*Problem Identification: Housing Affordability and Rising Homelessness in Ontario*

Executive Summary:

The issue of affordability of housing and homelessness within the province of Ontario has emerged as a significant challenge the region continues to face. With the substantiated rise in housing costs and a continual increase in stagnating wages, a significant portion of individuals and families continue to face complex hurdles in obtaining affordable and stable housing. The problem is highlighted even further as more and more individuals turn to shelters and encampments which is further straining the social services in the region. This project will cover major factors through an analysis of open data including trends in rental prices, homeownership expenses, homelessness figures, and government spending. It attempts to evaluate policy effectiveness, propose strategies in accessible housing options, and aim at decreasing homelessness by creating informed knowledge out of the research.

Key Performance Indicators (KPIs)

1. Average Rental Prices in Ontario
   * Median monthly rent for one-bedroom and two-bedroom apartments in key cities.
2. Homeownership Affordability Index
   * Percentage of household income required to afford an average home in Ontario.
3. Number of Households on Affordable Housing Waitlists
   * Total number of households waiting for subsidized housing in Ontario.
4. Homelessness Rate per 10,000 Residents
   * Number of individuals experiencing homelessness per 10,000 people.
5. Government Funding for Affordable Housing Programs
   * Total provincial and federal funding allocated to affordable housing initiatives.

References

<https://www.amo.on.ca/sites/default/files/assets/DOCUMENTS/Reports/2025/2025-01-08-EndingChronicHomelessnessinOntario.pdf>

<https://schoolofcities.utoronto.ca/wp-content/uploads/2024/06/School-of-Cities_Housing-Crisis-Final3.pdf>