

Women in Alberta

Income and Paid Work

Median total income

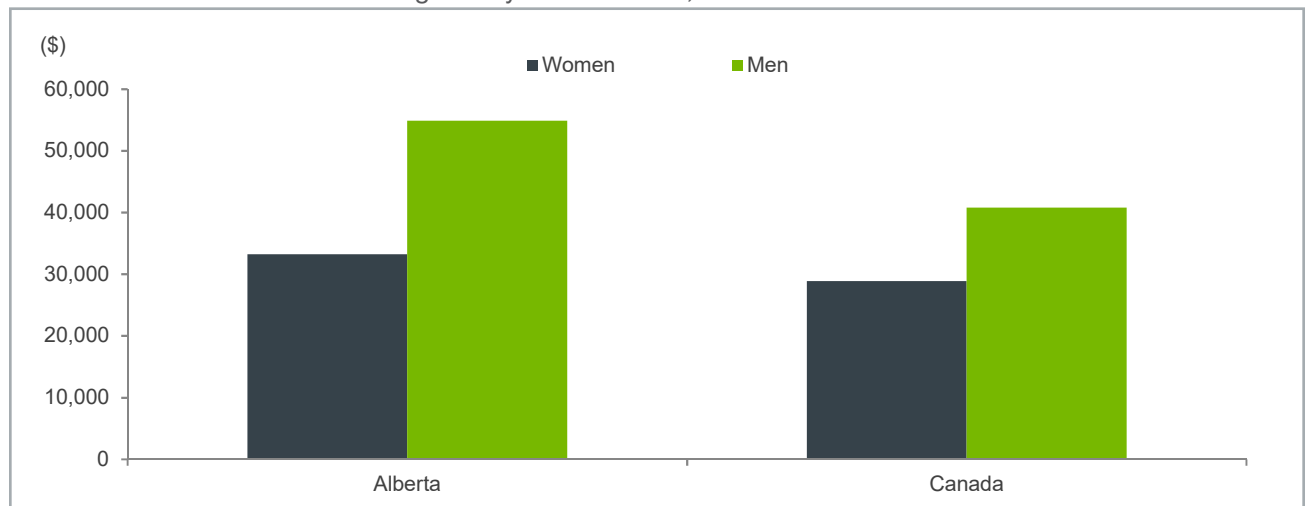
- ◆ In 2015, women in Alberta had a median after-tax total income of about \$33,213 while men in Alberta had a median total income of \$54,891. This means that women's total income was 39.4% less than men's in that year.
- ◆ Nationally, the median after-tax total income for women was also substantially lower than for men in 2015 (\$28,860 compared with \$40,782). Women's total income in Canada was 29.3% lower than men's.
- ◆ Overall, both women and men in Alberta had higher median total incomes than Canada; however, the income gap between men and women was notably higher in Alberta.

Income by Census family type

- ◆ Couple families with children had median after-tax total incomes of about \$108,177 and \$93,498 in Alberta and Canada, respectively.
- ◆ Compared to other provinces, lone-parent families in Alberta had the highest total median income; 12.3% higher than the Canada median (\$51,883 compared to \$45,482).
- ◆ Female lone-parent census families across Canada earned 15.4% less than their male counterparts (\$43,990 compared to \$56,551) in 2015. However, the income gap was larger in

