

Match Rates of Foreign-Educated Immigrants by Municipality



As discussed in Community Lens # 68, in Halton Region, foreign-educated immigrants have a lower match rate than their Canadian born counterparts in almost all regulated occupations. The match rate is the total number of people working in the selected regulated occupations divided by the total number of employed people from the fields of study that would typically lead them to work in those occupations. A higher match rate suggests higher proportion of individuals working in their chosen fields of study.

This Community Lens looks at the match rates by regulated occupation in each of the local municipalities. Do match rates for foreign-educated immigrants vary by occupations in various municipalities? Which occupations have higher or lower match rates?

Although Halton Hills accounts for only 4% of all foreign-educated immigrants working in regulated occupations, it has the highest match rate of 36%. The match rates for Burlington and Oakville are 34% and 33% respectively. The Town of Milton has the lowest rate at 26%.

Engineering is by far the most practiced regulated occupation by foreign-educated immigrants. It accounts for more than half (60%) of all foreign-educated immigrants working in the regulated occupations in Halton. Foreign-educated immigrant engineers in Oakville, Burlington and Halton Hills have similar match rates (28-30%). Those in Milton have the lowest rate at 21%.

About 11% of the foreign-educated immigrants work in the teaching profession. The highest match rate is in Oakville (29%) and lowest in Milton (20%).

One in 10 foreign-educated immigrants works in accounting. The match rate for immigrant accountants in Oakville is 42% followed by Burlington at 37% and Milton at 33%. However, due to the small number of foreign-educated immigrant accountants in Halton Hills, the match rate is not available.

About 10% of the foreign-educated immigrants work as doctors, pharmacists and nurses. Their match rates are higher than those working in the non-health occupations (e.g. accounting, engineering or teaching) in all local municipalities. The match rates for the health occupations (medicine, pharmacy and nursing) are higher in Burlington than in Oakville. Over two-thirds of the foreign-educated immigrant doctors and nurses in Burlington are working in their fields of study.

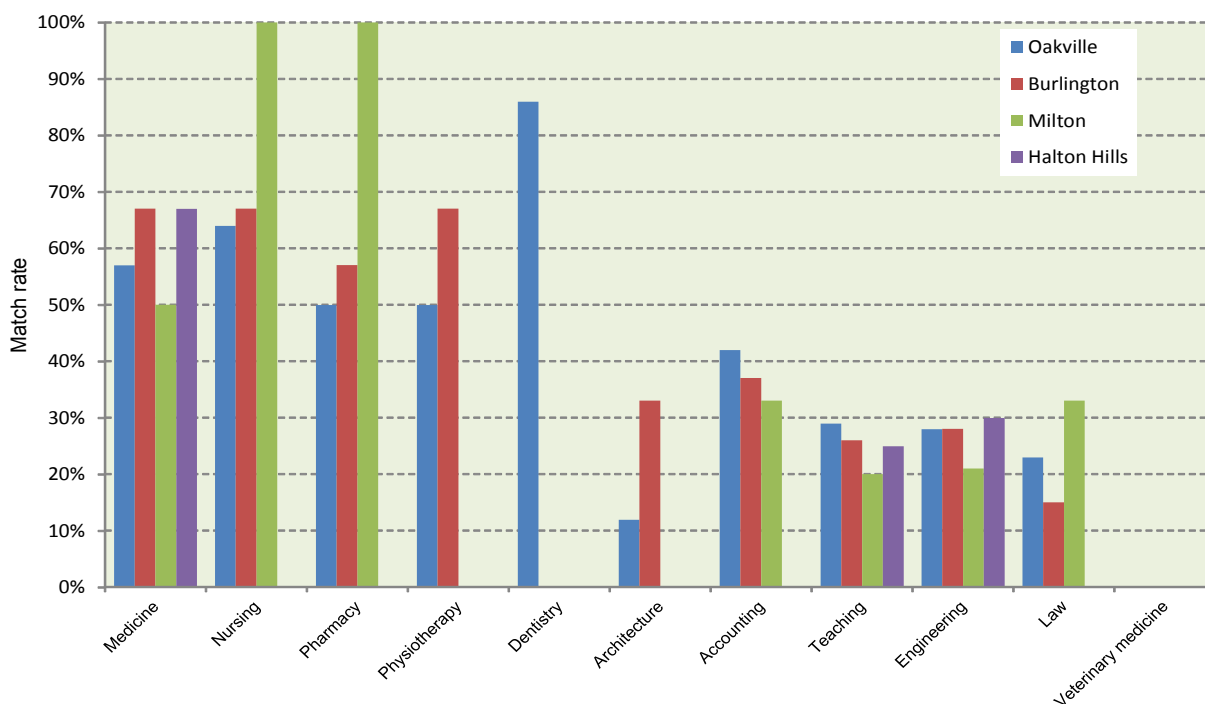
Although the Town of Milton recorded a match rate of 100% for foreign-educated immigrants in the occupations of nursing and pharmacy, the numbers involved are very small.

The Town of Milton accounts for 20% of the foreign-educated immigrant lawyers and judges in Halton. Its match rate (33%) is higher than those of Oakville (23%) and Burlington (15%).

Although less than 20% of foreign-educated immigrant architects in Halton lived in Burlington, their match rate (33%) is much higher than their counterparts living in Oakville (12%).

In summary, in addition to variation in match rates among specific regulated occupations, there are also variations geographically. For example, foreign-educated immigrants in Oakville have higher match rates for both accounting and teaching than other municipalities. For the health profession (medicine, nursing and pharmacy), foreign-educated immigrants in Burlington have higher match rates than those living in Oakville. The match rate for foreign-educated immigrant architects is almost three times higher in Burlington than Oakville.

**Match rate by regulated occupation and by municipality
Halton Region, 2006**



Source: Statistics Canada, 2006 Census