



About Cancer in Canada

- Cancer is the leading cause of death in Canada, and is responsible for about 30 percent of all deaths.
- An estimated 2 in 5 Canadians will develop cancer in their lifetimes, and 1 in 4 will die from it.
- In 2014, an estimated 191,300 new cases of cancer (excluding about 76,100 non-melanoma skin cancers) and 76,600 cancer deaths will occur in Canada.
- Approximately 93,600 Canadian women and 97,700 men will be diagnosed with cancer this year.
- Every day, 524 Canadians will be diagnosed with cancer and 210 will die.
- Every hour, an estimated 22 people will be diagnosed with cancer, and nine will die.
- Breast cancer remains the most common cancer diagnosed in women, with 24,400 new cases expected in 2014.
- Prostate cancer remains the most commonly diagnosed cancer in men, with 23,600 new cases expected in 2014.
- Lung cancer remains the leading cause of premature cancer deaths, and was responsible for 27 percent of cancer deaths in both men and women.
- Four cancers – prostate, breast, lung and colorectal – together are expected to account for more than half (about 52 percent) of all new cases diagnosed in Canada in 2014.
- Cancer primarily affects Canadians over the age of 50, as 88 percent of all new cases are diagnosed in people in this age group.
- For both Canadian men and women, the median age of cancer diagnosis is between 65 and 69 years of age.
- In 2014, it is estimated that almost all cancer deaths in Canada (96 percent) will occur in people aged 50 years of age and over. Most of these cancer deaths (61 percent) will occur in people aged 70 years and over.
- Increases in the number of new cases are largely due to a growing and aging population.
- Based on 2009 statistics, about 810,045 Canadians diagnosed with cancer in the previous 10 years are alive today. This represents 1 in 41 Canadians.