

environment
arts&culture
getting around
safety
belonging
health&wellness
housing
learning
work
income
getting started
economy

KINGSTON & AREA'S

VitalSigns® 2009



Community Foundation
for Kingston & Area

Welcome to Kingston & Area's Vital Signs®

Vital Signs® is an annual community check-up conducted by community foundations across Canada and is coordinated nationally by Community Foundations of Canada.



Welcome to the first publication of Kingston & Area's Vital Signs®. This is planned to be the first of a series of annual reports from the Community Foundation for Kingston & Area. Vital Signs® is an annual community check-up conducted by community foundations across Canada and is coordinated nationally by Community Foundations of Canada. Drawing information from national databases and local sources, we have tried to give a picture of some aspects of life in our community. We hope you will find it interesting and useful. We also hope that it will encourage readers to support the many great things already going on in Kingston and engage as citizens, volunteers or donors in action in areas that need significant improvement.

Bob Pritchard
President

Dan Norman
Vital Signs® Committee Chair

Vikram Varma
Executive Director

Andria Coward
Grant & Program Manager

This Vital Signs report can be viewed online at
www.kingstonandareavitalsigns.ca

About the Community Foundation for Kingston & Area

The Community Foundation for Kingston & Area is one of over 160 community foundations in Canadian cities and towns. It was created in 1996, and we changed our name in 2008 to reflect our activity in all of the former Frontenac County and Loyalist Township. We are also active in Prince Edward County through the Stark Family Fund.

Our Foundation's Vision:

"A vibrant community where everyone has the opportunity to take part in building a caring, healthy and culturally rich community" is one that inspires and motivates organizations and individuals in our community. All of our stakeholders have roles in realizing this vision. Our Foundation's Mission is threefold:

- to work with donors to make strategic and effective grants to projects that enhance the quality of life in our community;
- to grow and carefully manage a lasting endowment to fund grants;
- to serve our community as a resource and partner.

Since 1996, The Community Foundation for Kingston & Area has awarded over 850 Community grants totalling more than \$1,590,000, using investment income from our endowments. We currently manage approximately \$10 million in 170 funds, and we have also processed over \$3,000,000 in flow-through grants.

Community Foundation for Kingston & Area

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2008 Grants by Category

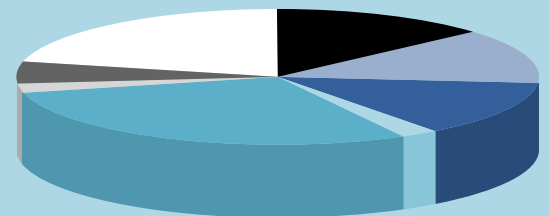
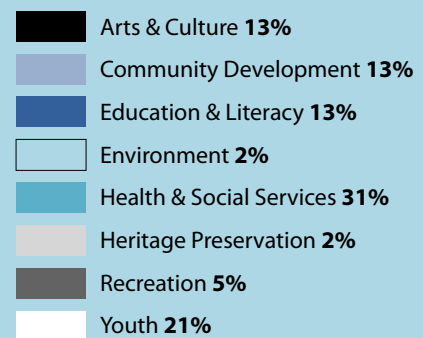




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What is Vital Signs®

Grading and Priorities

Grading of indicators and priorities is a standard part of the Vital Signs® project and is meant to represent the collective opinion of citizens of Kingston and Area, as measured by responses to an internet survey. In addition to grading indicators, respondents were asked to give the various areas an overall rating. Many respondents were invited through organizations that work in one of the issue areas. The recruiting was therefore non-random and as there were fewer than 100 complete responses the survey is not statistically precise.

Each indicator was given a grade represented in the report with asterisks as follows

***** Very Poor

**** Poor

*** Neutral/Uncertain

** Good

* Very Good

The survey also asked for a choice of the top three priority issue areas. As each issue area appeared as a priority on respondents lists, it was evident that all of the issue areas were considered important. The top three issue areas, generated using a weighed average allocating a 3 for a 1st, 2 for a 2nd, and 1 for a 3rd, ranked in order, were Economy, Health & Wellness, and Income Distribution. Four other areas were close to Income Distribution.

Thank you to those who took the time to assist us by responding to this survey.

Vital Signs® is best described as a community report card that provides key indicators in twelve areas that reflect a community's "health" and vitality.

The idea of Vital Signs® began in Toronto in 2001 and gives a picture of the state of the community in a range of issue areas. It was made a national program of Community Foundations of Canada (CFC). This year, in addition to Kingston, 15 other community foundations in cities such as Victoria, Toronto, Sudbury and St. John are also producing reports.

How are Indicators Selected?

Indicators are selected based on data availability and an informal survey of various stakeholders. In addition, all Community Foundations participating in Vital Signs® agree to publish a common indicator, referred to as a "core" indicator for comparison amongst the various participating communities.

As data are most readily available for Kingston Census Metropolitan Area (CMA), which consists of City of Kingston, South Frontenac Township, Township of Frontenac Islands, and Loyalist Township, most indicators used in this Vital Signs® are for the CMA. Where data were only available for the City (e.g., transit data), or for a wider area (e.g., health data for KFLA) it is specifically noted in the report.

