



## 2016 Census Update: Key Insights for Burlington

### **Executive Summary**

The final release of Statistics Canada's 2016 Census Data was on November 29, 2017. Together with the other six data releases, this data provides updated information on Burlington. This data is generally viewed as a benchmark for accurate, reliable, and comparable data. This document contains an analysis of the census data and key insights for the City of Burlington and the achievement of the 2015-2040 Strategic Plan

### Key Insights:

1. Burlington's population growth rate is slowing.
2. The top three industries of the Burlington Labour Force are: Retail trade (12.2%), Health Care and Social Assistance (10.5%) and Manufacturing (9.9%).
3. Burlington has a highly-educated labour force with an unemployment rate of 5.6%.
4. Most of Burlington's growth is from immigrants.
5. Burlington housing prices rose 177% since 2001.
6. 42% of residents work in Burlington, 18% work in other parts of Halton Region, 40% work outside of Halton Region

There are many insights that can be gained from the 2016 Census Data, and how it impacts the City Of Burlington 2015-40 Key Strategic Objectives of Population Growth, Targeted Intensification, Economic Growth, Demographic Growth, and Mobility Choices. Please note that some insights are from the long-form census and reflect only a 25% sample size.

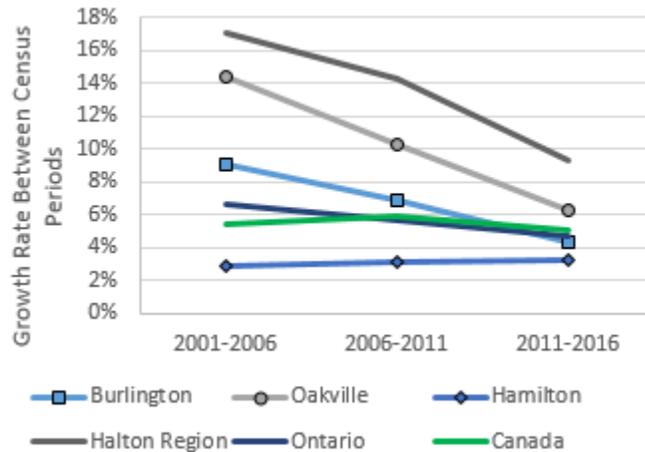
## Key Census Data

### Population Growth

Burlington's population Growth rate of 4.3% between 2011 and 2016 is below the national and provincial average.

Burlington's 2016 population is 183,314, an increase of 7,535 or 4.3% since 2011. This growth rate places Burlington above Hamilton, but below Oakville, Milton, Halton Region, Ontario, and national rates. A key change is Burlington's growth rate is now below the provincial and national rates for the first time compared to previous census periods.

Population Growth Rates Between Census Periods



### Targeted Intensification

Most Burlington residents still live in single-detached homes; however, that number is declining. Smaller residential units are increasing and family size has remained the same.

Apartments are the fastest growing private dwelling type in Burlington between 2011 to 2016, specifically in buildings with 5 storeys or more which added 970

occupancies, an increase of 9.2% since 2011. Those with fewer than 5 storeys increased at a rate of 9.0% with 470 more occupancies.

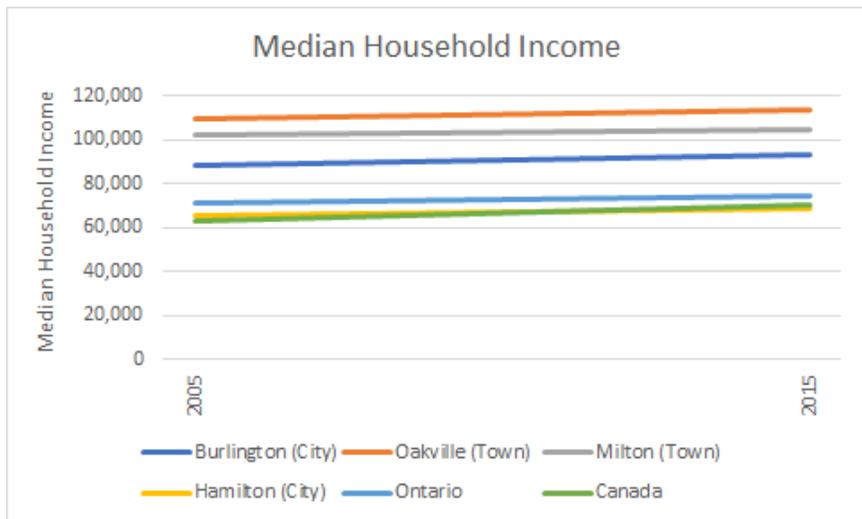
Occupied Dwellings by Type in Burlington

