

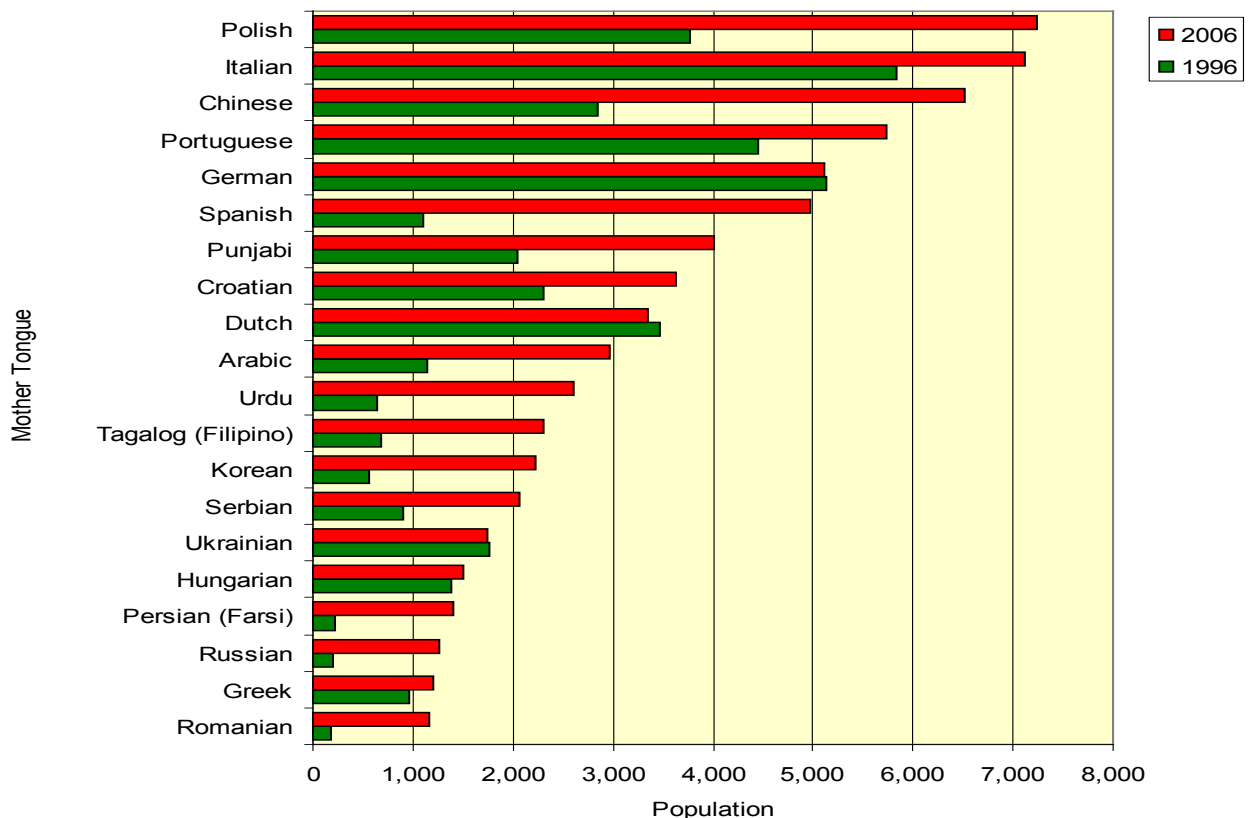
## Non-Official Languages

Arabic • Bulgarian • Czech • CHINESE • DANISH  
 Dutch • FARSI • Finnish • Flemish • French  
 German • GREEK • Hungarian • Italian • Japanese  
 Korean • NORWEGIAN • Malay • Polish  
 Portuguese • Romanian • Russian • Slovak  
 Spanish • Swedish • THAI • Turkish • Vietnamese...

In Canada, people whose mother tongue (first language learned at home in childhood and still understood by the individual) is neither English nor French are called 'allophones'. They represent about 20% of the population, speaking over 200 languages.

Between 1996 and 2006, the number of allophones in Halton increased by over 70% to 80,000. About one in five (18%) of the population speaks one of the sixty non-official languages in Halton. The following chart shows the changes among the various allophone populations in the last decade (1996-2006).