In addition to publicly available data that have been provided to us by CFC, the Community Foundation for Kingston & Area has also consulted local sources who have kindly made data available. In many cases we have used private communications received by phone or email, in others we have quoted from a published document or a website. A list of sources for indicators in the report is available from the Foundation. We thank, in particular, the United Way serving KFLA, KFLA Public Health Unit, Kingston Police, Kingston Transit, Kingston Access Services, Kingston's Department of Cultural Services, KEDCO and the Social Planning Council for Kingston and Area. We also thank other local agencies that have been helpful to us.

Why Vital Signs®?

Vital Signs® supports the three aspects of our Foundation's work. It will help us better understand our community and opportunities for strategic and effective granting. It will help donors to understand the opportunities to create endowments or grants that improve the lives of people needing support or that enrich the environment and cultural life we all enjoy.

We also hope it will move us all to support or initiate programs and projects that help the less fortunate participate more fully or that make Kingston and the surrounding area an increasingly healthy, culturally vibrant place for all its citizens.

Introductory

The Kingston Census Metropolitan Area includes the City of Kingston, South Frontenac Township, Loyalist Township and Frontenac Islands Township.

There are a total of 62,045 households in the Kingston CMA. In 2006, the population of the Kingston census metropolitan area (CMA) was 152,358 (1.3 per cent of the provincial population). This was up by 3.8 per cent from 146,838 in 2001. During the same time, the population of the City of Kingston grew by 2.6% from 114,195 in 2001 to 117,207 in 2006. The provincial and national growth rates for the same period were 6.6% and 5.4% respectively.

Married couples make up the largest group in the Kingston CMA – 48.8% of the total population 15 and older are married, with single persons comprising the second largest category at 32.9 per cent.

At 40.7 years, the median age in Kingston (CMA) in 2006 had increased by 2.6 years from a median age of 38.1 in 2001.

The 2006 median age was slightly higher than the national level (39.5 years) and the provincial level (39.0 years). The proportion of the population under 15 in Kingston (CMA) in 2006 was 16.1 per cent compared to 17.7 per cent nationally and 18.2 per cent provincially. The proportion of the population in Kingston (CMA) aged 65 and older in 2006 was 15.3 per cent, compared to the national rate of 13.7 per cent and the provincial rate of 13.6 per cent. Kingston's percentage was up 1.2 percentage points from a share of 14.2 per cent in 2001.

Over 50% of the population 15 years and over in Kingston CMA has a post secondary degree or certification. In Kingston (CMA) in 2009, the goods producing sector accounted for 12.3 per cent of the labour force while the services producing sector accounted for 87.7 per cent of the labour force.

The City of Kingston is unusual in including a large armed forces presence within its municipal boundaries. Canadian Forces Base Kingston employs 7800 people. This number includes military personnel, including some based in Kingston and posted abroad, as well as civilians working at the base.

The foreign-born population in Kingston (CMA) was 18,505 persons, of which 16,205 reside in the City of Kingston. The foreign born population represents 12.5 per cent of the total population. This compares to a provincial proportion of 28.3 per cent of the population and a national proportion of 19.8 per cent. The rate increased only slightly from 12.4 per cent in 2001. Visible minorities represent 5.8% of the total population, 8,600 persons in total.

In 2005, average real income of economic families in Kingston (CMA) was \$82,966, up 7.6 per cent from \$77,093 (2005 dollars) in 2000, 8.4 per cent below the provincial average and 0.8 per cent above the national average. The median family income for economic families was \$69,051 in Kingston CMA.

Almost 50%
of the population
of Kingston
CMA has a post
secondary degree
or certification.

