

2020 | WINDSOR-ESSEX'S
Vital Signs[®]
REPORT



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

WELCOME TO THE 2020 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. This year has been a challenging one; not just for Windsor-Essex, but for the world. Now more than ever, it is important for our community to come together as we navigate through this global pandemic. In this edition we can review our challenges and celebrate the resilience and strength of our community.

We share the report with our community to raise awareness, spark conversation, and encourage action. We also 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 also 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 C | Essex County C | Seniors C | Youth C

Letter grades are shown within each issue area representing the views of survey respondents from Windsor (CMA), Essex County, and those that identified themselves as being aged 65 and over (seniors), or aged 24 and younger (youth).



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.



IN PARTNERSHIP WITH



OUR COMMUNITY

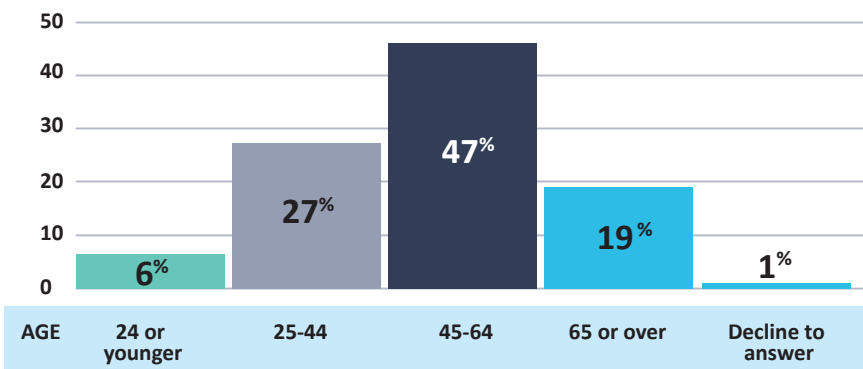
WINDSOR-ESSEX POPULATION

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

*Census Metropolitan Area



ABOUT OUR SURVEY RESPONDENTS



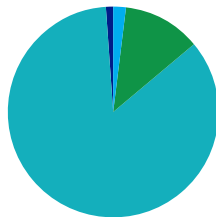
BORN IN CANADA



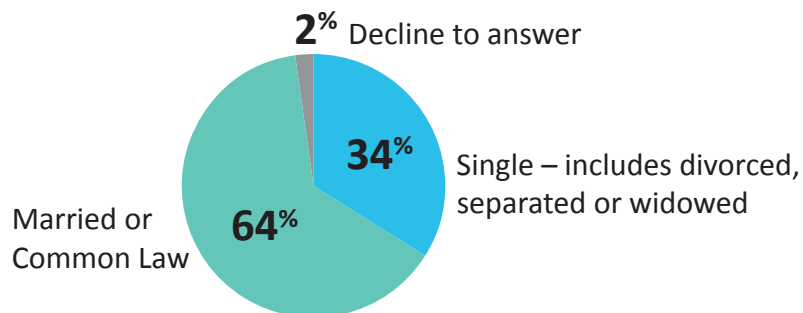
85% YES | **15% NO**

LIVED IN WINDSOR-ESSEX FOR

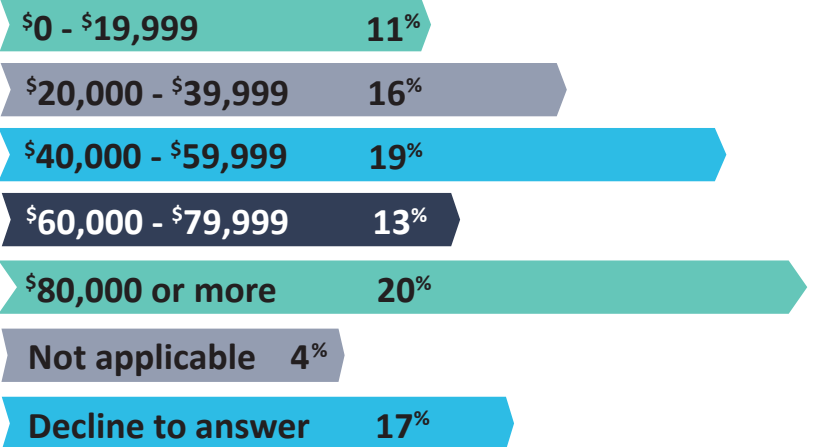
Less than 2 years **2%**
 2-10 years **12%**
 More than 10 years **85%**
 Decline to answer **1%**



