

Ottawa Neighbourhood Equity Index

The Ottawa Neighbourhood Equity Index (NEI) is a weighted composite of 17 indicators. The Index Score ranges from 0 (greatest number of inequities) to 100.

The Neighbourhood Equity Index uses a four-colour scale to signify how Ottawa neighbourhoods are faring.

Benchmarks are the cut-off points (below or above) at which Ottawa neighbourhoods are likely to experience the greatest or fewest number of inequities.

For more information please go to the Ottawa Neighbourhood Index Technical Report.

The Neighbourhood Equity Index is a place-based index and while a good indication of overall wellbeing the index may oversimplify and 'average' the nuanced realities of the varied communities and individuals that live in a particular neighbourhood.

Ottawa NEI Domains and Indicators

Economic Opportunity Domain

Low Income Indicator [1] measures the Prevalence of low Income based on the Low Income Measure After Tax (LIM-AT).

Commonly used to measure the level of poverty, LIM-AT is set at 50% of the median Canadian income adjusted for family size and composition. In 2015, the LIM-AT threshold was \$22,133 for one-person households, \$31,611 for a two-person household, and 44,704 for a four-person household. The prevalence of low income presented by this indicator is the percentage of people living in households with income less than these amounts.

Working Poor Indicator [2] measures the percentage of working population (age 18 to 64) with an after-tax income below the Low Income Measure (LIM AT) and earning an annual individual working income of over \$3,000. The \$3,000 threshold qualifies people in working poverty for the Federal Working Income Tax Benefit (WITB).

Employment Income Indicator [1] is a measure of the median employment income in 2015 among recipients. Employment income refers to all income received as wages, salaries and commissions from paid employment and net self-employment income.

Working Part-Time Indicator [1] measures the percentage of working population 15 years and over who worked part year and/or part time in 2015. This indicator is providing insights to one of the aspects of employment quality and opportunity. When interpreted in combination with other indicators (number of jobs, employment income and share of working poor) this indicator offers a better understanding of the different economic circumstances the neighbourhoods in Ottawa are facing.

Number of Local Jobs Indicator [3] measures the number of jobs within the neighbourhood per 1,000 residents aged 15 and over. Speaks to the local employment opportunity. Access to local jobs is important for people who have no means of transportation, people of certain age, people with disabilities, single parents, new immigrants. Research shows that local economic development is related to the neighbourhood vitality and resilience.

Consumer Debt Indicator [4] is a measure of personal nonmortgage debt, intended to be used in combination with other measures of financial health such as Calculated Family Assets and Income indicators.

Financial Assets Indicator [2] measures the percentage of families with financial assets of any amount.

Housing Affordability-Renters or Owners Indicators [1] are a shelter cost to income measure. They represent the percentage of rented or owned households spending more than 30% of their monthly income on housing expenses.

Social and Human Development Domain

Proximity to Childcare: [5] Average capacity of childcare services within a 10 minute driving distance (per 10 children age 0 to 5)

Early Childhood Development (EDI): [6] Percentage of children vulnerable in one or more areas of their development

Secondary Education: [1] Percentage of population age 20 to 24 without certificate, diploma or degree

Post Secondary Completion: [1] Percentage of population aged 25 to 29 with postsecondary certificate, diploma or degree

Not Participating in the Labour Force: [1] Percentage of population age 25 to 55 not participating in the labour force

Physical Environment Domain

Community Places for Meetings: [7] Average number of meeting places within a 10 min driving distance

Walkability score: [9] Walkability Score is defined by the walking distance to key amenities including but not limited to grocery stores, schools, parks, restaurants, and retail

Transit Score [9] measures transit availability and the "usefulness" of transit routes which captures the distance to the nearest stop, transit frequency, and type of route.

Usable Green Space: [7] [8] the average amount of green space per square kilometer weighted using population weights

Commute Time: [1] Percentage of people spending over 45 minutes on their commute

Availability of Rental Housing: [1] Percentage of dwellings that are not owned

Healthy Lives Domain

Diabetes Related Health Service: [10] Age standardized number of individuals per 100 population (Percentage) with a diabetes related health service in the past 2 years (2015, 2016) among Ottawa residents aged 20 and older

Mental Health: [10] Average Number of ED Mental Health & Substance Use Visits, 2014-2018

Falls among Seniors: [10] Aged standardized number of hospital discharges with any diagnosis of fall for population 60 years and over

Community and Belonging Domain

Mobility Status: [1] Percentage of the population who moved in the last 5 years

Seniors Living Alone: [1] Percentage of seniors, 65 and older who live alone

Crime against the Property: [11] Rate of crimes against the property per 1,000 people, two year rate (2016-17)

Crime against the Person: [11] Rate of crimes against the person per 1,000 people, two year rate (2016-17)

Pedestrian and Cyclist Collisions: [12] Number of total Pedestrian and Cyclist Collisions from 2013 to 2017

Data source:

[1] Statistics Canada, 2016 Census of population, accessed at Community Data Program

[2] Statistics Canada, Income Statistics Division, T1 Family Files 2015. Working poor is a custom table prepared by Statistics Canada at the request of the Community Data Program (CDP) and available exclusively at CDP.

[3] Results of the 2016 Ottawa Employment Survey. Data is provided by the Economic Development and Long Range Planning Department of City of Ottawa, Eva Walrond

[4] TransUnion, 2018 Quarter 1, accessed at Community Data Program

[5] Community and Social Services, City of Ottawa

[6] Data Analysis Coordinators at Parent Resource Centre, Ottawa, Annie Lafrenière

[7] City of Ottawa Open Data

[8] City of Ottawa, Land use data 2015, Eva Walrond

[9] WalkScore.com

[10] Ottawa Public Health, Cameron McDermaid MHSc

[11] Ottawa Police Service, accessed from the Ottawa Neighbourhood Study