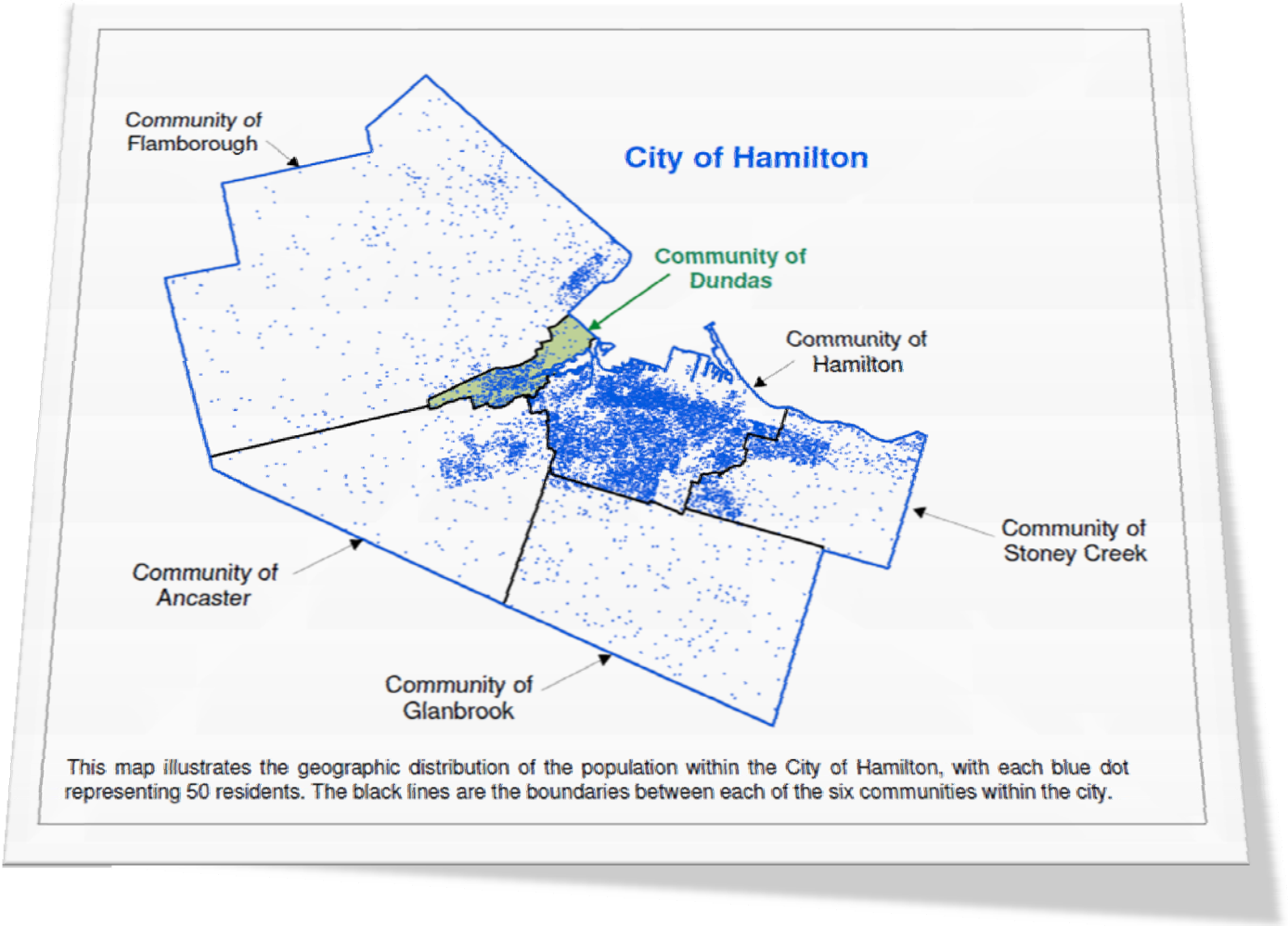
United Way of Burlington & Greater Hamilton

Community Profiles

Dundas

SPRC Social Planning & Research Council of Hamilton



This map illustrates the geographic distribution of the population within the City of Hamilton, with each blue dot representing 50 residents. The black lines are the boundaries between each of the six communities within the city.

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We would also like to acknowledge members of the Canadian Social Data Consortium in Hamilton and the Social Planning Network of Ontario for their support in making in-depth census data available locally.

Finally, thanks to all members of the SPRC staff team who have contributed to the development of these profiles.

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1.0 INTRODUCTION

These Community Profiles have been developed to aid in understanding the unique social characteristics important to, yet distinct about, each community within the City of Hamilton. This series of reports will look at a number of demographic variables across each these communities. This edition focuses the Community of Dundas. The information provided can be used by community members to identify actions that might be taken to respond to changing conditions and to continue to improve city life.

On January 1 2001, the six municipalities of the Hamilton-Wentworth Region (Ancaster, Dundas, Flamborough, Glanbrook, Hamilton, and Stoney Creek) were amalgamated into the new City of Hamilton. The former municipalities continue to hold their unique character, population and geography and are now official Communities within the City of Hamilton. The City of Hamilton now has a population of over 504,000 people, and covers a vast and diverse geographical area – from rural Flamborough to the urban centre of the former municipality of Hamilton. There is also diversity among the people who live in the City of Hamilton. A growing population, increased immigration, growing numbers of seniors and a range of incomes – from rich to very poor characterize some of the differences that exist across the new city.

(For clarity, in this report the entire City of Hamilton will always be referred by its full name. References to Hamilton will indicate the former municipality of Hamilton, now officially the Community of Hamilton within the City of Hamilton. Please see the front cover for the boundaries of all the communities within the City of Hamilton.)

The information in this report is presented in five sections. In the first section, the selected characteristics of Dundas are reviewed and illustrated with charts and maps. The second section presents information about the changing labour force characteristics in the entire City of Hamilton, including Dundas. The fourth section provides information about food security issues in the City of Hamilton, and the fifth provides information about United Way agencies and clients in Dundas.

The information provided in Section 2.0 of this report is primarily based on the 2006 Census of Canada (Statistics Canada), with additional data from the 1996 and 2001 Censuses used as points of comparison[1]. The boundaries in the maps are census tract boundaries used by Statistics Canada. Census tracts are small and relatively stable areas that usually have a population of 2,500 to 8,000 people. Map 1 shows the roads and landmarks in Dundas to help readers orient themselves for the maps throughout this document. The legends for the maps are based on the values for the entire City of Hamilton, so in some cases the legends in this report display classes that are not present on the maps for Dundas. Configuring the legends in this manner was done to allow for easy comparisons of maps between different reports in this series of Community Profiles.

[1] At the time of publication of parts of this report, Statistics Canada had not yet made available data grouped by former municipalities in the City of Hamilton. Instead, this report summarizes data from the census tracts within Dundas (these combined census tracts have the exact same boundaries as Dundas). However, due to rounding that Statistics Canada applies to data in each census tract, this method creates an error of approximately one half a percentage point for the data that is presented in this report, compared to the more accurate data that Statistics Canada will release at a later date.

Section 3.0 of this report addresses the changing labour force characteristics for the entire City of Hamilton with an emphasis on changes since the economic downturn that began in 2008. Data is from Statistics Canada's most recent indicators, and the City of Hamilton.

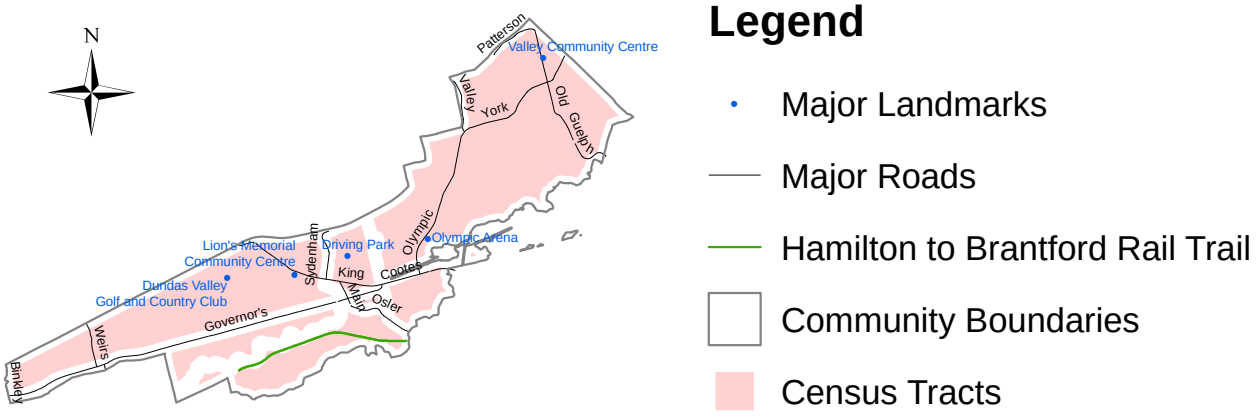
The information in Section 4.0 is from the Ontario Association of Food Banks, Statistics Canada's Consumer Price Index, and the City of Hamilton's Food Access Guide.

The data presented in Section 5.0 of this report has been provided by the United Way of Burlington and Greater Hamilton. The number of clients shown includes information collected from those agencies that track clients by residence in each former municipality. Some agencies do not collect data by client location because of their unique service characteristics; as a result, some client data is not included in this report. Over the coming years, the SPRC will continue to work with the United Way and its agencies to develop client and community service databases to ensure the best possible report of service to the community supported by the United Way.

In the coming months, the Social Planning and Research Council of Hamilton will be publishing a profile of the social landscape for the City of Hamilton. This report will include many of the same demographic variables as found in this Community Profile, but for the entire city and with comparisons to other cities. It is our hope that these reports will complement each other.

At the end of this report, we have included an evaluation questionnaire. We encourage readers to complete this survey to help us improve future editions of this report. Respondents will be entered in a prize draw for a $50 gift certificate for Bryan Prince Bookseller in Hamilton, which will be drawn at the SPRC's Annual General Meeting in June of 2010.

