This is one in a series of fact sheets that provide a profile of immigrants in Waterloo Region. Understanding the makeup of our community is important for planning programs and services. Between 2006 and 2011, 15,465 individuals immigrated to this region. There are differences in the population and family structure of immigrants and Canadian-born in Waterloo Region. Definitions for key terms used throughout the document can be found in the Notes section at the end of this fact sheet.

**Age distribution of recent immigrants and the total population, Waterloo Region, 2011**

- Overall, recent immigrants are younger than the total population in Waterloo Region.
- In 2011, the largest age category of recent immigrants was young adults aged 25 to 34 years at 31% of all recent immigrants to Waterloo Region.
- Only 13% of recent immigrants are 55 years of age or older compared to 24% of the total population of Waterloo Region.

Source: Recent immigrants from Citizenship and Immigration Canada, Permanent Residents Rounded Data Cube, 2012; Total Population from Statistics Canada, Census, 2011
**Sex distribution of recent immigrants, by municipality, Waterloo Region, 2012**

- Recent immigrants to Waterloo Region were equally distributed across the sexes; 51% were female and 49% were male.
- A greater proportion of recent immigrants to the rural townships were female (58%) compared to the cities (50% to 53%).

**Marital status of immigrants and the total population, Waterloo Region and Ontario, 2011**

- It was estimated that the majority of immigrants (69%) were legally married in 2011, compared with 59% of the general population in Waterloo Region.
- An estimated 16% of immigrants in Waterloo Region were single in 2011, compared to more than a quarter of the general population (28%).

Proportion of the population who are immigrants, by generational status, Waterloo Region and Ontario, 2011

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Waterloo Region</th>
<th>Ontario</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>First Generation</td>
<td>23.3</td>
<td>29.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Second Generation</td>
<td>19.9</td>
<td>22.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Third Generation or more</td>
<td>56.7</td>
<td>47.6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Statistics Canada, National Household Survey, 2011

- In 2011, it was estimated that more than half of all immigrants in Waterloo Region (57%) were at least third generation Canadians.
- It was estimated that immigrants in Waterloo Region were more likely to be at least third generation Canadians (57%) compared to immigrants in Ontario (48%).
Notes

1. Statistics Canada employs rounding of numbers to the nearest multiple of five to ensure confidentiality. Caution must be taken when interpreting the data in this fact sheet, especially in situations where data counts are low.
2. Due to the voluntary nature of the 2011 NHS, caution must be used when interpreting the data. Further, due to changes in the survey methodology from 2006 and previous census years, direct comparisons, including the calculation of growth rates, percentage and absolute changes should not be made. Interpretations based on the NHS survey data are presented as estimates.
3. Immigrant refers to a person who is or has ever been a landed immigrant/permanent resident. This person has been granted the right to live in Canada permanently by immigration authorities. Some immigrants have resided in Canada for a number of years, while others have arrived recently. Some immigrants are Canadian citizens, while others are not. Most immigrants are born outside Canada, but a small number are born in Canada. In the 2011 National Household Survey, 'Immigrants' includes immigrants who landed in Canada prior to May 10, 2011.
4. Recent immigrant refers to those who came to Canada at some point in the five years preceding May 10th, 2011.
5. Statistics Canada defines first generation immigrants as people born outside of Canada. Second generation refers to people born in Canada with at least one parent born outside Canada. Third or later generation refers to people born in Canada with both parents also born in Canada.
6. Data on marital status was obtained from the population aged 15 years and older.
7. Townships described here include North Dumfries, Wellesley, Wilmot, and Woolwich.

References