

Vital Signs Report 2024



A MESSAGE FROM THE CEO



Glenn Gumulka,
Chief Executive Officer

The 2024 Mississauga Vital Signs Report highlights another year of growth, challenges, and opportunities. Our evolving community continues to show resilience, compassion, and innovation in the face of change, filling me with optimism and a deep commitment to the work ahead.

This report highlights key aspects of life in Mississauga—our health, environment, economy, safety, and more—and reveals areas where we continue to make progress, as well as those where more work is needed. It is both a snapshot of where we stand and a roadmap for where we need to go as a community.

At the Mississauga Foundation, our mission is to bring people together to build a stronger, more vibrant community. Through collaboration with local organizations, businesses, and individuals, we've been able to support initiatives that directly address the most pressing needs of our city. But there is more to be done.

I encourage you to explore this report, not only to understand the challenges we face but to be inspired by the opportunities we have to make a difference. Whether you are a resident, business leader, policy-maker, or volunteer, you have a role to play in shaping the future of Mississauga.

Thank you for being part of this journey. Together, we can build a future where everyone feels they belong, where every voice is heard, and where every person has the opportunity to thrive.

A MESSAGE FROM OUR SPONSOR: NOVO NORDISK



Adam Marsella,
Director of Public Affairs

As a leading global healthcare company founded in 1923 and headquartered in Denmark, Novo Nordisk's purpose is to drive change to defeat diabetes and other serious chronic diseases. We do so by pioneering scientific breakthroughs, expanding access to our medicines, and working to prevent and ultimately cure disease.

Novo Nordisk has a long history of work to support the prevention of chronic disease like obesity and diabetes around the world and right here in Canada. As a leader in diabetes and obesity care, we believe we have an important obligation to people's health, and a business interest in resilient healthcare systems that can only be accomplished through prevention efforts. Through partnerships like this one, we strive to make a positive impact on individuals, families and communities, making strides towards a healthier, more sustainable future.

Thanks to Our Sponsors

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Portage Wealth of Raymond James
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We extend our deepest gratitude to the many businesses that have embraced the opportunity to help foster a vibrant, caring city for all. In particular, we wish to thank the sponsors whose generosity has made the production and promotion of this report possible. We are immensely grateful to the individuals and organizations who contributed to this report. Our board, staff, volunteers, and all those involved have been instrumental in ensuring this report reflects the needs and strengths of our community, and we look forward to continuing this important work together.

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Land Acknowledgement



The Mississauga Foundation acknowledges the lands that constitute the present-day City of Mississauga as being part of the Treaty and Traditional Territory of the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation, The Haudenosaunee Confederacy, and The Huron-Wendat and Wyandot Nations. We recognize these peoples and their ancestors as peoples who inhabited these lands since time immemorial.

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How to read this report

Sustainable Development Goals

Look for the Sustainable Development Goals icons throughout the report to see how each section aligns with global priorities for a better future.

Letter Grades

Letter grades in each section present a quick snapshot of community performance. The grades were developed from our community survey, reflecting residents' perceptions of key issues in Mississauga.



Regional Data

Where applicable, the report includes regional, provincial or national comparison data to provide context and highlight how Mississauga's performance aligns with or differs from neighbouring areas. These comparisons offer valuable insights into broader trends and opportunities for improvement.

Together, we can shape Mississauga by amplifying community voices.

Through initiatives like the Vital Signs Report, the foundation gathers valuable insights on Mississauga's social, economic, and environmental well-being to inform meaningful action.



The Mississauga Foundation



The Mississauga Foundation is committed to building a vibrant, inclusive, and caring community by connecting generous donors with the city's most pressing needs. Focused on fostering philanthropy and supporting local organizations, the foundation aims to strengthen Mississauga by addressing critical challenges and driving positive, lasting change for all residents.

What is Vital Signs?

Vital Signs is a national program led by community foundations and coordinated by Community Foundations of Canada that leverages local knowledge to measure the vitality of our communities and support action towards improving our collective quality of life.

Community foundations use the knowledge gained through Vital Signs to lead on impact in their community. Priorities identified by Vital Signs are often incorporated into the strategic direction of the foundation and guide decision-making as a community leader and funder. As a result, community foundations are able to move the needle on the most pressing issues.



VitalSigns.

What are Sustainable Development Goals?



The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) are a universal set of 17 interconnected goals established by the United Nations to address global challenges and promote a better and more sustainable future for all. Their purpose is to provide a comprehensive framework for countries, organizations, and communities to work together on key issues. Collectively, the SDGs aim to balance economic growth, social inclusion, and environmental protection by fostering collaboration and encouraging actions that ensure the well-being of both current and future generations.



End poverty in all its forms everywhere.



Reduce inequality within and among countries.



End hunger, achieve food security, and promote sustainable agriculture.



Make cities inclusive, safe, resilient, and sustainable.



Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all ages.



Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns.



Ensure equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning.



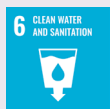
Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts.



Achieve gender equality and empower women and girls.



Conserve and sustainably use oceans, seas, and marine resources.



Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation.



Protect, restore, and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems and biodiversity.



Ensure access to affordable, reliable and sustainable energy for all.



Promote peaceful and inclusive societies, provide access to justice, and build accountable institutions.



Promote sustained, economic growth, full and productive employment, and decent work for all.



Strengthen global partnerships for sustainable development.



Build resilient infrastructure, promote sustainable industrialization, and foster innovation.

Learn more about the Sustainable Development Goals

The content of this publication has not been approved by the United Nations and does not reflect the views of the United Nations or its officials or Member States.

Key Findings

Overall, Mississaugans rate their quality of life positively.

Three-in-five rate quality of life as good or excellent, particularly those older and from higher-income groups. When asked about the best parts of Mississauga, location and parks and green spaces were the top responses. Over two-thirds rated the availability and quality of green spaces/parks in their communities as good or excellent. Diversity, equity, and inclusion is rated the highest, with diversity mentioned among the top three best things about Mississauga.

