

Community Analysis

City of Kawartha Lakes

Kawartha Lakes
Jump In

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Community Analysis

for the City of Kawartha Lakes

May 2024

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City of Kawartha Lakes

Demographic Snapshot

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74,561	2006
73,214	2011
75,423	2016
79,247	2021
82,982	2023

Population Profile

MEDIAN	AVERAGE
Region Age 49	Region Age 46
Ontario Age 41	Ontario Age 42

Highest Education

Population ages 25-64.

Apprenticeship/trades certificate/diploma	8%
No certificate, diploma/degree	11%
University diploma/ degree - bachelor or above	17%
College or other non-university certificate	32%
High school certificate or equivalent	32%

32% Secondary

57% Post-secondary

Household & Earnings

19% of Kawartha Lakes' population spends 30% or more of total household income on shelter costs.

Ontario 28%

Average Dwelling Value **$740,762**

Median Dwelling Value **$682,839**

84% Single detached house

12% Apartment / detached duplex

2% Semi-detached house

2% Rowhouse

Total number of households

34,034

All data sourced from Manifold SuperDemographics 2023, unless otherwise specified.

City of Kawartha Lakes

Demographic Snapshot

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Labour Force & Local Economy

Median Employment Income	Average Employment Income
$41,373	$52,520
ONTARIO MEDIAN $43,942	ONTARIO AVERAGE $60,007

PARTICIPATION RATE

Ontario 66.0% — 57.7%

EMPLOYMENT RATE

Ontario 62.4% — 54.8%

UNEMPLOYMENT RATE

Ontario 5.4% — 5.0%

Top 5 Sectors by Industry**

- Real Estate and Rental & Leasing
- Public Administration
- Finance and Insurance
- Utilities
- Construction

Top 5 Sectors by Occupation**

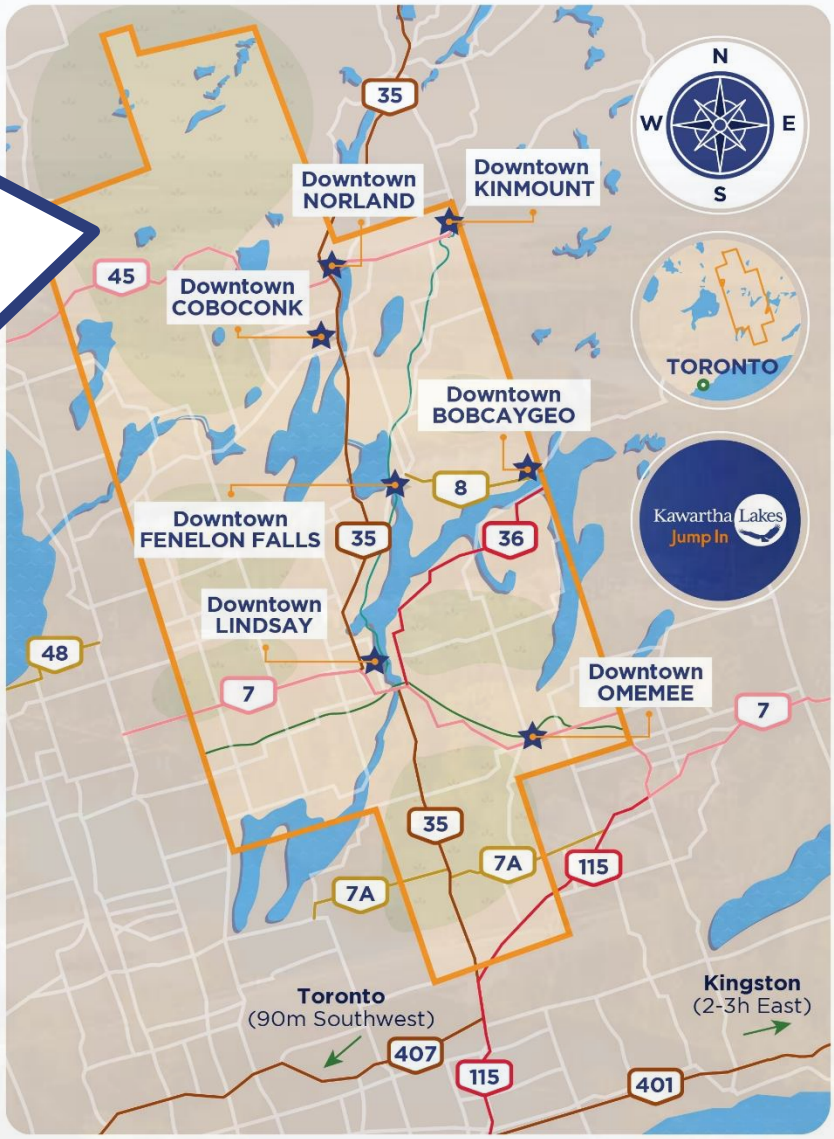
** by labour force employment for people living in Kawartha Lakes.

