2,116,581
935	Victoria (B.C.)	304,287	311,902	330,088
938	Nanaimo (B.C.)	85,585	85,664	92,361
950	Williams Lake (B.C.)	38,552	25,122	18,760
970	Prince George (B.C.)	75,150	85,035	83,225

Source: Census of Canada 1996, 2001 and 2006

Note: .. These figures are not available for the specific reference period, because of boundary changes that occurred in the 2001 Census.

Table A.3
Weekly quantities for food component, MBM reference family,
National Nutritious Food Basket 1998 and 2008

	Suggested Purchase Unit	Approximate Weekly As Purchased Quantities	
		NNFB 1998	NNFB 2008
Milk Products			
2% milk	4 L	10.45 L	14 L
Yoghurt, fruit, 2% BF	500 g	230 g	920 g
Cheddar cheese, medium	227 g	245 g	416 g
Processed cheese slices	500 g	275 g	235 g
Mozzarella cheese, 16.5% BF	227 g	365 g	479 g
Vanilla ice cream, 10% BF	2 L	930 mL	..
Eggs			
Grade A large	12 eggs	12 eggs	14 eggs
Meats, Poultry, Fish			
Round steak	1 kg	500 g	400 g
Boneless stewing beef	1 kg	210 g	..
Beef hip, roast	1 kg	..	428 g
Ground beef, medium	1 kg	655 g	564 g
Pork chops, loin	1 kg	400 g	525 g
Chicken legs, no back	1 kg	1.34 kg	1.8 kg
Wieners, beef & pork	450 g	165 g	..
Sliced ham, 11% fat	175 g	335 g	200 g
Frozen fish fillets	400 g	200 g	364 g
Pink salmon, canned	213 g	115 g	292 g
Tuna, canned, in water	170 g	65 g	164 g
Meat Alternatives			
Baked beans, tomato sauce, canned	398 mL	330 mL	87 mL
White beans, dry	454 g	80 g	..
Lentils, dry	1 kg	..	35 g
Peanut butter	500 g	365 g	174 g
Peanuts	450 g	..	255 g
Grain Products			
Bread, enriched, white	675 g	1.4 kg	955 g
Bread, whole wheat	675 g	1.4 kg	523 g
Hot dog/hamburger rolls	8 pack	18 rolls	318 g
Flour, all purpose	2.5 kg	655 g	573 g
Flour, whole wheat	2.5 kg	165 g	526 g
Spaghetti/macaroni, enriched	900 g	755 g	203 g
Rice, long-grained, white, parboiled	900 g	550 g	242 g
Macaroni/cheese dinner, dry	225 g	155 g	..
Oatmeal, regular/quick-cooking	1 kg	55 g	32 g
Corn flakes	675 g	345 g	..
Shreddies™	800 g	345 g	..
Bran flakes with raisins	750 g	..	627 g
Toasted Os cereal	750 g	..	627 g
Soda crackers	450 g	205 g	191 g
Social teas	400 g	455 g	191 g
Pita, whole wheat	675 g	..	438 g

Table A.3 (cont'd)

	Suggested Purchase Unit	Approximate Weekly As Purchased Quantities	
		NNFB 1998	NNFB 2008
Citrus Fruits and Tomatoes			
Oranges	1 kg	710 g	1.0 kg
Apple juice, canned, vitamin C added	1.36 L	1 L	731 mL
Orange juice, frozen concentrate	355 mL	330 mL	191 mL
Tomatoes	1 kg	560 g	821 g
Whole tomatoes, canned	796 mL	240 mL	831 mL
Tomato juice	1.36 L	165 mL	..
Vegetable Cocktail	1.36 L	..	366 mL
Other Fruit			
Apples	1 kg	1.8 kg	1.3 kg
Bananas	1 kg	2.3 kg	1.6 kg
Grapes	1 kg	480 g	364 g
Pears	1 kg	755 g	230 g
Raisins, seedless	750 g	100 g	183 g
Fruit cocktail, canned in juice	398 mL	335 mL	..
Peaches, canned	540 mL	..	300 mL
Cantaloupe	1 kg	..	1.3 g
Strawberries, frozen	1 kg	..	1.8 g
Potatoes			
Potatoes, fresh	4.54 kg	5.5 kg	1.7 kg
French-fried potatoes, frozen	1 kg	615 g	..
Other Vegetables			
Broccoli	1 kg	585 g	1.1 kg
Cabbage	1 kg	255 g	282 g
Carrots, fresh	1.1 kg bag	885 g	644 g
Celery	1 kg	345 g	506 g
Cucumber	1 kg	455 g	565 g
Lettuce, iceberg	1 kg	450 g	1 kg
Lettuce, romaine	1 kg	595 g	512 g
Onions	1 kg	740 g	688 g
Green peppers	1 kg	305 g	292 g
Turnips (rutabaga)	1 kg	360 g	66 g
Mixed vegetables, frozen	1 kg	330 g	328 g
Kernel corn, canned	341 mL	565 mL	225 mL
Green peas, canned	540 mL	215 mL	..
Green beans, frozen	1 kg	..	304 g
Green peas, frozen	1 kg	..	152 g
Sweet potatoes	1 kg	..	272 g
Mushrooms	1 kg	..	218 g
Fats and Oils			
Margarine, tub, non-hydrogenated	454 g	365 g	379 g
Butter	454 g	190 g	..
Canola oil	1 L	230 mL	379 mL
Salad dressing (mayo type, <35% oil)	500 mL	195 mL	253 mL
Italian-style salad dressing	500 mL	..	253 mL
Sugar and Other Sweets			
Sugar, white	2 kg	845 g	..
Strawberry jam	500 mL	155 mL	..
Note: .. These figures are not available for the specific reference period because they were not part of the specified NNFB.			

Table A.4
Food items priced in January 2010 and the corresponding
Provincial Level CPI commodity groups

Food Item	Consumer Price Index (CPI), 2005 basket
Sweet Potato	Fresh Vegetables
Whole Wheat Pita Bread	Bakery Products
Regular Italian Dressing	Other food products and non alcoholic beverages
Frozen Unsweetened Strawberries	Preserved fruit and fruit preparations
Bran Flakes Cereal with Raisins	Cereal products (excluding infant food)
Toasted Oat O Cereal	Cereal products (excluding infant food)
Dried Lentils	Preserved vegetables and vegetable preparations

Table A.5
Revised Clothing and Footwear component (2005) based on January 2001 Social Planning
Council of Winnipeg and Winnipeg Harvest Acceptable Level of Living (A.L.L.)

Item	Quantity	Replacement Schedule
Boy's athletic shoes	2	Annually
Girl's athletic shoes	1	Annually
Men's athletic shoes	1	Annually
Women's athletic shoes	1	Annually
Boy's shoes	2	Annually
Girl's shoes	2	Annually
Men's casual shoes	1	Annually
Men's dress shoes-medium grade	2	Every 3 Years
Women's casual shoes	2	Annually
Women's dress shoes, medium grade	1	Annually
Boy's summer sandals	1	Every 3 Years
Girl's summer sandals	1	Every 3 Years
Men's summer sandals	1	Every 3 Years
Women's summer sandals	1	Every 3 Years
Boy's winter boots	1	Annually
Girl's Winter Boots	1	Annually
Men's workboots	1	Every 3 Years
Women's boots	2	Every 3 Years
Boy's rubber boots	1	Annually
Girl's rubber boots	1	Annually
Men's rubber boots	1	Annually
Women's rubber boots	1	Annually
Boy's socks	6	Annually
Girl's socks	6	Annually
Men's dress socks	2	Annually
Men's sport socks	4	Annually
Boy's briefs	7	Annually
Girl's briefs	7	Annually
Men's briefs	7	Annually
Women's briefs	7	Annually
Women's brassiere	7	Annually
Women's camisole	7	Annually
Women's panty hose	3	Annually
Men's long underwear	1	Every 2 Years
Women's long underwear	1	Every 2 Years
Boy's jeans	3	Annually
Boy's casual slacks	3	Annually
Boy's winter casual pants	3	Annually
Boy's dress pants	1	Annually
Girl's jeans	3	Annually
Girl's summer slacks	2	Annually
Girl's winter slacks	2	Annually
Men's jeans	2	Annually
Men's dress/casual slacks	2	Annually
Women's summer slacks	1	Annually
Women's winter slacks	1	Annually
Men's sport jacket/blazer	1	Every 5 Years
Women's summer blazer	1	Every 2 Years

Table A.5 (cont'd)

