

## Preface

Every five years, Statistics Canada conducts a Census of Population in order to develop a statistical portrait of Canada and its people. The most recent Census was conducted in May 2011.

At the time of the last Census, Statistic Canada replaced the long form Census that collected social and economic data with a voluntary National Household Survey (NHS). The 2011 Census questionnaire consisted of the same eight demographic and linguistic questions that appeared on the 2006 Census short-form questionnaire, with the addition of two questions on language. The content of the new NHS is similar to that of the 2006 Census long questionnaire; however, changes were made to some questions and sections of the questionnaire. For example, in the 2011 NHS changes were made to the questions used to measure Aboriginal identity; a new component of income is measured; and, the universe for determining generation status was expanded to include the entire population.

### *Comparability*

The Global Non-response Rate (GNR) is used to ascertain the level of non-response to the National Household Survey. Due to the voluntary nature of the survey, the NHS is subject to greater non-response bias.

Change in survey method or content can affect the comparability of the data over time. Statistics Canada states that it is impossible to determine whether, and to what extent, differences in a variable are attributable to change or to non-response bias. As a result, caution must be exercised when NHS estimates are compared with data from the 2006 Census long form.

### *Fact Sheet Overview*

The community demographic profiles in this series provide a comparison between the current and previous censuses, Surrey and key Metro Vancouver municipalities, as well as between each of Surrey's six communities: Cloverdale, Fleetwood, Guildford, Newton, South Surrey, and Whalley. City Centre is also identified as a sub-community planning area within Whalley.

For the purpose of this and other facts sheets in the series, the term "National Household Survey" (NHS) refers to the National Household Survey of Canada conducted by Statistics Canada. The voluntary survey collected social and economic information about the people of Canada between May and August 2011. The term "Census" in this document refers to the Census of Population conducted by Statistics Canada on May 10, 2011. The Census provides information about the people and housing units in Canada.

## LOW INCOME

In 2011, Statistic Canada replaced the long form Census that collected social and economic data with a voluntary National Household Survey. At this time, Statistic Canada also changed the definition of low income from Low Income Cut-Off (LICO) to Low Income Measure After Tax (LIM-AT), defined as “the fixed percentage (50%) of median adjusted household income, where “adjusted” indicates that household needs are taken into account. Adjustments for household size reflect the fact that a household’s needs increase as the number of members increase.” The following income thresholds are used to identify families and individuals living in low income:

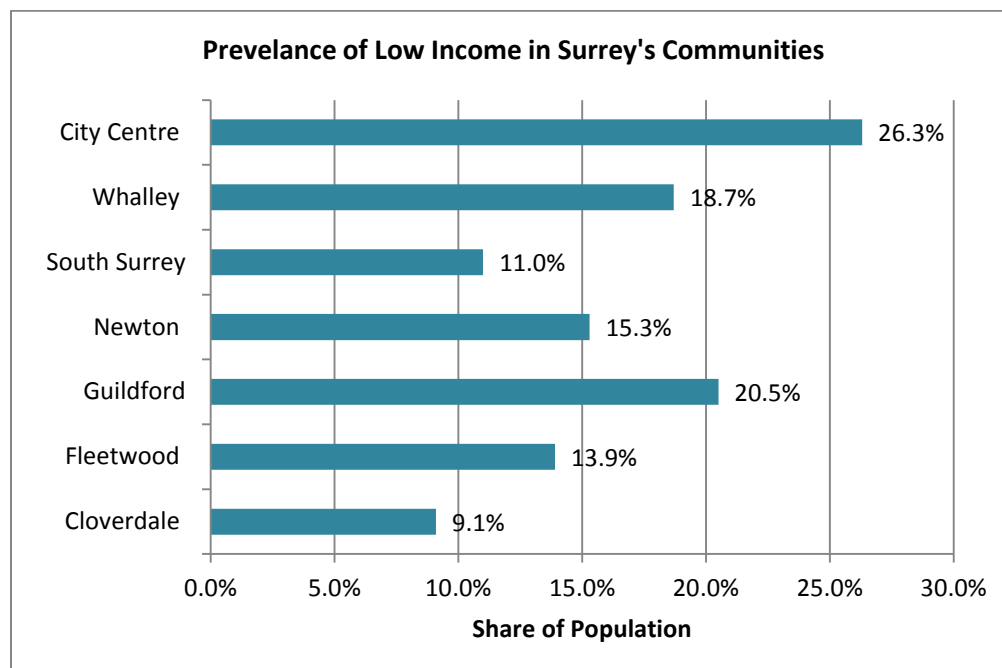
- 1 person household - 2010 income cut-off of \$19,460
- 2 person household - 2010 income cut-off of \$25,721
- 3 person household - 2010 income cut-off of \$33,706
- 4 person household - 2010 income cut-off of \$38,920

