



WAINWRIGHT

Quality of Life Report

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Executive Summary

Wainwright in 2021 appears as a community whose broad structure remains stable in several core respects, while showing selective change in population mix, household composition, and education. English continues to dominate the mother tongue profile by a wide margin, and the population is still largely non-immigrant. At the same time, immigration has grown noticeably, especially among people who first arrived at ages 25 to 44, pointing to a stronger working-age immigrant presence than five years earlier. Ethnic origin remains led by long-established groups such as English, Scottish, German, and Irish, but that pattern is no longer static: several established origins declined, while Filipino reported the strongest growth. Religion is similarly concentrated, with Christianity still the largest affiliation and no religion forming a substantial second group.

The social and household picture is marked by gradual diversification rather than wholesale change. One-person households became the largest household type and grew over the period, while some couple-family categories declined. Married couples still form the core of the family profile, but their share has softened as one-parent families increased. Housing remains strongly owner-oriented, with both owner and renter households rising modestly and renters growing slightly faster. Most households were not in core housing need, indicating that housing stress affected a relatively small minority within the measured population, even as average shelter costs increased for both owners and renters. Income patterns were weighted more toward middle and upper-middle ranges than toward the lowest income bands, reinforcing a picture of households concentrated away from the bottom of the distribution.

Education adds to that impression of continuity with measured change. High school completion remains the largest attainment group, and the strongest growth in highest credential was also at the high school level, alongside gains in college and university credentials. Population density, however, moved in the opposite direction, falling sharply after a slight rise in the previous period, while the median age continued its slow upward drift. The result is a community that still looks anchored in its established population and housing structure, but with clearer signs of demographic diversification, smaller household living arrangements, and a gradually evolving educational profile.

Mother Tongue

English remained Wainwright’s largest mother tongue in 2021, with 5,425 people, up 1.1% in five years. Tagalog followed at 195, rising 25.8%, while French was 155, down 16.2%, and Spanish reached 60, a 300.0% increase.

Wainwright’s mother tongue profile in 2021 is clearly anchored by English, which is the largest group by a wide margin. The rest of the language mix is much smaller, but several languages show noticeable movement over the past five years. English accounts for 5,425 people. The next largest group is Tagalog (Pilipino, Filipino) at 195 people, followed by French at 155. Spanish, while still a smaller group at 60 people, stands out for its rapid increase over five years. The change pattern is

mixed. English is essentially stable, with a 1.1% rise. Tagalog is up 25.8%, Ukrainian has grown 66.7%, and Urdu has increased 200%. By contrast, French has fallen 16.2% and German is down 40.0%. This suggests a mother tongue landscape that remains strongly dominated by English while also showing modest diversification and some sharp gains in a few smaller language groups. The biggest shifts are concentrated among languages that start from relatively small bases.

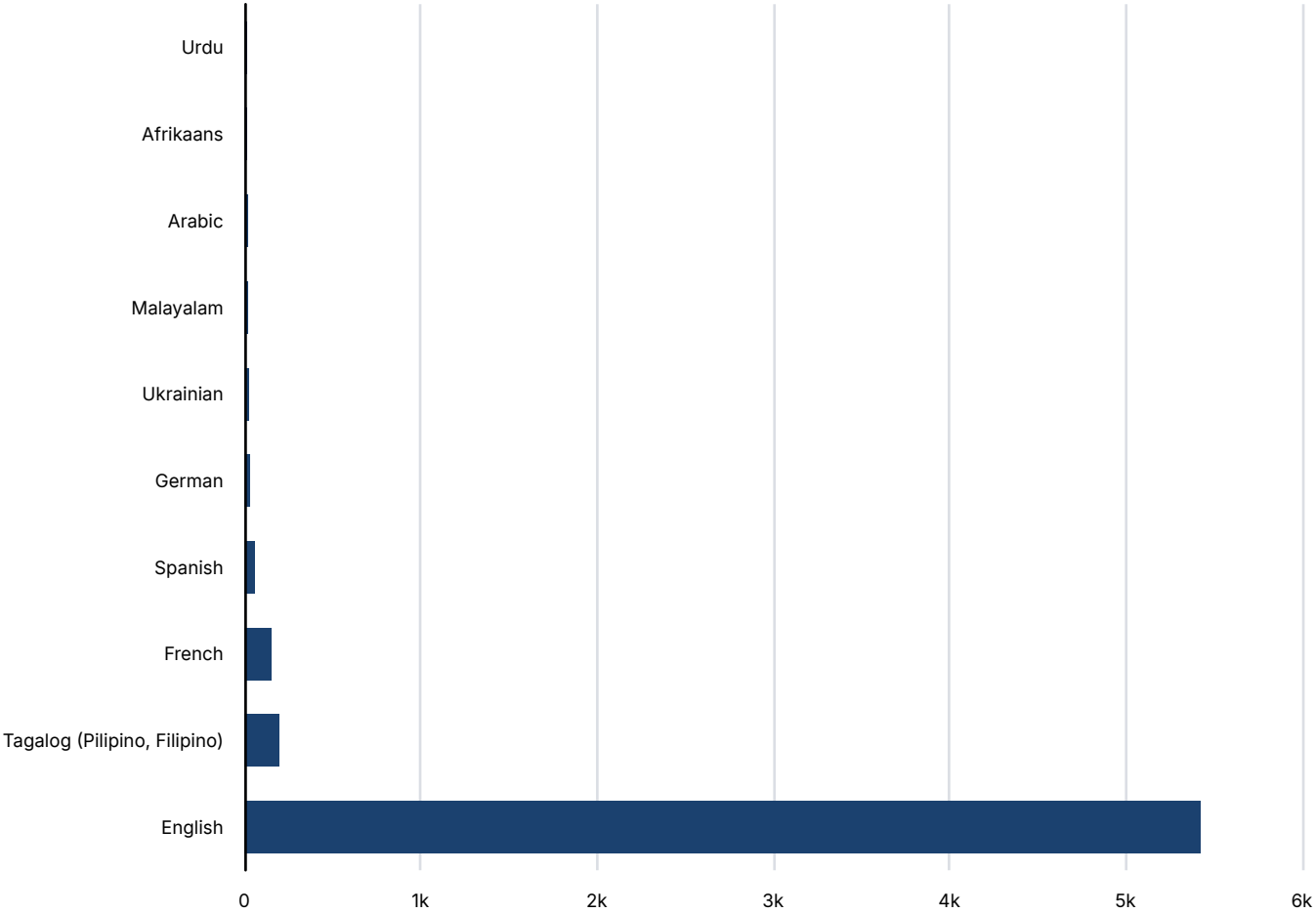


Figure 1.1: Shows the first language learned and still understood by residents. It helps indicate the linguistic roots of the population. (Wainwright, 2021)¹

Immigrant Status

Wainwright’s population was largely non-immigrant in 2021, with 5,400 non-immigrants, up 0.8% from 2016. Immigrants increased to 840, a 68.0% rise, while non-permanent residents fell to 25, down 81.5% over the five years.

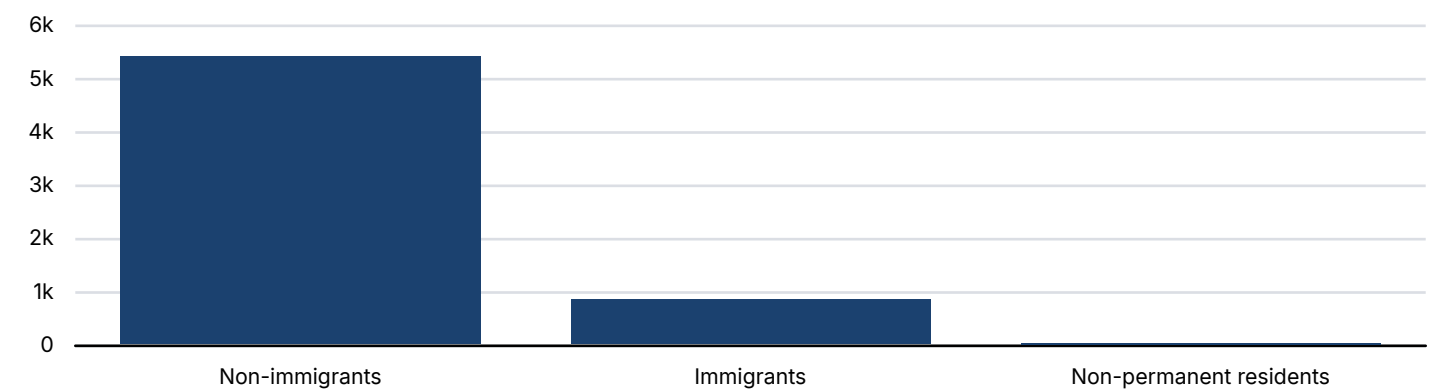


Figure 2.1: Shows whether residents are immigrants, non-permanent residents, or non-immigrants. It helps indicate the role of immigration in community growth and composition. (Wainwright, 2021)¹

Wainwright’s private household population remains dominated by non-immigrants, though the immigration profile shifted noticeably from 2016 to 2021. Non-immigrants were still the largest group at 5,400 people in 2021, while immigrants increased to 840. Non-permanent residents were much smaller at 25 people. The biggest change was among immigrants, which grew 68.0%. Non-immigrants rose only 0.8%, showing stability, while non-permanent residents dropped sharply by 81.5% from 135 to 25.

