

**Halton Social Planning Council
and Volunteer Centre**

Halton Social Profile 1999

Social Profile

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- Halton Regional Police Services
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- Ontario Ministry of Community and Social Services
- Statistics Canada

The Council would also like to thank all the agencies and organizations that took the time to fill out our 1999 Social Profile Survey so that we could determine what issues are important to include.

Halton Social Profile 1999

Introduction

Report Structure

The Halton Social Planning Council prepared the 1999 Halton Social Profile using Statistics Canada census data for 1986, 1991 and 1996. Other statistical information is used to complement the census data. Sources include the Regional Municipality of Halton, Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation, Halton Housing Authority, Halton District School Board, Halton Catholic District School Board, Ontario Ministry of Community and Social Services and Human Resources Development Canada.

The purpose of this profile is to compare the changes and differences in the Halton region over the past ten years and the projected trends over the next decade, and to discuss the implications of these trends for the community.

The complete profile is organized into eight theme reports and a Halton report. To facilitate its use, the themes were chosen based on the responses received from agencies and organizations within the community that completed the 1999 Social Profile Survey. The theme reports are:

- Children and Youth
- Seniors
- Women
- Families
- Housing
- Diversity
- Education and Employment
- Income and Poverty

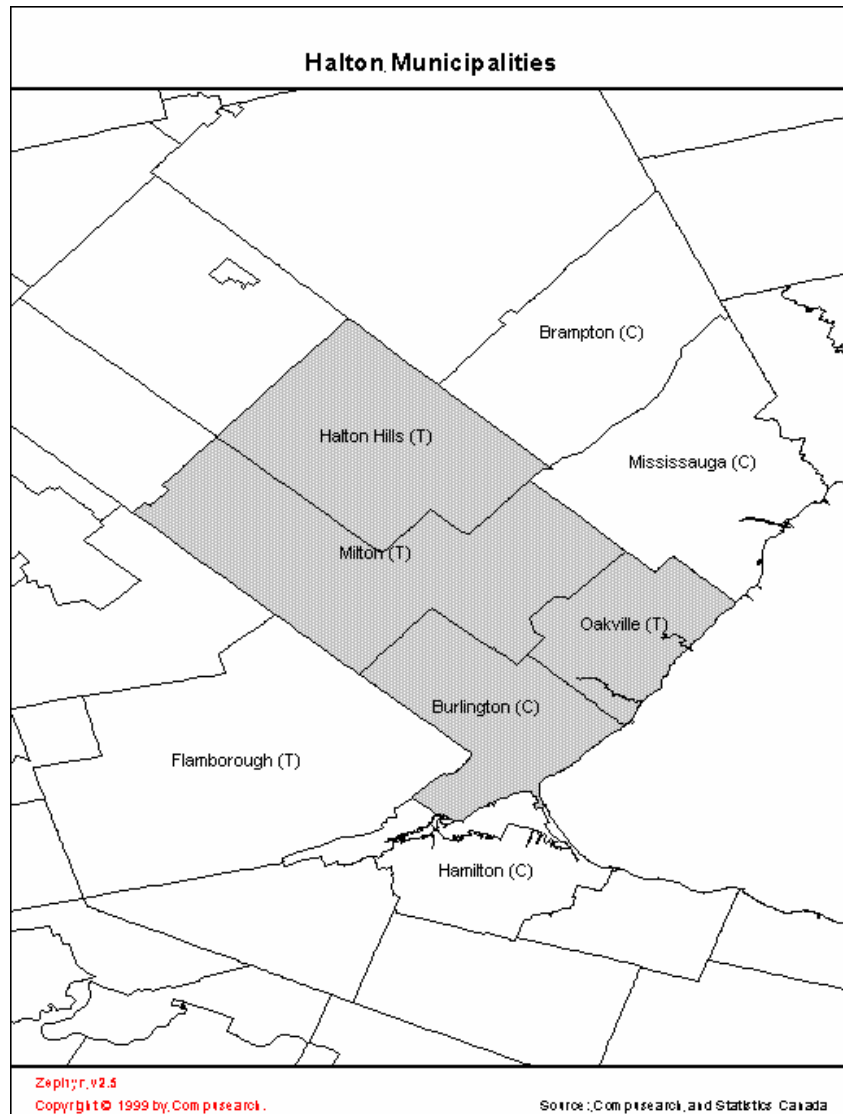
Note that there is some overlap in the content of the reports. The Halton report gives an overview of the issues and trends in the region, while the theme reports provide more detail on population groups and other areas of interest.

