Ministry of Social Development and Poverty Reduction
B.C. Employment and Assistance Summary Report

Cases by Program and Family Type - September 2026

	Current Month September 2026	Previous Month August 2026	% Change from Previous Month	One Year Ago September 2025	% Change from Previous Year
Total B.C. Employment and Assistance Cases	**210,007**	**210,660**	**-0.31**	**201,505**	**4.22**
Temporary Assistance (Persons Capable of Financial Independence Through Employment)					
Total Temporary Assistance Cases	**78,067**	**78,424**	**-0.46**	**74,168**	**5.26**
Temporarily Excused from Work	**7,694**	**7,669**	**0.33**	**8,205**	**-6.23**
Singles	3,545	3,527	0.51	3,855	-8.04
Couples	287	273	5.13	276	3.99
Two Parent Families	73	76	-3.95	109	-33.03
Single Parent Families	3,789	3,793	-0.11	3,965	-4.44
Persistent Multiple Barriers	**4,527**	**4,544**	**-0.37**	**4,324**	**4.69**
Singles	3,685	3,704	-0.51	3,512	4.93
Couples	56	55	1.82	50	12.00
Two Parent Families	74	79	-6.33	84	-11.90
Single Parent Families	712	706	0.85	678	5.01
Expected to Work - Medical Condition	**4,728**	**4,617**	**2.40**	**5,605**	**-15.65**
Singles	4,192	4,118	1.80	4,900	-14.45
Couples	56	55	1.82	65	-13.85
Two Parent Families	71	67	5.97	131	-45.80
Single Parent Families	409	377	8.49	509	-19.65
Expected to Work	**61,118**	**61,594**	**-0.77**	**56,034**	**9.07**
Singles	46,387	46,771	-0.82	42,324	9.60
Couples	864	894	-3.36	866	-0.23
Two Parent Families	2,881	2,920	-1.34	2,805	2.71
Single Parent Families	10,986	11,009	-0.21	10,039	9.43
Disability Assistance					
Total Disability Assistance Cases	**131,940**	**132,236**	**-0.22**	**127,337**	**3.61**
Singles	115,142	115,315	-0.15	111,333	3.42
Couples	3,586	3,642	-1.54	3,450	3.94
Two Parent Families	3,115	3,148	-1.05	2,903	7.30
Single Parent Families	10,097	10,131	-0.34	9,651	4.62

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Clients by Program and Family Type - September 2026

	Current Month September 2026	Previous Month August 2026	% Change from Previous Month	One Year Ago September 2025	% Change from Previous Year
Total B.C. Employment and Assistance Clients	**280,277**	**281,254**	**-0.35**	**268,875**	**4.24**
Temporary Assistance (Persons Capable of Financial Independence Through Employment)					
Total Temporary Assistance Cases	**118,902**	**119,367**	**-0.39**	**113,614**	**4.65**
Temporarily Excused from Work	**15,741**	**15,750**	**-0.06**	**16,645**	**-5.43**
Singles	3,545	3,527	0.51	3,855	-8.04
Couples	574	546	5.13	552	3.99
Two Parent Families	308	337	-8.61	501	-38.52
Single Parent Families	11,314	11,340	-0.23	11,737	-3.60
Persistent Multiple Barriers	**6,021**	**6,044**	**-0.38**	**5,758**	**4.57**
Singles	3,685	3,704	-0.51	3,512	4.93
Couples	112	110	1.82	100	12.00
Two Parent Families	333	357	-6.72	377	-11.67
Single Parent Families	1,891	1,873	0.96	1,769	6.90
Expected to Work - Medical Condition	**5,686**	**5,483**	**3.70**	**6,976**	**-18.49**
Singles	4,192	4,118	1.80	4,900	-14.45
Couples	112	110	1.82	130	-13.85
Two Parent Families	308	282	9.22	619	-50.24
Single Parent Families	1,074	973	10.38	1,327	-19.07
Expected to Work	**91,454**	**92,090**	**-0.69**	**84,235**	**8.57**
Singles	46,387	46,771	-0.82	42,324	9.60
Couples	1,728	1,788	-3.36	1,732	-0.23
Two Parent Families	13,338	13,480	-1.05	12,819	4.05
Single Parent Families	30,001	30,051	-0.17	27,360	9.65
Disability Assistance					
Total Disability Assistance Clients	**161,375**	**161,887**	**-0.32**	**155,261**	**3.94**
Singles	115,142	115,315	-0.15	111,333	3.42
Couples	7,172	7,284	-1.54	6,900	3.94
Two Parent Families	13,017	13,156	-1.06	12,169	6.97
Single Parent Families	26,044	26,132	-0.34	24,859	4.77

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B.C. Employment and Assistance Summary Report

Cases by Region Summary September 2026

Region	Current Month September 2026	Previous Month August 2026	% Change from Previous Month	One Year Ago September 2025	% Change from Previous Year
1. Vancouver Island/Coast	41,058	41,224	-0.40	39,745	3.30
2. Lower Mainland/South Coast	38,860	38,916	-0.14	37,909	2.51
3. Fraser Valley	74,267	74,459	-0.26	70,044	6.03
4. Thompson-Okanagan/Kootenay	41,578	41,672	-0.23	40,124	3.62
5. Cariboo/Nechako/North Coast/Northeast	14,244	14,389	-1.01	13,683	4.10
Total	**210,007**	**210,660**	**-0.31**	**201,505**	**4.22**

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