
Seniors 80 years and older: Change by census subdivisionⁱ

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Highlights

- **Ten census subdivisions in non-metro census divisions had a growth of more than 35% in the number of seniors 80 years and older from 2011 to 2016.**
- **Ten census subdivisions in non-metro areas saw a decline of 10% or more in 80+ seniors in the same period.**

Why look at seniors 80 years and older?

Demographic change drives a change in demand for both physical infrastructure and social programs. A change in the number of seniors, 80+ years of age, at the local level (census subdivisions) shows the degree of change required to provide local services. Examples include a change in the physical infrastructure (e.g., seniors' residences) and a change in social investments (e.g., volunteers for household maintenance or providing transportation to medical appointments).

Findings

There is a wide range in the pace of change of the number of seniors, 80 years of age and over, across census subdivisions¹ (CSDs) (Table 1 and the Map).

The rank of the CSD is shown in the left column and the percent change is shown in the far-right column. Within non-metro census divisions (CDs), we show the top 10 ranking CSDs and the 10 lowest ranking CSDs. Within each of metro and partially-non-metro CDs, we show the top 5 and the lowest 5 ranking CSDs.

Among the CSDs within non-metro census divisions (CDs), 10 CSDs had an increase of more than 35% from 2011 to 2016. On the other hand, 10 CSDs had decline of 10% or more during the same five-year period (Table 1).

Interestingly, 16% of the CSDs within non-metro CDs recorded a decline in the number of 80+ seniors from 2011 to 2016 (Table 2). However, 28% of CSDs in

non-metro CDs had growth of 25% or more in their number of 80+ seniors.

Note that 48% of the CSDs within metro CDs had a growth in their 80+ senior population of 25% or more.

There is no clear pattern in terms of the location of growth or decline in the number of seniors. However, it does appear that areas with a stable or declining population overall (See Map 3 in the [Rural Ontario's Demography: Census Update 2016](#)) are also showing lower rates of change in the senior (80+ yr.) population.

Discussion

A fast pace of change in the number of seniors at the community level implies there is a requirement for an equally fast pace of change in the infrastructure and related programs. Allocation of public resources for these adjustments is already challenging as, for example, [Ontario recently announced \\$115 million](#) to address the wait list for Long Term Care (LTC). Most LTC residents are over 85 years of age.

¹ A census subdivision is an incorporated town or municipality (or similar jurisdiction, such as an Indian Reserve). For details, see Statistics Canada. (2017) **2016 Census Dictionary** (Ottawa: Statistics Canada, Catalogue no. 98-301).

Table 1. Ranking of census subdivisions¹ by percent change in population 80 years of age and over, Ontario, 2011 to 2016

