



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. Age and sex data are based on this 100 per cent sample of the population.
- The Census population of Waterloo Region on May 10th, 2011 was 507,096 as described in Census Bulletin #1, Population and Dwellings. This represents growth of almost 30,000 people over the five-year period since the 2006 Census.

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



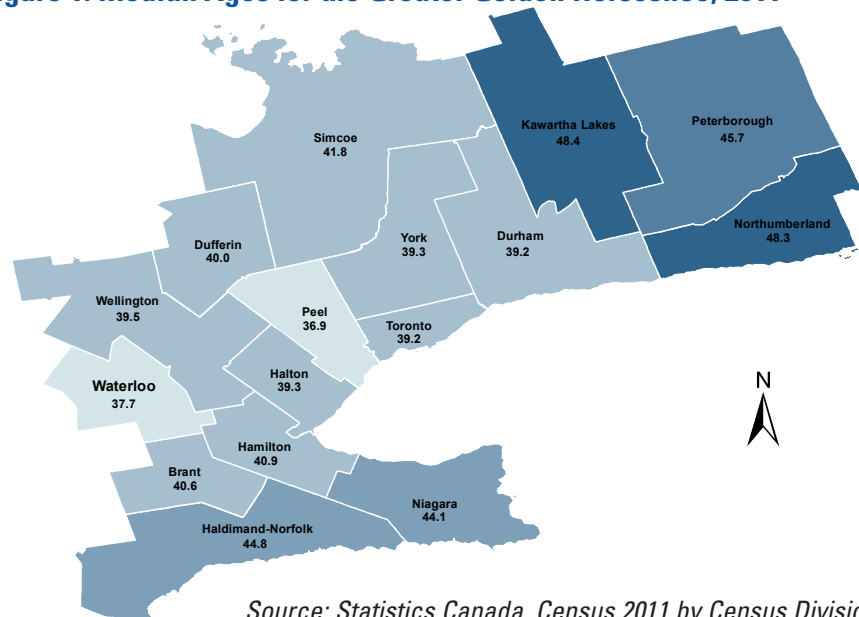
Age and Sex

Statistics from the 2011 Census for Waterloo Region

Median Age

Waterloo Region's population remains relatively young, with a median age of 37.7 years. This is well below both the provincial and national medians of 40.4 and 40.6 years respectively, and is the second lowest median age in the Greater Golden Horseshoe, as illustrated in Figure 1. While the population of Waterloo Region is comparatively young, it does reflect an aging population, showing an increase of 1.3 years in median age from 36.4 in 2006.

Figure 1: Median Ages for the Greater Golden Horseshoe, 2011



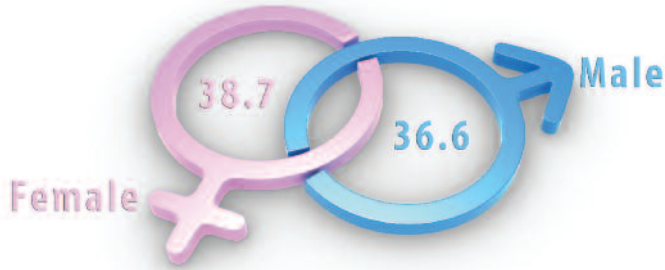
Source: Statistics Canada, Census 2011 by Census Divisions

There is variation in the median age across the Region; the highest median age (42.1) is in North Dumfries while Wellesley's is almost ten years younger, as shown in Table 1. There is a notable difference of 2.1 years in the median age between males and females in Waterloo Region as historically women have tended to outlive men.



Table 1: Median Ages for Waterloo Region, 2011

Municipality	Median Age		
	Overall	Female	Male
Cambridge	38.0	38.7	37.3
Kitchener	37.2	38.1	36.3
Waterloo	37.6	39.3	35.7
North Dumfries	42.1	42.3	41.9
Wellesley	32.3	32.8	31.8
Wilmot	40.4	40.8	40.1
Woolwich	38.6	39.7	37.5



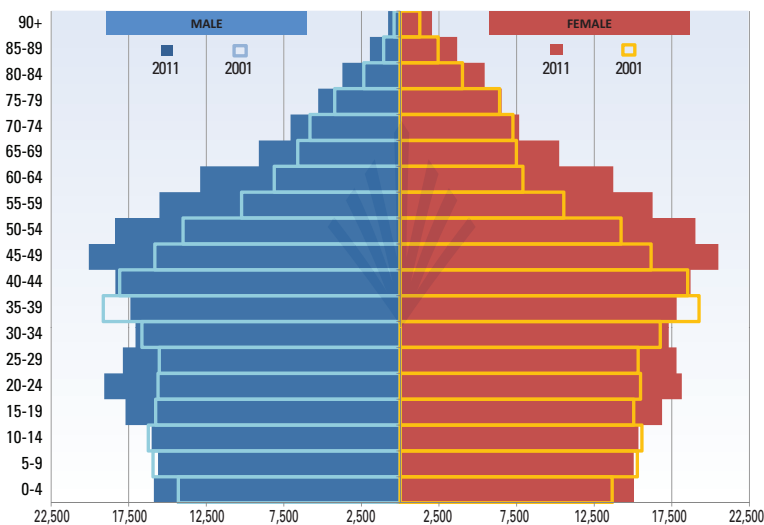
Source: Statistics Canada, Census 2011 by Census Subdivisions

