# 2020 GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT REVIEW



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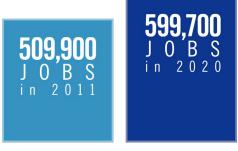
In early 2020, the COVID-19 pandemic lead to a broad shutdown of economic activity in York Region, Ontario and Canada.

- Canada lost over one million jobs in March alone, the largest monthly employment decline ever
- Especially hard hit sectors of the economy include transportation services, food and accommodation services, recreation and cultural services and manufacturing businesses
- In York Region, these industries alone represent approximately 33% of all businesses and 207,500 jobs, based on data from the 2019 York Region Employment Survey

# 2020 HIGHLIGHTS EMPLOYMENT and ECONOMY

- After growing by 2% in 2019, the Canadian economy declined by 5.5% in 2020 due to the economic recession caused by the COVID-19 pandemic
- The U.S. economy, by far Canada's largest trading partner, declined by 3.4% in 2020
- Efforts by central banks to stimulate economies through near-zero interest rates and direct payments to citizens and business owners have helped the Canadian and U.S. economies, but both economies have recorded significant job losses (621,300 jobs in Canada, 8,829,000 jobs in the U.S. in 2020). After some recovery through the summer and fall, there is evidence that growth has slowed again in December 2020 and January 2021

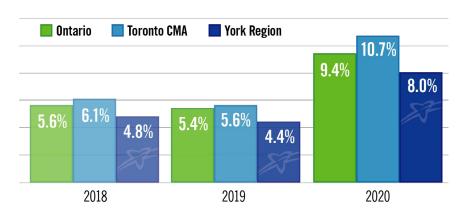
#### YORK REGION TOTAL EMPLOYMENT - 2011 and 2020



Source: York Region, Corporate Services, Long Range Planning and Statistics Canada, Labour Force Survey

York Region's economy recorded uninterrupted job growth between 2001 and 2019, but jobs decreased in 2020, with employment dropping from 654,648 to an estimated 599,700 jobs. In 2020, the Region had approximately the same number of jobs as in 2015

#### YORK REGION UNEMPLOYMENT RATE - 2018 to 2020



Source: York Region, Corporate Services, Long Range Planning and Statistics Canada, Labour Force Survey

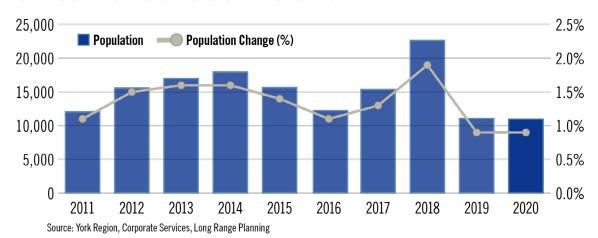
York Region's unemployment rate was 4.4% at the end of 2019, lower than the Toronto CMA and Ontario rate. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, York Region's unemployment rate increased to 13.7% (July) before declining to 8% by the end of 2020. There was likely a recovery in total York Region employment in the later part of 2020 given the rebound in the employment rate.

2020 HIGHLIGHTS



#### YORK REGION was the SIXTH MOST POPULOUS MUNICIPALITY in CANADA by YEAR-END.

YORK REGION ANNUAL POPULATION GROWTH - 2011 to 2020

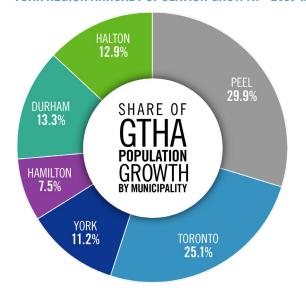


York Region's population growth has slowed significantly, and has been under 1% a year for 2019 and 2020. This differs from the **3 to 4**% growth in the early 2000s, and the **1 to 1.5**% growth rate experienced after the 2008 recession.

In 2020, York Region had a 15.8% share of the GTHA's total population. York Region's share of the GTHA's population growth was 11.2%

This was higher than the 2019 figure of 8.5%, but was lower than in the preceding decade (which averaged 19.8% between 2010 and 2020)

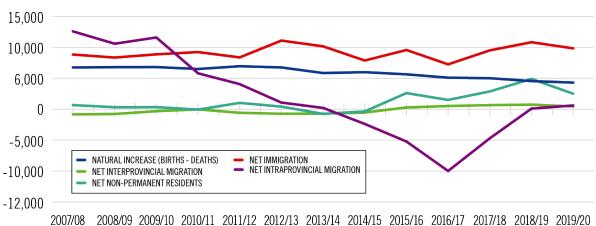
#### YORK REGION ANNUAL POPULATION GROWTH - 2019 to 2020



# 2020 **HIGHLIGHTS** POPULATION GROWTH

#### IN RECENT YEARS, more ONTARIANS have MOVED OUT of YORK REGION than MOVED IN.

**COMPONENTS of POPULATION GROWTH in YORK REGION** - 2007 to 2020

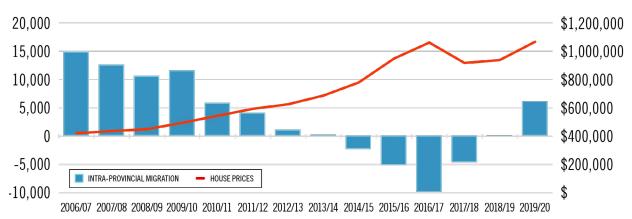


2007/08 2008/09 2009/10 2010/11 2011/12 2012/13 2013/14 2014/15 2015/16 2016/1/ 2017/18 2018/19 2019/20/ Source: Statistics Canada

Overall, natural increase has declined slightly, in line with national trends. York Region is largely growing through net

immigration, natural increase, and net non-permanent immigration. In most recent years, more Ontarians moved out of York Region than moved in (although in 2020, the population flow was even).

#### NET INTRA-PROVINCIAL MIGRATION and AVERAGE ANNUAL HOUSE PRICES in YORK REGION - 2005 to 2020



Source: Statistics Canada and York Region, Corporate Services, Long Range Planning

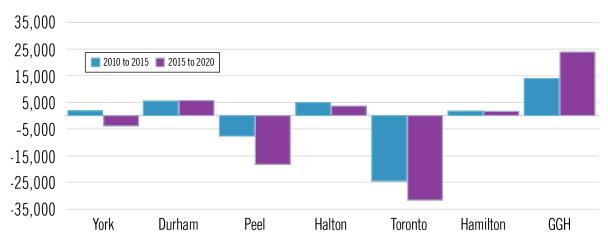
There appears to be a strong relationship between net intra-provincial migration to York Region and home prices. As home prices have risen dramatically, net intra-provincial migration has fallen.

- According to the Toronto Real Estate Board, average housing prices for all resale units in York Region increased by 13.8% from \$937,546 to \$1,067,135. The largest growth occurred in the municipalities of King, East Gwillimbury, and Georgina, where annual increases reached 17 to 18%
- Housing prices in adjacent jurisdictions of York Region should be continually analyzed to assess whether demand for these areas is sustained in coming years

# 2020 **HIGHLIGHTS** POPULATION GROWTH

## FROM 2010 to 2015, MORE ONTARIO RESIDENTS MOVED into YORK REGION than MOVED OUT.

NET INTRA-PROVINCIAL MIGRATION to and from YORK REGION and SURROUNDING COUNTIES 2010 to 2015 and 2015 to 2020



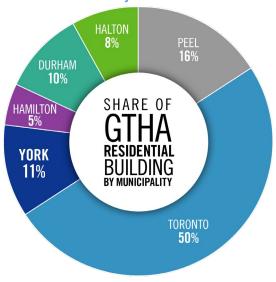
Source: Statistics Canada and York Region, Corporate Services, Long Range Planning

Between 2010-2015, more residents of Ontario moved into York Region than York Region residents moved to other locations in Ontario. This trend reversed between 2015 and 2020.



