

COUNTRY PROFILE : CANADA

Table 1. General economic and demographic data

	Canada	RC10 countries: Average	RC10 countries: Max	RC10 countries: Min
GDP per capita, PPP (current international \$)	39,050.2	33,462.8	86,124.3 (Luxemburg)	13,930.6 (Bulgaria)
Fertility rate, total (births per woman)	1.7	1.6	2.2 (Iceland)	1.2 (Latvia)
Life expectancy at birth, total (years)	80.8	79.1	82.9 (Japan)	73.3 (Lithuania)
Population under 18 (in thousands)	6,919.9	5,880.0	75201.3 (United States)	78.6 (Malta)
Total population (in thousands)	34,016.6	28,882.3	310383.9 (United States)	320.1 (Iceland)

Table 2. Poverty and public actions

	Canada	RC10 countries: Average	RC10 countries: Max	RC10 countries: Min
Population poverty	12.2	9.7	19.2 (United States)	4.6 (Czech Rep)
Child poverty	14	11.5	25.5 (Romania)	4.7 (Iceland)
Poverty gap	21.8	21.6	37.5 (United States)	10.9 (Finland)
Public spending on families (as percentage of GDP)	1.4	2.2	3.7 (France)	1.0 (Malta)
<i>Cash (as percentage of GDP)</i>	<i>0.8</i>	<i>1.3</i>	<i>2.7 (Luxemburg)</i>	<i>0.1 (United States)</i>
<i>Services (as percentage of GDP)</i>	<i>0.2</i>	<i>0.7</i>	<i>1.9 (Sweden)</i>	<i>0.1 (Malta)</i>
<i>Tax breaks towards families (as percentage of GDP)</i>	<i>0.4</i>	<i>0.3</i>	<i>0.9 (Germany)</i>	

DATA SOURCES AND DEFINITIONS

General economic and demographic data (Table 1)

The indicators are from the World Development Indicators (WDI) database and United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs - Population Division. They are referred to the year 2010.

GDP per capita (PPP current international \$) is gross domestic product per capita converted to international dollars using purchasing power parity rates.

Total Fertility Rate represents the number of children that would be born to a woman if she were to live to the end of her childbearing years and bear children in accordance with current age-specific fertility rates.

Life expectancy at birth indicates the number of years a newborn infant would live if prevailing patterns of mortality at the time of its birth were to stay the same throughout its life.

Also, Table 1 reports data for total population (in thousands) and for population under 18 (in thousands)

Poverty and public actions (Table 2)

The income poverty statistics are based on data for household *disposable income*. Disposable income is the income derived from different sources available to the household, after deducting direct income taxes and adding public transfers. To compare the incomes of households of different size and composition, the modified-OECD equivalent scale is applied. This equivalent scale gives a score of 1 to the household head. Each of the other household members aged 14 and more receives a score of 0.5, while each child with age less than 14 receives a score of 0.3. The sum of the individual scores gives the equivalent household size. The equivalent disposable household income is obtained by dividing the total household disposable income by the equivalent household size. If the equivalent disposable household income is lower than the poverty line, then the household is considered as income poor. The relative poverty threshold (or poverty line) used in this study is fixed, for each country, at 50 per cent of the median national disposable income. In the Table 2 results presented refer to children defined as individuals aged less than 18 years old and on poverty for the total population (all ages). Data are from the *Survey on Labour and Income Dynamics* (SLID) and Cross National Equivalent File (CNEF), with income data referred to the year 2008.

Data for public spending are from the OECD Family Database, around 2007.

More information are reported in the two background papers (available at <http://www.unicef-irc.org/publications/>).