

Community Social Profile
Template
(Part 1)

Resource Note #11
Community Social Profile
Project
April 2008



Introduction

The main deliverable of the Ontario Social Landscape Community Profile project funded by the Ontario Trillium Foundation is the development of a community social profile by each of the participating social planning councils.

A community social profile constructs a social portrait of the community. It focuses on the socio-demographic characteristics of the community and its population sub-groups (e.g. seniors, youth, children, low income families, immigrants and visible minorities etc.) The data will be analyzed, interpreted, mapped and presented at a detailed level of geography such that local issues and challenges can be identified and addressed.

There are fourteen Social Planning Councils (SPCs) participating in the project. The social profiles will cover communities that are homes to over two-thirds of the population of Ontario. The profiles provide vital information to all levels of government for their decision making process in the provision of services to their residents. Business can better plan, develop and deliver their goods and services to meet the needs and requirements of their customers. Social service agencies are in a better position to mobilize their resources to bridge any service gaps. Individual residents are better informed of the needs and potential of their local communities.

The social profile not only provides a useful knowledge base for each community but also enables all participating communities to share knowledge and experience and learn from each other.

In order to maximize the benefits of sharing and learning, it is necessary for all the community social profiles have a high degree of commonalities.

Purpose of a template

This Resource Note describes the structure and components of a “template” for the development of the community social profile. The template is intended to provide a certain degree of commonalities in the structure and content in the document. For example, all community social profiles will have a similar “look and feel” format. Key tables, graphs and maps are expected to use same variables, ratios, percentages and classifications.

Also, statistics on key socio-demographic characteristics are readily available for comparison purpose. For example, if someone is looking for information on the change of visible minority population in communities x, y and z between 1996 and 2006, the data on percentage changes should be available in all the profiles. However, it is not expected for all profiles to have similar data on individual visible minority groups (e.g. Chinese, Arabs or South Asians)

It is not the intent of this approach to restrict creativity or originality. Each participating social planning council has ownership of the document with the primary objective to inform and engage the residents of the community.

Template Structure

Since the 2006 Census is the main data source for the development of the community social profile, the major census topics (e.g. population, families, households etc) are used to define the chapters of the profile. In each chapter, there are sections which cover sub areas of each census topic (e.g. senior, children at home).

- Population
- Age and Gender
- Marital Status
- Families and Households
- Language
- Mobility and migration
- Immigration and citizenship
- Aboriginal peoples
- Labour force
- Place of work and commuting
- Education
- Ethnic origin and visible minority
- Income and earnings
- Housing and shelter costs

Graphs can be used to summarize a large amount of data and provide better visualization for data comparison than tables of numbers.

Maps are created to display spatial distribution patterns of census variables. Interpretation of the spatial patterns can suggest underlying phenomenon.

Implications of the socio-demographic changes and trends on the community are to be included at the end of each chapter or section.

Examples of maps and graphs are included in the template. By using the same variables, classifications and symbology, it would enhance the visual comparison process.

For your information, Community Development Halton has produced a Social Profile of Burlington using the 2001 Census as its major data source. A copy of the profile can be viewed or downloaded from

(http://www.cdhalton.ca/pdf/Social_Profile_of_Burlington_Final.pdf)

CDH has also launched a new publication series titled **Community Lens**. The intent is to disseminate and interpret important community data as they become available. Over the course of the next several months, **Community Lens** will focus on results from the 2006 Census as this information becomes available. Electronic version of the publication can be viewed or downloaded from:

(<http://www.cdhalton.ca/lens/index.htm>)

Data Source

The main data source is the 2006 Census. Through our vendor – TETRAD Computer Applications Inc., the Census data are available using PCensus DBX software. Please refer to Resource Note# 9 – Pcensus DBX version 8.5 on how to use the database extractor to build datafile for analysis and input to ArcMap. You also have to use this version of the PCensus to retrieve data from the 2001 Census.

In addition to the data that are available through PCensus, Statistics Canada also provides cross-tabulated data at the CSD, CD, CMA/CA levels. Many of the tables are free of charge. For example, you can get data on

Immigrant Status and Place of Birth (38), Sex (3) and Age Groups (10) for the Population at the CSD level.

To access the cross-tabulated data source, go to Statistics Canada website > 2006 Census> data products> topic-based tabulations

There is also a new product called **Census Trends** which presents a series of summary data trends over a period of ten years (three censuses: 1996, 2001 and 2006). The product is designed to facilitate the analysis and comparison of the changing demographic and socio-economic composition of selected geographic

areas across Canada. You can compare census variable overtime as well as among other communities. The product will include approximately 85 key data indicators, released in two phases

(<http://www12.statcan.ca/english/census06/data/trends/Index.cfm>)

Instead of issuing one document (resource note) to cover all the census data released by Statistics Canada, Part 1 of the Community Social Profile Template (Resource Note #11) will cover data releases 1-5. Part 2 will be issued when the remaining releases are completed.

Report Cover

To be discussed at a later date

Table of Contents

Acknowledgement

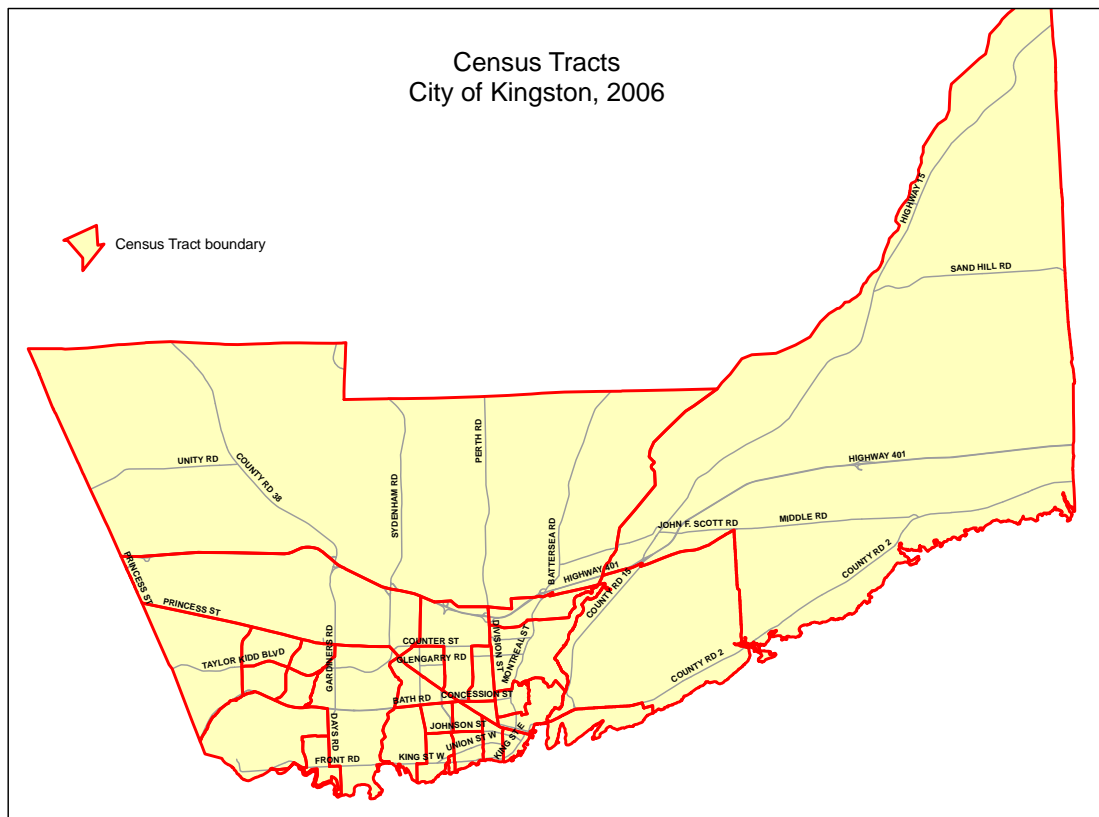
- Customarily, we acknowledge all contribution, cooperation and assistance received in the development of the document
- Financial support from Ontario Trillium Foundation
- Organizations that provide local data
- In kind contributions
- Others

Preface

- Purpose of the Community Social Profile
- How do you intend to use the document in your community?
- Availability of other Community Social Profiles
- Availability of a provincial social profile

Introduction

- Brief description of the structure of the document
 - Inform the readers how data are used to paint a portrait of the community
 - supplemented by graphs and maps
 - Implications from the data analysis
- Geographic coverage
 - It is important to describe to your readers the geographic extent of the study area, for some communities, their study areas correspond to familiar administrative areas (e.g. City of Toronto, City of Hamilton). However, some readers may not be familiar with other geographic areas such as the Blue Sky Region
- Time period
 - Current (2006)
 - Historic (1996-2006)
- Data sources
 - Major source: 2006 Census
 - Previous censuses (1996, 2001)
 - Local data
- A decade of change (1996-2006)
 - In addition to the development of a current portrait of the community using the 2006 Census data, it is also important to learn about the changes that had taken place
 - A time frame of ten years (1996-2006) is chosen since data for the 1996 and 2001 Censuses are still available
 - The changes can be captured in both absolute (numbers) and relative (percent) terms
 - When comparing data between the two census years, it is important to ensure you are comparing two identical geographic areas.
- Geographic units
 - Most of the census data to be displayed in maps are at the Census Tract (CT) or Dissemination Area (DA). These are Statistics Canada's standard geographic units and very often unfamiliar to the readers or general public.
 - By including a map showing the boundaries of the CTs and DAs with a street network of the community will help the readers to appreciate the geography of the study area



