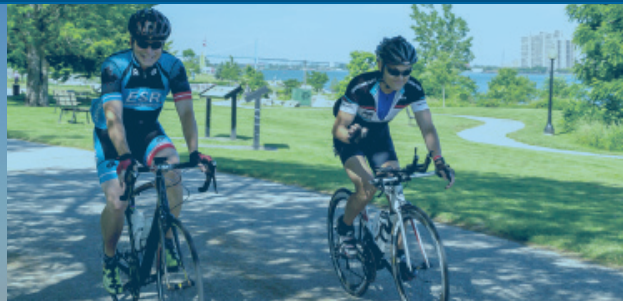


2021 | WINDSOR-ESSEX'S

VitalSigns[®]

REPORT

FIND OUT WHAT MAKES WINDSOR-ESSEX
A GREAT PLACE TO LIVE, WORK, PLAY, AND GROW!



WELCOME TO THE 2021 WINDSOR-ESSEX VITAL SIGNS® REPORT

Welcome to the **Vital Signs®** Report published by the WindsorEssex Community Foundation (WECF) in partnership with Community Foundations of Canada. The **Vital Signs®** Report is a snapshot of life in Windsor-Essex County that uses local research and data to measure the vitality of our community. By identifying trends and opportunities in eleven key issue areas, **Vital Signs®** touches on all aspects of our daily lives and focuses on our overall sense of belonging. In 2021, “What You Said” section continues to be generally positive and youth responses continue to be the most positive when it comes to the quality of life in Windsor-Essex. Overall, the report is telling us that Windsor-Essex is doing Okay when it comes to the quality of life, but there is still room for improvement.

We share the Report with our community to raise awareness, spark conversation, and encourage action. We use the **Vital Signs®** Report for investment purposes to support the many charities across Windsor-Essex County that work to build a vibrant and healthy community.

As you read this **Vital Signs®** Report, you will notice icons representing the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), relevant to each issue area, at the bottom of the page. We encourage you to consider each topic through the lens of these goals and determine, for yourself, how close we are in Windsor-Essex to achieving each outcome.

We are proud to compile this unique Report for our community. We want to thank everyone who participated and supported this years **Vital Signs®** Program. We hope this Report will reaffirm what makes Windsor-Essex a great place to live, work, play, and grow!



Lisa Kolody
Executive Director, WECF
“Inspiring Philanthropy to Benefit our Community Today and Forever”

The data presented in this Report is organized into 11 key issue areas, and within those areas, local, provincial and national data is presented.



GRADES: GRADE: Windsor B | Essex County B | Seniors B | Youth B

- A - We're doing great
- B - We're on the right track
- C - We're doing okay, but could be doing better
- D - We should look into this
- F - Improvement is needed



TOP PRIORITIES:

This section highlights the top answers for each issue area.



WHAT YOU SAID:

This section highlights the results of what survey respondents said.



DID YOU KNOW?

This section highlights important or interesting details related to the information presented in each issue area.



HOW CAN I USE THIS REPORT?

The **Vital Signs®** Report is a starting point for further conversations. It is intended to inform the community on our priorities in order to better direct our region's resources and planning.



WHO USES THIS REPORT?

The **Vital Signs®** Report is a great tool to understand the needs of our community. Use this Report to access the programs and services outlined or develop programs and services to help meet local needs. We encourage residents, businesses, community organizations, educational institutions and government leaders to share and discuss the findings of this Report.

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

If **Vital Signs®** is Windsor-Essex's annual community check-up, then the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) are a worldwide national physical exam. Established as part of the United Nations' Agenda 2030, the SDGs are a set of 17 interconnected objectives focused on eradicating poverty, reducing inequality, and championing responsible, sustainable growth by the end of the next decade. The goals are a call to action, advocating that all people have a right to peace and prosperity.



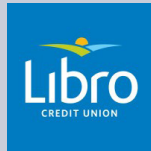
More information on the Sustainable Development Goals is available at www.undp.org.SGDs



PROUD MEMBER OF:
COMMUNITY FOUNDATIONS OF CANADA
all for community

Vital Signs® is coordinated nationally by Community Foundations of Canada with special thanks to the Toronto Community Foundation for developing and sharing the **Vital Signs®** concept. The **Vital Signs®** trademark is used with permission from Community Foundations of Canada.

