



2024
SPRING



Youth Success: Harnessing Insights for Collective Impact

NEIGHBOURHOOD OPPORTUNITY INDEX: TECHNICAL REPORT

Land Acknowledgment

We would like to acknowledge that our service region is located on the traditional territory of the Three Fires Confederacy of First Nations, comprised of the Ojibwe - including Caldwell First Nation, the Odawa, and the Potawatomie.

As Treaty 2 and Treaty 35 people, we are grateful for the opportunity to live and work here and are thankful for the generations of people who have taken care of this land for thousands of years - including the Haudenosaunee, Attawandaron (Neutral), and Huron (Wyandot) peoples.

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A Message From Our Co-Chairs

Imagine a community where residents collaborate with a group of community organizations and agencies to understand and impact big issues affecting the future of their children. Eight years ago, over 40 local for-profit and not-for-profit organizations came together with this vision – and we have made it happen.

ProsperUs brings together change makers – residents, community organizations and philanthropists – to tackle the complex challenges faced by children who live in poverty in our region. Our founding principles are modelled on those of the collective impact model of community action, including creating a culture of collaborative action, with a common agenda, reliance on tracking and measuring key performance indicators in our region, along with a “backbone” organization which provides vital and supportive infrastructure.

This report forms part of another cornerstone for ProsperUs and collective impact – communication as a support for transparency, collaboration, and culture change. You will find information about how our community is making progress in our goal to ensure that every young person in Windsor-Essex County has the opportunity to succeed, from cradle to career, thereby enabling a more prosperous community overall.

You will find this report to be a fascinating window on our region and a valuable measure of our progress so far on this ambitious set of goals, ensuring children and youth have the ability to realize their dreams and achieve their potential. On behalf of the ProsperUs Leadership Table, thank you to everyone who has helped make this vision a reality.

Sincerely,

Shelley Fellows, Co-Chair
Jessica Sartori, Co-Chair

Introduction

ProsperUs is a collective that unites over 40 leading organizations from various sectors, including non-profit, government, healthcare, education, labour, and business, alongside residents of Windsor-Essex County.

Its primary mission is to eliminate the barriers youth face in the region, ensuring that every young person has the opportunities and support needed to succeed, from cradle to career. ProsperUs operates on a collective impact model, emphasizing the importance of working with partners and the community to achieve shared objectives.

At the heart of this initiative is the goal to transform Windsor-Essex County, enhancing outcomes for children and young people from birth through the completion of post-secondary education and their entry into the workforce.

ProsperUs' vision is rooted in the belief that every child deserves success, irrespective of their background or neighbourhood in which they live. This ethos guided the development of the inaugural 2019 Neighbourhood Opportunity Index (NOI) report, "[Coming Together – Building a Hopeful Future for Children and Youth in Windsor-Essex County.](#)" By analyzing conditions across 55 neighbourhoods using twenty critical indicators, the report identified Downtown Windsor, West Windsor, and Leamington as needing the most support, laying the foundation for the equity-focused cradle-to-career strategy.

Building upon this framework, the 2024 NOI iteration deepens the analysis with various demographic, economic, educational, health, civic, and safety indicators, evaluating conditions in the same 55 neighbourhoods to develop a comprehensive opportunity score.



“

As the backbone organization for ProsperUs, United Way is deeply committed to nurturing the potential of our youth and ensuring equitable opportunities for all. The NOI report is a vital tool in this endeavour, particularly in guiding efforts to support the next generation. By identifying neighbourhoods facing the greatest challenges, the NOI report directs our efforts and resource allocation to where they are most needed. We urge stakeholders across the community to utilize this valuable resource to inform their decision-making and drive meaningful change. Together, we can build stronger, more inclusive communities where every young person has the opportunity to thrive.
~ **Lorraine Goddard, CEO, United Way/Centraide Windsor-Essex County**

This updated analysis, incorporating data from 2019 to 2023, highlights the persistent needs within these communities, reiterating the importance of focusing on the priority areas – **Downtown Windsor, West Windsor, and Leamington** – initially identified.¹

The NOI's success and uniqueness are due to ProsperUs's innovative data-sharing agreements. These agreements reflect a deep level of trust and collaboration among partners, providing access to a vast pool of data unparalleled by any single organization. Such collaboration underscores the NOI's distinctiveness and its role as a catalyst for transformative change, uniquely equipping ProsperUs to meet the evolving needs of Windsor-Essex's youth.

By consistently updating the NOI with the latest data, ProsperUs demonstrates its commitment to driving meaningful, sustainable change within the community. The NOI serves as a dynamic tool in our approach to community engagement, allowing for adapting strategies to the changing needs of children and youth in Windsor-Essex. This dedication to data-driven insights ensures that ProsperUs' interventions are equitable, focused, and effective by continually enhancing neighbourhood opportunities and solidifying its resolve to make Windsor-Essex a place where every young person can succeed.

¹ Our identification of priority neighbourhoods aligns with strategic documents like the “Pathway to Potential: Windsor-Essex Poverty Reduction Strategy 2024-28” (City of Windsor, 2024), underlining the synergy between local strategies and ProsperUs's focus areas, which could enhance outcomes in these key neighbourhoods.

Methodology

Selection of Indicators

An “indicator” in the NOI is a measuring tool to understand different aspects of community well-being, particularly concerning youth² opportunities in Windsor-Essex. The NOI relies on indicators grouped into five primary areas: Demographic, Economic, Education, Health,

and Civic and Safety. These indicators are essential for gauging various dimensions of community well-being, offering valuable insights into social, economic, and health conditions. Please refer to [Appendix A](#) for a detailed list of indicators and their rationales.

TABLE 1. LIST OF INDICATORS

Demographic	Economic	Education	Health	Civic & Safety
Population Under 19 Yrs. Old	Youth Living in Low-Income Households	Early Developmental Index*	Low Birth-Weight Births	Youth Crime
One-Parent Households	Regional Income Disparities	Post-Secondary Education	Pregnancy Complications	Voter Turnout
Racialized Population	Housing Affordability	Elementary Academic Performance	Maternal Age	
Indigenous Population	Emergency Food Supports	Secondary Academic Performance	Youth Mental Health Supports	
Language Barriers			Youth with Cavities*	

*Outdated Data

In developing the NOI, our team undertook a comprehensive review of existing indicators and introduced new ones to align with our community’s evolving needs. This process involved reevaluating the relevance of existing

indicators and addressing emerging trends to ensure the index remains a robust and practical instrument for assessing youth opportunities in Windsor-Essex.

² In the NOI, the term “youth” encompasses both children and adolescents, spanning the ages of 0 to 19.

NEWLY INTRODUCED INDICATORS:

- **Emergency Food Supports:** This sheds light on the prevalence of food insecurity in our neighbourhoods.

INDICATORS WITHOUT UPDATED DATA:

- **Early Development Instrument (EDI) Data (2017-2018):** Unfortunately, Cycle 6 of EDI data is currently unavailable. Therefore, Cycle 5, which covers the 2017/2018 school year, was used for this update.
- **Youth with Cavities (2016 & 2017):** Updated data is unavailable due to changes in public health reporting during the COVID-19 pandemic.

When comparing data from the 2019 release to the present, our analysis incorporates the original list of indicators to ensure consistency in evaluating changes over time. However, we've updated the original datasets (see [Appendix B](#)) and introduced some new indicators to provide a more nuanced understanding of evolving community dynamics, particularly at the neighbourhood level. This approach allows for historical continuity and adaptation to the ever-changing landscape of Windsor-Essex's diverse neighbourhoods. The indicators without updated data act as placeholders for future analysis, ensuring our assessment remains comprehensive and forward-looking.

INDICATOR CONSIDERATIONS

In developing the NOI, careful consideration was given to the quantity and quality of indicators to ensure the creation of a comprehensive yet manageable assessment tool. Balancing inclusivity and precision were paramount, as too few indicators might oversimplify neighbourhood conditions, while an excess could lead to data overload and dilution of each indicator's impact. Our decision-making process involved evaluating each indicator's relevance, uniqueness, and contribution to the overall assessment, ensuring the NOI remains a robust and practical instrument for gauging youth opportunities in Windsor-Essex.

For instance, we initially considered including indicators such as mobility status, immigration status, and tenant households. Such factors can influence developmental trajectories and access to resources. However, we decided to exclude them to avoid the potential double counting of individuals in similar categories, which could compromise the index's effectiveness. Similarly, we contemplated including the percentage of children and youth unattached to a primary care provider, recognizing its importance for assessing healthcare access and overall well-being. Yet, the absence of historical data hindered our ability to make meaningful comparisons between 2019 and 2024, and the indicator's impact on the overall index score and neighbourhood rankings was minimal when included. Nonetheless, we remain receptive to including this indicator once relevant data becomes available, underscoring our commitment to a thorough and accurate assessment of youth opportunities in Windsor-Essex.

Geographical Framework

The City of Windsor and the County of Essex are recognized as distinct regions for analysis. This distinction is crucial, given the differences in data availability, population densities, and service catchment areas. By constructing separate indices for each region while maintaining a set of shared core indicators, we aim to provide evaluations that are precise to the needs of each area. This strategy ensures our insights are accurate and relevant for regions including Leamington, Kingsville, Lasalle, Lakeshore, Essex, Amherstburg, and Tecumseh and addresses potential concerns about geographic disparity in our analysis. Consequently, our separate yet complementary indices for the City of Windsor and the County of Essex provide a well-rounded, fair perspective on each region's unique requirements and circumstances.

