

Protecting the Care Ontarians Count On

RECOMMENDED 2020 BUDGET INVESTMENT FOR HOSPITALS

We expect our hospitals to be there when we need them. But Ontario's hospitals are struggling to keep up with rising demand, and access to timely care is at serious risk.

Ontario's population is aging and growing, and there are too many patients waiting in hospital beds for care they should receive in other places. The result is long wait times, hospital overcrowding, and hallway health care – which is bad for patients and reflects an unbalanced health system. While we build a better health care system for tomorrow, we must make sure we are able to provide the care Ontarians need today.



Every day, there are approximately **5,300 patients** under hospital care, waiting for care in other settings. These levels are at **all-time highs**.

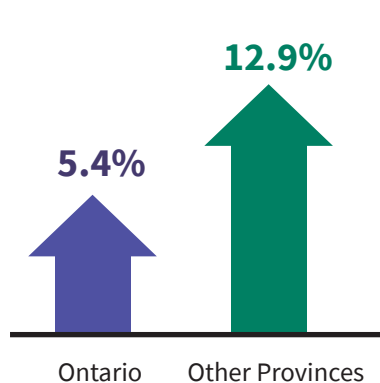


Long emergency department wait times are getting even longer – during flu season, **10% of patients wait 41 hours for admission**, and these waits get longer every year.

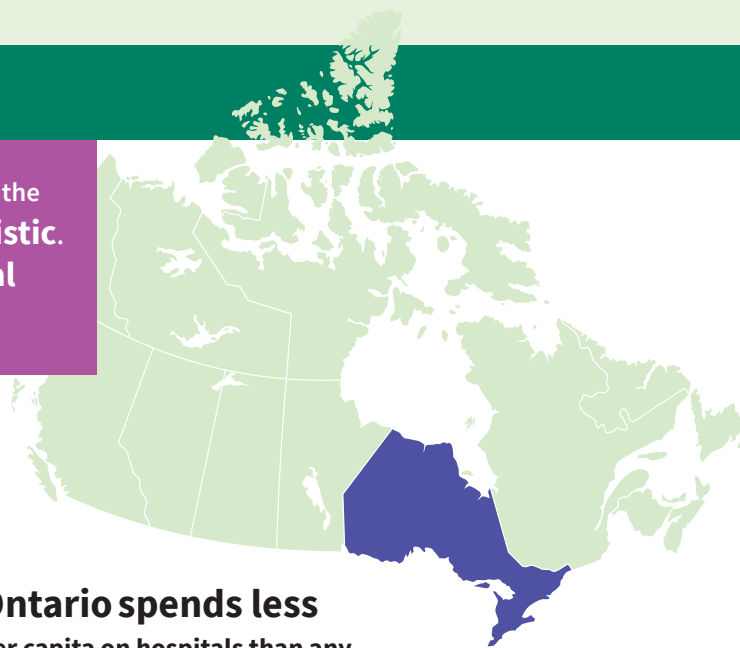


HOSPITALS FORCED TO DO MORE WITH LESS

Given the extraordinary gains in efficiency made by Ontario hospitals, the expectation that **more can be harvested simply isn't realistic**. At many organizations, continued access to **high quality hospital services is now at risk**.



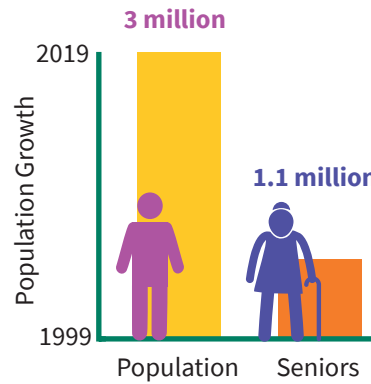
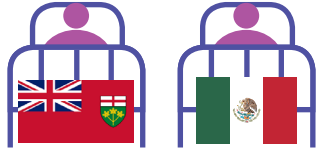
Between 2012 and 2019, **Ontario's total accumulated increase in government funding for hospitals per capita was 5.4%**. The average increase for other provinces was 12.9%.



Ontario spends less per capita on hospitals than any other provincial government.

It would cost an additional **\$4 billion** to match the average rate for all other provinces.

Ontario has fewer acute care beds **per thousand people** than any other province and is **tied with Mexico** for the **fewest beds** among OECD-tracked countries.



The **number of beds has not changed in two decades**, but the **population has grown by 3 million** since 1999. The **number of seniors has grown by 1.1 million**.

Recommended Investment in 2020 Ontario Budget

Significant health system changes are underway to provide better-connected care, more efficiently. Investments have also been announced to provide more long-term care, home and community care, and mental health and addiction supports. However, these improvements will take many years to complete. In the meantime, congestion, overcrowding and hallway health care is getting worse.



\$922 million

While system change takes place, **hospitals will need a base funding increase of 4.85% or \$922 million this year** to maintain access to care.

This **recommended investment aligns** with the government's **previously-planned increase** for health care services.

Funding for hospitals should be allocated with **greater flexibility** to allow for **targeting of local priorities** where the **need is the greatest**.

