



2024 YORK REGION HEALTH AND WELL-BEING REVIEW

Presented to
Committee of the Whole

Presented by
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Presented on
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PURPOSE OF YORK REGION HEALTH AND WELL-BEING REVIEW

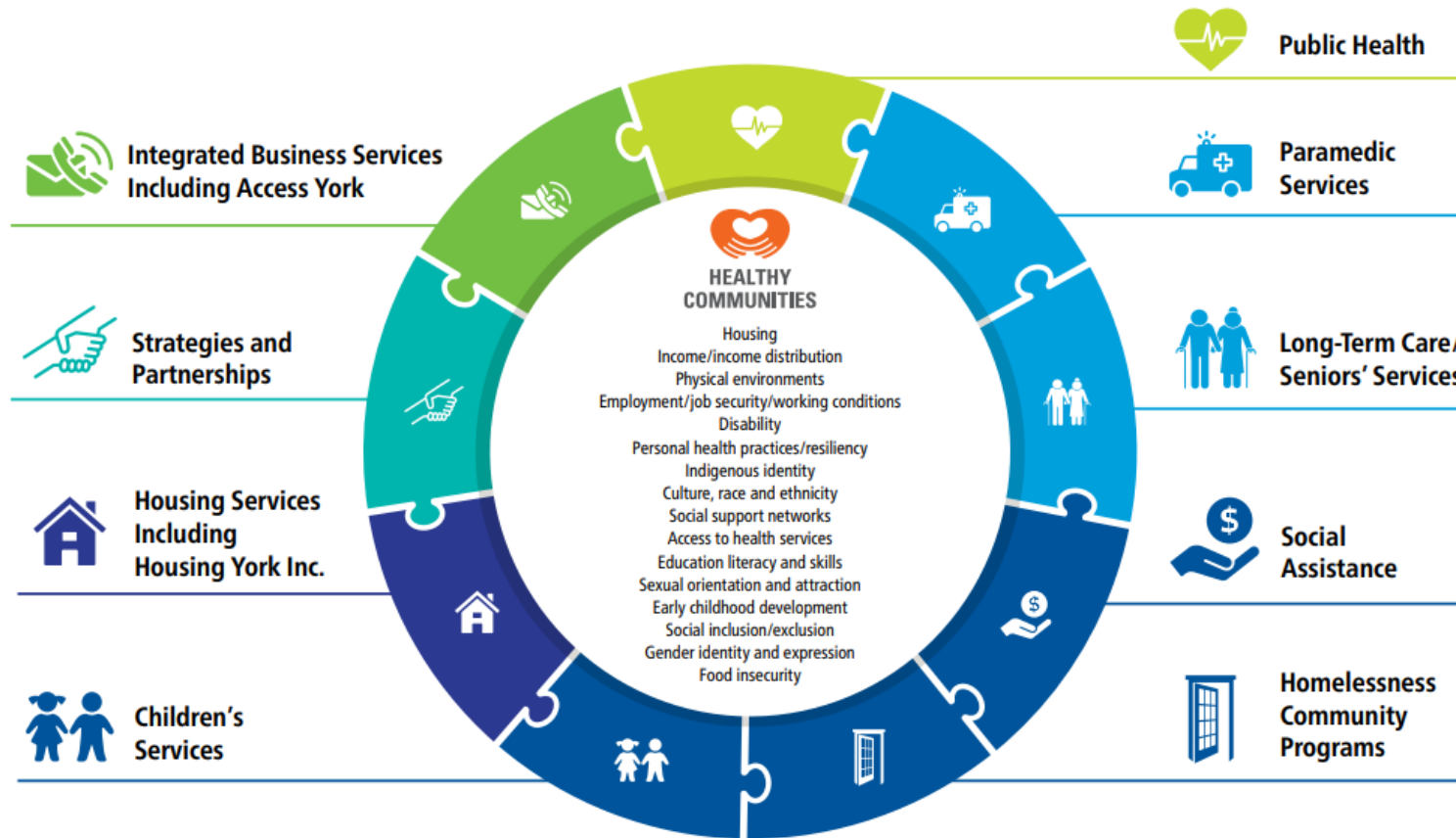


Present key population and socio-demographic trends in York Region

Highlight impacts of Community and Health Services (CHS) programs including service pressures

