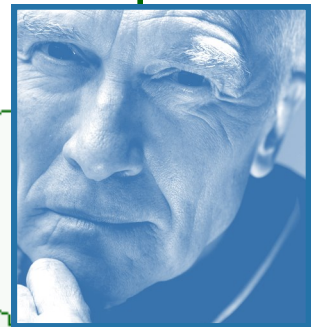
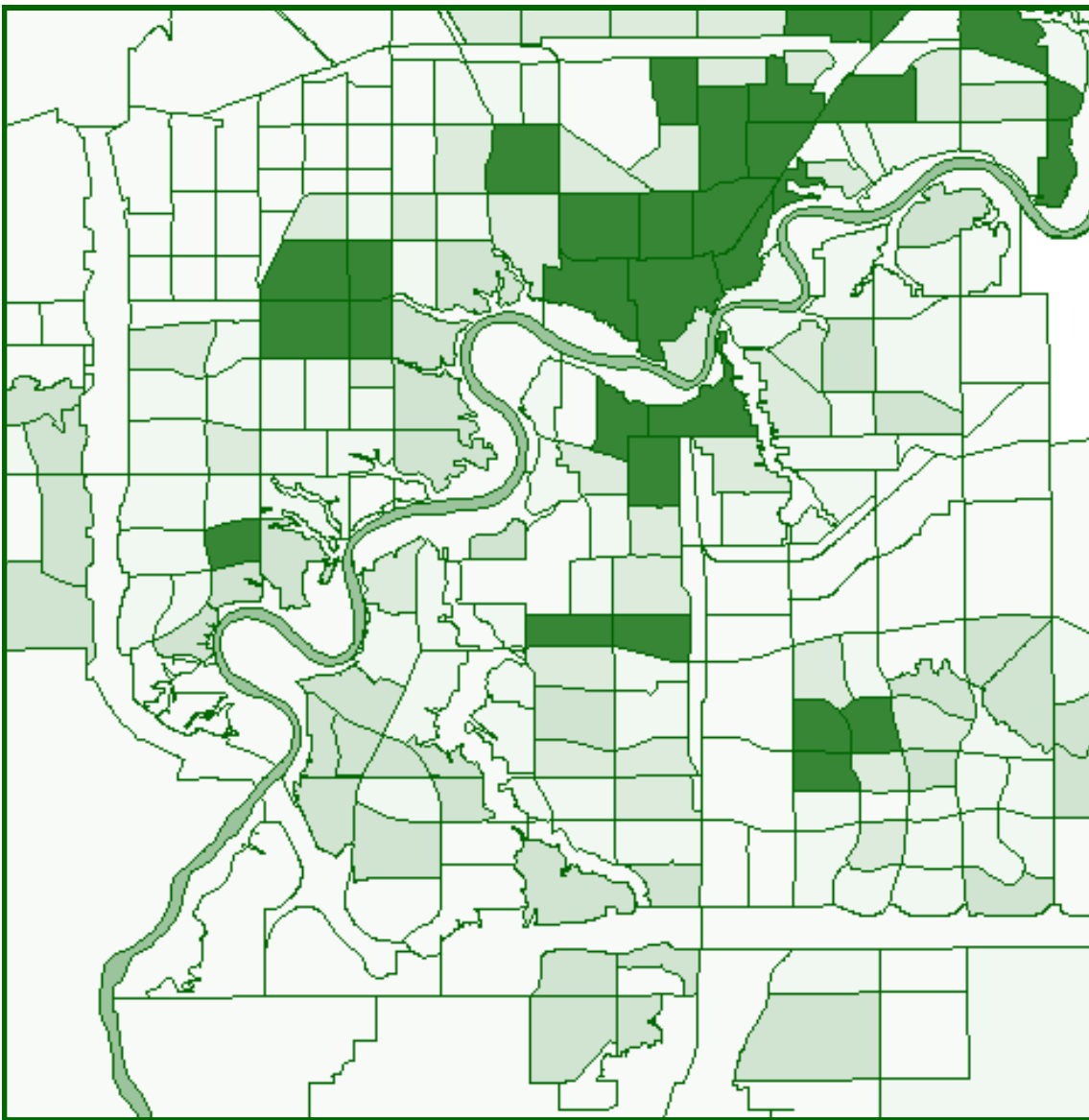


# *tracking the* **TRENDS** 2009

## Neighbourhood Well-Being in Edmonton



**Tracking the Trends 2009: Edmonton Neighbourhoods  
10th Edition**

**Other editions:**

2007 Social Health in Edmonton  
2002 The Cost of Healthy Living  
2000 The Cost of Healthy Living  
1995 Mental Health  
1994 Youth  
1993 Aboriginal People  
1991 Immigrants  
1990 Families with Children  
1989 Youth and Seniors

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**Edmonton Social Planning Council**



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# Preface

**TRACKING THE TRENDS: Neighbourhood Well-being in Edmonton**, provides a comprehensive picture of many aspects of Edmonton's social well-being.

This 10<sup>th</sup> edition of *Tracking the Trends* presents a number of new social and economic data variables in addition to updates on the trends featured in the 9<sup>th</sup> edition released in 2007.

As in the previous edition, we have divided the trends into six major categories:

- ♦ **Demographics** - indicators of population growth, immigration and population diversity.
- ♦ **Education & Employment** - indicators of education achievement and employment status of the population.
- ♦ **Cost of Living & Housing Trends** - indicators of the costs of basic necessities, such as food and housing, as well as the housing status of the population.
- ♦ **Wages, Income & Wealth** - indicators of the changing value of the wages, incomes and net worth of individuals and families.
- ♦ **Poverty** - indicators of the prevalence of low income, as well as the incidence of acute forms of poverty, such as homelessness.
- ♦ **Government Income Supports** - indicators of the investments made by governments towards improving financial security and the impact of those investments on low income families.

This edition of *Tracking the Trends* features a special section on Edmonton neighbourhoods. The full-colour maps presented in this section capture demographic, income, unemployment and housing tenure data at a neighbourhood level. This level of detail gives us a picture of the variation between neighbourhoods in Edmonton.

Finally, this edition also includes an updated and expanded Social Health Index. The intention of this index is to provide a rough measure of the overall social health of Edmonton, and how it has changed over time.

Presented together, these trends give us a clearer picture of the social changes taking place in Edmonton. They also offer a broad understanding of the segments of the population which are disadvantaged or marginalized.

Research on the social determinants of health tells us that socioeconomic inequality, in particular, impacts people's health and well-being. The negative consequences of inequality are far-reaching, with implications for disadvantaged individuals as well as their communities (and their city). The costs to all levels of government are also significant.

As these pervasive impacts illustrate, decisions that affect the citizens of Edmonton must be informed by an understanding of social trends in order to be effective in the long-term.

The ESPC is pleased to present this 10<sup>th</sup> edition of *Tracking the Trends*. Twenty years after the release of the first edition in 1989, we remain committed to regularly updating this valuable compendium of social and economic data critical to sound decision-making. We hope that decision-makers, social policy planners, researchers and the general public will find this publication useful in broadening their understanding of the social trends in the Edmonton Region.

## Acknowledgements

Preparing this edition would not have been possible without the ongoing partnership and support of the United Way of the Alberta Capital Region.

We are also grateful to the many organizations who contributed data to be published in this volume. Any errors or omissions are strictly ours.

We would also like to thank our peer reviewers and contributors, including Alvin Finkel, Christopher Smith, Erin Krekoski and Jennifer Hoyer. Their input was invaluable in ensuring the quality and value of this publication.

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## Trend Direction

↑ Numbers/value increasing

↓ Numbers/value decreasing

◆ No historical trend / situation stable

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# Introduction

## Why Track the Trends?

Whether for planning programs and services, or developing policies, timely, accurate information is critical. Likewise, an understanding of the historical context of social issues is critical to the development of effective strategies for positive social change.

Presenting data in a central source, such as *Tracking the Trends*, permits us to see the trends in the context of other social changes occurring simultaneously. For example, that the Consumer Price Index and average rents have risen at a more rapid rate than Alberta Works benefits.

Most Canadian publications present data at the national or provincial level. *Tracking the Trends* is unique in its inclusion of primarily Edmonton-level data. This makes it a useful tool for people working on social issues in the Edmonton metropolitan region.

### A Tool for the Public

Edmontonians' awareness of social issues is critical to improving the social inclusiveness of our communities. A better understanding of the challenges that our fellow citizens face can affect the way we think of and treat each other. Regardless of our socioeconomic backgrounds, we all share this city and region, and have an interest in its healthy future.

### A Tool for Decision-Makers

As a planner or policy maker, this collection of data provides a clearer understanding of the current and historical social conditions in Edmonton. This information can provide the background necessary to make informed decisions, and even the insight needed to anticipate future changes.

We encourage readers to use *Tracking the Trends* to assess how well all levels of government are fulfilling their role in ensuring that its citizens have the support they need to maintain a decent standard of living.

### A Tool for Social Organizations and Researchers

The work of organizations involved in social development activities must be informed by the current and historical social contexts. The information in *Tracking the Trends* will prove useful for program planning, organizational strategy-building, as well as other community development activities.

Students and researchers will also benefit from this rich and unified source of data to inform their research projects. Such in-depth research is important for expanding our knowledge of specific issues and informing social policy development.




## Identifying *the* TRENDS

*Tracking the Trends* once again features *the* TRENDS markers—symbols that indicate, at a glance, how the situation has changed for each trend presented. '*the* TRENDS' markers reflect change over a 10 year time period, unless indicated otherwise.




In this edition, we have improved '*the* TRENDS' feature by indicating both the *direction* of the trend (whether the numbers have gone up or down) and its *value* (whether we believe it is socially positive or negative).

The following six TRENDS markers are used:

### *the* TRENDS Direction

-  Numbers/value increasing
-  Numbers/value decreasing
-  No historical trend / situation stable

### *the* TRENDS Value

-  positive trend / situation improving
-  negative trend / situation worsening
-  neutral / positive and negative aspects

# Part 1 | Major Social & Economic Trends

In any community, public policy, social health and economic well-being are intricately linked. Still, there is disagreement on how these factors influence each other and on how to use public policy and social programs to bring about social change.

The following section presents graphs, tables and analysis on social and economic trends in the Edmonton area. Some data show us what it costs to live, such as the Consumer Price Index and average rents. Other data indicate people's capacity to earn an income and maintain a decent standard of living.

Labour force participation and minimum wage tell us something about what percentage of the population is working and how much employers are paying for labour. Alberta Works benefit rates reflect the standard of living for those on the margins of the labour market. Low income data give an indication of the proportion of the population that live on incomes that are insufficient to cover the costs of living.

The data presented in Part 1 of *Tracking the Trends* will help to answer the following questions:

- ◆ How is Edmonton's population changing?
- ◆ Have opportunities to make a living increased?
- ◆ How has the cost of living changed?
- ◆ Have Edmontonians' abilities to afford the cost of living changed?
- ◆ Has social equality improved?
- ◆ What groups within the population experience inequities, and how deep are the inequities they experience?
- ◆ Are disadvantaged people receiving the support they need to improve their situations?

## A Note on the Economic Downturn

At the time of publication, the economic situation in Edmonton (and around the world) is undergoing major changes as a result of the financial crisis which began in late 2008. Wherever possible, we have included partial-year data for 2009 in order to capture the impact of this major economic shift on other social trends.

## the TREND Markers

### the TREND Direction

- ↑ Numbers/value increasing
- ↓ Numbers/value decreasing
- ◆ No historical trend / situation stable

### the TREND Value

- ⊕ positive trend / situation improving
- ⊖ negative trend / situation worsening
- ⊙ neutral / positive and negative aspects



# Section A | Demographics

- the TRENDS:**
- ⊙ population increasing
  - ⊕ diversity increasing

## Why are Demographic Trends Important?

---

At the most basic level, population is an important variable to be able to plan for future services. Knowing how many people live within the boundaries of a given area, as well as their basic characteristics, is critical.

### Demographic Signals, Planning Challenges

The age profile and cultural composition of a city, for example, have significant consequences for the types of programs, services and policies needed.

In Edmonton, as in most developed nations, the population is aging due to a combination of a lower birth rate and higher life expectancy. Strategies for dealing with this demographic shift must be made in advance in order to respond to the needs of the changing population in an effective and timely manner.

An aging population also foreshadows a shrinking labour force. Immigration is part of the solution to such labour shortages. The recent economic boom, for example, brought an large number of temporary foreign workers to Edmonton.

However, there are many challenges that accompany welcoming new immigrants to the city, particularly in terms of integration into communities. Immigrants and newcomers are often at an economic and social disadvantage, and need additional support to feel welcome and valued, and to become fully active citizens.

Another significant trend is that Edmonton's Aboriginal population is significantly younger, and growing more rapidly, than the general population [*City of Edmonton*]. This trend, too, presents a challenge for planners and Aboriginal organizations.

## How is Edmonton Changing?

---

Edmonton's population has grown at a rate above the Canadian average for most of the past quarter-century [*Statistics Canada*]. This can be primarily attributed to the employment opportunities in Alberta, particularly in periods of accelerated economic growth. During the recent economic boom, the city's rate of growth approached the pace experienced in the late 70's and early 80's.

### Age Profile

The city's population is also aging, though at a rate below the national average [*Statistics Canada*]. It appears that in-migration is helping to slow population aging.

### Diversity

Edmonton is the sixth most popular city in Canada for new immigrants, attracting 3% of all immigrants to the country in 2008 [*CIC*]. In recent years, Edmonton has attracted a growing number of immigrants from all over the world. As a result, the city's population has become increasingly diverse, and is expected to become even more so.

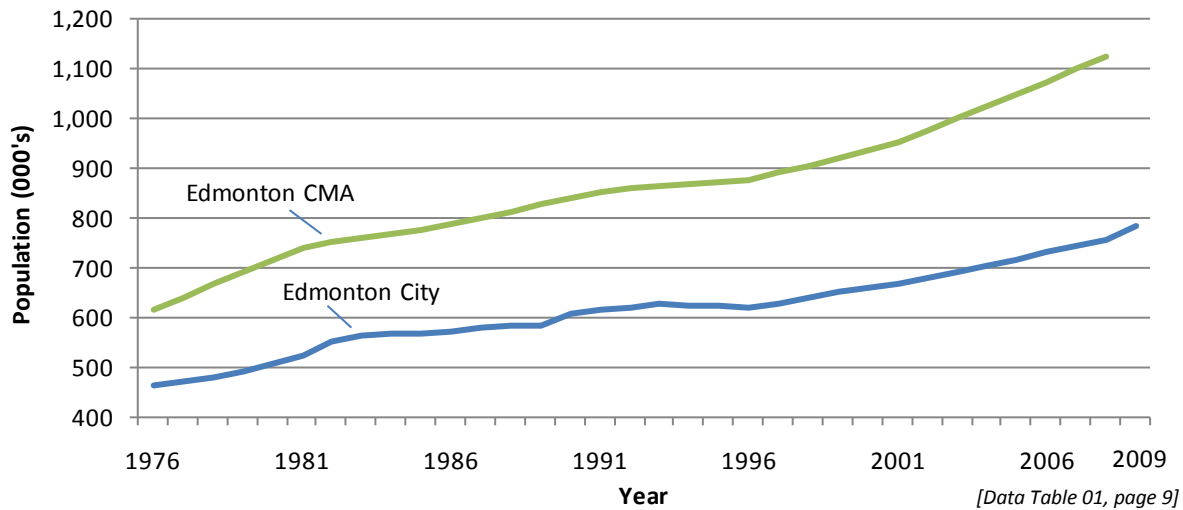
Temporary foreign workers, as a category, grew significantly faster than the number of immigrants settling permanently. This exponential growth was a result of the recent boom. The full effect of the current economic downturn on this group remains to be seen. However, it is likely that these workers are among the most vulnerable to job losses, and it may not be feasible for them to simply return to their home countries.

# Population

- the TRENDS:**
- ↑ ⊙ population increasing rapidly
  - ↑ ⊙ population aging

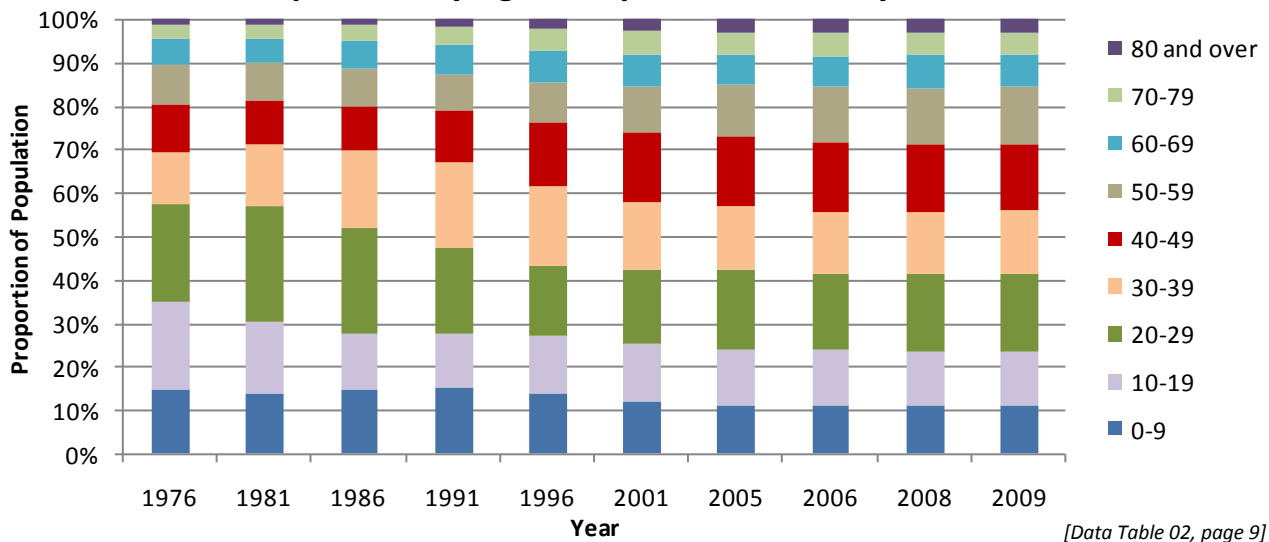
- The population of the City of Edmonton grew 69.5% from 1976 to 2009. Over the past ten years (1998-2009) the population grew by nearly one quarter (23.0%).
- The population of the Edmonton CMA has grown 82.4% since 1976; it grew 22.6% in the ten years between the 1996 and 2006 Census, and a further 4.7% by 2008.

**Population, Edmonton City & Edmonton CMA**



- From 1996 to 2006, the 50 to 59 age group had the greatest proportional growth (from 9.0% to 12.8% of the total population); as of 2009, this group has grown a further 0.5 percentage points (to 13.3% of the population).
- The 30 to 39 age group had the largest proportional decrease between 1996 to 2006 (from 18.4% to 14.3% of the total population); however, it increased by 0.6 percentage points (to 15% of the population) by 2009.
- The 0 to 9 age group experienced the second greatest proportional decline (decreasing from 13.8% to 11.0% of the population from 1996 to 2006, with a slight recovery of 0.1 percentage points by 2009).

**Population by Age Group, Edmonton City**



**NOTE:** Due to gaps in age reporting in the 2008 and 2009 census, age group data should be interpreted with cau-

# Families

- the TRENDS:**
- ↑ ⊙ family units increasing rapidly
  - ↑ ⊙ number of unattached individuals increasing most rapidly

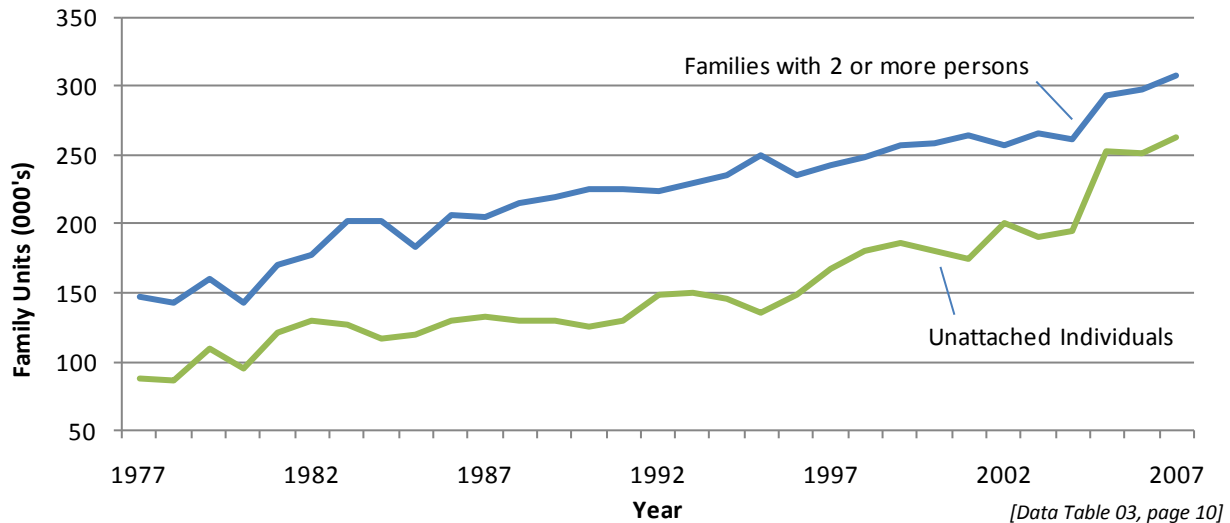
The number of families residing in Edmonton has increased considerably in recent years; from 1997 to 2007, the number rose 26.7% to 308,000 family units.

- ◆ Over the past 30 years, the number of families has more than doubled (108% increase since 1977).

The number of single individuals has increased at an even faster pace; from 1997 to 2007 this group increased 57.5%.

- ◆ This indicates that many of the people attracted to Edmonton during the economic boom were single individuals.

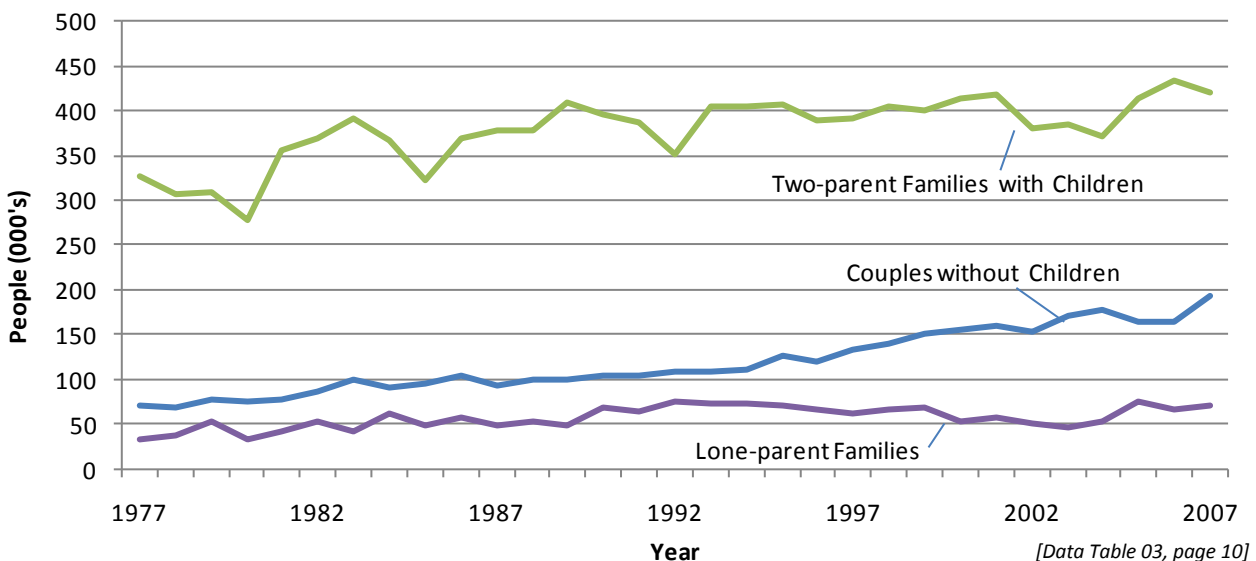
**Number of Families & Unattached Individuals, Edmonton CMA**



The overall composition of family types in Edmonton has also evolved:

- ◆ Most people in Edmonton live in two-parent families with children (420,000 in 2007).
- ◆ The family type that experienced the greatest growth from 1997 to 2007 was couples without children (increased by 46.2%, or 61,000 people).

**Number of People, by Family Type, Edmonton CMA**



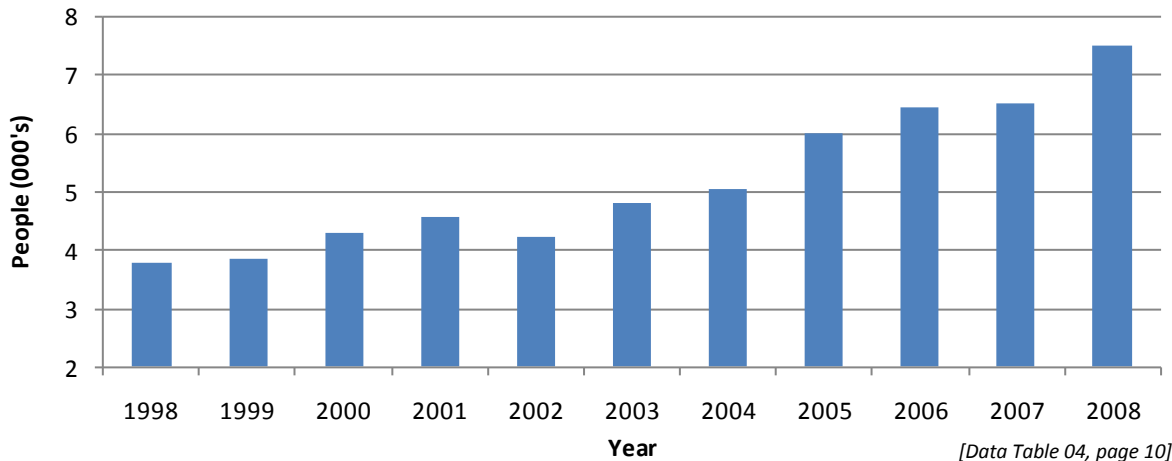
# Immigration

- the TRENDS:*
- ↑ ⊙ immigrant and refugee settlement increased
  - ↑ ⊙ temporary settlement increased rapidly

Immigration to the Edmonton area has increased considerably in recent years:

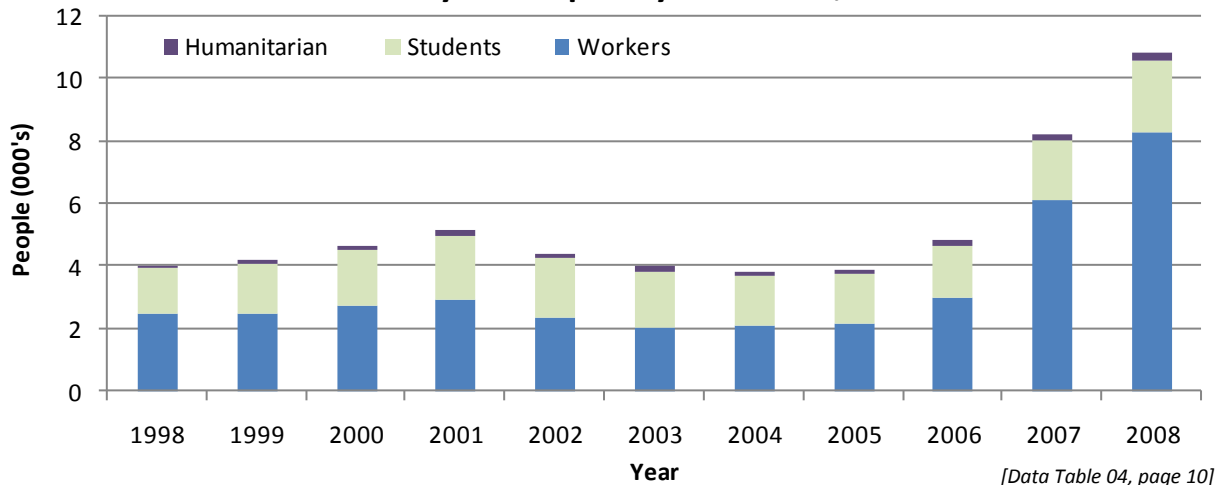
- ◆ The number of immigrants and refugees permanently settling in Edmonton nearly doubled from 1998 to 2008 (97.9% increase, to 7,512 people in 2008).

**Annual Entry of Permanent Immigrants, Edmonton CMA**



- ◆ The number of temporary residents coming to Edmonton increased 162.7% between 1998 and 2008.
  - ◇ This increase is primarily due to the influx of temporary foreign workers during the recent economic boom; this group more than tripled in size between 1998 and 2008 (an increase of 231.6%, to 8,301 workers in 2008).
  - ◇ The number of foreign students entering Edmonton increased 60.3% since 1998.
  - ◇ From 1998 to 2007, the number of humanitarian immigrants to Edmonton increased 144.4%.
- ◆ For the first time, in 2008, more immigrants came to the Edmonton area as temporary foreign workers than as permanent residents.
- ◆ About one-in-two temporary foreign workers are in low-skilled occupations such as retail trade, food services, and the hospitality sector [AFL]; workers in these types of jobs are more economically vulnerable, especially during a recession.

**Annual Total Entry of Temporary Residents, Edmonton CMA**



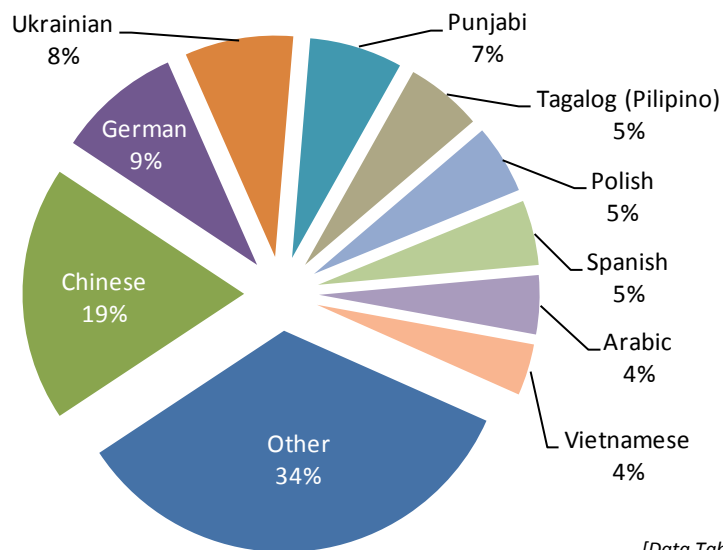
# Language Diversity

the TRENDS: ↑ ⊕ language diversity increasing

The Edmonton area is becoming increasingly diverse, as evidenced by the proportion of residents speaking languages other than English or French (Canada's official languages).

- ◆ In 2006, 203,990 Edmonton CMA residents reported speaking only a non-official mother tongue; this represents an 18.3% increase from the 2001 census.
- ◆ The most common non-official mother tongues are: Chinese, German, Ukrainian, Punjabi, and Tagalog (Pilipino).

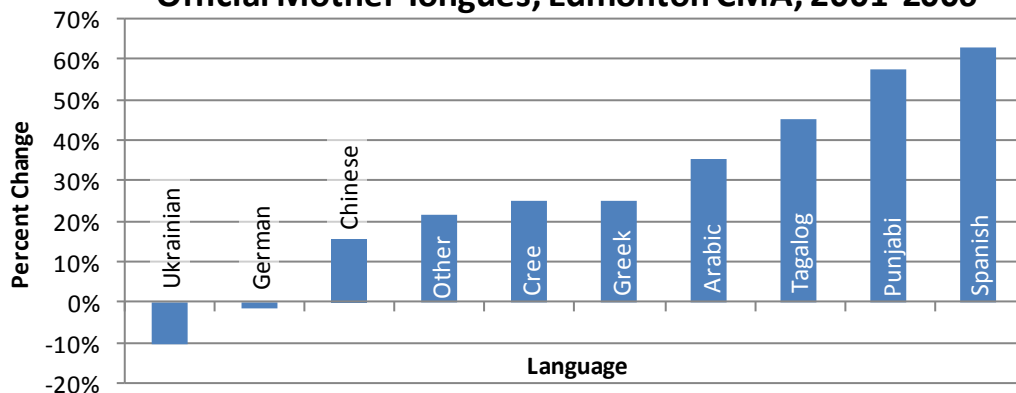
**Proportion of Population Speaking Non-Official Mother Tongues, by Language, Edmonton CMA, 2006**



[Data Table 05, page 11]

- ◆ The Spanish, Punjabi, Tagalog (Pilipino), and Arabic languages experienced the greatest growth between 2001 and 2006.

**Percentage Change in Population Speaking Only Non-Official Mother Tongues, Edmonton CMA, 2001-2006**



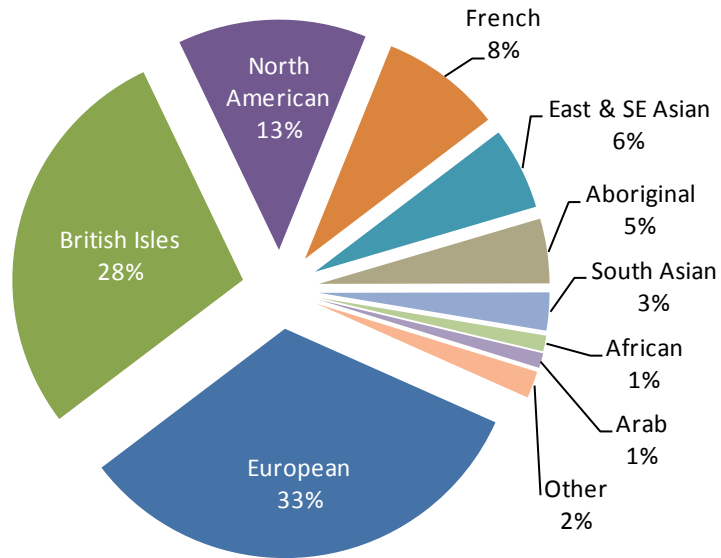
[Data Table 05, page 11]

# Ethnic Diversity

the TRENDS: ↑ ⊕ ethnic diversity increasing

The majority of Edmonton residents report European, British Isles, or North American origin.

**Proportion of Population by Ethnic Origin, Edmonton CMA, 2006**

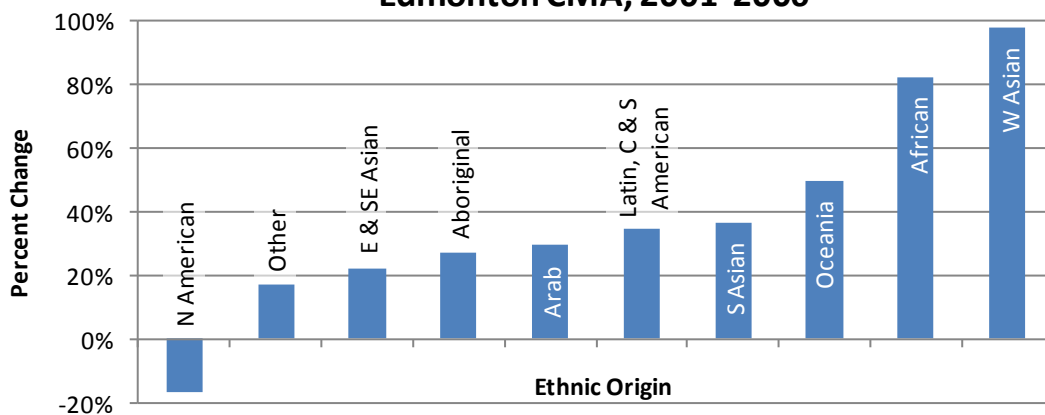


[Data Table 06, page 11]

The ethnic composition of Edmonton has changed in recent years.

- ♦ The West Asian and African ethnic groups experienced the greatest growth from 2001 to 2006.
- ♦ The number of Edmontonians reporting North American origins (other than Aboriginal) decreased by 42,135 people (or 17%) from 2001 to 2006.

**Percentage Change in Ethnic Origins of Population, Edmonton CMA, 2001-2006**



[Data Table 06, page 11]

**Note:** See Terms & Definitions section for information on the composition of ethnic origin groupings.



# Data Tables | Section A

**Table 01: Population, Edmonton City & Edmonton CMA**

Year	Edmonton City	Edmonton CMA
1976	461,005	616,055
1981	521,245	742,018
1986	571,506	786,596
1991	614,665	853,900
1996	616,306	875,590
2001	666,104	951,114
2006	730,372	1,073,800
2007	740,578	1,100,900
2008	752,412	1,124,163
2009	782,439	N/A

[Source: City of Edmonton, Canada West Foundation & Statistics Canada]

**Table 02: Population, by Age Group, Edmonton City**

Age	1976 Federal	1981 Federal	1986 Federal	1991 Federal	1996 Federal	2001 Federal	2005 Municipal	2006 Federal	2008* Municipal	2009* Municipal
0-9	68,515 (14.9%)	71,926 (13.8%)	83,207 (14.6%)	92,231 (15.0%)	85,080 (13.8%)	80,025 (12.0%)	77,041 (10.8%)	78,821 (11.0%)	71,850 (11.1%)	75,530 (11.1%)
10-19	91,585 (19.9%)	86,472 (16.6%)	73,815 (12.9%)	76,159 (12.4%)	81,360 (13.2%)	89,400 (13.4%)	93,061 (13.1%)	92,185 (12.7%)	80,506 (12.5%)	82,840 (12.2%)
20-29	103,360 (22.4%)	137,653 (26.4%)	140,162 (24.5%)	123,043 (20.0%)	98,655 (16.0%)	110,160 (16.5%)	129,789 (18.2%)	131,897 (17.5%)	113,191 (17.5%)	121,135 (17.8%)
30-39	56,235 (12.2%)	74,686 (14.3%)	100,502 (17.6%)	119,342 (19.4%)	113,525 (18.4%)	105,685 (15.9%)	104,624 (14.7%)	107,656 (14.3%)	94,303 (14.6%)	101,694 (15.0%)
40-49	51,075 (11.1%)	52,590 (10.1%)	58,471 (10.2%)	73,764 (12.0%)	91,025 (14.8%)	107,940 (16.2%)	113,663 (16.0%)	114,669 (15.9%)	98,317 (15.2%)	101,678 (15.0%)
50-59	41,925 (9.1%)	45,948 (8.8%)	49,791 (8.7%)	50,683 (8.2%)	55,275 (9.0%)	70,485 (10.6%)	85,091 (11.9%)	89,553 (12.8%)	84,259 (13.0%)	90,229 (13.3%)
60-69	27,100 (5.9%)	28,970 (5.6%)	36,304 (6.4%)	43,442 (7.1%)	45,725 (7.4%)	47,320 (7.1%)	49,670 (7.0%)	51,784 (7.2%)	48,816 (7.6%)	51,762 (7.6%)
70-79	14,680 (3.2%)	16,475 (3.2%)	20,228 (3.5%)	24,952 (4.1%)	30,875 (5.0%)	36,680 (5.5%)	37,962 (5.3%)	38,870 (5.4%)	33,738 (5.2%)	34,022 (5.0%)
80 +	6,530 (1.4%)	6,525 (1.3%)	9,015 (1.6%)	11,049 (1.8%)	14,785 (2.4%)	18,405 (2.8%)	21,490 (3.0%)	22,740 (3.2%)	20,708 (3.2%)	21,173 (3.1%)
<b>Total</b>	<b>461,005</b>	<b>521,245</b>	<b>571,495</b>	<b>614,665</b>	<b>616,305</b>	<b>666,100</b>	<b>712,391</b>	<b>721,173</b>	<b>752,412</b>	<b>782,439</b>

\* Age group counts for 2008 and 2009 do not add up to the total, due to persons being counted with unreported ages. Percentages for 2008 and 2009 were calculated using the total number of persons with reported ages.

[Source: City of Edmonton & Statistics Canada]

# Data Tables | Section A, cont'd...

**Table 03: Number of Families, by Family Type, Edmonton CMA**

Year	Number of Census Families, 2+ persons	Number of People			
		Two-parent Families with Children	Married Couples	Lone-parent Families	Unattached Individuals
1977	148,000	328,000	70,000	33,000	87,000
1978	143,000	307,000	68,000	37,000	86,000
1979	160,000	310,000	78,000	54,000	109,000
1980	143,000	278,000	74,000	33,000	94,000
1981	171,000	357,000	76,000	41,000	121,000
1982	178,000	369,000	86,000	54,000	130,000
1983	202,000	392,000	99,000	43,000	127,000
1984	203,000	368,000	90,000	63,000	116,000
1985	184,000	322,000	94,000	48,000	119,000
1986	207,000	370,000	103,000	58,000	129,000
1987	205,000	378,000	92,000	49,000	132,000
1988	215,000	378,000	100,000	53,000	129,000
1989	220,000	409,000	99,000	48,000	130,000
1990	226,000	397,000	103,000	70,000	125,000
1991	226,000	388,000	104,000	64,000	130,000
1992	224,000	351,000	108,000	76,000	148,000
1993	230,000	404,000	108,000	73,000	150,000
1994	235,000	404,000	111,000	73,000	145,000
1995	250,000	407,000	126,000	71,000	135,000
1996	235,000	389,000	120,000	68,000	148,000
1997	243,000	392,000	132,000	63,000	167,000
1998	249,000	405,000	139,000	68,000	180,000
1999	258,000	401,000	150,000	70,000	186,000
2000	259,000	414,000	155,000	54,000	180,000
2001	265,000	418,000	159,000	57,000	175,000
2002	257,000	381,000	153,000	52,000	200,000
2003	266,000	384,000	171,000	46,000	190,000
2004	262,000	371,000	178,000	54,000	195,000
2005	293,000	415,000	163,000	76,000	253,000
2006	298,000	434,000	164,000	67,000	251,000
2007	308,000	420,000	193,000	72,000	263,000

[Source: Statistics Canada]

**Table 04: Annual Entry of Permanent and Temporary Residents, Edmonton CMA**

Year	Permanent Residents	Temporary Residents			Total
		Workers	Students	Humanitarian	
1998	3,795	2,503	1,433	99	<b>4,035</b>
1999	3,843	2,471	1,600	153	<b>4,224</b>
2000	4,301	2,717	1,832	135	<b>4,684</b>
2001	4,583	2,921	2,062	183	<b>5,166</b>
2002	4,226	2,349	1,914	170	<b>4,433</b>
2003	4,819	2,036	1,780	174	<b>3,990</b>
2004	5,057	2,137	1,562	150	<b>3,849</b>
2005	6,016	2,146	1,629	97	<b>3,872</b>
2006	6,441	3,023	1,647	195	<b>4,865</b>
2007	6,541	6,122	1,904	223	<b>8,249</b>
2008	7,512	8,291	2,299	242	<b>10,832</b>

[Source: Citizenship and Immigration Canada]

**Table 05: Population, by Mother Tongues Spoken, Edmonton CMA**

Language Spoken	2001		2006		Change (2001—2006)	
	Total	%	Total	%	Total	%
<b>Total</b>	<b>927,020</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>1,024,820</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>97,800</b>	<b>10.5%</b>
English Only	720,680	77.7%	785,755	76.7%	65,075	9.0%
French Only	21,390	2.3%	21,980	2.4%	590	2.8%
English and French	1,910	0.2%	1,830	0.2%	(80)	(4.2%)
English and non-official language	9,915	1.1%	10,600	1.0%	685	6.9%
<b>Non-official languages Only (detail below)</b>	<b>172,415</b>	<b>18.6%</b>	<b>203,990</b>	<b>22.0%</b>	<b>31,575</b>	<b>18.3%</b>
Chinese	32,810	3.5%	37,990	4.1%	5,180	15.8%
German	18,805	2.0%	18,520	2.0%	(285)	(1.5%)
Ukrainian	18,050	1.9%	16,150	1.7%	(1,900)	(10.5%)
Punjabi	8,825	1.0%	13,905	1.5%	5,080	57.6%
Tagalog (Pilipino)	7,885	0.9%	11,455	1.2%	3,570	45.3%
Polish	9,770	1.1%	10,330	1.1%	560	5.7%
Spanish	5,940	0.6%	9,695	1.0%	3,755	63.2%
Arabic	6,505	0.7%	8,815	1.0%	2,310	35.5%
Vietnamese	7,070	0.8%	7,715	0.8%	645	9.1%
Italian	5,935	0.6%	6,070	0.7%	135	2.3%
Dutch	5,615	0.6%	5,735	0.6%	120	2.1%
Portuguese	3,945	0.4%	4,285	0.5%	340	8.6%
Cree	1,875	0.2%	2,340	0.3%	465	24.8%
Greek	945	0.1%	1,180	0.1%	235	24.9%
Inuktitut (Eskimo)	45	0.0%	30	0.0%	(15)	(33.3%)
Other non-official languages	36,705	4.0%	49,775	5.4%	13,070	35.6%

Note: Statistics Canada allows people to report more than one mother tongue.

**Table 06: Population, by Reported Ethnic Origins, Edmonton CMA**




Area of Origin	2001		2006		Change (2001—2006)	
	Total	%	Total	%	Total	%
<b>Total</b>	<b>927,020</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>1,024,820</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>97,800</b>	<b>10.5%</b>
British Isles	369,870	39.9%	436,245	42.6%	66,375	17.9%
North American	246,675	26.6%	204,540	20.0%	(42,135)	(17.1%)
French	113,345	12.2%	131,810	12.9%	18,465	16.3%
Aboriginal	55,170	6.0%	70,120	6.8%	14,950	27.1%
Caribbean	7,735	0.8%	8,920	0.9%	1,185	15.3%
Latin, Central and South American	8,405	0.9%	11,295	1.1%	2,890	34.4%
European	437,755	47.2%	510,330	49.8%	72,575	16.6%
African	9,370	1.0%	17,085	1.7%	7,715	82.3%
Arab	12,355	1.3%	16,050	1.6%	3,695	29.9%
West Asian	2,950	0.3%	5,850	0.6%	2,900	98.3%
South Asian	30,190	3.3%	41,175	4.0%	10,985	36.4%
East and SE Asian	73,350	7.9%	89,385	8.7%	16,035	21.9%
Oceania	2,130	0.2%	3,195	0.3%	1,065	50.0%

Note: The totals for each ethnic origin do not add up to the reported total (population), because Statistics Canada allows people to report more than one ethnic origin.




[Source: Statistics Canada]

## ***the* TREND Markers**

### ***the* TREND Direction**

-  Numbers/value increasing
-  Numbers/value decreasing
-  No historical trend / situation stable

### ***the* TREND Value**

-  positive trend / situation improving
-  negative trend / situation worsening
-  neutral / positive and negative aspects

# Section B | Education & Employment

- the TRENDS:**
- ⊕ education trends consistently improving
  - ⊖ employment trends improved until recent economic downturn

## Why are Education Trends Important?

---

Education is a determinant of future career options and lifetime earning potential, particularly as the economy becomes increasingly knowledge-based. Earnings for university graduates are significantly higher than high school graduates. People with post-secondary degrees are also more likely to receive significant income increases over their working years.

Higher education also provides some protection against economic fluctuations; more highly educated individuals are less likely to become unemployed in the event of an economic downturn. *[Statistics Canada]*

## Why are Employment Trends Important?

---

Employment measures serve as indicators of a population's ability to support itself through paid work. The higher unemployment rises, the more people will need financial support to maintain a decent standard of living. Times of high unemployment also challenge government and business to find opportunities to stimulate job growth.

Times of low unemployment are not without challenges either. For example, working families often face difficulties maintaining a balance between their work and family roles, and may face difficulties securing adequate child care, etc. These situations also require informed program and policy planning.

## How is Edmonton Changing?

---

In general, Edmontonians benefited from the strong economic situation in the province over the past five years. They also appear to be investing more in their education, likely a response to the increased prevalence of high-skilled and knowledge-based jobs.

### Education

Edmonton's population has become more highly educated, both in terms of high school completion and post-secondary educational attainment.

### Employment

Economic growth has been strong in Edmonton over the past decade; employment increased as a result of that growth. However, the economic downturn that began in late 2008 has resulted in significant job losses. The full consequences of this shift have yet to be determined.

It is also important to note that some groups have historically tended to be, and continue to be, at a greater risk of unemployment. Young people, as well as the Aboriginal population, for example, continue to be at a disadvantage.

# High School Education

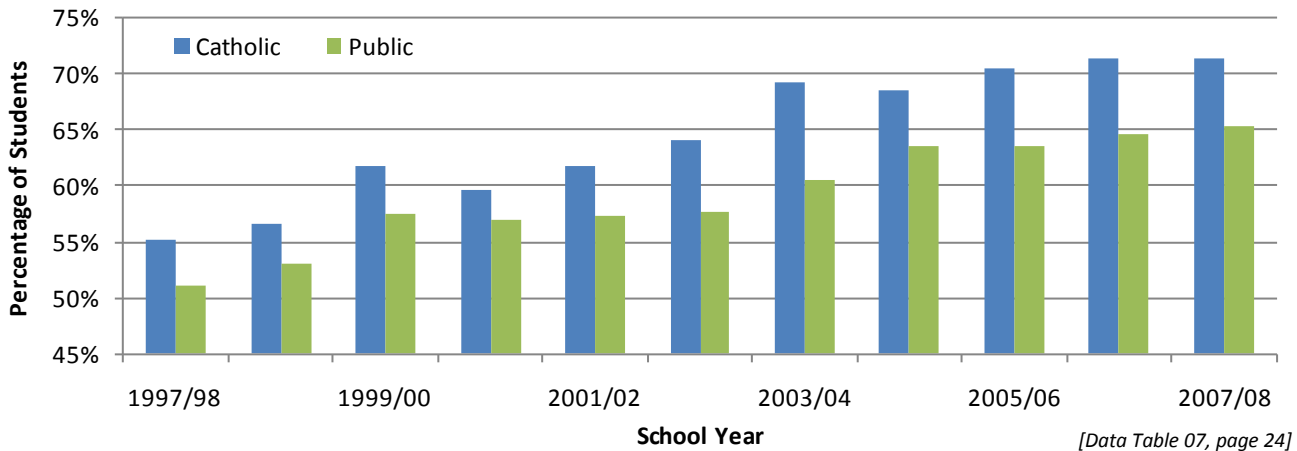


- the TRENDS:**
- ↑ ⊕ high school completion increasing
  - ↓ ⊕ student drop-out rate declining

The rates of student participation in, and completion of, public education in Edmonton have improved.

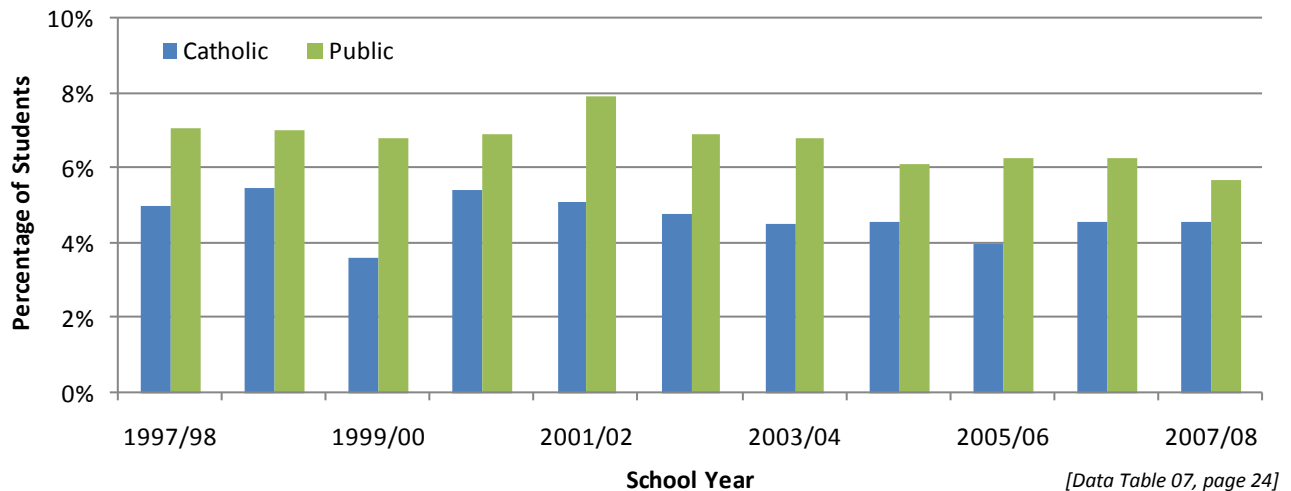
- ◆ The three-year high school completion rate increased 16.3 percentage points in the Catholic school system, and 14.3 percentage points for Public schools, between the 1997/98 and 2007/08 school years.

**Percentage of Students Completing High School Within Three Years, Edmonton Catholic and Public School Districts**



- ◆ The annual drop-out rate decreased 0.4 percentage points for Catholic schools and 1.4 percentage points in Public schools since the 1997/98 school year.

**Percentage of Students Aged 14 to 18 Dropped Out of School, Edmonton Catholic and Public School Districts**





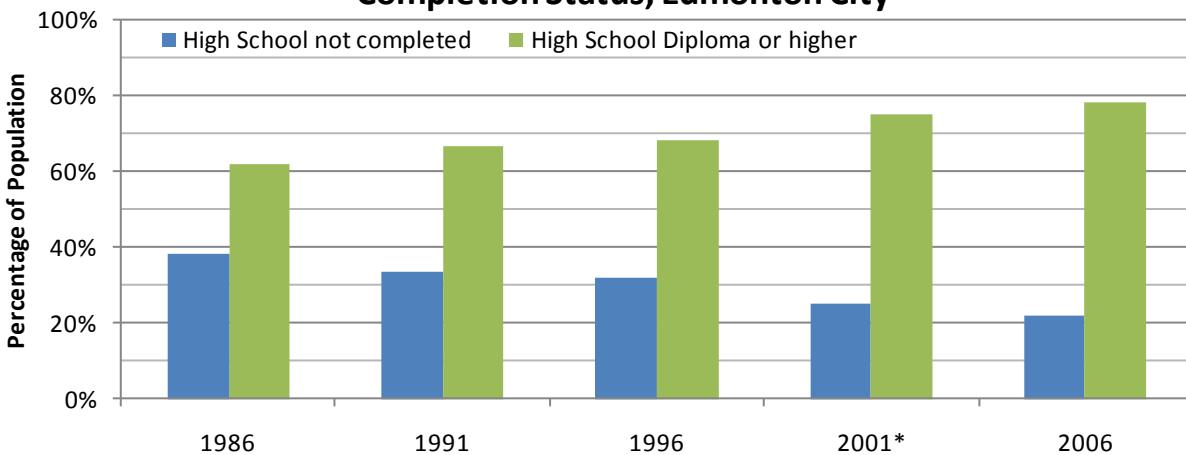
# High School Education, *cont'd...*

*the TRENDS:*    ↑    ⊕    completion of high school education increasing

The proportion of all Edmontonians that have completed high school has increased considerably.

- ◆ Since 1996, the percentage of people who had not completed their High School Diploma decreased 9.9 percentage points, to 21.9% in 2006.
- ◆ In 2006, 78.1% of Edmonton's population had completed their High School Diploma—an increase of 16.4 percentage points since 1986.

**Proportion of Population Aged 15 & Older by High School Completion Status, Edmonton City**



\* 2001 data is based on the population aged 21 and older; interpret with caution.

