
Children under 15 years: Numbers by census subdivisionⁱ

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Highlights

- In 2016, among census subdivisions (CSDs) within non-metro census divisions (CDs), the number of children under 15 years of age, as a percent of the total population, ranged from 2.9% to 42.1%.
- Compared to the distribution of CSDs in partially-non-metro or metro CDs, there is a wider distribution of CSDs in non-metro CDs in terms of the percent of the population that are children (i.e., relatively more CSDs have a high share of children and relatively more CSDs have a low share of children).

Why look at children under 15 years?

Demographic structure drives the demand for both physical and social infrastructure. The number of children implies the need for specific infrastructure (such as schools and sports facilities) and social programming and services (such as those provided by teachers, pediatricians and sports coaches).

Findings

Table 1 displays the top 5 and bottom 5 census subdivisions¹ (CSDs) in the metro and partially-non-metro geography categories as sorted by percent of population that is children. It also shows the top 10 and bottom 10 CSDs within non-metro Ontario. The ranking is in the first column and the percent is in the last column.

There is a wide range in the share of the population under 15 years of age across CSDs in Ontario (Table 1 and the Map).

In 2016, among the CSDs within non-metro census divisions (CDs), 10 of 324 CSDs had more than 36% of their population being under 15 years of age. Note that 9 of these 10 CSDs were located in the Kenora CD (Table 1).

Note also there are 10 CSDs in non-metro CDs with 7.1% or less of their population under 15 years of age.

Compared to CSDs in metro and partially-non-metro

CDs, there are more CSDs within non-metro CDs with a few children and more CSDs with many children (Table 2). In 2016, 17% of the CSDs had a population with fewer than 12% being children (under 15 years) and 31% of the CSDs had over 20% of their population being children.

Discussion

A wide range in the share of children in the population of a community means there is a wide range in the demand for infrastructure and social programming needed for children.

Notably, some of the communities with an extreme (large or small) percent of children are, in fact, small in absolute population. Most are northern communities. This helps in understanding how the planning for services in such relatively isolated places poses some challenges, such as teacher recruitment for Indigenous communities.

¹ A census subdivision is an incorporated town or municipality (or similar jurisdiction, such as an Indian Reserve). For details, see Statistics Canada. (2017) **2016 Census Dictionary** (Ottawa: Statistics Canada, Catalogue no. 98-301) (<http://www12.statcan.gc.ca/census-recensement/2016/ref/dict/index-eng.cfm>).

Table 1. Ranking of census subdivisions¹ by percent of population that is under 15 years of age, Ontario, 2016