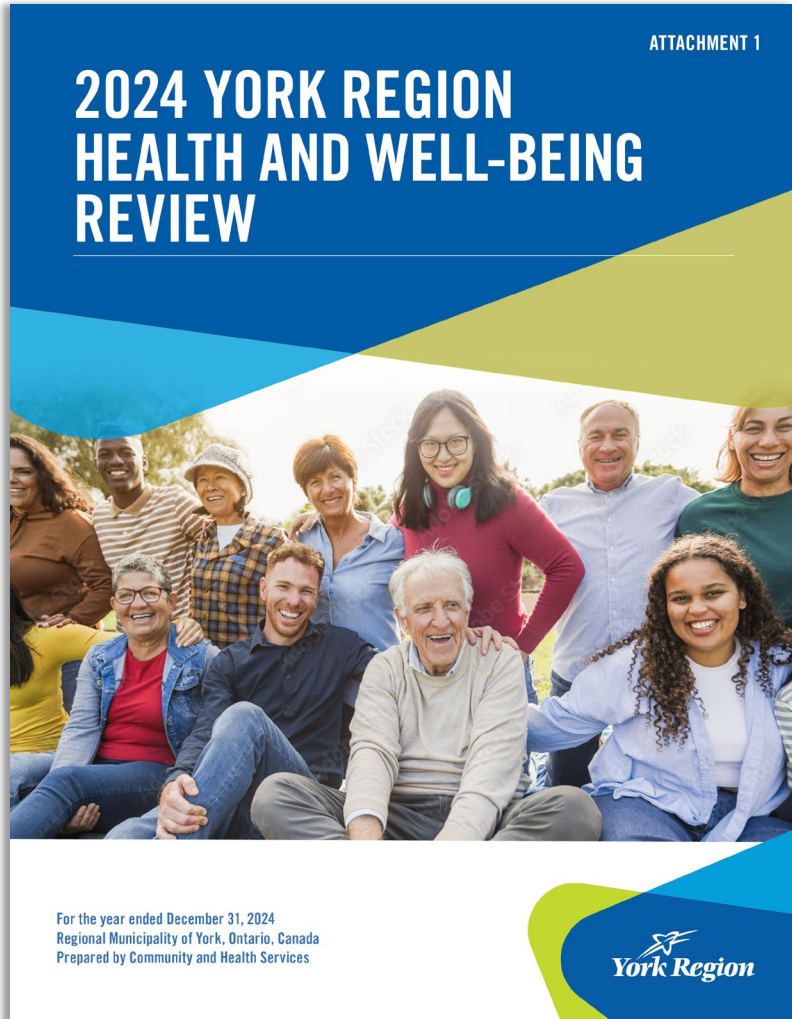
Emphasize importance of advocacy, innovation and integrated partnerships

