

TRACKING THE TRENDS



FUTURE DIRECTIONS FOR HUMAN SERVICES IN EDMONTON

1989 Edition ♦ Special feature on Youth and Seniors

Tracking the Trends

**(Future Directions
for Human Services
in Edmonton)**

Prepared by: Community Trends Working Group
Alberta Family and Social Services
Alberta Health - Mental Health Division
Edmonton Board of Health
Edmonton Community and Family Services
Edmonton Social Planning Council
United Way of Edmonton and Area
September, 1989

Preface

Tracking the Trends: Future Directions for Human Services in Edmonton is the product of the hard work and shared concern of some of the major funders and providers of human services in the Edmonton area.

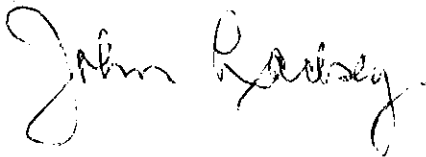
Part of the impetus for this study is the conviction that in times of fiscal restraint, it is crucial that government departments and community agencies monitor the significant trends likely to influence the need for human services in the coming decade.

Our hope is that *Tracking the Trends* will become an annual publication widely available to any group requesting it. While such a document cannot provide ready answers, it can become a very valuable aid to planning new programs and policy initiatives. The plan is to "track the trends" for two target populations--this first year, seniors and youth--and revisit them for an update every third and fourth years.

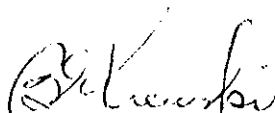
Community members played a valuable part of preparing the special sections on trends likely to influence youth and senior services. We thank them for their input and encourage others who may be asked to help in preparing future editions of *Tracking the Trends*.



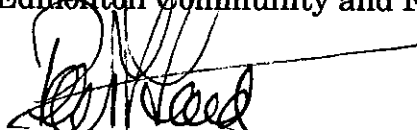
Mr. Dennis Bell
Regional Director
Alberta Family and Social Services



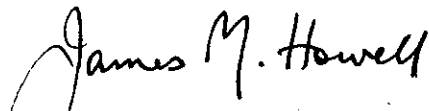
Mr. John Lackey
General Manager
Edmonton Community and Family Services



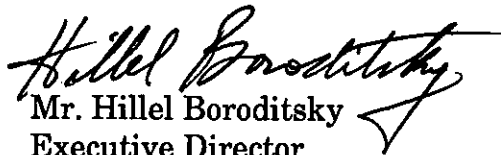
Mr. Bernie Krewski
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Part 1

Major Social and Economic Trends

Introduction

Why track the trends?

Timely information on the major social and economic trends affecting Edmonton is important to Edmonton's human service agencies and their funders. Information on trends helps us gain a better understanding of present social conditions and how they may have changed. Perhaps more importantly, statistical trends can help us anticipate changing needs for human services.

There's no lack of useful statistics available, but part of our challenge has been to select the most relevant bits of information and then relate them to one another in a meaningful way.

Tracking the Trends provides clear, straightforward information on some of the major social and economic trends likely to influence human services in Edmonton--now or in the near future. This 1989 edition focuses in most detail on trends that will affect services for Edmonton's seniors and youth.

Several working group members identified the need for a "user-friendly" publication on community trends, and the United Way served as a catalyst to bring it to fruition. As a community-supported agency providing funding to 44 human service agencies, the United Way appreciates the importance of having timely trend information to help them make sound funding decisions.

Other major funders in the city--such as the City of Edmonton's Community and Family Services and the Edmonton Region of Alberta Family and Social Services--also saw an annual publication on community trends as an aid to decision-making.

Thus, a collective community effort was undertaken to ensure that the most useful information would be selected and presented in an easy-to-use publication.

How was it done?

The Community Trends Working Group that prepared this first annual *Tracking the Trends* is: Joni Morrison-O'Hara, Alberta Family and Social Services, Edmonton Region; Jo Eustace, Alberta Health, Mental Health Division; Penny Macdonald, Edmonton Board of Health; J. P. Lebourgeois, Edmonton Community and Family Services; Peter Faid, Edmonton Social Planning Council; and Willie Kwong, United Way of Edmonton and Area.

This Community Trends Working Group first:

- shared their knowledge of sources of social and economic trend information available for Edmonton
- identified major theme areas such as population change, families, and employment
- prepared a graph or map of the most current and useful trend information identified for each theme.

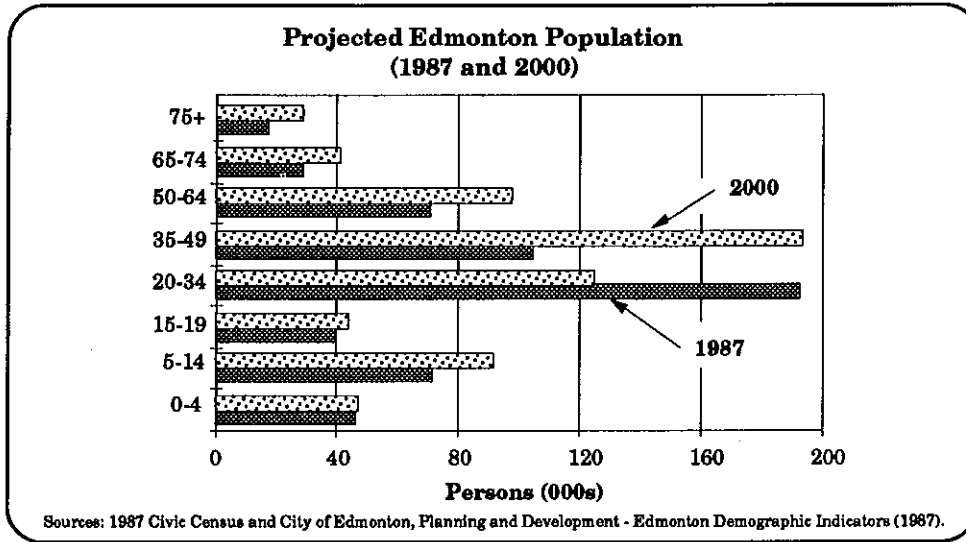
Then the Community Trends Working Group identified major trends and their potential effect or influence upon seniors or youth by working directly with those receiving or providing human services.

The Community Trends Working Group:

- selected 80 "key informants" to complete a brief questionnaire on the major trends they believed would influence future human services for their group (seniors or youth)
- summarized the information gathered through these questionnaires and focus groups in Part II of *Tracking the Trends*.

Population

In 1987, the Edmonton population was 576,249. It is projected to increase by 18% to 680,350 by 2000. Since 1984, population growth has been largely the result of natural increase (births minus deaths), as more people left the city than came to it during this period. Two important aspects of the population's composition are described below.

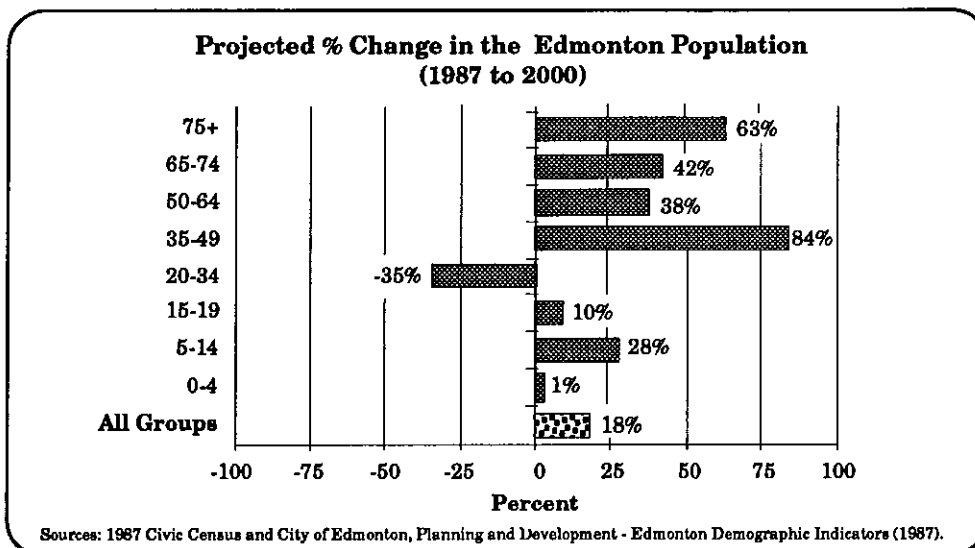


• Aging of the Population

In 1987, 8.1% of the population (or 46,883 people) were 65 years of age or older. Estimates suggest that by the year 2000, these figures will increase to 10.5% (or 71,584 people). In comparison, the percentage of the senior population in other major cities in 1986 follow:

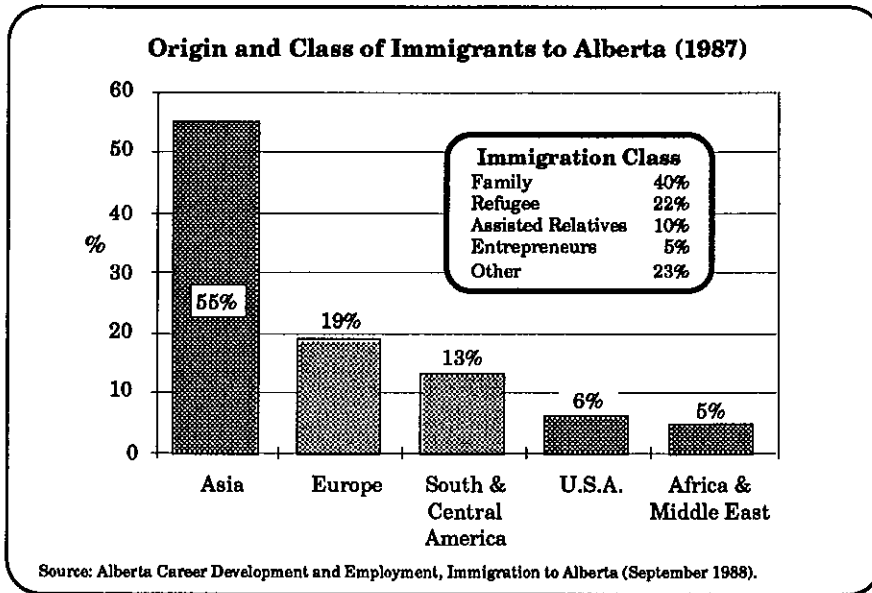
Calgary	6.8%	Ottawa/Hull	8.9%	Toronto	9.6%
Montreal	10.2%	Vancouver	12.1%	Victoria	17.9%

As well, the number of middle-aged people will increase substantially, the number of young adults will decrease, and the number of preschoolers will remain the same.



• **Multicultural Nature of the Population**

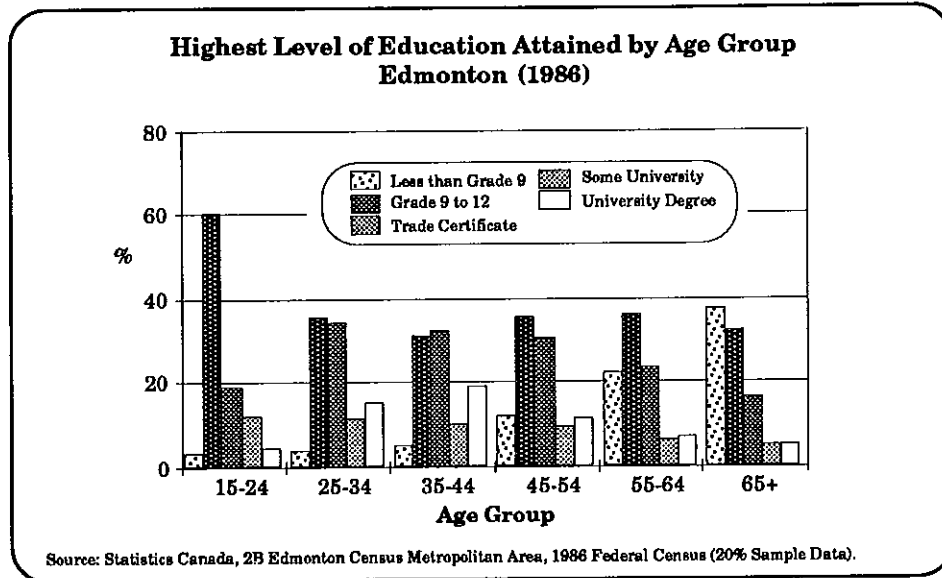
As of 1986, 21% of the City's population were born outside of Canada. About 5,000 immigrants settled in Edmonton in 1987 compared to nearly 7,500 in 1980. Another 7,500 are projected to arrive in 1988. An increasing number of immigrants are from Asia and from non-English speaking countries.



