

## Population Change by Census Tract (2011-2016)

Community Lens #121 provides a glance at the population change between 2011 and 2016 in Halton Region and its municipalities. It reveals a region with significant growth especially in the Town of Milton. However, the growth is not uniformly distributed within each municipality. The geographical distribution of the population change is important to organizations such as government agencies, school boards, social service organizations and businesses. It points to the location of potential new clients, students or customers which can impact on the organization's operation, service planning and delivery processes.



This Lens looks at the population change more closely, at a lower level of geography (Census Tract). A Census Tract (CT) as defined by Statistics Canada is a relatively permanent area with a population range of 2,500 to 8,000 and the greatest possible social and economic homogeneity. In 2011, there were 108 Census Tracts (CTs) in Halton Region. Because of the region's population increase, six new CTs were added for the 2016 Census. Most of the new CTs are created by splitting existing ones which have exceeded the population range of a CT.

Municipality	Number of Census Tracts	
	2011 Census	2016 Census
Town of Oakville	40	41
City of Burlington	43	44
Town of Milton	12	16
Town of Halton Hills	13	13
Total	108	114

The map shows the distribution of the change in population density (persons/sq.km) between 2011 and 2016 by CT. The three-dimensional (3D) map provides more information to the reader in interpreting the spatial pattern of population density change than a traditional two-dimensional (2D) map. The magnitude of the change in each CT is represented by the height of each block. In a 2D map, all CTs within a category/ classification (range of values) are assigned one shade of colour. For example, every CT in the category (0-560.2 persons/ sq.km) is coloured in green. The variation among CTs within the category is hidden. On the other hand, the 3D map reveals the changes by the height of each green block.

About two-thirds (67%) of the 114 CTs experienced an increase in population density between 2011 and 2016. The two CTs with the greatest increase (red block) are in Milton. The top CT has a population density of over 6,000 persons/sq.km, about 20 times the town's average.

Amid an overall increase in population density, there are areas within each municipality which experienced no change or decrease in population density. In comparison with the increase in population density, the magnitude of the decrease is less significant. The majority (84%) of CTs with no change or decrease are in Oakville and Burlington.

*Community Lens is prepared by Community Development Halton to disseminate and interpret important community data as it becomes available. For more information please contact us at [data@cdhalton.ca](mailto:data@cdhalton.ca) or 905-632-1975*

United Way Funded Agency



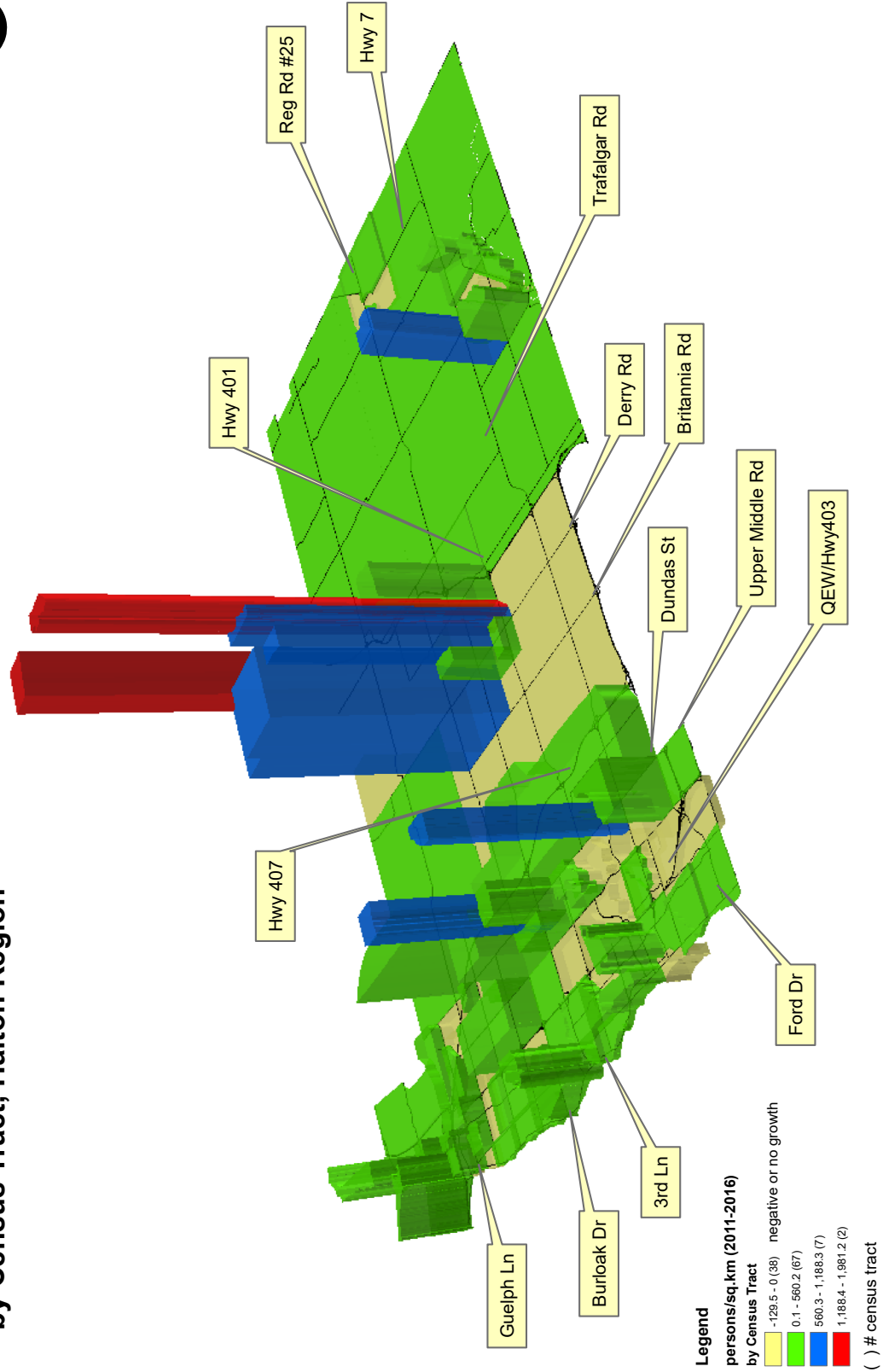
Community Development Halton would like to acknowledge the ongoing financial support of the Regional Municipality of Halton.



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## Population Change (2011-2016) by Census Tract, Halton Region



Source: Statistics Canada, 2016 Census

Prepared by Community Development Halton, 2017