



WELFARE INCOMES 2008

SINGLE PERSON WITH A DISABILITY

This is one of four bulletins providing welfare income information on four household types. There is also a methodology bulletin you may wish to consult for further explanation.

WIDE VARIATION ACROSS THE COUNTRY

	Basic Social Assistance	Other P/T* Benefits	GST Credit	Other P/T* Tax Credits	Total Income
Newfoundland and Labrador (NL)	\$7,947	\$2,700	\$290	\$40	\$10,977
Prince Edward Island (PE)	\$8,517		\$248		\$8,765
Nova Scotia (NS)	\$8,880		\$260		\$9,140
New Brunswick (NB)	\$7,254	\$1,000	\$242		\$8,496
Quebec (QC)	\$10,348		\$282		\$10,630
Ontario (ON)	\$12,030		\$317	\$300	\$12,647
Manitoba (MB)	\$7,397	\$1,680	\$255		\$9,332
Saskatchewan (SK)	\$9,266	\$840	\$264	\$107	\$10,477
Alberta (AB-IS) ¹	\$7,594	\$936	\$243		\$8,773
Alberta (AB-AISH) ²	\$13,056		\$321		\$13,377
British Columbia (BC)	\$10,877	\$35	\$295	\$175	\$11,382
Yukon (YT)	\$13,460	\$3,155	\$366		\$16,981
Northwest Territories (NT)	\$16,500	\$4,044	\$366		\$20,910
Nunavut (NU)	\$40,856	\$2,100	\$356		\$43,312