The profile focuses on Halton region as a whole and compares the four individual municipalities: Oakville, Burlington, Milton and Halton Hills. Comparisons are also made of Halton to Ontario. Summaries of data for Ontario, Halton and the four municipalities within Halton are provided at the end of each report. Additional data by census tract are available from the Halton Social Planning Council. Requested data may include maps and tables.

Note that Statistics Canada randomly rounds its census data up or down to protect anonymity, so totals for the region may not equal the sum of the municipalities and percentages may not equal 100%.

Halton Context

The Regional Municipality of Halton, as shown in Figure 1, is located on the westerly end of Lake Ontario, between Toronto and Hamilton. It lies within a zone of densely populated and industrialized cities clustered around the western end of Lake Ontario from Oshawa to Niagara Falls referred to as the “Golden Horseshoe.”



• Figure 1 Map of Halton region by municipality

In 1974, the Province of Ontario introduced regional government. Halton Region was formed following old county lines dividing it into the four municipalities. Burlington and Oakville are suburban communities bordering Lake Ontario. Combined they contain 79% of the population in the region. Milton and Halton Hills, in the north of the region, contain both urban areas and large rural areas. Milton lies just south of Highway 401 and Halton Hills, which consists of Georgetown and Acton, lies along Highway 7.

Glossary of Census Terms

The following terms used throughout the report are from Statistics Canada *1996 Census Dictionary*.

Age

Refers to the age at last birthday (as of the census reference date, May 14, 1996). This variable is derived from date of birth.

Citizenship

Refers to legal citizenship status of the respondent. Persons who are citizens of more than one country were instructed to indicate this fact.

Ethnic Origin

Refers to the ethnic or cultural group(s) to which the respondent's ancestors belong. An ancestor is someone from whom a person is descended and is usually more distant than a grandparent. Respondents were asked to specify as many groups as applicable.

Population Group

Refers to the population group to which the respondent belongs. This question provides information about the visible minority population in Canada, which is required for programs under the *Employment Equity Act* (1986). According to this Act, **visible minorities** are persons (other than Aboriginal persons), who are non-Caucasian in race or non-white in colour.

Family

Census Family

Refers to a now-married couple (with or without never-married sons and/or daughters of either or both spouses), a couple living common-law (with or without never-married sons and/or daughters of either or both parents) or a lone parent of any marital status, with at least one never-married son or daughter living in the same dwelling.

Census Family Status

Refers to the classification of the population according to whether or not they are members of a census family. **Family persons** refers to household members who belong to a census family. They, in turn, are further classified as follows:

Spouses refers to persons of opposite sex who are legally married to each other and living in the same dwelling.

Common-law partners are two persons of opposite sex who are not legally married to each other but live together as husband and wife in the same dwelling.

Lone parent refers to a mother or a father, with no spouse or common-law partner present, living in a dwelling with one or more never-married sons and/or daughters.

Never-married sons and/or daughters refers to blood, step or adopted sons and daughters who have never married (regardless of age) and are living in the same dwelling as their parent(s). Sons and daughters who are currently or were previously married, or who are living common-law, are not considered to be members of their parent(s)' census family even if they are living in the same dwelling. In addition, those never-married sons and daughters who do not live in the same dwelling as their parent(s) are not considered members of their parent(s)' census family.

Non-family persons refers to household members who do not belong to a census family. They may be related to Person 1, the household reference person, or unrelated. A person living alone is always a non-family person.

Economic Family

Refers to a group of two or more persons who live in the same dwelling and are related to each other by blood, marriage, common-law or adoption.

Marital Status

Legal Marital Status

Refers to the legal conjugal status of a person.

Legally Married (and Not Separated)

Persons whose husband or wife is living, unless the couple is separated or a divorce has been obtained. Prior to 1991, married included those living common-law.

Separated, But Still Legally Married

Persons currently married, but who are no longer living with their spouse (for any reason other than illness or work) and have not obtained a divorce.

Divorced

Persons who have obtained a legal divorce and who have not remarried.