Wainwright’s immigrant-status profile is still dominated by non-immigrants, though immigrants make up a smaller but growing share of the private-household population. In 2021, non-immigrants were the largest group at 5,400, followed by immigrants at 840 and non-permanent residents at 25. Since 2016, non-immigrants rose only 0.84%, while immigrants grew 68.0%. Non-permanent residents fell 81.5%. This suggests immigration is present but secondary, with growth driven more by settled immigrants than temporary residents.



Figure 2.2: Distribution of Largest Group: Immigrant Status - Non-immigrants (Wainwright)¹

Age at Immigration

In Wainwright, immigrants first arriving at ages 25 to 44 formed the largest group in 2021, at 460 people, and it was also the group with the largest five-year increase, up 113.9% from 215 in 2016. The 5 to 14 years group rose to 135 people, while the 15 to 24 years group increased to 115.

Wainwright's immigrant population in private households was most concentrated among people who arrived at working age. In 2021, the largest group was those who first came to the country at ages 25 to 44, with 460 people. That same age band also saw the biggest five-year increase, rising by 113.95%. Other age-at-immigration groups were smaller but still changed. The number who arrived at ages 5 to 14 increased to 135, up 58.82% from 2016. Those who came at ages 15 to 24 reached 115, a

21.05% increase. People who arrived under age 5 fell to 45, down 18.18%, while the 45 years and over group doubled to 90. Overall, the 2021 pattern is clearly centered on adult arrival rather than childhood or later-life immigration. Compared with 2016, the distribution became more heavily weighted toward ages 25 to 44, showing strong growth in that core working-age group.

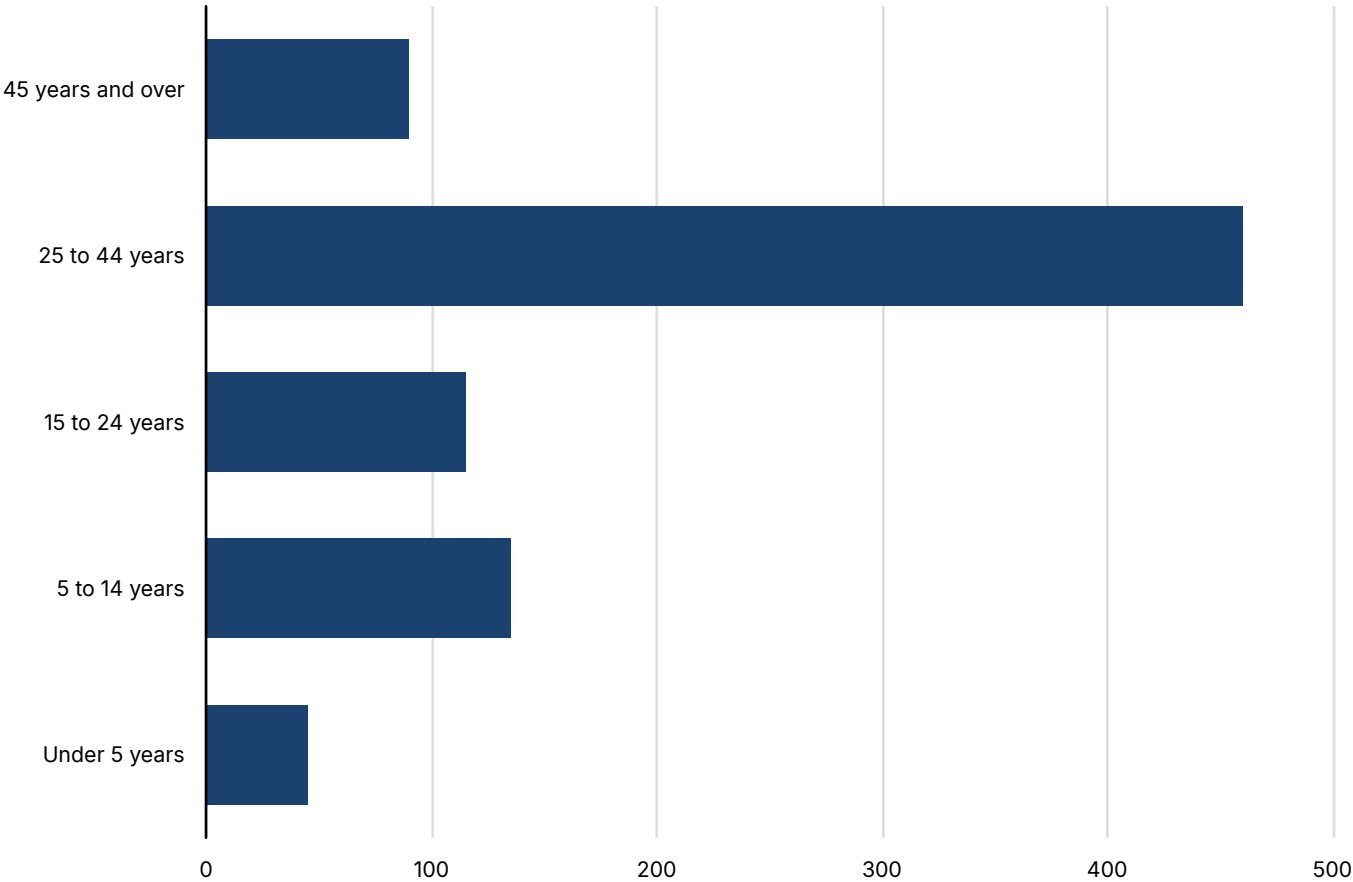


Figure 3.1: Shows the age at which immigrants first arrived in the country. It helps explain whether newcomers arrived mainly as children, working-age adults, or older adults. (Wainwright, 2021)¹

Ethnic Origin

In 2021, Wainwright’s largest ethnic origin group was English, with 1,480 people, down 20.2% in five years. Scottish followed at 1,185, German at 1,040, and Irish at 1,020. Filipino rose the most, up 58.6% to 460.

In Wainwright, reported ethnic origins in 2021 show a mix led by English ancestry, with several other long-established groups close behind. The pattern is shaped by a few large categories and one notable recent increase. English is the largest group at 1,480 people, followed by Scottish at 1,185, German at 1,040, Irish at 1,020, and Canadian at 990. French, n.o.s. stands at 740 people, while Ukrainian is smaller at 490. The longer-term changes point in different directions. English is down 20.2% over five years, German is down 20.9%, Irish is down 25.8%,

and Canadian shows the steepest decline among the larger groups at 54.5%. Scottish is also lower, at -9.5%, and Ukrainian is down 17.7%. By contrast, Filipino rose to 460 people, up 58.6%, making it the strongest growth among the groups shown. Taken together, the data suggests a community with established ancestry groups that remain prominent, alongside a newer Filipino presence that has grown quickly in the five-year period.