- Trades, Transport & Equipment Operators
- Sales & Service
- Business, Finance & Asministration
- Education, Law & Social, Community & Government Services
- Health Occupations

All data sourced from Manifold SuperDemographics 2023, unless otherwise specified.

Jump In

Located just 90 minutes northeast of Toronto, Kawartha Lakes has a variety of beautiful communities, each with their own unique charm. You can enjoy a day on our trails, an evening at the theatre and the best locally grown food you've ever tasted. If that weren't enough, our 250 lakes and rivers offer endless opportunities for exploration. Kawartha Lakes is the perfect destination to explore the natural beauty of Ontario while experiencing authentic food, culture, arts and entertainment.



Transportation

Highways 407, 401, 35, and 115 provide quick access to Toronto and on to the whole of eastern North America!

Access to three airports - one local municipal, one regional international and one full-service International Cargo, offering vast connection opportunities.

Kawartha Lakes has many marinas, and the Hamilton-Oshawa Port Authority is approximately 60 minutes away.

Kawartha Lakes is near to and serviced by a vast rail and intermodal network, offering businesses access across North America.

Distance to Nearest Urban Centres

Toronto	140 km
Niagara Falls Border Crossing	272 km
Gananoque Border Crossing	292 km
Windsor Border Crossing	491 km
Montreal	545 km
New York City	861 km
Boston	947 km

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Schools and Libraries

The City of Kawartha Lakes is serviced by the Trillium Lakelands District School Board (TLDSB) and the Peterborough Victoria Northumberland and Clarington Catholic District School Board (PVNCCSB). Local postsecondary education through Fleming College at Lindsay's Frost Campus also provides access to the Centre for Advancement of Water and Wastewater Technologies (CAWT) and the Centre for Innovative Aquaculture Production (CIAP).

Trillium Lakelands District School Board

Elementary Schools

Alexandra Public School
Central Senior School
Dr. George Hall Public School
Dunsford District Elementary School
Fenelon Township Public School
Grandview Public School
Jack Callaghan Public School
King Albert Public School
Lady Eaton Elementary School
Lady MacKenzie Public School
Langton Public School
Leslie Frost Public School
Marlposa Elementary School
Parkview Public School
Queen Victoria Public School
Ridgewood Public School
Rolling Hills Public School
Scott Young Public School
Woodville Elementary School

Secondary Schools

Fenelon Falls Secondary School
I E Weldon Secondary School
Lindsay Collegiate & Vocational Institute

Adult Education Centres

Fenelon AETC
Lindsay AETC

Peterborough Victoria Northumberland and Clarington Catholic District School Board

Elementary Schools

St. Dominic School
St. John's School, Kirkfield
St. Luke's School
St. Mary's School, Lindsay
St. Thomas Aquinas Catholic School

Secondary Schools

St. Thomas Aquinas Catholic School

Kawartha Lakes Public Library

Through its strong network of community branches, the Mission of the Kawartha Lakes Public Library is to provide its residents with easy access to a wide range of information resources, programs, equipment and services in order to encourage multiple forms of literacy and learning and to support community-based educational, cultural, and recreational activities.

Kawartha Lakes Public Library is made up of 14 library branches: **Bethany, Bobcaygeon, Coboconk, Dalton, Dunsford, Fenelon Falls, Kinmount, Kirkfield, Lindsay, Little Britain, Norland, Oakwood, Omemee,** and **Woodville.**

Recreation

Kawartha Lakes is home to:

- Over 20 Community Centres and Halls.
- Four splash pads and seven arenas. The Lindsay Recreation Complex pools and the Forbert Memorial Pool in Bobcaygeon offer a variety of aquatic programs to suit all ages and interests.
- Over 600 km of trails spread across Kawartha Lakes.
- Over 250 lakes and rivers, connected by the Trent-Severn Waterway.
- Four Provincial Parks (Balsam Lake, Emily, Queen Elizabeth II Wildlands, Indian Point) and several local parks.
- Five expansive conservation and natural areas under Kawartha Conservation (Ken Reid, Durham East Cross Forest, Fleetwood Creek Natural Area, Windy Ridge, Pigeon River Headwaters).

