

A PROFILE OF CHILDREN IN YORK REGION

NOVEMBER 2019



CHILDREN'S SERVICES

The Regional Municipality of York
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York Region

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

A Profile of Children in York Region provides data to inform system and program planning

The Regional Municipality of York (York Region) is the Service System Manager for the child care and early years system, responsible for planning, overseeing and managing the system of services for children aged 0 to 12 years. To inform our planning across the child care and early years system, and to continue supporting the needs of children and families across the Region, it is essential that service planning decisions are based on thorough and accurate data. *A Profile of Children in York Region* (the Profile) summarizes key demographic, socio-economic and community information on children aged 0 to 12 years and their families, as well as current services offered by York Region to support them, such as Child Care Fee Subsidy, Community Programs, Early Intervention Services, and EarlyON Child and Family Centres.

This Profile, which is based primarily on the most recent Census data, was used to inform York Region's 2020 to 2023 Child Care and Early Years Service System Plan. The key statistics below represent some of the information used to inform service planning. Through a better understanding of York Region's population and service system, we can work with partners to build services that are accessible, affordable, responsive and high-quality.

Key statistics on York Region's children and their families

POPULATION OF CHILDREN AGED 0 TO 12 YEARS

- In 2016, York Region was home to 166,760 children aged 0 to 12 years
- Almost 75% of this population lives in York Region's three southern municipalities:
 - The City of Vaughan
 - The City of Markham
 - The City of Richmond Hill
- The number of children aged 0 to 12 years continues to increase in York Region, but the growth rate is decreasing
- Since 2011, all local municipalities experienced changes in the number of children aged 0 to 12 years:

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increases occurred in: ○ The Township of King ○ The Town of Whitchurch-Stouffville ○ The Town of East Gwillimbury ○ The City of Markham ○ The Town of Newmarket 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Decreases occurred in: ○ The City of Richmond Hill ○ The Town of Aurora ○ The City of Vaughan ○ The Town of Georgina
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- The number of Francophone children increased by 1,955 between 2006 and 2016
- The number of Aboriginal children increased by 385 between 2006 and 2016

CHARACTERISTICS OF FAMILIES AND HOUSEHOLDS WITH CHILDREN AGED 0 TO 12 YEARS

- The number of census families with children aged 0 to 12 years increased since 2006 in York Region as a whole, and in all municipalities except the Towns of Georgina, Aurora and Newmarket
- In 2016, 13% of census families with children aged 0 to 12 years were led by single parents

- The number of multi-census family households with children aged 0 to 12 years increased since 2006 in all nine local municipalities
- The number of recent immigrants in census families with children aged 0 to 12 years was higher in 2016 than in 2006
- Diversity in non-official languages spoken most often at home in census families with children aged 0 to 12 years continues to change
- For the population aged 25 to 64 years in census families with children aged 0 to 12 years, the general level of education is increasing

FINANCIAL SECURITY OF CHILDREN AGED 0 TO 12 YEARS AND THEIR FAMILIES

- Employment rates in families with children aged 0 to 12 years have remained relatively constant between 2006 and 2016
- However, growing numbers of children aged 0 to 12 years are living in low income, and in 2016 14% of children in this age group lived in low income
- Increasing numbers of households with children aged 0 to 12 years are spending 30% or more of their income on housing

CHILD DEVELOPMENT AND EARLY LEARNING

- As measured by the Early Development Instrument (EDI), which is explained on page 54, children in York Region have performed well in language and cognitive development while results for physical health and well-being continue to decline



INTRODUCTION

Research shows that early years experiences can have a significant impact on children. Supporting early childhood development creates strength, confidence and resiliency in children for life and has a positive impact on their future health, learning and economic outcomes (Ministry of Education, 2017).

As Service System Manager for the child care and early years system, The Regional Municipality of York (York Region) is responsible for planning, overseeing and managing the system of services for children aged 0 to 12 years at the local level. In this role, York Region is required under the *Child Care and Early Years Act, 2014* to establish a child care and early years service system plan. To inform our plan, we developed *A Profile of Children in York Region* (Profile) to ensure that service planning is responsive to changing demographics and the needs of children and their families.

This Profile outlines information on children aged 0 to 12 years and their families, and shows how York Region's communities are changing. Data included reflect population changes, languages spoken and financial security, as well as results from the Early Development Instrument (EDI) which provide a snapshot of young children's early learning and development. The Profile also includes program data to provide a baseline for understanding how York Region currently serves children and families. It considers relevant early years programs and services including licensed child care, before and after school programs, recreation programs, EarlyON Child and Family programs, as well as other services that support the needs of children and their families.

Supporting families can help parents and caregivers be their children's biggest advocates and promote greater social engagement and economic independence. This Profile is intended as a community planning tool to continue supporting York Region, our partners and other stakeholders in better understanding the needs of York Region children and families as we work together to plan programs and services.

Service Planning Considerations

Investing in the early years is important. By helping parents and caregivers participate in the workforce and promoting children's learning and development, we support a strong economy and healthy, vibrant communities across York Region.



DATA CONSIDERATIONS

Demographic and socio-economic statistics presented in this Profile focus on children in York Region aged 0 to 12 years (birth to thirteenth birthday minus one day), supplemented by applicable early years data for children aged 0 to 6* years (birth to sixth birthday minus one day) and children aged 0 to 4 years (birth to fifth birthday minus one day) where relevant. The family context is also highlighted, with statistics provided for census families and private households having at least one child** aged 0 to 12 years.

Indicators selected for inclusion in this Profile reflect a broad range of social, economic and environmental factors that impact children and their families.

Demographic and socio-economic data provided are from the 2006, 2011 and 2016 Censuses (Statistics Canada) unless otherwise noted.

For indicators reported in this Profile, York Region totals include numbers for Chippewas of Georgina Island First Nation. However, numbers for Chippewas of Georgina Island First Nation are not shown in charts and graphs along with the local municipalities. As a result, for any given indicator, the total for York Region will not match the sum of numbers for the local municipalities.

* Regarding terminology used in this Profile to define age range, the early years community has historically used the terminology "0 to 6" years to refer to children from birth to sixth birthday minus one day. Statistics Canada defines this same age range as "0 to 5" years. This Profile will use the early years terminology for "0 to 6" years. Note, however, that "0 to 4" years, "6 to 12" years and "0 to 12" years follow the Statistics Canada terminology of birth to fifth birthday minus one day, sixth birthday minus one day, and thirteenth birthday minus one day, respectively.

** Additional children may be of any age.



POPULATION OF CHILDREN AGED 0 TO 12 YEARS

Why are these data important?

York Region's population continues to grow. Growth rates in the child populations vary across local municipalities, increasing in some areas and decreasing in others.

Considering population and program data related to children across York Region and knowing more about how our communities are changing helps us to build a better understanding of the potential demand for programs and services and where they should be available.

CHILD POPULATION

The total population continues to grow in York Region but at a declining rate

- The total population (all age groups) increased between 2006 and 2016 by 24.3% (from 892,715 to 1,109,910, or an increase of 217,195)
 - o Between 2006 and 2011 the total population increased by 15.7% (139,810)
 - o Between 2011 and 2016 the total population increased by only 7.5% (77,385)

Similarly, the number of children aged 0 to 12 years continues to grow in York Region but at a declining rate, and at a lower rate than that of the total population

- The number of children aged 0 to 12 years increased between 2006 and 2016 by 10.4% (from 151,050 to 166,760, or an increase of 15,710)
 - o Between 2006 and 2011 the 0 to 12 population increased by 8.3% (12,550)
 - o Between 2011 and 2016 the 0 to 12 population increased by only 1.9% (3,160)
- With respect to the total population, the share of children aged 0 to 12 years decreased from 16.9% to 15.0% between 2006 and 2016

The three southern municipalities* are home to the majority of York Region's population aged 0 to 12 years

- In 2016, 74.4% of the Region's total 0 to 12 population lived in the three southern municipalities:
 - o The City of Vaughan
 - o The City of Markham
 - o The City of Richmond Hill
- The distribution is almost identical for the 0 to 6 age group

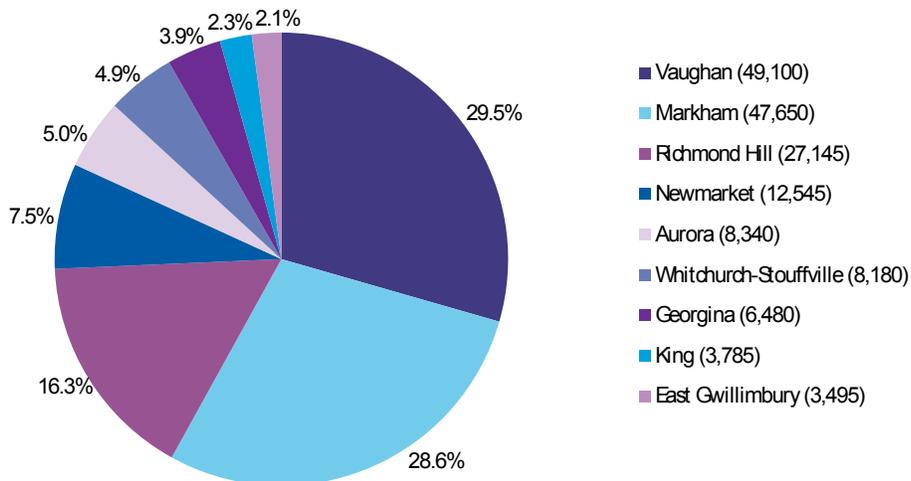
In 2016, York Region was home to 166,760 children aged 0 to 12 years.

* Throughout this Profile, for most statistics involving relative numbers and/or percentage share across the nine local municipalities, the three southern municipalities of The City of Vaughan, The City of Markham and The City of Richmond Hill typically rank highest due to their dominant size in terms of population totals. Notes are made when statistics differ from this general result.

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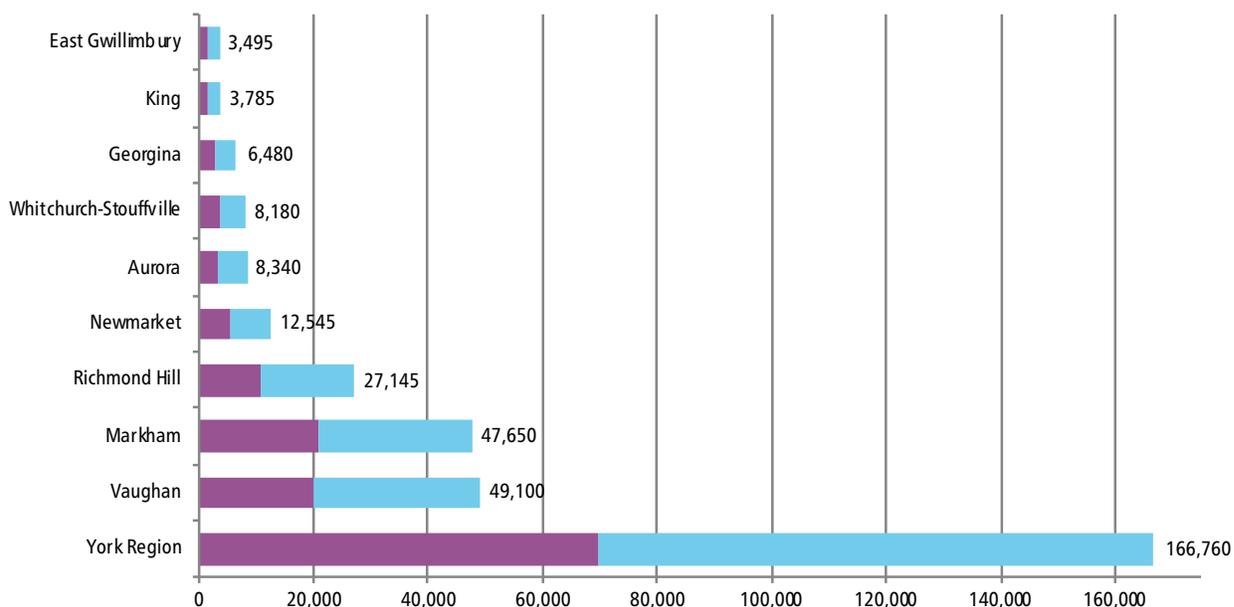
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Share of York Region's Total Population Aged 0 to 12 Years by Local Municipality, 2016



Source: Statistics Canada, 2016 Census
 Note: the total population aged 0 to 12 years for York Region includes Chippewas of Georgina Island First Nation (not shown on the chart)

Number of Children Aged 0 to 12 Years by York Region Local Municipality, 2016



	York Region	Vaughan	Markham	Richmond Hill	Newmarket	Aurora	Whitchurch-Stouffville	Georgina	King	East Gwillimbury
0 to 6	69,835	19,960	20,660	10,635	5,260	3,310	3,855	3,025	1,545	1,560
6 to 12	96,930	29,150	26,995	16,510	7,280	5,030	4,320	3,455	2,235	1,930
0 to 12	166,760	49,100	47,650	27,145	12,545	8,340	8,180	6,480	3,785	3,495

Source: Statistics Canada, 2016 Census
 0 to 6: birth to sixth birthday minus one day, 6 to 12: sixth birthday to thirteenth birthday minus one day, 0 to 12: birth to thirteenth birthday minus one day
 Note: the total population aged 0 to 12 years for York Region includes Chippewas of Georgina Island First Nation (not shown on the chart)

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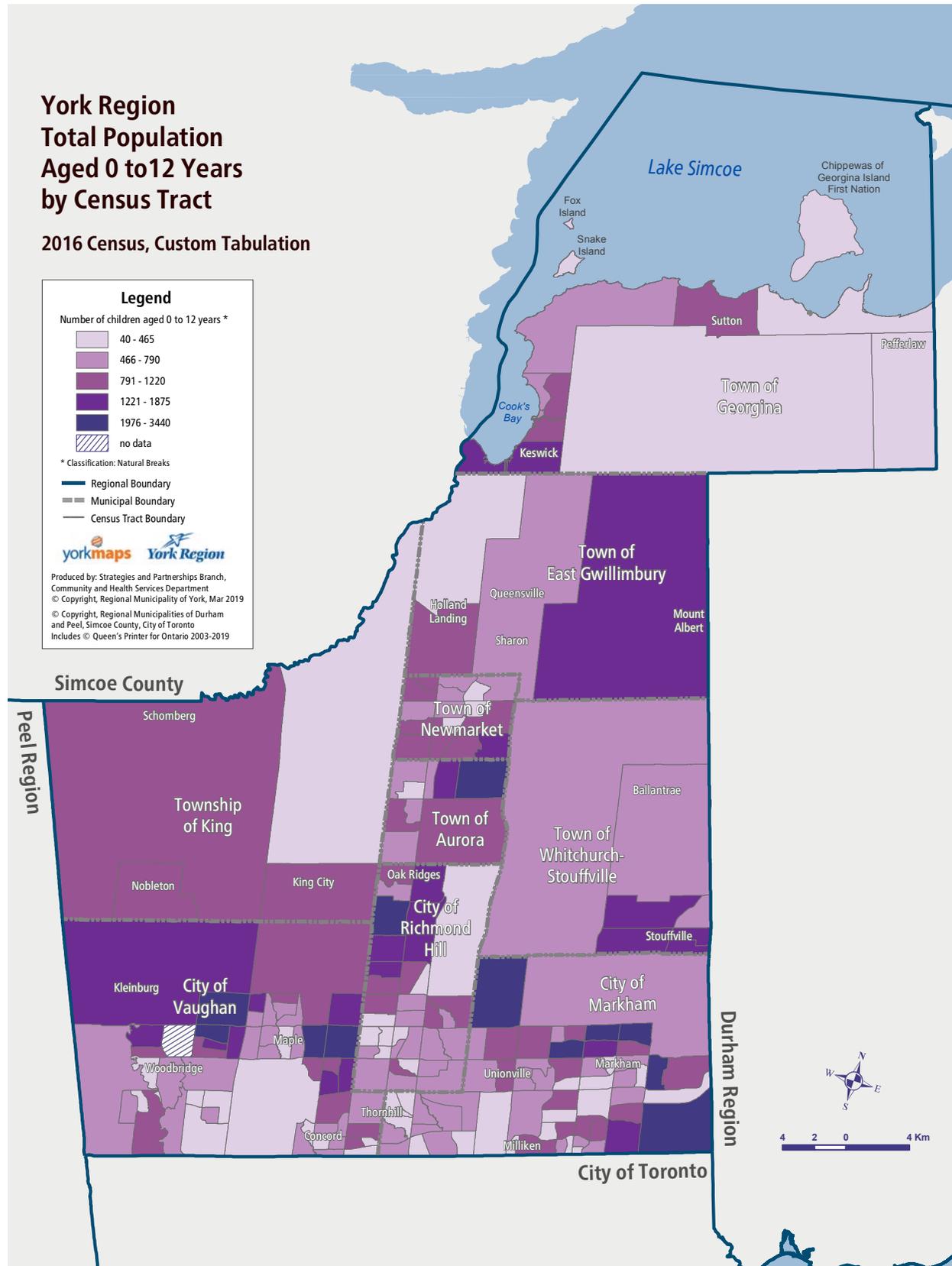
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- Even though the cities of Vaughan, Markham and Richmond Hill are home to 74.4% of the total population aged 0 to 12 years, there are pockets throughout the Region with high numbers of children. The geographic distribution across York Region of the population aged 0 to 12 years in 2016 is shown by census tract (CT) in the following map
- The distribution of the population aged 0 to 6 years by CT shows a similar pattern



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The share of the child population in the local municipalities varies

- In 2016, of the total population in each of the nine local municipalities:
 - o The Town of Whitchurch-Stouffville had the largest share of children aged 0 to 12 years (17.8%) while The City of Richmond Hill had the smallest share (13.9%)
 - o For York Region as a whole, 15.0% of the total population was comprised of children aged 0 to 12 years

Share of Children by Age Group, York Region Local Municipalities, 2016

	Aged 0 to 6 Years		Aged 6 to 12 Years		Aged 0 to 12 Years	
	Number (#)	Share (%)	Number (#)	Share (%)	Number (#)	Share (%)
York Region	69,835	6.3	96,930	8.7	166,760	15.0
Vaughan	19,960	6.5	29,150	9.5	49,100	16.0
Markham	20,660	6.3	26,995	8.2	47,650	14.5
Richmond Hill	10,635	5.5	16,510	8.5	27,145	13.9
Newmarket	5,260	6.2	7,280	8.6	12,545	14.9
Aurora	3,310	6.0	5,030	9.1	8,340	15.0
Whitchurch-Stouffville	3,855	8.4	4,320	9.4	8,180	17.8
Georgina	3,025	6.7	3,455	7.6	6,480	14.3
King	1,545	6.3	2,235	9.1	3,785	15.4
East Gwillimbury	1,560	6.5	1,930	8.0	3,495	14.5

Source: Statistics Canada, 2016 Census

0 to 6: birth to sixth birthday minus one day, 6 to 12: sixth birthday to thirteenth birthday minus one day, 0 to 12: birth to thirteenth birthday minus one day

Note: the York Region totals include the numbers for Chippewas of Georgina Island First Nation (not shown on the chart)

The population distribution by age group is changing as York Region's population ages

- Between 2011 and 2016 the share of seniors (aged 65 years and over) increased while the shares of other age groups decreased
 - o The share of seniors increased from 11.7% to a record high 14.6%. This represents an increase in number of 33.9%, or about 40,995 seniors
 - o Conversely, the share of children aged 0 to 14* years decreased from 18.6% to 17.6%. This represents an increase of 1.8%, or about 3,405 children
 - o Though the growth rate of the child population decreased, the total number of children increased. In 2016, the total number of children was higher than the total number of seniors, and the share of children was higher than that of seniors

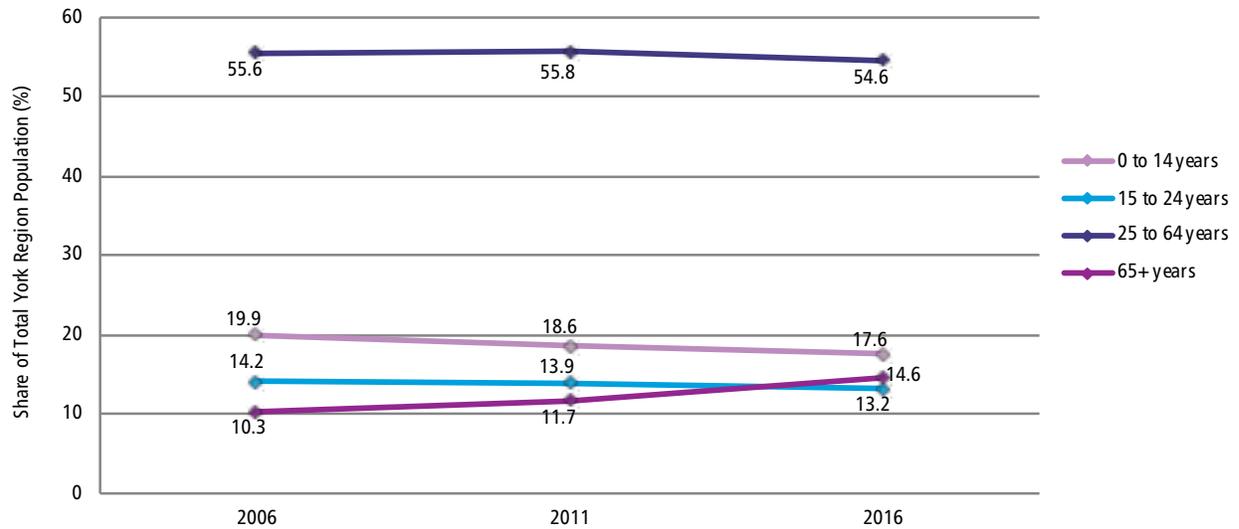
* Birth to fifteenth birthday minus one day

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Population Trends in York Region by Age Group, 2006 to 2016



Sources: Statistics Canada, 2006, 2011 and 2016 Censuses

0 to 14: birth to fifteenth birthday minus one day (children), 15 to 24: fifteenth birthday to twenty-fifth birthday minus one day (youth), 25 to 64: twenty-fifth birthday to sixty-fifth birthday minus one day (working age), 65+: sixty-fifth birthday and older (seniors)

- The trends in the age group share are projected to continue in York Region to 2041 based on Provincial projections
 - o The share of seniors is projected to increase from 15.1% in 2017 to 23.9% in 2041. This represents an increase in the number of seniors of 129.7%, or about 227,290 seniors
 - o Conversely, the share of children aged 0 to 14* years is projected to decrease from 16.8% in 2017 to 16.1% in 2041. However, this represents an increase in the number of children aged 0 to 14 years of 38.4%, or about 75,200 children

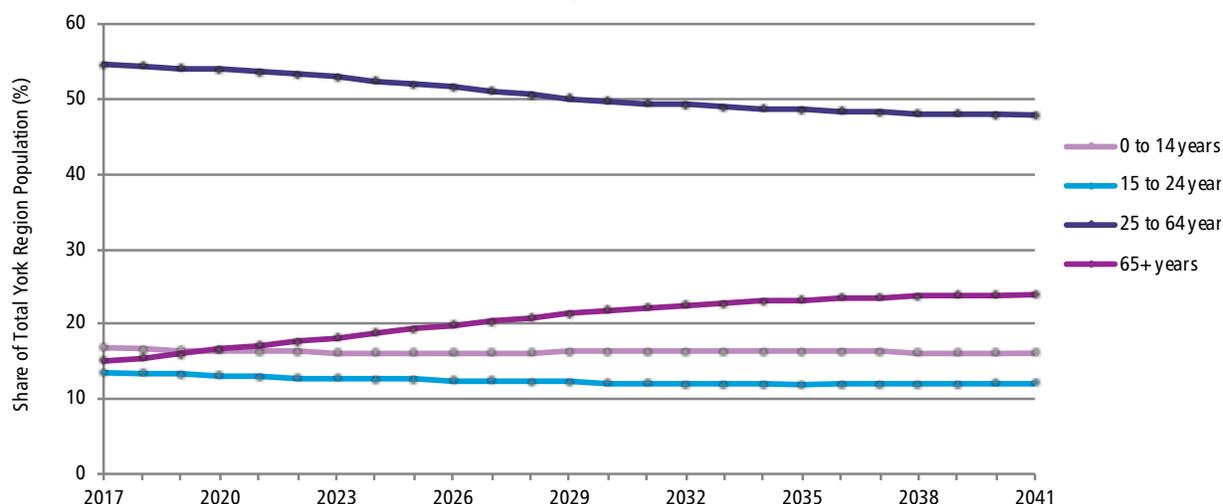
* Birth to fifteenth birthday minus one day



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Population Trends in York Region by Age Group,
Provincial Projections, 2017 to 2041

Sources: Statistics Canada Estimates, 2017; Ontario Ministry of Finance Projections (Population as of July 1, 2017)

0 to 14: birth to fifteenth birthday minus one day (children), 15 to 24: fifteenth birthday to twenty-fifth birthday minus one day (youth),

25 to 64: twenty-fifth birthday to sixty-fifth birthday minus one day (working age), 65+: sixty-fifth birthday and older (seniors)

Though the 0 to 12 age group is growing as a whole, the numbers of children in the 0 to 4 and 0 to 6 age groups have decreased since 2011

- For the first time in nearly three decades the population of children aged 0 to 4 years decreased in York Region since the previous census (about 1,475 children, or -2.5%) (Regional Municipality of York, 2018d)
- The 0 to 6 age group declined by 2.0% since 2011 (about 1,400 children)

Change in Numbers of Children by Age, York Region, 2006 to 2016

Age in Years	2006	2011	2016	Change from 2006 to 2011	Change from 2011 to 2016
under 1	10,015	10,845	10,160	830	-685
1	10,385	11,455	10,875	1,070	-580
2	10,605	11,745	11,170	1,140	-575
3	11,020	12,285	12,500	1,265	215
4	11,060	12,380	12,530	1,320	150
5	11,265	12,525	12,600	1,260	75
Total 0 to 4	53,085	58,710	57,235	5,625	-1,475
Total 0 to 6	64,350	71,235	69,835	6,885	-1,400
Total 0 to 12	151,050	163,600	166,760	12,550	3,160

Source: Statistics Canada, 2006, 2011 and 2016 Censuses

0 to 4: birth to fifth birthday minus one day, 0 to 6: birth to sixth birthday minus one day, 0 to 12: birth to thirteenth birthday minus one day

