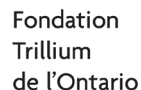




At a glance: Who participated

Halton Youth Impact Survey Partners





About the Halton Youth Impact Survey (HYIS)

The Community Child and Youth Well-being Survey (CY-Survey) Project is a partnership led by UNICEF Canada, the Ontario Trillium Foundation (OTF), the Medavie Health Foundation, and the Canadian Index of Wellbeing (CIW) in collaboration with community partners in four regions – Halton Region, Ottawa, the Tri-County Region of Nova Scotia, and Waterloo Region. The CY-Survey is a youth-friendly, validated tool developed by UNICEF Canada. The survey was branded the Halton Youth Impact Survey (HYIS) for administration in Halton Region.

Created by the community for the community, this survey is important because it provides the opportunity for OKN and Halton to collect and share new, quality, local data, and evidence to support the delivery of programs, services, policies, and initiatives that are critical to the well-being of children, youth and families in Halton.

The survey was designed for children and youth between 9 and 18 years of age. It measures key factors related to child and youth development and wellbeing, such as connection to family, schools, community and peers, as well as other domains such as physical and mental health, participation, safety and leisure, and risk behaviours such as smoking and drug use.



Method

The HYIS was available online April 30 to June 14, 2021. Using a combination of direct contact and social media as well as enlisting 25 Youth Impact Ambassadors, children and youth aged 9 to 18 years in Halton Region were invited to complete the survey using an online survey site managed by the CIW. During the six weeks that the survey was open, invitations and reminders were sent via social media and email. Participants were recruited through OKN partners and peer to peer engagement using social media, email, flyers and virtual events through public health, regional and municipal government, and other community organizations throughout Halton

When the survey closed early in June 2021, a total of 3,273 children and youth had gone to the online survey. After removing duplicate and illegitimate submissions (e.g., clearly dishonest or fake entries), and retaining only those submissions that had completed at least 30% of survey questions, a total of 2,599 children and youth provided usable responses and comprised the final sample.

Limitations

An accurate estimate of the overall response rate cannot be determined. Even though the total numbers of children and youth 9 to 18 years of age living in Halton Region can be established using official sources such as the Census of Canada, the actual number of children and youth ultimately reached by extending invitations to participate in the survey through various social media is unknown. Consequently, an accurate count of the total survey population – that is, the number of potential participants – could not be made in order to estimate the response rate based on the final sample size.

By using an open invitation sampling strategy to enlist survey participants, the 2,599 individuals making up the final sample cannot be considered representative of all children and youth in Halton Region. However, given the size and geographic coverage of the final sample and a review of its demographic profile against selected Census data, the individuals who did choose to participate do reflect a reasonably good cross-section of children and youth in Halton Region. Consequently, the survey data can be used with confidence, albeit with some caution when drawing conclusions.

Source: Canadian Index of Wellbeing, Faculty of Health, University of Waterloo (2021). The Well-being of children and youth in Halton Region: A profile based on the 2021 Halton Youth Impact Survey.

Who participated?

		n	%	%
Gender	Female	1112	49%	
	Male	1067	47%	
	Non-binary	30	1%	
	Another gender identity*	51	2%	
	Prefer not to say / missing	256	11%	
Age	9 - 12 years	183	9%	
	13 - 18 years	1915	91%	
Grade	Elementary school (grades 4 - 6)	104	6%	
	Middle school (grades 7 - 8)	143	8%	
	Secondary school (grades 9 - 12)	1632	87%	
Immigration	Five years or less	249	11%	
	More than five years	271	12%	
	Born in Canada	1657	76%	
Household	Two parents / guardians	1837	83%	
	Other	370	17%	
Indigenous**	No	1767	83%	
	Yes	366	17%	

*Participants could self-identify and enter their own gender identity. The most common response was non-binary gender fluid (13), questioning/not sure (10), demigirl (3), agender (12), genderqueer (2).

**Identifies as First Nations, Metis, Inuit or other.



Who participated?

Neighbourhood	#	%	
South East Oakville	81	5%	
North East Oakville	83	5%	
River Oaks	142	9%	
North Central Oakville	25	2%	
South Central Oakville	25	2%	
Glen Abbey	93	6%	
South West Oakville	96	6%	
South East Burlington	66	4%	
South Central Burlington	55	3%	
Aldershot	43	3%	
Central West Burlington	29	2%	
East Milton	27	2%	
West Milton	21	1%	
Rural North Halton	18	1%	
Acton	62	4%	
North Georgetown	30	2%	
South Georgetown	27	2%	
North Bronte Oakville	118	7%	
Upper Glen Abbey	107	6%	
Central Burlington	27	2%	
Central East Burlington	47	3%	
Escarpment	112	7%	
South Central Milton	110	7%	
Upper East Milton	102	6%	
Lower East Milton	76	5%	
North Burlington	27	2%	
The Orchard	27	2%	
Municipality	#	%	
Burlington	443	20%	
Halton Hills	336	15%	
Oakville	906	41%	
Milton	532	24%	



Plans for knowledge mobilization

Our Kids Network is committed to turning research into action. We do this by supporting our community partners in using the best available evidence to make decisions about programs, services and policies around child and youth wellbeing in Halton. The results from the Halton Youth Impact Survey provide our community with a valuable opportunity to make positive change for young people. To do this, OKN is working with partners to develop a knowledge translation plan to guide us in turning this new information about youth wellbeing into positive action. Our plan is focused on centering youth voices to ensure initiatives are responsive to their needs. To do this, we will be hosting Youth Data Parties, such as the one hosted by our Youth Impact Ambassadors on November 30 ([link to blog](#)), to share findings with young people and hear their feedback on key priorities such as mental health, belonging and safety. We will also be sharing preliminary findings with our partners to get their feedback on what the data means to them and how we can work together to mobilize this important information.

Beginning early in 2022, we will be kicking off a series of public activities to share findings from the survey, including events, a series of data action briefs, reports, infographics, Data Portal ([link](#)) tutorials and more. We plan to mobilize our community around key considerations to help guide decision-making that is relevant to each organization.





Do More with Data

The Halton Youth Impact Survey provides a snapshot about youth wellbeing in Halton during COVID-19. The next step is to explore and share the findings. Use the [Data Portal](#) to begin exploring the data. Have conversations about what the results mean, and how we can work together in Halton to respond to these findings.

These guidelines for interpreting and using the data can help you put research into action in your work:

Understanding the Data

- It is more useful to look for patterns of findings than to focus on a specific finding
- Using multiple indicators as evidence of strength and need is a much stronger approach than using a single indicator.
- Use caution when making comparisons. Look for at least a 5% change or difference between groups. This helps to avoid “over-interpreting” small differences as being important
- Several types of response bias have been identified related to self-report surveys. Use caution when interpreting the meaning of findings because some data may not represent all youth in Halton
- The data are meant to provide a snapshot of information about how Halton youth are doing. The data cannot explain why an indicator is at a certain level

Interpreting the Data

Bring groups of different community partners together to talk about and explore the data. Try using the [Data Conversation Tool](#) to explore the data further as a team.

Questions to consider:

- What data points stand out to you? Why?
- What issues does the data bring to mind for you?
- What story does the data tell for you?
- How can this data help you or your organization?

Our Kids Network Protocol Partners