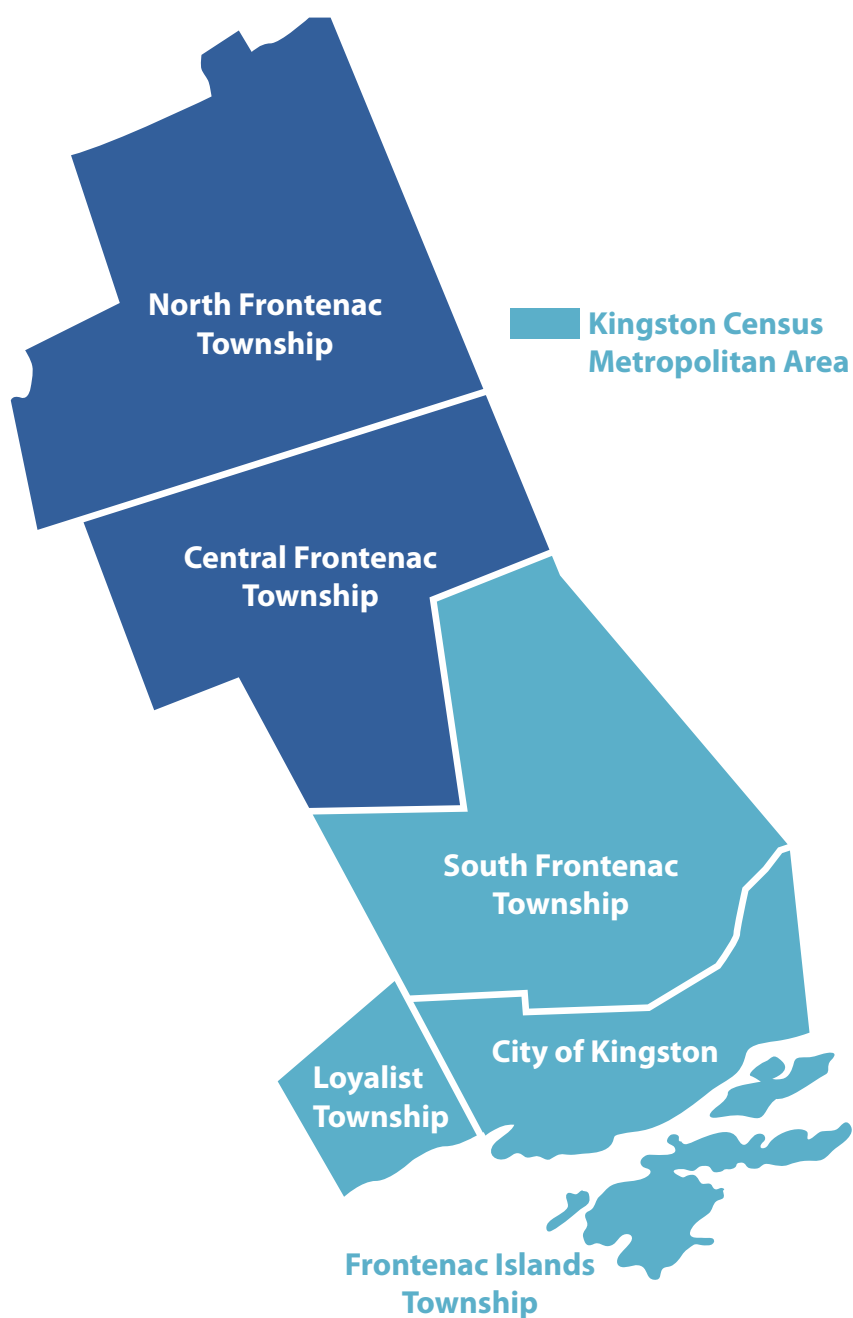


Maps

The top map indicates where the Kingston census metropolitan area is located in Ontario.

The bottom map indicates the entire granting area for Community Foundation for Kingston & Area

The light blue indicates the Kingston Census Metropolitan Area .



Economy

Labour force ****

In 2008, the number of workers employed in Kingston CMA (averaged over twelve months) was 79,400. The number decreased from 80,300 in June 2008 to 76,500 in June 2009 thus declining by 4.7%. The provincial decline in number of workers employed was only 3.1% over that period.

Employment Insurance ****

There were 1,220 "regular" Employment Insurance beneficiaries in Kingston CMA in April 2008. The number was 1,800 in April 2009, an increase of 47.5%. "All" EI benefits include regular, training, job creation, self-employment, sickness, maternity, fishing, work sharing, adoption or parental benefits. The number of all EI beneficiaries in Kingston CMA increased from 2,460 in April 2008 to 3,180 in April 2009, an increase of 29.3%.

Employment by Industry ****

The table below shows percentage figures of total employment for June 2009 by industry.

Industry	Kingston CMA	Ontario
Construction	5.8	6.2
Manufacturing	5.4	12.2
Agriculture, mining, utilities	1.1	2.7
Total Goods Producing	12.3	21.1
Trade	15.2	15.1
Transport, Warehouse	n/a	4.8
Financial, Real estate	5.0	7.7
Professional, Scientific Technical	4.7	7.7
Business, Building, Support	5.4	4.3
Educational	13.2	7.2
Health Care, Social Assistance	17.1	10.8
Information, culture, recreation	3.5	5.0
Accommodation, food service	7.7	6.2
Other service	4.7	4.8
Public Administration	9.5	5.5
TOTAL SERVICES	87.7	78.9



Photo: Janna Stanistreet

Housing Starts ****

The number of housing starts fluctuates considerably from month to month (only partly because of the weather) and year to year (only partly because of the economy). There were 290 starts in the first six months of 2009. There were 163 in May 2009, the highest number in 18 months. The numbers for recent years are as follows:

2003	1,131
2004	872
2005	683
2006	968
2007	860
2008	672

Income Distribution

Overall Poverty Rate measured by LIM: ****

The Low Income Measure (LIM) is a relative measure of low income. It is 50% of the median income adjusted for family size, so that a family unit with this income has much less spending power than a "typical" unit. By this measure, 19.5% of the population of Kingston CMA lived with pre-tax low income in 2006, compared with about 21% for all of Ontario. These percentages were nearly constant for the years from 2001 to 2006.

Overall Poverty Rate measured by LICO: ****

The Low Income Cut off (LICO) is often used to identify families living with inadequate incomes. It gives an income such that the family unit spends a higher proportion of income on necessities (such as food, shelter, and clothing) than an average family unit of the same size, leaving little for discretionary or crisis expenditures. The LICO for Kingston CMA varies from \$18,260 for a single person to \$34,671 for a family of four. Based on after tax income, 13.4% of persons in Kingston lived below this poverty line in 2005, while in Ontario 14.7% were below this line.

Use of Food Banks: ***

The total number of households in Kingston using food banks in 2008 was 2,288, up 3% from 2,206 in 2007. However, Partners in Mission Food Bank reports an 11% increase in demand in the first six months of 2009. Meal providers in Kingston City saw a 4% increase in the number of meals served in 2008. The Food Sharing Project (breakfasts and hearty snacks in schools) served 9,092 students in 2008, up from 5,218 the previous year.



An Income Gap: ****

Median family income varies by neighbourhood within the City of Kingston. In 2005 the highest median was \$131,948 in one neighbourhood, and the lowest was \$35,247 in another. At that time the median for Kingston CMA was \$69,051 and the median for Ontario was \$72,734.