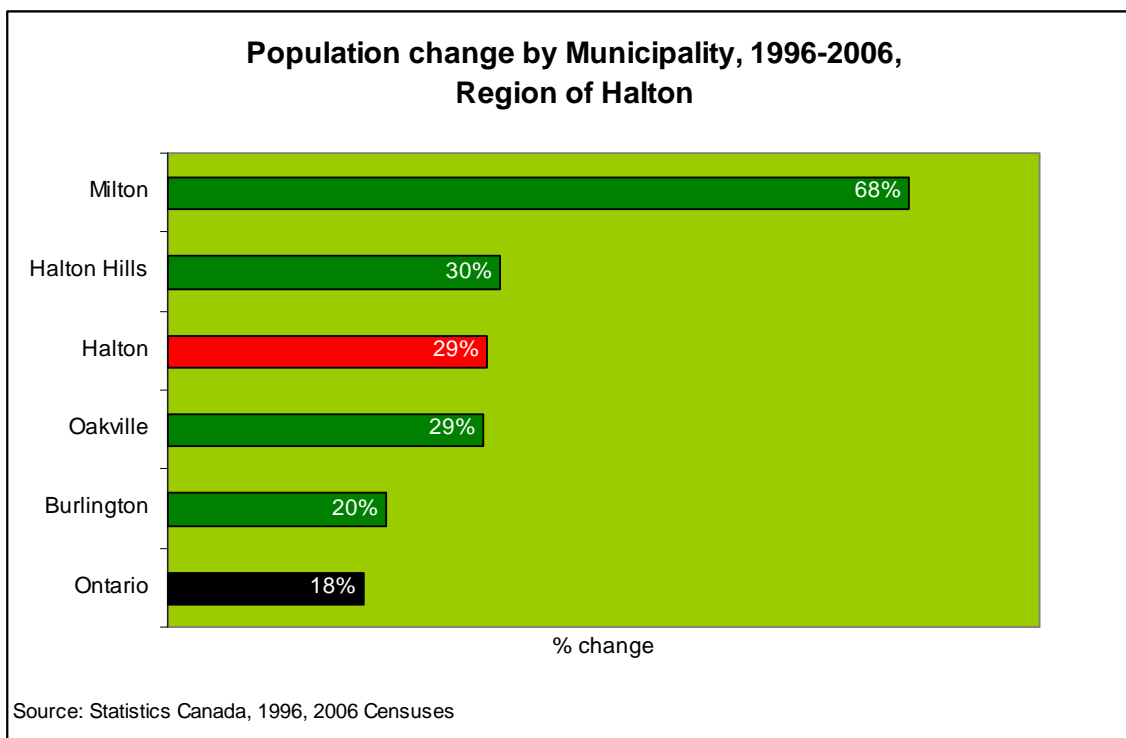
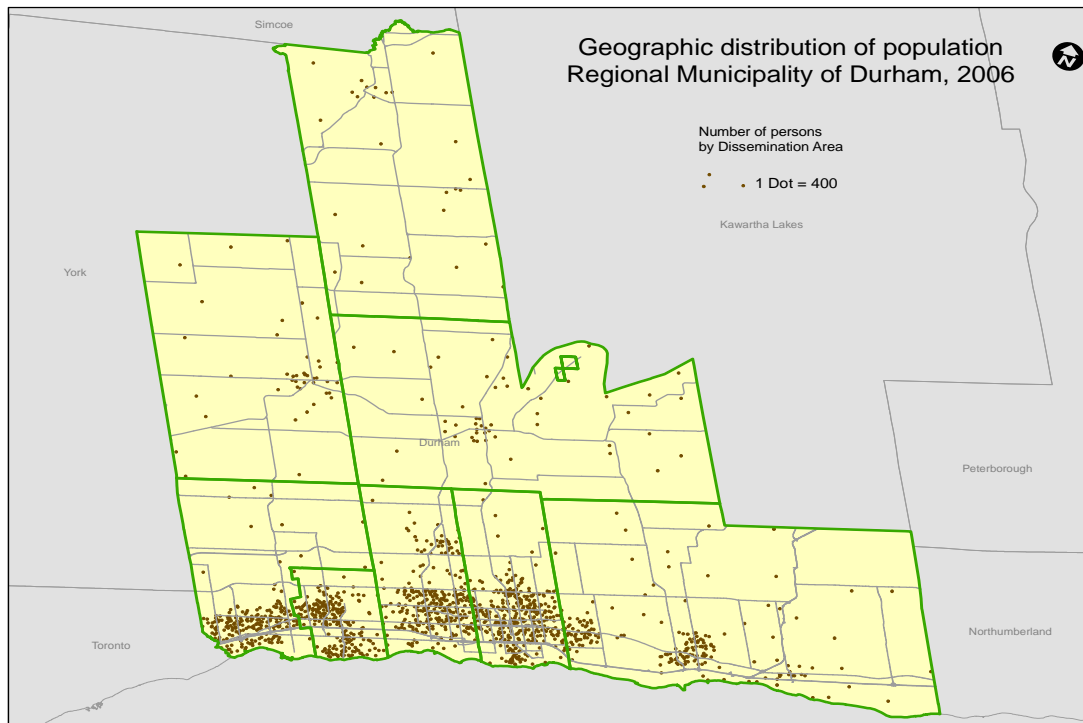
Source: Statistics Canada, 2006 Census, DMTI Spatial

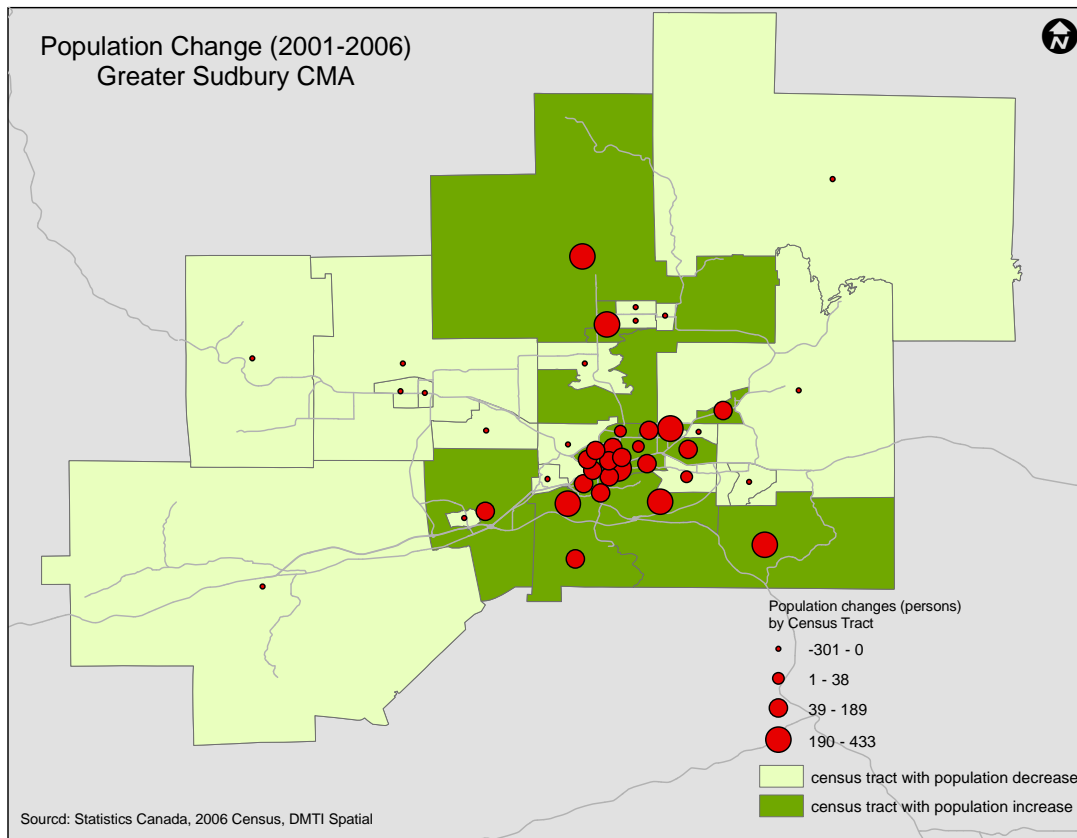
O



Population

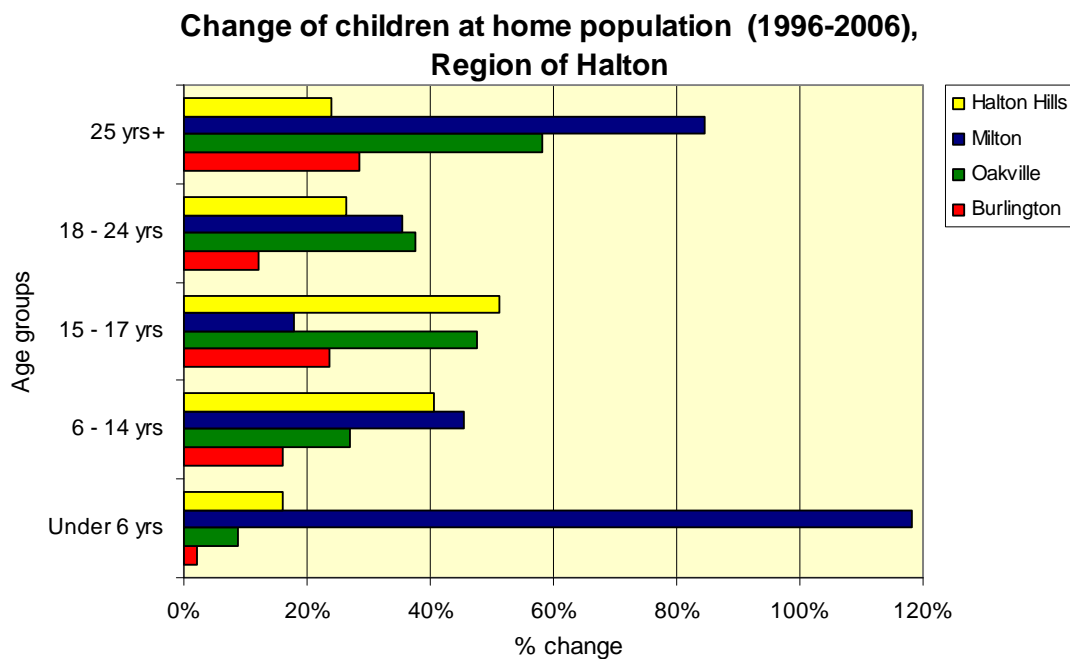
- Introduction
 - Population changes
 - Rural and urban differences
 - Inner city core versus suburbs
 - New growth areas (new subdivisions)
- Population forecast/projection (for the next 5, 10, 20 years)
 - In addition to past and current population, it is also important to talk about future population
 - most municipal/regional government have prepared forecasts for their planning and strategic planning studies. Ontario Ministry of Finance produced “Ontario Population Projection” by CD (Census Division) up to 2031.
(www.fin.gov.on.ca/english/demographics/demog05.html)
- Mapping current population (2006)
 - A dot density map at the DA level provides a good visualization of the overall geographic distribution of the population throughout the community
 - Alternatively, one can use graduated symbol map to show the population distribution
 - Avoid to use a choropleth map to map total numbers
- Changes between 1996 and 2006
 - If your community has lower tier communities (e.g. area municipalities within a regional municipality or municipalities/townships within a county), show their change rates
 - Otherwise, you may wish to compare the change rates with other relevant or neighbouring communities as well as the provincial averages
- Changes between 2001 and 2006
 - If your community is part of a CMA (Census Metropolitan Area) or one of the selected CAs (Census Agglomeration), you can map the population change between 2001 and 2006 at the Census Tract level.
 - Data on population change (2001-2006) is in Census Release 1
- Implications
 - What do the changes in population mean to your community?
 - What do the changes mean to your organization?