*Provincial/Territorial

1) Income Support, Alberta Works

2) Assured Income for the Severely Handicapped

DETERIORATION OF ADEQUACY, WITH A FEW EXCEPTIONS

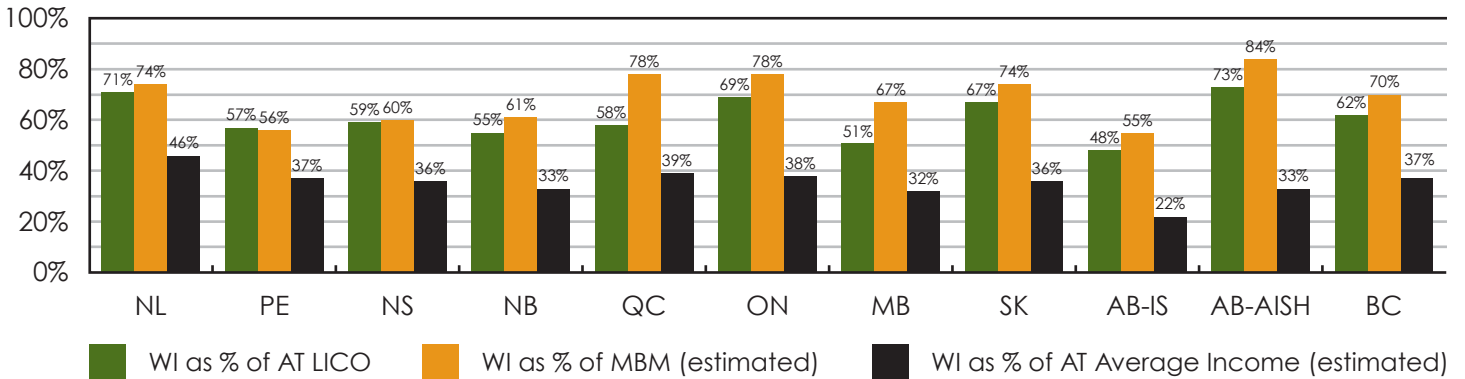
Welfare Incomes comparison in \$

	Welfare Income	AT LICO	MBM*	Average AT Income*		Welfare Income	AT LICO	MBM*	Average AT Income*
NL	\$10,977	\$15,538	\$14,778	\$23,946	MB	\$9,332	\$18,373	\$13,935	\$29,165
PE	\$8,765	\$15,344	\$15,762	\$23,536	SK	\$10,477	\$15,538	\$14,179	\$28,858
NS	\$9,140	\$15,538	\$15,306	\$25,481	AB-IS	\$8,773	\$18,373	\$15,974	\$40,012
NB	\$8,496	\$15,538	\$13,846	\$25,583	AB-AISH	\$13,377	\$18,373	\$15,974	\$40,012
QC	\$10,630	\$18,373	\$13,557	\$27,323	BC	\$11,382	\$18,373	\$16,259	\$30,802
ON	\$12,647	\$18,373	\$16,238	\$33,360					

* Estimated



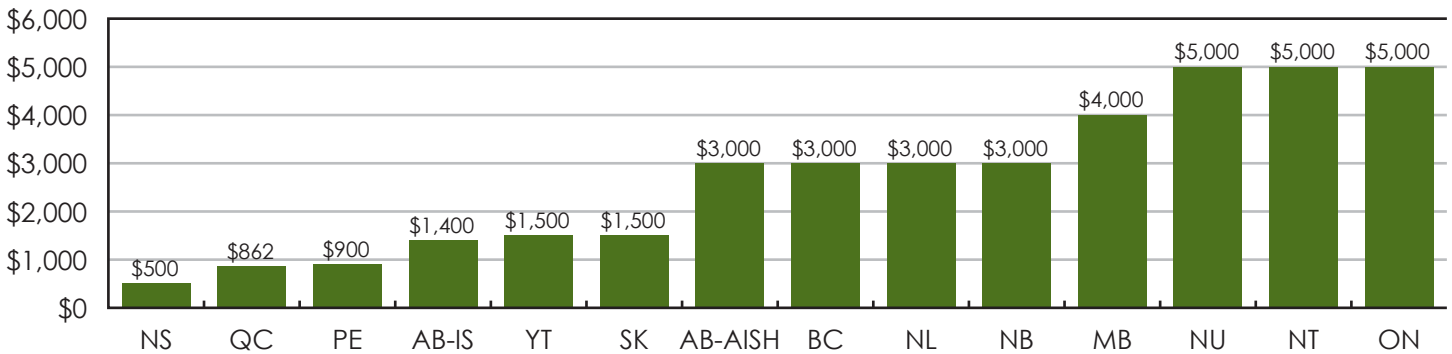
Welfare incomes compared to after-tax LICO, MBM and after-tax average income (2008)



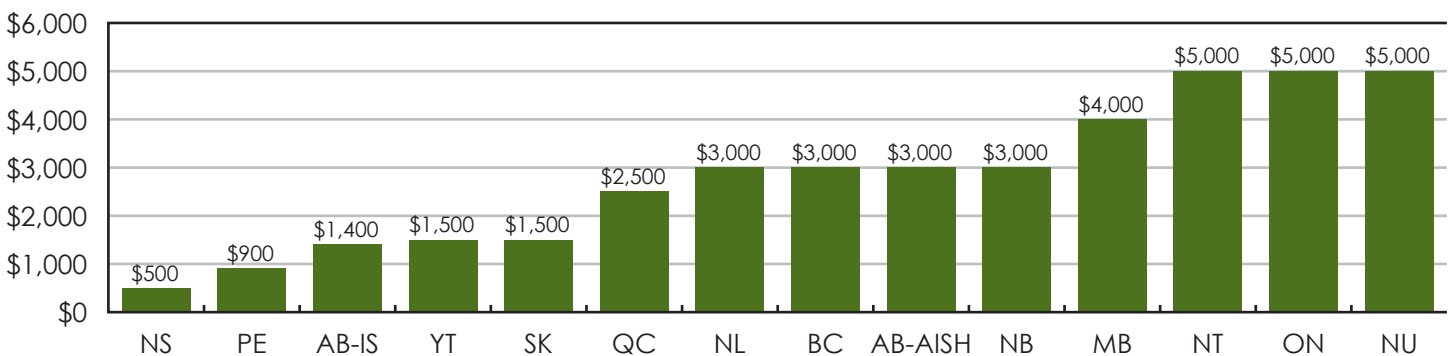
- Alberta has the lowest and highest welfare incomes. On the Income Support Program, it is 48% of the AT LICO, 55% of the MBM and only 22% of AT average income. On the AISH Program, it reached 73% of the AT LICO, 84% of the MBM and 33% of AT average income.