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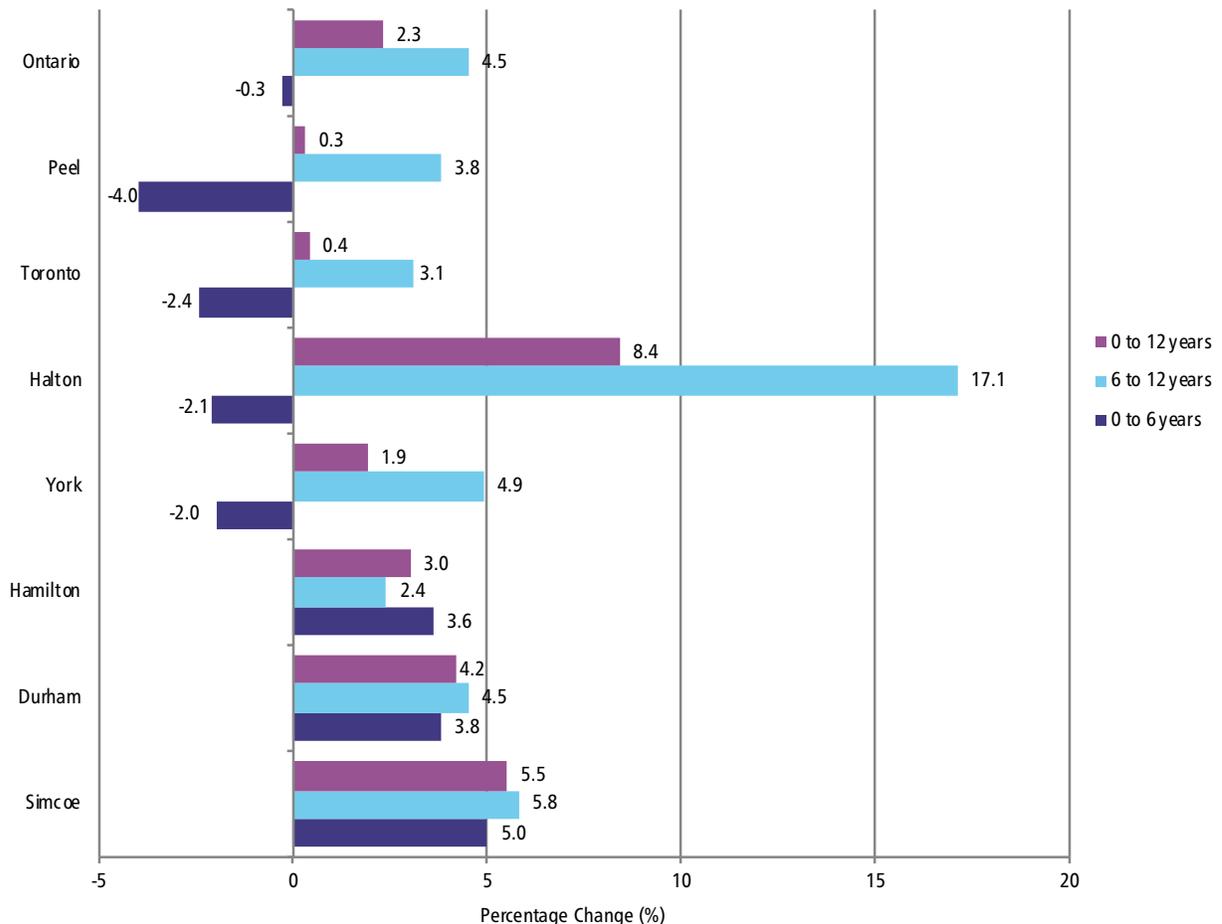
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Similarly, the number of children in the 0 to 6 age group decreased since 2011 in several other regions surrounding York Region

- The growth rates between 2011 and 2016 in the 0 to 6, 6 to 12, and 0 to 12 age groups varied in areas surrounding York Region, including the Greater Toronto and Hamilton Area (GTHA) and Simcoe County
- Between 2011 and 2016:
 - o The population aged 0 to 12 years increased in all GTHA regions and Simcoe County, with percentage increases ranging from 8.4% in Halton Region to 0.3% in Peel Region (the percentage increase in Ontario as a whole was 2.3%)
 - o The population aged 0 to 6 years, however, decreased in four regions in the GTHA, with percentage decreases ranging from -2.0% in York Region to -4.0% in Peel Region (in Ontario as a whole, the population aged 0 to 6 years decreased by -0.3%)
 - o The population aged 0 to 6 years increased in Simcoe County (5.0%), The Region of Durham (3.8%) and The City of Hamilton (3.6%)
 - o The population aged 6 to 12 years increased by 17.1% in Halton Region

**Percentage Change in Child Populations by Age Group
Between 2011 and 2016 by GTHA and Simcoe Regions**



Sources: Statistics Canada, 2011 and 2016 Censuses

0 to 6: birth to sixth birthday minus one day, 6 to 12: sixth birthday to thirteenth birthday minus one day, 0 to 12: birth to thirteenth birthday minus one day

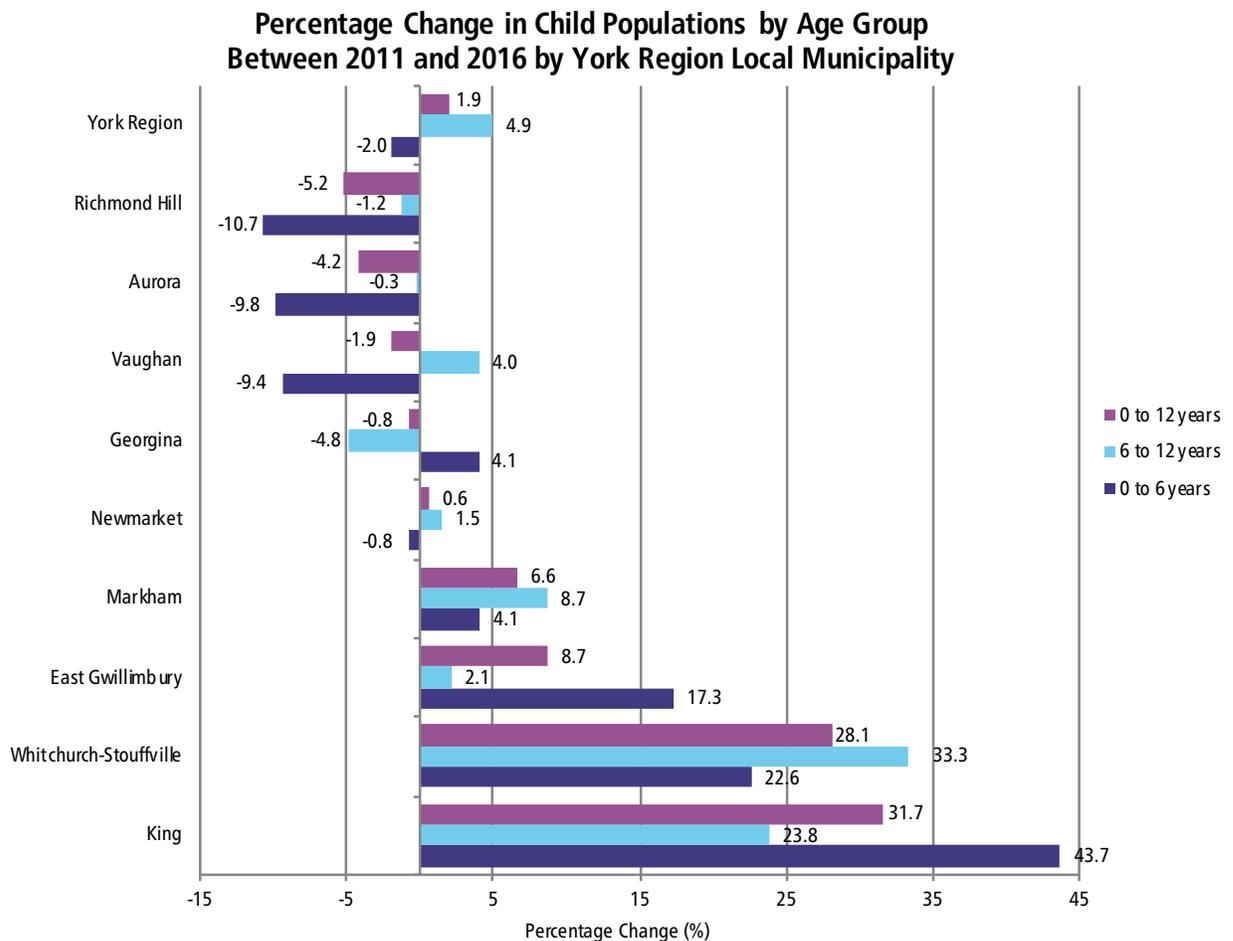
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Growth rates in child populations vary amongst York Region's local municipalities

- Between 2011 and 2016, growth rates in the 0 to 6, 6 to 12, and 0 to 12 age groups increased in some of York Region's local municipalities but decreased in others
- Between 2011 and 2016, for the population aged 0 to 12 years:
 - The greatest percentage increases occurred in The Township of King and The Town of Whitchurch-Stouffville (31.7% and 28.1%, respectively)
 - The greatest percentage decreases occurred in The City of Richmond Hill and The Town of Aurora (-5.2% and -4.2%, respectively)
- Between 2011 and 2016, for the population aged 0 to 6 years:
 - The greatest percentage increases occurred in The Township of King, The Town Of Whitchurch-Stouffville and The Town of East Gwillimbury (43.7%, 22.6% and 17.3%, respectively)
 - The greatest percentage decreases occurred in The City of Richmond Hill, The Town of Aurora and The City of Vaughan (10.7%, 9.8% and 9.4%, respectively)



Sources: Statistics Canada, 2011 and 2016 Censuses

0 to 6: birth to sixth birthday minus one day, 6 to 12: sixth birthday to thirteenth birthday minus one day, 0 to 12: birth to thirteenth birthday minus one day

A Profile of Children in York Region

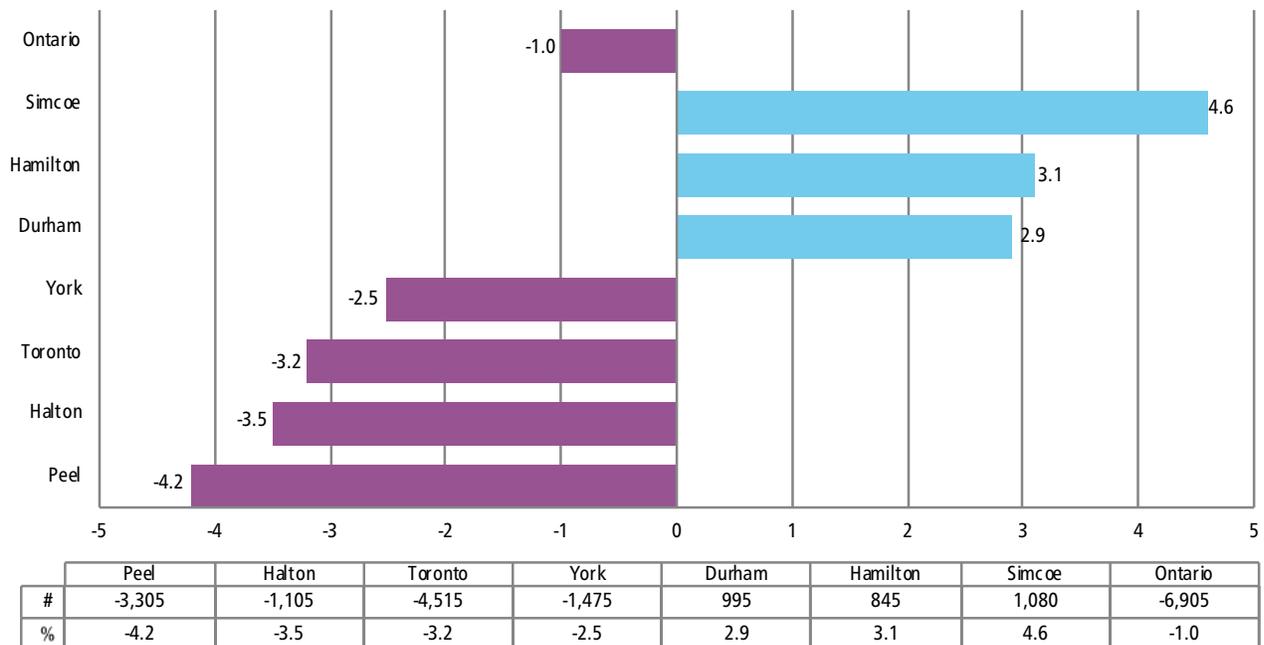
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Growth rates in the 0 to 4 age group decreased in Ontario as a whole and in some GTHA regions

- Between 2011 and 2016, the number of children aged 0 to 4 years:
 - Decreased in Peel Region (-4.2%), Halton Region (-3.5%), The City of Toronto (-3.2%) and York Region (-2.5%), as well as in Ontario as a whole (-1.0%)
 - Increased in the Durham Region (2.9%), The City of Hamilton (3.1%) and Simcoe County (4.6%)

**Percentage Change in the Number of Children Aged 0 to 4 Years
Between 2011 and 2016 by GTHA and Simcoe Regions**



Sources: Statistics Canada, 2011 and 2016 Censuses

0 to 4: birth to fifth birthday minus one day

Growth rates in the 0 to 4 age group also vary amongst York Region's local municipalities

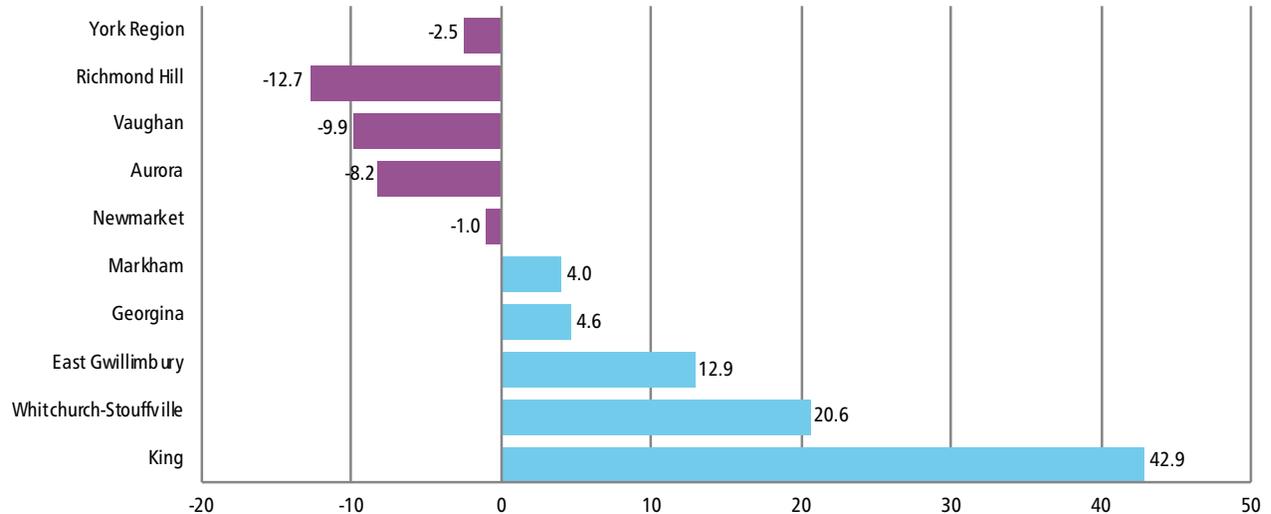
- Between 2011 and 2016, the number of preschool children (0 to 4 years):
 - Decreased in the four local municipalities of The City of Richmond Hill (-12.7%), The City of Vaughan (-9.9%), The Town of Aurora (-8.2%) and The Town of Newmarket (-1.0%)
 - Increased in the remaining five local municipalities, with the greatest increases occurring in The Township of King and The Town of Whitchurch-Stouffville (42.9% and 20.6%, respectively)

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Percentage Change in the Number of Children Aged 0 to 4 Years Between 2011 and 2016 by York Region Local Municipality



	King	Whitchurch-Stouffville	East Gwillimbury	Georgina	Markham	Newmarket	Aurora	Vaughan	Richmond Hill	York Region
#	375	550	145	110	650	-45	-245	-1,785	-1,245	-1,475
%	42.9	20.6	12.9	4.6	4.0	-1.0	-8.2	-9.9	-12.7	-2.5

Sources: Statistics Canada, 2011 and 2016 Censuses
0 to 4: birth to fifth birthday minus one day

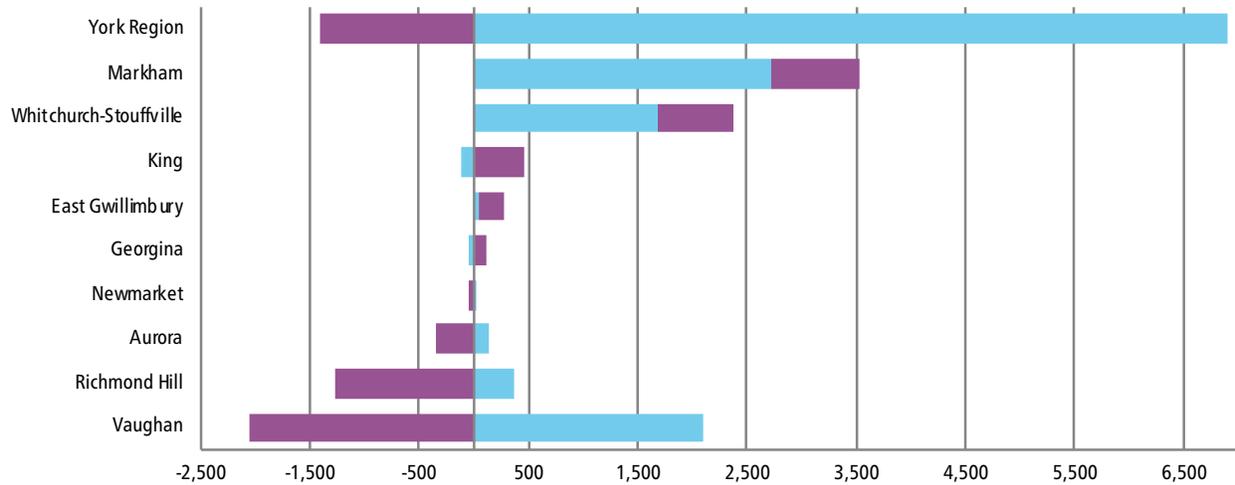
Growth rates in child populations were not consistent across York Region's local municipalities over the last two Census periods

- Over the last two census periods (2006 to 2011 and 2011 to 2016), growth rates for the population of children aged 0 to 12 years varied across the local municipalities. There were also differences in growth rates for the population aged 0 to 6 years and 6 to 12 years
- Between 2006 and 2016, there were decreases in the numbers of children aged 0 to 12 years in The Town of Georgina (-770), The Town of Newmarket (-665) and The Town of Aurora (-490)
 - In the 0 to 6 age group there were decreases in The City of Richmond Hill (-915), The Town of Aurora (-215) and The Town of Newmarket (-10)
 - In the 6 to 12 age group there were decreases in The Towns of Georgina (-850), Newmarket (-655), Aurora (-275) and East Gwillimbury (-70)
- Between 2006 and 2016, there was continued growth in the 0 to 12 age group in The City of Markham (7,325) and The Town of Whitchurch-Stouffville (4,470)
 - Only in these two municipalities did the numbers of children in both the 0 to 6 and 6 to 12 age groups increase between 2006 to 2011 and 2011 to 2016
- In The City of Vaughan, despite overall growth since 2006 in the 0 to 12 age group (4,540), there was a large decrease in the number of children aged 0 to 6 years (-2,065) between 2011 and 2016

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Change in the Number of Children Aged 0 to 6 Years by York Region Local Municipality, 2006 to 2016



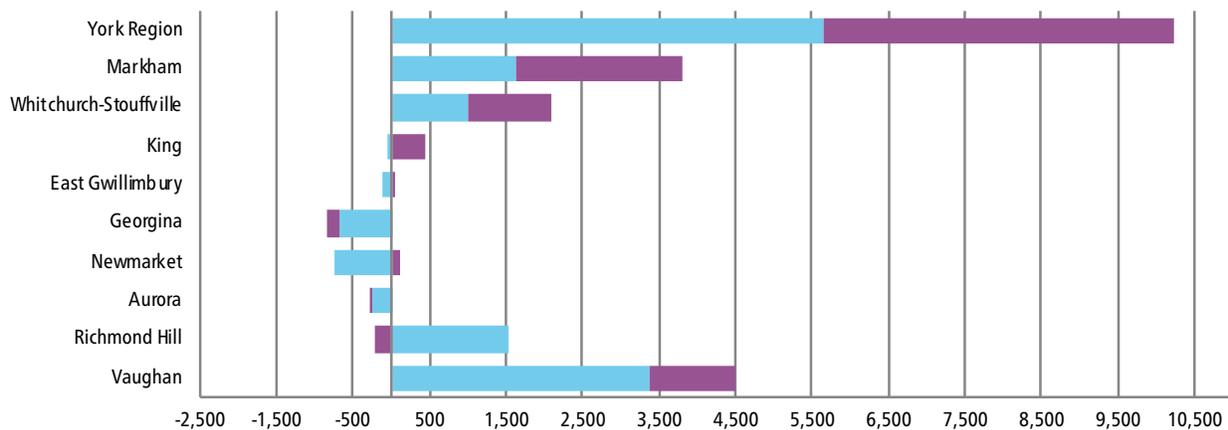
	Vaughan	Richmond Hill	Aurora	Newmarket	Georgina	East Gwillimbury	King	Whitchurch-Stouffville	Markham	York Region
2006-2011	2,100	365	145	30	-40	45	-125	1,675	2,720	6,890
2011-2016	-2,065	-1,280	-360	-40	120	230	470	710	810	-1,400
2006-2016	35	-915	-215	-10	80	275	345	2,385	3,530	5,490

Sources: Statistics Canada, 2006, 2011 and 2016 Censuses

0 to 6: birth to sixth birthday minus one day

Note: numbers for York Region include Chippewas of Georgina Island First Nation (not shown on the chart)

Change in the Number of Children Aged 6 to 12 Years by York Region Local Municipality, 2006 to 2016



	Vaughan	Richmond Hill	Aurora	Newmarket	Georgina	East Gwillimbury	King	Whitchurch-Stouffville	Markham	York Region
2006-2011	3,385	1,530	-260	-760	-675	-110	-40	1,005	1,640	5,660
2011-2016	1,120	-200	-15	105	-175	40	430	1,080	2,155	4,565
2006-2016	4,505	1,330	-275	-655	-850	-70	390	2,085	3,795	10,225

Sources: Statistics Canada, 2006, 2011 and 2016 Censuses

6 to 12: sixth birthday to thirteenth birthday minus one day

Note: numbers for York Region include Chippewas of Georgina Island First Nation (not shown on the chart)

FRANCOPHONE CHILDREN

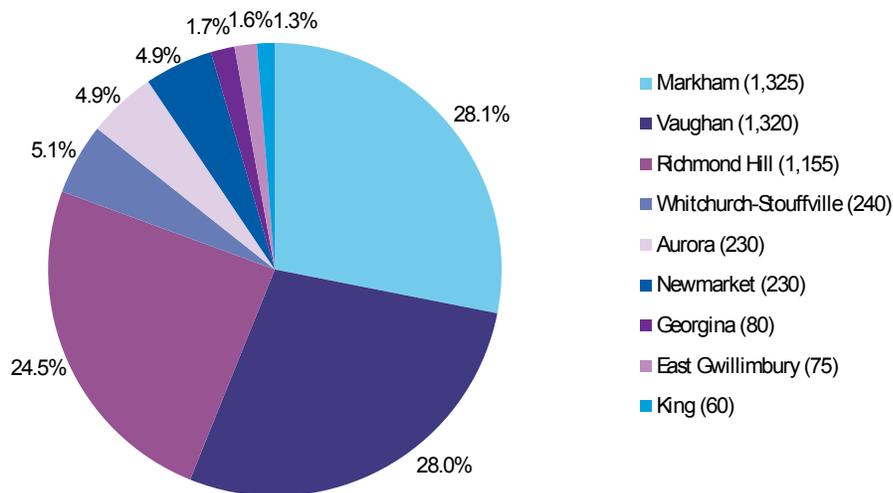
The number of Francophone* children aged 0 to 12 years has increased over the past decade

- The Francophone population aged 0 to 12 years increased in York Region by 71.7% between 2006 and 2016 (by 1,955 children, from 2,765 to 4,720). The total Francophone population increased by only 26.7% (or 4,960)
- In terms of numbers, the largest increases occurred in The Cities of Markham, Vaughan and Richmond Hill and The Town of Whitchurch-Stouffville (660, 620, 325 and 195, respectively). There were no decreases in any of the local municipalities
- In 2016, The Cities of Markham, Vaughan and Richmond Hill were home to 80.5% of the Region's Francophone population aged 0 to 12 years

Service Planning Considerations

In 2016, Francophone children comprised 3.1% of the total child population aged 0 to 12 years in York Region. The number of Francophone children, while small, is increasing. We will continue to monitor this trend to help inform service planning.

