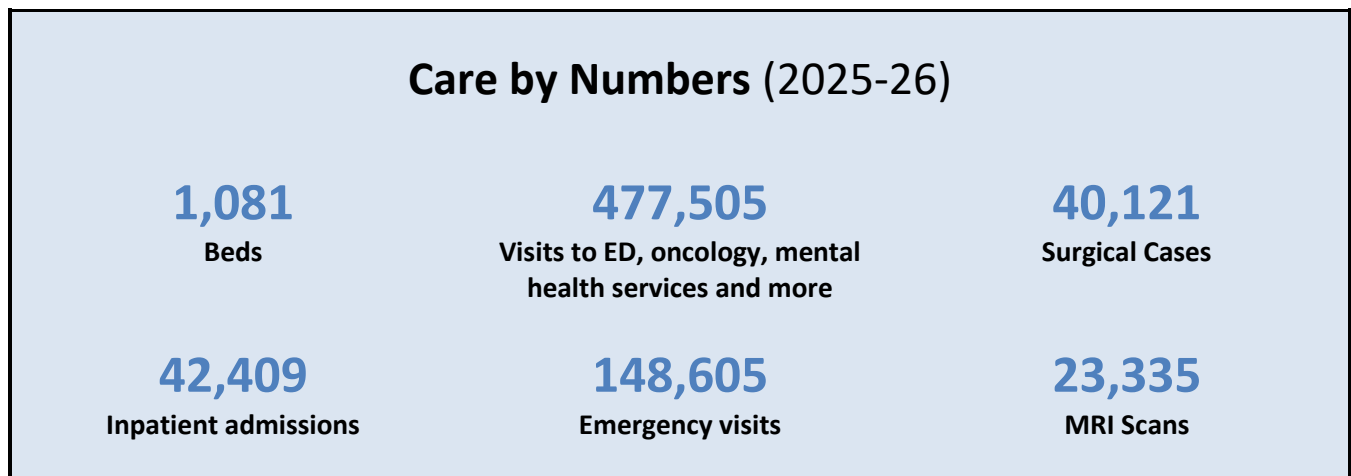


Hospital Care at Niagara Health: Key Facts for Municipal Candidates

About Niagara Health

Niagara Health provides hospital care across the region, including emergency care, acute services and specialized programs. The system is undergoing major transformation to better meet the needs of a growing and aging population. This includes advancing more coordinated, patient-centered care, strengthening partnerships across the healthcare system and investing in modern facilities like the new South Niagara Hospital.



Responding to Niagara's Healthcare Reality

Niagara is experiencing an aging population and increasingly complex demand for healthcare services. Like communities across Ontario, demand continues to rise for chronic disease management, mental health and addictions care, seniors' services and complex care. These realities are driving the largest transformation of hospital care in Niagara in a generation.

Rising demand in Niagara is driven by population growth, aging residents, chronic disease and limited access to primary care — factors that increase reliance on emergency departments when care is delayed. Strengthening access to timely, local care helps keep people healthier, improves continuity and reduces avoidable hospital use. Health outcomes are also deeply shaped by social factors like housing, transit and community supports, making these investments essential to reducing hospital visits and enabling better, more coordinated care.

- Providing access to care for 500,000+ residents
- 1 in 4 residents age 65+

A Modern Three-Site Hospital System

Niagara Health is creating a modern three-site hospital system anchored by Marotta Family Hospital, South Niagara Hospital and Welland Hospital. Together, these sites will form an integrated network of care designed to improve access to specialized services, enhance patient experiences and support better health outcomes across the region.

South Niagara Hospital is a new 475-bed hospital currently under construction and remains on schedule for a planned 2028 opening. Designed to support advanced clinical services, innovative technologies and improved patient experiences, the hospital will help meet the growing and evolving healthcare needs of the region.

Significant renovations and modernization planning are also underway at Welland Hospital, following provincial approval announced in the 2025 Ontario Fall Economic Statement. These upgrades will strengthen existing services, improve care environments and ensure patients continue to receive safe, efficient care close to home.

Looking ahead, future redevelopment of the Welland site will be explored through a planning grant also approved by the provincial government, supporting long-term improvements that will further enhance care delivery.

Niagara Health Transformation – Key Dates

- **2023** – South Niagara Hospital groundbreaking
- **2025** – Welland Hospital redevelopment planning & renovation grant approval
- **2027–2028** – Welland Hospital renovations
- **2028** – South Niagara Hospital substantial completion and open day
 - Closure of Port Colborne and Fort Erie Sites and Niagara Falls Hospital to transition to a three-site hospital model

Building a Stronger Hospital System

Modern hospital facilities are only one part of a strong hospital system. More than 3,400 positions have been filled since 2022, helping support access to care across Niagara. We are proud to partner directly with the Niagara Region in their work on physician recruitment, both primary care and specialist physicians like emergency and internal medicine.

Municipal Partnership and Community Investment

Hospital redevelopment projects across Ontario are supported through a shared funding model involving provincial investment, community fundraising and municipal contributions (local share). Municipal support has played an important role in advancing hospital infrastructure projects throughout Niagara and reflects a shared

commitment to strong local hospital services. This type of partnership and support will be essential as we continue to advance the growth of hospital services in Niagara.

A strong hospital system supports healthy communities, and a strong community supports healthy hospitals.

Resources:

[Our Future – Delivering seamless hospital care](#)

[2023-28 Strategic Plan](#)