

Fast FACTS

on
WOMEN AND POVERTY

Fact - You're more likely to be poor if you're a woman.

FACT

Women still assume most of the responsibility for children and aging family.

This means that **more women work part-time**, which has a life-long effect on their income.

Women often remain in abusive relationships to avoid poverty and homelessness.

FACT

In Canada,
64% of families headed by **single mothers live in poverty.**

Studies show that the poverty rates of women and their families would fall if mothers had access to universal child care.

FACT

In Canada:
35% of single women under **65** live in poverty.

41.5% of single, widowed, or divorced women over **65** live in poverty.

37% of women of colour are low income.

the
**WOMEN'S
CENTRE**

Any woman, any age,
any question.

646 – First Ave NE Calgary
phone (403) 264-1155
www.womens-centre.org

the
**WOMEN'S
CENTRE**

A safe place for women to

- Get Assistance
- Connect With Others
- Create Change

FREE AND CONFIDENTIAL

FACT

Alberta has the **largest pay gap** in Canada. Women earn **66%** of what men earn for full-time, full-year jobs.

In Alberta, **2/3** of minimum wage earners are women.

FACT

In Canada, **44%** of Aboriginal women living off reserve, and **47%** of Aboriginal women living on reserve live in poverty.

In Alberta, **Aboriginal women earn 50% less** than the overall average income.

FACT

Alberta has the **2nd lowest social assistance rates** for lone-parent families in Canada. In 2009, the welfare income for a lone parent with one child was still **30%** below the low income cut-off (LICO).

Alberta is the only province that does not examine social and economic policy for impact on women and children.

The statistics presented are averages. Women who are additionally marginalized by their age, race, ethnicity, ability, and immigration status are even more at risk of living in poverty.

We must continue to advocate for policies and services that recognize the impact of poverty on women, children, and society. What will YOU do to change the numbers?

Source of Statistics:
Statistics Canada, Parkland Institute,
CRIAW, ACSW, ACWS, National
Council of Welfare