Affordability, especially regarding housing and cost of living, emerges as a key area of concern for Mississaugans,

reflecting the nation-wide trend. However, this is particularly affecting younger, lower-income, and Black, Indigenous, People of Colour (BIPOC) residents in Mississauga. While feelings of community belonging are strong, there are notable economic challenges, with only two-in-five rating their household finances as good or excellent and one-third expressing optimism about Mississauga's economic outlook. Ability to afford necessities was rated good/excellent by less than two-

in-five, and wage in relation to cost of living by less than one-third, both rated higher among males and those with a higher annual income. In November 2024, Mississauga declared food insecurity an emergency as a significant number of residents are lacking access to safe and nutritious food, with food bank visits increasing by nearly 80% over the past year. Further, housing receives the lowest grade, with affordability and availability of home ownership and rental housing that meets needs rated poorly (over half rated as poor/below average).

Safety concerns are also rising. Residents report a perceived increase in crime in both neighbourhoods and the city in general. Safety was mentioned as one of the top five ways to make Mississauga better and among the top three issues facing Mississauga, highlighting the need for focused efforts on crime prevention and enhancing public safety measures.



67% Indicate crime in Mississauga has increased over the past year

61% Rate quality of life as good/excellent

41% Rate their current household's finances as good/excellent

39% Rate their ability to afford necessities as good/excellent

32% Rate the economic outlook for Mississauga over the next year as good/excellent

30% Rate their wage in relation to cost of living as good/excellent

21% Rate the availability of affordable home ownership options that meet their needs as good/excellent

Source: Mississauga Vital Signs Report

Quality of Life in Mississauga

Vital Signs citizen survey participants were asked a range of questions about their quality of life.

When asked to rate their quality of life, the overall grade was B-



Top 5 things to address to make Mississauga an even better place to live

Source: Mississauga Vital Signs Report

21%

Affordable housing

18%

Better public transportation

16%

Affordability / Cost of living

11%

Safety / Less crime / More police

10%

Less traffic

Affordability/Cost of living is a key issue in Mississauga, particularly among younger, lower-income, and BIPOC citizens.

Diversity, Equity and Inclusion in Mississauga

Source: Mississauga Vital Signs Report

When asked to rate diversity, equity, and inclusion in Mississauga, the overall grade was **B+**

56% Agree Mississaugans are committed to anti-racism, equity, and inclusion

56% Agree Black, Indigenous, and People of Colour have equal opportunities and are treated as equals

73% Agree it is important to learn about and respect Indigenous culture, values and traditions

59% agree there should be more opportunities to support cross-cultural education and awareness. This is higher among youth ages 18-34 (67%) and those who are BIPOC (68%).

64%

Over three-in-five are likely to still be living and/or working in Mississauga 10 years from now.

49%

Less than half are satisfied with their work and home life balance.

Overall, Mississaugans feel accepted in their neighbourhood, for who they are, and in the city overall. Diversity was rated as one of the top three best things about Mississauga.

Feel accepted in the neighbourhood they live in 70%

Feel accepted for who they are 67%

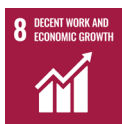
Feel accepted in the city they live in 65%



Arts & Culture

Mississauga’s arts and culture scene fosters a deep sense of community and belonging with over half of residents rating it as good or excellent. While major investments and growing event participation are elevating the city’s cultural landscape, there is room to grow in making art and culture in the city more accessible and affordable.

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

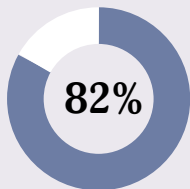


In 2024, the city invested \$4.7 million to support local arts, culture, and live music in the city, enhancing cultural participation and preservation, while supporting the growth of local enterprises contributing to the economic vitality of the community. While investments are being made, employment is below average for the province and nationally. An increase in event attendance and volunteer hours demonstrate how arts and culture are driving social cohesion and economic growth. Furthermore, library and cultural venue usage has grown, representing Mississauga’s continued commitment to promoting lifelong learning and efforts to enhance cultural education and understanding. However, there remains an opportunity to invest in the quality of spaces, support artists, and encourage more variety and affordable access to art in the city.

Arts and Culture in Mississauga

Library Usage

Source: City of Mississauga



In 2023, **82% of citizens** were satisfied with library services, down from 90% in 2019.

In 2022, the following visits and engagement was reported for the Mississauga's Library

155,986 active cardholders, up from 143,361 in 2021

2,087,442 in-person visits, up from 872,696 in 2021

81,665 total program attendees, down from 160,202 in 2021

As of 2021, there were:

Source: City of Mississauga

63 pieces of public art, up from 59 pieces in 2020

277,495 attendees at City funded festivals and events, up from 173,076 in 2020

1,821 participants in registered Culture programs, up from 1,300 in 2020

192,380 volunteer hours provided at City funded cultural organizations, up from 109,996 in 2020

161 events hosted at Culture facilities, down from 171 in 2020

1,307 filming days, up from 664 in 2020

As of 2022 there are 7 Culture Venues in Mississauga



Source: City of Mississauga

900

Concurrent Usage Days
Culture venue usage increased by over 50% from 2021 to 2022, from 430 concurrent usage days to 900.

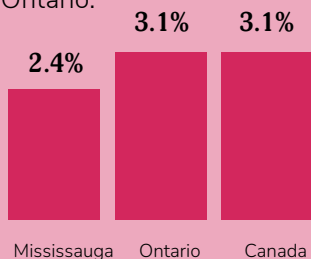
1,207,000

Attendees
Culture venue attendance increased by over 25% from 319,000 attendees in 2021 to 1,207,000 in 2022.

