

HUNGER FACTS 2005

MORE DEMAND NATIONALLY

Number of people using a food bank in one month of 2005: **823,856**

Total Combined Population of Newfoundland/Labrador, Prince Edward Island,
the Northwest Territories, Yukon and Nunavut: **758,500***

Food Bank use since 2004: **-0.1%**; since 1997: **+24%**; since 1989: **+118%**

Number of food banks: **650 (631 in sample)**

Number of meal programs open in March 2005: **127 (114 providing statistics)**

Number of provinces & territories *without* a food bank: **0**

Years since Canada's first food bank opened in Edmonton: **23**

Amount needed to bring all poor people in Canada up to the poverty line: **\$18.6 billion(2001)****

Canada's gross domestic product: **\$1.1 trillion (2001)*****

MORE DEMAND REGIONALLY

Highest provincial per capita food bank use: **Newfoundland and Labrador (5.5%)**

Province assisting largest share of food bank recipients: **Ontario (338,563)**

CHALLENGES MEETING DEMAND

Percentage of food banks with difficulty meeting demand: **38.8%**

Number of meals served in one month: **2.72 million**

Full-time equivalent jobs provided by volunteers in one month: **4,922**

INSUFFICIENT INCOME

Percentage of food bank clients whose primary source of income is from employment: **13.1%**

Percentage of food bank clients whose primary source of income is from social assistance: **51.6%**

Number of provinces/territories with minimum wage rates above the Low Income Cut-Off (LICO): **0**

Number of provinces/territories with welfare rates above the LICO: **0******

MORE HUNGRY CHILDREN

Percentage of food bank clients who are children: **40.7%**

Years since the federal government promised to eliminate child poverty: **16**

Change in the number of hungry children since then (1989): **+184,309**

Canadians who believe that hunger is a problem in Canada: **71%** (Totum Research Inc., 2004)

Number of "food bank" mentions in House of Commons from February/04 to June/05: **5*******

Percentage of donations to CAFB spent on charitable work: **+90**

Amount of government funding for CAFB core operations: **\$0**

* Population as of July 1, 2004. Statistics Canada (2005). Population by year, by province and territory.

**National Council of Welfare (2004). Poverty Profile 2001. Ottawa.

***Ibid., (2004)

**** National Council of Welfare (2005). Welfare Incomes 2004. Ottawa.

*****Debates of the House of Commons Canada (Hansard)