



Partnering for Healthy Communities in the Northeast

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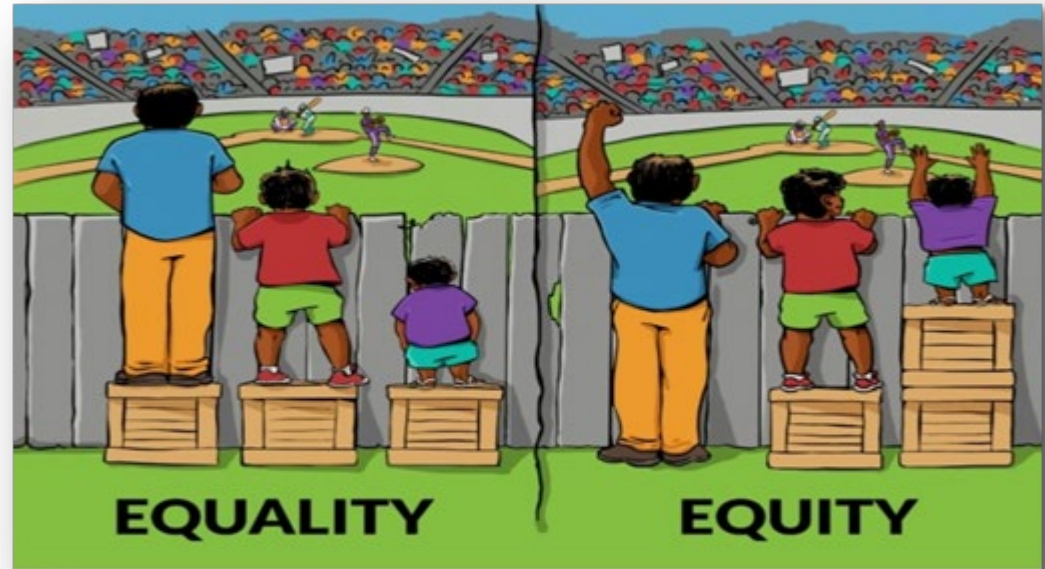
Land Acknowledgement



What is Public Health?

“The art and science of preventing illness and injury and promoting health through the organized efforts of society”

-World Health Organization





Importance of Public Health for Municipalities

Public Health supports the local economy

Public Health fosters community safety and well-being

Public Health promotes welcoming community environments for families and professionals

Public Health responds to the needs of local communities

Public Health provides good return on investment

Public Health Return on Investment

Median ROI for public health interventions is 14.3

Health promotion interventions have an ROI of about 2

Health protection interventions have an ROI of 34

Public health initiatives on the wider determinants of health have an ROI of 5.6

Legislative interventions have a better ROI as do interventions at the national versus local level

