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The Daily

Statistics Canada

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Releases

New products and studies

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Canada

Releases

Study: Trends in the prevalence of cancer

1997 to 2008

Five-year cancer prevalence rates for most cancers increased from January 1, 1997, to January 1, 2008. Increases were relatively large for liver and thyroid cancer, while rates declined for cancers of the larynx and cervix. The biggest disparity between the sexes was for cancer of the lung, for which rates declined slightly among men, but continued to increase among women.

For all cancers combined, the five-year prevalence rate at the beginning of 2008 was 1,490 cases per 100,000 population. The most prevalent was prostate cancer (610 cases per 100,000). In comparison, the corresponding prevalence rates for thyroid (53.1), cervical (32.5), laryngeal (10.0) and liver cancer (6.2), were considerably lower.

In general, cancer care services required within the first five years after diagnosis include primary treatment and supportive care, followed by close clinical assessment for recurrence.

Several factors may lead to increases in prevalence rates, including the aging of the population, improved detection of disease through advancements in screening, more extensive use of screening, increases in underlying risk factors for disease and improved rates of survival for people with cancer.

For all cancers combined, roughly half of the reported average annual rates of increase for five-year prevalence were attributable to aging. However, for individual cancers, the role of aging varied considerably. For example, about 20% of the increase in prevalence for liver cancer was a result of aging.

Rates of change

The five-year prevalence rate for all cancers combined rose 2.1% per year from 1997 to 2008.

The average annual increases in five-year prevalence rates for liver and thyroid cancer were more than double the increase for any other cancer.

Note to readers

This study is the first detailed report of trends in cancer prevalence in Canada. "Prevalence" is used here to refer to all cancers diagnosed within a given period among people alive on a specified date. It should not be confused with "incidence," which refers to newly occurring cases.

Five-year prevalence at the beginning of 2008 was estimated by counting the number of cancers diagnosed from January 1, 2003, to December 31, 2007, among people alive at the beginning of 2008.

Changes in cancer prevalence rates result from changes in the incidence of and survival from the disease. Several factors, the importance of which varies by cancer type, may account for changes in incidence and survival.

Prevalence was calculated using cancer incidence data from the January 2011 version of the Canadian Cancer Registry (CCR), a population-based database maintained by Statistics Canada. The CCR contains information on cases diagnosed from 1992 onward, compiled from reports from every provincial and territorial cancer registry.

Mortality data, also used in prevalence calculations, come from the Canadian Vital Statistics Death Database, also maintained by Statistics Canada. Data on deaths are based on information provided by the vital statistics registrars in each province and territory.

For data comparability reasons, the analysis excludes data from Quebec.

The five-year liver cancer prevalence rate increased 8.3% per year. For thyroid cancer, the average annual increase was 7.9%: 3.7% from 1997 to the beginning of 2000, and 9.5% from 2000 to 2008. Increases were higher in men for liver cancer, but higher in women for thyroid cancer.

Among the cancers considered in this study, declines in prevalence rates occurred only for cancers of the larynx and cervix. For example, the annual average rate of decrease in five-year prevalence for laryngeal cancer was 1.9% and for cervical cancer, 1.5%.

Leading cancers

Prevalence rates for prostate cancer, the most common cancer in Canada, rose substantially, primarily because of the aging of the population over the study period. For example, the five-year prevalence rate for this cancer increased 3.0% per year from 1997 to 2008.

Substantial increases in prostate cancer prevalence rates occurred among men in all age groups younger than 70 years. Average annual rate increases were highest at ages 40 to 49. The size of the increase fell in each successively older age group.

Increases in the prevalence of breast cancer, the second most common cancer and the most common in women, were more moderate. The annual rate of increase in five-year breast cancer prevalence was about three times higher before the beginning of 2001 (+2.3%) than afterward (+0.7%). Over the entire period, the five-year prevalence rate rose by an average of 1.3% per year.

Colorectal and lung cancer were the third and fourth most common cancers, respectively. The average increase in five-year colorectal cancer prevalence from 1997 to 2008 was 2.3% per year: 2.5% per year to the beginning of 2003 and 1.9% per year afterward. Increases for colorectal cancer were highest for people aged 20 to 39.

For lung cancer, the five-year prevalence rate increased 2.6% per year since the beginning of 2005, up from a rate of less than 1% a year before this period. Over the whole period, the rate increased by an average of 1.3% per year.

Between the sexes, changes in the prevalence rate of lung cancer diverged. In men, the rate declined slightly, 0.3% per year, but in women it increased 3.0% per year. This discrepancy was the result of sharper decreases in smoking prevalence among men since the mid-1960s.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey numbers, including related surveys, 3207 and 3233.

The article, "Canadian trends in cancer prevalence," part of *Health Reports*, Vol. 23, no. 1 (82-003-X, free), is now available from the *Key resource* module of our website under *Publications*. For more information on this article, contact Larry Ellison (613-951-5244; *larry.ellison@statcan.gc.ca*), Health Statistics Division, or Kathryn Wilkins (613-951-1769; *kathryn.wilkins@statcan.gc.ca*), Health Analysis Division.