Item	Quantity	Replacement Schedule
Women's winter blazer	1	Every 2 Years
Women's summer skirt	1	Annually
Women's winter skirt	1	Annually
Women's dress	2	Annually
Boy's shorts	1	Annually
Girl's shorts	2	Annually
Men's shorts	1	Every 2 Years
Women's shorts	1	Every 2 Years
Boy's knit shirt	2	Annually
Boy's dress shirt	2	Annually
Girl's T-shirts	4	Annually
Men's dress shirt	2	Annually
Men's knit shirt	1	Annually
Men's sweatshirt	1	Annually
Women's shirt	3	Annually
Women's sweatshirt	1	Annually
Girl's summer dress	1	Annually
Girl's winter skirt	1	Annually
Boy's sweatshirt	2	Annually
Girl's sweatshirt	2	Annually
Girl's sweater	1	Annually
Men's sweater	1	Every 2 Years
Women's sweater	1	Every 2 Years
Boy's summer pyjamas	2	Annually
Boy's winter sleepwear	2	Annually
Girl's summer nightgown	2	Annually
Girl's winter sleepwear	1	Annually
Women's summer nightgown	1	Annually
Women's winter nightgown	1	Annually
Boy's swim trunks	1	Annually
Girl's bathing suit	1	Annually
Men's swim trunks, boxer style	2	Every 3 Years
Women's bathing suit	1	Annually
Boy's ski jacket	1	Annually
Boy's spring jacket	1	Annually
Girl's snowsuit	1	Annually
Men's winter coat	1	Every 3 Years
Men's golf jacket	1	Every 2 Years
Men's raincoat	1	Every 3 Years
Men's ski jacket	1	Every 3 Years
Women's winter coat	1	Every 3 Years
Women's raincoat	1	Every 3 Years
Boy's Raincoat	1	Annually
Girl's Raincoat	1	Annually
Men's/women's umbrella	1	Every 2 Years
Boy's winter gloves	2	Annually
Girl's winter gloves	3	Annually
Men's gloves	1	Annually
Women's gloves	1	Annually
Boy's belt	1	Annually

Table A.5 (cont'd)

Item	Quantity	Replacement Schedule
Boy's wrist watch	1	Every 2 Years
Girl's wrist watch	1	Every 2 Years
Men's wallet	1	Every 3 Years
Men's wrist watch	1	Every 3 Years
Men's belt	1	Every 2 Years
Women's wrist watch	1	Every 3 Years
Women's handbag	1	Every 2 Years
Boy's summer/sport casual shirt	3	Annually
Boy's spring jacket	1	Annually

Table A.6
Cities in which public transit fares are collected, by MBM region

MBM Geo-Code		City
Province	Region	
Newfoundland and Labrador	St. John's	St. John's
Nova Scotia	30,000 to 99,999	Sydney
		Halifax
	Halifax	Halifax
	Cape Breton	Sydney
New Brunswick	Fredericton	Fredericton
	Saint John	Saint John
	Moncton	Moncton
Québec	30,000 to 99,999	Victoriaville
		Drummondville
		Shawinigan
		Granby
		St. Jean
	100,000 to 499,999	Chicoutimi/Jonquiere
		Sherbrooke
		Trois-Rivières
	Québec City	Québec City
	Montréal	Montréal
Ontario	30,000 to 99,999	Sarnia
	100,000 to 499,999	Kingston
		St. Catharines
		Kitchener
		London
		Windsor
		Oshawa
		Sudbury
	Thunder Bay	
	Ottawa	Ottawa
Hamilton/Burlington	Hamilton / Burlington	
Toronto	Toronto	
Manitoba	Brandon	Brandon
	Winnipeg	Winnipeg
Saskatchewan	30,000 to 99,999	Moose Jaw
		Prince Albert
	Saskatoon	Saskatoon
	Regina	Regina
Alberta	30,000 to 99,999	Medicine Hat
		Wood Buffalo
		Lethbridge
		Red Deer
	Edmonton	Edmonton
Calgary	Calgary	
British Columbia	30,000 to 99,999	Kamloops
		Prince George
		Nanaimo
	100,000 to 499,999	Kelowna
		Abbotsford-Mission
	Victoria	Victoria
	Vancouver	Vancouver

Table A.7
Cities in which private transportation items are collected, by MBM region

MBM Geo-Code		Private Transportation
Province	Region	
Newfoundland and Labrador	rural	Corner Brook
		Grand Falls
	< 30,000	Corner Brook
		Grand Falls
Prince Edward Island	rural	Charlottetown/Summerside
	< 30,000	Charlottetown/Summerside
	Charlottetown	Charlottetown/Summerside
Nova Scotia	rural	Truro
	< 30,000	Truro
New Brunswick	rural	Bathurst
	< 30,000	Bathurst
	30,000 to 99,999	Bathurst
Québec	rural	Chicoutimi/Jonquiere
		Sherbrooke
		Trois-Rivières
	< 30,000	Chicoutimi/Jonquiere
		Sherbrooke
		Trois-Rivières
Ontario	rural	Sarnia
	< 30,000	Sarnia
Manitoba	rural	Brandon
	< 30,000	Brandon
Saskatchewan	rural	Moose Jaw
		Prince Albert
	< 30,000	Moose Jaw
		Prince Albert
Alberta	rural	Lethbridge
	< 30,000	Lethbridge
British Columbia	rural	Prince George
	< 30,000	Prince George

Table A.8
Items used in the calculation of the multiplier

Numerator:
Telephones and telephone services
Purchase of telephones and equipment
Telephone services
Internet access services ¹
Household supplies
Household cleaning supplies
Paper, plastic and foil household supplies
Other household supplies
Furniture, furnishings, electric appliances
Furniture
Rugs, mats and underpadding
Window coverings and household textiles
Room air conditioners, portable humidifiers and dehumidifiers
Microwave and convection ovens
Small electric food preparation appliances
Sewing machines, vacuum cleaners and other rug cleaning equipment
Other electric equipment and appliances
Attachments and parts for major appliances
Lamps and lampshades
Non-electric kitchen and cooking equipment
Cutlery, flatware and silverware
Non-electric cleaning equipment
Other household equipment, parts and accessories
Maintenance and repairs of furniture and equipment
Services related to furnishings and equipment
Personal care
Other medicines and pharmaceutical products
Personal care
Home entertainment, sports and recreation
Sports and athletic equipment
Toys and children's vehicles
Electronic games and parts
Computer equipment and supplies ²
Home entertainment equipment and services
Movie theatres
Live sports events
Live performing arts
Admission to museums and other activities
Rental of cablevision and satellite services
Bicycles, parts and accessories
Bicycle maintenance and repairs
Membership and single usage fees for sports and recreation facilities
Children's camps
Reading materials and supplies
Reading materials and other printed matter
Education Supplies
Textbooks

Table A.8 (cont'd)

Numerator (continued):
Other
Service charges from banks
Contributions to charity
Postal and other communication services
Luggage
Home security equipment
Photographic goods and services
Denominator:
Food purchased from stores
Women's and Girls' wear - Clothing
Women's and Girls' wear - Footwear
Women's and Girls' wear - Accessories
Men's and Boys' wear - Clothing
Men's and Boys' wear - Footwear
Men's and Boys' wear - Accessories
Children's wear - Clothing and cloth diapers
Children's wear - Footwear
Laundry and dry-cleaning service
Laundromats and self-service dry cleaning
Other clothing services
50% of Board paid to private households
50% of Food purchased from restaurants
¹ Internet access services was included beginning in 2005.
² Computer equipment and supplies was included beginning in 2005.

Table A.9
MBM thresholds: 2008 base, by MBM region, 2000 to 2007

MBM Geo-Code		2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Province	Region	\$							
Newfoundland and Labrador	rural	23,884	24,365	24,760	24,938	25,730	26,569	27,621	28,356
	< 30,000	25,177	25,664	26,071	26,258	27,026	27,854	28,882	29,614
	St. John's	23,514	24,169	24,640	25,086	25,601	26,354	27,782	28,245
Prince Edward Island	rural	22,641	23,387	23,832	24,090	24,969	26,026	27,229	27,582
	< 30,000	24,422	25,181	25,671	25,970	26,828	27,879	29,108	29,477
	Charlottetown	25,312	26,081	26,545	26,827	27,657	28,690	29,923	30,301
Nova Scotia	rural	23,086	23,780	24,030	24,326	24,885	26,033	27,054	27,980
	< 30,000	24,785	25,490	25,818	26,192	26,793	28,009	29,073	29,991
	30,000 to 99,999	22,440	23,060	23,417	23,761	24,213	25,186	26,464	27,187
	Halifax	24,002	24,745	25,188	25,585	26,179	26,963	28,092	28,756
	Cape Breton	22,152	22,887	23,317	23,597	24,091	24,836	25,975	26,673
New Brunswick	rural	23,350	24,004	24,532	25,063	25,518	26,371	27,539	27,691
	< 30,000	24,652	25,322	25,847	26,376	26,798	27,723	28,873	29,037
	30,000 to 99,999	..	..	..	..	..	27,260	28,399	28,560
	Fredericton	22,962	23,629	24,314	24,869	25,420	26,494	27,932	28,515
	Saint John	22,435	23,317	23,829	24,076	24,618	25,491	27,010	27,109
	Moncton	22,816	23,689	23,957	24,193	24,642	25,472	27,012	27,388
Québec	rural	21,391	22,398	22,350	22,307	22,868	23,858	24,746	25,205
	< 30,000	22,413	23,420	23,372	23,319	23,869	24,850	25,733	26,186
	30,000 to 99,999	20,500	21,488	21,703	21,692	22,105	22,901	24,025	24,403
	100,000 to 499,999	21,052	22,102	22,224	22,262	22,794	23,642	24,749	25,154
	Québec City	21,385	22,491	22,805	23,009	23,473	24,212	25,362	25,798
	Montréal	21,641	22,699	22,943	23,267	23,980	24,808	26,041	26,537
Ontario	rural	22,109	22,920	23,082	23,349	24,326	25,492	26,314	26,326
	< 30,000	23,216	24,042	24,244	24,534	25,500	26,668	27,486	27,499
	30,000 to 99,999	21,244	22,145	22,538	22,772	23,708	25,007	26,029	25,636
	100,000 to 499,999	22,449	23,360	23,764	24,087	24,741	25,535	26,560	26,591
	Ottawa	24,829	25,786	26,116	26,224	26,742	27,592	28,449	28,432
	Hamilton/Burlington	21,654	22,362	23,087	23,442	24,106	24,841	26,068	26,000
	Toronto	24,802	25,792	26,420	26,782	27,326	28,047	29,163	29,509
Manitoba	rural	21,253	22,164	22,419	22,987	23,478	24,411	25,043	25,855
	< 30,000	22,473	23,407	23,727	24,353	24,877	25,863	26,544	27,375
	Brandon	20,602	21,534	22,168	22,940	23,393	24,115	25,029	25,870
	Winnipeg	21,379	22,291	22,765	23,167	23,741	24,415	25,514	26,126
Saskatchewan	rural	21,882	22,601	22,505	23,146	23,921	24,516	25,520	26,558
	< 30,000	22,795	23,524	23,467	24,137	24,917	25,533	26,554	27,550
	30,000 to 99,999	20,953	21,607	21,728	22,453	23,224	23,606	24,754	25,551
	Saskatoon	22,188	23,279	23,549	24,018	24,552	24,867	26,071	26,750
	Regina	21,613	22,243	22,752	23,194	23,789	24,226	25,406	26,270
Alberta	rural	22,647	23,625	23,693	24,300	24,534	24,705	25,960	27,332
	< 30,000	24,058	25,081	25,247	25,934	26,200	26,422	27,666	29,078
	30,000 to 99,999	22,809	23,777	24,080	24,716	24,865	24,862	26,192	27,455
	Edmonton	22,781	23,627	24,022	24,569	24,974	25,606	26,967	27,759
	Calgary	23,468	24,517	25,140	25,839	26,042	26,774	28,068	29,281
British Columbia	rural	25,070	24,520	24,121	23,900	25,101	25,692	26,329	26,886
	< 30,000	25,998	25,461	25,114	24,943	26,177	26,808	27,482	28,056
	30,000 to 99,999	23,960	23,335	23,191	23,139	24,297	24,732	25,640	26,011
	100,000 to 499,999	22,805	23,690	23,994	24,662	25,163	25,663	26,963	27,596
	Vancouver	24,167	24,955	25,332	25,738	26,209	26,823	28,002	28,418
.. not available for a specific reference period									

