



Occupational Therapists in Canada, 2011— National and Jurisdictional Highlights

The page features decorative wavy lines in grey and teal that sweep across the background, framing the central content area.

Our Vision

Better data. Better decisions.
Healthier Canadians.

Our Mandate

To lead the development and maintenance of comprehensive and integrated health information that enables sound policy and effective health system management that improve health and health care.

Our Values

Respect, Integrity, Collaboration,
Excellence, Innovation

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About CIHI's Occupational Therapist Database

In order to determine the number of health professionals required in any jurisdiction, it is necessary to understand the current supply and how that supply is changing. Since 2006, the Occupational Therapist Database (OTDB) has collected information on the supply and distribution, demographics, geography, education and employment of occupational therapists (OTs) in Canada.

This OTDB publication will provide the reader with the highlights of the occupational therapist workforce, including information on selective demographic, geographic, education and employment dimensions in Canada or specified province/territory.

Want to Know More?

Other OTDB documents that may be of interest and are available free of charge, in English and French, on CIHI's website (www.cihi.ca) include the following:

- *Occupational Therapists in Canada, 2011*
 - *Data tables*
 - *Database Guide*
- Previous reports
 - *Occupational Therapists in Canada* series (2006 to 2010)
- Reference documents
 - *Data Dictionary*
 - *Data Submission Specifications Manual*
 - *Privacy Impact Assessment*

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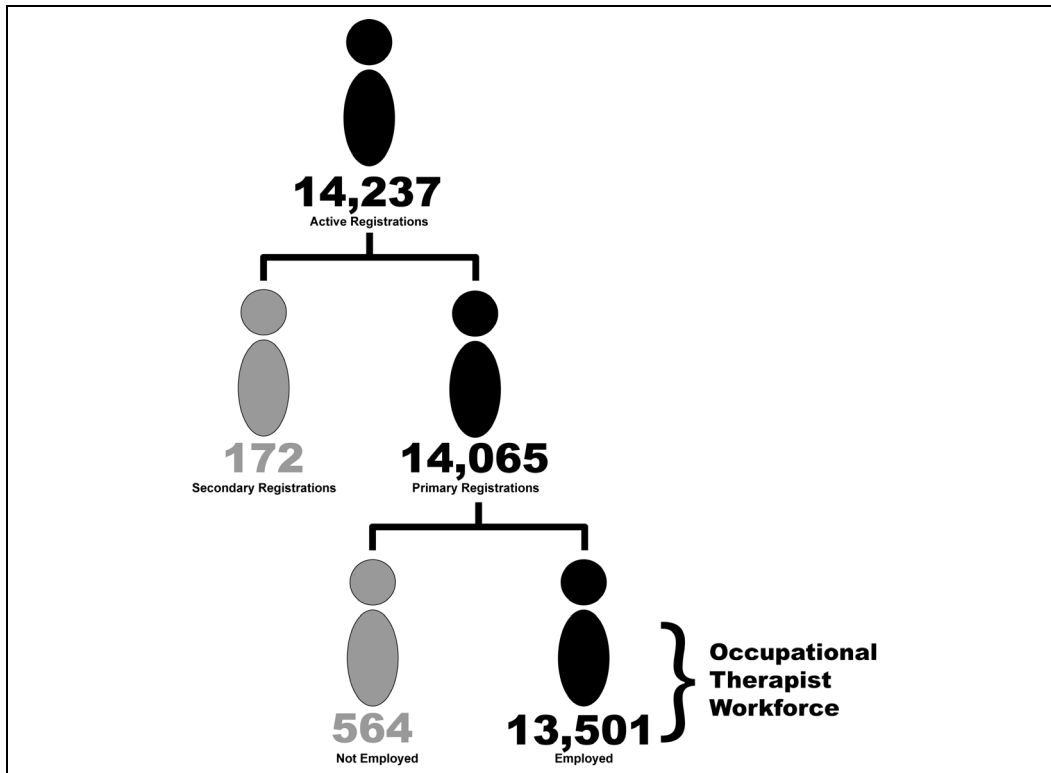
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CIHI's Definition of the OT Workforce in Canada

In CIHI's OTDB publications, "OT workforce" is defined as the total number of OTs holding active registrationsⁱ in Canada who are employed and are not considered secondary registrationsⁱⁱ or interprovincial duplicates. For more detailed information on the inclusion and exclusion criteria, please see the Methodological Notes.