For a broader listing of recreational activities available to residents and visitors, please visit the Kawartha Lakes website.

Emergency Services

Kawartha Lakes is serviced by two police forces:

- Kawartha Lakes Police Service (Lindsay and (former) Ops residents)
- Ontario Provincial Police – Kawartha Lakes detachment (outside of Lindsay and Ops Township (former))

Kawartha Lakes is serviced by the City of Kawartha Lakes Fire Rescue across 22 Fire Stations throughout Kawartha Lakes.

Ross Memorial Hospital in Lindsay serves Kawartha Lakes as an acute-care hospital. Kawartha Lakes Paramedic Services serve over 3,000 km with a fleet of 14 ambulances and three Emergency Response Units. Reporting station locations are in Lindsay, Fenelon Falls, Pontypool and Bobcaygeon.

The Haliburton, Kawartha, Pine Ridge District Health unit offers programs and information to protect the health of individuals and our broader communities.

Business Resources

- The **Kawartha Lakes Ecosystem Network (KLEN)** is a vast network of organizations who collaborate and share information to nurture economic development, lead change, foster innovation, and promote growth.
- The **Kawartha Lakes Small Business Centre** offers entrepreneurs and business owners guidance, information and tools required to start and grow small businesses.
- **The Innovation Cluster** includes three incubators known as The Cube—supports entrepreneurs through dynamic programming to find their best path to market.
- **The New Canadian Centre** supports immigrants, refugees, and other newcomers with resources to access opportunities, make meaningful connections, and adjust to customs and culture in Canada.
- The Local Chambers in Kawartha Lakes, including the **Fenelon Falls and District Chamber of Commerce**, **Coboconk, Norland and Area Chamber of Commerce**, **Lindsay and District Chamber of Commerce**, and **Bobcaygeon and Area Chamber of Commerce**, along with the **Lindsay BIA**, actively support the Kawartha Lakes business community.

Kawartha Lakes Community Futures (KLCFDC) provides financing options to small businesses and local startups to develop, innovate, and scale their business in the region.

Invest Kawartha drives innovation through its comprehensive support for entrepreneurs. Offering everything from funding and business advisory, to incubation and acceleration services, Invest Kawartha is focused on helping businesses expand their operations and develop new innovative technologies and sustainable solutions.

Launch Kawartha is a dynamic innovation and entrepreneurship centre, centrally located in the heart of downtown Lindsay. This 5,000 square foot facility provides free services and fully furnished incubation workspaces for new entrepreneurs.

Business Count Information

The Kawartha Lakes Business Count is a collaborative project to support local economic development. The survey provides a snapshot of the Kawartha Lakes business community and employment properties. The findings help understand and strengthen the local economy, as well as inform policies and programs. The project provides a unique level of detail to:

1. Provide improved regional employment and workforce data.
2. Assist in making informed decisions related to job and economic growth.
3. Enhance communication channels between businesses and the municipality.

A total of 672 businesses and employment properties were surveyed in the 2023 Kawartha Lakes Business Count. Highlights reported by these businesses surveyed:

- A total of 6,479 jobs.
- 3,061,606 sq. ft. floor space occupied.
- 64% are independent businesses.
- 43% of businesses identified as members of a Chamber of Commerce or the Lindsay DBIA.
- 64% business plan to hire in the future.
- 12% of businesses plan to expand their floor space.

Full details can be found in the Kawartha Lakes Business Count Insight Report 2023.

Spotlight on Agriculture

Agriculture is of critical importance to Kawartha Lakes; every dollar worth of agricultural products sold adds $2.20 to the local economy. Kawartha Lakes cultivates a surplus of 20% of its crop products and 43% of its animal products, beyond local needs, allowing for significant export opportunities to support the local economy. Kawartha Lakes is home to world-class production facilities (DLF Canada Inc.), commodity farms, food processors (Kawartha Dairy & Mariposa Dairy) and businesses along the agri-food system supply chain. Kawartha Lakes' agricultural sector in 2021 was responsible for:

- Total Farm Cash Receipts of $170 million.
- 65,000 acres of pastureland.
- 1,265 farms.
- Over 275,000 acres of farmland.
- 162,000 acres of land in crops.
- Gross Domestic Production

2. Communities of Kawartha Lakes

The City of Kawartha Lakes has five designated secondary plan areas with detailed land use plans for each: Bobcaygeon, Fenelon Falls, Lindsay, and Omemee.