[Data Table 08, page 24]

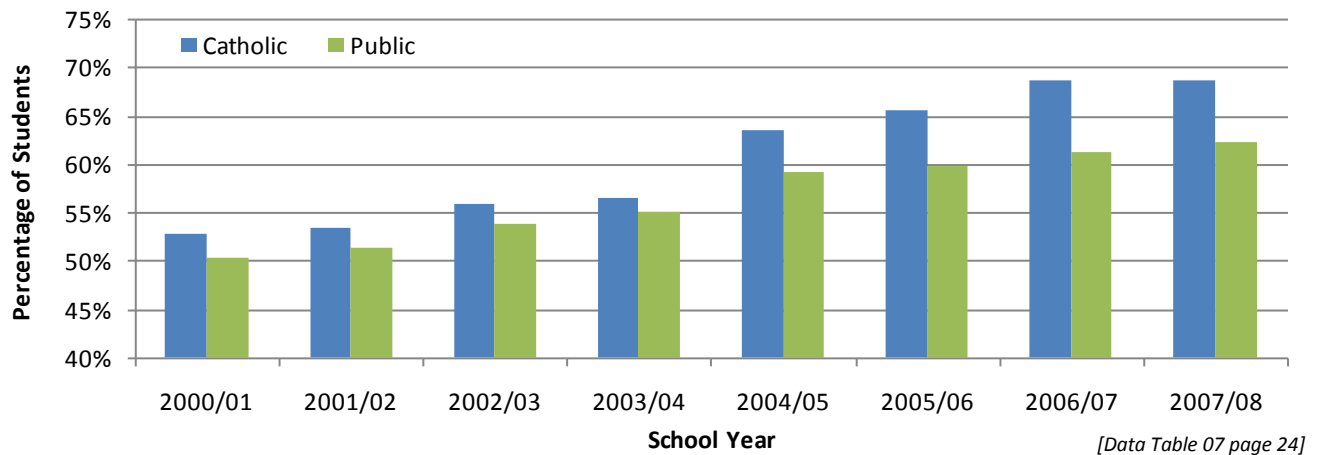
# Post-Secondary Education

- the TRENDS:**
- ↑ ⊕ more high school students transitioning to post-secondary
  - ↑ ⊕ population becoming better educated

Post-secondary educational attainment in Edmonton has improved:

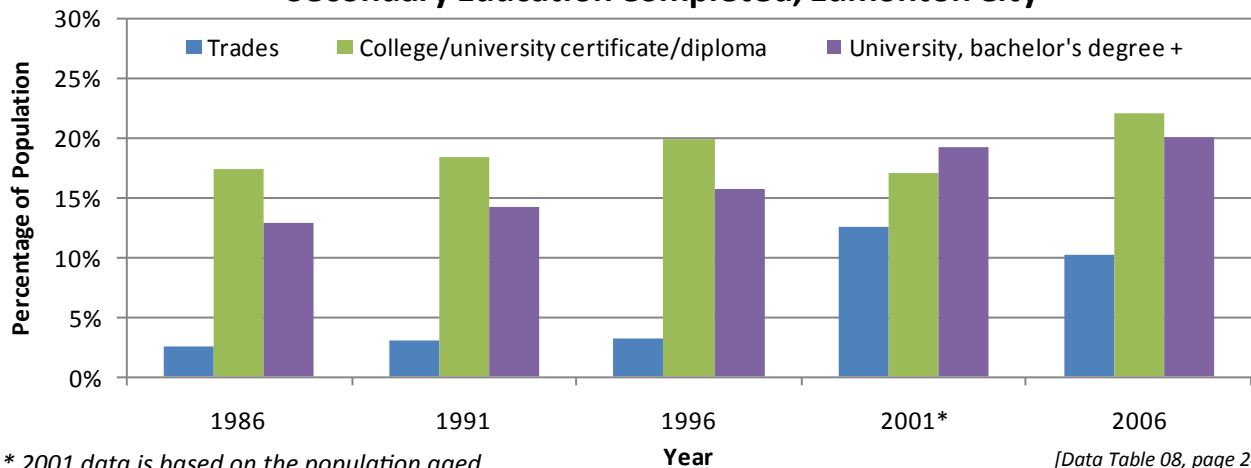
- ◆ The percentage of high school graduates who attend a post-secondary institution within 6 years of starting grade 10 increased 16.0 percentage points for Catholic schools, and 12.1 percentage points for Public schools, between the 2000/01 and 2007/08 school years.

**Six-Year High School To Postsecondary Transition Rates, Edmonton Catholic and Public School Districts**



- ◆ Between 1996 and 2006, the proportion of the population that had earned a university degree increased 4.4 percentage points; post-secondary certificates/diplomas increased 2.1 percentage points; and, trades increased 7.0 percentage points.

**Proportion of Population Aged 15 & Older by Level of Post-Secondary Education Completed, Edmonton City**

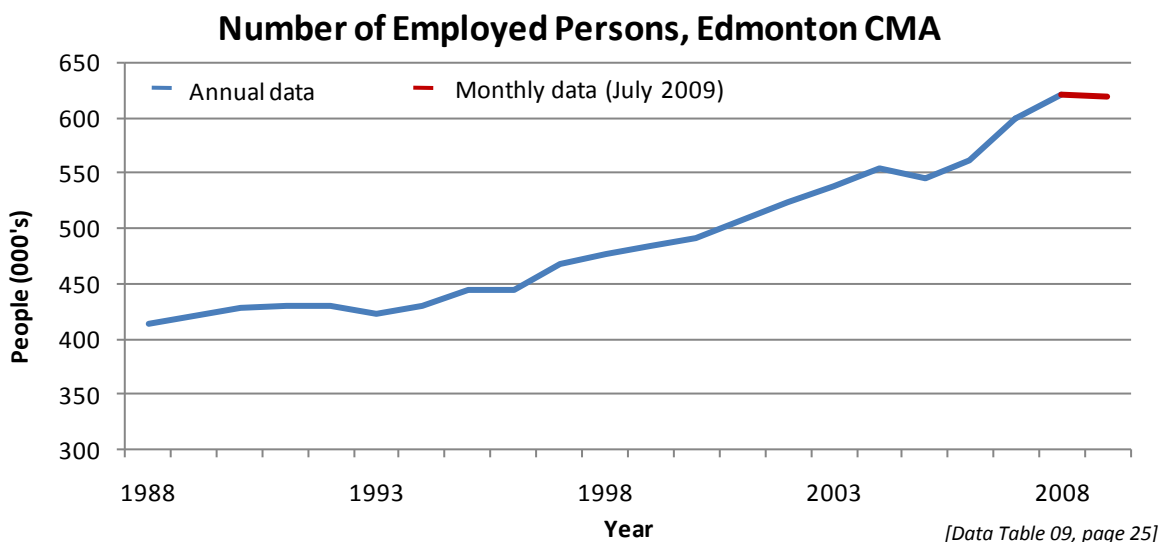


# Employment

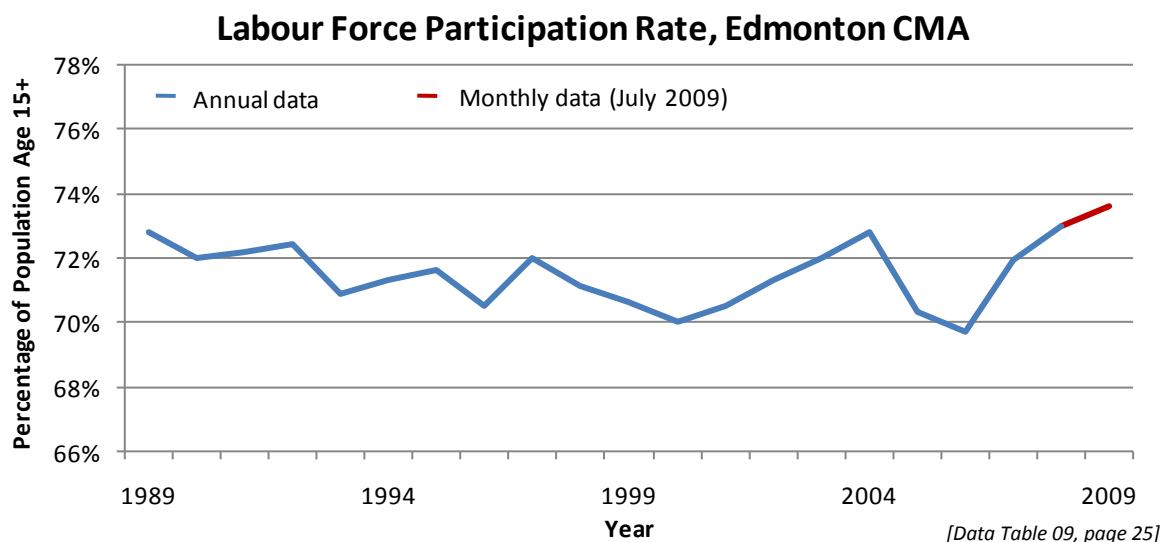
- the TRENDS:**
- ↑ ⊕ number of employed persons increased
  - ↑ ⊕ labour force participation rising

The recent economic downturn has led to significant changes in the Edmonton labour market since late 2008. This change is not reflected in the data for 2008; we have included the most recent monthly data for 2009, where available, in order to capture some of this change.

- ◆ In 2008, 621,100 Edmontonians were employed; this was 30.2% more than the number of people employed in 1998.
- ◆ As of July 2009, the number of employed people has decreased 0.39% from the 2008 level.



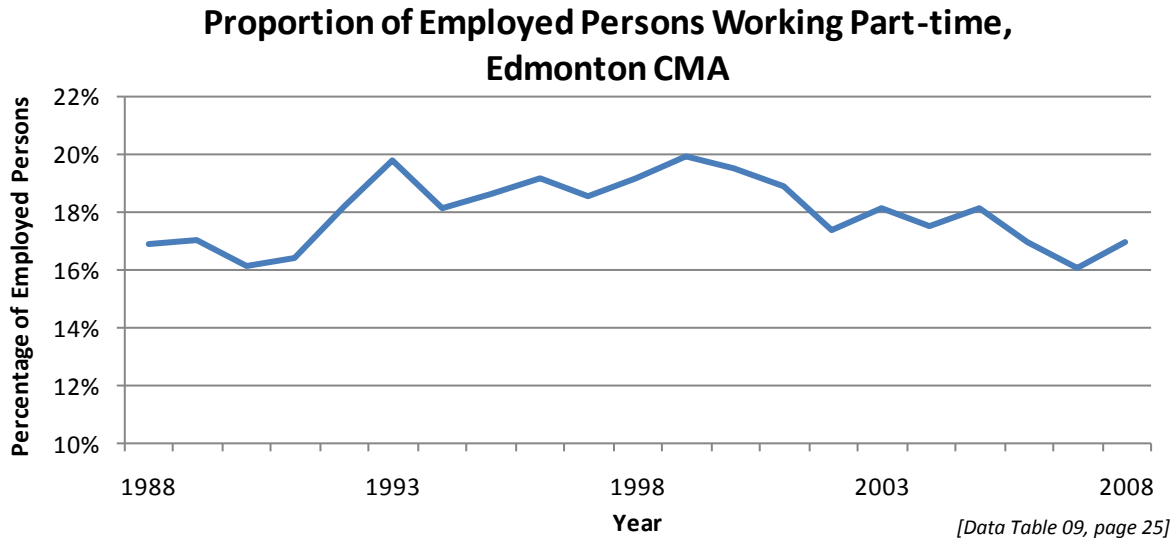
- ◆ The labour force participation rate increased 1.9 percentage points between 1998 and 2008. As of July 2009, the participation rate increased a further 0.6 percentage points.



# Employment, cont'd...

the TRENDS: ↓ ⊙ part-time employment decreased

Since 1998, the proportion of employed persons working part-time decreased 2.3 percentage points.



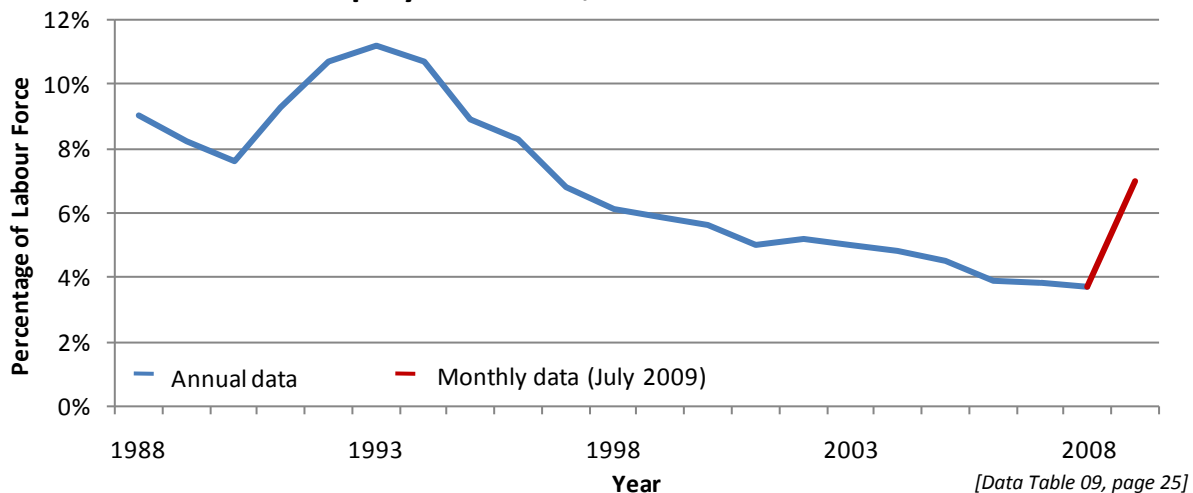
# Unemployment

- the TRENDS:*
- ↑ ⊖ unemployment recently increased
  - ↓ ⊕ gender gap in unemployment closing

Between 1998 and 2008, the unemployment rate decreased 2.4 percentage points; as of July 2009, these gains were lost to a 3.3 percentage point increase in unemployment. The unemployment rate is at its highest level since 1996.

- ♦ At 7.0%, Edmonton's unemployment rate in July 2009 remains well below the Canadian rate of 8.6%; it is also below Alberta's 7.2% unemployment rate.

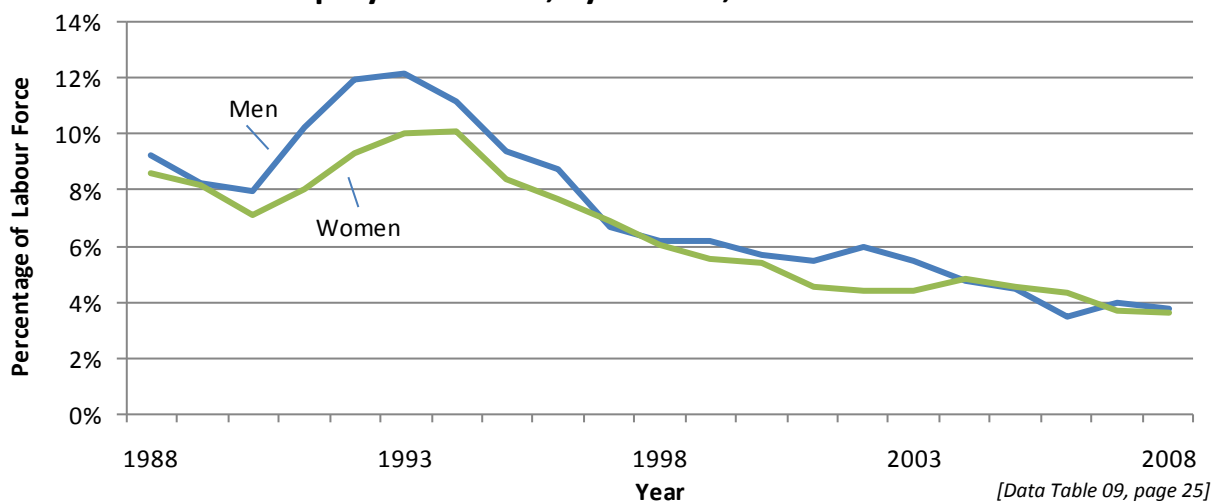
**Unemployment Rate, Edmonton CMA**



Historically, the unemployment rate has been different for men and women.

- ♦ In 2008, the unemployment gap between men and women narrowed to 0.2 percentage points, with women's unemployment (3.6%) lower than men's (3.8%).
- ♦ The gender gap in employment has widened during the current economic downturn; 71% of Canadians who lost their jobs between October 2008 and June 2009 were men. [CCPA] We expect to see a similar trend for Edmonton when data for 2009 become available.

**Unemployment Rate, by Gender, Edmonton CMA**



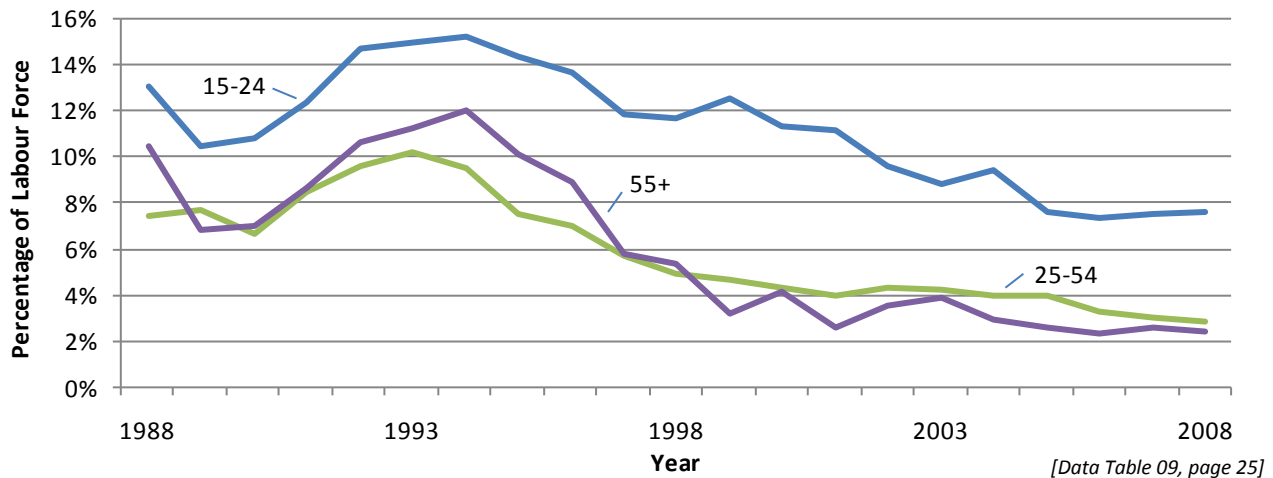
# Unemployment, *cont'd...*

- the TRENDS:**
- ↑ ⊖ age gap in unemployment widened
  - ↑ ⊖ Aboriginal unemployment recently increased
  - ◆ ⊖ Aboriginal unemployment still higher than average

Edmonton's unemployment rate also varies by age.

- ◆ The unemployment rate for youth (age 15-24) remains considerably higher than for older workers; the gap in unemployment between the 15-24 and 25-54 age groups was 4.8 percentage points in 2008 (1.9 percentage points higher than in 1998).
- ◆ However, between 1998 and 2008, youth have experienced the greatest improvement in unemployment rates (a 4.0 percentage point decrease).

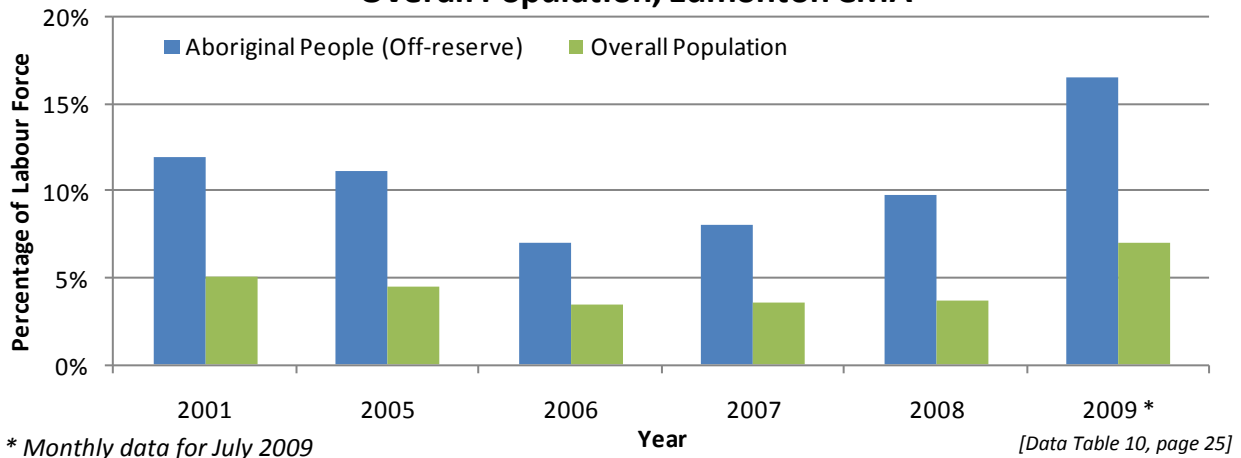
**Unemployment Rate, by Age, Edmonton CMA**



Before the current economic downturn, significant gains have been made in terms of Aboriginal employment.

- ◆ From 2001 to 2008, the Aboriginal unemployment rate decreased 2.2 percentage points. Those gains have been erased in the first seven months of 2009, with a 6.7 percentage point increase in Aboriginal unemployment.
- ◆ Currently, the Aboriginal unemployment rate is more than twice that of the overall population.

**Unemployment Rate for Off-reserve Aboriginal People and Overall Population, Edmonton CMA**





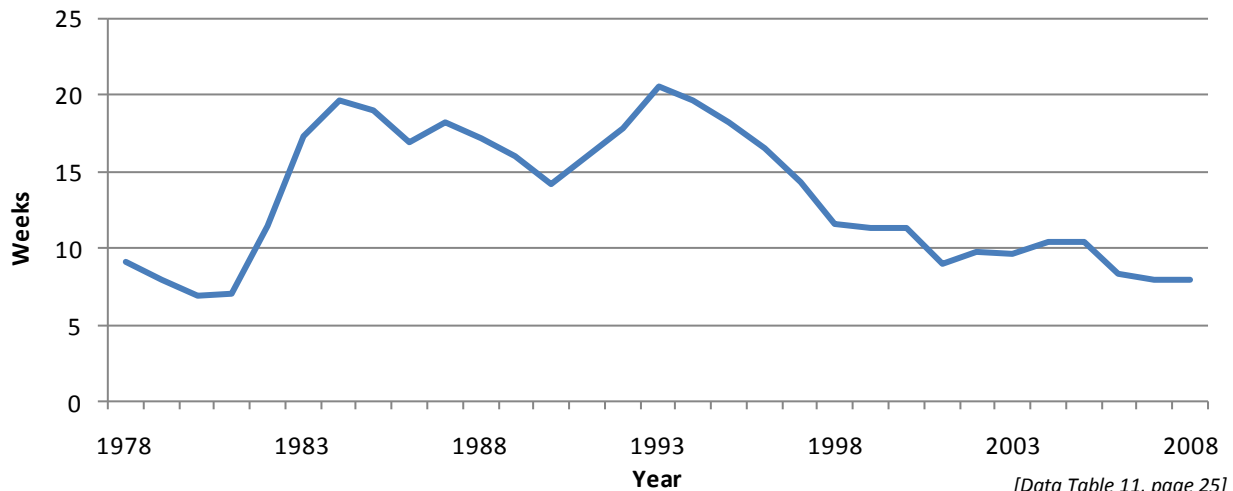
# Unemployment, *cont'd...*

**the TRENDS:**    ↓    ⊕    duration of unemployment reduced

In terms of the length of time that people are unemployed, considerable improvement has been made in Alberta over the past decade.

- ◆ Between 1998 and 2008, the average duration of unemployment decreased by 3.7 weeks.
- ◆ 2009 data on unemployment duration was unavailable at the time of publication. We expect that the current economic downturn will lead to longer periods of unemployment, particularly in light of the recent upsurge in Employment Insurance recipients [see page 69].

**Average Duration of Unemployment, in Weeks, Alberta**

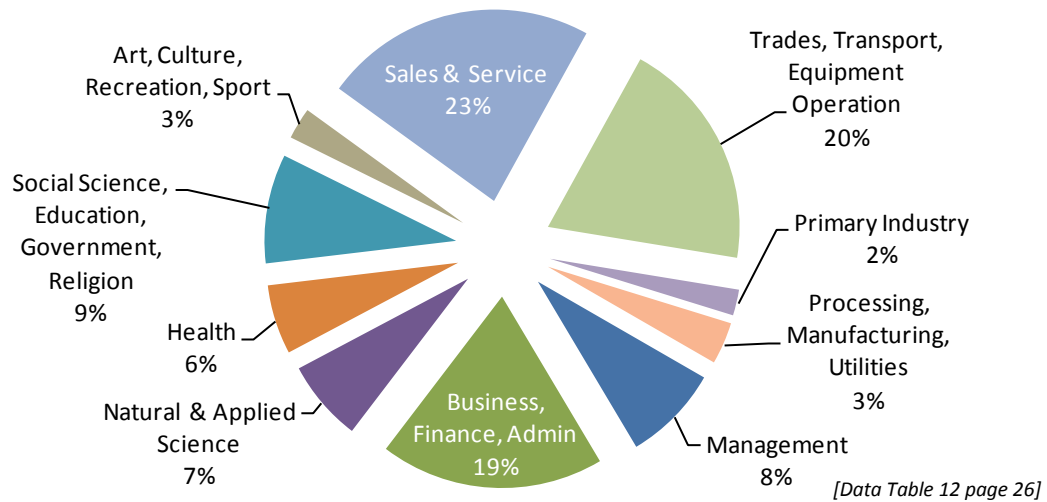


# Occupation

- the TRENDS:*
- ◆ ◎ sales & service most common occupation
  - ↑ ◎ social science, education, government & religion highest growth

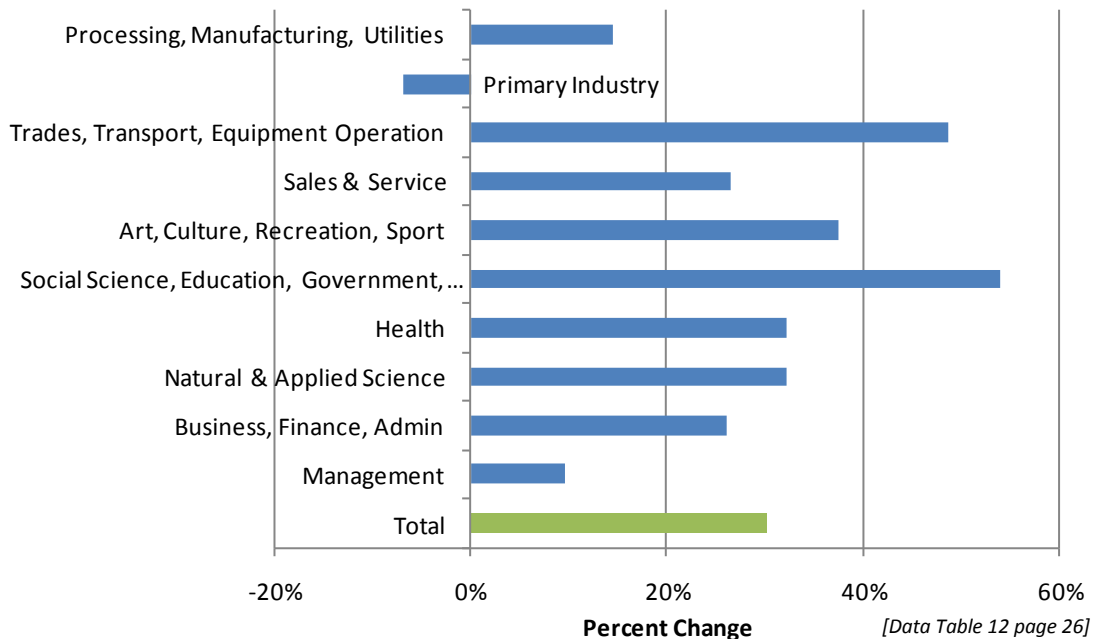
The most common occupations in the Edmonton area in 2008 were: sales and service; trades, transportation and equipment operation; and, business, finance and administration.

**Proportion of Employed Persons by Occupation (2008),  
Edmonton CMA**



- ◆ The fastest growing occupations between 1998 and 2008 were: social science, education, government and religion (54% increase); trades, transportation and equipment operation (48.8%); and, art, culture, education and sport (37.5%).

**Percentage Change in Proportion of Employed Persons  
by Occupation Type (1998-2008), Edmonton CMA**

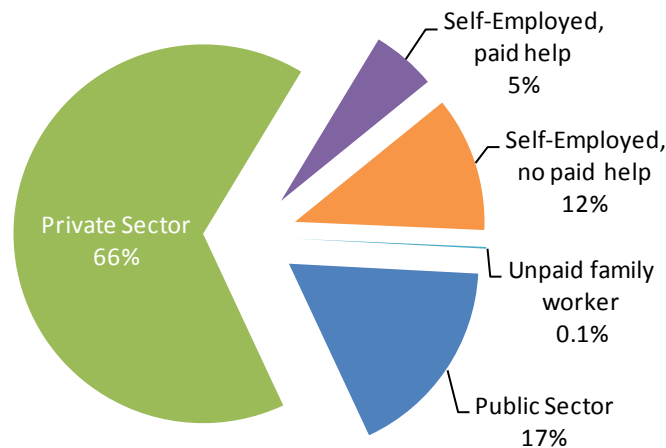


# Class of Employment

- the TRENDS:*
- ◆ ⊙ private sector employment most common
  - ↑ ⊙ public sector employment highest growth

The majority (65.6%) of employment in Alberta in 2008 was in the private sector. Approximately one in six (17.2%) Edmontonians worked in the public sector in 2008.

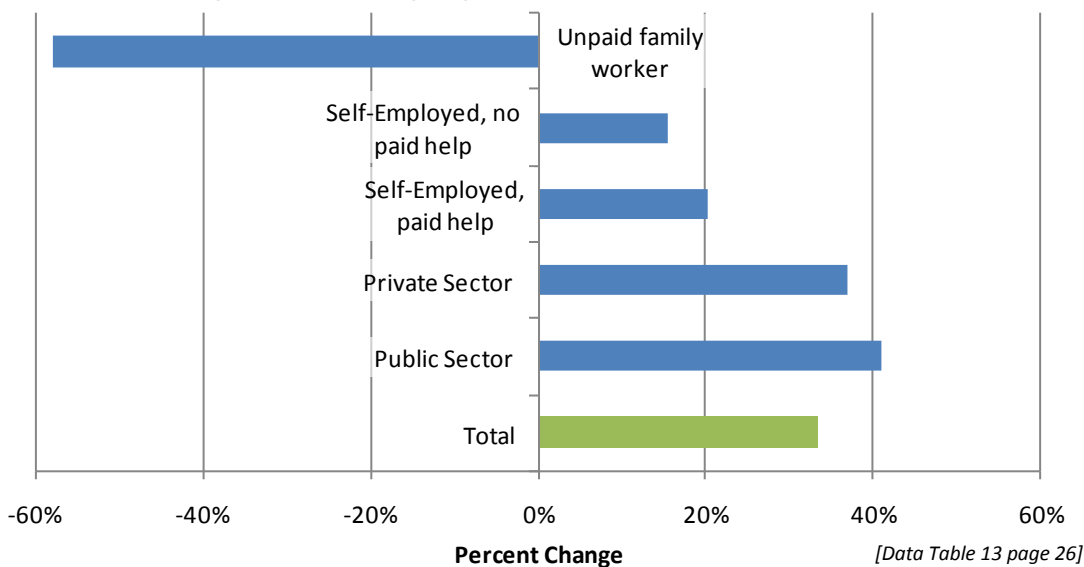
**Proportion of Employed Persons by Class of Employment (2008), Alberta**



[Data Table 13 page 26]

- ◆ The greatest proportional growth in employment from 1998 to 2008 occurred in the public sector, which grew by 41%, or 100,800 jobs.
- ◆ In comparison, the private sector grew by 356,700 jobs, but at a slightly slower rate of 37% (due to the size of the sector).

**Percentage Change in Proportion of Employed Persons by Class of Employment (1998-2008), Alberta**



[Data Table 13 page 26]

# Data Tables | Section B

**Table 07: High School Completion Rate, Student Drop Out Rate and Post-Secondary Transition Rate, Edmonton Catholic and Public School Districts**

School Year	3-Year High School Completion Rate			Drop Out Rate (Students Aged 14 to 18)			6-Year Post-Secondary Transition Rate		
	Catholic	Public	Average	Catholic	Public	Average	Catholic	Public	Average
1997/98	55.2%	51.1%	<b>53.2%</b>	5.0%	7.1%	<b>6.1%</b>	n/a	n/a	<b>n/a</b>
1998/99	56.6%	53.0%	<b>54.8%</b>	5.5%	7.0%	<b>6.3%</b>	n/a	n/a	<b>n/a</b>
1999/00	61.8%	57.5%	<b>59.7%</b>	3.6%	6.8%	<b>5.2%</b>	n/a	n/a	<b>n/a</b>
2000/01	59.7%	57.0%	<b>58.4%</b>	5.4%	6.9%	<b>6.2%</b>	52.7%	50.2%	<b>51.5%</b>
2001/02	61.7%	57.3%	<b>59.5%</b>	5.1%	7.9%	<b>6.5%</b>	53.3%	51.3%	<b>52.3%</b>
2002/03	64.1%	57.6%	<b>60.9%</b>	4.8%	6.9%	<b>5.9%</b>	55.9%	53.7%	<b>54.8%</b>
2003/04	69.3%	60.5%	<b>64.9%</b>	4.5%	6.8%	<b>5.7%</b>	56.5%	55.0%	<b>55.8%</b>
2004/05	68.5%	63.6%	<b>66.1%</b>	4.6%	6.1%	<b>5.4%</b>	63.5%	59.2%	<b>61.4%</b>
2005/06	70.5%	63.5%	<b>67.0%</b>	4.0%	6.3%	<b>5.2%</b>	65.6%	59.8%	<b>62.7%</b>
2006/07	71.5%	64.6%	<b>68.1%</b>	4.6%	6.3%	<b>5.5%</b>	68.7%	61.3%	<b>65.0%</b>
2007/08	71.5%	65.4%	<b>68.5%</b>	4.6%	5.7%	<b>5.2%</b>	68.7%	62.3%	<b>65.5%</b>

[Source: Alberta Education, Edmonton Catholic Schools & Edmonton Public Schools]

**Table 08: Highest Level of Education Completed, Population Aged 15 & Older\*, Edmonton City**

Education Level Attained	1986		1991		1996		2001*		2006	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
<b>Total</b>	<b>448,575</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>479,440</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>483,095</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>487,855</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>598,900</b>	<b>100%</b>
High School not completed	171,875	38.3%	161,720	33.7%	153,785	31.8%	122,795	25.2%	131,220	21.9%
High School Diploma, or higher (detail below)	276,700	61.7%	317,720	66.3%	329,310	68.2%	365,060	74.8%	467,680	78.1%
High School	129,910	29.0%	147,280	30.7%	142,065	29.4%	127,750	26.2%	154,680	25.8%
Trades	11,435	2.5%	14,665	3.1%	15,690	3.2%	61,085	12.5%	61,155	10.2%
College/university certificate/diploma	78,105	17.4%	87,920	18.3%	96,050	19.9%	82,870	17.0%	131,700	22.0%
University, bachelor's degree+	57,250	12.8%	67,855	14.2%	75,505	15.6%	93,355	19.1%	120,145	20.1%

\* 2001 data based on population aged 20 & older

[Source: City of Edmonton & Statistics Canada]

# Data Tables | Section B, cont'd...

**Table 09: Employment & Unemployment Statistics, Edmonton CMA**

Year	Employment			Unemployment					
	Employed Persons	Participation Rate	Part-time (%)	Average	Gender		Age Group		
					Men	Women	15-24 yrs	25-54 yrs	55+ yrs
1987	403,100	73.3%	16.6%	11.0%	11.9%	10.0%	15.5%	9.6%	11.1%
1988	414,400	73.2%	16.8%	9.0%	9.3%	8.6%	13.0%	7.4%	10.4%
1989	421,200	72.8%	17.0%	8.2%	8.3%	8.2%	10.4%	7.7%	6.8%
1990	428,600	72.0%	16.1%	7.6%	8.0%	7.1%	10.8%	6.6%	7.0%
1991	430,700	72.2%	16.4%	9.3%	10.3%	8.0%	12.3%	8.5%	8.6%
1992	430,900	72.4%	18.2%	10.7%	12.0%	9.3%	14.7%	9.6%	10.6%
1993	424,200	70.9%	19.8%	11.2%	12.2%	10.0%	14.9%	10.2%	11.2%
1994	431,400	71.3%	18.2%	10.7%	11.2%	10.1%	15.2%	9.5%	12.0%
1995	444,700	71.6%	18.6%	8.9%	9.4%	8.4%	14.3%	7.5%	10.1%
1996	444,600	70.5%	19.2%	8.3%	8.8%	7.7%	13.6%	7.0%	8.9%
1997	468,900	72.0%	18.6%	6.8%	6.7%	6.9%	11.8%	5.7%	5.8%
1998	477,000	71.1%	19.2%	6.1%	6.2%	6.0%	11.6%	4.9%	5.3%
1999	484,100	70.6%	19.9%	5.9%	6.2%	5.5%	12.5%	4.6%	3.2%
2000	491,100	70.0%	19.5%	5.6%	5.7%	5.4%	11.3%	4.3%	4.1%
2001	507,600	70.5%	18.9%	5.0%	5.5%	4.5%	11.1%	3.9%	2.6%
2002	523,200	71.3%	17.4%	5.2%	6.0%	4.4%	9.6%	4.3%	3.5%
2003	538,300	72.0%	18.1%	5.0%	5.5%	4.4%	8.8%	4.2%	3.9%
2004	553,800	72.8%	17.5%	4.8%	4.8%	4.8%	9.4%	3.9%	2.9%
2005	545,800	70.3%	18.1%	4.5%	4.5%	4.5%	7.6%	3.9%	2.6%
2006	561,300	69.7%	17.0%	3.9%	3.5%	4.3%	7.3%	3.2%	2.3%
2007	599,100	71.9%	16.0%	3.8%	4.0%	3.7%	7.5%	3.0%	2.6%
2008	621,100	73.0%	16.9%	3.7%	3.8%	3.6%	7.6%	2.8%	2.4%
2009	* 618,700	* 73.6%	n/a	* 7.0%	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a

\* July 2009, 3-month unadjusted average

[Source: Statistics Canada]

**Table 10: Aboriginal Unemployment Rate, Edmonton CMA**

Year	Aboriginal	Overall Population
1981	11.0%	4.0%
1986	24.0%	12.0%
2001	12.0%	5.0%
2005	11.1%	4.3%
2006	7.0%	3.5%
2007	8.0%	3.6%
2008	9.8%	3.7%
2009	* 16.5%	* 7.0%

Note: Data prior to 2005 is based on Census data; 2005-2009 is based on the monthly Labour Force Survey. 2006-2008 data are 3-month moving averages for December. 2009 figures are the average for July.

[Source: Alberta Employment and Immigration, ESPC & Statistics Canada]

**Table 11: Average Duration of Unemployment, Alberta**

Year	Weeks	Year	Weeks
1976	7.9	1993	20.6
1977	8.1	1994	19.7
1978	9.1	1995	18.3
1979	7.9	1996	16.5
1980	6.9	1997	14.4
1981	7.0	1998	11.6
1982	11.5	1999	11.4
1983	17.3	2000	11.3
1984	19.7	2001	9.0
1985	19.0	2002	9.8
1986	17.0	2003	9.7
1987	18.2	2004	10.4
1988	17.2	2005	10.4
1989	16.0	2006	8.4
1990	14.2	2007	7.9
1991	16.0	2008	7.9
1992	17.8		

[Source: Statistics Canada]

**Table 12: Population, by Occupation, Edmonton CMA**

Occupation	1998		2008		Change (1998-2008)	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
<b>Total</b>	<b>477,000</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>621,100</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>144,100</b>	<b>30.2%</b>
Management	46,100	9.7%	50,500	8.1%	4,400	9.5%
Business, Finance, Admin.	93,100	19.5%	117,400	18.9%	24,300	26.1%
Natural & Applied Science	32,300	6.8%	42,700	6.9%	10,400	32.2%
Health	27,600	5.8%	36,500	5.9%	8,900	32.2%
Social Science, Education, Government, Religion	37,200	7.8%	57,300	9.2%	20,100	54.0%
Art, Culture, Recreation, Sport	12,000	2.5%	16,500	2.7%	4,500	37.5%
Sales & Service	113,000	23.7%	143,000	23.0%	30,000	26.5%
Trades, Transport, Equipment Operation	81,700	17.1%	121,600	19.6%	39,900	48.8%
Primary Industry	14,600	3.1%	13,600	2.2%	(1,000)	(6.8%)
Processing, Manufacturing, Utilities	19,300	4.0%	22,100	3.6%	2,800	14.5%

[Source: Statistics Canada]

**Table 13: Population, by Class of Employment, Alberta**

Class of Employment	1998		2008		Change (1998-2008)	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,509,900</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>2,013,300</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>503,400</b>	<b>33.3%</b>
Public Sector	245,900	16.3%	346,700	17.2%	100,800	41.0%
Private Sector	964,000	63.8%	1,320,700	65.6%	356,700	37.0%
Self-Employed, paid help	92,100	6.1%	110,800	5.5%	18,700	20.3%
Self-Employed, no paid help	201,000	13.3%	232,300	11.5%	31,300	15.6%
Unpaid family worker	6,900	0.5%	2,900	0.1%	(4,000)	(58.0%)

[Source: Statistics Canada]

# Section C | Cost of Living & Housing

- the TRENDS:**
- ⊖ living costs rising
  - ⊖ housing affordability reduced

## Why are Cost of Living Trends Important?

---

One of the key factors that determines a family's quality of life is the cost of the goods and services they need to maintain their household—food, housing, clothing, education, health care, child care, etc.

Increased costs of living can impact a family's ability to support a decent standard of living. If costs rise faster

than a family's income, the health, well-being and financial security of the family may deteriorate.

The greater the number of families unable to maintain a decent standard of living, the greater the costs to the government in terms of providing services and income supports.

## Why are Housing Trends Important?

---

Like cost of living, the availability, affordability and adequacy of housing is crucial to the quality of life of both renters and home owners.

Renters tend to have lower than average wealth [Kerstetter, 2002], and are therefore less able to afford substantial rent increases or the cost of purchasing a home. This also applies to recent immigrants who often need lower-cost housing in order to become established [CPJ].

Home ownership rates offer a crude indicator of the overall level of financial independence in a community. Purchasing a home requires a great deal of capital, which many low to moderate income families do not

have access to. Rising housing costs can make it more difficult to enter the housing market, thereby delaying financial independence.

Incomes are, of course, closely linked to housing affordability. If incomes do not keep up with the rising cost of housing, people's ability to cover other costs of living and to save for their future (education, retirement, etc.) will decline.

Policy makers and program planners need to be aware of these trends in order to anticipate and appropriately respond to housing needs. Rising rents and decreasing vacancy rates, for example, signal a need for more affordable rental housing.

## How is Edmonton Changing?

---

The recent economic boom, and the resultant increase in population, created multiple pressures on individuals and families living in and moving to Edmonton.

### Costs of Living

The costs of living (and particularly housing) have risen significantly in Edmonton. The combination of rising costs, decreasing vacancy rates, and population growth created a housing crisis for many people, including a growing number of working poor.

### Housing

Core housing need has remained stable over the past decade. However, housing affordability remains an issue for renters despite the recent rise in vacancy rates.

Likewise, despite the modest decline in housing purchase prices since 2007, the high cost of home ownership remains a barrier for low and modest income households.

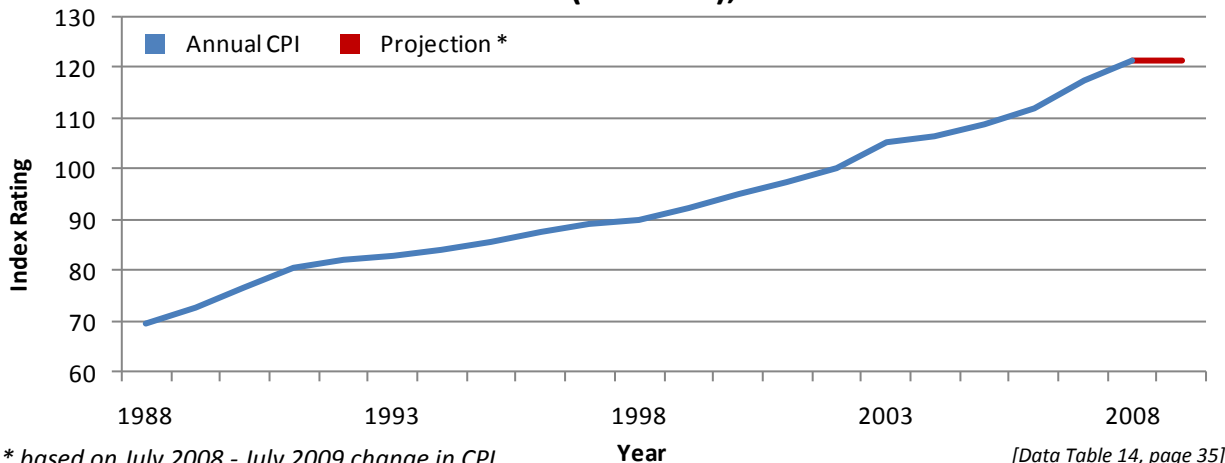
# Costs of Living

- the TRENDS: ↑ ⊖ cost of living increased  
 ↑ ⊖ food prices rising

The cost of living in the Edmonton area has risen considerably over the past ten years.

- ◆ The Consumer Price Index (CPI) increased 34.9% between 1998 and 2008.
  - ◇ The economic downturn has had an impact on inflation; from July 2008 to July 2009, CPI decreased 1.5% in Edmonton [Statistics Canada].

**Consumer Price Index (Inflation), Edmonton CMA**

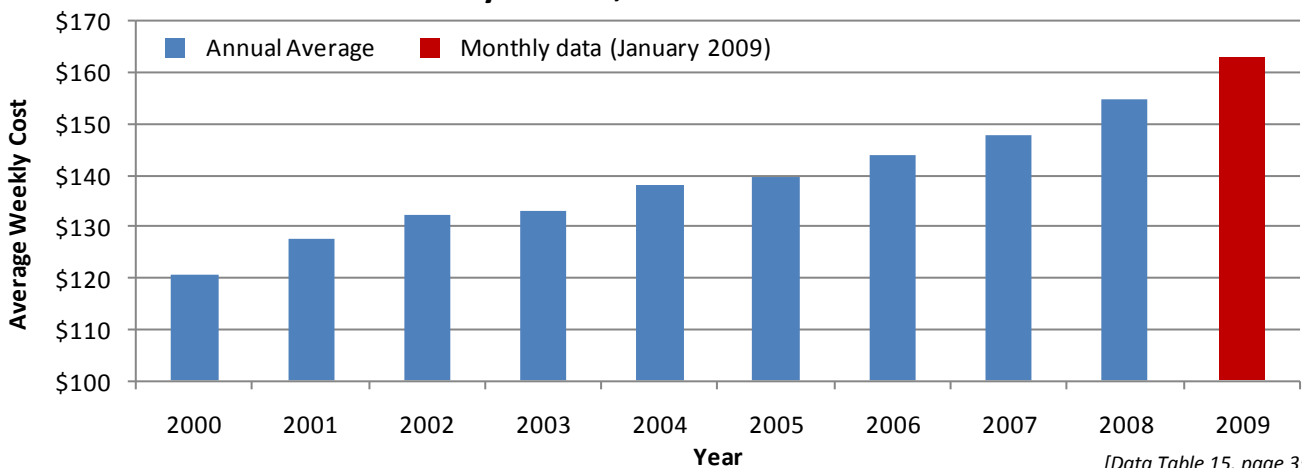


\* based on July 2008 - July 2009 change in CPI for Edmonton

[Data Table 14, page 35]

- ◆ Between 2000 and 2008, the cost of a nutritious food basket for a family of four increased \$34.36 per week; this amounts to an increase of \$1,786.72 per year.
  - ◇ As of January 2009, the average food basket cost rose an additional \$8.08 per week from the 2008 average.
  - ◇ Alberta Agriculture calculated the average cost for a family of four from January to June 2009 based on Health Canada's new 2008 Nutritious Food Basket. The six-month average is \$193.13 per month—\$38.28 greater than the 2008 average based on the 1998 Food Basket.

**Average Weekly Cost of a Nutritious Food Basket, Family of Four, Edmonton CMA**



[Data Table 15, page 35]



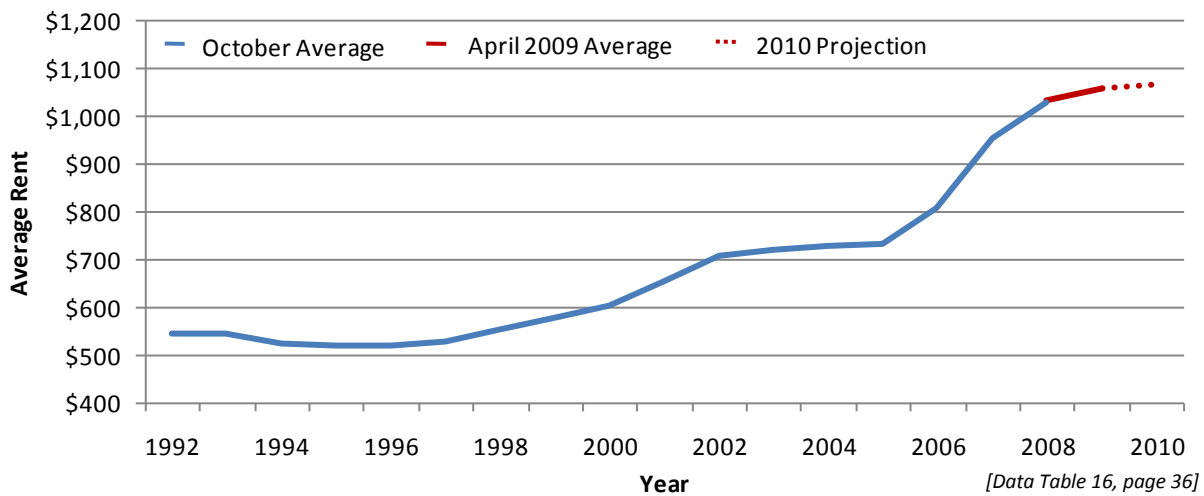
# Rental Housing

- the TRENDS:    ↑    ⊖    rents rising  
                   ↑    ⊕    rental availability increased moderately

Renters in Edmonton have faced housing challenges in recent years, particularly in terms of affordability and availability.

- ♦ From 1998 to 2008, the average rent for a 2-bedroom apartment in the Edmonton CMA rose 87.7%.
- ♦ The Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC) reported that the average rent increased a further 2.4% as of April 2009. CMHC has also forecast a 1.0% rent increase in 2010.

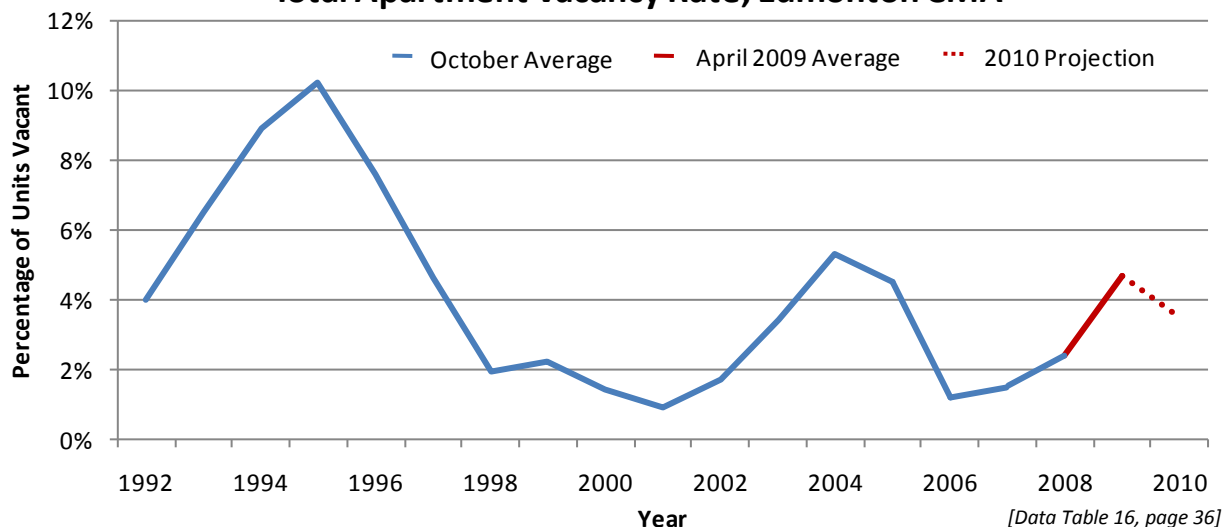
**Average Monthly Rent, Two-Bedroom Apartment, Edmonton CMA**



The apartment vacancy rate in the Edmonton CMA has fluctuated significantly in Edmonton; over the long-term, the rate increased 0.5 percentage points between 1998 and 2008.

- ♦ Following a low of 1.2% in 2006, the vacancy rate rose 4.7% as of April 2009.
- ♦ Despite the fact that vacancy rates have almost doubled between 2008 and 2009, rents continue to rise, albeit at a slower pace.