CHS DEPARTMENT



Provides 6 Core Services and 3 Support Services to 1.28 million residents

2024 KEY TRENDS



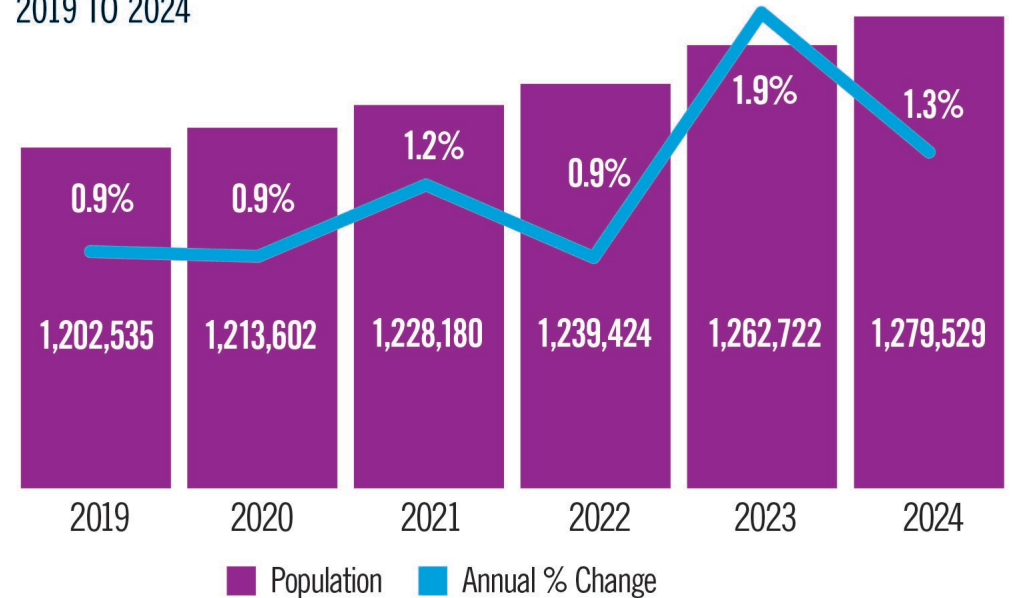
- Growing, aging and diversifying population, income security concerns, inability to afford basic needs, and mental health and well-being challenges
- Increased demand and case complexity outpacing service capacity
- Region continues to work collaboratively with partners to innovate, address demand and advocate for increased investments

TRENDS: GROWING, AGING AND DIVERSIFYING POPULATION



ANNUAL POPULATION GROWTH IN YORK REGION

2019 TO 2024



Source: York Region, Corporate Services, Economic and Development Services Branch

Seniors over 65

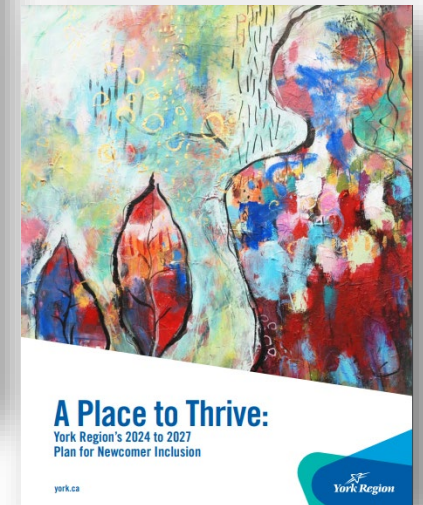
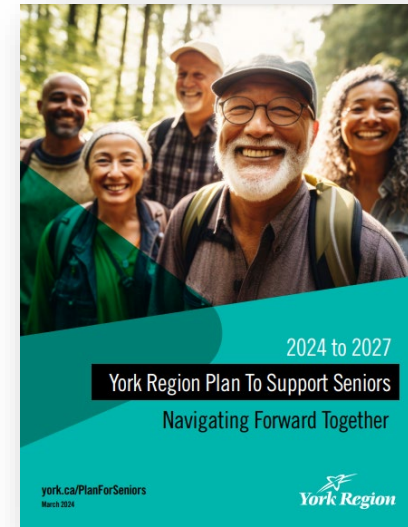
expected to make up 24%
(over 499,000) of the
population by 2051

