

Digging a little deeper

On our website and in the summary report for Vital Signs, we have provided a number of statistics for each of our areas. Following is much more detailed data and sources for each statistic.

Overview

Trends

Our seniors lead healthy lifestyles

- Metro Vancouver seniors exercise more than the average Canadian senior, with more than half (53%) being physically active, and this rate increased 20% from 2007 to 2009.
- This is much higher than Montreal at 42%, Calgary at 40% and Toronto at 38%
- More of our seniors are eating the recommended amount of fruits and vegetables - up 16% in two years from 2007 to 2009, with the North Shore leading the way.
- However, fewer of our seniors have good or full functional health when compared to Toronto and Montreal.
Statistics Canada, Canadian Community Health Survey

Challenges

Poverty

The bottom line

Too many of our seniors struggle to meet their basic needs.

- The poverty rate has declined steadily for the last four years as of 2007, but is still 2.5% higher than 2000 levels, and higher than both Montreal and Toronto.
Statistics Canada and Community Foundations of Canada
- The average monthly rent for independent living suites was \$2,597; suites that provide more healthcare services rented for an average of \$4,681.
(This statistic excludes nursing homes and long-term care facilities.)
CMHC, National Seniors' Housing Survey
- Seniors' median income from all sources was \$22,300 in 2007. Many pension plans and investments were hit hard by the recession, and statistics show many seniors depend on that income: 55% received income from private pension plans and 63% had investment income in 2007.
Statistics Canada
- In 2007, 24% of our seniors were still working.
Statistics Canada

Getting around

For some seniors, getting around town is a challenge.

- Our transit service - the bus, SkyTrain, SeaBus and West Coast Express - is accessible but 44% of the bus stops are not. Stairs or curbs can be an insurmountable barrier for seniors with walkers or wheelchairs.
- While the number of accessible bus stops increased 8% over the last year, there is still a long way to go.
Translink's Access Transit Stakeholder Update July 2010

Progress

Our seniors feel a stronger sense of belonging

People who feel a strong sense of belonging within a community are healthier, both physically and mentally.

- In our region, 77% of seniors feel a very strong or somewhat strong sense of belonging to their local community, up 3% from 2005 to 2009.
- The city of Vancouver experienced the largest increase, with sense of belonging surging 14% from 2005 to 2009.
- Our seniors feel a stronger sense of belonging than those in Toronto, Montreal or Calgary.
Statistics Canada, Canadian Community Health Survey

Health / Mobility

Physicians

96% of our seniors have access to a regular doctor
2009 [\[More\]](#)

Sense of belonging

77% of seniors feel a very strong or somewhat strong
sense of belonging which is a higher rate than Toronto,
Montreal or Calgary 2009 [\[More\]](#)

Exercise

53% of our seniors are physically active - higher than the
rest of Canada 2009 [\[More\]](#)

Social Health / Recreation

Unpaid care

18% of our residents reported performing some unpaid
care for seniors 2006 [\[More\]](#)

Community kitchens

29 community organizations offer community kitchens
for our seniors 2010 [\[More\]](#)

Seniors Centres

60 community centres in our region have programming
for seniors 2010 [\[More\]](#)

Economic Welfare

Seniors in the workforce

23% of our seniors age 65 to 74 worked in 2005
2005 [\[More\]](#)

Seniors living alone

27% of our seniors 65 and over live alone
2006 [\[More\]](#)

Poverty

19% of our seniors live in poverty - up 3% from 2000
2007 [\[More\]](#)

Low income after tax

12% of seniors have low incomes after tax
2008 [\[More\]](#)

Housing / Living Situation

Vacancy rates

8% average vacancy rate for independent living suites in
Metro Vancouver /Fraser Valley region 2009 [\[More\]](#)

Assisted living suites

3,306 assisted living suites in Vancouver Coastal Health
and Fraser Health regions 2010 [\[More\]](#)

Housing

\$2,597 average rent for an independent living suite
2009 [\[More\]](#)

SENIORS

HEALTH/MOBILITY

Functional Health																			
Data Summary																			
In 2009, 62.6% of the population over 65 years had good to full functional health.																			
Date																			
2009																			
Geography																			
Vancouver Region's Health Service Delivery Areas: Fraser North, Fraser South, Richmond, North Shore/ Coast Garibaldi and Vancouver; Canada; B.C.; Toronto (CMA); Montreal (CMA)																			
Description																			
<p>Functional health among seniors 65 years of age and up is lower in Metro Vancouver than across B.C. or Canada as a whole, at 62.6%, or less than two-thirds, compared to closer to 70% for B.C. (67.9%) and Canada (68.6%). Functional health among seniors is better in Richmond and lower in Vancouver and Fraser South.</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="688 862 1404 1281"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th>% Good to Full Functional Health, 2009</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Canada</td> <td>68.6</td> </tr> <tr> <td>British Columbia</td> <td>67.9</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Metro Vancouver</td> <td>62.6</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Vancouver</td> <td>66.0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>North Shore/Coast Garibaldi*</td> <td>70.9</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Fraser North</td> <td>72.1</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Fraser South</td> <td>66.5</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Richmond</td> <td>80.7</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>			% Good to Full Functional Health, 2009	Canada	68.6	British Columbia	67.9	Metro Vancouver	62.6	Vancouver	66.0	North Shore/Coast Garibaldi*	70.9	Fraser North	72.1	Fraser South	66.5	Richmond	80.7
	% Good to Full Functional Health, 2009																		
Canada	68.6																		
British Columbia	67.9																		
Metro Vancouver	62.6																		
Vancouver	66.0																		
North Shore/Coast Garibaldi*	70.9																		
Fraser North	72.1																		
Fraser South	66.5																		
Richmond	80.7																		
<p>Functional health is a measure of 8 dimensions of functioning (vision, hearing, speech, mobility, dexterity, feelings, cognition and pain). Otherwise known as the Health Utility Index.</p>																			
Comparison																			
Functional health for seniors in Metro Vancouver is lower than for those in Toronto and Montreal, and comparable to that for																			

Calgary seniors.

	% Good to Full Functional Health, 2009
Metro Vancouver	62.6
Metro Toronto	64.7
Metro Montreal	72.7
Calgary Region	62.0

Data Considerations

Since 2007, data for the Canadian Community Health Survey (CCHS) are collected yearly instead of every two years. While a sample of approximately 130,000 respondents has been interviewed during the reference periods of 2003 and 2005, it has been changed to 65,000 respondents each year starting in 2007.

