



2024 to 2025 Departmental Sustainable Development Strategy Report

Health Canada

Health Canada is the federal department responsible for helping the people of Canada maintain and improve their health. Health Canada is committed to improving the lives of all of Canada's people and to making this country's population among the healthiest in the world as measured by longevity, lifestyle and effective use of the public health care system.

Également disponible en français sous le titre:
Rapport sur la Stratégie ministérielle de développement durable 2024 à 2025 de Santé Canada

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Publication date: October 2025

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ISSN: 2292-6585
Catalogue number: H126-3E-PDF
Publication number : 250278

Introduction to the 2024 to 2025 Departmental Sustainable Development Strategy Report

The [2022 to 2026 Federal Sustainable Development Strategy \(FSDS\)](#) presents the Government of Canada's sustainable development goals and targets, as required by the [Federal Sustainable Development Act](#). This is the first FSDS to be framed using the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) of the United Nations 2030 Agenda and provides a balanced view of the environmental, social, and economic dimensions of sustainable development.

In keeping with the purpose of the Act, to make decision-making related to sustainable development more transparent and accountable to Parliament, Health Canada supports the goals laid out in the FSDS through the activities described in Health Canada's 2023 to 2027 Departmental Sustainable Development Strategy (DSDS). This Report provides a report on progress related to Health Canada's DSDS in the fiscal year 2024 to 2025.

The [Federal Sustainable Development Act](#) also sets out [7 principles](#) that must be considered in the development of the FSDS as well as DSDSs. These basic principles have been considered and incorporated in Health Canada's DSDS and 2024 to 2025 DSDS Report.

To promote coordinated action on sustainable development across the Government of Canada, Health Canada's departmental strategy reports on Canada's progress towards implementing the 2030 Agenda and advancing the SDGs, supported by the [Global Indicator Framework \(GIF\)](#) and [Canadian Indicator Framework \(CIF\)](#) targets and indicators. The Report also now captures progress on SDG initiatives that fall outside the scope of the FSDS to inform the development of Canada's Annual Report on the 2030 Agenda and the SDGs.



Commitments for Health Canada





GOAL 2: SUPPORT A HEALTHIER AND MORE SUSTAINABLE FOOD SYSTEM

FSDS Context:

Under the *Food and Drugs Act* and *Food and Drug Regulations*, Health Canada contributes to this goal by ensuring Canadians have access to safe and healthy foods through implementing food safety and nutritional quality policies, regulations and standards for foods sold in Canada, including conducting pre-market safety assessments of products as a measure to protect the health and safety of Canadians. An example of providing safe access to food is the Total Diet Study that Health Canada leads, which is a surveillance program that monitors and helps identify contaminants in food sold in Canada, allowing informed risk management actions.

Health Canada continues to take steps to re-design food regulations to reduce barriers that prevent industry from bringing innovative products to market, while protecting the health and safety of Canadians and ensuring that Canadians have access to safe and healthy foods.

Implementation strategies supporting the goal

This section is for implementation strategies that support the goal “**Support a healthier and more sustainable food system**” but not a specific FSDS target.

IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGY	DEPARTMENTAL ACTION	PERFORMANCE INDICATOR STARTING POINT TARGET	HOW THE DEPARTMENTAL ACTION CONTRIBUTES TO THE FSDS GOAL AND TARGET AND, WHERE APPLICABLE, TO CANADA'S 2030 AGENDA NATIONAL STRATEGY AND SDGs	RESULTS ACHIEVED
<p>Ensure the safety of Canada's food system</p> <p>Ensure the safety of Canada's food system through regulations, monitoring and programming.</p>	<p>Re-design food regulations to reduce barriers that prevent industry from bringing innovative products to market (e.g., foods that use new processes and technologies).</p> <p>Program: Food and Nutrition</p>	<p>Performance Indicator: Percentage of current and emerging high-risk food safety and nutrition issues which generate the development of a regulatory or non-regulatory response</p> <p>Starting point: 100% in 2022-23</p> <p>Target: 100% (annual)</p>	<p>This departmental action contributes to FSDS Goal 2 - Support a Healthier and More Sustainable Food System by implementing food safety and nutritional quality regulations and standards for all foods sold in Canada under the authority of the <i>Food and Drugs Act</i> and <i>Food and Drug Regulations</i>. Health Canada conducts pre-market safety assessments to ensure that decisions taken by the Department protect the health and safety of Canadians. The re-design of food regulations provides greater flexibility and agility to respond to advances in science and technology, and allow new paths to market (e.g., supplemented foods)</p> <p>Relevant targets or ambitions: <i>GIF Target: 2.1</i> By 2030, end hunger and ensure access by all people, in particular the poor and people in vulnerable situations, including infants, to safe, nutritious and sufficient food all year round.</p>	<p>Indicator result: 100% of current and emerging high-risk food safety and nutrition issues generated a regulatory or non-regulatory response in 2024-25</p> <p>Notes: For example, a response was developed to the incursion of Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI) in dairy cattle in the US. This included a risk assessment, generating a webpage for the public, collaborating with health portfolio partners, and completing several research projects to support risk management of the issue.</p>
	<p>Continue to monitor concentrations of chemical contaminants in foods.</p> <p>Program: Food and Nutrition</p>	<p>Performance Indicator: Percentage of Total Diet Study (TDS) Surveillance Data for priority chemicals uploaded to the publicly accessible Canadian Laboratory Information Network (CANLINE) database</p> <p>Starting point: 100% in 2023-24</p> <p>Target: 100% (annual)</p>	<p>This departmental action contributes to FSDS Goal 2 - This departmental action contributes to FSDS Goal 2 - Support a Healthier and More Sustainable Food System by identifying contaminants in foods that are typically consumed by Canadians. The Canadian Total Diet Study (TDS) is a food surveillance program that enables Health Canada to monitor the concentrations of contaminants in foods sold in Canada in order to determine the key dietary sources, assess trends, support</p>	<p>Indicator result: 100% of Total Diet Study (TDS) Surveillance data for priority chemicals were uploaded to the publicly accessible Canadian Laboratory Information Network (CANLINE) database in 2024-25</p> <p>Notes: TDS analysis takes place on an ongoing basis.</p>

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			<p>the development of food safety policies and regulations. When food surveillance data sets are finalized they are posted to CANLINE which is a searchable database for chemical, nutritional, and microbiological laboratory surveillance data. Posting the source data on CANLINE ensures that Health Canada's decision making about food safety is done in a transparent way and that all Canadians have access to the data that is used to support the decision making helping to ensure trust in the food supply, and ultimately supporting a sustainable and sufficient food supply.</p> <p>Relevant targets or ambitions: <i>GIF Target: 2.1</i> By 2030, end hunger and ensure access by all people, in particular the poor and people in vulnerable situations, including infants, to safe, nutritious and sufficient food all year round.</p>	
	<p>Respond to food safety incidents, including foodborne illness outbreaks in a timely manner.</p> <p>Program: Food and Nutrition</p>	<p>Performance Indicator: Percentage of health risk assessments provided to Health Canada partners within service standards</p> <p>Starting Point: 100% in 2022-23</p> <p>Target: at least 90% (annual)</p>	<p>This departmental action contributes to FSDS Goal 2 - Support a Healthier and More Sustainable Food System by conducting food-related health risk assessments. The health risk assessments determine whether the presence of a certain substance or microorganism in food poses a risk to consumers. If it is found that a substance or microorganism in food poses a human health risk, risk management actions are taken to reduce, and if possible, eliminate any risk that is</p>	<p>Indicator result: 100% of health risk assessments were provided to Health Canada partners within service standards in 2024-25</p> <p>Notes: 120 health risk assessments were completed within service standards.</p>

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			<p>posed to people that consume the food in question.</p> <p>Relevant targets or ambitions: <i>GIF Target: 2.1</i> By 2030, end hunger and ensure access by all people, in particular the poor and people in vulnerable situations, including infants, to safe, nutritious and sufficient food all year round.</p>	
	<p>Strengthen food chemical safety oversight of food packaging materials</p> <p>Program: Food and Nutrition</p>	<p>Performance Indicator: Percentage of industry applicants who indicate that the updated Health Canada Guidelines for recycled plastics in food packaging was used to prepare a submission requesting a food safety opinion about the use of these materials in food packaging applications</p> <p>Starting Point: 100% in 2023-24</p> <p>Target: at least 90% (annual)</p>	<p>This departmental action contributes to FSDS Goal 2 - Support a Healthier and More Sustainable Food System through pre-market assessments of applications related to food packaging using recycled materials that are voluntarily submitted by industry. The use of recycled plastics was an area where a higher risk to food safety was identified. These assessments examine the chemical safety and the potential transfer of harmful chemicals from recycled food packaging to food. Pre-market evaluations of the safety of the use of recycled plastics in food packaging applications supports the use of these applications which can contribute to food sustainability via increased shelf-life while ensuring the safety of the food. Feedback from industry about the guidance provided is collected and analysed on an ongoing basis to facilitate its use.</p> <p>Relevant targets or ambitions: <i>GIF Target: 2.1</i> By 2030, end hunger and ensure access by all people, in particular the poor and people in vulnerable</p>	<p>Indicator result: 100% of industry applicants indicated that the updated Health Canada Guidelines for recycled plastics in food packaging was used to prepare a submission requesting a food safety opinion about the use of these materials in food packaging applications in 2024-25</p> <p>Notes: Eight submissions were received. Stakeholder feedback indicated that the guidelines were used for all applications.</p>

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			situations, including infants, to safe, nutritious and sufficient food all year round.	



GOAL 3: SUPPORT MENTAL HEALTH AND ADOPT HEALTHY BEHAVIOURS

FSDS Context:

In support of mental health, Health Canada provides funding to provinces, territories, and other stakeholders and monitors the impact of these federal investments on improving access to evidence-supported mental health, addictions, and substance use health services and supports for Canadians. Health Ministers have agreed to work collectively and with the Canadian Institute for Health Information (CIHI) to develop a focused set of common indicators to measure pan-Canadian progress on the agreed priorities of mental health and addictions, to be reported on annually to Canadians. These indicators will allow for tracking of trends over time. To monitor and measure progress in supporting access to mental health and substance use supports, the Department works with national research focused organizations such as CIHI and Statistics Canada.

Additionally, the Department also works with provinces, territories and regional stakeholders on a wide range of issues, including improving access to community-based mental health and substance use health supports for populations with the greatest need, such as Integrated Youth Services (IYS), the development of national standards for mental health and substance use services, and evidence-based knowledge products that can be used by health care providers and organizations, decision-makers and community-based organizations to address mental health and addictions. As part of the Working Together to Improve Health Care for Canadians plan, in 2023-24, the government signed three-year agreements with all provinces and territories. Under these agreements, jurisdictions will receive \$3.1 billion annually for four shared health priorities, which will include at least \$600 million annually to increase access to mental health and substance use services. The Department also administers the Youth Mental Health Fund, which will enhance the capacity of community health organizations to deliver more care for young people living in Canada and better equip these organizations to refer youth to other mental health services within their networks and partnerships.

Substance use-related harms continue to cause devastating health and social effects on Canadians from every walk of life. Through the Canadian Drugs and Substances Strategy (CDSS) and the Substance Use and Addictions Program (SUAP), Health Canada supports harm reduction, treatment, and

prevention by providing funding for community-based projects. This work also includes the newly established Emergency Treatment Fund (ETF), which provides time-limited contribution funding to municipalities and Indigenous communities across Canada in order to help provide rapid responses to emergent, critical needs related to the substance use and overdose crisis. The Department works with all levels of government, partners, stakeholders and people with lived and living experience to take a comprehensive approach in addressing substance use and the overdose crisis, including monitoring national trends in the use of alcohol, psychoactive pharmaceuticals and illegal drugs. Similarly, Canada's Tobacco Strategy aims to help people in Canada quit using tobacco and to protect the health of young people and people who do not smoke. The Department also addresses the health risks associated with the use of vaping products and works to prevent their use among youth. The Program supports scientific research, surveillance, policy and regulatory development, public education and outreach, and compliance and enforcement activities for tobacco and vaping products; and supports work done around the world as a part of the World Health Organization's Framework Convention on Tobacco Control.

The Department promotes healthy behaviours and healthy eating through resources to help people increase their knowledge and use of [Canada's food guide](#) in their everyday lives. Health Canada also continues to advance the Healthy Eating Strategy, which aims to improve healthy eating information; strengthen labelling claims; improve the nutrition quality of foods; and protect vulnerable populations.

Target theme: Mental health

Target: By March 2027, reduce the percentage of Canadians (aged 15+) with a mental disorder who have expressed that they have an unmet care need to 22% at most (Minister of Health)

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<p>Collect data and information to inform evidence-based decisions</p> <p>Undertake research activities; and, monitor, collect and analyze scientific evidence to inform strategies, address emerging issues, and identify data gaps.</p>	<p>Monitor the impact of federal investments that support improving access to evidence-supported mental health, addictions, and substance use health services and supports for Canadians.</p> <p>Program: Responsive Health Care Systems (Mental Health – Shared Health Priorities)</p>	<p>Performance Indicator: Proportion of individuals aged 15 and older who said that they had always or usually had the support* necessary to move within and between formal mental health and substance use (MHSU) services in the past year once they accessed services</p> <p>*Support refers to receiving the guidance, assistance or resources needed to navigate MHSU services from a professional.</p> <p>Starting point: 41% in 2022</p> <p>Note: Annual reporting against the indicator</p>	<p>This departmental action contributes to FSIDS Goal 3- Support Mental Health and Adopt Healthy Behaviours and the mental health target by collecting data and information on a range of indicators that can help to identify gaps in access to mental health and substance use services. Health Ministers have agreed to work collectively and with the Canadian Institute for Health Information (CIHI) to develop a focused set of common indicators to measure pan-Canadian progress on the agreed priorities of mental health and addictions, to be reported on annually to Canadians. This will allow for the monitoring of trends over time to assess progress in supporting access to mental health and substance use supports. Access to supports and care is critical to allow for early intervention, which is vital to effective treatment and recovery.</p> <p>Information about how this work contributes to Canada's 2030 Agenda National Strategy is outlined in the table below.</p> <p>Relevant targets or ambitions:</p> <p><i>CIF Ambition:</i> 3.8 Canadians have healthy and satisfying lives. <i>CIF Indicator:</i> 3.8.1 Percentage of Canadians who perceived their mental health as very good to excellent.</p>	<p>Indicator result: 43% of individuals aged 15 and older said that they had always or usually had the support necessary to move within and between formal mental health and substance use (MHSU) services in the past year once they accessed services in 2024</p> <p>Notes: The results reflect CIHI survey data collected in 2024 and released in December 2024.</p>
		<p>Performance Indicator: Rate of youth aged 12 to 25 who accessed integrated youth services for mental health, substance use and well-being support</p> <p>Starting Point: 895 per 100,000 in 2022-23 (CIHI).</p> <p>Note: Annual reporting against the indicator</p>		<p>Indicator result: Results will be reported for 2025-26.</p>

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		<p>Performance Indicator: Median number of calendar days that clients waited for ongoing counselling services from the date that the initial referral was received, to the date of the first scheduled counselling session</p> <p>Starting point: 22 days in 2020-21</p> <p>Note: Annual reporting against the indicator</p>	<p><i>CIF Ambition:</i> 3.13 Canada prevents causes of premature death. <i>CIF Target:</i> By March 31, 2028, reduce the rate of apparent opioid toxicity deaths to 10 per 100,000 population. <i>CIF Indicator:</i> 3.13.1 Rate of apparent opioid toxicity deaths per 100,000 population.</p> <p><i>GIF Targets:</i> 3.4 By 2030, reduce by one third premature mortality from noncommunicable diseases through prevention and treatment; and promote mental health and well-being. 3.5 Strengthen the prevention and treatment of substance abuse, including narcotic drug abuse and harmful use of alcohol.</p>	<p>Indicator result: 25 days was the median number of calendar days that clients waited for ongoing counselling services from the date that the initial referral was received to the date of the first scheduled counselling session in 2023-24</p> <p>Notes: The results reflect data collected in 2023-24 and released by CIHI in December 2024.</p>
		<p>Performance Indicator: Number of individuals that are admitted to hospital or die due to self-harm</p> <p>Starting point: 70 per 100,000 in 2020-21</p> <p>Note: Annual reporting against the indicator</p>		<p>Indicator result: 70 per 100,000 individuals were admitted to hospital or died due to self-harm in 2022-23</p> <p>Notes: The results reflect data collected in 2022-23 and released by CIHI in December 2024.</p>
		<p>Performance Indicator: Percentage of frequent* emergency room visits for help with mental health and substance use</p> <p>*Frequent refers to at least four emergency room visits per year.</p> <p>Starting point: 9.5% in 2021-22</p> <p>Note: Annual reporting against the indicator</p>		<p>Indicator result: 10% of frequent emergency room visits for help with mental health and substance use in 2023-24</p> <p>Notes: The results reflect data collected in 2023-24 and released by CIHI in December 2024.</p>
		<p>Performance Indicator: Proportion of children and youth aged 12 to 24 with early mental health and substance use (MHSU) needs who accessed community-based MHSU services in the last 6 months</p>		<p>Indicator result: 74% of children and youth aged 12 to 24 with early mental health and substance use (MHSU) needs accessed community-based MHSU services in the last 6 months</p>

