

How does a basic income affect determinants of health and food security?

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Social Determinants of Health

"...the economic and social conditions that shape the health of individuals, communities, and jurisdictions as a whole" (Raphael, 2009)

- Income and Income Distribution
- Education
- Unemployment and Job Security
- Employment and Working Conditions
- Early Childhood Development
- Food Insecurity
- Housing
- Social Exclusion
- Social Safety Network

- Health Services
- Aboriginal Status
- Gender
- Race

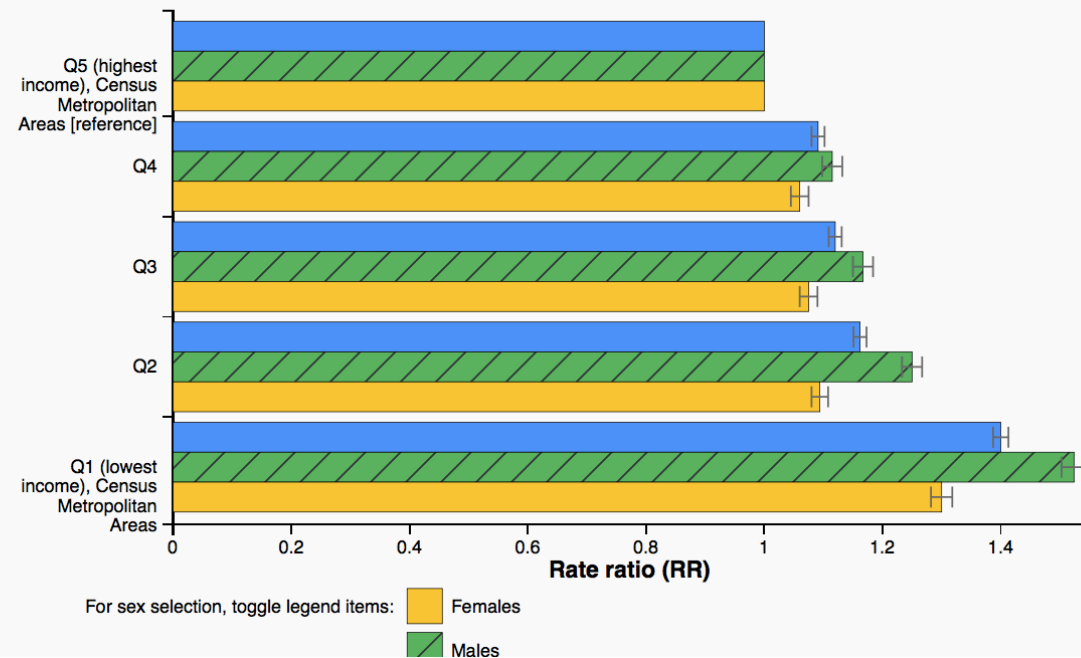


Income

“the determinant of determinants”

