

Highlights of the National Household Survey on Poverty in the Greater Vancouver Jewish Community

- There are 4,220 Jews living below the low income cutoff in Greater Vancouver. The poor comprise 16.1% of a total population of 26,195 Jews residing in the local community. This compares with 11% in the general population.
- The number of Jewish poor has increased significantly in the last decade, with 4,220 disadvantaged individuals in 2011 compared to 3,275 in 2001.
- The level of child poverty (0-14 years) in the Greater Vancouver Jewish population is 13.4%. There are 630 children in the local Jewish community who live in economically disadvantaged circumstances.
- About one in six elderly Jews (65+ years) are poor, but senior women are twice as likely to be disadvantaged as men (21.8% and 10.9% respectively).
- Most of the Jewish poor live on the West Side of Vancouver (1,535), but there are also significant numbers in Richmond City (450), the West End (405), and on the East Side (385).
- More than a quarter (28.9%) of children living in female single parent families are economically disadvantaged.
- Young Jewish adults between 15-24 years who are unattached (living alone or with non-relatives) are a particularly vulnerable group for poverty (65.9%).
- Almost two-thirds (62.9%) of individuals relying on income assistance or worker's compensation live below the poverty cut-off. Among individuals 55-64 years who rely on government transfer payments, the poverty level is a staggering 92%.
- There are 1,175 "working poor" in the local Jewish community who earn wages that are not sufficient to push their income above the low income cut-off.