Map 1: Reference map for Community of Dundas, City of Hamilton



2.0 POPULATION

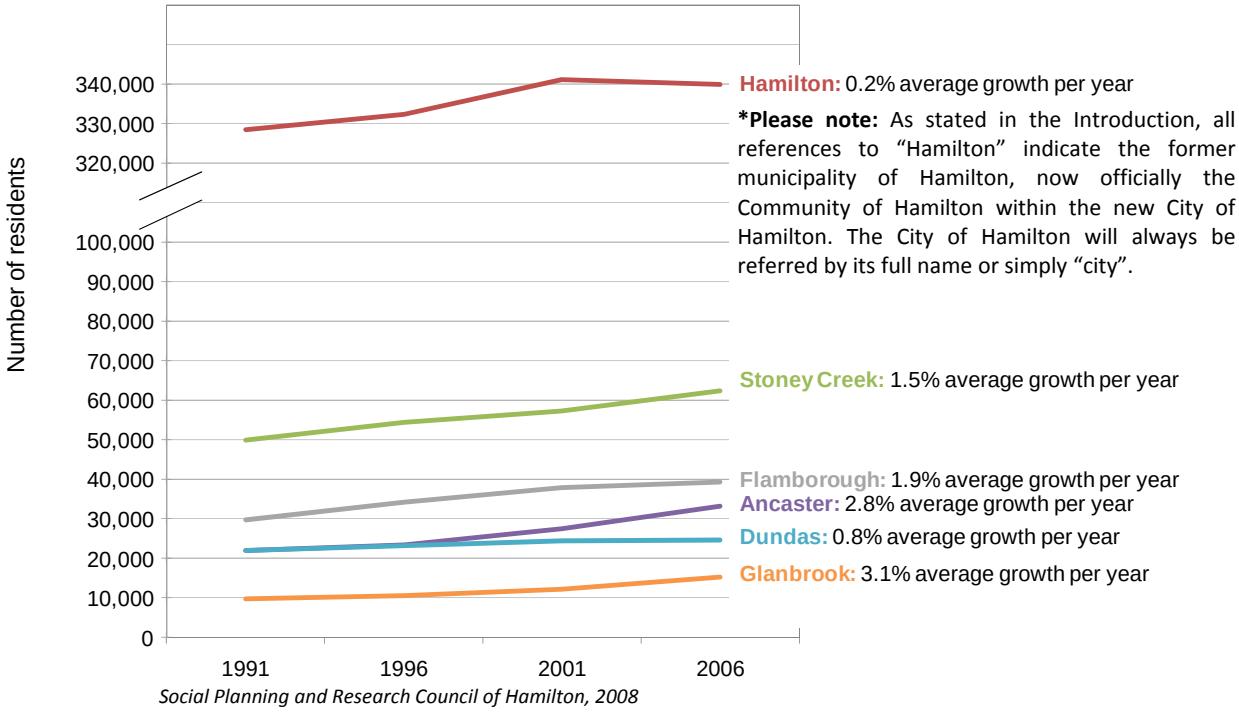
One in 20 City of Hamilton residents lives in Dundas

At 24,710 persons in 2006, Dundas is the 2nd smallest community in the City of Hamilton, with 5% of the total population.

Dundas has been the second slowest growing Community in the City of Hamilton

The Community of Dundas had a population of 24,710 people in 2006, an increase of 2842 persons since 1991 (Chart 1). The average annual growth rate over the last 15 years in Dundas has been 0.9%, slightly higher than the average of 0.7% per year for the City of Hamilton (formerly the Hamilton-Wentworth Region) for that same period. By comparison, the average annual increase in population for the province of Ontario has been 1.3% since 1991.

Chart 1: Population Growth, Communities with the City of Hamilton, 1991-2006

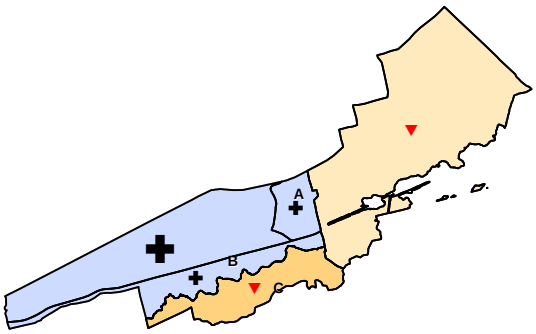


Social Planning and Research Council of Hamilton, 2008

Downtown Dundas experiencing modest growth

Map 2 shows that the growth is not evenly spread across Dundas. Some of the more densely populated parts of Dundas in the downtown (location A) and western areas (location B) are experiencing some modest growth, while the Pleasant Valley area (location C) has experienced a decrease in population. Like in other parts of the city, areas of high growth are principally a reflection of where new housing units are being built.

Map 2: Population Change in Dundas, 2001-2006



Legend

Increase or decrease in the number of people in each census tract

- 1000 to 3264
- 250 to 999
- 0 to 249
- -250 to -1
- -1156 to -251

% change in population in each census tract

- +25.0% to +85.0%
- +10.0% to +24.9%
- 0.0 to +9.9%
- -5.0% to -0.1%
- -10.0% to -5.1%

Social Planning and Research Council of Hamilton, 2008

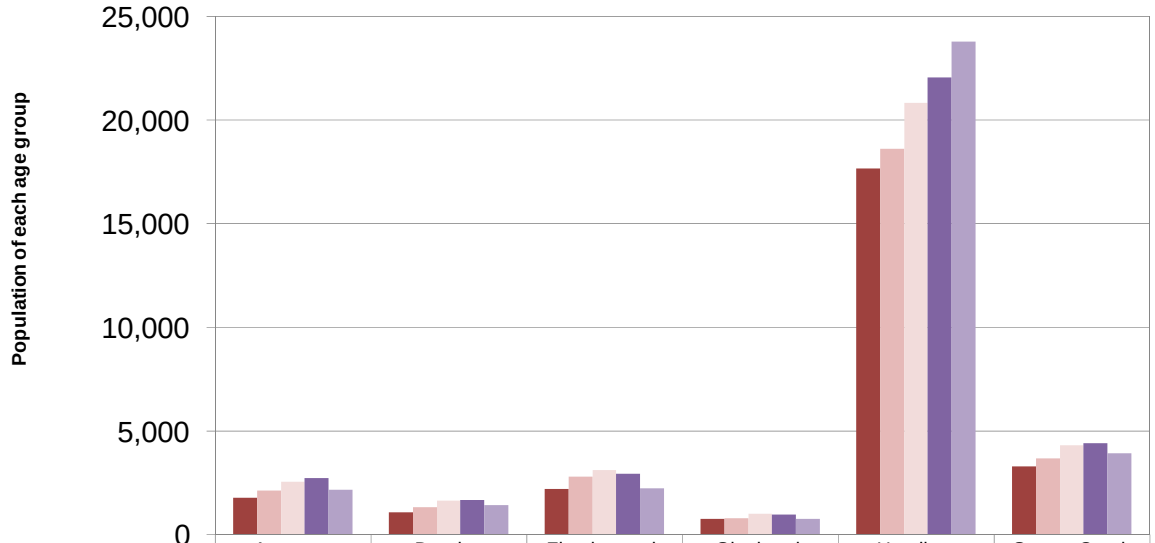
Letters indicate locations discussed in the text.

2.1 Children and Youth

Almost 1 in 6 residents in Dundas is under age 15

In 2006, there were 4,065 children aged 0-14 years of age in Dundas (Chart 2). This represents 16% of Dundas' population. The proportion of children in Dundas is the lowest of all the communities within the City of Hamilton, but is still only slightly lower than the overall average for the City of Hamilton (18%).

Chart 2: Children and Youth, Communities within City of Hamilton, 2006



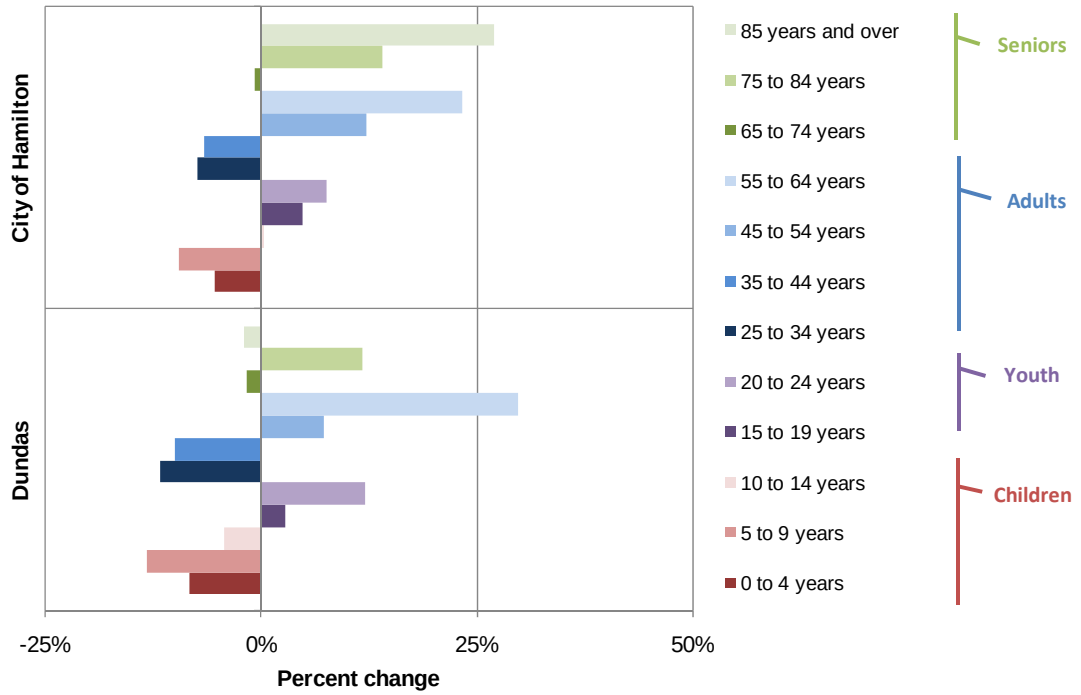
	Ancaster	Dundas	Flamborough	Glanbrook	Hamilton	Stoney Creek
0 to 4 years	1,800	1,090	2,225	790	17,700	3,295
5 to 9 years	2,155	1,335	2,805	805	18,625	3,695
10 to 14 years	2,575	1,640	3,140	1,020	20,845	4,330
15 to 19 years	2,745	1,695	2,970	975	22,095	4,430
20 to 24 years	2,185	1,445	2,250	770	23,805	3,945
Total Children (0 - 14)	6,530	4,065	8,170	2,615	57,170	11,320
Total Youth (15 - 24)	4,930	3,140	5,220	1,745	45,900	8,375

Social Planning and Research Council of Hamilton, 2008

Dundas' population of children is declining

Between 2001 and 2006, there was a decrease in all young and middle child age groups (Chart 3). While the actual numbers are relatively small (100 fewer children 0-4, 205 fewer 5-9 years olds, and 75 fewer 10-14 year olds), the percent change of each group was more than the City of Hamilton average for these age groups.

