

eligible families with a child under 18 years of age. The OCB is intended to increase the incentive to move away from social assistance towards paid employment, strengthen families and provide the opportunity for children to achieve their full potential.

In July 2007, eligible families received a one-time OCB down payment of up to \$250 for each dependent child under

18 years of age. In July 2008 when monthly OCB payments begin, social assistance benefits and the OCCS will be restructured and families on social assistance will receive the full NCB Supplement.

Additional information is available on the Ontario Child Benefit website at www.children.gov.on.ca/htdocs/English/topics/financialhelp/ocb/index.aspx

Table 23 Ontario: NCB Reinvestments and Investments

	2004–2005	2005–2006	2006–2007	2007–2008
	Expenditures (\$000)	Expenditures (\$000)	Estimates (\$000)	Estimates (\$000)
Child/Day Care				
Ontario Child-Care Supplement for Working Families (OCCS) ^a	160,000	160,000	141,850	136,850
Early Childhood/Children-at-Risk Services				
Child and Youth Mental Health ^b	20,000	20,000	20,000	20,000
Children's Treatment Centres	22,000	22,000	22,000	22,000
Other NCB Programs, Benefits & Services				
Municipal Reinvestments Strategies	44,157	44,533	43,809	43,050
Total	246,157	246,533	227,659	221,900

^a Figures exclude an additional \$40 million previously committed to the former Ontario Child Care Tax Credit. The OCCS is an application-based program. Benefits are based on the previous year's tax return, and families have three years to file their tax return. After filing their tax return, families are given 18 months to return their OCCS application. Historically, it has taken about three years after the close of a given OCCS benefit year to achieve full take-up for that benefit year.

^b Formerly called *4-Point Plan for Children's Mental Health*.

Note: Totals may not add due to rounding.

Table 24 Ontario: Estimated Number of Families and Children Benefiting under NCB Reinvestments and Investments^a

NCB Initiatives by Program Name ^b	2004–2005		2005–2006		2006–2007		2007–2008	
	Families #	Children #	Families #	Children #	Families #	Children #	Families #	Children #
Ontario Child-Care Supplement for Working Families (OCCS) ^c	222,000	367,000	222,000	367,000	222,000	367,000	222,000	367,000

^a Based on Program Entitlement.

^b Programs with no available data are not listed.

^c The OCCS is an application-based program. Benefits are based on the previous year's tax return, and families have three years to file their tax return. After filing their tax return, families are given 18 months to return their OCCS application. Historically, it has taken about three years after the close of a given OCCS benefit year to achieve full take-up for that benefit year.

Manitoba

Manitoba³⁶ has continued to invest in programs and services that help reduce and prevent child and family poverty, promote labour market attachment and foster early childhood development.

In 1998, when the NCB Supplement was introduced, Manitoba, like most provinces, reduced benefit levels for families receiving income assistance by the amount of the supplement and redirected those funds into programs and services for low-income families with children living in Manitoba.

In mid-2000 however, as a means of providing additional assistance to families receiving income assistance, Manitoba began a phased in restoration of the NCB Supplement. In January 2004 the final phase of the restoration was implemented and the NCB Supplement was fully restored for all families receiving income assistance.

In addition to the restoration of the NCB Supplement, Manitoba's investments and reinvestments include:

Manitoba Child Care Program – Between April 1999, and March 2008, child-care funding in Manitoba has increased by 81 percent to \$97.0 million,³⁷ improving salaries, as well as training opportunities and supports for early childhood educators and providing additional subsidies for

children. Increased funding has also been provided to integrate more children with disabilities into the child-care system and to expand the number of funded child-care spaces.

Children's Special Services (CSS) –

Family-centred services are provided to birth, extended or adoptive families to assist them with caring for their children with developmental and/or physical disabilities in their own homes to the greatest extent possible and to promote the development of normalized community arrangements. Between April 1999 and March 2008, funding for the CSS program has increased by 123.7 percent to \$23.7 million, enabling more children with disabilities and their families to access the supports and services they need. As of March 31, 2008, a total of 4,345 children received services through the Family Support Services program of CSS, an increase of 3.8 percent over the previous fiscal year.

Healthy Baby – Healthy Baby is a two part program including the Manitoba Prenatal Benefit and Healthy Baby Community Support Programs. The Manitoba Prenatal Benefit (MPB) was launched in July 2001 for income-eligible pregnant women who live in Manitoba. It is intended to support women to meet their extra nutritional needs during pregnancy. The benefit also acts as a mechanism to connect women to health and community resources in their areas. MPB applicants have the option to consent

³⁶ Effective July 2000, Manitoba discontinued recovering increases to the NCB Supplement for all families receiving income assistance. Effective July 2001, Manitoba stopped recovering the NCB Supplement for children age six and under. Effective January 2003, it stopped recovering the NCB Supplement for children age 7 to 11 years; and, effective January 2004, it stopped recovering the NCB Supplement for children age 12 to 17 years.

³⁷ Includes funding provided through federal 2000 Early Childhood Development Agreement and 2003 Multilateral Framework on Early Learning and Child Care transfers as well as provincial revenue funds. Does not include 2005 and 2006 federal Early Learning and Child Care funds (\$25.6 million in 2005–2006, \$23.7 million in 2006–2007). The federal Early Learning and Child Care funding was cancelled in 2007–2008.

to have their contact information given to their local Healthy Baby program coordinator and/or public/community health provider. Healthy Baby Community Support Programs, via group sessions and outreach, are designed to assist pregnant women and new parents in connecting with other parents, families and health professionals to ensure healthy outcomes for their babies. Delivered through community-based partners, the programs provide pregnant women and new parents with practical information and resources on maternal/child health issues, prenatal/postnatal and infant nutrition, benefits of breastfeeding, healthy lifestyle options, parenting support, infant development and strategies to support the healthy physical, cognitive and emotional development of children.

Families First – This is a community-based home visiting program for families with children from conception to Kindergarten. Delivered by Regional Health Authorities across Manitoba, Families First begins with universal screening of all families with a newborn. Based on the family's identified strengths and needs, the program offers a continuum of support to families including referral to other community services. Regular visits by public health nurses are augmented by weekly home visits from specially trained home visitors. These visitors establish trusting nurturing relationships with families, support parenting and secure attachment, promote problem solving skills and assist in strengthening the family support system.

Parent-Child Coalitions (formerly Parent-Child Centred Approach) –

This brings together community strengths and resources within a geographic boundary through regional coalitions, with representation from a variety of

community partners. There are 26 funded coalitions province-wide (11 regions outside Winnipeg, 12 community areas within Winnipeg and 3 cultural organizations). Parent child coalitions promote and support existing community-based programs and activities for children and families, and initiate new activities that reflect community diversity. Also, a number of family resource centres receive funding under this initiative. Core priorities include positive parenting, nutrition and physical health, learning and literacy and community capacity building.

STOP FASD – This is an intensive three-year outreach program for women who have used alcohol and/or drugs heavily during pregnancy. Paraprofessional mentors offer flexible support services to women as they address a myriad of challenges and move toward a healthier, more secure and stable life. Following on the success of two Winnipeg sites, STOP FASD (Fetal Alcohol Syndrome Disorder) was expanded to Thompson and The Pas in northern Manitoba.

Special Needs Programs for Children in Schools – This initiative provides funding and consultative support for the development and operation of specific projects that provide school-based programming for students with special needs. Examples include FASD in the Classroom which provides a specialized classroom setting to enhance the school experience and outcomes for children and youth with FASD, and COACH, which is a 24-hour wraparound program for children ages 5 to 11 years with extreme behavioural, emotional, social and academic issues in their home, school and community settings.

Healthy Schools – This is Manitoba’s school health initiative intended to promote the health of school communities. The initiative recognizes that good health is important for learning, and that schools are in a unique position to positively influence the health of children, youth and their families. Healthy Schools focuses on priority health issues including physical activity, healthy eating, safety and injury prevention, substance use and addictions, sexual and reproductive health, and mental health promotion. Healthy Schools includes three main components: promoting community-based activities; promoting targeted provincial campaigns in response to issues affecting health and wellness of the school community; and developing resources for province-wide use.

