

About Cancer in Alberta

- Nearly 1 in 2 Albertans will develop cancer in their lifetime and nearly 1 in 4 will be lost to cancer.
- Cancer cases in Alberta are rapidly increasing due to an aging and growing population
- Survival has improved for many of those diagnosed with cancer in the past several years. However, this is not true for all cancer types.
- Among Albertans aged 35-64, cancer is the leading cause of death, causing more deaths than heart disease, stroke, infectious diseases and accidental injury combined.
- The most common cancers in Alberta are prostate, breast, colorectal and lung accounting for 55% of new cancer cases and about half of all cancer deaths.
- Stomach, brain and pancreatic cancers, although not very common, have poor prognosis's and are responsible for 12% of cancer deaths.
- Lung cancer is the most common cause of cancer death among both men and women.
- Colorectal cancer is the second-leading cause of cancer deaths in Alberta.
- Prostate cancer is the most commonly diagnosed cancer of men accounting for 31% of cancer incidence among men: mortality rates for prostate cancer are slowly declining.
- Breast cancer is the most commonly diagnosed cancer of women accounting for 30% of cancer incidence in women; mortality rates have been declining even though the incidence is increasing.

Source: Canadian Cancer Society: <http://www.albertahealthservices.ca/assets/healthinfo/poph/hi-poph-surv-cancer-cancer-in-alberta-2012.pdf> *report last updated in Feb 2015

About Cancer in Canada

- Cancer is the leading cause of death in Canada, and is responsible for 30 per cent of all deaths.
- An estimated 2 in 5 Canadians will develop cancer in their lifetimes, and 1 in 4 will die from it.
- In 2015, an estimated 196,900 new cases of cancer (excluding about 78,300 non-melanoma skin cancers) and 78,000 cancer deaths will occur in Canada.
- Approximately 96,400 Canadian women and 100,500 men will be diagnosed with cancer this year.
- Every day, 539 Canadians will be diagnosed with cancer and 214 will die.
- Every hour, an estimated 22 people will be diagnosed with cancer, and nine will die.
- Breast cancer remains the most common cancer diagnosed in women, with 25,000 new cases expected in 2015.
- Prostate cancer remains the most commonly diagnosed cancer in men, with 24,000 new cases expected in 2015.
- Lung cancer remains the leading cause of cancer death for both sexes. It is responsible for approximately equal proportions of all cancer deaths in both males and females.
- Four cancers – prostate, breast, lung and colorectal – together are expected to account for more than half (about 51 per cent) of all new cases diagnosed in Canada in 2015.
- Cancer primarily affects Canadians over the age of 50, as 89 percent of all new cases are diagnosed in people in this age group.
- For both Canadian men and women, the median age of cancer diagnosis is between 65 and 69 years of age.
- In 2015, it is estimated that almost all cancer deaths in Canada (89 per cent) will occur in people aged 50 years of age and over. Most of these cancer deaths (43 per cent) will occur in people aged 70 years and over.
- Increases in the number of new cases are largely due to a growing and aging population.
- Based on 2009 statistics, about 810,045 Canadians diagnosed with cancer in the previous 10 years are alive today. This represents 1 in 41 Canadians.

Source: Canadian Cancer Society

<http://www.cancer.ca/~media/cancer.ca/CW/cancer%20information/cancer%20101/Canadian%20cancer%20statistics/Canadian-Cancer-Statistics-2015-EN.pdf>