

Maintenance Enforcement Program Statistical Information

As of March 31, 2020 there were 11,974 cases enrolled in the Nova Scotia Maintenance Enforcement Program. In 2019/2020 there were a total of 2,253 new and re-enrolled cases.

Enrollment*	2015/2016	2016/2017	2017/2018	2018/2019	2019/2020
Total Cases Enrolled	14,285	13,966	13,285	12,838	11,974
New/Re-enrolled Cases	2,648	2,844	2,453	2,413	2,253

*Excludes cases being enforced by other jurisdictions

As of March 31, 2020 a total of 11,957 children were served by the program.

Number of Children	as of March 31 st
2015/2016	16,461
2016/2017*	14,865
2017/2018	13,824
2018/2019	12,927
2019/2020	11,957

*As of January, 2017, the number of children are not counted in cases where money is owed to the Government of Nova Scotia. (i.e. for fees or arrears owed to the Department of Community Services)

In 2019/2020 \$58.5 million in payments were managed through the program in support of families.

Payments Managed Through the Program*	Total Payments Managed
2015/2016	\$60.6 M
2016/2017	\$58.9 M
2017/2018	\$57.8 M
2018/2019	\$58.6 M
2019/2020	\$58.5 M

*Includes payments made directly to recipients and later reported to NSMEP

Interjurisdictional Cases

As of March 31, 2020 there were 2,235 active cases where either the recipient or the payor lived in other jurisdictions.

Country	2015/2016	2016/2017	2017/2018	2018/2019	2019/2020
Within	2,396	2,368	2,339	2,219	2,155
Outside of					
USA	86	77	71	72	69
Other	16	14	10	10	11
Total	2,498	2,459	2,420	2,301	2,235

Specific data is drawn from the Maintenance Enforcement Program case management system. Data reported to Statistics Canada may be compiled differently for Statistics Canada reporting purposes.

In 2019/2020 the enforcement actions most commonly initiated included:

Number of Enforcement Actions*	2015/2016	2016/2017	2017/2018	2018/2019	2019/2020
Collection Calls	7,767	6,093	7,744	9,925	13,394
Default Letters	2,177	2,013	2,325	6,152	2,698
Demand for Information	2,816	2,558	2,576	3,193	4,835
Examination of Payor	249	393	330	49	109
Federal Licence Denials	180	278	668	1,389	1,355
Federal Trace	2,030	1,794	2,009	2,114	2,931
Motor Vehicle Suspension	309	381	700	1,133	1,388
Notice of Garnishment	2,521	2,339	2,522	2,442	2,813
Notice of Garnishment – Federal Interception	2,084	2,030	2,593	2,247	2,107

*See Glossary of Enforcement Action Terms

*Glossary of Enforcement Action Terms:

Collection Calls – calls to the payor for outstanding payments

Default Letters – default notices sent to the payors for outstanding payments

Demand for Information – demand for information about the payor regarding location, income source, assets, etc. from such agencies, but not limited to the Registry of Joint Stocks, Department of Community Services, Bank/Financial Institutions, employers, landlords, etc.

Examination of Payor – a requirement of the payor to appear before the Enforcement Officer (EO) to submit a Statement of Financial Information and to obtain the location of any assets (i.e. RRSP's, bank accounts, etc.)

Federal Licence Denials – suspension of passports, navigation and/or transportation licences

Federal Trace – a search for the payor on the Federal Family Orders and Agreements Enforcement Assistance (FOAEA) database

Motor Vehicle Suspension – suspension of driver licence privileges

Notice of Garnishment – the process of deducting money from a payor's salary or wages, or other source of income (WCB income, bank/investment accounts, rental income, inheritance, lottery winnings, etc.)

Notice of Garnishment – Federal Interception – the garnishment of federal government funds (GST rebates, income tax refunds, EI and CPP funds, etc.)