#### YORK REGION CONTINUES to be a STRONG CONTRIBUTOR to GTHA DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITY

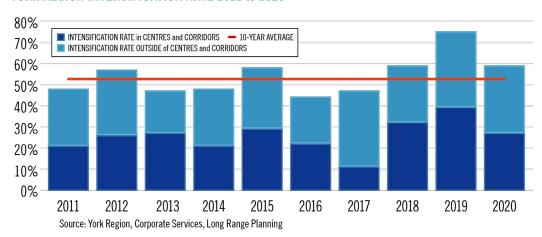
# GROWTH YORK REGION ANNUAL SHARE OF GTHA RESIDENTIAL BUILDING ACTIVITY by MUNICIPALITY - 2020



Source: Local Municipal Building Permit Reports, 2020; Statistics Canada Table 32.2 (unpublished), 2020

- York Region continues to be a strong contributor to Greater Toronto and Hamilton Area (GTHA) development activity, accounting for 11% of the GTHA's residential building permit activity, behind both Toronto (50% of the region's activity) and Peel Region (16%)
- Across the GTHA, residential building permits totaled 53,791, an increase of 33% over 2019's figure of 40,541
- A total of 5,832 new residential building permits were issued in York Region in 2020, representing a 25% increase from the 2019 permit total of 4,669
- The intensification rate—the percentage of units constructed within the Built Up Area (BUA)—was 59% in 2020. This figure is higher than the 10-year average of 53%
- In 2020, the vast majority of constructed units within the BUA (81.4%) were apartment units. This figure is slightly above the 10-year average (79%)

#### YORK REGION INTENSIFICATION RATE 2011 to 2020

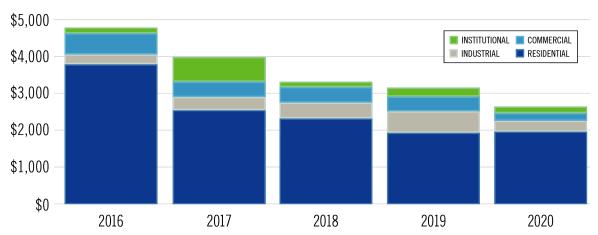


# 2020 **HIGHLIGHTS** DEVELOPMENT

# YORK REGION CONTINUES to be a SIGNIFICANT CONTRIBUTOR to the PROVINCIAL and NATIONAL ECONOMIES.

- York Region continues to be a significant contributor to the provincial and national economies, ranking 8<sup>th</sup> in 2020 (down from 6th in 2019) for total construction among Canadian municipalities, with a value of \$2.63 billion. This was a decrease from 2019's figure of \$3.15 billion and was the lowest amount recorded since 2009
- The impact of the COVID-19 pandemic has been more pronounced on the non-residential sector, as total industrial, commercial and institutional construction values decreased by 46% in 2020. The 2020 figure was approximately 30% lower than the ten year average. In this category, York Region ranked 9<sup>th</sup> among Canadian municipalities
- The Greater Toronto Area office market vacancy rate (5.6%) was significantly lower than Canada's high of 10.8% in 2020

#### YORK REGION TOTAL CONSTRUCTION VALUE by TYPE - 2016 to 2020







The COVID-19 pandemic lead to a broad shutdown of economic activity in 2020, Businesses were temporarily closed, workers stayed home, hours worked were reduced and travel bans were put in place.

- After recording ten consecutive years of GDP growth, the U.S. economy contracted in 2020
- According to the IMF, Canada's second largest trading partner, the EU, saw a steep 7.2% GDP decline, while Canada's third largest trading partner, China, grew modestly through 2020
- Most developing countries saw relatively modest declines, while advanced economies, on average, recorded steeper drops.

# Key External factors influencing growth of the Canadian, Ontario, and York Region economies

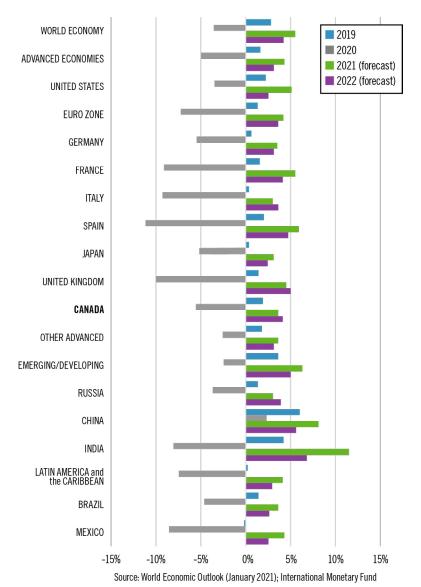
- U.S. economy (largest market for York Region' businesses that export goods and services)
- > Oil prices
- > Value of the Canadian dollar
- Levels of immigration (in 2020, Canada welcomed 184,000 new permanent residents, the lowest level since 1998). The government is aiming for over 400,000 arrivals per year starting in 2021
- The U.S. Federal Reserve lowered interest rates in 2020 to 0 –0.25%. Rates are anticipated to remain low compared to historical levels. The Bank of Canada lowered interest rates to 0.5% in 2020 to ease borrowing costs

# **ECONOMIC** OUTLOOK

## THE GLOBAL, REGIONAL and NATIONAL PICTURE

- According to the IMF, global economic activity declined by 3.5% in 2020. However, global growth is projected to increase 5.5% in 2021 and 4.2% in 2021
- The U.S. economy, where Canada sends 75% of its exports, declined by 3.4% in 2020. Growth is expected to recover to 5.1% in 2021 and 2.5% in 2022. U.S. growth in coming years will depend upon stimulus efforts by the Federal Government
- Canada's economy declined by 5.5% in 2020. Growth in the next two years is anticipated to recover to 3.6% in 2021 and 4.1% in 2022. Canadian growth will depend upon interest rates, stimulus efforts, and the exchange rate of the Canadian Dollar

#### FIGURE 1.1: GLOBAL GROWTH FORECAST (%) - 2019 to 2022



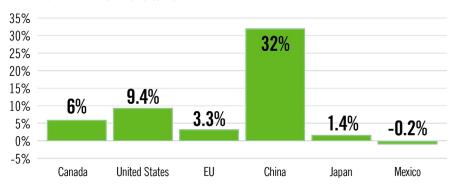
# There is a strong trade relationship between Canada and the U.S.

- Regional businesses directly benefit from increased trade activity
- A lower Canadian dollar promotes exports with the U.S. but impacts the import of U.S. goods and services
- The recent USMCA deal—ratified by Canada in March 2020—should increase export prospects for Ontario and York Region businesses

## **ECONOMIC** OUTLOOK

- Figure 1.2 shows the anticipated economic growth of Canada's 5 largest trading partners. Canada, with 6% growth between 2018 and 2022, is expected to fare better than the EU, Japan, and Mexico, but not as well as the U.S. or China
- While exports to China could help Canada's economy recover from the COVID-19 pandemic, trade between the two countries is at a low base (4% of Canadian exports) compared to trade between Canada and the U.S. (74.4% of exports)
- Sometime in 2021, the size of Canada's GDP is anticipated to return to its size at the end of 2017

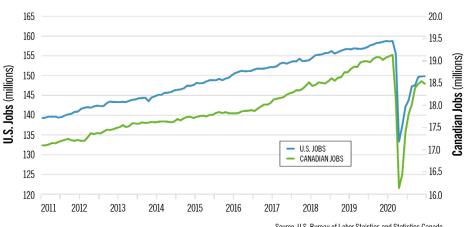
**FIGURE 1.2:** PROJECTED ECONOMIC GROWTH of CANADA'S FIVE LARGEST TRADING PARTNERS - 2018 to 2022



Source: World Economic Outlook (January 2021); IMF

 During 2020, U.S. employment decreased to 149.8 million, a loss of 10 million jobs, while Canadian jobs decreased to approximately 18.5 million, a loss of almost 600,000 jobs (Figure 1.2)

FIGURE 1.3: CANADIAN and U.S. EMPLOYMENT TRENDS - 2011 to 2020



Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Staistics and Statistics Canada

# Home sales reflect confidence in the U.S. economy.

 This can increase demand for Canadian goods such as raw building materials and manufactured products

#### Oil prices temporarily fell to \$3 per barrel by April, 2020, but have since recovered most of their value at the start of the year.

