



Social Assistance Statistical Report: 2009-13

**Federal-Provincial-Territorial
Directors of Income Support**

SP-968-12-16E

Social Assistance Statistical Report: 2009-13

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PDF

Cat. No. HS25-2E-PDF

ISSN: 1912-9505

ESDC

Cat. No. : SP-968-11-16

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Chapter 1

Summary

Social assistance in Canada is also known as income support, income assistance, welfare and a few other program names, depending on the jurisdiction. No matter the name, all provincial and territorial social assistance programs provide financial assistance and in-kind goods and services to cover the cost of basic living requirements for an individual or family when all other financial resources of that individual or family have been exhausted. For the purpose of this report, in Chapter 1 and 2, the term *social assistance program* has been adopted.

In recognition of the growing public demand for comprehensive information on provincial and territorial social assistance programs and caseloads, the *Social Assistance Statistical Report: 2009-13* is the sixth annual joint publication by federal, provincial and territorial governments. The report provides a general overview of social assistance in Canada, as well as a description of income support-related/social assistance programs in each jurisdiction.

This report does not include social assistance rates as this information is currently available to the public on most provincial and territorial government Web sites.

Methodology

The data in this report was provided by provincial and territorial ministries responsible for administering social assistance programs. It was extracted from jurisdictional data systems developed to meet their administrative and case management needs. As such, there are extensive variations in the types of data collected, the manner in which the data is reported, and in the definitions and terminology used. The data in this report should not be used for the purpose of cross-jurisdictional comparison.



Chapter 2

Social Assistance in Canada: An Overview

The formal division of powers between the federal government and the provincial and territorial governments respecting social services is based on *The Constitution Act, 1867*. The Act itself did not refer to social services; however, the legislative authority for social services has been inferred from the interpretations of sections 91 and 92 of the Act. These sections of the Act set out the division of authority between the federal and provincial governments and the Constitution has been interpreted to mean that the provinces have primary jurisdiction over social services. As such, the legislation governing the provision of social assistance varies by jurisdiction.

Following the approach of their provincial or territorial counterpart, Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada (AANDC) has adopted similar terms and conditions of social assistance programs. Funding for social assistance activities is provided by AANDC to First Nations communities, who in turn deliver programs and services to community members.¹

A Brief History of Federal Social Assistance

1966 - Canada Assistance Plan (CAP) – The federal government shared the eligible costs that provincial, territorial and municipal governments incurred in providing provincial social assistance and welfare services to persons in need.

1996 - The **Canada Health and Social Transfer (CHST)** replaced CAP. The CHST was a federal transfer provided to provinces and territories in support of provincial health care, post-secondary education, social assistance and social services, including early childhood development and early learning and child care

2004 - The CHST was replaced by the **Canada Health Transfer (CHT)** in support of health care and the **Canada Social Transfer (CST)** in support of post-secondary education, social assistance and social services, including early childhood development and early learning and child care.

Eligibility

In general, assistance may be granted to any individual or family head who has been determined, on the basis of need, to be unable to provide adequately for themselves and any dependants. Employable recipients may be required to participate in one or more employment activities as a condition of eligibility for financial assistance. Most jurisdictions require applicants

¹ In Ontario, under the *1965 Indian Welfare Agreement*, Ontario assumes the responsibility of the provision of social assistance in First Nations and AANDC reimburses Ontario a percentage share of provincial costs. In Alberta, under the *1991 Arrangement for the Funding and Administration of Social Services Agreement (Admin Reform Agreement)*, the province is reimbursed by AANDC for AISH benefits issued to status Indians living on reserve.



to attain the age of majority prior to application, and be a resident at the time of their application and while receiving benefits.

The following groups of individuals may be eligible for social assistance:

- Canadian citizens;
- persons granted permanent resident status under the *Immigration and Refugee Protection Act*, and
- persons who have made a claim for refugee status or have been granted asylum in Canada under the *Immigration and Refugee Protection Act*.

Administrative Requirements

Depending on the jurisdiction, to establish initial eligibility for social assistance, an applicant may be required to:

- submit a completed application;
- provide all documentation or necessary information to verify his/her eligibility, such as proof of age, medical information related to a disability, if applicable, pay cheque stubs, etc.;
- meet a representative from the ministry and discuss the financial and social situation of the household;
- provide consent for verification of any statement made in the application and any supporting documents concerning financial resources or any other circumstances of the household;
- report any change in circumstances that may affect continuing program eligibility or the amount of assistance to which the household is entitled.

Employment Requirements

Eligible employable persons are actively encouraged or require pursuing, accepting, and retaining any reasonable offer of employment or re-training as an initial and continuing condition of eligibility for social assistance. Thus, many jurisdictions offer employment services and training opportunities in combination with financial assistance. Should a recipient choose not to pursue employment or re-training, he/she may be subject to penalties ranging from a specified reduction in benefits over a prescribed period of time to the full cancellation of benefits.

To ensure that those who successfully leave social assistance for employment are better off working, the federal government (Working Income Tax Benefit - WITB) and a number of provinces and territories have introduced earned income or working income supplements.

Categories of Beneficiaries

Employable Persons - A number of measures promote the entry or re-entry of employable persons into the active labour force. These measures may include different exemption levels on assets and income, lower benefit levels to reflect the temporary nature of their reliance on social assistance, and a wide range of employment support services and programs.

Recipients may be required to sign and adhere to an individualized contract that stipulates training and rehabilitation measures to be undertaken in order to regain financial independence.



However, assistance may be granted only when:

- unemployment is due to circumstances beyond the person's control;
- the person is willing to accept employment which he/she is capable of handling, or to engage in academic upgrading, re-training or other measures to reach a state of job readiness; and
- the person is making reasonable efforts to secure employment.

Single-Parent Families - A sole support parent may be required to either initiate legal proceedings against an absent spouse (or ex-spouse) including common-law partners, respecting maintenance payments, or to subrogate that right to the government. Generally, single parents are considered as employable and required to actively seek and accept reasonable employment, where the parent and dependent child(ren) are physically and mentally healthy and generally when the dependants have reached a certain age.

Persons with Disabilities - An applicant with a disability is generally required to undergo an adjudication process or submit a medical certificate completed by a licensed physician indicating the level of the impairment and the potential for rehabilitation. Evidence of a continuing disability on an annual or other basis may also be required. These requirements may be waived where the disability is obvious.

All programs have design features to assist persons with disabilities, which may include higher exemption levels on assets and income, higher basic assistance levels, special disability-related allowances, and supplementary health and medical benefits.

Persons with Multiple Barriers to Employment – Some recipients face multiple significant barriers that make it difficult to find and maintain employment. Barriers to employment may include substance abuse, child care or transportation issues, histories of long-term unemployment, and/or low basic skills.

These individuals require interventions to address their personal circumstances in order to be able to find and maintain employment. They may have higher benefit levels and exemptions to reflect their longer-term reliance on social assistance.

Aged Persons - Seniors may qualify for social assistance notwithstanding their eligibility for benefits from other federal, provincial and territorial programs. Financial hardship might be due to some age-related special needs, the number of dependants in the household, or ineligibility for Old Age Security benefits. Most jurisdictions have established higher basic assistance benefit levels or other special considerations for aged persons.

Students - Post-secondary students are generally not permitted to receive social assistance while attending university, college or trade school. Students requiring financial assistance during their study period are generally expected to contact the appropriate student loan organization to receive financial assistance.

Financial Eligibility

Needs or Means Test - Social assistance is generally granted to eligible persons on the basis of a needs test. It takes into account the basic needs and the financial resources available to an



individual or family (assets and income), and the ability of those financial resources to meet their basic needs.

Assets – A household's assets may be considered as exempt or non-exempt for the purpose of calculating the social assistance entitlement. In most jurisdictions, liquid assets are defined as any assets that are readily convertible into cash including cash-on-hand, bank accounts, stocks and bonds, or other securities. Certain exemptions are allowed with respect to actual and potential liquid assets and the property of an individual or family. A portion of the cash value of a life insurance policy may be exempt from the calculation of liquid assets.

Homeowners applying for social assistance are not required to sell their principal residence and household effects (within reason) as a condition of eligibility. Similarly, applicants are not required to sell their primary vehicle, generally as long as the value of the vehicle does not exceed an allowable limit. Provisions regarding the treatment of assets such as Registered Retirement Savings Plans and Registered Education Savings Plans vary between the provinces and territories.

Assistance may be withheld, reduced or terminated where an applicant or recipient has disposed of his/her assets in an unreasonable manner in order to qualify for assistance.

Income – In addition to assets, income from all sources is examined in the calculation of entitlement to social assistance. The following types of income may be fully or partially exempt:

- Canada Child Tax Benefit;
- foster home payments;
- child welfare payments;
- GST/HST rebates;
- insurance settlements;
- federal compensation payments (such as payments to those under the Hepatitis C Program, to those infected with the human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) through blood transfusions or blood products, and to Canadian merchant mariners who served in the Second World War or the Korean War);
- involuntary deductions from pay;
- gifts and inheritances; and
- income from full-time employment held by dependants who are students.

Partial exemptions for employment income exist in most provinces and territories. These income exemptions may be granted as an incentive for the individual to gain financial independence. The income exemption provision may take effect only after initial eligibility for social assistance has been established.

Other types of unearned income, such as Workers' Compensation benefits and Old Age Security, are non-exempt and reduce the amount of social assistance payable dollar-for-dollar.

In the determination of financial eligibility, some jurisdictional authorities may include imputed income as part of a household's income even though the household is not actually receiving money from a particular source. Living rent-free in return for janitorial or superintendent services is a common example of imputed income.



Benefits

Basic Assistance – Basic assistance is generally intended to help with the cost of food, shelter, clothing, personal and household items, and may cover regularly recurring special needs. There are three basic methods used to calculate the amount of benefits to which an individual or family are entitled:

- i. Pre-added budget method – It combines all non-shelter requirements into a single support allowance. A separate shelter component is then provided.
- ii. Itemized budget method – It provides a standard allowance for each of the non-shelter and shelter requirements. The sum of the individual items to which the individual or family is entitled then forms the total benefit payable.
- iii. Flat rate of assistance – It provides a lump sum amount for non-shelter and shelter items based on a household's structure and the program in which it is participating.

Variables affecting the amount of shelter allowance payable include the number of beneficiaries in any given household, the type of living arrangement and the cost of fuel and utilities. In some jurisdictions, the shelter amount varies depending on the season, location and relative remoteness of the area in question.

Special Needs Assistance – Generally, this type of assistance provides items, services, or allowances related to age, disability, employment, education, training, and other special circumstances. It varies widely between jurisdictions but examples include transportation allowances, employment-related allowances, child care subsidies, drug and medical services, as well as furniture replacement, minor home repair allowances, special diet allowances, school supply allowances, and funeral services. The provision of items of special need is generally on a case-by-case basis in accordance with the applicable policies and guidelines.

Transitional Assistance – In an effort to increase labour market attachment and reduce reliance on social assistance, attempts have been made to lessen the financial impact of the transition from social assistance to employment. In some jurisdictions, child care and transportation allowances have been increased to facilitate the participation in employment and re-training activities. Extended drug cards and supplementary health benefits, valid after leaving social assistance (subject to renewal) have further lessened the financial impact of accepting employment.

Indexation – Each province and territory is responsible for deciding whether to index its benefits. Most revise their rates on an ad hoc basis. Yukon annually indexes most items of basic maintenance, using the average Consumer Price Index for Whitehorse and Quebec annually indexes its benefits paid within their financial assistance program. In Quebec, benefits paid are adjusted at the same indexation rates used in the personal taxation system.

Administration

Referral to Other Government Programs – An applicant's circumstances are reviewed to determine if social assistance is the most appropriate intervention for them. If it is determined that another governmental program may be more suitable, the applicant is referred to that program.



Method of Payment – Social assistance benefits can be paid in one or more ways - such as, cash, payroll or manual cheque issue, direct deposit, voucher or authorization to purchase or direct payment to a third-party vendor or supplier.

Case Review – As a condition of continuing eligibility for financial assistance, beneficiaries must report immediately any change in the circumstances of their household that would affect their entitlement to financial assistance. In addition, some jurisdictions require that long-term social assistance recipients be reviewed periodically, while short-term recipients may be reviewed more frequently.

Recoveries and Reimbursement – Policies and procedures are in place concerning the recovery of social assistance granted to a person who was not entitled because of a change in household income or other circumstances, such as accidental or wilful representation or fraud. Certain forms of assistance may be conditional upon a formal agreement signed by the recipient to reimburse the government for such assistance.

Appeals – An applicant or recipient is entitled to file a request for reconsideration or appeal where he/she is dissatisfied with a decision affecting his/her entitlement to social assistance. Some provinces and territories have established limits on the type of issues that may be formally appealed, while others allow an individual to question any determination bearing on his/her case. Most jurisdictions have adopted a two-step appeal process. Social assistance personnel first conduct an internal administrative review. The applicant or recipient may then decide whether to withdraw their appeal or go forward to a formal appeals committee or board consisting of appointed members.

Children's Benefits

Prior to 1998, there was minimal coordination between the federal system, which delivered child benefits through the income tax system, and provincial/territorial systems, which delivered child benefits through social assistance programs. In July 1998, the National Child Benefit (NCB) was introduced. The NCB is a joint initiative of federal, provincial and territorial governments², including a First Nations component to support Canadian children living in low-income families. The goals of the NCB are to help prevent and reduce the depth of child poverty, to promote attachment to the labour market by ensuring that families will always be better off as a result of working; and to reduce overlap and duplication by harmonizing program objectives and benefits, and through simplified administration.

Under this initiative, a new federal child benefit, the NCB Supplement, was introduced as a component of the Canada Child Tax Benefit (CCTB). The CCTB provides a base benefit to all low- and middle-income families with children. The NCB Supplement provides an additional benefit targeted to children in low-income families, whether the parents are receiving social assistance or working.

² The Government of Quebec has stated that it agrees with the basic principles of the NCB. Quebec chose not to participate in the NCB because it wanted to assume control over income support for children in Quebec; however, it has adopted a similar approach to the NCB. The reference to the NCB as a joint federal-provincial-territorial initiative does not include Quebec.



The NCB Supplement provided provinces and territories the opportunity to adjust children's social assistance by an amount equivalent to the NCB Supplement. Resulting savings are reinvested in new or enhanced programs benefiting low-income families with children.

Approaches to Replacing Social Assistance Benefits for Children

Since the inception of the NCB initiative, three distinct approaches have evolved by which provinces and territories replace social assistance benefits for children with the NCB Supplement. First Nations follow the approach of the province or territory in which they are located. In two jurisdictions, New Brunswick and Manitoba³, social assistance is not adjusted by federal increases to the NCB Supplement.

The Social Assistance Offset Approach – Under this approach child benefits remain within the social assistance system, but these benefits have been gradually displaced by federal increases to the NCB Supplement. Provinces and territories either deduct the NCB Supplement as an unearned income charge against social assistance or reduce their social assistance rates for children. In the case of income offset, social assistance recipients have the amount of the NCB Supplement they receive deducted from their social assistance entitlement. This approach is used in Prince Edward Island⁴, Yukon, Northwest Territories and Nunavut. In the case of rate reduction, social assistance rates are reduced by the maximum NCB Supplement. Alberta^{5,6} uses this approach. Reinvestment funds under the social assistance offset approach are the savings in social assistance.

The Integrated Child Benefit Approach with Adjustment – Several jurisdictions restructured their social assistance system and children's benefits are now delivered through a separate income-tested child benefit program that is integrated with the CCTB. Under this approach, increases in the NCB Supplement are offset in full or in part against the provincial child benefit. In British Columbia, the savings from this offset become the province's reinvestment funds. In Saskatchewan, the amount of reinvestment funds is set at the amount that was being spent on basic child benefits under the social assistance system at the time the system was restructured, and remains the same for subsequent years.

The Integrated Child Benefit Approach without Adjustment – Other jurisdictions also restructured their social assistance system as basic benefits for children were removed from the social assistance program and are now provided through a separate income-tested program

³ Effective July 2000, Manitoba discontinued recovering increases in the NCB Supplement for families receiving income assistance. Effective July 2001, Manitoba stopped recovering the NCB Supplement for children age six or under. Effective January 2003, Manitoba stopped recovering the NCB Supplement for children age seven to eleven; and effective January 2004, it stopped recovering the NCB Supplement for children age 12 to 17 years.

⁴ Since 2001, any increases in the NCB Supplement have been used to fund an increase in the Healthy Child Allowance, which is a social assistance benefit.

⁵ In 2003, Alberta enhanced the mix of income and in-kind benefits and services to families receiving assistance through the Supports for Independence program by flowing through the full increase of the NCB Supplement. Under the new Albert Works – Income Support program (2004), Alberta has extended the flow-through of annual NCB Supplement increases to present.

⁶ Canada Child Tax Benefits (including the National Child Benefit (NCB)) are fully exempt under Alberta's Assured Income for the Severely Handicapped (AISH) program. As such, AISH benefits are not reduced if a client receives the NCB Supplement.



integrated with the CCTB. In these cases, however, there is no offset of the NCB Supplement against provincial child benefits. The amount of reinvestment funds is set at the funds that were being spent on basic child benefits under the social assistance system at the time the system was restructured and remains the same for subsequent years. Newfoundland and Labrador⁷, Nova Scotia⁸ and Ontario⁹ have adopted this approach.

Other Approach – In Quebec, children needs are covered by the Canada Child Tax Benefit and the improved Quebec Family Allowances and, since January 2005, by a Tax Credit Reimbursement for Child Support. This income support allows Quebec families with children, particularly those receiving last-resort financial benefits or those with low income, to obtain transfer payments benefiting their children. These benefits are adjusted on January 1st of each year at the same indexation rate as the personal taxation system.

In 2013, provinces and territories provided NCB programs and services in six key areas: child/day care initiatives; child benefits and earned income supplements; early childhood and children-at-risk services; supplementary health benefits; youth initiatives; and other NCB programs, benefits and services. First Nations reinvestments covered a broader range of programs in five key areas: child care; child nutrition; support to parents; home-to-work transition; and cultural enrichment.

Additional information on the NCB is available in annual progress reports, which are available on the NCB Web site at: www.nationalchildbenefit.ca.

⁷ Newfoundland and Labrador redesigned its income support program in 1999–2000. All basic benefits for children have been removed from the newly created Income Support Program as these benefits are now provided through the combined CCTB and Newfoundland and Labrador Child Benefit. As a result, Newfoundland and Labrador does not adjust its income support benefits for increases in the NCB Supplement, nor does it adjust the Newfoundland and Labrador Child Benefit.

⁸ With the advent of the NCB Supplement in 1998, Nova Scotia enhanced the supports available for children of low-income families by introducing the Nova Scotia Child Benefit as a provincial reinvestment initiative. In 2001, children's benefits were removed from the province's income assistance program, substantially increased and fully integrated with the CCTB to establish a single, non-taxable monthly payment for all low-income families with children. At the same time, Nova Scotia ensured that any future increases to the NCB Supplement flowed directly through to families receiving income assistance.

⁹ Prior to July 2008, the 2004, 2005, 2006 and 2007 increases to the NCBS were flowed through to social assistance recipients, but the base amount was deducted. Beginning in July 2008, social assistance benefits for children and the Ontario Child Care Supplement for Working Families (OCCS) were restructured and the Ontario Child Benefit was introduced. In addition, the NCBS was fully exempted for the purposes of social assistance.



Chapter 3 – Newfoundland and Labrador

Income Support

In Newfoundland and Labrador, the provincial social assistance program is known as Income Support. The *Income and Employment Support Act* and the Income and Employment Support Regulations govern Newfoundland and Labrador’s social assistance program.

Income Support provides basic benefits to adults only.

Children’s basic benefits are provided through the Newfoundland and Labrador Child Benefit (see p.11).

Service Delivery

The Department of Advanced Education and Skills is responsible for the delivery of the Income Support program to adults within the province.

Eligibility

General

In order to be eligible for the Income Support program, applicants must meet the general eligibility requirements outlined in the “Social Assistance Overview” in this report.

Liquid Assets

At the time of application, applicants’ liquid assets may not exceed the following allowable limits:

Newfoundland and Labrador - Liquid Asset Exemptions March 2013		
	Clients without Disabilities	Clients with Disabilities ^a
Single	\$3,000	\$3,000
Family	\$5,500	\$5,500

a. These clients must require supportive services.
 Note: The Liquid Asset Exemptions for clients without disabilities was increased in 2011 (single - \$500 to \$3,000, and family - \$1,500 to \$5,500)

Earnings Exemptions

Once an application for assistance has been approved, Income Support program clients are eligible for the following monthly exemptions on earned income:

Newfoundland and Labrador - Earnings Exemptions March 2013		
	Clients without Disabilities	Clients with Disabilities ^a
Single	\$75, plus 20% of income in excess of \$75.	\$150, plus 20% of income in excess of \$150.
Family	\$150, plus 20% of income in excess of \$150.	\$250, plus 20% of income in excess of \$250.
<small>a. These clients must require supportive services. Note: The exemptions for clients requiring supportive services increased in July 2008 (from \$95 to \$150 for singles and \$190 to \$250 for families). The percentage factor also increased from 10% to 20% for all clients in July 2008.</small>		

Benefits

Basic assistance consists of individual/family benefits and a shelter allowance. Individual/family benefits cover the cost of food, clothing, and utilities for adults only. Maximum individual/family benefits rates are based primarily on the number of adults in the household. There is a differential between a single person and a single parent, and couples with and without children – however, the number of children does not impact the rates. Maximum shelter allowance rates are based on family composition – single vs. family, and the type of accommodation.

Newfoundland and Labrador provides clients who leave social assistance for employment with an extended drug card that is valid for six months.

Children’s basic benefits are paid through the Newfoundland and Labrador Child Benefit.

Newfoundland and Labrador Child Benefit

The Newfoundland and Labrador Child Benefit (NLCB) is a non-taxable amount paid monthly to help low-income families with the cost of raising children under the age of 18 years. The creation of the Newfoundland and Labrador Child Benefit in July 1999, effectively removed children’s benefits from the social assistance system.

The Canada Revenue Agency delivers the NLCB as an integrated payment with the CCTB and the NCB Supplement. The NLCB rates are based on net income and number of children. For instance, maximum NLCB benefits are paid to those families whose income is less than \$17,397 per year. In 2013, families whose annual income falls between \$17,397 and \$24,580 per year (depending on the number of children) may be eligible for partial NLCB benefits.

Chapter 3 – Newfoundland and Labrador – Income Support

Effective July 2013, in addition to the National Child Benefit Supplement, families with one child may be entitled to receive \$364 per year. Families are eligible to receive \$386 per year for their second child, \$415 per year for their third child, and \$445 per year for each additional child.

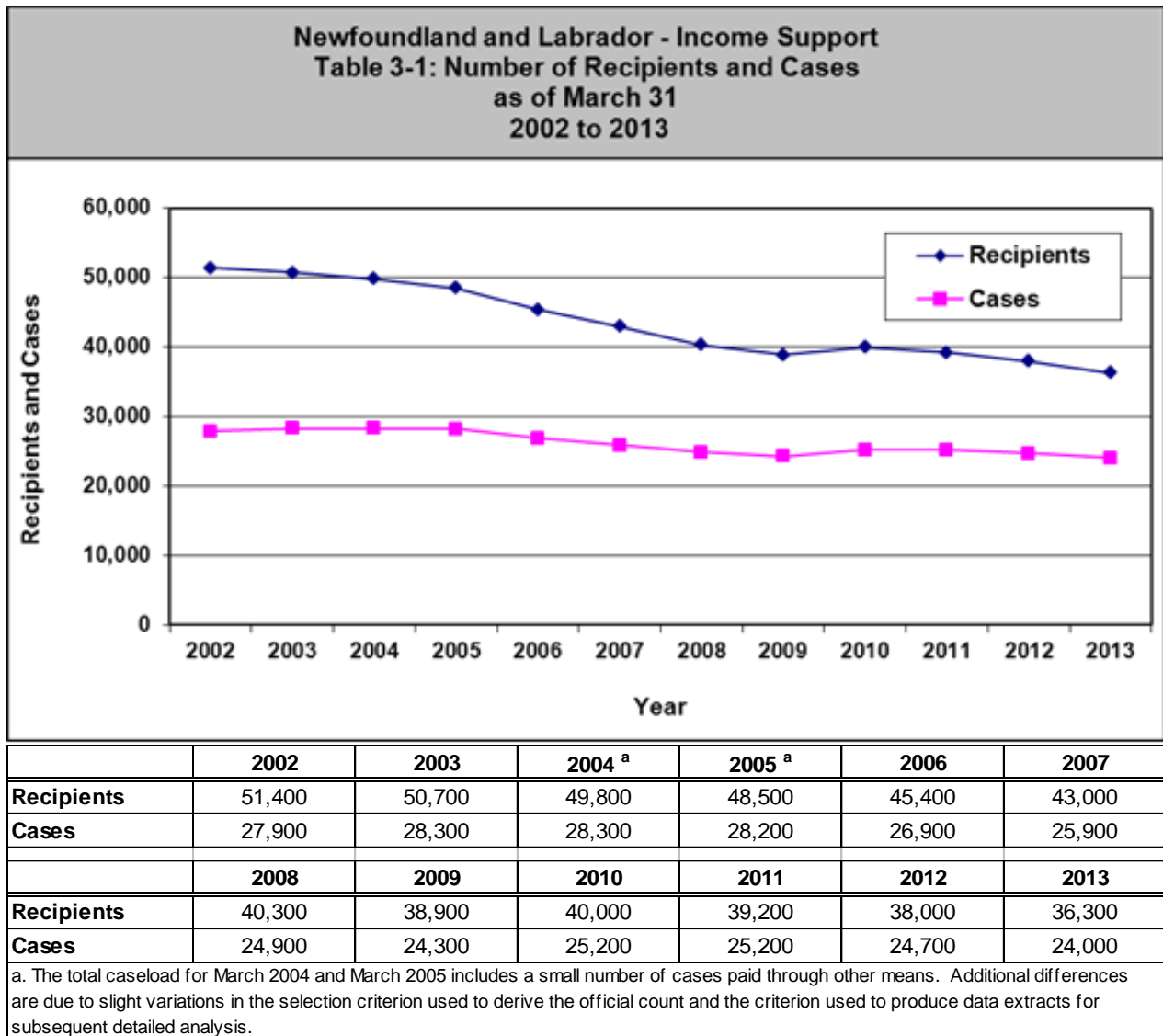
Newfoundland and Labrador Child Benefit Estimated Number of Recipients 2003-2004 to 2012-2013					
	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08
Families	19,800	18,834	18,246	17,329	16,258
Children	30,000	29,306	28,393	27,072	25,297
	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13
Families	14,956	14,072	13,416	13,036	12,298
Children	23,640	22,325	21,257	20,694	19,601

More Information

For more information, please consult the Newfoundland and Labrador Department of Advanced Education and Skills Web site at: www.aes.gov.nl.ca.

STATISTICS

Recipients and Cases



Chapter 3 – Newfoundland and Labrador – Income Support

Cases by Reason for Assistance

Newfoundland and Labrador - Income Support Table 3-2: Number and Percentage of Cases by Reason for Assistance as of March 31										
Reason for Assistance	2009		2010		2011		2012		2013	
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
Employed	1,000	4%	900	4%	800	3%	800	3%	800	3%
Unemployed	14,700	60%	15,700	62%	16,000	63%	15,800	64%	15,400	64%
Disability	5,500	23%	5,600	22%	5,600	22%	5,500	22%	5,300	22%
Sole support parent	1,000	4%	1,000	4%	1,000	4%	900	4%	800	3%
Age-related	300	1%	300	1%	300	1%	200	1%	200	1%
Student	400	2%	500	2%	500	2%	500	2%	500	2%
Other ^a	1,400	6%	1,200	5%	1,100	4%	1,000	4%	900	4%
Total	24,300	100%	25,200	100%	25,200	100%	24,700	100%	24,000	100%

a. "Other" includes clients paid in the new CAPS pay system. This field did not match upon conversion from the old system. Until cases are reviewed in the new pay system and the reason for assistance field is updated, the number of cases in the "other" category will continue to be higher than previous years. Accuracy in this area will improve over time.

Note: Totals may not add due to rounding.

Recipients by Family Type

Newfoundland and Labrador - Income Support Table 3-3: Number and Percentage of Recipients by Family Type as of March 31										
Family Type	2009		2010		2011		2012		2013	
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
Adults - Single	15,200	39%	16,100	40%	16,600	42%	16,500	43%	16,300	45%
Adults - Couple, no dependants	4,900	13%	4,700	12%	4,400	11%	4,200	11%	3,900	11%
Adults - Single parent	5,300	14%	5,400	14%	5,200	13%	5,000	13%	4,800	13%
Adults - Couple with dependants	2,800	7%	2,800	7%	2,500	6%	2,200	6%	1,900	5%
Total Adults	28,200	72%	29,000	73%	28,700	73%	27,900	73%	26,900	74%
Children - Single parent	8,100	21%	8,400	21%	8,200	21%	7,900	21%	7,600	21%
Children - Couple with dependants	2,600	7%	2,600	7%	2,300	6%	2,100	6%	1,900	5%
Total Children	10,700	28%	11,000	28%	10,500	27%	10,000	26%	9,500	26%
Total Recipients	38,900	100%	40,000	100%	39,200	100%	38,000	100%	36,300	100%

Note: Totals may not add due to rounding.

Chapter 3 – Newfoundland and Labrador – Income Support

Cases by Age of Head

Newfoundland and Labrador - Income Support					
Table 3-4: Number of Cases by Age of Head as of March 31					
Age of Head	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
<20	700	700	600	700	600
20-24	2,200	2,500	2,600	2,400	2,200
25-29	2,300	2,500	2,500	2,500	2,400
30-34	2,400	2,500	2,400	2,500	2,400
35-39	2,700	2,700	2,600	2,500	2,400
40-44	2,800	2,800	2,700	2,600	2,500
45-49	3,000	3,100	3,000	3,000	2,900
50-54	3,000	3,000	3,100	3,000	3,000
55-59	2,800	2,900	3,000	3,000	2,900
60-64	2,200	2,300	2,300	2,300	2,400
65+	300	300	300	200	200
Total	24,300	25,200	25,200	24,700	24,000

Note: Totals may not add due to rounding.

Cases by Education of Head

Newfoundland and Labrador - Income Support										
Table 3-5: Number and Percentage of Cases by Education of Head as of March 31										
Education of Head ^a	2009		2010		2011		2012		2013	
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
Primary ^b	6,800	28%	6,600	26%	6,300	25%	6,000	24%	5,600	23%
Secondary ^c	13,200	54%	14,100	56%	14,300	57%	14,100	57%	13,800	58%
Community/technical college	2,500	10%	2,800	11%	2,900	12%	2,900	12%	2,900	12%
University	700	3%	700	3%	800	3%	700	3%	800	3%
Other	1,000	4%	1,000	4%	1,000	4%	1,000	4%	900	4%
Total	24,300	100%	25,200	100%	25,200	100%	24,700	100%	24,000	100%

a. Education is defined as level of education attained by the head of the household as of March 31.
b. "Primary" includes Kindergarten to Grade 8.
c. "Secondary" includes Grade 9 to Grade 12.

Note: Totals may not add due to rounding.

Cases Reporting Income by Source of Income

Newfoundland and Labrador - Income Support Table 3-6: Number and Percentage of Cases Reporting Income by Source of Income, as of March 31										
Source of Income	2009		2010		2011		2012		2013	
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
Employment	1,000	19%	900	17%	800	15%	800	16%	800	16%
Government transfers	2,600	49%	2,700	51%	2,700	52%	2,700	54%	2,600	53%
Support payments	1,300	25%	1,300	25%	1,300	25%	1,200	24%	1,200	24%
Employment Insurance	200	4%	200	4%	200	4%	100	2%	100	2%
Other ^a	200	4%	200	4%	200	4%	200	4%	200	4%
Total ^b (includes double-counting)	5,300	100%	5,300	100%	5,200	100%	5,000	100%	4,900	100%

a. "Other" includes training allowances and other income.
 b. Total cases in these categories may include double-counting, since cases that have more than one source of income are counted for each source reported.
 Note: Totals may not add due to rounding.

Newfoundland and Labrador - Income Support Table 3-7: Number of Cases Reporting Income as of March 31					
	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
Reporting Income	5,000	5,100	4,900	4,800	4,600
No Income	19,300	20,100	20,300	19,900	19,400
Total	24,300	25,200	25,200	24,700	24,000

Note: Totals may not add due to rounding.



Chapter 4 – Prince Edward Island

Social Assistance

In Prince Edward Island, the provincial social assistance program is known as Social Assistance (SA). The *Social Assistance Act* and the Social Assistance Regulations govern Prince Edward Island's Social Assistance program.

Social Assistance provides basic benefits to both adults and children.

Disability supports are provided through Prince Edward Island's Disability Support Program (see p.18).

Service Delivery

The Department of Community Services and Seniors¹⁰ is responsible for the delivery of the Social Assistance program to adults and children within the province.

Eligibility

General

In order to be eligible for the Social Assistance program, applicants must meet the general eligibility requirements outlined in the "Social Assistance Overview" in this report.

Liquid Assets

At the time of application, applicants' liquid assets may not exceed the following allowable limits.

Short-Term Assistance

Single persons who are expected to receive benefits for less than four months (short-term assistance) and/or who are seasonally unemployed are entitled to retain \$50.

¹⁰ The Department of Community Services, Seniors and Labour was renamed to the Department of Community Services and Seniors in November 2011.

Chapter 4 – Prince Edward Island – Social Assistance

Long-Term Assistance¹¹

Prince Edward Island - Long-Term Assistance Liquid Asset Exemptions March 2013		
	Clients without Disabilities	Clients with Disabilities
Single	\$200	\$900
Single-Parent Family	\$900 plus \$300 per dependant to a maximum of \$2,400.	\$900 plus \$300 per dependant to a maximum of \$2,400.
Childless Couple	\$1,200	\$1,800
Two-Parent Family	\$1,200 plus \$300 per dependant to a maximum of \$2,400.	\$1,800 plus \$300 per dependant to a maximum of \$2,400.

Earnings Exemptions

Social Assistance program clients are eligible for the following monthly exemptions on earned income:

Prince Edward Island - Earnings Exemptions March 2013	
Single	\$75 plus 10% of the excess
Family	\$125 plus 10% of the excess

Benefits

Basic assistance consists of a basic allowance and a shelter allowance. The basic allowance covers the cost of food, clothing, utilities, and personal and household items. Maximum basic allowance rates are based on the number of persons in the household and the age of the children. Maximum shelter allowance rates are based on the number of persons in the household (including children) and the type of living arrangements.

Disability Support Program

In October 2001, Prince Edward Island launched the PEI Disability Support Program. Designed to meet the unique needs of persons with disabilities, the Disability Support Program offers both financial and case planning assistance to eligible individuals. It is comprised of three components: Adult Disability Supports, Child Disability Supports, and Employment and Vocational Supports.

¹¹ Long-Term Assistance is for those clients expected to receive benefits for more than four months.

Chapter 4 – Prince Edward Island – Social Assistance

The Disability Support Program is available to individuals under 65 years of age who have a physical, neurological, or intellectual disability that limits their ability to perform activities necessary for their independence and well-being.

Individuals and families receiving benefits through the Disability Support Program must assume a portion of the cost associated with the provision of services. The amount of this contribution is based on the individual or family's ability to contribute¹².

Persons with disabilities continue to receive financial assistance through the Social Assistance program, but now receive targeted disability-related supports through the Disability Support Program. Individuals and families receiving support through the Disability Support Program are ineligible for certain benefits provided by the Social Assistance program.

Prince Edward Island - Disability Support Program Number of Recipients 2001-2002 to 2012-2013					
2001-02	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07
691	991	1,047	1,117	1,076	1,106
2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13
1,065	1,115	1,183	1,215	1,232	1,269

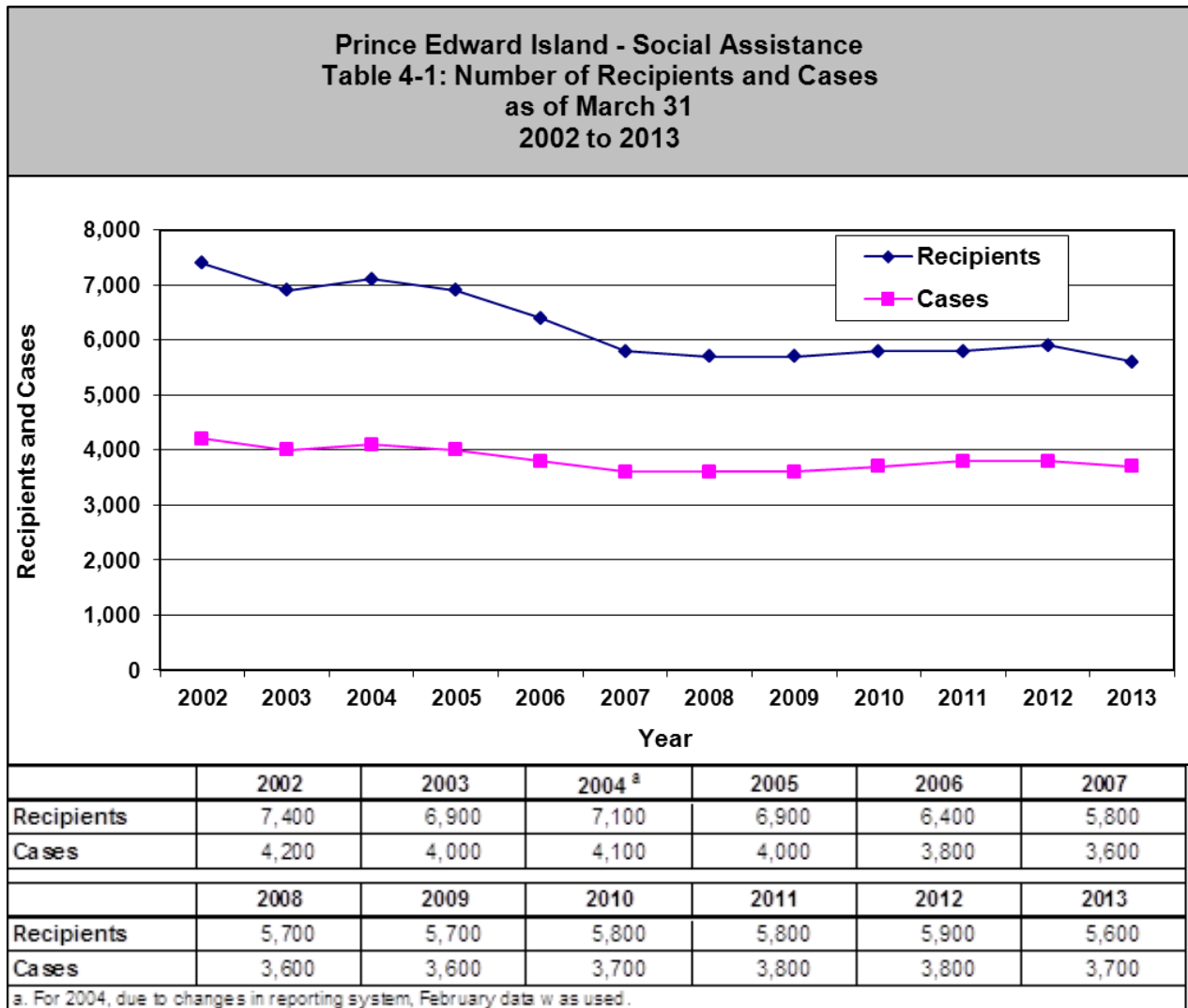
More Information

For more information, please consult the Prince Edward Island Department of Community Services and Seniors Web site at: www.gov.pe.ca/sss.

¹² In July 2007, income testing of the parents of minor children ceased.

STATISTICS

Recipients and Cases



Chapter 4 – Prince Edward Island – Social Assistance

Cases by Reason for Assistance

Prince Edward Island - Social Assistance Table 4-2: Number and Percentage of Cases by Reason for Assistance as of March 31										
Reason for Assistance	2009		2010		2011		2012		2013	
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
Employed	400	11%	400	11%	400	11%	400	11%	300	8%
Unemployed	800	22%	800	22%	800	21%	800	21%	700	19%
Short term disability	200	6%	200	5%	300	8%	300	8%	300	8%
Long term disability	2,000	56%	2,100	57%	2,100	55%	2,100	55%	2,100	57%
High support needs ^a	200	6%	200	5%	200	5%	200	5%	200	5%
Total	3,600	100%	3,700	100%	3,800	100%	3,800	100%	3,700	100%

a. "High support needs" includes clients with multiple barriers to employment.
 Note: Totals may not add due to rounding.

Recipients by Family Type

Prince Edward Island - Social Assistance Table 4-3: Number and Percentage of Recipients by Family Type as of March 31										
Family Type	2009		2010		2011		2012		2013	
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
Adults - Single	2,500	44%	2,600	45%	2,800	48%	2,800	47%	2,700	48%
Adults - Couple, no dependants	400	7%	300	5%	400	7%	300	5%	300	5%
Adults - Single parent	700	12%	700	12%	700	12%	700	12%	600	11%
Adults - Couple with dependants	400	7%	400	7%	400	7%	400	7%	300	5%
Total Adults	4,000	70%	4,100	71%	4,200	72%	4,200	71%	4,000	71%
Children - Single parent	1,300	23%	1,300	22%	1,200	21%	1,200	20%	1,200	21%
Children - Couple with dependants	500	9%	400	7%	400	7%	400	7%	400	7%
Total Children	1,700	30%	1,700	29%	1,600	28%	1,700	29%	1,600	29%
Total Recipients	5,700	100%	5,800	100%	5,800	100%	5,900	100%	5,600	100%

Note: Totals may not add due to rounding.

Chapter 4 – Prince Edward Island – Social Assistance

Cases by Age of Head

Prince Edward Island - Social Assistance Table 4-4: Number of Cases by Age of Head as of March 31					
Age of Head	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
<20	100	100	100	100	100
20-24	200	300	300	300	300
25-29	300	300	400	300	300
30-34	300	300	300	300	300
35-39	300	300	300	300	300
40-44	400	400	400	400	300
45-49	400	400	400	400	400
50-54	400	400	400	400	400
55-59	400	400	400	400	400
60-64	400	400	400	400	400
65+	400	400	400	400	400
Total	3,600	3,700	3,800	3,800	3,700

Note: Totals may not add due to rounding.

