



The City of Calgary Population Profiles

# DISABILITY

## Population Profile: Persons with Disabilities in Calgary (2022)

This profile provides information about people with disabilities in Calgary, based on data from Statistics Canada's 2022 Canadian Survey on Disability (CSD).

### Key topics covered:

- Disability prevalence, severity, and type
- Labour force participation
- Median income
- Visible minority status
- Immigrant status
- Education level

**About the Canadian Survey on Disability (CSD):** The CSD aims to understand the experiences of Canadians aged 15 and over whose daily activities are limited by long-term conditions or health problems. This survey helps identify barriers faced by people with disabilities.

### Survey details:

- Conducted every five years.
- Targets those aged 15+ who reported difficulties in daily activities on the 2021 census long-form questionnaire.
- Excludes people in collective dwellings (e.g., hospitals, nursing homes) and those living on First Nations reserves.

For more details on the CSD methodology, visit Statistics Canada's website:

[Canadian Survey on Disability.](#)

# Disability in Calgary in 2022

## Disability Prevalence

- **Overall: Approximately one out of every four Calgarians reported having a disability in 2022.** (A rate of 24% and a total of 257,600 people)
  - In comparison: Alberta's rate was 28% and Canada's rate was 27%.
- **Gender: There were more women with disabilities than men with disabilities.**
  - 27% of women and 21% of men reported disabilities.
- **Age: The rate of disability was twice as high for seniors compared to younger adults.**
  - 42% of seniors 65+ years old reported disabilities.
  - 21% of those aged 15 – 64 years old reported disabilities.

## Disability Severity

- The level of severity includes the consideration of a person's:
  - Number of disability types
  - Level of difficulty
  - Frequency of difficulty
- **Among Calgarians with disabilities, 40% had a “severe” or “very severe” disability.**

## Disability Type

- **The most common types of disability in Calgary in 2022 were pain-related and mental health-related.**

- **Frequency of types of disability out of Calgary's total population:**
  - Pain-related: 14%
  - Mental health-related: 10%
  - Flexibility: 9%
  - Mobility: 9%
  - Seeing: 7%
  - Learning: 6%
  - Hearing: 5%
  - Memory: 5%
  - Dexterity: 5%
  - Developmental: 2%
- Note: People can report more than one type of disability.

## Labour Force Participation

- Definitions:
  - In the labour force** refers to people who are employed and unemployed.
  - Not in the labour force** refers to people who:
    - Are unable or unavailable to work.
    - Have not actively looked for work in the past four weeks.
    - Do not have a job starting in the next four weeks.
- **A smaller percentage of people with disabilities were in the labour force compared to the total Calgary population.**
  - People with disabilities: 72%
  - Total Calgary population: 78%
- **Unemployment was slightly more common for people with disabilities compared to the total Calgary population.**
  - People with disabilities: 12%
  - Total Calgary population: 10%
- Note: This data is for people aged 15 to 64 years.

## Median Income

- Median income is a way to understand what a “typical” income looks like, without it being impacted by very high or very low incomes.
- **People with disabilities in Calgary have a slightly higher median income compared to people with disabilities across Canada but have a lower median income than the total Calgary population.**
- **Median after-tax income for people with disabilities (aged 15-64) in 2021:**
  - Calgary: \$35,280
  - Alberta: \$35,850
  - Canada: \$34,740
- **Median after-tax income for all Calgarians (aged 15+) in 2020: \$40,000**
- Note: The age groups and years are slightly different for the data for people with disabilities and the total Calgary population.

## Visible Minority Status

- Statistics Canada uses the term “visible minority” to refer to people who are non-Caucasian in race or non-white in colour, other than Indigenous people. This includes the following groups: South Asian, Chinese, Black, Filipino, Latin American, Arab, Southeast Asian, West Asian, Korean, and Japanese.
- **A smaller percentage of people with disabilities identified as a visible minority compared to the total population of Calgary.**
  - 31% of people with disabilities identified as a visible minority.
  - 42% of Calgary’s total population identified as a visible minority.

## Immigrant Status

- **There were fewer people with disabilities who identified as an immigrant compared to Calgary's total population.**
  - 31% of people with disabilities identified as an immigrant.
  - 40% of Calgary's total population identified as an immigrant.

## Education Level

- **People with disabilities were less likely to have a higher education level compared to Calgary's total population.**
- **Percentages of those with no certificate, diploma, or degree:**
  - People with disabilities: 21%
  - Total Calgary population: 14%
- **Percentages of those with a university certificate, diploma, or degree at a bachelor level or above:**
  - People with disabilities: 25%
  - Total Calgary population: 35%

Data sources for the information in this profile:

- Statistics Canada (2022), Canadian Survey on Disability, Tables 1 – 10, accessed through the Community Data Program.
- Statistics Canada (2023), Calgary Census Profile 2021, Catalogue no. [98-316-X2021001](#).

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