



KITCHENER | WATERLOO | WILMOT | WELLESLEY | WOOLWICH

2021

C E N S U S
R E P O R T

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SUMMARY

This report was created to showcase findings from the 2021 Canadian census, specifically for the KW4. The KW4 is comprised of the cities of Kitchener and Waterloo along with the townships of Wellesley, Wilmot and Woolwich.



The 2021 Canadian census was conducted with a reference date of May 11th, 2021, and Statistics Canada began to release the data, on a rolling basis, on February 9th, 2022. All of the census data was publicly released by November 30th, 2022. This report summarizes the census data, looking especially at how the data for the KW4 compares to nearby regions, as well as Ontario and Canada.

Each section of the report includes relevant definitions, data presented in various formats and a summary highlighting notable trends.

This report was produced as a collaboration between the KW4 OHT, the City of Kitchener and the City of Waterloo.



Population, Age and Sex

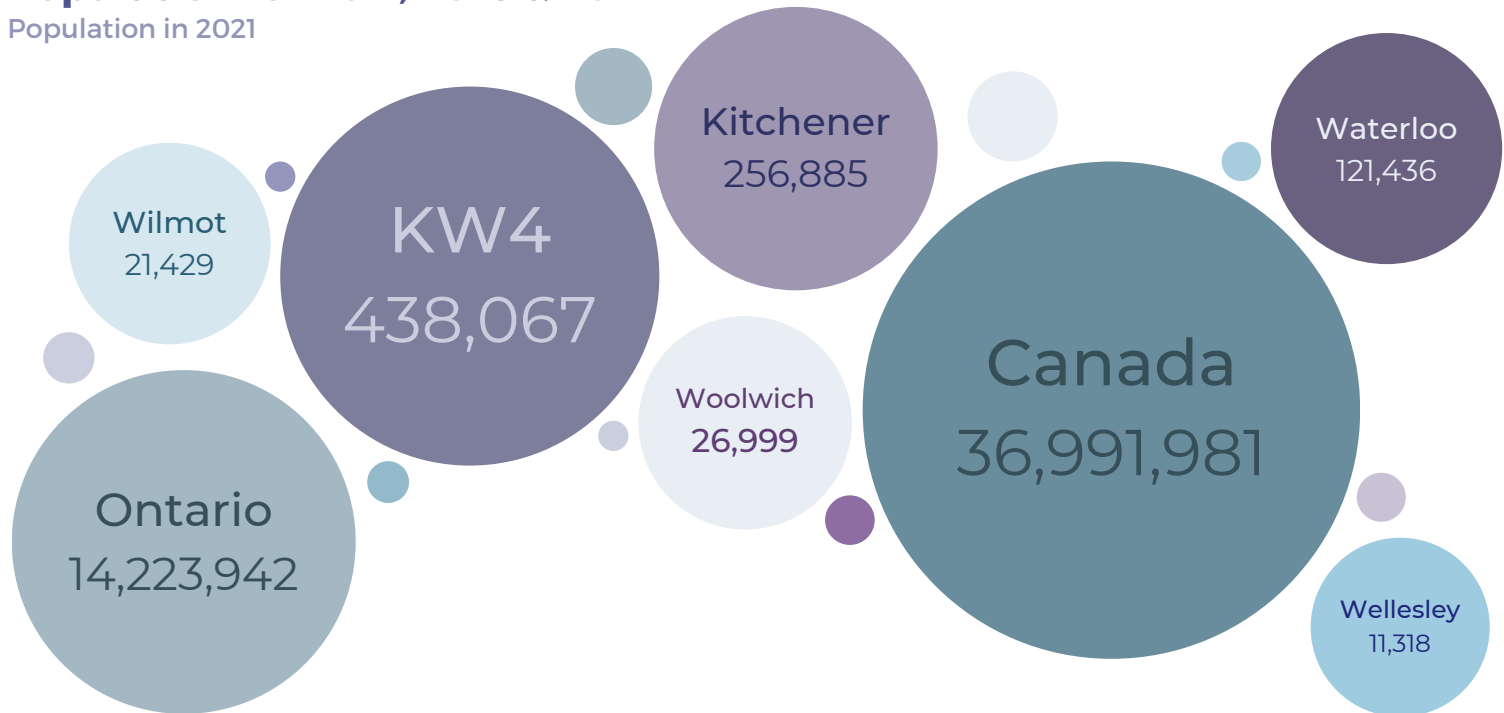
Gender: Refers to an individual's personal and social identity as a man, woman or non-binary person (a person who is not exclusively a man or woman). This includes gender identity and gender expression.

Population Density: Refers to the number of persons per square kilometre

Students are enumerated in their usual place of residence (which is often in their parents' Census household). The Census population for Waterloo Region does not include students who are temporarily residing in Waterloo Region.

Population for 2011, 2016 & 2021

Population in 2021



Area	Kitchener	Waterloo	Wellesley	Wilmot	Woolwich	KW4	Ontario	Canada
2016	233,222	104,986	11,260	20,545	25,006	395,019	13,448,494	35,151,728
2011	219,153	98,780	10,713	19,223	23,145	371,014	12,851,821	33,476,688

Age (in single years), average age and median age and gender: Canada, provinces and territories, census divisions and census subdivisions (statcan.gc.ca)

Population Percentage Change from 2016 - 2021

KW4 is growing at a faster rate than Ontario and Canada.

Kitchener	Waterloo	Wellesley	Wilmot	Woolwich
10.1%	15.7%	0.5%	4.3%	8.0%
	KW4	Ontario	Canada	
	10.9%	5.8%	5.2%	

Population Growth and Growth Rate for 2011, 2016 & 2021

The KW4 is growing much faster than Ontario and Canada, with a 5 year population growth rate of 10.9%. Waterloo, in particular, has seen tremendous growth in the last 5 years, with a 15.7% population growth rate.

Area	Kitchener	Waterloo	Wellesley	Wilmot	Woolwich
5 Year Growth + 5 Year Growth Rate	23,663 10.1%	16,450 15.7%	58 0.5%	884 4.3%	1,993 8.0%
10 Year Growth + 10 Year Growth Rate	37,732 17.2%	22,656 22.9%	605 5.6%	2,206 11.5%	3,854 16.7%

Area	KW4	Ontario	Canada
5 Year Growth + 5 Year Growth Rate	43,048 10.9%	775,448 5.8%	1,840,253 5.2%
10 Year Growth + 10 Year Growth Rate	67,053 18.1%	1,372,121 10.7%	3,515,293 10.5%

Population Density

The KW4 is one of the most densely populated regions in Ontario, with only 5 census divisions having a population density higher than that of the KW4.

KW4 Cities & Townships	Kitchener	Waterloo	Wellesley	Wilmot	Woolwich
	Population Density per Square Kilometer	1877.6	1895.8	40.8	81.2

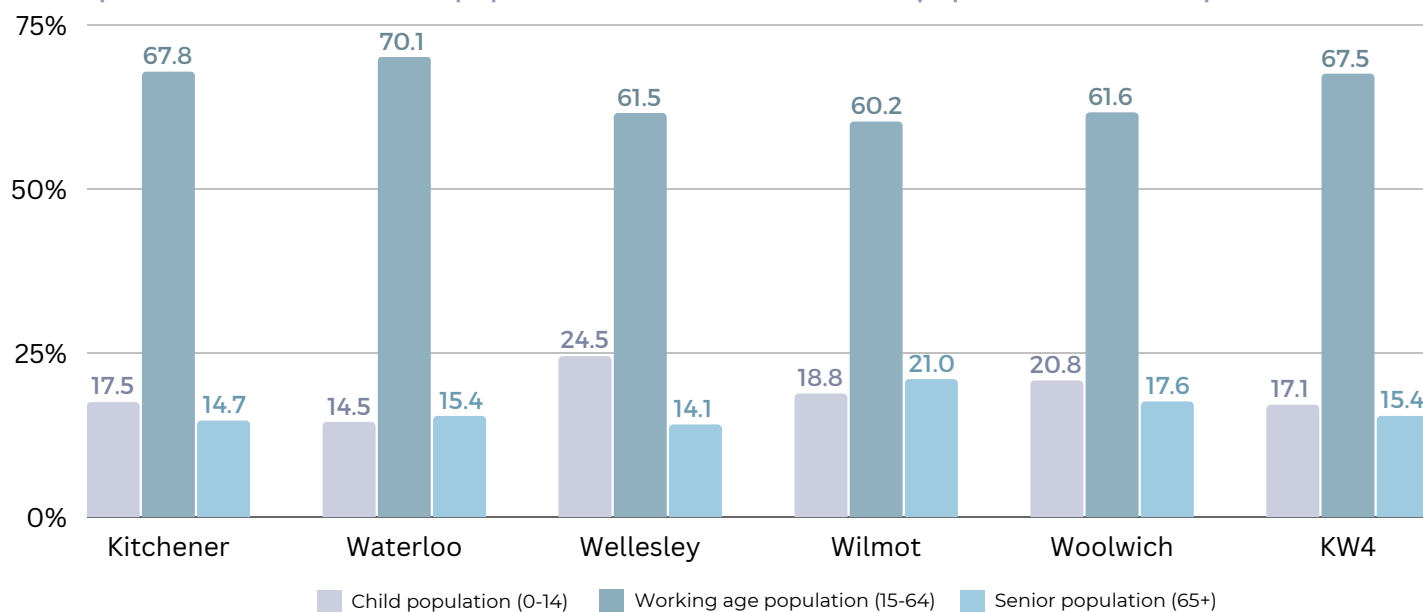
Other regions in Ontario	Toronto	Peel	York	Halton	Hamilton
	Population Density per Square Kilometer	4,427.8	1,163.2	667.3	617.0
	KW4				
	409.8				

Population Source

Age (in single years), average age and median age and gender: Canada, provinces and territories, census divisions and census subdivisions (statcan.gc.ca)

Breakdown of Population (2021) by Age

17.1% of the KW4's population are children, aged 14 years or younger. This a higher rate than that of Ontario (15.8%) and Canada (16.3%). Most notably, 24.5% of Wellesley's population and 20.8% of Woolwich's population is made up of children. 21% of Wilmot's population is made up of seniors, aged 65 years and older. In comparison, 18.5% of Ontario's population and 19.0% of Canada's population is made up of children.



Average Age

The average age in the KW4 is 39.2 years old, which is lower than that of Ontario (41.8 years) and Canada (41.9 years). However, the average age in Wilmot (42 years) is higher than the provincial and national averages.

Area	Kitchener	Waterloo	Wellesley	Wilmot	Woolwich	KW4	Ontario	Canada
Average Age	39	39.2	36.5	42	39.7	39.2*	41.8	41.9

*The average age in KW4 being lower than in Ontario and Canada

Population by Age Source

Age (in single years), average age and median age and gender: Canada, provinces and territories, census divisions and census subdivisions (statcan.gc.ca)

Summary

The KW4 is a fast growing region, with large population growth being observed across the cities and the townships. Waterloo has seen the most notable population growth, with a 5 year population growth rate of 15.7%. Due to its population growth the KW4 is one of the more densely populated areas in Ontario, with only 5 census divisions having a higher population density than the KW4.

The KW4 is also younger, on average, than Ontario and Canada, as the KW4 has an average age of 39.2, compared to 41.8 and 41.9 for Ontario and Canada, respectively.

Wellesley is by far the youngest part of the KW4, with an average age of 36.5. This is largely in part due to the township's large children population, with 24.5% of Wellesley's population being made up of children aged 14 years or younger.

Wilmot is the only part of the KW4 with an average age older than that of Ontario and Canada, as the average age in Wilmot is 42. This is reflected by 21% of Wilmot's population being made up of seniors aged 65 years and older.

Families, Households and Marital Status

Census Family: Married or common-law couples with or without children as well as lone-parent families who all reside in the same household. Grandchildren living with their grandparent(s) but with no parents present also constitute a census family.

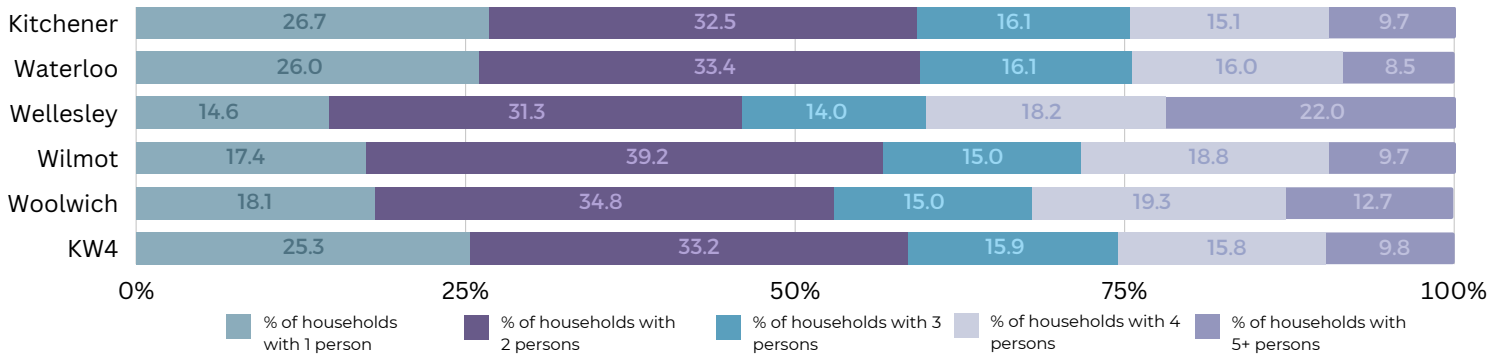
Household: A person or group of persons who occupy the same dwelling.

Private Dwelling: Refers to a separate set of living quarters with a private entrance either from outside the building or from a common hall, lobby, vestibule or stairway inside the building. The entrance to the dwelling must be one that can be used without passing through the living quarters of some other person or group or persons.