Table A.10
MBM thresholds: 2000 base, by MBM region, 2000 to 2007

MBM Geo-Code		2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Province	Region	\$							
Newfoundland and Labrador	rural	25,930	26,209	26,560	26,632	27,357	28,104	28,571	29,308
	< 30,000	26,656	26,731	27,083	27,155	27,876	28,619	29,081	29,820
	St. John's	24,469	24,837	25,317	25,780	26,336	27,051	27,933	28,544
Prince Edward Island	rural	24,352	25,339	25,717	25,970	26,689	27,599	28,222	28,603
	< 30,000	25,436	26,011	26,424	26,713	27,464	28,405	29,074	29,465
	Charlottetown	26,214	27,031	27,450	27,747	28,498	29,439	30,124	30,527
Nova Scotia	rural	25,714	26,325	26,656	27,087	27,522	28,713	29,211	29,967
	< 30,000	25,961	26,793	27,090	27,484	27,880	29,030	29,487	30,245
	30,000 to 99,999	23,863	24,518	24,856	25,203	25,645	26,526	27,277	28,012
	Halifax	25,139	26,016	26,494	26,952	27,608	28,375	29,073	29,761
	Cape Breton	23,138	23,607	24,062	24,396	24,937	25,662	26,360	27,037
New Brunswick	rural	25,019	25,769	26,358	26,940	27,321	28,176	28,684	28,893
	< 30,000	25,352	26,279	26,862	27,436	27,808	28,654	29,152	29,364
	Fredericton	24,660	25,448	26,109	26,646	27,201	28,178	29,015	29,681
	Saint John	22,953	23,876	24,366	24,641	25,203	26,027	26,908	27,202
	Moncton	23,660	24,797	25,065	25,325	25,790	26,574	27,474	27,946
Québec	rural	22,823	23,733	23,693	23,564	24,094	25,034	25,411	25,861
	< 30,000	22,921	23,937	23,878	23,729	24,239	25,157	25,513	25,964
	30,000 to 99,999	20,843	21,674	21,881	21,889	22,354	23,116	23,781	24,283
	100,000 to 499,999	21,458	22,324	22,360	22,300	22,745	23,434	23,975	24,492
	Québec City	21,818	22,717	23,046	23,277	23,804	24,528	25,253	25,810
	Montréal	22,103	23,038	23,299	23,623	24,357	25,153	25,944	26,560
Ontario	rural	25,226	25,556	25,908	26,205	27,107	28,235	28,594	28,440
	< 30,000	25,201	25,652	25,984	26,261	27,140	28,246	28,582	28,428
	30,000 to 99,999	23,169	23,634	24,022	24,234	25,067	26,135	26,681	26,478
	100,000 to 499,999	24,648	25,226	25,625	25,942	26,540	27,215	27,780	27,856
	Ottawa	26,612	27,524	27,943	28,133	28,705	29,522	29,966	30,032
	Hamilton/Burlington	23,854	24,494	25,221	25,565	26,180	26,810	27,601	27,538
	Toronto	27,131	28,526	29,187	29,537	30,074	30,714	31,399	31,729
Manitoba	rural	22,660	23,657	24,034	24,687	25,166	26,131	26,431	27,192
	< 30,000	23,862	24,899	25,273	25,915	26,381	27,332	27,619	28,400
	Brandon	21,473	22,288	22,922	23,719	24,186	24,881	25,414	26,156
	Winnipeg	22,478	23,450	24,005	24,490	25,122	25,802	26,555	27,256
Saskatchewan	rural	23,042	23,730	23,741	24,405	25,084	25,639	26,216	27,018
	< 30,000	24,025	24,708	24,732	25,402	26,082	26,640	27,224	28,047
	30,000 to 99,999	21,463	22,097	22,239	22,958	23,686	24,026	24,794	25,596
	Saskatoon	22,699	24,162	24,445	24,919	25,453	25,722	26,534	27,292
	Regina	22,247	23,291	23,798	24,232	24,816	25,199	26,001	26,835
Alberta	rural	24,700	25,892	26,139	26,807	27,080	27,303	27,892	29,200
	< 30,000	25,910	27,062	27,377	28,102	28,417	28,682	29,332	30,729
	30,000 to 99,999	23,868	25,466	25,953	26,730	26,996	27,098	27,972	29,355
	Edmonton	23,762	24,945	25,483	26,125	26,603	27,281	28,150	29,215
	Calgary	24,371	26,592	27,274	27,958	28,178	28,849	29,579	30,951
British Columbia	rural	28,255	27,772	27,489	27,372	28,179	28,627	28,652	29,219
	< 30,000	28,631	27,844	27,581	27,485	28,312	28,780	28,826	29,395
	30,000 to 99,999	26,771	25,494	25,458	25,505	26,346	26,715	27,049	27,575
	100,000 to 499,999	26,514	26,982	27,407	28,188	28,783	29,316	30,173	30,956
	Vancouver	27,670	28,446	28,901	29,379	29,909	30,477	31,175	31,768

