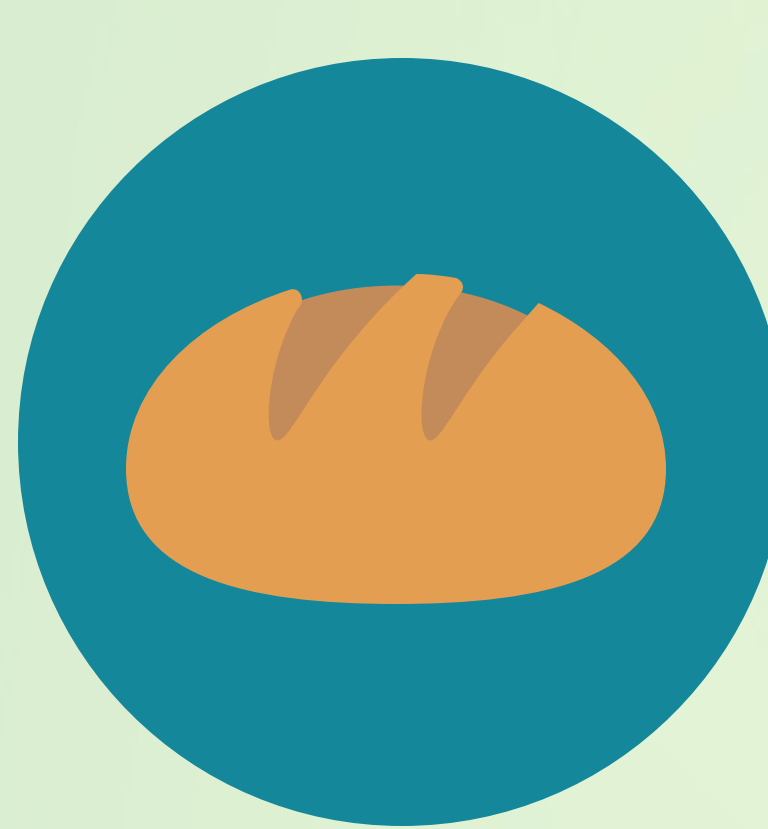




# Income Security in Ontario



Current social assistance rates in Ontario are far too low to pay for basic necessities like food, housing, transportation, and clothing.



**1997**

Real income from welfare decreased sharply and continued in a downward trajectory for the next decade.

**2005**

Although social assistance rates started to rise, they did not keep up with inflation over the next decade.

