



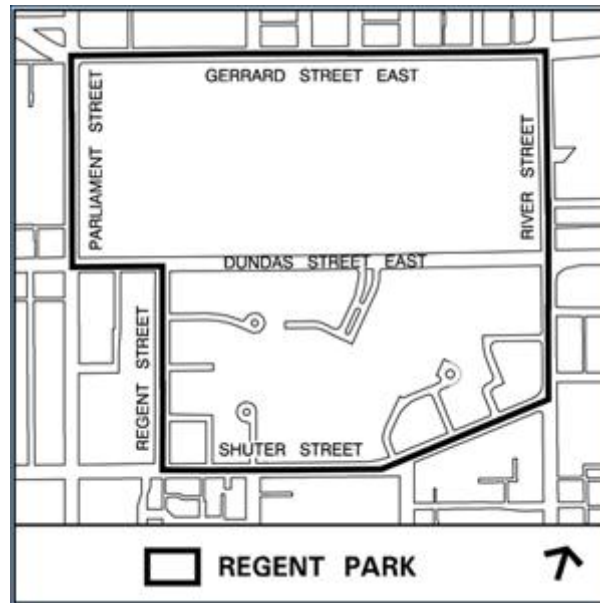
Community Resource & Needs Assessment Report Regent Park



By: Masoumeh Sheikh

To: Centre for Community Learning & Development

February, 2011



Regent Park Map Before Revitalization (No streets through of the neighbourhood)



Regent Park After revitalization (Streets through of the neighbourhood)

Acknowledgment:

This Community Resource and Needs Assessment for Regent Park report has been conducted by Masoumeh Sheikh, trainee of the Immigrant Women Integration Program (IWIP).

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Executive Summary

The purpose of this report is to provide an overview of the community needs assessment based on Community Index of Well-being survey which includes community vitality, democratic engagement, education, environment, healthy populations, leisure and culture, living standards and time use.

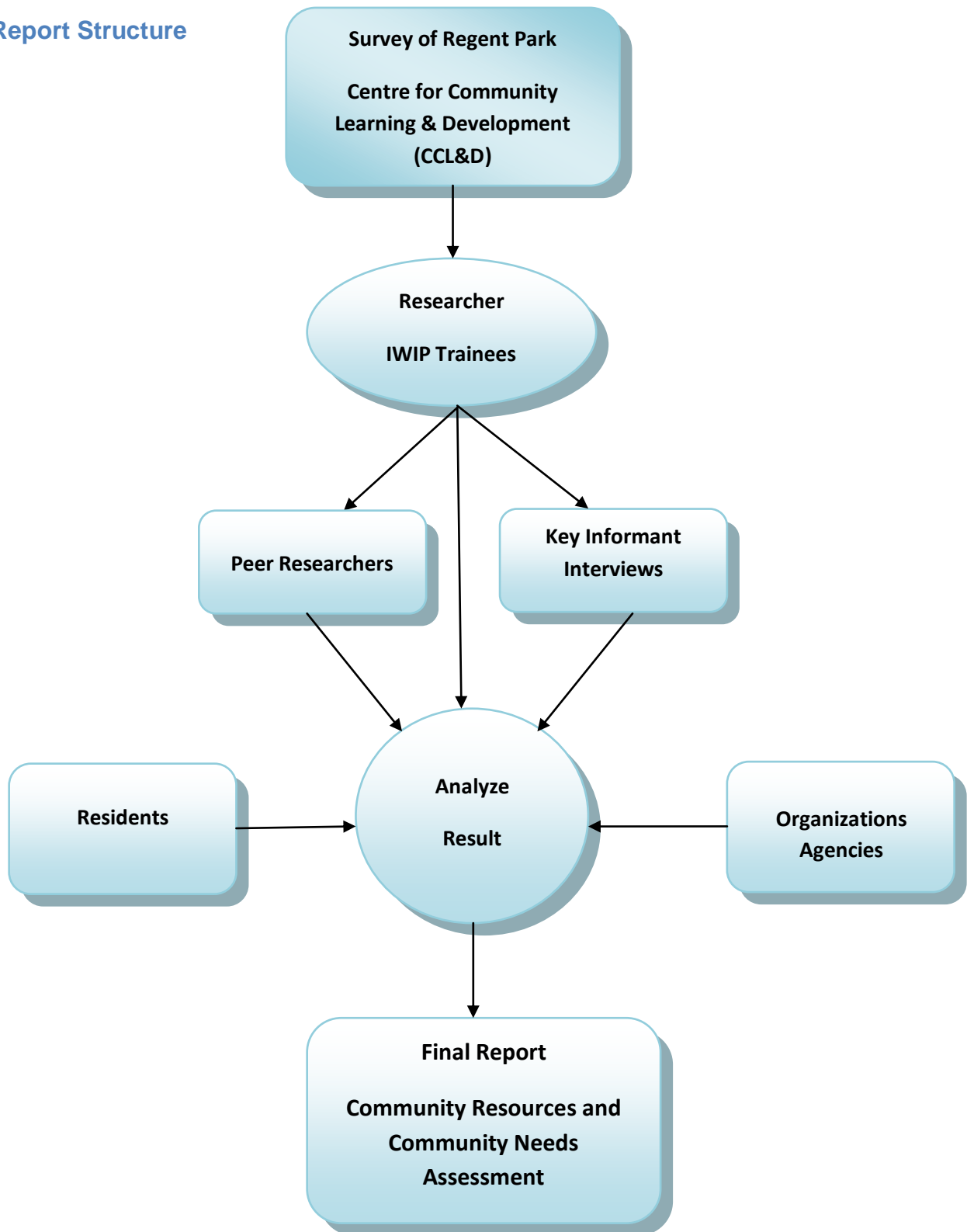
The survey distributed in two different ways; online and hard copy which means mostly completed with hard copy by supporting of peer researchers of Regent Park community. The survey was distributed among Regent Park residents (Former and Current Residents) and some organizations during November, December, till the middle of January 2011. This survey helped to identify the different factors that residents encountering in the neighborhood especially gaps in accessibility to the programs offered in the community.

In addition, we did interviews face to face with high position of many organizations to understand deeper issues, and the gap of community as a bigger picture which was very useful to analyze community needs, and breaking down in more details.

This final report demonstrates the needs assessment of Regent Park community in many different perspectives such as Statistics of Canada, and comparison census of 2001-2006 from City of Toronto, Community Index of well-being survey, and key informant interviews.

The community Resources and Needs assessments identify to raise awareness the available community resources, to highlight the community's strengths, to get a sense of the accessibility challenges which community residents face, and to determine the gaps and how we can provide a healthy condition for resident community.

Report Structure



History

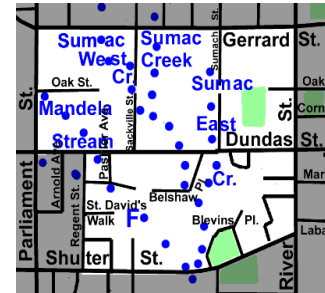
Regent Park is one of the oldest and largest public housing developments in Canada. It is 69 acre (280.00 m²) public housing community in downtown Toronto which houses approximately 7,500 residents in 2,083 rent-geared-to-incomes (RGI) units. Regent Park was developed in two sections. (North and South) North Regent Park was built from 1947 to



1957 as a low-rise and townhouse development that occupies the area

north of Dundas Street to Gerrard Street. It was designed along British “Garden City”, ideals to encourage low rise development, limit car use, and provide modern living arrangement. The South Regent Park is constructed from 1957 to 1959 in South of Dundas Street which is composed mainly of high-rise buildings and townhouses, and both were

considered slum clearance projects.



Regent Park was originally designed as a transitional community for those who are on social assistance, or low-income workers paying rent- geared- to- income. In the last two decades, it has evolved into largely an immigrant settlement community, as immigrant or newcomers having difficulties settling in Canada end up living there so that more than half of its population being immigrant.

Regent Park was very popular with residents, politicians, and media for the first few years of its existence. Before the redevelopment, Regent Park was popularly known as Cabbagetwon because the mainly Irish residents often grew cabbages in their front yards to survive themselves from poverty. After the redevelopment, the new area was called “Regent Park” which reflects the increased green space, and the presence of Regent Park in the Street in the new development. In fact, it was generally regarded as a new beginning for the residents and for the neighbourhood.



Despite some initial successes, tenants gradually faced many issues through these long-term years. They have suffered from inward-looking space of the area which isolated them from the rest of city, and brings a number of problems such as, violence, crime, drugs, and prostitution. But people in Regent Park were building a strong community with each other, and strong ties to their neighbourhood to solve the problems, although they were facing poverty. Residents and service providers have been advocating for change in Regent Park for many years.



REGENT PARK NORTH

The new neighbourhood is planned according to modern urban ideas, mixed-income, mixed-use neighbourhoods, mid-rise buildings studded with taller ones. The new development will include the same number as rent-geared-to-income units, but the most important change will be the reintroduction of cross-street in the area and the replacement of the regular social housing with a mix of social housing, market-priced housing and retail. In addition, the purpose of the revitalization is that with a mix of housing and with a more visually appealing neighbourhood, residents will less socially stigmatize. It is also hoped that the introduction of through traffic and mixed uses will reduce crime. Another reason is to spread social housing out across the city, with the hope that will integrate and mix-income with middle and high-income.



There are already some indications the plan is working. The first market-priced condominium in the project, 1 Cole, has sold out and residents are settled. The RBC bank and Tim Horton's, and Sobeys (Fresh Co) are opening for few months. Hopefully, the remarkable transition of Regent Park will going through a big changes and exciting opportunities for both current residents and people who are interested living in Toronto's vital downtown east area in the future.



Social Inclusion of Regent Park Revitalization

Research shows that mixed-income communities can have a positive impact on opportunity and outcomes for residents from all backgrounds. It also shows that successfully achieving that goal depends on a commitment to buildings connect with each other, they can form engaged and equitable relationships. That makes them more likely to work with their neighbours to make the community as successful as possible and support the success of the people in it.

Research also shows that without interventions, there are often division between groups of residents in new mixed-income communities based on income, ethnicity, age, ability and length of stay in the community. Those divisions separate residents, create conflicting interests and often result in their working at cross-purpose. Socially inclusive neighbourhoods are the best guard against that kind of divided and self-defeating community.

The Regent Park Social Development Plan provides a guide to building a successful, cohesive and inclusive community in Regent Park throughout the process of redevelopment and in the years that follow.

Just as the redevelopment of Regent Park required a development plan, the revitalization of Regent Park requires a Social Development Plan to guide its social development and promote social inclusion as key ingredients in the success of the community. The City of Toronto and Toronto Community Housing recognized that both plans were necessary for a project of this significance. Regent Park was not identified as one of the 13 “priority communities” under the “Toronto Strong Neighbourhoods Strategy” because it does not meet the criteria regarding a relative lack of community services and facilities. However, the current revitalization process provides a new focus on Regent Park and the community-building initiatives that will strength the community, and this makes the initiative for the City Of Toronto.

NEIGHBORHOOD EFFECTS

Research shows outcomes for individuals are affected by the neighbourhoods they live in. People in disadvantaged neighbourhoods face lower outcome in health, employment, income and education.

SOCIAL COHESION

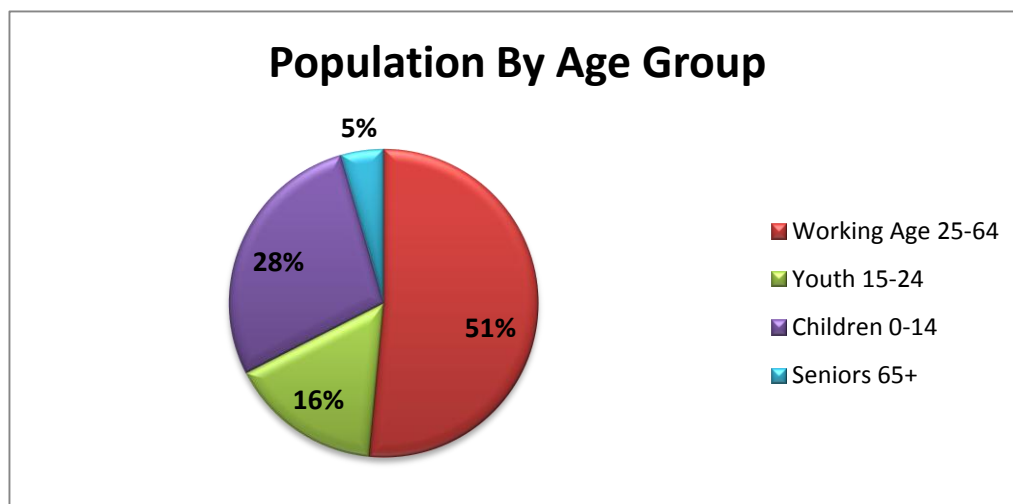
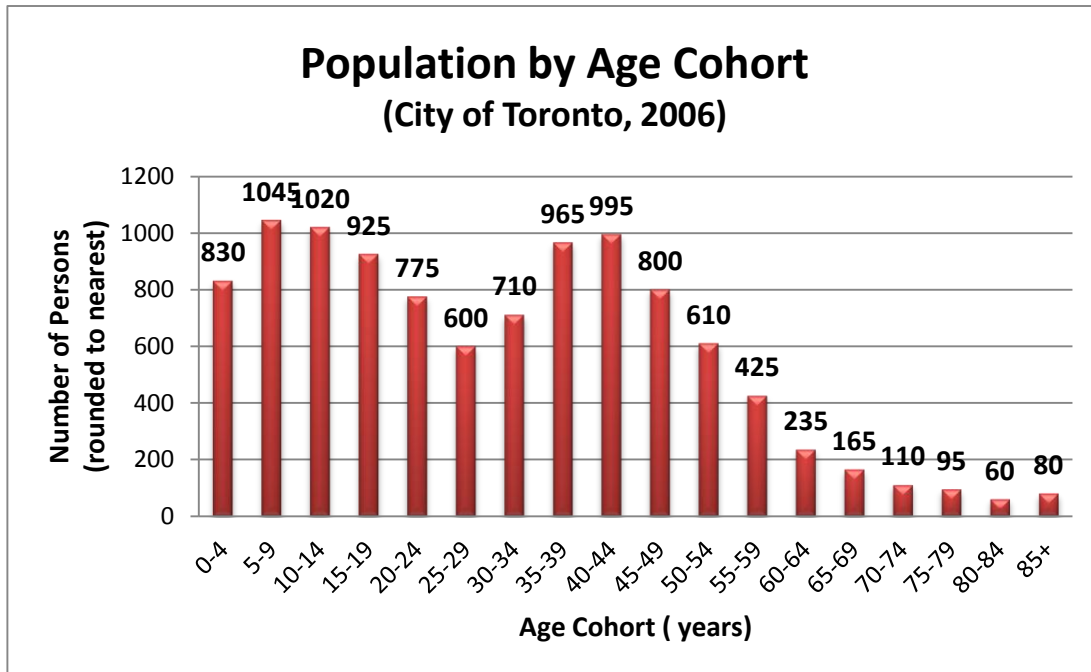
Social cohesion is developed when community from different backgrounds get to know each other through informal social contact. Social cohesion creates opportunity for different groups to relate, engage and communicate.

SOCIAL INCLUSION

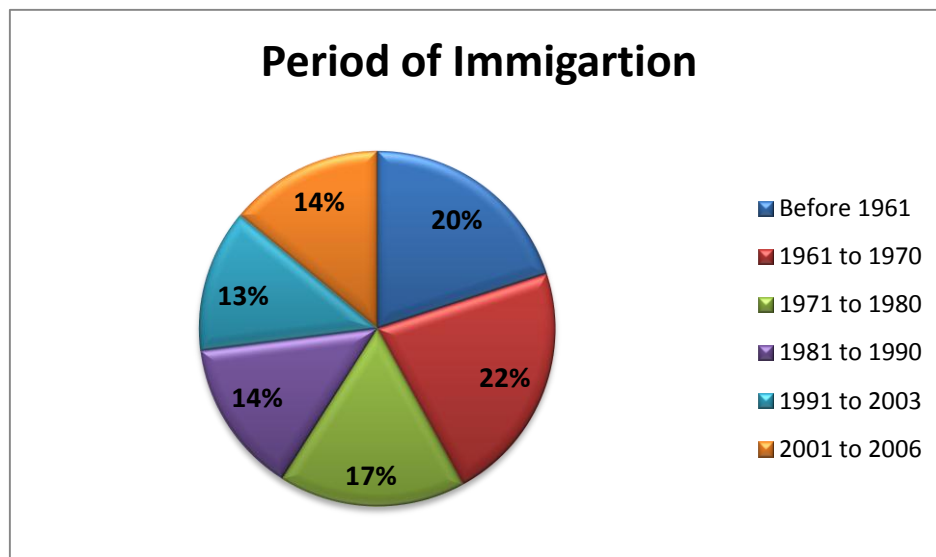
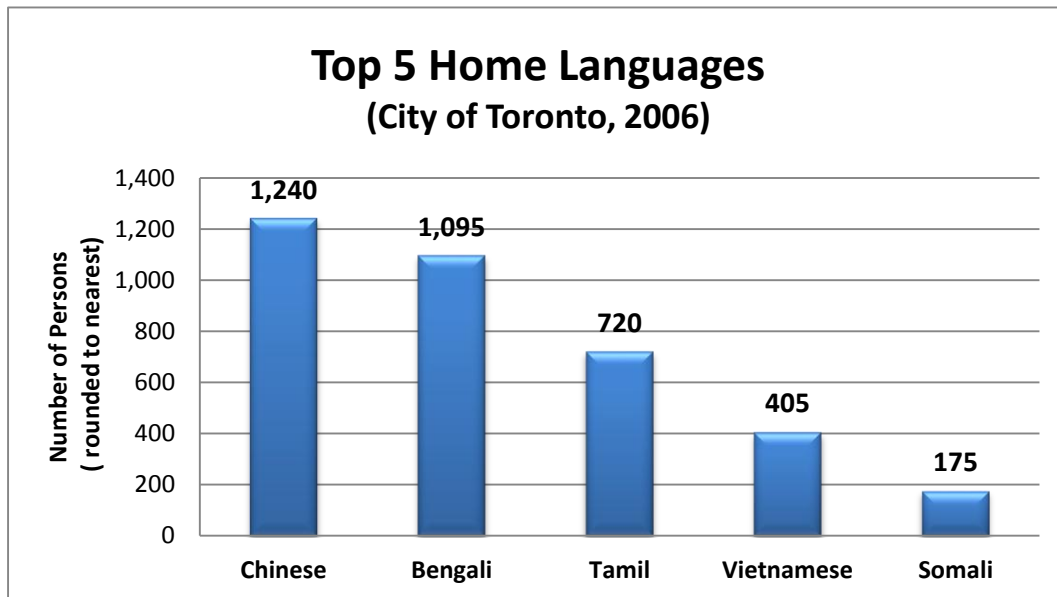
A community that values and respects the needs and priorities of all its member is considered contributes to the quality of life of individuals and improves the health of the population by ensuring that the full ranges of needs in the community get attention.

