

то:	CHAIR AND MEMBERS COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE MEETING ON OCTOBER 1, 2012
FROM:	LYNNE LIVINGSTONE ACTING ONTARIO WORKS ADMINISTRATOR
SUBJECT:	ONTARIO WORKS PARTICIPANT PROFILE, JULY 2012

RECOMMENDATION

That, on the recommendation of the Ontario Works Administrator, the following report **BE RECEIVED** for information purposes.

PREVIOUS REPORTS PERTINENT TO THIS MATTER

Profile of Ontario Works Participants (March, 2004; September 2007; September 2008; September 2010, September 2011)

BACKGROUND

Annually, the Community Services Committee (CSC) receives a profile report of the Ontario Works caseload (Appendix A). This profile provides the City of London, Municipal Council, and the broader community with Ontario Works caseload information needed to allow for good planning and trend analysis.

The data for this profile report is extracted from Ministry of Community and Social Services reports and from Ontario Works Service Delivery Model Technology (SDMT). Local extract data for this report is consistently pulled on the third Monday in July.

There are four sections to the 2012 Participant Profile Report:

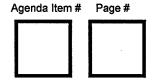
- Section 1: Information on the total caseload
- Section 2: Information on selected populations
- Section 3: Trends
- · Section 4: Detailed data tables

PARTICIPANT PROFILE REPORT HIGHLIGHTS

General Caseload Description

The following summary profile provides a general picture of the 2012 caseload:

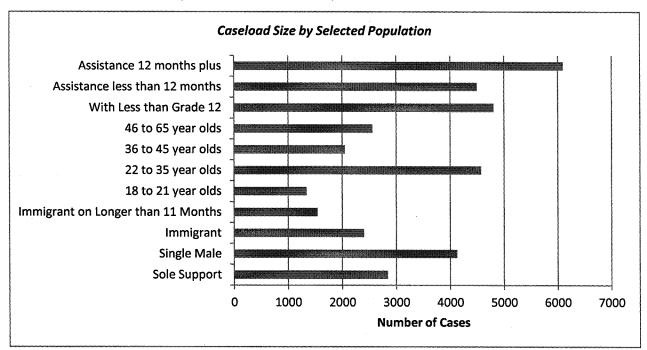
- In the first half of 2012:
 - Just over 11,000 households, representing approximately 24,000 people received Ontario Works assistance each month. This represents 6.6 per cent of London's population; and
 - 47 per cent of these households were single individuals.



- In July:
 - The majority of households participating in Ontario Works lived in the N5V, N5W, N5Y, and N5Z postal code areas which correspond to the Carling, Argyle, Glen Cairn and Huron Heights planning districts. Almost nine out of ten rent from the private market;
 - The age profile of female applicants on the caseload was younger than the age profile of male applicants;
 - Almost three quarters of all people receiving benefits were adults and one quarter were children under the age of 18 years;
 - Just over one third of households were families with children. Most families with children were single parent families;
 - Half of the approximately 6,500 children living in households that participated in Ontario Works were under the age of 7 years;
 - o Over half of the applicants report achieving high school education or higher; and
 - Almost six out of ten of the households had been receiving assistance for over one year. Of these, 65 per cent had been receiving assistance for a period of 2 years or longer.

Breakdown of Caseload by Selected Populations

While a general description of London's Ontario Works caseload is provided, in reality the caseload is heterogeneous in a number of ways. The chart below provides an overview of some of the populations that may have distinct and unique characteristics and needs.

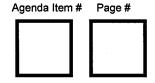


Trends

Since 2006, the year that caseload was at its lowest size since the late 1980's, the caseload has increased by 47 per cent. Most of this growth is due to growth in the number of single individuals receiving Ontario Works. Growth was driven more by the increase in the number of people entering the caseload than by a change in the number of people exiting the caseload.

Highlights of data available since 2007, the first year that much of the local profile data could be extracted and the first year of caseload growth include:

- For the last three years, households on the caseload have been receiving assistance longer than in previous years;
- The number of 18 to 21 year olds and the number of 46 to 65 year olds has increased more than other age groups on the caseload;
- The number of children living in families receiving assistance increased by 15 per cent, with the number of 0 to 6 year olds growing more than other age groups; and
- Landed immigrants and refugee claimants have comprised between 12 per cent and 16 per cent of the caseload over the past six years.



Data on employment outcomes have been available since 2005. Since a low point in 2009, employment outcomes have improved. The number of people gaining employment and the number of cases leaving Ontario Works with employment are the highest that they have been since this data has been tracked.