Rank of CSDs within each type of CD	CD ID	Name of census division (CD)	CSD ID	Name of census subdivision ¹ (CSD)	Population	Population under 15 years	Percent under 15 years
Census subdivisions within metro census divisions (showing² the 5 highest and the 5 lowest ranking CSDs)							
1	3524	Halton	3524009	Milton	110,128	28,405	25.8
2	3553	Greater Sudbury	3553040	Wahnapeitei 11	116	25	21.7
3	3519	York	3519044	Whitchurch-Stouffville	45,837	9,315	20.3
4	3521	Peel	3521010	Brampton	593,638	120,240	20.3
5	3524	Halton	3524001	Oakville	193,832	36,710	18.9
20	3506	Ottawa	3506008	Ottawa	934,243	155,680	16.7
21	3519	York	3519070	Georgina	45,418	7,500	16.5
22	3525	Hamilton	3525005	Hamilton	536,917	87,115	16.2
23	3553	Greater Sudbury	3553005	Greater Sudbury	161,531	25,070	15.5
24	3520	Toronto	3520005	Toronto	2,731,571	398,135	14.6
Census subdivisions within partially-non-metro census divisions (showing² the 5 highest and the 5 lowest ranking CSDs)							
1	3558	Thunder Bay	3558085	Osnaburgh 63A	232	95	41.3
2	3558	Thunder Bay	3558080	Ojibway Nation of Saugeen (Savant Lake)	90	35	38.9
3	3558	Thunder Bay	3558076	Aroland 83	366	125	34.2
4	3558	Thunder Bay	3558060	Pic Mobert North	197	65	32.5
5	3558	Thunder Bay	3558068	Long Lake 58	385	125	32.5
185	3515	Peterborough	3515044	Trent Lakes	5,397	510	9.5
186	3512	Hastings	3512048	Tudor and Cashel	586	55	9.3
187	3552	Sudbury	3552036	Killarney	386	35	9.0
188	3552	Sudbury	3552093	Sudbury, Unorganized, North Part	2,755	245	8.9
189	3537	Essex	3537001	Pelee	235	20	8.5
Census subdivisions within non-metro census divisions (showing² the 10 highest and the 10 lowest ranking CSDs)							
1	3560	Kenora	3560067	Poplar Hill	473	200	42.1
2	3560	Kenora	3560088	Wapekeka 2	440	180	40.9
3	3560	Kenora	3560055	Osnaburgh 63B	435	170	39.1
4	3560	Kenora	3560053	Fort Hope 64	1,014	390	38.4
5	3560	Kenora	3560104	Kee-Way-Win	421	160	38.1
6	3560	Kenora	3560052	Marten Falls 65	252	95	38.0
7	3560	Kenora	3560076	Sachigo Lake 1	514	195	37.9
8	3560	Kenora	3560050	Fort Albany (Part) 67	1,404	530	37.7
9	3560	Kenora	3560070	Deer Lake	867	325	37.4
10	3551	Manitoulin	3551100	Zhiibaahaasing 19A (Cockburn Island 19A)	55	20	36.4
315	3554	Timiskaming	3554066	Gauthier	138	10	7.1
316	3546	Haliburton	3546018	Algonquin Highlands	2,351	165	7.0
317	3557	Algoma	3557040	The North Shore	497	35	7.0
318	3549	Parry Sound	3549096	Parry Sound, Unorganized, Centre Part	2,143	145	6.8
319	3554	Timiskaming	3554056	Matachewan	225	15	6.7
320	3549	Parry Sound	3549005	The Archipelago	531	35	6.6
321	3549	Parry Sound	3549039	Whitestone	916	60	6.6
322	3547	Renfrew	3547098	Head, Clara and Maria	248	15	6.0
323	3557	Algoma	3557001	Jocelyn	313	15	4.8
324	3551	Manitoulin	3551094	Manitoulin, Unorganized, West Part	169	5	2.9

1. A census subdivision (CSD) is an incorporated town or municipality or a similar jurisdiction, such as an Indian Reserve (using the CSD names in the Statistics Canada dataset).

2. For the ranking of all CSDs, see the "Expanded Table 1" at <http://www.ruralontarioinstitute.ca/rural-reports/focus-on-rural-ontario>.