Local public health interventions have an ROI of about 4

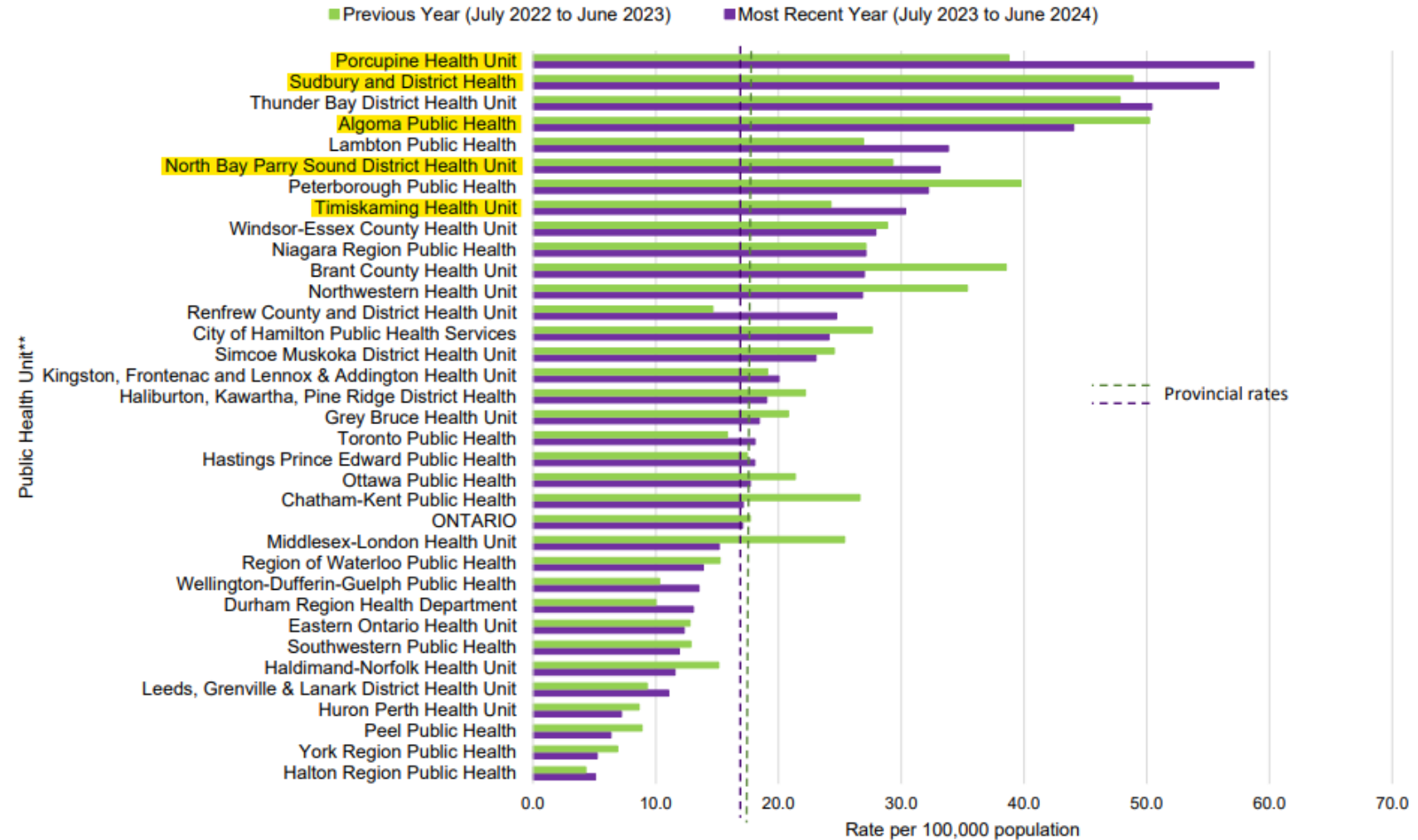
Health Inequities in the North



Opioids

Opioid toxicity mortality rate by PHU region - Annual

Most recent two years of data available*

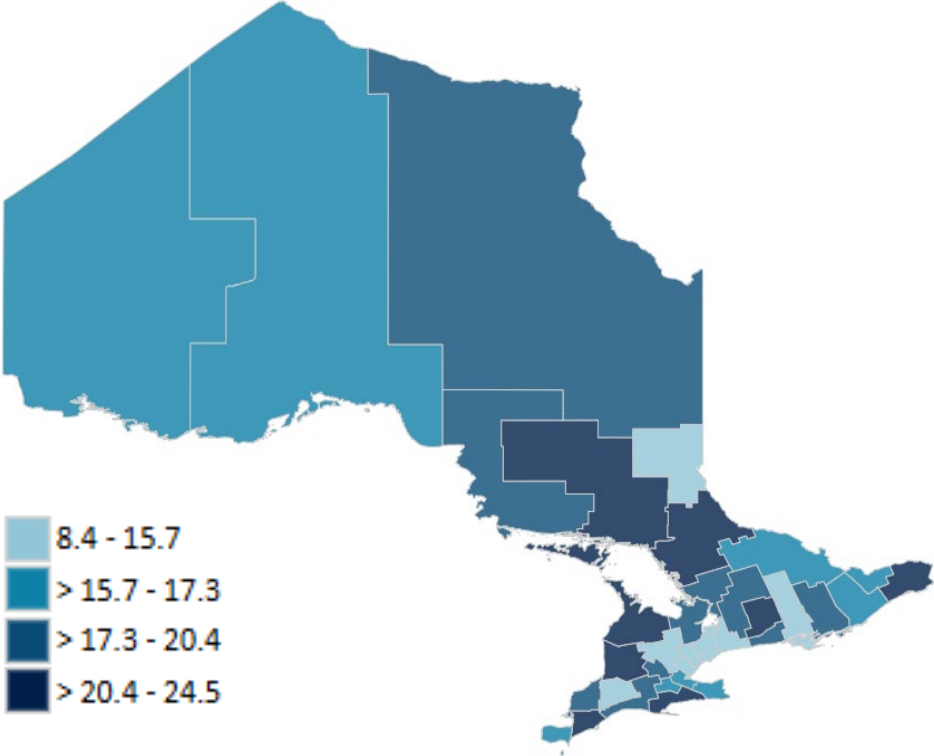


Source: Quarterly Update from the Office of the Chief Coroner. Opioid Toxicity Deaths in Ontario. https://odprn.ca/wp-content/uploads/2024/11/OCC_Opioid-Mortality-Summary-2024_Q2-October-2024.pdf Data effective October 28, 2024

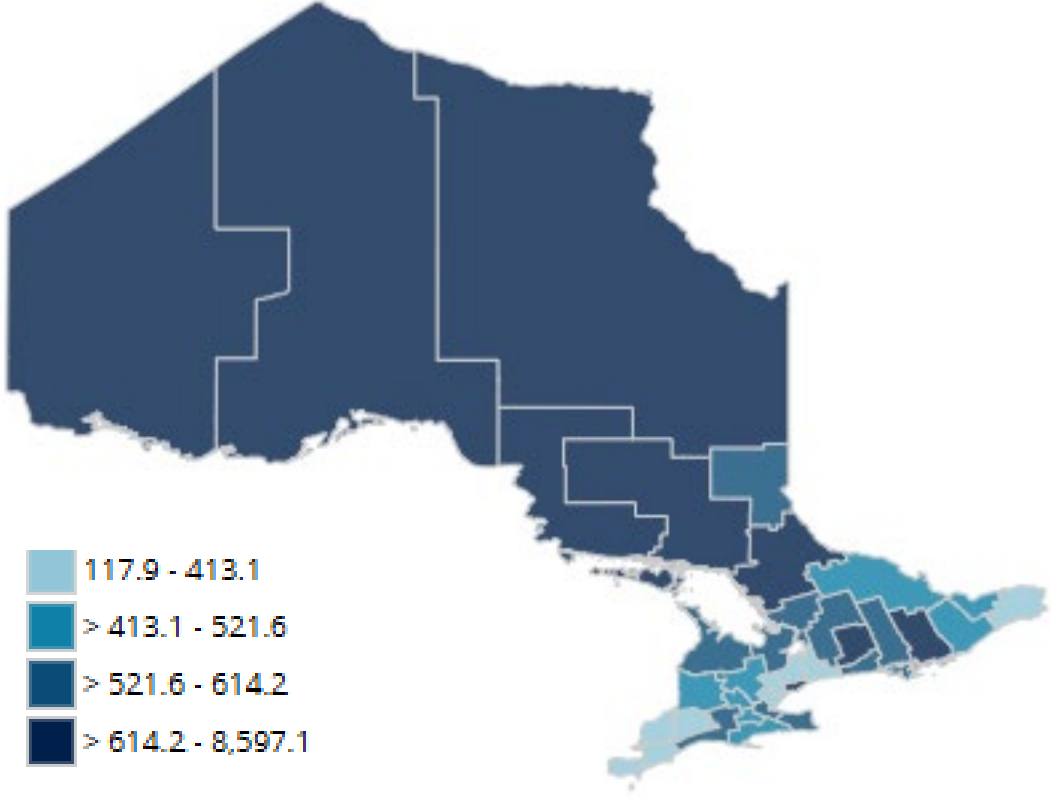
*includes both confirmed and probable opioid-related deaths, preliminary and subject to change **based on location of incident

