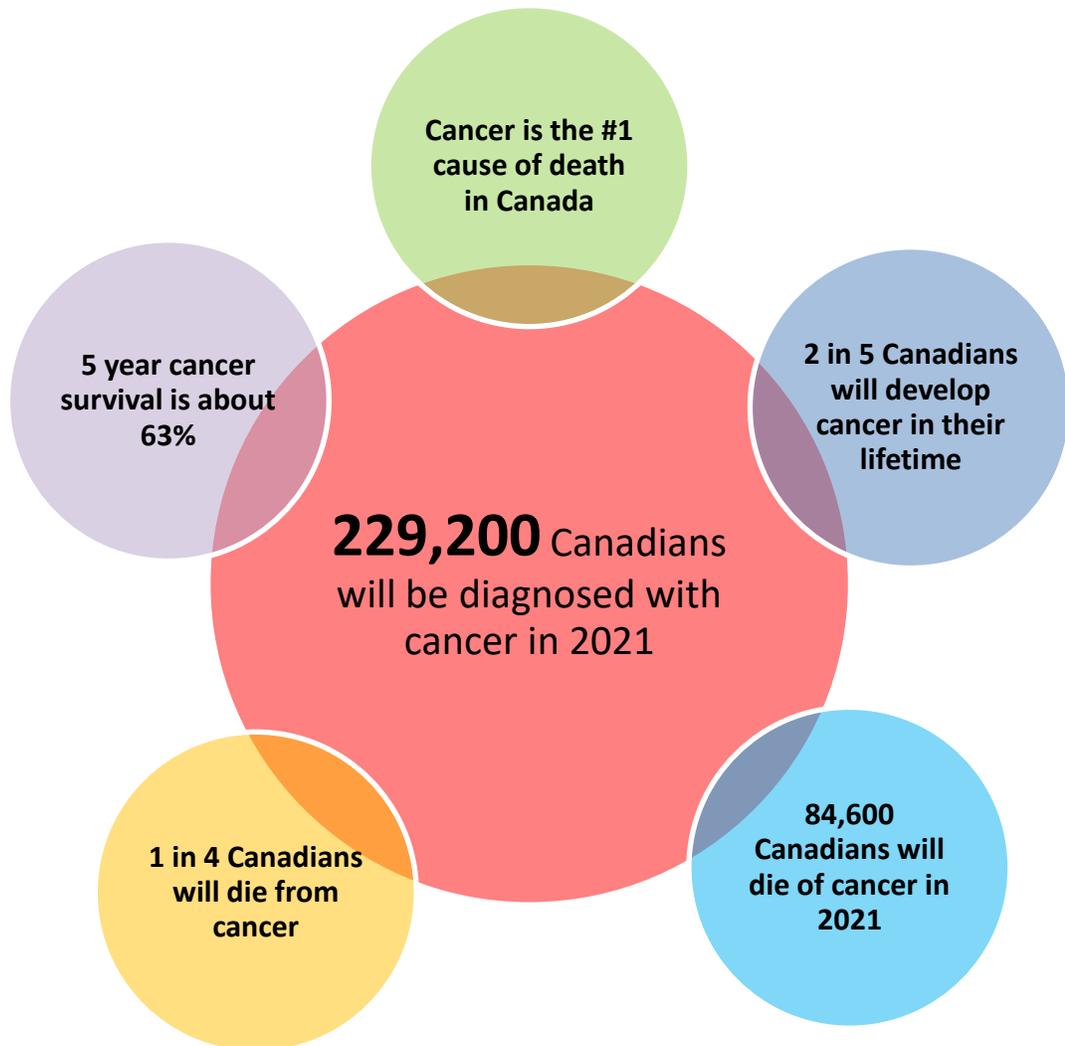