Proportion of Economic Families in Income Brackets: ****

The table shows the percentage of families in each bracket for Kingston and Ontario in 2000 and 2005, all in 2005 dollars (that is, taking account of inflation).

	Kingston CMA 2000	Kingston CMA 2005	Ontario 2000	Ontario 2005
\$0 – 24,999	11.6%	9.1%	10.4%	9.5%
\$25,000 – 49,999	21.8%	21.6%	20.6%	21.1%
\$50,000 – 99,999	42.8%	42.1%	39.9%	38.9%
\$100,000 –	23.9%	27.3%	29.0%	30.5%

Child Poverty Rate: ****

In 2006, the child poverty rate in Kingston CMA, based on the LIM, was 21.0%, down from 23.0% in 2001. The Ontario rate for 2006 was 23.4% (partly due to a rate of 30% in the City of Toronto).

Elderly Poverty Rate: ****

In 2006, 6.0% of the elderly (65 and over) in Kingston CMA lived on incomes below the LIM, down from 6.6% in 2001. In Ontario in 2006, the corresponding percentage was 11.3%.

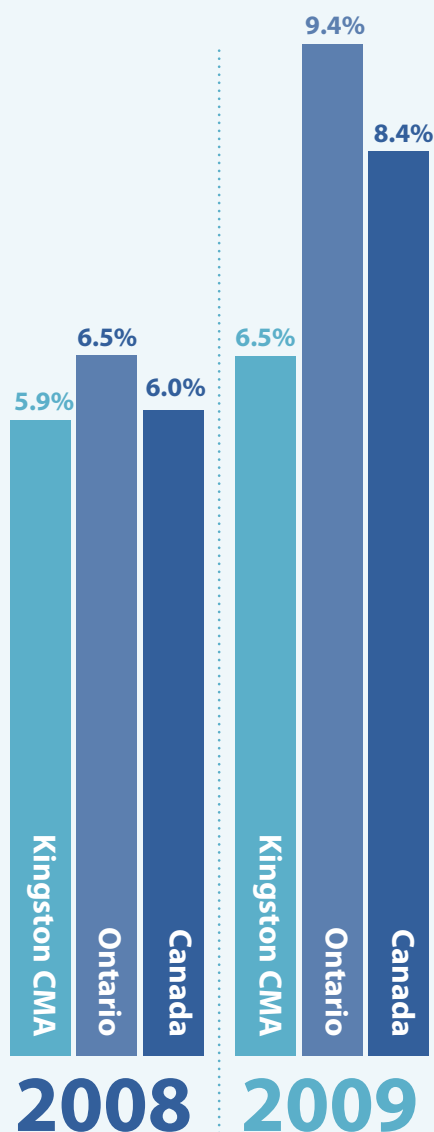
In Kingston CMA the
child poverty rate was
21% in 2006.



Did you know? Ontario Child Benefit is the cornerstone of Ontario's Poverty Reduction Strategy, which has set a target of reducing the number of children living in poverty by 25% over five years – 90,000 kids. Families with an annual income of \$20,000 or less will receive the full Ontario Child Benefit for each child. Those earning more may also be eligible, based on the number of children under 18 and family net income.

Work

Unemployment Rate



Did you know? Although the public sector comprises a large part of the Kingston economy with the Royal Military College, Queen's University, St. Lawrence College, CFB Kingston, the hospitals, and several correctional institutions, Kingston has a strong private sector that accounts for 60% of local employment.



Employment Rate: ****

In June 2009, the employment rate in Kingston CMA was 60.6%, while the provincial rate was 61.4% and the national rate was 62.1% (these rates are seasonally unadjusted estimates). The rates for June 2008 were Kingston 63.7%, Ontario 64.2%, and Canada 64.1%.

Unemployment Rate: ****

The seasonally adjusted unemployment rate in Kingston CMA in June 2009 was 6.5%. The corresponding provincial rate for June 2009 was 9.4% and the national rate was 8.4%. In June 2008, these rates were 5.9% (Kingston), 6.5% (Ontario) and 6.0% (Canada).

Employment Growth: ****

In 2000 there were 65,100 employed workers in Kingston CMA. In 2008 there were 79,400. The compound annual employment growth rate for Kingston from 2000-2008 was thus 2.5%, above both the provincial rate of 1.8% and the national rate of 1.9%. As noted above, the employment rate has dropped in the last year.

Average Earnings in 2000-2005, for Persons Working Full Year, Full Time: ****

In 2000, the average earnings in Kingston CMA were \$48,088 and by 2005 the number had increased to \$51,267 (both figures in 2005 dollars), a real increase of 6.6%. The provincial increase was 4.9% and the national increase was 5.5%.

Average Real Hourly Earnings: ****

The average and median hourly earnings for 2008 are shown in this table.

	Kingston	Ontario	Canada
Average	\$21.97	\$22.15	\$21.32
Median	\$19.75	\$19.30	\$18.77

The change from 1997 to 2008 in the median real hourly earnings (i.e., discounting inflation) was 7.8% for Kingston, 1.9% for Ontario, and 5.1% for Canada.

Environment

Households Influenced by Advisories of Poor Air Quality: ****

In 2007, 68% of households in Kingston CMA reported that they were aware of a poor air quality advisory in their area. Of these households, 32% reported that they did not change their routine because of this advisory. In comparison, 2005 saw 59% of households aware of a poor air quality advisory, and 57% did not change their routine. This change shows that poor air quality is being looked at as a more serious issue than it was previously.

