



CENSUS BULLETIN

FAST FACTS

- The term Census in this document refers to the Census of Population conducted by Statistics Canada. The most recent Census was conducted on May 10, 2011. The Census is designed to provide information about people and housing units in Canada.
- All Canadians are required to complete a Census form. Data for Household and Dwelling Characteristics are based on this 100% sample of the population. Data regarding dwelling construction and tenure has not yet been released and will be examined as part of a future bulletin.
- Census Bulletin #1 describes Population and Dwellings from the 2001 Census conducted on May 10, 2011. At this time, the Region's Census population was 507,096 and the total number of dwellings was 202,121.
- The Region of Waterloo also estimates the number of households (occupied private dwellings) on an annual basis. For year-end 2011, the Region's estimate was 196,420 households. This estimate is based upon the 2006 Census counts plus building and demolition activity and is estimated year end. The estimate includes temporary households as well as foreign households.
- This data release includes persons per unit (PPU) as mentioned in Census Bulletin #1

For more information on Census statistics please refer to Statistics Canada's website: www.statcan.gc.ca/census



Households and Dwelling Characteristics Statistics from the 2011 Census for Waterloo Region

Households characteristics

According to the 2011 Census, there were 191,595 households in Waterloo Region, 8 per cent more than the 178,000 households five years earlier. A household refers to one or more people living in a private dwelling. This is different from 'census families in private households', which only refers to married couples, common-law couples, or lone parent families, as described in Census Bulletin #4, Families and Marriage.

One and two person households continue to be the fastest growing household size in the Region. As shown in Table 1, two person households had the highest absolute increase at 5,330 households, followed by one person households with 4,840. Additionally, one person households had the highest percentage increase at 12 per cent, which is 1 per cent higher than the Ontario change.

Table 1: Per cent change in census families in Private Households, 2006-2011

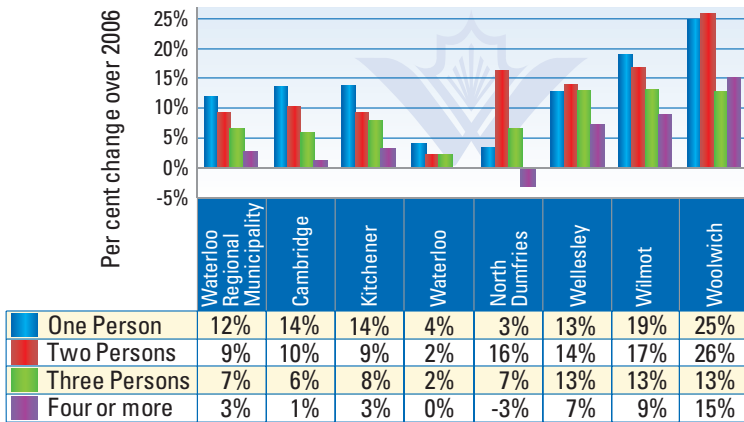
Household Size	1996	2001	2006	2011	2006-2011 Absolute Change	2006-2011 Per Cent Change
One Person	31,655	35,565	40,445	45,285	4,840	12
Two Persons	46,380	51,420	57,830	63,160	5,330	9
Three Persons	25,825	27,400	30,520	32,565	2,045	7
Four and Five	38,705	41,410	43,765	44,525	760	2
Six or More	5,040	5,325	5,440	6,060	620	11
Total	147,605	161,120	178,000	191,595	13,595	8

Source: Statistics Canada, Census 1996, 2001, 2006 and 2011 by Census Division



There have been increases in all household sizes across the Region except in North Dumfries, where four or more person households decreased by 3 per cent over 2006. As shown in Figure 1, the one person households increased the most in the cities, followed by increases in two, three, and four or more person households. The townships showed greater variation in the pattern of growth of household sizes, with two person households often showing the largest increases.