Demographic of Regent Park Based on Statistics from City of Toronto (2001, 2006)

Regent Park Age & Gender



Regent Park Language & Ethnicity

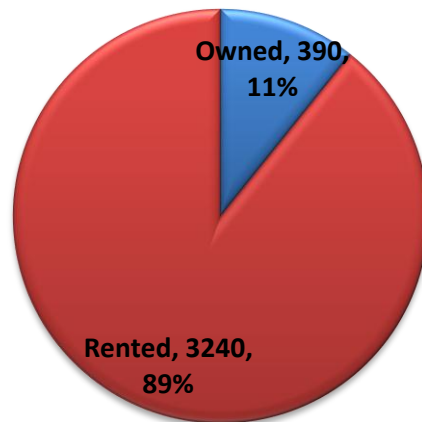


Top 10 Recent Immigrants (2006)	
Region	Number
Eastern Asia	640
Southern Asia	550
Africa	165
Caribbean & Bermuda	60
Southeast Asia	45
South America	30
Europe	15
West Asia & The Middle East	15
Central America	10

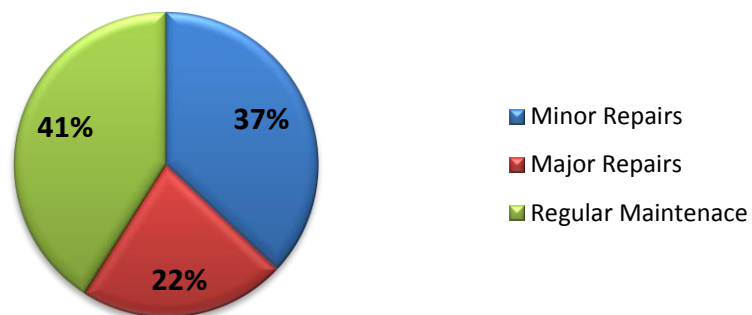
Top 10 Ethnic Origins (2006)				
By Region	Persons		By Ethnic Group	Persons
South Asian	2,815		Chinese	1,720
East And Southeast Asian	2,705		Canadian	1,005
African	1,615		Bengali	755
British Isles	1,335		East Indian	720
Other North American	1,025		Sri Lanka	710
European	950		English	700
Caribbean	740		Vietnamese	690
French	400		Irish	640
Aboriginal	260		Scottish	490
Arab	105		Jamaican	460

Regent Park Families & Dwellings

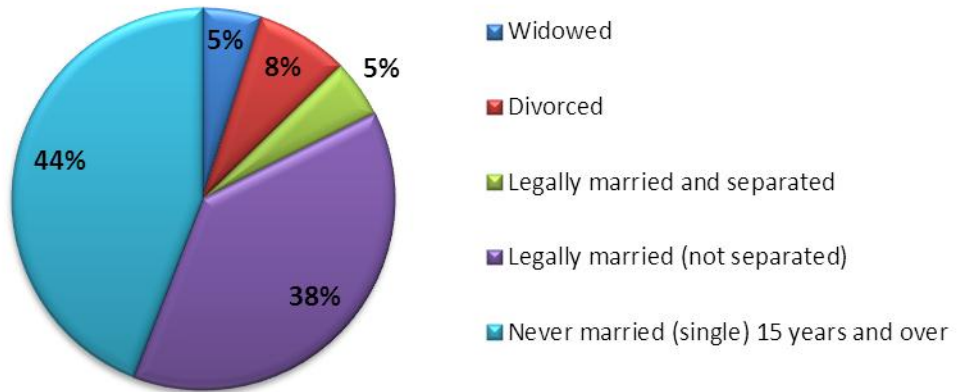
Rented vs Owned Private Dwellings



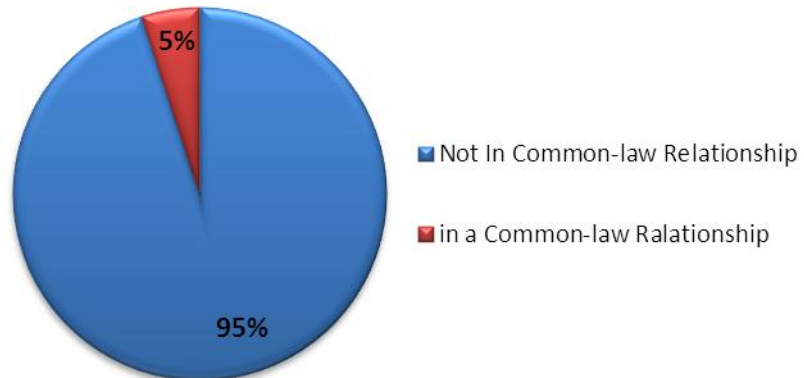
Condition of Dwellings (Needing Repairs)



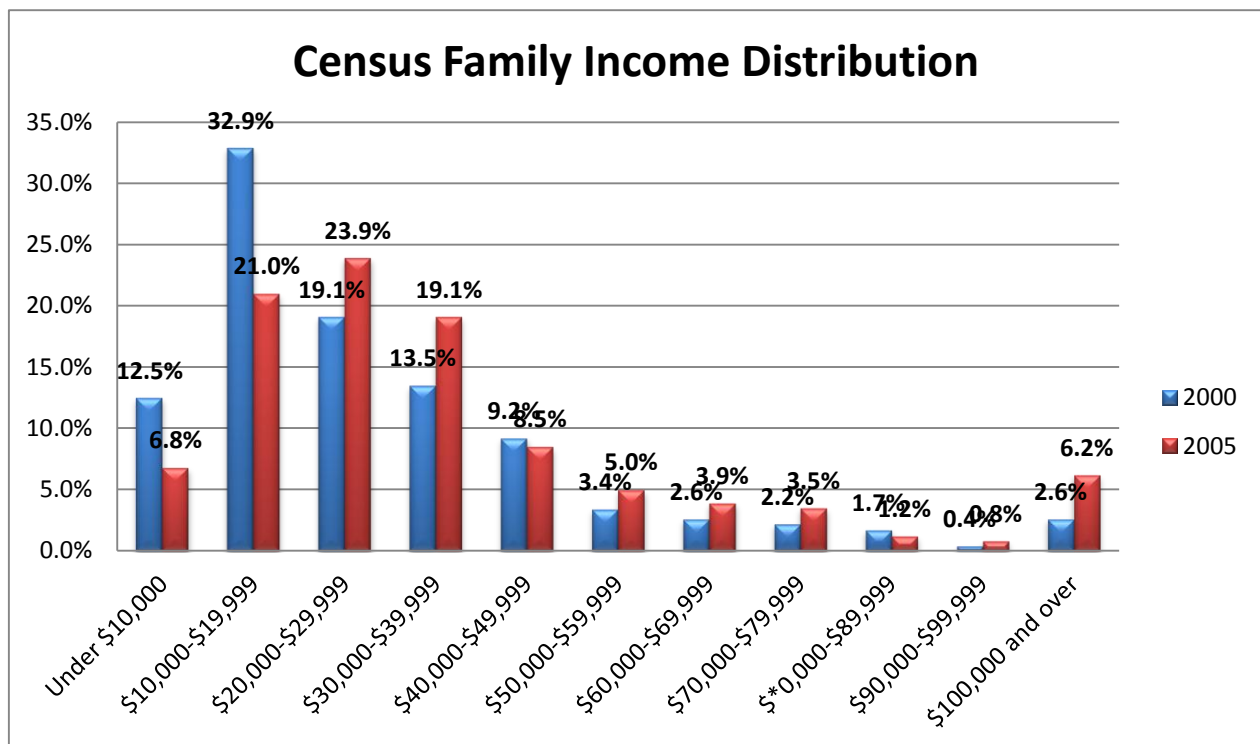
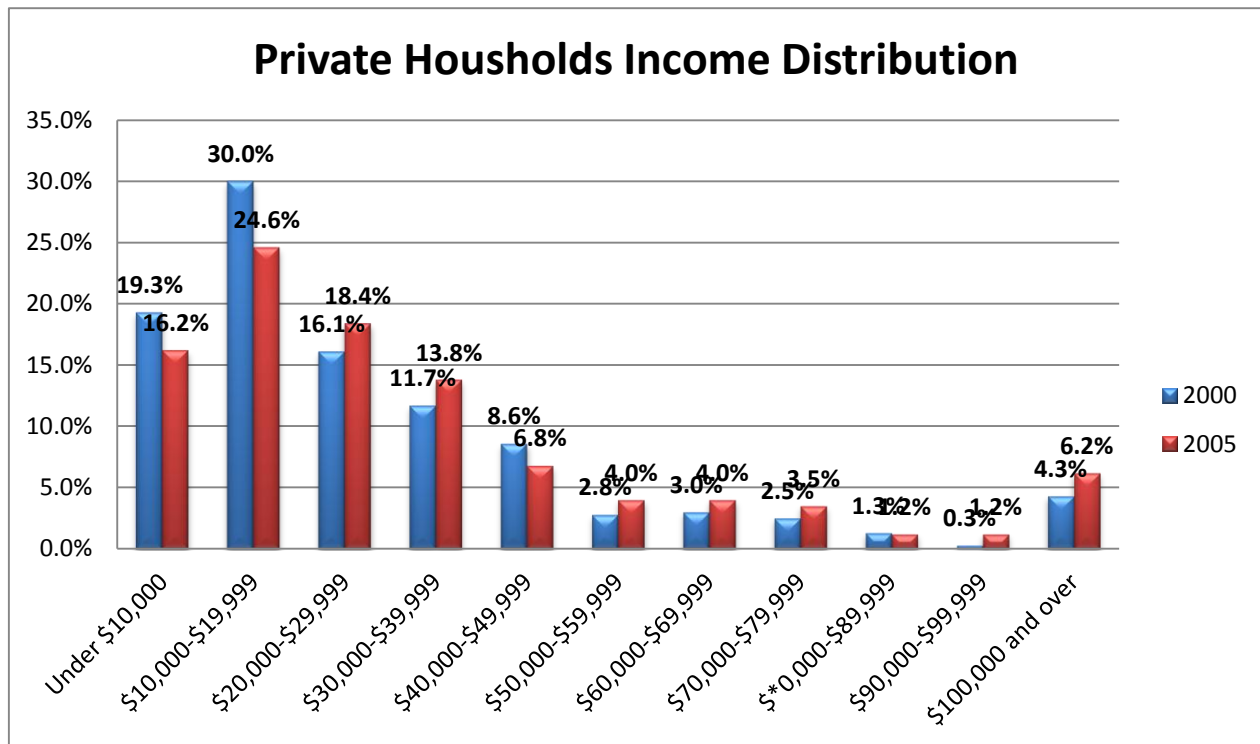
Legal Marital Status



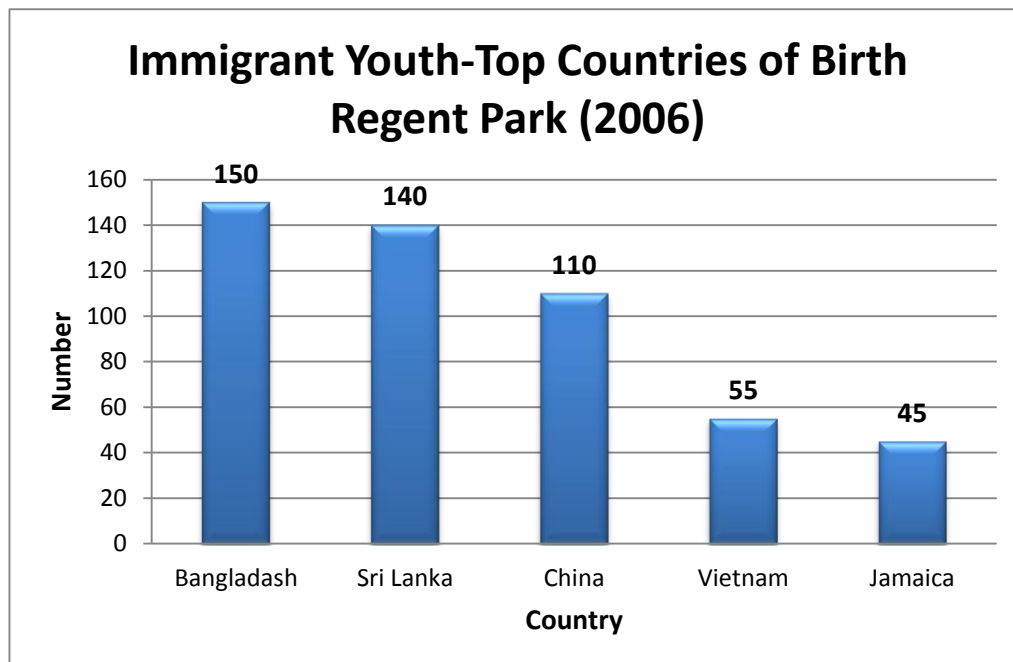
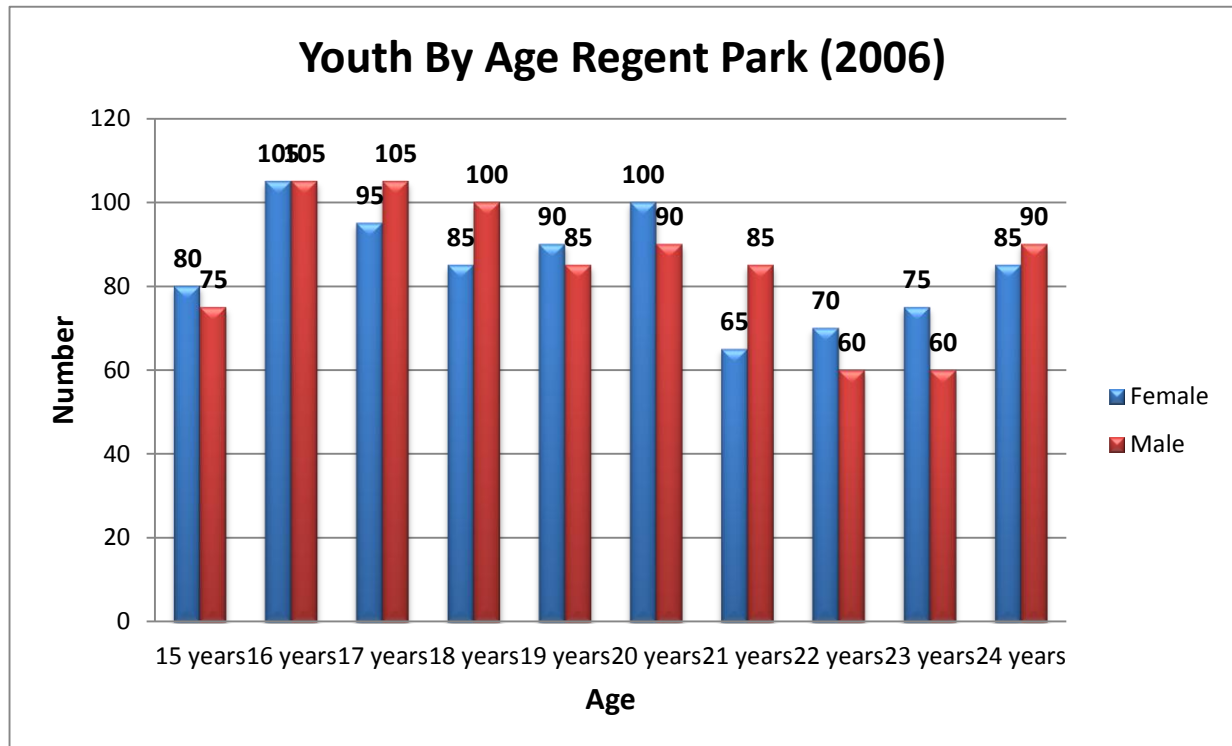
Common-Law Status



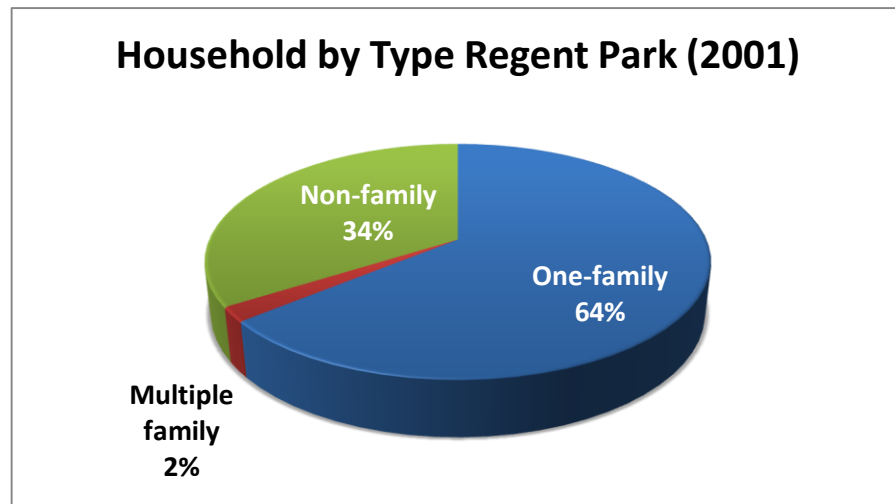
Regent Park Income & Poverty (City of Toronto)



Regent Park Youth

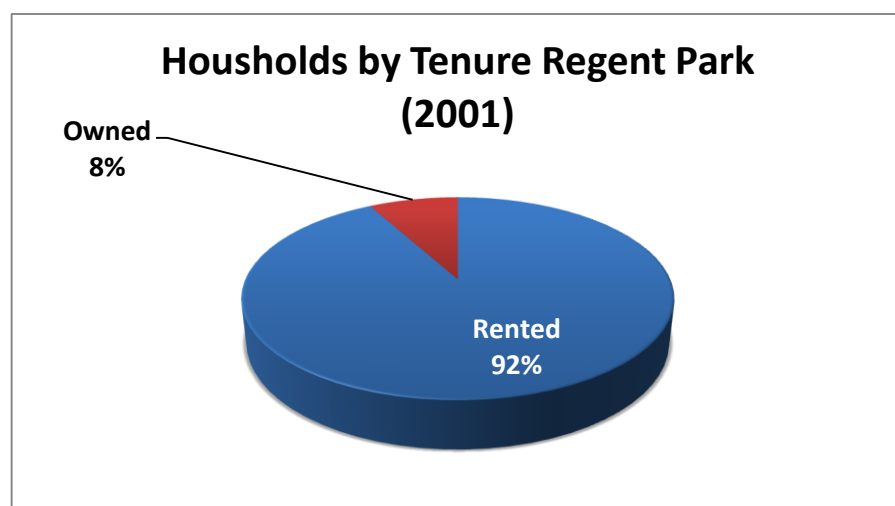


Regent Park Households & Income



This graph shows that residents based on their income, and depending the number of member family had settled in either social housing or private houses.

Regent Park Household & Own Home



This chart represents that the majority of Regent Park residents were living in social housing with 92%, and the rest 8% of population had their own home.

Resources

Resources Inside of North Regent Park

- Indoor swimming pool
- Skating ring outdoor
- Paly Ground
- Multipurpose Centre (RPKC),
 - Residents have library, Computer lab, Gym, Heritage club, ESL class, Community Crisis Response, Religion class, senior club.
- Regent Park Revitalization Centre
 - Residents are paying their rents, managing to the new building or they will relocate them to another unit till the new one get ready.
- Computer and English class which is located behind the Revitalization Centre.
- Big Park which is located exactly front of Revitalization Centre.
- Outdoor swimming pool (only summertime) which has undergone demolish project.
- Regent Park Aquatic Centre which has undergone construction.
- Community Art Centre which is located in the basement of St. Cyril Church.
 - Painting
 - Drawing
 - Sculpture
 - Crafts
 - Computer class
- Regent Park Centre of Learning, 540 Dundas St. East (@ Sackville)
 - Community Leadership
 - Academic Skill Upgrading
 - Technical Assistance Partnership
- RBC Bank which has opened recently.
- Sobeys has undergone of preparation to open.
- Tim Horton which has opened recently.
- Rogers store which is located in the middle of Tim Horton & Sobeys.
- Day Care which is located in new rental building of Oak St.