2019 NOI:

ESTABLISHING THE GEOGRAPHICAL FOUNDATION

In establishing the 2019 NOI, we defined the City of Windsor's boundaries using Statistics Canada's Aggregate Dissemination Areas (ADAs)³. This approach aligned with the boundaries of the City of Windsor Wards and stayed within municipal limits to avoid the complexities of creating custom geographies. Conversely, the County of Essex NOI required custom geographies based on population thresholds due to the inapplicability of ADAs in this region. The [2019 NOI Report](#) comprehensively details these custom boundaries.⁴

This process led to the identification of 30 neighbourhoods in the City of Windsor and 25 in the County of Essex.⁵ We used these neighbourhood boundaries as the defined areas for applying our indicators, forming the foundation for our in-depth analysis. The data was organized into two tiers: lower-level indicators, corresponding directly to these neighbourhoods, and upper-level indicators, designed to encompass broader geographic datasets. This method allowed us to use different data sets for each area's boundaries, helping us calculate the index for each neighbourhood in the City of Windsor and the County of Essex.

2024 NOI:

ADVANCING THE GEOGRAPHICAL APPROACH

The 2024 NOI introduces a significant evolution in geographical methodology, utilizing the ProsperUs data warehouse for enhanced data integration and analysis. Departing from the tiered categorization system used in the original NOI, this update leverages the data warehouse to overcome limitations and refine the geographical approach.

The ProsperUs data warehouse design introduces dimension tables with a spatial, non-strict hierarchy to organize geographic data effectively. This innovation addresses a critical challenge stemming from the varying levels of geographic data aggregation in our

³ADAs typically encompass populations ranging from 5,000 to 15,000 people and are created by aggregating smaller Dissemination Areas (DA).

⁴Pages 32-45 in the ProsperUs "Coming Together" Report outlines the creation of the NOI.

⁵In 2016, the Walker Gates and WFCU Center and East Windsor neighbourhoods were allocated an Aggregate Dissemination Area (ADA) geographic code. However, as of 2021, the geographic codes for these two areas have been updated, while the geographical area and boundaries remain consistent.

source data, such as the discrepancy between Windsor Police Services' youth-charged data aggregated by patrol neighbourhood and census data aggregated by dissemination area. To overcome this, we referenced the paper, *'Logical and Physical Design of Spatial Non-Strict Hierarchies in Relational Spatial Data Warehouse'*ⁱ, which offered valuable techniques for managing spatial hierarchies in relational spatial data warehouses.

A key solution involved applying the distribution factor technique outlined in the paper to generate estimated data, accounting for geographic overlap between different spatial dimensions. Notably, this technique assumes

a uniform distribution of data within geographic boundaries, which is a necessary simplification for analytical purposes. While actual population distribution within any geographic boundary is not uniform, the estimated data from this approach furnishes invaluable insights into youth opportunities in Windsor-Essex, aligning seamlessly with the central focus of the 2024 NOI.

Moreover, for the reconstruction of the 2019 index, the ProsperUs data warehouse facilitated the application of the distribution factor technique. This ensured a consistent and methodologically sound approach, enhancing the accuracy and reliability of the assessment for meaningful year-over-year comparisons (see [Appendix B](#)).

Statistical Methods

UTILIZING Z-SCORES FOR ANALYSIS

In the NOI, we utilize z-scores to effectively compare neighbourhoods against the regional average. The primary function of z-scores in the NOI is to standardize data from various sources and indicators, facilitating easier comparisons. It is important to note that in the context of the NOI, we employ z-scores for standardization purposes rather than statistical significance testing, a common use of z-scores in other analytical settings. They create a consistent metric for evaluating youth opportunities across different neighbourhoods.

The process of calculating a z-score involves two steps: first, we subtract the average value (μ) from a neighbourhood's specific value (x), and then divide this difference by the standard deviation (σ).

This calculation is represented by the formula:

$$Z = \frac{(x - \mu)}{\sigma}$$

This allows us to align each data point to a standard scale, allowing uniform comparisons across various indicators.

Once we compute the z-scores for each indicator, we add them together for every neighbourhood. This cumulative score provides a comprehensive view of each neighbourhood's performance in relation to youth opportunities compared to the regional norm. In this scoring system, a z-score of 0 indicates an average standing. Negative scores signal more opportunities or fewer barriers, whereas positive scores indicate the presence of greater barriers or fewer opportunities.

Weighting Considerations

In the 2024 version of the NOI, we have continued with the approach established in 2019, choosing not to assign different weights to the indicators. This decision is based on our observation that applying weights did not significantly alter the ranking of neighbourhoods in terms of barriers to opportunity. Treating each indicator equally makes the NOI straightforward to understand.

However, we are aware of the potential benefits of weighting specific indicators or groups of indicators in future versions of the NOI. Such a change would enhance the index's flexibility

and precision, making it more responsive to research needs or policy objectives. Looking ahead, we plan to incorporate a feature in the NOI's interactive dashboard that will enable users to include, exclude, and adjust the weights of different indicators according to their specific analytical needs. This enhancement aims to provide deeper insights into the variances and opportunities within neighbourhoods, thereby making the NOI a more customizable and effective tool for addressing the distinctive challenges and opportunities in Windsor-Essex neighbourhoods.



The Neighbourhood Opportunity Index (NOI) is a truly unique and powerful metric, generated using evidence-based data relevant to Windsor-Essex County. Coupled with socioeconomic status, the NOI indicators include race, first language, and maternal age, to name a few. This intersectional approach to evaluating risk at the neighbourhood level is reflective of the complexities of individuals' experience in our communities. As a researcher, the NOI gives context to Community-based Research (CBR) and frames intervention through a human-centred lens, piecing together fragmented datasets to give us the “big picture” perspective of our community. We have so many incredible assets, researchers, and resources here in Windsor, the NOI gives us the knowledge to know where we might target our combined efforts to really harness a truly collective impact.

~ **Beckie Berlasty, Core Principal Member, We-Spark, Professor, St. Clair College**

Analysis

Contextualizing the NOI

The NOI serves as a valuable tool for understanding the socio-economic landscape and youth opportunities in Windsor-Essex, particularly in relation to living in low-income households. Derived primarily from the 2021 census data, with a reference date of May 11, 2021, and income data from the 2020 calendar year, the index provides a snapshot of the community at a specific moment in time. However, it's essential to recognize that the profound impact of COVID-19 significantly influences the data used within the NOI.

In 2016, Windsor-Essex faced one of the highest rates of childhood poverty in Canada. Positive progress is evident in the 2021 census data, showcasing reduced poverty rates and bringing the community in line with provincial

and national averages. However, it's important to consider the influence of the timing of data collection and the income support programs during this period.

The economic shutdown in response to the COVID-19 pandemic led to substantial losses in market income. Yet, these losses were offset by government transfers, with various programs doubling in 2020, including Canada Emergency Response Benefit, Canada Recovery Benefit, and Canada Emergency Student Benefit, alongside others like Canada Child Benefit, Employment Insurance, Old Age Security, and the Canada Pension Plan. Median government transfers increased from \$8,200 to \$16,400, reflecting the significant role of government support during this challenging period.ⁱⁱ

TABLE 2. INCOME SOURCES IN 2019 AND 2020 IN ESSEX COUNTYⁱⁱⁱ

	2019	2020	Percentage Change
Median Total Income	\$38,000	\$40,000	▲ 5.3%
Median Market Income	\$35,600	\$33,200	▼ 6.7%
Median Government Transfers	\$3,960	\$10,100	▲ 155%

Total Income is the sum of all earnings from various sources, including employment, self-employment, investments, rentals, and government transfers.

Market Income primarily consists of income earned through employment (wages and salaries) and investments (interests, dividends, and rental income). It does not include government transfers or benefits.

Analyzing income sources in Essex County for 2019 and 2020 reveals notable shifts. Median total income increased by 5.3%, while median market income decreased by 6.7%. In contrast, median government transfers experienced a substantial 155% increase. In Essex County, median market income fell from \$35,600 in 2019 to \$33,200 in 2020. These changes suggest that observed shifts in market income, government transfers, and declines in poverty rates in 2020 were likely temporary. Despite progress in reducing low-income rates since the 2016 census, the numbers may be inflated by the time of data collection and the support provided.

The Consumer Price Index (CPI) and its year-to-year changes are pivotal in contextualizing the NOI within the broader economic landscape. Reflecting shifts in the prices of goods and services, the CPI offers insights into the cost of living. As of January 2024, the CPI is 2.9% higher (12-month change)^{iv}, indicating ongoing economic challenges. Since the NOI data collection, food, transportation, and housing costs have increased, adding economic strains on the community. Acknowledging the NOI's limitations is crucial, as it may only partially capture recent challenges, especially in housing and food security. For instance, in 2022, data from the Canadian Income Survey revealed that 19.8 percent of individuals in Windsor-Essex were experiencing various levels of food insecurity.^v

Nevertheless, the NOI's strength lies in its adaptability. Through continuous updates and the integration of new data, it remains a relevant and practical resource, addressing the evolving needs of the Windsor-Essex community. This dynamic nature enables the index to better reflect the current socio-economic landscape despite inherent limitations in capturing real-time changes and specific local issues.

Neighbourhood Opportunity Index Rankings

INTERPRETING THE SCORES AND RANKS

Before examining the findings, let's clarify the interpretation of neighbourhood index score changes from 2019 to 2024, which illuminate opportunities for youth in Windsor and Essex County.

