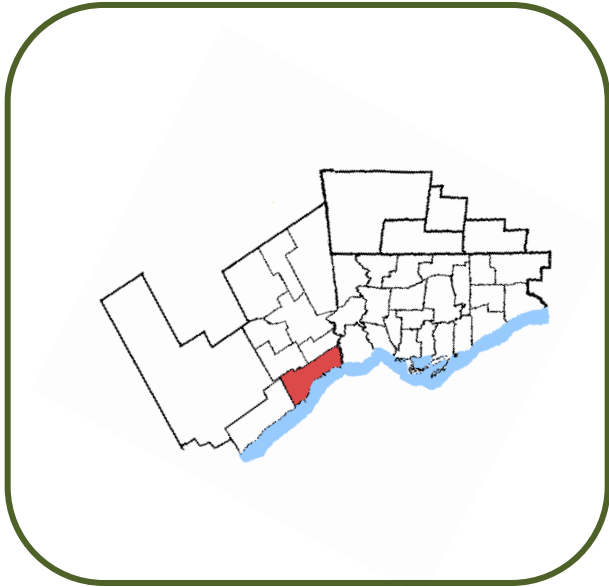


Mississauga South Action on Poverty Profile

Provincial
Riding
Profiles

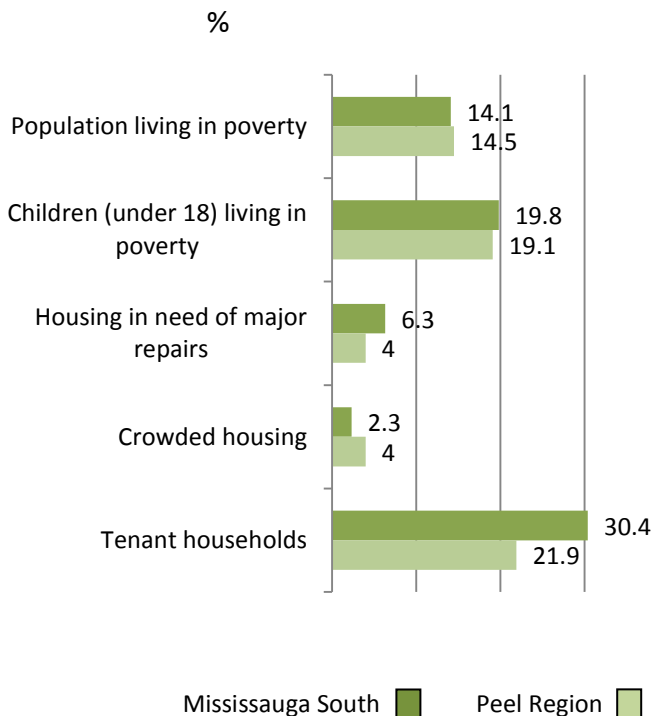


Story Behind the Stats

Located along the south boundary line of the Mississauga city limits, the Mississauga South riding stretches to Etobicoke Creek in the east and to Oakville's city boundary line in the west. It includes portions of City wards 1, 7, and 8, and all of ward 2.

Community workers say that there is a lack of knowledge of the extent of poverty in the area. Although a high percentage of tenant accommodations exist (including some "slum" apartments), they are not affordable to many. Few apartments are available for under \$800, especially along the lakeshore. As a result, food security is also an issue for new immigrants, single mothers, and struggling families.

Key Figures



**110,935 people live in
Mississauga South**
15,426 live in poverty –14.1%*

**“We see families who after paying
the rent and bills have very little
left for food for the month –
maybe \$100, but for some as little
as \$15 or \$10.”**

**John Davey
Manager
The Compass**

The Action on Poverty profile series was created by Social Planning Toronto and the Social Planning Council of Peel. The profile includes Census data from the City of Toronto and the Toronto Community Social Research and Data Consortium.

*For details on calculations and definitions, go to www.spno.ca



Taking Action in Mississauga South

The Compass was formed by 10 Christian churches in the Lorne Park and Clarkson area to address urgent and growing social needs within the community. The Compass provides relief to people experiencing severe economic and social challenges. Through the building of relationships within the community and the member churches, the Compass offers both practical and spiritual support. Its drop-in centre offers coffee, free groceries and household supplies on a voucher system, a safe place to visit, and prayer support when requested.

Compass programs offer practical life skills, with the hope that these can be applied to employment. Weekly ESL classes provide assistance with English language skills to clients and community members. An eight-week program offers training in computer basics (e-mail, Internet, Microsoft Word), and computer work stations are available for employment search and resume writing. And an employment coach offers one-on-one assistance with job search, resumes, networking skills, and interview skills as part of the Employment Assistance program.

Says Manager John Davey, "Our ultimate goal, our happiest moment, is when someone tells us 'I found a job, so I don't need your services anymore.'"

www.thecompass.ca

The Social Planning Council of Peel

The Social Planning Council of Peel is an independent, non-profit organization that promotes social justice by facilitating citizen participation in the identification of social issues and in the planning and implementation of collaborative actions to address those issues.

Contact: info@spcpeel.com or (905) 629-3044.

Websites: www.spcpeel.com & www.portraitsofpeel.ca

How to Connect with your Elected Representatives on these Issues

Mayor: *Hazel McCallion*, 905-896-5555, mayor@mississauga.ca

Member of Provincial Parliament (MPP): *Hon. Charles Sousa*, 905-274-8228, csousa.mpp.co@liberal.ola.org

Member of Parliament (MP): *Stella Ambler*, 905-278-4111, stella.ambler@parl.gc.ca