Resources Inside of South Regent Park

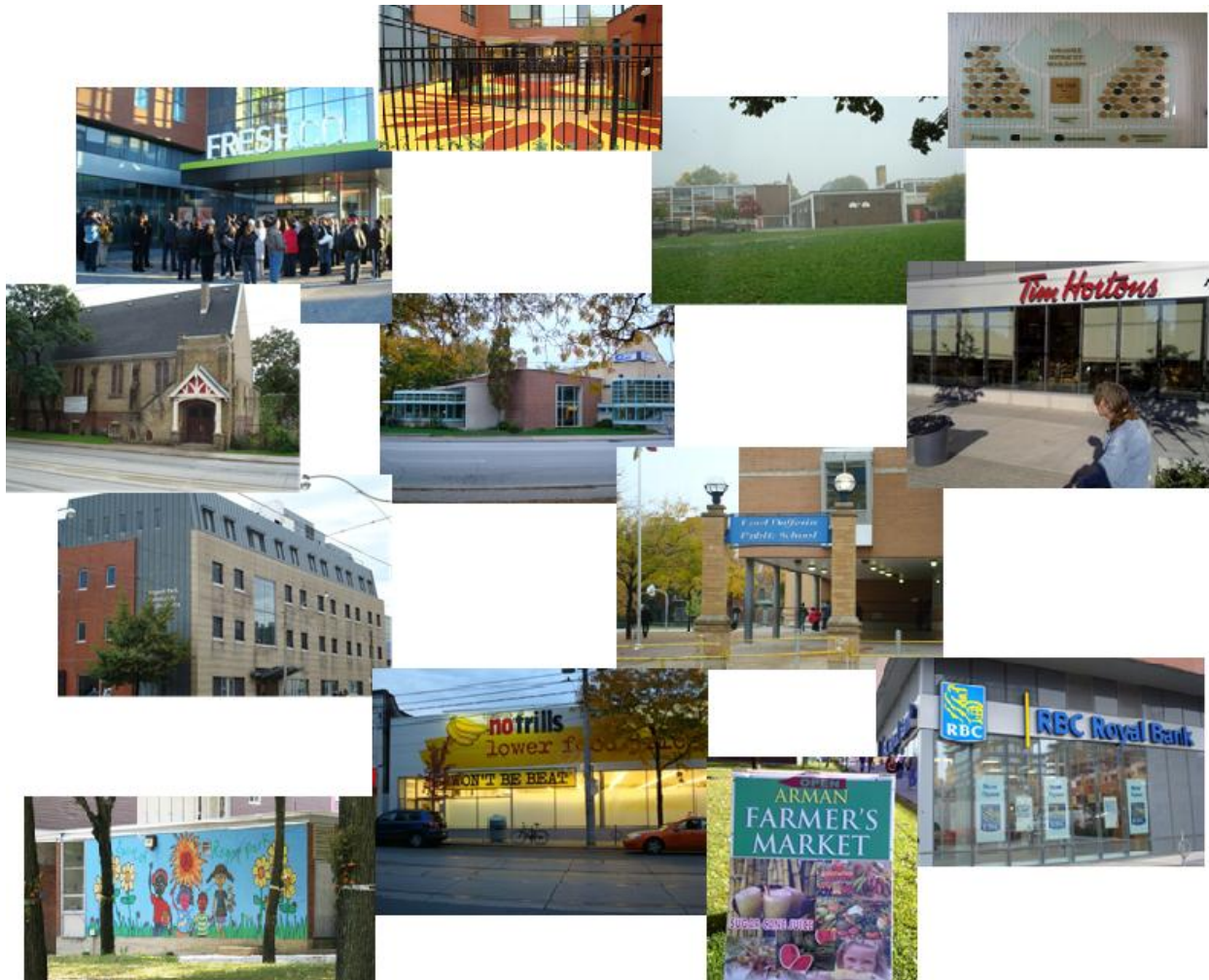
- Support Enhance Access Service Centre
 - Family Services
 - Crisis intervention
 - individual& family counselling

- family life education
- Neighbourhood & Newcomer Service
 - Supportive counselling
 - Information & referral
 - Forms Filling
- Youth & Senior Service
 - Youth Leadership
 - Youth life skills training
- Community Development
 - Volunteer recruitment & training
 - Community outreach
 - Networking & partnership
- Dixon Hall Youth Centre, 42 Blevins Place, which is providing program for youth and teenagers.
- Regent Park Neighbourhood Initiative, 11 Blevins Place.
- Skating Outdoor
- Child Care Centre, 26 Blevins Place
- CRC Admin Office, 14 Blevins Place # 16(Sumach/ Shuter)
 - Drop-In/ Hosing Support
 - Regent park United Church
 - ESL Program for women
- Playground & Water play
- Centre for Seniors
- Peace Garden where many youth and teenager died so the residents plant flowers.
- Nelson Mandela School which is now under relocation.
- Waiting Pool for kids in summertime.
- Regent Park Community Centre
- Art Community Centre has undergone construction which when is done, the Regent Park Community Centre will move to the new Art Community Centre.
- Basket Ball Ring
- Regent Park Public School (elementary School till grade 6)
- Basketball Ring
- Parents for Better beginnings
- Community Garden
- Fire Station 325
- St. Bartholomew's Anglican Church which is closed now.
- Regent Community Health Centre.

Resources outside of Regent Park

- Libraries
 - Toronto Public Library which is located at Gerrard and Parliament junction
 - Toronto Public Library which is located at Gerrard and Broadview junction.
- Schools
 - Lord Dufferin Public School
 - Queen Alexandra Middle School which is located at Dundas and Broadview.
- Transportations
 - Residents are served by the Toronto Transit Commission's Streetcar routes: 501, 505, 506, and the route: "65 Parliament" bus. The streetcars provide quick access to the Young subway line.
 - The Don Valley Parkway is a major highway that goes by Regent Park.
- Toronto Police Service that is located to nearby 51 Parliament.
- Paramedics serving the Regent Park area are deployed from Toronto Emergency Medical Services Station 40.
- Banks
 - TD Bank, 493 Parliament St. Toronto
 - RBC Bank, 480 Dundas St. East Toronto
 - CIBC Bank, 245 Carlton St. Toronto
- Groceries/ Retails
 - Nofrills which is located at 449 Parliament St.
 - Shoppers Drug Mart, 467 Parliament St.
 - Hardware Store at Parliament St.
 - Goodwill at Gerrard St.
 - Some local grocery stores such as: Chines stores, Indian stores, Somalian stores, and Afghanian stores.

Some Resources of Regent Park



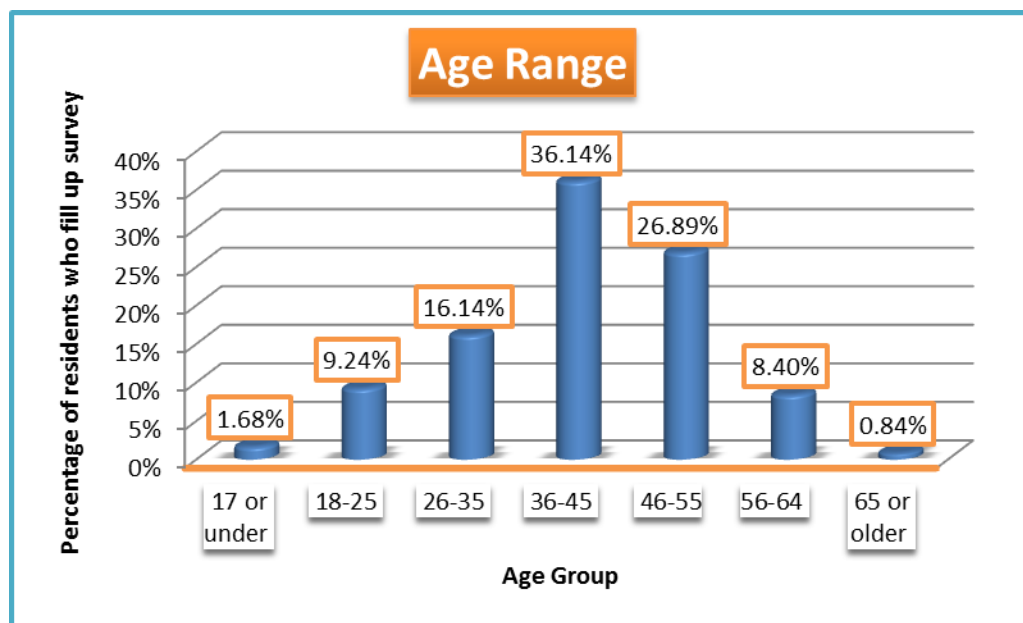
- Fresh Co
- Daycare 1Oak
- Regent Park School
- Health Community Centre
- Young Mission Street
- Library
- RBC Bank
- Tim Horton's
- Lord Dufferin School
- Farmer's Market
- no-frills
- Better begging

Survey Findings from Demographic Information

The majority of survey responding were female with almost 59% who were mostly the age group between 36 to 55 years, the rest of responding were 37% male, and 5% gay from the total description number of survey conducted 119.

In this survey “Community Resources and Needs Assessment” the most important data is that:

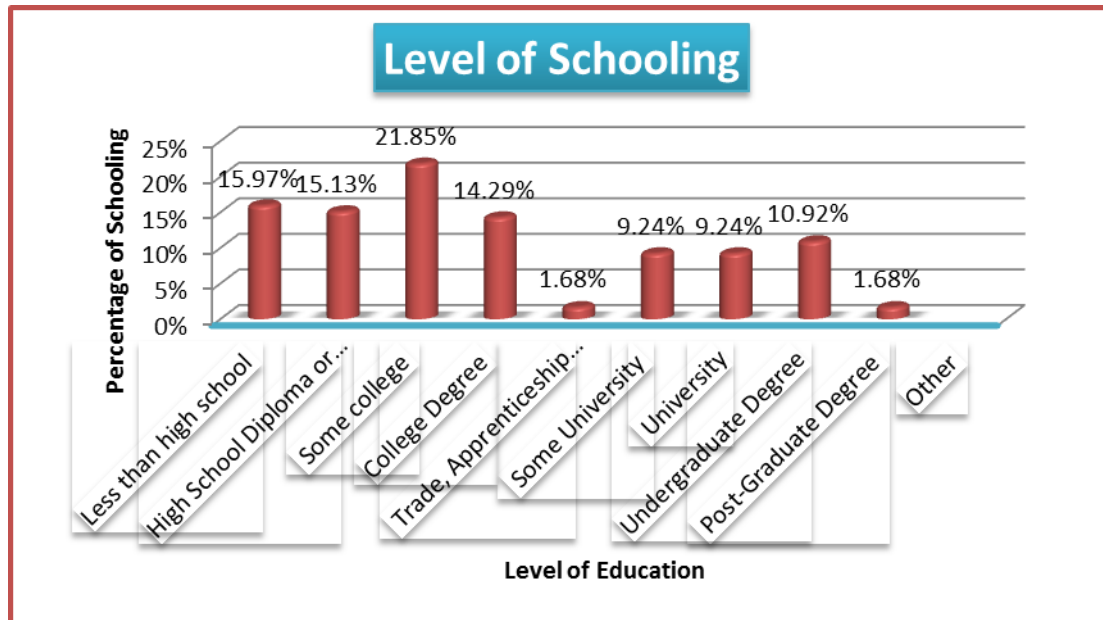
Age Range



The respondent's population in the survey is comprised of residents in order:

- 36.14% in age to work 36 to 45
- 26.89% in possibilities for retirement 46 to 55 ages
- 16.14% young people

Education

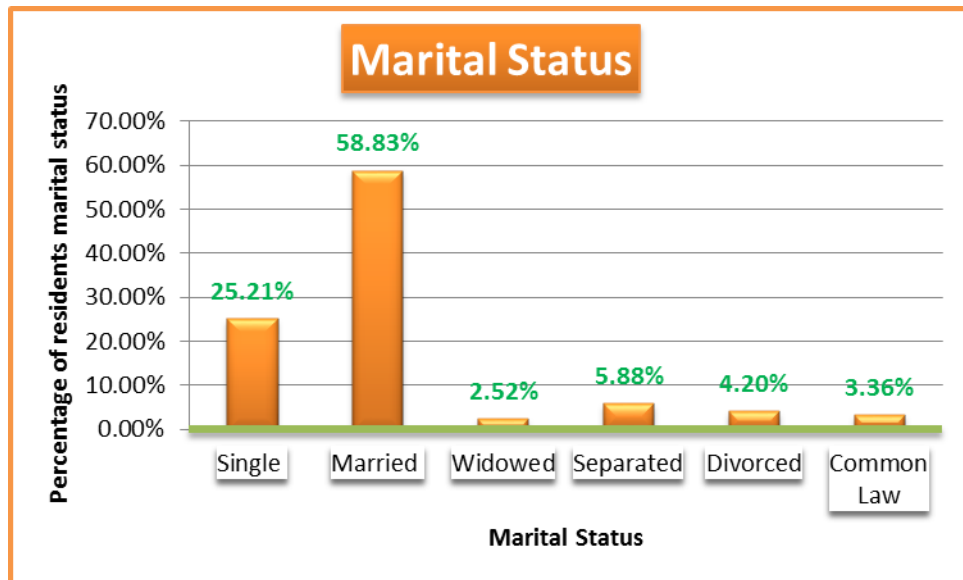


The level of education graph shows that the majority of Regent Park residents have some college degree or certificates which in this graph some college bar has the most percentage number is 21.85%.

The level of schooling of this graph in order is:

- Some College, 21.85%
- Less than high school, 15.97%
- High School Diploma or GED, 15.13%

Marital Status

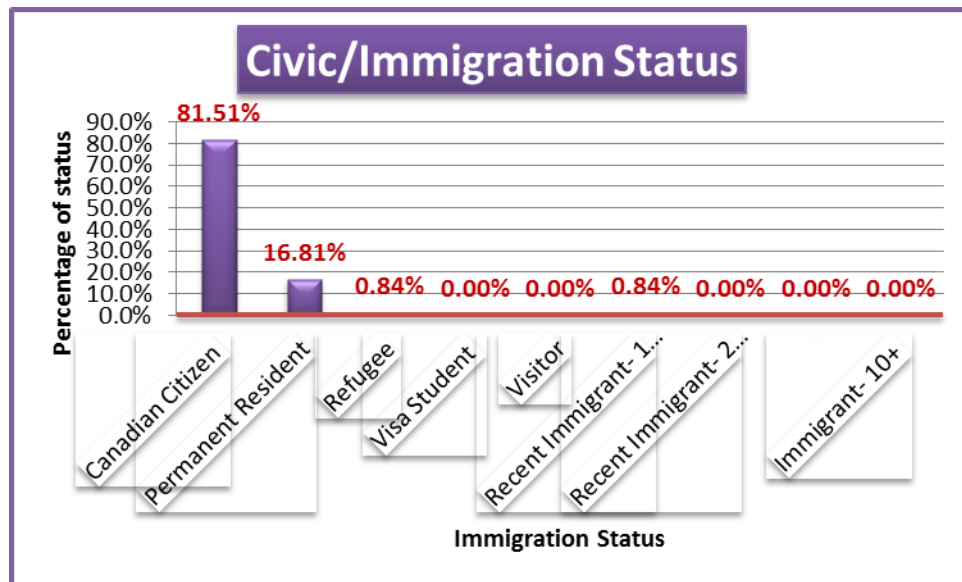


This graph demonstrates that the majority of Regent Park residents are married with 58.83%.

The level of marital status of this graph in order is:

- Married, 58.83%
- Single, 25.21%
- Separated, 5.88%

Civic/Immigration

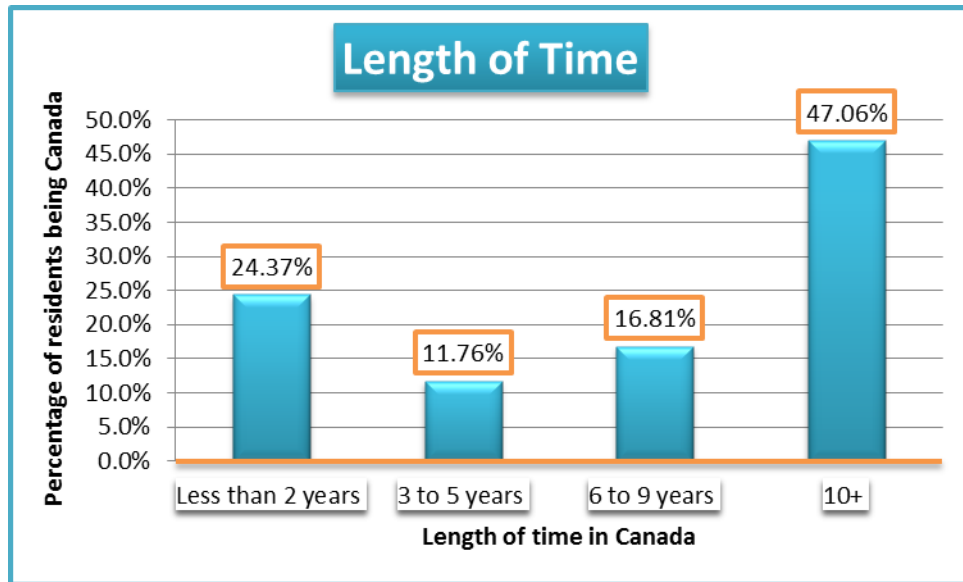


This graph demonstrates that the majority of Regent Park residents have Canadian Citizen.

The level of immigration status of this graph in order is:

- Canadian Citizen, 81.51%
- Permanent Resident, 16.81%
- Refugee and recent immigrant(1 year or less), 0.84%

Length of time in Canada



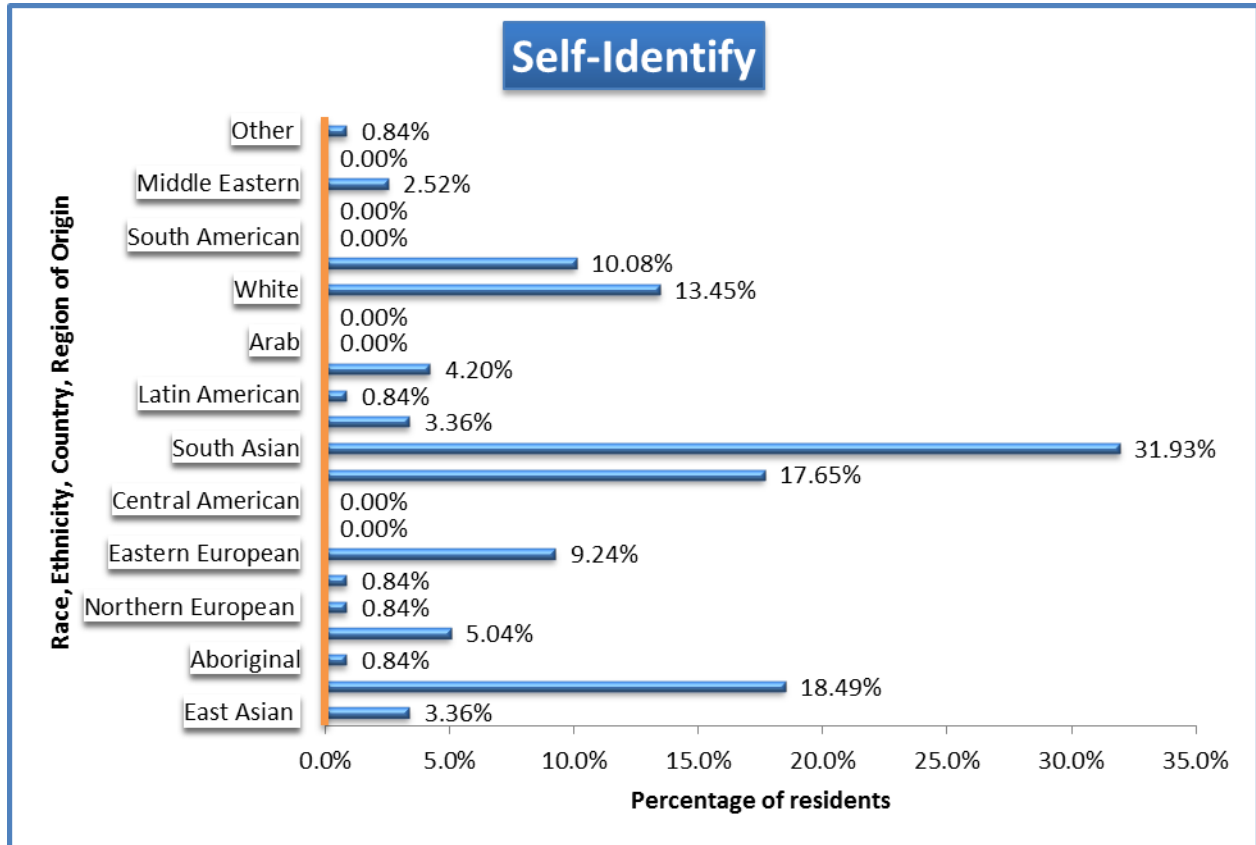
This graph demonstrates that the majority of Regent Park residents live in Canada more than 10 years.

