

Mobility and Low Income

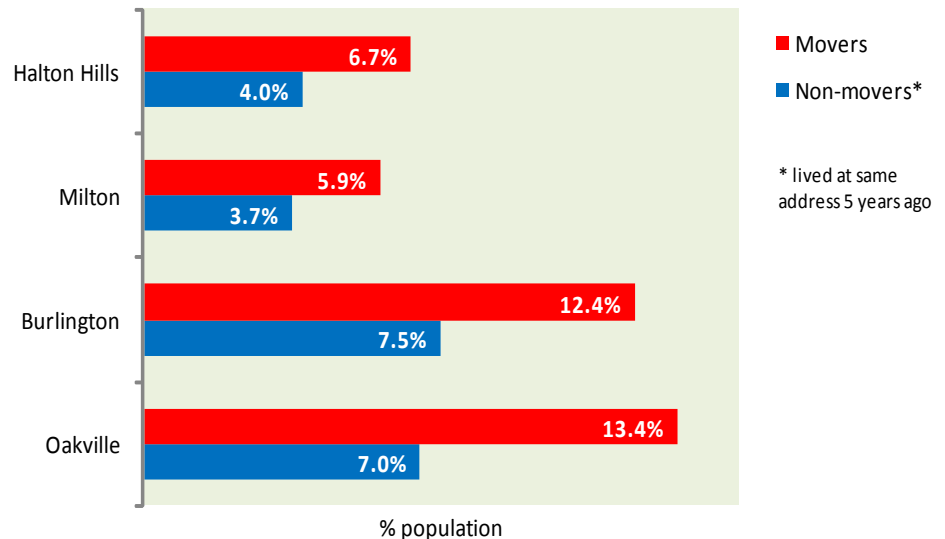


As discussed in Community Lens # 7 – Mobility, between 2001 and 2006, about 44% of Halton residents aged five and over changed their place of residence. They are the mover population and almost half (48%) of these movers came from another municipality in Ontario. Four in ten residents moved within their municipality of residence. About 8% came from abroad and 4% from another province or territory.

The mover and non-mover populations have similar as well as different socio-demographic characteristics. Of interest is the prevalence of low income associated with an individual's mobility status. Prevalence of low income refers to the percentage of individuals or families who spent 20% more than average of their income on food, shelter and clothing. The Low Income Cut-Off (LICO) threshold has been generally accepted as a measure of economic hardship faced by individuals and families.

In Halton, the prevalence of low income is noticeably higher for the movers than the non-movers. Over one in ten movers (11%) lived below the low income threshold compared to 6.5% for those who did not move. Both mover and non-mover residents of Burlington and Oakville have higher prevalence of low income than their peers in Halton Hills and Milton. The lowest percentage of low income (3.7%) is found among the non-movers residents in Milton. The mover residents in Oakville have the highest prevalence of low income (13.4%).

Proportion of low income population by mobility status and by municipality, Halton Region, 2005



Source: Statistics Canada, 2006 Census

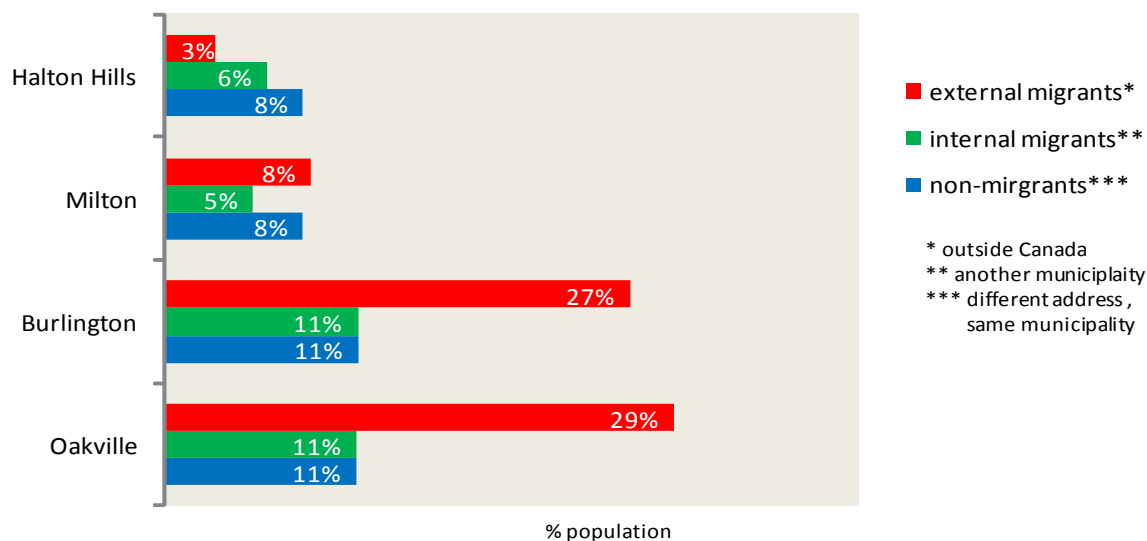
Low Income Mover Population

Within the mover population, external migrants fared the worst financially. They were individuals residing outside Canada five years earlier. Examples of external migrants include immigrants who migrated to Canada between 2001 and 2006, refugees, foreign students and workers.

Over one-quarter of the external migrants live in low income in Burlington (29%) and Oakville (27%). These rates are three times higher than that for the total population (8.5%). Although the external migrants living in Halton Hills and Milton have lower prevalence of low income, they account for less than 5% of low income external migrants in the region.

Both Burlington and Oakville have the same prevalence of low income for internal migrants (those who moved from another municipality) and non-migrants (those who moved within their municipality of resident). About 11% of these two groups of movers lived below the low income threshold.

Proportion of low income mover population by municipality, Halton Region, 2005



A United Way Agency



Community Development Halton
860 Harrington Court
Burlington, ON L7N 3N4
905-632-1975

www.cdhalton.ca