

Action on Poverty Riding Profiles

Methodology

The figures presented in the Action on Poverty Profiles are based on 2006 Census data, which is the most recent income data available at the riding level. It is important to mention here that these numbers actually reflect incomes from 2005, which was at the height of the economic cycle, meaning that the plight of these, and other, groups can only have gotten worse.

The poverty rates for each riding were taken from Statistics Canada's Federal Electoral District Profiles. Those for the cities and regional municipalities were taken from Statistics Canada's 2006 Community Profiles.

The poverty rates included within each Profile are based on before-tax low income cut-offs (LICO-BT). LICO-BTs are defined as income levels at which families or persons not in economic families spend 20% more than average of their before tax income on food, shelter and clothing. LICO-BTs were used to maintain statistical consistency within the Profiles due to the limited data available using after tax LICOs. Below is a table depicting the LICO-BTs for an urban area with a population of 500,000 people or more:

2006 Low Income Cut-offs (1992 base) Before Tax - Urban Area (population of 500,000+)	
<i>Size of Family Unit</i>	<i>Dollars</i>
1 person	\$21,199
2 persons	\$26,392
3 persons	\$32,446
4 persons	\$39,393
5 persons	\$44,679
6 persons	\$50,390
7 or more persons	\$56,102

*In each Profile, we indicate the total population along with the number and percentage of people living in poverty. However, the latter are calculated based on a slightly smaller sample (the population in private households) because not all residents within each riding report income.

Glossary of Key Terms

Crowded Housing: Defined as a dwelling with more than one person per room, which is “an enclosed area within a dwelling which is finished and suitable for year-round living” (does not include bathrooms, halls, vestibules, and rooms used solely for business purposes).

Tenant Households: Defined as the proportion of private dwellings that are rented, even if they are provided without cash rent or at a reduced rent, or if the dwelling is part of a cooperative.

Source: Statistics Canada