

Answer Key: Poverty and Inequality in BC

	True	False
BC has the lowest poverty rate in Canada BC has the second highest poverty rate in Canada at 10.3%, using the Market Basket Measure -that's 481,000 British Columbians struggling to get by. BC has been first or second for over 15 years. We use MBM because it tracks actual cost of living and changes by region so captures BC's housing crisis.		x
20% of people living in BC are considered to be poor BC's child poverty rate is 1 in 5 using the Low Income Measure. That's 172,550 children, larger than the population of Coquitlam.	x	
Most people who are poor in BC are unemployed The majority of poor people in BC are working – they have a job but they still can't make ends meet.		x
Over 100,000 people use foodbanks in BC In a typical month, over 100,000 people in BC use food banks and the need is increasing: 1 in 3 are children; almost 1 in 3 are Aboriginal; about 1 in 6 are or were recently employed.	x	
Indigenous people, single mothers, people who identify with LGBTQ community and seniors are most likely to be living below the "poverty line" Poverty is concentrated in specific populations, such as indigenous people, people with disabilities, recent immigrants and refugees, queer and transgender people, single-mother households and single senior women.	x	
There are about 1000 homeless people in the Vancouver area There are approximately 3605 homeless people in Metro Vancouver and an estimated 7,655 homeless people across BC – both of these are recognized as undercounts. In the first youth homelessness count conducted in 2018, 681 youth and children were found homeless in Metro Vancouver, with half being in or from government care.		x