MARITAL STATUS

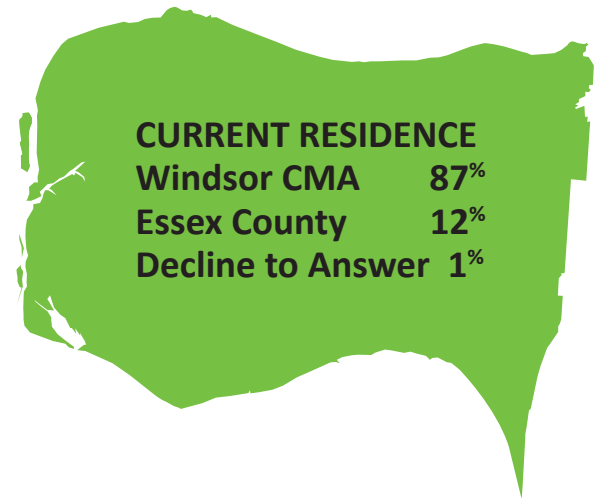


INCOME



CURRENT RESIDENCE

Windsor CMA **87%**
 Essex County **12%**
 Decline to Answer **1%**



Windsor CMA includes



Essex County includes



WORK

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

TOP PRIORITIES

Providing a living wage to employees **41%**

Decreasing the unemployment rate **17%**

Ensuring youth are better prepared for the workforce **17%**

WHAT YOU SAID

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

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

31% said need improvement, we should look into this

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

42% of respondents said we're on the right track/ we're doing okay, while



52% said improvement is needed/ we should look into this

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

45% said we're doing okay/ we're on the right track, while

43% said improvement is needed / we should look into this

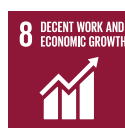
Current Employment Status

43% of survey respondents reported they are employed full-time (35 hours or more per week); while

10% are employed part-time, and

25% are retired

8% are self employed



DID YOU KNOW?

From Sept 1 2019 to August 31 2020, there were **22,318** job postings in Windsor-Essex region by **4,546** employers.

Workforce WindsorEssex developed Taking Your Job Search Online. The Essential Worker Career Portal, www.workforcewindsor.essex.com/essential-careers, was also created to promote careers in in-demand positions during the pandemic sharing information about local employers, required skills, and interviews with frontline workers. Over **2100** local jobseekers submitted their resumes for employment opportunities in non-healthcare essential positions.

The WECF launched the Investment Readiness Program, funded by the Government of Canada, to fund social purpose organizations in Windsor and Essex county.
www.wecf.ca

Rural communities including Leamington are getting almost \$1 million in cost-share funding to diversify their economies, retain skilled workers and create jobs.
CTV Windsor

STATS

Earlier this year, Windsor was the Canadian city with the highest jobless rate — reaching a peak of **16.7%** in May

Windsor's unemployment rate dropped to **12.5%** in July, to **10.1%** in August.

2,284 jobs were posted in Windsor-Essex in August, with **90.5%** of those jobs being permanent fulltime positions. **1,432** companies were hiring in August.

About one in three workers in Ontario has been affected by the economic shutdown caused by the COVID-19 pandemic.



Young people, women and workers in less secure jobs were the first to face mass layoffs caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, according to Statistics Canada's March jobs report, with more than six in 10 lost jobs having been held by a woman. Reference: *ipolitics* cited from Statistics Canada

2.2 million people have been affected by the shutdown: an estimated **1.1 million** workers in the province have lost their jobs, and another **1.1 million** have seen their hours sharply reduced.

Province Watchdog

As per the COVID-19 Worker Impact Survey, women indicated that the top three reasons for work reduction was due to:

1. Employer shut down temporarily
2. Reduction in business
3. Provide care to dependant

Trade volume is up, according to the Windsor Port Authority. The port authority reported a spring decline in trade volume compared to 2019 due to Covid. But overall cargo volumes have surged to recover more than **12%** over the summer. windsorstar.com

COVID-19 TIMELINE



Jan. 25:

The first presumptive case is reported in Ontario (and Canada) when a man in his 50s, who came from Wuhan, China, feels minor symptoms. He then calls 911 and is placed in isolation at Sunnybrook Hospital in Toronto. His wife becomes the second case and begins self-isolating the following day. The man's illness is officially confirmed two days later.

