



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. Migration and Mobility data are based on this 20% sample of the population.
- Mobility rates measure *movers* versus *non-movers*. Movers are those who have changed their address, whether they have moved within the municipality (non-migrant), from another municipality within Canada (internal migrant), or have moved to Canada from another country (external migrant). External migrants consist of immigrants, non permanent residents and native-born Canadians who resided outside the country and returned to Canada. This Bulletin focuses on movers and internal migrants. For further information on immigrants please refer to Census Bulletin #6.
- For the purposes of this Bulletin the term Municipality (city or township) refers to a *Census Subdivision* and a Region refers to a *Census Division* as defined by Statistics Canada.

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

Mobility and Migration

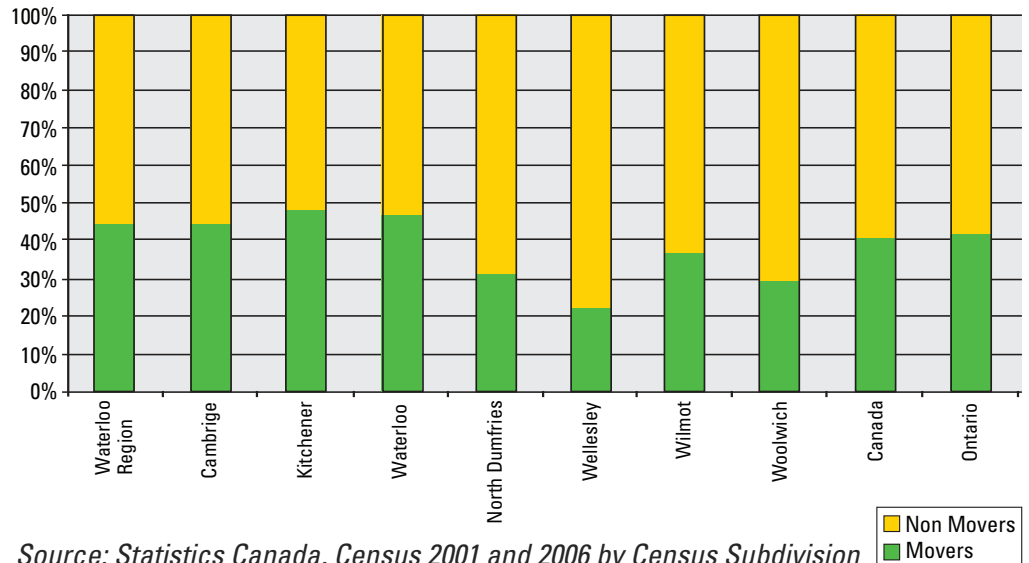
Statistics from the 2006 Census for Waterloo Region

Mobility Rates

Almost 200,000 residents of Waterloo Region moved during the five year period between 2001 and 2006. This represents 44% of the Region’s population. The five-year mobility rate for Waterloo Region is similar to that of Canada and Ontario which stand at 41%. Waterloo Region’s population was less mobile than in 2001 when 46% of people changed addresses in the five years preceding the census. The two percent decrease in mobility follows national trends which have shown declines in mobility rates over the last 35 years, due mainly to an aging population (Statistics Canada, 2008).

Over a five year span, it is more likely that people living in Cambridge, Kitchener or Waterloo have changed addresses compared to a person living in one of the townships. Figure 1 shows that in 2006, the Township of Wellesley had the lowest five-year mobility rate at 22% while the Cities of Waterloo and Kitchener had the highest rate with 47% of their population changing addresses. Contributing to this higher mobility rate is a larger number of young people in urban areas. Migration is more common with young people between the ages of 15 and 29. This age range includes transitional time periods such as postsecondary education, entering the labour force and marital status changes (Statistics Canada, 2008).

Figure 1: Five Year Mobility Rates for Waterloo Region by Municipality, 2001-2006



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

Among the *movers* in Waterloo Region, 55% had not gone far, moving just within the same city or township. The remaining 45% moved from a different municipality, with 71% of these coming from elsewhere in Ontario, 8% coming from a different province and the remainder being external migrants. In terms of mobility over a one year time frame, 15% of the population reported living at a different address in the previous year. Table 1 compares the mobility status for Waterloo Region over both a five year and one year period.

Table 1: One and Five Year Mobility Status for Waterloo Region

Status	1-Year Ago**	5-Years Ago*
Lived at the same address	396,980	247,100
Changed addresses within the same municipality	41,985	108,525
Changed addresses from another municipality within the same province	21,680	62,735
Lived in a different province or territory	2,295	6,865
Lived in a different country	4,200	18,475

Source: Statistics Canada, 2006 Census
 * for population aged five and over
 ** for population aged one year and over



Internal Migration

From 2001 to 2006, Census data shows that 47,495 people moved to Waterloo Region from other areas in Canada. During the same period, 41,760 people moved away, resulting in a net gain of 5,735 people to the Region through internal migration. In contrast, Canada's three largest cities, including the City of Toronto, all posted net losses through migration from 2001 to 2006.

