

Foreign-Educated Immigrants in Halton

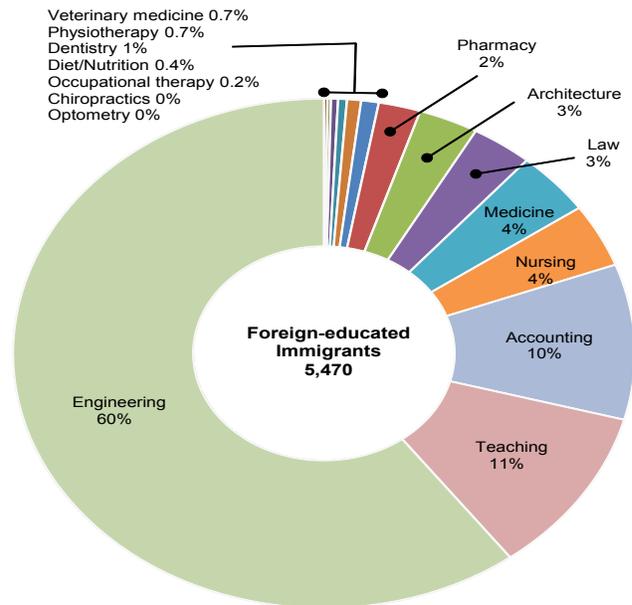
Recent immigrants who had been in Canada for less than five years experienced higher unemployment rates than those born in Canada. New immigrants face many challenges in the Canadian labour market. In addition, for those who are seeking employment in the regulated occupations, they must prove their foreign credentials meet Canadian standards. Foreign-educated immigrants with a degree in a regulated field of study had a higher unemployment rate (7.0%) than their Canadian born counterparts (2.5%) with a similar degree in 2006¹. The regulated fields of study/occupations are:



Architects	Engineers	Physiotherapists
Accountants	Lawyers/judges	Doctors
Chiropractors	Occupational Therapists	Registered Nurses
Dentists	Optometrists	Teachers
Dieticians/Nutritionists	Pharmacists	Veterinarians

In general, occupations that are regulated either by the provinces or by professional associations are generally regulated because they have a responsibility either for public health or to protect consumers/clients. For this reason, educational and additional requirements are clearly defined and license cannot be obtained unless requirements are clearly met².

Percent of Foreign-Educated Immigrants by Regulated Occupations, Halton Region, 2006



Source: Statistics Canada, 2006 Census

¹ Statistics Canada, Immigrants Working in regulated occupations, February 2010, Perspective, Cat. No. 75-001-X
² Ibid.

In 2006, there were about 5,500 foreign-educated immigrants working in the regulated occupations living in Halton Region. Many of them worked outside the region.

Engineering is by far the most practiced regulated occupation. It accounts for more than half (60%) of all foreign-educated immigrants working in the regulated occupations. This percentage is higher than the provincial average of 58%.

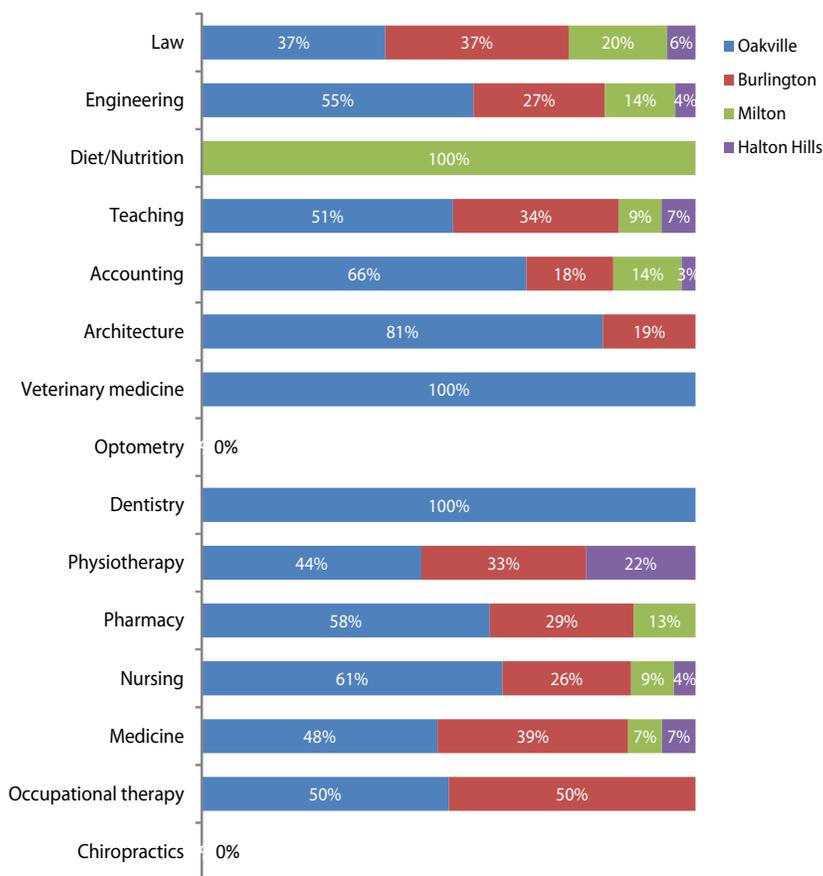
About one in 10 foreign-educated immigrants worked as teachers (11%) or accountants (10%). In the health profession, 4% of the foreign-educated immigrants worked in nursing and 4% in medicine and 2% in pharmacy.

There were no foreign-educated immigrants working as chiropractors or optometrists in Halton. Very few worked as a physiotherapist, dietician/nutritionist, occupational therapist or veterinarian.

The Town of Oakville has a larger share (56%) of the region's foreign-educated immigrants working in regulated occupations than its share (46%) of the region's immigrant population. Eight in 10 foreign-educated immigrants lived in Oakville and Burlington. The Town of Halton Hills accounts for 8% of region's immigrants and has only 4% of the foreign-educated immigrants working in regulated occupations.

The Town of Oakville also has a higher proportion of foreign-educated immigrants in each of the regulated occupation with the exception of diet/nutrition. In fact, it has all the region's foreign-educated immigrant dentists and veterinarians. On the other hand, there are no foreign-educated architects, dentists, dieticians/nutritionists or occupational therapists in Milton or Halton Hills.

Percent of Foreign-Educated Immigrants by Regulated Occupation by Municipality Halton Region, 2006



Source: Statistics Canada, 2006 Census



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