Source

Statistics Canada, Canadian Community Health Survey

Link

<http://www.statcan.gc.ca/pub/82-221-x/2008001/5202308-eng.htm>

Access to a Regular Doctor

Data Summary

Almost all seniors in Metro Vancouver (96.3%) have access to a regular doctor.

Date

2007-2009

Geography

Vancouver Region's Health Service Delivery Areas: Fraser North, Fraser South, Richmond, North Shore/ Coast Garibaldi and Vancouver; Canada; B.C.; Toronto (CMA); Montreal (CMA); Calgary (CMA)

Description

Over 95% of seniors have access to a regular medical doctor through Canada (95.3%) and across B.C. (96.5%), and the rate is even higher in parts of Metro Vancouver. In 2009, 96.3% of Metro Vancouver seniors aged 65 years and up reported that they have access to a regular medical doctor. This rate has been fairly consistent throughout the region since 2007.

	2007	2008	2009	% change, 2007- 2009
Canada	95.2	95.0	95.3	+0.1
British Columbia	96.7	95.8	96.5	-0.2
Metro Vancouver	96.7	97.1	96.3	-0.4
Vancouver	97.6	97.7	96.2	-1.4
Coastal	93.1	97.6	98.0	+5.3
Fraser North	97.8	93.4	94.4	-3.5
Fraser South	96.5	99.6	96.8	+0.3
Richmond	97.0	96.2	97.8	+0.8

Comparison

Amongst the four Canadian cities below, access to a regular medical doctor is highest for seniors in Toronto at almost 98% and lowest in Montreal, where just over 91% of people 65 years and over have a regular doctor.

	2007	2008	2009	% change, 2007-2009
Metro Vancouver	96.7	97.1	96.3	-0.4
Metro Toronto	96.3	97.6	97.8	+1.6
Metro Montreal	92.2	92.0	91.2	-1.1
Calgary Region	97.8	98.1	96.9	-0.9

Data Considerations

Based on the CCHS sample of 65,000 respondents each year, nation-wide. The North Shore/Coast Garibaldi Health Service Delivery Area also includes the sunshine coast, Powell River, Pemberton and Whistler which are not part of the Vancouver region.

Source

Statistics Canada, Canadian Community Health survey

Link

<http://www.statcan.gc.ca/pub/82-221-x/2008001/5202308-eng.htm>

Seniors' Sense of Belonging

Data Summary

Across the region, 76.8% of seniors have a very strong or somewhat strong sense of belonging to their local community. This rate is higher than in B.C., Canada as a whole, or than rates for other major Canadian cities.

Date

2005, 2007-2009

Geography

Vancouver Region's Health Service Delivery Areas: Fraser North, Fraser South, Richmond, North Shore/ Coast Garibaldi and Vancouver; Canada; B.C.; Toronto (CMA); Montreal (CMA); Calgary (CMA)

Description

Seniors' sense of belonging is increasing region-wide, by 3.1% from 2005-2009. A marked increase in seniors' sense of belonging in the city of Vancouver, to 83.8% in 2009, along with more modest increases in Richmond, account for the rise in seniors' sense of belonging in the region overall. Across Canada and B.C., seniors' sense of belonging has remained fairly constant from 2005-2009.

	2005	2007	2008	2009	% Change 2005-2009
Canada	71.6	71.2	72.7	71.9	+0.4
British Columbia	75.7	75.2	72.9	76.1	+0.5
Metro Vancouver	74.5	73.7	71.7	76.8	+3.1
Vancouver	73.3	69.7	65.3	83.8	+14.3
North Shore/Coast Garibaldi	80.9	80.3	78.9	78.9	-2.5
Fraser North	75.4	82.4	71.4	73.8	-2.2
Fraser South	73.5	65.3	74.5	73.0	-0.7
Richmond	68.3	78.7	72.4	72.5	+6.1

Population aged 65 and over who reported their sense of belonging to their local community as being very strong or somewhat strong. Research shows a high correlation of sense of community-belonging with physical and mental health.

Comparison

Sense of belonging is stronger among metro Vancouver seniors than is the case for seniors in Toronto, Montreal, or Calgary. Amongst these four cities, the lowest rates of seniors' sense of belonging are found in Montreal, where just under 63% have a somewhat strong or very strong sense of belonging to their community.

	2005	2007	2008	2009	% change, 2005-2009
Metro Vancouver	74.5	73.7	71.7	76.8	+3.1
Metro Toronto	65.4	65.3	72.7	69.2	+5.8
Metro Montreal	65.1	64.3	67.5	62.9	-3.4
Calgary Region	71.6	69.7	62.5	66.2	-7.5

Data Considerations

Based on the CCHS sample of 65,000 respondents each year, nation-wide. The North Shore/Coast Garibaldi Health Service Delivery Area also includes the sunshine coast, Powell River, Pemberton and Whistler which are not part of the Vancouver region.

Source

Statistics Canada, Canadian Community Health survey

Link

<http://www.statcan.gc.ca/pub/82-221-x/2008001/5202308-eng.htm>

Seniors' Physical Activity Rates

Data Summary

Among metro Vancouver seniors, more than half (53.1%) are physically active. This is higher than the Canadian average.

Date

2005, 2007-2009

Geography

Vancouver Region's Health Service Delivery Areas: Fraser North, Fraser South, Richmond, North Shore/ Coast Garibaldi and Vancouver; Canada; B.C.; Toronto (CMA); Montreal (CMA); Calgary (CMA)

Description

Metro Vancouver seniors, like B.C. seniors more generally, are considerably more physically active than seniors across Canada as a whole. Seniors' rates of physical activity remain unchanged across Canada for the period 2005-2009, while they are increasing throughout B.C. Trends within the Metro Vancouver region are quite mixed, with a decrease overall, led by a substantial decrease in rates of physical activity among seniors in Fraser South and on the North Shore, and countered by a substantial increase in Fraser North.

