



2016 Census Profile on the Town of Richmond Hill

Release #4: Income

Every 5 years, Statistics Canada (on behalf of the Government of Canada) undertakes a nation-wide Census. The purpose of this Census is to collect quantitative information on the country's population, and provides a detailed snapshot of the demographic, social, and economic conditions of the country.

Data collected from the 2016 Census is being released in stages between February 2017 and November 2017. The following is a summary of the data from the fourth release that occurred in September 2017, containing income information. Information on the overall 2016 Census and the release schedule is contained within the Census Profile focusing on Release #1: Population and dwelling counts.

Statistics Canada has modified its data collection procedure for income for the 2016 Census. For the first time, income data from Canada Revenue Agency has been linked to census respondents. By using CRA income data, Statistics Canada is able to provide a more comprehensive look at income data. It allows for larger sample sizes, which is especially important for smaller populations, and will allow for an increased level of analysis when linked with other variables.

Income data is generally gathered from the year previous to the census year; for example, the 2016 Census looks at income that was earned from January-December 2015.

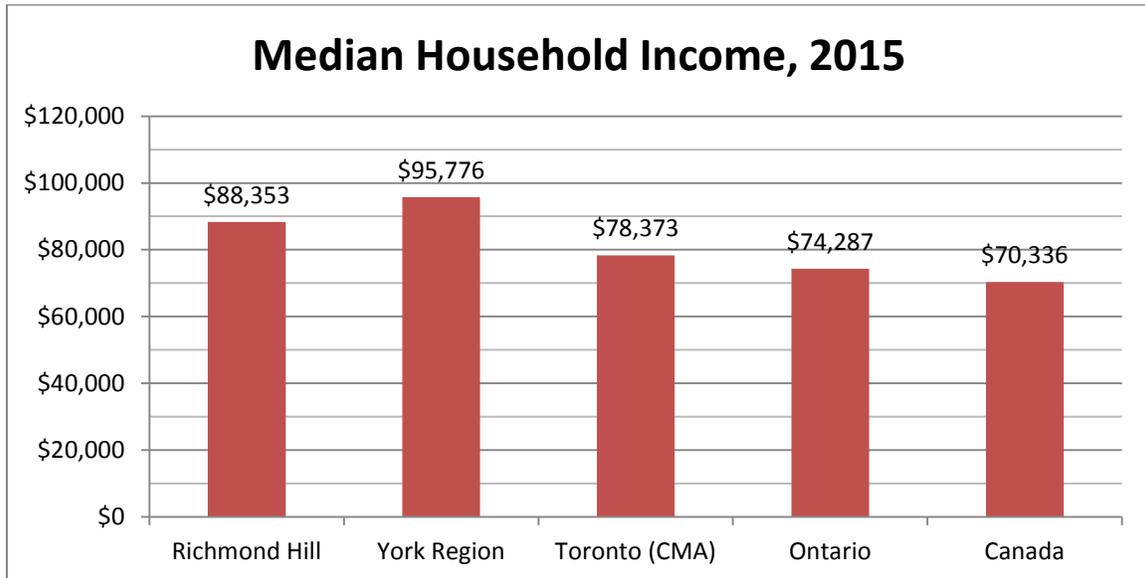
Results are analyzed using median income. The median is the level of income at which half the population had higher income, and half had lower. Previous census releases included both median and average income; as average income is more likely to be skewed by a few high-earning individuals, it was removed altogether from the 2016 Census.

Questions related to income in 2011 were asked through the National Household Survey (NHS). Unlike previous long-form census questionnaires, which were mandatory to complete, the 2011 NHS was a voluntary survey. The global non-response rate, or the number of households that did not complete the NHS, was 22% for Richmond Hill.

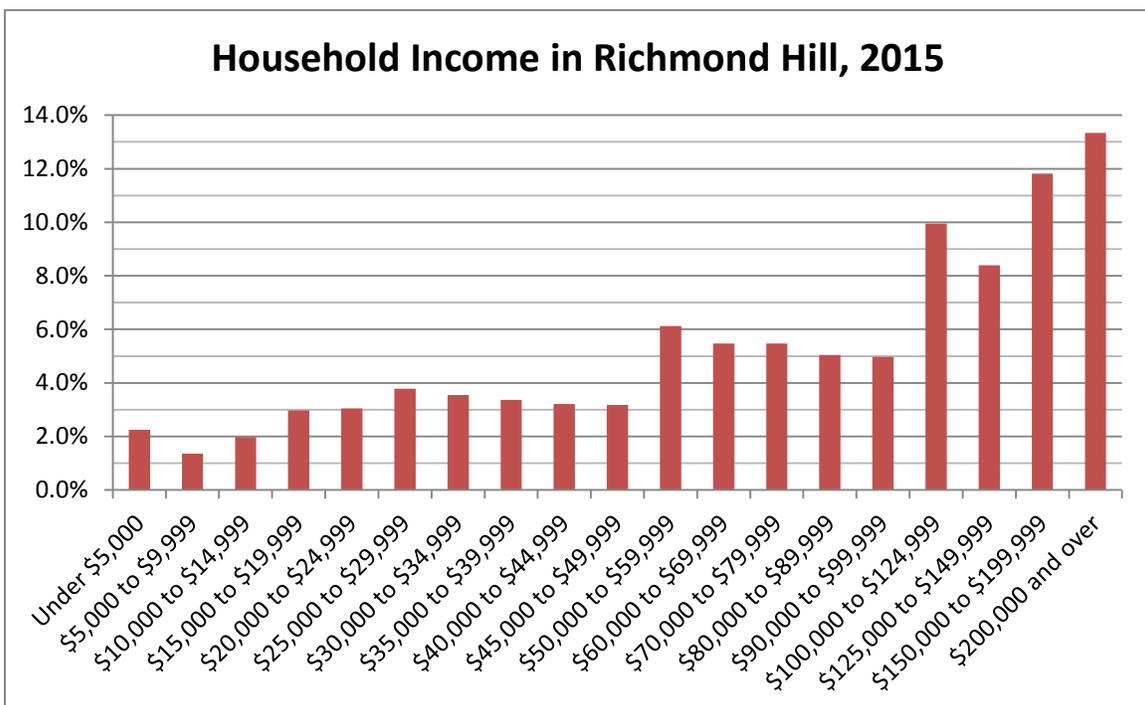
Certain demographic groups may have been more or less likely to respond to the NHS than other groups. Income is one area that researchers have generally agreed could be more affected by non-response bias. While 2011 information has been included in this briefing note, caution should be used when drawing comparisons between the 2016 Census and 2011 NHS.