Other Programs – These community-based initiatives provide access to education and support services for children, youth and families in high needs communities and promote community awareness, ownership and capacity building of the participants. Two examples through Healthy Child Manitoba are the William Whyte School Worker Project, a collaborative initiative which aims to provide greater access to more appropriate support services for Aboriginal children and families through community ownership and involvement; and Neah Kee Papa, a positive parenting program for young Aboriginal fathers, which is delivered by the Manitoba Metis Federation. In addition, the PEER Program funds support workers to visit families regularly to provide information on early childhood development, parenting information and community resources. Parents and their children are supported to prepare their children for school entry. This program is available in certain northern Manitoba

Aboriginal communities within the Frontier School Division.

Early Childhood Development Initiative (ECDI) – ECDI provides funding support to school divisions in the provision of intersectoral services for preschoolers (birth to school age). ECDI, in partnership with parents, the community and Healthy Child Manitoba, is designed to facilitate preschoolers’ readiness to learn prior to school entry.

Early Literacy – This grant program supports school divisions in their efforts to implement early literacy intervention programs that will accelerate the literacy development of the lowest-achieving grade one students.

Healthy Adolescent Development (for ages 12 to 18 years) –

The 1999 election commitment of teen pregnancy prevention has been placed within the larger context of healthy adolescent development with a particular focus on sexual and reproductive health issues. This approach incorporates harm reduction strategies for high risk behaviours and encompasses the principles of population health utilizing evidence based and best practice models. Aspects of the portfolio include resource development such as the Think Again Prevention Campaign, Your Choice for Your Reasons – Pregnancy Options, Teen Clinic Services Manual and a Sexual and Reproduction Health Volunteer Services Manual. Funding support is also provided to community organizations such as Teen Talk, Teen Touch, Northern Youth Council and school or community based teen clinics in St. John’s High School, Elmwood High School, École Selkirk Junior High, Flin Flon Primary Care Centre, The Pas Primary Care Centre and in Cranberry

Portage. These clinics aim to address adolescents' health and psycho-social needs. The Healthy Child Manitoba Office (HCMO) is also a key member on the Manitoba Implementation Team for the Provincial Sexually Exploited Youth Strategy. Through the strategy, HCMO has financially supported the development of a multi media campaign stopsexwithkids.ca and several northern trainings for front line service providers working with vulnerable and exploited children and youth.

Workforce Attachment – These initiatives provide low-income parents who are either working or on social assistance with a range of supports that help them obtain and maintain employment. Employment supports include needs/skills assessments, labour market information, job-focused education/skills development and job search/job placement assistance.

Building Independence/New Income Assistance Initiatives – Manitoba has increased supports for parents to enter or re-enter the labour market, and has improved benefits for families receiving income assistance. Job-centre supports and work incentives have been enhanced, and supports to help citizens become independent have been improved.

Table 25 Manitoba: NCB Reinvestments and Investments

	2004–2005	2005–2006	2006–2007	2007–2008
	Expenditures (\$000)	Expenditures (\$000)	Estimates (\$000)	Estimates (\$000)
Child/Day Care				
Manitoba Child Care Program ^{a b c}	3,082	5,324	5,100	4,420
Early Childhood/Children-at-Risk Services				
Children's Special Services ^{a b}	2,328	1,833	1,561	1,483
Healthy Child Manitoba:				
Healthy Baby ^b	4,597	4,845	4,824	4,569
BabyFirst ^{b c d}	6,577	–	–	–
Early Start ^{b c d}	1,934	–	–	–
Families First ^{b c d}	–	9,418	9,268	9,359
Parent-Child Coalitions ^{b e}	3,000	3,085	3,005	3,140
STOP FASD ^b	714	748	779	779
Special Needs Programs for Children in Schools	3,602	3,843	4,346	4,376
Healthy Schools	40	750	284	327
Other Programs	1,004	1,021	1,033	1,052
Early Childhood Development Initiative (ECDI) ^b	668	1,363	1,400	1,600
Early Literacy	6,016	6,058	6,181	6,200
Youth Initiatives				
Healthy Adolescent Development	286	298	233	234
Other NCB Programs, Benefits & Services				
Workforce Attachment ^f	2,252	2,252	1,266	0
Building Independence/New Income Assistance Initiatives ^{a g}	15,424	15,424	15,424	15,424
Total^b	51,524	56,262	54,705	52,964

^a The amounts indicated for the Manitoba Child Care Program, Children's Special Services and New Income Assistance Initiatives represent new incremental funding amounts only and do not include base funding in place prior to the introduction of the NCB.

^b Figures include funding which is provided through remaining NCB Supplement recoveries, Children's Special Allowance recoveries and the federal transfers under the Early Childhood Development Agreement (\$18.3 million in 2004–2005, 2005–2006 and 2006–2007, and \$18.2 million in 2007–2008) as well as provincial revenue.

^c Figure includes funding received through the federal transfers under the 2003 Multilateral Framework on Early Learning and Child Care (\$5.5 million in 2004–2005, \$8.2 million in 2005–2006, \$10.8 million in 2006–2007 and \$12.6 million in 2007–2008). Figure does not include the Early Learning and Child Care Funds.

^d In 2005–2006, Families First Program replaced BabyFirst and Early Start.

^e Formerly referred to as the Parent Child Centred Approach.

^f In 2006–2007, Workforce Attachment no longer included funding for New Training Strategies.

^g Reinvestments and Investments include expenditures on the Employment and Income Assistance Rate Increase and the Restoration of the NCB Supplement for families in receipt of Employment and Income Assistance benefits. In both 2004–2005 and 2005–2006, \$13.7 million was spent on the Restoration of the NCB Supplement. It is estimated that in both 2006–2007 and 2007–2008, \$13.7 million will be spent on the Restoration of the NCB Supplement.

Note: Totals may not add due to rounding.

Table 26
Manitoba: Estimated Number of Families and Children Benefiting under NCB Reinvestments and Investments

NCB Initiatives by Program Name ^a	2004–2005		2005–2006		2006–2007		2007–2008	
	Families #	Children #	Families #	Children #	Families #	Children #	Families #	Children #
Children's Special Services ^b	n/a	3,876	n/a	4,049	n/a	4,186	n/a	4,345
Healthy Baby	6,862	n/a	7,695	n/a	7,732	n/a	7,336	n/a
BabyFirst ^c	1,342	1,342	–	–	–	–	–	–
Early Start ^c	148	213	–	–	–	–	–	–
Families First ^c	–	–	1,469	1,469	1,549	1,549	1,456	1,456
STOP FASD	130	500	110	400	110	400	115	400
Special Needs Programs for Children in Schools	78	78	78	78	78	78	78	78
Other Programs	645	820	734	837	774	450	752	475
Early Childhood Development Initiative (ECDI)	n/a	12,310	n/a	12,192	n/a	12,075	n/a	n/a
Early Literacy	n/a	2,611	n/a	2,602	n/a	2,560	n/a	2,561
Healthy Adolescent Development	n/a	2,281	n/a	2,045	n/a	2,514	n/a	1,868
Workforce Attachment ^d	611	n/a	612	n/a	151	n/a	–	–
Building Independence/New Income Assistance Initiatives								
Work Incentives	2,900	n/a	2,900	n/a	2,900	n/a	2,900	n/a
Job Centre Supports	2,214	n/a	2,214	n/a	2,214	n/a	2,214	n/a
Individual Development Accounts	15	n/a	15	n/a	15	n/a	15	n/a
School Supplies	6,940	n/a	6,940	n/a	6,940	n/a	6,940	n/a

^a Programs with no available data are not listed.

^b Numbers include only those children in the Family Support Program.

^c In 2005–2006, Families First Program replaced BabyFirst and Early Start.

^d In 2006–2007, families in New Training Strategies were no longer included under Workforce Attachment. In 2007–2008, Opportunities for Employment under Workforce Attachment, was no longer funded through the NCB reinvestments.

Note: n/a indicates the data for this category is not available.

The number of families for 2004–2005 may differ from those reported in *The National Child Benefit Progress Report: 2006* due to data revisions.

Saskatchewan

Saskatchewan's NCB reinvestment programs aim to reduce and prevent child poverty through programs that assist low-income families with the costs of raising children, promote labour market attachment for low-income families, and support early learning and child care.

NCB initiatives in Saskatchewan are designed to help citizens enjoy a better quality of life through greater economic independence and social inclusion.

When the NCB was introduced in 1998, Saskatchewan restructured social assistance by removing children's basic benefits from social assistance and establishing a separate child benefit available to all low-income families. The restructured benefit, known as the Saskatchewan Child Benefit, was delivered as an integrated payment with the Canada Child Tax Benefit to reduce duplication and simplify administration. The new structure was designed to support the NCB strategy of lowering the "welfare wall" and providing income-tested child benefits that remain portable as families move from welfare into work.

