Household Food Insecurity in Canada, 2015-16
Graphic Series Preview
Social assistance programs* vary among provinces and territories, but being on social assistance anywhere in Canada poses an extremely high risk of food insecurity.

Data Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Community Health Survey (CCHS) 2015-16. Newfoundland and Labrador, Ontario, and Yukon opted out of food insecurity measurement in this cycle.

* Data available from CCHS do not allow for differentiation between general welfare programs and disability support programs.
Most food insecure households rely on wages and salaries as their main source of income. Being in the workforce is not enough to protect from food insecurity.

Data Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Community Health Survey (CCHS) 2015-16. Newfoundland and Labrador, Ontario, and Yukon opted out of food insecurity measurement in this cycle.
Household food insecurity in Canada by province & territory, 2015-2016

Data Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Community Health Survey (CCHS), 2015-2016

*Opted out of food insecurity measurement in 2015-2016

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Province</th>
<th>Marginal Food Insecurity</th>
<th>Moderate Food Insecurity</th>
<th>Severe Food Insecurity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>NL</td>
<td>N/A*</td>
<td>3.8%</td>
<td>4.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PE</td>
<td>3.4%</td>
<td>7.5%</td>
<td>22.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NS</td>
<td>5.0%</td>
<td>6.7%</td>
<td>4.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NB</td>
<td>4.0%</td>
<td>6.1%</td>
<td>2.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>QC</td>
<td>2.9%</td>
<td>5.6%</td>
<td>3.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ON</td>
<td>N/A*</td>
<td>3.8%</td>
<td>24.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MB</td>
<td>3.3%</td>
<td>6.7%</td>
<td>6.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SK</td>
<td>2.9%</td>
<td>6.4%</td>
<td>4.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AB</td>
<td>3.2%</td>
<td>5.6%</td>
<td>6.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BC</td>
<td>3.0%</td>
<td>5.8%</td>
<td>3.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>YT</td>
<td>N/A*</td>
<td>3.8%</td>
<td>5.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NT</td>
<td>4.3%</td>
<td>10.4%</td>
<td>5.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NU</td>
<td>22.1%</td>
<td>24.3%</td>
<td>6.0%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
CCHS 2015-16 Provincial & Territorial Food Insecurity Profiles

Household food insecurity remains a serious problem in Canada. Provincial prevalence estimates range from 12.3% in British Columbia to 52.3% in Nunavut. At least 1 in 6 children under 18 live in a home that struggles to put food on the table. Households reliant on social assistance are more likely than not to be food insecure. Simply having a job is not enough to protect from food insecurity, as most food insecure households in Canada rely on wages and salaries.

Data Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Community Health Survey (CCHS) 2015-16. Newfoundland and Labrador, Ontario, and Yukon opted out of food insecurity measurement in this cycle. Rates of food insecurity are not comparable to previous years of CCHS due to a new sampling strategy. The term ‘children’ refers to those under 18.

Alberta
- 12.6% of households are food insecure
- 16.7% of children live in food insecure households
- 75.8% of food insecure households rely on wages and salaries
- 61.6% of those reliant on social assistance are food insecure

British Columbia
- 12.3% of households are food insecure
- 15.9% of children live in food insecure households
- 64.8% of food insecure households rely on wages and salaries
- 74.6% of those reliant on social assistance are food insecure

Manitoba
- 12.8% of households are food insecure
- 17.2% of children live in food insecure households
- 72% of food insecure households rely on wages and salaries
- 68% of those reliant on social assistance are food insecure

Nova Scotia
- 20.3% of households are food insecure
- 16.8% of children live in food insecure households
- 67% of food insecure households rely on wages and salaries
- 67% of those reliant on social assistance are food insecure

Prince Edward Island
- 14.7% of households are food insecure
- 22.8% of children live in food insecure households
- 64.9% of food insecure households rely on wages and salaries
- 56.7% of those reliant on social assistance are food insecure

Quebec
- 13.2% of households are food insecure
- 19.6% of children live in food insecure households
- 71.4% of food insecure households rely on wages and salaries
- 65.9% of those reliant on social assistance are food insecure

New Brunswick
- 15% of households are food insecure
- 21.4% of children live in food insecure households
- 64.8% of food insecure households rely on wages and salaries
- 65.4% of those reliant on social assistance are food insecure

Northwest Territories
- 67.2% of food insecure households rely on wages and salaries

Nunavut
- 52.3% of households are food insecure
- 72% of children live in food insecure households
- 64.9% of food insecure households rely on wages and salaries
- 85.1% of those reliant on social assistance are food insecure

Prince Edward Island
- 14.7% of households are food insecure
- 22.8% of children live in food insecure households
- 64.9% of food insecure households rely on wages and salaries
- 56.7% of those reliant on social assistance are food insecure

Quebec
- 13.2% of households are food insecure
- 19.6% of children live in food insecure households
- 71.4% of food insecure households rely on wages and salaries
- 65.9% of those reliant on social assistance are food insecure

New Brunswick
- 15% of households are food insecure
- 21.4% of children live in food insecure households
- 64.8% of food insecure households rely on wages and salaries
- 65.4% of those reliant on social assistance are food insecure

Northwest Territories