

community health facts 2013

Western Communities and Sooke

Demographics

The Western Communities and Sooke (part of the broader Sooke Local Health Area) are home to approximately 74,000 people.

- 4.4% identify as Aboriginal.
- 4.9% are aged 75 and over.
- The population is expected to grow by 53% over the next 20 years.
- The over 75 population is expected to nearly triple, while the under 75 population is expected to more than double.

Health and Wellbeing

Compared to the Island Health region as a whole, Western Communities and Sooke residents have (based on the most recent data available):

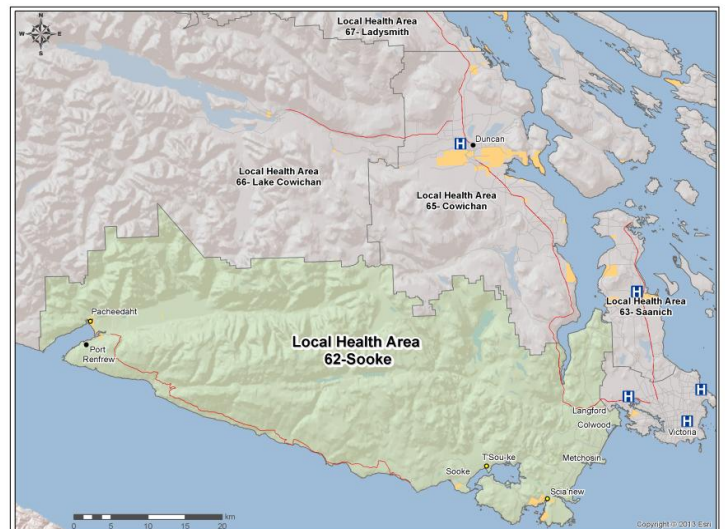
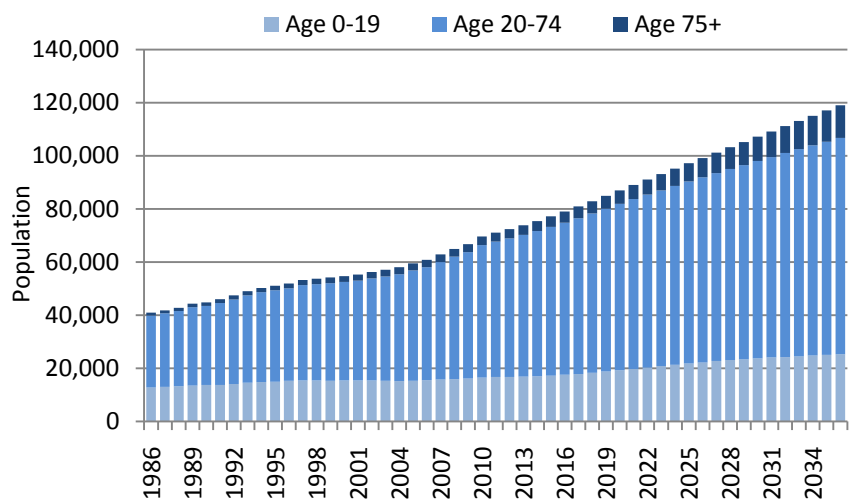
- A higher birth rate and a lower teen birth rate.
- Lower rates of preterm births and low birth weight babies.
- A similar life expectancy (82 years).
- A lower rate of death due to motor vehicle accidents, and a lower rate of alcohol and drug-related deaths.
- Similar to the Island Health region, leading chronic conditions include depression/ anxiety, hypertension, asthma and osteoarthritis.

Social Determinants of Health

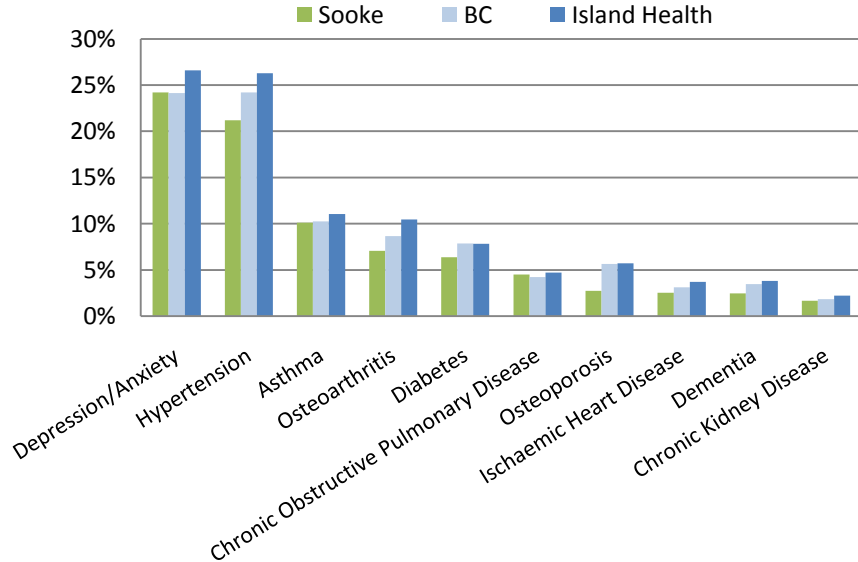
Housing, employment, education and social support can have a big impact on the health of our communities and our ability to make healthy lifestyle choices. Compared to Island Health overall (based on most recent data available):