Private Dwelling Type	2011	2016	% Δ
	# Occupied		
Single-detached house	36075	36745	1.9%
Apartment in a building that has five or more storeys	10600	11570	9.2%
Semi-detached house	3115	3110	-0.2%
Row house	12915	13310	3.1%
Apartment or flat in a duplex	790	780	-1.3%
Apartment in a building that has fewer than five storeys	5220	5690	9.0%
Other single-attached house	60	105	75.0%
Movable dwelling	15	60	300.0%
<b>Total</b>	<b>68790</b>	<b>71370</b>	<b>3.8%</b>

### Economic Growth

- Burlington has an unemployment rate of 5.6%, which is below the provincial average of 7.5%.
- Burlington has a labour force participation rate of 65.6%. This is above the Ontario average of 64.7%.
- 89% of Burlington workers are employees; 11% are self-employed.
- 9% of Burlington's population aged 15+ work from home, which is an increase of 1% since 2006. This number is also above the Ontario average of 7% in 2016.
- The top three industries that the Burlington Labour Force (residents) work in are: Retail trade (12.2%), Health Care and Social Assistance (10.5%) and Manufacturing (9.9%).

*Burlington maintains high median incomes compared with Ontario and Canada; however, Burlington incomes are lower than Halton Region, Oakville and Milton and has an increasing number of persons that are Low Income.*



In Burlington, the overall median total income of households in 2015 was \$93,588, an increase of 5.5% from \$88,736 in 2005. This is

above Ontario and Canada’s median 2015 total income of \$74,287 and \$70,336, respectively. Burlington’s median income sits between the neighbouring cities of Oakville and Hamilton. Oakville had a higher median income of \$113,666 in 2015, which was up 4.0% since 2005. Hamilton had a median income of \$69,024, which was up 5.5% since 2005. Additionally, Burlington saw an increase in the percentage of the population that is Low Income. In Burlington, 13,220 persons or 7.3% of population were Low Income in 2015, while in 2005, 6.9% of the persons in Burlington were Low Income.

### Demographic Growth

*Burlington’s senior’s population has passed Burlington’s child population.*

Seniors 65+ now represent 19.3% of the population and children aged 0-14 represent 16.7% of the population. This is a notable change from 2011 where Burlington had approximately the same number of seniors and children: 16.9% and 17.0%, respectively. This is also above the provincial average in 2016 of 16.4% aged 0-14 and 16.7% aged 65+.

**Age Distribution in Burlington**

Age Distribution	2006		2011		2016	
	Population	% of Total	Population	% of Total	Population	% of Total
0-14	29,790	18.1%	29,930	17.0%	30,665	16.7%
15-29	28,530	17.4%	30,545	17.4%	30,210	16.5%
30-39	23,155	14.1%	22,745	12.9%	22,405	12.2%
40-49	27,240	16.6%	27,615	15.7%	26,500	14.5%
50-64	30,350	18.5%	35,235	20.0%	38,215	20.8%
65+	25,350	15.4%	29,720	16.9%	35,320	19.3%
<b>Total</b>	<b>164,415</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>175,790</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>183,315</b>	<b>100%</b>

