

IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT NO. 4 WATERTON

Quality of Life Report

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Executive Summary

Improvement District No. 4 Waterton in 2021 appears as a very small, sparsely settled community with a narrow but readable social profile. Population density remained extremely low at 0.3 people per square kilometre, even after a modest increase over the previous five years. The age pattern shifted noticeably younger, with the median age falling to 36.8 from a much older midpoint in 2016. Across several measures, the district looks settled rather than rapidly changing: the population in private households was entirely non-immigrant, and the mother tongue profile was overwhelmingly English, with only a very small Ukrainian presence recorded alongside it.

That compact population is reflected in the structure of households, families, religion, and education. One-person households were the largest household type and grew sharply, while couple households, especially couples without children, remained an important part of the local mix. Family types were limited, with married couples dominating and no recorded one-parent or common-law families with children. Religious affiliation was similarly concentrated, split mainly between residents reporting no religion and those identifying as Christian, with no other listed affiliations recorded. Ethnic origin was somewhat broader than these other measures, led by English, German, Scottish, and Canadian origins rather than a single dominant ancestry. Educational attainment was concentrated at the high school and bachelor's degree levels, and the high school completion figures show no recorded residents aged 15 and over without at least that level of credential.

Housing patterns also suggest a small, tightly defined local base. Tenure was fairly balanced, with a slight tilt toward owners, and ownership increased over five years while the number of renter households did not change. Owner households also faced higher average monthly shelter costs than renters. Some housing-related tables, including household income groups and core housing need, recorded zeros across all categories, leaving no usable distribution to interpret from those measures. Even with those gaps, the broader picture is clear: Waterton is a lightly populated district with a small resident base, limited diversity across several social indicators, and a household structure shaped mainly by single-person living and couple households.

Religion

No religion and secular perspectives was the largest group in Improvement District No. 4 Waterton in 2021, at 65 people. Christian residents followed at 55, while all other listed religions were recorded at 0.

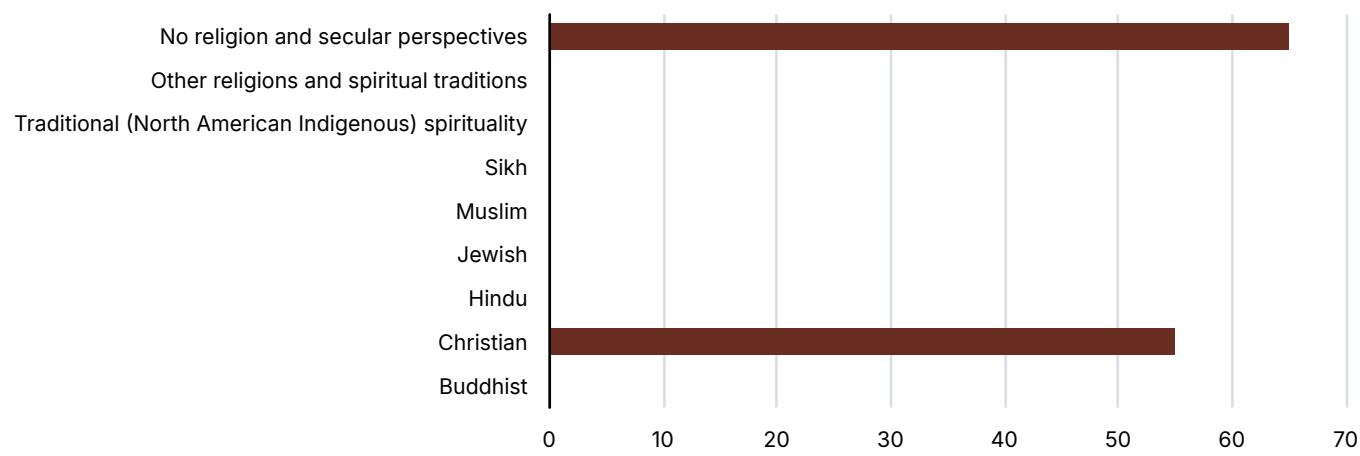


Figure 1.1: Shows residents' religious affiliation. It helps indicate the spiritual and faith-based diversity of the community. (Improvement District No. 4 Waterton, 2021)¹

In 2021, religion in Improvement District No. 4 Waterton was characterized by a small but clear split between residents reporting no religion and those identifying as Christian. The census counted 65 people with no religion and secular perspectives, compared with 55 Christians, in a population in private households. Every other listed affiliation, including Buddhist, Hindu, Jewish, Muslim, Sikh, Traditional (North American Indigenous) spirituality, and other religions and spiritual traditions, was recorded at 0. This points to a limited range of recorded religious affiliation.

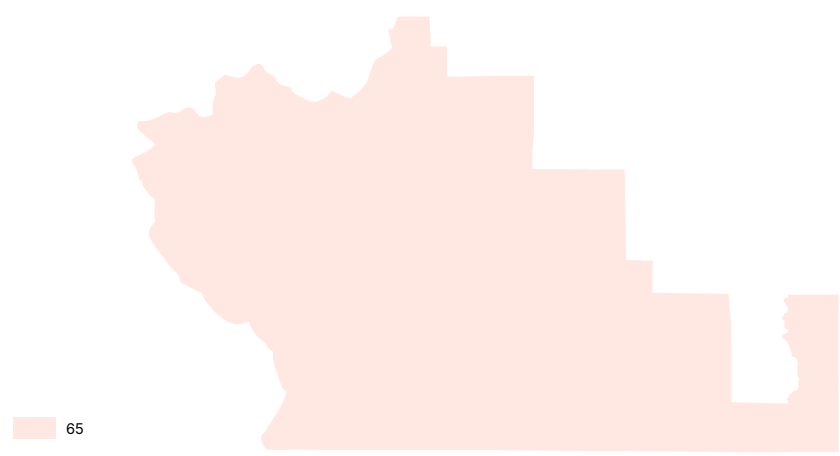


Figure 1.2: Distribution of Largest Group: Religion - No religion and secular perspectives (Improvement District No. 4 Waterton)¹

In 2021, Improvement District No. 4 Waterton's religion profile was marked by a clear split between Christianity and no religion. Christianity accounted for 55 people, while 65 people reported no religion or secular perspectives. All other listed faiths were reported at 0. That pattern was the same in the descendant dissemination area, suggesting a very limited religious mix in this local area. Within the population in private households, the data point to a community where affiliation is concentrated in just two categories, with no recorded presence for other traditions.

Family Type

Married couple without children remained the largest family type in Improvement District No. 4 Waterton at 15 people in 2021, unchanged from 2016. Married couples with children doubled to 10 people.

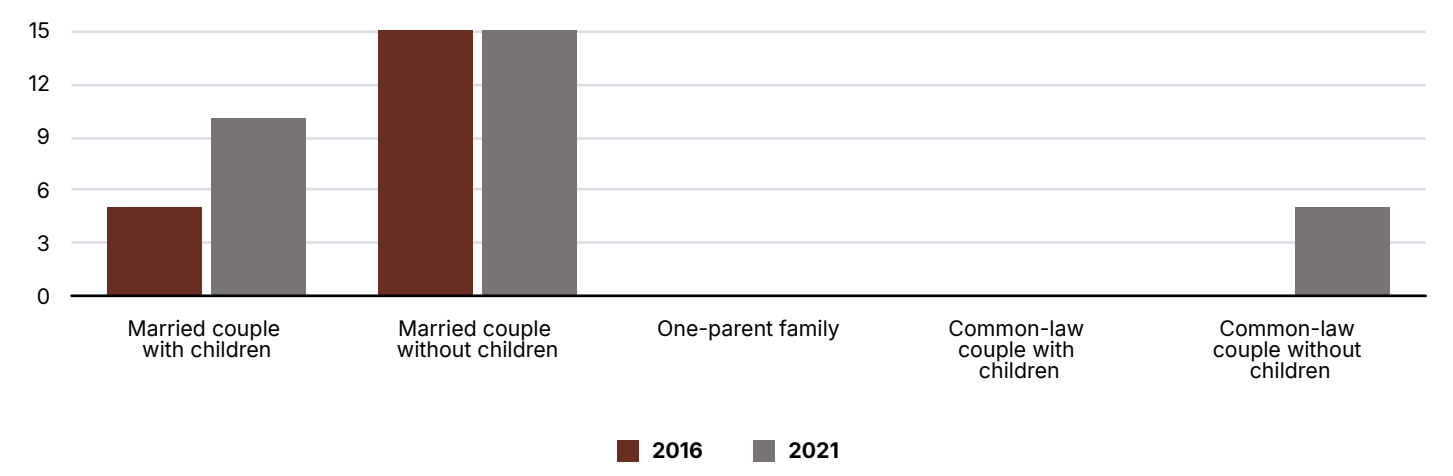


Figure 2.1: Shows the mix of family types, such as couple families and lone-parent families. It helps indicate the structure of family life in the community. (Improvement District No. 4 Waterton, 2016-2021)¹

In 2021, family type in Improvement District No. 4 Waterton was concentrated in couple families, with married couples without children the largest group at 15 people and married couples with children next at 10. Common-law couples without children accounted for 5 people, while common-law couples with children and one-parent families were not recorded. The five-year change points to a limited but clear shift within this small family population. Married couples with children doubled, rising 100%, while married couples without children were unchanged. With only a few family types represented, the pattern is narrow and stable rather than broadly diversified.