March 11:

A 77-year-old Barrie man dies, becoming Ontario's first death attributed to COVID-19.

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH



Presented By:



HEALTH, WELLNESS & ACTIVITY

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

TOP PRIORITIES

Improving access to mental health programs and services **47%**

Improving access to health professionals and services **28%**

Increasing access to sports and physical activity programs **8%**

Improving access to oral health programs and services **6%**

WHAT YOU SAID

88% of respondents 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,

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

24% said we are doing ok, but could be doing better

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

42% of respondents believe we're doing great/we're on the right track and

30% said we are doing ok, but we could be doing better

When asked if people in WindsorEssex have access to oral health programs and services

24% said we're doing ok, but could be doing better

23% said improvement needed

20% said we're on the right track



DID YOU KNOW?

Windsor has a Team Care Program operated by the Windsor Family Health Team since 2018 that includes free access to therapists, WECF and GSC funded an outpatient addictions recovery program. One Team Recovery is operated by the Windsor Family Health Team and offers both in person and virtual access opportunities.

For people without a primary care provider looking for a team approach to their health care, both the Windsor Family Health Team and the Windsor Essex Community Health Centre are both accepting new patients. windsorfhft.ca

The Ontario Seniors Dental Care Program is available across the province for eligible seniors. This program provides eligible seniors with free routine dental care in Public Health Units, Community Health Centres, and Aboriginal Health Access Centres.

The CMHA in Windsor and Essex County has created a Pandemic Response Therapist position. "The Pandemic Response Therapist will utilize an evidence-based approach to identify those individuals experiencing, or at risk of experiencing anxiety, trauma and/or grief, including complicated grief. CMHA cmha.ca



Local bike shops in Windsor and Essex county ran out of bikes due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Windsor Star

STATS



40,609 COVID-19 swabs were performed at the Windsor Regional Hospital Assessment Center between March 16 and September 28 2020. Windsor Regional Hospital



Emergency Department visits for intentional self-harm among youth in #YQG from 2010-2015 have increased by **143%**



COVID-19 TIMELINE



March 12:

Premier Doug Ford announces that publicly funded schools across the province will be closed for two weeks following March break.

March 14:

Canadians who are out of the country are strongly urged by the federal government to return home as "new restrictions may be imposed with little warning."



BELONGING & LEADERSHIP

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

TOP PRIORITIES

Increasing opportunities for people to feel included and connected **34%**

Providing more initiatives to increase life satisfaction **29%**

Creating initiatives to improve voter turnout **19%**

WHAT YOU SAID

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

31% of respondents said we're doing great / we're on the right track, while

40% of respondents 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,

23% feel we're doing great

62% of respondents said we're on the right track / we're doing okay

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

13% feel we're doing great

34% feel we're on the right track

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



DID YOU KNOW?

The mentorship program at **Big Brothers Big Sisters in Windsor and Essex County** pairs young boys and girls with a role model to talk to and share the experiences of growing up. Through regular outings, a relationship is developed between the mentor and the mentee, which is built on trust and common interests, and is supported by experienced case-workers. windsor.bigbrothersbigsisisters.ca

Life After Fifty was forced to move to an online platform and virtual programming when Covid made meeting impossible. Seniors Centre Without Walls enabled social programming to continue to help seniors feel connected while isolating. lifeafterfifty.ca

Through the **Equality Fund**, funded by the Government of Canada, the **WECF** has awarded grants to advance gender equality in Windsor and Essex County. One of the projects funded was #WhyNotHer. Using digital photography, social media, video, and podcasts, this program captures those economic shifts that happened for women in the newcomer, racialized, and transgender communities. Those shifts are the result of the actions they took, resources and services, and allies that helped make a difference by advocating for and with them. **Women's Enterprise Skills Training of Windsor Inc. (WEST)**

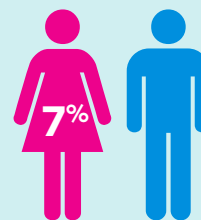
Caldwell First Nation received a grant to fund their **Happy Snapper project**.