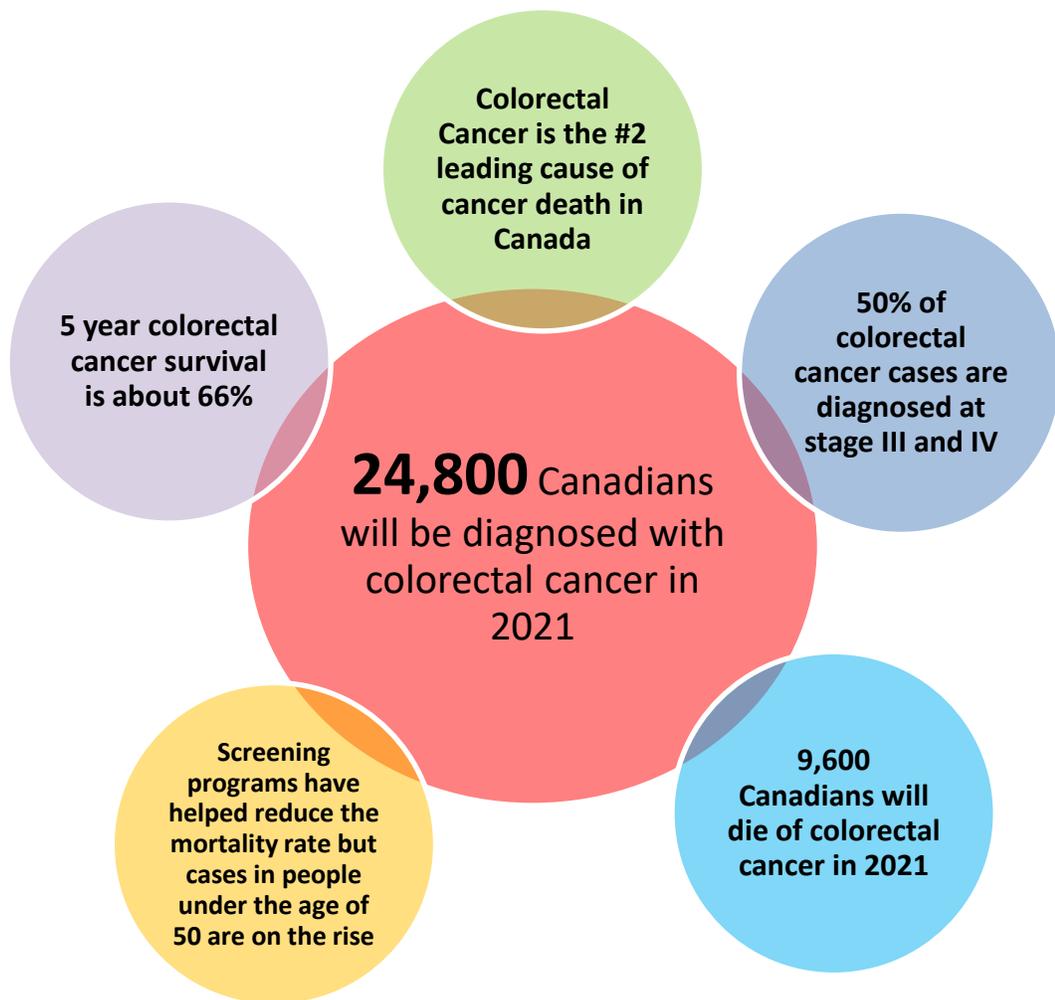