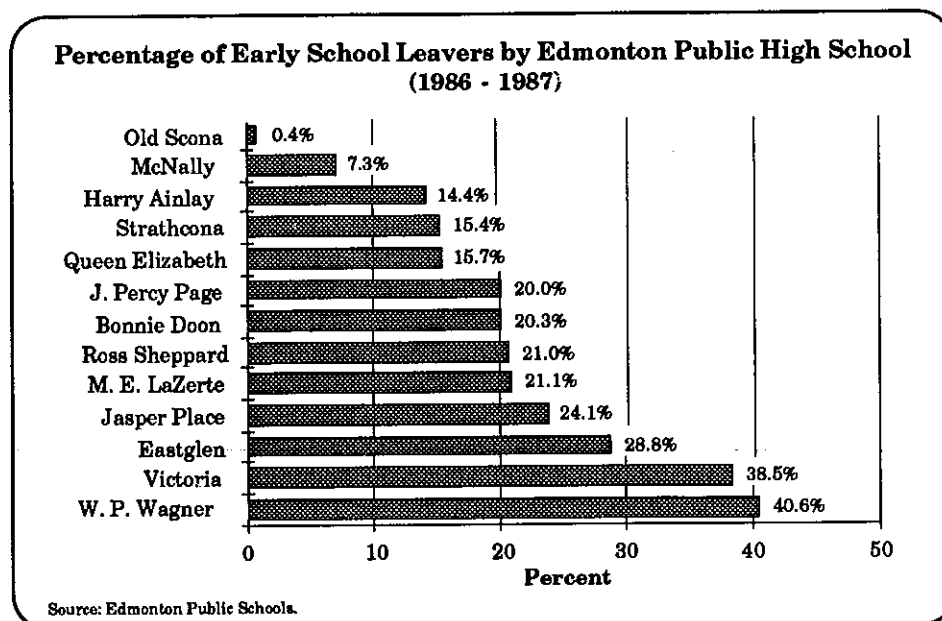
Education

The level of education attained is becoming increasingly important in determining career opportunities, income potential, and a person's health. The first figure shows a general tendency towards older people having acquired less education. This may have implications for job-retraining opportunities of older workers.

Literacy is a key to full participation in our society as never before. And yet, an estimated one in seven Edmontonians are functionally illiterate (defined as less than a Grade 9 education).



A further concern is the number of young people who leave high school before they have completed Grade 12. This limits their opportunities for future education or successful employment. The second figure shows Edmonton Public High Schools ranked in terms of early-school-leavers. For the past three years, approximately 15% (or 2,400) students quit high school before completing Grade 12.

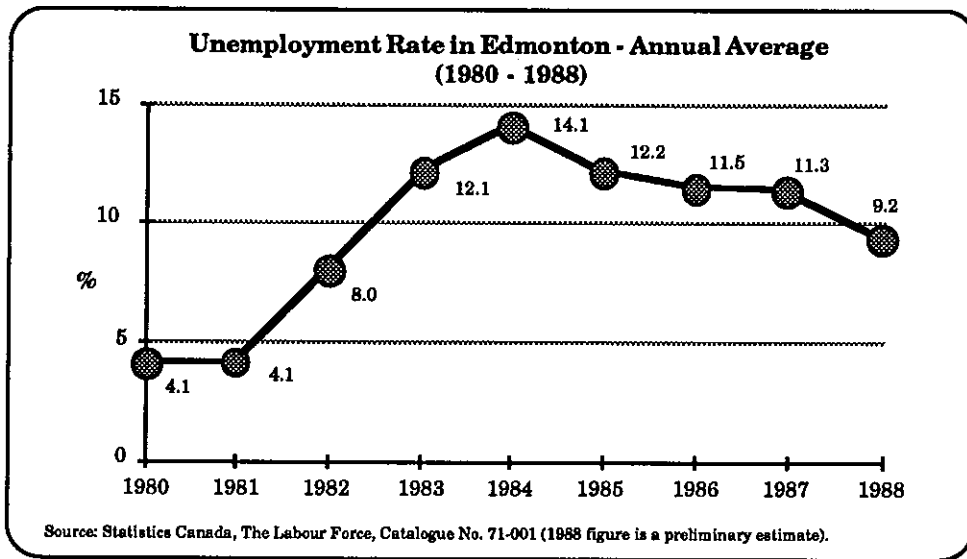


Employment

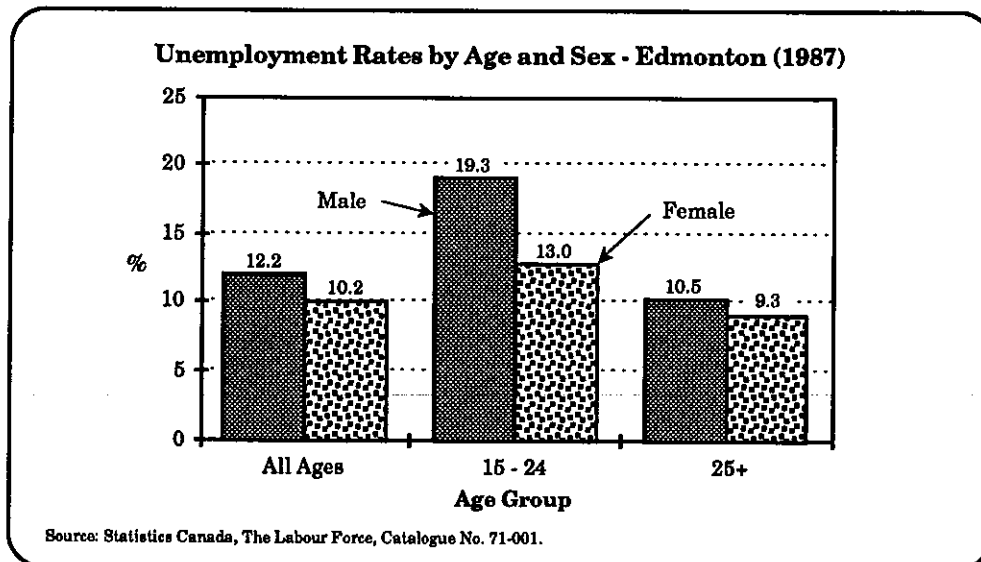
A community's well-being depends greatly on its level of employment. It determines spending patterns, social roles, status, and self-esteem. On the other hand, unemployment has tremendous bearing on the occurrence of social problems such as poverty, family problems, poor physical and mental health, and substance abuse.

The following five figures show several important trends concerning employment in Edmonton.

- Unemployment rates have remained high since 1982. According to the City's Forecast Committee, unemployment rates around 10 percent are expected to persist in the near future.



- Unemployment rates for males have been consistently higher than for females since 1982, especially among the younger age groups (15-24 years). This gap, however, tends to narrow among those over 25.

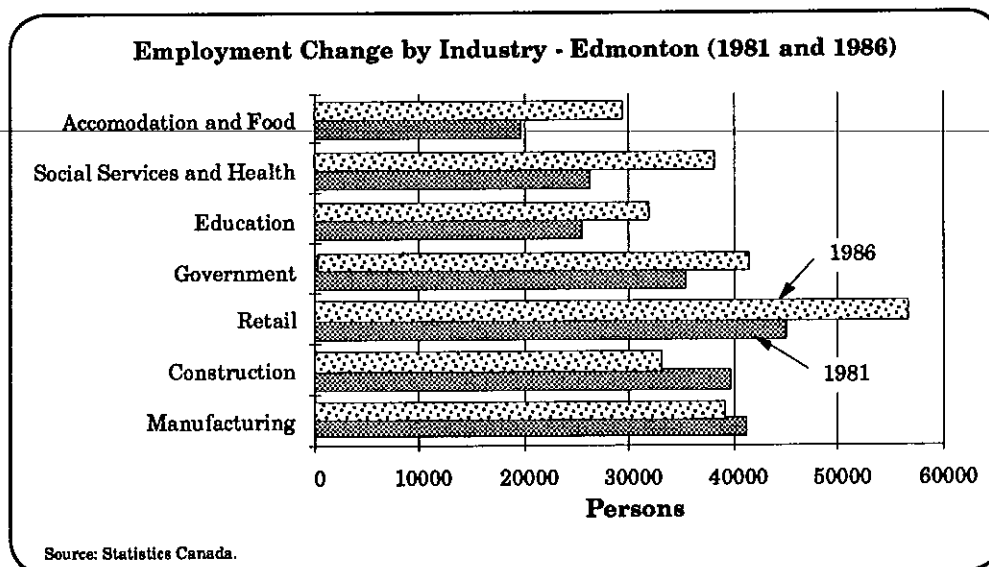


- Edmonton labour force participation rates have remained consistently at the 71% to 72% level since 1982, indicating there is no shortage in labour supply in general.
- There has been a substantial increase in part-time employment at the expense of full-time employment. In Alberta, between 1981 and 1987, 35,000 part-time jobs were created, whereas 34,000 full-time jobs were lost.

	1981	1987	Change
Full Time	1,007,000	973,000	-34,000
Part Time	144,000	179,000	+35,000
Total	1,151,000	1,152,000	

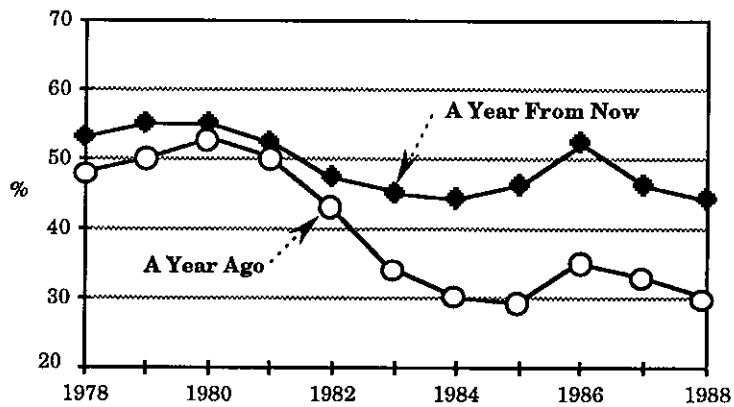
Source: Statistics Canada, Cansim, d769006, d770408, d770412.

- Job creation has occurred almost exclusively in the service sector including community, business, and personal services (approximately 30,500 jobs between 1981 and 1987).



- Education seems to influence a person's employment chances more than ever before. The unemployment rates of those with lesser or minimal formal education have risen.
- Edmontonians' general rating of financial well-being has declined since 1980. Great optimism and frustration have appeared as the gap between hope and reality widened since 1982.

Percentage of Edmontonians Feeling Financially Better Off



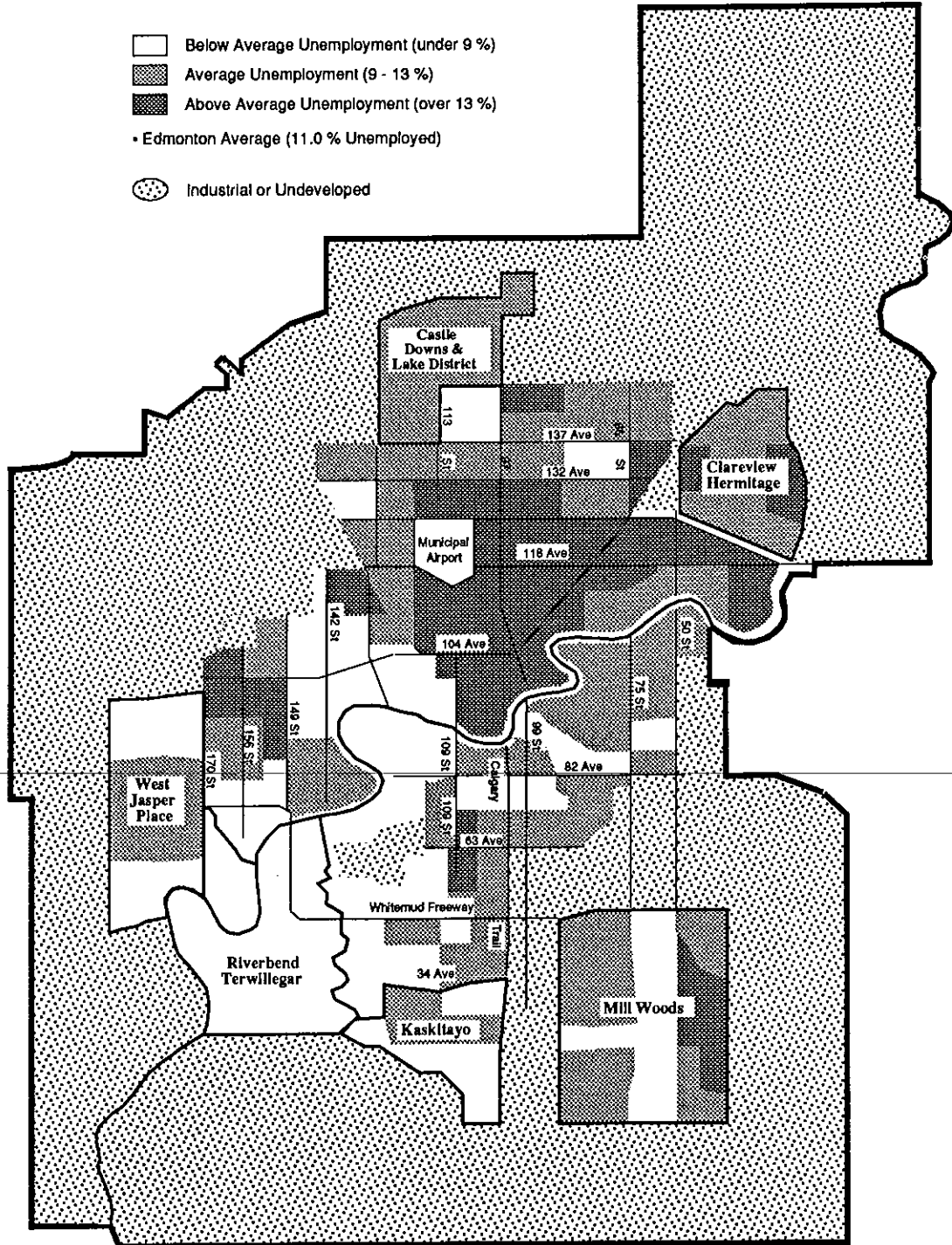
Questions:

1. Would you say that you (and your family) are better off, or worse off, or just the same financially than you were a year ago?
2. Now looking ahead - do you think that you (and your family) will be better off, or worse off, or just the same financially than you were a year ago?

