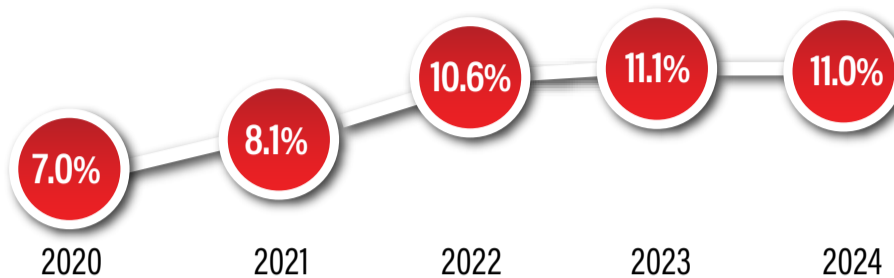


Canada's Official Poverty Dashboard of Indicators: Trends, April 2026

Canada's official poverty rate



Canada's Poverty Reduction Strategy introduced the Official Poverty Line for Canada and a dashboard of 12 indicators to track progress on poverty reduction for Canadians and their households.

Indicator	Most recent value	Previous value	Trend	Percentage change	Reference periods
Deep income poverty (Persons whose family disposable income is below 75% of Canada's Official Poverty Line)	5.7%	5.7%	—	0%	2023 to 2024
Unmet housing needs and chronic homelessness					
- Unmet housing needs	10.1%	12.7%	▼	-20.5%	2016 to 2021
- Chronic homelessness	30.2%	27.6%	▲	+9.4%	2023 to 2024
Unmet health needs (Persons 15 years and older who reported not receiving health care when they felt they needed it)	8.8%	9.1%	▼	-3.3%	2023 to 2024
Food insecurity (Persons living in households that reported some form of food insecurity)	24.0%	25.7%	▼	-6.6%	2023 to 2024
Relative low income (Persons living in households whose median after-tax income is below half the Canadian median after-tax income)	12.5%	12.1%	▲	+3.3%	2023 to 2024
Bottom 40 percent income share (Share of total after-tax income held by the population in the bottom 40% of the income distribution)	20.8%	21.0%	▼	-1.0%	2023 to 2024
Youth engagement (Persons aged 15 to 24 who were not in employment, education or training)	10.3%	9.8%	▲	+5.1%	2024 to 2025
Literacy and numeracy					
- Low literacy (15-year-olds)	18.1%	13.8%	▲	+31.2%	2018 to 2022
- Low numeracy (15-year-olds)	21.6%	16.3%	▲	+32.5%	2018 to 2022
Median hourly wage					
- All	\$30.77	\$30.62	▲	+0.5%	2024 to 2025
- Women+	\$28.85	\$28.57	▲	+1.0%	2024 to 2025
- Men+	\$33.00	\$32.66	▲	+1.0%	2024 to 2025
Average poverty gap (Average shortfall below Canada's Official Poverty Line for those living in poverty, expressed as a percentage of the poverty line)	34.1%	33.1%	▲	+3.0%	2023 to 2024
Asset resilience (Persons who can cover unexpected expenses or reduced income by drawing on assets [e.g., from a bank account] or a period of three months)	71.4%	67.1%	▲	+6.4%	2019 to 2023
Low income entry and exit rates					
- Entry rates (All persons)	4.1%	5.0%	▼	-18.0%	2021/2022 to 2022/2023
- Exit rates (Persons in low income)	34.9%	32.5%	▲	+7.4%	2021/2022 to 2022/2023

Dignity



Opportunity and Inclusion



Resilience and Security



Notes:

- The indicators based on the Market Basket Measure (MBM) use the 2023 base.
- The category "women+" includes women as well as some non-binary persons, while the category "men+" includes men as well as some non-binary persons.
- The concepts and dimensions of poverty are defined in detail in *Opportunity for All – Canada's First Poverty Reduction Strategy*.

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