Population by Age and Sex

Figure 2 illustrates the change in the Region’s age and sex distribution over the past ten years. Aging doesn’t completely explain these changes; migration also contributes to the changing size of the age groups.

The overall distribution of the sexes remains nearly even across the Region, with 49.3 per cent males compared to 50.7 per cent females. Because females have tended to live longer, the senior years show a progressively wider spread between the number of males and females. Of the seventy centenarians in Waterloo Region in 2011, 70 per cent were female.

Figure 2: Population Pyramid for Waterloo Region, 2001-2011



Source: Statistics Canada, Census 2001, 2011 by Census Division

The demographic group known as the baby boom generation, born between 1946 and 1965, continue to influence the age profile of the Region’s population. People in the age group between 45 and 49 years, born at the peak of the boom, represent the largest five-year age cohort in Waterloo Region in 2011, accounting for 8 per cent of the total population, as shown in Table 2. Similarly, the largest percentage change between 2006 and 2011 occurred in the population 60 to 64 years of age. The high growth rate (31 per cent) in this age category and some of the growth in the 65 to 69 years of age group represents the influence of the front wave of the baby boom. Increases are also evident in the number of 15 to 30 year olds, representing the children of the boom generation. While the population in most age groups has increased, those aged 35 to 45 have decreased over the previous five year period, as have the children in the 10 to 14 year age group, to a lesser extent.

While the population of the Region of Waterloo is generally aging, the Region maintains a positive ratio between the Region’s youth population and its senior population. In contrast to surrounding municipalities in Ontario, there are 1.5 youth for every senior in Waterloo Region. Figure 3 shows how broad age groups are changing over time.

