



Social Development and Seniors

POVERTY ELIMINATION STRATEGY ACT

2022-2023 Annual Report



Social Development and Seniors

**POVERTY ELIMINATION
STRATEGY ACT**

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Message from the Minister

May It Please Your Honour,

I am very pleased to present the 2022-2023 Annual Report in accordance with Section 7 of the Prince Edward Island *Poverty Elimination Strategy Act*.

The *Poverty Elimination Strategy Act* provides ambitious targets for the reduction and eventual elimination of all poverty in Prince Edward Island. Eliminating poverty in PEI requires a province-wide effort and as such, Government is taking coordinated action across departments and in collaboration with other levels of government and community organizations.



Islanders are facing many challenges, including the lingering impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic, devastation from Hurricane Fiona, inflation, rising costs of living, and growing incidents of mental health and addictions issues. We know that poverty, as a primary social determinant of health, is interwoven into these challenges. While the *Act's* vision to eradicate poverty, food insecurity, and chronic homelessness is aspirational, we understand the importance of working towards these targets with diligence and intention to solve complex issues.

This report summarizes the progress we have made in the 2022-2023 fiscal year. Some highlights include:

- Increasing Social Assistance and Assured Income rates, including an eight per cent increase to Basic Unit Rates, in what was the largest investment in the province's history into social program benefits;
- Increasing Minimum Wage to \$14.50 on January 1, 2023;
- Expanding the Summer Food Program, resulting in almost 50,000 healthy lunches delivered to school-aged children across the province;
- Expanding the Targeted Basic Income (TBIG) Pilot Program; and
- Increasing investments in job training programs, with a focus on preparing clients for long-term sustainable employment.

As we look ahead to 2023-2024, Government will continue building on strong supports and initiatives to address the *Act's* 2025 poverty elimination targets.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Barb Ramsay".

Barb Ramsay,
Minister of Social Development and Seniors

Message de la ministre

Qu'il plaise à Votre Honneur,

C'est avec plaisir que je vous présente le rapport annuel 2022-2023 conformément à l'article 7 de la *Poverty Elimination Strategy Act* (loi sur la stratégie d'élimination de la pauvreté) de l'Île-du-Prince-Édouard.

La *Poverty Elimination Strategy Act* établit des objectifs ambitieux pour réduire, puis éradiquer la pauvreté dans l'Île-du-Prince-Édouard. Les efforts doivent être déployés à l'échelle de la province pour y éliminer la pauvreté; c'est pourquoi le gouvernement prend des mesures coordonnées entre les ministères et en collaboration avec les organisations communautaires et d'autres niveaux de gouvernement.

Les Insulaires sont confrontés à de nombreux défis : les effets persistants de la pandémie de COVID-19, la dévastation causée par l'ouragan Fiona, l'inflation, l'augmentation du coût de la vie et une crise croissante en matière de santé mentale et de toxicomanie, pour n'en nommer que quelques-uns. Nous savons que la pauvreté est l'un des principaux déterminants sociaux de la santé et qu'elle est étroitement liée à ces défis. Bien que la loi présente une vision ambitieuse aspirant à éradiquer la pauvreté, l'insécurité alimentaire et le sans-abrisme chronique, nous comprenons l'importance de travailler à la réalisation de ces objectifs avec diligence et intention pour résoudre des problèmes complexes en cours de chemin.

Le présent rapport résume les progrès que nous avons accomplis au cours de l'exercice 2022-2023. En voici quelques points saillants :

- Augmentation des prestations de l'aide sociale et du revenu assuré, y compris une augmentation de 8 % des taux unitaires de base, dans le cadre du plus grand investissement de l'histoire de la province dans les prestations des programmes sociaux;
- Augmentation du salaire minimum à 14,50 \$ le 1er janvier 2023;
- Élargissement du programme d'alimentation d'été, qui a permis de livrer près de 50 000 repas sains à des enfants d'âge scolaire dans toute la province;
- Élargissement du programme pilote de revenu de base ciblé;
- Augmentation des investissements dans les programmes de formation professionnelle, en mettant l'accent sur la préparation des clients à un emploi durable à long terme.

En se tournant vers 2023-2024, le gouvernement continuera à faire fond sur des initiatives et des mesures de soutien robustes pour atteindre les objectifs en matière d'élimination de la pauvreté fixés par la loi pour 2025.