In 2021, family life in Improvement District No. 4 Waterton was centered on couple families. Married couples without children were the largest group at 15 people, followed by married couples with children at 10. Common-law couples without children accounted for 5 people, while common-law couples with children and one-parent families were both at 0. The 5-year change shows a sharp rise in married couples with children, up 100%, while married couples without children were unchanged.

Figure 2.2: Distribution of Largest Group: Family Type - Married couple without children (Improvement District No. 4 Waterton)¹

Ethnic Origin

English is the largest ethnic origin in Improvement District No. 4 Waterton at 50 people. German rose the most over five years, doubling to 45, while Canadian reached 30 and Scottish 40.

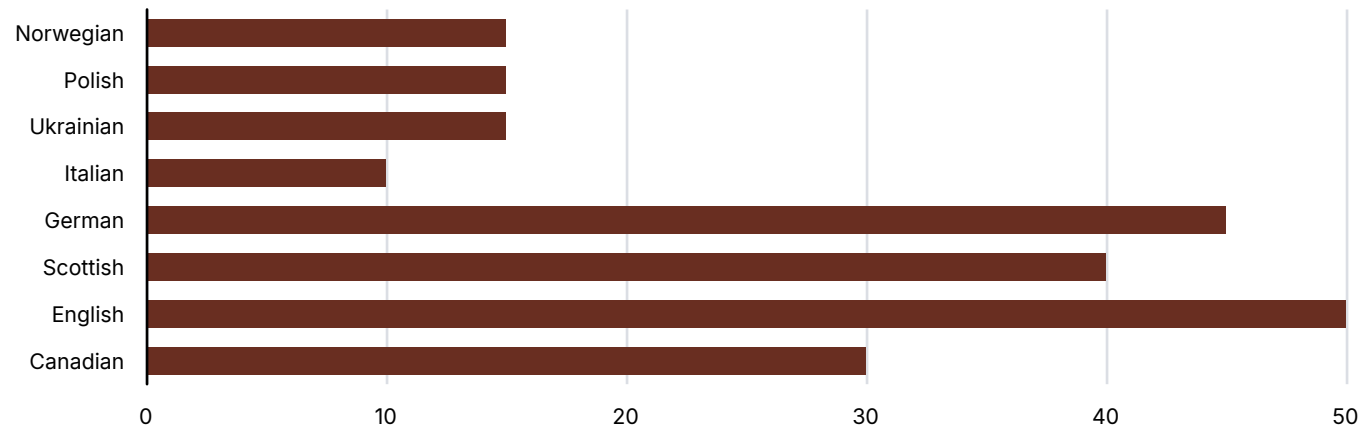
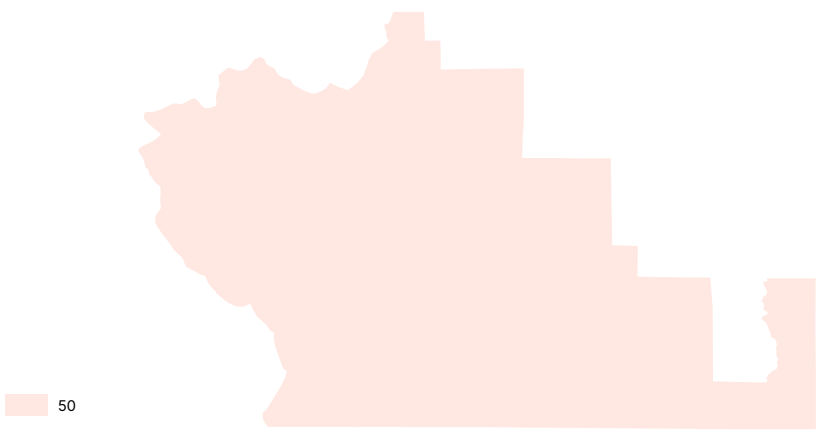


Figure 3.1: Shows the ethnic or cultural origins reported by residents. It helps indicate ancestry patterns and the community's cultural makeup. (Improvement District No. 4 Waterton, 2021)¹

In Improvement District No. 4 Waterton, ethnic origin responses in 2021 were led by English, Scottish, German, and Canadian origins, showing a mix of long-established ancestry ties within the population in private households. English was reported by 50 people, German by 45, Scottish by 40, and Canadian by 30. Smaller counts were recorded for Italian and Polish at 15 each, and Ukrainian and Norwegian at 15 each. Over five years, several origins grew. Canadian and German origins each rose by 200, while English, Scottish, Ukrainian, and Norwegian each increased by 100 or 50. Italian and Polish had no five-year change reported. The pattern suggests a profile with multiple reported origins rather than one dominant ancestry. Source: Statistics Canada, Census Profile.



In 2021, Improvement District No. 4 Waterton showed a small but varied ethnic origin profile among residents in private households. The most reported origins were English at 50 people, German at 45, and Scottish at 40, with Canadian at 30. Other origins were smaller: Ukrainian, Polish, and Norwegian each had 15 people, while Italian had 10. The pattern suggests a mix led by a few long-established origins rather than one dominant group. That distribution points to a fairly compact ancestry profile for the community.

Figure 3.2: Distribution of Largest Group: Ethnic Origin - English (Improvement District No. 4 Waterton)¹

Mother Tongue

English was the largest and most changed mother tongue in Improvement District No. 4 Waterton in 2021, at 150 people, up 66.7% over five years. Ukrainian followed with 5 people.

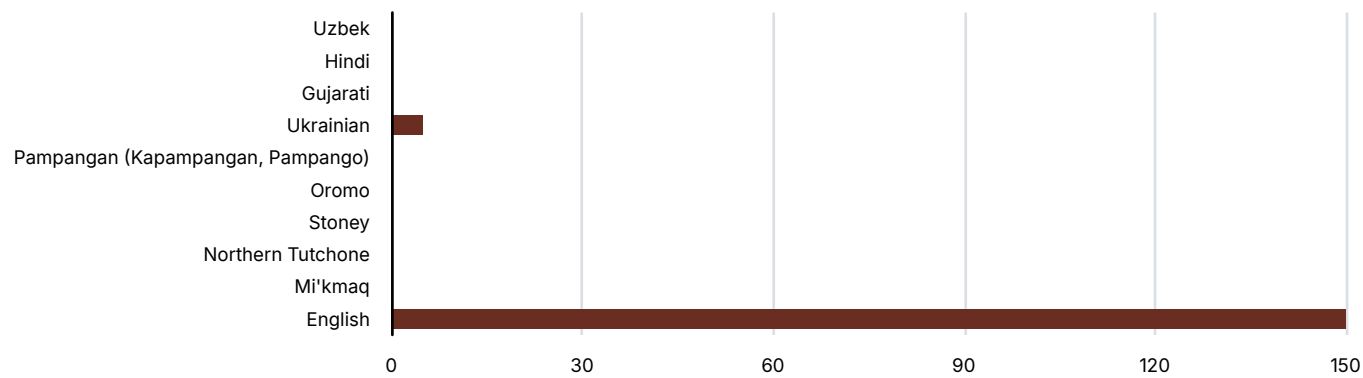


Figure 4.1: Shows the first language learned and still understood by residents. It helps indicate the linguistic roots of the population. (Improvement District No. 4 Waterton, 2021)¹

In 2021, Improvement District No. 4 Waterton’s mother tongue profile was overwhelmingly English. English was reported for 150 people, while Ukrainian was the only other language with a count above zero, at 5. The English count also increased by 66.7% over five years. The remaining listed languages, including Mi'kmaq, Northern Tutchone, Stoney, Oromo, Pampangan, Gujarati, Hindi, and Uzbek, each had a value of 0. This leaves the location with a very concentrated linguistic profile, dominated by English and only a small trace of another mother tongue.