Full Report

The full participant profile report "City of London Ontario Works 2012 Participant Profile" can also be found on the City of London Research & Community Building Launch Pad (www.london.ca/launchpad) in the Local Reports section.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

There are no financial implications resulting from this report.

Acknowledgments

Prepared by Gerda Zonruiter and Randy MacTaggart, Community Planning and Research Associates

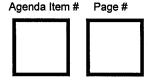
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HOUSING AND SOCIAL SERVICES	

C. Elaine Sauve, Program Supervisor, Ministry of Community and Social Services

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A SOCIAL RESEARCH AND PLANNING REPORT

2012-10-01



October 1, 2012

PROFILE OF LONDON'S ONTARIO WORKS PARTICIPANTS

SECTION 1: INFORMATION ON THE TOTAL CASELOAD

Data for this section of the report is from a variety of Service Delivery Management Technology (SDMT) reports and a local data extract. In some cases, data represents average monthly figures, in others, the data is a snapshot of July 20, 2012.

TECHNICAL NOTE:

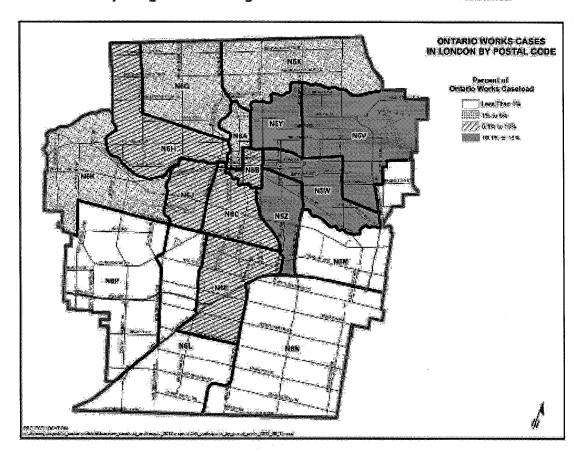
Average monthly data includes: caseload size including number of individuals and number of households, family type, number and age of children, entries, exits, and employment outcomes

Snapshot data includes: caseload by postal code and planning district, housing tenure, age and gender, number of families with children, education, reason for needing assistance, length of time receiving assistance, profiles of selected populations, and interpreter requests

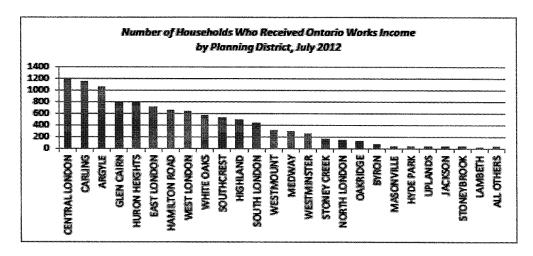
Caseload Size: Number of Individuals and Number of Households

Just over 11,000 households totalling an average of about 24,000 people including all adults and children received Ontario Works income each month in the first half of 2012. This represents approximately 6.6% of London's total population.

The majority of households participating in Ontario Works lived in the N5V, N5W, N5Y and N5Z postal code areas which correspond to the Carling, Argyle, Glen Cairn and Huron Heights planning districts. Central London planning district had the highest number of households that received assistance.

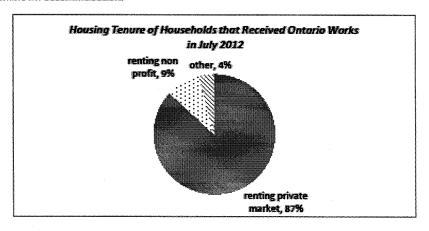


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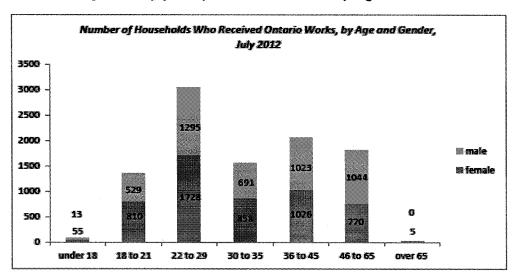
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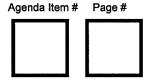
Almost nine out of 10 households that received assistance rented from the private market. Note that "other" housing tenure types include home ownership, boarding, homeless, interval or transition home, and unknown accommodation.



Ane and Gender

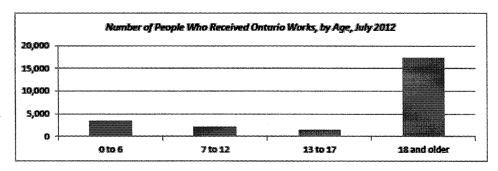
Just over half of the households receiving Ontario Works in July were headed by women (53%) and 47% were headed by men. As a population, women on the caseload are younger than men.