Rank of CSDs within each CD type	CD ID	Name of census division (CD)	CSD ID	Name of census subdivision ¹ (CSD)	2011 Population 80+ years of age	2016 Population 80+ years of age	Percent change, 2011 to 2016
Census subdivisions within metro census divisions (showing² the 5 highest and the 5 lowest ranking CSDs)							
1	3519	York	3519028	Vaughan	7,600	11,020	45
2	3519	York	3519044	Whitchurch-Stouffville	1,365	1,915	40
3	3519	York	3519049	King	670	915	37
4	3524	Halton	3524009	Milton	1,450	1,965	36
5	3519	York	3519038	Richmond Hill	5,130	6,920	35
18	3506	Ottawa	3506008	Ottawa	32,640	37,530	15
19	3519	York	3519046	Aurora	1,720	1,910	11
20	3520	Toronto	3520005	Toronto	114,595	126,635	11
21	3525	Hamilton	3525005	Hamilton	24,515	26,395	8
22	3529	Brant	3529006	Brantford	4,385	4,635	6
Census subdivisions within partially-non-metro CDs (showing² the 5 highest and the 5 lowest ranking CSDs)							
1	3539	Middlesex	3539047	Adelaide-Metcalf	65	170	162
2	3543	Simcoe	3543064	Wasaga Beach	855	1,355	58
3	3558	Thunder Bay	3558011	Oliver Paipoonge	120	190	58
4	3522	Dufferin	3522019	Melancthon	45	70	56
5	3522	Dufferin	3522012	Mono	180	270	50
149	3539	Middlesex	3539015	Strathroy-Caradoc	1,160	1,095	-6
150	3534	Elgin	3534005	Bayham	170	160	-6
151	3522	Dufferin	3522001	East Garafraxa	60	55	-8
152	3558	Thunder Bay	3558041	Red Rock	50	45	-10
153	3522	Dufferin	3522010	Grand Valley	75	55	-27
Census subdivisions within non-metro CDs (showing² the 10 highest and the 10 lowest ranking CSDs)							
1	3560	Kenora	3560090	Kenora, Unorganized	155	250	61
2	3541	Bruce	3541069	Northern Bruce Peninsula	225	355	58
3	3556	Cochrane	3556076	Hearst	210	320	52
4	3547	Renfrew	3547090	Laurentian Hills	60	90	50
5	3548	Nipissing	3548021	Mattawa	115	165	43
6	3551	Manitoulin	3551006	Central Manitoulin	100	140	40
7	3551	Manitoulin	3551017	Northeastern Manitoulin & the Islands	155	215	39
8	3514	Northumberland	3514024	Alnwick/Haldimand	185	255	38
9	3544	Muskoka	3544053	Muskoka Lakes	270	370	37
10	3546	Haliburton	3546024	Dysart et al	355	480	35
154	3559	Rainy River	3559042	Rainy River	100	90	-10
155	3559	Rainy River	3559012	Fort Frances	580	520	-10
156	3509	Lanark	3509015	Tay Valley	420	375	-11
157	3547	Renfrew	3547033	Killaloe, Hagarty and Richards	125	110	-12
158	3549	Parry Sound	3549048	Sundridge	80	70	-13
159	3540	Huron	3540040	Huron East	510	435	-15
160	3538	Lambton	3538015	Brooke-Alvinston	85	70	-18
161	3554	Timiskaming	3554052	Englehart	145	115	-21
162	3551	Manitoulin	3551043	Wikwemikong Unceded	70	55	-21
163	3549	Parry Sound	3549036	Carling	70	50	-29