Respectueusement soumis,



Barb Ramsay,

Ministre du Développement social et des Aînés



Message from the Poverty Elimination Council

This is the second report since the *Poverty Elimination Strategy Act* was enacted, along with the creation of the Poverty Elimination Council, in May 2021. Since then, Prince Edward Islanders have emerged from the COVID-19 pandemic, tired from years of public health restrictions, only to face more crises: inflation, cost of living, mental health and addictions.

These issues have affected all Islanders. But in particular, they have affected those already most vulnerable – those living in poverty. If the Council is to properly advise government, we must be wholly honest in our assessment on the ground: it is a precarious situation. We see that stark reality on the streets of our capital, and in other cities, towns and communities. We also see many medium-income Islanders, especially young adults, sequestered at home, unable to live independently and at risk of slipping into poverty themselves.

As this report shows, however, the provincial government is genuinely striving to help Islanders in need, support the most vulnerable, build on our supportive communities and partners, and improve the well-being of children and youth. We commend them for their work. A general election in 2023 brought a new Minister of Social Development and Seniors, and a wind-down of the Poverty Reduction Action Plan, introduced in 2019.

Interestingly, statistics appear to show that the federal government’s Canada Emergency Response Benefit (CERB) payments during the pandemic unintentionally gave proof of concept to Basic Guaranteed Income as a means of raising people out of poverty. While that requires further attention, it emphasizes the fact that poverty elimination boils down to political action.

Income security is a critical social determinant of health and an essential element in eliminating poverty. Dedicated efforts to advance income security for low-income Islanders and those living in poverty must continue to be taken to alleviate the daily struggle to meet basic needs, and significant steps must be taken to address the growing intolerance that is occurring within our communities. Committing to crucial sustainable programming that supports our most vulnerable Islanders living with mental health issues and addictions, under-housing and homelessness, and food insecurity challenges is a fundamental step.

The following report uses more reliable statistics, using the Homeless Individuals and Families Information System (HIFIS). This builds off the hard work of those who previously gathered data using Point in Time Counts (PiT Counts) and we thank those individuals for their dedication.

The creation of a new strategy will be the Council’s main effort in 2024. We look forward to continuing to work with government in striving to meet the *Poverty Elimination Strategy Act’s* 2025 targets.

In your service,

The Poverty Elimination Council

Jason MacGregor

Roxanne Carter-Thompson

Patsy MacLean

James Mallard

Clover Gallant

Yvonne Gallant

Liza Jamani

Sidney Reid

Andrea MacDonald

Ayo Ogunleye

Regina Younker

Message du Conseil pour l'élimination de la pauvreté

Ce rapport est le deuxième depuis l'adoption de la *Poverty Elimination Strategy Act* (loi sur la stratégie d'élimination de la pauvreté) et la création du Conseil pour l'élimination de la pauvreté en mai 2021. Depuis lors, les Insulaires sont sortis de la pandémie de COVID-19, fatigués par des années de restrictions en matière de santé publique, pour ensuite faire face à d'autres crises liées à l'inflation, au coût de la vie, à la santé mentale et à la toxicomanie.

Ces enjeux touchent tous les Insulaires, mais en particulier les habitants les plus vulnérables qui vivent dans la pauvreté. Si le Conseil souhaite guider efficacement le gouvernement, il doit d'abord être tout à fait honnête dans son évaluation sur le terrain : la situation est précaire. Nous constatons une dure réalité dans les rues de notre capitale et dans d'autres villes et communautés. Nous voyons également de nombreux Insulaires à revenu moyen, en particulier de jeunes adultes, séquestrés chez eux, incapables de vivre de manière indépendante et risquant de sombrer eux-mêmes dans la pauvreté.

Toutefois, comme le montre ce rapport, le gouvernement provincial s'efforce réellement d'aider les Insulaires dans le besoin, de soutenir les populations les plus vulnérables, de tirer parti des communautés et partenaires solidaires et d'améliorer le bien-être des enfants et des jeunes. Ce travail mérite nos félicitations. À la suite des élections générales de 2023, on a nommé une nouvelle ministre du Développement social et des Aînés, et le Plan d'action de réduction de la pauvreté, lancé en 2019, a touché à sa fin.

Des statistiques intéressantes indiquent que les paiements effectués pendant la pandémie par le gouvernement fédéral au titre de la prestation canadienne d'urgence auraient démontré la faisabilité du revenu de base garanti comme moyen de sortir les gens de la pauvreté. Bien que cette question mérite un examen plus approfondi, elle souligne le fait que l'élimination de la pauvreté se résume à une action politique.