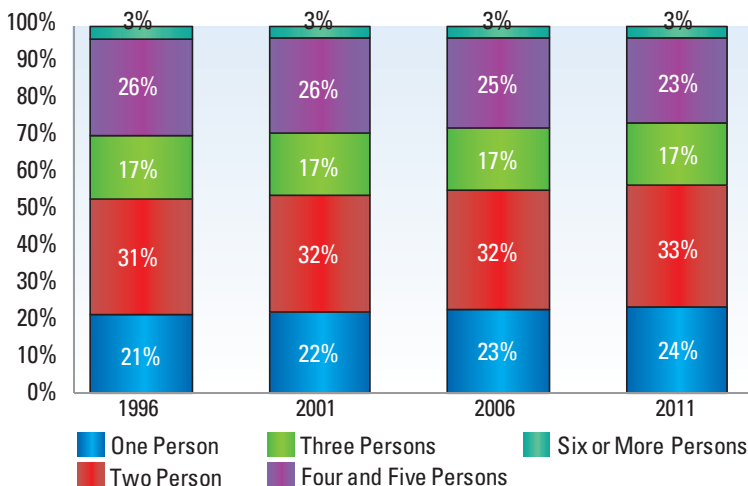
Figure 1: Change in household characteristics, 2006-2011



Source: Statistics Canada, 2006 and 2011 by Census Subdivision

One and two person households have been slowly increasing in proportion since 1996, while four and five person households have slowly decreased. Figure 2 shows that in 2011, two person households represented 33 per cent of all households, while one person households represented 24 per cent, three person households represented 17 per cent, four and five person households represented 23 per cent, and six or more person households represented 3 per cent.

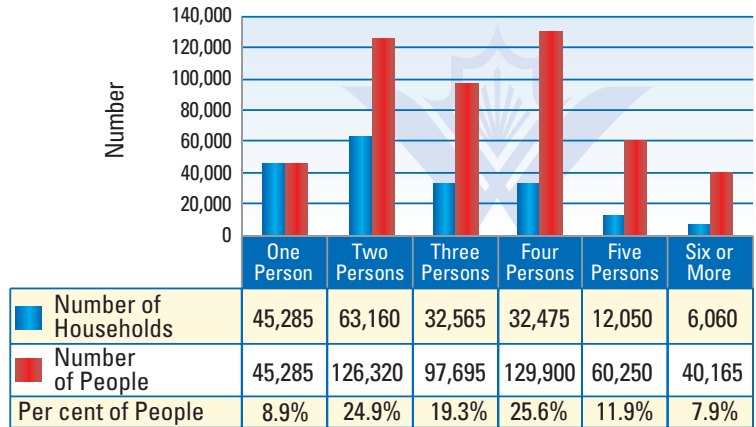
Figure 2: Change in household characteristics in Waterloo Region, 1996-2011



Source: Statistics Canada, Census 1996, 2001, 2006 and 2011 by Census Division

In 2011, there were 499,615 people living in 191,595 private households in Waterloo Region. Figure 3 shows the number of each household type and corresponding calculated populations. Although two person households were the predominant household size, a similar number of individuals lived in four person households. The least number of people live in six or more person households and one person households (8 and 9 per cent respectively).

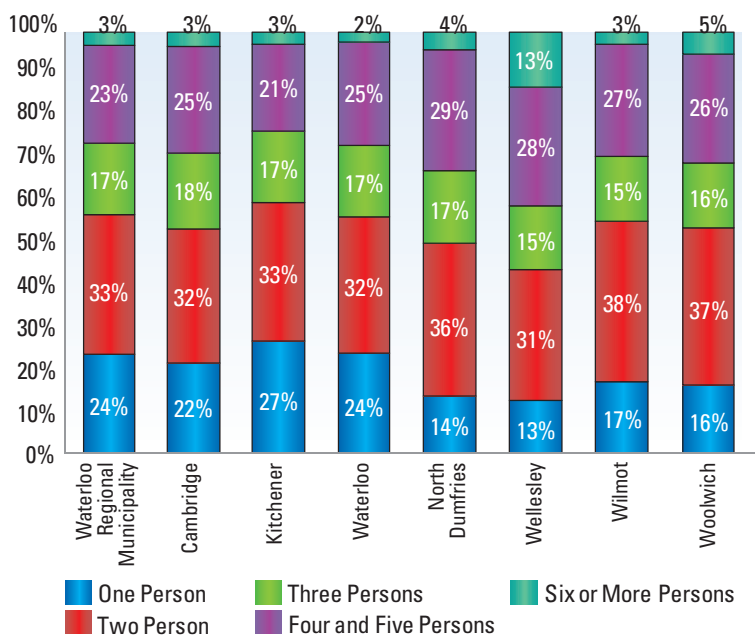
Figure 3: Population living in each household size, 2011



