

The Importance of Health Care in Atlantic Canada's Economy



Our health, and the state of our health care system, are important determinants of our current and future economic prosperity



Over **200,000 people** work in Atlantic Canada's health care sector



Health care accounted for over **10%** of Atlantic Canada's economic output in 2023, compared to 8% nationally

The wages generated in the health care industry in Atlantic Canada in 2024 exceeded **\$11 billion**



The health care industry created nearly **42,000 jobs** over the last decade - 30% of total job growth in the region



An average of **12,000** people did not participate in the labour force for health reasons from 2020-2024



Governments in Atlantic Canada will spend over **\$19 billion** on health care this year - 46% of total spending

The number of people aged 85+ is forecast to grow from 60,000 in 2024 to **160,000 by 2044**



The annual cost to care for someone aged 85+ in Atlantic Canada is **\$35,000** - 10 times the level for someone aged 20-44



The health challenges in this region are intensified by an older population, lower fiscal capacity, and a more rural population than the rest of Canada