From 1998 to 2006, the province adjusted the Saskatchewan Child Benefit rates by the amount of federal increases to the NCB Supplement. Families on social assistance received at least the same in combined federal/provincial child benefits as they would have received under the previous welfare model of child benefits. Under the adjustment approach, the Saskatchewan Child Benefit was designed to reduce over time, and eventually phase out as it was replaced by increases to the NCB Supplement. The Saskatchewan Child Benefit was fully phased out in July 2006.

All subsequent federal increases to the NCB Supplement flow directly through to families. All savings from the offset of the Saskatchewan Child Benefit expenditures have been reinvested in other NCB initiatives.

In 2007, Saskatchewan provided continued or enhanced support for its remaining NCB initiatives, designed to improve well-being and economic independence for low-income families with children.

Saskatchewan's NCB initiatives include:

Saskatchewan Child Benefit –

Together with the NCB Supplement, the Saskatchewan Child Benefit replaced social assistance for children and provided child benefits to low-income families, whether parents were on social assistance or employed. Paying child benefits outside of social assistance makes it easier for parents to move to or remain in the labour market. In July 2006, the Saskatchewan Child Benefit was phased out as benefits were fully displaced by federal increases to the NCB Supplement.

Saskatchewan Employment

Supplement – This benefit is paid to low-income parents who are employed or who receive maintenance payments. The supplement supports employment by offsetting child-related costs that a parent may incur through working. It also improves incentives to collect maintenance payments by increasing the net value of the payment to the family.

Child Care Enhancements – Access to suitable child care arrangements is a critical support that helps parents enter and remain in the labour force, especially those whose children have special needs.

Incremental funding has been provided to enhance child care subsidy rates, and to develop additional child care spaces and supports for the inclusion needs of low-income and high-needs families. These targeted supports provide low-income families with affordable, reliable child care so they can go to work or school and feel secure about the care of their children.

Family Health Benefits – This program extends supplementary health coverage to low-income families to assist with the cost of raising children. The program provides additional children’s coverage for dental, optometry, chiropractic services, prescription drugs, ambulance transportation, and medical supplies. More limited coverage for eye care, drugs, and chiropractic services is also provided to parents. With this program, low-income families are assured of retaining health benefits as they leave social assistance for work opportunities and are not forced onto assistance due to children’s health costs.

Community Schools Program – In 2002–2003, incremental funding was provided to expand the Community Schools Program. Located in low-income areas, community schools attempt to address the barriers to success in school and in life by drawing parents and community resources into the schools. Parenting, pre-kindergarten, teen parent programs, and child nutrition programs are among the programs offered in community schools.

Employment Support Programs – These programs provide on-the-job training, job coaching, and productivity supports to assist individuals to attach to and remain in the labour force. Incremental funding was provided in 2002–2003

to enable families on social assistance and high-risk youth under 18 years who are at risk of becoming reliant on social assistance, to access employment opportunities and make the transition to independence.

Maintenance Enhancement Project – This initiative, introduced in 2002–2003, assists low-income single parents to receive or increase maintenance income for their children. Three additional legal staff were added to assist single parents to obtain child support orders, or to obtain variations in existing orders where non-custodial parents have experienced increased incomes. The income from child maintenance payments helps parents achieve greater financial independence, and is eligible for additional supplementation under the Saskatchewan Employment Supplement.

Saskatchewan Rental Housing Supplement – This program, developed in 2004 and implemented in 2005, is intended to help low-income families gain access to quality and affordable rental housing. Rent supplements are available to low-income households in the labour market as well as to those on welfare. Additional support is available for those with a disabled family member. The supplements are unique in that to qualify, rental properties must meet basic health and safety standards. Providing the supplements outside of welfare helps to reduce barriers to work.

Family Shelter Enhancements – In 2005, additional support was provided to enhance shelter benefits for families living in locations facing higher rental costs. The adjustments better reflect local market rents in different parts of the province. The Saskatchewan Rental Housing Supplement

provides further assistance for rental costs exceeding base shelter benefits.

Child Nutrition and Development

Program – This program provides funding for a range of projects, including school and community nutrition programs, nutrition education, food security initiatives, and self-sufficiency projects such as collective

kitchens, which address the long-term causes of hunger and help low-income families acquire skills and abilities necessary for independence. In 2005, incremental funding was provided to expand services and enhance support for existing initiatives.

Table 27 Saskatchewan: NCB Reinvestments and Investments

	2004–2005 ^a	2005–2006	2006–2007	2007–2008
	Expenditures (\$000)	Expenditures (\$000)	Estimates (\$000)	Estimates (\$000)
Child Benefits & Earned Income Supplement				
Saskatchewan Child Benefit ^b	13,366	7,840	1,790	1,037
Saskatchewan Employment Supplement	20,354	20,341	19,635	18,675
Child/Day Care				
Child Care Enhancements	1,775	1,093	2,340	5,841
Supplementary Health Benefits				
Family Health Benefits	10,558	11,505	11,505	10,938
Youth Initiatives				
Community Schools Program	12,419	13,029	13,518	14,635
Other NCB Programs, Benefits & Services				
Employment Support Programs	98	1,092	272	500
Maintenance Enhancement Project	243	276	311	339
Saskatchewan Rental Housing Supplement	432	2,871	4,558	4,812
Family Shelter Enhancements	–	1,409	1,397	2,335
Child Nutrition and Development Program	–	506	1,191	655
Unspent reinvestment funds			951	
Total	59,245	59,962	57,468	59,767

^a In 2005–2006, due to improved reporting methods, Saskatchewan revised the way in which it reports reinvestments/investments. Expenditures for 2004–2005 were restated and will not match figures from reports prior to 2005.

^b Reflects net provincial expenditures after recovery of funds from Indian and Northern Affairs Canada for benefits paid to on-reserve families.

Note: Totals may not add due to rounding.

Table 28**Saskatchewan: Estimated Number of Families and Children Benefiting under NCB Reinvestments and Investments**

NCB Initiatives by Program Name ^a	2004–2005		2005–2006		2006–2007		2007–2008	
	Families #	Children #	Families #	Children #	Families #	Children #	Families #	Children #
Saskatchewan Child Benefit	18,770	45,520	17,910	36,900	16,960	34,030	–	–
Saskatchewan Employment Supplement	7,710	15,280	7,680	15,140	6,850	13,620	6,040	12,125
Child Care Enhancements	760	1,000	1,530	2,000	1,170	1,530	1,580	2,065
Family Health Benefits ^b	20,190	35,320	21,420	35,760	19,925	33,715	22,370	30,765
Community Schools Program	n/a	27,000	n/a	26,240	n/a	24,105	n/a	25,250
Employment Support Programs	260	810	970	2,170	215	220	290	550
Saskatchewan Rental Housing Supplement	n/a	n/a	2,240	4,510	3,205	6,535	3,010	6,200
Family Shelter Enhancements	–	–	5,700	10,960	5,670	11,230	5,790	12,590

^a Programs with no available data are not listed.

^b The numbers of families and children changed due to improved tracking and will not match numbers from reports prior to 2006.

Note: n/a indicates the data for this category is not available.

Alberta

Alberta's NCB initiatives support the shared goals of helping reduce the depth of child poverty and encouraging parents to participate in the workforce by ensuring they are better off working while reducing overlap and duplication between government programs. Alberta's initiatives also support low-income families with the costs associated with raising their children. Since 2003, Alberta has enhanced the mix of income and in-kind benefits and services to families receiving assistance through the Alberta Works-Income Support Program³⁸ by flowing through the full increase of the NCB Supplement directly to them.

Alberta's reinvestments and investments include:

Child-Care Subsidy – The Child-Care Subsidy program supports eligible low-income families with child care costs for their pre-school children enrolled in licensed day-care centres, out of school care or approved family day homes. Parents may apply for a subsidy if they have a valid reason, such as they are currently working or looking for work, attending school, or if they or their children have special needs. Funds also support the Kin Child Care Funding Program which assists eligible low-income families to pay non resident relatives of the child to care for their children. This program provides families with flexible alternatives for child care where there are limited options; for example, in rural locations, or during non-traditional work hours.

