

Snapshot 2021

April 2020 – March 31, 2021

Measuring the success & strength by the health and wellbeing of all citizens

LCCEWA

LONDON COORDINATING COMMITTEE
TO END WOMAN ABUSE



TVAMHS – Thames Valley Addiction & Mental Health Services
WRRCSA – Women's Rural Resource Centre of Strathroy & Area
LAWC – London Abused Women's Centre
VS – Victim Services
DV – Domestic violence **SV** – Sexual violence **HT** – Human trafficking



Community profile

- 511,000** Population
- 94,024** 18.4% of Londoners living in poverty
- 22%** % of Londoners who identify as visible minority (20% are Arab followed by South Asian & Black; most common languages spoken are Arabic, Spanish, Mandarin & Portuguese)
- Oneida of the Thames, 1 of 3 FN's reserves in London & Middlesex, have had a boil water advisory since 2019
- London is the 11th largest city in Canada



Policing & Justice

Total Incidents Reported:

	London Police	Middlesex OPP	Strathroy Caradoc Police
DV	1,221 (↑20.4%)	429 (↓2.5%)	213 (↓5.7%)
SV	526 (↑20.6%)	38 (↓17.4%)	38 (↑500%)
HT	82 (↓43%)	17 (↑1,600%)	0 (↓100%)
480	DVs offender program completions (Changing Ways/Partner Assault Program)		
250	Outreach supports to victims/current partners (Changing Ways/Caring Dads Program)		
75	Dads, 150 children & 75 mothers (Changing Ways/Caring Dads Program)		
921	Counselling for individuals involved with the justice system (John Howard Society)		



Waitlists

- 5,873** Individuals or households on the waitlist for rent-geared-to-income housing (67.8% increase since 2018; 177 with priority status (DV/HT), 1754 with urgent status, 3923 without priority status)
- 60%** Increase in requests for counselling services (FSTV)



Crisis & Helplines

- 2,617** Mental health crisis centre visits (59% increase in case management due to the complexity of cases, TVAMHS)
- 609** Mental health crisis team calls
- 30,611** Mental health crisis calls (71.9% increase over 2020)
- 26,073** Mental health support calls (47.7% increase over 2020)
- 7,067** Children's mental health crisis calls (103.2% increase over 2020)
- 8,627** DV/SV crisis calls received (23.4% decrease over 2020)
- 5,400** Calls for service (45% increase in urgent services support, LAWC)
- 1,156** Indigenous DV/SV crisis calls (77.8% increase over 2020, Atlohsa)



Poverty & Homelessness

- Indigenous individuals make up 4% of the population but 30% of them are homeless
- 1 in 7 Londoners experience food insecurity – 60% of them have paid employment

Londoners living in poverty:

- 18.4%** General population (vs 10.1% in Canada & 10.9% in Ontario)
- 35.9%** Indigenous
- 55.1%** Newcomers
- 25%** London children living in poverty (vs 17.6% in Ontario; London rate is among the highest in Canada)
- 1,330** Estimated # of people sleeping rough each night
- 50+** Estimated # of deaths of homeless individuals



Children & Youth

- 25.1%** % of new referrals to child protection opened for children who are exposed to DV
- 23.5%** % of children & youth in care who identify as FNIM
- 8,000** Families using family support services (Merrymount)
- 3,054** Children & youth counselling (Vanier, Merrymount, VS, WRRCSA, Atlohsa)
- 225** Individuals in new youth emergency shelter (1st 6 months of operation)
- 59.6%** % of homeless youth who experience violent victimization (6x more likely to be victimized than general population)



Employment, Social Assistance & Housing

- 19,547** Monthly average of beneficiaries on Ontario Works
- 23%** % of Londoners spending more than 30% of income on housing
- 14%** % of Londoners spending more than 50% of income on housing (Affordable housing is defined as no more than 30% of income)
- \$1,304** Average cost of 1-bedroom apartment (78% increase since 2018)



Covid-19

The Covid-19 crisis, with resulting social & physical isolation, employment interruptions, financial pressures, and lack of safe & affordable housing, has led to unprecedented levels of violence against women, family violence and gender-based violence as well as exceptionally high levels of mental health & substance abuse issues. Community services have faced extraordinary pressures to adapt and meet the needs of the most vulnerable in our community. The continued fallout, with staff burnout and shortage, along with the compounding trauma of both those working in the sector and those needing support, is yet to be fully understood.



Safety & Supports

- 1,774** Individuals in homeless shelters each night
- 428** Women & children in emergency shelter (Multiple sites - additional shelter in local hotels)
- 1,956** % of women turned away due to bed shortage (Anova, WRRCSA)
- 44%** Increase in the length of shelter stays over the past year (Anova)
- 777** Interpretation Hours for Newcomers (16 languages, Arabic most common)
- 27%** % of newcomer settlement program cases involving DV; 54% of cases involving CAS (Muslim Resource Centre)
- 15,717** Individuals served in DV/SV/HT counselling (multiple agencies including 45% increase in urgent services (LAWC) & 500% increase in counselling hours due to complexity of cases (Reseau Femmes)
- 100** Opioid-related deaths (42.9% increase since 2020)
- 17,477** Visits to safe consumption site (171 overdose reversals)
- 728** Opioid-related emergency department visits (34% increase since 2019)

LCCEWA

A network of organizations, groups and individuals in London & Middlesex dedicated to ending woman abuse through leadership & actions that achieve both social justice for women & an integrated response to women and their children. Membership includes cross-sector organizations including child protection, justice sector, health, adult & children's mental health, violence against women, community counselling, research, education, family supports, Indigenous & Francophone.