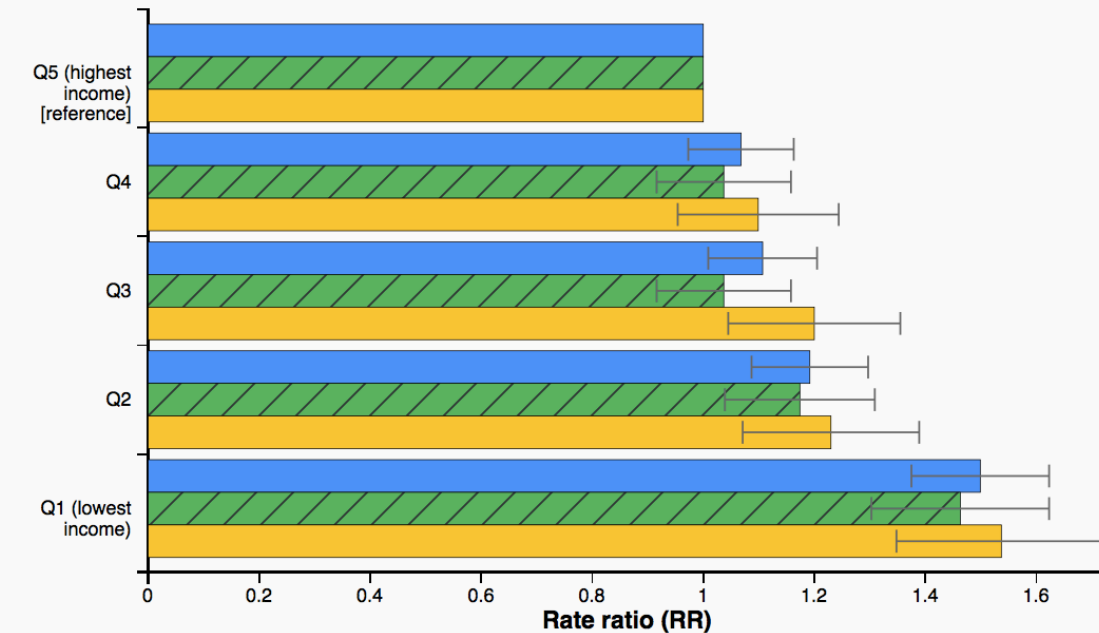
Wealth-health gradient

All-cause mortality, rate ratio (RR), Canada



Infant mortality, rate ratio (RR), Canada

Income quintiles (area-based measure)



Household food insecurity in Canada

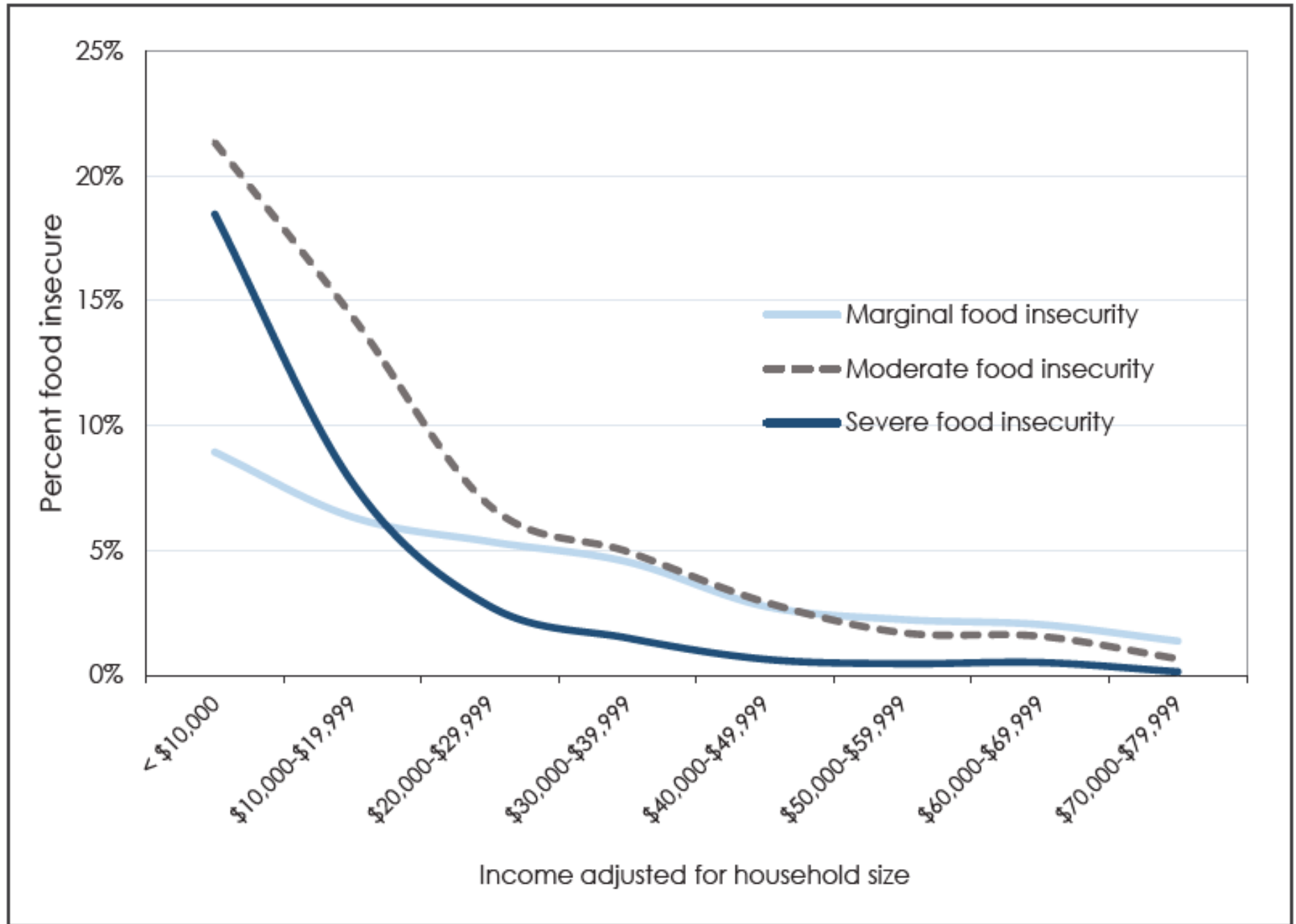
“...the inadequate or insecure access to food due to financial constraints.”