Figure 1: Defining the CIHI OTDB Occupational Therapist Workforce, 2011



Note

The Methodological Notes provide more comprehensive information regarding the collection and comparability of OTDB data.

Source

Occupational Therapist Database, Canadian Institute for Health Information.

In 2011, information on 14,237 OTs in Canada was submitted by the provincial regulatory authorities and the Canadian Association of Occupational Therapists (CAOT). Of these, 172 (1.2%) were secondary registrations and 564 (4.0%) were either not employed in occupational therapy or had an unknown Employment Status and so were removed from the analysis (see 2011 OTDB data tables).

- i. Active registrations: Provincial regulatory authorities provided data to CIHI for the OTDB for those OTs who held an active membership for 2011. This includes those specific membership categories authorizing a member as eligible to work in the particular jurisdiction in the particular year. In regard to the territories, data was provided by the CAOT for those OTs who reside and work there and who chose to obtain a voluntary membership for 2011.
- ii. Secondary registrations: This group includes OTs who maintain provincial registration while living outside of Canada or whose Province of Residence and/or Province of Primary Employment is in a Canadian jurisdiction that is different from the Province of Registration.

Canada Highlights

Occupational Therapist Workforce, 2011

All provincial regulatory authorities except Quebec's have participated in the Occupational Therapist Database (OTDB) since 2006. Quebec began participating in the OTDB in 2011. For the years 2006 to 2010, supply and demographic data for Quebec was obtained from the Health Personnel Database (HPDB).ⁱⁱⁱ

Supply

- From 2006 to 2011, the supply of registered occupational therapists (OTs) grew by 14.6%, reaching a total of 13,501 active OTs registered and employed in Canada. The territories (35.0%) followed by Saskatchewan (30.7%) showed the highest growth from 2006 to 2011, whereas Quebec (6.6%) followed by Alberta (9.3%) showed the lowest.
- The supply of OTs per 100,000 population in Canada also grew, from 36.0 per 100,000 population in 2006 to 39.0 per 100,000 population in 2011.

Demographics

- The OT workforce was predominantly female (91.8%). However, the percentage of females in the workforce has shown a slight decline each year, from 92.6% in 2006 to 91.8% in 2011. The gender split varied slightly by province and combined territories, with the highest percentages of male OTs located in Saskatchewan (11.6%) and British Columbia (11.4%).
- More than half (55.6%) of the OT workforce in Canada in 2011 was younger than age 40.
- The average age of OTs increased slightly between 2006 and 2011, from 38.6 to 39.2.

iii. OTs in Quebec: 2006 (n = 3,653), 2007 (n = 3,789), 2008 (n = 3,945), 2009 (n = 4,109), 2010 (n = 3,790). 2006 to 2009 Quebec data includes all OTs registered with the Ordre des ergothérapeutes du Québec. 2010 Quebec data includes only the active employed OTs registered with the Ordre des ergothérapeutes du Québec. The HPDB reports the number of active registered OTs (2006 data as of March 31, 2007; 2007 data as of March 31, 2008; 2008 data as of March 31, 2009; 2009 data as of March 31, 2010; 2010 data as of March 31, 2011). Therefore, the data for Quebec may include different membership categories for registrants. Quebec data is useful for some purposes but should be used within the limitations of the Methodological Notes section of *Canada's Health Care Providers, 2000 to 2009: A Reference Guide*.

