

WELLBEING IN OXFORD COUNTY

In this report, we provide a portrait of wellbeing in Oxford County using the most recent data available on selected indicators for each of the domains of wellbeing. By examining indicators of wellbeing within and across the eight domains of the CIW, this portrait can help inform the planning, development, and implementation of programs and services that have greater potential to enhance the wellbeing of residents and of the County as a whole. Creating portraits based on the CIW also provides an opportunity to learn more about the complexity of wellbeing in people's lives.

The report also describes how wellbeing in Oxford County varies compared to the West Region of Ontario, and to Ontario and Canada overall. Based on boundaries used by several Ontario Ministries, the West Region of Ontario – of which Oxford is a part – includes Brant, Bruce, Chatham-Kent, Elgin, Essex, Grey, Haldimand, Hamilton, Huron, Lambton, Middlesex, Niagara, Norfolk, and Perth. The West Region is home to over 2.8 million Ontarians and is a mix of rural, small urban, and large urban areas. The over 110,000 people living in Oxford represent 4.0% of the region's total population.

We begin with a brief demographic profile of the region, highlighting characteristics that make it unique. In the sections that follow, we present the eight domains of the CIW with descriptions of indicators of wellbeing that reflect how well residents of Oxford County are doing and how they compare to other areas. Finally, a summary section highlights the distinctiveness of the County and points to potential interconnections among the domains. Three appendices are included that provide more detail on the methods and data sources (Appendix A), summary statistics for Oxford County, West Region, Ontario and Canada, when available (Appendix B), and a glossary of terms used throughout the report (Appendix C).

The comparisons of indicators of wellbeing to other areas help us understand how Oxford County's residents are doing relative to these other areas and focuses our attention on aspects where we are doing well and where we might choose to direct greater emphasis in planning and allocating resources.

