

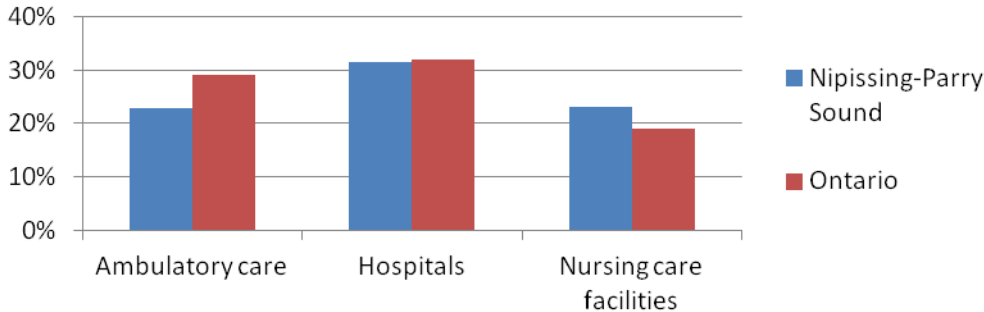


Workforce Focus

The Labour Market Group

Health Care in Nipissing-Parry Sound

Health Care Employment Composition by Sub-Sector
Nipissing-Parry Sound, 2006



Health care is a prominent industry in the Nipissing-Parry Sound region, proportionately larger than the provincial average. The hospitals subsector represents the majority of employment opportunities in this region. In this subsector, 78% of workers are considered prime working age, that is, between 25-54 years of age, most have attained a college diploma and the median income is \$52,022.

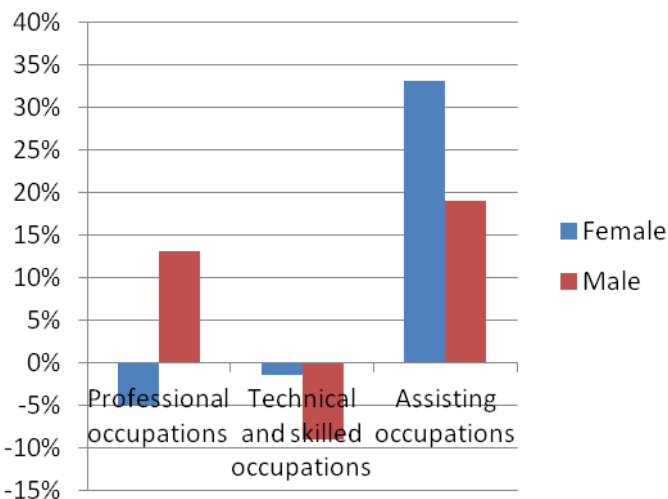
FAST FACTS

- Employment in nursing care facilities is 4% greater in the Nipissing-Parry Sound region than across the province
- 81% of health care workers are female in this region
- Since 2005, employment has increased by 9%, making this industry the largest employer in the Northeast economic region

Source: Statistics Canada, 2006 Census, Labour Force Survey

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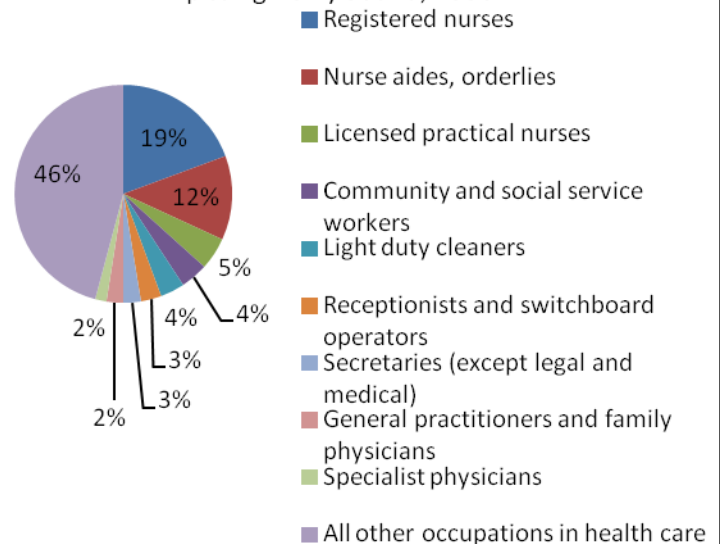
Gender Distribution Among Health Occupations
Nipissing-Parry Sound, 2001-2006



From 2001 to 2006, the number of female workers in professional occupations (e.g. physicians, optometrists, pharmacists, etc.) declined by 5% compared to an increase of 13% among males in this region. The largest growth for female health workers occurred in the assisting occupational group with a 33% increase from 2001.

Source: Statistics Canada, 2001 and 2006 Census

Health Care Occupational Composition
Nipissing-Parry Sound, 2006

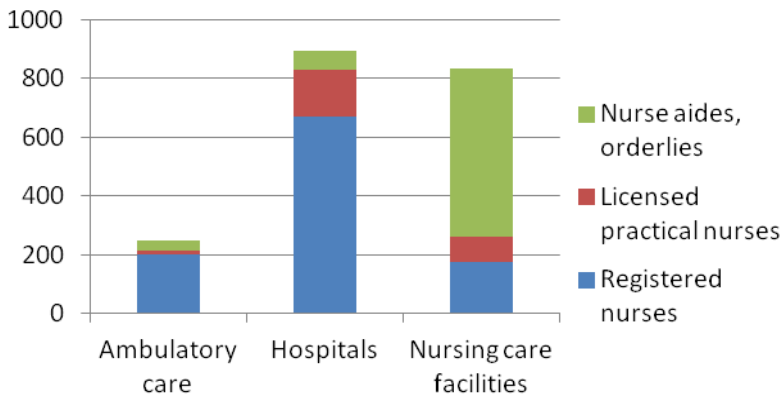


In the Nipissing-Parry Sound region, registered nurses and nurse aides or orderlies show the highest concentration of employment in the health care industry. General practitioners and specialist physicians represent 3% and 2% of employment respectively.

Source: Statistics Canada, 2006 Census

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

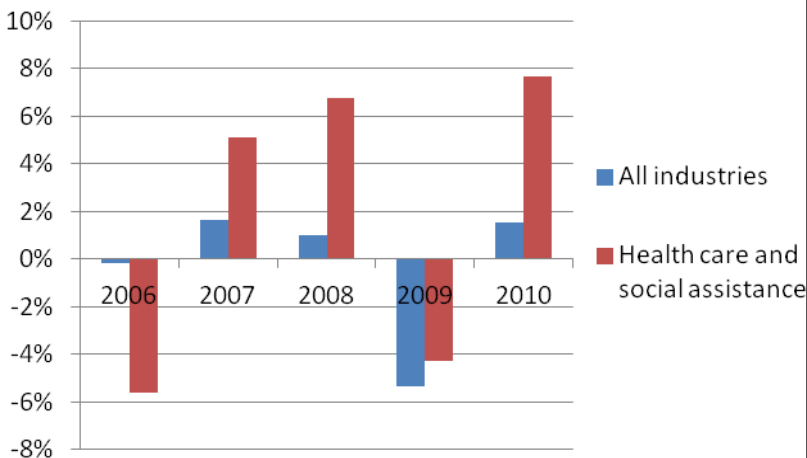
Nipissing-Parry Sound, 2006



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 Nipissing-Parry Sound 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 Northeast Economic Region, 2005-2010



Since 2005, employment has increased by 9% in the Northeast economic region. In 2010 employment growth peaked, rising 8% from the previous year and employed more than 40,000 people during this time. Additionally, the health care and social assistance industry is the largest employer in the Northeast economic region.

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