Education

- Between 2006 and 2011, the proportion of the OT workforce^{iv} with a baccalaureate in occupational therapy declined from 81.6% to 74.9%, while the number of OTs with master's degrees in occupational therapy increased during the same period from 10.8% to 22.0%.
- More than a quarter of the OT workforce had a master's or doctorate (28.5%) as their highest overall level of education.^v
- Just more than 7% of the OT workforce (7.1%) was educated outside of Canada, while the remainder (92.8%) obtained their basic education in occupational therapy in Canada.
- Of the OTs who were educated within Canada, 36.6% completed their basic education in occupational therapy in Ontario, while 32.0% did so in Quebec and 12.9% in Alberta.
- Of the OTs who completed their education outside of Canada, almost a quarter (23.8%) were educated in the United Kingdom, followed by the United States (22.9%) and India (10.5%).
- Less than 10% of the OT workforce (5.6%) was classified as new graduates.^{vi}

Employment

- Four out of five OTs in Canada worked for a single employer (79.2%), while 18.2% had multiple employers. This proportion varied by jurisdiction. Ontario had the highest proportion of OTs with multiple employers (22.2%), while Nova Scotia had the lowest (9.4%).
- Nearly two-thirds of the OT workforce (62.8%) were employed on a full-time basis, one-third (33.0%) on a part-time basis.
- Female OTs tended to work more on a part-time basis (34.6%), compared with their male counterparts (15.1%).
- Nearly half (47.6%) of the OT workforce worked in hospitals, 30.8% worked in the community and 11.2% worked in a professional practice.
- Most OTs (84.7%) were employed as direct service providers, while the remainder were managers (6.1%), professional leaders/coordinators (3.4%), educators or researchers (2.5%) or held other positions (2.7%).
- In 2011, the majority of the OT workforce had permanent employment (73.1%), 14.5% were self-employed and 11.4% had temporary or casual employment. This proportion varied by jurisdiction. New Brunswick had the highest proportion of OTs with permanent employment (91.7%) whereas Ontario had the lowest (67.2%).
- For primary employment, 73.4% of the OT workforce received public/government funding.

iv. For this analysis, the OT workforce excludes Quebec from 2006 to 2010 and includes Quebec for 2011.

v. Highest level of education overall is derived by comparing an OT's current level of education in occupational therapy and the highest level of education in other than occupational therapy.

vi. An OT is considered to be a new graduate if he or she graduated from basic education in occupational therapy within the previous two years. For 2011 data, this would be 2010 and 2011.

Geography and Mobility

- The majority of the OT workforce (93.3%) had primary employment in urban areas of Canada, with the remainder situated in rural/remote regions (5.8%). This proportion varied by jurisdiction. Ontario had the highest proportion of OTs employed in urban areas (97.7%), whereas the territories had the lowest (73.1%).^{vii}

vii. For this analysis, the OT workforce excludes Quebec.

Newfoundland and Labrador Highlights

Occupational Therapist Workforce, 2011

Supply

- From 2006 to 2011, the OT workforce grew by 23.6% in Newfoundland and Labrador, reaching a total of 173 active OTs registered and employed in the province.
- The ratio of OTs per 100,000 population increased from 27.5 in 2006 to 33.8 in 2011.
- When the supply estimate was adjusted based on the total number of hours worked per week, the overall supply estimate for Newfoundland and Labrador's OT workforce was 175 OTs. Newfoundland and Labrador was the only jurisdiction with a greater than 1:1 ratio for full-time equivalence.

Demographics

- The Newfoundland and Labrador OT workforce had almost the same proportion of females (91.9%) as the average for all jurisdictions included in the analysis (91.8%).
- Newfoundland and Labrador had the lowest proportion of OTs older than age 50 (9.2%) among all jurisdictions in the report.
- The average age of the Newfoundland and Labrador OT workforce increased from 35.5 in 2006 to 38.0 in 2011.