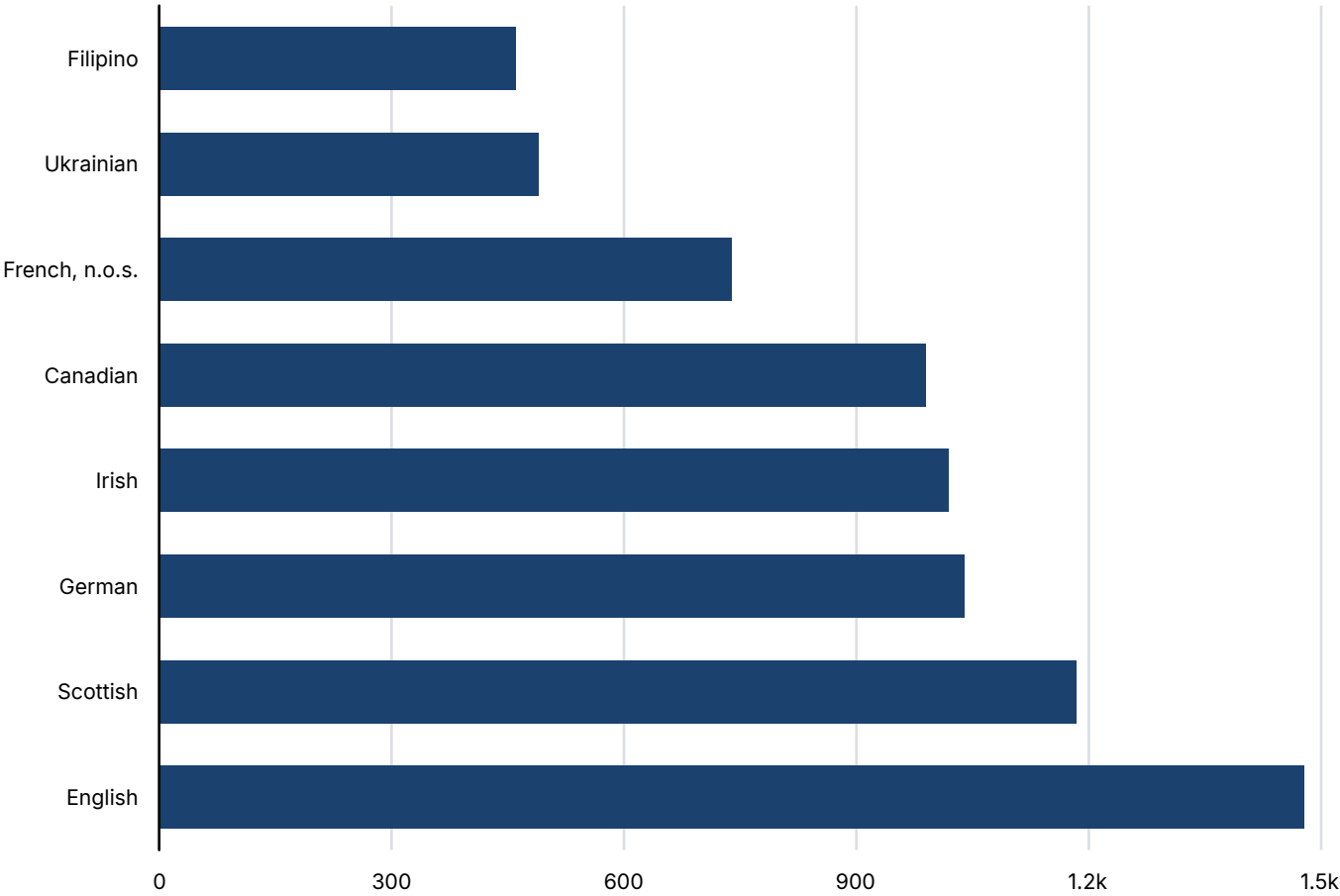


Figure 4.1: Shows the ethnic or cultural origins reported by residents. It helps indicate ancestry patterns and the community's cultural makeup. (Wainwright, 2021)¹

Religion

Christianity is the largest religious group in Wainwright, with 3,565 people in 2021. No religion and secular perspectives follows with 2,580, while other religions and spiritual traditions account for 40, Hindu for 55, and Buddhist for 30.

In Wainwright, religion in 2021 showed a clear divide between the largest Christian group and a substantial share of residents reporting no religion and secular perspectives. Among people living in private households, Christianity was the leading affiliation, while no religion and secular perspectives was the second largest category. The Christian count was 3,565 people, compared with 2,580 people reporting no religion and secular perspectives. Much smaller groups included Hindu at 55 people, other religions and spiritual traditions at 40, and Buddhist at 30.

Jewish, Muslim, Sikh, and traditional North American Indigenous spirituality were each recorded at 0. This pattern indicates a community in which two categories make up most reported affiliation, while the remaining traditions are represented only in very small numbers. The difference between Christian and no religion is notable, yet both groups are far larger than the others. Overall, the 2021 figures suggest that Wainwright's religious profile is concentrated rather than evenly mixed.

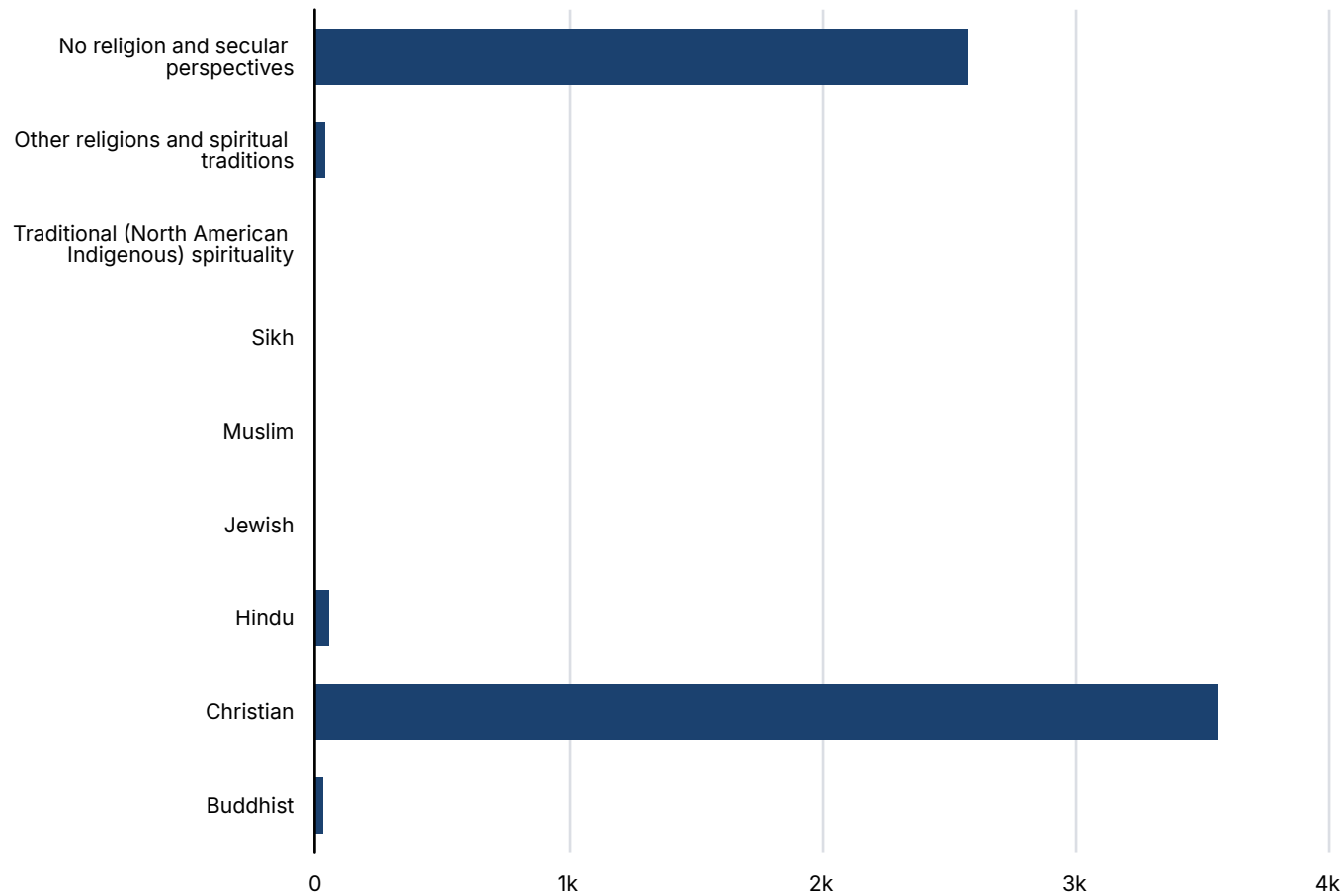


Figure 5.1: Shows residents' religious affiliation. It helps indicate the spiritual and faith-based diversity of the community. (Wainwright, 2021)¹

High School Completion

In Wainwright in 2021, the largest education group was residents with a high school diploma or equivalent, totaling 3,975 people. This exceeded the 1,045 people with no certificate, diploma, or degree by 2,930.

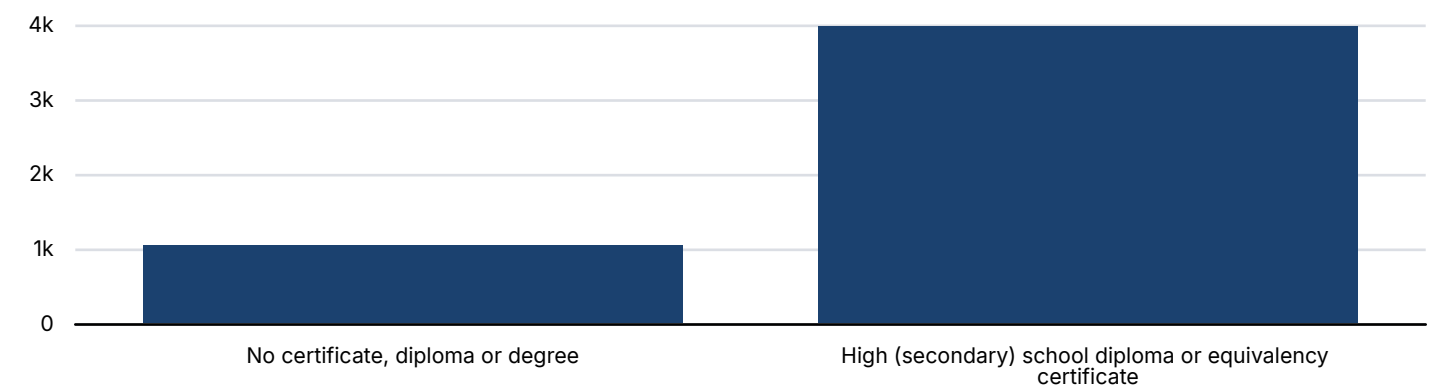


Figure 6.1: Shows whether residents have completed high school or an equivalent credential. It helps indicate a basic foundation for workforce participation and further study. (Wainwright, 2021)¹

In Wainwright, high school completion was the largest education group in 2021 among residents aged 15 years and over in private households. A total of 3,975 people had a high school diploma or equivalency certificate, compared with 1,045 people who had no certificate, diploma or degree. That means the completed-high-school group was clearly larger than the group without formal credentials. With only these two categories shown, the data points to a basic education profile centered on secondary completion.