2005	2007	2008	2009	% Change 2005-2009

Canada	43.0	41.3	42.6	43.0	0
British Columbia	53.5	48.2	52.2	54.7	+2.2
Metro Vancouver	56.1	44.3	49.3	53.1	-5.3
Vancouver	60.2	39.5	61.1	61.5	+2.2
North Shore/Coast Garibaldi	61.0	58.6	53.5	53.9	-11.6
Fraser North	49.3	43.9	39.7	55.6	+12.8
Fraser South	50	39.9	42.4	43	-14.0
Richmond	55.8	51.7	53.1	52.2	-6.5

Population aged 65 and over who reported a level of physical activity, based on their responses to questions about the nature, frequency and duration of their participation in leisure-time physical activity. Respondents are classified as active, moderately active or inactive based on an index of average daily physical activity over the past 3 months. For each leisure time physical activity engaged in by the respondent, an average daily energy expenditure is calculated by multiplying the number of times the activity was performed by the average duration of the activity by the energy cost (kilocalories per kilogram of body weight per hour) of the activity. The index is calculated as the sum of the average daily energy expenditures of all activities. Respondents are classified as follows: 3.0 kcal/kg/day or more = physically active; 1.5 to 2.9 kcal/kg/day = moderately active; less than 1.5 kcal/kg/day = inactive.

Comparison

Rates of physical activity are higher for Metro Vancouver seniors than they are for seniors in Toronto, Montreal and Calgary, with Toronto seniors having the lowest rates of physical activity in 2009 amongst the four Canadian cities below.

	2007	2008	2009	% change, 2007-2009
Metro Vancouver	44.3	49.3	53.1	+19.9
Metro Toronto	38.6	42.0	38.2	-1.0
Metro Montreal	37.5	37.5	42.1	+12.3
Calgary Region	49.3	50.0	40.2	-18.5

Data Considerations

Based on the CCHS sample of 65,000 respondents each year, nation-wide. The North Shore/Coast Garibaldi Health Service Delivery Area also includes the sunshine coast, Powell River, Pemberton and Whistler which are not part of the Vancouver region.

Source

Statistics Canada, Canadian Community Health survey

Link

<http://www.statcan.gc.ca/pub/82-221-x/2008001/5202308-eng.htm>

Seniors' Consumption of Fruits and Vegetables

Data Summary

Over half (52.4%) of Metro Vancouver seniors eat fruits and vegetables five or more times per day.

Date

2007-2009

Geography

Vancouver Region's Health Service Delivery Areas: Fraser North, Fraser South, Richmond, North Shore/ Coast Garibaldi and Vancouver; Canada; B.C.; Toronto (CMA); Montreal (CMA); Calgary (CMA)

Description

From 2007-2009, rates of fruit and vegetable consumption amongst seniors are up across Metro Vancouver (16.4%), and to lesser degrees across B.C. (7.0%) and across Canada as a whole (3.2%). The hot spot for fruit and vegetable consumption amongst seniors in Metro Vancouver is the North Shore, whereas seniors in Richmond seem least likely to consume fruits and vegetables frequently.

	2007	2008	2009	% Change 2007- 2009
Canada	47.5	47.4	49.0	+3.2
British Columbia	47.3	45.9	50.6	+7.0
Metro Vancouver	45.0	47.2	52.4	+16.4
Vancouver	46.9	48.0	50.1	+6.8
Coastal	63.4	58.0	67.1	+5.8
Fraser North	41.6	45.3	52.3	+10.7
Fraser South	41.9	48.2	50.5	+20.5
Richmond	29.8E	29.7E	43.1E	+44.6E

Indicates the proportion of respondents who usually ate fruits and vegetables five or more times per day. Measure does not take into account the amount consumed.

Comparison

Vancouver seniors' rates of eating fruits and vegetables are second to the seniors of Montreal, where nearly 56% of seniors ate fruits and vegetables five or more times daily in 2009. Frequency of eating fruits and vegetables for seniors is up in cities across the country, with Metro Vancouver showing the largest increase from 2007-2009.

	2007	2008	2009	% change, 2007-2009
Metro Vancouver	45.0	47.2	52.4	+16.4
Metro Toronto	42.7	49.1	48.7	+14.1
Metro Montreal	52.9	51.0	55.7	+5.3
Calgary	42.0	45.7	43.3	+3.1

Data Considerations

Based on the CCHS sample of 65,000 respondents each year, nation-wide. The North Shore/Coast Garibaldi Health Service Delivery Area also includes the sunshine coast, Powell River, Pemberton and Whistler which are not part of the Vancouver region.

Source

Statistics Canada, Canadian Community Health survey

Link

<http://www.statcan.gc.ca/pub/82-221-x/2008001/5202308-eng.htm>

SOCIAL HEALTH/RECREATION

Hours of Unpaid Care for Seniors

Data Summary

In 2006, 17.8% of the population (15 or older) in Metro Vancouver reported performing some amount of unpaid care for seniors.

Date

2006, 2009

Geography

Canada, British Columbia, and CMAs: Toronto, Montreal, and Metro Vancouver

Description

In 2006, 17.8% of the population (15 or older) in Metro Vancouver reported performing some amount of unpaid care for seniors and 82.3% performed no unpaid care to seniors. For those who did care for seniors, 10.5% performed less than 5 hours, 3.9% performed between 5 and 9 hours, 1.6% between 10 and 19, 1.7% more than 20 hours of unpaid care. This trend is similar to that at the provincial and national level. This trend is also similar to that in Montreal and Toronto.

	Canada	BC	Metro Vancouver
Total population 15 or older	25,664,220	3,394,910	1,752,385
No hours of unpaid care	81.6%	82.5%	82.3%
Less than 5 hours unpaid care or assistance to seniors	11.4%	10.3%	10.5%
5 to 9 hours of unpaid care or assistance to seniors	4.0%	3.9%	3.9%
10 to 19 hours of unpaid care or assistance to seniors	1.5%	1.6%	1.6%
20 hours or more of unpaid care or assistance to seniors	1.5%	1.7%	1.7%

Based on the 2009 Family Caregivers' Survey, just over 85% of respondents providing care for adults across British Columbia were providing care for either their mother (28%), spouse or partner (28%), or adult child (30%). A small number were caring for two family members simultaneously and 10% were caring for their father. Care of friends represented slightly under 4% of the caregivers surveyed.

Less intimate forms of care were most frequently cited as part of the caregiving relationship: over 85% stated they assisted with scheduling and attending appointments, provided general transportation, and shopping, and slightly over 80% were engaged in basic household chores such as cooking and laundry. Over 70% of caregivers were involved in feeding, meal planning and diet management, close to 45% performed elements of personal care (bathing, dressing and toiletry), over 40% provided mobility assistance, and almost 70% managed or administered medication.

