



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."
- While all Canadian households complete a census short form, only one in five Canadian households completes a Census long form, consisting of more detailed questions. Immigration and citizenship data are based on this 20% sample of the population.
- For further information on Immigration, please see 'Immigrants in Waterloo Region' on the Region of Waterloo's Public Health website. This page can be found under the Resources – Health Status & Research Menu.
- More information, including which countries are grouped in each world region is available in the 2006 Census Dictionary on Statistics Canada's website.

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

Immigration and Citizenship

Statistics from the 2006 Census for Waterloo Region

Immigration Population

Immigration is an important component of population growth in Waterloo Region. In 2006, there were 105,375 residents who were born outside of Canada as indicated in Table 1. Immigrants accounted for 22.3% of the Region's total population. From 2001 to 2006 the *immigrant* population in Waterloo Region grew by 13.6%, almost twice the growth seen in the *non-immigrant* population. Over the same time period, the non-immigrant population grew by 7.3%. The arrival of foreign-born residents to Waterloo Region will continue to be influential in the evolving characteristics of our local population in terms of population growth, age, language and cultural composition.

Table 1: Immigrant Population for Waterloo Region, 2006

Name	Total Population	Total Immigrant Population
Waterloo Region	473,260	105,375
Cambridge	119,410	25,225
Kitchener	202,160	53,320
Waterloo	96,775	21,980
North Dumfries	9,045	1,095
Wellesley	9,790	595
Wilmot	16,975	1,725
Woolwich	19,100	1,435

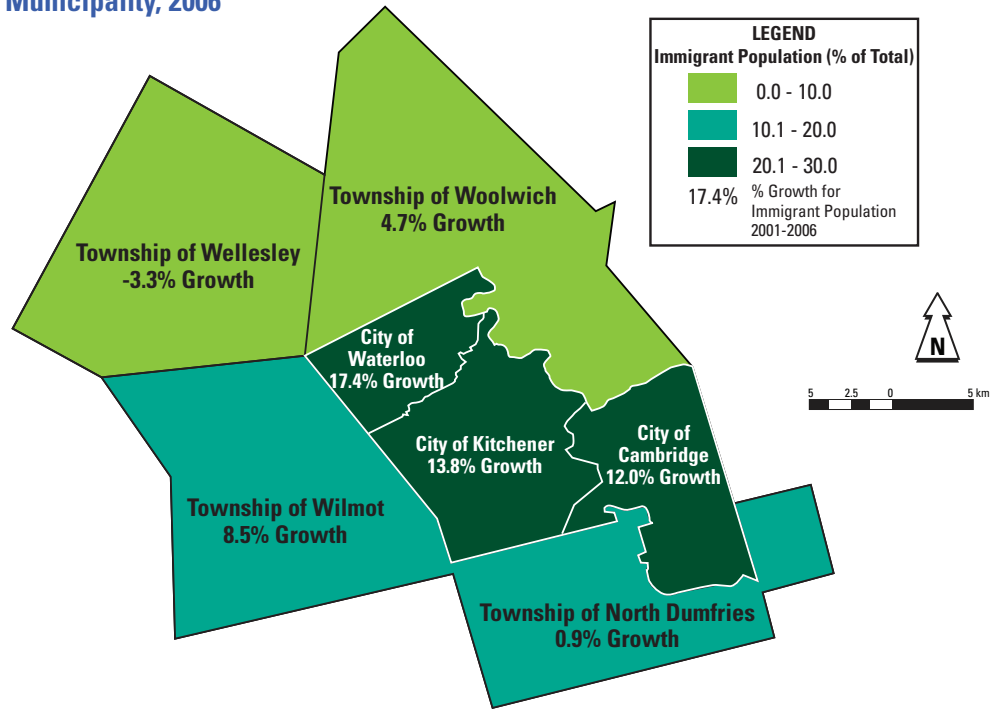
Source: Statistics Canada, Census 2001 and 2006 by Census Subdivision

The percent growth in the immigrant population shown in Figure 1 demonstrates that the cities within Waterloo Region tend to attract more foreign-born residents than the surrounding townships. This trend aligns with the national tendency of immigrants to settle in urban areas.