In Wainwright in 2021, the largest group in the high school completion profile was residents with a high school diploma or equivalent, at 3,975 people. That group was much larger than the 1,045 residents with no certificate, diploma, or degree, showing that completion is the dominant pattern within the population aged 15 and over in private households. This mix suggests a community where basic educational attainment is common, while a smaller but still notable group remains without a completed credential.

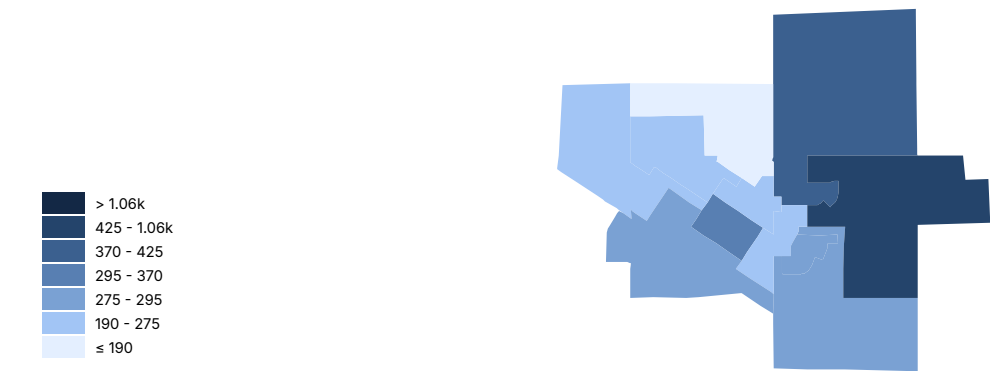


Figure 6.2: Distribution of Largest Group: Education Credential Ca - High (secondary) school diploma or equivalency certificate (Wainwright)¹

Highest Education Level

Wainwright’s largest education group in 2021 was residents with a high school diploma or equivalency certificate, at 1,715 people, up 61.8% from 2016. College credentials followed at 905 people, while bachelor’s degrees reached 600 and apprenticeship or trades certificates totalled 565. Masters degrees rose to 70 and earned doctorates to 20.

In Wainwright, the highest education level profile shifted noticeably between 2016 and 2021. The largest group in 2021 was residents whose highest credential was a high school diploma or equivalency certificate, with 1,715 people. That category also recorded the strongest five-year increase, rising 61.8% from 1,060 in 2016. Other education levels changed more unevenly. College, CEGEP or other non-university certificates and diplomas rose from 810 to 905, while bachelor’s degrees increased from 475 to 600. Master’s degrees also grew, from 45 to 70.

By contrast, apprenticeship or trades certificates or diplomas slipped from 595 to 565. The overall pattern suggests a broader expansion in the adult population with the strongest growth at the high school level and continued gains in postsecondary credentials. The increase to 20 people with earned doctorates is small in absolute terms, but it shows that the upper end of the distribution also widened. Taken together, the 2021 profile is more concentrated at the high school level, while several other credentials also moved upward from 2016.

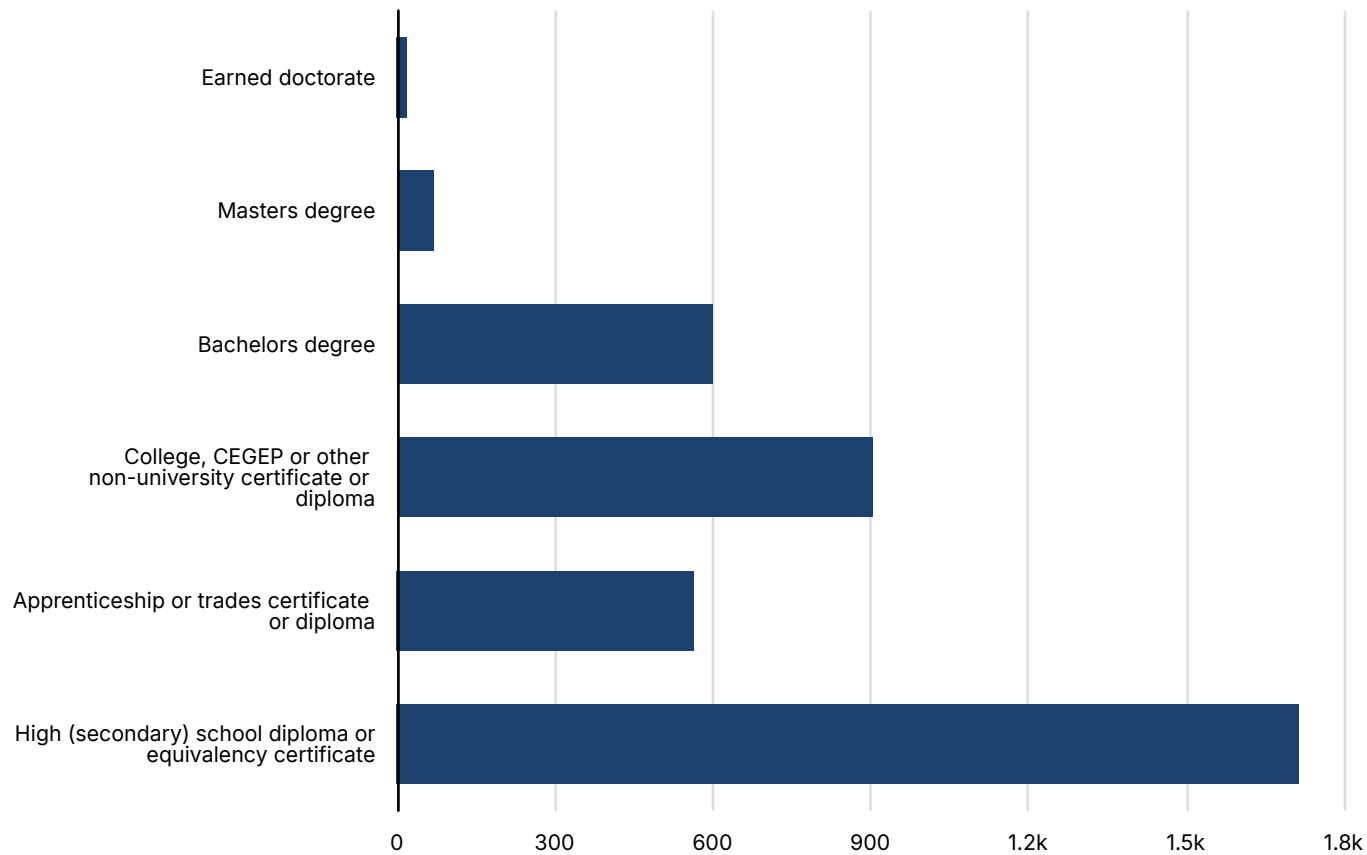


Figure 7.1: Shows the highest level of education completed by residents. It helps indicate the overall educational profile of the population. (Wainwright, 2021)¹

Household Total Income Groups

Wainwright’s largest household income group in 2021 was \$150,000 to \$199,999, with 305 households, up 15.1% from 2016. The \$5,000 to \$9,999 group fell to 10 households, while \$200,000 and over rose to 175 households, up 20.7%.

Wainwright’s household income profile in 2021 was weighted toward the middle and upper-middle ranges, with the largest group in the \$150,000 to \$199,999 bracket. That group contained 305 households and also recorded one of the clearest gains over time, rising 15.1% from 2016. Several other higher-income brackets were also sizeable. The \$125,000 to \$149,999 group had 235 households, while \$70,000 to \$79,999 reached 225 and \$80,000 to \$89,999 reached 205. At the same time, some lower-income categories were small: under \$5,000 held

at 20 households in both years, and \$5,000 to \$9,999 fell from 25 to 10 households, a 60.0% decline. The pattern suggests a distribution concentrated away from the lowest income bands and into the middle and upper ranges. Growth was not uniform, but the strongest categories in 2021 were clearly clustered above \$70,000, with the top bracket leading the field. This points to a household income structure that remained broad, but with more weight in higher income groups than in the lowest ones.