STATS



Two-in-five Canadian donors giving less during the pandemic. **Angus Reid Institute**

Recent estimates from the non-profit Imagine Canada indicate the charitable sector could experience financial losses between **\$4.2 billion** and **\$6.3 billion**.



Currently in Canada, women only represent **7%** of top leadership positions within large corporations and men are 3 times more likely to be promoted than women.

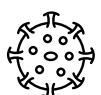
Windsor rated **20th** out of Canada's 26th largest cities in identifying the gaps between men and women in relation to economic and personal security, education, health and positions of leadership.

Workforce WindsorEssex

2019 report from the Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives
In 2019, the total working population in Windsor-Essex was **282, 853** (ages 15-64), including



COVID-19 TIMELINE



March 16:

The province recommends the closure of all recreation programs, libraries, private schools, daycares, and churches and other faith settings, as well as bars and restaurants, except those that offer takeout or delivery.

March 17:

Premier Doug Ford declares a state of emergency in Ontario while ordering some business to be closed, including daycares, bars and restaurants, theatres and private schools.



IN PARTNERSHIP WITH



Presented By:



SAFETY

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

TOP PRIORITIES

Expanding social programming for at-risk individuals **35%**

Reducing the use of illegal drugs **23%**

Reducing crime levels **14%**

WHAT YOU SAID

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

29% said we're on the right track **37%** of respondents said we're doing okay, but could be better

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

34% of respondents said improvement is needed while,

27% said we're doing okay, but could do better

DID YOU KNOW?

Crime in Windsor trended down during the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic. **CTV Windsor**

The **Windsor Police Service** continues to utilize a customized, partnership approach tailored to the unique needs of specific neighbourhoods to achieve safety outcomes. This has been occurring in neighbourhoods like Ford City, downtown Windsor, and is continuing into other areas like the neighbourhood surrounding iconic Erie Street East.

Windsor Police Services

STATS



There were just over **1,000** criminal code violations in May, that's down **37%** from the same month last year. **Windsor Star**



During the lockdown at the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic, fewer people on the roads seems to have led to a **40%** drop in motor vehicle infractions. **CTV Windsor**

In **2019**, the overall volume and rate of crime decreased in Windsor, driven most notably by reductions in many types of property crime offenses that affect the daily lives of all residents. **Windsor Police Service**



HOUSING

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

TOP PRIORITIES

Improving the affordability of housing **46%**

Increasing the availability of housing with different levels of assisted care **26%**

Providing Housing for the homeless **16%**

WHAT YOU SAID

When asked if housing is affordable in Windsor-Essex

68% of respondents said improvement is needed / we should look into this

Windsor-Essex has enough shelters to support the homeless population?

70% of respondents said improvement is needed / we should look into this

47% of respondents believe improvement is needed in regards to the availability of housing with different levels of assisted care in Windsor-Essex.

DID YOU KNOW?

\$5.5M in new funding announced by both the Federal and Provincial governments for affordable housing units in Windsor and Kingsville. **CBC Windsor**



Family Respite Windsor breaks ground on new house. **CTV Windsor**

Six condo towers with 1,414 units proposed. Five of those towers, plus some back-to-back townhouses with a total of 1,295 units are planned for the 6.6-acre Riverside Drive West property currently used by the CBC. Another tower with 119 condo units and four storeys of parking is proposed for the parking lot behind the Shoppers Drug Mart at Ouellette Avenue and Wyandotte Street downtown. **Windsor Star**

CMHA, WEGB increased investments in Housing through provincial housing supports:

- Homelessness rent subsidies of **\$32,500**
- Youth Homelessness Initiative **\$44,900**
- Added 2 Youth Housing Workers.

STATS

Average house price in Windsor-Essex increases by almost **\$100K**. The average price for August 2020 was **\$430,810**, up from **\$336,472** in August 2019. **Windsor-Essex County Association of Realtors**



COVID-19 TIMELINE



March 18:

Prime Minister Justin Trudeau announces an agreement between Canada and the U.S. restricting all non-essential travel across the border.