**Total Apartment Vacancy Rate, Edmonton CMA**

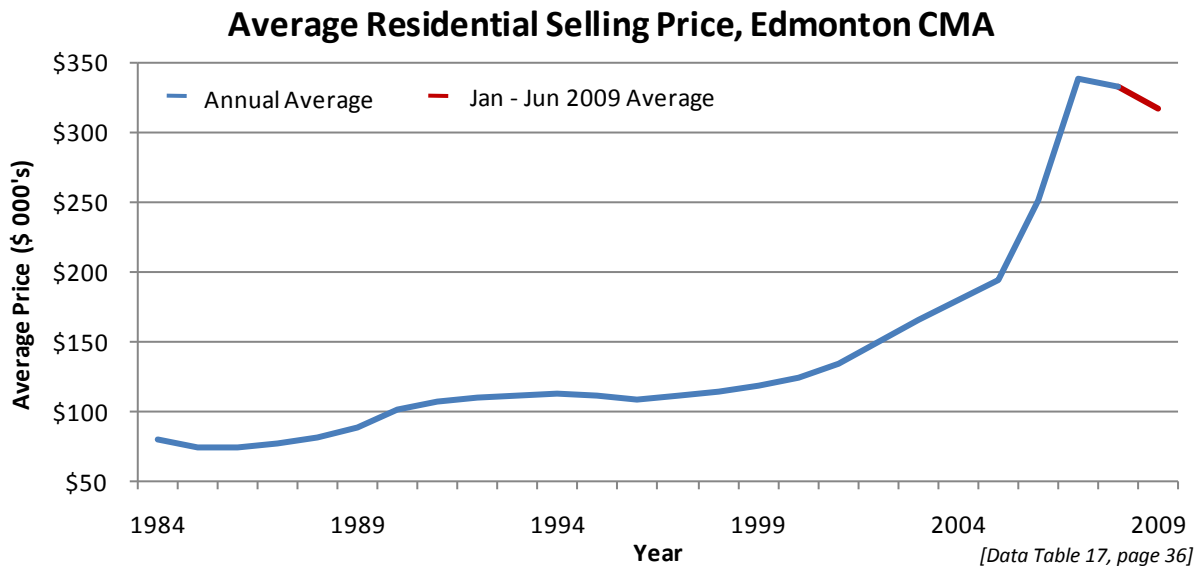


# Home Ownership

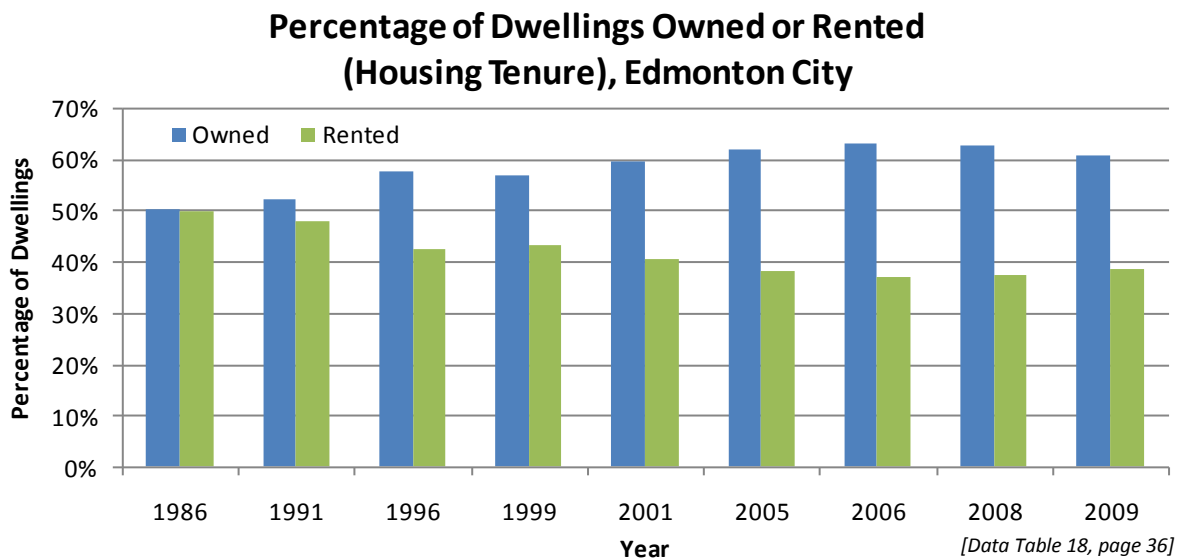
- the TRENDS:*
- ↑ ⊙ home prices increased significantly
  - ↑ ⊕ home ownership rising

Home ownership has been on the rise in Edmonton, as have housing prices.

- ◆ From 1998 to 2008, residential sale prices increased 190.6%. In 2008, home prices abruptly stopped increasing, and declined an average of 1.5% from 2007 prices.
  - ◇ As of June 2009, the average sale price for the year to date dropped an additional 4.8% from the 2008 average.



- ◆ Between 1999 and 2009, the proportion of Edmontonians owning their own homes increased 3.6 percentage points; three out of five (60.5%) dwellings in Edmonton were owned, rather than rented, in 2009.



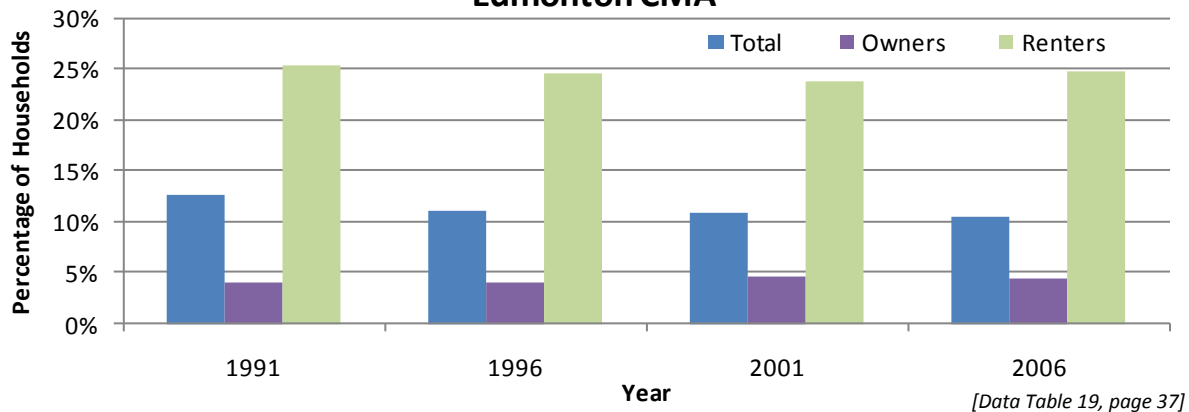
# Core Housing Need

- the TRENDS:*
- ◆ ⊖ core housing need relatively unchanged
  - ↑ ⊖ core housing need increasing for seniors
  - ↓ ⊕ core housing need decreasing for youth

Core housing need—the proportion of residents without adequate, suitable and affordable shelter—in Edmonton declined very slightly from 11.0% in 1996 to 10.6% in 2006.

- ◆ Core housing need is much higher for renters than owners; in 2006, nearly one in four renters (24.6%) were in core housing need, compared to one in twenty owners (4.6%).
- ◆ 2006 data does not capture the full extent of the increases in housing prices (both rental and ownership) that occurred between 2006 and 2008; as a result, we expect that core housing need has increased, and that this change will be reflected in the 2011 data.

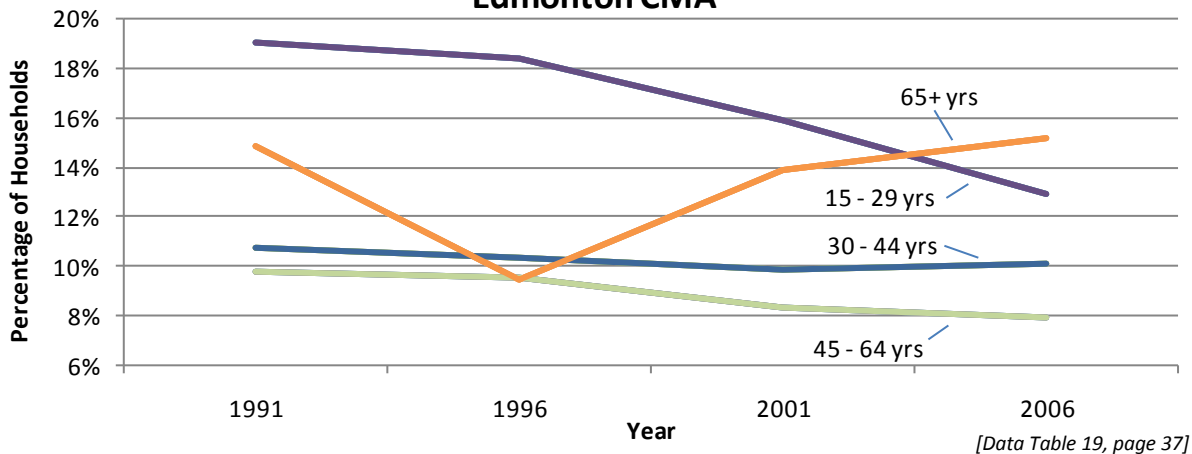
**Households in Core Housing Need, by Housing Tenure, Edmonton CMA**



Youth and seniors are more likely to be in core housing need than “working age” groups.

- ◆ In 2006, 15.1% of households headed by seniors, and 12.9% of households headed by people aged 15-29, were in core housing need.
- ◆ The situation for seniors has become worse, as the level of need increased 5.6 percentage points from 1996 to 2006.
- ◆ On a positive note, core housing need has declined significantly for youth-headed households, dropping 5.4 percentage points since 1996.

**Core Housing Need, by Age of Head of Household, Edmonton CMA**

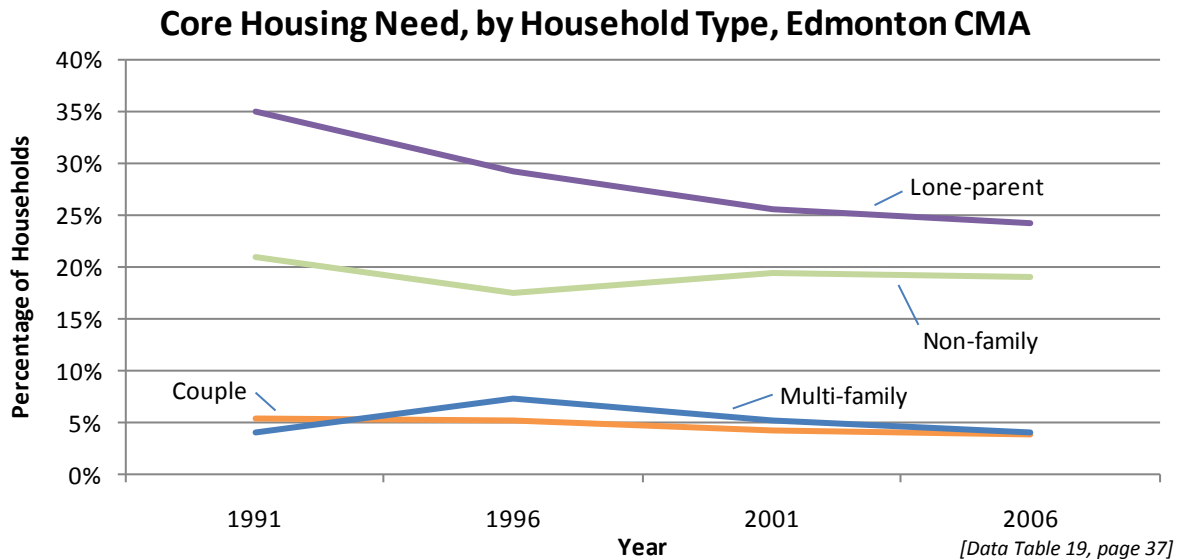


# Core Housing Need, *cont'd...*

- the TRENDS:*
- ◆ ⊖ need highest for lone-parent and single households
  - ↓ ⊕ core housing need decreasing for lone-parents

Lone-parent families and single adults (non-family households) are more likely to be in core housing need than other family types.

- ◆ In 2006, one in four lone-parent families (24.2%), and one in five non-family households (19.1%), lived in core housing need.
- ◆ It is encouraging that core housing need for lone-parents declined 4.9 percentage points from 1996 to 2006.

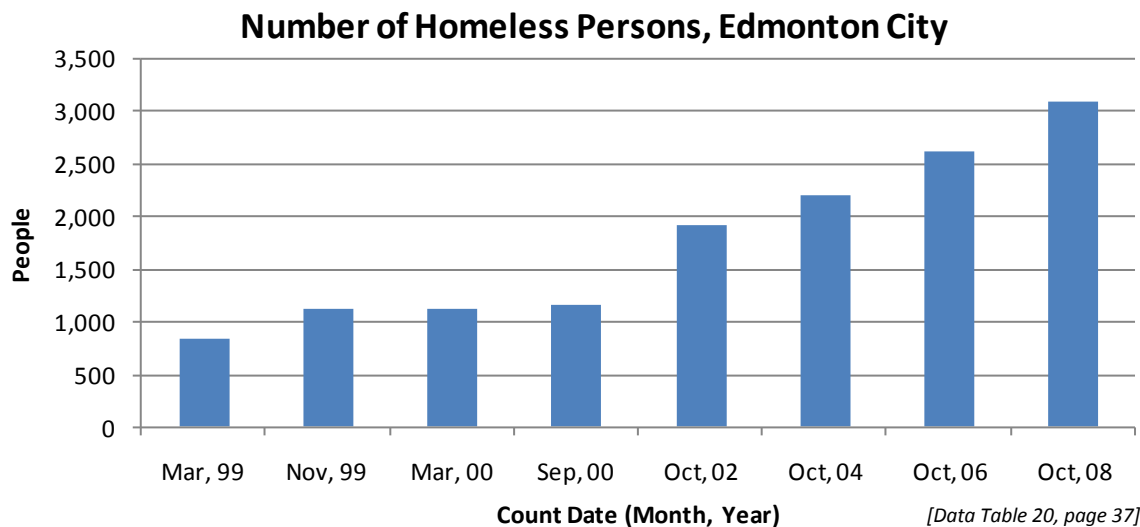


# Homelessness

- the TRENDS:**
- ↑ ⊖ homelessness increasing
  - ↑ ⊖ youth homelessness rising

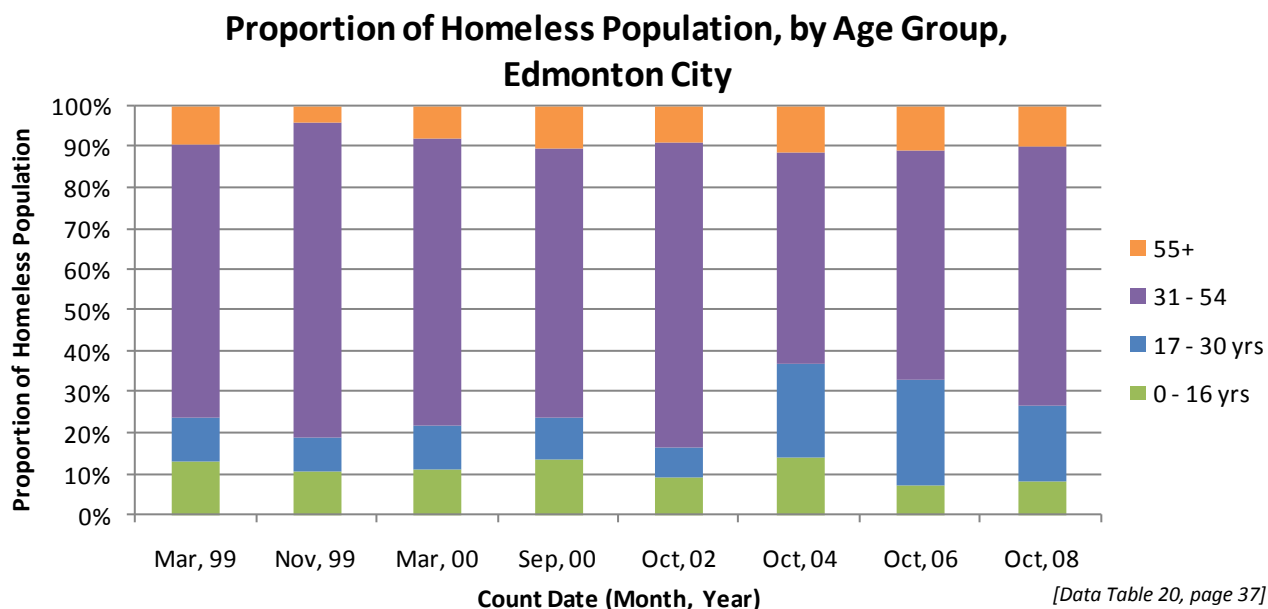
Edmonton has experienced a steady climb in the number of homeless persons over the past decade.

- ◆ Since the first Edmonton Homeless Count in March 1999, the homeless population has nearly quadrupled from 836 to 3,079. \*
- ◆ Over the past five years (2004-2008), the count results indicate that the homeless population increased 40.5%.



When broken down by age, the results indicate that the 17 to 30 age group had the greatest proportional growth, increasing 8.2 percentage points since the first count in March 1999. \*

- ◆ While the 31 to 54 age group is still the largest (1,940 individuals), the proportion of homeless in this group decreased 4.1 percentage points since 1999.



\* Due to data collection challenges, Homeless Count data should be interpreted with caution.

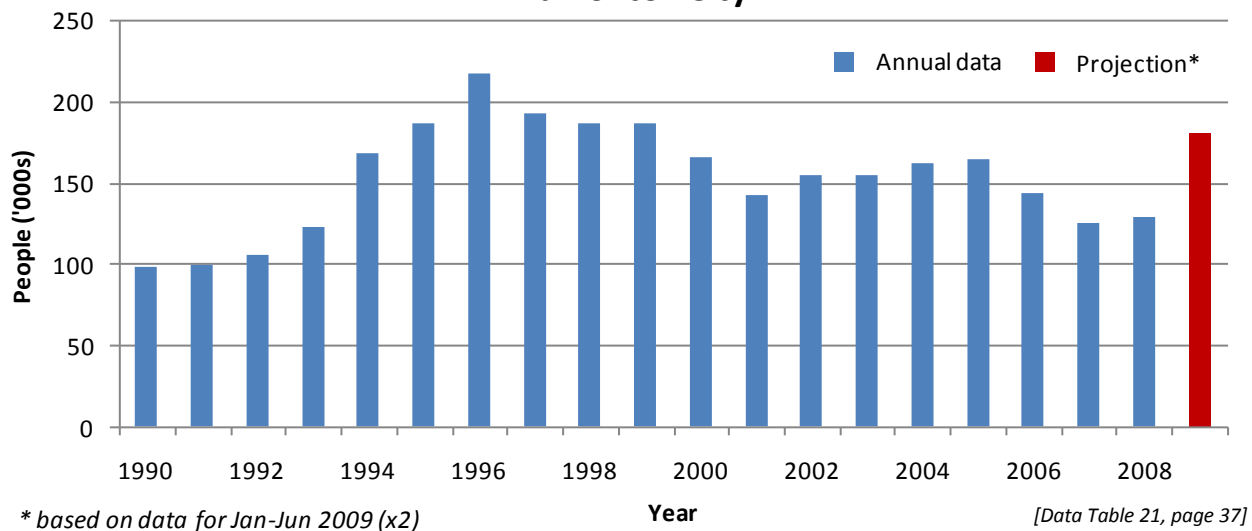
# Food Bank Use

the TRENDS:   food bank use recently increased

Food bank use has declined 40.6% since its peak in 1996, when Edmonton's Food Bank served 217,151 individuals.

- Over the past ten years (1998 to 2008), food bank use has declined 31.2%; however, a modest 3% increase in use was experienced in the past year (2007-2008).
- A further increase in food bank use has occurred in response to the economic downturn. Data provided by Edmonton's Food Bank indicates that 90,069 individuals received hampers during the first half of 2009 (January to June). If this rate of use continues in the second half of the year, approximately 180,000 people will have used the Food Bank in 2009—a 40% increase over 2008 usage.

**Number of Individuals Served by Edmonton's Food Bank,  
Edmonton City**



# Data Tables | Section C

**Table 14: Consumer Price Index (2002 base year),  
Edmonton CMA**

Year	Consumer Price Index	Year	Consumer Price Index
1988	69.4	1999	92.1
1989	72.5	2000	95.1
1990	76.3	2001	97.2
1991	80.6	2002	100.0
1992	82.0	2003	105.3
1993	82.7	2004	106.4
1994	84.0	2005	108.6
1995	85.7	2006	112.0
1996	87.6	2007	117.4
1997	89.2	2008	121.4
1998	90.0	2009	* 121.4

\* based on July 2008 - July 2009  
change in CPI for Edmonton

[Source: Canadian Union of Public Employees  
(CUPE) & Statistics Canada]

**Table 15: Average Weekly Cost of a Nutritious Food Basket, for Family of Four & by  
Gender and Age Group, Edmonton**

Year	Family of Four		Male (25-49)	Female (25-49)	Male (7-18)	Female (7-18)	Child (1-6)
	Cost	\$ Change					
2000	\$120.49	n/a	\$36.69	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
2001	\$127.52	\$7.03	\$38.95	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
2002	\$132.10	\$4.58	\$40.35	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
2003	\$133.11	\$1.01	\$40.65	\$29.44	\$35.21	\$25.47	\$17.53
2004	\$137.96	\$4.85	\$42.62	\$30.36	\$36.56	\$29.90	\$17.98
2005	\$139.51	\$1.55	\$42.96	\$30.63	\$37.05	\$30.29	\$18.32
2006	\$143.92	\$4.41	\$45.40	\$31.60	\$38.27	\$31.46	\$19.17
2007	\$147.84	\$3.92	\$45.29	\$32.53	\$39.26	\$32.37	\$19.60
2008	\$154.85	\$7.01	\$47.49	\$33.99	\$41.23	\$33.81	\$20.54
2009 (Jan)	\$162.93	\$8.08	\$49.99	\$35.79	\$43.37	\$35.56	\$21.57
2009 (Jan-Jun) *	\$193.13	\$38.28	\$62.98	\$51.28	\$57.90	\$44.04	\$30.80
<b>Total Change/ Week (2000-08)</b>		<b>\$34.36</b>	<b>\$10.80</b>	<b>\$4.55</b>	<b>\$6.02</b>	<b>\$8.34</b>	<b>\$3.01</b>
<b>Total Change/Year (2000-08)</b>		<b>\$2,206.88</b>	<b>\$561.60</b>	<b>\$236.60</b>	<b>\$313.04</b>	<b>\$433.68</b>	<b>\$156.52</b>

Note: Alberta Agriculture bases its calculations on Health Canada's National  
Nutritious Food Basket.

[Source: Alberta Agriculture and Rural Development]

\* The January to June average for 2009 is based on the new 2008 Canada  
Food Guide Nutritious Food Basket. The age categories have also been  
changed for the Jan-Jun 2009 data to: 2-8 years (children), 9-18 years, and 19-  
50 years.

# Data Tables | Section C, cont'd...

**Table 16: Average Monthly Rent, by Apartment Type, & Rental Vacancy Rate, Edmonton CMA**

Year	Average Monthly Rent				Vacancy Rate
	Bachelor	1-Bedroom	2-Bedroom	3-Bedroom	
1992	\$365	\$442	\$544	\$614	4.0%
1993	\$371	\$441	\$543	\$611	6.5%
1994	\$365	\$432	\$524	\$593	8.9%
1995	\$353	\$423	\$519	\$586	10.2%
1996	\$355	\$421	\$518	\$591	7.6%
1997	\$359	\$429	\$525	\$595	4.6%
1998	\$389	\$450	\$551	\$624	1.9%
1999	\$402	\$468	\$576	\$656	2.2%
2000	\$421	\$489	\$601	\$670	1.4%
2001	\$458	\$537	\$654	\$734	0.9%
2002	\$490	\$575	\$709	\$776	1.7%
2003	\$503	\$588	\$722	\$797	3.4%
2004	\$504	\$597	\$730	\$804	5.3%
2005	\$513	\$608	\$732	\$814	4.5%
2006	\$561	\$666	\$808	\$902	1.2%
2007	\$658	\$784	\$958	\$1,060	1.5%
2008	\$707	\$847	\$1,034	\$1,170	2.4%
2009 (April)	N/A	N/A	* \$1,059	N/A	* 4.7%
2010 (F)	N/A	N/A	* \$1,070	N/A	* 3.5%

[Source: Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC)]

**Table 17: Average Residential Selling Price, Edmonton City**

Year	Annual Average	Year	Annual Average
1981	\$ 91,438	1996	\$ 109,042
1982	\$ 91,405	1997	\$ 111,545
1983	\$ 85,667	1998	\$ 114,536
1984	\$ 79,246	1999	\$ 118,871
1985	\$ 74,175	2000	\$ 124,203
1986	\$ 74,306	2001	\$ 133,441
1987	\$ 76,878	2002	\$ 150,258
1988	\$ 81,841	2003	\$ 165,541
1989	\$ 89,017	2004	\$ 179,610
1990	\$ 101,014	2005	\$ 193,934
1991	\$ 107,076	2006	\$ 250,915
1992	\$ 109,594	2007	\$ 338,009
1993	\$ 111,796	2008	\$ 332,853
1994	\$ 112,501	2009	* \$316,968
1995	\$ 110,577		

\* January—June average.

[Source: Realtors Association of Edmonton]

**Table 18: Dwellings, by Ownership or Rental Status, Edmonton City**

Year	Owned		Rented	
	Number	%	Number	%
1986 (F)	109,620	50.1%	109,205	49.9%
1991 (F)	123,150	52.2%	112,970	47.8%
1996 (F)	138,425	57.7%	101,625	42.3%
1999 (M)	148,033	56.9%	112,066	43.1%
2001 (F)	157,695	59.4%	107,645	40.6%
2005 (M)	178,129	61.8%	110,208	38.2%
2006 (F)	187,290	62.9%	110,435	37.1%
2008 (M)	181,276	62.7%	107,919	37.3%
2009 (M)	193,136	60.5%	122,740	38.5%

M - municipal census  
F - federal census

[Sources: City of Edmonton & Statistics Canada]



# Data Tables | Section C, cont'd...

**Table 19: Households in Core Housing Need, by Housing Tenure, Age of Head of Household, & Household Type, Edmonton CMA**

Household Characteristics		1991		1996		2001		2006	
		Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
<b>Total</b>		290,445	12.6%	301,735	11.0%	338,490	10.9%	389,530	10.6%
<b>Housing Tenure</b>	<b>Owner</b>	7,100	4.1%	7,910	4.0%	10,460	4.6%	12,470	4.6%
	<b>Renter</b>	29,400	25.3%	25,370	24.5%	26,270	23.7%	28,750	24.6%
<b>Age (Head of Household)</b>	<b>15-29 yrs</b>	10,125	19.0%	7,500	18.4%	7,295	15.9%	7,110	12.9%
	<b>30-44 yrs</b>	12,385	10.7%	12,070	10.4%	11,495	9.9%	11,835	10.1%
	<b>45-64 yrs</b>	7,770	9.7%	8,905	9.5%	9,675	8.3%	11,700	7.9%
	<b>65+ yrs</b>	6,225	14.8%	4,805	9.5%	8,260	13.9%	10,575	15.1%
<b>Household Type</b>	<b>Couples</b>	9,400	5.3%	9,305	5.1%	8,405	4.2%	8,440	3.8%
	<b>Lone-parents</b>	9,505	34.9%	8,605	29.1%	8,790	25.6%	9,530	24.2%
	<b>Multi-family</b>	120	4.0%	275	7.2%	295	5.1%	285	4.0%
	<b>Non-family</b>	17,480	21.0%	15,095	17.4%	19,235	19.3%	22,955	19.1%

[Source: Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation]

**Table 20: Number of Homeless Persons, by Age Group, Edmonton City**

Count Date	Total	Age Group				Proportion of Homeless by Age Group			
		0 - 16	17 - 30	31 - 54	55+	0 - 16	17 - 30	31 - 54	55+
Mar 1999	836	112	87	561	76	13.4%	10.4%	67.1%	9.1%
Nov 1999	1,117	111	86	807	42	9.9%	7.7%	72.2%	3.8%
Mar 2000	1,125	117	112	725	81	10.4%	10.0%	64.4%	7.2%
Sep 2000	1,160	146	108	711	108	12.6%	9.3%	61.3%	9.3%
Oct 2002	1,915	167	133	1,342	157	8.7%	6.9%	70.1%	8.2%
Oct 2004	2,192	306	510	1,133	243	14.0%	23.3%	51.7%	11.1%
Oct 2006	2,618	194	678	1,460	286	7.4%	25.9%	55.8%	10.9%
Oct 2008	3,079	259	574	1,940	306	8.4%	18.6%	63.0%	9.9%

[Source: Homeward Trust]

**Table 21: Number of Individuals Served by Edmonton's Food Bank, Edmonton City**




Year	Individuals Served	Year	Individuals Served
1989	111,427	2000	165,572
1990	98,049	2001	142,530
1991	99,280	2002	154,274
1992	105,086	2003	153,988
1993	123,030	2004	161,239
1994	168,302	2005	164,514
1995	186,071	2006	143,436
1996	217,151	2007	125,069
1997	192,067	2008	128,989
1998	187,513	2009	* 180,138
1999	186,483		

\* Projection based on total individuals served from January to June 2009 (90,069).




[Source: Edmonton's Food Bank]

## ***the* TREND Markers**

### ***the* TREND Direction**

-  Numbers/value increasing
-  Numbers/value decreasing
-  No historical trend / situation stable

### ***the* TREND Value**

-  positive trend / situation improving
-  negative trend / situation worsening
-  neutral / positive and negative aspects

# Section D | Wages, Income & Wealth

- the TRENDS:**
- ⊕ value of incomes increased
  - ⊖ women, youth, single-parent families at income disadvantage
  - ⊖ wealth gap increasing

## Why are Wage and Income Trends Important?

---

At the most basic level, income is a key determinant of a family's ability to maintain a decent quality of life. As such, it is important to understand how incomes are changing in relation to costs of living.

People with low incomes or wages are the least able to withstand rising costs or emergency expenses. When

costs of living rise at a faster rate than incomes, more low- and modest-income families are at risk of poverty.

Family income also affects educational attainment, which in turn impacts lifetime earning potential. For example, low income youth are less likely to attend university [*Frenette, M., 2007*].

## Why are Wealth Trends Important?

---

Wealth is also an important variable to track. A family's assets (what they own) and debts (what they owe) provide a gauge of their overall financial independence and security. Families with more assets than debts are, of course, better able to afford homes, and save for retirement and their children's education.

It is not only important to track wealth overall, but also how it is distributed among the population.

As with low incomes, families with few assets are at a

greater risk of poverty in times of economic fluctuations or emergencies. People with modest incomes are also likely to feel pressure in these circumstances, as much of their overall wealth is often tied up in their housing [*Kerstetter, S., 2002*]. If residential purchase prices increase, increased debt loads are likely to worsen this situation for many families.

In Canada, it is increasingly the case that financial security is limited to people with above-average wealth [*Kerstetter, S., 2002*].

## How is Edmonton Changing?

---

The recent economic boom did not benefit all families equally. The gap between the richest and the poorest, in terms of both income and wealth, has been increasing.

### Wages

The provincial minimum wage is now linked to the average weekly wage index, helping to ensure that minimum wage earners can keep up with rising costs of living.

The assumption that low wage earners are all teenagers is incorrect. Many low wage workers in Edmonton belong to age groups that often have families to support.

### Income

As a result of the economic boom, the real value of incomes kept better pace with inflation in recent years than over the past two decades.

The gender gap in income persists despite improvements in the past decade, and has actually widened. Age disparities in income also persist; however, young people have experienced a considerable increase in income as a result of the boom.

### Wealth

Overall, economic growth appears to have disproportionately benefitted those with the highest incomes [*see page 84*] and net worth. The wealth of the poorest families has declined, while the overall share of wealth has shifted even more to the richest 10%.

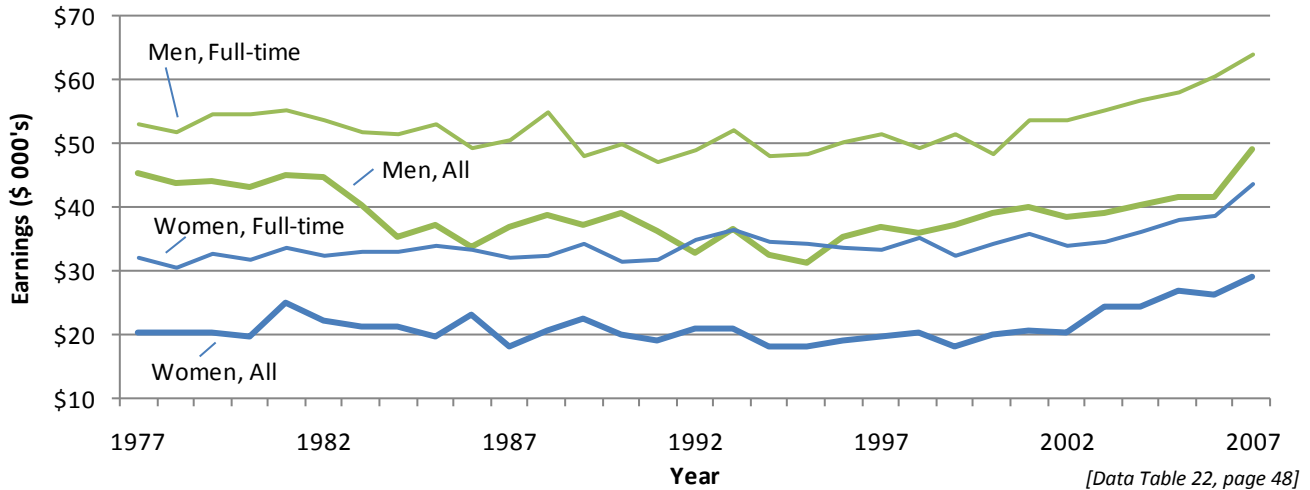
# Income

- the TRENDS:**
- ↑ ⊕ value of earnings increased for both men and women
  - ↑ ⊕ female-to-male earnings ratio increased slightly

While median earnings have increased for both men and women over the past decade, income inequality still exists.

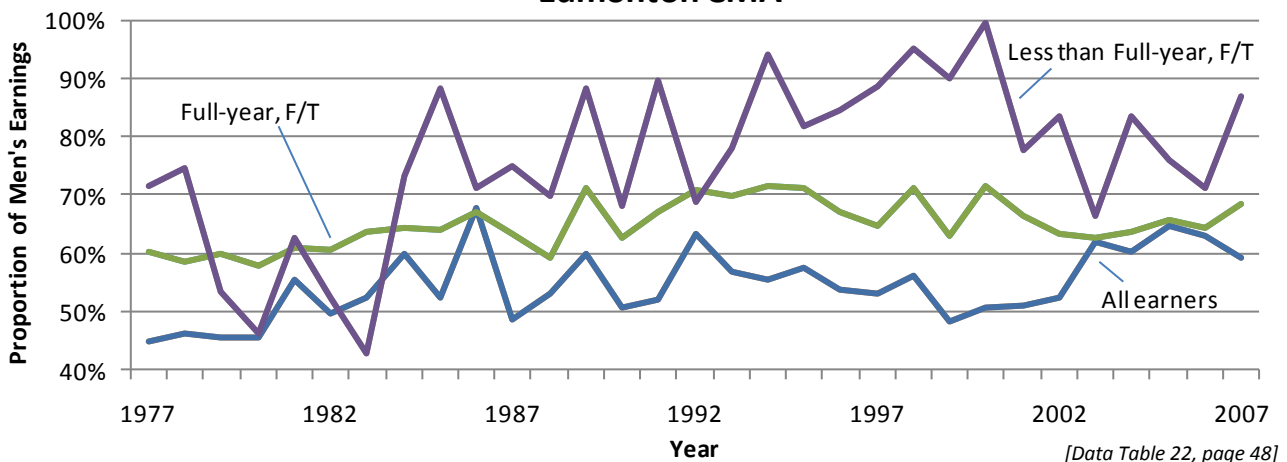
- ◆ In 2007, men working full time earned \$20,200 more per year than women working full time. This gap is only \$800 less (in constant dollar terms) than it was in 1977.
- ◆ The gap between men and women narrowed considerably in the 1980s and 90s; this was in part due to significant decreases in the value of men's earnings during this time, rather than simply gains in women's earnings.
- ◆ Between 1997 and 2007, the overall gap in median earnings between men and women increased 15.0%. When only full-time workers are considered, the gap between men's and women's earnings increased 11.6%.

**Median Earnings, by Gender and Work Activity, \$2007 Constant, Edmonton CMA**



- ◆ In 2007, the median earnings of women were 59.4% of men's earnings; that represents an increase of 6.1 percentage points since 1997.
- ◆ Women working full-time earned 68.4% of men's median full-time earnings in 2007; this ratio has improved 3.6 percentage points since 1997.

**Female-to-Male Median Earnings Ratio, by Work Activity, Edmonton CMA**



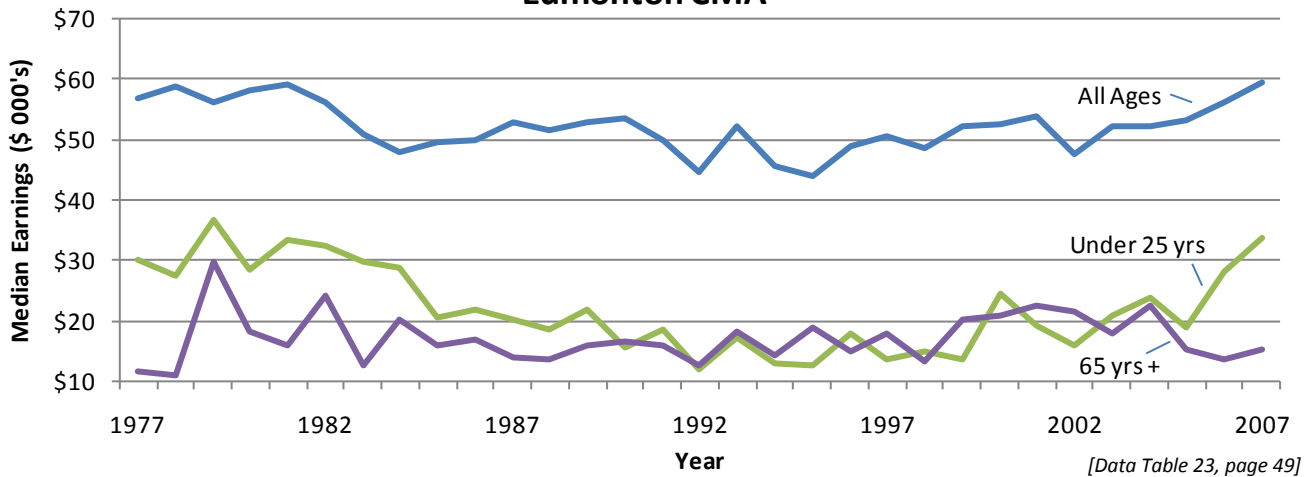
# Income, cont'd...

- the TRENDS:   
 ↑ ⊕ value of market incomes increased   
 ↑ ⊕ value of total incomes increased

The economic boom in Alberta had a significant impact on Edmontonian's market incomes (incomes earned through employment), which increased in value by 17.2% from 1997 to 2007.

- ◆ People under 25 years of age, in particular, benefitted from a 150.7% increase in median market income since 1997.
- ◆ The median income of people aged 65 and over decreased 15% since 1997. This may reflect a decrease in investment income due to low interest rates in recent years [HRSDC].
- ◆ Historically, the value of median market income is at the highest level (in 2007) since 1981. The value of market income declined significantly in the early 1980s and remained low throughout the 1990s and early 2000s.

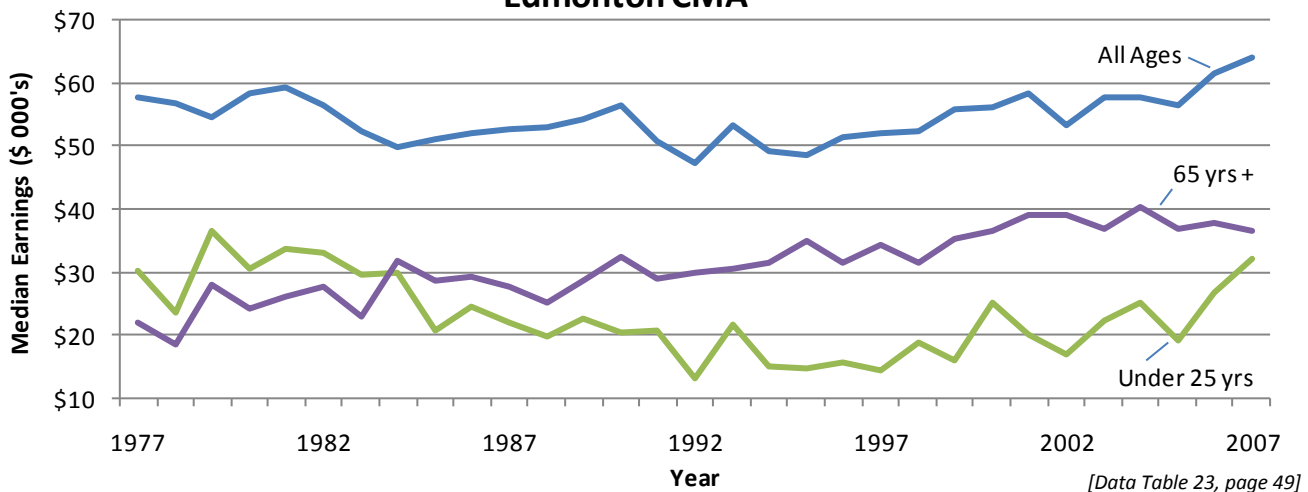
**Median Market Income, by Age Group, \$2007 Constant, Edmonton CMA**



The overall median total income was \$59,300 in 2007; this represents an increase of 22.8% from 1997 to 2007.

- ◆ The total income of people under age 25 was \$1,400 less than their market income. Since 1997, the value of this group's total income increased 122.1%.
- ◆ The total income of people aged 65 and over, on the other hand, was \$21,000 more than their market income. The value of seniors' total income increased 6.4% since 1997.

**Median Total Income, by Age Group, \$2007 Constant, Edmonton CMA**



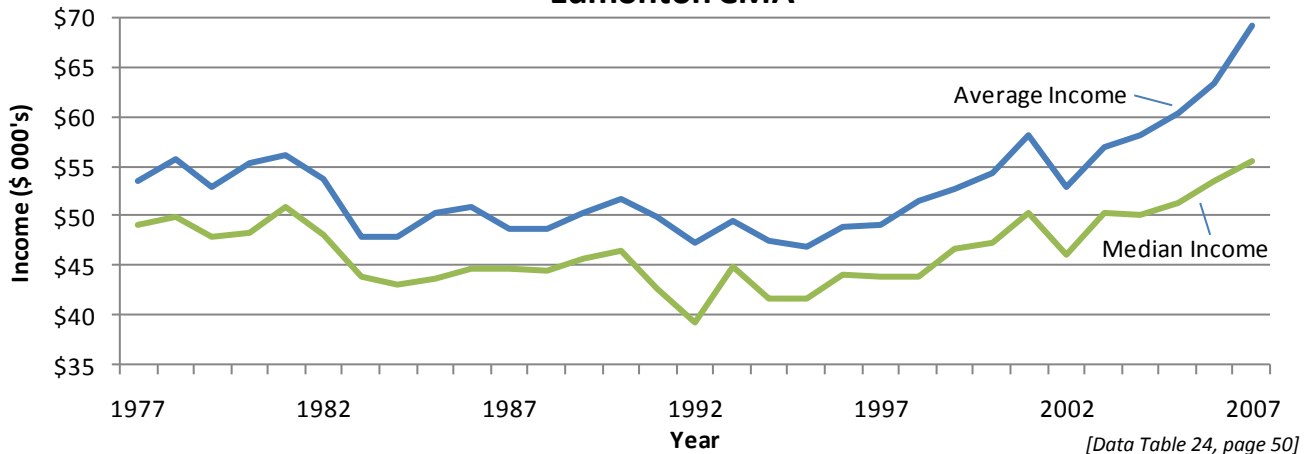
# Family Income

- the TRENDS:**
- ↑ ⊕ value of average family income increased
  - ↑ ⊕ value of median family incomes increased
  - ↑ ⊖ income gap between lone- and two-parent families widening

The economic boom benefitted families in terms of income. The average after-tax family income increased 40.7% (to \$69,200) from 1997 to 2007.

- ♦ In contrast, the median income increased 26.7% (to \$55,600) over the same time period. This indicates that much of the gains in income were experienced by families on the higher end of the income distribution.
- ♦ Data available at the time of publication does not capture the effect of the current economic recession. We expect that family incomes will show a decline in 2009 as a result.

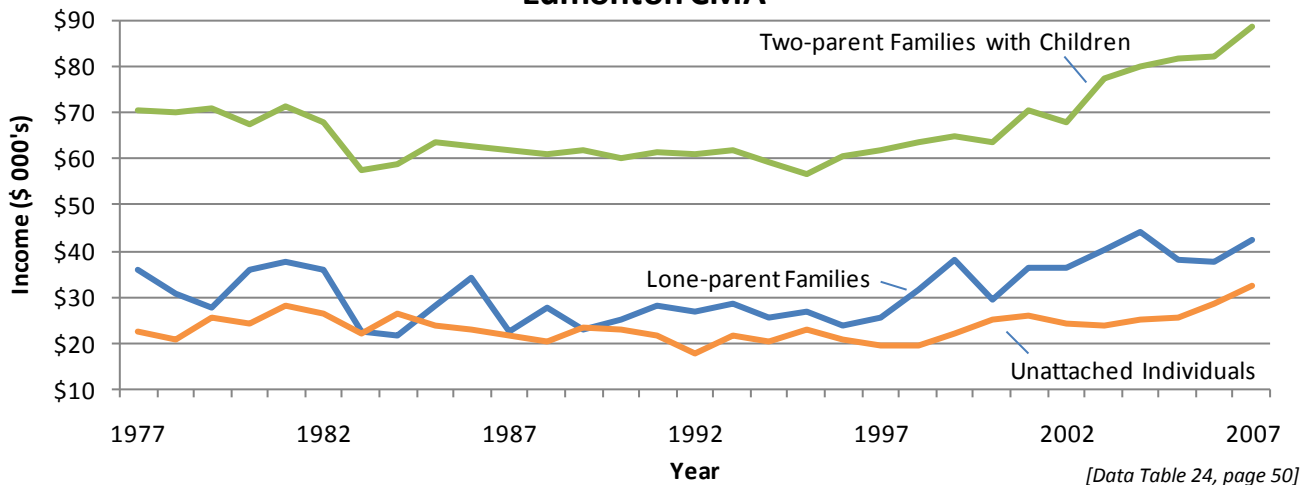
**Average and Median Family Income, After-Tax, \$2007 Constant, Edmonton CMA**



When broken down by family type, it becomes apparent that lone-parent families and unattached individuals experienced the greatest increase in median income (65.4% and 64.8% increases, respectively) since 1997.

- ♦ The median income of two-parent families with children increased 43.3% (to \$88,400) between 1997 and 2007.
- ♦ Lone-parents' median income in 2007 was \$45,900 less than the median income for two-parent families. The income gap between lone-parent and two-parent families increased 27.5% from 1997 to 2007.

**Median After-Tax Income, by Family Type, \$2007 Constant, Edmonton CMA**



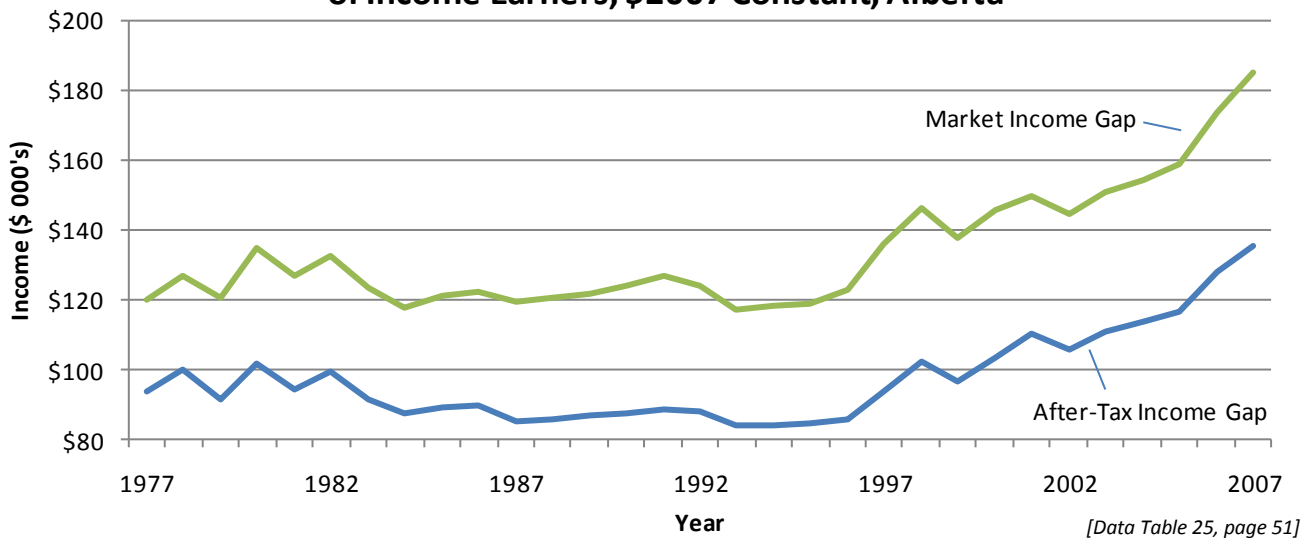
# Family Income, *cont'd...*

- the TRENDS:*
- ↑ ⊖ after-tax income gap increasing
  - ↑ ⊖ market income gap increasing

Income inequality has increased as the average after-tax income has risen during the boom. In 2007, the top 20% of income earners earned \$135,600 more than the bottom 20% of earners.

- ◆ The gap in after-tax income was \$41,500 greater in 2007 than it was in 1997 (in 2007 constant dollars) - a 44.1% increase.
- ◆ The market income gap was \$49,500 more than the after-tax income gap in 2007; however, it increased at a slower rate (36.3%) than the after-tax income gap between 1997 and 2007.

**After-Tax and Market Income Gap Between Top and Bottom 20% of Income Earners, \$2007 Constant, Alberta**



# Family Wealth

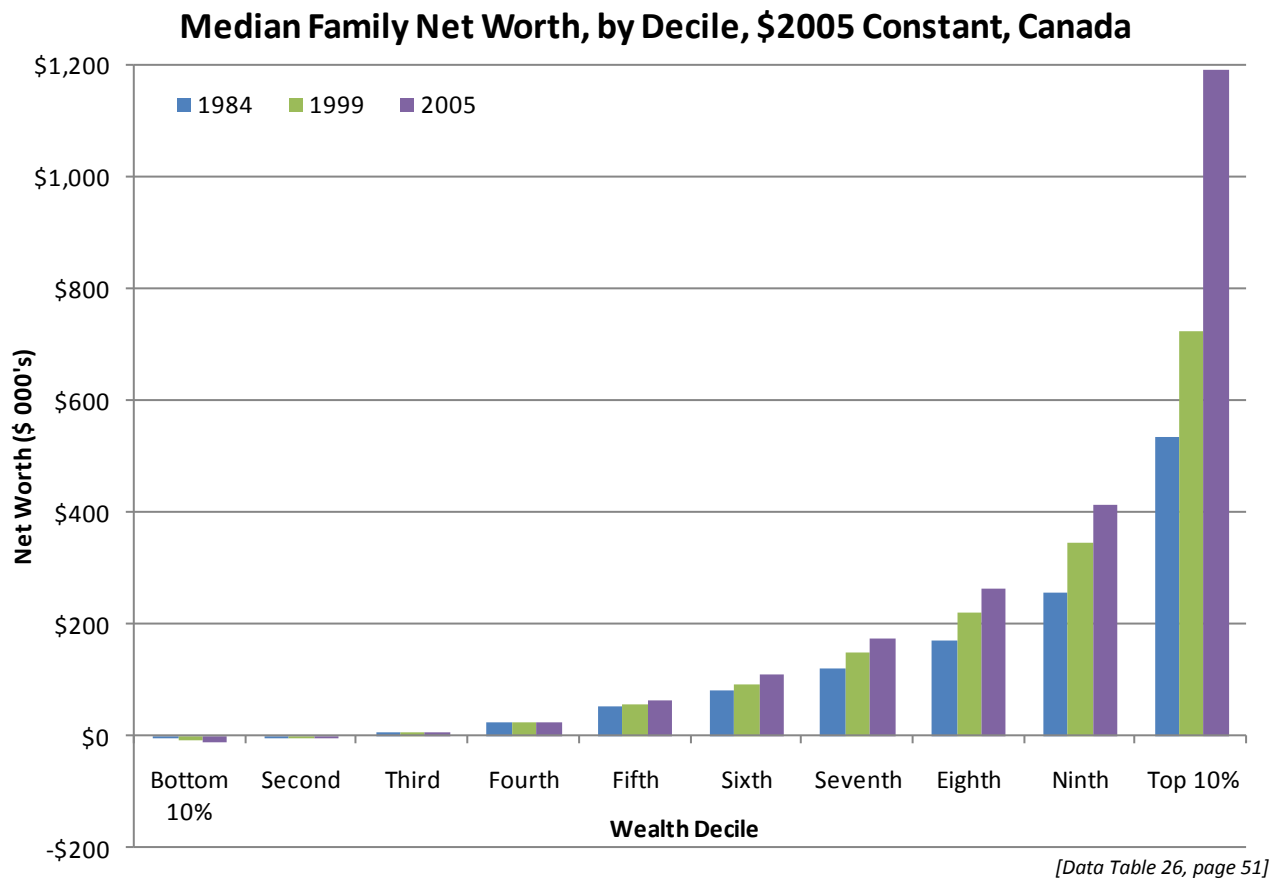
the TREND:   wealth gap increasing

Most Canadian families experienced an increase in their net worth between 1984 and 2005. However:

- The top 10% was the only group to experience growth in their share of the total wealth, which increased 6% over the twenty year time period - from 52% to 58%.
- The gap between the top and bottom quintiles increased 125% (from \$537,000 to \$1.2 million).

It is apparent that families with the lowest 30% of wealth experienced a consistent decrease in net worth from 1984 to 2005. (The fourth decile increased from 1984 to 1999, and then decreased slightly in 2005.)

- The lowest 10% of families have negative net worth, meaning that they owe more than they own.
- Only the top 10% of families gained in relative wealth share, while the share of the bottom 90% decreased.
- While these numbers represent the Canadian population, we expect that a similar trend is occurring in Alberta and Edmonton.



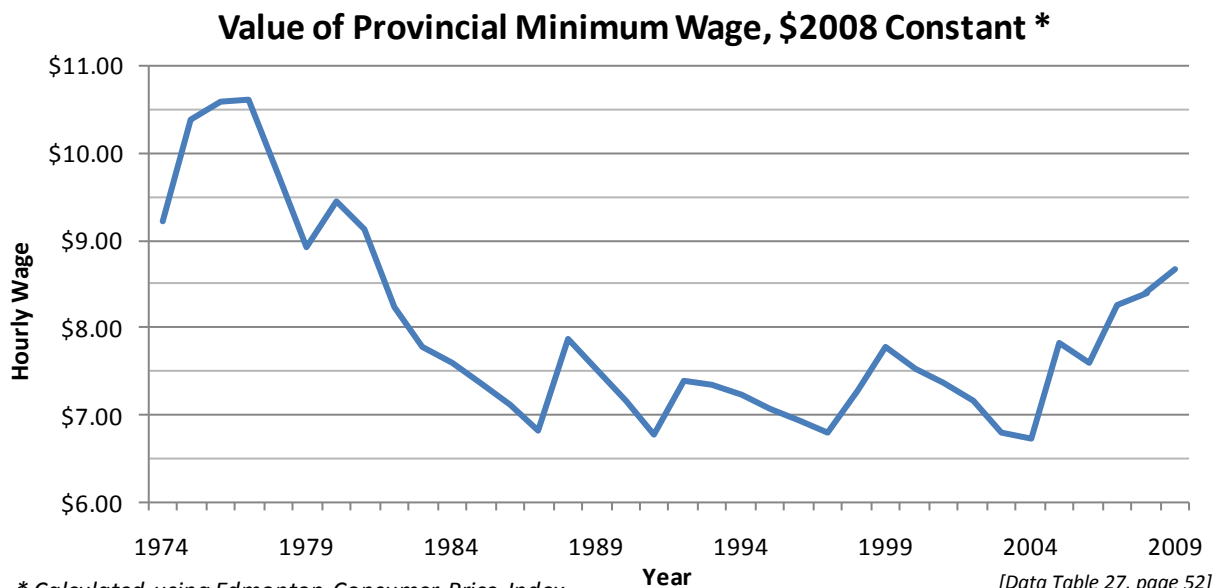


# Minimum Wage

the TRENDS: ↑ ⊕ value of minimum wage increased

From 1998 to 2008, the value of the minimum wage in Alberta (in 2008 dollars) rose 15.4%.