Quality Child Care – The NCB funds for this initiative support respite options for families in need, as well as a child-care nutritional program. The respite care program ensures that a number of child care spaces are available for short-term placements. These placements assist families of children with disabilities in need of relief care, and also enable families who need support to participate in counselling or treatment programs to benefit their children. Funds directed to the child care nutritional program enhance the nutritional quality of meals and snacks served to children in child care settings, and provide information about preschool nutritional needs to parents of children in child care programs.

Alberta Child Health Benefit (ACHB) –

This program was initially created by using NCB reinvestment funds. Children in families with limited incomes are provided with health services such as prescription drugs, dental care, optical, emergency ambulance, and essential diabetic supplies that are not available through standard Alberta Health Care Insurance. The ACHB helps children get health services they would not otherwise obtain and contributes to their health and well-being, including school performance. Parents can have peace of mind their children's health will be cared for without worrying about costs that may be a barrier to accepting or maintaining employment.

Alberta Adult Health Benefit (AAHB) –

When clients leave income support for employment, the AAHB provides individuals/families with the same health benefits they had when receiving income

³⁸ Effective April 1, 2004, the Alberta Works-Income Support Program replaced the Supports for Independence (SFI) program.

support. Ensuring that health benefits are provided outside of income support programs removes a potential barrier to employment, while assisting individuals/families to stay healthy. As of August 1, 2007, the AAHB is also available to other Albertans experiencing low income who are pregnant or who have high drug costs in relation to their income. This ensures these individuals/families can meet their health needs while remaining independent from income support.

Protection of Sexually Exploited

Children (PSECA) – This protective legislation (enacted October 2007) replaces the legislation formally known as Protection of Children Involved in Prostitution (PCHIP). The change in name more accurately reflects the dynamics of children who are sexually exploited through prostitution and reduces the stigma of accessing supports via the program. Under this initiative, children and youth are afforded a broad range of supports and interventions ranging from community based services including outreach and residential services to more intrusive intervention including confinement in a secure protective safe house. The program addresses the unique educational, health, substance abuse treatment and life skills supports of the high risk population. In 2007–2008, the number of children reported reflects youth benefiting from both voluntary and non-voluntary services. Due to statistical data limitations, previous years included apprehensions only.

Transitional Support for Youth

Leaving Child Welfare – This fund supports the Advancing Futures Bursary Program. Through this program, tuition

costs, school-related expenses and living expenses for the academic term are provided to youth if they have had a Permanent Guardianship Order between the ages of 13 and 18 years or have been in care for at least 564 days between the ages of 13 and 22 years. Individuals are invited to apply if they are interested in: obtaining their high school equivalency through adult education; earning a degree/diploma from a post-secondary institution; learning a trade; or earning a license or certification.

Shelter Benefits – This reinvestment increased shelter benefits for Alberta Works-Income Support Program recipient families with children.

School Allowance Benefit –

This reinvestment increased the school expense benefit and is paid annually to Alberta Works-Income Support Program recipients, when school starts, for children attending kindergarten to grade 12. It helps cover the costs of school and gym supplies, registration fees, and other education-related costs.

Earnings Exemption Increase –

NCB reinvestment dollars were used to increase the earnings exemption for Alberta Works-Income Support Program³⁹ single-parent recipients who are working; thereby allowing them to earn additional income per month before their benefits are reduced.

Employment Maintenance Benefit – A benefit of \$120 per year is made available to working parents to provide additional support for work-related expenses such as transportation and clothing.

³⁹ Effective April 1, 2004, the Alberta Works-Income Support Program replaced the Supports for Independence (SFI) program.

Table 29 Alberta: NCB Reinvestments and Investments

	2004–2005	2005–2006	2006–2007	2007–2008
	Expenditures (\$000)	Expenditures (\$000)	Estimates (\$000)	Estimates (\$000)
Child/Day Care				
Child-Care Subsidy	7,300	7,300	7,300	7,300
Quality Child Care	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
Supplementary Health Benefits				
Alberta Child Health Benefit	22,228	23,900	22,528	23,470
Alberta Adult Health Benefit	1,834	2,452	3,843	6,000
Early Childhood/Children-at-Risk Services				
Protection of Sexually Exploited Children ^a	600	600	600	600
Youth Initiatives				
Transitional Support for Youth Leaving Child Welfare	2,250	2,250	2,250	2,250
Other NCB Programs, Benefits & Services				
Shelter Benefits	5,643	5,582	4,861	4,723
School Allowance Benefit	2,545	2,501	2,242	2,108
Earnings Exemption Increase	3,452	2,882	2,200	1,729
Employment Maintenance Benefit	363	315	429	439
Total	47,215	48,782	47,253	49,619

^a Formerly known as *Protection of Children Involved in Prostitution*.

Note: Totals may not add due to rounding.

Table 30
Alberta: Estimated Number of Families and Children Benefiting under NCB Reinvestments and Investments

NCB Initiatives by Program Name	2004–2005 ^a		2005–2006		2006–2007		2007–2008	
	Families #	Children #	Families #	Children #	Families #	Children #	Families #	Children #
Child-Care Subsidy ^b	n/a	10,032	n/a	10,408	n/a	12,290	n/a	11,514
Quality Child Care ^b	n/a	7,747	n/a	9,123	n/a	7,319	n/a	6,427
Alberta Child Health Benefit	n/a	69,774	n/a	72,832	n/a	71,165	n/a	77,375
Alberta Adult Health Benefit	2,053	n/a	1,918	n/a	2,370	n/a	3,722	n/a
Protection of Sexually Exploited Children ^{b c}	n/a	100	n/a	112	n/a	92	n/a	96
Transitional Support for Youth Leaving Child Welfare ^b	n/a	231	n/a	484	n/a	403	n/a	459
Shelter Benefits	11,437	22,710	11,200	22,392	9,795	20,056	9,492	19,542
School Allowance Benefit	n/a	21,366	n/a	19,989	n/a	17,901	n/a	16,949
Earnings Exemption Increase ^d	3,345	n/a	2,744	n/a	2,131	n/a	1,675	n/a
Employment Maintenance Benefit	2,996	n/a	2,613	n/a	3,532	n/a	3,621	n/a

^a Figures for 2004–2005 may differ from those reported in *The National Child Benefit Progress Report: 2006* due to data revisions.

^b Numbers include families and children assisted from all provincial sources of funds.

^c Formerly known as *Protection of Children Involved in Prostitution*.

^d Monthly average.

Note: n/a indicates the data for this category is not available.

British Columbia

British Columbia's NCB initiatives aim to prevent and reduce the depth of child poverty, to assist low-income families with the costs associated with raising children, and to encourage parents to join the workforce and to remain employed. The province's commitment to this type of initiative began before the NCB was established with the BC Family Bonus. This program was implemented two years before the NCB and served as one of the models for the national program.

As in previous years, British Columbia continues to adjust BC Family Bonus benefits with respect to increases in the NCB Supplement, such that families receive the same or increased benefits when combined with the NCB Supplement. The NCB Supplement has now almost fully replaced the BC Family Bonus for families in receipt of the NCB, but partial BC Family Bonus benefits continue to be paid to families with incomes above the NCB reduction thresholds. As part of the BC Family Bonus, British Columbia also adjusted the BC Earned Income Benefit by any increase in the NCB Supplement in excess of the current BC Family Bonus payment.

British Columbia's reinvestments and investments include:

BC Earned Income Benefit (BCEIB) –

The BCEIB was introduced in July 1998 as an additional incentive for low-income families to seek work and remain employed. The BCEIB pays an additional monthly amount based upon the earned income that a family receives from working.

BC Family Bonus (BCFB) Increase –

The BCFB is a tax-free monthly benefit paid to low- and modest-income families with children. The program was implemented in 1996, two years prior to the implementation of the NCB. In 1998, the BCFB was combined with the Canada Child Tax Benefit into a single monthly payment for families with children. The BCEIB and the BCFB are tax-free monthly benefits that make it more attractive for those on income assistance to seek work and to remain employed.

The BCFB has been reduced by a portion of increases to the NCB Supplement since 1998. Since July 2005, only a small number of large families still receive basic BCFB in addition to the NCB Supplement. Only the portion of NCB Supplement payments that have been passed through to families still in receipt of BCFB is included as BCFB Increase. The combined BCFB and NCB Supplement have increased steadily. For example, the maximum monthly benefit for a first child was \$103 in July 1998. As of July 2007, it had increased to \$165.67.