Source: University of Alberta, Population Research Laboratory, Edmonton Area Survey (1978-1988).

- Older communities north of the city centre and in the northeast tend to have levels of unemployment that are above the city average.

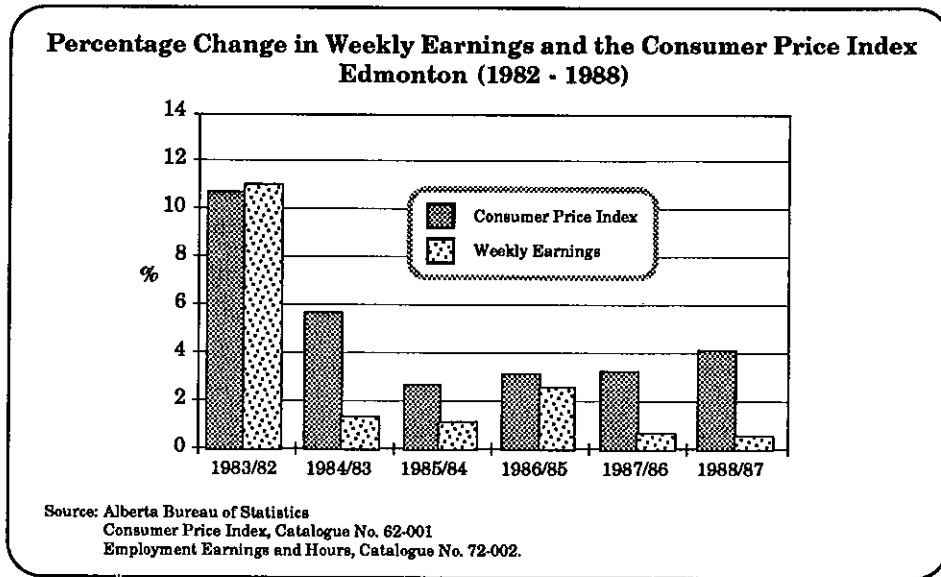
Unemployment Rates in Edmonton (1986)



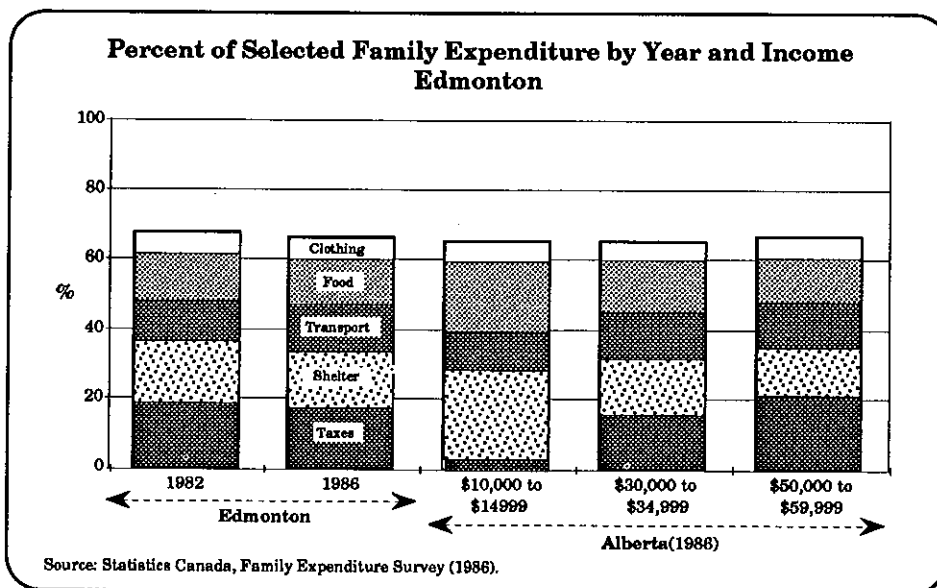
Source: Community and Family Services and Statistics Canada, Edmonton: Part 2 Profiles Catalogue No. 96-108.

Income

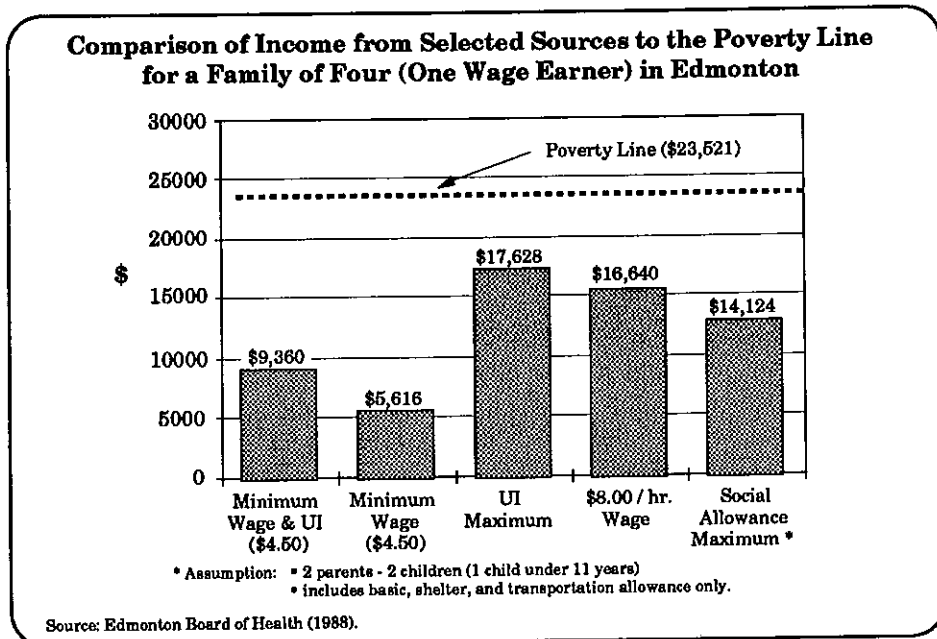
The following figure illustrates that wage increases have not kept pace with increases in the consumer price index (CPI). This discrepancy was particularly marked for those employed in the service sector. From 1983 to 1987, the CPI increased 14% while average weekly earnings in the service sector actually declined 0.1%.



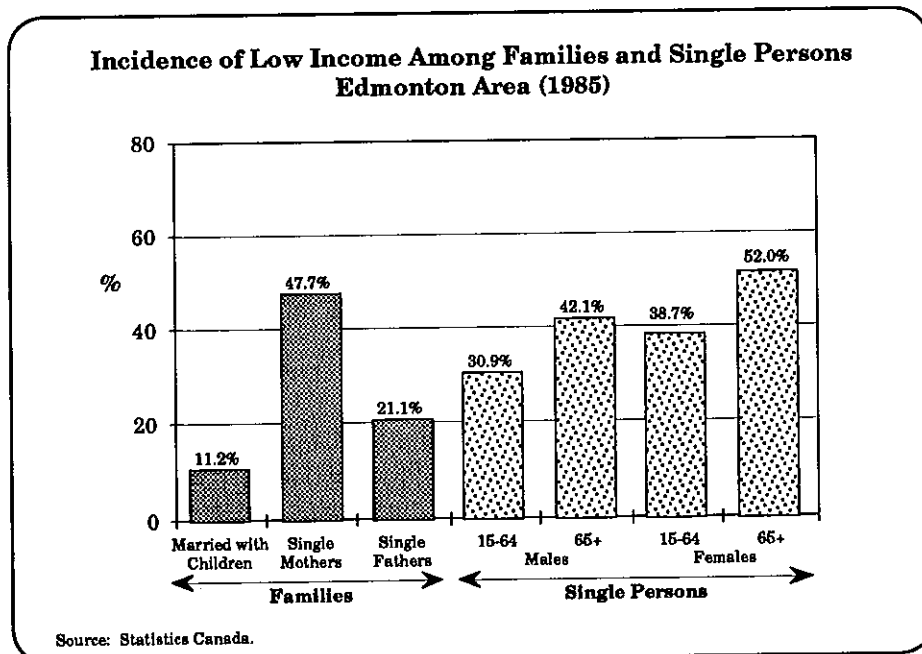
The figure below shows the relationship between income and the percentage amount expended on five categories (food, clothing, shelter, transportation, and taxes) as well as changes between 1982 and 1986. In general, as income increases, the proportion spent on shelter and food decreases.



Wages or some form of financial assistance are the primary sources of income for Edmontonians. As the first figure shows, many of those who are employed in low paying jobs or who only receive financial assistance are at risk of being poor.

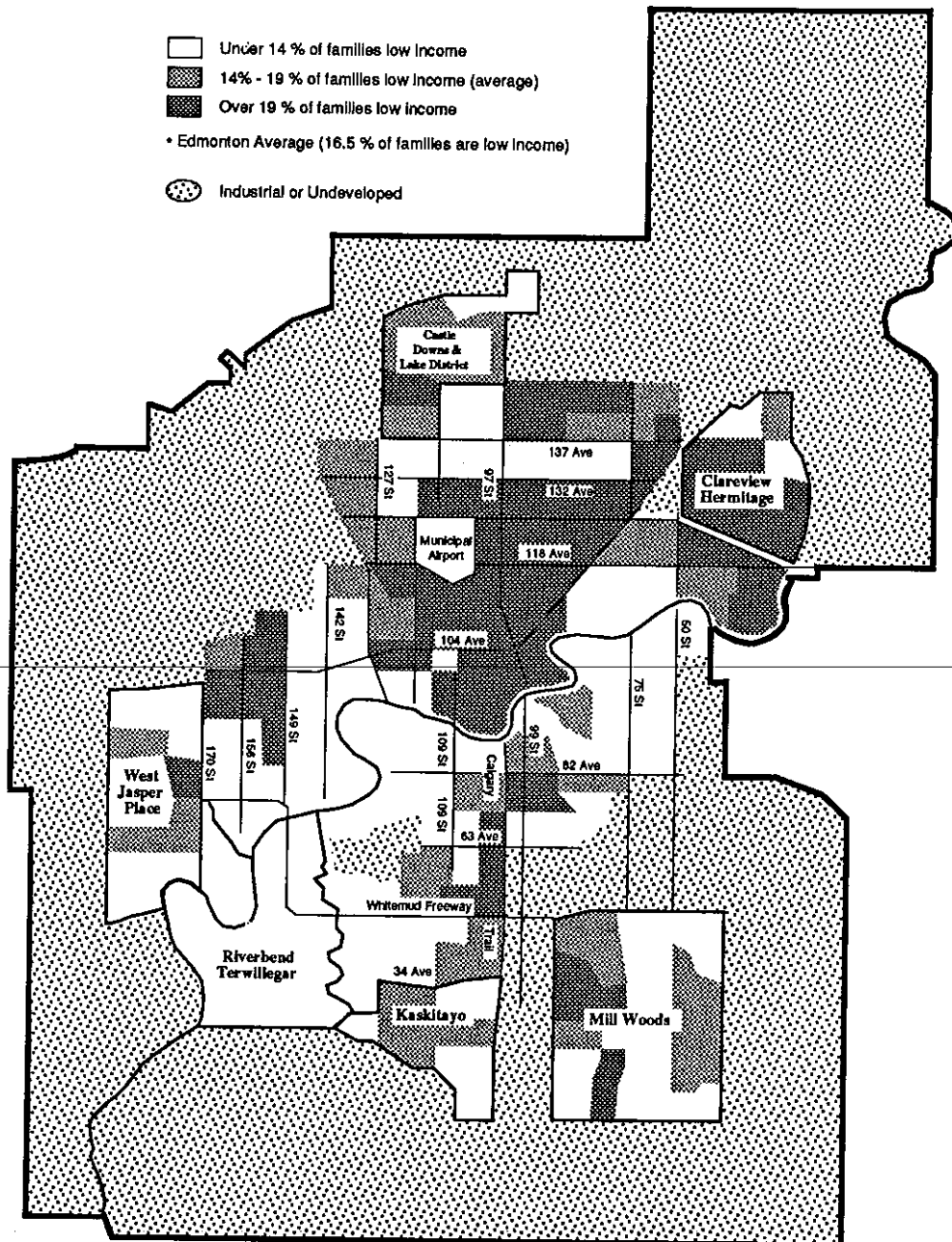


In 1985, it was estimated that 14.2% (29,565) of families in Edmonton were low income compared to 10.7% in 1980. (A low income family devotes at least 57.5% of its income to food, clothing, and shelter.) The figure below shows the incidence of low income families and single persons in the Edmonton population.



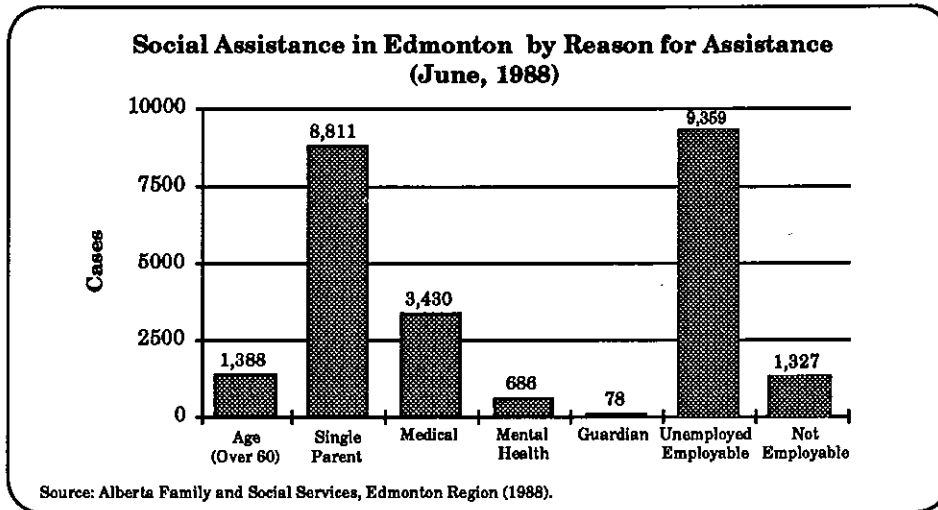
The map below shows the incidence of low family income. In general, communities north of the North Saskatchewan River have a substantially higher rate of low family income than communities south of the river.