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH



OUR COMMUNITY

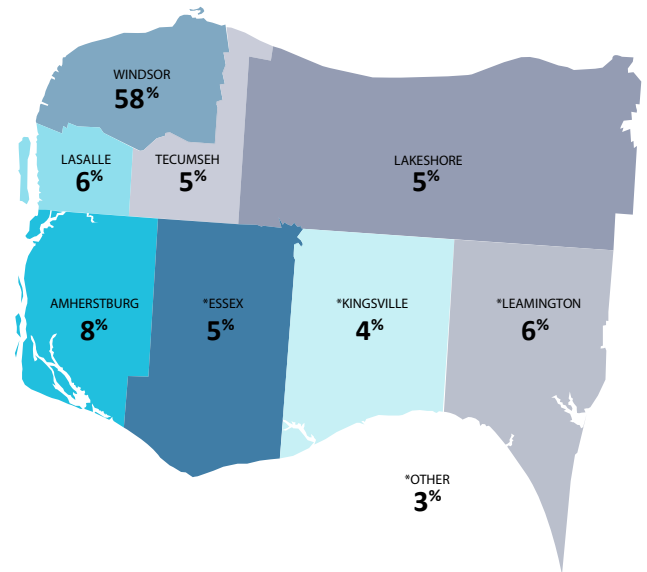
Windsor-Essex Population

*2016 Census **2016 Census Metropolitan Area

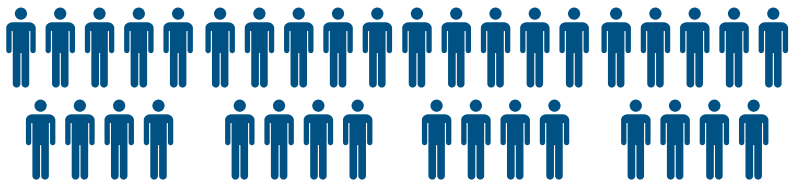
Windsor-Essex*	Windsor CMA**	Essex County*
398,953	329,144	69,809



Windsor CMA | *Essex County



About our survey respondents



2%	29%	46%	22%	1%
24 or younger	25 - 44	45 - 64	65 - or over	Decline to answer

Current Residence

Essex County 15%
Windsor CMA 82%
Decline to answer 3%



Lived in Windsor-Essex for

2%	Less than 2 years
11%	2-10 years
86%	More than 10 years
1%	Decline to answer

Marital Status



65%

Married or Common Law



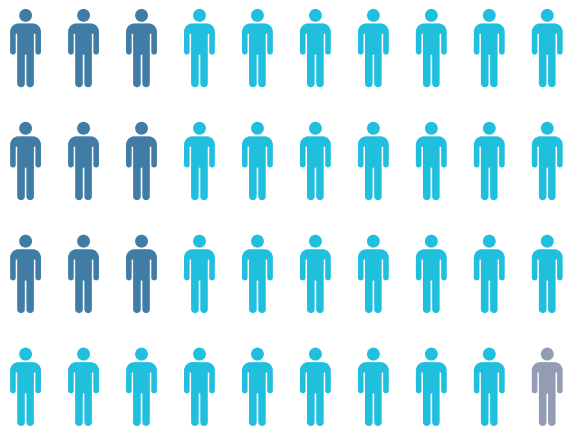
33%

Single - includes divorced, separated or widowed



2%

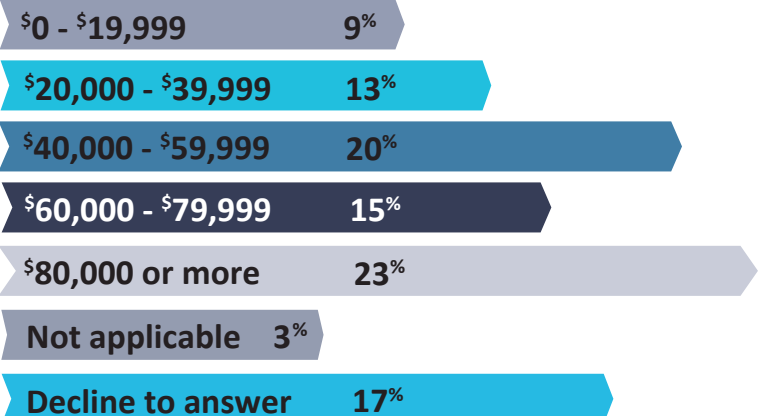
Decline to answer



Born in Canada

84%	15%	1%
Yes	No	Decline to answer

INCOME



WORK

GRADE: **Windsor C** | **Essex County C** | **Seniors C** | **Youth C**

TOP PRIORITIES

Providing a living wage to employees **48%**

Ensuring youth are better prepared for the workforce **16%**

Decreasing the unemployment rate **11%**

WHAT YOU SAID

When asked if people in Windsor-Essex make enough money to support their needs,

46% said we're on the right track / we're doing okay, but could be doing better

47% said improvement is needed / we should look into this

Are there employment opportunities in Windsor-Essex for those seeking work?