Recycling Rate: *****

By 2007, 99% of households in Kingston CMA had access to the recycling program. Of those households with access, 100% participated. Provincially, 96% had access to the program, and 99% of those with access participated.

Households that Composted Kitchen or Yard Waste: *****

In 2007, 68% of households in Kingston CMA participated in the composting program, which was up from 33% in 2006. 32% of households reported composting kitchen waste, while 88% of households that were not apartment building dwellers and had a lawn or garden in 2005 composted yard waste. Provincially, composting rates increased from 34% in 2006 to 72% in 2007. Nationally, the increase was equally impressive, with 27% in 2006 and 57% in 2007.

Dwelling Temperature Changes and Energy Saving Fluorescent Light Bulbs: *****

In 2007, 37% of households in Kingston CMA had a programmable thermostat. Of these households, 83% programmed their thermostat, and 55% lowered the temperature at night. In comparison, only 28% of households that did not have programmable thermostat lowered the temperature. 78% of households in Kingston used compact fluorescent light bulbs in 2007.



Photo: Andria Coward,

Did you know? It's our anniversary! With blue boxes being provided to households in Kingston for the first time in 1989, Kingston is celebrating 20 years of recycling this year. As an anniversary celebration, we started green bin collection this year!

Housing

Gross Income Shelter Ratio: ****

Nearly one in two households (48.1%) in Kingston CMA spent more than 30% of their income on housing in 2005, a percentage commonly judged to leave them with too little money for other necessities. In Ontario, 44.6% spent more than 30%, in Canada 40.1% spent more than 30%. In Kingston one in five spent 50% or more of their income on housing, leaving very little for other basic needs.

Did you know? The United Way serving KFL&A has recently published a thorough study (*A Place First*) on housing and homelessness in our area. It advocates the “Housing First” model – placing homeless people directly into permanent housing first and then addressing other specific needs. Homeless people are more likely to access health care services and other social services, even spend time in correctional facilities, thus costing society an estimated \$134,000 per person per year. It costs much less to spend directly on supported social housing. Several Canadian cities are now using the Housing First model.

Did you know? Kingston’s Home Base Housing has been working on the “Housing first” model. It recently opened a building on Joseph Street to provide 24 1-bedroom apartments for homeless people. It completed a similar 14-unit building in 2006.



Photo: Janna Stanistreet

Average rent as proportion of median household income: ****

In 2006, the average annual rent for a 2-bedroom apartment was 14.6% of median income for Census families in Kingston. In other words, in order to pay an average amount of rent, the median family spent 14.6% of their income. Median family income in 2005 was \$69,051.

Homeless Shelters: ****

Since 2006, there has been a 6% increase in the number of bed nights in Kingston’s emergency hostels. Kingston hostels and shelters report longer stays and an increase in the number of people turned away. On June 1, 2009 in Kingston, the number of beds in homeless shelters was 83, unchanged from 2008 but increased from 62 on June 1, 2007.

Social Housing Waiting List: ****

The number of households on the centralized waiting list for social housing in Kingston increased from 979 in 2005 to 1,073 in 2008.

Average House Price: ****

In 2006 the average house cost 3.1 years times the annual income of a family with median income. This ratio was 27 % lower than the provincial average (4.2). House buying became relatively more expensive over the period 2001-06 – the Kingston CMA ratio increased by 34.4 %.

Rental Vacancy Rate: ****

A healthy vacancy rate is considered to be 3 – 5%. The vacancy rate in Kingston for 2-bedroom apartments in privately initiated structures with at least three units was 2.6% in April 2009, according to CHMC.

Safety

Violent Crime Incidence: *****

The Violent Crime Rate in Kingston CMA was 668 per 100,000 persons in 2008, down slightly from 675 in 2007. Kingston City's rate had a sharp decline from 1,443 in 1991 to 690 in 2001 but has remained in the 657 to 728 range since. The provincial rate has declined more gradually from 1043 in 1991, to 885 in 2001, to 732 in 2008.

Violent Crime Severity: ****†

The Violent Crime Severity Index for Kingston CMA in 2008 was 61.2, below the provincial index (81.5) and the national index (94.6). Ours is one of the lowest indices for Canadian cities, though Guelph CMA (41.5) and Kitchener-Waterloo-Cambridge (60.3) have lower indices. The Violent Crime Severity Index weights the volume of each type of violent crime by its incarceration rate and its average incarceration period. The Violent Crime Severity Rate was set at 100 for Canada in 2006.

Property Crime: ****†*

The Property Crime Rate for Kingston CMA declined from 3,905 per 100,000 persons in 2001 to 2,930 in 2007 to 2,772 in 2008. The provincial rate declined from 5,640 in 1991 to 2,647 in 2007 to 2,530 in 2008. Property crimes include breaking and entering, all theft, possession of stolen goods, and all fraud.

Traffic Safety: *****

Kingston City Police issued 7,101 tickets for violations of the Highway Traffic Act in 2008, down from 7,363 in 2007. In 2008, 4,820 of these were for moving offences compared with 5,567 in 2007.

RIDE programs: *****

Kingston Police ran a full time RIDE program for three weeks in December as well as at other times. 12,196 cars were checked, 94 people were tested for alcohol, 6 Criminal Code charges were laid, and 22 drivers received 12-hour suspensions.



