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Statistics Canada

Tuesday, February 13, 1996
For release at 8:30 a.m.

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- **Cancer statistics, 1996** 2
Mortality rates for several types of cancers among men and women have slowed markedly over the past decade. However, among men, the mortality rate for prostate cancer is rising steadily. Among women, the epidemic of lung cancer continues.

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Canadian cancer statistics 1996

The 1996 edition of *Canadian cancer statistics* is a collaborative effort of Statistics Canada, the National Cancer Institute of Canada, Health Canada, the Canadian Cancer Society, and the cancer registries of the provinces and territories. This report presents estimates of cancer incidence and mortality for 1996, historical (actual and estimated) data from 1969 to 1996, and selected indicators of the burden of cancer. Special topics featured this year include trends in prostate cancer, the direct costs of cancer in Canada, and an evaluation of the cancer estimates published from 1987 to 1991.

Canadian cancer statistics, 1996 (uncatalogued) is now available from the Health Statistics Division (613-951-1746), Statistics Canada, and from the Canadian Cancer Society.



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MAJOR RELEASES

Cancer statistics

1996

Mortality rates for several types of cancers have slowed markedly over the past decade. However, among men, mortality and incidence rates for prostate cancer are rising steadily. Among women, the epidemic of lung cancer continues.

The overall cancer mortality rate among Canadian men has been gradually declining since the peak in 1988. Decreasing mortality rates for lung, colorectal and several other cancers are responsible for the drop. Among women, the overall cancer mortality rate has remained stable; however, it would have declined by 12% between 1971 and 1996 if the lung cancer rate had not increased substantially.

An estimated 129,200 new cases of cancer will be diagnosed in Canadians of all ages in 1996. This represents an average increase of about 3,000 new cases per year over the past quarter century. In addition, an estimated 61,800 Canadians will die from cancer this year. Deaths have increased by about 1,200 per year over the past 25 years.

The major factor in the steadily rising caseload has been the rapidly aging population—a trend that will continue. In 1971, 12% of the population was aged 60 or over, compared with 16% in 1996 and a projected 22% in 2016.

In 1993, cancer cost the country's health care system at least \$3.5 billion, three-quarters of which was spent on hospital care. Costs have increased from \$1.9 billion in 1986, reflecting the higher caseload.

Note to readers

The estimates were produced by modelling actual cancer incidence and mortality data by province for selected cancer sites. Actual data from 1984 to 1991 or to 1992 were used to compute incidence estimates for 1996. Data from 1984 to 1993 were used to compute 1996 mortality estimates. The overall (all causes) incidence estimates for 1996 exclude approximately 62,500 cases of non-melanoma skin cancer.

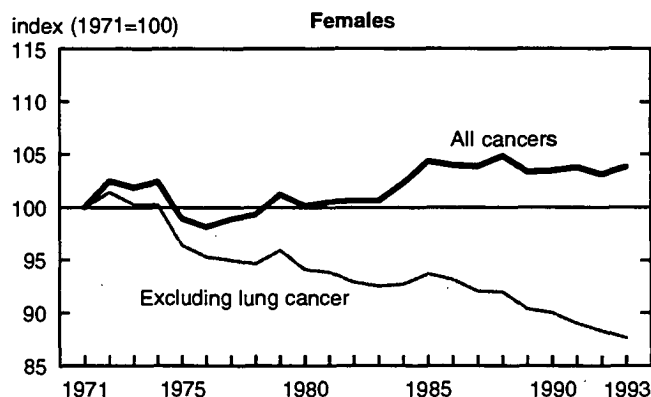
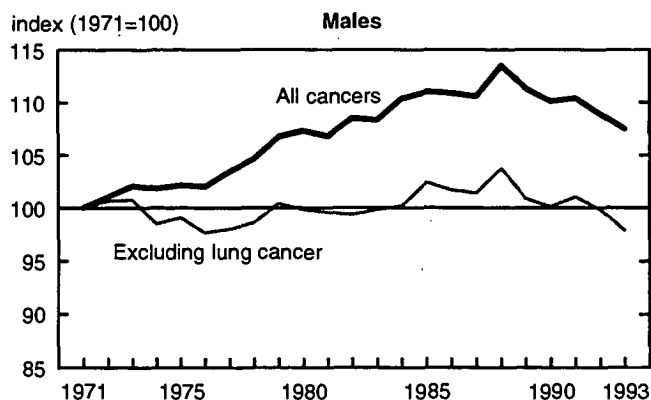
Mortality rate is defined as the number of deaths per 100,000 persons in the population. Incidence rate is the number of new cases per 100,000 persons. Rates used in this release were adjusted for changes in the age distribution of the population over time.