45% of respondents said we're on the right track / we're doing okay, but could be doing better



46% said improvement is needed / we should look into this

Respondents were asked if local graduates are prepared for today's workforce,

46% said we're doing okay / we're on the right track

39% said improvement is needed / we should look into this

Current Employment Status,

46% said they are employed full-time (35 hours or more per week);

11% said they are employed part-time,

25% said they are retired;

6% said they are self-employed

DID YOU KNOW?

The **Downtown Windsor Business Improvement Association (DWBIA)** launched a job portal this past July to support and benefit DWBIA member businesses and job seekers city-wide. The job search tool was designed to connect local job seekers to downtown employers, at no cost to either the potential employee or the business. DWBIA.com

Libro Credit Union and **Workforce WindsorEssex** teamed up to support job seekers impacted by the pandemic through a new online training board and career choice calculator designed to make finding and accessing local training and education programs in Windsor-Essex easier. Workforcewindsoressex.com Libro.ca

Women's Enterprise Skills and Training of Windsor Inc. has helped over 200 women, most of them newcomers find work during the last year of the pandemic. *CBC News, March 10, 2021*

The Canadian Government invested \$2.2M towards youth jobs in Windsor-Essex through the Canada Summer Jobs opportunities and created 532 jobs across 96 different local organizations. *CTV News, May 5, 2021*

STATS

The unemployment rate in Windsor- Essex was

11.8% as of June 2021  **1.2%** up from the previous month.

Windsor-Essex County Employment Trends | CREA Statistics

In the 2nd quarter of 2021,

199,200 Windsor-Essex Residents were employed;  **24,800** Windsor-Essex residents were unemployed; and

there were **16** business start-ups. *Invest Windsor Essex Q2 Highlights 2021 report*

The Windsor and Essex County living wage for 2020 was **\$15.52** per hour. wechu.org

The top searched-for occupations overall in Windsor-Essex for August 2021 were:

- Retail Salespersons;
- Administrative Assistants;
- Customer and Information Services Representatives;
- Receptionists;
- Food Counter Attendants;
- Kitchen Helpers; and
- Related Support Occupations.

Workforce WindsorEssex top occupations and in-demand jobs for Windsor Essex for August 2021. Workforcewindsoressex.com

5,779 jobs were posted in Windsor-Essex in August, with many of those jobs being permanent fulltime positions.

1,917 companies were hiring in August. *Workforce WindsorEssex job demand report August 2021.*

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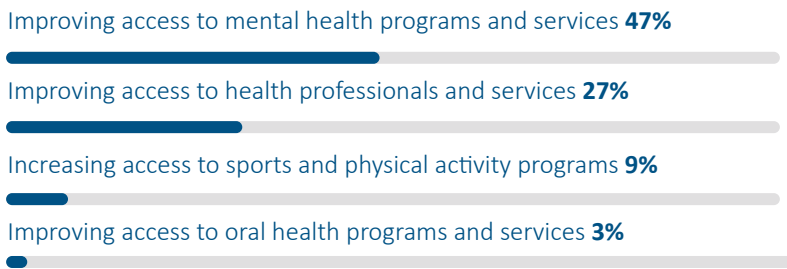
PRESENTED BY:



HEALTH, WELLNESS & ACTIVITY

GRADE: **Windsor C** | **Essex County C** | **Seniors C** | **Youth C**

TOP PRIORITIES



WHAT YOU SAID

87% said that in general, I am happy in life always / most of the time

When asked if people in Windsor-Essex have access to mental health programs and services,

37% said improvement is needed

23% said we're doing okay, but could be doing better

When it comes to the accessibility of sports and physical activity programs in Windsor-Essex,

33% believe we're doing great / we're on the right track and

30% said we're doing okay, but could be doing better

When asked if people in Windsor-Essex have access to oral health programs and services,

24% said improvement is needed;

23% said we're doing okay, but could be doing better; and

18% said we're on the right track

DID YOU KNOW?