The level of length of time in Canada of this graph in order is:

- 10+, 47.06%
- Less than 2 years, 24.37%
- 6 to 9 years, 16.81%

Self- Identify

Race/Ethnicity/ Country/ Region of Origin

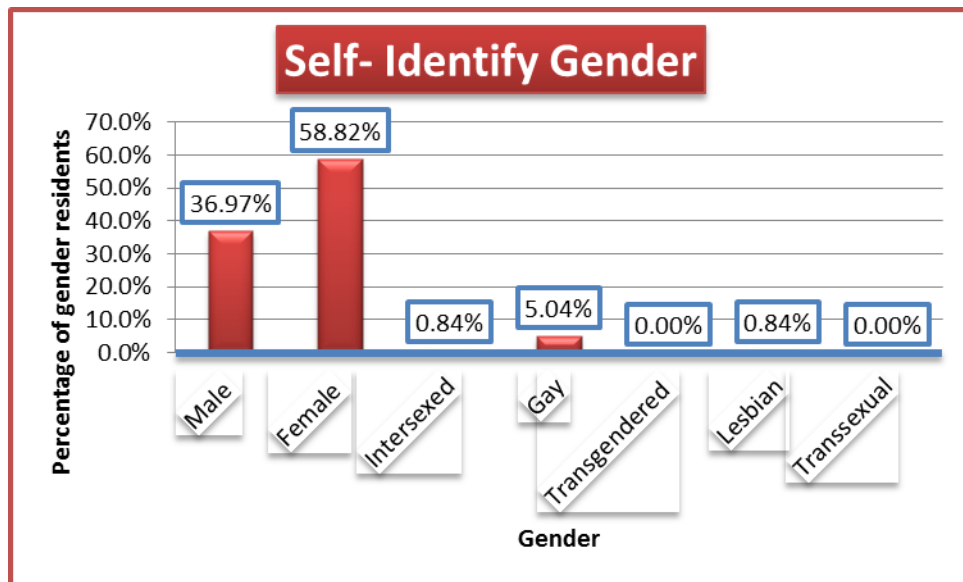


The self-identify graph shows that the majority of Regent Park residents are from South Asian with 31.93%.

The level of self-identify of this graph in order is:

- South Asian, 31.93%
- Canadian-born, 18.49%
- Southeast Asian, 17.65%

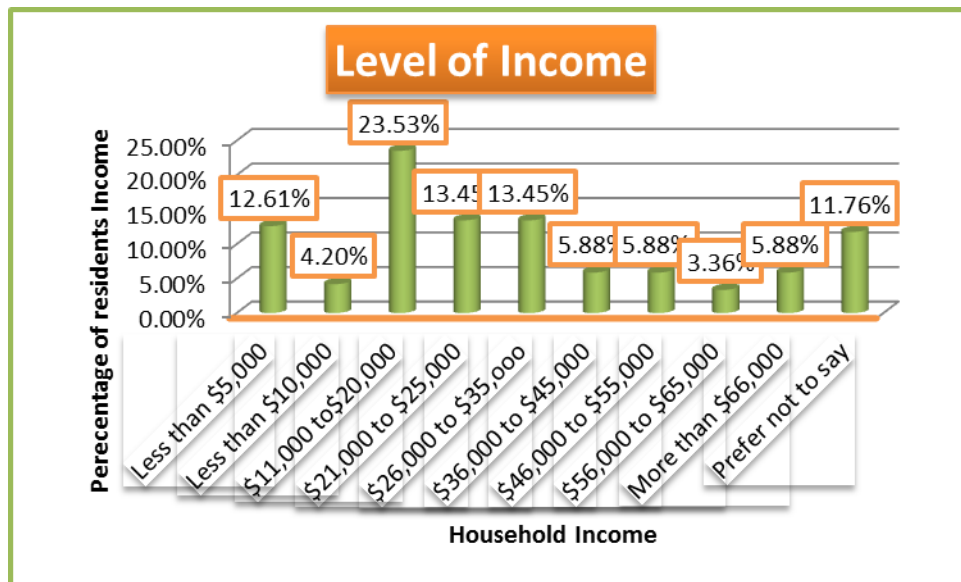
Self- Identify Gender



The self-identify gender graph shows that the majority of resident who respond the survey based on the gender in order is:

- Female, 58.82%
- Male, 36.97%
- Gay, 5.04%
- Intersexes, Lesbian, 0.84%

Household Income

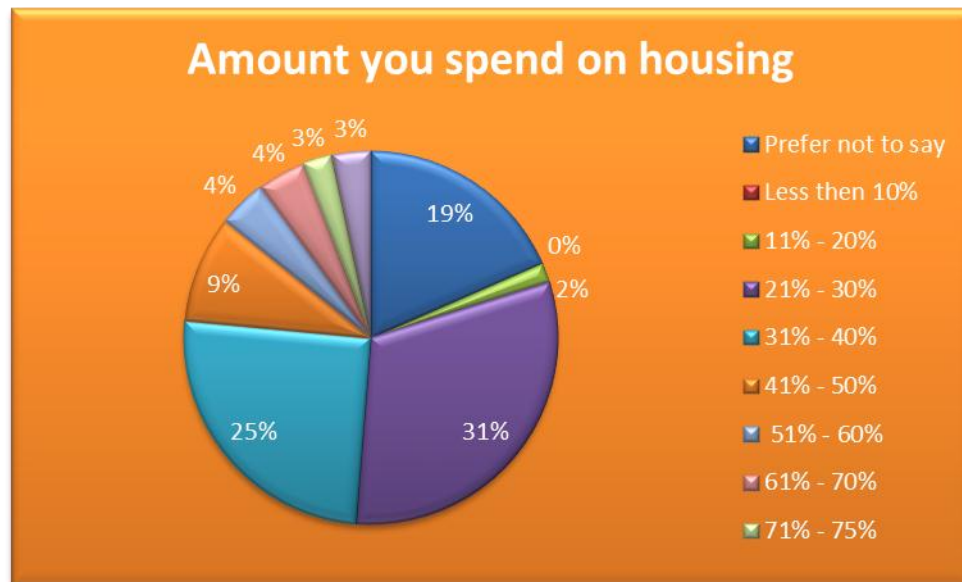


This graph represents people who have salary (wage) between 11,000 to \$20,000 are the majority of Regent Park residents which considered as low-income family.

The level of household income in order is:

- \$11,000 to \$20,000 with 23.53%
- \$21,000 to \$25,000 with 13.45% and also, \$26,000 to \$35,000
- Less than \$5,000 with 12.61%

Amount you spend on housing



This chart shows that the majority of residents of Regent Park spend 21% to 30% of their household income for housing. So, this amount of money to spend for household represents that the majority of residents do not have reasonable income to save or do other things for family.

- 21% - 30%, 31% spending for housing
- 51%-60%, 25% spending for housing
- Prefer not to say, 19%

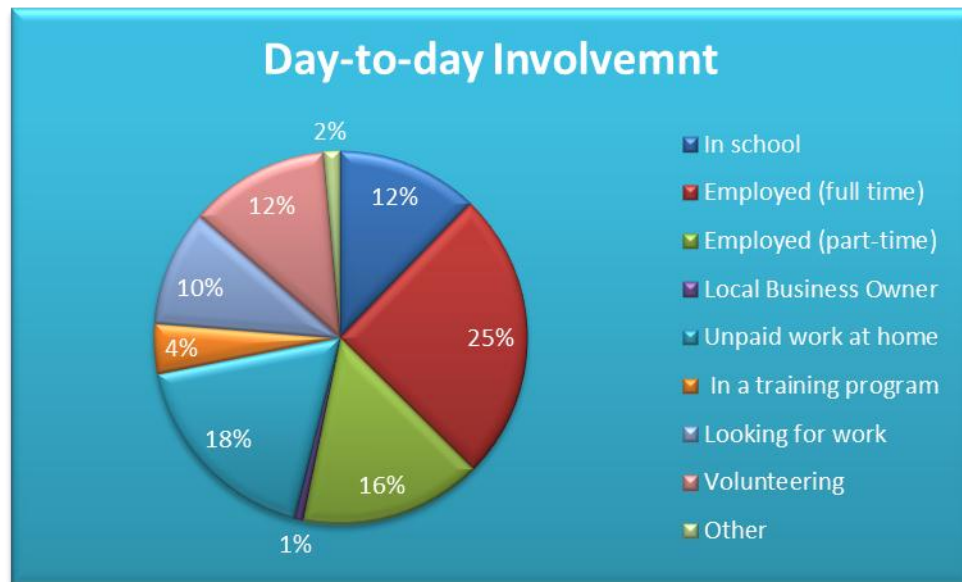
Amount you spend on food



In this graph represents that based on household income, residents are spending money for food. As we can observe in this chart there are three different sections which residents spend almost 17% or 18% of their income for food.

- Less than 10%, 18% their income for food
- 21%-30%, 17% their income for food
- 36%-40%, 18% their income for food

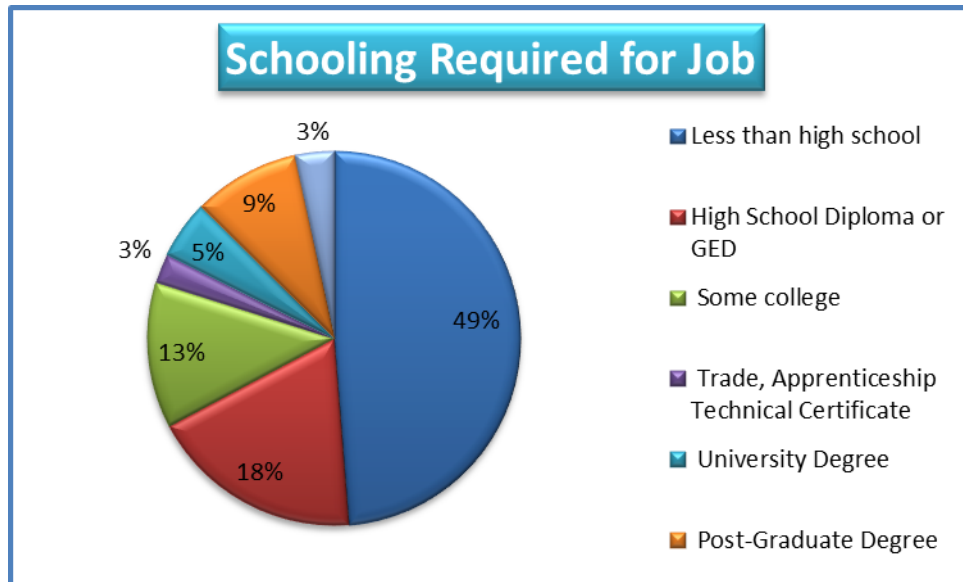
Day-to-day Involvement



This chart demonstrates that the majority of residents are employed in full- time daily with 25%, and second percentage goes for employed group in part- time with 16%. In fact, half of the pie is covered with employed residents and people are busy in school with 12%.

- 25%, Employed full time
- 18%, Looking for work
- 16%, Employed part time

Schooling Required for Job

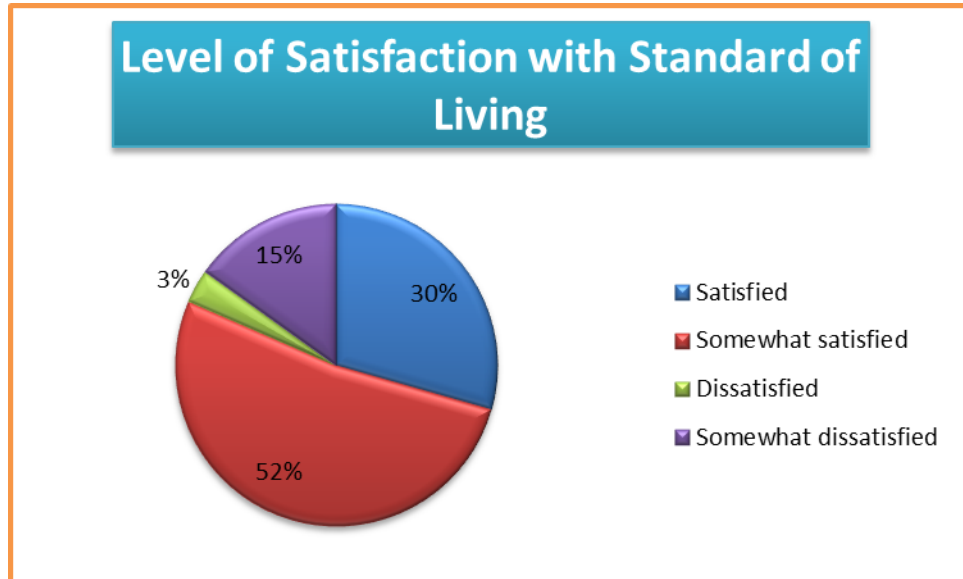


This graph shows that the majority residents work as labour because their required job need less than high school with 49%. So, it proves that at least half of the resident living in poverty condition by having labour job.

- 49%, less than high school
- 18%, High school diploma or GED
- 13%, Some College

Level of Satisfaction with Standard of Living

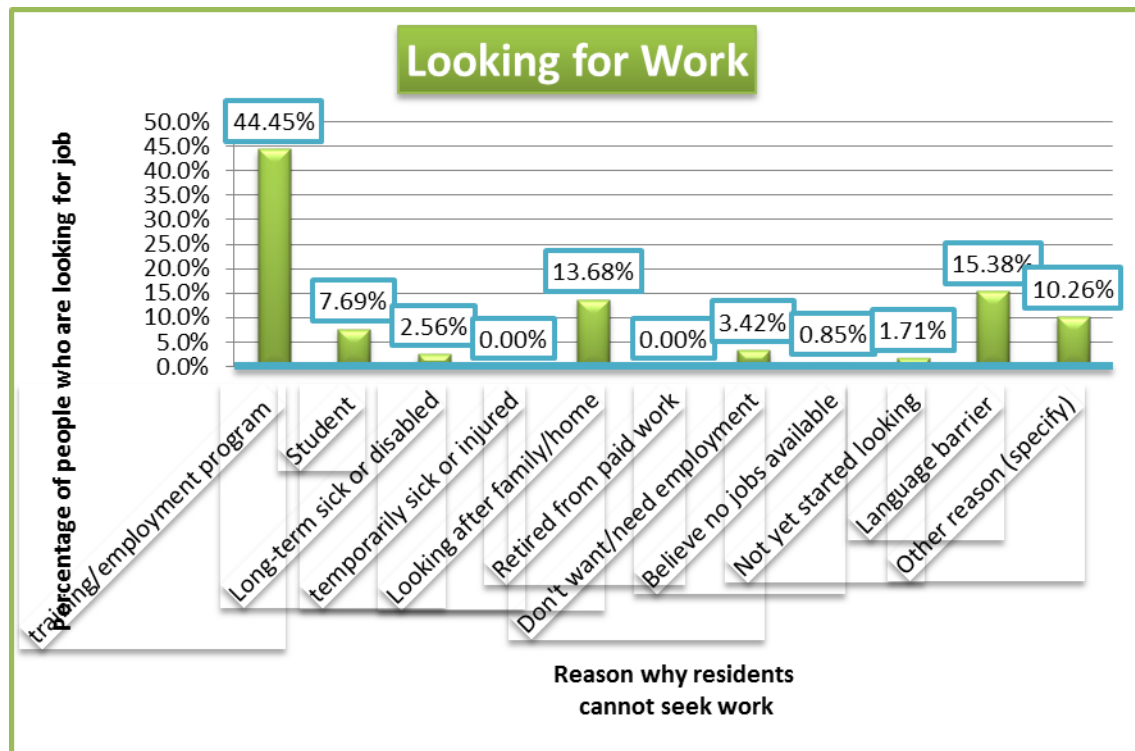
Overall, how would you rate your level of satisfaction your standard of living?



This chart represents that majority of residents are somewhat satisfied with the level of standard living, 52%.

- Somewhat satisfied, 52%
- Satisfied, 30%
- Somewhat dissatisfied, 15%

Looking for Work



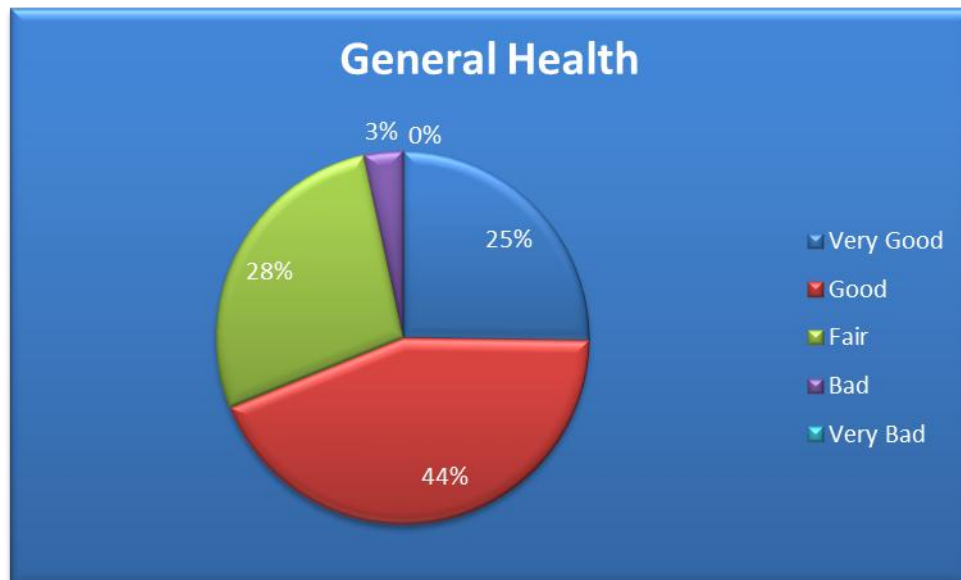
This graph shows that there are many reasons why residents are not working now. The majority of residents are training/ employment with 44.45%.

The level of looking for work in order is:

- I am in a training/ employment program, 44.45%
- Language Barrier, 15.38%
- Looking after family/home, 13.68%

General Health

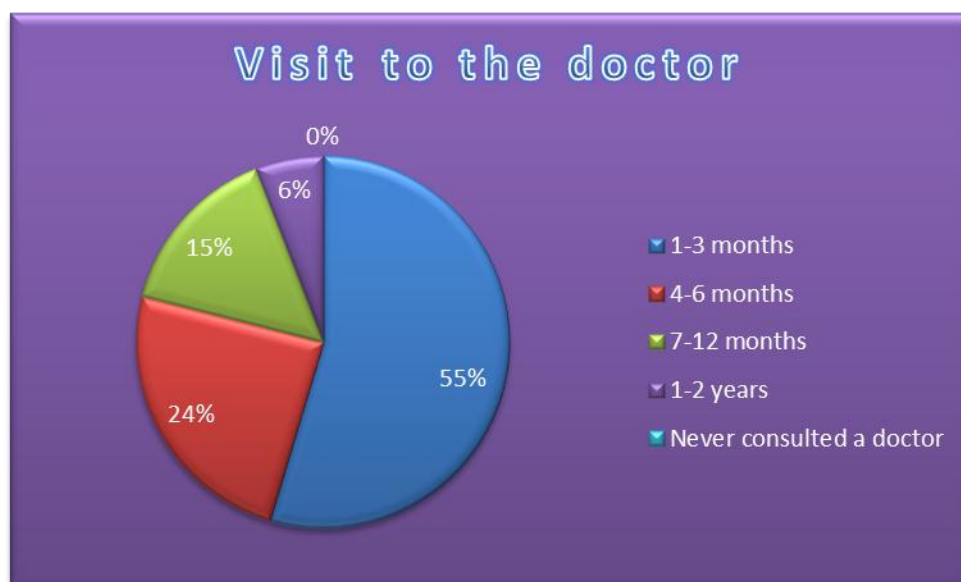
Compared with other people your age, how would you rate your health?



This graph represents that general health in Regent Park either is good or very good. Almost, half of the population of this pie chart is 44%, and 25% of residents are very good.

