

Postsecondary Education

In 2006, over half (58%) of Halton residents aged 15 years and over have attained postsecondary education. About half (53%) of that population had a university certificate, diploma or degree. The respective provincial averages are 53% and 48%.

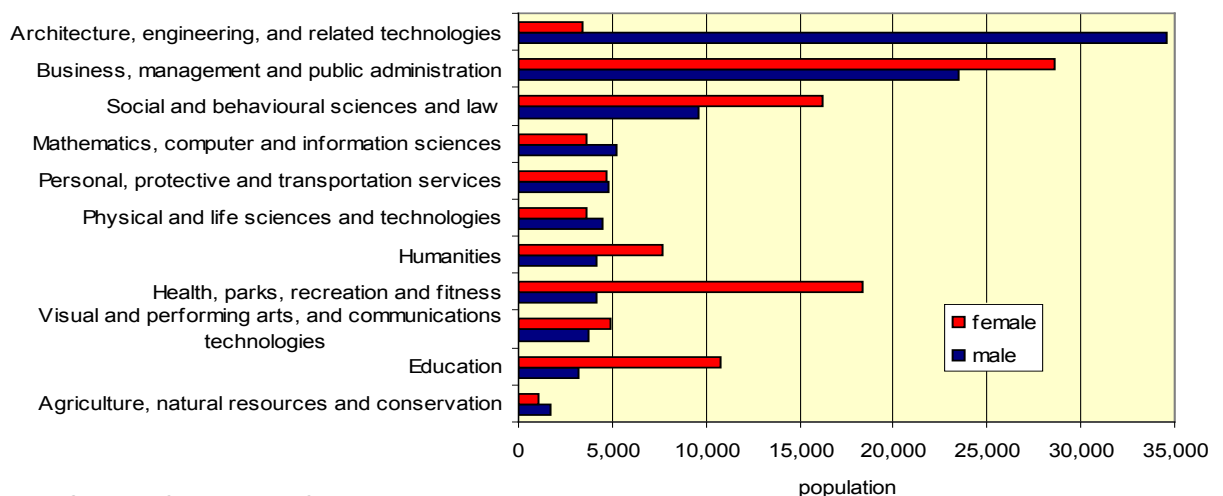
Of those with a university certificate, diploma or degree, 55% are bachelor's degree, 16% master's degree and 2% a doctorate. Another 2% of graduates have their degrees in medicine, dentistry and veterinary medicine.

For the first time in the history of the Canadian Census, the 2006 Census collected information on where Canadians attained their highest level of education. For their first degree (bachelor's degree), a majority (82%) of Halton graduates completed their programs in Canada. About 33% of Halton graduates with a master's degree and 44% of doctoral graduates did their studies outside Canada.

Over one-quarter (26%) of Halton postsecondary graduates had studied in business, management and public administration, which was the most popular field of study among both women and men. Together with architecture, engineering and related technologies, and the social and behavioural sciences and law, they accounted for more than half (58%) of all postsecondary graduates.



Population with postsecondary education by major fields of study and by gender, Region of Halton, 2006



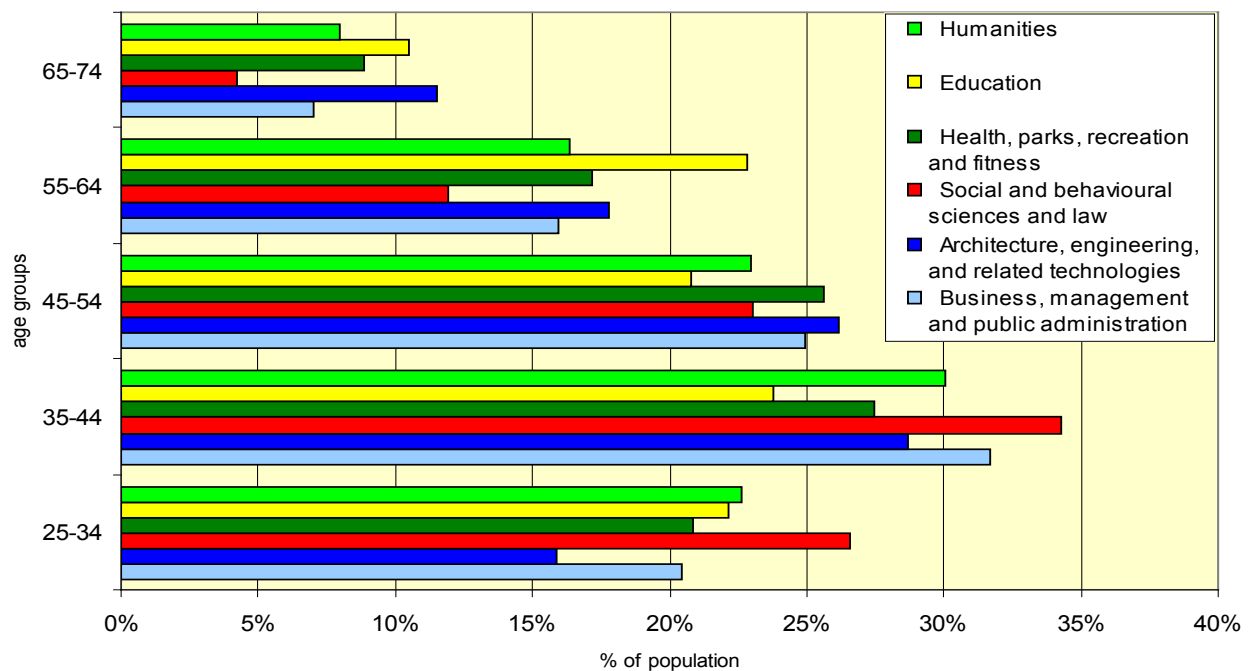
Source: Statistics Canada, 2006 Census

Postsecondary Education Age Profiles

Within Halton, the three major fields of study that show significant gender difference are: architecture, engineering and related technologies (91% male); health, parks, recreation and fitness (81% female); and education (77% female). On the other hand, personal, protective and transportation services study was equally attended by men and women students.

In addition to gender differences among different fields of study, there are variations in age profiles. Among the top six major fields of study, Halton graduates in social and behavioural sciences and law have the youngest age profile, with about 60% of the graduates under the age of 44 years and one-quarter in the 25-34 age group. The two older groups are graduates in architecture, engineering and related technologies and in education; in each of these groups, about half are over the age of 45 years and one in ten is a senior.

Proportion of population by top six major fields of study and by age groups, Region of Halton, 2006



Source: Statistics Canada, 2006 Census