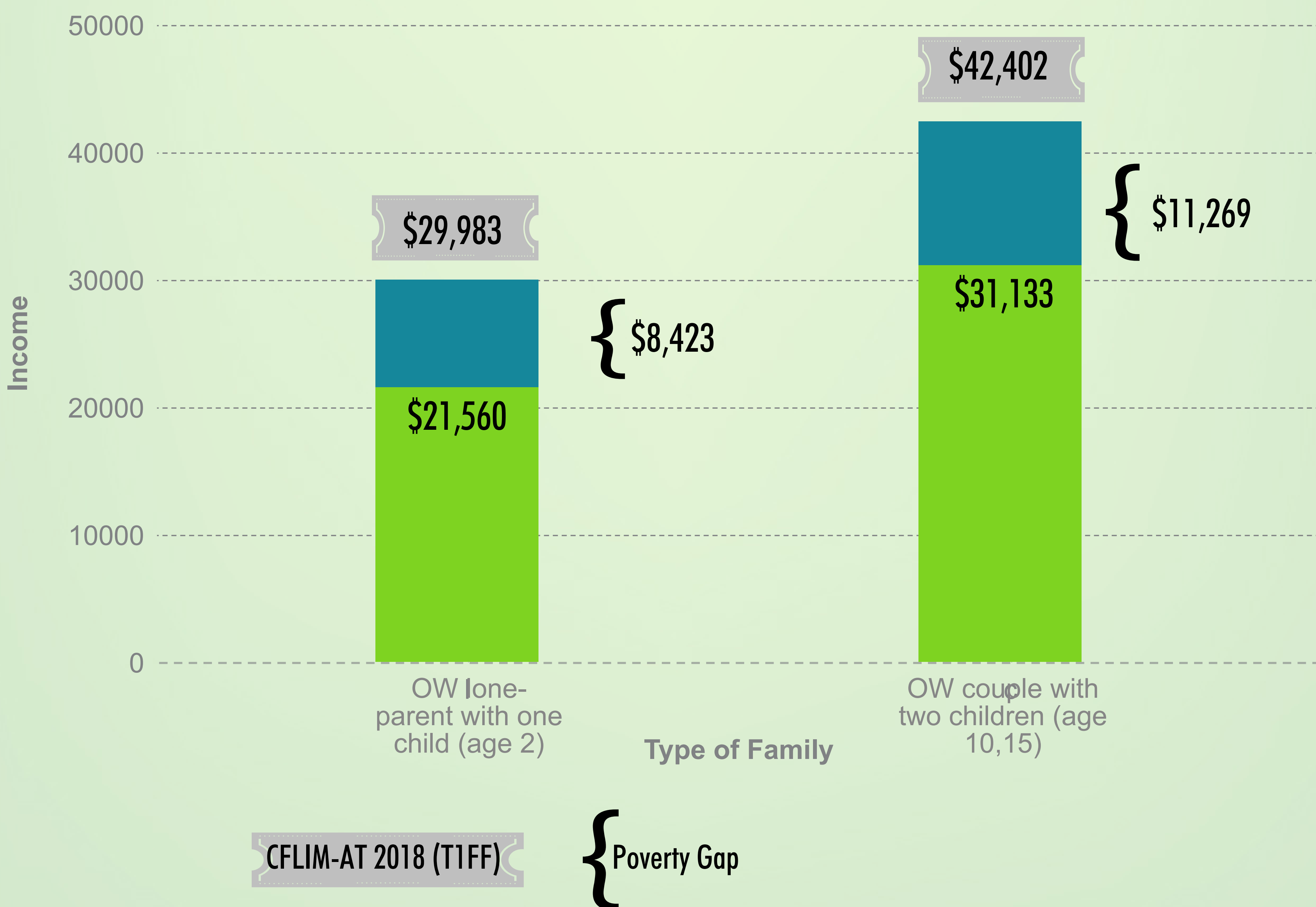
**2007**

Income for families with children started to rise due to the Ontario Child Benefit.

**2015**

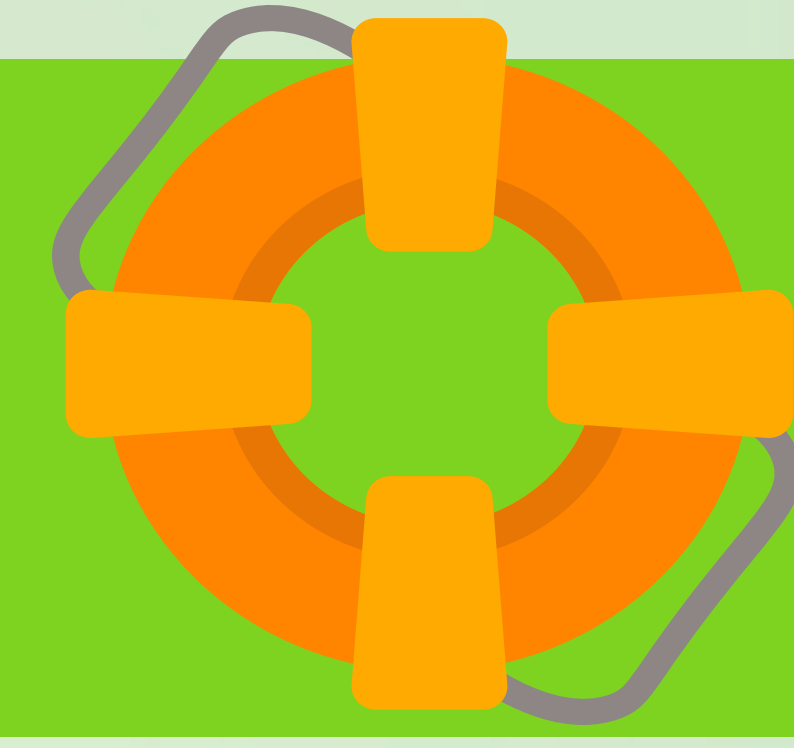
Incomes for families with children got another bump from the Canada Child Benefit, but welfare income remained stagnant.

## Depth of Poverty for Families in Ontario on OW, 2018



Notes:  
 (1) Total income includes OW Basic Needs and Maximum Shelter amounts, the Ontario Child Benefit (OCB), Canada Child Benefit (CCB), the Ontario Trillium Benefit, and the G/HST credit. In order to receive child benefits and tax credits, families must have filed their prior years' tax returns. Amounts are best estimates.  
 (2) 2018 CFLIM-AT figures are calculated based on 2016 CFLIM-AT from Statistics Canada. (2018). Table: 11-10-0017-01. After-tax low income status of census families based on Census Family Low Income Measure (CFLIM-AT), by family type and family composition, 2016, with inflation added using Bank of Canada inflation calculator. Please refer to pg. 4-5 in Campaign 2000's national report card, *Bold Ambitions for Child and Family Poverty Eradication*, for more information about Statistic Canada's methodology change and the CFLIM-AT.  
 (3) Laidley, J. (2018 November). Families in Ontario on OW, 2018 rates - custom tabulation. Income Security Advocacy Centre.

## Recommendations for a strong social safety net



↑ Significant increases to Ontario Works + Ontario Disability Support Program rates

Ensure all children have access to Ontario Child Benefit and Canada Child Benefit\*

Create good jobs with fair wages

Increase the Ontario Child Benefit by \$100 per child in 2019

Families need stable, sufficient incomes to thrive and help lift them out of poverty with dignity and respect because all families deserve strong beginnings

\*Access for Indigenous Peoples, people with precarious immigration status, and all those who do not file tax returns.

For more information about sources, visit <https://bit.ly/2RYvkhS>