Windsor-Essex is one of four new sites in Ontario to receive provincial funding for the new Youth Wellness Hub – a one stop shop for youth to access mental health services. **Windsor-Essex CMHA, Hotel-Dieu Grace Healthcare, Maryvale, The Bridge** and **Windsor-Essex Community Healthcare** will work together along with families to design the Hub.
CTV News, June 1, 2021

The Multicultural Council of Windsor Essex County is promoting healthy oral health practices to prevent future complications through their Oral Health and Wellness Program. This program connects new immigrants and refugees to dental care service providers in the Windsor-Essex area and assists in applications for coverage when applicable.
Green Shield Canada Community Investment Grant in partnership with the WECF.

The Art Gallery of Windsor offered a new program aimed to improve mental health and overall well-being through creativity. The Virtual Art workshop and activities were offered for free.
Government of Canada's Emergency Community Support Fund and the WECF.

The Harrow Health Centre Family Health Team is providing oral health education with a focus on preventative care and early intervention through their Community Oral Health Care Program.
Green Shield Canada Community Investment Grant in partnership with the WECF.

Family Services Windsor-Essex through their mental wellness work delivered over 13,000 counselling sessions across Windsor-Essex last year.
fswe.ca

The Windsor Family Health Team TEAM CARE CENTRE has remained open and accessible to local providers and their patients at a time when the pandemic has strained mental health and addictions services in Windsor-Essex. Over 1100 individual received team-based primary care services in 2020 from the Team Care Centre, including +3700 mental health visits among the teams Nurse Practitioners and therapists/counselors.
windsorfht.ca

STATS



There is an average of **921** emergency department visits each year for problems related to oral health.
Oral Health Report 2018 WECHU



In Windsor-Essex in 2021, there are **613** physicians.
ontariodoctordirectory.ca

1,200 children accessed programming in Windsor and Essex County in 2021.
Pathway to Potential Sports and physical activity programming cityofwindsor.ca



1 in 4 residents report having no dental insurance coverage.
Oral Health Report 2018 WECHU



BELONGING & LEADERSHIP

GRADE: **Windsor C** | **Essex County C** | **Seniors C** | **Youth C**

TOP PRIORITIES

Increasing opportunities for people to feel included and connected **37%**

Providing more initiatives to increase life satisfaction **31%**

Creating initiatives to improve voter turnout **12%**



WHAT YOU SAID

Respondents were asked if people in Windsor-Essex have a high level of life satisfaction,

27% said we're doing great / we're on the right track

40% said they feel we're doing okay, but could be doing better

When it comes to people in Windsor-Essex actively volunteering and / or donating to charities,

56% said we're on the right track / we're doing okay, but could be doing better

15% of respondents said they feel we're doing great

Respondents were asked if they feel they have a sense of belonging to Windsor-Essex – I feel included and connected,

14% feel we're doing great

30% feel we're on the right track

29% feel we're doing okay, but could do better

44% of youth said we are on the right track when it comes to the quality of belonging and leadership in Windsor-Essex.

DID YOU KNOW?

The Windsor Public Library purchased BETTY (Books, Entertainment and Technology to You), a Wi-Fi enabled electric assisted three wheeled bike, to allow the library to offer Wi-Fi, story times, computer and app classes, and book talks by loading up Betty and rolling into places where people can safely distance.
Canadian Health Communities Initiative Fund in partnership with the WECEF.

Beauty Is Me has partnered with the **Windsor-Essex Children's Aid Foundation** to support the delivery of this program to Black girls, young women and their caregivers.
The Fund for Gender Equality and the WECEF.

Workforce WindsorEssex provides a list on their website of volunteer opportunities for those looking to obtain necessary community service hours for school or for those who want to get more involved in the community.
workforcewindsoressex.com

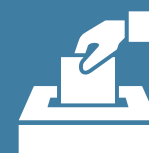
Voices of the Nation and the **Victorian Order of Nurses (VON)** Meals on Wheels have partnered to help keep seniors connected. Tablets are being donated to seniors in need who live alone to ensure they stay connected to their loved ones. Youth volunteers will distribute the tablets and help show the seniors how to use them.
CTV News, Aug 30 2021.

Windsor Jewish Federation & Community Centres social enterprise restaurant and artisan space provides adults with special needs vocational placements in a supported and safe way modelled after the successful SOUL CAFÉ in Michigan.
Investment Readiness Program in partnership with the WECEF

STATS

Around **57,000** Windsor-Essex voters took part in advanced polls this federal election (2021).

CTV News Windsor September 15, 2021



At the current rate of change, it will take **50** years before the gender wage gap disappears in Canada.
communityfoundationscanada.ca



Canadians gave online in record numbers in response to COVID-19 and other crises.