Employment in Arts and Culture

Source: Statistics Canada

In 2021, approximately 2,800 professional artists worked in Mississauga, compared to 81,800 in Ontario.



2.4% of Mississauga's total labour force worked in art, culture, recreation, and sport in 2021, up from 2.2% in 2016.

Please note COVID-19 closures in effect from March 2020 – September 2022.

In 2024, Mississauga invested \$4.7 million to support community, culture and live music in the city.

Source: City of Mississauga

According to the 2024 Vital Signs citizen report:

55%

Rate quality of arts and cultural spaces as average, below average, or poor.

57%

Rate the affordability of arts or cultural events as average, below average, or poor.

Sustainable Development Goals



Promote lifelong learning and strengthen efforts to enhance cultural education and understanding.



Support the growth of small-sized enterprises contributing to the economic vitality of the community.



Enhance cultural visibility and appreciation of cultural contribution to sustainable development.



Belonging

Belonging plays a crucial role in quality of life in Mississauga. Over half of residents rate their sense of belonging as good or excellent, and this was higher among Black, Indigenous, People of Colour (BIPOC) residents. The city's diverse population and inclusive environment foster strong community ties. Mississauga continues to thrive as a place where residents can connect, share ideas, and build lasting relationships, making it a city where everyone can feel at home.

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS



With over half of Mississauga's population being born outside of Canada, Mississauga maintains the largest proportion of Peel immigrants. Newcomer supports and community programs promote reduced inequalities and good health and well-being by providing services to help all residents integrate and thrive. By creating an inclusive and sustainable environment, Mississauga is a place where citizens feel included, respected and seen.

Belonging in Mississauga

Migration

Source: Statistics Canada

Between 2016-2021, Mississauga had

129,280
Migrants (19.0%)

- 9.7% internal migrants
- 9.3% external migrants (outside Canada)

Between 2016-2021, Ontario had

2,900,355
Migrants (21.7%)

- 16.2% internal migrants
- 5.5% external migrants

55% of Mississauga residents were born outside of Canada, as of 2021.

Source: Invest Mississauga

Newcomer Supports

Source: Immigration Peel and Newcomer Information Centre

The Newcomer Guide to Health and Social Services provides information on local resources for mental health and addictions, women's health and wellness, early childhood, older adults', and seniors' health, 2SLGBTQ+ health, and more.

Compass to Connect is funded by Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada and connects newcomers to free government funded services.

Newcomer Information Centres have professional, multilingual staff that provide free one-on-one information and referral services that are personalized to assist immigrants and facilitate a smooth transition to life in Canada.

62% report they have access to at least 75% of the services they need.

Source: Peel Social Capital Report

According to the 2024 Vital Signs citizen report:

Source: Mississauga Vital Signs Report

61% Agree they are free and open to express ideas, opinions, and beliefs

61% Agree they are included

58% Agree they share ideas or interests with like-minded people

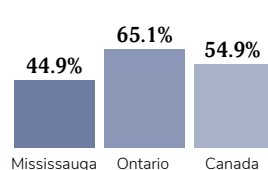
76% feel a strong (somewhat/very) sense of belonging to local community in Peel. About half of Peel respondents reported that all or most of the friends they had been in contact with recently shared the same mother tongue, age, sex, and education.

Source: Peel Social Capital Report

In 2021 and 2022, almost half of people in Canada (47%) reported having a strong sense of belonging to their community, compared to 45% in Ontario. This percentage was lower among young people aged 15 to 34 (ranging from 37% to 44%) and the LGBTQ2+ population (36%), among other groups.

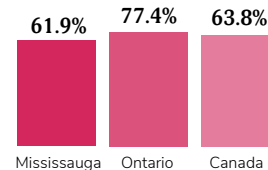
Source: Statistics Canada

English is 44.9% of the populations mother tongue in Mississauga compared to 65.1% in Ontario, and 54.9% in Canada (2021).



Source: Statistics Canada

61.9% most often speak English at home in Mississauga compared to 77.4% in Ontario, and 63.8% in Canada (2021).



Source: Statistics Canada

Sustainable Development Goals



Promote health and wellbeing, ensuring everyone has access to healthcare and services.



Promote inclusivity and ensure equal opportunities for all.



Create inclusive, safe, and sustainable cities with access to basic services and opportunities for all.



Community Engagement

Community engagement (volunteering, participating in community activities or collaborating with individuals, groups or the community to address and solve problems that affect the community) is a key aspect of the city’s vibrancy, with close to half of residents rating their involvement as good or excellent. Charities and nonprofits in Mississauga play an essential role in strengthening these connections, empowering residents to support one another and make a meaningful impact in their community.

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS



With over 100 registered charitable organizations focused on poverty relief and a strong network of nonprofit organizations and dedicated volunteers, Mississauga is committed to supporting vulnerable populations and fostering inclusivity. More than half of residents report having access to community activities and services that allow them to engage in meaningful ways. Additionally, as nonprofit networks in Ontario anticipate improvements in their financial outlook, the city and province are well-positioned to enhance community involvement and extend vital resources to those in need.

Community Engagement in Mississauga

In the Greater Toronto Area, **17.0%** of tax filers reported a charitable donation on their personal income tax form for a total of \$2.6B in 2022.

↓ Down from **17.8%** in 2021 and \$2.7B donated.

In Ontario, **17.6%** of tax filers reported a charitable donation on their personal income tax form for a total of \$5.0B in 2022.

↓ Down from **18.2%** in 2021 and \$5.3B donated.

In Canada, **17.1%** of tax filers reported a charitable donation on their personal income tax form for a total of \$11.4B in 2022.

↓ Down from **17.7%** in 2021 and \$11.8B donated.