Share of York Region's Francophone Population Aged 0 to 12 Years by Local Municipality, 2016



Source: Statistics Canada, 2016 Census, Custom Tabulation

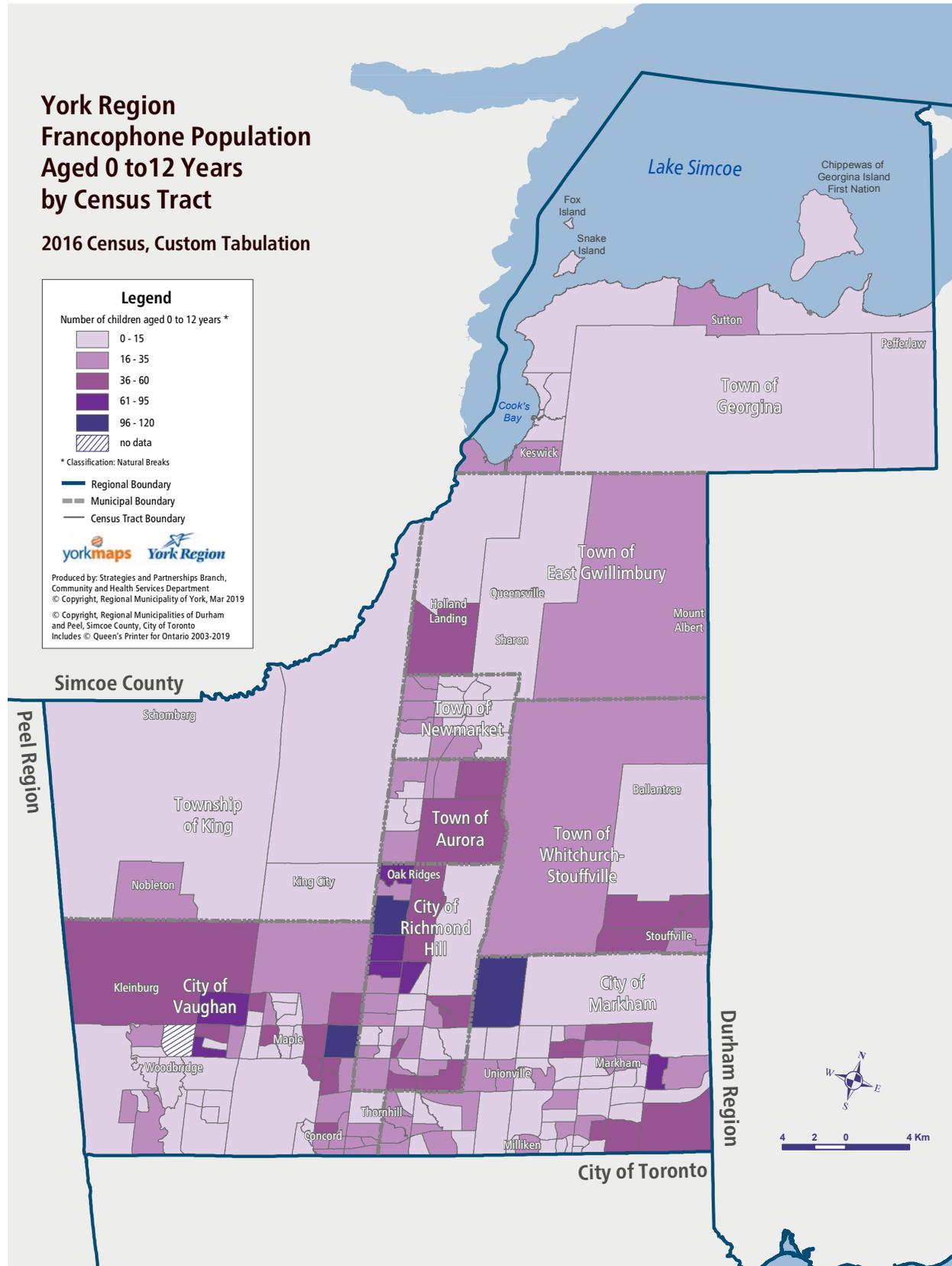
Note: the Francophone population aged 0 to 12 years for York Region includes Chippewas of Georgina Island First Nation (not shown on the chart)

- The geographic distribution across York Region of Francophone children aged 0 to 12 years in 2016 is shown by CT in the following map. The CTs with the highest numbers of Francophone children are located in the central portion of York Region at the junction between The Cities of Richmond Hill and Markham

* Includes persons who have indicated "French" as a language spoken - see glossary for detailed definition (Statistics Canada)

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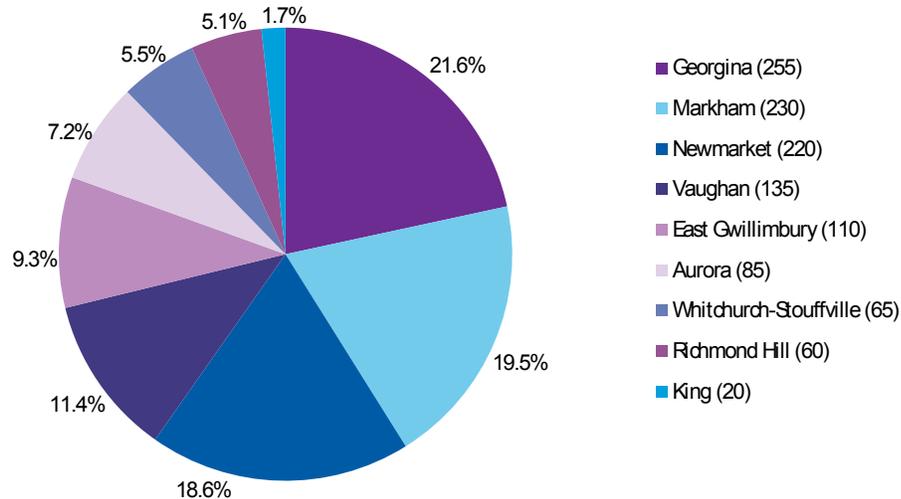
ABORIGINAL CHILDREN

The population of Aboriginal* children aged 0 to 12 years is small but growing

- The Aboriginal population aged 0 to 12 years increased in York Region by 47.0% between 2006 and 2016 (by 385 children, from 820 to 1,205). This is lower than the growth rate of the total Aboriginal population in York Region (65.0% or 2,330)
- In terms of numbers, the largest increases occurred in The Town of Newmarket, The City of Markham, The Town of Georgina and The City of Vaughan (110, 105, 100 and 85, respectively). Only in The Township of King was there a decrease in number (-45)
- In 2016, The Town of Georgina, The City of Markham, The Town of Newmarket and The City of Vaughan were home to 69.7% of the Region's Aboriginal population aged 0 to 12 years. Unlike the Francophone population, the Aboriginal population is somewhat more evenly distributed throughout the Region

* Refers to whether the person identified with the Aboriginal peoples of Canada. This includes those who are First Nations (North American Indian), Métis or Inuk (Inuit) and/or those who are Registered or Treaty Indians (that is, registered under the *Indian Act of Canada*), and/or those who have membership in a First Nation or Indian band. Aboriginal peoples of Canada are defined in the Constitution Act, 1982, Section 35 (2) as including the Indian, Inuit and Métis peoples of Canada. (Statistics Canada)

Share of York Region's Aboriginal Population Aged 0 to 12 Years by Local Municipality, 2016



Source: Statistics Canada, 2016 Census, Custom Tabulation

Note: the Aboriginal population aged 0 to 12 years for York Region includes Chippewas of Georgina Island First Nation (not shown on the chart)

- The geographic distribution across York Region of Aboriginal children aged 0 to 12 years in 2016 is shown by CT in the following map

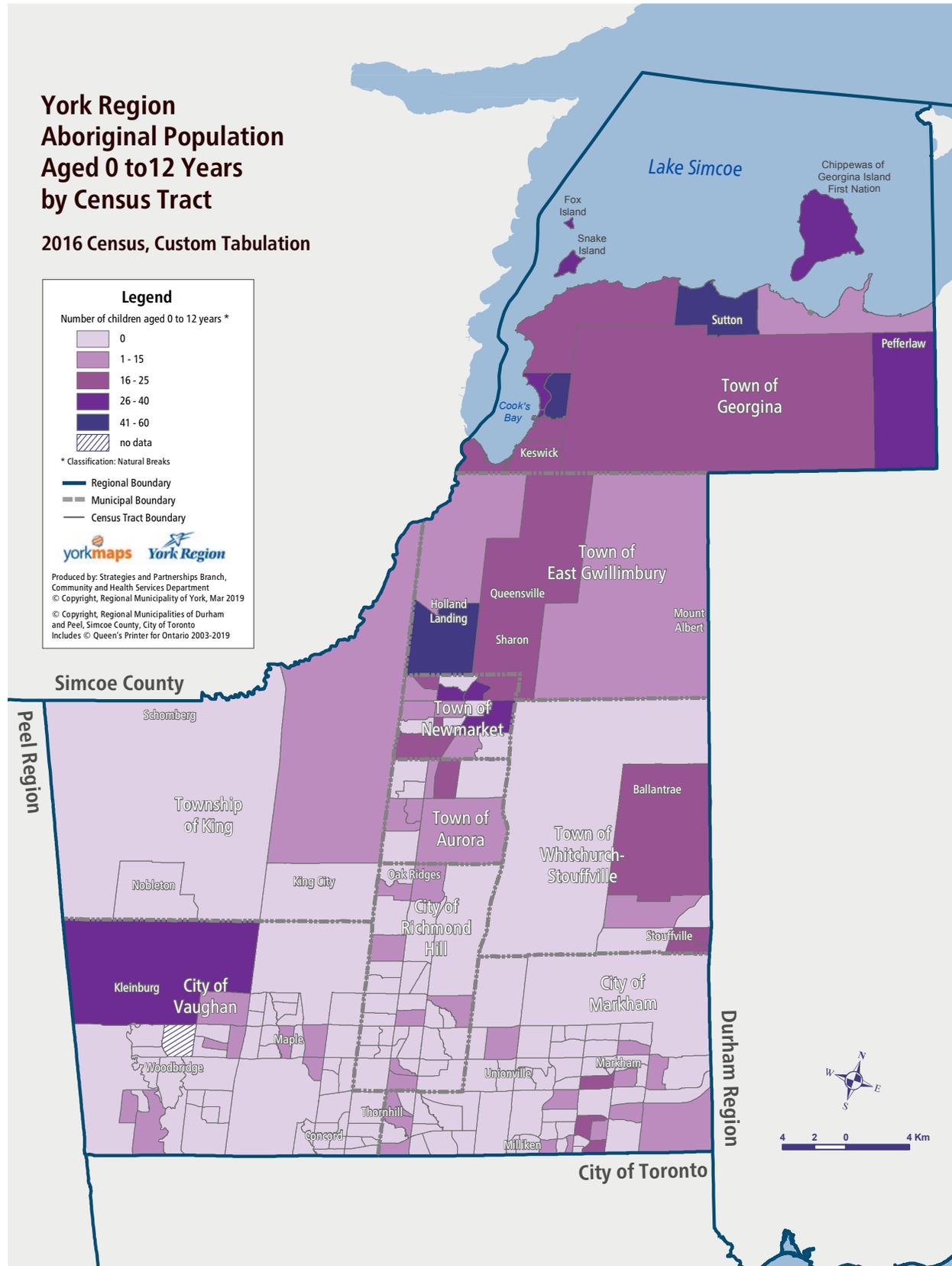
Service Planning Considerations

Work is underway to build and strengthen relationships with Indigenous* organizations to broaden the services available for communities across York Region.

*In this document, the term "Indigenous" is synonymous with the term "Aboriginal".

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CHARACTERISTICS OF FAMILIES AND HOUSEHOLDS

Why are these data important?

In York Region, diversity in demographic characteristics, such as family and household composition, languages spoken, immigration patterns and levels of education is increasing.

It is important to consider this diversity when planning programs and services so that services respond to local changes and give parents and caregivers options that work best for their families.

FAMILY AND HOUSEHOLD COMPOSITION

The numbers of census families* and private households** continue to increase in York Region as a whole but not in all local municipalities

- Between 2006 and 2016, the total number of census families with at least one child aged 0 to 12 years:
 - o Increased in York Region by 10.5% (or 9,780 families)
 - o Increased in six local municipalities, including The City of Markham (4,500 or 17.7%), The Town of Whitchurch-Stouffville (2,680 or 125.5%) and The City of Vaughan (2,400 or 8.9%)
 - o Decreased in The Town of Georgina (-475 or -10.7%), The Town of Aurora (-250 or -4.6%) and The Town of Newmarket (-230 or -2.9%)
- Growth in the number of private households with at least one child aged 0 to 12 years mirrors that of census families (10.6% increase in York Region since 2006, or about 9,720 households)

* Refers to a married couple (with or without children of either or both spouses), a common-law couple (with or without children of either or both partners), or a lone-parent family (Statistics Canada)

** Refers to a person or group of persons who occupy the same dwelling. A household may consist of a family group such as a census family, two or more census families sharing a dwelling, a group of unrelated persons, or a person living alone. A dwelling may be a collective dwelling (collective household) or a private dwelling (private household). A private household may contain one or more census families (such as a married couple living with their parents) (Statistics Canada)

Married couples continue to be the predominant family type

- In 2016, of all census families in York Region with at least one child aged 0 to 12 years:
 - o 82.1% were married couples (84,650), down from 85% in 2006
 - o 4.9% were common-law couples (5,020), up from 4% in 2006
 - o 13.0% were led by single parents (13,375), up from 11.2% in 2006 (this represents a 27.6% increase in the number of single parent families since 2006, or 2,890 families)

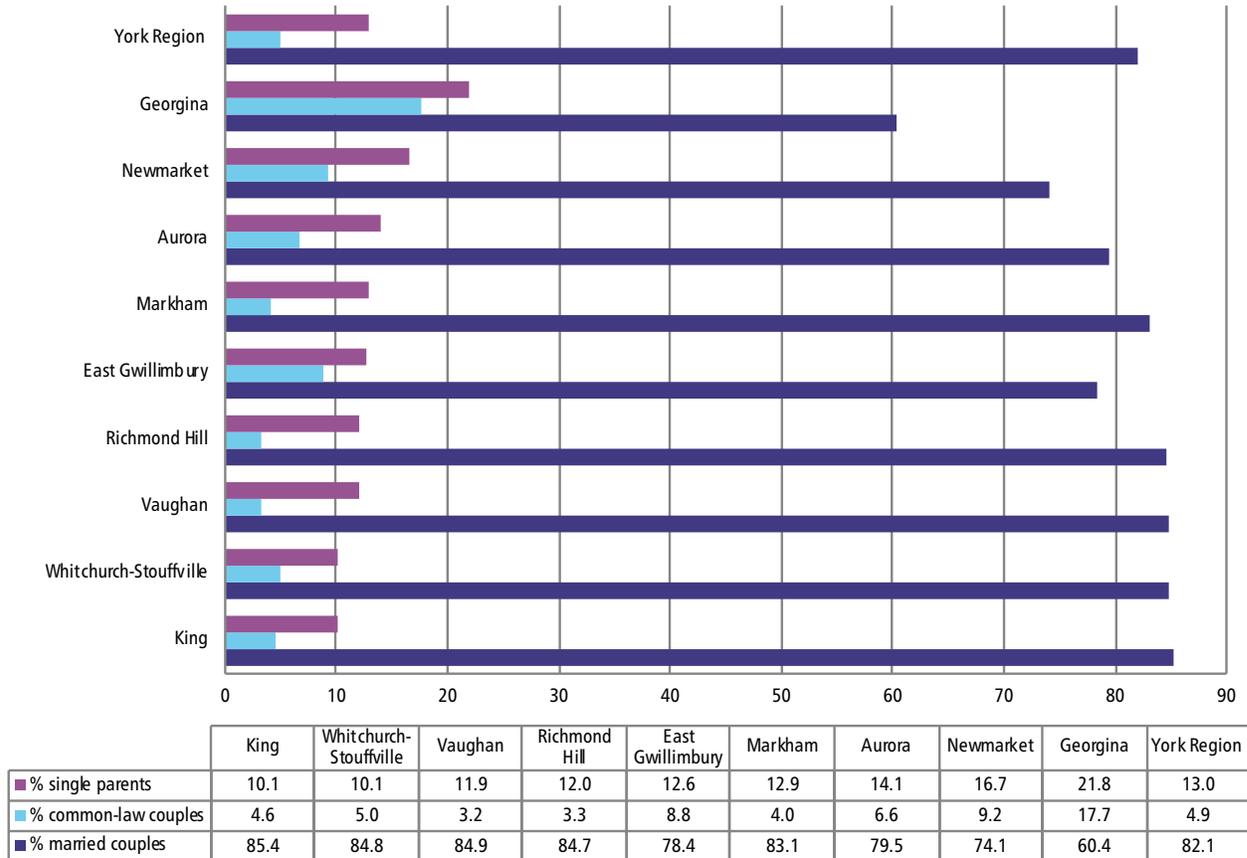
The share of single parent families is highest in The Town of Georgina

- In 2016, of the total number of census families with at least one child aged 0 to 12 years in the local municipalities:
 - o The Town of Georgina had the highest percentage of families led by single parents (21.8%)
 - o The Township of King had the highest percentage of married couples (85.4%)

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Share of Census Families with at Least One Child Aged 0 to 12 Years by Family Type and York Region Local Municipality, 2016



Source: Statistics Canada, 2016 Census, Custom Tabulation

Note: the York Region totals include the numbers for Chippewas of Georgina Island First Nation (not shown on the chart)

Census families with two children are the predominant family composition

- In 2016, 50.1% of census families with at least one child* aged 0 to 12 years in York Region had two children, while 29.3% had one child and 20.6% had three or more children
 - o For married couples, the percentage having two children is slightly higher than the Regional average while the percentage having one child is slightly lower (the percentage having three or more children is the same)
 - o For common-law couples and single parents, closer to 40% of families had two children.
 - o Higher percentages of single parent families tend to have only one child

* Additional children may be of any age

Service Planning Considerations

Single parents may have an increased need for more affordable child care options. As the number of census families led by single parents grows, planning affordable services will be important so parents can enter or remain in the workforce.

Distribution of Family Types by Number of Children, in Census Families With at Least One Child Aged 0 to 12 Years, York Region, 2016

		Total Families	Married Couples	Common-law Couples	Single Parents
1 Child	Share (%)	29.3	26.7	38.0	42.3
	Number (#)	30,160	22,585	1,920	5,655
2 Children	Share (%)	50.1	52.2	41.0	40.2
	Number (#)	51,640	44,190	2,070	5,380
3+ Children	Share (%)	20.6	21.1	21.0	17.5
	Number (#)	21,240	17,870	1,030	2,340

Source: Statistics Canada, 2006 and 2016 Census, Custom Tabulation

One-census family households are predominant over multi-census family households but the relative proportion of each is changing

- In York Region, of private households with at least one child aged 0 to 12 years:
 - o In 2016, 87.6% consisted of one-census family households, down from 89.6% in 2006
 - o The remaining 12.4% consisted of multi-census families
 - o The number of multi-census family households increased by 33.1% since 2006 (this compares with a 38.1% increase in the number of all multi-census family households in York Region)
- Between 2006 and 2016:
 - o The percentage of multi-census family households increased in all nine local municipalities
 - o The greatest percentage increases occurred in The Town of Whitchurch-Stouffville, The Township of King, The Town of Newmarket and The Town of Aurora

Service Planning Considerations

More multi-census families living together means program planning needs to respond to different generations.

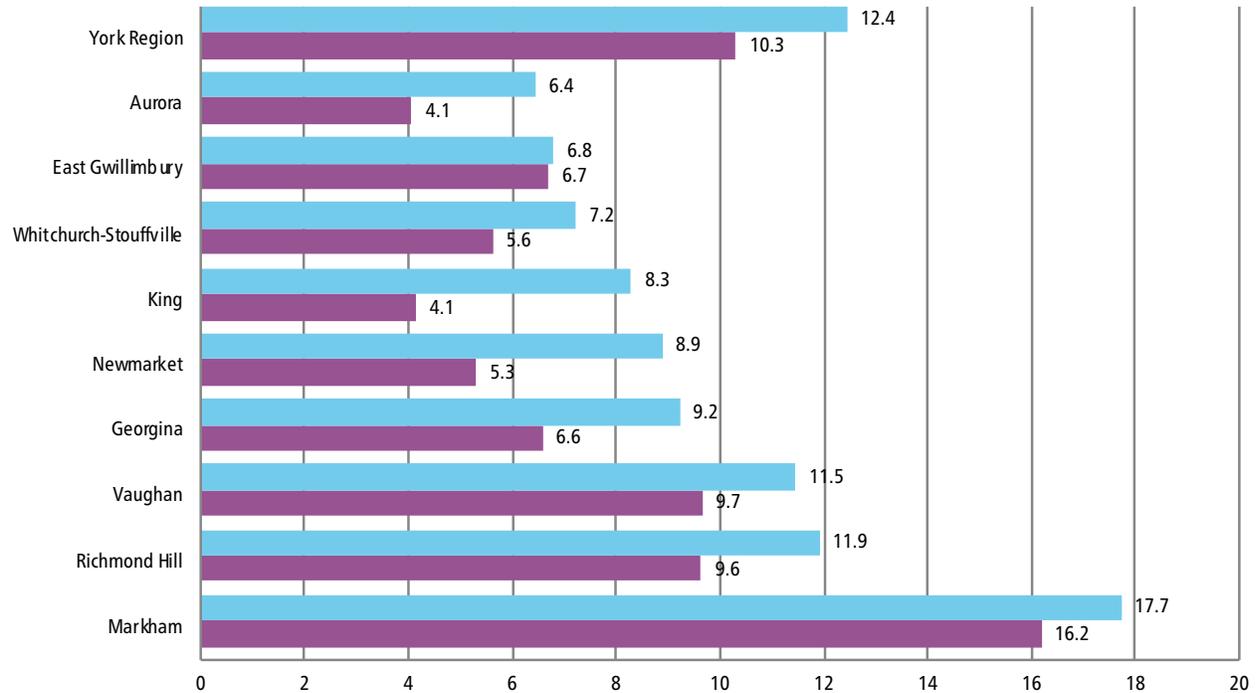


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Number and Share of Multi-Census Family Households with at Least One Child Aged 0 to 12 Years by York Region Local Municipality, 2006 and 2016



	Markham	Richmond Hill	Vaughan	Georgina	Newmarket	King	Whitchurch-Stouffville	East Gwillimbury	Aurora	York Region
■ % 2016	17.7	11.9	11.5	9.2	8.9	8.3	7.2	6.8	6.4	12.4
# 2016	5,220	2,090	3,335	360	680	180	350	140	330	12,680
■ % 2006	16.2	9.6	9.7	6.6	5.3	4.1	5.6	6.7	4.1	10.3
# 2006	4,060	1,615	2,585	290	425	75	120	135	220	9,530

Sources: Statistics Canada, 2006 and 2016 Censuses, Custom Tabulations

Note: numbers for York Region include Chippewas of Georgina Island First Nation (not shown on the chart)

Household size is changing over time

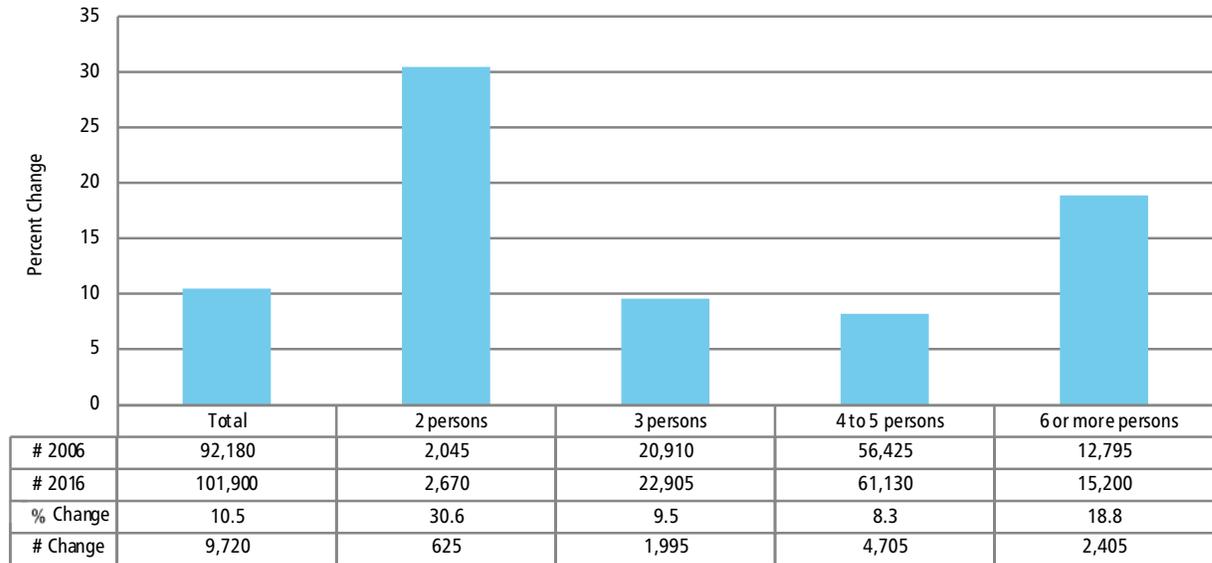
- In York Region in 2016, of private households with at least one child aged 0 to 12 years:
 - 61.2% consisted of four to five persons, 22.7% of three persons, 13.9% of six or more persons, and 2.2% of two persons (that is, one adult and one child aged 0 to 12 years)
- Between 2006 and 2016 in York Region, for households with at least one child aged 0 to 12 years:
 - The number of two person households (single parent families) increased by 27.6%
 - The number of six or more person households (including multi-family households) increased by 20.8%
 - The numbers of three person households and four to five person households also increased but at a lower rate (by 10.2% and 7.7%, respectively)
- Changes in household size over the past decade varied amongst the local municipalities

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Change in the Number of Households with at Least One Child Aged 0 to 12 Years by Household Size, York Region, 2006 to 2016



Sources: Statistics Canada, 2006 and 2016 Censuses, Custom Tabulations

IMMIGRATION

The majority of the Region's children aged 0 to 12 years were born in Canada

- In 2016, of the total population of children aged 0 to 12 years in York Region:
 - About 92.4% (or 153,875) were born in Canada
 - About 6.9% (or 11,570) were immigrants
 - Of the total number of immigrants aged 0 to 12 years:
 - About 55.0% (or 6,360) were recent* immigrants that arrived in Canada between 2011 and 2016
 - About 7.1% (or 820) were refugees
 - About 0.7% (or 1,130) were non-permanent residents

* Those arriving in Canada within the last five years leading up to the Census (Statistics Canada)



Immigrant Status and Admission Category for Children Aged 0 to 12 Years, York Region, 2016

	Number (#)	Share (%) of Total Children Aged 0 to 12 Years
Non-immigrants (born in Canada)	153,875	92.4
Total immigrants	11,570	6.9
<i>Immigrated Before 2011</i>	5,210	3.1
<i>Recent Immigrants (2011 to 2016)</i>	6,360	3.8
Non-permanent residents	1,130	0.7
Total children 0 to 12 years	166,575	100.0
Refugees (<i>year of immigration unspecified</i>)	820	0.5

Source: Statistics Canada, 2016 Census, Custom Tabulation

The number of recent* immigrants has increased since 2006

- In York Region, of the population in census families with at least one child 0 to 12 years:
 - In 2016, 6.0% (or 22,135) were recent immigrants that arrived in Canada between 2011 and 2016. This compares with 4.7% for the total population
 - There were 870 more recent immigrants in 2016 than in 2006; however, the relative percentage remained unchanged from 2006 (those that arrived between 2001 and 2006)
 - In 2016, about 0.9% (or 3,745) were non-permanent residents, up from 2,640 in 2006
- In the local municipalities, of the population in census families with at least one child 0 to 12 years:
 - The City of Vaughan experienced a 14.6% decrease (or -810) since 2006 in the number of recent immigrants
 - Despite smaller numbers, The Town of East Gwillimbury and The Town of Whitchurch-Stouffville saw increases of almost 480.0% (or 120) and 193.8% (or 310), respectively, in the number of recent immigrants
 - In 2016, of the 3,745 non-permanent residents in York Region, 35.2% (1,320) lived in The City of Markham and 29.5% (1,105) lived in The City of Vaughan

* Those arriving in Canada within the last five years leading up to the Census (Statistics Canada)

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**Number of Recent* Immigrants in Census Families With at Least One Child
Aged 0 to 12 Years, York Region, 2006 and 2016**

	2006	2016	Change from 2006 to 2016	
			Number (#)	Percent (%)
York Region	21,265	22,135	870	4.1
Markham	7,860	8,465	605	7.7
Richmond Hill	5,665	6,100	435	7.7
Vaughan	5,530	4,720	-810	-14.6
Newmarket	1,095	1,130	35	3.2
Aurora	740	880	140	18.9
Whitchurch-Stouffville	160	470	310	193.8
Georgina	135	160	25	18.5
East Gwillimbury	25	145	120	480.0
King	50	70	20	40.0

Source: Statistics Canada, 2006 and 2016 Censuses, Custom Tabulations

* Those arriving in Canada within the last five years leading up to the Census (Statistics Canada)

Note: the York Region totals include the numbers for Chippewas of Georgina Island First Nation (not shown on the chart)]

- The geographic distribution across York Region of the recent immigrant population in census families with at least one child aged 0 to 12 years in 2016 is shown by CT in the following map



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York Region Recent Immigrants in Census Families with at Least One Child Aged 0 to 12 Years by Census Tract

