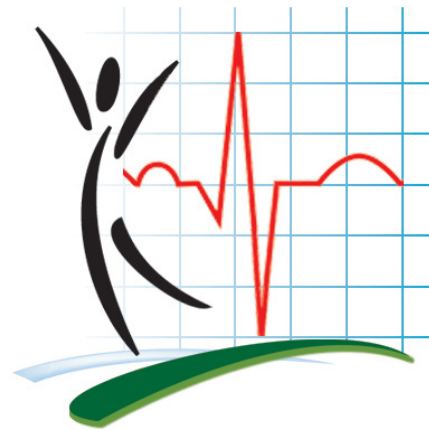


Health Fact Sheets

Trends in mortality rates, 2000 to 2011



Statistics
Canada

Statistique
Canada

Canada

How to obtain more information

For information about this product or the wide range of services and data available from Statistics Canada, visit our website, www.statcan.gc.ca.

You can also contact us by

email at STATCAN.infostats-infostats.STATCAN@canada.ca

telephone, from Monday to Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., at the following numbers:

- | | |
|---|----------------|
| • Statistical Information Service | 1-800-263-1136 |
| • National telecommunications device for the hearing impaired | 1-800-363-7629 |
| • Fax line | 1-514-283-9350 |

Depository Services Program

- | | |
|------------------|----------------|
| • Inquiries line | 1-800-635-7943 |
| • Fax line | 1-800-565-7757 |

Standards of service to the public

Statistics Canada is committed to serving its clients in a prompt, reliable and courteous manner. To this end, Statistics Canada has developed standards of service that its employees observe. To obtain a copy of these service standards, please contact Statistics Canada toll-free at 1-800-263-1136. The service standards are also published on www.statcan.gc.ca under “Contact us” > “Standards of service to the public.”

Note of appreciation

Canada owes the success of its statistical system to a long-standing partnership between Statistics Canada, the citizens of Canada, its businesses, governments and other institutions. Accurate and timely statistical information could not be produced without their continued co-operation and goodwill.

Standard table symbols

The following symbols are used in Statistics Canada publications:

- . not available for any reference period
- .. not available for a specific reference period
- ... not applicable
- 0 true zero or a value rounded to zero
- 0^s value rounded to 0 (zero) where there is a meaningful distinction between true zero and the value that was rounded
- ^P preliminary
- ^r revised
- X suppressed to meet the confidentiality requirements of the *Statistics Act*
- ^E use with caution
- F too unreliable to be published
- * significantly different from reference category ($p < 0.05$)

Published by authority of the Minister responsible for Statistics Canada

© Minister of Industry, 2014

All rights reserved. Use of this publication is governed by the Statistics Canada [Open Licence Agreement](#).

An HTML version is also available.

Cette publication est aussi disponible en français.



Trends in mortality rates, 2000 to 2011

This fact sheet presents the age-standardized mortality rates and analyzes the trends in mortality rates since 2000, with emphasis on the leading causes of death.

The age-standardized mortality rates show the number of deaths per 100,000 population that would have occurred in a given area if the age structure of the population of that area was the same as the age structure of a specified standard population. The mortality rates are calculated to eliminate the impact of population structure changes on death rates. Thus, the comparisons of these mortality rates reflect the actual changes in mortality.

