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RATES AND INDEX NUMBERS

of

HOSPITAL CHARGES

in

CANADA

1913 - 1925

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RATES AND INDEX NUMBERS OF HOSPITAL CHARGES.

Weighted index numbers of certain charges and other data pertaining to hospitals have been calculated by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics for the period 1913 to 1925 on the basis 1913=100. These include index numbers of rates charged for public, semi-private and private wards, charges for operations and index numbers of the daily cost of maintenance per patient. Calculations were made for provinces and for the Dominion as a whole and are based upon returns from seventy-five to more than one hundred hospitals.

An analysis of the results of this study show that in 1925 rates for accommodation in hospitals were in the neighborhood of 80% above those prevailing in 1913 and that the increase since 1913 in the cost of maintenance per patient per day was in the neighborhood of 90%. Operating-room charges appear to have increased only from 50 to 60%. The general index number of wholesale prices in Canada was 160.3 in 1925, hence hospital charges were considerably above the general average. This is an illustration of the tendency of the prices of domestic commodities and services to move on a higher price level than those for commodities and services which are international in character.

Operating-room charges were calculated by averaging the reported rates for major and minor operations.

With regard to cost of maintenance figures it was found impossible to collect these on a uniform basis for the whole Dominion so that the items included in this category are less comprehensive for some hospitals than others, e.g., some include overhead charges and others do not. Nevertheless it is believed that in the mass the resulting index numbers do indicate the trend with a fair degree of accuracy.

The average charge for public ward patients in the Dominion rose from \$1.02 per day in 1913 to \$1.38 in 1925, the index in 1925 being 134.4. Ontario, where statutory rates prevail, showed the smallest increase, the rates being \$1.00 and \$1.50 per day respectively in 1913 and 1925. The highest index in 1925 was 221.2, this being for Quebec, where the rate was very low in 1913, viz., 89¢ per diem. In that province it rose to \$1.97 in 1925.

Index numbers of rates charged for semi-private wards in 1925 ranged from 160.0 to 199.7, the former being for Nova Scotia and the latter for Saskatchewan. The average rates in Nova Scotia were \$1.60 per day in 1913 and \$2.56 in 1925 and in Saskatchewan \$1.72 in 1913 and \$3.44 in 1925. The Dominion average rate was \$1.57 in 1913 and \$2.84 in 1925, the index number in the latter year being 182.2.

For private rooms the Dominion index number rose from 100 in 1913 to 186.2 in 1925, the average charges being \$2.68 per day in 1913 and \$4.93 in 1925. In Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta, the index was slightly over 150 for each province in 1925, while it was 225.1 in Quebec in the same year. Provincial averages ranged from \$4.13 per diem in British Columbia to \$6.10 per diem in Manitoba in 1925.

Average operating-room charges moved up from \$5.16 in 1913 to \$7.97 in 1925, ranging in 1925 from \$6.25 in Nova Scotia to \$10.00 in Manitoba. The index number for the Dominion had risen to 155.1 in 1925.

Cost of maintenance per diem per patient was \$1.73 in 1913 and \$3.20 in 1925, the Dominion index being 185.3 in 1925. The cost in that year ranged from \$2.14 in Nova Scotia to \$5.85 in Alberta. The highest cost of maintenance in the series was reached in 1922 and 1924, when the figure stood at \$3.22. In 1922 it dropped to \$3.12 but rose in the next two years. In 1925 it turned slightly downward.

AVERAGE HOSPITAL CHARGES FOR PUBLIC WARD

	1913	1914	1915	1916	1917	1918	1919	1920	1921	1922	1923	1924	1925
N.S.	.91	.94	.94	.94	.94	1.17	1.17	1.18	1.54	1.54	1.54	1.54	1.54
Que.	.89	1.01	1.01	1.01	1.01	1.29	1.43	1.49	1.77	1.90	1.95	1.97	1.97
Ont.	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.25	1.25	1.38	1.50	1.50	1.50	1.50	1.50	1.50
Man.	1.00	1.00	1.50	1.50	1.50	1.50	1.75	1.75	1.75	1.75	1.75	1.75	1.75
Sask.	1.13	1.13	1.36	1.36	1.41	1.46	1.60	1.92	1.92	1.92	1.92	1.92	1.97
Alta.	1.24	1.33	1.33	1.44	1.44	1.46	1.46	1.56	1.56	1.56	1.63	2.17	2.27
Br.Col.	1.05	1.04	1.04	1.03	1.04	1.59	1.78	1.81	2.10	2.10	2.11	2.14	2.14
DOM. AV.	1.02	1.05	1.10	1.12	1.19	1.37	1.52	1.58	1.72	1.78	1.84	1.86	1.88

