



Fact Sheet: Ontario’s Doctor Shortage

DID YOU KNOW?

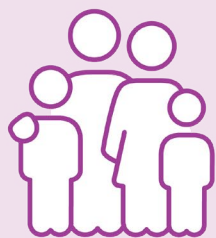
At least 2.3 million Ontarians do not have regular access to primary care.

- The shortage is especially acute in northern and rural areas
- Communities in northern Ontario are actively recruiting more than 350 physicians, including more than 200 family doctors, according to the Northern Ontario School of Medicine University
- More than 2,500 physicians are needed in Ontario (according to HealthForceOntario)
- Half of the physicians in northern Ontario are expected to retire in the next five years
- 40% of physicians are considering retiring in Ontario

Ontario’s doctor shortage has existed for decades, although the population grows in size and age each year.

- Ontario has 2.8 physicians for every 1,000 people
- Compared to other countries, Canada ranks 23rd out of 32 OECD (Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development) countries in doctor-to-population ratio
- The proportion of Ontario seniors is projected to increase to 22.2 per cent or 20 million people by 2046.

Ontario's doctor shortage and growing population adds stress on health care

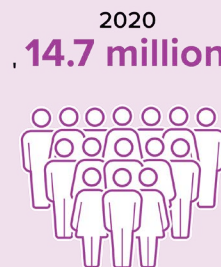


More than
2.3 million
Ontarians
do not have a
family doctor

For northern Ontario, it’s worse

- Recruiting 350+ physicians
- 200+ family doctors needed

Ontario’s population is growing and aging



Growth in proportion of
population 65 and over

2020 **17.6%**

2046 **22.2%**

Source: Ontario Ministry of Health, Health Care Experience Survey, 2019; Ontario Physician Human Resources Data Centre; Ontario Ministry of Finance Population Projections, Reference Scenario