In the survey, over 55% of caregivers indicated they were employed. Close to 30% said they lost or left a job in order to care for someone and almost 50% had to make changes to their work schedule. Close to 50% of respondents indicated that if it were affordable they would prefer to have their family member or friend cared for by a paid professional.

Comparison

Similar proportions of the populations of Metro Toronto and Metro Montreal provided unpaid care to seniors at the rates that occurred in Metro Vancouver in 2006.

	Metro Toronto	Metro Montreal	Metro Vancouver
Total population 15 or older	4,122,820	2,967,715	1,752,385
No hours of unpaid care	81.7%	82.3%	82.3%
Less than 5 hours unpaid care or assistance to seniors	10.8%	11.8%	10.5%
5 to 9 hours of unpaid care or assistance to seniors	4.2%	3.5%	3.9%
10 to 19 hours of unpaid care or assistance to seniors	1.7%	1.2%	1.6%

	20 hours or more of unpaid care or assistance to seniors	1.7%	1.2%	1.7%
Data Considerations				
The BCLI survey ran from April - November 2009 and elicited approximately 340 responses. Results are not intended to be statistically representative of the province-wide trends but to insure the research into alternatives to supporting caregivers and valuing the labour of caregivers was informed by a sense of how existing family caregivers characterize their own needs.				
Source				
2006 Census - Topic-Based Tabulations, Unpaid Work B.C. Law Institute, 2009, B.C. Family Caregivers Survey. Vancouver				
Link				
http://www12.statcan.ca/census-recensement/2006/dp-pd/tbt/Rp-eng.cfm?LANG=E&APATH=3&DETAIL=0&DIM=0&FL=A&FREE=0&GC=0&GID=837928&GK=0&GRP=1&PID=92100&PRID=0&PTYPE=88971,97154&S=0&SHOWALL=0&SUB=0&Temporal=2006&THEME=74&VID=0&VNAMEE=&VNAMEF= http://www.bcli.org/sites/default/files/AppendixE.pdf				

Accessible Bus Stops in Metro Vancouver

Data Summary

In June 2010, the total percentage of accessible bus stops in Metro Vancouver was 56.2%.

Date

2009-2010

Geography

Metro Vancouver

Description

Translink's transit fleet (buses, SkyTrain, SeaBus, West Coast Express) is accessible; however, 43.8 percent of bus stops are inaccessible. Inaccessible bus stops prevent people with disabilities from being able to fully access transit service in their communities.

Percentage of Accessible Bus Stops in Metro Vancouver in 2009 and 2010

	Active Bus Stops	% Accessible 2009	% Accessible 2010
Metro Vancouver	8,201	52.2%	56.2%

Over the past year, the percentage of accessible bus stops in Metro Vancouver has increased by 7.7 % (or by 4 percentage points).

Comparison

N/A

Data Considerations

None

Source

Translink's "Access Transit Stakeholder Update" July 2010

Link

N/A

Number of agencies providing community kitchen program(s) to seniors

Data Summary

There are 29 different agencies offering community kitchen program(s) to seniors in Metro Vancouver.

Date

2010

Geography

Fraser Health Authority region, Vancouver Coastal Health Authority region

Description

Number of Agencies Offering Community Kitchen Program(s) to Seniors in Metro Vancouver

	Number of Agencies
Fraser Health Authority	12
Vancouver Coastal Health Authority	17
Metro Vancouver	29

Comparison

N/A

Data Considerations

These figures only reflect the number of agencies offering community kitchen program(s) to seniors in Metro Vancouver that are

Seniors

listed on the Fresh Choice Kitchens website.
 Data was obtained using the search function on the Fresh Choice Kitchen's website to search within the FHA and VCHA for agencies that provide community kitchen program(s) to seniors. Agencies that are located within FHA or VCHA, but outside of Metro Vancouver were removed from the count.
 This data source does not provide information on the number of programs targeted at seniors that are operated within each agency.

Source

Fresh Choice Kitchens (formerly the Vancouver Community Kitchen Project) website, July 2010

Link

<http://www.communitykitchens.ca/main/?csbSearch>

Seniors' Centres and Programming

Data Summary

There are 60 community centres with programming for seniors in our region.

Date

2010

Geography

Municipalities of Vancouver, Surrey, Richmond, Burnaby, Coquitlam, Port Coquitlam, the North Shore, the Langleys, Delta

Description

Seniors centres may be dedicated facilities, or they may be components of programming within community centres intended for the population across all age groups. These facilities provides programs and services for seniors including exercise, art and craft, leisure and recreational classes, hot lunches and special meal events, drop in and social programs, bus trips and grocery shuttles, medical ride programs, peer support programs, grandparent connections, and others.

	Number of facilities	Facility Names
Vancouver	23	*Community centres throughout Vancouver integrate seniors' programming, and sometimes specific spaces for seniors, such as Barclay Manor in the West End
Burnaby	4	Bonsor Recreation Complex, Cameron Recreation Complex, Confederation Community Centre, Edmonds Community Centre
Surrey	8	Bear Creek Pavilion, Fraser Heights Community Centre, Guildford Recreation Centre, South Surrey Recreation Centre, Cloverdale

			Seniors' Centre, Fleetwood Community Centre, Newton Seniors' Centre, Sunrise Pavilion Seniors' Centre
Richmond	6		Minoru Place Activity Centre, Cambie Community Centre, South Arm Community Centre, Steveston Community Centre, Thompson Community Centre, West Richmond Community Centre
City of North Vancouver	3		Silver Harbour Centre, John Braithwaite Community Centre, North Shore Neighbourhood House
District of North Vancouver	3		Capilano Community Services, Parkgate Community Services Society, Mollie Nye House
District of West Vancouver	1		Seniors Activity Centre
City of Coquitlam	2		Dogwood Pavillion, Glen Pine Pavilion
City of Port Coquitlam	1		Wilson Centre
City of Port Moody	1		Kyle Centre
Langley	7		Aldergrove Kinsmen Community Centre, Langley Centennial Museum, WC Blair Recreation Centre, Walnut Grove Community Centre, Willoughby Community Centre, Willowbrook Recreation Centre, George Preston Recreation Centre
Delta	1		Kennedy Seniors Recreation Centre
TOTAL	60		

Comparison

N/A

Data Considerations

Data provided for cities of Vancouver, Burnaby, Richmond, Coquitlam, and North Vancouver (city and district). In North Vancouver, seniors programming is provided by local nonprofit organizations. Capilano Community Services Society and Silver Harbour Centre provides services to both city and district; Parkgate Community Services Society provides services only to the district.