- In 2017/2018 4.4 million people in Canada were food insecure, including 1.15 million children
- The number of food insecure in people in Canada in 2017/2018 is highest its been since Stats Can began measuring in 2004
- Nova Scotia persists as the province with the highest rate of food insecurity at 15.3%
- Food insecurity means material and social deprivation

Infographic courtesy of Proof: <https://proof.utoronto.ca/>



Relationship Between Income and Food Insecurity



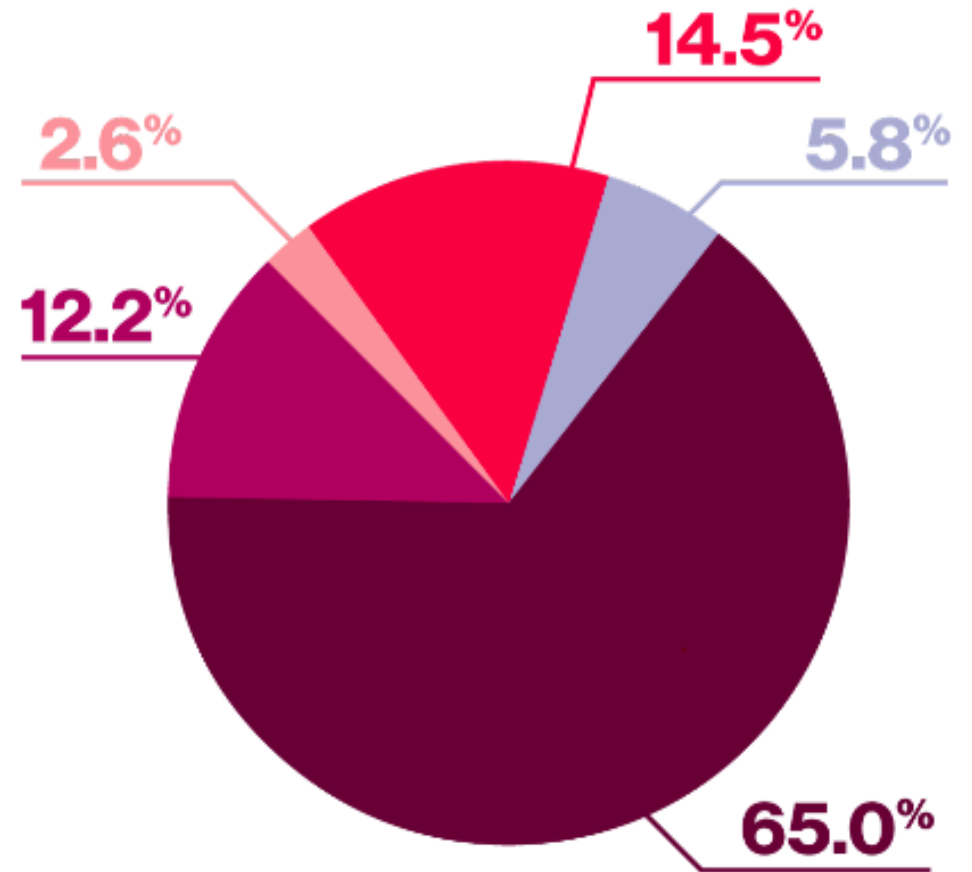
Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Community Health Survey 2013-2014.