Incidence of Low Family Income in Edmonton (1986)



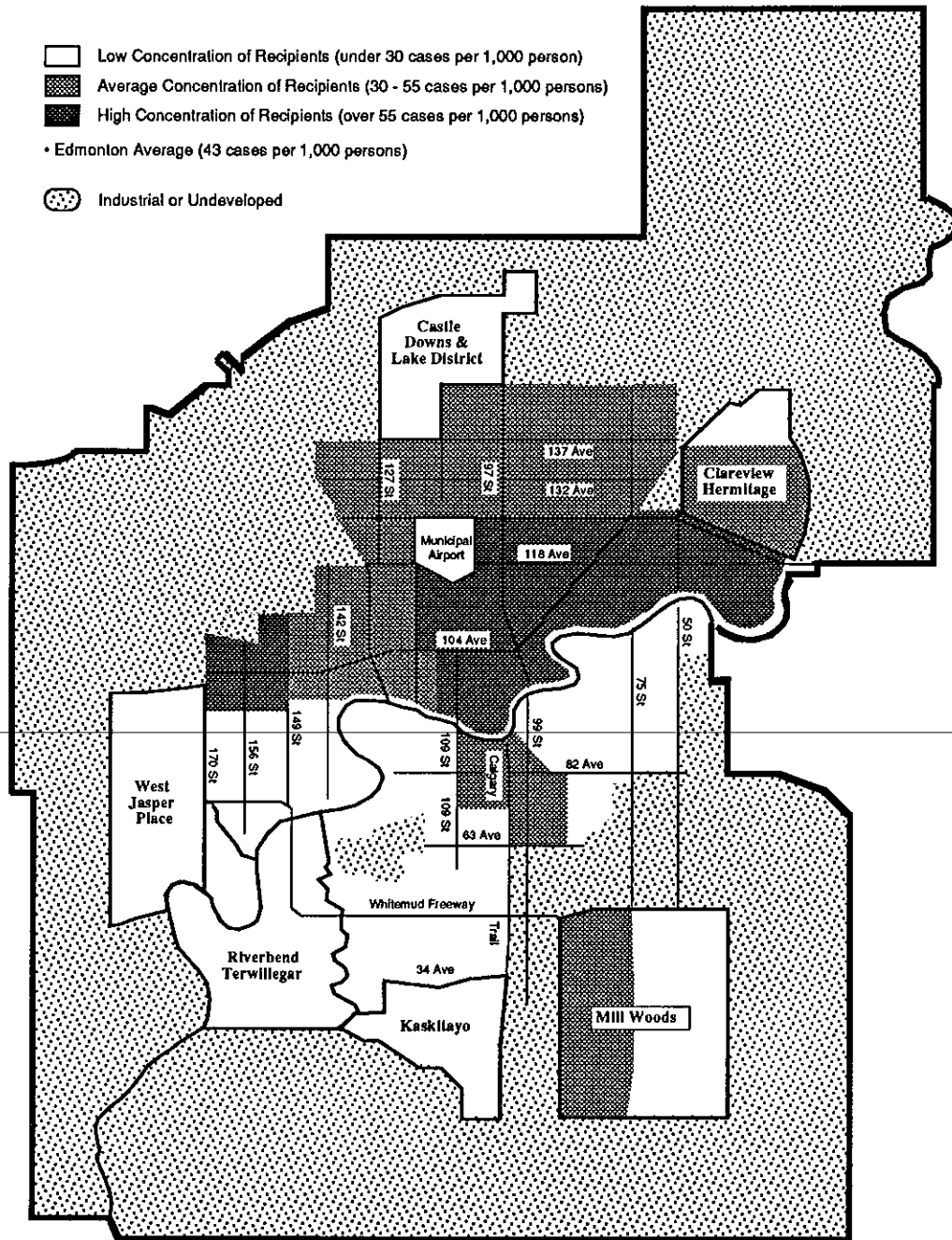
Source: Community and Family Services and Statistics Canada, Edmonton: Part 2 Profiles, Catalogue No. 95-108.

Unemployment and being a single parent are the major reasons for social assistance in Edmonton.



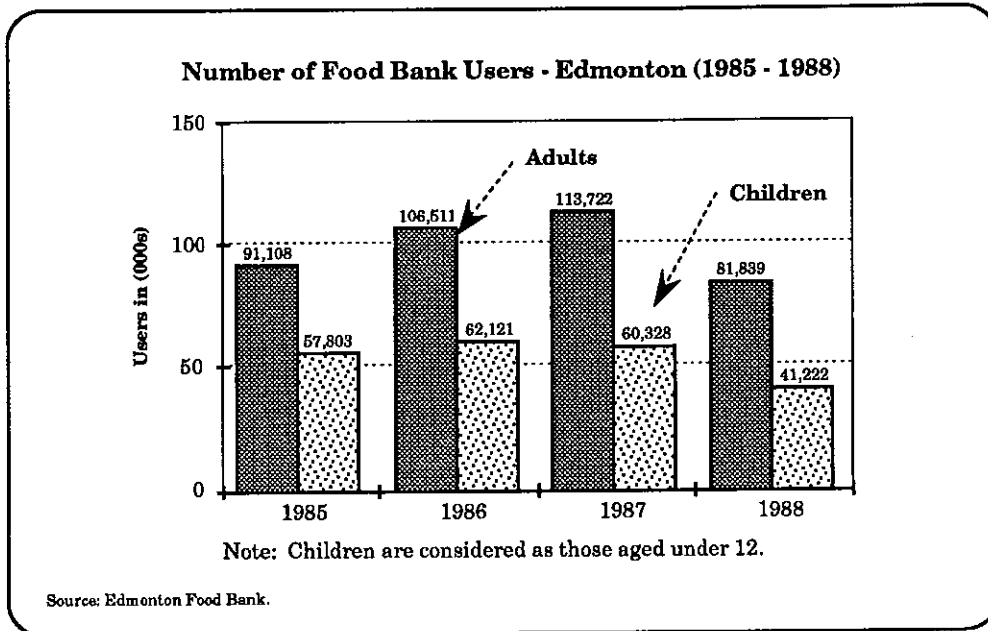
This map shows the location of social assistance cases in Edmonton. Recipients are concentrated in communities north and northeast of the city centre.

Social Assistance Cases in Edmonton (June, 1988)



Source: Community and Family Services and Alberta Family and Social Services.

Despite excellent availability of many different types of food, many Edmonton residents have had difficulty at some time getting the food they need. The Edmonton Food Bank, as well as other agencies, helps to fill the gap by providing hampers and meals.

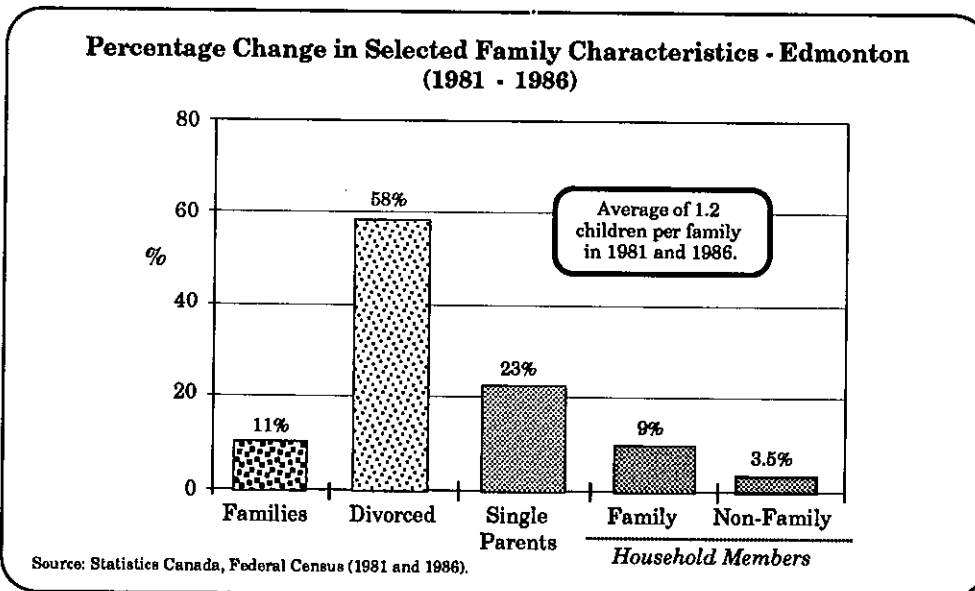
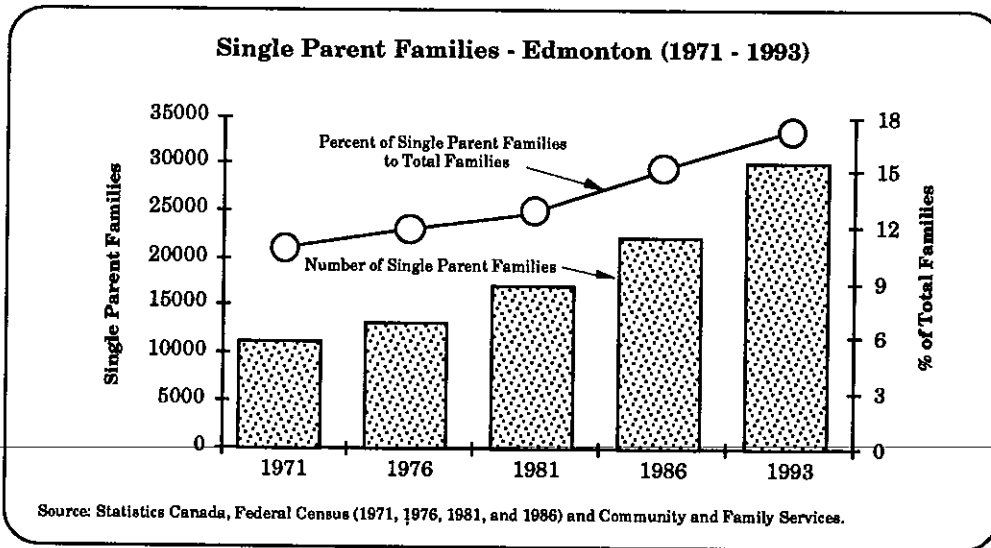


Food Bank officials estimate that about 52% of the people served are single time users, and 30% are two to three time users.

Family Structure

As elsewhere, family structure in Edmonton is changing. Four significant trends are:

- Alberta's 1986 divorce rate, 164 per 10,000 married women (the highest in Canada, with the national average 126), continues to produce an increasing number of single parent families, most of which are headed by females (over 85%).
- Two-parent families, with both parents working outside the home have become increasingly common (nearly 65% of married women participated in the work force in 1986).
- The average number of children per family in Edmonton has stabilized at 1.2 compared to 1.9 in 1966.
- A large increase in older children (25 years and older) living at home.



Health

Edmontonians confront complex health issues, for example:

Perception of Health

- A recent survey on health showed that, on a five-point scale, 92% of Edmontonians rated their health as being good, very good, or excellent.

Fatal Illness

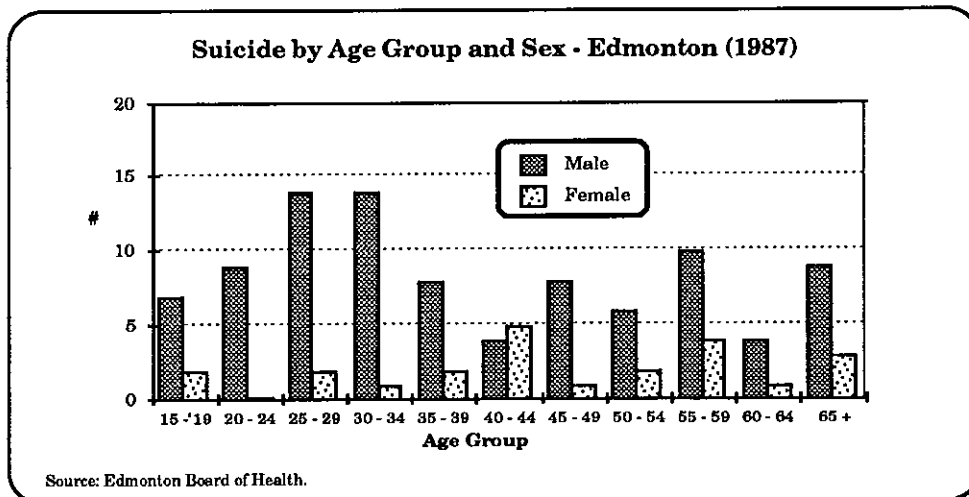
- Approximately 30% of all deaths are due to heart disease.
- In 1987, 18% of all deaths were attributed to smoking.
- In 1987, the infant death rate in Edmonton was 9.7 per 1,000 births.
- As of January 31, 1989, 42 Edmonton residents had been diagnosed with AIDS and 22 had died.