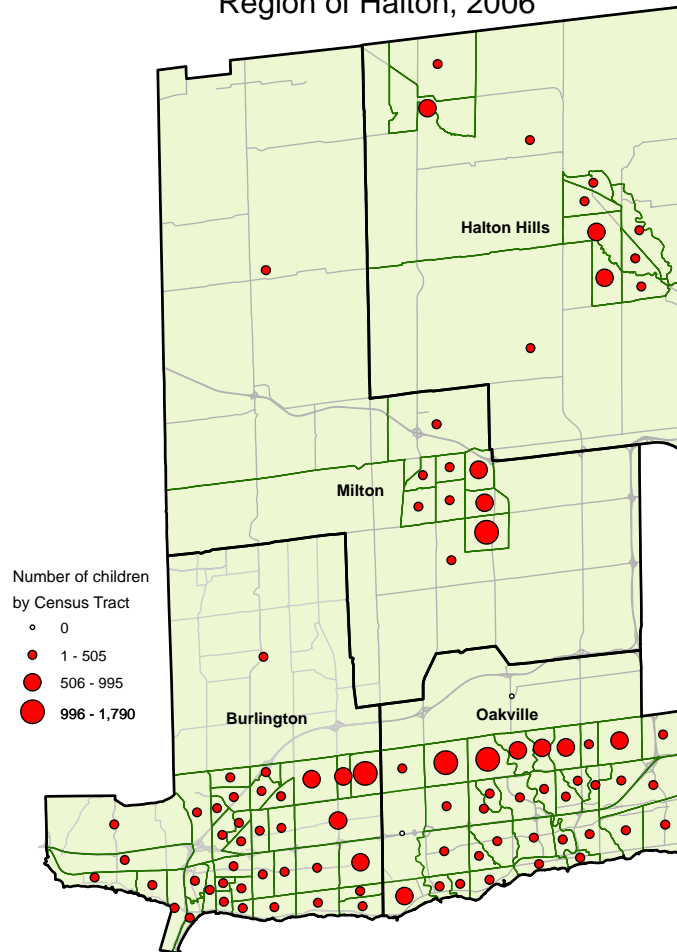


Children at home

- Data on children at home by five age groups are available (under 6, 6 -14, 15- 17, 18-24, and 25 years and over)
- What changes have occurred in the last ten years?
- Which age groups have changed most/least?
- Where are they? Does each group have a different spatial distribution pattern within the community?
- New families moving into new areas usually have young children
- If your community has a focus on a specific age group (e.g. early years), you may wish to elaborate on it.



Population of Children Under 6 years of age Region of Halton, 2006

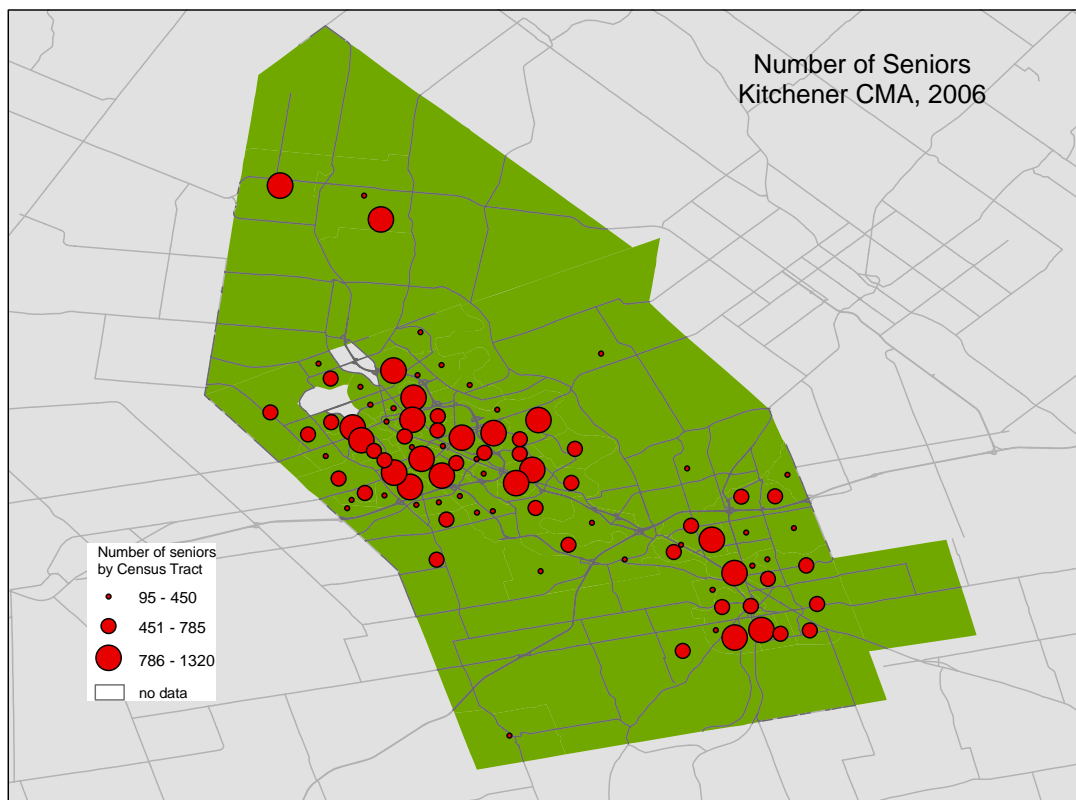
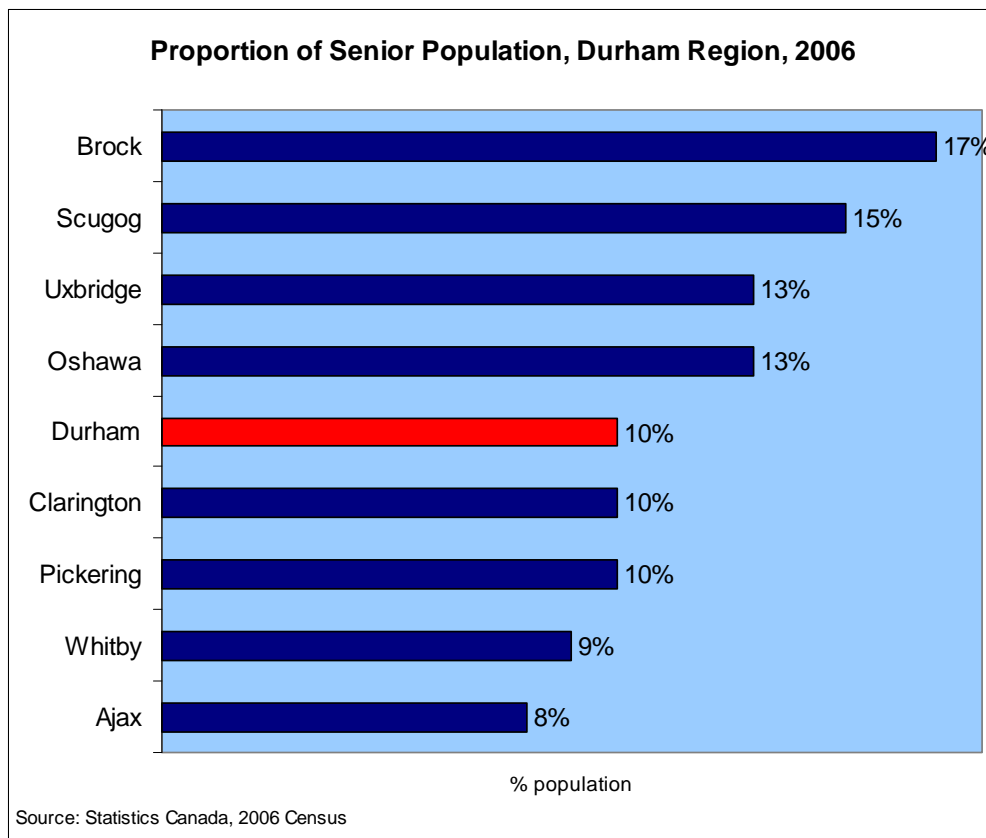


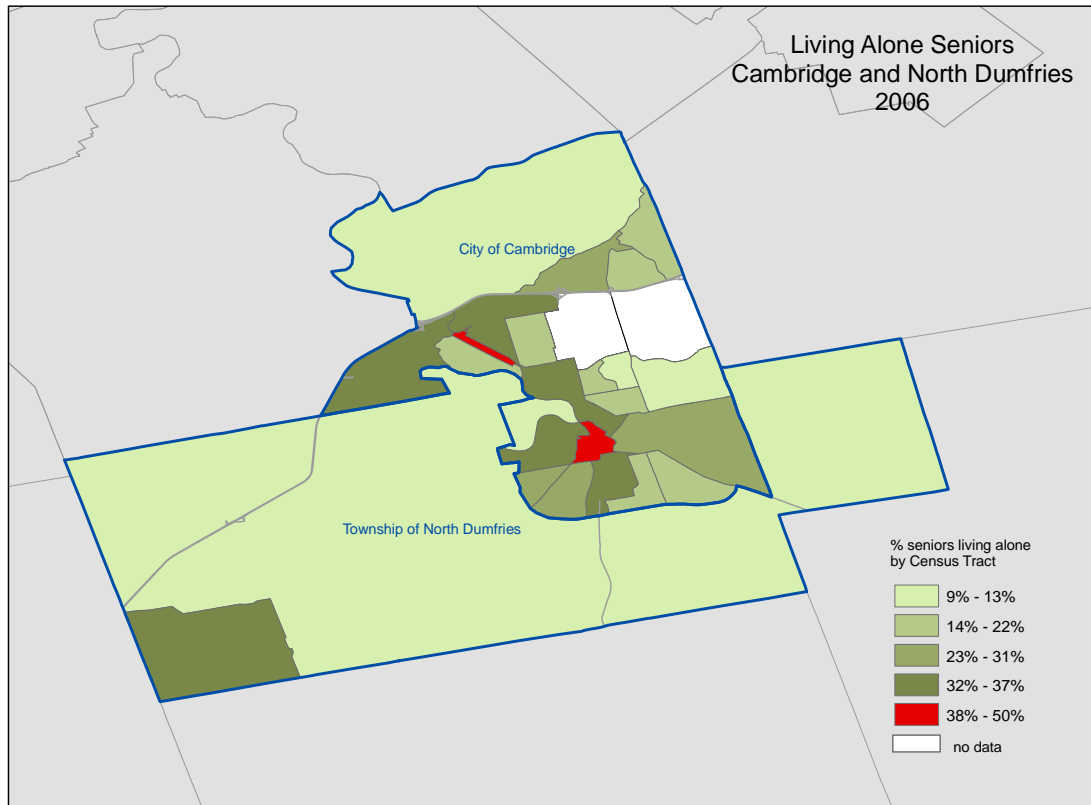
Source: Statistics Canada, 2006 Census, DMTI Spatial

© 2008 Community Development Halton, all rights reserved.