Table A.11
MBM food component: 2008 base, by MBM region, 2000 to 2007

MBM Geo-Code		2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Province	Region	\$							
Newfoundland and Labrador	rural	7,397	7,430	7,826	7,843	8,034	8,161	8,465	8,765
	< 30,000	7,397	7,430	7,826	7,843	8,034	8,161	8,465	8,765
	St. John's	7,135	7,266	7,588	7,693	7,806	7,967	8,279	8,521
Prince Edward Island	rural	6,652	6,831	7,099	7,137	7,296	7,542	7,914	8,150
	< 30,000	6,652	6,831	7,099	7,137	7,296	7,542	7,914	8,150
	Charlottetown	6,652	6,831	7,099	7,137	7,296	7,542	7,914	8,150
Nova Scotia	rural	6,913	7,076	7,336	7,426	7,536	7,868	8,151	8,427
	< 30,000	6,913	7,076	7,336	7,426	7,536	7,868	8,151	8,427
	30,000 to 99,999	6,913	7,076	7,336	7,426	7,536	7,868	8,151	8,427
	Halifax	6,800	7,032	7,303	7,387	7,559	7,751	7,923	8,183
	Cape Breton	6,597	6,835	7,170	7,258	7,435	7,677	7,967	8,162
New Brunswick	rural	6,901	7,047	7,402	7,607	7,684	7,875	8,256	8,308
	< 30,000	6,901	7,047	7,402	7,607	7,684	7,875	8,256	8,308
	30,000 to 99,999	..	..	..	..	..	7,875	8,256	8,308
	Fredericton	6,816	6,921	7,273	7,374	7,449	7,712	8,015	8,255
	Saint John	6,824	6,957	7,241	7,294	7,428	7,711	7,944	8,202
	Moncton	6,691	6,956	7,110	7,136	7,192	7,437	7,685	7,861
Québec	rural	6,367	6,762	6,825	6,800	6,873	7,127	7,384	7,611
	< 30,000	6,367	6,762	6,825	6,800	6,873	7,127	7,384	7,611
	30,000 to 99,999	6,367	6,762	6,825	6,800	6,873	7,127	7,384	7,611
	100,000 to 499,999	6,367	6,762	6,825	6,800	6,873	7,127	7,384	7,611
	Québec City	6,315	6,756	6,865	6,929	6,975	7,170	7,414	7,669
	Montréal	6,318	6,746	6,815	6,899	7,008	7,211	7,500	7,775
Ontario	rural	5,823	6,109	6,306	6,366	6,641	7,029	7,322	7,216
	< 30,000	5,823	6,109	6,306	6,366	6,641	7,029	7,322	7,216
	30,000 to 99,999	5,823	6,109	6,306	6,366	6,641	7,029	7,322	7,216
	100,000 to 499,999	6,127	6,443	6,570	6,663	6,780	7,009	7,253	7,309
	Ottawa	6,594	6,937	7,055	7,008	7,062	7,319	7,371	7,409
	Hamilton/Burlington	5,598	5,827	6,148	6,213	6,326	6,526	6,929	6,903
	Toronto	6,067	6,408	6,674	6,694	6,793	7,009	7,284	7,343
Manitoba	rural	6,232	6,596	6,888	7,257	7,298	7,487	7,610	7,883
	< 30,000	6,232	6,596	6,888	7,257	7,298	7,487	7,610	7,883
	Brandon	6,232	6,596	6,888	7,257	7,298	7,487	7,610	7,883
	Winnipeg	6,271	6,612	6,855	6,961	7,107	7,217	7,441	7,677
Saskatchewan	rural	6,439	6,645	6,632	6,959	7,101	7,060	7,341	7,674
	< 30,000	6,439	6,645	6,632	6,959	7,101	7,060	7,341	7,674
	30,000 to 99,999	6,439	6,645	6,632	6,959	7,101	7,060	7,341	7,674
	Saskatoon	6,674	7,098	7,145	7,299	7,366	7,240	7,504	7,795
	Regina	6,418	6,589	6,780	6,912	7,040	7,037	7,334	7,628
Alberta	rural	6,824	7,166	7,295	7,593	7,516	7,288	7,621	8,033
	< 30,000	6,824	7,166	7,295	7,593	7,516	7,288	7,621	8,033
	30,000 to 99,999	6,824	7,166	7,295	7,593	7,516	7,288	7,621	8,033
	Edmonton	6,572	6,846	6,961	7,109	7,134	7,228	7,522	7,750
	Calgary	6,492	6,836	7,077	7,249	7,231	7,356	7,667	7,971
British Columbia	rural	8,004	7,461	7,383	7,278	7,787	7,837	7,922	8,139
	< 30,000	8,004	7,461	7,383	7,278	7,787	7,837	7,922	8,139
	30,000 to 99,999	8,004	7,461	7,383	7,278	7,787	7,837	7,922	8,139
	100,000 to 499,999	7,149	7,502	7,595	7,901	7,908	7,913	8,142	8,428
	Vancouver	7,031	7,257	7,476	7,669	7,758	7,799	8,049	8,275
.. not available for a specific reference period									

Table A.12
MBM food component: 2000 base, by MBM region, 2000 to 2007

MBM Geo-Code		2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Province	Region	\$							
Newfoundland and Labrador	rural	7,045	7,076	7,453	7,470	7,651	7,773	8,063	8,347
	< 30,000	7,045	7,076	7,453	7,470	7,651	7,773	8,063	8,347
	St. John's	6,796	6,920	7,227	7,326	7,434	7,589	7,883	8,115
Prince Edward Island	rural	6,335	6,506	6,761	6,797	6,948	7,183	7,538	7,762
	< 30,000	6,335	6,506	6,761	6,797	6,948	7,183	7,538	7,762
	Charlottetown	6,335	6,506	6,761	6,797	6,948	7,183	7,538	7,762
Nova Scotia	rural	6,584	6,739	6,987	7,072	7,177	7,492	7,761	8,026
	< 30,000	6,584	6,739	6,987	7,072	7,177	7,492	7,761	8,026
	30,000 to 99,999	6,584	6,739	6,987	7,072	7,177	7,492	7,761	8,026
	Halifax	6,476	6,697	6,955	7,035	7,199	7,381	7,546	7,793
	Cape Breton	6,283	6,509	6,829	6,912	7,081	7,312	7,586	7,773
New Brunswick	rural	6,573	6,711	7,050	7,245	7,318	7,500	7,864	7,913
	< 30,000	6,573	6,711	7,050	7,245	7,318	7,500	7,864	7,913
	Fredericton	6,491	6,591	6,927	7,023	7,094	7,345	7,632	7,862
	Saint John	6,499	6,626	6,896	6,947	7,074	7,343	7,565	7,811
	Moncton	6,372	6,625	6,771	6,796	6,849	7,085	7,321	7,487
Québec	rural	6,064	6,440	6,500	6,476	6,546	6,789	7,031	7,248
	< 30,000	6,064	6,440	6,500	6,476	6,546	6,789	7,031	7,248
	30,000 to 99,999	6,064	6,440	6,500	6,476	6,546	6,789	7,031	7,248
	100,000 to 499,999	6,064	6,440	6,500	6,476	6,546	6,789	7,031	7,248
	Québec City	6,014	6,434	6,538	6,599	6,643	6,826	7,061	7,304
	Montréal	6,017	6,425	6,491	6,571	6,674	6,868	7,142	7,405
Ontario	rural	5,546	5,818	6,006	6,063	6,325	6,696	6,974	6,872
	< 30,000	5,546	5,818	6,006	6,063	6,325	6,696	6,974	6,872
	30,000 to 99,999	5,546	5,818	6,006	6,063	6,325	6,696	6,974	6,872
	100,000 to 499,999	5,833	6,136	6,257	6,346	6,457	6,674	6,908	6,961
	Ottawa	6,280	6,606	6,719	6,674	6,726	6,971	7,021	7,056
	Hamilton/Burlington	5,331	5,550	5,856	5,917	6,025	6,215	6,600	6,574
	Toronto	5,778	6,102	6,356	6,376	6,470	6,675	6,939	6,993
Manitoba	rural	5,935	6,282	6,560	6,912	6,951	7,130	7,249	7,508
	< 30,000	5,935	6,282	6,560	6,912	6,951	7,130	7,249	7,508
	Brandon	5,935	6,282	6,560	6,912	6,951	7,130	7,249	7,508
	Winnipeg	5,972	6,297	6,528	6,629	6,768	6,873	7,085	7,312
Saskatchewan	rural	6,133	6,329	6,316	6,628	6,763	6,724	6,990	7,308
	< 30,000	6,133	6,329	6,316	6,628	6,763	6,724	6,990	7,308
	30,000 to 99,999	6,133	6,329	6,316	6,628	6,763	6,724	6,990	7,308
	Saskatoon	6,356	6,760	6,805	6,951	7,015	6,897	7,148	7,424
	Regina	6,112	6,275	6,457	6,582	6,704	6,699	6,984	7,265
Alberta	rural	6,499	6,824	6,948	7,231	7,158	6,941	7,258	7,651
	< 30,000	6,499	6,824	6,948	7,231	7,158	6,941	7,258	7,651
	30,000 to 99,999	6,499	6,824	6,948	7,231	7,158	6,941	7,258	7,651
	Edmonton	6,259	6,520	6,630	6,770	6,794	6,884	7,165	7,381
	Calgary	6,183	6,511	6,740	6,904	6,886	7,008	7,302	7,592
British Columbia	rural	7,623	7,106	7,032	6,932	7,205	7,205	7,205	7,406
	< 30,000	7,623	7,106	7,032	6,932	7,205	7,205	7,205	7,406
	30,000 to 99,999	7,623	7,106	7,032	6,932	7,205	7,205	7,205	7,406
	100,000 to 499,999	6,801	7,145	7,233	7,525	7,532	7,536	7,754	8,026
	Vancouver	6,697	6,912	7,120	7,304	7,389	7,430	7,665	7,881