La sécurité du revenu est un déterminant social crucial de la santé et, par le fait même, un élément essentiel de l'élimination de la pauvreté. Il faut continuer à déployer des efforts pour améliorer la sécurité du revenu des Insulaires à faible revenu et des personnes vivant dans la pauvreté afin d'alléger la lutte quotidienne pour satisfaire les besoins de base. Par ailleurs, il faut prendre des mesures importantes pour lutter contre l'intolérance croissante qui se manifeste au sein de nos communautés. Une étape fondamentale de ce processus sera de s'engager à mettre en place des programmes essentiels durables pour aider les populations les plus vulnérables de l'Île, c'est-à-dire les personnes confrontées à des problèmes de logement, d'insécurité alimentaire, de santé mentale et de toxicomanie.

Le rapport qui suit utilise des statistiques plus fiables tirées du Système d'information sur les personnes et les familles sans abri (SISA). Il s'appuie sur le travail acharné des personnes qui ont précédemment recueilli des données à l'aide de dénombrements ponctuels, et nous les remercions pour leur dévouement.

En 2024, le Conseil concentrera ses efforts sur la création d'une nouvelle stratégie. Nous avons hâte de poursuivre notre collaboration avec le gouvernement provincial pour atteindre les objectifs fixés par la *Poverty Elimination Strategy Act* pour 2025.

À votre service,

Le Conseil pour l'élimination de la pauvreté

Jason MacGregor

Roxanne Carter-Thompson

Patsy MacLean

James Mallard

Clover Gallant

Yvonne Gallant

Liza Jamani

Sidney Reid

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Ayo Ogunleye

Regina Younker

Poverty Elimination Annual Report, 2022-23

The *Poverty Elimination Strategy Act* became law in May 2021. The Government of Prince Edward Island is required by the Act to provide an annual report on progress made toward targets to eliminate poverty, food insecurity, and chronic homelessness.

The Poverty Reduction Action Plan 2019-2024 is recognized in the Act as the strategy in effect at this time. There have been many changes and developments on how the province is addressing poverty on PEI. Government is currently working to develop a new strategy, which will be released in 2024.

The Poverty Reduction Action Plan aims to protect all persons in PEI from falling into poverty, assist individuals to overcome poverty, and promote dignity and quality of life for all. The goals within the Poverty Reduction Action Plan are:

- 1. To help Islanders in need**
- 2. To support the most vulnerable**
- 3. To build on our supportive communities and partners**
- 4. To improve the well-being of children and youth**

Under the framework of the Poverty Reduction Action Plan 2019-2024, Government has taken significant actions to address poverty in PEI. The following section focuses on achievements made towards alleviating poverty in PEI. This report highlights actions taken from April 1, 2022 to March 31, 2023.

Achievements made in 2022-2023

Goal # 1 - To help Islanders in need

Actions under this goal support people in PEI who are experiencing poverty due to multiple barriers that limit their participation in the workforce. By removing barriers to create better access to supports and services, and creating opportunities in education, training, skill development, and connecting to the workforce, people will be better prepared to move out of poverty. Adequate income supports and benefits will improve wellbeing and enable people to meet their needs.

- **Increased Social Assistance rates**
 - Island households receiving provincial Social Assistance or Assured Income benefits received an eight per cent increase to their basic unit rate. There were also increases to all shelter ceilings for social programs and social housing clients, and increases to communication, optical and transportation benefits. These increases were effective as of December 1, 2022.
- **Increased investments in job readiness, pre-employment, and high-demand job training programs**
 - Department of Workforce, Advanced Learning and Population increased investments in job training programs, focusing on preparing clients for long-term sustainable employment.
- **Increased minimum wage**
 - Minimum wage increased to \$14.50 on January 1, 2023.
- **Increased access to bridging programs**
 - Department of Economic Growth, Tourism and Culture increased Newcomer Work Ready budget for the RN Bridging Program to \$618,000.
- **Comprehensive Review of the Employment Standards Act**
 - Department of Economic Growth, Tourism and Culture completed Phase 2 of the review process, consisting of public consultations, during the Fall and Winter of 2022-23.
- **Prosper Program expanded**
 - Skills PEI expanded the Program to support the referral process from the Department of Social Development and Seniors.
- **Expanded number of drugs covered under the provincial formulary and reduced out-of-pocket expenses for Islanders accessing necessary drugs through provincial drug programs**
 - More than 85 drugs have been added or expanded on the provincial formulary. An additional 16 are being reviewed.
 - The Substance Use Harm Reduction Program has been implemented. This is a program that provides medications used in the management of opioid and alcohol dependency with no burden of out-of-pocket cost.
 - 24 medications have been moved to open benefit with no special authorization requirement, with more in progress. This change saves physician time, reduces administrative burden, and improves timely access.
 - \$5 copays have been implemented for more than 150 commonly used medications for cardiovascular disease, diabetes, and mental health for Island residents covered in the Seniors, Diabetes, Family Health Benefit, and Generic Drug programs.
 - High Cost Drug Program changes have been implemented. These expand the program eligibility to include all income levels and removes barriers for those in financial assistance and nursing home programs.
 - Catastrophic Drug Program changes have been implemented. These changes expanded coverage levels available and reduce the household cap for annual out-of-pocket costs.