Alcohol

Self Reported 7+ Drinks in 7 Days (2019-20)



ED visits attributed to alcohol (2023)

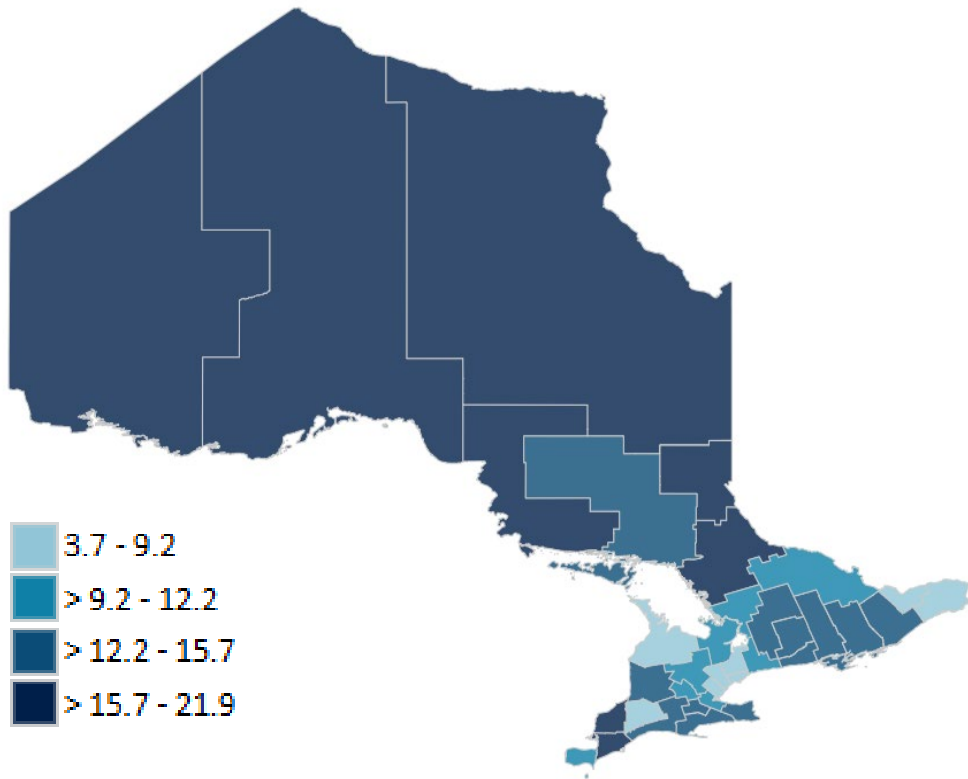


Ontario Agency for Health Protection and Promotion (Public Health Ontario). Snapshots: alcohol use snapshot [Self-reported rate of consuming seven or more standard drinks in the past seven days >>Age-standardized rate (both sexes) >>2019-20] [Internet]. Toronto, ON: King's Printer for Ontario; c2025 [modified 2025 04 03; cited 2025 04 03]. Available from: <https://www.publichealthontario.ca/en/Data-and-Analysis/Substance-Use/Alcohol-Use>

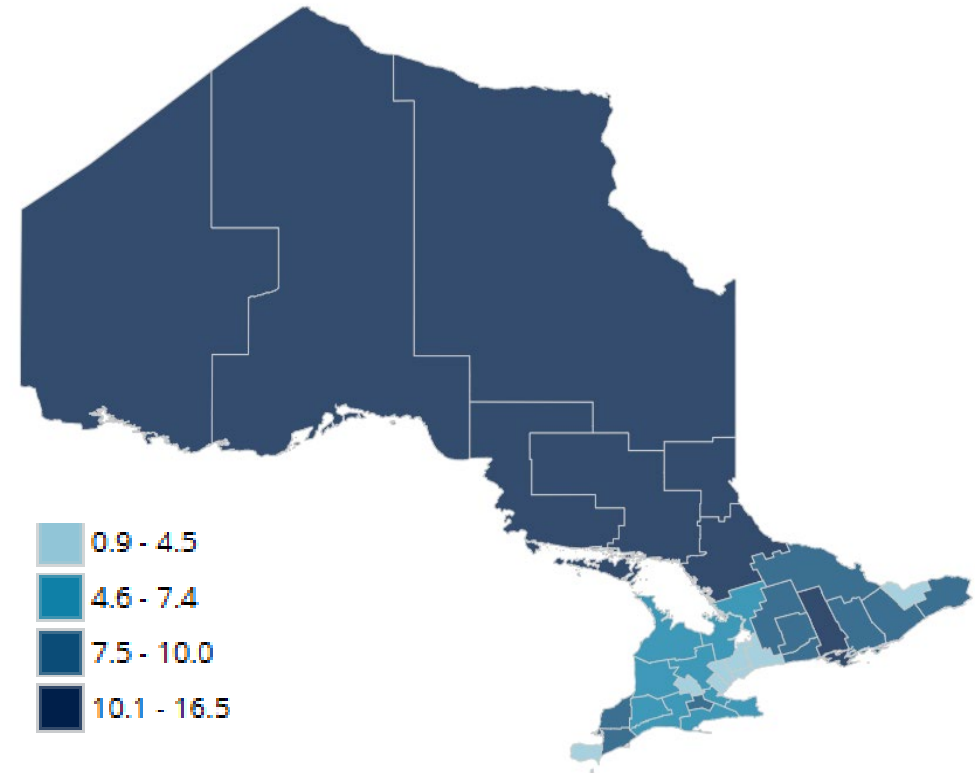
Ontario Agency for Health Protection and Promotion (Public Health Ontario). Snapshots: alcohol harms snapshot [ED visits for conditions entirely attributable to alcohol >>Age-standardized rate (both sexes) >>2023] [Internet]. Toronto, ON: King's Printer for Ontario; c2025 [modified 2025 04 03; cited 2025 04 03]. Available from: <https://www.publichealthontario.ca/en/Data-and-Analysis/Substance-Use/Alcohol-Harms>