Widowed

Persons who have lost their spouse through death and who have not remarried.

Never Married (Single)

Persons who have never married (including all persons less than 15 years of age) and persons whose marriage has been annulled and who have not remarried.

Common-law Status

Refers to two people who live together as husband and wife but who are not legally married to each other. In 1986, such persons were included among the "married" population.

Household Activities**Household**

Refers to a person or a group of persons (other than foreign residents), who occupy the same dwelling and do not have a usual place of residence elsewhere in Canada.

Hours Spent Doing Unpaid Housework

Refers to the number of hours persons spent doing unpaid housework, yard work or home maintenance in the week (Sunday to Saturday) prior to Census Day. It includes hours spent doing housework for one's own household or the household of others. Data are available for persons 15 years of age and over, excluding institutional residents.

Hours Spent Looking After Children, Without Pay

Refers to the number of hours persons spent taking care of their own or someone else's children without pay in the week (Sunday to Saturday) prior to Census Day. Data are available for persons 15 years of age and over, excluding institutional residents.

Hours Spent Providing Unpaid Care or Assistance to Seniors

Refers to the number of hours persons spent providing unpaid care or assistance to seniors in the week (Sunday to Saturday) prior to Census Day. Data are available for persons 15 years of age and over, excluding institutional residents.

Immigration

Age at Immigration

Refers to the age at which the respondent first obtained landed immigrant status. A landed immigrant is a person who has been granted the right to live in Canada permanently by immigration authorities.

Immigrant Population

Refers to people who are, or have been, landed immigrants in Canada. A landed immigrant is a person who has been granted the right to live in Canada permanently by immigration authorities. Some immigrants have resided in Canada for a number of years, while others are recent arrivals. Most immigrants are born outside Canada, but a small number were born in Canada.

Non-immigrant Population

Refers to people who are Canadian citizens by birth. Although most were born in Canada, a small number were born outside Canada to Canadian parents.

Non-permanent Resident

Refers to people who held a student authorization, an employment authorization, a Minister's permit or who were refugee claimants at the time of the 1996 Census.

Income

Average Income of Individuals

Average income of individuals refers to the weighted mean total income of individuals 15 years of age and over who reported income for 1995. Average income is calculated from unrounded data by dividing the aggregate income of a specified group of individuals by the number of individuals with income in that group.

Employment Income

Refers to total income received by persons 15 years of age and over during calendar year 1995 as wages and salaries, net income from non-farm unincorporated business and/or professional practice and net farm self-employment income.

Government Transfer Payments

Refers to total income from all transfer payments received from federal, provincial or municipal governments during calendar year 1995. This variable is derived by summing the amounts reported in: the Old Age Security pension and Guaranteed Income Supplement; benefits from Canada or Quebec Pension Plan; benefits from Unemployment Insurance, federal Child Tax benefit, and other income from government sources.

Incidence of Low Income

The incidence of low income is the proportion or percentage of economic families or unattached individuals in a given classification below the low income cut-offs. These incidence rates are calculated from unrounded estimates of economic families and unattached individuals 15 years of age and over.

Total Income

Refers to the total money income received from the following sources during calendar year 1995 by persons 15 years of age and over: wages and salaries; net farm income; net non-farm income from unincorporated business and/or professional practice; federal Child Tax benefits; Old Age Security pension and Guaranteed Income Supplement; benefit from Canada or Quebec Pension Plan; benefits from Unemployment Insurance; other income from government sources; dividends, interest on bonds, deposits and savings certificates,

and other investment income; retirement pensions, superannuation and annuities, including those from RRSPs and RRIFs; other money income.

Labour Market Activities

Class of Worker

This variable classifies persons who reported a job into those who (a) worked mainly for wages, salaries, commissions or payments "in kind", (b) worked without pay in a family farm, business or professional practice owned or operated by a related household member, (c) worked mainly for themselves, with or without paid help. The job reported was the one held in the week prior to enumeration if the person was employed, or the job of longest duration since January 1, 1995, if the person was not employed during reference week. Persons with two or more jobs in the reference week were to provide information for the job that they worked the most hours.

Full-time or Part-time Weeks Worked in 1995

Refers to persons 15 years of age and over, excluding institutional residents, who worked for pay or in self-employment in 1995. These persons were asked to report whether they worked in 1995 were full-time weeks (30 hours or more per week) or not, on the basis of all jobs held. Persons with a part-time job for part of the year and a full-time job for another part of the year were to report the information for the job at which they worked the most weeks.

