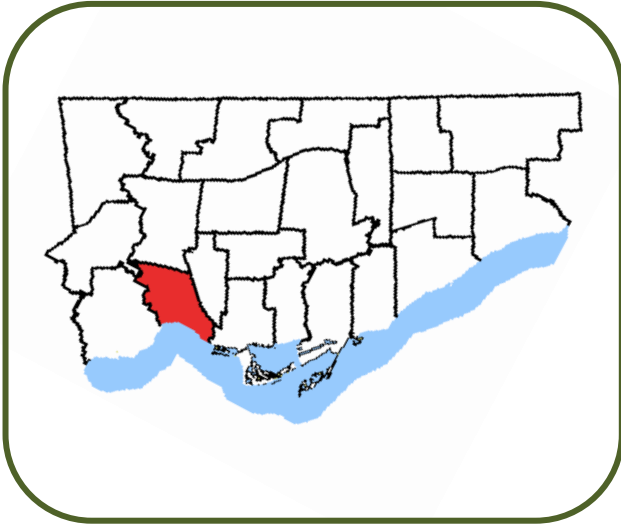


Parkdale-High Park Action on Poverty Profile

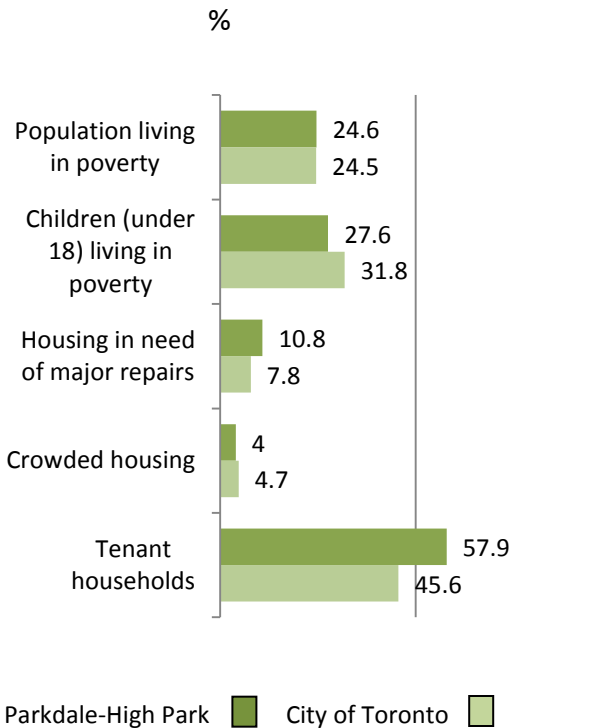


Story Behind the Stats

Parkdale-High Park rests along the southern border of Toronto. It is enclosed by the Humber River, the Canadian Pacific Railway, and the Canadian National/Canadian Pacific Railway tracks. It includes Wards 13 and 14.

Over half of homes in this area are rented rather than owned, significantly higher than Toronto's average. Residents in this riding face high levels of poverty, particularly those with mental health issues. Initiatives led by people living in poverty, including consumer survivors, have emerged to combat poverty and stigma, develop employment solutions, and create an inclusive community.

Key Figures



102,150 people live in Parkdale-High Park
24,467 live in poverty - 24.6%*

“Voices from the Street, like all of Working for Change’s work, evolved around people who have been marginalized, becoming the voice for their issues and using their lived experience as a strength.”

Linda Coltman
Voices from the Street (a Working for Change initiative)



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 Parkdale-High Park

Working for Change, formerly the Ontario Council of Alternative Businesses, advocates for employment opportunities for psychiatric consumer/survivors, emphasizing the importance of work in the lives of people who have been marginalized by poverty and mental health issues. Working for Change has worked with consumer survivors to launch several initiatives that have changed the lives of residents, not only in this riding, but across the city. These alternative business initiatives include: the Raging Spoon Catering Company, the Raging Spoon Café, Out of this World Café and Espresso Bar, Parkdale Green Thumb Enterprises, and Grassroots Research.

Developed out of Working for Change, Voices from the Street - a speakers bureau comprised of people who have had direct experience with homelessness, poverty and/or mental health issues - works to put a human face to homelessness and involves people with direct experience as leaders in a public education process. From Voices, tenant and newcomer speakers bureaus are developing. Central to all of Working for Change's work, people with direct experience are leading change.

<http://workingforchange.ca>

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*, 416-397-3673, mayor_ford@toronto.ca

City Councillors: *Sarah Doucette*, 416-392-4072, councillor_doucette@toronto.ca (Ward 13);
Gord Perks, 416-392-7919, councillor_perks@toronto.ca (Ward 14)

School Trustee: *Irene Atkinson*, 416-397-3091, irene.atkinson@tdsb.on.ca (Toronto District School Board-English public school board)

Toronto Catholic District School Board: 416-222-8282

Member of Provincial Parliament (MPP): *Cheri DiNovo*, 416-763-5630, dinovoc-qp@ndp.on.ca

Member of Parliament (MP): *Peggy Nash*, 416-769-5072, peggy.nash@parl.gc.ca