LIQUID ASSET RULES NOT HELPING

Liquid assets allowed at application



Liquid assets allowed once on welfare



- Having low exemptions for some applicants means that they have to use up most of their savings and other assets before they can qualify for assistance.

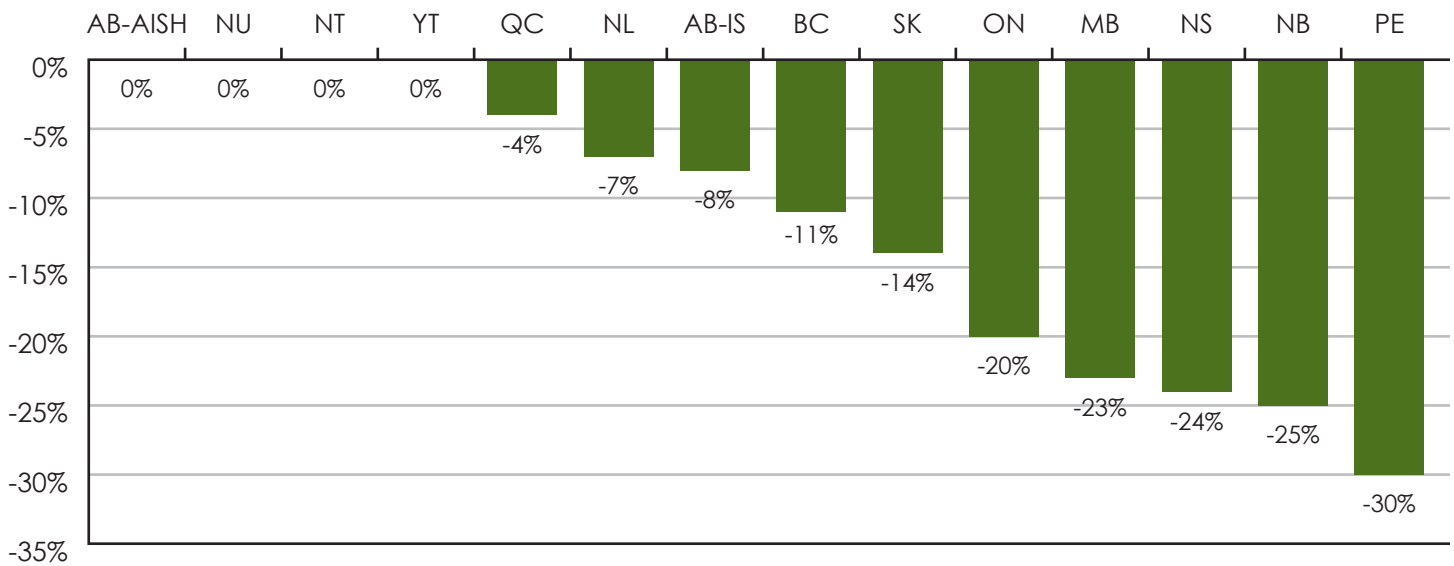
EXTENT OF WELFARE INCOMES DECLINE IN RECENT YEARS

	2008 Amount	Peak Year	Peak Amount*	\$ Change from Peak to 2008	Low Year	Low Amount*	\$ Change from Low Amount to 2008
NL	\$10,977	1997	\$11,792	-\$815	2005	\$10,370	\$607
PE	\$8,765	1992	\$12,496	-\$3,731	2005	\$8,618	\$148
NS	\$9,140	1991	\$11,986	-\$2,846	2008	\$9,140	\$0