Canadian Colorectal Cancer Statistics – 2021

Colorectal Cancer Resource & Action Network (CCRAN) has issued the following summary based on the 2021 Canadian Cancer Statistics issued by the Canadian Cancer Society, Statistics Canada, the Public Health Agency of Canada and the Provincial/Territorial Cancer Registries. We have presented colorectal cancer relevant information but should you wish to view the publication concerning all statistics, it can be found at: <https://www.cancer.ca/en/cancer-information/cancer-type/colorectal/statistics/?region=on>



COLORECTAL CANCER STATS



Lung and bronchus (lung), breast, colorectal and prostate cancers account for almost half of all new cancer cases diagnosed.

Lung cancer is the most commonly diagnosed cancer in Canada with an estimated 29,600 cases expected in 2021. It is followed by breast cancer (27,700), colorectal cancer (24,800) and prostate cancer (24,000).

Over half (56%) of colorectal cancer cases are expected to occur in Canadians who fall within the age covered by the screening guidelines (50 to 74 years). About 7% of colorectal cancer cases are expected to be diagnosed in people younger than 50 years of age.

Among males and females, the highest rate of colorectal cancer was in Newfoundland and Labrador, while the highest rates of lung cancer were in the other Atlantic Provinces (Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island).

The incidence rates for colorectal cancer decreased between 1984 and 1996 (-0.7% in males and -1.5% in females). Incidence rates were stable for males and females from 1996 to 2000, and then declined moderately from 2000 to 2011 (-0.5% in males and females). Since 2011, colorectal cancer incidence rates have declined more steeply in males (-2.2%) and females (-1.9%).

The recent decline in colorectal cancer rates is likely due in part to increased screening for the disease, which can identify treatable precancerous polyps and reduce cancer incidence. Between 2007 and 2016, Yukon and every province in Canada (except Quebec) implemented organized colorectal cancer screening programs. The decline in colorectal cancer incidence rates may be confined to older adults as rates are reportedly increasing among adults **younger than 50 years of age in Canada** and the US

For males, lung cancer is expected to be most common cause of cancer death, accounting for 25% of all cancer deaths, followed by colorectal cancer (12%) and prostate cancer (10%). For females, lung cancer is expected to be the leading cause of cancer death, accounting for 26% of all cancer deaths, followed by breast cancer (13%) and colorectal cancer (11%).

In all older age groups (50 to 69, 70 to 84 and 85+ years), the most common causes of cancer death are lung cancer followed by colorectal cancer.

Colorectal cancer mortality rates are highest in Newfoundland and Labrador for both males and females. Newfoundland and Labrador also have a high incidence rate of colorectal cancer.

The mortality rates for colorectal cancer have declined significantly for both males (-2.3% per year between 2004 and 2015) and females (-1.7% per year between 1984 and 2015). Part of this decline may be driven by the decrease in incidence reported in Chapter 1 of the report. Additionally, it is likely that a significant portion of the decline in mortality is due to improvements in treatment. Currently about 50% of colorectal cancers are detected at a late stage (stage III or IV). Given the strong connection between stage at diagnosis and survival for colorectal cancer, increased participation in colorectal cancer screening programs in Canada may help further reduce colorectal cancer mortality rates in the near future.

While colorectal cancer survival has improved, its five-year survival is still only 66%. This likely reflects that fact that almost 50% of colorectal cancers are diagnosed at stage III or IV. However, population-based colorectal cancer screening programs exist across the country. With increased participation in these programs, it is expected that more cancers will be diagnosed early and colorectal cancer survival will increase.

CANADA

24,800 (about **13,700** men and **11,100** women) estimated new colorectal cancer cases nationally and **9,600** Canadians will die from the disease (about 5,300 men and 4,300 women).

2021 PROVINCIAL COLORECTAL CANCER STATS

	Estimated New Cases			Estimated Deaths		
	Men	Women	Total	Men	Women	Total
British Columbia	1,800	1,550	3,350	720	590	1,310
Alberta	1,250	1,000	2,250	450	350	800
Saskatchewan	500	320	820	160	140	300
Manitoba	430	340	770	190	160	350
Ontario	4,800	4,100	8,900	1,800	1,500	3,300
Quebec	3,600	2,800	6,400	1,400	1,200	2,600
New Brunswick	340	260	600	140	110	250
Nova Scotia	470	340	810	210	170	390
Prince Edward Island	85	60	145	30	25	55
Newfoundland & Labrador	370	300	670	140	110	250
CANADA (approx.)	13,645	11,070	24,715	5,240	4,355	9,605

Source: Canadian Cancer Statistics 2021 – Canadian Cancer Society, Statistics Canada, Provincial/Territorial Cancer Registries, Public Health Agency of Canada.