Chart 3: Population change by age groups, 2001-2006

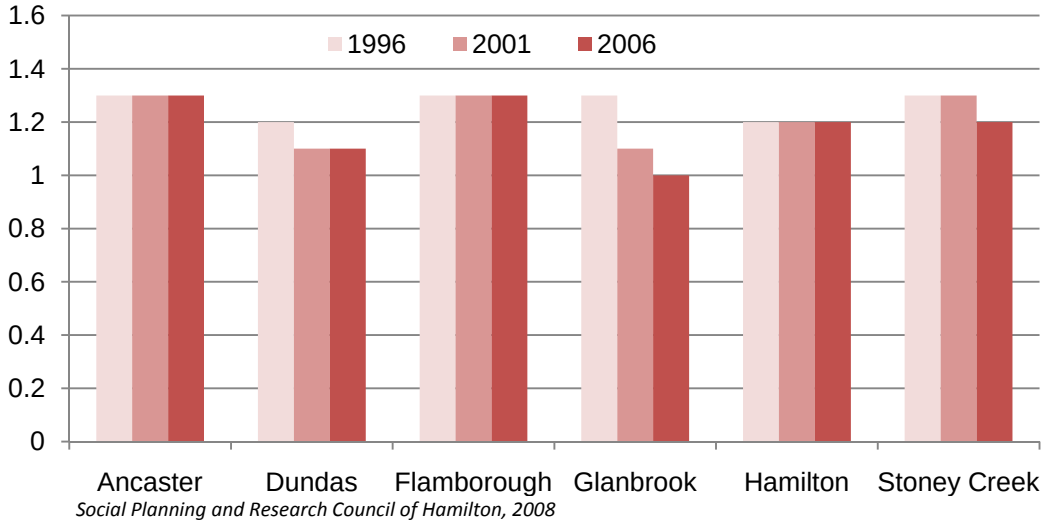


Social Planning and Research Council of Hamilton, 2008

Family size decreased in Dundas

The average family in Dundas has 1.1 children living at home in 2006, which has been stable since 2001, but dropped from 1.2 in 1996 (Chart 4). Dundas has the second smallest family size in the City.

Chart 4: Number of children living at home per family, 1996-2001

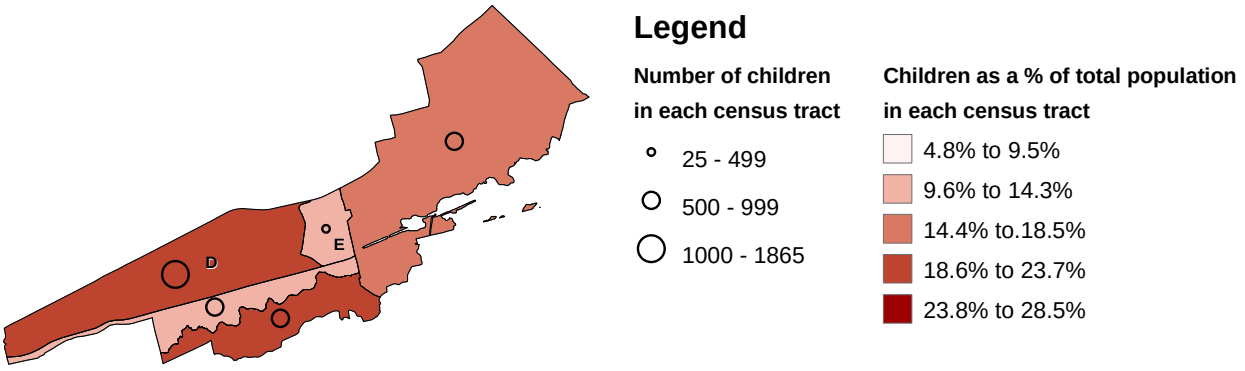


Social Planning and Research Council of Hamilton, 2008

Children are a large proportion of residents in northwest Dundas

The greatest number of children (1,665 kids 0-14 years of age) is found in the northwest area of Dundas (location D on Map 3); in this area 19% of the population is children 0-14. By comparison, only 375 children (0-14) live in downtown Dundas (location E), which is 12% of the total population for that area.

Map 3: Children 0-14 years of age in Dundas, 2006



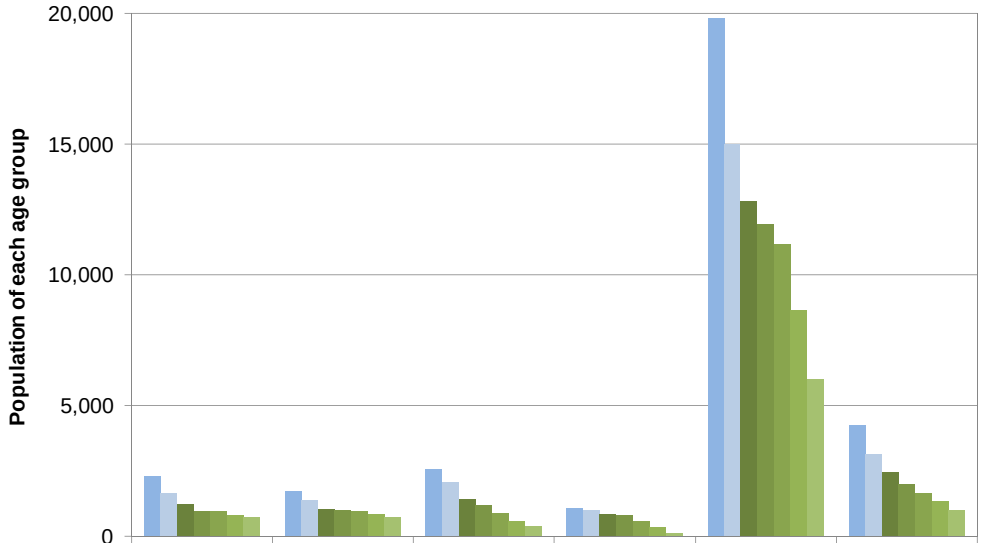
Social Planning and Research Council of Hamilton, 2008

2.2 Seniors

Dundas has the highest concentration of seniors in the City of Hamilton

In 2006, there were 4,570 persons age 65 and over living in Dundas (Chart 5) – 1,825 men and 2,745 women. This represents 19% of the population, the highest percentage of all the communities within the City of Hamilton. Overall, the City of Hamilton is composed of 15% seniors.

Chart 5: Older Adults, Communities within City of Hamilton, 2006



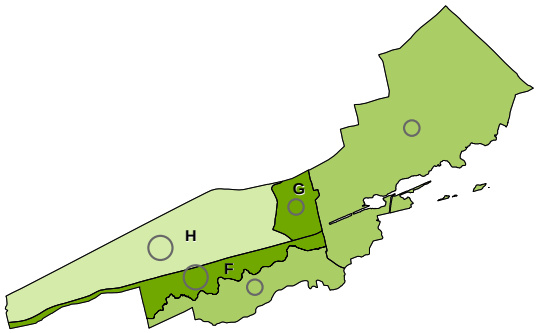
	Ancaster	Dundas	Flamborough	Glanbrook	Hamilton	Stoney Creek
55 to 59 years	2,335	1,760	2,560	1,090	19,795	4,275
60 to 64 years	1,665	1,395	2,085	995	14,995	3,135
65 to 69 years	1,230	1,050	1,405	840	12,835	2,435
70 to 74 years	960	990	1,200	820	11,915	1,975
75 to 79 years	955	965	910	590	11,170	1,645
80 to 84 years	795	840	590	370	8,660	1,350
85 years and over	715	725	385	155	6,015	1,005
Total Seniors (65 years and over)	4,655	4,570	4,490	2,775	50,595	8,410

Social Planning and Research Council of Hamilton, 2008

Downtown and northwest areas of Dundas have high number of seniors

The distribution of seniors across Dundas ranges from 15% of the population in the northwest Dundas to 26% of the population in the Highland Hills area (location F on Map 4). This latter area contains St-Joseph's Villa, one of the largest seniors' residences in the City of Hamilton. The downtown area (location G) also has a large percentage of seniors (24%, or 735 seniors). When we look at the raw number of seniors, the area with the smallest percentage of seniors, the northwest (location H), actually has the largest number of seniors (1,315 persons over age 65). This is a result of the northwest having the highest total population of all the census tracts in Dundas.

Map 4: Seniors (65 and over) in Dundas, 2006



Legend

Number of seniors in each census tract

- 10 to 499
- 500 to 999
- 1000 to 2165

Seniors as a % of total population in each census tract

- 5.0% to 9.9%
- 10.0% to 14.9%
- 15.0% to 19.9%
- 20.0% to 29.9%
- 30.0% to 40.0%

Social Planning and Research Council of Hamilton, 2008

Letters indicate locations discussed in the text.

Senior population in Dundas growing more slowly than the City of Hamilton average

Between 2001 and 2006 there were widely varied growth rates of the different senior age groups (Chart 3). The numbers of youngest seniors (aged 65-75) and oldest seniors (over age 85) both decreased by small amounts. In contrast, the 75-85 age group grew by 12%, almost the same as the average for all age groups in Dundas (13%). By comparison, the City of Hamilton has higher growth in the 85 plus and 75-84 age group. But, as in Dundas, the City of Hamilton experienced a small drop in its population of youngest seniors.