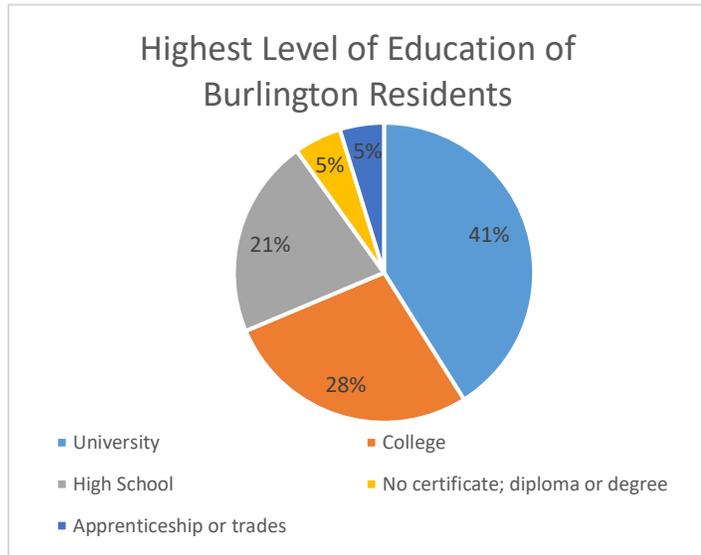
Furthermore, Burlington has historically had the highest average age within Halton Region, and this increasing trend continues with an average age of 42.3 (median ages were 41.8 in 2011 and 40.3 in 2006) compared to Halton Region’s average age of 39.4.

*The majority of Burlington’s growth is coming from immigrants.*

Burlington has grown by 7,535 people between 2011 and 2016 – a 4.3% overall growth rate. Burlington has attracted 5,635 immigrants, which made up 74.8% of this growth. 10% of all immigrants came to Burlington in the last census period (2011 to 2016). 61% of immigrants were between 15 to 44 years of age. Burlington’s population is comprised of 51% first or second-generation immigrants, whereas Ontario has 54%.

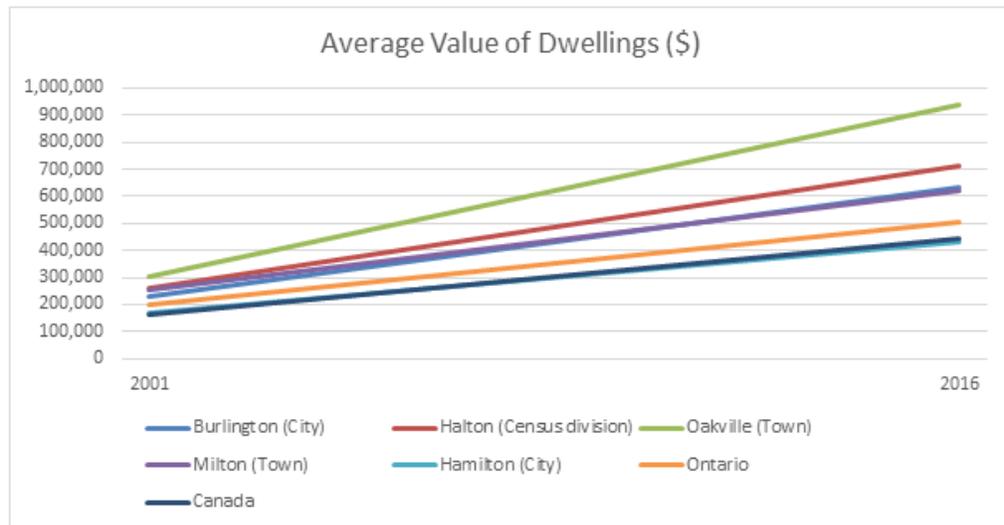
*The population of Burlington is well-educated relative to Ontario. Out of the 95,995 adults aged 25-64, 70,495 (73%) have post-secondary education, which is above the Ontario average of 65%.*

This is also an increase of 5% from 2006 when 68% of Burlington residents had post-secondary education. 8% of Burlington’s adult population have a master’s degree and 1% have an earned doctorate degree. Of the 70,495 adults aged 25-64 in Burlington with post-secondary education, 58,550 (83%) studied inside Canada and 11,950 (17%) studied outside Canada. This is different than Ontario where 79% studied inside Canada and 21% studied outside Canada.



