

Jobs, Families and Care Closer to Home: The Case of Rural Long-Term Care



OLTCA

Leading change. Together.

The OLTCA represents nearly 70% of the province's long-term care homes and the full mix of ownership - small, medium and large, private, not-for-profit, municipal, hospital, culturally specific, and First Nations homes.



LEADING CHANGE. TOGETHER.

We are advancing the future of long-term care with **people at the heart** of everything we do.

Ontario Long Term Care Profile



of Homes

609

of LTC Spaces

77,013

Spaces Needing
Redevelopment

36%

of Ward Spaces

3,199

Development Projects

151

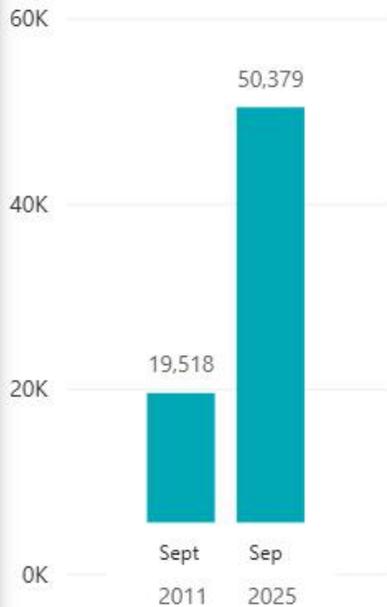
Development Spaces

24,613

Avg. Wait (Days)



Waitlist



% Pop 80+

4.69%



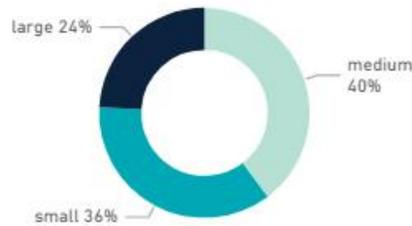
2030: % Pop 80+

5.85%

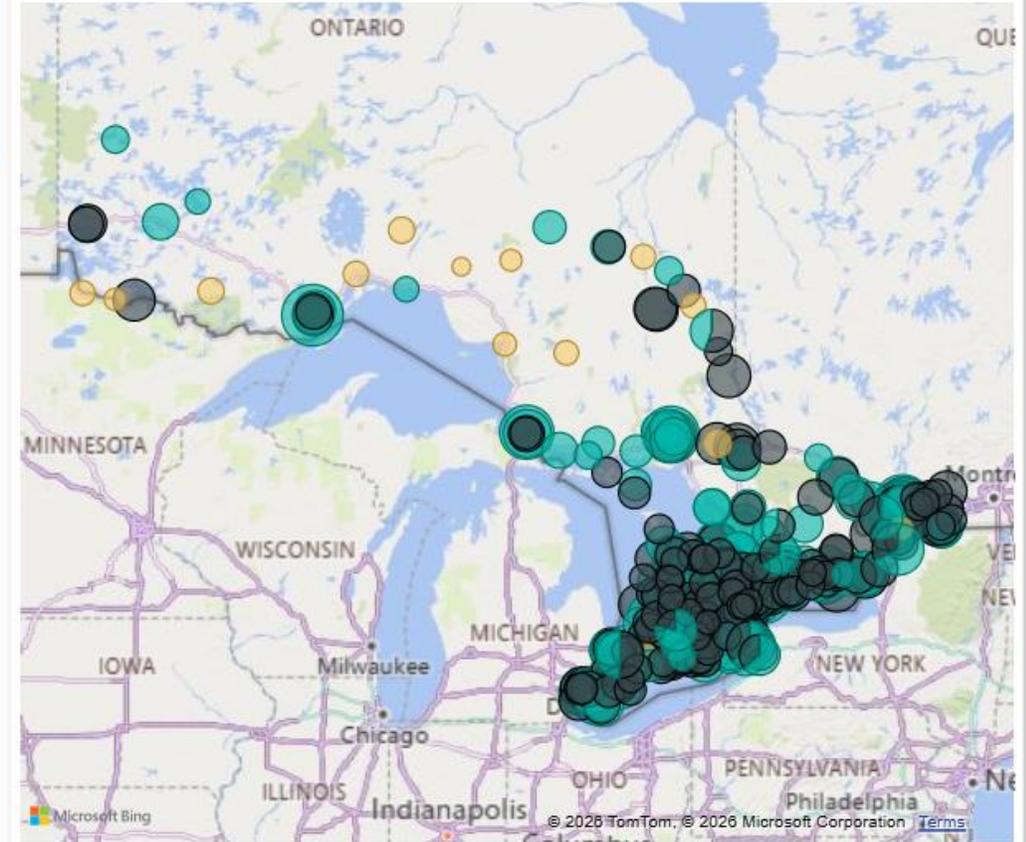
Spaces to 80+ Pop.