Evidence that the seniors' population may grow more quickly in the coming years

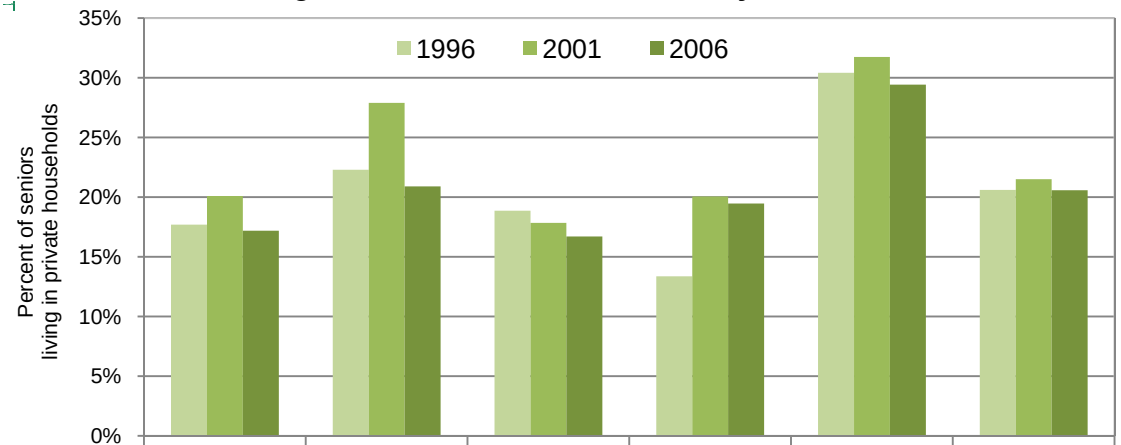
The breakdown of Dundas older adults (Chart 5) shows that the age groups of the current senior population have quite similar levels of population, which is a quite different breakdown than in most of the other communities within the City of Hamilton. This could indicate that there is a fair amount of in-migration of older seniors from other parts of Hamilton or other cities. But the population in Dundas of persons aged 55-64 is quite a bit higher, which means that Dundas is set to have even more growth of its senior population, assuming that most of them continue to reside in Dundas.

The number of seniors living alone is decreasing

Seniors living alone generally have more difficult access to support if they face illness or disability compared to seniors living with a spouse, with family or in institutional care[2]. In Dundas the proportion of seniors living alone has been second only to the Community of Hamilton in 1996 and 2001, and was tied for second with Stoney Creek in 2006 at 21% (Chart 6). From 2001 to 2006, Dundas and Hamilton were the only communities that experienced a drop in the actual numbers of seniors living alone (to 955 persons in 2006 in Dundas)

[2] Statistics Canada. 2007. A Portrait of Seniors in Canada. Catalogue no. 89-519.

Chart 6: Seniors living alone, Communities within City of Hamilton, 1996-2006



	Ancaster	Dundas	Flamborough	Glanbrook	Hamilton	Stoney Creek
1996	18%	22%	19%	13%	30%	21%
2001	20%	28%	18%	20%	32%	21%
2006	17%	21%	17%	19%	29%	21%
1996	500	875	615	165	14,845	1,285
2001	670	990	660	390	14,940	1,450
2006	800	955	750	540	14,885	1,730

Number of seniors who are living alone each year in each community

Percentage of seniors who are living alone each year in each community

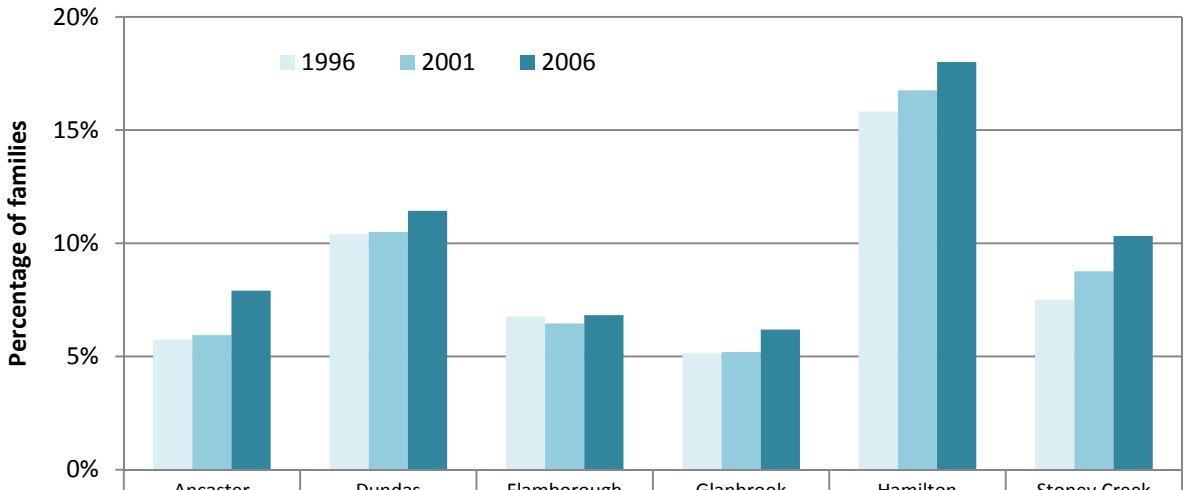
Social Planning and Research Council of Hamilton, 2008

2.3 Female Lone Parents

Percentage of single moms in Dundas is second highest in City

Female lone parent-led families have traditionally reported a disproportionally high rate of poverty, reflecting the challenge of running a household and raising kids on a single income. The particular challenges that women face in the labour market has also meant that single moms are more likely to live in low income than single dads. Chart 7 shows that Dundas has the second highest proportion of families led by single moms at 11%, after Hamilton (18%), a number which has been relatively stable since 1996 (when 10% of the population was female lone parents).

Chart 7: Families led by Female Lone Parents,
Communities within the City of Hamilton, 1996-2006



	Ancaster	Dundas	Flamborough	Glanbrook	Hamilton	Stoney Creek
1996	6%	10%	7%	5%	16%	8%
2001	6%	11%	6%	5%	17%	9%
2006	8%	11%	7%	6%	18%	10%
1996	380	665	665	155	13,745	1,145
2001	470	720	710	190	15,090	1,445
2006	745	795	770	295	16,140	1,875

Percentage of families led by female lone parents

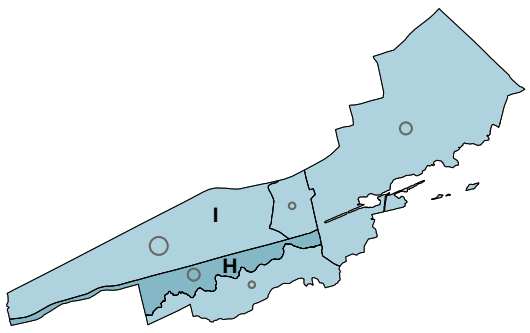
Number of female lone parents

Social Planning and Research Council of Hamilton, 2008

Largest number of female lone parents in western Dundas

The Highland Hills area of Dundas has the highest proportion of families led by of single moms at 15% (location H on Map 5). The census tract just north of it (location I), had a lower proportion of female lone parent-led families (12% in 2006) but it had the highest raw numbers of this type of family (just under 300 female lone parents).

Map 5: Female Lone Parents in Dundas, 2006



Legend

Number of families led by female lone parents
- 0 - 125
- 126 - 250
- 251 - 350
- 351 - 510

Female lone parent-led families as a % of total families
- 0 - 8%
- 8.1% - 14%
- 14.1% - 19%
- 19.1% - 25%
- 25.1% - 32%
- No data available

Social Planning and Research Council of Hamilton, 2008

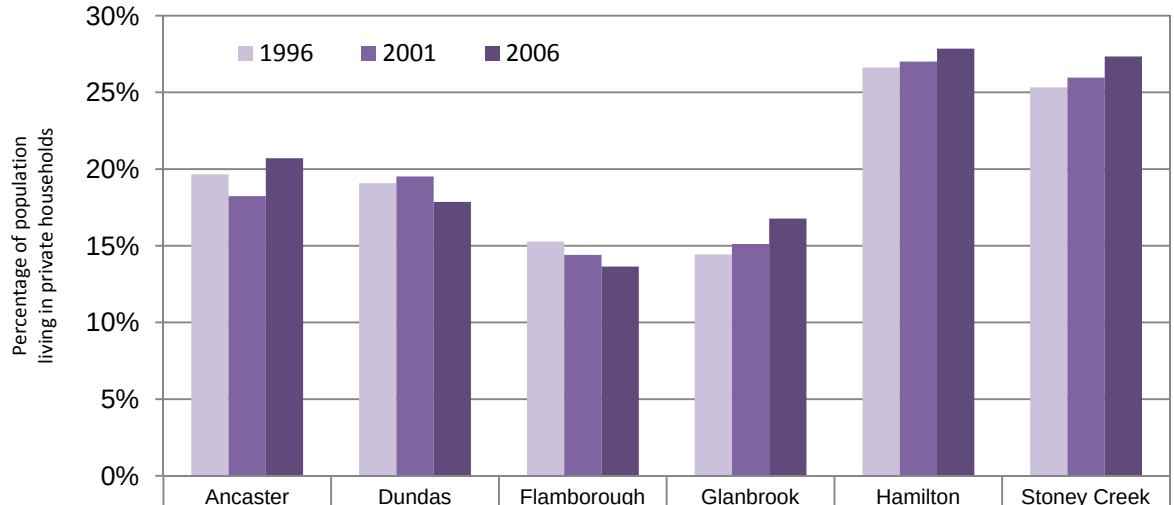
Letters indicate locations discussed in the text.

2.4 Immigrants and Visible Minorities

The number of Dundas residents born outside of Canada is stable

Chart 8 shows that the number of immigrants in Dundas stayed almost exactly the same from 1996 (4,260) to 2006 (4,270) and the corresponding portion of the population has dropped slightly (from 19% to 18%). Only the Community of Glanbrook has fewer immigrants in 1996 (2,560) but in Glanbrook the proportion of foreign born residents has been steadily increasing. If the stable trend in Dundas and the growth trend in Glanbrook both continue, then by 2016 Glanbrook could have more immigrants than Dundas, and Dundas could be the community with the fewest immigrants in the City of Hamilton. The top three regions of birth for Dundas immigrants are Northern Europe, Western Europe and Eastern Europe.