Supported Child Development –

This program helps facilitate the inclusion of children with special needs into child-care settings. Funds are directed to community agencies to provide extra support staff and resources to child-care facilities or to the families directly. Only the portion of funding used for children aged 6–13 years is accounted for as an NCB reinvestment.

Child-Care Subsidy (non-regulated) –

In June 2004, all child-care programs were centralized within the BC Ministry of Children and Family Development (MCFD). Since 2005, the subsidy for non-regulated childcare is reported as part of Child-Care Programs and Services.

Child-Care Programs and Services (formerly called Child-Care Programs prior to 2005–2006) – Child-Care and Early Childhood Development programs were unified within MCFD in June 2004 – improving service delivery and access for families. Given the mix of base-funding for NCB and other funding sources, only a portion of the funding for these programs is reported as an NCB reinvestment. These programs themselves offer services to meet a much broader range of needs and age groups, but generally the portion of funding reported as an NCB reinvestment reflects the population of children 6–13 years. Specific child-care programs and services for families, child-care providers and Early Childhood Educators across the Province, for which some NCB funding is used include:

- **Child-Care Operating Funding Program** – provides fair and equitable operating funding to eligible licensed group and family providers to help meet the day to day costs of providing care, including staff recruitment and retention.
- **Minor Capital Funding Program** – helps licensed group non-profit child-care providers meet licensing requirements related to upgrading or repairing existing facilities, replacing equipment and furnishings.
- **Major Capital Funding Program** – provides eligible applicants with funding to purchase equipment, build, renovate or expand the capacity of existing child-care facilities or for the creation of new facilities to create new child-care spaces.
- **Child-Care Resource and Referral Program** – offers information and referrals to assist parents to make quality child-care choices. It also supports child-care

providers through toy and equipment lending libraries, professional development opportunities, information and resources in all communities across the province.

- **Child-Care Subsidy Program** – assists low- and moderate-income families throughout British Columbia with the cost of child-care. The subsidy is a monthly payment provided to eligible families who are working, looking for work, attending school or a training program, or who have a medical condition which interferes with the ability to care for the child, or have a child attending a licensed preschool, or have child-care recommended by a MCFD social worker. MCFD became responsible for the administration of the Child-Care Subsidy Program in May 2005. The transfer of the subsidy program from the Ministry of Employment and Income Assistance was completed in the fall of 2006. Child-care subsidy can be provided for children who attend both regulated and non-regulated child-care settings however only the portion of funding used to support non-regulated child-care settings is accounted for as an NCB reinvestment.

BC Healthy Kids Program (formerly called the Healthy Kids Dental and Optical Benefits Program prior to 2007–2008) – This program

provides basic dental and optical services for children in low- and moderate-income families in receipt of premium assistance. For families moving from income assistance to low- and moderate-income employment, the BC Healthy Kids Program removes one of the barriers for employment by allowing families to retain some benefits previously associated with income assistance.

Autism Intervention – This program, introduced in 2003–2004, provides families of children and youth (aged 6 to 18 years) diagnosed with autism spectrum disorder, with up to \$6,000 per year to assist with the cost of purchasing out-of-school autism intervention services. This funding is in addition to the educational program and special education services provided through school boards.

Foster Care 2000 – Foster Care 2000 provides continuing improvements to training and support for foster parents.

Family Support Programs –

These are community-based services intended to promote the well-being of families. The services are designed to increase the strength and stability of families, to increase parents' confidence and competence in their parenting abilities, to give children a stable and supportive family environment, and to enhance child development. Core elements of family support programs include: home visiting; child development; parent training and education; and social, emotional and educational support for families.

Aboriginal Regional Support Services (formerly called Aboriginal Strategy prior to 2006–2007) – This funding is devoted to developing administrative and service structures for Aboriginal organizations and for training of staff who will develop and deliver services for children and families. A continuum of services are offered to Aboriginal communities, including child welfare, family support, early childhood development, child-care, child and youth mental health, adoption, and youth justice probation.

CommunityLINK – Funding is provided to school boards to improve the educational performance, including academic achievement and social functioning of vulnerable students. Supports funded by school districts include, for example, youth and family counsellors, inner-city school programs and school meal and snack programs, etc.

Youth Initiatives – A continuum of services is provided through this program that targets youth-at-risk of family breakdown, and those youth living apart from family in high-risk situations. Key service functions include youth-family mediation, outreach, youth support workers, safe housing, youth agreements and specialized youth services. Specialized youth services are developed to meet the specific needs of at-risk youth populations, such as young parents and aboriginal people, sexually exploited and LGBTQ⁴⁰ youth.

Other Youth Programs – Other Youth Programs cover a range of community-based services for youth. These include the Safe Streets and Safe Schools Grant Program, which support schools and community strategies that enhance public safety and local crime prevention efforts; and the Community Capacity Building Project Fund which helps communities develop programs that address the issues of prostitution, particularly when they involve the sexual exploitation of children and youth. It also includes the Youth Against Violence Line, which provides youth a safe, confidential way to prevent and report incidents of youth violence or crime and seek help from local police; the Youth Gang Prevention Fund, a four-year, multi-staged, community action model that supports the direct efforts of

⁴⁰ LGBTQ is the generally accepted term for lesbian, gay, bi-sexual, transgendered and questioning individuals. Questioning reflects that group of individuals who are not sure what their sexuality actually is.

local communities in developing plans that work toward the prevention of youth gang violence; and the Child and Youth Guardian of Estate, which protects the legal and property rights of children and youth.

Social Housing – Housing assistance is provided to low-income families across British Columbia and is targeted to households in the greatest need. As new housing units reach completion, additional subsidy dollars are required to support these families.

Rental Assistance Program –

This program, introduced in 2006–2007 provides direct cash assistance to low-income, working families with at least one child aged 18 and under, a gross household income less than \$28,000 per year, less than \$10,000 in assets and who pay more than 30% of their household income towards rent.

Table 31 British Columbia: NCB Reinvestments and Investments

	2004–2005	2005–2006	2006–2007	2007–2008
	Expenditures (\$000)	Expenditures (\$000)	Estimates (\$000)	Estimates (\$000)
Child Benefits & Earned Income Supplements				
BC Earned Income Benefit	61,500	48,600	31,200	21,500
BC Family Bonus Increase ^a	82,000	32,890	13,370	9,610
Child/Day Care				
Supported Child Development	13,642	14,274	13,959	15,102
Child-Care Subsidy (non-regulated) ^b	46,198	–	–	–
Child-Care Programs and Services ^c	10,029	67,388	81,162	71,595
Supplementary Health Benefits				
B.C. Healthy Kids Program ^d	6,204	8,221	8,421	8,013
Autism Intervention	11,884	13,696	16,740	18,878
Early Childhood/Children-at-Risk Services				
Foster Care 2000	3,853	3,900	4,283	3,305
Family Support Programs	12,937	13,353	14,968	13,474
Aboriginal Regional Support Services ^e	6,282	5,201	6,348	6,462
Community/LINK	41,650	41,650	44,600	45,800
Youth Initiatives				
Youth Initiatives	20,838	22,613	24,883	23,436
Other Youth Programs ^f	1,433	1,893	2,102	2,752
Other NCB Programs, Benefits & Services				
Social Housing	53,454	54,851	56,762	66,800
Rental Assistance Program ^g	–	–	2,400	16,100
Total	371,904	328,530	321,198	322,827

^a Figures include the amount of NCB Supplement increases that have been passed through to BC Family Bonus recipients since 1998. As of 2004–2005, this amount starts to decline as a result of the full offset of the BC Family Bonus for most families with one child.

^b After 2004–2005, this funding is reported within Child-Care Programs and Services.

^c Formerly called Child-Care Programs prior to 2006–2007. The subsidy for non-regulated child care is reported under this program area as of 2005–2006.

^d Formerly called Healthy Kids Dental and Optical Benefits Program prior to 2007–2008.

^e Formerly called Aboriginal Strategy prior to 2006–2007.

^f The expenditure for 2004–2005 differs from that reported in the *National Child Benefit Progress Report: 2006* due to incorrect rounding in the previous report.

^g This program was launched in October 2006. In 2007–2008, this amount increases as enhancements were made to the program and the provincial government committed to more funding. The full take up of this program is expected in 2008–2009.

Notes: 1) All expenditures and estimates exclude the amounts reported under other federal/provincial agreements.
2) Figures have been rounded.