NB	\$8,496	1989	\$11,343	-\$2,847	2007	\$8,466	\$30
QC	\$10,630	1994	\$11,064	-\$434	1989	\$9,743	\$887
ON	\$12,647	1992	\$15,716	-\$3,069	2008	\$12,647	\$0
MB	\$9,332	1992	\$12,179	-\$2,846	2005	\$9,169	\$163
SK	\$10,477	1989	\$12,185	-\$1,708	2005	\$9,480	\$997
AB-IS	\$8,773	1991	\$9,489	-\$716	2005	\$8,369	\$404
AB-AISH	\$13,377	2008	\$13,377	\$0	2007	\$13,055	\$322
BC	\$11,382	1994	\$12,717	-\$1,335	2004	\$10,697	\$685
YT	\$16,981	2008	\$16,981	\$0	1994	\$11,952	\$5,029
NT	\$20,910	2008	\$20,910	\$0	1998	\$12,353	\$8,557
NU	\$43,312	2008	\$43,312	\$0	2007	\$41,838	\$1,474

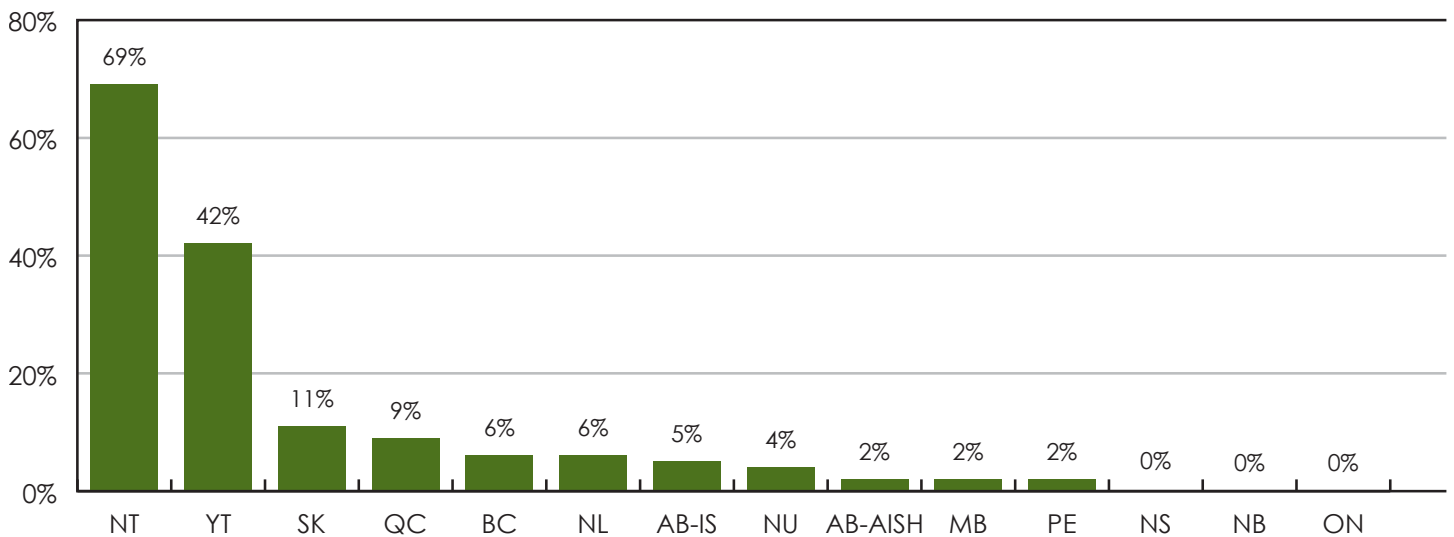
*Peak amounts and low amounts are in 2008 constant dollars.