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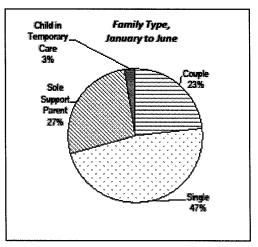
Of all the people who received benefits in July 2012, 71% were adults age 18 and older and 29% were children under the age of 18.

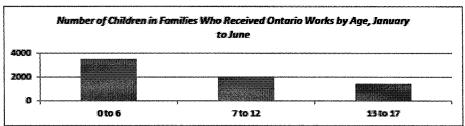


Family Type

On average each month from January to June, almost half of households were single individuals and just over one quarter were sole support parents.

In July, just over one third of the caseload were families with children (3,640) and 78 per cent of these families were sole support families. The average family had almost 2 children, for a total of about 6,500 children. On average each month, half of all children were under the age of seven.



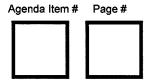


In July, over half of households reported obtaining grade 12 education or higher.

Reported Education Level	Percent of Caseload*
Unknown or less than grade 9	7%
Grade 9 to 11	39%
High school diploma	29%
Post secondary education	26%

^{*}numbers may not total 100 due to rounding





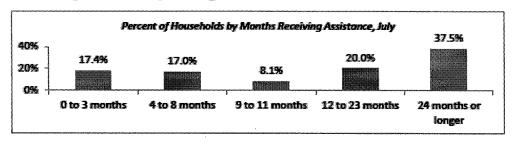
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Caseload Dynamics

in the first half of 2012, a total of 4,221 households entered London's Ontario Works program and a total of 4,200 left.

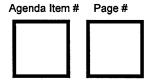
The main reasons for needing assistance are: inability to obtain employment (70%), separated with dependents (9%), ill health (9%), and Employment Insurance exhausted (3%).

In July, 42 per cent of households had received assistance for less than one year, and 58 per cent had been receiving benefits for one year or longer.



Employment Outsomes

in the first half of 2012, 10 per cent of households earned employment income and a total of 1,801 people gained employment. Almost one quarter of households that exited Ontario Works left with employment income.



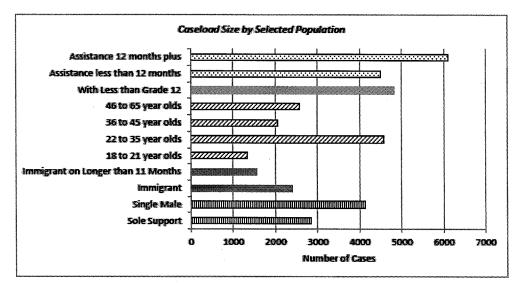
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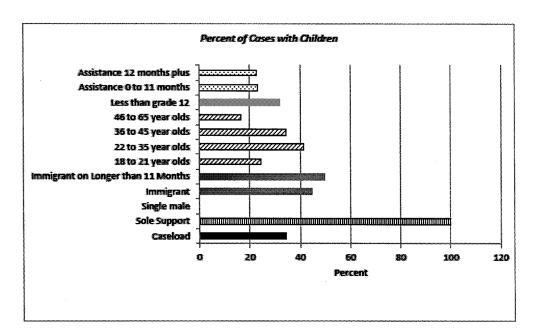
SECTION 2: INFORMATION ON SELECTED POPULATIONS

Data for this section of the report is a snapshot of the caseload on July 20, 2012. For this reason, data may not be consistent with what is cited earlier in this report.

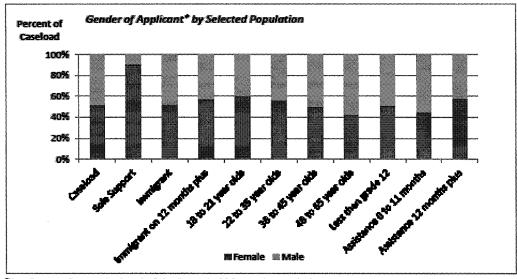
The following charts provide a visual comparison of the attributes of selected populations on the caseload. For more detail on these, please consult the tables provided at the end of this report.

*Applicant refers to the head of the household for each case.