Chart 8: Immigrants, Communities within the City of Hamilton, 1996-2006



	Ancaster	Dundas	Flamborough	Glanbrook	Hamilton	Stoney Creek
1996	20%	19%	15%	14%	27%	25%
2001	18%	20%	14%	15%	27%	26%
2006	21%	18%	14%	17%	28%	27%
1996	4,580	4,260	5,185	1,520	84,790	13,636
2001	4,990	4,580	5,425	1,830	88,295	14,755
2006	6,770	4,270	5,315	2,560	89,765	16,860

Percentage of the population composed of immigrants

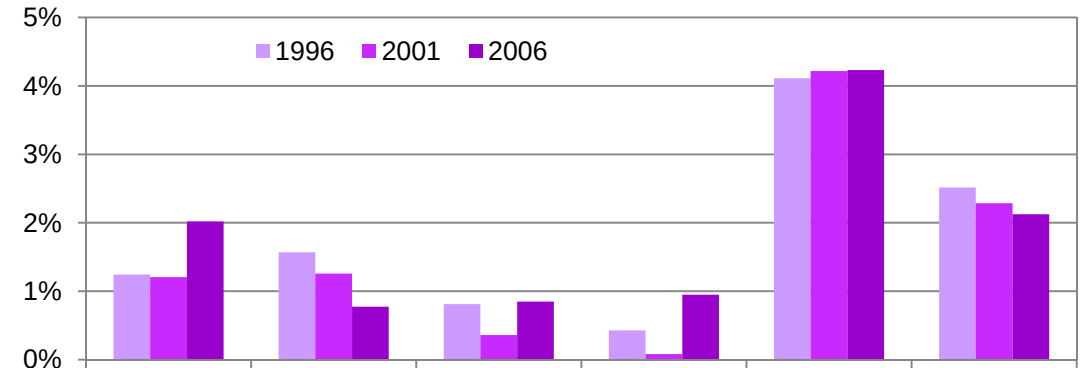
Number of immigrants

Social Planning and Research Council of Hamilton, 2008

Dundas is chosen by fewer recent immigrants as a place to live

Recent immigrants are defined by Statistics Canada as arriving in Canada in the previous five years of any given census year. Recent immigrants can be a population with high needs, as they are less familiar with the community services and supports available, and often face language and labour market barriers. Dundas has had a decline in both the percentage of its population composed of recent immigrants (from 1.6% in 1996 to 0.8% in 2006) and the actual number of recent immigrants, standing at 185 in 2006, which is down almost 50% from 1996 (Chart 9). Dundas now has the lowest percentage of recent immigrant in its population in the City of Hamilton. The top three regions of birth of recent immigrants in Dundas in the 2006 census were Eastern Asia, Northern Europe and Northern Africa.

Chart 9: Recent Immigrants (arriving to Canada in the previous five years), Communities within the City of Hamilton, 1996-2006



	Ancaster	Dundas	Flamborough	Glanbrook	Hamilton	Stoney Creek
1996	1.2%	1.6%	0.8%	0.4%	4.1%	2.5%
2001	1.2%	1.3%	0.4%	0.1%	4.2%	2.3%
2006	2.0%	0.8%	0.8%	0.9%	4.2%	2.1%
1996	290	350	275	45	13,100	1,355
2001	330	295	135	10	13,785	1,300
2006	660	185	330	145	13,635	1,310

Number of recent immigrants

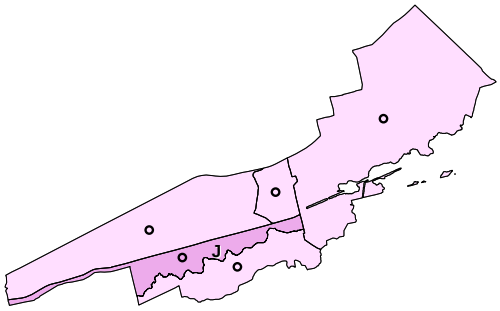
Percentage of the population composed of recent immigrants

Social Planning and Research Council of Hamilton, 2008

Recent immigrants quite low in all parts of Dundas

As discussed, the numbers of recent immigrants in Dundas is quite low overall, and Map 6 shows that the numbers of recent immigrants is very low in each census tract (all under 70 persons). The largest concentration is in the Highland Hills area (location J) with 65 persons representing just under 2% of that area's population.

Map 6: Recent Immigrants (arriving in Canada between 2001-2006) in Dundas, 2006



Legend

Number of recent immigrants	Recent immigrants as a % of total population
0 - 100	0% - 1.5%
101 - 250	1.6% - 3%
251 - 650	3.1% - 6%
651 - 1140	6.1% - 12%
	12.1% - 25%

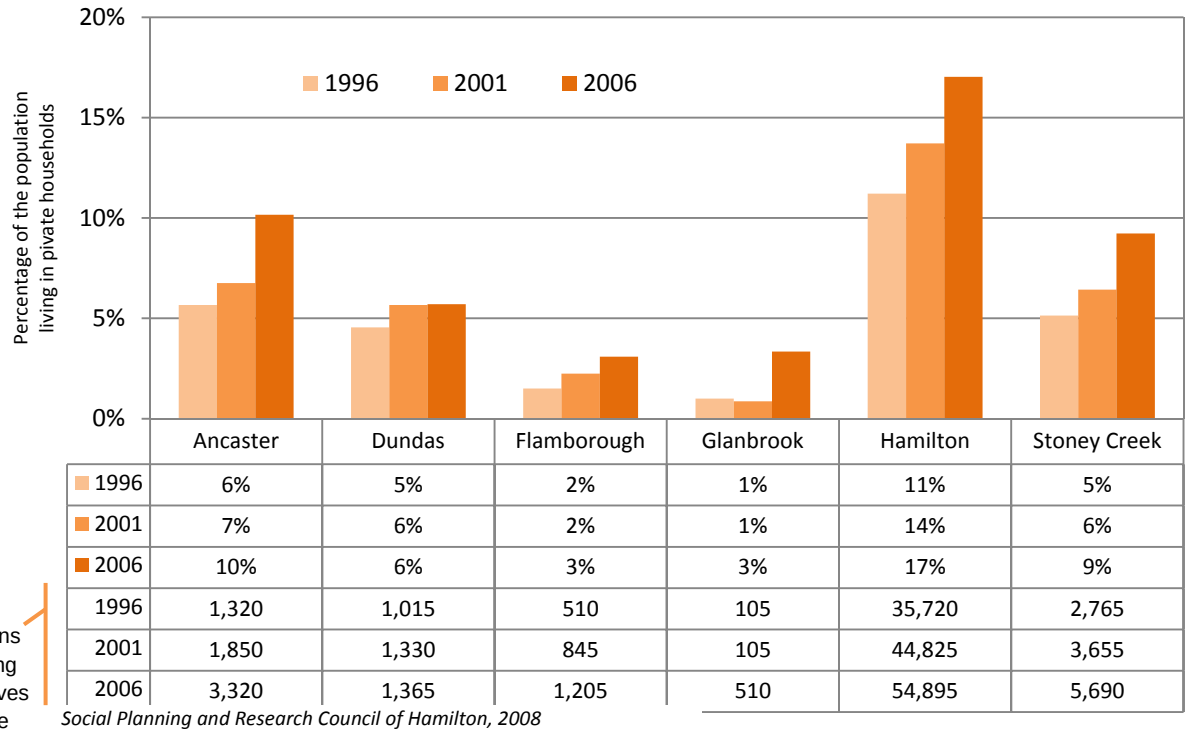
Social Planning Research Council of Hamilton, 2008

Letters indicate locations discussed in the text.

Dundas' visible minority population has become stable

The proportion of visible minorities in Dundas has become stable at 6% after a small increase in from 1996-2001 (Chart 10). In Dundas, Chinese and South Asian are the largest visible minority groups, accounting for over half of the visible minority population (Chart 11).

Chart 10: Visible Minorities, Communities within the City of Hamilton, 1996-2006



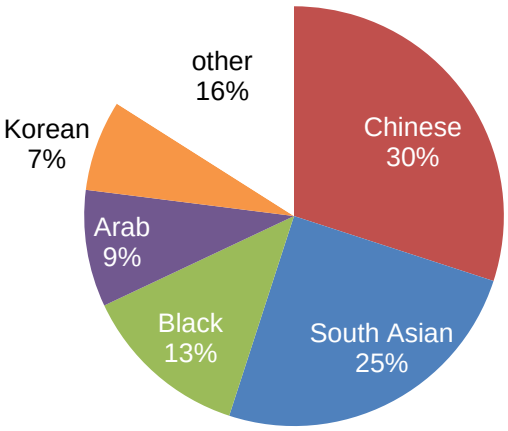
	Ancaster	Dundas	Flamborough	Glanbrook	Hamilton	Stoney Creek
1996	6%	5%	2%	1%	11%	5%
2001	7%	6%	2%	1%	14%	6%
2006	10%	6%	3%	3%	17%	9%
1996	1,320	1,015	510	105	35,720	2,765
2001	1,850	1,330	845	105	44,825	3,655
2006	3,320	1,365	1,205	510	54,895	5,690

Percentage of the population composed of visible minorities

Number of persons identifying themselves as visible minorities

Social Planning and Research Council of Hamilton, 2008

Chart 11: Visible Minority Groups, Dundas, 2006



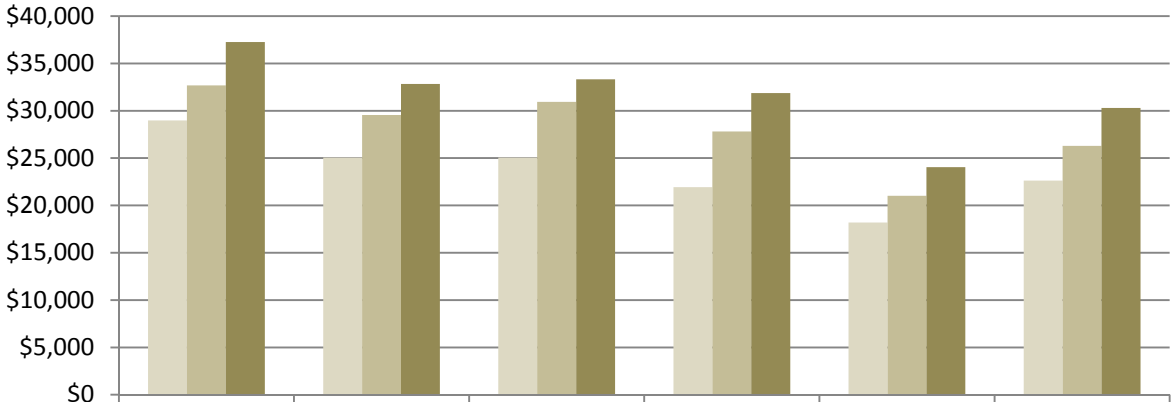
Social Planning and Research Council of Hamilton, 2008

2.5 Incomes and Poverty

Dundas has third highest median income, very close to second place Flamborough

Median income is the point at which half the population earns more and half the population earns less. It is a better measure than average income, as it is not inflated by a few residents earning 10 or 20 times what others in the area earn. As Chart 12 shows, The median income in Dundas (over $32,000) is almost tied with Flamborough for the second highest median income in the City of Hamilton, after Ancaster (which is over $37,000).