INDEX NUMBERS OF PUBLIC WARD HOSPITAL CHARGES.

	1913	1914	1915	1916	1917	1918	1919	1920	1921	1922	1923	1924	1925
N.S.	100.0	102.6	102.6	102.6	102.6	128.9	128.9	129.5	169.2	169.2	169.2	169.2	169.2
Que.	100.0	113.2	113.2	113.9	113.9	144.6	166.1	167.4	198.2	213.6	219.3	221.2	221.2
Ont.	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	125.0	125.0	137.5	150.0	150.0	150.0	150.0	150.0	150.0
Man.	100.0	100.0	150.0	150.0	150.0	150.0	175.0	175.0	175.0	175.0	175.0	175.0	175.0
Sask.	100.0	100.0	120.5	120.5	124.9	129.3	142.0	170.6	170.6	170.6	170.6	170.6	175.1
Alta.	100.0	107.6	107.6	116.1	116.1	118.1	118.1	125.7	125.7	125.7	132.0	175.2	183.6
Br.Col.	100.0	99.3	99.3	98.0	99.3	151.8	169.7	172.8	200.1	200.1	200.7	204.0	204.0
DOM. IN.	100.0	104.0	109.0	110.0	119.4	134.8	149.7	156.0	170.5	176.6	180.9	182.8	184.4

AVERAGE HOSPITAL CHARGES, SEMI-PRIVATE ROOMS

	1913	1914	1915	1916	1917	1918	1919	1920	1921	1922	1923	1924	1925
N.S.	1.60	1.60	1.60	1.60	1.64	2.00	2.25	2.33	2.51	2.53	2.53	2.56	2.56
Que.	1.64	1.64	1.64	1.75	1.75	2.04	2.11	2.21	2.35	2.37	2.50	2.52	2.91
Ont.	1.30	1.28	1.40	1.49	1.65	1.81	2.09	2.25	2.47	2.63	2.64	2.65	2.60
Man.	2.18	2.18	2.20	2.20	2.37	2.77	3.02	3.58	3.59	3.59	3.59	3.55	3.55
Sask.	1.72	1.87	2.17	2.17	2.17	2.26	2.85	3.26	3.40	3.39	3.39	3.39	3.44
Alta.	2.16	2.16	2.28	2.28	2.28	2.37	2.79	2.99	3.25	3.25	3.25	3.25	3.44
Br.Col.	1.89	1.89	1.89	1.89	2.13	2.44	2.76	2.84	3.50	3.50	3.50	3.50	3.52
DOM. AV.	1.57	1.57	1.64	1.71	1.79	2.03	2.27	2.44	2.63	2.69	2.73	2.74	2.84

INDEX NUMBERS OF HOSPITAL CHARGES, SEMI-PRIVATE ROOMS.

	1913	1914	1915	1916	1917	1918	1919	1920	1921	1922	1923	1924	1925
N.S.	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	102.8	125.0	140.9	145.8	157.0	158.6	158.6	160.0	160.0
Que.	100.0	100.0	100.0	106.5	106.5	124.2	128.3	134.8	142.9	144.2	151.9	153.3	177.2
Ont.	100.0	98.9	107.1	114.0	126.8	138.9	160.3	172.2	189.5	201.4	202.1	202.8	198.9
Man.	100.0	100.0	100.7	100.7	108.7	126.9	138.3	164.3	164.4	164.8	164.8	162.8	162.8
Sask.	100.0	108.6	125.9	125.9	125.9	130.9	165.1	189.2	197.5	196.9	196.9	196.9	199.7
Alta.	100.0	100.0	105.7	105.7	105.7	109.6	129.3	138.5	151.0	151.0	151.0	151.0	159.5
Br. Col.	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	112.7	129.3	146.0	150.4	185.4	185.4	185.4	185.4	186.7
DOM. IN.	100.0	100.2	104.6	108.8	114.7	130.9	145.3	156.3	168.6	173.1	175.6	176.1	182.2

