

## About This Report

### About the Toronto Foundation

Established in 1981, the Toronto Foundation is one of 191 Community Foundations in Canada. We are a leading independent charitable foundation that connects philanthropy to community needs and opportunities. Our individual and family Fundholders support causes they care about in Toronto and across Canada, through grants to any registered Canadian charity. We currently have more than 500 active Funds, including endowments and assets under administration of more than \$300 million. A growing number of Torontonians support the Vital Toronto Fund, our community endowment that helps mobilize people and resources to tackle community challenges in innovative and inspiring ways. To find out more, please visit [www.torontofoundation.ca](http://www.torontofoundation.ca)

### About the Report

The Foundation partners with many researchers to produce the Toronto's Vital Signs® Report. The Report is compiled from current statistics and studies, identifying progress we should be proud of and challenges that need to be addressed. It is a consolidated snapshot of the trends and issues affecting the quality of life in our city and each of the interconnected issue areas is critical to the wellbeing of Toronto and its residents. Citations at the end of the Report, and live web links throughout, will take you directly to the sources used in this year's Report.

The Report aims to inspire civic engagement and provide focus for public debate. It is used by residents, businesses, community organizations, universities and colleges, and government departments. In addition, the Report is a model now being used for strategic planning by cities around the world.

## Your guide for discussion and action

As you read through this Report, consider the Vital Questions posed throughout. We have lots to be proud of, but there are also things we need to think about in order to shift some troubling trends.

Ask yourself:

- What issues do you care about?
- What data surprises you?
- Have you been inspired to act?

Please share your thoughts by filling-out a short online survey at [www.torontofoundation.ca](http://www.torontofoundation.ca)

## About the Community Knowledge Centre

At [www.ckc.torontofoundation.ca](http://www.ckc.torontofoundation.ca) you will find an online showcase of more than 250 organizations working on solutions to the issues identified in this Report. Through video and prose, it presents stories of innovations taking place in our city and provides you with an opportunity to get involved.

At the end of each issue area section in this Report, you will find lists and descriptions of groups that are addressing the trends and data reported through their innovative community-based programs. Live web links connect you to their profiles on the Community Knowledge Centre.

## About Community Foundations

Community Foundations are independent public foundations that strengthen their communities by partnering with donors to build permanent endowments, which support community projects, and by providing leadership on issues of broad community concern.

Community Foundations of Canada coordinates the nation-wide Vital Signs project, which measures the vitality of our communities, identifies significant trends, and supports action on issues that are critical to our quality of life. Since the first Vital Signs® publication was published by the Toronto Foundation in 2001, the Report has been adopted by 49 communities across Canada and by 17 communities internationally across 6 countries and 4 continents.

**VitalSigns®**

Community foundations taking the pulse of  
Canadian communities.



COMMUNITY  
FOUNDATIONS  
OF CANADA  
**all for community.**