Overall cancer mortality decreases among men

The overall cancer mortality rate for men has declined slightly but steadily from a high of 253 per 100,000 in 1988 to an estimated 241 per 100,000 in 1996. (These rates are adjusted for changes in the age distribution of the population over time.) This reduction occurred among men in all age groups under 60, whereas the rates were stable at older ages.

Lung cancer mortality has declined from 81 to 78 per 100,000 over the same nine-year period, a reflection of the declining use of tobacco among men since the mid-1960s. Among the other cancers that are leading causes of death among men, mortality rates have fallen for colorectal cancer (from 28 per 100,000 in 1988 to 24 per 100,000 in 1996) and stomach cancer (from 13 to 9 per 100,000). Other cancers that have decreased during this nine-year period include testicular cancer, pancreatic cancer and Hodgkin's disease.

Indexes of cancer mortality rates in Canada



Note: Rates are standardized to the age distribution of the 1991 Canadian population. All figures exclude non-melanoma skin cancer.

Source: Health Statistics Division, Statistics Canada.

However, the mortality rates for prostate cancer are still rising (from 25 per 100,000 in 1969 to 32 per 100,000 in 1996), and the incidence rates are climbing

even faster (from 54 per 100,000 in 1969 to 124 per 100,000 in 1996). The increase in incidence, which has been particularly marked since 1990, is due mainly to wider use of various tests for the early detection of this cancer, including the test for prostate-specific antigen (PSA), introduced in 1990.

The incidence of prostate cancer has surpassed that of lung cancer. Moreover, prostate cancer is now the most commonly diagnosed cancer in Canadian men; 1 in 9 will develop prostate cancer and 1 in 27 will die of the disease. Nonetheless, it ranks second to lung cancer as a cause of cancer death.

Overall cancer mortality remains stable among women

Among women, trends in mortality and incidence rates for all forms of cancer combined have remained stable since 1984. In fact, mortality rates have declined for women under 60. This is due primarily to declining mortality from colorectal and breast cancers among women aged 30 to 59.

By contrast, cancer mortality rates have risen among women aged 60 to 79, due largely to higher lung cancer mortality in these age groups. Since 1966, smoking rates among women have declined only slightly. Smoking rates among young women (aged 15 to 19) are now higher than those among young men.

Among women, increases in lung cancer mortality have been offset by decreases in mortality due to colorectal, bladder and stomach cancers, as well as Hodgkin's disease. In fact, if lung cancer rates had stayed the same and not quadrupled, overall cancer mortality for women would have declined by 12% since 1971.

Encouragingly, the previously stable rate for breast cancer showed a small decrease in 1993, dropping to the lowest rate recorded during the 1969-to-1993 period.

Canadian cancer statistics, 1996 is a collaborative effort of Statistics Canada, the National Cancer Institute of Canada, the Canadian Cancer Society, Health Canada and the cancer registries of the provinces and territories.

Limited copies of *Canadian cancer statistics, 1996* are available from the Canadian Cancer Society (Suite 200, 10 Alcorn Avenue, Toronto, Ontario, M4V 3B1; phone 416-961-7223), the Health Statistics Division

of Statistics Canada (613-951-1746), local offices of the Canadian Cancer Society, and Statistics Canada's Regional Reference Centres.

For further information on this release, contact Leslie Gaudette (613-951-1740) or Judy Lee (613-951-1775), Health Statistics Division; Kerstin Ring or David Stones (416-961-7223), Canadian Cancer Society / National Cancer Institute of Canada; or Sylvie Patry (613-957-2988), Health Canada.

Estimated new cases and deaths for selected cancer sites 1996

Site	New cases			Deaths		
	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female
All cancers	129,200	68,600	60,600	61,800	33,600	28,200
Lung	20,000	12,400	7,600	17,000	11,000	6,000
Breast (female)	18,600	...	18,600	5,300	...	5,300
Prostate	18,200	18,200	...	4,200	4,200	...
Colorectal	16,300	8,800	7,500	6,200	3,300	2,900
Non-Hodgkin's lymphoma	5,300	2,900	2,400	2,300	1,200	1,100
Bladder	4,450	3,300	1,150	1,320	920	400
Kidney	4,050	2,500	1,550	1,350	830	520
Leukemia	3,250	1,800	1,450	2,010	1,100	910
Melanoma	3,100	1,650	1,450	640	390	250
Oral	3,090	2,200	890	1,070	770	300
Stomach	3,000	1,950	1,050	2,000	1,200	800
Body of uterus	3,000	...	3,000	620	...	620
Pancreas	2,900	1,350	1,550	2,950	1,450	1,500
Brain	2,230	1,250	980	1,430	790	640
Ovary	2,100	...	2,100	1,350	...	1,350
Multiple myeloma	1,510	820	690	1,100	580	520
Larynx	1,360	1,100	260	560	470	90
Cervix	1,350	...	1,350	390	...	390
Hodgkin's disease	820	420	400	140	75	65
Testis	770	770	...	25	25	...
All other sites	13,800	7,200	6,600	9,800	5,300	4,500