- Despite the recent increases, the value of the minimum wage in 2008 was 21% lower than at its peak in 1977.\*
- The Alberta Government has committed to raising the minimum wage annually by linking it to the average weekly wage index. This commitment will maintain the value of the minimum wage in relation to cost of living.
- In 2009, the minimum wage was raised to \$8.80 per hour.



**Note:** The value of the minimum wage presented in the graph above does not reflect the actual minimum hourly wage rate. Instead, it represents the purchasing power of the wage if its value had increased with inflation until 2008. For example, the minimum wage in 1977 was \$3.00 per hour—in 2008, that wage would be worth \$10.62 per hour.

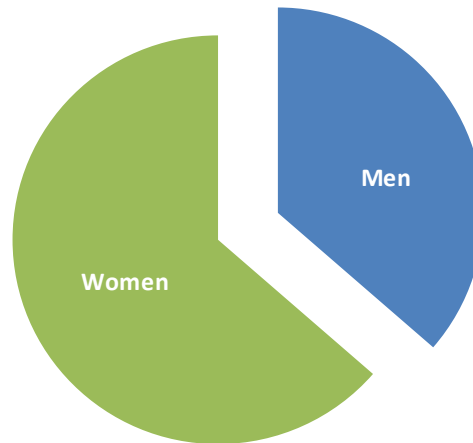
# Low Wage Earners

*the TRENDS:* ◆ ⊖ women are more likely to earn low wages

Despite the economic boom, many Edmontonians continue to earn low wages.

- ◆ 42,000 people earned \$10.00 per hour or less between April 2008 and March 2009.
- ◆ 64% of these low wage earners are women.

**Proportion of Employed Persons Earning \$10.00 per hour or less, by Gender (Apr 2008- Mar 2009)**

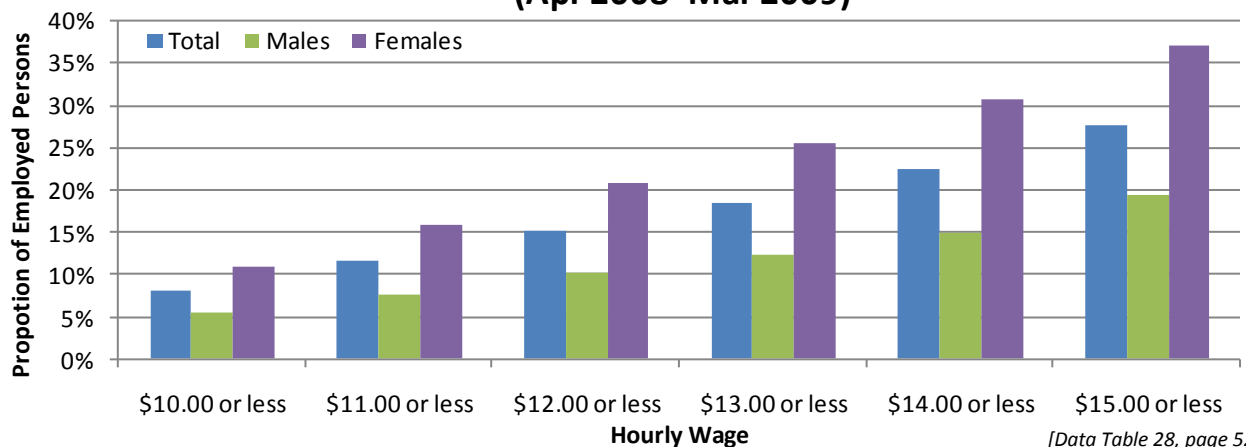


[Data Table 28, page 52]

There is a clear gender inequality when it comes to low wage earners—women are considerably more likely to earn low wages than men.

- ◆ 37% of all employed women earn \$15.00 per hour or less, compared to just under 1 in 5 men.
- ◆ Given the rising cost of living in Edmonton, it is likely that a \$15.00 per hour wage is inadequate. The Canadian Housing and Renewal Association (CHRA) reported that, in 2006, an hourly wage of \$15.54 was required in order to afford a 2-bedroom apartment in Edmonton. This ‘minimum housing wage’ will be greater now, given the rent increases that occurred since 2006 [CHRA].

**Proportion of Employed Persons Earning Low Wages, by Gender (Apr 2008- Mar 2009)**



[Data Table 28, page 52]

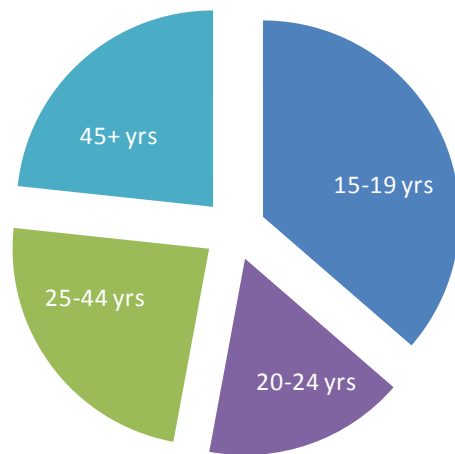
# Low Wage Earners, cont'd...

the TRENDS: ◆ ⊖ young people are more likely to earn low wages

In addition to gender inequality, there are notable differences in wages between workers in different age groups.

- ◆ 47% of people earning \$10.00 per hour or less are 25 years of age or older.

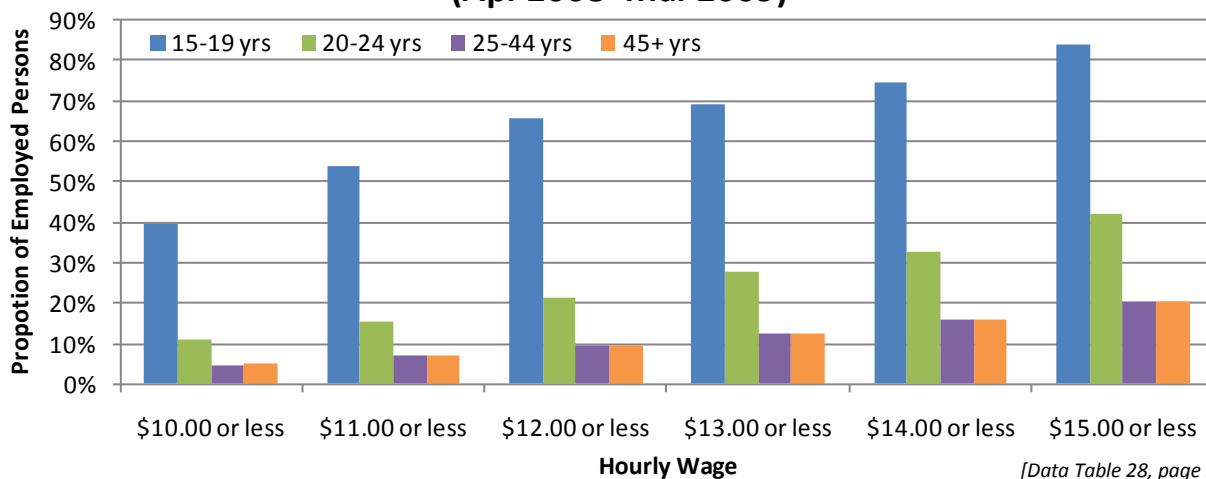
**Proportion of Employed Persons Earning \$10.00 per hour or less, by Age (Apr 2008- Mar 2009)**



[Data Table 28, page 52]

- ◆ Most (84%) people aged 15 to 19 earned \$15.00 per hour or less; over 1 in 3 people aged 20 to 24 (42.2%) earned an hourly wage in that range.
- ◆ While workers aged 25 and older are much better off, 1 in 5 earn \$15.00 or less per hour. Given the cost of living in Edmonton, this is likely not an adequate wage for those who are supporting a family.

**Proportion of Employed Persons Earning Low Wages, by Age (Apr 2008- Mar 2009)**



[Data Table 28, page 52]

# Data Tables | Section D

**Table 22: Median Earnings by Gender and Work Activity (\$2007 Constant) & Female-to-Male Earnings Ratio, Edmonton CMA**

Year	Median Earnings (All Earners)		Median Earnings (Full-time Earners)		Female-to-Male Median Earnings Ratio		
	Women	Men	Women	Men	All earners	Full-year, F/T	Less than Full-year, F/T
1976	\$21,200	\$43,000	\$32,200	\$55,500	49.3%	58.0%	62.5%
1977	\$20,300	\$45,200	\$32,100	\$53,100	44.9%	60.5%	71.7%
1978	\$20,300	\$43,800	\$30,500	\$51,800	46.3%	58.8%	74.6%
1979	\$20,100	\$44,000	\$32,700	\$54,600	45.6%	59.9%	53.7%
1980	\$19,600	\$43,100	\$31,600	\$54,600	45.5%	58.0%	46.4%
1981	\$25,100	\$45,100	\$33,700	\$55,300	55.7%	61.0%	62.9%
1982	\$22,100	\$44,600	\$32,500	\$53,600	49.7%	60.7%	52.7%
1983	\$21,100	\$40,300	\$33,000	\$51,800	52.4%	63.8%	43.0%
1984	\$21,200	\$35,300	\$33,100	\$51,500	59.9%	64.3%	73.5%
1985	\$19,500	\$37,200	\$34,000	\$53,100	52.5%	64.0%	88.4%
1986	\$23,100	\$34,000	\$33,200	\$49,300	67.9%	67.3%	71.4%
1987	\$18,100	\$37,100	\$32,000	\$50,500	48.8%	63.5%	75.0%
1988	\$20,500	\$38,700	\$32,500	\$54,800	53.0%	59.4%	69.9%
1989	\$22,400	\$37,300	\$34,300	\$48,100	60.0%	71.3%	88.4%
1990	\$19,900	\$39,200	\$31,300	\$49,800	50.8%	62.9%	68.3%
1991	\$19,000	\$36,300	\$31,700	\$47,100	52.2%	67.2%	89.8%
1992	\$20,900	\$33,000	\$34,900	\$49,100	63.3%	71.0%	68.9%
1993	\$20,800	\$36,500	\$36,500	\$52,100	57.0%	70.0%	78.3%
1994	\$18,000	\$32,500	\$34,500	\$48,100	55.5%	71.6%	94.2%
1995	\$18,100	\$31,400	\$34,400	\$48,400	57.7%	71.1%	81.9%
1996	\$19,000	\$35,300	\$33,700	\$50,200	53.9%	67.1%	84.6%
1997	\$19,700	\$37,000	\$33,300	\$51,400	53.3%	64.8%	88.9%
1998	\$20,300	\$36,100	\$35,100	\$49,300	56.3%	71.2%	95.3%
1999	\$18,000	\$37,200	\$32,400	\$51,400	48.4%	63.0%	90.1%
2000	\$19,900	\$39,100	\$34,400	\$48,200	50.8%	71.5%	99.7%
2001	\$20,500	\$40,100	\$35,800	\$53,700	51.2%	66.6%	77.7%
2002	\$20,200	\$38,400	\$34,000	\$53,600	52.5%	63.5%	83.6%
2003	\$24,200	\$39,100	\$34,500	\$55,200	61.9%	62.6%	66.5%
2004	\$24,400	\$40,300	\$36,200	\$56,700	60.5%	63.8%	83.7%
2005	\$27,000	\$41,700	\$38,100	\$57,900	64.8%	65.7%	76.3%
2006	\$26,300	\$41,700	\$38,800	\$60,400	63.1%	64.3%	71.2%
2007	\$29,100	\$49,000	\$43,700	\$63,900	59.4%	68.4%	86.9%

[Source: Statistics Canada]

**Table 23: Median Total Income & Median Market Income (\$2007 Constant), by Age Group, Edmonton CMA**

Year	Median Total Income			Median Market Income			Average Total Income	Average Market Income
	All Ages	Under 25	65+	All Ages	Under 25	65+		
1976	\$54,900	\$31,700	\$20,400	\$57,400	\$32,300	\$26,000	\$61,600	\$61,200
1977	\$57,600	\$30,200	\$22,000	\$56,600	\$30,100	\$11,700	\$63,600	\$62,200
1978	\$56,700	\$23,500	\$18,400	\$58,500	\$27,400	\$11,000	\$65,200	\$65,600
1979	\$54,600	\$36,500	\$27,900	\$56,000	\$36,500	\$29,800	\$63,600	\$64,100
1980	\$58,300	\$30,500	\$24,000	\$58,000	\$28,300	\$18,300	\$67,600	\$66,100
1981	\$59,300	\$33,700	\$25,900	\$59,100	\$33,300	\$16,000	\$67,800	\$67,000
1982	\$56,600	\$33,000	\$27,700	\$55,900	\$32,200	\$24,100	\$64,200	\$62,900
1983	\$52,400	\$29,700	\$22,800	\$50,800	\$29,700	\$12,600	\$57,600	\$56,700
1984	\$50,000	\$30,000	\$31,700	\$47,700	\$28,500	\$20,300	\$57,200	\$54,400
1985	\$51,300	\$20,800	\$28,500	\$49,600	\$20,500	\$15,900	\$59,600	\$57,400
1986	\$52,000	\$24,400	\$29,300	\$49,900	\$21,900	\$16,800	\$61,100	\$57,800
1987	\$52,600	\$22,100	\$27,700	\$52,800	\$20,200	\$14,000	\$59,600	\$57,800
1988	\$52,900	\$19,700	\$25,200	\$51,600	\$18,300	\$13,800	\$59,600	\$57,600
1989	\$54,200	\$22,500	\$28,700	\$52,900	\$21,900	\$15,800	\$61,700	\$59,200
1990	\$56,500	\$20,500	\$32,400	\$53,500	\$15,600	\$16,700	\$64,200	\$60,700
1991	\$50,800	\$20,800	\$29,000	\$49,700	\$18,400	\$16,000	\$62,200	\$59,000
1992	\$47,400	\$13,100	\$30,000	\$44,500	\$11,900	\$12,800	\$58,200	\$55,200
1993	\$53,500	\$21,700	\$30,500	\$52,200	\$17,000	\$18,100	\$60,700	\$58,200
1994	\$49,200	\$15,100	\$31,600	\$45,700	\$13,000	\$14,200	\$58,100	\$54,500
1995	\$48,600	\$14,800	\$35,000	\$43,900	\$12,700	\$18,800	\$57,000	\$52,500
1996	\$51,500	\$15,700	\$31,400	\$48,900	\$17,700	\$15,100	\$59,500	\$56,700
1997	\$52,100	\$14,500	\$34,400	\$50,600	\$13,400	\$18,000	\$60,800	\$58,400
1998	\$52,400	\$18,700	\$31,500	\$48,500	\$14,700	\$13,200	\$63,200	\$60,200
1999	\$55,900	\$16,000	\$35,400	\$52,100	\$13,500	\$20,300	\$65,000	\$61,500
2000	\$56,100	\$25,100	\$36,600	\$52,400	\$24,500	\$20,900	\$66,600	\$63,400
2001	\$58,300	\$20,100	\$39,200	\$53,700	\$19,000	\$22,500	\$69,200	\$65,400
2002	\$53,400	\$16,900	\$39,000	\$47,600	\$15,900	\$21,500	\$62,600	\$59,100
2003	\$57,700	\$22,200	\$36,900	\$52,000	\$20,800	\$18,000	\$68,000	\$64,700
2004	\$57,600	\$25,100	\$40,400	\$52,000	\$23,600	\$22,600	\$69,200	\$65,700
2005	\$56,600	\$19,100	\$36,900	\$53,200	\$18,800	\$15,400	\$71,800	\$67,300
2006	\$61,400	\$26,800	\$38,000	\$56,100	\$27,900	\$13,700	\$75,200	\$68,700
2007	\$64,000	\$32,200	\$36,600	\$59,300	\$33,600	\$15,300	\$83,400	\$78,800

[Source: Statistics Canada]

# Data Tables | Section D, cont'd...

**Table 24: Average and Median Family Income, After-Tax (\$2007 Constant), by Family Type, Edmonton CMA**

Year	Average Income	Median Income			
		All Family Units	Two-parent Families with Children	Single-Parent Families	Unattached individuals
1976	\$52,600	\$48,800	\$63,700	N/A	\$24,400
1977	\$53,600	\$49,100	\$70,100	\$35,800	\$22,300
1978	\$55,800	\$50,000	\$69,800	\$30,700	\$20,800
1979	\$52,900	\$47,900	\$70,800	\$27,700	\$25,400
1980	\$55,400	\$48,300	\$67,200	\$36,100	\$24,300
1981	\$56,300	\$51,000	\$71,300	\$37,900	\$28,100
1982	\$53,800	\$48,200	\$67,800	\$35,900	\$26,400
1983	\$47,900	\$43,900	\$57,400	\$22,600	\$22,100
1984	\$47,900	\$43,000	\$58,500	\$21,700	\$26,300
1985	\$50,300	\$43,600	\$63,500	\$28,200	\$23,800
1986	\$51,000	\$44,700	\$62,400	\$34,300	\$22,900
1987	\$48,800	\$44,700	\$61,500	\$22,700	\$21,600
1988	\$48,700	\$44,500	\$61,000	\$27,600	\$20,500
1989	\$50,400	\$45,700	\$61,600	\$23,100	\$23,400
1990	\$51,800	\$46,500	\$59,900	\$25,000	\$22,800
1991	\$49,900	\$42,600	\$61,200	\$28,200	\$21,800
1992	\$47,300	\$39,200	\$60,800	\$26,700	\$17,800
1993	\$49,500	\$44,900	\$61,700	\$28,500	\$21,600
1994	\$47,600	\$41,600	\$59,000	\$25,800	\$20,300
1995	\$47,000	\$41,600	\$56,500	\$26,700	\$23,100
1996	\$48,900	\$44,000	\$60,500	\$23,800	\$20,800
1997	\$49,200	\$43,900	\$61,700	\$25,700	\$19,600
1998	\$51,500	\$43,900	\$63,200	\$31,600	\$19,600
1999	\$52,800	\$46,600	\$64,800	\$38,000	\$22,000
2000	\$54,500	\$47,300	\$63,500	\$29,300	\$25,100
2001	\$58,100	\$50,300	\$70,300	\$36,200	\$26,100
2002	\$53,000	\$46,000	\$67,700	\$36,600	\$24,100
2003	\$56,900	\$50,300	\$77,100	\$40,500	\$23,800
2004	\$58,100	\$50,200	\$79,800	\$44,200	\$24,900
2005	\$60,500	\$51,300	\$81,700	\$38,200	\$25,500
2006	\$63,300	\$53,500	\$82,100	\$37,800	\$28,600
2007	\$69,200	\$55,600	\$88,400	\$42,500	\$32,300

[Source: Statistics Canada]

**Table 25: After-Tax and Market Income Gap Between Highest and Lowest Income Quintile (20% of Earners) (\$2007 Constant), Edmonton CMA**

Year	Average After-Tax Income			Average Market Income		
	Lowest 20%	Highest 20%	Gap	Lowest 20%	Highest 20%	Gap
1976	\$11,900	\$110,400	\$98,500	\$5,100	\$131,600	\$126,500
1977	\$9,100	\$103,100	\$94,000	\$2,700	\$122,500	\$119,800
1978	\$12,300	\$112,500	\$100,200	\$5,800	\$132,400	\$126,600
1979	\$13,300	\$105,000	\$91,700	\$7,400	\$128,100	\$120,700
1980	\$13,100	\$115,100	\$102,000	\$6,900	\$141,600	\$134,700
1981	\$14,500	\$109,000	\$94,500	\$7,500	\$134,000	\$126,500
1982	\$14,300	\$113,900	\$99,600	\$6,800	\$139,500	\$132,700
1983	\$11,400	\$103,100	\$91,700	\$3,200	\$126,400	\$123,200
1984	\$11,800	\$99,200	\$87,400	\$3,800	\$121,200	\$117,400
1985	\$13,800	\$103,200	\$89,400	\$4,900	\$126,000	\$121,100
1986	\$13,300	\$103,200	\$89,900	\$4,400	\$126,300	\$121,900
1987	\$12,700	\$97,900	\$85,200	\$4,300	\$123,600	\$119,300
1988	\$13,200	\$98,900	\$85,700	\$4,200	\$124,700	\$120,500
1989	\$12,500	\$99,400	\$86,900	\$3,700	\$125,400	\$121,700
1990	\$12,900	\$100,200	\$87,300	\$4,100	\$127,900	\$123,800
1991	\$12,900	\$101,300	\$88,400	\$4,000	\$130,600	\$126,600
1992	\$11,900	\$99,900	\$88,000	\$2,700	\$126,600	\$123,900
1993	\$12,100	\$96,300	\$84,200	\$2,700	\$119,700	\$117,000
1994	\$12,500	\$96,600	\$84,100	\$3,500	\$121,500	\$118,000
1995	\$12,500	\$96,900	\$84,400	\$3,800	\$122,400	\$118,600
1996	\$12,700	\$98,600	\$85,900	\$3,900	\$126,500	\$122,600
1997	\$12,000	\$106,100	\$94,100	\$4,200	\$140,000	\$135,800
1998	\$11,200	\$113,400	\$102,200	\$3,600	\$149,800	\$146,200
1999	\$12,400	\$109,100	\$96,700	\$4,300	\$141,800	\$137,500
2000	\$12,900	\$116,700	\$103,800	\$4,100	\$149,600	\$145,500
2001	\$13,600	\$124,100	\$110,500	\$4,900	\$154,600	\$149,700
2002	\$13,400	\$119,500	\$106,100	\$4,700	\$148,900	\$144,200
2003	\$12,400	\$123,400	\$111,000	\$4,400	\$155,300	\$150,900
2004	\$13,400	\$127,200	\$113,800	\$5,100	\$159,500	\$154,400
2005	\$14,800	\$131,400	\$116,600	\$5,900	\$164,900	\$159,000
2006	\$15,800	\$143,800	\$128,000	\$6,400	\$180,200	\$173,800
2007	\$17,100	\$152,700	\$135,600	\$7,800	\$192,900	\$185,100

[Source: Statistics Canada]

**Table 26: Median Net Worth of Families by Net Worth Decile, \$2005 Constant**

Decile	1984	1999	2005	Change (1984-2005)	
				\$	%
Bottom 10%	\$ (2,100)	\$ (6,570)	\$ (9,600)	(\$7,500)	(357%)
Second	\$ 780	\$ 120	\$ 10	(\$770)	(99%)
Third	\$ 7,770	\$ 6,820	\$ 6,000	(\$1,770)	(23%)
Fourth	\$ 24,630	\$ 26,150	\$ 25,500	\$870	4%
Fifth	\$ 52,260	\$ 57,120	\$ 63,250	\$10,990	21%
Sixth	\$ 83,130	\$ 93,850	\$ 109,050	\$25,920	31%
Seventh	\$ 120,690	\$ 148,610	\$ 173,590	\$52,900	44%
Eighth	\$ 170,210	\$ 221,770	\$ 263,000	\$92,790	55%
Ninth	\$ 256,740	\$ 344,890	\$ 413,750	\$157,010	61%
Top 10%	\$ 534,980	\$ 723,590	\$ 1,194,000	\$659,020	123%

[Source: Statistics Canada]

**Table 27: Alberta Minimum Wage, in Current & Constant Dollars (Edmonton CPI)**

Year	Current Dollars	Constant Dollars (2008)	Year	Current Dollars	Constant Dollars (2008)
1973	\$1.90	\$9.65	1992	\$5.00	\$7.40
1974	\$2.00	\$9.23	1993	\$5.00	\$7.34
1975	\$2.50	\$10.39	1994	\$5.00	\$7.23
1976	\$2.75	\$10.60	1995	\$5.00	\$7.08
1977	\$3.00	\$10.62	1996	\$5.00	\$6.93
1978	\$3.00	\$9.74	1997	\$5.00	\$6.80
1979	\$3.00	\$8.93	1998	\$5.40	\$7.28
1980	\$3.50	\$9.46	1999	\$5.90	\$7.78
1981	\$3.80	\$9.14	2000	\$5.90	\$7.53
1982	\$3.80	\$8.25	2001	\$5.90	\$7.37
1983	\$3.80	\$7.79	2002	\$5.90	\$7.16
1984	\$3.80	\$7.59	2003	\$5.90	\$6.80
1985	\$3.80	\$7.36	2004	\$5.90	\$6.73
1986	\$3.80	\$7.12	2005	\$7.00	\$7.83
1987	\$3.80	\$6.83	2006	\$7.00	\$7.59
1988	\$4.50	\$7.87	2007	\$8.00	\$8.27
1989	\$4.50	\$7.54	2008	\$8.40	\$8.40
1990	\$4.50	\$7.16	2009	\$8.80	* \$8.67
1991	\$4.50	\$6.78			

\* \$2008 Constant Dollar value for 2009 calculated using change in Edmonton inflation rate, July 2008—July 2009

[Sources: Canadian Union of Public Employees (CUPE), Human Resources and Social Development Canada (HRSDC) & Statistics Canada]

**Table 28: Employed Persons Earning Low Wages, by Gender & Age Group, Edmonton CMA**

Wage	Total	Gender		Age			
		Male	Female	15-19 yrs	20-24 yrs	25-44 yrs	45+ yrs
<b>Number</b>							
<b>Total Employed</b>	<b>540,700</b>	<b>287,700</b>	<b>253,000</b>	<b>39,600</b>	<b>66,300</b>	<b>235,500</b>	<b>199,300</b>
\$10.00 or less	42,900	15,600	27,300	15,600	7,100	10,200	10,000
\$11.00 or less	62,000	21,900	40,100	21,300	10,200	16,300	14,200
\$12.00 or less	81,500	29,000	52,500	26,000	14,100	22,400	19,100
\$13.00 or less	99,500	35,300	64,200	27,400	18,200	29,200	24,700
\$14.00 or less	120,300	42,900	77,400	29,600	21,600	37,700	31,400
\$15.00 or less	148,900	55,200	93,700	33,200	28,000	47,500	40,200
<b>Percentage</b>							
<b>Total Employed</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>
\$10.00 or less	7.9%	5.4%	10.8%	39.4%	10.7%	4.3%	5.0%
\$11.00 or less	11.5%	7.6%	15.8%	53.8%	15.4%	6.9%	7.1%
\$12.00 or less	15.1%	10.1%	20.8%	65.7%	21.3%	9.5%	9.6%
\$13.00 or less	18.4%	12.3%	25.4%	69.2%	27.5%	12.4%	12.4%
\$14.00 or less	22.2%	14.9%	30.6%	74.7%	32.6%	16.0%	15.8%
\$15.00 or less	27.5%	19.2%	37.0%	83.8%	42.2%	20.2%	20.2%

[Source: Statistics Canada]



# Section E | Poverty

- the TRENDS:**
- ⊕ poverty rates declining
  - ⊖ poverty is higher for female, lone-parent and youth headed households
  - ⊖ full-time work does not guarantee freedom from poverty

## Why are Poverty Trends Important?

---

Poverty is not a desirable feature in any society. It is closely linked to other social concerns, such as poor health, low educational attainment, inadequate housing, and unemployment, to name a few. Poverty prevents our society from reaching its full potential.

### The Costs of Poverty

In terms of daily reality, poverty represents an inability to maintain a decent standard of living that will ensure a family's overall health and well-being. Some of the consequences of poverty include poor nutrition and physical health, social isolation, and limited financial stability. [O'Hara, 2006]

The effects of poverty are not limited to those who are poor. As shown repeatedly by research on the Social Determinants of Health (SDOH), poverty and social inequality decrease the overall health of a society. This issue is (or should be) particularly concerning to health care providers and governments (and taxpayers), who

bear the cost of addressing the health issues resulting from poverty.

### Measuring Poverty

Statistics Canada's Low Income Cut-Off (LICO) is the most commonly used measure of poverty. The average Canadian family spends 43% of its after-tax income on food, clothing and shelter. Families are considered to be in low income if they spend 63% or more of their after-tax income on these three necessities. The poverty (or low income) rate refers to all persons whose after-tax incomes fall below the LICO after-tax threshold compared to the total population. [Kolkman, 2008]

Several years ago, a Federal/Provincial/Territorial Working Group developed a Market Basket Measure (MBM) of poverty. This measure attempts to define a more absolute measure of poverty based on the actual costs of consumption (costs of living). Poverty rates are slightly higher under the MBM than LICO after-tax (AT).

## How is Edmonton Changing?

---

While Edmonton is a relatively wealthy city, it has a significant (and perhaps surprisingly high) level of poverty.

### People in Poverty

Poverty rates tend to respond to economic boom-and-bust cycles. As the economy improves, poverty rates decrease; as the economy deteriorates, poverty rates rise. When income [see pages 40-42] and poverty [see page 54] trends are compared, one can see that this trend holds true for Edmonton. The recent boom, and the resultant increase in income, led to a decrease in poverty rates. As a result, we expect poverty rates to increase over the duration of the current economic downturn.

Despite the decline in poverty, specific social groups continue to be more likely to experience poverty,

including young people, women, lone-parents, and Aboriginal people. In addition, the income gap between wealthy and poor Edmontonians continues to widen, despite lower poverty levels [see page 84].

### Deepening Poverty

The depth of poverty for poor Edmontonians has only improved modestly over the past decade, despite the significant drop in the poverty rate. In addition, there is evidence that acute poverty, in the form of homelessness, is on the rise.

### Work and Poverty

Full-time work does not guarantee that people will avoid poverty. A significant proportion of children living in poverty in Edmonton have at least one parent working full-time, full-year.

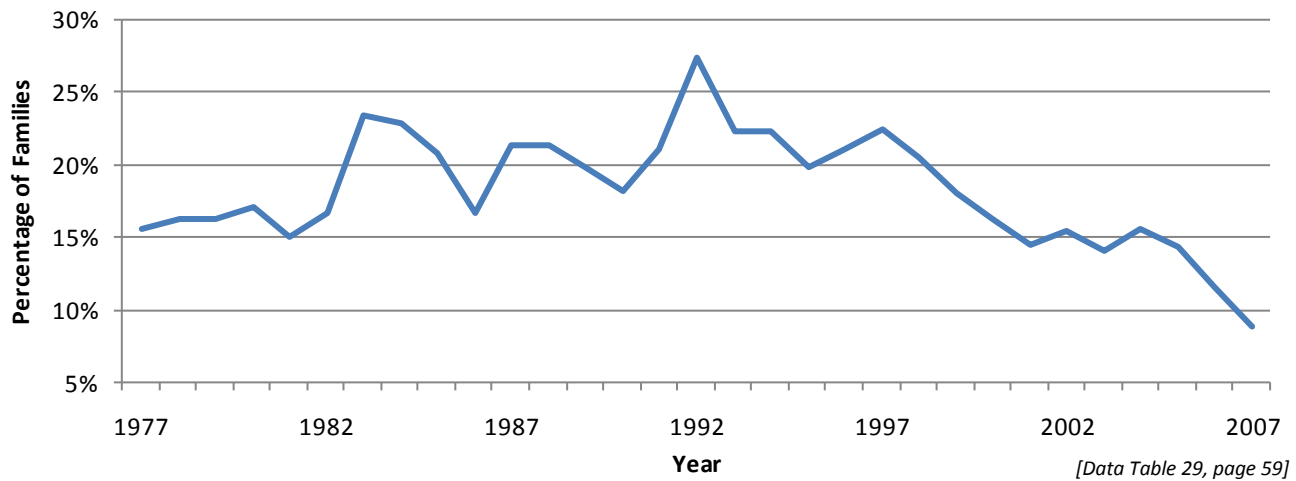
# Low Income Families

- the TRENDS:**
- ↓ ⊕ family poverty decreased
  - ↓ ⊕ poverty reduced most for unattached individuals

Overall, family poverty rates have decreased 13.6 percentage points between 1997 and 2007.

- ◆ In 2007, 8.8% of families lived below the Low Income Cut-off, After-Tax (LICO AT).
- ◆ The available data does not reflect the impact of the current economic downturn; we expect that the percentage of families in low income will begin to increase in 2009.

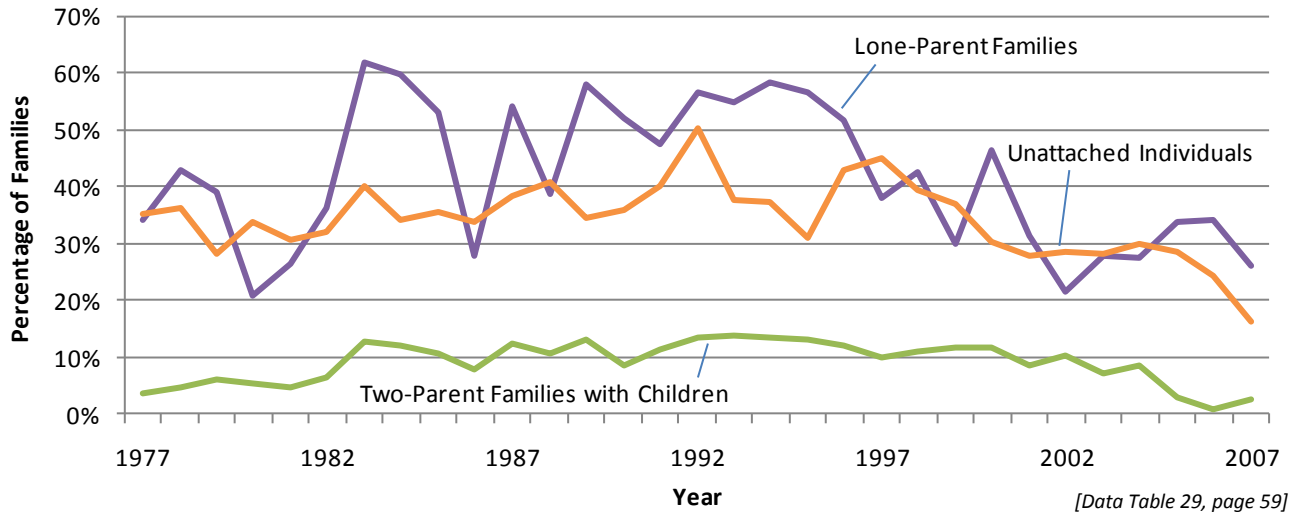
**Percentage of Families in Low Income (After-Tax), Edmonton CMA**



Poverty rates vary considerably by family unit type:

- ◆ The poverty rate for unattached individuals (16.4%) is nearly double the rate for all family units (8.8%). However, this group has experienced the greatest decline in poverty rates since 1997 (28.8 percentage point decrease).
- ◆ Over one in four (26.1%) lone-parent families lived below LICO in 2007. The poverty rate for lone-parent families has fluctuated widely over time; since 1997 the poverty rate for this group decreased 12 percentage points.

**Percentage of Families in Low Income (After-Tax), by Family Type, Edmonton CMA**



**Note:** The historical LICOs are available in Table 35, page 62.

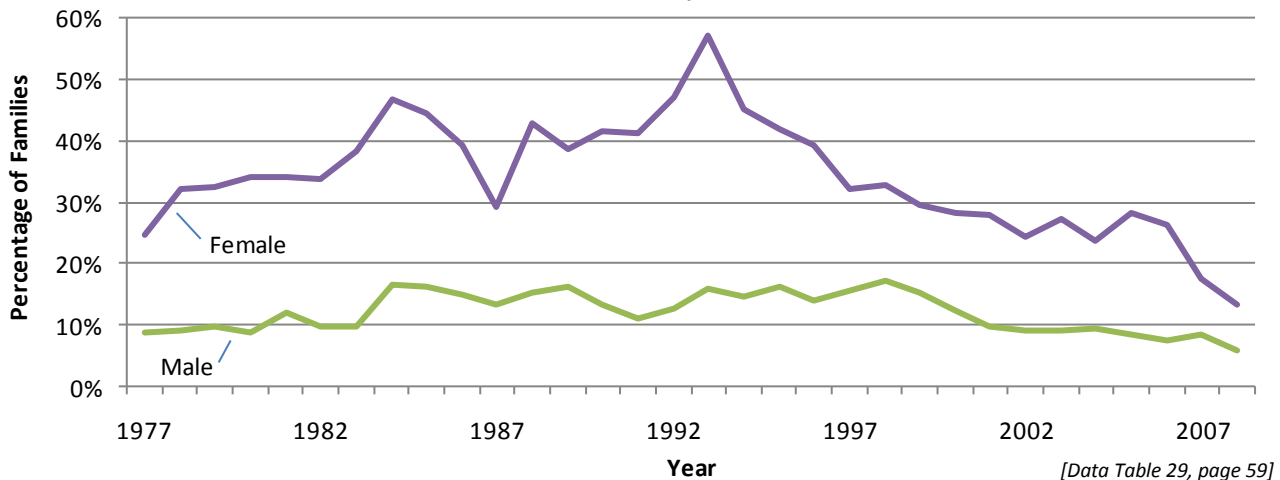
# Low Income Families, *cont'd...*

- the TRENDS:**
- ↓ ⊕ gender gap in poverty narrowed
  - ↑ ⊖ age gap in poverty increased

While female-headed households are still more likely to live in poverty than male-headed households (13.3% versus 6.0%, respectively), the gender gap in poverty narrowed considerably over the past decade.

- ◆ In 2007, the poverty rate for female-headed families was 13.3%, versus 6.0% for men.
- ◆ The proportion of female-headed families in poverty in 2007 was less than half the rate in 1997 (32.7%).

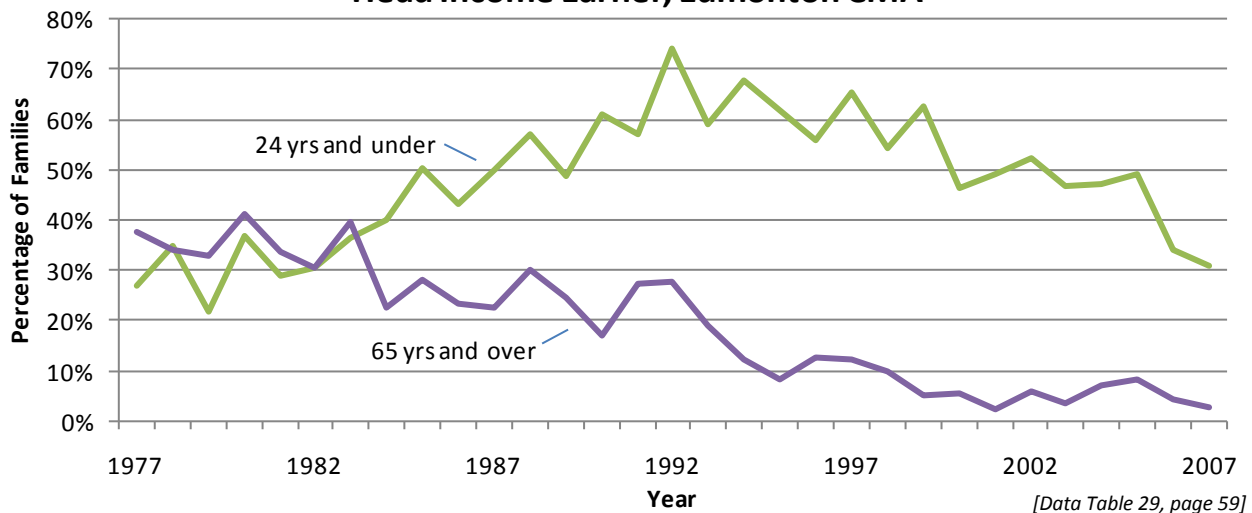
**Percentage of Families in Low Income (After-Tax), by Gender of Head Income Earner, Edmonton CMA**



Families headed by young people (aged 24 and under) are considerably more likely than average to live in poverty.

- ◆ In 2007, 30.8% of youth-headed households lived under the Low Income Cut-off; that is nearly three times more than the average for all families!
- ◆ The situation has significantly improved over the past five years, however. Since 1997, the poverty rate for this group has decreased 34.5 percentage points.
- ◆ The poverty rate for senior-headed households decreased 9.3 percentage points over the same time period.

**Percentage of Families in Low Income (After-Tax), by Age of Head Income Earner, Edmonton CMA**



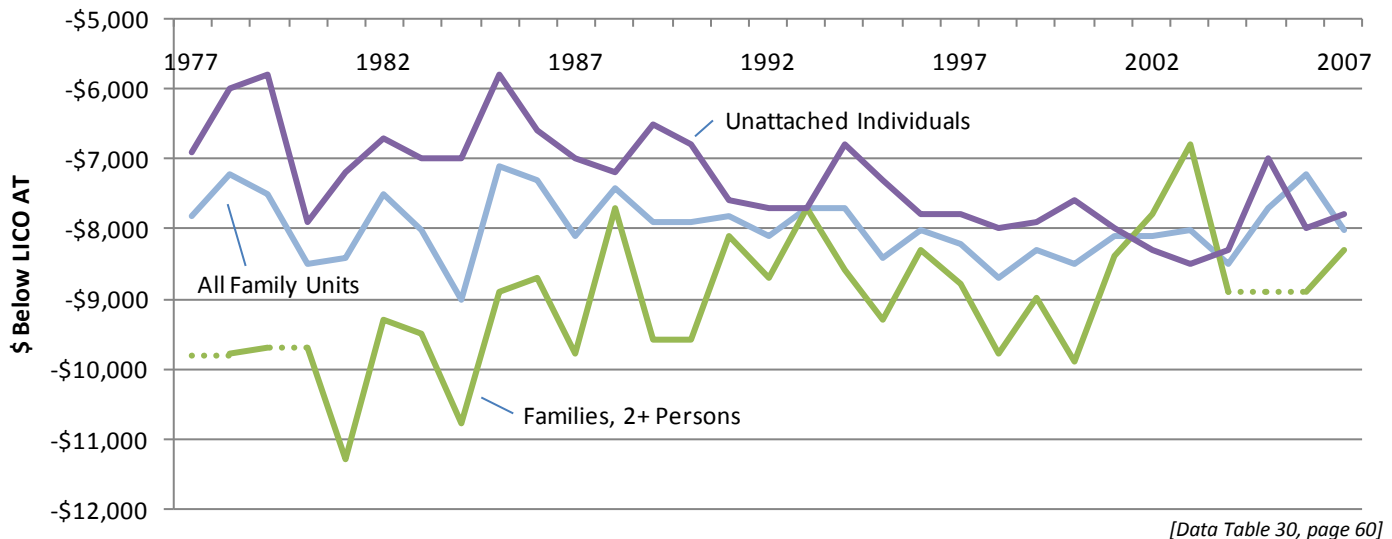
# Low Income Families, *cont'd...*

- the TRENDS:**
- ↓ ⊕ low income gap reduced slightly
  - ◆ ⊙ MBM poverty rate slightly higher than LICO AT rate

The low income gap is often referred to as 'depth of poverty,' and measures how far the average family unit lives below the Low Income Cut-off (LICO). In 2007, the average family living below LICO earned \$8,000 less than the LICO for their family size, after-tax [see Table 34, page 62 for LICOs].

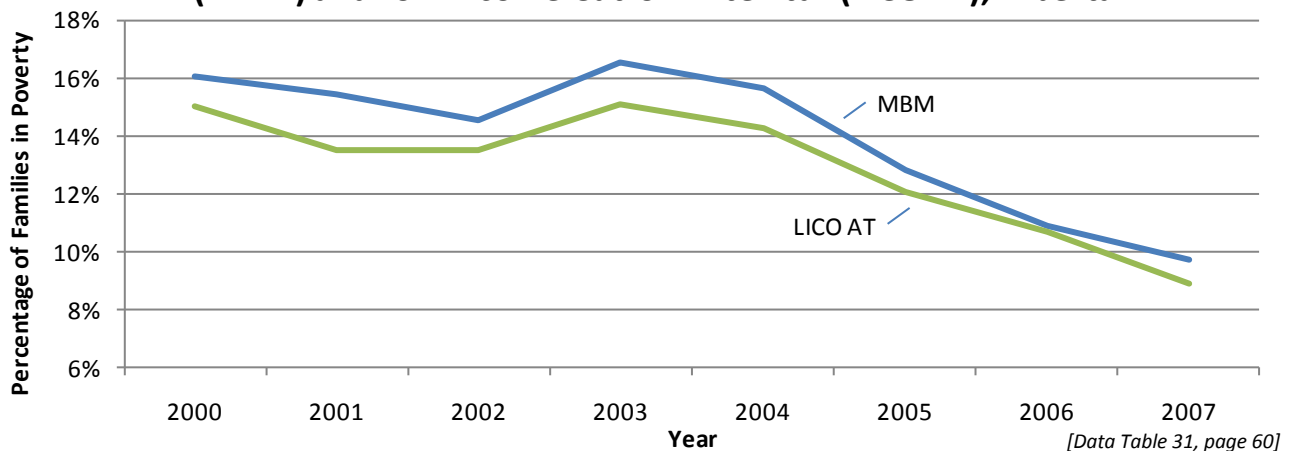
- ◆ The low income gap in 2007 was 2.5% (or \$200) less than it was in 1997 for all family units.
- ◆ Historically, the low income gap for families with 2 or more persons was greater than that for unattached individuals. In recent years, however, this difference has been reduced.
- ◆ The available data does not capture the current economic downturn; the depth of poverty may begin to increase in 2009, as a result.

**Average Low Income Gap (After-Tax), by Family Type, Edmonton CMA**



Since the Market Basket Measure (MBM) was first measured in 2000, the MBM poverty rate has been consistently higher—by about one percentage point—than the LICO AT poverty rate.

**Family Poverty Rate, Comparison of Market Basket Measure (MBM) and Low Income Cut-off After-tax (LICO AT), Alberta**



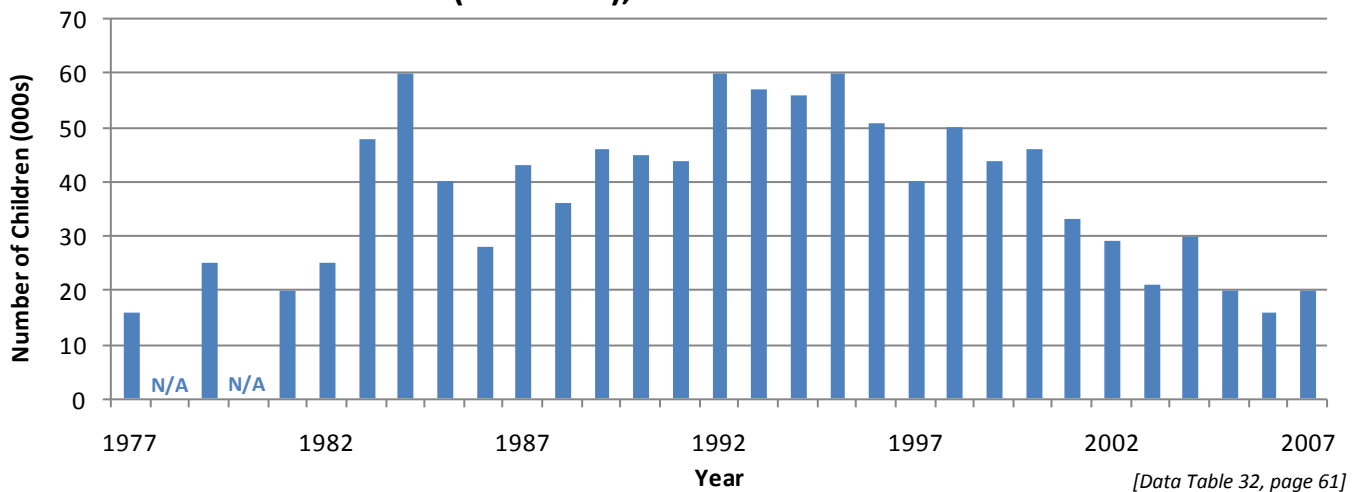
# Low Income Children

- the TRENDS:**
- ↓ ⊕ number of children living in poverty reduced
  - ↓ ⊕ child poverty rates declined

Poverty rates for children in Edmonton have decreased over the past decade. Child poverty has tended to decline during years of economic growth, and increase during periods of economic downturn.

- ◆ 20,000 children (under 18 years of age) in the Edmonton CMA lived below LICO in 2007—20,000 fewer than in 1997.
- ◆ The number of children in poverty is likely to increase as a result of the economic downturn.

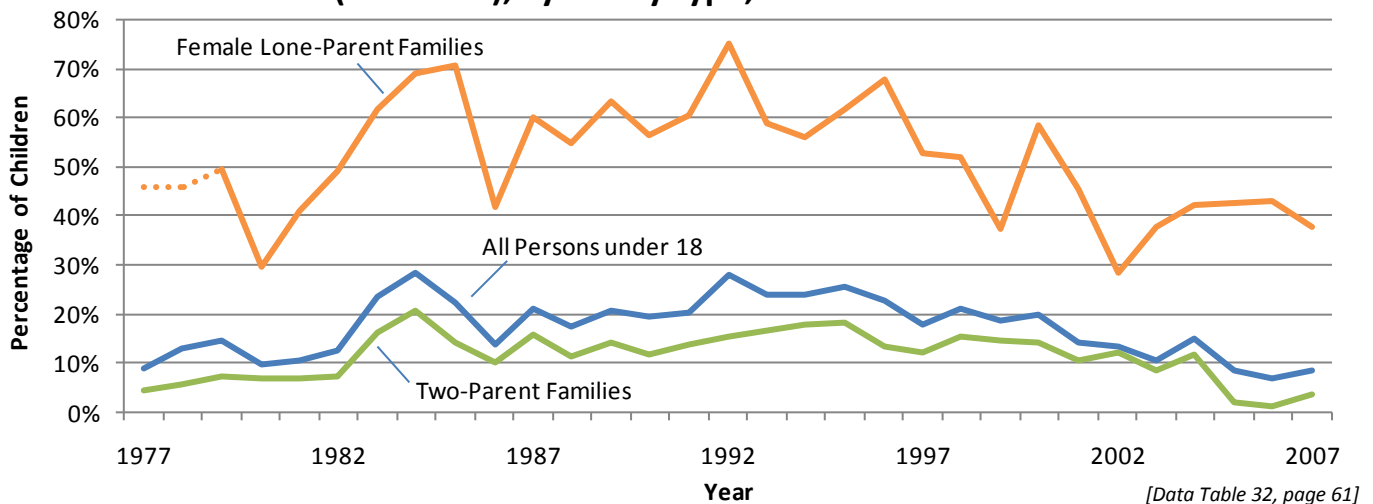
**Number of Persons under 18 Years of Age Living Below LICO  
(After-Tax), Edmonton CMA**



The strong economy, combined with improvements in programs like child tax benefits, has led to overall child poverty rates falling to 30 year lows. The challenge is how to sustain this progress during the current recession.

- ◆ Since 1997, the overall child poverty rates have decreased 9.5 percentage points.
- ◆ Female-headed lone-parent families saw the greatest improvement, with a 14.9 percentage point reduction in child poverty rate since 1997.
- ◆ Over the same time period, the poverty rate for children living in two-parent families declined 8.7 percentage points.

**Percentage of Persons under 18 Years of Age Living Below LICO  
(After-Tax), by Family Type, Edmonton CMA**



# Low Income Children, *cont'd...*

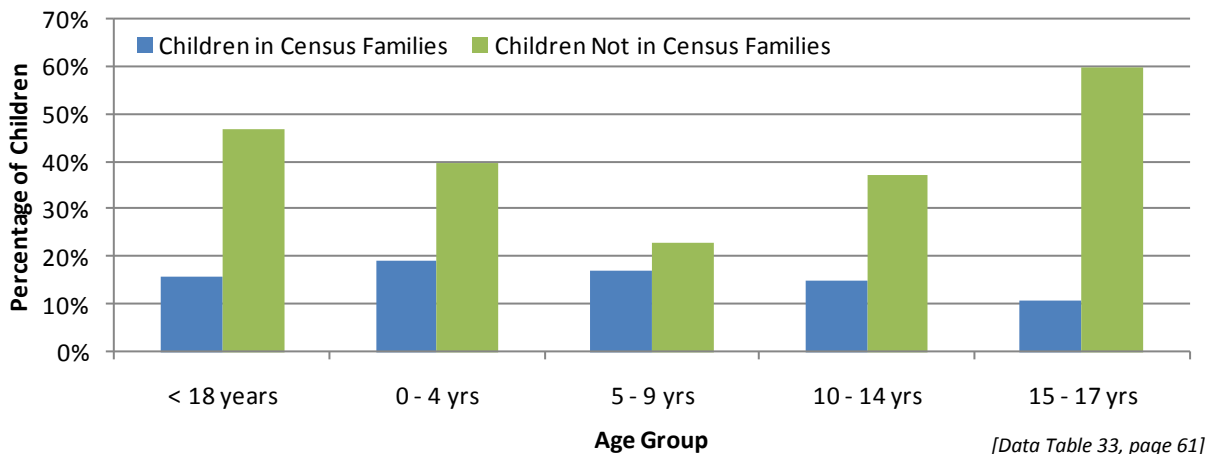
- the TRENDS:**
- ◆ ⊖ significant proportion of children live in low income
  - ◆ ⊖ most children living in poverty have working parents

In 2006, 16.0% of children in Edmonton who were living in a census family lived in low income. Children under 18 who were not living in a census family, or who live at home with their own children, are much more likely to live in poverty. In 2006, nearly half (47.1%) of these individuals lived below the Low Income Cut-off After-tax (LICO AT).

Poverty rates for children vary by age.

- ◆ For those living in census families, the poverty rate declines as they get older.
- ◆ For those not living in census families, the risk of living in poverty is highest between the ages of 15 and 17 (59.8%).

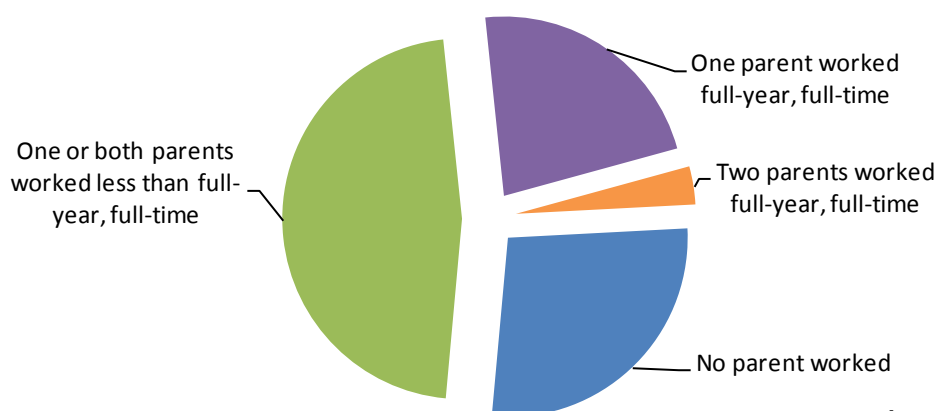
**Percentage of Children Living Below LICO AT, by Age and Family Status, Edmonton City, 2006**



The likelihood that children will live in poverty also varies by the work activity of their parents or caregivers. The majority (73%) of children living in poverty have parents who work.

- ◆ Nearly half (47%) of children living in low income had at least one parent working part-year or part-time. One in four (26%) had at least one parent working full-time, full-year.