Due to differences in the definitions, it is suggested that extreme caution be exercised in using low income data comparisons between the 2006 Census and 2011 National Household Survey.

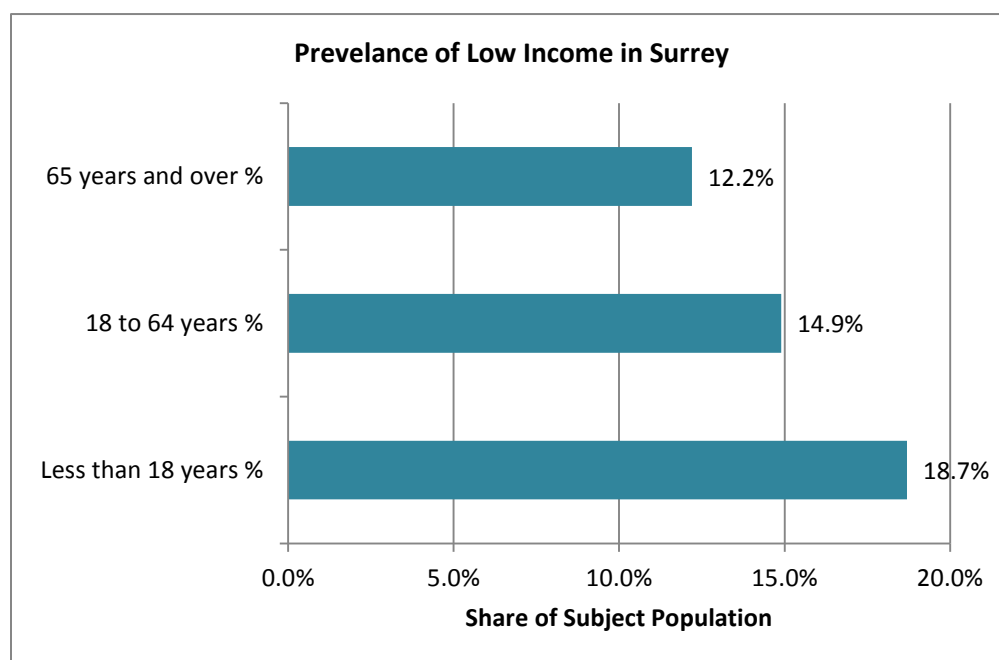
In 2010, 15.5% of Surrey residents lived in low income (based on the Low income after tax measure), an increase from 2005, when 13.6% of all persons lived in low income (based on Low Income Cut-off).

### Low Income in Surrey’s Communities

Whalley has the greatest number of low income residents of all Surrey communities (13,325); however, Guildford has the greatest proportion of low income residents (20.5%), aside from the sub-community City Centre (26.3%).



