
SUBJECT

HOUSING HELP FOR RACIALIZED CANADIANS

ISSUE

How is the Government helping racialized Canadians reduce the barriers to access affordable housing and home ownership?

KEY FACTS

Core Housing Need and Homeownership for Visible Minority Groups – Canada

- **Core Housing Need – All**
12.70% All households vs 20.09 % Visible minority household
- **Core Housing Need-Owned**
6.27% All households vs 12.41% Visible minority household
- **Core Housing Need-Rented**
26.82% All households vs 32.54% Visible minority household
- **Homeownership**
68.68% All households vs 61.83% Visible minority household

Source: 2016 Census

RESPONSE

- **The National Housing Strategy's vision is that Canadians have access to affordable housing that meets their needs and is committed to making a real and lasting difference in the lives of the most vulnerable, including racialized Canadians.**
- **Our Government has taken steps to recognize and progressively realize the right of every Canadian to access adequate housing, as affirmed under the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights. Our human rights-based approach to housing is grounded in the principles of inclusion, accountability, participation and non-discrimination.**
- **Through Budget 2019, the Government introduced and passed new legislation that requires the federal government to maintain a National Housing Strategy that prioritizes the housing needs of the most vulnerable, and requires regular reporting to Parliament on progress toward the Strategy's goals and outcomes.**
- **The legislation puts in place strong accountability and participatory measures through the creation of a Federal Housing Advocate and National Housing Council, which will ensure persons in housing need and homelessness and communities affected by systemic housing issues to have their voices heard.**
- **The Federal Housing Advocate will identify and provide advice on actions the Government could take in federal housing policy or federal housing programs.**
- **The National Housing Council, with diverse representation, will further housing policy by advising me on the effectiveness of the National Housing Strategy, review systemic housing issues, and promote collaboration, participation and inclusion of diverse perspectives in the National Housing Strategy. We are in the process of making final appointments launching the council.**

- In June 2020, CMHC committed to reassess its policies and practices through a racialized lens, including with the help of those with lived experience, to eliminate discrimination. The findings from this process could inform how housing programs can better support and ensure equity in housing for racialized Canadians.
- The National Housing Co-Investment Fund supports the construction, repair and revitalization of affordable housing. Projects that serve the needs of vulnerable populations, including racialized Canadians, are prioritized under the program.
- We are also working with provinces and territories to finalize co-development of the Canada Housing Benefit (CHB), which provides affordability assistance directly to vulnerable households to help reduce their housing need.
- CHB is being designed based on federal priorities and the distinct housing affordability challenges of each province and territory. Each province and territory is cost-matching and delivering the CHB, and identifying the populations in their jurisdictions that are in greatest need of the program.

Background

Breakdown of visible minority groups in core housing need

	% in Core Housing Need ALL	% in Core Housing Need OWNED	% in Core Housing Need- RENTED	% Homeownership
All households	12.70%	6.27%	26.82%	68.68%
Visible minority household	20.09%	12.41%	32.54%	61.83%
Chinese	18.74%	15.71%	32.02%	81.40%
South Asian	18.43%	12.33%	32.84%	70.27%
Black	23.31%	9.05%	33.04%	40.56%
Filipino	12.28%	4.67%	22.55%	57.46%
Latin American	21.14%	8.96%	31.30%	45.47%
Southeast Asian	18.87%	11.78%	32.52%	65.84%
Arab	24.52%	13.55%	34.40%	47.40%
West Asian	31.67%	18.99%	45.79%	52.66%
Korean	30.13%	21.78%	42.39%	59.45%
Japanese	13.72%	7.46%	26.92%	67.90%
Visible minority, not identified	20.89%	10.55%	37.19%	61.21%
Multiple visible minorities	18.34%	10.32%	31.68%	62.44%
Non-visible minority household	11.23%	5.19%	25.37%	70.05%