

Child and Family Poverty

INNER CITY
VOTES

2021 FEDERAL ELECTION



What's Happening?

Campaign 2000 national [report](#) card shows nearly 1 in 5 children live in poverty (1,356,980 or 18.6%) in Canada with over-representation (higher than their actual population percentage) Indigenous children, racialized and immigrant children, and children in female-led single parent families.

Why is This Happening?

High rates of poverty and unjustifiable levels of income inequality persist in Canada. The rise in housing costs, food prices, child care fees, and the cost of prescription medication along with other necessities means families are left to make impossible choices every day about what they can afford and what they must do without. Of the 5 federal electoral ridings that have the highest rates of child poverty, Manitoba has 3. Winnipeg Centre is the urban federal riding with the highest rate across the country.

The official use of the Market Basket Measure used by the federal government drastically underestimates the rate, depth and prevalence of poverty. It does not include First Nation communities for example. Using the widely accepted Low-Income Measure calculated from tax filer data, the Campaign 2000 [report](#) illustrates the breadth and depth of poverty in Canada and calls for bold targets to reduce poverty by 50% by the year 2025.

The report examines the impact of the Canada Child Benefit (CCB) on family incomes over its first full year of implementation. The CCB has had an impact. However many families still cannot access the CCB due to systemic barriers such as immigration status and inability to file taxes for a variety of reasons.

Questions to Ask

- How will your party improve on the CCB?
- How will your party plan to assist parents in various kinds of shelters, especially women fleeing violence so they can file their taxes and receive CCB?
- How will your party initiate agreements with provinces and territories to ensure those levels of government are doing what they can to build on the CCB?
- Does your party plan to support a comprehensive poverty measurement that is more reliable and realistic than the Market Basket Measure so that tangible goals to end child and family poverty can be set and achieved? If yes, how? If no, why?

Not Sure Who to Vote For Overall? Why not check out [CBC's Vote Compass](#) to take a quick survey to help figure out which party best represents your priorities?