Senior Population

- Total number of seniors and as proportion of total population
- Compare with provincial and national averages
- Proportion of seniors by municipalities within study area
- Change between 1996 and 2006
- Where are the seniors? – map
 - Do they cluster in certain parts of the community?
 - Do they “age in place”?
- The young and old seniors
 - Female old seniors usually outlive their spouses
- Living arrangement
 - Living with spouses or common-law partners
 - Living alone - map
 - Living with relatives

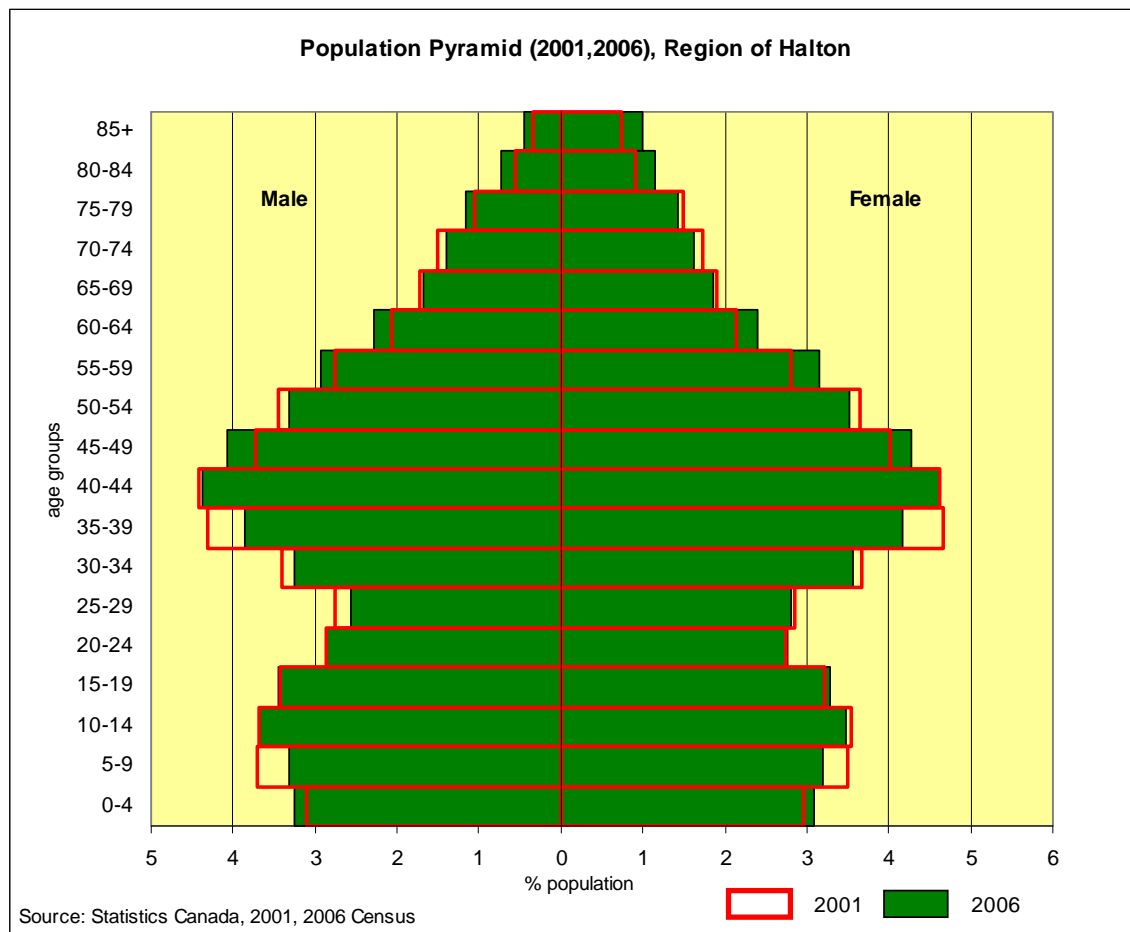




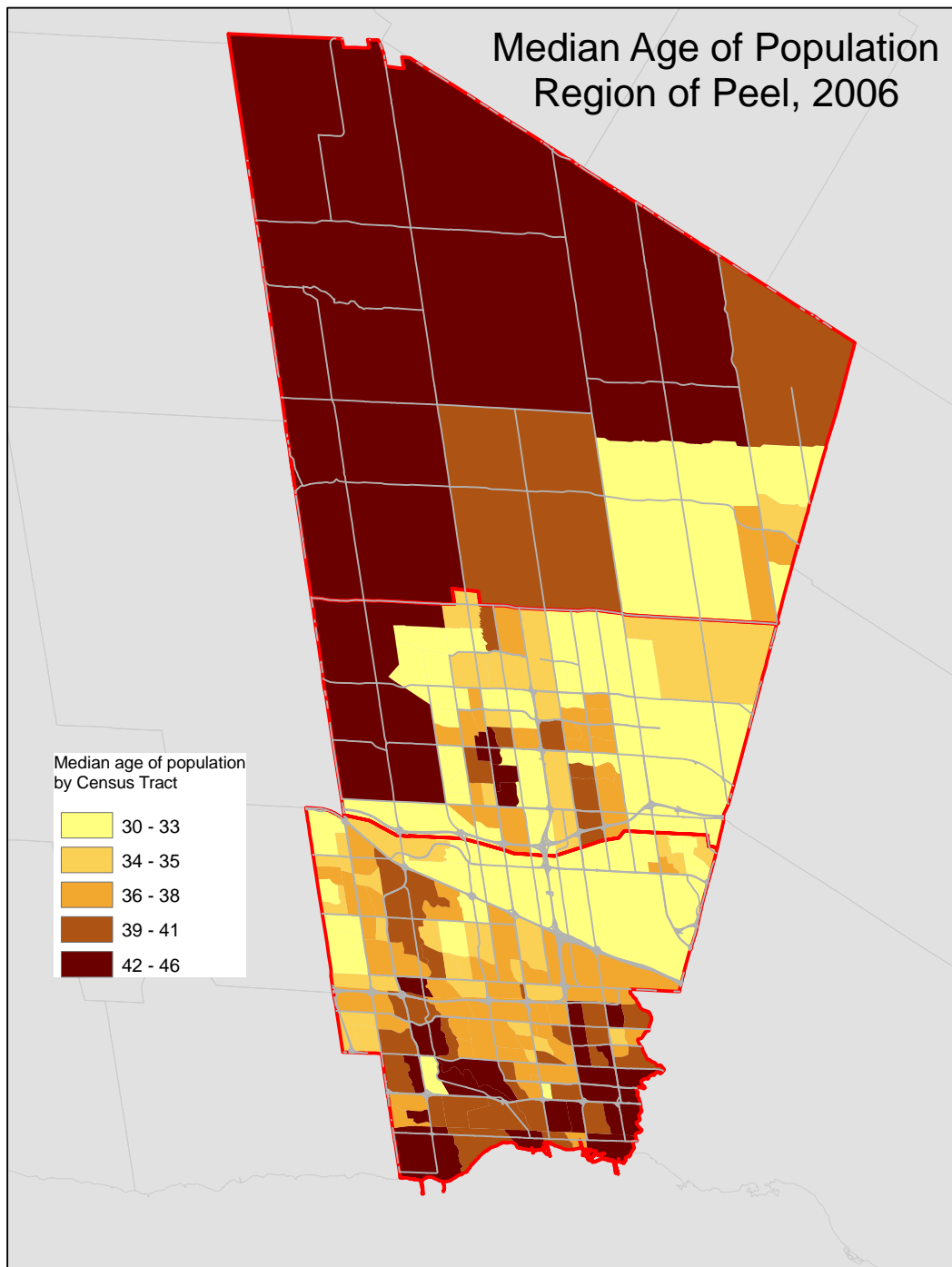
Source: Statistics Canada, 2006 Census, DMTI Spatial

Age and Gender

- An effective way to describe the changes among the various age groups and between the two gender is to construct a population pyramid
- A population pyramid for 2006 will show the age structure of the current population – a pyramid with a wide base and narrow top indicates a young and possibly growing population. On the other hand, an inverted pyramid, with a narrow base and a wide top points to an aging and potentially shrinking population
- By superimposing the 1996 or 2001 population pyramid onto the current pyramid, we can comment on the changes that had taken place
- The pyramid will also provide information on the changing proportion of male and female population by age groups
- For more information on the population pyramid and its construction, please refer to Resource Note #8



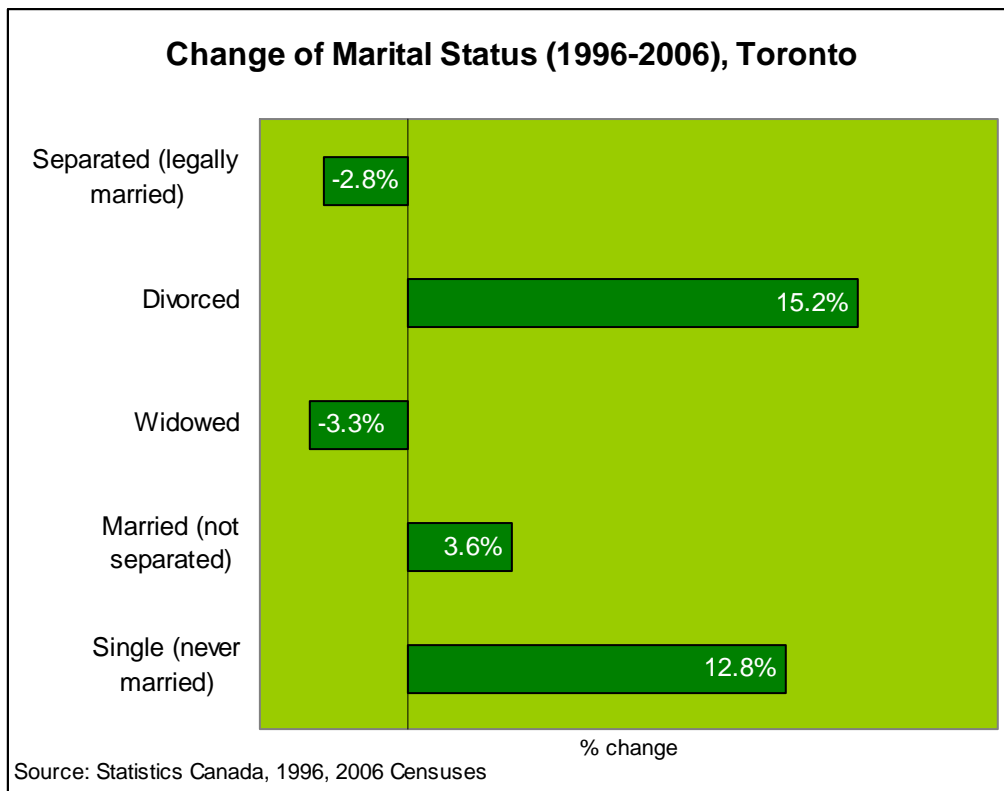
- Median age of the population
 - How does that compare with provincial and national average?
 - Which part of the community is youngest or oldest?