AVERAGE HOSPITAL CHARGES, PRIVATE ROOMS

	1913	1914	1915	1916	1917	1918	1919	1920	1921	1922	1923	1924	1925
N.S.	1.87	1.86	1.87	1.91	1.91	2.25	2.42	2.76	2.85	3.00	3.00	3.02	3.07
Que.	2.60	2.60	2.60	2.71	2.71	3.01	3.65	3.68	4.27	4.29	4.38	4.56	5.85
Ont.	2.54	2.57	2.71	2.89	3.12	3.31	3.79	4.18	4.52	4.63	4.64	4.62	4.59
Man.	3.98	3.98	4.02	4.27	4.80	4.83	5.23	5.97	6.03	6.10	6.10	6.10	6.10
Sask.	3.13	3.13	3.30	3.30	3.30	3.67	3.67	4.91	5.34	4.96	4.96	5.09	4.80
Alta.	3.33	3.33	3.33	3.56	3.62	3.81	4.13	4.83	4.89	5.01	5.01	5.01	5.11
Br. Col.	2.58	2.58	2.62	2.62	2.62	3.04	3.31	3.38	3.90	3.90	3.95	3.95	4.13
DOM. AV.	2.68	2.68	2.75	2.88	3.00	3.23	3.63	4.05	4.45	4.49	4.52	4.58	4.93

INDEX NUMBERS OF HOSPITAL CHARGES, PRIVATE ROOMS

	1913	1914	1915	1916	1917	1918	1919	1920	1921	1922	1923	1924	1925
N.S.	100.0	100.9	100.9	102.0	102.0	120.4	129.7	147.4	152.5	160.6	160.6	161.8	164.5
Que.	100.0	100.0	100.0	104.4	104.4	115.9	140.3	141.4	164.3	164.8	168.5	175.3	225.1
Ont.	100.0	101.3	107.0	113.9	123.2	130.4	149.5	164.9	178.3	182.7	182.9	182.3	181.2
Man.	100.0	100.0	100.8	107.1	120.5	121.3	131.4	149.8	151.5	153.1	153.1	153.1	153.1
Sask.	100.0	100.0	105.6	105.6	105.6	117.4	117.4	156.9	170.5	158.3	158.3	162.5	153.5
Alta.	100.0	100.0	100.0	106.9	108.6	114.2	123.8	145.0	146.7	150.2	150.2	150.2	153.3
Br. Col.	100.0	100.0	101.5	101.5	101.5	117.7	128.1	131.0	151.0	151.0	152.8	152.8	159.8
DOM. IN.	100.0	100.5	103.0	107.5	111.8	120.8	138.2	151.4	167.4	169.1	170.3	172.3	186.2

AVERAGE OPERATING ROOM CHARGES

	1913	1914	1915	1916	1917	1918	1919	1920	1921	1922	1923	1924	1925
N.S.	4.55	4.55	4.55	4.55	4.55	5.50	6.77	6.77	6.87	6.87	6.87	6.87	6.28
Que.	5.58	5.58	5.58	5.58	5.58	5.65	6.95	7.00	7.16	7.24	8.70	8.70	8.74
Ont.	4.43	4.51	4.58	4.72	4.94	5.28	6.12	6.72	6.88	7.02	7.02	7.06	7.27
Man.	6.81	6.81	6.81	6.81	7.34	9.15	9.67	9.67	9.67	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00
Sask.	5.74	5.74	5.74	5.74	6.01	6.01	6.31	7.10	7.10	7.10	7.10	7.59	8.36
Alta.	5.12	5.12	5.12	5.67	5.78	6.13	5.69	5.69	5.91	5.91	5.69	6.50	6.50
Br. Col.	4.73	4.73	5.09	5.09	5.09	6.21	6.21	6.39	6.94	6.94	6.94	6.94	7.06
DOM. AV.	5.16	5.18	5.23	5.31	5.53	5.94	6.71	7.00	7.15	7.24	7.64	7.87	7.97