The price of oil at the end of 2020 was \$47.73 per barrel, compared to \$61.29 in December of 2019 and \$45.22 in December of 2018. (Weekly Cushing, Oklahoma WTI Spot Price in Dollars per Barrel)

# **ECONOMIC** OUTLOOK

- U.S. housing starts recorded a 6.9% increase over 2019 to a total of 1.38 million in 2020. In spite of COVID-19, this was the largest percentage increase since 2015
- U.S. Housing starts fell dramatically in March and April, 2020 due to the onset of COVID-19. However, housing starts recovered to pre-COVID-19 levels by November

#### FIGURE 1.4: U.S. ANNUAL HOUSING STARTS - 2011 to 2020

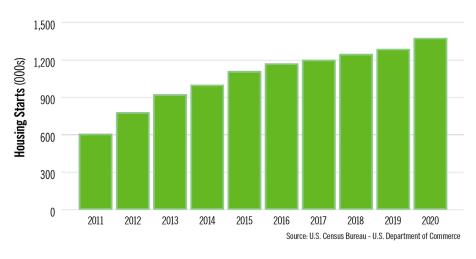


FIGURE 1.5: CRUDE OIL PRICES (U.S. DOLLARS per BARREL) - 2007 to 2021



#### **Ontario Economic Outlook**

- > According to TD Canada, Ontario's economy decreased by 6.1% in 2020 compared to 1.9% growth recorded in 2019
- > According to the Ontario Ministry of Finance, the province's GDP growth fell 2.2% in Quarter 1 and 13% in Quarter 2. However, the province's GDP then increased by 11.8% in Quarter 3

#### **Total Ontario Employment**

 According to Statistics Canada, Ontario employment declined by 3.4% (255,100 jobs) to reach a total of 7,239,000 jobs

#### **Activity Rate**

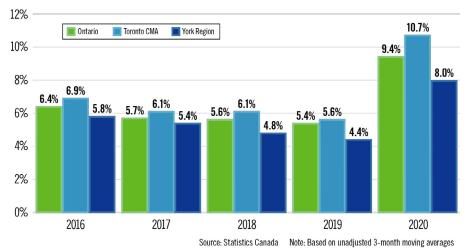
- > The activity rate compares the ratio of total employment to total population. One of York Region's Official Plan (ROP) objectives is to create high quality employment opportunities for residents, with a goal of 1 job for every 2 residents
- An activity rate of 50% is consistent with the ROP target York Region's activity rate increased continually since 2010, before falling to 49.4% in 2020 as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic job decreases

## **ECONOMIC** OUTLOOK

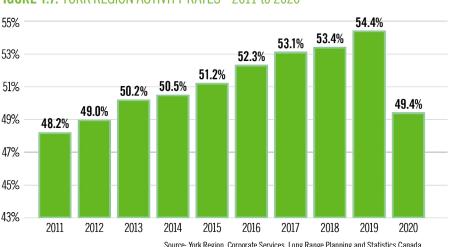
## ECONOMIC ACTIVITY in ONTARIO, the TORONTO CMA and YORK REGION

- According to Statistics Canada, the provincial unemployment rate had been decreasing steadily since 2012, from 8.1% down to 5.4% in 2019. The provincial unemployment rate peaked at 12.4% in June and July 2020, before falling to 9.4% in December 2020
- The unemployment rate in the Toronto Census Metropolitan Area (CMA) had been decreasing since 2012, from 8.5% to 5.6% in 2019. However, the unemployment rate peaked at 14.7% in July 2020 before falling modestly to 10.7% in December 2020
- York Region's unemployment rate was 4.4% at year-end 2019, lower than the Toronto CMA and Ontario rates. Unemployment peaked at 13.7% in July 2020, before falling to 8.0% at the end of 2020

#### FIGURE 1.6: ONTARIO, TORONTO CMA AND YORK REGION UNEMPLOYMENT RATES - 2016 TO 2020



#### FIGURE 1.7: YORK REGION ACTIVITY RATES - 2011 to 2020

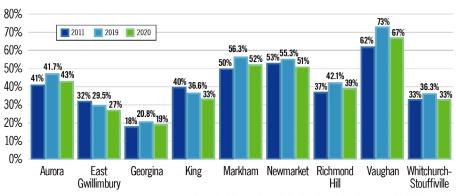


#### York Region and Local Municipal Activity Rates

- Overall declines in activity rates between 2019 and 2020 varied significantly by municipality
- Most municipalities saw an increase in activity rates between 2011 and 2019 although some did see declines
- Overall, York Region saw a 9.2% decline in activity rate

# **ECONOMIC** OUTLOOK

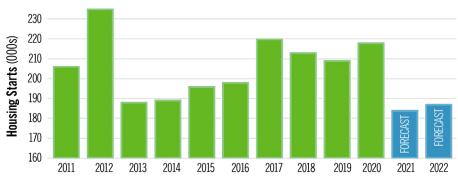
#### FIGURE 1.8: LOCAL MUNICIPALITY ACTIVITY RATES - 2011, 2019 and 2020



Source: York Region, Corporate Services, Long Range Planning and Statistics Canada

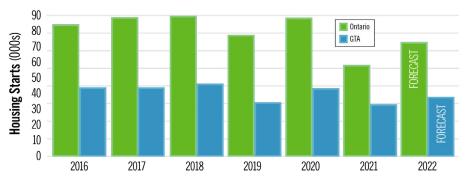
- Between 2011 and 2019, the majority of local municipalities within York Region recorded increasing activity rates. This suggests that pre-COVID-19, York Region was successfully transitioning into a self-sustaining job destination in its own right
- According to the Canadian Mortgage and Housing Corporation, housing starts in the GTHA increased to 38,587, almost identical to the 10-year average of 38,481
- CMHC predicts that future GTA housing starts will decline from 2020 level

FIGURE 1.9: CANADIAN ANNUAL HOUSING STARTS - 2011 to 2022



Source: Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation Note: 2021(blue) and 2022(blue) figures are projections made in the spring and summer of 2020. Considering the high number of housing starts in 2020, this may be an overly conservative assumption.

#### FIGURE 1.10: ONTARIO and GTA HOUSING STARTS - 2016 to 2022



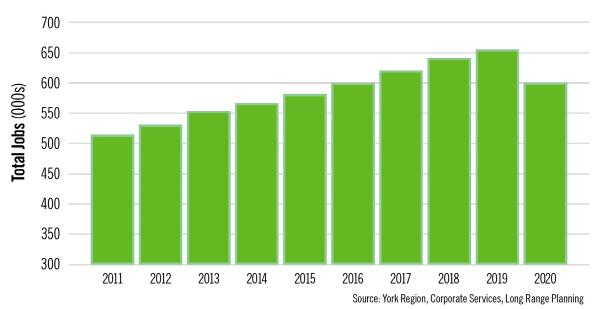
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## **ECONOMIC** OUTLOOK

## YORK REGION'S EMPLOYMENT TREND

- York Region continues to be a significant contributor to the provincial and national economies, ranking 8<sup>th</sup> in 2020 (down from 6th in 2019) for total construction among Canadian municipalities, with a value of \$2.63 billion. This was a decrease from 2019's figure of \$3.15 billion and was the lowest amount recorded since 2009
- The impact of the COVID-19 pandemic has been more pronounced on the non-residential sector, as total industrial, commercial and institutional construction values decreased by 46% in 2020. The 2020 figure was approximately 30% lower than the ten year average. In this category, York Region ranked 9<sup>th</sup> among Canadian municipalities
- The Greater Toronto Area office market vacancy rate (5.6%) was significantly lower than Canada's high of 10.8% in 2020

#### FIGURE 1.10 YORK REGION TOTAL EMPLOYMENT - 2011 to 2020



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# YORK REGION'S POPULATION CONTINUES to RISE with 0.9% GROWTH in 2020

- The Region's population increased by approximately 11,100 persons in 2020 to a total population of 1,213,600
- The 2020 annual growth rate decreased slightly from 1.0% in 2019 to almost 0.9% in 2020 (Figure 2.1)