Table 32**British Columbia: Estimated Number of Families and Children Benefiting under NCB Reinvestments and Investments**

NCB Initiatives by Program Name ^a	2004–2005		2005–2006		2006–2007		2007–2008	
	Families #	Children #	Families #	Children #	Families #	Children #	Families #	Children #
BC Earned Income Benefit	95,190	162,880	97,300	162,750	91,110	154,600	82,150	139,400
BC Family Bonus Increase ^b	151,560	259,320	46,730	104,060	14,070	42,300	10,110	30,400

^a Programs with no available data are not listed.

^b As of 2004–2005, the number of families and children benefiting from the BC Family Bonus Increase starts to decline as a result of the full offset of the BC Family Bonus for most families with one child.

Yukon

Yukon's savings associated with the NCB Supplement have been invested in programs supporting healthy children, healthy families and healthy communities. These initiatives support the national goals of helping to reduce the depth of child poverty and encouraging parents to participate in the work force while ensuring they are better off working. Yukon's initiatives also support low-income families with the costs of raising children and recognize the long-term benefits of early childhood interventions.

Adjustments to Social Assistance benefits are made monthly by treating the actual amount of the NCB Supplement received as a separate category under income. This results in a deduction from Social Assistance benefits that is not subject to either the flat rate income exemption (\$150 per month per family) or the earned income exemption (50 percent of earned income). For non-taxfilers, the amount of the NCB Supplement is covered by Social Assistance, but the client must sign an "agreement to repay" which is collected when their NCB Supplement is issued for the portion that Social Assistance covered. This situation happens rarely.

Yukon's reinvestments and investments include:

Yukon Child Benefit (YCB) (Investment) – Yukon families in receipt of the Canada Child Tax Benefit (CCTB) and the NCB Supplement are automatically considered for the Yukon Child Benefit (YCB). The YCB is an investment that supplements the NCB Supplement and is based on the same objectives and principles. The benefit is tax-free

and is not considered as income (i.e., not counted) when calculating social assistance benefits. Effective July 2004, the YCB was increased to \$450 per year per child, and is available for families with net annual incomes below \$25,000 (turning point), at which point the tax-back rate applied is 2.5 percent for one-child families and 5 percent for families with two or more children. The Yukon Government negotiated a recovery from Indian and Northern Affairs Canada (INAC) for costs of the YCB associated with Status Indian children in the Yukon.

Yukon Children's Drug/Optical Program (CDOP) (Reinvestment) – This program is designed to assist low-income families with the cost of prescription drugs and eye care for children up to 18 years of age. While families with incomes above \$23,500 per year pay a deductible, there is no deductible for families with incomes below \$23,500 per year. Families must reapply each fiscal year.

Kids Recreation Fund (KRF) (Reinvestment) – The fund covers registration fees, equipment and supplies for sports, arts, cultural, recreational or social activities. It is available to families whose net income is under \$37,000 per year or who have other special family circumstances, including recent financial hardship, family illness, large family size or family crisis. Each application is assessed on the family's individual circumstances. Eligible families can apply for up to \$300 per child, per activity, to a maximum of \$500 per year. The KRF is a special fund administered by Sport Yukon and supported in part by the Government of Yukon through the NCB initiative.

Healthy Families Yukon (Reinvestment) –

The Government of Yukon in March 1999, implemented the early intervention program, Healthy Families Yukon, to improve the long-term outcomes of Yukon children. The Healthy Families Yukon program is a culturally appropriate, intensive home-based family support service offered to expectant parents and parents of children under three months of age. The service is voluntary and is offered on a long-term basis, up to when the child is five years old. Weekly home visits are offered to the family in the first nine to twelve months, with criteria to increase/decrease the level of service as the child becomes older. The goals of Healthy Families Yukon are:

- to systematically assess the strengths and needs of new parents and assist them in accessing community services as needed;
- to enhance family functioning by:
 - building trusting, nurturing relationships,
 - teaching problem-solving,
 - improving the family's support system;

- to promote positive parent-child relationships; and
- to promote healthy childhood growth and development.

Food for Learning (Investment) –

The Yukon Food for Learning Society provides funds to assist schools in providing nutrition programs such as breakfast, lunch or snacks for students who do not have enough to eat. The Yukon Government provided a one-time reinvestment of \$30,000 in 1998–1999 to enhance the Food for Learning Project. The project is a special fund administered by a non-government organization and supported in part by the Government of Yukon through the NCB initiative.

Table 33 Yukon: NCB Reinvestments and Investments

	2004–2005	2005–2006	2006–2007	2007–2008
	Expenditures (\$000)	Expenditures (\$000)	Estimates (\$000)	Estimates (\$000)
Child Benefits & Earned Income Supplements				
Yukon Child Benefit ^a	711	675	660	1,030
Supplementary Health Benefits				
Yukon Children's Drug/Optical Program ^b	48	46	44	39
Early Childhood/Children-at-Risk Services				
Kids Recreation Fund	200	102	105	111
Healthy Families Yukon	1,026	937	974	975
Food for Learning	30	30	30	30
Total	2,015	1,790	1,814	2,185

^a Not including funds recovered from Indian and Northern Affairs Canada.

^b The figures were revised to include administrative fees associated with the Yukon Children's Drug/Optical Program.

Note: Totals may not add due to rounding.

Table 34 Yukon: Estimated Number of Families and Children Benefiting under NCB Reinvestments and Investments

NCB Initiatives by Program Name ^a	2004–2005		2005–2006		2006–2007		2007–2008	
	Families	Children	Families	Children	Families	Children	Families	Children
	#	#	#	#	#	#	#	#
Yukon Child Benefit	1,455	2,552	1,404	2,451	1,450	2,500	1,395	2,429
Yukon Children's Drug/Optical Program	158	224	233	344	221	341	188	315
Kids Recreation Fund ^b	221	290	307	481	367	509	378	568
Healthy Families Yukon	138	152	120	154	127	158	145	165

^a Programs with no available data are not listed.

^b The number of children benefiting from the Kid's Recreation Fund reflects the actual numbers rather than numbers based on funding formula.

Northwest Territories

The NCB initiative assumes a major role in the collective fight against child poverty in Canada. The flexibility of the NCB program has enabled the Government of the Northwest Territories (GNWT) to develop three specific programs that proactively challenge child poverty and encourage employment attachment for parents.

In the Northwest Territories (NWT), the NCB Supplement is deducted from income assistance entitlement, and reinvested in three programs for low income families. The Government of the Northwest Territories provides added value to these reinvestment programs through additional funding. To reduce duplication and streamline efficiency, the Canada Revenue Agency delivers the NWT programs as an integrated payment with federal child benefits.

Northwest Territories reinvestments and investments include:

Northwest Territories Child Benefit (NWTCB) – This cash benefit provides a maximum of \$330 annually per child for families with income of \$20,921 or less in the previous year.

Territorial Workers' Supplement (TWS) –

This supplement is paid to families with working incomes over \$3,750. This supplement is phased in so that the maximum benefit becomes available when working incomes reach \$10,000 annually.

Note: The NWTCB and TWS are need-determined programs that are based on a family's net income, working income and the number of children under the age of 18 years.

Healthy Children Initiative (HCI) –

The GNWT initiated the HCI in 1998. Since 1998, NCB reinvestment funds and NWT investment funds have been directed to the continued development and expansion of this program. To date, NCB increases/reinvestment funding has been directed to the HCI programs. The HCI enables communities groups across the NWT, to develop and deliver programs that proactively focus on health, learning and cultural development for children six years of age and under. HCI programs to date have included the delivery of healthy snack programs in Early Learning and Child Care Programs, Aboriginal Culture and Language Programs, Family Literacy and the support of training opportunities for early Child Care staff.

Table 35 Northwest Territories: NCB Reinvestments and Investments

	2004–2005	2005–2006	2006–2007	2007–2008
	Expenditures (\$000)	Expenditures (\$000)	Estimates (\$000)	Estimates (\$000)
Child Benefits & Earned Income Supplements				
NWT Child Benefit/Territorial Workers' Supplement	1,500	1,644	1,443	1,336
Early Childhood/Children-at-Risk Services				
Healthy Children Initiative ^a	419	419	1,768	1,768
Total	1,919	2,063	3,211	3,104

^a Figures include funding from another budget that provides children in the Northwest Territories with programs such as snacks, Aboriginal language and on-the-land camps.

Note: Totals may not add due to rounding.