Education

- The province of Newfoundland and Labrador did not offer an occupational therapy program.
- The top three provinces of graduation for the Canadian-educated OTs in Newfoundland and Labrador were Nova Scotia (57.8%), Ontario (24.9%) and Quebec (5.8%).
- Almost one-quarter (23.7%) of Newfoundland and Labrador's OT workforce in 2011 had a master's or doctorate as their highest overall level of education (including education outside of occupational therapy).
- Newfoundland and Labrador's proportion of new graduates (having a graduation year of 2010 or 2011) was 5.8%.

Employment

- In 2011, Newfoundland and Labrador had the largest proportion of OTs employed on a full-time basis (83.8%) in comparison with all the jurisdictions included in the analysis (62.8%).
- OTs in Newfoundland and Labrador were more likely to have multiple employers (21.4%) than all the jurisdictions included in the analysis, after Ontario (22.2%).
- When compared with the other provinces, Newfoundland and Labrador had the second-highest proportion of OTs working in hospitals (57.2%).
- Newfoundland and Labrador had the highest proportion of OTs working 36 to 40 hours per week (70.5%). This was notably higher than the average for Canada (35.3%).

Geography and Mobility

- Across Canada, Newfoundland and Labrador had the second-highest proportion of OTs working in remote and rural areas (17.9%), after the territories (25.9%).

Prince Edward Island Highlights

Occupational Therapist Workforce, 2011

Supply

- From 2006 to 2011, the OT workforce grew by 25.7% in P.E.I., reaching a total of 44 active OTs registered and employed in the province.
- The ratio of OTs per 100,000 population showed an increase from 25.4 in 2006 to 30.1 in 2011.
- When the supply estimate was adjusted based on the total number of hours worked per week, the overall supply estimate for P.E.I.'s OT workforce grew by 20.6% since 2007.

Demographics

- The average age of the P.E.I. OT workforce in 2011 was 42.5, older than the Canada average age (39.2).
- P.E.I. had the highest proportion of OTs older than age 50 (27.3%) across Canada.

Education

- One-fifth (20.5%) of OTs in P.E.I. had a master's degree as their highest overall level of education (including education outside of occupational therapy), lower than the average for the overall OT workforce in 2011 (27.5%).
- The province of P.E.I. did not offer an occupational therapy program.
- The top two provinces of graduation for the Canadian-educated P.E.I. OT workforce were Nova Scotia (50.0%) and Ontario (29.5%).

Employment

- Across Canada, P.E.I. had the largest proportion of OTs employed on a part-time basis (45.5%) in 2011.
- The P.E.I. OT workforce had a higher proportion of OTs with permanent employment (77.3%), compared with the overall average for Canada (73.1%).

Geography and Mobility

- Most (84.1%) of the P.E.I. OT workforce were employed in urban areas; the remainder were employed in rural and remote regions (15.9%).

Nova Scotia Highlights

Occupational Therapist Workforce, 2011

Supply

- From 2006 to 2011, the OT workforce grew by 27.4% in Nova Scotia, reaching a total of 404 active OTs registered and employed in the province.
- The ratio of OTs per 100,000 population showed an increase from 33.8 per 100,000 population in 2006 to 42.7 per 100,000 population in 2011.
- When the supply estimate was adjusted based on the total number of hours worked per week, the overall supply estimate for Nova Scotia's OT workforce grew by 21.4% since 2007.

Demographics

- Nova Scotia had a high proportion of females (92.3%) working in the profession.
- The average age of the Nova Scotia OT workforce in 2011 was 39.1.
- In 2011, 13.9% of Nova Scotia's OT workforce were older than age 50—a proportion lower than the Canada average for the OT workforce (17.9%).

Education

- The province of Nova Scotia had one university program (Dalhousie University) that offered a master's degree in occupational therapy.
- One in four OTs in Nova Scotia (25.2%) had a master's degree as their highest overall level of education (including education outside of occupational therapy).
- Just more than 5% (5.2%) of Nova Scotia's OT workforce were classified as new graduates.
- The top three provinces of graduation for the Canadian-educated OTs in Nova Scotia were Nova Scotia (69.8%), Ontario (18.3%) and Quebec (3.7%).