Reproductive Health

- The birth rate for women aged 15 to 19 declined from 46.4 per 1,000 women to 38.7 per 1,000 women from 1982 to 1987. Most of this decline has occurred in the 17 to 19 year age groups.
- For Edmonton women aged 25-54, menstrual disorders consistently ranked in the top three as a primary reason for admission to hospital.

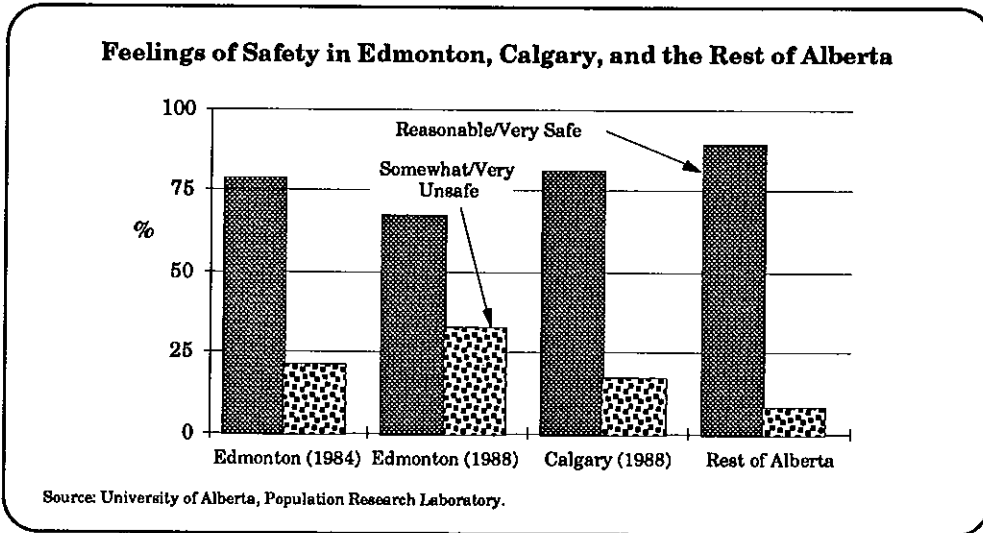
Emotional/Psychological/Social Health

- A recent study has shown that approximately 21% of Edmontonians have had a diagnosable mental disorder at some time in their life (34% if substance abuse is included).
- About 20% of the population have had a substance use disorder at some time in their life. The most common disorder is alcohol abuse/dependence.
- Mental disorders accounted for more patient days in hospital for both males and females than any other diagnosis.
- In Edmonton, suicide fatalities are far more common for males than females and occur most frequently in the younger adult age group.
- Suicide rates have remained relatively stable over the past eight years.



Safety and Violence

For most people, it is important to feel relatively safe from unexpected and unlawful events. Information from the Population Research Laboratory shows that over the past five years approximately one in five persons was a victim of crime. The figure below illustrates how safe people feel walking alone in their neighbourhoods after dark.



Physical Violence in Edmonton (1984 - 1987)

Type of Assault	1984	1985	1986	1987
Common Assault	3797	3936	4102	3875
Assault with a Weapon	920	823	966	902
Aggravated Assault	154	135	137	133
Family Disputes	5348	5001	4720	4654
Homicides	20	19	23	24

Sources: City of Edmonton Police Department.

Summary of Edmonton Statistics

	1981	1987
Demographics		
Population	521,205	576,249
Annual Growth	3.1	0.8
Net Migration	8,666	-2,237
Natural Increase	6,766	6,980
Economic		
Alberta GDP (1981 Constant)	50.5	(estimate) 56.7
Consumer Price Index	100	133.7
Labour Force		
Unemployment Rate	4.1	11.3
Income		
Percentage of Families Low Income	(CMA) 10.7	(1986) 16.5
Average Weekly Earnings	\$360.00	\$431.20
Family		
Birth Rate (per 1,000 population)	18.7	17.8
Death Rate (per 1,000 population)	5.7	5.7
Infant Mortality Rate (per 1,000 live births)	12.9	9.7
Marriage Rate (per 1,000 population)	11.0	8.7
Divorce Rate, Alberta (per 1,000 population)	376	363
General Fertility Rate (live births per year to women aged 15-44)	68.7	65.9
Total Fertility Rate (average number of children born per woman)	1.7	1.7
Births to Teenagers	1,090	783
Percentage of Births to Teenagers	11.2	7.6
Births to Unmarried Mothers	1,730	2,371
Percentage of Births to Unmarried Mothers	17.8	23.1
Health		
Life Expectancy (Males)	71.7	73.2
(Females)	78.0	79.5
Percentage of Babies under 2501 grams	7.0	6.1
Suicides (Total)	81	118
(Males)	64	96
(Females)	17	22
Percentage of Males as Regular Smokers		(1985) 37
Percentage of Females as Regular Smokers		(1985) 32
Population Segments		
0-4	32,499 (6.2%)	46,849 (8.1%)
5-9	32,890 (6.3)	38,215 (6.6)
10-19	79,801 (15.3)	73,803 (12.8)
20-39	219,839 (42.2)	237,989 (41.3)
40-59	100,074 (19.2)	111,709 (19.4)
60-69	30,910 (5.9)	37,613 (6.5)
70-79	17,552 (3.4)	20,787 (3.6)
80+	7,640 (1.5)	9,284 (1.6)
Seniors (65+)	38,892 (7.5)	46,883 (8.1)
Youth Dependency Ratio	26.3	28.9
Old Age Dependency Ratio	10.2	11.4

Part 2

Trends and Impacts for Edmonton's Seniors and Youth

Introduction

What this report does

In preparing *Tracking the Trends*, the Community Trends Working Group decided that each annual edition should give attention to a different group, or groups, in our community. Over five or six years, then, every major group using programs provided by Edmonton's human service organizations will be considered in some detail.

This first edition of *Tracking the Trends* looks at the major trends and service implications for two segments of society: seniors and youth.

How it was done

As helpful as it would be for planning, it is impossible to predict with certainty future needs for human services. We can be better prepared, however, if we have information on such things as:

- important demographic factors
- present pattern of available services
- (most importantly) the opinions of those presently receiving or offering the services.

In this section, you will find all three kinds of information about seniors and youth. You'll find the present number of seniors and youth in Edmonton and their projected numbers up to the year 2001. You'll see the locations in the city where seniors and youth tend to be more concentrated.

Other tables provide an overview of:

- major programs or services available to seniors and youth
- organizations providing these programs and services
- sources of funding for these programs and services.

More descriptive information about programs and services, and perhaps financial figures, might have been helpful. The amount of material and considerable complexity of funding, however, would have detracted from our main purpose of *Tracking the Trends*.

"Key informants" play key role

Eighty "key informants"--service users, service providers, and academics--played an important role in Part II of this study.

First, they completed a questionnaire which asked them to identify major trends they thought might influence human services for their group. ("Trends" were described as "major changes that are likely to have a significant influence on the future direction of our society.")

Then, all key informants attended a "focus group" discussion. Here, they reviewed various trends and ranked them in order of importance. They further discussed the most important trends so that they could identify the likely service implications.

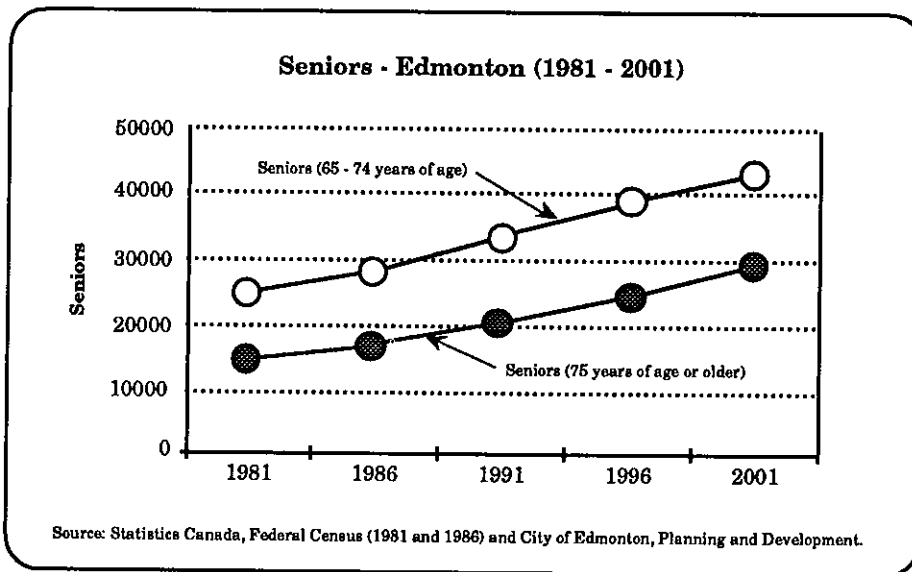
Finally, the Community Trends Working Group summarized the comments collected through the questionnaires and focus groups. Despite the linkages in many identified trends, and the overlaps in one person's "trend" and another's "service implication," we hope this information will help those planning services for the future.

Edmonton's Seniors

Seniors - a growing population

By the year 2001, one in ten of Edmonton's citizens will be over the age of 65. In most of Canada's largest cities, seniors already have reached this proportion.

By 2001, Edmonton's older seniors (aged 75 and older) will increase by two-thirds to almost 42,000. Younger seniors will double in that same period to almost 30,000. This figure shows these changes:



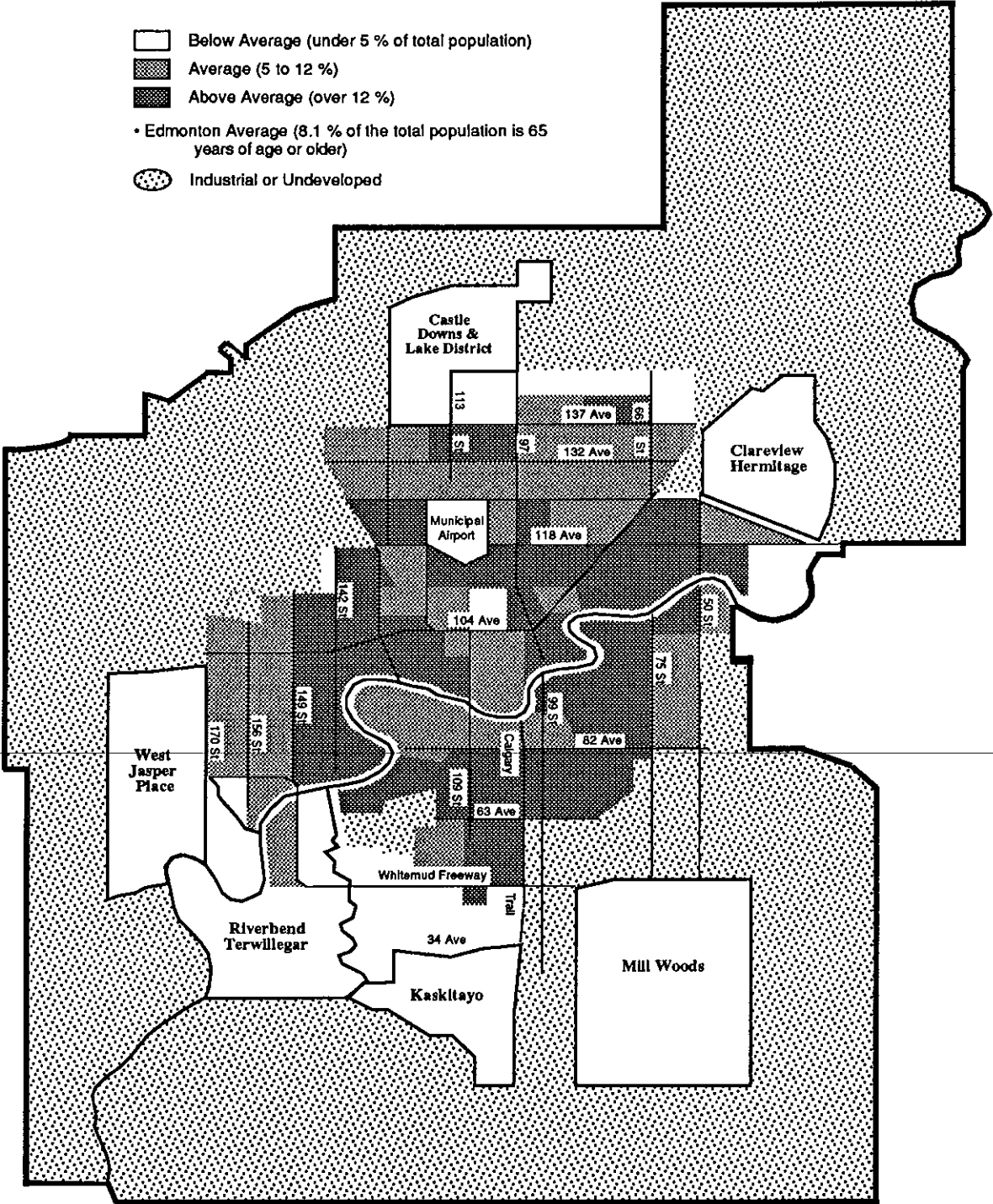
Where do seniors live?

Seniors in Edmonton tend to be concentrated in the older neighbourhoods around the downtown core and the river valley. Comparatively new neighbourhoods such as Millwoods, Clareview, Castledowns, West Jasper Place, and Riverbend have far fewer seniors than the average.

Seniors are concentrated in communities east of downtown, on both sides of the river: Highlands, Beverly, and Gold Bar. The same is true west of downtown, through Oliver, Glenora, Meadowlark, and Laurier Heights.

The following map of the city illustrates this distribution:

Seniors as a Percentage of the Total Population in Edmonton (1987)



Source: Community and Family Services and 1987 Civic Census.

