



Backgrounder

For immediate release

June 26, 2018

Based on new research from Campaign 2000, First Call: BC Child and Youth Advocacy Coalition ranked child poverty in BC's federal electoral ridings.

Four ridings appear within the 'top ten' list calculated both by percentage of population and actual number of children living in poverty. Those ridings are Surrey Centre, Skeena-Bulkley Valley, Nanaimo-Ladysmith and Surrey-Newton.

The following graphs illustrate the following:

- 1) the highest *percentage* of children living in poverty;
- 2) the highest *number* of children living in poverty;
- 3) households spending more than 30% of income on housing, and
- 4) a snapshot of ridings noting groups known to be over-represented in populations of people living in poverty.

With Canada's first federal Poverty Reduction Strategy expected within weeks, Campaign 2000 reveals a disturbing picture of the magnitude of child poverty in every federal riding in report released last week.

Broadly, across Canada, ridings with the worst child poverty rates are home to the highest proportions of Indigenous and racialized people, recent immigrants and mostly mother-headed lone parent families. The report paints a stark portrait of inequality among children and recommends solutions and benchmarks necessary for the long-awaited strategy.

Methodology

The research paper reports on rates of child and family poverty in all federal electoral districts (ridings). Low income rates are based on the most current available data from the T1 Family File (T1FF) calculated according to the Low-Income Measure After Tax (LIM-AT). The T1FF calculates low income based on the tax filings of Canadians, 96% of whom file. Data from the 2016 Census is used to provide a socio-demographic snapshot of the ridings along with low income data from T1FF.

About

Campaign 2000 is a non-partisan, cross-Canada network of 120 national, provincial and community partner organizations committed to working to end child and family poverty that is hosted by Family Service Toronto. For more information, the full report and methodology visit: <https://campaign2000.ca/child-poverty-by-federal-ridings/>

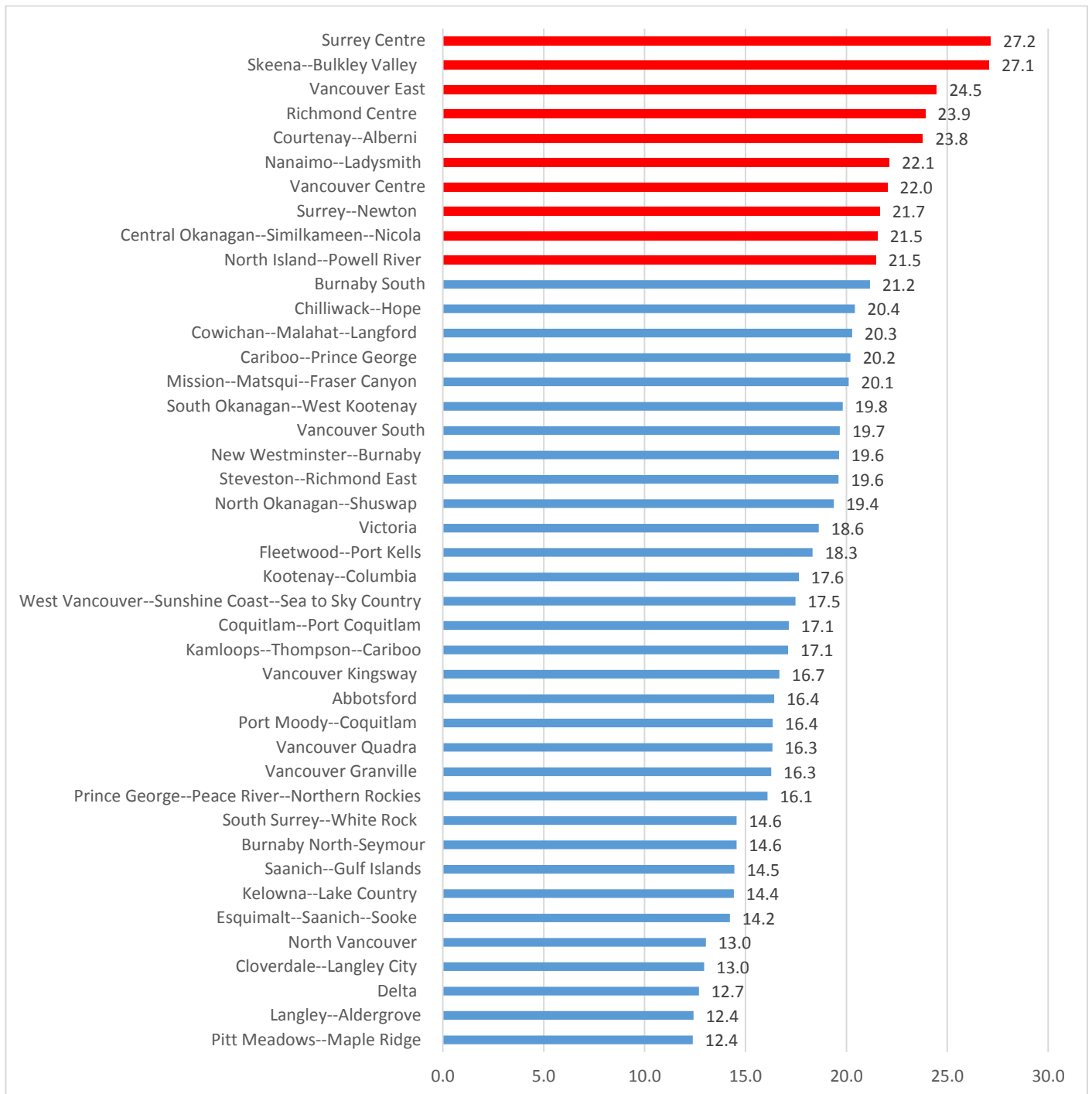
First Call: BC Child and Youth Advocacy Coalition is a non-partisan coalition of 1051 provincial and regional organizations who have united their voices to put children and youth first in BC through public education, community mobilization, and public policy advocacy. www.firstcallbc.org www.campaign2000.ca