2.1. Bobcaygeon



Bobcaygeon is home to the world-renowned Kawartha Dairy Ice Cream and is considered “the Hub of the Kawarthas.” It is located on the most active (and first) lock in the Trent-Severn Waterway, which began construction in 1833. Promoting this history, Bobcaygeon is host to unique historic settings in both the Boyd Heritage Museum and Kawartha Settlers’ Village.

2.2. Fenelon Falls



Fenelon Falls – known as the "Jewel of the Kawarthas" - offers visitors myriad ways to enjoy the majestic scenery of Kawartha Lakes. Whether through paddling routes along the Trent-Severn Waterway, over the miles of open water, or physical assets like the Grove Theatre, Maryboro Lodge Museum, or Fenelon Falls Brewing Company, visitors are certain to be enthralled with the beauty of Fenelon Falls.

2.3. Lindsay



The Town of Lindsay is the seat of the City of Kawartha Lakes and its most populous urban centre (with a population of 22,367 people as of the 2021 Census). It is home to a wealth of arts and culture organizations, including artisan studios, museums, festivals, and the Academy Theatre, which opened its doors in 1983.

2.4. Omemee



Omemee provides stunning natural vistas for any visitors, including the Doube's Trestle Bridge (completed in 1885) along the Kawartha Trans Canada Trail. Omemee's Trans Canada Trail is complete and accessible for all public non-motorized use. Omemee's Coronation Hall, built in 1911, stands at the heart of the community and is a must-see landmark.

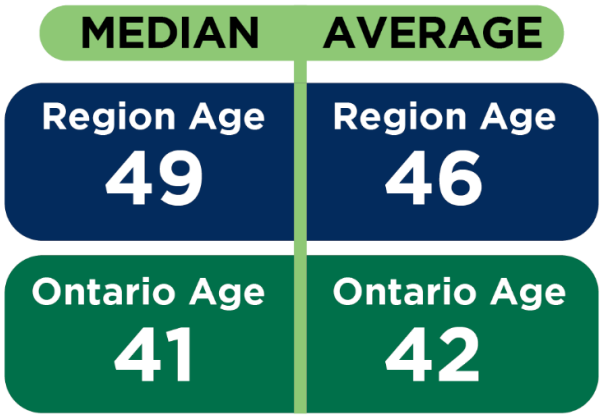
3. Situational Analysis Snapshot

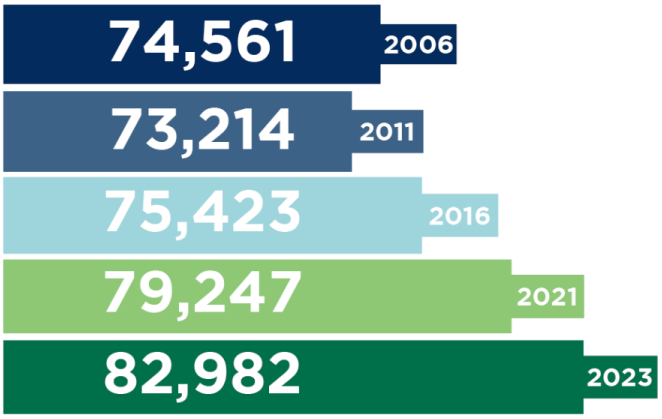
As part of the City of Kawartha Lakes Economic Development Refresh, this Community Analysis was created alongside a City of Kawartha Lakes Situational Analysis. This subsection profiles a few key pieces from the Situational Analysis specifically related to Kawartha Lakes' demographics. The larger document presents a broad statistical perspective within the local context. Of course, the data presented in this report does not tell the entire story of the City – local context and realities matter and shape what the impact of the data is within the City.

3.1. Population

The City of Kawartha Lakes' population has grown from approximately 73,000 residents in 2011 to nearly 80,000 in 2021. Future population projections expect these figures to rise at much more aggressive rates, with the City's population approaching 120,000 residents by 2051.