- **Magnitude of Change:** Significant shifts in a neighbourhood's scores indicate crucial changes in the landscape of opportunities or obstacles. It's essential to contextualize these changes, considering the unique starting point of each neighbourhood.
- **Baseline Conditions:** The initial scores serve as a benchmark, influencing the interpretation of subsequent changes. A neighbourhood's starting point critically shapes our understanding of the impact of score changes, highlighting the importance of relative improvement or decline. High or low baseline scores influence the perception of changes and their tangible impact on the community.
- **Comparative Analysis:** The comparison between 2019 and 2024 scores is relative. An improvement in a neighbourhood's score doesn't necessarily signal outright progress but indicates a change in relation to other neighbourhoods.

In terms of ranking changes during this period:

- A decrease (▼) in ranking denotes an improvement in youth opportunity access compared to other neighbourhoods, indicating positive shifts.
- An increase (▲) in ranking points to rising barriers or challenges relative to others, suggesting areas for concern.
- A stable rank indicates no significant change in comparative standing, suggesting a consistent level of opportunities or barriers.

It's crucial to understand that these rankings reflect relative performance among neighbourhoods. Changes in rankings do not inherently signify absolute progress or regression but rather position shifts within the broader context of neighbourhood performances. This analysis aims to provide a clear and direct understanding of how neighbourhood dynamics have evolved, focusing on the accessibility of opportunities for young people.

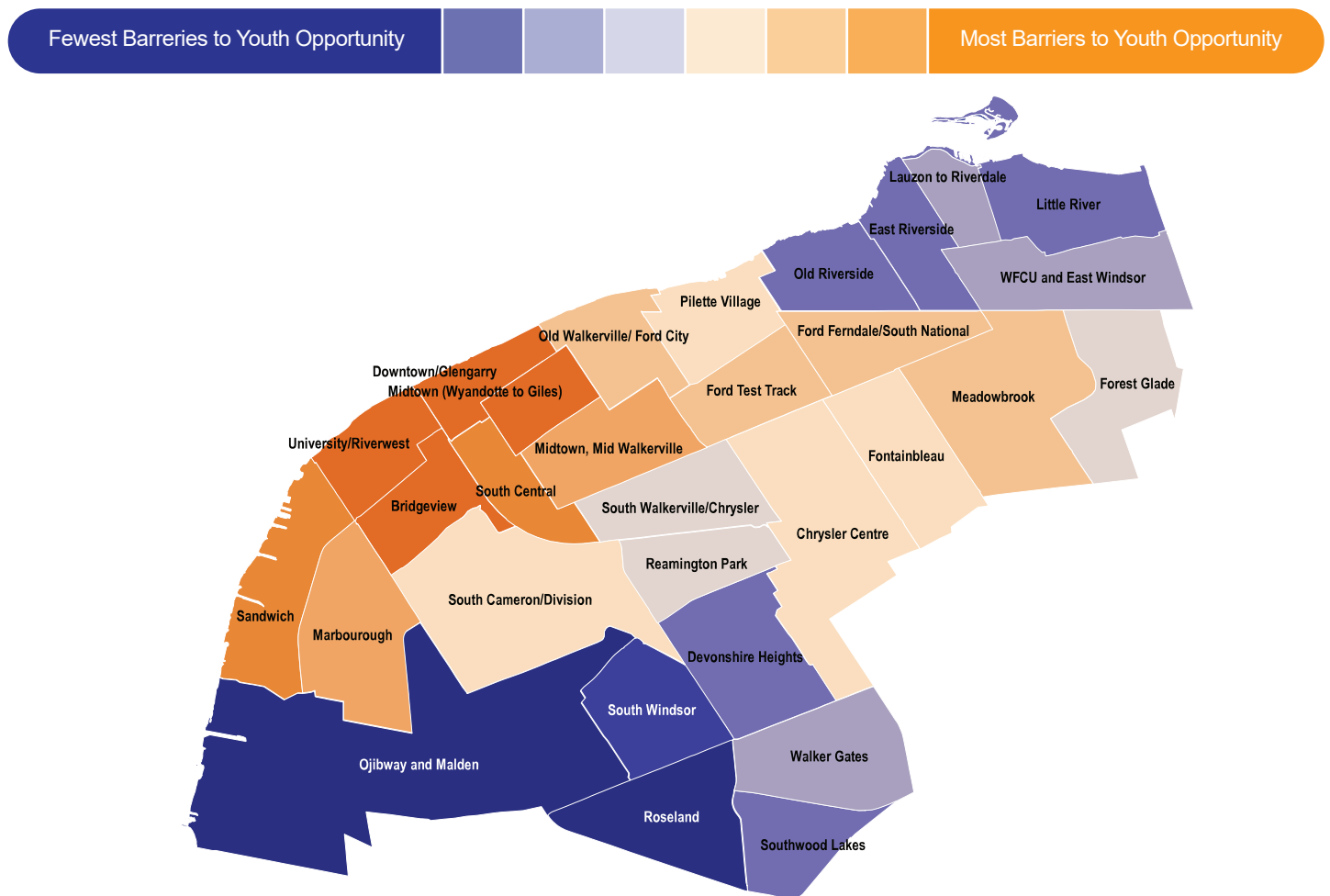
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As chairperson with the ProsperUs Community Action Network I work with residents that live in the communities experiencing the most barriers to opportunity. Having a refreshed look at the data helps me work with residents to advocate for change and work with local decision makers to continue to build up neighbourhoods where support for children and youth is needed most.

~ **Rose Hayes, Co-Chair,
Community Action Network-
Windsor Advocacy Working Group**



IMAGE 1. CITY OF WINDSOR NOI MAP



The City of Windsor’s NOI reveals notable variations in youth opportunity accessibility across different neighbourhoods. While **Downtown and West Windsor** continue to face significant barriers, noteworthy changes have occurred within these areas from 2019 to 2024. For instance, **Midtown (Wyandotte to Giles)** increased its index score, indicating heightened barriers. In contrast, neighbourhoods like *Bridgeview, Downtown/Glengarry, University/River West, Sandwich, and Marlborough* demonstrated improvements with decreased index scores, suggesting reduced barriers. Notably, *Old Riverside and Devonshire Heights* showcased considerable reductions in their index scores, signaling a positive trend toward diminishing barriers.

Furthermore, the slight narrowing of z-score ranges from 2019 to 2024 suggests progress towards reduced disparities in youth opportunities across Windsor (-21.98 to 24.74 in 2019 to -22.19 to 19.69 in 2024). These findings underscore the urgency of targeted, data-driven interventions aimed at addressing persistent barriers. Strategic resource allocation, focusing on neighbourhoods with high barriers, is imperative, encompassing community development initiatives, educational support, and enhanced youth services. By bridging current gaps and laying the groundwork for creating lasting opportunities and equitable growth, Windsor can foster a more inclusive and prosperous community for its youth.

TABLE 3. CITY OF WINDSOR NOI SCORES

Neighbourhoods	Rank Change	2019		2024	
		NOI Score	Rank	NOI Score	Rank
Midtown - Wyandotte to Giles (DW)	▲ 4	15.83	5	19.69	1
Bridgeview (WW)	▼ 1	24.74	1	18.76	2
Downtown/Glengarry (DW)	-	19.92	3	18.44	3
University/River West (WW)	▼ 2	21.30	2	18.41	4
South Central (DW)	▲ 1	12.14	6	15.43	5
Sandwich (WW)	▼ 2	19.43	4	14.71	6
Marlborough (WW)	-	9.42	7	8.90	7
Midtown, Mid Walkerville (DW)	-	9.15	8	8.44	8
Old Walkerville/Ford City (FP)	▲ 1	8.20	10	6.38	9
Meadowbrook (FG)	▲ 1	5.51	11	5.07	10
Ford Test Track (FP)	▲ 2	3.42	13	4.66	11
Ford Ferndale/South National (FP)	▼ 3	8.29	9	4.07	12
Pilette Village (FP)	▼ 1	4.44	12	1.05	13
South Cameron/Division (CS)	▲ 2	-0.24	16	0.79	14
Chrysler Centre (CF)	-	1.57	15	0.44	15
Fontainebleau (CF)	▼ 2	2.59	14	-0.29	16
South Walkerville/Chrysler (CF)	▲ 1	-1.57	18	-2.62	17
Remington Park (CS)	▼ 1	-1.22	17	-2.73	18
Forest Glade (FG)	▲ 2	-9.70	21	-5.11	19
Lauzon to Riverdale (R)	▲ 2	-9.75	22	-6.33	20
Walker Gates (CS)	▲ 2	-10.18	23	-6.61	21
WFCU and East Windsor (FG)	▲ 2	-11.27	24	-9.12	22
East Riverside (R)	▲ 2	-11.54	25	-9.95	23
Devonshire Heights (CS)	▼ 5	-7.27	19	-10.04	24
Little River (R)	▲ 1	-15.20	26	-10.36	25
Southwood Lakes (SW)	▲ 1	-15.42	27	-12.03	26
Old Riverside (R)	▼ 7	-9.23	20	-12.10	27
South Windsor (SW)	▲ 2	-21.98	30	-16.67	28
Ojibway and Malden (SW)	▼ 1	-19.65	28	-19.08	29
Roseland (SW)	▼ 1	-21.75	29	-22.19	30

NEIGHBOURHOOD CLUSTERS; Central South CS, Chrysler Centre/Fontainebleau CF, Downtown Windsor DW, Ford City/Pilette FP, Forest Glade FG, Riverside R, South Windsor SW, West Windsor WW.

