

## Low Income Individuals

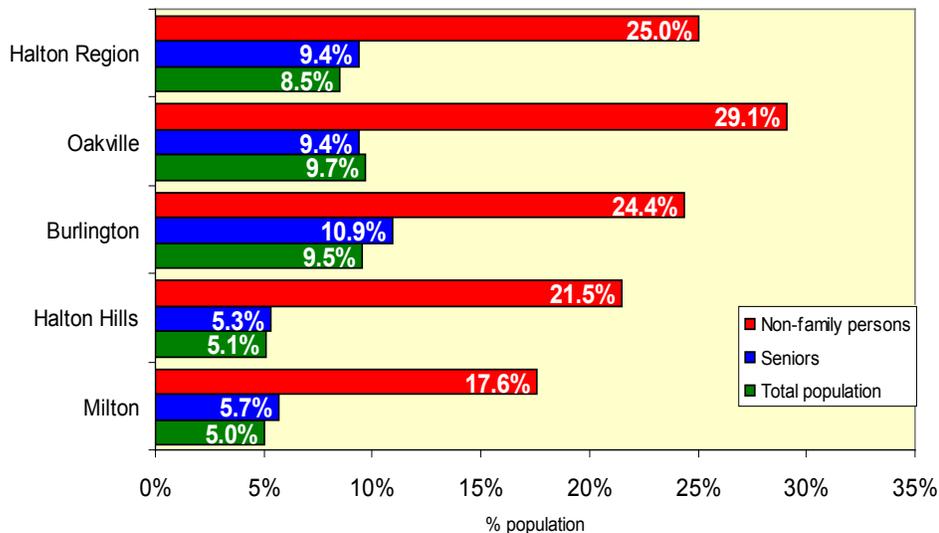
The Low Income Cut-Off (LICO) established by Statistics Canada is a widely recognized approach to estimating the low income threshold below which a family or an individual will likely spend 20% or more than the average on food, shelter and clothing. Although Statistics Canada maintains that LICO thresholds do not necessarily imply poverty, they have been generally accepted as measures of economic hardship faced by families and individuals.

In 2005, there were about 37,000 low income residents in Halton representing about 8.5% of the total population. This population group experienced an increase of about 38% between 2000 and 2005, more than double the population growth rate.

The majority (85%) of the low income individuals lived in the two urban municipalities, Oakville and Burlington. Nearly one in ten of the individuals residing in Oakville and Burlington was low income. The remaining low income individuals were equally distributed between Milton and Halton Hills.



**Prevalence of low income by selected population groups, Region of Halton, 2005**



Source: Statistics Canada, 2006 Census

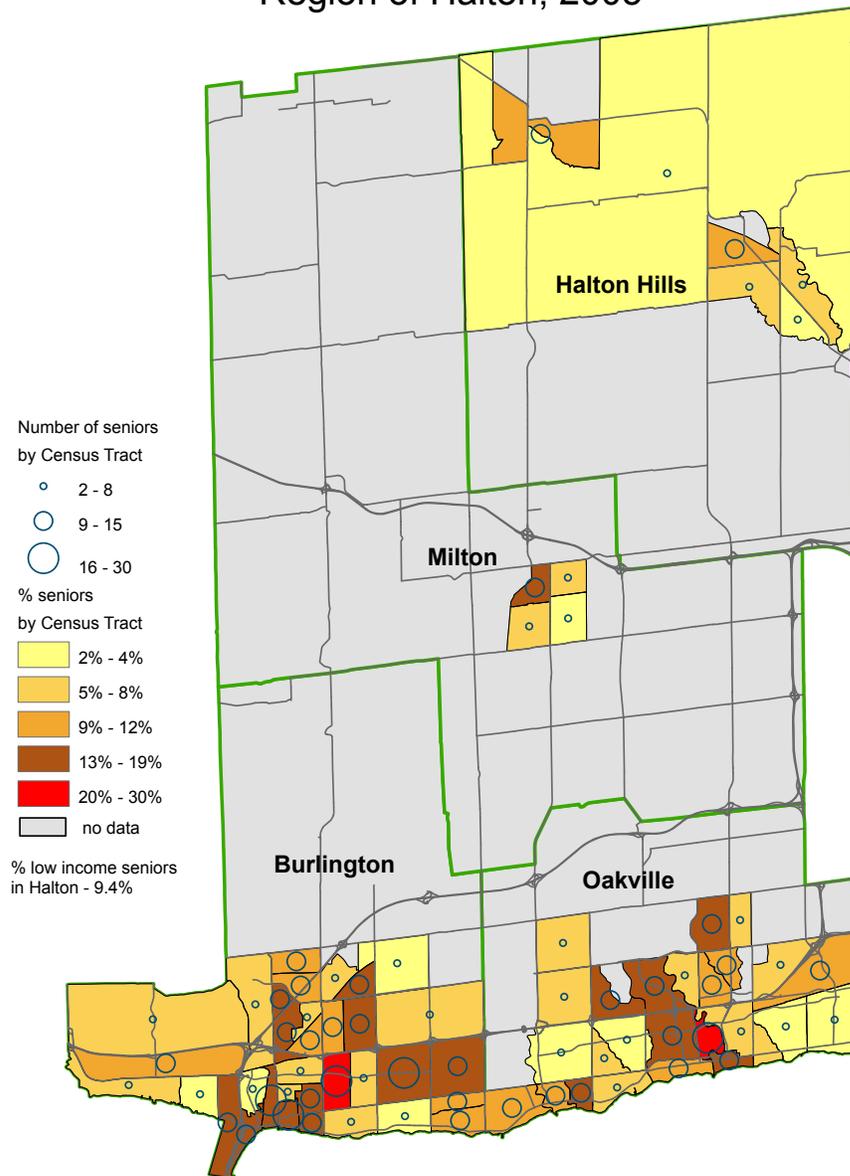
One in four of the low income residents are non-family persons. They are people either living alone or with other unrelated persons (e.g. persons not related by blood, marriage, common-law or adoption). Seniors living alone are also considered as non-family persons. About 30% of the non-family persons living in Oakville were low income.

# Low Income Seniors

There were over 4,700 low income seniors in Halton Region representing nearly one tenth of the senior population. The City of Burlington has a larger share of the low income senior population than other municipalities (54% of all low income seniors as compared to 46% of all seniors).

Within the municipalities, there are two census tracts with a high proportion (shaded in red) of low income seniors. One census tract is in Burlington, in which 25% of the seniors are low income. The other is in Oakville, where about 30% of the seniors living in that census tract were low income.

### Proportion of Low Income Seniors Region of Halton, 2005



Source: Statistics Canada, 2006 Census

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