



CENSUS BULLETIN

FAST FACTS

- The term Census in this document refers to the Census of Canada conducted by Statistics Canada every five years. The most recent Census was conducted on May 16, 2006. "The Census is designed to provide information about people and housing units in Canada by their demographic, social and economic characteristics."
- One in five Canadian households completes a Census long form, consisting of detailed questions. Dwelling data is based on this 20% sample of the population.
- The Region of Waterloo also estimates the number of households (occupied private dwellings) on an annual basis. For year-end 2006, the Region's estimate was 183,890 households. This estimate is based upon 2001 Census counts plus building and demolition activity and is estimated to year-end. In this Census, there is a difference between the Census count of dwellings and the Region's estimate of dwellings at the area municipal level, particularly in the City of Waterloo, and to a lesser extent in North Dumfries.

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

Dwelling Characteristics Statistics for Waterloo Region from the 2006 Census

Dwellings

In 2006, Statistics Canada indicated that there were 178,125 *occupied private* dwellings in the Region. As detailed in Table 1, the growth of 10.5% from 2001 to 2006 was higher than what had been previously recorded over the last three Census periods.

Table 1: Waterloo Region Private Dwellings Historical Comparison, 1991-2006

| Year | Occupied Private Dwellings | Absolute Growth | % Growth |
|------|----------------------------|-----------------|----------|
| 1991 | 134,730 | - | - |
| 1996 | 147,610 | 12,880 | 9.5 |
| 2001 | 161,130 | 13,520 | 9.2 |
| 2006 | 178,125 | 16,995 | 10.5 |

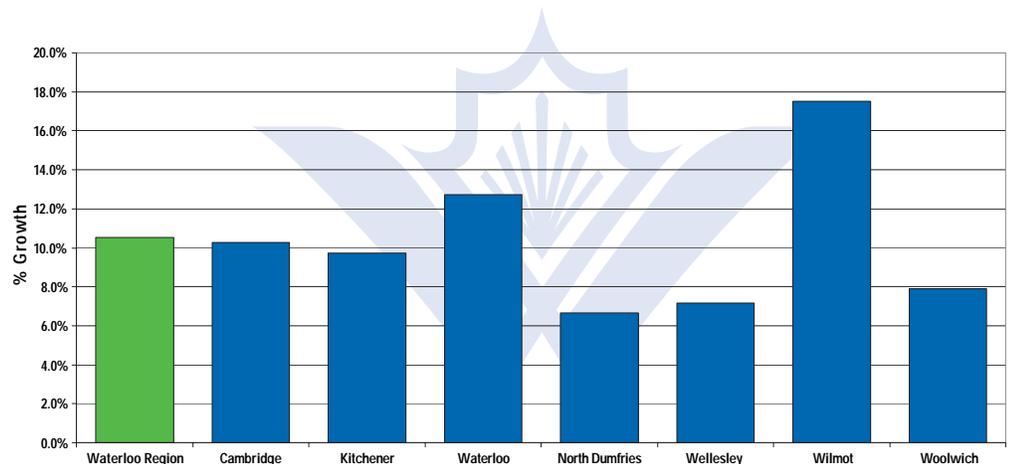
Source: Statistics Canada, Census 1991, 1996, 2001 and 2006



Both the cities and townships of Waterloo Region have contributed to the growth in total dwellings. Growth from 2001 to 2006 was more than 6% in each area municipality as indicated in Figure 1. On a provincial scale, the Region ranked seventh in terms of percent growth of occupied private dwellings after York, Halton, Peel, Simcoe, Durham and Muskoka.



Figure 1: Municipal Growth in Total Occupied Private Dwellings, 2001-2006



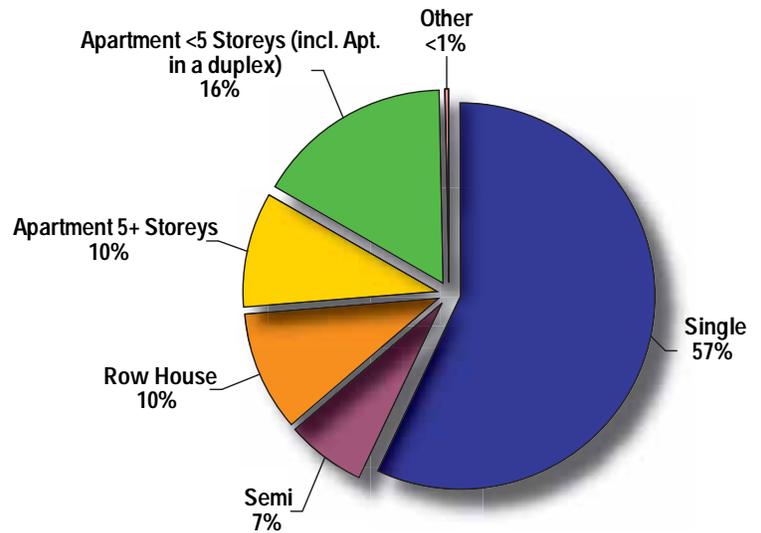
Source: Statistics Canada, Census 2001 and 2006 by Census Subdivision

Dwelling Characteristics

The majority of dwellings in Waterloo Region remains *single-detached houses*. Singles account for 57% of total dwellings, similar to 55% of Canada's total dwellings and 56% of dwellings in Ontario. Figure 2 shows the proportion of dwelling types throughout the Region. 'Other' dwellings include *other single-attached* and *moveable dwellings*.

