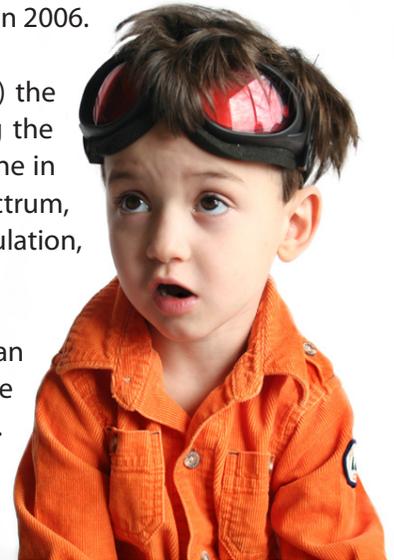


Children At Home

The population of Halton is aging as the older population grows faster than the younger one. Between 1996 and 2006, the number of children increased at a slightly slower rate (26%) than the overall population (29%). Halton was home to about 150,000 children living at home in 2006.

Among the five age groups, (under 6, 6-14, 15-17, 18-24, 25 years and over) the 25 year and over group experienced the greatest increase at 44% reflecting the national trend of children at home getting older and staying longer. About one in 10 children at home is 25 years of age and over. At the other end of the spectrum, the under 6 year age group, which represents about 22% of the children population, experienced a below average growth rate of 16%.

The Town of Oakville has a larger share (40%) of Halton's children population than its share of Halton's overall population (37%). It also accounted for 43% of the increase in the number of children at home of all ages between 1996 and 2006. On the other hand, the City of Burlington, with a similar share of the region's population as the Town of Oakville, accounted for only 20% of the increase in the number of children.

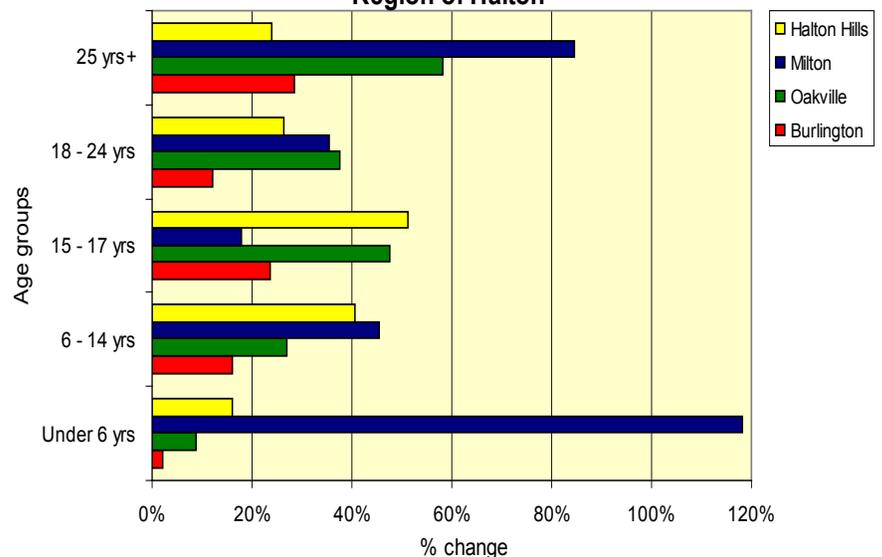


The Town of Milton, with the influx of young families, has the highest growth (118%) of children under 6. The increase of about 2,800 small children represented over 60% of the region's total.

The City of Burlington has seen only a 2% increase in the number of children under 6. That was the smallest increase in terms of growth rate as well as number among the municipalities.

The rapid increase in the number of adult children (25 years and over) living with their parents is evident in all municipalities. Although the Town of Oakville had a lower growth rate (58%) in this group than did Milton (84%), it accounted for almost half (49.3%) of Halton's increase in adult children living at home.

**Change of children at home population (1996-2006),
Region of Halton**



Source: Statistics Canada, 1996 & 2006 Censuses

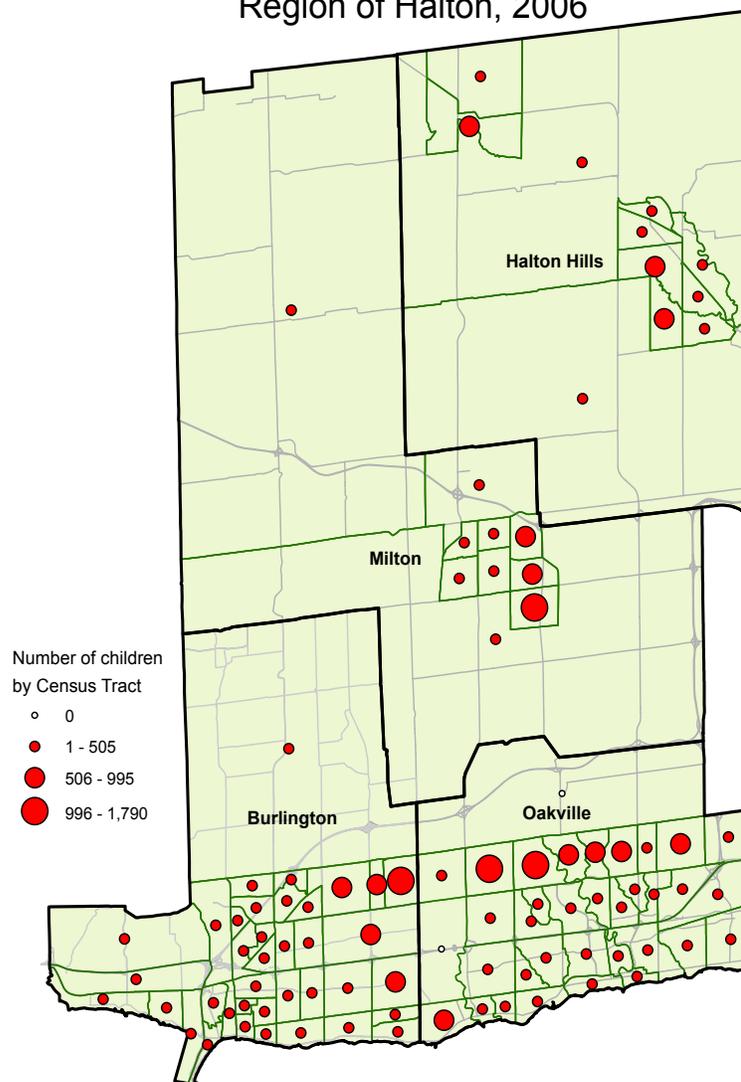
Children Under 6

The map shows the geographic distribution of the number of children aged 0 to 5 years by census tract. A census tract as established by Statistics Canada is a relatively permanent area with a population range of 2,500 to 8,000 and the greatest possible social and economic homogeneity.

The geographic distribution pattern is very similar to that of the population change from 2001 to 2006 (Community Lens – Bulletin 1). Areas with significant population increase also have high numbers of small children. Many of these areas are newly developed subdivisions occupied by young families.

The change in the child population has a direct impact on our school system, recreation services, affordable housing, child care and child welfare. Its geographic distribution has an influence on the deployment of the respective resources.

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



Source: Statistics Canada, 2006 Census, DMTI Spatial

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