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		<p>Starting point: 61% in 2022</p> <p>Note: Annual reporting against the indicator</p>		<p>Notes: The results reflect CIHI survey data collected in 2024 and released in December 2024.</p>
<p>Work with partners and stakeholders to expand access to mental health services</p> <p>Work with provinces and territories, partners and stakeholders to improve access to community-based mental health and substance use services, including access to virtual mental health services, for children and youth, and those living in rural and remote areas.</p>	<p>Provide funding for knowledge products that support inclusive, people-centred health care services.</p> <p>Program: Healthy People and Communities (Mental Health Commission of Canada (MHCC) Contribution Program)</p>	<p>Performance Indicator: Number of significant knowledge products* produced</p> <p>*Knowledge products (e.g., webinars, training materials, case studies, research reports) are products that are created or transform prior knowledge and experience into a tangible artifact in order to present, communicate and teach new audiences. Knowledge products are a tangible resource based on high quality evidence and created for specific target audiences with the specific result in mind, such as increased awareness, increased knowledge, or influence on a policy or a practice. MHCC produces knowledge products in four priority areas: suicide prevention, population-based initiatives, engagement with Canadians and mental health & substance use (MHSU) integration.</p> <p>Starting point: 92 in 2022-23</p> <p>Target: 36* by March 31, 2025</p> <p>*This includes knowledge products funded through sources other than Health Canada.</p> <p>Note: this indicator is reported on annually, but targets set vary from year to year depending on the scope of the year’s planned initiatives. Targets are not cumulative and are specific to each fiscal year.</p>	<p>This departmental action contributes to FSDS Goal 3 – Support Mental Health and Adopt Healthy Behaviours and the mental health target by supporting the activities of the Mental Health Commission of Canada (MHCC) to create evidence-based knowledge products and mobilize knowledge among health care providers and organizations, decision-makers, and community-based organizations. This helps to target under-addressed needs of the people they serve and can also test innovative approaches to improve services.</p> <p>Healthcare providers that have acquired appropriate resources (including knowledge, skills, and tools), will adapt their health practices to better address the needs of their patients; decisionmakers in communities and health organizations that have acquired knowledge apply inclusive people centred improvements to policies and programs; and service providers may implement initiatives that better address the needs of their patients with MHSU needs. Further, healthcare providers having appropriate knowledge, skills, and tools that increase their capacity to support the population they serve allows an expanded number of Canadians to have</p>	<p>Indicator result: 42 significant knowledge products were produced in 2024-25</p>

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		<p>Performance Indicator: Percentage of health care providers and organizations who report they are better equipped with the knowledge they need to address mental health and wellness issues as a result of knowledge products received</p> <p>Starting point: 80% in 2022-23</p> <p>Target: 80% by March 31, 2025</p> <p>Note: this indicator is reported on annually, but targets set vary from year to year depending on the scope of the year’s planned initiatives. Targets are not cumulative and are specific to each fiscal year.</p>	<p>access to evidence-based MHSU supports and services.</p> <p>Information about how this work contributes to Canada’s 2030 Agenda National Strategy is outlined in the table below.</p> <p>Relevant targets or ambitions: <i>CIF Ambition:</i> 3.8 Canadians have healthy and satisfying lives. <i>CIF Indicator:</i> 3.8.1 Percentage of Canadians who perceived their mental health as very good to excellent.</p> <p><i>CIF Ambition:</i> 3.13 Canada prevents causes of premature death. <i>CIF Target:</i> By March 31, 2028, reduce the rate of apparent opioid toxicity deaths to 10 per 100,000 population. <i>CIF Indicator:</i> 3.13.1 Rate of apparent opioid toxicity deaths per 100,000 population.</p> <p><i>GIF Targets:</i> 3.4 By 2030, reduce by one third premature mortality from non-communicable diseases through prevention and treatment; and promote mental health and well-being. 3.5 Strengthen the prevention and treatment of substance abuse, including narcotic drug abuse and harmful use of alcohol.</p>	<p>Indicator result: 83% of health care providers and organizations reported that they are better equipped with the knowledge they need to address mental health and wellness issues as a result of knowledge products received in 2024-25</p>

Target theme: Adopting healthy behaviours

Target: By March 2035, at most 5% of Canadians (aged 15+) are current cigarette smokers (Minister of Health)

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<p>Promote healthy behaviours</p> <p>Support Canadians in making healthier and more informed choices by: investing in multi-sectoral community based projects; providing access to tools and information; developing targeted public education campaigns and resources to help support healthy behaviours (for example, physical activity, healthy eating and tobacco cessation) and understand health risks; engaging in outreach activities; and fostering international collaboration and coordination on issues related to healthy living.</p> <p>(Note: This implementation strategy includes departmental actions that support both the goal and the target.)</p>	<p>Invest in public education, raising awareness of substance use harms and the importance of reducing the stigma towards people who use drugs.</p> <p>Program: Controlled Substances</p>	<p>Performance Indicator: Percentage of program participants reporting increase in knowledge and/or skills related to prevention of substance use harms</p> <p>Starting point: New initiative</p> <p>Target: To be established by March 31, 2026</p>	<p>This departmental action contributes to FSDS Goal 3 - Support Mental Health and Adopt Healthy Behaviours and the cigarette smoking target by providing funding to community-based organizations at the regional and national levels through the Substance Use and Addictions grant and contribution Program (SUAP). SUAP provides funding for a wide range of innovative and evidence-informed projects addressing problematic substance use prevention, harm reduction and treatment initiatives across the country. Projects target a range of psychoactive substances, including opioids, stimulants, cannabis, alcohol, nicotine and tobacco, at the community, regional and national levels. The objective of these projects varies but in general they aim to support Canadians in adopting healthy behaviours.</p> <p>Information about how this work contributes to Canada’s 2030 Agenda National Strategy is outlined in the table below.</p> <p>Relevant targets or ambitions: <i>CIF Ambition:</i> 3.2 Canadians adopt healthy behaviours.</p>	<p>Indicator result: Results will be reported for 2025-26.</p>

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			<p><i>CIF Target:</i> By 2025, less than 10% of youth (aged 12-17) have used an e-cigarette in the past 30 days. <i>CIF Indicator:</i> 3.2.1 Percentage of youth (aged 12 to 17) who have used an e-cigarette in the past 30 days.</p> <p><i>CIF Ambition:</i> 3.4 Canadians adopt healthy behaviours <i>CIF Target:</i> By March 31, 2025, pure alcohol sales per person (aged 15 years and older) in a year are 8.0 litres or less. <i>CIF Indicator:</i> 3.4.1 Alcohol per capita consumption (aged 15 years and older) within a calendar year in litres of pure alcohol.</p> <p><i>CIF Ambition:</i> 3.13 Canada prevents causes of premature death. <i>CIF Target:</i> By March 31, 2028, reduce the rate of apparent opioid toxicity deaths to 10 per 100,000 population. <i>CIF Indicator:</i> 3.13.1 Rate of apparent opioid toxicity deaths per 100,000 population.</p> <p><i>CIF Ambition:</i> 3.14 Canada prevents causes of premature death. <i>CIF Target:</i> By 2035, less than 5% of Canadians (aged 18+) smoke cigarettes. <i>CIF Indicator:</i> 3.14.1 Percentage of Canadians (age 18+) who currently smoke cigarettes.</p> <p><i>GIF Targets:</i> 3.4 By 2030, reduce by one third premature mortality from non-</p>	

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			<p>communicable diseases through prevention and treatment; and promote mental health and well-being.</p> <p>3.5 Strengthen the prevention and treatment of substance abuse, including narcotic drug abuse and harmful use of alcohol.</p> <p>3.a. Strengthen the implementation of the World Health Organization Framework Convention on Tobacco Control in all countries, as appropriate.</p>	
	<p>Provide information to Canadians and stakeholders to support them in using Health Canada's dietary guidance (e.g., Canada food guide).</p> <p>Program: Food and Nutrition</p>	<p>Performance Indicator: Percentage increase in number of website visits that support the use of Canada's dietary guidance</p> <p>Starting point: 4.5% increase between calendar year 2022 and 2023</p> <p>Target: 5% increase between calendar year 2023 and 2024</p>	<p>This departmental action contributes to FSDS Goal 3 - Support Mental Health and Adopt Healthy Behaviours by communicating Health Canada's dietary guidance in relevant and accessible ways so as to support Canadians in using the guidance, and stakeholders in integrating the dietary guidance into their policies, programs and resources across Canada. This action supports adopting and maintaining healthy behaviours, specifically eating healthily, which can contribute to reducing the risk of noncommunicable diseases.</p> <p>Information about how this work contributes to Canada's 2030 Agenda National Strategy is outlined in the table below.</p> <p>Relevant targets or ambitions: <i>CIF Ambition:</i> 3.1 Canadians adopt healthy behaviours.</p>	<p>Indicator result: 1.5% increase in number of website visits that support the use of Canada's dietary guidance, between calendar year 2023 and 2024</p> <p>Notes: Promotional activities for the website were limited during the 2024 calendar year.</p>

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			<p><i>CIF Indicator:</i> Percentage of Canadians who report eating fruits and vegetables 5 or more times per day.</p> <p><i>GIF Target:</i> 3.4 By 2030, reduce by one third premature mortality from non-communicable diseases through prevention and treatment; and promote mental health and well-being.</p>	

Implementation strategies supporting the goal

This section is for implementation strategies that support the goal “**Support mental health and adopt healthy behaviours**” but not a specific FSDS target.

IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGY	DEPARTMENTAL ACTION	PERFORMANCE INDICATOR STARTING POINT TARGET	HOW THE DEPARTMENTAL ACTION CONTRIBUTES TO THE FSDS GOAL AND TARGET AND, WHERE APPLICABLE, TO CANADA’S 2030 AGENDA NATIONAL STRATEGY AND SDGS	RESULTS ACHIEVED
<p>Address substance use harms</p> <p>Support prevention, harm reduction and treatment initiatives in communities across the country. Work with partners to improve access to services for people who use drugs and to counteract stigma.</p>	<p>Support greater access to prevention, harm reduction and treatment initiatives in communities.</p> <p>Program: Controlled Substances</p>	<p>Performance Indicator: Percentage of total available contribution funding allocated*</p> <p>Starting point: 84% of funding allocated in 2022-23 (\$154,083,629)</p> <p>Target: 95% by March 31, 2025</p> <p>*Available contribution funding varies every year</p>	<p>The departmental action contributes to FSDS Goal 3 - Support Mental Health and Adopt Healthy Behaviours by providing funding for increased prevention, harm reduction and treatment capacity in communities, which contributes to healthier behaviours through the Substance Use and Addictions Program.</p> <p>Information about how this work contributes to Canada’s 2030 Agenda National Strategy is outlined in the table below.</p>	<p>Indicator result: 98% of available contribution funding was allocated in 2024-25</p> <p>Notes: \$93,017,889 was allocated to contribution agreements. This resulted in 182 projects that focused on substance use prevention, harm reduction, and treatment as it relates to opioids, stimulants,</p>

IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGY	DEPARTMENTAL ACTION	PERFORMANCE INDICATOR STARTING POINT TARGET	HOW THE DEPARTMENTAL ACTION CONTRIBUTES TO THE FSDS GOAL AND TARGET AND, WHERE APPLICABLE, TO CANADA’S 2030 AGENDA NATIONAL STRATEGY AND SDGs	RESULTS ACHIEVED
			<p>Relevant targets or ambitions: <i>CIF Ambition:</i> 3.13 Canada prevents causes of premature death. <i>CIF Target:</i> By March 31, 2028, reduce the rate of apparent opioid toxicity deaths to 10 per 100,000 population. <i>CIF Indicator:</i> 3.13.1 Rate of apparent opioid toxicity deaths per 100,000 population.</p> <p><i>GIF Targets:</i> 3.4 By 2030, reduce by one third premature mortality from non-communicable diseases through prevention and treatment; and promote mental health and well-being. 3.5 Strengthen the prevention and treatment of substance abuse, including narcotic drug abuse and harmful use of alcohol.</p>	<p>cannabis, alcohol, tobacco, and vaping products.</p>
<p>Collect data and information to inform evidence-based decisions</p> <p>Undertake research activities; and, monitor, collect and analyze scientific evidence to inform strategies, address emerging issues, and identify data gaps and opportunities for disaggregated data to improve outcomes.</p>	<p>Monitor national trends in the use of alcohol.</p> <p>Program: Controlled Substances</p>	<p>Performance Indicator: Alcohol per capita consumption (aged 15 years and older) within a calendar year in litres of pure alcohol</p> <p>Starting point: In 2021-22, the absolute volume for total per capita sales of alcoholic beverages was 8.1</p> <p>Target: 8.0 litres or less by March 31, 2025</p>	<p>The departmental action contributes to FSDS Goal 3 - Support Mental Health and Adopt Healthy Behaviours by supporting ongoing monitoring of alcohol use to inform public health interventions and effective prevention strategies, that contribute to the adoption of healthier behaviours.</p> <p>Information about how this work contributes to Canada’s 2030 Agenda National Strategy is outlined in the table below.</p> <p>Relevant targets or ambitions: <i>CIF Ambition:</i> 3.4 Canadians adopt healthy behaviours. <i>CIF Target:</i> By March 31, 2025, pure alcohol sales per person (aged 15 years and older) in a year are 8.0 litres or less.</p>	<p>Indicator result: 7.3 litres of alcohol per capita consumption (aged 15 years and older) within a calendar year in litres of pure alcohol in 2024-25</p> <p>Notes: The results reflect data collected in fiscal year 2023-24 and released on March 7, 2025. The data source is Statistics Canada: Table 10-10-0010-01: Sales of alcoholic beverage types by liquor authorities and other retail outlets, by value, volume, and absolute volume.</p>

IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGY	DEPARTMENTAL ACTION	PERFORMANCE INDICATOR STARTING POINT TARGET	HOW THE DEPARTMENTAL ACTION CONTRIBUTES TO THE FSDS GOAL AND TARGET AND, WHERE APPLICABLE, TO CANADA’S 2030 AGENDA NATIONAL STRATEGY AND SDGs	RESULTS ACHIEVED
	<p>Monitor national trends and conduct research studies in vaping and smoking</p> <p>Program: Tobacco Control</p>	<p>Performance Indicator: Percentage of completed projects* that have been summarized into briefing materials and distributed to internal and external stakeholders</p> <p>*Research and surveillance projects for smoking and vaping</p> <p>Starting point: 83% in 2022-23</p> <p>Target: 85% by March 31, 2025</p>	<p><i>CIF Indicator:</i> 3.4.1 Alcohol per capita consumption (aged 15 years and older) within a calendar year in litres of pure alcohol.</p> <p><i>GIF Target:</i> 3.5 Strengthen the prevention and treatment of substance abuse, including narcotic drug abuse and harmful use of alcohol.</p> <p>The departmental action contributes to FSDS Goal 3 - Support Mental Health and Adopt Healthy Behaviours by addressing tobacco and vaping product use in Canada. The Department contributes to scientific research and surveillance to support evidence-based decision making related to tobacco and vaping (excluding Cannabis vaping). The Tobacco Control Program monitors smoking and vaping trends based on socio-demographic characteristics. This information informs future regulatory and policy initiatives for effective interventions to help adopt healthy behaviours. For example, the Program works to address concerns regarding youth vaping and aims to protect youth and non-users of tobacco products from nicotine addiction.</p> <p>Information about how this work contributes to Canada’s 2030 Agenda National Strategy is outlined in the table below.</p> <p>Relevant targets or ambitions:</p> <p><i>CIF Ambition:</i> 3.2 Canadians adopt healthy behaviours.</p>	<p>Indicator result: 100% of completed research and surveillance projects were summarized into briefing materials and distributed to internal and external stakeholders in 2024-25</p> <p>Notes: Data was used to support HC web content, marketing campaigns, and science advice on policy and regulatory initiatives. Some summaries were disseminated externally, posted on the HC webpages, distributed to stakeholders, presented at conferences, published in journals.</p>

IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGY	DEPARTMENTAL ACTION	PERFORMANCE INDICATOR STARTING POINT TARGET	HOW THE DEPARTMENTAL ACTION CONTRIBUTES TO THE FSDS GOAL AND TARGET AND, WHERE APPLICABLE, TO CANADA’S 2030 AGENDA NATIONAL STRATEGY AND SDGs	RESULTS ACHIEVED
			<p><i>CIF Target:</i> By 2025, less than 10% of youth (aged 12-17) have used an e-cigarette in the past 30 days. <i>CIF Indicator:</i> 3.2.1 Percentage of youth (aged 12 to 17) who have used an e-cigarette in the past 30 days.</p> <p><i>CIF Ambition:</i> 3.14 Canada prevents causes of premature death. <i>CIF Target:</i> By 2035, less than 5% of Canadians (aged 18+) smoke cigarettes. <i>CIF Indicator:</i> 3.14.1 Percentage of Canadians (age 18+) who currently smoke cigarettes.</p> <p><i>GIF Targets:</i> 3.4 By 2030, reduce by one third premature mortality from non-communicable diseases through prevention and treatment; and promote mental health and well-being. 3.a Strengthen the implementation of the World Health Organization Framework Convention on Tobacco Control in all countries, as appropriate.</p>	

Initiatives advancing Canada’s implementation of SDG 3 – Good Health and Well-Being

The following initiatives demonstrate how Health Canada’s programming supports the 2030 Agenda and the SDGs, supplementing the information outlined above.