**Percentage of Children Under 18 Years, in Census Families, Living Below LICO AT by Work Activity of Parents, Edmonton City, 2006**



# Data Tables | Section E

**Table 29: Proportion of Families Living Below Low Income Cut-off (LICO), After-Tax, by Family Type, Gender and Age, Edmonton CMA**

Year	All Families	Family Type			Head/Major Income Earner Characteristics			
		Two-Parent	Lone-Parent	Individuals	Male	Female	24 and Under	65 and Over
1976	13.5%	5.8%	F	30.1%	9.0%	24.7%	22.0%	36.1%
1977	15.6%	3.5%	34.4%	35.3%	9.2%	32.2%	27.2%	37.7%
1978	16.3%	4.6%	42.9%	36.4%	9.9%	32.4%	34.9%	34.1%
1979	16.3%	5.9%	39.2%	28.2%	8.9%	34.1%	21.9%	32.8%
1980	17.0%	5.4%	20.9%	33.8%	12.0%	34.0%	36.9%	41.3%
1981	15.0%	4.6%	26.5%	30.9%	9.8%	33.9%	29.1%	33.7%
1982	16.6%	6.4%	36.2%	32.0%	9.9%	38.5%	30.7%	30.5%
1983	23.4%	12.7%	62.0%	40.1%	16.4%	46.7%	36.7%	39.9%
1984	22.8%	12.0%	59.9%	34.2%	16.3%	44.6%	40.1%	22.6%
1985	20.8%	10.6%	53.2%	35.7%	15.0%	39.4%	50.2%	28.4%
1986	16.7%	7.8%	28.1%	33.8%	13.4%	29.3%	43.4%	23.4%
1987	21.3%	12.6%	54.4%	38.3%	15.2%	42.9%	50.1%	22.7%
1988	21.3%	10.8%	38.7%	40.8%	16.2%	38.6%	56.9%	30.2%
1989	19.8%	13.2%	58.2%	34.7%	13.5%	41.6%	48.6%	24.6%
1990	18.2%	8.5%	52.2%	36.1%	11.2%	41.4%	60.9%	17.0%
1991	21.1%	11.4%	47.7%	40.0%	12.6%	47.0%	57.1%	27.3%
1992	27.4%	13.7%	56.6%	50.3%	15.8%	57.2%	74.1%	27.7%
1993	22.3%	13.9%	55.0%	37.6%	14.6%	45.3%	59.0%	19.0%
1994	22.3%	13.5%	58.5%	37.3%	16.1%	41.8%	67.7%	12.4%
1995	19.8%	13.1%	56.6%	31.1%	13.9%	39.4%	61.9%	8.3%
1996	21.0%	12.1%	51.8%	43.0%	15.6%	32.2%	55.8%	12.8%
1997	22.4%	10.1%	38.1%	45.2%	17.2%	32.7%	65.3%	12.2%
1998	20.5%	11.2%	42.8%	39.3%	15.4%	29.6%	54.2%	9.9%
1999	18.0%	11.7%	30.1%	37.0%	12.3%	28.2%	62.5%	5.4%
2000	16.3%	11.7%	46.6%	30.4%	10.0%	27.8%	46.6%	5.6%
2001	14.4%	8.6%	31.3%	28.1%	9.3%	24.4%	49.0%	2.5%
2002	15.4%	10.2%	21.5%	28.7%	9.2%	27.3%	52.4%	5.9%
2003	14.1%	7.1%	27.9%	28.4%	9.4%	23.8%	46.7%	3.6%
2004	15.6%	8.7%	27.5%	30.2%	8.6%	28.4%	47.4%	7.1%
2005	14.3%	2.7%	33.8%	28.6%	7.6%	26.2%	49.3%	8.3%
2006	11.6%	0.7%	34.1%	24.5%	8.6%	17.4%	34.0%	4.3%
2007	8.8%	2.5%	26.1%	16.4%	6.0%	13.3%	30.8%	2.9%

[Source: Statistics Canada]

**Table 30: Average Low Income Gap (LICO AT), by Family Type, \$2007 Constant, Edmonton CMA**

Year	All Family Types	Families, 2+ Persons	Unattached Individuals
1976	\$5,900	N/A	\$5,500
1977	\$7,800	\$9,800	\$6,900
1978	\$7,200	N/A	\$6,000
1979	\$7,500	\$9,700	\$5,800
1980	\$8,500	N/A	\$7,900
1981	\$8,400	\$11,300	\$7,200
1982	\$7,500	\$9,300	\$6,700
1983	\$8,000	\$9,500	\$7,000
1984	\$9,000	\$10,800	\$7,000
1985	\$7,100	\$8,900	\$5,800
1986	\$7,300	\$8,700	\$6,600
1987	\$8,100	\$9,800	\$7,000
1988	\$7,400	\$7,700	\$7,200
1989	\$7,900	\$9,600	\$6,500
1990	\$7,900	\$9,600	\$6,800
1991	\$7,800	\$8,100	\$7,600
1992	\$8,100	\$8,700	\$7,700
1993	\$7,700	\$7,700	\$7,700
1994	\$7,700	\$8,600	\$6,800
1995	\$8,400	\$9,300	\$7,300
1996	\$8,000	\$8,300	\$7,800
1997	\$8,200	\$8,800	\$7,800
1998	\$8,700	\$9,800	\$8,000
1999	\$8,300	\$9,000	\$7,900
2000	\$8,500	\$9,900	\$7,600
2001	\$8,100	\$8,400	\$8,000
2002	\$8,100	\$7,800	\$8,300
2003	\$8,000	\$6,800	\$8,500
2004	\$8,500	\$8,900	\$8,300
2005	\$7,700	N/A	\$7,000
2006	\$7,200	N/A	\$8,000
2007	\$8,000	\$8,300	\$7,800

[Source: Statistics Canada]

**Table 31: Family Poverty Rate, Comparison of Market Basket Measure (MBM) and Low Income Cut-off After-tax (LICO AT), Alberta**

Year	Market Basket Measure (MBM)	Low Income Cut-off After-Tax (LICO AT)
2000	16.0%	15.0%
2001	15.4%	13.5%
2002	14.5%	13.5%
2003	16.5%	15.1%
2004	15.6%	14.3%
2005	12.8%	12.1%
2006	10.9%	10.7%
2007	9.7%	8.9%

[Source: Statistics Canada & HRSDC]



**Table 32: Percentage of Persons Under 18 Years of Age Living Below LICO (After-Tax), by Family Type, Edmonton CMA**

Year	All Persons under 18		% In Two-Parent Families	% In Female Lone-Parent Families
	Number	%		
1976	N/A	9.5%	8.4%	N/A
1977	16,000	8.9%	4.6%	45.7%
1978	N/A	13.0%	5.7%	N/A
1979	25,000	14.5%	7.2%	49.6%
1980	N/A	9.5%	6.7%	29.9%
1981	20,000	10.6%	6.8%	41.0%
1982	25,000	12.7%	7.2%	49.2%
1983	48,000	23.6%	16.1%	61.7%
1984	60,000	28.4%	20.7%	69.2%
1985	40,000	22.4%	14.4%	70.8%
1986	28,000	13.7%	10.0%	41.7%
1987	43,000	21.1%	15.9%	60.3%
1988	36,000	17.5%	11.5%	54.8%
1989	46,000	20.7%	14.0%	63.6%
1990	45,000	19.4%	11.6%	56.7%
1991	44,000	20.1%	13.6%	60.4%
1992	60,000	27.9%	15.6%	75.2%
1993	57,000	23.8%	16.8%	58.9%
1994	56,000	24.0%	18.0%	56.3%
1995	60,000	25.5%	18.3%	61.7%
1996	51,000	22.6%	13.4%	67.9%
1997	40,000	17.8%	12.3%	52.8%
1998	50,000	21.0%	15.3%	52.0%
1999	44,000	18.5%	14.6%	37.5%
2000	46,000	19.7%	14.1%	58.7%
2001	33,000	14.1%	10.5%	45.6%
2002	29,000	13.4%	12.1%	28.5%
2003	21,000	10.3%	8.5%	37.7%
2004	30,000	14.8%	11.9%	42.3%
2005	20,000	8.3%	2.2%	42.9%
2006	16,000	6.8%	1.2%	43.3%
2007	20,000	8.3%	3.6%	37.9%

[Source: Statistics Canada]

**Table 33: Persons Under 18 Years of Age Living Below LICO (After-Tax), by Age and Family Status, Edmonton City, 2006 Census**

Age	Persons in Census Families		Persons not in Census Families	
	Number	%	Number	%
Less than 18 years	23,895	16.0%	1,115	47.1%
0 to 4 years	7,800	19.3%	155	39.7%
5 to 9 years	6,665	17.3%	90	23.1%
10 to 14 years	6,450	15.1%	150	37.2%
15 to 17 years	2,985	10.9%	720	59.8%

[Source: Statistics Canada]

**Table 34: Persons Under 18 Years of Age Living Below LICO (After-Tax), by Work Activity of Parents, Edmonton CMA & City, 2006 Census**

Work Activity	Edmonton CMA		Edmonton City	
	Number	%	Number	%
All Families	27,395	12.1%	23,895	16.0%
No Parent Worked	7,245	60.9%	6,515	67.1%
One or both Parents Worked, less than Full-Year, F/T	12,700	24.2%	11,205	29.4%
One Parent Worked Full-Year, F/T	6,335	5.7%	5,350	7.7%
Two Parents Worked Full-Year, F/T	1,120	2.2%	820	2.6%

[Source: Statistics Canada]

**Table 35: Low Income Cut-offs (LICOs) for Households Living in Urban Areas, Population 500,000 and over (1992 LICOs base)**

Year	Household Size						
	1 person	2 persons	3 persons	4 persons	5 persons	6 persons	7 persons +
1976	\$5,008	\$6,095	\$7,590	\$9,468	\$10,782	\$11,957	\$13,133
1977	\$5,410	\$6,585	\$8,200	\$10,230	\$11,648	\$12,918	\$14,188
1978	\$5,893	\$7,173	\$8,932	\$11,143	\$12,688	\$14,072	\$15,455
1979	\$6,441	\$7,839	\$9,761	\$12,178	\$13,867	\$15,379	\$16,891
1980	\$7,085	\$8,623	\$10,738	\$13,396	\$15,254	\$16,917	\$18,580
1981	\$7,971	\$9,701	\$12,080	\$15,070	\$17,161	\$19,032	\$20,903
1982	\$8,840	\$10,759	\$13,398	\$16,714	\$19,033	\$21,108	\$23,183
1983	\$9,355	\$11,386	\$14,178	\$17,689	\$20,142	\$22,338	\$24,534
1984	\$9,758	\$11,876	\$14,789	\$18,450	\$21,009	\$23,299	\$25,590
1985	\$10,145	\$12,347	\$15,374	\$19,181	\$21,841	\$24,222	\$26,603
1986	\$10,563	\$12,856	\$16,009	\$19,972	\$22,742	\$25,222	\$27,701
1987	\$11,030	\$13,424	\$16,716	\$20,855	\$23,747	\$26,337	\$28,926
1988	\$11,465	\$13,954	\$17,375	\$21,677	\$24,684	\$27,375	\$30,066
1989	\$12,045	\$14,659	\$18,254	\$22,773	\$25,932	\$28,759	\$31,586
1990	\$12,624	\$15,365	\$19,132	\$23,869	\$27,180	\$30,143	\$33,106
1991	\$13,333	\$16,227	\$20,206	\$25,209	\$28,705	\$31,835	\$34,964
1992	\$13,526	\$16,462	\$20,499	\$25,574	\$29,121	\$32,296	\$35,471
1993	\$13,784	\$16,776	\$20,889	\$26,061	\$29,676	\$32,911	\$36,147
1994	\$13,800	\$16,795	\$20,914	\$26,092	\$29,710	\$32,950	\$36,189
1995	\$14,106	\$17,168	\$21,378	\$26,670	\$30,369	\$33,680	\$36,991
1996	\$14,315	\$17,422	\$21,695	\$27,066	\$30,820	\$34,180	\$37,540
1997	\$14,557	\$17,716	\$22,061	\$27,522	\$31,340	\$34,757	\$38,174
1998	\$14,701	\$17,893	\$22,280	\$27,797	\$31,652	\$35,103	\$38,554
1999	\$14,959	\$18,206	\$22,671	\$28,284	\$32,206	\$35,718	\$39,229
2000	\$15,362	\$18,696	\$23,281	\$29,045	\$33,073	\$36,679	\$40,285
2001	\$15,748	\$19,166	\$23,867	\$29,775	\$33,905	\$37,602	\$41,298
2002	\$16,102	\$19,598	\$24,404	\$30,445	\$34,668	\$38,448	\$42,227
2003	\$16,553	\$20,146	\$25,087	\$31,298	\$35,639	\$39,524	\$43,410
2004	\$16,859	\$20,519	\$25,551	\$31,876	\$36,297	\$40,255	\$44,212
2005	\$17,230	\$20,969	\$26,112	\$32,576	\$37,095	\$41,139	\$45,183
2006	\$17,568	\$21,381	\$26,624	\$33,216	\$37,823	\$41,946	\$46,070
2007	\$17,954	\$21,851	\$27,210	\$33,946	\$38,655	\$42,869	\$47,084
2008	\$18,373	\$22,361	\$27,844	\$34,738	\$39,556	\$43,869	\$48,181

[Source: Statistics Canada]

# Section F | Government Income Supports

- the TRENDS:**
- ⊖ use of income supports declined overall, until recently
  - ⊖ real value of income supports declining for lowest income families
  - ⊕ effectiveness of government income supports improved

## Why are Income Support Trends Important?

Government income supports (also known as income transfers), as well as other social programs and services, play an important role in preventing poverty.

Despite the widely held belief that hard work is the best solution to poverty, there are many people for whom this is not true. Some of the barriers to adequate employment can include: limited language proficiency; lack of access to education; delayed recognition of foreign credentials; social isolation; limited access to child care; conflicting work and family responsibilities; and even the structure of government programs [CAFL; CCPA; Doyle-Bedwell, 2008; PRC]. These barriers often disproportionately affect visible minority groups (particularly newcomers), Aboriginal people, persons with disabilities, and lone-parent women.

## How is Edmonton Changing?

The value of government income transfers given to families in Alberta has declined modestly over the past decade. However, the proportion of transfers given to families in the lowest income quintile (lowest 20%) recently increased. This is a welcome development for the most vulnerable households in the province, and in Edmonton.

The number of Edmontonians receiving Alberta Works (AW) benefits and Employment Insurance (EI) was on a steady decline until the current economic slow down. The downturn has resulted in increased need for income support through AW and EI, to the extent that the gains made over the past decade have been undone in the first half of 2009. This shift calls attention to the need for effective income support programs in order to prevent an increase in poverty.

### Income Security

Ideally, income transfers help ensure that all citizens are able to maintain a decent quality of life—in particular, the ability to afford a nutritious diet and safe housing—and some level of financial stability. Income security is not only necessary for people who are able to work, but also those who are not.

When incomes do not increase at the rate of inflation, more low- and modest-income families are at risk of poverty. Those already living in poverty fall even further behind.

The affordability and accessibility of services such as childcare, education, etc., are crucial to allowing people to acquire and maintain adequate employment and, thereby, financial independence.

### Effectiveness of Transfer Payments

The level of poverty reduction achieved by government transfer payments has increased considerably over the past decade in Alberta. Government benefits targeted to families, such as the Child Tax Benefit, have contributed to lifting a significant proportion of children living in low income above the poverty line.

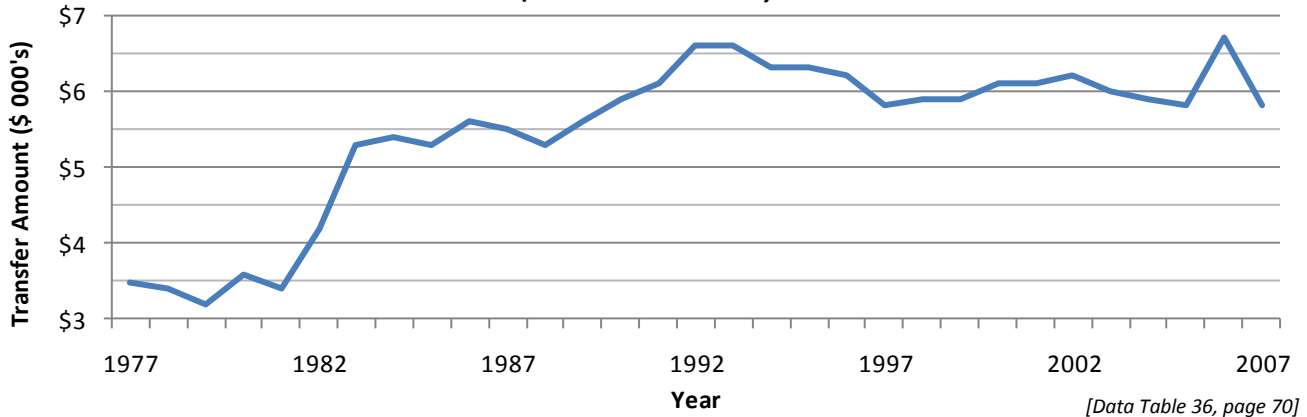
The effectiveness of government transfers has fluctuated over the years, however—sometimes due to budgetary considerations. For instance, in 2006 when there was a large budget surplus, every Albertan received a \$400 rebate cheque. This temporarily reduced poverty by raising the incomes of poor families. In order to avert a sharp increase in poverty rates during the economic downturn, the provincial and federal governments must continue to invest in income transfer programs. If cuts to these programs are made, poverty in Edmonton will most likely rise.

# Government Transfer Payments

- the TRENDS:*
- ◆ ⊖ value of transfers stagnant
  - ↑ ⊕ value of transfers increased for lowest quintile

The value of government transfer payments given to families in Alberta has fluctuated over the years; however, the value of transfers was the same in 2007 as it was in 1997.

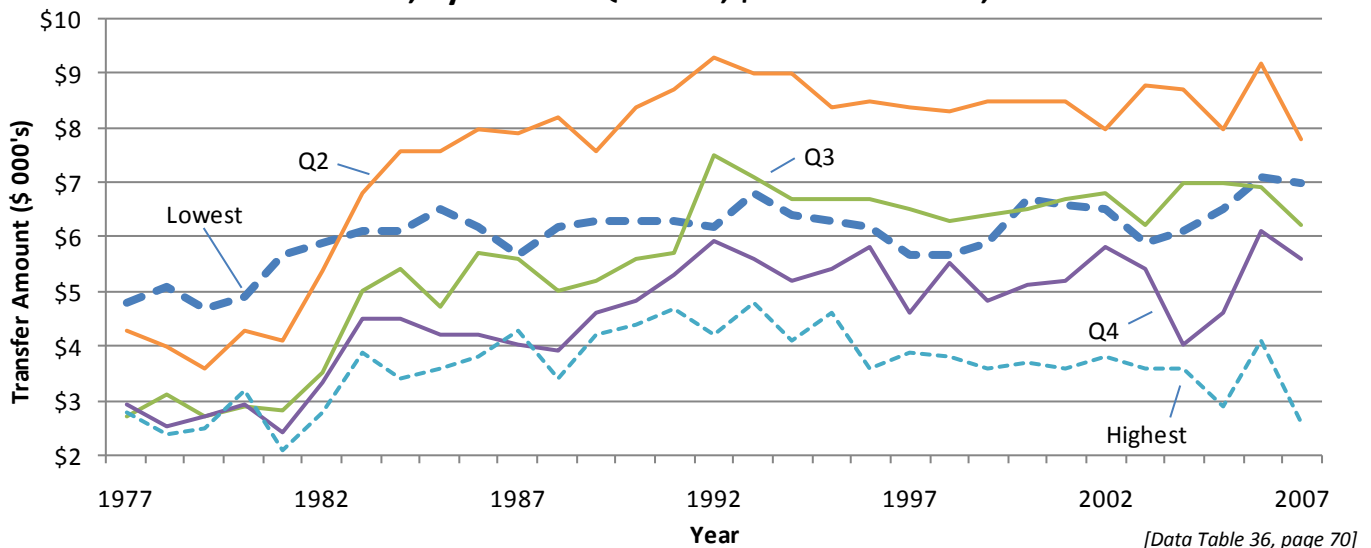
**Average Government Transfers Received by Economic Families, \$2007 Constant, Alberta**



When families are divided into income quintiles, it is apparent that the value of transfers received by families varies by income level.

- ◆ Families in the lowest income quintile (earning the lowest 20% of incomes) experienced a 22.8% increase in the value of the transfer payments they received between 1997 and 2007.
- ◆ The average value of transfer payments for families in the second quintile (earning the lowest 20% - 40% of incomes) decreased 7.1%; however, this group still receives the highest amount of all the quintiles.
- ◆ The highest income quintile (families earning the top 20% of incomes) experienced the greatest cut in the value of transfer payments (a 33.3% decrease).

**Average Government Transfer Payments Received by Economic Families, by Income Quintile, \$2007 Constant, Alberta**



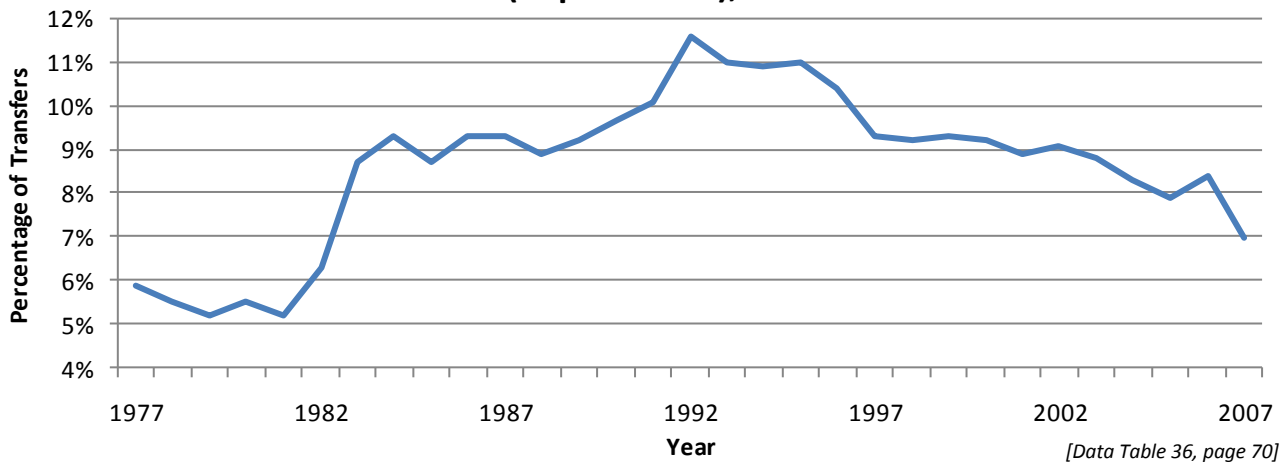
# Government Transfer Payments, *cont'd...*

- the TRENDS:*
- ↓ ⊙ proportion of income from government reduced
  - ↑ ⊕ share of transfer payments to highest need group increased

On average, the proportion of family income received from government sources declined 2.3 percentage points from 1997 to 2007.

- ◆ This is likely, in part, a reflection of the increase in employment and other income during the economic boom.

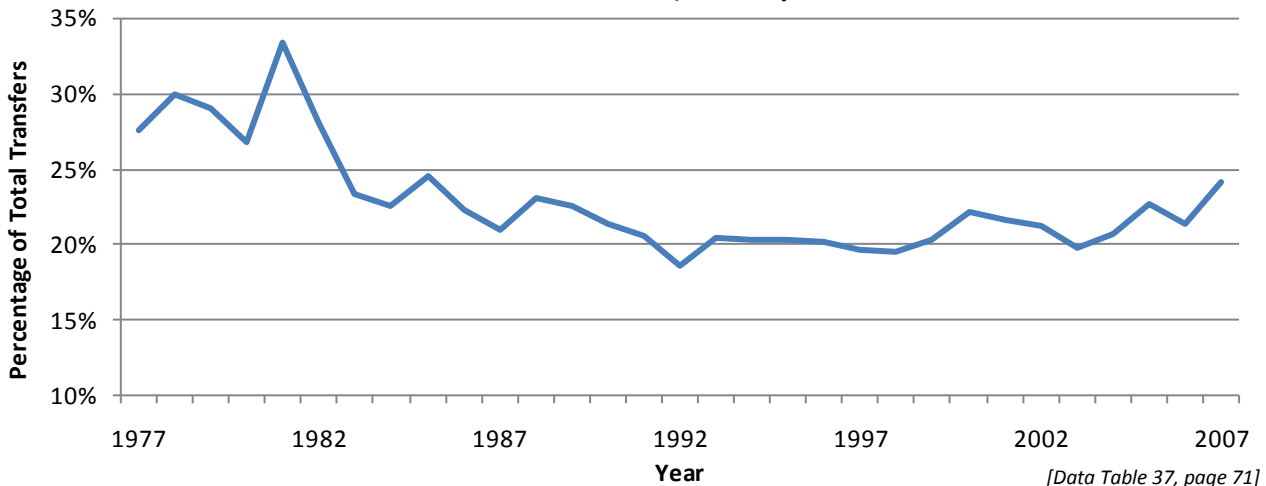
**Average Percentage of Family Income from Government Sources (Implicit Rate), Alberta**



Over the past decade (1997-2007), the proportion of total government transfer payments given to families in the lowest income quintile increased 4.4 percentage points.

- ◆ In 2007, families in the second income quintile received the greatest proportion (26.7%) of the total amount of transfer payments given in Alberta (see Table 37, page 71).

**Share of Government Income Transfers Given to Families in the Lowest Income Quintile, Alberta**



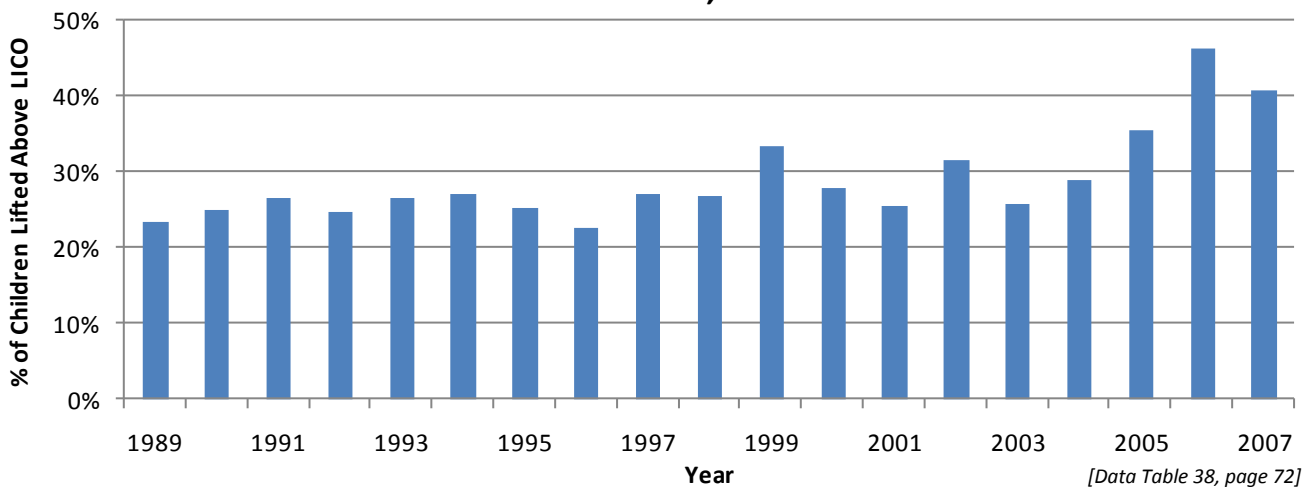
# Poverty Prevention

the TRENDS: ↑ ⊕ effectiveness of government income transfers improved

Government income transfers—such as child tax benefits, social assistance, employment insurance, etc.—play a significant role in lifting people with market incomes below LICO above the poverty line. In Alberta, the effectiveness of government transfer payments in lifting children under 18 years of age above the poverty line increased 13.7 percentage points between 1997 and 2007.

- ◆ In 1997, 27.2% of children living in families with market incomes below LICO were lifted above the poverty line by income transfers given to their families. In 2007, this proportion had increased to 40.9%.
- ◆ There remains considerable yearly variation in the effectiveness of income transfers caused by political and budgetary considerations.

**Percentage of Children Prevented from Poverty by Government Income Transfers, Alberta**



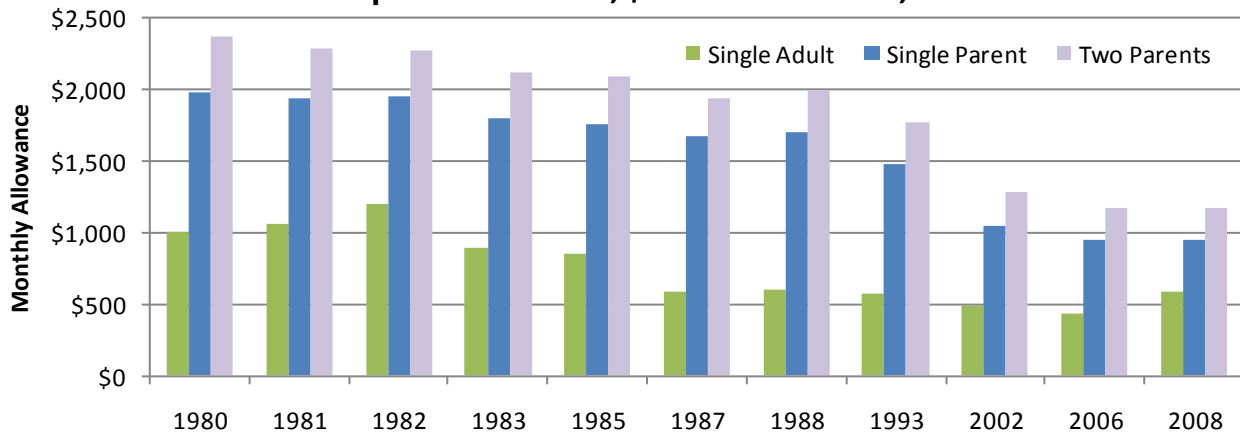
# Income Support

- the TRENDS:**
- ↓ ⊖ value of Alberta Works allowances reduced
  - ↑ ⊕ value of AISH benefits increased

The value of Alberta Income Support payments (for those expected to work) has decreased considerably since the 1980s.

- ◆ Since 1993, the value of basic and shelter allowances for families has decreased 35.7% for single-parent families, and 33.7% for two-parent families.
- ◆ The value of allowances for single adults, on the other hand, increased 0.8% since 1993.
- ◆ Alberta Works allowances are currently about half the value of allowances in 1980.

**Alberta Works Payments (Basic & Shelter Allowances) for the Expected to Work, \$2008 Constant \*, Alberta**



\* Calculated using Edmonton Consumer Price Index (CPI)

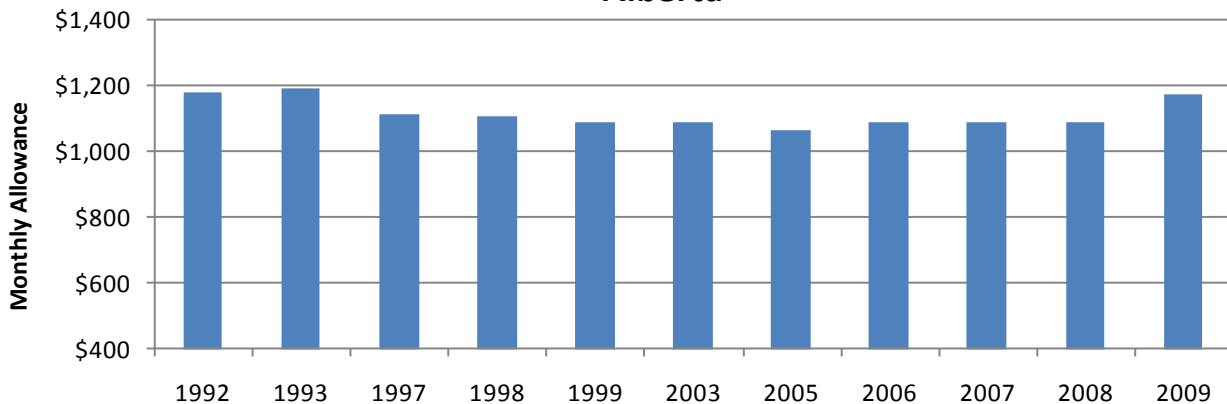
Year

[Data Table 39, page 72]

The value of the maximum monthly AISH (Assured Income for the Severely Handicapped) benefit decreased 1.4% between 1998 and 2008.

- ◆ However, in 2009 the Alberta government raised AISH benefits by 9.2%, bringing the value of AISH benefits back to the 1992 level.

**Maximum Monthly AISH Benefit Payments, \$2008 Constant \*, Alberta**



\* Calculated using Edmonton Consumer Price Index (CPI); 2009 value based on July 08-09 CPI change.

Year

[Data Table 40, page 73]

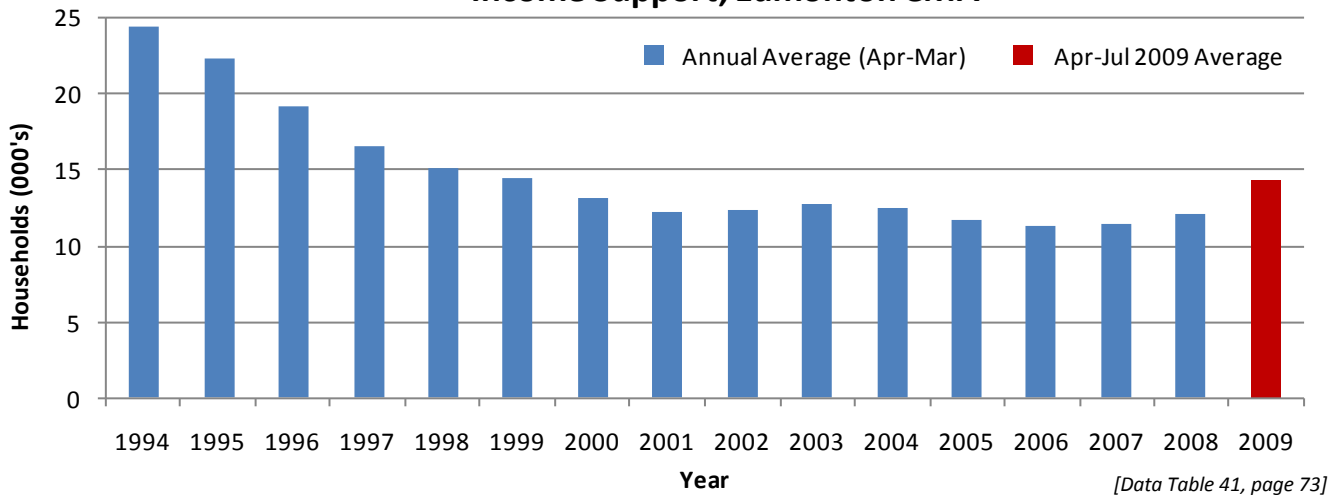
# Income Support, *cont'd...*

- the TRENDS:*
- ↑ ⊖ number of Alberta Works recipients increased recently
  - ↑ ⊙ number of AISH recipients increased

The number of Edmonton CMA households receiving Alberta Works Income Support decreased 20.5% from 1998 to 2008.

- ◆ The average number of recipients from April to July 2009 has increased 18.8% over the 2008 average. We expect Alberta Works usage will continue to increase as the economic downturn continues.

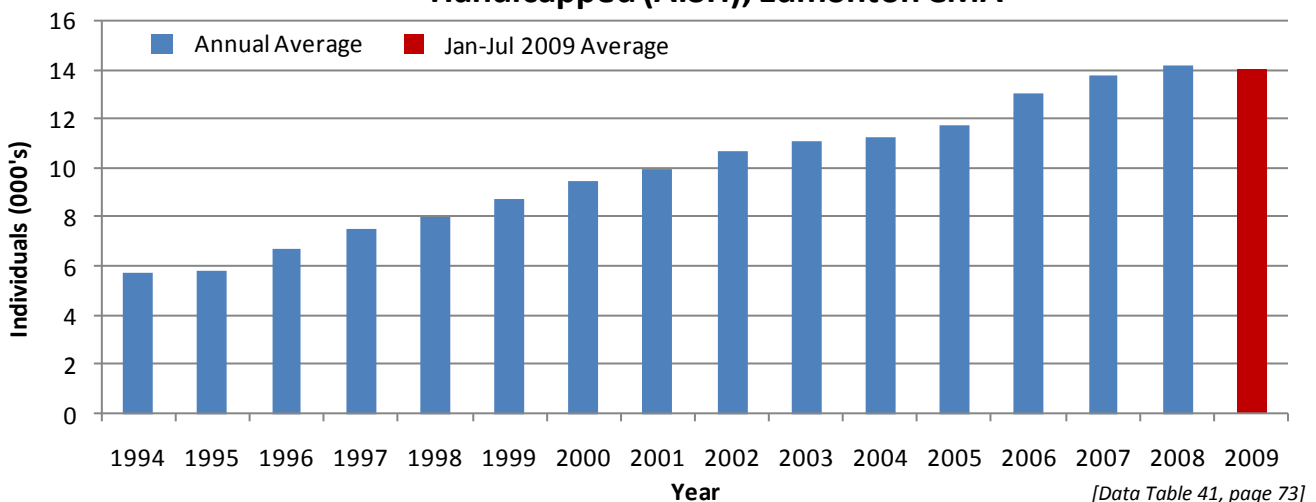
**Average Monthly Number of Households Receiving Alberta Works Income Support, Edmonton CMA**



The number of individuals receiving AISH benefits in the Edmonton CMA, however, increased 76.4% over the past decade (1998 to 2008).

- ◆ The average number of recipients from January to July 2009 is 0.7% less than the 2008 average.

**Average Monthly Recipients of Assured Income for the Severely Handicapped (AISH), Edmonton CMA**



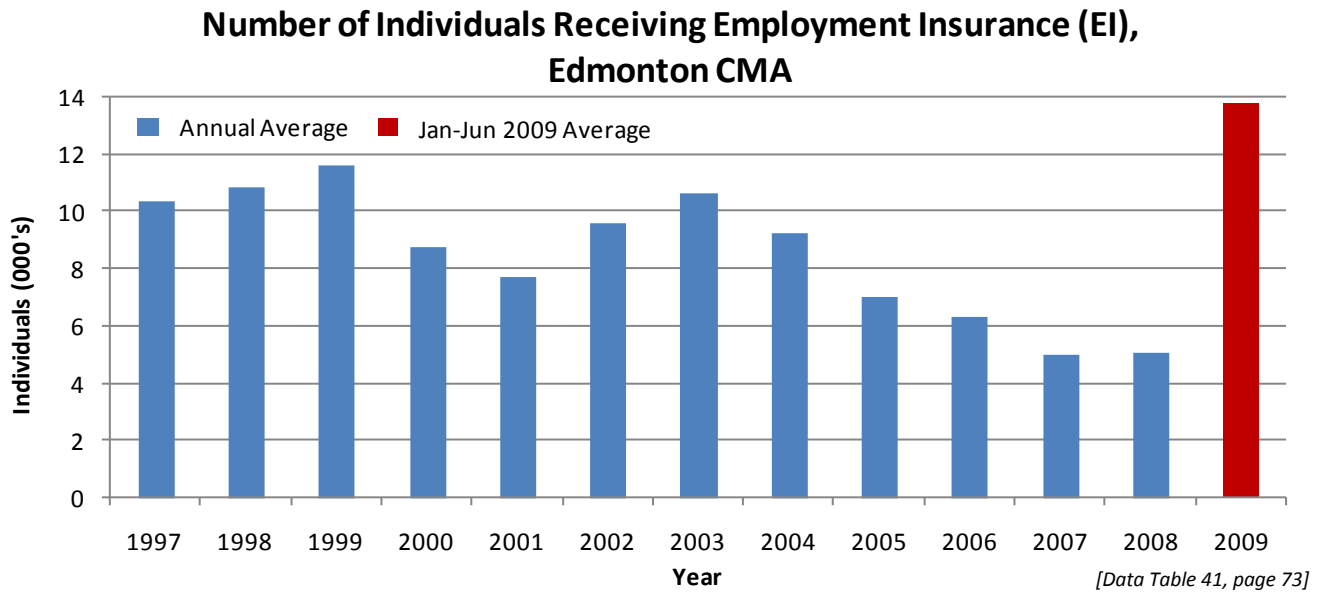


# Income Support, *cont'd...*

*the TRENDS:*    ↑    ⊖    number of EI recipients recently escalated rapidly

The number of Edmontonians receiving Employment Insurance (EI) benefits declined fairly steadily since the late 1990's. The annual average number of recipients declined 52.8% between 1998 and 2008, reaching a low of 5,014 in 2007 during the economic boom.

- ♦ The recent economic downturn has led to a sharp increase in EI use; the average number of recipients for 2009, as of June, was 13,777—over two and a half times the average for 2008.



# Data Tables | Section F

**Table 36: Government Transfer Payments to Families, by Income Quintile, & Proportion of Family Income from Government Sources (Implicit Rate), \$2007 Constant, Alberta**

Year	Average Government Transfer Payments by Income Quintile						Implicit Rate (All Quintiles)
	All Quintiles	Lowest	Q2	Q3	Q4	Highest	
1976	\$3,500	\$5,600	\$4,200	\$2,800	\$2,600	\$2,600	5.8%
1977	\$3,500	\$4,800	\$4,300	\$2,700	\$2,900	\$2,800	5.9%
1978	\$3,400	\$5,100	\$4,000	\$3,100	\$2,500	\$2,400	5.5%
1979	\$3,200	\$4,700	\$3,600	\$2,700	\$2,700	\$2,500	5.2%
1980	\$3,600	\$4,900	\$4,300	\$2,900	\$2,900	\$3,200	5.5%
1981	\$3,400	\$5,700	\$4,100	\$2,800	\$2,400	\$2,100	5.2%
1982	\$4,200	\$5,900	\$5,400	\$3,500	\$3,300	\$2,800	6.3%
1983	\$5,300	\$6,100	\$6,800	\$5,000	\$4,500	\$3,900	8.7%
1984	\$5,400	\$6,100	\$7,600	\$5,400	\$4,500	\$3,400	9.3%
1985	\$5,300	\$6,500	\$7,600	\$4,700	\$4,200	\$3,600	8.7%
1986	\$5,600	\$6,200	\$8,000	\$5,700	\$4,200	\$3,800	9.3%
1987	\$5,500	\$5,700	\$7,900	\$5,600	\$4,000	\$4,300	9.3%
1988	\$5,300	\$6,200	\$8,200	\$5,000	\$3,900	\$3,400	8.9%
1989	\$5,600	\$6,300	\$7,600	\$5,200	\$4,600	\$4,200	9.2%
1990	\$5,900	\$6,300	\$8,400	\$5,600	\$4,800	\$4,400	9.7%
1991	\$6,100	\$6,300	\$8,700	\$5,700	\$5,300	\$4,700	10.1%
1992	\$6,600	\$6,200	\$9,300	\$7,500	\$5,900	\$4,200	11.6%
1993	\$6,600	\$6,800	\$9,000	\$7,100	\$5,600	\$4,800	11.0%
1994	\$6,300	\$6,400	\$9,000	\$6,700	\$5,200	\$4,100	10.9%
1995	\$6,300	\$6,300	\$8,400	\$6,700	\$5,400	\$4,600	11.0%
1996	\$6,200	\$6,200	\$8,500	\$6,700	\$5,800	\$3,600	10.4%
1997	\$5,800	\$5,700	\$8,400	\$6,500	\$4,600	\$3,900	9.3%
1998	\$5,900	\$5,700	\$8,300	\$6,300	\$5,500	\$3,800	9.2%
1999	\$5,900	\$5,900	\$8,500	\$6,400	\$4,800	\$3,600	9.3%
2000	\$6,100	\$6,700	\$8,500	\$6,500	\$5,100	\$3,700	9.2%
2001	\$6,100	\$6,600	\$8,500	\$6,700	\$5,200	\$3,600	8.9%
2002	\$6,200	\$6,500	\$8,000	\$6,800	\$5,800	\$3,800	9.1%
2003	\$6,000	\$5,900	\$8,800	\$6,200	\$5,400	\$3,600	8.8%
2004	\$5,900	\$6,100	\$8,700	\$7,000	\$4,000	\$3,600	8.3%
2005	\$5,800	\$6,500	\$8,000	\$7,000	\$4,600	\$2,900	7.9%
2006	\$6,700	\$7,100	\$9,200	\$6,900	\$6,100	\$4,100	8.4%
2007	\$5,800	\$7,000	\$7,800	\$6,200	\$5,600	\$2,600	7.0%

[Source: Statistics Canada]

**Table 37: Share of Government Transfer Payments Received, by Family Income Quintile, Alberta**

Year	Q1 (Lowest 20%)	Q2 (20- 40%)	Q3 (40- 60%)	Q4 (60- 80%)	Q5 (Highest 20%)
1976	31.4%	23.4%	15.9%	14.4%	14.8%
1977	27.5%	24.3%	15.6%	16.8%	15.9%
1978	29.9%	23.3%	18.3%	14.5%	14.0%
1979	29.0%	22.3%	16.8%	16.6%	15.3%
1980	26.7%	23.8%	16.0%	15.8%	17.6%
1981	33.3%	24.0%	16.7%	13.9%	12.1%
1982	28.0%	25.8%	16.8%	15.8%	13.6%
1983	23.2%	25.7%	19.1%	17.2%	14.9%
1984	22.4%	28.2%	20.1%	16.5%	12.8%
1985	24.5%	28.6%	17.6%	15.8%	13.5%
1986	22.2%	28.8%	20.3%	15.0%	13.8%
1987	20.9%	28.6%	20.3%	14.7%	15.5%
1988	23.0%	30.8%	18.7%	14.6%	12.8%
1989	22.5%	27.4%	18.6%	16.5%	15.0%
1990	21.3%	28.3%	19.0%	16.3%	15.0%
1991	20.5%	28.3%	18.4%	17.4%	15.4%
1992	18.5%	28.2%	22.7%	17.9%	12.7%
1993	20.3%	27.1%	21.3%	16.9%	14.5%
1994	20.2%	28.7%	21.3%	16.7%	13.0%
1995	20.2%	26.6%	21.2%	17.3%	14.7%
1996	20.1%	27.5%	21.9%	18.8%	11.7%
1997	19.6%	28.8%	22.3%	15.8%	13.5%
1998	19.4%	27.9%	21.2%	18.6%	13.0%
1999	20.2%	29.0%	21.9%	16.5%	12.3%
2000	22.1%	27.9%	21.3%	16.7%	12.0%
2001	21.6%	27.7%	21.9%	17.0%	11.8%
2002	21.2%	26.0%	21.9%	18.8%	12.2%
2003	19.7%	29.3%	20.8%	18.0%	12.2%
2004	20.6%	29.6%	23.8%	13.6%	12.4%
2005	22.6%	27.6%	24.1%	15.9%	9.9%
2006	21.3%	27.5%	20.7%	18.1%	12.3%
2007	24.0%	26.7%	21.2%	19.2%	8.9%

[Source: Statistics Canada]

**Table 38: Market Poverty Rate, Poverty Rate After Income Transfers, and Proportion of Children under 18 Years of Age Prevented from Poverty by Government Income Transfers, Alberta**

Year	Market Poverty Rate	Poverty Rate (LICO Before-tax)	Percentage of Market Poor Children Prevented from Poverty
1989	24.7%	18.9%	23.5%
1990	27.3%	20.5%	24.9%
1991	27.4%	20.1%	26.6%
1992	33.0%	24.8%	24.8%
1993	28.9%	21.2%	26.6%
1994	29.1%	21.2%	27.1%
1995	29.6%	22.1%	25.3%
1996	29.5%	22.8%	22.7%
1997	23.5%	17.1%	27.2%
1998	26.0%	19.0%	26.9%
1999	22.7%	15.1%	33.5%
2000	21.6%	15.6%	27.8%
2001	20.0%	14.9%	25.5%
2002	21.2%	14.5%	31.6%
2003	20.6%	15.3%	25.7%
2004	20.4%	14.5%	28.9%
2005	18.6%	12.0%	35.5%
2006	19.5%	10.5%	46.2%
2007	18.6%	11.0%	40.9%

Note: These custom tabulations are calculated by comparing the market poverty (LICO) rate to the before-tax poverty rate.

[Source: Statistics Canada]

**Table 39: Alberta Works Monthly Allowances, Expected to Work, Current and Constant Dollars (Edmonton CPI)**

Year	Current Dollars			Constant Dollars (\$2008)		
	Single Adult	Single Parent	Two Parents	Single Adult	Single Parent	Two Parents
1980	\$374	\$773	\$880	\$1,011	\$1,982	\$2,379
1981	\$440	\$807	\$955	\$1,058	\$1,940	\$2,296
1982	\$551	\$902	\$1,051	\$1,197	\$1,959	\$2,282
1983	\$437	\$876	\$1,036	\$896	\$1,796	\$2,125
1985	\$441	\$911	\$1,082	\$854	\$1,764	\$2,095
1987	\$326	\$932	\$1,082	\$586	\$1,676	\$1,946
1988	\$341	\$977	\$1,139	\$597	\$1,709	\$1,992
1993	\$394	\$1,010	\$1,206	\$578	\$1,483	\$1,770
2002	\$397	\$862	\$1,059	\$482	\$1,046	\$1,286
2006	\$402	\$881	\$1,083	\$436	\$955	\$1,174
2008	\$583	\$953	\$1,173	\$583	\$953	\$1,173

Note: These are maximum amounts for the following family types: (a) single adult, (b) single parent with two children, and (c) two parents with two children. For both families with children, one child is assumed to be under 12 years of age, and the other child is assumed to be over 12 years of age.

[Source: Alberta Works, CUPE, ESPC, & Potts, Karen]

**Table 40: Assured Income for the Severely Handicapped (AISH) Monthly Maximum Allowances, Current and Constant Dollars (Edmonton CPI)**

Year	Current Dollars	Constant Dollars (\$2008)
1978	\$500	\$1,623
1992	\$796	\$1,178
1993	\$810	\$1,189
1997	\$814	\$1,108
1998	\$818	\$1,103
1999	\$826	\$1,089
2003	\$850	\$1,085
2005	\$950	\$1,062
2006	\$1,000	\$1,084
2007	\$1,050	\$1,086
2008	\$1,088	\$1,088
2009	\$1,188	* \$1,170

\* \$2008 Constant Dollar value for 2009 calculated using change in Edmonton inflation rate, July 2008—July 2009

[Sources: Alberta Committee of Citizens with Disabilities, Alberta Disabilities Forum, Alberta Seniors and Community Supports, CUPE, Kneebone, Ronald D. & Statistics Canada]

**Table 41: Alberta Works, Assured Income for the Severely Handicapped (AISH) and Employment Insurance Recipients, Edmonton CMA**

Year	Alberta Works *		AISH Recipients	Employment Insurance (EI) Recipients
	Recipients	Cases		
1994	48,020	24,500	5,719	N/A
1995	43,726	22,309	5,830	N/A
1996	37,607	19,187	6,713	N/A
1997	32,501	16,582	7,503	10,367
1998	29,782	15,195	8,012	10,838
1999	28,377	14,478	8,746	11,607
2000	25,688	13,106	9,472	8,784
2001	23,904	12,196	9,935	7,703
2002	24,349	12,423	10,638	9,614
2003	25,063	12,787	11,109	10,653
2004	24,429	12,464	11,247	9,287
2005	23,065	11,768	11,707	7,047
2006	22,166	11,309	13,024	6,346
2007	22,450	11,454	13,750	5,014
2008	23,689	12,086	14,130	5,118
2009	** 28,138	** 14,356	*** 14,027	**** 13,777

\* Alberta Works Caseloads are measured by fiscal year. (1994 = April 1994—March 1995)

\*\* April-July 2009 average

\*\*\* January to July average

\*\*\*\* January to June average

[Sources: Alberta Seniors and Community Supports, Alberta Works & Statistics Canada]

# Part 2 | Edmonton Neighbourhoods

Part 1 of *Tracking the Trends* presents data and trend analysis for the city (or region) of Edmonton as a whole. While this overarching data is important, and gives us an understanding of socio-economic trends in the city, it fails to capture the diversity within the city.

Anyone familiar with Edmonton knows that the city's neighbourhoods are very diverse in terms of their demographic and socioeconomic makeup. For this reason, we are including a detailed look at a selection of key social indicators at the neighbourhood level in the form of maps. Presenting data in map form gives a clearer picture of the social and economic diversity of Edmonton than any graph could offer.

## Producing the Maps

In order to produce these colour-coded maps, we have grouped Edmonton's neighbourhoods into somewhat broad categories. The actual data used to generate these categories is provided in table form [page 92] for readers who wish to see neighbourhood-specific data.

The majority of the maps present geographic trends at a single point in time; this allows a better understanding of the current differences between neighbourhoods. Only the map describing 'Change in Average Household Income' [page 82] measures trends over time.




## Edmonton – A City of Neighbourhoods

Edmonton has about 230 neighbourhoods that are primarily residential in character. These neighbourhoods vary widely in population—from less than 1,000 (e.g. Virginia Park) to over 17,000 residents (e.g. Oliver). Most neighbourhoods fall into a population range of 2,000 to 7,000 residents.




The City can also be divided into mature and new neighbourhoods. *Tracking the Trends* defines mature neighbourhoods as those that were substantially developed prior to 1986, and new neighbourhoods as those that developed after 1986. Using this definition, about one-quarter of Edmonton neighbourhoods can be considered new neighbourhoods.

## the TREND Markers

### the TREND Direction

-  Numbers/value increasing
-  Numbers/value decreasing
-  No historical trend / situation stable

### the TREND Value

-  positive trend / situation improving
-  negative trend / situation worsening
-  neutral / positive and negative aspects

**NOTE:** The sheer number of Edmonton neighbourhoods, and the page size of this publication, made it impossible to produce maps that include legible neighbourhood names. If you're having trouble identifying a particular neighbourhood, please refer to the City of Edmonton's interactive maps feature at [www.maps.edmonton.ca](http://www.maps.edmonton.ca).

# Section A | Neighbourhood Data & Maps

- the TRENDS:*
- ⊙ Edmonton neighbourhoods are diverse
  - ⊙ Edmonton neighbourhoods are changing

## Why are Neighbourhood Trends Important?

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Looking at trends at the neighbourhood level is important. Neighbourhoods are places where we interact most closely with other people; where we raise and often school our children; where we engage in leisure and volunteer activities; and where we sometimes work.

Neighbourhood perceptions are very powerful. Our opinions of the neighbourhoods we live in and how they are changing, may influence our decisions about whether we stay or move. Beliefs about neighbourhoods also influence residential and business development, and perhaps even how people outside the neighbourhood think of its residents. Negative perceptions attached to certain neighbourhoods (i.e. that they are crime-ridden or run-down) can be very hard to overcome and impede revitalization efforts. This, in turn, impacts the quality of life in neighbourhoods and the opportunities available to its residents.

For this reason, it is important that perceptions of Edmonton neighbourhoods be checked against reality. 2006 federal census data at the neighbourhood level provides an opportunity to track where Edmonton neighbourhoods stand; both in relation to each other, and how they are changing over time.