Source

Municipalities, by request

Link

N/A

ECONOMIC WELFARE

Source of Seniors' Income			
Data Summary			
In 2007, the median income for seniors in metro Vancouver was \$22,300. Nearly one quarter received employment income and 99% received government transfers.			
Date			
2006-2007			
Geography			
Canada, British Columbia, and Metro Vancouver			
Description			
<p>The median total income for seniors in Metro Vancouver in 2007 was \$22,300, which is less than the B.C. figure (\$23,410) but essentially on par with the Canada-wide figure (\$22,110). Just under one quarter (24.1%) received income from employment, more than the percent in Canada as a whole (21.5%) but less than the percent in B.C. (25.9%). Slightly less metro Vancouver seniors received income from government transfers (98.5%) than was the case in B.C. (99.5%) or Canada-wide (99.0%). Amongst these transfers, significantly fewer were receiving Old Age Security or the Canada Pension Plan than in either Canada or B.C. (other types of government transfers include employment insurance, workers' compensation, and social assistance). Fewer metro Vancouver seniors benefitted from a private pension (54.6%) than was the case across B.C. (60.8%) or across Canada (59.7%).</p>			
<p><u>Source of Annual Income for Seniors, Canada, B.C. and Metro Vancouver, 2007</u></p>			
Source of Income	Canada	BC	Metro Vancouver
Total seniors (65+) with income	4,315,860	593,980	271,140
Total employment income	21.5%	25.9%	24.1%
Investment income	59.8%	64.5%	63.0%
Total government transfers	99.5%	99.0%	98.5%
Old Age Security (OAS) and net federal supplements	97.0%	95.5%	92.7%
Canada Pension Plan (CPP) and Quebec Pension Plan (QPP)	90.3%	89.3%	83.2%
Private pensions	59.7%	60.8%	54.6%
Registered Retirement Savings Plan (RRSP)	8.5%	9.6%	8.9%
Other income	28.1%	33.0%	24.1%
Median Total Income	\$22,110	\$23,410	\$22,300

Almost all Metro Vancouver seniors with income got income for government transfers, 98% in 2007, even more than the 98% who did in 2006. While 92.7% of seniors with income received money through Old Age Security (OAS), 83.2% received money through the Canadian Pension Plan/Quebec Pension Plan (CPP/QPP). Over half of seniors received income from private pension plans (54.6%) and 63% received income from investments. Many of these sources of income remained stable between 2006-2007, but the proportion of seniors with employment income increased 4.8%, and those with investment income increased 3.3%.

Source of Annual Income for Seniors in Metro Vancouver, 2006-2007

Source of income	Number of Seniors With Source of Income, 2006	Proportion of Seniors with Source of Income, 2006	Number of Seniors With Source of Income, 2007	Proportion of Seniors with Source of Income, 2007	% Change, 2006-2007
Total income	265,600	-	271,140	-	+2.1%
Total employment income	60,450	23%	65,250	24.1%	+4.8%
Investment income	163,120	61%	170,950	63.0%	+3.3%
Total government transfers	261,250	98%	267,200	98.5%	+0.5%
Old Age Security (OAS) and net federal supplements	244,820	92%	251,220	92.7%	+0.7%
Canada Pension Plan (CPP) and Quebec Pension Plan (QPP)	218,950	82%	225,600	83.2%	1.5%
Private pensions	144,220	54%	148,130	54.6%	+1.1%
Registered Retirement Savings Plan (RRSP)	25,060	9%	24,240	8.9%	-1.1%

Comparison

N/A

Data Considerations

Not all sources of incomes or breakdowns of sources are provided in this table. See Cansim table for more sources and breakdowns.

Employment income includes wages and salaries, commissions from employment, training allowances, tips and gratuities, and net self-employment income (business, professional, commission, farming and fishing income).

Investment income includes dividend income reported on line 120 of the tax return, or interest and other investment income reported on line 121, or both. Dividend income consists of dividends from taxable Canadian corporations (as stocks or mutual funds). Interest and other investment income includes interest from Canada Savings bonds, bank accounts, treasury bills, investment certificates, term deposits, earnings on life insurance policies, and foreign interest and dividend income.

Government transfer payments are payments to individuals by the federal or provincial governments: Employment Insurance (EI), Goods and Services Tax Credit (GST) and Harmonized Tax Credit (HST), Canada Child Tax Benefit, Old Age Security (OAS) and net federal supplements, Canada Pension Plan (CPP) and Quebec Pension Plan (QPP), Workers' Compensation, Social Assistance and provincial refundable tax credits and Family Benefits.

The Old Age Security (OAS) pension is part of the OAS program, a federal government program that guarantees a degree of financial security to seniors. All persons in Canada aged 65 years and over, who are Canadian citizens or legal residents, may qualify for a full OAS pension, depending on their years of residence in Canada after reaching the age of 18. OAS benefits include all benefits reported for the reference year, excluding Guaranteed Income Supplements (GIS) and Spousal Allowance benefits (SPA). Starting with 1994 data, OAS income of non-filing spouses was estimated and included in the tables.

The Canada Pension Plan (CPP) and Quebec Pension Plan (QPP) are compulsory contributory social insurance plans that protect workers and their families against loss of income due to retirement, disability or death. CPP and QPP benefits include all benefits reported for the reference year.

Private pensions include pension benefits other than Old Age Security (OAS), Canada Pension Plan (CPP) and Quebec Pension Plan (QPP).

RRSP income is money withdrawn from a Registered Retirement Savings Plan (RRSP), either as a lump sum or as a periodic payment. Only RRSP income of persons aged 65 years or older is included.

Source
Statistics Canada, Cansim Table 111-0035
Link
N/A

Seniors in the Work Force
Data Summary
In 2007, almost a quarter (24.1%) of seniors over the age of 65 years, received income from employment in Metro Vancouver.
Date
2007
Geography

Canada, British Columbia, and CMAs: Toronto, Montreal, and Metro Vancouver

Description

Almost a quarter of seniors reported employment income (24.1%) in 2007 in Metro Vancouver, up 5.7% from the proportion who worked in 2005. The proportion of seniors receiving income from employment will be interesting to watch over time, as there have been recent changes in the retirement age policies and seniors are working more and more. The proportion of seniors that worked in Metro Vancouver in 2007 (24.1%) was higher than that for the country as a whole (21.5%), but lower than that for B.C. (25.9%). This has changed since 2005, when metro Vancouver seniors were more likely than their counterparts across the province to work.