Visit to the Doctor

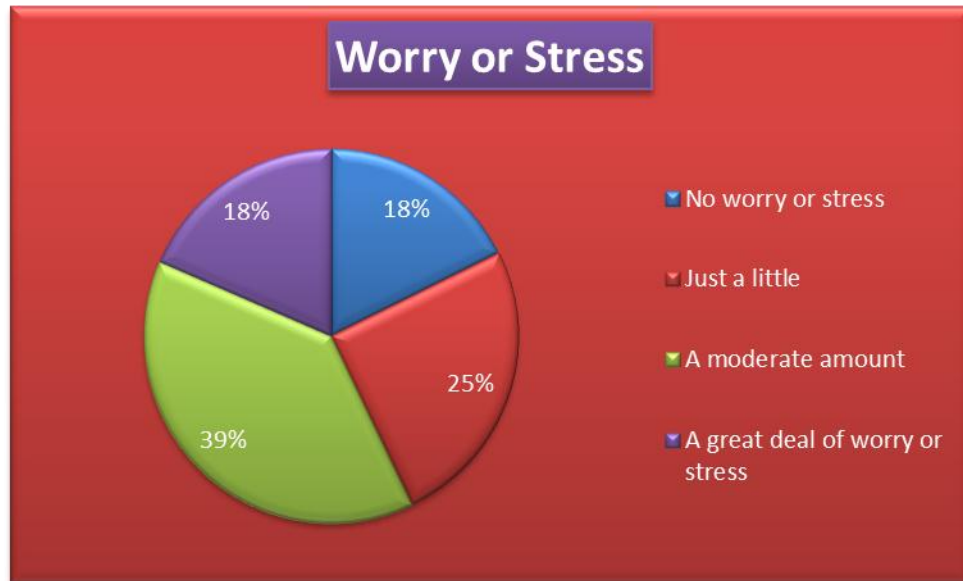
When was the last time you talked to a doctor on your own behalf?



This graph demonstrates that residents mostly do not have any issues of health because the majority of residents are visiting doctor between 1-3 months with 55%.

Worry or Stress

In the past 12 months, how much worry or stress would you say you have had?



This graph represents that the majority of residents have a moderate amount stress with 39%.

The level of stress or worry of residents in order is:

- A moderate amount, 39%
- Just a little, 25%
- A great deal of worry or stress and no worry or stress, 18%

Self-Confidence

Have you recently been losing confidence in yourself?



This graph represents that more than 50% of residents do not lose their confidence.

The level of losing confidence in order is:

- Not at all, 63%
- Less than usual, 25%
- Empty responses, 9%

Enjoying Day-to-Day activities

Have you recently been able to enjoy your normal day-to-day activities?



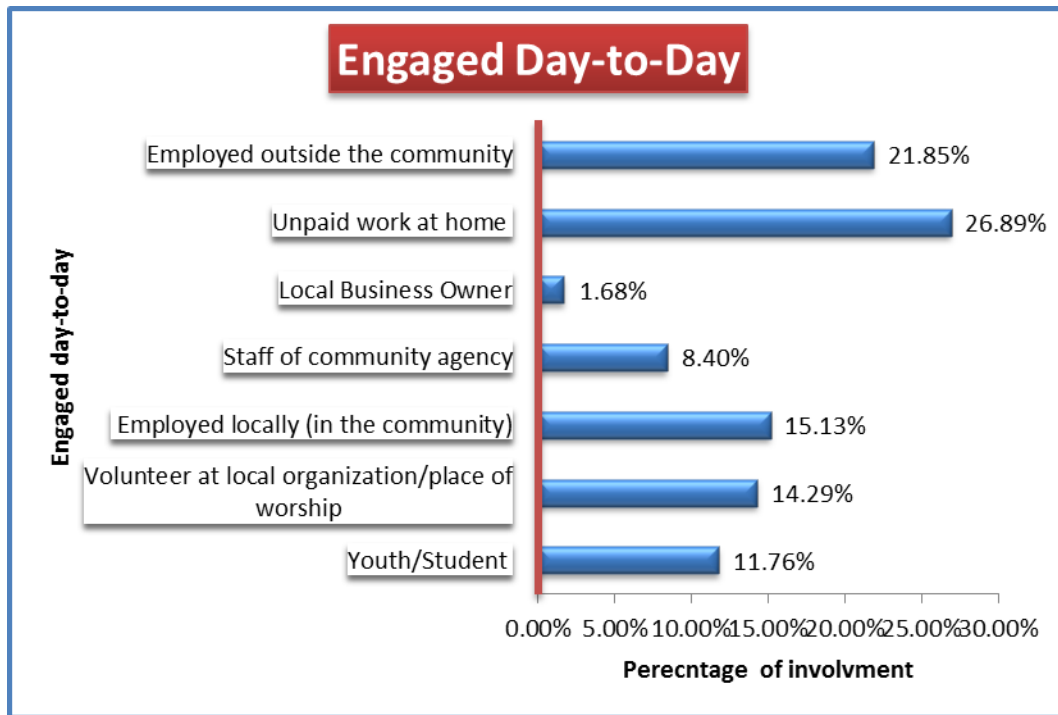
This graph shows that the majority of residents are doing same as usual activity with 69%.

The level of enjoying day-to-day activities in order is:

- Same as usual, 69%
- Less than usual, 12%
- Much more than usual, 9%

Your Day-to-Day Involvement

How are you engaged day-to-day?



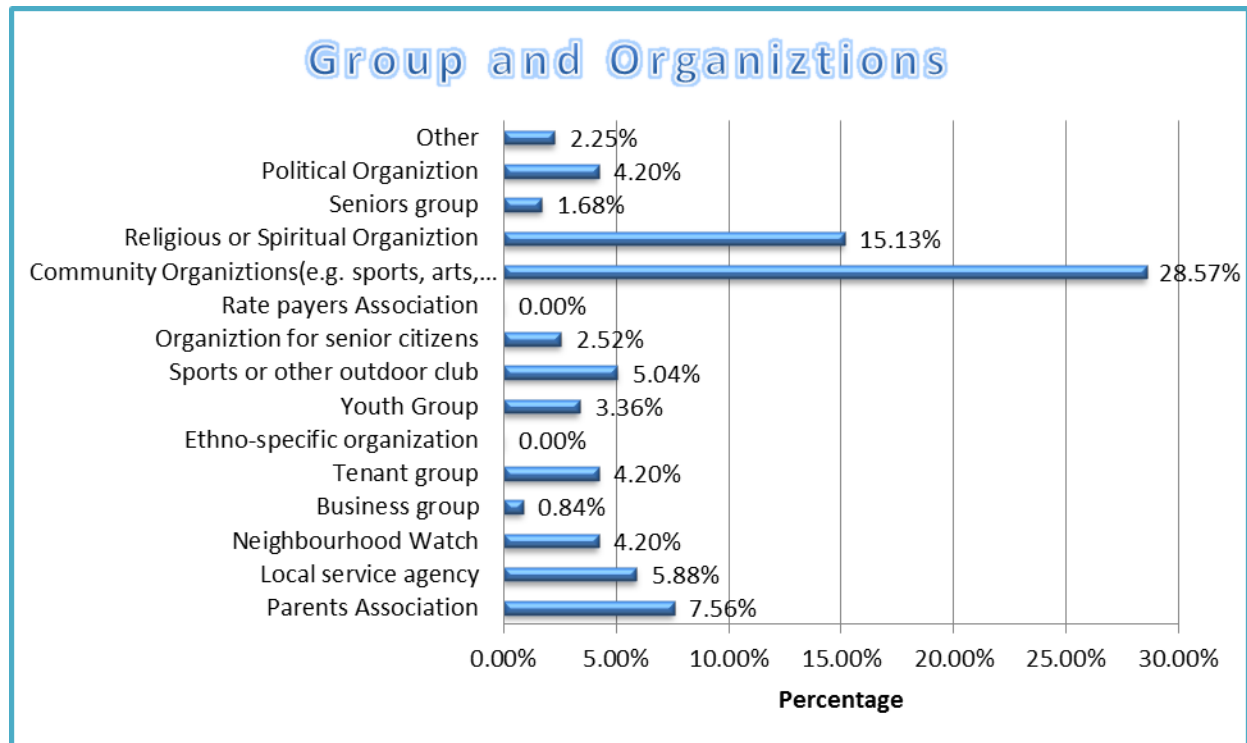
This graph represents that the majority of residents are engaged with unpaid work at home with 26.89% which means approximately most of them are house wife so that they care about the children and doing home stuff.

The level of engaging day-to-day activities in order is:

- Unpaid work at home, 26.89%
- Employed outside the community, 21.85%
- Employed locally (in the community)

Group and Organization

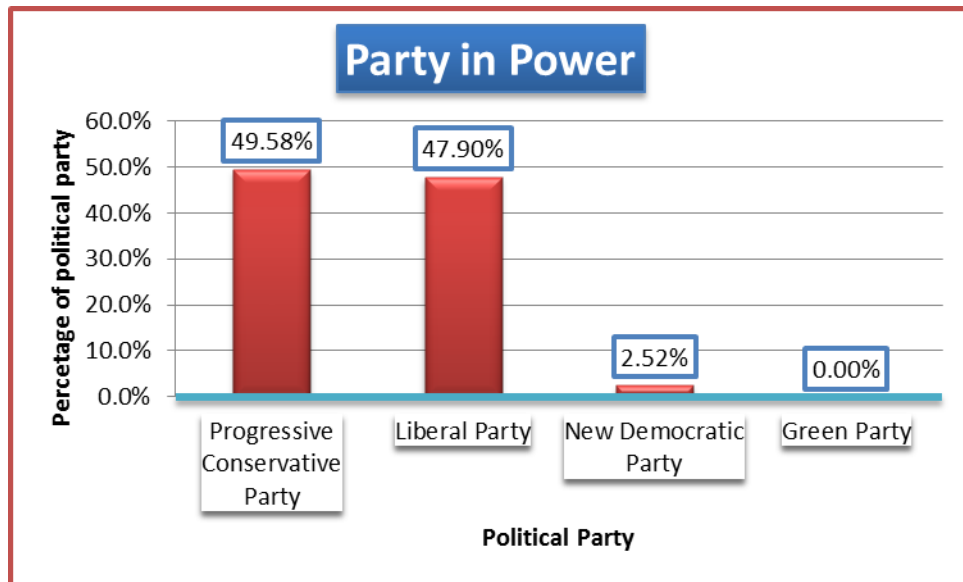
Do you participate in any of the following groups?



In this chart shows that the majority of residents are involved with community organizations such as, sports, arts, culture, ethno cultural, religious based, with 28.57%. Second bar is religious or spiritual organization with 15.13%.

Party in Power

Which political party is currently has power in Ontario?

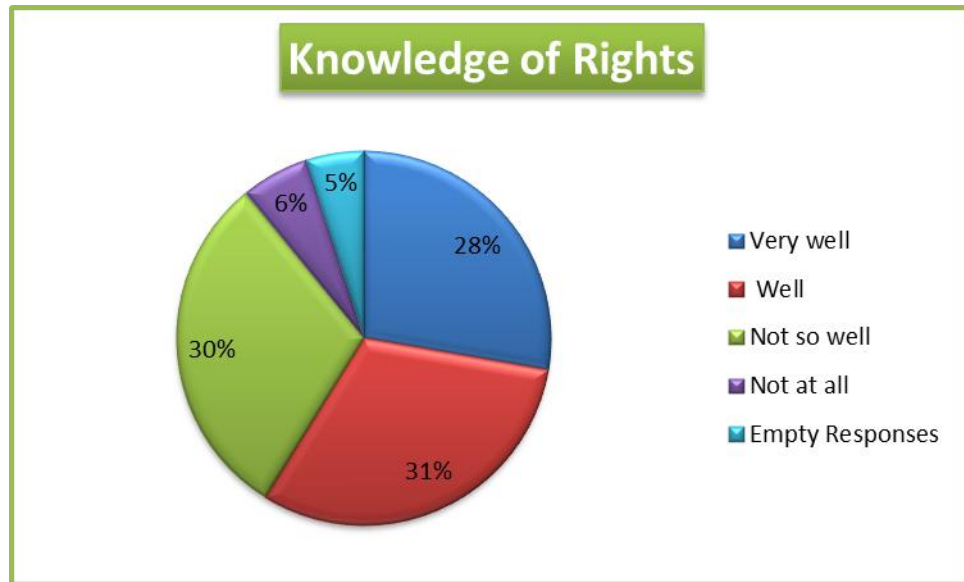


This graph shows that the majority of residents believe that conservative party has power in Ontario with 49.58%; however, the second group are liberal party with 47.90%.

The level of Party in Power in order is:

- Conservative Party, 49.58%
- Liberal Party, 47.90%
- New Democratic Party, 2.52%

Knowledge of Rights



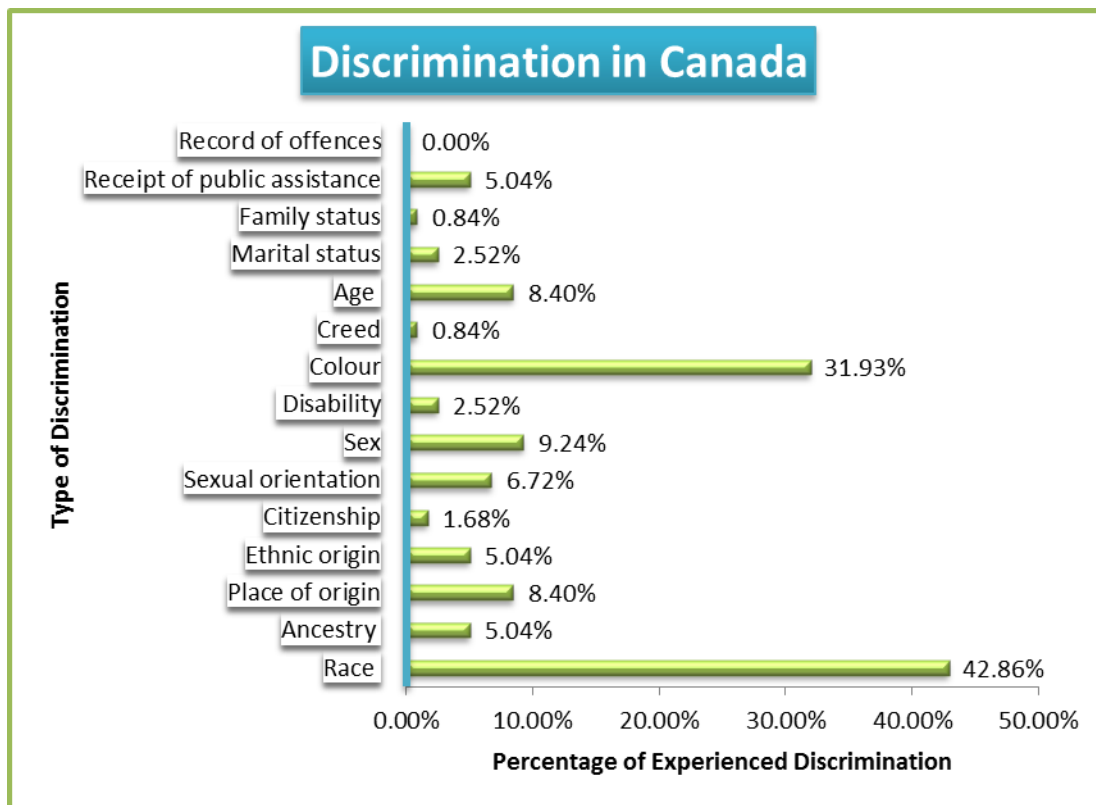
As we can see the majority of residents are aware of their right in the society and the community as well.

- Well, 31%
- Not so well, 30%
- Very well, 28%

Equity and Access

Prohibited Grounds

If you have experienced discrimination in Canada, what was it based on:

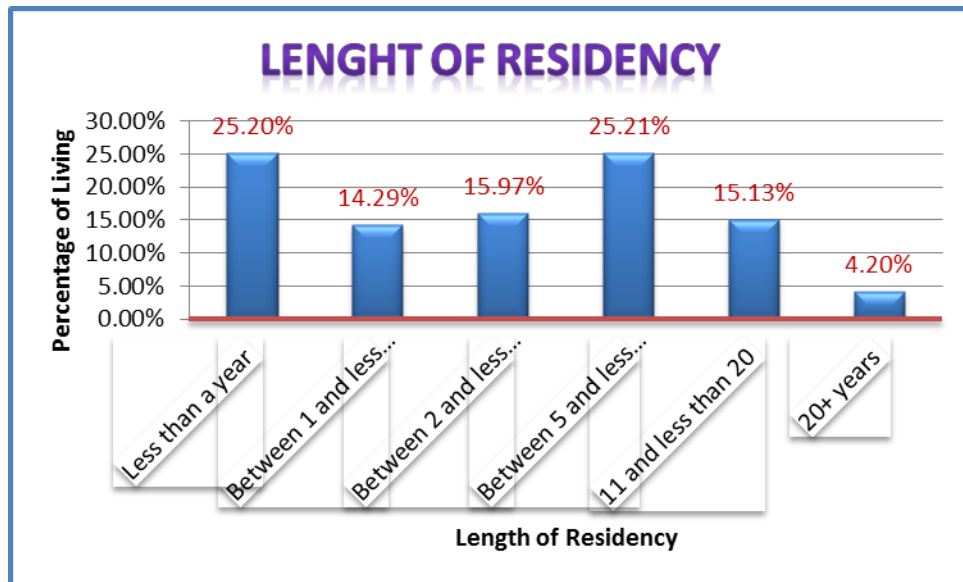


This graph represents that the majority of residents have race discrimination, 42.86%, and second one is colour with 31.93%.

The level of discrimination the residents have faced in order:

- Race, 42.86%
- Colour, 31.93%
- Sex, 9.24%

Length of Residency



This chart represents the number of people who are resident less than one year with 25.20% is almost equal with the number of people who are resident between 5 and less than 10 years with 25.21%. In fact, the numbers of residents are less than one year; it is mostly related to revitalization, and new residents who settle in this neighbourhood recently.

Level of Satisfaction with Community

How satisfied are you with this area as a place to live?

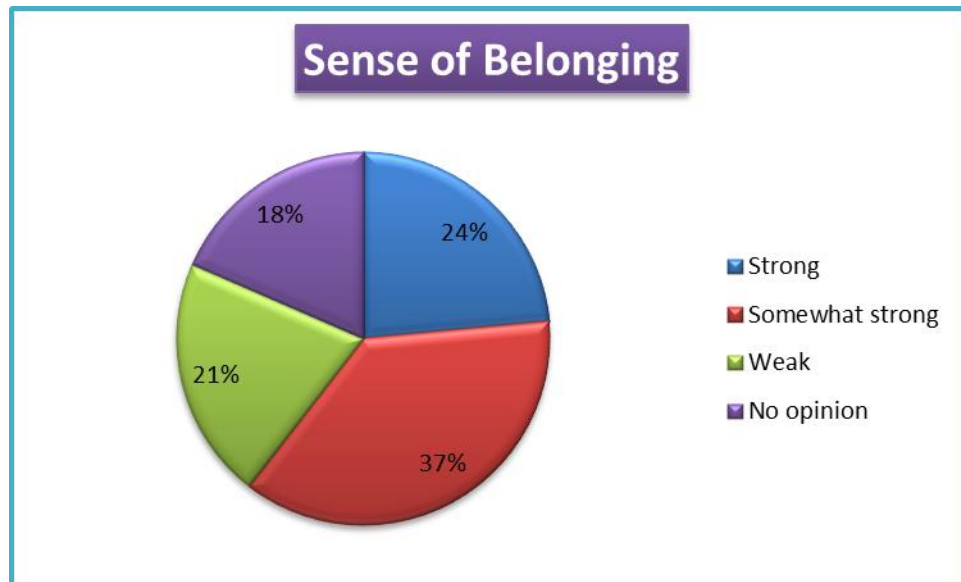


This graph shows that the majority of residents are optimistic about their neighbourhood. As we can see fairly satisfied section has 48.73%. In fact, they are satisfied to live in Regent Park community.

