Canada's Official Poverty Dashboard: Snapshot, February 2020

Canada's Official Poverty Rate



Dignity

Opportunity and Inclusion

Resilience and Security



Deep Income Poverty

4.6% of Canadians were living in deep income poverty in 2018.



Unmet Housing Needs and Chronic Homelessness

12.7% of Canadian households experienced housing need in 2016.



Unmet Health Needs

11.2% of Canadians 12 years and older reported not receiving health care when they felt they needed it in 2014.



Food Insecurity

8.7% of households were food insecure in 2017-2018.



Help Canadians join the middle class by promoting full participation in society and equality of opportunity.

Relative Low Income

12.3% of Canadians had less than half the median after-tax income in 2018.



Bottom 40% Income Share

20.8% of total after-tax income went to Canadians in the bottom 40% of the income distribution in 2018.

Youth Engagement

9.5% of Canadian youth (age 15-24) were not in employment, education or training in 2019.



Literacy and Numeracy

In 2018, 13.8% of 15-year-olds had low literacy skills, and 16.3% had low numeracy skills. Support the middle class by protecting Canadians from falling into poverty and by supporting income security and resilience.

Median Hourly Wage

Women: \$22.00 (2019) Men: \$26.00 (2019)



Average Poverty Gap

For those living below the poverty line, the poverty gap ratio is the amount that the person's family disposable income is below the poverty line, expressed as a percentage of the poverty line. In 2018, it was 36.8%.

Asset Resilience

51.2% of Canadians were asset resilient in 2012, meaning they had enough savings to maintain well-being for three months.

Low income Entry/ Exit Rates

Between 2016 and 2017, 890,000 (4.1%) Canadians entered low income, and approximately 1.1 million (27.9%) low-income Canadians, left a low income situation.

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As new data are made available, Canada's Official Poverty Dashboard will be updated.

NOTE: The concepts and dimensions of poverty are defined in further detail in Opportunity for All — Canada's First Poverty Reduction Strategy, available for download at canada.ca/publicentre-ESDC.

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