Table A.13
MBM clothing component: 2008 base, by MBM region, 2000 to 2007

MBM Geo-Code		2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Province	Region	\$							
Newfoundland and Labrador	rural	2,529	2,593	2,502	2,485	2,478	2,502	2,538	2,511
	< 30,000	2,529	2,593	2,502	2,485	2,478	2,502	2,538	2,511
	St. John's	2,529	2,593	2,502	2,485	2,478	2,502	2,538	2,511
Prince Edward Island	rural	2,569	2,620	2,639	2,622	2,658	2,642	2,643	2,511
	< 30,000	2,569	2,620	2,639	2,622	2,658	2,642	2,643	2,511
	Charlottetown	2,569	2,620	2,639	2,622	2,658	2,642	2,643	2,511
Nova Scotia	rural	2,598	2,628	2,559	2,575	2,534	2,548	2,572	2,627
	< 30,000	2,598	2,628	2,559	2,575	2,534	2,548	2,572	2,627
	30,000 to 99,999	2,598	2,628	2,559	2,575	2,534	2,548	2,572	2,627
	Halifax	2,598	2,628	2,559	2,575	2,534	2,548	2,572	2,627
	Cape Breton	2,598	2,628	2,559	2,575	2,534	2,548	2,572	2,627
New Brunswick	rural	2,670	2,727	2,687	2,665	2,640	2,606	2,649	2,607
	< 30,000	2,670	2,727	2,687	2,665	2,640	2,606	2,649	2,607
	30,000 to 99,999	..	..	..	..	..	2,606	2,649	2,607
	Fredericton	2,670	2,727	2,687	2,665	2,640	2,606	2,649	2,607
	Saint John	2,670	2,727	2,687	2,665	2,640	2,606	2,649	2,607
	Moncton	2,670	2,727	2,687	2,665	2,640	2,606	2,649	2,607
Québec	rural	2,067	2,094	2,102	2,049	2,029	2,040	2,040	1,956
	< 30,000	2,067	2,094	2,102	2,049	2,029	2,040	2,040	1,956
	30,000 to 99,999	2,067	2,094	2,102	2,049	2,029	2,040	2,040	1,956
	100,000 to 499,999	2,067	2,094	2,102	2,049	2,029	2,040	2,040	1,956
	Québec City	2,067	2,094	2,102	2,049	2,029	2,040	2,040	1,956
	Montréal	2,067	2,094	2,102	2,049	2,029	2,040	2,040	1,956
Ontario	rural	2,330	2,321	2,281	2,228	2,235	2,203	2,121	2,003
	< 30,000	2,330	2,321	2,281	2,228	2,235	2,203	2,121	2,003
	30,000 to 99,999	2,330	2,321	2,281	2,228	2,235	2,203	2,121	2,003
	100,000 to 499,999	2,330	2,321	2,281	2,228	2,235	2,203	2,121	2,003
	Ottawa	2,330	2,321	2,281	2,228	2,235	2,203	2,121	2,003
	Hamilton/Burlington	2,330	2,321	2,281	2,228	2,235	2,203	2,121	2,003
	Toronto	2,143	2,134	2,098	2,049	2,055	2,021	2,004	2,009
Manitoba	rural	2,106	2,104	2,084	2,102	2,077	2,088	2,093	2,108
	< 30,000	2,106	2,104	2,084	2,102	2,077	2,088	2,093	2,108
	Brandon	2,106	2,104	2,084	2,102	2,077	2,088	2,093	2,108
	Winnipeg	2,106	2,104	2,084	2,102	2,077	2,088	2,093	2,108
Saskatchewan	rural	2,144	2,162	2,184	2,176	2,190	2,207	2,182	2,136
	< 30,000	2,144	2,162	2,184	2,176	2,190	2,207	2,182	2,136
	30,000 to 99,999	2,144	2,162	2,184	2,176	2,190	2,207	2,182	2,136
	Saskatoon	2,144	2,162	2,184	2,176	2,190	2,207	2,182	2,136
	Regina	2,144	2,162	2,184	2,176	2,190	2,207	2,182	2,136
Alberta	rural	2,280	2,291	2,287	2,264	2,249	2,263	2,219	2,172
	< 30,000	2,280	2,291	2,287	2,264	2,249	2,263	2,219	2,172
	30,000 to 99,999	2,280	2,291	2,287	2,264	2,249	2,263	2,219	2,172
	Edmonton	2,280	2,291	2,287	2,264	2,249	2,263	2,219	2,172
	Calgary	2,280	2,291	2,287	2,264	2,249	2,263	2,219	2,172
British Columbia	rural	2,231	2,241	2,241	2,217	2,229	2,236	2,305	2,247
	< 30,000	2,231	2,241	2,241	2,217	2,229	2,236	2,305	2,247
	30,000 to 99,999	2,231	2,241	2,241	2,217	2,229	2,236	2,305	2,247
	100,000 to 499,999	2,231	2,241	2,241	2,217	2,229	2,236	2,305	2,247
	Vancouver	2,231	2,241	2,241	2,217	2,229	2,236	2,305	2,247
.. not available for a specific reference period									

Table A.14
MBM clothing component: 2000 base, by MBM region, 2000 to 2007

MBM Geo-Code		2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Province	Region	\$							
Newfoundland and Labrador	rural	2,513	2,577	2,487	2,470	2,462	2,489	2,538	2,530
	< 30,000	2,513	2,577	2,487	2,470	2,462	2,489	2,538	2,530
	St. John's	2,513	2,577	2,487	2,470	2,462	2,489	2,538	2,530
Prince Edward Island	rural	2,572	2,622	2,641	2,625	2,661	2,639	2,643	2,503
	< 30,000	2,572	2,622	2,641	2,625	2,661	2,639	2,643	2,503
	Charlottetown	2,572	2,622	2,641	2,625	2,661	2,639	2,643	2,503
Nova Scotia	rural	2,607	2,637	2,567	2,584	2,542	2,549	2,615	2,629
	< 30,000	2,607	2,637	2,567	2,584	2,542	2,549	2,615	2,629
	30,000 to 99,999	2,607	2,637	2,567	2,584	2,542	2,549	2,615	2,629
	Halifax	2,607	2,637	2,567	2,584	2,542	2,549	2,615	2,629
	Cape Breton	2,607	2,637	2,567	2,584	2,542	2,549	2,615	2,629
New Brunswick	rural	2,696	2,753	2,713	2,691	2,666	2,638	2,667	2,614
	< 30,000	2,696	2,753	2,713	2,691	2,666	2,638	2,667	2,614
	Fredericton	2,696	2,753	2,713	2,691	2,666	2,638	2,667	2,614
	Saint John	2,696	2,753	2,713	2,691	2,666	2,638	2,667	2,614
	Moncton	2,696	2,753	2,713	2,691	2,666	2,638	2,667	2,614
Québec	rural	2,068	2,095	2,103	2,050	2,030	2,038	2,041	1,976
	< 30,000	2,068	2,095	2,103	2,050	2,030	2,038	2,041	1,976
	30,000 to 99,999	2,068	2,095	2,103	2,050	2,030	2,038	2,041	1,976
	100,000 to 499,999	2,068	2,095	2,103	2,050	2,030	2,038	2,041	1,976
	Québec City	2,068	2,095	2,103	2,050	2,030	2,038	2,041	1,976
	Montréal	2,068	2,095	2,103	2,050	2,030	2,038	2,041	1,976
Ontario	rural	2,357	2,348	2,307	2,254	2,260	2,220	2,177	2,014
	< 30,000	2,357	2,348	2,307	2,254	2,260	2,220	2,177	2,014
	30,000 to 99,999	2,357	2,348	2,307	2,254	2,260	2,220	2,177	2,014
	100,000 to 499,999	2,357	2,348	2,307	2,254	2,260	2,220	2,177	2,014
	Ottawa	2,357	2,348	2,307	2,254	2,260	2,220	2,177	2,014
	Hamilton/Burlington	2,357	2,348	2,307	2,254	2,260	2,220	2,177	2,014
	Toronto	2,167	2,158	2,121	2,072	2,078	2,041	2,059	2,024
Manitoba	rural	2,108	2,106	2,086	2,104	2,079	2,088	2,135	2,135
	< 30,000	2,108	2,106	2,086	2,104	2,079	2,088	2,135	2,135
	Brandon	2,108	2,106	2,086	2,104	2,079	2,088	2,135	2,135
	Winnipeg	2,108	2,106	2,086	2,104	2,079	2,088	2,135	2,135
Saskatchewan	rural	2,131	2,149	2,170	2,162	2,176	2,190	2,224	2,178
	< 30,000	2,131	2,149	2,170	2,162	2,176	2,190	2,224	2,178
	30,000 to 99,999	2,131	2,149	2,170	2,162	2,176	2,190	2,224	2,178
	Saskatoon	2,131	2,149	2,170	2,162	2,176	2,190	2,224	2,178
	Regina	2,131	2,149	2,170	2,162	2,176	2,190	2,224	2,178
Alberta	rural	2,269	2,280	2,275	2,253	2,238	2,262	2,233	2,172
	< 30,000	2,269	2,280	2,275	2,253	2,238	2,262	2,233	2,172
	30,000 to 99,999	2,269	2,280	2,275	2,253	2,238	2,262	2,233	2,172
	Edmonton	2,269	2,280	2,275	2,253	2,238	2,262	2,233	2,172
	Calgary	2,269	2,280	2,275	2,253	2,238	2,262	2,233	2,172
British Columbia	rural	2,220	2,230	2,230	2,206	2,218	2,228	2,305	2,251
	< 30,000	2,220	2,230	2,230	2,206	2,218	2,228	2,305	2,251
	30,000 to 99,999	2,220	2,230	2,230	2,206	2,218	2,228	2,305	2,251
	100,000 to 499,999	2,220	2,230	2,230	2,206	2,218	2,228	2,305	2,251
	Vancouver	2,220	2,230	2,230	2,206	2,218	2,228	2,305	2,251