10.57

Homes by Size



Structural ● B/C ● New/A ● Other



Annual Socioeconomic Impact of LTC

Contribution to GDP

\$12.4bn

Contribution to Labour Income

\$9.3bn

Contribution to Jobs

166K

Caregiving Hours Saved

113M

Caregiver Income Preserved

\$3bn

Ontario's 214 Rural Long-Term Care Homes provide invaluable care for seniors and drive local economies.

Contributing over **\$3.2 billion in GDP** to local economics;

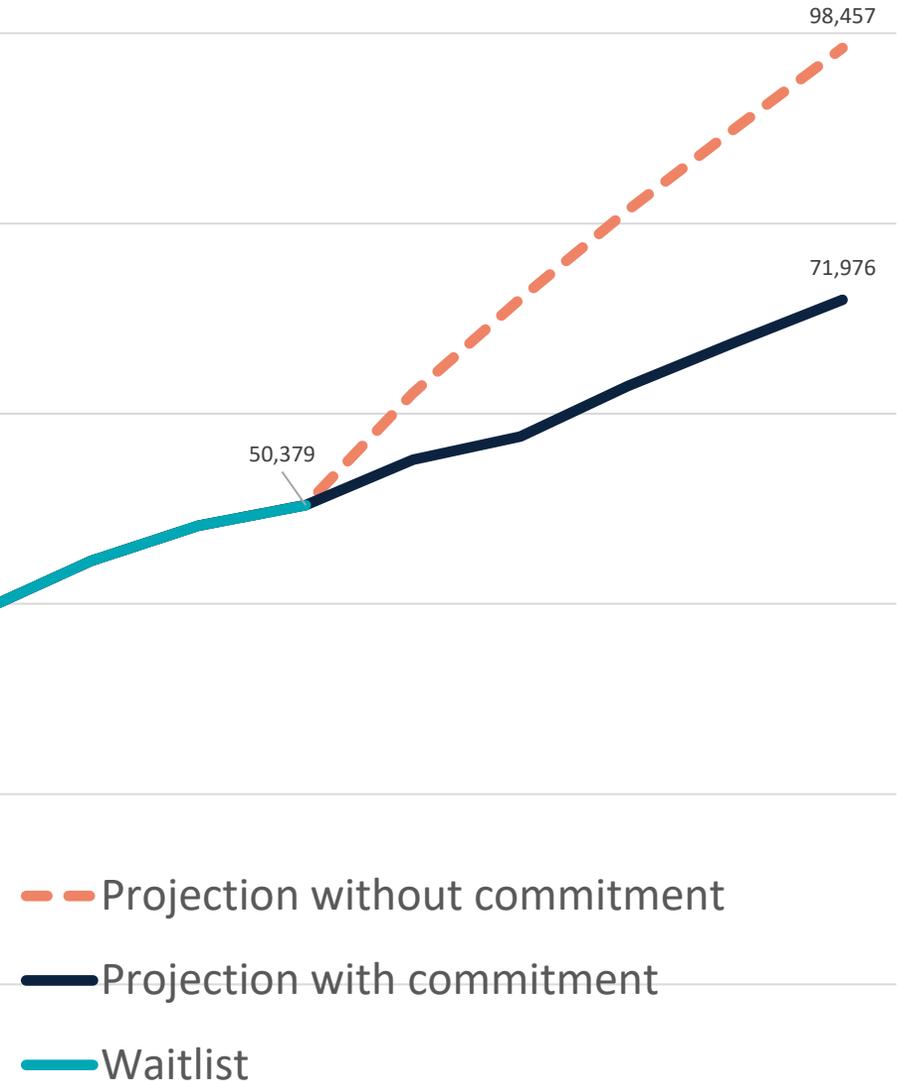
Creating over **43,000 jobs** (direct, indirect and induced).