66,000 newcomers

and 32,000 temporary residents
moved to York Region between
2019 and 2024

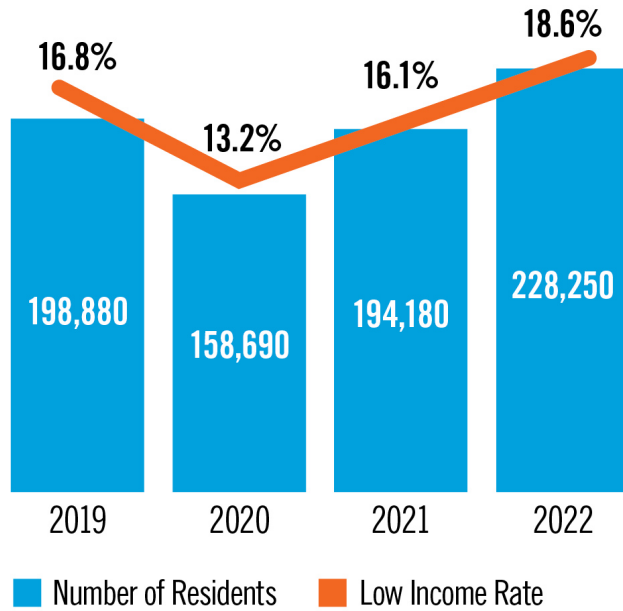
ACTIONS: SUPPORTING POPULATION GROWTH AND CHANGES

- Helping seniors “age in the right place” through 2024-2027 Plan to Support Seniors and development of Unionville Commons Seniors Hub
- Mitigating increased calls to 911 through expansion of Community Paramedicine Program
- Stewarding Local Immigration Partnership to support newcomer settlement including developing the 2024-2027 Plan for Newcomer Inclusion
- Supported 387 unique people through the Asylum seeker hotel program



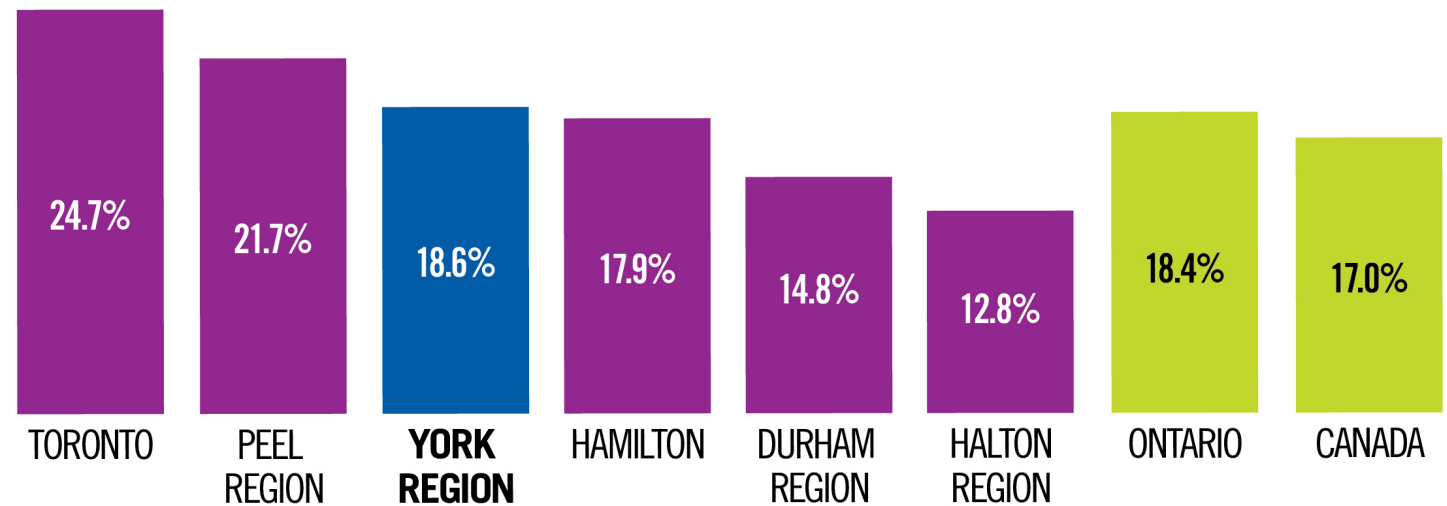
TRENDS: INCOME SECURITY CONCERNS

LOW-INCOME TRENDS IN YORK REGION 2019 TO 2022



Source: Statistics Canada, T1 Family File and York Region, Strategies and Partnership calculations

LOW INCOME RATE, GTHA, ONTARIO AND CANADA 2022



Source: Statistics Canada, T1 Family File and York Region, Strategies and Partnership Branch calculations

Highest debt in GTHA

held by York Region residents in 2023, \$731,517 mortgage, \$82,133 consumer debt