Food insecure households' main source of income

KEY

- Wages, salaries or self-employment**
- Senior's income**, including dividends and interest
- Employment Insurance** or workers' compensation
- Social Assistance**
- Other**

- Severity of food insecurity among households reliant on social assistance is particularly high:
 - 25.8% experiencing moderate food insecurity
 - 25.4% experiencing severe food insecurity.

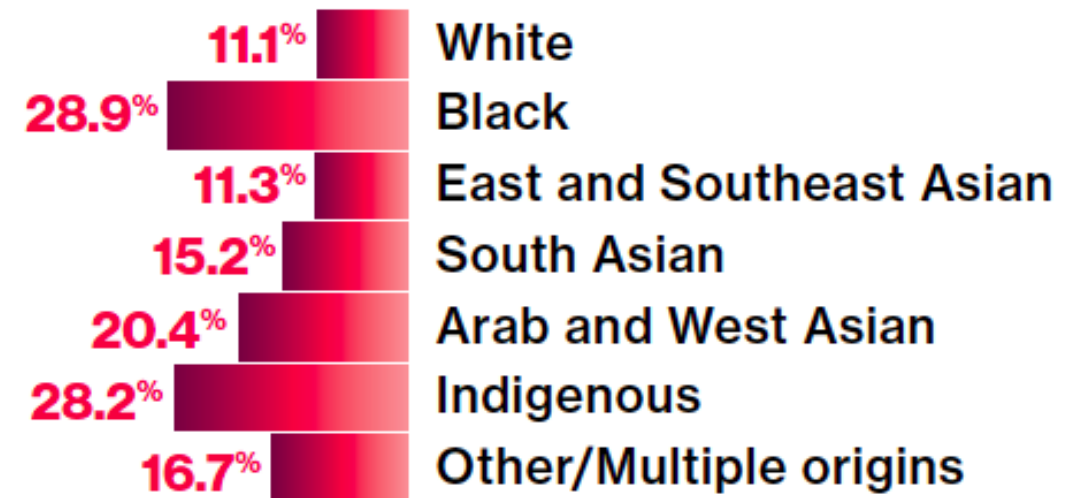


Food insecurity rates mirror social inequities

Food insecurity is higher among:

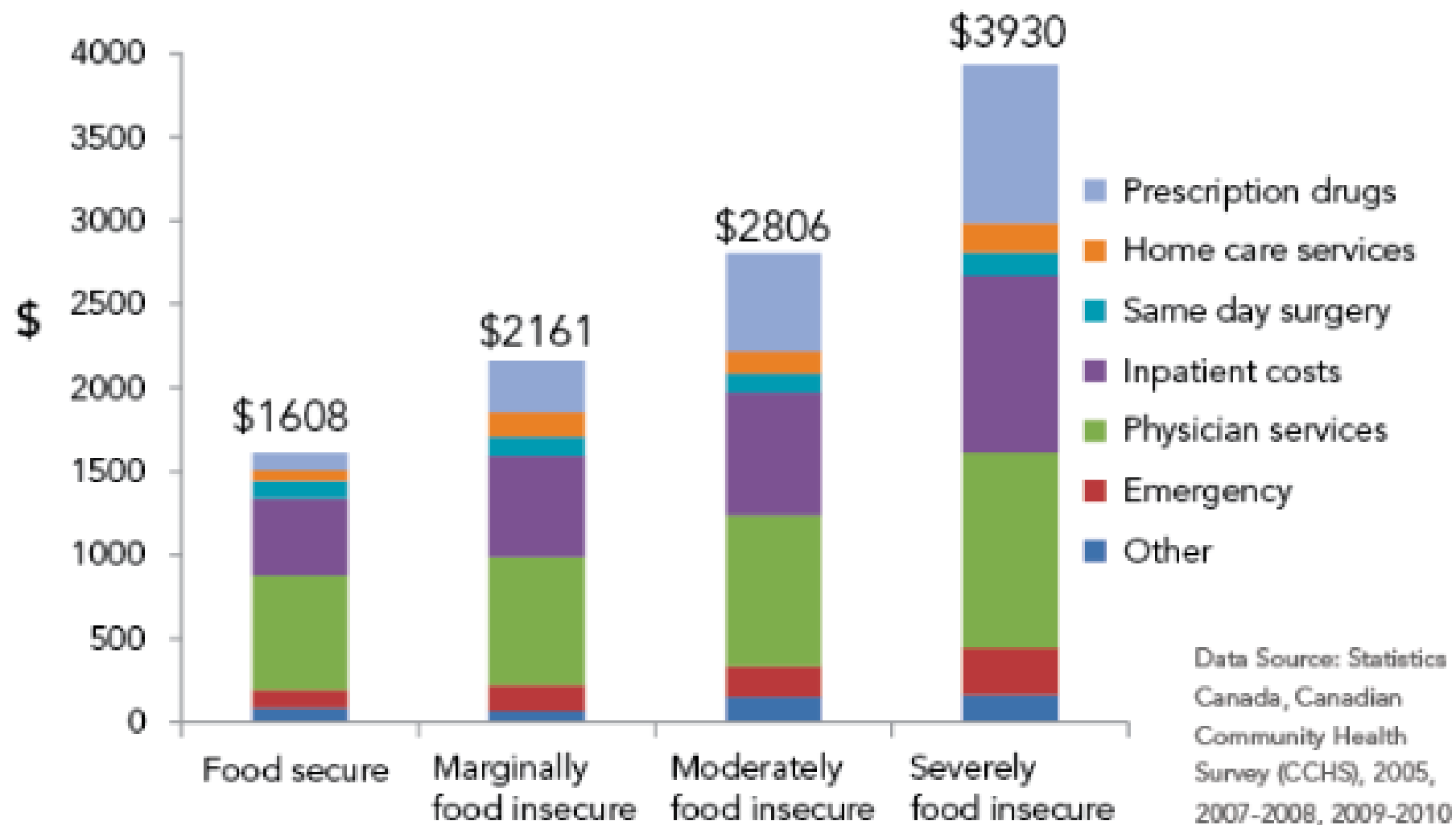
- Households with children (1+ < 18 years) at 16.2% compared to 11.4% of households without
- Lone parents
 - 11.8% of couples with children
 - 21.6% for male lone-parent households
 - 33.1% for female lone-parent households with children
- Households with newcomers at 17.1%
- Households with less formal education
 - 21.1% no high school to 7.2% at least one Bachelor degree

Prevalence of Household Food Insecurity in Relation to **RACIAL/CULTURAL IDENTITY & INDIGENOUS STATUS**



Data Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Community Health Survey (CCHS), 2017-18.

Average health care costs incurred over 12 months by Ontario adults (18-64 years of age), by household food insecurity status