Ontario's waitlist for long-term care surpassed 50,000 in 2025 and is projected to continue to climb as the seniors' population growth continues to escalate

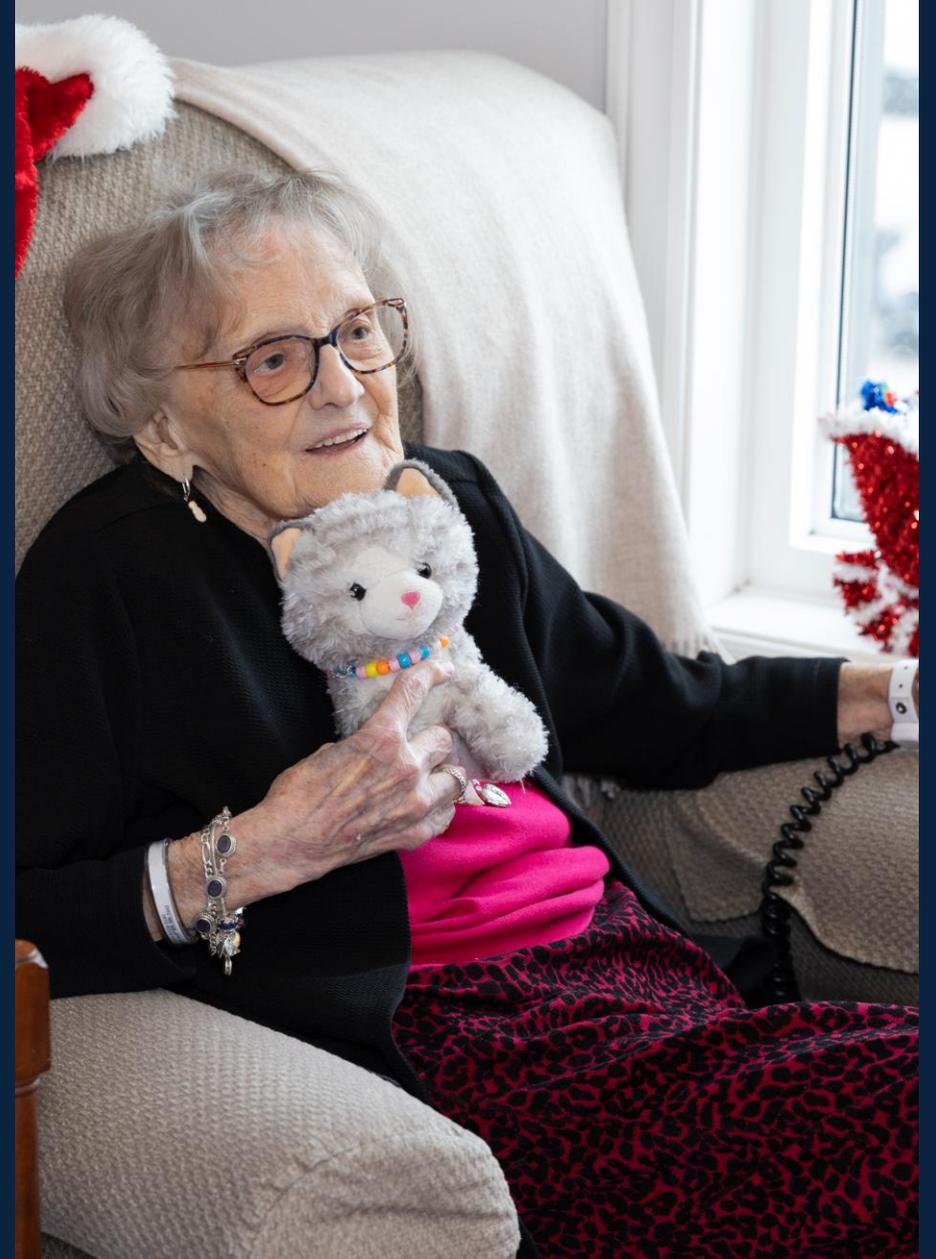
Will reach nearly **72,000** by **2030** if the government meets its commitment to redevelop and build 58,000 spaces