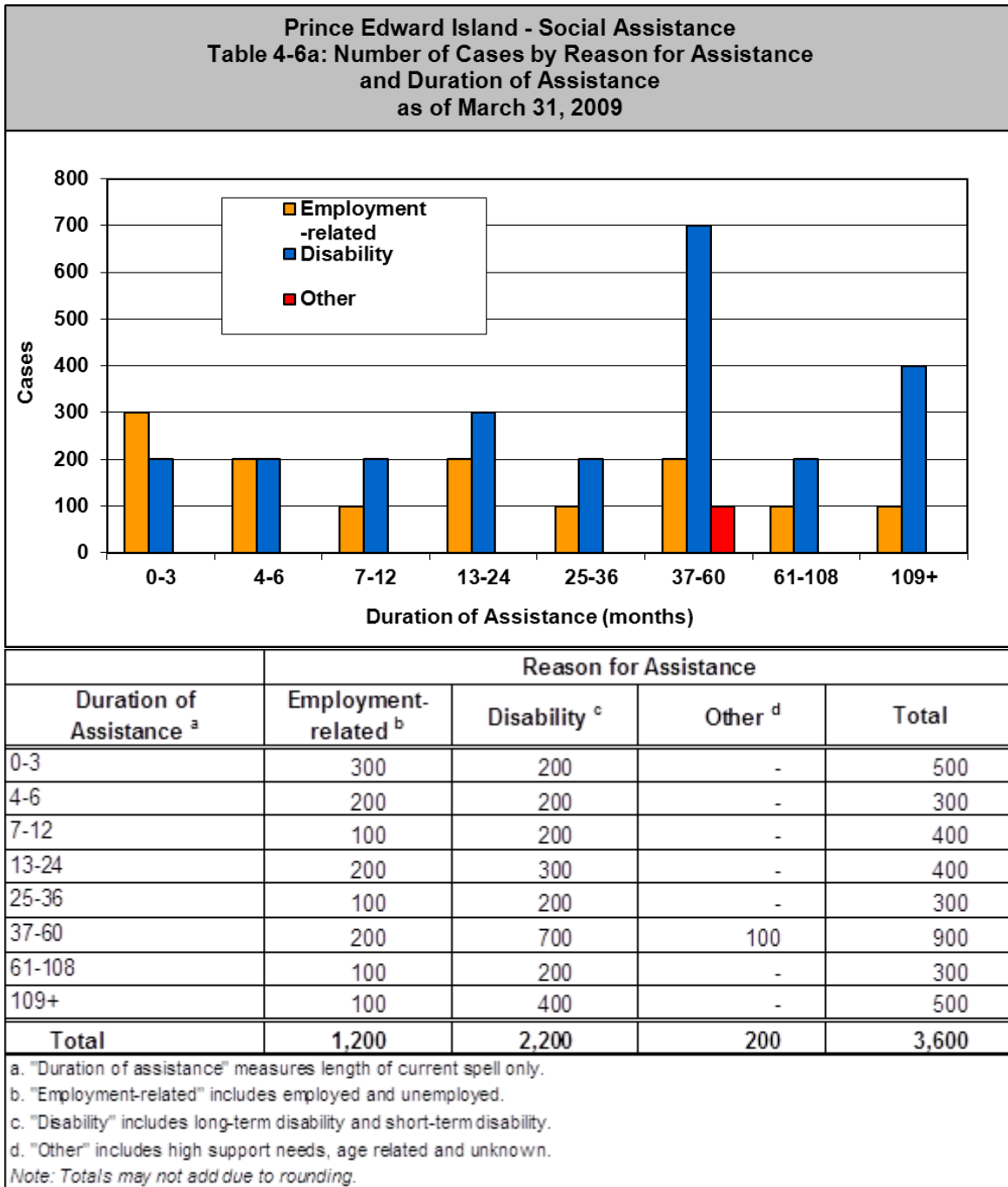
Cases by Education of Head

Prince Edward Island - Social Assistance Table 4-5: Number and Percentage of Cases by Education of Head as of March 31										
Education of Head ^a	2009		2010		2011		2012		2013	
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
Primary	800	22%	800	22%	800	21%	700	18%	700	19%
Secondary	1,900	53%	2,000	54%	2,000	53%	2,000	53%	1,900	51%
Community/technical college	400	11%	500	14%	500	13%	500	13%	500	14%
University	200	6%	100	3%	100	3%	200	5%	200	5%
Unknown	400	11%	400	11%	400	11%	400	11%	400	11%
Total	3,600	100%	3,700	100%	3,800	100%	3,800	100%	3,700	100%

a. Education is defined as level of education attained as of date of application.

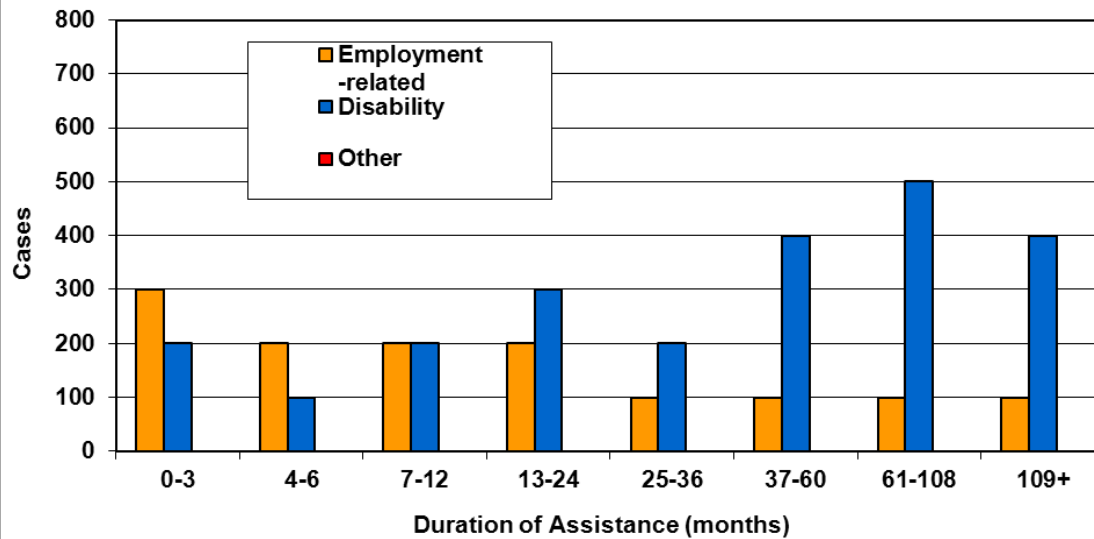
Note: Totals may not add due to rounding.

Cases by Reason for Assistance and Duration of Assistance



Chapter 4 – Prince Edward Island – Social Assistance

Prince Edward Island - Social Assistance
Table 4-6b: Number of Cases by Reason for Assistance
and Duration of Assistance
as of March 31, 2010



Duration of Assistance ^a	Reason for Assistance			Total
	Employment-related ^b	Disability ^c	Other ^d	
0-3	300	200	-	500
4-6	200	100	-	300
7-12	200	200	-	400
13-24	200	300	-	500
25-36	100	200	-	300
37-60	100	400	-	500
61-108	100	500	-	600
109+	100	400	-	500
Total	1,200	2,300	200	3,700

a. "Duration of assistance" measures length of current spell only.

b. "Employment-related" includes employed and unemployed.

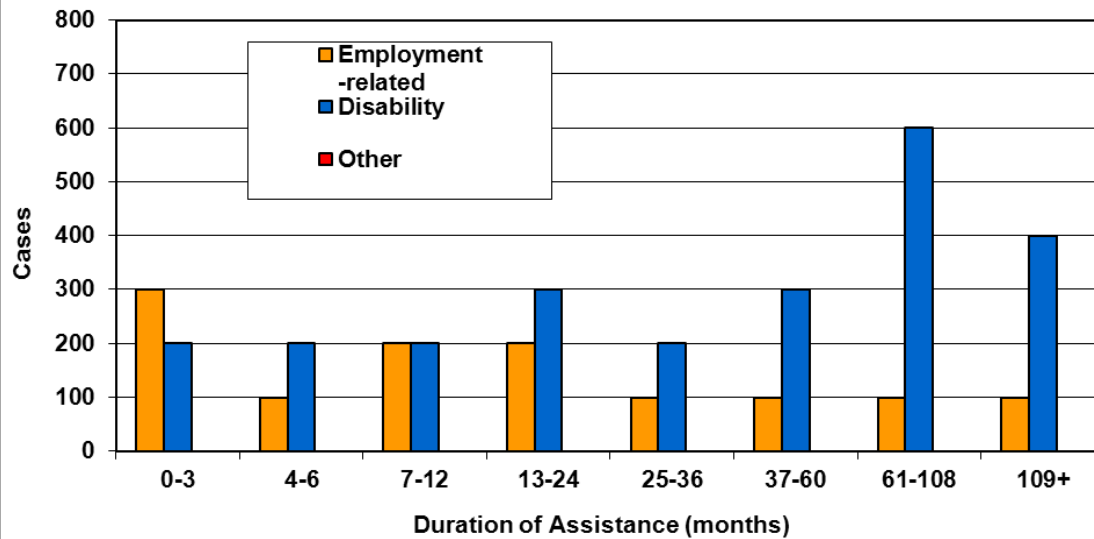
c. "Disability" includes long-term disability and short-term disability.

d. "Other" includes high support needs, age related and unknown.

Note: Totals may not add due to rounding.

Chapter 4 – Prince Edward Island – Social Assistance

Prince Edward Island - Social Assistance
Table 4-6c: Number of Cases by Reason for Assistance
and Duration of Assistance
as of March 31, 2011



Duration of Assistance ^a	Reason for Assistance			Total
	Employment-related ^b	Disability ^c	Other ^d	
0-3	300	200	-	500
4-6	100	200	-	300
7-12	200	200	-	400
13-24	200	300	-	500
25-36	100	200	-	300
37-60	100	300	-	400
61-108	100	600	-	800
109+	100	400	-	500
Total	1,200	2,400	200	3,800

a. "Duration of assistance" measures length of current spell only.

b. "Employment-related" includes employed and unemployed.

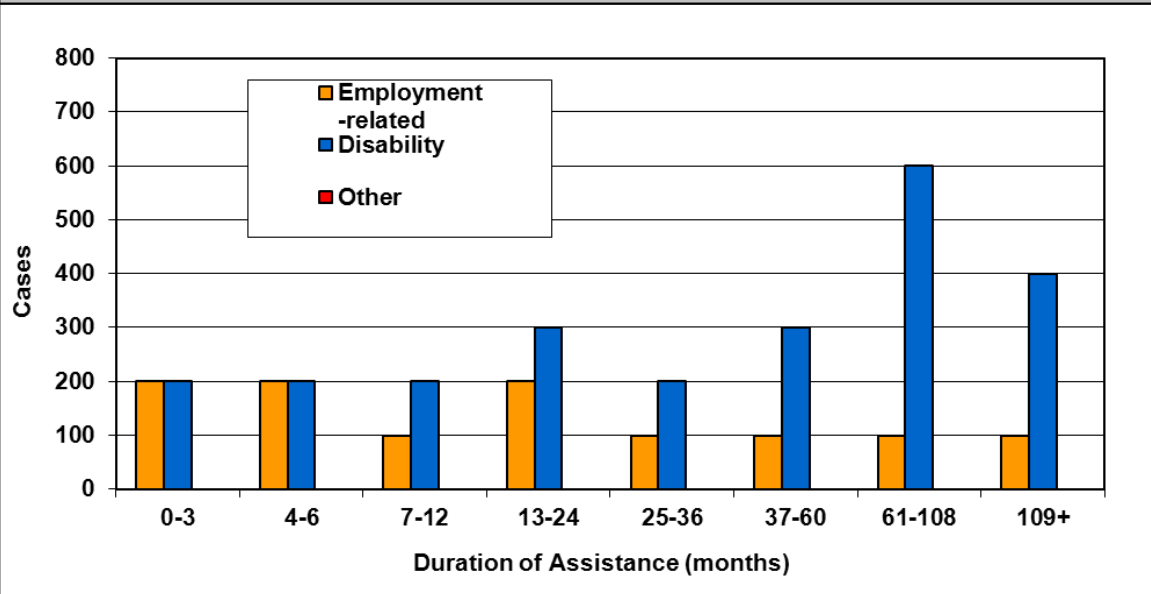
c. "Disability" includes long-term disability and short-term disability.

d. "Other" includes high support needs, age related and unknown.

Note: Totals may not add due to rounding.

Chapter 4 – Prince Edward Island – Social Assistance

Prince Edward Island - Social Assistance
Table 4-6d: Number of Cases by Reason for Assistance
and Duration of Assistance
as of March 31, 2012



Duration of Assistance ^a	Reason for Assistance			Total
	Employment-related ^b	Disability ^c	Other ^d	
0-3	200	200	-	500
4-6	200	200	-	400
7-12	100	200	-	400
13-24	200	300	-	500
25-36	100	200	-	300
37-60	100	300	-	500
61-108	100	600	-	800
109+	100	400	-	500
Total	1,200	2,400	200	3,800

a. "Duration of assistance" measures length of current spell only.

b. "Employment-related" includes employed and unemployed.

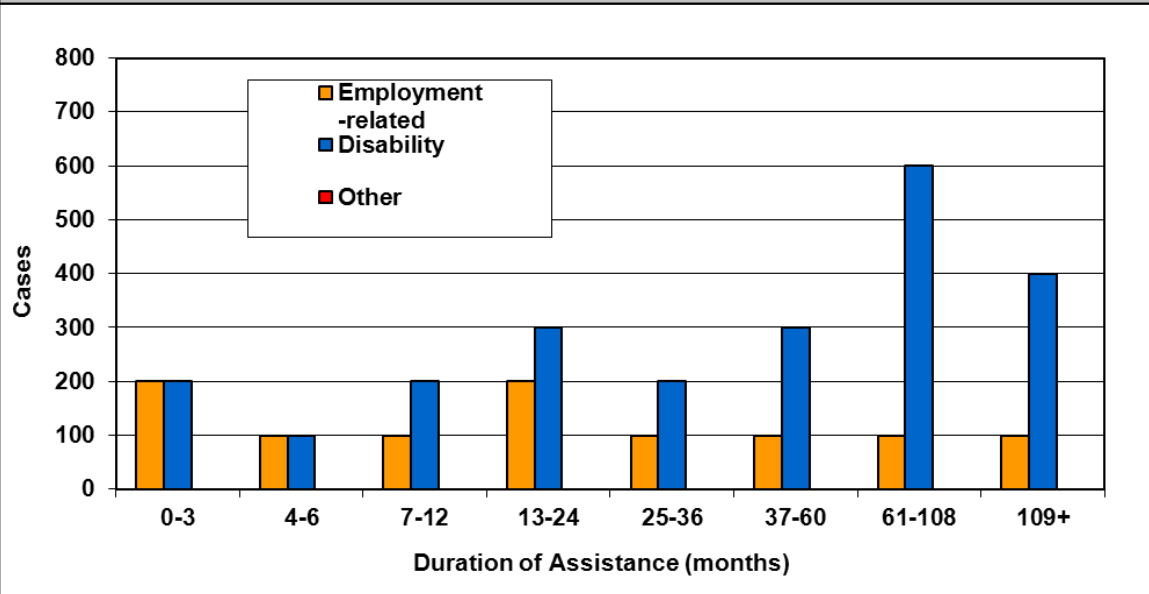
c. "Disability" includes long-term disability and short-term disability.

d. "Other" includes high support needs, age related and unknown.

Note: Totals may not add due to rounding.

Chapter 4 – Prince Edward Island – Social Assistance

Prince Edward Island - Social Assistance
Table 4-6e: Number of Cases by Reason for Assistance
and Duration of Assistance
as of March 31, 2013



Duration of Assistance ^a	Reason for Assistance			Total
	Employment-related ^b	Disability ^c	Other ^d	
0-3	200	200	-	400
4-6	100	100	-	300
7-12	100	200	-	400
13-24	200	300	-	500
25-36	100	200	-	400
37-60	100	300	-	500
61-108	100	600	-	800
109+	100	400	-	500
Total	1,100	2,400	200	3,700

a. "Duration of assistance" measures length of current spell only.

b. "Employment-related" includes employed and unemployed.

c. "Disability" includes long-term disability and short-term disability.

d. "Other" includes high support needs, age related and unknown.

Note: Totals may not add due to rounding.

Cases Reporting Income by Source of Income

Prince Edward Island - Social Assistance Table 4-7: Number and Percentage of Cases Reporting Income by Source of Income, as of March 31										
Source of Income	2009		2010		2011		2012		2013	
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
Employment	400	13%	400	13%	400	13%	400	17%	300	14%
Government transfers	2,000	67%	2,100	68%	2,200	71%	1,400	61%	1,400	67%
Support payments	200	7%	200	6%	100	3%	100	4%	100	5%
Employment Insurance	100	3%	100	3%	100	3%	100	4%	100	5%
Other ^a	200	7%	200	6%	300	10%	300	13%	300	14%
Total ^b (includes double-counting)	3,000	100%	3,100	100%	3,100	100%	2,300	100%	2,100	100%

a. "Other" includes training allowances and other income.

b. Total cases in these categories may include double-counting, since cases that have more than one source of income are counted for each source reported.

Note: Totals may not add due to rounding.

Prince Edward Island - Social Assistance Table 4-8: Number of Cases Reporting Income as of March 31					
	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
Reporting Income	2,000	2,000	2,100	1,600	1,600
No Income	1,600	1,700	1,800	2,200	2,100
Total	3,600	3,700	3,800	3,800	3,700

Note: Totals may not add due to rounding.



Chapter 5 – Nova Scotia

Employment Support and Income Assistance

In Nova Scotia, the provincial social assistance program is known as Employment Support and Income Assistance (ESIA). The *Employment Support and Income Assistance Act* and the *Employment Support and Income Assistance Regulations* govern Nova Scotia's Employment Support and Income Assistance program.

The Employment Support and Income Assistance program provides financial assistance and supports to help people maximize their self-sufficiency by increasing their employability and their independence.

Children's basic benefits are provided through the Nova Scotia Child Benefit as part of the Canada Child Tax Benefit. (see p.30).

Service Delivery

The Department of Community Services is responsible for the delivery of the Employment Support and Income Assistance program to individuals and families within the province.

Eligibility

General

In order to be eligible for the Employment Support and Income Assistance program, applicants must meet the general eligibility requirements outlined in the "Social Assistance Overview" in this report.

Liquid Assets

At the time of application, applicants' liquid assets may not exceed the following allowable limits:

Nova Scotia - Liquid Asset Exemptions March 2013		
	Clients without Disabilities	Clients with Disabilities
Single	\$1,000	\$1,000
Family	\$2,000	\$2,000

Note: Effective January 1, 2011, liquid asset exemption levels increased from \$500 to \$1,000 for single individuals with and without disabilities and from \$1,000 to \$2,000 for families with and without disabilities.

Earnings Exemptions

When determining initial eligibility for Employment Support and Income Assistance, earned income is considered in determination of eligibility. To determine ongoing eligibility, clients are eligible for the following monthly exemptions on earned income:

Nova Scotia - Earnings Exemptions March 2013		
	Clients without Disabilities	Clients with Disabilities ^a
Single	\$150 per individual plus 30% of remaining net wages.	\$300 per individual (if applicable) plus 30% of remaining net wages.
Family	\$150 per individual plus 30% of remaining net wages.	\$300 per individual (if applicable) plus 30% of remaining net wages.
a. These clients are in supported employment. Note: Effective July 1, 2011, recipients who have earned wages from employment will retain the first \$150 of their earnings, plus 30% of the remaining net wages. ESIA recipients participating in supported employment will retain an additional \$150 for a total of \$300 per month as exempt in calculating net wages, plus retain 30% of the remaining net wages.		

Benefits

Basic assistance consists of a personal allowance and a shelter allowance. The personal allowance covers the cost of food, clothing, and miscellaneous essentials for adults in the family. The shelter allowance includes the actual amount for rent/mortgage, fuel and utilities, up to the allowed maximum. Maximum shelter allowance rates are based on the number of persons in the household (including children) and the type of accommodation.

Nova Scotia provides transitional drug coverage for twelve months to clients who leave social assistance for employment.

Children's basic benefits are paid through the Nova Scotia Child Benefit, as part of the Canada Child Tax Benefit, which is exempt as chargeable income.

Nova Scotia Child Benefit

The Nova Scotia Child Benefit (NSCB) is a non-taxable amount paid monthly to help low-income families with the cost of raising children under the age of 18 years. The implementation of the *Employment Support and Income Assistance Act* and Employment Support and Income Assistance Regulations in August 2001 removed children's benefits from the social assistance system.

The Canada Revenue Agency delivers the NSCB as an integrated payment with the CCTB and the NCB Supplement. The NSCB rates are based on net income and number of children. For instance, maximum NSCB benefits are paid to those families whose income is less than

Chapter 5 – Nova Scotia – Employment Support and Income Assistance

\$15,999, while families whose annual income falls between \$16,000 and \$20,921 per year (depending on the number of children) are eligible for partial NSCB benefits.

Effective July 2001, in addition to the National Child Benefit Supplement, families with one child may be entitled to receive a NSCB benefit. Currently, families may be entitled to receive benefits for one child up to \$625 per year. Families may be entitled to receive \$825 per year for their second child, and \$900 per year for their third and each additional child.

The income threshold of the NSCB increased in July 2012 providing additional families to receive benefits. Prior to this, there has been a decline in the number of families receiving the Nova Scotia Child Benefit. The changing demographics and improved economy in the Province of Nova Scotia contribute to this decline.

There continues to be a decline in the number of families receiving the Nova Scotia Child Benefit. The changing demographics and improved economy in the Province of Nova Scotia contribute to this decline.

The Nova Scotia government funds the Low Income Pharmacare Program that provides prescription drug coverage for children of low-income families. The program is available for families who receive the Nova Scotia Child Benefit.

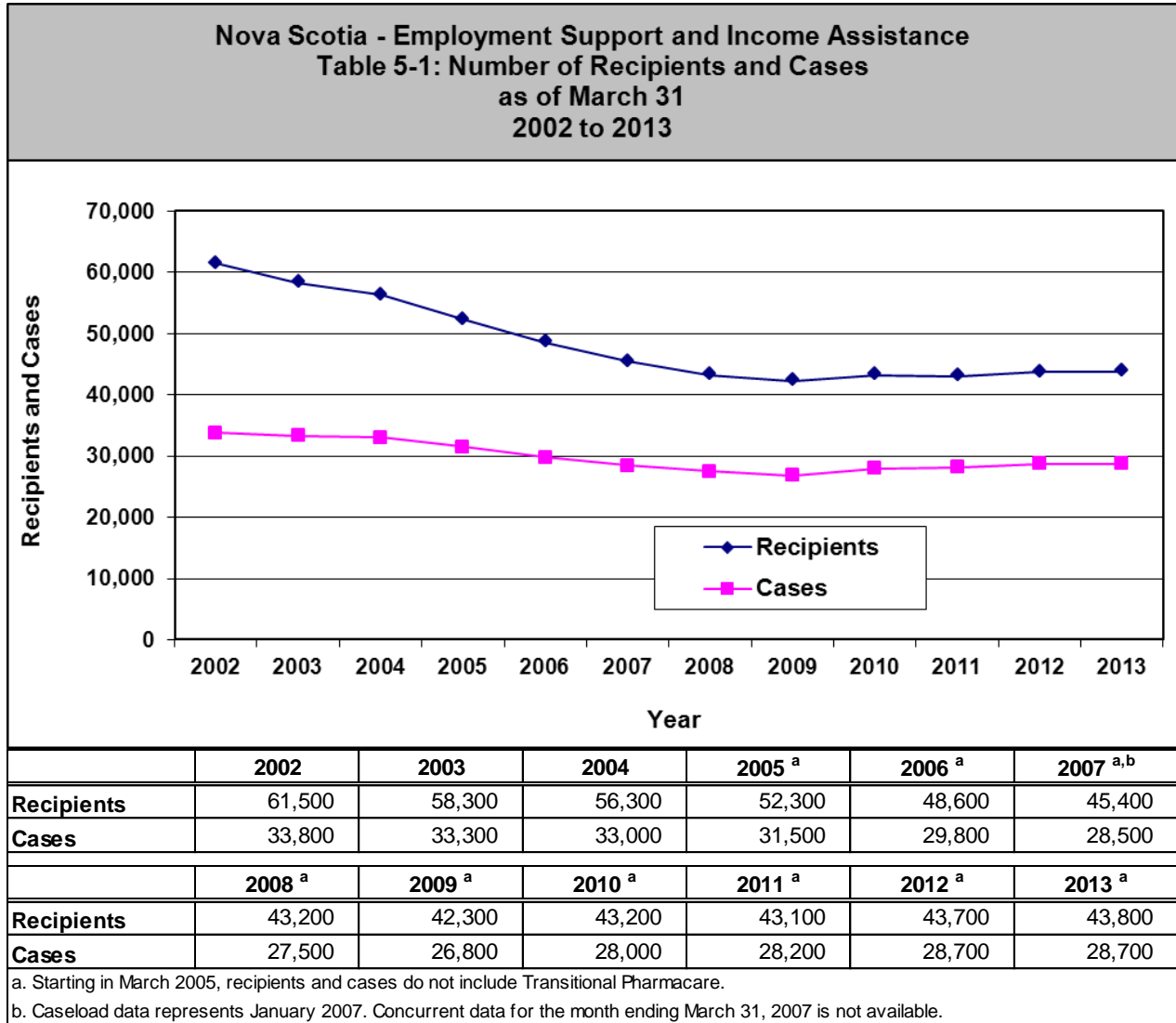
Nova Scotia Child Benefit Estimated Number of Recipients 2001-2002 to 2012-2013						
	2001-02	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07
Families	33,224	31,905	30,743	29,247	28,215	26,762
Children	55,986	53,961	52,054	49,690	48,033	45,511
	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13
Families	24,836	23,006	22,940	23,830	22,433	22,713
Children	42,468	39,572	39,388	40,684	38,042	38,423

More Information

For more information, please consult the Nova Scotia Department of Community Services Web site at: www.gov.ns.ca/coms/.

STATISTICS

Recipients and Cases



Cases by Reason for Assistance

Nova Scotia - Employment Support and Income Assistance Table 5-2: Number and Percentage of Cases by Reason for Assistance ^a as of March 31											
Reason for Assistance	2009		2010		2011		2012		2013		
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	
Employed	500	2%	600	2%	500	2%	600	2%	600	2%	
Unemployed	5,000	19%	5,800	21%	6,000	21%	6,500	23%	6,500	23%	
Short term disabled	3,200	12%	3,600	13%	4,000	14%	4,200	15%	4,200	15%	
Long term disabled	12,400	46%	12,400	44%	12,400	44%	12,300	43%	12,200	43%	
Sole support parent	2,800	10%	2,700	10%	2,600	9%	2,500	9%	2,400	8%	
Age-related ^b	900	3%	1,100	4%	1,200	4%	1,200	4%	1,300	5%	
Student	300	1%	400	1%	400	1%	300	1%	300	1%	
Other ^c	1,700	6%	1,500	5%	1,300	5%	1,200	4%	1,200	4%	
Total	26,800	100%	28,000	100%	28,200	100%	28,700	100%	28,700	100%	

a. Cases do not include Transitional Pharmacare.
 b. "Age-related" includes persons 55 years and over.
 c. "Other" includes clients receiving a one-time payment and clients receiving extended pharmacare (prescription drug benefits).
 Note: Totals may not add due to rounding.

Recipients by Family Type

Nova Scotia - Employment Support and Income Assistance Table 5-3: Number and Percentage of Recipients by Family Type ^a as of March 31											
Family Type	2009		2010		2011		2012		2013		
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	
Adults - Single	18,500	43%	19,300	44%	19,800	45%	20,200	45%	20,300	45%	
Adults - Couple, no dependants	1,700	4%	1,700	4%	1,700	4%	1,600	4%	1,500	3%	
- Spouse	1,700	4%	1,700	4%	1,700	4%	1,600	4%	1,500	3%	
Adults - Single parent	6,000	14%	6,100	14%	6,000	14%	6,000	13%	6,000	13%	
Adults - Couple with dependants	1,300	3%	1,300	3%	1,300	3%	1,300	3%	1,300	3%	
- Spouse	1,300	3%	1,300	3%	1,300	3%	1,300	3%	1,300	3%	
Total Adults	30,400	71%	31,400	71%	31,700	72%	32,000	72%	32,000	72%	
Children - Single parent	9,900	23%	10,200	23%	9,800	22%	9,900	22%	9,900	22%	
Children - Couple with dependants	2,500	6%	2,500	6%	2,600	6%	2,600	6%	2,700	6%	
Total Children	12,500	29%	12,700	29%	12,400	28%	12,500	28%	12,600	28%	
Total Recipients	42,800	100%	44,100	100%	44,100	100%	44,500	100%	44,700	100%	

a. The above table includes recipients receiving Transitional Pharmacare, which are not to be considered part of the total social assistance recipients that appears in Table 5-1.
 Note: Totals may not add due to rounding.

Chapter 5 – Nova Scotia – Employment Support and Income Assistance

Cases by Age of Head

Nova Scotia - Employment Support and Income Assistance					
Table 5-4: Number of Cases by Age of Head ^a					
as of March 31					
Age of Head	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
<20	400	600	600	600	500
20-24	2,600	3,000	3,100	3,400	3,300
25-29	2,700	2,900	2,900	3,000	2,900
30-34	2,400	2,600	2,700	2,700	2,700
35-39	2,600	2,700	2,600	2,700	2,600
40-44	3,000	2,900	2,900	2,800	2,900
45-49	3,600	3,700	3,600	3,600	3,400
50-54	3,500	3,500	3,600	3,700	3,900
55-59	3,100	3,200	3,200	3,400	3,500
60-64	2,700	2,700	2,800	2,700	2,700
65+	100	100	100	200	100
Total	26,800	28,000	28,200	28,700	28,700

a. Cases do not include Transitional Pharmacare.
 Note: Totals may not add due to rounding.

Cases Reporting Income by Source of Income

Nova Scotia - Employment Support and Income Assistance										
Table 5-5: Number and Percentage of Cases										
Reporting Income, by Source of Income ^a , as of March 31										
Source of Income	2009		2010		2011		2012		2013	
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
Employment	2,700	13%	2,700	12%	2,600	12%	2,900	13%	3,100	14%
Government transfers	13,900	66%	14,700	67%	15,000	69%	15,400	68%	15,600	68%
Support payments	2,800	13%	2,700	12%	2,600	12%	2,600	12%	2,600	11%
Employment Insurance	200	1%	300	1%	200	1%	200	1%	200	1%
Other ^b	1,500	7%	1,400	6%	1,400	6%	1,400	6%	1,400	6%
Total ^c (includes double-counting)	21,100	100%	21,800	100%	21,800	100%	22,500	100%	22,800	100%

a. Cases include Transitional Pharmacare, but for the "Employment" category only.
 b. "Other" includes clients receiving workers' compensation, training income, income tax refund, or income from rental or from room & board and roomers.
 c. Total cases in these categories may include double-counting, since cases that have more than one source of income are counted for each source reported.
 Note: Totals may not add due to rounding.

Chapter 5 – Nova Scotia – Employment Support and Income Assistance

Nova Scotia - Employment Support and Income Assistance					
Table 5-6: Number of Cases Reporting Income ^a					
as of March 31					
	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
Reporting income	13,600	14,400	14,600	14,900	15,000
Not reporting income	13,300	13,600	13,600	13,800	13,700
Total	26,800	28,000	28,200	28,700	28,700
<p>a. Cases do not include Transitional Pharmacare. Cases do not include double counting. Cases do not differentiate between chargeable and non-chargeable income.</p> <p><i>Note: Totals may not add due to rounding.</i></p>					



Chapter 6 – New Brunswick

Social Assistance

In New Brunswick, the provincial social assistance program is known as Social Assistance (SA). The *Family Income Security Act* and the Family Income Security Regulations govern New Brunswick's Social Assistance program.

Social Assistance provides basic benefits to both adults and children.

Service Delivery

The Department of Social Development is responsible for the delivery of the Social Assistance program to adults and children within the province.

Eligibility

General

In order to be eligible for the Social Assistance program, applicants must meet the general eligibility requirements outlined in the "Social Assistance Overview" in this report.

Liquid Assets

At the time of application, applicants' liquid assets may not exceed the following allowable limits:

New Brunswick - Liquid Asset Exemptions March 2013		
	Clients without Disabilities	Clients with Disabilities
Single	\$1,000	\$3,000
Single-Parent Family	\$2,000	\$3,000 for each person with a certified disability plus \$1,000 for each non-disabled person up to a maximum of \$4,000 per household.
Childless Couple	\$2,000	\$3,000 for each person with a certified disability plus \$1,000 for each non-disabled person up to a maximum of \$4,000 per household.
Two-Parent Family	\$2,000	\$3,000 for each person with a certified disability plus \$1,000 for each non-disabled person up to a maximum of \$4,000 per household.

Earnings Exemptions

Different levels of earning exemptions are in effect for each of the two programs in place: Transitional Assistance Program and Extended Benefits Program. For more information on these social assistance programs, please refer to the paragraphs below. Once an application for assistance has been approved, program clients are eligible for the following monthly exemptions on earned income:

New Brunswick - Earnings Exemptions March 2013		
	Transitional Assistance Program	Extended Benefits Program
Single	\$150	\$250
Family	\$200	\$300

There is also the Extended Wage Exemption (EWE) available. The EWE is a benefit structure separate from the usual earnings exemption (provided above). The amount of the EWE is changed according to three different time frames within the two-year duration of the benefit. The first two time frames are six months in duration each, and allow clients the option of having a percentage of their salary exempted; which results in a higher exemption than the usual earnings exemption. In months 13 through 24, the earnings exemption amount will revert back to the appropriate maximum flat rate amount; that is, the usual earnings exemption.

Benefits

Basic assistance, also known as the basic unit rate, covers the cost of food, clothing, shelter, routine transportation, fuel and utilities, as well as personal and household items. Maximum basic assistance rates are based on the three rate programs involved (see below) and the number of persons in the household.

The Social Assistance program has two rate programs: Transitional Assistance Program (TAP) and Extended Benefits Program (EBP). On January 1, 2010, the Interim Assistance Program (INT) was eliminated. All clients receiving social assistance under this program will convert to the Transitional Assistance Program.

The **Transitional Assistance Program** provides financial assistance to individuals and families who have a variety of intermittent foreseeable needs. This is a category of financial assistance for individuals and families who have the potential to achieve self-sufficiency once barriers to their employment are addressed.

The **Extended Benefits Program** provides financial assistance to individuals and families who are certified by the Medical Advisory Board as blind, deaf, or disabled. This is a category of financial assistance for those clients who, because of their disability, have long-term predictable needs.

Chapter 6 – New Brunswick – Social Assistance

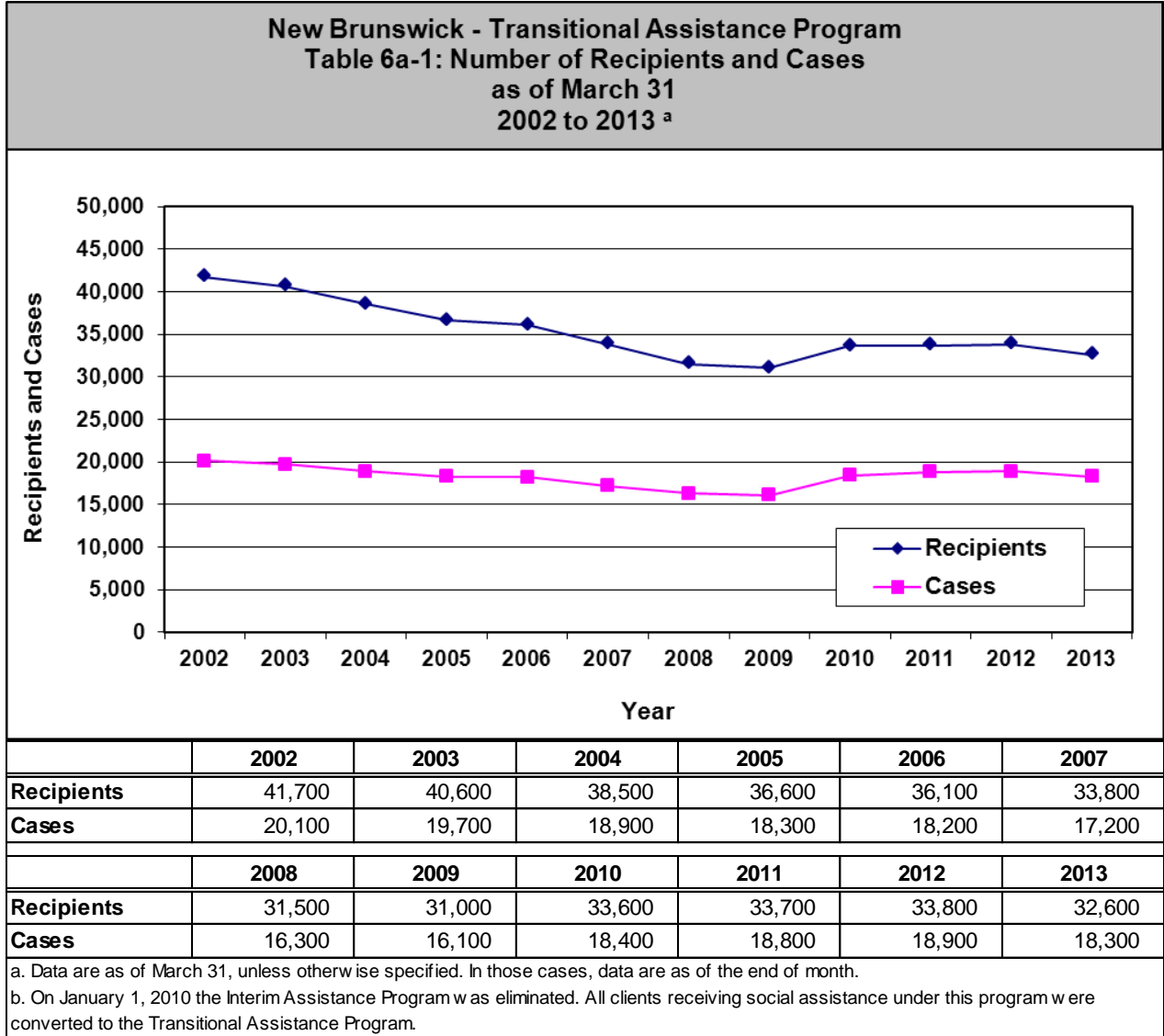
Effective September 2005, New Brunswick provides extended drug coverage for twelve months to clients who leave social assistance for employment.

More Information

For more information, please consult the New Brunswick Department of Social Development Web site at: www.gnb.ca/0017/index-e.asp.

STATISTICS: A – Transitional Assistance Program

Recipients and Cases



Chapter 6 – New Brunswick – Transitional Assistance Program

Recipients by Family Type

New Brunswick - Transitional Assistance Program Table 6a-2: Number and Percentage of Recipients by Family Type as of March 31										
Family Type	2009		2010		2011		2012		2013	
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
Adults - Single	7,700	25%	9,700	29%	10,300	31%	10,500	31%	10,300	32%
Adults - Couple, no dependants	2,800	9%	2,900	9%	2,700	8%	2,600	8%	2,600	8%
Adults - Single parent	5,700	18%	5,900	18%	5,900	18%	5,900	17%	5,500	17%
Adults - Couple with dependants	3,000	10%	3,000	9%	2,900	9%	2,800	8%	2,700	8%
Total Adults	19,200	62%	21,500	64%	21,700	64%	21,800	64%	21,100	65%
Children - Single parent	8,800	28%	9,200	27%	9,200	27%	9,200	27%	8,800	27%
Children - Couple with dependants	3,000	10%	2,900	9%	2,800	8%	2,800	8%	2,700	8%
Total Children	11,900	38%	12,100	36%	12,000	36%	12,000	36%	11,500	35%
Total Recipients	31,000	100%	33,600	100%	33,700	100%	33,800	100%	32,600	100%

Note: Totals may not add due to rounding.

Cases by Age of Head

New Brunswick - Transitional Assistance Program Table 6a-3: Number of Cases by Age of Head as of March 31					
Age of Head	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
<20	500	600	500	500	400
20-24	1,400	1,900	2,000	2,000	2,000
25-29	1,700	2,000	2,100	2,100	2,000
30-34	1,700	2,000	2,000	2,100	2,000
35-39	1,700	1,900	2,000	2,000	1,900
40-44	1,700	1,900	1,900	1,900	1,900
45-49	1,900	2,300	2,200	2,200	2,100
50-54	1,900	2,200	2,300	2,300	2,300
55-59	2,100	2,100	2,100	2,200	2,200
60-64	1,400	1,500	1,600	1,700	1,700
65+	-	-	-	100	-
Total	16,100	18,400	18,800	18,900	18,300

Note: Totals may not add due to rounding.

