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Building Connected Communities: Social Isolation
and Loneliness Toolkit

2018

Building Connected Communities: Halton – 2016 Census Older Immigrants

Sheridan Centre for Elder Research

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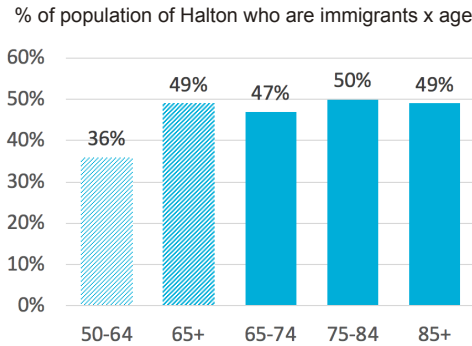
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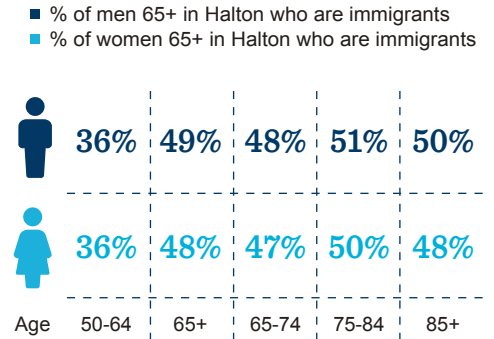
49% of the POPULATION AGED 65+ IN HALTON ARE IMMIGRANTS

Most immigrants over the age of 65 in Halton are **not racialized**.

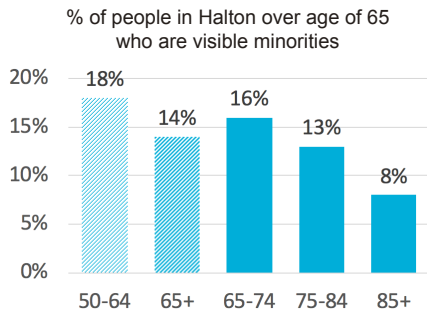
Age



Gender

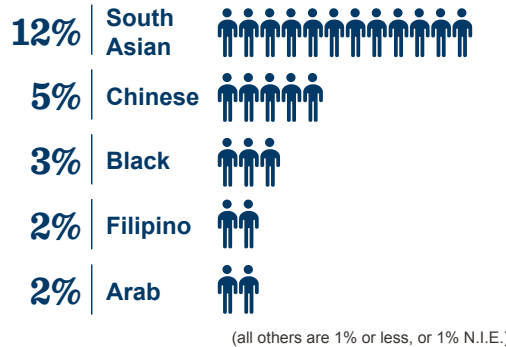


Visible Minority Groups

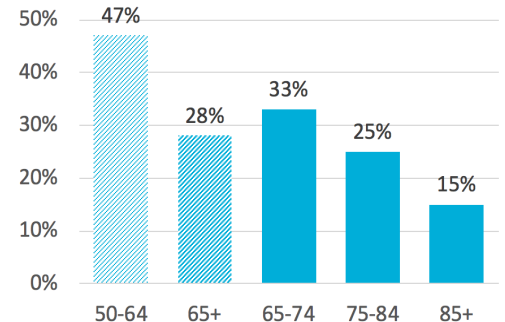


As a comparison, in Halton the total population of people who are visible minorities is 26%.

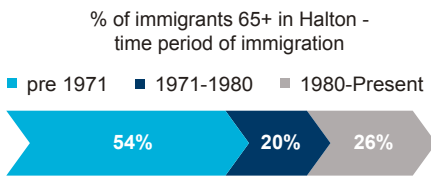
For those who are 65+ in Halton who are immigrants



of those who are immigrants, the % of people who are visible minorities



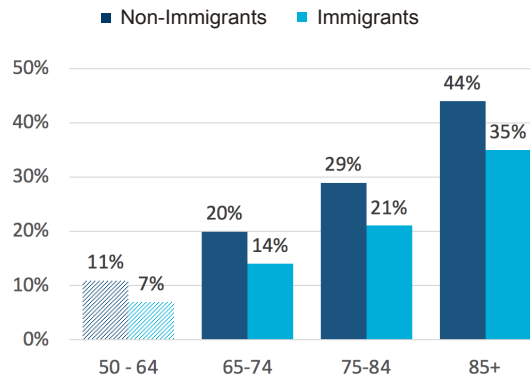
Live Alone Vs. Live with Others



In all age groups, those who **immigrated before 1971 are more likely to report living alone** in later life than individuals who immigrated later, but who are the same age. Percentages of immigrants 65+ living alone decrease as the time of immigration becomes more recent.

Those who immigrated to Canada pre-1971 are **less likely to be a visible minority** (91% reported they are not a visible minority).

% of immigrants in Halton who live alone vs. non-immigrants



87% immigrants age 65+ WHO LIVE ALONE SPEAK ENGLISH or English plus another language at home.

Polish (2%) and Italian (2%) are also spoken by immigrants age 65+ who live alone, followed by Cantonese (1%), Spanish (1%), Mandarin (1%), Portuguese (1%), and Russian (1%).

(all others are 1% or less, or 1% N.I.E.)