Chart 12: Median Individual Income (aged 15 and over), Communities within the City of Hamilton, 1996-2006



	Ancaster	Dundas	Flamborough	Glanbrook	Hamilton	Stoney Creek
1996	$28,987	$25,056	$25,060	$21,935	$18,203	$22,617
2001	$32,682	$29,562	$30,944	$27,806	$21,025	$26,284
2006	$37,269	$32,828	$33,317	$31,871	$24,043	$30,301

Social Planning and Research Council of Hamilton, 2008

The following section of the Community Profile considers the level of poverty in the City of Hamilton based on the most commonly reported measure – Statistics Canada's Low Income Cut-Off (LICO). The LICO measure is a relative measure of poverty introduced in Canada in 1968. When researchers or the media refers to "poverty lines" or "incidence of low-income", they are generally referring to the LICO measure.

The LICO considers the average cost of basic necessities (including housing, food, and clothing) for different sized households in different sized communities. The measure then adds an additional 20% to determine the low-income cut-off for the specific group. A Statistics Canada survey of family expenditure in 1992 determined that the average Canadian family spent about 35% of its income on food, clothing and shelter. Statistics Canada concluded that a family that spent significantly more (i.e., 20 percentage points more) of its income on essentials was living in straitened circumstances. As a result, it has adopted 55 per cent of income as the cutoff point: families that spent more than 55% of their income on essentials would have little or no income left to spend on transportation, health, personal care, education, household operation, recreation, insurance and other unexpected expenses.[3]

[3] The Canadian Fact Book on Poverty 1994, by David Ross, E. Richard Shillington and Clarence Lochhead. Canadian Council on Social Development http://www.ccsd.ca/pubs/archive/fb94/fs_povbk.htm

Table 1 shows the LICO for the City of Hamilton. Please note that the LICO presented here represents before tax household incomes. The data presented were collected during the 2006 census and represent 2005 household incomes.

Table 1: LICO Thresholds for City of Hamilton (Before Tax) – 2005[4]	
Family Size	**Low-Income Cut-Off**
1 person	$20,778
2 person	$25,867
3 person	$31,801
4 person	$38,610
5 person	$43,791
6 person	$49,389
7+ person	$54,987

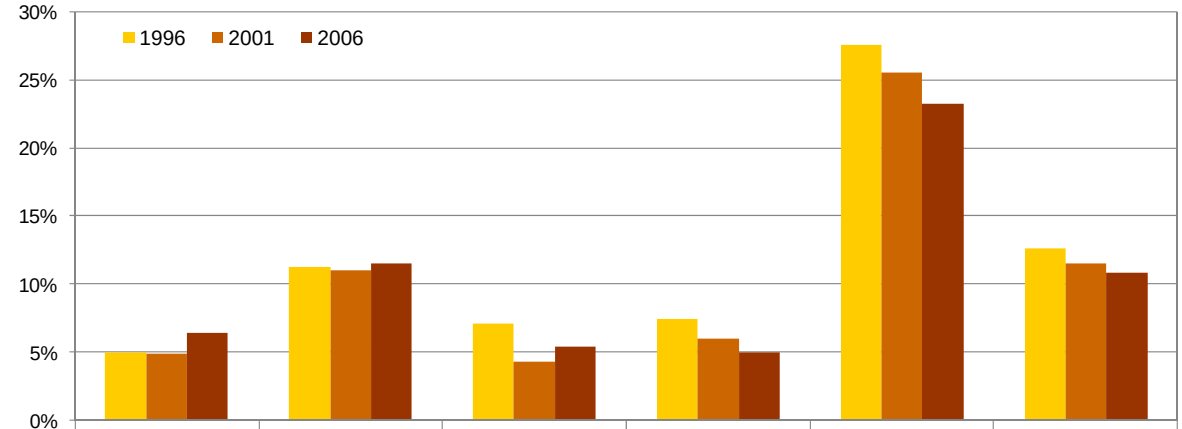
Dundas poverty rate second highest in the city

Dundas' low income rate has been stable in the 1996-2006 period at 11% (Chart 13), in contrast with most of the other communities within the City of Hamilton, where the poverty rates decreased in this time frame. Dundas has is now tied with Stoney Creek for the second highest rate of poverty of all the communities, after Hamilton (23%). As we saw in the discussion about median income, Dundas is almost tied for second place with respect to median income. The relatively high median income and high rate of poverty suggest a larger gap between the rich and poor in Dundas than in other communities.

The rate of poverty for seniors in Dundas (11% in 2006, see Chart 14) is higher than the rate for young children (9% in 2006,). The rates for both these groups are in third place behind Hamilton and Stoney Creek.

[4] Statistics Canada varies its LICO calculation based on population size and density parameters for five different community sizes which they define and identify. Their definitions of urban and rural communities are different than municipal boundaries. The values in the table above are for an urban area with a population of 500,000 or more. For detailed information, please see this Statistics Canada document: http://www.statcan.ca/english/research/75F0002MIE/75F0002MIE2006004.pdf

Chart 13: Poverty Rates (before tax), Communities within the City of Hamilton, 1996-2006



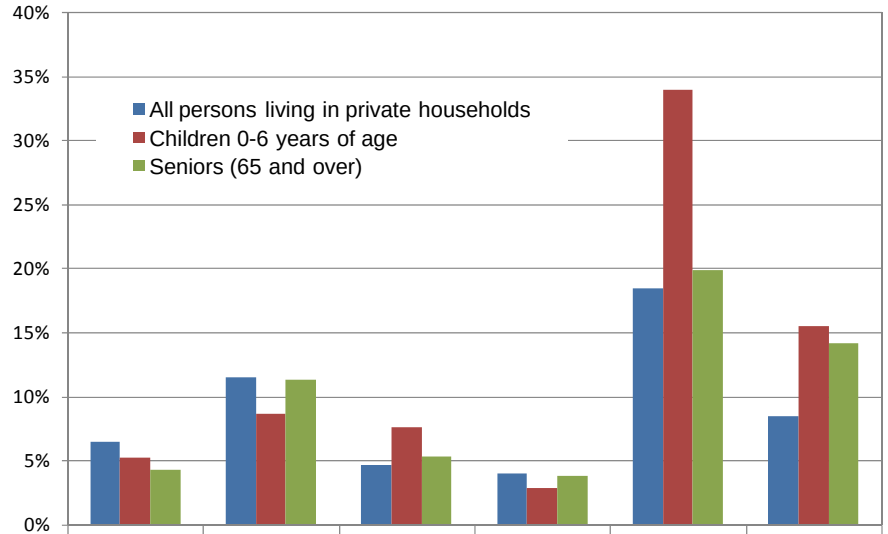
	Ancaster	Dundas	Flamborough	Glanbrook	Hamilton	Stoney Creek
1996	5%	11%	7%	7%	28%	13%
2001	5%	11%	4%	6%	25%	11%
2006	6%	11%	5%	5%	23%	11%
1996	1,160	2,500	2,400	785	87,545	6,800
2001	1,350	2,545	1,625	725	82,610	6,515
2006	2,094	2,718	2,097	762	74,572	6,662

Number of persons living on a low income

Percentage of the population living on a low income

Social Planning and Research Council of Hamilton, 2008

Chart 14: Poverty Rates (before tax) for selected groups, Communities within the City of Hamilton, 2006



	Ancaster	Dundas	Flamborough	Glanbrook	Hamilton	Stoney Creek
All persons living in private households	6%	11%	5%	4%	18%	8%
Children 0-6 years of age	5%	9%	8%	3%	34%	15%
Seniors (65 and over)	4%	11%	5%	4%	20%	14%
All persons living in private households	2,094	2,718	2,097	762	74,572	6,662
Children 0-6 years of age	117	120	207	28	7,129	616
Seniors (65 and over)	173	417	220	105	9,316	1,098

Percentage of each group living on a low income

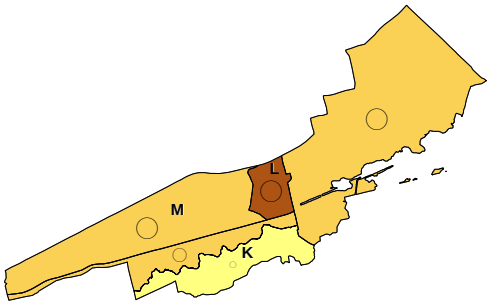
Number of persons in each group living on a low income

Social Planning and Research Council of Hamilton, 2008

Poverty rate ranges from 5% to 26% in different areas of Dundas

The low income rates in Dundas are quite different, ranging from 5% in the Pleasant Valley area (location K on Map 7), up to 26% of the population in downtown Dundas (location L). The single largest number of persons living under the poverty line is in the northwestern area (almost 800 persons in the census tract identified by location M).

Map 7: Poverty (Before Tax) in Dundas, 2006



Legend

Number of persons living on a low income

- 0 - 250
- 251 - 500
- 501 - 1000
- 1001 - 2996

Percentage of persons living on a low income

- 0% - 7%
- 8% - 15%
- 16% - 25%
- 26% - 40%
- 41% - 58%

Social Planning and Research Council of Hamilton, 2008

Letters indicate locations discussed in the text.

3.0 LABOUR FORCE

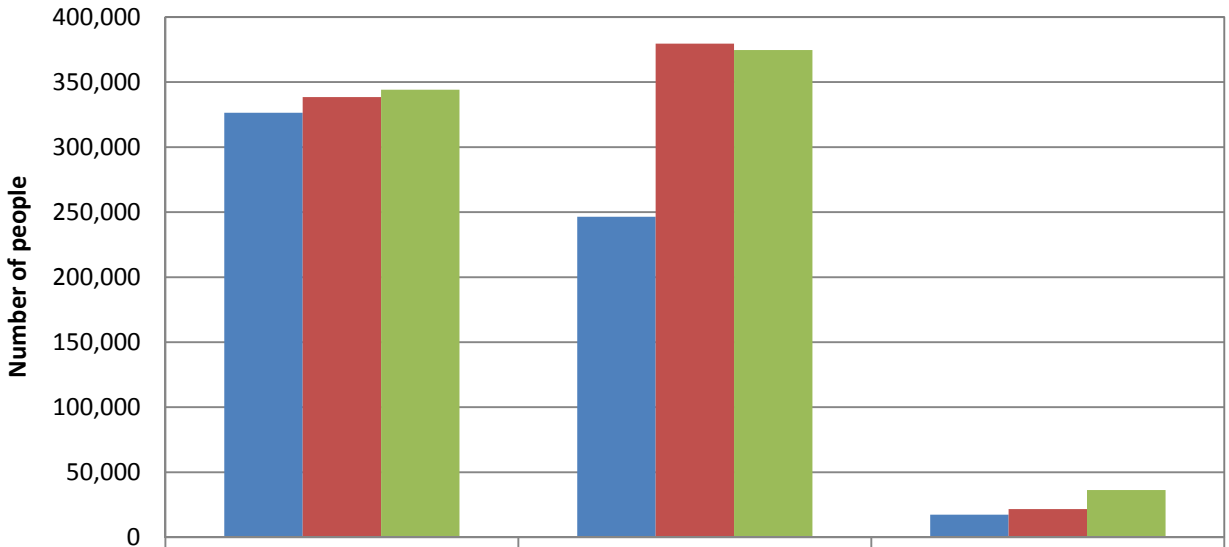
3.1 Changing Labour Force Characteristics

The City of Hamilton has a labour force in flux: the economic downturn has hit the city and local industry particularly hard, and 2009 saw the downsizing and/or closure of a number of manufacturing operations, leading to a drastic increase in the number of unemployed persons, number of Employment Insurance beneficiaries, and number of Ontario Works cases.

