
Children under 15 years: Change by census subdivision¹

Vol. 5, No. 4, 2018

Highlights

- From 2011 to 2016, 10 census subdivisions within non-metro census divisions had a decline of more than one-fifth in the number of children under 15 years of age.
- In the same period, there were also 10 census subdivisions in non-metro census divisions with an increase of more than one-fifth in the number of children under 15 years of age.

Why look at children under 15 years?

Demographic change drives a change in demand for both physical infrastructure and social programs. A change in the number of children could require a change in physical infrastructure (such as schools and sports facilities) and a change in social programming and services (such as pediatricians and sports coaches).

Findings

There is a wide range in the pace of change of the number of children across census subdivisions¹ (CSDs) (Table 1 and the Map).

The rank of the CSD is shown in the far-left column and the percent change is shown in the far-right column. Within non-metro census divisions (CDs), we show the top 10 ranking CSDs and the bottom 10 ranking CSDs. Within each of metro and partially-non-metro CDs, we show the top 5 and bottom 5 ranking CSDs.

In 2016, among the CSDs within non-metro CDs, 10 CSDs had an increase of more than 21% from 2011 to 2016 (Table 1). Most are northern communities and/or Indigenous communities.

In contrast, 10 CSDs had decline of greater than 21%.

Compared to CSDs in metro and partially-non-metro CDs, there are more CSDs within non-metro CDs with substantial decline (greater than a 10% decline) and more CSDs with a faster pace of increase (10+% increase) (Table 2). The share of CSDs is 23% and 18%, respectively.

Discussion

As our youth population changes in our communities, it is important to recognize the need to change the funding for some physical infrastructure and social programs.

The changes in the number of children at the census subdivision level are large:

- 23% of CSDs had a decline of greater than 10%;
- fully 40% of CSDs had a smaller rate of decline (-10% to 1.1%); and
- 18% of CSDs had a large rate of increase (10% or more children under 15 years of age).

Many areas are facing a considerable change in the need for (physical and social) infrastructure for children.

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).

Table 1. Ranking of census subdivisions¹ by percent change in population under 15 years of age, 2011 to 2016, Ontario

Rank of CSDs within each CD type	CD ID	Name of census division (CD)	CSD ID	Name of census subdivision ¹ (CSD)	2011 Population under 15 years	2016 Population under 15 years	Percent change, 2011 to 2016
Census subdivisions within metro census divisions (showing² the 5 highest and 5 lowest ranking CSDs)							
1	3524	Halton	3524009	Milton	20,750	28,405	36.9
2	3519	York	3519049	King	3,420	4,440	29.8
3	3519	York	3519044	Whitchurch-Stouffville	7,275	9,315	28.0
4	3519	York	3519054	East Gwillimbury	3,775	4,115	9.0
5	3519	York	3519036	Markham	52,520	55,390	5.5
18	3519	York	3519070	Georgina	7,740	7,500	-3.1
19	3519	York	3519038	Richmond Hill	33,640	32,560	-3.2
20	3524	Halton	3524015	Halton Hills	12,055	11,430	-5.2
21	3519	York	3519046	Aurora	10,410	9,850	-5.4
22	3521	Peel	3521005	Mississauga	128,765	120,930	-6.1
Census subdivisions within partially-non-metro CDs (showing² the 5 highest and 5 lowest ranking CSDs)							
1	3522	Dufferin	3522021	Shelburne	1,230	1,845	50.0
2	3558	Thunder Bay	3558003	Fort William 52	175	250	42.9
3	3543	Simcoe	3543014	Bradford West Gwillimbury	5,410	7,230	33.6
4	3558	Thunder Bay	3558054	Terrace Bay	190	245	28.9
5	3552	Sudbury	3552013	Markstay-Warren	330	415	25.8
161	3511	Lennox and Addington	3511035	Addington Highlands	325	270	-16.9
162	3507	Leeds & Grenville	3507008	Prescott	730	605	-17.1
163	3510	Frontenac	3510035	Central Frontenac	655	530	-19.1
164	3558	Thunder Bay	3558066	Manitouan	305	245	-19.7
165	3510	Frontenac	3510005	Frontenac Islands	260	205	-21.2
Census subdivisions within non-metro CDs (showing² the 10 highest and 10 lowest ranking CSDs)							
1	3556	Cochrane	3556093	Fort Albany (Part) 67	165	240	45.5
2	3560	Kenora	3560088	Wapekeka 2	130	180	38.5
3	3554	Timiskaming	3554094	Timiskaming, Unorganized, West Part	355	475	33.8
4	3541	Bruce	3541057	Saugeen 29	180	235	30.6
5	3560	Kenora	3560104	Kee-Way-Win	125	160	28.0
6	3557	Algoma	3557051	Macdonald, Meredith and Aberdeen Additional	220	280	27.3
7	3557	Algoma	3557019	Plummer Additional	100	125	25.0
8	3556	Cochrane	3556056	Moonbeam	120	150	25.0
9	3560	Kenora	3560075	Kitchenuhmaykoosib Aaki 84 (Big Trout Lake)	300	370	23.3
10	3559	Rainy River	3559011	Alberton	160	195	21.9
221	3557	Algoma	3557079	Dubreuilville	140	110	-21.4
222	3544	Muskoka	3544027	Lake of Bays	365	285	-21.9
223	3557	Algoma	3557096	Hornepayne	200	155	-22.5
224	3549	Parry Sound	3549012	McMurrich/Monteith	110	85	-22.7
225	3560	Kenora	3560063	Sabaskong Bay 35D	130	100	-23.1
226	3560	Kenora	3560001	Ignace	185	140	-24.3
227	3549	Parry Sound	3549036	Carling	135	100	-25.9
228	3559	Rainy River	3559026	Manitou Rapids 11	110	80	-27.3
229	3548	Nipissing	3548001	South Algonquin	130	90	-30.8
230	3538	Lambton	3538056	Kettle Point 44	255	160	-37.3

