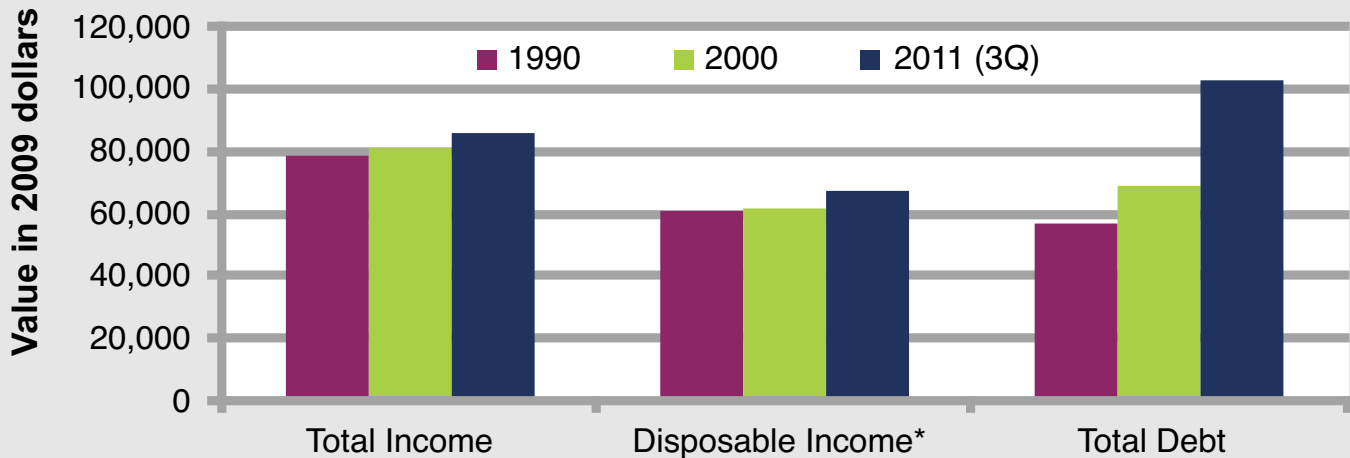




4.4.19 Household Expenditures

Fig. 4.4.19 Income and debt per household, Canada, 1990–2011



Income/Debt

	1990	2000	2011 (3rd quarter)
Total income	78,545	80,847	86,049
Disposable income*	61,249	61,528	67,368
Total debt	56,929	69,296	103,000

*After-tax income

Statistics Canada, *Canadian Economic Accounts Quarterly Review*, Vol. 10, no. 3 Catalogue 13-010-X. Vanier Institute of the Family. "The Current State of Canadian Family Finances: 2011–2012 Report." <http://www.vanierinstitute.ca/include/get.php?nodeid=1779>, accessed on June 29, 2012.

By the end of 2011, the debt load in Canada stood at \$103,000 per household. (This average includes households that have debt and those that do not.) While disposable income remained almost unchanged from 1990 to 2011, total household debt almost doubled.

Implications

Being in debt is a very distressing experience that affects the entire family. Owing money limits a family's purchasing power, financial flexibility, and financial stability. For children and youth, the burden of debt means that fewer resources can be allocated to fill their monetary and non-monetary needs.