Smoking

Self reported adult daily smoking rate (2021)



Smoking During Pregnancy (2022)

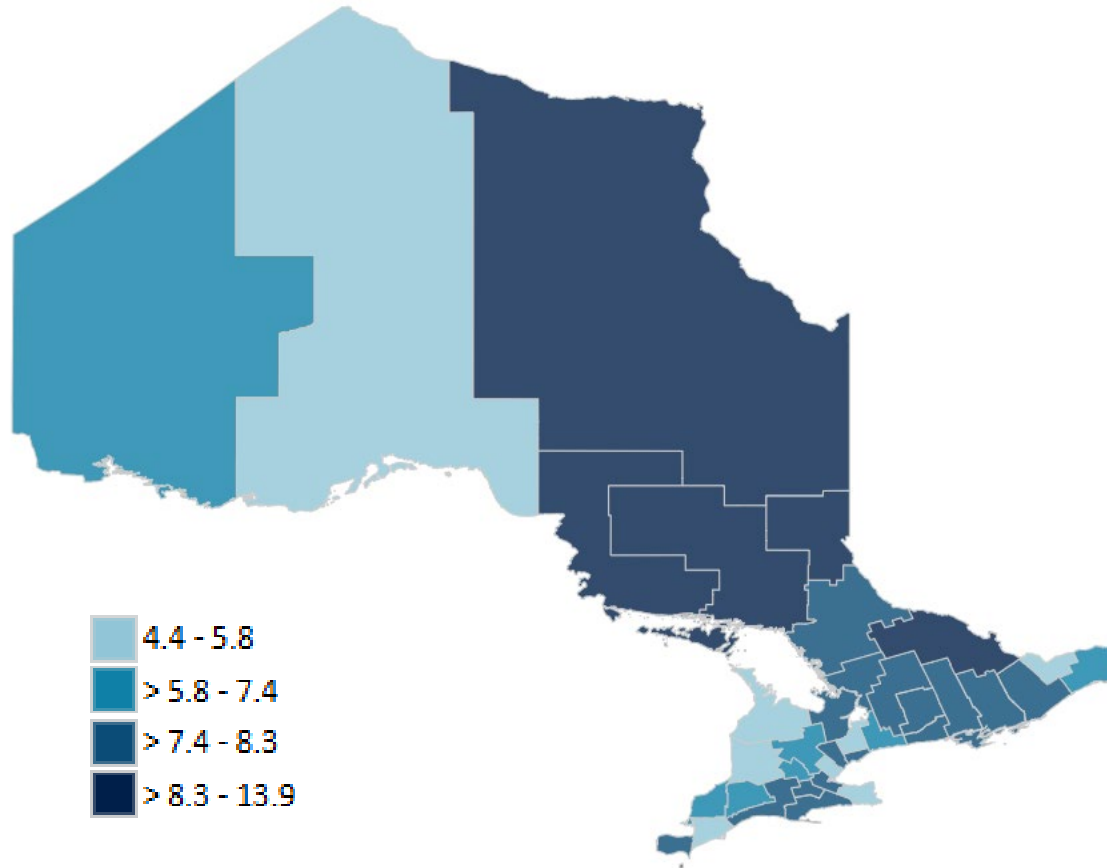


Ontario Agency for Health Protection and Promotion (Public Health Ontario). Snapshots: smoking snapshot [Self-reported adult daily smoking rate >> Age-standardized rate (both sexes) >>2021] [Internet]. Toronto, ON: King's Printer for Ontario; c2025 [modified 2025 04 03; cited 2025 04 03]. Available from: <https://www.publichealthontario.ca/en/Data-and-Analysis/Substance-Use/Smoking-Status>