**Population by top non-official mother tongue  
Region of Halton (1996, 2006)**



Source: Statistics Canada, 1996, 2006 Census

Community Lens is prepared by Community Development Halton to disseminate and interpret important community data as it becomes available. For more information please contact us at [data@cdhalton.ca](mailto:data@cdhalton.ca) or 905-632-1975

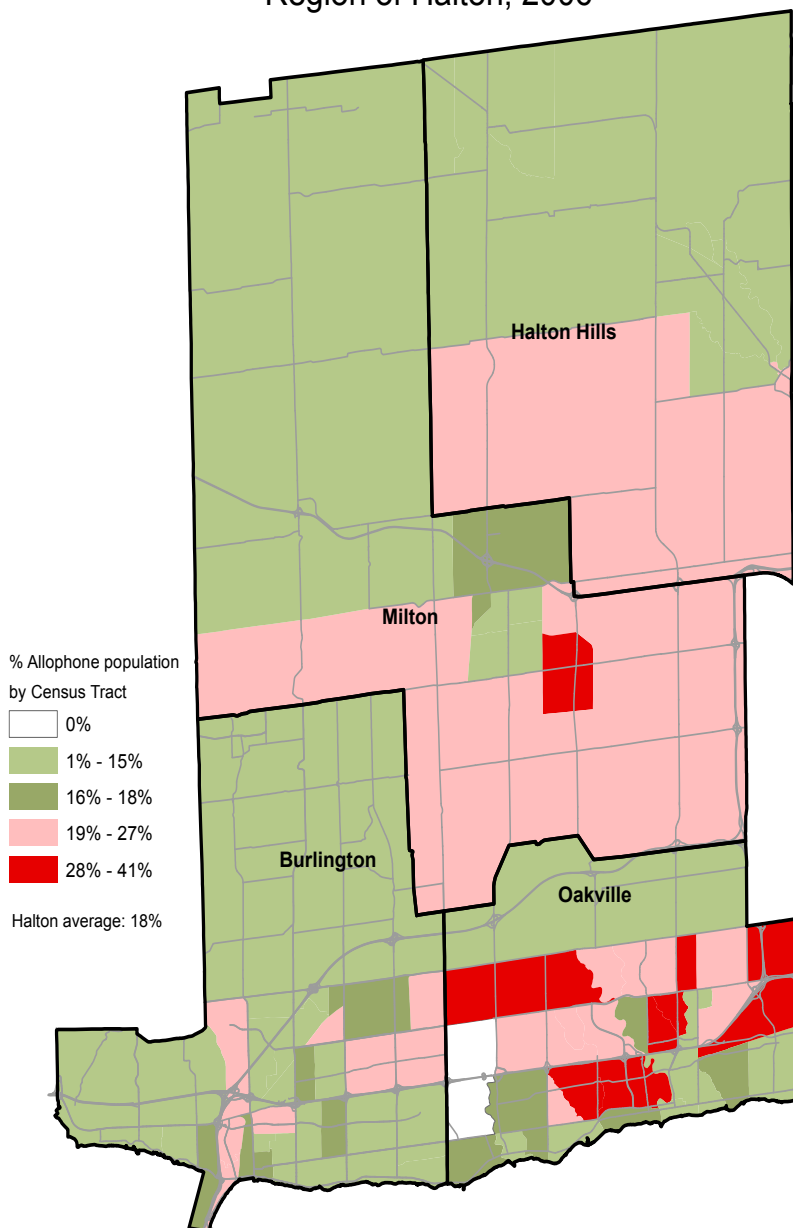
## Allophone Population

In 1996, the top five non-official mother tongues were Polish, Italian, Dutch, Portuguese, and German. Within a period of ten years, there has been a significant growth of other non-official mother tongue populations. Some of the allophone population that has doubled in size include: Spanish (+350%), Urdu (+300%), Korean (+300%), Tagalog (+240%), Arabic (+150%), Serbian (+130%) and Chinese (+129%).

About half (49%) of Halton's allophone population live in the Town of Oakville. One-quarter of its population speak a non-official language. In the central downtown area of Oakville, the dominant non-official mother tongues are Portuguese and Serbian. In Oakville's northwestern areas, most allophones speak Polish, Urdu and Punjabi.

In the Town of Milton, there are two census tracts with allophones representing over 25% of the population. The dominant non-official mother tongues in these two census tracts are Polish and Urdu.

Allophone Population  
Region of Halton, 2006



Source: Statistics Canada, 2006 Census, DMTI Spatial

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