

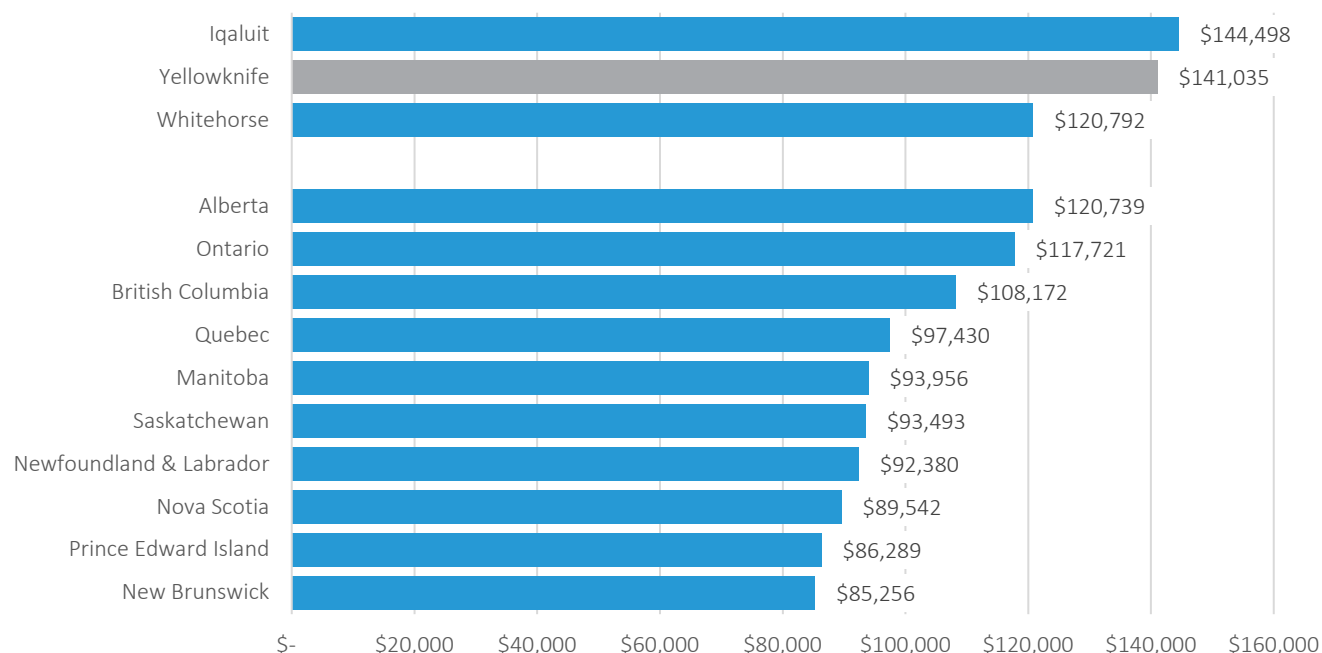


Household Spending 2023

Statistics Canada recently released results of the 2023 Survey of Household Spending for the provinces and three territorial capitals. This survey provides household expenditures for a variety of categories including food, shelter, household operations, transportation, recreation, and income taxes.

In 2023, Yellowknife households spent an average of \$141,035 annually, second only to Iqaluit (\$144,498). Amongst the provinces, New Brunswick had the lowest average expenditures (\$85,256), while Alberta households spent the most, at \$120,739. Whitehorse households spent \$120,739 on average, roughly \$20,000 lower than the other two territory capitals, but comparable to Alberta. Canada's average annual household spending was \$108,225.

