Despite being the one of richest cities in the country, Toronto still leads in child poverty. The annual snapshot of life in Toronto shows the gap between rich and poor is growing. While the median income in Toronto stands at $72,830, a member of the “top one percent” in Toronto earns an average salary of $326,800, according to the report.

“The gap between rich and poor is growing,” said the report. “It’s a shame, really,” said Gilbert Ngabo, executive director of Social Planning Toronto. “We’re one of the richest cities in the world and yet we can’t find a way to invest in ensuring that everybody gets a piece of that prosperity. It’s a shame, really.”

While it’s partly a question of both provincial and federal government assisting the city to bridge the gap, Meagher said Toronto needs real investment in poverty reduction strategies. Last year advocates indicated the city needs a $75 million budget for the strategy to work, but “only a fraction” of that amount was invested, said Meagher.

While the report says the city’s progress in reducing child poverty is “modest,” the report points to progress in the past 15 years.

“Toronto is the capital of child poverty in Canada,” said Sean Meagher, executive director of Social Planning Toronto. “And it’s troubling to see that Toronto continues to be the capital of child poverty. We’re one of the richest cities in the world and yet we can’t find a way to invest in ensuring that everybody gets a piece of that prosperity. It’s a shame, really.”

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“I’m deeply saddened that we continue to be Canada’s leader in child poverty,” said the president-elect of the Toronto Foundation. “It makes it hard for youth to get a start, hard for newcomers to get a start. That’s why and community development projects,” he said.