PLANNED INITIATIVES	ASSOCIATED DOMESTICS TARGETS OR AMBITIONS AND/OR GLOBAL TARGETS	RESULTS ACHIEVED
<p>Canada’s Healthy Eating Strategy aims to improve the food environment in Canada to make it easier for Canadians to make healthier choices, including efforts to improve healthy eating information and to protect vulnerable populations.</p> <p>Diet-related chronic diseases such as cancer, type 2 diabetes, and cardiovascular disease are prevalent in Canada. Health Canada will continue to address this by promoting the use and understanding of Canada's food guide.</p>	<p>This work contributes to advancing:</p> <p><i>CIF Ambition:</i> 3.1 Canadians adopt healthy behaviours. <i>CIF Target:</i> No specific target. <i>CIF Indicator:</i> 3.1.1 Percentage of Canadians who report eating fruits and vegetables 5 or more times per day.</p> <p><i>GIF Target:</i> 3.4 By 2030, reduce by one third premature mortality from non-communicable diseases through prevention and treatment; and promote mental health and well-being.</p>	<p>In 2024-25, Health Canada continued to support people in applying the food guide recommendations in their everyday lives – with continued emphasis on 'hard to reach populations' such as children and youth, and newcomers to Canada. Health Canada worked towards this objective by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • launching the Canada’s food guide’s toolkit for educators, which aims to support intermediaries such as educators, health promoters and community leaders in fostering children’s food skills, healthy eating habits, and learning about Canada’s food guide; • releasing new web content to support healthy eating, including a “healthy eating on campus” web page; publishing new recipes aimed to support families in preparing homemade versions of family favourites, without excess sodium, sugars, or saturated fat; and launching an updated cooking skills web presence along with five new cooking skills articles to support Canadians in building food skills important for healthy eating; • distributing Health Canada's monthly e-newsletter, which included themes like 'ways to reduce food waste'; 'heart healthy eating'; and 'cooking for one or two'. With an increase of about 7,000 subscribers in 2024-25. The newsletter is now distributed to more than 78,000 monthly readers; and • continued to promote the Food Guide Snapshot in multiple languages which is now available in 34 languages.
<p>Through Bilateral Agreements for Home and Community Care and Mental Health and Addiction Services with provincial and territorial governments, Health Canada continues to support provinces and territories to advance four shared priorities;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Expanding access to family health services, including in rural and remote areas. • Supporting our health workforce and reducing backlogs. 	<p>This work contributes to advancing:</p> <p><i>CIF Ambition:</i> 3.8 Canadians have healthy and satisfying lives. <i>CIF Target:</i> No specific target. <i>CIF Indicator:</i> 3.8.1 Percentage of Canadians who perceived their mental health as very good to excellent.</p>	<p>Agreements were signed with all jurisdictions in 2023-24, and provinces and territories are in the early stages of implementing initiatives to expand access to mental health and substance use services. In 2024-25, provinces and territories started annual reporting and there are early signs of improvements in access to mental health services. Several provinces and territories have developed or scaled-up existing</p>

PLANNED INITIATIVES	ASSOCIATED DOMESTICS TARGETS OR AMBITIONS AND/OR GLOBAL TARGETS	RESULTS ACHIEVED
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improving access to quality mental health, substance use, and addictions services. Modernizing health systems with health data and digital tools. <p>Details can be found in HC’s Departmental Plan 2024-25.</p>	<p><i>CIF Ambition:</i> 3.13 Canada prevents causes of premature death. <i>CIF Target:</i> By March 31, 2028, reduce the rate of apparent opioid toxicity deaths to 10 per 100,000 population. <i>CIF Indicator</i> 3.13.1: Rate of apparent opioid toxicity deaths per 100,000 population.</p> <p><i>GIF Targets:</i> 3.4 By 2030, reduce by one third premature mortality from non-communicable diseases through prevention and treatment; and promote mental health and well-being. 3.5 Strengthen the prevention and treatment of substance abuse, including narcotic drug abuse and harmful use of alcohol.</p>	<p>initiatives specifically for Indigenous Peoples and equity-seeking groups, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> increasing land-based health initiatives for First Nations in the Yukon; ensuring culturally appropriate addiction and mental health community supports are in place for First Nations, Métis, and Inuit peoples in Alberta; investing in the Regional Social Emergency Manager Program to build social emergency capacity at the regional level in Ontario; providing elder abuse services, age-friendly communities, and a new hearing aids program in Manitoba; expanding doorways walk-in services to 87 locations across Newfoundland and Labrador to provide rapid access to mental health and addictions counseling; and improving access to integrated youth services in British Columbia, particularly for LGBTQIA2S+ youth, by increasing the number of Foundry centres for people aged 12-24.
<p>The Department will continue to expand access to oral health care, through the new long-term Canadian Dental Care Plan (CDCP) which supports both children and adults with adjusted annual family net incomes under \$90,000 without access to dental care coverage. Additionally, starting in 2025, the new Oral Health Access Fund will complement the CDCP by supporting projects that improve access to preventative oral health services and programming and reduce or remove non-financial barriers to accessing oral health care for targeted populations.</p>	<p>This work contributes to advancing:</p> <p><i>CIF Ambition:</i> 3.15 Canadians have access to health care services. <i>CIF Target:</i> No specific target. <i>CIF Indicator:</i> 3.15.1 Proportion of persons with unmet health care needs.</p> <p><i>GIF Target:</i> 3.8 Achieve universal health coverage, including financial risk protection, access to quality essential health-care services and access to safe, effective, quality and affordable essential medicines and vaccines for all.</p>	<p>In 2024-25, the Canadian Dental Care Plan (CDCP) continued to expand access to oral health care by onboarding Canadians aged 65+, children aged under 18 and adults with a disability. On March 22, 2025, a public announcement was made that all remaining eligible Canadians aged 18 to 64 years-old will be able to apply for the CDCP in May 2025, with coverage starting as early as June 1, 2025 (Canadian Dental Care Plan expands to include millions of new eligible Canadians - Canada.ca).</p> <p>As of March 2025, of the estimated 4.8 million Canadians that were potentially eligible to access the CDCP in 2024-2025 (Canadian Dental Care Plan - Do you qualify - Canada.ca), over 3.4 million individuals were approved to be part of the plan, of which over 1.7 million have already received care.</p> <p>In May 2024, Oral Health Access Fund (OHAF) launched its first call for proposals for projects related to oral health education and training to address health human resources shortages and training gaps. In addition, in response to concerns related to the immediate impact of the CDCP on the training of dental students across Canada, OHAF launched</p>

PLANNED INITIATIVES	ASSOCIATED DOMESTICS TARGETS OR AMBITIONS AND/OR GLOBAL TARGETS	RESULTS ACHIEVED
		<p>an additional one-time, targeted call for proposals for ten Canadian dental facilities in February 2025.</p> <p>In June 2024, OHAF launched the second stream of funding for projects to improve prevention of oral diseases and access to person-centered oral health care. Assessment for applications for this stream began in 2024-25.</p>
<p>Canada's Tobacco Strategy aims to help Canadians who smoke, to quit or reduce the harms of their addiction to nicotine and to protect the health of young people and non-smokers from the dangers of tobacco use and nicotine addiction.</p> <p>Health Canada will also contribute to strengthening the global implementation of the World Health Organization (WHO) Framework Convention on Tobacco Control (FCTC) through its role as Regional Coordinator for the Americas for the Conference of the Parties to the FCTC.</p>	<p>This work contributes to advancing:</p> <p><i>CIF Ambition:</i> 3.2 Canadians adopt healthy behaviours. <i>CIF Target:</i> By 2025, less than 10% of youth (aged 12-17) have used an e-cigarette in the past 30 days. <i>CIF Indicator:</i> 3.2.1 Percentage of youth (aged 12 to 17) who have used an e-cigarette in the past 30 days.</p> <p><i>CIF Ambition:</i> 3.14 Canada prevents causes of premature death. <i>CIF Target:</i> By 2035, less than 5% of Canadians (aged 18+) smoke cigarettes. <i>CIF Indicator:</i> 3.14.1 Percentage of Canadians (age 18+) who currently smoke cigarettes.</p> <p><i>GIF Targets:</i> 3.4 By 2030, reduce by one third premature mortality from non-communicable diseases through prevention and treatment; and promote mental health and well-being. 3.a. Strengthen the implementation of the World Health Organization Framework Convention on Tobacco Control in all countries, as appropriate.</p>	<p>In 2024-25, Health Canada provided over \$1.5 million through the Substance Use and Addictions Program (SUAP) to promote 10 projects focused on prevention, protection, and/or cessation for both tobacco and vaping products. Projects informed Canadians about the harms and risks of tobacco and vaping product use, including those that design cessation interventions for people who smoke as well as youth who vape.</p> <p>Health Canada continued to contribute internationally on tobacco control. Canada successfully championed a decision on forward looking tobacco control measures, which will provide Parties with a repository of innovative tobacco control measures that can be considered in FCTC implementation efforts.</p> <p>Canada continued its role as Regional Coordinator for the Americas, Canada (Health Canada) representing the region in discussions with the WHO FCTC Convention Secretariat, facilitating consultations with Parties and acting as a channel for the exchange of information regarding FCTC implementation efforts regionally and globally.</p>
<p>Led by Health Canada, the Canadian Drugs and Substances Strategy is the federal government's comprehensive response to substance-related harms, including the overdose crisis. This all-substances, public health, and public safety-focused Strategy covers a broad range of legal and illegal substances, including tobacco, cannabis, alcohol, and opioids. It is based on four interconnected elements: prevention and education, substance use services and supports, evidence, and substance controls. The Strategy's guiding principles are equity, compassion, comprehensiveness and collaboration.</p> <p>Focus is placed on priority populations (e.g., children and youth, men aged 20-60 working in trades, Indigenous Peoples, Black Canadians and other racialized groups) and applying an equity lens to data and policy.</p>	<p>This work contributes to advancing:</p> <p><i>CIF Ambition:</i> 3.4 Canadians adopt healthy behaviours. <i>CIF Target:</i> By March 31, 2025, pure alcohol sales per person (aged 15 years and older) in a year are 8.0 litres or less. <i>CIF Indicator:</i> 3.4.1 Alcohol per capita consumption (aged 15 years and older) within a calendar year in litres of pure alcohol.</p> <p><i>CIF Ambition:</i> 3.13 Canada prevents causes of premature death. <i>CIF Target:</i> By March 31, 2028, reduce the rate of apparent opioid toxicity deaths to 10 per 100,000 population.</p>	<p>In 2024-25, Health Canada continued to support accurate, timely, and reliable data and research, essential to support equity informed, evidence-based decision making and policy development, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> publishing statistics and key indicator data through new interactive data tools for the Canadian Substance Use Survey (CSUS) and the Canadian Student Alcohol and Drugs Survey (CSADS); and enhancing surveillance activities that monitor drugs in Canada through the new drug early warning system, the Canadian Drug and Substance Watch (CDSW).

PLANNED INITIATIVES	ASSOCIATED DOMESTICS TARGETS OR AMBITIONS AND/OR GLOBAL TARGETS	RESULTS ACHIEVED
	<p><i>CIF Indicator:</i> 3.13.1 Rate of apparent opioid toxicity deaths per 100,000 population.</p> <p><i>GIF Target:</i> 3.5 Strengthen the prevention and treatment of substance abuse, including narcotic drug abuse and harmful use of alcohol.</p>	<p>Health Canada continued to work closely with key international partners to coordinate a global approach to address the public health and public safety risks of synthetic drugs through the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, North American Drug Dialogue, U.S.-CAN Joint Action Plan on Opioids and the Inter-American Drug Abuse Control Commission.</p>



GOAL 6: ENSURE CLEAN AND SAFE WATER FOR ALL CANADIANS

FSDS Context:

Approximately 20% of the world’s freshwater resources are in Canada, which amounts to 7% of the earth’s renewable freshwater, making freshwater one of Canada’s most valuable resources. Protecting water resources requires collaboration and partnership with provinces and territories, Indigenous Peoples, municipalities, conservation authorities, and other governments and organizations.

Health Canada supports access to clean drinking water and recreational water through its work with federal, provincial and territorial partners to develop the Guidelines for Canadian Drinking Water Quality and the Guidelines for Canadian Recreational Water Quality. These guidelines determine the maximum acceptable concentrations contaminants in drinking water and action values for recreational water, which are used by all jurisdictions to inform their own regulations and requirements.

Implementation strategies supporting the goal

This section is for implementation strategies that support the goal “**Ensure clean and safe water for all Canadians**” but not a specific FSDS target.

IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGY	DEPARTMENTAL ACTION	PERFORMANCE INDICATOR STARTING POINT TARGET	HOW THE DEPARTMENTAL ACTION CONTRIBUTES TO THE FSDS GOAL AND TARGET AND, WHERE APPLICABLE, TO CANADA’S 2030 AGENDA NATIONAL STRATEGY AND SDGS	RESULTS ACHIEVED
<p>Work with partners on drinking water quality</p> <p>Work with provinces and territories to develop the Guidelines for Canadian Drinking Water Quality, which set out maximum acceptable concentrations of specific contaminants in drinking water. All provinces and territories use the guidelines as the basis for their regulations and requirements for drinking water quality and safety, ensuring that Canadians benefit from evidence-based decisions on Canadian fresh water.</p>	<p>Develop and/or update health-based drinking water and recreational water quality guidelines and guidance documents in collaboration with Federal/Provincial/Territorial (FPT) partners.</p> <p>Program: Water Quality</p>	<p>Performance Indicator: Percentage of planned final water quality guidelines/guidance documents published in <i>Canada Gazette</i>, Part I and online</p> <p>Starting point: 100% in 2022-23</p> <p>Target: 100% (annual)</p>	<p>This departmental action contributes to FSDS Goal 6 - Ensuring Clean and Safe Water for All Canadians through work with other federal government departments and agencies and provincial and territorial governments to establish the science-based Guidelines for Canadian Drinking Water Quality. These guidelines are published in the <i>Canada Gazette</i>, Part I and online and are used by all jurisdictions in Canada as the basis for establishing their drinking water requirements and informing their recreational water requirements.</p> <p>Information about how this work contributes to Canada’s 2030 Agenda National Strategy is outlined in the table below.</p> <p>Relevant targets or ambitions: <i>CIF Ambition:</i> 6.2 Canadians have access to drinking water and use it in a sustainable manner.</p> <p><i>GIF Targets:</i> 6.1 By 2030, achieve universal and equitable access to safe and affordable drinking water for all. 6.3 By 2030, improve water quality by reducing pollution, eliminating dumping and minimizing release of hazardous chemicals and materials, halving the proportion of untreated wastewater and substantially increasing recycling and safe reuse globally.</p>	<p>Indicator result: 100% of planned final water quality guidelines/guidance documents were published in <i>Canada Gazette</i>, Part I and online in 2024-25</p> <p>Notes: Four final water quality guidelines/guidance documents were published.</p>

Initiatives advancing Canada’s implementation of SDG 6 – Clean Water and Sanitation

The following initiatives demonstrate how Health Canada’s programming supports the 2030 Agenda and the SDGs, supplementing the information outlined above.

PLANNED INITIATIVES	ASSOCIATED DOMESTICS TARGETS OR AMBITIONS AND/OR GLOBAL TARGETS	RESULTS ACHIEVED
<p>Health Canada's Water Quality Program develops and updates health-based Guidelines for Canadian Drinking Water Quality and Guidelines for Canadian Recreational Water Quality in partnership with federal, provincial, and territorial partners for use by all jurisdictions in Canada to inform their own regulations and requirements.</p> <p>Health Canada’s international efforts to support global health initiatives to improve water quality include providing scientific advice and participating in collaborative research through fora such as the WHO Collaborating Centre on Environmental Health, the Pan-American Health Organization, and the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development.</p>	<p>This work contributes to advancing:</p> <p><i>CIF Ambition:</i> 6.2 Canadians have access to drinking water and use it in a sustainable manner</p> <p><i>GIF Targets:</i></p> <p>6.1 By 2030, achieve universal and equitable access to safe and affordable drinking water for all.</p> <p>6.3 By 2030, improve water quality by reducing pollution, eliminating dumping and minimizing release of hazardous chemicals and materials, halving the proportion of untreated wastewater and substantially increasing recycling and safe reuse globally.</p>	<p>In 2024-25, the Water Quality Program continued to develop and update Guidelines for Canadian Drinking Water Quality and Recreational Water Quality. These guidelines are designed to protect the health of the most vulnerable members of society, such as children and the elderly, through considering potential differences or increased susceptibility due to factors such as sex, gender, life stage, age, lifestyle and genetic predisposition.</p> <p>Health Canada published three consultation and four final drinking water guidelines and guidance documents, for arsenic, radiological parameters, trihalomethanes, iron, and per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS), operational guidelines, and corrosion control guidance. Drinking water guidelines include health, treatment, and sampling information, and set out the maximum acceptable concentrations for substances in drinking water.</p> <p>In support of international actions, the Water Quality Program participated in the meeting of the United Nations Special Rapporteur on the human rights to safe drinking water and sanitation. The Program also contributed to the WHO Collaborating Centre on Environmental Health by providing scientific expertise and input to WHO’s water, hygiene and sanitation work. This included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • providing technical support to WHO on approaches to risk assessment, PFAS, pesticide metabolites, and fact sheets on pesticides in drinking water; and • participating as a voting member on several committees that address health-based requirements in Canada-U.S. standards for drinking water materials (such as plumbing fittings and the NSF Standards for Water Treatment Systems).



GOAL 10: ADVANCE RECONCILIATION WITH INDIGENOUS PEOPLES AND TAKE ACTION ON INEQUALITY

FSDS Context:

The *United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act* (UN Declaration Act) came into force in June 2021 and contains three legal obligations, all to be carried out in consultation and cooperation with Indigenous peoples. One of the three legal obligations is to take “all measures necessary” to ensure consistency of federal laws with the UN Declaration (section 5). For interim guidance, the Department of Justice provided a guide to support section 5 on how to conduct an analysis of initiatives on the rights and interests of Indigenous Peoples.

