

If this information is required in an accessible format, please contact 1-800-372-1102 ext. 2564



The Regional Municipality of Durham Information Report

From: Commissioner of Planning and Economic Development
Report: #2024-INFO-38
Date: May 24, 2024

Subject:

Monitoring of Growth Trends, File: D01-02-01

Recommendation:

Receive for information

Report:

1. Purpose

- 1.1 This report is the first of two biannual reports monitoring growth trends in Durham. It presents historical population and household data for the Region and area municipalities for the 2019 to 2023 period.
- 1.2 The data is provided for the end of May to correspond with the timing of a Census and for December. Information presented in this report is intended for use in various Regional background studies and programs as well as other agency initiatives.

2. Previous Reports and Decisions

- 2.1 Monitoring of Growth Trends ([2023-INFO-51](#))
- 2.2 Monitoring of Growth Trends ([2023-INFO-102](#))

3. Historical population and household estimates (2019-2023)

3.1 The population and household estimates presented in Attachment 1 are based on:

- Statistics Canada Census information for 2016 and 2021 including an estimate for net undercoverage¹;
- Statistics Canada Annual Demographic Estimates that are published on the Durham Region Population [Data Tracker](#)²;
- Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC) monthly housing completion data; and
- Building permits issued for residential demolitions.

3.2 Base-year household estimates are founded on information from the Statistics Canada Census. Household estimates for 2016 and 2021 are based on the Statistics Canada Census counts for “Private dwellings occupied by usual residents”.

3.3 For interim years, CMHC housing completions are used to approximate the number of new households added each year. Housing completions are also the basis for estimating population growth where population estimates are not available from Statistics Canada³.

3.4 The Statistics Canada Annual Demographic Estimates are calculated from federal records for births, deaths, immigration and emigration. The Health Department receives data from the Ministry of Health and Long-term Care that based on the same Statistics Canada reporting, to inform their demographic analysis.

3.5 The process for estimating population and households also considers the impact of vacant homes, short-term rentals and dwellings occupied by non-permanent residents such as international students and temporary foreign workers. To account for this, household estimates are calibrated with a conservative vacancy rate (0.5%) for new residential units.

1. Net undercoverage refers to the net population counts that are missed during the Census enumeration due to persons with no usual residence, incorrect questionnaires, missed dwellings, away from home, etc.

2. For years where population estimates are not published on the Data Tracker, household growth is used to approximate the increase in population. At the time this report was prepared, population estimates since 2021 were not available through the Data Tracker.

3. Durham Regional Health Department receives population estimates from the Province, that are based on Statistics Canada’s annual population estimate for July 1st. This information is used to interpolate the population for May 31st and December 31st.

- 3.6 The semi-annual population estimates presented in Attachment 1, indicate that the Region's annual population growth increased by 9,995 persons in 2023, which is lower than the five-year average (12,390). The growth rate last year was 1.35%. Comparatively, the average annual population growth for the five-year period from 2019 to 2023 was 1.73%.
- 3.7 The semi-annual household estimates presented in Attachment 1, indicate that the Region's annual household growth increased by 3,395 households from 2022 to 2023, representing a growth rate of 1.36%. Comparatively, the annual household growth for the five-year period from 2019 to 2023 was also 1.36%.

4. Relationship to Strategic Plan

- 4.1 This report aligns with/addresses the following strategic goals and priorities in the Durham Region Strategic Plan:
- a. Priority 5.1 (Service Excellence) – Optimize resources and partnerships to deliver exceptional quality services and value; and
 - b. Priority 5.3 (Service Excellence) – Demonstrate commitment to continuous quality improvement and communicating results.

5. Conclusion

- 5.1 Council will continue to be kept apprised of emerging population and household data and trends through regular updates of this information.
- 5.2 A copy of this report will be forwarded to the Area Municipalities, the Durham Regional Police Services, the Ontario Health Home and Community Care Support Services (formerly Local Health Integration Network) and the School Boards in Durham.

6. Attachments

Attachment #1: Semi-annual Population Estimates, 2019-2023 and Semi-annual Household Estimates, 2019-2023.

Respectfully submitted,

Original signed by

Brian Bridgeman, MCIP, RPP, PLE
Commissioner of Planning and
Economic Development

Table 1
Semi-annual Population Estimates, 2019-2023 (May and December)

Year	Ajax	Brock	Clarington	Oshawa	Pickering	Scugog	Uxbridge	Whitby	Durham
2019 (May)	129,670	12,640	100,215	175,040	98,590	22,080	22,245	136,905	697,385
2019 (Dec)	130,235	12,720	101,650	176,505	99,595	22,115	22,290	138,120	703,230
2020 (May)	132,305	12,910	102,000	179,135	101,310	22,140	22,205	140,755	712,760
2020 (Dec)	132,705	12,850	102,865	179,530	103,755	22,175	22,275	142,630	718,785
2021 (May)	134,225	13,700	104,080	181,080	103,240	22,565	22,350	144,790	726,030
2021 (Dec)	134,630	13,725	105,525	182,210	103,985	22,550	22,360	147,220	732,210
2022 (May)	134,990	13,735	106,195	182,935	104,635	22,535	22,435	149,250	736,705
2022 (Dec)	135,615	13,755	107,220	185,275	105,185	22,520	22,510	151,010	743,095
2023 (May)	135,930	13,760	107,770	187,080	106,505	22,505	22,605	152,340	748,495
2023 (Dec)	136,335	13,790	108,285	188,900	106,430	22,505	22,730	154,115	753,090

Note: All figures rounded

Source: Statistics Canada Census, Annual Demographic, CMHC monthly housing completions data and building permit records.

Table 2
Semi-annual Household Estimates, 2019-2023 (May and December)

Year	Ajax	Brock	Clarington	Oshawa	Pickering	Scugog	Uxbridge	Whitby	Durham
2019 (May)	38,740	4,625	34,725	65,765	32,065	8,245	7,925	44,610	236,710
2019 (Dec)	38,910	4,640	35,180	66,330	32,380	8,255	7,945	44,975	238,620
2020 (May)	39,325	4,685	35,460	66,405	32,510	8,260	7,960	45,550	240,160
2020 (Dec)	39,450	4,785	35,730	66,595	33,215	8,275	7,990	46,110	242,140
2021 (May)	39,490	4,790	35,955	66,635	33,425	8,290	8,010	46,460	243,050
2021 (Dec)	39,610	4,795	36,455	67,050	33,665	8,285	8,010	47,240	245,110
2022 (May)	39,715	4,800	36,685	67,315	33,875	8,280	8,035	47,890	246,600
2022 (Dec)	39,895	4,805	37,040	68,175	34,055	8,275	8,065	48,455	248,770
2023 (May)	39,990	4,810	37,230	68,840	34,480	8,270	8,100	48,880	250,600
2023 (Dec)	40,110	4,820	37,405	69,510	34,455	8,270	8,145	49,450	252,170

Note: All figures rounded

Source: Statistics Canada Census, Annual Demographic, CMHC monthly housing completions data and building permit records.