Definitions of Vulnerable Populations (provided by Employment and Social Development Canada)

Caregivers	Refers to someone providing significant (full- or part-time) care to a friend or family member of any age with a disability or mental illness who needs help with everyday life needs.
	(Professional caregivers may be considered workers who are vulnerable.)
Children and youth: Children and youth ages 0-18	
Children and youth: Youth ageing out of care	Youth that no longer have access to child protection (financial, educational, mental health, etc.) supports as a result of their age (or will soon lose access.)
Children and youth: Other	May include youth experiencing a variety of challenges or
vulnerable youth ages 19-29	barriers, such as lack of employment, discrimination, etc.
Indigenous (all)	First peoples of Canada including First Nations, Inuit and Métis peoples.
Indigenous: First Nations	
Indigenous: Inuit	
Indigenous: Métis	
Low income or living in poverty	Low income cut-offs (LICOs) are established using data from the Survey of Household Spending (see Statistics Canada.) The Government of Canada does not have an official definition of poverty. However, poverty is often assessed by measuring the number of Canadians with low incomes.
Members of LGBTQ2+ communities	People who are Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer, Two-Spirit or don't identify as exclusively masculine or feminine.
Newcomers (all)	Permanent and temporary residents.
Newcomers: Permanent Residents (Immigrants and Refugees)	Immigrants: Persons residing permanently in Canada who were born outside of Canada, excluding temporary foreign workers, Canadian citizens born outside Canada and those with student or working visas. Refugee: Person who is granted refugee status and has the right to reside permanently in Canada.
Newcomers: Temporary Residents	Persons residing permanently in Canada who were born outside of Canada, excluding temporary foreign workers, Canadian citizens born outside Canada and those with student or working visas. Examples include: asylum-seekers and international students.
Official Language Minority Communities (OLMCs)	An official-language minority is either a French-speaker or French-speaking population living outside of Quebec, where English is predominant, or an English-speaker or English-speaking population living in Quebec, where French is predominant.

People experiencing homelessness	Homelessness is the situation of an individual or family who does not have a permanent address or residence; the living situation of an individual or family who does not have stable, permanent, appropriate housing, or the immediate prospect, means and ability of acquiring it.
People experiencing domestic or	
gender-based violence	
People living in group homes or	
supportive living	
People living with mental illness	
People struggling with addiction	
Persons with disabilities	The UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities describes persons with disabilities as those who have long-term physical, mental, intellectual or sensory impairments which in interaction with various barriers may hinder their full and effective participation in society on an equal basis with others.
Prison populations (detained and	People detained or incarcerated in jails or prisons in Canada.
incarcerated people)	
Racialized (all)	The process of social construction of race is called racialization: "the process by which societies construct races as real, different and unequal in ways that matter to economic, political and social life." The Employment Equity Act uses the term "visible minority" to mean persons, other than Indigenous (Aboriginal) peoples, who are non-Caucasian in race or non-white in colour. According to the Census, the visible minority population consists mainly of the following groups.
Racialized: South Asian	
Racialized: Chinese	
Racialized: Black	
Racialized: Filipino	
Racialized: Latin American	
Racialized: Arab	
Racialized: Southeast Asian	
Racialized: West Asian	
Racialized: Korean	
Racialized: Japanese	
Racialized: Group(s) not otherwise specified	
Seniors and Elders (not in care)	Persons aged 55+

Seniors and Elders living in care Students (Postsecondary)	Persons aged 55+ and living in long-term care or assisted living setting. Canadian students enrolled in postsecondary education (university or college) in Canada.
Workers who are vulnerable (e.g. essential workers, temporary foreign workers, informal labour market, etc.)	Includes workers and apprentices who are increasingly physically, economically or socially vulnerable as a result of the pandemic. This may include: • Essential workers: Workers may been formally or informally recognized as essential and this may vary by jurisdiction. May include critical infrastructure and other workers in sectors such as but not limited to: grocery and food services, health care, utilities, sanitation, etc. • Those hired through Canada's Temporary Foreign Worker (TFW) Program, including in sectors such as caregiving, agriculture and more. • Workers in the informal labour market (e.g. sex workers, gig economy, undocumented workers, etc.)
Veterans	Any former member of the Canadian Armed Forces who successfully underwent basic training and is honourably discharged.
Women and girls	