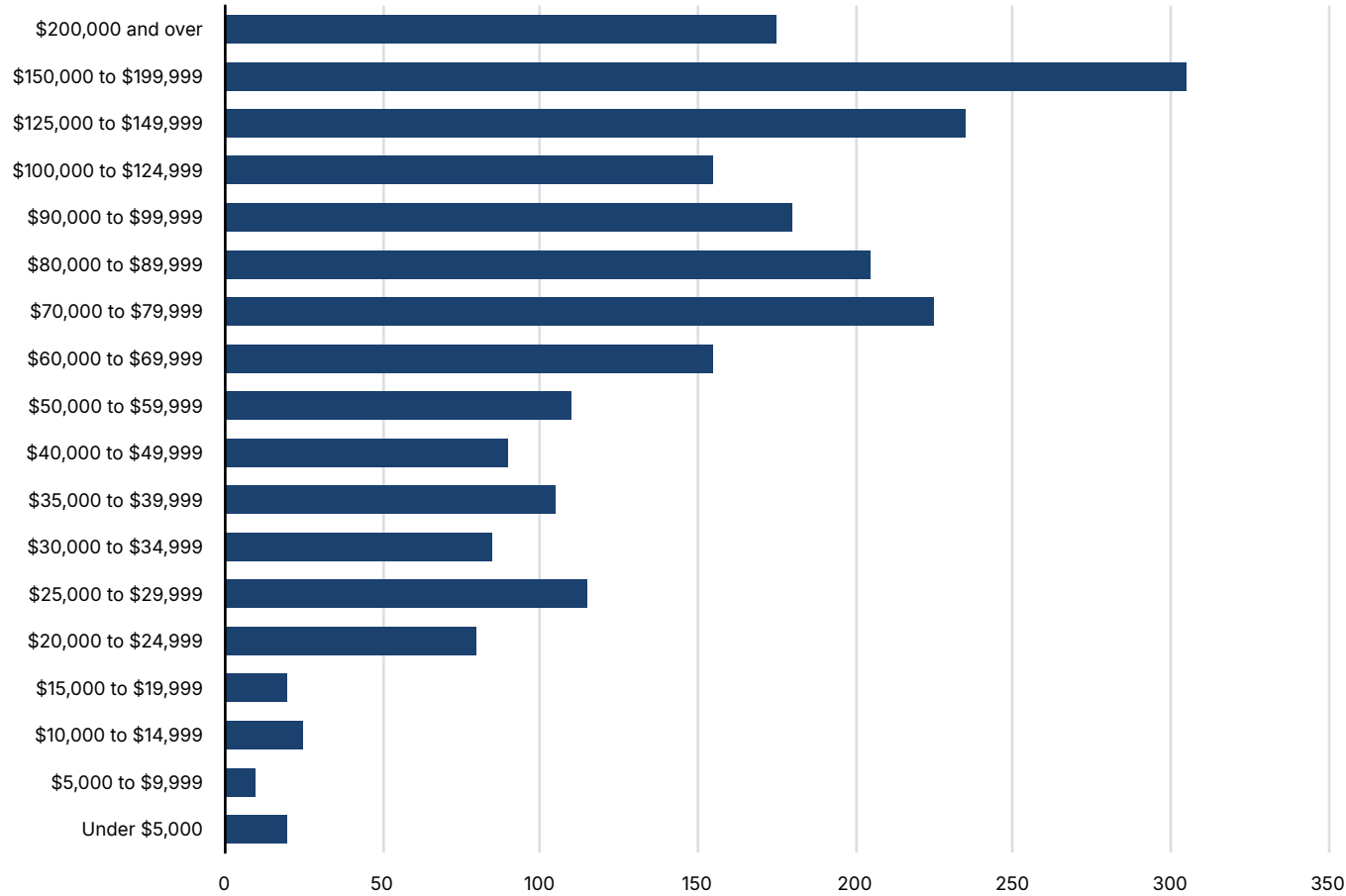


Figure 8.1: Shows households across total income groups. It helps indicate how household incomes are distributed from lower- to higher-income ranges. (Wainwright, 2021)¹

Household Type

In Wainwright in 2021, one-person households led at 830, up 12.2% from 2016. Couple families with children fell to 680, while those without children were nearly unchanged at 695; multiple-census-family households dropped to 5.

Wainwright's household structure in 2021 was led by one-person households, which reached 830 households and remained the largest group in the mix. The other major household types were couple-family households with children at 680 and couple-family households without children at 695. The clearest change over the five-year period was in one-person households, which rose 12.2% from 2016. By contrast, couple-family households with children fell 26.5%, while couple-family households without children edged down 4.8%. Several smaller household types add to the picture. One-parent-family households numbered 235, two-or-more-person non-census-family

households were 115, and one-census-family households with additional persons stood at 75. Multigenerational households totaled 35, and multiple-census-family households were the smallest group at 5, down 75.0%. Taken together, the data show a shift toward smaller household forms, especially one-person living arrangements, alongside softer counts in some family household categories. The overall mix remains varied, but the biggest change is in the balance between single-person and family households.

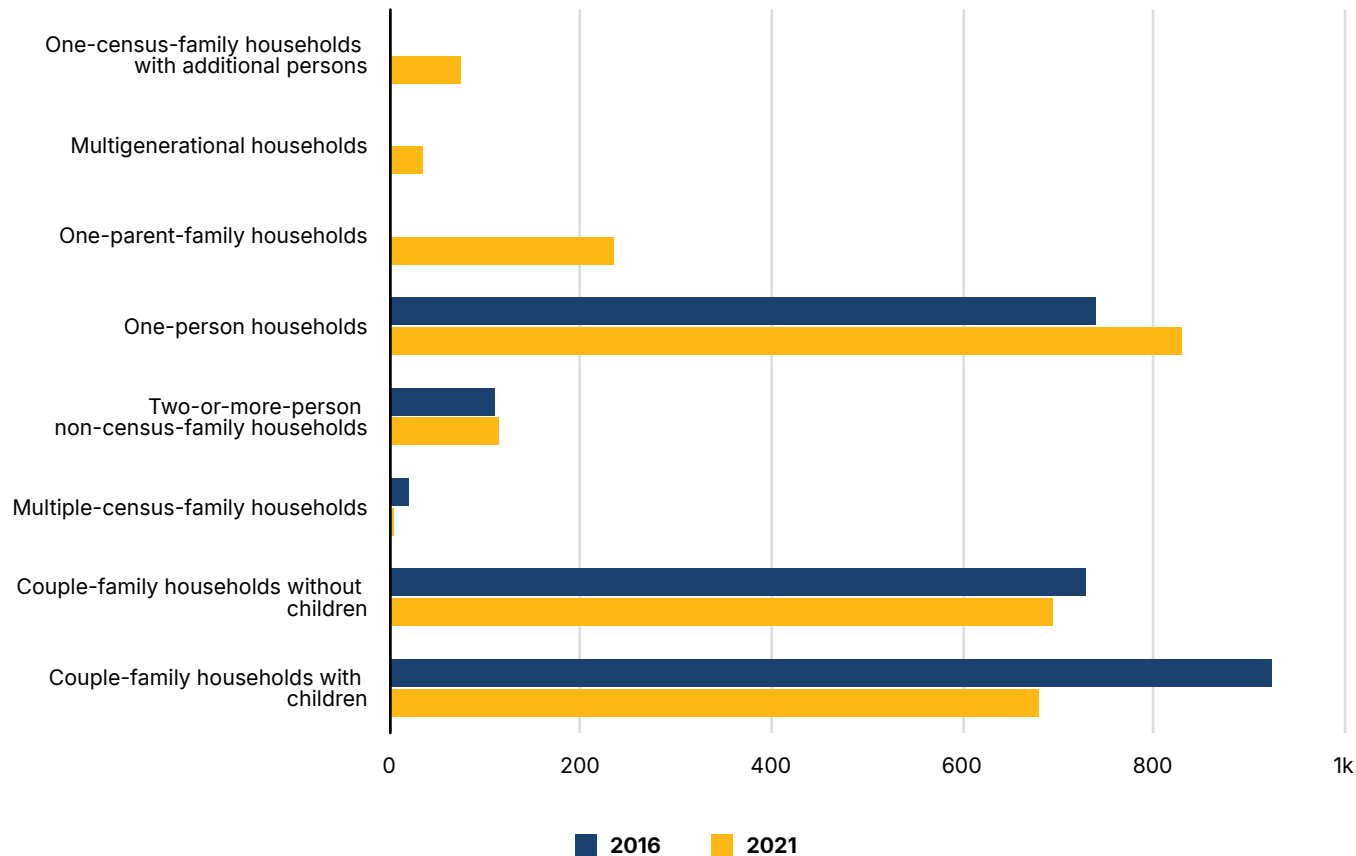


Figure 9.1: Shows the mix of household types, including one-person, family, and non-family households. It helps indicate how residents are organized across living arrangements. (Wainwright, 2016-2021)¹

Family Type

In Wainwright, married couples with children remained the largest family type in 2021 at 615 people, while married couples without children followed at 570. Over five years, married couples without children fell by 23.5%, compared with a 13.4% decline for married couples with children, while one-parent families rose to 285 from 245.