Online giving grew **+86%**
Canadahelps.org report



IN PARTNERSHIP WITH



SAFETY

GRADE: Windsor C | Essex County C | Seniors C | Youth C

TOP PRIORITIES

Expanding social programming for at-risk individuals **40%**

Reducing the use of illegal drugs **18%**

Reducing crime levels **15%**

WHAT YOU SAID

When asked if Windsor-Essex is a safe place to live:

38% said we're doing okay, but could be doing better

28% said we're on the right track

Does Windsor-Essex offer adequate social programming for at risk individuals?

34% said improvement is needed

26% said we're doing okay, but could be doing better

GETTING STARTED

GRADE: Windsor C | Essex County C | Seniors C | Youth B

TOP PRIORITIES

Increasing awareness of racism and diversity issues **31%**

Increasing employment and educational opportunities for newcomers **22%**

Improving foreign accreditation recognition **18%**

WHAT YOU SAID

Is Windsor-Essex welcoming to newcomers?

15% said we are doing great

27% said we're on the right track

29% said we're doing okay, but could be doing better

When it comes to both educational and employment opportunities for newcomers in Windsor-Essex,

47% said we're on the right track / we're doing okay, but could be doing better

DID YOU KNOW?

Youth Diversion's new project "Digital Drivers", is an e-series of e-presentations aiming to educate children, youth, and adults on topics such as bullying, price of social media etc.

Canada's Emergency Community Support Fund in partnership with the WECF.

The Town of LaSalle has been named the third safest community in Canada. *Canadian centre for Justice and community safety statistics lasallepolice.ca*

Community Safety and Well-Being Map launched for Windsor-Essex residents. An interactive tool which highlights the physical locations of community resources from first responders and education to food insecurity and health services. *cityofwindsor.ca*

DID YOU KNOW?

South Essex Community Council has collaborated with several partners in Windsor-Essex to deliver assistance in response to the pandemic including providing technology to newcomers to participate in language training. *secc.on.ca*

Multicultural Council of Windsor-Essex County (MCC) expanded their social enterprise interpretation and translation services offered by the MCC to address emerging language needs. *Investment Readiness Program and the WECF*

The South Asian Centre, The Polish Club Windsor and The Windsor Slovak Community Centre all received Investment Readiness Program Grants to build their capacity to serve their communities.

The Polish Club Windsor provides a senior tech course online. *polishclubwindsor.ca*

WeSpeak offers on-demand access to translation services for patients in your care. *WELIP*

STATS



Youth related crimes **289** (0.8 per day) decrease **17%** over 2019. *Windsor police 2020 annual report*



In 2020, 911 calls received **100,457** (275) per day decrease **6%** over 2019. *Windsor Police 2020 Annual Report*

Tecumseh, LaSalle, Essex, Lakeshore, Kingsville and Amherstburg are **50%** to **40%** lower than the Ontario average crime rate. *areavibes.com*

STATS

Indigenous women make **65** cents for every dollar non-Indigenous men make. *communityfoundationscanada.ca*

Racialized women make **67** cents for every dollar non-racialized men make. *communityfoundationscanada.ca*

Newcomer women make **71** cents for every dollar non-newcomer men make. *communityfoundationscanada.ca*



HOUSING

GRADE: **Windsor F** | **Essex County F** | **Seniors F** | **Youth F**

TOP PRIORITIES

Improving the affordability of housing **56%**

Increasing the availability of housing with different levels of assisted care **23%**

Providing Housing for the homeless **14%**

WHAT YOU SAID

When asked if housing is affordable in Windsor-Essex

82% said improvement is needed / we should look into this

When asked if Windsor-Essex has enough shelters to support the homeless population,

77% said improvement is needed / we should look into this

When asked if Windsor-Essex has enough available housing with different levels of assisted care,

51% said improvement is needed / we should look into this



DID YOU KNOW?

A former Windsor hotel is being converted to a permanent emergency shelter thanks to a \$7.75 million investment from the Ontario government. It will be the new home for **The Welcome Center Shelter for Women** will serve women and families, and the community for many years to come.

Windsor CTV News, September 15, 2021

Family Respite Services Windsor-Essex built the Solcz Family Foundation home to serve the most vulnerable.

familyrespice.org

The Canadian Mental Health Association Windsor-Essex (CMHA) offers the Homelessness Initiative Program, providing supported subsidized housing for individuals who are homeless or at risk of becoming homeless and who have a mental illness. The program works with private market landlords in the community acting in a liaison capacity to assist with providing access to safe, affordable and stable housing for consumers who are receiving community support services.