IMAGE 2. COUNTY OF ESSEX NOI MAP

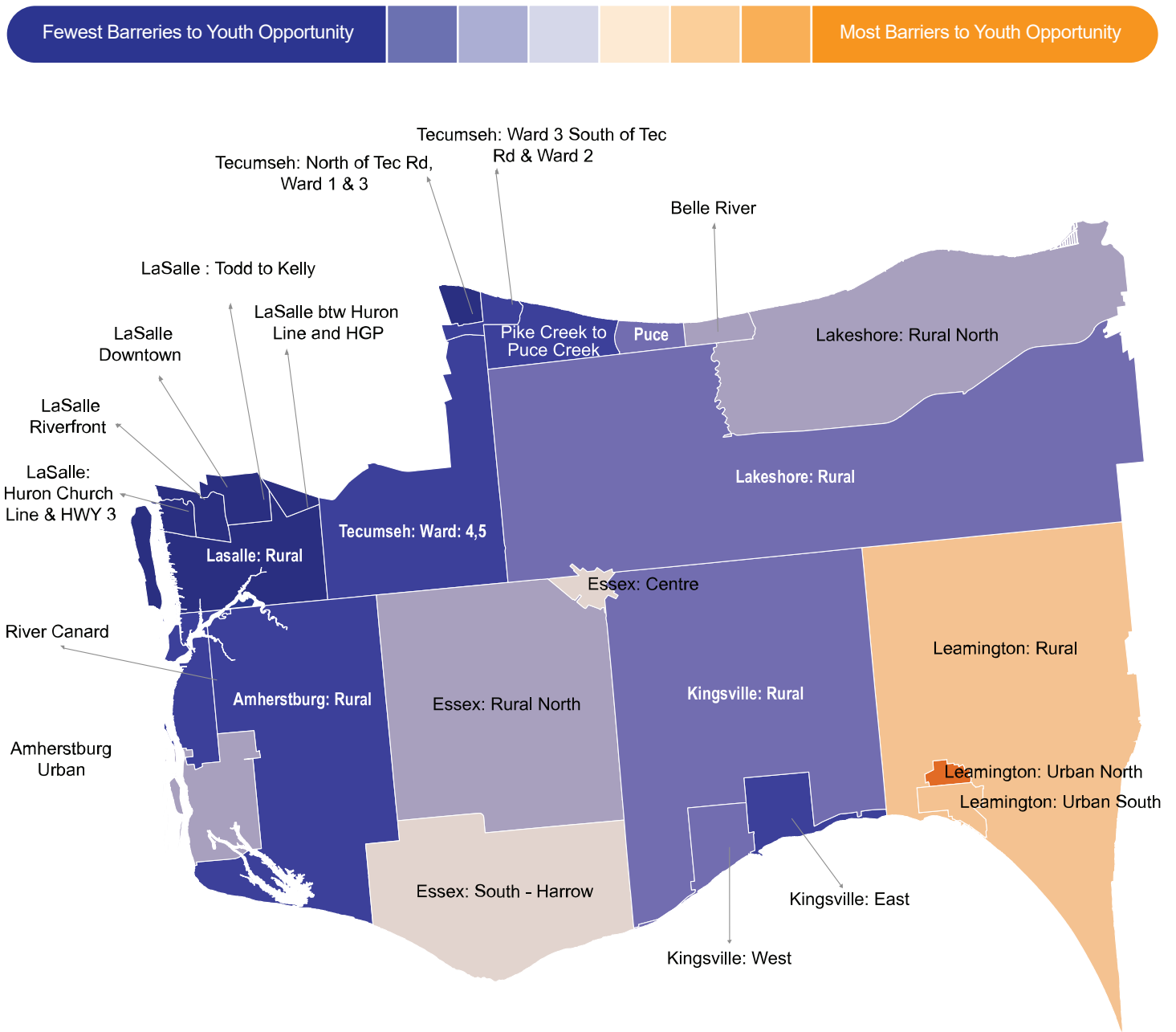
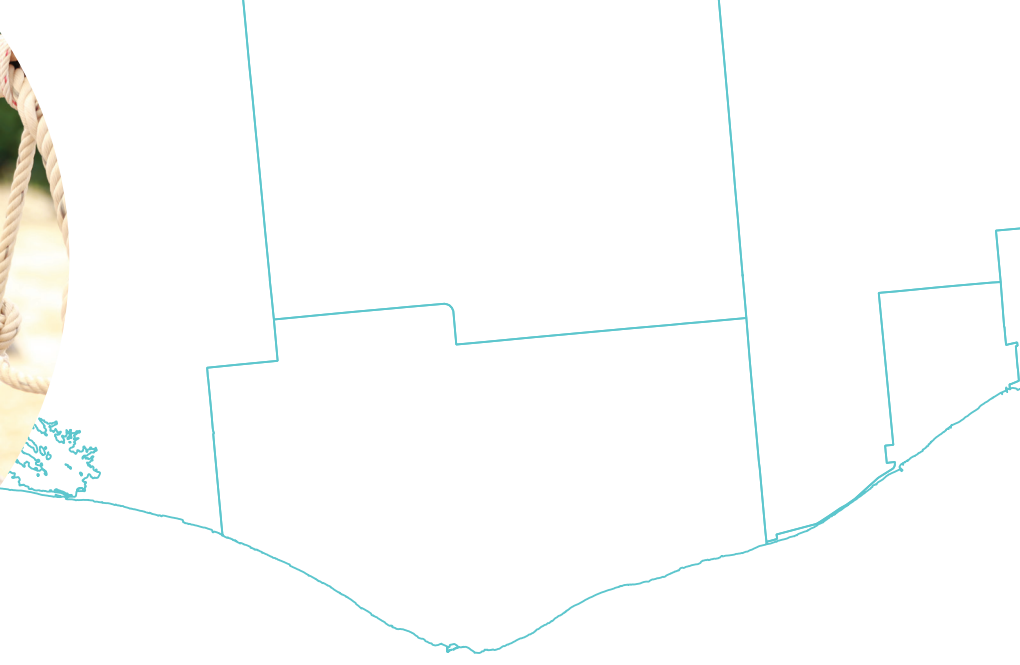


TABLE 4. COUNTY OF ESSEX NOI SCORES

Neighbourhoods	Rank Change	2019		2024	
		NOI Score	Rank	NOI Score	Rank
Leamington: Urban North	-	28.37	1	33.85	1
Leamington: Urban South	-	18.44	2	18.50	2
Leamington: Rural	-	13.17	3	17.17	3
Essex: South - Harrow	▲ 10	-2.70	14	9.96	4
Essex: Centre	-	6.58	5	9.76	5
Amherstburg: Urban	▼ 2	11.02	4	4.29	6
Lakeshore: Belle River	▲ 4	-0.97	11	2.49	7
Essex: Rural North	▲ 8	-4.38	16	1.97	8
Lakeshore: Rural North	▲ 13	-7.67	22	1.23	9
Lakeshore: Rural	▲ 9	-5.47	19	0.47	10
Kingsville: West	▼ 5	3.21	6	-2.81	11
Kingsville: Rural	▼ 2	-0.87	10	-3.32	12
Lakeshore: Puce	▲ 7	-6.58	20	-3.46	13
Tecumseh: Wd 3 S of Tec Rd & Wd 2	▼ 6	1.45	8	-3.83	14
Amherstburg: Rural	▼ 6	0.41	9	-4.68	15
Amherstburg: River Canard	▲ 1	-4.46	17	-4.88	16
Kingsville: East	▼ 5	-2.49	12	-4.99	17
Lakeshore: Pike Creek to Puce Creek	▲ 7	-12.16	25	-6.28	18
Tecumseh: Ward 4 & 5	▼ 4	-3.51	15	-6.46	19
Lasalle: Huron Church Line & HWY 3	▼ 7	-2.58	13	-8.58	20
Lasalle: Riverfront	▼ 3	-4.51	18	-8.94	21
Lasalle: Rural	▼ 1	-7.11	21	-9.37	22
Tecumseh: N of Tec Rd Ward 1 & 3	▼ 16	2.72	7	-9.51	23
Lasalle: Todd to Kelly	-	-10.41	24	-9.74	24
Lasalle: Downtown	▼ 2	-9.50	12	-12.85	25



The County of Essex NOI reveals stark disparities in youth opportunities across its areas, with **Leamington** emerging as a focal point of concern. Particularly, the *Urban North* of Leamington faces significant challenges, indicating the need for targeted efforts to enhance youth development. Notably, the entire Leamington area grapples with more obstacles than its counterparts, with the *Urban North* notably surpassing *Urban South* by 15.35 points in the index. Even the *Rural* part of Leamington shows a significant 7.21-point difference from its nearest neighbourhood, underscoring the widespread nature of these challenges.

From 2019, diverse shifts in neighbourhood opportunities across Essex County were observed. While some areas experienced increased barriers, others saw lower index scores, signifying fewer obstacles. For instance, *Essex: South-Harrow* and *Essex: Centre* witnessed score rises, indicating heightened barriers, whereas places like *Kingsville: West*, *Kingsville: Rural* and parts of *Lasalle* and *Tecumseh* observed reductions in their index scores, reflecting positive changes. Notably, *Tecumseh (North of Tecumseh Rd, Ward 1 & 3)* and *Amherstburg: Urban* experienced significant score improvements, warranting further investigation for successful strategies.