Average Household Size

	Kitchener	Waterloo	Wellesley	Wilmot	Woolwich	KW4
Average Household Size	2.6	2.5	3.4	2.7	2.8	2.6
Average Size of Census Families	2.9	3	3.5	3	3.1	3
Average Number of Children in Census Families with Children	1.8	1.8	2.6	1.9	2	1.8

Number of People Per Household

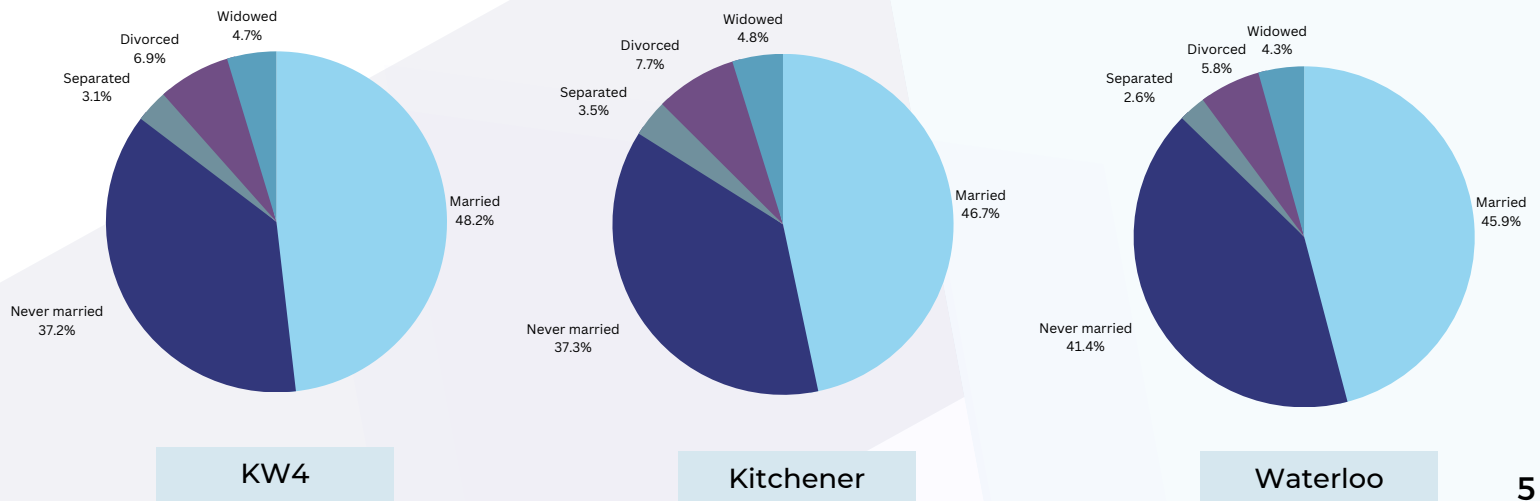


Number of People Per Household

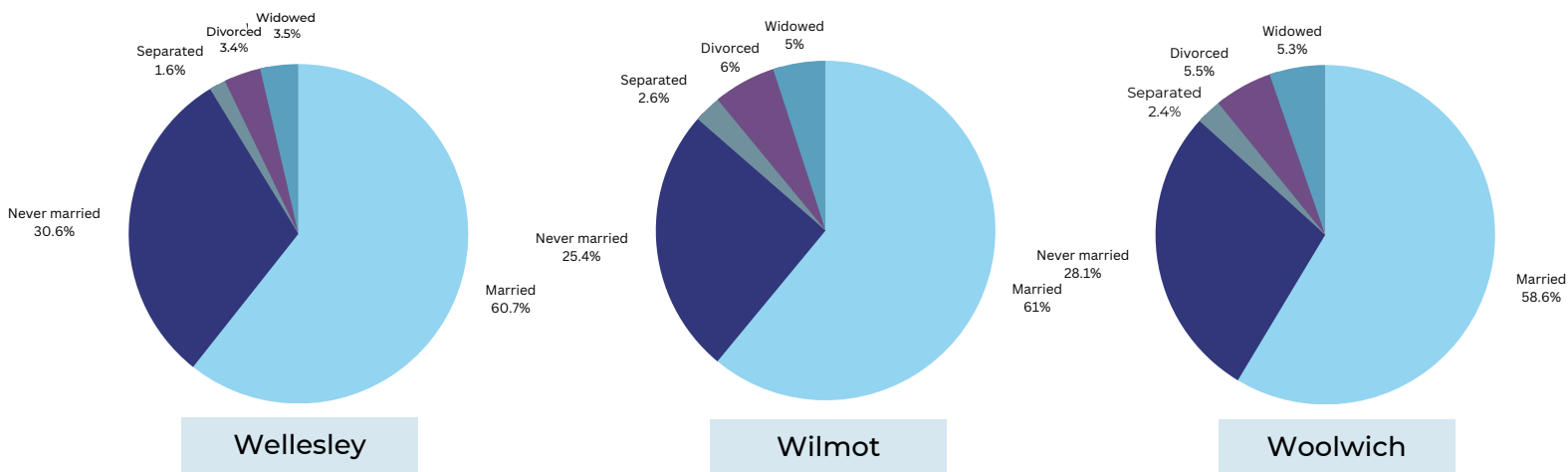
Structural type of dwelling and household size: Canada, provinces and territories, census divisions and census subdivisions (statcan.gc.ca)

Marital Status

48.2% of KW4's population aged 15 or older is married, which is higher than the rates for Ontario (47.9%) and Canada (44.3%).



Martial Status Cont'd



Marital Status

Marital status, age group and gender: Canada, provinces and territories, census divisions and census subdivisions (statcan.gc.ca)

Persons in Private Household

10.0% of people living in private households in Waterloo live with non-relatives. This is much higher than the rate of people living with non-relatives for the KW4 (5.9%), Ontario (4.2%) and Canada (4.2%). 9.8% of people living in private households in the KW4 live alone. This is especially high in Waterloo, where 10.3% of people live alone, and Kitchener, where 10.5% of people live alone. 3% of private households in the KW4 are multigenerational households.

Area	Kitchener	Waterloo	Wellesley	Wilmot	Woolwich	KW4
Number of Persons in Private Household	254,145	118,390	11,320	21,245	26,605	431,705
Married spouses or common-law partners	116,650	53,580	5,565	11,835	13,875	201,505
Parents in one-parent families	12,100	4,420	175	615	750	18,060
Children in a two-parent family	59,910	26,880	4,395	5,855	8,105	105,145
Children in a one-parent family	19,200	6,885	305	990	1,195	28,575
Living alone	26,625	12,245	495	1,370	1,700	42,435
Living with other relatives	6,795	2,520	260	290	520	10,385
Living with non-relatives only	12,865	11,860	120	295	475	25,615

Persons in Private Household

Census family status and household living arrangements, household type of person, age group and gender: Canada, provinces and territories, census metropolitan areas and census agglomerations (statcan.gc.ca)

Census Families

41.2% of Census families in the KW4 are married couples with children. This is a higher rate than what is seen for Ontario (39.6%) and Canada (33.9%). 17.2% of Kitchener Census families are single-parent families, which is a larger proportion than that of the KW4 (15.2%), Ontario (17.1%) and Canada (16.4%).

Area	Kitchener	Waterloo	Wellesley	Wilmot	Woolwich	KW4
Total number of census families in private households	70,425	31,210	2,965	6,530	7,685	118,815
Married couples with children	27,895	13,245	1,560	2,730	3,555	48,985
Married couples without children	20,070	9,595	1,005	2,515	2,625	35,810
Common-law couples with children	3,625	1,140	90	270	300	5,425
Common-law couples without children	6,735	2,805	125	400	465	10,530
One-parent families in which the parent is a woman	9,620	3,510	125	450	570	14,275
One-parent families in which the parent is a man+	2,480	905	55	160	170	3,770

Census Families

Census family structure including detailed information on stepfamilies, number of children, average number of children and age of youngest child: Canada, provinces and territories, census metropolitan areas and census agglomerations (statcan.gc.ca)

Household Types

3% of private households in the KW4 are multigenerational households.

	Kitchener	Waterloo	Wellesley	Wilmot	Woolwich	KW4
Total household type	99,815	47,040	3,370	7,890	9,355	167,470
Couple-family households with children	27,900	13,165	1,415	2,810	3,480	48,770
Couple-family households without children	23,525	11,145	945	2,735	2,750	41,100
One-parent-family households	9,330	3,540	130	470	585	14,055
Multigenerational households	3,170	1,120	180	210	315	4,995
Multiple-census-family households	700	210	35	15	60	1,020
One-census-family households with additional persons	3,420	1,245	105	155	245	5,170
Non-family households of two or more persons	5,145	4,370	70	125	225	9,935
One-person households	26,625	12,245	490	1,370	1,695	42,425

Household Types

Household type including multigenerational households and structural type of dwelling: Canada, provinces and territories, census metropolitan areas and census agglomerations (statcan.gc.ca)

Summary

Families and households in the KW4 have a wide range of makeups.

The average household throughout the KW4's cities and townships has an average size hovering around 2.6, with the exception of Wellesley, where the average is 3.4. Wellesley also has larger Census families and children per Census families with children, on average. As a result, Wellesley also has a much higher proportion of its households with 5 or more persons than the rest of the KW4.

Many households in Waterloo and Kitchener are made up of people living alone, while many people in Waterloo live in private households with non-relatives.

Multigenerational households are also common across the KW4, making up 3% of all households in the region.

Income

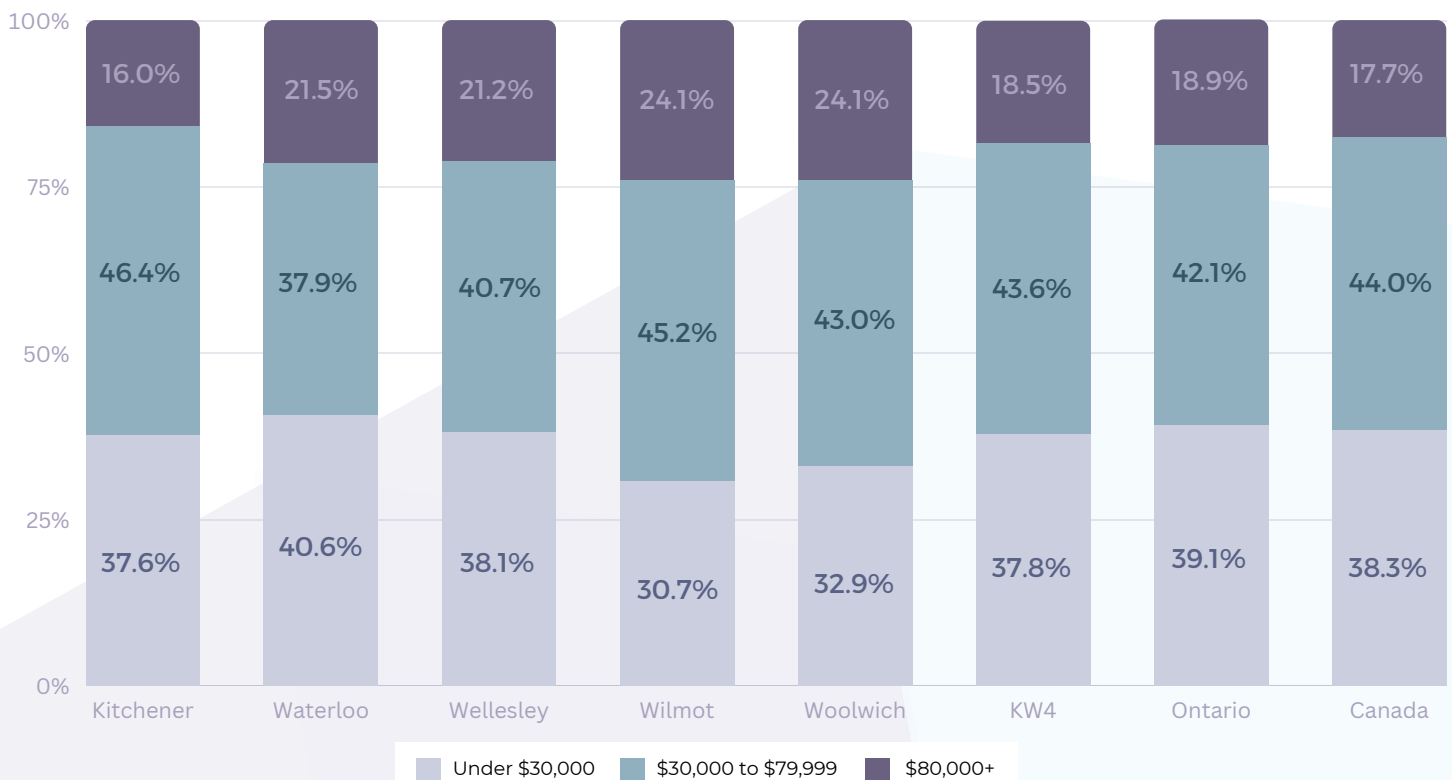
Low income measure, after-tax (LIM-AT): Low-income measure calculated based on 50% of the median after-tax household income. Any household whose household income falls below this measure is classified as living in low-income

Median is the middle value in a set of values. Half of all incomes fall below the median income and half fall above it.

Individual income for the population 15 and older in private households, 2020

The median total individual income (both before and after-tax) is higher in each of the KW4's cities/townships compared to Ontario and Canada. 37.8% of individuals over 15 in the KW4 made under \$30,000 in 2020, which a lower proportion than for Ontario (39.1%) and Canada (38.3%).

