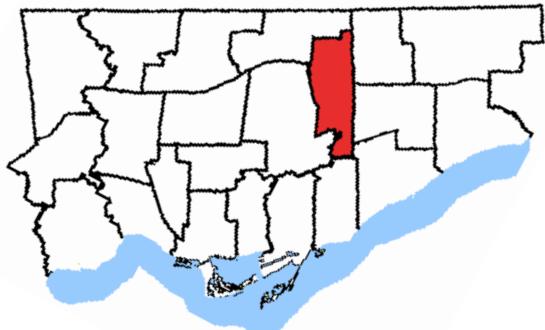


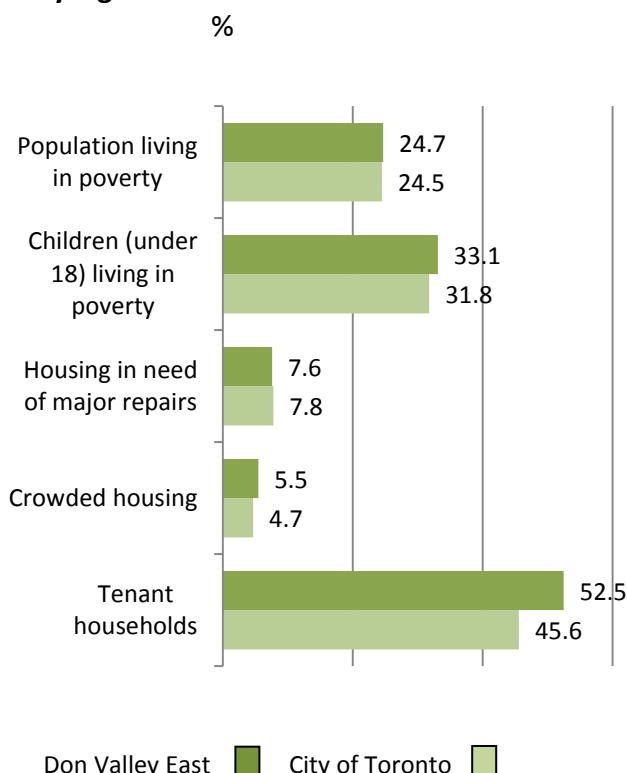
# Don Valley East

## Action on Poverty Profile

Provincial  
Riding  
Profiles



### Key Figures



### Story Behind the Stats

Don Valley East is bordered by Finch Avenue to the north, Leslie Street to the west, Sunrise Avenue to the south, and Victoria Park Avenue to the east. It includes Wards 33 and 34, as well as Victoria Village, a City of Toronto priority neighbourhood.

33.1% of youth in this riding live in poverty and racialized youth are especially affected. This population experiences barriers to mainstream education and employment. Being excluded from such opportunities limits future possibilities for these youth and puts them at risk of falling into – or continuing to live in – poverty.

**109,635 people live in  
Don Valley East  
26,855 live in poverty – 24.7%\***

**“Rites of Passage helps young people find their purpose in life, contribute positively to their community and find the resiliency to navigate their turbulent lives. Rites of Passage has demonstrated life-changing results.”**

**Diane Dyson**  
Director of Research and Public Policy  
WoodGreen Community Services

The Action on Poverty profile series was created by Social Planning Toronto and the Alliance for a Poverty-Free Toronto. The profile includes Census data from Statistics Canada's Federal Electoral District Profiles and Community Profiles.

\*For details on calculations and definitions, go to [www.spno.ca](http://www.spno.ca)



# Taking Action in Don Valley East

WoodGreen Community Services has made it its mission to promote well-being and reduce poverty in the community. Their vision for Toronto is a city in which every member has the opportunity to thrive. They aim to address the needs of residents through innovative solutions in areas like housing, employment, and health and wellness.

Rites of Passage is a 12 month program for teenagers of African descent in Parma Court, a social housing community in Victoria Village. It was created in response to studies showing that black youth in Toronto experience exclusion from conventional educational and employment opportunities.

This preventative program uses an Afro-Centric curriculum to instil self-esteem, build resiliency and teach leadership. This helps participating youth develop skills that help them succeed in school and with future employment. In fact, 85% of Rites of Passage graduates have found and maintained summer or after-school employment. This program is an inventive approach in the fight against poverty.

[www.woodgreen.org](http://www.woodgreen.org)

## Alliance for a Poverty-Free Toronto Takes Action

APT is made up of 40 community members and organizational representatives, including individuals with lived experience of poverty, from across the city. We are working together to develop and promote a comprehensive plan of action to eliminate poverty in Toronto.

Want to get involved?

Contact us at [apt@socialplanningtoronto.org](mailto:apt@socialplanningtoronto.org) or call (416) 351-0095 x255  
[www.povertyfreetoronto.org](http://www.povertyfreetoronto.org)

## How to Connect with your Elected Representatives on these Issues

Mayor: *Rob Ford*, 416-397-3673, [mayor\\_ford@toronto.ca](mailto:mayor_ford@toronto.ca)

City Councillors: *Shelley Carroll*, 416-392-4038, [councillor\\_carroll@toronto.ca](mailto:councillor_carroll@toronto.ca) (Ward 33);  
*Denzil Minnan-Wong*, 416-397-9256, [councillor\\_minnan-wong@toronto.ca](mailto:councillor_minnan-wong@toronto.ca) (Ward 34)

School Trustee: *Harout Manougian*, 416-397-3086, [harout.manougian@tdsb.on.ca](mailto:harout.manougian@tdsb.on.ca) (Toronto District School Board-English public school board)

Toronto Catholic District School Board: 416-222-8282

Member of Provincial Parliament (MPP): *Michael Coteau*, 416-494-6856, [mcoteau.mpp.co@liberal.ola.org](mailto:mcoteau.mpp.co@liberal.ola.org)

Member of Parliament (MP): *Joe Daniel*, 416-443-0623, [joe.daniel@parl.gc.ca](mailto:joe.daniel@parl.gc.ca)