WindsorEssex.cmha.ca

Family Services Windsor-Essex has helped over 60 people who were experiencing homelessness access permanent housing in the last year.

fswe.ca

In 2020, **the South Essex Community Council** spearheaded the Leamington Homelessness Project, this project aims to address homelessness in Leamington. *To read the full report, it is available on secc.on.ca.*

STATS

The average price for June 2021 was **\$543,983**, up from **\$430,810** in August 2020, and up from **\$336,472**, August 2019.

Windsor Essex County Association of Realtors



Average house prices in Windsor-Essex increased by almost **\$100K**.

Windsor Essex County Association of Realtors



Average monthly rate for a one-bedroom apartment in Windsor **\$1,080**. **22.7%** rental price increase over the last year. But still among the lowest of Canadian cities.

Windsor Essex County Association of Realtors

The Windsor-Essex Community Housing Corporation is responsible for the delivery of **4,708** housing units in the city of Windsor and county of Essex.

wechc.com

There are **3** emergency shelters that provide temporary accommodations for residents of Windsor and Essex County who are experiencing homelessness.

cityofwindsor.ca

Average Monthly Cost of Housing Someone While Homeless



Source: Gaetz, Stephen (2012): The Real Cost of Homelessness: Can We Save Money by Doing the Right Thing? Toronto: Canadian Homelessness Research Network Press.

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH



ARTS & CULTURE

GRADE: Windsor C | Essex County C | Seniors C | Youth C

TOP PRIORITIES

Increasing the number of arts and cultural opportunities for those wanting to pursue a career **34%**

Increasing the number of arts and culture programs for youth **19%**

Accessibility of art and cultural events **15%**

WHAT YOU SAID

68% of youth said that we're on the right track / we're doing okay, but could be doing better when asked if arts and cultural events are accessible to youth in Windsor-Essex

When asked if arts and cultural events are accessible in Windsor-Essex,

62% said that we're on the right track / we're doing okay, but could be doing better

When asked if there are opportunities in Windsor-Essex for those wanting to pursue a career, education or hobby in arts and culture

27% said we're doing okay, but could be doing better **22%** said we're on the right track **18%** said improvement is needed

DID YOU KNOW?

The Federal and Provincial Government are investing over \$2.9M into a new media arts centre in Windsor the Media Arts Community Centre will be for persons of all ages, stages and abilities. Offering opportunities for film and art workshops, continued education, training, content creation, music and film production etc.

CTV News, June 17, 2021

The Leamington Arts Centre (LAC) Virtual Gallery is a new digital initiative which features 3D virtual tours of the LAC galleries and select exhibitions, as well as an online portfolio of the LAC Permanent Collection and Municipality of Leamington Henry Collection. WECF Community Impact Grant / Honey Family Foundation at the WECF.

Visit the leamingtonartscentre.com to view the virtual gallery.

Digital Doors Open Ontario is offering virtual tours of some of Ontario's most important Black historic sites. The Amherstburg Freedom Museum was one of the first sites to go live on the tour.

doorsopenontario.on.ca

Chimczuk Museum – Original Peoples Culture and Legacy Gallery is a permanent gallery space that reveals the culture, heritage and contemporary issues of the local first nations communities and Metis communities.

cityofwindsor.ca

STATS

The Canada Council for the Arts champions and invested **\$315.4** million in 2020, to arts organizations. **90%** of Ontarians say that the arts are important to improving the quality of life in their communities.

Ontario Arts Council



ENVIRONMENT

GRADE: Windsor C | Essex County C | Seniors C | Youth C

TOP PRIORITIES

Improving resiliency to climate change **24%**

Improving air quality **21%**

Improving the amount of connected green spaces **15%**

Improving recycling programs **12%**

WHAT YOU SAID

97% of respondents said that Lake Erie's health is extremely important / moderately important.

36% of respondents rated air quality as we're doing okay, but could be doing better and

31% said improvement is needed

When asked if there are enough green spaces in Windsor-Essex,

32% of respondents said we're doing okay, but could be doing better and

28% said improvement is needed

DID YOU KNOW?

This past September, the **Essex Region Conservation Authority** and the **Detroit River Canadian Cleanup** worked with volunteers to remove accumulated debris and litter at Sandwich at McKee and Queen's Dock Park in Sandwich.

FLAP Canada, the Pelee Island Bird Observatory, conservation groups and volunteers around the world hosted a virtual meeting to raise awareness on how to rescue and document birds that have collided with buildings to help make the urban environment safer for them.