March 23:

Premier Doug Ford orders the closure of all non-essential businesses across the province for 14 days.



GETTING STARTED

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

TOP PRIORITIES

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

Increasing employment and educational opportunities for newcomers **19%**

Improving foreign accreditation recognition **17%**



WHAT YOU SAID

Is Windsor-Essex welcoming to newcomers?

14% said we are doing great

28% of respondents said we're on the right track, while

27% said we're doing okay, but could do better

47% of respondents said that we're on the right track / we're doing okay, but could do better when it comes to both educational and employment opportunities for newcomers in Windsor-Essex.

DID YOU KNOW?

Cook-Up Inc. is a social enterprise food business incubator that provides individualized entrepreneurial support services, access to commercial kitchens and market opportunities to eliminate the barriers aspiring entrepreneurs face when building food businesses. Through the **Investment Readiness Program** and funded by the **Government of Canada** and facilitated by the **WECF**, this social enterprise is located at the **Downtown Windsor Business Accelerator**.

For more information, please visit: irp-ppi.ca
facebook.com/cookupinc



Windsor's annual Carrousel of the Nations has been named the top festival for 2020 by Attractions Ontario and is in the running for another prestigious award. **Windsor Star**



STATS

Covid-19 surveys sent out to 31 organizations in Windsor and Essex county conducted in April 2020 by the **Windsor-Essex County Health Unit (WECHU)** in partnership with the **Windsor Essex Local Immigration Partnership (WE LIP)** found that:

The most common response was 'feeling isolated'

88%

followed by 'fear of getting ill from the COVID-19 virus'

81%

'Other' responses provided by respondents included challenges for clients with distance work, financial strain, increased stress on families – particularly with children not in school or other programs – and the potential for an increase in domestic violence, as well as issues with balancing the needs to homeschool children with working from home.

Respondents were also asked to identify the most challenging or difficult issues to address at this time.

The most common response was 'support for in-person social interaction',

70%

followed by 'access to internet/technology to connect to the internet'.

61%

'Other' responses provided by respondents included difficulty accessing emergency care (dental), a need for childcare and lack of access to traditional support systems, and challenges with self-isolation (when required).

workforcewindsor-essex.com/covidsurveyresults

COVID-19 TIMELINE



May 1:

Ontario government announces that some seasonal businesses (including nurseries) and some essential construction projects can open on May 4 if they follow strict guidelines.

May 9:

Province announces that beginning on May 11, residents are allowed to walk, hike, bike and bird watch in provincial parks.



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 **36%**
- Increasing the number of arts and culture programs for youth **20%**
- Accessibility of art and cultural events **13%**

WHAT YOU SAID

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

64% of respondents said that we're on the right track / we're doing okay but could be doing better

55% of youth survey respondents said that we're on the right track / we're doing okay when it comes to Arts and Culture in Windsor-Essex

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

26% said we are doing ok but we could be doing better

21% said we are on the right track

18% said improvement is needed

DID YOU KNOW?

The **Windsor International Film Festival** modified its operation and launched the WIFF Under The Stars Event; A drive-in style community event screening movies. **WIFF**

Arts Council's Beyond Borders Project brings youth together virtually to create art by using images, words, poetry, drawings, and maps to express the lived experiences of youth in Windsor-Essex County in order to open lines of communication. Also funded through the **Government of Canada the Arts Council of Windsor and Region** received a grant from the **Emergency Community Support Fund** and facilitated through **WECF**. This grant supports racialized communities through the program Art Share: Making Space in Windsor Essex. **Artscouncil.ca**



A new mural will pay tribute to frontline healthcare workers by local artist David Derkatz, also known as "DERKZ".

The Windsor Symphony Orchestra announced Re-Imagine 2020: The organization's first digital-only concert season. **windsorsymphony.com**

Colourful maps and signs, along with picnic tables are some of the latest additions to Windsor's Queen Dock Park as part of the West End Art Project's newly launched display. **CBC Windsor**



ENVIRONMENT

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

TOP PRIORITIES

- Improving air quality **24%**
- Improving resiliency to climate change **25%**
- Improving recycling programs **15%**

WHAT YOU SAID

98% of survey respondents said that Lake Erie's health is extremely important / moderately important.