Chart 1: Median income gaps between women and men

Median total income of tax-filers aged 15 years and older, 2015

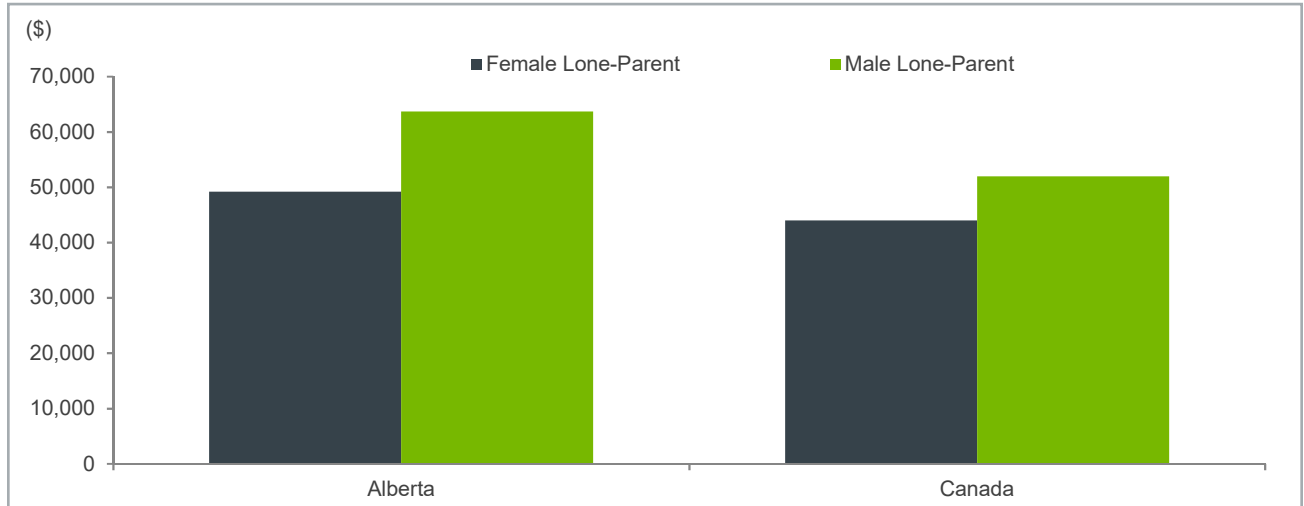


Source: Statistics Canada, T1 Family File

Alberta, where female lone-parent households earned 22.8% less than male-led households (\$49,199 compared with \$63,689).