1. Excluding census subdivisions with less than 75 individuals under 15 years of age in 2011 or in 2016.

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

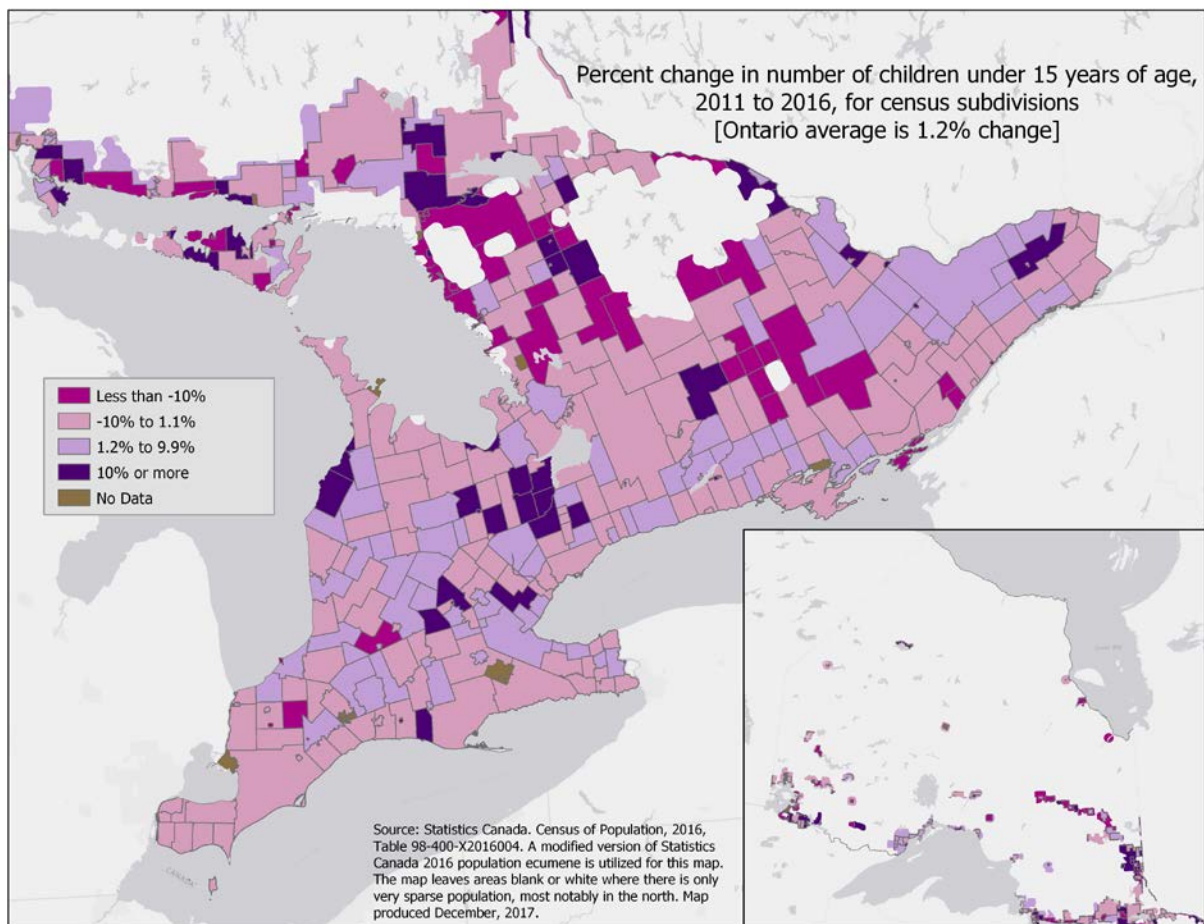
Source: Statistics Canada. Census of Population, 2016, Table 98-400-X2016004.

Table 2. Percent distribution of census subdivisions¹ by PERCENT CHANGE in the number of children less than 15 years of age, Ontario, 2011 to 2016

Percent change in number of children under 15 years of age	Type of census division (CD)			
	Metro CDs	Partially-non-metro CDs	Non-metro CDs	All CDs
Less than -10%	4	11	23	18
-10% to 1.1%	46	49	40	44
1.2% to 9.9%	38	26	19	22
10% and over	13	14	18	16
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, 2011 and 2016, Tables 98-311-XCB2011023 and 98-400-X2016004.



The 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: Change by census division.”