Table 36 Northwest Territories: Estimated Number of Families and Children Benefiting under NCB Reinvestments and Investments

NCB Initiatives by Program Name ^a	2004–2005		2005–2006		2006–2007		2007–2008	
	Families	Children	Families	Children	Families	Children	Families	Children
	#	#	#	#	#	#	#	#
NWT Child Benefit	2,300	4,300	2,331	4,441	2,200	4,191	1,893	3,605

^a Programs with no available data are not listed.

Nunavut

The Government of Nunavut's Pinasuaqtavut mandate continues to focus on the commitment to building Nunavut's future by improving the well-being, prosperity and self-reliance of Nunavummiut. Nunavut's NCB initiatives correspond to the Inuit principle of Pijitsirniq (providing for families and the community) by helping to prevent and reduce the depth of child poverty and by assisting low-income families with the costs associated with raising children. The NCB also provides an incentive for parents to (re)join the workforce, consistent with the government's interest in encouraging economic self-reliance.

The Government of Nunavut offsets the NCB Supplement as income from income support payments and reinvests the funds in the Nunavut Child Benefit (NUCB) and the Territorial Workers' Supplement (TWS).

Nunavut's reinvestment and investments include:

Nunavut Child Benefit (NUCB) – This is the primary reinvestment program in Nunavut which is funded using monies from the recovery of social assistance payments

in the territory. The NUCB is a tax-free payment given to qualifying families with children under the age of 18 living at home. To reduce duplication and streamline efficiency, the Canada Revenue Agency delivers the Nunavut Child Benefit as an integrated payment with the CCTB and the NCB Supplement. The NUCB is a benefit paid to all families with a net income of \$20,921 or less in the previous year. Families receive \$27.50 per month or \$330 annually for each eligible child under the age of 18 living at home.

Territorial Workers' Supplement (TWS) –

Families who have earned income of more than \$3,750 in the previous year may also receive the Territorial Workers' Supplement. This is an additional benefit for working families with children under the age of 18 living at home. Nunavut uses recovered funds from social assistance payments to provide the Territorial Workers' Supplement for working parents, and Canada Revenue Agency delivers this benefit as an integrated payment with the CCTB and the NCB Supplement. Eligible families may receive up to \$275 annually for the first child and an additional \$75 per year for the second.

Table 37 Nunavut: NCB Reinvestments and Investments

	2004–2005	2005–2006	2006–2007	2007–2008
	Expenditures (\$000)	Expenditures (\$000)	Estimates (\$000)	Estimates (\$000)
Child Benefits & Earned Income Supplements				
Nunavut Child Benefit/Territorial Workers' Supplement	2,775	2,679	3,058	3,409
Total	2,775	2,679	3,058	3,409

Table 38**Nunavut: Estimated Number of Families and Children Benefiting under NCB Reinvestments and Investments**

NCB Initiatives by Program Name	2004–2005		2005–2006		2006–2007		2007–2008	
	Families #	Children #	Families #	Children #	Families #	Children #	Families #	Children #
Nunavut Child Benefit/ Territorial Workers' Supplement	2,810	6,414	2,717	6,338	2,679	6,036	2,653	6,099

First Nations

The purpose of the First Nations NCBR Initiative is to reduce the effects of child poverty by funding programs and services that will provide for the otherwise-unmet physical and social needs of children in reserve communities. Specifically, the initiative aims to foster the growth of children in low-income families into self-sufficient, contributing members of their communities.

Of the more than six hundred First Nations in Canada, the number that have used reinvestment funding to expand the range of services to low-income families and their children is in excess of four hundred. First Nations that are not included in departmental reinvestment reports include Atlantic, Ontario, Alberta, and British Columbia bands that fall under multi-year funding agreements; self-governing Yukon bands; and bands in Newfoundland and Labrador.

Reinvestments are categorized under five activity areas:

Child Care – These projects are intended to create more spaces in day-care centres for children of low-income families. There is particular emphasis on accommodating children of parents who are working or undertaking training or educational upgrading to improve their opportunities for employment. The reinvestment funds may also be used to subsidize child-care costs for working/in-training parents, although no direct subsidies may be granted to parents.

Child Nutrition – These programs are intended to improve the health and well-being of children by providing breakfast, lunch, or snacks in school, by educating parents about the nutritional needs of children and meal preparation, or by delivering food hampers to homes of low-income families.

Support to Parents – These programs are designed to equip and support parents by giving their children a sound start in life. Projects may include drop-in centres for parents or training in parenting skills.

Home-to-Work Transition –

These programs are directed at improving the prospects of employment for parents and youth. These include employment and skills development, and summer work projects for youth.

Cultural Enrichment – In this category are projects such as the teaching of traditional culture (e.g., language, art, music, storytelling), support projects for youth, celebrations, peer support groups, family and community supports such as life skills, financial management training, and other group activities that bring together community elders, children, and youth.

Table 39 First Nations: NCB Reinvestments and Investments

Activity Area	2004–2005	2005–2006	2006–2007	2007–2008
	Expenditures (\$000)	Expenditures (\$000)	Estimates (\$000)	Estimates ^a (\$000)
Child Care	2,323	3,246	3,228	n/a
Child Nutrition	12,459	12,762	13,561	n/a
Support to Parents	4,995	12,584	7,533	n/a
Home-to-Work Transition	17,509	17,103	18,934	n/a
Cultural Enrichment	15,462	8,919	7,101	n/a
Additional administrative costs ^b			1,524	
Sub-total	52,748	54,614	51,880	54,606
Additional Investment Envelope ^c	2,379	3,434	780	240
Total	55,127	58,048	52,660	54,846

^a A breakdown of 2007–2008 estimates is not available.

^b The Saskatchewan region did not include administrative costs in activity areas.

^c The additional investment envelope includes funding to reimburse Saskatchewan and Yukon for the portion of provincial/territorial children's benefits paid on reserve. In 2006–2007, the additional investment envelope for Saskatchewan was phased out due to the restructuring of the provincial child benefit programming.

Notes: 1) n/a indicates the data is not available.
 2) Totals may not add due to rounding.
 3) Indian and Northern Affairs Canada does not fund social assistance in the Northwest Territories and Nunavut. Reinvestments in these areas are not included in this table.

Table 40
First Nations: Estimated Number of Families and Children on Reserve by Region, Benefiting under NCB Reinvestments

Region	2004–2005		2005–2006		2006–2007	
	Families #	Children #	Families #	Children #	Families #	Children #
Atlantic ^a	1,281	2,608	1,087	2,229	872	1,759
Quebec	4,994	10,583	4,333	10,854	4,629	9,452
Ontario ^b	22,960	52,429	28,480	68,701	7,874	16,947
Manitoba ^c	–	–	–	–	–	–
Saskatchewan ^b	85,533	209,520	154,482	346,308	32,973	69,831
Alberta	11,910	23,826	16,503	36,620	23,996	62,132
British Columbia	32,722	59,088	21,355	35,131	19,791	31,208
Yukon ^b	363	1,266	326	1,327	510	985

^a The number of participants in the Atlantic region only includes First Nations in Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island.

^b In 2006–2007, Ontario, Saskatchewan and Yukon revised the way in which they report families and children.

^c Since January 2004, the Province of Manitoba has paid all children's benefits directly to families. Reinvestment funds are no longer available.

Note: 1) Estimates for 2007–2008 are not available.

2) Indian and Northern Affairs Canada does not fund social assistance in the Northwest Territories and Nunavut.

3) Figures may vary because some bands funded under multi-year agreements and self-government arrangements may not have reported.

4) Numbers may include duplicates, as families/children may benefit from more than one service.

Citizenship and Immigration Canada

Citizenship and Immigration Canada (CIC) is committed to the objectives of the NCB initiative. CIC continues to aid government-assisted refugees by reinvesting income support adjustments into benefits for refugee families and their children.

CIC administers the NCB through its local and regional offices following provincial/territorial social assistance guidelines which helps to maintain a national standard for clients. The funds available as a result of the income support adjustments are reinvested into benefits for refugee families with children.

The Resettlement Assistance Program (RAP) provides newly arrived government-assisted refugees with income support and a range of immediate and essential services. Income support is provided for up to 12 months or until the client has become self-sufficient, whichever comes first, with a maximum of 24 months coverage for certain special needs refugees. Clients who are not self-sufficient at the end of the period of RAP support are entitled to provincial/territorial social assistance.

CIC's other reinvestments and investments include:

Newborn Allowance – This supplement assists government-assisted refugee families with the costs of caring for a newborn.