2016 Census, Custom Tabulation

Legend

Number of recent immigrants *

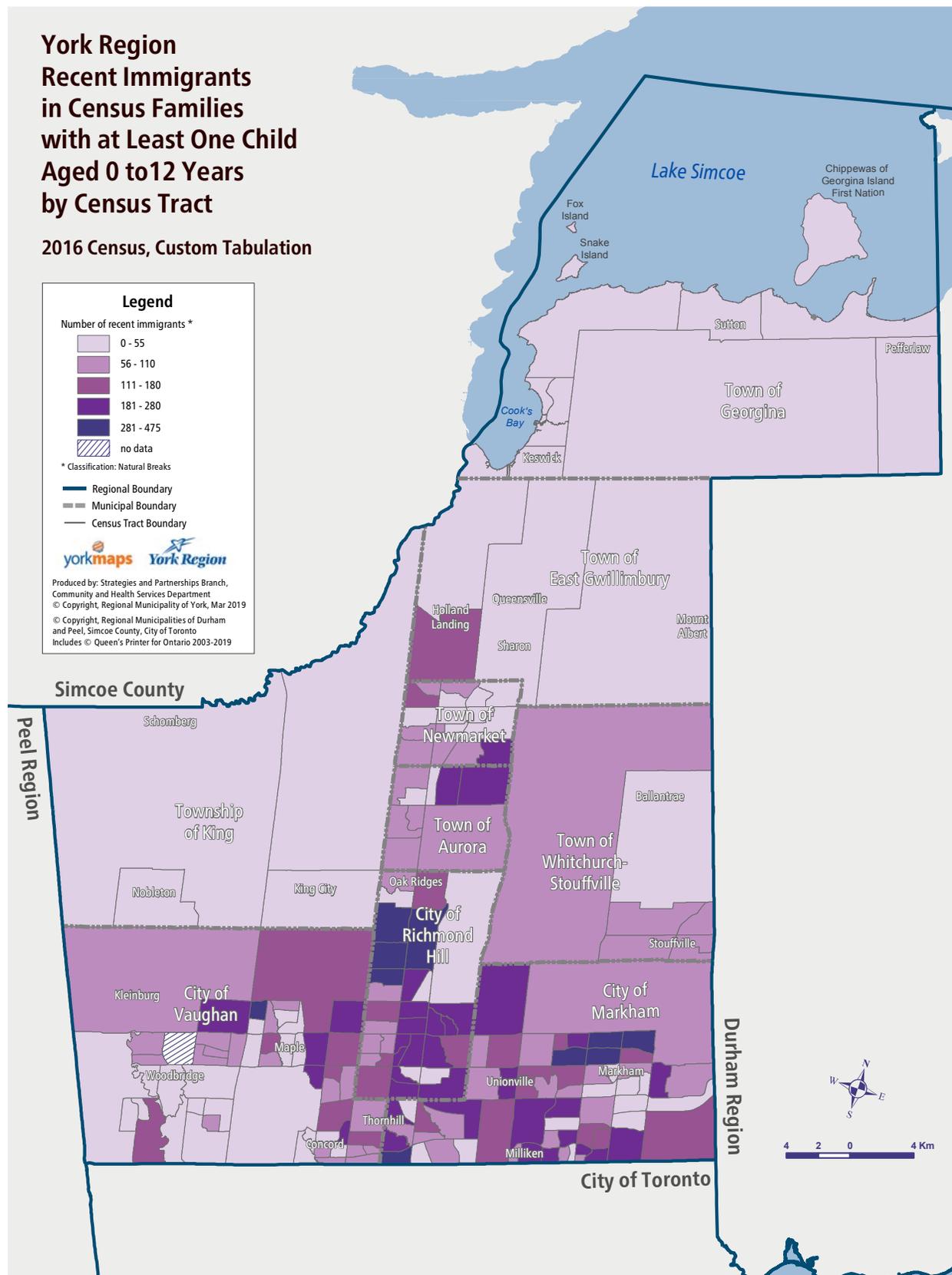
- 0 - 55
- 56 - 110
- 111 - 180
- 181 - 280
- 281 - 475
- no data

* Classification: Natural Breaks

- Regional Boundary
- Municipal Boundary
- Census Tract Boundary

yorkmaps **York Region**

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High percentages of recent* immigrants to York Region were born in China

- In 2016, of the immigrants to York Region aged 0 to 12 years:
 - China was the top place of birth for recent immigrants (26.5%) and refugees (20.7%). The United States was the top place of birth for non-permanent residents (16.8%) followed by China (13.3%)

Service Planning Considerations

As the Region becomes more diverse and the number of recent immigrants continues to grow, partners are working to design and deliver early years services that are culturally-responsive.

Top Ten Birthplaces of Immigrants Aged 0 to 12 Years, York Region, 2016

All Immigrants		Recent Immigrants		Refugees		Non-Permanent Residents	
<i>Total</i>	11,570	<i>Total</i>	6,360	<i>Total</i>	820	<i>Total</i>	1,130
China	2,705	China	1,680	China	170	United States	190
United States	1,285	Iran	765	Pakistan	120	China	150
Iran	1,135	United States	600	United States	110	Israel	135
Israel	1,045	Israel	500	Iran	75	Korea, South	100
India	515	Pakistan	320	Iraq	50	United Kingdom	65
Hong Kong	480	India	305	Sri Lanka	45	Pakistan	55
Pakistan	460	Hong Kong	225	Afghanistan	30	India	45
Philippines	360	Philippines	215	Syria	30	Hong Kong	45
United Arab Emirates	305	United Arab Emirates	165	Turkey	20	United Arab Emirates	20

Source: Statistics Canada, 2016 Census, Custom Tabulation

Note: the table does not reflect the Syrian refugee crisis which occurred after the 2016 Census was conducted

- Regarding birthplaces of recent immigrants to York Region for the total population in census families with at least one child aged 0 to 12 years:
 - In 2016, 33.3% of the 22,140 recent immigrants were born in China. This compares with 39.0% for the total recent immigrant population
 - In 2006, only 10.1% of the 21,265 recent immigrants were born in China
- In the local municipalities, for the total population in census families with at least one child aged 0 to 12 years:
 - In 2016, China was the top birthplace of recent immigrants in all nine local municipalities except The Town of Georgina (numbers of recent immigrants were small, with 25 born in Pakistan and 20 born in China)

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- o In 2006, China was the top birthplace only in The City of Markham and The Town of East Gwillimbury (although the numbers of recent immigrants to The Town of East Gwillimbury were very small, 25 in total, with 15 reported to have been born in China)

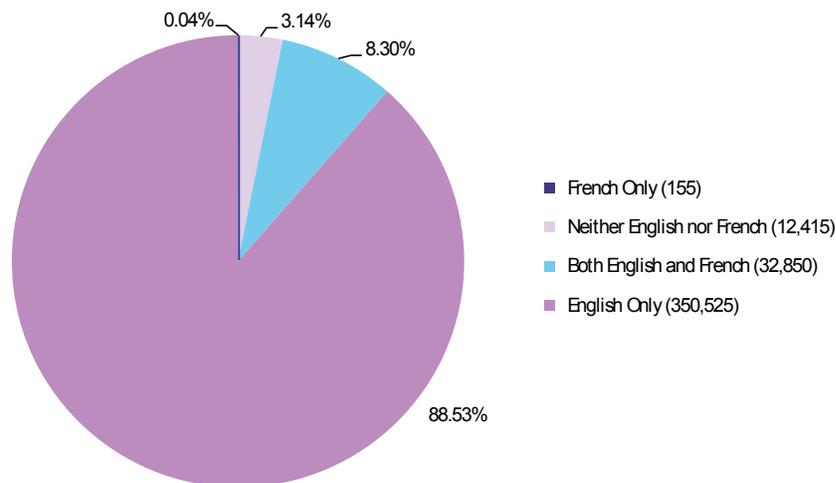
* Those arriving in Canada within the last five years leading up to the Census (Statistics Canada)

LANGUAGES

Knowledge of official languages has changed since 2006

- In 2016 in York Region, for the population in census families with at least one child aged 0 to 12 years:
 - o 88.5% spoke English only, down from 90.5% in 2006
 - o Less than 0.04% (155) spoke French only, down from 0.06% (230) in 2006
 - o 8.3% spoke English and French, up from 7.3% in 2006
 - o 3.1% (12,415) spoke neither English nor French, up from 2.2% (7,895) in 2006

Share of the Population in Census Families with at Least One Child Aged 0 to 12 Years by Knowledge of Official Languages, York Region, 2016



Source: Statistics Canada, 2016 Census, Custom Tabulation

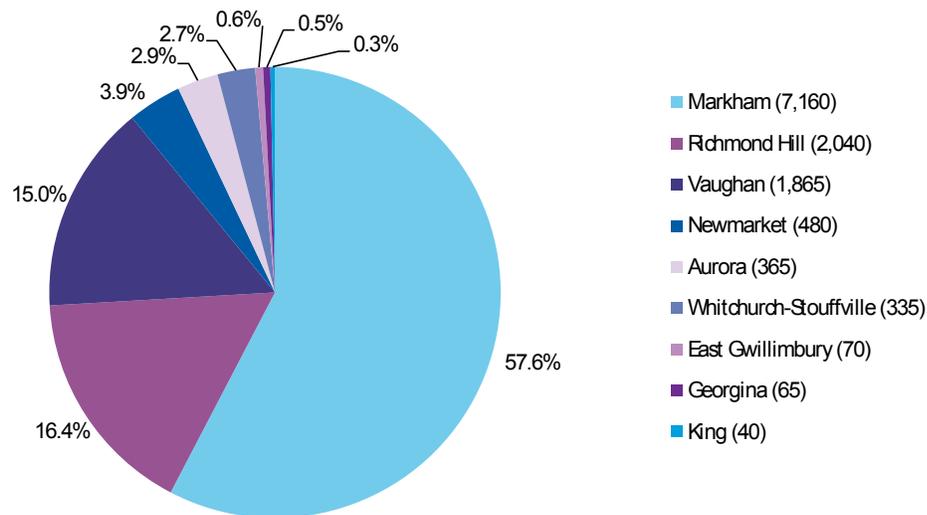
- In 2016 in the local municipalities, for the population in census families with at least one child aged 0 to 12 years:
 - o The Town of Georgina had the highest percentage speaking English only (93.3%) while The City of Markham had the lowest percentage (86.4%)
 - o Of those in York Region speaking neither English nor French, 89.1% lived in The City of Markham, The City of Richmond Hill and The City of Vaughan (7,160 or 57.7%, 2,040 or 16.4%, and 1,865 or 15.0%, respectively)
 - The City of Markham had the highest percentage of its population in census families with at least one child aged 0 to 12 years that spoke neither English nor French (6.3%)

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Share of the Population that Speaks Neither English nor French in Census Families with at Least One Child 0 to 12 Years by York Region Local Municipality, 2016



Source: Statistics Canada, 2016 Census, Custom Tabulation

Note: the total for York Region includes Chippewas of Georgina Island First Nation (not shown on the chart)

- Between 2006 and 2016, for the population in census families with at least one child aged 0 to 12 years:
 - o There was a decrease in the percentage speaking English only in all local municipalities
 - o However, the numbers speaking English only:
 - Increased in The City of Markham, The Town of Whitchurch-Stouffville, The City of Vaughan, The Township of King and The City of Richmond Hill (by 10,800, 8,825, 6,695, 1,130, and 890, respectively)
 - Decreased in The Towns of Georgina, Aurora, Newmarket and East Gwillimbury (-2,345, -1,670, -1,415, and -95, respectively)

Diversity in non-official languages spoken most often at home is changing over time

- In York Region in 2016, of the population in census families with at least one child aged 0 to 12 years:
 - o 24.4% spoke a non-official language most often at home, up from 22.6% in 2006, representing an increase of 14,925. This compares with 31.5% for the total population
 - o Of these, 49.3% spoke a Chinese language, up from 37.0% in 2006
 - o Mandarin was the language spoken most often at home by 28,560 while Cantonese was spoken by 18,285, followed by Russian (9,135), Persian (Farsi) (9,020) and Tamil (5,670)
- In 2016, of the population in census families with at least one child aged 0 to 12 years in the local municipalities:
 - o 35.7% in The City of Markham, 33.6% in The City of Richmond Hill and 19.1% in The City of Vaughan spoke a non-official language most often at home
 - o The non-official language spoken most often at home in six of nine local municipalities was Mandarin. In The Town of Whitchurch-Stouffville, Cantonese was the non-official language

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spoken most often at home, while in The City of Vaughan and The Township of King, Russian was spoken most often. This is a notable change from 2006 when Cantonese was the top language in The City of Markham and The City of Richmond Hill while Russian was the top language in The Town of Newmarket, The Town of Aurora and The City of Vaughan, and Polish was the top language in The Town of Georgina and The Township of King

**Top Five Non-Official Languages Spoken by the Population in Census Families
with at Least One Child Aged 0 to 12 Years, York Region, 2016**

	Top 1	Top 2	Top 3	Top 4	Top 5
York Region	Mandarin 28,560	Cantonese 18,285	Russian 9,135	Persian (Farsi) 9,020	Tamil 5,670
Markham	Mandarin 15,540	Cantonese 12,640	Tamil 3,615	Persian (Farsi) 1,690	Urdu 1,665
Richmond Hill	Mandarin 7,350	Persian (Farsi) 4,805	Cantonese 3,170	Russian 2,165	Korean 985
Vaughan	Russian 5,000	Mandarin 2,790	Urdu 1,795	Persian (Farsi) 1,515	Spanish 1,160
Aurora	Mandarin 1,160	Russian 545	Cantonese 405	Persian (Farsi) 330	Spanish 115
Newmarket	Mandarin 1,065	Russian 660	Persian (Farsi) 450	Cantonese 295	Korean 210
Whitchurch-Stouffville	Cantonese 770	Tamil 635	Mandarin 455	Urdu 120	Persian (Farsi) 80
King	Russian 195	Spanish 55	Arabic 50	Persian (Farsi) 35	Romanian 30
East Gwillimbury	Mandarin 105	Persian (Farsi) 90	Russian 70	Romanian 55	Spanish 50
Georgina	Mandarin 70	Cantonese 60	Russian 55	Spanish 40	Urdu 40

Source: Statistics Canada, 2016 Census, Custom Tabulation

Service Planning Considerations

The diversity in non-official languages spoken most often at home is changing. The percentage of the population in families with children aged 0 to 12 years who spoke neither English nor French has increased. Consideration should be given to programming in multiple languages.

EDUCATION

The overall level of education in York Region is increasing

- Between 2006 and 2016, the level of education for the population aged 25 to 64 years in census families with at least one child aged 0 to 12 years has increased in York Region as a whole as well as in all local municipalities.
- Between 2006 and 2016 in York Region for the population aged 25 to 64 years in census families with at least one child aged 0 to 12 years:
 - The percentage with no high school certificate, diploma or degree decreased from 6.9% to 5.7%. In 2016, 8.3% of the total* population aged 25 to 64 years had less than high school certification
 - The percentage with a secondary school diploma or equivalency certificate decreased from 20.1% to 16.6%. In 2016, 21.8% of the total* population aged 25 to 64 years had a high school education
 - The percentage with post-secondary education below the level of bachelor degree decreased from 35.0% to 27.4%. In 2016, 28.6% of the total* population aged 25 to 64 years had college or trades education
 - The percentage with a university certificate, diploma or degree at the bachelor level or above increased from 38.1% to 50.3%. In 2016, 41.3% of the total* population aged 25 to 64 years achieved this level of education
- Between 2006 and 2016 in the local municipalities, for the population aged 25 to 64 years in census families with at least one child aged 0 to 12 years:
 - The percentage with a university certificate, diploma or degree at the bachelor level or above increased in all local municipalities
 - The percentage with no high school certificate increased in The City of Markham and The Town of Aurora but decreased in all other local municipalities
 - The percentages for the other two categories decreased in all local municipalities

* Including all families, not just those in census families with at least one child aged 0 to 12 years

Service Planning Considerations

Along with many other factors such as income, physical environments, culture and social supports, levels of family education can impact children's early learning and development.



FINANCIAL SECURITY

Why are these data important?

York Region is home to a large number of working families; however, income growth is not keeping pace with the cost of living (Regional Municipality of York, 2018e). The number of children living in low income families continues to increase. Research shows that people who are living in low income, have precarious employment or are unemployed may face other barriers, such as mental or physical health issues or challenges participating in their communities (Gardner, B., Barnes, S., & the Social Assistance Review Health Working Group, 2011).

Considering data regarding the financial security of families and the prevalence of children living in low income across the Region is necessary when planning programs and services that help them contribute to the economy and promote their independence.

POPULATION LIVING IN LOW INCOME

Growing numbers of children aged 0 to 12 years in York Region are living in low income

- In 2015*, 14.0% of children aged 0 to 12 years in York Region were living in low income, or about 23,250 children (based on the Low Income Measure After Tax, or LIM-AT**)
- This represents an increase of 35.6% since 2005 in the number of children aged 0 to 12 years living in low income (about 6,110 children)
- In comparison, 12.0% of total population in census families with at least one child 0 to 12 years (including all age groups) was living in low income in 2015, representing an increase of 51.7% (or about 45,145) since 2005
- The percentage (or prevalence) of children aged 0 to 12 years living in low income has increased by 2.6% between 2005 and 2015. The prevalence for the total population has increased by 2.1%
- The geographic distribution across York Region of children aged 0 to 12 years living in low income in York Region 2015 is shown by CT in the following map

Service Planning Considerations

As the number of children living in low income continues to grow, there will be an increased need for access and affordability of services in the child care and early years system.

* For the 2016 Census, the reference period for all income variables is the 2015 calendar year (Statistics Canada)

** In 2015, the low income threshold for a family of four in York Region was just over \$44,000 a year. See glossary for detailed definition

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York Region Children Aged 0 to 12 Years Living in Low Income (LIM-AT) by Census Tract

2016 Census, Custom Tabulation

Legend

Number of children aged 0 to 12 years *

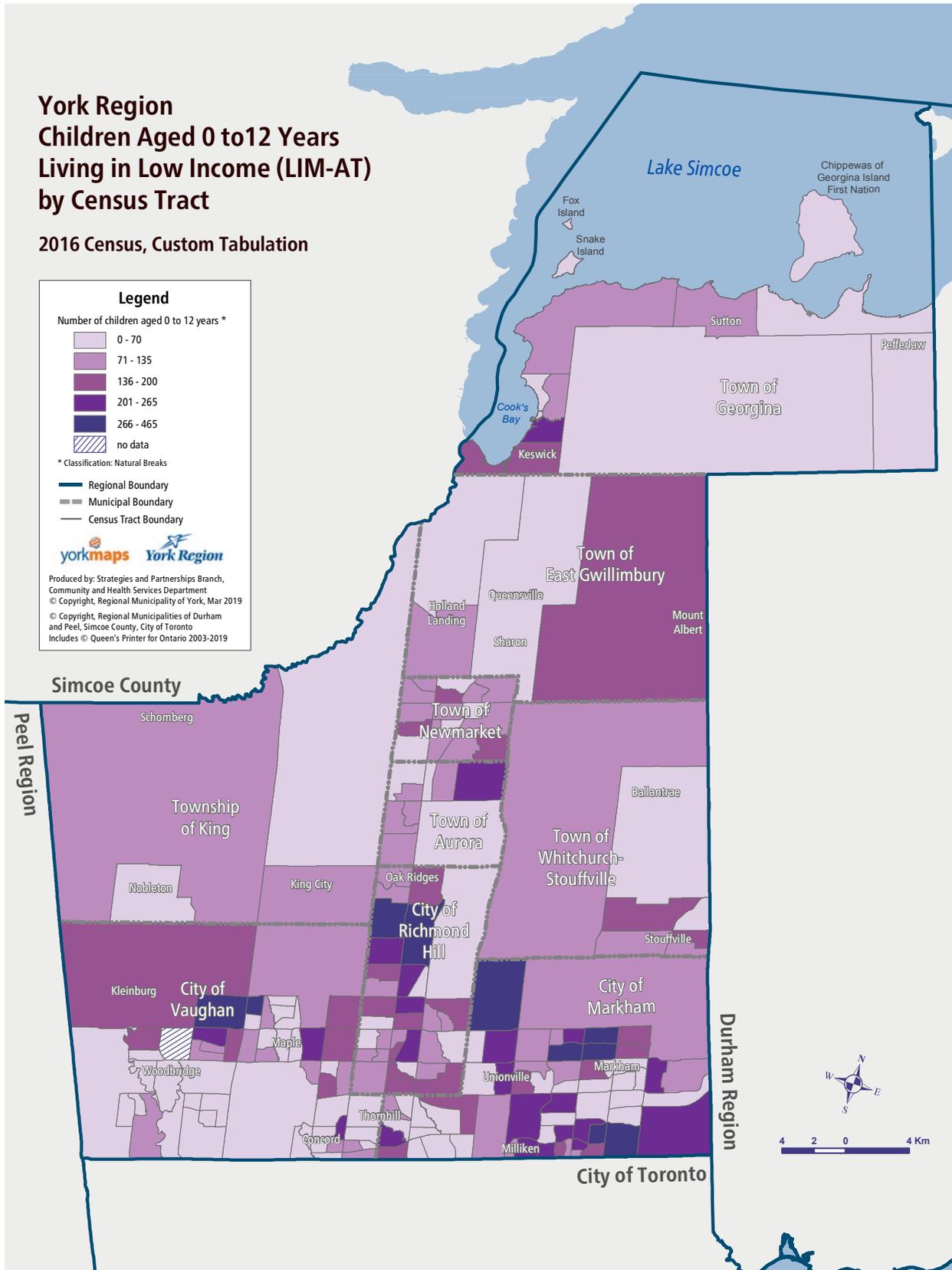
- 0 - 70
- 71 - 135
- 136 - 200
- 201 - 265
- 266 - 465
- no data

* Classification: Natural Breaks

- Regional Boundary
- Municipal Boundary
- Census Tract Boundary

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Since 2006, the largest increases in numbers of children aged 0 to 12 years living in low income occurred in the southern areas of the Region

- Between 2005 and 2015 in the local municipalities:
 - o The largest increases in numbers of children aged 0 to 12 years living in low income occurred in The City of Markham, The City of Vaughan and The City of Richmond Hill (2,375, 1,100 and 1095 children, respectively)
 - o The only decrease in the number of children aged 0 to 12 years living in low income occurred in The Town of Georgina (-70 children)
- In 2015, the percentage (or prevalence) of children aged 0 to 12 years living in low income:
 - o Was highest in The Cities of Markham and Richmond Hill, and The Town of Georgina (17.9%, 17.4% and 13.8%, respectively)
 - o Was lowest in The Township of King and The Town of East Gwillimbury (8.9% and 9.7%, respectively)
- In all nine local municipalities the percentage (or prevalence) of children aged 0 to 12 years living in low income was higher than that for the total local municipal population

Children Aged 0 to 12 Years Living in Low Income (LIM-AT*), York Region, 2015

	Number (#) Living in Low Income, 2015	Change in Number (#) from 2005 to 2015	Percentage (%) Living in Low Income, 2015	
			0 to 12 Years	Total Population
York Region	23,250	6,110	14.0	12.0
Markham	8,560	2,375	17.9	15.1
Richmond Hill	4,700	1,095	17.4	15.9
Georgina	890	-70	13.8	11.3
Newmarket	1,625	480	12.9	10.0
Aurora	985	350	11.9	8.9
Vaughan	5,005	1,100	10.2	8.8
Whitchurch-Stouffville	815	480	10.1	8.2
East Gwillimbury	340	175	9.7	7.2
King	335	125	8.9	7.5

Source: Statistics Canada, 2006 and 2016 Censuses, Custom Tabulations

* Low Income Measure After Tax

Note: the York Region totals include the numbers for Chippewas of Georgina Island First Nation (not shown on the chart)

EMPLOYMENT

Employment rates* have remained relatively constant over the past decade

- In 2016, for the population aged 15 years and older in census families with at least one child aged 0 to 12 years:
 - The unemployment rate in York Region was about 5.2%, up from 4.5% in 2006. For the total population in York Region as a whole, the unemployment rate in 2016 was 6.4%
 - Unemployment rates were lower than the York Region average in six of the nine local municipalities:
 - Unemployment rates were lowest in The Town of Aurora (4.4%) and The Township of King (3.2%)
 - Unemployment rates were highest in The Town of Georgina (5.8%), The City of Markham (5.6%) and The City of Richmond Hill (5.5%)
- There were 9,080 unemployed residents in 2016, of which 76.2% lived in The Cities of Markham, Vaughan and Richmond Hill
 - Only in Aurora has the number of unemployed residents decreased since 2006

* The percentage of those in the labour force that is unemployed (Statistics Canada)

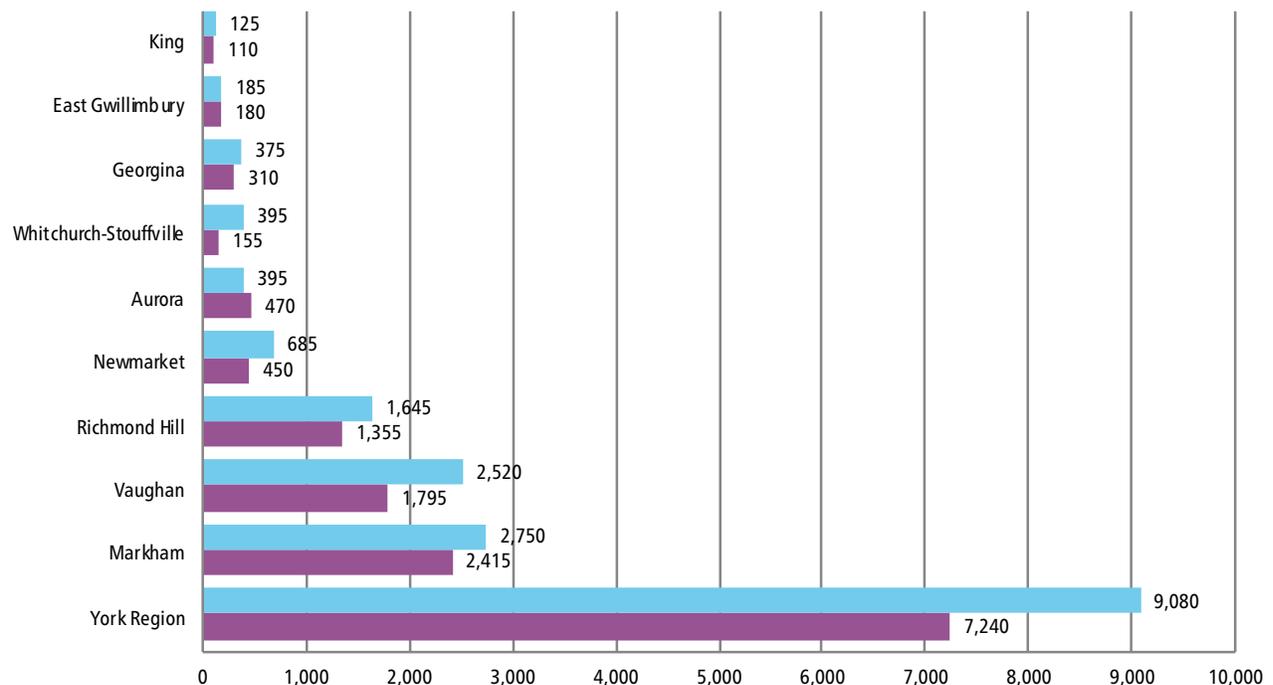


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Number of Unemployed in the Population 15 Years and Over in Census Families With at Least One Child 0 to 12 Years by York Region Local Municipality, 2006 and 2016



	York Region	Markham	Vaughan	Richmond Hill	Newmarket	Aurora	Whitchurch-Stouffville	Georgina	East Gwillimbury	King
# 2016	9,080	2,750	2,520	1,645	685	395	395	375	185	125
% 2016	5.2	5.6	4.8	5.5	5.1	4.4	4.7	5.8	4.9	3.2
# 2006	7,240	2,415	1,795	1,355	450	470	155	310	180	110
% 2006	4.5	5.6	3.7	4.7	3.3	4.9	4.0	4.2	4.8	3.2

Sources: Statistics Canada, 2006 and 2016 Censuses, Custom Tabulations

Note: totals for York Region include Chippewas of Georgina Island First Nation (not shown on the chart)

CHILD CARE SERVICES

York Region supports families living with low or moderate incomes to afford licensed child care so they can work or attend school

- York Region administers provincially-funded child care fee subsidy to families living with low and moderate incomes. This allows children to access and benefit from licensed child care and their parents to work or attend school
- Child care centres are licensed on an annual basis by the Ministry of Education under the *Child Care and Early Years Act, 2014* and are dispersed across York Region

Service Planning Considerations

In 2013, the Province of Ontario introduced a new funding formula for child care that responds to local needs. As a result, York Region has been able to help more children and families access licensed child care.

