



INCOME SECURITY FACT SHEET

GUELPH & WELLINGTON TASK FORCE FOR POVERTY ELIMINATION / 2015

OUR GOAL

Everyone in Guelph & Wellington has the income, resources and opportunities to fully participate in the community.



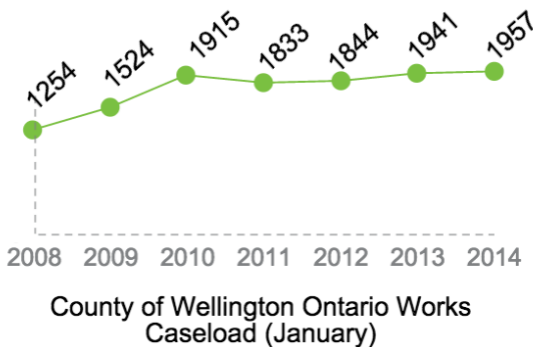
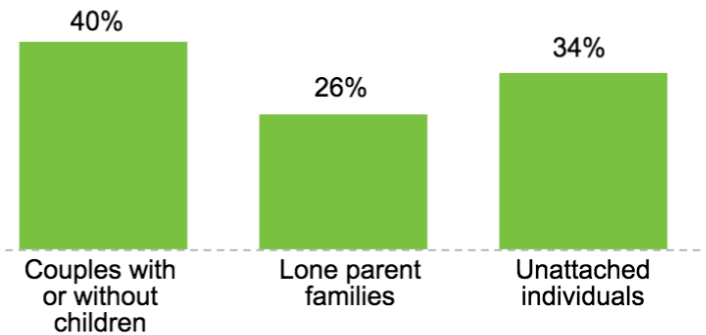
OVERALL

11%

of individuals from Guelph are living below the Low Income Measure.



Percentage of individuals living below the Low Income Measure by family type:



IN GUELPH-WELLINGTON



Single men compromise **43%** of Ontario Works caseloads

From 2008 - 2014, there has been a **9%** increase in single males on Ontario Works

ONTARIO WORKS MONTHLY RATE FOR A SINGLE PERSON:

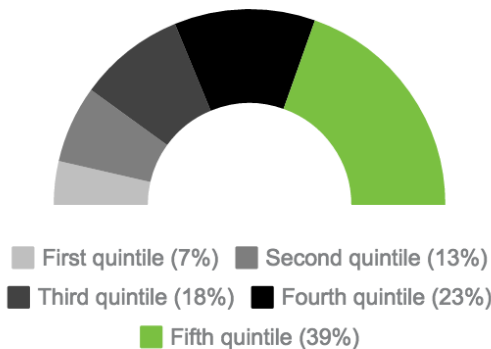
\$656



Median total family income for all family types in Guelph **\$55,640**



Median total family income for all low-income family types in Guelph **\$12,650**



INCOME EQUALITY IN CANADA

The graph shows that the richest income group (fifth quintile) has by far the largest share of Canada's economic pie - with 39.2 per cent of total national income.



BASIC INCOME GUARANTEE

A Basic Income Guarantee ensures everyone an income sufficient to meet basic needs and live with dignity, regardless of work status.



A recent National Council of Welfare Report on the Dollars and Sense of Poverty estimated that it would cost **\$12.6 BILLION** to top up the 3.5 million Canadians beneath the poverty line. That is **LESS THAN 5%** of the federal budget. And less than half the cost imposed on the economy by poverty and its effects.

THE COST OF POVERTY

In 2011, the federal government spent **\$19.9 BILLION** on **Employment Insurance benefits** alone. The same year, almost **\$4 BILLION** was transferred to low-income families from the federal government.

\$1 invested in the first few years of a low-income person's life can save up to

\$9 in the future in health and criminal justice systems.



CANADA NEEDS A NATIONAL ANTI-POVERTY PLAN THAT INCLUDES INCOME SECURITY.

INCOME INSECURITY SOLUTIONS



Introduce a Basic Income Guarantee



Enhance the Canada Social Transfer to include a boost of \$2 billion to the provinces to support poverty reduction efforts.



Increase the Guaranteed Income Supplement (GIS) by the amount required to lift the incomes of all seniors out of poverty.



Reform the Employment Insurance program by easing eligibility requirements, extending benefit durations, and increasing benefit rates.

Canada-wide resources on health inequities:

- Learn more about the cost of poverty in Canada: <http://www.cwp-csp.ca/poverty/the-cost-of-poverty/>
- Explore the Basic Income Canada Network website for resources and FAQ's about basic income: <http://www.basicincomecanada.org/>
- Read the National Anti-Poverty Plan for Canada and learn about the Canada Social Transfer, the Guaranteed Income Supplement, and the Employment Insurance program: <http://www.dignityforall.ca/en/FedPlan>

LEARN MORE



Local resources for Guelph-Wellington

- Review local research reports on health inequities on the Poverty Task Force website: <http://www.gwpoverity.ca/resources/research-reports/>
- Learn about social assistance in Wellington County by reading the 2014 Ontario Works Caseload Profile: http://www.wellington.ca/en/socialservices/resources/Ontario_Works/2014_Caseload_Profile.pdf
- Visit the Poverty Task Force website with information on issues that matter, and on how and where to vote: www.gwpoverity.ca/vote2015
- Find the candidates in your riding by simply entering your postal code: <http://www.makingvotescount.ca/prime-minister-and-mps>

TAKE ACTION



Add your name to the Basic Income Canada Network's petition for support basic income: <http://www.basicincomecanada.org/support>

Petition federal party leaders to debate on issues that affect municipalities, including affordable housing

Share these resources on Twitter, Facebook, email, etc.

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