Source: Statistics Canada, Census 2011 by Census Division

Across the municipalities in the Region, the cities had larger numbers of one person households compared to the townships, as shown in Figure 4. The townships had more two person households and more four and five person households than the cities. Wellesley had the largest percentage of six or more person households.

Figure 4: Distribution of household characteristics per Municipality, 2011

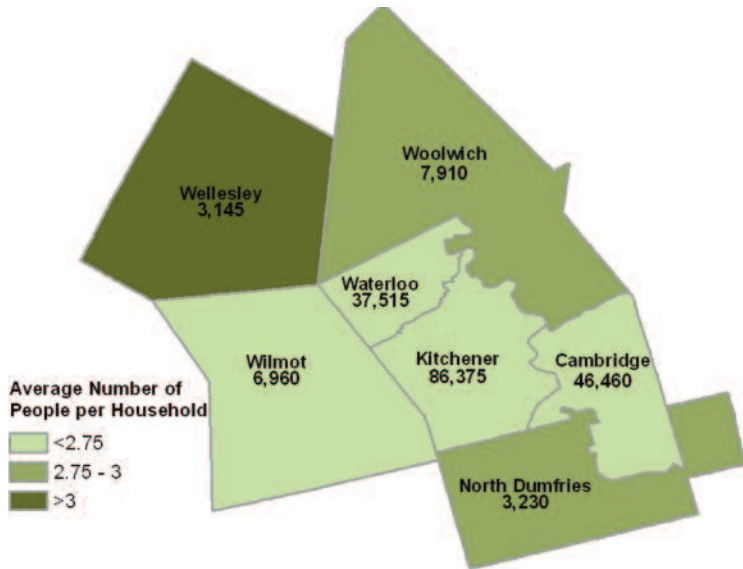


Source: Statistics Canada, Census 2011 by Census Subdivision



The average number of people living in private households has continued to decrease, falling from 2.64 in 2006 to 2.61 in 2011. However, Waterloo Region remains slightly above the provincial average (2.59). Across the municipalities, the average number of people per household varied between 2.5 and 3.4, as shown in Figure 5. As mentioned in Census Bulletin #1, these figures represent persons per unit (PPU) as calculated using population in private households, rather than total population.

Figure 5: Total number of households and average number of people per household, Waterloo Region 2011