Should the funding formula or provincial investment change, there is the potential risk for families living in low or moderate incomes to face challenges affording licensed child care.

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- Some licensed child care centres also offer Before & After School programs to support school-aged children

The numbers of children and families receiving child care fee subsidy increased with provincial investments

- In 2018, 10,907 children living in low or moderate income received child care fee subsidy to allow them to access licensed child care. This was an increase of 1,083 children since the previous year. Between 2012 and 2018, the number of children receiving child care fee subsidy increased by 5,508 representing an increase of 102%
- As of December 31, 2018, there were 763 families with an immediate need for child care waiting for service. Since 2012, this represents a decrease in the waitlist of 83% or 3,778 children
- 3,738 children receiving child care fee subsidy were in families with incomes of \$40,000 or less (April, 2018)

Families receiving child care fee subsidy can access the majority of licensed child care centres in York Region

- There are 534 licensed child care centres across the Region. Of these, families receiving child care fee subsidy can access 89% or 476 licensed child care centres (June, 2018)
- There are 174 licensed child care centres delivering dedicated Before & After School programs in York Region. Of these, families receiving child care fee subsidy can access 99% or 173 dedicated Before & After School programs (January, 2019)

Due to the Region's growth and development, there are areas where families may experience challenges accessing licensed child care

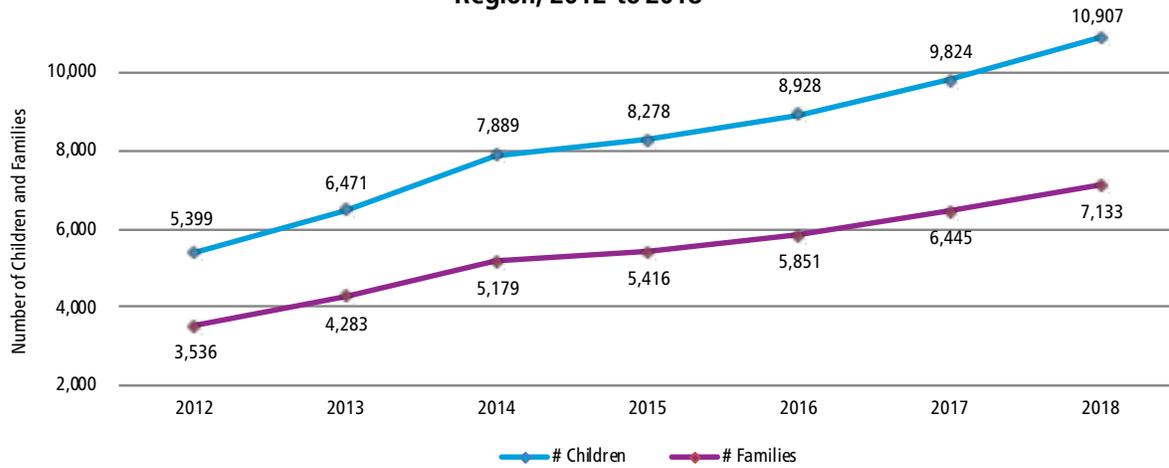
- There are areas in the Region where capacity in the licensed child care system has not kept pace with the overall number of children requiring care. For example, since 2011 the greatest percentage increases in the population of children aged 0 to 12 years occurred in The Township of King and The Town of Whitchurch-Stouffville; yet large areas of these municipalities have limited licensed child care centres, and no dedicated Before & After School programs
- Families may find care for their children through unlicensed child care or other caregivers so they can return to work or attend school, but these options are not eligible for fee subsidy
- The geographic distribution across York Region of licensed child care centres including Before & After School programs is shown by CT in the following map



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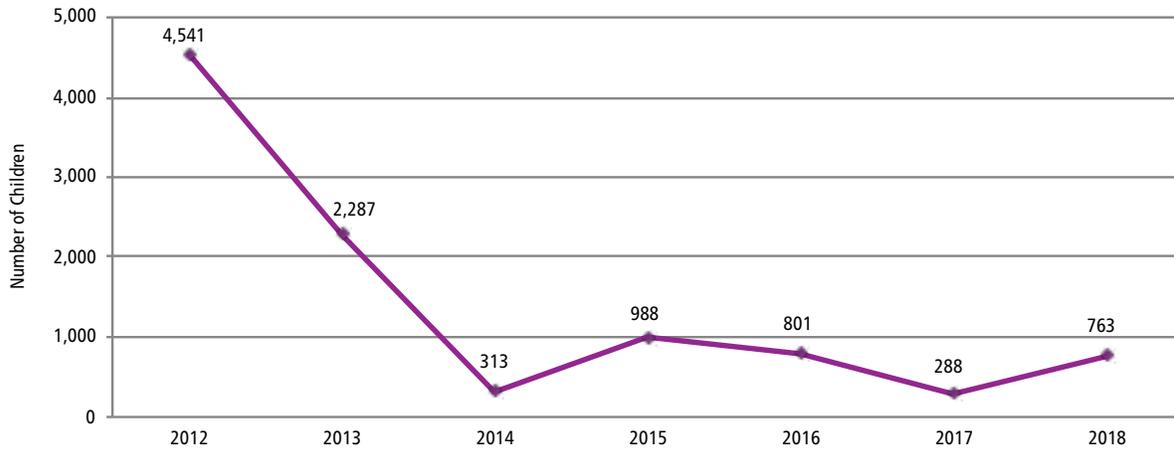
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Numbers of Children and Families that Received Child Care Fee Subsidy, York Region, 2012 to 2018



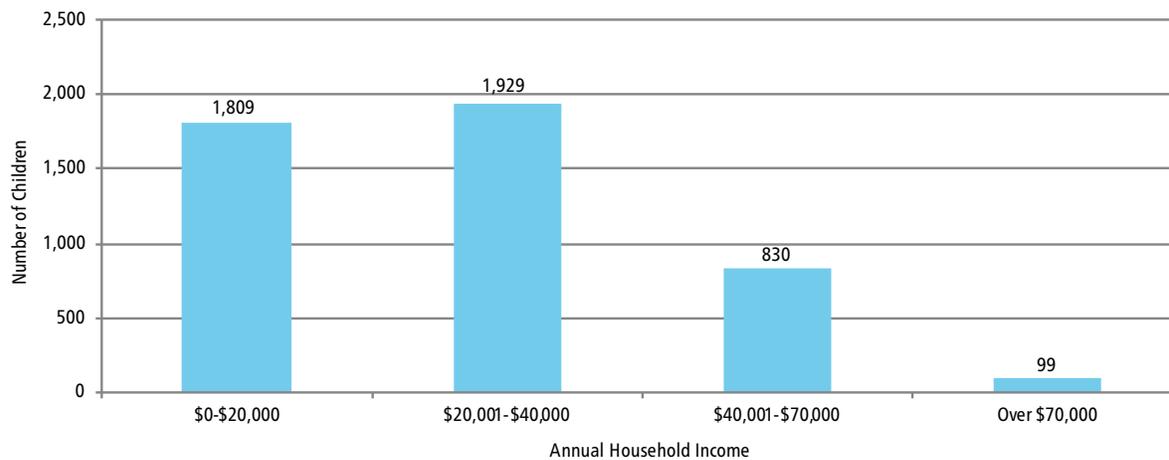
Source: OCCMS, 2019

Number of Children with an Immediate Need on the Waitlist for Child Care Fee Subsidy, York Region, 2012 to 2018 (as of December 31)



Source: OCCMS, 2019

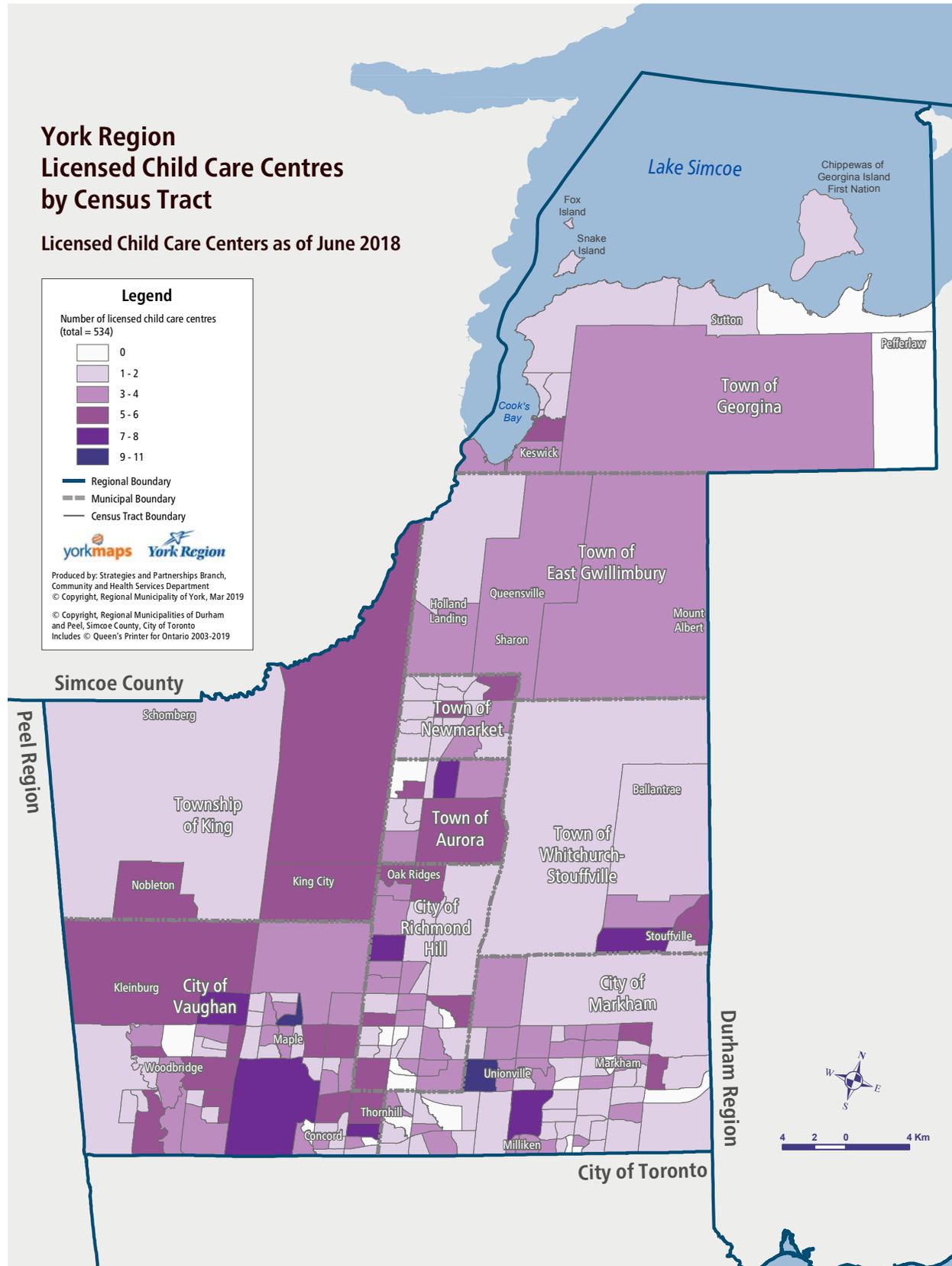
Number of Children Receiving Fee Subsidy by Annual Household Income, York Region (as of April 2018)



Source: OCCMS, 2018

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CHILDREN'S COMMUNITY PROGRAMS

York Region supports children and families living with low income to access recreation programs and participate in their communities

- **Summer day camp subsidies** for children aged 4 to 13 years in families in receipt of financial support. This program is delivered in partnership with recreation departments in all nine local municipalities to provide children living in low income with access to summer camp
- **Youth leadership camp subsidies** for youth aged 11 to 16 years to receive a one week overnight camp experience to learn life skills, problem solving and social skill development
- **After-School Programs in Social Housing** to support the academic, social, emotional and physical health of children and youth who live in four of York Region's social housing sites. This includes homework support, connecting youth to volunteer opportunities so they can complete community service hours required in high school, and supporting youth to find and apply for post-secondary programs
- **The Positive Leisure Activities for Youth (PLAY) Program** for children aged 4 to 18 years and single parents to access municipal recreation programs, delivered in partnership with all nine local municipalities. Funding is also available to support children so they can participate in Aquatic Leadership Programs so they can access higher-level swim training and develop the necessary skills to get jobs as lifeguards

Community and recreation programs help build confidence and life skills in children and youth

- Recreation includes a wide variety of physical activity, as well as artistic, intellectual or social activity. Research shows that recreation can foster life skills for success at school, work and home, improve self-esteem and resilience, create positive peer and family relationships and promote physical health (Ontario Task Group on Access to Recreation for Low-Income Families, 2009)
- In 2018, 681 children received subsidy to attend summer camp and 79 youth received subsidy to attend youth leadership camp. Of the youth that participated in the leadership camp, 59 completed a survey:
 - o 88% (52) reported that they learned a new skill or developed a new interest
 - o 81% (48) reported increased self-confidence as a result of the youth leadership camp
- In 2018, 194 children and youth were supported to build life skills and confidence through After-School Programs in Social Housing. Of these:
 - o 87% (169) reported they have had a positive life change
 - o 76% (148) self-reported feeling supported with their homework
- In 2018, 2,556 people benefitted from the PLAY Program
 - o After applications for the PLAY Program closed, York Region received 155 inquiries on average between spring 2016 and spring 2018 from families interested in the program
 - o As a result, York Region invested in the PLAY Program.

Service Planning Considerations

York Region has made investments so children living in low income families can benefit from recreation programs their families would otherwise be unable to afford.

However, the need for increased physical activity goes beyond children living in low income as only 9% of Canadian children get 60 minutes of daily physical activity (*ParticipACTION, 2018*).

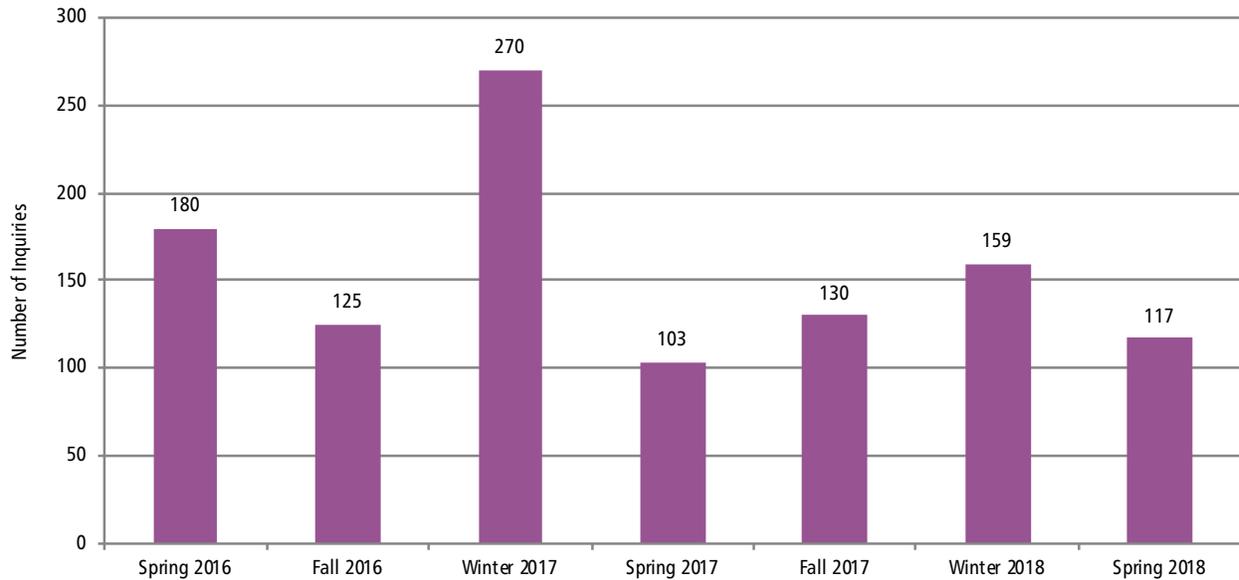
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In 2019, there will be an additional 492 subsidies available each year, or about 164 subsidies per season

**Number of Inquiries Received After PLAY Application Closed,
York Region, 2016 to 2018**



Source: PLAY Program Data, 2018

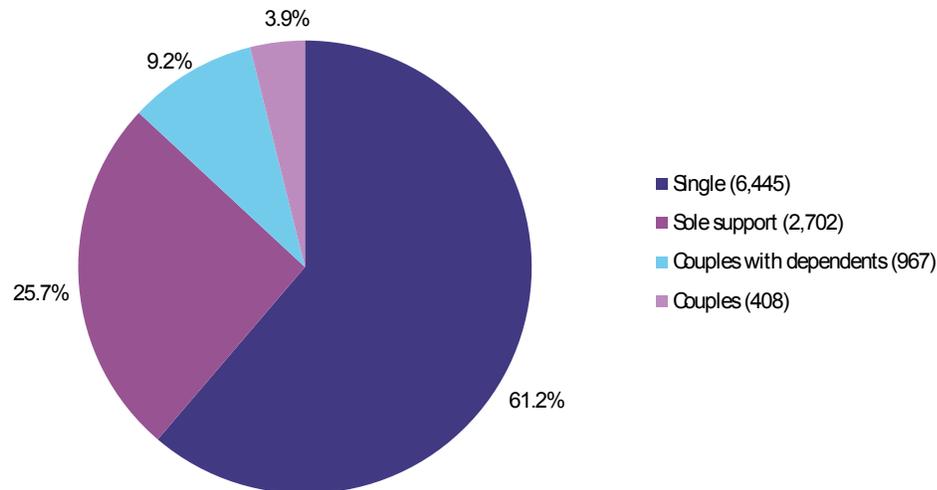
ONTARIO WORKS

York Region helps residents afford basic needs and promotes their independence

- As service administrator, York Region provides Ontario Works benefits to help residents, including families, afford basic living costs while supporting them to become financially independent
 - o In 2018, the total number of Ontario Works cases for the year was 10,522. Of these, 3,669 cases were families with children* (2,702 sole support and 967 couples with dependents), representing 35% of total Ontario Works cases
 - o In 2018, there were a total of 5,013 children aged 0 to 12 years in families receiving Ontario Works benefits for the year. Of these, 2,793 were aged 0 to 6 years, and 2,220 were aged 7 to 12 years



Share of Ontario Works Cases by Family Type, York Region, 2018



Source: Ontario Works Caseload at a Glance, 2019

- Young parents receiving Ontario Works benefits can get extra support through the Learning, Earning and Parenting (LEAP) Program. This program helps young parents to complete school, get employment experience, afford licensed child care and improve their parenting skills while receiving financial assistance through Ontario Works
 - o In 2018, 94 young parents received support through the LEAP Program to assist in areas such as affording school supplies, educational assistance, or accessing child care with no user fees

* Refers to children aged 0 to 18+ years

York Region is monitoring a recent increase in families with children accessing Ontario Works benefits

- For the month of December 2018, there were 2,450 Ontario Works cases with families with children*. For the month of December 2017, there were 2,107 cases with families with children. This represents a 16% increase in the number of cases with families with children, while the total number of Ontario Works cases increased by 12% (from 5,753 cases for the month of December 2017 to 6,423 cases for the month of December 2018)
 - o The number of cases with families with children aged 5 years and younger increased by 12% (from 1,011 for the month of December 2017 to 1,121 for the month of December 2018)
 - o The number of cases with families with children aged 6 to 12 years increased by 24% (from 667 for the month of December 2017 to 829 for the month of December 2018)
- It is important to continue monitoring this increase and understand the causes for this change to support service planning for families

* Refers to children aged 0 to 18+ years

HOME OWNERSHIP AND AFFORDABILITY

The vast majority of households own their home

- In 2016 in York Region:
 - 88.2% of private households* with at least one child aged 0 to 12 years (90,050 of 102,095 households) were home owners, down from 91.1% in 2006. This compares with a rate of home ownership of 85.8% in 2016 for the total population (all private households)
- In 2016, of private households with at least one child aged 0 to 12 years in the local municipalities:
 - The Town of Whitchurch-Stouffville, The Township of King and The Town of East Gwillimbury had the highest percentages of home ownership (92.5%, 92.2%, and 9.16%, respectively) and the lowest rates of tenancy
 - The Towns of Newmarket and Georgina had the lowest percentages of home ownership (83.0% and 83.5%, respectively) and the highest percentages of tenancy

* Includes private non-farm non-reserve households with household income greater than or equal to zero (Statistics Canada)

Increasing numbers of households are spending one third or more of their household income on shelter costs*

According to the Canadian Mortgage and Housing Corporation, spending 30% or more of pre-tax household income on shelter costs exceeds the “affordability threshold” (Canadian Mortgage and Housing Corporation, 2018).

- In 2016 in York Region, of private households** with at least one child aged 0 to 12 years:
 - 51.8% of tenant households spent 30% or more of their household income on gross rent, up from 47.9% in 2006 (comparable to the rate of 51.6% for all tenant households in York Region). This reflects the rising costs and affordability of rental accommodations in York Region
 - 30.9% of owner households spent 30% or more of their household income on owner’s major payments, down from 31.3% in 2006. This compares with 28.0% of the total owner households in York Region

* Shelter costs for owners include utilities, mortgage payments, property taxes and other municipal services; shelter costs for tenants include rent, utilities and other municipal services (Statistics Canada)

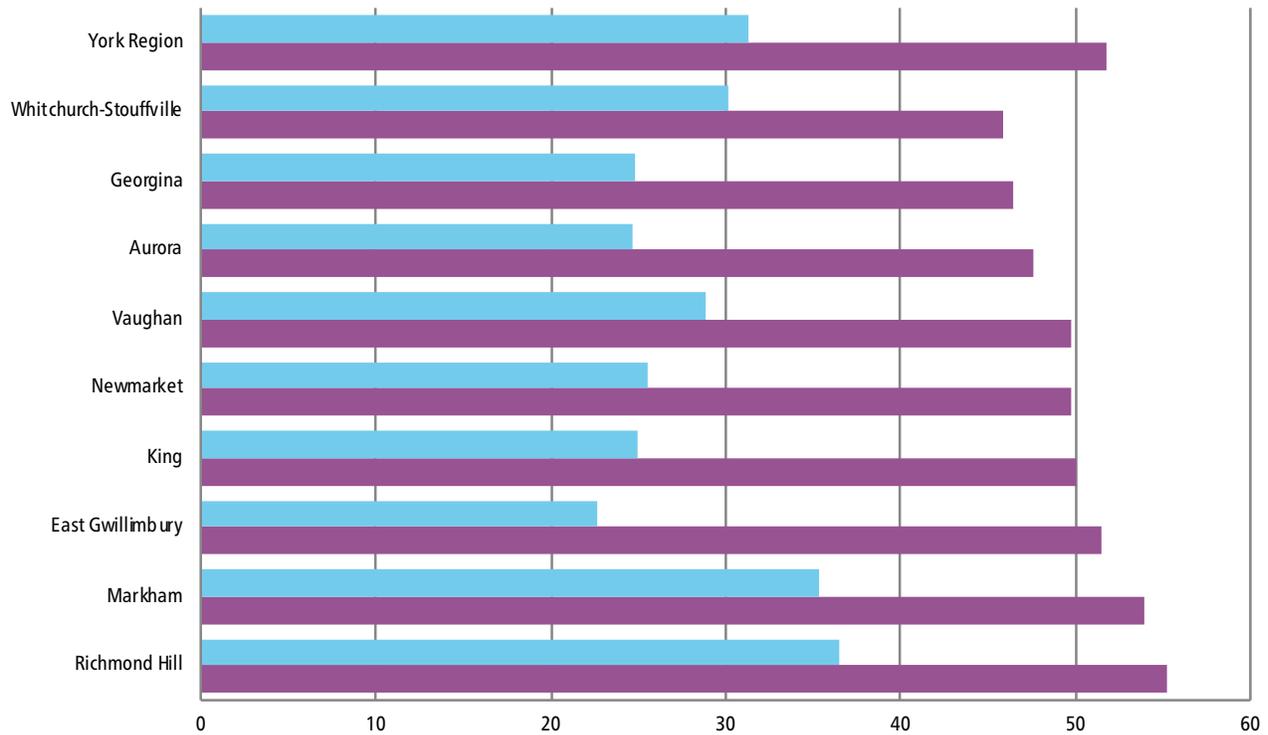
** Includes private non-farm non-reserve households with household income greater than or equal to zero (Statistics Canada)

- In 2016 in the local municipalities, of private households with at least one child aged 0 to 12 years:
 - The City of Richmond Hill has both the highest percentage of tenants and the highest percentage of home owners spending 30% or more of their household income on gross rent or owner’s major payments (55.3% and 36.5%, respectively)
 - The Town of Whitchurch-Stouffville has the lowest percentage of tenants spending 30% or more of their household income on gross rent (45.8%)
 - The Town of East Gwillimbury has the lowest percentage of home owners spending 30% or more of their household income on owner’s major payments (22.7%)

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Percentage of Owner and Tenant Households (with at Least One Child 0 to 12 Years) Spending 30% or More of Household Income on Shelter Costs by York Region Local Municipality, 2016



	Richmond Hill	Markham	East Gwillimbury	King	Newmarket	Vaughan	Aurora	Georgina	Whitchurch-Stouffville	York Region
Owners	36.5	35.4	22.7	24.9	25.6	28.9	24.7	24.8	30.2	31.3
Tenants	55.3	53.9	51.5	50.0	49.8	49.8	47.7	46.5	45.8	51.8