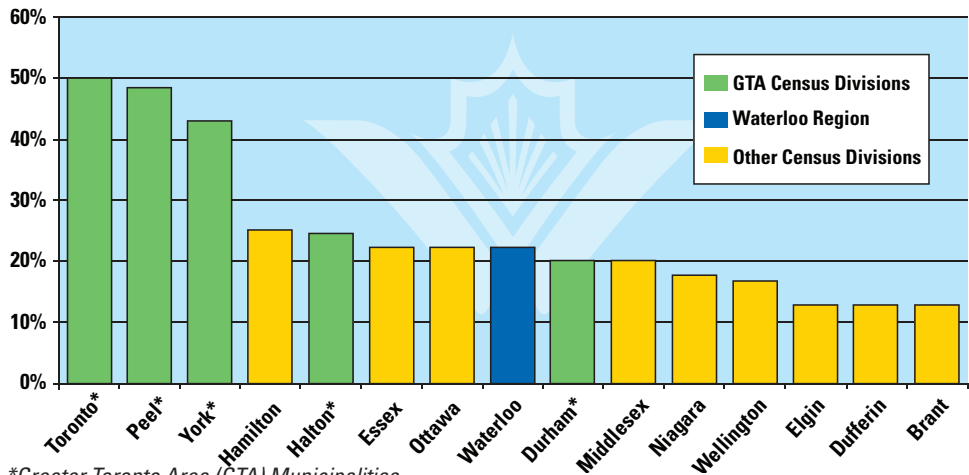
While the Greater Toronto Area (GTA) is the most common destination for new Canadians with 1.2 million immigrants, a growing number of newcomers are choosing to settle in other Ontario municipalities (Statistics Canada, The Daily, December 4, 2007). In terms of the total immigrant population by region, Waterloo Region places 13th in Canada and 8th in Ontario. As a percentage of the total population, outside the GTA, Waterloo Region is the fourth most popular destination for immigrants. Figure 2 illustrates this, and compares the Region to other top destinations in Ontario.

Figure 1: Waterloo Region Immigrants as Percent of Total Population and Growth by Municipality, 2006



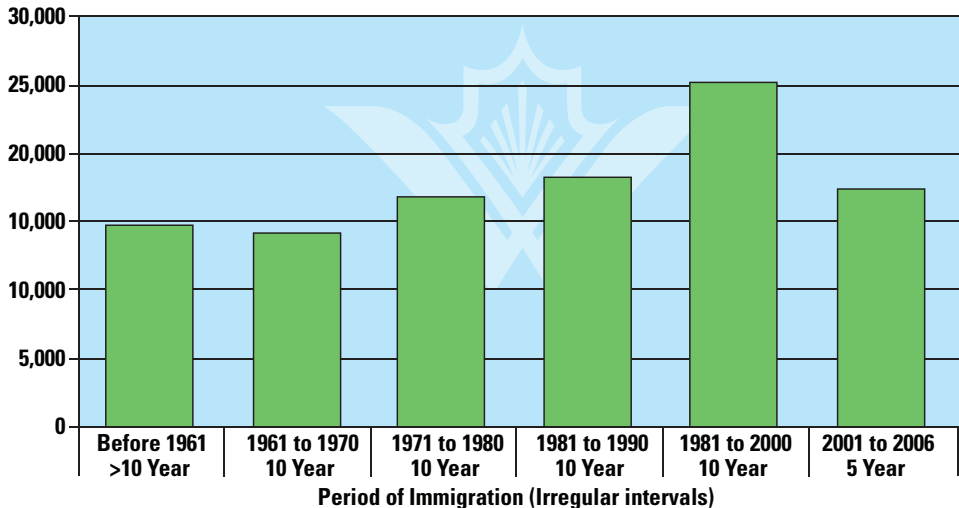
Source: Statistics Canada, Census 2001 and 2006 by Census Subdivision

Figure 2: Ontario Immigrant Population as a Percentage of the Total Population, 2006



*Greater Toronto Area (GTA) Municipalities
Source: Statistics Canada, Census 2006 by Census Divisions

Figure 3: Waterloo Region Immigration Population by Period of Immigration



Source: Statistics Canada, Census 2006



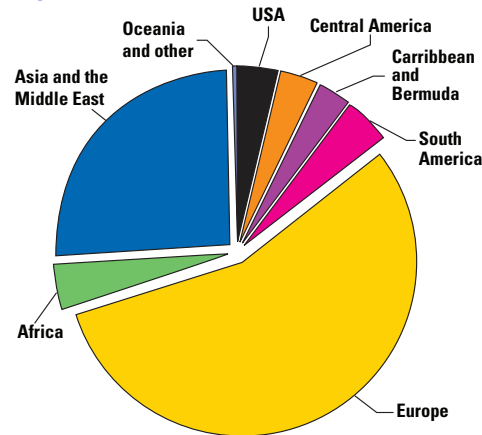
Period of Immigration

There has been a steep increase in the number of foreign-born residents within each Census period. Figure 3 shows that almost 40% of all immigrants residing in the Region in 2006 have lived here for less than fifteen years. Further, the number of immigrants who arrived in the five years between 2001 and 2006 was similar to the number who arrived over the previous ten year periods between 1971 to 1980 and 1981 to 1990.