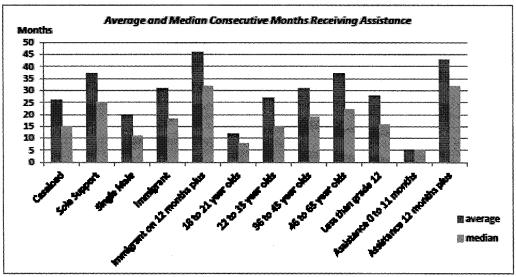




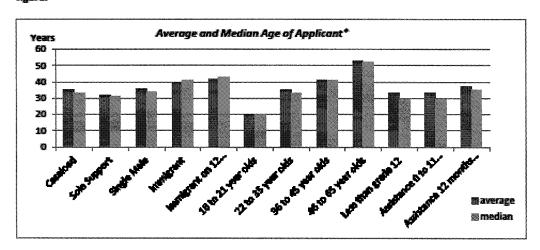
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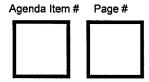


*Applicant refers to the head of the household for each population group.



The average figure is the total cumulative number of months that all households on the caseload have received assistance divided by the number of cases. The median is the middle value. The difference between the months on assistance average and median figures for most of the populations signifies that the median figure is more representative of the population's time on assistance than is the average figure.



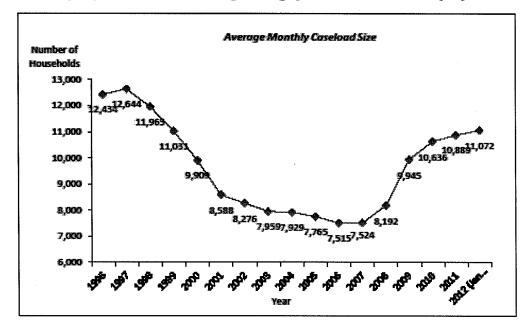


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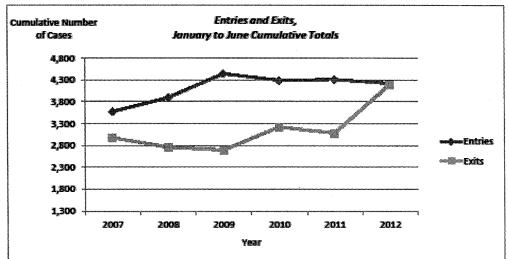
SECTION 3: TREPIS

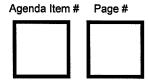
Constant State and Departure is

Since 2007, the year that sustained caseload growth began, the caseload has increased by 46 per cent.

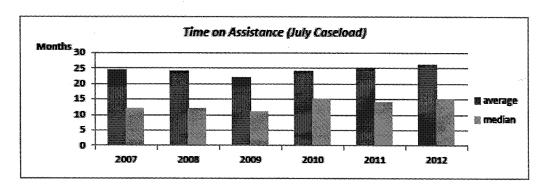


From 2007 to 2009, caseload growth was been driven by an increase in the cumulative number of households entering the Ontario Works program, coupled with a reduction in the cumulative number exiting the program. Caseload growth in 2011 has been driven by a decline in the number of households leaving Ontario Works. In the first six months of 2012 the number of caseloads exits was almost equal to the number of caseload entries.





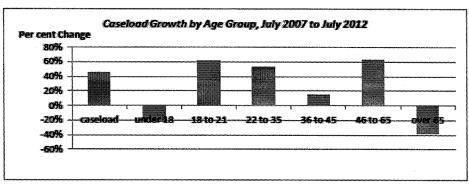
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The average and median number of months on assistance was at its lowest in 2009. This was due to the high number of entries to Ontario Works and the low number of exits from the program. Since then, time on assistance figures have increased.

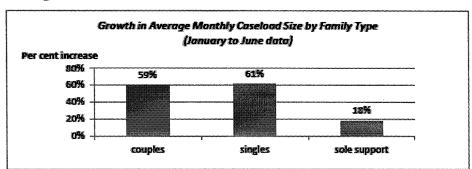
Age

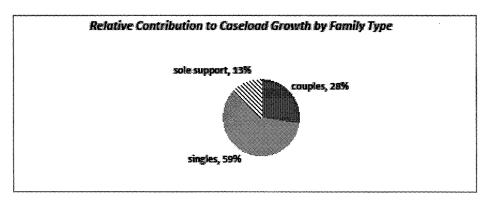
Compared to 2007, the 46 to 65 year old age group and the 18 to 21 year old age group have grown the most, increasing by 62 per cent. The number of 22 to 35 year olds on the caseload has grown by 52 per cent.

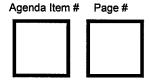


Family Type

Since to 2007, the couples and singles caseloads have grown by 60 per cent. The singles caseload accounted for 59 per cent of total caseload growth while the couples caseload accounted for 28 per cent of total growth.