	Median Total Income	Median After-Tax Income	Average Total Income	Average After-Tax Income
Kitchener	41,600	37,600	51,950	43,720
Waterloo	41,600	37,600	60,250	48,840
Wellesley	44,400	40,000	58,800	47,960
Wilmot	50,000	44,000	62,300	51,160
Woolwich	49,200	43,600	62,150	51,300
Ontario	41,200	36,800	54,450	44,920
Canada	41,200	37,200	56,350	46,280



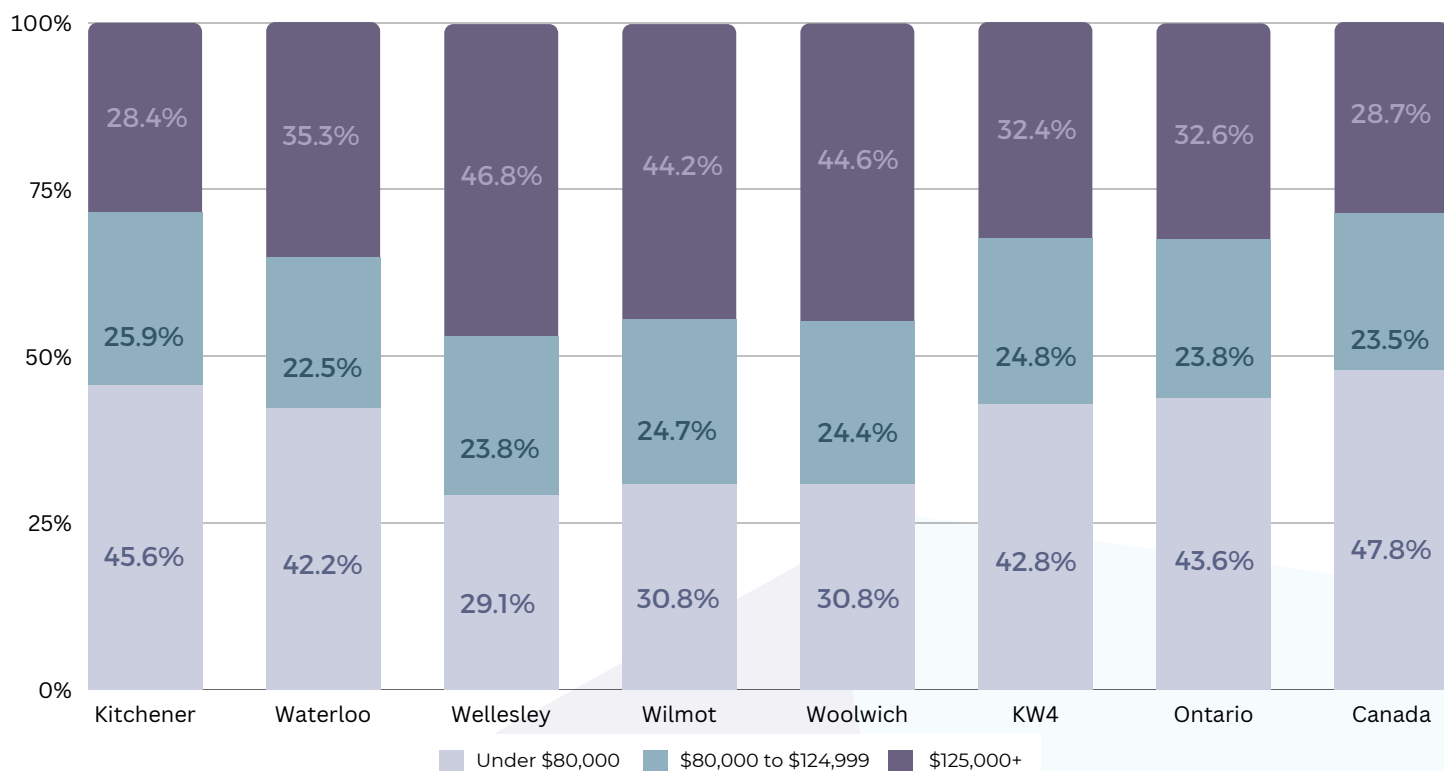
Individual Income

Income statistics for broad income sources in 2019 and 2020 by age and gender: Canada, provinces and territories, census divisions and census subdivisions (statcan.gc.ca)

Household income for private households, 2020

The average total household income for private households (both before and after-tax) is lower in Kitchener as compared to the KW4's other city and townships and when also compared to Ontario and Canada.

	Median Total Income	Median After-Tax Income	Average Total Income	Average After-Tax Income
Kitchener	87,000	76,500	104,300	87,800
Waterloo	94,000	82,000	122,400	99,300
Wellesley	119,000	103,000	141,000	115,200
Wilmot	114,000	98,000	131,800	108,400
Woolwich	115,000	99,000	134,600	111,100
Ontario	91,000	79,500	116,000	95,300
Canada	84,000	73,000	106,300	87,700



Household Income

Household income statistics by household type: Canada, provinces and territories, census divisions and census subdivisions (statcan.gc.ca)

Prevalence of low income based on the Low-Income measure, after tax

9.7% of individuals living in private households in the KW4 live in low-income based on the Low-Income measure after tax (LIM-AT). This is lower than the rates for Ontario (10.1%) and Canada (11.1%).

Area	Kitchener	Waterloo	Wellesley	Wilmot	Woolwich	KW4	Ontario	Canada
Overall	9.9%	11.3%	7.7%	4.2%	6.5%	9.7%	10.1%	11.1%
0 - 17	12.5%	10.3%	10%	4.2%	7.8%	11.1%	11.5%	11.9%
18 - 64	8.5%	12.1%	5.8%	3.7%	5%	9.1%	9.1%	9.7%
65+	12.3%	9%	10.6%	5.6%	9.4%	10.7%	12.1%	15%

Prevalence of Low Income

Low-income status by age and gender: Canada, provinces and territories, census divisions and census subdivisions (statcan.gc.ca)

Summary

Median individual incomes are higher across the KW4 than they are for Ontario and Canada, both before and after tax. The KW4 also has a lower proportion of its population making less than \$30,000 than the provincial and national average.

In Waterloo, the lower and higher income brackets are heavily populated, with over 40% of Waterloo's population making less than \$30,000, and more than 20% of the population making more than \$80,000.

Household incomes are notably high in the townships, with average household incomes in all 3 townships surpassing \$130,000.

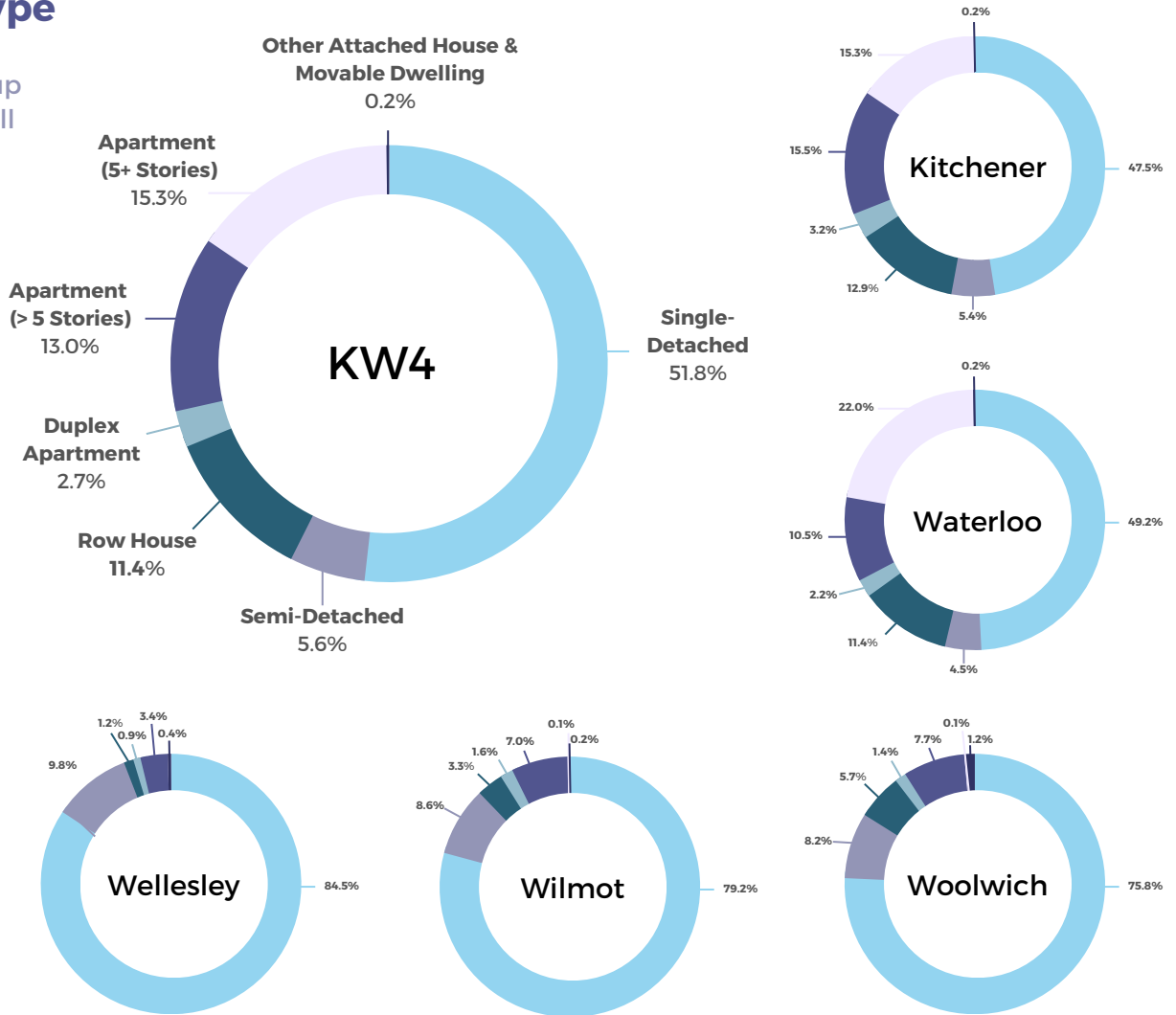
Low-income status is lower in the KW4 than it is in Ontario and Canada, with less than 10% of individuals in private households in the KW4 living in low income based on the low-income measure, after tax.

Housing and Dwellings

Household Maintainer: Refers to whether or not a person residing in the household is responsible for paying the rent, mortgage, taxes, electricity or other services or utilities. When a number of people may contribute to the payments, more than one person in the household may be identified as a household maintainer.

Dwelling Type

Single-detached dwellings make up less than half of all dwellings in Waterloo and Kitchener, while making up more than 75% of dwellings in Wellesley, Wilmot and Woolwich.



Dwelling Type
Dwelling type, age and gender: Canada, provinces and territories, census metropolitan areas and census agglomerations with parts (statcan.gc.ca)

Household Ownership

Household ownership is lower in the KW4 (63.3%) than in Ontario (66.5%) and Canada (68.4%).

Area	Kitchener	Waterloo	Wellesley	Wilmot	Woolwich	KW4
Private Households	99,815	47,040	3,370	7,890	9,360	167,475
Owned Households	59,580 59.7%	28,835 61.3%	2,930 86.9%	6,745 85.5%	7,855 83.9%	105,945 63.3%
Rented Households	40,235 40.3%	18,205 38.7%	440 13.1%	1,150 14.6%	1,505 16.1%	61,535 36.7%

Household Ownership

Age of primary household maintainer by tenure: Canada, provinces and territories, census divisions and census subdivisions (statcan.gc.ca)

Period of Construction

11.1% of households in Waterloo were built between 2016 and 2021. This is a higher rate than the percentage of households built between 2016 to 2021 in the KW4 (8.6%), Ontario (6.7%) and Canada (6.9%).

The City of Kitchener's housing pledge commits to 35,000 new homes by 2031, as per the City's official plan.

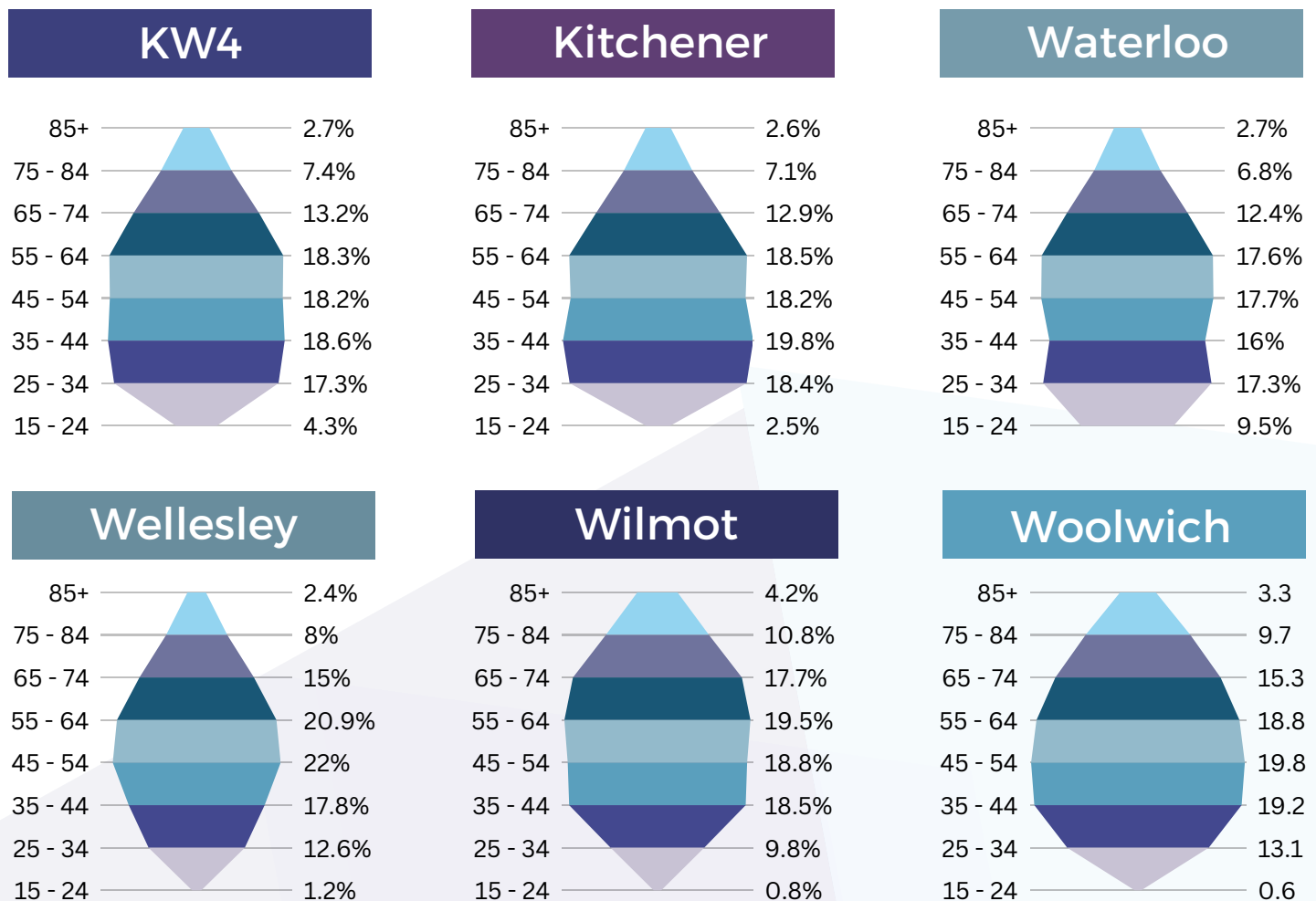


Period of Construction

Dwelling condition by tenure: Canada, provinces and territories, census divisions and census subdivisions (statcan.gc.ca)

Household Maintainer Age

9.5% of household maintainers in Waterloo are between the ages of 15 to 24. This is much higher than the percentage of household maintainers in the entire KW4 between the ages of 15 to 24, which is 4.3%.