Increasing unemployment in the City of Hamilton

The City of Hamilton has seen a 67% increase in unemployed individuals from 2008 to 2009, and a 110% increase from 2006 to 2009. The number of people employed shrank by 4,900, although the total number of individuals participating in the work force has increased 1.6% from 2008 to 2009.

Chart 15: Unadjusted labour force characteristics for the City of Hamilton, 2006, 2008 and 2009

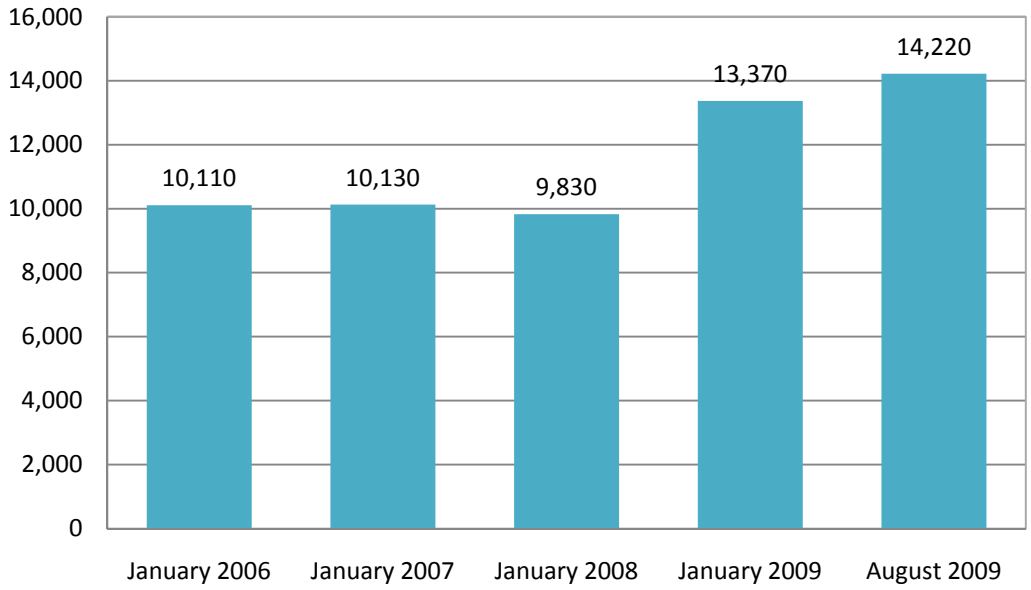


	Participating in Workforce	Employed	Unemployed
2006	326,400	246,400	17,300
2008	338,500	379,600	21,700
2009	344,100	374,700	36,300

The City of Hamilton has seen an increase in the number of EI beneficiaries

The number of people receiving Employment Insurance has risen sharply since 2008. From January 2008 to August 2009, Employment Insurance beneficiaries in the City of Hamilton increased by 4,390 people, up 45%.

Chart 16: Employment Insurance Beneficiaries, City of Hamilton, 2006-2009

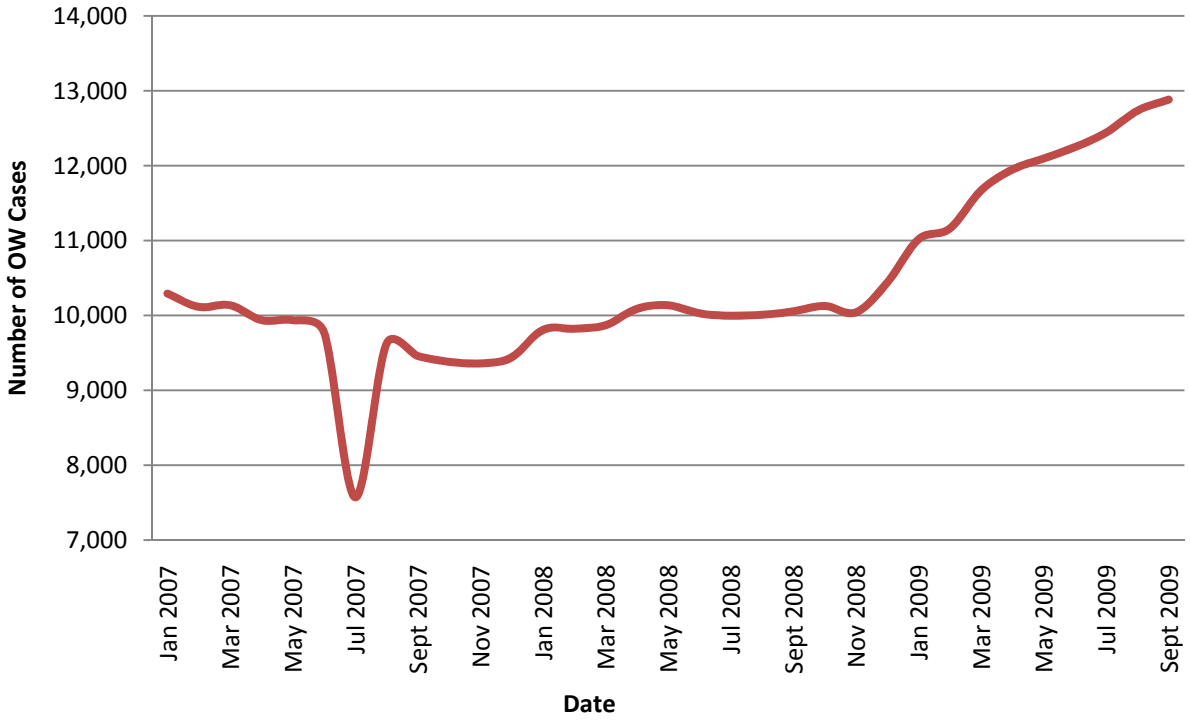


OW Caseload numbers in the City of Hamilton are rising

The number of Ontario Works caseloads in the City of Hamilton has also seen an increase over the past twelve months: from September 2008 to September 2009, the number of caseloads as risen by 28%. This trend is expected to continue into 2010, especially as Employment Insurance (EI) applications increase and people require emergency supplemental income while waiting for their first EI payments, or as EI benefits expire and individuals are still in need of income support. In addition to a rising number of caseloads, the City of Hamilton reports that fewer people are leaving the caseload for employment or other reasons.[5]

[5] City of Hamilton. Community Services Department, Employment and Income Support Division. June 2, 2009 Implementation of Phase 2 Ontario Works Caseload Contingency Plan (CS09021(a)) (City Wide). Available online at: http://www.myhamilton.ca/NR/rdonlyres/6B0367B7-11F1-41F0-BFDC-B6978E4506DC/0/Jun17Item84CS09021aREPORTImplementationOWContingencyPlan.pdf

Chart 17: Ontario Works Caseloads, City of Hamilton 2007-2009[6]



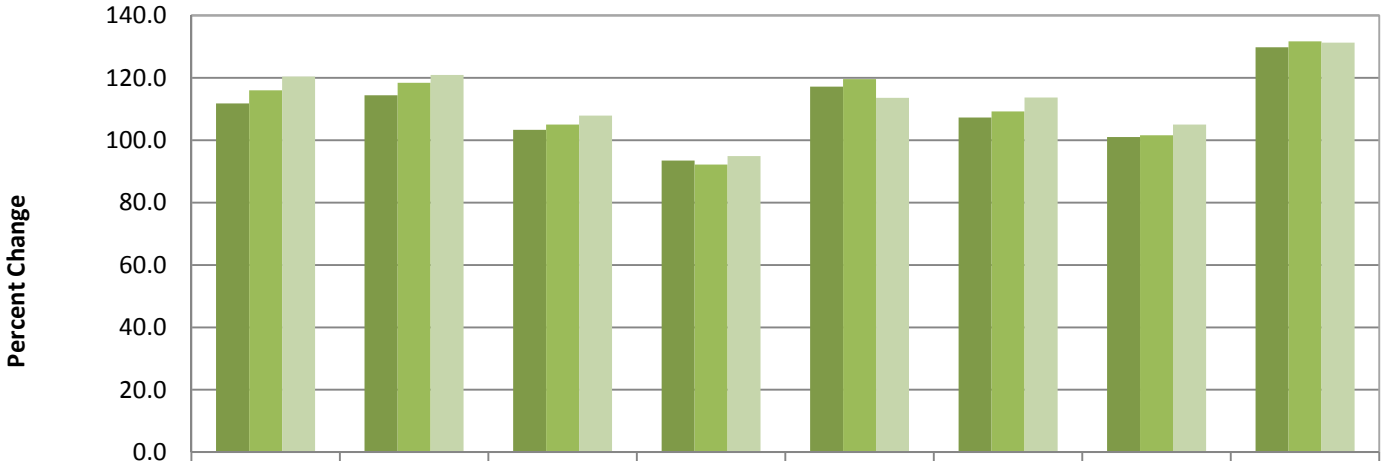
[6] Data courtesy of the City of Hamilton's Community Wellness Indicators. Available online at: http://www.myhamilton.ca/NR/rdonlyres/17F5D3A4-E0AB-423F-8D2A-22E3AA603C1A/0/HCWSep01.pdf

4.0 FOOD SECURITY

The Ontario Association of Food Banks is reporting that Ontario's food banks are increasingly stressed due to rising unemployment, high food prices, and increased demands for their services. Many food banks have experienced a decline in both financial and food donations in the past year, and existing food reserves are precariously low.[7]

Statistics Canada's Consumer Price Index shows that the price of food has been rising significantly. A 3.8% increase in food prices from January 2008 to September 2009 combined with increased costs for shelter, household expenses, clothing and footwear, health and personal items, and a failing economy means that Canadian families are increasingly in need of social supports like food banks and meal programs.