INDEX NUMBERS OF OPERATING ROOM CHARGES

	1913	1914	1915	1916	1917	1918	1919	1920	1921	1922	1923	1924	1925
N.S.	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	121.0	143.8	143.8	151.1	151.1	151.1	151.1	138.2
Que.	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	101.2	124.6	125.5	128.3	129.7	155.9	155.9	156.7
Ont.	100.0	101.8	103.3	106.6	111.5	119.3	138.1	151.8	155.4	158.4	158.5	159.4	164.2
Man.	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	107.8	134.3	141.9	141.9	141.9	146.8	146.8	146.8	146.8
Sask.	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	104.8	104.8	109.9	123.8	123.8	123.8	123.8	132.3	145.7
Alta.	100.0	100.0	100.0	110.8	112.9	119.8	111.2	111.2	115.5	115.5	111.2	127.0	127.0
Br. Col.	100.0	100.0	107.6	107.6	107.6	131.5	131.5	135.3	146.8	146.8	146.8	146.8	149.5
DOM. IN.	100.0	100.6	101.6	103.3	107.4	115.4	130.8	137.0	140.1	141.8	148.9	153.0	155.1

AVERAGE COST OF MAINTENANCE PER CAPITA PER DIEM.

	1913	1914	1915	1916	1917	1918	1919	1920	1921	1922	1923	1924	1925
N. S.	1.28	1.29	1.34	1.40	1.43	1.66	2.12	2.57	2.46	2.44	2.23	2.22	2.14
Que.	1.63	1.73	1.66	1.86	2.32	2.63	2.80	2.96	2.96	2.93	2.84	3.16	3.14
Ont.	1.49	1.66	1.59	1.73	1.99	2.37	2.57	3.02	3.40	3.32	3.44	3.39	3.35
Man.	2.20	2.10	2.04	2.07	2.44	2.71	2.98	3.31	3.31	2.90	3.01	3.26	3.09
Sask.	2.29	2.44	2.47	2.31	2.51	2.97	3.02	3.52	3.33	3.34	3.36	3.34	3.14
Alta.	2.18	2.23	1.95	2.07	2.26	2.62	3.45	3.83	3.65	3.45	3.77	3.77	3.83
Br. Col.	2.01	1.93	1.92	2.00	2.20	2.33	2.67	3.11	3.21	3.04	3.29	2.66	3.25
Dom. Av.	1.68	1.77	1.72	1.84	2.14	2.47	2.72	3.08	3.22	3.12	3.17	3.22	3.20

INDEX NUMBERS OF COST OF MAINTENANCE PER CAPITA PER DIEM.

N. S.	100.0	100.9	105.0	109.4	111.8	129.4	165.4	200.2	192.0	190.2	173.8	173.2	167.3
Que.	100.0	106.1	101.8	113.9	142.2	161.5	172.2	181.7	181.8	179.7	174.2	194.1	192.5
Ont.	100.0	111.0	106.3	116.1	133.2	158.8	172.1	202.4	227.2	222.3	229.9	227.2	208.4
Man.	100.0	95.4	92.7	94.0	110.9	123.2	135.2	150.5	150.6	131.7	136.6	148.3	140.5
Sask.	100.0	106.4	107.9	100.6	109.3	129.7	131.5	153.4	145.0	145.7	146.5	145.5	137.1
Alta.	100.0	102.4	89.2	94.9	103.5	120.0	158.2	175.4	167.1	158.3	173.0	172.9	175.6
Br. Col.	100.0	96.1	95.5	99.6	109.1	115.8	132.8	154.4	159.4	151.1	163.5	132.2	161.3
Dom. In.	100.0	105.7	102.7	110.4	128.8	148.8	163.7	187.2	195.6	189.7	192.5	195.7	188.8

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