Employment

- Across Canada, Nova Scotia had the second-highest proportion of OTs employed on a full-time basis (76.2%).
- The Nova Scotia OT workforce had the highest proportion of OTs with a single employer (90.6%).
- Nova Scotia had the second-highest proportion of OTs with temporary employment (10.4%), after Saskatchewan (13.2%).

Geography and Mobility

- The majority (84.8%) of the Nova Scotia OT workforce in 2011 was employed in urban areas; the remainder were employed in rural or remote regions (15.2%).

New Brunswick Highlights

Occupational Therapist Workforce, 2011

Supply

- From 2006 to 2011, the OT workforce grew by 29.8% in New Brunswick, reaching a total of 314 active OTs registered and employed in the province.
- The ratio of OTs per 100,000 population showed the second-highest increase across all jurisdictions, from 32.5 in 2006 to 41.5 in 2011.
- When the supply estimate was adjusted based on the total number of hours worked per week, the overall supply estimate for the New Brunswick OT workforce grew by 9.1% since 2007.

Demographics

- Most (92.4%) of the New Brunswick OT workforce in 2011 were female.
- The average age of the New Brunswick OT workforce in 2011 was 38.0.
- Three-fifths (60.2%) of the New Brunswick OT workforce in 2011 were younger than age 40.

Education

- The province of New Brunswick did not offer an occupational therapy program.
- The top three provinces of graduation for the Canadian-educated New Brunswick OT workforce in 2011 were Nova Scotia (42.7%), Quebec (28.7%) and Ontario (23.6%).
- Less than one-fifth (18.8%) of New Brunswick OTs in 2011 had a master's or a doctorate as their highest overall level of education (including education outside of occupational therapy), a lower proportion than the average for Canada (28.5%).
- Almost 5% (4.8%) of the New Brunswick OT workforce in 2011 were classified as new graduates (having a graduation year of 2010 or 2011).

Employment

- A large percentage (72.6%) of the New Brunswick OT workforce was employed on a full-time basis—higher than the proportion for the OT workforce for Canada (62.8%).
- The New Brunswick OT workforce in 2011 had the highest proportion of OTs with permanent employment (91.7%), compared with the other jurisdictions included in the analysis.
- The New Brunswick OT workforce had the second-highest proportion of OTs with a single employer (87.9%), after Nova Scotia (90.6%).
- Across Canada, New Brunswick had the second-highest proportion of OTs working in a community setting (39.5%).

Geography and Mobility

- In 2011, 86.0% of the New Brunswick OT workforce was employed in urban areas. This proportion was lower than the average for Canada (93.3%).^{viii}

viii. For this analysis, the OT workforce excludes Quebec.

Quebec Highlights^{ix}

Occupational Therapist Workforce, 2011

Supply

- From 2006 to 2011, the OT workforce grew by 6.6% in Quebec, reaching a total of 3,895 active OTs registered and employed in the province.
- The ratio of OTs per 100,000 population in Quebec showed an increase from 47.7 in 2006 to 48.7 in 2011. This was the highest ratio across Canada.
- When the supply estimate was adjusted based on the total number of hours worked per week, the overall supply estimate for the Quebec OT workforce decreased from 3,895 to 3,467 active OTs—a decrease of 11%.

Demographics

- Across Canada, the Quebec OT workforce had the second-highest proportion of females, at 92.4%.
- The average age of the Quebec OT workforce in 2011 was 37.4; this was the second-youngest average, after the territories (36.6).
- Nearly two-thirds (62.2%) of the Quebec OT workforce were younger than age 40, a greater proportion than the average across Canada (55.6%).

Education

- The province of Quebec had three university programs (McGill University, Université de Montréal and Université Laval) that offered a master's degree in occupational therapy.
- In 2011, 12.7% of Quebec OTs had a master's or doctorate (including education outside of occupational therapy) as their highest overall level of education, the lowest proportion across Canada.
- Quebec had the lowest proportion of OTs (4.2%) classified as new graduates (having a graduation year of 2010 or 2011).
- The top three provinces of graduation for the Canadian-educated Quebec OT workforce were Quebec (91.8%), Ontario (7.0%) and Alberta (0.1%).

ix. The Ordre des ergothérapeutes du Québec began participating in the OTDB in 2011.

