

## Age Profile

The age profile of residents living in the region is fairly similar to that for the Province, although County residents are slightly older on average than Ontario residents with a notably larger proportion in the 65+ age bracket. Almost 65% of the population in the County falls within the 15-64 age group. The 0-14 age group accounts for a further 20% of the population, while the 65+ age group accounts for 15.6%. In the 55-64 age group, Leeds & Grenville has a higher proportion of people approaching retirement. The 15-64 age cohort is also lower than the provincial average. This means that existing and new companies will likely need to develop aggressive strategies for attracting a skilled workforce. It's expected that the 65+ segment will continue to grow, particularly because of ageing "baby boomers". As of 1996, seniors accounted for almost 16% of the total County population, 20.5% higher than the Provincial average. This will increase not only medical service requirements but it will also lead to more demand for cultural and recreational opportunities.

### **Population by Age 1996**

<b>Age Group</b>	<b>United Counties</b>	<b>% of Total</b>	<b>Separated Municipalities</b>	<b>% of Total</b>
0-14	13,555	20.9	5,585	17.8
15-64	42,343	65.3	19,770	62.9
65+	8,935	13.8	6,095	19.3
<b>Total</b>	<b>64,833</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>31,450</b>	<b>100.0%</b>
<b>Average Age</b>	<b>41.2</b>		<b>40.3</b>	

<b>Age Group</b>	<b>Total United Counties &amp; Separated Municipalities</b>	<b>% of Total</b>	<b>Ontario</b>	<b>% of Total</b>
0-14	19,140	19.9	2,214,225	20.6
15-64	62,113	64.5	7,205,250	67.0
65+	15,030	15.6	1,334,105	12.4
<b>Total</b>	<b>96,283</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>10,753,575</b>	<b>100.0%</b>
<b>Average Age</b>	<b>40.8</b>			<b>34.7</b>

Source: Statistics Canada, 1996 Census data

More than one half (56%) of the 25-54 age group is composed of a population that is between 40-54 years old. Baby boomers are classified within the 35-55 age group. Data shows that this will continue to be a very prominent age group for the County. Baby boomers are aging and quickly approaching retirement. The ramifications of this will be felt in the next 10 years as the population continues to age and the 15-24 age group experiences stagnant growth throughout the region.