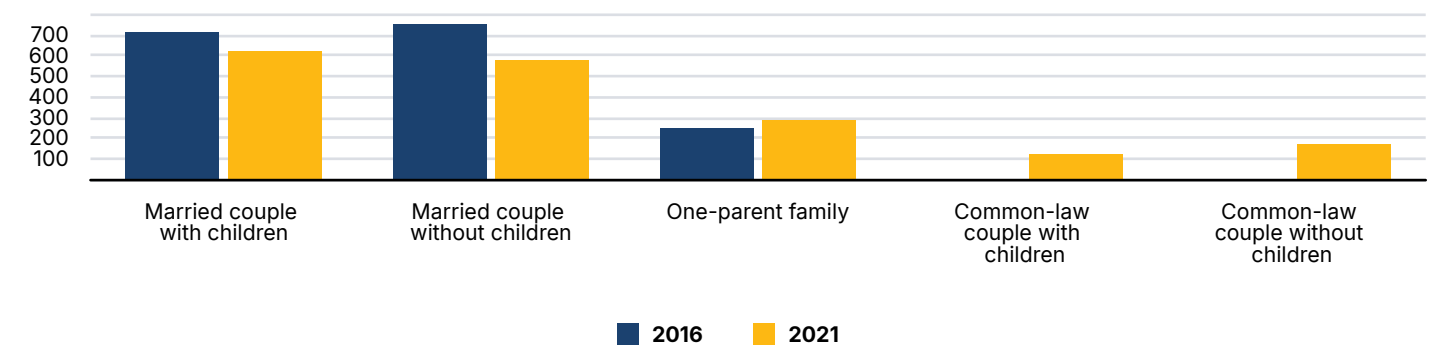


Figure 10.1: Shows the mix of family types, such as couple families and lone-parent families. It helps indicate the structure of family life in the community. (Wainwright, 2016-2021)¹

Wainwright's 2021 family structure was still led by married couples, though the balance has shifted. Among census families in private households, married couples with children were the largest group at 615, closely followed by married couples without children at 570. One-parent families numbered 285, and common-law couples totalled 285, split between 120 with children and 165 without. Compared with 2016, married-couple families declined, while one-parent families increased, suggesting a community that remains rooted in traditional families but is becoming more diverse.

Wainwright's family profile in 2021 was led by married couples with children, at 615 people, while married couples without children were close behind at 570. One-parent families numbered 285, and the remaining common-law families were smaller, at 165 without children and 120 with children. Compared with 2016, married couples without children fell the most, down 23.5%, while married couples with children declined 13.4%. The mix suggests a community where couple families remain central, but the structure shifted away from married couples and toward a somewhat larger one-parent segment.

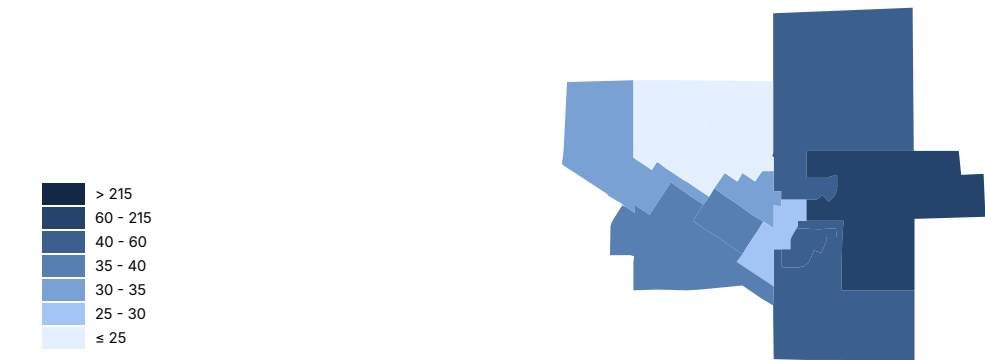


Figure 10.2: Distribution of Largest Group: Family Type - Married couple with children (Wainwright)¹

Housing Tenure

Owner households remained the largest tenure group in Wainwright, rising 5.1% to 1,870 in 2021. Renter households grew 6.0% to 790, while dwellings provided by the local government, First Nation or Indian band remained at zero.

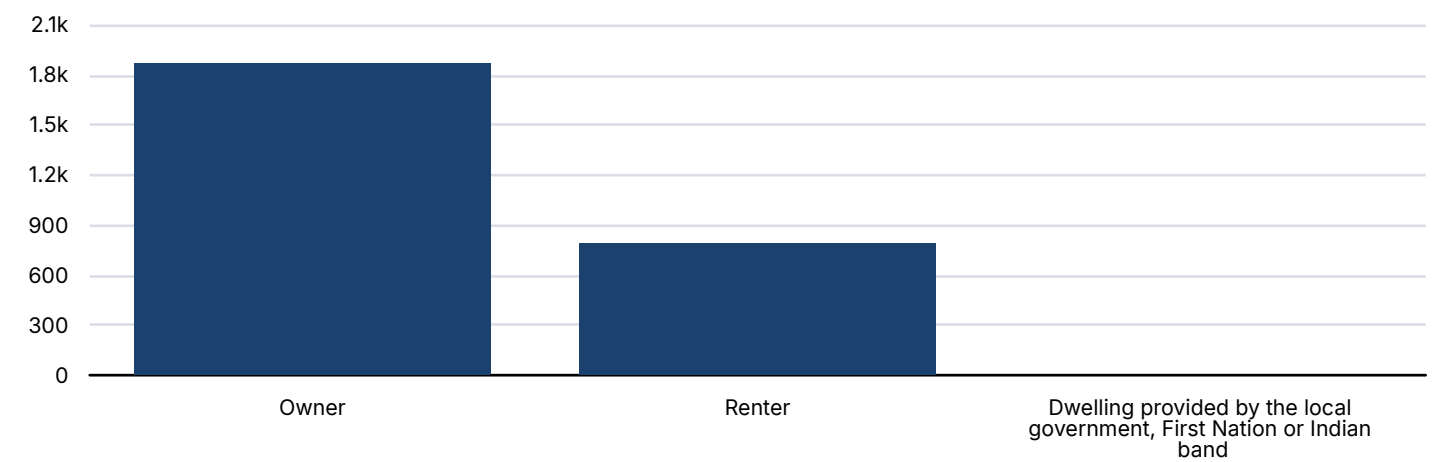
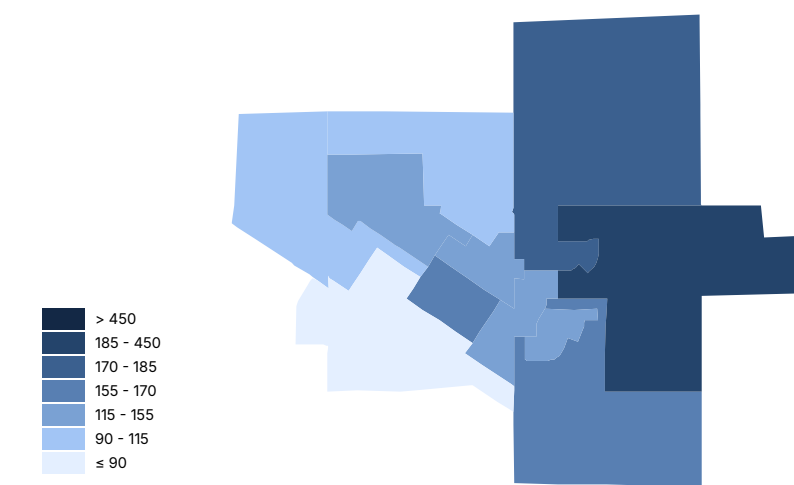


Figure 11.1: Shows whether households own or rent their homes. It helps indicate the balance between ownership and rental housing in the community. (Wainwright, 2021)¹

Wainwright's housing tenure mix in 2021 was still dominated by owner households, with renters making up a smaller but notable share. There were 1,870 owner households and 790 renter households. Compared with 2016, owner households increased from 1,780, a 5.1% rise, while renter households grew from 745, up 6.0%. The balance between the two groups changed only slightly, so the community remains strongly owner-oriented. However, the somewhat faster growth in renter households points to gradually increasing rental demand alongside continued stability in ownership.



In 2021, Wainwright's housing tenure was dominated by owner households, with 1,870 owners compared with 790 renters. That mix points to a community where ownership clearly outweighs renting, while both groups grew modestly over five years: owners rose 5.1% and renters 6.0%. Households in dwellings provided by the local government, First Nation or Indian band remained at zero. The pattern suggests a stable tenure structure with a small but slightly faster increase in renting.

Figure 11.2: Distribution of Largest Group: Housing Tenure - Owner (Wainwright)¹

Core Housing Need

In 2021, Wainwright had 2,530 households not in core housing need and 105 in core need. Households outside core need outnumbered those in core need by about 24 to 1, showing most were not under housing stress.

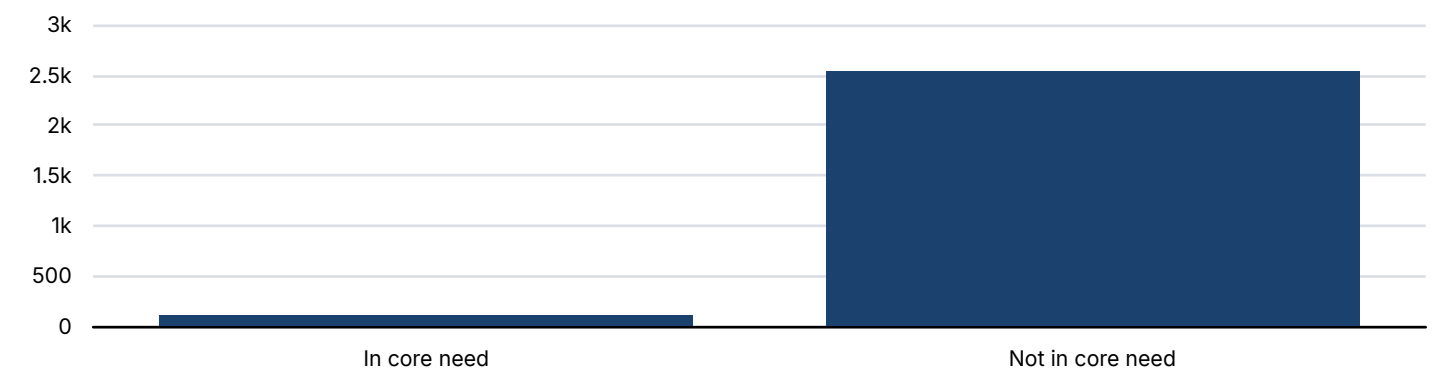


Figure 12.1: Shows the share of households living in housing that is unaffordable, unsuitable, or in need of major repairs. It helps indicate overall housing stress in the community. (Wainwright, 2021)¹

In Wainwright in 2021, the housing picture was dominated by households that were not in core housing need. This largest group included 2,530 households, compared with 105 households that were in core need. The gap between the two categories is substantial, showing that most owner and tenant households with income above zero and shelter costs below 100% were living in housing that met the measure's standards. Taken together, the data suggests core housing need affected a small share of households in this scope, while the large majority were not experiencing that level of housing stress.

