

OUR DEMANDS BY THE NUMBERS



REAL WAGE INCREASES

BY THE NUMBERS:

- In 2022, wage growth consistently trailed behind inflation.ⁱ
- At its peak last year, consumer prices in Ontario increased more than twice as fast as wages.ⁱⁱ
- Ontario's average living wage is now \$19.72 per hour.ⁱⁱⁱ
- At least, 863,000 Ontarians in 571,000 households live in deep poverty while receiving social assistance.^{iv}

WE DEMAND:

- Raise the minimum wage to \$20 an hour.
- Stop the appeal of Bill 124.
- End poverty wages.
- Double ODSP and OW rates.
- Restore and expand decent work laws, including paid sick days and equal pay for equal work.
- Make it easier for workers to join a union.

KEEP SCHOOLS AND HEALTH CARE PUBLIC

BY THE NUMBERS:

- Ontario's health spending per capita was \$4,800 in the first year of the pandemic, the lowest in Canada and 10% below the average of the other provinces.^v
- Since 2008, Ontario's health spending per capita has consistently ranked at or near the lowest in Canada.^{vi}
- In November 2022, patients spent on average 22.4 hours in an emergency room waiting to be admitted – with only 23% of patients meeting the province's target time.^{vii}
- Polling data from Environics shows that:
 - 79% of Ontarians believe that our health care is in a state of crisis.
 - 55% of Ontarians believe that Ford's government is responsible for the crisis.
 - 59% of Ontarians oppose relying more on private for-profit health care providers to solve the health care crisis.
 - 76% of Ontarians believe that it is not fair to cap wages for nurses and other health professionals at 1% when inflation is so high.^{viii}
- 2020, program spending per capita in Ontario was the lowest among the provinces and 14.3 per cent lower than the rest of Canada's average.
- Overall, the cumulative Ministry of Education spending gap from 2021-22 to 2029-30 between the FAO's forecast and the Province's 2021 budget spending plan is \$12.3 billion.

i 2022. Government of Ontario. Labour market report.

ii Ibid.

iii 2022. Craig Pickthorne. Ontario Living Wage.

iv 2022. Ricardo Tranjan. It's election time and Ontario still chooses not to eliminate poverty.

v 2022. Financial Accountability Office. 2020-21 Interprovincial Comparison.

vi Ibid.

vii 2022. Health Quality Ontario. Time spent in emergency departments.

viii 2022. Environics Research. Ontarians' attitudes on key issues.

OUR DEMANDS BY THE NUMBERS



WE DEMAND:

- Stop the privatization of health care.
- Stop shortchanging education.
- Eliminate user fees. Properly fund all our public services.
- End the staffing crisis in health care.
- Slash tuition fees at college and university.
- Ensure affordable and accessible child care.
- Make transit free and accessible.
- Treat public sector workers with dignity and respect.

AFFORDABLE GROCERIES, GAS, AND BASIC GOODS

BY THE NUMBERS:

- In 2022, gas prices hit a high of \$ 212.0/L in Ontario.^{ix}
- In 2022, all large grocers saw an increase in gross profit in relative to their average past performance -- with Loblaw earning an excess of \$436 million.^x
- In 2023, food prices are expected to increase by another 5% to 7% on average – with price hikes predicted across all food groups.^{xi}
- A typical family of four will be forced to shell out an average of \$16,288 on food over the course of 2023 – an increase of \$1,065 from 2022.^{xii}
- Ontario's food banks were visited more than 4,353,000 times throughout 2021-22, an increase of 42% over the last three years.^{xiii}
- There has been a 47% increase in Ontarians with employment accessing food banks since 2018.^{xiv}

WE DEMAND:

- End the price gouging by grocery stores and oil and gas corporations.
- Impose price caps on groceries, fuel, and basic goods.
- Pass a Right to Food law that guarantees universal free school meals.
- End the food deserts in our communities.
- Tax the profits of food and oil giants.

RENT CONTROL AND AFFORDABLE HOUSING

BY THE NUMBERS:

- Between 2011 and 2018, the number of Ontario households in core housing need increased (19.1%) while the number of households receiving housing support from provincial programs decreased (4%).^{xv}
- In GTA markets, 100.97% of monthly income (median after tax income) is being spent on mortgages.^{xvi}
- To afford the average two-bedroom apartment in some parts of Ontario (e.g., Toronto), tenants need to be making close to or more than \$100,000 a year.^{xvii}
- Only 12.86 per cent of millennials own a home in Ontario, with 87.14 per cent renting.^{xviii}

ix 2023. Canadian Automobile Association. Gas prices.
x 2022. Samantha Taylor and Sylvain Charlebois. Canadian grocers: measuring "greed" in the era of consumer distrust.
xi 2022. Dalhousie University. Canada food price report.
xii Ibid.
xiii 2022. Feed Ontario. Hunger report 2022: the deepening cracks in Ontario's economic foundation.
xiv Ibid.
xv 2021. Financial Accountability Office. Affordable housing.
xvi 2022. RE/MAX. Canada's housing affordability report.
xvii 2022. Erica Alini. Here's the income you need to afford rent in major Canadian cities.
xviii 2021. Jack Landau. Staggeringly low number young homeowners Ontario.

OUR DEMANDS BY THE NUMBERS



WE DEMAND:

- Pass real rent control and a Tenants' Bill of Rights.
- Launch a province-wide public housing program that builds decent homes in every community.
- Cap mortgage payments as inflation rates rise.
- Stop evictions and foreclosures.
- Create commercial rent control for small businesses.
- House those without shelter instead of policing them.

MAKE THE BANKS AND CORPORATIONS PAY

BY THE NUMBERS:

- In Canada, 47 people control \$270 billion in total wealth^{xix} – with Ontario being home to the highest concentration of billionaires in the country.^{xx}
- Canada's highest-paid CEOs and other top executives shattered records for compensation in 2021, earning an average of \$14.3 million as soaring inflation began to take hold.^{xxi}
- In 2019, the net income of the six largest banks in Canada was \$46.6 billion.^{xxii}
- Canadian corporate profit margins skyrocketed in 2021 at 16%; comparatively, from 2002 to 2019, corporate profit margins averaged 9%.^{xxiii}

WE DEMAND:

- Tax the record profits of the banks and the corporations.
- Make the 1% pay their fair share and restore tax rates for the highest earners.
- End the tax breaks and tax loopholes for banks and corporations.
- Impose fines on banks and corporations that fail to pay their taxes.
- Hold big corporate polluters responsible for their actions.

xix 2021. Forbes. Forbes' annual billionaires list, Forbes' "real-time billionaires" data, and Bloomberg billionaire index.
xx 2022. Wealth Awesome. 15 Richest people in Ontario (2023).
xxi 2023. David Macdonald. Breakfast of champions: CEO pay in 2021 hits new all-time high.
xxii 2021. Canadian Bankers Association. Bank revenues and earnings profits.
xxiii 2022. DT Cochrane. The rise of corporate profits in the time of Covid.