Source: Statistics Canada

According to the 2024 Vital Signs citizen report:

Source: Mississauga Vital Signs Report

64% Agree they are aware of where they can find/access community services or resources

57% Of respondents agree there are community activities/services that appeal to them

54% Of respondents agree they are able to engage with their community in the way that they want to

While awareness and access of community activities/services is high, participation is lower

Agree they participate in community activities **44%**

Agree they are an active volunteer within the community **43%**

Ontario Nonprofit Network

Source: Ontario Nonprofit Network

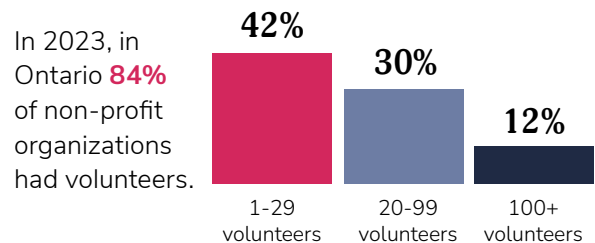


In 2022, more than half of responding organizations were reporting volunteer-related issues like loss of volunteers and difficulty recruiting. In 2023, those numbers decreased to only a quarter.

A quarter reported that they expect their organization's financial situation will improve between the next 6-12 months, down by 9% from 2022.

Those with a lower income and who were not born in Canada are more likely to agree they are active volunteers in their community.

Source: Statistics Canada



Sustainable Development Goals



Promote health and wellbeing, ensuring everyone has access to healthcare and services.



Promote inclusivity and ensure equal opportunities for all.



Create inclusive, safe, and sustainable cities with access to basic services and opportunities for all.

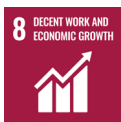


Economy



The economy, especially cost of living and affordability, is vital to quality of life of Mississauga. Over half of residents rate the economy as average or lower. Mississauga’s diverse employment sectors and steady job market provide numerous opportunities for economic growth and stability. However, affordability and cost of living, remain top of mind for many

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS



Diverse employment opportunities across key sectors such as business, trades, and services help to support economic growth. Employment rates in the Greater Toronto area are up in 2023 compared to 2021. However, concerns around affordability and employment persist in Mississauga as few find their ability to find suitable employment and the availability of entry level job opportunities as good/excellent. To reduce inequalities, BIPOC citizens, those with lower annual incomes, and those newer to Mississauga are in need of economic and career opportunities.

Economy in Mississauga

Employment Sectors

Source: Statistics Canada

The top occupational sectors in Mississauga for the labour force ages 15+ were:



23.4%

Sales and service,

compared to 23.5% in Ontario, and 23.9% in Canada



21.3%

Business, finance, and administration,

compared to 17.9% in Ontario, and 17.1% in Canada



14.7%

Trades, transport and equipment operators,

compared to 15.9% in Ontario, and 16.8% in Canada.



Sustainable Development Goals



Support job creation and sustain economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all.



Promote inclusivity and ensure equal opportunities for all.

The annual unemployment rate in Greater Toronto in 2023 was 6.2%, down from 6.3% in 2022, and 9.2% in 2021.

Compared to

- 5.7% in Ontario (2023), up from 5.6% in 2022, and down from 8.1% in 2021.
- 5.4% in Canada (2023), up from 5.3% in 2022, and down from 7.5% in 2021.

The annual employment rate in Greater Toronto in 2023 was 63.0%, consistent with 63.0% in 2022, and up from 61.3% in 2021.

Compared to

- 61.8% in Ontario (2023), consistent with 61.8% in 2022, and up from 59.9% in 2021.
- 62.1% in Canada (2023), up from 62.0% in 2022, and 60.5% in 2021.

Source: Statistics Canada

According to the 2024 Vital Signs citizen report:

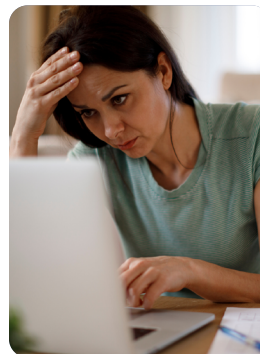
Source: Mississauga Vital Signs Report

41% Rate their household's current finances as good/excellent

34% Rate their ability to find suitable employment as good/excellent

32% Rate the economic outlook for Mississauga over the next year as good/excellent

28% Rate availability of entry level job opportunities as good/excellent



Younger, BIPOC, and lower income citizens are struggling financially and are more likely to rate their household finances as below average/poor.



Housing

Mississauga’s housing landscape presents challenges in affordability, availability, and accessibility with just under one-third rating housing as good or excellent. The availability of affordable home ownership and rental options remains a pressing concern for many. While affordability remains a challenge, the city’s commitment to expanding housing options and creating more accessible living spaces fosters a sense of security and opportunity.

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS



In 2024, the average home price in Mississauga stood at just over \$1 million, marking a slight decline from the previous year but still posing challenges for prospective buyers. In 2023, the City launched Growing Mississauga, an action plan to get more housing built and to make it more affordable. Stable and accessible housing is essential for reducing financial strain on lower-income residents. In 2023, 33,897 households were supported by Peel Region housing help, helping to ensure that all residents, regardless of income level, can benefit from the city’s economic growth and secure stable, affordable housing.

Housing in Mississauga

Homelessness in Peel

Source: Region of Peel

In 2021, **866 individuals** were experiencing homelessness in Peel

38% experiencing chronic homelessness (32% in 2018).

37% individuals in emergency shelters (49% in 2018).

16% in transitional housing (27% in 2018).

11% experiencing unsheltered homelessness (11% in 2018).
 → 16% individuals were 16-24 (24% in 2018).
 → 28% females and 56% male (34% and 64% in 2018).
 → 1% identified as LGBTQ2IA+

Housing Supports

Source: Region of Peel

33,897 households were supported by Peel Region housing help in 2023

- **16,497** households call the affordable housing system home
- **71%** of all buildings in the community housing systems are in a good state of repair
- **1,340** units under development
- **351** households were placed from Peel's Centralized Waiting List into subsidized community housing units
- **4,800+** households received one-time financial assistance to prevent homelessness
- **4,500+** households received case management help from a Housing Support Worker

Sustainable Development Goals



Ensure access to basic needs and provide supports to vulnerable populations.