As part of the larger UN Declaration Implementation Strategy, Health Canada adapted the Department of Justice Guide to analyze new initiatives, including legislation and regulations. This adapted Guide allows employees to analyze initiatives for consistency with the UN Declaration and determine the depth of “consultation and cooperation” with Indigenous Peoples, and Health Canada tracks initiatives that support implementation of the UN Declaration Act.

In 2022, Health Canada established a new [Addressing Racism and Discrimination in Canada’s Health System Program](#) to foster health systems free from racism and discrimination. The program provides contribution funding for projects that address current and emerging priorities related to addressing systemic racism and discrimination in Canada’s health system in a way that is informed by the lived experience of Indigenous, racialized and marginalized communities. This includes support for activities such as developing anti-racism and discrimination training, tools and resources for health professionals, and developing standards and guidelines for cultural safety. The program also supports capacity development for Indigenous organizations to engage on their health priorities.

Health Canada recognizes that public servants are in a unique position to help build respectful relationships with Indigenous Peoples in Canada. Departmental employees have access to a suite of courses to increase cultural competency skills and awareness of issues related to First Nations, Inuit and Métis in Canada, and their knowledge of the UN Declaration. As part of Health Canada’s commitment to advance reconciliation with Indigenous Peoples, the Department is preparing to implement an Indigenous Cultural Competency policy for Health Canada employees. This policy will help

develop Health Canada employees’ Indigenous cultural competency knowledge and skills in order to engage with Indigenous Peoples effectively and meaningfully and create culturally safe policies and programing.

To ensure an Indigenous lens is brought to Health Canada’s programs and policies, the Department is advancing Indigenous recruitment efforts. In a co-development model with Health Canada’s Indigenous Employee’s Network and working in partnership with the newly appointed Indigenous Career Navigator, the Indigenous Recruitment Team aims to attract Indigenous talent to enable managers to achieve a representative workforce and beyond by providing a pool of Indigenous talent for hiring managers.

Target theme: Advancing reconciliation with First Nations, Inuit, and the Métis communities

Target: Between 2023 and 2026, and every year on an ongoing basis, develop and table annual progress reports on implementing *the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act* (Minister of Justice and Attorney General of Canada)

IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGY	DEPARTMENTAL ACTION	PERFORMANCE INDICATOR STARTING POINT TARGET	HOW THE DEPARTMENTAL ACTION CONTRIBUTES TO THE FSDS GOAL AND TARGET AND, WHERE APPLICABLE, TO CANADA’S 2030 AGENDA NATIONAL STRATEGY AND SDGS	RESULTS ACHIEVED
<p>Implement the <i>United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act</i></p> <p>The Government of Canada will work to implement <i>the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act</i>, in consultation and cooperation with Indigenous Peoples. Federal organizations will support and implement the measures identified in the UN Declaration Act Action Plan, in accordance with their own mandates and the guidance provided by <i>the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act</i> Implementation Secretariat.</p>	<p>Consult and cooperate with Indigenous Peoples on the development of new/amended legislation and regulations.</p> <p>Program: Healthy People and Communities</p>	<p>Performance Indicator: Percentage of new/amended legislation and regulations that included consultation and cooperation with Indigenous peoples</p> <p>Starting Point: 75% in 2023-24</p> <p>Target: 90% (annual)</p>	<p>This departmental action contributes to FSDS Goal 10 - Advance Reconciliation with Indigenous Peoples and Take Action on Inequality and the UN Declaration Act target by taking the necessary measures to ensure that the laws of Canada are consistent with UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.</p> <p>Relevant targets or ambitions: <i>CIF Ambition:</i> Canadians live free of discrimination and inequalities are reduced.</p> <p><i>GIF Target:</i> 10.3 Ensure equal opportunity and reduce inequalities of outcome, including by eliminating discriminatory</p>	<p>Indicator result: 66% of new/amended legislations included consultation and cooperation with Indigenous Peoples in 2024-25</p> <p>Notes: Two of three legislative initiatives included consultation and cooperation with Indigenous Peoples.</p>

IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGY	DEPARTMENTAL ACTION	PERFORMANCE INDICATOR STARTING POINT TARGET	HOW THE DEPARTMENTAL ACTION CONTRIBUTES TO THE FSDS GOAL AND TARGET AND, WHERE APPLICABLE, TO CANADA’S 2030 AGENDA NATIONAL STRATEGY AND SDGS	RESULTS ACHIEVED
			laws, policies and practices and promoting appropriate legislation, policies and action in this regard.	
	<p>Participate in courses offered by the Canada School of Public Service to increase public servants’ cultural skills and awareness of issues related to First Nations, Inuit and Métis in Canada, as well as the role and responsibilities of the Government of Canada towards these peoples.</p> <p>Program: Internal Services</p>	<p>Performance indicator: Percentage of Health Canada employees who have completed the Canada School of Public Service(CSPS) courses in support of reconciliation and cultural competency</p> <p>Starting point: 40% as of March 31, 2023 (based on CSPS data)</p> <p>Target: Year over year annual increase</p>	<p>This departmental action contributes to FSDS Goal 10 - Advance Reconciliation with Indigenous Peoples and Take Action on Inequality and the <i>UN Declaration Act</i> target by ensuring public servants within Health Canada learn about Indigenous history, heritage, cultures, and rights as well as how Indigenous perspectives can benefit policy.</p> <p>Relevant targets or ambitions: <i>CIF Ambition:</i> Canadians live free of discrimination and inequalities are reduced.</p> <p><i>GIF Target:</i> 10.3 Ensure equal opportunity and reduce inequalities of outcome, including by eliminating discriminatory laws, policies and practices and promoting appropriate legislation, policies and action in this regard.</p>	<p>Indicator result: 69.25% of Health Canada employees have completed the Canada School of Public Service (CSPS) courses in support of reconciliation and cultural competency as of March 31, 2025</p> <p>Notes: The results are the average completion rate for the 4 Indigenous series courses (a decrease from 5 as one course is no longer offered). There was an annual increase from the 2023-2024 result of 52.5%.</p>



GOAL 11: IMPROVE ACCESS TO AFFORDABLE HOUSING, CLEAN AIR, TRANSPORTATION, PARKS, AND GREEN SPACES, AS WELL AS CULTURAL HERITAGE IN CANADA

FSDS Context:

Improving air quality is an important part of making cities and communities sustainable. Exposure to air pollutants is particularly felt among visible minority and immigrant populations living in Canada's largest cities. The total economic cost of all health impacts attributed to air pollution is an estimated \$129 billion per year from issues such as medical costs and reduced workplace productivity.

Health Canada supports continuous improvement to air quality through the Air Quality Management System, which is the cornerstone of Canada's approach to addressing air pollution. It includes the Canadian Ambient Air Quality Standards that set health and environment based objectives for outdoor air concentrations of four pollutants: sulphur dioxide, nitrogen dioxide, fine particulate matter, and ground-level ozone. Outreach activities and health protection tools, such as the Air Quality Health Index, are designed to help Canadians make decisions to protect their health by limiting short-term exposure to air pollution and adjusting activity levels during increased levels of air pollution. Health Canada also works with other federal departments and countries to address air pollution that originates outside Canada's borders. For example, international agreements such as the Canada-United States Air Quality Agreement and the Gothenburg Protocol assist Canada in improving air quality by addressing pollutants from outside its borders that impact Canadian air quality.

Target theme: Air Quality

Target: Increase the percentage of the population across Canada living in areas where air pollutant concentrations are less than or equal to the Canadian Ambient Air Quality Standards from 60% in 2005 to 85% in 2030 (Minister of Environment and Climate Change; Minister of Health)

IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGY	DEPARTMENTAL ACTION	PERFORMANCE INDICATOR STARTING POINT TARGET	HOW THE DEPARTMENTAL ACTION CONTRIBUTES TO THE FSDS GOAL AND TARGET AND, WHERE APPLICABLE, TO CANADA’S 2030 AGENDA NATIONAL STRATEGY AND SDGS	RESULTS ACHIEVED
<p>Work with partners to address air pollution</p> <p>Work collaboratively with provinces, territories, and stakeholders to develop and regularly update the Canadian Ambient Air Quality Standards and associated tools and guidance</p>	<p>Use scientific evidence on the health impacts of air pollution to inform actions that improve outdoor and indoor air quality.</p> <p>Program: Air Quality</p>	<p>Performance Indicator: Percentage of planned federal air quality health assessments, guidance documents, guidelines and standards published or distributed externally - related to outdoor air and indoor air quality</p> <p>Starting point: 80% in 2022-23</p> <p>Target: 85% (annual)</p>	<p>This departmental action contributes to FSDS Goal 11 - Improving Access to Affordable Housing, Ensuring Clean Air, Transportation, Parks and Green Spaces as well as Cultural Heritage in Canada and the air quality target by using Health Canada’s science and outreach activities to inform actions that improve air quality. For example, the Canadian Ambient Air Quality Standards (CAAQS) are outdoor air quality targets based on health and environmental objectives. Their purpose is to drive actions to reduce emissions of harmful air pollutants, such as the implementation of new regulatory requirements, and ultimately improve air quality across Canada. Health Canada</p>	<p>Indicator result: 60% of planned federal air quality health assessments, guidance documents, guidelines and standards were published or distributed externally - related to outdoor air and indoor air quality in 2024-25</p> <p>Notes: Three of five documents within the scope of this indicator were published or distributed externally. The final residential indoor air quality guidelines for benzene were put on hold and the final guidance for indoor air quality in office buildings is anticipated to be published in 2025-26.</p>

IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGY	DEPARTMENTAL ACTION	PERFORMANCE INDICATOR STARTING POINT TARGET	HOW THE DEPARTMENTAL ACTION CONTRIBUTES TO THE FSDS GOAL AND TARGET AND, WHERE APPLICABLE, TO CANADA'S 2030 AGENDA NATIONAL STRATEGY AND SDGS	RESULTS ACHIEVED
		<p>Performance Indicator: Percentage of planned Canadian Ambient Air Quality Standards (CAAQS) reviewed and updated (i.e., for ozone and PM2.5)</p> <p>Starting point: 50% in 2022-23 Updates to the CAAQS for ozone were completed in 2019</p> <p>Target: 100% of planned CAAQS by December 31, 2025</p>	<p>works with the provinces, territories, and stakeholders to review and update the CAAQS as needed. Health Canada's work also informs action to improve indoor air quality in residential homes, office buildings and public spaces.</p> <p>Relevant targets or ambitions: <i>CIF Ambition:</i> 11.3 Canadians live in healthy, accessible, and sustainable cities and communities. <i>CIF Target:</i> Increase the percentage of the population across Canada living in areas where air pollutant concentrations are less than or equal to the Canadian Ambient Air Quality Standards from 63% in 2005 to 85% in 2030. <i>CIF Indicator:</i> 11.3.1 Percentage of the population living in areas where air pollutant concentrations are less than or equal to the 2020 Canadian Ambient Air Quality Standards.</p> <p><i>GIF Target:</i> 11.6 By 2030, reduce the adverse per capita environmental impact of cities, including by paying special attention to air quality and municipal and other waste management.</p>	<p>Indicator result: Results will be reported for 2025-26.</p> <p>Notes: As of March 31, 2025, 50% (1/2) of planned Canadian Ambient Air Quality Standards (CAAQS) have been reviewed and updated. Updates to the CAAQS for PM2.5 are anticipated by December 2025.</p>

Implementation strategies supporting the goal

This section is for implementation strategies that support the goal “**Improve access to affordable housing, clean air, transportation, parks, and green spaces, as well as cultural heritage in Canada**” but not a specific FSDS target.

IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGY	DEPARTMENTAL ACTION	PERFORMANCE INDICATOR STARTING POINT TARGET	HOW THE DEPARTMENTAL ACTION CONTRIBUTES TO THE FSDS GOAL AND TARGET AND, WHERE APPLICABLE, TO CANADA’S 2030 AGENDA NATIONAL STRATEGY AND SDGS	RESULTS ACHIEVED
<p>Inform Canadians about air quality</p> <p>Help Canadians make informed decisions related to their health and the environment by providing them with up to date and accurate information on local outdoor air quality and strategies to improve their indoor air quality.</p>	<p>Provide people in Canada with access to information that will enable them to take action to reduce impacts from air pollution.</p> <p>Program: Air Quality</p>	<p>Performance Indicator: Percentage of planned knowledge transfer activities* completed related to health impacts of air pollution for indoor and outdoor air</p> <p>*Activities where knowledge is transmitted to users to enable its application. Knowledge transfer activities can be passive such as peer-reviewed publications, poster presentations, conference presentations, and patents, or active such as face-to-face meetings, interactive workshops, and networks.</p> <p>Starting point: 100% in 2022-23</p> <p>Target: 100% (annual)</p>	<p>This departmental action contributes to FSDS Goal 11- Improving Access to Affordable Housing, Ensuring Clean Air, Transportation, Parks and Green Spaces as well as Cultural Heritage in Canada by using outreach activities to increase knowledge and raise awareness about the health impacts of air pollution, and helps inform actions by provinces, territories, municipalities, and other decision-makers to improve air quality. Work under this departmental action also helps people in Canada make decisions on how to protect their health from outdoor air pollution with information from the Air Quality Health Index (AQHI), such as limiting short-term exposure to air pollution and adjusting their activity levels when there are increased levels of air pollution.</p> <p>The AQHI also supports Canada’s 2030 Agenda National Strategy through its particular focus on people who are considered sensitive to the health impacts of air pollution and provides them with advice on how to protect their health. AQHI information is made available to schools and the general public and</p>	<p>Indicator result: 100% of planned knowledge transfer activities were completed related to health impacts of air pollution for indoor and outdoor air in 2024-25</p> <p>Notes: 141 knowledge transfer activities related to the health impacts of air pollution were completed, 74 more than the 67 planned.</p>
		<p>Performance Indicator: Number of people considered sensitive,* reached by AQHI (Air Quality Health Index) risk communications</p> <p>*“People considered sensitive” are those most at risk from the health effects of air pollution, including people with pre-existing health conditions, children, and the elderly.</p> <p>Starting point: 1,462,369 in 2022-23</p> <p>Target: 4,000,000 by March 31, 2026</p>		<p>Indicator result: Results will be reported for 2025-26.</p> <p>Notes: As of March 31, 2025, 3,706,065 people considered sensitive have been reached by AQHI risk communications.</p>

IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGY	DEPARTMENTAL ACTION	PERFORMANCE INDICATOR STARTING POINT TARGET	HOW THE DEPARTMENTAL ACTION CONTRIBUTES TO THE FSDS GOAL AND TARGET AND, WHERE APPLICABLE, TO CANADA'S 2030 AGENDA NATIONAL STRATEGY AND SDGS	RESULTS ACHIEVED
		<p>Performance Indicator: Percentage of people considered sensitive, reached by Air Quality Health Index (AQHI) risk communications who change their behaviour on high AQHI days to avoid exposure to outdoor air pollutants</p> <p>Starting Point: 42% in 2020-21</p> <p>Target: More than 42% by March 31, 2026</p>	<p>includes health protection messages for at-risk individuals.</p> <p>Relevant targets or ambitions: <i>CIF Ambition:</i> 11.3 Canadians live in healthy, accessible, and sustainable cities and communities. <i>CIF Target:</i> Increase the percentage of the population across Canada living in areas where air pollutant concentrations are less than or equal to the Canadian Ambient Air Quality Standards from 63% in 2005 to 85% in 2030. <i>CIF Indicator:</i> 11.3.1 Percentage of the population living in areas where air pollutant concentrations are less than or equal to the 2020 Canadian Ambient Air Quality Standards.</p> <p><i>GIF Target:</i> 11.6 By 2030, reduce the adverse per capita environmental impact of cities, including by paying special attention to air quality and municipal and other waste management.</p>	<p>Indicator result: Results will be reported for 2025-26.</p> <p>Notes: The public opinion research that informs this indicator is conducted every five years. New results are expected in 2025-26.</p>
	<p>Inform action on indoor radon exposure.</p> <p>Program: Radiation Protection</p>	<p>Performance Indicator: Percentage of people in Canada surveyed who are knowledgeable about radon</p> <p>Starting point: 69% in 2022-23 (based on the 2021 Households and the Environment Survey)</p> <p>Note: Results of the 2023 Households and the Environment Survey will be made available in 2024-25 (reports every two years)</p>	<p>This departmental action contributes to FSDS Goal 11 - Improving Access to Affordable Housing, Ensuring Clean Air, Transportation, Parks and Green Spaces as well as Cultural Heritage in Canada by raising awareness about the health impacts of radon. Exposure to high levels of radon in indoor air results in an increased risk of developing lung cancer. Health Canada participates in Radon Action Month every November by working</p>	<p>Indicator result: 66% of people in Canada surveyed were knowledgeable about radon in 2024-25</p> <p>Notes: The results are based on the 2023 Households and the Environment Survey. The data collection timeframe was different than previous years and did not align with radon outreach campaigns that take place in the fall to align with Health</p>

IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGY	DEPARTMENTAL ACTION	PERFORMANCE INDICATOR STARTING POINT TARGET	HOW THE DEPARTMENTAL ACTION CONTRIBUTES TO THE FSDS GOAL AND TARGET AND, WHERE APPLICABLE, TO CANADA'S 2030 AGENDA NATIONAL STRATEGY AND SDGS	RESULTS ACHIEVED
		<p>Target: 70% by March 31, 2025</p> <p>Performance Indicator: Percentage of households in Canada surveyed who have tested their homes for radon</p> <p>Starting point: 9% in 2022-23 (based on the 2021 Households and the Environment Survey)</p> <p>Note: Results of the 2023 Households and the Environment Survey will be made available in 2024-25 (reports every two years).</p> <p>Target: 10% by March 31, 2026.</p>	<p>with partners to raise awareness and inform people in Canada about actions they can take to reduce their risk from radon exposure.</p> <p>Relevant targets or ambitions: <i>CIF Ambition:</i> 11.3 Canadians live in healthy, accessible, and sustainable cities and communities.</p> <p><i>GIF Target:</i> 11.6 By 2030, reduce the adverse per capita environmental impact of cities, including by paying special attention to air quality and municipal and other waste management.</p>	<p>Canada's recommended window for radon testing (i.e., the heating season).</p> <p>Indicator result: 12% of households in Canada surveyed have tested their homes for radon in 2024-25</p> <p>Notes: The results are based on the 2023 Households and the Environment Survey.</p>
<p>Research the impacts of air pollution</p> <p>Support research that will enable Canadians and scientists to gain a better understanding of the impacts of air pollution on ecosystems, wildlife, and human health.</p>	<p>Monitor impact of air pollution on mortality.</p> <p>Program: Air Quality</p>	<p>Performance Indicator: Number of deaths per year in Canada attributable to air pollution (per 100,000 population)</p> <p>Starting point: 42 deaths per 100,000 population in 2020-21</p> <p>Target: Less than an annual 42 deaths per 100,000 population by December 31, 2029</p> <p>Note: Results available every 3 years. Next reporting periods are 2023-24, 2026-27, and 2029-30</p>	<p>This departmental action contributes to FSDS Goal 11 - Improving Access to Affordable Housing, Ensuring Clean Air, Transportation, Parks and Green Spaces as well as Cultural Heritage in Canada by helping to improve the understanding of the impacts of air pollution on human health. By disaggregating the data to better understand, for example, how age and location can impact mortality and illness resulting from air pollution, Health Canada supports Canada's 2030 Agenda National Strategy so that informed actions can be taken to protect human health.</p> <p>Information about how this work contributes to Canada's 2030 Agenda National Strategy is outlined in the table below.</p>	<p>Indicator result: Results will be reported for 2029-30.</p> <p>Notes: The interim result for 2023-24 showed that 47 deaths per 100,000 population in Canada were attributable to air pollution.</p>

IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGY	DEPARTMENTAL ACTION	PERFORMANCE INDICATOR STARTING POINT TARGET	HOW THE DEPARTMENTAL ACTION CONTRIBUTES TO THE FSDS GOAL AND TARGET AND, WHERE APPLICABLE, TO CANADA'S 2030 AGENDA NATIONAL STRATEGY AND SDGS	RESULTS ACHIEVED
			<p>Relevant targets or ambitions: <i>CIF Ambition:</i> 11.3 Canadians live in healthy, accessible, and sustainable cities and communities. <i>CIF Target:</i> Increase the percentage of the population across Canada living in areas where air pollutant concentrations are less than or equal to the Canadian Ambient Air Quality Standards from 63% in 2005 to 85% in 2030. <i>CIF Indicator:</i> 11.3.1 Percentage of the population living in areas where air pollutant concentrations are less than or equal to the 2020 Canadian Ambient Air Quality Standards</p> <p><i>GIF Target:</i> 11.6 By 2030, reduce the adverse per capita environmental impact of cities, including by paying special attention to air quality and municipal and other waste management.</p>	

Initiatives advancing Canada’s implementation of SDG 11 – Sustainable Cities and Communities

The following initiatives demonstrate how Health Canada’s programming supports the 2030 Agenda and the SDGs, supplementing the information outlined above.

PLANNED INITIATIVES	ASSOCIATED DOMESTICS TARGETS OR AMBITIONS AND/OR GLOBAL TARGETS	RESULTS ACHIEVED
<p>Health Canada’s Air Quality Program supports actions to improve air quality and health for all Canadians by conducting research on the health impacts of exposure to air pollution, assessing the health risks from air pollutants and pollutant sources, and analyzing the health benefits of actions to improve air quality. This work enables the Program to contribute to updates to the Canadian Ambient Air Quality Standards, which drive the continuous improvement of air quality across the country.</p> <p>This includes targeted research to better understand and address the needs of individuals disproportionately affected by air pollution and strives to identify and assess the health risks through its science, research, and assessment work.</p> <p>Health Canada provides scientific advice and supports global health initiatives to improve air quality through collaborative research with the WHO Collaborating Centre on Environmental Health, the Pan-American Health Organization, and the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development.</p>	<p>This work contributes to advancing:</p> <p><i>CIF Ambition:</i> 11.3 Canadians live in healthy, accessible, and sustainable cities and communities</p> <p><i>CIF Target:</i> Increase the percentage of the population across Canada living in areas where air pollutant concentrations are less than or equal to the Canadian Ambient Air Quality Standards from 63% in 2005 to 85% in 2030.</p> <p><i>CIF Indicator:</i> 11.3.1 Percentage of the population living in areas where air pollutant concentrations are less than or equal to the 2020 Canadian Ambient Air Quality Standards.</p> <p><i>GIF Target:</i> 11.6 By 2030, reduce the adverse per capita environmental impact of cities, including by paying special attention to air quality and municipal and other waste management.</p>	<p>In 2024-25, the Air Quality Program continued its core work to improve the health of people in Canada by: providing health evidence to support actions to drive the continuous improvement of air quality across the country; and messaging to help people protect themselves by reducing their exposure to air pollution. For example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Health Canada published a report on Human health effects of wildfire smoke that contributes to the understanding of the health effects of exposure to wildfire smoke to support guidance and public health messaging. Wildfire smoke is a growing health concern as forest fires are anticipated to increase in frequency and intensity due to a changing climate. to help inform efforts amongst the international community to improve air quality and protect public health, Health Canada developed a summary of the experience of implementing policies to phase out coal-fired electric power generation in Canada and the associated health benefits for the World Health Organization. Health Canada published research on outdoor nitrogen dioxide exposure, which found that long-term exposure to nitrogen dioxide was associated with decreased health-related quality of life, particularly among women. These findings underscore the critical role of environmental factors in public health and support the ongoing efforts to improve air quality and create healthier living environments across Canada.



GOAL 12: REDUCE WASTE AND TRANSITION TO ZERO-EMISSION VEHICLES

FSDS Context:

By transitioning to a cleaner and more circular economy that prioritizes reducing consumption and waste, negative impacts on the environment can be reduced. For example, plastic waste and pollution is a significant issue in Canada. Over 3 million tonnes of plastic was discarded as waste in Canada in 2016. Nearly 90% is neither recycled nor recovered, representing an economic loss of \$7.8 billion. The Canada-wide Strategy and Action Plans on Zero Plastic Waste aim to reduce plastic waste and pollution and recover the value of plastics, to advance a circular economy for plastics.

Health Canada supports these efforts through work with federal partners to address plastic waste and pollution, by assessing the impacts of plastic pollution on human health, and by developing risk management tools to address plastic waste and pollution at different stages of the lifecycle of plastic manufactured items (e.g., manufacture, import, sale, use and disposal). Within its own operations, Health Canada prohibits the use of single-use plastics at meetings and events, and the Department has developed an internal Policy on the Prohibition and Diversion of Single-use Plastic, which aligns with the objective of the comprehensive [Single-use Plastics Prohibition Regulations](#) that were released in December 2022. The Department has also implemented a recycling program for Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) at one of its Public Service Occupational Health Program clinics. The used PPE is sterilized, broken down into pellets and given a second life.

Health Canada's work on the Chemicals Management Plan, the Northern Contaminants Program, the Federal Contaminated Sites Action Plan, and the re-evaluation of pesticides against current health and environmental standards supports the management of waste, resources, and chemicals.

In addition, Health Canada recognizes the need to incorporate the principles of the circular economy in departmental operations by considering the full life cycle of our procurement decisions, identifying opportunities to right-size the departmental fleet and support the transition to zero-emission vehicles, and the importance of tracking, monitoring and reporting publicly on waste diversion, electricity consumption, and water use in order to

identify opportunities to minimize the environmental impact of our operations. These are key elements of the Government of Canada’s Greening Government Strategy, which is driving the transition to government operations that are net-zero, resilient and green.

Target theme: Federal Leadership on Responsible Consumption

Target: By 2030, the Government of Canada will divert from landfill at least 75% by weight of non-hazardous operational waste (All Ministers)

IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGY	DEPARTMENTAL ACTION	PERFORMANCE INDICATOR STARTING POINT TARGET	HOW THE DEPARTMENTAL ACTION CONTRIBUTES TO THE FSDS GOAL AND TARGET AND, WHERE APPLICABLE, TO CANADA’S 2030 AGENDA NATIONAL STRATEGY AND SDGs	RESULTS ACHIEVED
<p>Maximize diversion of waste from landfill</p> <p>Analyze waste streams and implement waste diversion measures.</p>	<p>Assess the waste stream to inform future decisions and options to divert operational waste from landfills.</p> <p>Program: Internal Services</p>	<p>Performance Indicator: Percentage of Health Canada custodial facilities with updated waste audits completed</p> <p>Starting Point: As of 2021-22, waste audits had been completed for all custodial facilities but are required to be updated at least every five years.</p> <p>Target: 100% (n=6) by March 31, 2026</p>	<p>This departmental action contributes to FSDS Goal 12- Reduce Waste and Transition to Zero-Emission Vehicles and the waste diversion targets by ensuring the Department has well established baseline information related to the composition of various waste streams. The information gained from the quantification and characterization of operational waste can then be used to identify and prioritize options to further reduce and divert waste.</p> <p>Relevant targets or ambitions: <i>CIF Ambition:</i> 12 Canadians consume in a sustainable manner. <i>GIF Target:</i> 12.5 By 2030, substantially reduce waste generation through prevention, reduction, recycling and reuse.</p>	<p>Indicator result: 100% of Health Canada custodial facilities (6) have updated waste audits completed</p> <p>Notes: One audit was completed in 2021-22 and five were completed in 2023-24.</p>

Target: By 2030, the Government of Canada will divert from landfill at least 90% by weight of all construction and demolition waste (All Ministers)

IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGY	DEPARTMENTAL ACTION	PERFORMANCE INDICATOR STARTING POINT TARGET	HOW THE DEPARTMENTAL ACTION CONTRIBUTES TO THE FSDS GOAL AND TARGET AND, WHERE APPLICABLE, TO CANADA'S 2030 AGENDA NATIONAL STRATEGY AND SDGs	RESULTS ACHIEVED
<p>Maximize diversion of waste from landfill</p> <p>Analyze waste streams and implement waste diversion measures.</p>	<p>Track and disclose waste diversion rates annually.</p> <p>Program: Internal Services</p>	<p>Performance Indicator: Percentage of construction and demolition waste diversion rates that are reported publicly*</p> <p>* When projects meet the minimum threshold of \$5M and in areas where diversion facilities exist.</p> <p>Starting Point: No projects met the minimum threshold in 2022-23</p> <p>Target: 100% (annual)</p>	<p>This departmental action contributes to FSDS Goal 12 – Reduce Waste and Transition to Zero-Emission Vehicles and the waste diversion targets by ensuring the Department has well established baseline information related to the composition of various waste streams. The information can then be used to identify and prioritize options to further reduce and divert waste, which in turn reduces emissions from landfill and transport hauling emissions, as well as emissions generated from the extraction and production of virgin materials.</p> <p>Relevant targets or ambitions:</p>	<p>Indicator result: 100% of construction and demolition waste diversion rates were reported publicly in 2024-25</p> <p>Notes: One project met the criteria with 91% of construction and demolition waste diverted from landfill.</p>

IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGY	DEPARTMENTAL ACTION	PERFORMANCE INDICATOR STARTING POINT TARGET	HOW THE DEPARTMENTAL ACTION CONTRIBUTES TO THE FSDS GOAL AND TARGET AND, WHERE APPLICABLE, TO CANADA’S 2030 AGENDA NATIONAL STRATEGY AND SDGs	RESULTS ACHIEVED
		<p>Performance Indicator: Percentage of non-hazardous operational waste diversion rates for Health Canada’s custodial buildings** that are reported publicly</p> <p>* Diversion percentages will be based on industry average weight by waste stream multiplied by number of bins collected at each site.</p> <p>**Applies to facilities over 10,000m2 within a municipality with a population of over 100,000 people.</p> <p>Starting Point: Public reporting initiated in 2022-23 (52% diversion rate)</p> <p>Target: 100% (annual)</p>	<p><i>CIF Ambition:</i> 12 Canadians consume in a sustainable manner.</p> <p><i>GIF Target:</i> 12.5 By 2030, substantially reduce waste generation through prevention, reduction, recycling and reuse.</p>	<p>Indicator result: 100% of non-hazardous operational waste diversion rates for Health Canada custodial buildings (6) were reported publicly in 2024-25</p> <p>Notes: 60% operational waste diversion rate for Health Canada custodial buildings</p>
<p>Performance Indicator: Percentage of plastic waste diverted* from Health Canada’s custodial buildings** is reported publicly</p> <p>* Pending clarification regarding the industry standard for co-mingled waste streams at the point of collection.</p> <p>** Applies to facilities over 10,000m2 within a municipality with a population of over 100,000 people.</p> <p>Starting Point: 100% in 2023-24 (81% diverted)</p> <p>Target: 100% (reporting based on completion of waste audits)</p>	<p>Indicator result: 100% of plastic waste diverted from Health Canada custodial buildings (6) was reported publicly in 2024-25</p> <p>Notes: 82% of the total plastic waste disposed of onsite was diverted from the landfill, totalling 6,817 kg</p>			

IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGY	DEPARTMENTAL ACTION	PERFORMANCE INDICATOR STARTING POINT TARGET	HOW THE DEPARTMENTAL ACTION CONTRIBUTES TO THE FSDS GOAL AND TARGET AND, WHERE APPLICABLE, TO CANADA’S 2030 AGENDA NATIONAL STRATEGY AND SDGs	RESULTS ACHIEVED
	<p>Implement initiatives to increase waste diversion from Health Canada’s operations.</p> <p>Program: Internal Services</p>	<p>Performance Indicator: Number of new waste paper towel composting programs implemented in Health Canada’s custodial buildings</p> <p>Starting Point: Implemented one waste paper towel composting pilot program in 2023-24</p> <p>Target: 3 by March 31, 2025</p>	<p>This departmental action contributes to FSDS Goal 12 – Reduce Waste and Transition to Zero-Emission Vehicles and the waste diversion targets by ensuring the Department has well established baseline information related to the composition of various waste streams. The information can then be used to identify and prioritize options to further reduce and divert waste, which in turn reduces emissions from landfill and transport hauling emissions, as well as emissions generated from the extraction and production of virgin materials.</p> <p>Relevant targets or ambitions: <i>CIF Ambition:</i> 12 Canadians consume in a sustainable manner. <i>GIF Target:</i> 12.5 By 2030, substantially reduce waste generation through prevention, reduction, recycling and reuse.</p>	<p>Indicator result: Three remaining Health Canada custodial buildings implemented a waste paper towel composting program in 2024-25</p> <p>Notes: All custodial buildings have implemented paper towel composting programs. This target has been met and will be removed in subsequent reports.</p>

Target: The Government of Canada’s procurement of goods and services will be net-zero emissions by 2050, to aid the transition to a net-zero, circular economy (All Ministers)

IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGY	DEPARTMENTAL ACTION	PERFORMANCE INDICATOR STARTING POINT TARGET	HOW THE DEPARTMENTAL ACTION CONTRIBUTES TO THE FSDS GOAL AND TARGET AND, WHERE APPLICABLE, TO CANADA’S 2030 AGENDA NATIONAL STRATEGY AND SDGS	RESULTS ACHIEVED
<p>Transform the federal light-duty fleet</p> <p>Fleet management and renewal will be optimized with the objective that the conventional light-duty on-road fleet comprises 100% zero-emission vehicles by 2030, including battery electric, plug-in hybrid, and hydrogen fuel cell vehicles.</p>	<p>Increase the percentage of departmental fleet that are zero-emission vehicles (ZEV) or hybrid, whenever operationally feasible.</p> <p>Program: Internal Services</p>	<p>Performance Indicator: Percentage of new executive vehicle purchases that are ZEVs or hybrids. Priority is to be given to ZEV</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Total number of executive vehicles in the fleet. Total number of new executive vehicles purchased. Total number of ZEV or hybrid executive vehicles purchased <p>Starting Point: In 2022-23, no executive vehicles were purchased, and Health Canada had three executive vehicles, two of which were ZEV.</p> <p>Target: 100% (annual)</p>	<p>This departmental action contributes to FSDS Goal 12 - Reduce Waste and Transition to Zero-Emission Vehicles and the net-zero procurement target by using the Department’s purchasing power to continue to support Canada’s transition to zero-emission vehicles and further reducing transportation-related greenhouse gas emissions.</p> <p>Relevant targets or ambitions: <i>CIF Ambition:</i> 12 Canadians consume in a sustainable manner. <i>GIF Target:</i> 12.7 Promote public procurement practices that are sustainable, in accordance with national policies and priorities.</p>	<p>Indicator result: 100% of new executive vehicle purchased were ZEVs or hybrids in 2024-25</p> <p>Notes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Health Canada’s executive fleet included 2 vehicles in 2024-25 1 new executive vehicle was purchased in 2024-25 (a Battery Electric Vehicle)
		<p>Performance Indicator: Percentage of new light-duty vehicle purchases that are ZEVs or hybrid</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Total number of vehicles in administrative fleet. Total number of new light-duty unmodified administrative fleet vehicles purchased. Total number of ZEV or hybrid light-duty vehicles purchased 		<p>Indicator result: 100% of light duty fleet vehicle purchases were ZEV in 2024-25</p> <p>Notes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Health Canada’s administrative fleet included 136 light duty vehicles in 2024-25. 17 new light-duty unmodified administrative fleet vehicles were purchased in 2024-25, 7 of which were Battery Electric Vehicles (BEV) and 10 of which

IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGY	DEPARTMENTAL ACTION	PERFORMANCE INDICATOR STARTING POINT TARGET	HOW THE DEPARTMENTAL ACTION CONTRIBUTES TO THE FSDS GOAL AND TARGET AND, WHERE APPLICABLE, TO CANADA'S 2030 AGENDA NATIONAL STRATEGY AND SDGS	RESULTS ACHIEVED
		<p>Starting Point: 100% (8/8) in 2022-23 and the total number of vehicles in the administrative fleet was 156.</p> <p>Target: 100% (annual)</p>		<p>were Plug-in Hybrid Vehicles (PHEV).</p>
	<p>Assess opportunities for fleet and vehicle right-sizing.</p> <p>Program: Internal Services</p>	<p>Performance Indicator: Percentage of compatible and/or applicable vehicles logged via telematics data</p> <p>Starting Point: 100% in 2022-23</p> <p>Target: 100% (annual)</p>	<p>This departmental action contributes to FSDS Goal 12 - Reduce Waste and Transition to Zero-Emission Vehicles and the net-zero procurement target by ensuring that Health Canada continues to identify opportunities to right-size the departmental fleet and invest in infrastructure to support the transition to zero-emission vehicles. For example, the analysis of telematics data helps to inform decisions and planning related to fleet purchases, which facilitates replacement of conventional vehicles over their lifetimes with ZEVs and hybrids.</p> <p>Relevant targets or ambitions: <i>CIF Ambition:</i> 12 Canadians consume in a sustainable manner. <i>GIF Target:</i> 12.7 Promote public procurement practices that are sustainable, in accordance with national policies and priorities.</p>	<p>Indicator result: 100% of compatible and applicable vehicles logged via telematics data in 2024-25</p>

IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGY	DEPARTMENTAL ACTION	PERFORMANCE INDICATOR STARTING POINT TARGET	HOW THE DEPARTMENTAL ACTION CONTRIBUTES TO THE FSDS GOAL AND TARGET AND, WHERE APPLICABLE, TO CANADA'S 2030 AGENDA NATIONAL STRATEGY AND SDGs	RESULTS ACHIEVED
<p>Strengthen green procurement criteria</p> <p>Develop criteria that address greenhouse gas emissions reduction for goods and services that have a high environmental impact; ensure the criteria are included in procurements; and support green procurement, including guidance, tools and training for public service employees.</p>	<p>Promote environmental sustainability by integrating environmental performance considerations into departmental procurement processes, including planning, acquisition, use and disposal, and ensuring there is the necessary training and awareness to support green procurement.</p> <p>Program: Internal Services</p>	<p>Performance Indicator: Percentage of procurement related documents, guides, and tools posted on Health Canada's Materiel and Assets Management intranet site reviewed and updated to reflect green procurement objectives, where applicable</p> <p>Starting point: 100% in 2022-23</p> <p>Target: 100% (annual)</p>	<p>These departmental actions contribute to FSDS Goal 12 - Reduce Waste and Transition to Zero-Emission Vehicles, and the net-zero procurement target by incorporating environmental considerations into purchasing decisions, which can motivate suppliers to reduce the environmental impact of the goods and services they deliver, and their supply chains.</p> <p>Relevant targets or ambitions: <i>CIF Ambition:</i> 12 Canadians consume in a sustainable manner.</p> <p><i>GIF Target:</i> 12.7 Promote public procurement practices that are sustainable, in accordance with national policies and priorities.</p>	<p>Indicator result: 100% of procurement related documents, guides and tools posted on Health Canada's Procurement, Materiel and Assets Management Division intranet were reviewed in 2024-25</p> <p>Notes: A significant update to Health Canada's Green Procurement documents, guides and tools was completed in 2023-24. A review was completed in 2024-25 and no further updates were identified.</p>
	<p>Ensure material management and specialists in procurement have the necessary training and awareness to support green procurement.</p> <p>Program: Internal Services</p>	<p>Performance Indicator: Percentage of specialists in procurement and materiel management who have completed training on green procurement or have included it in their learning plan for completion within a year</p> <p>Starting point: 100% in 2022-23</p> <p>Target: 100% (annual)</p>		<p>Indicator result: 100% of specialists in procurement and materiel management completed the Canada School of Public Service's green procurement course in 2024-25 or have included it in their learning plan for completion within a year</p> <p>Notes: 57 specialists in procurement and materiel management completed the course or have added the course on their learning plan for completion within a year.</p>

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	<p>Ensure that the process for procurements over \$25 million, including taxes, induces suppliers to measure and disclose their greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and adopt a science-based target to reduce GHG emissions in line with the Paris Agreement as part of participating in the Net-Zero Challenge or in an equivalent initiative or standard.</p> <p>Program: Internal Services</p>	<p>Performance Indicator: Percentage of procurements over \$25 million that included an incentive for suppliers to disclose their GHG emissions and adopt a science-based target to reduce emissions</p> <p>Starting Point: 100% in 2023-24</p> <p>Target: 100% (annual)</p> <p>Note: Public Services and Procurement Canada's contracting authority and Health Canada's technical authority play lead roles in achieving this target.</p>		<p>Indicator result: Health Canada had no procurements over \$25 million that included an incentive for suppliers to disclose their GHG emissions and adopt a science-based target to reduce emissions in 2024-25.</p>
	<p>Identify the main categories of goods and services purchased by Health Canada</p> <p>Program: Internal Services</p>	<p>Performance Indicator: Complete an expanded analysis of Health Canada's procurement spending (five fiscal years) to identify the main categories where 'greening' opportunities could be applied</p> <p>Starting Point: Completed an assessment of Health Canada's procurement spending in 2023-24 to identify the main categories where 'greening' opportunities could be applied</p> <p>Target: March 31, 2025</p>		<p>Indicator result: Completed an expanded assessment of Health Canada's procurement spending (five fiscal years) to identify the main categories where 'greening' opportunities could be applied in 2024-25.</p> <p>Notes: Based on the analysis, "greening" opportunities could exist in the Laboratory Equipment category. This target has been met and will be removed in subsequent reports.</p>

Implementation strategies supporting the goal

This section is for implementation strategies that support the goal “Reduce waste and transition to zero-emission vehicles” but not a specific FSDS target.

IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGY	DEPARTMENTAL ACTION	PERFORMANCE INDICATOR STARTING POINT TARGET	HOW THE DEPARTMENTAL ACTION CONTRIBUTES TO THE FSDS GOAL AND TARGET AND, WHERE APPLICABLE, TO CANADA’S 2030 AGENDA NATIONAL STRATEGY AND SDGs	RESULTS ACHIEVED
<p>Assess and manage risks from chemicals and harmful substances</p> <p>Assess new substances and address existing substance priorities to determine risks to Canadians and the environment, develop and implement regulatory and non-regulatory instruments to manage those risks, and communicate relevant information in a timely and clear way to Canadians, the private sector and governments.</p>	<p>Assess and manage, where appropriate, the potential health risks associated with chemical substances.</p> <p>Program: Health Impacts of Chemicals</p>	<p>Performance Indicator: Percentage of existing chemicals addressed within targeted timelines</p> <p>Starting point: 100% in 2022-23</p> <p>Target: 100% (annual)</p>	<p>This departmental action contributes to FSDS Goal 12 - Reduce Waste and Transition to Zero-Emission Vehicles by reducing the risks posed by chemicals to people in Canada and their environment. Through the Chemicals Management Plan, Health Canada assesses substances for potential health and environmental impacts and develops risk management actions, such as new regulatory requirements, to mitigate the risks of harmful substances.</p> <p>Information about how this work contributes to Canada’s 2030 Agenda National Strategy is outlined in the table below.</p> <p>Relevant targets or ambitions: <i>CIF Ambition:</i> 12 Canadians consume in a sustainable manner. <i>GIF Target:</i> 12.4 By 2020, achieve the environmentally sound management of chemicals and all wastes throughout their life cycle, in accordance with agreed international frameworks, and significantly reduce their release to air, water and soil in order to minimize their adverse impacts on human health and the environment.</p>	<p>Indicator result: 100% of existing chemicals planned for assessment were addressed within targeted timelines in 2024-25</p> <p>Notes: Draft assessments/final assessments for 164 existing substances were completed.</p>
		<p>Performance Indicator: Percentage of new substances (chemicals, polymers and animate products of biotechnology) assessed within prescribed timelines</p> <p>Starting point: 100% in 2022-23</p> <p>Target: 100% (annual)</p>		<p>Indicator result: 100% of new substances were assessed within prescribed timelines in 2024-25</p> <p>Notes: 293 risk assessments for new substances were completed.</p>
		<p>Performance Indicator: Percentage of actions taken in a timely manner to protect the health of Canadians from substances found to be a risk to human health</p> <p>Starting point: 95% in 2022-23</p> <p>Target: 100% (annual)</p>		<p>Indicator result: 100% of risk management actions to protect the health of Canadians from substances found to be a risk to human health were completed within prescribed timelines in 2024-25</p> <p>Notes: 34 risk management actions related to substances found to be a risk to human health were completed.</p>

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	<p>Provide funding for research studies to monitor contaminant levels in wildlife and people in the Canadian North.</p> <p>Program: Health Impacts of Chemicals</p>	<p>Performance Indicator: Provide funding for research studies under the Northern Contaminants Program (NCP)</p> <p>Starting Point: 100% in 2022-23 (six research studies)</p> <p>Target: 100% of funding allocated by the end of the fiscal year (annual)</p>	<p>This departmental action supports FSDS Goal 12 - Reduce Waste and Transition to Zero-Emission Vehicles through the Northern Contaminant Program (NCP), which provides funding for research and biomonitoring studies to address contaminants of concern in Canada's North and inform national and international chemicals risk management.</p> <p>The research findings provide data to inform risk assessment and risk management of substances and are also used to influence the development and implementation of international agreements to reduce and/or eliminate the production, use and release of contaminating substances into the environment. This funding is provided through a competitive process to individual researchers. Ultimately the program objective is to reduce and, where possible, eliminate contaminants from the Arctic environment.</p> <p>Relevant targets or ambitions: <i>CIF Ambition:</i> 12 Canadians consume in a sustainable manner. <i>GIF Target:</i> 12.4 By 2020, achieve the environmentally sound management of chemicals and all wastes throughout their life cycle, in accordance with agreed international frameworks, and significantly reduce their release to air, water and soil in order to minimize their adverse impacts on human health and the environment.</p>	<p>Indicator result: 100% of planned funding was provided for research studies under the Northern Contaminants Program (NCP) in 2024-25</p> <p>Notes: Funding was provided for six research studies that monitor contaminant levels in wildlife and people in the Canadian North as part of the NCP. These projects address exposure to contaminants, including through consumption of country foods and links to nutritional status in multiple Northern regions (Yukon, Northwest Territories, Nunavik), as well as the development and evaluation of health communication tools.</p>

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	<p>Conduct research, monitoring and surveillance (including biomonitoring) in order to better understand and manage the health risks of harmful substances.</p> <p>Program: Health Impacts of Chemicals</p>	<p>Performance Indicator: Percentage of planned knowledge transfer activities * completed related to research on chemicals of concern</p> <p>*Activities where knowledge is transmitted to users to enable its application. Knowledge transfer activities can be passive such as peer-reviewed publications, poster presentations, conference presentations, and patents, or active such as face-to-face meetings, interactive workshops, and networks.</p> <p>Starting point: 100% in 2022-23</p> <p>Target: 100% (annual)</p>	<p>This departmental action contributes to FSDS Goal 12 - Reduce Waste and Transition to Zero-Emission Vehicles by informing decision making on chemicals of concern. Health Canada's research, monitoring, and surveillance related to harmful substances helps inform decisions by providing information to stakeholders (e.g., policy analysts, regulators, decision-makers, international partners, and the public). For example, it provides new data for scientists and health and environment officials to use in assessing exposure to environmental chemicals and in developing and assessing policies aimed at reducing exposure to toxic chemicals.</p>	<p>Indicator Result: 100% of planned knowledge transfer activities were completed related to research on chemicals of concern in 2024-25</p> <p>Notes: 67 knowledge transfer activities related to research on chemicals of concern were completed, 26 more than the 41 planned.</p>
		<p>Performance Indicator: Percentage of planned knowledge transfer activities* completed related to monitoring and surveillance on chemicals of concern</p> <p>*Activities where knowledge is transmitted to users to enable its application. Knowledge transfer activities can be passive such as peer-reviewed publications, poster presentations, conference presentations, and patents or active such as face-to-face meetings, interactive workshops, and networks.</p> <p>Starting point: 100% in 2022-23</p> <p>Target: 100% (annual)</p>	<p>Information about how this work contributes to Canada's 2030 Agenda National Strategy is outlined in the table below.</p> <p>Relevant targets or ambitions: <i>CIF Ambition:</i> 12 Canadians consume in a sustainable manner.</p> <p><i>GIF Target:</i> 12.4 By 2020, achieve the environmentally sound management of chemicals and all wastes throughout their life cycle, in accordance with agreed international frameworks, and significantly reduce their release to air, water and soil in order to minimize their adverse impacts on human health and the environment.</p>	<p>Indicator result: 100% of planned knowledge transfer activities were completed related to monitoring and surveillance on chemicals of concern in 2024-25</p> <p>Notes: 16 knowledge transfer activities related to monitoring and surveillance on chemicals of concern were completed, 12 more than the four planned.</p>

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<p>Continue review of pesticides</p> <p>Re-evaluate pesticides currently on the Canadian market by applying modern, evidence-based scientific approaches to assess whether they are still acceptable, and when alerted to potential issues, conduct a special review to determine continued acceptability. Implement regulatory decisions to protect the health of Canadians and the environment from risks associated with the use of pesticides.</p>	<p>Manage potential health risks associated with pesticides and assess the extent to which regulatory decisions and actions are keeping the risks posed by pesticides within acceptable limits.</p> <p>Program: Pesticides</p>	<p>Performance Indicator: Percentage of pesticide re-evaluations that are completed within specified timelines.</p> <p>Starting Point: 76% in 2022-23</p> <p>Target: 80% (annual)</p>	<p>This departmental action contributes FSDS Goal 12 - Reduce Waste and Transition to Zero-Emission Vehicles by helping to ensure that pesticides continue to be re-evaluated against current health and environmental standards and assessed in a timely manner.</p> <p>Once a pesticide has been registered, it becomes subject to a system of post-market risk management controls under the <i>Pest Control Products Act</i>. This includes re-evaluations and special reviews, compliance and enforcement activities, and reporting of health and environmental incidents.</p> <p>Post-market re-evaluations are a key legislative tool in protecting Canadians and the environment from risks associated with pesticides. Under the re-evaluation program, new methodologies, data, and scientific approaches are incorporated into the assessments to ensure that registered pesticides continue to meet modern standards for health and environmental protection and have value.</p> <p>When certain legislated criteria are met, a special review may be conducted to determine continued acceptability of implicated pesticides. When a pesticide is found to have unacceptable risk, Health Canada is responsible for taking action to protect human health and the environment through post-market regulatory decisions (e.g., cancellation of products, label changes, and voluntary withdrawals). Post-</p>	<p>Indicator result: 57% of pesticide re-evaluations were completed within specified timelines in 2024-25</p> <p>Notes: Four of the seven pesticide re-evaluations completed met specified timelines.</p>
		<p>Performance Indicator: Percentage of pesticide special reviews that are completed within specified timelines</p> <p>Starting Point: 0% in 2022-23</p> <p>Target: 80% (annual)</p>		<p>Indicator result: 100% of pesticide special reviews were completed within specified timelines in 2024-25.</p> <p>Notes: One special review was completed.</p>
		<p>Performance Indicator: Percentage of post-market decisions implemented within specified timelines to protect the health of Canadians from pesticides found to be a risk to human health and the environment</p> <p>Starting Point: 83% in 2022-23</p> <p>Target: 100% (annual)</p>		<p>Indicator result: 100% of post-market decisions were implemented within specified timelines to protect the health of Canadians from pesticides found to be a risk to human health and the environment in 2024-25</p> <p>Notes: 1045 post-market decisions were implemented.</p>

IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGY	DEPARTMENTAL ACTION	PERFORMANCE INDICATOR STARTING POINT TARGET	HOW THE DEPARTMENTAL ACTION CONTRIBUTES TO THE FSDS GOAL AND TARGET AND, WHERE APPLICABLE, TO CANADA'S 2030 AGENDA NATIONAL STRATEGY AND SDGs	RESULTS ACHIEVED
			<p>market review decisions are then published on the Health Canada website.</p> <p>Information about how this work contributes to Canada's 2030 Agenda National Strategy is outlined in the table below.</p> <p>Relevant targets or ambitions: <i>CIF Ambition:</i> 12 Canadians consume in a sustainable manner.</p> <p><i>GIF Target:</i> 12.4 By 2020, achieve the environmentally sound management of chemicals and all wastes throughout their life cycle, in accordance with agreed international frameworks, and significantly reduce their release to air, water and soil in order to minimize their adverse impacts on human health and the environment.</p>	

