

# Waterloo Region Immigration Fact Sheet



Region of Waterloo  
PUBLIC HEALTH



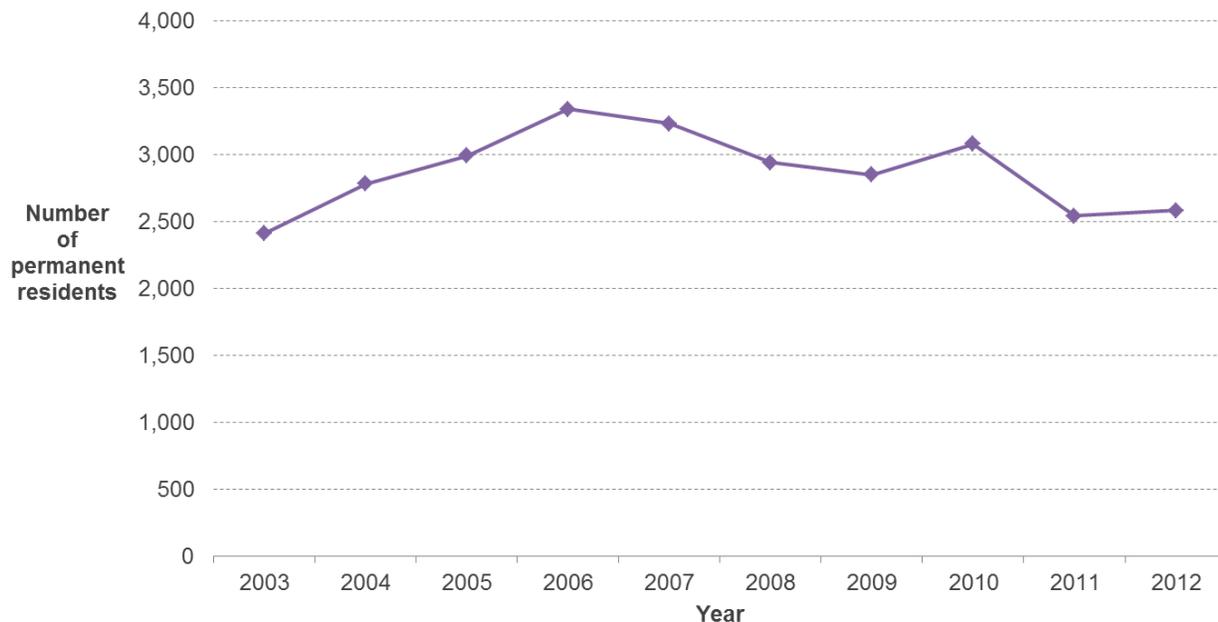
IMMIGRATION  
PARTNERSHIP  
Settle. Work. Belong.

## Immigrant Arrivals

This is one in a series of fact sheets that provide a profile of immigrants in Waterloo Region. Understanding the makeup of our community is important for planning programs and services. Immigrants are people who were born outside of Canada and have been accepted as permanent residents in Canada. Immigrants make up 22.3% of the population of Waterloo Region. Between 2006 and 2011, 15,465 individuals immigrated to this region. Definitions for key terms used throughout the document can be found in the Notes section at the end of this fact sheet.

### Permanent Residents

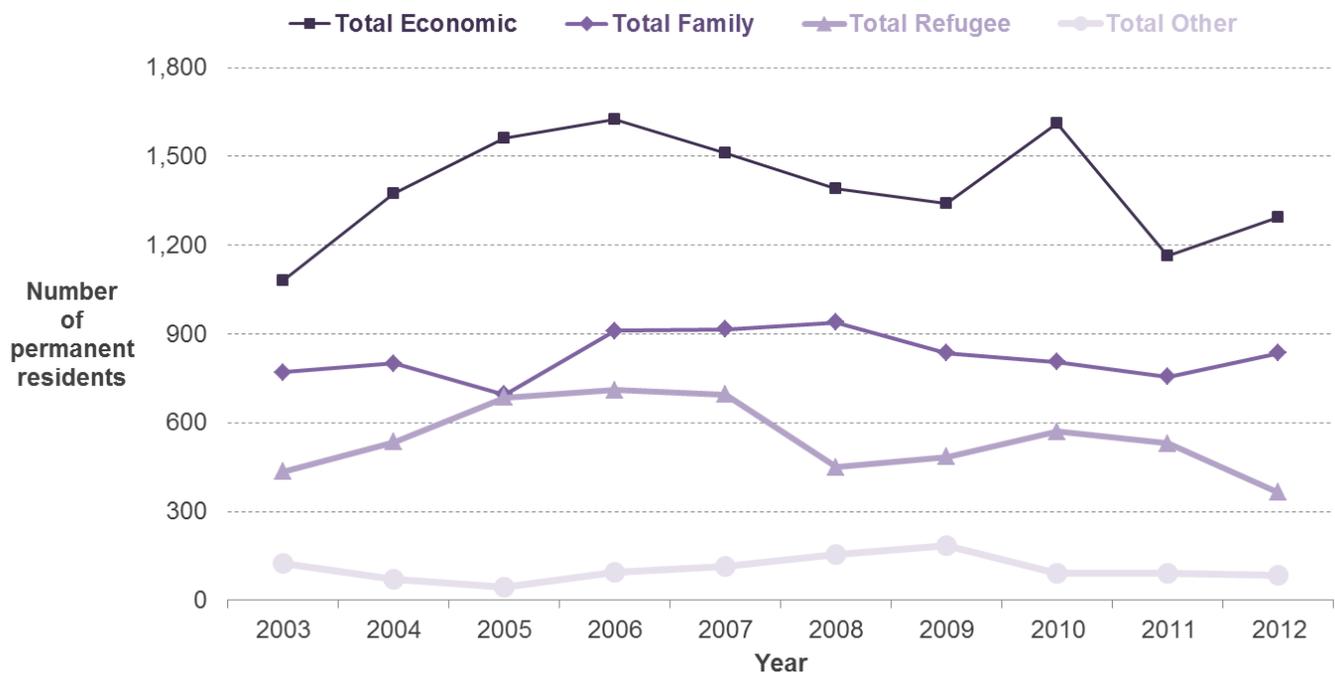
#### Number of permanent residents arriving in Waterloo Region by year, 2003-2012