Goal # 2 – To support the most vulnerable

Some people in PEI face challenges so significant they are not able to support themselves through employment. This population needs a wider and deeper range of supports. Actions under this goal have families, communities, and government playing a vital role in ensuring everyone has their basic needs met, enjoy good quality of life, and live in dignity.

- **Expanded the Targeted Basic Income Guarantee Pilot Program (TBIG)**
 - TBIG is a program designed to provide supplementary financial supports to clients of Social Assistance and AccessAbility supports who fit the criteria of the program (those unable to enter the workforce and youth exiting the care of the Director of Child Protection). The number of residents involved in the TBIG program increased to 635 clients.
- **Enhanced case management approaches for persons with low-income related to primary care services and community-based service providers**
 - Health PEI expanded the current model of primary care to Patient Medical Homes. There are now 14 Patient Medical Homes launched in PEI. The Patient Medical Home Model is endorsed by the College of Family Physicians of Canada and has improved access to primary care in other jurisdictions.
- **Increased access to mental health services in the areas of greatest need and impact on vulnerable populations using a collaborative approach**
 - Health PEI implemented One-at-a-Time services across Community Mental Health providing immediate access to services for Islanders.

Goal # 3 – To build on our supportive communities and partners

Actions under this goal are aimed at preventing poverty, as life transitions can leave anyone vulnerable to poverty. By growing resilience, people in PEI will be better prepared to respond to life changes without experiencing poverty. People become resilient by having a healthy start in life, maintaining good health throughout their lives, attaining education and training, developing a strong sense of belonging in their community, and preparing for retirement. Supportive communities strengthen the social fabric that fosters resiliency.

- **The health system increased technologies to improve health services and increase access**
 - Implemented Virtual Hallway where physicians and Nurse Practitioners (NPs) have access to PE and NS based specialists for telephone consults to reduce need for in-person referral to out-of-province specialists.
 - Began offering access information sessions for Maple across PEI to assist in registration on the platform.
 - Began using remote patient monitoring and AlayaCare (Electronic Medical Records) to increase communication across providers as a part of Health PEI Homecare.

- **Funding was provided under the Rural Growth Initiative**
 - Through the Department of Fisheries and Communities six projects were approved for a contribution of \$99,050. Projects include Collège de l'Île's leadership development program, Community Foundation's Vital Conversation project and Habitat for Humanity staff training and development.

- **Increased health care providers' awareness of Indigenous health issues, traditional medicines and cultural supports to enhance integration and effectiveness of treatments and interventions**
 - Primary Care and Chronic Disease offered Indigenous Cultural Competency training to staff. The Department of Health and Wellness and the Public Service Commission created a new online reconciliation training opportunity with two modules - Indigenous Awareness and *Moving Towards Reconciliation*.

- **Developed Island Community Food Security Program**
 - Department of Agriculture and Land implemented the Island Community Food Security Program which is designed to support the expansion of local markets while simultaneously supporting goals related to community food security, particularly increasing access to affordable local food and improving health and food safety.

Goal # 4 – To improve the well-being of children and youth

Efforts to achieve this goal support all children and youth in PEI. Investing in children and youth, including poverty reduction measures, directly affects their growth, development and well-being throughout their lives. This leads to better health, emotional and social skills, performance in school and training, and it means that the next generation will be better equipped to thrive, lead, and participate in their communities.