Also released today is "Adopting leisure-time physical activity after diagnosis of a vascular condition." The majority of Canadians aged 40 and older are inactive in their leisure time. They tend to remain inactive after being diagnosed with a condition such as high blood pressure, heart disease or diabetes. For more information on this article, contact Pamela L. Ramage-Morin (613-951-1760; *pamela.ramage-morin@statcan.gc.ca*) or Julie Bernier (613-951-4556; *julie.bernier@statcan.gc.ca*), Health Analysis Division.

For information about *Health Reports*, contact Janice Felman (613-951-6446; *janice.felman@statcan.gc.ca*), Health Analysis Division.

For information about the Canadian Health Measures Survey, 2007 to 2009, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Statistics Canada's Media Relations (613-951-4636). ■

Farm business cash flows

2010 (revised)

Cash income for Canadian farm businesses increased 9.3% to $11.5 billion in 2010, the third increase in four years. This followed a 4.3% decline in 2009.

Despite lower crop receipts, the cash flow situation improved in 2010. This was partly the result of higher livestock receipts, caused by rising hog and cattle prices. In addition, farm operating expenses fell for the second consecutive year, as costs declined for fertilizer, feed and pesticides.

The cash flow account is a summary of cash flow in and out of farm businesses over the calendar year. Cash sources amounted to $46.9 billion, essentially unchanged from 2009 (-0.1%). Cash uses fell 2.8% to $35.4 billion, the second consecutive decline. The five main components of cash sources are sales of primary production, sales of secondary production, program payments, government rebates, and other cash income. The term "cash uses" covers expenses on inputs, business taxes, interest, cash wages to hired labour and cash rent to non-operators.

The eight provinces posting higher cash income in 2010 were led by Ontario (+$476 million) and Saskatchewan (+$406 million). Cash income fell in Alberta (-$255 million) and New Brunswick (-$13 million). In both, decreases in cash sources exceeded declines in cash uses, resulting in lower cash income.

Cash available to producers through borrowing rose in 2010 as both current and long-term liabilities increased. Loans outstanding recorded a net increase of $2.8 billion in 2010, following a $1.9 billion net increase in 2009.

The ratio of loans outstanding to cash income, which reflects the burden of farm debt on farm cash income, fell to 4.2 in 2010 from 4.4 in 2009. This means that for every $100 in income in 2010, producers had a debt load of $420, compared with $440 in 2009.

Note: While similar to the "Farm income" data released on November 24, 2011, in *The Daily*, the cash flow account is a summary of cash flow in and out of farm businesses over the calendar year. The basic function of the account is to provide information on the financial position of farm establishments (that is, the amount of cash available to farm establishments to meet current obligations). Specifically, only cash flow pertaining to farm operators is included. Cash income and expenses of non-operator landlords and the personal portion of farm households are excluded.

Preliminary farm business cash flow data for the previous calendar year are first released in June of each year (six months after the reference period), providing timely information on the performance of the agriculture sector. Revised data are then released in January of each year, incorporating data received too late to be included in the first release.

Data for this release are extracted from administrative files and derived from other Statistics Canada surveys or other sources.

This series does not include data on depreciation, which are available in *Farm Operating Expenses and Depreciation Charges: Agriculture Economic Statistics* (21-012-X, free).

Available on CANSIM: table 002-0023.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 5031.

The publication, *Farm Business Cash Flows: Agriculture Economic Statistics*, January 2012, Vol. 10, no. 2 (21-018-X, free), is now available online. From the *Key resource* module of our website, under *Publications*, choose *All subjects*, then *Agriculture*.

The publication, *Balance Sheet of the Agricultural Sector: Agricultural Economic Statistics*, January 2012, Vol. 10, no. 2 (21-016-X, free), is also available.

Farm income data for 2011 will be released on May 23.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Russell Kowaluk (613-951-0600; *russell.kowaluk@statcan.gc.ca*), Agriculture Division. ■

Balance sheet of the agricultural sector

December 31, 2010 (revised)

Farm sector equity in Canada continued its long-term climb in 2010, increasing 6.2% to $291.0 billion. Farm equity has risen each year since 1987.

Substantial gains in the value of assets more than offset a weaker increase in liabilities. The total value of farm assets rose 6.2% to $351.9 billion in 2010, while total liabilities rose 6.1% to $60.9 billion. In dollar terms, the value of assets increased $20.5 billion, far exceeding the $3.5 billion rise in total liabilities.

Equity advanced in eight provinces with Alberta recording the largest dollar increase, up 6.1% to $87.6 billion. Also posting notable gains in the value of equity were Ontario, up 6.9% to $73.5 billion and Saskatchewan, up 10.3% to $47.4 billion. There were small declines in equity in British Columbia and Nova Scotia.