### **Any Neighbourhood Can be Great**

Just because a neighbourhood has a high proportion of renters, or below average household incomes, doesn't mean it can't be a great place to live and raise a family. Housing may be more affordable in lower income neighbourhoods. Public transit service may be better. The urban forest may be more mature. Recreational facilities and shopping areas may be easier to get to.

Any neighbourhood can be great. Some just need a bit more help than others. Tracking neighbourhood trends can help decision makers to direct more resources to more vulnerable neighbourhoods to assist them in their revitalization efforts.

## How Do Edmonton Neighbourhoods Look?

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### **Edmonton Neighbourhoods Are Diverse**

The greatest disparities in socio-economic status do not exist between provinces or cities in Canada, but rather between neighbourhoods within a city. Edmonton is certainly no exception. Some of Edmonton's highest and lowest income neighbourhoods are located mere kilometers apart. Yet the distance between them is vast in terms of income, wealth, housing quality, and educational and economic opportunity.

For instance, in some neighbourhoods almost everyone owns their home, whereas in others almost everyone rents. Some neighbourhoods are made up mostly of families, others mainly of singles. Families with higher incomes tend to live in newer neighbourhoods farther from Downtown.

### **Edmonton Neighbourhoods Are Changing**

Neighbourhoods are constantly changing. A neighbourhood that was made up mostly of young families a generation ago may today have mostly older adults. A neighbourhood that used to consist mostly of small, older homes may today consist mostly of larger, newer homes and condominiums as a result of extensive redevelopment.

# Low Income Households

**the TRENDS:** ◆ ⊖ one third of Edmonton neighbourhoods have an above average household poverty rate

There are many different types of households in Edmonton, ranging from singles living alone, to nuclear families, to extended families made up of several generations living in the same dwelling. People in households not only share the space in which they live, they are also economically interdependent. Because of this interdependence, the economic status of households is an important indicator of neighbourhood well-being.

- ◆ On average, 13.4% of Edmontonians lived in low income households in 2006. However, these low income households are distributed very unevenly among Edmonton neighbourhoods.
- ◆ 35 Edmonton neighbourhoods have household poverty rates well above that of the City as a whole (low income rate greater than 20.1%). Just over one in five households in these lower income neighbourhoods lived in poverty. The largest concentration of these neighbourhoods is in north central Edmonton. There are also smaller concentrations of neighbourhoods with above average household poverty rates in northeast Edmonton, the old town of Jasper Place, and the older neighbourhoods in Millwoods. The rest are scattered throughout the City.
- ◆ The four neighbourhoods with the highest household poverty rates are Central McDougall, McCauley, Boyle Street and Abbotsfield. These neighbourhoods have over one in three households living in low income.
- ◆ Conversely, 66 neighbourhoods had household poverty rates well below the City average (low income rate less than 6.7%). These neighbourhoods tend to be located in southwest Edmonton on both sides of the North Saskatchewan River, and in the newer, more suburban neighbourhoods in all corners of the city. Several Edmonton neighbourhoods—including Quesnell Heights, Terwillegar South, and Wedgewood Heights—had no low income households.

**Table 42: Neighbourhood Map Categories for Household Low Income Rate**

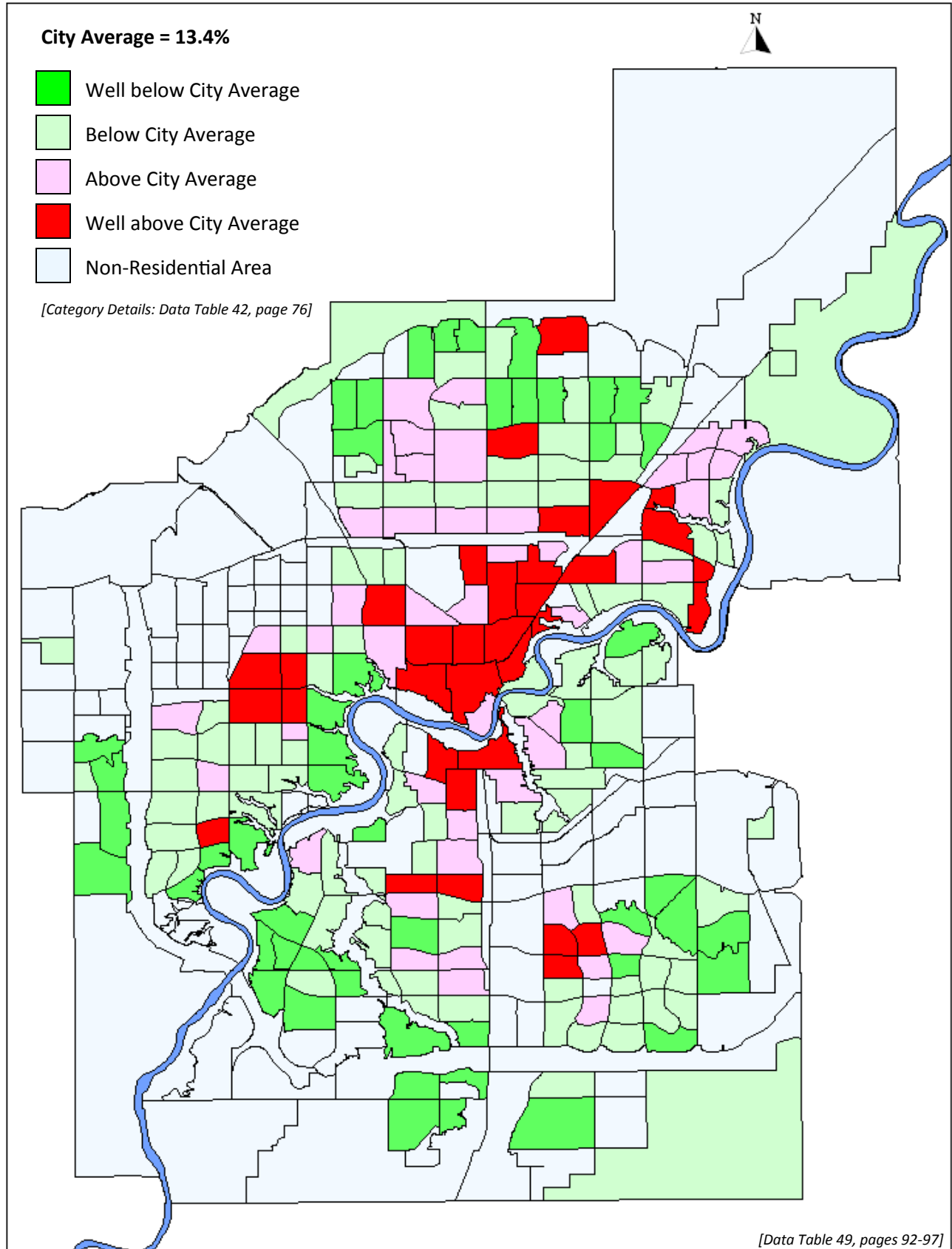
Category	Percentage Difference from City Average	Low Income Rate Range	Number of Neighbourhoods
Well below City Average	> 50% lower	Below 6.7%	66
Below City Average	0 to 50% lower	6.7% to 13.3%	97
Above City Average	0 to 50% higher	13.4% to 20.1%	46
Well above City Average	> 50% higher	Over 20.1%	35

[Source: Statistics Canada]

**Note:** This map measures the poverty rate by neighbourhood of all households (singles as well as families) using the Low Income Cut-off After-Tax (LICO AT). The terms 'poverty' and 'low income' are used interchangeably.



## Proportion of Households Living in Low Income, Edmonton City Neighbourhoods, 2006



# Low Income Families



**the TRENDS:** ◆ ⊖ four in eleven Edmonton neighbourhoods have an above average family poverty rate

On average, fewer families live in poverty (low income) compared to households. This is a trend that holds true for the City as a whole as well as individual neighbourhoods. The reason for this is that both families with and without children tend to experience less poverty than people who live alone. Single adults have higher rates of low income in part because they are excluded from some income support programs, such as the Canada Child Tax Benefit and the Alberta Family Employment Tax Credit, which raise the after-tax incomes of families with children. Childless couples tend to experience less poverty because they are often older and/or they have two incomes to support the household.

- ◆ Slightly less than one in ten (9.4%) of Edmonton families experienced poverty in 2006.
- ◆ Thirty-eight Edmonton neighbourhoods had family poverty rates well above the City average (low income rate greater than 14.1%). With a few notable exceptions, neighbourhoods with relatively high family poverty rates are mostly located in north central Edmonton, northeast Edmonton, Jasper Place, and Millwoods.
- ◆ For most neighbourhoods, there is a strong correlation between those with high family poverty rates and high household poverty rates. However, family poverty is somewhat more geographically dispersed than household poverty. Of the four neighbourhoods with more than one in four families living in poverty, only one is in central Edmonton (Central McDougall); two are in north east Edmonton (Abbotsfield, Sifton Park); and, one in Southeast Edmonton (Richfield).
- ◆ Neighbourhoods such as Oliver and Strathcona, which have household poverty rates significantly higher than the City average, have family poverty rates only slightly above average. The neighbourhood of Alexandra had a significantly above average low income household rate, but a below average rate for families. A likely explanation is that these central neighbourhoods have a high student population due to their proximity to the University and other post-secondary institutions. Students tend to have lower incomes, and often move out of these neighbourhoods after they graduate.
- ◆ Conversely, 74 Edmonton neighbourhoods had family low income rates well below the City average (low income rate less than 4.7%). These neighbourhoods tend to be located at the edge of the City, adjacent to the river valley or ravines, and on the south side of the North Saskatchewan River.

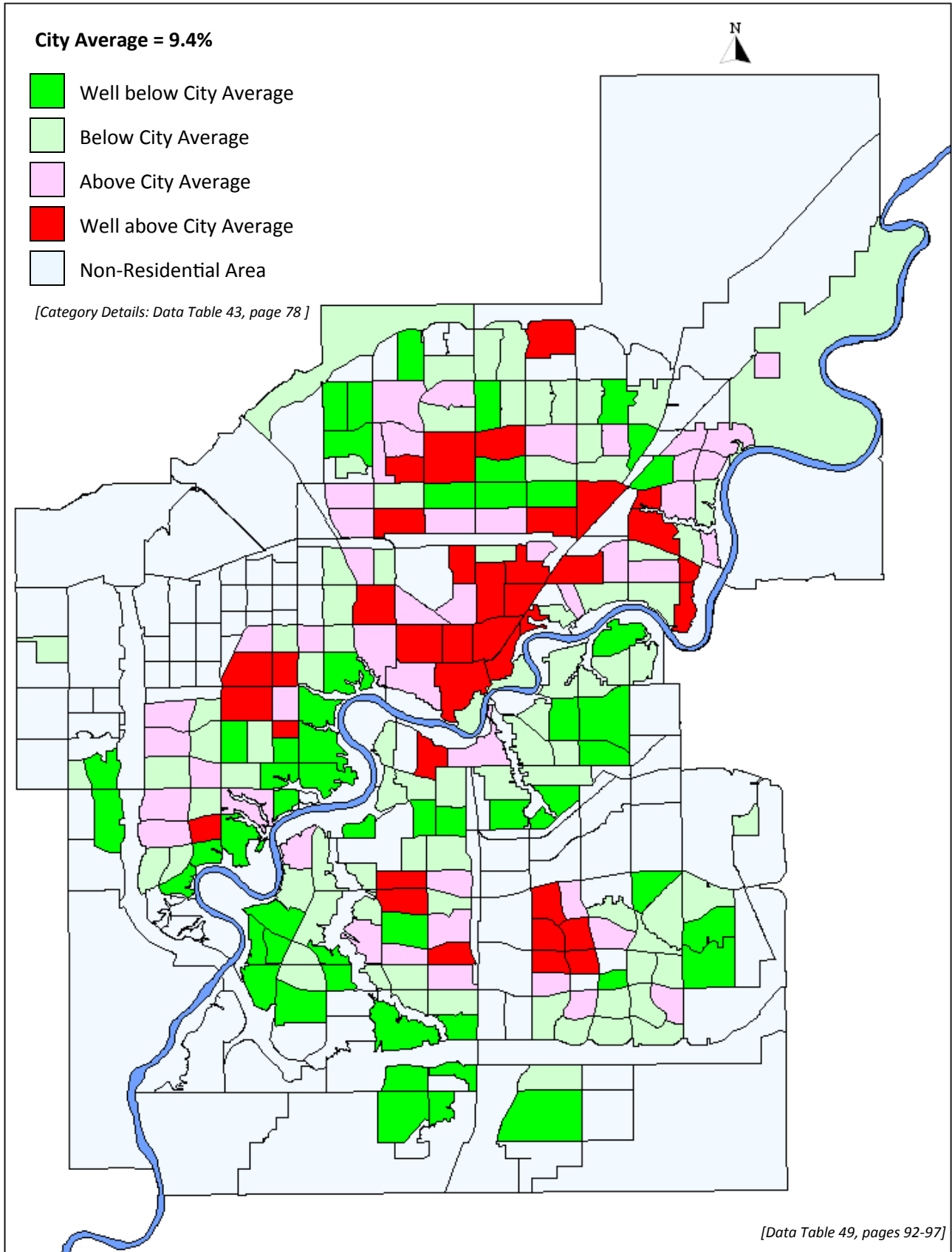
**Table 43: Neighbourhood Map Categories for Family Low Income Rate**

Category	Percentage Difference from City Average	Low Income Rate Range	Number of Neighbourhoods
Well below City Average	> 50% lower	Below 4.7%	74
Below City Average	0 to 50% lower	4.7% to 9.3%	83
Above City Average	0 to 50% higher	9.4% to 14.1%	51
Well above City Average	> 50% higher	Over 14.1%	38

[Source: Statistics Canada]

**Note:** This map measures the poverty rate by neighbourhood for families using LICO AT. Families include two-parent or lone-parent families with children, and childless couples.

## Proportion of Families Living in Low Income, Edmonton City Neighbourhoods, 2006



# Average Household Income

**the TRENDS:** ◆ ◎ two in nine Edmonton neighbourhoods have an average household income under \$58,000

Tracking average household income allows a meaningful comparison to be made of the relative economic well-being of Edmonton neighbourhoods.

- ◆ The average household income in the City of Edmonton was \$72,950 in 2006.
- ◆ There are 55 neighbourhoods in Edmonton with average household incomes more than 20% below the City average (less than \$58,360). Four out of five of these lower income neighbourhoods are located north of the river, with the highest concentration in the north central part of the City.
- ◆ Nine neighbourhoods have average household incomes more than 40% below the City average. Of the neighbourhoods with the absolute lowest household incomes, seven are located in north central Edmonton (Central McDougall, McCauley, Boyle Street, Westwood, Eastwood, Queen Mary Park and Cromdale), one is in Millwoods (Millwoods Town Centre), and one is in the West End (Canora).
- ◆ Conversely, 69 neighbourhoods have average household incomes over 20% above the city average (greater than \$87,540). Generally, these neighbourhoods are located adjacent to the river valley or ravines, or close to the edge of the built up urban area. Sixteen neighbourhoods had household incomes more than double the city average. The highest income neighbourhoods are mostly located in the southwest quadrant of the city.
- ◆ Most of the newer neighbourhoods developed in the past 20 years have above average household incomes, particularly those located in or close to the river valley, in southwest Edmonton or in the West End.

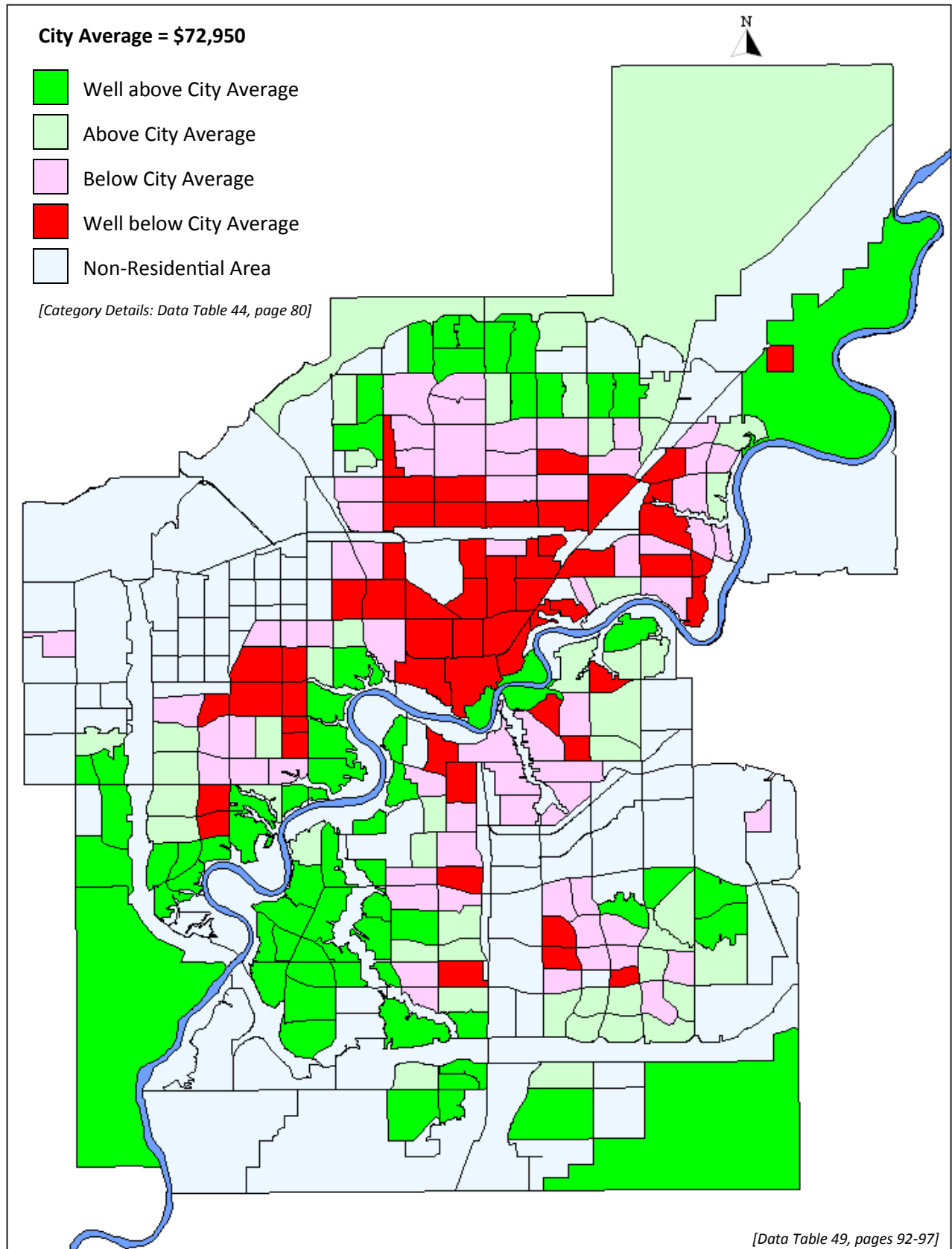
**Table 44: Neighbourhood Map Categories for Average Household Income**

Category	Percentage Difference from City Average	Average Household Income Range	Number of Neighbourhoods
Well above City Average	> 20% higher	Greater than \$87,540	69
Above City Average	0 to 20% higher	\$72,950 to \$87,540	47
Below City Average	0 to 20% lower	\$58,360 to \$72,949	66
Well below City Average	> 20% lower	Less than \$58,360	55

[Source: Statistics Canada]

**Note:** This map measures the extent to which neighbourhoods are above or below the City average in average household in-

## Average Household Income, Edmonton City Neighbourhoods, 2006



# Change in Average Household Income

**the TRENDS:** ↓ ⊖ four in five of Edmonton’s mature neighbourhoods experienced slower than average growth in average household income

This map measures the change in average household income in Edmonton’s mature neighbourhoods between 1986 to 2006.

- ◆ On average, using current dollars not adjusted for inflation, average household incomes in Edmonton increased by 105.4% in the twenty years between 1986 and 2006.
- ◆ Only 18 mature neighbourhoods saw an increase in household income well above the City-wide average (increases above 125.4%) between 1986 and 2006. By contrast, over five times as many mature neighbourhoods (88) saw income increases well below City-wide average (increases below 85.4%) during the same time period.
- ◆ With only one exception (Weinlos in the Millwoods district), all the mature neighbourhoods that saw significantly higher increases in average household incomes relative to the City average were located either in or adjacent to the river valley or ravine system. The river valley communities of Rosssdale, Cloverdale and Riverdale saw among the highest proportional increases in household incomes.
- ◆ Other than the river valley communities, there is little evidence of “gentrification” in Edmonton’s lower income neighbourhoods. Almost all neighbourhoods with low household incomes in 1986 continued to have low household incomes in 2006. Most lower income neighbourhoods actually lost ground in the past twenty years when it comes to the rate of change in average household income compared to the City average.
- ◆ There is also a clear trend for higher income households to live in the City’s new neighbourhoods (those developed since 1986). On average in 2006, households in new neighbourhoods had average incomes 36% higher than households in mature neighbourhoods. The withdrawal of federal and provincial government dollars to build affordable housing in the 1990s may have contributed to this trend of mainly higher end market housing being built in new neighbourhoods. Higher end housing is affordable only to those with higher incomes.

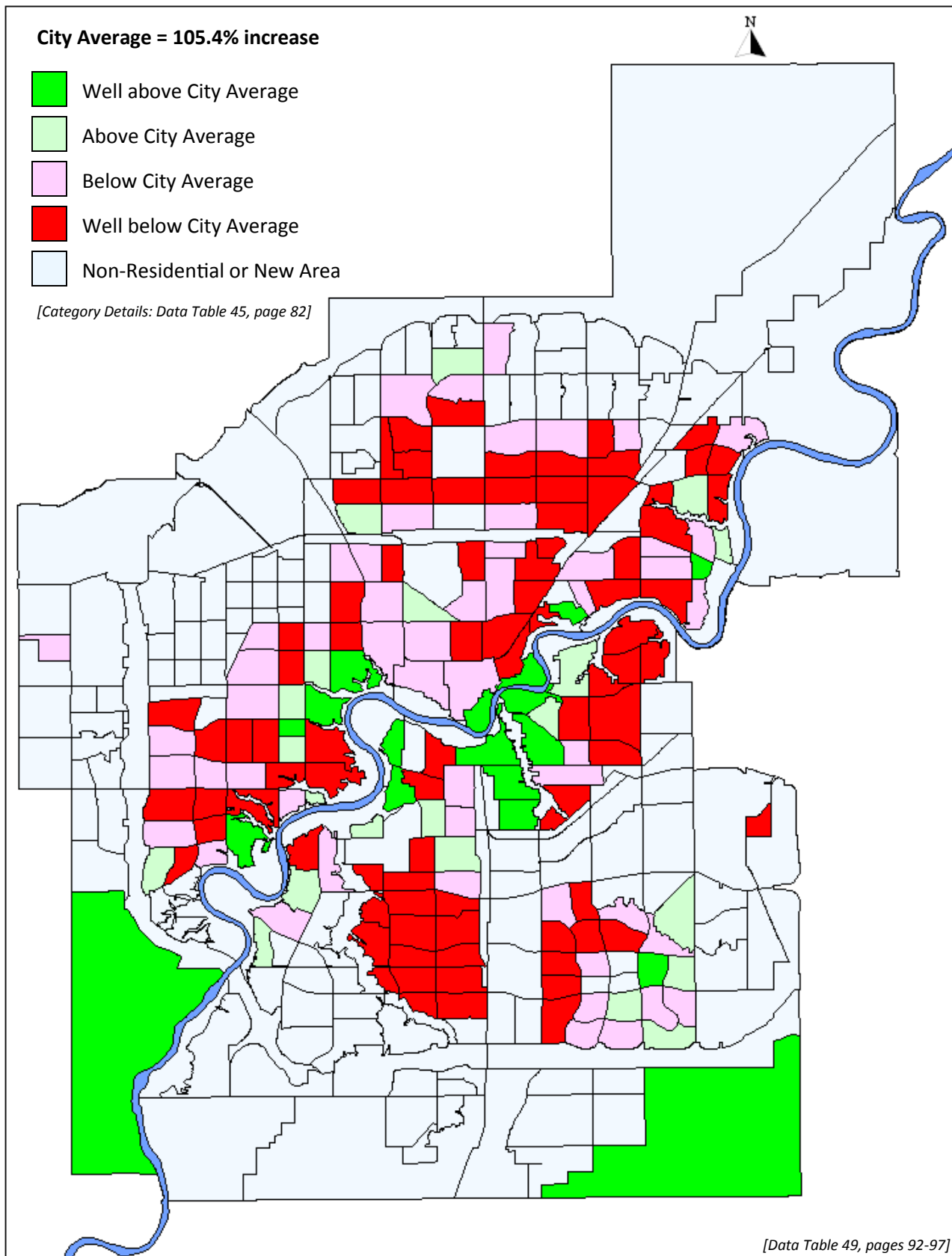
**Table 45: Neighbourhood Map Categories for Change in Average Household Income**

Category	Percentage Difference from City Average	Change in Household Income Range	Number of Neighbourhoods
Well below City Average	> 20% lower	below 85.4%	88
Below City Average	0 to 20% lower	85.4% to 105.3%	52
Above City Average	0 to 20% higher	105.4% to 125.4%	21
Well above City Average	> 20% higher	over 125.4%	18

[Source: Statistics Canada]

**Background:** This map measures changes in average household income over a twenty year period between 1986 to 2006.

## Change in Average Household Income, Mature Neighbourhoods, Edmonton City, 1986-2006



# Average Household Income, by Decile

the TRENDS:   income gap between neighbourhoods widening

Income inequality not only exists at an individual level, but also at the neighbourhood level. This becomes clear when neighbourhoods are compared by average household income.

- The top 10% of neighbourhoods earned an average household income of \$169,000 in 2006.
- In contrast, the bottom 10% of neighbourhoods earned an average household income of \$43,968; that is \$125,802 less than the top earning neighbourhoods.
- In terms of the growth in the value of household incomes over time, the income of the bottom 10% of neighbourhoods increased just \$4,273 (*in 2006 constant dollars*) from 1986 to 2006. The income value of the top 10% of neighbourhoods, on the other hand, increased \$36,529.

[Refer to Section D for other income data]

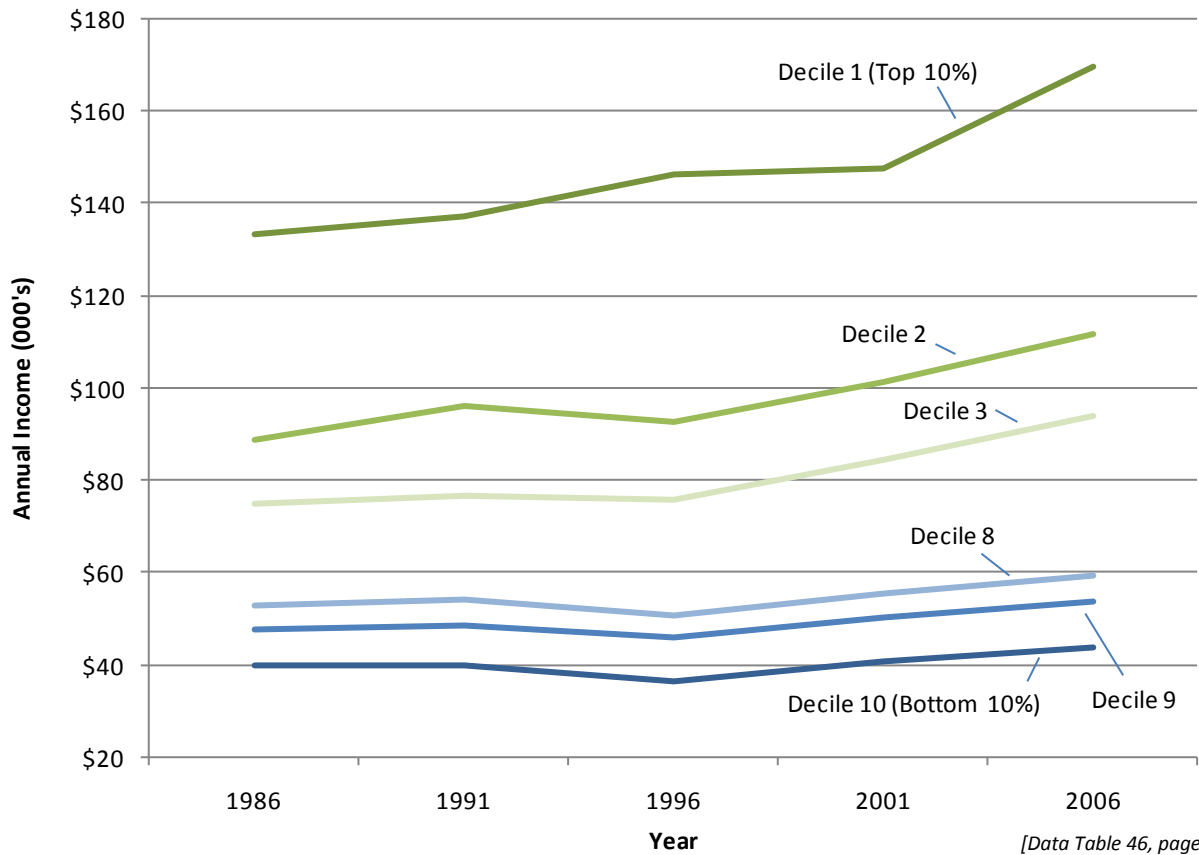
**Table 46: Average Household Income of Edmonton Neighbourhoods, by Income Decile (\$2006 Constant)**

Decile	1986	1991	1996	2001	2006	Change (1986-2006)
10	\$39,695	\$40,057	\$36,238	\$40,737	\$43,968	\$4,273
9	\$47,688	\$48,276	\$45,708	\$50,223	\$53,823	\$6,136
8	\$52,878	\$54,010	\$50,830	\$55,594	\$59,220	\$6,342
7	\$57,493	\$58,443	\$54,621	\$59,583	\$64,408	\$6,915
6	\$60,683	\$62,003	\$58,162	\$63,310	\$69,193	\$8,510
5	\$64,039	\$65,643	\$61,717	\$67,687	\$75,032	\$10,993
4	\$68,398	\$70,018	\$66,393	\$73,539	\$81,443	\$13,045
3	\$74,922	\$76,881	\$75,864	\$84,433	\$94,200	\$19,278
2	\$88,774	\$96,377	\$92,689	\$101,386	\$111,857	\$23,083
1	\$133,241	\$137,360	\$146,138	\$147,690	\$169,770	\$36,529
<b>Gap (1 - 10)</b>	<b>\$93,546</b>	<b>\$97,303</b>	<b>\$109,900</b>	<b>\$106,953</b>	<b>\$125,802</b>	

[Sources: City of Edmonton & Statistics Canada]



## Average Household Income of Edmonton Neighbourhoods, by Income Decile (\$2006 Constant)



# Housing Tenure

**the TRENDS:** ◆ ◎ about one in seven Edmonton neighbourhoods have a high proportion of renter households

Neighbourhoods with higher levels of home rentals tend to have a less stable population as renters typically move more frequently than home owners. Moreover, renters tend to have lower incomes than homeowners, adding to neighbourhood instability. There are dramatic differences between neighbourhoods in terms of housing tenure.

- ◆ In the City as a whole in 2006, 37.1% of households rented the accommodation in which they resided, while 62.9% owned their homes.
- ◆ There are 33 neighbourhoods where the proportion of households renting is more than well above the City average (over 55.65% renters). Of those neighbourhoods, nine have more than double the City average proportion of renter households (Empire Park, Central McDougall, Boyle Street, Greisbach, Westwood, Queen Alexandra, Inglewood, Garneau, Queen Mary Park).
- ◆ Ninety-four city neighbourhoods have a proportion of renters well below the City average (less than 18.55% renters), including ten neighbourhoods with no rental accommodation whatsoever. Many of these are new neighbourhoods developed in the last twenty years. This is part of a long-term trend in Edmonton (and elsewhere) away from renting and toward home ownership.
- ◆ The three mobile home park neighbourhoods on the periphery of Edmonton (Evergreen, Westview and Maple Ridge) bear special mention. According to the definition used by Statistics Canada, these neighbourhoods all have high levels of home ownership varying from 90% to 95%. However, other than owning the mobile home unit itself, some other features of trailer parks more closely reflect the tenure of renters rather than owners. This includes absentee ownership of the trailer park itself, and mobile home owners' lack of control over the land on which their units sit.

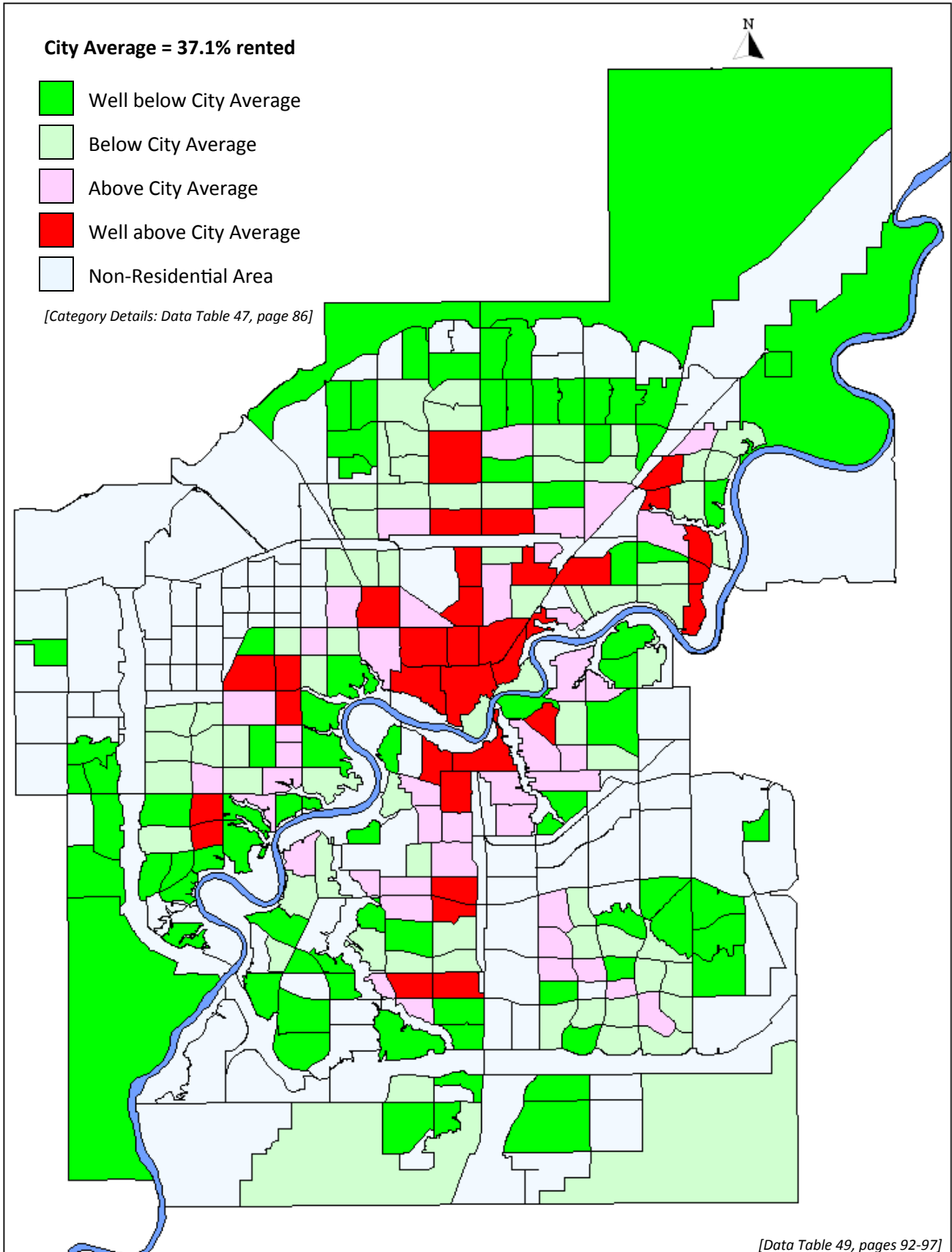
**Table 47: Neighbourhood Map Categories for Housing Tenure (Proportion of Dwellings Rented)**

Category	Percentage Difference from City Average	Proportion of Renters Range	Number of Neighbourhoods
Well below City Average	> 50% lower	below 18.55%	94
Below City Average	0 to 50% lower	18.55% to 37.1%	71
Above City Average	0 to 50% higher	37.2% to 55.65%	43
Well above City Average	> 50% higher	over 55.65%	33

[Source: Statistics Canada]

**Note:** This map measures to what extent neighbourhoods are above or below the City average when it comes to the proportion of households that rent their homes.

# Proportion of Dwellings Rented, Edmonton City Neighbourhoods, 2006



# Unemployment

**the TRENDS:** ♦ ◎ about one in nine Edmonton neighbourhoods had unemployment rates over 7.35%

This map shows the unemployment rates of Edmonton neighbourhoods in 2006 (based on the 2006 Census). The 2006 Census was conducted at the height of Alberta’s economic boom during a time of strong economic growth and low unemployment. Even neighbourhoods with low household incomes significantly below the City average had historically low levels of unemployment.

- ♦ The City of Edmonton had an unemployment rate of 4.9% in 2006.
- ♦ In 2006, only three neighbourhoods in the entire City had unemployment rates in double-digits with McCauley being the highest at 13%, followed by Virginia Park and Clareview Campus. 28 neighbourhoods in total had unemployment rates more than 50% above the City average.
- ♦ An anomaly of the recent economic boom is that several neighbourhoods with relatively high unemployment rates also had average household incomes significantly above the City average (e.g. Westbrook Estates, Winderemere Estates). Conversely, several low income neighbourhoods had below average unemployment rates (e.g. Prince Rupert, Montrose).
- ♦ With Edmonton’s unemployment rate almost doubling since the 2006 Census was conducted, the picture today is likely quite different. The pattern where the unemployment rate is consistently higher in lower income neighbourhoods could well be re-establishing itself. The reason for this is that many residents of low income neighbourhoods are likely to work in low pay jobs with minimal benefits or job security. The recent dramatic increase in employment insurance claims [see page 69] is evidence that the trend of low income and higher unemployment may be re-establishing itself.

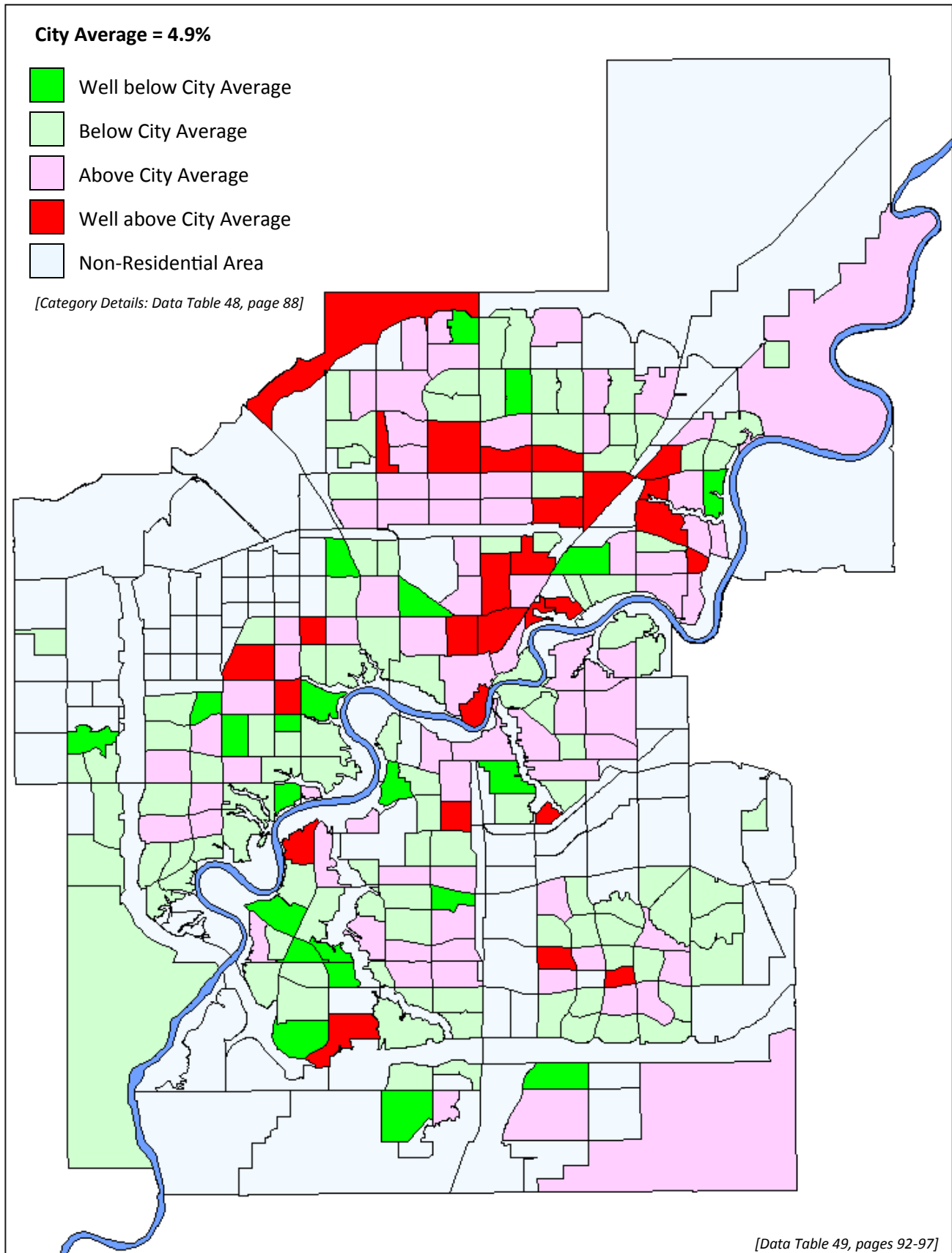
**Table 48: Neighbourhood Map Categories for Unemployment Rate**

Category	Percentage Difference from City Average	Proportion of Renters Range	Number of Neighbourhoods
Well below City Average	> 50% lower	below 2.45%	30
Below City Average	0 to 50% lower	2.45% to 4.8%	106
Above City Average	0 to 50% higher	4.9% to 7.35%	79
Well above City Average	> 50% higher	above 7.35%	28

[Source: Statistics Canada]

**Note:** This map measures the unemployment rate in Edmonton neighbourhoods as gathered by the 2006 Census using a methodology similar to that used in Statistics Canada’s monthly Labour Force Surveys.

## Unemployment Rate, Edmonton City Neighbourhoods, 2006



# Section B | Neighbourhood Vulnerability Index

**the TRENDS:** ◆ ◎ about one in ten Edmonton neighbourhoods are rated as most vulnerable

## About the Neighbourhood Vulnerability Index

This vulnerability ranking is intended to stimulate discussion, not be the final word. And there were some intangibles such as the timing of the 2006 Census at the height of the recent economic boom. This timing altered the normal pattern of lower income neighbourhoods having higher unemployment rates, and higher income neighbourhoods to have lower rates, in some cases. For instance, one of the City’s highest income neighbourhoods, Westbrook Estates, also had one of its highest unemployment rates in 2006, thereby negatively impacting its ranking.

With over 230 neighbourhoods ranked, the use of colour-coded maps – while broadly accurate – can occasionally be misleading in the case of a specific neighbourhood. For instance, if a neighbourhood was slightly below average on all five indicators its vulnerability might be overestimated. This is one of the reasons we have provided all of the underlying data upon which this ranking is based, as well as the specific numerical ranking. *[Refer to Table 50, pages 92-97]*

## How Do Edmonton Neighbourhoods Look?

When all of the measures of neighbourhood vulnerability are combined, a picture emerges of a City divided by socio-economic status and equality of opportunity.

With few exceptions, neighbourhoods that rank low in terms of one of the measures of vulnerability tend to rank low in terms of all of them. Residents in the most vulnerable neighbourhoods experience significantly above average rates of poverty and unemployment. The most vulnerable neighbourhoods also tend to have household incomes and rates of home ownership significantly below average.

Fourteen of the 23 most vulnerable neighbourhoods are located in north central Edmonton, and in the mature areas of northeast Edmonton. There is also a cluster of ‘most vulnerable’ neighbourhoods in the old Jasper Place area, in the Callingwood area, and in the older neighbourhoods in Millwoods.

Twenty-one of the 23 most vulnerable neighbourhoods are on the north side of the river. Of the two neighbourhoods on the south side, Garneau may be an anomaly. With its high student population and high proportion of renters, the low incomes of many its residents may be a short-term phenomenon, compared to the north central neighbourhoods where vulnerability is more deeply entrenched.

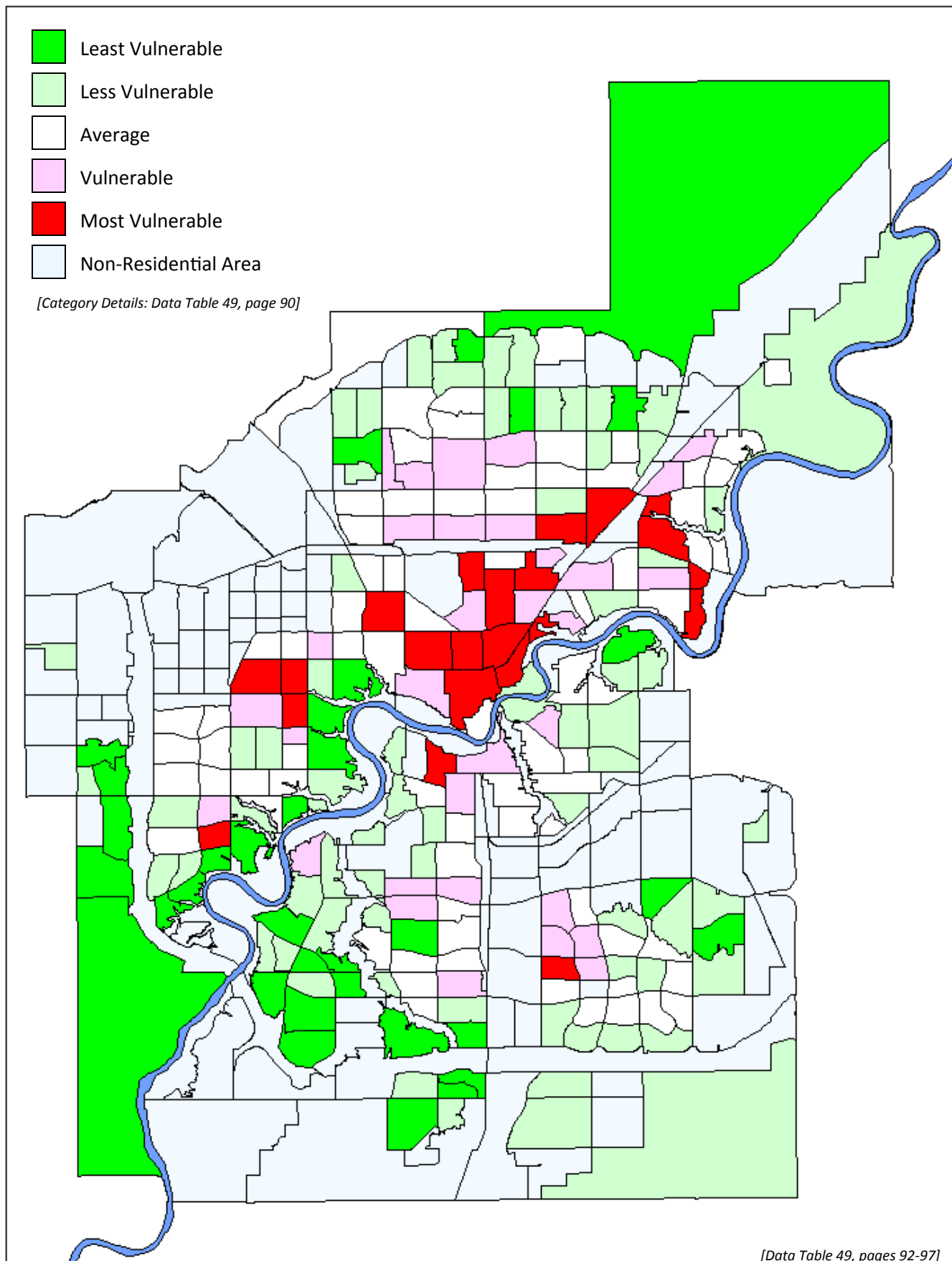
**Table 49: Neighbourhood Map Categories for Vulnerability Index**

Category	Index Rank Range	Number of Neighbourhoods
Least Vulnerable	0 to 1	34
Less Vulnerable	2 to 5	72
Average	6 to 9	77
Vulnerable	10 to 13	32
Most Vulnerable	14 to 15	23

*[Source: Statistics Canada]*

**NOTE:** The Neighbourhood Vulnerability Index has deliberately given a double weighting to low income (poverty) rates —both the household and family low income rates are included in the index. This double weighting was given because of the importance of poverty as a determinant of overall wellbeing. Refer to the note on page 92 for more detail regarding the calculation of the index.

# Neighbourhood Vulnerability Index, Edmonton City Neighbourhoods, 2006



# Data Tables | Part 2

**Table 50: Data Presented in Section 2 Maps, Edmonton Neighbourhoods**

Neighbourhood	Low Income Households (%)	Low Income Families (%)	Average Household Income	% Increase Avg. Income (1986– 2006)	Housing Tenure (% Renters)	Unemployment Rate	Vulnerability Index
<b>CITY OF EDMONTON</b>	<b>13.4%</b>	<b>9.4%</b>	<b>\$72,950</b>	<b>105.4%</b>	<b>37.1%</b>	<b>4.9%</b>	<b>0</b>
ABBOTSFIELD	34.1%	35.1%	\$44,924	132.7%	68.9%	9.0%	15
ALBERTA AVENUE	23.1%	16.4%	\$48,536	87.1%	41.0%	8.2%	14
ALDERGROVE	9.7%	9.2%	\$81,313	96.3%	34.1%	6.8%	6
ALLENDALE	14.7%	4.0%	\$59,785	100.3%	46.4%	7.8%	9
ARGYLL	7.6%	4.5%	\$65,914	57.0%	16.4%	8.9%	6
ASPEN GARDENS	8.0%	5.3%	\$98,791	56.8%	5.6%	2.6%	3
ATHLONE	14.3%	12.2%	\$66,852	116.4%	24.0%	5.4%	9
AVONMORE	8.1%	4.2%	\$67,821	56.4%	13.1%	3.1%	4
BALWIN	26.7%	21.9%	\$53,872	74.2%	43.7%	7.5%	14
BANNERMAN	15.4%	13.6%	\$67,530	84.2%	25.1%	4.1%	8
BARANOW	14.1%	12.9%	\$48,019	75.6%	35.2%	8.1%	11
BATURYN	8.0%	5.1%	\$96,240	123.9%	13.5%	5.4%	4
BEACON HEIGHTS	16.3%	11.4%	\$58,040	99.3%	27.6%	5.6%	10
BEARSPAW	5.9%	3.7%	\$101,570	0.3%	4.1%	4.6%	1
BEAUMARIS	10.0%	7.8%	\$70,250	69.1%	24.9%	3.2%	6
BELGRAVIA	7.7%	4.8%	\$132,177	138.6%	24.2%	2.4%	3
BELLE RIVE	6.5%	5.8%	\$99,748	N/A	3.5%	2.4%	1
BELLEVUE	13.2%	9.8%	\$69,082	87.6%	26.7%	4.2%	7
BELMEAD	11.5%	10.3%	\$75,868	90.2%	27.1%	3.0%	6
BELMONT	13.4%	11.6%	\$71,794	116.6%	29.8%	4.9%	9
BELVEDERE	23.0%	19.8%	\$44,183	60.7%	50.9%	7.5%	14
BERGMAN	11.8%	8.1%	\$72,340	95.5%	13.2%	4.8%	5
BEVERLY HEIGHTS	11.1%	7.3%	\$60,961	78.1%	34.5%	6.1%	7
BISSET	8.5%	6.7%	\$72,317	115.7%	33.6%	5.3%	7
BLACKBURNE	4.7%	4.1%	\$105,355	N/A	6.1%	4.2%	1
BLACKMUD CREEK	5.1%	3.9%	\$111,452	N/A	2.6%	6.6%	2
BLUE QUILL	12.7%	8.5%	\$65,584	68.4%	63.3%	4.9%	9
BLUE QUILL ESTATES	9.2%	7.8%	\$93,500	59.0%	40.9%	4.2%	5
BONNIE DOON	14.8%	8.2%	\$72,251	125.4%	52.0%	5.8%	9
BOYLE STREET	36.0%	24.5%	\$34,462	69.3%	89.0%	6.7%	14
BRANDER GARDENS	15.6%	12.6%	\$82,572	59.1%	39.1%	7.8%	10
BRECKENRIDGE GREENS	9.3%	7.3%	\$105,317	N/A	1.5%	2.5%	3
BRINTNELL	6.7%	5.4%	\$82,295	N/A	3.0%	5.2%	5
BRITANNIA YOUNGSTOWN	21.6%	16.6%	\$47,225	86.8%	59.4%	8.1%	15
BROOKSIDE	8.1%	5.0%	\$144,102	104.3%	19.0%	4.9%	5
BULYEA HEIGHTS	7.9%	7.4%	\$257,264	N/A	0.9%	2.9%	3
CAERNARVON	17.6%	13.2%	\$68,558	78.1%	22.2%	5.7%	9
CALDER	18.0%	14.2%	\$54,047	91.0%	52.6%	6.6%	12
CALLINGWOOD NORTH	12.4%	8.2%	\$50,926	57.2%	59.1%	5.8%	10

\* N/A: Not Available / Insufficient data

[Source: Statistics Canada]

**Note:** The index is based on Household Low Income Rate [page 76], Family Low Income Rate [page 78], Average Household Income [page 80], Housing Tenure [page 86], and Unemployment Rate [page 76]. For each indicator, neighbourhoods were assigned points from 0 (low vulnerability) to 3 (high vulnerability); the points for the five indicators were then summed to derive an index values of 0 to 15. The least vulnerable neighborhoods have score of 0 to 1. The most vulnerable neighbourhoods have a score of 14



# Data Tables | Part 2, cont'd...

Table 50, cont'd...