- **Enhanced programs that promote employment opportunities**
 - Department of Workforce, Advanced Learning and Population continued to expand and enhance programs with a focus on employment (i.e., additional cohorts in carpentry, Trade-HERizons, CASTL, cook training, and bus driver training) and support for employed workers through workplace skills training to increase skills.
- **Formalized and expanded the SEAM/STAR Program**
 - The SEAM/STAR program was expanded to include Indigenous communities and persons with disabilities and was offered across PEI to high school students who were referred.
- **Increased awareness of student financial supports**
 - In addition to website updates that help explain how each post-secondary provincial grant works, (e.g. eligibility criteria, amounts), YouTube videos that explain student loan and bursary programs were created and launched. These videos are updated annually and have been well received by parents, students, and institutions since their inception during the pandemic.
- **Expanded Food Programs**
 - Through the Summer Food Program, families who identified as requiring support providing healthy lunches for their children during the summer break were able to apply for this program at no cost to the family. Each school-aged child was delivered five meals a week for nine weeks in July and August. The program expanded to deliver almost 50,000 meals across the province in 2022.
 - The PEI School Food Program experienced significant growth and provided over 600,000 healthy school lunches during the 2022-23 school year.
- **Enhanced investments in timely access to physical assessments for children with complex needs to identify their learning needs**
 - Physiotherapist positions that were piloted in 2021-22 were made permanent.
- **Implemented Social Emotional Learning Program (SEL) in all PSB K-6 schools**
 - Under the leadership of English Programs, all Public Schools Branch schools are engaging with SEL training prior to starting a cycle of School Goals with the focus on SEL.
 - French Education Programs and Services (FEPS) recently hired a Career Education and Wellness Leader who will be working on the creation of SEL training opportunities for La Commission Scolaire de Langue Française schools and FEPS staff.
 - FEPS developed an asynchronous Diversity, Equity and Inclusion module for teachers.

- **Made further investments for literacy interventions and supports to foster learning and future success**
 - Foundations literacy program was implemented at grade 1 in all Public Schools Branch classes (English).
 - Decodable books were purchased for Foundations pilot schools.
 - English Programs established a Right to Read Working Group to respond to and create recommendations based on the Ontario Human Right's Commission Right to Read Report.
 - FEPS purchased (and created) decodable texts for use in schools and are following a similar model to Foundations.
 - Department of Education, Early Learning and Child Care established a literacy committee that worked on the creation of a common literacy message (and actions) that will be shared with teachers, in response to the Ontario Right to Read report.
 - Public Schools Branch piloted tier 1 and tier 2 interventions (La Forêt de l'alphabet et Le Sentier) as part of their literacy interventions.

- **Education, Early Learning and Child Care continued to enhance curriculum-based life skills (including financial literacy) and employability skills to support self-sufficiency in adulthood**
 - Intermediate curriculum delivery renewal was finalized by increasing exploratory time on task to 20% and expanding the number of exploratory modules.
 - Intermediate curriculum delivery renewal provided opportunities for teachers/schools to offer exploratory modules (that explicitly focused on the development of the Essential Graduation Competencies).

- **Continued to incorporate reconciliation in school and post-secondary institution curriculum by understanding and learning about the history of Indigenous peoples in Canada**
 - The Indigenous Education Advisory Committee continued to advise on the development of curriculum resources and professional learning opportunities.
 - All 56 Public Schools Branch schools participated in the 2022 Truth and Reconciliation week.
 - Resources associated with Truth and Reconciliation week were shared with French Second Language and French First Language schools.

Looking Forward to 2023-24

Several actions are planned for 2022-2023 that will continue to work towards the poverty elimination targets. Some of these actions include:

- **Reducing Poverty**
 - Minimum wage will increase to \$15 on October 1, 2023.
- **Improving Food Insecurity**
 - Increase funding to the School Food Program, which provides meals using a “Pay What You Can” model in Island schools. Over 700,000 meals are projected to be provided in the 2023-2024 school year.
 - Expand the number of children served by the Summer Food Program, which provides meals to Island children and youth whose families express a need for meal options over the summer months when the School Food Program is not available.
 - Develop a food waste reduction strategy to help address household food insecurity.
- **Reducing Chronic Homelessness**
 - A new Housing Strategy from the PEI Housing Corporation is set to be released in 2023-24.
 - Increase emergency shelter options for those experiencing homelessness.

