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# The Regional Municipality of Durham Information Report

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From: Commissioner of Planning and Economic Development  
Report: #2022-INFO-53  
Date: June 10, 2022

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**Subject:**

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

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**Recommendation:**

Receive for information

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**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 local municipalities for the 2017 to 2021 period.
- 1.2 The data is provided for the end of May (to correspond with the timing of a Census) and for December (calendar year-end). Information presented in this report is intended for use in various planning studies and programs as well as other Regional and agency initiatives.

**2. Previous Reports and Decisions**

- 2.1 Monitoring of Growth Trends ([2021-INFO-51](#))
- 2.2 Monitoring of Growth Trends ([2021-INFO-132](#))
- 2.3 Census of Population – Population and Dwelling Counts Release ([2022-INFO-31](#))

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### **3. Historical population and household estimates (2017-2021)**

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 undercoverage<sup>1</sup>; and
- Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC) monthly housing completion data for non-Census years.

3.2 The semi-annual population estimates presented in Attachment 1, indicate that the Region's annual population growth increased by 11,050 persons in 2021, which is lower than the five-year average (11,255). The growth rate last year was 1.54%. Comparatively, the average annual population growth for the five-year period from 2017 to 2021 was 1.62%.

3.3 The semi-annual household estimates presented in Attachment 1, indicate that the Region's annual household growth increased by 3,150 households from 2020 to 2021, representing a growth rate of 1.30%. Comparatively, the annual household growth for the five-year period from 2017 to 2021 was 1.38%.

3.4 Although population growth last year was lower than the 5 year rate, this was mostly because growth was very high in 2020. In that year, the population increased by 12,295 which skewed the 5 year average significantly. Population growth in 2021 was higher than the average between 2017 to 2019. Similarly, household growth in 2020 (+3,874) was much higher than other years which brought up the 5 year average.

3.5 The population estimates have been updated with information from the recently published 2021 Census of Population. Accordingly, estimates for May 2021 along with previous years were revised to match this baseline. The Census data revealed that the population in Durham had grown more than previously estimated (+9,450 or +1.32%), while households were slightly lower (-1,335 or -0.55%).

### **4. Relationship to Strategic Plan**

4.1 This report aligns with/addresses the following strategic goals and priorities in the Durham Region Strategic Plan:

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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.

- 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 Committee 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 Local Health Integration Network and the School Boards in Durham.

## **6. Attachments**

Attachment #1: Semi-annual Population Estimates, 2017-2021 and Semi-annual Household Estimates, 2017-2021.

Respectfully submitted,

Original signed by

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

Table 1  
Semi-annual Population Estimates, 2017-2021 (May and December)

Year	Ajax	Brock	Clarington	Oshawa	Pickering	Scugog	Uxbridge	Whitby	Durham
2017 (May)	125,315	12,155	97,555	168,615	96,065	22,440	22,320	134,855	679,315
2017 (Dec)	126,155	12,260	98,815	171,220	96,715	22,440	22,295	135,780	685,675
2018 (May)	127,515	12,290	99,565	172,520	97,165	22,440	22,410	136,230	690,135
2018 (Dec)	128,290	12,415	100,750	175,830	98,135	22,425	22,395	137,005	697,245
2019 (May)	128,630	12,480	101,380	177,290	98,750	22,445	22,375	137,420	700,770
2019 (Dec)	129,320	12,560	102,780	179,475	99,630	22,455	22,360	138,700	707,280
2020 (May)	130,720	12,705	103,655	180,155	100,105	22,465	22,345	140,595	712,745
2020 (Dec)	131,230	13,000	104,530	181,275	102,260	22,480	22,360	142,485	719,615
2021 (May)	131,415	13,040	105,230	181,960	102,905	22,520	22,365	143,695	723,130
2021 (Dec)	131,915	13,105	106,815	183,915	103,740	22,510	22,345	146,335	730,665

Note: All figures rounded

Source: Statistics Canada Census and CMHC monthly housing completions data.

Table 2  
Semi-annual Household Estimates, 2017-2021 (May and December)

Year	Ajax	Brock	Clarington	Oshawa	Pickering	Scugog	Uxbridge	Whitby	Durham
2017 (May)	37,830	4,545	33,495	63,350	31,185	8,225	7,820	43,960	230,415
2017 (Dec)	38,060	4,575	33,905	64,085	31,400	8,230	7,840	44,210	232,300
2018 (May)	38,450	4,575	34,145	64,400	31,545	8,235	7,895	44,315	233,565
2018 (Dec)	38,660	4,610	34,525	65,390	31,865	8,235	7,915	44,515	235,715
2019 (May)	38,740	4,625	34,725	65,755	32,065	8,245	7,925	44,610	236,695
2019 (Dec)	38,920	4,640	35,175	66,320	32,355	8,255	7,945	44,975	238,590
2020 (May)	39,325	4,685	35,460	66,390	32,510	8,260	7,960	45,550	240,145
2020 (Dec)	39,450	4,785	35,730	66,560	33,215	8,275	7,990	46,110	242,105
2021 (May)	39,490	4,790	35,955	66,635	33,425	8,290	8,010	46,460	243,050
2021 (Dec)	39,610	4,800	36,465	67,105	33,700	8,295	8,025	47,260	245,260

Note: All figures rounded

Source: Statistics Canada Census and CMHC monthly housing completions data.