Seniors Services* in Edmonton

Major Program or Service Focus				
Program or Service	Support (Social/ Recreation)	Support (social)	Support (physical)	Treatment
<i>Calder Seniors Drop-in</i>	★ ○			
<i>West Edmonton Seniors</i>	★ ○			
<i>SCONA</i>	★ ○			
<i>South East Edmonton Seniors Association</i>	★ ○			
<i>Strathcona Place Society</i>	★ ○			
<i>Society for the Retired & Semi-Retired</i>	★ ○	★ ○		
<i>Association of Adult Social Day Programs</i>	★ ○			
<i>Bissell Centre</i>		□		
<i>Operation Friendship</i>		★ □ ○ ●	□	
Senior Citizens Secretariat		●		
<i>Victorian Order of Nurses</i>			□	
<i>Meals-on-Wheels</i>			○	
Edmonton Board of Health Seniors Program (Public Health Nursing)	○	○		
Family and Community Services Home Support Program			○	
Edmonton Board of Health Home Care Program		○	○	○
Seniors Bus Passes			○	
Alberta Assured Income Plan			●	
Geriatric Psychiatry				●

Source of Funds:

- ★ Public Fundraising; □ United Way; ○ Local Government/Authority;
- Provincial Government

Italic - Community Based Non-Profit; Non-italic - Government/Authority

* Services funded by Mental Health Services, Alberta Family and Social Services, Community and Family Services, Edmonton Board of Health, and The United Way.

Seniors - Trends and Service Implications for the Future

Trend 1: Increasingly, seniors are striving for self sufficiency and the opportunity to live in their communities.

Implications

- Seniors' desire for self-sufficiency will mean an increased need for the **home care and mental health support services** that can help them live successfully in their own homes.
- As the number of working women increases, women may be able to provide much **less support to seniors** than they have in the past.
- As the government emphasizes **informal caregivers**, demands will surface for education and support for these caregivers, i.e., tax credits, respite care, flexible working hours.
- As the population ages, more **multi-generational family counselling** will be needed to support family members of elderly people.
- Societal pressure on families to care for their elderly members may **increase the incidence of elder abuse**.
- As public awareness increases, there may be **more reporting of elder abuse**.
- As a result of **changing family structure** there will be more isolated single seniors (particularly women).
- Increased demand for diverse **housing options** and the ability to transfer back and forth among options and higher levels of care will occur.
- More will recognize affordable and accessible transportation as integral to the lives of seniors.
- Changing patterns of urban life may increase those whose perception is that seniors are more vulnerable to **crime** than other groups.
- To maximize **funding flexibility**, money will have to be reallocated to diverse program alternatives.

Trend 2: Despite improving income support for seniors, there will be greater disparity of income among seniors' groups and more seniors will be living near or below the poverty line.

Implications

- Increasing pressure to *eliminate universal programs* will occur.
- Increasing support for *fee-for-service* programs and “*for-profit*” service providers will be evident.
- Non-profit *community-based services* will be pressured to improve their efficiency and effectiveness.
- The quality of service to those who *cannot pay* may be inferior, and service may be less accessible.
- Changing needs in the labour market may keep *older unemployed workers* from entering the workforce, leaving the poorer elderly ill-prepared both financially and psychologically for the retirement years.

Trend 3: The health needs of seniors will change as a result of the increasing number of both frail and well elderly.

Implications

- *Preventive services and health maintenance* for the elderly will be emphasized owing to a focus on wellness and individual responsibility.
- *Self-help and support groups* that respond to the specific health needs and issues of seniors will be desired.
- A younger, healthier, better educated senior population will seek a wider range of *activities and life experiences*, and may need greater assistance with preparing for retirement.
- Increasingly, employers will be asked to *educate staff* about retirement issues that extend beyond financial concerns.
- The increase in the number of older seniors will generate greater need for services that support those with *medical and psychiatric disorders*, particularly in long term care facilities.
- With delayed need for entry into auxiliary hospitals and nursing homes, seniors in these institutions will tend to be more *frail*.
- Financial pressure will encourage more *appropriate institutionalization* of seniors.

- Demand will increase for *coordination* among existing and planned services for seniors.
- Growing public concern about the *cost of health and social services* will increase political concern about the amount of resources directed to seniors.

Trend 4: The expanding seniors' population will exercise greater political influence.

Implications

- Seniors will *demand greater involvement* in policy and programming affecting them.
- As people become more aware of discriminatory practices, they will demand legislation that *prevents age discrimination*.
- Pressure to address the diverse needs of Edmonton's *ethnic and native Canadian seniors' communities* will increase.
- While greater political strength may draw greater financial resources to seniors, other groups may perceive the *allocation to be unfair*.

Trend 5: The increasing number of seniors will encourage a greater understanding about aging and its consequences.

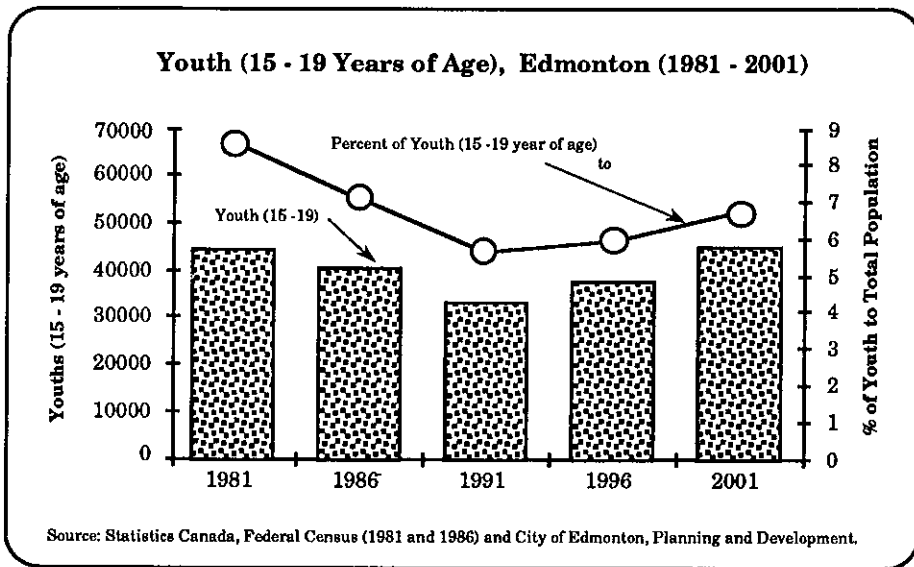
Implications

- Greater acceptance of aging and more understanding about the process of *aging* will occur.
- There will be more emphasis on *gerontology and geriatrics* with focus on researching aging and providing appropriate education for professional and informal service providers.
- Seniors will be more informed as a group of consumers, but may also be *vulnerable to exploitation* because their numbers and collective wealth present excellent market opportunities.

Edmonton's Youth

A declining population

By the turn of the century, the number of young people in Edmonton between the ages of 15 and 19 will have returned to approximately 45,000 -- the same number that lived here in 1981. However, because of the aging of our population, Edmonton's youth will represent a much smaller proportion of the population than they did in 1981. These trends are shown in the following figure. This figure also shows the declining youth population between 1981 and 1991 with the gradual increase in numbers in the following decade. This is the "echo" of the baby boomers who had more children during the early 1980s.

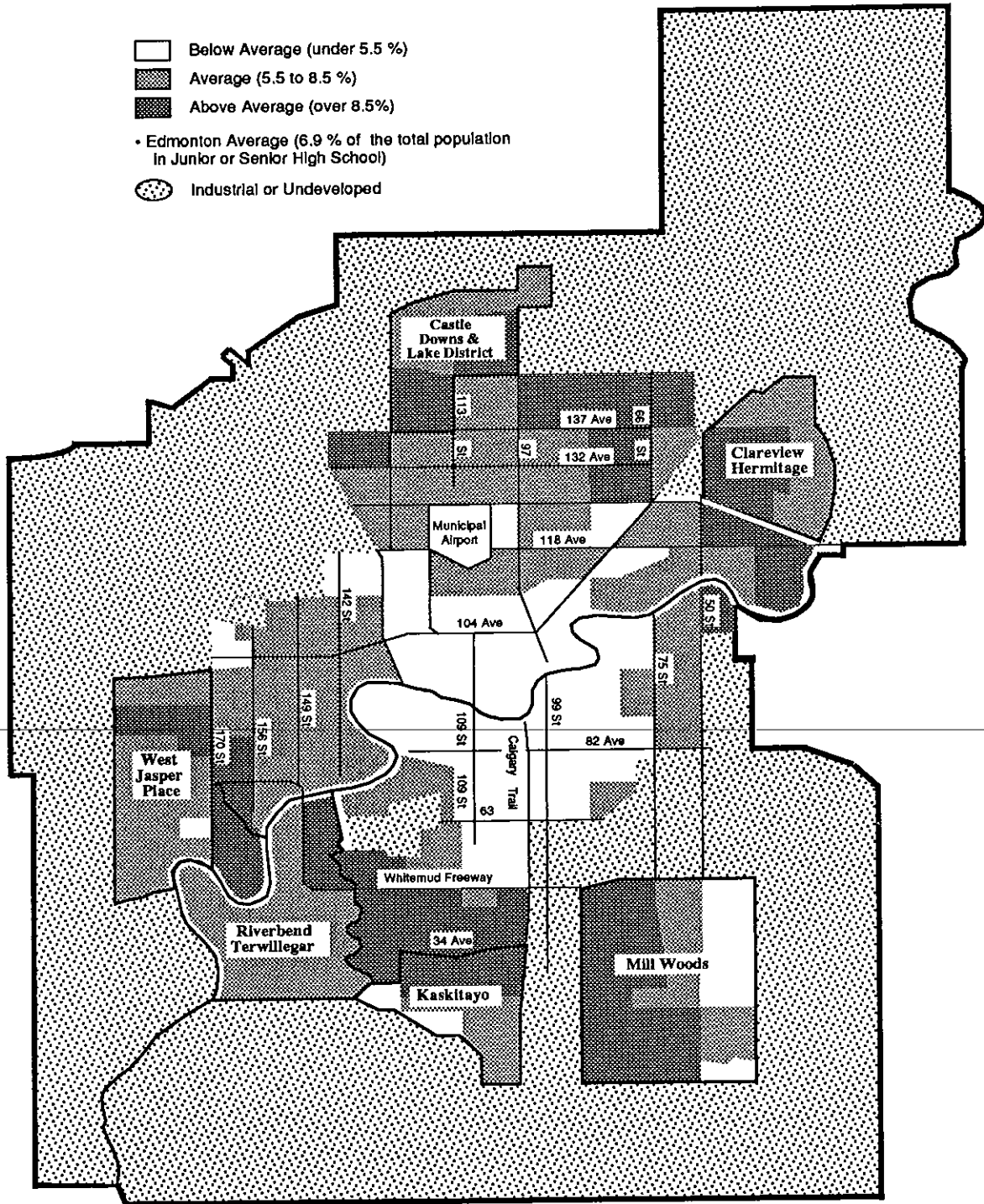


Where our youth live

Surprisingly, there was a 65% increase between 1981 and 1986 in the number of Edmonton families who had a child over the age of 25 still living at home. This suggests that tougher economic circumstances, including difficulties in finding a job with a reasonable level of pay, and perhaps decisions to return to college or university for more education, will likely continue to limit the opportunities for Edmonton's young people to "move out from home."

The following map shows that junior and senior high school students tend to represent a larger proportion of the population in the older sections of newer communities that have been developed around Edmonton in the last 30 years. These include communities such as Belmont, Bannerman, Kilkenny, Northmount, Carlisle and Caernarvon in the north; Duggan, Lansdowne, Lendrum, and Malmo Plains in the south; and Elmwood, Westridge, and Meadowlark in the west.

Youth (Junior and Senior High School Students) as a Percentage of the Total Population in Edmonton (1987)



Source: Community and Family Services and 1987 Civic Census.

Youth Services* in Edmonton

Major Program or Service Focus				
Program or Service	Support (social/ recreation)	Support (social)	Support (physical)	Treatment
<i>Girls Guides</i>	★ □			
<i>Boy Scouts</i>	★ □			
<i>Abbottsfeld Youth Project</i>	★ ○	●		
<i>Boys and Girls Clubs</i>	★ □ ○	●		
<i>YWCA</i>	★ □	□		
<i>Boysdale Camp Foundation</i>	□			
<i>Youth for Christ</i>		●		
<i>YMCA</i>		□		
<i>2nd Chance for Youth Association</i>		□		
<i>Boyle Street Co-op</i>		●		
<i>Bissell Centre</i>		★ □		
<i>Uncles at Large</i>		★ □		
<i>Big Sisters</i>		★ □ ○ ●		
<i>E.B.H. - School Health Services</i>		○		○
<i>Planned Parenthood</i>		★ □ ○ ●		
<i>Sexual Assault Centre</i>		★ □ ○		●
<i>E.B.H. - Birth Control Clinic</i>		○		○
<i>Group 5: Sexual Abuse Program</i>				●
<i>Youth Emergency Shelter</i>		□	★ □ ○ ●	
<i>Terra</i>			★ □ ○ ●	
<i>Canadian Mental Health</i>				★ □ ○ ●
<i>Alternative Measures Program</i>				●
<i>Juvenile Offenders Program</i>				●
<i>Child and Adolescents Program</i>				●
<i>Group Homes</i>			●	●
<i>Institutional Residences</i>			●	●
<i>Native Family and Adolescents Services (eg. Metis Children Services, Native Counselling Services, C.N.F.C.)</i>	□	●	●	
<i>Family, Child and Adolescents Services (eg. Catholic Social Services, McMan Youth Services)</i>			●	●

Source of Funds:

- ★ Public Fundraising; □ United Way; ○ Local Government/Authority;
● Provincial Government

Italic - Community Based Non-Profit ; Non-italic - Government/Authority

* Services funded by Mental Health Services, Alberta Family and Social Services, Community and Family Services, Edmonton Board of Health, and The United Way.