- 2008 was the peak year in only 4 cases and a low year in 2 others.
- The majority of welfare incomes peaked many years ago.
- The amount of the decrease in total welfare incomes is mostly severe.

Percentage Change from peak to 2008 amount by province and territory



Percentage change from low amount to 2008 amount by province and territory

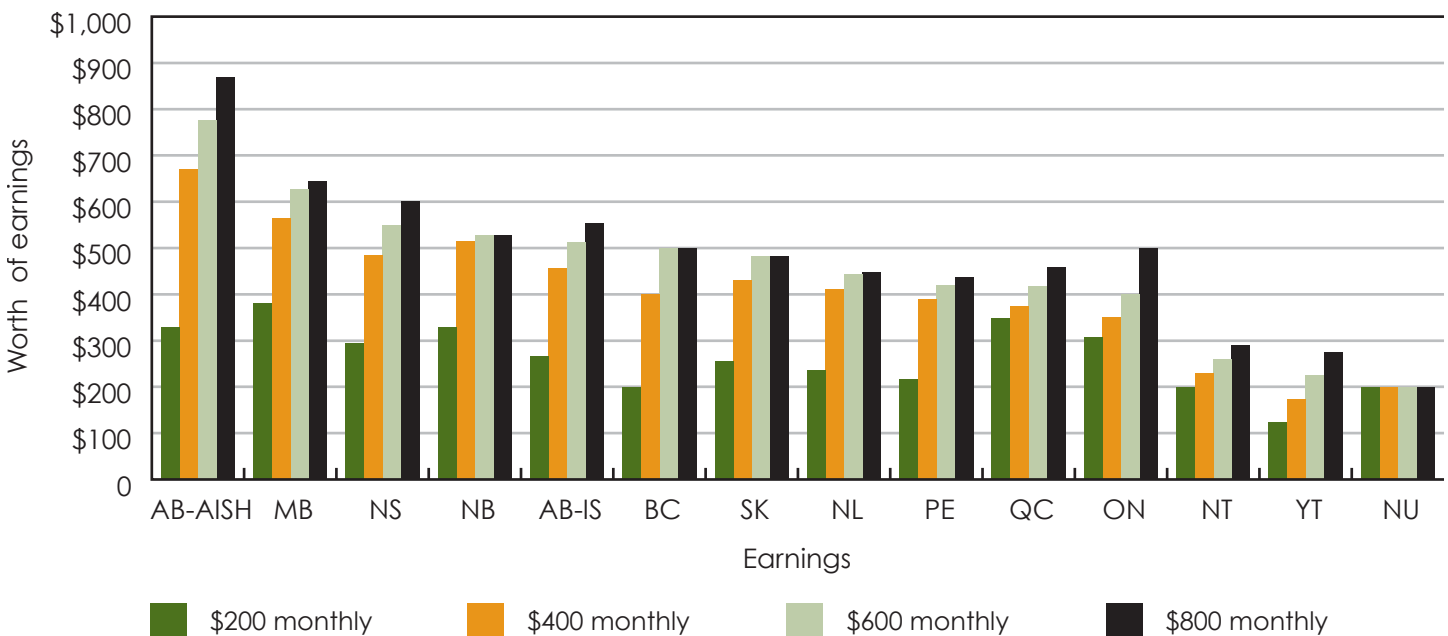


BRIDGING FROM WELFARE TO PAID EMPLOYMENT

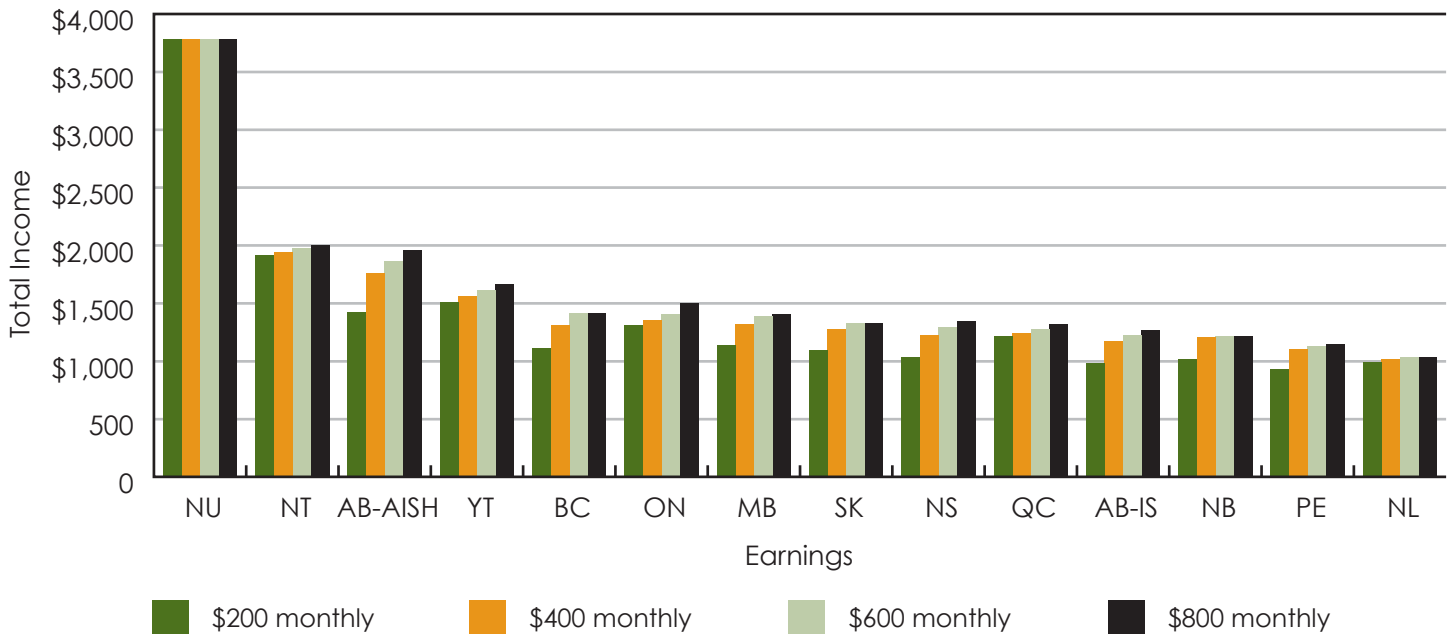
Earnings exemptions – that portion of earned income not clawback by welfare – as well as the federal Working Income Tax Benefit (WITB) and provincial or territorial work-related benefits or supplements not only allow recipients to increase their overall income, but they are intended to encourage work experience and the transition to the labour market. But you don't necessarily keep the worth of your earnings. It depends on welfare rules and rates where you live.



The worth of earnings varies



The total income from welfare and earnings also varies



To help understand the charts meet 'Jack'

Jack is a single person with a disability living on welfare in Winnipeg and considered not employable by his provincial welfare ministry. In 2008 he received an estimated \$778 each month (\$616 basic welfare, \$140 additional welfare benefit and \$21 GST credit). If Jack worked while on welfare and earned \$600 monthly, how much was that extra income worth? First, his provincial welfare would be clawed back by \$280. Then, Jack gained an estimated \$2 for the federal basic WITB and \$255 from the Disability Supplement, and \$51 as a provincial work benefit. In the end, his \$600 was worth \$628. This does not include work-related expenses like clothing or transport. If Jack lived in any other province (except for the Alberta AISH program), he would keep less than the \$600 earnings. With \$600 earnings, Jack would get the highest total income in Alberta with AISH (\$1,864). In British Columbia (\$1,409), he would get less and far less in Prince Edward Island (\$1,130) or in Newfoundland and Labrador (\$1,033).