38% of respondents rated air quality we're doing okay but could be doing better and

32% said improvement is needed

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

33% said we are doing great / we are on the right track and

34% doing ok but we could be better

DID YOU KNOW?

Climate Change

In 2018, in response to severe flooding, significant shoreline erosion and infrastructure failure, new and renewed threats from invasive species, beach closures, and other issues, the **ERCA** Board of Director's directed **ERCA** to lead the development of a regional climate change strategy with municipalities and other partners. **erca.ca**



STATS

Between 2019 and 2020, **Essex Region Conservation**, in partnership with others accomplished the following:

Planted almost 60,000 trees on public and private lands, creating an additional **13.5 hectares (35 acres)** of new forest habitat despite the rainiest season on record.

Created new wetland habitat at the **Collavino Wetland**.

Built new boardwalks, resurfaced the road, and began construction of the **Enbridge Natural Playground** and the **University of Windsor Alumni Association Outdoor Classroom at Holiday Beach Conservation Area**.

Monitored **50** restoration sites demonstrating **85%** tree survival rates. **erca.ca**



COVID-19 TIMELINE



June 8:

Ontario announces that some regions of the province will enter Stage 2 of its COVID-19 recovery plan. Windsor Essex was amongst those areas excluded.

June 22:

Toronto and Peel Region permitted to enter Stage 2 of the province's recovery plan. Windsor-Essex remains alone in Stage 1.

LEARNING

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

TOP PRIORITIES

Affordability of post-secondary education **35%**

Improving skill development for the workforce **30%**

Better access to educational opportunities **15%**

WHAT YOU SAID

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

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

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

61% of respondents believe that we're on the right track / we're doing okay, but could do better

Survey Respondents

43% of survey respondents reported having a university certificate / diploma / degree,

30% had a college or other certificate / diploma

16% completed high school

DID YOU KNOW?

The **Greater Essex County District School Board** has been given the green light for a new elementary school in Lakeshore. The **\$13 million** investment for the still-unnamed building will provide for state-of-the-art learning space for up to 582 students. windsorstar.com

The **Windsor-Essex Catholic District School Board** has been given the approval to move forward with an upgrade to St. Louis Catholic Elementary School in Leamington. Once that expansion is complete, there will be 147 new student spaces, plus three new childcare rooms. windsorstar.com

The **Town of Tecumseh's Youth Advisory Council's** Mind Break Before Study Break initiative is designed to focus on health, wellness and learning in local youth particularly high school age. They will learn new skills and techniques to find a more productive and less stressful way to study for exams. Facilitated through the **WindsorEssex Community Foundation** and funded by **RBC** and the **Government of Canada** through the **RBC Future Launch Program**.

The **University of Windsor** and **St. Clair College** started the fall semester mostly online. uwindsor.ca and stclaircollege.ca

St. Clair College expanding school of business and IT with **\$23 million** development windsorstar.com



STATS



76% IN-PERSON LEARNING PROGRAM



The Greater Essex County District School Board says that 76% of secondary students will return to school in an adapted, in-person learning program when school resumes in September. They will be taking courses equally in both the classroom and at home.



24% CLASSES ENTIRELY ONLINE



The remaining 24% of secondary students will have their classes entirely online.
Greater Essex County District School Board

The school board reports **65%** of students in elementary schools will attend classes in person, five days each week.

23% of students in Kindergarten through Grade 8 will be learning online,

with **12%** of elementary students using the off-line, printed packages at home.

The board says that approximately **36,000** students are enrolled, with **24,594** in elementary school and **11,720** in secondary school.

The Greater Essex County Catholic District School Board
Around **3,600** elementary remote learners with the Catholic school board started on September 14, 2020.
CTV Windsor



COVID-19 TIMELINE



June 24:

Most of the region of Windsor-Essex will be allowed to move into Stage 2 of Ontario's recovery plan. Leamington and Kingsville left in Stage 1.

July 6:

Premier Doug Ford announces Kingsville and Leamington, Ont., will move to Stage 2 the following day. The entire province is now in Stage 2.