The wide range of NOI scores, stretching from -12.85 to 33.85, vividly illustrates the significant socioeconomic diversity across Essex County. However, it's crucial to interpret these scores carefully, as they primarily serve to compare neighbourhoods rather than directly measure socioeconomic conditions. Noteworthy outliers, like *Leamington Urban North*, can heavily influence this broad range, emphasizing the necessity of individual neighbourhood scrutiny. Therefore, while offering a comparative overview, a deeper, area-specific analysis remains essential to understand and address the diverse needs within Essex County fully.

In conclusion, these findings highlight the complex dynamics at play in Essex County and underscore the need for a dual strategic approach. Understanding the factors driving positive trends and increasing barriers is crucial for developing effective interventions. Tailored strategies, including community engagement, educational initiatives, and economic development efforts, are pivotal in addressing the unique needs of neighbourhoods, particularly those facing significant challenges like *Leamington's Urban North*.



Conclusion & Next Steps

The 2024 update provides a comprehensive overview of the state of youth opportunities in Windsor-Essex, highlighting both the progress achieved and the challenges that persist. It particularly underscores the need for concentrated actions in areas such as **West Windsor**, **Downtown Windsor**, and **Leamington**, reinforcing ProsperUs's dedication to these communities. By continually refining the NOI, we ensure it serves as a dynamic tool that reflects the latest trends and developments, enabling us to devise strategies tailored to the unique contexts of each community.

Over the past five years, ProsperUs has anchored its mission in the insights provided by the NOI, focusing on deep community engagement and the development of solutions that respond to the identified needs of priority neighbourhoods. Building on this foundation, we're now evolving towards strategic investments and fostering mutually reinforcing activities, all while maintaining a commitment to continuous improvement. The NOI is vital in this transformation, directing our resource allocation for maximum impact and preparing us to meet both current and future challenges through collaborative efforts. By establishing strong partnerships and coordinating efforts that bolster one another, ProsperUs and its partners, including those with lived experiences, unite to leverage the unique strengths of each neighbourhood, aiming for systemic changes and sustainable progress across Windsor-Essex.

Central to this effort is the continuous influx of fresh data, ensuring the NOI remains relevant and accurate. Establishing trust and building robust partnerships with community organizations are crucial for this process. At the core of these collaborative efforts are our data-sharing agreements, which are fundamental for acquiring reliable, up-to-date information. These agreements, a testament to the strength of our relationships, make ProsperUs uniquely positioned to create and maintain the NOI. Without these partnerships, the NOI's comprehensive insights would not be possible.

We are committed to updating the NOI to steer community development efforts and inform sound policy decisions. To make the NOI's insights more accessible and engaging for the general community, we are introducing interactive PowerBI neighbourhood dashboards, which will be available on the [ProsperUs](#) website, as well as the website of our backbone organization, [United Way](#). These platforms are specifically designed to empower the wider community, offering a way to dive into and interpret the wealth of data available. By leveraging these tools, community members, local organizations, and policymakers can gain a clear understanding of the youth opportunities landscape in Windsor-Essex. For example, local organizations can use the insights to tailor programs directly addressing the needs highlighted in different neighbourhoods.



Policymakers can identify areas where targeted interventions are necessary to support youth development and success. Furthermore, by engaging with these platforms, the community can participate in informed discussions and advocacy, pushing for initiatives that directly impact the well-being and future prospects of young people in our community. In essence, these tools not only foster greater transparency but also serve as a vital resource for all stakeholders looking to make a tangible difference in the lives of Windsor-Essex's youth.

This report represents a crucial step forward in evaluating and enhancing youth opportunities in Windsor-Essex, guiding our strategy toward

informed interventions and strategic investments that promise the greatest impact. By adapting to the changing needs of our neighbourhoods and ensuring a continuous flow of current data through our partnerships, ProsperUs is committed to making a profound and lasting difference in the lives of Windsor-Essex's youth. We call on the wider community to join us, leveraging the NOI report to fuel our collective efforts. Our mission is clear: to ensure that every young person has the opportunity to succeed, no matter where they live. Our unified commitment to equity and innovation is setting the stage for system-level change. Together, we're building a stronger, more supportive community for all.

Appendix A: Indicator List

PERCENTAGE OF POPULATION 0-19 YEARS

Rationale

Including this indicator is critical for identifying areas with a significant youth demographic, which requires tailored educational, recreational, and healthcare resources. This indicator highlights neighbourhoods where focused investment and policy initiatives can maximize youth development and address specific barriers to opportunity, leading to improved social, economic, and cultural outcomes. It is instrumental in guiding resource allocation and community planning to enhance the well-being and future prospects of this substantial youth segment, ensuring equitable development across various neighbourhoods.^{vi}

Definition

The number of people aged 0 to 19 years old *divided by* the total population, *multiplied by 100*.

Source	Year	Source Geography
Statistics Canada	2021 Census	Dissemination Area

PERCENT OF HOUSEHOLDS IDENTIFYING AS A ONE-PARENT FAMILY

Rationale

Including this indicator is critical for identifying areas where single-parent families may face heightened challenges, such as financial constraints, limited access to childcare, and increased responsibilities. These factors can significantly impact the opportunities and well-being of their children. This indicator is vital in identifying neighbourhoods that require focused support, offering tailored solutions like affordable childcare, educational assistance, and economic aid to address the unique needs of these families. Such targeted support is essential for mitigating risks related to poverty, mental health, and social. Addressing these barriers is critical to ensuring that youth from single-parent households have equitable access to opportunities and resources for their overall development.^{vii}

Definition

The number of one-parent-family households *divided by* the number of one-census-family households without additional persons, *multiplied by 100*.

Source	Year	Source Geography
Statistics Canada	2021 Census	Dissemination Area

PERCENT OF POPULATION IDENTIFYING AS PART OF RACIALIZED GROUP

Rationale

Including this indicator is critical for identifying areas where racialized groups may face unique barriers in employment, healthcare, and education, impacting their overall opportunities and well-being. This indicator helps pinpoint neighbourhoods needing targeted interventions and inclusive policies to address discrimination and ensure access to culturally sensitive resources. By focusing on these areas, we can work towards mitigating the unique challenges faced by racialized populations, ensuring that youth from these backgrounds have equitable opportunities for success in various facets of community life.^{viii}

Definition

The number of people in private households who identify as a visible minority⁶ *divided by* the total population in private households, *multiplied by 100*.⁷

Source	Year	Source Geography
Statistics Canada	2021 Census	Dissemination Area

PERCENT OF POPULATION IDENTIFYING AS INDIGENOUS

Rationale

Including this indicator is critical for identifying areas where Indigenous communities may face unique challenges related to cultural preservation, access to education, healthcare, and employment opportunities. This indicator recognizes neighbourhoods where targeted support and culturally sensitive policies are needed to address systemic barriers and historical injustices. Focusing on these areas ensures that Indigenous youth have equitable access to opportunities, contributing to their empowerment and their communities' overall health and resilience.^{ix}

Definition

The number of people in private households with an Indigenous identity *divided by* the total population in private households, *multiplied by 100*.⁸

Source	Year	Source Geography
Statistics Canada	2021 Census	Dissemination Area

PERCENT OF THE POPULATION WITHOUT KNOWLEDGE OF ENGLISH OR FRENCH

Rationale

Including this indicator is critical for identifying areas where residents may face significant language barriers, impacting their access to education and essential services. This indicator helps pinpoint neighbourhoods that need enhanced language support and integration programs, ensuring that residents, especially youth, have the tools to participate in and contribute to their communities fully. Addressing these language barriers is critical to fostering inclusive communities and providing equitable opportunities for all, regardless of linguistic background.^x

Definition

The population excluding institutional residents without knowledge of French or English *divided by* the total population excluding institutional residents, *multiplied by 100*.

Source	Year	Source Geography
Statistics Canada	2021 Census	Dissemination Area

⁶ According to Statistics Canada, 'visible minority' refers to whether a person is a visible minority or not, as defined by the Employment Equity Act. The Employment Equity Act defines visible minorities as "persons, other than Aboriginal peoples, who are non-Caucasian in race or non-white in colour."

⁷ Total - Visible minority for the population in private households (25% sample data)

⁸ Total - Indigenous identity for the population in private households (25% sample data)

PERCENT OF YOUTH (0-17 YEARS) LIVING IN LOW-INCOME ACCORDING TO THE AFTER-TAX LOW-INCOME MEASURE (AT-LIM)

Rationale

Including this indicator is critical for identifying areas where poverty limits young residents' potential, affecting their education, health, and future opportunities. Research shows that childhood poverty can lead to poor health, lower educational attainment, and fewer chances in adulthood, perpetuating intergenerational poverty. Addressing these areas with targeted policies is essential for breaking this cycle and ensuring equitable opportunities for growth and development in diverse communities.^{xi}

Definition

Prevalence of low income based on AT-LIM for population 0-17 years old in private households.