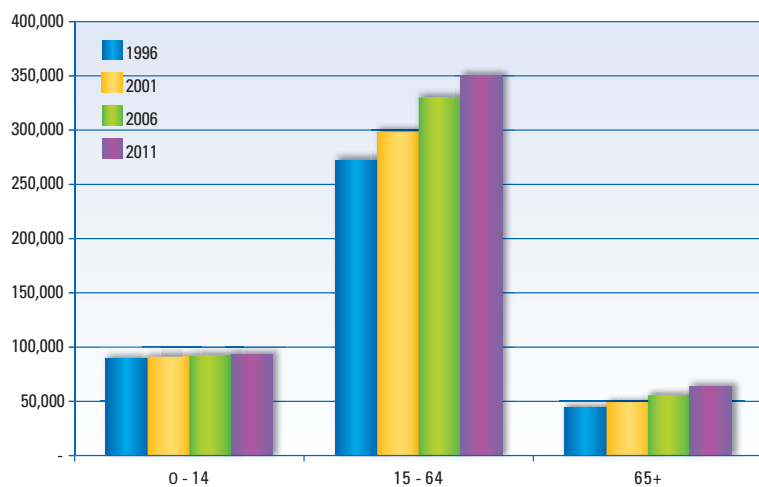


Table 2: Population by Age Group for Waterloo Region, 2001-2011

Age group	2001		2006		2011		Per cent change	
	Population	Per cent of total	Population	Per cent of total	Population	Per cent of total	2001-2011	2006-2011
0 to 4 years	27,960	6.4%	29,345	6.1%	30,945	6.1%	10.7%	5.5%
5 to 9 years	31,215	7.1%	30,110	6.3%	30,660	6.0%	-1.8%	1.8%
10 to 14 years	31,820	7.3%	32,915	6.9%	31,370	6.2%	-1.4%	-4.7%
15 to 19 years	30,810	7.0%	33,885	7.1%	34,585	6.8%	12.3%	2.1%
20 to 24 years	31,105	7.1%	35,675	7.5%	37,220	7.3%	19.7%	4.3%
25 to 29 years	30,865	7.0%	32,790	6.9%	35,680	7.0%	15.6%	8.8%
30 to 34 years	33,405	7.6%	33,840	7.1%	34,370	6.8%	2.9%	1.6%
35 to 39 years	38,400	8.8%	35,875	7.5%	35,205	6.9%	-8.3%	-1.9%
40 to 44 years	36,595	8.3%	40,145	8.4%	37,075	7.3%	1.3%	-7.6%
45 to 49 years	31,985	7.3%	37,375	7.8%	40,580	8.0%	26.9%	8.6%
50 to 54 years	28,230	6.4%	32,465	6.8%	37,410	7.4%	32.5%	15.2%
55 to 59 years	20,770	4.7%	27,725	5.8%	31,785	6.3%	53.0%	14.6%
60 to 64 years	16,020	3.7%	20,335	4.3%	26,625	5.3%	66.2%	30.9%
65 to 69 years	14,090	3.2%	15,515	3.2%	19,360	3.8%	37.4%	24.8%
70 to 74 years	13,080	3.0%	13,190	2.8%	14,745	2.9%	12.7%	11.8%
75 to 79 years	10,630	2.4%	11,570	2.4%	11,830	2.3%	11.3%	2.2%
80 to 84 years	6,360	1.5%	8,600	1.8%	9,180	1.8%	44.3%	6.7%
85+	5,160	1.2%	6,750	1.4%	8,450	1.7%	63.8%	25.2%
Total Population by Age and Sex	438,515		478,120		507,100		15.6%	6.1%

Source: Statistics Canada, Census 2006, 2011 by Census Division

Figure 3: Population by Broad Age Categories, Region of Waterloo, 1996-2011



Source: Statistics Canada, Census 1996-2011 by Census Division

Youth

The youth population, aged 0 to 14, accounted for 92,975 (18.3 per cent) of the Region’s population in 2011.

Although the increase in this population group was very small between 2006 and 2011, Waterloo Region was one of only six municipalities (census divisions) across Ontario that did not experience a decrease in this age group between Censuses.

The number of young children aged 0 to 4 years has shown an increase in the past three Censuses in Waterloo Region. In 2011, a 5 per cent increase was measured for these children, lower than the rate on a national level (11 per cent), but on par with the provincial growth rate in this age group.



Working Age

The population between 15 and 64 years old, which represents the age often referred to as the working-age, accounts for 70 per cent of the total population in Waterloo Region. From 2006 to 2011 this age group grew by 6 per cent. Waterloo Region ranks 7th in terms of the size of its working-age population in Ontario and 13th in Canada.

The working-age population is growing older, with the percentage of population in each of the 45 to 65 age categories increasing since 2006. In 2011, the largest component (almost 78,000 people) was comprised of 45 to 54 year olds, as shown in Table 3. These people are still 10 to 20 years from the age typically associated with retirement. Those closest to retirement age (55 to 64 years) represent over 58,000 people, and experienced the largest increase, growing by 10,355 people from 2006.

Despite the aging of the working-age population, Waterloo Region has substantially more people of the age to be typically entering the workforce (15 to 24 years) than of the age to be typically leaving it (55 to 64 years). This is in contrast to the national trend.

Table 3: Working Age Population by Age Groups, Waterloo Region, 2006-2011

Age	2001 Population	2001 Per cent of total	2006 Population	2006 Per cent of total	Population change 2001-2006	2011 Population	2011 Per cent of total	Population change 2006-2011
15-24	61,915	21%	69,565	21%	7,650	71,805	20%	2,240
25-34	64,275	22%	66,635	20%	2,360	70,050	20%	3,415
35-44	74,995	25%	76,020	23%	1,025	72,280	21%	-3,740
45-54	60,215	20%	69,845	21%	9,630	77,990	22%	8,145
55-64	36,785	12%	48,055	15%	11,270	58,410	17%	10,355
Total	298,185	100%	330,120	100%	31,935	350,535	100%	20,415

Source: Statistics Canada, Census 2001-2011 by Census Division

Seniors

The number of seniors aged 65 years and over was 63,565 in 2011, and remains the smallest portion (12 per cent) of the Region's population, based on the age groups in Figure 3. However, in 2011, this segment experienced the largest percentage increase compared to youth and the working age population, growing by approximately 14 per cent (8,000 people) from 2006. Since 2001, the number of seniors relative to youth has continued to converge.

More specifically, older seniors (80 years and over) represent 3.5 per cent of the population. Over the past ten years this age group has increased by 53 per cent in Waterloo Region due primarily to longer life expectancy.



Median Age – refers to the middle value when ages are ranked in order from high to low or low to high. Half the population is older and half of the population is younger.

Greater Golden Horseshoe – is a term used by the *Growth Plan for the Greater Golden Horseshoe* (Ontario, 2006) to refer to the area from the Counties of Peterborough and Northumberland in the east, to the Region of Waterloo in the west, and the Region of Niagara and Haldimand County in the south.



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