Household Maintainer Age

Age of primary household maintainer by tenure: Canada, provinces and territories, census divisions and census subdivisions (statcan.gc.ca)

Summary

The types of dwellings in Waterloo and Kitchener are much different than what is seen in the townships. Over one-third of Waterloo and Kitchener's population live in apartments, while more than 75% of the township population lives in single-detached homes.

Household ownership is lower in the KW4 than it is in Ontario and Canada, with a large proportion of the population renting. Household construction has been trending upwards in recent years, with the KW4 having a higher proportion of households built since 2016 than Ontario and Canada. Waterloo is home to a young population of household maintainers, with nearly 10% of all household maintainers in Waterloo being aged 24 years or younger.

Language

Knowledge of Official Languages: Whether the person can conduct a conversation in English only, French only, in both or in neither language. For a child who has not yet learned to speak, this includes languages that the child is learning to speak at home.

Language Spoken Most Often At Home: Language the person speaks most often at home at the time of data collection; a person can report more than one language as “spoken most often at home” if the languages are spoken equally often.

Mother Tongue: First language learned at home in childhood and still understood by the person at the time the data was collected.

Institutional resident: Refers to a person who lives in an institutional collective dwelling, such as a hospital, nursing home or prison.

Knowledge of Official Language

91.3% of KW4 citizens speak only English, which is a higher proportion than for Ontario (86.5%) and Canada (69.0%). Only 0.04% of KW4 citizens speak French and do not speak English.

Populations are not the entire population for each region, but rather the population EXCLUDING institutional residents.

Area	Kitchener	Waterloo	Wellesley	Wilmot	Woolwich
Population	254,820	119,980	11,320	21,280	26,710
English Only	233,095	107,495	10,595	20,255	25,100
French Only	125	45	0	5	0
English & French	15,855	10,360	350	955	1,215
Neither English or French	5,740	2,075	370	55	390

Area	KW4	Ontario	Canada
Population	434,110	14,099,790	36,620,955
English Only	396,540	12,196,575	25,261,655
French Only	175	39,310	4,087,895
English & French	28,735	1,519,365	6,581,680
Neither English or French	8,630	344,545	689,725

Knowledge of Official Language

Knowledge of official languages by age: Canada, provinces and territories and census subdivisions with a population 5,000 or more (statcan.gc.ca)

Languages Spoken Most Often At Home

27.4% of Wellesley's population speak a non-official language most often at home, with 12.0% of the population speaking Pennsylvania German and 10.8% of the population speaking German

Area	Kitchener	Waterloo	Wellesley	Wilmot	Woolwich	KW4
English	81.2%	81.5%	72.5%	97.5%	87.9%	82.3%
French	0.3%	0.3%	0.1%	0.2%	0.1%	0.3%
Non-Official Language	18.5%	18.2%	27.4%	2.3%	12.0%	17.4%

Languages Spoken Most Often at Home

Language spoken most often at home by age: Canada, provinces and territories and census subdivisions with a population 5,000 or more (statcan.gc.ca)

Top 5 Non-English Languages Spoken Most Often at Home

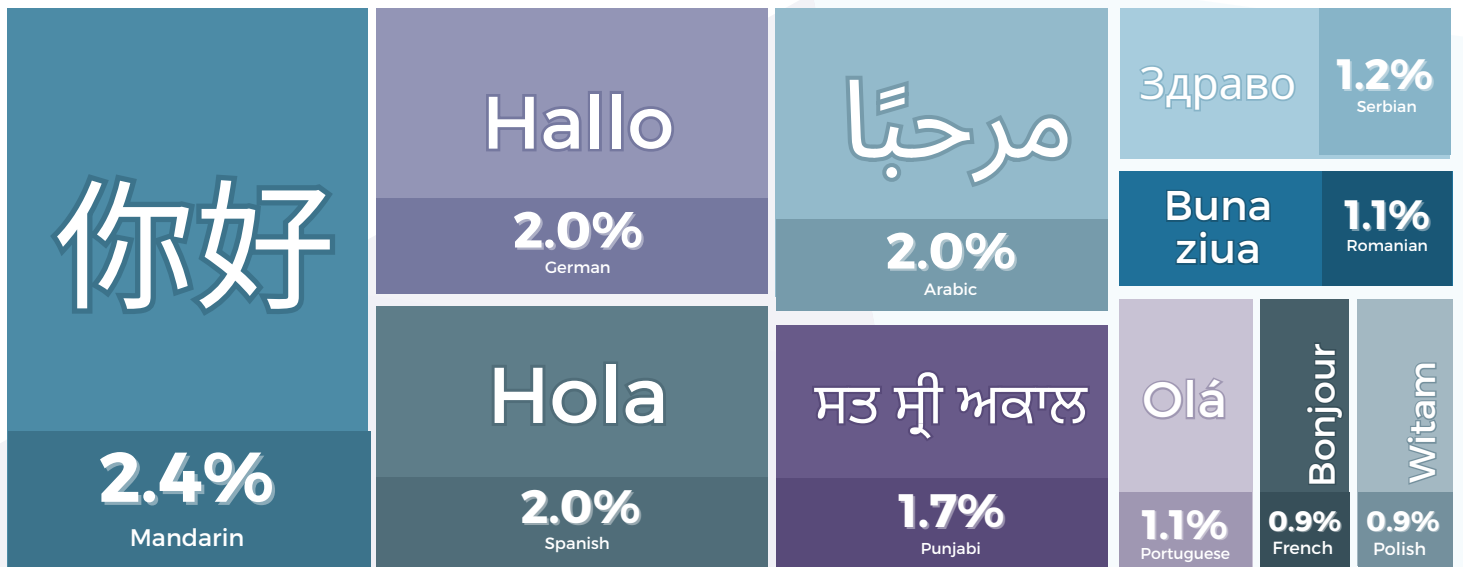
The top 3 non-official languages spoken most often at home for the entire KW4 are Mandarin (1.8%), Arabic (1.3%) and Punjabi (1.3%).

Kitchener	Waterloo	Wellesley	Wilmot	Woolwich
Punjabi 1.8%	Mandarin 4.9%	P. German * 12.0%	Romanian 0.3%	P. German * 3.5%
Spanish 1.6%	Arabic 1.5%	German 10.8%	Serbian 0.2%	German 3.0%
Arabic 1.6%	Korean 0.9%	Dutch 1.5%	Spanish 0.2%	Punjabi 0.6%
Serbian 1.1%	Punjabi 0.8%	Plautdietsch 1.3%	German 0.2%	Dutch 0.4%
Tigrigna 0.8%	Spanish 0.8%	Low German 0.5%	Polish 0.2%	Serbian 0.4%

*P. German = Pennsylvania German

Top 10 non-English Languages Spoken Most Often at Home

The top 3 mother tongues for the entire KW4 are Mandarin (2.4%), German (2.0%) and Spanish (2.0%).



Top 10 non-English Mother Tongues

German is the most common mother tongue in each of the KW4's townships: Wellesley, Wilmot & Woolwich.

Kitchener		Waterloo		Wellesley		Wilmot		Woolwich	
Spanish	2.6%	Mandarin	6.5%	German	14.1%	German	2.2%	German	5.1%
Punjabi	2.3%	Arabic	2.3%	P. German *	13.5%	French	0.7%	P. German *	4.5%
Arabic	2.2%	German	1.6%	Dutch	2.0%	Polish	0.6%	Dutch	0.9%
Serbian	1.6%	Spanish	1.5%	Plautdietsch	1.8%	Spanish	0.5%	Punjabi	0.8%
Portuguese	1.4%	Hindi	1.3%	Low German	0.6%	Romanian	0.5%	Romanian	0.7%

*P. German = Pennsylvania German

Mother Tongues

Mother tongue by age and gender: Canada, provinces and territories, census divisions and census subdivisions (statcan.gc.ca)

Summary

The KW4's diverse ethnic makeup is represented in the number of different languages that are spoken by its citizens. German, Spanish and Arabic are common mother tongues across the region, and the non-English languages spoken most often at home include Mandarin, Punjabi and Serbian, as well as many others.

The large majority of the KW4's population speaks English at home, however over 70,000 people across the region speak a non-official language at home.

Over 90% of the KW4's population speak English while not speaking French, as the proportion of the population that speaks French is lower than the Ontarian and Canadian averages.

Citizenship, Diversity and Indigenous Peoples

Citizenship: Refers to the country where the person has citizenship. Citizenship can be by birth or naturalization.

Indigenous ancestry: Refers to whether a person has ancestry associated with the Indigenous peoples of Canada, that is, First Nations (North American Indian), Metis and/or Inuit.

Ethnic or cultural origin: Refers to the ethnic or cultural origins of the person's ancestors.

Visible minority: Refers to whether a person is a visible minority or not, as defined by the Employment Equity Act. The Employment Equity Act defines visible minorities as "persons, other than Aboriginal peoples, who are non-Caucasian in race or non-white in colour".

Indigenous Population Within the KW4 Region

Peoples with Indigenous identity make up 1.7% of KW4's population, which is lower than Ontario (2.9%) and Canada (5.0%).

Population Group	Number
First Nations single ancestry	4095 (0.9%)
Metis single ancestry	2535 (0.6%)
Inuit single ancestry	100 (0.02%)
Multiple Indigenous ancestries	270 (0.1%)
Both Indigenous and non-Indigenous ancestries	215 (0.05%)

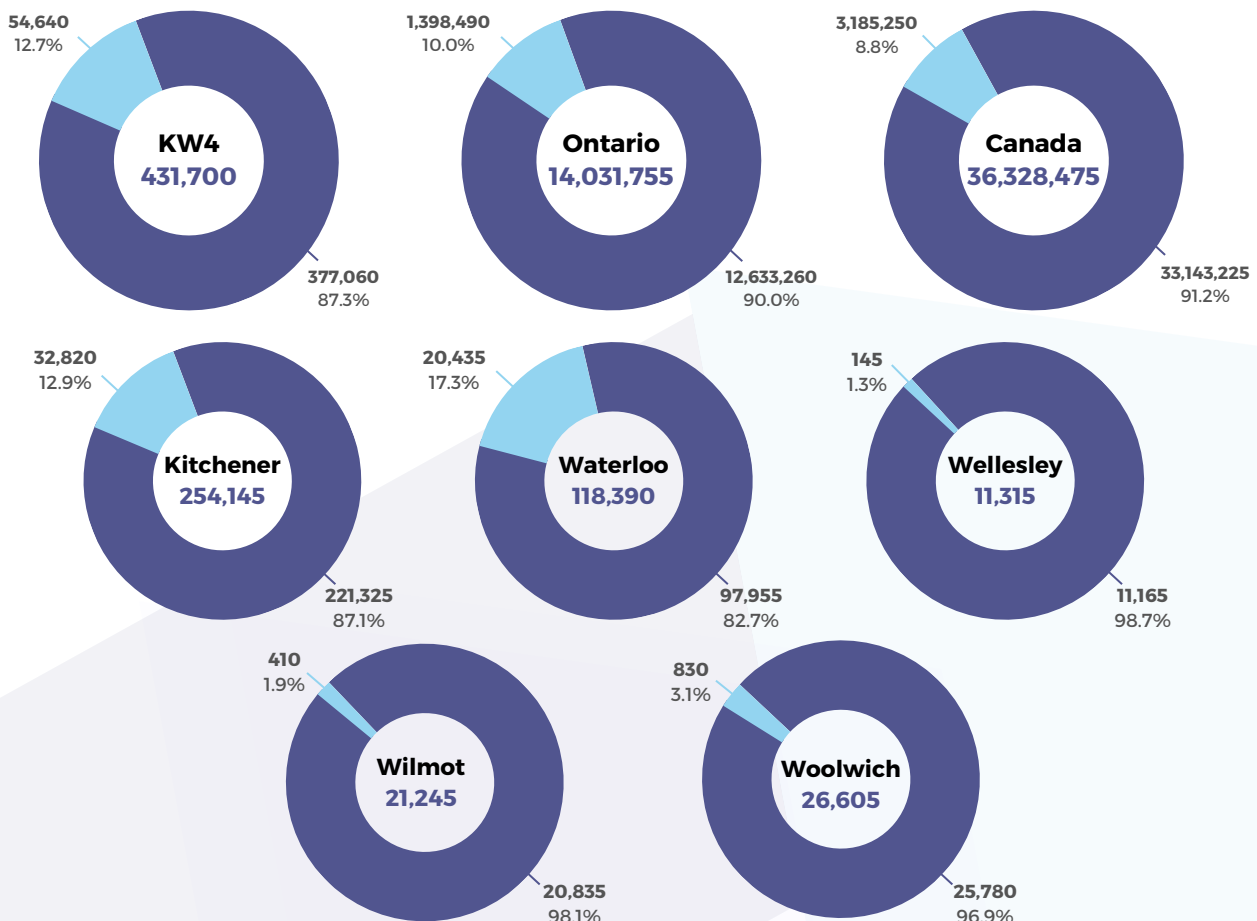
Indigenous Population Within the KW4 Region

Indigenous identity by Registered or Treaty Indian status: Canada, provinces and territories, census divisions and census subdivisions (statcan.gc.ca)

Citizenship Status

Canadian citizens make up a smaller percentage of the KW4's population (87.3%), in comparison to Ontario (90.0%) and Canada (91.2%).