Youth - Trends and Service Implications for the Future

Trend 1: The structure of the family is changing with increasing numbers of blended, single parent, teen parent and "temporary" families. At the same time, less support is available from "extended" family members.

Implications

- To accommodate these different family forms, *major changes* will be required in the *legal, income security, and taxation systems*.
- High divorce rates and custody or access disputes will increase the need for *more support services* for children and youth whose lives have been disrupted by marital breakdown.
- Conflicting demands between career and family may result in *less parental guidance being available for youth* at a critical time in their development.
- There will be an increasing demand for *parenting courses for young parents*, especially young single parents.
- *Economic hardship* will continue to be a problem *for many young families* and in particular those families headed by a woman.
- Increased reporting of *family violence* and disclosure of *child sexual abuse* will require a significant increase in *specialized treatment services*.
- There will be a need for a greater understanding of the *links between family living situations, teen pregnancy, prostitution, drug abuse, and suicide*---and a willingness to respond with appropriate services.
- Weaker family ties and a lessening of commitment to family values, as well as the difficulty of finding suitable foster care, will result in *more displaced youth* looking for both emergency and more permanent alternative accommodation.
- The changing roles and functioning of families will likely increase the *pressure on school teachers to offer guidance* to youth on matters that were traditionally considered to be parental responsibilities.

Trend 2: The number of years spent in the youth stage of development is extending, with youth starting adolescence earlier and becoming independent from the family later.

Implications

- Limited employment opportunities will mean an *increasing dependence of older youth* on their families for living and financial support.
- The entertainment and advertising *media will continue to portray youth through unrealistic images* that encourage children to become "old before their time." Television programming will be required that deals with youth and youth issues more honestly and realistically.
- Uncertainty about the place of youth in the family and in society will continue to *maintain the image that youth are "problems" rather than "resources"* for the future.
- *Counselling programs for younger children* will be in demand as the value of preventive approaches is recognized.
- *Programs* that address the concerns of *sexually transmitted diseases, AIDS, and drug abuse* will continue to be in demand, especially for younger youth.

Trend 3: As a result of technological developments and changing work requirements, it will become more difficult for youth to compete in the labour market and find meaningful employment.

Implications

- There will be increasing *pressure on schools* to adjust their curricula to better fit the needs of youth.
- More *alternative education options* will be needed, such as literacy training, remedial education and social competency training.
- More *cooperation between business, government and community agencies* will be needed to ensure that disadvantaged youth are given suitable opportunities to enter the labour force.

- Youth will require more effective "**bridging mechanisms**" as they move from **education to work** and from **family life to independence**.
- Youth will have a greater need to gain **work experience before attending university** and to have the abilities necessary to **change careers** later in life.
- More programs will be needed to divert **youth who are frustrated** by the lack of employment or educational opportunities from **resorting to violence or criminal activities**.
- Employer leadership will be important in providing healthy **supportive work environments** and promoting a **better balance** between work and family responsibilities.
- Youth will face **greater competition for jobs and higher education from older adults** returning to the work force or to college and university. As a result special measures will be required to ensure that youth receive a fair opportunity.
- There will be increasing pressure to provide a reasonable level of **income support for youth** unable to find work or who are presently involved in training programs.

Trend 4: Political and social power will continue to shift towards seniors to the detriment of youth.

Implications

- Funding for programs will go to more powerful groups in society, while **youth services** will be left with **short-term band-aid solutions** for major issues.
- It will become increasingly **important for youth to speak up** on issues that affect them in order that they are viewed by the rest of society as **stakeholders** and not simply as consumers of services.

- The "marginalization" of youth will increase their *resentment* of the values and the successes *of the baby boomer generation* that preceded them.

Trend 5: Government initiatives to "privatize" human services, as well as a concern about the growing provincial deficit, will result in funding cuts and increasing pressure on families to meet their own human service needs.

Implications

- There will be a greater need for collaboration and *cooperative approaches among community agencies* presently providing services to youth in the face of increasing competition for government contracts.
 - Cutbacks in funding will result in additional *pressure upon community agencies* presently providing youth services to seek more of their *funding from public appeals*.
 - Privatization will mean *less coordination* of the existing services for youth, growing evidence of *gaps in service* and the eventual development of a "two-tier system" where youth without financial resources will be left with non-existent or inferior services.
-
- Funding cutbacks in services for youth will likely result in the *narrowing of eligibility criteria*, more rigorous screening procedures in order to improve rates of success, and the *reallocation of funding towards younger youth*.
 - *Changes in child welfare and young offender legislation* will require increasing involvement on the part of community agencies to respond to the immediate needs of youth as well as to the needs they are likely to have once they emerge from the "system."

Trend 6: Immigration of visible minorities to Edmonton will increase.

Implications

- There will be an increasing need for English language training and translation services to assist new immigrant youth to adjust.

- The activity of ***youth gangs*** will likely increase, with more ***racially related incidents***. As a result, there likely will be a questioning of our ability to become a ***tolerant multicultural community***.
- As a consequence of these various trends, youth will experience an increasing amount of ***stress and pressure***. ***Alienation, isolation, drug and alcohol abuse, and mental health disorders*** will become more prevalent, resulting in a growing demand for ***more effective treatment programs***.

Focus Group Participants

Seniors Focus Group

Mr. Jeffrey Allen
Ms. Leslie Baker
Mr. Rich Bayly
Ms. Hazel Christensen
Ms. Ruth Cossever
Ms. Wanda Cree
Ms. Ellen Darby
Mrs. Sandra DeBruin
Constable John Ellens
Mr. Steve Friedenthal
Ms. Liela Hastie
Mr. Mark Holmgren

Ms. Marilyn Hussey
Ms. Chris Lawrence
Ms. Mary McCabe
Ms. Kathy McGarry
Mr. Aaron Mann
Mr. Jonathan Murphy
Mr. Rod Rode
Ms. Diane Spillett
Mrs. Vicki Strang
Ms. Bea Van Beveren
Ms. Jo-Ann Watson
Ms. Betty Wong

Youth Focus Group

Mr. Doug Agar
Mr. Wes Armstrong
Mrs. Regina Beckett
Mr. Graham Bell
Mr. Larry Derkach
Mr. Doug Egan
Mr. Michael J. Farris
Mr. August Fraunfeld
Mr. John Jardine
Sargeant Gary Jones
Ms. Jane Karstaedt
Ms. Irene Kerr
Dr. Harvey Krahn
Mr. John Lackey
Mr. Kevin McGinley
Ms. Shauna McNicoll

Mr. Bob Marvin
Mr. Brian Mason
Ms. Sandra Maygard
Ms. Laura Moore-Dempsey
Ms. Liz O'Neill
Ms. Judith Paquin
Ms. Elaine Paras
Ms. Leona Peters
Mr. Ivan Plante
Mr. Jeff Reid
Mr. Craig Richman
Mr. Pijush Sarker
Dr. John Sneep
Ms. Lillian Steeves
Ms. Carol Stuart
Mr. Glen Walmsley

If You Need Some Further Help

To assist readers in following up on specific issues of interest, relevant source information for the various tables and maps has been provided. As well, members of the Community Trends Working Group are willing to assist with any special presentations or to answer questions that may arise. Readers are asked to contact the Working Group, care of the Edmonton Social Planning Council (423-2031).

For further information on community trends, readers are encouraged to contact:

Advisory Services, Statistics Canada
8th Floor, Park Square
10001 Bellamy Hill
Edmonton, Alberta
T5J 3B6 (495-3027)

Edmonton Public Library
7 Sir Winston Churchill Square
Edmonton, Alberta
T5J 2V4 (423-2331)

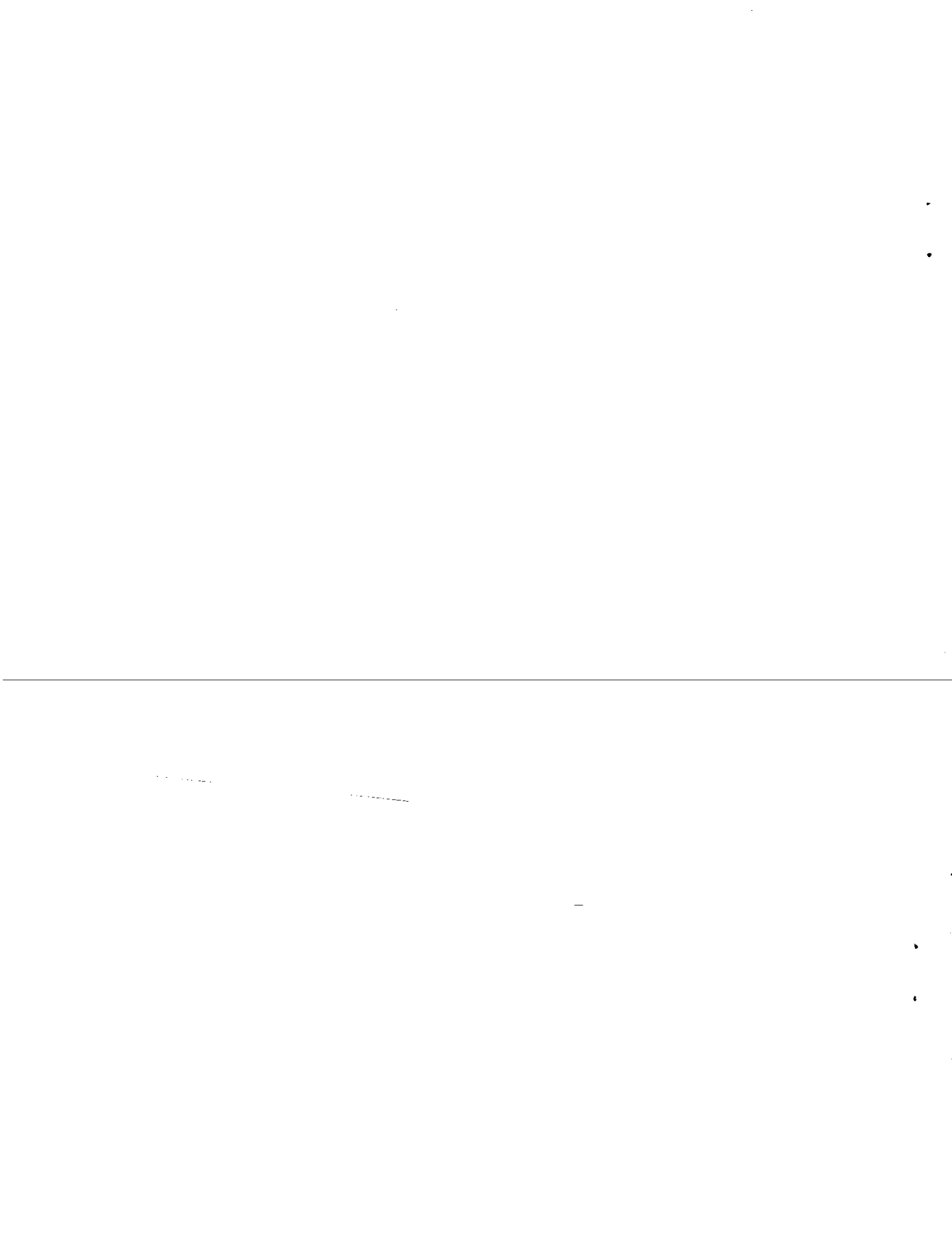
Edmonton Planning & Building Department Library
3rd Floor, The Boardwalk
10310 - 102 Avenue
Edmonton, Alberta
T5J 2X6 (428-2665)

Edmonton Social Planning Council
#41, 9912 - 106 Street
Edmonton, Alberta
T5K 1C5 (423-2031)

Edmonton Community & Family Services Library
5th Floor, Centennial Library
7 Sir Winston Churchill Square
Edmonton, Alberta
T5J 2V4 (428-6787)

Also the Housing & Social Planning Branch of Edmonton, Community & Family Services can provide statistical information from its computerized neighbourhood based, demographic information system. For more information, call 428-5933 or 428-4242.

September 1989





Edmonton Social Planning Council

From our bookshelf to yours...