Place of Work Status

Refers to the place of work of non-institutional residents 15 years of age and over who have worked since January 1, 1995. The variable usually relates to the individual's job held in the week prior to enumeration. However, if the person had not worked during that week but had worked at some time since January 1, 1995, the information relates to the job held longest during that period.

Unemployed

Refers to persons 15 years of age and over, excluding institutional residents, who, during the week prior to Census Day, were without paid work and were available to work and either: (a) had actively looked for work in the past four weeks; or (b) were on temporary

lay-off and expected to return to their job; or (c) had definite arrangements to start a new job in four weeks or less.

Employed

Refers to persons 15 years of age and over, excluding institutional residents, who, during the week (Sunday to Saturday) prior to Census Day: (a) did any work at all for pay or in self-employment; or (b) were absent from their job or business for the entire week because of vacation, illness, a labour dispute at their place of work or other reasons.

Not in Labour Force

Refers to those persons 15 years of age and over, excluding institutional residents, who, in the week prior to Census Day, were neither employed nor unemployed. It includes persons who did not work for pay or in self-employment in the week prior to enumeration and (a) did not look for paid work in the four weeks prior to enumeration, (b) were not on temporary lay-off and (c) did not have a new job to start in four weeks or less. It also includes person who looked for work during the last four weeks but were not available to start work in the week prior to enumeration.

Occupation (Based on 1991 Standard Occupational Classification)

Refers to the kind of work persons were doing during the reference week, as determined by their kind of work and the description of the most important duties in their job. Data are available for persons 15 years of age and over, excluding institutional residents. If the person did not have a job during the week prior to enumeration, the data relate to the job of longest duration since January 1, 1995. Persons with two or more jobs were to report the information for the job at which they worked the most hours.

Participation Rate

Refers to the total labour force in the week (Sunday to Saturday) prior to Census Day, expressed as a percentage of the population 15 years of age and over, excluding institutional residents.

Presence of Children

This variable classifies the population 15 years of age and over in private households into those with no children at home and those with children at home. Those persons with children at home are further classified on the basis of the age groups of all of their children.

Unemployment Rate

Refers to the unemployed labour force expressed as a percentage of the total labour force in the week (Sunday to Saturday) prior to Census Day. Data are available for persons 15 years of age and over, excluding institutional residents.

Dwelling

Gross Rent

Refers to the total average monthly payments paid by tenant households to secure shelter. Gross rent includes payments for electricity, oil, gas, coal, wood or other fuels, water and other municipal services and monthly cash rent.

Owner's Major Payments

Refers to the total average monthly payments made by owner households to secure shelter. Owner's major payments include payments for electricity, oil, gas, coal, wood or other fuels, water and other municipal services, monthly mortgage payments, property taxes (municipal and school) and, for 1991 and 1996, condominium fees.

Language

Knowledge of Non-official Languages

Refers to languages, other than English or French, in which the respondent can conduct a conversation.

Knowledge of Official Languages

Refers to the ability to conduct a conversation in English only, in French only, in both English and French or in neither official languages of Canada.

Mother Tongue

Refers to the first language learned at home in childhood and still understood by the individual at the time of the census.

Schooling

Highest Level of

Refers to the highest grade or year of elementary or secondary school attended, or the highest year of university or other non-university completed. University education is considered to be a higher level of schooling than other non-university. Also, the attainment of a degree, certificate or diploma is considered to be a higher level than years completed or attended without an educational qualification.

Major Field of Study

Refers to the predominant discipline or area of learning or training of a person's highest postsecondary degree, certificate or diploma. The major field of study classification structure consists of 10 broad or major categories: educational, recreational and counselling services; fine and applied arts; humanities and related fields; social sciences and related fields; commerce, management and business administration; agricultural and biological sciences/technologies; engineering and applied sciences; engineering and applied science technologies and trades; health professions; sciences and technologies; and mathematics and physical sciences.

School Attendance

Refers to either full-time or part-time (day or evening) attendance at school, college, or university during the eight-month period between September 1995 and May 14, 1996. Attendance is counted only for courses that could be used as credits towards a certificate, diploma or degree.