

1986	1987	1986	1987	1986	1987
Unattached Individuals	(1 012 000 persons)	22.4%	(982 000 persons)	24.3%	(982 000 persons)
Family Units of Two or more persons	(1 444 000 families)	20.9%	(1 571 000 families)	13.3%	(1 571 000 families)
Total Number and Percentage of Persons Below Poverty Line	(2 713 000 persons)	22.8%	(2 029 000 persons)	14.8%	(2 029 000 persons)

Statistics Canada Poverty Level lines are based on changing consumption patterns which now indicate that families who spend 25% or more of their income on food, clothing and shelter (as opposed to the 10% criterion used at an earlier date) are in attenuated circumstances. These limits are also difficult to apply by size of area of residence.

the average income for families of those sizes.

of sizes 2, 3 and 4, the Poverty Lines are almost exactly half of previous for inflation and gross national product. For families Canadian family income adjusted to family size, median

Seniors Report Poverty Level is approximately 50% of average

Statistics Canada figures for 1987 show that the lowest 20% of families and unattached individuals (lowest income quartile) received only 6.2% of total income. In contrast, the highest 20% of families and unattached individuals received 39.4% of total income. This continues a narrowing trend in the income disparity noticed in the past three years (for instance in 1985 the comparable figures were 4.7% and 43.0%).

to illustrate this, the 1987 survey of food, clothing and shelter expenditures shows that the lowest 20% of families and unattached individuals received only 6.2% of total income. In contrast, the highest 20% of families and unattached individuals received 39.4% of total income. This continues a narrowing trend in the income disparity noticed in the past three years (for instance in 1985 the comparable figures were 4.7% and 43.0%).

Produced by Senator David A. Crowl December 1988	Produced by Senator David A. Crowl December 1988
(Estimated 000 000)	(Estimated 000 000)
5 141	5 141
(Estimated 000 000)	(Estimated 000 000)
5 111	5 111
(Estimated 000 000)	(Estimated 000 000)
5 232	5 232

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