Promote inclusivity and ensure equal opportunities for all.



Create inclusive, safe, and sustainable cities with access to basic services and opportunities for all.

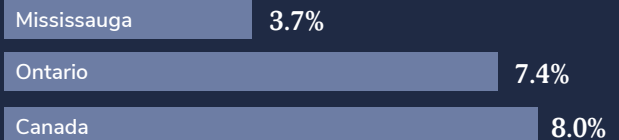
In the 2021 Census, 43% of households in Mississauga earned less than \$90,000 annually—an income level that put homeownership out of reach, given the mortgage prices and interest rates at that time. With 2024's higher interest rates and rising property values, this affordability gap has likely widened, making it more difficult for many households to consider buying a home.

Source: Mississauga Vital Signs Report

54% Rate availability of supportive housing to meet needs as below average/poor

54% Rate availability of affordable rental housing to meet needs as below average/poor

47% Rate availability of supportive housing to meet needs as below average/poor



As of 2021, there are 9,514 unoccupied private dwellings in Mississauga (3.7%), compared to 438,049 in Ontario (7.4%) and 1,305,294 in Canada (8.0%).

Statistics Canada reports that there are 100,000 short-term rental (STR) units in Canada that could be used for long-term housing. Furthermore, STR listings increased by 60% from 2017 to 2023, while the number of STR units that could be used as long-term housing grew by more than 80% during that time. While STR's have not caused the housing crisis, they are likely a contributing factor.

Since 2021, Mississauga has issued 1,254 STR licenses which includes both new and renewed licenses and of which 495 are active. However, there are likely additional STR units in the city that may not meet the criteria requiring a license as indicated by STR availability on sites such as Airbnb and VRBO. The City also issued a total of 1,252 Notices of Contravention and 366 Administrative Penalty System fines, primarily in relation to STRs operating without a license.

Source: City of Mississauga and Statistics Canada

\$1,042,868

In July 2024, Mississauga's average home price stood at \$1,042,868

- 5.5% decrease from June
- 1.4% decline compared to July 2023

Source: WOWA

\$2,624

In July 2024, Mississauga's median rent for all bedroom counts and property counts stood at \$2,624.

- 7% increase from June
- 1% increase compared to July 2023

Source: Zumper





Environment

The natural environment in Mississauga is one of the best things about the city, with over half of residents rating it as good or excellent. The abundance of green spaces, parks, and trails enhances the well-being of the community, promoting both physical and mental health. From well-maintained parks to successful waste management programs, Mississauga demonstrates a strong commitment to sustainability, ensuring a healthy and thriving environment that continues to enrich the lives of all who live and visit.

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS



With 470 parks covering 2,950 hectares supporting residents' well-being and strong connections to nature, Mississauga promotes Life on Land. While the city's focus on maintaining parks and green spaces contribute directly to the well-being and health of its residents, there is room to grow as only two-thirds believe air, water, and land quality is good/excellent, down 16% from 2019. Mississauga's extensive parkland and natural areas are integral to building sustainable cities and communities, ensuring residents have access to green, safe, and accessible public spaces. Through efficient waste management and recycling programs, the city supports responsible consumption and production, reducing waste and promoting sustainability.

Environment in Mississauga

In 2023, 66% believed the air, water, and land quality of Mississauga was excellent/good, down from 82% in 2019.

Source: City of Mississauga

As of September 2021, the city has 470+ parks covering 2,950 ha of parkland, yielding a current park supply of 4.1ha/1000 people.

Source: Park People and City of Mississauga

Tree canopy covers 5,614 hectares (19%) of Mississauga. Non-tree canopy vegetation (grass and open space) where tree planting is feasible covers an additional 6,788 hectares (23%). Per, Canadian Geographic, the ideal tree canopy for cities is estimated between 30 and 40 per cent.

Source: City of Mississauga and Canadian Geographic

Sustainable Development Goals



Support healthy lifestyles and promote mental and physical wellbeing.



Promote sustainable urban development by encouraging healthy lifestyles and accessible outdoor spaces.



Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns by reducing waste and managing resources.



Promote and protect greenland and sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems.

In 2023, there were 5,782 parkland volunteers and a total of 31,607 volunteer hours, down from 6,739 volunteers and 37,207 hours.

Source: The Riverwood Conservancy and Credit Valley Conservation Foundation

Over the course of 2023, the average Air Quality Index (AQI) in Mississauga remained between 0-50. Contributing pollutants include automobiles and occasional wildfires.

An AQI under 50 is considered good. AQI is derived from measurements of pollutants such as particle matter, ozone, nitrogen dioxide, sulfur dioxide and carbon monoxide.

Source: AQI

56%

Rate the overall air quality in their area as good/excellent

Source: Mississauga Vital Signs Report

For Canadian cities, in 2022, parks had a positive impact on:

- **88%** mental health (vs. 85% in 2020).
- **86%** physical health (vs. 81% in 2020).
- **86%** connection to nature.
- **74%** social connection/well being (vs. 71% in 2020).
- **75%** connection to neighbourhood/ community.



Source: Park People and City of Mississauga

Citizens are working to ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns.

In 2022:

Source: Region of Peel

475,000 customers visited Peel's Community Recycling Centres (down from 525,000 in 2021).

56% of material dropped off at Community Recycling Centres was reused or recycled (consistent with 2021).

94% of curbside households participated in blue box program (up from 93% in 2021).

69% of curbside households participated in the green bin program (down from 70% in 2021).



