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Municipal Partners Program | Long-Term Care Insights

A newsletter for municipal leaders

Welcome to the Ontario Long Term Care Association’s quarterly newsletter for municipal leaders.

Ontario’s population aged 80+ will double by 2040, reshaping how communities plan for housing, care, and infrastructure — and municipalities will be on the front lines.

OLTCA represents 70% of Ontario’s long-term care homes, across not-for-profit, municipal, hospital-based, private, culturally specific, and First Nations care.

Through our Municipal Partner Program, we connect local governments with data, insights, and strategies to support evidence-based decisions in housing, budgeting, and service delivery as communities adapt to an ageing population.

Municipal leaders are key to preparing for this demographic shift through planning approvals, housing strategies, and local workforce initiatives.



By the Numbers: The Changing Face of LTC in Ontario

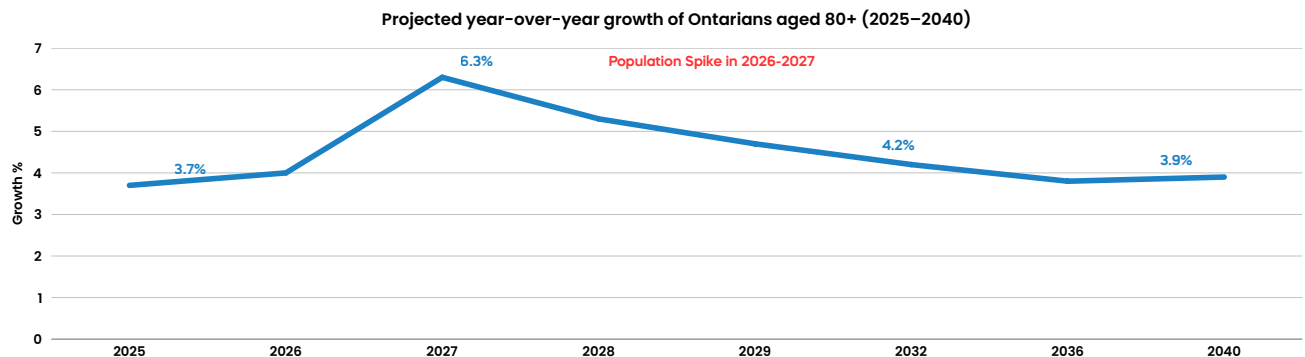


Ontario’s 80+ population set to double by 2040.

Growing by about 4% each year — with a sharp spike expected in the next two years — this surge will reshape how communities plan for housing, care, and local services.

Municipalities can use this data to guide housing mix, infrastructure, and community service planning to better support residents as they age.

Ontario’s 80+ population will grow 6.3% by 2027 — the largest jump in 15 years



SOURCE: Ontario Data Catalogue, [Population projections](#), accessed August 2025.

Ontario’s Long-Term Care Profile

609	Long-Term Care Homes in Ontario
77,000+	Number of Long-Term Care Spaces in Ontario
50,000+	People on the Waitlist
165 days	Median Wait Time
200	Nearly one-third of LTC homes in Ontario need redevelopment to stay open.

Understanding Long-Term Care

1 in 5	Seniors over 80 have complex needs that require long-term care.
9 in 10	Residents need daily help with dressing, eating, and personal care.
3 in 4	Residents live with moderate to severe cognitive impairment
73%	New residents are admitted directly from hospital

Learn more about LTC in your community at oltca.com

Annual Socioeconomic Impact of LTC

Beyond care, long-term care homes are also powerful economic drivers.



\$12.4B

Contribution to GDP



\$9.3B

Contribution to Labour Income



166K

Contribution to Jobs

As demand for long-term care grows, so does its importance to local economies. Beyond providing essential care, long-term care homes create jobs, drive local spending, and contribute billions to Ontario's GDP each year.

Did You Know...

Ontario's long-term care homes care for about 80,000 residents each year, delivering 117 million hours of care annually. Maintaining this care represents nearly \$6 billion in staffing costs and supports more than 100,000 local jobs. Every additional six minutes of daily care adds about \$140 million in annual staffing costs.

- Ontario's long-term care homes provide more than four hours of care per resident each day — the highest level in Canada — but maintaining that standard costs about \$6 billion a year in staffing alone, with expenses rising faster than funding. Municipalities that operate or support homes should anticipate these pressures in their budgeting and capital planning, aligning reserves and asset management policies to help sustain safe, compliant homes.
- Maintenance costs for long-term care homes have increased by more than 30% since 2021, due to higher prices for materials, equipment, and repairs. However, provincial funding for these essential upgrades has not kept pace, placing additional strain on homes that work to maintain safe and modern environments for residents.

“ **Sustaining long-term care supports local jobs, keeps seniors in their communities, and reduces pressure on hospitals and emergency services.** ”

What Municipalities Can Do

- Map local long-term care and seniors' housing capacity to identify service gaps.
- Integrate aging-population data into official plans and asset management updates.
- Identify surplus municipal lands for LTC or seniors' housing.
- Engage local LTC operators in budget and capital planning discussions.
- Coordinate community paramedicine and home-care programs with LTC providers.
- Partner with local colleges and training institutions on PSW and nursing programs.
- Advocate for predictable, sustainable LTC funding through collaboration with sector partners.

Partner with OLTCA

OLTCA works with municipalities across Ontario to share insights, build partnerships, and plan together for the future of seniors' care.

Request regional data or book a briefing with us.

Curious about seniors' population growth or long-term care trends in your region? Invite us to council or request a tailored data briefing — we're here to support your planning.

[✉ info@oltca.com](mailto:info@oltca.com)

Join OLTCA

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