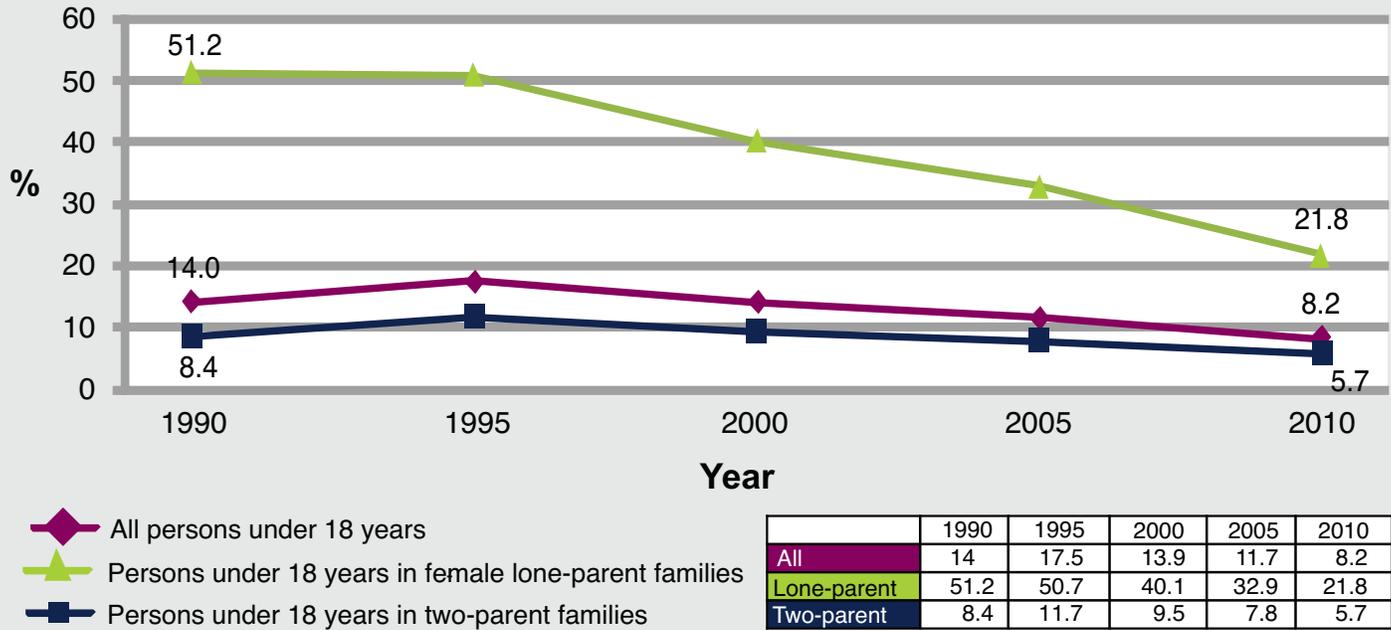




### 4.1.1 Economic Inequities - Poverty

**Fig. 4.1.1 Trends in child poverty\*, by family type, Canada, 1990–2010**



\* Poverty is represented by low income cut-offs (LICO). LICOs represent the income level at which a family may be in distressed circumstances because they spend a greater proportion of their income on necessities (i.e., food, shelter, and clothing) than the average family of similar size. In this case, LICOs have been calculated after a family has paid income tax (after-tax).

Adapted from Statistics Canada CANSIM database <http://cansim2.statcan.gc.ca> table no. 202-0802, accessed on June 29, 2012.

The number of children under 18 years living in poverty in Canada decreased to 550,000 (8.2%) in 2010 from 942,000 (14.0%) in 1990. For children under 18 years living in two-parent families, the number living in poverty decreased to 314,000 (5.7%) in 2010 from 475,000 (8.4%) in 1990. The most marked change was among children living in poverty in female lone-parent families. Their numbers decreased to 187,000 (21.8%) in 2010 from 407,000 (51.2%) in 1990.

### Implications

Children and youth living in poverty are faced with many challenges to their health and well-being. Conditions of inadequate nutrition; crowded or unsafe living accommodations; less access to health care; and lower quality education are well-known challenges that low-income families face frequently.<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> "Campaign 2000: 2010 Report Card on Child and Family Poverty in Canada; 1989–2010." <http://www.campaign2000.ca/reportCards/national/2010EnglishC2000NationalReportCard.pdf>, accessed on June 29, 2012.