Canadian Citizens
Non-Canadian Citizens



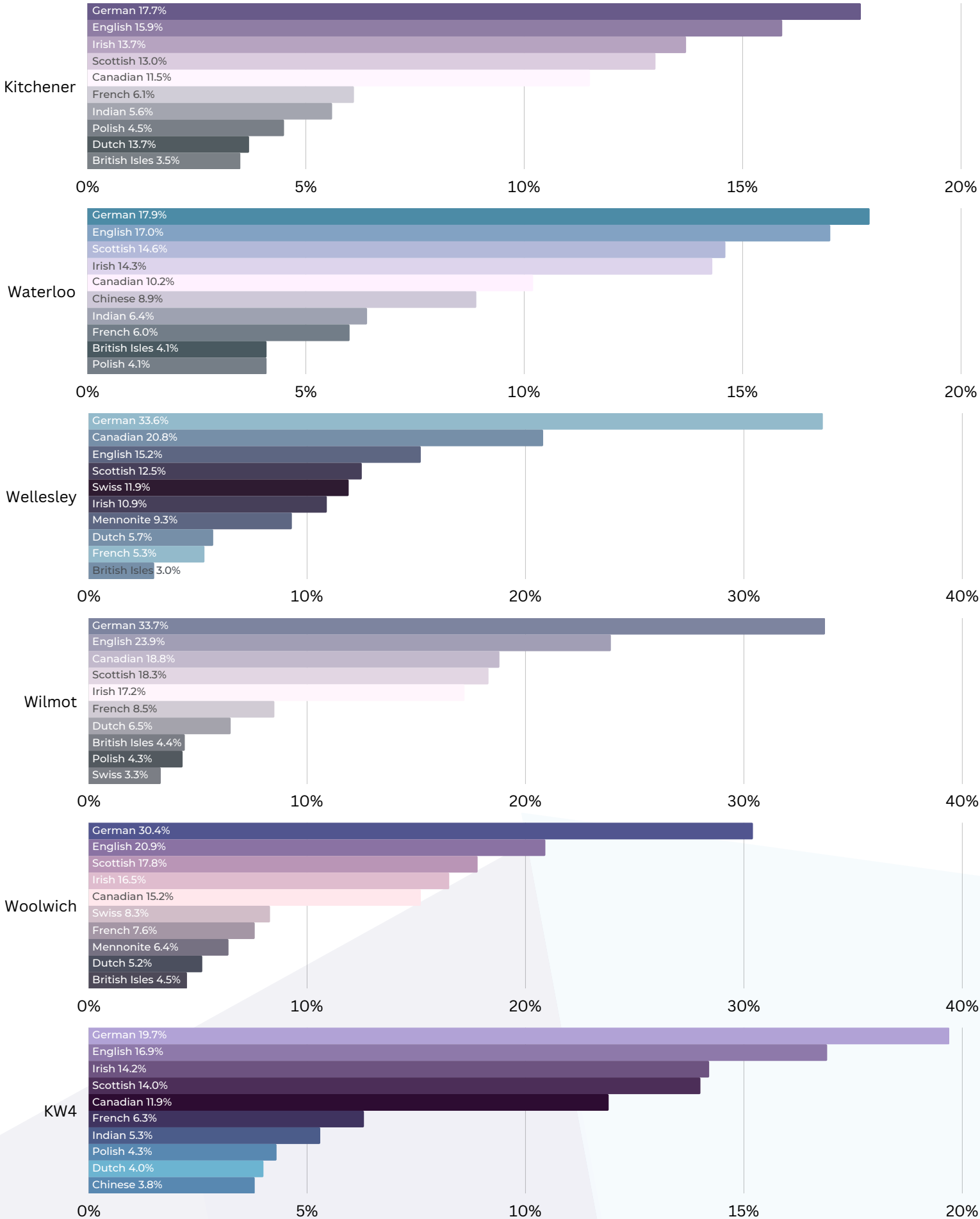
Citizenship Status

Citizenship by visible minority and immigrant status and period of immigration: Canada, provinces and territories and federal electoral districts (2013 Representation Order) (statcan.gc.ca)

Ethnic Origins

The most prevalent ethnic origin in each of the KW4's cities/townships is German, with 19.7% of all people in the KW4 having German ethnic origin.

**Note that Census respondents are in percentages and are allowed to list multiple ethnic origins.*



Ethnic Origin

Ethnic or cultural origin by gender and age: Canada, provinces and territories and census subdivisions with a population 5,000 or more (statcan.gc.ca)

Religion

A breakdown of the different religions within the KW4 region. 33.1% of people in the KW4 have no religious or secular perspectives.

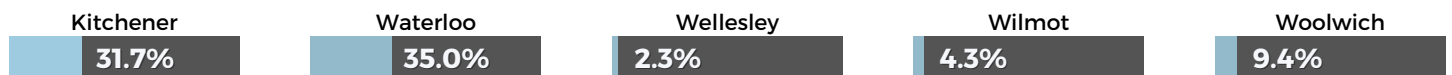
Area	Kitchener	Waterloo	Wellesley	Wilmot	Woolwich
Buddist	3,015	1,335	15	90	185
Christian	131,390	54,215	8,980	13,625	17,965
Hindu	9,610	5,580	0	65	225
Jewish	525	640	10	40	40
Muslim	19,140	9,540	20	70	465
Sikh	6,520	1,390	15	60	235
Traditional (North American Indigenous Spirituality)	70	35	0	10	0
Other Religious and Spiritual Traditions	2,400	1,085	20	85	120
No religious and secular perspectives	81,475	44,575	2,250	7,200	7,370

Religion

Religion by visible minority and generation status: Canada, provinces and territories, census metropolitan areas and census agglomerations with parts (statcan.gc.ca)

Visible Minorities

Visible minorities make up 29.1% of the KW4's population, with the largest minority groups being South Asian (9.0%), Chinese (3.7%) and Black (5.0%).



Visible Minorities

Visible minority by ethnic or cultural origin: Canada, provinces and territories, census metropolitan areas and census agglomerations with parts (statcan.gc.ca)

Summary

The KW4 has a diverse population, with people coming from a multitude of different backgrounds.

While the predominant ethnic origins in the KW4 are German and English, visible minorities now make up over a quarter of the area's population.

Multiple religions are represented across the area's population, Christianity being the predominant religion in the area, followed by Islam and Hinduism.

Nearly a third of the KW4's population hold no religious or secular perspectives.

Immigration and Migration

Immigrant: Refers to a person who is, or who has ever been, a landed immigrant or permanent resident. Such a person has been granted the right to live in Canada permanently by immigration authorities. Immigrants who have obtained Canadian citizenship by naturalization are included in this group.

Admission Category: Refers to the name of the immigration program or group of programs under which an immigrant has been granted for the first time the right to live in Canada permanently by immigration authorities.

Mobility Status, Five Years: Refers to the status of a person with regard to the place of residence on the reference day in relation to the place of residence on the same date five years earlier.

Non-Migrants: Those who have moved, in terms of dwelling, without having left the census division they were previously in.

Period of Immigration

The percentage of population made up by immigrants that came between 2016 and 2021 is much higher in Waterloo (5.6%) and Kitchener (6.4%), than it is in Ontario (4.2%) and Canada (3.7%).

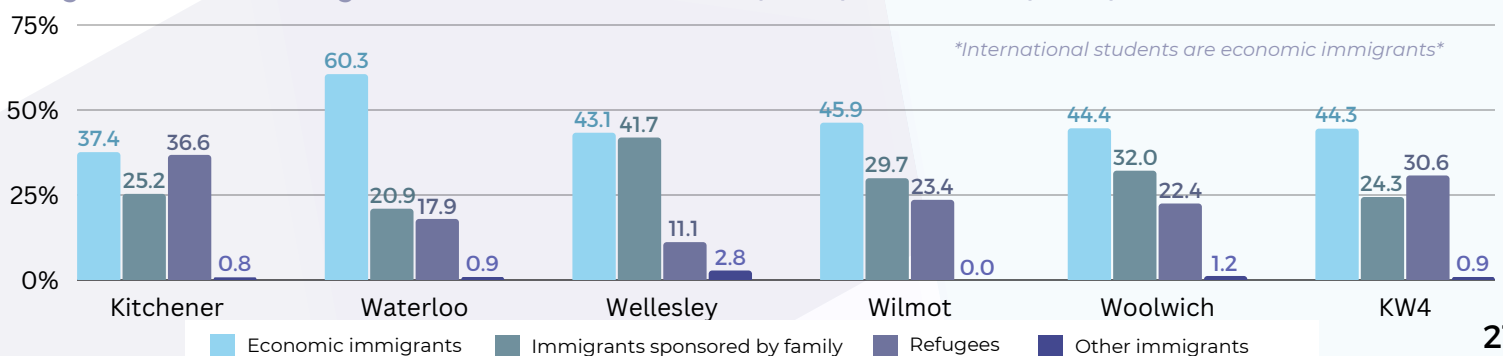
Area	Kitchener	Waterloo	Wellesley	Wilmot	Woolwich	KW4
Non-immigrants	66.7%	63.9%	94.4%	89.6%	87.0%	69.0%
Before 1980	4.7%	4.4%	2.3%	5.1%	3.5%	4.5%
1980 - 1990	3.3%	2.5%	0.7%	1.6%	2.0%	2.9%
1991 - 2000	5.2%	4.7%	0.7%	1.4%	2.7%	4.6%
2001 - 2010	6.4%	6.8%	0.9%	1.3%	1.7%	5.8%
2011 - 2015	3.6%	3.5%	0.4%	0.4%	1.2%	3.2%
2016 - 2021	6.4%	5.6%	0.5%	0.6%	1.5%	5.4%
Non-permanent Residents	3.7%	8.7%	0.2%	0.05%	0.5%	4.6%

Period of Immigration

Immigrant status and period of immigration by place of birth: Canada, provinces and territories, census divisions and census subdivisions (statcan.gc.ca)

Immigrant Admission Category

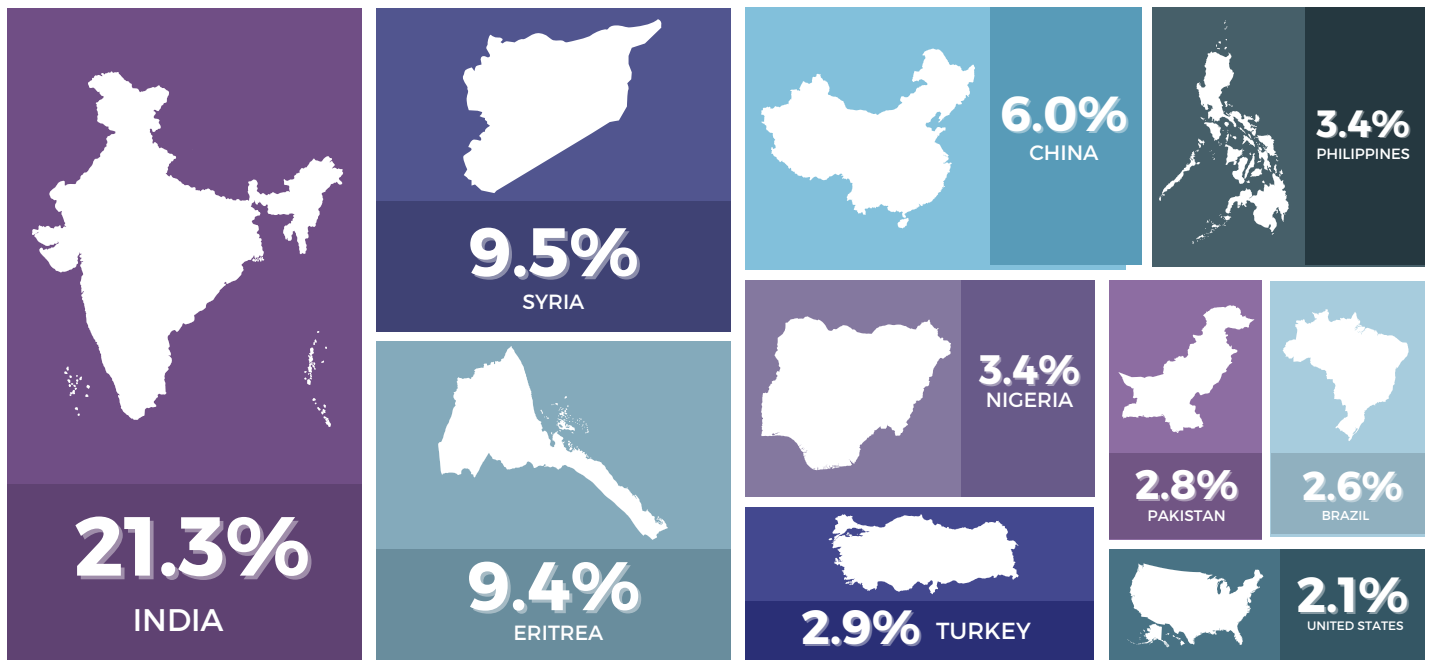
60.3% of immigrants who have come to Waterloo came as economic immigrants. This is higher than the rates for Ontario (49.9%) and Canada (53.9%). 36.6% of immigrants who have come to Kitchener came as refugees. This is much higher than the rates for Ontario (17.6%) and Canada (15.2%).