(Tarasuk, Cheng, de Oliveira, Dachner, Gundersen & Kurdyak, 2015)²³

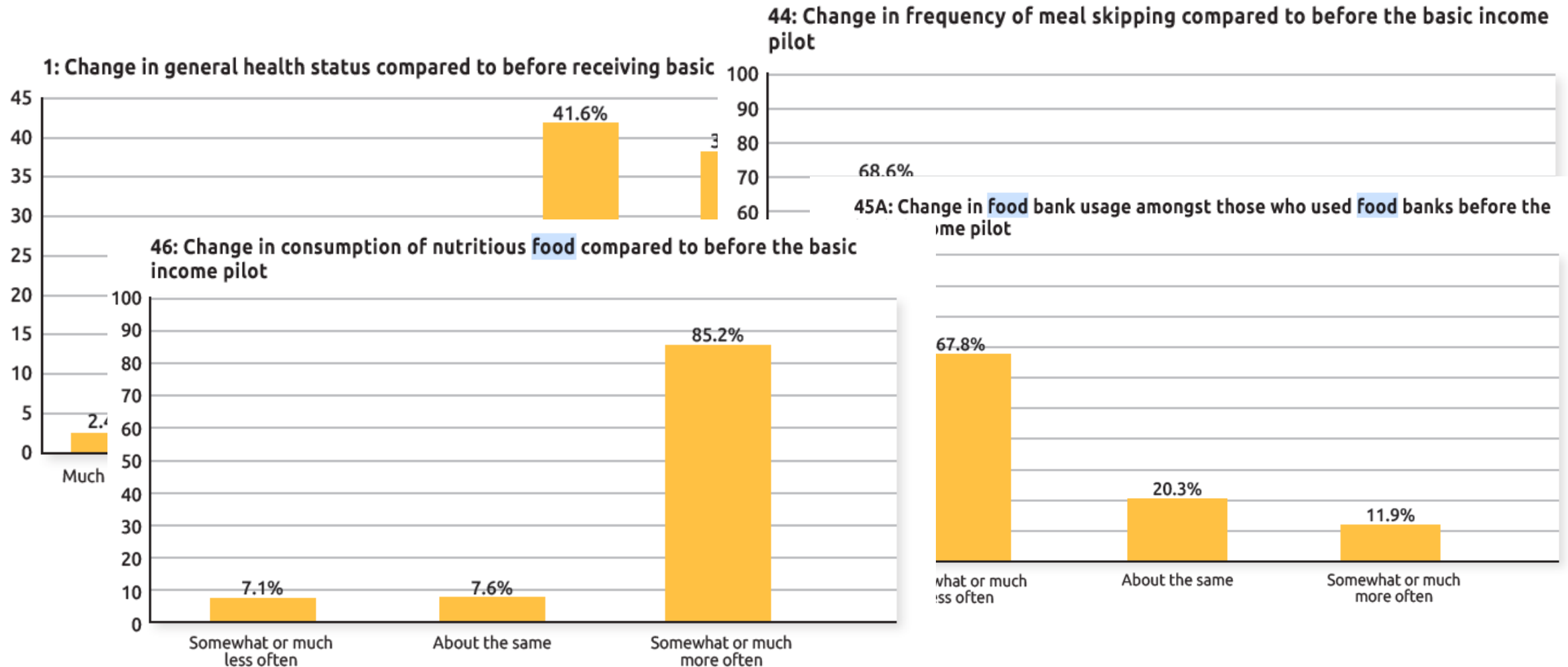
Food banks doesn't work

- Only about a quarter of those who are food insecurity use food banks.
 - Accessibility – Lack of transportation, hours of operation, mobility issues, rural areas
 - Lack of quantity, quality, and variety of foods – Fail to meet dietary, health, or religious, personal, or moral needs
 - Stigma – taken as a sign of scraping bottom, shame, lack of autonomy
- Nearly all food bank clients still report being food insecure, many severe food insecurity
- Food banks are patently unable to address the core reason that too many people don't have enough food—poverty

How do we know that basic income will work?

- BI sets an income floor for all households that would raise people out of poverty and alleviate the main cause of food insecurity – lack of income
- Newfoundland and Labrador Poverty Reduction Strategy
 - Policy reforms to social assistance
 - Rates increased 5% and indexed to inflation
 - Increases to earnings exemptions, health benefits, shelter and special diet rates, and liquid assets levels
 - Low-income tax threshold increased
 - 2007 to 2011 food insecurity rates fell from 15.7% to 10.6%
- Universal Child Care Benefit
 - Among those 12 years+ with 1+ child 6years+
 - UCCB reduced the proportion of respondents reporting food insecurity by 2.4%
 - 4.3% reduction for individuals in households with yearly incomes below the population median; 5.4% reduction among individuals from single parent families
- Guaranteed Annual Income
 - Among those 55-59 years of age, probability of food insecurity dropped 43% to 16% at age 65

How do we know that basic income will work?



Thank you!