TABLE 2.1: YORK REGION POPULATION - 2019 to 2020

Municipality	2019	2020	Population Growth	Change (%)
Aurora	62,900	63,300	400	0.6%
East Gwillimbury	33,900	35,100	1,200	3.5%
Georgina	48,500	48,900	400	0.8%
King	27,800	27,800	0	0.0%
Markham	349,000	351,200	2,200	0.6%
Newmarket	90,100	90,200	100	0.1%
Richmond Hill	209,500	210,400	900	0.4%
Vaughan	331,600	336,900	5,300	1.6%
Whitchurch-Stouffville	49,200	49,800	600	1.2%
York Region Total	1,202,500	1,213,600	11,100	0.9%

 Population growth within York Region has recorded slower but steady growth for the last several years averaging 1.3% per year since 2011

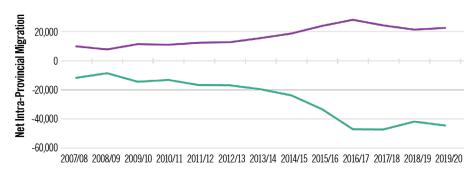
FIGURE 2.1: YORK REGION ANNUAL POPULATION GROWTH - 2019 to 2020



# MIGRATION PLAYS LARGE PART in GTHA REGION POPULATION GROWTH

- Ontario attracts the highest share of immigrants annually compared to any other province, typically in the 40% to 50% range
- Population growth in the 905 area between the Census years of 2011 and 2016 had been slower than the prior Growth Plan forecast by approximately 10%
- Toronto captured a higher than expected share of population growth between 2011 and 2016 (36%) when compared to the previous Provincial Growth Plan forecasts (27%)

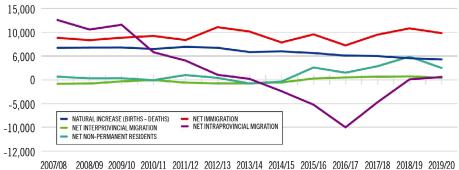
**FIGURE 2.2:** NET INTRA-PROVINCIAL within the GREATER GOLDEN HORSESHOE - 2007 to 2020



Source: Statistics Canada

- Since the 2008 recession, there has been a continuing decline in net intra-provincial migrants to the GTHA and a net increase in intra-provincial migrants to the rest of the GGH (Figure 2.3)
- While there are many factors that influence where people decide to live, households are likely looking for more affordable housing options outside of the GTHA, which includes York Region

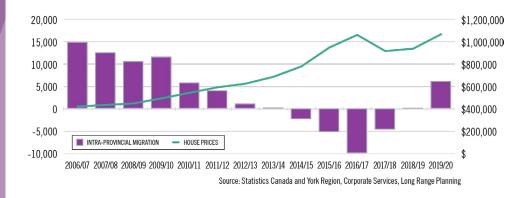
FIGURE 2.3: COMPONENTS of POPULATION GROWTH in YORK REGION - 2007 to 2020



2007/08 2008/09 2009/10 2010/11 2011/12 2012/13 2013/14 2014/15 2015/16 2016/17 2017/18 2018/19 2019/20 Source: Statistics Canada

- Ontario attracts the highest share of immigrants annually compared to any other province, typically in the 40% to 50% range
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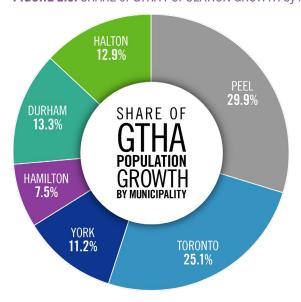
**FIGURE 2.4:** NET INTRA-PROVINCIAL MIGRATION and AVERAGE ANNUAL RESALE HOUSE PRICES in YORK REGION - 2007 to 2020



## YORK REGION CONTINUES to CONTRIBUTE to GTHA GROWTH

- By the end of 2020, the GTHA population was estimated at 7.67 million people, an increase of approximately 99,200 or 1.3% from 2019
- > In 2020 York Region's share of the GTHA's population growth was 11.2%

FIGURE 2.5: SHARE of GTHA POPULATION GROWTH by MUNICIPALITY - 2019 to 2020



# All York Region municipalities experienced population growth.

The top 3 municipalities by percentage change between 2019 and 2020 are:

- > East Gwillimbury at 3.5%
- > Vaughan at 1.6%
- > Whitchurch-Stouffville at 1.2%

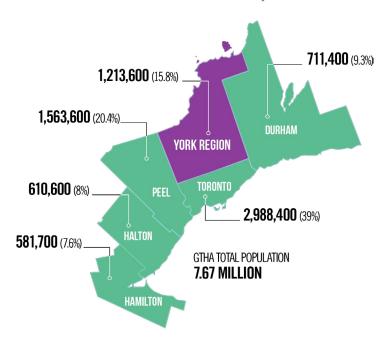
#### York Region is part of the broader GTHA Region encompassing almost 7.7 million people

The top 3 municipalities by percentage change between 2019 and 2020 are:

High quality of life, vibrant diversified economy, availability of serviced land and expanding transportation network enable York Region to continue to contribute to the growth of the GTHA

# **POPULATION GROWTH**

FIGURE 2.6: SHARE of TOTAL 2020 GTHA POPULATION by MUNICIPALITY



## YORK REGION one of the LARGEST MUNICIPALITIES in CANADA

As of December 2020, York Region was the sixth largest municipality in Canada (Table 2.2) in population

TABLE 2.2: CANADA'S LARGEST MUNICIPALITIES by POPULATION - 2020

Rank	Municipality	Est. Population (2020)
1	City of Toronto	2,988,400
2	Greater Vancouver Regional District	2,737,700
3	City of Montréal	2,069,800
4	Peel Region	1,563,600
5	City of Calgary	1,303,700
6	York Region	1,213,600
7	City of Ottawa	1,043,100
8	City of Edmonton	990,700
9	City of Québec	832,300
10	City of Winnipeg	766,900

#### Population and Employment Forecasts

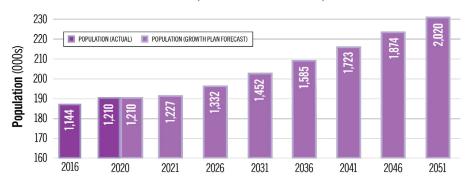
 Population and employment growth forecasts form the basis for determining urban land needs, infrastructure and service planning, financial planning, and determining development charges

## **POPULATION GROWTH**

## POPULATION and EMPLOYMENT FORECASTS

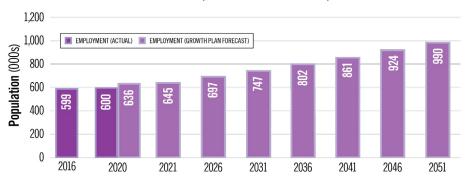
- York Region's mid year 2020 population was estimated to be 1,209,800
- Annual growth of almost 26,200 is required to reach the 2051 Growth Plan forecast of 2,020,000

FIGURE 2.7: POPULATION GROWTH (ACTUAL and FORECAST) - 2016 to 2051



- In mid year 2020, York Region's employment was approximately 599,700 compared to the 2020 Growth Plan forecast of 635,600, a 35,900 difference
- Annual employment growth of almost 12,600 is required to meet the 2051 Growth Plan employment forecast. The Region had been growing by approximately 17,700 jobs annually between 2014 and 2019, prior to the economic impact of the COVID-19 pandemic

FIGURE 2.8: EMPLOYMENT GROWTH (ACTUAL and FORECAST) - 2016 to 2051





#### Resale Homes Generate Significant Economic Activity

- Use of professional services including: real estate agents, lawyers, appraisers, and surveyors
- Generate taxes and fees
- Generate associated spending on appliances, furniture, fixtures etc.