Photo: Janna Stanistreet

Did you know? Kingston City police investigated 2,423 collisions in 2008. The top five collision intersections in 2008 were: Taylor Kidd & Gardiner's Rd, Bath Rd & Sir John A Macdonald; Princess St. & Sir John A Macdonald; Bath & Queen Mary.; Bath & Portsmouth. However, these account for only 105 collisions – you can collide in lots of places!

Did you know? Kingston City police received 42,755 calls for service in 2008, up from 39,483 the previous year. The Police also participate in the Threat Assessment Program – a multi-discipline collaboration with educators and health and social service providers. It is a Prevention/ Intervention initiative to identify, prevent and respond to violence in schools and address high risk student behaviour.

Health & Wellness

Low Birth Weight: ****

In KFLA in 2007-08, 9.2% of babies born to mothers aged 15-19 were born with low birth weight. For KFLA females aged 15-49 in this period the rate of low birth weight (for singleton births) was 6.8%. This was the same as the rate for females 15-49 in the South East Health Region (which includes Kingston) but higher than the provincial rate of 6.4%.

Number of persons without physician: ****

A careful Statistics Canada survey in Kingston City in November 2007 found 14.8% of respondents did not have a family physician (an estimated 17,350 Kingston residents). In May 2008, KEDCO's physician recruiter program identified the need to recruit 25-30 physicians over three years. Since mid-2008, 12 family physicians have been recruited, 11 of whom are now in practice, while 5 physicians have retired. This net gain of 6 may have reduced the physician shortage by about one half.

Did you know? Ontarians with higher levels of educational attainment are significantly more likely to have consulted with a mental health professional (Canadian Community Health Survey 2005).

About your own vital signs: the KFLA Health Unit's Motiv8 program is designed to educate employees in the workplace on physical activity, behaviour change and nutrition.



Photo: Janna Stanistreet

Obesity Rate: ****

In 2008, the obesity rate for the population aged 18 and over in KFLA was 20.2%, up from 18.9% in 2007. The national average is 17.1% and the provincial average is 17.2%. Obesity rates are based on self-reported body mass index (BMI).

Smoking: ****

22.5% of the population aged 12 and older in KFLA identified themselves as current smokers in 2008, down from 24.6% in 2007. The national rate is 21.4% and the provincial rate is 19.8%. Good news on the national front is that exposure to second hand smoke at home has declined steadily in the last five years from more than 10% to 7.4%.

Self-Rated Mental Health: ****

In 2008, 72.1% of respondents in KFLA rated their mental health status as "excellent" or "very good", similar to the provincial and national rate. One in five Canadians will experience a serious mental illness in the course of their lifetime.

Physical Activity: ****

The physical activity index uses the total daily Energy Expenditure (EE) values (kcal/kg/day) to categorize respondents as "active", "moderate" or "inactive". In 2008, 55% of the population aged 12 and over in KFLA reported being physically active or moderately active, up from 54% in 2007. Kingston's rate is 5.5% points higher than the provincial rate.

Nutrition: ****

In 2005, 44.2% of KFLA residents aged 14 and over met the vegetable and fruit recommendations of Canada's Food Guide. By 2008, the national rate was also 44%, whereas in 2001 the national rate was only 37.6%. In 2005, Ontarian males aged 14-18 were significantly less likely to meet the vegetable and fruit recommendations than females aged 14-18.

Learning

Aboriginal high school completion rate: ★★★★★

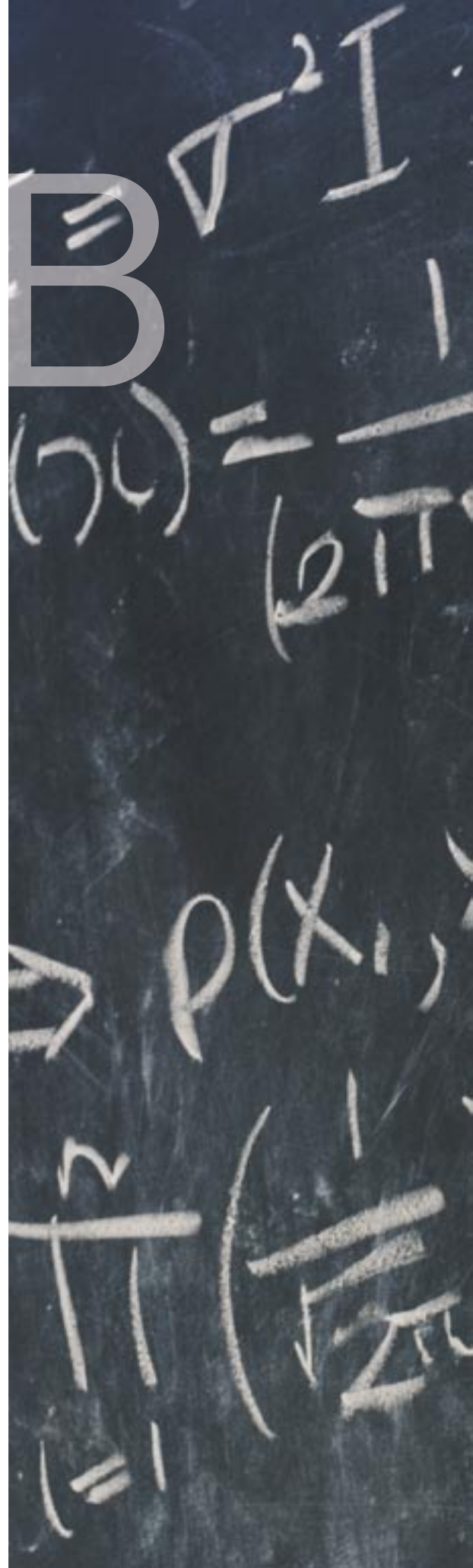
The aboriginal high school completion rate for those aged 15 and over in Kingston CMA was 72.7% in 2006. The rate was higher than both the national rate for Aboriginals (56.3%) and the provincial rate (62.4%).