Children under 6 Years Allowance – This benefit recognizes the additional costs associated with raising young children.

School Start-Up Allowance – This supplement assists government-assisted refugee families with the costs of equipping young children for elementary school.

Monthly School Allowance – This supplement aids government-assisted refugee families with the recurring and on-going costs of their children's education, such as school and gym supplies and registration fees.

NCB Transportation Allowance – This supplement assists government-assisted refugee families with their transportation costs.

Table 41 Citizenship and Immigration Canada: NCB Reinvestments and Investments

	2004–2005	2005–2006	2006–2007	2007–2008
	Expenditures (\$000)	Expenditures (\$000)	Estimates (\$000)	Estimates (\$000)
Child Benefits & Earned Income Supplements				
Newborn Allowance, Children under 6 Allowance, School Start-up Allowance, Monthly School Allowance	799	767	1,022	1,463
Other NCB Programs, Benefits & Services				
NCB Transportation Allowance	1,793	1,688	1,066	969
Total	2,592	2,455	2,088	2,432

Note: Totals may not add due to rounding.

Results of the Survey of Labour and Income Dynamics (SLID) Analysis

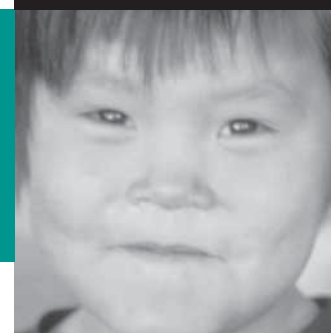


Table 42

Change in Incidence of Low Income Among Families by Family Type Due to the NCB: January 2005 to December 2005

SLID 2005	One-Parent Families	Two-Parent Families	All Families ^a
MBM^b			
Decline in Number of Children Living in Low Income	53,300	116,500	171,100
Decline in Number of Families Living in Low Income	28,300	49,400	78,800
Percentage Change in Number of Families Living in Low Income	-10.7%	-16.0%	-13.7%
Decline in Incidence of Low Income Among Families with Children ^c	-3.6%	-1.6%	-2.1%
Post-Tax LICO^b			
Decline in Number of Children Living in Low Income	70,400	74,100	144,500
Decline in Number of Families Living in Low Income	37,900	29,600	67,500
Percentage Change in Number of Families Living in Low Income	-16.7%	-12.9%	-14.7%
Decline in Incidence of Low Income Among Families with Children ^c	-4.9%	-1.0%	-1.8%
Post-Tax LIM^b			
Decline in Number of Children Living in Low Income	49,500	105,000	154,500
Decline in Number of Families Living in Low Income	26,500	43,800	70,300
Percentage Change in Number of Families Living in Low Income	-10.5%	-16.6%	-13.5%
Decline in Incidence of Low Income Among Families with Children ^c	-3.4%	-1.4%	-1.8%

^a The "All Families" group includes one-parent, two-parent and other family types (e.g., children in foster care). As children in other families do not fall in the category of one or two-parent families, the total in "All Families" does not equal the sum.

^b The direct impact of the NCB on the incidence of low income and disposable income is dependent on the measure of low income used in the simulation analysis. This Appendix uses three different measures of low income: post-tax LICOs, post-tax LIMs and the MBM. As these three measures are calculated with differing methodologies, it may be difficult to directly compare simulation results from each measure.

^c Decline in incidence of low income is expressed in percentage points.

Source: Based on Statistics Canada Special Tabulations from the *Survey of Labour and Income Dynamics (SLID) 2005*.

Table 43

Changes in Disposable Incomes Due to the NCB Among Families with Children by Family Type: January 2005 to December 2005

SLID 2005	One-Parent Families	Two-Parent Families	All Families
MBM			
Were Prevented from Living in Low Income in 2005			
Increase in Disposable Income due to NCB	\$2,100	\$2,700	\$2,400
Percentage Increase in Income	9.4%	9.6%	9.5%
Remained Living in Low Income in 2005			
Increase in Disposable Income due to NCB	\$1,700	\$2,000	\$1,900
Percentage Increase in Income	10.9%	10.6%	10.7%
Other Families with Children who Received NCB Supplement in 2005			
Increase in Disposable Income due to NCB	\$1,200	\$1,100	\$1,100
Percentage Increase in Income	3.1%	2.7%	2.9%
Post-Tax LICOs			
Were Prevented from Living in Low Income in 2005			
Increase in Disposable Income due to NCB	\$2,300	\$3,000	\$2,600
Percentage Increase in Income	10.0%	10.0%	10.0%
Remained Living in Low Income in 2005			
Increase in Disposable Income due to NCB	\$1,700	\$2,200	\$1,900
Percentage Increase in Income	11.1%	11.3%	11.2%
Other Families with Children who Received NCB Supplement in 2005			
Increase in Disposable Income due to NCB	\$1,200	\$1,200	\$1,200
Percentage Increase in Income	3.0%	3.0%	3.0%
Post-Tax LIM			
Were Prevented from Living in Low Income in 2005			
Increase in Disposable Income due to NCB	\$2,500	\$2,900	\$2,800
Percentage Increase in Income	10.2%	9.8%	9.9%
Remained Living in Low Income in 2005			
Increase in Disposable Income due to NCB	\$1,700	\$2,100	\$1,900
Percentage Increase in Income	10.7%	10.9%	10.8%
Other Families with Children who Received NCB Supplement in 2005			
Increase in Disposable Income due to NCB	\$1,200	\$1,100	\$1,100
Percentage Increase in Income	2.7%	2.6%	2.7%

Source: Based on Statistics Canada Special Tabulations from the *Survey of Labour and Income Dynamics (SLID) 2005*.

Table 44**Change in Incidence of Low Income Among Families by Family Type
Due to the NCB: January 2005 to December 2005**

SLID 2005	One-Parent Families	Two-Parent Families	All Families
MBM			
Decline in Low Income Gap (\$ millions)	\$420	\$590	\$1,010
Percentage Change in the Low Income Gap	-21.1%	-20.0%	-20.4%
Post-Tax LICOs			
Decline in Low Income Gap (\$ millions)	\$370	\$470	\$840
Percentage Change in the Low Income Gap	-22.1%	-20.1%	-20.9%
Post-Tax LIM			
Decline in Low Income Gap (\$ millions)	\$420	\$530	\$950
Percentage Change in the Low Income Gap	-20.2%	-20.7%	-20.5%

Source: Based on Statistics Canada Special Tabulations from the *Survey of Labour and Income Dynamics (SLID) 2005*.

Additional Statistical Information



These additional statistical tables supplement the information contained in this report. They provide information on low income and labour market participation trends and are on the NCB website at: www.nationalchildbenefit.ca/eng/home.shtml (available in HTML).

Table 1a

Post-tax LICOs – Income thresholds, by family size and community size, 2005

Table 1b

Pre-tax LICOs – Income thresholds, by family size and community size, 2005

Table 1c

Post-tax LIM – Income thresholds, by family size and composition, 2005

Table 2

LICOs & LIM – Number and percentage of families with children under 18 below the low-income thresholds, by family type, Canada 1984 to 2005

Table 2a

LICOs & LIM – Number and percentage of children under 18 below the low-income thresholds, by family type, Canada 1984 to 2005

Table 3a

Post-tax LICOs – Percentage by which family income is below or above the low-income thresholds, by family type, Canada, 1984 to 2005

Table 3b

Pre-tax LICOs – Percentage by which family income is below or above the low-income thresholds, by family type, Canada, 1984 to 2005

Table 3c

Post-tax LIM – Percentage by which family income is below or above the low-income thresholds, by family type, Canada 1984 to 2005

Table 4

LICOs & LIM – Average market income of low-income families with children under 18 as a percentage of the low-income thresholds, by family type, Canada, 1984 to 2005

Table 5

LICOs & LIM – Percentage of low-income families with children under 18 employed for pay during the year, by family type, Canada, 1984 to 2005

Table 6

Estimated number of families with children under 18 receiving social assistance, by family type, Canada, March of each year, 1987 to 2005

Table 7

Federal expenditures on CCTB benefits (the NCB Supplement and the CCTB base benefit) for NCB Supplement recipients, by province/territory, July 2006 to June 2007

Table 8

Federal expenditures on CCTB benefits (the NCB Supplement and the CCTB base benefit) for CCTB base benefit recipients, by province/territory, July 2006 to June 2007

