

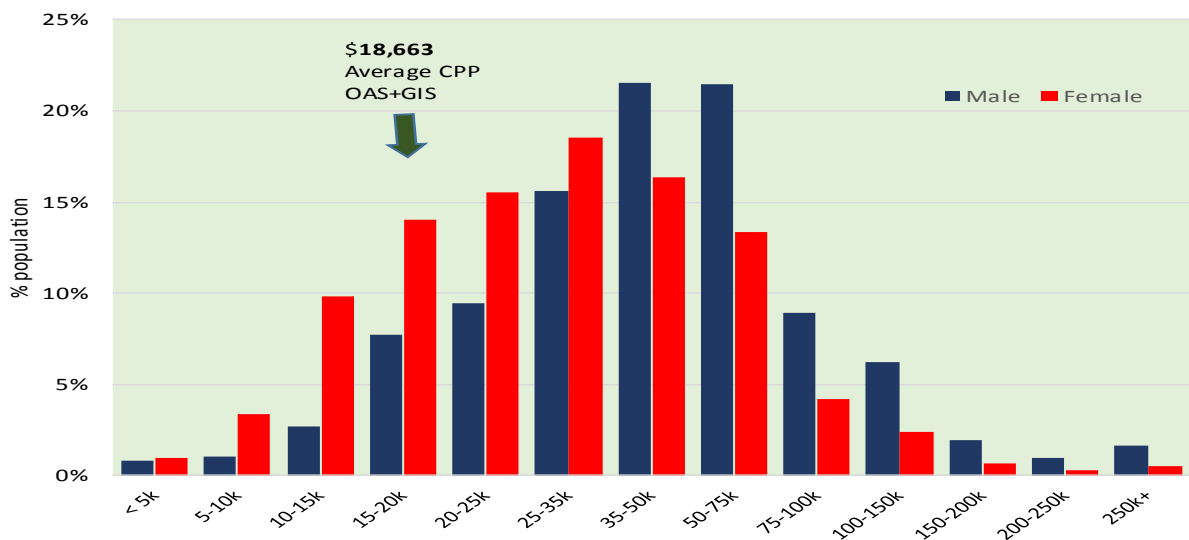
Low Income Seniors in Burlington

Based on Statistics Canada's Taxfiler data, there were about 32,000 seniors living in Burlington in 2013 representing an increase of 28% from 2006. This increase is almost three times higher than the overall population increase. Over two-thirds (68%) of seniors lived in census families¹ and the rest lived as non-family persons.² The 2013 median income for seniors was \$34,100 (i.e. 50% of seniors had income over \$34,100 and the other 50% had incomes below \$34,100). The amount was higher than the provincial average by 25% and the national average by 31.6%.



As with the total population, there is a gender bias in income distribution among seniors in Burlington. Male seniors have higher income than female seniors. For example, there were higher percentages of female seniors in each of the income categories below \$35,000. The opposite is true for male seniors for income categories above \$35,000. Over one in four (28%) of female seniors had income less than \$20,000 compared to 12% for male seniors. A senior receiving the average Canada Pension Plan (CPP), Old Age Security (OAS) and Guaranteed Income Supplement (GIS) would have a before-tax income of \$18,663 (\$1,555/month). At the other end of the scale, 11% of male seniors had an income of over \$100,000 compared to less than 4% for female seniors.

**Proportion of Seniors by total income and by sex
City of Burlington, 2013**



Source: Statistics Canada, Income Statistics Division, 2013, Annual Estimates for Census Families and Individuals, 89C0022

1 A Census family as defined by Statistics Canada as 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

2 Refers to seniors living alone, as well as those single seniors living with someone else, whether related or unrelated to them

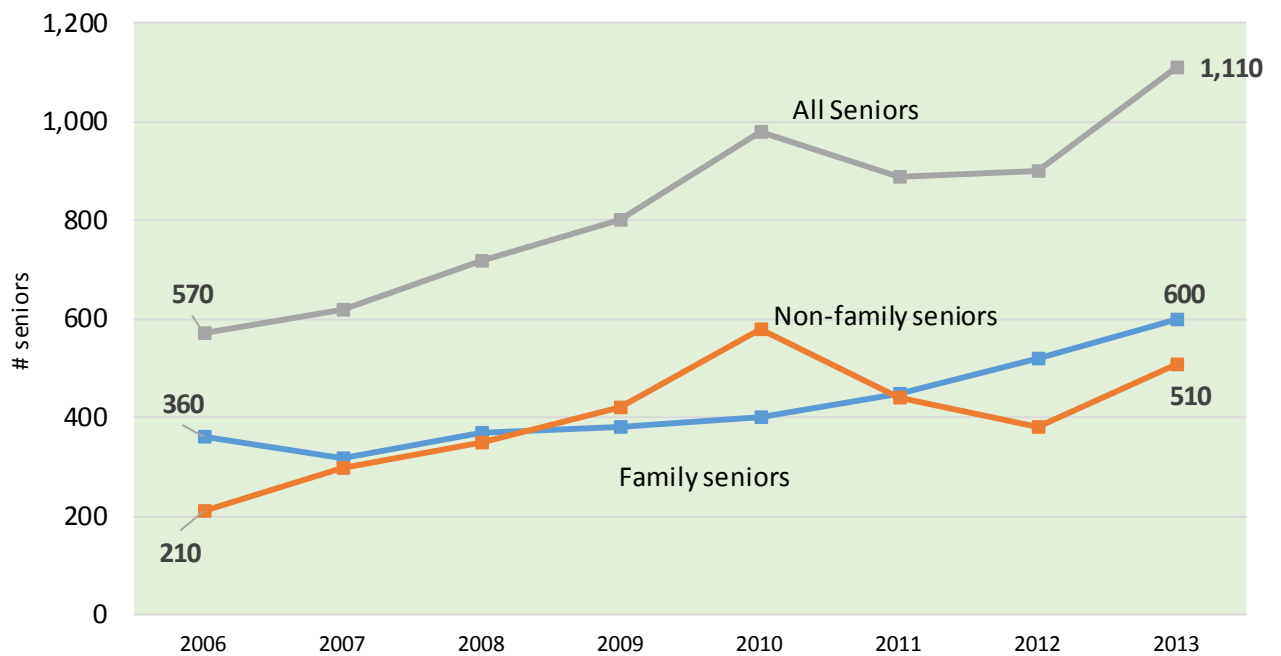
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For the taxfiler data, the After-Tax Low Income Measure (LIM-AT) is used to measure low income or poverty. The LIM is half (50%) of the median adjusted economic family income where family needs are taken into account. For example, in 2013, a family of four (two children less than 16 years of age) with after-tax income of less than \$34,742 is considered living in low income. For a senior living alone, the after-tax low income threshold is \$17,371.

The number of seniors living in Burlington with low income has almost doubled (+95%) from 570 in 2006 to 1,110 in 2013 while the senior population only increased by 28%. In 2013, about 3.5% of all seniors in Burlington lived in low income, which is an increase from 2.3% in 2006.

There are over 10,000 seniors living alone or with someone else, whether related or unrelated to them. They are at higher risk of living with low income since they have to rely on one income. The number of non-family seniors experiencing low income had a significant increase (+140%) between 2006 and 2013.

Low Income* Seniors, City of Burlington 2006-2013



*Based on Low Income Measure - After Tax

Source: Statistics Canada, Income Statistics Division, 2013, Annual Estimates for Census Families and Individuals, 89C0022

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