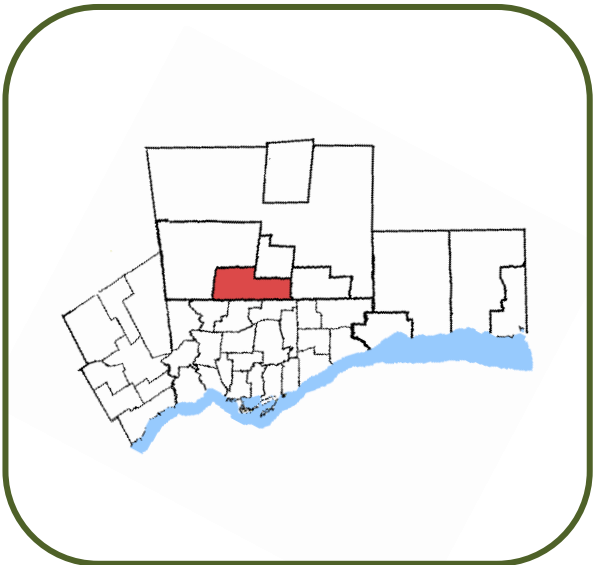


# Thornhill

## Action on Poverty Profile



### Story Behind the Stats

The Thornhill riding is bordered by Highway 400, Rutherford Road/Highway 7, Highway 404, and Steeles Avenue East/West. It is divided among the two Municipalities of Vaughan and Markham.

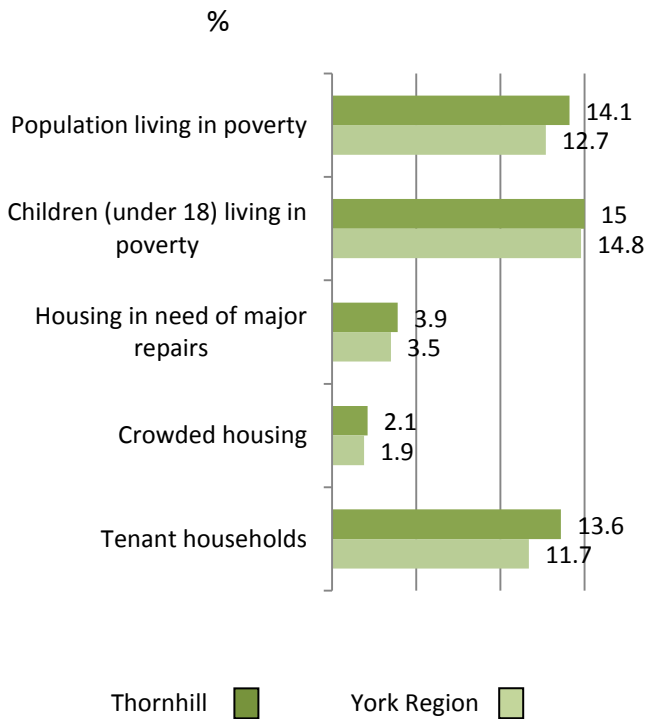
Ethnically, this riding has a very diverse population and is home to many racialized communities. It is particularly known for being home to a large Jewish community. A major issue facing residents in the riding, especially those from racialized communities, is a lack of affordable housing. There is a large number of residents who are at risk of losing their homes due to inadequate income to pay rent or make their mortgage payments.

**131,970 people live in Thornhill**  
**18,562 live in poverty – 14.1%\***

**“Here at Jewish Family and Child Services, we see the terrible, overwhelming distress that homelessness causes. The single-most significant shortfall in the struggle against poverty continues to be affordable or subsidized housing. We know that many – far too many – families are just one unforeseen contingency, one unplanned layoff, one medical emergency or even one extra bill away from disaster.”**

**Monica Auerbach**  
 Director of Practice & Director of York Region Branch  
 Jewish Family & Child

### Key Figures



The Action on Poverty profile series for the ridings in York Region were created with information from Social Planning Toronto, the Social Planning Council of York Region, the York Region Do the Math Working Group and the York Region ISARC Social Audit, 2010. Statistics were drawn from 2006 Census Data.

\*For details on calculations and definitions, go to [www.spno.ca](http://www.spno.ca)



# Taking Action in Thornhill

Jewish Family and Child's (JF&CS) mission is to support the healthy development of individuals, children, families, and communities through prevention, protection, counselling, education, and advocacy services, within the context of Jewish values. With four locations in the Greater Toronto Area (GTA), it reaches into every corner of the community with services that identify and meet the evolving needs of residents with an emphasis on the area's strong and growing Jewish population.

Recognizing the lack of affordable housing, current economic conditions, and the financial needs of families, JF&CS provides an assistance program to ensure a quality of life for those within our community that reflects integrity and self-respect. Through the United Jewish Appeal Federation of Greater Ontario, under its Supplementary Financial Assistance Program (SFAP), individuals and families can receive a basic income supplement each month. Any person living in the GTA whose income is derived from social assistance, family benefits, Employment Insurance, Old Age Pension or low wages may apply for this assistance.

A major consequence of living in poverty is family stress so JF&CS provides a broad range of services to children under 16 years of age and their families. These services include preventative and support programs that aim to strengthen and rehabilitate families.

[www.jfandcs.com](http://www.jfandcs.com)

## Social Planning Council of York Region

SPCYR is an independent, non-profit, community-based organization. We are committed to advancing social and economic justice and resident engagement in all aspects of community life in York Region. We do this through community-based research, social planning and community action, with particular emphasis on the conditions facing those from marginalized or equity-seeking communities.

Want to get involved?  
Contact us at [info@spcyr.com](mailto:info@spcyr.com)  
[www.spcyr.com](http://www.spcyr.com)

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

Mayor: *Maurizio Bevilacqua*, 905-832-8585 ext 8888, [maurizio.bevilacqua@vaughan.ca](mailto:maurizio.bevilacqua@vaughan.ca) (Vaughan); *Frank Scarpitti*, 905-475-4872, [fscarpitti@markham.ca](mailto:fscarpitti@markham.ca) (Markham)

Member of Provincial Parliament (MPP): *Peter Shurman*, 905-731-8462, [peter.shurman@pc.ola.org](mailto:peter.shurman@pc.ola.org)

Member of Parliament (MP): *Hon. Peter Kent*, 905-886-9911, [peter.kent@parl.gc.ca](mailto:peter.kent@parl.gc.ca)

*For a complete listing of all elected representatives, including public & Catholic school boards, a map of the riding & its boundaries, see the York Region overview sheets*