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2014 Statistics of Low-Wage Workers in Alberta

The following statistics were purchased from Statistics Canada by Public Interest Alberta with the support of the Alberta College of Social Workers. The statistics are the number of employed Albertans in each category for the average of the year ending June 30, 2014.

Alberta Statistics

More than one out of every five workers earns less than \$15/hour

- There are 383,900 Albertans earning less than \$15/hour out of a total of 1,870,100 employed Albertans (20.5%).
- There are 431,500 Albertans earning less than \$16/hour (23%).
- There are 42,200 people earning between \$9.95 and \$10.20.

The majority of low-wage workers are women

- 234,400 low-wage workers are women (61%)

Most low-wage workers are in their prime earning years

- **77% of low wage workers are over the age of 20**
- 78,500 (20.4%) are between 20 – 24 years old.
- 135,100 (35.2%) are between 25 – 44 years old.
- 82,100 (21.4%) are 45 years and older.

Medicine Hat Statistics

Medicine Hat has the highest percentage of low-wage workers of the 7 major Alberta cities – Double the provincial average

- There are 13,200 people earning less than \$15/hour out of a total of 33,200 employed people in Medicine Hat. (39.8%)
- There are 14,000 people earning less than \$16/hour (42%)

The majority of low-wage workers in Medicine Hat are women

- 8000 low-wage workers are women (60.6%).

The vast majority of low-wage workers are in their prime earning years

- **90% of low-wage workers are over the age of 20.**
- 1200 (9%) are between 20 – 24 years old.
- 7400 (56%) are between 25- 45 years old.
- 3300 (25%) are 45 years old or older.