Deaths from Cancer
The number of people dying from cancer in Ontario is expected to grow by about 2% each year.

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<td>Deaths from cancer</td>
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What's new this year?

See table on next page.
What do the results show?

- Deaths from cancer are expected to grow by about 2% each year in Ontario. However, the rate of cancer-related deaths per population in Ontario (not shown above) is actually declining.1
- The four most common types of cancer are breast, colorectal, lung and prostate. Of these, lung cancer accounts for the largest number of deaths. Figure 1
- Not surprisingly, the most populated and fastest growing LHINs in the province (Central, Central East and Hamilton) have the largest absolute numbers for current and expected cancer deaths. Figure 2
- The vast majority of this expected increase is attributed to both an aging and growing population.
- The four most common types of cancer are breast, colorectal, lung and
prostate. Of these 4, lung cancer accounts for the largest number of deaths.

- This indicator does not measure rates of cancer-related deaths (number of deaths per population), which are similar across all LHINs.

**Why is this important to patient care?**

- Together with the number of newly diagnosed cancer cases and cancer survival rates, cancer mortality is an important measure of the overall burden of cancer in Ontario.
- Estimating the number of expected deaths by cancer allows us to plan palliative and end-of-life cancer care services.
- The Mandatory Objectives of the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care are to reduce the mortality from breast cancer by 10% by the year 2010, to reduce the mortality from cervical cancer by 50% by the year 2010, and to reduce the mortality from colorectal cancer by 20% by the year 2015.

**How does Ontario compare?**

- As Canada’s largest province, with 12.4 million people, Ontario has the largest share of the national annual number of deaths from cancer.
- Although not shown above, Ontario's rate of cancer deaths is similar to the national rate for both men and women (deaths per 100,000).

**What is being done?**

- "CCO and the Ministry of Health and Long-term Care have launched a population-based colorectal cancer screening program that will be developed and implemented in collaboration with Cancer Care Ontario.
  - Ontario's Cancer Prevention and Screening Council, established by Cancer Care Ontario and the Canadian Cancer Society, is working toward targets set out in Cancer 2020, an action plan for cancer detection and prevention.
  - Progress has been made in implementing Cancer 2020 and the Ontario Cancer Plan, including the development and improvement of population-based screening for breast, cervical, and colorectal cancers, and collaborating on aggressive province-wide efforts to combat smoking.
- Promoting advances in cancer treatment also decreases deaths from cancer. Cancer deaths are increasing at a much lower rate than cancer incidence and this is owed to advances in treatment.
  - Cancer Care Ontario's Program in Evidence-Based Care provides up-to-date expert recommendations on appropriate treatment.
for different types of cancer based on the latest available scientific evidence.
  o The Ontario Cancer Research Network's Clinical Trials Infrastructure Program provides funding to Ontario hospitals to substantially increase the recruitment of patients to clinical trials.

**Technical Information**

**Definition**
- Projected frequencies of death from cancer among all Ontario residents.

**Data Sources**
- Office of the Registrar General of Ontario, Ontario Mortality Database
- Ontario Ministry of Finance, Ontario Population Projections

**Data Quality**

![Completeness](image1.png) ![Timeliness](image2.png) ![Accuracy](image3.png)

**Accuracy**
- Because of the strong association between age and cancer incidence, changes in age distribution either over time or between geographical areas may affect the accuracy of these projections.
- Because of changes in diagnostic practices or rules of coding and registration, interpretation of temporal trends must be done with caution.
- Slight differences between these estimates for 2007 and those published for Ontario in Canadian Cancer Statistics 2006 can be attributed to differences in methodology and assumptions.

**Notes**
- Canadian Cancer Society/National Cancer Institute of Canada: Canadian Cancer Statistics 2006.
- Cancer Care Ontario (CCO), iPort™ Report: QQ010 Population Projection for Ontario, 2006, 2016 (Source: Population Projections, Ontario

0. Canadian Cancer Society/National Cancer Institute of Canada: Canadian Cancer Statistics 2006

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