Source	Year	Source Geography
Statistics Canada	2021 Census	Dissemination Area

MEDIAN INCOME DIFFERENCE (NEIGHBOURHOOD MEDIAN INCOME VS. REGIONAL MEDIAN INCOME⁹)

Rationale

Including the median income difference between a neighbourhood and its surrounding region is critical for identifying areas where economic disparities may affect youth access to resources and opportunities. The unequal distribution of financial resources can lead to inequalities in access to education, healthcare, physical activity opportunities, and technological resources, influencing individuals' well-being and future trajectories. Understanding these income gaps is critical for developing targeted interventions and allocating resources where they are most needed, ensuring that all youth have equitable opportunities for development regardless of their neighbourhood's economic status.^{xii}

Definition

1 *minus* (the neighbourhood median after-tax income *divided by* the regional median after-tax income).¹⁰

Source	Year	Source Geography
Statistics Canada	2021 Census (2020 Calendar Year)	Dissemination Area

PERCENT OF TENANT AND OWNER HOUSEHOLD SPENDING 30% OR MORE OF INCOME ON SHELTER COSTS¹¹

Rationale

Including this indicator is critical for identifying areas where youth development might be impacted. Affordable housing affects how families allocate resources to education, healthcare, and nutrition and is essential to children's educational stability. This indicator highlights neighbourhoods where frequent moves, substandard living environments, and limited resources in schools and communities can hinder children's outcomes. Recognizing these factors underscores the importance of ensuring affordable housing to provide children with stable lives and access to essential developmental resources.^{xiii}

⁹ To calculate the regional income for the City of Windsor NOI, we utilized the median income data from the Windsor Census Subdivision. For the County of Essex NOI, the regional income was derived by averaging the median incomes of the seven Census Subdivisions within Essex County.

¹⁰ Neighbourhood median after-tax income in 2020 among the population aged 15 years and over in private households (\$) divided by regional median after-tax income in 2020 among those aged 15 years and over in private households (\$).

¹¹ Shelter costs include mortgage payments, property taxes and condominium fees, rent, electricity, heat, water, and other municipal services.

Definition

The number of owner and tenant households spending 30% or more of income on shelter costs *divided by* the total number of owner and tenant households, *multiplied by 100*.¹²

Source	Year	Source Geography
Statistics Canada	2021 Census	Dissemination Area

PERCENT OF HOUSEHOLDS USING FOOD BANKS

Rationale

Including this indicator is critical for identifying areas where reliance on food banks signals underlying economic hardships and food insecurity, impacting the well-being and development of youth. High percentages of households using food banks in a neighbourhood can highlight disparities in access to basic necessities, indicating a need for targeted interventions to address nutritional needs and overall poverty. This metric is essential for developing comprehensive strategies that enhance youth's living conditions and opportunities, ensuring they have the necessary support for healthy growth and development.^{xiv}

Definition

The number of unique households served *divided by* the total number of private dwellings households¹³, *multiplied by 100*.

Source	Year	Source Geography
Windsor Essex Food Bank Association	2021-2023	Forward Sortation Area ¹⁴

PERCENT OF CHILDREN WHO ARE AT RISK IN AT LEAST ONE DEVELOPMENTAL DOMAIN IN THE EARLY DEVELOPMENTAL INDEX (EDI)

Rationale

Including this indicator is critical for identifying areas where additional support may be needed in children's development. The EDI is a tool designed to evaluate the developmental progress of young children across various domains, such as physical health, social competence, emotional maturity, language and cognitive development, and communication skills. It aims to assess readiness for school and pinpoint potential developmental concerns. The data is only collected every three years, and there was a delay due to COVID-19.

Definition

The number of children scoring low in at least one developmental domain *divided by* the number of children in the Best Start Neighbourhood, *multiplied by 100*.¹⁵

Source	Year	Source Geography
City of Windsor ^{xv}	2017-2018 Cycle 5	Best Start Neighbourhoods

¹² Total - Owner and tenant households with household total income greater than zero, in non-farm, non-reserve private dwellings by the shelter-cost-to-income ratio (25% sample data)

¹³ Total - Highest certificate, diploma or degree for the population aged 15 years and over in private households (25% sample data)

¹⁴ A forward sortation area is a way to designate a geographical unit based on the first three characters in a Canadian postal code. Sourced from the 2021 Census.

¹⁵ Total - Highest certificate, diploma or degree for the population aged 15 years and over in private households (25% sample data)

PERCENT OF POPULATION WITH NO POST-SECONDARY EDUCATION (AGED 25-64)

Rationale

Including this indicator is critical for identifying areas where limited post-secondary education among the population may signal barriers to higher education and subsequent economic success. Studies show that higher education is linked to improved job prospects, earnings, and quality of life. Recognizing areas with lower rates of post-secondary education can guide the implementation of targeted educational support and resources, particularly for youth, to enhance their access to higher education and career development, thereby improving their long-term economic prospects and overall quality of life.^{xvi}

Definition

The number of people aged 25 years whose highest certificate, diploma, or degree is no certificate, diploma, or degree (i.e., did not complete high school or high school equivalency) or a high school diploma or equivalency certificate *divided by* the total number of people aged 25 years in private households, *multiplied by 100*.¹⁶

Source	Year	Source Geography
Statistics Canada	2021 Census	Dissemination Area

PERCENT OF GRADE 3 AND 6 STUDENTS NOT MEETING PROVINCIAL STANDARDS IN READING, WRITING, AND MATH

Rationale

Including this indicator is critical for identifying areas where a significant number of Grade 3 and 6 students are not meeting provincial standards in reading, writing, and math, highlighting educational challenges and potential barriers to academic success. This measure helps pinpoint neighbourhoods needing enhanced educational support and resources. By focusing on early academic performance, targeted interventions can be developed to address these educational gaps, ensuring that all children have equitable opportunities to succeed in their schooling and laying a solid foundation for their future academic and career achievements.^{xvii}

Definition

Percentages are calculated for students in grades 3 and 6 below standard (Level 2 or less) in reading, writing, and math for 2021 and 2022.

- % Reading = (the count of students scoring in reading level one plus the count of students scoring in reading level two) *divided by* the count of students who participated in the reading testing, *times 100*.
- % Writing = (the count of students scoring in writing level one plus the count of students scoring in writing level two) *divided by* the count of students who participated in the writing testing, *times 100*.
- % Math = (the count of students scoring in math level one plus the count of students scoring in math level two) *divided by* the count of students who participated in the math testing, *times 100*.

An overall average is computed as the mean of the three percentages for each collection or neighbourhood.

- Avg_2021 = (% Reading + % Writing + % Math) *divided by* three.
- Avg_2022 = (% Reading + % Writing + % Math) *divided by* three.
- (Avg_2021 plus Avg_2022) *divided by* two.

Source	Year	Source Geography
EQAO	Aggregated 2021-2022 & 2022-2023 School Years	City of Windsor NOI: City of Windsor Wards & County of Essex NOI: Census Subdivisions (Municipality)

¹⁶ Total - Highest certificate, diploma or degree for the population aged 15 years and over in private households (25% sample data)

PERCENT OF GRADE 9 STUDENTS NOT MEETING THE PROVINCIAL STANDARD IN MATH & PERCENT OF GRADE 10 STUDENTS NOT PASSING THE ONTARIO SECONDARY SCHOOL LITERACY TEST (OSSLT) ON THE FIRST ATTEMPT

Rationale

Including this indicator is critical for identifying areas where Grade 9 and 10 students struggle to meet provincial reading, writing, and math standards. These EQAO tests aim to understand if students have the necessary skills for the 21st-century workforce, making them critical measures of educational effectiveness. Evaluating performance in these tests during crucial secondary school years provides insights into students' progression in essential skills. Identifying areas with challenges in these aspects allows for timely, targeted interventions, supporting students' academic journeys and ensuring they are prepared for future educational and career opportunities aligned with the demands of a modern workforce.

Indicator 1 Definition: Grade 9 Math

Percentages are calculated for students below standard math levels (Level 2 or less) for grade 9 for the years 2021 and 2022.

- % Math_2021 = (the count of students scoring in math level one *plus* the count of students scoring in math level two) *divided by* the count of students who participated in the math testing, *multiplied by 100*.
- % Math_2022 = (the count of students scoring in math level one *plus* the count of students scoring in math level two) *divided by* the count of students who participated in the math testing, *multiplied by 100*.

The average is computed as the mean of the two percentages for each collection or neighbourhood.

- (% Math_2021 *plus* % Math_2022) *divided by two*.

Indicator 2 Definition: Grade 10 Literacy

Percentages are calculated for students not successful in the OSSLT for grade 10 for 2021 and 2022.

- % OSSLT_2021 = the count of first-time eligible students not successful in the OSSLT *divided by* the count of first-time eligible students fully participating in the OSSLT, *multiplied by 100*.
- % OSSLT_2022 = the count of first-time eligible students not successful in the OSSLT *divided by* the count of first-time eligible students fully participating in the OSSLT, *multiplied by 100*.

The average is computed as the mean of the two percentages for each collection or neighbourhood.

- (% OSSLT_2021 *plus* % OSSLT_2022) *divided by two*.

Note

In calculating EQAO scores, we adopted a method similar to the 2019 NOI to account for neighbourhoods without schools. In the city, we mapped schools by ward, calculated averages, and applied them uniformly across lower levels of geography. In the county, schools were mapped by CSD, and averages were applied consistently to all DAs within that region. For example, in Leamington, we averaged grade 9 math scores from relevant schools and applied them equally to Urban South, Urban North, and Rural areas. While this approach involves some data generalization, it enables municipal comparisons. Depending on available data, future assessments will refine this using school catchment areas.

