

# Number of People on Welfare

In 2005,  
NEARLY  
HALF A MILLION  
of the 1.7 million  
people on welfare  
were  
CHILDREN.

The table below provides, for each province and territory, the estimated number of people receiving welfare in March, from 1995 to 2005. The totals exclude an estimated 150,000 First Nations people on reserve who are receiving social assistance.

## ESTIMATED NUMBER OF PEOPLE ON WELFARE BY PROVINCE AND TERRITORY

	March 31, 1995	March 31, 1996	March 31, 1997	March 31, 1998	March 31, 1999	March 31, 2000	March 31, 2001	March 31, 2002	March 31, 2003	March 31, 2004	March 31, 2005	% Change 2004-2005
<b>NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR</b>	71,300	72,000	71,900	64,600	59,900	59,400	54,400	52,100	51,200	49,800	48,500	<b>-2.6%</b>
<b>PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND</b>	12,400	11,700	11,100	10,900	9,800	8,400	7,900	7,500	7,000	7,100	6,900	<b>-2.8%</b>
<b>NOVA SCOTIA</b>	104,000	103,100	93,700	85,500	80,900	73,700	66,800	61,500	58,300	56,300	52,300	<b>-7.1%</b>
<b>NEW BRUNSWICK</b>	67,400	67,100	70,600	67,100	61,800	56,300	52,900	50,700	49,300	47,100	45,300	<b>-3.8%</b>
<b>QUEBEC</b>	802,200	813,200	793,300	725,700	661,300	618,900	576,600	560,800	544,200	532,200	518,200	<b>-2.6%</b>
<b>ONTARIO</b>	1,344,600	1,214,600	1,149,600	1,091,300	910,100	802,000	709,200	687,600	673,900	672,000	676,500	<b>0.7%</b>
<b>MANITOBA</b>	85,200	85,800	79,100	72,700	68,700	63,300	60,500	60,100	59,900	60,800	60,900	<b>0.2%</b>
<b>SASKATCHEWAN</b>	82,200	80,600	79,700	72,500	66,500	63,800	60,900	56,100	53,200	51,800	48,700	<b>-6.0%</b>
<b>ALBERTA</b>	113,200	105,600	89,800	77,000	71,900	64,800	58,000	53,800	57,800	59,900	56,400	<b>-5.8%</b>
<b>BRITISH COLUMBIA</b>	374,300	369,900	321,300	297,400	275,200	262,400	252,900	241,200	180,700	165,000	149,300	<b>-9.5%</b>
<b>YUKON</b>	2,100	1,700	2,000	2,100	1,700	1,400	1,300	1,000	1,100	1,300	1,100	<b>-15.4%</b>
<b>NORTHWEST TERRITORIES</b>	12,000	11,800	12,800	10,700	11,300	3,400	2,200	2,100	1,900	2,000	1,900	<b>-5.0%</b>
<b>NUNAVUT</b>						7,300	7,300	8,100	7,100	8,600	13,800	<b>60.5%</b>
<b>CANADA</b>	<b>3,070,900</b>	<b>2,937,100</b>	<b>2,774,900</b>	<b>2,577,500</b>	<b>2,279,100</b>	<b>2,085,100</b>	<b>1,910,900</b>	<b>1,842,600</b>	<b>1,745,800</b>	<b>1,713,900</b>	<b>1,679,800</b>	<b>-2.0%</b>

Please refer to *Welfare Incomes 2005* for additional details.