- Kawartha Lakes has a current population that is **significantly older than Ontario's (median age of 49 compared to 41 in Ontario).**
- The City has a lower relative population of youth **(18% of residents are ages 0-19, compared to 21% in Ontario)** and middle aged individuals **(37% of residents are ages 20-54, 46% provincially).**





3.2. Income and Affordability

Incomes for residents of Kawartha Lakes were lower than their Ontario counterparts, both in terms of median and average employment incomes. However, while income is a valuable tool, more benefit is derived from assessing quality of life metrics. Within the Situational Analysis, the percentage of residents spending 30% or more of income on shelter costs is assessed. This is a traditional measure of household affordability, signalling whether residents can afford their current living space. Within Kawartha Lakes, 19% of residents spend over 30% of their income on shelter costs, compared to 28% of people across Ontario. This is a positive indicator, as it suggests that while Kawartha Lakes residents earn slightly less than Ontario residents, their quality of life and affordability is higher.



19%

Ontario 28%

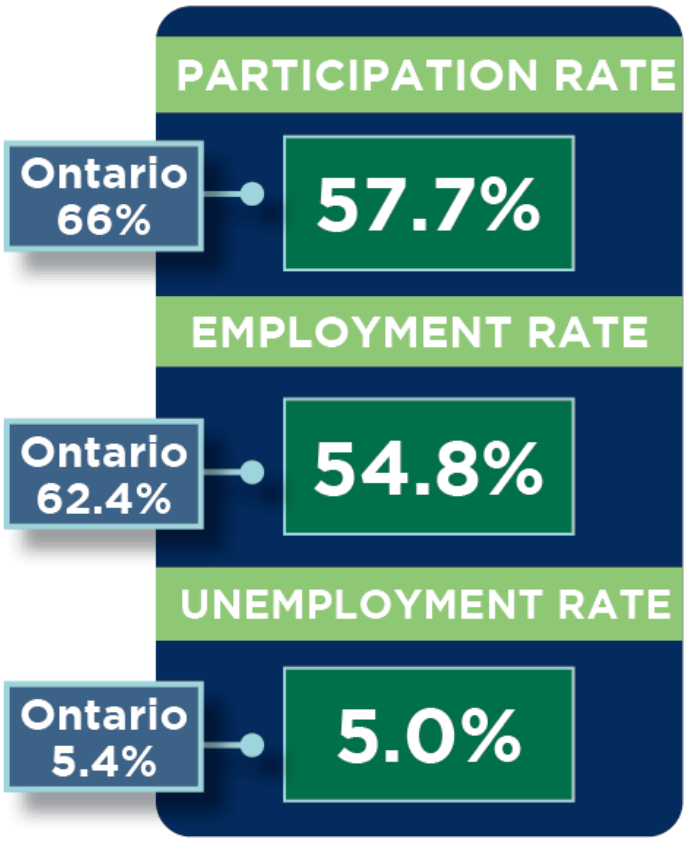
of Kawartha Lakes' population spends 30% or more of total household income on shelter costs.

Median Employment Income	Average Employment Income
$41,373	$52,520
ONTARIO MEDIAN	ONTARIO AVERAGE
$43,942	$60,007

3.3. Education and Economic Participation

Kawartha Lakes residents are **more likely to have a College or other non-university certificate or degree than their Ontario counterparts (32% compared to 24%)** and correspondingly **less likely to have a university certificate, diploma or degree (17% compared to 37%).** This suggests that businesses relying on more technical skills learned at non-university post-secondary institutions are more likely to find relevant skills and educational levels among the available labour pool.

Fortunately, this appears to align well with local businesses, as economic indicators within the community are positive (see bullets and graphic below). With respect to economic engagement, the findings of the Situational Analysis align with work that was completed by the Centre for Workforce Development in 2020.[1]



- Kawartha Lakes' participation rate is **slightly lower than their provincial counterparts (57.7% compared to 66.0%).**
- **This is likely explained by Kawartha Lakes' higher average and median ages.** That is, it is likely that a much larger percentage of Kawartha Lakes' residents are retired and therefore not engaged in the labour force. *N.B. There are other possible explanations, this is just a likelihood given the age distribution of the population.*
- Youth participation rates are **slightly higher than their provincial counterparts (66.6% in Kawartha Lakes, 62.9% provincially).**

[1] Centre for Workforce Development. Examining Labour Force Participation in Eastern Ontario. 2020.