#### **Key 2020 York Region Resale Home Facts**

- Accounted for 17.5% of total number of GTA resales
- Accounted for 20.1% of total GTA resale value
- Average number of days a residential dwelling was on the market - 32 days
- Average selling price 100% of list price

# RESIDENTIAL MARKET and BUILDING ACTIVITY

# NUMBER of RESIDENTIAL RESALES INCREASED by 16.1% in 2020

- The number of residential resales in York Region during 2020 totalled 16,636 dwelling units (Figure 3.1), an increase of 16.1% (2,312 units) from 2019
- Total value of all York Region residential resales in 2020 was approximately \$17.75 billion – up from \$13.43 billion in 2019

FIGURE 3.1: YORK REGION TOTAL RESALES and AVERAGE PRICE - 2015 to 2020



**TABLE 3.1:** TOTAL NUMBER of RESALES and AVERAGE PRICE (all dwelling types) by LOCAL MUNICIPALITY - 2019 and 2020

		Sales		Ave	Average Price (\$)		
	2019	2020	Change (%)	2019	2020	Change (%)	
Aurora	962	1,128	17.3%	\$905,872	\$1,053,296	16.3%	
East Gwillimbury	586	641	9.4%	\$799,426	\$940,147	17.6%	
Georgina	809	1,086	34.2%	\$568,143	\$679,855	19.7%	
King	315	524	66.3%	\$1,380,466	\$1,625,463	17.7%	
Markham	3,658	3,974	8.6%	\$949,536	\$1,070,822	12.8%	
Newmarket	1,355	1,664	22.8%	\$777,589	\$890,078	12.8%	
Richmond Hill	2,614	2,869	9.8%	\$1,039,433	\$1,156,881	11.3%	
Vaughan	3,324	3,934	18.4%	\$933,787	\$1,131,778	13.9%	
Whitchurch- Stouffville	701	816	16.4%	\$923,762	\$1,058,805	14.6%	
York Region Total	14,324	16,636	16.1%	\$937,546	\$1,067,134	13.8%	

Source: Toronto Real Estate Board, Market Watch, 2019 - 2020.

#### Resale Homes Generate Significant Economic Activity

- Use of professional services including: real estate agents, lawyers, appraisers, and surveyors
- Generate taxes and fees
- Generate associated spending on appliances, furniture, fixtures etc.

# **Key 2020 York Region Resale Home Facts**

- Accounted for 17.5% of total number of GTA resales
- Accounted for 20.1% of total GTA resale value
- Average number of days a residential dwelling was on the market - 32 days
- Average selling price 100% of list price
- Total sales in the GTA's residential resale market increased by 7.7% in 2020 (95,151) compared to 87,825 in 2019
- Average resale price (all dwelling types) in the GTA was \$929,699 in 2020, an increase of 11.9% in comparison to the average of \$819,319 in 2019
- According to Statistics Canada taxfiler data and annual CPI adjustments done by York Region's Long Range Planning Division, the median household income for all families (single and dual-income) in York Region was \$101,000 in 2020. This translates to an average home value/family income ratio of 10.5

# **RESIDENTIAL** MARKET and **BUILDING** ACTIVITY

**TABLE 3.2:** 2020 RESALES and AVERAGE PRICES by LOCAL MUNICIPALITY and DWELLING TYPE (\$1,000s)

	Det	ached	;	Semi		vn/Row ttach	Cor	ido/Apt
	Sales	Avg Price	Sales	Avg Price	Sales	Avg Price	Sales	Avg Price
Aurora	691	\$1,263	74	\$786	284	\$756	79	\$543
East Gwillimbury	508	\$1,004	30	\$753	102	\$683	1	\$385
Georgina	992	\$691	30	\$606	61	\$577	3	\$359
King	461	\$1,729	4	\$959	36	\$1,037	23	\$585
Markham	2,064	\$1,367	266	\$931	851	\$847	793	\$588
Newmarket	1,088	\$1,004	201	\$702	310	\$702	65	\$470
Richmond Hill	1,549	\$1,501	160	\$922	616	\$900	544	\$537
Vaughan	2,138	\$1,409	344	\$954	788	\$901	664	\$604
Whitchurch- Stouffville	586	\$1,186	56	\$791	140	\$731	34	\$651
York Region Total	10,077	\$1,271	1,165	\$868	3,188	\$835	2,206	\$576

Source: Toronto Real Estate Board, Market Watch, 2020.

- Region wide, the average price of a resale unit increased by 13.8% for all unit types, from \$937,546 in 2019 to \$1,067,134 in 2020 (Table 3.1)
- The average price of single detached units increased by 13.5%, from \$1,120,297 in 2019 to \$1,271,276 in 2020
- Prices for new single-detached homes range from \$670,000 in the Town of Georgina to \$4.5 million in the City of Markham

**TABLE 3.3:** YORK REGION 2020 NEW HOME PRICES

	Detached	Semi	Row	Condo/Apt
Aurora	n/a	n/a	\$960 to \$1,020	n/a
East Gwillimbury	\$839 to \$1.7M	n/a	\$636 to \$765	n/a
Georgina	\$670 to \$1.4M	n/a	n/a	n/a
King	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Markham	\$937 to \$4.5M	n/a	\$759 to \$1.6M	\$780 to \$3.5M
Newmarket	\$1.05M to \$1.4M	n/a	\$914 to \$962	n/a
Richmond Hill	\$1.25M to \$2.7M	n/a	\$687 to \$1.4M	n/a
Vaughan	\$1.4M to \$2.6M	n/a	\$699 to \$1.6M	\$356 to \$3.5M
Whitchurch- Stouffville	n/a	n/a	\$739 to \$800	n/a
York Region	\$670 to \$4.5M	n/a	\$636 to \$1.6M	\$356 to \$3.5M

Source: RealNet, Feb 2021. Note: New home data only provides a snapshot of projects currently for sale with the range of prices asked. Some municipalities may only have one or two projects contributing to the data.

# **RESIDENTIAL** MARKET and **BUILDING** ACTIVITY

RESIDENTIAL BUILDING PERMITS are up 25% from 2019

- Building permit activity is an essential yardstick used to measure local investments and economic performance
- A total of 5,832 new residential building permits were issued in York Region in 2020, representing a 25% increase from the 2019 permit total of 4,669
- Single detached units increased significantly (56%) from 1,271 in 2019 to 1,987 in 2020

**TABLE 3.4:** NEW RESIDENTIAL UNITS with PERMITS ISSUED in YORK REGION - 2019 to 2020

Municipality	2019	2020	% Change
Aurora	182	156	-14%
East Gwillimbury	334	532	59%
Georgina	247	222	-10%
King	60	103	72%
Markham	118	1,046	786%
Newmarket	97	671	592%
Richmond Hill	894	921	3%
Vaughan	2,578	2,115	-18%
Whitchurch-Stouffville	159	66	-58%
York Region Total	4,669	5,832	25%

Source: York Region Corporate Services, Long Range Planning and Local Municipal Building Permit Reports.

- In 2020, apartment dwellings and townhouses accounted for 66% of new residential permits issued, an indication of York Region's progress towards creating a more diversified housing stock
- Vaughan, Markham and Richmond Hill accounted for approximately 70% of the total residential building permit activity in 2020 (36%, 18% and 16% respectively)

# **RESIDENTIAL MARKET** and **BUILDING** ACTIVITY

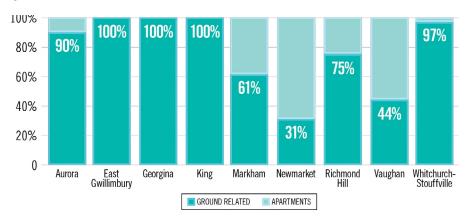
FIGURE 3.2: YORK REGION RESIDENTIAL BUILDING PERMIT MIX - 2016 to 2020



Source: York Region Corporate Services, Long Range Planning and Local Municipal Building Permit Reports

 The 2020 breakdown of residential building permits was 34% single detached, 4% semi-detached, 22% row (for a total of 60% ground related) and 40% apartment

**FIGURE 3.3:** NEW RESIDENTIAL BUILDING PERMIT MIX by LOCAL MUNICIPALITY - 2016 to 2020

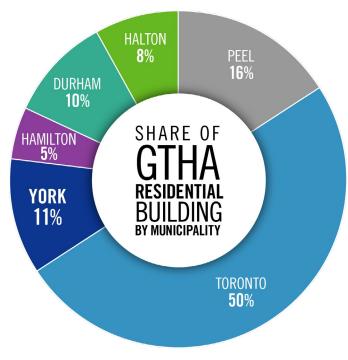




# YORK REGION continues to CONTRIBUTE SIGNIFICANTLY to RESIDENTIAL BUILDING PERMIT ACTIVITY in the GTHA

- In 2020, 53,791 building permits were issued for new residential units across the GTHA, an increase from 40,541 in 2019 of approximately 33%
- All GTHA jurisdictions experienced an increase in the total number of building permits issued in 2020 except Peel Region
- York Region accounted for 11% of the GTHA's residential building permit activity, third to the City of Toronto's 50% share and Peel Region's 16%