Neighbourhood	Low Income Households (%)	Low Income Families (%)	Average Household Income	% Increase Avg. Income (1986– 2006)	Housing Tenure (% Renters)	Unemployment Rate	Vulnerability Index
CALLINGWOOD							
SOUTH	24.0%	23.1%	\$47,064	57.6%	72.3%	5.4%	14
CAMERON HEIGHTS	0.0%	0.0%	\$0	N/A	12.5%	0.0%	N/A
CANON RIDGE	12.3%	9.4%	\$64,654	117.4%	21.4%	5.1%	8
CANORA	23.9%	15.6%	\$43,131	84.0%	68.0%	4.9%	14
CANOSSA	5.6%	3.4%	\$94,767	N/A	2.2%	5.4%	2
CAPILANO	4.1%	1.8%	\$88,957	78.1%	4.2%	4.0%	1
CARLISLE	19.8%	17.3%	\$66,360	77.9%	31.3%	6.5%	10
CARLTON	3.1%	2.0%	\$87,404	N/A	5.0%	3.2%	2
CARTER CREST	5.1%	4.9%	\$116,819	N/A	1.9%	1.9%	1
CASSELMAN	11.6%	10.8%	\$59,883	87.8%	32.7%	4.2%	7
CENTRAL							
MCDUGALL	38.1%	30.9%	\$32,773	78.9%	89.0%	7.6%	15
CHAMBERY	1.4%	0.0%	\$108,835	N/A	0.0%	6.6%	2
CLAREVIEW CAMPUS	15.0%	3.9%	\$55,409	N/A	59.2%	12.6%	11
CLOVERDALE	8.0%	0.0%	\$130,537	313.1%	16.0%	3.8%	2
CRAWFORD PLAINS	5.5%	5.3%	\$86,127	111.1%	20.0%	4.7%	4
CRESTWOOD	3.0%	1.4%	\$157,303	149.0%	14.4%	2.3%	0
CROMDALE	28.1%	23.0%	\$41,470	72.2%	68.0%	7.4%	15
CUMBERLAND	4.6%	3.8%	\$92,480	N/A	8.1%	3.8%	1
DALY GROVE	10.0%	11.4%	\$74,501	99.5%	23.9%	4.8%	6
DECHENE	7.5%	7.1%	\$112,391	84.2%	1.7%	2.6%	3
DELTON	14.1%	9.0%	\$58,606	89.7%	25.6%	4.6%	7
DELWOOD	7.8%	3.7%	\$69,085	68.3%	10.7%	3.9%	4
DONSDALE	2.7%	3.2%	\$198,677	N/A	2.9%	3.4%	1
DOVERCOURT	8.5%	7.1%	\$67,861	88.6%	20.8%	1.6%	5
DOWNTOWN	25.4%	14.4%	\$47,168	90.5%	70.9%	5.1%	14
DUGGAN	12.0%	10.5%	\$76,891	82.9%	36.0%	5.3%	7
DUNLUCE	14.6%	12.5%	\$69,515	86.5%	34.0%	4.9%	9
EASTWOOD	26.5%	20.6%	\$40,242	73.5%	63.3%	8.5%	15
EAUX CLAIRES	5.4%	4.1%	\$74,935	N/A	6.4%	3.7%	2
EKOTA	14.1%	11.5%	\$74,648	99.0%	28.6%	3.4%	7
ELLERSLIE	8.0%	5.2%	\$75,531	N/A	5.2%	2.4%	3
ELLERSLIE AREA	0.0%	15.4%	\$175,177	N/A	0.0%	0.0%	3
ELMWOOD	9.0%	6.2%	\$70,847	102.7%	28.3%	5.2%	7
ELMWOOD PARK	17.5%	9.7%	\$44,919	57.8%	40.4%	3.9%	10
ELSINORE	2.0%	0.0%	\$103,417	N/A	0.0%	1.3%	0
EMPIRE PARK	22.0%	13.6%	\$48,877	86.7%	92.6%	7.2%	13
ERMINESKIN	17.7%	12.3%	\$52,424	49.7%	70.0%	5.6%	12
EVANSDALE	23.0%	20.3%	\$66,720	100.3%	43.0%	6.9%	12
EVERGREEN	13.2%	12.0%	\$49,927	N/A	10.8%	4.2%	7
FALCONER HEIGHTS	4.8%	1.7%	\$101,483	N/A	23.3%	3.7%	2
FOREST HEIGHTS	9.7%	6.1%	\$73,081	110.7%	38.5%	5.2%	7
FRASER	13.5%	10.6%	\$73,575	86.8%	29.6%	4.7%	7
FULTON PLACE	7.2%	6.2%	\$76,400	79.5%	13.8%	5.8%	5
GARIEPY	3.8%	4.1%	\$122,694	97.0%	2.7%	3.7%	1
GARNEAU	33.1%	15.9%	\$49,083	69.5%	76.6%	7.2%	14
GLASTONBURY	4.6%	3.4%	\$102,186	N/A	3.6%	3.1%	1

# Data Tables | Part 2, cont'd...

Table 50, cont'd...

Neighbourhood	Low Income Households (%)	Low Income Families (%)	Average Household Income	% Increase Avg. Income (1986– 2006)	Housing Tenure (% Renters)	Unemployment Rate	Vulnerability Index
GLENGARRY	10.9%	4.1%	\$58,552	61.5%	28.5%	6.0%	6
GLENORA	6.1%	3.4%	\$142,560	153.3%	17.3%	4.3%	1
GLENWOOD	22.1%	15.5%	\$50,762	89.4%	53.4%	6.7%	13
GOLD BAR	7.0%	5.9%	\$73,890	70.7%	26.0%	4.3%	5
GRANDVIEW HEIGHTS	5.5%	3.3%	\$179,396	112.7%	5.7%	5.6%	2
GREENFIELD	4.6%	2.6%	\$95,642	61.1%	7.8%	4.0%	1
GREENVIEW	6.2%	6.1%	\$97,120	105.3%	14.2%	4.1%	2
GRIESBACH	19.1%	14.1%	\$61,790	N/A	84.5%	9.5%	13
GROVENOR	10.4%	7.8%	\$77,806	110.0%	25.6%	4.5%	5
HADDOW	3.4%	2.7%	\$132,099	N/A	1.9%	3.3%	1
HAIRSINE	14.4%	12.1%	\$59,096	65.1%	33.2%	4.5%	8
HAZELDEAN	8.2%	4.1%	\$67,346	128.0%	40.5%	4.2%	6
HENDERSON ESTATES	1.9%	2.5%	\$190,524	124.0%	0.0%	5.3%	2
HERITAGE VALLEY AREA	0.0%	0.0%	\$0	N/A	25.0%	0.0%	N/A
HIGH PARK	9.9%	7.3%	\$65,342	83.7%	19.3%	4.9%	7
HIGHLANDS	10.7%	6.3%	\$78,150	68.7%	26.2%	4.0%	5
HILLVIEW	15.3%	13.9%	\$69,153	81.9%	33.3%	4.5%	8
HODGSON	4.9%	2.2%	\$115,240	N/A	2.6%	1.1%	0
HOLLICK-KENYON	3.4%	2.9%	\$91,105	N/A	1.0%	4.7%	1
HOLYROOD	5.9%	3.8%	\$70,200	85.0%	36.8%	5.3%	5
HOMESTEADER	21.5%	20.8%	\$57,351	76.3%	46.3%	7.4%	14
HUDSON	8.1%	5.7%	\$82,181	N/A	3.8%	3.2%	4
IDYLWYLDE	10.0%	7.1%	\$56,555	88.1%	43.1%	4.4%	8
INGLEWOOD	23.8%	17.1%	\$44,401	87.2%	77.9%	6.1%	14
JACKSON HEIGHTS	4.8%	3.2%	\$103,606	N/A	3.2%	3.7%	1
JAMIESON PLACE	6.7%	5.7%	\$101,680	121.0%	4.6%	4.3%	3
JASPER PARK	6.8%	2.0%	\$58,197	112.5%	47.0%	4.7%	7
KAMEYOSEK	18.1%	19.1%	\$69,186	105.1%	38.0%	6.1%	11
KEHEEWIN	8.4%	6.4%	\$74,175	78.9%	17.0%	3.8%	4
KENILWORTH	4.5%	2.5%	\$73,238	61.3%	32.2%	6.1%	4
KENSINGTON	12.0%	6.5%	\$55,076	39.0%	29.4%	6.3%	8
KERNOHAN	9.0%	8.4%	\$78,310	84.4%	13.5%	1.7%	3
KILDARE	13.3%	7.3%	\$51,429	44.5%	31.9%	8.3%	9
KILKENNY	13.0%	10.7%	\$65,615	88.3%	36.9%	4.2%	7
KILLARNEY	16.7%	9.4%	\$55,724	101.4%	60.9%	6.7%	12
KING EDWARD PARK	12.3%	5.7%	\$58,650	96.9%	45.2%	7.2%	8
KINISKI GARDENS	5.8%	5.0%	\$83,820	121.4%	8.1%	4.5%	3
KIRKNESS	13.7%	14.0%	\$61,579	78.5%	38.6%	5.4%	10
KLARVATTEN	6.6%	4.9%	\$89,908	N/A	3.8%	2.9%	2
LA PERLE	17.3%	13.0%	\$67,417	71.4%	30.8%	4.2%	8
LAGO LINDO	8.0%	6.0%	\$88,019	93.6%	9.0%	3.1%	3
LAKE DISTRICT NE PORTION	29.1%	28.6%	\$82,425	N/A	0.0%	6.9%	9

# Data Tables | Part 2, cont'd...

Table 50, cont'd...

Neighbourhood	Low Income Households (%)	Low Income Families (%)	Average Household Income	% Increase Avg. Income (1986–2006)	Housing Tenure (% Renters)	Unemployment Rate	Vulnerability Index
LANSDOWNE	8.0%	4.9%	\$95,637	35.8%	37.4%	3.5%	5
LARKSPUR	8.2%	6.6%	\$95,639	N/A	4.3%	3.6%	3
LAUDERDALE	17.5%	12.1%	\$51,837	N/A	59.3%	6.9%	12
LAURIER HEIGHTS	3.0%	1.3%	\$123,961	66.6%	26.6%	4.2%	2
LEE RIDGE	23.9%	20.6%	\$60,600	64.5%	30.4%	4.5%	10
LEGER	7.0%	8.6%	\$124,630	N/A	0.0%	3.8%	3
LENDRUM PLACE	9.0%	5.7%	\$76,703	71.2%	28.7%	4.5%	5
LORELEI	17.8%	14.0%	\$68,786	87.0%	24.0%	4.1%	8
LYMBURN	12.5%	11.3%	\$78,825	81.5%	18.2%	4.1%	5
LYNNWOOD	9.4%	4.4%	\$62,927	80.1%	50.0%	4.0%	6
MACEWAN	5.1%	3.5%	\$78,098	N/A	20.9%	4.3%	3
MACTAGGART AREA	0.0%	0.0%	\$0	N/A	0.0%	8.0%	N/A
MALMO PLAINS	22.6%	20.9%	\$61,584	44.2%	46.3%	5.7%	12
MAPLE RIDGE	10.0%	7.5%	\$58,829	76.3%	7.4%	3.0%	5
MATT BERRY	5.3%	5.0%	\$100,618	N/A	1.2%	5.2%	3
MAYFIELD	15.5%	11.0%	\$63,409	85.4%	16.8%	3.4%	7
MAYLIEWAN	6.0%	5.2%	\$95,265	N/A	2.3%	2.8%	2
MCCAULEY	37.2%	19.3%	\$34,528	79.6%	72.8%	13.0%	15
MCKERNAN	17.6%	5.9%	\$67,237	80.2%	51.2%	2.8%	8
MCLEOD	6.3%	4.9%	\$80,054	72.6%	4.7%	5.3%	4
MCQUEEN	14.6%	9.4%	\$61,341	93.4%	52.2%	7.7%	11
MEADOWLARK PARK	10.9%	7.2%	\$81,234	65.2%	10.0%	4.6%	4
MENISA	8.0%	7.5%	\$84,449	97.3%	10.8%	3.6%	4
MEYOKUMIN	7.2%	6.1%	\$73,531	108.7%	27.7%	5.2%	6
MEYONOHK	11.2%	10.1%	\$70,361	83.3%	13.2%	6.2%	7
MICHAELS PARK	11.6%	12.3%	\$65,580	60.5%	20.0%	2.6%	7
MILL WOODS TOWN CENTRE	8.1%	4.3%	\$43,007	N/A	45.4%	8.0%	9
MILLER	3.5%	4.3%	\$77,876	N/A	15.9%	3.0%	2
MINCHAU	9.7%	9.3%	\$75,058	95.4%	19.3%	5.4%	6
MONTROSE	23.5%	17.3%	\$51,134	97.8%	59.3%	2.2%	12
NE Industrial	0.0%	0.0%	N/A	N/A	N/A	6.9%	N/A
NEWTON	16.6%	12.1%	\$62,149	81.2%	17.6%	6.6%	8
NORTH GLENORA	8.5%	5.6%	\$74,531	65.9%	27.2%	5.7%	6
NORTHMOUNT	8.4%	4.5%	\$71,883	82.7%	18.2%	9.1%	6
NW Industrial	23.8%	13.6%	\$56,457	N/A	28.6%	0.0%	9
OGILVIE RIDGE	4.2%	2.8%	\$166,592	N/A	5.6%	2.1%	0
OLESKIW	2.0%	1.7%	\$239,550	203.3%	5.1%	2.7%	1
OLIVER	21.3%	11.8%	\$54,093	97.7%	71.2%	4.2%	12
ORMSBY PLACE	12.3%	10.4%	\$79,363	104.3%	23.9%	6.1%	7
OTTEWELL	6.9%	3.6%	\$73,821	62.7%	18.1%	6.1%	4
OVERLANDERS	13.0%	8.8%	\$60,227	98.2%	68.7%	5.8%	9
OXFORD	5.9%	3.8%	\$98,319	N/A	5.2%	5.2%	2
OZERNA	10.1%	9.3%	\$84,367	N/A	6.0%	4.1%	4
PARKALLEN	9.3%	1.9%	\$76,805	124.4%	38.3%	4.7%	5
PARKDALE	26.7%	18.6%	\$47,063	80.0%	30.4%	6.8%	12

# Data Tables | Part 2, cont'd...

Table 50, cont'd...

Neighbourhood	Low Income Households (%)	Low Income Families (%)	Average Household Income	% Increase Avg. Income (1986–2006)	Housing Tenure (% Renters)	Unemployment Rate	Vulnerability Index
PARKVIEW	3.1%	3.5%	\$113,666	74.8%	7.8%	3.4%	1
PATRICIA HEIGHTS	12.7%	10.2%	\$76,344	61.6%	49.3%	4.2%	7
PLEASANTVIEW	16.1%	7.8%	\$64,579	108.0%	51.4%	3.7%	8
POLLARD MEADOWS	9.6%	7.8%	\$65,114	88.7%	39.4%	6.5%	8
POTTER GREENS	5.5%	4.3%	\$121,091	N/A	1.9%	2.6%	1
PRINCE CHARLES	9.9%	7.2%	\$54,568	65.1%	35.3%	3.2%	7
PRINCE RUPERT	16.5%	12.3%	\$51,501	117.9%	38.3%	2.0%	9
QUEEN ALEXANDRA	23.2%	7.6%	\$48,378	90.7%	77.9%	6.8%	12
QUEEN MARY PARK	30.7%	21.2%	\$41,303	94.5%	76.3%	5.3%	14
QUESNELL HEIGHTS	0.0%	0.0%	\$235,452	123.7%	8.0%	5.5%	2
RAMSAY HEIGHTS	7.1%	6.2%	\$133,770	115.9%	28.8%	3.6%	4
RHATIGAN RIDGE	3.2%	3.4%	\$176,643	98.0%	1.4%	2.1%	0
RICHFIELD	27.7%	26.1%	\$57,776	66.9%	45.4%	3.9%	12
RICHFORD	0.0%	0.0%	\$120,655	N/A	0.0%	0.0%	0
RIDEAU PARK	11.1%	8.6%	\$61,968	47.3%	56.7%	2.0%	7
RIO TERRACE	0.0%	2.5%	\$121,691	100.8%	4.0%	2.1%	0
RITCHIE	15.7%	5.9%	\$59,031	130.5%	45.1%	2.4%	7
RIVERDALE	11.0%	7.8%	\$88,793	194.2%	26.3%	3.0%	4
ROSSDALE	14.3%	8.9%	\$104,055	341.3%	33.3%	7.8%	7
ROSSLYN	7.7%	3.4%	\$56,699	59.7%	30.7%	6.0%	7
ROYAL GARDENS	19.2%	14.1%	\$66,654	67.0%	45.2%	4.4%	10
RUNDLE HEIGHTS	23.9%	23.1%	\$56,597	95.3%	56.2%	6.1%	14
RURAL NORTH EAST							
NORTH STURGEON	0.0%	0.0%	\$76,239	N/A	11.5%	0.0%	1
RURAL NORTH EAST							
SOUTH STURGEON	7.8%	6.5%	\$146,658	N/A	8.0%	6.2%	4
RURAL NORTH WEST	8.6%	6.6%	\$81,506	N/A	4.3%	9.4%	6
RURAL SOUTH EAST	9.4%	0.0%	\$99,287	176.4%	33.3%	5.4%	4
RURAL WEST	0.0%	0.0%	\$207,017	365.5%	7.9%	2.6%	1
RURAL WEST BIG							
LAKE	0.0%	0.0%	\$0			0.0%	N/A
RUTHERFORD	2.1%	1.2%	\$122,723	N/A	6.1%	2.2%	0
SAKAW	8.7%	8.9%	\$74,698	98.8%	22.9%	4.6%	5
SATOO	10.5%	9.3%	\$76,158	72.7%	20.6%	4.0%	5
SE Industrial	9.4%	13.3%	\$63,223	N/A	38.5%	0.0%	7
SHERBROOKE	12.6%	11.1%	\$67,937	102.8%	35.1%	4.6%	7
SHERWOOD	18.4%	17.2%	\$56,247	127.9%	50.4%	2.1%	10
SIFTON PARK	26.8%	25.2%	\$54,090	82.6%	62.4%	9.7%	15
SILVER BERRY	4.9%	3.6%	\$79,592	N/A	6.5%	3.3%	2
SKYRATTLER	10.9%	7.3%	\$64,029	67.9%	47.3%	2.9%	7
SPRUCE AVENUE	14.3%	9.9%	\$56,269	105.1%	56.5%	5.6%	12
STEINHAUER	16.0%	14.4%	\$84,712	54.3%	23.6%	6.0%	9
STRATHCONA	20.9%	12.2%	\$64,560	134.8%	70.8%	5.6%	12
STRATHEARN	15.4%	8.6%	\$55,034	113.0%	65.4%	4.0%	10
SUDER GREENS	2.9%	0.0%	\$78,695	N/A	2.8%	1.6%	1
SUMMERLEA	11.3%	8.4%	\$63,343	27.6%	34.3%	5.4%	7
SUMMERSIDE	3.2%	2.3%	\$95,002	N/A	4.5%	5.8%	2

# Data Tables | Part 2, cont'd...

Table 50, cont'd...

Neighbourhood	Low Income Households (%)	Low Income Families (%)	Average Household Income	% Increase Avg. Income (1986–2006)	Housing Tenure (% Renters)	Unemployment Rate	Vulnerability Index
SWEET GRASS	14.6%	13.2%	\$86,909	84.1%	34.3%	5.0%	8
TAWA	4.9%	0.0%	\$67,354	N/A	16.9%	3.0%	3
TERRA LOSA	9.2%	5.5%	\$54,652	N/A	25.6%	1.6%	6
TERRACE HEIGHTS	11.1%	4.7%	\$56,710	75.3%	55.2%	6.2%	9
TERWILLEGAR SOUTH	0.0%	0.0%	\$118,792	N/A	3.2%	1.2%	0
TERWILLEGAR TOWNE	4.1%	3.2%	\$114,028	N/A	6.7%	3.2%	1
THE HAMPTONS	2.2%	0.0%	\$88,887	N/A	13.0%	2.5%	1
THORNCLIFF	14.7%	12.4%	\$63,304	98.7%	50.8%	3.9%	9
TIPASKAN	22.4%	19.4%	\$57,507	73.8%	45.9%	8.6%	14
TWEDDLE PLACE	19.1%	14.7%	\$66,418	91.1%	38.5%	6.3%	11
TWIN BROOKS	5.4%	4.4%	\$135,830	N/A	3.0%	2.9%	1
VIRGINIA PARK	17.2%	8.7%	\$53,127	130.1%	53.5%	12.8%	11
WEDGEWOOD HEIGHTS	0.0%	0.0%	\$150,827	N/A	0.0%	4.5%	1
WEINLOS	7.2%	5.6%	\$80,321	131.2%	24.7%	4.6%	5
WELLINGTON	12.6%	9.8%	\$59,232	65.2%	33.9%	4.1%	7
WEST JASPER PLACE	23.3%	12.4%	\$45,518	112.4%	69.6%	8.4%	14
WEST MEADOWLARK PARK	7.5%	3.0%	\$60,738	83.3%	32.5%	2.0%	4
WESTBROOK ESTATES	12.1%	12.2%	\$153,795	54.0%	34.0%	6.3%	6
WESTMOUNT	17.7%	12.4%	\$60,310	97.4%	44.6%	4.8%	9
WESTRIDGE	12.1%	10.0%	\$182,238	70.7%	2.0%	3.3%	4
WESTVIEW VILLAGE	9.9%	6.1%	\$62,146	92.1%	2.9%	4.5%	5
WESTWOOD	30.1%	19.0%	\$39,983	78.1%	79.4%	6.9%	14
WILD ROSE	4.8%	4.2%	\$95,475	N/A	2.4%	2.5%	1
WINDERMERE ESTATES	0.0%	0.0%	\$0		0.0%	7.4%	N/A
WINDSOR PARK	11.5%	6.2%	\$181,652	130.3%	17.7%	2.6%	3
WOODCROFT	13.8%	6.2%	\$48,969	78.5%	55.4%	2.7%	9
YORK	11.5%	7.1%	\$64,406	78.7%	35.9%	4.7%	6

# Part 3 | Edmonton Social Health Index

All of the data presented in Parts 1 and 2 give a comprehensive look at multiple social factors that affect Edmontonians. However, it can be difficult to gain a cohesive sense of how the city has changed from such a wide and varied array of data.

The Edmonton Social Health Index is an attempt to generate such an overarching view based on a selection of key social features.

## Social Health Indicators

In this edition of *Tracking the Trends*, we have chosen to augment the original 15 social health indicators included in the index in the 2007 edition. Ten additional indicators have been added to make the index more comprehensive and, therefore, a better measure of Edmonton's overall social health.

The 25 indicators can be grouped into five broad categories:

- ♦ Population Growth and Health
- ♦ Personal and Family Stability
- ♦ Personal and Family Financial Security
- ♦ Community Safety
- ♦ Participation and Environment

## Calculation of the Index

To calculate the index, the data for each indicator is *normalized*; this means that it is converted from a raw number to a rate representing the number of instances per unit of the population. The normalized data are then converted to an index value based on the benchmark year of 1993. As the situation improves or worsens over time for each indicator, the indicator value rises or falls in response. The index values are then aggregated on an annual basis to form the composite index. The index thereby reflects the collective changes in the individual indicator values.

The composite index gives equal weight to each indicator. We extrapolate values for years in which data is missing for an indicator in order to ensure that this equal weighting is maintained for all years. Projections and estimates are clearly indicated in all tables and charts.

## the TREND Markers

### the TREND Direction

- ↑ Numbers/value increasing
- ↓ Numbers/value decreasing
- ◆ No historical trend / situation stable

### the TREND Value

- ⊕ positive trend / situation improving
- ⊖ negative trend / situation worsening
- ⊙ neutral / positive and negative aspects

# Section A | Social Health Indicators

- the TRENDS:**
- ⊖ population health trends mixed
  - ⊕ personal and family stability improved overall
  - ⊕ financial stability trends generally improved or stable
  - ⊕ community safety improved overall
  - ⊖ participation and environment trends mixed

## Why is the Social Health Index Important?

A composite index provides an opportunity to gain an overall impression of the social health of a city. In addition, the indicators included represent some of the effects of the social trends discussed throughout this document. For example:

- ◆ Life expectancy and premature deaths give a basic indication of quality of life and population health.
- ◆ Suicide rates may reflect the level of social cohesion in a community.
- ◆ Child welfare caseloads and family disputes may reflect levels of stress in marginalized families.

- ◆ Crime rates are a basic indication of community safety.
- ◆ Voter turnout may reflect the level of citizen participation in the community.

The values comprising the index are, of course, not an exhaustive list of social health indicators. However, they do help us to gain a general sense of how Edmonton's overall social health is changing.

Combined with the social and economic indicators in Part 1, the index will help us to make informed judgments of the overall social health of Edmonton.

## The 25 Social Health Indicators

The following 25 key indicators measure different aspects of personal, family and community well-being.

### Population Health

- 1 Life Expectancy
- 2 Premature Deaths
- 3 Low Birth-Weight Babies
- 4 Infant Mortality (*NEW*)
- 5 Sexually Transmitted Infections

### Personal & Family Stability

- 6 Suicide Rate
- 7 Crisis Support Calls
- 8 Teen Birth Rate
- 9 Child & Family Services Caseloads
- 10 Reports of Family Disputes
- 11 Divorced / Separated Families (*NEW*)

### Personal & Family Financial Security

- 12 Median Family Income (*NEW*)
- 13 Personal Bankruptcy Rate
- 14 Food Bank Use
- 15 Percentage of Families Living Below LICO
- 16 Depth of Poverty (*NEW*)
- 17 Lone-Parent Households
- 18 Core Housing Need (*NEW*)
- 19 Unemployment Rate (*NEW*)
- 20 Post-Secondary Educational Attainment (*NEW*)
- 21 Student Dropout Rate (*NEW*)

### Community Safety

- 22 Property Crime Rate
- 23 Violent Crime Rate

### Participation & Environment

- 24 Voter Turnout (*NEW*)
- 25 Commuting by Transit, Bike, or Walking (*NEW*)

# Population Health

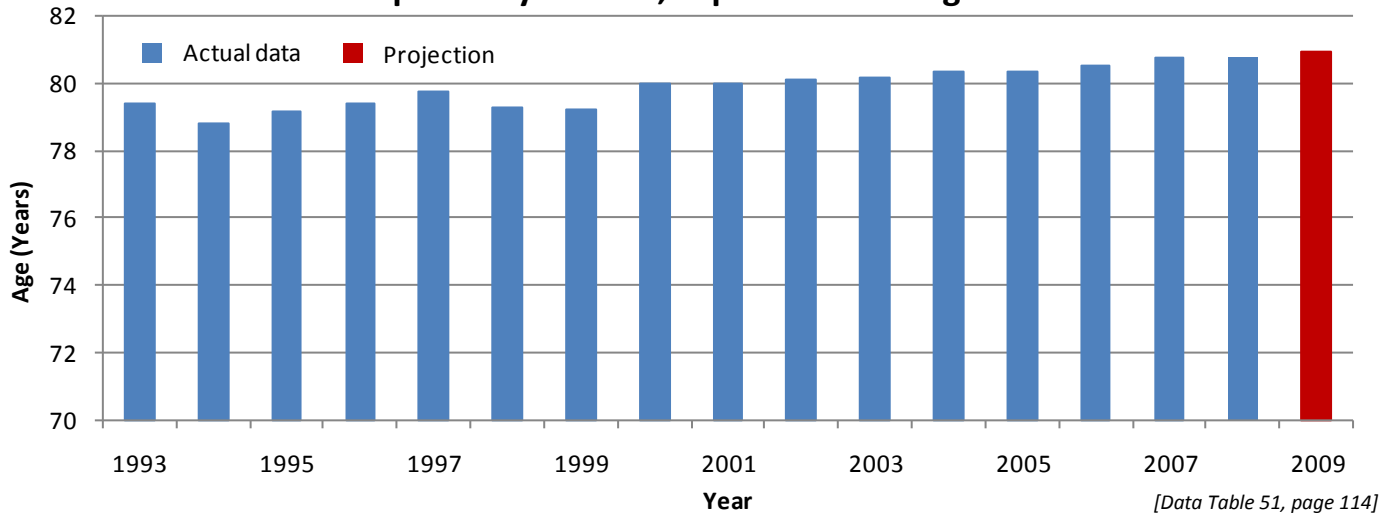


- the TRENDS:**
- ↑ ⊕ life expectancy increased
  - ↓ ⊕ premature deaths declining

Three out of five indicators of population growth and health have deteriorated over the past decade.

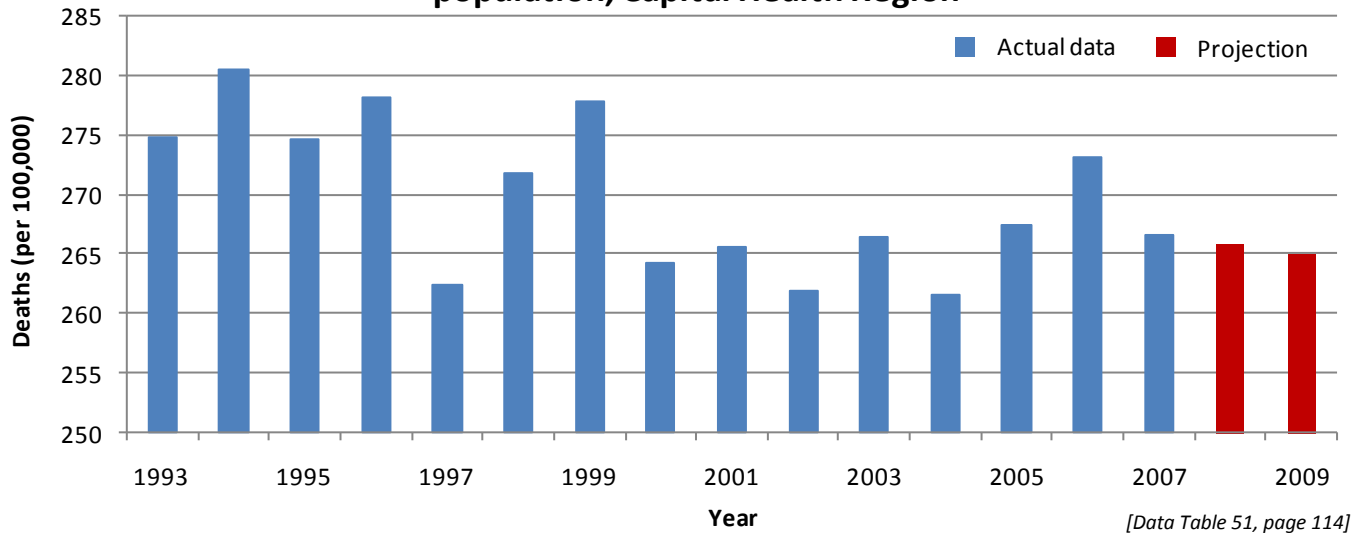
- ♦ The average life expectancy of Capital Health Region residents increased by 1.5 years from 1998 to 2008.
- ♦ Based on the rate of change from 1993 to 2008, we expect life expectancy to continue to increase in 2009.

**Life Expectancy at Birth, Capital Health Region**



- ♦ While there was some fluctuation over the past decade, the rate of premature deaths (deaths before the age of 75) in the Capital Health Region decreased 1.6% between 1997 and 2007.
- ♦ Based on the overall rate of change from 1993 to 2007, we project that premature deaths will decrease in 2008 and 2009.

**Number of Premature Deaths (before 75 years), per 100,000 population, Capital Health Region**





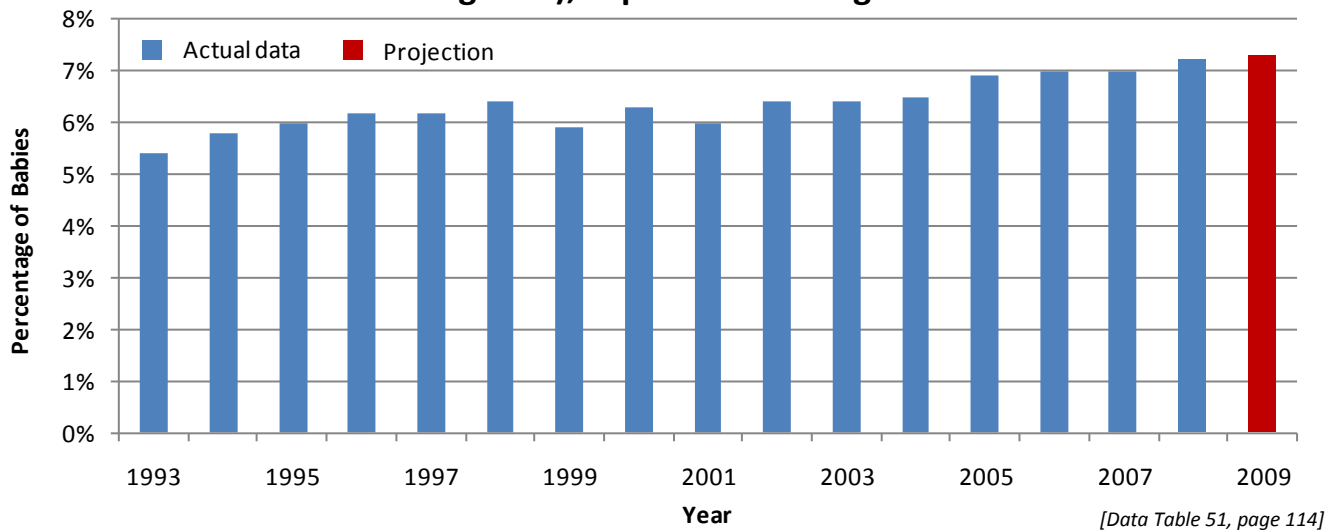
# Population Health, *cont'd...*

- the TRENDS:**
- ↑ ⊖ low birth-weight incidence increasing
  - ↑ ⊖ infant mortality increased

Between 1998 and 2008, the proportion of low birth-weight babies born in the Capital Health Region increased 0.8 percentage points.

- ◆ Based on the overall rate of change from 1993 to 2008, we project the proportion of babies born with low birth weights will increase slightly in 2009.

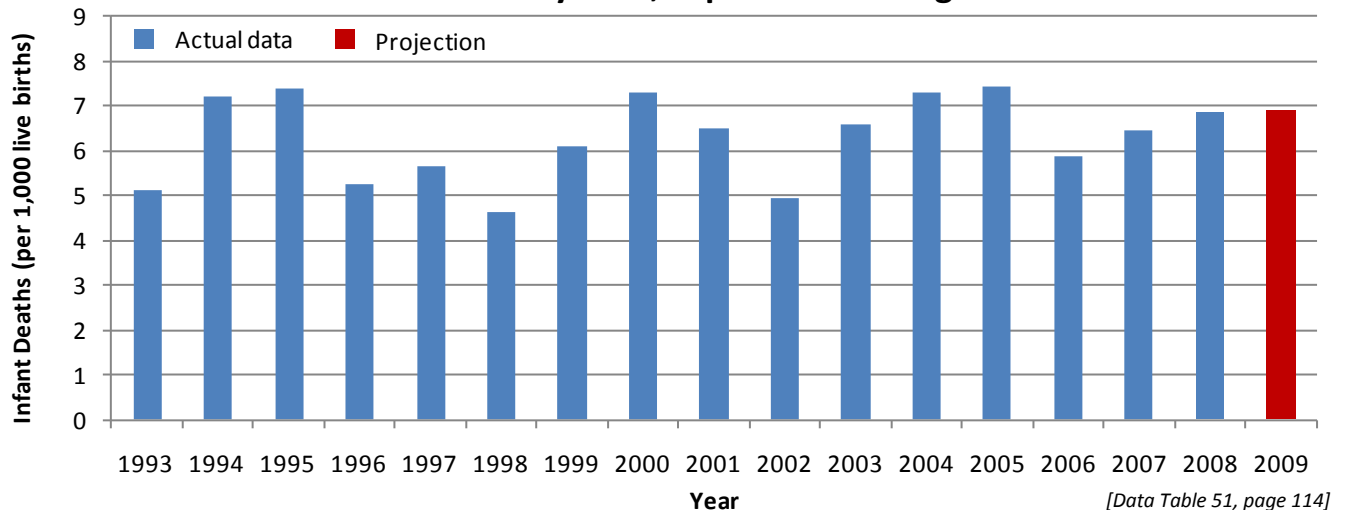
**Percentage of Low Birth-Weight Babies (Live Births less than 2,500 grams), Capital Health Region**



The infant mortality rate in the Capital Health Region was 47.5% higher in 2008 than in 1998.

- ◆ Based on the overall rate of change from 1993 to 2007, we project that the infant mortality rate will increase slightly in 2009.

**Infant Mortality Rate, Capital Health Region**

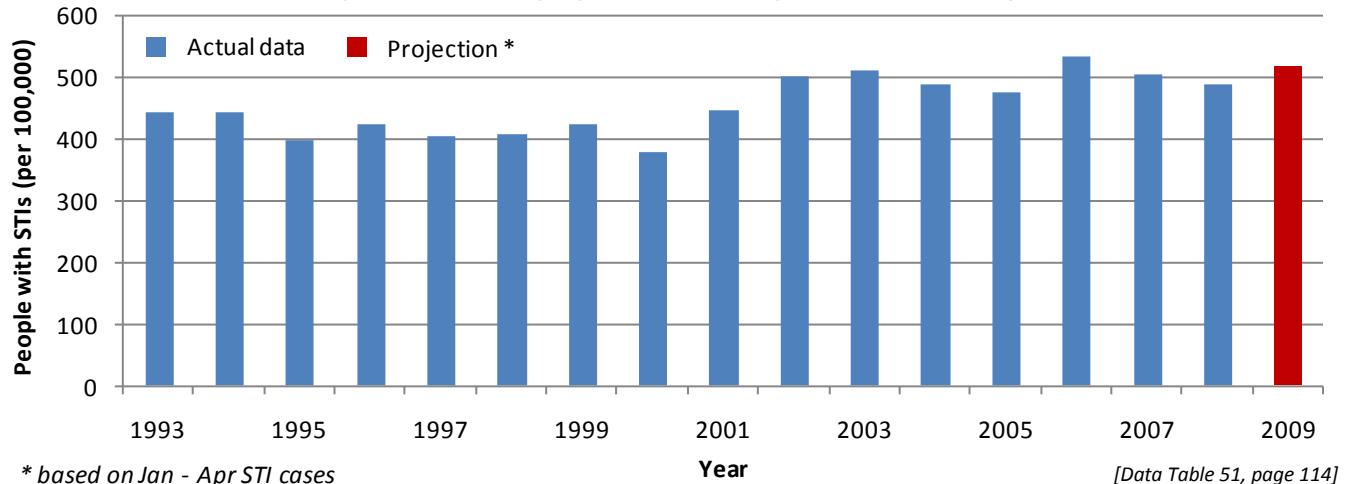


# Population Health, cont'd...

the TRENDS: ↑ ⊖ incidence of sexually transmitted infections increasing

- ♦ The overall rate of Sexually Transmitted Infections (STIs) increased 20.4% from 1998 to 2008.
- ♦ Based on the number of STI cases recorded from January to April 2009, we expect STIs to become more prevalent in 2009.

**Number of Sexually Transmitted Infections  
(per 100,000 population), Capital Health Region**



**Note:** Comparisons between 1993-1999 data and 2000-2006 data should be made with caution. Earlier data (obtained from the 2002 Edition of Tracking the Trends) is for the City of Edmonton, while 2000 onward is for the Capital Health Region. Data prior to 2000 was unavailable for the Health Region.

# Personal & Family Stability

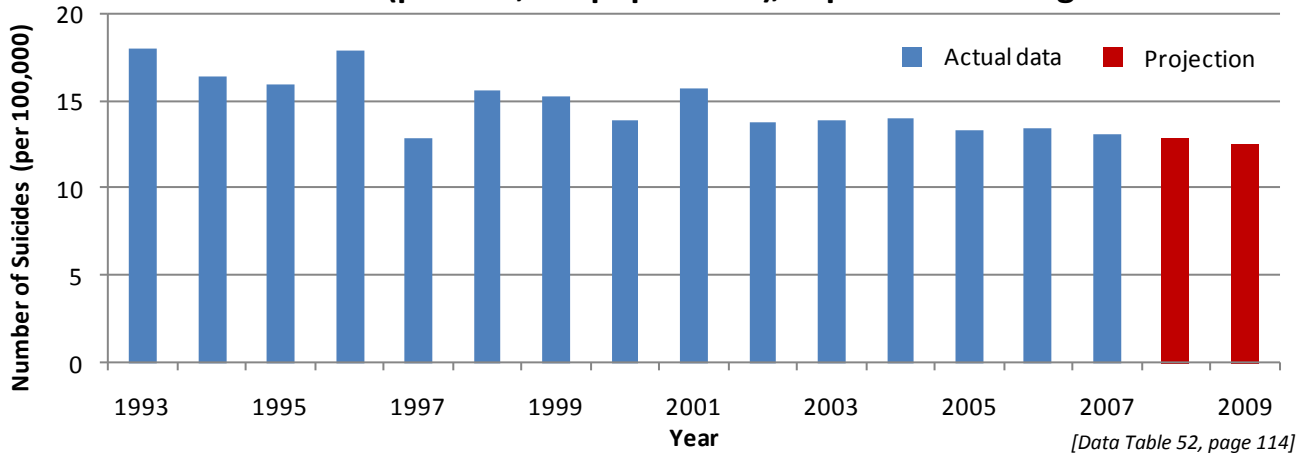


- the TRENDS:**
- ↓ ⊕ suicide rate decreased
  - ↓ ⊕ crisis support calls declining

The trends for five out of the six indicators of personal and family stability experienced by individuals and families are positive.

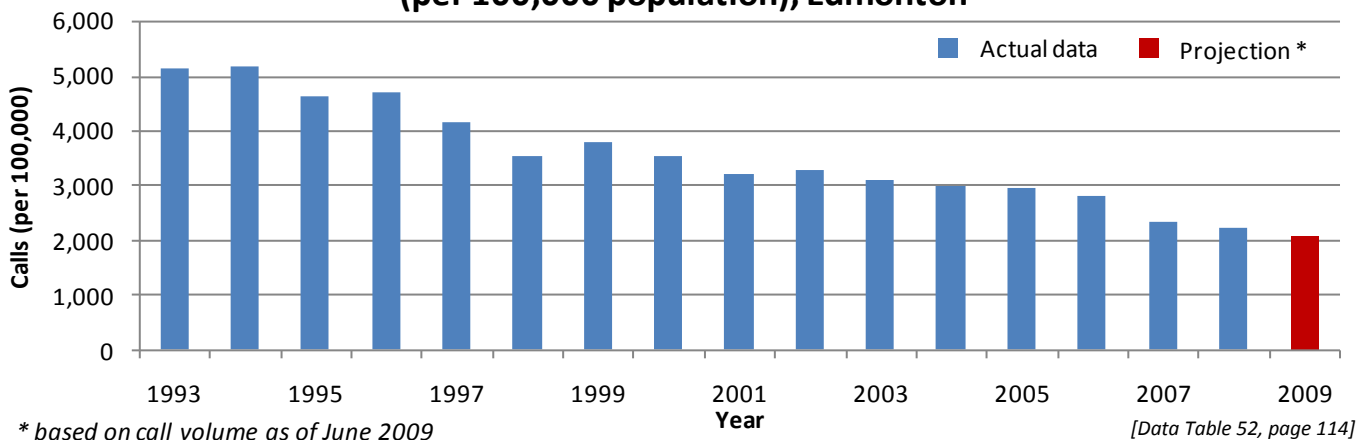
- ♦ The suicide rate for the Capital Health Region decreased 16.1% between 1998 and 2007.
- ♦ Based on the rate of change from 1993 to 2007, we project that the suicide rate will decrease in 2008 and 2009.

**Suicide Rate (per 100,000 population), Capital Health Region**



- ♦ Crisis-related calls received by the Support Network decreased 37.8% over the ten years from 1998 to 2008.
- ♦ Based on the volume of calls received as of June 2009, we project that the number of crisis support calls received by the Support Network will decrease slightly in 2009.
- ♦ The decline in crisis support calls may, in part, be a result of the Support Network's launch of 211 Edmonton—which has gained a high profile—and its online Live Crisis Chat service, in 2004.
- ♦ The Support Network has observed that while the number of calls are decreasing, the proportion of high-risk (e.g. suicide, violence) and multiple-risk calls has increased.

**Crisis Support Calls Received by The Support Network (per 100,000 population), Edmonton**



**Note:** Data from 2001-2009 includes distress-related calls to the 211 call line (formerly the Information & Referral Line). The Support Network estimates that 10% to 15% of calls to 211 are crisis-related—we have assumed a 10% distress call rate to 211.

# Personal & Family Stability, *cont'd...*

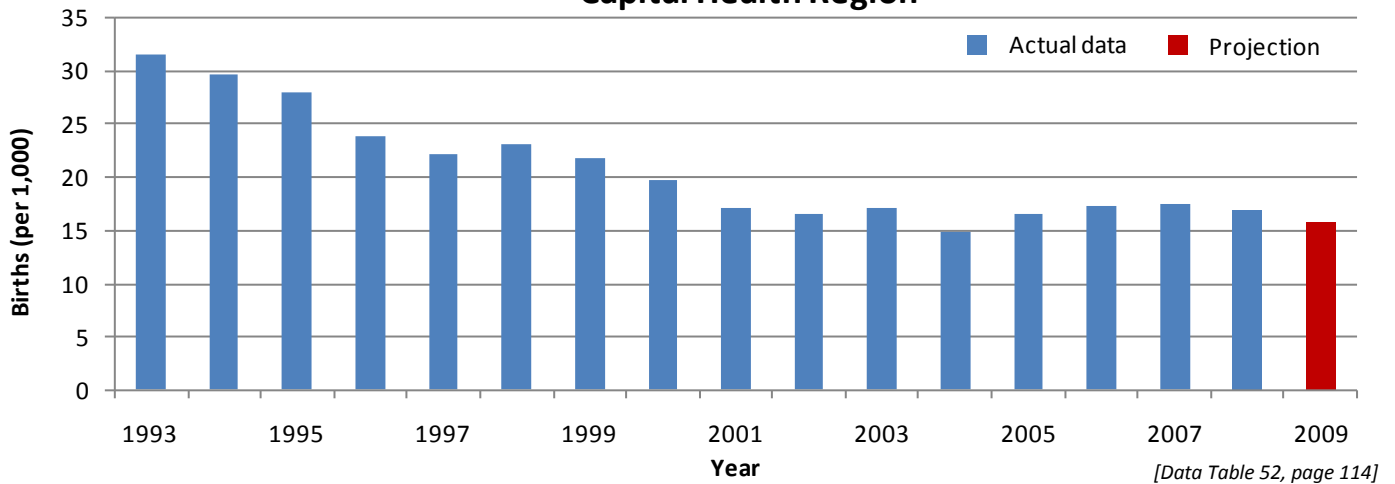


- the TRENDS:**
- ↓ ⊕ teen births decreasing
  - ↓ ⊕ child & family services cases declining

The incidence of teen births decreased 26.9% from 1998 to 2008.

- ◆ Based on the overall rate of change from 1993 to 2008, we project that the teen birth rate will decrease in 2009.

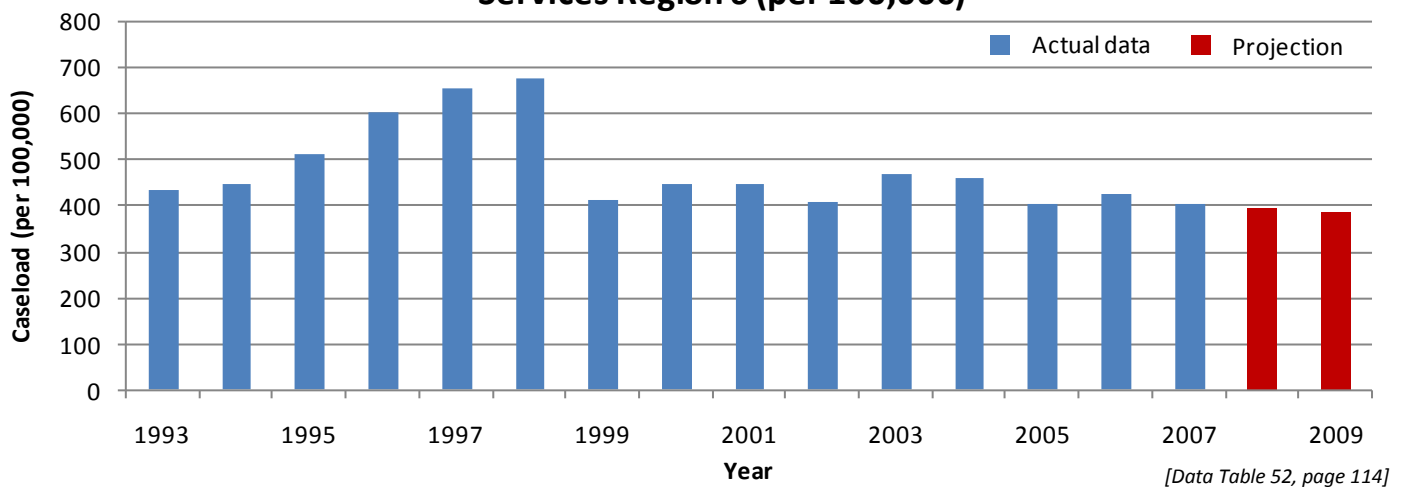
**Teen Birth Rate (per 1,000 females aged 15-19 years),  
Capital Health Region**



The average monthly caseload for Child and Family Services in the Edmonton Region decreased 38.3% from 1997 to 2007.

- ◆ Based on the overall rate of change from 1993 to 2007, we project that the average monthly caseload will decrease in 2008 and 2009.

**Average Monthly Child & Family Services Caseloads, Child & Family  
Services Region 6 (per 100,000)**



**Note:** Figures are based on fiscal years - for example, 2005 represents the 2005/06 fiscal year.

**Note:** Region boundaries changed 1998/99 and 2003/04, so comparisons before and after these changes must be made with some caution. Rates are based on population estimates of the region boundaries reported by Edmonton & Area Child & Family Services.

# Personal & Family Stability, *cont'd...*

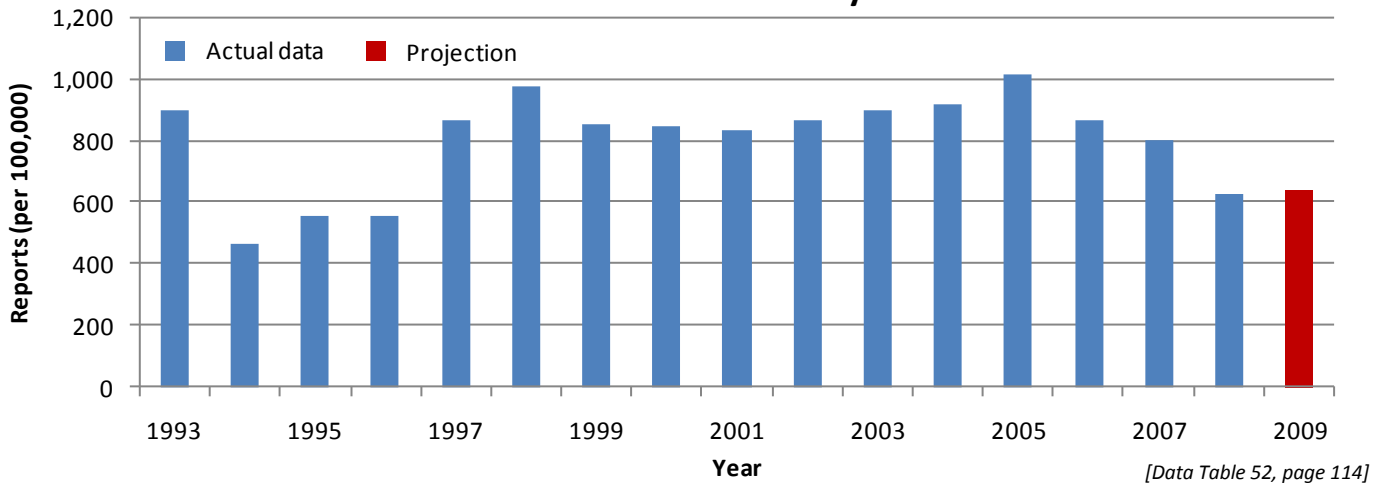


- the TRENDS:**
- ↓ ⊕ family disputes decreasing
  - ◆ ⊙ number of divorced and separated persons stable

The rate of family disputes reported to the Edmonton Police Service declined 35.5% from 1998 to 2008.

- ◆ Based on the overall rate of change from 1993 to 2008, we project that reported family disputes will increase slightly in 2009.

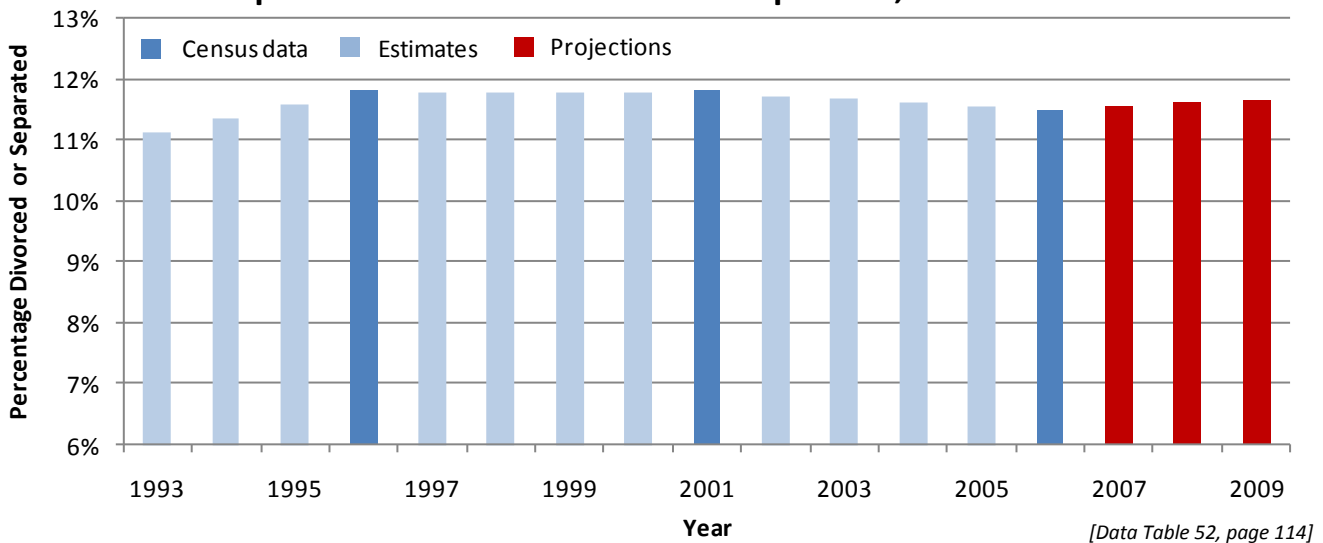
**Reports of Family Disputes to Edmonton Police Service (per 100,000),  
Edmonton City**




Between the 1996 and 2006 census, the proportion of persons who were divorced or separated remained relatively stable, decreasing by a minor 0.3 percentage points.

- ◆ Based on the overall rate of change from 1991 to 2006 [see Table 52, page 114], we project that the proportion of divorced or separated people will increase slightly by the next census in 2011.