Employment

- Nearly two-thirds (62.1%) of Quebec's OT workforce were employed on a full-time basis.
- Nearly one-fifth (17.2%) of the Quebec OT workforce in 2011 had multiple employers.
- Across Canada, the Quebec OT workforce had the highest proportion of OTs working as direct service providers (92.4%).
- More than half (53.3%) of the Quebec OT workforce worked in hospitals, 29.7% worked in the community, 11.6% in a professional practice and 5.2% in other settings.

Geography and Mobility

- The Ordre des ergothérapeutes du Québec did not collect/submit data for postal code of primary employment.

Ontario Highlights

Occupational Therapist Workforce, 2011

Supply

- From 2006 to 2011, the OT workforce grew by 16.1% in Ontario, reaching a total of 4,506 active OTs registered and employed in the province.
- The ratio of OTs per 100,000 population in Ontario showed an increase from 30.5 in 2006 to 33.6 in 2011.
- When the supply estimate was adjusted based on the total number of hours worked per week, the overall supply estimate for the Ontario OT workforce grew by 10.3% since 2007.

Demographics

- Across Canada, the Ontario OT workforce had the highest proportion of females (93.2%).
- The average age of the Ontario OT workforce in 2011 was 40.2.
- Just more than one-fifth (20.2%) of the Ontario OT workforce was older than age 50, a slightly greater proportion than that for the Canada OT workforce (17.9%).

Education

- The province of Ontario had five university programs (University of Ottawa, Queen's University, McMaster University, University of Toronto and the University of Western Ontario) that offered a master's degree in occupational therapy.
- In 2011, 41.5% of Ontario OTs had a master's or doctorate (including education outside of occupational therapy) as their highest overall level of education, the highest proportion across all jurisdictions.
- In Ontario, 6.2% of the OT workforce was classified as new graduates (having a graduation year of 2010 or 2011).
- The top three provinces of graduation for the Canadian-educated Ontario OT workforce were Ontario (77.9%), Quebec (3.9%) and Nova Scotia (2.0%).
- International graduates comprised 10.0% of the OTs employed in Ontario. This was the second-highest proportion of international graduates, after British Columbia (16.8%), across Canada.

Employment

- Almost two-thirds (65.8%) of Ontario's OT workforce were employed on a full-time basis.
- In Ontario, 22.2% of the OT workforce in 2011 had multiple employers; this was the highest proportion across Canada.
- The Ontario OT workforce had the lowest proportion of OTs with permanent employment (67.2%).
- Nearly half (45.0%) of the Ontario OT workforce worked in hospitals, 31.1% in the community, 11.7% in a professional practice and 10.8% in other settings.

Geography and Mobility

- The Ontario OT workforce had the highest proportion of OTs (96.9%) with primary employment in urban areas, leaving a small percentage with employers situated in rural or remote regions (2.2%).

Manitoba Highlights

Occupational Therapist Workforce, 2011

Supply

- From 2006 to 2011, the OT workforce grew by 22.2% in Manitoba, reaching a total of 555 active OTs registered and employed in the province.
- The ratio of OTs per 100,000 population showed an increase, from 38.3 in 2006 to 44.2 in 2011.
- When the supply estimate was adjusted based on the total number of hours worked per week, the overall supply estimate for Manitoba's OT workforce grew by 22.6% since 2007.

Demographics

- Most (91.9%) of the Manitoba OT workforce was female.
- The average age of the Manitoba OT workforce was 39.7.