... Figures not appropriate or not applicable.

Note: Figures exclude the estimated 62,500 cases of non-melanoma skin cancer.

Source: Health Statistics Division, Statistics Canada.

OTHER RELEASES

Raw materials price index, early estimate January 1996

The raw materials price index (RMPI) decreased an estimated 1.2% from December 1995 to January 1996. Except for the wood index (+1.8%), all the major components declined: metals (-4.8%), mineral fuels (-1.9%), and vegetable and animal products (-0.7%). The RMPI excluding mineral fuels fell 1.0% in January 1996.

This early estimate of the January 1996 index is based on partial returns and other indicators. The regular index will be published at the end of this month.

For further information on this release, contact Paul-Roméo Danis (613-951-3350, fax: 613-951-2848), Client Services Unit, Prices Division. ■

Dairy review Fourth quarter 1995

In the fourth quarter of 1995, creamery butter production totalled 23 300 tonnes, a 10.7% increase from a year earlier. Cheddar cheese production amounted to 30 150 tonnes, a 5.6% rise from the fourth quarter of 1994.

An estimated 1 750 000 kilolitres of milk were sold off farms for all purposes during the September-to-November 1995 period. This brought the total estimate of milk sold off farms during the first 11 months of 1995 to 6.6 million kilolitres, a 2.2% increase over the January-to-November 1994 period.

Available on CANSIM: matrices 3428, 5632-5638, 5650-5661, 5664-5667 and 5673.

The fourth quarter 1995 issue of *The dairy review* (23-001QXPB, \$35/\$115) will be released shortly. See "How to order publications".

For further information on this release, contact Debbie Dupuis (613-951-2553), Agriculture Division. ■

PUBLICATIONS RELEASED

Pulpwood and wood residue statistics,
December 1995

Catalogue number 25-001-XPB

(Canada: \$7/\$70; United States: US\$9/US\$84; other countries: US\$10/US\$98).

Oils and fats, amended survey, October 1995

Catalogue number 32-006-XPB

(Canada: \$6/\$60; United States: US\$8/US\$72; other countries: US\$9/US\$84).

Footwear statistics, quarter ended December 1995

Catalogue number 33-002-XPB

(Canada: \$8/\$24; United States: US\$9/US\$29; other countries: US\$11/US\$34).

Building permits, December 1995

Catalogue number 64-001-XPB

(Canada: \$24/\$240; United States: US\$29/US\$288; other countries: US\$34/US\$336).

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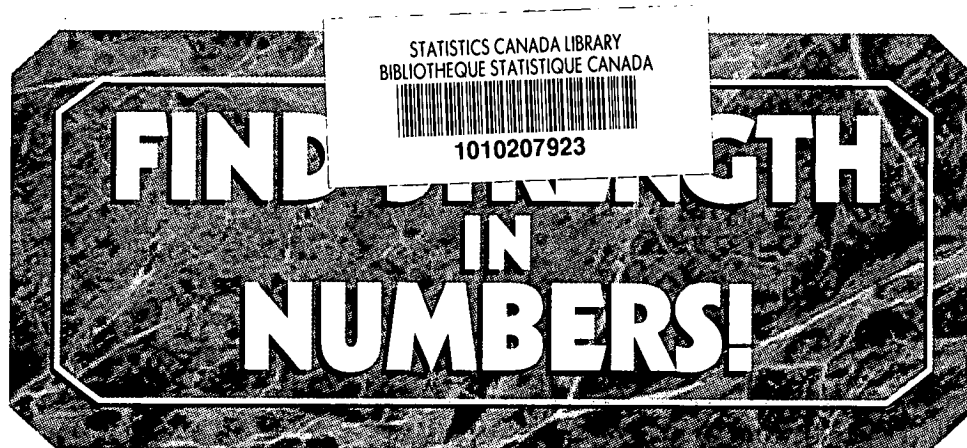
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