NUMBER & PERCENTAGE OF UNATTACHED INDIVIDUALS & FAMILY UNITS BELOW THE
SENATE COMMITTEE POVERTY LINES AND STATISTICS CANADA REVISED LOW-INCOME
LINES FOR 1988

| 1988 FAMILY UNIT | Percent and Number Below SENATE COMMITTEE Poverty Lines 1988 | Percent and Number Below STATISTICS CANADA Low-Income Cut-Offs for 1988 * |
|---|---|---|
| Unattached individuals | 35.7% (1,111,000 persons) | 33.1% (1,031,000 persons) |
| Family units of two or more persons | 19.3% ** (1,348,000 families) | 10.5% ( 733,000 families) |
| Total number & Percentage of Canadian population below the Poverty Line | 20.9% ** (5,448,000 persons) | 13.1% (3,328,000 persons) |

*      1978 base for revision

**     Senate poverty lines include more families

| 1987 | | |
|---|---|---|
| Unattached individuals | 34.5% (1,046,000 persons) | 33.5% (1,016,000 persons) |
| Family Units of two or more persons | 18.8% ** (1,286,000 families) | 11.3% (777,000 families) |
| Total Number & Percentage of Canadian population below the Poverty Line | 19.7% ** (5,079,000 persons) | 14.1% (3,535,000 persons) |

According to the Senate Committee Poverty Lines about **20.9%** of
the Canadian population (or about **5.4 million people)** was below the 1988
**poverty lines.** This represents a slight **increase over 1987.** Statistics
Canada showed a total of 13.1% below their lines, a slight **decrease** from
**1987.**

Statistics Canada figures for 1988 show that the lowest 20% of
families and unattached individuals (lowest income quintile) received
only **6.5%** of family income. In contrast, the highest 20% of families and
unattached individuals received **39.2%** of all family income. This
represents no change from 1987.

CANADIAN STATISTICAL REVIEW, JUNE 1984 - The Senate Committee
Poverty Lines. The Special Senate Committee on Poverty, chaired by
Senator David A. Croll, developed poverty lines based on income levels
which reflected "items of basic need". These lines are differentiated by
family size and adjusted each year by an escalator based on living stand-
ards as reflected by the amount of disposable personal income available
in Canada in any given year. The annual escalator is designed to adjust
for real as well as nominal changes in income and for change in average