Sources: Statistics Canada, 2006 and 2016 Censuses, Custom Tabulations

Note: totals for York Region include Chippewas of Georgina Island First Nation (not shown on the chart)

- The geographic distribution across York Region of owner and tenant households with at least one child aged 0 to 12 years spending 30% or more of household income on shelter costs in 2016 are shown by CT in the following maps



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**York Region
Owner Households
(with at Least One Child Aged 0 to 12 Years)
Spending 30% or More of
Household Income on Shelter Costs
by Census Tract**

2016 Census, Custom Tabulation

Legend

Number of households *

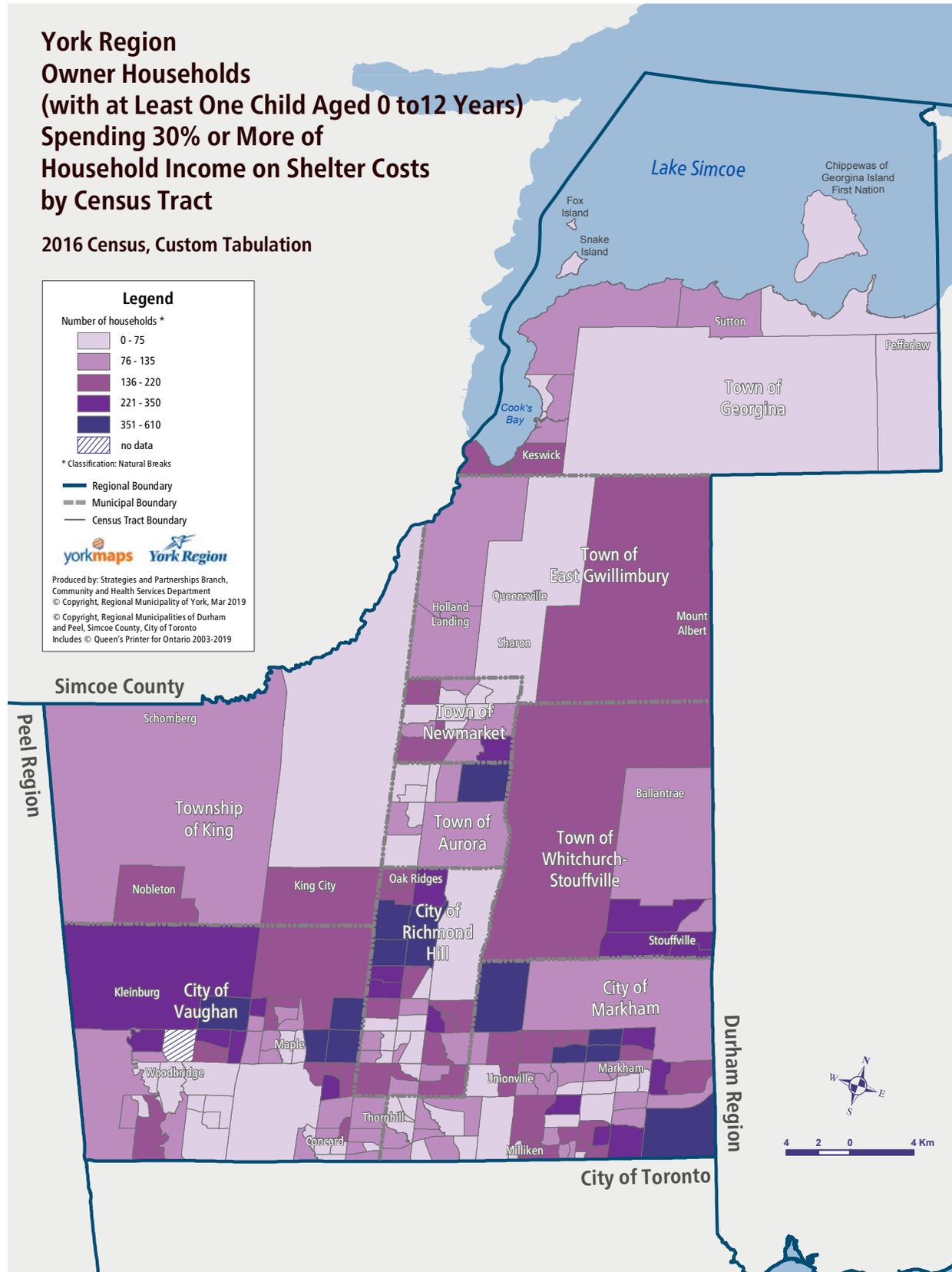
- 0 - 75
- 76 - 135
- 136 - 220
- 221 - 350
- 351 - 610
- no data

* Classification: Natural Breaks

- Regional Boundary
- Municipal Boundary
- Census Tract Boundary

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York Region Tenant Households (with at Least One Child Aged 0 to 12 Years) Spending 30% or More of Household Income on Shelter Costs by Census Tract

2016 Census, Custom Tabulation

Legend

Number of households *

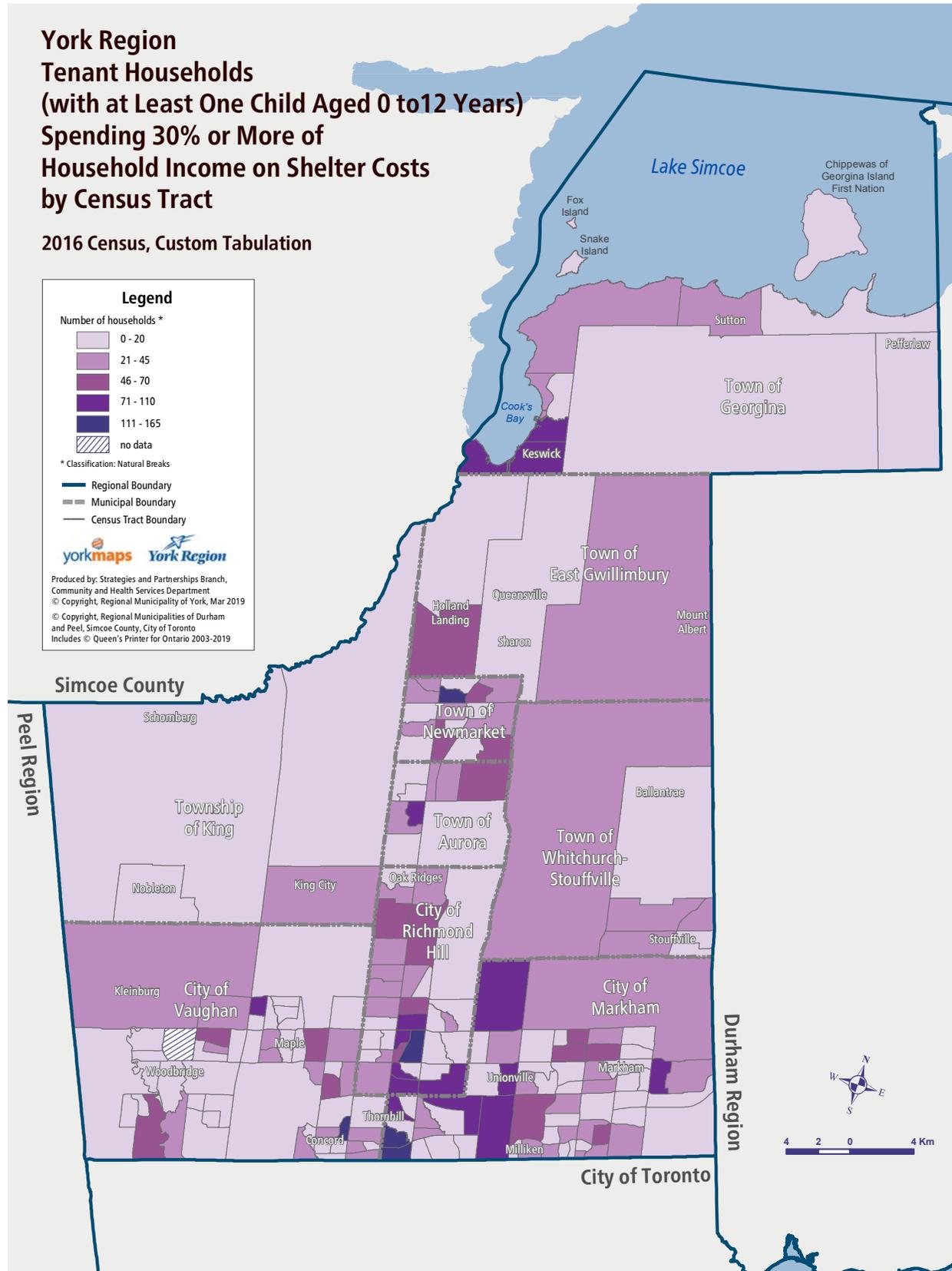
- 0 - 20
- 21 - 45
- 46 - 70
- 71 - 110
- 111 - 165
- no data

* Classification: Natural Breaks

- Regional Boundary
- Municipal Boundary
- Census Tract Boundary

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HOMELESSNESS AND HOUSING STABILITY SUPPORTS

York Region works with community partners to help residents find and/or keep stable housing

- In addition to being the Service System Manger for the child care and early years system, York Region is also the Service System Manager for housing and homelessness services
- In this role, York Region works with community partners to provide support to residents, including families, who may be experiencing a crisis to help them get back on their feet as quickly as possible

When experiencing a housing crisis, families can receive financial and wraparound supports to help them become stable

- York Region provides financial and wraparound supports to people at risk of or experiencing homelessness in a number of ways, including through the Housing Stability Program. This helps them obtain and/or retain their housing
- In 2017, there were 1,260 children* in the families that received assistance from the Housing Stability Program

* Refers to children aged 0 to 18 years

Families experiencing homelessness can access emergency housing; however, emergency housing operates at or near capacity

- Families experiencing homelessness can access Emergency and Transitional Housing through Leeder Place Family Shelter. Leeder Place provides emergency housing, meals, programs and community connections to help families find and keep safe housing.
- Leeder Place Family Shelter operates at or near capacity. In 2017, the occupancy rate was 99%
- In 2017, 192 unique children were supported through Leeder Place Family Shelter. Since 2015, this represents an increase of 53% or 66 children**. In 2018, children aged 0 to 16 years comprised 37% of the total individuals served through Leeder Place Family Shelter

** Refers to children aged 0 to 16 years; data not included for 2018 due to shift from Homeless Individuals and Families Information System (HIFIS) 3.8 to HIFIS 4.0 database

Service Planning Considerations

In 2018, 3 children at Leeder Place participated in summer camp programs. Recognizing that transportation was a barrier, The Town of East Gwillimbury provided free busing in 2019, allowing 22 children to attend camp.



CHILD DEVELOPMENT AND EARLY LEARNING

Why are these data important?

The early years (ages 0 to 6 years) represent the most significant period of growth and development throughout life. Early childhood experiences and the quality of stimulation in a child's early environment are important factors that impact child development. High-quality early learning experiences positively contribute to children's overall health and well-being, with the positive effects lasting throughout their lives (Ministry of Education, 2017).

Considering data related to child development and early learning is important because it helps us understand areas in which children may require additional support to promote their future success in education, the workplace and their communities and inform program planning.

EARLY DEVELOPMENT INSTRUMENT

The Early Development Instrument (EDI) is a community-based population measure of young children's developmental health and early learning

- The EDI assesses young children's collective developmental health and early learning at the neighbourhood level to determine how well communities are supporting young children and their families. The EDI:
 - o Is a questionnaire that senior kindergarten teachers complete for all children in their classrooms (individual scores are aggregated and reported at the population level)
 - o Is based on developmental rather than curriculum benchmarks
 - o Assesses five general areas, or domains, of child development: physical health and well-being, social competence, emotional maturity, language and cognitive development and communication skills and general knowledge

"Scoring low" (or EDI vulnerability) is the most widely used EDI measure

- EDI results are categorized according to how children score in each of the five developmental domains:
 - o "on track" children scoring at or above the 25th percentile
 - o "at risk" children scoring between the 10th and 25th percentiles
 - o "vulnerable" children scoring in the lowest 10th percentile (*"scoring low"*)
- The EDI has been implemented in York Region every three years between 2003 and 2018, with results for 2015 being the most recent available data at this time (in 2003, York Region participated as a demonstration site)
- Results for the *"scoring low"* measure from the five EDI implementations in York Region are shown in the chart below. Trends in *"scoring low"* for each EDI domain as well in one or more domain are provided. The Ontario Baseline for *"scoring low"* in one or more domain is also shown

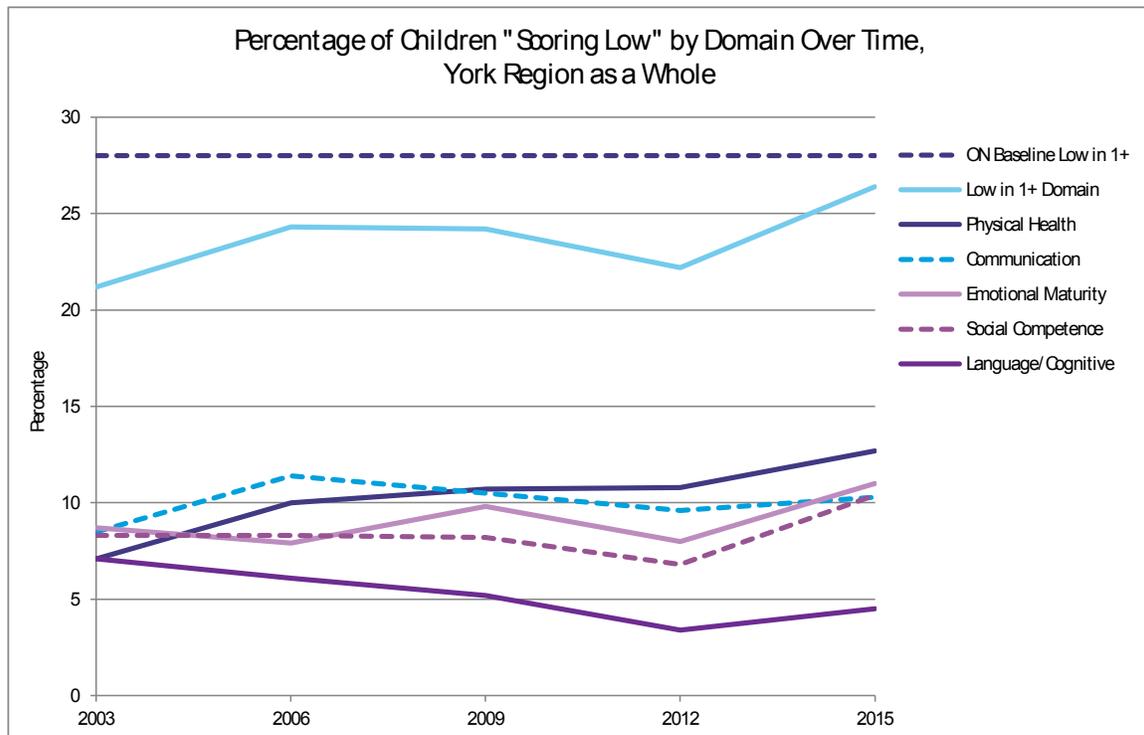
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on the chart. This baseline includes results for all children surveyed in Ontario in Cycle 1* and provides a reference point from which to compare local results

- A decrease in the percentage of children “scoring low” represents a positive change or trend**, indicating an improvement in children’s performance



Sources: York Region Early Development Instrument (2003, 2006, 2009, 2012, 2015)

Historically, children in York Region have scored well in terms of early learning and developmental health compared to children in Ontario as a whole

- For all EDI implementations in York Region, the percentage of children “scoring low” in one or more domain was lower than the Ontario baseline, as well as the provincial average for each EDI cycle
- In addition, for all EDI domains across all four EDI cycles, the percentages of children “scoring low” in York Region were lower than Ontario as a whole
- This indicates that children in York Region have performed well over time compared to children across the province
- Results for York Region and Ontario as a whole for the four EDI cycles are shown in the following chart

* The EDI has been implemented in Ontario since 2004 on a three-year cycle, with different communities implementing each year. In 2015, implementation was conducted province-wide. Cycle 1 includes years 2004 through 2006, Cycle 2 years 2007 through 2009, Cycle 3 years 2010 through 2012, and Cycle 4 in 2015. York Region has implemented on the last year of each cycle.

** A trend is considered to have occurred if changes continue in an upward or downward direction over several implementations (or points in time), whereas a change occurs between two implementations.

Percentage of Children “Scoring Low” by Domain in York Region and Ontario Over Four EDI Cycles

Domain	Cycle 1 (2004-2006)		Cycle 2 (2007-2009)		Cycle 3 (2010-2012)		Cycle 4 (2015)	
	York Region (2006)	Ontario (2004-2006)	York Region (2009)	Ontario (2007-2009)	York Region (2012)	Ontario (2010-2012)	York Region (2015)	Ontario (2015)
One or more domain	24.3	28.0	24.2	28.5	22.2	27.6	26.4	29.4
Physical Health and Well-Being	10.0	12.9	10.7	14.0	10.8	14.2	12.7	16.1
Language and Cognitive Development	6.1	9.6	5.2	8.9	3.4	7.6	4.5	6.7
Emotional Maturity	7.9	10.3	9.8	10.4	8.0	10.1	11.0	12.3
Social Competence	8.3	9.3	8.2	9.2	6.8	9.1	10.4	10.7
Communication Skills and General Knowledge	11.4	12.1	10.5	12.3	9.6	11.5	10.3	10.2

Sources: York Region Early Development Instrument (2003, 2006, 2009, 2012, 2015); Offord Centre for Child Studies, 2018.

Between 2012 and 2015 a negative change was observed in York Region’s EDI results

- Between 2012 and 2015 in York Region, the percentages of children “scoring low” increased in all five developmental domains as well as in one or more domain. These increases represent negative changes
- In addition, between 2012 and 2015 in York Region, the percentage of children “scoring low” in one or more domain increased (approaching the percentage of children “scoring low” in Ontario). This also represents a negative change
- For Ontario as a whole, negative changes were also observed between Cycle 3 and Cycle 4. The percentages of children “scoring low” increased in the physical health and well-being, social competence and emotional maturity domains, as well as in one or more domain

York Region’s children have performed well in the language and cognitive development domain

- In York Region, the percentage of children “scoring low” in the language and cognitive development domain decreased continuously between 2003 and 2012, representing a positive trend. For Ontario as a whole, the percentage of children “scoring low” in the language and cognitive development domain decreased continuously over the four EDI cycles
- Across all implementations and all domains, the smallest number of children in York Region “scored low” in the language and cognitive development domain in 2012
- This positive trend reflects collective efforts (including those of all levels of government, schools, early years service providers, parents/caregivers, the community, etc.) to improve literacy and numeracy in the early years

The performance of York Region's children in the physical health and well-being domain continues to decline

- In York Region, the percentage of children "*scoring low*" in the physical health and well-being domain increased continuously between 2003 and 2015, representing a negative trend. For Ontario as a whole, the percentage of children "*scoring low*" in the physical health and well-being domain also increased continuously over the four EDI cycles
- Across all implementations and all domains, the largest number of children in York Region "*scored low*" in the physical health and well-being domain in 2015

Differences in the percentage of children "*scoring low*" in 2015 are evident at the neighbourhood level

- Neighbourhoods provide unique and varied influences that greatly impact children's early development
- York Region is divided into 64 distinct EDI neighbourhoods according to which EDI results are analyzed
- The following maps show the percentages of children "*scoring low*" in one or more EDI domain, in the language and cognitive development domain and in the physical health and well-being domain in 2015 at the neighbourhood level in York Region
- As is evident in the maps, children in some neighbourhoods need more support than in others. Increased efforts are required in these neighbourhoods to improve outcomes for young children

EDI vulnerability is impacted by many inter-related factors

- EDI results should be interpreted along with neighbourhood characteristics such as immigration patterns, languages spoken, income distribution, and education levels. Evidence has identified such characteristics as indicators of healthy child development and early learning (Janus, M et al., 2007)
 - o A link has been established between low neighbourhood income and low neighbourhood EDI scores. Similarly, neighbourhoods in which language barriers are prevalent tend to have higher percentages of children who score low in certain aspects of the EDI (such as communication skills and general knowledge, the domain most sensitive to language and immigration patterns)
- One indicator in the EDI is the percentage of English Language Learners (ELL). These are students in provincially-funded English language schools in Ontario whose first language is not English (or is a variety of English that is significantly different from the variety used for instruction in Ontario's schools) and who may require focused educational supports to help them attain proficiency in English

Service Planning Considerations

It is important to analyze the EDI data within the context of other available sources of information (including socio-economic and demographic data and additional community statistics) to obtain a more comprehensive understanding of neighbourhood characteristics that may impact EDI results.

EDI results can help inform program and system planning for young children and their families

- EDI results, along with other data relevant to young children, can assist in program and service planning as well as the identification of strategies and interventions to support children's learning and development
- York Region used EDI results, along with current and projected child population data, to inform new EarlyON Child and Family Centre locations and where EarlyON services should be expanded through increased hours of operation
- The following questions should be considered when interpreting neighbourhood EDI results (Regional Municipality of York, 2014):
 - What factors have contributed to changes in the EDI results over time (i.e. changing demographics and socio-economic characteristics, program changes and/or service changes)?
 - What is available in a neighbourhood that contributes to the well-being of young children?
 - What else might be needed in a neighbourhood that would improve outcomes for young children?
 - Are any changes required to existing programs and services that would have a positive impact?

Service Planning Considerations

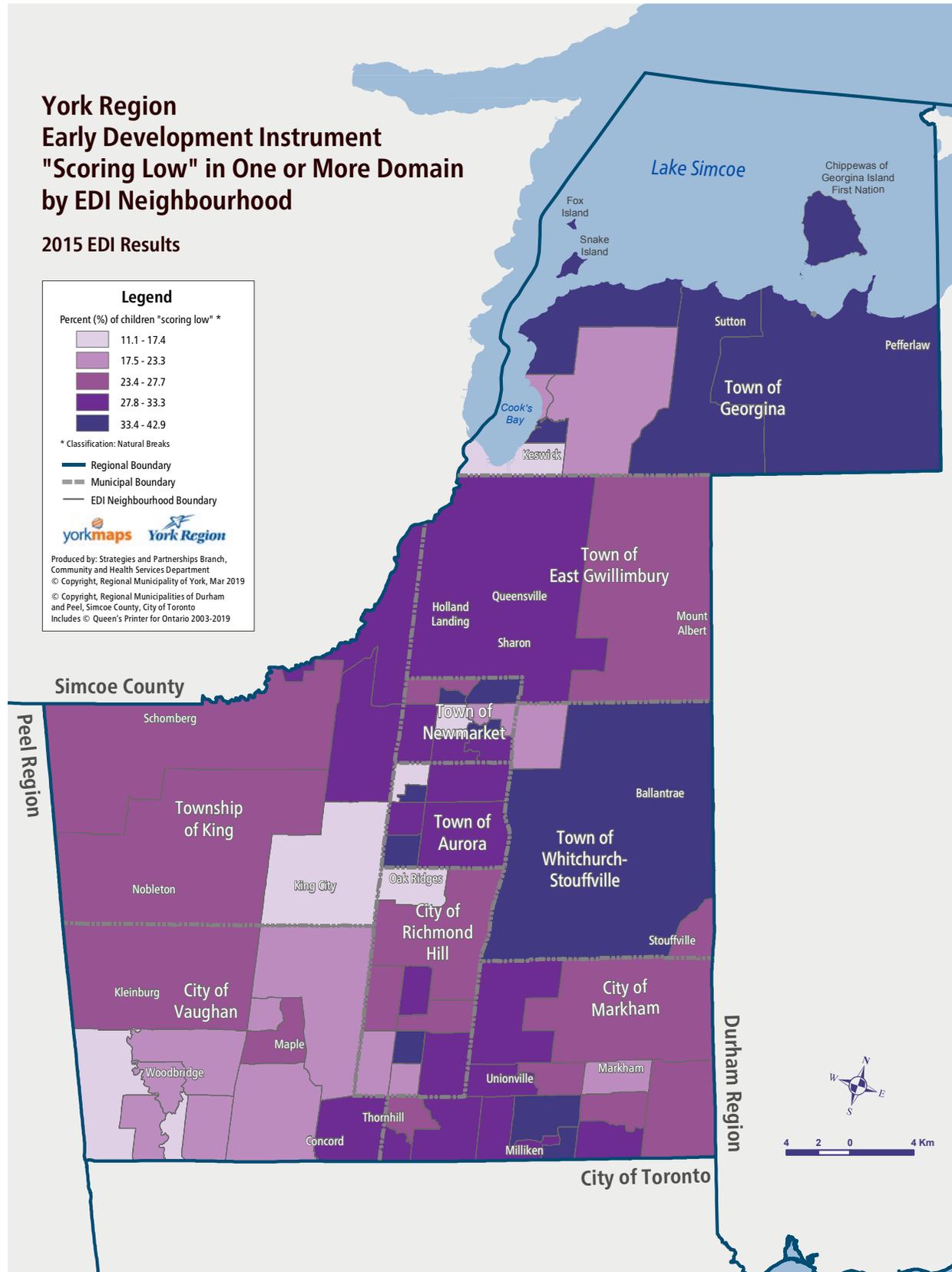
Between 2012 and 2015, a negative change was observed in the "scoring low" measure of York Region's Early Development Instrument results.

It is important to use this information for planning programs and services that support child development, such as EarlyON Child and Family Centres.