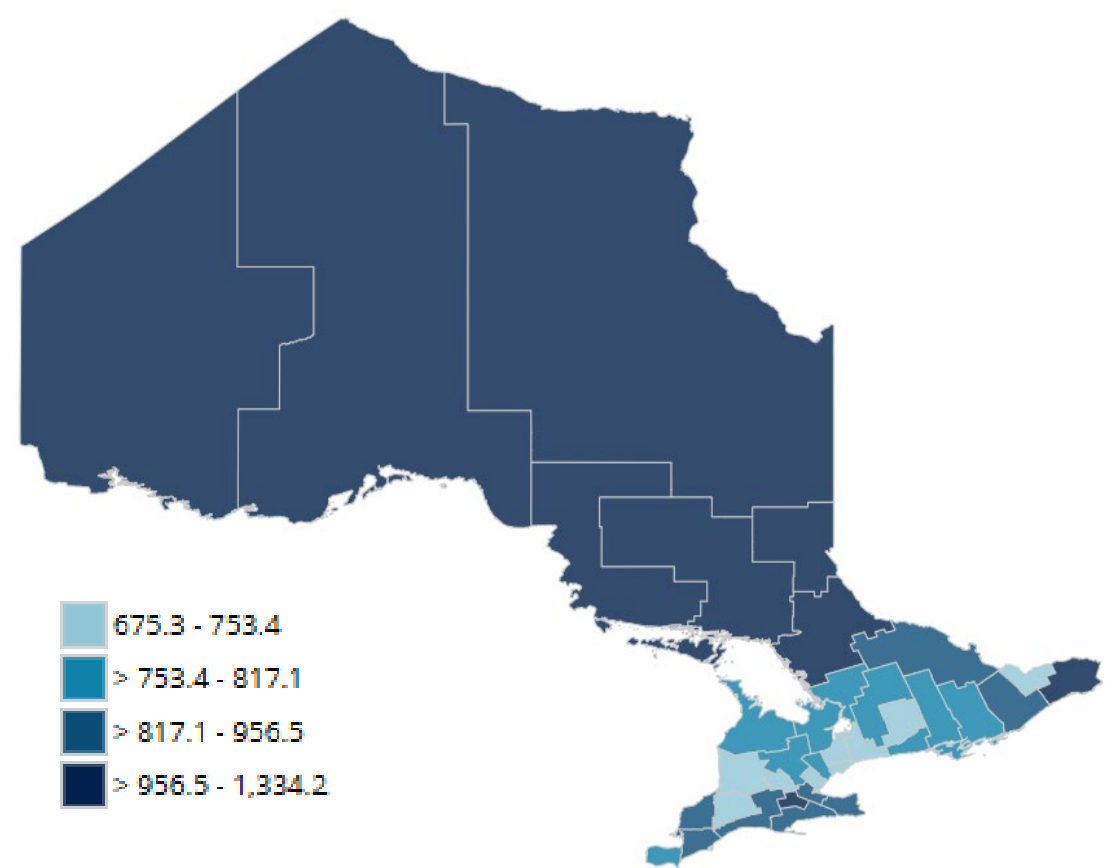
Ontario Agency for Health Protection and Promotion (Public Health Ontario). Snapshots: maternal health snapshot [Smoking during pregnancy >> Overall per cent >>2022] [Internet]. Toronto, ON: King's Printer for Ontario; c2025 [modified 2025 04 03; cited 2025 04 03]. Available from: <https://www.publichealthontario.ca/en/Data-and-Analysis/Maternal-Health/Smoking-During-Pregnancy>

Chronic Disease

Self-reported diabetes (2021)



Chronic Disease Hospitalizations (2022)

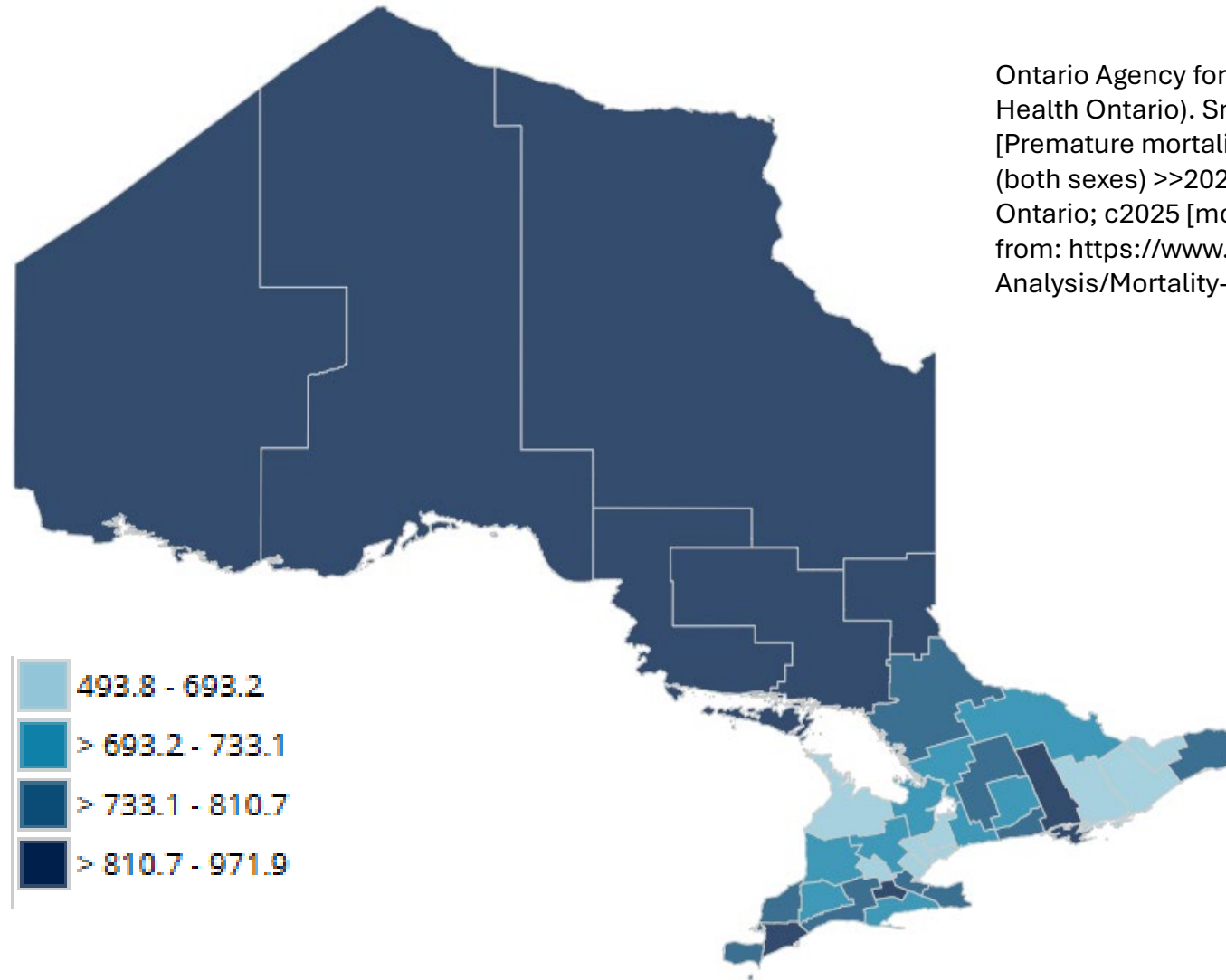


Ontario Agency for Health Protection and Promotion (Public Health Ontario). Snapshots: chronic health problems snapshot [Self-reported prevalence of diabetes >> Age-standardized rate (both sexes) >>2021] [Internet]. Toronto, ON: King's Printer for Ontario; c2025 [modified 2025 04 03; cited 2025 04 03]. Available from: <https://www.publichealthontario.ca/en/Data-and-Analysis/Chronic-Disease/Chronic-Health-Problems>

