

## Prevalence of low income in New Brunswick

This report uses the [low-income measure, after tax \(LIM-AT\)](#) to classify persons by income status. The concept underlying the LIM-AT is that a household has low income if its income is less than half of the median income of all households. A person living alone had low income if their after-tax income was under \$22,133 in 2015, while persons in a household of four had low income if the household's after-tax income was under \$44,266.

- The low-income rate was relatively stable from 2005 to 2015. In 2015, 123,820 New Brunswickers or 17.1% of the population were in low income. This was similar to the rate in 2005 (17.2%).
- A slightly larger proportion of children under 18 years of age were living in low-income households in 2015 than in 2005, as the rate increased slightly from 22.0% to 22.2%. The low-income rate among New Brunswick's working-age population fell from 15.8% in 2005 to 14.7% in 2015, while the proportion of seniors 65 years of age and older in low income rose from 17.0% to 20.2% over the decade.
- Nationally, the proportion of the population living in low income edged up from 14.0% in 2005 to 14.2% in 2015.
- While the prevalence of low income fell in most provinces between 2005 and 2015, Ontario, Prince Edward Island and British Columbia saw an increase in their low-income rates. New Brunswick had the second-highest prevalence of low income in the country in 2015 after Nova Scotia.