Health and Wellness

Mississauga places great importance on health and wellness, with over half of its residents rating it as good or excellent. Access to regular healthcare providers and wellness services are an important aspect of the city's commitment to supporting residents' physical and mental health. By ensuring accessible healthcare and encouraging well-being, the city creates an environment where residents can lead healthier, more fulfilling lives.

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS



By providing healthcare services to a diverse population, Mississauga strives to address inequalities in access to care, ensuring that everyone, regardless of background, has the opportunity to live a healthy life. Most Peel residents report a regular health care provider and over half of Mississauga citizens feel their state of physical and mental health is good or excellent. However, access to mental health care in a timely manner is rated 59% as average/poor and hospital waiting times are typically over 90 minutes.

Health and Wellness in Mississauga

As of July 2024, patients waited on average 2.2 hours at the Mississauga Credit Valley Hospital from checking in at triage or registration to their first assessment by a doctor, nurse-practitioner or dentist in the emergency department.

- Patients waited on average **1.4 hours at the Mississauga Hospital.**
- Patients waited on average between **1.2 to 2.4 hours in hospitals across Toronto.**

Source: Health Quality Ontario

In 2021, 89% of Peel residents reported having a regular health care provider that they could see or talk to when they needed care/ advice about their health, compared to 90% in Ontario.

Source: Peel Region



According to the 2024 Vital Signs citizen report:

Source: Mississauga Vital Signs Report

- 58%** Rate their state of mental health as good/excellent
- 55%** Rate their state of physical health as good/excellent
- 50%** Rate their ability to access physical health care in a timely manner as good/excellent
- 41%** Rate their ability to access mental health care in a timely manner as good/excellent

In 2019/2020

Source: Peel Region

60%

of Peel residents drank alcohol at least once in the past 12 months

consistent with 2017/2018 (60%). Significantly lower than Ontario (2019/2020, 72%).

9%

of Peel residents were current smokers (daily/occasional)

down from 2017/2018 (11%). Significantly lower than Ontario (2019/2020, 12%).

15%

of Peel residents reported using cannabis at least once in the past 12 months

up from 2017/2018 (12%). Significantly lower than in Ontario (2019/2020, 22%).

Sustainable Development Goals



Support healthy lifestyles and promote mental and physical wellbeing for all.



Promote inclusivity and ensure equal opportunities for all.



Create inclusive, safe, and sustainable cities with access to basic services and opportunities for all.

In 2022, for Ontario:

Source: Statistics Canada

- **7,031,100** perceived health as very good or excellent, down from 7,611,300 in 2021.
- **6,696,100** perceived mental health as very good or excellent, down from 7,046,500 in 2021.
- **2,927,400** perceived life stress, most days as quite a bit or extremely stressful, up from 2,627,600 in 2021.



Learning

Mississauga’s learning landscape is a key contributor to the city’s success, with three-in-five residents rating it as good or excellent. The city’s diverse educational institutions and lifelong learning opportunities provide residents with access to quality education at all stages of life.

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS



Home to fifteen post-secondary institutions, Mississauga is an important centre for education. The city’s diverse educational offerings, from universities to career colleges, provide residents with opportunities for skill development and academic advancement, promoting equitable access to learning. By focusing on affordability and inclusivity, Mississauga is working towards reducing inequalities, ensuring that people from all backgrounds have the chance to succeed through education. The city’s ongoing investment in education demonstrates its commitment to fostering a knowledgeable, skilled, and inclusive community where lifelong learning remains a priority.

Learning in Mississauga

In 2021

Source: Statistics Canada and Region of Peel Census

61.5%

of Mississauga’s population aged 15+ had a postsecondary certificate, diploma or degree (57.5% in Ontario and 57.2% in Canada).

34%

of Peel’s population had a university certificate, diploma or degree at bachelor level or above.

According to the 2024 Vital Signs citizen report:

Source: Mississauga Vital Signs Report

61% Rate their access to quality education as good/excellent

59% Rate their ability to access quality K-12 education that meets their kids needs as good/excellent

53% Rate their ability to access diverse lifelong learning opportunities as good/excellent

42% Rate their ability to afford post-secondary education as good/excellent

Sustainable Development Goals



Promote lifelong learning and aim to ensure inclusive, quality education for all.



Promote inclusivity and ensure equal opportunities for all.

University of Toronto Mississauga now includes more than 15,200 undergraduate students and 900 graduate students.

Source: Statistics Canada and University of Toronto Mississauga

→ In **Ontario** for total status of students in Canada, there were 920,145 postsecondary enrollments in 2021/2022. 700,539 Canadian students and 213,564 international.

→ In **Canada**, there were 2,196,468 total students in 2021/2022. 1,788,552 Canadian students and 400,521 international students.



Post-secondaries in Mississauga include:

- University of Toronto Mississauga
- Sheridan College - Hazel McCallion Campus
- Mohawk College Mississauga Campus

Mississauga is also home to a number of career colleges, including, but not limited to:

- triOS College
- Lambton College
- CDI College – Mississauga
- CIMT College – Mississauga
- Mississauga Career College
- Mississauga College of Technology



Safety

Safety is a top priority for Mississauga, with about half of residents rating it as average or lower. While Mississauga’s proactive approach to safety, including community engagement and strong public services, aim to ensure that residents feel secure in their neighbourhoods, crime rates are rising with over two-thirds indicating crime in Mississauga increased over the last year. As the city grows, efforts on crime prevention and enhancing public safety measures will be critical for making Mississauga a safe and welcoming place for all.

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS



Safety remains a priority focus in Mississauga. With a rise in the crime rate, nearly half indicate crime in their neighbourhood increased in the past year and over two-in-five rate the degree to which they feel safe in their neighbourhood as average at best. The city’s commitment to building safe and resilient communities aim to ensure that all residents can live, work, and play in secure neighbourhoods. High trust in public institutions and law enforcement is evident in the city’s effective police, fire, and emergency services.