Percentage of Seniors (65+ years) Receiving Employment Income in 2007

	% Receiving Income from Employment
Canada	21.5
B.C.	25.9
Metro Vancouver	24.1

Percentage of Seniors (age 65 to 74 years) That Worked in 2005

	Total - Work Activity	Did not work	Worked	% Worked
Canada	2,255,640	1,801,410	454,235	20.1
British Columbia	310,445	242,680	67,770	21.8
Metro Vancouver	139,625	107,800	31,825	22.8

Comparison

The proportion of seniors (age 65-74 years) in Metro Vancouver that worked in 2005 (22.8%) was slightly higher than the proportion of seniors that worked in Toronto (22.3%) and substantially higher than the proportion of seniors that worked in Montreal (16.2%)

Percentage of Seniors (age 65-74 years) That Worked in 2005

	Total - Work Activity	Did Not Work	Worked	% Worked
Metro Toronto	321,985	250,130	7,1860	22.3
Metro Montreal	260,045	217,810	42,235	16.2

	Metro Vancouver	139,625	107,800	31,,825	22.8
Data Considerations					
N/A					
Source					
Statistics Canada, Cansim Table 111-0035 and 2006 Census					
Link					
N/A					

Percentage of Seniors Living Alone				
Data Summary				
In 2006, 26.6% of seniors (age 65 and over) in Metro Vancouver lived alone.				
Date				
2006				
Geography				
Canada, British Columbia, and CMAs: Toronto, Montreal, and Metro Vancouver				
Description				
In 2006, the percentage of seniors (age 65 and over) who lived alone in Metro Vancouver (26.6%) was lower than the percentage for British Columbia (27.3%) and for the country as a whole (28.1%)				
<u>Number and Percentage of Seniors (Age 65 and over) Who Live Alone</u>				
		Total 65 years and over	Living Alone	% Living Alone
	Canada	4,011,910	1,128,665	28.1%
	British Columbia	566,135	154,750	27.3%
	Metro Vancouver	256,655	68,145	26.6%
Comparison				
In 2006, the percentage of seniors (age 65 and over) who lived alone in Metro Vancouver (26.6%) was higher than the percentage in Toronto (22.6%), but lower than the percentage in Montreal (32.0%)				
<u>Number and Percentage of Seniors (Age 65 and over) Who Live Alone</u>				

	Total 65 years and over	Living Alone	% Living Alone
Metro Toronto	573,680	129,545	22.6%
Metro Montreal	456,550	145,930	32.0%
Metro Vancouver	256,655	68,145	26.6%

Seniors (age 65 and over) are more likely to live alone relative to other age groups as is demonstrated in Metro Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada, Montreal, and Toronto.

Percentage of Population Living Alone

	All Ages	65 Years and Over
Canada	10.7%	28.1%
British Columbia	11.4%	27.3%
Metro Toronto	8.2%	22.6%
Metro Montreal	13.5%	32.0%
Metro Vancouver	11.1%	26.6%

Data Considerations

N/A

Source

2006 Census

Link

N/A

Elderly Poverty Rate

Data Summary

In 2007, the elderly (persons 65 and over) poverty rate in Metro Vancouver, based on the Low Income Measure (LIM), an indicator of relative poverty, was 18.5%, up 2.5% from 18.1% in 2000.

Date

2000-2007

Geography

Canada, British Columbia, and CMAs: Toronto, Montreal, and Metro Vancouver

Description

The elderly poverty rate is calculated as the percent of low-income families with persons aged 65 and over, using the Low Income Measure.

	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	% change, 2000-2007
Canada	12.7	13.4	13.6	13.2	14.3	14.0	13.5	13.8	8.4%
British Columbia	13.9	14.7	15.0	15.0	16.2	15.9	15.3	13.2	-5.0%
Metro Vancouver	18.1	19.3	20.0	20.5	22.0	21.9	21.4	18.5	2.5%

Comparison

Vancouver experiences an elderly poverty rate higher than that in Toronto or Montreal, although in these two comparison cities, the rate has been climbing much faster for the past seven years.

	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	% change, 2000-2007
Metro Toronto	15.6	16.2	16.8	17.0	17.7	17.5	17.6	18.2	+16.4%
Metro Montreal	14.7	15.6	15.8	15.2	16.9	16.8	16.6	17.3	+17.6%
Metro Vancouver	18.1	19.3	20.0	20.5	22.0	21.9	21.4	18.5	+2.5%

Data Considerations

Low Income Measures (LIMs) are a relative measure of low income. LIMs are a fixed percentage (50%) of adjusted median family income where adjusted indicates a consideration of family needs. The family size adjustment used in calculating the Low Income Measures reflects the precept that family needs increase with family size. A census family is considered to be low income when their income is below the Low Income Measure for their family type and size.

Source

Statistics Canada. Small Area Administrative Data. Family characteristics, Low Income Measures (LIM), by family type and family type composition, annual. Table 111-0015 Cansim.

Link

Data provided by CFC

Rate Among Seniors Living with Low Income (After Tax)

Data Summary

The rate among seniors living in poverty in Metro Vancouver in 2008 was 12.4%.

Date

1990, 1995, 2000, 2005, and 2008

Geography

Canada, British Columbia, and CMAs: Toronto, Montreal, and Metro Vancouver

Description

This index measures the percentage of seniors living below LICO (Low-Income Cut-off) after tax. The rate among seniors living with low income (after-tax) in Metro Vancouver in 2008 was 12.4%, compared to British Columbia at 8.4% and Canada at 5.8%. This indicates that the low income rate among seniors in Metro Vancouver is 6.6% higher than the national rate and 4.0% higher than the provincial rate. While all three saw decreases over the long term (1990 to 2008), Canada's rate decreased by 46.2%, British Columbia's decreased by 7.6%, and Metro Vancouver by 13.9%.

