



# Monitoring Seniors Services 2024

10<sup>th</sup> Edition

December 11, 2024



OFFICE OF THE  
**SENIORS** ADVOCATE

# Demographics

**2023**

Total Population  
**5,519,000**

	SENIORS POPULATION	% OF TOTAL POPULATION	% INCREASE IN 5 YRS.
<b>65+</b>	1,090,000	20%	15%
<b>85+</b>	128,000	2%	10%

**TODAY...**



1 in 5 British Columbians is a senior

**By 2036...**



1 in 4 British Columbians will be a senior



# Long-Term Care Waits Increasing

- Nearly **6,500** people waiting for long-term care (**150%↑** over 5 yrs.)
- People admitted **2.5X** faster from hospital than community
- In community, non-urgent clients waited **3X** longer than the urgent clients.

## LONG-TERM CARE ADMISSION AVG. WAIT TIME

	DAYS	CHANGE IN 5 YRS.
<b>From Community:</b>	151	47%
Urgent	73	107%
Non-urgent	225	89%
<b>From Hospital:</b>	59	74%





# Assisted Living Waits Increasing

- **4,300** publicly-subsidized assisted living units vs. **28,000** publicly-subsidized long-term care beds
- **1,200** people waiting for publicly-subsidized assisted living (**37%↑** over 5 yrs.)



# Less Access to Home Support

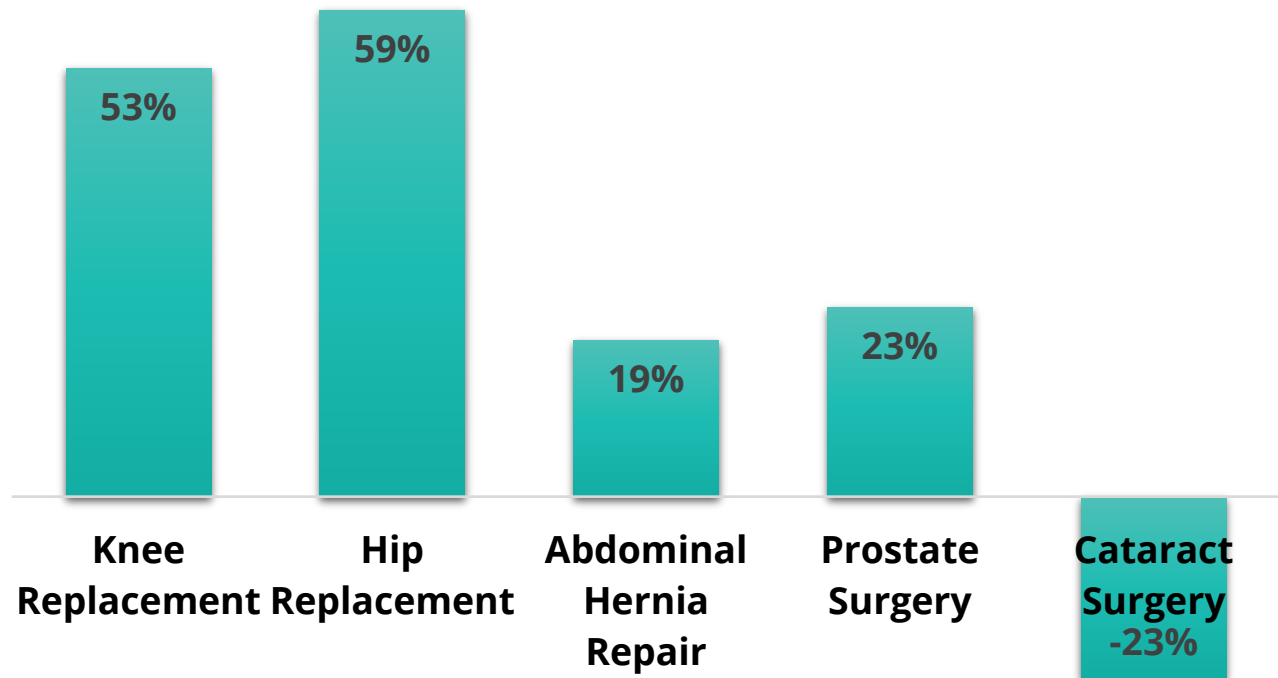
Over the last 5 yrs.

- **11%↑** in people receiving home support
- **7%↓** in client rate per 1,000 pop. 75+
- Senior with an annual income of **\$30,000**, pays **\$9,000** for one hour of home support per day (nearly 30% of income)
- Most provinces **do not charge for home support**, incl. Ontario and Alberta
- **56%↑** in Better at Home waitlist



# Surgery Waits Increasing

Surgery Waitlists for Seniors 65+ over 5 yrs.





# Affordable Housing Unavailable

## Seniors' Subsidized Housing

- Nearly **14,000** applications (**59%↑** over 5 yrs.)
- **6%** of applicants received a unit
- **61%↑** in waitlist over 5 yrs.
- **17%** applicants waiting 5+ yrs.
- **3%↑** in units over 5 yrs.
- **4.5%↓** in number of units per 1,000 seniors (55+) over 5 yrs.



# Housing Subsidies Decreasing

## Shelter Aid for Elderly Renters (SAFER)

Over 5 yrs.

- **8%↓** in SAFER recipients
- **18%↓** in client rate per 1,000 people
- **7%↓** in avg. monthly subsidy (**\$192**)
- **13%↑** in avg. monthly rent
- SAFER program **not meeting goal** of low-income seniors only paying **30%** of income towards rent





# Transportation

## Driving

- **88%** of seniors 65-74 have an active drivers licence (**10%↑** over 5 yrs.)

## Public Transportation

- **65,000** seniors have a BC Bus Pass (**17%↑**)
- **44%↑** in unfulfilled HandyDart ride requests over 5 yrs.
- **15%↓** in HandyDart rides over 5 yrs.



# Seniors Safety

Over 5 yrs.

- **18%↑** in victims of violent offences 65+ reported to RCMP
- **23%↑** in victims of assault 65+ reported to RCMP
- **88↑** in victims of fraud 65+ reported to RCMP





# Cross-Ministry Seniors Plan