Source: Citizenship and Immigration Canada, Permanent Residents Rounded Data Cube, 2012

- An estimated 2,580 permanent residents came to Waterloo Region in 2012. This is similar to the 2,540 permanent residents who immigrated to Waterloo Region in 2011.
- Between 2003 and 2012 the number of permanent residents arriving in Waterloo Region has ranged between 2,410 and 3,340.

## Number of permanent residents arriving in Waterloo Region by landing category, 2003-2012



Source: Citizenship and Immigration Canada, Permanent Residents Rounded Data Cube, 2012

- Landing category is a term which describes the four main groups of permanent residents (economic, family, refugee, and other).
- The majority of permanent residents who arrived in Waterloo Region in 2012 immigrated to find employment (1,295 individuals or 33% of permanent residents). Economic class immigrants were accepted as skilled workers, self-employed, entrepreneurs or investors.
- In 2012, 835 individuals (22% of permanent residents) came to Waterloo Region to be with their family, while 365 people (9% of permanent residents) came as government-assisted refugees.

### Number and percentage change of permanent residents by landing category and municipality, Waterloo Region, 2003-2012

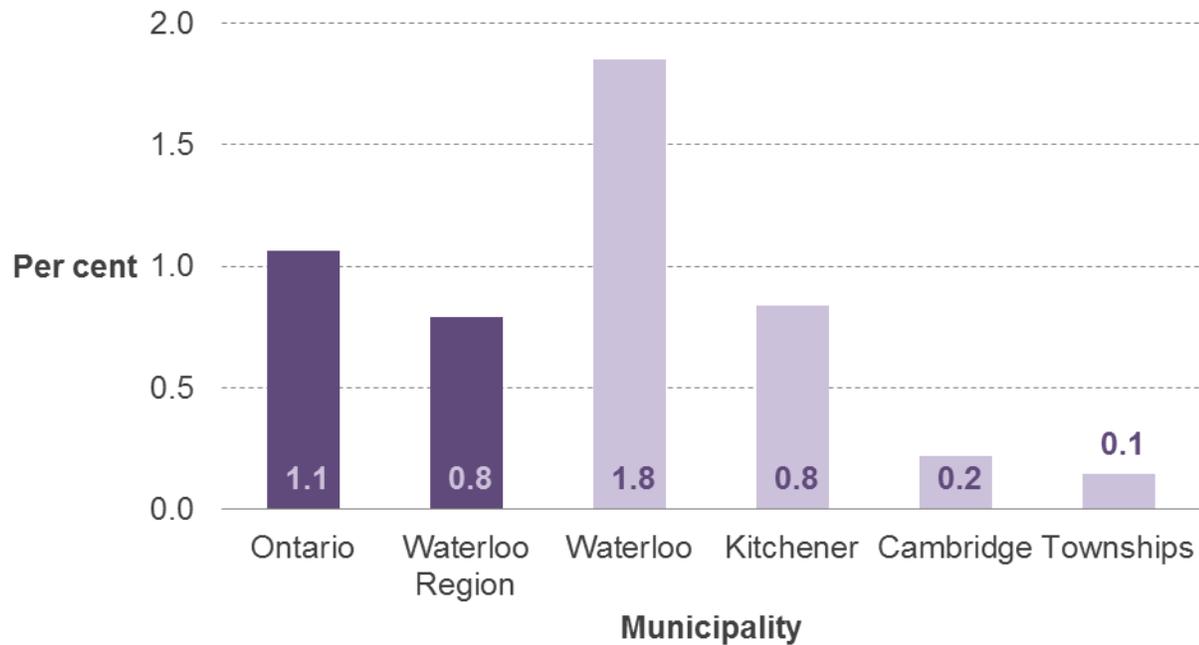
Immigration Category	Number of permanent residents			5 year per cent change	10 year per cent change
	2003	to	2012		
<b>Waterloo Region</b>					
Economic	1,080		1,295	-7%	20%
Family	770		835	-11%	8%
Refugee	435		365	-19%	-16%
Other	125		85	-45%	-32%
<b>Total Permanent Residents</b>	<b>2,410</b>		<b>2,580</b>	<b>-12%</b>	<b>7%</b>
<b>Cambridge</b>					
Economic	180		155	-14%	-14%
Family	195		195	0%	0%
Refugee	85		10	-80%	-88%
Other	30		20	-43%	-33%
<b>Total Permanent Residents</b>	<b>485</b>		<b>380</b>	<b>-17%</b>	<b>-22%</b>
<b>Kitchener</b>					
Economic	520		525	-2%	1%
Family	390		400	-22%	3%
Refugee	300		310	-17%	3%
Other	65		55	-42%	-15%
<b>Total Permanent Residents</b>	<b>1,280</b>		<b>1,290</b>	<b>-15%</b>	<b>1%</b>
<b>Waterloo</b>					
Economic	380		585	-10%	54%
Family	175		220	2%	26%
Refugee	45		40	60%	-11%
Other	25		5	-75%	-80%
<b>Total Permanent Residents</b>	<b>620</b>		<b>850</b>	<b>-7%</b>	<b>7%</b>