Migrants arriving to the Region between 2001 and 2006 were most likely to come from Toronto, Wellington (including Guelph) and Peel, while outside Ontario, migrants were most likely to have come from Greater Vancouver, Montreal and the Calgary area. These same areas are common destinations for migrants moving away from Waterloo Region. The top three destinations were again Toronto, Wellington and Peel, while outside Ontario the most likely destinations were Calgary and the surrounding area, Greater Vancouver, and St. John's and area. Table 1 highlights the top 25 origins and destinations of migrants coming to and from the Region. It also lists the 25 largest net contributors to the Region. Waterloo Region gained over 2,000 people from each of Toronto and Peel Regions. Outside of Ontario, the regions to net the largest gains for Waterloo Region were Montreal, Winnipeg and area, and Gatineau.

Table 2: Top 25 Origins, Destinations and Net Gains for Migrants in Waterloo Region, 2001-2006

Top Migrant Origins		Top Migrant Destinations		Largest Net Gains	
Toronto	6,980	Toronto	4,765	Toronto	2,215
Wellington	4,725	Wellington	3,980	Peel	2,165
Peel	4,385	Peel	2,220	Wellington	745
Middlesex	1,950	Brant	2,165	Niagara	475
Hamilton	1,905	Halton	1,810	York	460
Halton	1,845	Middlesex	1,785	Montréal	395
Ottawa	1,425	Oxford	1,570	Hamilton	345
Oxford	1,355	Hamilton	1,560	Greater Sudbury	310
York	1,315	Simcoe	1,360	Chatham-Kent	280
Perth	1,285	Perth	1,350	Dufferin	225
Niagara	1,255	Ottawa	1,250	Durham	210
Brant	1,250	Grey	915	Prescott and Russell	195
Durham	1,030	Division No. 6, Alta. (Calgary & Area)	880	Ottawa	175
Simcoe	880	York	855	Division No. 11, Man. (Winnipeg & Area)	175
Bruce	815	Durham	820	Middlesex	165
Greater Vancouver	810	Hastings	790	Algoma	165
Montréal	765	Niagara	780	Essex	145
Grey	710	Bruce	770	Lanark	90
Essex	685	Huron	770	Gatineau	90
Haldimand-Norfolk	565	Greater Vancouver	745	Division No. 8, Sask. (Swift Current & Area)	90
Greater Sudbury	535	Essex	540	Frontenac	80
Lambton	525	Division No. 1, N.L. (St. John's & Area)	525	Lambton	75
Division No. 6, Alta. (Calgary & Area)	490	Haldimand-Norfolk	520	Greater Vancouver	65
Division No. 1, N.L. (St. John's & Area)	485	Division No. 11, Alta. (Edmonton & Area)	465	York	60
Huron	480	Lambton	450	Division No. 6, Sask. (Regina & Area)	55