In Improvement District No. 4 Waterton, mother tongue is highly concentrated in English. In 2021, 150 residents reported English as their first language still understood, while Ukrainian was the only other non-zero language shown, at 5 people. The reported 5-year change for English was 66.7%, suggesting a strong recent increase in that language group. No change value is shown for Ukrainian, and the other listed languages all recorded zero. Within the available data, the linguistic profile is narrow and dominated by English, with only a small Ukrainian presence.

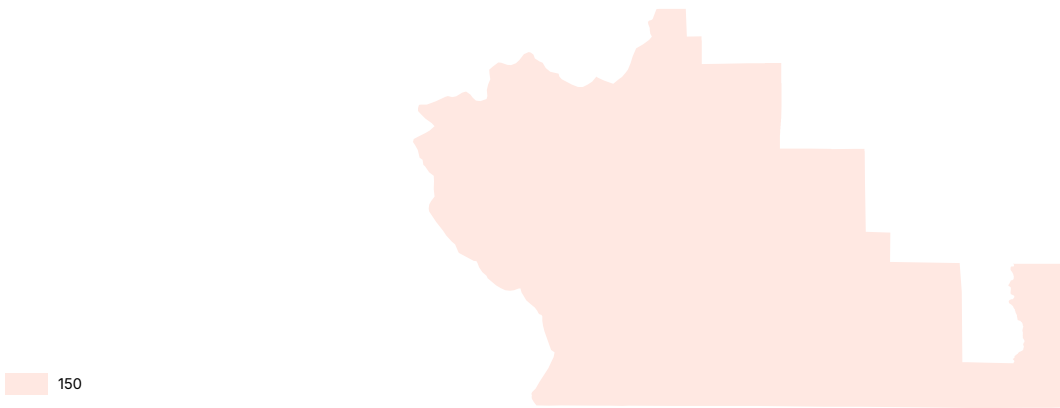


Figure 4.2: Distribution of Largest Group: Language - English (Improvement District No. 4 Waterton)¹

Population Density

Improvement District No. 4 Waterton’s population density reached 0.3 people per square kilometre in 2021, up 50.0% from 2016. It was unchanged at 0.2 in 2011 and 2016.

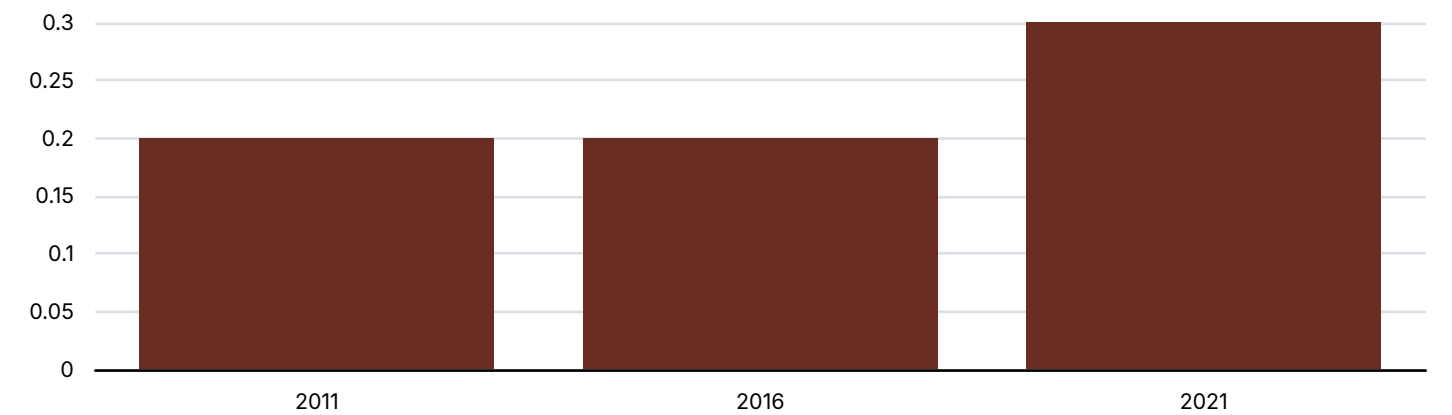


Figure 5.1: Shows how many people live per unit of land area. It helps indicate how compact or spread out the population is. (Improvement District No. 4 Waterton, 2011-2021)¹

Improvement District No. 4 Waterton remained very sparsely populated over the 2011 to 2021 period. Population density was 0.2 people per km2 in both 2011 and 2016, before rising to 0.3 people per km2 in 2021. That change represents a 50% increase from 2016, but the absolute level stayed extremely low. The pattern points to a location with very limited settlement spread across a large area, with only a modest recent uptick in density.

Improvement District No. 4 Waterton had a very low population density in 2021, at 0.3 people per km2. That was up from 0.2 in 2011 and 2016, showing a small increase in density over the decade. Even so, it remained far below nearby comparators, including Cardston County at 1.4 and Pincher Creek No. 9 at 0.9. Most listed places were much more densely settled, with several towns above 300 people per km2. The pattern points to a sparsely populated area with only a modest upward shift in density.

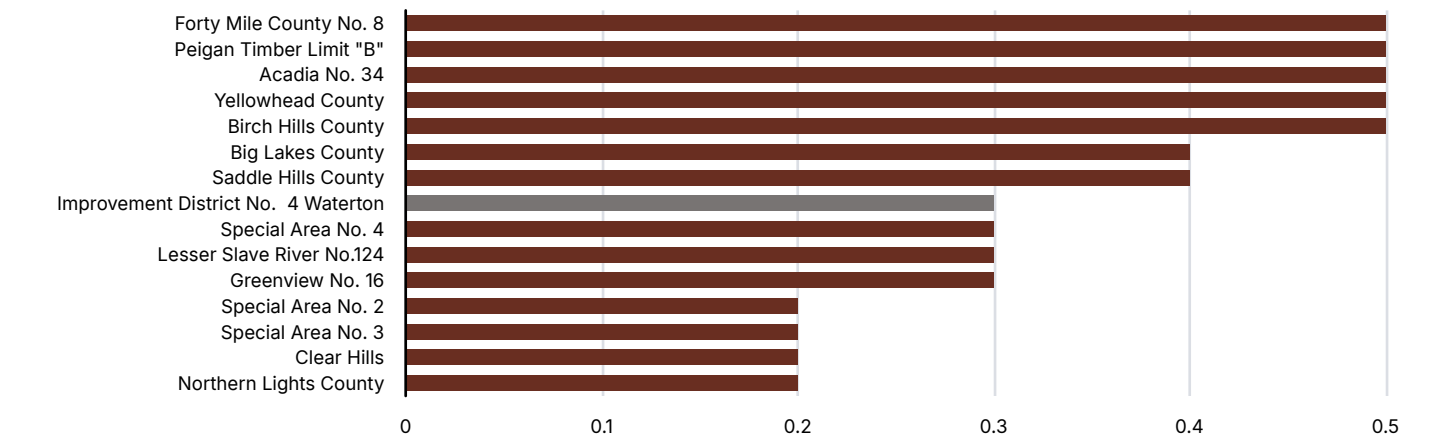


Figure 5.2: Comparison of Population Density with other locations (Improvement District No. 4 Waterton, 2021)¹

Highest Education Level

Bachelor’s degree holders were the largest group in 2021 at 45 people, up 50% from 2016. High school diploma holders rose to 30, while apprenticeship credentials fell to zero, down 100%.