Place of Birth

Europe remains the most common place of birth for the total immigrant population in Waterloo Region as shown in Figure 4, representing just over half of the population born outside of Canada. However, other regions have begun to emerge as key contributors to our population. As of 2006, Asia and the Middle East represent the birth places for

Figure 4: Place of Birth for Immigrant Population in Waterloo Region, 2006



Source: Statistics Canada, Census 2006

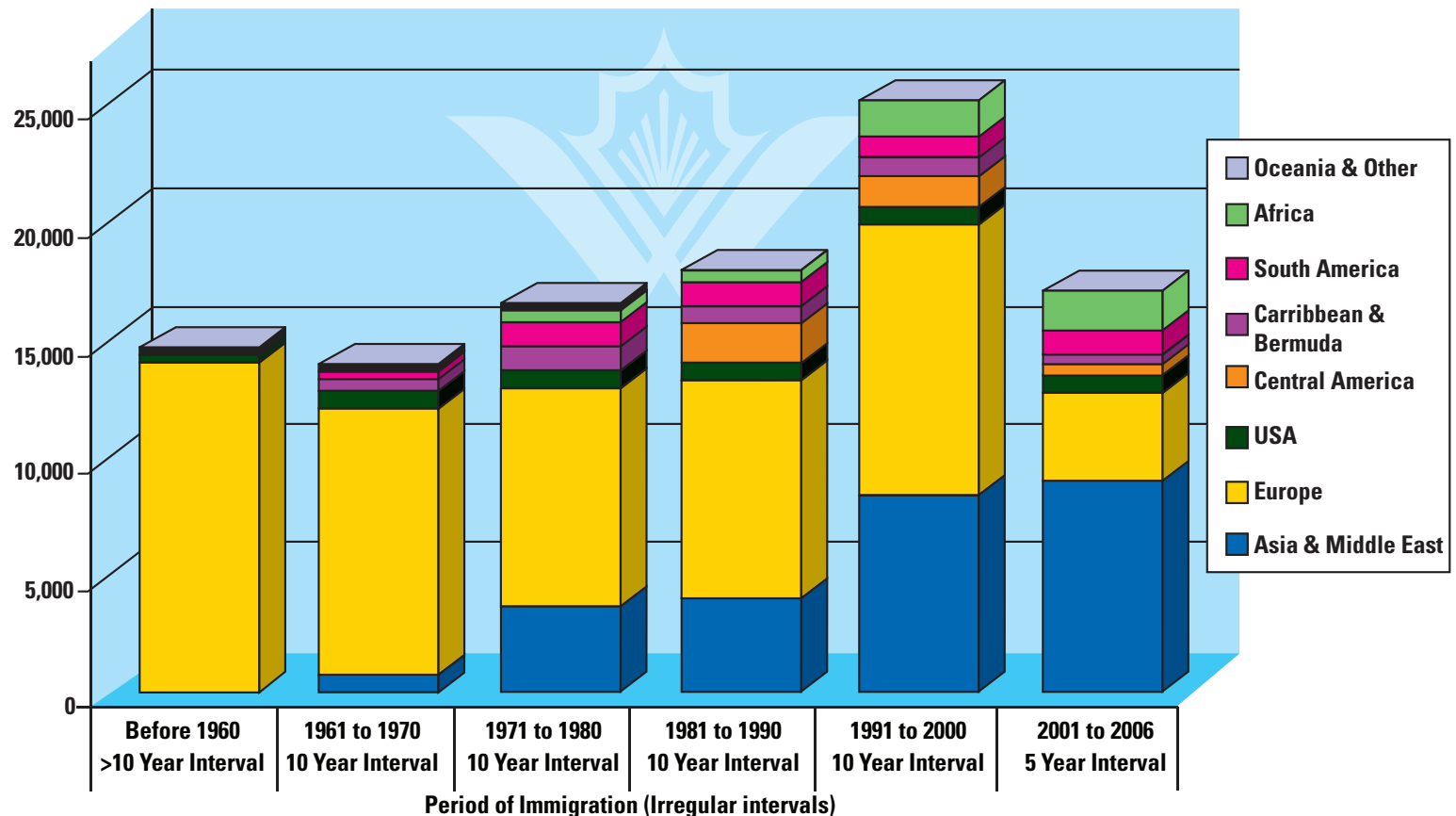
more than a quarter of Waterloo Region's immigrant population, while the United States, Central America, South America, the Caribbean and Bermuda, and Africa account for most of the remaining quarter.