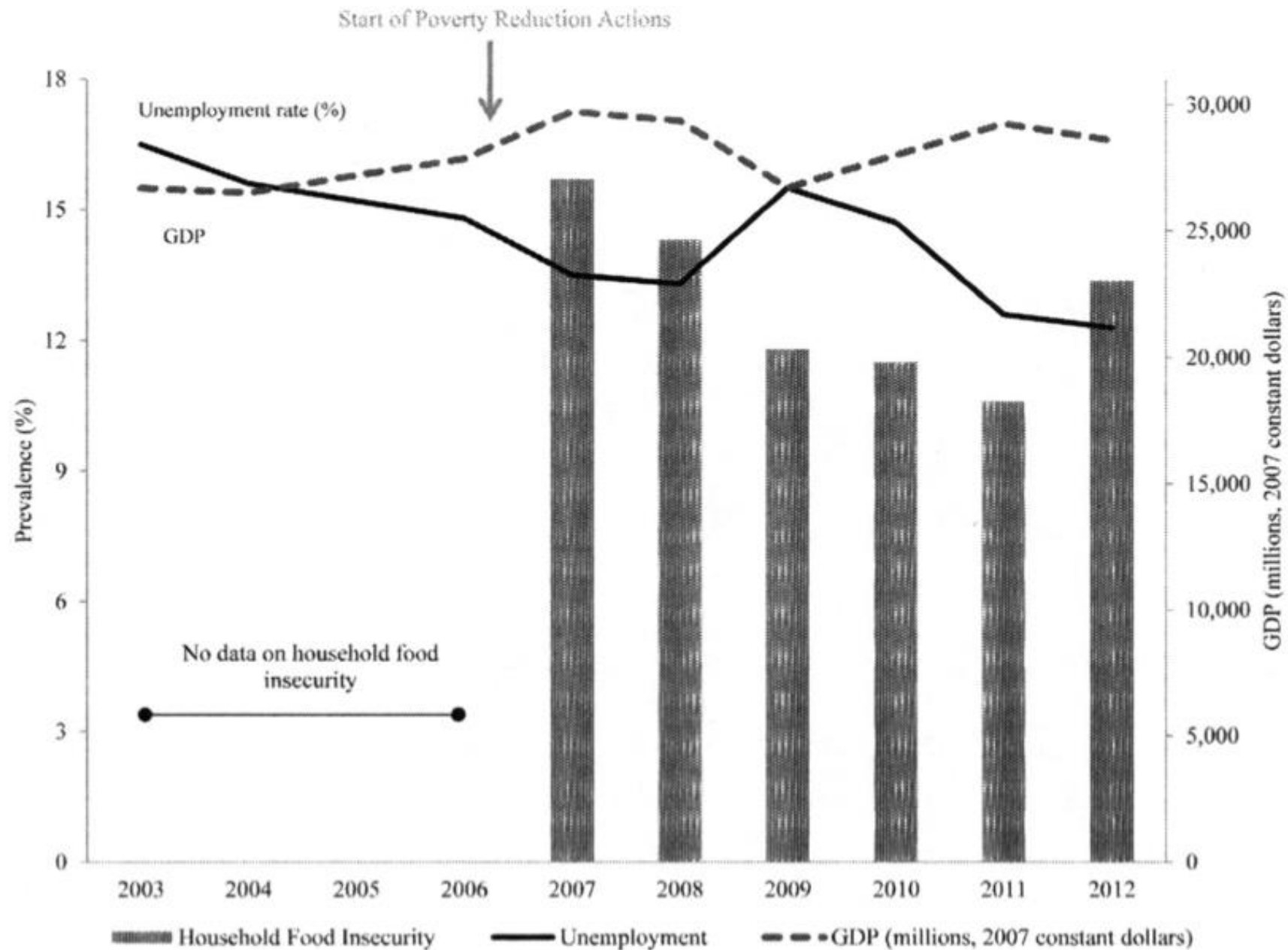


Figure I: Household Food Insecurity in Newfoundland and Labrador, CCHS 2007–2012

Note: N = 11,239 households.