Immigrant Admission Category

Admission category by period of immigration and pre-admission experience: Canada, provinces and territories, census metropolitan areas and census agglomerations with parts (statcan.gc.ca)

Top 10 Places of Birth for KW4's Recent Immigrant Population



Places of Birth for Recent Immigration Population

Immigrant status and period of immigration by place of birth: Canada, provinces and territories, census divisions and census subdivisions (statcan.gc.ca)

Mobility Status in the Last 5 Years

11.8% of Waterloo's population is made up of people who have immigrated from outside Canada since 2016. This is much higher than the rates for the KW4 (8.2%), Ontario (5.5%) and Canada (4.9%).

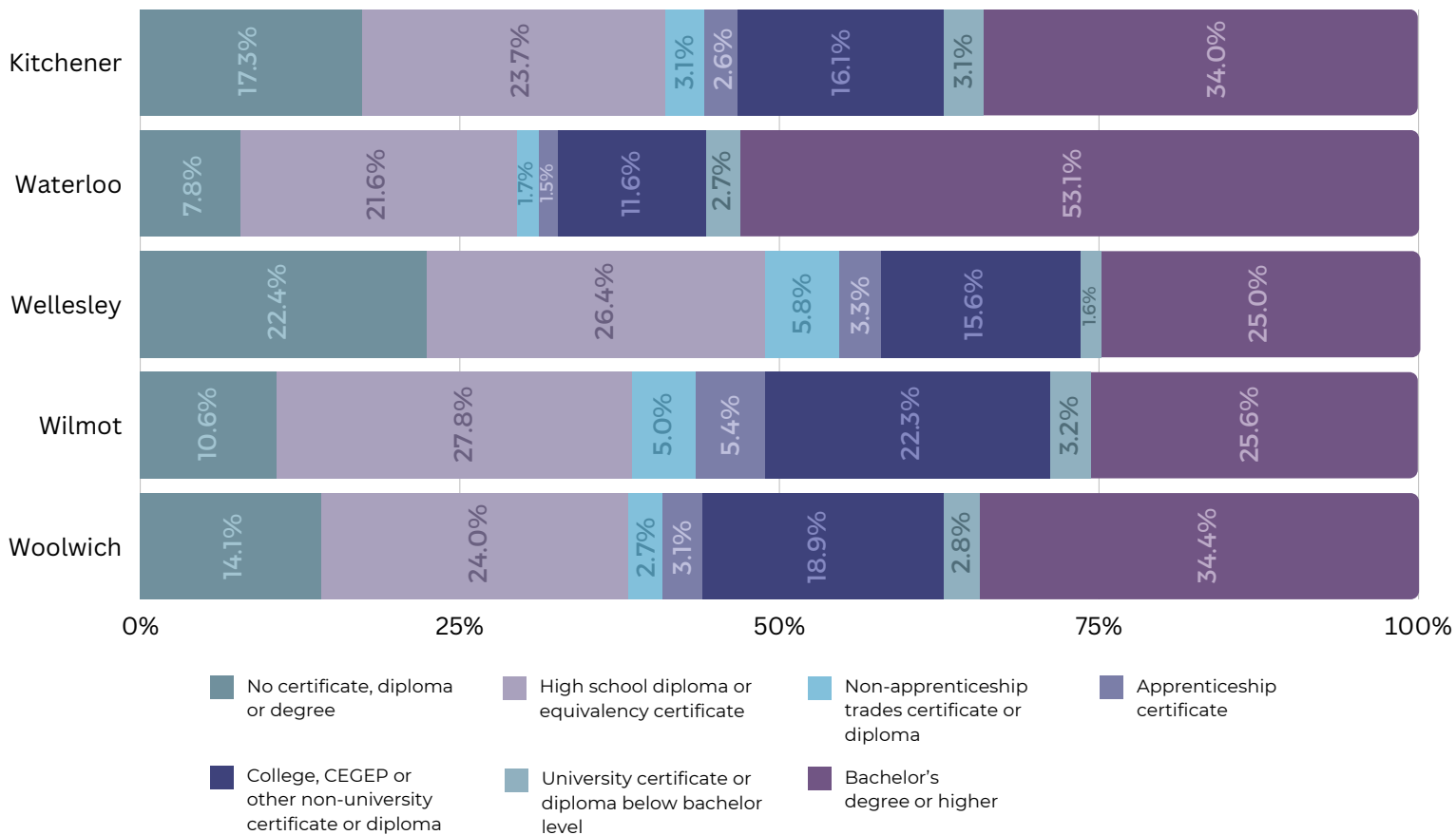
Area	Kitchener	Waterloo	Wellesley	Wilmot	Woolwich	KW4
Non-movers	135,675	59,995	8,265	13,945	16,705	234,585
Non-migrants	41,850	13,695	425	1,455	1,985	59,410
Intraprovincial Migrants	37,680	23,875	1,545	4,465	5,515	73,080
Interprovincial Migrants	4,650	2,495	50	135	240	7,570
External Migrants	19,700	13,355	125	135	370	33,685

Mobility Status in the Last 5 Years

Mobility status 5 years ago by mother tongue, marital status, age and gender: Canada, provinces and territories, census metropolitan areas and census agglomerations with parts (statcan.gc.ca)

Immigrant and Non-Permanent Resident Education, Ages 15+

Over half of Waterloo's immigrant and non-permanent resident population over the age of 15 hold a bachelor's degree or higher (53.1%).



Immigrant and Non-Permanent Resident Education

Highest level of education by visible minority and immigrant status: Canada, provinces and territories, census divisions and census subdivisions with a population 5,000 or more (statcan.gc.ca)

Summary

The KW4 has welcomed many newcomers to the region over the years, with a notable rise in recent years. These newcomers come from all over Canada as well the rest of the world, with a variety of backgrounds.

Many come as economic immigrants, who are capable of immediately contributing to the KW4's economy. Waterloo has a very high proportion of its immigrant population being economic immigrants, with over 60% being of this admission category. This is higher than the provincial and national average.

A large proportion of Kitchener's immigrant population is made up of refugees, with over a third of Kitchener immigrants having come to the city with a refugee admission category. Recent immigrants to the KW4 have come from all across the world, and most noticeably from Asia and Africa, with many recent immigrants from India, Syria, Eritrea, China and Nigeria.

The KW4 has also seen a large rise in migrants from within Ontario, with 73,080 people who live in the KW4 having moved there from within Ontario since 2016.

Education and Labour

Field of Study: Refers to the discipline or area of learning or training associated with a particular course of program of study.

Class of Worker: Refers to whether a person is an employee or is self-employed.

Employment Rate: Refers to the number of persons employed, expressed as a percentage of the total population aged 15 years and over.

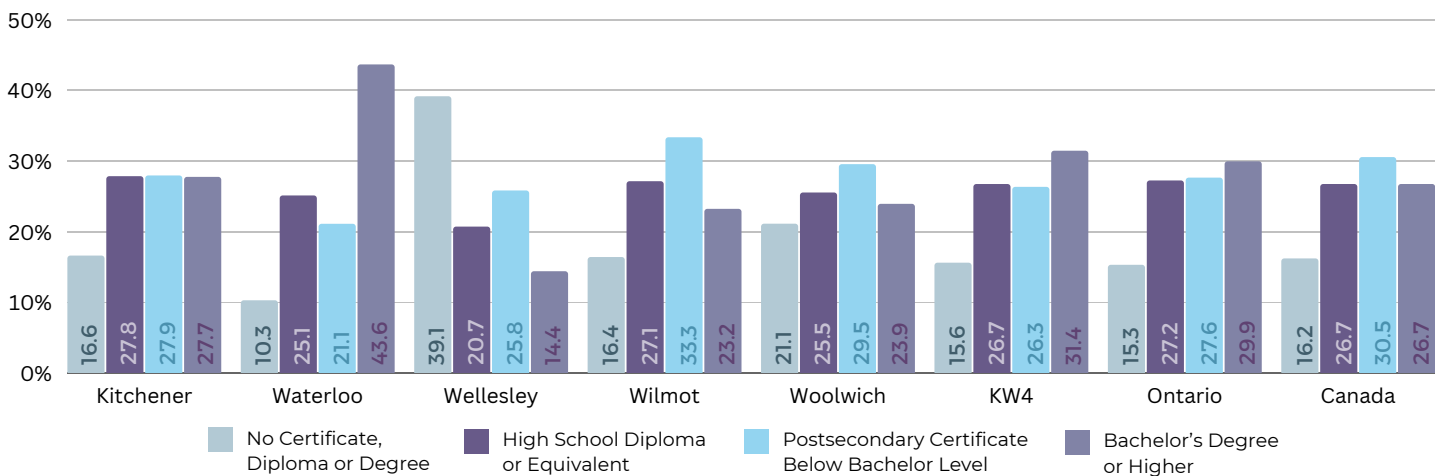
Unemployment Rate: Refers to the number of persons unemployed expressed as a percentage of the labour force.

Labour Force: Refers to the persons who are either employed or unemployed, with intent to work.

Participation Rate: Refers to the labour force, expressed as a percentage of the total population aged 15 years and over.

Highest Level of Education (15+)

43.6% of Waterloo's population aged 15 years or older have a bachelor's degree or higher. This is a larger proportion than the KW4 (31.4%), Ontario (29.9%) and Canada (26.7%).

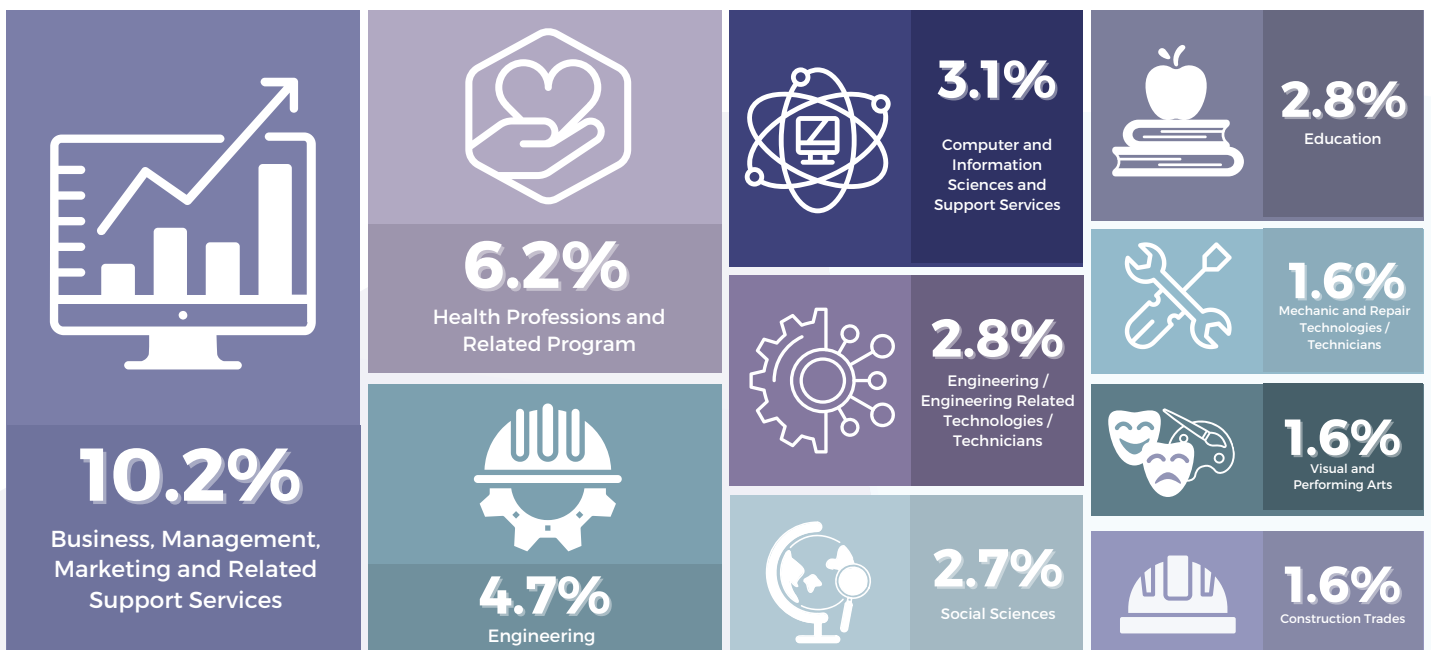


Highest Level of Education

Highest level of education by geography: Census subdivisions (statcan.gc.ca)

Top 10 Major Fields of Study (15+)

Business, management, marketing and related support services is the largest field of study in each of the KW4's cities/townships, as well as for the KW4 overall. Health professions and related programs is the second largest field of study for the KW4 and each of its cities/townships with the exception of Waterloo, where engineering is the second largest field of study.



Major Fields of Study

Major field of study by highest level of education: Canada, provinces and territories, census divisions and census subdivisions (statcan.gc.ca)

Labour Force Status (15+)

Labour force participation and employment rates are higher in each KW4 city/township and in the KW4 overall, in comparison to the Ontario and Canadian rates.

