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Median earnings¹ for economic families with earnings, both senior and non-senior families, for Canada, provinces and territories, and census divisions - 20% sample data

Geographic name	Number			Median earnings		
	2005	2000	% change	2005	2000	% change
Canada !	7,635,010	6,968,770	9.6%	\$ 60,270	\$ 61,439	- 1.9%
Nunavut !	5,760	5,400	6.7%	\$ 58,400	\$ 44,909	30.0%
Baffin (Nvt.) !	3,190	2,950	8.1%	\$ 64,889	\$ 51,558	25.9%
Keewatin (Nvt.) !	1,505	1,465	2.7%	\$ 51,072	\$ 39,264	30.1%
Kitikmeot (Nvt.)	1,060	990	7.1%	\$ 50,496	\$ 37,065	36.2%

Notes:

1. Medians are not available for counts less than 250. Earnings are in 2005 constant dollars.
2. Non-senior families (at least one partner or spouse or the reference person is aged less than 65).
3. Senior families (both spouses or partners or the reference person is aged 65 and over).

Earnings historical variations

Due to improved collection methodology, income and earnings data from the 2006 Census is more complete, precise and less subject to rounding than in prior censuses. Small dollar amounts, which in the past may not have been reported, are now more likely to be captured. Compared to prior censuses, this has resulted in an increased number of earners and lower median and average earnings. Users are advised to exercise caution when interpreting census-to-census changes in statistics and counts of specific cells within an earnings distribution. This comparability issue is less apparent when considering the earnings of full-year, full-time workers.

Income suppression

Area suppression is the deletion of all characteristic data for geographic areas with populations below a specified size. Income distributions and related statistics are suppressed if the population in the area, excluding institutional residents, is less than 250 from either the 100% or the 20% database, or if the number of private households is less than 40 from the 20% database.

Tables with income, after-tax income or earnings distributions

Income, after-tax income and earnings distributions have been suppressed where the estimated total number of units (persons, families or households) in the reference year is less than 250. All suppressed cells and associated averages, medians and standard errors of average income, average after-tax income or average earnings have been replaced with zeroes or symbols.

In all cases, suppressed data are included in the appropriate higher aggregate subtotals and totals.

Tables with number and median or average income, after-tax income or earnings

Statistics have been suppressed if the estimated total number of persons (males, females or both sexes) with income, after-tax income or earnings in the reference year is less than 250 persons. All suppressed counts and associated averages and medians have been replaced by zeroes or symbols.

In all cases, suppressed data are included in the appropriate higher aggregate subtotals and totals.

Economic families

In 2006 Census tables showing income data for economic families or economic family members, children of the economic family reference person may have any marital status; and grandchildren of the reference person, where no parent is present in the household, are treated as children of the reference person. In income tables before 2006, all previously married sons and daughters of the economic family reference person and all grandchildren of the reference person were classified as other economic family members. Where data for 2001 are shown in the 2006 Census tables, there are 75,000 more lone-parent families and 75,000 fewer other economic families in Canada for 2001 than as published at the time of the 2001 Census. Similarly, there are 66,000 more couple economic families with children, and 66,000 fewer couple economic families without children.

Sources: Statistics Canada, censuses of population, 2001 and 2006.

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Income and Earnings Highlight Tables. 2006 Census. Statistics Canada Catalogue no. 97-563-XWE2006002. Ottawa. Released May 1, 2008.

<http://www12.statcan.ca/english/census06/data/highlights/income/index.cfm?Lang=E> (accessed January 13, 2009).