Table A.15
MBM transportation component: 2008 base, by MBM region, 2000 to 2007

MBM Geo-Code		2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Province	Region	\$							
Newfoundland and Labrador	rural	4,162	4,229	4,114	4,164	4,333	4,530	4,340	4,509
	< 30,000	4,162	4,229	4,114	4,164	4,333	4,530	4,340	4,509
	St. John's	1,847	1,915	1,917	2,013	2,015	2,030	2,190	2,190
Prince Edward Island	rural	3,843	3,970	3,865	3,892	4,050	4,247	4,059	4,147
	< 30,000	3,843	3,970	3,865	3,892	4,050	4,247	4,059	4,147
	Charlottetown	3,843	3,970	3,865	3,892	4,050	4,247	4,059	4,147
Nova Scotia	rural	3,911	4,011	3,926	3,906	4,023	4,219	4,042	4,276
	< 30,000	3,911	4,011	3,926	3,906	4,023	4,219	4,042	4,276
	30,000 to 99,999	1,958	1,972	1,974	1,983	1,998	2,008	2,094	2,130
	Halifax	2,039	2,045	2,047	2,056	2,071	2,083	2,185	2,188
	Cape Breton	1,724	1,731	1,733	1,742	1,757	1,760	1,773	1,924
New Brunswick	rural	4,192	4,275	4,294	4,425	4,490	4,701	4,482	4,566
	< 30,000	4,192	4,275	4,294	4,425	4,490	4,701	4,482	4,566
	30,000 to 99,999	..	..	..	..	..	4,701	4,482	4,566
	Fredericton	1,693	1,832	1,833	1,975	1,983	2,116	2,138	2,296
	Saint John	1,764	2,078	2,117	2,134	2,141	2,149	2,490	2,140
	Moncton	1,598	1,673	1,674	1,712	1,748	1,772	2,108	2,176
Québec	rural	3,877	3,949	3,786	3,755	3,925	4,133	4,001	4,124
	< 30,000	3,877	3,949	3,786	3,755	3,925	4,133	4,001	4,124
	30,000 to 99,999	1,503	1,555	1,653	1,665	1,698	1,723	1,833	1,878
	100,000 to 499,999	1,857	1,973	1,947	1,978	2,102	2,148	2,209	2,281
	Québec City	1,916	2,004	2,079	2,112	2,199	2,222	2,334	2,377
	Montréal	1,627	1,681	1,727	1,817	2,019	2,089	2,173	2,230
Ontario	rural	4,247	4,322	4,161	4,257	4,410	4,583	4,415	4,712
	< 30,000	4,247	4,322	4,161	4,257	4,410	4,583	4,415	4,712
	30,000 to 99,999	2,029	2,176	2,177	2,189	2,289	2,568	2,579	2,467
	100,000 to 499,999	2,217	2,305	2,412	2,433	2,495	2,519	2,603	2,623
	Ottawa	2,165	2,215	2,255	2,303	2,359	2,413	2,683	2,674
	Hamilton/Burlington	2,124	2,159	2,245	2,334	2,401	2,410	2,421	2,479
	Toronto	3,128	3,220	3,306	3,493	3,502	3,511	3,556	3,646
Manitoba	rural	4,264	4,371	4,225	4,086	4,285	4,542	4,372	4,548
	< 30,000	4,264	4,371	4,225	4,086	4,285	4,542	4,372	4,548
	Brandon	1,496	1,582	1,745	1,758	1,916	1,934	2,028	2,210
	Winnipeg	2,076	2,181	2,248	2,308	2,375	2,447	2,518	2,518
Saskatchewan	rural	4,315	4,416	4,262	4,218	4,384	4,610	4,499	4,635
	< 30,000	4,315	4,416	4,262	4,218	4,384	4,610	4,499	4,635
	30,000 to 99,999	1,665	1,687	1,697	1,706	1,891	1,894	1,927	1,943
	Saskatoon	1,698	1,771	1,848	1,915	2,017	2,120	2,260	2,228
	Regina	1,690	1,734	1,798	1,865	1,913	1,920	1,971	2,084
Alberta	rural	3,584	3,696	3,573	3,626	3,748	3,959	3,826	4,017
	< 30,000	3,584	3,696	3,573	3,626	3,748	3,959	3,826	4,017
	30,000 to 99,999	1,737	1,773	1,787	1,808	1,853	1,873	1,905	1,966
	Edmonton	2,053	2,086	2,126	2,217	2,259	2,280	2,299	2,165
	Calgary	1,802	1,889	2,015	2,297	2,307	2,470	2,490	2,609
British Columbia	rural	4,099	4,222	4,077	4,075	4,200	4,450	4,306	4,514
	< 30,000	4,099	4,222	4,077	4,075	4,200	4,450	4,306	4,514
	30,000 to 99,999	1,690	1,720	1,723	1,790	1,795	1,808	1,858	1,857
	100,000 to 499,999	1,574	1,614	1,696	1,706	1,803	1,865	1,959	2,087
	Vancouver	2,001	2,148	2,151	2,155	2,160	2,356	2,375	2,378
.. not available for a specific reference period									

Table A.16
MBM transportation component: 2000 base, by MBM region, 2000 to 2007

MBM Geo-Code		2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Province	Region	\$							
Newfoundland and Labrador	rural	3,955	4,059	3,928	3,856	4,002	4,200	4,013	4,055
	< 30,000	3,955	4,059	3,928	3,856	4,002	4,200	4,013	4,055
	St. John's	1,451	1,517	1,519	1,593	1,595	1,610	1,734	1,734
Prince Edward Island	rural	3,612	3,767	3,643	3,675	3,761	3,948	3,710	3,703
	< 30,000	3,612	3,767	3,643	3,675	3,761	3,948	3,710	3,703
	Charlottetown	3,612	3,767	3,643	3,675	3,761	3,948	3,710	3,703
Nova Scotia	rural	3,909	4,048	3,997	4,041	3,998	4,260	4,018	4,069
	< 30,000	3,909	4,048	3,997	4,041	3,998	4,260	4,018	4,069
	30,000 to 99,999	1,490	1,503	1,505	1,514	1,529	1,537	1,604	1,631
	Halifax	1,560	1,566	1,569	1,577	1,592	1,602	1,681	1,684
	Cape Breton	1,286	1,293	1,295	1,304	1,319	1,323	1,335	1,444
New Brunswick	rural	3,917	4,038	4,125	4,279	4,264	4,519	4,236	4,231
	< 30,000	3,917	4,038	4,125	4,279	4,264	4,519	4,236	4,231
	Fredericton	1,344	1,448	1,449	1,562	1,570	1,673	1,695	1,816
	Saint John	1,340	1,611	1,641	1,658	1,666	1,673	1,935	1,672
	Moncton	1,230	1,268	1,269	1,301	1,330	1,349	1,599	1,648
Québec	rural	3,739	3,829	3,668	3,557	3,668	3,884	3,699	3,691
	< 30,000	3,739	3,829	3,668	3,557	3,668	3,884	3,699	3,691
	30,000 to 99,999	1,169	1,212	1,282	1,291	1,320	1,342	1,427	1,463
	100,000 to 499,999	1,396	1,496	1,476	1,500	1,595	1,631	1,681	1,733
	Québec City	1,476	1,551	1,607	1,632	1,701	1,721	1,810	1,843
	Montréal	1,320	1,365	1,401	1,472	1,634	1,691	1,762	1,810
Ontario	rural	3,912	3,990	3,930	3,997	4,101	4,315	4,102	4,163
	< 30,000	3,912	3,990	3,930	3,997	4,101	4,315	4,102	4,163
	30,000 to 99,999	1,392	1,516	1,517	1,529	1,599	1,788	1,799	1,807
	100,000 to 499,999	1,645	1,713	1,792	1,810	1,856	1,876	1,943	1,952
	Ottawa	1,579	1,609	1,637	1,674	1,716	1,757	1,949	1,957
	Hamilton/Burlington	1,584	1,599	1,661	1,728	1,779	1,788	1,799	1,807
	Toronto	2,316	2,379	2,441	2,579	2,589	2,598	2,633	2,641
Manitoba	rural	4,113	4,236	4,127	4,006	4,151	4,448	4,301	4,348
	< 30,000	4,113	4,236	4,127	4,006	4,151	4,448	4,301	4,348
	Brandon	1,200	1,271	1,398	1,408	1,531	1,548	1,622	1,622
	Winnipeg	1,601	1,682	1,733	1,778	1,829	1,885	1,940	1,940
Saskatchewan	rural	3,995	4,077	3,982	3,951	4,052	4,284	4,139	4,181
	< 30,000	3,995	4,077	3,982	3,951	4,052	4,284	4,139	4,181
	30,000 to 99,999	1,286	1,292	1,302	1,309	1,447	1,449	1,475	1,491
	Saskatoon	1,272	1,327	1,385	1,434	1,507	1,582	1,684	1,700
	Regina	1,308	1,335	1,385	1,435	1,471	1,477	1,516	1,604
Alberta	rural	3,517	3,645	3,484	3,441	3,508	3,671	3,463	3,536
	< 30,000	3,517	3,645	3,484	3,441	3,508	3,671	3,463	3,536
	30,000 to 99,999	1,319	1,341	1,351	1,367	1,402	1,418	1,443	1,462
	Edmonton	1,488	1,501	1,530	1,594	1,626	1,641	1,660	1,661
	Calgary	1,392	1,465	1,560	1,772	1,782	1,905	1,924	2,045
British Columbia	rural	3,934	4,065	3,917	3,904	3,973	4,160	3,992	4,044
	< 30,000	3,934	4,065	3,917	3,904	3,973	4,160	3,992	4,044
	30,000 to 99,999	1,353	1,361	1,363	1,416	1,421	1,433	1,477	1,477
	100,000 to 499,999	1,264	1,284	1,349	1,358	1,434	1,483	1,560	1,660
	Vancouver	1,592	1,713	1,716	1,720	1,725	1,879	1,899	1,898