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH



GETTING AROUND

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

TOP PRIORITIES

Creating a regional transportation system connecting Windsor and Essex County **40%**

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

Improving public transportation **15%**

WHAT YOU SAID

34% of survey respondents rated public transportation in Windsor-Essex as improvement needed and

20% 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 ok , but could be doing better

DID YOU KNOW?



Leamington will be able to purchase two new buses to replace two retiring buses this will improve the capacity of the transit system by adding more seating. Funding is provided by all three levels of government. windsorite.ca



LaSalle will receive funding for the installation of ten bike lockers at various locations throughout the municipality. Funding is provided by all three levels of government. **Windsor Star**

\$2.5 million upgrade on Banwell Road between Tecumseh Road East and Palmetto Street has commenced. **Windsor Star**

FOOD SECURITY

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

TOP PRIORITIES

Improving access to locally grown food **38%**

Increasing support for community food programs **30%**

Improving access to fresh and nutritious food **22%**

WHAT YOU SAID

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

59% of respondents said we're on the right track / we're doing okay, but could do better while

30% said we should look into this / improvement needed

Does Windsor-Essex have access to locally grown food?

25% said we are doing great

33% said we're on the right track, while

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

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

DID YOU KNOW?

The **Amherstburg Food and Fellowship Mission** received emergency funding supported by the Government of Canada and facilitated by the **WECF** to help low income families with food supplies. aburgmission.ca

Despite several challenges to accessing food banks (including a disruption to public transit, social distancing requirements / increased fear and perception that food banks are socially stigmatizing) **Ontario Student Nutrition Program**, in partnership with the **Unemployed Help Centre** and the **Windsor Essex Covid Care Coalition**, provided the following support from April – August 2020:

Distribution of **3,326** Good Food Boxes and **\$70,000** in grocery store gift cards.

Delivered **1600** frozen meals to families at home. Families were referred by **Family Respite** and **The Bridge** in Leamington. 15 food banks in Windsor and Essex county represented by the **Windsor Essex Food Bank Association** have helped over **149,000** individuals in our community.

STATS

Previously, nearly 1 in 10 children (**9.7%**) in Windsor and Essex County were moderately or severely food insecure. National data from Statistics Canada showed that there was a significantly higher rate of food insecurity being reported as a result of Covid among Canadians living in a household with children at **19.2%** in May 2020.

Prior to schools closing mid-March due to the Covid-19 emergency, over **28,000** students in Windsor and Essex County had access to nutritious food at school with **83%** of those students at schools that require enhanced support due to a high percentage of students living in low income households.



STATS

All commercial flights in and out of **Windsor International Airport** were suspended amid the COVID-19 pandemic. The airport suspended flights on **April 3, 2020** and flights resumed on **September 8, 2020**.

CTV Windsor



Transit Windsor suspended bus service on March 30, 2020 until May 4, 2020 due to the growing concern of the COVID-19 pandemic. **Windsor Star**



COVID-19 TIMELINE



July 13:

Ontario announces some of the province will enter Stage 3 of the second phase of its recovery plan on July 17. The Greater Toronto Area, Hamilton, Niagara, Haldimand-Norfolk, Lambton and Windsor-Essex are left in Stage 2.

August 12:

Windsor Essex moves to stage 3.



WindsorEssex Community Foundation



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).

Emergency Community Support Fund

We are proud to have partnered with **Community Foundations of Canada** and the Government of Canada to deliver the **Government of Canada's Emergency Community Support Fund (ECSF)** in Windsor and Essex county. Launched on May 19, 2020, we've invested an additional **\$978,000** through the ECSF towards local charities and qualified donees supporting populations experiencing heightened vulnerability during this crisis.

THANK YOU TO OUR PARTNERS THAT MADE THIS REPORT POSSIBLE

The **Windsor Essex Community Foundation (WECF)**, originally founded in 1983 as Heritage Windsor, is a perpetual community trust for philanthropic purposes. It exists to manage donors' legacy funds, make grants to support local projects, and establish partnerships that last a lifetime. The **WECF** also coordinated a variety of philanthropic programs and funds including the **Vital Signs® Program, Random Act of Kindness Day™**, and **Inspiration 100™**.

To learn more about supporting our work in building a stronger, healthy, more vibrant community, call us today at **519-255-6572**.

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SPECIAL THANKS



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**.

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