Source: Statistics Canada, 2006 Census, DMTI Spatial

Marital Status

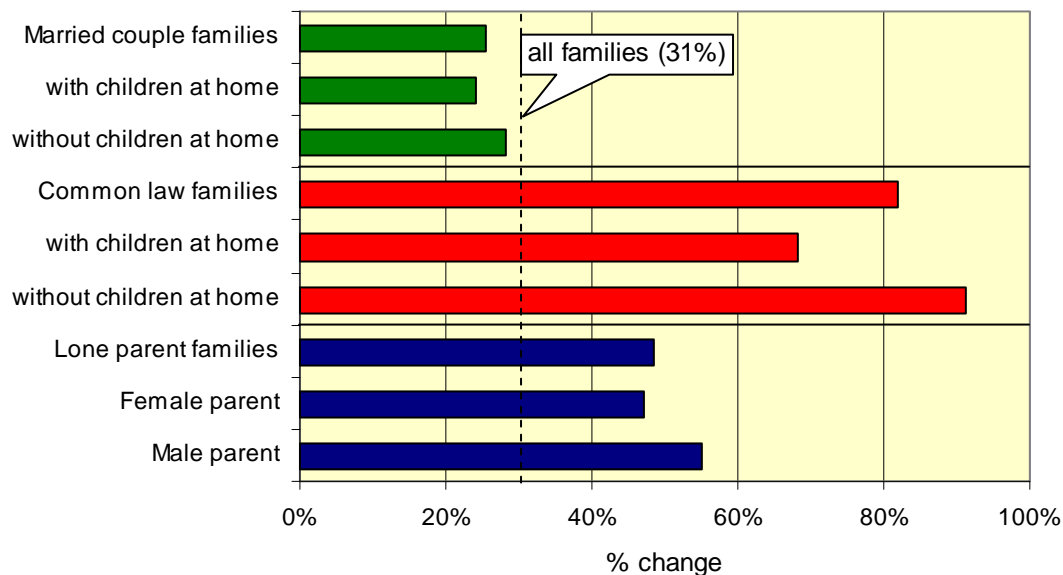
- Five categories:
 - Single (never married)
 - Married (not separated)
 - Separated (legally married)
 - Widowed
 - Divorced
- How and what had changed since 1996?
- How do they compare to provincial or national averages?
- Which group(s) experienced most changes?
- Cross-tabulated tables on marital status by age groups at the CSD level are available for free
 - Legal Marital Status (6), Common-law Status (3), Age Groups (17) and Sex (3) for the Population 15 Years and Over
Canada, Provinces, Territories, Census Divisions and Census Subdivisions - Cat. No. [97-552-X2006009](#)



Families and family structure

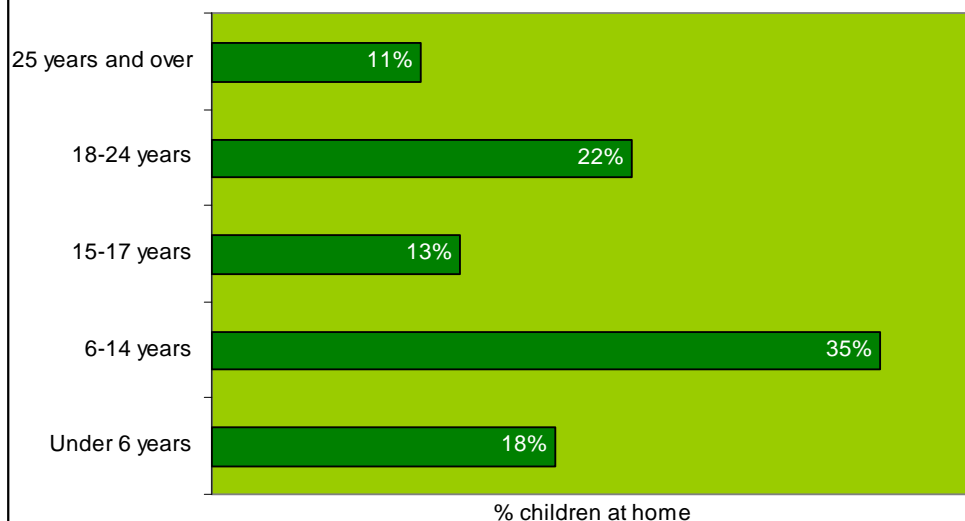
- Three types families (married couple, common-law and lone parent)
- What changes have occurred between 1996 and 2006?
- Families with children at home
 - by selected age groups (under 6, 6-14, 15-17, 18-24 and 25+)
 - by age groups and by family structure (couple families, lone parent families (male and female)....) available by CSD (Catalogue Number 97-553-XCB2006023.)
- Average number of children at home
- Growth of common law families
- Lone parent families
 - Male and female parent led families
 - Changes
 - Geographic distribution

Change in family structure (1996-2006) Region of Halton



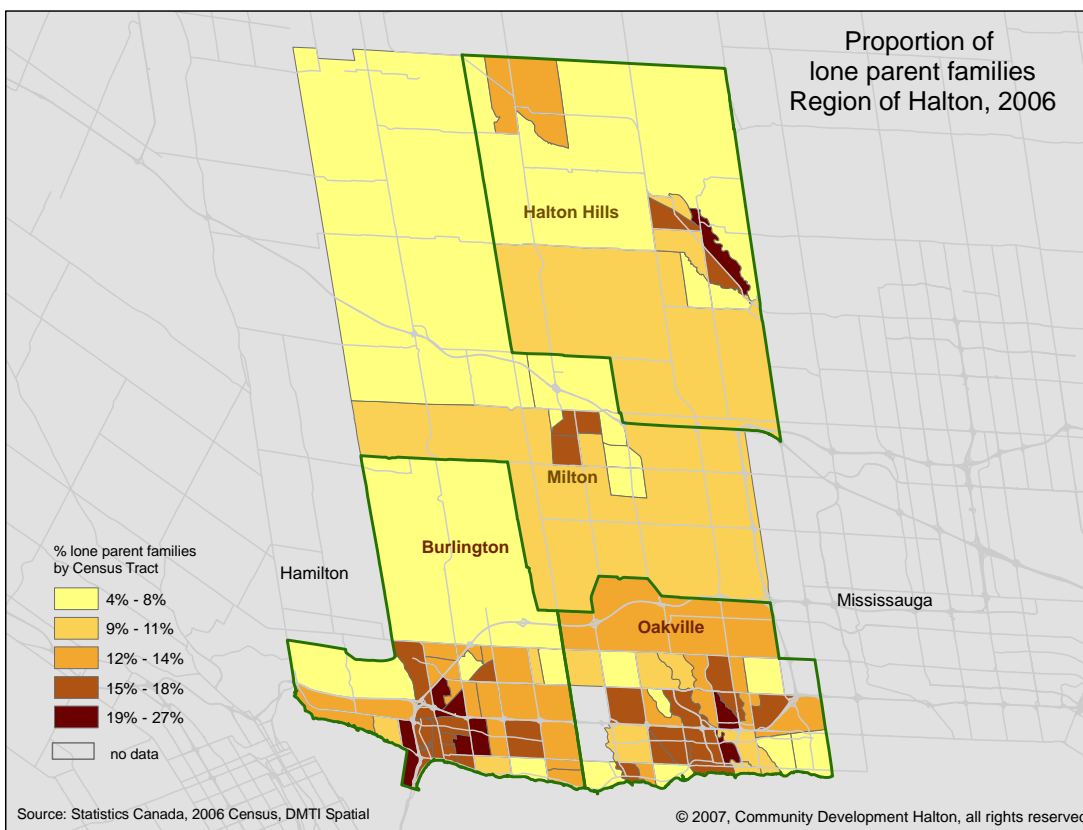
Source: Statistics Canada, 1996 and 2006 Censuses

Proportion of Children at home by age groups, City of Thunder Bay, 2006

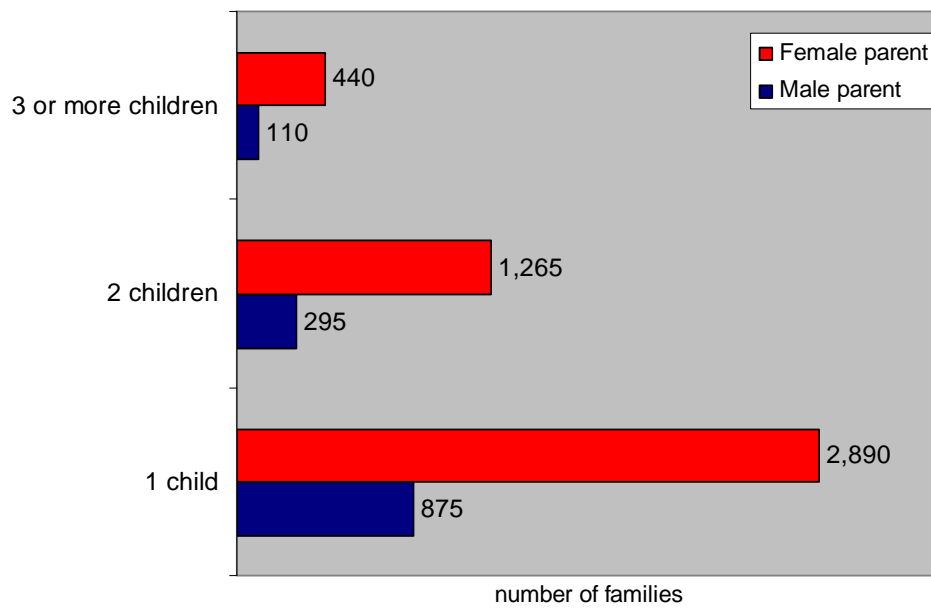


Source: Statistics Canada, 2006 Census

Proportion of lone parent families Region of Halton, 2006



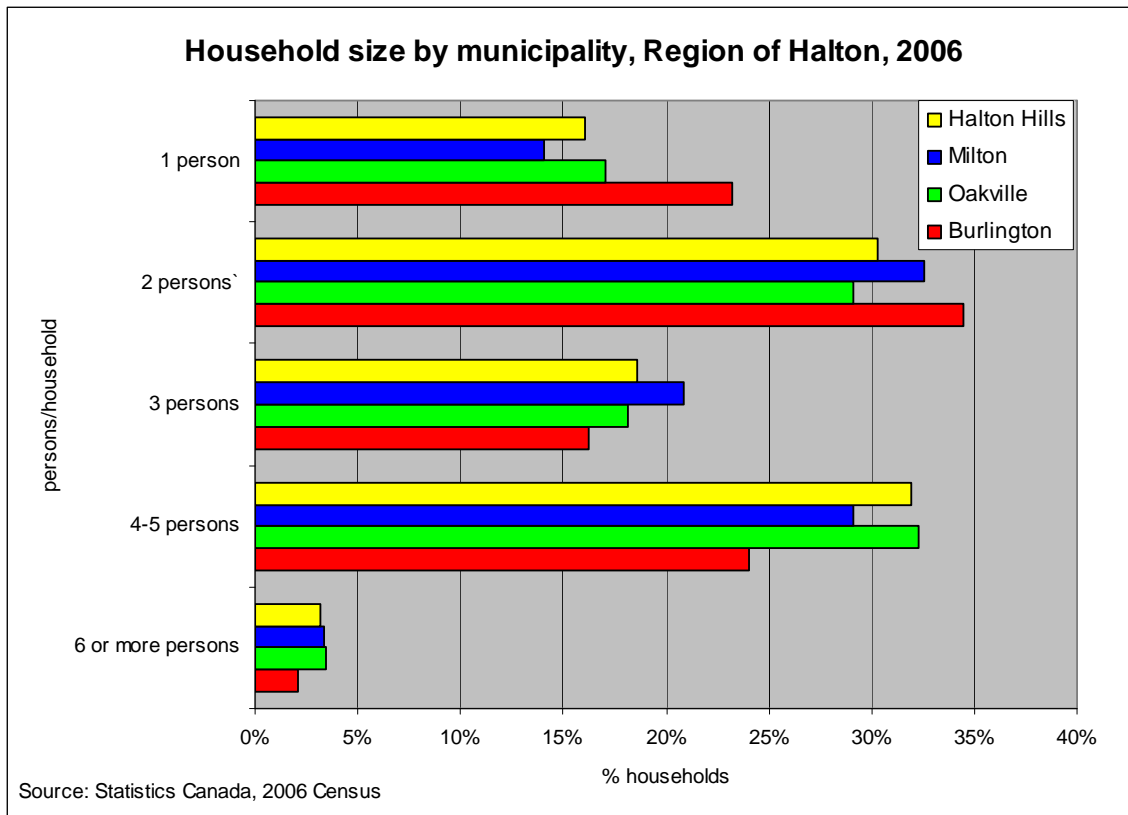
Lone-parent Families by number of children, Hastings and Prince Edward, 2006

