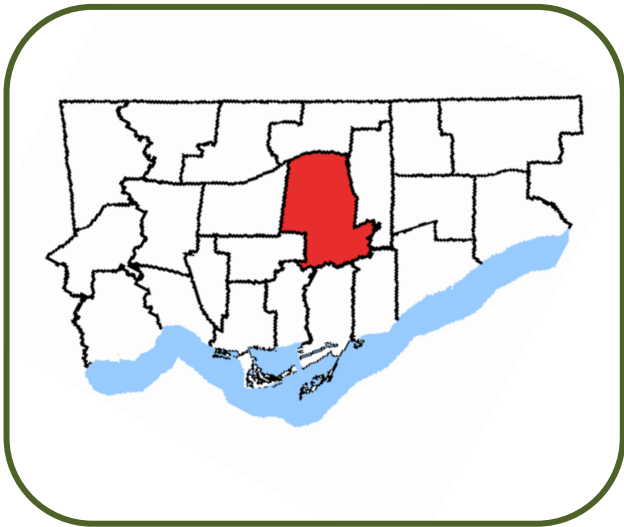


Don Valley West Action on Poverty Profile

Provincial
Riding
Profiles

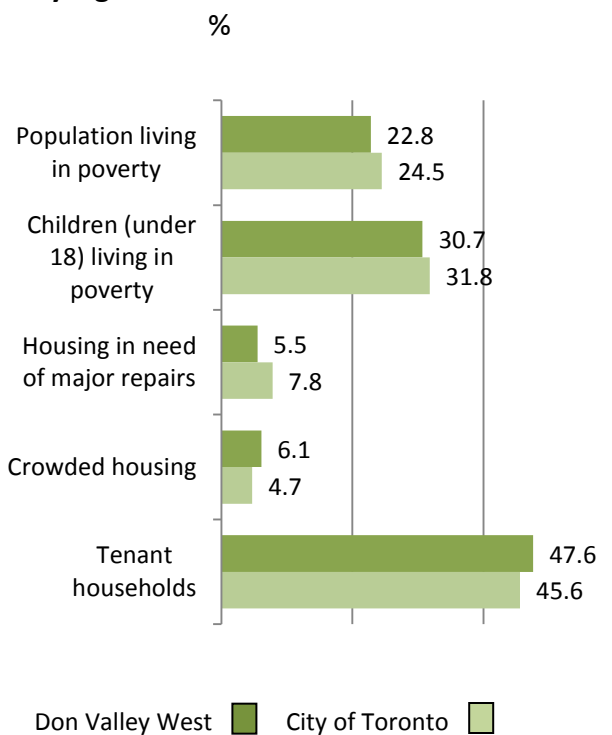


Story Behind the Stats

Don Valley West lies towards the centre of Toronto and is loosely bordered by Highway 401, Don Mills Road, the Don River, and Yonge Street. It contains Wards 25, 26, and a small part of 29.

As this riding contains some of the most affluent neighbourhoods in Toronto, it is easy to assume that poverty is not present. Unfortunately, the reality is that there is unemployment, underemployment, food insecurity, and a lack of affordable and quality housing for many residents.

Key Figures



117,080 people live in Don Valley West
26,409 live in poverty - 22.8%*

“Given that many in our community have serious housing problems, community organizing is crucial to give these people a voice.”

Brook Physick
Licensed Paralegal
Flemingdon Community Legal Services



The Action on Poverty profile series was created by Social Planning Toronto and the Alliance for a Poverty-Free Toronto. The profile includes Census data from Statistics Canada’s Federal Electoral District Profiles and Community Profiles.

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



Taking Action in Don Valley West

Flemingdon Community Legal Services (FCLS), funded by Legal Aid Ontario, offers services to community members who live in their catchment area and meet their financial guidelines. They provide summary advice and representation to clients, as well as engage in community development, outreach, and public legal education.

Although the catchment area for FCLS includes some of Toronto's wealthiest communities, poverty is not absent. One of the most predominant issues that residents have been dealing with for decades is that of housing. They face a scarcity of affordable housing and an abundance of low-quality accommodation. Staff members provide legal aid to those who qualify and attempt to resolve service users' housing issues within the legal system.

Believing in the power of community organizing, FCLS also tries to connect residents with each other and link them with other organizations. This helps raise awareness of residents' rights and brings them together in order to fight against poverty with a collective, powerful voice.

www.flemingdonlegal.org

Alliance for a Poverty-Free Toronto Takes Action

APT is made up of 40 community members and organizational representatives, including individuals with lived experience of poverty, from across the city. We are working together to develop and promote a comprehensive plan of action to eliminate poverty in Toronto.

Want to get involved?

Contact us at apt@socialplanningtoronto.org or call (416) 351-0095 x255

www.povertyfreetoronto.org

How to Connect with your Elected Representatives on these Issues

Mayor: Rob Ford, 416-397-FORD (3673), mayor_ford@toronto.ca

City Councillors: *Jaye Robinson*, 416-395-6408, councillor_robinson@toronto.ca (Ward 25);

John Parker, 416-392-0215, councillor_parker@toronto.ca (Ward 26);

Mary Fragedakis, 416-392-4032, councillor_fragedakis@toronto.ca (Ward 29)

School Trustees: *Gerri Gershon*, 416-395-8408, gerri.gershon@tdsb.on.ca (Toronto District School Board-English public school board)

Toronto Catholic District School Board: 416-222-8282

Member of Provincial Parliament (MPP): *Hon. Kathleen O. Wynne*, 416-425-6777, kwynne.mpp@liberal.ola.org

Member of Parliament (MP): *John Carmichael*, 416-467-7275, john.carmichael@parl.gc.ca