FIGURE 3.4: GTHA RESIDENTIAL BUILDING ACTIVITY 2020 - SHARES by MUNICIPALITY



Source: Local Municipal Building Permit Reports, 2020; Statistics Canada Table 32.2 (unpublished), 2020

# **RESIDENTIAL** MARKET and **BUILDING** ACTIVITY

# YORK REGION RECORDED the 8<sup>TH</sup> LARGEST NUMBER of RESIDENTIAL BUILDING PERMITS ISSUED in CANADA

York Region continues to be a significant contributor of new residential development in Canada, ranking 8<sup>th</sup> for building permits issued

TABLE 3.5: CROSS CANADA COMPARISON 2020 - RESIDENTIAL BUILDING PERMITS

Rank	Municipality	Number of Permits	% Change from 2019
1	City of Toronto	26,841	44.5%
2	Greater Vancouver Regional District	23,423	-15.4%
3	City of Ottawa	11,449	20.4%
4	City of Montréal	11,281	-21.4%
5	City of Edmonton	10,162	-6.1%
6	Peel Region	8,769	-8.4%
7	City of Calgary	8,555	-34.1%
8	York Region	5,832	24.9%
9	Durham Region	5,295	82.5%
10	Waterloo Region	5,056	-20%

Source: Statistics Canada Building Permit Reports and Table 32.2 (unpublished), 2020; York Region Corporate Services, Long Range Planning Division, 2020. Note: Ranking is in comparison to cities, Region's and Regional Districts as defined locally.

### RESIDENTIAL COMPLETIONS INCREASED for 2020

- Housing completions in the Region increased by 19.7% over 2019
- The mix of housing completions in 2020 was 21% (1,306) single detached, 2% (110) semi-detached units, 22% (1,419) row houses and 55% (3,504) apartments

TABLE 3.6: YORK REGION RESIDENTIAL COMPLETIONS - 2019 and 2020

	2019	2020	% Change
Aurora	426	152	-64%
East Gwillimbury	724	400	-45%
Georgina	84	242	188%
King	71	42	-41%
Markham	1,146	1,320	15%
Newmarket	352	102	-71%
Richmond Hill	1,300	579	-55%
Vaughan	1,072	3,114	190%
Whitchurch-Stouffville	119	388	226%
York Region Total	5,294	6,339	19.7%

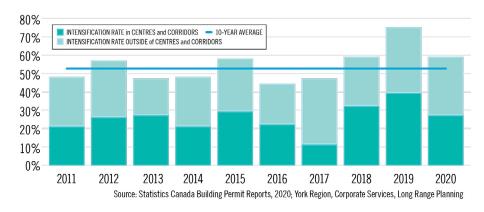
Source: CMHC. 2020

# **RESIDENTIAL** MARKET and **BUILDING** ACTIVITY

FIGURE 3.5: 2011 to 2020 BUILDING PERMIT and HOUSING COMPLETIONS



FIGURE 3.6: INTENSIFICATION within the BUILT-UP AREA, YORK REGION, 2011 to 2020



- York Region's intensification share within the built up area has averaged 53% over the last 11 years, and was 59% in 2020
- The continuing development of the Region's Centres and Corridors and other intensification areas will contribute to achieving the minimum 50% intensification target in the 2020 Growth Plan

#### A more diversified housing stock provides more choice in the market for both existing and future residents

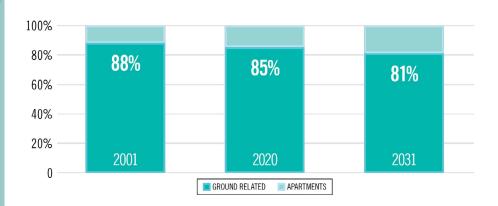
- > Diversified housing is important for:
- » providing affordable options
- » housing residents at different stages in their lives
- » reaching the Region's intensification targets
- » creating more compact, transit supportive development

# **RESIDENTIAL** MARKET and **BUILDING** ACTIVITY

#### THE TOTAL HOUSING SUPPLY CONTINUES to DIVERSIFY

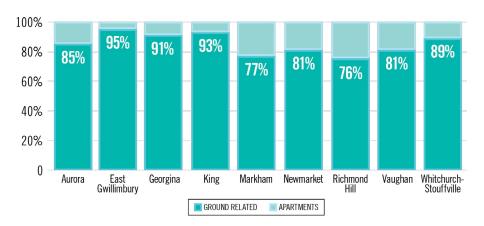
- While the Region's new housing stock becomes increasingly diversified over time, the existing housing stock is composed primarily of ground related dwellings
- The proportion of apartment unit dwellings in the Region's housing stock increased from 12% in 2001 to 15% in 2020
- The proportion of apartment unit dwellings is forecasted to be 19% by 2031

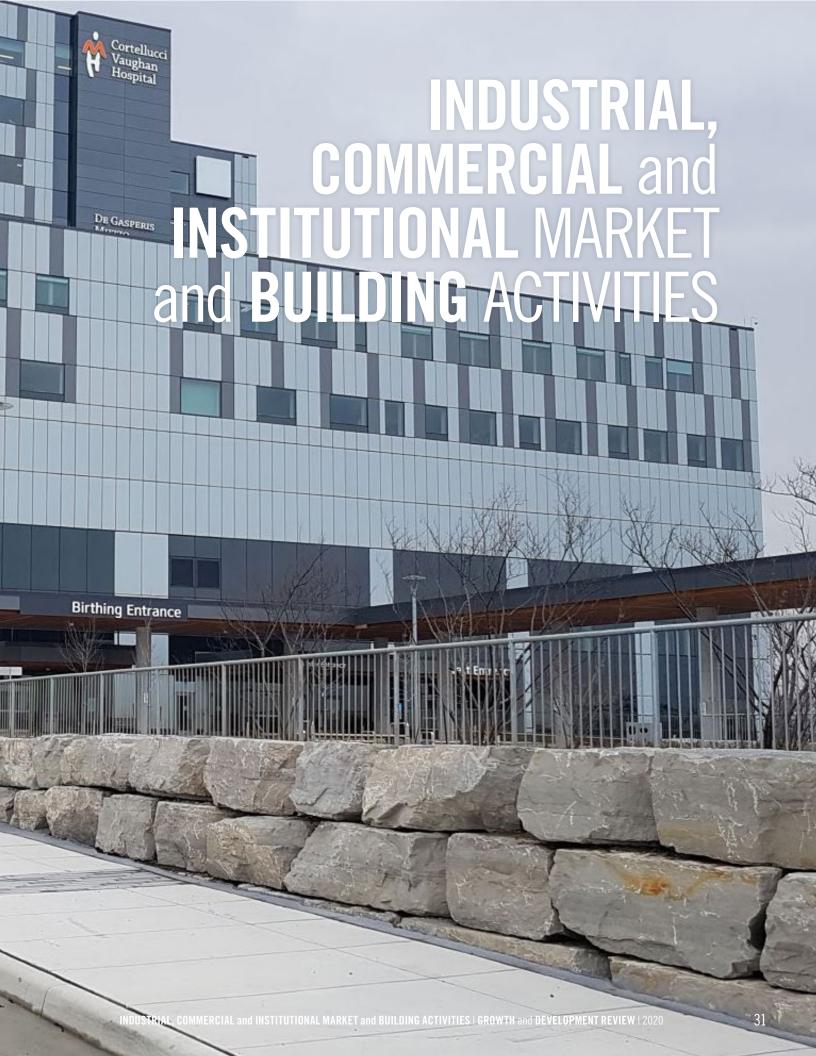
FIGURE 3.7: MIX of HOUSING STOCK in YORK REGION



The overall housing stock in 2020 was composed of 66% single detached dwellings, 6% semi-detached units, 13% row house units and 15% apartment units