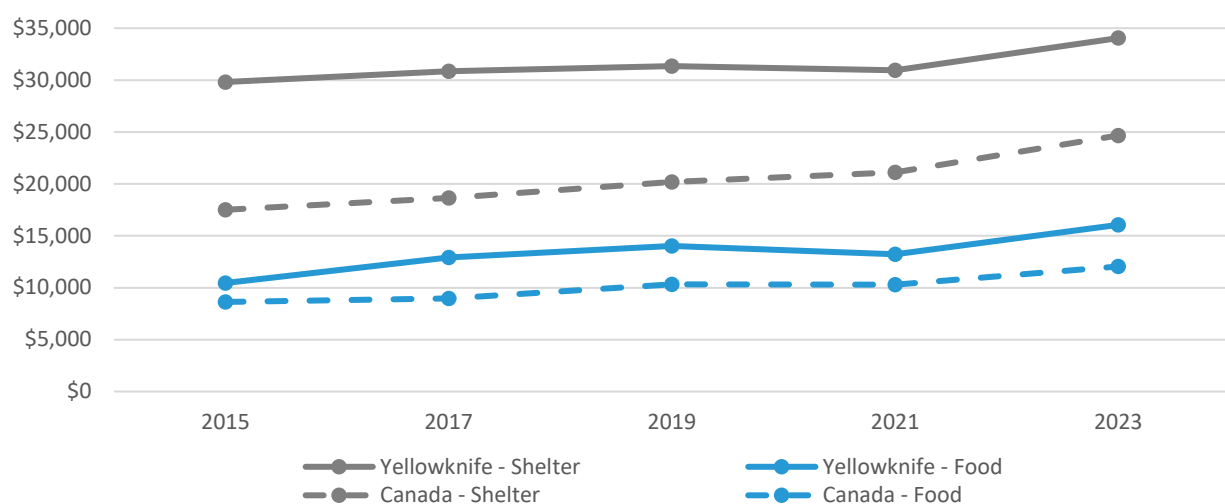
**Figure 1: Total Annual Average Household Expenditures
Territorial Capitals and Provinces, 2023**



In Yellowknife, 24.1% of total household spending was on shelter, the third highest in the country with only British Columbia (26.6%) and Ontario (24.9%) having higher percentages. Yellowknife households tend to spend more than the Canadian average for many expenditure categories including shelter and food.

Figure 2 shows average shelter and food expenditures for Yellowknife and Canada between 2015 and 2023. While average shelter expenditures in Yellowknife were relatively stable between 2015 and 2021, it increased by more than \$3,000 to \$34,049 in 2023. Average food expenditures, which includes spending in restaurants, also increased, rising from \$13,223 in 2021 to \$16,058 in 2023.

**Figure 2: Annual Average Household Expenditures on Shelter and Food
Yellowknife and Canada, 2015 to 2023**



Average Yellowknife household expenditures also increased for transportation between 2021 and 2023, largely reversing the decline in 2021. These increases were partially offset by declines in other categories such as health & personal care, household furnishings & equipment, income taxes, and gifts & charity.

Table 1: Annual Average Household Expenditures, Yellowknife, 2015 to 2023

	2015	2017	2019	2021	2023
Total expenditure	\$125,783	\$141,734	\$139,664	\$140,112	\$141,035
Total current consumption	\$88,927	\$100,510	\$98,614	\$90,858	\$98,568
Shelter	\$29,817	\$30,862	\$31,342	\$30,956	\$34,049
Food expenditures	\$10,456	\$12,919	\$14,029	\$13,223	\$16,058
Transportation	\$16,366	\$19,469	\$16,776	\$13,048	\$15,365
Household operations	\$7,010	\$7,395	\$8,973	\$8,121	\$8,520
Recreation	\$6,859	\$10,120	\$7,364	\$7,128	\$7,878
Health & personal care	\$4,149	\$4,065	\$4,840	\$5,183	\$4,308
Clothing & accessories	\$5,171	\$4,933	\$4,393	\$3,231	\$3,256
Household furnishings & equipment	\$2,836	\$3,706	\$3,154	\$3,763	\$3,249
Tobacco, alcohol & cannabis*	\$2,505	\$2,267	\$3,563	\$2,482	\$2,149
Misc. expenditures	\$2,458	\$3,087	\$2,974	\$2,360	\$2,268
Education & reading materials	\$1,300	\$1,687	\$1,206	\$1,363	\$1,468
Income taxes	\$23,558	\$27,632	\$26,055	\$34,503	\$28,683
Pension contributions	\$9,766	\$11,674	\$11,493	\$11,861	\$12,017
Gifts & charity	\$3,533	\$1,919	\$3,502	\$2,890	\$1,767

*Cannabis was not included until 2019

For additional information, visit the NWT Bureau of Statistics website at www.statsnwt.ca or call 1-888-STATSNT (1-888-762-8768). Average household expenditures for 2025 will be released during the summer of 2027.