



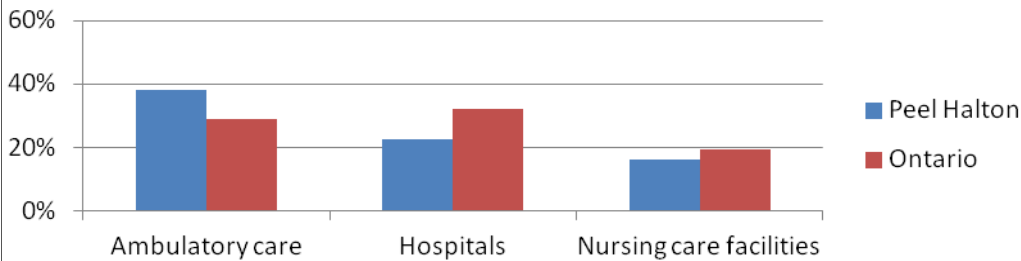
Workforce Today

Peel Halton Workforce Development Group

Health Care in Peel Halton

Health Care Employment Composition by Sub-Sector

Peel Halton, 2006



The health care industry accounted for 5% of the total employment in the Peel Halton region compared to 8% across Ontario in 2006. In this region, ambulatory care services offer the greatest opportunities for employment. In the ambulatory care subsector, 75% of the workforce is considered prime working age, that is, between 25-54 years of age, 42% have attained a university degree, and the median income is \$44,649.

FAST FACTS

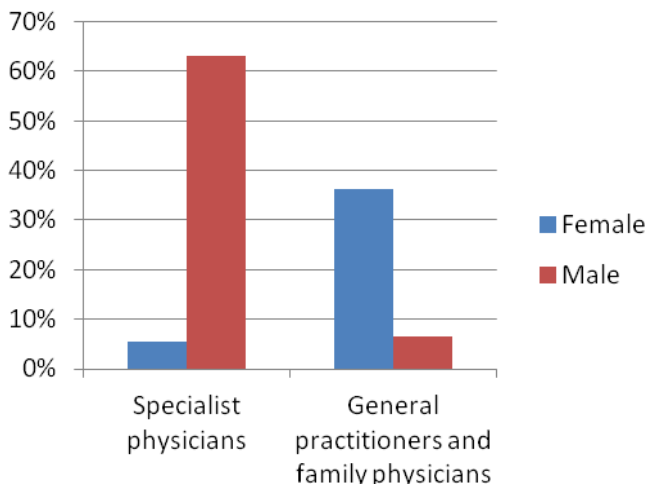
- Employment in ambulatory care services is 9% higher in the Peel Halton region than across Ontario
- 80% of health care workers are female in this region
- Since 2005, employment in this industry has grown 16% in this region

Source: Statistics Canada, 2006 Census, Labour Force Survey

Source: Statistics Canada, 2006 Census

Change in Gender Distribution Among Physicians

Peel Halton, 2001-2006

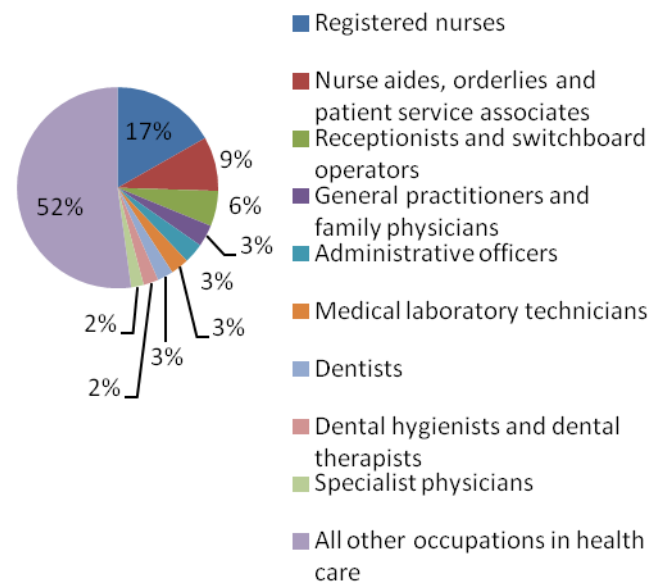


From 2001 to 2006 the number of female physicians increased by 10% compared to 11% among males. The highest growth in female physicians occurred among general practitioners where female workers increased from 455 to 620 in the Peel Halton region.