FIGURE 3.8: MIX of TOTAL HOUSING STOCK by LOCAL MUNICIPALITY - 2020







GTA's industrial market remains resilient as e-commerce continues to experience exponential growth during the COVID-19 pandemic

- Although the retail market in York Region was disrupted by the COVID-19 pandemic, 2020 saw over 350,000 sq.ft. of new retail space delivered to market with another 1,410,000 sq.ft. under construction (Costar)
- > During the COVID-19 pandemic, the retail market evolved and adapted to e-commerce platforms. Many small retailers that missed out on the e-commerce boom were greatly impacted by the mandatory safety measures and restrictions

# INDUSTRIAL, COMMERCIAL and INSTITUTIONAL MARKET and BUILDING ACTIVITIES

## INDUSTRIAL and COMMERCIAL PROPERTY MARKET

- The number of residential resales in York Region during 2020 totalled 16,636 dwelling units (Figure 3.1), an increase of 16.1% (2,312 units) from 2019
- Total value of all York Region residential resales in 2020 was approximately \$17.75 billion – up from \$13.43 billion in 2019

TABLE 4.1: YORK REGION and GTA INDUSTRIAL MARKET OVERVIEW - 2020

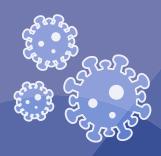
Municipality	Vacancy Rate	Avg Net Rent	Avg Sale Price	Inventory (sq. ft)
Aurora	1.3%	\$8.79	\$191	5,244,300
East Gwillimbury	-	\$12.00	\$220	1,446,400
Georgina	0.0%	-	\$214	314,400
King	0.0%	\$12.00	\$270	750,700
Markham	1.4%	\$11.17	\$243	24,325,400
Newmarket	1.3%	\$9.58	\$195	6,993,600
Richmond Hill	1.4%	\$11.26	\$233	10,472,600
Vaughan	1.2%	\$10.78	\$218	88,787,200
Whitchurch-Stouffville	5.8%	\$7.90	\$322	2,472,300
York Region	1.3%	\$10.64	\$233	141,332,500
Greater Toronto Area	1.5%	\$9.74	\$206	747,024,700

Source: Costar 2020. All dollar figures are Per Square Foot

TABLE 4.2: YORK REGION and GTA RETAIL MARKET OVERVIEW - 2020

Municipality	Vacancy Rate	Avg Net Rent	Avg Sale Price	Sales Volume	<b>Inventory</b> (sq. ft)
Aurora	2.8%	\$24.46	\$420	\$24,419,996	3,040,700
East Gwillimbury	2.0%	\$26.82	\$395	-	1,383,900
Georgina	0.9%	\$18.21	\$375	\$9,885,000	1,770,500
King	0.9%	\$22.33	\$429	\$1,070,000	794,300
Markham	1.7%	\$29.13	\$435	\$89,503,713	13,241,800
Newmarket	2.3%	\$20.76	\$399	\$27,863,090	5,926,900
Richmond Hill	3.0%	\$25.48	\$438	\$50,690,000	7,370,200
Vaughan	1.3%	\$23.81	\$438	\$123,301,305	17,804,100
Whitchurch-Stouffville	2.3%	\$27.00	\$409	\$16,385,000	1,483,700
York Region	1.9%	\$24.95	\$427	\$343,117,834	53,045,300
Greater Toronto Area	1.9%	\$26.61	\$441	\$2,720,757,016	292,980,300

Source: Costar 2020. All dollar figures are Per Square Foot



# York Region's office market was impacted by months of pandemicenforced restrictions in 2020.

- The pandemic provided a reset opportunity that allowed office occupiers to experiment with flexible models. It accelerated the shift to distributed work forces, particularly in the tech and financial sectors
- While there was a shift to a mandatory work from home strategy, Colliers Canada data (2021) suggests that the COVID-19 pandemic will not lead to the 'death' of the office. Survey results reveal that both employers and employees expect the vast majority of employees to eventually return to the traditional office work places after the vaccine

The GTA office market vacancy rate at 5.6% is lower than Canada's high of 10.8% in 2020

Source: Colliers Canada, 2020

# INDUSTRIAL, COMMERCIAL and INSTITUTIONAL MARKET and BUILDING ACTIVITIES

TABLE 4.3: YORK REGION and GTA OFFICE MARKET OVERVIEW - 2020

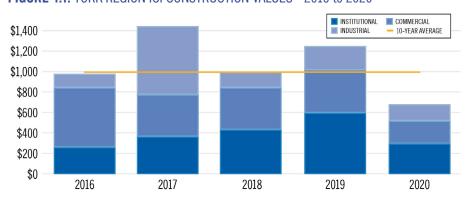
Municipality	Vacancy Rate	Avg Net Rent	<b>Inventory</b> (sq. ft)
Aurora	0.8%	\$20.28	1,619,700
East Gwillimbury	0.0%	\$26.26	137,200
Georgina	0.0%	\$28.61	36,500
King	2.1%	\$23.00	196,200
Markham	4.1%	\$20.05	15,097,000
Newmarket	1.6%	\$16.31	2,563,000
Richmond Hill	5.4%	\$16.75	3,983,900
Vaughan	7.4%	\$20.49	7,324,600
Whitchurch-Stouffville	1.7%	\$15.09	356,100
York Region	4.6%	\$19.97	31,348,600
Greater Toronto Area	5.6%	\$19.45	275,275,100

Source: Costar 2020. All dollar figures are Per Square Foot

# COMMERCIAL and INDUSTRIAL CONSTRUCTION VALUES DECREASED SIGNIFICANTLY in 2020

- Total ICI construction in 2020 had a combined construction value of \$674.5 million, a decrease from the 2019 value of \$1.44 billion (Figure 4.1) and was lower than the ten year average of \$992 million
- Industrial, commercial and institutional construction values decreased from 2020 levels by 51%, 46% and 31% respectively

FIGURE 4.1: YORK REGION ICI CONSTRUCTION VALUES - 2016 to 2020



# INDUSTRIAL, COMMERCIAL and INSTITUTIONAL MARKET and BUILDING ACTIVITIES

**TABLE 4.5:** YORK REGION COMMERCIAL BUILDING PERMITS with 10 HIGHEST CONSTRUCTION VALUES - 2020

Project	<b>Value</b> (\$000s)	Municipality
Commercial General (Unspecified)	\$16,894	Vaughan
Office Building	\$8,689	Vaughan
Commercial General (Unspecified)	\$5,788	Richmond Hill
Commercial General (Unspecified)	\$5,182	Richmond Hill
Recreation Facility (Commercial)	\$4,796	Vaughan
Retail/Service Commercial Unit	\$3,113	Vaughan
Commercial Multi-Use (Unspecified)	\$2,831	Vaughan
Commercial General (Unspecified)	\$2,831	Richmond Hill
Commercial General (Unspecified)	\$2,815	Markham
Commercial General (Unspecified)	\$2,534	Markham

Source: Statistics Canada Building Permit Reports and Table 32.2 (unpublished), 2020; York Region Corporate Services, Long Range Planning Division, 2020

**TABLE 4.6:** YORK REGION INSTITUTIONAL BUILDING PERMITS with 10 HIGHEST CONSTRUCTION VALUES - 2020

Project	<b>Value</b> (\$000s)	Municipality
Nursing/Institutional Home	\$25,751	Markham
Elementary School and Library	\$24,000	Aurora
Police/Fire/Military/Prison	\$21,215	Newmarket
Funeral/Crematorium/Mausoleum	\$14,830	Vaughan
Institutional General (Unspecified)	\$14,000	Richmond Hill
Police/Fire/Military/Prison	\$11,000	Vaughan
Religious Building	\$10,095	Vaughan
Religious Building	\$8,463	Markham
Nursing/Institutional Home	\$6,000	Vaughan
Institutional General (Unspecified)	\$5,685	Newmarket

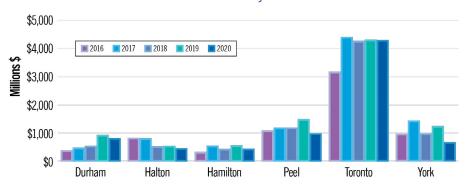
Source: Statistics Canada Building Permit Reports and Table 32.2 (unpublished), 2020; York Region Corporate Services, Long Range Planning Division, 2020