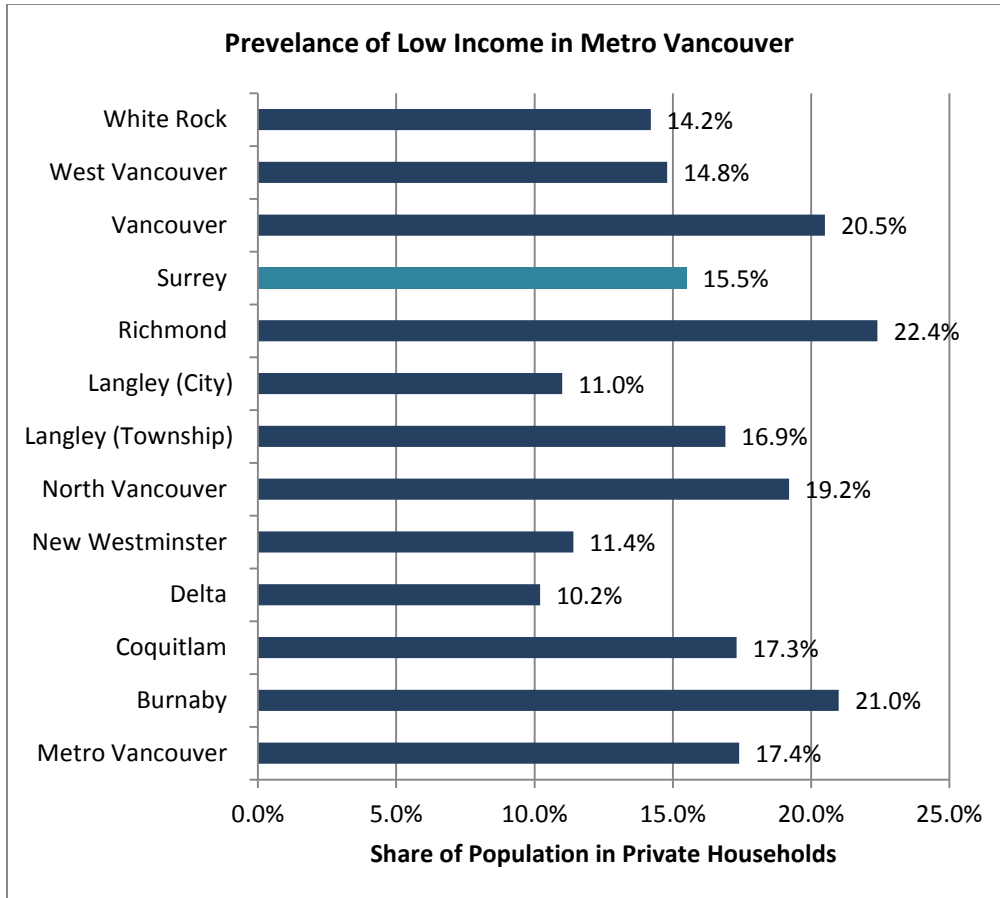
Of the 71,695 people living in low income in Surrey, 20,350 were children and youth 18 years of age and younger. Children and youth comprise 28% of Surrey’s low income population, and 18.7% of Surrey’s children and youth population.



	Cloverdale	Fleetwood	Guildford	Newton	South Surrey	Whalley	City Centre	Surrey
In low income in 2010 based on after-tax low-income measure (LIM-AT)	4900	8085	11950	20210	7405	13325	5825	71695
Less than 18 years	1265	2255	3495	6410	1665	4020	1250	20350
Less than 6 years	345	640	915	2010	355	1340	555	6155
18 to 64 years	3170	4930	7505	12175	4680	8420	3950	44840
65 years and over	470	900	945	1630	1060	880	625	6505
Prevalence of low income in 2010 based on after-tax low-income measure %	9.1	13.9	20.5	15.3	11	18.7	26.3	15.5
Less than 18 years %	9.4	16.5	25.6	19.1	12.4	23.1	31.8	18.7
Less than 6 years %	6.8	17.3	26.2	17.5	9.6	24.5	32.6	17.8
18 to 64 years %	8.8	13	19.4	14.4	11.5	18	24.7	14.9
65 years and over %	10.1	14	16	12	7.9	12.2	28.1	12.2

**Regional Comparison of Low Income**

The proportion of low income residents in Surrey is lower than that of the Metro Vancouver region. In Surrey, 15.5% of people lived in low income in 2010. Comparatively, across the Metro Vancouver region, 17.4% of people lived in low income. In municipalities such as Vancouver, Richmond, and Burnaby, greater than 20% of the population lived in low income in 2010.



Children and youth 18 years of age and younger comprise the largest share of the subject population living in low income in all Metro Vancouver municipalities.