Table A.17
MBM shelter component: 2008 base, by MBM region, 2000 to 2007

MBM Geo-Code		2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Province	Region	\$							
Newfoundland and Labrador	rural	3,149	3,203	3,316	3,440	3,626	3,748	3,881	3,931
	< 30,000	4,443	4,503	4,627	4,760	4,922	5,034	5,142	5,190
	St. John's	5,531	5,598	5,792	5,991	6,201	6,367	6,521	6,570
Prince Edward Island	rural	3,402	3,450	3,626	3,819	4,092	4,311	4,558	4,606
	< 30,000	5,182	5,244	5,465	5,699	5,951	6,163	6,438	6,501
	Charlottetown	6,072	6,144	6,340	6,556	6,780	6,974	7,252	7,325
Nova Scotia	rural	3,295	3,375	3,500	3,634	3,839	3,947	4,107	4,181
	< 30,000	4,994	5,085	5,288	5,501	5,747	5,923	6,127	6,193
	30,000 to 99,999	4,601	4,693	4,839	4,993	5,192	5,311	5,466	5,534
	Halifax	6,273	6,379	6,592	6,808	7,046	7,214	7,404	7,476
	Cape Breton	5,076	5,169	5,258	5,352	5,482	5,536	5,622	5,694
New Brunswick	rural	3,178	3,217	3,308	3,397	3,575	3,692	3,830	3,847
	< 30,000	4,480	4,535	4,623	4,710	4,855	5,044	5,164	5,193
	30,000 to 99,999	..	..	..	..	..	4,581	4,690	4,716
	Fredericton	5,432	5,497	5,768	6,045	6,381	6,680	6,993	7,034
	Saint John	4,820	4,879	5,053	5,227	5,457	5,646	5,844	5,879
	Moncton	5,589	5,657	5,843	6,032	6,272	6,474	6,683	6,723
Québec	rural	3,431	3,487	3,585	3,700	3,894	4,001	4,131	4,185
	< 30,000	4,454	4,509	4,607	4,712	4,895	4,993	5,117	5,165
	30,000 to 99,999	4,914	4,970	5,070	5,176	5,358	5,454	5,578	5,629
	100,000 to 499,999	5,113	5,168	5,298	5,432	5,643	5,770	5,925	5,976
	Québec City	5,474	5,536	5,679	5,829	6,053	6,193	6,360	6,421
	Montréal	6,014	6,083	6,254	6,432	6,684	6,852	7,048	7,120
Ontario	rural	4,250	4,356	4,512	4,667	4,910	5,074	5,250	5,333
	< 30,000	5,357	5,478	5,673	5,852	6,084	6,250	6,422	6,506
	30,000 to 99,999	5,602	5,726	5,952	6,158	6,413	6,604	6,801	6,887
	100,000 to 499,999	6,112	6,248	6,500	6,731	7,006	7,215	7,429	7,521
	Ottawa	7,764	7,929	8,195	8,419	8,666	8,847	9,031	9,135
	Hamilton/Burlington	6,293	6,436	6,697	6,940	7,232	7,458	7,691	7,791
	Toronto	7,966	8,140	8,395	8,615	8,865	9,047	9,232	9,345
Manitoba	rural	3,068	3,096	3,140	3,192	3,344	3,445	3,565	3,660
	< 30,000	4,288	4,339	4,447	4,558	4,743	4,897	5,065	5,181
	Brandon	5,185	5,253	5,368	5,474	5,628	5,757	5,894	6,013
	Winnipeg	5,316	5,385	5,517	5,648	5,840	6,008	6,188	6,325
Saskatchewan	rural	3,236	3,305	3,450	3,596	3,830	4,010	4,232	4,598
	< 30,000	4,149	4,229	4,412	4,587	4,826	5,027	5,266	5,590
	30,000 to 99,999	4,957	5,041	5,238	5,415	5,626	5,816	6,037	6,282
	Saskatoon	5,768	5,864	6,047	6,201	6,380	6,541	6,734	6,983
	Regina	5,627	5,725	5,913	6,077	6,273	6,449	6,658	6,941
Alberta	rural	3,862	3,952	4,041	4,130	4,278	4,363	4,786	5,292
	< 30,000	5,273	5,408	5,596	5,764	5,944	6,081	6,492	7,038
	30,000 to 99,999	5,872	6,027	6,214	6,364	6,504	6,606	6,938	7,465
	Edmonton	5,949	6,105	6,378	6,620	6,852	7,047	7,493	8,070
	Calgary	7,020	7,207	7,413	7,574	7,709	7,804	8,148	8,758
British Columbia	rural	3,882	3,907	3,895	3,890	3,969	3,964	3,992	4,028
	< 30,000	4,810	4,848	4,888	4,932	5,045	5,080	5,145	5,198
	30,000 to 99,999	5,181	5,224	5,319	5,413	5,569	5,647	5,751	5,810
	100,000 to 499,999	5,570	5,616	5,794	5,975	6,223	6,389	6,585	6,655
	Vancouver	6,701	6,761	6,876	6,991	7,166	7,255	7,373	7,456
.. not available for a specific reference period									

Table A.18
MBM shelter component: 2000 base, by MBM region, 2000 to 2007

MBM Geo-Code		2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Province	Region	\$							
Newfoundland and Labrador	rural	5,835	5,843	5,983	6,125	6,250	6,325	6,398	6,422
	< 30,000	6,560	6,365	6,506	6,648	6,769	6,840	6,908	6,934
	St. John's	7,298	7,277	7,527	7,778	8,003	8,178	8,348	8,381
Prince Edward Island	rural	5,698	6,152	6,325	6,512	6,676	6,826	7,072	7,128
	< 30,000	6,783	6,824	7,032	7,255	7,451	7,632	7,924	7,990
	Charlottetown	7,561	7,844	8,058	8,289	8,485	8,666	8,974	9,052
Nova Scotia	rural	6,285	6,438	6,656	6,871	7,086	7,253	7,419	7,451
	< 30,000	6,532	6,906	7,090	7,268	7,444	7,570	7,695	7,729
	30,000 to 99,999	6,853	7,176	7,348	7,514	7,678	7,789	7,899	7,934
	Halifax	8,241	8,682	8,975	9,262	9,541	9,763	9,987	10,034
	Cape Breton	6,840	6,864	7,028	7,185	7,342	7,447	7,551	7,584
New Brunswick	rural	5,452	5,743	5,880	6,017	6,171	6,291	6,408	6,437
	< 30,000	5,785	6,253	6,384	6,513	6,658	6,769	6,876	6,908
	Fredericton	7,803	8,215	8,513	8,812	9,124	9,404	9,678	9,729
	Saint John	6,087	6,421	6,630	6,838	7,064	7,257	7,446	7,482
	Moncton	7,118	7,687	7,910	8,132	8,367	8,570	8,766	8,811
Québec	rural	5,351	5,486	5,615	5,725	5,921	6,029	6,172	6,201
	< 30,000	5,449	5,690	5,800	5,890	6,066	6,152	6,274	6,304
	30,000 to 99,999	5,942	6,044	6,189	6,316	6,529	6,653	6,814	6,851
	100,000 to 499,999	6,329	6,410	6,474	6,518	6,645	6,682	6,754	6,790
	Québec City	6,692	6,758	6,965	7,157	7,434	7,623	7,852	7,901
	Montréal	7,129	7,280	7,503	7,710	8,002	8,206	8,452	8,509
Ontario	rural	7,970	7,771	8,053	8,276	8,486	8,647	8,817	8,893
	< 30,000	7,945	7,867	8,129	8,332	8,519	8,658	8,805	8,881
	30,000 to 99,999	8,433	8,323	8,580	8,773	8,948	9,074	9,207	9,287
	100,000 to 499,999	9,175	9,181	9,488	9,726	9,940	10,104	10,275	10,366
	Ottawa	10,449	10,789	11,187	11,504	11,790	12,021	12,261	12,373
	Hamilton/Burlington	9,289	9,553	9,887	10,150	10,388	10,573	10,767	10,863
	Toronto	11,399	12,193	12,547	12,807	13,027	13,186	13,353	13,477
Manitoba	rural	4,965	5,251	5,425	5,578	5,742	5,893	6,056	6,149
	< 30,000	6,167	6,493	6,664	6,806	6,957	7,094	7,244	7,357
	Brandon	6,691	6,847	7,042	7,208	7,382	7,543	7,718	7,839
	Winnipeg	7,233	7,573	7,843	8,083	8,330	8,567	8,822	8,961
Saskatchewan	rural	5,092	5,331	5,545	5,729	5,913	6,085	6,294	6,414
	< 30,000	6,075	6,309	6,536	6,726	6,911	7,086	7,302	7,443
	30,000 to 99,999	6,223	6,483	6,723	6,924	7,120	7,307	7,536	7,682
	Saskatoon	7,096	7,785	8,027	8,219	8,401	8,574	8,796	8,968
	Regina	7,019	7,725	7,962	8,149	8,326	8,495	8,712	8,883
Alberta	rural	6,377	6,868	7,206	7,479	7,680	7,867	8,171	8,658
	< 30,000	7,587	8,038	8,444	8,774	9,017	9,246	9,611	10,187
	30,000 to 99,999	7,744	8,746	9,153	9,476	9,702	9,915	10,271	10,887
	Edmonton	7,874	8,578	9,037	9,416	9,701	9,973	10,391	11,015
	Calgary	8,707	10,276	10,614	10,847	10,964	11,065	11,321	12,002
British Columbia	rural	7,699	7,935	8,058	8,160	8,268	8,308	8,370	8,456
	< 30,000	8,075	8,007	8,150	8,273	8,401	8,461	8,544	8,632
	30,000 to 99,999	8,796	8,361	8,581	8,781	8,987	9,123	9,282	9,379
	100,000 to 499,999	10,016	9,861	10,207	10,529	10,858	11,107	11,382	11,504
	Vancouver	11,020	11,289	11,524	11,728	11,935	12,054	12,198	12,329