- 48.73%, Fairly satisfied
- 21.85%, Very satisfied
- 15.13%, Slightly satisfied

Sense of Belonging

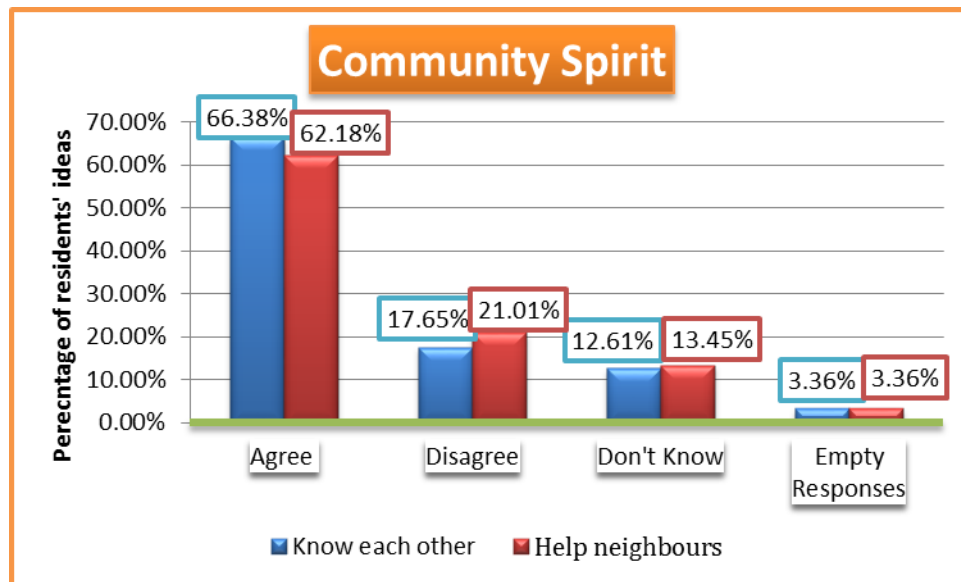
How would describe your sense of belonging in your community?



This graph shows that the generally residents have a strong sense of belonging in the community.

- Somewhat strong, 37%
- Strong, 24%
- Weak, 21%

Community Spirit

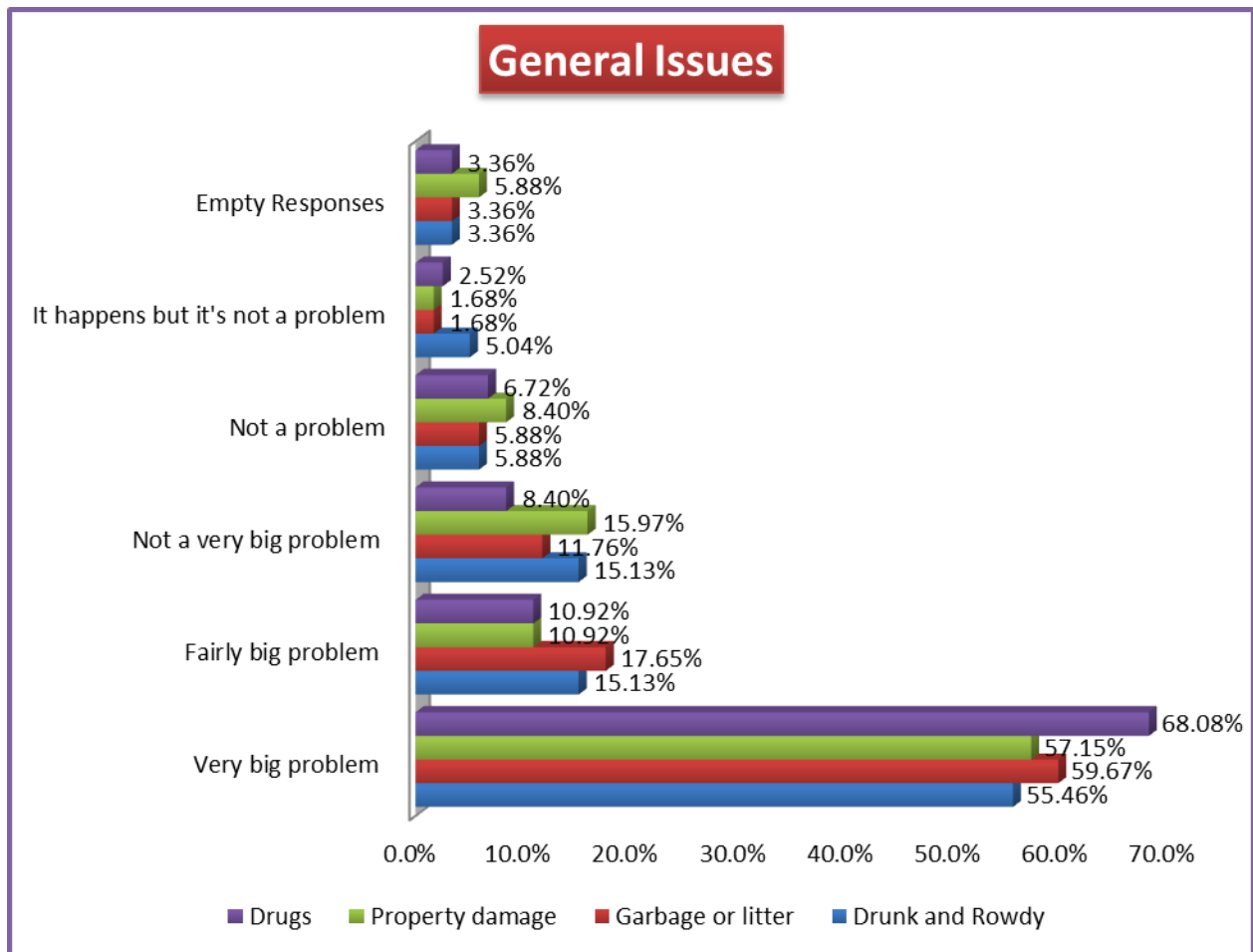


This graph shows that comparison of people know each other with willing to help neighbours which as we can see the majority of people know each other, 66.38% and besides they are willing to help neighbours, 62.18%, as well.

The level of community spirit for both “people know each other” and “willing to help neighbours” in order:

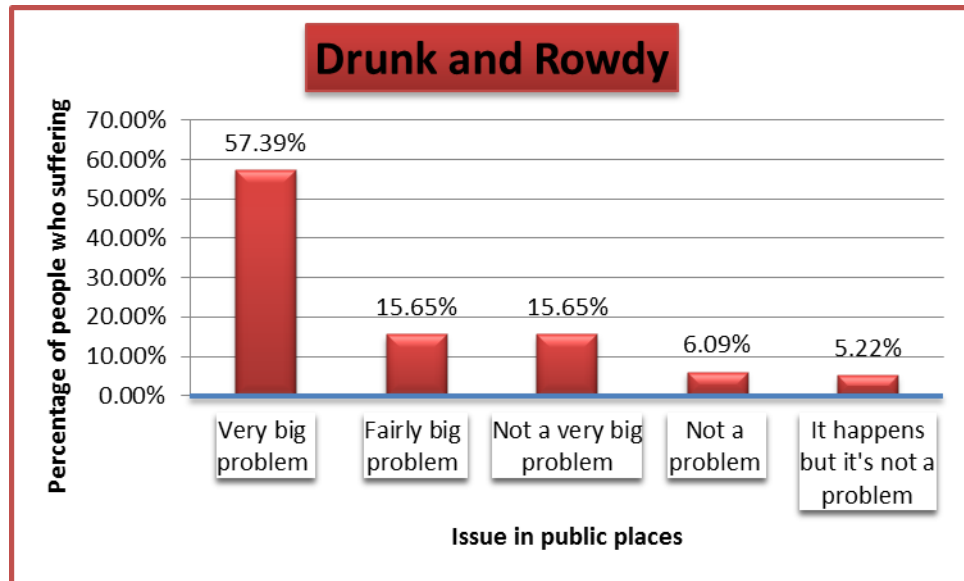
- People know each other, 66.38%; willing to help neighbours, 62.18% are agreed.
- People know each other, 17.65%; willing to help neighbours, 21.01% are disagreed.
- People know each other, 12.61%; willing to help neighbours, 13.45% do not know.

General Issues



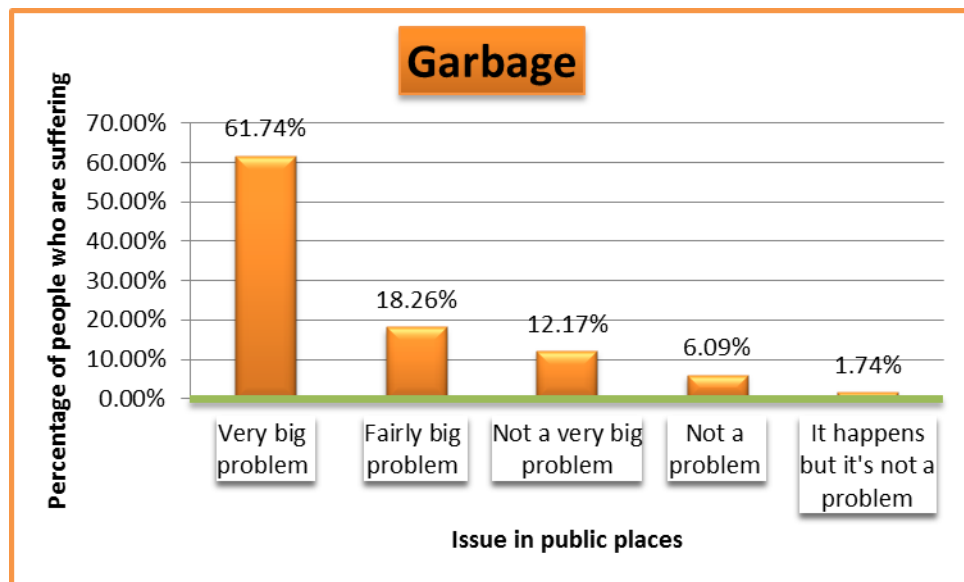
As we can see general issue such as; drunk and rowdy, garbage or litter, vandalism, property damage, and drugs are very big problem for the majority of residents of Regent Park.

Drunk and Rowdy



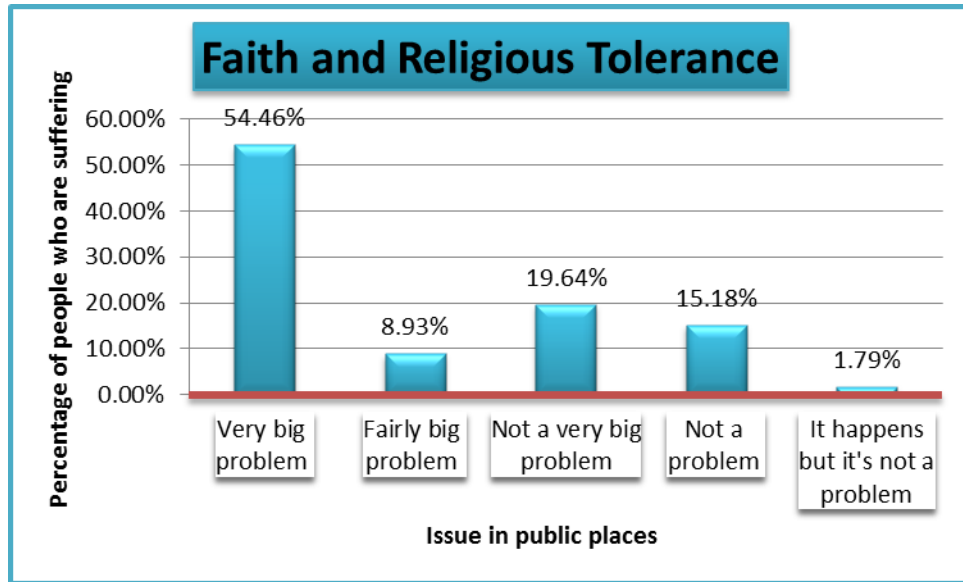
This graph represents the residents are not satisfied with people being drunk or rowdy in public places. As we observe, 57.39% of residents mentioned it is very big problem.

Garbage or Litter



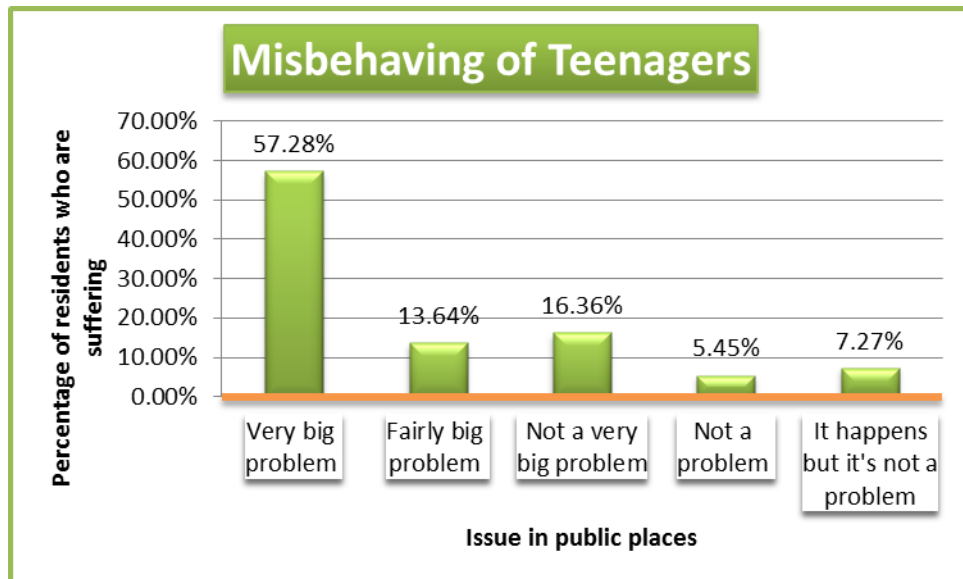
This graph shows that 61.74% of residents have big problem with the garbage and litter in this neighbourhood.

Faith and Religious Tolerance



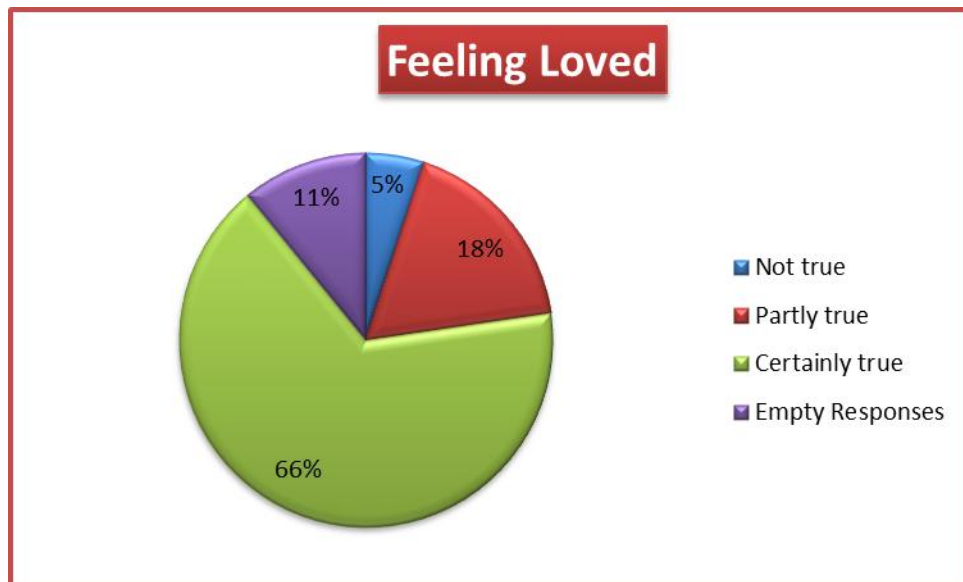
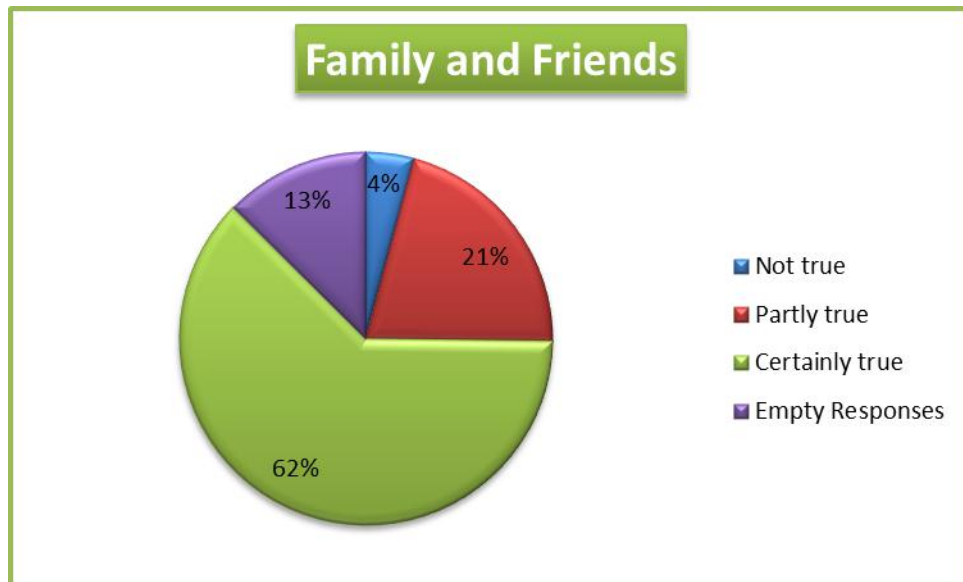
This graph shows that 54.46% of residents have big problem, being attacked because of their faith or religion.

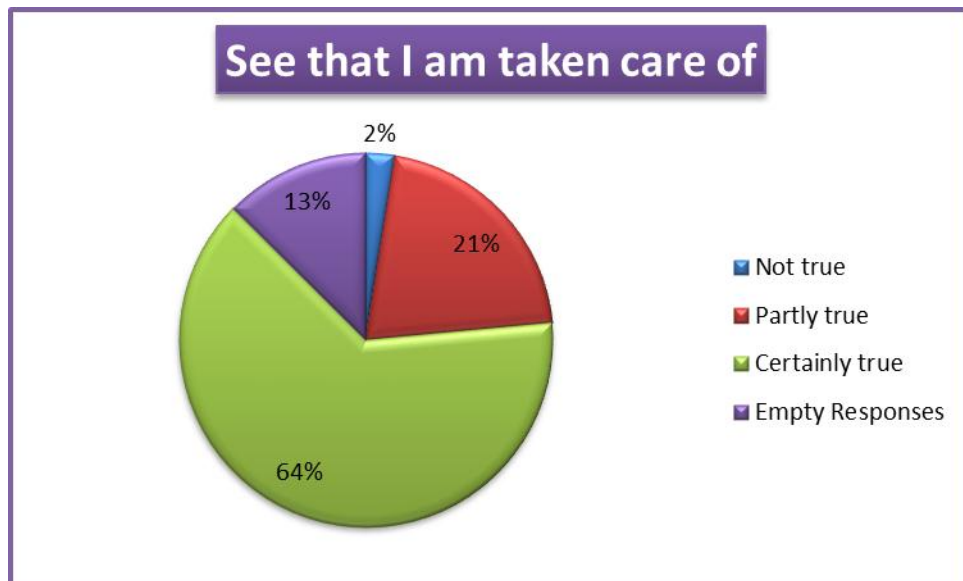
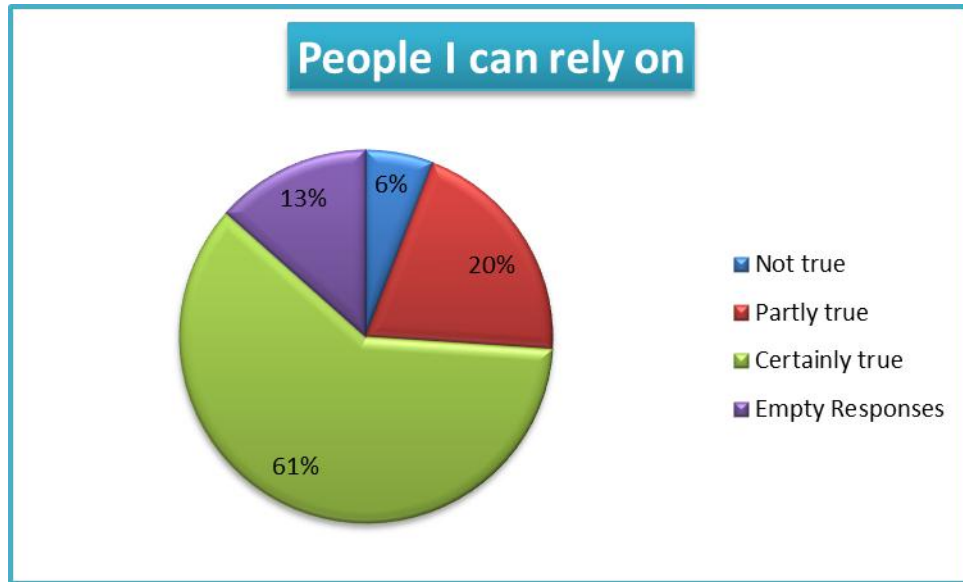
Ideal Teenagers



This graph shows that residents are suffering from teenagers hanging around and misbehaving with 57%, very big problem.