# INDUSTRIAL, COMMERCIAL and INSTITUTIONAL MARKET and BUILDING ACTIVITIES

#### GREATER HAMILTON and TORONTO AREA CONSTRUCTION

York Region accounted for 8.9% of the GTHA's total ICI construction value in 2020, a decrease from 13.8% in 2019

FIGURE 4.2: GTHA ICI CONSTRUCTION VALUES by MUNICIPALITY - 2016 to 2020



- Overall, the GTHA recorded a 15.5% reduction in the value of ICI construction from 2019
- All GTHA regions except the City of Toronto recorded a decrease in total ICI construction
- York Region ranked nineth across Canada for the value of its ICI construction in 2020, a drop in ranking from seventh in 2019 (Table 4.7)

TABLE 4.7: 2020 CROSS CANADA COMPARISON: VALUES of ICI CONSTRUCTION (\$000s)

Rank	Municipality	Total Value	% Change from 2019
1	City of Toronto	\$4.227,857	0.0%
2	Greater Vancouver Regional District	\$3,062,556	-17.6%
3	City of Montréal	\$2,026,073	-35.4%
4	City of Ottawa	\$1,592,613	92.3%
5	Peel Region	\$990,109	-33.5%
6	City of Calgary	\$1,111,975	-41.0%
7	City of Edmonton	\$1,043,984	-34.5%
8	Durham Region	\$819,357	-12.1%
9	York Region	\$674,489	-45.8%
10	Waterloo Region	\$642,193	-16.1%
11	City of Winnipeg	\$634,699	-47.0%
12	Halton Region	\$461,049	-16.1%

Source: Statistics Canada Building Permit Reports and Table 32.2 (unpublished), 2020; York Region Corporate Services, Long Range Planning Division, 2020. Note: Ranking is in comparison to cities, Region's and Regional Districts as defined locally.



# In 2020, York Region's ICI had a 26% share of total construction value

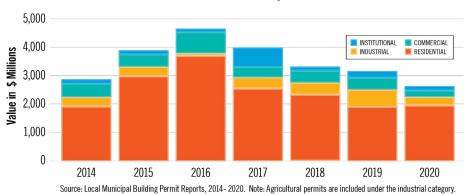
- The share of ICI of total construction values has averaged 30% during the past five years
- An ICI share of total construction value within the range of 30% means that job opportunities continue to be provided to match the growth in the Region's labour force

# OVERALL CONSTRUCTION VALUE

## TOTAL CONSTRUCTION VALUE in YORK REGION

- Total estimated value of construction in 2020 was approximately \$2.63 billion, compared to \$3.15 billion recorded in 2019, a decline of 16.6%
- York Region construction activity was impacted by COVID-19 in 2020 and recorded the lowest total estimated construction value of the past seven years (Figure 5.1)

FIGURE 5.1: YORK REGION CONSTRUCTION VALUE by TYPE - 2014 to 2020



**TABLE 5.1:** ESTIMATED VALUE of TOTAL CONSTRUCTION (RESIDENTIAL and ICI) by LOCAL MUNICIPALITY 2019 and 2020 (\$000s)

Municipality	2019	2020	% Change
Aurora	\$325,746	\$194,262	-40%
East Gwillimbury	\$123,193	\$147,849	20%
Georgina	\$111,476	\$77,902	-30%
King	\$181,066	\$99,095	-45%
Markham	\$480,038	\$317,040	-34%
Newmarket	\$81,172	\$277,246	242%
Richmond Hill	\$450,695	\$399,532	-11%
Vaughan	\$1,307,955	\$1,090,540	-17%
Whitchurch-Stouffville	\$97,535	\$24,494	-75%
York Region Total	\$3,158,876	\$2,627,960	-16.8%

Source: Local Municipal Building Permit Reports, 2019 and 2020; Corporate Services, Long Range Planning Division, 2020

- The Region's value of residential construction increased by 2.5% from \$1,905 million in 2019 to \$1,953 million in 2020 (Table 5.1)
- All local municipalities except Newmarket and East Gwillimbury recorded decreases in total estimated construction values in 2020

# OVERALL CONSTRUCTION VALUE

**TABLE 5.2:** ESTIMATE of VALUE (in \$Millions) of CONSTRUCTION\* by LOCAL MUNICIPALITY 2019 and 2020

Municipality	Residential		Industrial**		Commercial		Institutional		Total	
Municipality	2019	2020	2019	2020	2019	2020	2019	2020	2019	2020
Aurora	\$209	\$143	\$1	\$0	\$42	\$26	\$74	\$25	\$326	\$194
East Gwillimbury	\$94	\$136	\$18	\$6	\$10	\$4	\$1	\$2	\$123	\$148
Georgina	\$96	\$73	\$5	\$2	\$2	\$2	\$7	\$1	\$110	\$78
King	\$125	\$73	\$6	\$13	\$16	\$7	\$28	\$6	\$175	\$99
Markham	\$113	\$246	\$225	\$15	\$115	\$21	\$26	\$35	\$480	\$317
Newmarket	\$39	\$220	\$3	\$6	\$33	\$20	\$6	\$31	\$81	\$277
Richmond Hill	\$330	\$340	\$51	\$8	\$41	\$35	\$28	\$17	\$451	\$400
Vaughan	\$855	\$700	\$288	\$240	\$156	\$108	\$8	\$42	\$1,307	\$1,091
Whitchurch- Stouffville	\$43	\$23	\$1	\$0	\$4	\$1	\$50	\$0	\$97	\$24
York Region	\$1,905	\$1,953	\$598	\$291	\$418	\$224	\$299	\$159	\$3,150	\$2,628

Source: Local Municipal Building Permit Reports, 2019 and 2020; Corporate Services, Long Range Planning Division, 2020. Note: \*Estimated values of construction include additions, demolitions, renovations, temporary structures and new construction. \*\*Agricultural permits are included under the industrial category.

#### CONSTRUCTION ACTIVITY - NATIONAL COMPARISONS

- Despite the continued impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic, York Region remains in the top 10 list of highest construction values in Canada in 2020
- York Region ranked eighth in total construction values among Canadian municipalities, with a value of \$2.6 billion which was lower compared to the total value of \$3.15 billion in 2019 (Table 5.3)

TABLE 5.3: CROSS CANADA COMPARISON 2020 - VALUES of TOTAL CONSTRUCTION (\$000s)

Rank	Municipality	Total Value	% Change from 2019
1	City of Toronto	\$11,529,511	15.1%
2	Greater Vancouver Regional District	\$10,154,583	-13.2%
3	City of Ottawa	\$4,461,200	-24.3%
4	City of Montréal	\$4,240,288	35.3%
5	City of Edmonton	\$3,610,759	-33.7%
6	Peel Region	\$3,202,084	-17.5%
7	City of Calgary	\$3,167,994	-16.8%
8	York Region	\$2,627,960	-16.6%
9	Durham Region	\$2,505,230	30.3%
10	Waterloo Region	\$1,987,012	30.4%

Source: Local Municipal Building Permit Reports, 2020; Statistics Canada Building Permit Reports and Table 32.2 (unpublished), 2020. Note: List includes: cities, Region's and Regional Districts as defined locally.



The Growth and Development Review provides a snapshot of key development and population indicators in York Region and reports on the competitiveness of York Region's economy within the Greater Toronto and Hamilton Area (GTHA), the Province and Canada.

In 2020, there were an estimated 599,700 jobs and 1,213,600 residents in the Region.

The COVID-19 pandemic and related closures are having a dramatic impact on the global economy. The impact on York Region's economy in 2020 has been severe. It is anticipated that there will be a slow, phased approach to getting people back to work and regular life, based on the advice of public health and safety professionals.

York Region is one of Canada's fastest-growing large urban municipalities and is forecast to reach a population of 2.02 million and employment of 990,000 by 2051. The Region is an attractive location to live and invest and is committed to attracting and retaining employers and residents, as well as making significant infrastructure investments to support growth.