Cases Reporting Income by Source of Income

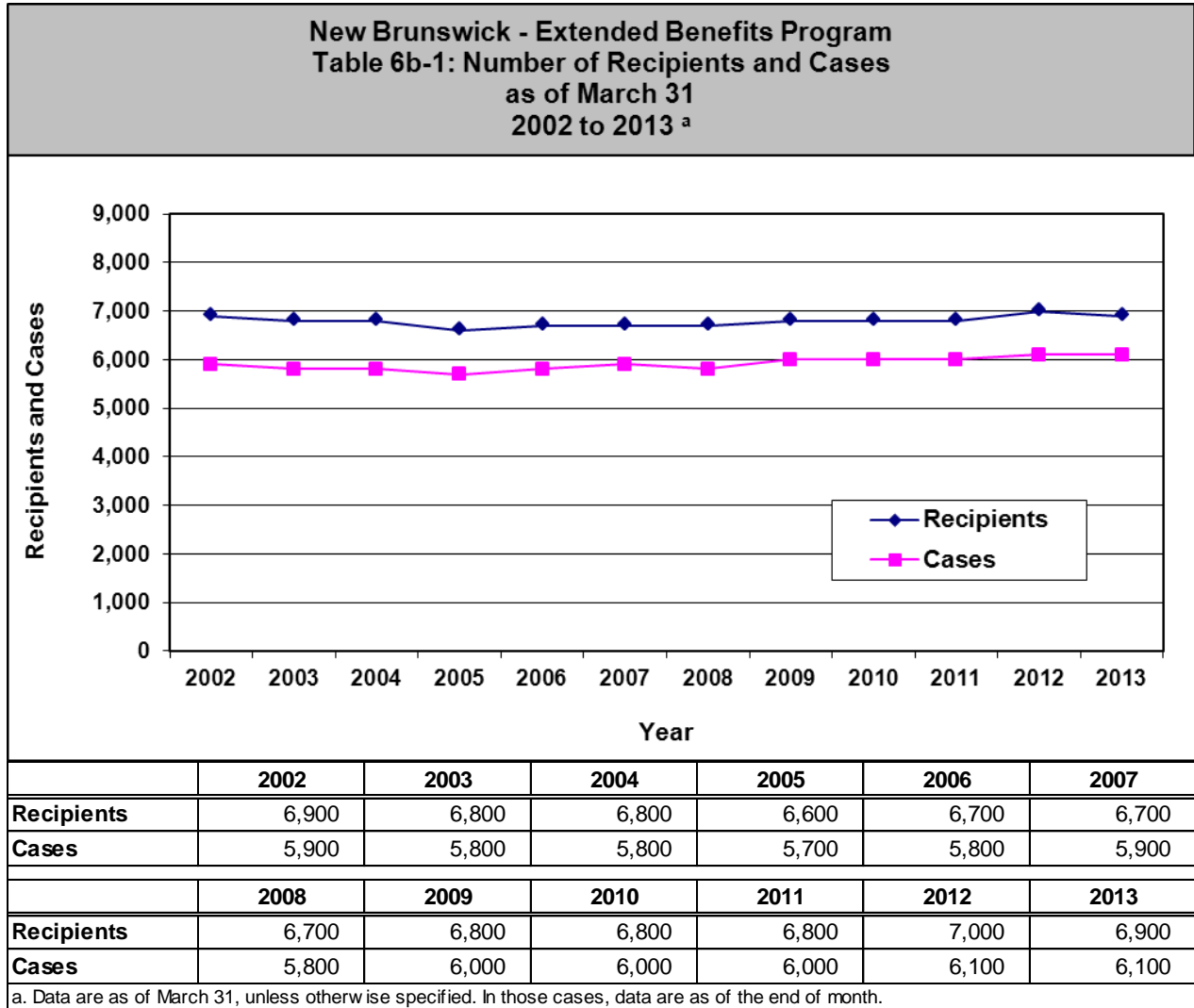
New Brunswick - Transitional Assistance Program Table 6a-4: Number and Percentage of Cases Reporting Income, by Source of Income, as of March 31										
Source of Income	2009		2010		2011		2012		2013	
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
Employment	1,800	6%	2,000	7%	1,800	7%	1,800	6%	1,800	6%
Government transfers	22,500	74%	26,300	90%	24,900	91%	28,100	92%	27,300	92%
Support payments	5,600	18%	-	0%	-	0%	-	0%	-	0%
Employment Insurance	200	1%	200	1%	100	0%	100	0%	100	0%
Other ^a	600	2%	700	2%	700	3%	700	2%	700	2%
Total ^b (includes double-counting)	30,600	100%	29,100	100%	27,400	100%	30,700	100%	29,800	100%

a. "Other" includes training allowances and other income.
b. Total cases in these categories may include double-counting, since cases that have more than one source of income are counted for each source reported.

Note: Totals may not add due to rounding.

STATISTICS: B – Extended Benefits Program

Recipients and Cases



Chapter 6 – New Brunswick – Extended Benefits Program

Recipients by Family Type

New Brunswick - Extended Benefits Program Table 6b-2: Number and Percentage of Recipients by Family Type as of March 31										
Family Type	2009		2010		2011		2012		2013	
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
Adults - Single	5,300	78%	5,300	78%	5,400	79%	5,500	79%	5,500	80%
Adults - Couple, no dependants	800	12%	800	12%	700	10%	700	10%	700	10%
Adults - Single parent	200	3%	100	1%	200	3%	200	3%	200	3%
Adults - Couple with dependants	200	3%	200	3%	200	3%	200	3%	200	3%
Total Adults	6,500	96%	6,500	96%	6,500	96%	6,600	94%	6,600	96%
Children - Single parent	100	1%	100	1%	200	3%	200	3%	200	3%
Children - Couple with dependants	200	3%	200	3%	200	3%	200	3%	200	3%
Total Children	300	4%	300	4%	300	4%	400	6%	400	6%
Total Recipients	6,800	100%	6,800	100%	6,800	100%	7,000	100%	6,900	100%

Note: Totals may not add due to rounding.

Cases by Age of Head

New Brunswick - Extended Benefits Program Table 6b-3: Number of Cases by Age of Head as of March 31					
Age of Head	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
<20	100	100	100	100	100
20-24	400	400	400	500	500
25-29	500	500	500	500	500
30-34	500	500	500	500	500
35-39	600	600	600	600	600
40-44	700	600	600	600	600
45-49	800	900	900	800	800
50-54	900	900	900	900	900
55-59	700	700	700	800	800
60-64	800	800	700	700	700
65+	-	-	-	-	-
Total	6,000	6,000	6,000	6,100	6,100

Note: Totals may not add due to rounding.

Cases Reporting Income by Source of Income

New Brunswick - Extended Benefits Program Table 6b-4: Number and Percentage of Cases Reporting Income, by Source of Income, as of March 31										
Source of Income	2009		2010		2011		2012		2013	
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
Employment	400	4%	500	5%	300	3%	300	3%	300	3%
Government transfers	6,400	67%	6,600	67%	6,400	67%	6,800	67%	6,800	67%
Other ^a	2,800	29%	2,700	27%	2,900	30%	3,000	30%	3,000	30%
Total ^b (includes double-counting)	9,500	100%	9,900	100%	9,600	100%	10,100	100%	10,100	100%
<p>a. "Other" includes training allowances and other income.</p> <p>b. Total cases in these categories may include double-counting, since cases that have more than one source of income are counted for each source reported.</p> <p>Note: Totals may not add due to rounding.</p>										



Chapter 7– Quebec

Last-Resort Financial Assistance

In Quebec, the provincial social assistance programs are known as Last-Resort Financial Assistance which includes the Social Assistance Program and the Social Solidarity Program. The *Individual and Family Assistance Act*¹³ and the Individual and Family Assistance Regulation govern Quebec's Last-Resort Financial Assistance programs.

The Last-Resort Financial Assistance provides basic benefits to adults only. Between September 1997 and January 2005, children's basic benefits were provided through the Quebec Family Allowance. Since January 2005, children's basic benefits have been provided through the Child Assistance Measure.

Service Delivery

The Department of Employment and Social Solidarity is responsible for the Last-Resort Financial Assistance program to adults within the province.

Eligibility

General

In order to be eligible for the Last-Resort Financial Assistance programs, applicants must meet the general eligibility requirements outlined in the "Social Assistance Overview" in this report.

Liquid Assets

At the time of application, applicants' liquid assets may not exceed the following allowable limits:

¹³ The Quebec National Assembly adopted the *Individual and Family Assistance Act* on June 16, 2005. This Act replaces the *Act respecting income support, employment assistance and social solidarity*.

Chapter 7 – Quebec – Last-Resort Financial Assistance

Quebec - Liquid Asset Exemptions at Application March 2013		
Application to Social Assistance Program ^a		
Number of Adults	Number of Children	Liquid Assets
1	0	\$887
1	1	\$1,268
1	2	\$1,502
2	0	\$1,319
2	1	\$1,573
2	2	\$1,807

^a *Individual and Family Assistance Regulation*, Article 52.

Note: Exemptions increased in 2009 and again 2010 to the 2013 levels above.

2009 Increases - For one adult (\$862 to \$883), for one adult and one child (\$1,232 to \$1,262), for one adult and 2 children (\$1,460 to \$1,495) for two adults (\$1,282 to \$1,313), for two adults and one child (\$1,529 to \$1,566), and for two adults and two children (\$1,757 to \$1,799).

Quebec - Liquid Asset Exemptions at Application March 2013		
Application to Social Solidarity Program ^a		
Number of Adults	Number of Children	Liquid Assets
1	0	\$2,500
1	1	\$2,906
1	2	\$3,155
2	0	\$5,000
2	1	\$5,271
2	2	\$5,520

^a *Individual and Family Assistance Regulation*, Article 155.

Note: There have been yearly increases to exemption levels for both one and two parent families with children since 2009.

For one adult and one child (2009: \$2,879, 2010: \$2,881, 2011: \$2,886, 2012: \$2,896).

For one adult and two children (2009: \$3,112, 2010: \$3,115, 2011: \$3,123, 2012: \$3,140).

For two adults and one child (2009: \$5,253, 2010: \$5,254, 2011: \$5,257, 2012: \$5,264).

For two adults and two children (2009: \$5,486, 2010: \$5,488, 2011: \$5,494, 2012: \$5,507).

Once an application for assistance has been approved, clients' liquid assets may not exceed the following allowable limits:

Chapter 7 – Quebec – Last-Resort Financial Assistance

Quebec - Liquid Asset Exemptions For the purpose of calculating the benefit level March 2013		
	Social Assistance Program ^a	Social Solidarity Program ^b
Independent adult, family of an ineligible student's spouse, or an adult who is a minor sheltered with her dependent child.	\$1,500	\$2,500
Other families	\$2,500	\$5,000
Additional amounts for minor dependent children:		
1 adult and 1 child	\$406	\$406
1 adult and 2 children	\$655	\$655
2 adults and 1 child	\$271	\$271
2 adults and 2 children	\$520	\$520
^a <i>Individual and Family Assistance Regulation</i> , Articles 131, 132. ^b <i>Individual and Family Assistance Regulation</i> , Articles 163 Note: There have been yearly increases to the additional amounts for minor dependant children since 2009 for both the Social Assistance Program and the Social Solidarity Program. For one adult and one child (2009: \$379, 2010: \$381, 2011: \$386, 2012: \$396). For one adult and two children (2009: \$612, 2010: \$615, 2011: \$623, 2012: \$640). For two adults and one child (2009: \$253, 2010: \$254, 2011: \$257, 2012: \$264). For two adults and two children (2009: \$486, 2010: \$488, 2011: \$494, 2012: \$507).		

Earnings Exemptions

Once an application for assistance has been approved, the beneficiaries of the Last-Resort Financial Assistance are eligible for the following monthly exemptions on earned income:

Quebec - Earnings Exemptions March 2013			
	Clients with no limitations to employment ^a	Clients with temporary limitations to employment ^a	Clients with severe limitations to employment ^b
Single	\$200	\$200	\$100
Single-parent family	\$200	\$200	\$100
Two-parent family	\$300	\$300	\$100
^a Exemption under the Social Assistance Program. ^b Exemption under the Social Solidarity Program.			

Benefits

Financial assistance consists of a basic benefit, paid monthly, which may be supplemented by an allowance for individuals who are facing temporary or severe employment limitations. The basic benefit covers the cost of food and clothing, shelter, as well as personal and household items for adults only. Maximum basic benefit rates are based on family composition.

Chapter 7 – Quebec – Last-Resort Financial Assistance

In order to receive a benefit for temporary limitations to employment, an applicant must be 58 years of age or older, unable to participate in the labour market for health reasons for a period of no more than 12 months, caring for a child who does not yet attend school (5 years of age or under) or is disabled, or pregnant. In order to receive the solidarity allowance (allowance awarded to people with severe employment limitations in the Social Solidarity Program), the person's physical or mental state must be significantly altered or deficient for what will most likely be a permanent or indeterminate period of time.

Quebec Family Allowance

The Quebec Family Allowance was a non-taxable amount paid monthly to help low-income families with the cost of raising children under 18 years of age. The creation of the Quebec Family Allowance in September 1997 effectively had removed children's benefits from the social assistance system.

The *Régie des rentes du Québec* was responsible for administering the Quebec Family Allowance.

In August 2004, families were entitled to receive a Family Allowance in the amount of \$625 per year per child. Single-parent families could also receive an additional family supplement of \$1,300 per year. An additional amount of \$1,431 was provided for each child with disabilities.

Single-parent families with one child and whose income was less than \$20,603 per year were paid maximum Family Allowance benefits. Single-parent families with one child and whose annual income fell between \$20,603 and \$51,600 per year were eligible for partial Family Allowance benefits.

Maximum Family Allowance benefits were paid to two-parent families with one child and whose income was less than \$24,005 per year. Two-parent families with one child and whose annual income fell between \$24,005 and \$51,600 per year were eligible for partial Family Allowance benefits.

Quebec Family Allowance/Child Assistance Measure ^a					
Estimated Number of Recipients					
2003 - 2012					
	2003	2004 ^b	2005	2006	2007
Families	516,230	503,520	873,108	874,996	886,336
Children	918,470	893,280	1,494,566	1,494,661	1,486,998
	2008	2009	2010	2011 ^c	2012 ^c
Families	887,085	884,169	882,423	882,540	879,840
Children	1,487,599	1,475,338	1,473,675	1,479,843	1,477,691
<small>a. The <i>Child Assistance Measure</i> replaced the <i>Quebec Family Allowance</i> on January 1, 2005.. b. These figures are from April 1, 2004 to December 31, 2004. c. Projected data.</small>					

Child Assistance Measure

In 2004-2005 Budget Speech, the Quebec government announced a new Child Assistance Measure to increase support for families. The Child Assistance Measure came into force on January 1, 2005, to cover the basic needs of dependent children under 18 years old. Child Assistance replaces and improves upon three measures: the Family Allowance, the non-refundable tax credit for dependent children and tax reduction for families. This measure provides more generous assistance than the Family Allowance, particularly to low-income families.

The amount of the Child Assistance Measure varies. Its amount is based on the following factors: net family income, the number of dependent children under the age of 18, and the type of family (single-parent or two-parent).

The maximum amounts paid for 2013, are as follows: for a family with one child: \$2,319 per year; for a family with two children: \$3,478; for a family with three children: \$4,637; and for a family with four children: \$6,376.

For each additional child, an amount of \$1,739 is added to the maximum of \$6,376. Single-parent families are entitled to a supplement of \$813, which is added to the basic Child Assistance Measure amount.

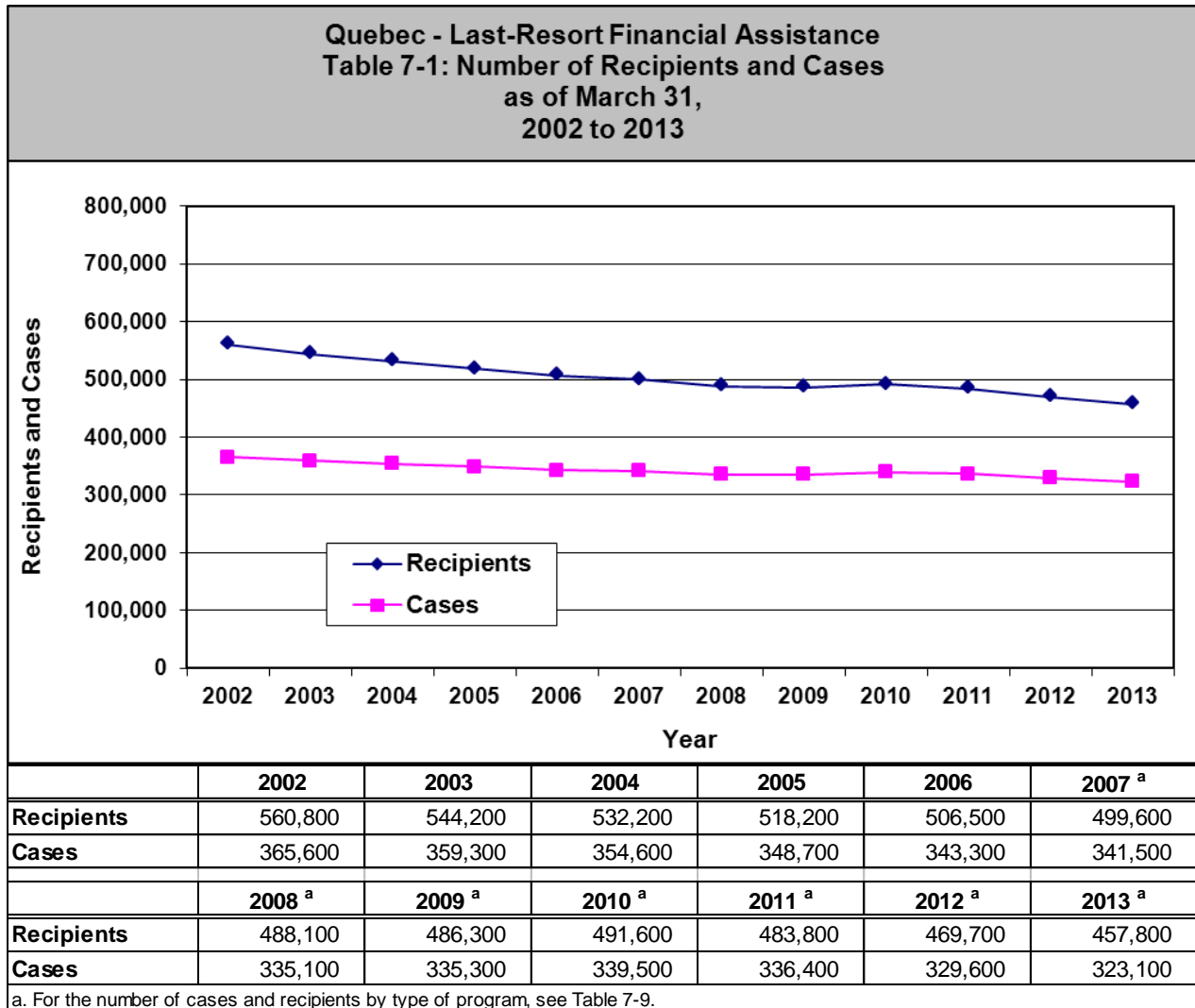
More information

For more information, please consult the Quebec Department of Employment and Social Solidarity Web site at:

www.emploiquebec.gouv.qc.ca/en/citizens/obtaining-financial-assistance/social-assistance-and-social-solidarity-programs/

STATISTICS¹⁴

Recipients and Cases



¹⁴ In Quebec, statistics are reported under the heading of “ménages prestataires”, i.e. households. As the concept is the same as the one used for “cases” in other jurisdictions, the latter is used throughout the English version as an equivalent.

Chapter 7 – Quebec – Last-Resort Financial Assistance

Cases by Type of Benefit

Quebec - Last-Resort Financial Assistance Table 7-2: Number and Percentage of Cases by Type of Benefits, as of March 31										
Type of Benefits	2009		2010		2011		2012		2013	
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
Social Assistance - Basic benefit (housed beneficiaries) ^a	124,400	37%	126,300	37%	122,300	36%	116,400	35%	111,200	34%
Social Assistance - Allowance - temporary constraints ^b	77,600	23%	80,100	24%	80,900	24%	80,600	24%	79,700	25%
Social Assistance - Combined allowance ^c	3,500	1%	3,500	1%	3,400	1%	3,300	1%	3,600	1%
Total Social Assistance	205,500	61%	209,900	62%	206,600	61%	200,400	61%	194,500	60%
Social Solidarity - Allowance ^d	126,700	38%	126,600	37%	126,900	38%	126,400	38%	125,900	39%
Social Solidarity - Basic benefit (housed beneficiaries) ^a	3,100	1%	3,000	1%	2,900	1%	2,800	1%	2,700	1%
Total Social Solidarity	129,800	39%	129,600	38%	129,800	39%	129,200	39%	128,600	40%
Total	335,300	100%	339,500	100%	336,400	100%	329,600	100%	323,100	100%

a. "Basic benefit (housed beneficiaries)": Basic amount applicable to a housed adult admitted to a home-care centre, reception centre, general hospital, rehabilitation centre, as well as to a former inmate housed in a recognized institution for the purpose of his/her social rehabilitation.

b. "Allowance - temporary constraints": Where a single adult/adult member of the family is subject to temporary employment constraints.

c. "Combined allowance": Where the two adults in the household are subject to temporary employment constraint.

d. "Allowance": Amount applicable to single adult or couple recipients of the Social Solidarity Program.

Note: Totals may not add due to rounding.

Recipients by Family Type

Quebec - Last-Resort Financial Assistance Table 7-3: Number and Percentage of Recipients by Family Type, as of March 31										
Family Type	2009		2010		2011		2012		2013	
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
Adults - Single	254,400	52%	258,500	53%	257,700	53%	254,800	54%	251,300	55%
Adults - Couple, no dependants	31,200	6%	30,600	6%	29,000	6%	27,100	6%	25,800	6%
Adults - Single parent	43,500	9%	43,400	9%	42,700	9%	41,000	9%	39,700	9%
Adults - Couple with dependants	41,900	9%	42,900	9%	40,900	8%	38,200	8%	36,300	8%
Adults - Spouse of students ^a	800	0.16%	900	0.18%	1,100	0.23%	1,100	0.23%	1,100	0.24%
Total adults	371,800	76%	376,300	77%	371,400	77%	362,700	77%	354,200	77%
Children - Single parent	70,000	14%	69,700	14%	68,600	14%	66,300	14%	64,000	14%
Children - Couple with dependants	44,400	9%	45,700	9%	43,800	9%	41,200	9%	39,600	9%
Total children	114,400	24%	115,300	23%	112,400	23%	107,500	23%	103,600	23%
Total	486,300	100%	491,600	100%	483,800	100%	469,700	100%	457,800	100%

a. "Spouse of students": An adult whose spouse is studying full-time at the post-secondary level and is receiving benefits from the financial assistance program of the Ministry of Education. This category includes adults only, since the needs of the children of either spouse are met by the student spouse.

Note: Totals may not add due to rounding.

Chapter 7 – Quebec – Last-Resort Financial Assistance

Cases by Age of Head

Quebec - Last-Resort Financial Assistance Table 7-4: Number of Cases by Age of Head, as of March 31					
Age of Head	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
<21	11,600	12,200	12,200	11,700	11,100
21-24	19,600	19,600	19,600	19,600	19,000
25-29	30,600	30,300	29,000	27,500	26,300
30-34	30,500	32,000	31,800	30,800	30,000
35-39	31,300	31,700	30,700	30,200	29,900
40-44	37,900	36,700	35,000	33,100	31,500
45-49	44,700	45,000	44,100	41,900	39,500
50-54	44,600	45,700	46,300	46,200	46,100
55-59	43,200	44,300	45,100	45,700	46,500
60-64	38,200	39,000	39,700	39,700	40,000
65+	3,000	3,100	3,200	3,200	3,200
Total	335,300	339,500	336,400	329,600	323,100

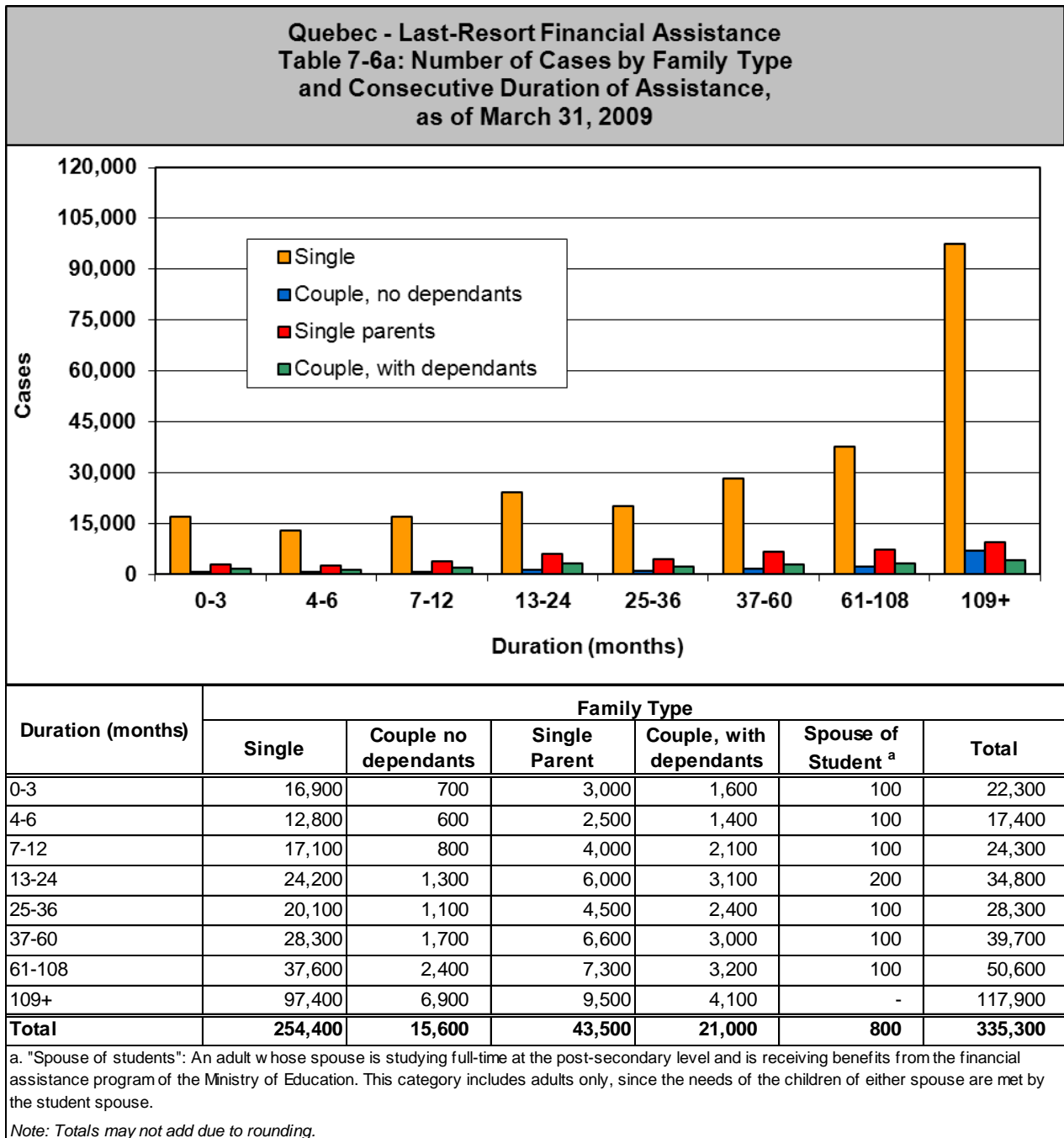
Note: Totals may not add due to rounding.

Cases by Education of Head

Quebec - Last-Resort Financial Assistance Table 7-5: Number and Percentage of Cases by Education of Head, as of March 31										
Education of Head ^a	2009		2010		2011		2012		2013	
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
Primary	27,500	8%	27,200	8%	26,300	8%	25,200	8%	24,400	8%
Secondary	169,200	50%	176,900	52%	179,300	53%	179,300	54%	179,600	56%
College	17,300	5%	18,400	5%	18,900	6%	19,000	6%	19,300	6%
University	15,300	5%	17,300	5%	17,500	5%	17,200	5%	17,300	5%
Unknown	106,000	32%	99,700	29%	94,500	28%	88,900	27%	82,500	26%
Total	335,300	100%	339,500	100%	336,400	100%	329,600	100%	323,100	100%

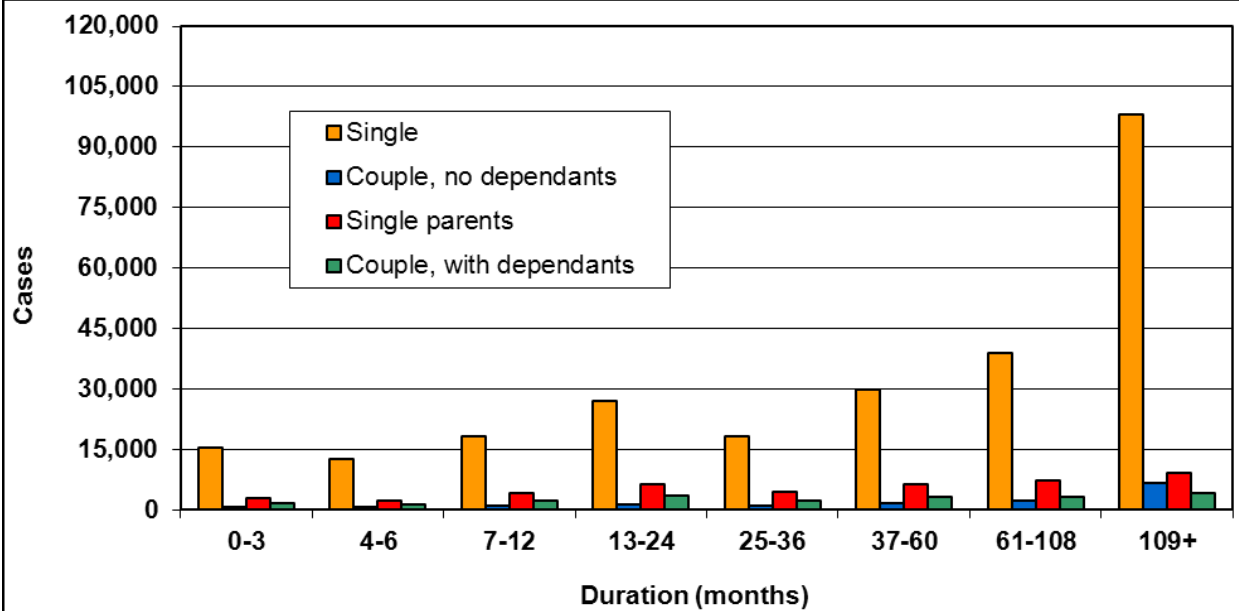
a. Education is defined as the level of education attained as of the date of application.
Note: Totals may not add due to rounding.

Cases by Family Type and Consecutive Duration of Assistance



Chapter 7 – Quebec – Last-Resort Financial Assistance

**Quebec - Last-Resort Financial Assistance
Table 7-6b: Number of Cases by Family Type
and Consecutive Duration of Assistance,
as of March 31, 2010**



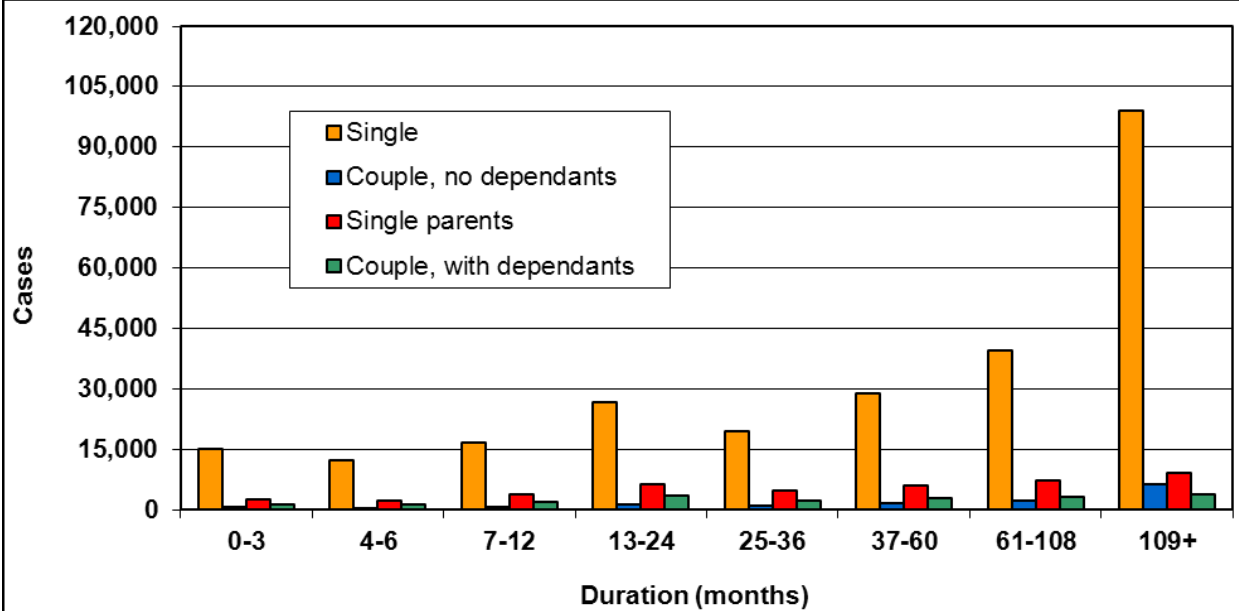
Duration (months)	Family Type					Total
	Single	Couple no dependants	Single Parent	Couple, with dependants	Spouse of Student ^a	
0-3	15,600	700	2,800	1,600	100	20,800
4-6	12,700	600	2,400	1,500	100	17,300
7-12	18,200	900	4,200	2,300	100	25,700
13-24	26,900	1,300	6,300	3,500	200	38,200
25-36	18,300	1,000	4,500	2,200	100	26,100
37-60	30,000	1,700	6,400	3,200	100	41,400
61-108	38,800	2,400	7,400	3,300	100	51,800
109+	98,000	6,700	9,300	4,100	-	118,100
Total	258,500	15,300	43,400	21,500	900	339,500

a. "Spouse of students": An adult whose spouse is studying full-time at the post-secondary level and is receiving benefits from the financial assistance program of the Ministry of Education. This category includes adults only, since the needs of the children of either spouse are met by the student spouse.

Note: Totals may not add due to rounding.

Chapter 7 – Quebec – Last-Resort Financial Assistance

**Quebec - Last-Resort Financial Assistance
Table 7-6c: Number of Cases by Family Type
and Consecutive Duration of Assistance,
as of March 31, 2011**



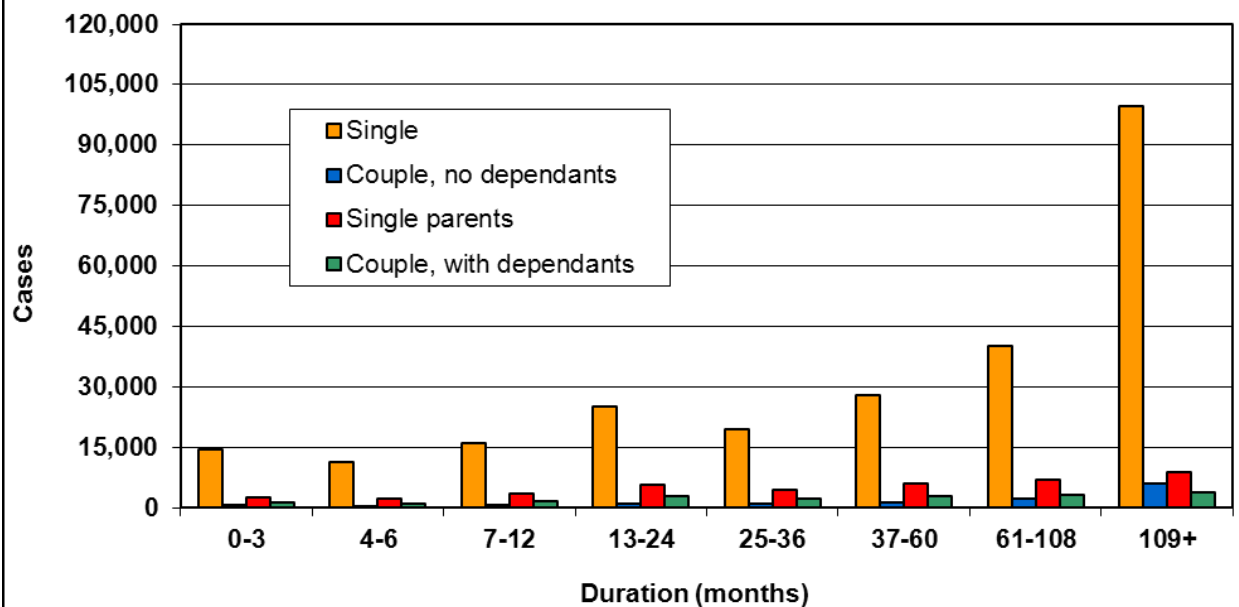
Duration (months)	Family Type					Total
	Single	Couple no dependants	Single Parent	Couple, with dependants	Spouse of Student ^a	
0-3	15,000	600	2,600	1,300	100	19,600
4-6	12,300	500	2,400	1,300	100	16,600
7-12	16,800	800	4,000	1,900	200	23,600
13-24	26,600	1,300	6,300	3,400	300	37,900
25-36	19,600	900	4,700	2,400	100	27,800
37-60	28,800	1,600	6,200	2,900	100	39,700
61-108	39,700	2,400	7,400	3,300	100	52,700
109+	98,900	6,400	9,100	4,000	-	118,500
Total	257,700	14,500	42,700	20,400	1,100	336,400

a. "Spouse of students": An adult whose spouse is studying full-time at the post-secondary level and is receiving benefits from the financial assistance program of the Ministry of Education. This category includes adults only, since the needs of the children of either spouse are met by the student spouse.

Note: Totals may not add due to rounding.

Chapter 7 – Quebec – Last-Resort Financial Assistance

**Quebec - Last-Resort Financial Assistance
Table 7-6d: Number of Cases by Family Type
and Consecutive Duration of Assistance,
as of March 31, 2012**



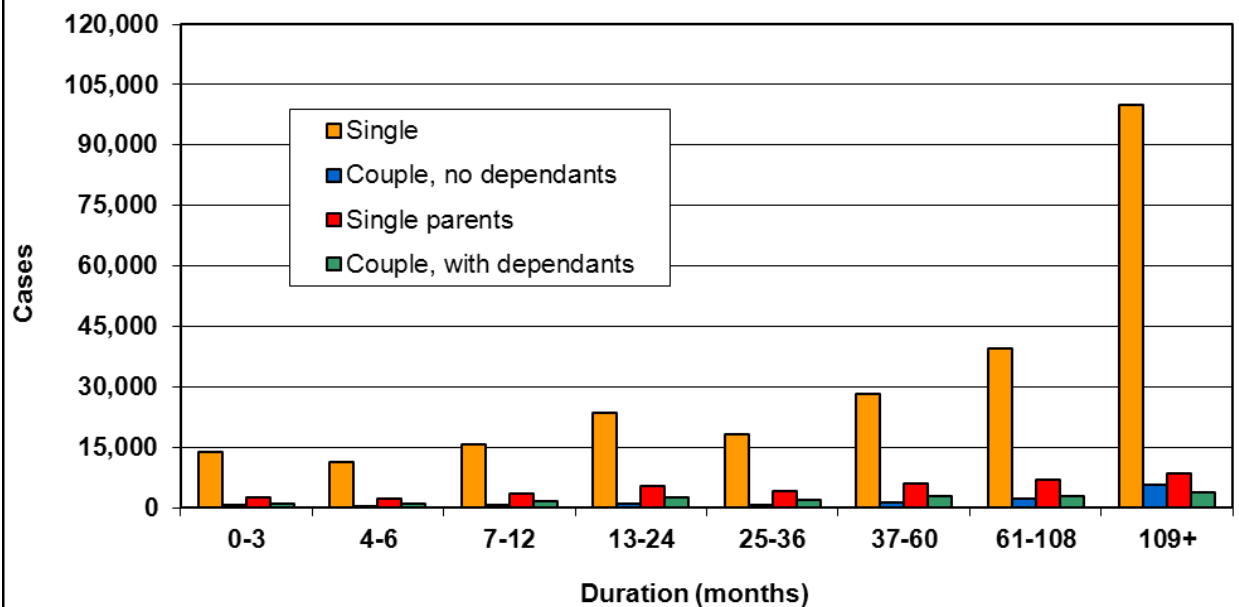
Duration (months)	Family Type					Total
	Single	Couple no dependants	Single Parent	Couple, with dependants	Spouse of Student ^a	
0-3	14,400	600	2,500	1,300	100	18,900
4-6	11,500	500	2,300	1,200	100	15,500
7-12	16,100	700	3,700	1,700	200	22,300
13-24	25,200	1,100	5,800	2,800	300	35,300
25-36	19,500	900	4,500	2,200	200	27,400
37-60	28,100	1,400	6,200	2,800	100	38,600
61-108	40,300	2,300	7,100	3,200	100	53,000
109+	99,800	6,000	8,900	3,900	-	118,600
Total	254,800	13,600	41,000	19,100	1,100	329,600

a. "Spouse of students": An adult whose spouse is studying full-time at the post-secondary level and is receiving benefits from the financial assistance program of the Ministry of Education. This category includes adults only, since the needs of the children of either spouse are met by the student spouse.

Note: Totals may not add due to rounding.

Chapter 7 – Quebec – Last-Resort Financial Assistance

Quebec - Last-Resort Financial Assistance
Table 7-6e: Number of Cases by Family Type
and Consecutive Duration of Assistance,
as of March 31, 2013



Duration (months)	Family Type					Total
	Single	Couple no dependants	Single Parent	Couple, with dependants	Spouse of Student ^a	
0-3	14,000	600	2,600	1,200	100	18,500
4-6	11,500	400	2,200	1,200	100	15,400
7-12	15,700	700	3,600	1,700	200	21,800
13-24	23,500	1,100	5,500	2,600	300	32,900
25-36	18,400	800	4,100	1,900	200	25,400
37-60	28,300	1,400	6,200	2,800	200	38,800
61-108	39,600	2,200	6,900	3,000	100	51,800
109+	100,100	5,800	8,700	3,800	-	118,500
Total	251,300	12,900	39,700	18,100	1,100	323,100

a. "Spouse of students": An adult whose spouse is studying full-time at the post-secondary level and is receiving benefits from the financial assistance program of the Ministry of Education. This category includes adults only, since the needs of the children of either spouse are met by the student spouse.

Note: Totals may not add due to rounding.

Chapter 7 – Quebec – Last-Resort Financial Assistance

Type of Declared Income by Source of Income

Quebec - Last-Resort Financial Assistance Table 7-7: Number and Percentage of Cases Reporting Income, by Source of Income, as of March 31										
Source of income	2009		2010		2011		2012		2013	
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
Employment	24,900	26%	23,600	25%	22,700	24%	21,200	23%	20,300	22%
Employment-Assistance allowance	7,000	7%	7,600	8%	7,300	8%	6,900	7%	7,000	8%
Support Allowance	4,700	5%	4,600	5%	3,700	4%	3,800	4%	4,100	4%
Employment Insurance	1,300	1%	1,200	1%	1,200	1%	1,000	1%	1,100	1%
Parental contribution	800	1%	900	1%	1,000	1%	900	1%	900	1%
Other ^a	64,300	67%	65,400	68%	65,500	69%	65,900	71%	66,000	71%
Total ^b (includes double-counting)	95,800	100%	96,200	100%	94,600	100%	93,200	100%	92,800	100%

a. "Other" includes salary grants and other sources of income.
b. Total cases in these categories may include double-counting, since cases that have more than one source of income are counted for each source reported.
Note: Totals may not add due to rounding.

Quebec - Last-Resort Financial Assistance Table 7-8: Number of Cases Reporting Income, as of March 31					
	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
Reporting Income	95,800	96,200	94,600	93,200	92,800
No Income	239,500	243,300	241,800	236,400	230,300
Total	335,300	339,500	336,400	329,600	323,100

Note: Totals may not add due to rounding.

