

Recent Immigrants

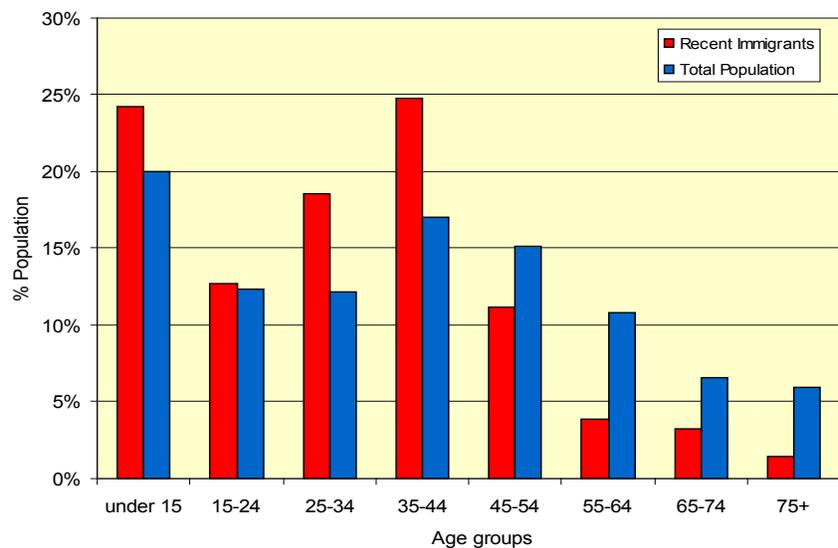


According to Statistics Canada, immigrants who arrived in Canada during the five years prior to a census are considered as recent immigrants. For the 2006 Census, recent immigrants are those who migrated between 2001 and 2006. During that period, Halton received about 13,000 immigrants representing about 12% of its total immigrant population.

The Town of Oakville has the highest foreign born population; about one in three residents is an immigrant. Oakville has about half (46%) of the region's total immigrants and over half (52%) of its recent immigrants. About 14% of the immigrants in the Town of Milton are recent immigrants. On the other hand, the Town of Halton Hills received only 440 recent immigrants representing 5% of its immigrant population.

Age distribution, recent immigrants and total population, Region of Halton, 2006

Recent immigrants are younger than the population as a whole. About 80% of recent immigrants are under the age of 44, as compared to 60% of the total population. One in four (24%) of recent immigrants were children aged 14 and under. Only 4% of recent immigrants were aged 65 and over as compared to 13% of the population overall.



Source: Statistics Canada, 2006 Census

Change in Source of Immigration

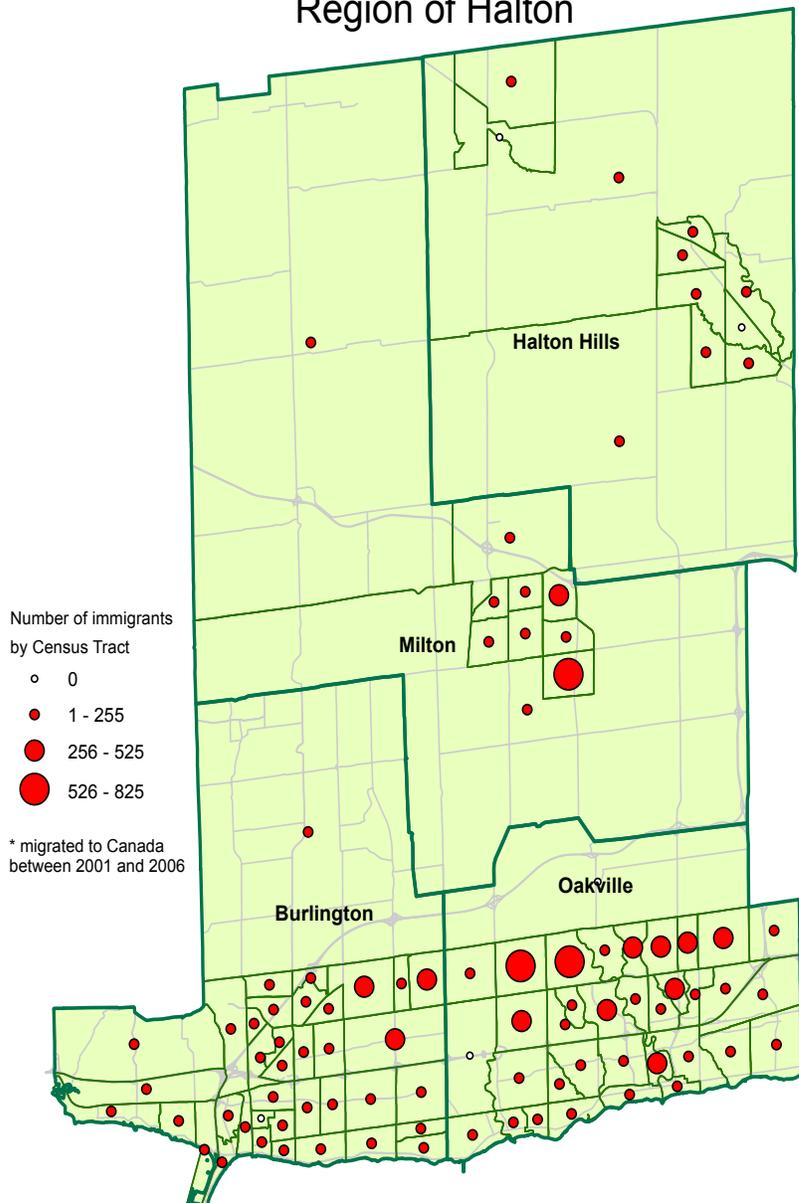
Since the 1970s, the main source of immigrants to Canada has shifted from Europe to non-European countries. In 1971, about 60% of recent immigrants were from European countries; in 2006, only 16%.

In Halton, the proportion of European recent immigrants was higher than the national average at 25%. Of these, the United Kingdom remained the top country of origin. About half (46%) of recent immigrants came from countries in Asia (20% from India and 13% from China alone) and the Middle East. Over 10% of the newcomers came from Central, South America and the Caribbean.

South Asia (India, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Maldives, Nepal and Sri Lanka) is the most common birthplace of recent immigrants to the City of Burlington, Town of Oakville and Town of Milton. In the Town of Halton Hills, the most common place of birth for newcomers is Eastern Europe, accounting for 36% of recent immigrants.

The majority of recent immigrants settled in areas with recent residential development especially in the Town of Milton, the Town of Oakville and the City of Burlington. Many of them also found homes in the more established areas of Burlington and Oakville.

Recent immigrant population*
Region of Halton



Source: Statistics Canada, 2006 Census

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