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Demographic Profile of Children and Families in Eastern Ontario

Executive Summary

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1.0 Navigating the Information

Data on the demographic profile, needs and resilience of children, families and communities has been organized by themes. Each theme is a stand-alone Excel table. Within each Excel table are tabs containing data that is closely related, as described in the next section.

The summary of demographic trends is *needs neutral*. This information is about how the communities of Eastern Ontario are changing. The summary contains information that I thought was important for planners. The full set of data is always available. Members of EKIOC will still be able to select other data for planning purposes.

2.0 Summary Excel Spreadsheet

A complementary excel spreadsheet, *Demographic Trends Table Sixteen*, is designed for this executive summary of demographic trends.

2.1 Ages 10-14 tab 16.a

All ages groups, (i.e.) 5-year cohorts, are displayed on the main table Demographic Profile Table One. Certain cohorts were selected because of changes that may be important.

The age group ages 10-14 years grew strongly in many places in Ontario during the period from 2016 to 2021. The province projected slower growth by 2026. This age cohort declined across the local comparison group over a 20-year period. The communities that make up the Ottawa corona, (i.e.) SDG, Prescott-Russell, Leeds & Grenville, Lanark, and Frontenac, declines by 20% between 2001 and 2021, but rebounded during 2016 to 2021 by 7%. Ottawa (14%), Prescott-Russell (11%), Frontenac (10%) and Lanark (9%) led the growth.

The turnaround was quite uneven at the local level with some communities continuing to decline.

Data on the age-cohorts includes a column, *Cohort aging from 2021*. This is an estimate of the population in 2026, based entirely on the aging of the younger age group. Some of the younger age group will move out of their home and others will move in.

2.2 age 15-19 tab 16.b

The older teenagers declined significantly over the prior 20 years, but also over the prior 5 years. However, the younger teens, which grew strongly, will be aging into the older teenagers in 2026. The province is projecting strong growth in the older teenage age group.

2.3 ages 20-34 tab 16.c

The age group 20-34 is the core group of young adults, that will be making transformative life decisions in the years ahead, including forming a family, with or without children, enrolling in post-secondary education, deciding on a career, moving out of their parental home, and becoming fully independent.

This age group is the most transformative sub-group of the population. They make the communities we will live in for next generation, ultimately deciding on our collective priorities, values, and beliefs.

The province is expecting this age group to grow by 20% overall by 2026, despite the mathematics of cohort aging. Based on the aging of the older teenagers today, the age group of young adults should decline in 2026 by 6.3% across Ontario. This means that the province is expecting to welcome 761,463 migrants from other provinces or other countries to drive their expected growth. This will place enormous pressure on housing and urban infrastructure.

2.4 ages 45-54 tab 16.b

This age group, *the mature adult*, is entering a period of significant decline. The group of mature adults declined sharply over the 20 years period as well as the last five years. The province is projecting a small increase (2%) despite the mathematics of cohort aging. The province will achieve its projections only through the net migration of 86,494 people in this age group.

The sharp decline in this age group has already happened and that brings significant consequences to business, schools, hospitals, and agencies who rely on this population to be its expert, experienced front-line staff, (i.e.) nurses and teacher, and managers. In the context of a rapidly growing population, the best case of the Ministry projections will not be sufficient to meet the demand.

2.5 marital status tab 16.e

This table shows the state of marriage today. The table shows that intact marriages represent less than 50% cumulatively. In the municipalities of *concentrated disadvantage*, the rate of intact marriages is in the mid 30%.

All localities on the table with *intact marriage rates below 40%* are part of the group of municipalities of concentrated disadvantage.

Table of Intact Marriages

Areas of Disadvantage	
<i>Cornwall</i>	39%
<i>Hawkesbury</i>	32%
<i>Prescott</i>	39%
<i>Brockville</i>	39%
<i>Smiths Falls</i>	36%
<i>Perth</i>	41%

2.6 Fams with child tab 16.f

This table shows the number of families with and without children. The fraction of with and without children has not changed comparing 2016 and 2021. The columns on the far right compute the fraction of lone parents in the context of all families with children. This is a smaller dominator, and it gives a more accurate picture of how many parents are lone parents.