*Burlington housing prices are up 177% since 2001.*

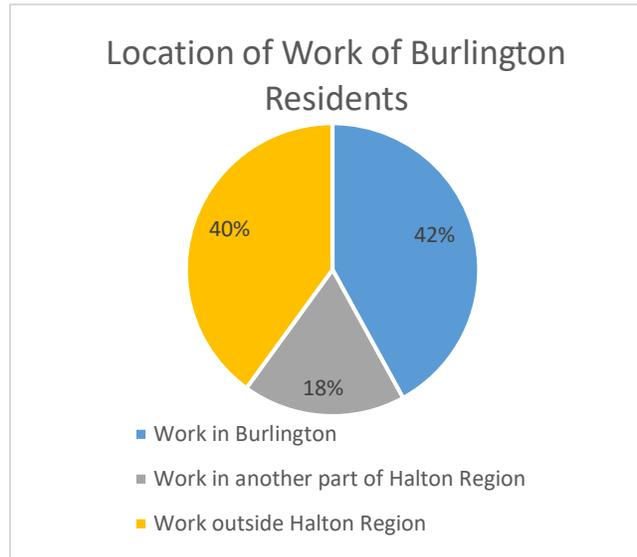
Burlington has an average housing price of \$632,556, which represents an increase of 177% since 2001. Burlington has a median housing price



lower than Oakville and Halton Region, comparable to Milton, and higher than Ontario and Canada. In Burlington, there are 71,375 private households. Of this, 76% own and 24% rent. Home ownership in Burlington is higher than in Ontario where 70% own and 30% rent. In Burlington, 22% of private households are condominiums, which is higher than the Ontario average of 13%. Burlington has had 23% of its stock built since the year 2000, whereas Ontario has had 21%.

Mobility Choices

*Of the employed population, 42% work in Burlington, 18% work in other parts of Halton Region, 40% work outside of Halton Region, and 0% work outside of Ontario. This is only a marginal change from 2006.*



*The preferred mode of transportation remains the car.*

The main mode of commuting of the Burlington workforce is by car with 86%, which is a decrease from 87% in 2006 and 89% in 1996. These numbers are higher than the Ontario average of 78% in 2016.

**Main Mode of Commuting of employed labour force aged 15+**

Main Mode of Commuting	Burlington 2016	Burlington 2006	Ontario 2016	Ontario 2006
Car; truck; van - as a driver	80%	80%	72%	71%
Car; truck; van - as a passenger	6%	7%	6%	8%
Public transit	9%	8%	15%	13%
Walked	3%	4%	5%	7%
All Other Methods	2%	1%	2%	1%

**Key Takeaways**

Slowing population growth with shifting demographics

Burlington’s senior’s population has passed Burlington’s child population. Burlington is at risk that slow to moderate population growth may not be laying the foundation for a larger economy with more jobs. Most of Burlington’s growth is from immigrants. Burlington’s growth rate is now below the provincial and national rates for the first time compared to previous census periods. Population growth, largely through immigration, will continue to be a driver of population and economic growth.

Strong economic base with growing affordability issues

The Burlington economy is strong with a healthy unemployment rate and a highly educated labour force. Burlington incomes are high as are housing prices; however, housing prices have been rising faster

than income levels. For Burlington to remain a location of choice, housing prices and rental rates must be affordable for immigrants, newcomers, and new families.

### Housing Intensification and Mobility

Burlington is experiencing targeted intensification and there has been a notable increase in apartment housing stock. 40% of Burlington residents work outside of Halton Region and most get to work by car. There is an opportunity to have targeted intensification and growth around the mobility hubs and have more residents working in Burlington.