Potentially, may **exceed 98,000** if the commitment is not achieved

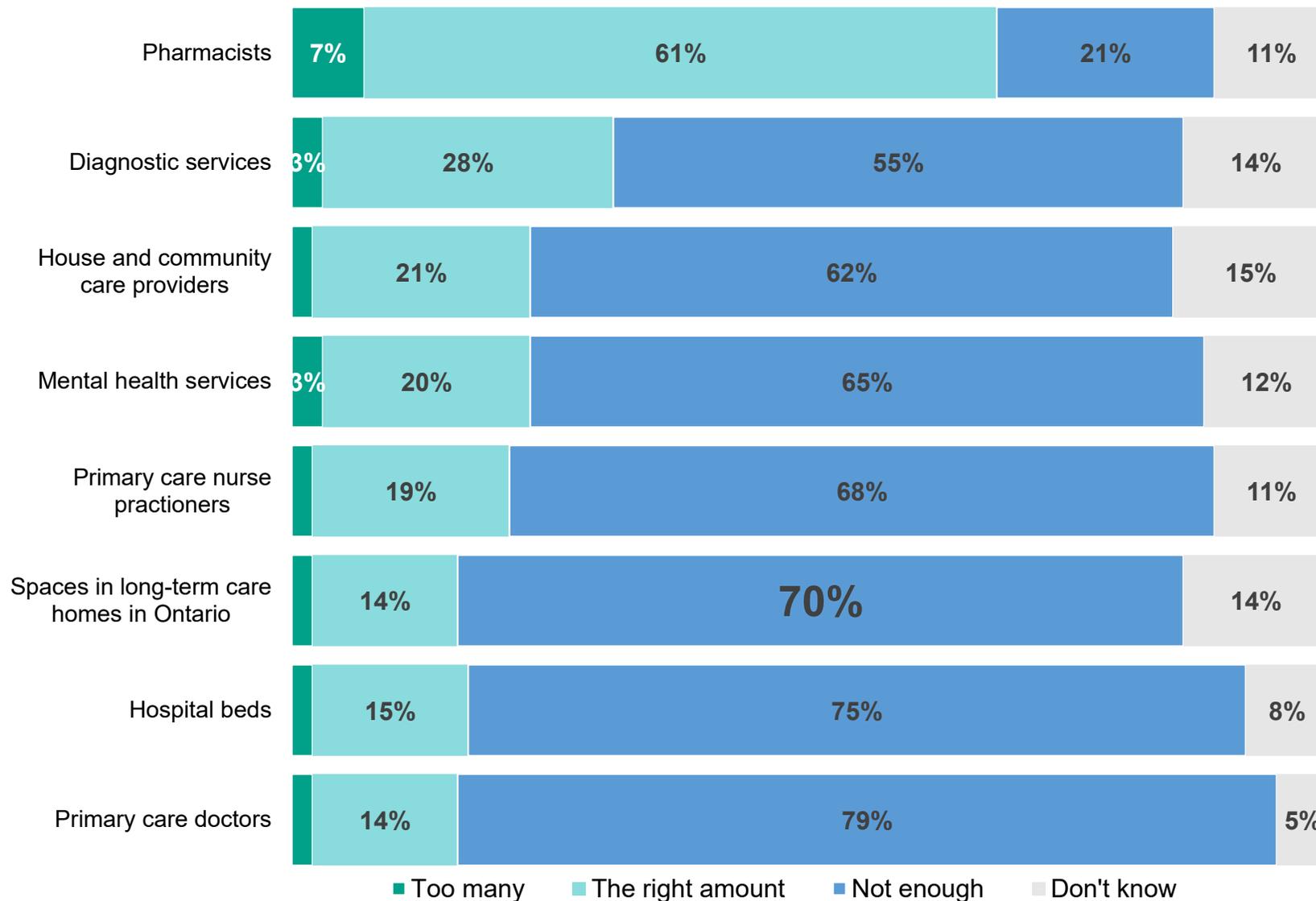


Seniors requiring long-term care have highly complex needs that cannot be met at home