Essex-Windsor Solid Waste Authority and **Bike Windsor-Essex** has partnered to create a new program to recycle bikes that would otherwise end up in the landfill. *bikewindsor.essex.com ewswa.org*

Caldwell First Nations Youth Advisory Committee is taking steps to protect the lakes. This past August, they held an event inviting residents of Windsor-Essex to paddle from Lakeside Marina to Caldwell First Nation-owned property on Bevel Line in Leamington. The paddle session taught people about the toxic algae blooms, plastics and invasive species in Lake Erie.

CBC News, August 11, 2021

STATS

In spring 2021, ERCA planted and distributed over **125,000** trees on public and private lands, restoring **150** acres across the region.

ERCA monitors surface water quality at **50** sites and groundwater quality at **8** sites across the region. In total, more than **2,500** water quality samples were collected in 2020.

essexregionconservation.ca



LEARNING

GRADE: **Windsor C** | **Essex County C** | **Seniors C** | **Youth B**

TOP PRIORITIES

Affordability of post-secondary education **39%**

Improving skill development for the workforce **29%**

Better access to educational opportunities **15%**

WHAT YOU SAID

When asked if local educational institutions are providing proper skill development for the workforce,

61% said we're on the right track / we're doing okay, but could be doing better

Are educational opportunities readily available in Windsor-Essex including access to libraries, tutoring, literacy programs, workforce development programs, etc?

63% believe that we're on the right track / we're doing okay, but could be doing better

Survey Respondents

50% reported having a University certificate / diploma / degree,

27% said they had a College or other certificate / diploma

11% said they completed high school



DID YOU KNOW?

The **WindsorEssex Community Foundation (WECF)** awarded over \$19,000 in scholarships to 13 students pursuing a post-secondary education in various fields of study.

wecf.ca

Women's Enterprise Skills and Training of Windsor Inc. received federal funding for their employment program to assist 120 young women with skills training and on the job experience.

westofwindsor.com

Youth Connection Association for Academic Excellence Inc. Promoting Education for Tomorrow's Leaders Program offers a book club that provides cultural and educational books for vulnerable and marginalized youth.

WECF Community Impact Grant

Learning Disabilities Association of Windsor-Essex County developed a digital multimedia accessibility toolkit to help transition Ontario businesses into accessible opportunities for inclusive participation by Ontarians with disabilities.

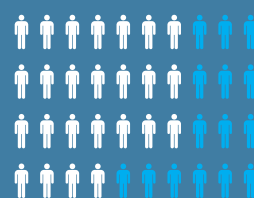
Investment Readiness Program in Partnership with the WECF

STATS



The University of Windsor has **16,000** students enrolled and ranks among Canada's highest percentage of international students.

Offering **190** undergraduate programs, **65** graduate programs and six professional programs, its eight faculties include science, engineering, arts, humanities and social sciences, law, education, nursing, human kinetics and graduate studies.



10,800

students enrolled at the University of Windsor full time undergrad

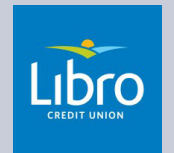
3,900

enrolled full time in a graduate program

St. Clair College provides higher education for **13,000** full-time students on four campuses located in Windsor and

Chatham. The college offers more than **120** advanced diplomas, degrees and graduate certificates focused on health, technology and trades, business and IT, media arts and social services.

uwindsor.ca stclaircollege.ca



GETTING AROUND

GRADE: Windsor C | Essex County C | Seniors C | Youth D

TOP PRIORITIES

Creating a regional transportation system connecting Windsor and Essex County **37%**

Improving and/or increasing the number of bike pathways and / or pedestrian walkways **19%**

Improving public transportation **17%**

WHAT YOU SAID

33% of survey respondents rated public transportation in Windsor-Essex as improvement is needed; and

23% said we're doing okay, but could be doing better



When asked if bike paths and pedestrian walkways are easy to access in Windsor-Essex,

55% of respondents said we're on the right track / we're doing okay, but could be doing better

When asked if it is easy for people in Windsor-Essex to travel to and from Windsor-Essex County

34% said improvement is need; and

25% said we're doing okay, but could be doing better

DID YOU KNOW?