Ontario Agency for Health Protection and Promotion (Public Health Ontario). Snapshots: chronic health problems snapshot [Hospitalizations for cardiovascular disease >> Age-standardized rate (both sexes) >>2022] [Internet]. Toronto, ON: King's Printer for Ontario; c2025 [modified 2025 04 03; cited 2025 04 03]. Available from: <https://www.publichealthontario.ca/en/Data-and-Analysis/Chronic-Disease/chronic-disease-hospitalization>

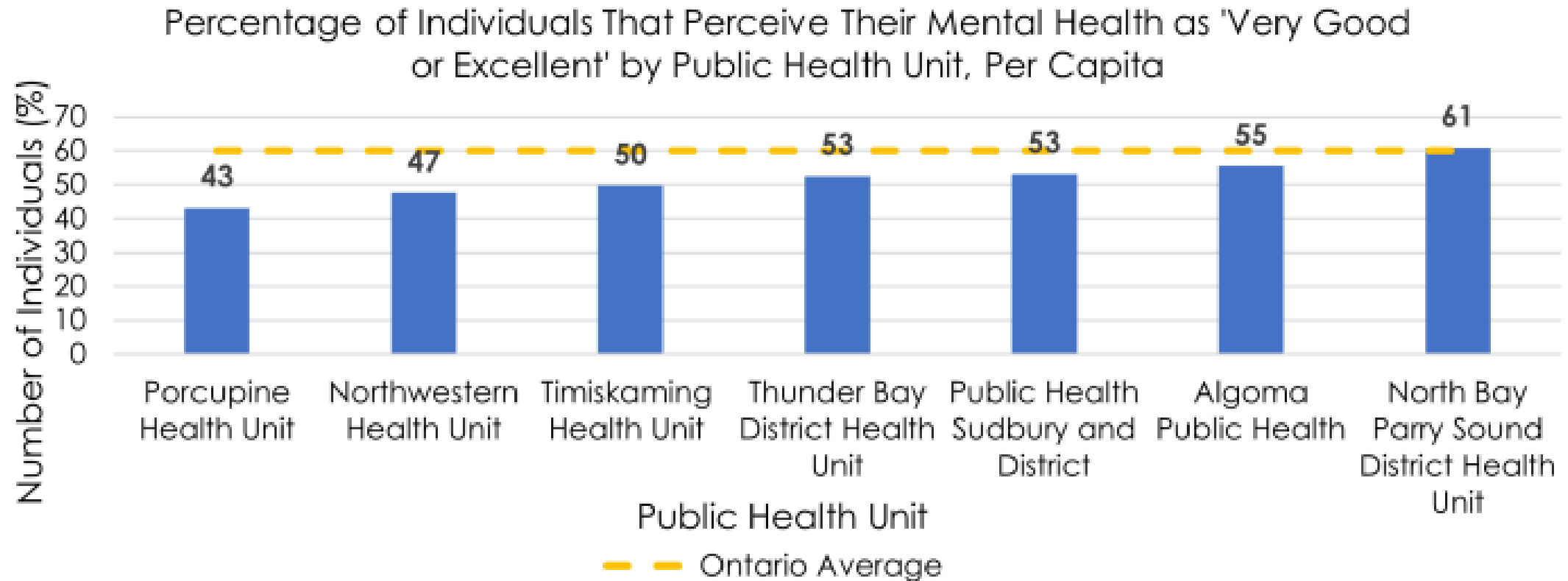
Mortality

Death Prior to age 75 (2021)



Ontario Agency for Health Protection and Promotion (Public Health Ontario). Snapshots: all cause mortality snapshot [Premature mortality (under 75 years)>> Age-standardized rate (both sexes) >>2021] [Internet]. Toronto, ON: King's Printer for Ontario; c2025 [modified 2025 04 03; cited 2025 04 03]. Available from: <https://www.publichealthontario.ca/en/Data-and-Analysis/Mortality-Overall-Health/All-Cause-Mortality>