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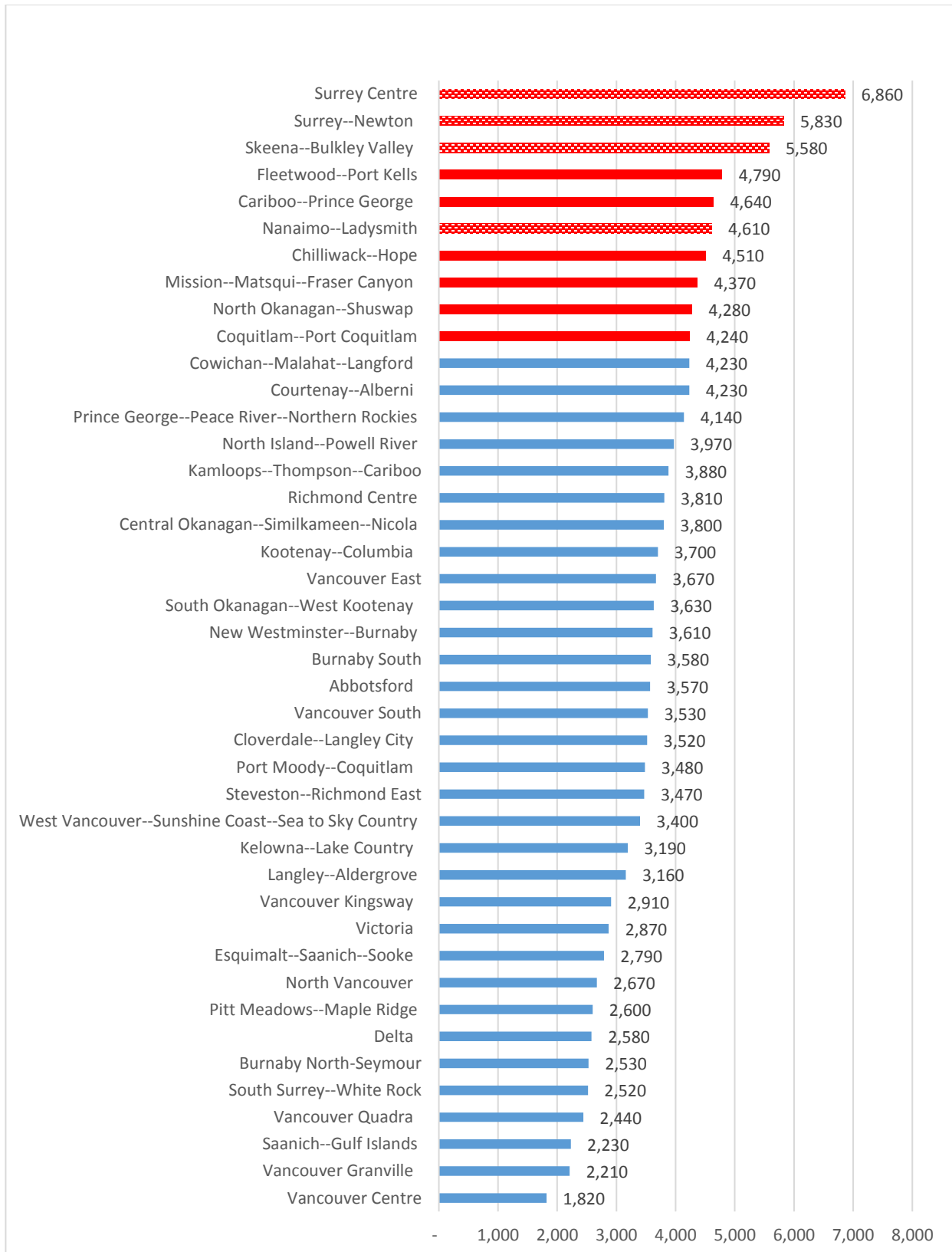
Graph1: Percentage of Children (0-17) Living in Poverty

This graph represents the percentage of children living in poverty relative to the total population of children in the riding.