- *Economic Wellbeing* – The Western Communities and Sooke have a higher median family income and a lower unemployment rate.
- *Education* – The Western Communities and Sooke have a similar percentage of adults aged 25-54 high school education, but a lower percentage of 18 Year-Olds who graduated from high school.

Sooke Population Growth



Prevalence of Chronic Conditions



Social Determinants of Health *(continued)*

- *Healthy Development* – The Western Communities and Sooke have a similar rate of children in care and a lower rate of children in need of protection.
- *Crime* – The Western Communities and Sooke have a lower crime rate, including a lower rate of serious crime, a lower rate of serious juvenile crime and a lower rate of non-cannabis drug offences.

Health Services

The Western Communities and Sooke are served by Victoria General Hospital, the WestShore Health Unit, the Sooke Health Unit, and the Esquimalt/WestShore Home Care Health Unit as well as the Royal Jubilee Hospital.

These areas also have 170 residential care beds and 131 assisted living beds spread over four sites. There are an additional 2,520 residential care beds and 351 assisted living beds nearby in Saanich and Greater Victoria. Additional services available include public health, home and community care, and mental health and substance abuse.

Every year, Greater Victoria residents have about 11,500 hospital admissions, and 17,000 unscheduled emergency department visits.

Of the 11,500 admissions in 2011/12:

- 58% were to Victoria General Hospital,
- 35% were to the Royal Jubilee Hospital, and
- 7% were to other hospitals.

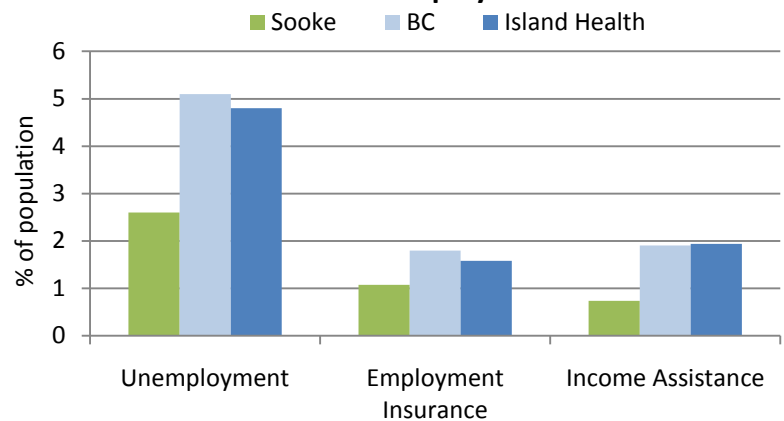
Of the 17,000 unscheduled emergency visits in 2012/13:

- 84% were to Victoria General Hospital, and
- 23% of all visits were for those over the age of 60.

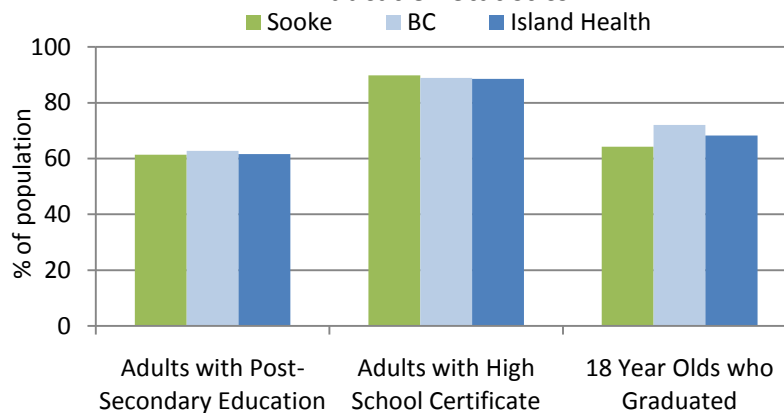
For more information on Island Health Services in your region, please visit:

<http://www.viha.ca/locations/>

Economic and Employment Statistics



Education Statistics



Western Communities and Sooke Resident Cases by Hospital