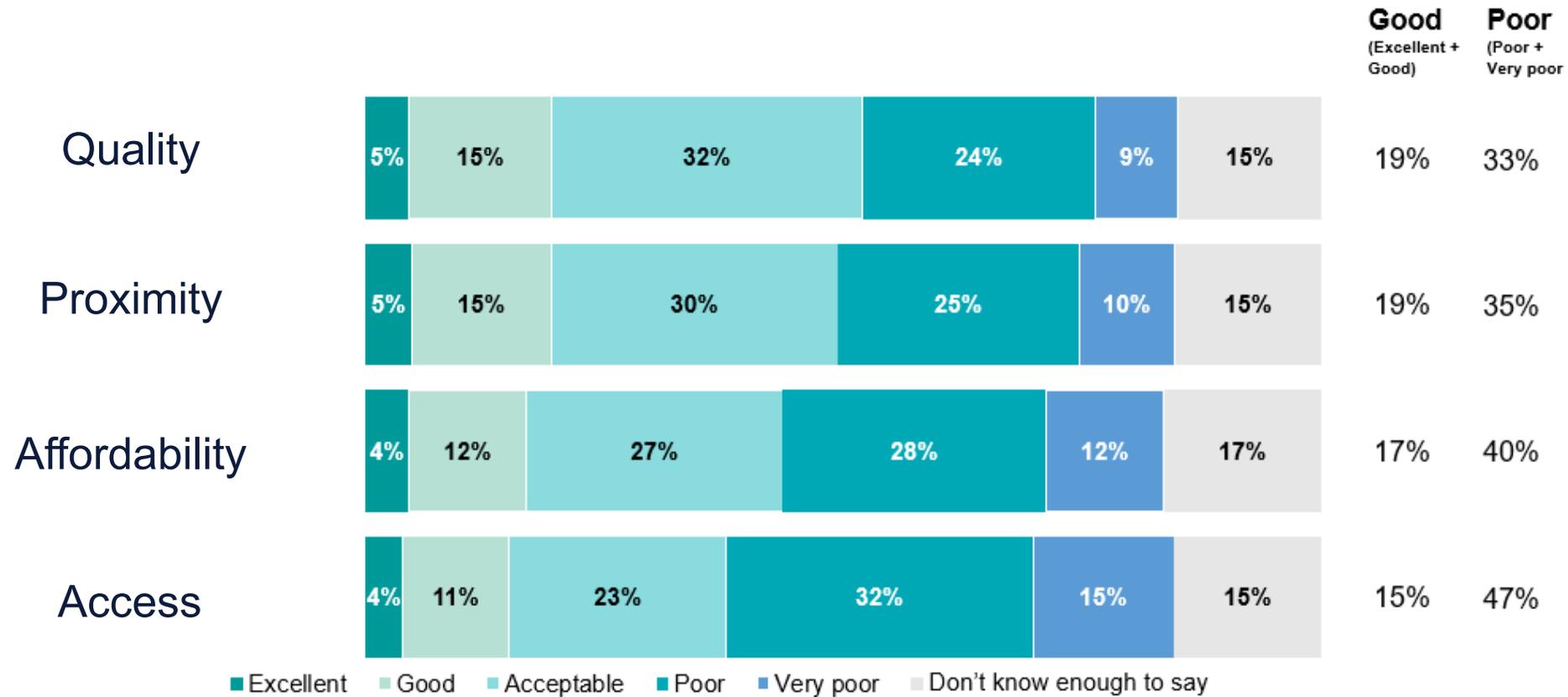
- **87% need extensive support with activities of daily living**, like getting dressed and eating meals.
- **75% have moderate to severe cognitive impairment** requiring specialized supports
- On average, they have nearly **6 comorbidities** and enter long-term care with **11 medications**