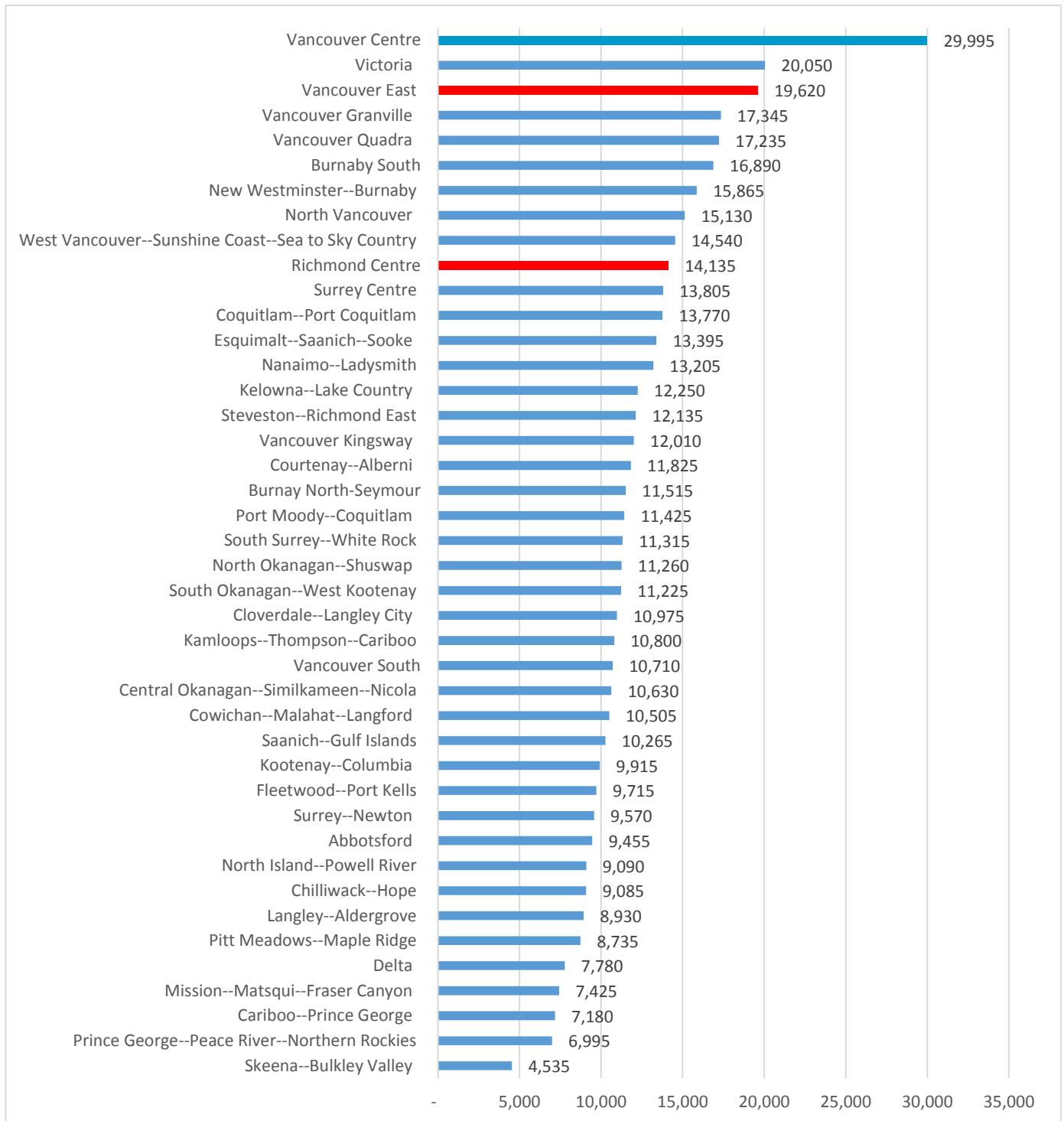
Graph 2: Number of Children (0-17) Living in Poverty

This graph represents the actual number of children living in poverty in BC federal ridings and differs from Graph 1. Four ridings appear within the 'top ten' list on both percentage and actual number of children living in poverty. Those ridings are Surrey Centre, Skeena-Bulkley Valley, Nanaimo-Ladysmith and Surrey-Newton.



Graph 3: Households with Children (0-17) Spending 30% or More of Income on Housing

This graph reflects the number of households reporting spending 30% or more on housing. This graph does not specifically track child poverty. However, of the top ten ridings with households reporting spending more than 30% of income on housing, Richmond Centre and Vancouver East, also fall within the ‘top ten’ ridings with the highest percentage of children living in poverty.



Graph 4: Riding-based Profile of Those with the Highest Percentage of Children Living in Poverty

This graph provides a snapshot of ridings noting the percentage of households that identified as immigrant, indigenous and/or led by a lone female parent – groups that are known to be over-represented in populations of people living in poverty.

There is an unknown amount of overlap between these sub-groups and the percentages do not add up to 100%.