	1990	1995	2000	2005	2008
Canada	10.8%	8.6%	7.6%	6.2%	5.8%
British Columbia	9.1%	8.5%	9.6%	7.9%	8.4%
Metro Vancouver	14.4%	14.2%	15.7%	11.8%	12.4%

Comparison

The rate of low income (after-tax) among seniors in Metro Vancouver in 2008 was 12.4%, compared to Montreal at 15.3% and Toronto at 8.7%. The rate of low income among seniors in all three areas decreased between 1990 and 2008, with Montreal leading the way with a decrease of 40.9%, then Toronto with a decrease of 36.5%, and then Vancouver with a decrease of 13.9%.

	1990	1995	2000	2005	2008
Metro Toronto	13.7%	14.7%	10.2%	6.5%	8.7%
Metro Montreal	25.9%	21.3%	18.9%	15.5%	15.3%
Metro Vancouver	14.4%	14.2%	15.7%	11.8%	12.4%

Data Considerations

N/A

Source

Statistics Canada, Census, various years

Link

N/A

HOUSING/LIVING SITUATION

Stock and Vacancy Rates for Independent and Heavy Care Suites

Data Summary

There were 5,605 independent living suites, 4,028 non-market suites and 753 heavy care suites in seniors' housing complexes in 2009. Average vacancy rates for independent living suites were 8% and for heavy care suites were 14.9% in the Greater Vancouver/Fraser Valley region. Based on the estimated population of 162,131 people aged 75 years and up in the region, this means that 6.4% live in these facilities.

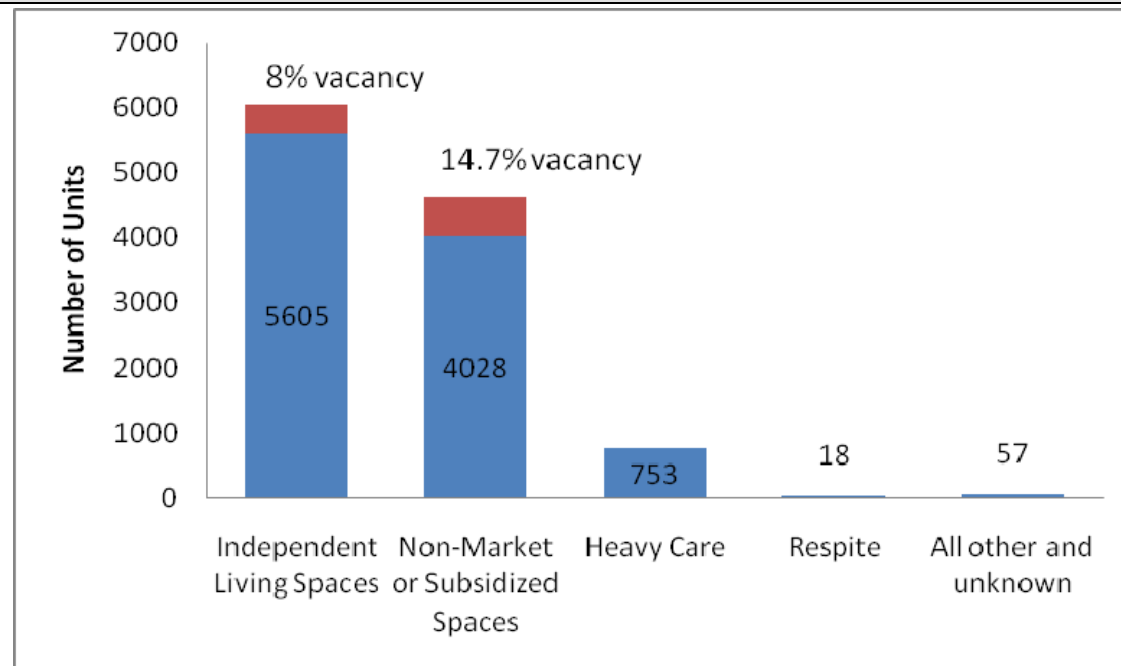
Date

2009

Geography

Greater Vancouver/Fraser Valley

Description



Independent living suites are found in complexes where the majority of the residents are aged 65 years or older and that include either on-site meal services or on-site medical services and provide less than 1.5 hours of healthcare per day. Heavy care suites provide more than 1.5 hours of healthcare per day.

Of all suites, occupied and vacant, 38.5% were non-market suites, those where the rent received for the unit is less than market rent or where the resident occupying the unit is subsidized.

Comparison

The majority of independent living suites in B.C. are situated in Greater Vancouver/Fraser Valley.

Data Considerations

The National Seniors' Housing Survey targeted private or non-profit residences where the majority of residents are 65 years or older and have access to additional services not offered in traditional rental structures. However, the survey excluded nursing homes and long-term care facilities, facilities which provide high levels of healthcare to all of their residents. Only residences with at least 10 units were included in the survey. All statistics include only those facilities that have been in operation for at least one year.

Source

Canadian Mortgage and Housing Corporation, National Seniors' Housing Survey

Link

CMHC 2009, Seniors' Housing Report

Rent levels for independent living and heavy care suites

Data Summary

The average rent for independent living suites was \$2,597 and for heavy care spaces was \$4,681. Nearly half (45.3%) of independent living spaces had a rent of \$2,600 or more.

