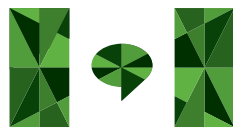


Canada Social Report
Social Assistance
Summaries,
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CANADA SOCIAL REPORT



The *Social Assistance Summaries* series was developed to maintain the record of social assistance case-load information (i.e., number of cases and recipients) from Canada's 13 provinces and territories.

Caledon used data from two federal government reports – the *Social Assistance Statistical Report: 2008* and the *Social Assistance Statistical Report: 2009-13* to establish a statistical baseline. In cases where the federal data did not reconcile with provincial/territorial figures, Caledon worked with jurisdictional representatives to present data in the format most often used by their governments.

Program descriptions were developed in collaboration with provincial and territorial contacts.

Program Descriptions

Ontario's social assistance system is composed of two programs: Ontario Works, which provides income and employment assistance to people in financial need, and the Ontario Disability Support Program (ODSP), which is intended to help people with disabilities and their families live as independently as possible and to reduce or eliminate disability-related barriers to employment.

Both Ontario Works and ODSP provide income and employment supports, as well as a range of benefits.

ONTARIO WORKS

Ontario Works is delivered on behalf of the Ministry of Community and Social Services by 47 Consolidated Municipal Service Managers and District Social Services Administration Boards as well as 101 First Nations. These organizations are all referred to as delivery partners.

Ontario Works income assistance includes an amount for shelter and basic needs such as food and clothing. In addition, employment assistance helps clients to find, prepare for and maintain a job.

Funding for the delivery of the Ontario Works program is a cost shared between the ministry and its delivery partners.

ONTARIO DISABILITY SUPPORT PROGRAM

The Ministry of Community and Social Services administers the Ontario Disability Support Program (ODSP), which provides income support and employment supports to eligible Ontario residents who have disabilities and their families. ODSP income support helps with the cost of basic needs as well as provides certain health-related and employment-related benefits. ODSP employment supports is a voluntary program that provides employment assistance to help people with disabilities prepare for, find and keep a job. Individuals do not have to be receiving ODSP income support to be eligible for employment supports.



ONTARIO SOCIAL ASSISTANCE STATISTICS

Fiscal year averages. Each fiscal year starts on April 1 and ends March 31.

A "case" refers to a single individual or a family unit on social assistance (e.g. a family on social assistance is counted as one case). The number of beneficiaries refers to the total number of single individuals and heads of family units on social assistance plus all their dependents (i.e. spouses, dependent children and dependent adults).

OW - Ontario Works

ODSP - Ontario Disability Support Program

YEAR	OW		ODSP		TOTAL	
	cases	beneficiaries	cases	beneficiaries	cases	beneficiaries
1997-98	362,334	796,109	185,479	261,737	547,813	1,057,846
1998-99	310,493	690,608	189,392	268,159	499,885	958,767
1999-00	262,439	577,620	189,536	268,286	451,975	845,907
2000-01	215,619	469,494	191,885	271,144	407,503	740,637
2001-02	196,596	419,493	192,048	270,558	388,644	690,051
2002-03	195,137	404,067	194,140	271,740	389,277	675,807
2003-04	192,096	389,754	200,087	278,393	392,183	688,148
2004-05	191,723	380,670	205,880	285,231	397,603	665,901
2005-06	198,377	386,801	212,058	292,622	410,435	679,423
2006-07	199,242	383,068	221,718	305,202	420,960	688,270
2007-08	194,920	371,867	235,672	325,552	430,592	697,428
2008-09	202,181	380,442	247,476	342,149	449,657	722,591
2009-10	237,634	435,721	261,509	362,594	499,143	798,315
2010-11	251,280	457,774	276,191	383,341	527,471	841,115
2011-12	260,766	471,154	289,676	402,307	550,441	873,461
2012-13	259,819	468,074	302,733	402,128	562,552	888,202
2013-14	252,767	454,520	314,033	435,052	566,800	889,572
2014-15	246,903	442,942	326,293	451,576	573,196	894,518
2015-16	250,640	445,466	335,933	463,889	586,573	909,355

Figures for First Nations on reserve are included in this report.



Note: Four jurisdictions – Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Alberta and Yukon – use point-in-time (March 31) statistics. Two – Newfoundland and Labrador and Nunavut – use calendar year averages. The remaining seven use fiscal year averages.