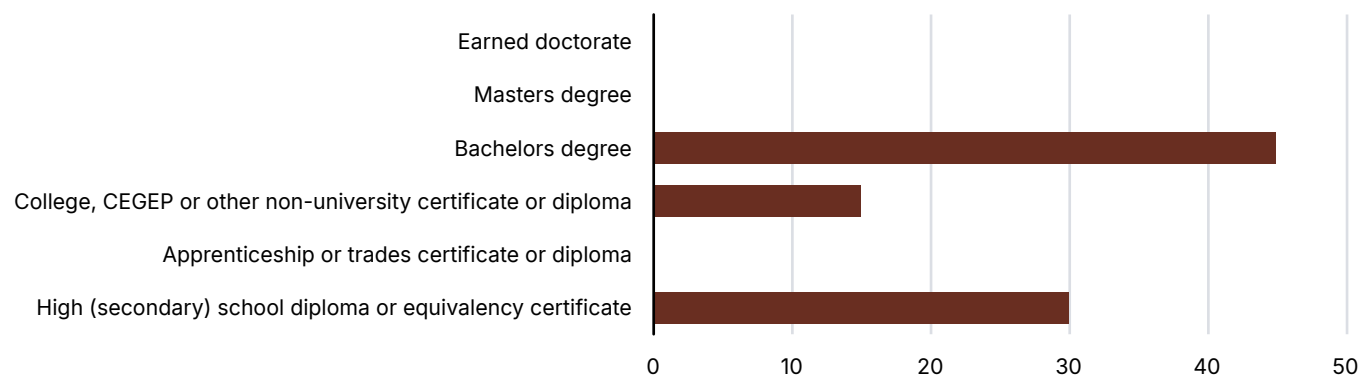


Figure 6.1: Shows the highest level of education completed by residents. It helps indicate the overall educational profile of the population. (Improvement District No. 4 Waterton, 2021)¹

In 2021, the education profile of Improvement District No. 4 Waterton was led by residents whose highest credential was a bachelor’s degree, at 45 people, followed by a high school diploma or equivalency certificate at 30. Another 15 people reported a college, CEGEP or other non-university certificate or diploma. Over the previous five years, both the high school and bachelor’s categories increased by 50%. Apprenticeship or trades credentials and master’s degrees both fell to zero, while earned doctorates remained at zero.

In Improvement District No. 4 Waterton, the education profile of residents age 15 and over is concentrated at the secondary and university levels. In 2021, 30 people had a high school diploma or equivalency, and 45 held a bachelor’s degree. College credentials accounted for 15 people, while apprenticeship, master’s, and doctorate levels were at 0. The pattern suggests a small population with limited spread across credential types, anchored mainly by high school and bachelor’s attainment.

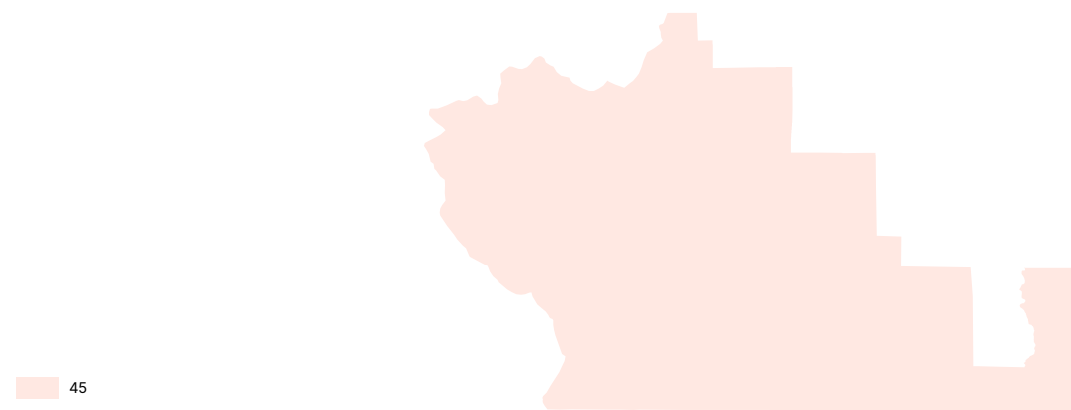


Figure 6.2: Distribution of Largest Group: Education Credential Ca - Bachelors degree (Improvement District No. 4 Waterton)¹

Household Type

One-person households were the largest group in Improvement District No. 4 Waterton in 2021, rising to 30 households from 10 in 2016. Couple-family households without children were next at 20, and with children at 10.

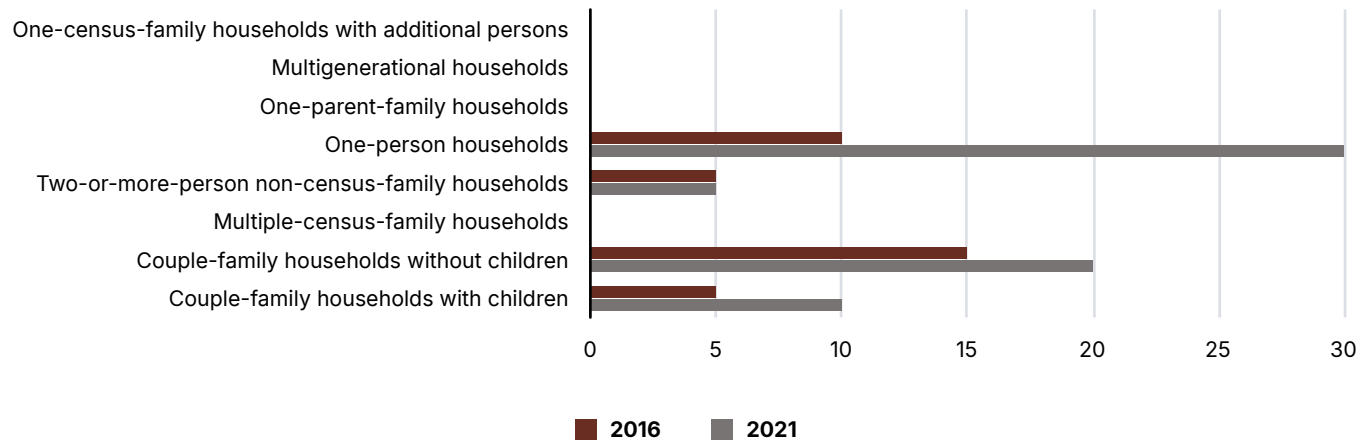


Figure 7.1: Shows the mix of household types, including one-person, family, and non-family households. It helps indicate how residents are organized across living arrangements. (Improvement District No. 4 Waterton, 2016-2021)¹

In 2021, household type in Improvement District No. 4 Waterton was shaped by a small number of living arrangements, with one-person households the largest category at 30 households. Couple-family households without children followed at 20, while couple-family households with children accounted for 10. Other household types were absent or minimal in the record. The time trend shows the clearest change in one-person households, which rose by 200% over five years. Couple-family households with children also increased sharply, up 100%, while couple-family households without children grew by 33.3%. Two-or-more-person non-census-family households were unchanged, and the remaining categories were recorded at zero.

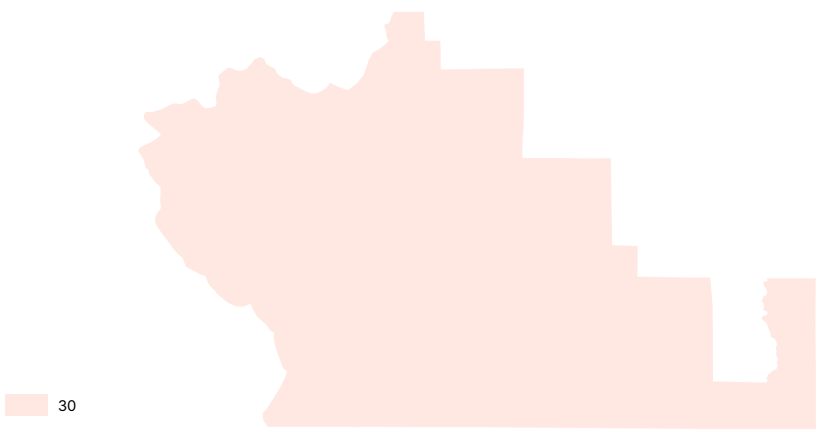


Figure 7.2: Distribution of Largest Group: Household Type - One-person households (Improvement District No. 4 Waterton)¹

In Improvement District No. 4 Waterton, household type in 2021 was dominated by one-person households, with 30 households, followed by couple-family households without children at 20 and couple-family households with children at 10. Two-or-more-person non-census-family households accounted for 5 households, while one-parent-family, multigenerational, multiple-census-family, and one-census-family-with-additional-persons households were absent. The pattern points to a small household base with a strong tilt toward single-person living arrangements and a limited family-household mix.

Average Shelter Costs

In Improvement District No. 4 Waterton, owners had the highest average monthly shelter costs at \$850 in 2021, compared with \$480 for renters. Both tenure groups were recorded at \$0 in 2016.