While Europe remains the home country for most immigrants in the Region due to historic immigration trends, recent Census data indicates that Asia and the Middle East have become the most common place of birth for immigrants to Waterloo Region. Figure 5 shows that collective flows from that part of the world accounted for over 50% of the Region's total international arrivals between 2001 and 2006. More specifically, of the individuals immigrating from Asia and the Middle East, 40% originated in Southern Asia, including countries such as India, while 28% come from Eastern Asia, including countries such as China. More immigrants are originating from Asia and the Middle

East than ever before. From 2001 to 2006 the number of immigrants born in Asia and the Middle East rose by 40% compared to 1996 to 2000.

The number of immigrants from South America, Africa and the USA has also increased over the last census period. There was a 50% or more increase in people arriving from these countries between 2001 and 2006 compared to the number arriving over the time period between 1996 and 2000. Generally, the number of new European immigrants in Waterloo Region has been diminishing, with the exception of the increase seen between the 1996 and 2001 Censuses. Subsequent to that increase, immigrants to Waterloo Region with origins in Europe have again dropped. In the last census period (2001-2006) 3,865 immigrants, mostly from South and East Europe registered their place of birth in Europe.

Figure 5: Place of Birth by Period of Immigration for the Immigrant Population in Waterloo Region



Source: Statistics Canada, Census 2006

Recent Immigrants

Recent immigrants are those who arrived during the five years immediately preceding the last Census. Almost 70% of immigrants to Canada from 2001 to 2006 settled in Canada's three largest metropolitan areas, Toronto, Montreal and Vancouver. However, Waterloo Region was one of the top ten destinations in Canada, and top five in Ontario. Immigrants who arrived over the most recent five-year span made up 16.2% of the total immigrant population in Waterloo Region as shown in Table 2. Recent immigrants had the greatest impact on the foreign born population in the City of Waterloo where as of Census day one in every five immigrants in that city arrived between 2001 and 2006.

Table 2: Waterloo Region's Recent Immigrant Population, 2001-2006

Name	Recent Immigrants 2001-2006		
	Count	% of Total Immigrant Population	% of Overall Total Population
Waterloo Region	17,020	16.2%	3.6%
Cambridge	2,935	11.6%	2.5%
Kitchener	9,285	17.4%	4.6%
Waterloo	4,485	20.4%	4.6%
North Dumfries	100	9.1%	1.1%
Wellesley	95	16.0%	1.0%
Wilmot	50	2.9%	0.3%
Woolwich	65	4.5%	0.3%

Source: Statistics Canada, Census 2006 by Census Subdivision

Citizenship

Most of the residents of Waterloo Region are Canadian citizens. In total, 94% of the total population holds a Canadian citizenship, either alone, or with at least one other country. This remained unchanged from the 2001 Census. Table 3 shows that for the population over the age of 18, the percent who hold a Canadian citizenship remains relatively the same compared to the total population. Woolwich had the highest rate of citizenship while the City of Waterloo had the lowest. Cities within Waterloo Region tended to have a four to five percent lower citizenship rate than that of the townships. The Region has a higher rate of citizenship than the Provincial average and is similar to the national average.

Table 3: Citizenship of Population in Waterloo Region, 2006

Name	2006 Canadian Citizens			Absolute Growth 2001-2006
	Absolute Count	% of Total Population	% of Total Population 18+	
Waterloo Region	446,920	94.4	93.9	37,490
Cambridge	114,110	95.6	94.8	10,270
Kitchener	189,130	93.6	93.2	13,475
Waterloo	89,600	92.6	92.1	9,230
North Dumfries	8,865	98.0	98.0	365
Wellesley	9,630	98.4	98.4	465
Wilmot	16,720	98.5	98.3	2,250
Woolwich	18,860	98.7	98.4	1,430

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



Region of Waterloo

For further information please contact:



**Planning, Housing and
Community Services**
Planning Information
and Research

planninginfo@region.waterloo.on.ca
www.region.waterloo.on.ca

519-575-4047

Immigrant – "...persons who are, or have ever been, landed immigrants in Canada. A landed immigrant is a person who 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 are more recent arrivals. Most immigrants are born outside Canada, but a small number were born in Canada. This includes immigrants who landed in Canada prior to Census Day, May 16, 2006."

Non-Immigrant – "Refers to people who are Canadian citizens by birth. Although most were born in Canada, a small number of them were born outside Canada to Canadian parents."

Source: Statistics Canada Census Dictionary, 2006