

# community health facts 2013

## Parksville/Qualicum

### Demographics

The Parksville/Qualicum area (which encompasses the Qualicum Local Health Area) is home to approximately 46,000 people.

- 3% identify as Aboriginal.
- 15% are aged 75 and over.
- The population is expected to grow by 25% over the next 20 years.
- The over 75 population is expected to double, but the population aged 45-64 is expected to decline.
- The average age of Parksville/Qualicum residents is 52 years.

### Health and Wellbeing

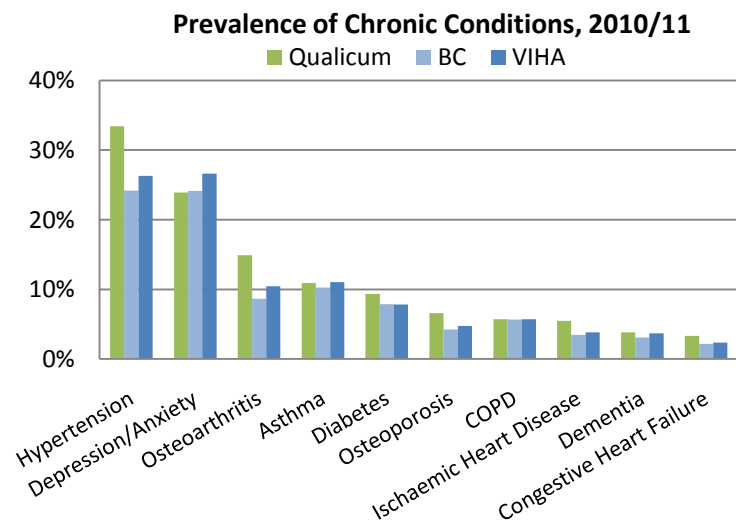
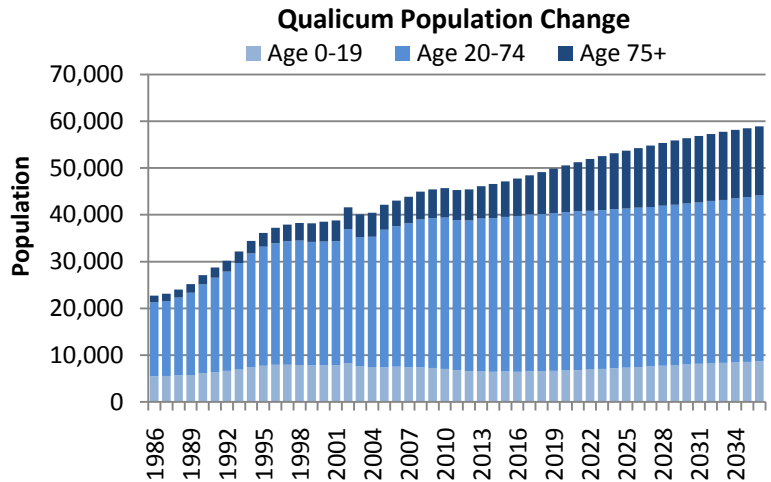
Compared to the Island Health as a whole, Parksville/Qualicum has (based on most recent data available):

- The lowest birth rate.
- A similar life expectancy (81.9 years).
- A lower age-standardized mortality rate.
- A higher rate of death due to pneumonia and influenza, and to motor vehicle accidents.
- A higher prevalence of leading chronic conditions including hypertension, osteoarthritis and diabetes.

### Social Determinants of Health

Housing, employment, education and social support can have a big impact on the health of our communities and our ability to make healthy lifestyle choices. Compared to Island Health overall (based on most recent data available):

- *Economic Wellbeing* – Parksville/Qualicum has a higher unemployment rate, but a lower percent of low income seniors.
- *Education* – Parksville/Qualicum has more students in grades 4 and 7 scoring below the standard on reading and writing standardized tests.



### Social Determinants of Health *(continued)*

- *Housing* – Parksville/Qualicum has a lower percent of older housing and a lower percent of houses needing major repairs.
- *Crime* – Parksville/Qualicum has a similar rate of serious crime compared to Island Health, and a lower rate of serious juvenile crimes.

### Health Services

Parksville/Qualicum is served by the nearby Nanaimo General Hospital, the Oceanside Health Centre and the Parksville/Qualicum Health Unit, and has four residential care sites and three assisted living sites, two of which also have residential care beds. Available services include public health, home and community care, and mental health and substance use.

Every year, Parksville/Qualicum residents have about 9,600 hospital admissions, and 12,900 unscheduled emergency department visits.

Of the 8,500 admissions in 2011/12:

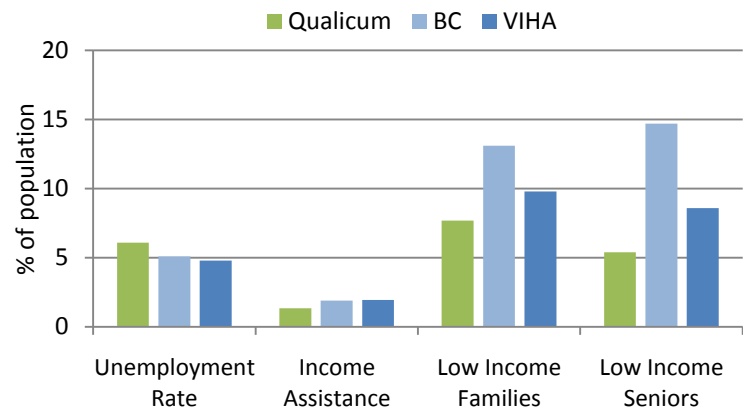
- 72% were to Nanaimo General Hospital, and
- 7% were to the nearby St. Joseph’s Hospital,
- And 5% were to West Coast General Hospital.

Of the 20,800 unscheduled emergency visits in 2012/13:

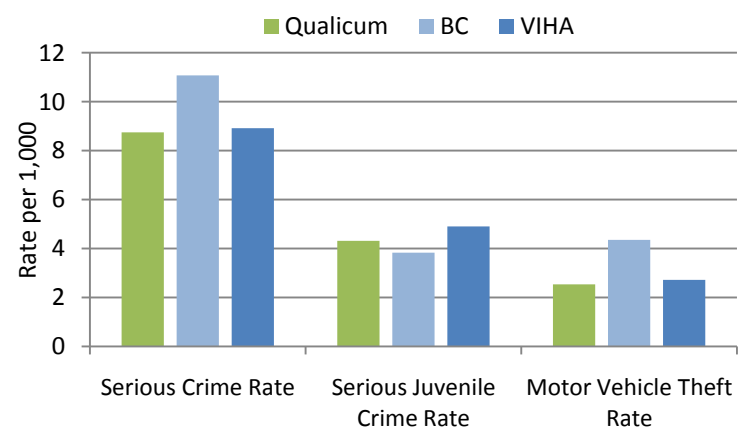
- 93% were to Nanaimo General Hospital.
- 51% were for those over the age of 60.

For more information on Island Health Services in your region, please visit:  
<http://www.viha.ca/locations/>

### Employment and Income Statistics



### Crime Statistics



### Parksville/Qualicum Resident Cases by Hospital