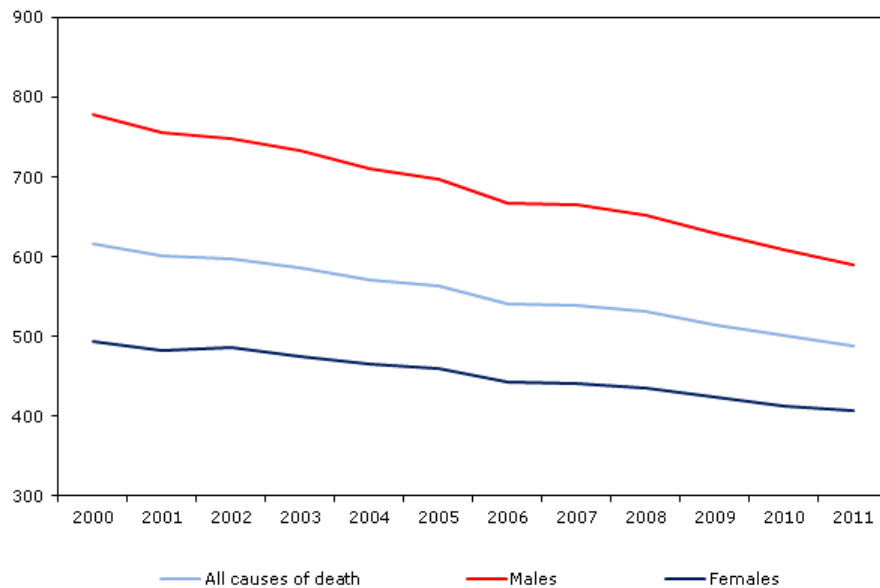


For the period 2000 to 2011, the age-standardized mortality rate for all causes combined declined 20.6%, from 615.5 deaths per 100,000 population to 489.0 (Chart 1). The largest reductions occurred from 2005 to 2006 mainly because of the substantial reduction in the rates for heart disease and, to a lesser extent, because of the decline in the rates for stroke and cancer.

Age-standardized mortality rates for all causes of death declined for males by 24.2% (from 778.3 to 589.9) from 2000 to 2011, while rates for females declined by 17.6% (from 493.2 to 406.3).

Chart 1
Age-standardized mortality rates¹, by sex, Canada, 2000
to 2011

per 100,000
 standard population



1. Age-standardized mortality rate per 100,000 standard population.

Source: Vital Statistics: Death Database, CANSIM Table 102-0563.

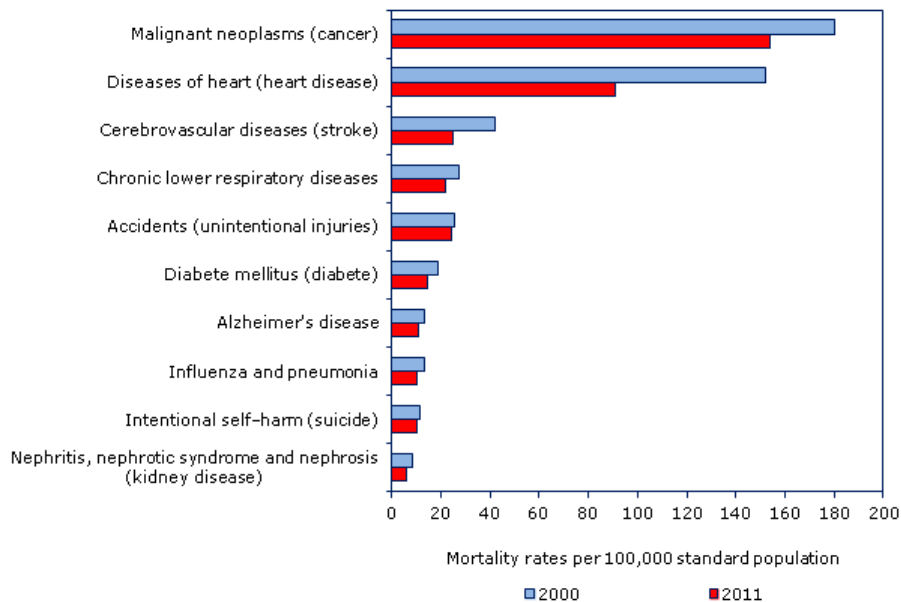
Age-standardized mortality rates for all 10 leading causes of death declined

Over the period 2000 to 2011, standardized mortality rates declined for all 10 leading causes of death. The standardized rates for stroke (cerebrovascular disease) and heart disease showed the largest decrease, a 41.2% decline (42.2 to 24.8) and a 40.1% decline (152.0 to 91.0) respectively. The mortality rate for accidents (unintentional injuries) had the smallest decrease at 6.2% (25.8 to 24.2). Cancer, the first leading cause of death, saw its rate go down by 14.6%, from 180.4 per 100,000 standard population in 2000 to 154.1 in 2011 (Chart 2).

