“It is profoundly disappointing that our 22nd annual BC Child Poverty Report Card still shows one in five (172,550) BC children are poor.”

DOWNLOAD THE REPORT CARD: STILL1IN5.CA

First Call: BC Child and Youth Advocacy Coalition
2018 BC Child Poverty Report Card
In 2016, BC children made up 18% of the province’s total population, yet they made up 20% of British Columbians living in poverty.

There were 12,420 fewer children living in poverty in 2016 than in 2015, the biggest year-over-year decrease since between 2004 and 2005. If we continue to reduce the number of children living in poverty by this number every year, child poverty in BC could be eliminated by 2030.
CHILD POVERTY ACROSS BRITISH COLUMBIA

24 out of the 29 regional districts in BC had at least 1,000 children living in poverty.

To view and download this map, and additional maps of child poverty rates for Metro Vancouver and other urban areas, visit www.still1in5.ca
CHILD POVERTY ACROSS BRITISH COLUMBIA

Children 0-17 Years Old in British Columbia in Low Income Families (Based on Census Family Low Income Measure After Tax - CFLIM) in 2016 by Census Metropolitan Area and Census Agglomeration Area (CMA, CA)

Note: For clarity the Vancouver CMA has been removed. See maps on the Child Poverty Report Card website for details on Metro Vancouver.

Number of children 0-17 years old in low income families and % of children 0-17 years old in low income families for this community.
VOTE FOR A POVERTY REDUCTION PLAN!

MAY 9, 2017 BRITISH COLUMBIA

MAKE POVERTY PUBLIC
POVERTY REDUCTION CAMPAIGNS


• Minimum Wage Campaign

• Child care advocacy/ $10 a Day Plan

www.firstcallbc.org / www.still1in5.ca
POVERTY REDUCTION CAMPAIGNS

Fostering Change:
• Universal and comprehensive supports for youth transitioning out of government care

Child Opportunity Benefit
announced in February 2019 provincial budget:
• Now covers children 0-18 (instead of 0-6)
• Max $1600/yr (instead of $660)
• Will invest $280M more each year in lower income children.

www.firstcallbc.org / www.still1in5.ca
SOCIAL DETERMINANTS OF HEALTH: LARGEST

Factors that Affect Health

Examples

- Eat healthy, be physically active
- Rx for high blood pressure, high cholesterol, diabetes
- Immunizations, brief intervention, cessation treatment, colonoscopy
- Fluoridation, 0g trans fat, iodization, smoke-free laws, tobacco tax
- Poverty, education, housing, inequality

- Counseling & Education
- Clinical Interventions
- Long-lasting Protective Interventions
- Changing the Context to make individuals’ default decisions healthy
- Socioeconomic Factors

Smallest Impact

Largest Impact
Child wellbeing is better in more equal rich countries

# 1 IN 5 BC CHILDREN LIVING IN POVERTY

## All Ages, Child (0-17 years old) and Children Under Age 6

**Poverty Rates, BC and Canada, CFLIM After Tax, 2016**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>BC</th>
<th>Canada</th>
<th>BC Poverty Rate</th>
<th>Canada Poverty Rate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Young children (0-5 years)</td>
<td>55,160 young children</td>
<td>487,980 young children</td>
<td>20.1%</td>
<td>20.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>poverty rate</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Child (0-17 years)</td>
<td>172,550 children</td>
<td>1,420,510 children</td>
<td>20.3%</td>
<td>19.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>poverty rate</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All ages</td>
<td>854,770 people</td>
<td>5,843,170 people</td>
<td>18.7%</td>
<td>16.8%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

HIGHER RISK OF POVERTY FOR SOME BC CHILDREN

Child Poverty Rate for Different Population Groups, BC, LIM After Tax, 2015 (based on 2016 Census)

- Visible minority children: 23%
- Aboriginal children (off reserve only): 30.9%
- Recent immigrant children: 44.9%

The failure of the census data to capture on-reserve poverty means the 30.9% poverty rate underestimates poverty among Aboriginal children in BC.

Child (0-17 year old) poverty rate, 45 BC First Nations reserves, CFLIM-AT, 2016

- All 45 reserves with data available: 44.1%
  - 3,960 children
- Rural reserves: 52.2%
  - 2,170 children
- Urban (within CMA/CA reserves): 37.1%
  - 1,790 children
In 2016, 82% of BC lone-parent families were female-led.

Single mothers’ median annual income was only 69% of single fathers’ income.
CHILD POVERTY AND WORKING PARENTS

Couple families with Children with Total Incomes Below Regional Living Wages, 2016

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Below the living wage of</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Vancouver</td>
<td>$20.64</td>
<td>32%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Abbotsford-Mission</td>
<td>$16.28</td>
<td>19%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Victoria</td>
<td>$20.02</td>
<td>18%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parksville</td>
<td>$16.76</td>
<td>16%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kamloops</td>
<td>$17.21</td>
<td>13%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prince George</td>
<td>$16.52</td>
<td>12%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


livingwageforfamilies.ca
CHILD POVERTY AND WORKING PARENTS

livingwageforfamilies.ca
In 2016, a family of four on welfare had to get by on $24,602. That’s 40% below the poverty line leaving a poverty gap of $16,245.
In 2018, **39,510** BC children relied on food banks.

The stress of poverty is toxic to the health of both parents and children.

681 homeless children & youth 0-24 were counted in the Metro Vancouver 2018 count, including 291 under 19.
MATERNITY BENEFIT CLAWBACKS ELIMINATED

EI maternity and parental benefits made fully exempt for people on income and disability assistance.

Change benefits 200 parents on income and disability assistance each year.

The Community Legal Assistance Society, which prepared the complaint, said Alford worked in a bookstore and paid premiums into employment insurance. When she left work to have a baby, the provincial government deducted the entire amount of her maternity and parental benefits from her partner's disability assistance.

"My family's income went down at a time when we needed it the most — all because I had to take time off work to have my child," Alford said in a statement announcing her claim last May.

"I was forced into a position of choosing to take leave and impoverish my family or return to work immediately following the birth of my child when I wasn't physically ready."
IMPORTANCE OF GOVERNMENT HELP

We know what works. We can do more!

71,560 BC children were kept out of poverty in 2016 thanks to government help.
KEEP IN TOUCH!

Support our calls to action at
www.firstcallbc.org & still1in5.ca

Facebook: FirstCallBC

Follow us on Twitter @FirstCallBC

Email us at info@firstcallbc.org