



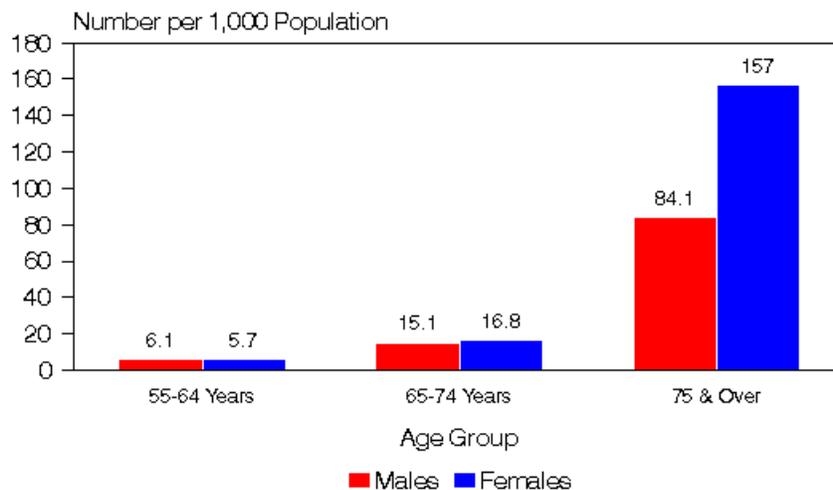
Census 91 Fast Facts

Issue 8: Seniors in Care

Produced by: Labour and Social Statistics Section

- 26,025 British Columbians aged 65 and over live in special care facilities such as hospitals and homes for the elderly and the chronically ill.

Three Times as Many Women as Men 75 Years of Age & Over are in Institutions



Source: 1991 Census of Canada

- In 1991, 62 out of every 1,000 British Columbian seniors (aged 65 and over) were institutionalized. Relative to the population, this represents a slight decline from the 1986 level of 70 out of every 1,000 seniors.
- The decline in the institutionalization rate of the elderly is evident for both males and females, and is consistent across age groups.
- A possible explanation of this trend may be the development of special apartments for seniors, which allow the elderly to maintain their independence while providing some services such as housekeeping, meals, and access to on-site medical personnel. However, since residents have private apartments--which may be either owned or rented--with their own entrances, the census treats this type of housing in the same way as any other apartment.
- Elderly women are more likely than men to be institutionalized. For every 1,000 women aged 65 and over, 77 are living in a special care facility, compared to 41 out of every 1,000 men in the same age group. This appears to be the result of the longer life expectancy of women, as in the 65-77 year age groups, men's and women's institutionalization rates are similar.
- In the 75 and over age group, women living in special care homes outnumber men three to one. Relative to their respective populations, 157 women and 84 men out of every 1,000 in this age group lived in care facilities in 1991.

Seniors in Care Facilities - British Columbia

	General, Psychiatric & Physically Handicapped				Special Care Homes for the Elderly & Chronically Ill				Total in Care Facilities			
	Total		Per 1,000 Pop.		Total		Per 1,000 Pop.		Total		Per 1,000 Pop.	
	1986	1991	1986	1991	1986	1991	1986	1991	1986	1991	1986	1991
55-64 Years	525	680	1.9	2.3	1,425	1,060	5.2	3.6	1,950	1,740	7.1	5.9
<i>Males</i>	295	385	2.2	2.6	765	520	5.7	3.5	1,060	905	7.9	6.1
<i>Females</i>	230	290	1.6	2.0	665	535	4.7	3.7	895	825	6.3	5.7
Total 65 Years & over	2,050	2,510	5.9	5.9	22,410	23,515	64.1	55.7	24,460	26,025	70.0	61.7
<i>Males</i>	655	930	4.3	5.1	6,780	6,540	44.9	35.9	7,435	7,470	49.2	41.0
<i>Females</i>	1,400	1,575	1.6	2.0	15,635	16,975	4.7	3.7	17,035	18,550	85.8	77.4
65-74 Years	515	690	2.4	2.8	3,495	3,325	16.2	13.3	4,010	4,015	18.6	16.1
<i>Males</i>	235	355	2.4	3.1	1,530	1,370	15.7	12.0	1,765	1,725	18.1	15.1
<i>Females</i>	285	330	2.4	2.4	1,965	1,960	16.6	14.4	2,250	2,290	19.1	16.8
75 Years & Over	1,535	1,820	11.5	10.6	18,915	20,190	141.1	117.4	20,450	22,010	152.6	128.0
<i>Males</i>	420	575	7.8	8.4	5,250	5,170	98.0	75.6	5,670	5,745	105.9	84.1
<i>Females</i>	1,115	1,245	13.9	12.0	13,670	15,015	169.9	145.0	14,785	16,260	183.7	157.0

Source: 1991 Census of Canada