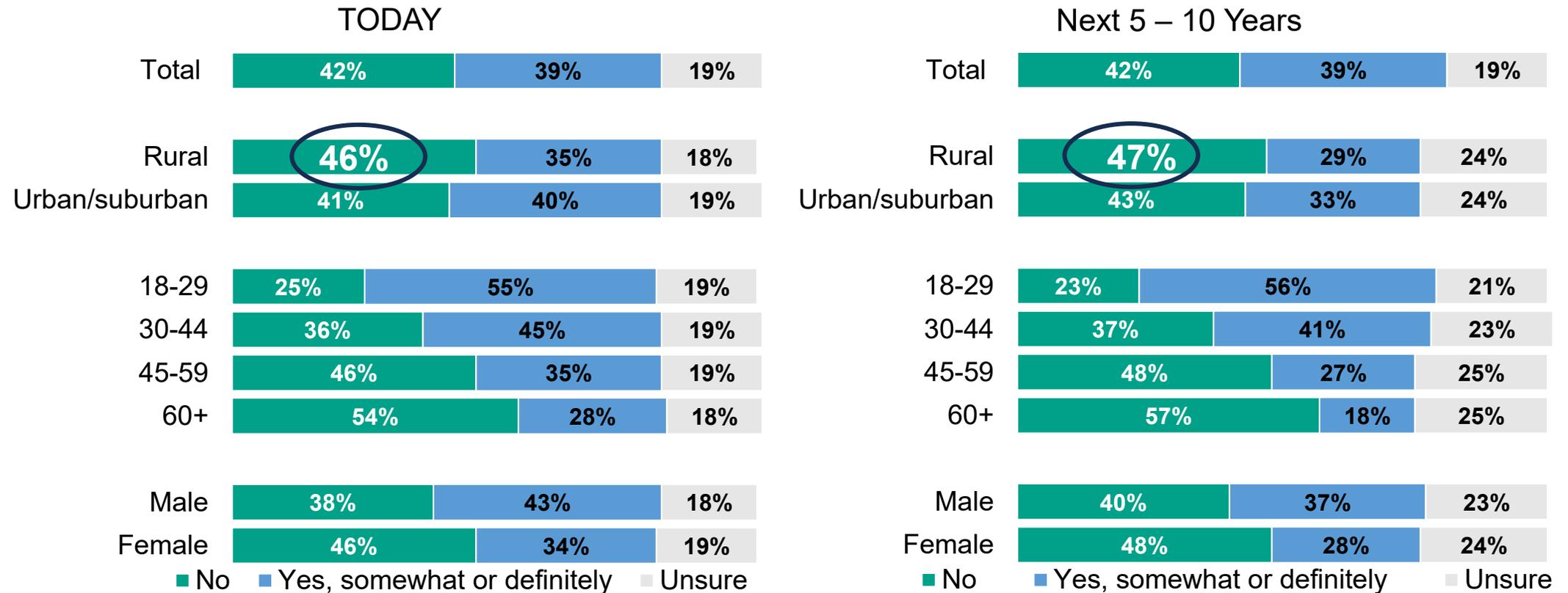
70% of Ontarians surveyed believe there is not enough long-term care capacity in Ontario



Comparing impression of long-term care quality, proximity, affordability and access - Ontarians were most concerned about timely access to long-term care

