

What You May Not Know About Your Community

Poverty Factoids in Hastings County

Income

- Based on 2010 after tax median income Belleville (\$48,552) and Quinte West (\$54,010) were below the provincial level (\$58,717).
- Hastings County generally (\$49,583) is well below provincial median income (\$58,717).
- Single parent households in Hastings County overall (\$39,108) were approaching the provincial median income (\$44,398).
- Single family households in Centre Hastings (\$31,454) and Bancroft (\$26,494) are far behind the provincial median income.
- There has been a steady increase in the percentage of persons in low-income since the 2005 census; Hastings County was 8.8% in 2005, and 15.3% in 2010; Belleville was 10.3% in 2005 and 16.2% in 2010; Quinte West was 8.5% in 2005 and 12.9% in 2010.

Housing

- The average rent for a rooming situations is \$475/month (Belleville) and \$400/month (Quinte West).
- One bedroom average apartment rent is \$830/month (Belleville) and \$780 (Quinte West).
- Two bedroom average apartment rent is \$980/month (Belleville) and \$820 (Quinte West).
- Three bedroom home average rent is \$1,300/month (Belleville) and \$1,150 (Quinte West).
- In Ontario 20.9% of owner households spend more than 30% of household income on shelter. Local homeowners fare a bit better than the provincial average.
- The percentage of tenant households that spend 30% or more of household income on shelter in Hastings County is close to the provincial average of 42.3%.
- Canadian Mental Health Association - HPE (CMHA) housed 189 homeless individuals and families, but turned away 603 due to lack of space over the year.
- Social Housing Registry Waitlist (May 2015): 1,585 (representing 3,962 people).
- Waitlist has increased 22% since 2008.
- The Community Advocacy & Legal Centre sees an average of about 400 tenants per year, at the Landlord and Tenant Board. Almost 60% of these tenants are there because they have had trouble paying rent.

Food

- Gleaner's Food Bank reports that most users of the food bank are renters.
- The HPEDHU reports that a family of four earning two median incomes spends about 12% of their total income on food, while a family of four on Ontario Works needs to spend about 37% of their income to eat a basic nutritious diet. These scenarios show that due to small budgets, families living on low incomes may find themselves using money meant for nutritious food to pay for other expenses such as rent, transportation, school supplies, clothing, and personal care products.



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Infant Health

- % of births to mothers younger than 20 years of age in Hastings and Prince Edward Counties continues to be more than twice the provincial average (6.7% vs. 3.2%).
- Rates of low birth weight (<2,500 grams) have increased in Hastings and Prince Edward Counties between 2008 and 2011.

Aging Population

- Belleville and Quinte West both had percentages of population 65 years or older, higher than the provincial average - Ontario (14.6%), Belleville (19.2%), Quinte West (16.9%) and Hastings County (18.5%).
- By 2036, almost 1/3 of the population in Hastings County will be 65 years or older, compared to almost 1/4 of the population in Ontario.
- The Hastings Housing Resource Centre's fastest growing segment of the population is seniors aged 50 and over. In 2012, they worked with 286 seniors and in 2013 saw a 15% increase with 337 seniors in need of housing assistance.
- In 2014 the Centre continues to work with high numbers of seniors looking for housing, as 20% of the new clients are seniors, with this number increasing continually.
- In 2014 the HHRC worked with 309 seniors in need of assistance; 81 of the 309 were homeless and the rest were at risk of homelessness.

Sources: Statscan Information from Affordable Housing Action Network (AHAN)/United Way Report (unpublished); Hastings Housing Resource Centre; CMHA - HPE; Gleaner's Food Bank; Hastings-Prince Edward Counties Health Unit; Hastings County Housing Services; Community Advocacy & Legal Centre.