Source: Citizenship and Immigration Canada, Permanent Residents Rounded Data Cube, 2012

- Compared to five years ago, Waterloo Region experienced a decline in the number of permanent residents across all immigration categories.
- Compared to 10 years ago, the number of permanent residents who immigrated to Waterloo Region has been relatively stable, with landings in Waterloo growing slightly while landings in Kitchener have remained stable and landings in Cambridge have declined slightly.
- Refugees are most likely to settle in Kitchener. Cambridge and Waterloo have experienced declining numbers of refugee landings compared to ten years ago.
- Compared to 10 years ago, Waterloo has experienced the most significant growth in economic class immigrant landings while Cambridge has experienced a slight decline.

## Non-permanent Residents

### Proportion of the population who are non-permanent residents, by municipality, Waterloo Region and Ontario, 2011



Source: Statistics Canada, National Household Survey, 2011

- Waterloo Region was the home to an estimated 3,960 non-permanent residents in 2011. This is approximately 1% of the population of Waterloo Region.
- The City of Waterloo had the largest proportion of non-permanent residents, representing an estimated 2% of the population in 2011. The rural townships had the lowest proportion of non-permanent residents, representing approximately 0.1% of the population for the same year.

## Notes

1. Statistics Canada and Citizenship and Immigration Canada employ rounding of numbers to the nearest multiple of five to ensure confidentiality. Caution must be taken when interpreting the data in this fact sheet, especially in situations where data counts are low.
2. Due to the voluntary nature of the 2011 NHS, caution must be used when interpreting the data. Further, due to changes in the survey methodology from 2006 and previous census years, direct comparisons, including the calculation of growth rates, percentage and absolute changes should not be made. Interpretations based on the NHS survey data are presented as estimates.
3. Permanent resident refers to a person who has acquired permanent resident status and has not subsequently lost that status. They are entitled to live and work in Canada indefinitely.
4. Landing category is a term which describes the four main groups of permanent residents: economic, family, refugee, and other. Economic class immigrants may be accepted as skilled workers, self-employed, entrepreneurs or investors. Family class immigrants are joining a partner, parent, child or other close relative who is already a permanent resident in Canada or are Canadian citizens. Refugee class immigrants are fleeing persecution in their home country and are either sponsored by the government or a group in Canada (refugee claimants are not included in this data). Other immigrants may include, among others, individuals accepted on humanitarian and compassionate grounds, on the basis of public policy considerations, post-determination refugee claimants and people with deferred removal orders.
5. Non-permanent resident refers to a person from another country who has a work or study permit or who is a refugee claimant, and any non-Canadian-born family member living in Canada with them.

## References

Citizenship and Immigration Canada (2012). Facts and Figures 2012: Permanent Residents Rounded Data Cube. Accessed October 29, 2014.

Statistics Canada (2013). Waterloo, Ontario (Code 3530) (table). National Household Survey (NHS) Profile. 2011 National Household Survey. Statistics Canada Catalogue no. 99-010-x2011050. Ottawa. Accessed January 22, 2015.