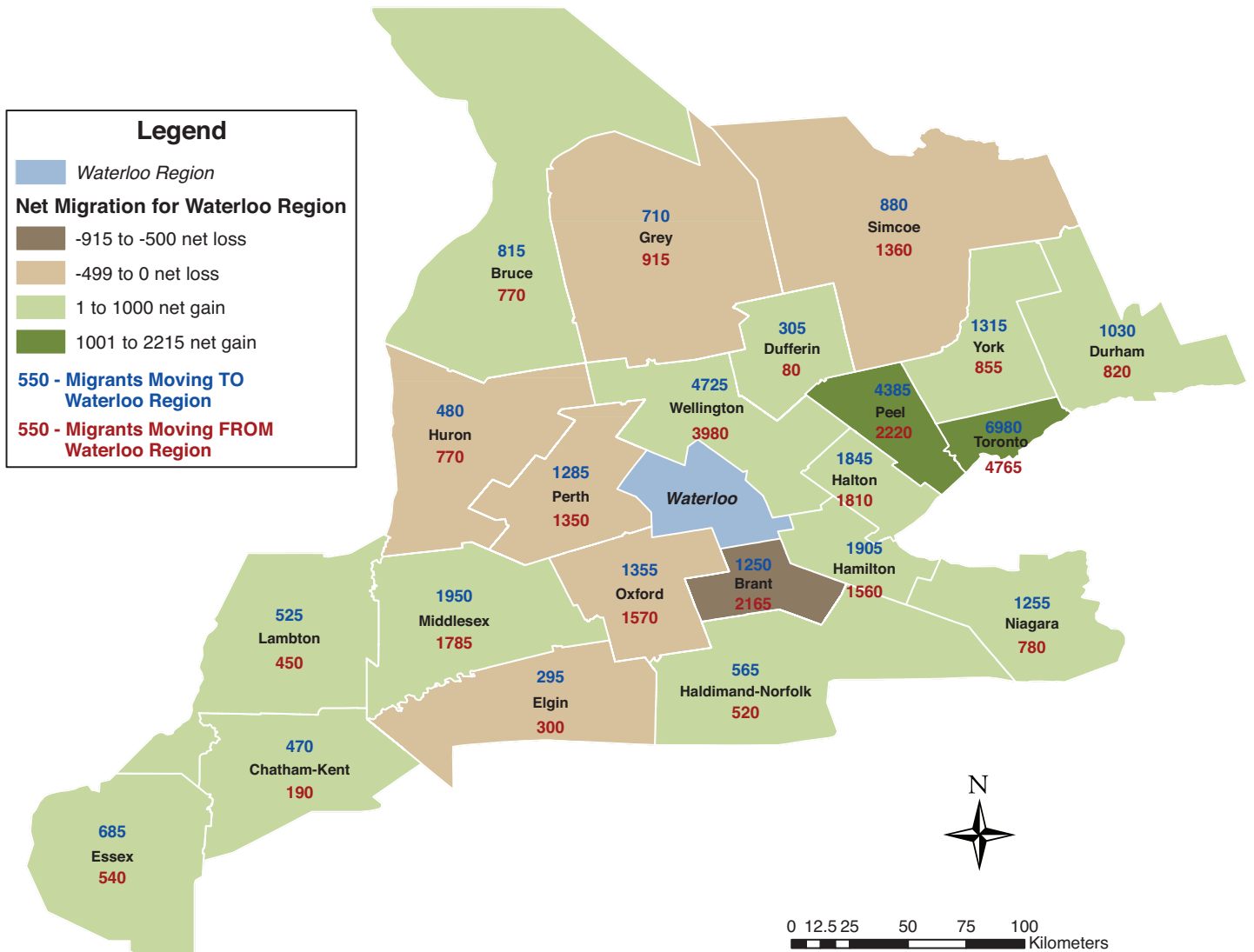
Source: Statistics Canada, 2006 Census by Census Division

In general, the regions in south-western Ontario contributed the most to Waterloo Region's population. However, some of the largest net losses were also recorded with nearby regions. The County of Brant received over 900 people net from Waterloo Region. Simcoe, Oxford, Perth, Huron, Elgin and Grey Counties also resulted in net losses for Waterloo Region. The

loss of migrants to some of these regions can be partially attributed to the lure that these regions hold as resort or recreation areas. Figure 3 shows migration flows between all regions in Southwestern Ontario, where in general the largest exchange of people occurred from 2001 to 2006.



Figure 3: Southwestern Ontario Migration Flows with Waterloo Region, 2001-2006



Source: Statistics Canada, 2006 Census by Census Division

Sources - Statistics Canada, 2008. Report on the Demographic Situation in Canada 2005 and 2006. Catalogue no. 91-209-X

Census Subdivision (CSD) – “Is the general term for municipalities (as determined by provincial/territorial legislation) or areas treated as municipal equivalents for statistical purposes (e.g., Indian reserves, Indian settlements and unorganized territories).” City of Cambridge, Waterloo and Kitchener as well as the Townships of North Dumfries, Wellesley, Wilmot and Woolwich are each considered Census Subdivisions.

Census Division (CD) – “Grouping of neighbouring municipalities joined together for the purposes of regional planning and managing common services. These groupings are established under laws in effect in certain provinces of Canada.” The area known as the Region of Waterloo is considered the Waterloo Census Division.

Non-movers – “Are persons who, on Census Day, were living at the same address as the one at which they resided five years earlier.”

Movers – “Are persons who, on Census Day, were living at a different address from the one at which they resided five years earlier. Mobility Status – refers to the relationship between a person’s usual place of residence on Census Day and his or her usual place of residence one or five year earlier. A person is classified as a non-mover if no difference exists. Otherwise, a person is classified as a mover and this categorization is called Mobility status (1 or 5 year ago).”

Migrants – “Non-migrants are movers who, on Census Day, were living at a different address, but in the same census subdivision (CSD) as the one they lived in one year earlier. Migrants are movers who, on Census Day, were residing in a different CSD five years earlier (internal migrants) or who were living outside Canada five years earlier (external migrants).”



Region of Waterloo

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