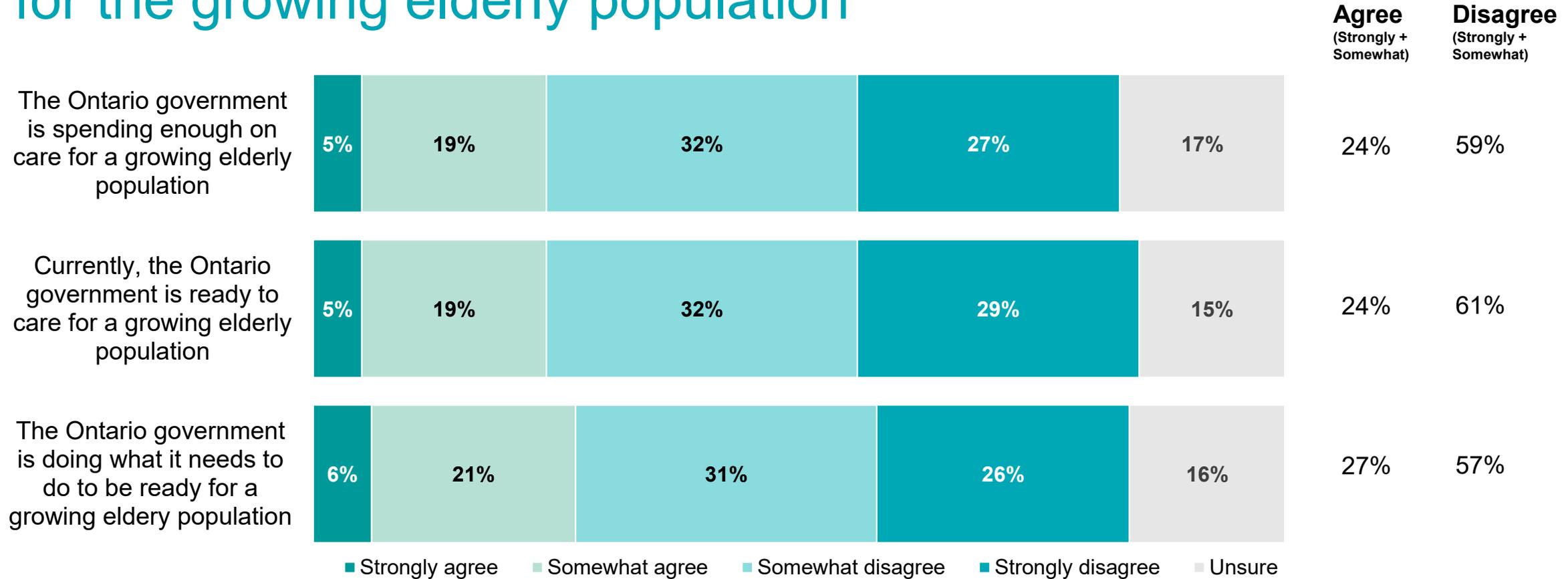


Ontarians living in rural Ontario are more concerned about the lack of long-term care capacity in their local communities – now and in the future



“Do you believe the supply of long-term care homes in your community is adequate to support the needs of your community...?”

Ontarians believe government needs to do more to prepare for the growing elderly population





PROTECTING ONTARIO'S PROGRESS

LTC at the Heart of Aging Well in Every Community

Budget Submission
2026



Priority 1:

Protecting Time for Care

Ontario must stabilize funding and provide flexibility so long-term care homes can maintain the four hours of direct care and ensure consistent, high-quality support for residents.

Priority 2:

Protecting Communities

Ontario needs to keep older homes safely open and accelerate redevelopment so communities maintain access to local long-term care and modern, age-friendly spaces.

Priority 3:

Protecting the workforce

Ontario must invest in a sustainable, skilled, and supported workforce to ensure homes have enough staff—working to full scope—to meet growing and increasingly complex resident needs.