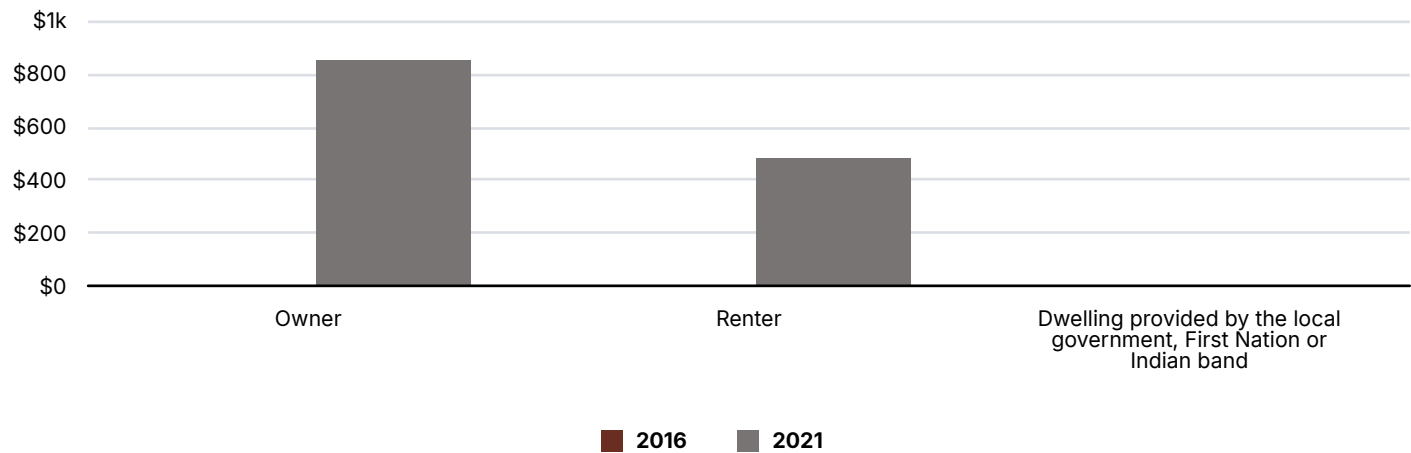
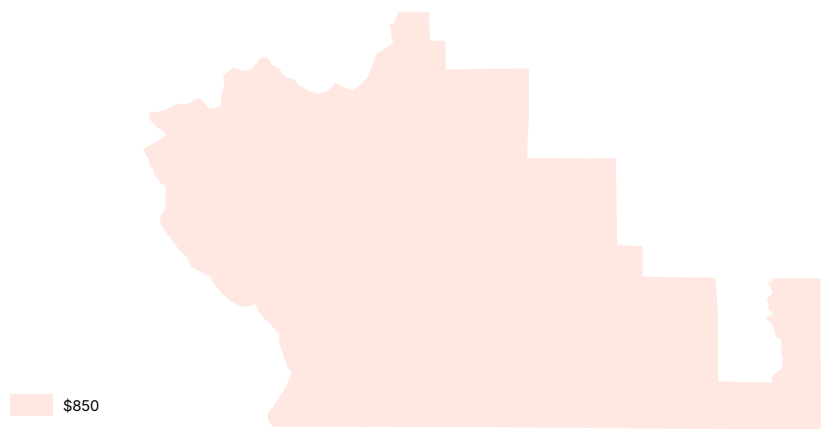


Figure 8.1: Shows the average monthly shelter costs paid by households. It helps indicate typical housing expenses faced by owners and renters. (Improvement District No. 4 Waterton, 2016-2021)¹

In Improvement District No. 4 Waterton, average shelter costs in 2021 varied by housing tenure, with owners paying more than renters. Among owner households in non-farm, non-reserve private dwellings, the average monthly cost was \$850, compared with \$480 for renter households. A third category, dwellings provided by the local government, First Nation or Indian band, recorded an average monthly cost of \$0. The gap between owners and renters was \$370 per month. With only a single year in the dataset, there is no time trend to assess. The 2021 figures instead show a simple tenure-based split in monthly shelter costs. The main pattern is a clear difference by tenure, with ownership carrying the higher average cost in this location.



In Improvement District No. 4 Waterton, average monthly shelter costs in 2021 were \$850 for owner households and \$480 for renters. Households in dwellings provided by the local government, First Nation or Indian band reported \$0. The gap between owners and renters is notable, with owner costs nearly double renter costs. Within the census-defined universe of private non-farm, non-reserve households, the pattern points to a small but clear split in housing expense by tenure.

Figure 8.2: Distribution of Largest Group: Housing Tenure - Owner (Improvement District No. 4 Waterton)¹

Housing Tenure

Owner households were the largest tenure group in 2021 at 35 households, matching renters at 30 households. Owner households rose 75% from 20 in 2016, while renter households were unchanged.

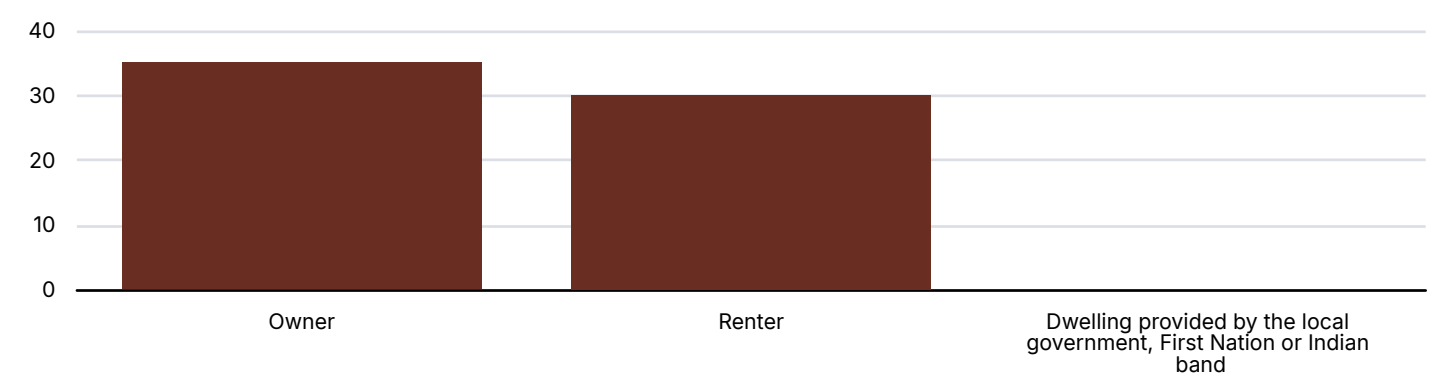


Figure 9.1: Shows whether households own or rent their homes. It helps indicate the balance between ownership and rental housing in the community. (Improvement District No. 4 Waterton, 2021)¹

In 2021, housing tenure in Improvement District No. 4 Waterton was split between owners and renters, with 35 owner households and 30 renter households. No households were recorded as living in a dwelling provided by the local government, First Nation or Indian band. The pattern suggests a small tenure mix rather than a strongly one-sided profile. The 5-year change shows the owner count rising by 75%, while renter households were unchanged over the same period. That points to recent growth on the ownership side, with the rental side remaining stable.

Housing tenure in Improvement District No. 4 Waterton was fairly balanced in 2021, with a slight tilt toward ownership. Among private households, 35 households were owner-occupied and 30 were renter households. No households were recorded in dwellings provided by the local government, First Nation or Indian band. The five-year change points to a sharp rise in ownership, up 75%, while renter households were unchanged. That combination suggests the tenure mix became more owner-heavy over the period, although the renter share remained present.

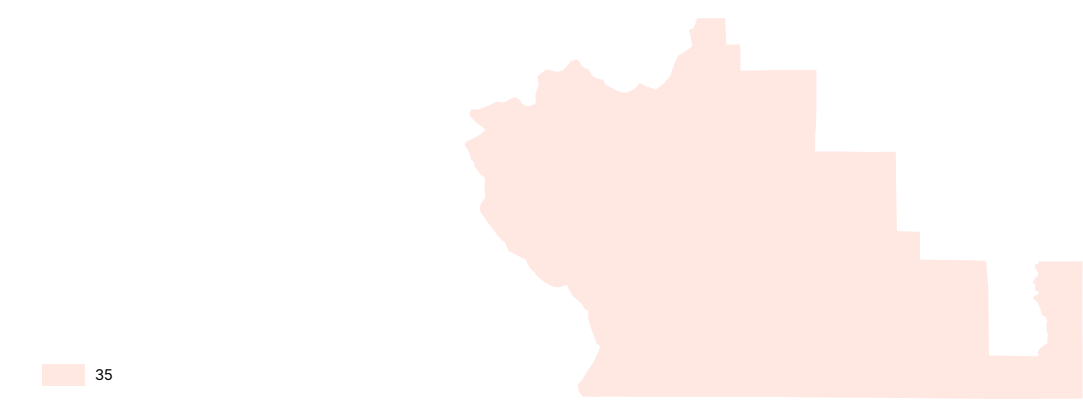


Figure 9.2: Distribution of Largest Group: Housing Tenure - Owner (Improvement District No. 4 Waterton)¹

Household Total Income Groups

Improvement District No. 4 Waterton had no households recorded in any income group in 2021. The largest group was \$90,000 to \$99,999, but it also had 0 households, matching 2016.