Cases and Recipients by Type of Program

Québec - Last-Resort Financial Assistance Table 7-9 - Number of Cases and Recipients by Type of Program as of March 31				
Year	Social Assistance Program		Social Solidarity Program	
	Cases	Recipients	Cases	Recipients
2009	205,500	335,800	129,800	150,500
2010	209,900	342,100	129,600	149,400
2011	206,600	334,700	129,800	149,100
2012	200,400	322,400	129,200	147,300
2013	194,500	311,900	128,600	145,900



Chapter 8 – Ontario

A - Ontario Works

Ontario's social assistance system is composed of two programs that provide income and employment assistance to people in financial need:

- Ontario Works provides people with basic financial assistance while helping them prepare for, find and maintain employment. The *Ontario Works Act, 1997*, and its Regulations govern the Ontario Works program.
- The Ontario Disability Support Program helps people with disabilities with financial as well as employment support (see p. 70). The *Ontario Disability Support Program Act, 1997*, and its Regulations govern the program.

Service Delivery

Under Ontario Works legislation, delivery agents are designated to administer the program for a geographical area. Ontario Works delivery agents include 47 Consolidated Municipal Service Managers (CMSMs)/District Social Services Administration Boards (DSSABs) and 101 First Nations who deliver the program across the province.

Eligibility

General

Eligibility for Ontario Works is based on an applicant's personal and financial circumstances such as place of residence, status in Canada, age, income, assets, and participation in employment assistance activities.

Asset Limits

When determining eligibility, applicants' and recipients' assets may not exceed the following allowable limits:

Chapter 8 – Ontario – Ontario Works

Ontario - Ontario Works - Liquid Asset Exemptions March 2013	
Single	\$606
Single-Parent Family	\$1,657 plus \$500 for each additional dependant
Childless Couple	\$1,043
Two-Parent Family	\$1,735 plus \$500 for each additional dependant
Child in temporary care or a dependant of a dependant	\$500
<p>Source: <i>Ontario Works Policy Directives, 4.2</i></p> <p>Note: Maximum Asset Exemptions increased in 2010 to \$585 for singles, \$1,619 for single-parent families, \$1,010 for childless couples and \$1,694 for two-parent families. They were increased again in 2011 to \$599 for singles, \$1,645 for single-parent families, \$1,032 for childless couples and \$1,722 for two-parent families. The March 2013 amounts above were introduced in 2012.</p>	

Earnings Exemptions

Ontario Works clients are eligible for the following monthly exemptions on earned income:

Ontario - Ontario Works - Earning Exemptions March 2013	
Single	50% of earned income
Single-Parent Family	
Childless Couple	
Two-Parent Family	
<p>As of May 1, 2009, the employment earnings (including self-employment and farm income) and amounts paid under a training program of persons attending full-time post-secondary school will be exempt as income and assets.</p>	

Benefits

Basic financial assistance consists of three components: income assistance for basic needs and shelter, mandatory and discretionary benefits, and emergency assistance.

The basic needs allowance assists with the cost of food, clothing, and personal needs. Maximum basic needs allowance rates are based on family type and the number of adult members in the benefit unit. A supplement for sole-support parents is also provided through the basic needs allowance. The shelter allowance pays an amount equal to a recipient's actual shelter costs, up to a maximum that is based on the number of persons (including children) in the benefit unit.

Chapter 8 – Ontario – Ontario Works

In addition, each member of a benefit unit may be eligible to receive an additional amount depending on circumstances such as: the Advanced Age Allowance for those over 65, the Pregnancy and Breastfeeding Nutritional Allowance and the Special Diet Allowance, in addition to the standard amount for social assistance.

A number of mandatory benefits are provided within Ontario Works, such as:

- dental and vision care for children;
- drug coverage;
- guide dog allowance;
- benefits to assist individuals in maintaining full-time employment;
- benefits to assist individuals with expenses related to starting a new job or employment assistance activity; and
- advance (up front) child care.

Recipients, spouses and any dependants may also be eligible to receive a range of discretionary benefits on a case-by-case basis at the discretion of the local Ontario Works Administrator. Discretionary benefits include:

- dental care for adults;
- vision care for adults;
- prosthetic appliances;
- vocational training and re-training;
- travel and transportation that is not for health-related purposes; and
- moving expenses.

In addition, Ontario Works provides extended drug coverage for up to six months to clients who leave social assistance for employment. Under extenuating circumstances, drug coverage can be extended for an additional six months after the first six month period.

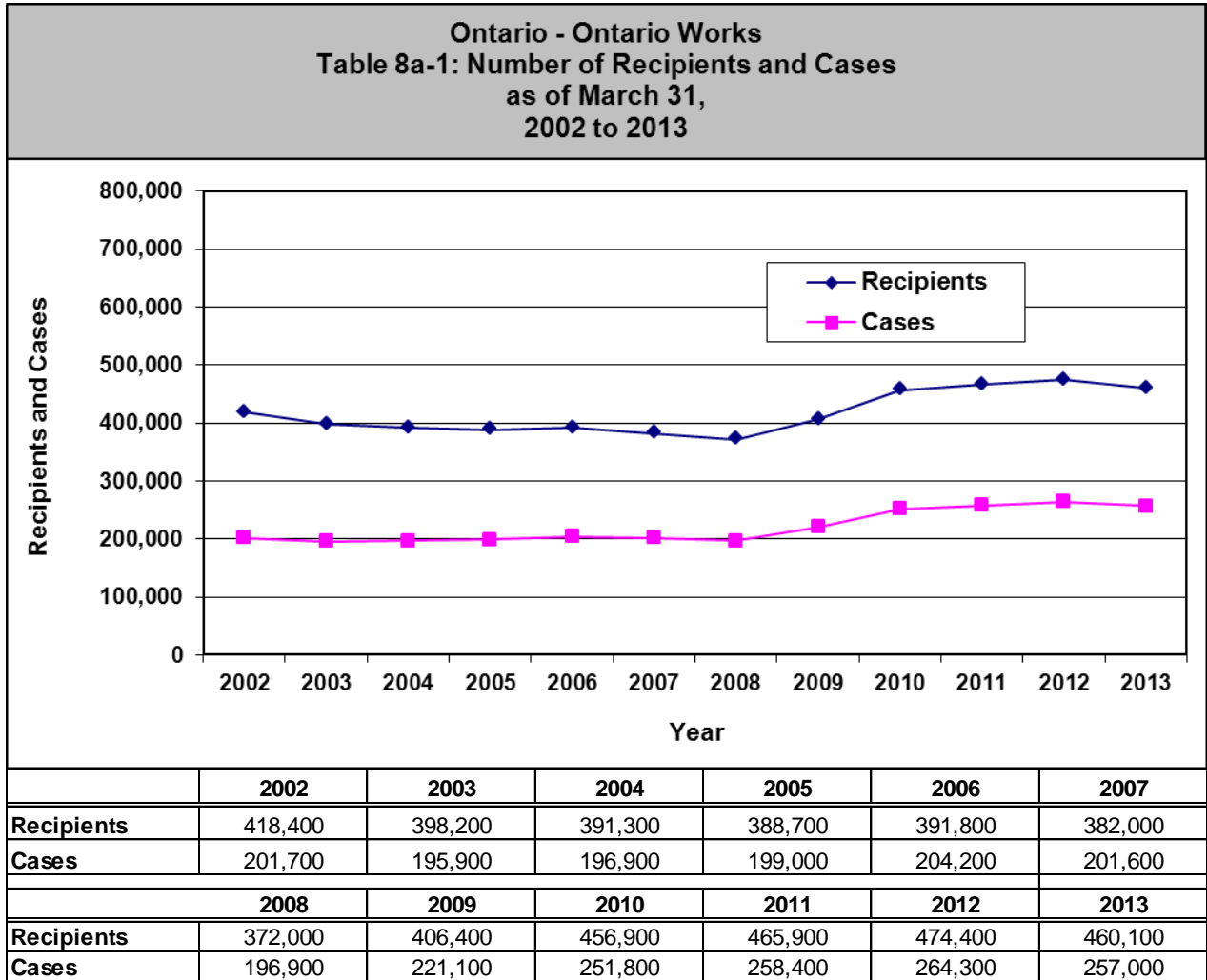
Emergency assistance may be provided if the applicant is not currently in receipt of social assistance, is not serving a period of ineligibility, and if the applicant has not received emergency assistance in the past six months. The provision of financial assistance in an emergency may include an amount for basic needs, shelter and benefits.

More Information

For more information, please consult the Ontario Ministry of Community and Social Services Web site at: www.mcscs.gov.on.ca/en/mcscs/index.aspx.

STATISTICS

Recipients and Cases



Chapter 8 – Ontario – Ontario Works

Recipients by Family Type

Ontario - Ontario Works											
Table 8a-2: Number and Percentage of Recipients by Family Type as of March 31											
Family Type		2009		2010		2011		2012		2013	
		#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
Adults											
Single	Cases	127,400	31%	148,600	33%	154,200	33%	158,700	33%	155,300	34%
Couple, no dependants	Cases	6,500	3%	7,500	3%	7,300	3%	7,400	3%	6,800	3%
	Spouses	6,500		7,500		7,300		7,400		6,800	
Single parent	Cases	69,500	19%	75,000	18%	76,300	18%	77,400	18%	75,200	18%
	Dependants 18+ ^a	6,200		7,800		8,500		9,300		9,500	
Couple with dependants	Cases	17,600	9%	20,700	10%	20,600	9%	20,700	9%	19,700	9%
	Spouses	17,600		20,700		20,600		20,700		19,700	
	Dependants 18+ ^a	2,200		2,600		2,900		3,000		3,000	
Total Adults		253,600	62%	290,300	64%	297,700	64%	304,800	64%	296,000	64%
Children											
Single parent	Children under 18	116,200	29%	123,700	27%	125,400	27%	126,300	27%	122,700	27%
Couple with dependants	Children under 18	36,600	9%	42,900	9%	42,800	9%	43,400	9%	41,400	9%
Total Children		152,800	38%	166,500	36%	168,200	36%	169,600	36%	164,000	36%
Total Recipients		406,400	100%	456,900	100%	465,900	100%	474,400	100%	460,100	100%

a. "Dependants 18 and over" are categorized as dependent adults, other than spouses.
 Note: Totals may not add due to rounding.

Cases by Age of Head

Ontario - Ontario Works					
Table 8a-3: Number of Cases by Age of Head as of March 31					
Age of Head	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
<20	13,100	14,800	14,400	13,800	12,600
20-24	35,900	42,200	43,000	43,400	40,700
25-29	33,400	39,100	40,500	41,700	40,300
30-34	28,200	32,200	32,800	34,000	33,600
35-39	26,500	29,000	28,900	29,000	28,100
40-44	26,600	28,600	28,300	28,300	27,000
45-49	23,500	26,600	27,200	27,600	26,400
50-54	16,700	19,200	20,700	22,000	22,400
55-59	10,400	12,200	13,700	15,000	15,900
60-64	6,100	7,000	7,900	8,500	9,100
65+	800	900	1,000	1,000	1,000
Total	221,100	251,800	258,400	264,300	257,000

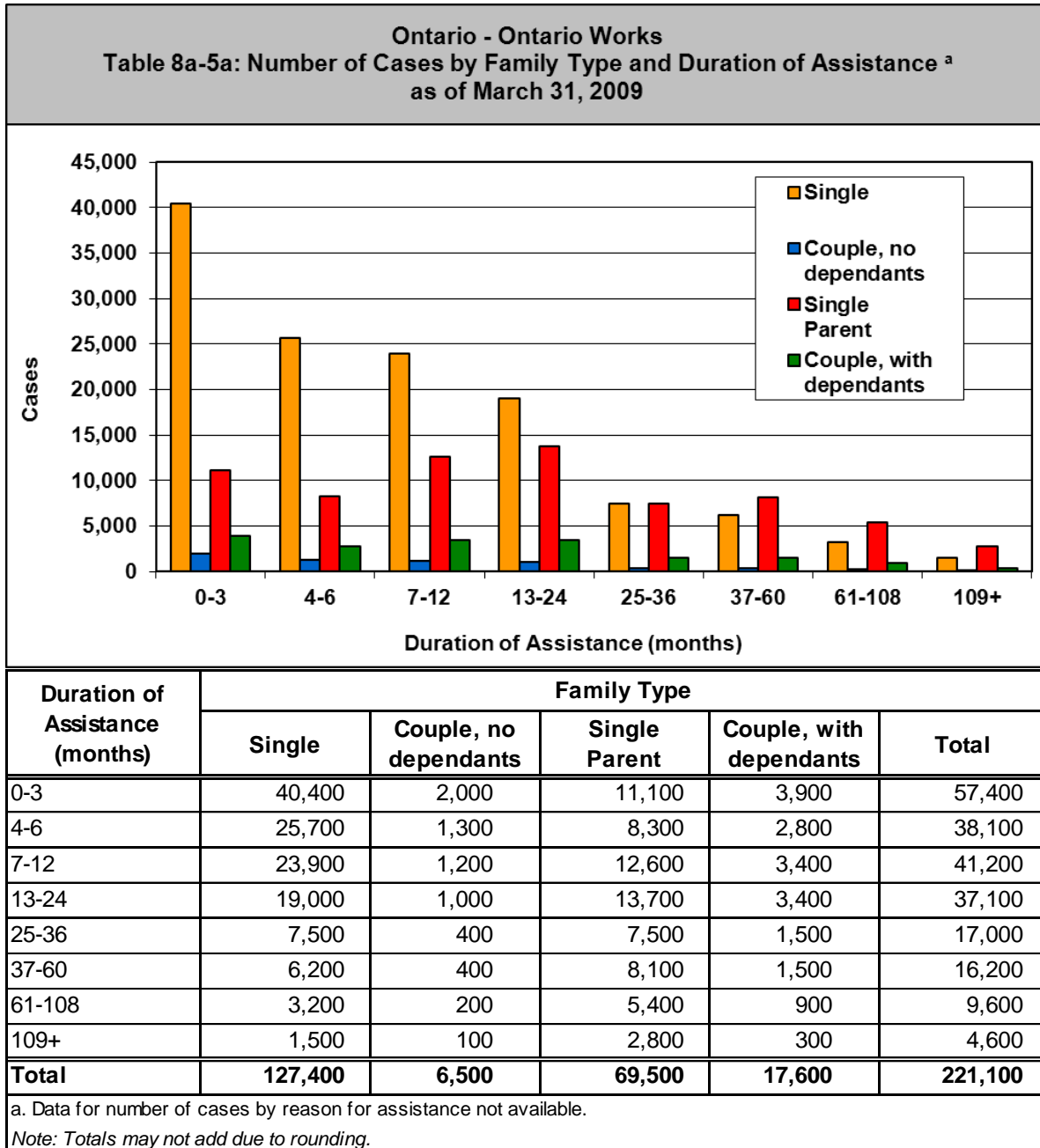
Note: Totals may not add due to rounding.

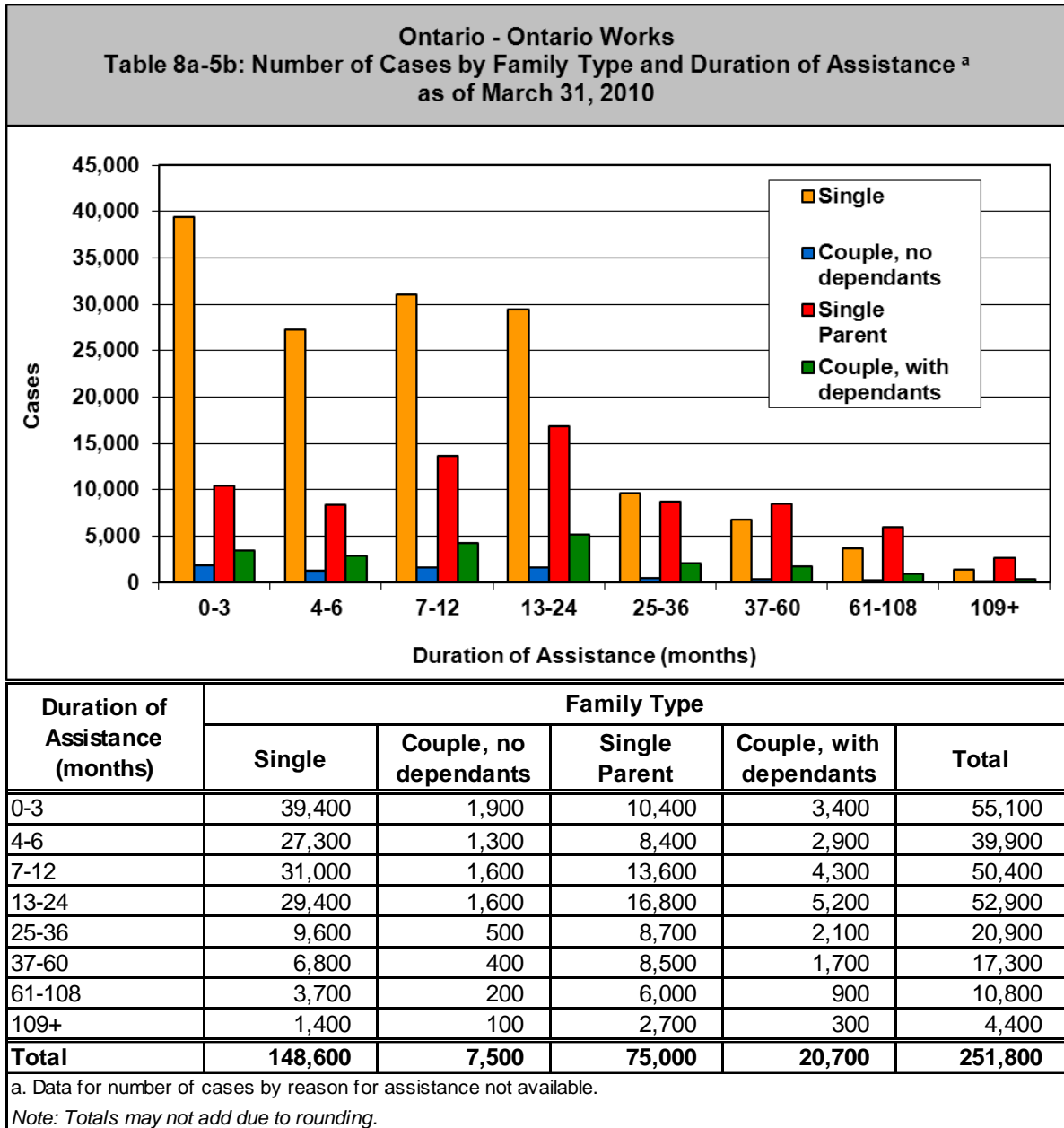
Cases by Education of Head

Ontario - Ontario Works										
Table 8a-4: Number and Percentage of Cases by Education of Head as of March 31										
Education of Head	2009		2010		2011		2012		2013	
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
Primary	17,100	8%	18,300	7%	18,500	7%	18,700	7%	17,500	7%
Secondary	154,600	70%	176,000	70%	179,300	69%	182,300	69%	176,900	69%
Post secondary	47,800	22%	55,800	22%	58,800	23%	61,400	23%	60,800	24%
Unknown	1,600	1%	1,700	1%	1,800	1%	1,900	1%	1,900	1%
Total	221,100	100%	251,800	100%	258,400	100%	264,300	100%	257,000	100%

Note: Totals may not add due to rounding.

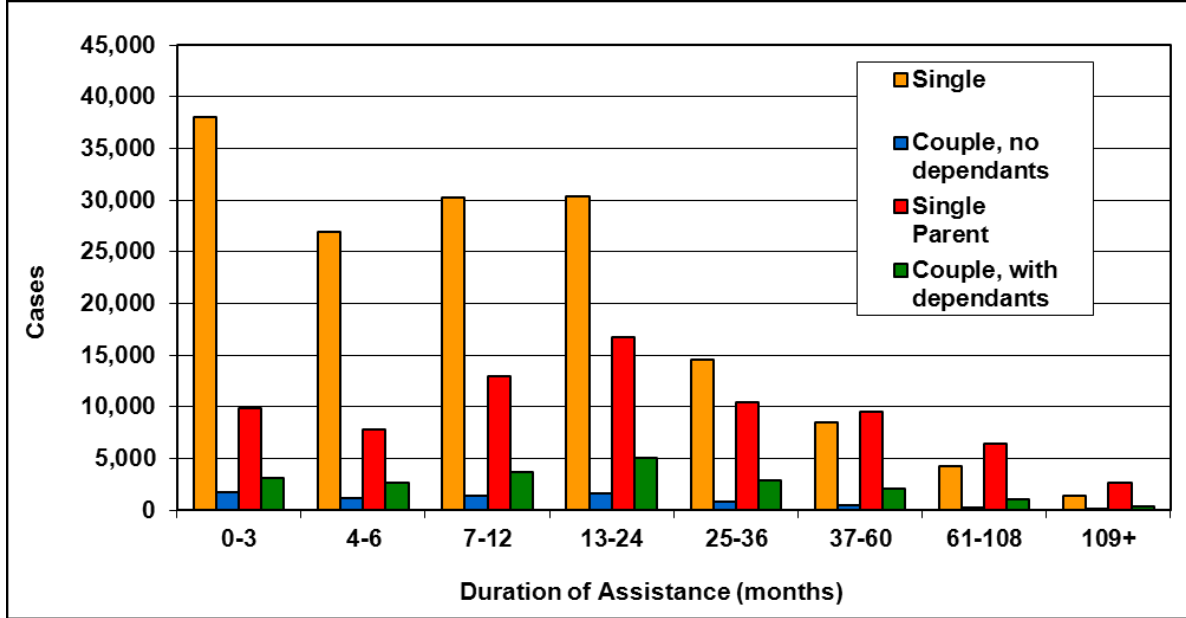
Cases by Family Type and Duration of Assistance





Chapter 8 – Ontario – Ontario Works

Ontario - Ontario Works
Table 8a-5c: Number of Cases by Family Type and Duration of Assistance ^a
as of March 31, 2011



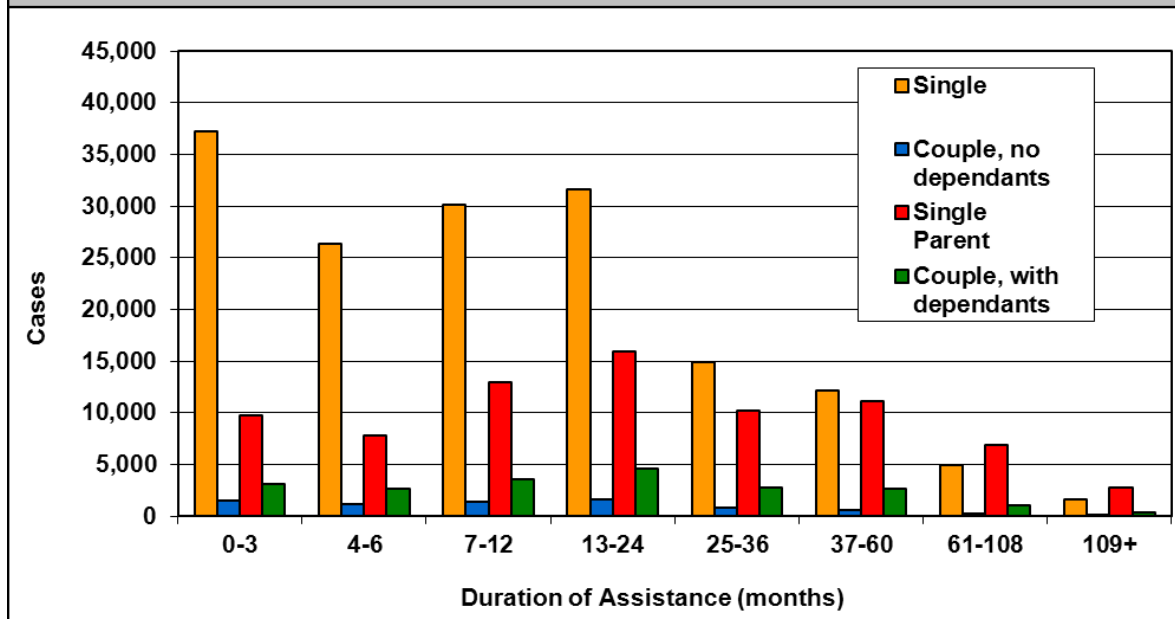
Duration of Assistance (months)	Family Type				Total
	Single	Couple, no dependants	Single Parent	Couple, with dependants	
0-3	38,000	1,700	9,900	3,100	52,700
4-6	26,900	1,200	7,800	2,600	38,400
7-12	30,200	1,400	13,000	3,700	48,300
13-24	30,400	1,600	16,700	5,000	53,700
25-36	14,500	800	10,400	2,900	28,500
37-60	8,500	500	9,500	2,100	20,500
61-108	4,300	200	6,400	1,000	11,900
109+	1,400	100	2,700	300	4,500
Total	154,200	7,300	76,300	20,600	258,400

a. Data for number of cases by reason for assistance not available.

Note: Totals may not add due to rounding.

Chapter 8 – Ontario – Ontario Works

Ontario - Ontario Works
Table 8a-5d: Number of Cases by Family Type and Duration of Assistance ^a
as of March 31, 2012

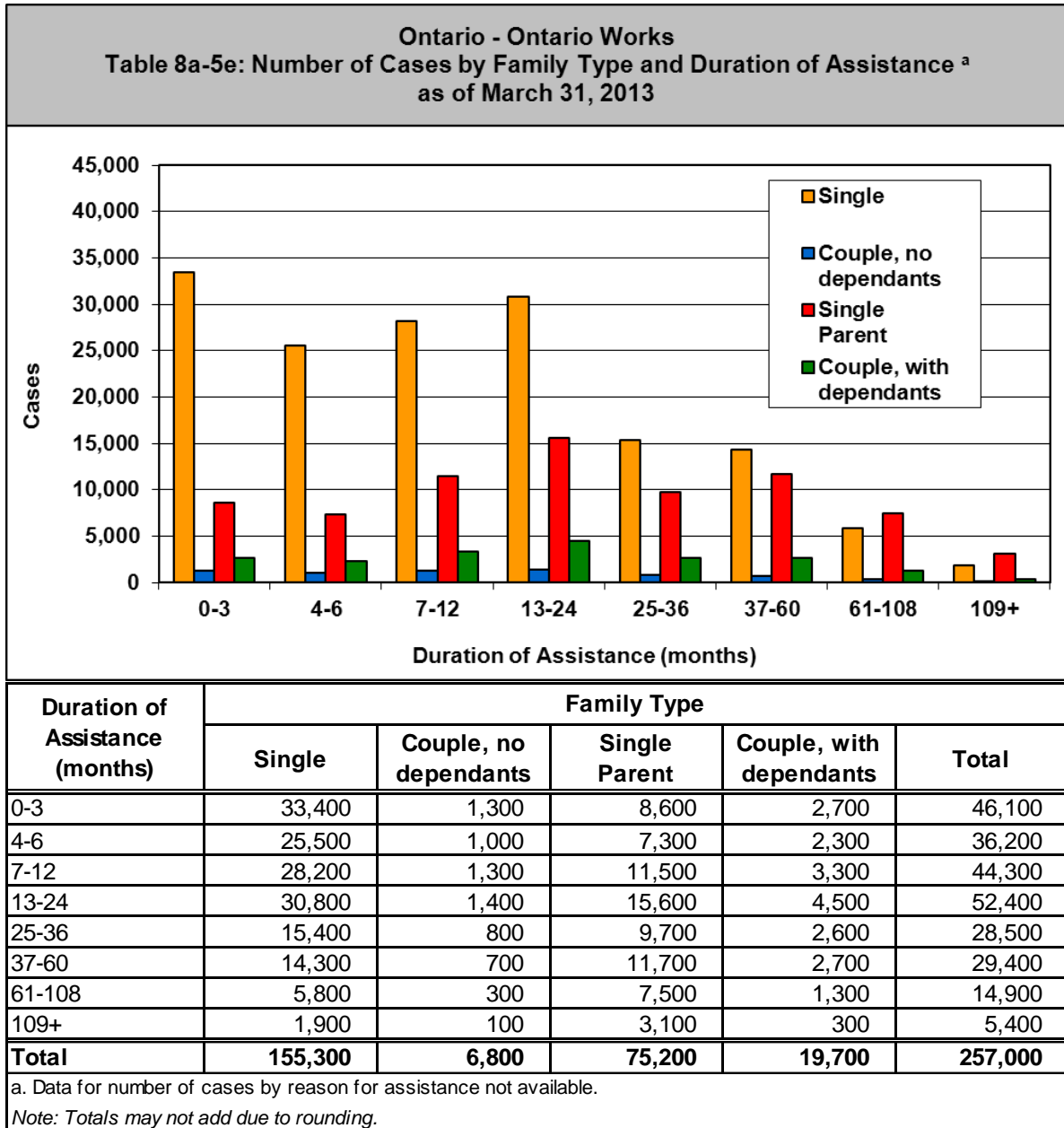


Duration of Assistance (months)	Family Type				Total
	Single	Couple, no dependants	Single Parent	Couple, with dependants	
0-3	37,200	1,500	9,700	3,100	51,600
4-6	26,300	1,200	7,800	2,600	38,000
7-12	30,100	1,400	13,000	3,600	48,200
13-24	31,600	1,600	15,900	4,600	53,600
25-36	14,900	800	10,200	2,800	28,700
37-60	12,100	600	11,100	2,600	26,300
61-108	4,900	200	6,900	1,100	13,200
109+	1,600	100	2,800	300	4,800
Total	158,700	7,400	77,400	20,700	264,300

a. Data for number of cases by reason for assistance not available.

Note: Totals may not add due to rounding.

Chapter 8 – Ontario – Ontario Works



B - Ontario Disability Support Program

In Ontario, the provincial social assistance program for persons with disabilities is known as the Ontario Disability Support Program (ODSP). The *Ontario Disability Support Program Act, 1997*, and its Regulations govern the program.

ODSP provides income support and benefits, including health-related benefits, to eligible people with disabilities and their families who are in financial need. It also provides employment supports to people with disabilities on a voluntary basis.

Service Delivery

The Ministry of Community and Social Services is responsible for the delivery of ODSP through a network of 45 local offices located throughout the province with employment support services provided through a network of approximately 150 community-based service providers.

Eligibility

General

To be eligible for ODSP, an applicant must live in Ontario, be 18 years of age or older, be in financial need, and have assets no greater than the limits set out in the program. The ministry takes into account a variety of factors related to an applicant's circumstances, including assets and income from all sources, family size and make up, and type of accommodation.

An applicant who qualifies financially for ODSP also needs to go through a disability determination process to determine if he or she is a person with a disability, as defined under the *ODSP Act*, unless he or she is a member of a prescribed class, such as someone receiving Canada Pension Plan Disability benefits, a person who is aged 65 or over and not eligible for Old Age Security or a resident of certain group homes or facilities.

Asset Limits

Applicants' and recipients' assets may not exceed the following allowable limits:

Ontario - Ontario Disability Support Program Liquid Asset Exemptions March 2013	
Single	\$5,000 plus \$500 for each dependant other than spouse
Couple	\$7,500 plus \$500 for each additional dependant

Earnings Exemptions

Ontario - Ontario Disability Support Program Earnings Exemptions March 2013
Under the Ontario Disability Support Program, 50% of earnings (i.e., income from employment, interest in or operation of a business, or a training program) is exempt. The non-exempt portion of earnings deducted from ODSP income support may be further reduced if the person with earnings has eligible child care expenses or disability-related employment expenses. The earnings of dependent adults who attend secondary school full-time are also exempt (this provision has been in effect since June 1998).
As of April 1, 2009, the earnings of adult members who are in full-time attendance at post-secondary school became fully exempt (i.e., 100%) as income and assets (full time attendance is 60% of a full course load or 40% for persons with a disability under ODSP).

The ODSP earnings exemptions are applied to net employment earnings for the purpose of reducing chargeable income in order to encourage recipients to pursue employment.

Benefits

Support provided through the ODSP can be categorized as either income support or employment supports.

Income support consists of a basic needs amount and a shelter allowance. The basic needs amount helps with the cost of food, clothing, transportation and necessary personal items for the recipient, a spouse and any dependent children or dependent adults, if applicable. Maximum basic needs rates are based on the number of members in the benefit unit, and the ages of the children in the unit. Recipients who live north of the 50th parallel and are without a year-round road access may be eligible for a Northern Allowance. Maximum shelter allowance rates are based on actual costs of rent or mortgage, heat, utilities, property taxes, home insurance premiums and condominium fees, up to the maximum amount set according to family size, which includes dependent children, or the type of accommodation arrangement such as board and lodge.

In addition, each member of a benefit unit may be eligible to receive an amount to assist with the cost of a special diet for a medical condition or to cover the costs of the nutritional needs associated with pregnancy and breast-feeding.

ODSP also provides supplemental health care benefits such as drug and dental coverage, and assistance with the costs of vision care, medical transportation, diabetic supplies, assistive devices and mobility device repairs and batteries.

Employment Supports provide employment-related goods and services, such as job placement assistance and job retention supports, to help people with disabilities find and keep jobs. Services are provided through a network of community-based services providers. Participation in Employment Supports is voluntary. A person does not need to be receiving income support to qualify for the Employment Supports program.

Chapter 8 – Ontario – Ontario Disability Support Program

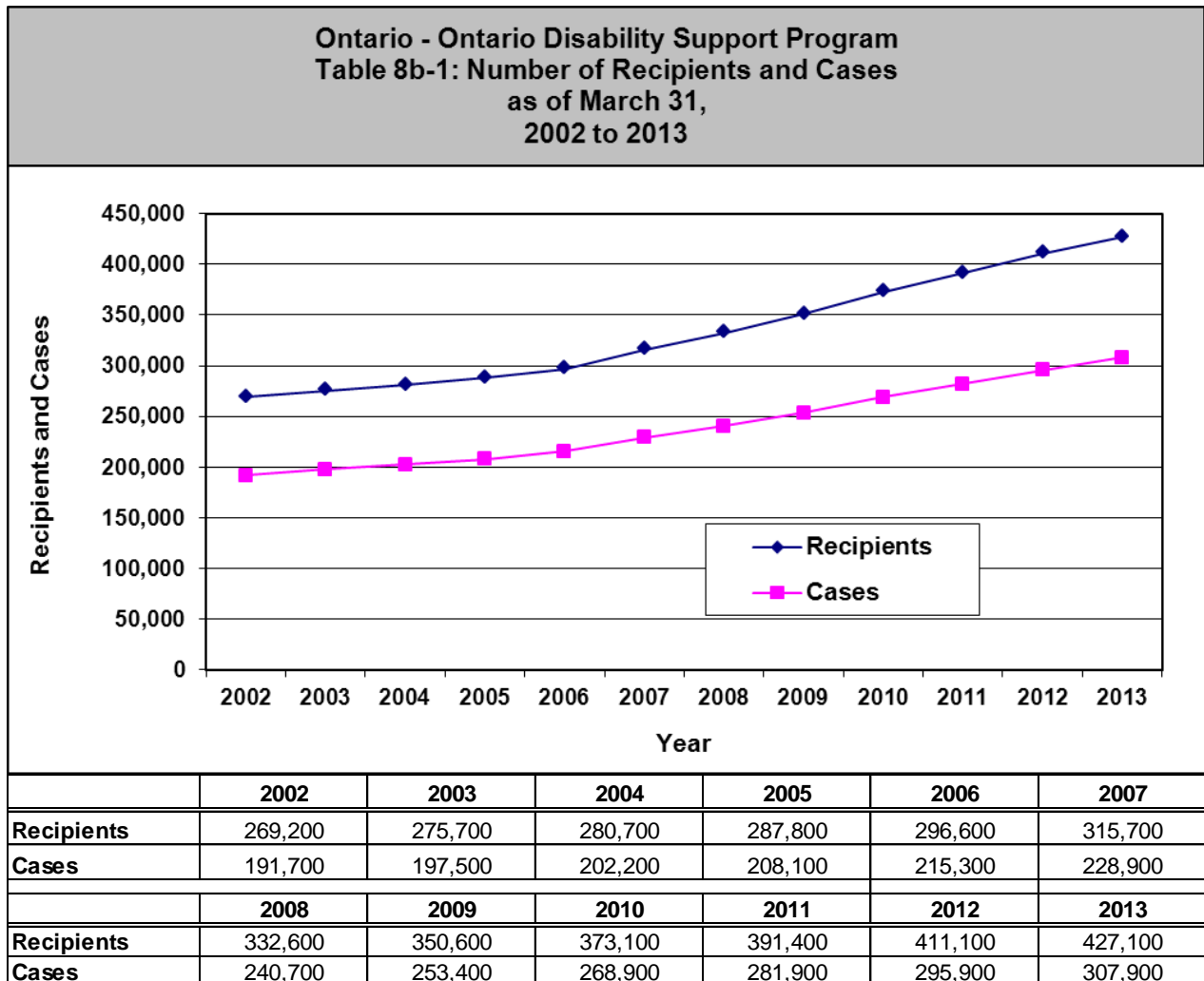
As a condition of eligibility, all adults members of an ODSP benefit unit who do not have a disability, and who do not meet the criteria for non-referral, are referred to Ontario Works to receive employment assistance to help them become and stay employed. ODSP recipients with disabilities may also voluntarily participate in Ontario Works employment assistance.

More Information

For more information, please consult the Ontario Ministry of Community and Social Services Web site at: www.mcsc.gov.on.ca/en/mcss/programs/social/odsp/index.aspx.

STATISTICS

Recipients and Cases



Chapter 8 – Ontario – Ontario Disability Support Program

Cases by Reason of Assistance

Ontario - Ontario Disability Support Program Table 8b-2: Number and Percentage of Cases by Reason for Assistance as of March 31										
Reason for Assistance	2009		2010		2011		2012		2013	
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
Disability ^a	246,500	97%	262,000	97%	275,000	98%	288,900	98%	301,000	98%
Age 65 and over	5,200	2%	5,200	2%	5,300	2%	5,300	2%	5,300	2%
Other	1,700	1%	1,700	1%	1,700	1%	1,700	1%	1,600	1%
Total	253,400	100%	268,900	100%	281,900	100%	295,900	100%	307,900	100%

a. "Disability" is defined as a substantial physical or mental impairment that is continuous or recurrent and expected to last one year or more. The impairment must substantially restrict the person in one or more activities of daily living.
Note: Totals may not add due to rounding.

Recipients by Family Type

Ontario - Ontario Disability Support Program Table 8b-3: Number and Percentage of Recipients by Family Type as of March 31											
Family Type		2009		2010		2011		2012		2013	
		#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
Adults											
Single	Cases	196,100	56%	207,700	56%	218,000	56%	229,000	56%	238,900	56%
Couple, no dependants	Cases	21,200	12%	22,100	12%	22,800	12%	23,500	11%	24,000	11%
	Spouses	21,200		22,100		22,800		23,500		24,000	
Single parent	Cases	21,600	8%	23,300	8%	24,700	8%	26,000	9%	27,000	9%
	Dependants 18+ ^a	6,100		7,300		8,400		9,400		10,100	
Couple with dependants	Cases	14,500	9%	15,700	10%	16,500	10%	17,400	10%	18,100	10%
	Spouses	14,500		15,700		16,500		17,400		18,100	
	Dependants 18+ ^a	3,900		4,700		5,400		6,000		6,300	
Total Adults		299,000	85%	318,700	85%	335,000	86%	352,200	86%	366,400	86%
Children											
Single parent	Children under 18	26,400	8%	27,800	7%	28,800	7%	30,000	7%	30,800	7%
Couple with dependants	Children under 18	25,200	7%	26,700	7%	27,700	7%	28,900	7%	29,900	7%
Total Children		51,600	15%	54,500	15%	56,500	14%	58,900	14%	60,700	14%
Total Recipients		350,600	100%	373,100	100%	391,400	100%	411,100	100%	427,100	100%

a. "Dependants 18 and over" are categorized as dependent adults, other than spouses.
Note: Totals may not add due to rounding.

Cases by Age of Head

Ontario - Ontario Disability Support Program Table 8b-4: Number of Cases by Age of Head as of March 31					
Age of Head	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
<20	4,800	5,400	5,600	5,900	5,900
20-24	15,800	17,300	18,700	20,100	21,700
25-29	16,800	18,300	19,800	21,500	22,900
30-34	18,000	19,500	20,400	21,600	22,900
35-39	21,800	22,500	23,100	24,000	24,900
40-44	29,100	29,200	29,300	29,900	30,300
45-49	38,400	40,400	41,200	41,400	40,900
50-54	37,800	40,500	43,000	45,700	48,100
55-59	33,800	36,600	39,400	42,200	44,700
60-64	28,500	30,600	32,500	33,900	35,700
65+	8,600	8,700	9,000	9,600	9,800
Total	253,400	268,900	281,900	295,900	307,900

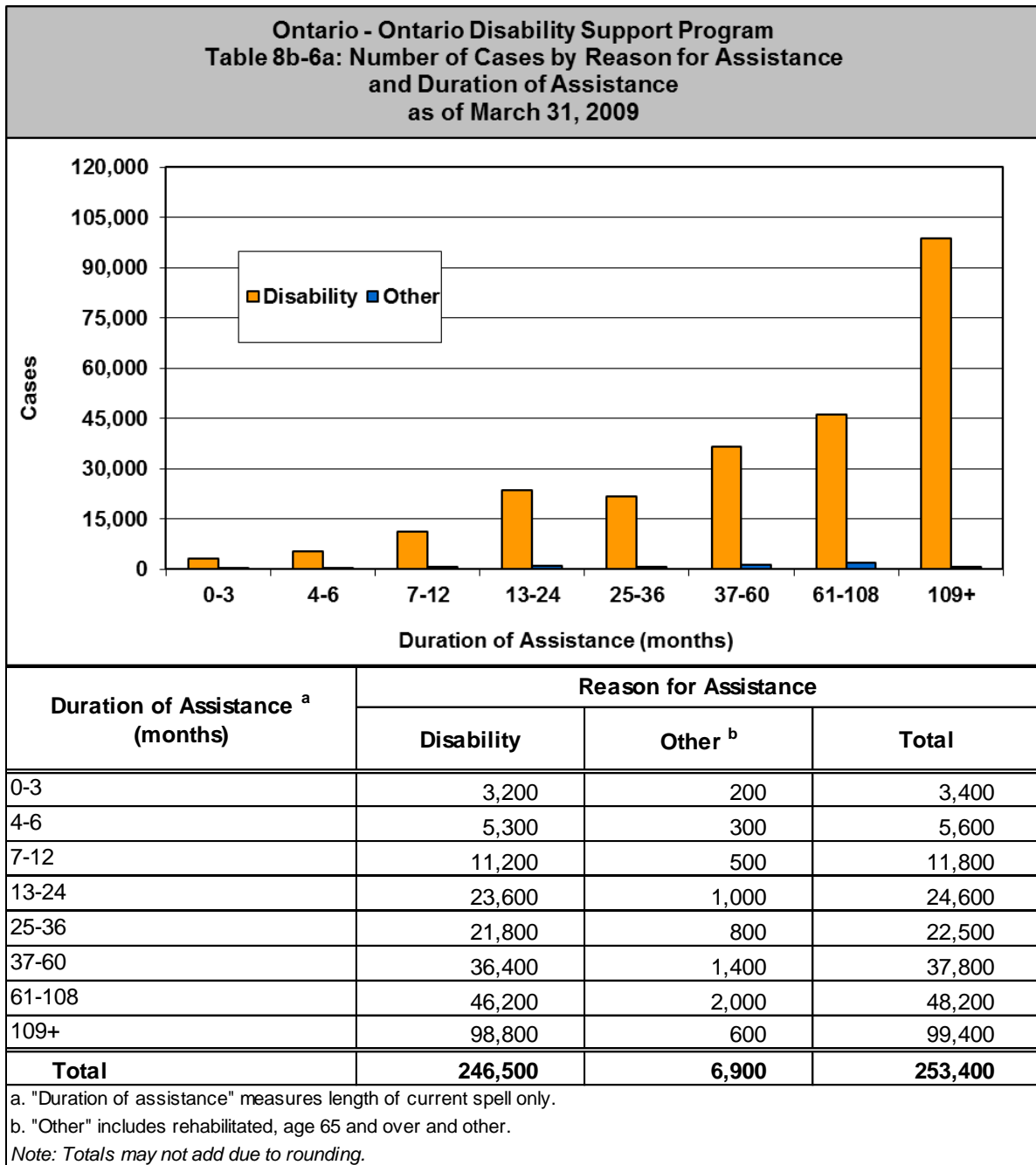
Note: Totals may not add due to rounding.

