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c2-10

YUKON UTILITIES BOARD		
EXHIBIT c2-10		
DAY	ENTERED BY UCE	DATE Nov 11/16

c. Low income households

A popular way of estimating the number of low-income households in a community or population is to use Low Income Cut-offs (LICO). LICO is Statistics Canada's most widely recognized approach to estimating low income cut-offs.

The LICO is an income threshold below which families devote 20 percent more of their income on food, clothing and shelter than the average family of the same size. This table is based on after-tax household income. Statistics Canada is not able to calculate LICOs that are specific to Yukon.

For this report, we have used income and family size information from the 2006 Census, and applied it to the national LICOs for communities with less than 30,000 people. The cost of living in Yukon is not identical to what is seen nationally, so these numbers are a rough estimate of the true number of Yukon households living in poverty. The LICOs used for this report are as follows:

2005 after-tax LICOs, for urban areas with less than 30,000 people

Size of family unit	After-tax household income, 2005
1 person	12,899
2 people	15,700
3 people	19,548
4 people	24,388
5 people	27,772
6 people	30,799
7 or more people	33,827

Source: Statistics Canada, Catalogue No. 75F0002M

The following table provides a useful comparison for identifying family types that are more likely than others to experience severe poverty. Lone-parent families stand out, as they are more likely to be in severe poverty than other Yukon families.

Yukon households living below the low-income cutoff (LICO) in 2005

	Total households	Economic families in low income	
		Number	Percent
Total — All economic families	8,300	360	4.3%
Couple economic families	6,510	205	3.1%
Couples only	2,900	105	3.6%
Couples with children	3,300	100	3.0%
Couples with other relatives	305	10	3.3%
Lone-parent economic families	1,620	150	9.3%
Male lone-parent families	390	35	9.0%
Female lone-parent families	1,100	115	10.5%
Other economic families	170	0	0.0%

Source: 2006 Census