Test Results: ★★★★★

1,564 first time eligible students from the Limestone District School Board and 933 first time eligible students from the Algonquin and Lakeshore Catholic District School Board wrote the Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test (OSSLT) in 2009. The success rate for the Limestone Board students was 82% and for the Algonquin and Lakeshore students it was 92%, improvements of 1% and 3%, respectively, over 2008. The provincial success rate was 85%.

Canadian Council on Learning Composite Learning Index: ★★★★★

The Composite Learning Index in 2009 for Kingston CMA was 78, down from 81 in 2008. The 2009 score was equal to the 2009 Ontario score but higher than the national score of 77. (The index is concerned with life-long learning. It is computed by a complicated statistical process using 17 indicators.)



Arts & Culture



Grand Theatre: ****

The Grand Theatre reopened on May 2, 2008. It presented a program of 30 performances and four educational shows in the period September 2008 to May 2009 with audiences totalling 17,000. In addition 266 performances in the Baby Grand and the Regina Rosen Auditorium were presented by various groups, to audiences totalling 59,000.

Museums in Kingston: ****

The Kingston Association of Museums includes 22 museums and historic sites and three art galleries. According to a recent survey with reports from 15 sites (including all but one of the largest sites), these museums received 240,400 visits in 2008.

Employment in Cultural Industries: ****

In 2008, 1,700 people were employed in Kingston CMA in "Cultural Industries" (2.14% of all industries).

Did you know? Our Buskers' Festival is popular not only with the public – there were 200 applicants from many countries for 30 positions this year! There are many music festivals in the Kingston Area, including Skeleton Park, Wolfe Island, Amherst Island, Limestone City Blues Festival, and the Kiwanis Festival. Downtown Business! BIA spends \$2.5 million a year on arts & culture events such as Music in the Park, Buskers Festival, Movies in the Square, Big Band Fridays, Country Thursdays, Art after Dark, and FebFest.

City of Kingston Support: ****

The City of Kingston's 2009 budget for cultural activities is \$1.9 million. Of this, \$500,000 will be distributed in grants to arts organizations and events through the Kingston Arts Council. The City's total operating budget for 2009 is \$274 million.

Library Circulation: ****

Kingston Frontenac Public Library circulation per capita was 8.26 items in 2007 and increased only marginally to 8.3 in 2008. In the first six months of 2009, the circulation per capita increased by 9.1%.

Earnings of Full-time workers in Professional Occupations: ****

In 2005, the median earnings of the 450 full-time full-year workers in professional occupations in arts and culture in Kingston CMA were \$43,953, almost 6% below the provincial median but close to the national median. The Kingston CMA figure for 2000 had been \$41,560 (2005 dollars). This category includes "librarians, conservators, curators, archivists, occupations in public relations and communications," as well as creators and performers.

Artists' incomes: ****

A study based on the 2001 census found 520 artists in the City of Kingston – 0.9% of the labour force. Here, artists were defined as people who spent more time on their art than in any other occupation. It excluded people in regular teaching positions in the school system or post-secondary institutions. It included people creating and performing in theatre, music, dance, crafts, visual arts and writing. It found their average earnings were \$18,400 (not adjusted for inflation), 41% below the average earnings for the total labour force in Kingston at that time.

Getting Started

Migration to Kingston: *** **

In 2006 in Kingston CMA, 3,090 people had lived outside of the province within the previous year, representing 2.1% of the population. The number of people who had lived outside of the province within the past five years was 9,580 people, translating to 6.8% of the population.

Net Migration into Kingston: *** **

Taking gross inflows minus outflows, Kingston CMA gained a total of 481 people in 2006. 180 people were gained from intra-provincial migration, 119 from interprovincial migration and 182 from international migration. This represented an overall population increase of 0.31%.

Unemployment Rate of Immigrants and Non-Immigrants: *** **

In 2006, Kingston CMA immigrants who had entered the country within the last 5 years had an unemployment rate of 14.7%. Immigrants who had entered the country 6-10 years ago had an unemployment rate of 4.8%, while the non-immigrant population had an unemployment rate of 6.6%.

Average Total Income for Economic Families by Immigrant Status and Period: **** *

In 2005, Kingston CMA showed that the average total family income for immigrants who entered the country in the period 2001-04 was \$58,207 (in 2005 dollars). The average for all immigrants was \$91,774 and the average for non-immigrants was \$81,441.

Youth (ages 15-24)

Unemployment Rate: *** **

In June 2009, the youth unemployment rate (seasonally unadjusted) was 16.9% for Kingston CMA. By July 2009 it had risen to 19.6%. It had been 12.8% in June 2008. The rates for Ontario were 18.9% in June 2009 and 14.6% in June 2008.