Source

EQAO

Year

Aggregated 2021-2022 & 2022-2023
School Years

Source Geography

City of Windsor NOI: City of Windsor Wards
& County of Essex NOI: Census Subdivisions (Municipality)

PERCENT OF BIRTHS WITH LOW BIRTH WEIGHT & PERCENT OF PREGNANCIES WITH COMPLICATIONS¹⁷

Rationale

Including indicators for both births with low birth weights and pregnancies with complications is crucial for identifying areas that may face significant maternal and infant health challenges. High rates of low birth weight and pregnancy complications often point to broader issues such as access to quality prenatal care, maternal education, and overall healthcare services. These factors are vital for ensuring healthy early development and can signify the need for targeted healthcare policies and programs. Addressing these indicators can lead to interventions that improve outcomes for mothers and infants and set a stronger foundation for children's future health and development, thereby enhancing the potential for youth opportunities in affected communities.^{xviii}

Indicator 1 Definition

The number of infants (live births) born with birth weight less than 2500 grams *divided by* the total number of live births, *multiplied by 100*.

Indicator 2 Definition

The number of live births with any complication in pregnancy among pregnant residents *divided by* the total number of live births, *multiplied by 100*.

Source	Year	Source Geography
BORN Ontario	Aggregated 2021 & 2022	Aggregated Dissemination Area

PERCENT OF BIRTHS TO YOUNGER MOTHERS (AGED LESS THAN 24)

Rationale

Including this indicator is critical for identifying areas where births to young mothers may indicate a need for more robust support systems. Young motherhood is associated with adverse long-term economic and social outcomes, including widened pay gaps and increased disadvantages. Highlighting these areas can inform the provision of crucial services such as childcare and educational support, addressing young mothers' specific challenges. Targeted interventions in these neighbourhoods are essential for mitigating the impacts of early motherhood and improving the prospects for both young mothers and their children.^{xix}

Definition

The number of live births to mothers under 25 *divided by* the total number of live births, *multiplied by 100*.

Source	Year	Source Geography
BORN Ontario	Aggregated 2021 & 2022	Aggregated Dissemination Area

PERCENT OF CHILDREN AND YOUTH (AGED 0-18) RECEIVING MENTAL HEALTH SUPPORTS¹⁸

Rationale

Including this indicator is critical for identifying areas where the number of youths accessing mental health services can highlight the mental well-being of the community and the availability of support systems. High usage may signal well-served communities or underline a greater need for mental health resources. Conversely, low figures could indicate barriers to accessing care. This metric is vital for tailoring mental health interventions, ensuring that youth

¹⁷ Complications refers to the fetal, maternal, and placental complications collected on data element M0531 – Pregnancy-Related Complications, the hypertensive disorders collected on data element D0016 – Hypertensive Disorders of Pregnancy, and gestational diabetes collected on data element D0013 Diabetes and Pregnancy ([BORN Ontario Data Dictionary and Library](#))

¹⁸ Includes Regional Children's Centre clients, HDGH Mental Health Inpatients and Outpatients, and Problem Gambling and Withdrawal Management clients.

have the support they need for positive mental health outcomes and overall developmental success.^{xx}

Definition

The number of unique children & youth ages 0-18 receiving mental health support *divided by* the total population ages 0-19, *multiplied by 100*.¹⁹

Source

Hôtel-Dieu Grace Healthcare (HDGH)

Year

Aggregated 2021 & 2022

Source Geography

Forward Sortation Area

PERCENT OF CHILDREN (AGED 5 OR 6) WITH DENTAL CARIES

Rationale

Including dental caries in the index is pivotal due to our region’s scarcity of early childhood health indicators. Most importantly, this move recognizes that many oral health issues can be prevented and share common risk factors with other chronic diseases. This emphasizes the pivotal role of oral health in overall well-being. Moreover, grasping the connection between oral health and its underlying social determinants, such as income, employment, education, and various societal factors, enhances the index’s ability to provide comprehensive insights. By acknowledging how oral health is intertwined with broader health indicators and social determinants, the inclusion of dental caries in the index enables a more nuanced understanding of the diverse influences shaping individuals’ health journeys.^{xxi}

Definition

The number of children with dental caries *divided by* the total number of children in the class, *multiplied by 100*.²⁰

Notes

The inclusion of dental caries data in our analysis coincides with the Canadian Federal Government’s rollout of the Canada Dental Benefit. This program provides financial support to families with children under 12 who do not have private dental insurance, offering direct, tax-free payments of up to \$650 per child annually. This initiative targets families with an annual adjusted family net income below \$90,000, aiming to alleviate the financial burden of dental care.^{xxii} With such a significant policy measure in place, the relevance of dental caries as an indicator in our index might diminish over time. As more families gain access to affordable dental care, we anticipate a decrease in the prevalence of dental caries among children, potentially rendering this indicator less critical for future assessments of early childhood health in our region.

Source

Windsor Essex County Health Unit (as part of their mandate to perform dental screenings at schools)

Year

Average Aggregate 2016 & 2017

Source Geography

Schools

PERCENT OF YOUTH CHARGED WITH A CRIME

Rationale

Including this indicator is critical for identifying areas where higher youth crime rates provide insights into community safety and well-being. Youth crime is often associated with increased social risks and community safety concerns. Moreover, factors like declining populations, poverty, inequality, and unemployment in these neighbourhoods have been linked to higher crime rates. Understanding these trends is critical for implementing broader social issue interventions as part of effective crime prevention efforts. Addressing these underlying factors can lead to safer, more supportive environments, reducing youth involvement in criminal activities.^{xxiii}

¹⁹ The population count covers ages 0 to 19 from the census, as specific data for ages 0 to 18 was unavailable, necessitating the use of the broader range for accurate calculations.

²⁰ Total - Highest certificate, diploma or degree for the population aged 15 years and over in private households (25% sample data)

Definition

The number of youth ages 12-17 charged with crimes against persons, crimes against property, and other criminal code charges by neighbourhood *divided by* the total number of youth charges in the region, *multiplied by 100*.

Notes

- *Differences in Reporting:* Both OPP and WPS adhere to the Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) guidelines²¹, which serve as a framework for collecting and reporting crime data. However, it's important to note that the data shared with us by the OPP consists of individual charges about each offence committed during an incident, providing a comprehensive overview of criminal activity in its entirety. In contrast, WPS, by UCR guidelines, focuses on reporting only the charge related to the most serious offence within a single incident, which offers a different perspective on crime data by prioritizing severity. These distinct datasets are used for separate indices, so direct comparisons between the two are not made.
- *Exclusions in NOI:* The County of Essex NOI score does not factor in the number of youth charged in Amherstburg and Lasalle. Under WPS jurisdiction, Amherstburg is excluded due to variations in crime reporting methods between WPS and OPP, which could introduce complexities in data comparison. Lasalle, with its independent police service, is not included in either the WPS or OPP datasets. Consequently, Amherstburg and Lasalle receive the average z-score, signifying that they are neither significantly above nor below the average compared to other data points for this indicator.

Source

Windsor Police Service (WPS) & Ontario Provincial Police (OPP)

Year

Aggregated 2019-2022

Source Geography

Windsor Police Service Patrol Zones [Custom] & OPP-Essex County Patrol Zones [Custom]

PERCENT OF REGISTERED VOTERS WHO DID NOT VOTE IN THE MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS**Rationale**

Including this indicator is critical for identifying areas where voter turnout may reflect civic engagement and community involvement, which are important aspects of a healthy, thriving neighbourhood. High voter turnout often correlates with active community participation and investment, signaling a population that is more connected and empowered to advocate for its needs and interests. Conversely, low voter participation can indicate disengagement or barriers to civic involvement, highlighting areas where interventions may be needed to foster a more engaged and vibrant community.^{xxiv}

Definition

100 *minus* (the number of total votes *divided by* the number of registered voters, *multiplied by 100*).

Source

City of Windsor & Association of Municipalities Ontario

Year

2022

Source Geography

City of Windsor NOI: City of Windsor Wards & County of Essex NOI: Census Subdivisions (Municipality)

