

The Economic Footprint of Canada's Pharmacy Sector

Direct Economic Footprint



Economic effects directly associated with the day-to-day operations of Canada's 12,000+ pharmacies

\$12
billion

in GDP generated by the sector

193,000
Canadians

directly employed by the sector

\$8.3
billion

in labour income generated by the sector

Supply Chain & Spillover Effects



The community pharmacy sector supports tens of thousands of jobs and generates billions of dollars more through its supply chain and spillover effects

Indirect Effects

Supply chain of the pharmacy sector (wholesalers, delivery jobs, etc.)

Induced Effects

Spillover effects from those employed in pharmacy sector (earnings and profits spent outside the sector)

\$5.7B

\$5.2B

GDP

41,345

38,944

Jobs Supported

\$3.2B

\$2.5B

Labour Income

Contribution to Government Revenue



The pharmacy sector also has significant fiscal implications across the country at the federal, provincial, and municipal level

\$6.3 billion

Estimated fiscal benefits to all levels of government

\$3.3B for federal government

\$2.3B for provincial governments

\$0.7B in municipal tax collections

Total Economic Footprint of the Pharmacy Sector (Direct, Indirect and Induced)

\$22.9
billion

in GDP generated
0.8% of national GDP

273,000
jobs supported

1.3% of all Canadians employed

\$14
billion

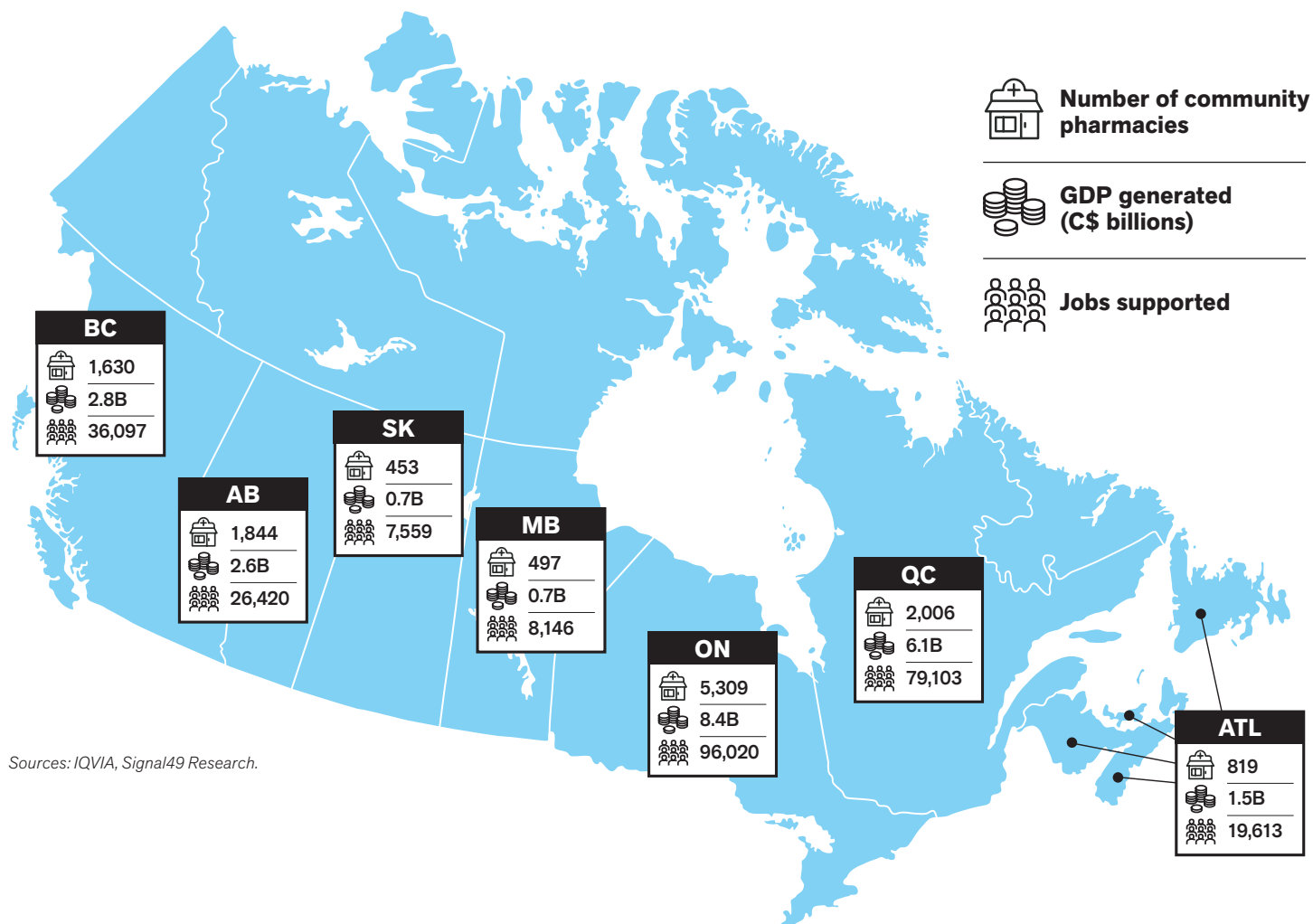
in labour income generated

Labour income represents 61% of the sector's GDP contribution—well above the 51% national all-industry average—reflecting pharmacy's skilled, service-oriented workforce



Economic Footprint Across Canada

With over 12,500 community pharmacies in Canada, two-thirds of which are independently owned small-businesses, the total economic activity of the sector (direct, indirect and induced) is estimated at \$22.9 billion in GDP and 273,000 jobs.



Rural Pharmacies



Rural Pharmacies are Major Economic and Community Health Anchors

More than 1 in 100
rural Canadians are employed
in the pharmacy sector.

Rural pharmacies employ
16–40% more
local residents than their urban counterparts.

Read the full report: [The Economic Footprint of Canada's Pharmacy Sector.](#)

July 2026



**Neighbourhood
Pharmacy**
Association of Canada

Association canadienne
des pharmacies
de quartier