Source: Statistics Canada, Census 2011 by Census Subdivision

Table 2: Occupied dwelling types, 1996-2011

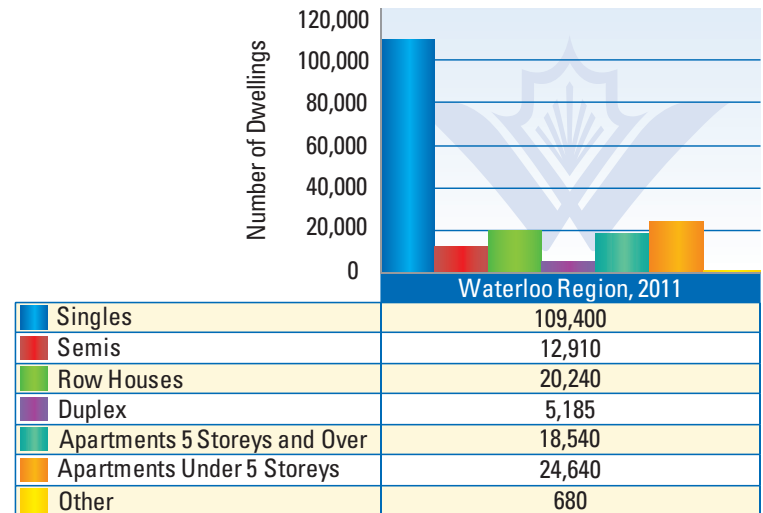
Type	1996	2001	2006	2011	1996-2001 Per Cent Change	2001-2006 Per Cent Change	2006-2011 Per Cent Change
Single	80,810	91,435	101,440	109,400	13.1	10.9	7.8
Semi	10,115	11,175	11,940	12,910	10.5	6.8	8.1
Row House	13,335	15,215	17,860	20,240	14.1	17.4	13.3
Apartments and Other	43,340	43,305	46,755	49,045	-0.1	8.0	4.9
Total	147,600	161,130	177,995	191,595	9.2	10.5	7.6

Source: Statistics Canada, Census 1996, 2001, 2006 and 2011 by Census Division

Occupied dwelling types

In 2011, Statistics Canada indicated that there were 191,595 occupied private dwellings in the Region, an increase of 13,470 dwellings over 2006. The 2011 breakdown of dwelling type is shown in Figure 6. Single family dwellings represent 57 per cent of dwellings in the Region, while semi-detached account for 6 per cent, row houses represent 10 per cent, apartments and duplexes represent 25 per cent, and other dwelling types account for less than 1 per cent.

Figure 6: Occupied dwelling types, 2011



Source: Statistics Canada, Census 2011 by Census Division

The per cent growth in occupied dwellings of 7.6 per cent from 2006 to 2011 was lower than what had been recorded over the previous two Census periods. Table 2 shows that there were increases in all occupied dwelling types from 2006 to 2011. While single detached dwellings made up the largest dwelling group, the type of dwellings being constructed in the Region continues to evolve. Over the past five years, the largest percentage increase was in row houses (13 per cent). Singles have increased by 8 per cent which is higher than the provincial increase (7.3 per cent).



Private Households – “Refers to a person or a group of persons (other than foreign residents) who occupy a private dwelling and do not have a usual place of residence elsewhere in Canada. Households are classified into three groups: private households, collective households and households outside Canada.”

Occupied Private Dwellings– “Refers to a private dwelling in which a person or a group of persons is permanently residing. Also included are private dwellings whose usual residents are temporarily absent on Census Day. ”

Single-detached house– “A single dwelling not attached to any other dwelling or structure (except its own garage or shed). A single-detached house has open space on all sides, and has no dwellings either above it or below it. ”

Semi-detached house – “One of two dwellings attached side by side (or back to front) to each other, but not to any other dwelling or structure (except its own garage or shed). A semidetached dwelling has no dwellings either above it or below it, and the two units together have open space on all sides.”

Row house – “One of three or more dwellings joined side by side (or occasionally side to back), such as a town house or garden home, but not having any other dwellings either above or below.”

Apartment or flat in a duplex– “One of two dwellings, located one above the other, may or may not be attached to other dwellings or buildings. ”

Apartment in a building that has five or more storeys– “A dwelling unit in a high-rise apartment building which has five or more storeys. ”

Apartment in a building that has fewer than five storeys– “A dwelling unit attached to other dwelling units, or other non-residential space in a building that has fewer than five storeys. ”

Movable dwelling– “A single dwelling, other than a mobile home, used as a place of residence, but capable of being moved on short notice, such as a tent, recreational vehicle, travel trailer or houseboat. ”

Source: Statistics Canada Census Dictionary, 2011

How to Source:

The Regional Municipality of Waterloo. *Households and Dwelling Characteristics Census Bulletin*. 2011 Census Bulletin Series. Kitchener, Ontario. Fall 2012.



Census bulletins can be accessed online at:
www.regionofwaterloo.ca/en/doingbusiness/census.asp

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