Cases by Education of Head

Ontario - Ontario Disability Support Program Table 8b-5: Number and Percentage of Cases by Education of Head as of March 31											
Education of Head ^a	2009		2010		2011		2012		2013		
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	
Primary	36,400	14%	36,400	14%	36,200	13%	36,000	12%	35,600	12%	
Secondary	153,100	60%	164,800	61%	175,100	62%	186,000	63%	195,500	63%	
Post secondary	44,500	18%	48,600	18%	52,100	18%	55,800	19%	59,000	19%	
Unknown	19,400	8%	17,500	7%	18,600	7%	18,200	6%	17,800	6%	
Total	253,400	100%	268,900	100%	281,900	100%	295,900	100%	307,900	100%	

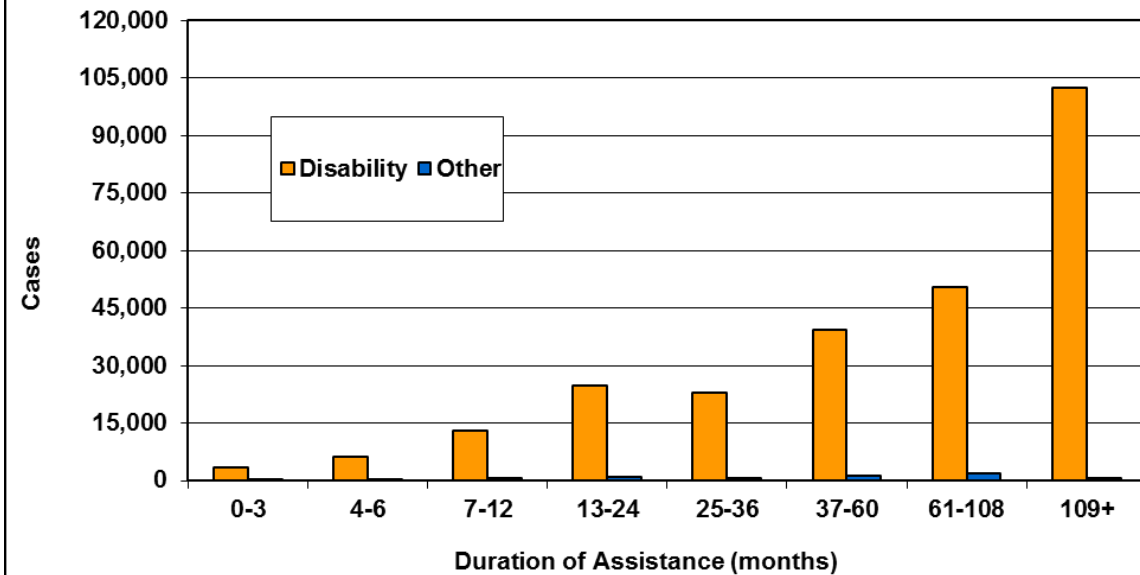
a. Education is defined as level of education attained as of date of application.
Note: Totals may not add due to rounding.

Cases by Reason for Assistance and Duration of Assistance



Chapter 8 – Ontario – Ontario Disability Support Program

Ontario - Ontario Disability Support Program
Table 8b-6b: Number of Cases by Reason for Assistance
and Duration of Assistance
as of March 31, 2010



Duration of Assistance ^a (months)	Reason for Assistance		
	Disability	Other ^b	Total
0-3	3,500	200	3,700
4-6	6,100	300	6,400
7-12	13,000	500	13,600
13-24	24,700	1,000	25,700
25-36	22,800	800	23,700
37-60	39,200	1,300	40,500
61-108	50,300	2,000	52,200
109+	102,300	600	103,000
Total	262,000	6,900	268,900

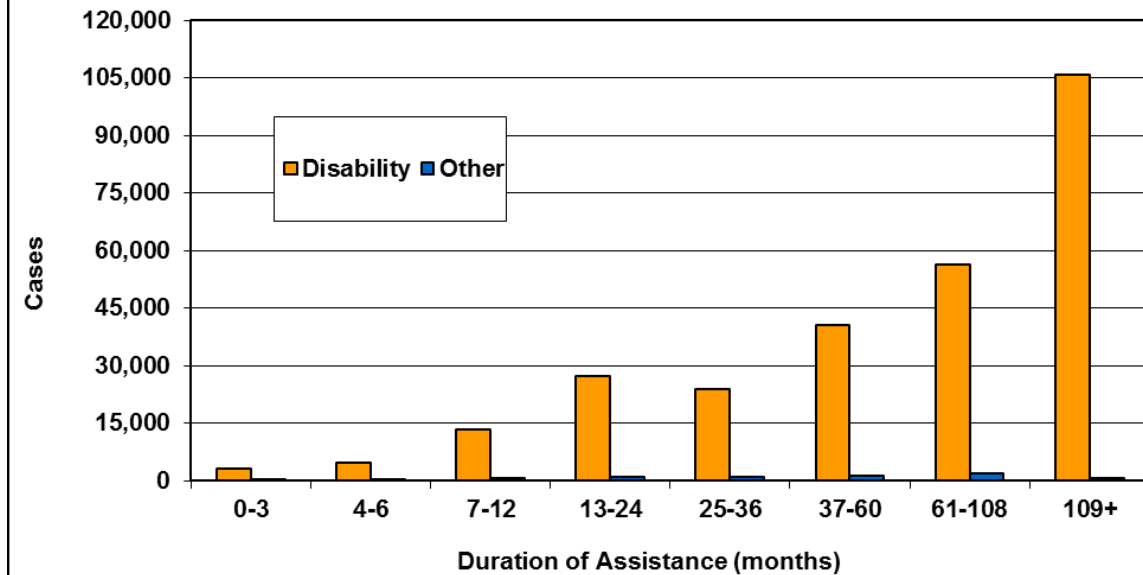
a. "Duration of assistance" measures length of current spell only.

b. "Other" includes rehabilitated, age 65 and over and other.

Note: Totals may not add due to rounding.

Chapter 8 – Ontario – Ontario Disability Support Program

Ontario - Ontario Disability Support Program
Table 8b-6c: Number of Cases by Reason for Assistance
and Duration of Assistance
as of March 31, 2011



Duration of Assistance ^a (months)	Reason for Assistance		
	Disability	Other ^b	Total
0-3	3,100	200	3,300
4-6	4,700	300	5,000
7-12	13,300	600	13,900
13-24	27,400	1,000	28,400
25-36	23,800	900	24,600
37-60	40,700	1,300	42,000
61-108	56,400	1,900	58,300
109+	105,700	700	106,400
Total	275,000	7,000	281,900

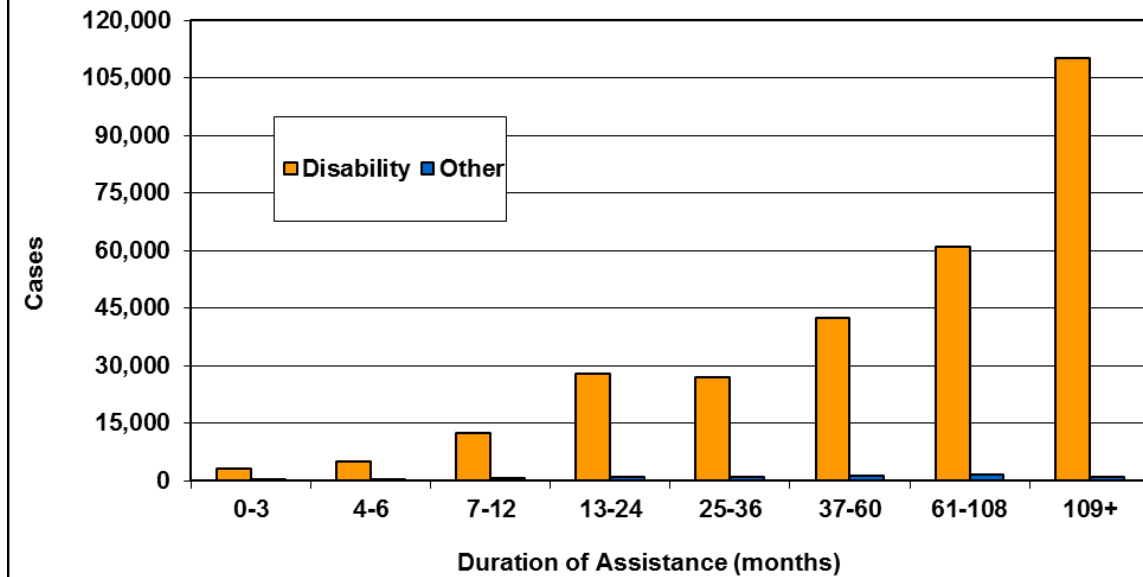
a. "Duration of assistance" measures length of current spell only.

b. "Other" includes rehabilitated, age 65 and over and other.

Note: Totals may not add due to rounding.

Chapter 8 – Ontario – Ontario Disability Support Program

Ontario - Ontario Disability Support Program
Table 8b-6d: Number of Cases by Reason for Assistance
and Duration of Assistance
as of March 31, 2012



Duration of Assistance ^a (months)	Reason for Assistance		
	Disability	Other ^b	Total
0-3	3,100	300	3,300
4-6	4,900	300	5,300
7-12	12,500	600	13,100
13-24	28,000	1,000	29,000
25-36	26,800	900	27,600
37-60	42,500	1,300	43,800
61-108	60,900	1,700	62,600
109+	110,300	900	111,200
Total	288,900	7,000	295,900

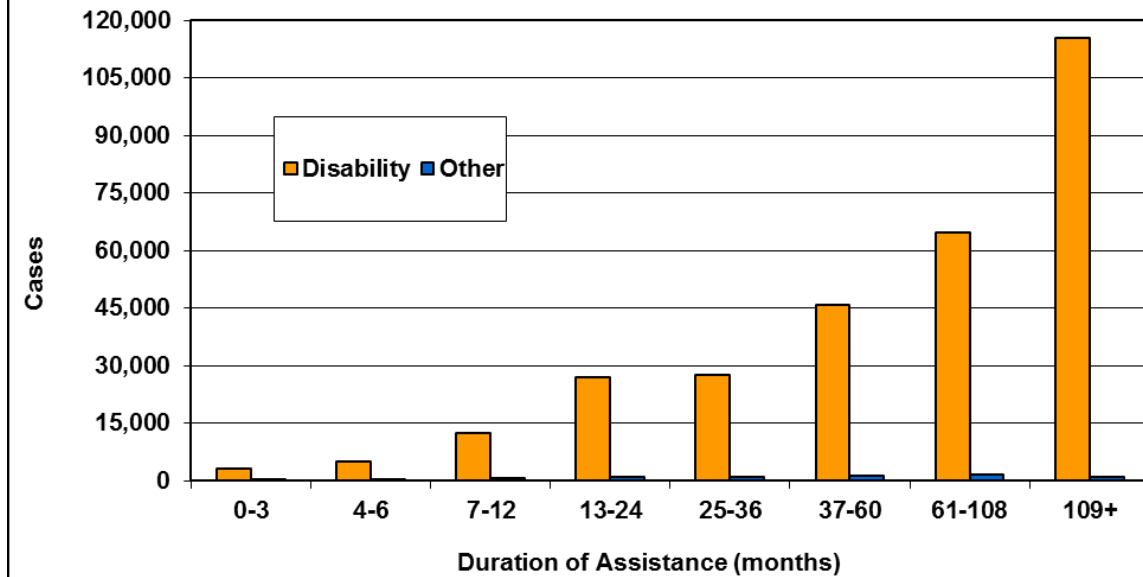
a. "Duration of assistance" measures length of current spell only.

b. "Other" includes rehabilitated, age 65 and over and other.

Note: Totals may not add due to rounding.

Chapter 8 – Ontario – Ontario Disability Support Program

Ontario - Ontario Disability Support Program
Table 8b-6e: Number of Cases by Reason for Assistance
and Duration of Assistance
as of March 31, 2013



Duration of Assistance ^a (months)	Reason for Assistance		
	Disability	Other ^b	Total
0-3	3,100	200	3,300
4-6	5,000	300	5,300
7-12	12,400	600	13,000
13-24	26,800	1,100	27,900
25-36	27,600	900	28,500
37-60	45,900	1,400	47,300
61-108	64,700	1,600	66,300
109+	115,400	900	116,300
Total	301,000	6,900	307,900

a. "Duration of assistance" measures length of current spell only.

b. "Other" includes rehabilitated, age 65 and over and other.

Note: Totals may not add due to rounding.



Chapter 9 – Manitoba

Employment and Income Assistance

In Manitoba, the provincial social assistance program is known as Employment and Income Assistance (EIA). The *Employment and Income Assistance Act* and its Regulation govern Manitoba's Employment and Income Assistance program.

Employment and Income Assistance provides basic benefits to both adults and children.

Service Delivery

The Department of Jobs and the Economy¹⁵ is responsible for the policy and oversight of the Employment and Income Assistance program, and the Department of Family Services delivers the program to adults and children within the province, on behalf of Jobs and the Economy.

Eligibility

General

In order to be eligible for the Employment and Income Assistance program, applicants must meet the general eligibility requirements outlined in the "Social Assistance Overview" in this report.

Liquid Assets

The last increase to EIA liquid asset exemption levels came into effect January 2009. Clients are allowed the following liquid assets at the time of application and after enrolment:

¹⁵ The Department of Family Services and Housing was renamed to the Department of Family Services and Consumer Affairs in November 2009. In October 2013, it became the Department of Family Services. Employment and Income Assistance was transferred to the Department of Entrepreneurship, Training and Trade in January 2012, which was renamed the Department of Jobs and the Economy in October 2013.

Chapter 9 – Manitoba – Employment and Income Assistance

Manitoba - Liquid Asset Exemptions March 2013			
	Disabilities	Employable	Other ^a
Single	\$4,000	\$4,000	\$4,000
Childless Couple	\$8,000	\$8,000	\$8,000
Two-Parent Family	\$8,000 plus \$4,000 for each dependent child up to a maximum of \$16,000.	\$8,000 plus \$4,000 for each dependent child up to a maximum of \$16,000.	\$8,000 plus \$4,000 for each dependent child up to a maximum of \$16,000.

a. Includes single parents and aged persons.

Earnings Exemptions

Employment and Income Assistance program clients are eligible for the following monthly exemptions on earned income¹⁶:

Manitoba - Earnings Exemptions ^a March 2013			
Clients without Disabilities ^b	Clients with Disabilities ^c	Single Parents without Disabilities	Single Parents with Disabilities
\$200 plus 30% of the net remainder	\$200 plus 30% of the net remainder	\$200 plus 30% of the net remainder	\$200 plus 30% of the net remainder

a. Earnings exemptions apply to each employed person in the household. The earnings of children who are in full-time attendance at an approved educational institution are totally exempt.
b. Able-bodied employable persons (general assistance)
c. Persons with disabilities and aged persons who are not single parents.

Benefits

Basic assistance consists of a basic allowance and a shelter allowance. The basic allowance covers the cost of food and clothing, as well as personal and household needs. Maximum basic allowance rates are based on the provision of a shelter payment, the household's composition, as well as the number of children in the household and their ages. Maximum shelter allowance rates are based on the number of persons in the household (including children).

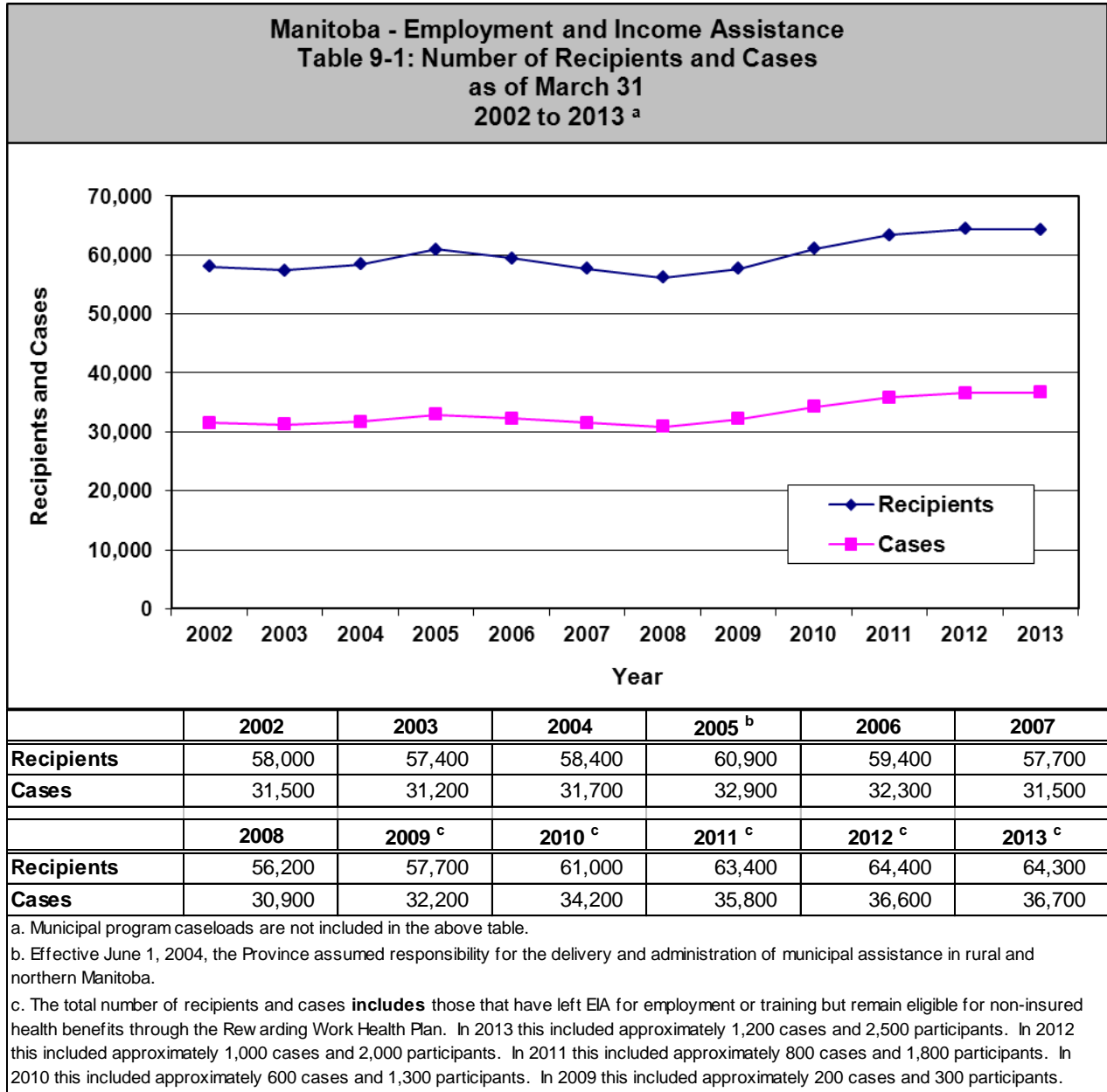
More Information

For more information, please consult the Manitoba Department of Jobs and the Economy Web site at: www.gov.mb.ca/jec/.

¹⁶ Applicants and new clients are eligible only for the basic exemption (\$200). Clients are eligible for the additional percentage after receiving Employment and Income Assistance for one month.

STATISTICS

Recipients and Cases



Cases by Reason for Assistance

Manitoba - Employment and Income Assistance										
Table 9-2: Number and Percentage of Cases by Reason for Assistance as of March 31										
Reason for Assistance	2009		2010		2011		2012		2013	
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
Unemployed	5,700	18%	6,600	19%	6,500	18%	7,000	19%	7,300	20%
Disability	18,300	57%	19,100	56%	20,500	57%	20,700	57%	20,500	56%
Sole support parent	7,900	25%	8,300	24%	8,600	24%	8,700	24%	8,700	24%
Other ^a	200	1%	200	1%	200	1%	200	1%	200	1%
Total	32,200	100%	34,200	100%	35,800	100%	36,600	100%	36,700	100%

a. "Other" includes aged, children under age 18 who head their own household, children whose parents are unable to support them and who live in a household not in receipt of income assistance, persons requiring the protection of a crisis facility, and persons granted eligibility as a special case under the discretion of the Minister.

Note: Totals may not add due to rounding.

Recipients by Family Type

Manitoba - Employment and Income Assistance										
Table 9-3: Number and Percentage of Recipients by Family Type as of March 31										
Family Type	2009		2010		2011		2012		2013	
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
Adults - Single	20,400	35%	21,800	36%	23,000	36%	23,700	37%	23,900	37%
Adults - Couple, no dependants	1,900	3%	2,100	3%	2,100	3%	2,200	3%	2,300	4%
Adults - Single parent	9,200	16%	9,600	16%	9,800	15%	10,100	16%	9,900	15%
Adults - Couple with dependants	3,100	5%	3,400	6%	3,500	6%	3,400	5%	3,400	5%
Total Adults	34,500	60%	36,900	60%	38,400	61%	39,400	61%	39,500	61%
Children - Single parent	18,800	33%	19,600	32%	20,200	32%	20,300	32%	20,100	31%
Children - Couple with dependants	4,200	7%	4,500	7%	4,700	7%	4,600	7%	4,600	7%
Children - Head of household ^a	100	0%	100	0%	100	0%	100	0%	0	0%
Total Children	23,200	40%	24,200	40%	25,000	39%	25,000	39%	24,700	38%
Total Recipients	57,700	100%	61,000	100%	63,400	100%	64,400	100%	64,300	100%

a. "Children - Head of household" includes children under age 18 who head their own household, as well as children whose parents are unable to support them and who live in a household not in receipt of income assistance.

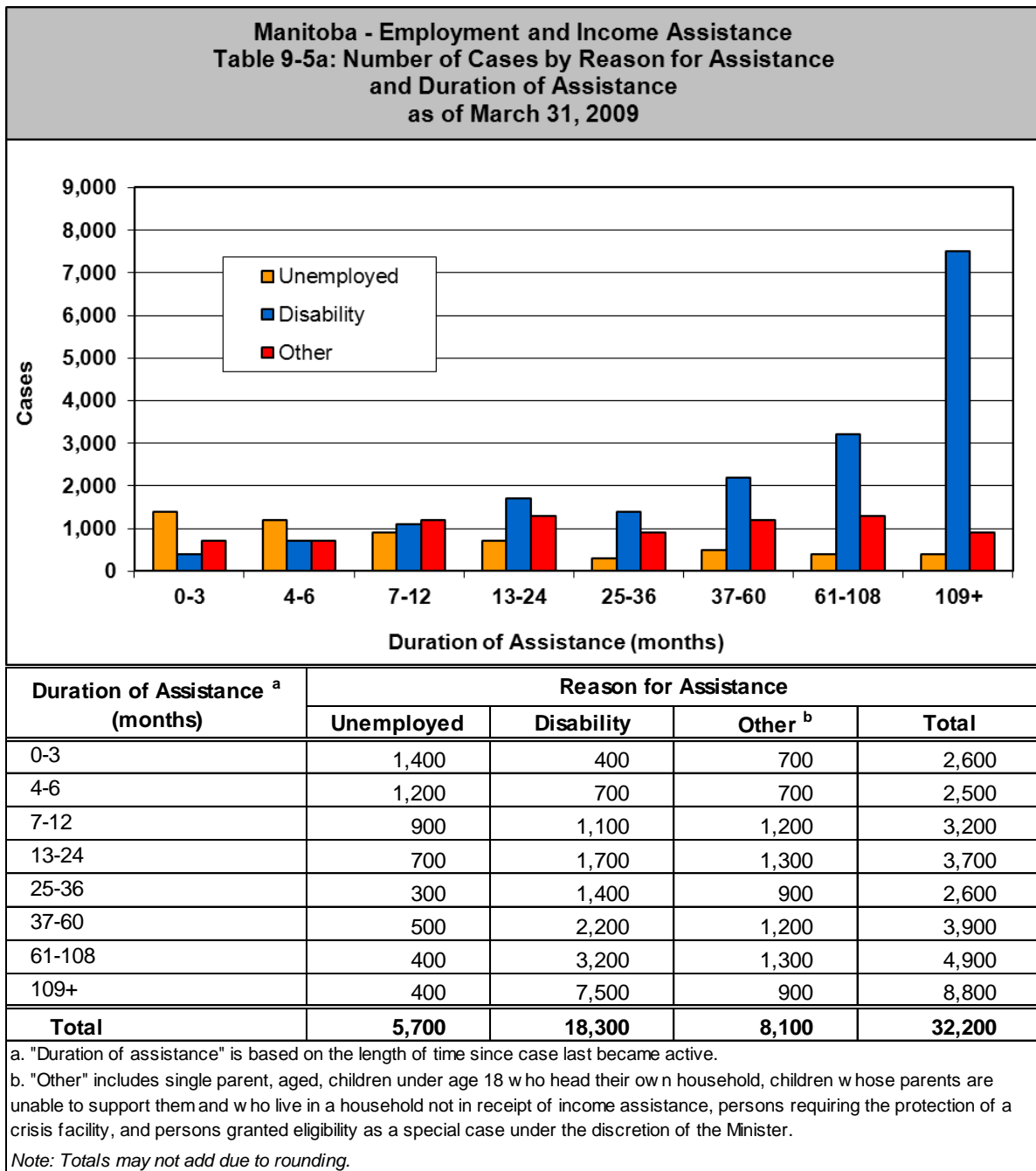
Note: Totals may not add due to rounding.

Cases by Age of Head

Manitoba - Employment and Income Assistance Table 9-4: Number of Cases by Age of Head as of March 31					
Age of Head	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
<20	1,300	1,500	1,500	1,600	1,600
20-24	4,100	4,400	4,800	5,000	5,000
25-29	4,000	4,300	4,500	4,500	4,500
30-34	3,500	3,800	4,000	4,200	4,200
35-39	3,600	3,700	3,800	3,700	3,800
40-44	3,500	3,600	3,700	3,700	3,700
45-49	3,700	3,900	4,000	4,000	3,800
50-54	3,300	3,500	3,700	3,800	3,800
55-59	2,800	3,000	3,200	3,400	3,400
60-64	2,200	2,300	2,400	2,500	2,600
65+	200	200	300	300	300
Total	32,200	34,200	35,800	36,600	36,700

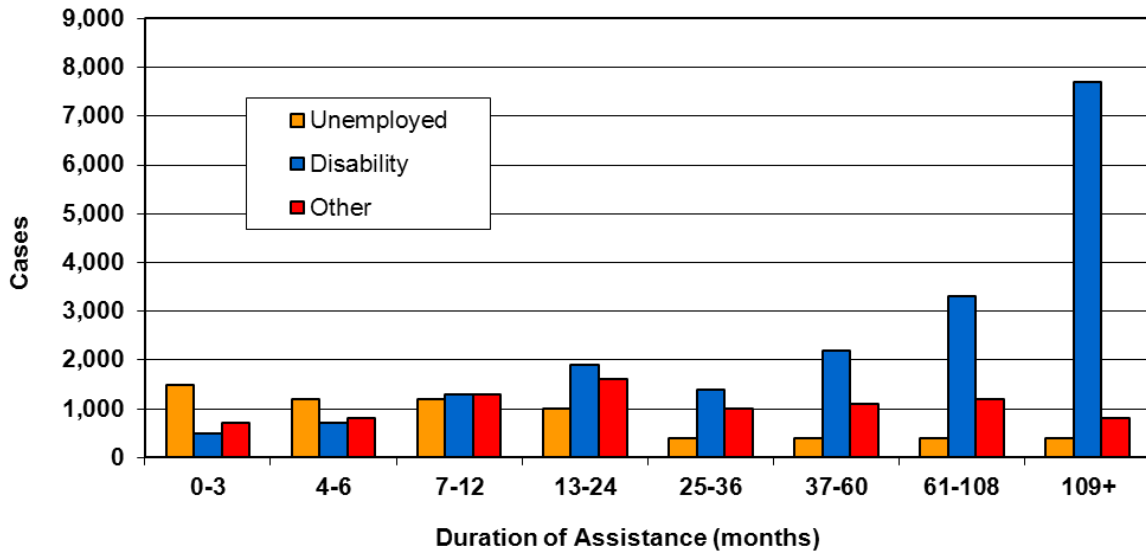
Note: Totals may not add due to rounding.

Cases by Reason for Assistance and Duration of Assistance



Chapter 9 – Manitoba – Employment and Income Assistance

Manitoba - Employment and Income Assistance
Table 9-5b: Number of Cases by Reason for Assistance
and Duration of Assistance
as of March 31, 2010



Duration of Assistance ^a (months)	Reason for Assistance			Total
	Unemployed	Disability	Other ^b	
0-3	1,500	500	700	2,700
4-6	1,200	700	800	2,700
7-12	1,200	1,300	1,300	3,800
13-24	1,000	1,900	1,600	4,500
25-36	400	1,400	1,000	2,800
37-60	400	2,200	1,100	3,800
61-108	400	3,300	1,200	5,000
109+	400	7,700	800	9,000
Total	6,600	19,100	8,500	34,200

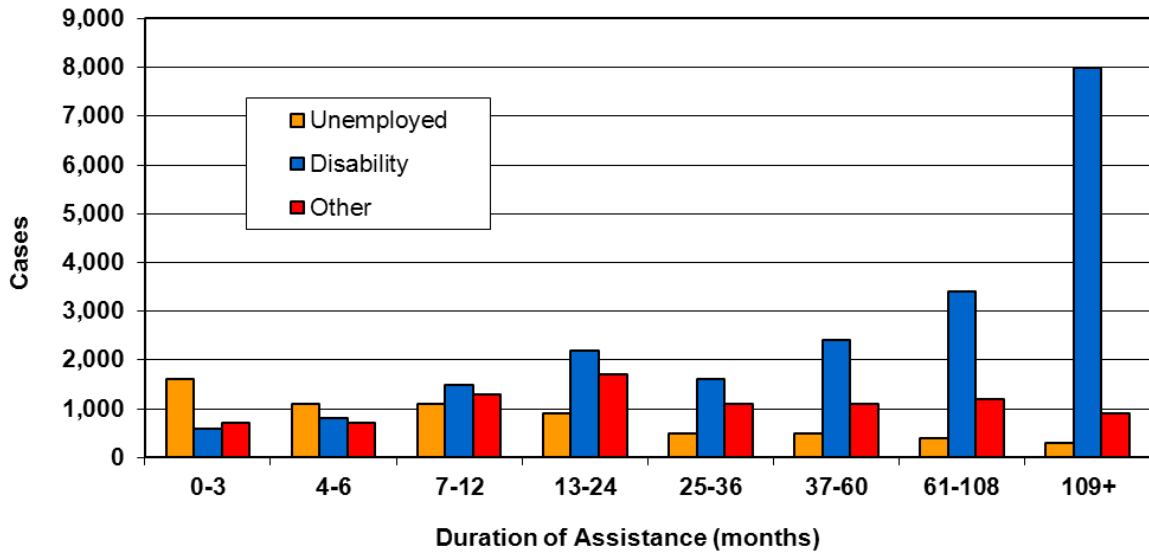
a. "Duration of assistance" is based on the length of time since case last became active.

b. "Other" includes single parent, aged, children under age 18 who head their own household, children whose parents are unable to support them and who live in a household not in receipt of income assistance, persons requiring the protection of a crisis facility, and persons granted eligibility as a special case under the discretion of the Minister.

Note: Totals may not add due to rounding.

Chapter 9 – Manitoba – Employment and Income Assistance

Manitoba - Employment and Income Assistance
Table 9-5c: Number of Cases by Reason for Assistance
and Duration of Assistance
as of March 31, 2011



Duration of Assistance ^a (months)	Reason for Assistance			Total
	Unemployed	Disability	Other ^b	
0-3	1,600	600	700	3,000
4-6	1,100	800	700	2,700
7-12	1,100	1,500	1,300	3,800
13-24	900	2,200	1,700	4,900
25-36	500	1,600	1,100	3,200
37-60	500	2,400	1,100	4,000
61-108	400	3,400	1,200	5,000
109+	300	8,000	900	9,200
Total	6,500	20,500	8,800	35,800

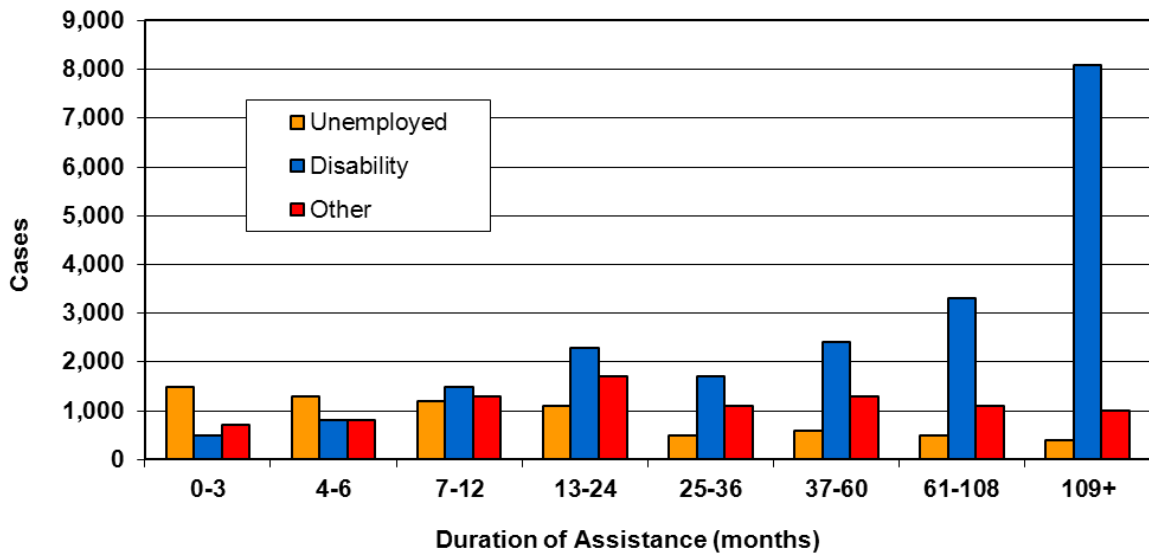
a. "Duration of assistance" is based on the length of time since case last became active.

b. "Other" includes single parent, aged, children under age 18 who head their own household, children whose parents are unable to support them and who live in a household not in receipt of income assistance, persons requiring the protection of a crisis facility, and persons granted eligibility as a special case under the discretion of the Minister.

Note: Totals may not add due to rounding.

Chapter 9 – Manitoba – Employment and Income Assistance

Manitoba - Employment and Income Assistance
Table 9-5d: Number of Cases by Reason for Assistance
and Duration of Assistance
as of March 31, 2012



Duration of Assistance ^a (months)	Reason for Assistance			Total
	Unemployed	Disability	Other ^b	
0-3	1,500	500	700	2,800
4-6	1,300	800	800	2,800
7-12	1,200	1,500	1,300	4,000
13-24	1,100	2,300	1,700	5,100
25-36	500	1,700	1,100	3,300
37-60	600	2,400	1,300	4,300
61-108	500	3,300	1,100	4,900
109+	400	8,100	1,000	9,400
Total	7,000	20,700	9,000	36,600

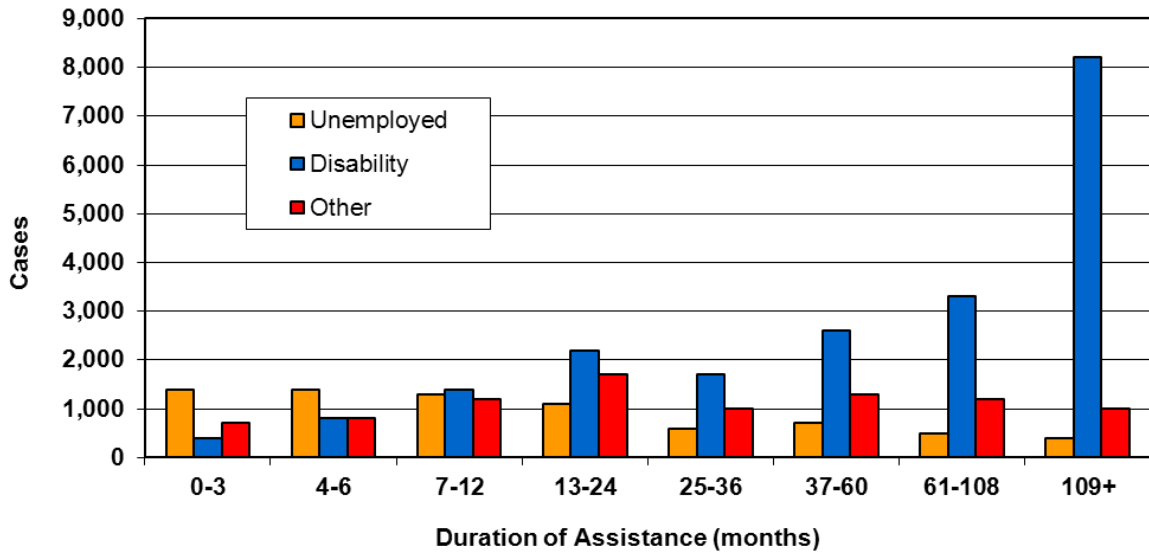
a. "Duration of assistance" is based on the length of time since case last became active.

b. "Other" includes single parent, aged, children under age 18 who head their own household, children whose parents are unable to support them and who live in a household not in receipt of income assistance, persons requiring the protection of a crisis facility, and persons granted eligibility as a special case under the discretion of the Minister.

Note: Totals may not add due to rounding.

Chapter 9 – Manitoba – Employment and Income Assistance

Manitoba - Employment and Income Assistance
Table 9-5e: Number of Cases by Reason for Assistance
and Duration of Assistance
as of March 31, 2013



Duration of Assistance ^a (months)	Reason for Assistance			Total
	Unemployed	Disability	Other ^b	
0-3	1,400	400	700	2,500
4-6	1,400	800	800	2,900
7-12	1,300	1,400	1,200	3,800
13-24	1,100	2,200	1,700	5,100
25-36	600	1,700	1,000	3,200
37-60	700	2,600	1,300	4,600
61-108	500	3,300	1,200	5,000
109+	400	8,200	1,000	9,500
Total	7,300	20,500	8,900	36,700

a. "Duration of assistance" is based on the length of time since case last became active.

b. "Other" includes single parent, aged, children under age 18 who head their own household, children whose parents are unable to support them and who live in a household not in receipt of income assistance, persons requiring the protection of a crisis facility, and persons granted eligibility as a special case under the discretion of the Minister.

Note: Totals may not add due to rounding.

Cases Reporting Income by Source of Income

Manitoba - Employment and Income Assistance Table 9-6: Number and Percentage of Cases Reporting Income, by Source of Income, as of March 31										
Source of Income	2009		2010		2011		2012		2013	
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
Employment	3,400	40%	3,500	40%	3,400	39%	3,300	39%	3,200	38%
Government transfers	2,900	35%	3,100	36%	3,100	36%	3,100	36%	3,200	38%
Support payments ^a	1,400	17%	1,400	16%	1,500	17%	1,500	18%	1,500	18%
Employment Insurance	200	2%	200	2%	200	2%	100	1%	100	1%
Other ^b	500	6%	500	6%	500	6%	500	6%	500	6%
Total^c (includes double-counting)	8,400	100%	8,700	100%	8,700	100%	8,500	100%	8,500	100%

a. "Support payments" do not include maintenance payments assigned directly to Employment and Income Assistance. There were an estimated 2,900 additional Employment and Income Assistance cases with maintenance payments in 2012/13 that are not reflected in the data.

b. "Other" includes training allowances and other income.

c. Total cases in these categories may include double-counting, since cases that have more than one source of income are counted for each source reported.

Note: Totals may not add due to rounding.

Manitoba - Employment and Income Assistance Table 9-7: Number of Cases Reporting Income as of March 31					
	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
Reporting Income	7,900	8,100	8,200	8,100	8,000
No Income	24,300	26,000	27,600	28,600	28,600
Total	32,200	34,200	35,800	36,600	36,700

Note: Totals may not add due to rounding.



Chapter 10 – Saskatchewan

Social Assistance Programs

In Saskatchewan, the provincial social assistance programs include the Saskatchewan Assistance Program (SAP), the Saskatchewan Assured Income for Disability (SAID), and the Transitional Employment Allowance (TEA). *The Saskatchewan Assistance Act*, and *The Saskatchewan Assistance Regulations* govern the Saskatchewan Assistance Program. *The Saskatchewan Assistance Act* and *The Transitional Employment Allowance Regulations* govern the Transitional Employment Allowance. *The Saskatchewan Assistance Act* and *The Saskatchewan Assured Income for Disability Regulations, 2012* govern the Saskatchewan Assured Income for Disability program.

The Saskatchewan Assistance Program, the Saskatchewan Assured Income for Disability, and the Transitional Employment Allowance provide basic benefits to adults only. Children's basic benefits are provided through the Canada Child Tax Benefit and the National Child Benefit Supplement.

In addition to the provincial social assistance programs listed above, there is a suite of supplement programs available to provide additional financial assistance for families and individuals. These supplement programs include the Saskatchewan Rental Housing Supplement, the Saskatchewan Employment Supplement, the Child Care Subsidy, the Seniors Income Plan, and the Personal Care Home Benefit.

Service Delivery

The Ministry of Social Services is responsible for the delivery of the Saskatchewan Assistance Program to adults within the province.

Eligibility

General

In order to be eligible for the Saskatchewan Assistance Program, applicants must meet the general eligibility requirements outlined in the "Social Assistance Overview" in this report.