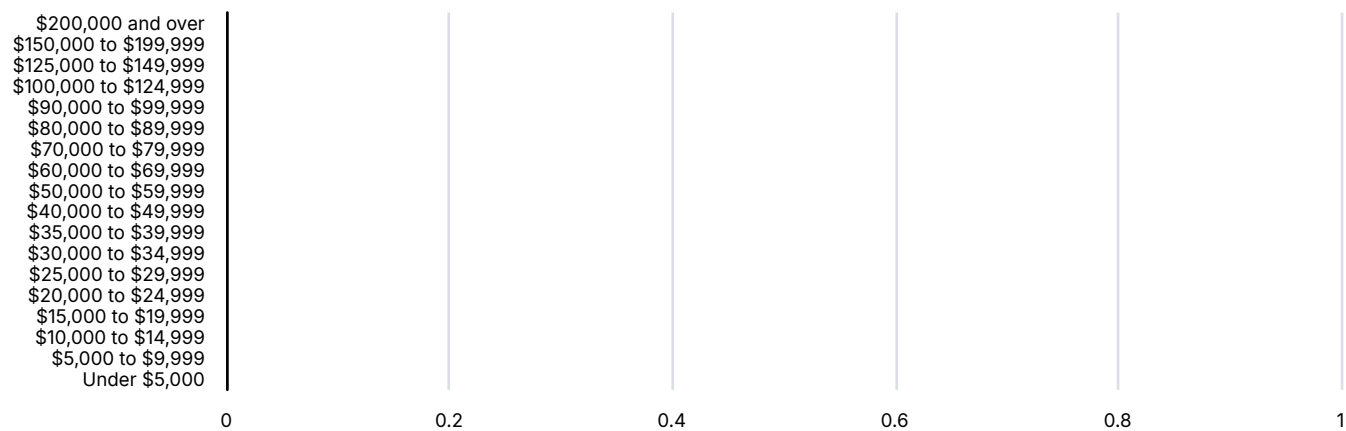
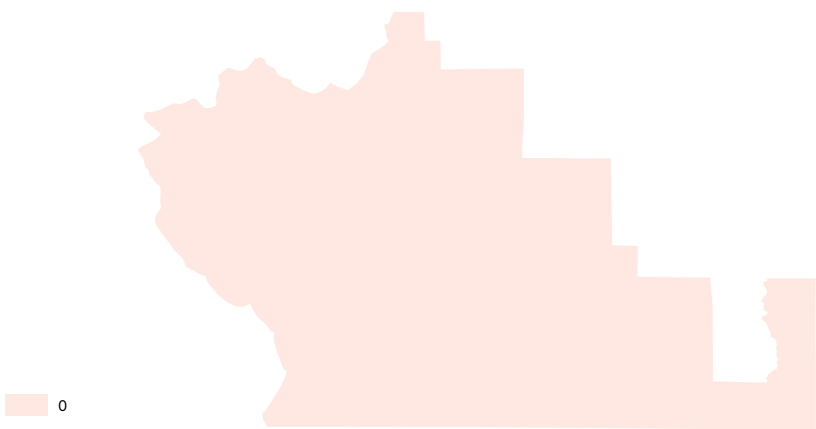


Figure 10.1: Shows households across total income groups. It helps indicate how household incomes are distributed from lower- to higher-income ranges. (Improvement District No. 4 Waterton, 2021)¹

In 2021, the household total income profile for Improvement District No. 4 Waterton is recorded as entirely empty across the income bands shown. Every listed group, from under \$5,000 to \$200,000 and over, has a value of 0 households. That includes the lower-income ranges, such as under \$5,000, \$5,000 to \$9,999, and \$10,000 to \$14,999, as well as the middle and higher ranges like \$50,000 to \$59,999, \$100,000 to \$124,999, and \$200,000 and over. The pattern is uniform rather than skewed: there is no visible concentration in any income bracket. With no households recorded in any category, the table provides no distribution to compare within the location.



In 2021, the household income profile for Improvement District No. 4 Waterton is not reported in a usable way in the dataset. Every income bracket, from under \$5,000 to \$200,000 and over, is shown as 0 households, so the distribution cannot be interpreted as a real income pattern. With no nonzero counts, there is no basis to describe concentration, spread, or income mix.

Figure 10.2: Distribution of Largest Group: Income Group Household - Under \$5,000 (Improvement District No. 4 Waterton)¹

High School Completion

In Improvement District No. 4 Waterton, high school diploma holders were the largest group in 2021, at 105 people, while 0 people had no certificate, diploma or degree among residents aged 15 and over.

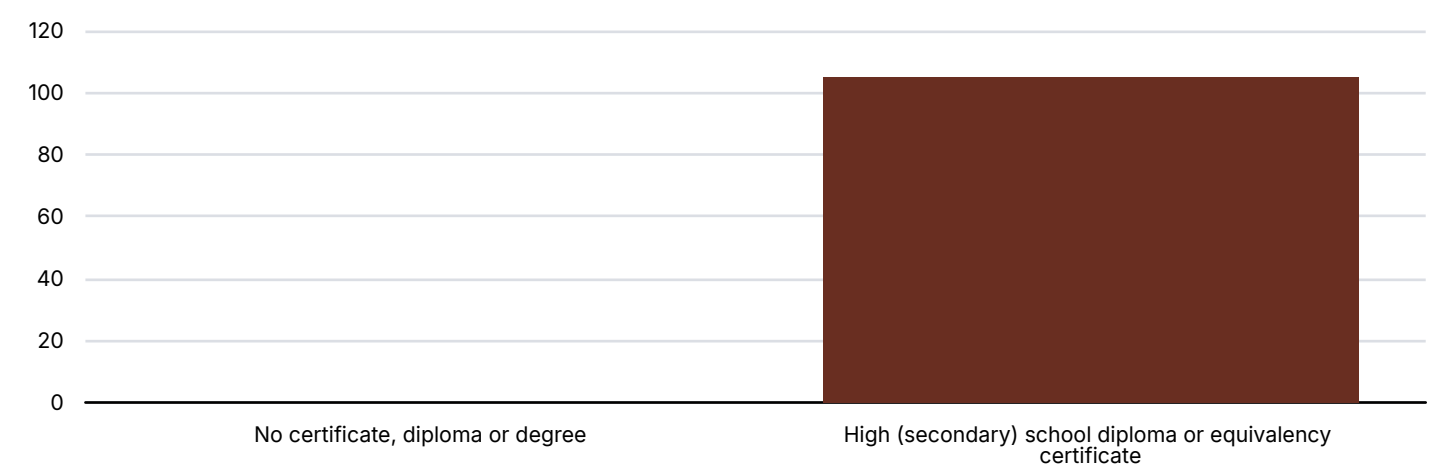


Figure 11.1: Shows whether residents have completed high school or an equivalent credential. It helps indicate a basic foundation for workforce participation and further study. (Improvement District No. 4 Waterton, 2021)¹

In Improvement District No. 4 Waterton, the 2021 census shows a very concentrated high school completion profile among residents aged 15 years and over in private households. The available figures indicate 105 people with a high school diploma or equivalency certificate and none without a certificate, diploma or degree. That leaves the reported group entirely on the completed-credential side of the measure. With only these two categories provided, the data point to a complete count of 105 people in this scope having finished high school or an equivalent qualification. Source: Statistics Canada, Census Profile.



In 2021, high school completion in Improvement District No. 4 Waterton was complete among the recorded population aged 15 years and over in private households. The census shows 105 people with a high school diploma or equivalent and 0 with no certificate, diploma or degree. That leaves no evidence of unmet basic credential attainment in the available counts. The pattern is simple and concentrated, with all observed residents in this measure reaching at least high school.

Figure 11.2: Distribution of Largest Group: Education Credential Ca - High (secondary) school diploma or equivalency certificate (Improvement District No. 4 Waterton)¹

Core Housing Need

Improvement District No. 4 Waterton recorded no households in core housing need in 2021, with 0 households in core need and 0 not in core need among the measured households.



