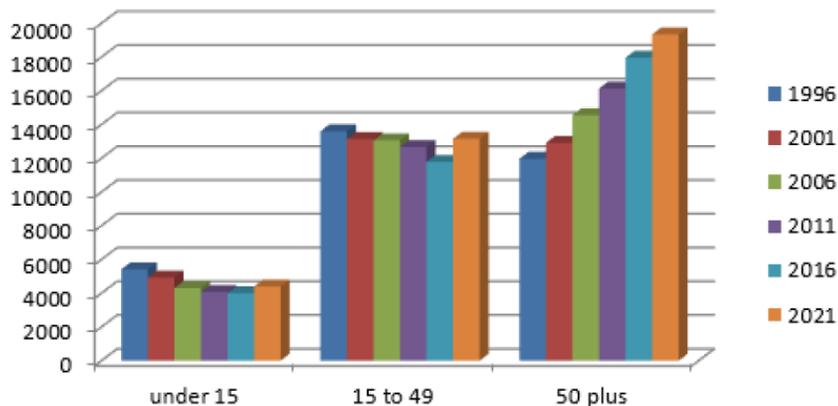


Aging in Penticton

The baby boomer generation born between 1946 and 1964 are now between the ages of 58-76 years old. Following a 25 year trend, Penticton is still a retirement destination. The City of Penticton is being recognized as an Age Friendly City; a benefit to all ages.

Penticton Population 1996 - 2021



What is an Age Friendly City?

World Health Organization provides an Age Friendly Cities Framework as eight interconnected domains that can help to identify and address barriers to the well-being and participation of older people.

- community & health care
- transportation
- housing
- social participation
- outdoor spaces & buildings
- respect & social inclusion
- civic participation & employment
- communication & information

See Penticton's Age-Friendly Action Plan

<https://www.penticton.ca/agefriendly>

Aging Population Comparison

Population 65 years +

Canada 19 %

BC 20.3 %

Penticton 31.1%

Population 85 years +

Canada 2.3%

BC 2.4%

Penticton 5.4%

**Stats Canada 2021 Census of population*

72% of seniors in BC aged 85+ live independently

10% aged 85+ live in Assisted Living ~ 14% aged 85+ live in Long Term Care

**BC Seniors Advocate*

Penticton has more than double the National or Provincial population of people over 85 yrs

INCOME & HOUSING

Prevalence of low income in Penticton

18-64 years (%) 9.6 (total) 9.4 (men) 9.8 (women)
 65 years and over (%) 16.1 (total) 13.1 (men) 18.5 (women)

* 2021 Canada Census

Monthly Federal and Provincial Supplements for a single **low income** senior (OAS, GIS and BC Seniors Supplement) at October each year.

2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
\$1509.27	\$1547.57	\$1579.21	\$1580.73	\$1683.38

Annual income = \$20,200.56 (based on 2021 rates)

Average one bedroom apartment rental in Penticton increased from **\$780** in 2017 to **\$947** in 2021.

*CMHC Rental Market Report

What is "Affordable" Housing?

Housing is considered affordable **when 30 per cent or less of your household's gross income goes towards paying for your housing costs.** *BC Housing definition

59% of Penticton senior renters spend more than 30%

23% of Penticton seniors renters spend more than 50%

*Canadian Rental Housing Index

Last subsidized affordable seniors housing project in Penticton opened in 2011

April 2021 Point in Time Homeless Count in Penticton identified 24% over the age of 55 yrs



Penticton Renter Profile

Median Renter Household Income
\$45,979 annual

Median Senior Renter Household Income
65 yrs + \$28,547 annual

Median income means 50% of renters are below this income

*Canadian Rental Housing Index

Independent Living Retirement Residence Average Rent in 2021

South Okanagan \$2632 per month (one bedroom)

\$31,584 annually

*CMHC BC Seniors Housing Survey 2021

25% of BC seniors aged 65+ live alone

41% of BC seniors aged 85+ live alone

FOOD SECURITY

8.7%



are seniors

While seniors represent 8.7% of foodbank users, the rate of increase is far outpacing other age groups

**Foodbanks Canada 2021 Hunger Count Report*

Canadians paid 9.7% more in April 2022 for food purchased from stores compared with April 2021. This increase, which exceeded 5% for the 5th month in a row, was the largest increase since September 1981.

**Consumer Price Index*

There was a 78% increase in the use of food banks by

BC Seniors in the last 5 years. **BC Seniors Advocate report Sept 2022*

TRANSPORTATION



“At the age of 65 approximately 90% of BC seniors have a driver’s license but this drops to approximately 44% by the age of 85.” It is challenging when we begin retirement with driving ourselves to activities and appointments but find, many years later, that we are still living independently and engaged with our community but we are not able to get ourselves out and about by car any longer.”

**BC Seniors Advocate—Seniors Transportation Report 2018, news release*

Parking meters that require walking half a block or more to make payment, may not seem like a problem for many. But for those who have challenges with mobility, it can be a massive struggle; is not age-friendly; and may dictate where they take their business.

Many seniors need to travel to Kelowna for various specialty healthcare appointments. Cataract surgery is performed in Summerland. Without someone to drive them, the options are few and expensive. The communities of Kamloops, Logan Lake, Merritt, Revelstoke have access to **Heath Connections** (a BC transit service providing communities with accessible transportation options to access non-emergency medical appointments.



SAFETY

Reports of Elder Abuse, neglect of people 65 and over have increased significantly in the last 5 years in BC.

49% increase in reports of abuse, neglect and self neglect to BC Health Authorities

69% increase in reports of violent crimes to RCMP

**BC Seniors Advocate report—Hidden and Invisible Dec 2021*



“Penticton has notably high crime rates compared to other Okanagan cities.

According to the latest provincial data, it recorded 186.5 Criminal Code offences

per 1,000 residents in 2020, compared to Kelowna (114.1) West Kelowna (61.8), Vernon (129.9) and Osoyoos (83.6)

Last February, Penticton RCMP Supt. Brian Hunter said his force’s workload was 170 criminal cases per officer in 2019 compared to the provincial average of 71.” **CBC news posted Jul 14, 2022*

Factors that can make a person vulnerable are significantly more prevalent in the seniors population, making age itself a significant risk factor

“Financial abuse / exploitation and emotional abuse appear to be the most prevalent forms of abuse.”

**Dept of Justice report Crime and Abuse Against Seniors Dec 8, 2021*

Violent crimes with victims age 65 & over decreased in 2020 and 2021 but appear to be increasing in 2022.

**Penticton RCMP detachment*

Many crimes against seniors are not reported to police but are reported to health professionals, community groups and financial institutions. **Dept of Justice report Crime and Abuse Against Seniors Dec 8, 2021*

Keeping seniors socially connected with access to community resources is one of the best ways to prevent elder abuse.



This publication was prepared by a collaborative group representing South Okanagan Seniors Wellness Society, Seniors’ Drop in Centre, OneSky Community Resources and South Okanagan Branch of the National Association of Federal Retirees. Sept 2022