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York Region Early Development Instrument "Scoring Low" in the Language/Cognitive Development Domain by EDI Neighbourhood

2015 EDI Results

Legend

Percent (%) of children "scoring low" *

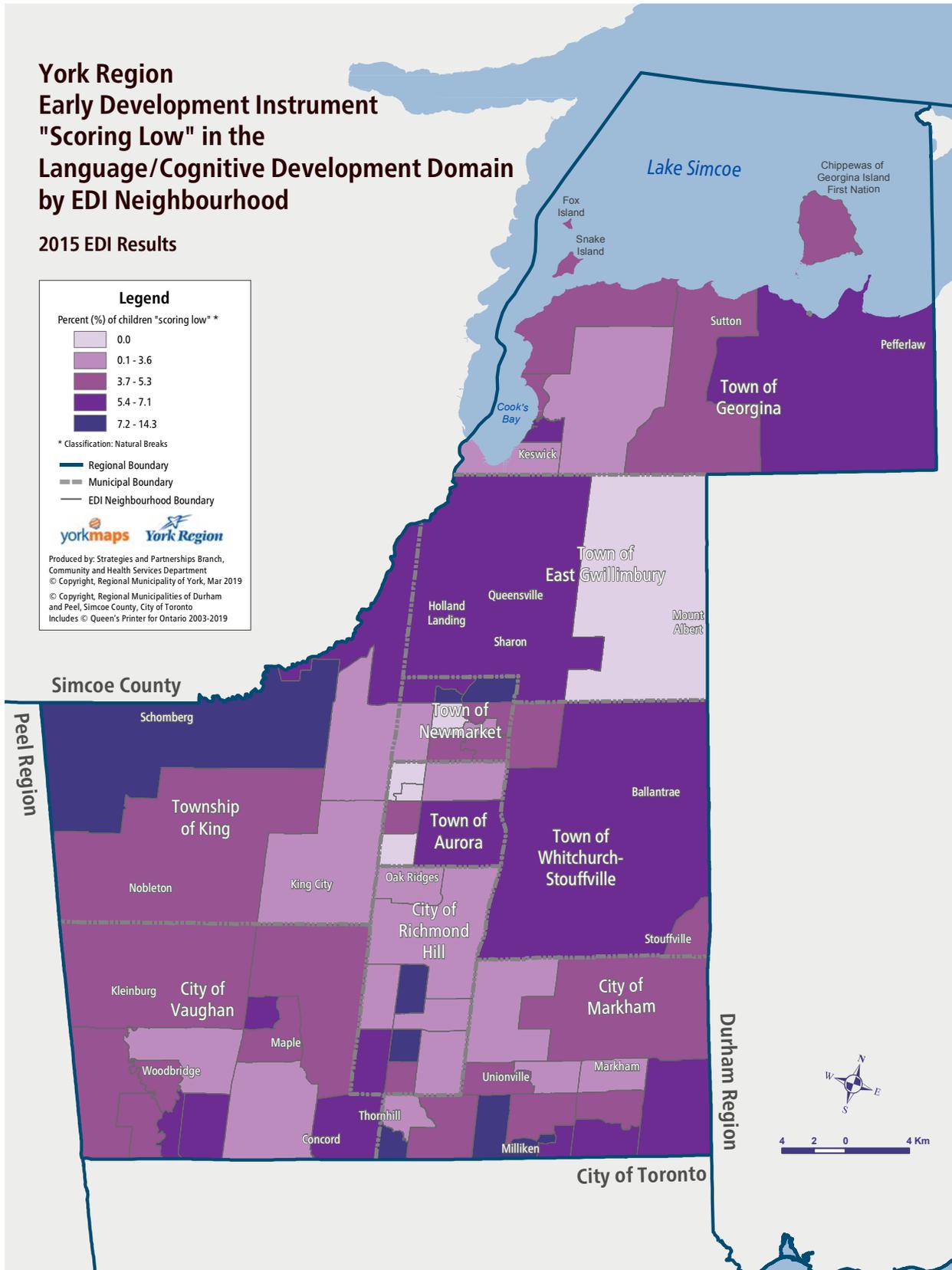
0.0
0.1 - 3.6
3.7 - 5.3
5.4 - 7.1
7.2 - 14.3

* Classification: Natural Breaks

- Regional Boundary
- Municipal Boundary
- EDI Neighbourhood Boundary

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York Region Early Development Instrument "Scoring Low" in the Physical Health and Well-Being Domain by EDI Neighbourhood

2015 EDI Results

Legend

Percent (%) of children "scoring low" *

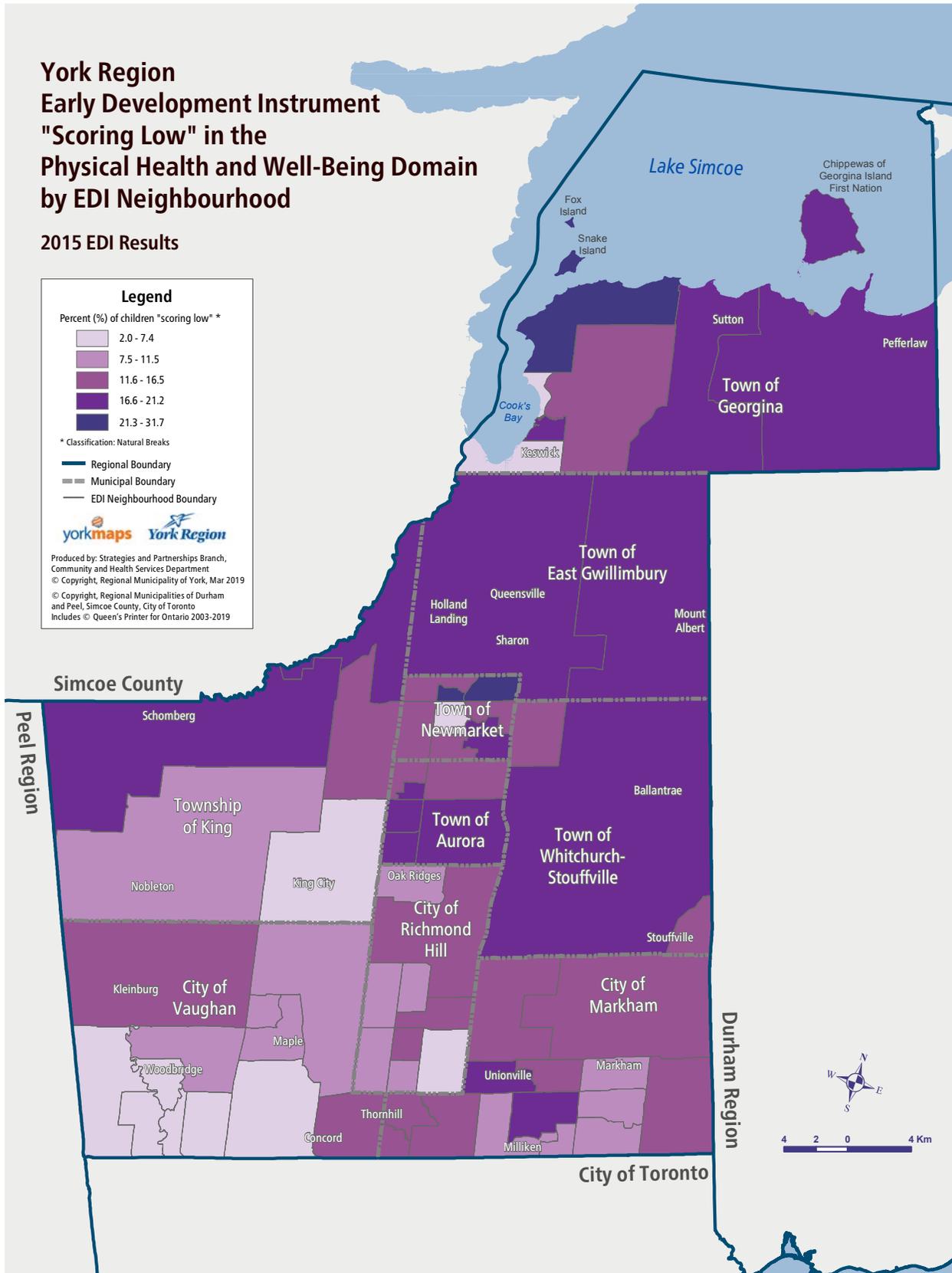
- 2.0 - 7.4
- 7.5 - 11.5
- 11.6 - 16.5
- 16.6 - 21.2
- 21.3 - 31.7

* Classification: Natural Breaks

- Regional Boundary
- Municipal Boundary
- EDI Neighbourhood Boundary

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PHYSICAL HEALTH AND DEVELOPMENT

The importance of physical activity has become a topic of significant focus in recent years

- The 2018 National ParticipACTION report card (ParticipACTION, 2018) highlights the importance of physical activity and how detrimental the lack of physical activity can be for physical health, quality of sleep, ability to concentrate and overall mental health. National findings include:
 - o Only 9% of children across Canada get 60 minutes of moderate to vigorous physical activity daily
 - o While 62% of children aged 3 to 4 years reach their recommended physical activity levels as outlined in the Canadian 24-Hour Movement Guidelines, only 35% of children and youth aged 5 to 17 years achieve the recommended activity levels for their age group
 - o 76% of children aged 3 to 4 years and 51% of children and youth aged 5 to 17 years engage in more screen time than is recommended by the Canadian Guidelines for screen-based sedentary behaviours. In Canada, children aged 5 to 11 years and youth aged 12 to 17 years spend an average of 2.3 and 4.1 hours per day, respectively, in recreational screen time pursuits

The percentage of physically active children in York Region has decreased, as reflected in the EDI results for physical health and well-being

- The Canadian Society for Exercise Physiology (CSEP) guidelines on physical activity for children recommend accumulating at least 60 minutes of moderate to vigorous physical activity per day to achieve health benefits (Canadian Society for Exercise Physiology, 2018)
 - o In 2016, 23% (± 3) of York Region families with children aged 6 to 14 years reported their child met the CSEP physical activity guidelines compared to 30% (± 4) in 2014 (Regional Municipality of York, 2018a)
 - o This result reflects the EDI results for physical health and well-being in York Region which indicate that higher percentages of children are “scoring low” in this domain as time progresses

Children in York Region are spending less time on recreational screen activities

- The CSEP guidelines on sedentary behavior for children suggest limiting recreational screen time to no more than two hours per day, in addition to limiting motorized transport, extended sitting and time spent indoors (Canadian Society for Exercise Physiology, 2018).
 - o In 2016, 74% (± 3) of families with children aged 6 to 14 years in York Region reported that their child spent two hours or less per day on non-educational screen time compared to 76% (± 3) in 2014 (Regional Municipality of York, 2018a)
- This is a positive change that may be attributed to increased awareness of the importance of physical health for young children

EARLYON CHILD AND FAMILY CENTRES

EarlyON Child and Family Centres support child development and connect families with their communities

- In 2018, York Region was mandated by the Province of Ontario to oversee and modernize the Region's early years centres, now called EarlyON Child and Family Centres
- EarlyON Child and Family Centres offer free drop-in programs for children aged 0 to 6 and their parents and caregivers. EarlyON Centres support children's learning and development, build parents and caregivers' skills, increase their understanding of child development and promote social inclusion
- Programs are delivered through permanent centres or mobile sites. Centres offer core services five days a week year-round, including either Saturday or Sunday. Mobile sites often involve set-up and take down and are intended to increase program capacity in the community
- In 2018:
 - o 14,436 parents and caregivers made 93,339 visits to EarlyON Child and Family Centres
 - o 12,969 children made 100,044 visits to EarlyON Child and Family Centres

In 2018, York Region surveyed members of the early years community, including parents and caregivers, to inform planning for EarlyON Child and Family Centres

- 405 respondents completed a community engagement survey (Regional Municipality of York, 2018b)
- Of those that responded to individual questions*:
 - o 51% (174) selected weekday mornings, 58% (198) selected Saturday mornings and 48% (164) selected Sunday mornings when asked about the best times to attend child and family programs
 - o 96% (316) selected in-person on-site rather than on-line when asked about the preferred way to access child and family programs
 - o 94% (324) usually travel by car to access activities
 - o 218 respondents were interested in programs being offered in languages other than English, with French, Cantonese and Mandarin being the languages selected most often

As York Region continues to grow, the demand for programming increases

- When asked in the community engagement survey about barriers to participation in EarlyON child and family programs, 69% of respondents (124) cited capacity issues as a barrier
- Based on the child population, there is demand for programming in developing areas, such as areas in The Town of Whitchurch-Stouffville
- As of December 31, 2018 there were 53 EarlyON locations across the Region, including both permanent centres and mobile sites
- Through planned expansion by York Region to meet the needs of families, the number of EarlyON locations will grow to 63 by the end of 2019**

* Not all respondents answered every question and multiple responses were possible

** Data for 2019 are based on current plans for expansion and may vary due to available site locations and provincial funding

Service Planning Considerations

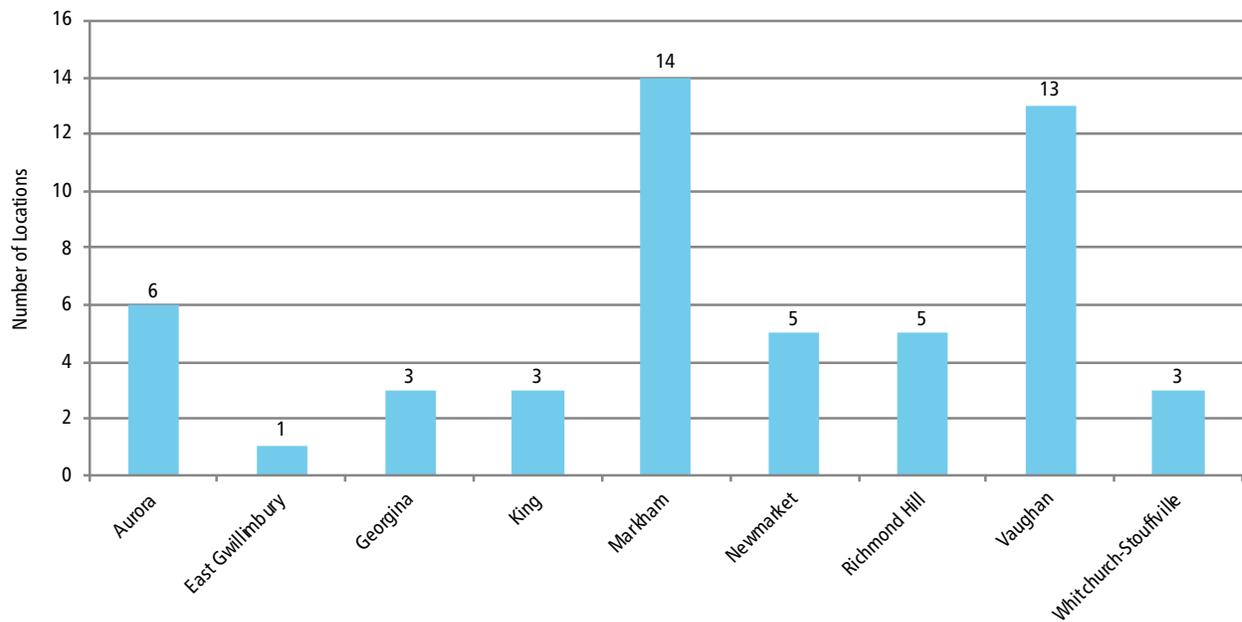
York Region plans to work with service providers to expand services in EarlyON Child and Family Centres, and drop-in programs for families across York Region.

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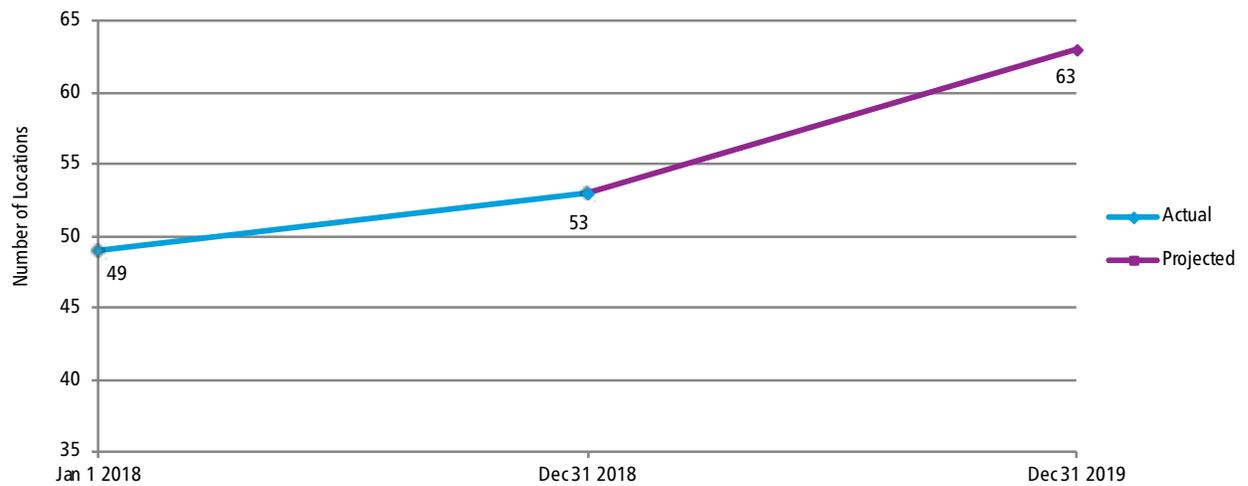
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Number of EarlyON Locations by York Region Local Municipality (as of December 31, 2018)



Source: OCCMS, 2019

Increase in the Number of EarlyON Locations, York Region, 2018 to 2019
(Actuals and Projected)

Source: OCCMS, 2019 and planned expansion

Service Planning Considerations

York Region plans to work with service providers to expand services in EarlyON Child and Family Centres, and drop-in programs for families across York Region.

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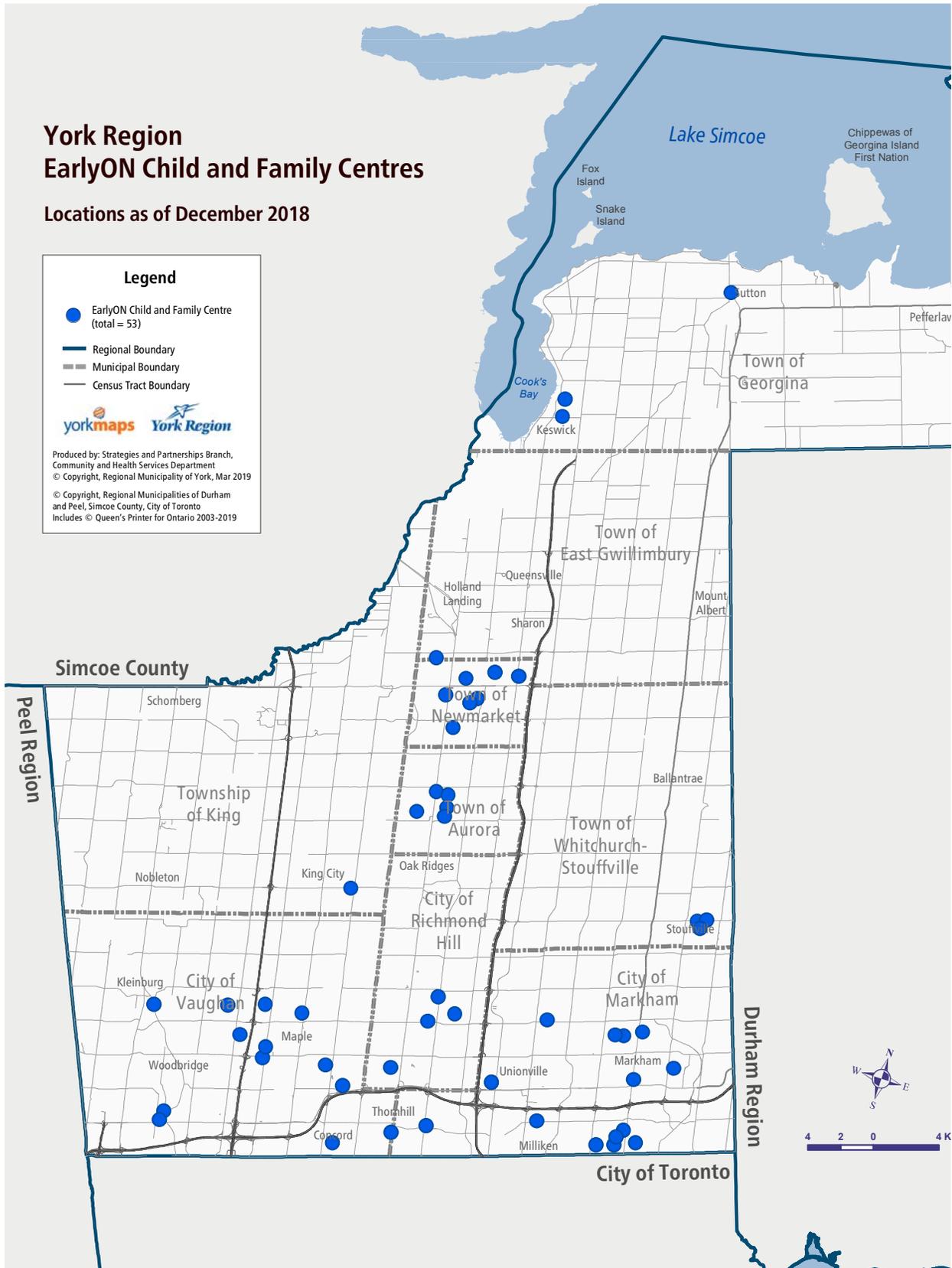
York Region EarlyON Child and Family Centres

Locations as of December 2018

Legend

- EarlyON Child and Family Centre (total = 53)
- Regional Boundary
- Municipal Boundary
- Census Tract Boundary

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EARLY INTERVENTION SERVICES

Early intervention is most effective when provided earlier in life to support child development

- It is estimated that one in nine children have or are at risk for developmental delay in Ontario (Stapleton, 2015)
- York Region Early Intervention Services (EIS) helps to minimize potential delays in development and promote children's success in school and their communities
- These services demonstrate considerable return on investment. For every \$1 invested, there is an estimated \$7 return on investment over the lifetime of the child (Canadian Language and Literacy Research Network, 2009) by reducing the need for other social services and by improving children's health and education outcomes
- York Region delivers early intervention services through two streams:
 - o Inclusion Support Services (ISS), which supports licensed child care centres to include children with special needs aged 0 to 13 years. Including children with special needs in child care programming promotes their development and social engagement and allows parents and caregivers to leave them in a safe environment when they go to work or school
 - o Infant and Child Development Services (ICDS), which supports children with special needs from birth to school-entry in their homes or the community. Infant and Child Development Services helps families establish routines and implement strategies that are essential for later success of children in school, the workplace and the community

The majority of children served through both streams of Early Intervention Services did not have a reported diagnosis when accessing services

- From 2014 to 2017, 23% of the children served through both streams of Early Intervention Services had a reported diagnosis when accessing services
- Autism Spectrum Disorder has consistently been the most common diagnosis for children receiving early intervention services. In 2017, of those with a reported diagnosis, 57% had a diagnosis of Autism Spectrum Disorder

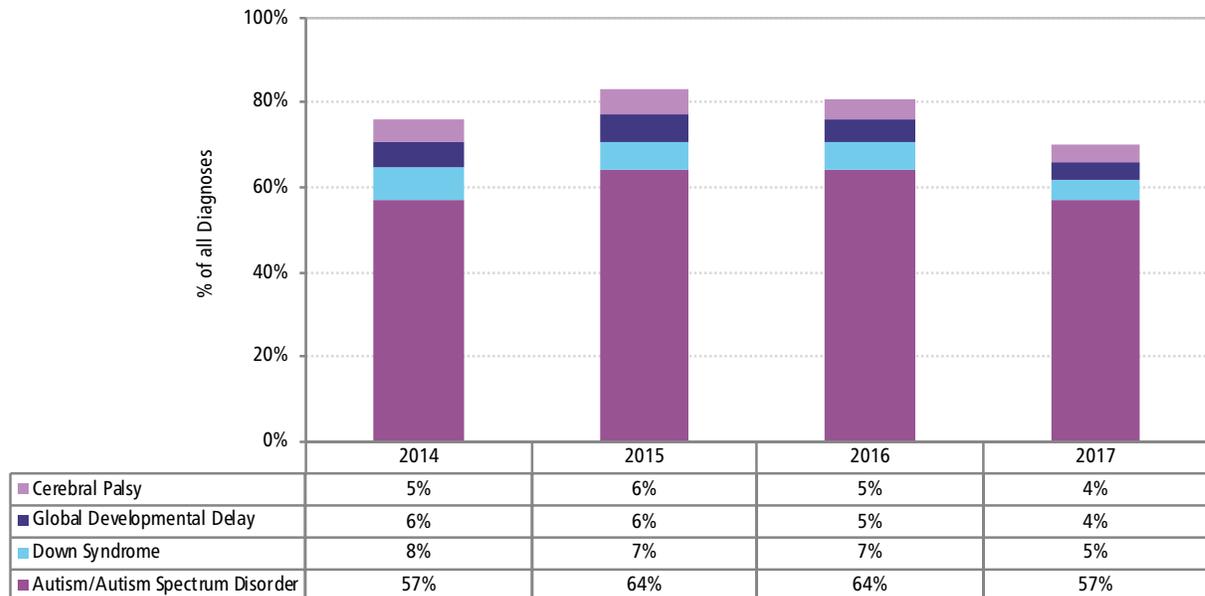


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Four Most Common Diagnoses Among Children Served by Early Intervention Services, York Region, 2014 to 2017



Source: YODA, 2018

Notes: Stream specific data not available prior to 2016, therefore these data reflect diagnosis of all children receiving EIS services regardless of stream (ICDS and ISS). These data reflect children with at least one diagnosis between 2014 and 2017. Percentages reflect the number relative to the total number of diagnoses by year (vs. children).

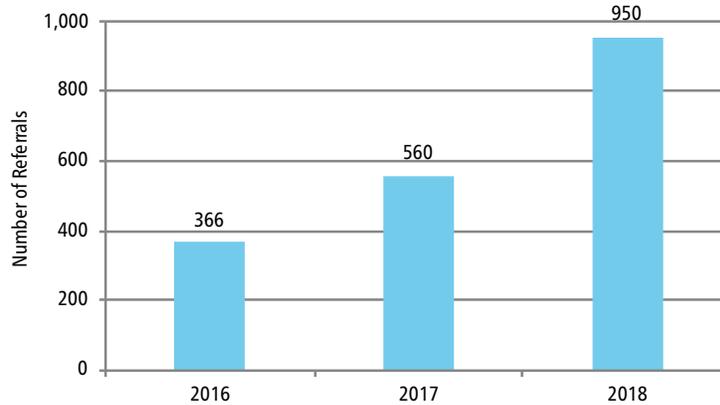
Service Planning Considerations

Referrals to Early Intervention Services are increasing. It is anticipated that demand for Early Intervention Services will continue to increase as York Region's child population grows and there is public awareness of the importance of early intervention.