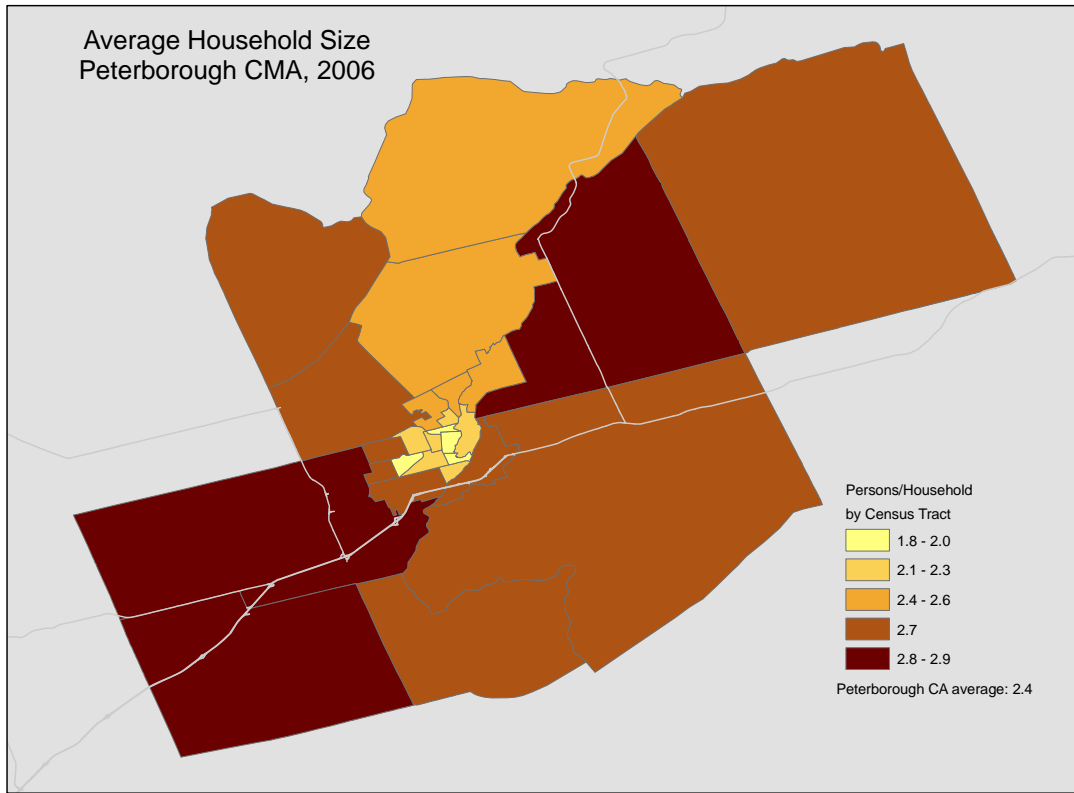


Source: Statistics Canada, 2006 Census

Household and household size

- Changing household size reflects the changing demographics and living arrangement
- The downward trend towards smaller household continues
- Change of household sizes among municipalities (comparison between urban and rural areas)
- Changing household size has a direct impact on housing needs within a community

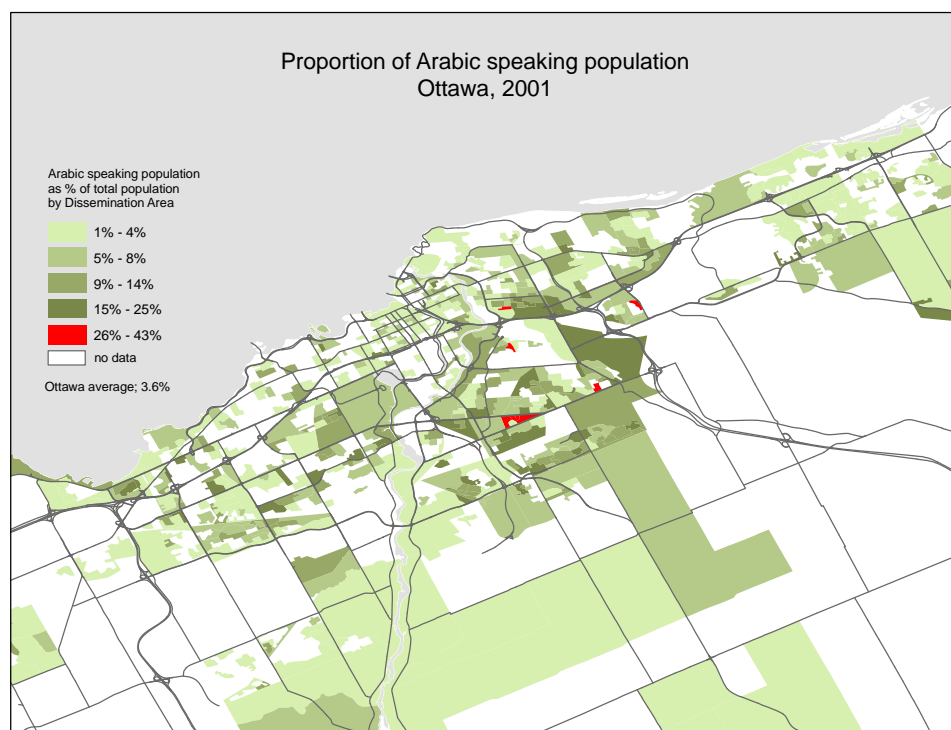




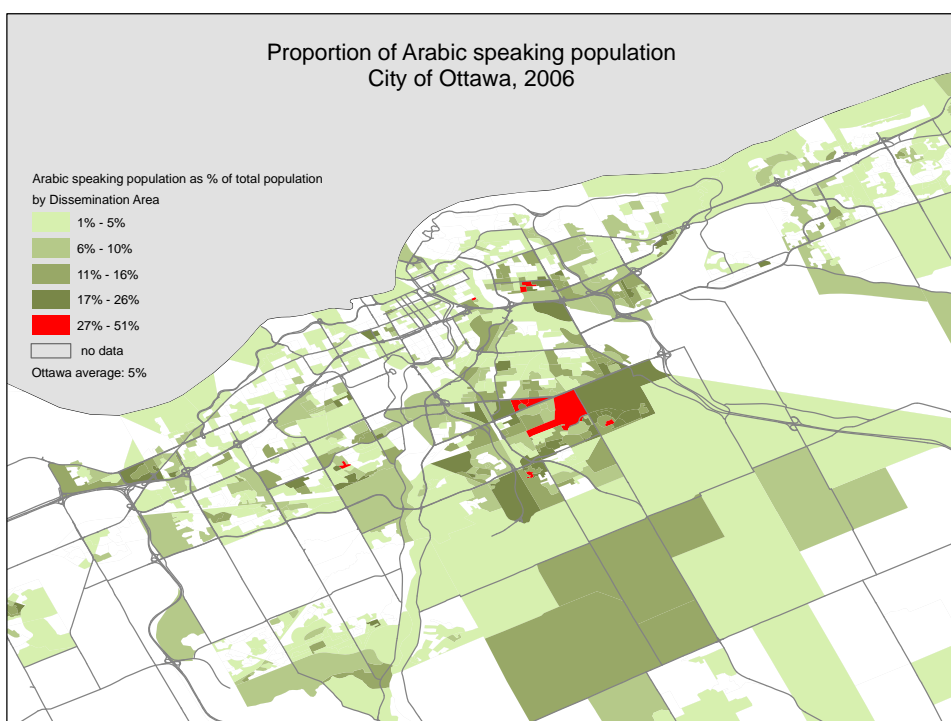
Source: Statistics Canada, 2006 Census

Languages

- Proportion of official and non-official languages speaking population
- Knowledge of non-official languages: refers to languages, other than English or French, in which one can conduct a conversation
- Mother tongue: refers to the first language learned at home in childhood and still understood by individual at the time of the census
- Home language: refers to the language spoken most often or on a regular basis at home
 - Over 100 home languages are available at CT and DA level
- For communities with growing non-official language speaking population – non-official language can be a measure of diversity
- Changes of non-official languages between 1996 and 2006
- In 2001, there were more than 60 languages spoken in the Region of Halton
- Are there any concentrations of non-official language speaking population?
- Implications
 - Source of non-official language speaking volunteers