Liquid Assets

At the time of application, applicants' liquid assets may not exceed the following allowable limits.

Chapter 10 – Saskatchewan – Social Assistance Programs

Saskatchewan - Liquid Asset Exemptions March 2013	
Single	\$1,500
Family	\$3,000 for a recipient and one dependant plus \$500 for each additional dependant

Earnings Exemptions¹⁷

Once an application for assistance has been approved, Saskatchewan Assistance Program clients are eligible for the following monthly exemptions on earned income:

Saskatchewan - Earnings Exemptions March 2013		
	Clients without Disabilities	Clients with Disabilities
Single	\$50 plus 25% of the remaining income, to a maximum of \$200.	\$200 plus 25% of the remaining income, to a maximum of \$325.
Childless Couple	\$75 plus 25% of the remaining income, to a maximum of \$275.	\$250 plus 25% of the remaining income, to a maximum of \$425.
Single Parent Family	\$125	\$200
Two-Parent Family	\$125	\$200

Note: The Earnings Exemptions for clients with disabilities were increased in February 2011 for singles and childless couples.
 For singles with disabilities (base amount doubled from \$100 to \$200 with the maximum increasing from \$225 to \$325)
 For childless couples with disabilities (base amount doubled from \$125 to \$250 with the maximum increasing from \$300 to \$425)

Fully employable clients are not eligible for an earnings exemption for the first three months. Partially employable or unemployable clients are eligible for an earnings exemption from the date of eligibility.

Benefits

Basic assistance under the Saskatchewan Assistance Program consists of an adult basic allowance, a shelter allowance, and utility allowances. The adult basic allowance covers the cost of food, clothing, and personal and household items. Maximum shelter allowance rates are based on household size (including children) and geographic location¹⁸. Utility allowances (electricity, home heating and water) are based on actual costs.

Saskatchewan Assured Income for Disability

¹⁷ These exemptions do not apply to farmers, self-employed clients or, for the first three months on assistance, to those Saskatchewan Assistance Program clients who are capable of full-time work.

¹⁸ Effective May 1, 2005, a four-tier scale is being used.

Chapter 10 – Saskatchewan – Social Assistance Programs

The Saskatchewan Assured Income for Disability (SAID) program was established effective October 1, 2009.

Individuals who meet the SAP financial eligibility are assessed using a disability impact assessment process to determine eligibility for the SAID program. The SAID assessment, developed jointly by the Ministry and the disability community, is used to assess the impact of disability on individuals by assessing functional abilities, limitations and the supports used to perform activities of daily living and to participate in the community.

SAID benefits provide:

- A Living Income Benefit, which is a flat-rate benefit that provides for accommodation, food, clothing, and other basic items;
- Disability needs including transportation, special clothing, and special dietary needs as required; and,
- Supplementary Health Benefits.

Transitional Employment Allowance

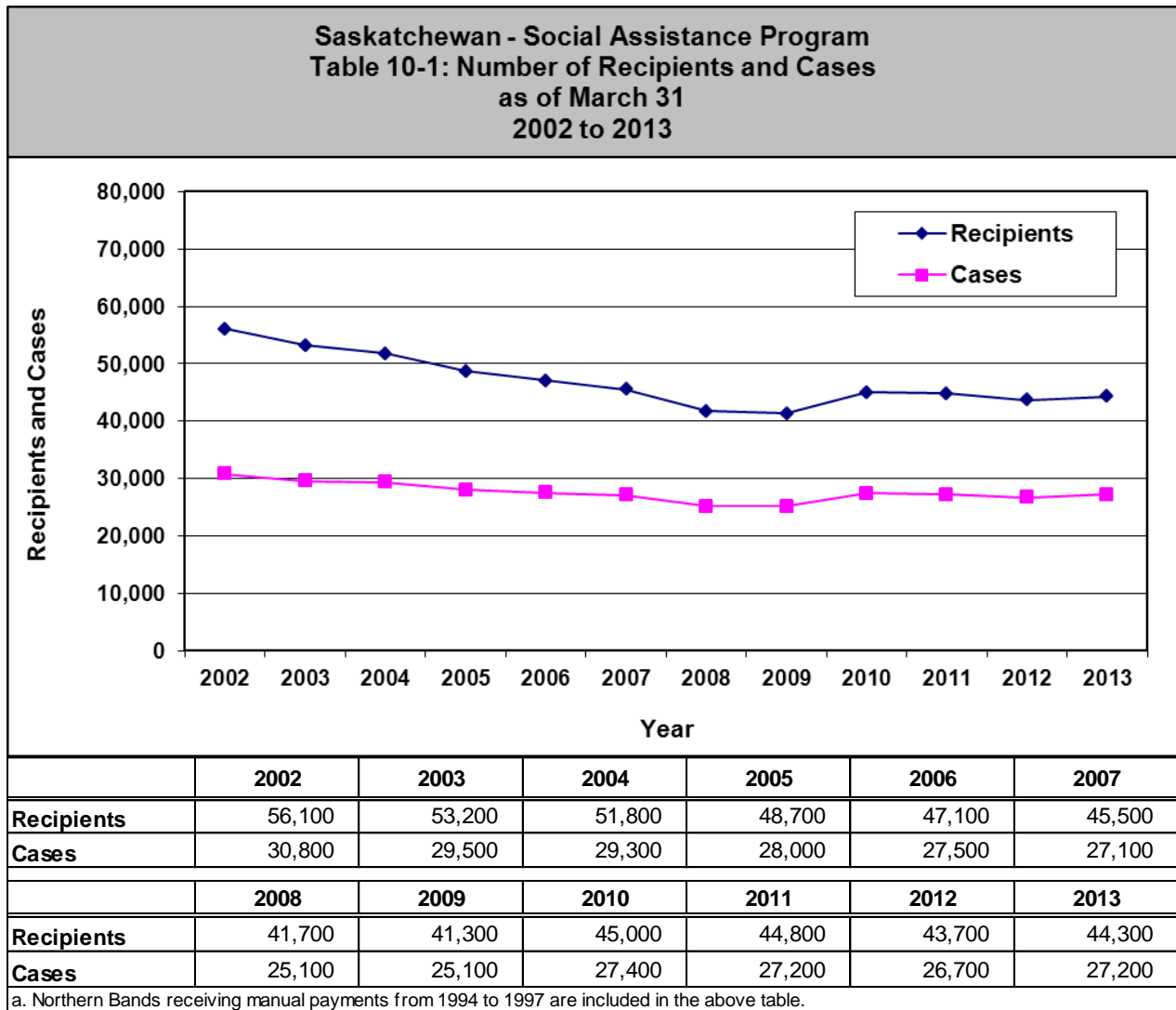
The Transitional Employment Allowance, introduced in 2003, provides short-term assistance for job-ready people while they seek work or participate in employment services. A flat-rate allowance is provided for basic needs, covering food, clothing, personal and household items, and shelter. Flat-rate allowances are also provided for utilities. Rates are based on household size and geographic location. A centralized, provincial contact centre administers the Transitional Employment Allowance.

More Information

For more information, please consult the Saskatchewan Ministry of Social Services Web site at: www.saskatchewan.ca/government/government-structure/ministries/social-services .

STATISTICS¹⁹

Recipients and Cases



¹⁹ The statistics represent the caseload for the Saskatchewan Assistance Program, the Saskatchewan Assured Income for Disability program, and the Transitional Employment Allowance program.

Cases by Reason for Assistance

Saskatchewan - Social Assistance Programs Table 10-2: Number and Percentage of Cases by Reason for Assistance as of March 31										
Reason for Assistance	2009		2010		2011		2012		2013	
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
Employed ^a	700	3%	700	3%	600	2%	500	2%	500	2%
Unemployed ^b	3,300	13%	4,100	15%	3,800	14%	3,900	15%	3,800	14%
Health ^c	18,100	72%	19,500	71%	20,200	74%	19,900	75%	20,700	76%
Sole support parent ^d	200	1%	200	1%	200	1%	200	1%	200	1%
Student ^e	600	2%	700	3%	500	2%	400	1%	400	1%
Other ^f	2,200	9%	2,300	8%	2,000	7%	1,700	6%	1,700	6%
Total	25,100	100%	27,400	100%	27,200	100%	26,700	100%	27,200	100%

a. "Employed" includes clients expecting income and those receiving an income supplement.
 b. "Unemployed" includes clients who quit working, or were fired, laid off, etc.
 c. "Health" includes mental and physical health restrictions.
 d. "Sole support parent" includes single parents receiving assistance for child care needs and loss of spousal support.
 e. "Student" includes clients attending school and post-secondary students with no jobs.
 f. "Other" includes all reasons for assistance not named in the above categories, including: pending appeal and refugee claimant, as well as miscellaneous codes no longer in use.
 Note: Totals may not add due to rounding.

Recipients by Family Type

Saskatchewan - Social Assistance Programs Table 10-3: Number and Percentage of Recipients by Family Type as of March 31										
Family Type	2009		2010		2011		2012		2013	
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
Adults - Single	17,300	42%	19,100	42%	18,800	42%	18,600	43%	19,100	43%
Adults - Couple, no dependants	1,600	4%	1,800	4%	1,800	4%	1,800	4%	1,900	4%
Adults - Single parent	6,000	15%	6,400	14%	6,500	15%	6,300	14%	6,300	14%
Adults - Couple with dependants	1,800	4%	2,100	5%	2,000	4%	1,800	4%	1,900	4%
Total Adults	26,800	65%	29,400	65%	29,100	65%	28,500	65%	29,100	66%
Children - Single parent	12,300	30%	13,100	29%	13,200	29%	13,000	30%	12,800	29%
Children - Couple with dependants	2,200	5%	2,500	6%	2,500	6%	2,200	5%	2,300	5%
Total Children	14,500	35%	15,600	35%	15,700	35%	15,200	35%	15,100	34%
Total Recipients	41,300	100%	45,000	100%	44,800	100%	43,700	100%	44,300	100%

Note: Totals may not add due to rounding.

Cases by Age of Head

Saskatchewan - Social Assistance Programs Table 10-4: Number of Cases by Age of Head as of March 31					
Age of Head	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
<20	1,200	1,300	1,200	1,100	1,200
20-24	3,300	3,800	3,600	3,500	3,500
25-29	3,000	3,300	3,300	3,200	3,200
30-34	2,600	2,800	2,900	2,800	2,800
35-39	2,500	2,700	2,600	2,600	2,500
40-44	2,700	2,900	2,800	2,700	2,600
45-49	2,900	3,100	3,100	3,000	3,000
50-54	2,600	2,800	2,800	2,900	3,100
55-59	2,200	2,400	2,500	2,600	2,700
60-64	1,800	2,000	1,900	2,000	2,100
65+	300	400	400	400	500
Total	25,100	27,400	27,200	26,700	27,200

Note: Totals may not add due to rounding.

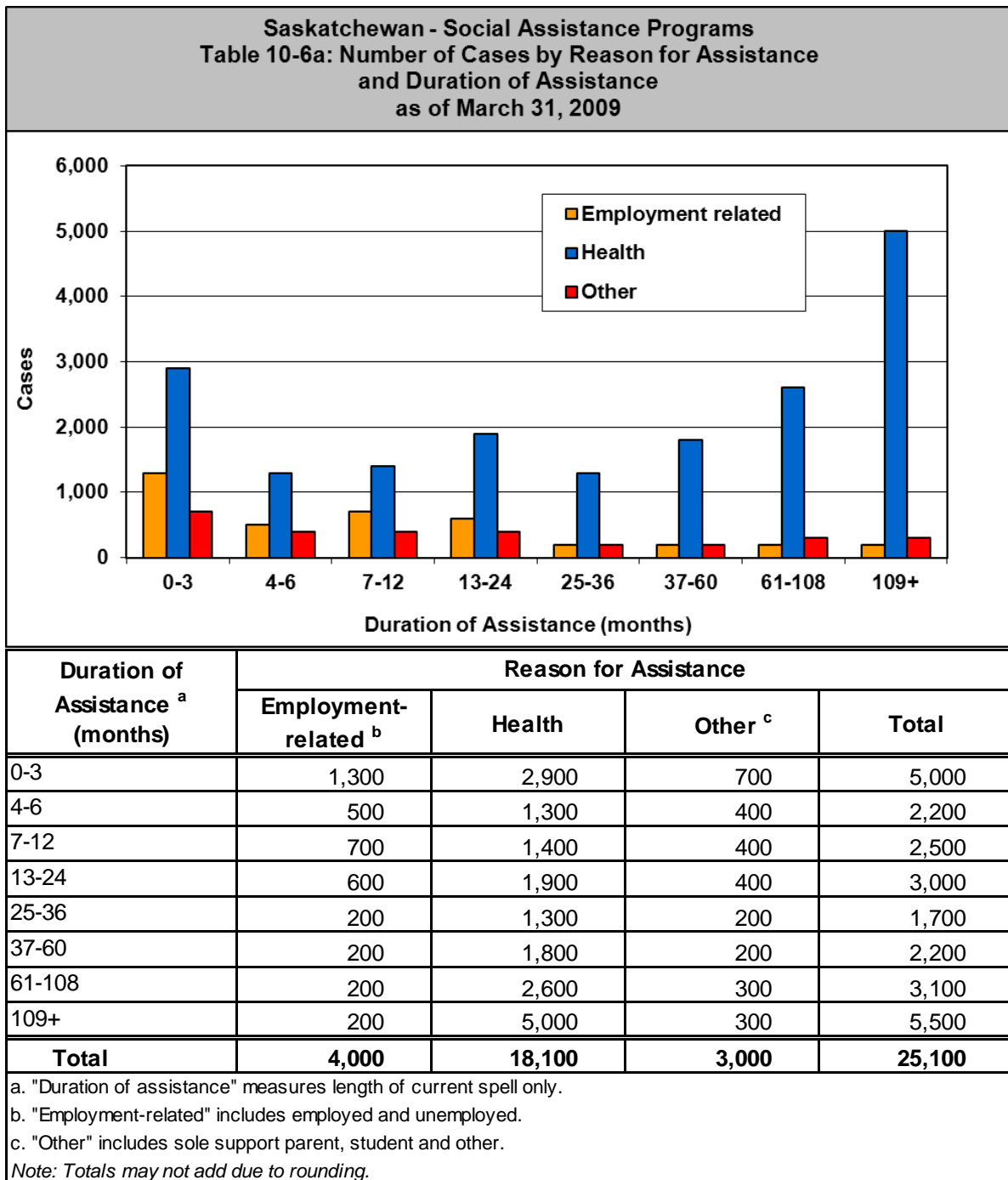
Cases by Education of Head

Saskatchewan - Social Assistance Programs Table 10-5: Number and Percentage of Cases by Education of Head as of March 31										
Education of Head ^a	2009		2010		2011		2012		2013	
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
Primary	5,200	21%	5,000	18%	4,800	18%	4,500	17%	4,400	16%
Secondary	13,600	54%	14,600	53%	14,200	52%	13,700	51%	13,900	51%
Post secondary ^b	700	3%	700	3%	700	3%	600	2%	600	2%
Unknown	5,600	22%	7,100	26%	7,500	28%	7,800	29%	8,300	31%
Total	25,100	100%	27,400	100%	27,200	100%	26,700	100%	27,200	100%

a. Education is defined as level of education attained as of date of application.
b. "Post secondary" includes community/technical college, university and other post secondary.

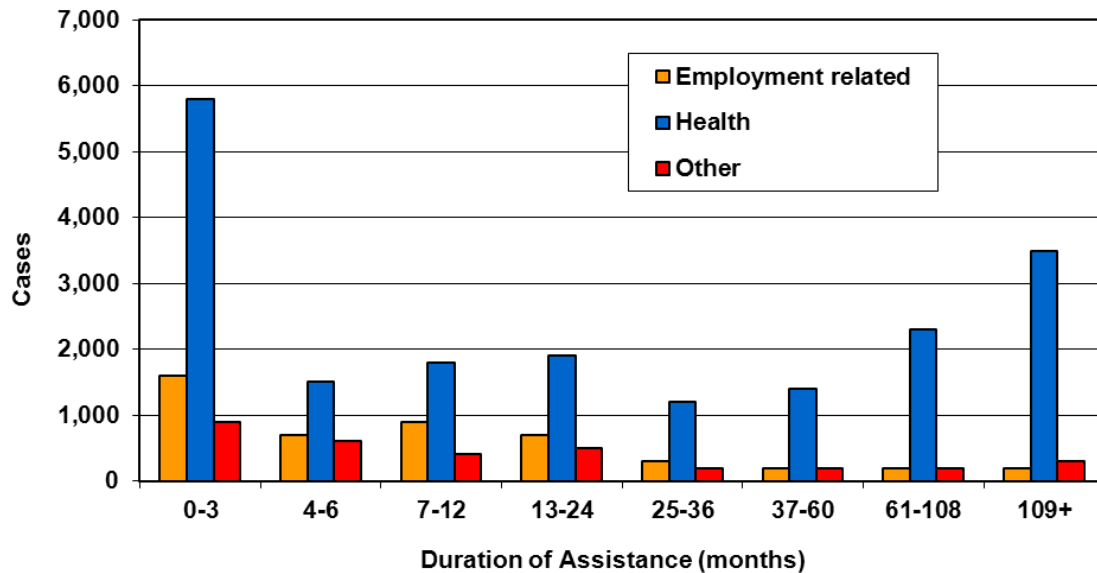
Note: Totals may not add due to rounding.

Cases by Reason for Assistance and Duration of Assistance



Chapter 10 – Saskatchewan – Social Assistance Programs

Saskatchewan - Social Assistance Programs
Table 10-6b: Number of Cases by Reason for Assistance
and Duration of Assistance
as of March 31, 2010



Duration of Assistance ^a (months)	Reason for Assistance			Total
	Employment-related ^b	Health	Other ^c	
0-3	1,600	5,800	900	8,200
4-6	700	1,500	600	2,800
7-12	900	1,800	400	3,100
13-24	700	1,900	500	3,100
25-36	300	1,200	200	1,800
37-60	200	1,400	200	1,700
61-108	200	2,300	200	2,800
109+	200	3,500	300	4,000
Total	4,700	19,500	3,200	27,400

a. "Duration of assistance" measures length of current spell only.

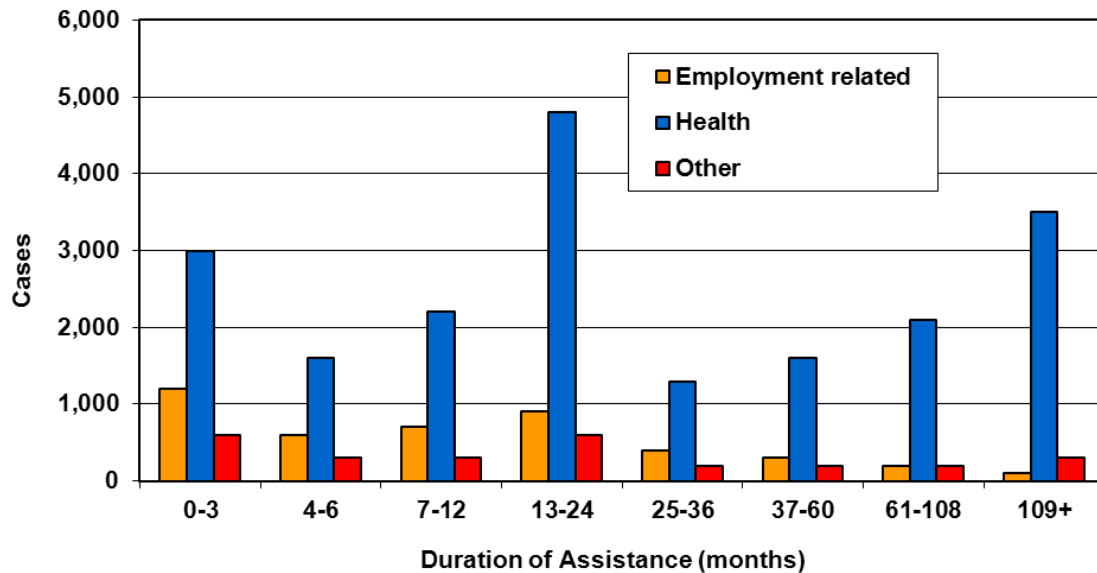
b. "Employment-related" includes employed and unemployed.

c. "Other" includes sole support parent, student and other.

Note: Totals may not add due to rounding.

Chapter 10 – Saskatchewan – Social Assistance Programs

Saskatchewan - Social Assistance Programs
Table 10-6c: Number of Cases by Reason for Assistance
and Duration of Assistance
as of March 31, 2011



Duration of Assistance ^a (months)	Reason for Assistance			Total
	Employment-related ^b	Health	Other ^c	
0-3	1,200	3,000	600	4,800
4-6	600	1,600	300	2,500
7-12	700	2,200	300	3,200
13-24	900	4,800	600	6,300
25-36	400	1,300	200	1,900
37-60	300	1,600	200	2,100
61-108	200	2,100	200	2,500
109+	100	3,500	300	3,900
Total	4,300	20,200	2,600	27,200

a. "Duration of assistance" measures length of current spell only.

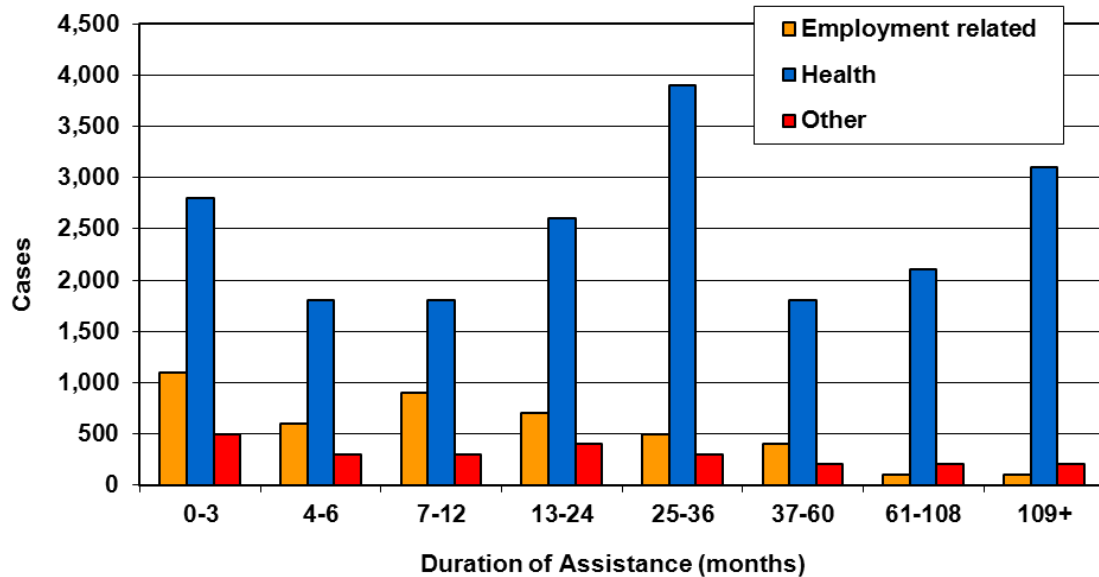
b. "Employment-related" includes employed and unemployed.

c. "Other" includes sole support parent, student and other.

Note: Totals may not add due to rounding.

Chapter 10 – Saskatchewan – Social Assistance Programs

Saskatchewan - Social Assistance Programs
Table 10-6d: Number of Cases by Reason for Assistance
and Duration of Assistance
as of March 31, 2012



Duration of Assistance ^a (months)	Reason for Assistance			Total
	Employment-related ^b	Health	Other ^c	
0-3	1,100	2,800	500	4,500
4-6	600	1,800	300	2,700
7-12	900	1,800	300	3,000
13-24	700	2,600	400	3,600
25-36	500	3,900	300	4,600
37-60	400	1,800	200	2,400
61-108	100	2,100	200	2,400
109+	100	3,100	200	3,500
Total	4,400	19,900	2,300	26,700

a. "Duration of assistance" measures length of current spell only.

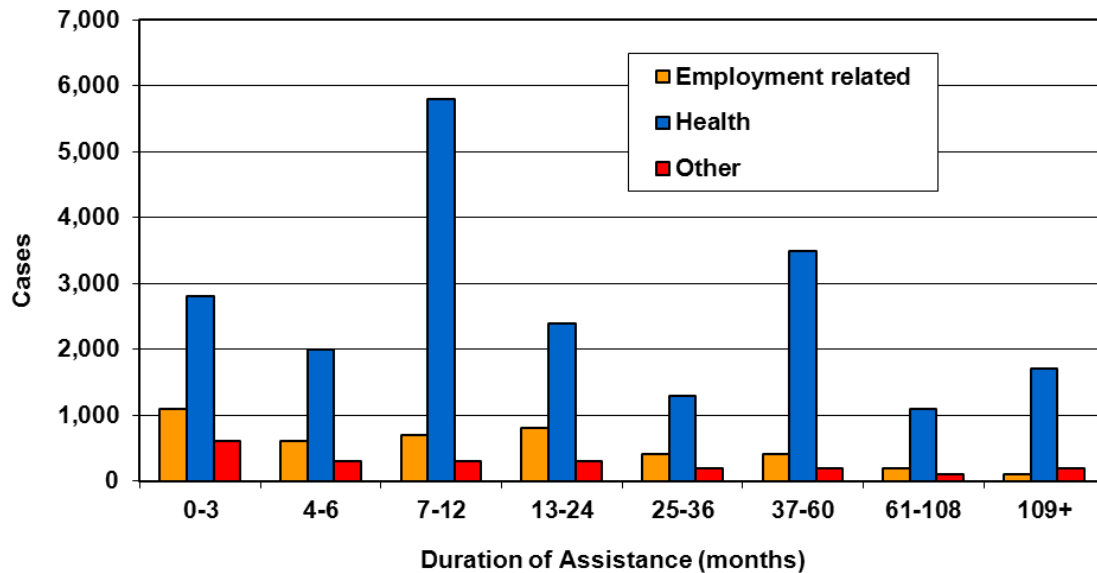
b. "Employment-related" includes employed and unemployed.

c. "Other" includes sole support parent, student and other.

Note: Totals may not add due to rounding.

Chapter 10 – Saskatchewan – Social Assistance Programs

Saskatchewan - Social Assistance Programs
Table 10-6e: Number of Cases by Reason for Assistance
and Duration of Assistance
as of March 31, 2013



Duration of Assistance ^a (months)	Reason for Assistance			Total
	Employment-related ^b	Health	Other ^c	
0-3	1,100	2,800	600	4,500
4-6	600	2,000	300	2,900
7-12	700	5,800	300	6,800
13-24	800	2,400	300	3,500
25-36	400	1,300	200	1,800
37-60	400	3,500	200	4,200
61-108	200	1,100	100	1,500
109+	100	1,700	200	2,100
Total	4,300	20,700	2,300	27,200

a. "Duration of assistance" measures length of current spell only.

b. "Employment-related" includes employed and unemployed.

c. "Other" includes sole support parent, student and other.

Note: Totals may not add due to rounding.

Cases Reporting Income by Source of Income

Saskatchewan - Social Assistance Programs Table 10-7: Number and Percentage of Cases Reporting Income, by Source of Income, as of March 31										
Source of Income	2009		2010		2011		2012		2013	
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
Employment	1,400	32%	1,400	30%	1,300	30%	1,200	27%	1,300	27%
Government transfers	1,700	39%	1,900	41%	1,800	41%	1,900	42%	2,200	46%
Support payments	600	14%	600	13%	600	14%	600	13%	700	15%
Employment Insurance	100	2%	100	2%	100	2%	100	2%	100	2%
Other	600	14%	600	13%	600	14%	700	16%	700	15%
Total^a (does not include double-counting)	4,400	100%	4,600	100%	4,400	100%	4,500	100%	4,800	100%

a. Cases receiving income from more than one source are counted only once; therefore, not all sources of income are counted in all categories. However, the total number of cases reporting income sources does not include double-counting.
Note: Totals may not add due to rounding.

Saskatchewan - Social Assistance Programs Table 10-8: Number of Cases Reporting Income as of March 31					
	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
Reporting Income	4,400	4,600	4,500	4,500	4,800
No Income	20,700	22,800	22,700	22,200	22,400
Total	25,100	27,400	27,200	26,700	27,200

Note: Totals may not add due to rounding.



Chapter 11 – Alberta

A – Alberta Works - Income Support

In Alberta, the provincial social assistance program is known as Alberta Works - Income Support. The *Income and Employment Supports Act* and the *Income Supports, Training and Health Benefits Regulations* govern the Alberta Works - Income Support program.

Alberta Works - Income Support provides basic benefits to both adults and children. It includes four components: Employment and Training Services, Income Support, Child Support Services, and Health Benefits.

Social assistance for persons with severe disabilities is provided through Alberta's Assured Income for the Severely Handicapped (AISH) program (see p. 116).

Service Delivery

Alberta Human Services²⁰ is responsible for the delivery of the Alberta Works - Income Support program to adults and children within the province.

Eligibility

General

In order to be eligible for Alberta Works - Income Support, applicants must meet the general eligibility requirements outlined in the "Social Assistance Overview" in this report.

Liquid Assets²¹

At the time of application for Alberta Works - Income Support, applicants' liquid assets may not exceed the following allowable limits:

²⁰ In May 2012, the Alberta Employment and Immigration was renamed to Alberta Human Services.

²¹ This table applies to the Expected to Work and the Barriers to Full Employment client groups only.

Chapter 11 – Alberta – Alberta Works - Income Support

Alberta - Alberta Works - Income Support Cash and Liquid Asset Exemptions March 2013	
Expected to Work^a	Barriers to Full Employment^a
Cash and liquid assets of the same value of one month of core benefits plus any additions as determined by the Director. Current additions added to Core benefits are: NCBS, High School Incentive Benefit, the Handicap Benefit, Personal Needs Supplement and Earnings Replacement Allowance	Cash and liquid assets of up to twice the value of one month of core benefits plus any additions as determined by the Director. Current additions added to Core benefits are: NCBS, High School Incentive Benefit, the Handicap Benefit, Personal Needs Supplement and Earnings Replacement Allowance
a. See below for description.	

Earnings Exemptions²²

Once an application for assistance has been approved, Alberta Works - Income Support clients are eligible for the following monthly exemptions on earned income:

Alberta - Alberta Works - Income Support Earnings Exemptions March 2013	
Singles	\$230 per month plus 25% of additional earnings of any amount over \$230
Single-Parent Family	\$230 per month plus 25% of additional earnings of any amount over \$230
Couples (with or without children)	\$115 per month plus 25% of additional earnings of any amount over \$115 for each working adult
Dependent Children Not in School	\$350 per month plus 25% of any amount over \$350
Dependent Children while attending school or in summer months between school terms	100% exemption

Benefits

Core benefits consist of a core essential benefit and a core shelter benefit. The core essential benefit covers the cost of food, clothing (including diapers), household and personal needs, the use of a telephone, as well as laundry and basic transportation. The core shelter benefit is for rent, mortgage, utilities (except for electricity in social housing and telephone in private housing), heating fuel, municipal taxes, insurance, condominium fees, lot rental, homeowner's maintenance and damage deposit.

²² This table applies to the Expected to Work and the Barriers to Full Employment client groups only.

Chapter 11 – Alberta – Alberta Works - Income Support

The amount of the monthly core benefit depends on family size, the number of adults in the family unit, the ages of the children in the family unit, the family unit's level of employability, and available financial resources.

Alberta Works - Income Support clients are placed in one of three client groups: Expected to Work, Barriers to Full Employment, or Learners.

The “Expected to Work” category includes those individuals and families that:

- Are working full-time or part-time, but whose income is less than the financial benefits provided under Alberta Works - Income Support;
- Are able to work, but unable to find employment; or
- Are temporarily not available for work for a short time due to illness, or the presence of a child under twelve months of age, fleeing an abusive relationship, etc.

The “Barriers to Full Employment” category includes those individuals and families that:

- Have a permanent disability as defined by the AISH program, but require benefits that are not provided under the AISH program; or
- Have multiple barriers or suffer from a chronic medical condition that inhibits their ability to seek and accept employment, but are not considered as having a permanent disability as defined by the AISH program.

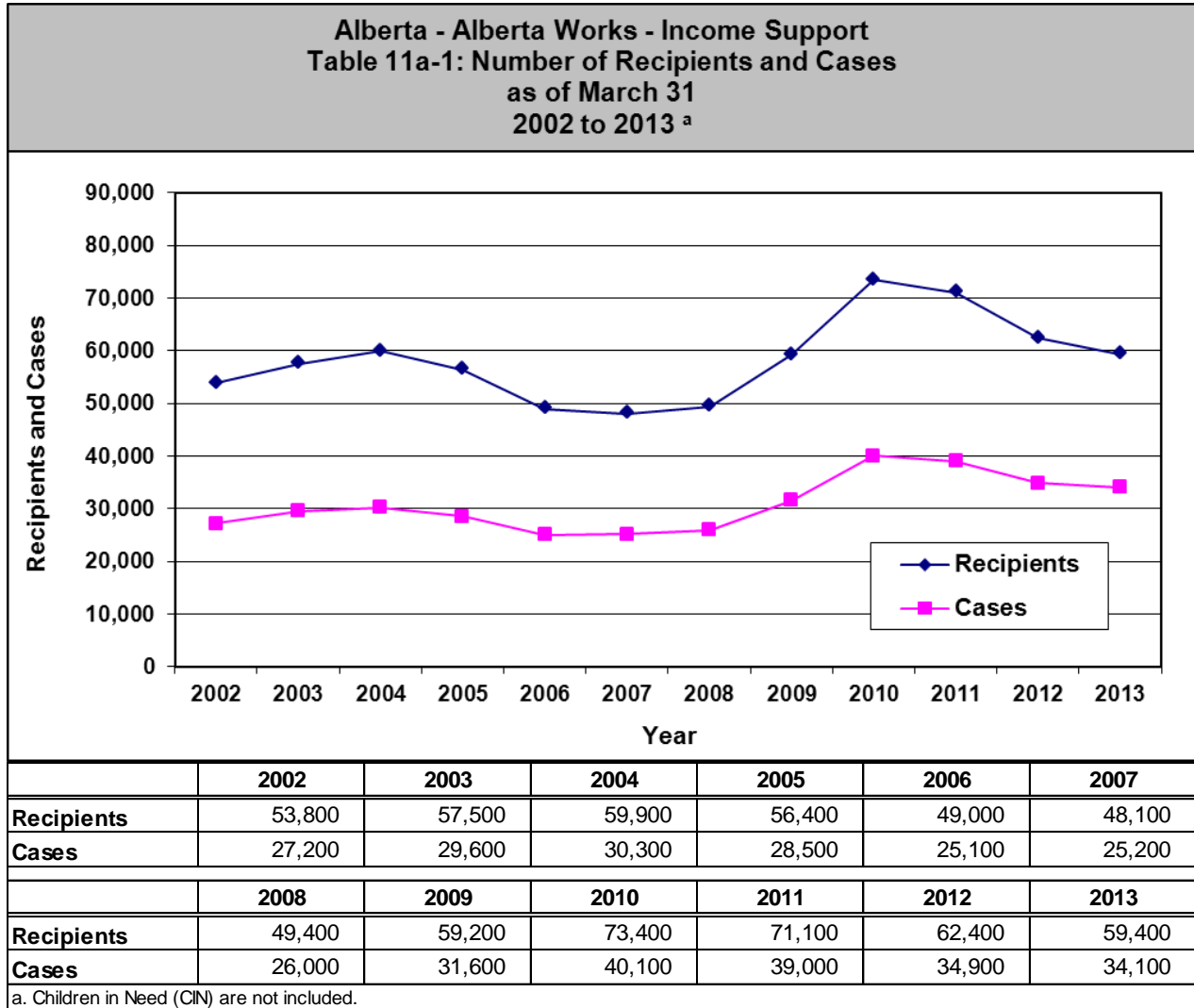
The “Learners” category includes those individuals and families that are participating in an approved full-time training program or attending classes or courses to improve their employability. Tuition, books, supplies, and a living allowance may be provided.

More Information

For more information, please consult the Alberta Human Services Web site at: www.humanservices.alberta.ca/.

STATISTICS²³

Recipients and Cases



²³ These statistics represent Expected to Work and the Barriers to Full Employment client groups only. Assured Income for the Severely Handicapped (AISH) is covered in a separate section.

Cases by Reason for Assistance

Alberta - Alberta Works - Income Support Table 11a-2: Number and Percentage of Cases by Reason for Assistance as of March 31										
Reason for Assistance	2009		2010		2011		2012		2013	
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
Employed	3,000	9%	3,400	8%	3,400	9%	2,800	8%	2,500	7%
Unemployed	10,100	32%	15,300	38%	13,100	34%	10,000	29%	8,700	26%
Short term disability ^a	5,800	18%	6,700	17%	6,500	17%	6,000	17%	5,800	17%
Long term disability ^b	12,700	40%	14,800	37%	16,000	41%	16,100	46%	17,000	50%
Total	31,600	100%	40,100	100%	39,000	100%	34,900	100%	34,100	100%

a. "Short-term disability" includes clients whose circumstances make them unavailable for work or training at present, but who will likely be able to return to work in the future. This category includes those with short-term medical problems or family responsibilities, and single persons age 50 years or older.

b. "Long-term disability" includes clients who may never be able to return to full time work in the labour force. Often these clients suffer from multiple barriers, such as a combination of medical impairment, lack of education, and poor work history. This category may include AISH clients who have been transferred to the Alberta Works - Income Support program to access supplemental benefits which are not available through AISH.

Note: Totals may not add due to rounding.

Recipients by Family Type

Alberta - Alberta Works - Income Support Table 11a-3: Number and Percentage of Recipients by Family Type as of March 31										
Family Type	2009		2010		2011		2012		2013	
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
Adults - Single	18,300	31%	23,900	33%	23,500	33%	21,600	35%	21,900	37%
Adults - Couple, no dependants	2,200	4%	2,500	3%	2,300	3%	1,900	3%	1,700	3%
Adults - Single parent	10,400	18%	12,700	17%	12,300	17%	10,800	17%	10,000	17%
Adults - Couple with dependants	3,700	6%	4,500	6%	4,100	6%	3,000	5%	2,600	4%
Total Adults	34,600	58%	43,700	60%	42,200	59%	37,300	60%	36,200	61%
Children - Single parent	20,000	34%	24,300	33%	23,800	33%	21,200	34%	19,700	33%
Children - Couple with dependants	4,600	8%	5,400	7%	5,200	7%	3,900	6%	3,400	6%
Total Children	24,600	42%	29,700	40%	29,000	41%	25,100	40%	23,100	39%
Total Recipients	59,200	100%	73,400	100%	71,100	100%	62,400	100%	59,400	100%

Note: Totals may not add due to rounding.

Cases by Age of Head

Alberta - Alberta Works - Income Support Table 11a-4: Number of Cases by Age of Head as of March 31					
Age of Head	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
<20	300	400	300	300	200
20-24	3,200	4,500	3,900	3,200	2,900
25-29	4,200	5,300	4,800	4,100	3,700
30-34	3,800	5,000	4,700	4,200	4,200
35-39	3,700	4,500	4,400	3,700	3,800
40-44	3,900	4,800	4,600	4,000	3,800
45-49	4,100	5,100	4,800	4,300	4,000
50-54	3,400	4,400	4,500	4,300	4,400
55-59	2,400	3,300	3,500	3,500	3,600
60-64	1,800	2,100	2,400	2,300	2,500
65+	700	800	900	900	900
Total	31,600	40,100	39,000	34,900	34,100

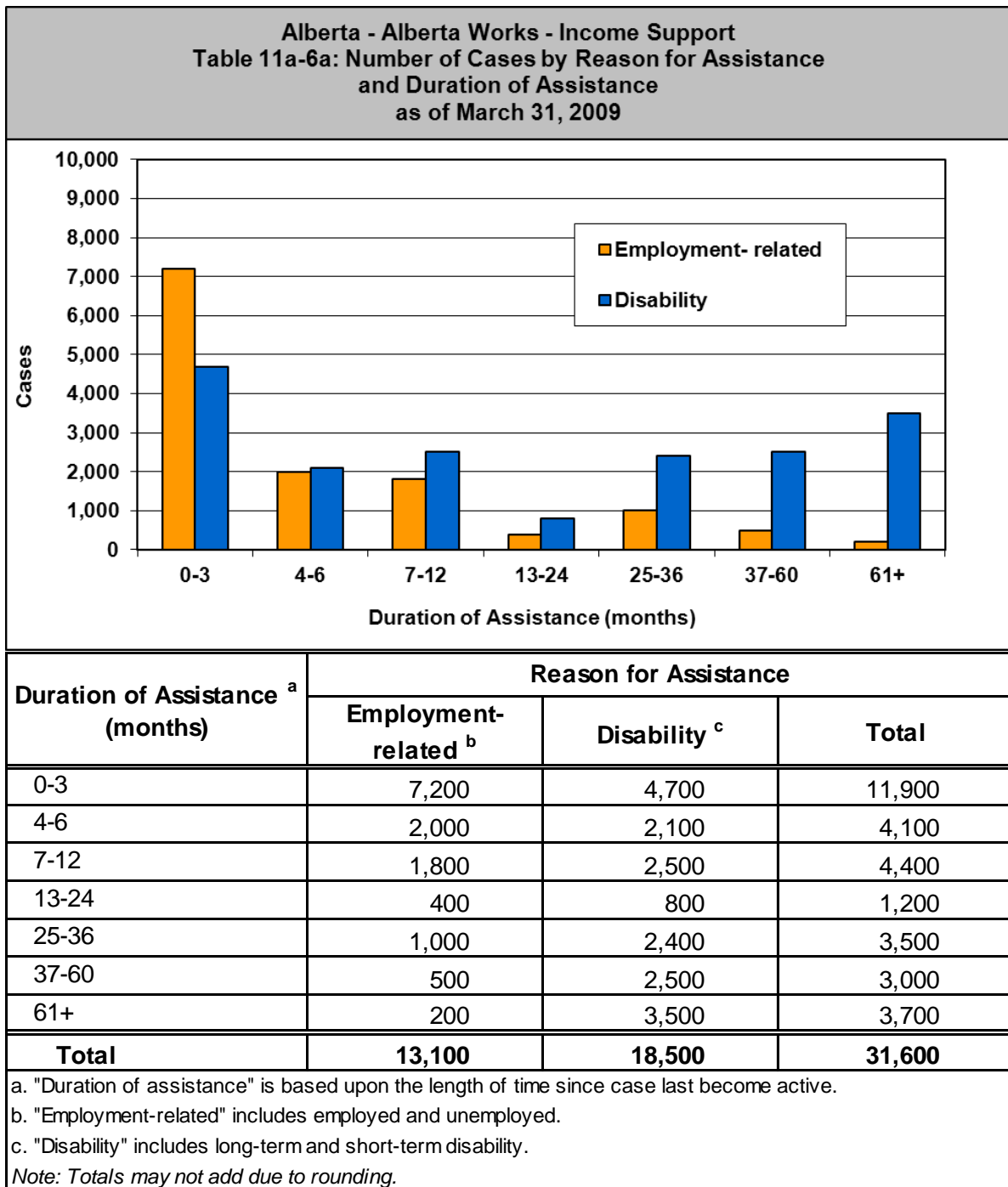
Note: Totals may not add due to rounding.