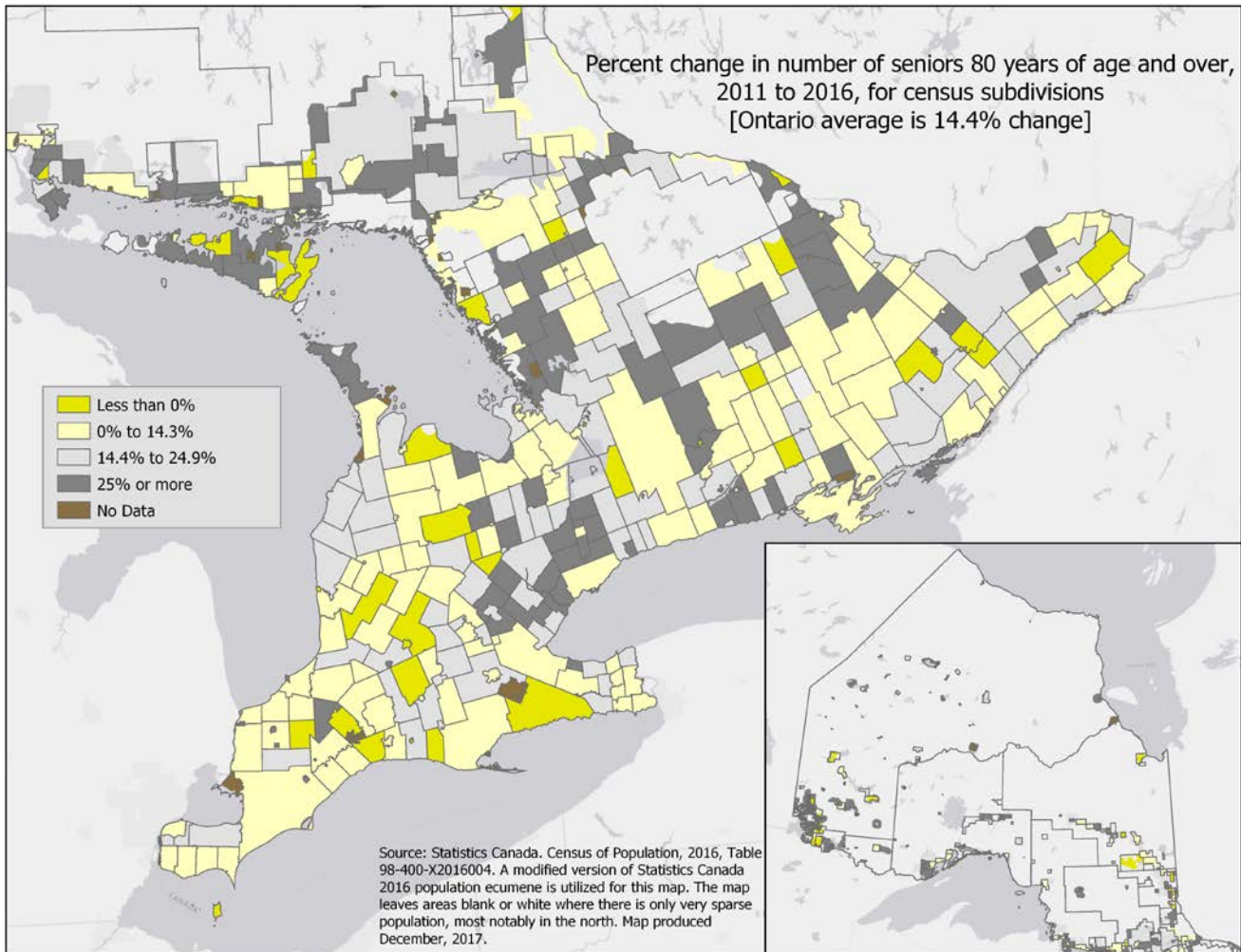
1. A census subdivision (CSD) is an incorporated town or municipality or a similar jurisdiction, such as an Indian Reserve (using the CSD names in the Statistics Canada dataset). CSDs with less than 40 individuals 80 years of age or over in 2011 or in 2016 are excluded from this table.

2. For the ranking of all CSDs, see the "Expanded Table 1" at <http://www.ruralontarioinstitute.ca/rural-reports/focus-on-rural-ontario>. Source: Source: Statistics Canada. Census of Population, 2016, Table 98-400-X2016004.

Table 2. Percent distribution of census subdivisions ¹ by PERCENT CHANGE in the number of persons 80 years of age and older, Ontario, 2011 to 2016				
Percent change in number of seniors 80 years and older	Type of census division			
	Metro CDs	Partially-non-metro CDs	Non-metro CDs	All CDs
	Percent distribution of census subdivisions ¹			
Less than 0%	0	9	16	12
0% to 14.3%	17	43	38	39
14.4% to 24.9%	35	30	17	23
25% or more	48	18	28	26
All CSDs ¹	100	100	100	100

1. Census subdivisions (CSDs) are incorporated towns, municipalities or similar jurisdictions, such as Indian Reserves.

Source: Statistics Canada. Census of Population, 2011 and 2016, Tables 98-311-XCB2011023 and 98-400-X2016004.



The Rural Ontario Institute gratefully acknowledges the work of Ray Bollman in preparing this edition of *Focus on Rural Ontario*. Questions on data sources can be directed to RayD.Bollman@sasktel.net. Any comments or discussions can be directed to NRagetlie@RuralOntarioInstitute.ca.

ⁱ This is a companion to the *Focus on Rural Ontario* Fact Sheet entitled “Seniors 80 years and older: Change by census divisions.”