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# The Regional Municipality of Durham Information Report

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From: Commissioner of Planning and Economic Development  
Report: #2020-INFO-44  
Date: May 15, 2020

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**Subject:**

Durham Region Profile – Demographics and Socio-Economic Data, File: D01-04

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**Recommendation:**

Receive for information

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**Report:**

**1. Purpose**

- 1.1 The Durham Region Profile is a comprehensive collection of demographic and socio-economic data for Durham Region, with comparative information on the broader geographic areas of the Greater Toronto and Hamilton Area (GTHA) and the province of Ontario. Published approximately every five years, this is the fourth edition of the Profile, which was first published in 2001.
- 1.2 The Statistics Canada 2016 Census is the central source of information for this Profile. Census data was collected in the Spring of 2016 and was released in several data sets between 2017 and 2018. The Census is conducted across Canada every five years.
- 1.3 Other sources of information used in the Profile come from the Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation, the Municipal Property Assessment Corporation, and the Durham Region Planning Division. The full list of data sources is provided on page 35 of the Technical Report. All Durham Region sources are available at [www.durham.ca](http://www.durham.ca), including the Durham Region Business Count (2019), Durham

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Region Monitoring Growth Trends Report (2019), and the Durham Regional Official Plan (2017 Consolidation).

- 1.4 The purpose of the Profile is to present information on Durham Region that is of interest to the general public, business community, and various levels of government.
- 1.5 The Profile was prepared by the Planning and Economic Development Department in consultation with various Departments including: Health, Social Services, Works, Finance, Transit, Police Services, Corporate Communications and the CAO's office.
- 1.6 The Profile is divided into six key categories: population; social characteristics; households; employment; income and education; and agriculture. The Planning Division reported on these categories as census data was released. The data included in the Durham Profile reports on key factors that go beyond those releases. The following summarizes key trends and statistics for the Region:
  - Durham's population has increased significantly, from 247,473 in 1976 to 645,862 at the time of the 2016 census. The population at the end of 2019 was estimated to be 699,460. Over 70 per cent of population growth between 2011 and 2016 was through immigration.
  - The proportion of residents 65 years of age and older increased from 11.4 per cent in 2011, to 14.4 per cent in 2016.
  - In 2018, the average cost of a resale home was \$611,342, and the average monthly rent was \$1,185;
  - In 2019, there were over 206,000 jobs and over 12,600 businesses in Durham.
  - The prevalence of low income was lower in Durham (9.7 per cent) in contrast to the GTHA (13 per cent) and Ontario (14.4 per cent).
  - Over one-third of farms in Durham are 130 acres or more in size, while about 6 per cent of farms are less than 10 acres.
- 1.7 The information is presented in a variety of formats to suit a broad range of users, including a technical report, detailed tables, and an infographic summary of key statistics. For the first time, this report will be accompanied with an online dashboard of key statistics with interactive tables and maps which will be available before the end of May 2020.
- 1.8 An online dashboard, infographic summary, and technical report with this information will be available on the Region's website. Staff will provide a

presentation on the online dashboard to the Committee at an appropriate time. Limited copies of the infographic summary will also be available from the Planning and Economic Development Department. Information on how to access the profile will be shared with the area municipalities, school boards, and public libraries.

**2. Attachments**

Attachment #1: Durham Region Profile – Infographic Summary

Attachment #2: Durham Region Profile – Technical Report

Respectfully submitted,

Original signed by

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