Source: Statistics Canada, 2001 and 2006 Census

Health Care Occupational Composition

Peel Halton, 2006

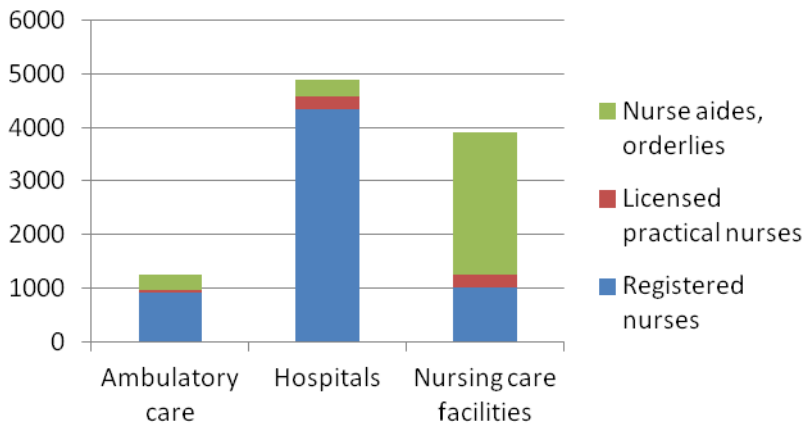


In Peel Halton, registered nurses and nurse aides or orderlies show the highest concentration of employment in the health care industry. General practitioners and specialist physicians represent approximately 5% of employment.

Source: Statistics Canada, 2006 Census

Distribution of nurse aides, orderlies, licensed practical nurses, and registered nurses

Peel Halton, 2006



The chart above illustrates the distribution of nurse aides or orderlies, licensed practical nurses, and registered nurses. The chart also highlights the different proportions of these occupations in each subsector of health care in the Peel Halton region. These three occupations reflect the potential for entry-level occupations to advance to higher skilled and better paid occupations. Many employers support continuous learning opportunities wherein nurse aides or orderlies can gain the necessary skills and education needed to transition to registered nurse occupations.

Source: Statistics Canada, 2006 Census

Health Care Employment Growth Toronto and Hamilton CMA, 2005-2010



The Peel Halton Workforce Development Group includes the Toronto and Hamilton census metropolitan areas (CMA). In 2007, employment growth in the health care industry peaked, rising 6% from the previous year. Since then employment growth has slowed; though in 2010 this industry employed over 303,000 people in both CMAs.

Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Survey

Nursing

Nurses make up the largest proportion of health workers in Ontario. Whether in hospitals, home care or nursing care facilities, they play an integral role in the health care system. Since 2001, the largest increase in employment has been among nurse aides, orderlies (NAO) while registered nurses (RN) and licensed practical nurses (LPN) have grown at a much slower pace.

This aligns with the recruitment issues experienced in this sector across the province. The need to control costs has led to personnel substitutions, as less qualified and less well-paid employees are replacing the more qualified and better-paid.

Source: Statistics Canada, Human Resources and Skills Development Canada, 2005

General Practitioners and Specialist Physicians

The shortage of physicians and other health professionals is one of the most significant challenges facing our health care system today. Moreover, it is anticipated that the province will experience further decreases in the number of family physicians and specialists over the next decade.

Developments in Ontario's Physician Assistant Program

In 2008 McMaster University launched Ontario's first civilian physician assistant education program. The University of Toronto opened a PA Education Program in 2010 and other programs are now available across the country.

The help provided by physician assistants (PAs) will help reduce wait times and help ensure the right care is provided. The Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care supports employment of PAs across the province by providing financial support to employers of PA graduates. High priority areas include: emergency medicine, primary care and general internal medicine facilities.

PA education programs provide a career path for entry level health care professionals to gain the necessary skills to advance in this industry.

For more information visit the Canadian Association of Physician Assistants website, www.caopa.net.

Source: Health Force Ontario, 2010

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