The data on this table provides agencies with the universe from which their caseloads are drawn. The areas of *concentrated disadvantage* have very high rates of lone parents.

Table of Lone parent and Two Parent households

Areas of Disadvantage	One-parent households	Two-parent households
<i>Cornwall</i>	42%	58%
<i>Hawkesbury</i>	48%	52%
<i>Prescott</i>	40%	60%
<i>Brockville</i>	44%	56%
<i>Smiths Falls</i>	45%	55%
<i>Perth</i>	46%	54%

2.7 children by fam tab 16.g

This table shows the number of children in couple-led homes and lone parent homes by three age groups (under 6 years, 6 to 17 years and 18 plus).

These are key parameters for establishing the universe of potential clients.

2.8 owners renters tab 16.h

This tables shows the fraction of owners and renters. There is significant variation by census sub-division on these fractions. As noted in the Risk and Resilience report, the burden of housing distress is carried by renters.

2.9 rural pop tab 16.i

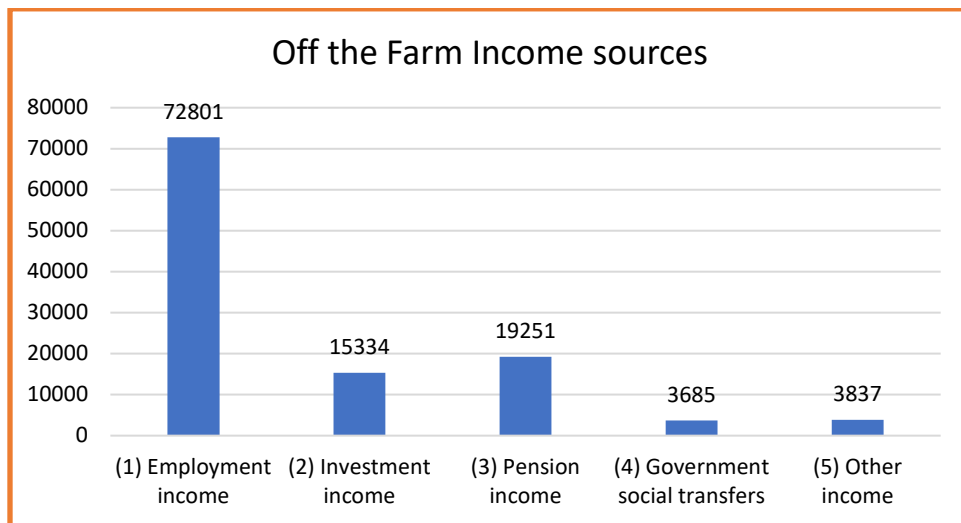
This table shows the rank order by county by:

- the size of the population living on a rural landscape (i.e.) a density of under 400 pop /sq km.
- cities and small towns under 30,000.

The distinction between urban and rural is critical for managing access to services, especially health care, support of children with special needs, and opportunities for income and housing for the residents.

2.11 Farm income tab 16.J

This table shows the source of income for farmers in Ontario, illustrating the fragile nature of the business of farming.



2.12 fam income tab 16.k

This table shows the differences in average income by couple with no children, couples with children and lone parents. The data compares the average income in 2010 with 2020.

The most remarkable outcome is the 49% increase across Ontario of the income of lone parents. These gains are seen throughout the jurisdictions on this table. It has lifted many children out of poverty.

2.13 Poverty tab 16.L

This table shows the current poverty data for different groups in Ontario in 2019 and 2020. This displays the unintended impact of COVID funding on poverty. No-one is clear about the future of poverty now that COVID funding is over.