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. (Improvement District No. 4 Waterton, 2021)¹

In 2021, Improvement District No. 4 Waterton showed no recorded households in the core housing need measure for the census universe provided. The dataset lists 0 households in core need and 0 households not in core need, leaving no base for a share or trend comparison. Because both values are zero, the data do not support a read on housing stress from this table alone. The main takeaway is that the available figure is too limited to describe local housing need with confidence.

In Improvement District No. 4 Waterton, the 2021 census profile shows zero households counted in core housing need and zero households not in core housing need within the reported universe. With both figures at 0 households, the data do not provide a usable distribution for assessing housing stress in this place. The same pattern appears in the descendant dissemination area, which also records 0 households in each category. No further conclusion about drivers or effects can be drawn from these figures alone.

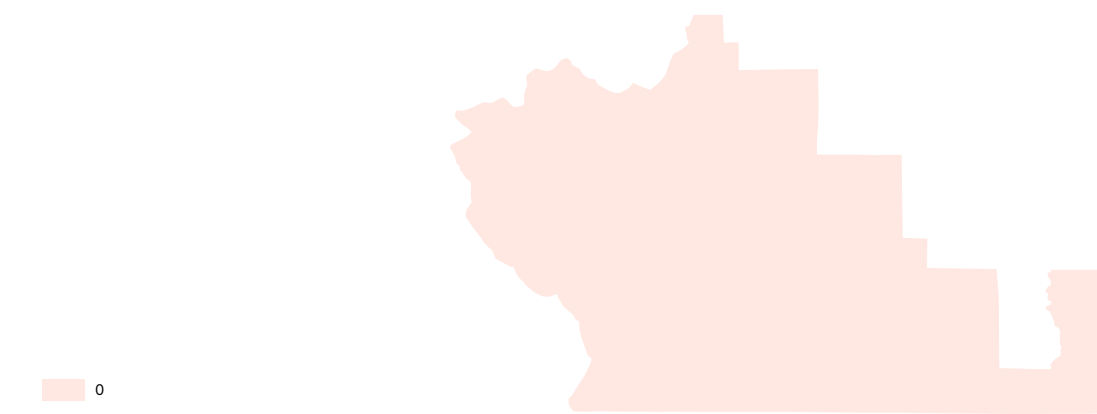


Figure 12.2: Distribution of Largest Group: Core Housing Need - In core need (Improvement District No. 4 Waterton)¹

Median Age

Improvement District No. 4 Waterton’s median age was 36.8 years in 2021, down 25.66% from 2016’s 49.5 years. It remained below 2011’s 41.0 years, showing a younger midpoint over the decade.

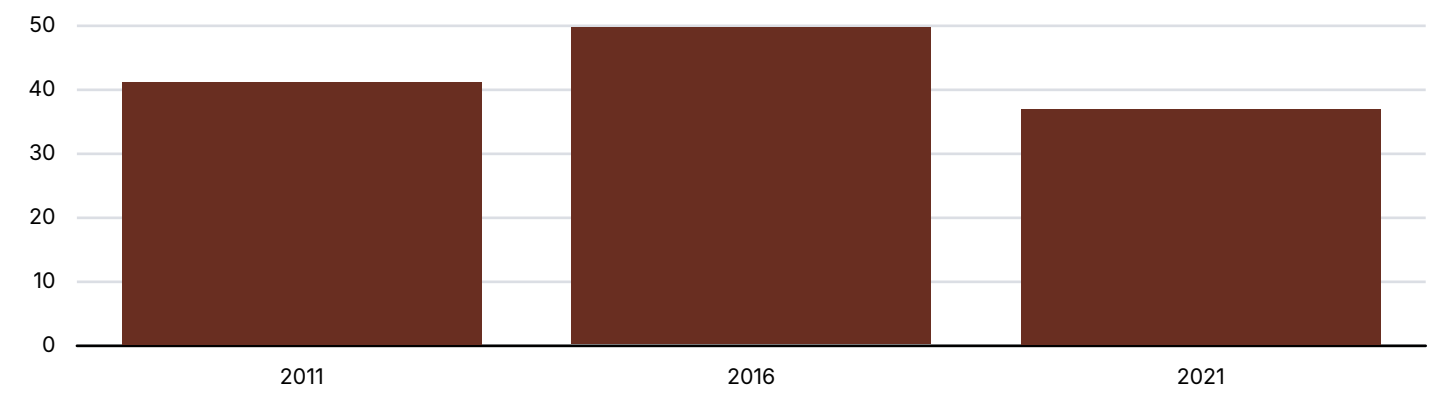


Figure 13.1: Shows the median age of residents. It helps indicate whether the population skews younger or older at the midpoint of the age distribution. (Improvement District No. 4 Waterton, 2011-2021)¹

Improvement District No. 4 Waterton’s median age has moved sharply over time, showing a distinct shift in the age profile of the population. It was 41 years in 2011, rose to 49.5 years in 2016, then fell to 36.8 years in 2021. The five-year change to 2016 was 20.7%, while the change to 2021 was -25.7%. Taken together, the series points to a population that became older mid-decade and then noticeably younger by 2021.

Improvement District No. 4 Waterton had a median age of 36.8 years in 2021, placing it on the younger side of the regional comparison set. It was close to Cardston County at 36.4 years and Magrath at 36.0, but well below several nearby municipalities. That level was also lower than Fort Macleod (42.4), Pincher Creek (45.2), and Hill Spring (54.8). The district fell from 49.5 years in 2016, a decline of 25.7%. The 2021 figure suggests a noticeably younger population midpoint than in many surrounding places, after a sharp shift over five years.

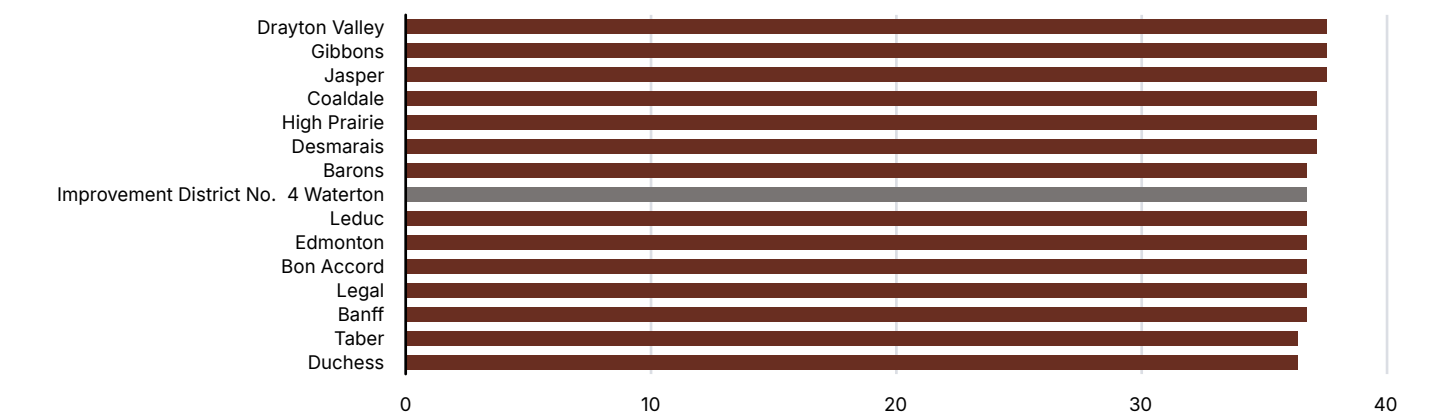


Figure 13.2: Comparison of Median Age with other locations (Improvement District No. 4 Waterton, 2021)¹

Age at Immigration

In 2021, the immigrant population was concentrated in people aged 45 years and over and 25 to 44 years, each at 0 people. From 2016, the 25 to 44 years group fell 100%, while under 5 years also declined to 0.

