



HIGHLIGHTS

Canada's system of public social security recognizes that Canadians should have at least minimum resources to meet basic needs.

At age 65 almost all persons become eligible for old age security benefits. They may also receive pensions under the Canada Pension Plan or the Quebec Pension Plan, income supplements from their province, or tax credits on their shelter costs.

Income protection for the work force is provided through an unemployment insurance program to which workers and employers contribute. Employers also contribute to provincial compensation programs for workers who may be injured on the job.

Provinces may provide income assistance through the Canada Assistance Plan (CAP), cost-shared by the federal government.

Families may receive income support in federal family allowances. All provinces and territories have child welfare legislation and policies to support the care and protection of children.

Equality rights of disabled and disadvantaged persons were enshrined in the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms in 1982.