

EVERYDAY LEGAL PROBLEMS AND THE COST OF JUSTICE IN CANADA: SOCIAL & DISABILITY ASSISTANCE

BASED ON FINDINGS FROM THE EVERYDAY LEGAL PROBLEMS AND THE COST OF JUSTICE IN CANADA SURVEY:

Within a three-year period, about 280,000 Canadians over the age of 18 experience one or more serious problems obtaining social assistance or, with the amount of social assistance they are receiving.

Of those:

**ABOUT
95,000** relate to problems **obtaining old age security or the Guaranteed Income Supplement.**

**ABOUT
82,000** relate to problems with other types of **government assistance, such as housing assistance or benefits for disabled children.**

Within a three-year period, about 370,000 Canadians over the age of 18 experience one or more serious problems or disputes that are not easy to fix when trying to obtain a disability income.

Of those:

**ABOUT
94,000** relate to problems with the **Canada Pension Plan disability pension.**

**ABOUT
73,000** relate to problems with a **provincial disability pension.**

**ABOUT
150,000** relate to problems with a **private insurance company.**



For more information, please visit,
Canadian Forum on Civil Justice, "Cost of Justice," online: <www.cfcj-fcjc.org/cost-of-justice>

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“This research ... by the Canadian Forum on Civil Justice will be essential in helping us understand the true extent of the problem of cost and how it impacts on the justice system. I believe that it will prove to be of great assistance to ... identify concrete solutions to the problem of access to justice.”

– The Right Honourable Beverley McLachlin, P.C., Chief Justice of Canada (2011)

The Canadian Forum on Civil Justice is a national not-for-profit organization dedicated to civil justice reform and access to justice research and advocacy. Established by the Canadian Bar Association and affiliated with Osgoode Hall Law School, the CFCJ envisions an accessible, sustainable and effective justice system for all Canadians.

Overview of the Cost of Justice project. The Cost of Justice project (2011-2017) examines the social and economic costs of Canada’s justice system. It is guided by two questions: What is the cost of delivering access to justice? And what is the cost of not delivering access to justice? Comprised of leading researchers investigating various dimensions of access to justice and cost across the country, the Cost of Justice project is producing empirical data that will inform the future of access to justice in Canada and abroad. The lead research team includes: Trevor C.W. Farrow (Principal Investigator), Nicole Aylwin, Les Jacobs, Lisa Moore, and Diana Lowe.

The Cost of Justice project is funded by a \$1 million grant from the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada. For more details please visit Canadian Forum on Civil Justice, “Cost of Justice”, online: CFCJ <www.cfcj-fcjc.org/cost-of-justice>.



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