Area	Kitchener	Waterloo	Wellesley	Wilmot	Woolwich
Employed & Employed Rate	124,325 59.4%	58,050 57.6%	5,840 68.4%	13,700 60.9%	13,700 65.2%
Unemployed & Unemployment Rate	15,375 11.0%	7,905 12.0%	240 3.9%	760 6.8%	900 6.2%
Not in Labour Force	69,585	34,865	2,465	5,970	6,395
Participation Rate	66.8%	65.4%	71.2%	65.3%	69.5%

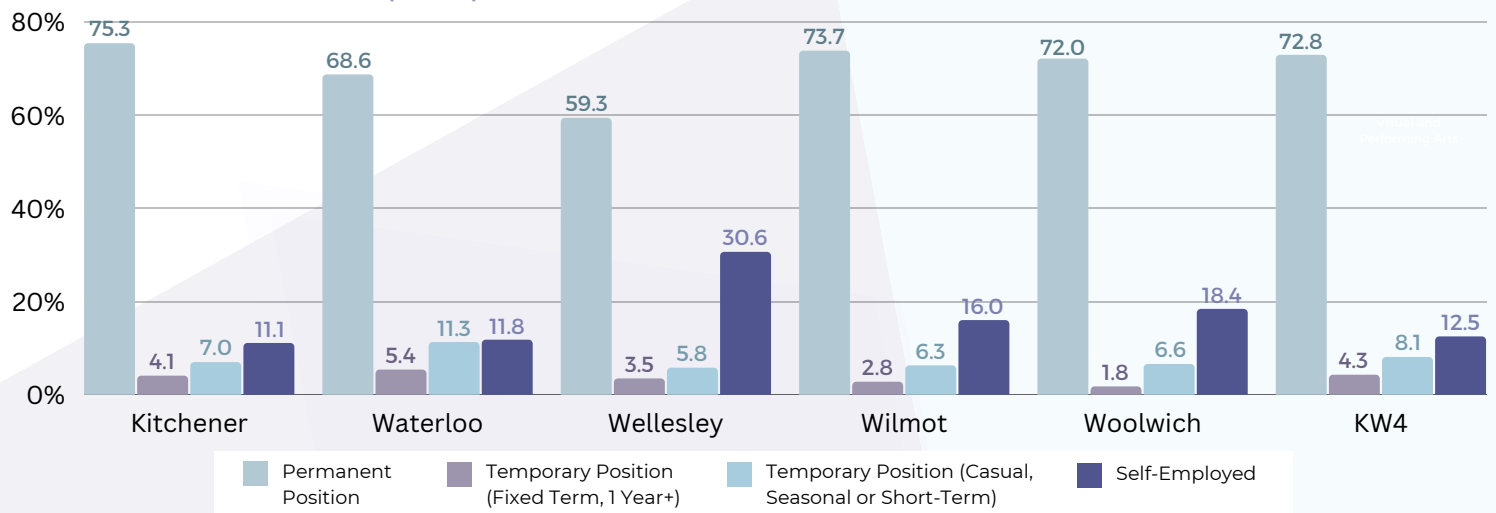
Area	KW4	Ontario	Canada
Employed & Employed Rate	212,410 59.5%	6,492,895 55.1%	17,321,695 57.1%
Unemployed & Unemployment Rate	25,180 10.6%	906,310 12.2%	1,988,645 10.3%
Not in Labour Force	119,280	4,383,620	11,025,575
Participation Rate	66.6%	62.8%	63.7%

Labour Force Status

Labour force status by major field of study, highest level of education, location of study compared with location of residence, age and gender: Canada, provinces and territories, census metropolitan areas and census agglomerations with parts (statcan.gc.ca)

Class of Worker (15+)

72.8% of the KW4's labour force are in a permanent position. This is higher than the rates for Ontario (69.8%) and Canada (69.6%). 30.6% of Wellesley's labour force is self-employed, which is a much higher rate than that of the entire KW4 (12.5%).

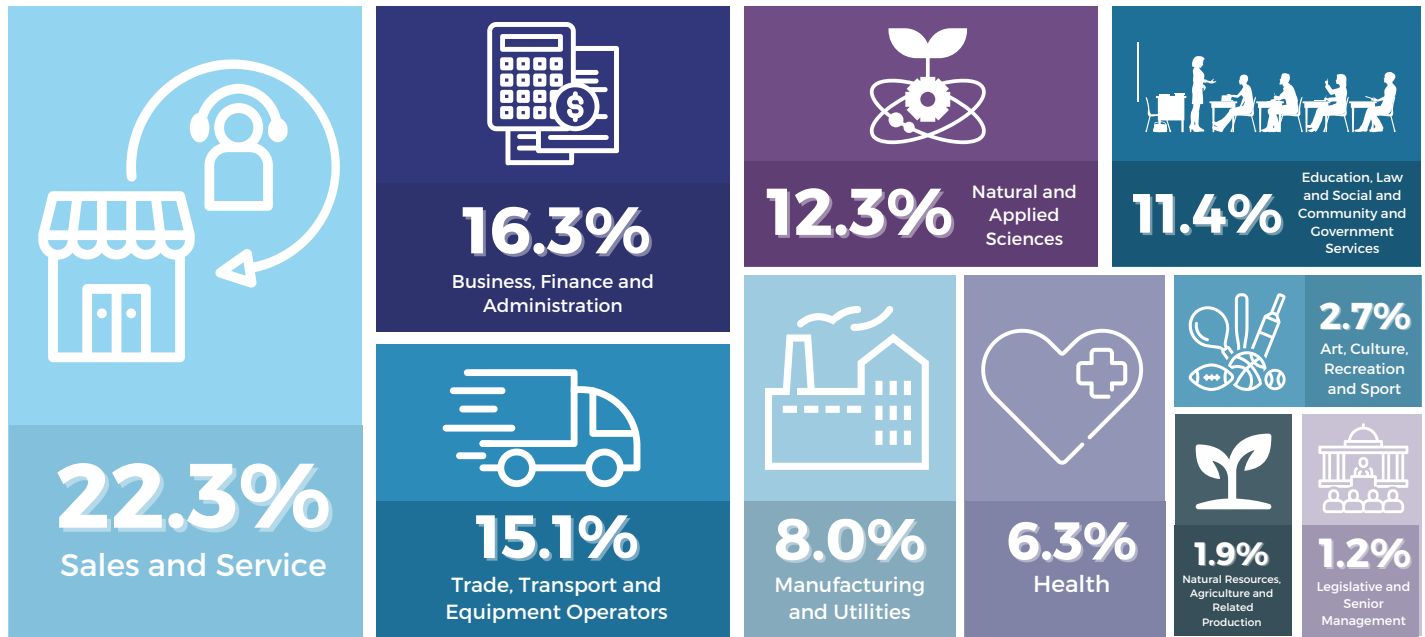


Class of Worker

Industry groups by class of worker including job permanency, labour force status, age and gender: Canada, provinces and territories, census metropolitan areas and census agglomerations with parts (statcan.gc.ca)

Occupation (15+)

Sales and service is the largest occupation category for the KW4's labour force (22.3%). It is the largest occupation category for each city/township as well with the exception of Wellesley, where trade, transport and equipment operators make up the largest occupation category.



Occupation

Occupation (STEM and non-STEM) by visible minority, generation status, age and gender: Canada, provinces and territories, census metropolitan areas and census agglomerations with parts (statcan.gc.ca)

Official Languages Used at Work

11.8% of Wellesley's labour force speak at least one non-official language at work, with 7.2% of the labour force speaking German at work.

Area	Kitchener	Waterloo	Wellesley	Wilmot	Woolwich	KW4
English Only	95.7%	95.1%	82.2%	98.7%	93.6%	95.2%
French Only	0.2%	0.1%	0.0%	0.2%	0.0%	0.1%
Non-official Language only	0.5%	0.8%	11.8%*	0.1%	3.3%	1.0%

*The large proportion of the Wellesley population who primarily speak a non-official language at work.

Official Languages Used at Work

Languages used at work by mother tongue: Canada, provinces and territories, census divisions and census subdivisions (statcan.gc.ca)

Summary

The KW4 is home to multiple post-secondary institutions, including the University of Waterloo, Wilfrid Laurier University and Conestoga College. As such, a large percentage of the KW4's population, especially in Waterloo, is made up of those with a postsecondary certificate or degree.

The main field of study for the KW4 is business, management, marketing and related support services, and as a result sales and service as well as business, finance and administration are the 2 largest occupation categories for the region.

The KW4's employment rate is higher than the provincial and national averages, and employment is especially high in Wellesley and Woolwich. Labour force participation is also higher across the KW4 than it is in Ontario and Canada, with a higher proportion of citizens either working or actively looking for work.

Place of Work and Commuting

Census Division: Group of neighbouring municipalities joined together for the purposes of regional planning and managing common services (such as police or ambulance services).





Census Subdivision: 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).

Commuting Destination: Refers to whether or not a person commutes to another municipality, another census division or another province or territory.

Main Mode of Commuting: Refers to the main mode of transportation a person uses to travel to their place of work.

Place of Work Status

31.4% of the KW4's employed labour force work at home, which is a higher rate than that of Ontario (29.7%) and Canada (24.3%). The percentage of employed labour force working at home is especially high for Waterloo (40.3%) and Wellesley (38.4%).

	 WORKED AT HOME	 WORKED OUTSIDE CANADA	 NO FIXED WORKPLACE ADDRESS	 USUAL PLACE OF WORK
Kitchener	33,970	430	13,920	76,005
Waterloo	23,380	325	4,275	30,065
Wellesley	2,240	0	675	2,925
Wilmot	2,970	15	1,110	6,400
Woolwich	4,035	10	1,285	8,375
KW4	66,595	780	21,265	123,770

Place of Work Status

Place of work status by highest level of education, age and gender: Canada, provinces and territories, census divisions and census subdivisions (statcan.gc.ca)

Commuting Destination

Only 44.9% of the KW4's employed labour force work within the Census subdivision of residence, which is much lower than Ontario (58.7%) and Canada (59.0%). 40.1% of the KW4's employed labour force commute to a different Census subdivision within their Census division of residence, which is a much higher rate than that of Ontario (17.3%) and Canada (21.6%).

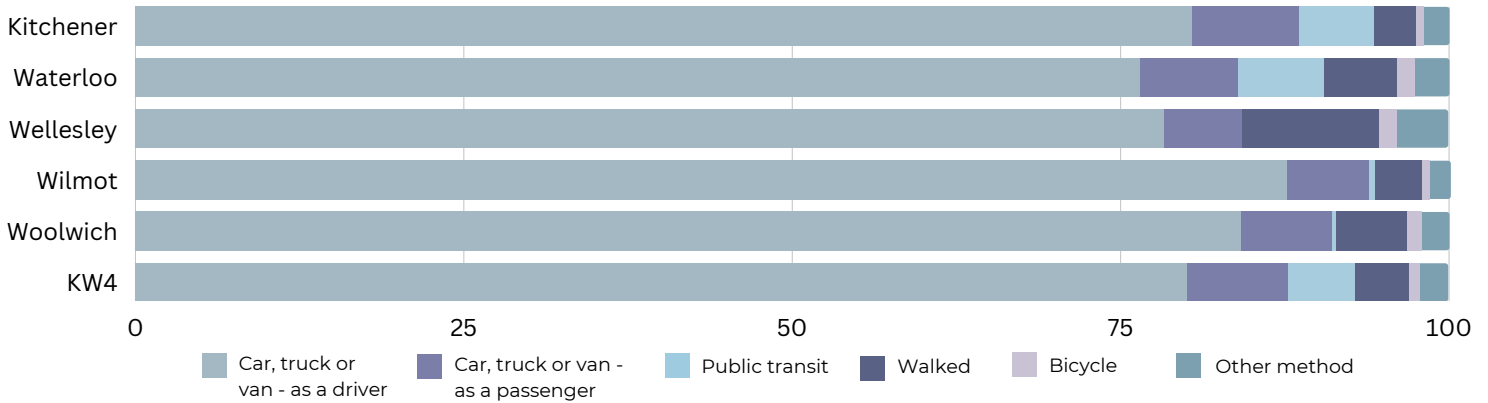
Area	Kitchener	Waterloo	Wellesley	Wilmot	Woolwich	KW4
Commute within census subdivision (CSD) of residence	35,775	13,560	940	2,005	3,285	55,565
Commute to a different census subdivision (CSD) within census division (CD) of residence	28,015	13,045	1,490	3,455	3,605	49,610
Commute to a different census subdivision (CSD) and census division (CD) within province or territory of residence	12,090	3,380	490	935	1,480	18,375
Commute to a different province or territory	130	80	0	10	10	230

Commuting Destination

Commuting destination by main mode of commuting, age and gender: Canada, provinces and territories, census divisions and census subdivisions (statcan.gc.ca)

Main Mode of Commuting

80.0% of the KW4's employed labour force drive to work, which is higher than the rates for Ontario (76.1%) and Canada (77.5%). Public transit is used less frequently in the KW4 compared to Ontario and Canada. 5.1% of the KW4's employed labour force use public transit to get to work, compared to 8.6% for Ontario and 7.7% for Canada.



Main Mode of Commuting

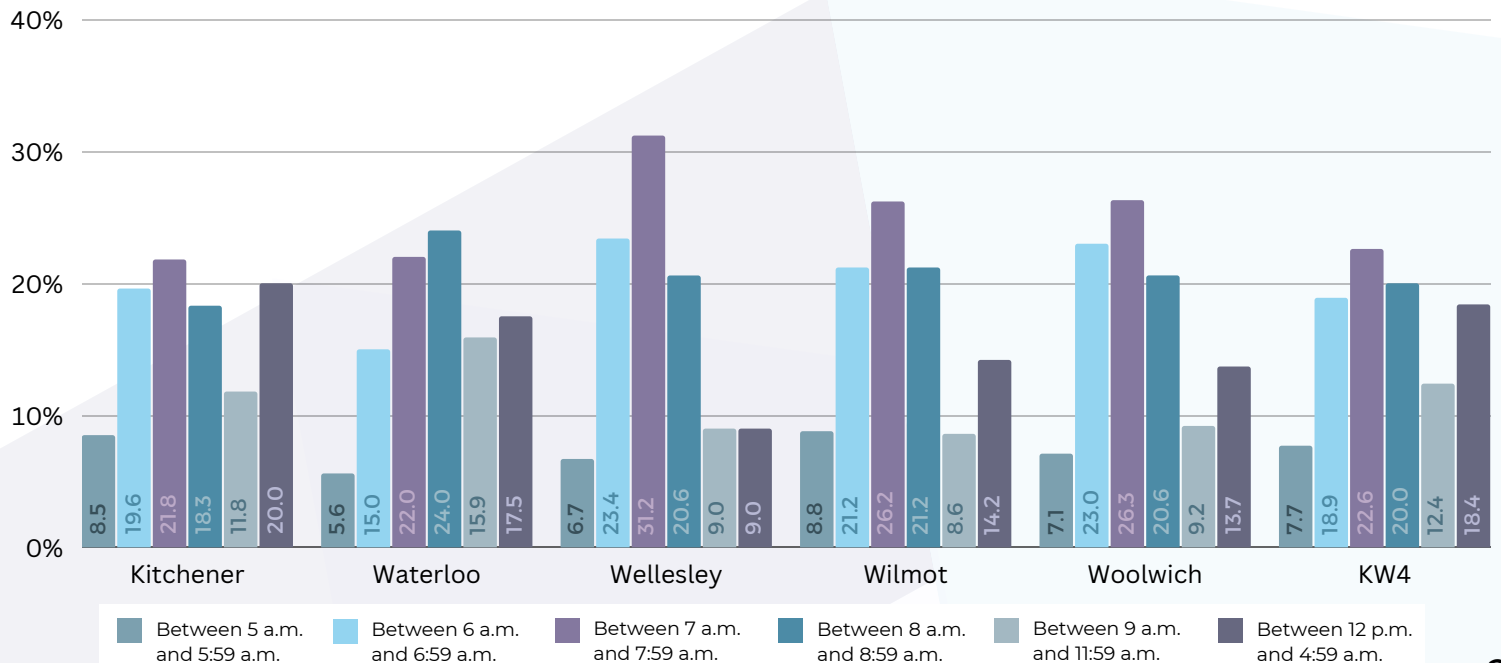
Main mode of commuting by commuting duration, time leaving for work, age and gender: Canada, provinces and territories, census divisions and census subdivisions (statcan.gc.ca)

Commuting Duration

24.2% of the KW4's employed labour force take 30 minutes or longer to commute to work, which is much lower than the rates for Ontario (38.0%) and Canada (33.1%).

