## **Comparator Groups**

## Geographic Proximity

The 10 most proximate municipalities to the City of Hamilton participating in the Municipal Study were selected for the geographic proximity comparator group.

The geographic proximity comparator group contains the following municipalities, listed alphabetically:

- Brant County
- Brantford
- Burlington
- Grimsby
- Lincoln

- Milton
- Oakville
- Puslinch
- Region Halton
- West Lincoln

## Population Similarity

The 28 participating municipalities with the most similar population to the City of Hamilton were selected for the population similarity comparator group. The City of Hamilton's population for the purposes of this study is 576,618.

The population similarity comparator group contains the following municipalities listed alphabetically:

- Ajax (138,858)
- Barrie (151,875)
- Brampton (718,062)
- Burlington (193,934)
- Cambridge (138,949)
- Essex County (427,783)
- Greater Sudbury (169,634)
- Guelph (146,558)
- Kingston (135,969)
- Kitchener (267, 945)
- London (428,083)
- Markham (351,681)
- Middlesex County (508,162)
- Milton (124,994)

- Mississauga (780,176)
- Oakville (213,854)
- Oshawa (176,121)
- Ottawa (1,038,348)
- Region Durham (708,603)
- Region Halton (611,270)
- Region Niagara (483,022)
- Simcoe County (353,553)
- St. Catharines (140,859)
- Vaughan (334,763)
- Waterloo (121,788)
- Whitby (139,371)
- Windsor (232,873)

Note: The population comparator group differs from that utilized in FCS21083 "2020 Municipal Tax Competitiveness Study" due to changes in study participant and variation in population.