Mental Wellbeing



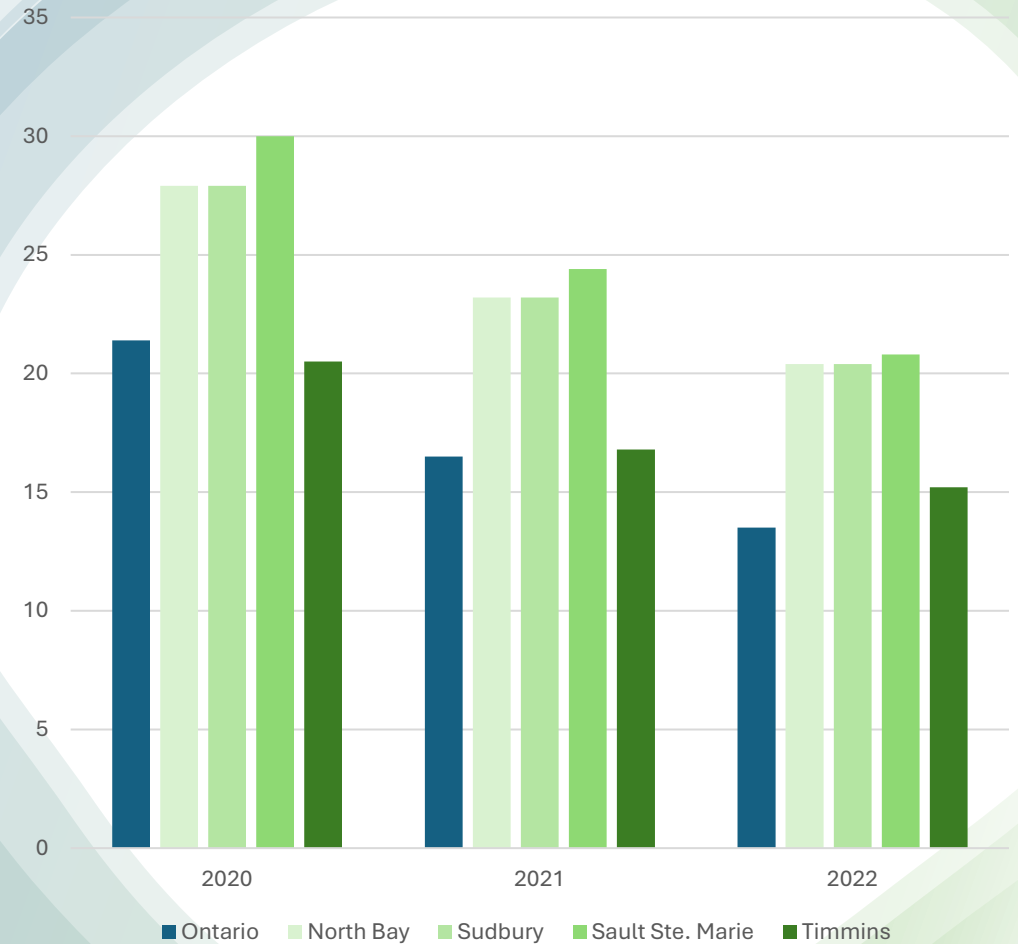
Economic Dependency



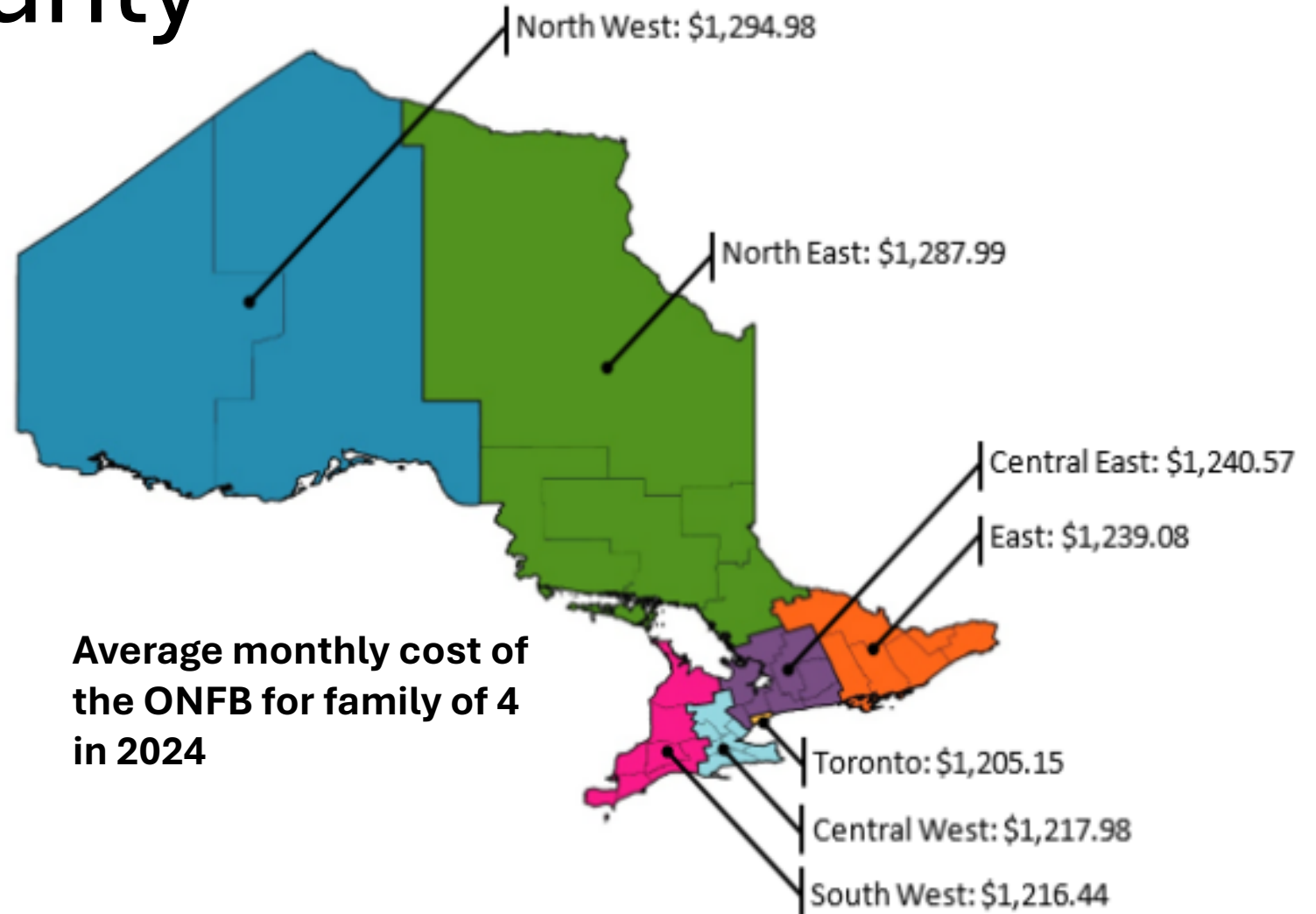
Chart created from: Statistics Canada. [Table 11-10-0019-01 Economic dependency profile of census families by family type and source of income](#)

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.25318/1110001901-eng>

Economic Dependency Ratio Couple Families
2020-22 (%)