In 2021, most Wainwright households were not in core housing need, with 2,530 households in that category compared with 105 households in core need. The pattern points to a community where housing stress affected a relatively small share of households within the measured universe. The gap between the two groups is substantial, suggesting that stable housing conditions were more common than serious affordability, suitability, or repair problems. Within this measure, Wainwright's profile is clearly weighted toward households outside core need.

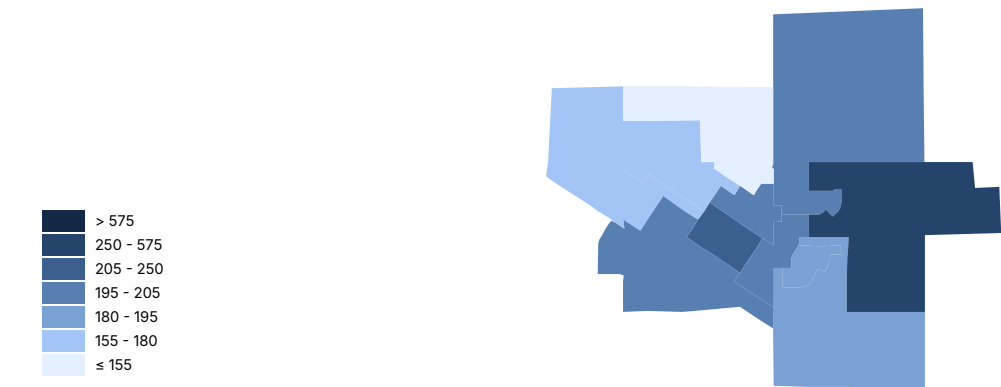


Figure 12.2: Distribution of Largest Group: Core Housing Need - Not in core need (Wainwright)¹

Average Shelter Costs

Wainwright’s owner households had the highest average monthly shelter costs in 2021 at \$1,332, up 13.9% from \$1,169 in 2016. Renter costs were lower at \$1,138, rising 4.3% from \$1,091 over the same period.

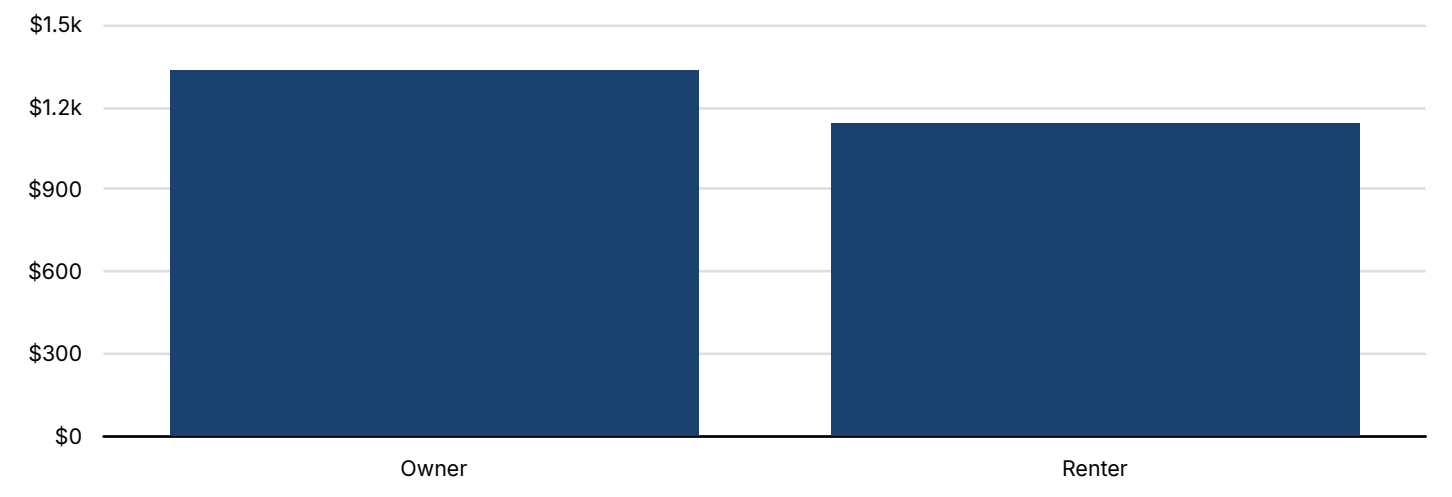
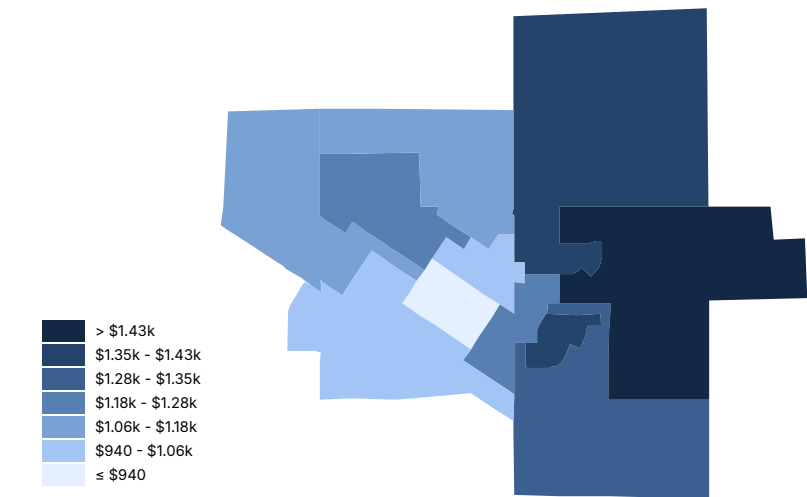


Figure 13.1: Shows the average monthly shelter costs paid by households. It helps indicate typical housing expenses faced by owners and renters. (Wainwright, 2021)¹

In Wainwright, average monthly shelter costs in 2021 were higher for owners than for renters, and both groups saw increases over the five-year period. Owner households paid \$1,332 per month, up from \$1,169 in 2016, a 13.9% rise. Renter costs were \$1,138, compared with \$1,091 in 2016, a 4.3% increase. This created a \$194 gap between owners and renters in 2021. Overall, the data show a modest upward trend in shelter costs, with owner households experiencing both the highest costs and the largest increase.



In Wainwright, average monthly shelter costs in 2021 were higher for owners than renters. Owner households paid \$1,332 per month, while renter households paid \$1,138. Both tenure groups were above their 2016 levels: owners rose from \$1,169, a 13.9% increase over five years, and renters increased from \$1,091, up 4.3%. The pattern shows that shelter costs were not only higher for owners, but also grew faster for owners than for renters over the period.

Figure 13.2: Distribution of Largest Group: Housing Tenure - Owner (Wainwright)¹

Population Density

Wainwright's population density was 543 people per km2 in 2021, down 21.16% from 2016. The earlier period rose from 665.4 in 2011 to 688.7 in 2016, before the later decline.

