



Region of Waterloo

PLANNING INFORMATION BULLETIN

DATE: May 2020

SUBJECT: 2019 YEAR-END POPULATION AND HOUSEHOLD ESTIMATES FOR WATERLOO REGION

Planning, Housing and Community Services produces year-end estimates of population and households (equivalent to occupied dwelling units) for the Region of Waterloo and its constituent municipalities. The base for these estimates is the 2016 Census of Canada. Building permit activity as reported by the municipalities was used to update this base. Vacancy rates (extrapolated from CMHC data), demolitions, university/college student enrollment, and assumptions about the average number of persons per dwelling unit (PPU) also influence the numbers. This year, previous estimates from 2016-2018 were revised upward due to new information about increasing population of non-permanent residents. Although based on the best information available, population and household numbers should always be regarded as estimates, not statements of fact.

Year-End 2019 Population and Household Estimates for the Region of Waterloo

	Region of Waterloo**	Cambridge	Kitchener	North Dumfries	Waterloo	Wellesley	Wilmot	Woolwich
Total Population Year-end 2019*	617,870	139,350	261,610	10,790	146,010	11,590	21,810	26,720
Population in Regular Households	598,250	136,930	257,260	10,660	134,290	11,560	21,500	26,080
Population in Collective Dwellings***	19,620	2,430	4,360	130	11,720	30	320	640
Total Population Year-end 2018*	610,390	137,910	258,930	10,710	143,500	11,550	21,600	26,190
Additional Population	7,490	1,440	2,680	80	2,510	40	210	520
Population Change 2018-2019 (%)	1.23%	1.0%	1.0%	0.7%	1.7%	0.3%	1.0%	2.0%
Households Year-end 2019*	218,920	50,420	98,820	3,690	45,570	3,420	7,850	9,150
Households Year-end 2018*	216,230	49,920	97,830	3,640	44,710	3,400	7,780	8,950
Additional Households	2,690	500	990	50	860	20	70	200
Household Change 2018-2019 (%)	1.24%	1.0%	1.0%	1.4%	1.9%	0.6%	0.9%	2.2%
Persons per Unit+	2.73	2.72	2.60	2.89	2.95	3.38	2.74	2.85
Temporary Student Population (included above)	33,950	780	4,030	20	29,490	(40)	(180)	(160)
Students Arriving	42,070	2,620	8,020	170	31,030	50	70	120
Living in Student Residences	10,430	-	530	-	9,900	-	-	-
Living in Other Accommodations	31,640	2,620	7,480	170	21,130	50	70	120
Students Leaving++	(8,130)	(1,840)	(3,990)	(150)	(1,530)	(80)	(260)	(280)

* Based on available data from the 2016 Census, includes adjustments for recent residential development, students and other foreign/temporary residents, net Census undercount, and vacancy rates. Due various corrections and adjustments, direct comparison to previous years estimates are not valid.

** Municipal totals may not add due to independent rounding.

*** Collective dwellings include student residences, nursing homes, group homes, hospitals, larger lodging houses, etc.

+ 'Persons per Unit' (PPU) calculation is based on the 'Population in Regular Households', not on 'Total Population'.

++ These are students who leave home to attend school. They represent the reverse flow of the temporary students arriving in the Region from elsewhere.

Long-term Trends in Population and Households: Waterloo Region

Year-end	Population			Households		
	Total Population	Annual Growth	Change %	total Households	Annual Growth	Change %
1994	418,000	6,100	1.48%	146,280	3,190	2.23%
1995	421,100	3,100	0.74%	148,080	1,800	1.23%
1996	424,000	2,900	0.69%	149,640	1,560	1.05%
1997	430,200	6,200	1.46%	152,010	2,370	1.58%
1998	437,600	7,400	1.72%	154,950	2,940	1.93%
1999	446,200	8,600	1.97%	158,270	3,320	2.14%
2000	454,800	8,600	1.93%	161,590	3,320	2.10%
2001	465,000	10,200	2.24%	164,600	3,010	1.86%
2002	474,500	9,500	2.04%	167,530	2,930	1.78%
2003	485,200	10,700	2.26%	170,820	3,290	1.96%
2004	497,600	12,400	2.56%	175,080	4,260	2.49%
2005	507,800	10,200	2.05%	178,780	3,700	2.11%
2006	517,300	9,500	1.87%	182,200	3,420	1.91%
2007	523,100	5,800	1.12%	185,130	2,930	1.61%
2008	532,100	9,000	1.72%	188,800	3,670	1.98%
2009	535,200	3,100	0.58%	189,820	1,020	0.54%
2010	543,900	8,700	1.63%	193,230	3,410	1.80%
2011	551,600	7,700	1.42%	196,490	3,260	1.69%
2012	556,900	5,300	0.96%	198,480	1,990	1.01%
2013	563,000	6,100	1.10%	200,830	2,350	1.18%
2014	569,000	6,000	1.07%	203,660	2,830	1.41%
2015	574,700	5,700	1.00%	205,990	2,330	1.14%
2016	585,900	11,200	1.95%	209,240	3,250	1.58%
2017	600,700	14,800	2.53%	213,220	3,980	1.90%
2018	609,900	9,200	1.53%	216,220	3,000	1.41%
2019	617,800	7,900	1.30%	218,900	2,680	1.24%
2020(f)	630,900	13,100	2.12%	225,060	6,160	2.81%
5-year average		9,760	1.61%		3,078	1.44%
15-year average		8,013	1.58%		3,027	1.62%

f - Forecast

For further information, please refer to Report PDL-CPL-20-11 “Year End 2019 Population and Household Estimates for the Region of Waterloo” at: www.regionofwaterloo.ca or contact us at:

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