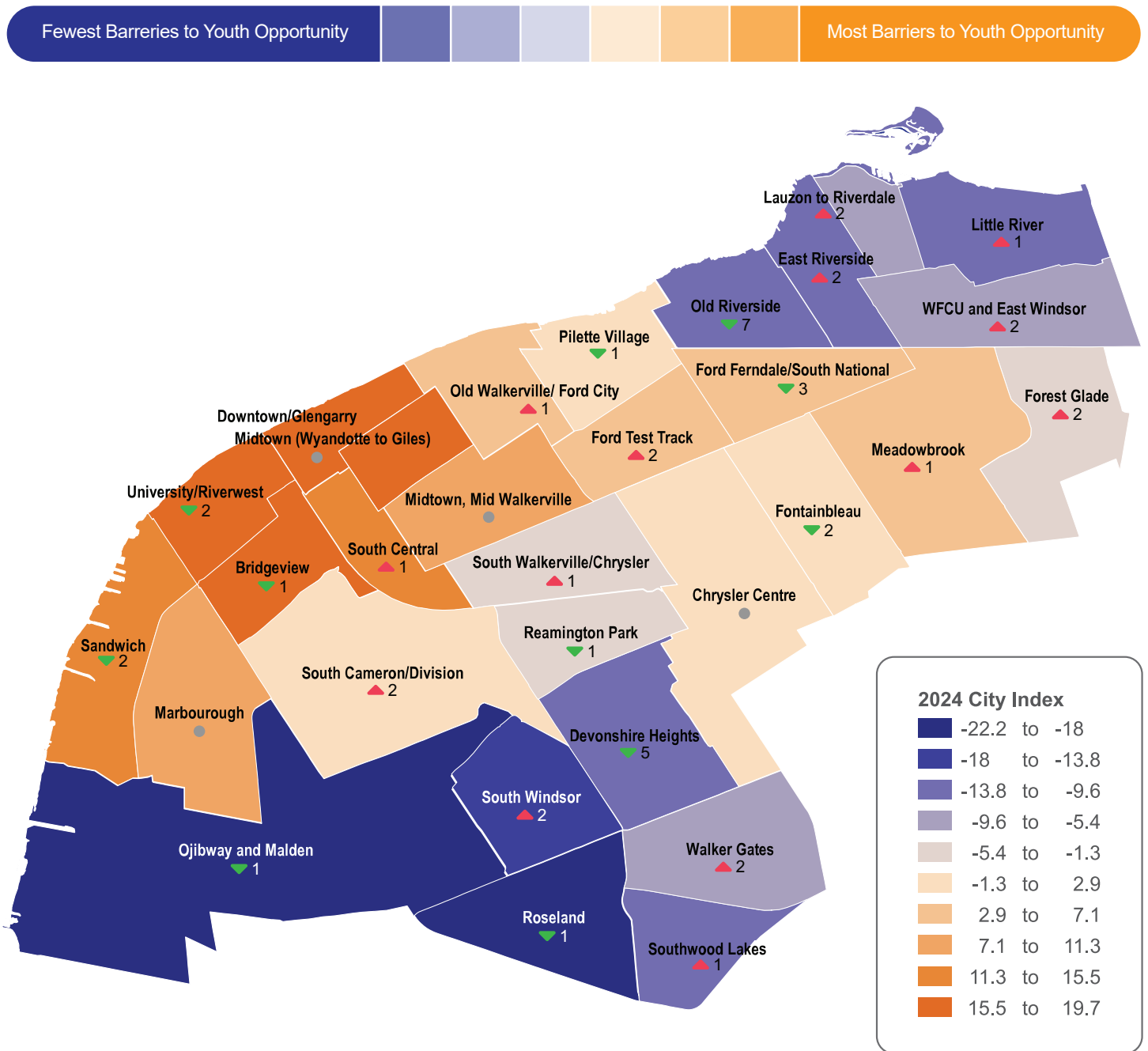
²¹ Statistics Canada gathers crime statistics from police records through the UCR Survey. The UCR Survey is a system designed to provide comprehensive details about criminal incidents. Within this system, the "persons charged data" represents the count of individuals for whom police have recommended charges in each incident. Notably, this count focuses on individuals rather than the total number of recommended charges. To avoid counting individuals multiple times for the same incident, the recording method employed attributes an offender's charges to the most serious offence among those charges within that incident.

Appendix B: Reconstructed 2019 NOI

In reconstructing the original NOI using the data warehouse, several adjustments were implemented to enhance accuracy and offer a more comprehensive portrayal of the year 2019. This resulted in variations from the values listed in the [2019 NOI Report](#). Notable adjustments include:

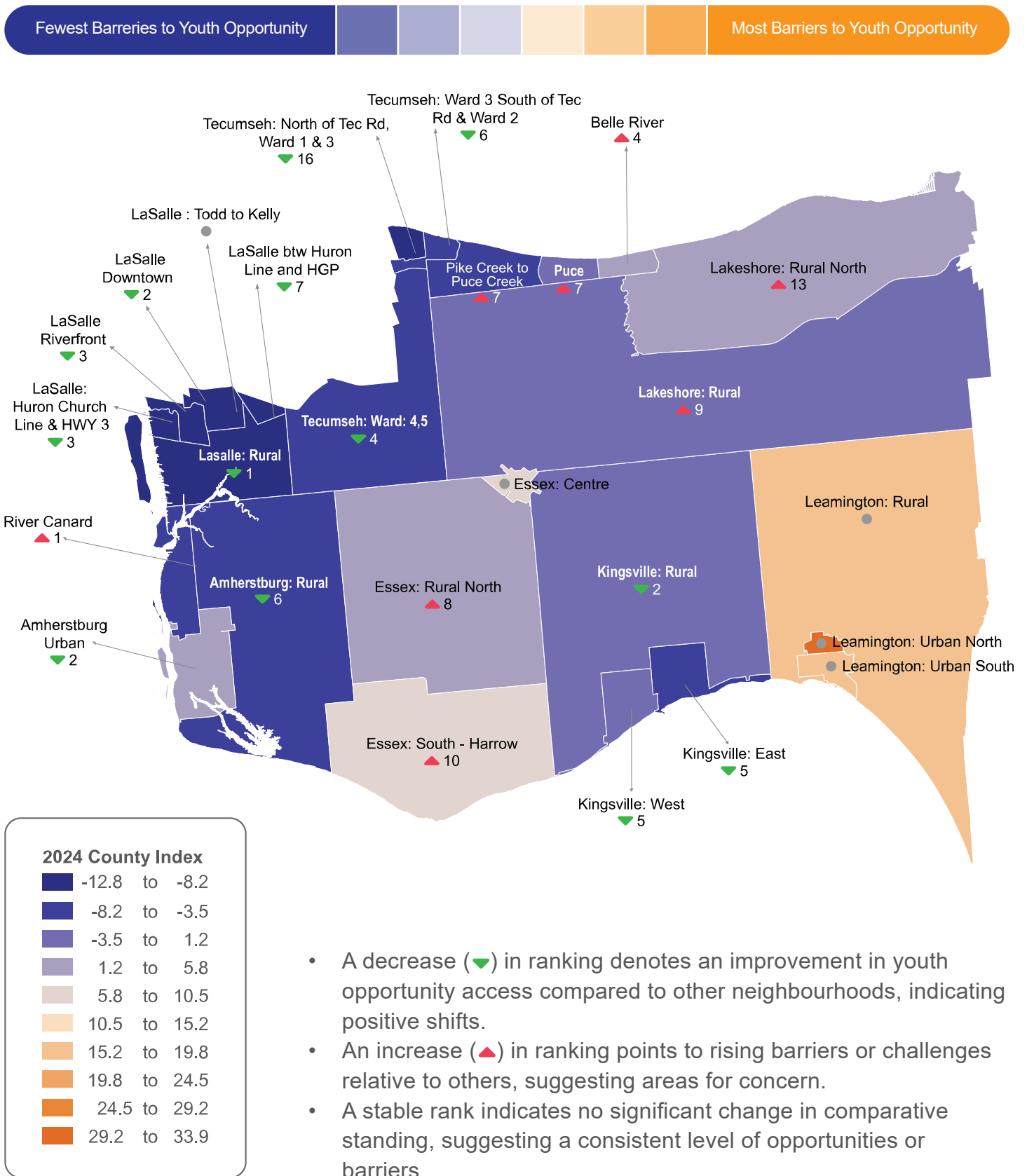
- 1. Early Developmental Index Data:** Instead of calculating an aggregate of Cycle 3 (2011/2012) and Cycle 4 (2014/2015), we incorporated Cycle 5 of the EDI, accounting for the 2017-2018 school year.
- 2. Youth Crime Data:** We mapped 2019 crime data from the Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) and Windsor Police Service (WPS) based on custom patrol zones. The original report lacked OPP data and included WPS data collected before the change in reporting protocol (see indicator list for more information on reporting guidelines). Despite having only one year of data compared to the 2016-2018 period in the prior report, the decision to enable comparisons with new data was deemed worthwhile.
- 3. BORN Data (Low Birth Weight, Young Mothers, and Pregnancy Complications):** The original analysis aggregated data from 2016 and 2017. In this version, we incorporated 2018 data and mapped it onto the 2021 census boundaries instead of the 2016 census boundaries.
- 4. Food Bank Usage:** The Windsor Essex Food Bank Association shared historical food bank usage data. We included data from 2019, predating the COVID-19 pandemic, to facilitate comparisons and showcase trends in recent years.
- 5. Pathway to Potential Discount Program Usage:** The original index included 2018 registration data for subsidies from the City of Windsor and the County of Essex through Pathway to Potential. Recognizing that community program participation promotes social inclusion and learning, we excluded this specific data point to prevent potential duplication of information already reflected in other socioeconomic indicators (e.g., LIM-AT).
- 6. Voting Data:** The shift from analyzing voter turnout to examining the percentage of non-voters changes the direction of the z-score in our analysis. A positive z-score now signals a higher rate of non-voters, indicating potential challenges or opportunities in civic engagement. Conversely, a negative z-score reflects a lower percentage of non-voters, highlighting positive trends in community involvement. This adjustment explains some value changes from the original release.

IMAGE 3. CITY OF WINDSOR MAP - CHANGE IN NOI RANKINGS FROM 2019 TO 2024



- A decrease (▼) in ranking denotes an improvement in youth opportunity access compared to other neighbourhoods, indicating positive shifts.
- An increase (▲) in ranking points to rising barriers or challenges relative to others, suggesting areas for concern.
- A stable rank indicates no significant change in comparative standing, suggesting a consistent level of opportunities or barriers.

IMAGE 4. COUNTY OF ESSEX MAP - CHANGE IN NOI RANKINGS FROM 2019 TO 2024



- A decrease (▼) in ranking denotes an improvement in youth opportunity access compared to other neighbourhoods, indicating positive shifts.
- An increase (▲) in ranking points to rising barriers or challenges relative to others, suggesting areas for concern.
- A stable rank indicates no significant change in comparative standing, suggesting a consistent level of opportunities or barriers.

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