Income of households

- The median household income for Richmond Hill in 2015 was \$88,353. This is lower than the York Region median, but higher than the Toronto CMA, Ontario, and Canada medians.

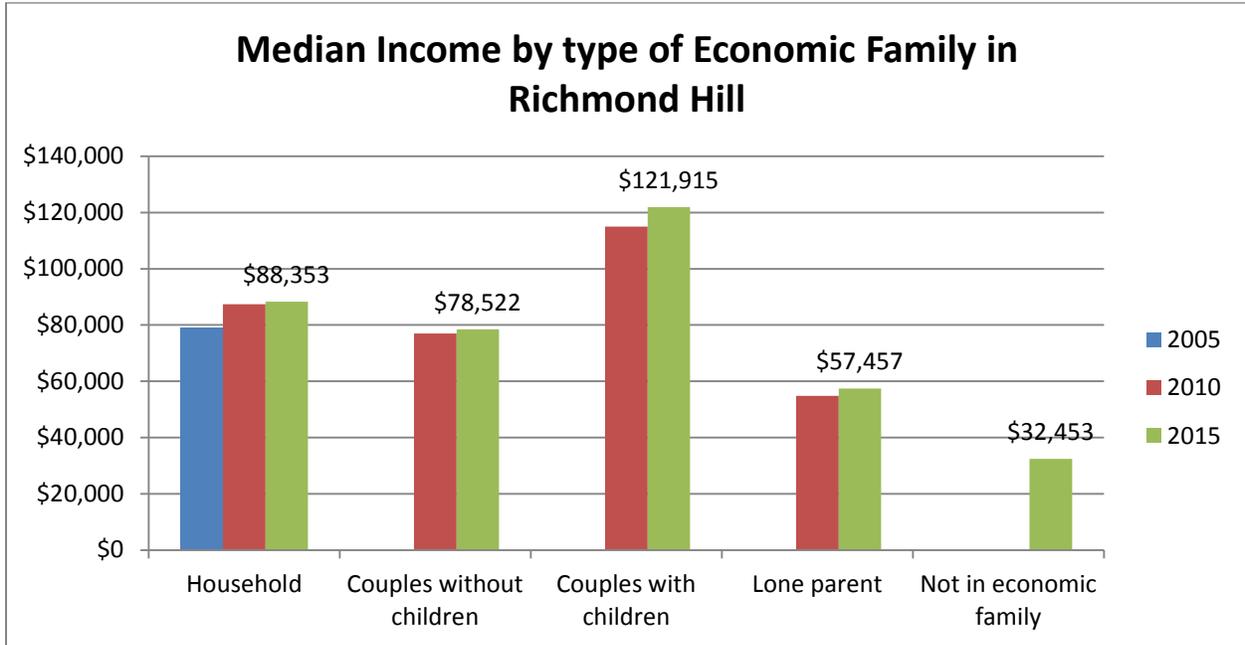


- When distributing household incomes into specific brackets, approximately 43.8% of households in Richmond Hill have incomes greater than \$100,000, and 13.4% of households have incomes greater than \$200,000. On the opposite side, 22.5% of households earn less than \$40,000, and 8.6% earn less than \$20,000 per year.
- In terms of quarters, 25.3% of Richmond Hill households have incomes greater than \$150,000, while 25.7% of households have incomes under \$45,000.



Income of economic families

- Overall, the median household income in Richmond Hill has risen year-over-year: from \$78,976 in 2005, to \$87,388 in 2010, and \$88,353 in 2015.
- Couples with children have the highest median income compared to other types of economic families, at \$121,915. Couples without children have a median income at \$78,522. The median for lone parent households is \$57,457, which represents 47.1% of the median for couples with children. Persons who do not live in an economic family, i.e. those living alone, have a median income of \$32,453.



Low income

- The Census tracks the number and percentage of individuals that are living in low income households. Statistics Canada primarily uses the After Tax Low Income Measure (LIM-AT), which is an internationally used measure of low income. Under LIM-AT, a household is considered low income if its income is less than half of the median income of all households. In Richmond Hill, the median household income for 2015 was \$88,353, meaning a household is considered low income if its income was below \$44,177.
- Over 30,000 Richmond Hill residents are classified as being low income, which corresponds to 15.9% of the overall population. The proportion of low income residents is higher in two more vulnerable groups: children (ages 0-17) and seniors (ages 65+).
- The proportion of low income individuals in Richmond Hill has risen from 12.4% in 2005 to 15.9% in 2015.

Number of individuals in low income households	2005	2010	2015
0 to 17 years	14.3%	12.5%	18.1%
0 to 5 years	10.5%	13.8%	18.4%
18 to 64 years	n/a	12.7%	15.1%
65 years and over	8.3%	8.9%	16.3%
Total – all ages	12.4%	12.5%	15.9%