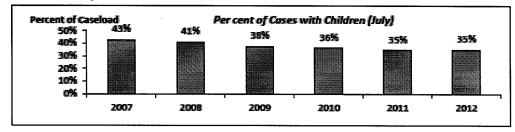


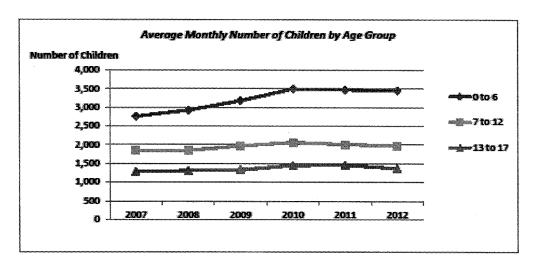


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Cilibra

The proportion of households with children has been fairly consistent in recent years. The increase in child benefits may contribute to this decline. From 2007 to 2012, the number of children living in families receiving assistance increased by 15 per cent. Most of this growth was due to an increase in the number of 0 to 6 year olds.





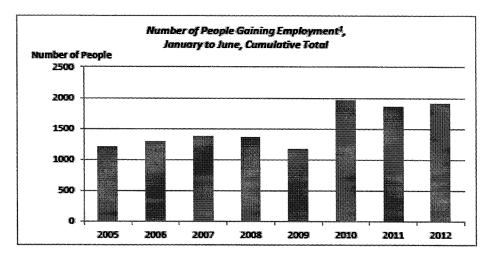
Although the proportion of the caseload that are landed immigrants and refugee claimants has stayed between 14 per cent and 16 per cent since 2007, the top languages requested have changed. Spanish has consistently been the top requested language followed by Arabic. In 2012, Spanish accounted for 43 per cent of all interpreter requests while Arabic accounted for 21 per cent.

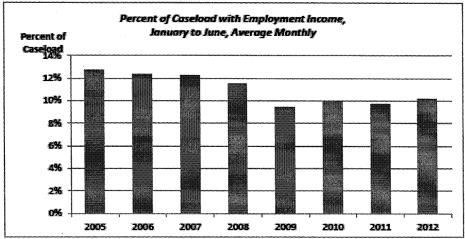
Immigrant Trends: Top Ten Interpreter Requests (January to June)

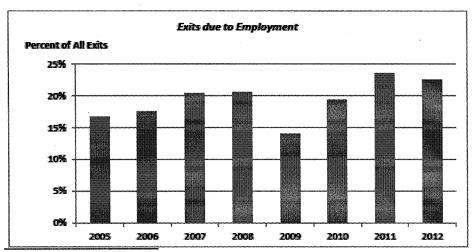
2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
181 requests per month	207 requests per month	183 requests per month	222 requests per month	210 requests per month	189 requests per month
SPANISH	SPANISH	SPANISH	SPANISH	SPANISH	SPANISH
ARABIC	ARABIC	ARABIC	ARABIC	ARABIC	ARABIC
PERSIAN	PERSIAN	PERSIAN	KAREN	FARSI	OTHER
FRENCH	FRENCH	KAREN	PERSIAN	FRENCH	FARSI
VIETNAMESE	VIETNAMESE	VIETNAMESE	VIETNAMESE	KAREN	VIETNAMESE
ALBANIAN	OTHER	FRENCH	KHMER	VIETNAMESE	KAREN
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October 1, 2012

Compared to 2011 the number of people gaining employment in the first half of the year has increased¹. The percent of the caseload with employment income has remained steady for the last three years, and remains lower than it was from 2005 to 2008. Exits due to employment have increased over the last three years in actual numbers; however as a per cent of all cases leaving Ontario Works there was a decline in 2011 as compared to 2010.







¹ The data source reporting the number of people gaining employment has changed in 2012 due to the discontinuation of a provincially produced report (the Service Contract). While another provincially produced SDMT report provides data for the number of people gaining employment, the two reports do not reconcile and the year over year patterns differ. For this reason, data from this Profile Report cannot be compared to data contained in previous Profile Reports.



City of London Participant Profile, July 20, 2012

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City of London Ontario Works Participant Profile



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City of London Ontario Works Participant Profile

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Page 13

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Agenda Item #	Page #

% post secondary	Post Secondary	% grade 12 or 13	Gade 12 h 13	% grade 9 to 11	Grade 9 to 11	% less than grade 9 or unknown	Less than Grade 9	Unitercent or No Education Reported	Education	% of manigrant population	Refugee Claimant	% of immigrant population	Landedinmigrat	% of immigrant population	Convention Refugee	% of immigrant population	Canadian Citizen	W of Selected Population Group	% of Total Caseload Population		Immigrant Status		
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