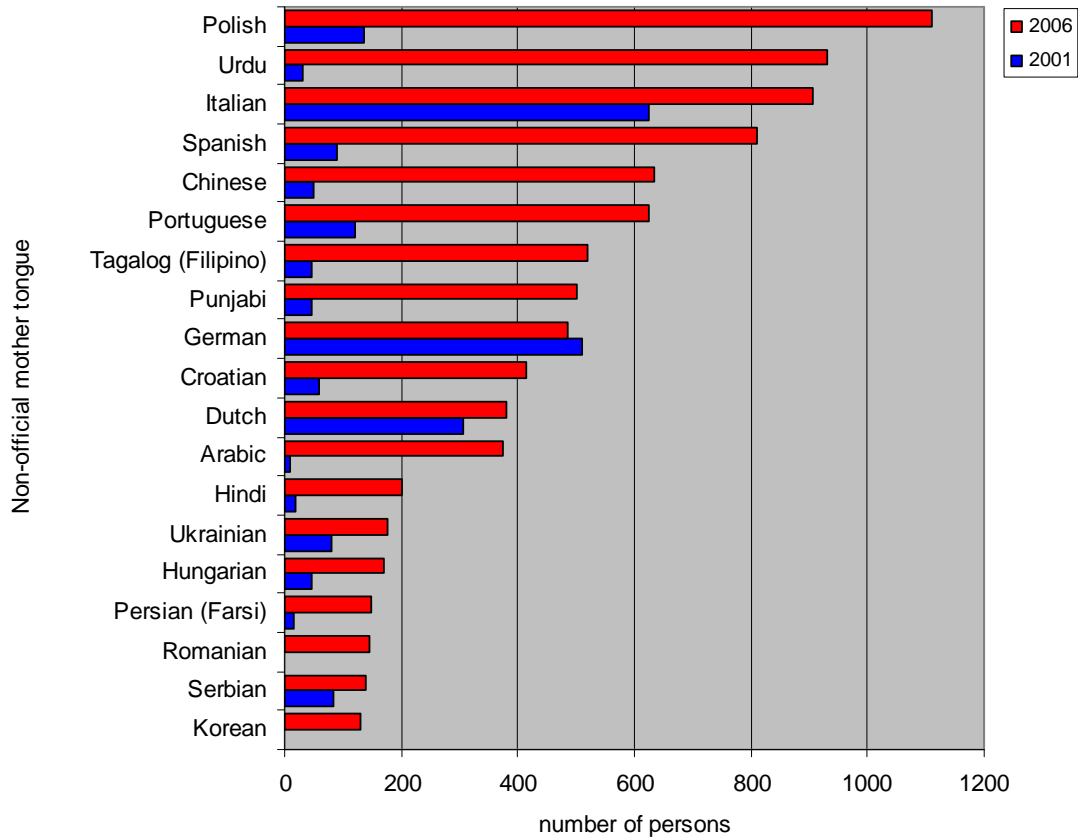


Source: Statistics Canada, 2001 Census, DMTI Spatial



Source: Statistics Canada, 2006 Census, DMTI Spatial

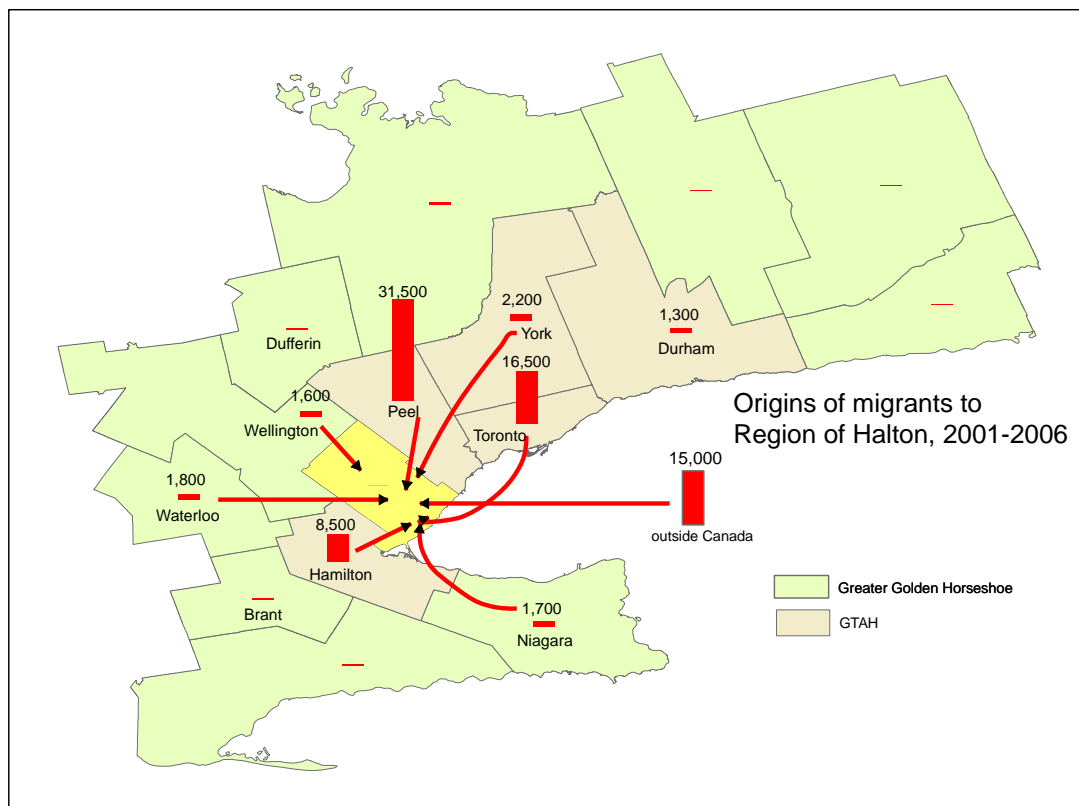
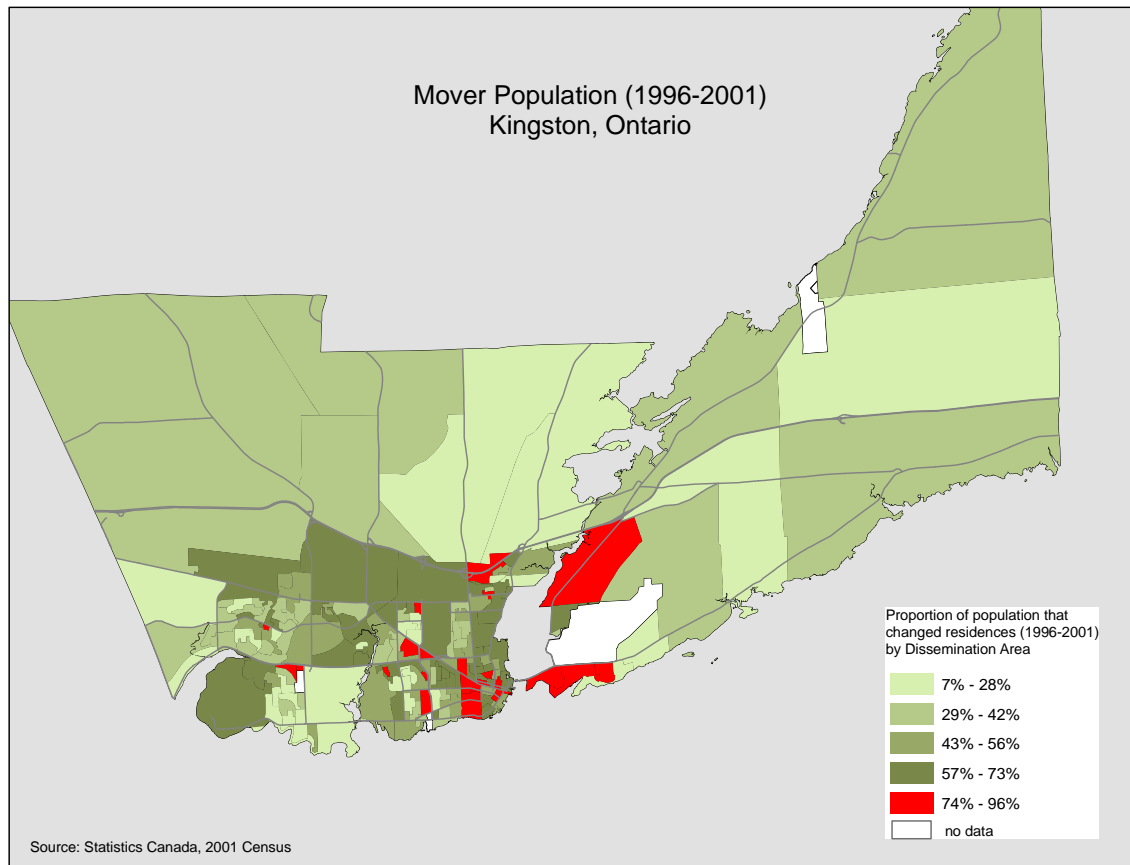
Population by non-official mother tongue Town of Milton, 2001, 2006

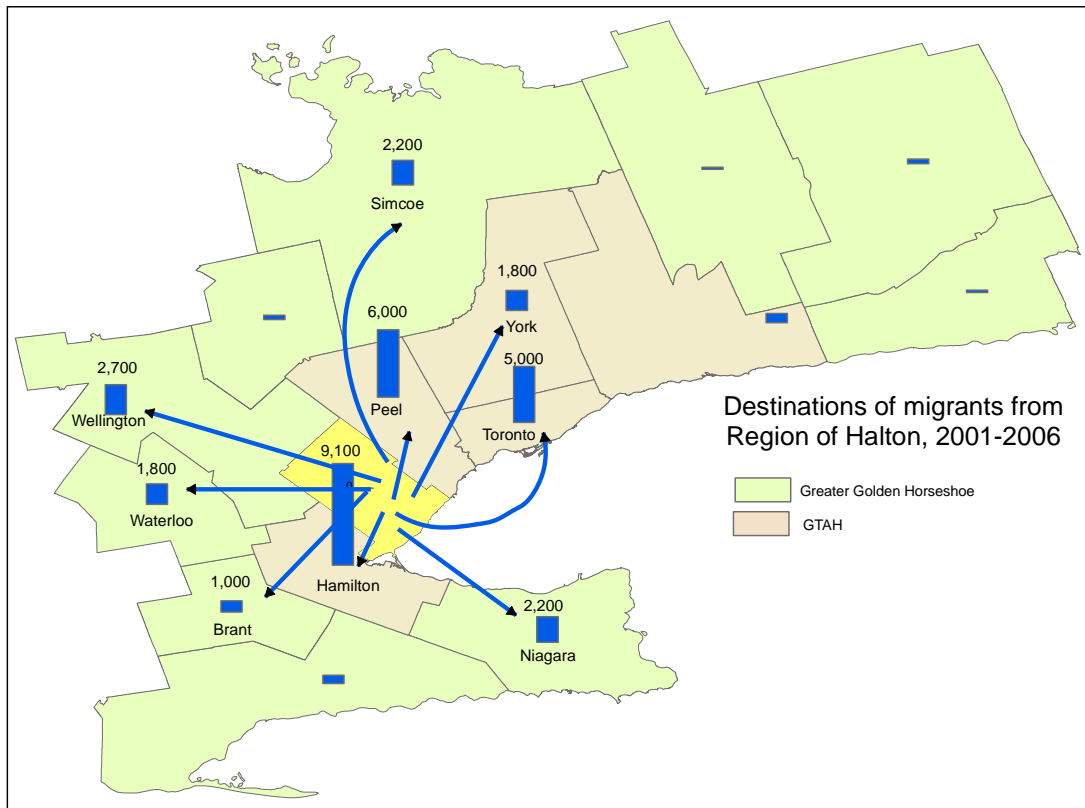


Source: Statistics Canada, 2001 & 2006 Censuses

Mobility and Migration

- With the continuing low birth rate, net migration (in-migration minus out-migration) has become the major factor in determining the net increase of population in a community.
- Many communities are interested to know where do most of the migrants come from.
- 2006 Census provide data on mobility and migration.
- Mobility measures the frequency Canadians move within and outside their communities of residence.
- Statistics Canada has specific definition to describe the mobility status of the population
- Mobility status is measured in two time periods: one year ago (2005) as well as five year period (2001)
 - Non-movers are persons who lived in the same address
 - Movers are persons who lived in different addresses
 - Non-migrants are movers who moved within the same CSD (Census Subdivision)
 - Migrants are movers who lived in a different CSD
 - Internal migrants are migrants who lived in Canada
 - External migrants are migrants who lived outside Canada
- Mobility status captured at the local level (e.g. Dissemination Area) can be used to indicate how established a neighbourhood is, A more established area has a high proportion of non-movers and vice versa
- Migration flow data show both the origins and destinations of the migrants. We can tell where do they come from as well as where do local residents go.
- In the past, we have to pay for this flow dataset.
- With the 2006 Census, Statistics Canada will release migration flow data at the CD level (Census Division) free of charge – release data: April 8, 2008
 - Cat.No. 97-556-X2006014 (5 years ago)
 - Cat No. 97-556-X2006015 (1 year ago)