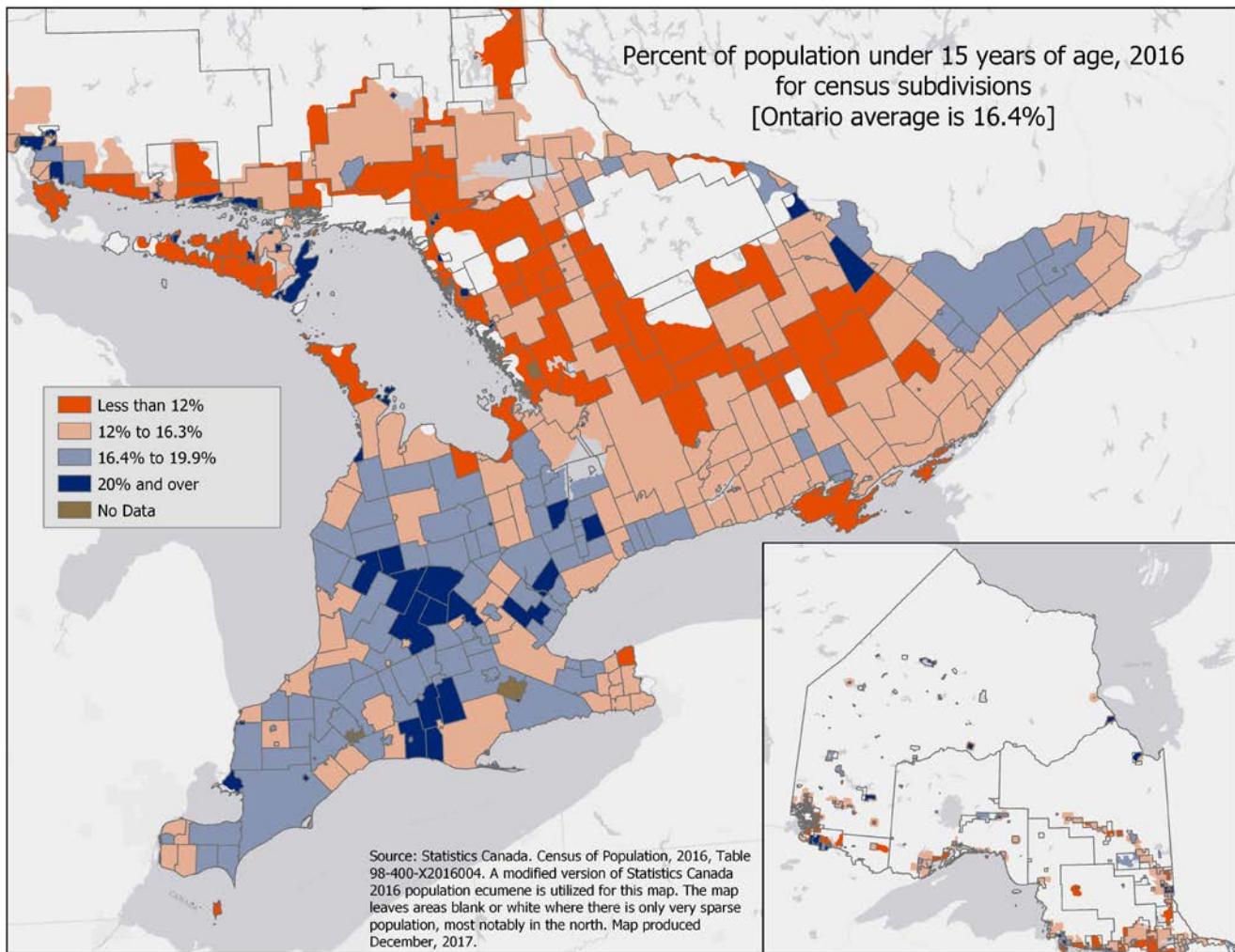
Source: Statistics Canada. Census of Population, 2016, Table 98-400-X2016004

Table 2. Percent distribution of census subdivisions¹ by percent of total population that is less than 15 years of age, Ontario, 2016

Population under 15 years as a percent of total population	Type of census division (CD)			
	Metro CDs	Partially-non-metro CDs	Non-metro CDs	All CDs
	Percent distribution of census subdivisions ¹			
Less than 12%	0	10	17	14
12% to 16.3%	13	49	35	39
16.4% to 19.9%	71	29	16	23
20% and over	17	12	31	24
All CSDs ¹	100	100	100	100

1. Census subdivisions (CSDs) are incorporated towns, municipalities or similar jurisdictions, such as Indian Reserves.

Source: Statistics Canada. Census of Population, 2016, Table 98-400-X2016004.



Rural Ontario Institute gratefully acknowledges the work of Ray Bollman in preparing this edition of [Focus on Rural Ontario](#). Questions on data sources can be directed to RayD.Bollman@sasktel.net. Any comments or discussions can be directed to NRagetlie@RuralOntarioInstitute.ca.

ⁱ This is a companion to the **Focus on Rural Ontario** Fact Sheet entitled “Children under 15 years by census division.”