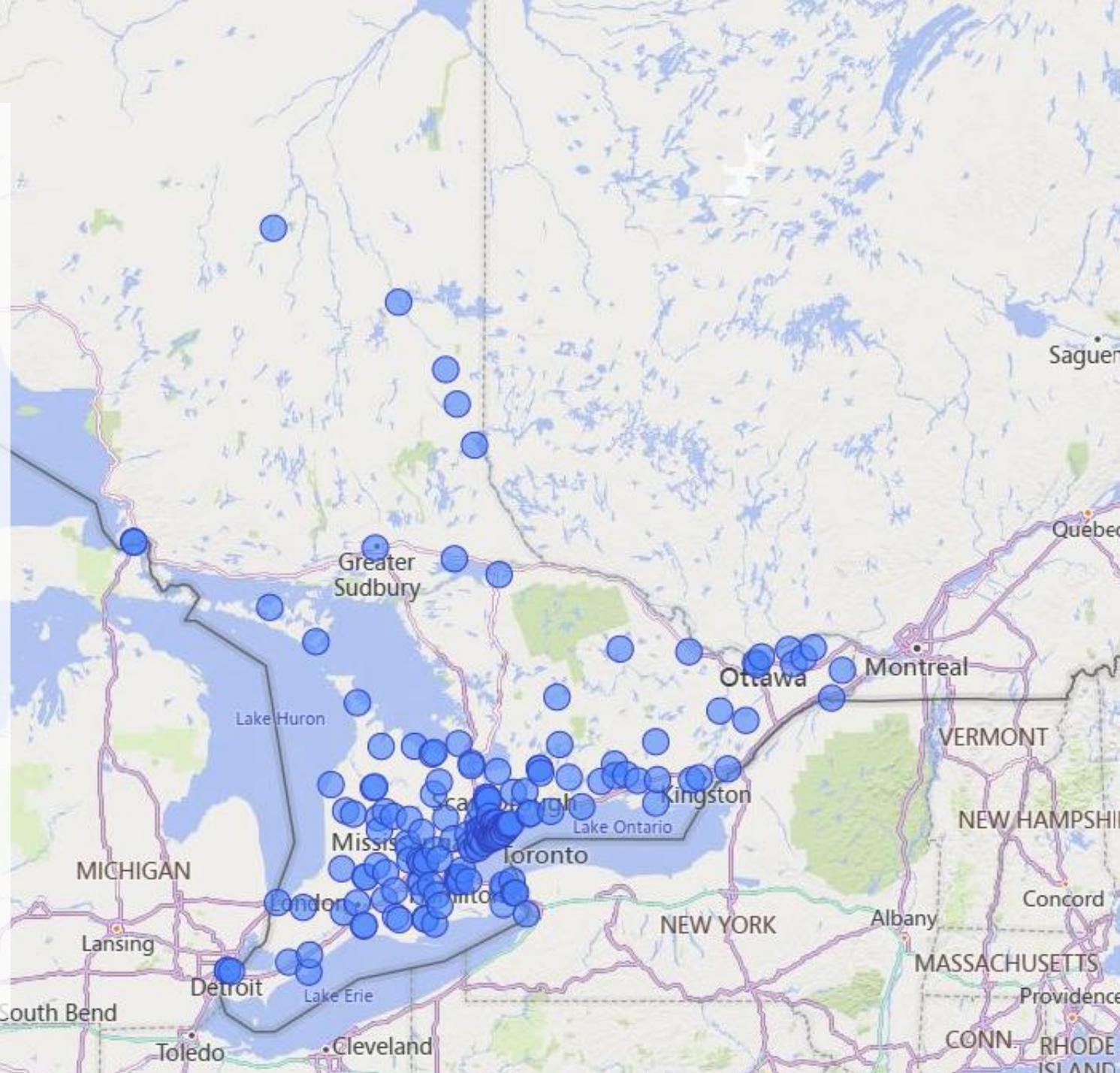
Priority 4:

Protecting Innovation

Ontario should strengthen a just-culture, quality-focused system that empowers homes to implement innovative models, leverage technology, and continuously improve care and resident experience.

Support Long Term Care re/development in your Community

- Facilitate **access to affordable lands**, including public lands and employment lands
- **Prioritizing** planning and zoning approvals for long-term care
- **Streamlining approval processes** and support education of staff on the long-term care design requirements
- **Support innovative designs** that meet your community needs including incorporating staff housing and other services to meet the needs of your seniors



LTC Community Engagement Day 2026

MARK YOUR CALENDARS:

September 18, 2026

SCAN
TO LEARN
MORE



OLTCA
LEADING CHANGE.
TOGETHER.

Invite an OLTCA delegation
to share the latest data with
your council.

SCAN

TO EMAIL

OUR TEAM