Safety in Mississauga



The crime rate in Peel in 2023 was 3,408.14 incidents per 100,000 people. Up from a rate of 3,055.66 incidents per 100,000 people in 2022.

The crime severity index score in 2023, up from 47.67 in 2022 for **Peel**

51.41

Source: Statistics Canada

In Ontario in 2023, the crime rate was 4,723.4 incidents per 100,000 people in 2023. Up from 672,285 actual incidents and a rate of 4,438.99 incidents per 100,000 people in 2022.

The crime severity index score in 2023, up from 58.81 in 2022 for **Ontario**

60.88

When asked how the following has changed in Mississauga over the past year, 67% indicate crime in Mississauga has increased, 47% indicate crime in their neighbourhood increased.

Source: Mississauga Vital Signs Report

In 2023, Peel region police reports show:

Source: Peel Regional Police

- **13,487** people charged

- **53,057** criminal code violations (up 19% over 2022).

- **23** homicide victims (down 23% over 2022).

- **833** robberies (up 8.5% over 2022).

- **2,842** break and enters (up 27% over 2022).

- **8,322** auto-thefts (up 38% since 2022).

Sustainable Development Goals



Promote health and well-being for all.



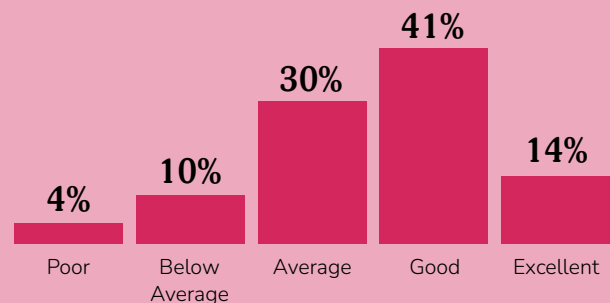
Create inclusive, safe, and sustainable cities.



Promote peaceful and safe societies, with access to justice and accountable institutions.

Respondents rate the degree to which they feel safe in their neighbourhood as:

Source: Mississauga Vital Signs Report



81% believe their neighbourhood is safe for children to play

64% believe their neighbourhood is safe to walk in at night

64% have high confidence in police

48% have high confidence in the justice system and courts

85% are satisfied (very/somewhat) with fire and emergency services
(2023, City of Mississauga, Citizen of Satisfaction Report)

Source: Peel Social Capital Report and City of Mississauga



Sports and Recreation

Sports and recreation are central to community life in Mississauga, with nearly two-thirds of residents rating it as good or excellent. The city's wide range of recreational programs and facilities reflects its commitment to keeping residents active and engaged. As the city grows, these efforts continue to promote health, well-being, and community spirit, making Mississauga a vibrant and active place for everyone.

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS



Mississauga's investment in sports and recreation supports the physical and mental well-being of its residents promoting good health and well-being. Programs, such as ActiveAssist, give residents in low-income households and newcomers with refugee status access to recreation and culture programs, ensuring that residents from all backgrounds can participate in sports and recreational activities, helping to reduce inequalities.

Sports and Recreation in Mississauga

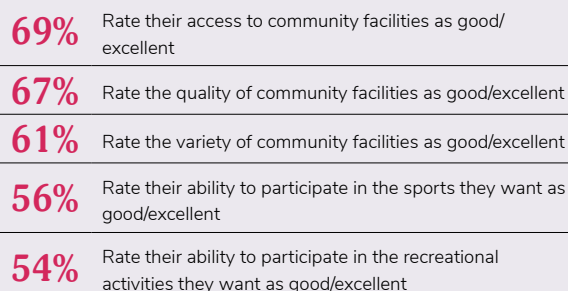
As of 2021, Mississauga Recreation operates and programs

Source: City of Mississauga



According to the 2024 Vital Signs citizen report:

Source: Mississauga Vital Signs Report



In 2023, satisfaction with recreation services in Mississauga was at 75%, down from 85% in 2019.

Satisfaction with variety of programs was at 71% compared to 82% in 2019.

Source: City of Mississauga

Recreation Funding

In 2020, Recreation Mississauga had \$0.2M in membership sales.

Source: City of Mississauga

Total grant funding was at \$0.6M with a \$1.57 :1 revenue to part-time labour ratio.

In 2021, \$22,424,000 was budgeted for Aquatics Fitness Therapeutic & Community Programs, \$16,477,000 to REC Divisional Support Services, \$47,920,000 to Recreation Facilities & Programs.

Mississauga's fee assistance program ActiveAssist gives residents in low-income households and newcomers with refugee status access to recreation and culture programs.

The Community Grant supports registered groups delivering programs and services that keep Mississauga residents active, healthy, and engaged in their communities through recreation and sport, parks and forestry or environmental activities.

Sustainable Development Goals



Support healthy lifestyles and promote mental and physical wellbeing for all.



Promote inclusivity and ensure equal opportunities for all.



Create inclusive, safe, and sustainable cities with access to basic services and opportunities for all.



Standard of Living

Standard of living is an important factor of quality of life and while over half of residents rate it as good or excellent, one third rate it as average. The city is committed to improving access to essential services and supporting residents in meeting their basic needs, however a majority feel they are still unable to afford necessities.

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS



Residents are increasingly relying on the charitable sector to provide basic needs and essential services. In November 2024, Mississauga declared food insecurity an emergency with 8% of Mississauga's population (or 1 in 13 residents) using the Food Bank between June 2023 and May 2024, an increase of almost 80% over the past year. This is causing a growing strain on the sector that may require policy intervention to solve. By providing equitable access to resources and essential services, Mississauga is working to ensure that all residents, regardless of income or background, can maintain a decent standard of living.

Standard of Living in Mississauga

In 2020, among Mississaugans ages 15+ the individual median after-tax income was \$35,600, lower than that of Ontario at \$37,200, and \$36,800 in Canada.

Among Mississauga private households the median after-tax income was \$89,000, higher than that of Ontario at \$79,500, and \$73,000 in Canada.