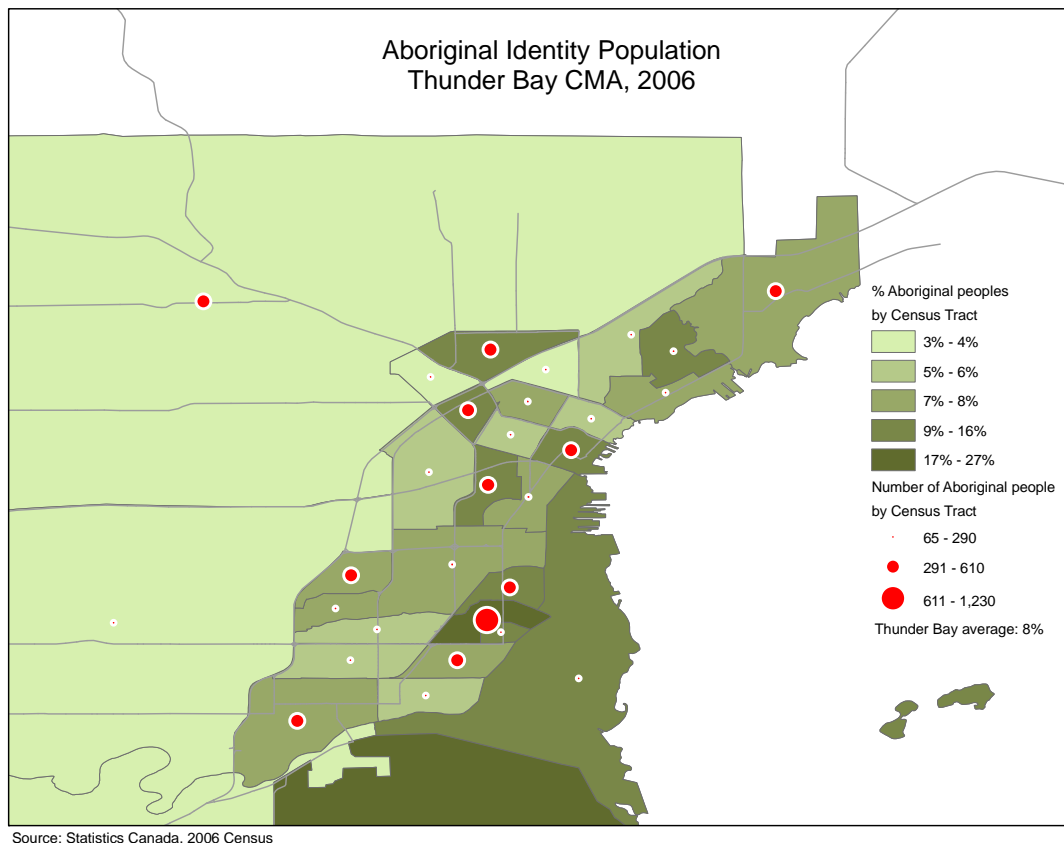


Source: Statistics Canada, 2006 Census

© 2008, Community Development Halton, all rights reserved

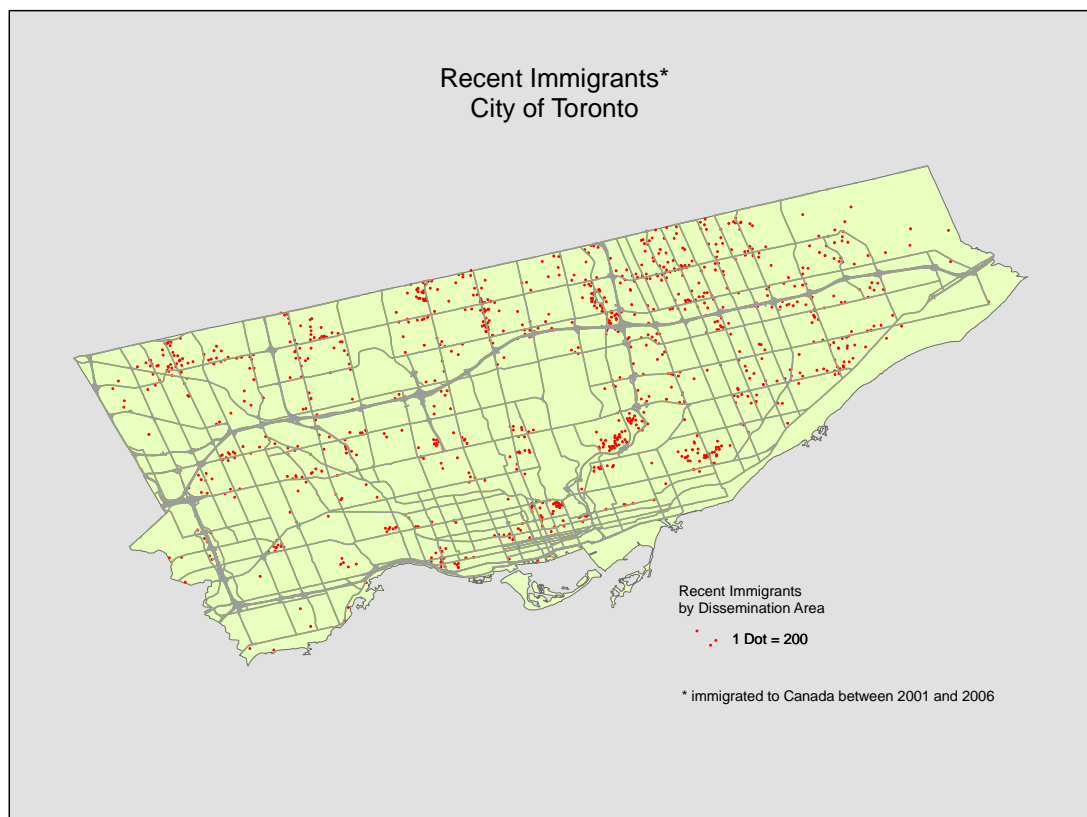
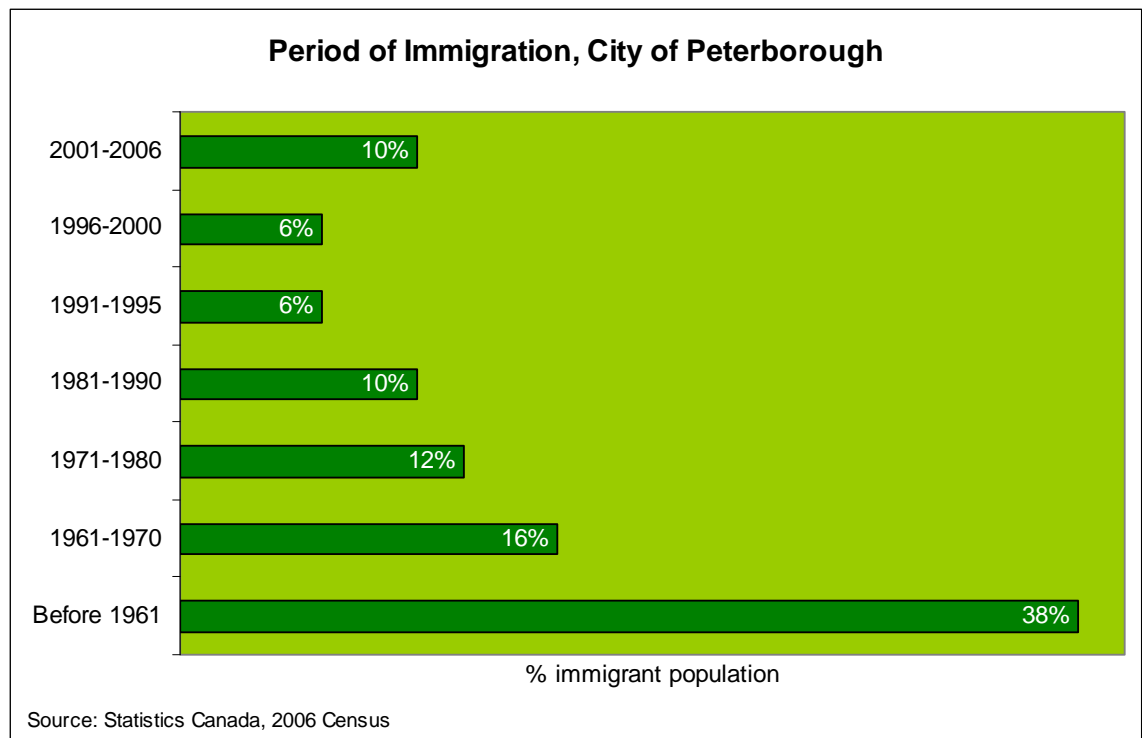
Aboriginal Peoples

- In 2006, the number of peoples who identified themselves as an Aboriginal person (North American Indian, Metis and Inuit) exceeded the one-million mark
- In general, the Aboriginal population has grown faster than the non-Aboriginal population
- Some communities have larger proportion of Aboriginal Peoples than others (e.g. Toronto, Ottawa and Thunder Bay)
- As a new data product, Statistics Canada released a new Aboriginal Population Profile, 2006 Census. It provides more detailed data on socio-demographic characteristics (e.g. age, sex, marital status, family structure, household size...).
- Profile website:
(<http://www12.statcan.ca/english/census06/data/profiles/aboriginal/Index.cfm?Lang=E>)



Immigration and Citizenship

- Immigrants are people who have been permitted by immigration authorities to live in Canada permanently; some will have lived in Canada for a number of years and while others have arrived recently
- Recent immigrants are those who entered Canada between 2001 and 2006
- Statistics Canada has released more cross-tabulated data on this subject at the CSD (Census Subdivision) free of charge., including :
 - Detailed Language Spoken Most Often at Home (186), Other Language Spoken Regularly at Home (9), Mother Tongue (8) and Sex (3) for the Population (Cat. NO. 97-555-X2006046)
 - Place of Birth (33), Period of Immigration (9), Sex (3) and Age Groups (10) for the Immigrant Population (Cat. No. 97-557-X2006020)
 - Immigrant Status and Place of Birth (38), Sex (3) and Age Groups (10) for the Population (Cat. No. 97-557-X2006015)
 - Citizenship (5), Place of Birth (35), Sex (3) and Immigrant Status and Period of Immigration (12) for the Population (Cat. No. 97-557-X2006024)
- Data on immigrants by CSD (Census Subdivision) include:
 - Period of immigrations (8) (before 1961, 1961-1970, 1971-1980, 1981-1990, 1991-1995, 1999-2001, 2001-2006)
 - By Gender
 - By Place of Birth (33)
 - By Age Groups (10)
 - Language spoken at home
 - Mother tongue



Source: Statistics Canada, 2006 Census

The remaining data releases from Statistics Canada will be discussed in Part 2 of the Community Social Profile Template

This project is funded by the Ontario Trillium Foundation

