



United Way
Peel Region

South Asian
Advisory Council

United Way of Peel Region is focused on poverty reduction. Collectively, we work to reduce poverty, prevent poverty and support people living in crisis right now.

The South Asian Advisory Council (SAAC) works with United Way of Peel Region to tackle the impact and consequences of poverty, promote achievements within the South Asian community and support United Way's work in the South Asian community.

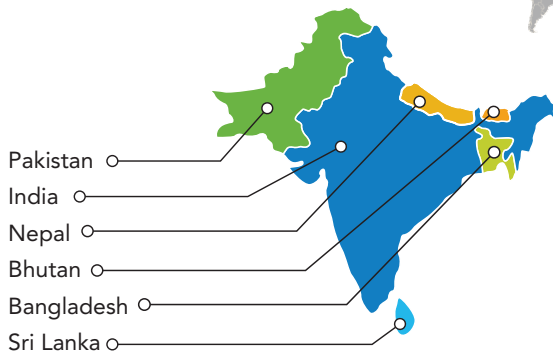
DEMOGRAPHICS

48.6%

48.6% of the racialized population in Peel are of South Asian descent.

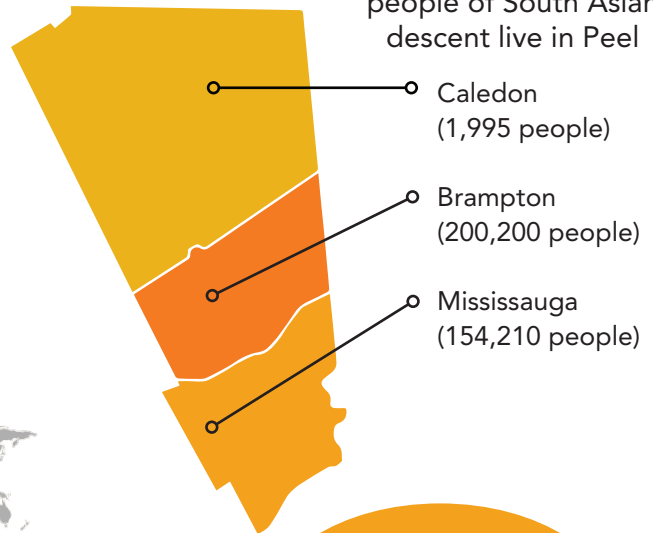
South Asians are the single largest immigrant group in Peel (30.1%).

South Asians have ancestral origin from the Indian Subcontinent.



356,430

people of South Asian descent live in Peel



Top two South Asian languages spoken in Peel: Punjabi (8%) and Urdu (3.9%)

Most young immigrants are fluent in English, but many seniors have a language barrier.

20%
of the racialized population in Peel live in poverty

CHALLENGES

The following challenges are currently facing the South Asian population in Peel:

Unemployment and underemployment

Gender inequity and family violence

Scarcity of culturally appropriate services for seniors

Lack of awareness and gaps in mental health and substance abuse supports

Insufficient supports for children and youth

United Way of Peel Region is addressing these issues in partnership with the South Asian Advisory Council.

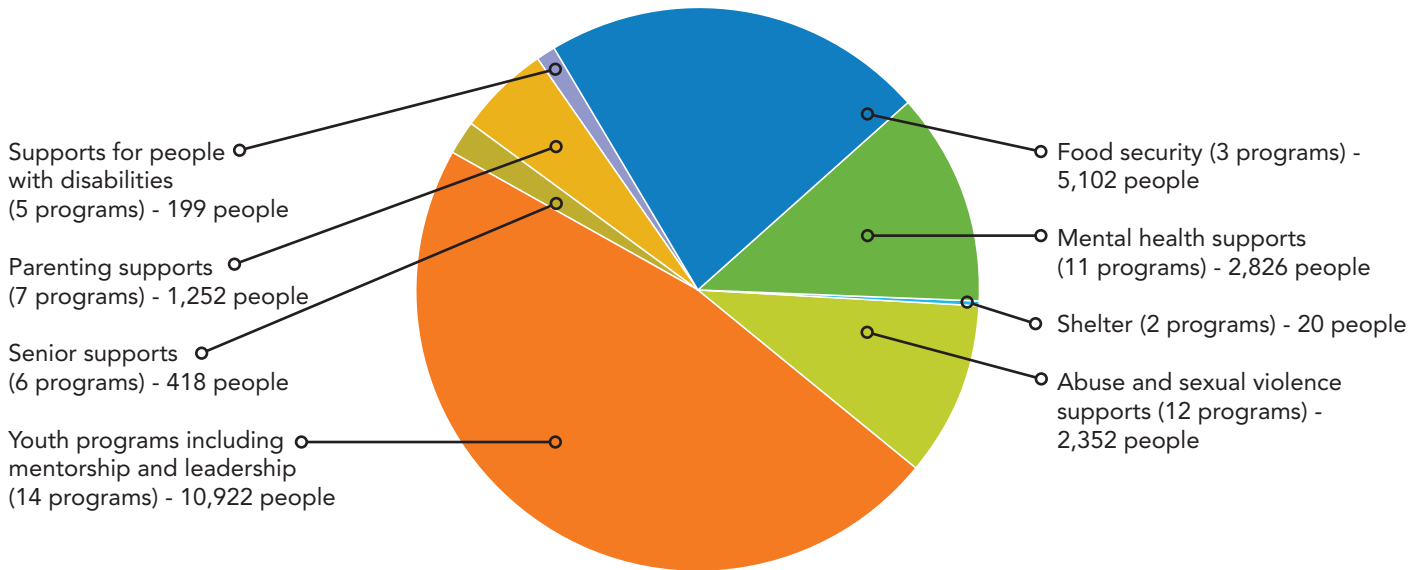
\$7.2-MILLION

INVESTED BY UNITED WAY IN 89 PROGRAMS RUN BY 54 AGENCIES IN 2015/16

\$6.35-million was invested in 64 programs accessed by the South Asian Community

NUMBER OF INDIVIDUALS SERVED IN THE SOUTH ASIAN COMMUNITY IN 2015/16

23,510



Total of 59 programs grouped under 10 service areas
*64 of the 89 programs with service users identifying as South Asians as reported by funded agencies
*Percentages represent the proportion of South Asian users out of a total of 23,510 people.

22,091

people who self-identified as South Asians participated in programs funded by United Way in 2015/16. This was an increase of 22% compared to 2014/15.

These are the top five service areas accessed by South Asians in Peel:

- **Youth well-being** (e.g. drop-in, afterschool and mentoring)
- **Food security** (e.g. cooking programs and food distribution)
- **Mental health supports** (e.g. counselling and community wellness)
- **Abuse and sexual violence supports** (e.g. crisis intervention and counselling)
- **Parenting supports** (e.g. family intervention and capacity building)

United Way of Peel Region's Investment Strategy is addressing these challenges as identified by the South Asian community in partnership with the South Asian Advisory Council.



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