47% of renters

and 27% of homeowners spend 30% or more of income on shelter in 2021

2,525 people

known to experience homelessness in 2024

Nearly 32,000 people

used food programs in 2023

ACTIONS: SUPPORTING AND ADVOCATING FOR BASIC NEEDS

- Investing \$12M in critical social infrastructure, including housing and homelessness supports
- Declaring Housing Affordability Crisis and implementing the 2024 to 2027 Homelessness Service System Plan, including Rapid Deployment Actions
- Supporting access to affordable housing including providing portable rent benefits such as the Canada-Ontario Housing Benefit
- Continuing to support growing Ontario Works (OW) caseload, while advocating for higher OW benefit rates
- Raising awareness of income as a key factor in food access and affordability through the Nutritious Food Basket report



139

New beds in emergency and transitional housing, hotels and seasonal shelters from Rapid Deployment Actions in 2024

Source: York Region, Community and Health Services Department, Social Services Branch, 2024



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Individuals Reached Through York Region Public Health's Food and Security Events

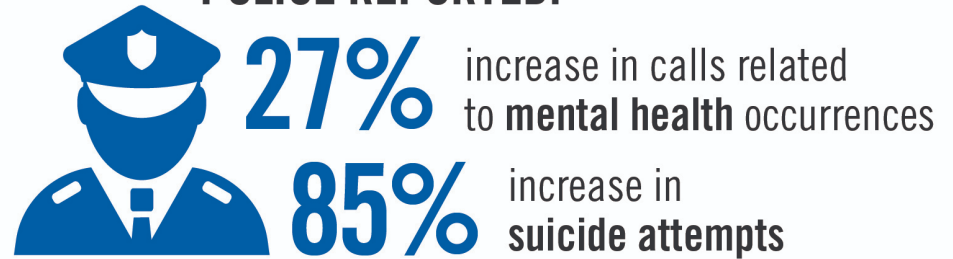
Source: York Region, Community and Health Services Department, Public Health Branch, 2024

TRENDS: GROWING MENTAL HEALTH AND WELL-BEING CHALLENGES



Between 2020 and 2023:

YORK REGIONAL POLICE REPORTED:



Source: York Regional Police, 2023



YORK REGION PARAMEDIC SERVICES REPORTED:



Source: York Region. Community and Health Services Department, Paramedic and Seniors Services Branch, 2023

ACTIONS: SUPPORTING MENTAL HEALTH AND WELL-BEING

- Implementing risk intervention services and supports for youth and families including Children, Youth and Family Situation Tables
- Supporting Naloxone kit distribution to community partners and agencies
- Invested \$5 million in York Region Mental Health Community Care Centre
- Invested \$2.9 million in Mental Well-Being projects through Community Investment Fund in 2024



546 situations addressed by **Children, Youth and Families Situation Tables** in 2023, lowering acutely elevated risk in **78%** of the situations

Source: York Region, Community and Health Services Department, Strategies and Partnerships Branch, 2024



3,920 **NALOXONE KITS TO CLIENTS IN 2024**

Source: York Region, Community Health Services Department, Public Health Branch

LOOKING FORWARD

2024 Health and Well-Being Review supports and highlights:



Program planning
and budget
development



Council investments
addressing emerging
priorities



Foundational role of
partnerships for
advocacy and action

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Regional Chair write a letter to Minister of Children, Community and Social Services and Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, formally requesting funding increases and policy adjustments to alleviate income insecurity in York Region, including:
 - a. Implement living wage and basic income policies
 - b. Increase and index Ontario Works rates with inflation to meet life's basic needs
 - c. Include the reduction of food insecurity as a component of all appropriate government policies
 - d. Provide permanent long-term and predictable benefit programs like the Canada-Ontario Housing Benefit beyond 2029 along with multi-year and sustained funding to expand access to affordable housing of all types
2. Council include information about socio-economic, health and well-being trends and service pressures when meeting with provincial ministries and elected officials to raise awareness of the need.
3. Council direct staff to work with Human Services Planning Board, other community partners and municipal counterparts to identify innovative and collaborative solutions and advocate to senior levels of government for poverty reduction and housing stabilization initiatives and funding
4. Regional Clerk circulate Council Report and York Region Health and Well-Being Review to all recipients in Report