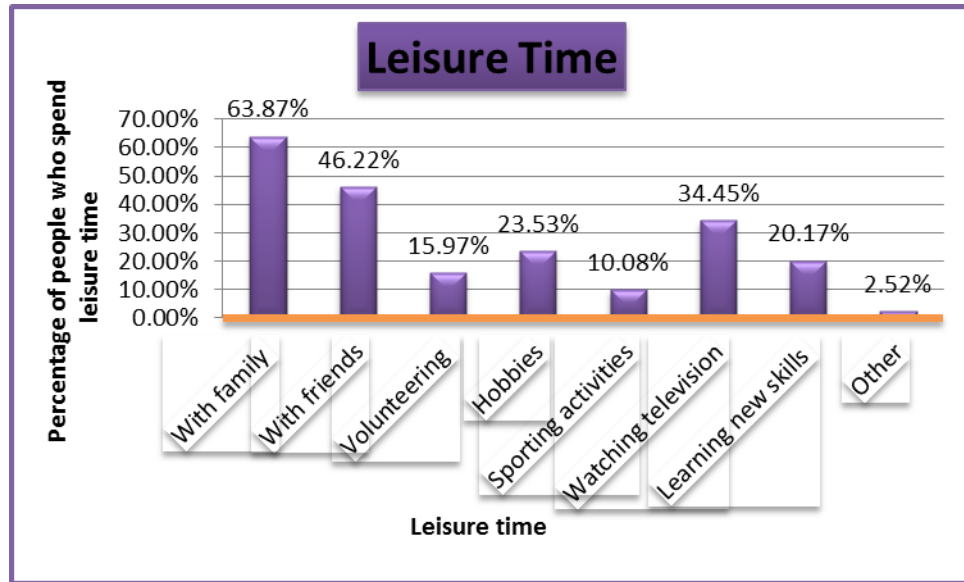
Social Supports





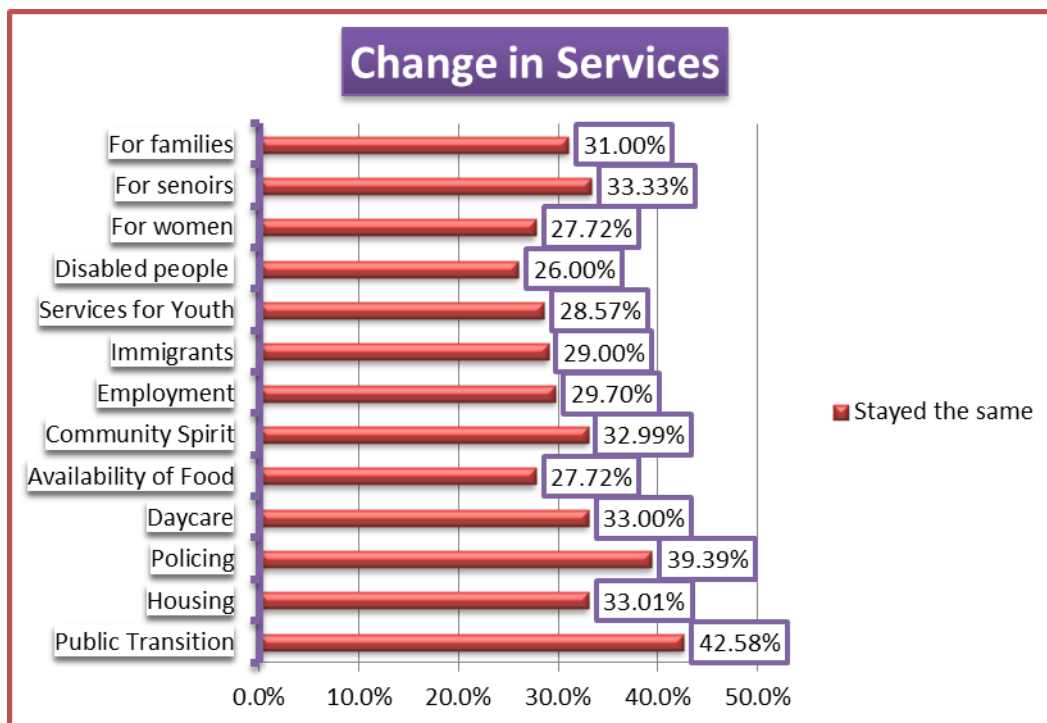
All four above graph represent that the majority of people certainly believe the family, friends, who make feel loved, who can be relied on can support them in the society in different ways.

Use of Leisure Time



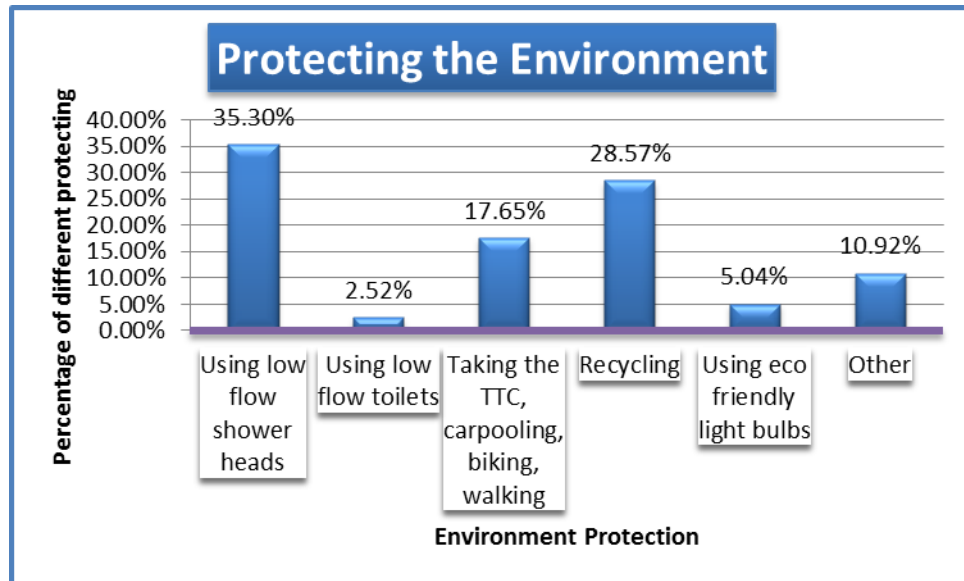
This graph shows the majority of residents spend leisure time with family 63.87%, with friends, 46.22%, and watching TV, 34.45%.

Change in Services



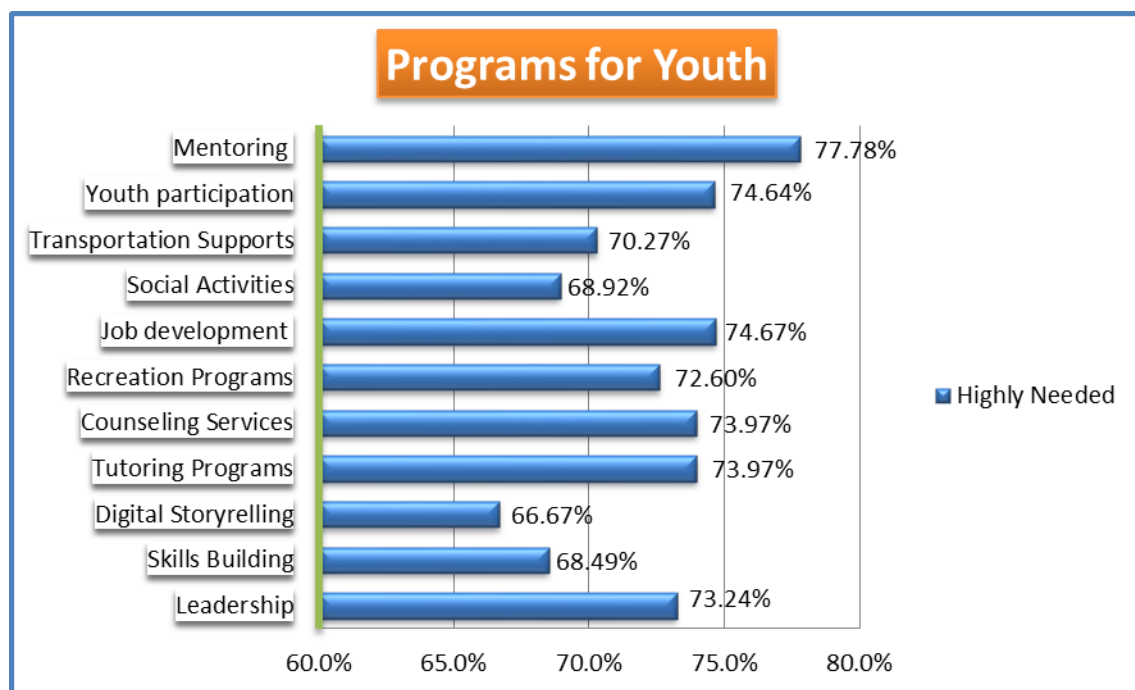
This graph shows that how many percentages of services stayed the same as before, and there is not any improvement.

Protecting the Environment

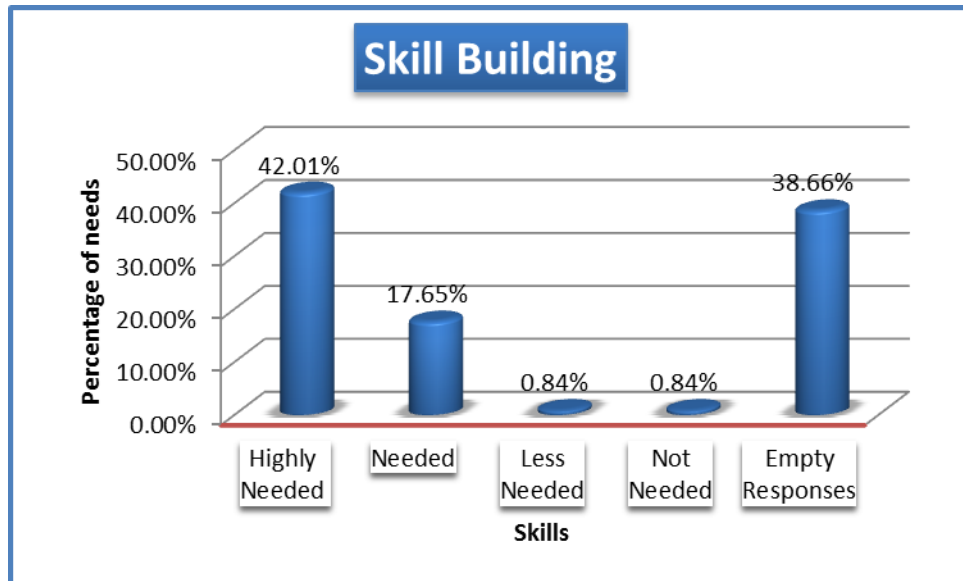


This graph shows that the majority of residents using low flow shower heads, 35.30%, and recycling, 28.57% to protect the environment.

Programs for Youth

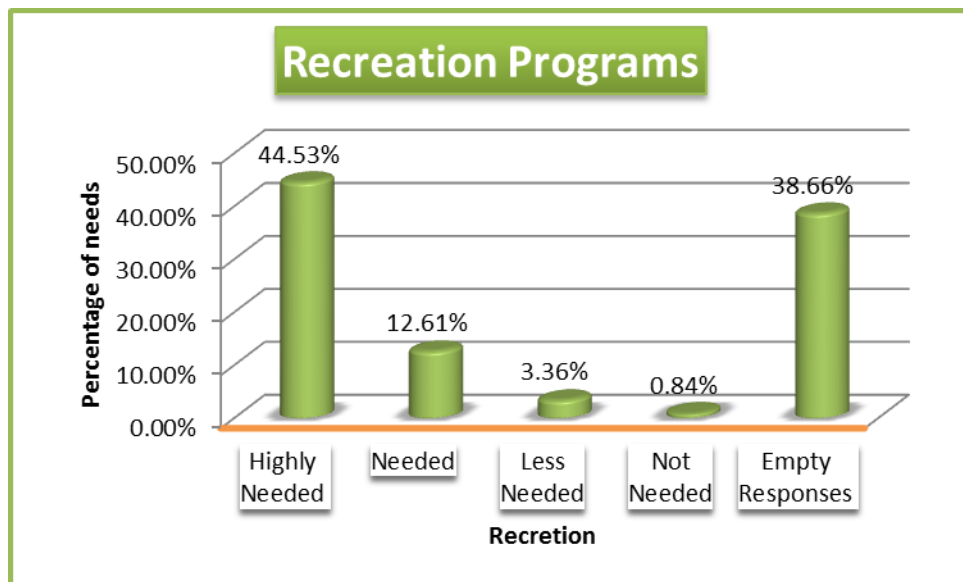


Skill Building



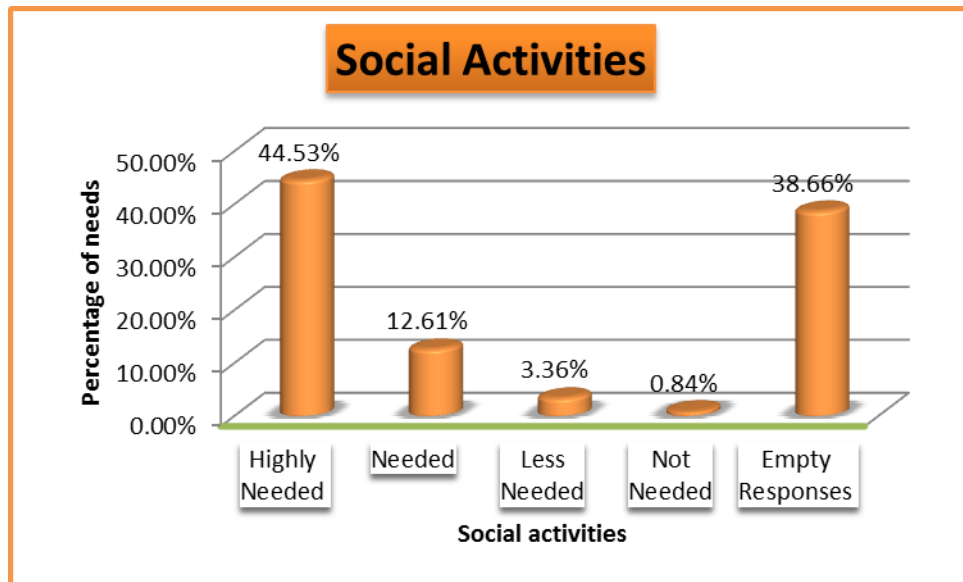
This graph represents skill building program is in highly needed for Regent Park youth residents. As we see, there is 42.01% highly needed for developing skill building.

Recreation Programs



This graph shows that the majority of residents who have youth, they are really in highly needs for recreation programs, 44.53%.

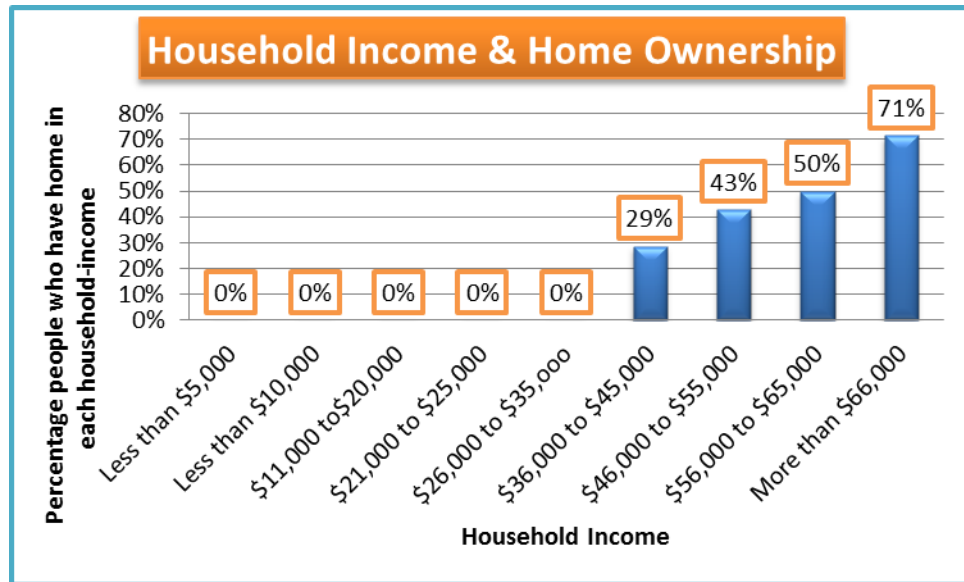
Social Activity



This graph represents residents are in highly needed with 44.53% for social activities for youth in Regent Park neighbourhood such as:

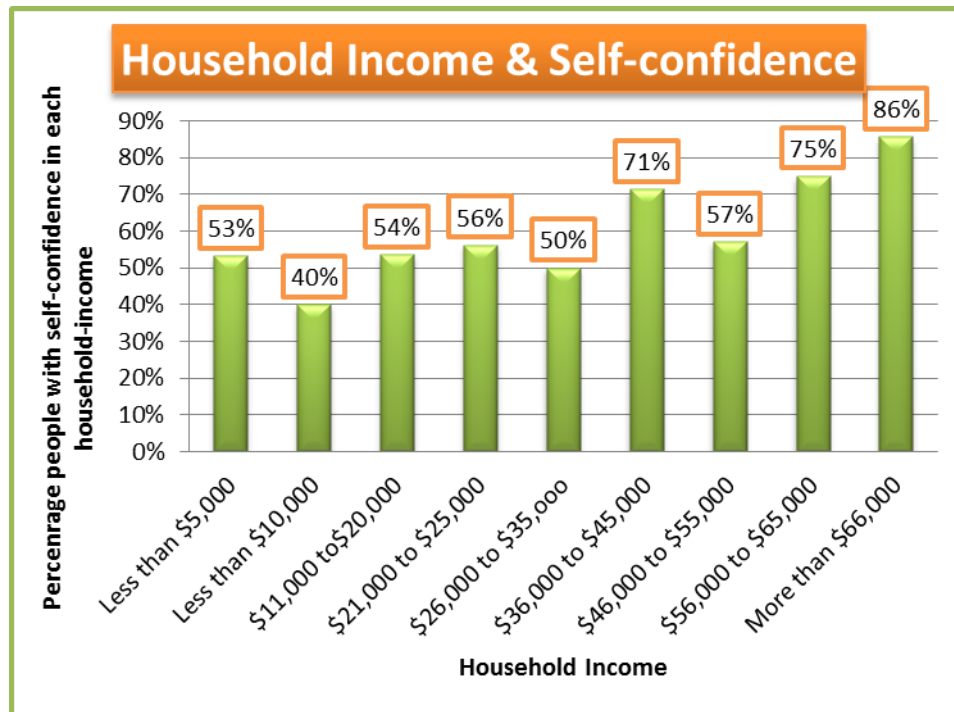
- Gym
- Swimming pool
- Art studio
- Music Centre
- Yoga Studio
- Spa, Relaxing
- Playground
- Park

The Combination of Household Income and Own Home for Correlation Analysis



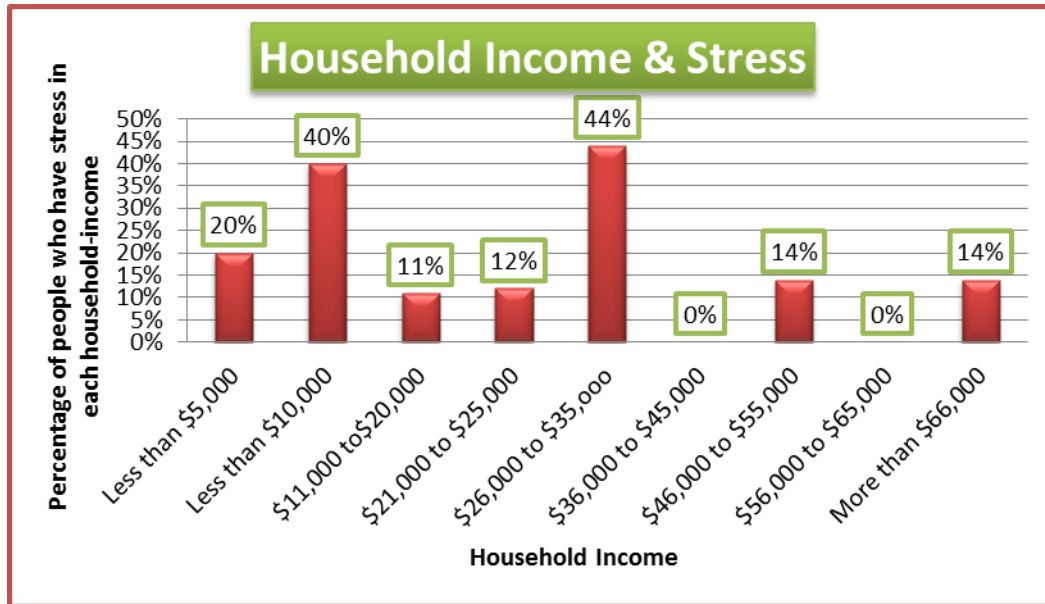
This graph represents that based on household income of residents, the percentage of home ownership from less than \$5,000 to \$26,000 to \$35,000 is 0%. As we can see, the residents who have \$36,000 to \$45,000 household income, they could afford to buy house with 29%.