Education

- The province of Manitoba had one university program (University of Manitoba) that offered a master's degree in occupational therapy.
- In Manitoba, 8.1% of the OT workforce was classified as new graduates (having a graduation year of 2010 or 2011), second only to Saskatchewan (10.3%).
- The top three provinces of graduation for the Canadian-educated Manitoba OT workforce in 2011 were Manitoba (85.4%), Ontario (5.4%) and Alberta (1.4%).

Employment

- In Manitoba, 39.9% of the OT workforce in 2011 was employed on a part-time basis.
- The percentage of OTs who reported having multiple employers increased from 15.2% in 2006 to 20.5% in 2011.
- About half (52.1%) of the Manitoba OT workforce in 2011 worked in a hospital setting.

Geography and Mobility

- A large percentage (84.3%) of the Manitoba OT workforce was employed in urban areas; the remainder were employed in rural or remote regions (13.5%).

Saskatchewan Highlights

Occupational Therapist Workforce, 2011

Supply

- From 2006 to 2011, the OT workforce grew by 30.7% in Saskatchewan, reaching 302 active OTs registered and employed in the province.
- Across Canada, Saskatchewan had the second-lowest number of OTs per 100,000 population (28.4), following the territories (24.2).
- When the supply estimate was adjusted based on the total number of hours worked per week, the overall supply estimate for Saskatchewan's OT workforce grew by 43.1% since 2007, the highest growth rate across Canada.

Demographics

- The Saskatchewan OT workforce had the highest proportion of male OTs (11.6%) across Canada.
- The average age of the Saskatchewan OT workforce in 2011 was 37.9.

Education

- The province of Saskatchewan did not offer an occupational therapy program.
- In 2011, 29.5% of Saskatchewan OTs had a master's degree (including education outside of occupational therapy) as their highest overall level of education.
- More than 10% (10.3%) of the Saskatchewan OT workforce were classified as new graduates (having a graduation year of 2010 or 2011), almost double the proportion for Canada's OT workforce (5.6%).
- The top three provinces of graduation for the Canadian-educated OT workforce in Saskatchewan were Alberta (55.6%), Manitoba (23.5%) and Ontario (8.9%).

Employment

- More than two-thirds (67.4%) of the Saskatchewan OT workforce in 2011 were employed on a full-time basis.
- The proportion of OTs who reported working for more than one employer in Saskatchewan increased from 13.9% in 2006 to 18.5% in 2011.
- The Saskatchewan OT workforce had one of the highest proportions of OTs working in a hospital setting (53.2%).

Geography and Mobility

- The majority (87.7%) of the Saskatchewan OT workforce was employed in urban areas; the remainder were employed in rural or remote regions (9.6%).

Alberta Highlights

Occupational Therapist Workforce, 2011

Supply

- From 2006 to 2011, the OT workforce grew by 9.3% in Alberta, reaching a total of 1,532 active OTs registered and employed in the province.
- The ratio of OTs per 100,000 population in Alberta showed a slight decline from 40.6 in 2006 to 40.3 in 2011.
- When the supply estimate was adjusted based on the total number of hours worked per week, the overall supply estimate for the Alberta OT workforce grew by 1.7% since 2009. Alberta had one of the lowest full-time equivalent rates (0.91) across all jurisdictions included in the analysis.

Demographics

- Most (90.6%) of the Alberta OT workforce was female, a slightly lower proportion than that for Canada's OT workforce (91.8%).
- The average age of the Alberta OT workforce in 2011 was 38.9.
- Less than one-fifth (18.3%) of the Alberta OT workforce was older than age 50.

Education

- The province of Alberta had one university program (University of Alberta) that offered a master's degree in occupational therapy.
- The top three provinces of graduation for the Canadian-educated Alberta OT workforce were Alberta (69.6%), Ontario (9.3%) and Manitoba (4.5%).
- One-quarter (25.0%) of Alberta OTs had a master's or doctorate degree (including education outside of occupational therapy) as their highest overall level of education.
- In Alberta, 5.0% of the OT workforce was classified as new graduates (having a graduation year of 2010 or 2011).