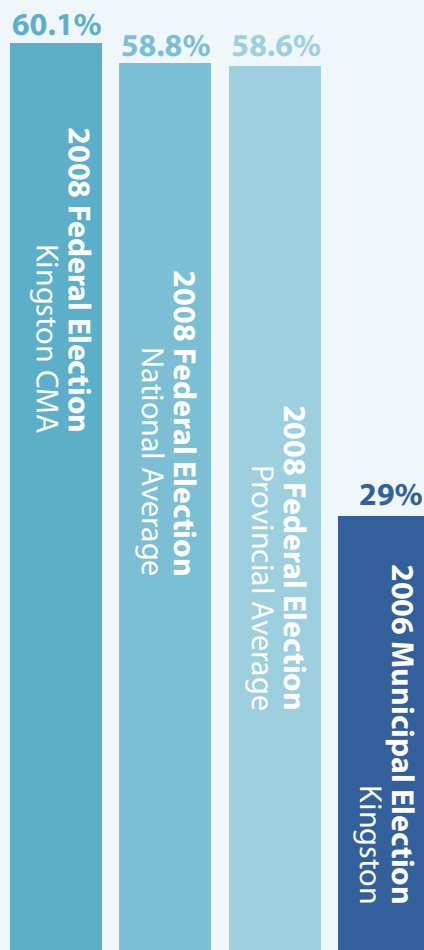


Photo courtesy of Immigrant Services Kingston and Area

Did You Know? The top five Census Metropolitan Areas that people had lived in prior to moving to Kingston CMA were Ottawa-Gatineau, Toronto, Montreal, London and Edmonton.

Belonging and Leadership

Voter Turnout



Did You Know? Volunteering is good for your physical and mental health! Some of the proven benefits of volunteering include: expanding your social network, enhancing personal growth, lowering blood pressure, stress reduction, bolstering of the immune system and prolonging life.

Did you know? A Giving and Volunteering survey found that the average annual amount of money donated by Ontarians was \$501.



Charitable Donors: ★★★★★

The proportion of tax filers in Kingston CMA that declare charitable donations was 27.2% in 2006, compared with the provincial proportion of 25.7% and the national proportion of 24.0%. However, 84% of the Canadian population 15 and over made a financial donation to a charity or non profit organization in 2007.

Volunteer Rate: ★★★★★

In 2004, the Kingston CMA volunteer rate was 61.5% of persons aged 15 years and older who were engaged in unpaid volunteer activities. This is above the provincial rate of 50.4% and the national rate of 45.3%. (This is from CFC data which is from national Survey of Giving, Volunteering and Participating, 2004).

Sense of Community Belonging: ★★★★★

In 2008, in the Kingston Frontenac Lennox & Addington Health Region, 68.8% of the population aged 12 years and older reported a strong or somewhat strong sense of community belonging. This compares to 65% at the national level and 63.7% at the provincial level.

Voter Turnout: ★★★★★

Voter turnout for the 2008 Federal Election in Kingston CMA was 60.1%. This turnout was slightly higher than the national average of 58.8% and the provincial average of 58.6%. In the municipal election of November 2006 in Kingston, 29% of people on the voters' list actually voted.

Getting Around

Travel to Regular Place of Work: ★★★★★

The percentage of people travelling to a regular place of work in Kingston CMA by public transport increased from 3.5% in the 2001 Census to 4.1% in 2006. Those travelling by private motor vehicle (as drivers or passengers) remained close to 82% while cyclists increased from 2.2% to 2.4% and walkers decreased from 10.4% to 9.6%.

Cycling and walking: ★★★★★

In 1996, 2001, 2006 censuses, Kingston CMA was among the top three Canadian cities in the percentage walking to work (in 2006: Victoria 10.4%, Halifax 10.1%, Kingston 9.6%) and among the top three in the percentage cycling to work (In 2006: Victoria 4.9%, Kingston 2.4%, Saskatoon 2.4%).

Median Income Related to Mode of Transport: ★★★★★

In 2006, among people aged 15 and over who have a usual place of work, people using public transportation had the lowest median income (\$13,631), followed by walkers (\$15,565), passengers in cars, vans, trucks (\$18,797), cyclists (\$19,710) and drivers of cars, trucks or vans (\$38,991).

Kingston Transit: ★★★★★

Kingston Transit served almost 200,000 more passenger trips in 2008 than in 2007, bringing the total to 3,379,625 in 2008. Trips per capita in the City of Kingston thus increased from 29.3 to 30.7 and passengers per revenue vehicle hours increased from 21.9 to 22.3.

Kingston Access Bus: ★★★★★

Kingston Access Services is a registered charity funded by the City, fares and donations. Its best known service is Kingston Access Bus, which had 2800 registered clients in December 2008. It provided 87,000 passenger trips in 2008. KAS schedules a regular trip every week for some clients, while other requests are made on shorter notice. Last year it was unable to accommodate 2,770 requests.



Photo: Janna Stanistreet

Did you know? Kingston Transit and the Round Table on Poverty Reduction are working on developing a program of reduced cost for bus passes for people living on low income. It is anticipated that this initiative will be brought to City Council in September, 2009 for consideration.

In 2008, of Kingston Transit's passengers, 7% were seniors, 45% other adults, 11% students (aged 6-18) and 37% were students at either Queen's University or St. Lawrence College.



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Vital Signs is a community check-up conducted by Community Foundations across Canada that measures the vitality of our communities, identifies significant trends, and shares opportunities for action in at least ten areas that are critical to our quality of life. Vital Signs is coordinated nationally by Community Foundations of Canada.

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