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<p>Remediate high-priority contaminated sites</p> <p>Reduce environmental and human health risks from known federal contaminated sites and associated federal financial liabilities, focusing on the highest priority sites.</p>	<p>Provide human health advice to other federal departments that are responsible for assessing and remediating contaminated sites.</p> <p>Program: Health Impacts of Chemicals</p>	<p>Performance Indicator: Percentage of times the review of site classification and the review of site-specific scientific and technical documents are completed within established service standards</p> <p>Starting point: 97% in 2022-23</p> <p>Target: 90% (annual)</p>	<p>This departmental action contributes to FSDS Goal 12 -Reduce Waste and Transition to Zero-Emission Vehicles through the Federal Contaminated Sites Action Plan (FCSAP), which carries out activities to reduce the amount of waste generated during the clean up of contaminated sites. Health Canada serves as an Expert Support Department by providing guidance, guideline development, training, and advice related to human health risks from exposure to various contaminants on federal contaminated sites, in the air, water, soil, sediment, dust and country foods. This includes the review of site classifications, which are used to prioritize risk management and remediation activities, and other site-specific scientific and technical reports as they relate to human health. By providing guidance and advice, Health Canada supports the remediation of contaminated sites.</p> <p>Relevant targets or ambitions: <i>CIF Ambition:</i> 12 Canadians consume in a sustainable manner. <i>GIF Target:</i> 12.4 By 2020, achieve the environmentally sound management of chemicals and all wastes throughout their life cycle, in accordance with agreed international frameworks, and significantly reduce their release to air, water and soil in order to minimize their adverse impacts on human health and the environment.</p>	<p>Indicator result: 99% of reviews of site classification and site-specific scientific and technical documents were completed within established service standards in 2024-25</p> <p>Notes: 71 of 72 reviews were completed within established service standards.</p>

IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGY	DEPARTMENTAL ACTION	PERFORMANCE INDICATOR STARTING POINT TARGET	HOW THE DEPARTMENTAL ACTION CONTRIBUTES TO THE FSDS GOAL AND TARGET AND, WHERE APPLICABLE, TO CANADA'S 2030 AGENDA NATIONAL STRATEGY AND SDGs	RESULTS ACHIEVED
<p>Research innovative solutions for plastics</p> <p>Undertake innovative approaches, including conducting new research and fostering domestic capacity to reduce and better manage plastic waste. Conduct studies to identify gaps, challenges and best practices related to circular economy for plastics to inform decision making that will result in implementing regulatory measures around the circularity of plastics in Canada.</p>	<p>Conduct and fund research on potential impacts of microplastics on human health.</p> <p>Program: Health Impacts of Chemicals</p>	<p>Performance Indicator: Percentage of implicated federal decision-makers who indicate that they have more information available for consideration in evidence-based decision making related to impacts to human health or the environment from plastic pollution including microplastics (intramural research)</p> <p>Starting point: New initiative</p> <p>Target: 70% by March 31, 2027</p>	<p>This departmental action supports the FSDS Goal of Reduce Waste and Transition to Zero-Emission Vehicles by helping to inform decisions and by providing information to stakeholders (e.g., policy analysts, regulators, decision-makers, international partners, and the public) about the potential harms and impacts of microplastics on the health of people living in Canada. For example, it provides new data for scientists and health officials to use in assessing potential impacts of microplastics on human health.</p>	<p>Indicator result: Results will be reported for 2026-27.</p>
		<p>Performance Indicator: Percentage of implicated federal decision-makers who indicate that they have more information available for consideration in evidence-based decision making related to impacts to human health or the environment from plastic pollution including microplastics (contribution program research)</p> <p>Starting point: New initiative</p> <p>Target: 70% by March 31, 2028</p>	<p>Information about how this work contributes to Canada's 2030 Agenda National Strategy is outlined in the table below.</p> <p>Relevant targets or ambitions: <i>CIF Ambition:</i> 12 Canadians consume in a sustainable manner. <i>GIF Target:</i> 12.4 By 2020, achieve the environmentally sound management of chemicals and all wastes throughout their life cycle, in accordance with agreed international frameworks, and significantly reduce their release to air, water and soil in order to minimize their adverse impacts on human health and the environment.</p>	<p>Indicator result: Results will be reported for 2026-27.</p>
	<p>Identify priorities for existing chemicals additives in plastics to inform risk management measures as needed.</p> <p>Program: Health Impacts of Chemicals</p>	<p>Performance Indicator: Percentage of identified priorities for which a plan of action has been approved</p> <p>Starting point: New initiative</p>	<p>This departmental action contributes to FSDS Goal 12 - Reduce Waste and Transition to Zero-Emission Vehicles by identifying chemical additives in plastics that could be harmful to human health, and prioritizing action on those substances that</p>	<p>Indicator result: 100% of identified priorities have an approved plan of action</p> <p>Notes: 91 identified priorities have an approved plan of action (11 priorities for</p>

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		<p>Target: 100% by March 31, 2025</p>	<p>are found to be harmful. When chemicals additives in plastics are prioritised and addressed in a timely way, the results can be used by the Government and stakeholders to inform risk management measures as needed.</p> <p>Information about how this work contributes to Canada's 2030 Agenda National Strategy is outlined in the table below.</p> <p>Relevant targets or ambitions: <i>CIF Ambition:</i> 12 Canadians consume in a sustainable manner. <i>GIF Target:</i> 12.4 By 2020, achieve the environmentally sound management of chemicals and all wastes throughout their life cycle, in accordance with agreed international frameworks, and significantly reduce their release to air, water and soil in order to minimize their adverse impacts on human health and the environment.</p>	<p>assessment, 25 for data gathering, and 55 for further review of existing assessments/risk management measures). This target has been met and will be removed in subsequent reports.</p>

Initiatives advancing Canada’s implementation of SDG 12 – Responsible Consumption and Production

The following initiatives demonstrate how Health Canada’s programming supports the 2030 Agenda and the SDGs, supplementing the information outlined above.

PLANNED INITIATIVES	ASSOCIATED DOMESTICS TARGETS OR AMBITIONS AND/OR GLOBAL TARGETS	RESULTS ACHIEVED
<p>The Government of Canada’s Chemicals Management Plan (CMP) aims to protect human health and the environment by reducing risks related to chemical substances in air, water, soil, and consumer and industrial products and processes.</p> <p>Key activities include risk assessment, risk management, compliance promotion and enforcement, research, monitoring and surveillance, and collaboration, outreach, and engagement. Consideration is given, as appropriate, to populations that may be disproportionately impacted by exposures or are more susceptible to risks from chemicals, supporting the shift towards safer chemicals, locations disproportionately impacted by pollution and incorporating Indigenous knowledge.</p> <p>Health Canada continues to advance international engagement on the sound management of chemicals through participation in the Global Framework on Chemicals (formerly SAICM), collaborating with the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development on chemicals safety and biosafety programs and initiatives, and hosting a WHO Collaborating Centre on Environmental Health.</p>	<p>This work contributes to advancing:</p> <p><i>CIF Ambition:</i> 12 Canadians consume in a sustainable manner.</p> <p><i>GIF Target:</i> 12.4 By 2020, achieve the environmentally sound management of chemicals and all wastes throughout their life cycle, in accordance with agreed international frameworks, and significantly reduce their release to air, water and soil in order to minimize their adverse impacts on human health and the environment.</p>	<p>In 2024-25, key activities under the CMP included research, monitoring and surveillance; risk assessment; risk management compliance promotion and enforcement; and transparency and engagement. For example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Health Canada, in collaboration with Environment and Climate Change Canada, published assessments for 164 existing substances. The departments also assessed 293 new substances before they were imported or manufactured in Canada and imposed 17 risk management measures to address potential risks before import or manufacture. • Health Canada provided dedicated contribution funding to the Assembly of First Nations, which will contribute to the Government’s Reconciliation with Indigenous People by establishing a shared understanding of First Nations’ issues/priorities. This will help inform policy development and decision-making and implement culturally appropriate engagement approaches. • Health Canada assessed the feasibility and constraints of analysing chemical exposures in racialized populations, using biomonitoring data collected through the Canadian Health Measures Survey (CHMS). The findings provide an important baseline for follow-up investigations of the relationship between environmental chemical exposures and race in the CHMS. <p>Health Canada continued to support international engagement on chemicals and health, to advance CMP priorities and further reduce risks related to chemicals and substances in transboundary pollution, global supply chains and the global trade in goods, including advancing the engagement of the health sector in international chemicals management initiatives. For example, through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • leading the Government of Canada’s participation in the Global Framework on Chemicals, by contributing to international

PLANNED INITIATIVES	ASSOCIATED DOMESTICS TARGETS OR AMBITIONS AND/OR GLOBAL TARGETS	RESULTS ACHIEVED
		<p>implementation efforts and leading domestic plans for implementation, to address the health and environmental impacts of chemicals;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • hosting the WHO Collaborating Centre on Environmental Health, including supporting development of WHO guidance and advocacy on chemicals, air pollution and water quality; and • collaborating with the OECD on chemical safety and biosafety programs and initiatives, including related to PFAS such as participation in an ongoing working group.
<p>In support of both Chemicals Management Plan and its 2021 pesticide regulation commitments, Health Canada’s Pest Management Regulatory Agency (PMRA) Transformation Agenda has launched a water sampling program to inform the development of a national water monitoring program for pesticides. This program will collect surface water and groundwater samples supported by a network of sampling partners across Canada.</p> <p>Additionally, a framework is being developed to collect, monitor, analyze and publicly report on pesticide use information in Canada. Data from these initiatives will help to better inform pesticide risk assessment and risk management decisions and contribute to strengthening protection of human health and the environment from risks posed by pesticides. Health Canada is integrating the application of an equity lens to pesticide data and policy to address disproportionately impacted populations such as children and youth, Indigenous Peoples, and migrant workers.</p>	<p>This work contributes to advancing:</p> <p><i>CIF Ambition:</i> 12 Canadians consume in a sustainable manner.</p> <p><i>GIF Target:</i> 12.4 By 2020, achieve the environmentally sound management of chemicals and all wastes throughout their life cycle, in accordance with agreed international frameworks, and significantly reduce their release to air, water and soil in order to minimize their adverse impacts on human health and the environment.</p>	<p>PMRA has initiated the collaborative Canadian Water Monitoring Program for Pesticides (CWMPP) after successfully completing a two-year pilot program. In 2024-25, 43 partners collected over 4000 water samples for the program. PMRA water monitoring data is published and made publicly available on the Government of Canada Open Data site and can be viewed on the Monitoring Water for Pesticides Dashboard. These data sets support PMRA in identifying areas where risks to human health and aquatic organisms may be present and require further investigation. The PMRA has also begun considering this data in re-evaluations and special decisions.</p> <p>In 2024-25, the CWMPP was developed following the guidance outlined in the Framework for Pesticide Water Monitoring Programs in Canada. This framework has now been finalized and was informed by the pilot program and extensive consultations (framework is anticipated to be published in 2025-26).</p> <p>PMRA also put forward the following targeted regulatory amendment proposals for consultation in 2024-25:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • "Strengthening the Regulation of Pest Control Products in Canada" to enhance environmental protection and improve transparency and easier public access to regulatory information was published in Canada Gazette Part I (CGI); • "Modernizing the Fee Structure" to update post market industry fees to align with actual costs was published in CGI; and • "Devices and Exemptions" to strengthen health and environmental as well as reduce regulatory burden and duplication, was published online as a Notice of Intent.



GOAL 13: TAKE ACTION ON CLIMATE CHANGE AND ITS IMPACTS

FSDS Context:

The World Health Organization identified climate change as the greatest threat to global health in the 21st century. Older adults, Indigenous populations, those living with pre-existing physical and mental health conditions, people facing financial hardship and members of equity seeking groups are among those most at-risk. Climate change impacts the health of individuals, and also threatens the capacity of the health systems they rely on to provide care when it is needed, due to extreme events, such as extreme heat, floods, and wildfires.

The development of Canada's first National Adaptation Strategy (NAS) provides a vision to lead Canada into a more climate resilient future by working with provinces, territories, municipalities, business, Indigenous partners, and all residents of Canada to implement adaptation measures in the coming years. Health Canada commits its efforts through the NAS to contribute to this goal by increasing knowledge, capacity and tools, which helps decision-makers, such as health regions, develop and implement evidence-based adaptation measures to protect human health and health systems from climate impacts such as extreme heat.

Health Canada also has a role in translating and disseminating new science findings about climate change impacts on health, the most vulnerable in society and needed health interventions so that health sector decision-makers and practitioners can take actions to prepare for future impacts and move towards low-carbon health systems. For example, the Global Consortium for Climate and Health Education, Health Canada, the Pan American Health Organization and the Inter-American Institute for Global Change Research co-organized a Pan American Climate Resilient Health Systems course which was offered in 2023. The Department is also working with partners in British Columbia to develop a pilot intensive short course, providing information about climate change impacts on health, and building climate-resilient health systems.

Within its own operations, Health Canada is committed to minimizing disruptions and damage to its assets, services, and operations related to the impacts of climate change. The Department has completed a comprehensive assessment to identify risks and is taking action to reduce these risks through the development of an Adaptation Plan. Health Canada is also taking steps to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from facilities and fleet by measuring, tracking and reporting on emissions, and improving the environmental performance of custodial buildings. These are key elements of the Government of Canada’s Greening Government Strategy, which is driving the transition to government operations that are net-zero, resilient and green.

FSDS Target theme: Federal Leadership on Greenhouse Gas Emissions Reductions and Climate Resilience

Target: The Government of Canada will transition to net-zero carbon operations for facilities and conventional fleets by 2050 (All Ministers)

IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGY	DEPARTMENTAL ACTION	PERFORMANCE INDICATOR STARTING POINT TARGET	HOW THE DEPARTMENTAL ACTION CONTRIBUTES TO THE FSDS GOAL AND TARGET AND, WHERE APPLICABLE, TO CANADA’S 2030 AGENDA NATIONAL STRATEGY AND SDGS	RESULTS ACHIEVED
<p>Modernize through net-zero carbon buildings</p> <p>All new federal buildings (including build-to-lease and public-private partnerships) will be net-zero carbon unless a life-cycle cost-benefit analysis indicates net-zero-carbon-ready construction.</p>	<p>Support the transition to net-zero carbon buildings by ensuring that all major building retrofits prioritize low-carbon and climate resilience.</p> <p>Program: Internal Services</p>	<p>Performance Indicator: Percentage of major* construction projects for which the amount of embodied carbon in the structural materials was disclosed</p> <p>* Projects in which changes proposed to the building envelope and HVAC systems or the proposed value of work is more than 50% of the assessed value of the building</p> <p>Starting Point: No projects met the minimum threshold in 2022-23</p> <p>Target: 100% (annual)</p>	<p>This departmental action contributes to FSDS Goal 13 - Take Action on Climate Change and Its Impacts and the net-zero carbon operations target by taking steps to disclose and reduce the embodied carbon for major construction projects. This means the CO2 or GHG emissions associated with extraction, manufacturing, transporting, installing, maintaining, and disposing of construction materials and products, which helps to expand the market for alternative/greener methods and encourages industry to adopt low carbon extraction, production and disposal practices.</p> <p>Relevant targets or ambitions: <i>CIF Ambition:</i> 13.1 Canadians reduce their greenhouse gas emissions.</p>	<p>Indicator result: No real property projects were undertaken that required the consideration of embodied carbon in the building materials in 2024-25.</p>

IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGY	DEPARTMENTAL ACTION	PERFORMANCE INDICATOR STARTING POINT TARGET	HOW THE DEPARTMENTAL ACTION CONTRIBUTES TO THE FSDS GOAL AND TARGET AND, WHERE APPLICABLE, TO CANADA'S 2030 AGENDA NATIONAL STRATEGY AND SDGS	RESULTS ACHIEVED
			<i>GIF Target:</i> 13.2 Integrate climate change measures into national policies, strategies and planning.	
<p>Implement the Greening Government Strategy through measures that reduce greenhouse gas emissions, improve climate resilience, and green the government's overall operations</p> <p>Departments may report on these and other Greening Government Strategy commitments via their departmental sustainable development strategies</p>	<p>Manage departmental operations to minimize GHG emissions and improve environmental performance of custodial facilities.</p> <p>Program: Internal Services</p>	<p>Performance Indicator: Percentage change in GHG emissions from facilities from fiscal year 2005-06</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> GHG emissions from facilities (ktCO₂e) <p>Starting Point: GHG emissions from facilities in fiscal year 2005-06 = 20.8ktCO₂e (8.01 ktCO₂e in 2022-23)</p> <p>Target: 40% below 2005 levels by 2025 (includes fleet and facilities)</p>	<p>This departmental action contributes FSDS Goal 13 - Take Action on Climate Change and the net-zero carbon operations target by reducing the demand for energy or supporting the switch to lower carbon sources of energy to reduce GHG emissions. These contributions are made by establishing processes to track and publicly report on GHG emissions from Health Canada-owned facilities; facilitating planning to ensure that environmental performance can be reported; and increasing awareness about opportunities to improve the energy efficiency and environmental performance of custodial buildings.</p> <p>Relevant targets or ambitions: <i>CIF Ambition:</i> 13.1 Canadians reduce their greenhouse gas emissions.</p> <p><i>GIF Target:</i> 13.2 Integrate climate change measures into national policies, strategies and planning.</p>	<p>Indicator result: 58.3% reduction in GHG emissions from facilities (6) from the 2005-06 baseline</p> <p>Total emissions from facilities: 8.53 ktCO₂e in 2024-25</p>
		<p>Performance Indicator: Percentage change in GHG emissions from fleet from fiscal year 2005-06</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> GHG emissions from fleet (ktCO₂e) <p>Starting Point: GHG emissions from fleet in fiscal year 2005-06 = 1.6 ktCO₂e (255 tCO₂e in 2022-23)</p> <p>Target: 40% below 2005 levels by 2025 (includes fleet and facilities)</p>		<p>Indicator result: 86.2% reduction in GHG emissions from fleet from the 2005-06 baseline</p> <p>Total emissions from fleet: 0.22 ktCO₂e in 2024-25</p>
		<p>Performance Indicator: Percentage of potable water consumption at custodial buildings that is tracked and disclosed</p> <p>Starting Point: 100% in 2022-23 (66,682 m³ in 2022-23)</p>		<p>Indicator result: 100% Health Canada custodial buildings (6) have building-level water meters in 2024-25, allowing the Department to report total potable water use annually.</p>

IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGY	DEPARTMENTAL ACTION	PERFORMANCE INDICATOR STARTING POINT TARGET	HOW THE DEPARTMENTAL ACTION CONTRIBUTES TO THE FSDS GOAL AND TARGET AND, WHERE APPLICABLE, TO CANADA'S 2030 AGENDA NATIONAL STRATEGY AND SDGS	RESULTS ACHIEVED
		<p>Target: 100% (annual)</p> <p>Performance Indicator: Percentage of custodial buildings where energy use is metered</p> <p>Starting Point: 100% in 2022-23 (62,073,663 kwh in 2022-23)</p> <p>Target: 100% (annual)</p>		<p>Notes: 46,149 m3 in 2024-25</p> <p>Indicator result: 100% of Health Canada's custodial buildings (6) have metered energy use in 2024-25</p> <p>Notes: 63,247,476 kwh of energy in 2024-25</p>
<p>Apply a greenhouse gas reduction life-cycle cost analysis for major building retrofits</p> <p>All major building retrofits, including significant energy performance contracts, require a greenhouse gas reduction life-cycle cost analysis to determine the optimal greenhouse gas savings. The life-cycle cost approach will use a period of 40 years and a carbon shadow price of \$300 per tonne.</p>	<p>Identify opportunities to improve the environmental performance, including energy efficiency and greenhouse gas emissions, of Health Canada's custodial buildings.</p> <p>Program: Internal Services</p>	<p>Performance Indicator: Percentage of major building retrofits* that use RETScreen energy performance improvement technology and greenhouse gas reduction technology to inform decisions about opportunities to improve environmental performance</p> <p>* Projects in which changes proposed to the building envelope and HVAC systems or the proposed value of work is more than 50% of the assessed value of the building.</p> <p>Starting Point: 100% in 2022-23</p> <p>Target: 100% (annual)</p>	<p>This departmental action contributes to FSDS Goal 13 - Take Action on Climate Change and Its Impacts and the net-zero carbon operations target by taking steps to measure, track and report on energy efficiency and greenhouse gas emissions. These efforts help Health Canada reduce greenhouse gas emissions and improve the environmental performance of custodial buildings.</p> <p>Relevant targets or ambitions: <i>CIF Ambition:</i> 13.1 Canadians reduce their greenhouse gas emissions. <i>GIF Target:</i> 13.2 Integrate climate change measures into national policies, strategies and planning.</p>	<p>Indicator result: No construction projects were undertaken to the building envelope and HVAC systems where the cost was greater than 50% of the assessed value of the building in 2024-25</p>

Target: The Government of Canada will transition to climate resilient operations by 2050 (All Ministers)

IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGY	DEPARTMENTAL ACTION	PERFORMANCE INDICATOR STARTING POINT TARGET	HOW THE DEPARTMENTAL ACTION CONTRIBUTES TO THE FSDS GOAL AND TARGET AND, WHERE APPLICABLE, TO CANADA'S 2030 AGENDA NATIONAL STRATEGY AND SDGS	RESULTS ACHIEVED
<p>Reduce risks posed by climate change to federal assets, services and operations</p> <p>Departments and agencies are required to assess risks posed by the impacts of climate change to federal assets, services and operations on a regular basis and ensure that actions to reduce these risks are implemented.</p>	<p>Take steps to understand, assess, communicate and adapt to risks from climate change to the department's assets, services and operations</p> <p>Program: Internal Services</p>	<p>Performance Indicator: Percentage of implementation plans that have been developed for prioritized adaptation actions (in support of HC's Climate Change Adaptation Plan)</p> <p>Starting point: New initiative</p> <p>Target: 100% by March 31, 2025</p>	<p>This departmental action contributes to FSDS Goal 13 - Take Action on Climate Change and the climate resilient operations target by supporting the department's ability to adapt to change climate and factoring climate variability and change into policies, programs, plans and operations. This departmental action also recognizes the importance of communicating risks and adaptation measures to departmental employees and reporting on progress to senior management to support effective implementation of actions to improve the climate resiliency of departmental assets, operations and services.</p> <p>Relevant targets or ambitions: <i>CIF Ambition:</i> 13.3 Canadians are well-equipped and resilient to face the effects of climate change. <i>GIF Targets:</i> 13.1 Strengthen resilience and adaptive capacity to climate-related hazards and natural disasters in all countries. 13.3 Improve education, awareness raising and human and institutional capacity on climate change mitigation, adaptation, impact reduction and early warning.</p>	<p>Indicator result: 75% of implementation plans were developed for prioritized adaptation actions (in support of HC's Climate Change Adaptation Plan) in 2024-25</p> <p>Notes: Nine of twelve implementation plans were developed. The three remaining implementation plans were approved in April 2025.</p>

Implementation strategies supporting the goal

This section is for implementation strategies that support the goal “Take action on climate change and its impacts” but not a specific FSDS target.

IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGY	DEPARTMENTAL ACTION	PERFORMANCE INDICATOR STARTING POINT TARGET	HOW THE DEPARTMENTAL ACTION CONTRIBUTES TO THE FSDS GOAL AND TARGET AND, WHERE APPLICABLE, TO CANADA’S 2030 AGENDA NATIONAL STRATEGY AND SDGS	RESULTS ACHIEVED
<p>Collaborate on emergency management and disaster risk reduction</p> <p>Continue to collaborate on emergency management and disaster risk reduction at the national and international levels by preparing for, and responding to, emergencies and disasters, strategizing cost-effective resilience measures, conducting research and analysis, providing warnings, data, and information, and aiding in recovery efforts.</p>	<p>Collaborate with other federal partners and provincial authorities to strengthen nuclear emergency preparedness and response.</p> <p>Program: Radiation Protection</p>	<p>Performance Indicator: Percentage of planned nuclear emergency preparedness drills and exercises completed</p> <p>Starting point: 100% in 2022-23</p> <p>Target: 100% (annual)</p>	<p>This departmental action contributes to FSDS Goal 13 - Take Action on Climate Change and its Impacts by helping federal authorities to be prepared to manage the federal response to a nuclear emergency and provide coordinated support to provinces and territories to minimize the impact on public health, safety, property, and the environment. This preparation is done through a series of drills and exercises to test the response to various nuclear emergency scenarios to identify gaps so issues can be resolved prior to a real emergency situation.</p> <p>Information about how this work contributes to Canada’s 2030 Agenda National Strategy is outlined in the table below.</p> <p>Relevant targets or ambitions: <i>CIF Ambition 13.3</i> Canadians are well-equipped and resilient to face the effects of climate change. <i>GIF Target: 13.1</i> Strengthen resilience and adaptive capacity to climate-related hazards and natural disasters in all countries.</p>	<p>Indicator result: 100% of planned nuclear emergency preparedness drills and exercises were completed in 2024-25</p> <p>Notes: Eight nuclear emergency preparedness drills and exercises were completed.</p>

IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGY	DEPARTMENTAL ACTION	PERFORMANCE INDICATOR STARTING POINT TARGET	HOW THE DEPARTMENTAL ACTION CONTRIBUTES TO THE FSDS GOAL AND TARGET AND, WHERE APPLICABLE, TO CANADA’S 2030 AGENDA NATIONAL STRATEGY AND SDGS	RESULTS ACHIEVED
<p>Support climate change adaptation across Canada</p> <p>Take action to support adaptation to climate change impacts.</p>	<p>Provide support to governments, public health professionals and Canadians in preparing for, and adapting to, the impacts of climate change.</p> <p>Program: Climate Change</p>	<p>Performance Indicator: Percentage of funded health system actors that have taken evidence-based adaptation measures to reduce the health effects of climate change</p> <p>Starting point: 80% in 2021-22 (first funding cycle)</p> <p>Target: 100% by March 31, 2028 (second funding cycle)</p>	<p>This departmental action contributes to FSDS Goal 13 - Take Action on Climate Change and its Impacts by working with regional, municipal, and provincial and territorial health authorities across the country to build capacity and share best practices to address the impacts of climate change on the health of Canadians. This work is part of the National Adaptation Strategy.</p> <p>Information about how this work contributes to Canada’s 2030 Agenda National Strategy is outlined in the table below.</p> <p>Relevant targets or ambitions: <i>CIF Ambition 13.3</i> Canadians are well-equipped and resilient to face the effects of climate change.</p> <p><i>GIF Targets:</i> 13.1 Strengthen resilience and adaptive capacity to climate-related hazards and natural disasters in all countries. 13.2 Integrate climate change measures into national policies, strategies and planning. 13.3 Improve education, awareness-raising and human and institutional capacity on climate change mitigation, adaptation, impact reduction and early warning.</p>	<p>Indicator result: Results will be reported for 2027-28.</p>
	<p>Increase knowledge, capacity, and tools to support evidence-based adaptation measures to protect health from extreme heat as a result of climate change.</p>	<p>Performance Indicator: Percentage of health regions implementing evidence-based adaptation measures to protect health from extreme heat</p>	<p>This departmental action contributes to FSDS Goal 13 - Take Action on Climate Change and its Impacts by helping decision-makers, such as health regions,</p>	<p>Indicator result: Results will be reported for 2025-26.</p>

IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGY	DEPARTMENTAL ACTION	PERFORMANCE INDICATOR STARTING POINT TARGET	HOW THE DEPARTMENTAL ACTION CONTRIBUTES TO THE FSDS GOAL AND TARGET AND, WHERE APPLICABLE, TO CANADA'S 2030 AGENDA NATIONAL STRATEGY AND SDGS	RESULTS ACHIEVED
	<p>Program: Climate Change</p>	<p>Starting point: 79% in 2022-23</p> <p>Target: 80% by March 31, 2026</p>	<p>develop and implement evidence-based adaptation measures to protect health from extreme heat resulting from climate change. For example, Health Canada's efforts support the creation and maintenance of heat alert and response systems, the dissemination of heat health information, and the development of training for health professionals and pharmacists. These efforts are important in protecting health since the frequency of extreme heat events in many Canadian locations is modelled to at least double by 2050.</p> <p>Information about how this work contributes to Canada's 2030 Agenda National Strategy is outlined in the table below.</p> <p>Relevant targets or ambitions: <i>CIF Ambition 13.3</i> Canadians are well-equipped and resilient to face the effects of climate change.</p> <p><i>GIF Targets:</i> 13.1 Strengthen resilience and adaptive capacity to climate-related hazards and natural disasters in all countries. 13.2 Integrate climate change measures into national policies, strategies and planning. 13.3 Improve education, awareness-raising and human and institutional capacity on climate change mitigation, adaptation, impact reduction and early warning.</p>	<p>Notes: As of March 31, 2025, 100% (112/112) of health regions have implemented evidence-based adaptation measures to protect health from extreme heat.</p>

Initiatives advancing Canada’s implementation of SDG 13 – Climate Action

The following initiatives demonstrate how Health Canada’s programming supports the 2030 Agenda and the SDGs, supplementing the information outlined above.

PLANNED INITIATIVES	ASSOCIATED DOMESTICS TARGETS OR AMBITIONS AND/OR GLOBAL TARGETS	RESULTS ACHIEVED
<p>Health Canada’s Climate Change Program aims to increase knowledge, capacity, and tools on the human health impacts and adaptation approaches to climate change available to healthcare and public health professionals, emergency preparedness officials, and provincial and local decision-makers across Canada.</p> <p>The Program also aims to increase the level of awareness among Canadians, including disproportionately impacted populations, of climate change and health risks (e.g., from extreme heat), and ways to protect themselves and reduce health risks.</p> <p>Health Canada’s international efforts in support of global climate change and health initiatives include collaboration with the WHO and other partners. This includes for example, Steering Group membership of the WHO Alliance for Transformative Action on Climate and Health and engagement in the Global Heat Health Information Network, to exchange knowledge and increase capacity to manage and mitigate climate-related health hazards.</p>	<p>This work contributes to advancing:</p> <p><i>CIF Ambition:</i> 13.3 Canadians are well-equipped and resilient to face the effects of climate change.</p> <p><i>GIF Targets:</i></p> <p>13.1 Strengthen resilience and adaptive capacity to climate-related hazards and natural disasters in all countries.</p> <p>13.2 Integrate climate change measures into national policies, strategies and planning.</p> <p>13.3 Improve education, awareness-raising and human and institutional capacity on climate change mitigation, adaptation, impact reduction and early warning.</p>	<p>In 2024-25, Health Canada’s Climate Change Program continued to work with partners to address population-level health risks from extreme heat and to strengthen the climate resilience of health systems in Canada. For example, by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • launching an open call for proposals under two funding streams: HealthADAPT (expanded from 2019-2022 pilot) and HeatADAPT (new); • leading the Health and Well-being System’s work under the Government of Canada’s National Adaptation Strategy (NAS) and initiating work with partners to develop a monitoring and evaluation framework to track progress towards achieving the NAS objectives; and • continuing to work with partners to advance evidence-based heat alert and response systems, and scientific research and guidance on extreme heat. This resulted in novel research on the health effects of heat among vulnerable populations, including older adults, and an update of Health Canada’s evidence-based heat health messages, which feed into Environment and Climate Change Canada’s heat warning system. <p>International engagement around climate change and health also continued in collaboration with the WHO and partners. Participation in the WHO Alliance for Transformative Action on Climate and Health steering group and the management committee of the Global Heat Health Information Network was maintained, and participation in the WHO/Pan American Health Organization Transatlantic Dialogue on extreme heat was carried out. The Climate Change Program also brought international partners together by hosting two events at the 29th United Nations Climate Change Conference, on measuring climate resilient health systems and addressing challenges from extreme heat.</p>

Integrating Sustainable Development

On April 1, 2024, [the Cabinet Directive on Strategic Environmental and Economic Assessment](#) (SEEA) came into force replacing the previous Cabinet Directive on the Environmental Assessment of Policy, Plan, and Program Proposals (Strategic Environmental Assessment – SEA). The Cabinet Directive on SEEA applies to Memorandum to Cabinet, Treasury Board submissions, regulatory proposals and funding requests. Analysis is supported through completion of the mandatory Climate, Nature and Economy Lens (CNEL).

Under the new Cabinet Directive on SEEA, Health Canada continued to ensure that its decision-making process included consideration of FSDS goals and targets. [Public statements](#) on the results of Health Canada’s assessments are issued when an initiative that was the subject of a detailed SEEA is implemented or announced. The purpose of the public statement is to demonstrate that the environmental and economic effects, including contributions to the FSDS goals and targets, of an initiative have been considered during proposal development and decision making. In 2024- 25, Health Canada issued three public statements for proposals that were subject to a detailed assessment, and contributed to three detailed assessments that were prepared by another department. Two of the three proposals for which a detailed assessment was conducted supported progress towards the FSDS goals. The proposal on Pest Control and Product Cost Recovery contributed positively towards FSDS Goals 12 (Reduce Waste and Transition to Zero-Emission Vehicles) and 15 (Protect and Recover Species, Conserve Canadian Biodiversity). The proposal on Sustainable Pesticide Management supported FSDS Goal 2 (Support a Healthier and More Sustainable Food System), Goal 6 (Ensure Clean and Safe Water for all Canadians), Goal 13 (Take Action on Climate Change), and Goal 15 (Protect and Recover Species, Conserve Canadian Biodiversity).



Health Canada continues to report compliance with the SEEA Cabinet Directive to senior management governance tables and the Assistant Deputy Minister Champion of Sustainable Development and Climate Change. In September 2024, to facilitate ongoing compliance with the new Cabinet Directive, the Department approved a new SEEA Policy, which clarifies roles and responsibilities and outlines key parts of the process.

To support the transition to the new Cabinet Directive, there was on-going and extensive engagement and consultation with key groups and governance tables within the Department. This engagement helped to inform resource materials for departmental employees, including guidance tailored to Health Canada, reference sheets on key topics, a flow chart depicting required steps in the process, and a comprehensive list of questions and answers. In addition, Health Canada promoted the training courses available through the Canada School of Public Service to further enhance climate literacy within the Department.

The Department continued to use Waste Reduction Week and Environment Week as opportunities to provide employees with information on key issues, highlight steps the Department has taken to reduce its environmental footprint, and share good practices. In 2024, Health Canada hosted three lunch and learn sessions; one about the new SEEA Cabinet Directive, a second about the Government of Canada's updated Greening Government Strategy, and one on the Department's Climate Change Adaptation Plan.

Health Canada's Climate Change Adaptation Plan (CCAP) was approved by the departmental Executive Committee in March 2024. In 2024-25, Implementation Plans were approved for a key set of adaptation actions designed to address cross-cutting departmental risks to assets, services and operations that are posed by the impacts of climate change. Progress in implementing the CCAP is monitored and regular status updates are provided to senior management committees that provide oversight and guidance to support the five-year plan.