



**45%**  
of BC

**teachers** surveyed say that more **students** are experiencing **poverty today** than since the time they started teaching at their school

# Economic PRESSURES on BC Families

one  
**IN**  
SIX

In 2013, **one in five** (20.4%) of BC children were living in **POVERTY** affecting **167,810 children** across the province



First Call. 2015 Child Poverty report card

**TEACHERS** say at least **1/2** of the **students** they teach are experiencing **POVERTY**

Teachers in **rural areas** are significantly more likely to report a higher proportion of students are experiencing poverty compared to the sample average

*I have noticed in the past several years that an increasing number of parents have to now work 2 or 3 jobs to make ends meet. This means they have less time to spend reading with their children [or] helping them with homework.*

–BC Teacher from Vancouver Island South, participant in the Poverty and Education survey



*The payoff from class size reduction is greater for low income and minority children, while any increases in class size will likely be most harmful to these populations.*

–from a February 2014 study by Diane Whitmore Schanzenbach at the National Education Policy Centre (<http://nepc.colorado.edu/publication/does-class-size-matter>)