	<15 Minutes	15-29 Minutes	30-44 Minutes	45-59 Minutes	60+ Minutes
Kitchener	26,845	40,385	12,435	4,360	5,895
Waterloo	12,645	14,215	4,420	1,155	1,915
Wellesley	1,175	1,415	740	140	125
Wilmot	2,130	3,410	1,380	250	345
Woolwich	3,770	3,905	1,305	255	425
KW4	46,565	63,330	20,280	6,160	8,705

Time Leaving for Work



Summary

The ever-increasing trend of working from home can be seen in the KW4, with over 30% of the region's employed labour force working from home. This is a higher rate than what is seen in Ontario and Canada.

When it comes to the employed labour force who commute to work, large amounts of the population commute to different Census subdivisions. Over 40% of the KW4's employed labour force commute to a different Census subdivision with their Census division of residence.

Most of the KW4's workers commute to work by car, truck or van, with over 85% of the employed labour force commuting this way as either a driver or passenger. Public transit in the KW4 is used less frequently as a means of commuting in comparison to Ontario and Canada.

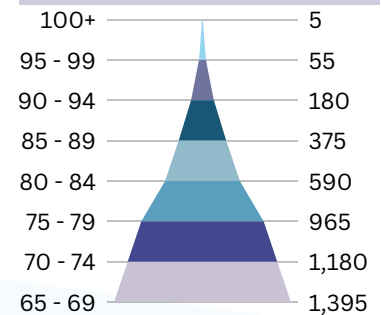
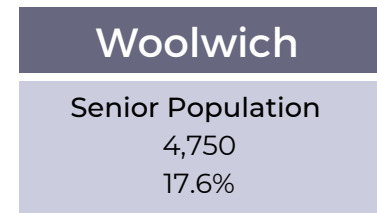
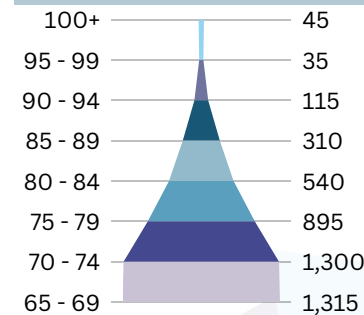
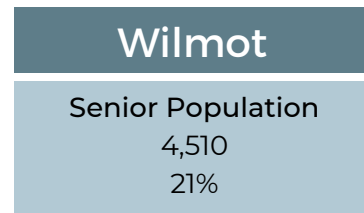
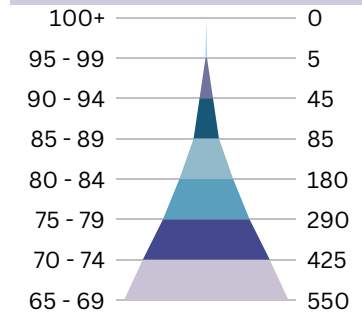
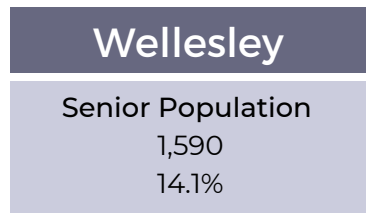
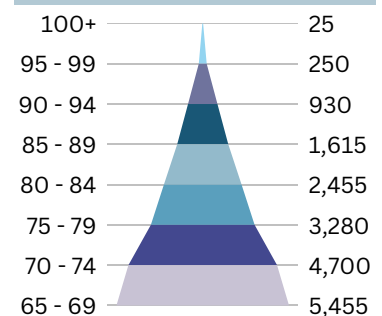
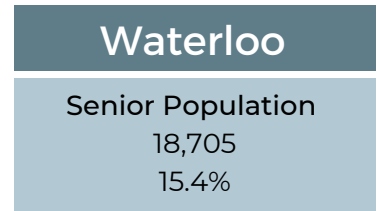
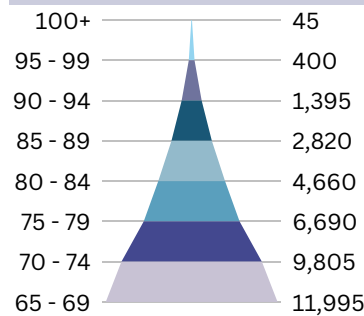
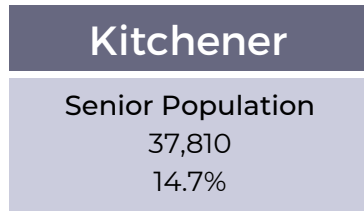
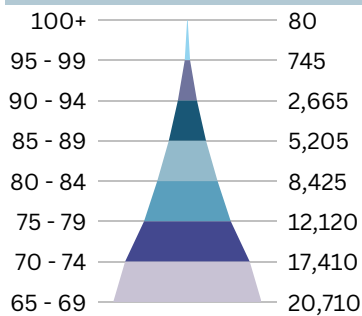
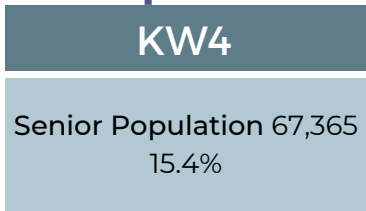
Since most of the KW4's labour force works within its Census division, commute times are generally not too long. As a result, less than 25% of the KW4's workers take more than 30 minutes to commute to work, which is lower than the rates for Ontario and Canada.

Seniors

Household Maintainers: Refers to whether or not a person residing in the household is responsible for paying the rent, mortgage, taxes, electricity or other services or utilities. When a number of people may contribute to the payments, more than one person in the household may be identified as a household maintainer.

Low income measure, after-tax (LIM-AT): Low-income measure that is calculated based on 50% of the median after-tax household income. Any household whose household income falls below this measure is classified as living in low-income.

Senior Population



Senior Population

Age (in single years), average age and median age and gender: Canada, provinces and territories, census divisions and census subdivisions (statcan.gc.ca)

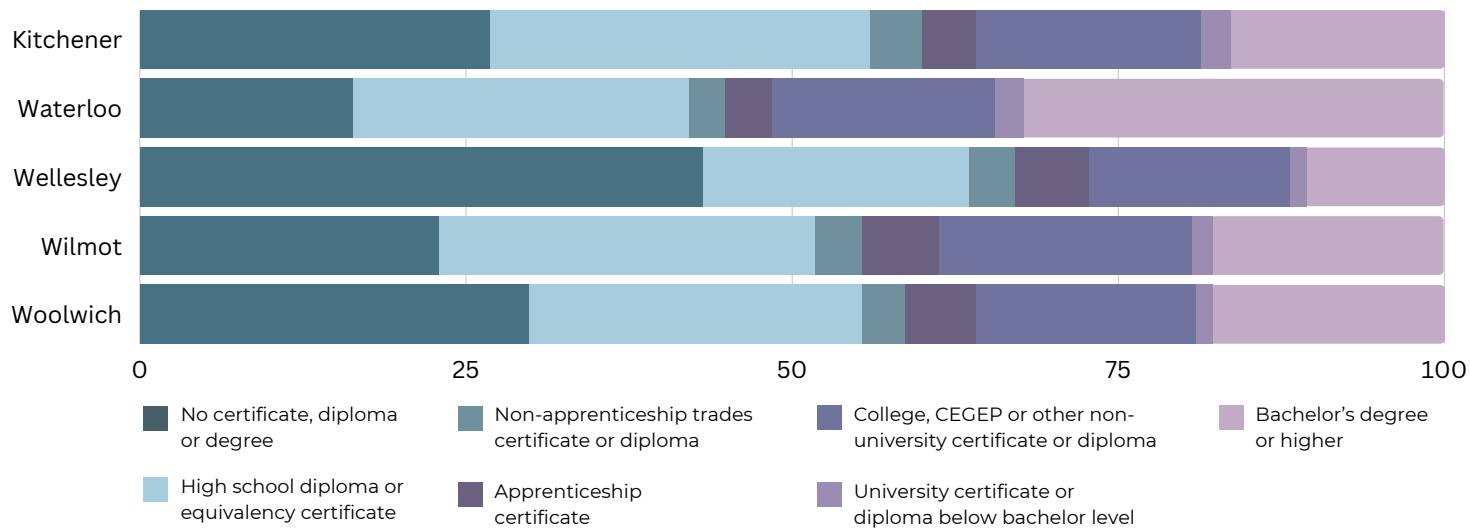
Household Maintainers

Nearly 1/3 of Wilmot's household maintainers are seniors, with 32.8% of all Wilmot household maintainers being 65 years or older.

Area	Kitchener	Waterloo	Wellesley	Wilmot	Woolwich	KW4
Total Household Maintainers	99,815	47,040	3,370	7,890	9,360	167,475
Household Maintainers 65 and Over	22,525	10,305	855	2,585	2,645	38,915
% of Household Maintainers 65 and Over	22.6%	21.9%	25.4%	32.8%	28.3%	23.2%

Highest Level of Education for Seniors 65+ (2021)

32.2% of seniors in Waterloo hold a Bachelor's degree or higher.



Highest Level of Education

Highest level of education by geography: Census subdivisions (statcan.gc.ca)

Low-Income

12.3% of Kitchener seniors living in private households are classified as living below the low-income measure, which is a higher rate than that of Ontario (12.1%). Only 5.6% of Wilmot seniors live below the low-income measure, which is much lower than the overall KW4 average (10.7%).

Area	Kitchener	Waterloo	Wellesley	Wilmot	Woolwich	KW4
Senior Population in Private Households	35,975	16,940	1,590	4,400	4,445	63,350
Senior Population Below the Low-Income Measure, After Tax (LIM-AT)	4,415	1,520	170	245	420	6,770
% of Senior Population Below the Low-Income Measure, After Tax (LIM-AT)	12.3%	9%	10.6%	5.6%	9.4%	10.7%

Prevalence of Low-Income

Low-income status by age and gender: Canada, provinces and territories, census divisions and census subdivisions (statcan.gc.ca)

KW4 Neighborhoods with the Highest Senior Populations

FSA (Forward Sortation Area)	NOB Wellington Country and Rural Waterloo Region	N2L Waterloo South	N2M Kitchener Northwest	N2A Kitchener East	N2E Kitchener Southwest
Population	15,985	5,780	5,730	5,450	5,105

Top 5 Non-English Languages Spoken within the 5 FSA

These numbers represent the entire FSA population, not just seniors living within the area.

	1	2	3	4	5
NOB Wellington Country and Rural Waterloo Region	P. German 2,145	German 1,930	Punjabi 410	Dutch 320	Polish 215
N2L Waterloo South	Mandarin 2,050	Arabic 540	Punjabi 350	Hindi 350	Persian 310
N2M Kitchener Northwest	Tigrigna 1,010	Arabic 740	Spanish 590	Bilen 365	Portuguese 255
N2A Kitchener East	Serbian 565	Punjabi 530	Arabic 490	Spanish 390	Gujarati 255
N2E Kitchener Southwest	Spanish 970	Punjabi 865	Serbian 610	Arabic 560	Portuguese 440

Non-English Languages Spoken by FSA

First official language spoken by language spoken most often at home: Canada and forward sortation areas © (statcan.gc.ca)

Summary

The KW4's population is aging, with the average age having increased across the region since 2016. The same can be said for Ontario and Canada as well.

Most noticeably, seniors now make up a larger proportion of the population than they did 5 years ago for each city and township within the KW4. Overall, seniors make up 15.4% of the KW4's population, with 67,365 seniors living in the region.

Senior populations are notably large in Wilmot and Woolwich, where seniors make up 21% and 17.6% of the total population, respectively. Seniors are the household maintainers in over 20% of all KW4 households, most notably in Wilmot, where 32.8% of all households are maintained by seniors.

Overall, 10.7% of seniors in KW4 are classified as living in low-income, per the low-income measure. This is lower than the rate for Ontario, which is 12.1%.

However, the proportion of seniors living in low-income is higher in Kitchener, where 12.3% of seniors live below the low-income measure, after tax.

CONCLUSION

The Census of Population provides high-quality information on key socioeconomic trends and analysis that helps Canadians make important decisions that affect families, neighbourhoods and businesses.

The KW4 OHT, the City of Waterloo and the City of Kitchener use Census data in their day-to-day work. Census data is commonly used to assist in the creation of strategic plans and program planning for municipal governments.

All data in this report was taken from the 2021 Canadian Census of Population.

For more information, please go to

<https://www12.statcan.gc.ca/census-recensement/index-eng.cfm?MM=1>.

Statistics Canada has multiple planned Census data releases for 2023, which can be found here:

<https://www12.statcan.gc.ca/census-recensement/2021/ref/prodserf/release-diffusion-eng.cfm>.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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