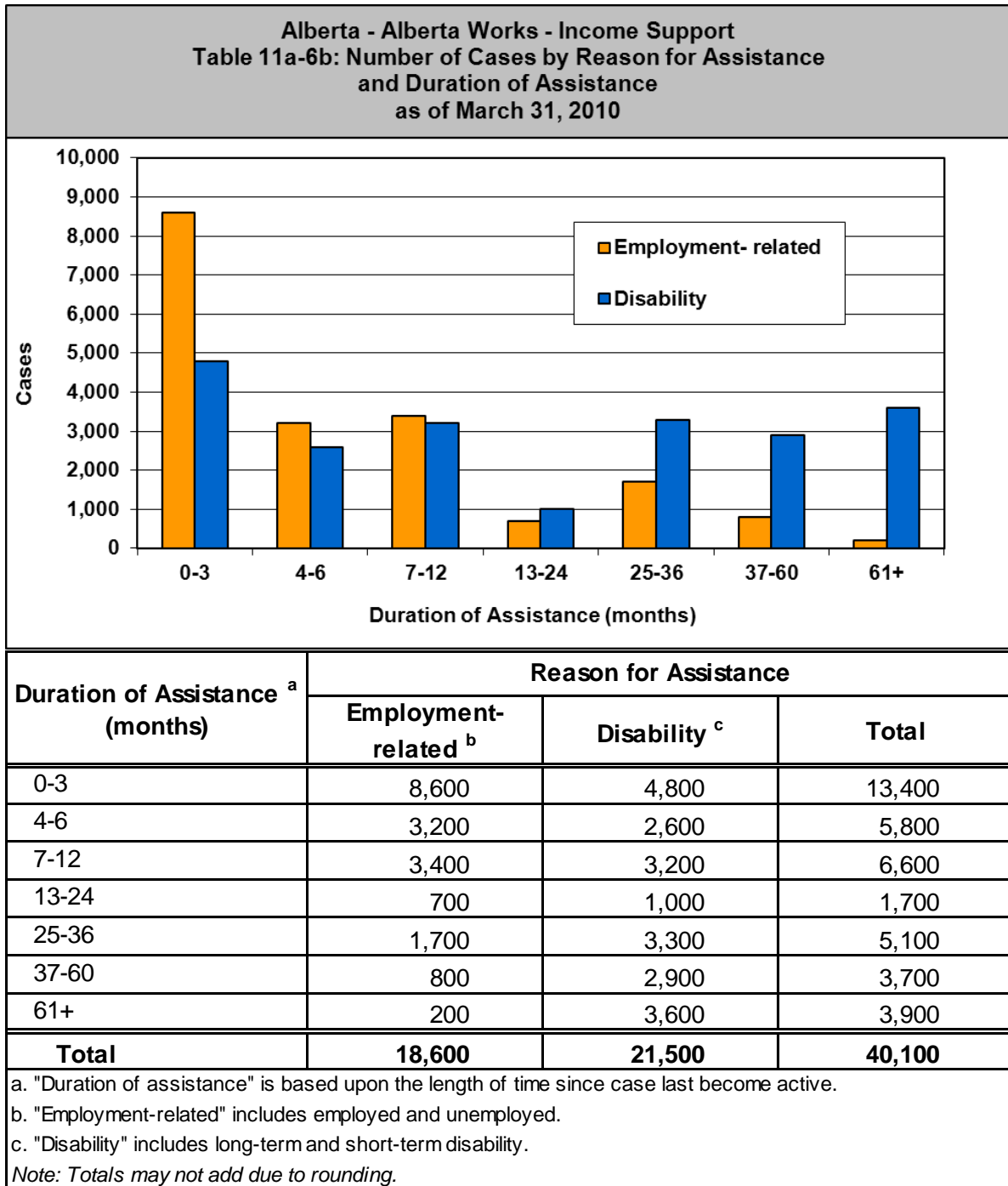
Cases by Education of Head

Alberta - Alberta Works - Income Support Table 11a-5: Number and Percentage of Cases by Education of Head as of March 31										
Education of Head ^a	2009		2010		2011		2012		2013	
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
Primary	6,900	22%	8,300	21%	8,300	21%	7,400	21%	7,300	21%
Secondary	19,900	63%	26,000	65%	24,900	64%	22,400	64%	22,000	65%
Community/technical college	1,700	5%	2,200	5%	2,100	5%	1,800	5%	1,700	5%
University	2,200	7%	2,700	7%	2,700	7%	2,300	7%	2,200	6%
Other post secondary	600	2%	700	2%	700	2%	600	2%	600	2%
Unknown	300	1%	300	1%	300	1%	300	1%	400	1%
Total	31,600	100%	40,100	100%	39,000	100%	34,900	100%	34,100	100%

a. Education is defined as level of education attained as of date of application.
Note: Totals may not add due to rounding.

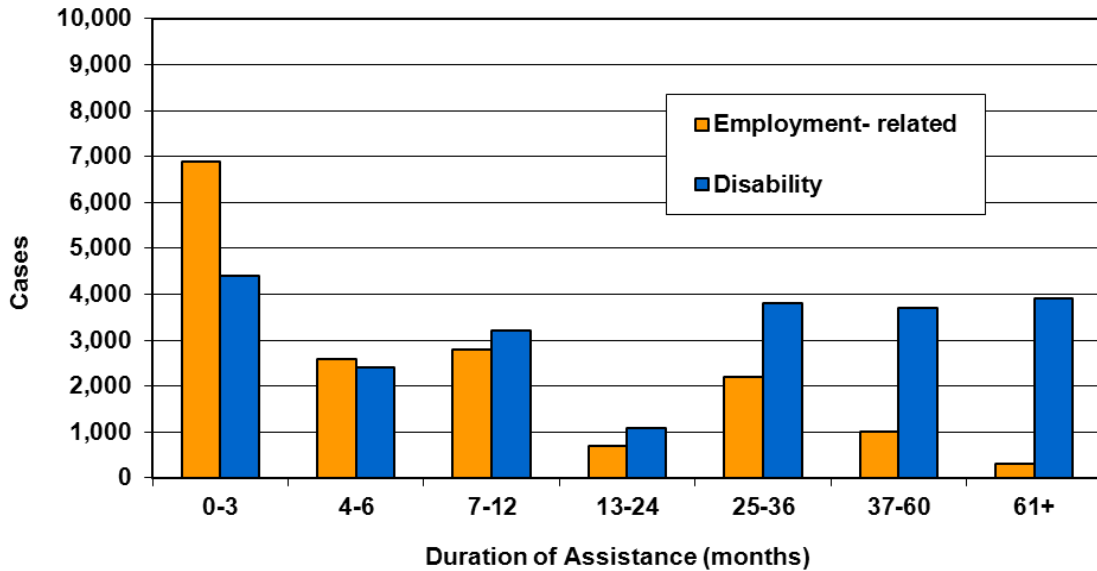
Cases by Reason for Assistance and Duration of Assistance





Chapter 11 – Alberta – Alberta Works - Income Support

Alberta - Alberta Works - Income Support
Table 11a-6c: Number of Cases by Reason for Assistance
and Duration of Assistance
as of March 31, 2011



Duration of Assistance ^a (months)	Reason for Assistance		
	Employment-related ^b	Disability ^c	Total
0-3	6,900	4,400	11,200
4-6	2,600	2,400	5,000
7-12	2,800	3,200	6,000
13-24	700	1,100	1,800
25-36	2,200	3,800	6,000
37-60	1,000	3,700	4,700
61+	300	3,900	4,300
Total	16,500	22,400	39,000

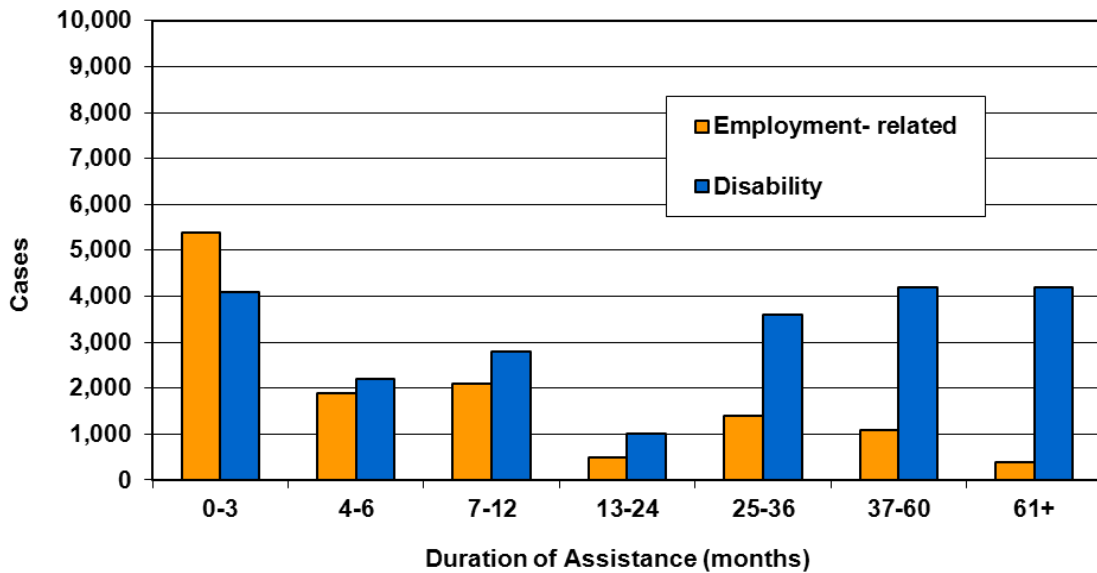
a. "Duration of assistance" is based upon the length of time since case last become active.

b. "Employment-related" includes employed and unemployed.

c. "Disability" includes long-term and short-term disability.

Note: Totals may not add due to rounding.

Alberta - Alberta Works - Income Support
 Table 11a-6d: Number of Cases by Reason for Assistance
 and Duration of Assistance
 as of March 31, 2012



Duration of Assistance ^a (months)	Reason for Assistance		
	Employment- related ^b	Disability ^c	Total
0-3	5,400	4,100	9,500
4-6	1,900	2,200	4,000
7-12	2,100	2,800	4,900
13-24	500	1,000	1,500
25-36	1,400	3,600	5,100
37-60	1,100	4,200	5,300
61+	400	4,200	4,600
Total	12,800	22,100	34,900

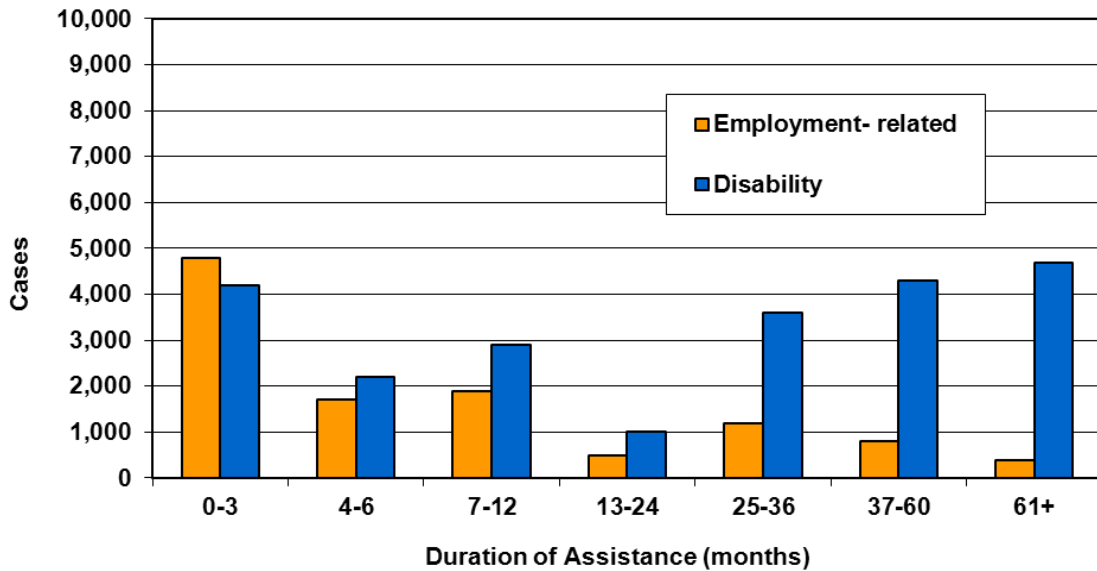
a. "Duration of assistance" is based upon the length of time since case last become active.

b. "Employment-related" includes employed and unemployed.

c. "Disability" includes long-term and short-term disability.

Note: Totals may not add due to rounding.

Alberta - Alberta Works - Income Support
 Table 11a-6e: Number of Cases by Reason for Assistance
 and Duration of Assistance
 as of March 31, 2013



Duration of Assistance ^a (months)	Reason for Assistance		
	Employment-related ^b	Disability ^c	Total
0-3	4,800	4,200	9,000
4-6	1,700	2,200	3,900
7-12	1,900	2,900	4,900
13-24	500	1,000	1,400
25-36	1,200	3,600	4,600
37-60	800	4,300	5,100
61+	400	4,700	5,100
Total	11,300	22,800	34,100

a. "Duration of assistance" is based upon the length of time since case last become active.

b. "Employment-related" includes employed and unemployed.

c. "Disability" includes long-term and short-term disability.

Note: Totals may not add due to rounding.

Cases Reporting Income by Source of Income

Alberta - Alberta Works - Income Support Table 11a-7: Number and Percentage of Cases Reporting Income, by Source of Income, as of March 31										
Source of Income	2009		2010		2011		2012		2013	
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
Employment	2,600	43%	2,800	40%	2,900	41%	2,200	37%	2,200	36%
Government transfers	1,600	27%	2,000	29%	2,200	31%	2,200	37%	2,400	39%
Support payments	1,300	22%	1,600	23%	1,500	21%	1,300	22%	1,200	20%
Employment Insurance	200	3%	300	4%	200	3%	100	2%	100	2%
Other ^a	200	3%	300	4%	300	4%	200	3%	200	3%
Total ^b (includes double-counting)	6,000	100%	7,000	100%	7,100	100%	6,000	100%	6,100	100%

a. "Other" includes training allowances and other income.
b. Total cases in these categories may include double-counting, since cases that have more than one source of income are counted for each source reported.
Note: Totals may not add due to rounding.

Alberta - Alberta Works - Income Support Table 11a-8: Number of Cases Reporting Income as of March 31					
	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
Reporting Income	5,500	6,400	6,500	5,500	5,600
No Income	26,100	33,800	32,400	29,300	28,400
Total	31,600	40,100	39,000	34,900	34,100

Note: Totals may not add due to rounding.

B - Assured Income for the Severely Handicapped

In Alberta, the provincial income assistance program for adults with a severe and permanent disability that substantially limits their ability to earn a livelihood is known as Assured Income for the Severely Handicapped (AISH). The *Assured Income for the Severely Handicapped Act*, the *Assured Income for the Severely Handicapped General Regulation* and the *Applications and Appeals (Ministerial) Regulation* govern Alberta's AISH program.

AISH provides program recipients with a monthly living allowance, health benefits, a child benefit and personal benefits.

Service Delivery

Alberta Human Services is responsible for the delivery of AISH throughout the province²⁴.

Eligibility

General

In order to be eligible for AISH, recipients must meet the eligibility criteria for severe handicap, age, residency, assets, and income.

Assets

The non-exempt assets of AISH recipients and their cohabiting partners must not exceed \$100,000. Assets considered part of the \$100,000 limit include cash or cash equivalent assets, investments, and business/farm or other property. Key assets not included in the \$100,000 limit are a client's principal residence, a vehicle, an adapted vehicle and a Registered Disability Savings Plan (RDSP). Other exempt assets include insurance payments for damages or stolen goods, special compensation payments and locked-in retirement accounts.

Alberta - Assured Income for the Severely Handicapped Cash and Liquid Asset Exemptions March 2013	
Non-exempt Assets	The total value of all non-exempt assets owned by an applicant or client, and their cohabitating partner must not exceed \$100,000.
Non-exempt Assets	The non-exempt asset limit for Personal Benefits and the child Benefit is \$3,000, except in situations of financial hardship.

²⁴ Effective May 2012, responsibility for the administration and delivery of the AISH program was transferred to Human Services.

Income Exemptions

The level of benefits that a recipient receives from AISH depends on the type and amount of income of the recipient and his/her cohabiting partner. Under AISH, income is classified into three categories: fully exempt (e.g. income tax refunds, an education or training grant, a goods and service tax credit), partially exempt (e.g. interest/investment, rental income, employment income), and non-exempt (e.g. Canada Pension Plan Disability Benefits and Employment Insurance received by the recipient).

The level of exemption on partially exempt income and employment income varies depending on the composition of the household. AISH provides the following income exemptions:

Alberta - Assured Income for the Severely Handicapped Employment Income Exemptions March 2013	
Single Person, Childless Couple (both AISH) ^a	\$800 of net employment income is fully exempt. Any amount above \$800, up to \$1,500, is 50% exempt, for a maximum exemption of \$1,150 a month.
Single Parent, Childless Couple (one AISH), Couple with Children (both AISH) ^b	\$1,950 of net employment income is fully exempt. Any amount above \$1,950, up to \$2,500, is 50% exempt, for a maximum exemption of \$2,225 a month.
<p>a. Both cohabiting partners are eligible for AISH benefits. Each cohabiting partner receives the income exemption.</p> <p>b. Both cohabiting partners are eligible for AISH benefits. One cohabiting partner receives this exemption while the other cohabiting partner receives the income exemption for a single person.</p> <p>Note: The Employment Income Exemptions were increased in April 2012: For a single person or childless couple (both on AISH) the exemption increased from \$400 + 50% to a maximum of \$900, to the current amount above. For a single parent, childless couples (one on AISH), and couples with children (both on AISH) the exemption increased from \$975 + 50% to a maximum of \$1,738, to the current amount above.</p>	

Alberta - Assured Income for the Severely Handicapped Other Partial Income Exemptions ^a March 2013	
Single Person, Childless Couple (both AISH)^b	\$200 of partially exempt income, plus 25% of any additional amount.
Single Parent, Childless Couple (one AISH), Couple with Children (both AISH)^c	\$775 of partially exempt income, plus 25% of any additional amount.
<p>a. Examples of other partially exempt income includes investment, partnership and rental income.</p> <p>b. Both cohabiting partners are eligible for AISH benefits. Each cohabiting partner receives the income exemption.</p> <p>c. Both cohabiting partners are eligible for AISH benefits. One cohabiting partner receives this exemption while the other cohabiting partner receives the income exemption for a single person.</p>	

Benefits

The AISH program is intended to supplement other sources of the client's income to ensure their total income does not fall below a certain level, currently \$1588 per month. AISH provides a monthly living allowance, health benefits, a child benefit, and personal benefits.

The health benefits are available to the recipient, his/her cohabiting partner, and dependent children under the age of 18 years, or under the age of 20 years if attending high school, who reside with the recipient. The health benefits include prescription drugs, dental, optical, emergency ambulance, and essential diabetic supplies. AISH recipients also receive an exemption from the Alberta Aids to Daily Living (AADL) cost-share portion.

The child benefit and personal benefits are provided to recipients with \$3,000 or less in assets or who are in a situation of financial hardship. The child benefit is intended to help cover the cost of raising dependent children. Personal benefits help AISH recipients to meet their extra needs, such as special diets, specialized clothing related to their disability, caring for a service animal, and assistance with health-related travel. Recipients who live in facilities, as defined by the *Assured Income for the Severely Handicapped General Regulation*, receive a modified living allowance (Modified AISH). Modified AISH includes the facility daily accommodation rate plus a personal allowance.

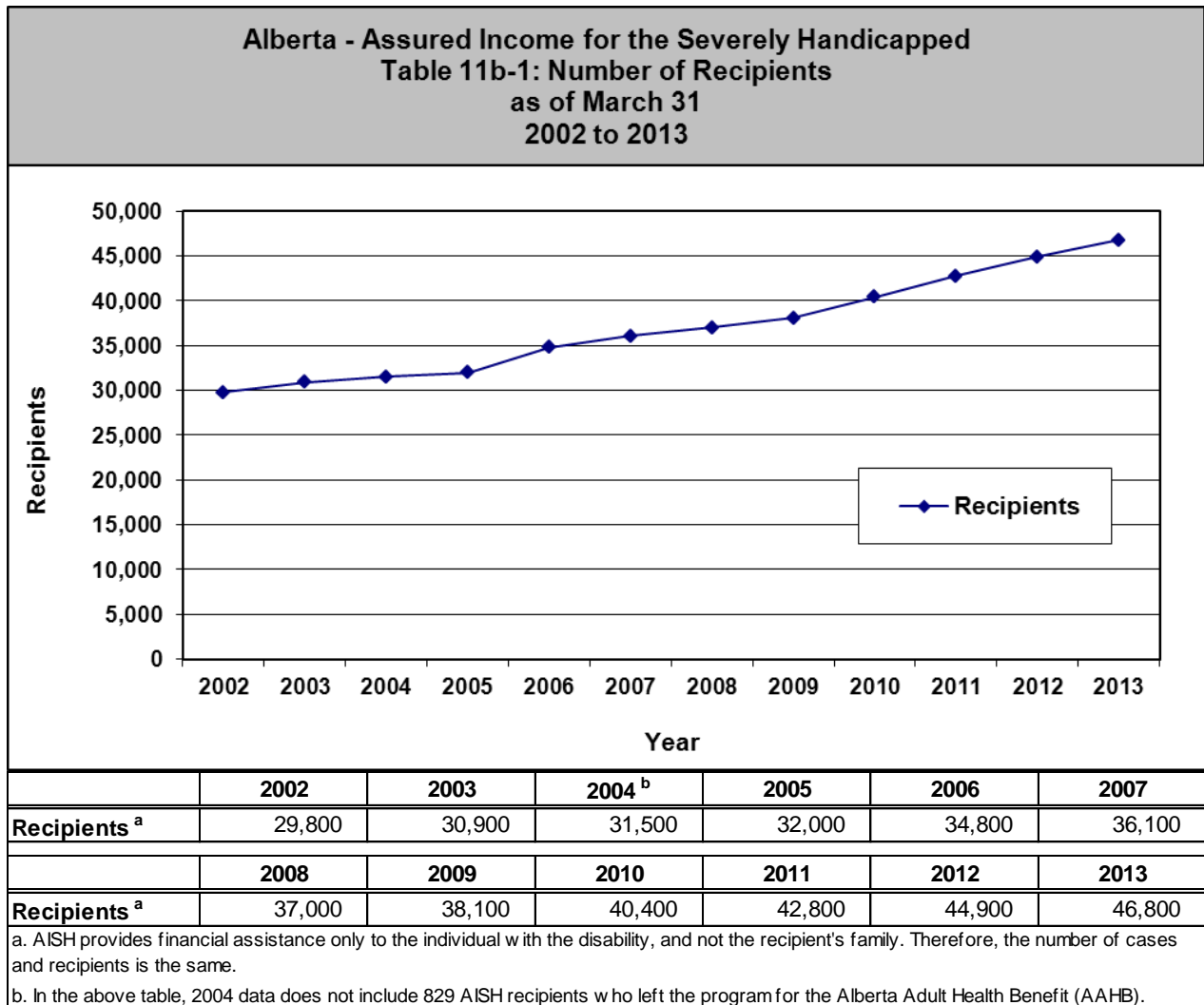
Recipients who become financially or medically ineligible for AISH may be eligible for the Alberta Adult Health Benefit, which provides similar health benefits as the AISH program. Rapid reinstatement of AISH benefits may also be available for those eligible former AISH recipients who did not leave AISH because of a change in their medical condition and have been off the program for less than 24 months.

More Information

For more information, please consult the program's web site at:
<http://humanservices.alberta.ca/disability-services/aish.html>.

STATISTICS

Recipients



Recipients by Medical Condition

Alberta - Assured Income for the Severely Handicapped Table 11b-2: Number and Percentage of Recipients by Medical Condition as of March 31										
Medical Condition	2009		2010		2011		2012		2013	
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
Physical disabilities	17,500	46%	18,700	46%	19,700	46%	20,600	46%	21,400	46%
Mental illness disorders	12,200	32%	12,900	32%	13,700	32%	14,300	32%	14,800	32%
Cognitive disorders	8,300	22%	8,800	22%	9,400	22%	9,900	22%	10,600	23%
Total	38,100	100%	40,400	100%	42,800	100%	44,900	100%	46,800	100%

Note: Totals may not add due to rounding.

Recipients by Family Type

Alberta - Assured Income for the Severely Handicapped Table 11b-3: Number and Percentage of Recipients by Family Type as of March 31										
Family Type	2009		2010		2011		2012		2013	
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
Single	34,000	89%	36,000	89%	38,000	89%	39,800	89%	41,200	88%
Couple with no children	1,500	4%	1,600	4%	1,700	4%	1,800	4%	2,100	4%
Single parent	1,900	5%	2,000	5%	2,200	5%	2,400	5%	2,500	5%
Couple with children	700	2%	800	2%	900	2%	900	2%	1,000	2%
Total	38,100	100%	40,400	100%	42,800	100%	44,900	100%	46,800	100%

Note: Totals may not add due to rounding.

Chapter 11 – Alberta – Assured Income for the Severely Handicapped

Recipients by Age

Alberta - Assured Income for the Severely Handicapped Table 11b-4: Number of Recipients by Age as of March 31					
Age	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
18-19	800	1,000	1,100	1,100	1,000
20-24	3,000	3,200	3,400	3,800	4,000
25-29	3,200	3,500	3,800	3,900	4,000
30-34	3,000	3,200	3,500	3,700	4,000
35-39	3,200	3,300	3,400	3,500	3,700
40-44	4,000	4,000	4,100	4,200	4,200
45-49	5,300	5,500	5,700	5,700	5,500
50-54	5,400	5,800	6,100	6,500	7,000
55-59	5,100	5,500	6,000	6,600	7,000
60-64	4,700	5,100	5,600	5,800	6,100
65+	200	200	300	300	300
Total	38,100	40,400	42,800	44,900	46,800

Note: Totals may not add due to rounding.

Recipients by Education

Alberta - Assured Income for the Severely Handicapped Table 11b-5: Number and Percentage of Recipients by Education ^a as of March 31										
Education	2009		2010		2011		2012		2013	
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
Grade school	30,000	79%	32,600	81%	34,900	86%	30,800	69%	32,300	69%
Post secondary ^b	2,200	6%	2,500	6%	2,700	7%	2,800	6%	2,900	6%
Trades	300	1%	400	1%	400	1%	500	1%	500	1%
University	1,500	4%	1,600	4%	1,700	4%	1,800	4%	1,800	4%
Unknown	4,000	10%	3,400	8%	3,100	8%	9,100	20%	9,300	20%
Total	38,100	100%	40,400	100%	40,400	100%	44,900	100%	46,800	100%

a. Education is defined as level of education attained as of date of application. Responses are not confirmed or updated if a client's level of education changes and the "unknown" is high.

b. "Post secondary" includes community/technical college and other post secondary.

Note: Totals may not add due to rounding.

Recipients Reporting Income by Source of Income

Alberta - Assured Income for the Severely Handicapped Table 11b-6: Number and Percentage of Recipients Reporting Income, by Source of Income as of March 31										
Source of Income	2009		2010		2011		2012		2013	
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
Employment ^a	7,200	37%	7,000	26%	7,200	25%	7,400	25%	7,400	24%
Canada Pension Plan Disability	6,400	33%	7,000	26%	7,800	27%	8,400	28%	8,400	27%
Other income ^b	5,900	30%	13,200	49%	13,900	48%	14,200	47%	15,000	49%
Total ^c (includes double-counting)	19,500	100%	27,200	100%	28,900	100%	30,000	100%	30,800	100%

a. Category "employment" includes employment and self-employment income.
 b. "Other income" includes all clients who have reported any income including CPP-D, but excludes employment income.
 c. Total clients in these categories may include double-counting, since recipients that have more than one source of income are counted for each source reported.
 Note: Totals may not add due to rounding.

Alberta - Assured Income for the Severely Handicapped Table 11b-7: Number of Recipients Reporting Income as of March 31					
	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
Reporting Income	19,500	18,100	18,700	19,300	20,500
No Income	18,600	22,300	24,100	25,600	26,300
Total	38,100	40,400	42,800	44,900	46,800

Note: Totals may not add due to rounding.



Chapter 12 – British Columbia

Employment and Assistance

In British Columbia, the provincial social assistance program is known as Employment and Assistance (BCEA). The *British Columbia Employment and Assistance Act*, the *British Columbia Employment and Assistance for Persons with Disabilities Act*, the British Columbia Employment and Assistance Regulations, and the British Columbia Employment and Assistance for Persons with Disabilities Regulations govern British Columbia's Employment and Assistance program.

Employment and Assistance provides basic support and shelter benefits to family units. Children's basic support benefits are provided separately through federal child benefits.

Service Delivery

The Ministry of Social Development and Social Innovation²⁵ is responsible for the delivery of Employment and Assistance to adults within the province.

Eligibility

General

In order to be eligible for Employment and Assistance, applicants must meet the general eligibility requirements outlined in the "Social Assistance Overview" in this report.

Prior to applying for Employment and Assistance, all adults in the family unit must complete an applicant orientation program and, prior to their application interview, complete a reasonable work search within the five-week period. Returning clients are subject to a shorter, three-week work search, and there are a number of exemptions to the work search requirement. Applicants are also assessed to determine whether or not they have an immediate need that requires urgent attention. At least one person in the family unit must demonstrate that they have received remuneration for at least 840 hours of paid employment, or earned at least \$7,000 in gross employment income in each of any two consecutive years prior to applying for assistance. There are exemptions to this requirement in order to avoid hardship.

Liquid Assets

At the time of application for Employment and Assistance, applicants' liquid assets may not exceed the following allowable limits.

²⁵ The Ministry of Employment and Income Assistance was renamed to Ministry of Housing and Social Development effective March 2009, to the Ministry of Social Development effective October 2010, and then to the Ministry of Social Development and Social Innovation effective June 2013.

Chapter 12 – British Columbia – Employment and Assistance

British Columbia - Liquid Asset Exemptions March 2013		
	Clients without Disabilities	Clients with Disabilities
Single	\$2,000	\$5,000
Single-Parent Family	\$4,000	\$10,000
Childless Couple	\$4,000	\$10,000
Two-Parent Family	\$4,000	\$10,000
Note: Asset Exemptions were increased in October 2012. Income Assistance clients: No limit on cash assets at time of application (now included as part of the general asset limit) Singles - increased from \$1,500 to \$2,000 Couples and family units - increased from \$2,500 to \$4,000 Disability Assistance clients and Income Assistance clients in a special care facility: Singles - increased from \$3,000 to \$5,000 Couples and family units - increased from \$5,000 to \$10,000		

Earnings Exemptions

Employment and Assistance clients are eligible for the following monthly exemptions on earned income following three months on assistance:

British Columbia - Earnings Exemptions March 2013	
All expected to work families and individuals	\$200
A single individual with Persons with Disabilities (PWD)	\$800
A single individual with Persons with Persistent Multiple Barriers (PPMB)	\$500
A couple where both individuals have PWD designation	\$1,600
A couple where only one individual has PWD designation	\$1,000
A single parent who cares for a child with a severe disability where the disability of the child precludes the caregiver from working outside the home for more than 30 hours a week.	\$300
Note: Earnings Exemptions were changed in October 2012. Expected to work families and individuals became eligible for an exemption of \$200 per month. Single PWD clients and family units where one person is PWD increased from \$500 to \$800 per month. Couples where both persons are PWD increased from \$750 to \$1600 per month. Annualized Earnings Exemptions (AEE) for individuals on disability assistance began in January 2013. The AEE allows individuals on disability assistance to use their earnings exemptions on an annual instead of monthly basis. These AEE amounts are equivalent to 12 times the monthly exemption limit for the calendar year.	

Benefits

Basic assistance consists of a support allowance and a shelter allowance. The support allowance covers the cost of food, clothing, personal and household items. Maximum support allowance rates are based on the composition of the family unit and the age or marital/common law status of the applicant. The shelter allowance pays actual shelter costs to a maximum

amount. Maximum shelter allowance rates are based on the number of persons in the family unit.

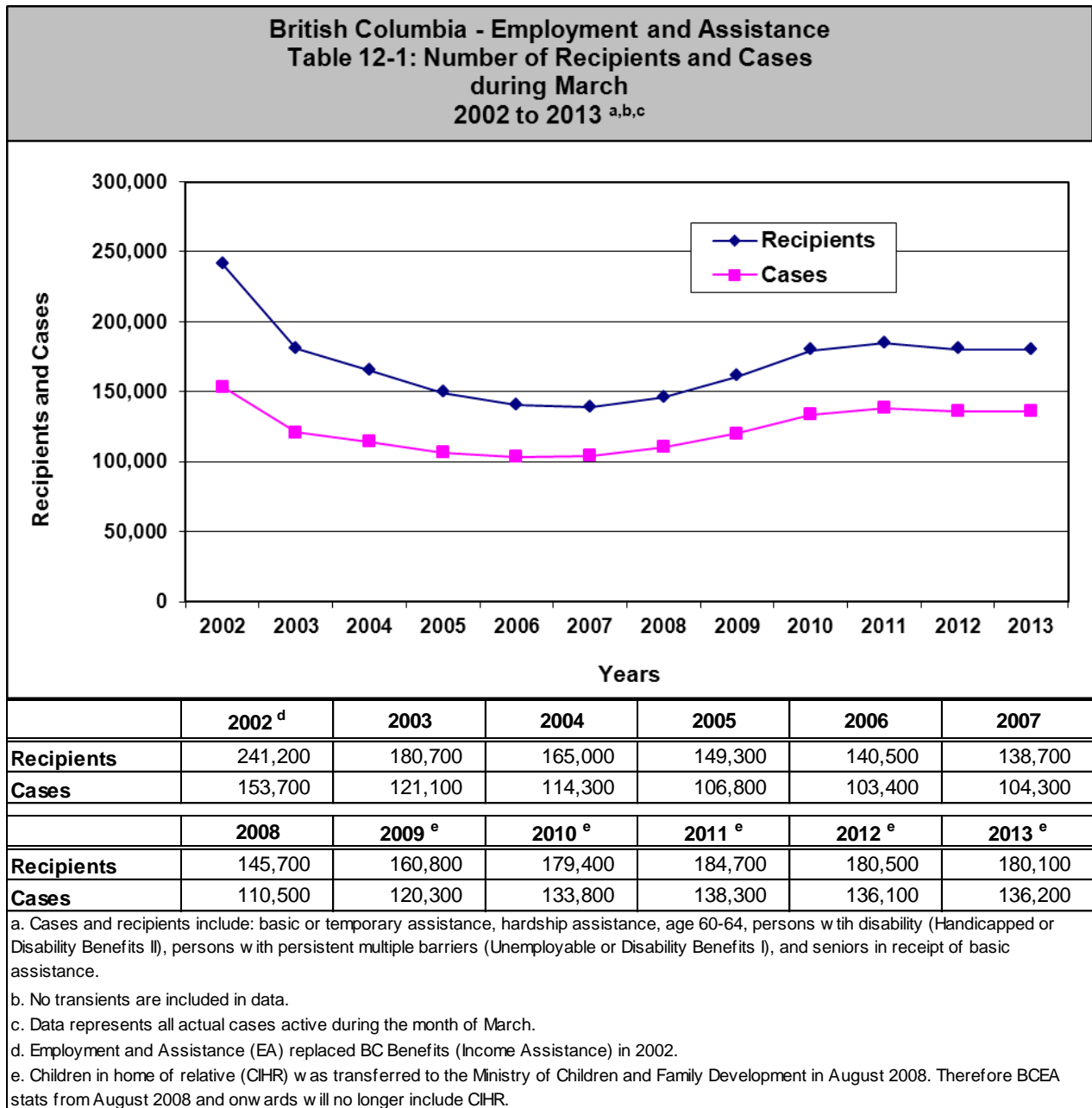
Employment and Assistance has three rates schedules: Income Assistance, Disability Assistance, and Hardship Assistance. Income Assistance rates apply to two separate groups of clients across a range of family types. One group is classed as employable and these clients receive an assistance rate that is based on a temporary need for assistance. The other group consists of clients with persistent multiple barriers to employment (PPMB) and their rate is higher than employable clients since they typically require income assistance over a longer time period. Disability Assistance rates apply to all households that include at least one person aged 18 years or older who has a severe and confirmed mental or physical impairment that restricts their ability to perform daily living activities and that is expected to continue for at least two years. Hardship Assistance rates apply to those persons requiring temporary financial assistance on a month-to-month basis who are not eligible for income or disability assistance for a number of specific reasons, but present circumstances of undue hardship if no assistance is provided.

More Information

For more information, please consult the British Columbia Ministry of Social Development and Social Innovation Web site at: www.gov.bc.ca/sdsi/.

STATISTICS

Recipients and Cases



Cases by Reason for Assistance

British Columbia - Employment and Assistance										
Table 12-2: Number and Percentage of Cases by Reason for Assistance during March										
Reason for Assistance	2009		2010		2011		2012		2013	
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
Expected to work ^a	32,000	27%	39,000	29%	39,600	29%	33,500	25%	33,300	24%
Temporarily excused from working ^b	11,800	10%	14,200	11%	12,700	9%	12,200	9%	9,900	7%
Persons with disabilities ^c	69,700	58%	73,100	55%	77,900	56%	82,300	60%	85,800	63%
Persistent multiple barriers ^d	6,700	6%	7,600	6%	8,100	6%	8,100	6%	7,200	5%
Total	120,300	100%	133,800	100%	138,300	100%	136,100	100%	136,200	100%

a. Includes EA recipients who are expected to search for and accept employment.

b. Includes single parents with children under age 3 years or who are caring for a child with a physical or mental condition, seniors over age 64 years, persons in a special care facility or hospital, participating in drug or alcohol treatment, recently separated from an abusive spouse/relative, caring for a spouse with a physical or mental condition, or who do not meet landed immigrant requirements. It also includes persons who are expected to work with a temporary medical condition.

c. Refers to cases which include a person 18 years of age or over with a severe mental or physical impairment, which restricts the person's ability to perform daily living activities. The person must require an assistive device, the help or supervision of another person, or the services of an assistance animal to perform daily living activities.

d. Includes EA recipients who have barriers that seriously impede their ability to work. Their medical condition must have existed for at least one year and be expected to continue for at least two more years. They are excused from working.

Note: Totals may not add due to rounding.

Recipients by Family Type

British Columbia - Employment and Assistance										
Table 12-3: Number and Percentage of Recipients by Family Type during March										
Family Type	2009		2010		2011		2012		2013	
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
Adults - Single	96,400	60%	107,100	60%	111,100	60%	110,000	61%	110,500	61%
Adults - Couple, no dependants	8,800	5%	9,200	5%	9,100	5%	8,700	5%	8,700	5%
Adults - Single parent	16,200	10%	18,400	10%	19,000	10%	18,300	10%	17,900	10%
Adults - Couple with dependants	6,500	4%	7,500	4%	7,500	4%	7,000	4%	6,900	4%
Total Adults	127,900	80%	142,200	79%	146,600	79%	143,900	80%	144,000	80%
Children - Single parent	26,300	16%	29,600	16%	30,600	17%	29,500	16%	29,000	16%
Children - Couple with dependants	6,600	4%	7,600	4%	7,600	4%	7,100	4%	7,100	4%
Total Children	32,900	20%	37,200	21%	38,100	21%	36,600	20%	36,100	20%
Total Recipients	160,800	100%	179,400	100%	184,700	100%	180,500	100%	180,100	100%

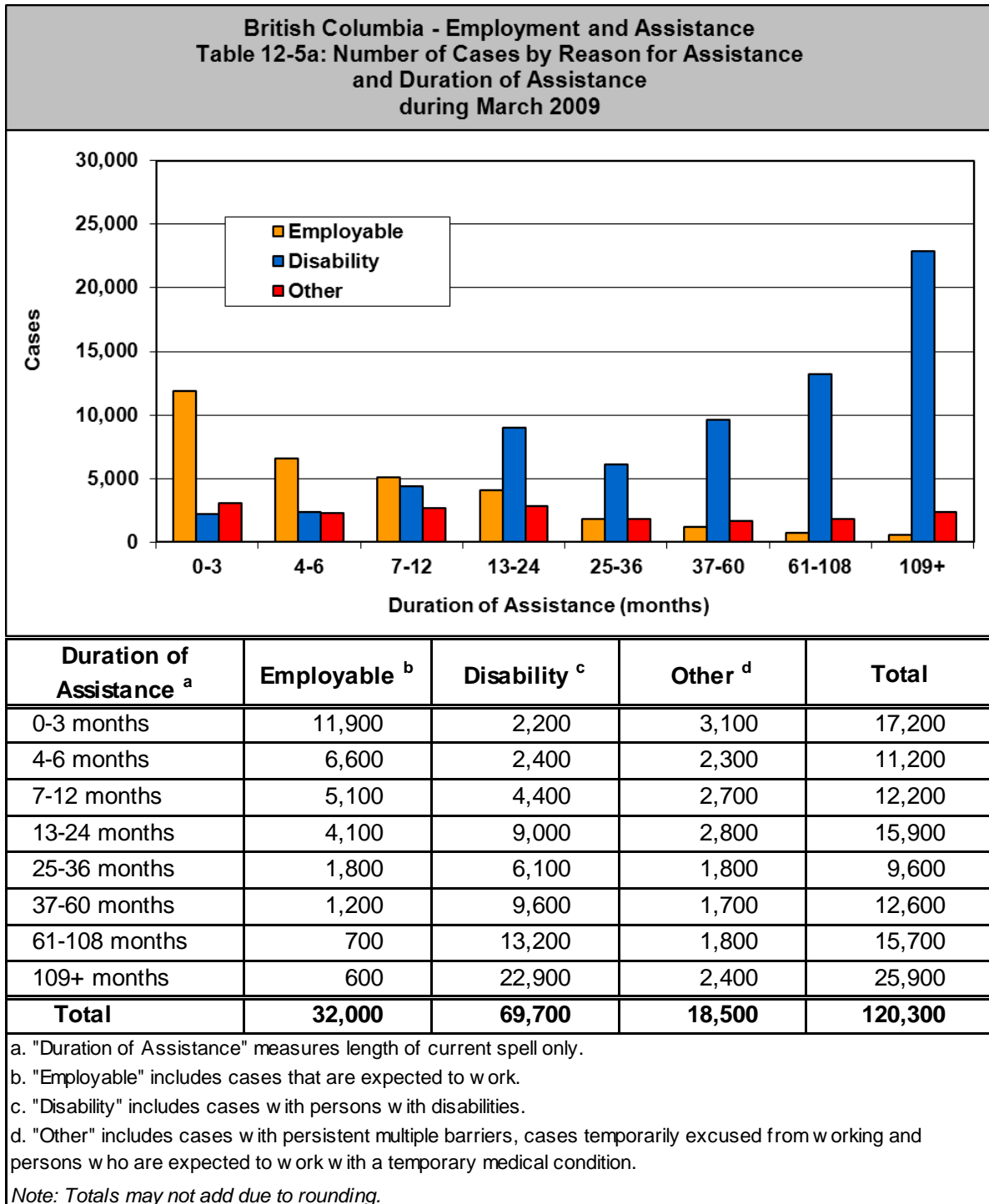
Note: Totals may not add due to rounding.