FAMILY

* **Foster Care and Adoption In Canada**

H. Philip Hepworth

This first national study of two key elements of the child welfare system provides an analysis of major developments in the field between 1960 and 1977, and describes key issues facing public and voluntary agencies in the care and placement of children outside their own homes. \$10.00 CCSD

* **One In a World of Two's** (April 1976)

A report on one-parent families in Canada and the economic and social problems they face in the labour market, child care services, welfare, housing and social services. Free NCW

* **Stepmothers: Exploring the Myth (A Survival Guide for Stepfamilies)**

Kati Morrison, M.D., & Airdrie

Thompson-Guppy, with Patricia Bell
This publication is a practical guide for stepmothers. It deals with issues of discipline, economic responsibility, custody and caring for the children of these extended families. \$7.95 CCSD

* **What will tomorrow bring? (A Study of the Aspirations of Adolescent Women)**

Prepared by the Canadian Advisory Council on the Status of Women, this publication looks at the thoughts and beliefs of adolescent women in the areas of education, work and their personal lives and relationships. \$4.95 CCSD

* **Family Law In Canada: New Directions**

This volume examines family law from a feminist perspective. It addresses such issues as joint custody, legal treatment of common law spouses, and the implications of invitro

fertilization. It also discusses the complicated structure of family law in Canada, defining the area under federal and provincial control and the many "grey areas" between the two. Published by The Canadian Advisory Council on the Status of Women. 1985 \$4.95 CCSD

HEALTH

* **Community Based Health and Social Services**

This report outlines the central issues and themes to emerge from the three-day CCSD conference on Improving the Delivery of Community-based Health and Social Services held in Ottawa in November 1985. Also discussed is the future of these services as well as shared problems and goals. \$4.95 CCSD

* **Medicare: the public good and private practice** (May 1982)

An account of the purposes, achievements and development of national health insurance, the health gap facing low-income Canadians, and the threat to medicare posed by user charges and health premiums. Free NCW

* **Deinstitutionalization: Cost and Effects**

The case for the cost-effectiveness of deinstitutionalization is most difficult to consider when community living is promoted as the only alternative. But in April 1984 researchers and advocates of deinstitutionalization met at an international symposium to try. Consumers and academics presented papers on deinstitutionalization, which affects the lives of persons who are physically, mentally or psychiatrically disabled. The revised and edited papers cover a spectrum of viewpoints on this complex subject. 1985 \$15.00 CCSD

* **Health and Home: Women as Health Guardians**

This study examines one kind of work women do - guarding the health of their families. It has two aims: to record for public recognition what constitutes the women's health guardian role, and to point out the implications of this role for public policy. Published by the Canadian Advisory Council on the Status of Women \$4.95 CCSD

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

* **The Nuts and Bolts of Community Based Economic Development**

Represents selected theme papers from a 1982 conference held in Edmonton. The papers are of special interest to readers concerned with community initiative and Community Development Corporations. (1982) Free ESPC

* **From the Roots Up: Economic Development as If Community Mattered**

Explains the growing importance of an informal economy, as an alternative to our formal economy. The authors describe informal economic activities such as co-operative enterprise, small business, voluntary activity and barter, and explain the reasons why economists have overlooked this vital sector of all industrial societies. \$10.95 CCSD

* **New Age Business: Community Corporations that Work**

Greg MacLeod
Through three case studies, New Dawn and J.A.L. in Canada and Mondragon in Northern Spain, MacLeod identifies the strengths and weaknesses of community development corporations. \$10.00 CCSD

POVERTY

* **Organizing for the Homeless**

Jim Ward

This publication is intended to provide guidance to those who are interested in effectively organizing the homeless. It is both a "how-to" book and a book which provides a broader philosophical and sociological theory to work with the homeless. 175 pp.
\$15.00 CCSD

* **Income Supplements for the Working Poor**

This book presents the background papers and proceedings of a conference on the subject of income supplements.
\$10.00 CCSD

* **Guaranteed Annual Income: An Integrated Approach**

These background papers and discussion summaries from the Nuffield Canadian Seminar present a wide range of factual information and informed opinion on the major issues to be considered with a guaranteed annual income. 333pp.
\$15.00 CCSD

* **Canadian Fact Book on Poverty 1989**

David Ross, Richard Shillington

This fact book describes the various definitions of poverty used in Canada and provides a breakdown of the latest poverty figures according to various demographics. It also includes an analysis of the effect of second earners on the poverty rate, a section on the distribution of income in Canada, and comparable poverty rates in other industrialized countries. This book is an updated version of one of CCSD's most requested publications.
\$13.00 CCSD

* **Not Enough: The Meaning and Measurement of Poverty in Canada**

This publication provides a range of detailed information on the extent, depth, and length of poverty in Canada. 96 pp.
\$7.95 CCSD

* **The Canadian Fact Book on Income Distribution**

David Ross

This study examines the facts behind Canadian income distribution and assesses how government spending and tax policies have affected this distribution since 1951. 106 pp.
\$7.00 CCSD

* **Sixty-Five and Older** (February 1984)

A comprehensive study of the economic situation of elderly Canadians. The report emphasizes the inferior economic status of elderly women, particularly the large and growing group living alone.
Free NCW

* **Poverty and Unemployment: Assumptions, Responsibilities and Choices**

Graham Riches presented this paper on poverty and unemployment at the 1987 Annual Meeting Workshop of the Family Service Association of Edmonton.
\$3.00 ESPC

* **Surviving on Welfare - A No Frills Flight**

A description of the practical consequences of living on welfare monies through the eyes and mouths of social allowance recipients. The report examines recipients' financial limitations, experiences with welfare officials, and treatment by the community. Nine recommendations directed at improving the social allowance system are tendered in the report's conclusion.(1986)
\$3.00 ESPC

* **A Poverty Profile** (Annual)

Tables and explanatory text on the most recent statistics on poverty, average income and income distribution in Canada. The report analyzes both recent and long-term trends, and highlights groups with an above-average risk of poverty.
Free NCW

* **1989 Poverty Lines**

An explanation of Statistics Canada's low-income lines, with National Council of Welfare estimates for 1989.
Free NCW

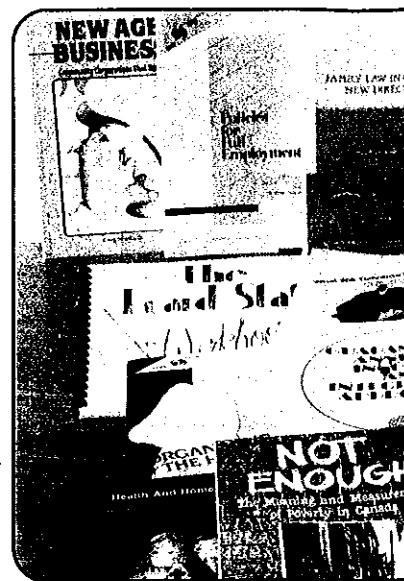
* **Welfare in Canada: A Tangled Safety Net**

This publication is the "first comprehensive national analysis of social assistance programs operated by the provincial, territorial and municipal governments ..."
Free NCW

* **The Other Welfare Manual** (October 1987)

Presented in a short, concise, easy to understand format, this 48 page booklet outlines the rights and responsibilities of social assistance recipients in Alberta. Widely used by both recipients and social workers, this publication de-mystifies the Alberta Income Security Program.
\$4.00 ESPC

Free to people on social assistance



TAX SYSTEM

* **The Refundable Child Tax Credit: What It Is...How It Works** (December 1978)

A background paper describing the newest part of Canada's income support system for families with children and how it assists low and middle-income families.
Free NCW

* **Bearing the Burden/Sharing the Benefits**(March 1978)

A study of taxation and income redistribution which describes how parts of Canada's existing tax system place their heaviest burden on the poor and how the tax system can be changed to benefit the poor.
Free NCW

* **Family Allowances for All?** (March 1983)

An analysis of the costs and distributional effects of the family allowance child tax credit and children's tax exemption. An account of the arguments for and against universal family allowances, and a proposal to reform federal child benefits.
Free NCW

OTHER

* **The Social Research Directory 1989: a guide to libraries and resource centres in Edmonton**

A directory of 80 Edmonton libraries and centres that collect social issues information.
\$9.95 ESPC



ORGANIZATIONAL

* **Evaluating Social Development Programs**
 Nova Carter, Brian Wharf
 This publication provides practical strategies and techniques for improving the evaluation of social change projects. 161 pp.
 \$8.00 CCSD

* **The Board/Staff Workbook**
 Explains the principles of effective organizational structure. The workbook offers self-discovery exercises suitable for organizational use. (no date)
 \$6.00 ESPC

* **Organizing for Social Action**
 (April 1975)
 A description of three successful organizing experiences and, analysis by those who participated in them, why they were successful.
 Free NCW

* **Bookkeeping Handbook for Low-Income Citizen Groups** (October 1973)
 A guide for use by both new and advanced citizen groups, this report describes a bookkeeping system which can be used by groups and illustrates the system by tracing the bookkeeping history of a sample group.
 Free NCW

* **Helping You Helps Me**
 A practical guide to starting and maintaining a self-help group. Leadership, membership, recruitment, fund-raising, problem-solving and decision-making are among the more than twenty topics covered. 1983 80pp
 \$3.50 CCSD

* **Access and the Policy Making Process**
 Explores the traditional theories of participatory and representative democracy in relation to the Canadian political system. The report provides a careful review of the key federal decision-making structures. 1978 62 pp
 \$4.00 CCSD

* **Voluntary Action: Provincial Policies and Practices**
 Jean-Bernard Robichaud
 Conducted in 1985, this study compares various provincial policies and practices which support voluntarism in the field of social services and community health throughout Canada.
 \$8.95 CCSD

* **DOING IT RIGHT! A Needs Assessment Workbook**
 An easy to read publication it will provide you with a clear understanding of what a needs assessment is, why one should be done and how to get started. It includes 5 worksheets and additional references to assist you.
 \$9.95 ESPC

EMPLOYMENT

* **Part-Time Work in Canada**
 Harry MacKay
 This CCSD submission to the Advisory Council of Employment and Immigration Canada discusses the status of part-time work and examines both the obstacles to and benefits of part-time work. 19pp.
 \$4.00 CCSD

* **Employment Opportunities for the '80's**
 Harry MacKay, David Ross
 This brief argues that the major employment problem in the '80's is not a shortage of critical skills, but a lack of jobs. Expanding job opportunities through work redistribution, for example, or payment for the care of children and elderly in their own homes, are two of the recommendations discussed. 45 pp.
 \$5.00 CCSD

* **Manpower Programs: Equity and Integration**
 This wide-ranging examination of manpower policy in Canada includes specifics of manpower programs, as well as discussion of the broader issues of education/training, worker participation, and the relationship between manpower and other social and economic policies. 79 pp.
 \$4.00 CCSD

* **Unemployment: Reaping the Costs**
 Using standard economic concepts, this report estimates that unemployment costs Albertans \$14 billion in 1983 and 1984 alone. If the social costs of unemployment were factored in, the total would be higher. An incomplete assessment of unemployment costs by government could be seen to result in misdirected and ineffective economic policies. (1986)
 \$1.00 ESPC

* **Counting the Costs: A Literature Review of the Social and Psychological Costs of Unemployment**
 This report documents the impact of unemployment on the family, on physical and mental health, and on the incidence of suicide and crime. (1985)
 \$10.00 ESPC

* **Employment and Social Development in a Changing Economy**
 The three papers presented in this publication provide an overview of the issues pursued at CCSD's Workshop '88. The focus of the workshop centered around the "existing scope for local measures to combat continuing high rates of unemployment."
 \$4.95 CCSD

* **Policies for full employment**
 The selections in this publication were initially presented at the Symposium for Policies for Full Employment, fall 1985 which was organized by the Income and Employment Committee of the Social Planning Council of Ottawa-Carleton. These essays argue that full employment is essential and explain the policy options available to reduce unemployment.
 \$15.00 CCSD

PENSIONS

* **A Pension Primer** (April 1984)
 A description and critique of Canada's complex retirement income system. The study is geared to the lay reader with no specialized knowledge of the pension system.
 Free NCW

* **Financing the Canada Pension Plan**
 (December 1982)
 This report explains how the Canada Pension Plan is financed and the use of surplus funds to provide loans to the provinces. It examines future demands on the CPP and proposes a gradual increase in contribution rates and a move to pay-go financing.
 Free NCW

* **Pension Reform** (April 1984)
 A review of the three major approaches to pension reform - regulatory reform of private pension plans, mandatory private plans, and expansion of the Canada and Quebec Pension Plans.
 Free NCW

* **Better Pensions for Homemakers** (May 1984)
 A critique of the homemaker pension proposal of the Parliamentary Task Force on Pension Reform. The report explains the homemaker pension proposal and summarizes the arguments of its supporters.
 Free NCW

* **Future Directions for Pensions: An address by Crawford E. Laing**
 The text of a speech given April 16, 1986 which reviews developments in the pension reform process since 1979. Economic and political questions are raised about both public and private pension schemes. The author concludes with his speculation regarding future trends and innovations.
 \$2.00 ESPC

HUMAN SERVICES

*** Free Trade and Social Policy**

Glenn Drover, Editor

This publication was the result of a seminar on Free Trade and Social Policy sponsored by CCSD. The papers presented here examine the issues, both for and against, from an academic viewpoint and that of labour and business. 168 pp.

\$15.00 CCSD

*** Social Concerns for the 1980's: Thought and Action in Social Policy**

Helga Nowotny, Editor

This book summarizes the many changes which have occurred in social concerns over the past decade. As several of the contributors to this volume point out, political and moral concerns with equality have been eclipsed by the goals of achieving and maintaining security.

\$19.95 CCSD

*** Women and Housing: Changing Needs and the Failure of Policy**

This report presents an analysis of consumer need drawn from a statistical profile of Canadian women constructed from the most recent national data sources available and placed in a social context. February 1984

\$7.95 CCSD

*** Privatization and the Non-Profit Sector: How Should Community Agencies Respond?**

The text of a speech given October 3, 1986

which examines the privatization of social services in the Alberta context. An exploration of underlying motivations and likely impacts is essayed in the speech. A concluding section suggests strategies which non-profit agencies can use to prepare for privatization.

\$2.00 ESPC

*** Native Children and the Child Welfare System**

An in-depth study on the treatment of Native children within the Canadian welfare system with a detailed description of past practices and current provincial and territorial policies. 1983

\$9.95 CCSD

*** Food Banks and the Welfare Crisis**

Graham Riches

This new work documents the recent proliferation of emergency food services in Canada, and argues that food banks represent more than an upsurge of charity in tough times; they are the signposts of the collapse of the social safety net.

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