Story Behind the Stats

Formed in 2003, the riding of Hamilton East – Stoney Creek consists of the part of the City of Hamilton lying north of the Niagara Escarpment and east of Ottawa Street. This includes 18 neighbourhoods in Hamilton, as well as part of the former City of Stoney Creek including the "Old Town", Fruitland and Winona.

With the second highest rate of poverty amongst the five ridings connected to Hamilton at 19%, many people reflected in this number are newcomers who face a poverty rate of 52%.

Responding to the needs of people living in poverty in the small towns and rural areas of this riding also poses an increased challenge.

Key Figures

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Hamilton East-Stoney Creek</th>
<th>City of Hamilton</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Population living in poverty</td>
<td>19%</td>
<td>18.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Children (under 18) living in</td>
<td>27.9%</td>
<td>23.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>poverty</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Housing in need of major</td>
<td>8%</td>
<td>7.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>repairs</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Crowded housing</td>
<td>1.7%</td>
<td>1.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tenant households</td>
<td>30.3%</td>
<td>31.7%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

116,430 people live in Hamilton East-Stoney Creek
21,993 live in poverty – 19%*

“Some people say that poverty is not visible in Canada. That is certainly not true for the east end of Hamilton where new arrivals and their children land. The poor housing conditions alone depress the spirit of hard working, future-building newcomers. The Immigrant Women’s Centre and Community Action Programming for Children have created channels to ease and encourage participation of women, fathers and their children to access essential information to begin the process of integration.”

Ines Rios
Executive Director
Immigrant Women’s Centre

*For details on calculations and definitions, go to: http://www.spno.ca/images/pdf/povertyprofiles/Stats-Info.pdf
Taking Action in Hamilton East-Stoney Creek

The Immigrant Women’s Centre is an equality-seeking, anti-racist organization dedicated to the social, political and economic inclusion of refugee and immigrant women in a just and supportive Canadian society. The Centre is committed to enabling refugee and immigrant women to discover and build their new futures through skills development and settlement support.

The services are designed to support the settlement and advancement of immigrant and refugee women in the areas of employment, education, skills training, and the growth and development of their children ages 6 and under.

Besides essential language training (LINC), the IWC offers job search workshops with pre-employment training to newcomers, assisting them in gaining the knowledge and skills needed to better understand strategies, business perspectives and next steps related to the job search process.

In an effort to raise awareness and promote social change about the issues facing women in Hamilton today - such as poverty - the IWC publishes “The Women’s Press”, a bi-monthly newspaper, which is distributed across Hamilton.

For more information: www.stjosephwomen.on.ca

Social Planning and Research Council of Hamilton

The SPRC works with many community partners to reduce and eliminate poverty including the Hamilton Roundtable for Poverty Reduction, HOPE (Hamilton Organizing to Eliminate Poverty), and the Campaign for Adequate Welfare and Disability Benefits.

We are committed to working with people who have the lived experience of poverty to develop a comprehensive plan of action to eliminate poverty in Hamilton and across Ontario.

Want to get involved? Contact us at sprc@sprc.hamilton.on.ca or 905-522-1148.

www.sprc.hamilton.on.ca

How to Connect with your Elected Representatives on these Issues

Mayor: Bob Bratina, 905-546-4200, mayor@hamilton.ca

Member of Parliament (MP): Wayne Marston, 905-662-4763, wayne.marston@parl.gc.ca

Member of Provincial Parliament (MPP): Paul Miller, 905-545-0114, pmiller-co@ndp.on.ca

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