Table 18-2

Refused legal aid applications by reason for refusal, criminal and civil matters — Financial ineligibility

	Total	Criminal matters		Civil matters	
	number		percent	number	percent
Newfoundland and Labrador					
2007/2008	..	249	…	..	…
2008/2009	..	233	…	..	…
2009/2010	..	324	…	..	…
2010/2011	628	321	51	307	49
2011/2012	451	244	54	207	46
Prince Edward Island					
2007/2008	..	..	…	..	…
2008/2009	..	..	…	..	…
2009/2010	..	..	…	..	…
2010/2011	142	109	77	33	23
2011/2012	131	104	79	27	21
Nova Scotia					
2007/2008	1,241	463	37	778	63
2008/2009	1,400	517	37	883	63
2009/2010	1,617	592	37	1,025	63
2010/2011	1,318	496	38	822	62
2011/2012	1,016	349	34	667	66
New Brunswick [1]					
2007/2008	73	57	78	16	22
2008/2009	61	55	90	6	10
2009/2010	..	..	…	..	…
2010/2011	195	69	35	126	65
2011/2012	200	73	37	127	64
Quebec					
2007/2008	25,563	13,782	54	11,781	46
2008/2009	26,754	14,221	53	12,533	47
2009/2010	27,625	14,948	54	12,677	46
2010/2011	26,318	13,832	53	12,486	47
2011/2012	27,886	14,194	51	13,692	49
Ontario [2]					
2007/2008	21,649	.	…	.	…
2008/2009	21,836	.	…	.	…
2009/2010	22,538	.	…	.	…
2010/2011	14,662	.	…	.	…
2011/2012	15,452	.	…	.	…
Manitoba [3]					
2007/2008	728	378	52	350	48
2008/2009	724	360	50	364	50
2009/2010	888	434	49	454	51
2010/2011	1,007	493	49	514	51
2011/2012	1,450	821	57	629	43
Saskatchewan [4]					
2007/2008	1,691	1,371	81	320	19
2008/2009	.. [r]	.. [r]	… [r]	.. [r]	… [r]
2009/2010	.. [r]	.. [r]	… [r]	.. [r]	… [r]
2010/2011	.. [r]	.. [r]	… [r]	.. [r]	… [r]
2011/2012	1,490	920	62	570	38
Alberta					
2007/2008	3,630	2,278	63	1,352	37
2008/2009	2,311	1,362	59	949	41
2009/2010	3,171	1,726	54	1,445	46
2010/2011	..	..	…	..	…
2011/2012	1,746	736	42	1,010	58
British Columbia					
2007/2008	3,221	1,722	53	1,499	47
2008/2009	3,274	1,559	48	1,715	52
2009/2010	2,965	1,473	50	1,492	50
2010/2011	3,168	1,635	52	1,533	48
2011/2012	2,973	1,520	51	1,453	49
Yukon					
2007/2008	53	16	30	37	70
2008/2009	44	13	30	31	70
2009/2010	79	30	38	49	62
2010/2011	67	26	39	41	61
2011/2012	40	18	45	22	55

See footnotes at the end of the table.

Table 18-2 – continued

Refused legal aid applications by reason for refusal, criminal and civil matters — Financial ineligibility

	Total	Criminal matters		Civil matters	
	number		percent	number	percent
Northwest Territories					
2007/2008	66	21	32	45	68
2008/2009	82	32	39	50	61
2009/2010	..	..	…	..	…
2010/2011	..	..	…	..	…
2011/2012	625	288	46	337	54
Nunavut [5]					
2007/2008	..	..	…	..	…
2008/2009	4	0	0	4	100
2009/2010	4	0	0	4	100
2010/2011	..	..	…	..	…
2011/2012	3	3	100	0	0
Total					
2007/2008	…	…	…	…	…
2008/2009	…	…	…	…	…
2009/2010	…	…	…	…	…
2010/2011	… r	…	…	…	…
2011/2012	53,463	…	…	…	…

1. Effective April 20, 2009, intake services for family legal aid were expanded when eligibility screening for services formerly captured under the Domestic Legal Aid program was transferred to New Brunswick Legal Aid Services Commission from the Department of Justice and Consumer Affairs.
2. Ontario has 77 legal aid clinics that are independent, non-profit organizations funded by the legal aid plan. Staff lawyers and community legal workers at these clinics provide legal aid services primarily in “other” civil matters, particularly in the area of poverty law which includes, social assistance/income maintenance, landlord and tenant, workers’ compensation, criminal injuries compensation, and refugee and immigration matters. In 2011/2012, these clinics accounted for 74% of applications refused for financial ineligibility. The number of refused legal aid applications has declined since 2009/2010 due to the restructuring of Legal Aid Ontario (LAO). The introduction of a LAO’s multi-tiered call centre has resulted in fewer clients making a written application and correspondingly fewer receiving a formal refusal for certificate services. LAO call centre agents assess client eligibility and are able to route clients deemed ineligible for certificate services, to alternative LAO services. Since February 2011, eligibility for certificate services uses a formula based on income and family size and may be applied by LAO call centre agents without the client making a formal application. This has lead to further attrition of clients before the issue of a formal refusal of certificate services.
3. In 2009/2010, Manitoba began to include the number of applications that were used to generate secondary or tertiary certificates in the total number of legal aid applications reported. This led to an increase in the count for total and approved legal aid applications.
4. Figures for Saskatchewan were re-stated for the reference periods 2008/2009 to 2010/2011, inclusive, based on the number of letters of denial issued to clients by the Saskatchewan Legal Aid Commission.
5. In 2009/2010, the capacity for statistical reporting in Nunavut was limited due to issues with information tracking systems. As a result, the number of refused applications may be underreported and is not comparable to previous years.

Note(s): For more details on legal aid concepts and terminology please refer to the glossary.
Source(s): Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Legal Aid Survey 3308.