

# The Daily

Statistics Canada

**Wednesday, July 25, 2012**

Released at 8:30 a.m. Eastern time

---

## Releases

---

Study: Suicide rates, an overview, 1950 to 2009	2
Leading causes of death, 2009	4
Railway carloadings, May 2012 (preliminary data)	7
Poultry and eggs statistics, May 2012	8
Capital expenditures by type of asset, 2010	9

---

<b>New products and studies</b>	<b>10</b>
---------------------------------	-----------

---



---

## Releases

---

### Study: Suicide rates, an overview, 1950 to 2009

Suicide ranked as the ninth leading cause of death in Canada in 2009, but among young people aged 15 to 34 it was the second leading cause, preceded only by accidents.

During 2009, there were roughly 238,000 deaths in Canada, 3,890 of which were attributed to suicide.

A total of 202 teenagers aged 15 to 19 committed suicide in 2009. While over time the suicide rate within this group has remained relatively stable, suicides are now responsible for a greater percentage of teenage deaths.

In 2009, nearly one-quarter (23%) of all deaths among 15- to 19-year-olds were due to suicide, more than double the proportion of 9% in 1974. This difference is primarily explained by decreases in accidental deaths in this age group during the same time period.

Although suicide was the second leading cause of death among teens in 2009, the majority of suicides occurred in the 40 to 59 age group. About 45% of all suicides occurred in this age group, compared with 35% in those aged 15 to 39, and 19% in those aged 60 and older.

The suicide rate for men in Canada is more than three times higher than the suicide rate for women. During 2009, 2,989 men committed suicide, representing a rate of 17.9 per 100,000. Among women, there were 901 suicide deaths, representing a rate of 5.3 per 100,000.

Although men are more likely to die from suicide, women are three to four times more likely to attempt suicide. Furthermore, females are hospitalized for attempted suicide 1.5 times more often than males.

In general, married people were the least likely to commit suicide compared with single, widowed or divorced individuals. For men, the suicide rate was the highest among single men, while for women, widows had the highest rate.

Hanging has been the most common method of suicide since 1992, but it is used less often at older ages. Over the 10-year period ending in 2009, an average of 55% of individuals aged 15 to 39 died as a result of hanging, compared with 30% of those aged 60 or older.

Suicides involving a firearm, on the other hand, were more common at older ages. About 12% of people aged 15 to 39 used a firearm, compared with 26% of those aged 60 and older.

Historically, suicide rates were fairly stable in the 1950s, after which they rose steadily from the 1960s through the early 1980s. The rate peaked at 15.1 deaths per 100,000 in 1983; by 2009, it had dropped to 10.7.

#### **Note to readers**

*This release is based on an analytical article in Health at a Glance, which used data from the Canadian Vital Statistics Death Database. This database collects demographic and cause of death information annually from all provincial and territorial vital statistics registries on all deaths in Canada. Suicide data from this source are somewhat under-reported because of the difficult nature of classifying suicide and the time lag in determining this as the cause of death.*

The article "[Suicide rates: An overview](#)," in *Health at a Glance* (82-624-X, free), is now available from the *Key resource* module of our website under *Publications*.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Statistics Canada's National Contact Centre (toll-free 1-800-263-1136; 613-951-8116; [infostats@statcan.gc.ca](mailto:infostats@statcan.gc.ca)) or the Media Hotline (613-951-4636; [mediahotline@statcan.gc.ca](mailto:mediahotline@statcan.gc.ca)).

## Leading causes of death, 2009

Cancer, the leading cause of death in Canada, was responsible for 30% of the 238,418 deaths in 2009. Heart disease was the second leading cause of death, followed by stroke. These three causes combined accounted for 56% of all deaths in 2009, a decrease from 61% observed in 2000.

From 2000 to 2009, age-standardized mortality rates declined for all 10 of the leading causes of death. The largest relative decreases were in rates for heart disease and stroke, which both fell 33% over this period. Globally, the age-standardized mortality rate fell from 616 per 100,000 population to 515, a 16% decline.

Cancer and heart disease were the first and second leading causes of death for those over 35 years of age, while accidents and suicide were the two leading causes of death among children and younger Canadians (aged 1 to 34).

Men and women shared 9 out of 10 leading causes of death in 2009. Cancer was the leading cause for both sexes, followed by heart disease. There were, however, some differences: accidents and suicide ranked higher for men than for women; and, Alzheimer's disease figured more prominently among the leading causes for women than for men.

### Note to readers

To control for the impact of population aging on death rates, comparisons over time are made using the "age-standardized mortality rate." This removes the impact of differences in the age structure of populations between reference periods.