At the national level, all categories that compose the value of assets posted gains. The largest dollar increase was in the value of farm real estate, which advanced 5.2% to $237.7 billion. The value of current assets rose 13.1% to $29.5 billion.

The value of assets increased in every province except Nova Scotia, where they declined 1.3% to $2.7 billion. Ontario, up 7.4% to $88.7 billion, and Alberta, up 6.3% to $101.8 billion, led the provinces in increases in assets. Saskatchewan farmers reported a 9.0% rise in the value of assets to $55.6 billion.

Total liabilities were also higher in every province, except for a slight decline in Nova Scotia.

The debt-to-asset ratio, which measures the dependence of farm business on debt, was 17.3% in 2010, unchanged from 2009.

The interest coverage ratio, which assesses the ability to cover interest charges with the net income generated (before interest and taxes), rose to 3.07 in 2010. This followed a sharp decline to 2.92 in 2009, after the ratio had hit a record high of 4.00 in 2008.

The period of sustained low interest rates saw interest costs decline 4.6% in 2010, following decreases of 1.7% in 2008 and 19.9% in 2009.

Return on equity edged down to 1.6% in 2010 from 1.7% in 2009. The ratio reached 3.4% in 2008, its highest point since 1993.

Note: Assets and liabilities in the agriculture sector's balance sheet include those of farm businesses and non-operator landlords (for farm real estate assets leased to farm operators and the corresponding liabilities) and exclude the personal portion of farm households. This most closely reflects the assets and liabilities used in the production of agricultural products.

Data for this release are extracted from administrative files and derived from other Statistics Canada surveys or other sources.

Available on CANSIM: table 002-0020.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 5029.

The publication, *Balance Sheet of the Agricultural Sector: Agricultural Economic Statistics*, January 2012, Vol. 10, no. 2 (21-016-X, free), is now available online. From the *Key resource* module of our website, under *Publications*, choose *All subjects*, then *Agriculture*.

The publication, *Farm Business Cash Flows: Agriculture Economic Statistics*, January 2012, Vol. 10, no. 2 (21-018-X, free), is also available.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Russell Kowaluk (613-951-0600; *russell.kowaluk@statcan.gc.ca*), Agriculture Division. ■

Crude oil and natural gas production

November 2011 (preliminary)

Provincial crude oil and marketable natural gas production data are now available for November.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2198.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact the dissemination officer (toll-free 1-866-873-8789; 613-951-9497; *energ@statcan.gc.ca*), Manufacturing and Energy Division. ■

New products and studies

Balance Sheet of the Agricultural Sector - Agriculture Economic Statistics, January 2012, Vol. 10, no. 2
Catalogue number 21-016-X (PDF, free; HTML, free)

Farm Business Cash Flows: Agriculture Economic Statistics, January 2012, Vol. 10, no. 2
Catalogue number 21-018-X (PDF, free; HTML, free)

Steel, Tubular Products and Steel Wire, November 2011, Vol. 7, no. 11
Catalogue number 41-019-X (PDF, free; HTML, free)

Canada's International Transactions in Securities, November 2011, Vol. 77, no. 11
Catalogue number 67-002-X (PDF, free; HTML, free)

Health Reports, Vol. 23, no. 1
Catalogue number 82-003-X (PDF, free; HTML, free)

Study: Portrait of Official-Language Minorities in Canada: "Francophones in Manitoba", 2010, no. 8
Catalogue number 89-642-X2012008 (PDF, free; HTML, free)

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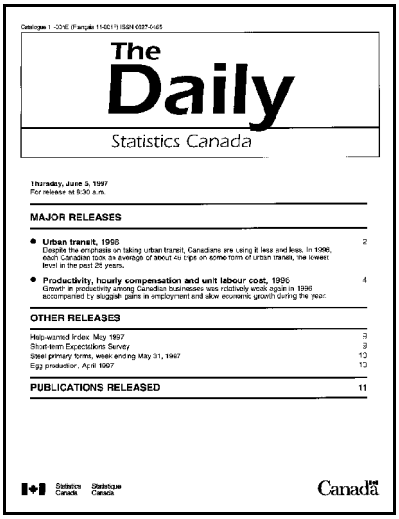
Authorized agents and bookstores also carry Statistics Canada's catalogued publications.



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The Daily

Statistics Canada

Thursday, June 5, 1997
For release at 8:30 a.m.

MAJOR RELEASES

- **Urban transit, 1996** 2
  Despite the emphasis on taking urban transit, Canadians are using it less and less. In 1996, each Canadian took an average of about 40 trips on some form of urban transit, the lowest level in the past 25 years.
- **Productivity, hourly compensation and unit labour cost, 1996** 4
  Growth in productivity among Canadian businesses was relatively weak again in 1996 accompanied by sluggish gains in employment and slow economic growth during the year.

OTHER RELEASES

Statistics Canada Statistique Canada

Canada

Statistics Canada's official release bulletin

Catalogue 11-001-XIE.

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