2.14 immigrants tab 16.m

This table shows the fraction of immigrants that landed as:

- economic immigrants – Ontario (50%) and the Ottawa corona (50%)
- family reunification – Ontario (31%) and the Ottawa corona (34%)
- refugees - Ontario (18%) and the Ottawa corona (14%)

2.15 ethnic identity tab 16.n

Statistics Canada asked an open-ended question of respondents about their ethnic identity. Respondents could endorse two or more identities. The agency re-coded their answers into 250 ethnic identities. The excel spreadsheet, *Ethnicity Table Nine*, contains these identities and the counts for Leeds & Grenville and Lanark.

I created four aggregates from the large array of answers:

- Anglo identity (i.e.) English, Irish, Scottish
- Franco identity
- Indigenous identity
- The Great Diversity: all others

The fourth identity applies only to respondents who did not identify as Anglo, Franco or Indigenous. In many places, especially in the local comparison group, 100% of the pop endorsed either Anglo, Franco or Indigenous identity or some combination of the three. In these places, I showed zero percent with the index, *the Great Diversity*.

Thirty-nine percent (39%) of the people in Ontario do not endorse any identification with the Anglo, French or Indigenous people. Instead, they identify with people from all over the globe. Twenty-three percent of Ottawa (23%) could be described as identifying with the Great Diversity of mankind.

In the Ottawa corona, zero percent do not endorse Anglo, Franco or Indigenous, but some other identity. One hundred percent (100%) of Leeds & Grenville and Lanark counties identify with either or some combination of Anglo, French or Indigenous people.

2.16 Christians tab 16.o

This table shows the percentage decline in the population of Christians. The data also shows that people who subscribe to a secular belief system increased by more than the loss of Christians. Thus, many religious affiliations lost ground to secularism.

2.17 EQAO results tab 16.p

The Education Quality and Accountability Office (EQAO) provides data on the results of standardized testing for students in grade three and grade six. They also provide data on special needs groups requiring an IEP and IPRC.

The EQAO keeps the child's identity and the school name private. As a result, we cannot see the regional or local trends in the data. However, we can see provincial trends.

This tab shows the grade six results for three years, 2017, 2018 and 2019. The table shows that math competency is ½ a point, on a 4-point scale, below reading and writing.

The table shows the average scores for reading, writing and math for different groups of students:

Grade six (2019)	Students	reading	writing	math
all students	146,921	3.5	3.5	3.0
with IEP	34,687	3.1	3.2	2.4
with IPRC	16,381	3.2	3.2	2.5
with IPRC not gifted	13,397	3.0	3.0	2.1
gifted	2,984	4.0	4.1	4.1

Except for gifted students, students struggle with math. This is very evident for low achievers, scoring below 2.

Grade Six (2019) very low achievers <2.0		students with a score	% of low achievers	low achievers with IEP	
reading	1,780	142,895	1%	1,112	62%
writing	2,058	142,880	1%	1,289	63%
math	25,852	142,847	18%	13,918	54%

Please note that low achievers in math outnumber low achievers in reading and writing by 18:1. The Ministry of Education is addressing this gap in learning math.

2.18 IPRC data tab 16.q

This EQAO dataset shows the number of students with special needs.

Three-year average rates/thousand			
	Grade Three Special Needs	Grade Six Special Needs	Grade Nine Special Needs
sum of IEP	18%	24%	19%
Total with IPRC	5%	11%	10%
behavioural IPRC	6.02	6.60	4.70
autism IPRC	14.05	12.45	6.62
deaf IPRC	1.16	1.17	1.02
Blind IPRC	0.42	0.32	0.36
gifted IPRC	1.40	21.05	21.27
Mild ID IPRC	1.95	7.23	2.87
Developmental IPRC	2.58	4.74	0.12

Three-year average rates/thousand

	Grade Three Special Needs	Grade Six Special Needs	Grade Nine Special Needs
multiple IPRC	4.51	8.59	5.75
Physical IPRC	1.09	1.14	0.82
Speech IPRC	0.26	0.12	0.05
Language IPRC	6.65	6.59	4.20
Learning IPRC	10.73	43.64	50.09

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