Chart 2: Median income gaps for lone-parent families

Median total income of tax-filers aged 15 years and older, 2015



Source: Statistics Canada, T1 Family File

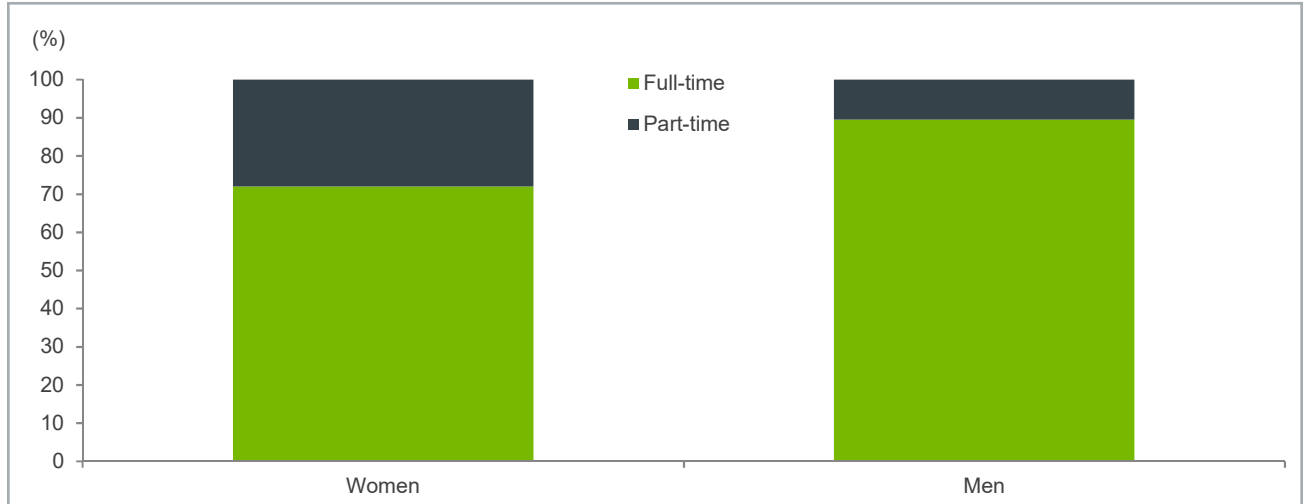
Paid work

- ◆ In Alberta, women’s participation in the labour force was consistently above the national rate from 2007 to 2017, but was still considerably below those of men in the province.
- ◆ In 2017, the participation rate among women in Alberta was about 66.2% (compared to 61.5% of women nationwide), while 78.4% of men in Alberta (70.2% of men in Canada) were in the labour force.
- ◆ While female employment levels remain lower than for males, an increasing number of women continue to enter the workforce. The number of women in paid employment in Alberta rose from 893,700 in 2007 to 1,039,000 in 2017, representing an increase of 16.3% over the ten year period, compared with a 13.7% increase for men (from 1,097,000 to 1,248,000).
- ◆ Employment in Canada grew at a slower rate than in Alberta. In Canada, employment increased by 10.7% among women (from 7,930, 000 to 8,781,000) and 8.8% among men (from 8,839,000 to 9,636,000) between 2007 and 2017.
- ◆ In 2017, approximately 72.0% of female workers (748,000) and 89.5% of male workers (1,117,000) were employed full-time in Alberta.
- ◆ Women in Alberta were nearly three times as likely as men to work part-time (28.0% of women compared with 10.5% of men).
- ◆ Men were more likely to be self-employed than women. In 2017, 14.0% (127,000) of total employed women were self-employed in Alberta, compared with 25.7% (255,000) of men. National self-employment rates among men and women were generally comparable to Alberta’s: 13.5% (1,042,000) of female workers and 22.4% (1,765,000) of male workers were self-employed across Canada.

- ◆ Unemployment rates among women and men in Alberta differed slightly from 2007 to 2017, but generally followed similar trends. In 2017, the unemployment rate among women and men in Alberta was 7.3% and 8.3%, respectively. Nationally, the unemployment rate among women was also lower than that of men (5.8% and 6.8%, respectively).

Chart 3: Women more likely to have part-time employment than men

Employment status, Alberta, 2017



Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Survey

Employment by industry and occupation

- ◆ A large majority of female workers aged 15 and older in Alberta (89.2%) were employed in the services-producing sector in 2017, especially in industries such as health care and social assistance (225,000), retail trade (133,000), and educational services (108,000).
- ◆ In contrast, substantially fewer men in Alberta were employed in these industries. For example, 3.9% of men compared to 21.7% of women were employed in health care and social assistance industries.
- ◆ In 2017, women across Canada were largely concentrated in the same industries as their counterparts in Alberta, with the highest portion of women in Canada also working in health care and social assistance (22.2%), followed by retail trade (13.0%), and educational services (10.0%).
- ◆ The top occupational categories among women in Alberta in 2017 were administrative and financial supervisors (99,000), office support (80,000) and service support and other service (62,000). Similar results were observed nationally: the top three occupations were administrative and financial supervisors (752,000); office support (567,000); and service representatives and other customer and personal services (533,000).
- ◆ In Alberta, 6.7% of female workers held senior or middle management occupations in 2017 versus 11.9% of men. A similar trend was found at the national level (6.8% for women compared to 11.7% for men).
- ◆ In 2017, 69,000 women held management occupations in Alberta, representing 31.8% of the total management positions in the province.

- ◆ Even though there was a larger number of women in management positions in 2017 (69,000) than there were in 2007 (63,000), the proportion of women holding a management position in Alberta remained unchanged at about 32.0%. Similar results were found nationally, with women accounting for about 35.0% of all management positions in 2007 and 2017.

Table 1: Top 5 industries with highest female (aged 15 years and older) employment

Alberta, 2017

Industry	Number of Females Employed	% of Females Employed	% of Males Employed
Health care and social assistance	225,000	21.7%	3.9%
Retail trade	133,000	12.8%	8.7%
Educational services	108,000	10.4%	3.6%
Accommodation and food services	85,000	8.2%	5.0%
Professional, scientific and technical services	76,000	7.3%	8.2%

Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Survey

Table 2: Top 5 occupations with highest female (aged 15 years and older) employment

Alberta, 2017

Occupation	Number of Females Employed	% of Females Employed	% of Males Employed
Administrative and financial supervisors and administrative occupations	99,000	9.5%	2.0%
Office support occupations	67,000	6.5%	0.5%
Service support and other service occupations	70,000	6.7%	3.5%
Service representatives and other customer and personal services occupations	60,000	5.8%	2.3%
Professional occupations in education services	55,000	5.3%	2.0%

Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Survey