Chart 18: Consumer Price Index, Statistics Canada 2006-2009



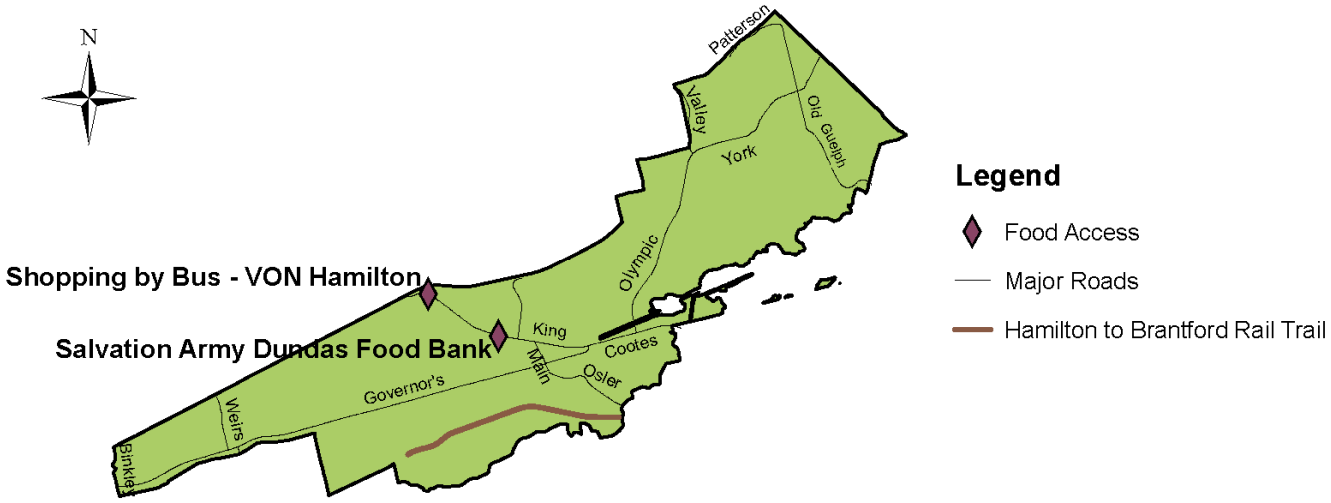
	Food	Shelter	Household	Clothing and footwear	Transportation	Health and personal	Recreation, education, reading	Alchoholic beverages, tobacco products
2007	111.8	114.4	103.3	93.5	117.2	107.3	101.0	129.8
2008	116.0	118.4	105.0	92.2	119.6	109.2	101.6	131.7
September 2009	120.4	120.9	107.9	94.9	113.6	113.7	105.0	131.3

[7] Ontario Association of Food Banks (2009). Special Report: In the Midst of the Storm: the Impact of the Economic Downturn for Ontario's Food Banks in 2009. Available online at: http://www.oafb.ca/assets/pdfs/SpecialReport.pdf

4.1 Food Access Sites in Dundas[8]

Food Banks	**Salvation Army, Dundas** Phone: (905) 627-0572 150 King St. West, Dundas ON	The Salvation Army in Dundas provides food assistance for residents of Dundas, Ancaster, Flamborough, and West Hamilton.
Shopping Services	**Shopping by Bus – VON Hamilton** (905) 522-0053 350 King St. East, Dundas, ON	An HSR bus takes clients to Fortino's or No Frills every second Wednesday at 10:00 AM and every second Thursday at 8:45 AM. A volunteer is available to provide assistance to shoppers.

Map 8: Locations of Food Access Sites in Dundas, 2009



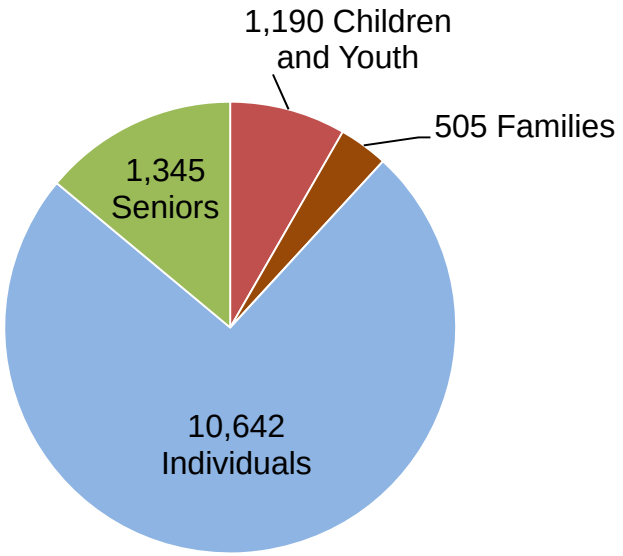
Social Planning and Research Council of Hamilton, 2009

[8] All information about food access sites was collected from the City of Hamilton's 2009 Food Access Guide, which is a comprehensive listing of places in the City of Hamilton where free or low cost food or meals are available. Electronic copies can be found at the City of Hamilton website: http://www.myhamilton.ca/myhamilton/CityandGovernment/HealthandSocialServices/TopicsAtoZ/#F

5.0 UNITED WAY SERVICES

5.1 Who is served by the United Way in Dundas?

In 2008 over **13,682*** individuals and families from the Dundas community accessed United Way funded services.



5.2 Some examples of United Way funded services and programs accessed by Dundas residents

Children and youth accessed recreational and day camp programs, counselling supports, leadership and training, good beginnings, mentoring and matching. Agencies that provided these services include:

- Alternatives for Youth
- Big Brothers Big Sisters Hamilton & Burlington
- Catholic Youth Organization
- Community Living Hamilton
- VON Hamilton
- Workers Art and Heritage Centre/Hamilton Youth Steel Orchestra
- YMCA Hamilton/Burlington
- YWCA of Hamilton

Families accessed family counselling and credit programs and practical assistance. Agencies that provided these services include:

- Catholic Family Services
- Dundas Community Services
- Hamilton Jewish Social Services

Individuals accessed information and referral services; volunteer opportunities; literacy and basic skills; services for the hearing impaired and hard of hearing; services for those in conflict or at risk of conflict with the law; counselling; health supports; education and awareness on violence and sexual assault; women's transitional housing; employment services; adult health fitness and recreation; service coordination and case work; and participated in community development initiatives. Agencies that provided these services include:

- Community Information Hamilton
- Dundas Community Services
- Elizabeth Fry Society
- Hamilton & District Ostomy Association
- Hamilton Jewish Social Services
- Hamilton Literacy Council
- John Howard Society
- Multiple Sclerosis Society, Hamilton Chapter
- Sexual Assault Centre of Hamilton and Area
- Volunteer Hamilton
- YWCA of Hamilton

Seniors accessed programs and services that allow them to continue to live independently, e.g. meals on wheels, home support services, friendly visiting, telephone care, transportation, case management, home health care equipment, dog therapy visits to long term care and retirement homes, fitness and recreation; and information & referral. Agencies that provided these services include:

- Afro Canadian Caribbean Association
- Canadian Hearing Society
- CNIB (Canadian National Institute for the Blind)
- Canadian Red Cross Society
- Catholic Family Services
- Dundas Community Services
- Hamilton Jewish Social Services
- St. John Ambulance
- St. Joseph's Home Care
- St. Joseph's Villa Day Program
- VON Hamilton
- Wesley Urban Ministries

*The numbers above include information collected by the United Way from those agencies that continue to track clients that reside in the former municipalities.

6.0 SUMMARY

This overview of key census indicators indicates that Dundas faces multiple challenges and opportunities. All parts of the City of Hamilton are aging but this trend is especially evident in Dundas, which has both the highest concentration of seniors and the lowest proportion of children. Unlike most other communities, Dundas has a higher poverty rate among seniors (11%) than among its young children (9%).

On the immigration side, Dundas currently attracts immigrants at a lower rate than other communities. The proportion of recent immigrants in particular is the lowest in the City of Hamilton and this proportion is decreasing (0.8% in 2006 down from 1.6% in 1996). The aging of the population and the low immigration rates combine to make Dundas the second slowest growing community in City of Hamilton (average of 0.8% per year).

Dundas remains among the wealthier communities in the city, with its median income of over $32,000 almost tied for second with Flamborough. Yet it also has the second highest overall poverty rate (tied with Stoney Creek), standing at 11% in 2006. This indicates a larger gap between the rich and poor in Dundas than in other parts of City of Hamilton.

In order to respond to the community conditions outlined in this report, the United Way has established that its priorities for investment in the City of Hamilton are Poverty Prevention (children, youth and families), Strengthening Neighbourhoods (children, youth, families and individuals) and Supporting Seniors. In addition the United Way asks that submissions for funding consider how the unique challenges of women, visible minorities, recent immigrants and aboriginal groups can be addressed. In Section B, we have given a glimpse into the United Way's system of service and the number of Dundas residents that are served by a United Way funded program. The United Way's priorities are reflected in the services and programs funded in Dundas, and are an important part of the community's response to the challenges and opportunities that Dundas faces.

This picture of Dundas only shows part of the issues facing this community, and further investigations are necessary to identify and understand more clearly the reasons behind some of these trends. But it is hoped that this profile can be used a starting point for planning purposes by social service agencies, community groups and citizens.

EVALUATION QUESTIONNAIRE

1. Did you find information clear and easily understandable?

Very clear Mostly clear Somewhat clear Not clear

2. Were there any difficulties in understanding definitions, charts, maps, in this report?

_____

_____

_____

3. How did you use this report? (Circle all that apply)

Personal use	General background reading for work	Quoted data, maps or charts for presentation/program/proposal	This information will help guide my organization's response to community conditions

4. What other information were you looking for but didn't find in this report? What other data, maps, graphs, analysis of demographic conditions would have been useful to you in this report?

_____

_____

_____

_____

5. How would you rate this report?

Excellent Very Good Good Satisfactory Unsatisfactory

Please return it by fax to: 905-522-9124
Or by mail to:
Social Planning and Research Council of Hamilton
162 King William St. Suite 103, Hamilton, ON L8R 3N9

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SOCIAL PLANNING & RESEARCH COUNCIL OF HAMILTON

Respondents who return this survey by February 2, 2009 will be entered in a prize draw for a $50 gift certificate for Bryan Prince Bookseller in Hamilton. If you would like to be entered in our prize draw, please enter your contact information:

Name: _____ Email or Phone: _____

Thank you for completing this survey!