In addition to raising household income beyond the poverty line, other strategies that could help reduce childhood inequalities include:

- **Safe housing and communities**
- **Affordable nutritious foods**
- **Supportive parenting and higher parental education**
- **Opportunities for early childhood care and education**
- **Access to recreation, sport, social and cultural activities**

*Indigenous children are at greater risk of living in low income families, where the proportion is:*

- **First Nations**
  - 2.6x HIGHER than non-Indigenous children
- **Métis**
  - 1.4x HIGHER than non-Indigenous children

*The proportion of children living in low income families is:*

- **2.2x** HIGHER among Black Canadians than among White Canadians
- **2.7x** HIGHER among Arab/South Asian/West Asian Canadians than among White Canadians
- **2.0x** HIGHER among East/Southeast Asian Canadians than among White Canadians

- **1.7x** HIGHER among those who are recent immigrants (≤10 years in Canada) than among those who are non-immigrants

Low income affects the capacity to live in quality housing, have access to healthy foods, and is associated with unfavourable physical and mental health outcomes as children age.¹,²

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¹ Based on concepts developed by Employment and Social Development Canada (ESDC), poverty is measured according to the Market Basket Measure (MBM). The MBM is a measure of low income based on the cost of a specified basket of goods and services representing a modest, basic standard of living. The Poverty Reduction Strategy establishes the MBM as Canada’s Official Poverty Line.


Source: National Household Survey (2011)

For more data on health inequalities in Canada, visit: www.health-infobase.canada.ca/health-inequalities

**Suggested citation:** Public Health Agency of Canada, Pan-Canadian Public Health Network, Statistics Canada, and the Canadian Institute of Health Information. (2018). Pan-Canadian Health Inequalities Data Tool.

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