Windsor International Airport is to receive more than \$1M from FedDev Ontario. This investment will help the airport to connect to more destinations and manage increased passenger volumes as Canadians return to air travel.

citywindsor.ca, July 27, 2021

Bike Kingsville kicked off first community ride the second Saturday of the month starting in July, where participants get to enjoy a 30 km roundtrip community ride along Kingsville's designated CWATS cycling routes. The rides aim to bring people together to explore the cycling opportunities in the area and promote the outdoors and physical activity.

windsorite.ca, June 22, 2021

Corporation of the Town of Tecumseh has launched a one-year pilot project to test on-demand public transit. Tecumseh is the first local municipality to introduce on-demand service. Canada Healthy Communities Initiative Grant in partnership with the WECF

tecumseh.ca

Transit Windsor negotiating to bring bus service to Amherstburg.

lheartradio.ca, May 27, 2021



FOOD SECURITY

GRADE: Windsor C | Essex County C | Seniors C | Youth C

TOP PRIORITIES

Improving access to locally grown food **32%**

Increasing support for community food programs **27%**

Improving access to fresh and nutritious food **25%**

WHAT YOU SAID

When asked if Windsor-Essex offers access to nutritious food at affordable prices,

54% said we're on the right track / we're doing okay, but could do better

36% said we should look into this / improvement is needed

Does Windsor-Essex have access to locally grown food?

23% said we're doing great

30% said we're on the right track

30% said we're doing okay, but could be doing better, while

16% said we should look into this / improvement is needed

DID YOU KNOW?

The second annual community food drive took place on June 27th, 2021. The 2020 edition of the **June 27th Miracle** — billed as an attempt to be the largest single-day community food drive in the world — generated an estimated two million pounds (907,000 kg) of non-perishable grocery donations. *Windsor Star, June 28th, 2021*

Southwestern Ontario Gleaners Inc. turns surplus food crops into nutritious meals for local individuals in need. *Investment Readiness Program in partnership with the WECF*

The Downtown Windsor Farmers Market has launched an online portal for people to shop local from their homes. *downtownwindsor.ca*

STATS

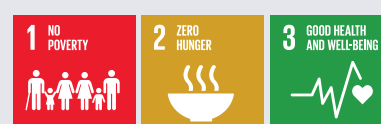


There are **7** Farmer Markets in Windsor-Essex County. The downtown Windsor Farmers Market, Belle River Farmers Market, Amherstburg Farmers Market, Essex Farmers Market, Leamington Farmers Market, West Windsor Farmers Market, Kingsville Farmers Market. *visitwindsoresex.com*

537,575 Individuals accessed a food bank in Ontario in 2019-2020. *feedontario.ca*

Black and Indigenous households are nearly **3** times more likely to be food insecure than non-racialized households. *Feedontario.ca*

In 2021, the City of Windsor supports **6** Community Gardens on City property providing gardening spaces to over **67** gardeners, there is a growing waitlist to participate. *cityofwindsor.ca*



Our Vision

Inspiring philanthropy, to benefit our community, today and forever!

Our Mission

We build a better Windsor-Essex community by attracting and managing legacy funds, making grants to support local programs, and bringing community partners together!



WECF Emergency Response Fund

The **WindsorEssex Community Foundation (WECF)** established the WECF Emergency Response Fund. This fund, initiated with a contribution from the **WindsorEssex Community Foundation** and supported by generous contributions by local philanthropists and corporate partners, will support charities across Windsor-Essex County providing front-line services to vulnerable populations whose staff, volunteers, programs, operations and revenue has been negatively affected by the Coronavirus (COVID-19).

Investment Readiness Program

The **WindsorEssex Community Foundation (WECF)** is the lead of the Southwestern Ontario regional Consortium, partnering with five local organizations: the Sarnia Community Foundation, the Windsor-Essex Regional Chamber of Commerce, Workforce WindsorEssex, the Downtown Windsor Business Accelerator, and the University of Windsor Entrepreneurship, Practice, and Innovation Centre (EPICentre) to support social purpose organizations in our region (Windsor-Essex-Sarnia). The Investment Readiness Program (IRP) helps deliver capital from the Government of Canada to social purpose organizations preparing to successfully participate in the social finance market. As a regional Partner with CFC delivering the IRP, the WECF will help empower others to unlock innovative solutions to social challenges.

Equality Fund

The **WindsorEssex Community Foundation (WECF)** is one of 21 local community foundations across Canada that are taking part. The Fund builds on efforts to shift power to women, girls, Two-Spirit, and gender-diverse people, and will work towards a future grounded in justice and gender equality. In total, these community foundations are granting \$3.5M towards the women's movement. We are pleased to announce that the Gender Equality Fund has supported Windsor and Essex County with \$140,000 towards community investments.

TO LEARN MORE VISIT: WECF.CA

THANK YOU TO OUR PARTNERS THAT MADE THIS REPORT POSSIBLE