Employment

- More than one-third of Alberta's OT workforce was employed on a part-time basis (35.5%).
- Most of the Alberta OT workforce (80.1%) had permanent employment.
- A large percentage (85.8%) of the Alberta OT workforce had a single employer.
- Across Canada, Alberta had the highest proportion of OTs working in a community setting (39.6%).

Geography and Mobility

- Most (91.0%) of the Alberta OT workforce was employed in urban areas; the remainder were employed in rural or remote regions (8.3%).

British Columbia Highlights

Occupational Therapist Workforce, 2011

Supply

- From 2006 to 2011, the OT workforce grew by 24.3% in B.C., reaching a total of 1,749 active OTs registered and employed in the province.
- The ratio of OTs per 100,000 population in B.C. showed an increase from 33.0 in 2006 to 38.1 in 2011.
- When the supply estimate was adjusted based on the total number of hours worked per week, the overall supply estimate for B.C.'s OT workforce grew by 16.4% since 2007. However, B.C. had one of the lowest full-time equivalent rates (0.89) across all jurisdictions included in the analysis.

Demographics

- After Saskatchewan (11.6%), B.C. had the second-highest proportion of male OTs (11.4%) in its OT workforce.
- After P.E.I. (42.5), B.C. had the second-oldest OT workforce in 2011 (41.4).
- After P.E.I. (27.3%), B.C. had the second-highest proportion of OTs older than age 50 (25.2%).

Education

- The province of B.C. had one university program (University of British Columbia) that offered a master's degree in occupational therapy.
- The top three provinces of graduation for the Canadian-educated B.C. OT workforce were B.C. (39.7%), Ontario (18.7%) and Alberta (14.6%).
- The proportion of OTs in B.C. with a master's or doctorate (including education outside of occupational therapy) as their highest overall level of education (33.4%) was higher than that for Canada's OT workforce (28.5%).
- One-quarter (25.0%) of B.C.'s OTs had a master's degree as their current education in occupational therapy.
- Of the B.C. OT workforce, 6.2% were classified as new graduates (having a graduation year of 2010 or 2011).
- Across Canada, B.C. had the highest proportion of OTs who were internationally educated (16.8%).

Employment

- Two out of five (41.3%) of B.C.'s OTs were employed on a part-time basis, the second-highest percentage across Canada.
- Most (84.3%) of the B.C. OT workforce had a single employer.
- After Ontario (21.7%), B.C. had the second-highest percentage of self-employed OTs (12.2%).

Geography and Mobility

- Most (95.7%) of the B.C. OT workforce was employed in urban areas; the remainder were employed in rural or remote regions (3.9%).

The Territories (Yukon, Northwest Territories and Nunavut) Highlights

Occupational Therapist Workforce, 2011

Supply

- From 2006 to 2011, the OT workforce in the territories increased by 35.0%, from 20 to 27 active OTs registered and employed in Yukon, the Northwest Territories and Nunavut (the territories).
- The ratio of OTs per 100,000 population in the territories showed an increase from 18.8 in 2006 to 24.2 in 2011. The territories had the lowest ratio across Canada.

Demographics

- The average age of the OT workforce in the territories was 36.6, the youngest across Canada.

Education

- The territories do not currently offer university programs in occupational therapy.
- After Ontario (41.5%), the OT workforce in the territories had the second-highest proportion of registrants with a master's or doctorate (37.0%) as their highest overall level of education (including education outside of occupational therapy).
- Data on new graduates was excluded from jurisdiction-specific analysis due to small cell sizes.

Employment

- Almost three-quarters (74.1%) of the OT workforce in the territories was employed on a full-time basis.
- More than three-quarters of the OT workforce in the territories (77.8%) had a permanent employment.
- The OT workforce in the territories had one of the lowest proportions of OTs working in hospitals (44.4%).

Geography and Mobility

- The territories had the lowest proportion of OTs with primary employment in urban areas (70.3%), compared with all the jurisdictions included in the analysis (93.3%).^{viii}

viii. For this analysis, the OT workforce excludes Quebec.

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