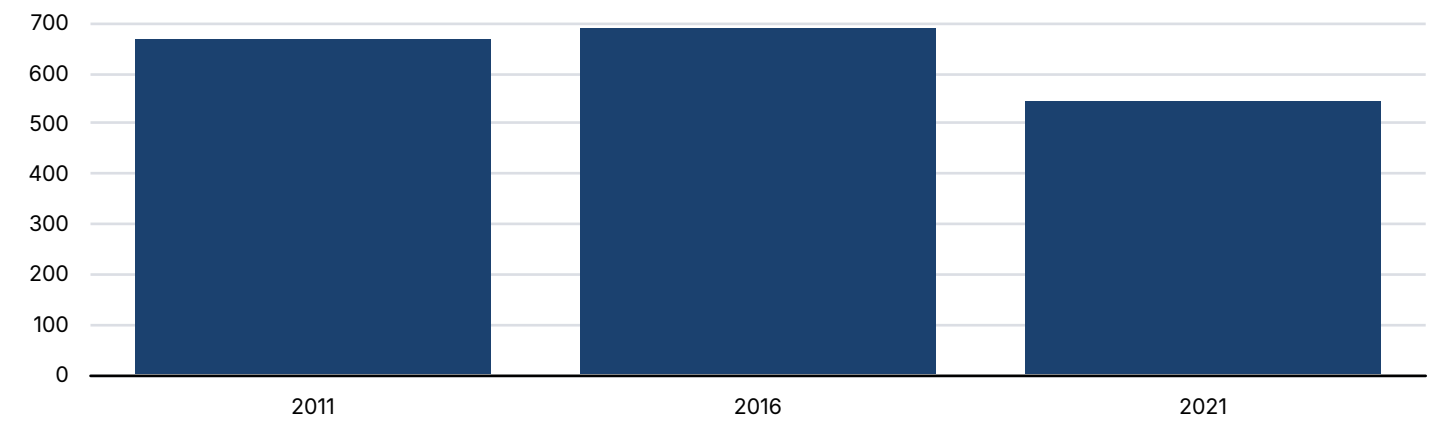


Figure 14.1: Shows how many people live per unit of land area. It helps indicate how compact or spread out the population is. (Wainwright, 2011-2021)¹

Wainwright's population density in 2021 was 543.0 people per km2, showing a moderately compact settlement pattern within the total population measure. The main story in the data is not the level alone, but the shift over time. Density stood at 665.4 people per km2 in 2011 and rose slightly to 688.7 in 2016, a 3.5% increase over that five-year period. By 2021, it had fallen to 543.0 people per km2, a 21.16% decline from 2016. That leaves the 2021 figure well below the earlier levels shown in the series.

The pattern is one of short-term growth followed by a sharper contraction. Because the dataset contains only Wainwright's own values, there is no benchmark here to show whether this level is high or low relative to nearby places. Taken together, the data suggests that Wainwright became less densely populated by 2021 than it had been five and ten years earlier, marking a clear change in how concentrated the population was across land area.

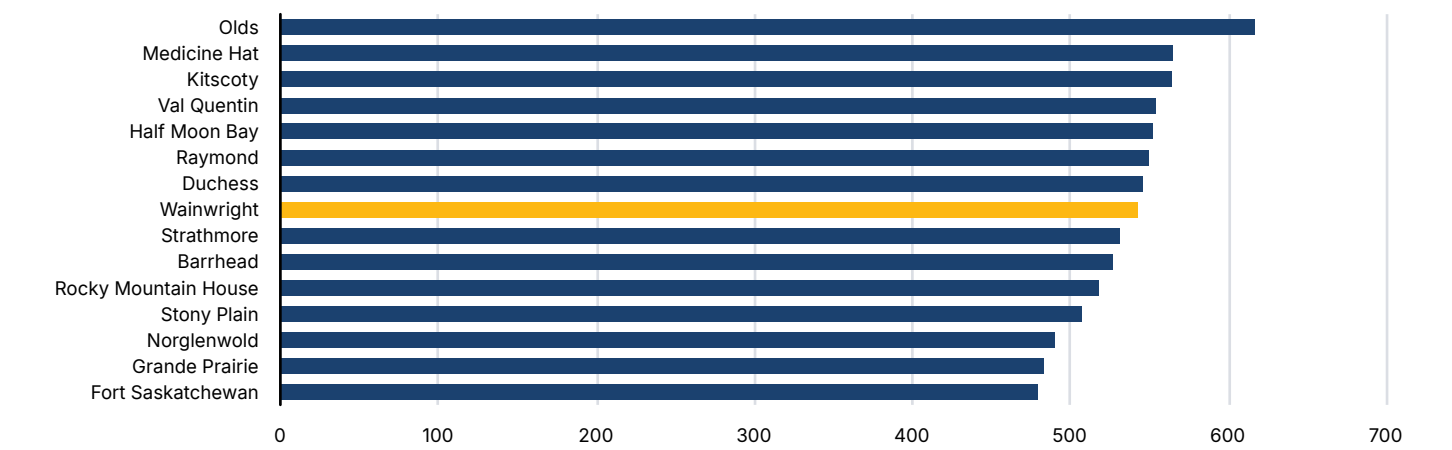


Figure 14.2: Comparison of Population Density with other locations (Wainwright, 2021)¹

Median Age

Wainwright’s median age was 38.0 years in 2021, up from 37.5 in 2016 and 37.0 in 2011. The median age increased by 1.33% over the latest five-year period, matching the 1.35% rise from 2011 to 2016.

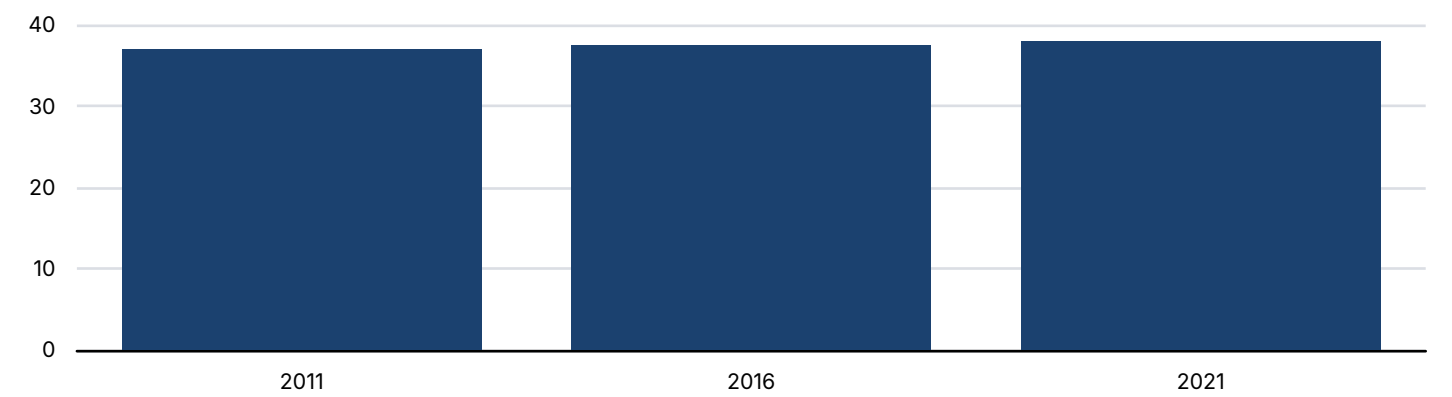


Figure 15.1: Shows the median age of residents. It helps indicate whether the population skews younger or older at the midpoint of the age distribution. (Wainwright, 2011-2021)¹

Wainwright's median age was 38.0 years in 2021, placing the midpoint of its population age profile in the late 30s. The measure has edged up steadily over time, rising from 37.0 years in 2011 to 37.5 years in 2016 and then to 38.0 years in 2021. That is a modest but consistent increase across the decade. The five-year change in the median age was 1.33%, matching the gradual rise seen in the earlier period as well. Because the data show only small year-to-year movement, the pattern looks

more like slow ageing than a sharp shift. The result describes the structure of the population at a single midpoint rather than the full age mix, so it should be read as a summary signal rather than a complete age profile. For Wainwright, the key feature is stability with a gentle upward drift. The age midpoint has not changed dramatically, but it has moved higher enough to show a clear long-term trend.

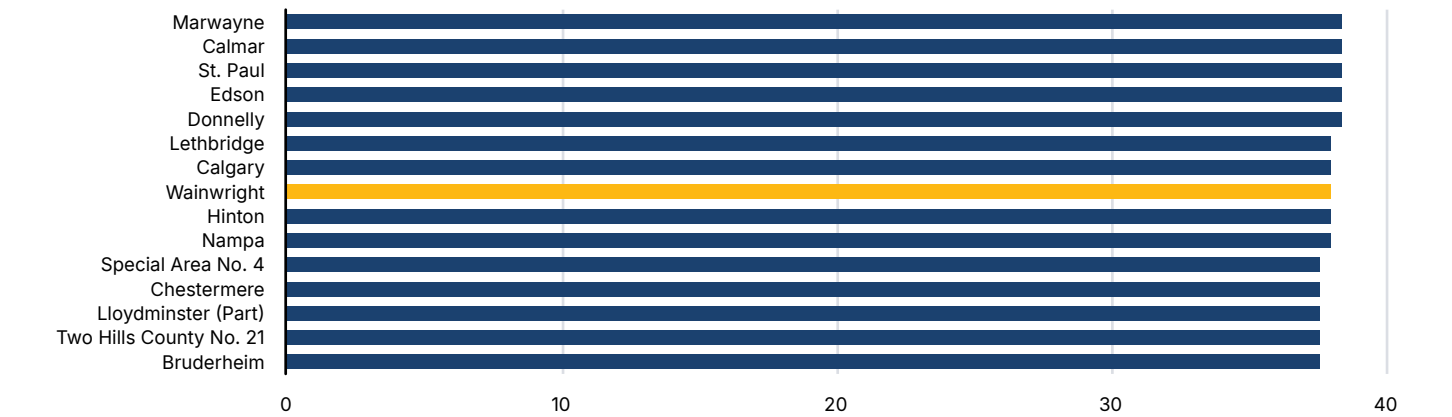


Figure 15.2: Comparison of Median Age with other locations (Wainwright, 2021)¹

Data Sources

1. Statistics Canada, Census Profile. Published in Dec 15, 2022.

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