Measuring Poverty in Prince Edward Island

Key Indicators

The *Poverty Elimination Strategy Act* sets out targets for five key indicators for measuring poverty in PEI. As per the Act, 2018 is the base year from which future target years will be compared. The five key indicators as mandated by the Act are:

Indicator	2025 Target	2030 Target	2035 Target	As Measured By
Poverty rate for all persons	25% reduction	50% reduction	Rate is 0	Market Basket Measure
Poverty rate for those under 18	50% reduction	Rate is 0	Rate is 0	Market Basket Measure
Food insecurity for all persons	50% reduction	Rate is 0	Rate is 0	Canada Income Survey
Food insecurity for those under 18	Rate is 0	Rate is 0	Rate is 0	Canada Income Survey
Chronic homelessness	Rate is 0	Rate is 0	Rate is 0	2021 Point-in-Time Count 2022 Homeless Individuals and Families Information System (HIFIS)

Market Basket Measure

The Market Basket Measure (MBM) is both Prince Edward Island and Canada's official poverty line. The MBM looks at the actual cost of a basket of goods that would be required to live a modest lifestyle. The MBM is calculated for 53 different geographic regions in Canada, including three in Prince Edward Island. Figures for this measurement are typically provided by Statistics Canada two years after the sample is taken.

Market Basket Measure Thresholds 2019, 2020 and 2021 for a sample family of four, PEI Regions

Region	2019	2020	2021
PEI – Rural	\$42,284	\$42,745	\$44,753
PEI – Population under 30,000	\$43,056	\$43,517	\$45,564
PEI – Charlottetown	\$44,027	\$44,505	\$46,551

Statistics Canada Table 11-10-0066-01, June 21, 2023

Food Insecurity

The Household Food Security Survey Model (HSFFM) is collected through the Canadian Income Survey (previously collected through the Canadian Community Health Survey). This survey asks 18 questions relating to the amount of food available to parents and children in the home. Based on the answers, persons can be food secure or experiencing marginal, moderate or severe levels of food insecurity.

Chronic Homelessness

As of April 2022, data on homelessness is being collected through Homeless Individuals and Families Information System (HIFIS). The John Howard Society of PEI, as the Community Entity for the Government of Canada's Reaching Home Strategy, has supported the implementation of HIFIS in PEI. Prior to the implementation of HIFIS, Point in Time Counts (PIT Counts) were used to measure homelessness in PEI. PIT Counts involve surveying homeless people on the streets and in shelters in Charlottetown and Summerside. Also, Government departments, agencies, health institutions and housing programs were asked to review their files to identify clients experiencing homelessness. Data from the 2021 PIT Counts and the 2022 HIFIS will be presented in this report.

Poverty Rates

Percentage of Persons in Low Income in Prince Edward Island 2019, 2020 and 2021, Market Basket Measure

All Persons

Region	2019	2020	2021
PEI	12.3	7.6	7.4
Canada	10.3	6.4	7.4

Statistics Canada Table 11-10-0135-01, May 2, 2023

Persons Under 18 Years of Age

Region	2019	2020	2021
PEI	14.6*	7.2*	*4.4
Canada	9.4	4.7	6.4

Statistics Canada Table 11-10-0135-01, May 2, 2023

*Low sample size, use this data with caution

Percentage of Persons Experiencing Food Insecurity 2019, 2020 and 2021, Canadian Income Survey

All Persons*

	2019	2020	2021
PEI	18.6	16.5	23.6
Canada	15.9	15.7	18.4

Statistics Canada Table 13-10-0835-01, May 2, 2023

*Combination of persons reporting marginal, moderate and severe food insecurity

Percentage of Persons Experiencing Food Insecurity 2019, 2020 and 2021, Canadian Income Survey

Persons under 18 Years of Age*

	2019	2020	2021
PEI	25.8	25.4	35.1
Canada	20.0	19.6	24.3

Statistics Canada Table 13-10-0835-01, May 2, 2023

*Combination of persons reporting marginal, moderate and severe food insecurity

Homelessness*

	2021 (PiT)	2022 (HIFIS)
Number of people experiencing homelessness (street count, file reviews, surveys)	147	231
Survey Data	2021	2022
Gender	Male – 57% Female – 41% Two-Spirit – 2%	Male- 67% Female- 33%
Other characteristics	Indigenous – 1% Immigrant or refugee – 1% Veteran – 1%	Indigenous – 1.7% Immigrant or refugee – 3% Veteran – 1.7%

* Caution should be exercised when comparing 2021 and 2022 data as different collection methods were used.



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<https://www.princeedwardisland.ca/en/topic/social-development-and-seniors>