



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 cancer.
- An estimated 187,600 new cases of cancer (excluding about 81,700 non-melanoma skin cancers) and 75,500 cancer deaths will occur in Canada in 2013.
- On the basis of current incidence rates, 41 percent of Canadian women and 46 percent of men will develop cancer during their lifetimes.
- Each day, on average, over 500 Canadians are diagnosed with cancer and over 200 die from cancer.
- Each hour, an estimated 21 people will be diagnosed with cancer, and nine people will die from cancer in Canada, in 2013.
- In 2013, approximately 91,400 Canadian women will be diagnosed with cancer and 36,100 women will die from cancer.
- In 2013, approximately 96,200 Canadian men will be diagnosed with cancer, and 39,400 men will die from cancer.
- Prostate cancer remains the most commonly diagnosed cancer in men, with 23,600 new cases expected in 2013.
- Breast cancer remains the most common cancer diagnosed in women, with 23,800 new cases expected in 2013.
- In both men and women, lung cancer is the second most common cancer, and colorectal cancer is the third most common.
- 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 2013.
- Lung cancer remains the leading cause of cancer death in both men (27 percent) and women (26 percent).
- 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 2013, it is estimated that almost all cancer deaths in Canada (95 percent) will occur in people aged 50 years 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.