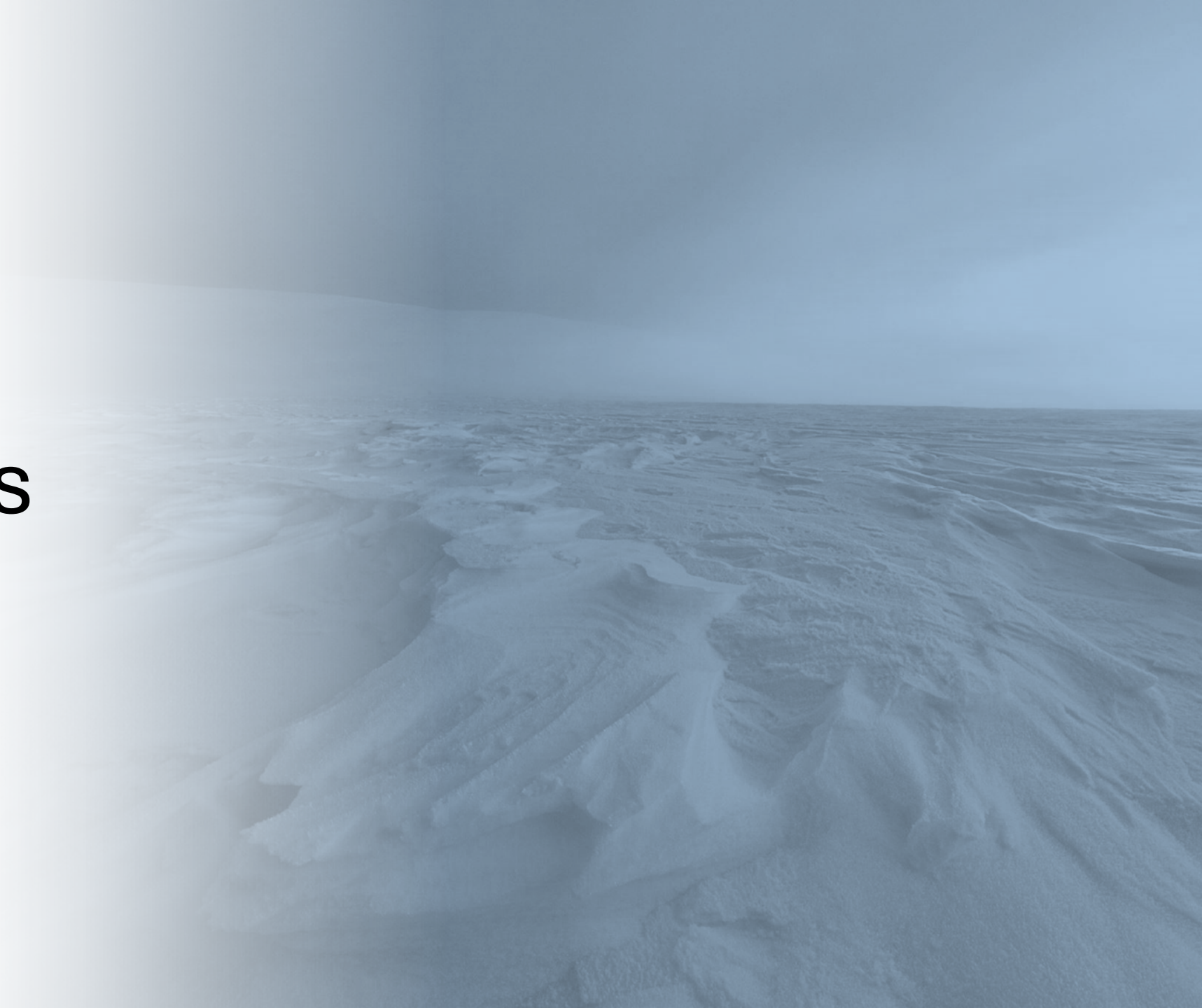


Food Insecurity



Average monthly cost of the ONFB for family of 4 in 2024

The North is
Different



Complexities of Service Delivery

- Population has more difficulty in accessing care (primary care, specialists, emergency care/hospitals, obstetric care)
- Expansive geography and dispersed population
- Less high-speed internet access
- French language designation
- Less infrastructure (e.g. unorganized territories, small drinking water systems)
- Greater need for culturally sensitive programming for First Nation, Inuit and Métis



Public Health Funding




Public Health Funding

- According to the HPPA, public health funding is a municipal responsibility
- In practice, the province provides the lion's share of funds for local public health unit budgets
- Starting in 2024, there is no specific ratio of provincial to municipal funding
- A new funding approach for public health and the new Ontario Public Health Standards are slated to be implemented in 2026



Public Health Funding

- Public Health Units not merging in 2025 have been advised to expect a 1% increase in base funding in 2025
- A 1% increase in base funding is also slated for 2026
- The provincial review of the funding approach for 2026 is creating uncertainty

	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Total**
Provincial base funding NBPS*	1%	0.3%	0.02%	1.9%	0%	0%	0.64%	0.87%	1%	1%	5.86%
Annual Inflation (CPI )	1.4%	1.6%	2.3%	1.9%	0.7%	3.4%	6.8%	3.9%	2.4%	-	27%

* Includes base funding and mitigation funding, but not lines currently 100% funded provincially (e.g. Ontario Seniors Dental Care Program) or one-time funding (e.g. COVID)

** compounded, excludes 2025

Municipal Partnerships in Community Health



Municipal work IS Public Health

- About 90% of municipal operational expenditures in Ontario contribute directly or indirectly to Social Determinant of Health¹



¹Association of Municipalities Ontario, “Municipal governments are partners in community health,” webpage, August 2022.
Retrieved from <https://www.amo.on.ca/advocacy/health-human-services/municipal-governments-are-partners-community-health>

Municipalities and Public Health

- Municipalities can address SDOH more nimbly than the province*
- Municipalities create healthier, more vibrant communities in collaboration with PHUs, social services, other community organizations
- Municipalities have a stronger advocacy voice with the provincial government than public health units

Thank you!

Questions?