The demand for Inclusion Support Services has significantly increased since 2016

- Between 2016 and 2018, the number of new referrals increased by 160% (from 366 to 950)
- Between 2015 and 2018, the number of child care centres that received support from Inclusion Support Services increased by 95% (from 208 to 405)
- In 2018, 2,008 children received support through Inclusion Support Services in licensed child care programs
- At the end of 2018, 44 children were waiting for this service

Number of New Referrals to Inclusion Support Services, York Region, 2016 to 2018



Source: YODA, 2019

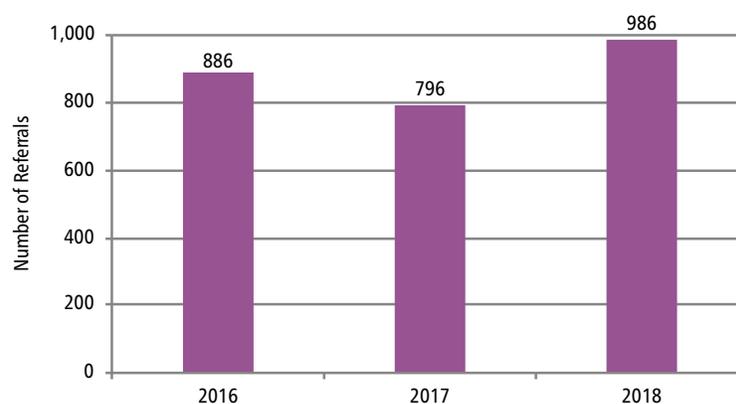
Inclusion Support Services builds capacity in licensed child care centres in a variety of ways

- Inclusion Support Services delivers capacity building training to early years professionals to build their capacity to support children of all abilities
 - In 2018, 172 training sessions were delivered to 130 licensed child care centres
 - In 2017, e-learning sessions were delivered to 128 early years professionals
 - Of those who participated, 99% felt confident in applying the strategies in their work
- Inclusion Support Services also funds licensed child care centres to purchase specialized toys and equipment to better include children with special needs in programming
 - In 2018, funding was provided to 324 licensed child care centres so they could purchase specialized toys and equipment to support inclusion for all children attending licensed child care

Infant and Child Development Services is also experiencing an increase in demand for services

- Between 2016 and 2018, the number of new referrals increased by 11% (from 886 to 986 respectively)
- In 2018, Infant and Child Development Services served 2,171 children with special needs
- At the end of 2018, there were 113 children waiting for this service

Number of New Referrals to Infant and Child Development Services, York Region, 2016 to 2018



Source: YODA, 2019

Infant and Child Development Services helps parents understand and support their child's needs

- Parents play a critical role in supporting child development. Infant and Child Development Services helps ensure families have the supports needed to promote their child's development and enable them to participate in family routines
- 125 parents exiting Infant and Child Development Services in 2017 completed a survey:
 - 83% (104) reported increased confidence in advocating and caring for their child
 - 82% (103) reported they had a better understanding of their child's development
 - 83% (104) reported they were better able to implement strategies for their child to help with their development

Partnerships with the Region's three hospitals support early identification and intervention through neonatal follow-up clinics

- Research indicates that children are at higher risk of developmental delay if they are born prematurely, have low birth weight, multiple births (i.e. twins or triplets) or were prenatally exposed to alcohol or other substances
- Infant and Child Development Services partners with the Region's hospitals to offer a service model that allows parents to see an Early Interventionist, Occupational Therapist or Physiotherapist and either a Pediatrician or Neonatologist in one appointment
- In 2018, 760 premature babies were monitored across the three Regional hospitals through neonatal follow-up clinics
 - In 2015, parents receiving services through neonatal follow-up clinics were surveyed, and 94% (48) reported increased confidence in their ability as a parent, 92% (47) reported increased knowledge of typical child development, 88% (45) reported increased knowledge of community resources, and 84% (43) reported reduced anxiety about having a premature infant. The total number of families served in 2015 was 260

Number of Children that Participate in Neonatal Follow-up Clinics, by Hospital, 2018

Hospital	Number of Children
Mackenzie Health	194
Southlake Hospital	239
Markham Stouffville Hospital (MSH)	327
Total	760

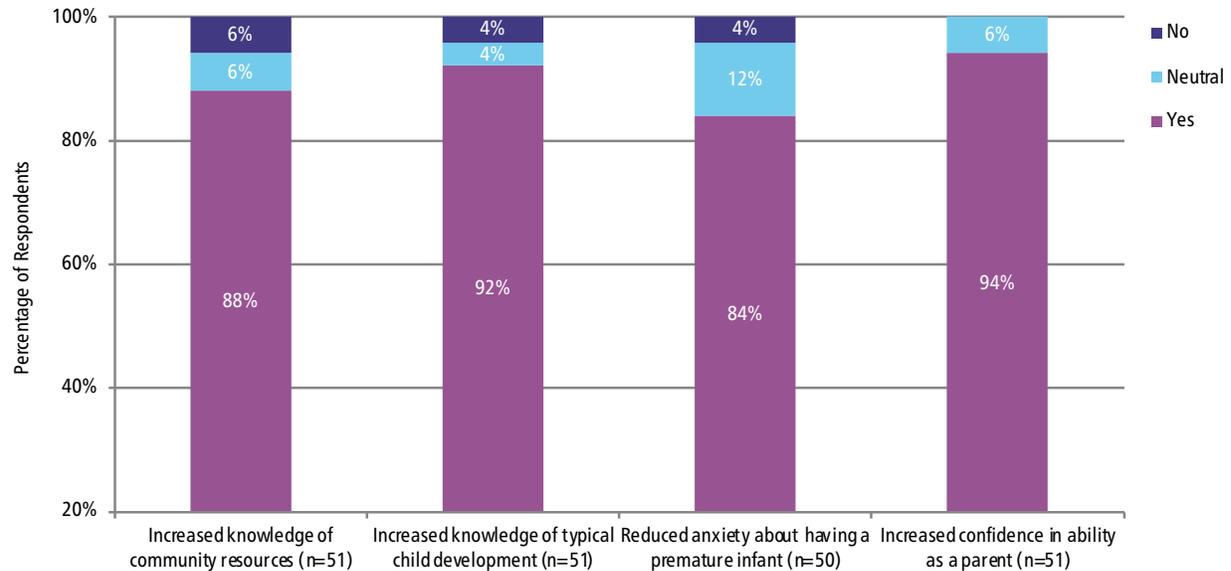
Source: YODA, 2019

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Survey Responses from Parents Receiving Services Through Neonatal Follow-up Clinics, York Region, 2015



Source: Neonatal Parent Survey, 2015. Survey was conducted with 20 per cent of York Region families served in neonatal clinics in 2015. Total families served in 2015 was 260.

PUBLIC HEALTH

Children's health and development is supported through a number of Public Health initiatives

- Through the Healthy Babies Healthy Children Program, York Region Public Health helps identify families and children who might be at risk for compromised parenting or child development. Eligible families are provided with information, support and connections to community resources to help parents take care of themselves and their children
 - In 2017, 8,511 screenings were completed through the Healthy Babies Healthy Children Program
- Oral health is an important part of children's growth and development. One third of children in Junior Kindergarten experience dental caries (cavities) which is the leading cause of day surgery in Canada for children in junior kindergarten (Regional Municipality of York, 2018c)
 - 50,531 children and youth received dental screening
 - 2,126 children and youth received preventative dental treatment in public health clinics.
 - In 2017, Public Health implemented an oral health screening pilot program at licensed child care centres in York Region to identify dental care needs in children before they start school. In 2017, 974 children in 39 licensed child care centres received dental screening, which identified 357 children with a dental care need
- Good nutrition is an important factor in child development and can have a positive effect on children's physical and emotional health, as well as their success in school (Pérez-Rodrigo, C., & Aranceta, J., 2001)

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- o 65% of schools operated a student nutrition program
- o 57% of elementary schools implemented comprehensive Healthy Schools Program initiatives

Parents and caregivers play a key role in supporting child development

- York Region Public Health supports parents in making informed decisions in areas that impact their child's development through parenting education and support, home visits and clinics. In 2017:
 - o 2,540 breastfeeding clinic appointments were completed to help families make informed decisions about infant feeding
 - o 2,015 expectant parents registered for birth education
 - o 47 parenting programs were offered to develop parenting skills, reaching 722 attendees
 - o 322 mental health sessions were offered to promote mental health, reaching 2,182 attendees

Public Health promotes healthy, safe and resilient communities for children

- York Region's Public Health supports children and families by delivering services to reduce the incidence and spread of infectious diseases, food and water-borne illnesses and other environmental health hazards
- Immunization is a safe and effective way to prevent many diseases (Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care, 2015). Public Health builds capacity for disease prevention by providing school-and community-based immunization clinics
 - o In 2017, 1,033 school and community immunization clinics were held by Public Health and 53,806 vaccine doses were administered. This is important as the rates and number of hospitalizations due to infectious disease among York Region children aged 0 to 6 and 7 to 12 years increased between 2014 and 2016*

*According to data extracted from Ontario Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care, Inpatient Discharges (2011 to 2016), IntelliHEALTH ONTARIO by York Region Public Health on February 15, 2018



THE CHILD CARE AND EARLY YEARS SYSTEM IN YORK REGION IS A COLLABORATIVE EFFORT

The child care and early years system offers a wide range of programs and services to support children and their families. These include general services such as drop-in programs for children and families and more specialized services such as children's mental health services. *A Profile of Children in York Region* includes data on current services offered by York Region. The child care and early years system also includes a wide range of services offered in the community to support the diverse needs of children and families.

The child care and early years system in York Region includes:

Programs and services managed by York Region

- Fee subsidy for licensed centre-based and home-based child care
- Children's community programs, such as after-school programs in social housing
- Child and family drop-in programs including EarlyON Child and Family Centres
- Early Intervention Services including Infant and Child Development Services and Inclusion Support Services
- Public Health services, such as the Healthy Babies Healthy Children Program through Child and Family Health

Programs and services offered in the community

- Unlicensed child care
- Library programs
- Programming offered by Parks and Recreation Departments in local municipalities
- Hospital services, including services through neonatal follow-up clinics
- Education through York Region's four school boards, including English Public and Catholic Boards and French Public and Catholic Boards
- Children's mental health services
- Children's rehabilitation services
- Services for children with special needs
- Family support and child protection services through York Region Children's Aid Society
- Services available through non-profit service providers, such as services for young mothers and Francophone services

The services noted above are not a comprehensive inventory but rather a sampling of the types of programs and services available in the community to support children and their families. It will be important continue expanding an inventory of available programs and increase access to data across the system as we build a more integrated system that supports children's learning and development and families' overall well-being.

IMPLICATIONS FOR PLANNING THE CHILD CARE AND EARLY YEARS SYSTEM

As York Region continues to grow and the needs of residents change, there will be impacts on how we plan the child care and early years system to support all children and families.

Highlights of potential implications for system planning include:

- The population of children aged 0 to 12 years continues to grow, but not all municipalities are experiencing an increase in this child population. We are seeing growth in areas of new development, such as in The Town of Whitchurch-Stouffville and The Township of King
 - This is important for system planning as it helps us align services with demand and determine where to allocate resources
- 75% of the Region's child population lives in the southern three municipalities of The Cities of Markham, Vaughan and Richmond Hill
 - This helps us understand where there may be the greatest demand for services across the Region. However, the need for services does not only exist in the south. We must plan the system in a way that considers equity to ensure that children and families can access services across the Region
- Growing numbers of children are living in low income
 - This is important for our planning as many of our programs are designed to support families with low incomes, such as child care fee subsidy. As the number of children living in low income continues to increase, there may be added pressures on these services. Partnering to find the best ways to deliver flexible, quality, cost-effective services is key.
- The unemployment rate in census families with at least one child aged 0 to 12 years is 5%.
 - This means that the system may need to include services that offer flexibility, such as flexible hours of operation, to provide options to parents/caregivers that work best for their family
- Children and families have diverse backgrounds and needs. For example, the number of recent immigrants continues to rise. In addition, the diversity in languages spoken continues to increase. In 2016, of the population in census families with at least one child aged 0 to 12 years, 12,415 did not speak English or French
 - This information is important for planning services that are responsive to the needs of children and their families
- Between 2012 and 2015, a negative change was observed in the "scoring low" measure of York Region's Early Development Instrument (EDI) results
 - Analyzing EDI data within the context of other information, such as socio-economic and demographic data, helps us understand in which areas to provide additional support to promote children's early learning and development and inform service planning across the system
- To better understand the needs of Indigenous children and their families, it is important that we build relationships with Indigenous organizations so we can offer services that are reflective of their communities, such as culturally-responsive programming

This Profile informed the development of York Region's first Child Care and Early Years Service System Plan and helped to determine key considerations as we work together with partners and stakeholders to continue building a system that keeps children and families at the centre of our planning.

OPPORTUNITIES GOING FORWARD

In developing this Profile, York Region identified a number of opportunities that will help us better understand the needs of children and their families in York Region and the impact of our programs and services. These opportunities are reflected in the 2020 to 2023 Child Care and Early Years Service System Plan under the “decisions based on data” priority. Under this priority, we will support coordinated service planning based on consistent data as a system and understand how children and families are better off as a result of child care and early years services.

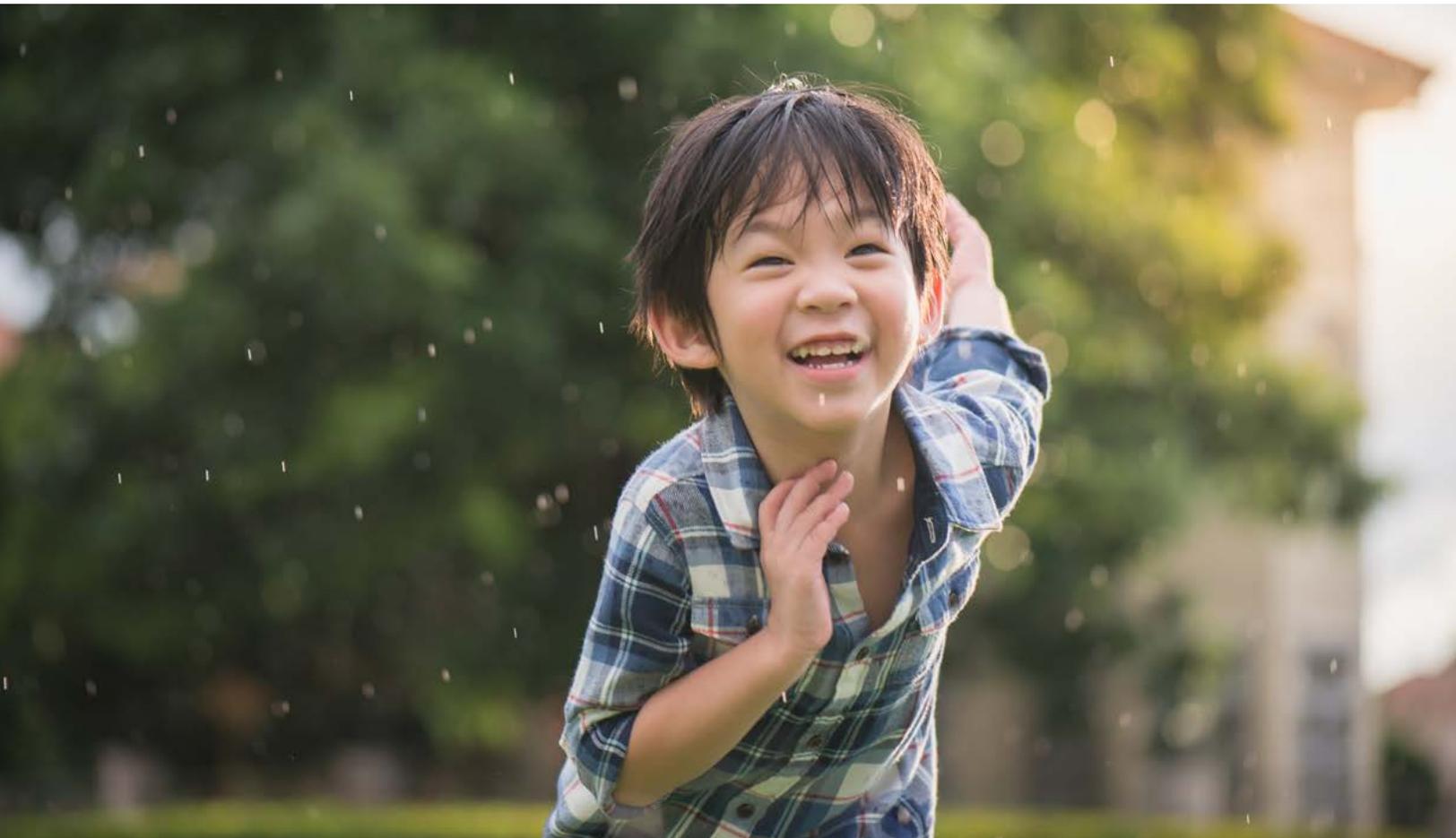
Going forward, opportunities include leveraging partnerships to:

Increase access to data and collaboration across programs supporting children and families:

- *A Profile of Children in York Region* includes data on current services offered by York Region; however, the child care and early years system is much broader. Going forward, we want to increase access to data across the system to support coordinated service planning. This includes disseminating information on demographic data to our community partners and building partnerships to enhance data-sharing

Increase our focus on measuring results and outcomes as a system:

- We have a strong understanding of how much our programs are doing, such as number of clients served, and how well we are doing, such as waitlists for services. Going forward, we want to enhance our collection of outcomes data to understand the impact of programs and services across the system. This also includes developing an outcomes framework for children’s services that can be used consistently across the system



CONCLUSION

The demographic, socio-economic and community data included in this Profile provide key information about children and their families in York Region that will help inform planning for the child care and early years system. The data tell us about the types of programs and services children and families may need, such as financial support to access child care, as well as how we can design these programs and services to reflect their needs, such as culturally-responsive programming.

York Region's 2020 to 2023 Child Care and Early Years Service System Plan was developed using these data together with feedback from the community to make sure that local planning decisions are informed by an in-depth understanding of children aged 0 to 12 years, their families and current services in York Region.

A Profile of Children in York Region will continue to be an important community planning tool as we build our understanding of the needs of children and their families and work with partners and stakeholders to plan programs and services. We will continue to build upon this work together with our community partners by enhancing access to data and measuring outcomes.

Through the 2020 to 2023 Child Care and Early Years Service System Plan, York Region will establish and expand partnerships to build programs and services that are accessible, affordable, responsive and high-quality to support children's learning and development and families' overall well-being.



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GLOSSARY OF TERMS

1. Demographic and socio-economic data*

*Source: Statistics Canada unless otherwise noted

Census Tract: Census tracts (CTs) are small, relatively stable geographic areas that usually have a population of less than 10,000 persons, based on data from the previous Census of Population Program. They are located in census metropolitan areas and in census agglomerations that had a core population of 50,000 or more in the previous census. A committee of local specialists initially delineates census tracts in conjunction with Statistics Canada.

Total Population: Population numbers provided in this Profile that source a census reflect the total population, including those living in institutions, group homes, collective dwellings, etc.

Population in Private Households: Population in private households excludes those living in institutions, group homes, collective dwellings, etc. Population numbers provided in this Profile that source a Custom Tabulation reflect the population in private households rather than the total population.

Population by Age Group:

0 to 4 years Statistics Canada definition – birth to fifth birthday minus one day

0 to 6 years Early Years Sector definition – birth to sixth birthday minus one day

6 to 12 years Statistics Canada definition – sixth birthday to thirteenth birthday minus one day

0 to 12 years Statistics Canada definition – birth to thirteenth birthday minus one day

0 to 14 years Statistics Canada definition – birth to fifteenth birthday minus one day

Aboriginal Identity: Refers to whether the person identified with the Aboriginal peoples of Canada. This includes those who are First Nations (North American Indian), Métis or Inuk (Inuit) and/or those who are Registered or Treaty Indians (that is, registered under the *Indian Act of Canada*), and/or those who have membership in a First Nation or Indian band. Aboriginal peoples of Canada are defined in the *Constitution Act, 1982, Section 35 (2)* as including the Indian, Inuit and Métis peoples of Canada.

Francophone: Refers to persons who have indicated in a census that “French” is a language spoken. Francophones include persons who have reported in a census any one or a combination of the following:

Marital Status:

Married: A person who is married and has not separated or obtained a divorce, and whose spouse is living. Persons who are married may be of opposite sex or of the same sex.

Common Law: A person who is living with another person as a couple but who is not legally married to that person. Persons who living common law may be of opposite sex or of the same sex.

Single: A person who has never legally married or a person whose marriage has been annulled and who has not remarried. Persons living common law are not included in this category.

Census Family: Refers to a married couple and the children, if any, of either and/or both spouses; a couple living common law and the children, if any, of either and/or both partners; or a lone parent of any marital status with at least one child living in the same dwelling and that child or those children. All members of a particular census family live in the same dwelling. A couple may be of opposite or same sex. Children may be children by birth, marriage, common-law union or adoption regardless of their age or marital status as long as they live in the dwelling and do not have their own married spouse, common-law partner or child living in the dwelling. Grandchildren living with their grandparent(s) but with no parents present also constitute a census family.

Married Couple Family: A census family led by a married couple.

Common-Law Couple Family: A census family led by a common-law couple.

Lone Parent Family: A census family led by a single parent of any marital status (either female or male).

Household/Private Household: Refers to a person or group of persons who occupy the same dwelling and do not have a usual place of residence elsewhere in Canada or abroad. The household may consist of a family group such as a census family, two or more families sharing a dwelling, a group of unrelated persons, or a person living alone. The dwelling may be either a collective dwelling or a private dwelling. The former is identified as a collective household while the latter is a private household.

One-Census Family Household: A household that consists of one census family without additional persons.

Couple Family Household: A one-census family household that consists of a couple family without additional persons. Couple family refers to a married couple (with or without children of either or both spouses) or a common-law couple (with or without children of either or both partners). Couples may either be same-sex or opposite-sex.

Lone (Single) Parent Family Household: A one-census family household that consists of a lone parent of any marital status with one or more children and without additional persons present.

Multi-Census Family Household: A household that consists of more than one census family (for example, a married couple with children living with the parents of one spouse).

Citizenship: Refers to the country where a person has citizenship. A person may have more than one citizenship. A person may be stateless, that is, they may have no citizenship. Citizenship can be by birth or naturalization.

Canadian Citizen: Refers to persons who are citizens of Canada only and persons who are citizens of Canada and at least one other country.

Immigrant Status: Refers to whether a person is a non-immigrant, an immigrant or a non-permanent resident.

Non-Immigrant: Refers to a person who is a Canadian citizen by birth.

Immigrant: Refers to a person who is or has ever been a landed immigrant or permanent resident. This person has been granted the right to live in Canada permanently by immigration authorities. Some immigrants are Canadian citizens, while others are not. Some immigrants have resided in Canada for a number of years, while others have arrived recently.

Recent Immigrant: Refers to immigrants who have arrived in Canada within the five years prior to a Census.

Refugee: Refers to immigrants who were granted permanent resident status on the basis of a well-founded fear of returning to their home country. This category includes persons who had a well-founded fear of persecution for reasons of race, religion, nationality, membership in particular social group or for political opinion (Geneva Convention refugees) as well as persons who had been seriously and personally affected by civil war or armed conflict, or have suffered a massive violation of human rights. Some refugees were in Canada when they applied for refugee protection for themselves and their family members (either with them in Canada or abroad). Others were abroad and were referred for resettlement to Canada by the United Nations Refugee Agency, another designated referral organization or private sponsors.

Non-Permanent Resident: Refers to a person from another country who has a work or study permit, or who is a refugee claimant, and any non-Canadian-born family member living in Canada with them.

Birth Place of Recent Immigrants: Refers to the place of birth of recent immigrants, or, immigrants arriving in Canada within the last five years of a Census.

Knowledge of Official Languages: Refers to the ability of a person to conduct a conversation in English only, in French only, in both English and French, or in neither English nor French.

Non-Official Languages Spoken Most Often at Home: Refers to the non-official language spoken most often at home by a person at the time of data collection.

Highest Level of Education: Refers to the highest level of education that a person 25 to 64 years of age has successfully completed. The level of education completed is based on a hierarchy which is generally related to the amount of time spent 'in-class'. A university education is considered to be a higher level of schooling than a college education while a college education is considered to be a higher level of education than in the trades. Although some trades requirements may take as long or longer to complete than a given college or university program the majority of time is spent in on-the-job paid training and less time is spent in the classroom. No certificate, diploma or degree includes persons who have not graduated from high school or equivalent. High school diploma or equivalent includes persons who have graduated from a secondary school or equivalent, and excludes persons with a postsecondary certificate diploma or degree. Bachelor's degree and above includes Bachelor's, Masters and Doctorate degrees.

Low Income Status: The income situation of the statistical unit in relation to a specific low income line in a reference year. Statistical units with income that is below the low income line are considered to be in low income.

Persons Living in Low Income: Refers to the number of persons living in low income. All household members are considered to share the household income and are attributed the same income status. For this Profile, low income statistics are based on the after tax low income measure (LIM-AT).

Prevalence of Low Income: The proportion or percentage of units whose income falls below a specified low income line (for example, the percentage of persons living in low income).

LIM-AT: The low income measure after tax refers to a fixed percentage (50%) of median-adjusted after tax income of private households in the year preceding the Census. The household after tax income is adjusted by an equivalence scale to take economies of scale into account. This adjustment for different household sizes reflects the fact that a household's needs increase, but at a decreasing rate, as the number of members increases.

Labour Force Status: Refers to whether a person, aged 15 years or over, was in the labour force (either employed or unemployed) or not in the labour force (not working or seeking work) at the time the Census was conducted.

Employment Rate: The percentage of those in the labour force that is unemployed.

Home Ownership: Refers to whether a household owns or rents their private dwelling, or whether the dwelling is band housing (on an Indian reserve or settlement). Data reported include households in non-farm, non-reserve private dwellings with household total income greater than zero.

Shelter Costs: Refers to the percentage of a household's average total monthly income which is spent on shelter-related expenses. Expenses for owners include mortgage payments, property taxes and condominium fees, and the costs of electricity, heat, municipal services, etc. Expenses for renters (tenants) include monthly rent payments, and the costs of electricity, heat, municipal services, etc.

2. Early Development Instrument (EDI)

EDI: A teacher-completed instrument developed by the Offord Centre for Child Studies at McMaster University to assess young children's developmental health and early learning. The EDI focuses on overall outcomes for children at the population level for a community. Data collected through EDI implementation facilitates and encourages policy makers at the community, provincial and national levels to positively impact the developmental health of young children.

Neighbourhood / EDI Neighbourhood: Neighbourhood boundaries in York Region that were delineated specifically for the purpose of analysing EDI results.

EDI Domain: Five general areas or domains of early child development that are assessed by the EDI (physical health and well-being, social competence, emotional maturity, language and cognitive development, communication skills and general knowledge).

Ontario Baseline: Includes results for all children surveyed by the EDI during the first complete cycle of province-wide implementation (2004 to 2006). These data were used to determine the 10th percentile cut-offs for subsequent reporting for all cycles. The Ontario baseline provides a reference point for comparison of local EDI results.

"Scoring Low": EDI Vulnerability. Refers to children who score below the 10th percentile cut-off of the Ontario Baseline population. "Scoring low" is measured for each of the five developmental domains assessed by the EDI, as well as in one or more EDI domain. Vulnerability data indicate the percentage of children who are struggling in comparison to the Ontario Baseline data.

English Language Learners (ELL): Students in provincially-funded English language schools in Ontario whose first language is a language other than English, or is a variety of English that is significantly different from the variety used for instruction in Ontario's schools, and who may require focused educational supports to assist them in attaining proficiency in English.

3. Cautions

Random Rounding

Data provided by Statistics Canada are randomly rounded to ensure confidentiality. This means that all values, including totals and subtotals for a given variable, are randomly rounded either up or down to a multiple of 5 or 10, depending on the processing required for that variable. As a result, when these data are summed or grouped, the total value may not match the individual values of which it is comprised. Similarly, percentages, which are calculated on rounded data, may not necessarily add up to 100%. Slight differences in numbers reported by independent analysts may also be evident since data for each analysis will be subject to independent random rounding.

Percentages versus Numbers

Care should be exercised when drawing conclusions based on calculated percentages or percentage changes for small populations or numbers. For example, the population of children aged 0 to 12 years is much smaller in some local municipalities than in others. Over a given time period, a small change in number of children in a municipality with few children may result in a large percentage change whereas a similar change in number in a municipality with a higher number of children may result in a small percentage change. Percentages and percentage changes have the potential to be misleading. Absolute numbers should always be taken into consideration when assessing percentage calculations.

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