**Proportion of Persons Divorced or Separated, Edmonton CMA**



# Financial Security

- 
- the TRENDS:*
- ↑ ⊕ median family income increased (*graph on page 42*)
  - ↓ ⊕ fewer persons living in low income families (*graph on page 54*)
  - ↓ ⊕ depth of poverty reduced slightly (*graph on page 56*)
  - ◆ ⊙ number of lone-parent families same (*graph on page 5*)
  - ◆ ⊙ core housing need stable (*graph on page 31*)
  - ↑ ⊖ unemployment rate recently increased (*graph on page 19*)
  - ↑ ⊕ educational attainment increased (*graph on page 16*)
  - ↓ ⊕ student dropout rate decreased (*graph on page 14*)

Generally, Edmontonians have experienced improved financial stability over the past decade, as evidenced by the data presented in earlier sections:

- ◆ The median family income increased 26.7% between 1997 and 2007, to \$55,600 per year. [*see page 42*]
- ◆ The proportion of families living below the Low Income Cut-off After-tax (LICO AT) decreased 13.6 percentage points from 1997 to 2007; 8.8% of families in Edmonton lived in poverty in 2007. [*see page 54*]
- ◆ The average depth of poverty decreased \$200 between 1997 and 2007; the average low income family earned \$8,000 per year less than the LICO AT. [*see page 56*]
- ◆ There were 25,000 lone-parent families living in Edmonton in 2007—the same number as in 1997. [*see page 5*] As shown on page 54, lone-parent families are more likely to be living in low income than other family types.
- ◆ The proportion of households in core housing need declined slightly from 11.0% in 1997 to 10.6% in 2007. [*see page 31*]
- ◆ The current economic downturn has led to a significant increase in unemployment. The unemployment rate in Edmonton in July 2009 was 7.2%; this change effectively erased the progress made between 1998 and 2008, during which time the unemployment rate declined 2.4 percentage points to 3.7%. [*see page 19*]
- ◆ The proportion of Edmonton's population that had completed some form of post-secondary education increased from 38.8% in 1996 to 52.3% in 2006. [*see page 16*] As discussed on page 13, educational attainment has a significant impact on the earning potential and financial stability of individuals.
- ◆ The average student drop out rate for Edmonton's Public and Catholic school systems decreased 0.9 percentage points between the 1997/98 and 2007/08 school years. [*see page 14*]

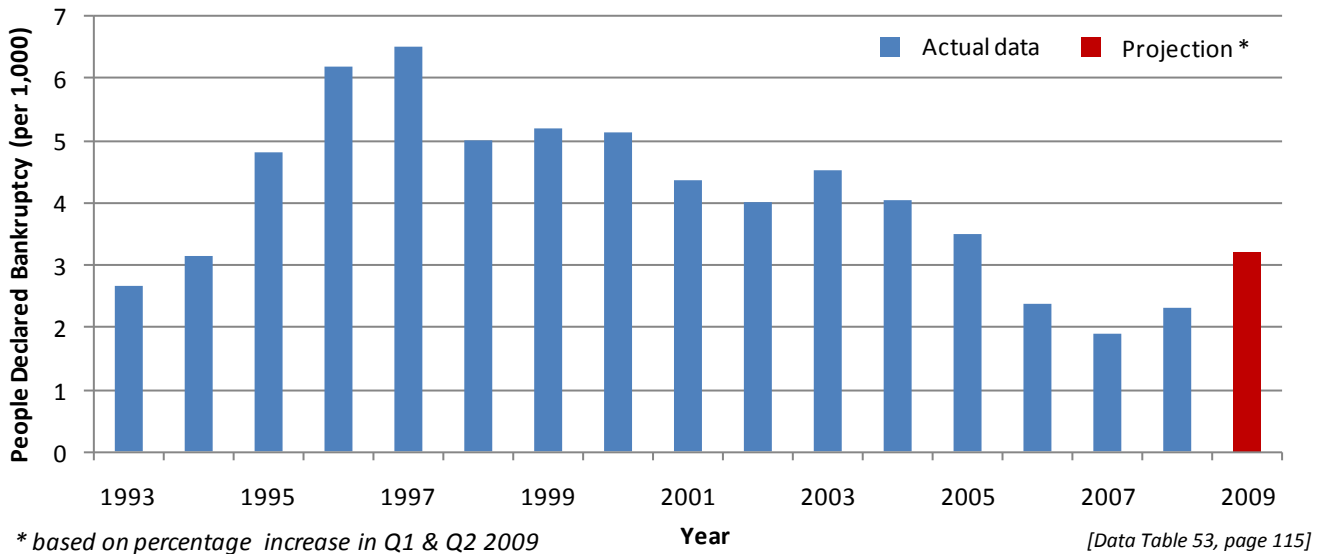
# Financial Security, cont'd...



- the TRENDS:**
- ↓ ⊕ bankruptcy rates decreased
  - ↓ ⊕ food bank use decreased

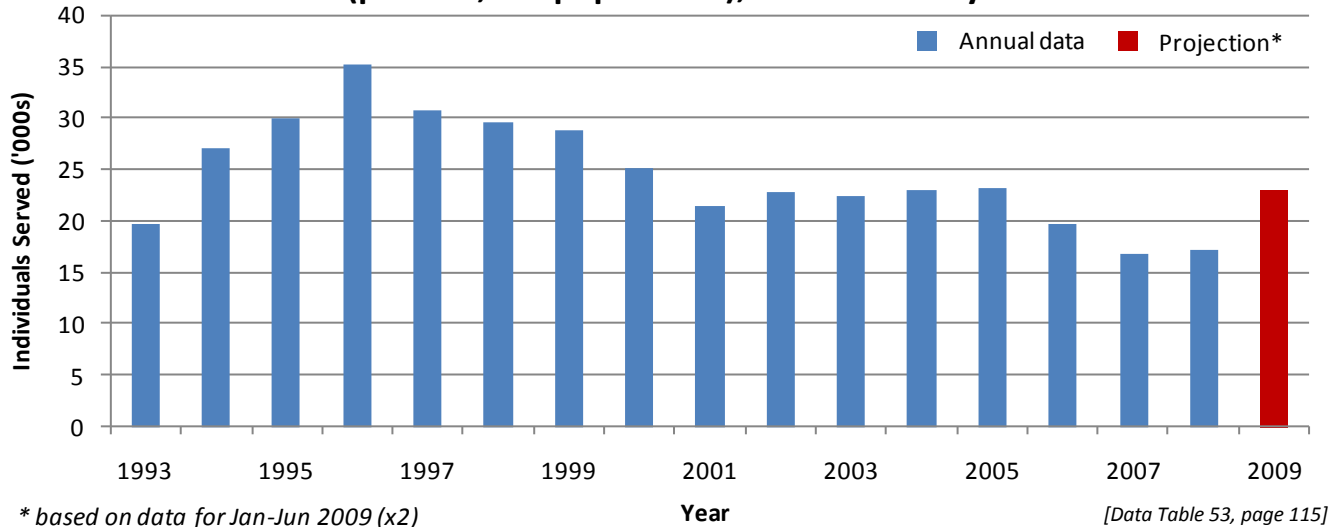
- ◆ From 1998 to 2008, the personal bankruptcy rate in the Edmonton CMA decreased 54.0%. However, the recent economic downturn has led to an increase in personal bankruptcy in the first half of 2009.
- ◆ Based on the partial statistics for 2009, we project that the bankruptcy rate for the year will be 40% higher than in 2008.

**Consumer (Personal) Bankruptcy Rate (per 1,000), Edmonton CMA**



- ◆ From 1998 to 2008, the rate of food bank use (per 100,000 population) in Edmonton decreased 41.8%. However, the recent downturn in the economy has led to an increased need for food hampers.
- ◆ Based on the number of users during the first half of 2009, we project that food bank use will be 30% greater than in 2008 by the end of the year.

**Number of Individuals Served by Edmonton's Food Bank (per 100,000 population), Edmonton City**



# Community Safety

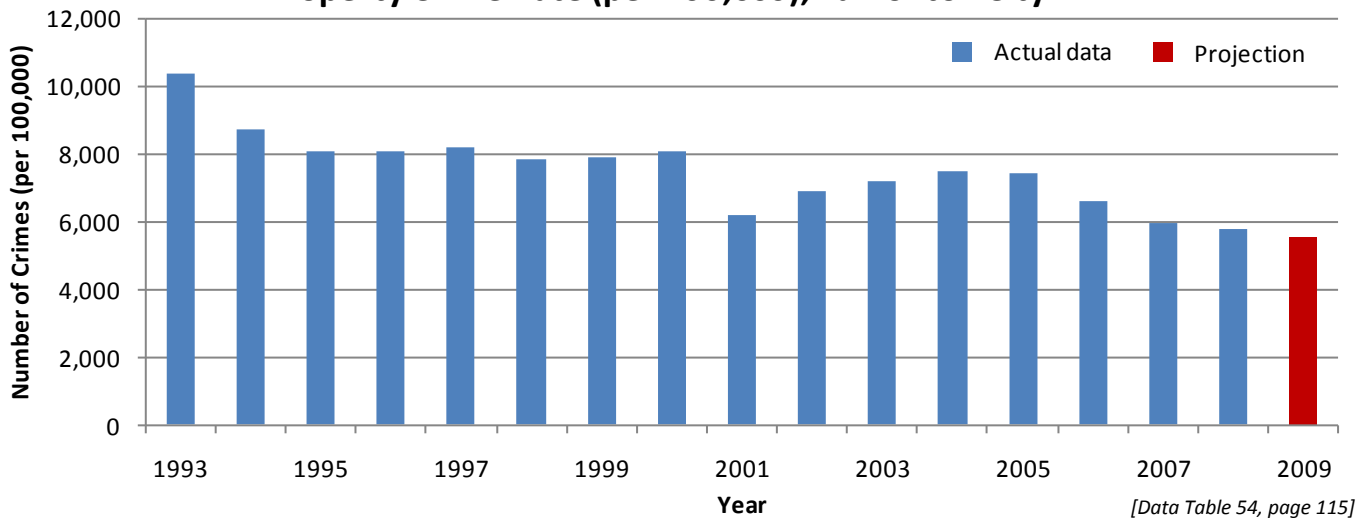


- the TRENDS:**
- ↓ ⊕ property crime declining
  - ↓ ⊕ violent crime declining

Both of the indicators of community safety have exhibited positive trends over the past decade.

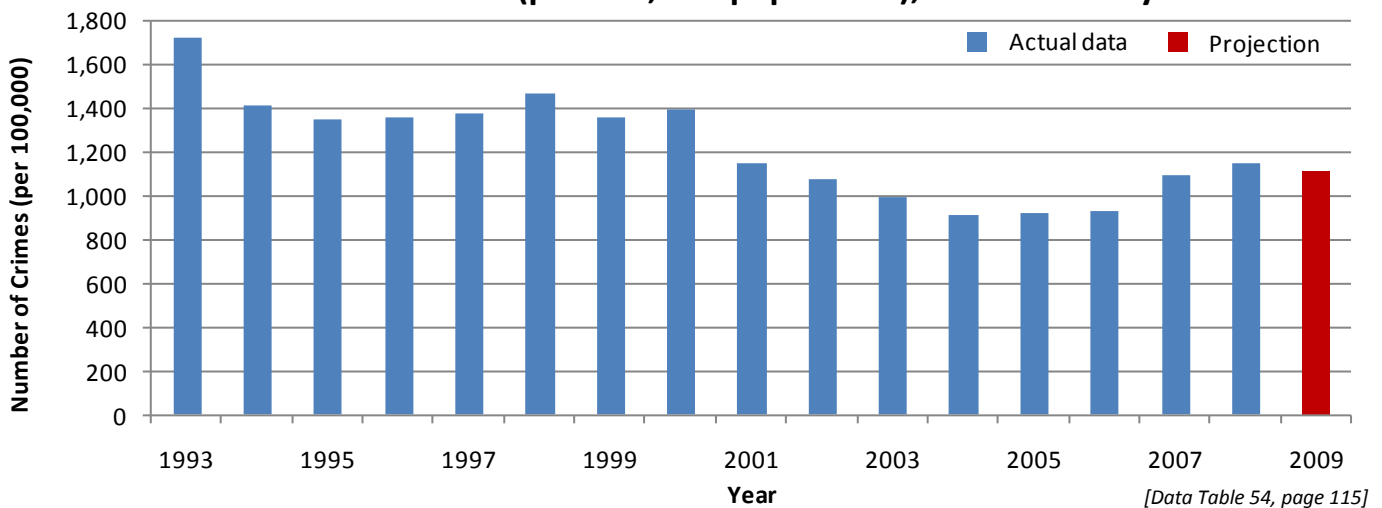
- ◆ The rate of property crime in Edmonton decreased 26.0% from 1998 to 2008.
- ◆ Based on the overall rate of change from 1993 to 2008, we project that the property crime rate will decrease in 2009.

**Property Crime Rate (per 100,000), Edmonton City**



- ◆ The rate of violent crime decreased by one-fifth (21.5%) between 1998 and 2008.
- ◆ Based on the overall rate of change from 1993 to 2008, we project that the violent crime rate will decrease in 2009.

**Violent Crime Rate (per 100,000 population), Edmonton City**





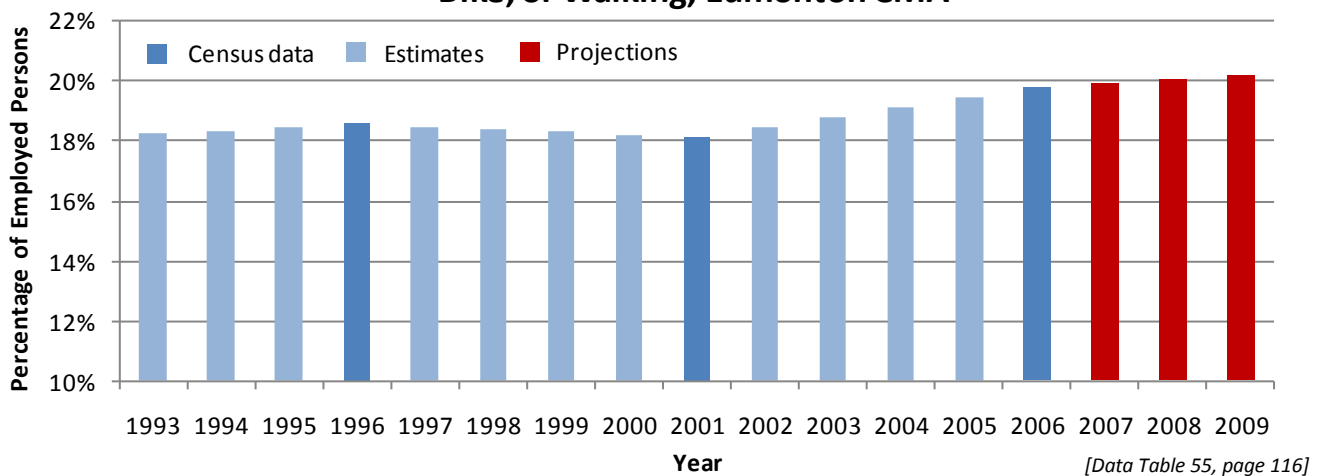
# Participation & Environment

- the TRENDS:**
- ↑ ⊕ low-impact commuting increasing modestly
  - ↓ ⊖ voter turnout decreased

The indicators of participation and environment have exhibited mixed trends over the past decade.

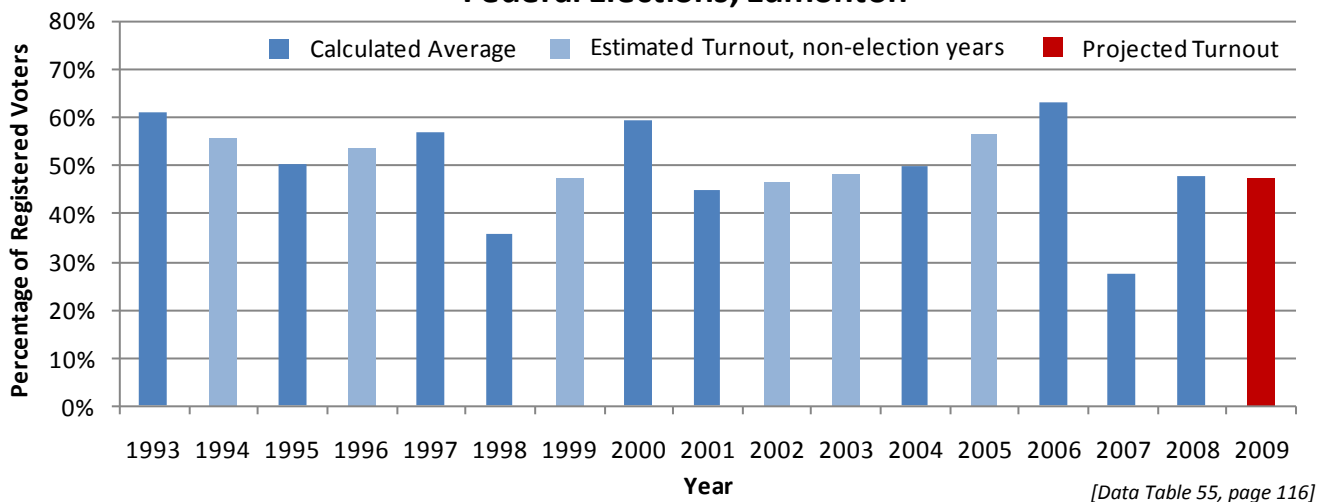
- ◆ Between the 1996 and 2006 census, the proportion of commuters walking, biking, or taking transit to work increased slightly, by 1.2 percentage points.
- ◆ Based on the overall rate of change from 1996 to 2006, we project that the proportion of people using commuting methods with a lower environmental impact will increase slightly by the next census in 2011.

**Proportion of Employed Persons Commuting to Work by Transit, Bike, or Walking, Edmonton CMA**



- ◆ The calculated average voter turnout in Edmonton decreased 4.1 percentage points between 1993 and 2008.
- ◆ Based on the overall rate of change since 1993, we project that the average voter turnout would decrease slightly for 2009 elections.
- ◆ It is important to note, however, that the calculated average turnout masks the variation that exists between federal, provincial and municipal elections. Please refer to Table 55 [page 112] to view voter turnout data for each election type.

**Calculated Average Voter Turnout for Municipal, Provincial & Federal Elections, Edmonton**



# Data Tables | Part 3, Section A

**Table 51: Population Growth & Health Indicators**

Year	Life Expectancy (years)	Premature Deaths (per 100,000)	LBW Babies (% live births less than 2,500 grams)	Infant Mortality (per 1,000 live births)	Sexually Transmitted Infections
1993	79.4	275	5.4%	5.11	442
1994	78.8	280	5.8%	7.22	442
1995	79.2	275	6.0%	7.38	397
1996	79.4	278	6.2%	5.24	421
1997	79.8	262	6.2%	5.64	402
1998	79.3	272	6.4%	4.65	405
1999	79.2	278	5.9%	6.1	421
2000	80.0	264	6.3%	7.32	377
2001	80.0	266	6.0%	6.51	445
2002	80.1	262	6.4%	4.96	502
2003	80.2	266	6.4%	6.58	510
2004	80.3	261	6.5%	7.3	486
2005	80.3	267	6.9%	7.43	474
2006	80.5	273	7.0%	5.86	533
2007	80.8	267	7.0%	6.46	502
2008	80.8	* 266	7.2%	6.86	** 488
2009	* 80.9	* 265	* 7.3%	* 6.91	*** 516

\* Projection based on existing data. Calculated using linear trend line (slope).

[Source: Alberta Health Services]

\*\* Based on preliminary report, Dec 2008.

\*\*\* Based on cases recorded from Jan to Apr 2009.

**Table 52: Personal & Family Stability Indicators**

Year	Suicide Rate (per 100,000)	Crisis Support Calls (per 100,000)	Teen Birth Rate (per 1,000 females aged 15-19 years)	Average Monthly Child & Family Services Caseloads (per 100,000)	Reported Family Disputes (per 100,000)	Divorce/Separation Rate
1991	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	10.7%
1992	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	** 10.9%
1993	18.0	5,128	31.4	433.33	897.29	** 11.1%
1994	16.4	5,179	29.5	446.11	466.31	** 11.4%
1995	16.0	4,625	27.9	509.86	555.65	** 11.6%
1996	18.0	4,682	23.7	600.35	556.87	11.8%
1997	12.9	4,150	22.1	653.66	861.29	** 11.8%
1998	15.7	3,537	23.0	672.86	972.96	** 11.8%
1999	15.3	3,779	21.7	412.73	851.48	** 11.8%
2000	13.9	3,528	19.6	446.10	846.29	** 11.8%
2001	15.7	3,190	17.1	446.92	833.65	11.8%
2002	13.9	3,284	16.4	406.06	866.21	** 11.7%
2003	14.0	3,087	17.1	468.20	899.06	** 11.7%
2004	14.1	2,986	14.8	457.25	917.71	** 11.6%
2005	13.4	2,931	16.4	401.30	1015.45	** 11.6%
2006	13.4	2,788	17.3	425.72	862.73	11.5%
2007	13.1	2,343	17.4	403.33	801.42	* 11.6%
2008	* 12.9	2,202	16.8	* 394.39	627.45	* 11.6%
2009	* 12.6	*** 2,096	* 15.8	* 385.45	* 639.02	* 11.7%

\* Projection based on existing data. Calculated using linear trend line (slope).

\*\* Estimates. Calculated by dividing the difference between census years by the number of intervening years.

\*\*\* Projection based on call volume data from January-June 2009.

[Sources: Alberta Children's Services, Alberta Health Services, City of Edmonton, Edmonton Police Service & The Support Network]

**Table 53: Personal & Family Financial Security Indicators**

Year	Bankruptcy Rate (per 1,000)	Food Bank Use (per 100,000)
1991	2.9	n/a
1992	2.8	n/a
1993	2.7	19,622.04
1994	3.2	26,997.43
1995	4.8	30,011.45
1996	6.2	35,234.28
1997	6.5	30,657.14
1998	5.0	29,478.54
1999	5.2	28,765.63
2000	5.1	25,147.63
2001	4.4	21,397.56
2002	4.0	22,773.42
2003	4.5	22,351.44
2004	4.0	23,012.45
2005	3.5	23,093.22
2006	2.4	19,638.76
2007	1.9	16,888.03
2008	2.3	17,143.40
2009	* 3.2	** 23,022.63

\* Projection based on increase in consumer bankruptcies from fourth quarter 2008 to second quarter 2009.

\*\* Projection based data from January to June 2009.

[Sources: Edmonton's Food Bank & Office of the Superintendent of Bankruptcy Canada]

**Table 54: Community Safety Indicators**

Year	Property Crime Rate (per 100,000)	Violent Crime Rate (per 100,000)
1993	10,354	1,723
1994	8,724	1,418
1995	8,073	1,351
1996	8,039	1,361
1997	8,199	1,379
1998	7,813	1,472
1999	7,878	1,364
2000	8,080	1,395
2001	6,164	1,153
2002	6,895	1,082
2003	7,186	997
2004	7,492	918
2005	7,410	918
2006	6,603	929
2007	5,931	1,096
2008	5,781	1,156
2009	* 5,576	* 1,114

\* Projection based on existing data. Calculated using linear trend line (slope).

[Source: Edmonton Police Service]

**Table 55: Participation & Environment Indicators**

Year	% of Commuters (Transit, Walk, Bike)	Voter Turnout			Average
		Municipal	Provincial	Federal	
1993	n/a	-	59.2%	62.4%	60.8%
1994	n/a	-	-	-	** 55.6%
1995	n/a	50.3%	-	-	50.3%
1996	18.6%	-	-	-	** 53.5%
1997	** 18.5%	-	56.1%	57.4%	56.8%
1998	** 18.4%	35.7%	-	-	35.7%
1999	** 18.3%	-	-	-	** 47.5%
2000	** 18.2%	-	-	59.3%	59.3%
2001	18.1%	35.2%	53.9%	-	44.6%
2002	** 18.4%	-	-	-	** 46.3%
2003	** 18.8%	-	-	-	** 48.1%
2004	** 19.1%	41.8%	48.6%	59.3%	49.9%
2005	** 19.5%	-	-	-	** 56.5%
2006	19.8%	-	-	63.2%	63.2%
2007	* 19.9%	27.2%	-	-	27.2%
2008	* 20.0%	-	41.6%	53.7%	47.7%
2009	* 20.2%	-	-	-	* 47.4%

\* Projection based on existing data. Calculated using linear trend line (slope).

\*\* Estimates. Calculated by dividing the difference between years with data by the number of intervening years.

[Sources: City of Edmonton, Statistics Canada, Elections Alberta & Elections Canada]

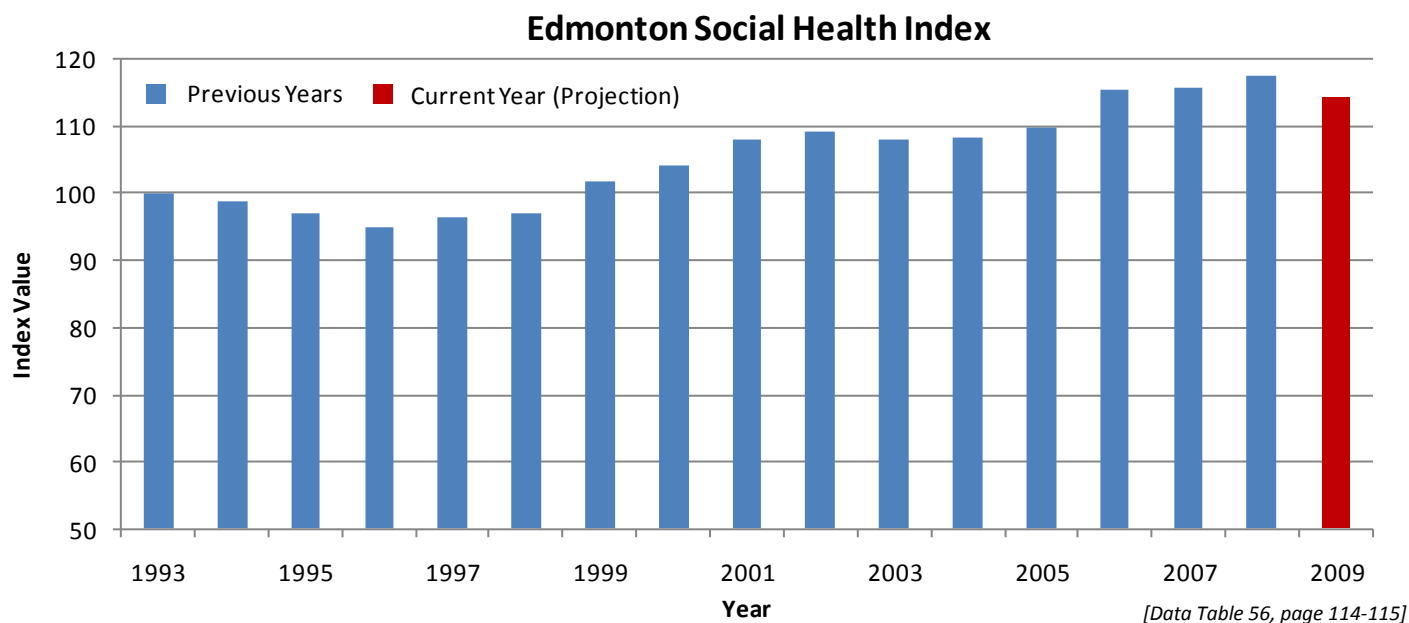
# Section B | Social Health Index

*the TRENDS:* ⊕ overall social health improved since 1993

The index indicates that the social health of Edmonton has improved fairly steadily since the early 1990s, with the exception of a minimal decline over the mid- to late- 1990s.

A notable rise in the social health index value occurred from 2006 to 2008, in part in response to the economic boom and the resultant increase in median family income, and the decline in poverty rates and unemployment.

A decline in social health is expected in 2009, as a result of the economic downturn. Rising unemployment, bankruptcy rates, food bank use, and the likely decline in median income are likely to contribute to this trend.



# Data Tables | Part 3, Section B

**Table 56: Social Health Index, Normalized Indicator Values**

Year	Life Expectancy	Premature Deaths	Low Birth Weight	Infant Mortality	STI Rate	Suicide Rate	Crisis Support Calls
1993	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
1994	99.29	97.94	92.59	58.71	100.00	109.04	99.01
1995	99.74	100.07	88.89	55.58	110.18	111.06	109.81
1996	100.01	98.77	85.19	97.46	104.75	100.48	108.70
1997	100.47	104.50	85.19	89.63	109.05	128.27	119.07
1998	99.90	101.11	81.48	109.00	108.37	113.17	131.03
1999	99.80	98.90	90.74	80.63	104.75	115.06	126.31
2000	100.74	103.83	83.33	56.75	114.75	122.72	131.20
2001	100.74	103.35	88.89	72.60	99.37	112.85	137.79
2002	100.93	104.69	81.48	102.94	86.54	123.20	135.95
2003	101.00	103.07	81.48	71.23	84.62	122.66	139.80
2004	101.18	104.85	79.63	57.14	90.05	121.93	141.78
2005	101.18	102.71	72.22	54.60	92.76	125.58	142.85
2006	101.45	100.60	70.37	85.32	79.41	125.57	145.64
2007	101.76	102.97	70.37	73.58	86.43	127.12	154.30
2008	101.79	* 103.26	66.67	* 65.75	89.68	* 128.72	157.06
2009	* 101.94	* 103.55	* 65.00	* 64.71	* 83.33	* 130.32	* 159.13

\* Projections/estimates. Please see original data tables [pages 110-112] for details.

**Table 56, cont'd...**

Year	Teen Birth Rate	C&FS Caseload	Family Disputes	Divorce/ Separation	Median Family Income	Bankruptcy
1993	100.00	100.00	100.00	* 100.00	100.00	100.00
1994	106.12	97.05	148.03	* 98.03	92.65	81.34
1995	111.35	82.34	138.08	* 96.05	92.65	18.77
1996	124.54	61.46	137.94	94.08	98.00	-32.73
1997	129.54	49.15	104.01	* 94.08	97.77	-44.94
1998	126.90	44.72	91.57	* 94.08	97.77	11.92
1999	131.07	104.75	105.11	* 94.08	103.79	4.49
2000	137.72	97.05	105.68	* 94.08	105.35	7.31
2001	145.70	96.86	107.09	94.08	112.03	36.30
2002	147.82	106.29	103.46	* 94.61	102.45	48.72
2003	145.58	91.95	99.80	* 95.15	112.03	29.21
2004	152.79	94.48	97.72	* 95.69	111.80	47.71
2005	147.77	107.39	86.83	* 96.23	114.25	68.83
2006	145.06	101.76	103.85	96.77	119.15	111.05
2007	144.63	106.92	110.68	* 96.32	123.83	128.53
2008	* 146.54	* 108.99	130.07	* 95.87	* 124.07	113.49
2009	* 149.61	* 111.05	* 128.78	* 95.42	* 124.31	* 79.49

\* Projections/estimates. Please see original data tables [pages 110-112] for details.

# Data Tables | Part 3, Section B, cont'd...

**Table 56, cont'd...**

Year	Food Bank	Families Below LICO	Depth of Poverty	Lone-Parent	Core Housing Need	Unemployment	Post-Secondary
1993	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	* 100.00	100.00	* 100.00
1994	62.41	100.00	100.00	99.45	* 102.68	104.46	* 101.74
1995	47.05	111.21	90.91	104.30	* 105.35	120.54	* 103.49
1996	20.44	105.83	96.10	107.48	108.03	125.89	105.23
1997	43.76	99.55	93.51	114.97	* 108.19	139.29	* 110.58
1998	49.77	108.07	87.01	108.95	* 108.36	145.54	* 115.93
1999	53.40	119.28	92.21	110.21	* 108.53	147.32	* 121.27
2000	71.84	126.91	89.61	131.00	* 108.70	150.00	* 126.62
2001	90.95	135.43	94.81	128.16	108.86	155.36	131.97
2002	83.94	130.94	94.81	130.56	* 109.36	153.57	* 133.95
2003	86.09	136.77	96.10	140.46	* 109.87	155.36	* 135.94
2004	82.72	130.04	89.61	128.08	* 110.37	157.14	* 137.92
2005	82.31	135.87	100.00	108.45	* 110.87	159.82	* 139.90
2006	99.92	147.98	106.49	121.63	111.37	165.18	141.89
2007	113.93	160.54	96.10	118.16	* 112.39	166.07	* 145.14
2008	112.63	* 161.17	* 96.23	* 119.98	* 113.41	166.96	* 148.40
2009	* 82.67	* 161.79	* 96.36	* 121.79	* 114.43	137.50	* 151.66

\* Projections/estimates. Please see original data tables [pages 110-112] for details.

**Table 56, cont'd...**

Year	High School Dropout	Property Crime	Violent Crime	Voter Turnout	Commuters	Average
1993	* 100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	* 100.00	<b>100.00</b>
1994	* 101.40	115.74	117.72	* 91.37	* 99.35	<b>99.05</b>
1995	* 102.81	122.03	121.58	82.73	* 98.71	<b>97.01</b>
1996	* 104.21	122.36	121.01	* 88.03	98.06	<b>95.25</b>
1997	105.62	120.81	119.97	93.34	* 98.61	<b>96.56</b>
1998	102.50	124.54	114.59	58.67	* 99.16	<b>97.36</b>
1999	118.88	123.92	120.84	* 78.10	* 99.70	<b>102.12</b>
2000	104.06	121.96	119.08	97.53	* 100.25	<b>104.32</b>
2001	98.60	140.46	133.11	73.30	100.80	<b>107.98</b>
2002	108.74	133.41	137.24	* 76.22	* 98.94	<b>109.23</b>
2003	111.86	130.60	142.13	* 79.14	* 97.07	<b>107.96</b>
2004	116.54	127.65	146.72	82.07	* 95.21	<b>108.03</b>
2005	119.66	128.44	146.71	* 93.01	* 93.35	<b>109.26</b>
2006	114.98	136.23	146.10	103.95	91.48	<b>114.93</b>
2007	119.66	142.71	136.38	44.80	* 90.84	<b>114.97</b>
2008	* 121.06	144.17	132.94	78.37	* 90.19	<b>116.70</b>
2009	* 122.46	* 146.15	* 135.33	* 77.89	* 89.54	<b>113.37</b>

\* Projections/estimates. Please see original data tables [pages 110-112] for details.

# Terms and Definitions

<b>Alberta Works</b>	Formerly referred to as “Supports for Independence,” Income Support provides financial benefits to individuals and families who do not have the resources to meet their basic needs, like food, clothing and shelter. <i>[Alberta Works]</i>
◆ <b>Recipients</b>	The number of individuals receiving Alberta Works allowances.
◆ <b>Cases</b>	The number of households receiving Alberta Works allowances.
<b>Constant dollars</b>	Refers to dollars of several years expressed in terms of their value ("purchasing power") in a single year, called the base year. This type of adjustment is done to eliminate the impact of widespread price changes. Current dollars are converted to constant dollars using an index of price movements. The most widely used index for household or family incomes, provided that no specific uses of the income are identified, is the Consumer Price Index (CPI), which reflects average spending patterns by consumers in Canada. <i>[Statistics Canada]</i>
◆ <b>Current dollars</b>	The value of a currency in the current time period.
<b>Core Housing Need</b>	Refers to households which are unable to afford shelter that is adequate, suitable, and affordable. The norms of acceptable housing have been adjusted over time to reflect the housing expectations of Canadians. The subset of households classified as living in unacceptable housing and unable to access acceptable housing is considered to be in core housing need. <i>[CMHC]</i>
◆ <b>Adequate housing</b>	Housing that does not require any major repairs, according to residents.
◆ <b>Suitable housing</b>	Housing that has enough bedrooms for the size and make-up of resident households, according to National Occupancy Standard (NOS) requirements. Enough bedrooms based on NOS requirements means one bedroom for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- each cohabiting adult couple;</li><li>- unattached household member 18 years of age and over;</li><li>- same-sex pair of children under age 18;</li><li>- and additional boy or girl in the family, unless there are two opposite sex children under 5 years of age, in which case they are expected to share a bedroom.</li></ul> A household of one individual can occupy a bachelor unit (i.e. a unit with no bedroom).
◆ <b>Affordable housing</b>	Housing that costs less than 30% of before-tax household income. Shelter costs include the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- <i>for renters</i>, rent and any payments for electricity, fuel, water and other municipal services;</li><li>- <i>for owners</i>, mortgage payments (principal and interest), property taxes, and any condominium fees, along with payments for electricity, fuel, water and other municipal services.</li></ul>
<b>Earnings</b>	This includes income from both paid employment and self-employment. <i>[Statistics Canada]</i>
◆ <b>Paid Employment</b>	These are gross earnings from all jobs held as an employee, before payroll deductions such as income taxes, employment insurance contributions or pension plan contributions, etc. Wages and salaries include the earnings of owners of incorporated businesses, although some amounts may instead be reported as investment income. Commission income received by salespersons as well as occasional earnings for baby-sitting, for delivering papers, for cleaning, etc. are included. Overtime pay is included. Military personnel living in barracks are not part of the target population in the Survey of Labour and Income Dynamics (SLID).
◆ <b>Self-employment</b>	This is net self-employment income after deduction of expenses. Negative amounts (losses) are accepted. It includes income received from self-employment, in partnership in an unincorporated business, or in independent professional practice. Income from roomers and boarders (excluding that received from relatives) is included. Note that because of the various inclusions, receipt of self-employment income does not necessarily mean the person held a job.



## Earnings Ratio, Female-to-Male

Represents the value of average earnings of females relative to males, expressed as a percentage. For example, a ratio of 78% means that females earn, on average, \$78.00 for every \$100.00 earned by males in the given year.

## Ethnic Origin

Refers to the ethnic or cultural origins of the respondent's ancestors. An ancestor is someone from whom a person is descended and is usually more distant than a grandparent. In the census, respondents are asked to specify as many ethnic origins as applicable and up to six ethnic origins are retained. Ethnic origin refers to a person's 'roots' and should not be confused with his or her citizenship, nationality, language or place of birth. *[Statistics Canada]*

- ◆ **British Isles** Includes: Cornish, English, Irish, Manx, Scottish, Welsh, and British Isles, n.i.e (not included elsewhere).
- ◆ **French** Includes: Acadian and French.
- ◆ **Aboriginal** Includes: Inuit, Métis, North American Indian.
- ◆ **North American** Includes: American, Canadian, Newfoundlander, Nova Scotian, Ontarian, Quebecois, and other provincial or regional groups.
- ◆ **Caribbean** Includes: Antiguan, Bahamian, Barbadian, Bermudan, Carib, Cuban, Dominican, Grenadian, Guyanese, Haitian, Jamaican, Kittitian/Nevisian, Martinican, Montserratian, Puerto Rican, St. Lucian, Trinidadian/Tobagonian, Vincentian/Grenadinian, West Indian, and Caribbean, n.i.e.
- ◆ **Latin, Central & South American** Includes: Aboriginal from Central/South America, Argentinian, Belizean, Bolivian, Brazilian, Chilean, Colombian, Costa Rican, Ecuadorian, Guatemalan, Hispanic, Honduran, Maya, Mexican, Nicaraguan, Panamanian, Paraguayan, Peruvian, Salvadorean, Uruguayan, Venezuelian, Latin, Central or South American, n.i.e.
- ◆ **European** Includes: Western European origins (Austrian, Belgian, Dutch (Netherlands), Flemish, Frisian, German, Luxembourger, Swiss, Northern European origins, Finnish, Danish, Icelandic, Norwegian, Swedish, Scandinavian, n.i.e.), Eastern European origins (Baltic origins, Estonian, Latvian, Lithuanian, Byelorussian, Czech and Slovak origins, Czech, Czechoslovakian, Slovak, Hungarian (Magyar), Polish, Romanian, Russian, Ukrainian), Southern European origins (Albanian, Bosnian, Bulgarian, Croatian, Cypriot, Greek, Italian, Kosovar, Macedonian, Maltese, Montenegrin, Portuguese, Serbian, Sicilian, Slovenian, Spanish, Yugoslav, n.i.e.), Other European origins (Basque, Gypsy (Roma), Jewish, Slav (European), European, n.i.e.).
- ◆ **African** Includes: Afrikaner, Akan, Amhara, Angolan, Ashanti, Bantu, Black, Burundian, Cameroonian, Chadian, Congolese (Zairian), Congolese, n.o.s., Dinka, East African, Eritrean, Ethiopian, Gabonese, Gambian, Ghanaian, Guinean, n.o.s., Harari, Ibo, Ivorian, Kenyan, Malagasy, Malian, Mauritian, Nigerian, Oromo, Peulh, Rwandan, Senegalese, Seychellois, Sierra Leonean, Somali, South African, Sudanese, Tanzanian, Tigrian, Togolese, Ugandan, Yoruba, Zambian, Zimbabwean, Zulu, African, n.i.e.
- ◆ **Arab** Includes: Egyptian, Iraqi, Jordanian, Kuwaiti, Lebanese, Libyan, Algerian, Berber, Moroccan, Tunisian, Maghrebi, n.i.e., Palestinian, Saudi Arabian, Syrian, Yemeni, Arab, n.i.e.
- ◆ **West Asian** Includes: Afghan, Armenian, Assyrian, Azerbaijani, Georgian, Iranian, Israeli, Kurd, Pashtun, Tatar, Turk, West Asian, n.i.e.
- ◆ **South Asian** Includes: Bangladeshi, Bengali, East Indian, Goan, Gujarati, Kashmiri, Nepali, Pakistani, Punjabi, Sinhalese, Sri Lankan, Tamil, South Asian, n.i.e.
- ◆ **East & Southeast Asian** Includes: Burmese, Cambodian, Chinese, Filipino, Hmong, Indonesian, Japanese, Khmer, Korean, Laotian, Malaysian, Mongolian, Singaporean, Taiwanese, Thai, Tibetan, Vietnamese, East or Southeast Asian, n.i.e., Asian, n.o.s (not otherwise specified).
- ◆ **Oceania** Includes: Australian, New Zealander, Fijian, Hawaiian, Maori, Polynesian, Samoan, Pacific Islander, n.i.e.

## Family Type, Economic

Refers to either economic families or unattached individuals. *[Statistics Canada]*

- ◆ **Economic Family** A group of two or more persons who live in the same dwelling and are related to each other by blood, marriage, common law or adoption.
- ◆ **Unattached Individual** A person living either alone or with others to whom he or she is unrelated, such as roommates or a lodger.

## Family Type, Census

Refers to either census families or persons not in census families. *[Statistics Canada]*

- ◆ **Census Family** Commonly referred to as a “nuclear family” or “immediate family”. In general, it consists of a married **couple** or common-law couple with or without children, or a lone-parent with a child

or children. Furthermore, each child does not have his or her own spouse or child living in the household. A “child” of a parent in a census family must be under the age of 25 and there must be a parent-child relationship (guardian relationships such as aunt or uncle are not sufficient). By definition, all persons who are members of a census family are also members of the same economic family.

◆ **Persons “not in census families”**

Includes persons living alone, living with unrelated individuals, or living with relatives but not in a husband-wife or parent-unmarried child (including guardianship-child) relationship.

**Minimum Wage**

The minimum amount employers must pay workers within the province of Alberta. The Government of Alberta outlines minimum wage within the Employment Standards Regulation. [*Alberta Employment and Immigration*]

**Government Transfers**

Includes all direct payments from federal, provincial and municipal governments to individuals or families. [*Statistics Canada*] Government transfers include:

- **Child tax benefits** (Child tax benefits, Universal child care benefit)
- **Canada Pension Plan/Quebec Pension Plan benefits**
- **Old Age Security and Guaranteed Income Supplement/Spouse’s Allowance**
- **Employment Insurance benefits**
- **Social assistance**
- **Worker’s compensation benefits**
- **GST/HST credits**
- **Provincial/Territorial tax credits**
- **Other government transfers** - transfers not included elsewhere, mainly any other non-taxable transfers. This includes: training program payments not reported elsewhere, the Veteran's pension, pensions to the blind and the disabled, regular payments from provincial automobile insurance plans (excluding lump-sum payments), benefits for fishing industry employees, and the Working Income Tax Benefit (WITB).

It should be noted that many features of the tax system also carry out social policy functions but are not government transfers per se. The tax system uses deductions and non-refundable tax credits, for example, to reduce the amount of tax payable, without providing a direct income.

◆ **Implicit rate**

A way of showing the relative importance of transfers received or taxes paid for different families or individuals. This concept is similar, but not identical, to the effective rate of taxation. For a given individual or family, the effective rate is the amount of transfers/taxes expressed as a percentage of their market income, total income, or after-tax income. The implicit rate for a given population is the average (or aggregate) amount of transfers/taxes expressed as a percentage of their average (or aggregate) income.

**Income, After-Tax**

Equivalent of total income, which includes government transfers, less income tax.

Some government transfers are not taxable and are allocated to only one family member, depending on age, income, or gender. These include social assistance, child tax benefits, and seniors benefit. When looking at person-level data, users should be aware that these transfers are not equally divided amongst family members. [*Statistics Canada*]

**Income, Average**

The mean or average income is computed as the total or “aggregate” income divided by the number of units in the population. It offers a convenient way of tracking aggregate income while adjusting for changes in the size of the population.

There are two drawbacks to using average income for analysis. First, since everyone’s income is counted, the mean is sensitive to extreme values: unusually high income values will have a large impact on the estimate of the mean income, while unusually low ones, i.e. highly negative values, will drive it down. Secondly, it does not give any insight into the allocation of income across members of the population. [*Statistics Canada*]

**Income, Family** The sum of income of each adult (16 years or older as of December 31st in the reference year) in the family. Family membership is defined at a particular point in time, while income is based on the entire calendar year. The family members or “composition” may have changed during the reference year, but no adjustment is made to family income to reflect this change. *[Statistics Canada]*

**Income, Household** The sum of income of each adult (16 years or older as of December 31st in the reference year) in the household. Household membership is defined at a particular point in time, while income is based on the entire calendar year. The household members or “composition” may have changed during the reference year, but no adjustment is made to family income to reflect this change. *[Statistics Canada]*

**Income, Market** The sum of earnings (from employment and net self-employment), net investment income, (private) retirement income, and the items under “Other income”. It is equivalent to total income minus government transfers. It is also called income before taxes and transfers. *[Statistics Canada]*

- ◆ **Earnings** See “Earnings”
- ◆ **Investment Income** Includes interest received on bonds, deposits and savings certificates from Canadian or foreign sources, dividends received from Canadian and foreign corporate stocks, cash dividends received from insurance policies, net rental income from real estate and farms, interest received on loans and mortgages, regular income from an estate or trust fund and other investment income. Realized capital gains from the sale of assets are excluded. Negative amounts are accepted.
- ◆ **Retirement Income** Includes retirement pensions from all private sources, primarily employer pension plans. Amounts may be received in various forms such as annuities, superannuation or RRIFs (Registered Retirement Income Funds). Withdrawals from RRSPs (Registered Retirement Savings Plans) are not included in retirement pensions. However, they are taken into account as necessary for the estimation of certain government transfers and taxes. For data obtained from administrative records, income withdrawn from RRSPs before the age of 65 is treated as RRSP withdrawals, and income withdrawn from RRSPs at ages 65 or older is treated as retirement pensions. Retirement pensions may also be called pension income.
- ◆ **Other income** Includes, but is not restricted to, support payments received (also called alimony and child support), retirement allowances (severance pay/termination benefits), scholarships, lump-sum payments from pensions and deferred profit-sharing plans received when leaving a plan, the taxable amount of death benefits other than those from CPP (Canada Pension Plan) or QPP (Quebec Pension Plan), and supplementary unemployment benefits not included in wages and salaries.

**Income, Median** The value for which half of the units in the population have lower incomes and half has higher incomes. To derive the median value of income, units are ranked from lowest to highest according to their income and then separated into two equal-sized groups. The value that separates these groups is the median income (50th percentile).

Because the median corresponds exactly to the midpoint of the income distribution, it is not, contrary to the mean (average), affected by extreme income values. This is a useful feature of the median, as it allows one to abstract from unusually high values held by relatively few people. Since income distributions are typically skewed to the left – that is, concentrated at the low end of the income scale – median income is usually lower than mean income. *[Statistics Canada]*

**Income, Total** Refers to income from all sources including government transfers before deduction of federal and provincial income taxes. It may also be called income before tax (but after transfers). All sources of income are identified as belonging to either market income or government transfers. *[Statistics Canada]*

<b>Income Tax</b>	The sum of federal and provincial income taxes payable (accrued) for the taxation year. Income taxes include taxes on income, capital gains and RRSP withdrawals, after taking into account exemptions, deductions, non-refundable tax credits, and the refundable Quebec abatement. <i>[Statistics Canada]</i>
<b>Infant Mortality</b>	The number of infants who die before their first birthday out of every 1000 live born babies. <i>[Alberta Health Services]</i>
<b>Low Income Cut-off (LICO)</b>	LICOs are established using data from the Survey of Household Spending. They convey the income level at which a family may be in straitened circumstances because it has to spend a greater proportion of its income on necessities than the average family of similar size. Specifically, the threshold is defined as the income below which a family is likely to spend 20 percentage points more of its income on food, shelter and clothing than the average family. There are separate cut-offs for seven sizes of family – from unattached individuals to families of seven or more persons – and for five community sizes – from rural areas to urban areas with a population of more than 500,000.  After having calculated LICOs in the base year (currently 1992), cut-offs for other years are obtained by applying the corresponding Consumer Price Index (CPI) inflation rate to the cut-offs from the base year. <i>[Statistics Canada]</i>
<b>Low Income Gap</b>	The amount that the family income falls short of the relevant low income cut-off. For example, a family with an income of \$15,000 and a low income cut-off of \$20,000 would have a low income gap of \$5,000. In percentage terms this gap would be 25%. The average gap for a given population, whether expressed in dollar or percentage terms, is the average of these values as calculated for each unit. For the calculation of this low income gap, negative incomes are treated as zero. <i>[Statistics Canada]</i>
<b>Low Income Rate</b>	The proportion of persons or families whose incomes are below LICO.  To determine whether a person (or family) is in low income, the appropriate LICO (given the family size and community size) is compared to the income of the person's economic family. If the economic family income is below the cut-off, all individuals in that family are considered to be in low income. Overall, the low income rate for persons can then be calculated as the number of persons in low income divided by the total population. The same can be done for families and various sub-groups of the population; for example, low income rates by age, sex, province or family types. <i>[Statistics Canada]</i>
<b>Major Income Earner</b>	The person in each household and family with the highest income before tax, with one exception: a child living in the same census family as his/her parent(s) cannot be identified as the major income earner of the census family (this does not apply to economic families). For persons with negative total income before tax, the absolute value of their income is used, to reflect the fact that negative incomes generally arise from losses "earned" in the marketplace which are not meant to be sustained. In the rare situations where two persons have exactly the same income, the older person is the major income earner. <i>[Statistics Canada]</i>
<b>Market Basket Measure (MBM)</b>	As defined by the MBM, a person in low income is someone whose disposable family income falls below the cost of the goods and services in the Market Basket in their community or community size.  MBM disposable family income is the sum remaining after deducting from total family income the following: total income taxes paid; the personal portion of payroll taxes; other mandatory payroll deductions such as contributions to employer-sponsored pension plans, supplementary health plans and union dues; child support and alimony payments made to another family; out-of-pocket spending on child care; and non-insured but medically-prescribed health-related expenses such as dental and vision care, prescription drugs and aids for persons with disabilities. <i>[HRSDC]</i>

<b>Market Poverty Rate</b>	The percentage of families whose market income (see “Income, Market”) falls below LICO (see “Low Income Cut-off (LICO)”). [Statistics Canada]
<b>Mother Tongue</b>	Refers to the first language learned at home in childhood and still understood by the individual at the time of the census. [Statistics Canada]
<b>Net Worth (Wealth)</b>	The net worth of a family unit is defined as the difference between the value of its total asset holdings and the amount of total indebtedness. Assets and debts were reported for the family unit as a whole and not for each person in the family. [Statistics Canada]
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ <b>Assets</b></li> </ul>	<p>Total value of all financial assets, non-financial assets and equity in business. Includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Private pension assets</b> - RRSPs, LIRAs, RRIAs, other - Employer pension plans</li> <li>- <b>Financial assets, non-pension</b> - deposits in financial institutions, mutual/investment funds income trusts - stocks - bonds (savings and other) - other financial assets</li> <li>- <b>Non-financial assets</b> - principal residence - other real estate - vehicles - other non-financial assets</li> <li>- <b>Equity in business</b></li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ <b>Debts</b></li> </ul>	<p>Total value of all amounts owed in the following debt categories:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Mortgage</b> - principal residence - other real estate</li> <li>- <b>Line of credit</b> - home equity LOC - regular LOC</li> <li>- <b>Credit card and installment debt</b> - major credit cards, retail store cards, gasoline station cards, etc. - deferred payment of installment plans</li> <li>- <b>Student loan</b> - Canada/provincial student loan programs - loans from financial institutions taken directly to attend school</li> <li>- <b>Vehicle loans</b></li> <li>- <b>Other debt</b> - other loans from financial institutions, unpaid bills, etc.</li> </ul>
<b>Percentiles</b>	<p>Income (and net worth) percentiles are a convenient way of categorizing units of a given population from lowest income to highest income/net worth for the purposes of drawing conclusions about the relative situation of people at either end or in the middle of the scale. Rather than using fixed income/net worth ranges, as in a typical distribution of income/net worth, it is the fraction of each population group that is fixed.</p> <p>Percentiles are calculated by first ranking all the units of the population, whether individuals or families, are from lowest to highest by the value of their income/net worth. Then the ranked population is divided into groups of equal numbers of units. [Statistics Canada]</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ <b>Deciles</b></li> </ul>	The percentile produced when the ranked population is divided into ten groups. Each decile represents 10% of the population.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ <b>Quintiles</b></li> </ul>	The percentile produced when the ranked population is divided into five groups. Each quintile represents 20% of the population.
<b>Permanent Residents</b>	People who have been given permanent resident status in Canada. Permanent residents must live in Canada for at least 730 days (two years) within a five-year period or risk losing their status. Permanent residents have all the rights guaranteed under the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms such as equality rights, legal rights, mobility rights, freedom of religion, freedom of expression and freedom of association. They do not, however, have the right to vote in elections. [Citizenship and Immigration Canada]
<b>Temporary Residents</b>	Foreign nationals who are lawfully in Canada on a temporary basis under the authority of a valid document (i.e., a work permit, study permit, temporary resident permit, or a visitor record) issued for the purpose of entering Canada in compliance with the Immigration and Refugee Protection Act (or with the Immigration Act of 1976 prior 2002), and individuals who make a refugee claim upon or after their arrival in Canada and remain in the country pending the outcome of processes relative to their claim. Temporary residents (as profiled in this

publication) include foreign workers, foreign students, and the humanitarian population.  
*[Citizenship and Immigration Canada]*

- ◆ **Foreign Workers** Temporary residents who entered Canada mainly to work and have been issued a work permit (with or without other types of permits). Foreign workers exclude temporary residents who have been issued a work permit but who entered Canada mainly for reasons other than work.
- ◆ **Foreign Students** Temporary residents who entered Canada mainly to study and have been issued a study permit (with or without other types of permits). Foreign students exclude temporary residents who have been issued a study permit but who entered Canada mainly for reasons other than study.
- ◆ **Humanitarian Population** Primarily refugee claimants, but this group also includes other foreign nationals allowed to remain in Canada on humanitarian or compassionate grounds under “special considerations.”

**Temporary Resident  
Initial Entries**

Temporary residents who enter Canada and who, for the first time, are subject to a refugee claim or a valid document (i.e., a work permit, study permit, temporary resident permit, or a visitor record) issued in compliance with the Immigration and Refugee Protection Act (or with the Immigration Act of 1976 prior 2002). The sum of initial entries and re-entries reflects the total entries of temporary residents to Canada in any given year of observation.  
*[Citizenship and Immigration Canada]*

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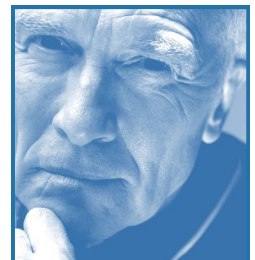
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