Date

2009

Geography

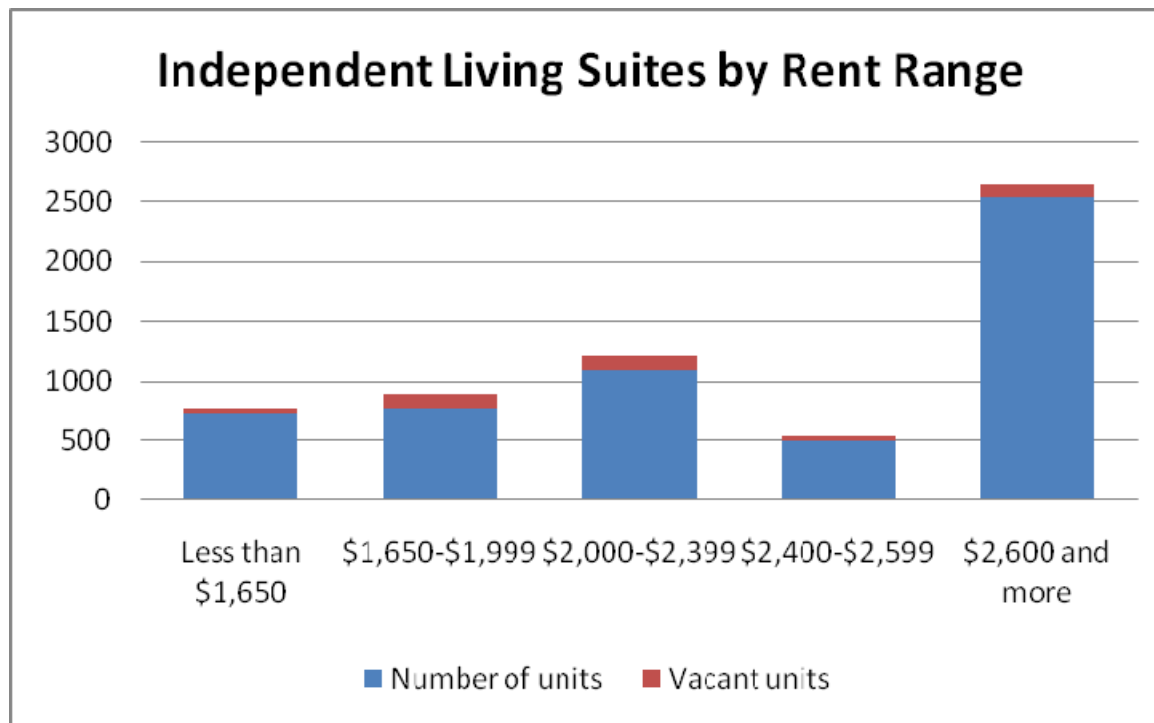
Greater Vancouver/Fraser Valley

Description

Average Rent of Independent Living Spaces by Municipality and Unit Type (\$)

	Bachelor	1 Bedroom	1 BR + Den	2 BR	Total
B.C.	1,837	2,450	3,156	3,365	2,433

Grtr Vancouver/Fraser Valley	2,019	2,609	3,354	3,471	2,597
Burnaby	1,526	2,404			2,111
Coq/Pt Coq/PtMoody	1,732	2,937	*	*	2,747
Maple Ridge/Pitt Meadows		*	n/u	*	1,911
New Westminster					
Langley	*	2,405	*	3,037	2,526
Surrey/Delta	1,833	2,562	*	3,164	2,511
White Rock/S.Surrey	*	2,662	*	*	2,680
Vancouver	2,228	3,515	*	5,030	3,176
Richmond					
North/West Vancouver		3,392		4,870	3,713



In addition to offering meals and, in some cases, on-site medical services, 95% of these structures offered a 24-hour call bell, 58.4% offered exercise facilities, 43.6% offered transportation services, 20.8% had a movie theatre, 12.9% had a pharmacy, 10.9% had a Registered Nurse on-site, and 3.0% had a swimming pool.

Amongst heavy care spaces, the vacancy rate in Greater Vancouver and the Fraser Valley is higher than the province-wide average,

at 14.9%. For all those suites in the Fraser South area, the vacancy rate was an even higher 15.4%. Average rent levels are comparable to the provincial average.

Average Rent and Vacancy Rate of Heavy Care Spaces by Zone*

	Vacancy Rate (%)	Average Rent (\$)
B.C.	11.8	4,718
Grtr Vancouver/ Fraser Valley	14.9	4,681
Fraser South	15.4	4,712
Surrey/Delta	24.3	4,606

Comparison

N/A

Data Considerations

The National Seniors' Housing Survey targeted private or non-profit residences where the majority of residents are 65 years or older and have access to additional services not offered in traditional rental structures. However, the survey excluded nursing homes and long-term care facilities, facilities which provide high levels of healthcare to all of their residents. Only residences with at least 10 units were included in the survey. All statistics include only those facilities that have been in operation for at least one year.

* Zones not listed are those with no units or for which data are suppressed for reasons of confidentiality. The Surrey/Delta zone is within the Fraser South zone.

Source

Canadian Mortgage and Housing Corporation, National Seniors' Housing Survey

Link

CMHC 2009, Seniors' Housing Report

Inventory of Assisted Living

Data Summary

There are a total of 3,306 registered assisted living units located within the Vancouver Coastal Health and Fraser Health regions. That is 302 units (10.1%) more than last year.

Date

2010

Geography

Fraser Health Authority region, Vancouver Coastal Health Authority region

Description

Of the 3306 assisted living units that are located in the VCHA and FHA, almost two thirds of the units are publicly subsidized units (2194), the remaining units (1112) are provided through private operators.

Number of Registered Assisted Living Units in Metro Vancouver (2009/2010)

	Public Units	Private Units	Total Units
Vancouver Coastal Health	821	395	1,216
Fraser Health	1,373	717	2,090
Total	2,194	1,112	3,306

Comparison

Over the past year, the total number of assisted living units located in VCHA and FHA has increased by 302 units.

Number of Registered Assisted Living Units in Metro Vancouver (2008/2009)

	Public Units	Private Units	Total Units
Vancouver Coastal Health	801	330	1,131
Fraser Health	1,257	616	1,873
Total	2,058	946	3,004

The total number of units in the VCHA and FHA regions has increased by 10.1% over the last year. The number of private sector assisted living units has increased the most, by 17.5%, while the number of publicly subsidized units has increased by 6.6%.

Percent Change in Registered Assisted Living Units in Metro Vancouver Over the Last Year

	Public Units	Private Units	Total Units
Total	+6.6%	+17.5%	+10.1%

Data Considerations

The data should be used with caution since both the Fraser Health and Vancouver Coastal Health regions include some communities outside of Metro Vancouver.

The data was provided by the Office of the Assisted Living Registrar (OALR), which has jurisdiction over all assisted living residences in BC including private-pay residences. Assisted living residences provide housing, hospitality and personalized assistance services for adults who can live independently but require regular assistance with daily activities. Each unit is a self-contained, wheelchair-accessible apartment where residents receive hospitality and personal care services. The level of personal care services provided is usually higher than Independent Housing with Support.

In private-pay residences, residents must pay all costs. Private-pay residences may charge a fixed rate for a package of services or a fee-for-service basis, or a combination of the two.

The province provides some publicly subsidized assisted living units. Eligible residents pay a monthly fee of 70 percent of their after-tax income for rent, hospitality services and personal assistance services up to a maximum amount.

Source
Office of the Assisted Living Register, by direct request
Link
N/A