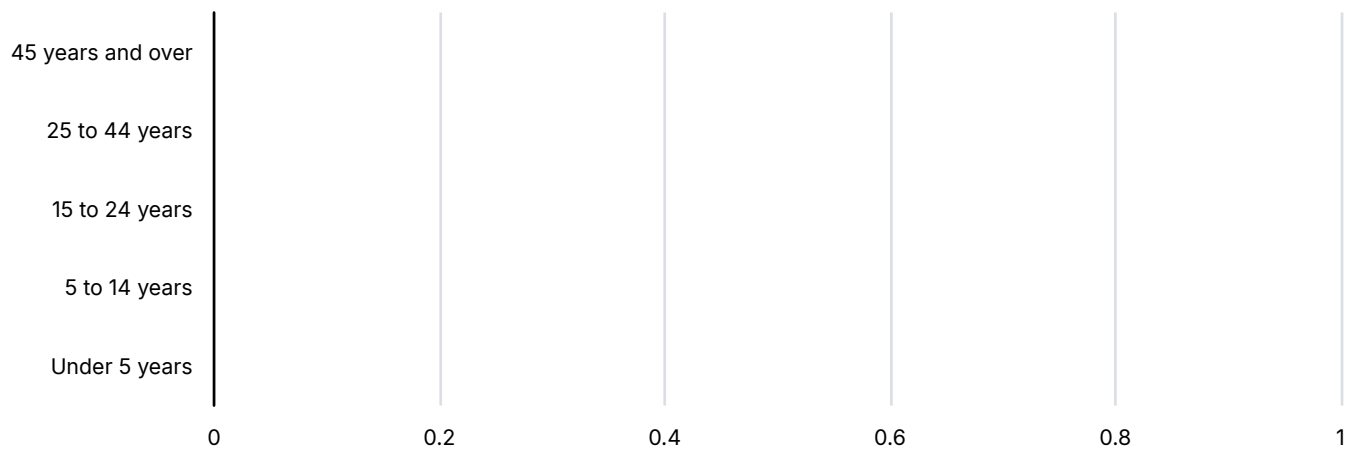
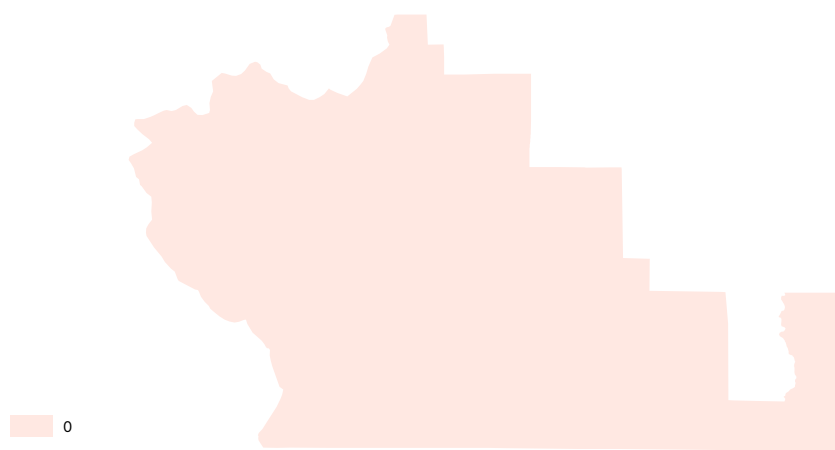


Figure 14.1: Shows the age at which immigrants first arrived in the country. It helps explain whether newcomers arrived mainly as children, working-age adults, or older adults. (Improvement District No. 4 Waterton, 2021)¹

In 2021, the immigrant population in private households in Improvement District No. 4 Waterton was recorded as zero across every age-at-arrival group. There were no immigrants reported as arriving under age 5, at ages 5 to 14, 15 to 24, 25 to 44, or 45 years and over. That means the location shows no measurable age-at-immigration profile in the census data for that year. Every category sits at 0 people, so there is no visible concentration in childhood, working age, or older arrival ages. With no count in any bracket, there is no internal pattern to compare or trend to describe beyond the absence of reported immigrant arrivals by age.



In 2021, Improvement District No. 4 Waterton recorded no immigrants in private households across any age-at-immigration group. Every category, from under 5 years to 45 years and over, shows 0 people. That includes 0 for those who arrived as children, 0 for ages 15 to 24, 0 for ages 25 to 44, and 0 for ages 45 and over. With no recorded immigrant population in this measure, there is no age pattern to compare or describe.

Figure 14.2: Distribution of Largest Group: Age At Immigration - Under 5 years (Improvement District No. 4 Waterton)¹

Immigrant Status

Non-immigrants were the largest group in Improvement District No. 4 Waterton in 2021, at 120 people, up 26.3% since 2016. Immigrants fell to zero from 10, while non-permanent residents remained at zero.

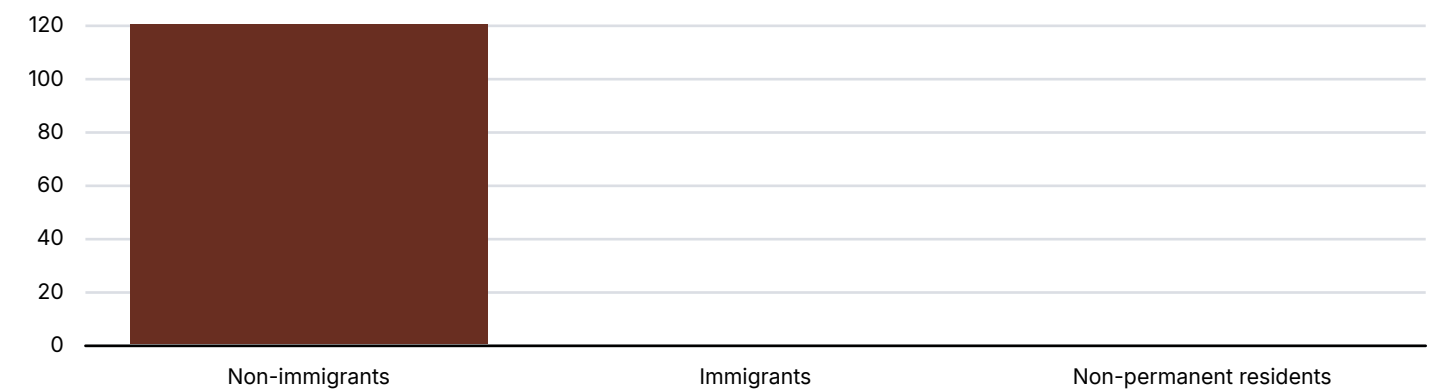


Figure 15.1: Shows whether residents are immigrants, non-permanent residents, or non-immigrants. It helps indicate the role of immigration in community growth and composition. (Improvement District No. 4 Waterton, 2021)¹

In 2021, Improvement District No. 4 Waterton’s population in private households was entirely made up of non-immigrants, with 120 people in that category. Immigrants and non-permanent residents both recorded zero people. The only change shown over five years was among non-immigrants, which rose by 26.3%. With no immigrant or non-permanent resident presence in the data, the community’s immigrant status profile is narrowly concentrated and has remained so in the available Census comparison.

In 2021, Improvement District No. 4 Waterton’s population in private households was entirely made up of non-immigrants. The district recorded 120 non-immigrants, while both immigrants and non-permanent residents were at zero. That leaves immigrant status highly concentrated, with no visible presence of recent migration in the census count. Over the previous five years, non-immigrants increased by 26.3%, while immigrants fell by 100%, reinforcing the same pattern of a small, settled population.

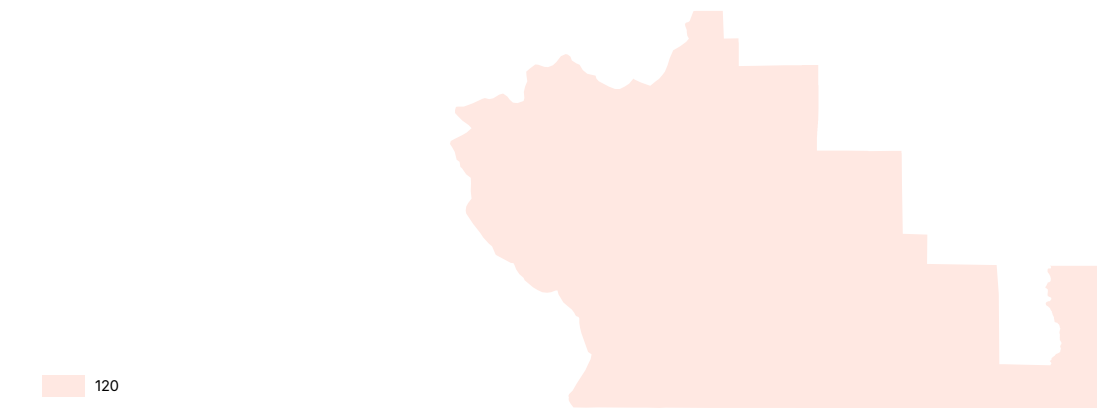


Figure 15.2: Distribution of Largest Group: Immigrant Status - Non-immigrants (Improvement District No. 4 Waterton)¹

Data Sources

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

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