Top Languages Spoken by Immigrant Population 65+

10% individuals 65+ who are immigrants **DO NOT KNOW** either of the official languages

71% **SPEAK ENGLISH** or English plus another language when at home

(all others are 1% or less, or 1% N.I.E.)

3% speak Portuguese

2% speak Punjabi

2% speak Urdu

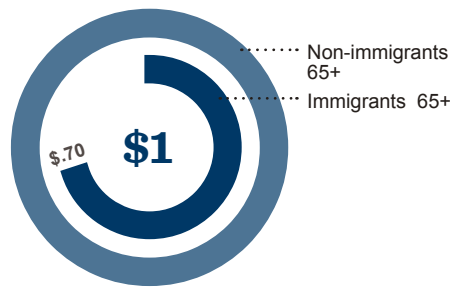
2% speak Mandarin

2% speak Italian

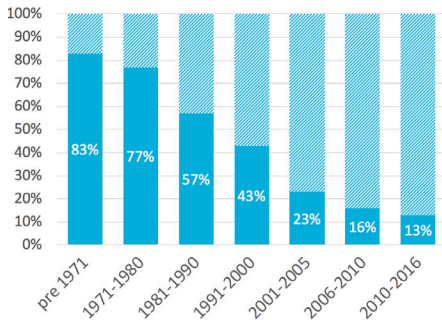
2% speak Polish

Median Income Differentials

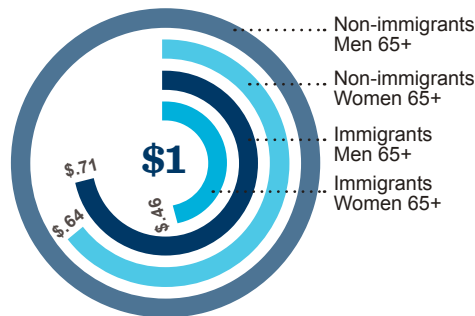
Immigrants who are age 65+ have **substantially lower** median incomes than non-immigrants who are 65+.



% of income made by immigrants 65+ vs. non-immigrants 65+



Men and women who are immigrants both make less compared to their non-immigrant counterparts. However, **immigrant women make substantially less** than immigrant men.

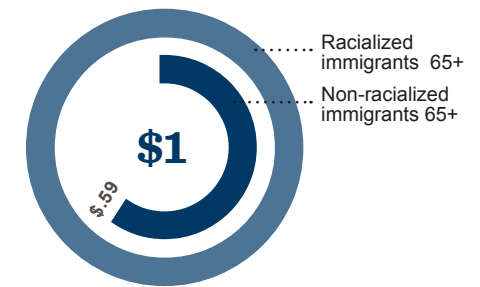


The difference is **more substantial when considering the time frame** when someone immigrated to Canada.

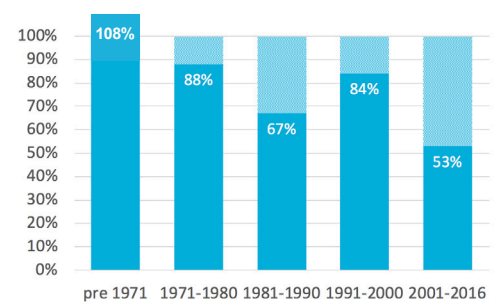
Lack of access to Old Age Security and other benefits programs is a likely explanation for this striking difference in the more recent years, but cannot account for all differences.

Racialized Immigrants

Racialized immigrants ages 65+ report **lower median incomes** than non-racialized immigrants 65+.



% of income made by racialized immigrants 65+ vs. non-racialized immigrants 65+



Considerations for the Region of Halton

Approximately half of the population aged 65+ in Halton are immigrants but most are **not considered racialized**. This is predominant in Oakville, Burlington and Halton Hills with **the exception of Milton where half of all older adult immigrants are visible minorities**.

In Halton, **income inequality** exists among older adults. It is further compounded by

immigrant status, racialization, being a recent immigrant and a woman. Advocacy and policy changes regarding **pay equity for racialized immigrant older adults** needs to be addressed. The provision of services to low-income immigrants who are **not fluent in English** is an area of need specific to the Region of Halton. Services and programs need to reflect the languages spoken in the region.

While most older adults in the Region of Halton live with family members, older adult immigrants can still experience social isolation and/or feelings of loneliness while living in **multigenerational households**.

For details about this research study and other resources in this Toolkit visit https://source.sheridancollege.ca/centres_elder_building_connected_communities/

Note to users: As per Statistics Canada (2018) the immigrant population is defined in the 2016 Census as persons who are, or who have been, landed immigrants or permanent residents in Canada. This excludes non-permanent residents (i.e., persons in Canada who have a work or study permit or who are refugee claimants).

Recent immigrant refers to an immigrant who first obtained their landed immigrant or permanent resident status in the five years prior to a given census. In the 2016 Census, the period is from January 1, 2011 to May 10, 2016.

These data sheets use "racialized" interchangeably with "visible minority" which Statistics Canada defines as per the Employment Equity Act as "persons, other than Aboriginal peoples, who are non-Caucasian in race or non-white in colour" (Statistics Canada, 2018).

N.I.E – Not Indicated Elsewhere includes respondents who reported a write-in response such as 'Guyanese,' 'West Indian,' 'Tibetan,' 'Polynesian'.

Source: Statistics Canada, custom tabulation (2016 Census). 2018.