From 2000 to 2011, the decline in the age-standardized mortality rate for cancer was more pronounced for males (19.0%), from 225.3 to 182.6, compared with the decline for females (10.9%), from 149.4 to 133.1. Meanwhile, the standardized rates for heart disease dropped 41.2% for males (202.9 to 119.3) and 40.4% for females (113.4 to 67.6).

Chart 2
Age-standardized mortality rates¹ for the 10 leading causes of death, Canada, 2000 and 2011

Causes of Death



1. Age-standardized mortality rate per 100,000 standard population.

Note: The order of the causes of death in this table is based on the ranking of the 10 leading causes of death in 2011.

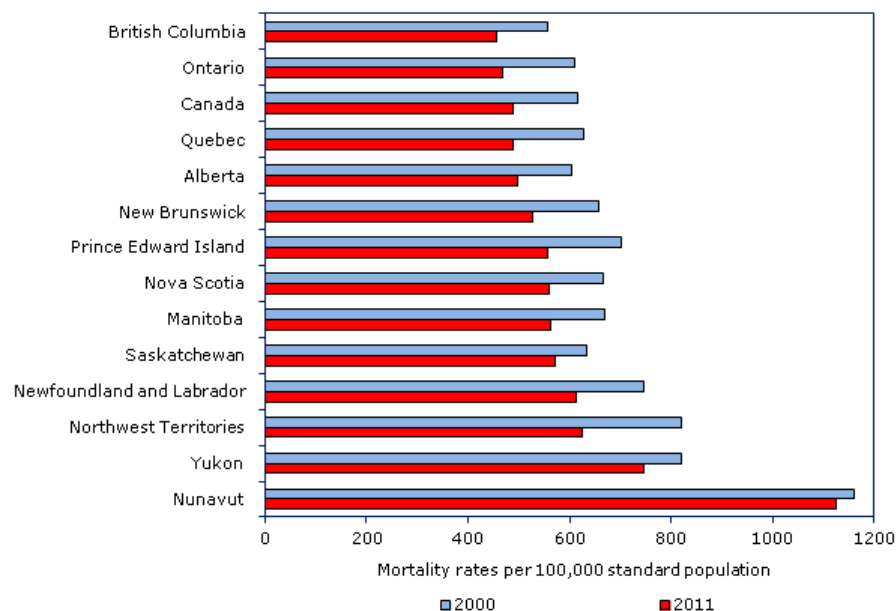
Source: Vital Statistics: Death Database, CANSIM Table 102-0563.

Trends of age-standardized mortality rates varied in provinces and territories

From 2000 to 2011, Ontario and British Columbia had age-standardized mortality rates lower than the Canada-level rate. In 2011, there were 469.3 deaths per 100,000 standard population in Ontario and 454.8 per 100,000 standard population in British Columbia compared with 489.0 deaths per 100,000 standard population for Canada. The rates for Quebec and Alberta have fluctuated around the national level while the other provinces and the three territories had higher mortality rates than the national average (Chart 3).

Chart 3
Age-standardized mortality rates¹ for all causes of death,
Canada, provinces and territories, 2000 and 2011

Place of residence



1. Age-standardized mortality rate per 100,000 standard population.

Source: Vital Statistics: Death Database, CANSIM Table 102-0563.

While cancer has been the first leading cause of death in Canada since 2000, only from 2008 did it become the first leading cause in all provinces and territories. In the provinces, the age-standardized mortality rates for the top three leading causes of death (cancer, heart disease and stroke) decreased over the period of observation.

The decreasing trend was also observed with the mortality rate for chronic lower respiratory diseases in all provinces and territories except Nova Scotia, where the mortality rate fluctuated around 31 deaths per 100,000 population until 2008. Since then, it has increased from 28.7 to 33.3 in 2011.

In general, the age standardized mortality rate for accidents (unintentional injuries) has increased from 2000 to 2011 in Nova Scotia (24.1 to 31.2), New Brunswick (28.7 to 29.4), Ontario (22.3 to 23.8), Manitoba (33.3 to 35.0) and Saskatchewan (36.5 to 40.8). British Columbia started the upward trend in 2006 from 23.4 to 27.0 in 2011. In the other provinces and territories, the mortality rate for accidents has dropped over time.

Data tables

CANSIM tables [102-0561](#), [102-0562](#) and [102-0563](#).