Table A.19
MBM other expenses component: 2008 base, by MBM region, 2000 to 2007

MBM Geo-Code		2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Province	Region	\$							
Newfoundland and Labrador	rural	6,647	6,911	7,002	7,006	7,259	7,627	8,396	8,639
	< 30,000	6,647	6,911	7,002	7,006	7,259	7,627	8,396	8,639
	St. John's	6,471	6,797	6,841	6,905	7,101	7,488	8,254	8,452
Prince Edward Island	rural	6,175	6,516	6,602	6,620	6,874	7,285	8,056	8,168
	< 30,000	6,175	6,516	6,602	6,620	6,874	7,285	8,056	8,168
	Charlottetown	6,175	6,516	6,602	6,620	6,874	7,285	8,056	8,168
Nova Scotia	rural	6,369	6,691	6,709	6,784	6,954	7,450	8,182	8,469
	< 30,000	6,369	6,691	6,709	6,784	6,954	7,450	8,182	8,469
	30,000 to 99,999	6,369	6,691	6,709	6,784	6,954	7,450	8,182	8,469
	Halifax	6,293	6,660	6,686	6,758	6,970	7,367	8,008	8,282
	Cape Breton	6,157	6,524	6,596	6,671	6,884	7,314	8,042	8,266
New Brunswick	rural	6,409	6,739	6,840	6,968	7,129	7,497	8,321	8,363
	< 30,000	6,409	6,739	6,840	6,968	7,129	7,497	8,321	8,363
	30,000 to 99,999	..	..	..	..	..	7,497	8,321	8,363
	Fredericton	6,352	6,652	6,753	6,810	6,967	7,380	8,137	8,322
	Saint John	6,358	6,677	6,731	6,756	6,952	7,380	8,083	8,281
	Moncton	6,269	6,676	6,642	6,649	6,789	7,184	7,886	8,020
Québec	rural	5,648	6,106	6,052	6,003	6,147	6,557	7,191	7,330
	< 30,000	5,648	6,106	6,052	6,003	6,147	6,557	7,191	7,330
	30,000 to 99,999	5,648	6,106	6,052	6,003	6,147	6,557	7,191	7,330
	100,000 to 499,999	5,648	6,106	6,052	6,003	6,147	6,557	7,191	7,330
	Québec City	5,613	6,102	6,080	6,090	6,218	6,588	7,214	7,374
	Montréal	5,615	6,095	6,046	6,070	6,240	6,617	7,280	7,456
Ontario	rural	5,460	5,812	5,822	5,830	6,129	6,604	7,206	7,063
	< 30,000	5,460	5,812	5,822	5,830	6,129	6,604	7,206	7,063
	30,000 to 99,999	5,460	5,812	5,822	5,830	6,129	6,604	7,206	7,063
	100,000 to 499,999	5,663	6,043	6,001	6,031	6,225	6,589	7,153	7,134
	Ottawa	5,976	6,383	6,330	6,266	6,420	6,811	7,243	7,211
	Hamilton/Burlington	5,309	5,618	5,715	5,726	5,912	6,244	6,906	6,823
	Toronto	5,498	5,889	5,947	5,931	6,110	6,459	7,087	7,165
Manitoba	rural	5,583	5,998	6,083	6,349	6,474	6,849	7,404	7,655
	< 30,000	5,583	5,998	6,083	6,349	6,474	6,849	7,404	7,655
	Brandon	5,583	5,998	6,083	6,349	6,474	6,849	7,404	7,655
	Winnipeg	5,610	6,009	6,061	6,148	6,342	6,656	7,275	7,497
Saskatchewan	rural	5,748	6,072	5,977	6,197	6,416	6,629	7,267	7,516
	< 30,000	5,748	6,072	5,977	6,197	6,416	6,629	7,267	7,516
	30,000 to 99,999	5,748	6,072	5,977	6,197	6,416	6,629	7,267	7,516
	Saskatoon	5,905	6,385	6,325	6,428	6,599	6,757	7,391	7,609
	Regina	5,733	6,034	6,078	6,165	6,374	6,612	7,261	7,481
Alberta	rural	6,096	6,520	6,497	6,687	6,743	6,832	7,509	7,819
	< 30,000	6,096	6,520	6,497	6,687	6,743	6,832	7,509	7,819
	30,000 to 99,999	6,096	6,520	6,497	6,687	6,743	6,832	7,509	7,819
	Edmonton	5,928	6,300	6,270	6,358	6,479	6,789	7,433	7,602
	Calgary	5,874	6,293	6,349	6,453	6,546	6,880	7,544	7,771
British Columbia	rural	6,854	6,689	6,525	6,441	6,916	7,205	7,804	7,957
	< 30,000	6,854	6,689	6,525	6,441	6,916	7,205	7,804	7,957
	30,000 to 99,999	6,854	6,689	6,525	6,441	6,916	7,205	7,804	7,957
	100,000 to 499,999	6,281	6,718	6,669	6,864	7,000	7,259	7,972	8,179
	Vancouver	6,202	6,549	6,588	6,706	6,896	7,178	7,901	8,062
.. not available for a specific reference period									

Table A.20
MBM other expenses component: 2000 base, by MBM region, 2000 to 2007

MBM Geo-Code		2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Province	Region	\$							
Newfoundland and Labrador	rural	6,582	6,654	6,709	6,711	6,992	7,317	7,559	7,954
	< 30,000	6,582	6,654	6,709	6,711	6,992	7,317	7,559	7,954
	St. John's	6,411	6,546	6,557	6,613	6,842	7,185	7,430	7,784
Prince Edward Island	rural	6,134	6,292	6,347	6,361	6,643	7,003	7,259	7,507
	< 30,000	6,134	6,292	6,347	6,361	6,643	7,003	7,259	7,507
	Charlottetown	6,134	6,292	6,347	6,361	6,643	7,003	7,259	7,507
Nova Scotia	rural	6,329	6,463	6,449	6,519	6,719	7,159	7,398	7,792
	< 30,000	6,329	6,463	6,449	6,519	6,719	7,159	7,398	7,792
	30,000 to 99,999	6,329	6,463	6,449	6,519	6,719	7,159	7,398	7,792
	Halifax	6,255	6,434	6,428	6,494	6,734	7,080	7,244	7,621
	Cape Breton	6,122	6,304	6,343	6,411	6,653	7,031	7,273	7,607
New Brunswick	rural	6,383	6,524	6,590	6,708	6,902	7,228	7,509	7,698
	< 30,000	6,383	6,524	6,590	6,708	6,902	7,228	7,509	7,698
	Fredericton	6,326	6,441	6,507	6,558	6,747	7,118	7,343	7,660
	Saint John	6,332	6,465	6,486	6,507	6,733	7,116	7,295	7,623
	Moncton	6,245	6,464	6,402	6,405	6,578	6,932	7,121	7,386
Québec	rural	5,600	5,883	5,807	5,756	5,929	6,294	6,468	6,745
	< 30,000	5,600	5,883	5,807	5,756	5,929	6,294	6,468	6,745
	30,000 to 99,999	5,600	5,883	5,807	5,756	5,929	6,294	6,468	6,745
	100,000 to 499,999	5,600	5,883	5,807	5,756	5,929	6,294	6,468	6,745
	Québec City	5,566	5,879	5,833	5,839	5,996	6,320	6,489	6,786
	Montréal	5,568	5,873	5,801	5,820	6,017	6,350	6,547	6,860
Ontario	rural	5,442	5,629	5,612	5,615	5,935	6,357	6,524	6,498
	< 30,000	5,442	5,629	5,612	5,615	5,935	6,357	6,524	6,498
	30,000 to 99,999	5,442	5,629	5,612	5,615	5,935	6,357	6,524	6,498
	100,000 to 499,999	5,640	5,848	5,781	5,806	6,027	6,341	6,477	6,563
	Ottawa	5,948	6,172	6,093	6,027	6,213	6,553	6,558	6,632
	Hamilton/Burlington	5,294	5,444	5,510	5,516	5,728	6,014	6,258	6,280
	Toronto	5,471	5,694	5,722	5,703	5,910	6,214	6,415	6,594
Manitoba	rural	5,539	5,782	5,836	6,087	6,243	6,572	6,690	7,052
	< 30,000	5,539	5,782	5,836	6,087	6,243	6,572	6,690	7,052
	Brandon	5,539	5,782	5,836	6,087	6,243	6,572	6,690	7,052
	Winnipeg	5,564	5,792	5,815	5,896	6,116	6,389	6,573	6,908
Saskatchewan	rural	5,691	5,844	5,728	5,935	6,180	6,356	6,569	6,937
	< 30,000	5,691	5,844	5,728	5,935	6,180	6,356	6,569	6,937
	30,000 to 99,999	5,691	5,844	5,728	5,935	6,180	6,356	6,569	6,937
	Saskatoon	5,844	6,141	6,058	6,153	6,354	6,479	6,682	7,022
	Regina	5,677	5,807	5,824	5,904	6,139	6,338	6,565	6,905
Alberta	rural	6,038	6,275	6,226	6,403	6,496	6,562	6,767	7,183
	< 30,000	6,038	6,275	6,226	6,403	6,496	6,562	6,767	7,183
	30,000 to 99,999	6,038	6,275	6,226	6,403	6,496	6,562	6,767	7,183
	Edmonton	5,873	6,066	6,011	6,092	6,244	6,521	6,701	6,986
	Calgary	5,820	6,060	6,085	6,182	6,308	6,609	6,799	7,140
British Columbia	rural	6,779	6,436	6,252	6,170	6,515	6,726	6,780	7,062
	< 30,000	6,779	6,436	6,252	6,170	6,515	6,726	6,780	7,062
	30,000 to 99,999	6,779	6,436	6,252	6,170	6,515	6,726	6,780	7,062
	100,000 to 499,999	6,212	6,462	6,388	6,570	6,741	6,962	7,172	7,515
	Vancouver	6,141	6,302	6,311	6,421	6,642	6,886	7,108	7,409