

Persons in one-parent families headed by an immigrant woman are most likely to be in low income

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A new study released today, titled "Prevalence of low income among persons in one-parent families headed by an immigrant parent: An intersectional analysis," uses data from the 2021 Census of Population to examine the prevalence of low income among persons in one-parent families (OPFs). The results show that persons in OPFs headed by an immigrant woman (26.5%) were most likely to be in low income in 2020, followed by persons in OPFs headed by a non-immigrant woman (24.1%), an immigrant man (21.4%) and a non-immigrant man (18.5%).

Persons in one-parent families headed by a Filipino immigrant woman are less likely to be in low income than persons in one-parent families headed by a non-immigrant woman

The prevalence of low income among persons in OPFs headed by an immigrant woman was not always higher, with variations observed according to the racialized group the woman belongs to. For example, persons in OPFs headed by a Filipino immigrant woman (10.7%) were less likely to be in low income than persons in OPFs headed by a non-immigrant woman (24.1%). This may be explained by the fact that, in general, Filipino women are highly educated and have a high employment rate, which may, in turn, contribute to a lower prevalence of low income.

Persons in one-parent families headed by an immigrant woman admitted under the economic category are as likely to be in low income as those in one-parent families headed by a non-immigrant woman

The prevalence of low income among persons in OPFs headed by an immigrant woman also varied according to the admission category under which immigrants were admitted to Canada. The prevalence of low income among persons in OPFs headed by an immigrant woman admitted under the economic category (24.5%) was comparable with that of persons in OPFs headed by a non-immigrant woman (24.1%), while it was higher among persons in OPFs headed by an immigrant woman admitted as a refugee (31.0%) or sponsored by family (26.7%).

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Note to readers

This study examines the low-income status of persons in one-parent families (OPFs) with children aged 17 years and younger (children aged 18 years and older may also be present).

Persons in OPFs headed by Indigenous parents are excluded from the non-immigrant population in this study.

Low-income status is measured using the low-income measure, after tax.

Additional information about the data source, methods and definitions are available in the article.



Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number [3901](#).

The article "[Prevalence of low income among persons in one-parent families headed by an immigrant parent: An intersectional analysis](#)," as part of *Studies on Gender and Intersecting Identities (45-20-0002)*, is now available. The infographic "[Low income among persons in one-parent families headed by an immigrant parent](#)" ([11-627-M](#)) is also available.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact us (toll-free 1-800-263-1136; 514-283-8300; infostats@statcan.gc.ca) or Media Relations (statcan.mediahotline-ligneinfomedias.statcan@statcan.gc.ca).