Across the Region single detached dwellings range from a high of 89% in North Dumfries, to a low of 50% of dwellings in Kitchener. As seen in Table 2, apartments with less than five storeys are the second largest dwelling type group for the cities of Cambridge, Kitchener and Waterloo.

Figure 2: Waterloo Region Dwelling Types, 2006



Source: Statistics Canada, Census 2006

Table 2: Waterloo Region Dwelling Types by Municipality, 2006

| Name | Single | Semi | Row House | Apartment 5+ Storeys | Apartment <5 Storeys (Apt. in a duplex)** | Other* |
|------------------------|----------------|---------------|---------------|----------------------|---|------------|
| Waterloo Region | 101,440 | 11,940 | 17,860 | 17,290 | 28,955 | 510 |
| Cambridge | 25,895 | 3,590 | 4,625 | 1,850 | 7,050 | 250 |
| Kitchener | 39,525 | 4,815 | 8,310 | 11,295 | 15,300 | 135 |
| Waterloo | 20,690 | 1,975 | 4,545 | 4,140 | 5,400 | 30 |
| North Dumfries | 2,725 | 130 | 30 | 0 | 150 | 15 |
| Wellesley | 2,395 | 275 | 45 | 0 | 100 | 25 |
| Wilmot | 4,940 | 515 | 95 | 0 | 520 | 25 |
| Woolwich | 5,255 | 640 | 210 | 5 | 445 | 25 |

*includes Moveable and Other Singles ** see Note 1

Source: Statistics Canada, Census 2006 by Census Subdivision



While singles dominate, the type of dwellings being constructed in the Region continues to evolve. Over the past five years, *row houses* have seen the biggest percent increase, growing by 17%, followed by apartments with less than 5 storeys at 12%. Due to recent changes in Statistics Canada definitions, the direct historical comparison of dwelling types has been affected (*see Note 1*). To provide general comparisons, *apartments with less than 5 storeys* and *apartments in a duplex* have been grouped together in Table 3 to facilitate accurate comparisons.

Table 3: Waterloo Region Dwelling Types, 2001-2006

| Type | 2001 | 2006 | Absolute Change | % Change |
|---|--------|---------|-----------------|----------|
| Single Detached | 91,435 | 101,440 | 10,005 | 11% |
| Semi-detached | 11,175 | 11,940 | 765 | 7% |
| Row House | 15,215 | 17,860 | 2,645 | 17% |
| Apartment in a building with 5+ Storeys | 16,615 | 17,290 | 675 | 4% |
| Apartment in a building with less than 5 Storeys (incl. Apt. in a duplex)** | 25,900 | 28,955 | 3,055 | 12% |
| Other* | 790 | 510 | -280 | -35% |

*includes Moveable and Other Single ** see Note 1
Source: Statistics Canada, Census 2001 and 2006

The age of the Region's housing stock is relatively young, as indicated in Table 4, with 75% of our housing built after 1960. Dwellings built between 2001 and 2006 account for 11% of the total. This signifies a period of high growth as the 11% of dwellings most recently built in between 2001-2006 is close to the 15% of the total dwellings built over the ten-year period of 1991 to 2000.



Table 4: Waterloo Region Dwelling Types by Period of Construction, 2006

| Period of Construction | % of Total | Single | Semi | Row | Apt. 5+ storeys | Apartment <5 storeys (incl. Apt. in a duplex)** |
|------------------------|------------|--------|-------|-------|-----------------|---|
| 1960 or before | 24% | 28,360 | 1,735 | 790 | 1,190 | 10,710 |
| 1961-1970 | 14% | 12,645 | 1,415 | 1,725 | 3,380 | 6,140 |
| 1971-1980 | 18% | 14,425 | 3,060 | 3,820 | 4,585 | 5,570 |
| 1981-1990 | 17% | 16,500 | 2,085 | 4,225 | 4,060 | 3,920 |
| 1991-2000 | 15% | 15,795 | 2,620 | 4,450 | 2,510 | 1,555 |
| 2001-2006 | 11% | 13,960 | 1,135 | 3,030 | 1,290 | 945 |



Source: Statistics Canada, Census 2006

Dwelling Tenure

Home ownership is a key indicator of the current economic environment of an area. From 2001 to 2006, despite a significant increase in housing prices, the home ownership rate in Waterloo Region increased by 16%.

Proportionally the percentage of those households renting dropped. The home ownership rate in Waterloo Region is 71%. As a comparison, the national ownership rate is 68% and the provincial ownership rate is 71%.



Table 5: Waterloo Region Households by Tenure, 2006

| | Owned | Rented |
|---------------------------|---------|--------|
| 2006 Count | 125,850 | 52,275 |
| 2001 % of Total Dwellings | 68% | 32% |
| 2006 % of Total Dwellings | 71% | 29% |
| 2001-2006 % Growth | 16% | -0.10% |

Source: Statistics Canada, Census 2001 and 2006

Note 1: In 2006, improvements to the enumeration process and changes in structural type classification affected the historical comparability of the 'structural type of dwelling' variable. In 2006, 'apartment of flat in a duplex' replaces 'apartment or flat in a detached duplex' and includes duplexes attached to other dwellings or buildings. This is a change from the 2001 Census where duplexes attached to other dwellings or buildings were classified as an 'apartment that has fewer than five storeys.'

(Source: Statistics Canada, Census 2006)

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 semi-detached 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."

Other single-attached house – "A single dwelling that is attached to another building and that does not fall into any of the other categories, such as a single dwelling attached to a non-residential structure (e.g., a store or a church) or occasionally to another residential structure (e.g., an apartment building)."

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, 2006



Region of Waterloo

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