Cases by Age of Head

British Columbia - Employment and Assistance Table 12-4: Number of Cases by Age of Head during March					
Age of Head	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
<20	2,400	2,900	2,700	2,500	2,500
20-24	10,800	13,000	13,200	12,500	12,200
25-29	11,700	13,500	14,000	13,300	13,000
30-34	11,400	12,800	13,200	13,100	13,100
35-39	12,900	13,800	13,500	12,800	12,700
40-44	15,000	16,100	16,400	15,700	15,100
45-49	17,500	19,100	19,300	18,300	17,600
50-54	15,900	17,600	18,800	19,200	19,700
55-59	12,700	13,900	15,100	16,000	17,100
60-64	9,100	10,300	11,200	11,600	12,200
65+	900	900	900	1,000	1,000
Total	120,300	133,800	138,300	136,100	136,200

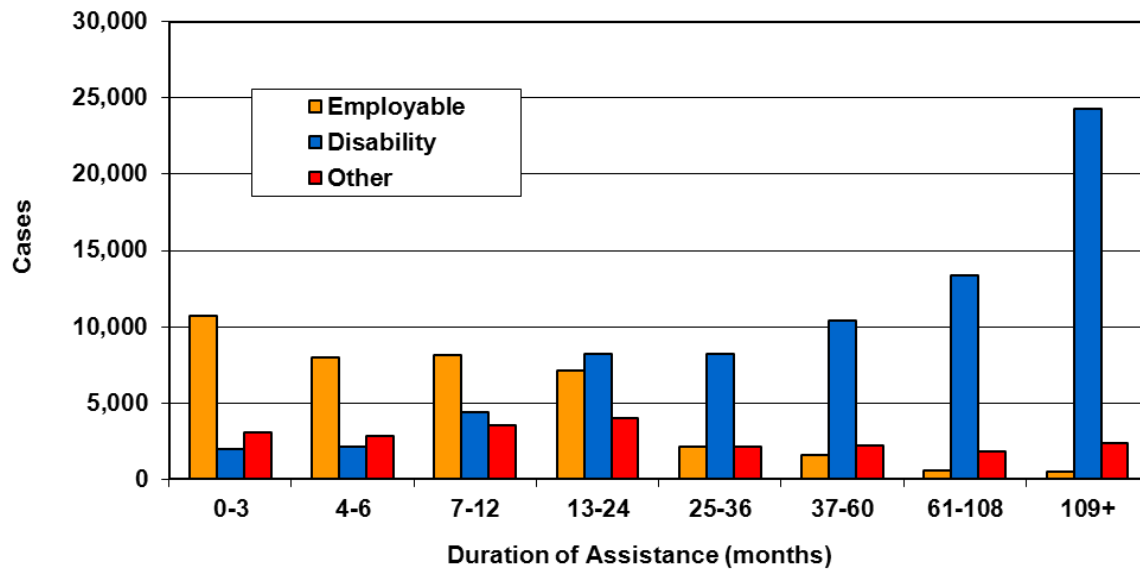
Note: Totals may not added due to rounding.

Cases by Reason for Assistance and Duration of Assistance



Chapter 12 – British Columbia – Employment and Assistance

British Columbia - Employment and Assistance
Table 12-5b: Number of Cases by Reason for Assistance
and Duration of Assistance
during March 2010



Duration of Assistance ^a	Employable ^b	Disability ^c	Other ^d	Total
0-3 months	10,700	2,000	3,100	15,800
4-6 months	8,000	2,100	2,800	12,900
7-12 months	8,100	4,400	3,500	16,000
13-24 months	7,100	8,200	4,000	19,300
25-36 months	2,100	8,200	2,100	12,400
37-60 months	1,600	10,400	2,200	14,300
61-108 months	600	13,400	1,800	15,800
109+ months	500	24,300	2,400	27,200
Total	39,000	73,100	21,800	133,800

a. "Duration of Assistance" measures length of current spell only.

b. "Employable" includes cases that are expected to work.

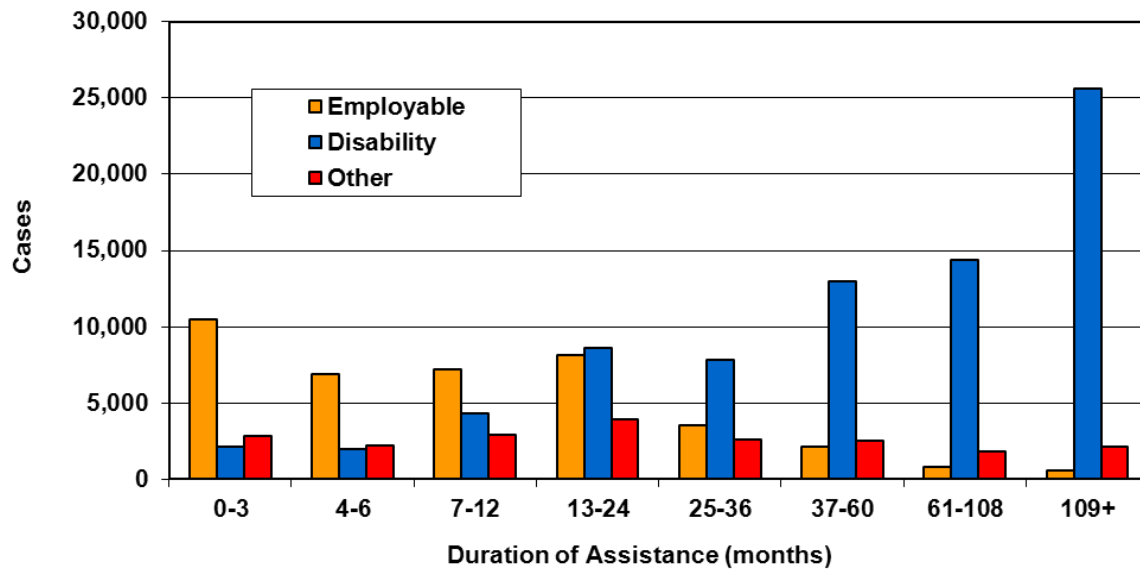
c. "Disability" includes cases with persons with disabilities.

d. "Other" includes cases with persistent multiple barriers, cases temporarily excused from working and persons who are expected to work with a temporary medical condition.

Note: Totals may not add due to rounding.

Chapter 12 – British Columbia – Employment and Assistance

British Columbia - Employment and Assistance
Table 12-5c: Number of Cases by Reason for Assistance
and Duration of Assistance
during March 2011



Duration of Assistance ^a	Employable ^b	Disability ^c	Other ^d	Total
0-3 months	10,500	2,100	2,800	15,400
4-6 months	6,900	2,000	2,200	11,100
7-12 months	7,200	4,300	2,900	14,500
13-24 months	8,100	8,600	3,900	20,700
25-36 months	3,500	7,800	2,600	13,900
37-60 months	2,100	13,000	2,500	17,600
61-108 months	800	14,400	1,800	17,000
109+ months	600	25,600	2,100	28,300
Total	39,600	77,900	20,800	138,300

a. "Duration of Assistance" measures length of current spell only.

b. "Employable" includes cases that are expected to work.

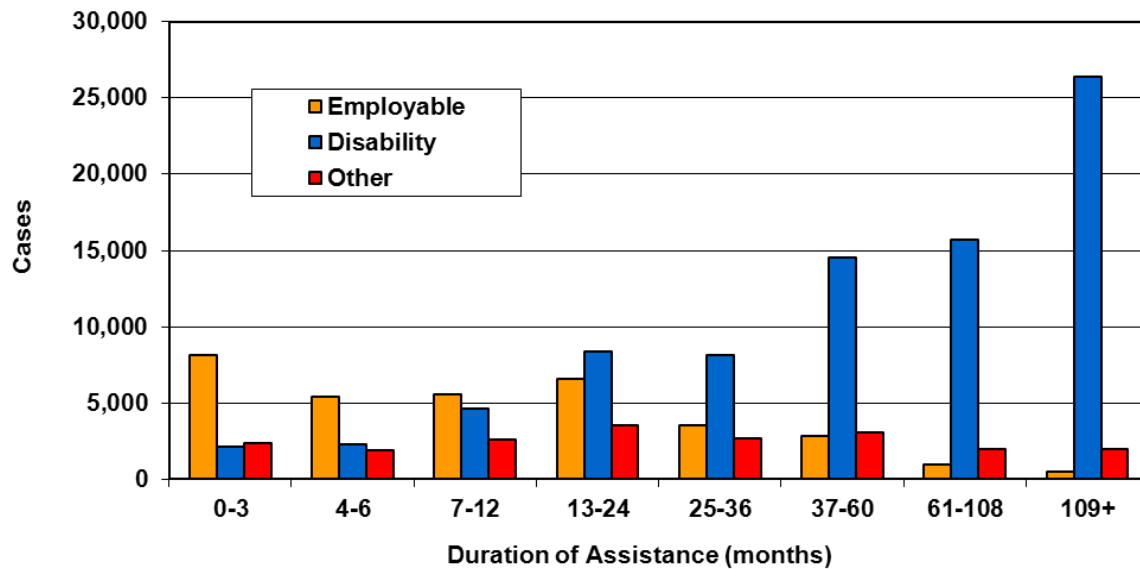
c. "Disability" includes cases with persons with disabilities.

d. "Other" includes cases with persistent multiple barriers, cases temporarily excused from working and persons who are expected to work with a temporary medical condition.

Note: Totals may not add due to rounding.

Chapter 12 – British Columbia – Employment and Assistance

British Columbia - Employment and Assistance
Table 12-5d: Number of Cases by Reason for Assistance
and Duration of Assistance
during March 2012



Duration of Assistance ^a	Employable ^b	Disability ^c	Other ^d	Total
0-3 months	8,100	2,100	2,400	12,700
4-6 months	5,400	2,300	1,900	9,600
7-12 months	5,600	4,600	2,600	12,800
13-24 months	6,600	8,400	3,500	18,600
25-36 months	3,500	8,100	2,700	14,300
37-60 months	2,800	14,500	3,100	20,400
61-108 months	1,000	15,700	2,000	18,800
109+ months	500	26,400	2,000	28,900
Total	33,500	82,300	20,200	136,100

a. "Duration of Assistance" measures length of current spell only.

b. "Employable" includes cases that are expected to work.

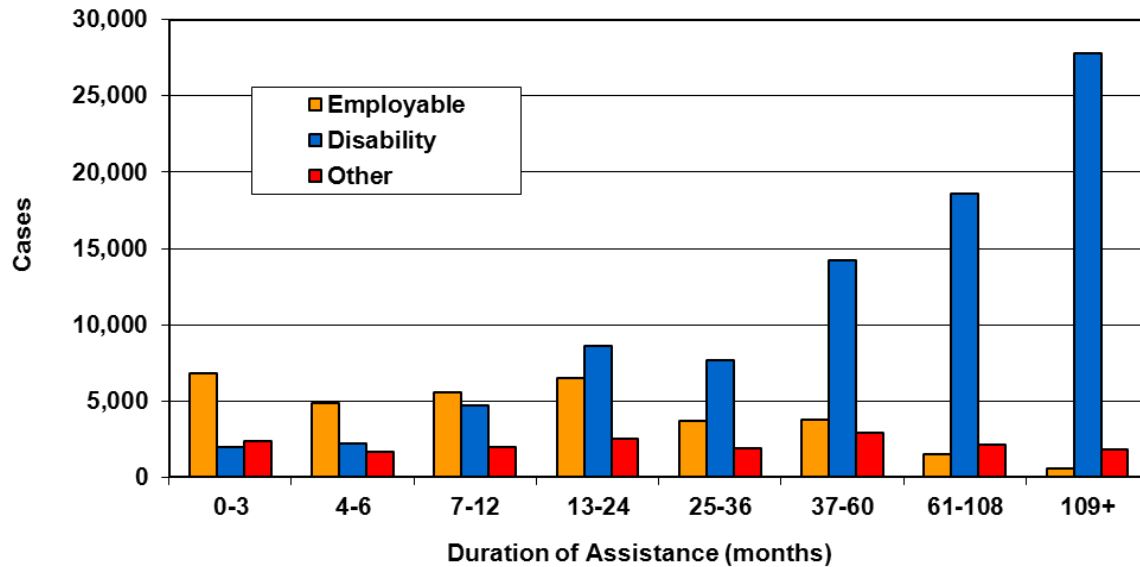
c. "Disability" includes cases with persons with disabilities.

d. "Other" includes cases with persistent multiple barriers, cases temporarily excused from working and persons who are expected to work with a temporary medical condition.

Note: Totals may not add due to rounding.

Chapter 12 – British Columbia – Employment and Assistance

British Columbia - Employment and Assistance
Table 12-5e: Number of Cases by Reason for Assistance
and Duration of Assistance
during March 2013



Duration of Assistance ^a	Employable ^b	Disability ^c	Other ^d	Total
0-3 months	6,800	2,000	2,400	11,200
4-6 months	4,900	2,200	1,700	8,800
7-12 months	5,600	4,700	2,000	12,200
13-24 months	6,500	8,600	2,500	17,500
25-36 months	3,700	7,700	1,900	13,300
37-60 months	3,800	14,200	2,900	20,900
61-108 months	1,500	18,600	2,100	22,100
109+ months	600	27,800	1,800	30,100
Total	33,300	85,800	17,100	136,200

a. "Duration of Assistance" measures length of current spell only.

b. "Employable" includes cases that are expected to work.

c. "Disability" includes cases with persons with disabilities.

d. "Other" includes cases with persistent multiple barriers, cases temporarily excused from working and persons who are expected to work with a temporary medical condition.

Note: Totals may not add due to rounding.

Chapter 13 – Yukon

Social Assistance

In Yukon, the territorial social assistance program is known as Social Assistance (SA). The *Social Assistance Act* and the Social Assistance Regulation governs Yukon's Social Assistance program.

The Social Assistance program provides basic benefits and supplementary benefits to both eligible adults and children.

Service Delivery

The Department of Health and Social Services is responsible for the delivery of the Social Assistance program to adults and children within the territory.

Eligibility

General

In order to be eligible for the Social Assistance program, applicants must meet the general eligibility requirements outlined in the "Social Assistance Overview" in this report.

Liquid Assets

At the time of application, applicants' liquid assets may not exceed the following allowable limits:

Yukon - Liquid Asset Exemptions March 2013		
	Clients without Disabilities	Clients with Disabilities
Single	\$500	\$1,500
Family	\$1,000 (for a family unit of 2) plus \$300 for each additional dependant.	\$2,500 (2 or more persons)

Earnings Exemptions

Once an application for assistance has been approved, Social Assistance clients are eligible for the following monthly exemptions on earned income:

Chapter 13 – Yukon – Social Assistance

Yukon - Earnings Exemptions March 2013		
	Clients without disabilities	Clients with disabilities
Single	50% of the monthly income from employment or self-employment earned by members of the household, up to a maximum of 36 months, when the percentage drops to 25%.	50% of the monthly income from employment or self-employment earned by members of the household, up to a maximum of 36 months, when the percentage drops to 25%; AND up to \$3,900 per year for a household of one of more persons.
Family	50% of the monthly income from employment or self-employment earned by members of the household, up to a maximum of 36 months, when the percentage drops to 25%.	50% of the monthly income from employment or self-employment earned by members of the household, up to a maximum of 36 months, when the percentage drops to 25%; AND up to \$3,900 per year for a household of one of more persons.

Benefits

Basic assistance consists of a standard benefit allowance and a shelter allowance. The standard benefit allowance covers the cost of food, clothing, and personal and household items. The maximum standard benefit rates are based on the household's size, its composition, and its geographical location.²⁶ Maximum shelter allowance rates are based on the number of persons in the household (including children).

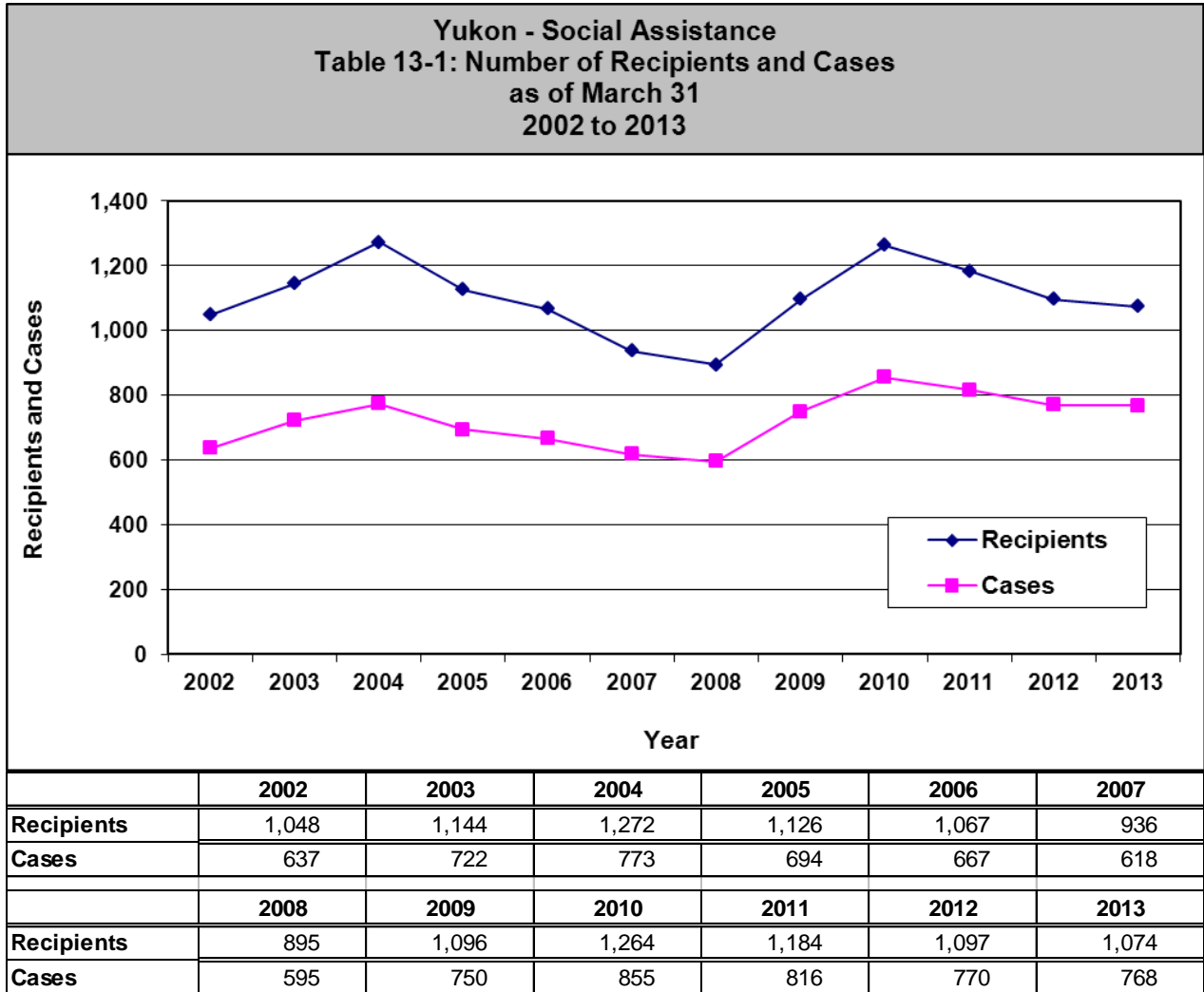
More Information

For more information, please consult Yukon's Department of Health and Social Services Web site at: www.hss.gov.yk.ca/index.php.

²⁶ The amount of financial assistance that a family is entitled to receive is linked to a three-tier scale based on location. Tier 1 encompasses Whitehorse, while Tiers 2 and 3 include Dawson City, Mayo, Carcross, Carmacks, and Old Crow.

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Recipients and Cases



Chapter 13 – Yukon – Social Assistance

Cases by Reason for Assistance

Yukon - Social Assistance Table 13-2: Number and Percentage of Cases by Reason for Assistance as of March 31										
Reason for Assistance	2009		2010		2011		2012		2013	
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
Employable	411	55%	458	54%	394	48%	389	51%	396	52%
Physical Illness/Disability	116	15%	127	15%	123	15%	111	14%	102	13%
Mental Illness	39	5%	49	6%	46	6%	45	6%	43	6%
Developmental Disability	29	4%	34	4%	42	5%	41	5%	33	4%
Over 60	92	12%	107	13%	95	12%	97	13%	100	13%
Children ^a	32	4%	38	4%	61	7%	44	6%	39	5%
Unsuitable for employment	31	4%	42	5%	55	7%	43	6%	55	7%
Total	750	100%	855	100%	816	100%	770	100%	768	100%

a. Children: applicants receiving SA (exempt from seeking employment) for reasons of taking care of one or more of his or her own children under the age of 6 years, or children of any age with a severe disability.

Recipients by Family Type

Yukon - Social Assistance Table 13-3: Number and Percentage of Recipients by Family Type as of March 31										
Family Type	2009		2010		2011		2012		2013	
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
Adults - Single	567	52%	636	50%	611	52%	601	55%	606	56%
Adults - Couple, no dependants	50	5%	78	6%	60	5%	54	5%	48	4%
Adults - Single parent	126	11%	137	11%	142	12%	115	10%	111	10%
Adults - Couple with dependants	66	6%	86	7%	66	6%	54	5%	54	5%
Total Adults	809	74%	937	74%	879	74%	824	75%	819	76%
Children - Single parent	226	21%	236	19%	239	20%	202	18%	196	18%
Children - Couple with dependants	61	6%	91	7%	66	6%	71	6%	59	5%
Total Children	287	26%	327	26%	305	26%	273	25%	255	24%
Total Recipients	1,096	100%	1,264	100%	1,184	100%	1,097	100%	1,074	100%

Chapter 13 – Yukon – Social Assistance

Cases by Age of Head

Yukon - Social Assistance Table 13-4: Number of Cases by Age of Head as of March 31					
Age of Head	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
15-19	25	25	26	25	14
20-29	154	177	161	165	137
30-39	125	138	152	124	143
40-49	160	193	177	153	149
50-59	194	215	205	208	225
60-64	76	86	79	75	82
65+	16	21	16	20	18
Total	750	855	816	770	768

Cases by Education of Head

Yukon - Social Assistance Table 13-5: Number and Percentage of Cases by Education of Head as of March 31										
Education of Head	2009		2010		2011		2012		2013	
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
< Grade 6	24	3%	23	3%	23	3%	24	3%	24	3%
Grade 7-9	108	14%	118	14%	107	13%	106	14%	97	13%
Grade 10-11	261	35%	291	34%	288	35%	267	35%	239	31%
Grade 12	218	29%	249	29%	248	30%	237	31%	265	35%
Other ^a	122	16%	147	17%	131	16%	119	15%	129	17%
Unknown	17	2%	27	3%	19	2%	17	2%	14	2%
Total	750	100%	855	100%	816	100%	770	100%	768	100%

a. Other: Includes Special Education, Partial Apprentice, Journeyman Certificate, Partial Tech Certificate/Partial College Diploma, Tech Certificate/College Diploma, Partial University, University/Professional Graduate.

Cases Reporting Income by Source of Income

Yukon - Social Assistance Table 13-6: Number and Percentage of Cases Reporting Income, by Source of Income, as of March 31										
Source of Income	2009		2010		2011		2012		2013	
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
Employment	104	39%	133	41%	128	43%	99	37%	96	39%
Government transfers	116	44%	144	44%	139	46%	132	50%	125	50%
Support payments	28	11%	29	9%	25	8%	23	9%	14	6%
Employment Insurance	9	3%	9	3%	4	1%	4	2%	8	3%
Other ^a	8	3%	12	4%	4	1%	7	3%	5	2%
Total ^b (includes double-counting)	265	100%	327	100%	300	100%	265	100%	248	100%

a. Other includes: training allowances (non-government), pensions (other than universal government pensions), rental income, and other sources of income not mentioned above.

b. Total cases in these categories may include double-counting, since cases that have more than one source of income are counted for each source reported. Percentages were calculated based on totals for sources of income.

Yukon - Social Assistance Table 13-7: Number of Cases Reporting Income as of March 31					
	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
Reporting Income	265	327	300	265	248
No Income	485	528	516	505	520
Total	750	855	816	770	768



Chapter 14 – Northwest Territories

Income Assistance

In the Northwest Territories (NWT), the territorial social assistance program is known as Income Assistance (IA). The *Social Assistance Act* and the Income Assistance Regulations²⁷ govern the Northwest Territories' IA program.

The IA program provides basic and enhanced benefits to single adults, families, persons with disabilities and seniors.

Service Delivery

The Department of Education, Culture, and Employment (ECE) is responsible for the delivery of the IA program in the NWT.

Eligibility

General

In order to be eligible for the IA program, applicants must meet the general eligibility requirements outlined in the "Social Assistance Overview" in this report.

Assets

At the time of application, applicants' current assets may not exceed the following allowable limits:

Northwest Territories - Liquid Asset Exemptions March 2013	
Clients with or without disabilities	
Single	\$300
Families	\$300 plus a further \$100 for each dependent adult and a further \$80 for each dependent child, if the applicant has dependants.
Disabled & Seniors	The value of assets up to a maximum of \$50,000.

²⁷ The Social Assistance Regulations was renamed to the Income Assistance Regulations in 2007.

Earnings Exemptions

IA applicants are eligible for the following monthly exemptions on earned income:

Northwest Territories - Earnings Exemptions March 2013	
	Clients with or without Disabilities
Single	\$200 plus 15% of any earned income in excess.
Family	\$400 plus 15% of any earned income in excess.

Unearned Income Exemptions

Unearned income in a recipient's household is exempt, up to a maximum amount of \$1,200 in a 12-month period. The exemption can be taken as a lump sum amount, or be split into smaller amounts that do not exceed \$1,200 for the 12, continuous month period.

Benefits

Basic assistance consists of allowances for food, room and board or accommodations, utilities and fuel. The basic allowance rates are based on the family's size and its geographical location. Room and board or accommodation allowance rates are based on an applicant's eligibility, family size and what is available in the community. The actual amount of fuel and utilities is included in the financial calculation.

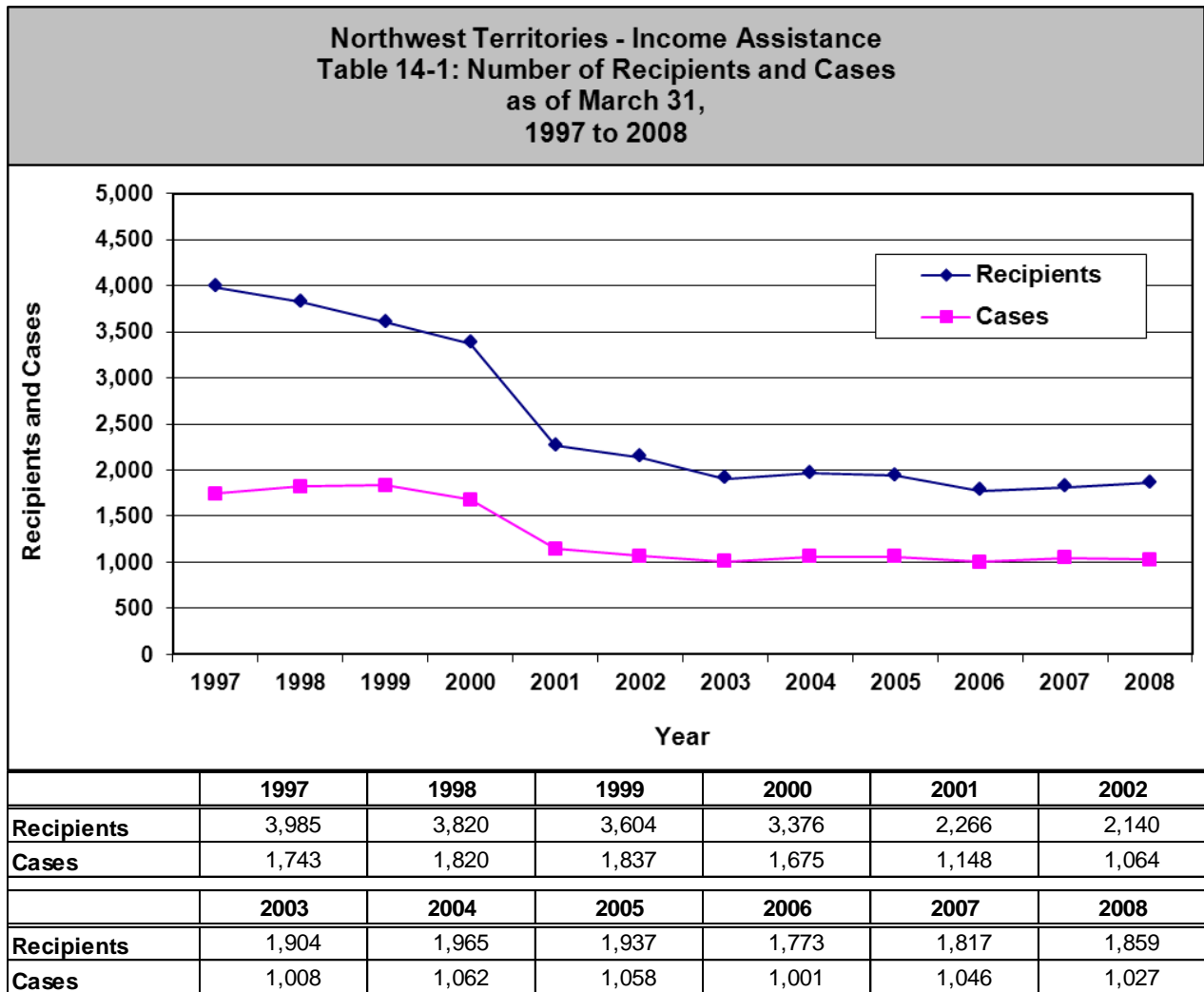
Enhanced benefits are available for persons with disabilities, seniors and applicants who participate in a Productive Choice, such as employment or volunteering. Enhanced benefits include allowances for disabilities, seniors, incidentals, expenses for primary, secondary, and post-secondary education and other training, clothing, furnishings, security deposits, emergencies and day care.

More Information

For more information, please consult the Northwest Territories Department of Education, Culture, and Employment Web site at: www.ece.gov.nt.ca.

STATISTICS²⁸

Recipients and Cases



²⁸ Due to a problem with the data collection, March 2009 and March 2010 data are not available. These tables will be updated once the information becomes available.

Cases by Reason for Assistance

Northwest Territories - Income Assistance Table 14-2: Number and Percentage of Cases by Reason for Assistance as of March 31, 2008		
Reason for Assistance	#	%
Employment	178	17%
Disability	359	35%
Other	490	48%
Total	1,027	100%

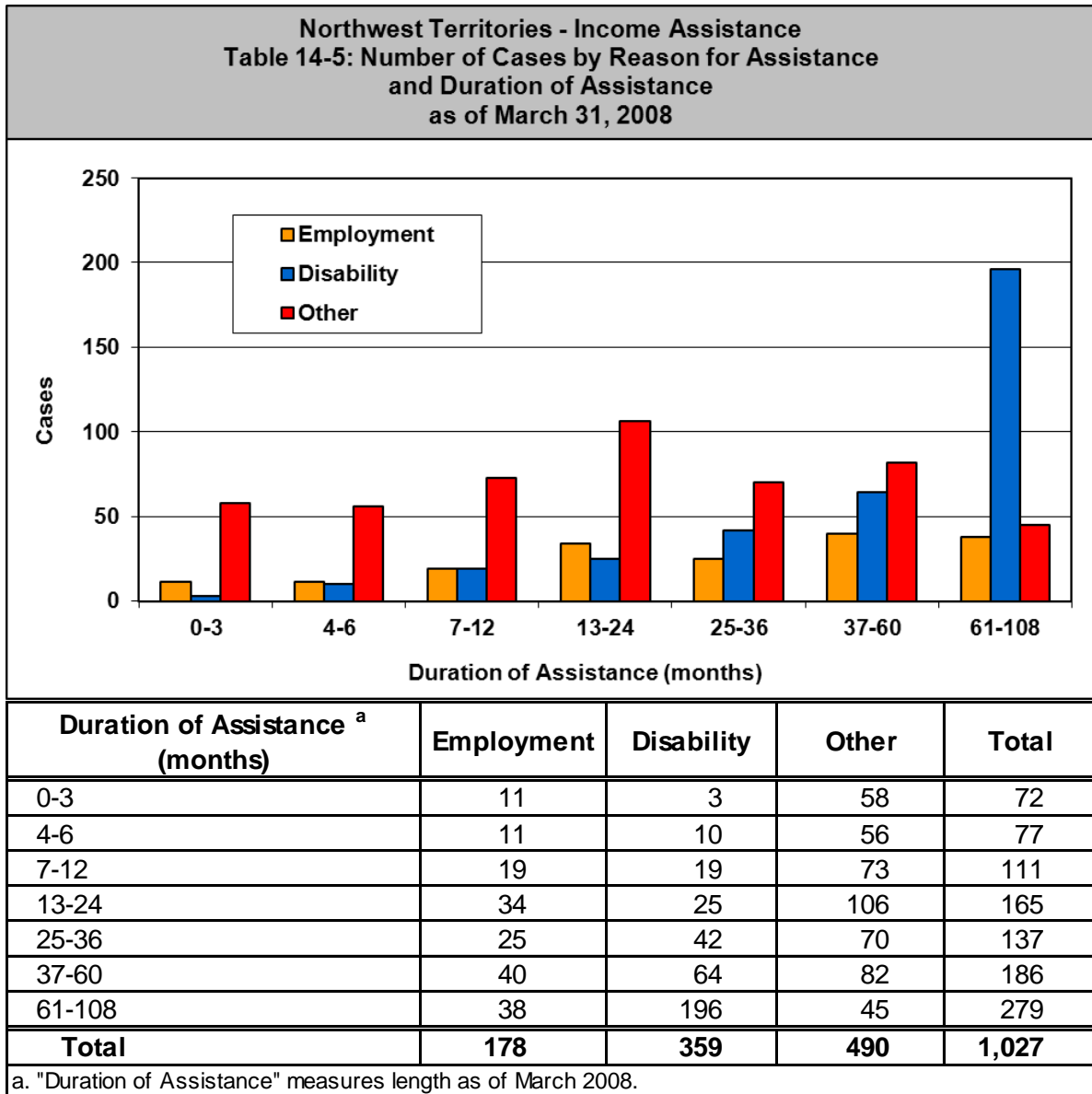
Recipients by Family Type

Northwest Territories - Income Assistance Table 14-3: Number and Percentage of Recipients by Family Type as of March 31, 2008		
Family Type	#	%
Adults - Single	658	35%
Adults - Couple, no dependants	106	6%
Adults - Single parent	241	13%
Adults - Couple with dependants	186	10%
Total Adults	1,191	
Children - Single parent	464	25%
Children - Couple with dependants	204	11%
Total Children (36%)	668	
Total Recipients	1,859	100%

Cases by Age of Head

Northwest Territories - Income Assistance Table 14-4: Number of Cases by Age of Head as of March 31, 2008	
Age of Head	#
<20	33
20-24	182
25-29	128
30-34	94
35-39	112
40-44	105
45-49	86
50-54	89
55-59	93
60-64	91
65+	14
Total	1,027

Cases by Reason for Assistance and Duration of Assistance



Cases Reporting Income by Source of Income

Northwest Territories - Income Assistance Table 14-6: Number and Percentage of Cases Reporting Income, by Source of Income, as of March 31, 2008		
Source of Income	#	%
Employment	182	25%
Government transfers	440	61%
Support payments	18	3%
Employment Insurance	8	1%
Other ^a	71	10%
Total ^b (includes double-counting)	719	100%
a. Other includes: training allowances.		
b. Total cases in these categories may include double-counting, since cases that have more than one source of income are counted for each source reported. Percentage were calculated based on 719 observations.		

Northwest Territories - Income Assistance Table 14-7: Number of Cases Reporting Income as of March 31, 2008	
Reporting Income	532
No Income	495
Total	1,027



Chapter 15 – Nunavut

Income Assistance

In Nunavut, the territorial social assistance program is part of the Income Assistance Division of the Department of Family Services, Government of Nunavut. The *Social Assistance Act* and Regulations govern Nunavut’s Social Assistance program.

The Social Assistance program provides basic and extended benefits to eligible heads of households and their dependants.

Service Delivery

The Department of Family Services is responsible for the delivery of the Income Assistance programs within the territory. Programs included in the Income Assistance Division include Social Assistance, Day Care Subsidy Program, the Senior Fuel Subsidy Program, and the Senior Citizen Supplementary Benefit Program.

Eligibility

General

In order to be eligible for the Social Assistance program, applicants must meet the general eligibility requirements outlined in the “Social Assistance Overview” in this report.

Assets

At the time of application, applicants’ assets may not exceed the following allowable limits:

Nunavut - Liquid Asset Exemptions March 2013	
Under 60	nil
60 and over	\$5,000
Client with a disability	\$5,000

Earnings Exemptions

Once an application for assistance has been approved, Social Assistance clients are eligible for the following monthly exemptions on earned income:

Chapter 15 – Nunavut – Income Assistance

Nunavut - Earnings Exemptions March 2013		
	Clients without Disabilities	Clients with Disabilities
Single	\$200	\$200
Family	\$400	\$400

Benefits

Social Assistance consists of basic benefits and extended benefits. The basic benefits cover the cost of food, shelter, and utilities. The food allowance component of basic benefits may be used to purchase personal and/or household items. The food allowance rates are based on family size and geographic location. Maximum shelter allowance rates are based on an applicant's eligibility, family size and what is available in the community. Established approval levels are required for rents that are in excess of \$2,500. The actual cost of fuel and utilities is paid.

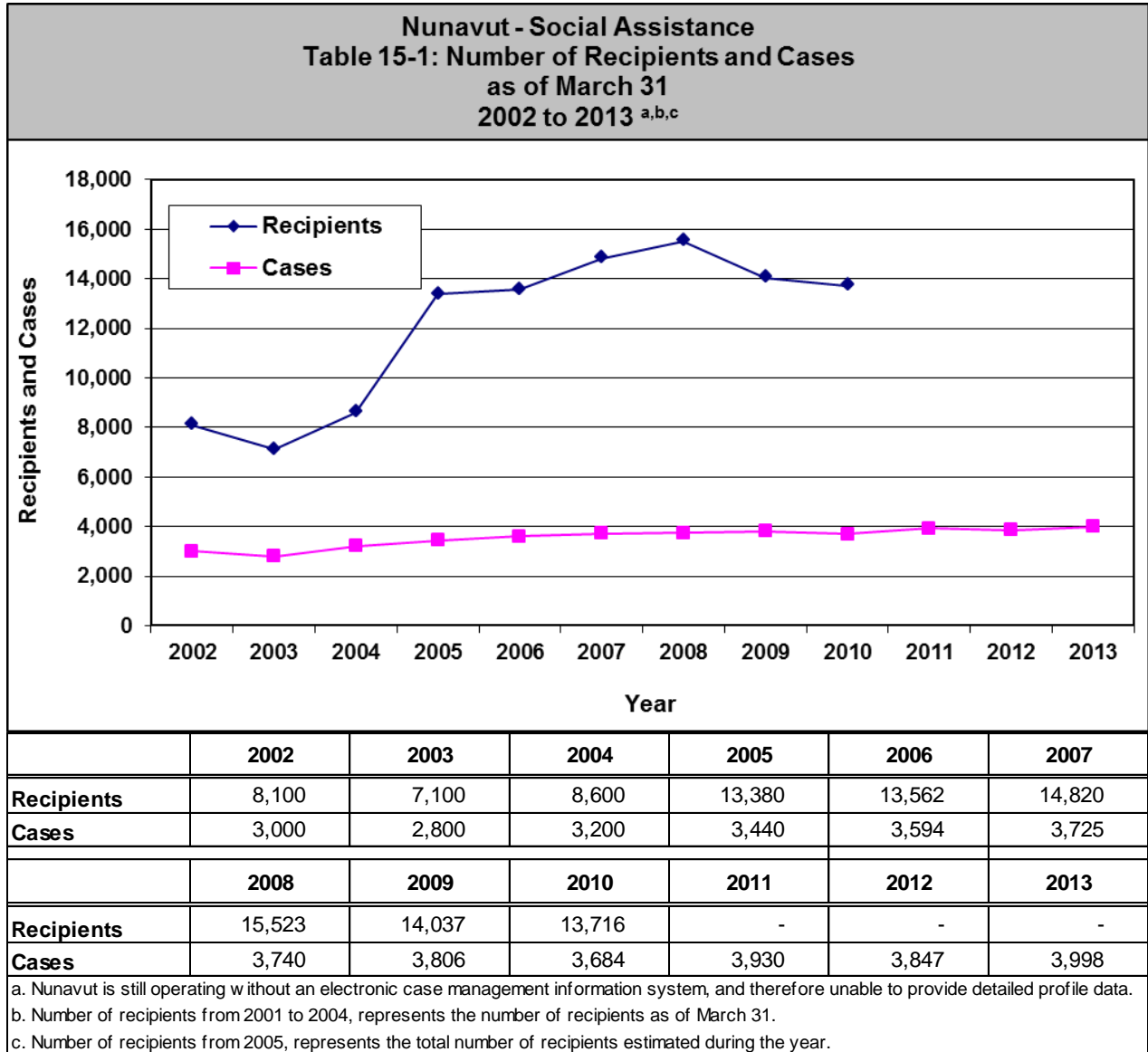
An extended benefit is also available for persons with long term disabilities, seniors and applicants who participate in a program, such as employment, education/training or volunteering. The extended benefit provides allowances for clothing, furnishings, security deposits, emergencies and day care.

More Information

For more information, please consult Nunavut's Department of Family Services website at: gov.nu.ca/familyservices.

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