Source: Statistics Canada

Food Banks Mississauga

Source: Food Banks Mississauga and CTV

In November 2024, the City of Mississauga declared food insecurity a state of emergency. City council passed a motion recognizing that a significant number of residents are lacking access to safe and nutritious food and calls for an increase in the city's Food Security Emergency Response Fund.

- From June 2023 to May 2024, Food Banks Mississauga and its agency network served **58%** more neighbours than the previous year, almost 200% more than pre-pandemic. The fastest-growing rate of food bank usage in Ontario, with demand expected to steadily increase.
- **56,267** neighbours (8% of Mississauga's population), or 1 in 13 Mississauga residents, used the food bank in 2023-24. 28% were children. There were 421,251 food bank visits, and a total of 9,183,447 lbs. of food distributed.

Prevalence of low income based on the Low-income measure, after tax (LIM-AT) was 9.4 in 2020 for Mississauga. Lower than 10.1 for Ontario and 11.1 in Canada.

Low-income rates were higher among those under the age of 17 at 11.9 in Mississauga, 11.5 in Ontario, and 11.9 in Canada. Similar to that of those 65+ at 11.8 in Mississauga, 12.1 in Ontario and 15.0 in Canada.

Source: Statistics Canada

According to the 2024 Vital Signs citizen report:

Source: Mississauga Vital Signs Report

- 39%** Rate their ability to afford necessities as good/excellent
- 39%** Rate their wage in relation to cost of living as below average/poor
- 33%** Rate the standard of living for seniors as good/excellent
- 32%** Rate the standard of living for youth as good/excellent

Poverty in Peel

Source: Region of Peel

In 2021, **123,660 (8.6%)** of Peel's population lived in poverty, including 27,900 (9.5%) children 0-17 years.

- In 2021, 19.8% of Peel residents were marginally, moderately, or severely food insecure.
- Peel Region's 2022 living wage rate was \$23.15/hr.

Sustainable Development Goals



1 NO POVERTY
Ensure access to basic needs and provide supports to vulnerable populations.



2 ZERO HUNGER
Aim to end hunger, achieve food security, and promote sustainable agriculture.



8 DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH
Support job creation and sustain economic growth, full and productive employment, and decent work for all.



10 REDUCED INEQUALITIES
Promote inclusivity and ensure equal opportunities for all.



Transportation

Transportation remains a priority in Mississauga, with just under half of residents rating it as good or excellent. The city’s commitment to expanding cycling networks, improving public transit, and maintaining key roadways reflects its dedication to creating a more accessible and efficient transportation system.

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS



While challenges such as traffic congestion and the ease of using public transit remain consistent over time, Mississauga continues to prioritize efforts to enhance mobility and provide residents with a variety of transportation options that support the city’s growth and connectivity. Mississauga’s dedication to improving public transit and promoting sustainable modes of transportation also advances its position as a Sustainable City, helping to reduce congestion, lower emissions, and build a more resilient and connected city.

Transportation in Mississauga



454 km total cycling network

The City of Mississauga initiated a project in 2017 to update the 2010 Cycling Master Plan that is now completed. There are 54km of Bicycle lanes, 88km of boulevard multi-use trails, 221km of off-road multi-use trails, and 91km of shared routes.



3 Major Railway Lines

GO Transit is a regional public transit system serving Mississauga and the Greater Golden Horseshoe Region of Ontario, Canada. They connect the city with the rest of the region



MiWay

MiWay is the municipal public transport agency serving Mississauga. In just five years (from 2011 to 2016), MiWay ridership grew by more than 15%. MiWay serves a population of roughly 766,000 across 179 square km in Mississauga.



7 Major Highways

Mississauga is the only city in the Greater Toronto Area (GTA) serviced by seven major highways. As part of the Toronto Region, Mississauga is interconnected by an extensive road network consisting of 587 kilometres of major provincial highway networks and five municipal highways.



Toronto Pearson International Airport

The largest airport in Canada. Passenger activity increased by over 25% in 2023.

Source: Peel Social Capital Report and City of Mississauga

Sustainable Development Goals



Promote health and well-being for all.



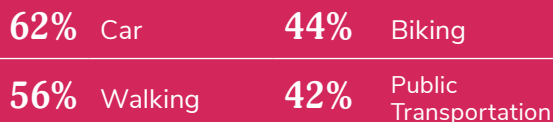
Build resilient and sustainable infrastructure.



Create inclusive, safe, and sustainable cities.

According to the 2024 Vital Signs citizen report, respondents find it easy to get around by:

Source: Mississauga Vital Signs Report



In Mississauga

Source: City of Mississauga

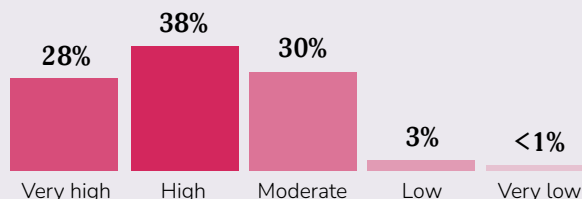
61% satisfied with Road Services in 2023 (down from 69% in 2019).

52% cyclists satisfied with roads in 2023 (up from 50% in 2019).

73% find it easy to get around in 2023 (down from 76% in 2019).

Respondents rate the traffic congestion in their area during peak times as:

Source: Mississauga Vital Signs Report



In 2021, the main mode of commuting for the Mississauga employed labour force with a usual place of work or no fixed workplace address was:

Source: Statistics Canada

- 82.7% as a driver or passenger in a car (83.6% Ontario, 83.9% Canada)
- 11.4% using public transportation (8.6% Ontario, 7.7% Canada)
- 2.9% walking (4.6% Ontario, 5.2% Canada)
- 0.3% cycling (0.8% Ontario, 1.1% Canada)

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