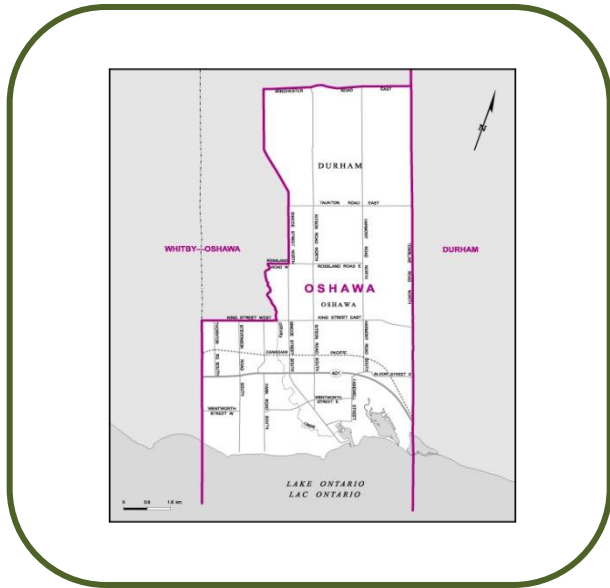


# Oshawa

## Action on Poverty Profile

Provincial  
Riding  
Profiles

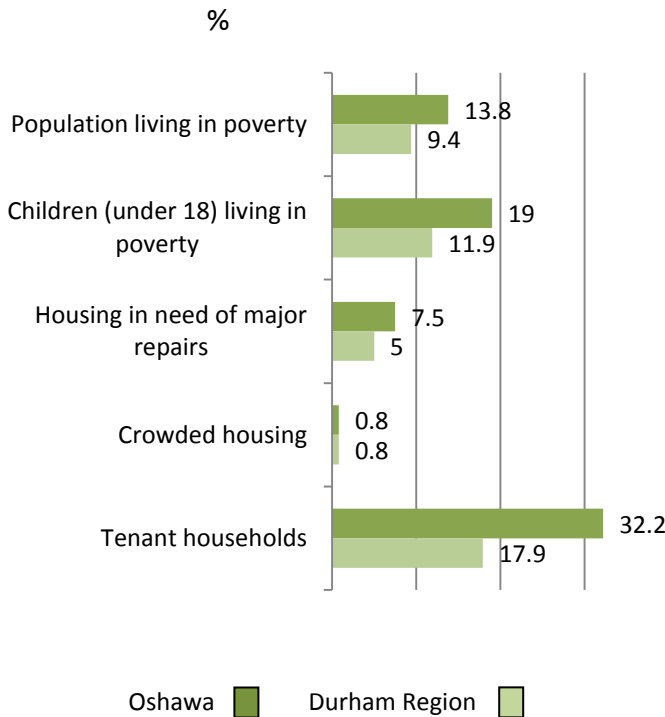


### Story Behind the Stats

The riding of Oshawa sits along the lakeshore corridor in the Region of Durham, encompassing the majority of the City of Oshawa, and extending west to Limerick Street south of King Street West, west to Simcoe Street north of King Street West, and north to Winchester Road east of Simcoe Street.

Oshawa is characterized by a shifting local economy as the manufacturing base that built the city declines and the growth of the University of Ontario Institute of Technology and Lakeridge Health drive the development of the knowledge sector. Although this shift has provided substantial economic and social opportunity, many long-standing residents of this community have been economically displaced by these trends. This results from the fact that new knowledge-based labour markets in the riding have not directly replaced the manufacturing opportunities that previously existed, forcing residents into precarious employment situations. Thus, the community is facing growth in one sector and decline in another - a situation that is creating conditions of poverty and hardship for many residents.

### Key Figures



**116,885 people live in Oshawa**

**15,904 live in poverty – 13.8%\***

**“In many ways, Oshawa is doing great. We have a growing university, a growing hospital with the Regional Cancer Centre, and many new jobs that are associated with this kind of growth. But Oshawa is still a manufacturing town at heart, an Auto-Workers town. The community has not done enough to find a place for those who worked, or would have worked, in manufacturing. These individuals are the ones we see more often now.”**

**Social Service Organization Worker  
Participant in CDCD’s Giving Voice to Poverty Project**

# Taking Action in Oshawa

The Oshawa Community Health Centre (OCHC) is a community-owned, nonprofit, and charitable organization founded by volunteers in 1982 to support the development of a strong and healthy community in Oshawa. The OCHC provides residents with access to primary medical care, social workers, and counselling services while also promoting healthy individual, familial, and community development through a variety of community programs and services.

Using a community development approach, the Centre has taken a lead in engaging diverse and marginalized communities in Oshawa, including the local Aboriginal community, women, and youth. The OCHC works to ensure that these groups are represented and considered in community service planning and delivery, and thus have access to programs and supports that help them become active and healthy members of the community. By providing all of its services free of charge, those living in poverty have access to the Centre's vital programming.

OCHC's Homeless Health Initiative works closely with the homeless community to develop programs that address the health needs of this population. It provides counselling, health promotion, and illness prevention services through a partnership with the YWCA.

[www.ochc.ca](http://www.ochc.ca)

## **Community Development Council Durham**

The CDCD is an independent not-for-profit organization that has been serving the community in Durham for more than 40 years. The organization supports the delivery of a variety of programs and services in the areas of community development and research, immigrant settlement, and housing support. In all of our work we strive to support and enhance the quality of life of individuals and families in our community, by promoting inclusion and equity.

458 Fairall Street, Ajax, Ontario, L1S 1R6  
(905) 686 – 2661  
[www.cdcd.org](http://www.cdcd.org)

## **How to Connect with your Elected Representatives on these Issues**

Mayor: *John G. Henry*, 905-436-5611, [jhenry@oshawa.ca](mailto:jhenry@oshawa.ca)

Member of Provincial Parliament (MPP): *Jerry J. Ouellette*, 905-723-2411, [jerry.ouelletteco@pc.ola.org](mailto:jerry.ouelletteco@pc.ola.org)

Member of Parliament (MP): *Colin Carrie*, 905-440-4868, [colin.carrie@parl.gc.ca](mailto:colin.carrie@parl.gc.ca)