- 71% of residents have own home with more than \$66,000 household income.
- 50% of residents have own home with \$56,000 to \$65,000 household income.
- 43% of residents have own home with \$46,000 to \$55,000 household income.



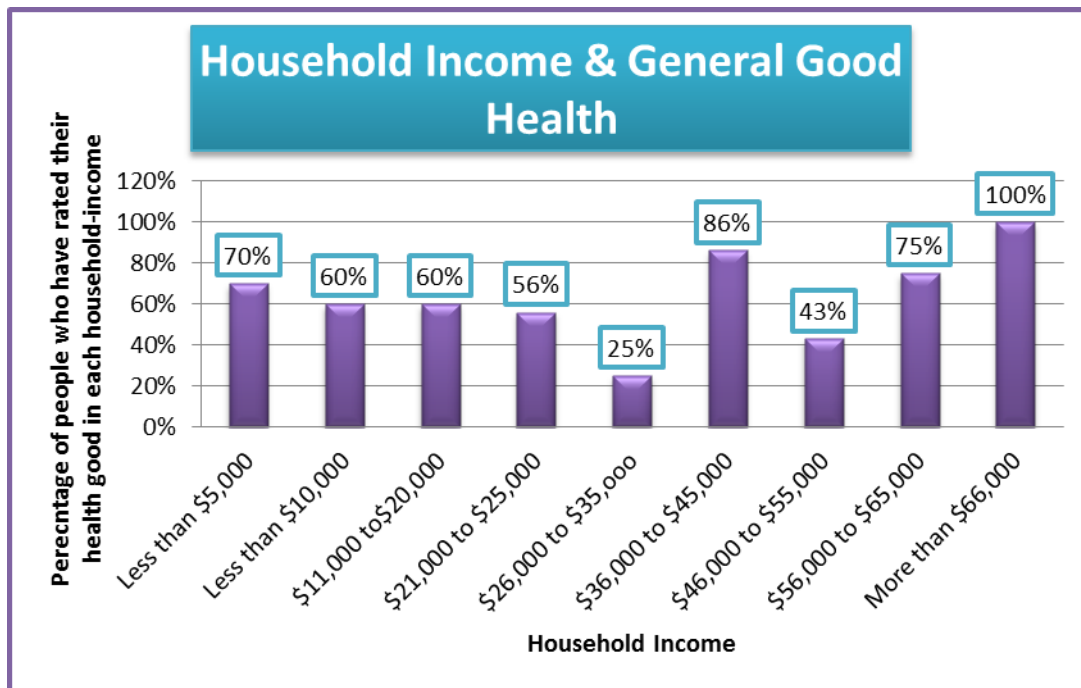
This graph represents that based on household income of residents, the percentage of self-confidence from less than \$5,000 to \$26,000 to \$35,000 is almost 50%. As we can see, the residents who have \$36,000 to \$45,000 household income, they have more self-confidence with 71%.

- 86% of residents have self-confidence with more than \$66,000 household income.
- 75% of residents have self-confidence with \$56,000 to \$65,000 household income.
- 75% of residents have self-confidence with \$46,000 to \$55,000 household income.



This graph represents that based on household income of residents, the percentage of stress from less than \$5,000 to \$26,000 to \$35,000 is almost 50%. As we can see, the residents who have \$36,000 to \$45,000 household income, they do not have any stress at all.

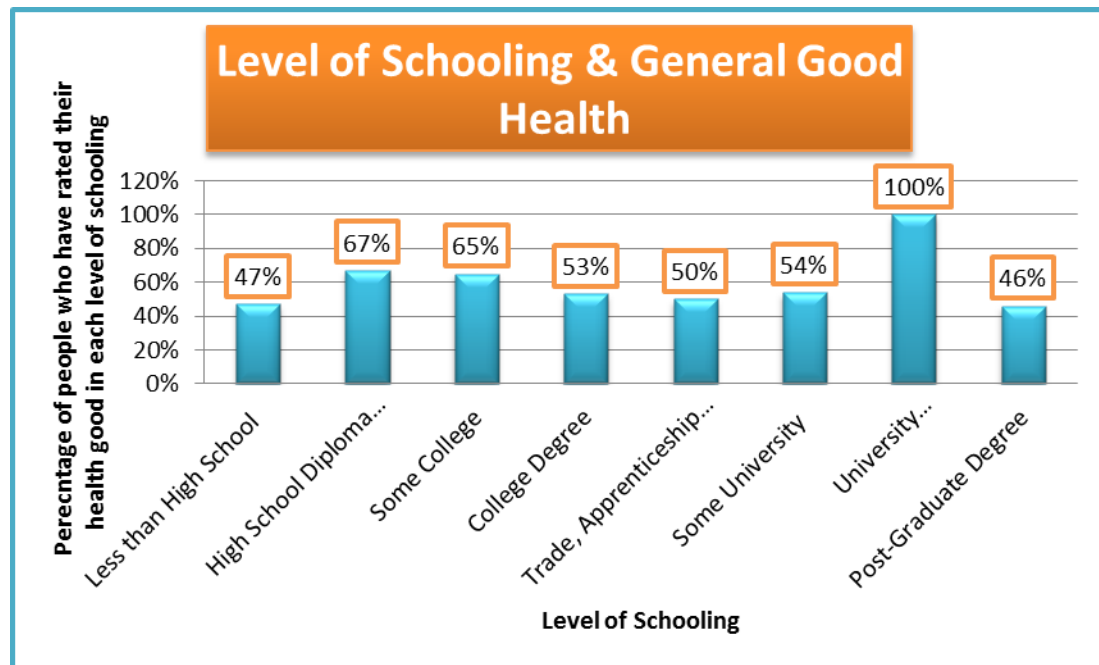
- 14% of residents have stress with more than \$66,000 household income.
- 0% of residents have stress with \$56,000 to \$65,000 household income.
- 14% of residents have stress with \$46,000 to \$55,000 household income.



This graph represents that based on household income of residents; the percentage of general good health from less than \$5,000 to \$26,000 to \$35,000 is average 50%. As we can see, the residents who have \$36,000 to \$45,000 household income, they care more about general good health so that the percentage of this group of people is 86%.

- 100% of residents who have general good health, they have more than \$66,000 household income.
- 75% of residents who have general good health, they have \$56,000 to \$65,000 household income.
- 86% of residents who have general good health, they have \$46,000 to \$55,000 household income.

The Combination of Level of Schooling and General Good Health for Correlation Analysis



This graph represents that based on level of schooling; the percentage of general good health from less than high school to some university is average 50%. As we can see, the residents who have university degree, they care more about general good health so that the percentage of this group of people is 100%.

The Combination of Length of Residency and Satisfaction with Community for Correlation Analysis



This graph represents that based on length of residency; the percentage of satisfaction with community is different. As we can see, the residents who have settled less than one year, they are satisfied with community conditions with %80 which probably who have moved to new housing of Regent Park, and they are satisfied with new environment. Also, the graph shows that the residents who live in this community more than 20+ years, %100 are satisfied. They have a sense of belonging, they used to live in this community for a long time, and of course they like this neighbourhood. So, satisfaction with community depends on the length of residency, and depending on how new community environment influence of new residents.

Key Informant Interviews

Director of Regent Park Community Health Centre (RPCHC)



Cherie Miller is working as the director of Regent Park Community Health Centre for almost three years and half. She says that it is challenging but exciting time to move to Regent Park because of redevelopment. The redevelopment is going over 15 years. She would recommend coming to new buildings, but it is difficult living in to the old buildings because they are so old and unsafe. In addition, there are so many noise, dust, and empty space which are dangerous and lack of safety right now. She believes that the community is very strong with social activity, and people are very excited for revitalization and redevelopment of this neighbourhood. There are lots of good resources for people such as Health Centre, and there is very strong community spirit. There is a great occasion, and new buildings are going to be very nice and comfortable. She believes that the key problem in this community is poverty. People do not have enough money to solve their problems. They cannot afford to have healthy food, and do extra things for their kids. They are not able to afford recreation activity. She would address to the poverty which is the biggest issue in this community. If she had power, she would like to give people enough money to live so that they could buy whatever they need and feel more secure and confident. Another issue in this community is the

youth violence which this issue also is related to the poverty. She would like to give their families money, so they could take care of their children. The family would have enough time to engage to spend with their children. They would have recreation activity that they need. They would be a sense of hope, and contribution to the society so that they have enough money to go the university. Cherie believes that it is impossible to solve the youth or poverty in a short time. She says, "One of the gaps in this community is that there are not enough programs for kids and youth especially between 6 to 14 ages. We need lots of programs for youth to not get involved to the violence. Also, we need some longer-term of successful program, such as skill training, jobs so that there is an opportunity to have a future. The biggest barrier is still poverty, and the social system we living in, does not give enough social support, education, and career. Also, our funders do not fund enough programs, but people are pretty brilliant, they are amazing family, kids, and most people are actually doing very well. They have pride, self-esteem, good family and social connection. This is very important to not give up solving the problem. She would like to advise a group interested in moving the health and well-being of this community, the best factors that she would recommend is that getting involved in the community activities would be really good avenue. There are committees, community members on the Board of Directors, and through these collective activities, it is possible to start impact in health and safety community. In fact, potential stuff related to physical issue with TCHC and the builders, but it has to be done with a group or collective group. She would recommend getting involved with one of the agencies to join in. She would like to see people getting involved, and having a sense of belonging with each other in the future, especially with mixed-housing which would be the biggest one with the community.

Executive Director of Christian Resource Centre (CRC)



Debra Dineen is the executive director of Christian Resource Centre (CRC) for a long time. She has been working in Regent Park for 16 years, and living in the Regent Park community for 21 years, the 5 years between the time she moved in and the time she became employed, she spent volunteering at the Regent Park Community Health Centre, Regent Park Focus and Dixon Hall, then became employed in each of those organizations. If a family she knew wanted to move into this neighbourhood, she would tell them that they are moving into a diverse community and a community that shares themselves limitlessly. She would tell them to get involved in the community that there are many things that would benefit if caring people get involved. She would say the strongest and best qualities of this community are diversity, the sense of living in a small village, and the agencies that provide service are the strongest and best qualities. She has grown to know so much about many different cultures and religious beliefs. She thinks that it is one of the best assets the community has. She would also say that the community of Regent Park cares about its people, when something happens to you; they come to support you... They care deeply. She would say the biggest issues in this

community are safety, communication, and coordination, and she would address these issues simultaneously. She would work with community and the youth to ensure that youth have other options available to them so that they feel less inclined to get involved the community in criminal activities. She would have all of the agencies work with her, and involve the community in all decision making and she would work towards all of us coordinating a response to end youth violence. She believes that the most serious needs of this community are good communication vehicle that keeps everyone up to date on what is happening. She would say the main barriers to dealing with these needs 1) too many leaders into many areas, lack of coordinated effort. 2) no tools available, or at least no consistent tool being used by all members of the community. 3) Lack of resources to hire translation/interpretation to the broader community. She would like to advise a group interested in improving the health and well-being of this community that they could focus on youth, seniors and building cohesion amongst the new and existing residents of Regent Park. If she was returning to this community after 15 years in another country, she would like to see the same level of diversity here, and she would like to see less poverty. She would like to see people who have come to Canada who foreign trained professionals are being allowed to practice their skills/crafts here.

Recommendation

This section provides many recommendations for Regent Park community based on the community need assessment. First of all, it is about decreasing the rate of poverty in this community by bringing more employment opportunity for residents. Secondly, it is about the increasing much more recreation activity for youth.

As we know, Regent Park is one the multiculturalism immigrant community in Toronto which it has lots of children and teenagers who are living in poverty condition. Also, this community has a bad reputation for violence, crime, drugs, and other factors which this type of environment would increase more uneducated population, unemployment, and principal of poverty.

Based on community needs assessment, we can create more employment condition for residents, and also building capacity and partnership in a positive way to remove the root of poverty. In addition, when there is no poverty in this community that would influence on each family of Regent Park population, especially for youth who are really in dangerous situation.

Although Regent Park has undergone revitalization and redevelopment, it would create more employment opportunity for residents, but there is still social housing that they cannot afford to provide healthy family.

We need to develop more recreation programs for youth to encourage and engage them to build up the leadership and skill trainings, jobs so that there is an opportunity to have a bright future. Moreover, we need to create action plan to engage the youth to participate in leadership programs.

The strategies of this action plan could be in short-term and long-term outcomes.

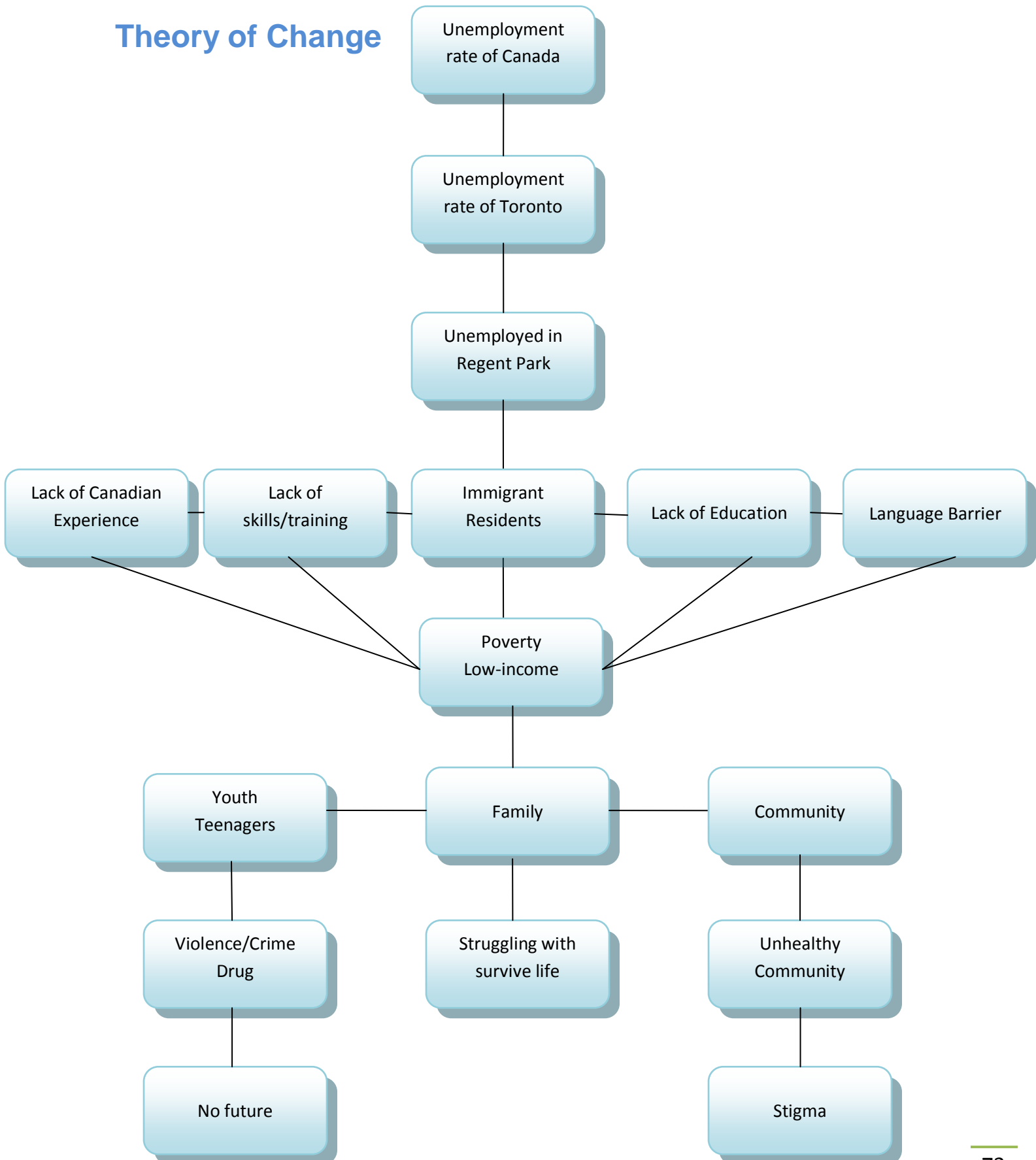
Short-term outcomes can increase awareness in different sector of social services and organization to work together in a better avenue for providing services. Also, to increase self-esteem, and the number of youth who are using these services, so there are more the number of community leaders in the neighbourhood.

Long-term outcomes can increase community leaders and youth leaders who have received the appropriate training. The trained youth can share their knowledge and experiences with other community as a role-model.

Conclusion

This survey represents that Regent Park is known low-income neighbourhood with more than half of its population being immigrants. Regent Park residents mostly are living in poverty condition that the main issues are unemployment, level of education, and language barrier based on the survey findings. In addition, almost half of the population living in this neighbourhood are children who are highly needed recreation programs, and social activities. The poverty of neighbourhood has influenced directly on family members especially young people such as teenagers, and youth so that the government should provide more job opportunity for Regent Park's residents. We should help and guide residents gain social independent by providing support to start their own business in their local area. In addition, we need to develop more recreation programs to build capacity and partnership for youth to encourage and engage them to build up self-confidence, leadership, skill training, and job development.

Theory of Change



Theory of Change for Youth Programs

Strategic Focus:

- Develop more recreation programs.
- Create action plan to engage youth to participate in leadership programs.
- Encourage and engage the youth to build up skill training and job.

Contextual Analysis

In Regent Park community, most of the residents considered as a low-income which this condition effect on youth. Lack of facilities and how to access recreation programs

Activity:

- Increase the capacity of professionals working with youth in a recreation programs to be able to more fully contribute to youth development.
- Increased knowledge about who youth are, why they do what they do, and how to facilitate their development through recreation.
- Service providers create action plan in partnership with others agencies involving in youth program.
- Create the provision of facilities and equipment for physical activity program for youth.

Short-term Outcomes

- Increase awareness in different sector of social services and organization to work together in a better avenue for providing services.
- Increase self-esteem, and the number of youth who are using these services.
- Increase the number of community leaders in the neighbourhood.

Long-term Outcome

- Youth trained leader share their knowledge with other community as a role-model.