**Table 1**  
**Ranking, number and percentage of deaths for the 10 leading causes, Canada, 2000 and 2009**

	2000			2009		
	rank	number	%	rank	number	%
<b>All causes of death</b>	...	<b>218,062</b>	<b>100.0</b>	...	<b>238,418</b>	<b>100.0</b>
Total, 10 leading causes of death	...	175,149	80.3	...	182,139	76.4
Malignant neoplasms (cancer)	1	62,672	28.7	1	71,125	29.8
Diseases of heart (heart disease)	2	55,070	25.3	2	49,271	20.7
Cerebrovascular diseases (stroke)	3	15,576	7.1	3	14,105	5.9
Chronic lower respiratory diseases	4	9,813	4.5	4	10,859	4.6
Accidents (unintentional injuries)	5	8,589	3.9	5	10,250	4.3
Diabetes mellitus (diabetes)	6	6,714	3.1	6	6,923	2.9
Alzheimer's disease	7	5,007	2.3	7	6,281	2.6
Influenza and pneumonia	8	4,966	2.3	8	5,826	2.4
Intentional self-harm (suicide)	9	3,606	1.7	9	3,890	1.6
Nephritis, nephrotic syndrome and nephrosis (kidney disease)	10	3,136	1.4	10	3,609	1.5
All other causes	...	42,913	19.7	...	56,279	23.6

... not applicable

**Table 2**  
**Age-standardized mortality rates for the 10 leading causes of death, Canada, 2000 and 2009**

	2000		2009	
	rank	standardized rate <sup>1</sup>	rank	standardized rate <sup>1</sup>
<b>Males</b>	...	<b>778.3</b>	...	<b>629.9</b>
<b>Females</b>	...	<b>493.2</b>	...	<b>423.5</b>
<b>All causes of death</b>	...	<b>615.5</b>	...	<b>515.0</b>
Malignant neoplasms (cancer)	1	180.4	1	160.3
Diseases of heart (heart disease)	2	152.0	2	101.4
Cerebrovascular diseases (stroke)	3	42.2	3	28.4
Chronic lower respiratory diseases	4	27.2	4	22.9
Accidents (unintentional injuries)	5	25.8	5	24.5
Diabetes mellitus (diabetes)	6	18.9	6	14.9
Alzheimer's disease	7	13.2	7	11.8
Influenza and pneumonia	8	13.2	8	11.7
Intentional self-harm (suicide)	9	11.4	9	10.7
Nephritis, nephrotic syndrome and nephrosis (kidney disease)	10	8.6	10	7.2

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

**Table 3**  
**Ranking, number and percentage of male and female deaths for the 10 leading causes, Canada, 2009**

	Males			Females		
	rank	number	%	rank	number	%
<b>All causes of death</b>	...	<b>120,311</b>	<b>100.0</b>	...	<b>118,107</b>	<b>100.0</b>
Total, 10 leading causes of death	...	93,801	78.0	...	88,622	75.0
Malignant neoplasms (cancer)	1	37,452	31.1	1	33,673	28.5
Diseases of heart (heart disease)	2	25,950	21.6	2	23,321	19.7
Accidents (unintentional injuries)	3	6,045	5.0	6	4,205	3.6
Cerebrovascular diseases (stroke)	4	5,823	4.8	3	8,282	7.0
Chronic lower respiratory diseases	5	5,525	4.6	4	5,334	4.5
Diabetes mellitus (diabetes)	6	3,616	3.0	7	3,307	2.8
Intentional self-harm (suicide)	7	2,989	2.5	13	901	0.8
Influenza and pneumonia	8	2,694	2.2	8	3,132	2.7
Alzheimer's disease	9	1,932	1.6	5	4,349	3.7
Nephritis, nephrotic syndrome and nephrosis (kidney disease)	10	1,775	1.5	9	1,834	1.6
Septicaemia	13	1,026	0.9	10	1,185	1.0
All other causes	...	25,484	21.2	...	28,584	24.2

... not applicable

**Note(s):** The order of the causes of death in this table is based on the ranking of the 10 leading causes for males.

**Available without charge in CANSIM: tables 102-0561 to 102-0563.**

**Definitions, data sources and methods: survey numbers 3231 and 3233.**

The publication *Leading Causes of Death in Canada, 2009* (84-215-X, free), is now available from the *Key resource* module of our website under *Publications*. The following publications featuring the latest mortality data are also available: *Deaths, 2009* (84F0211X, free), *Causes of Death, 2009* (84-208-X, free), *Mortality, Summary List of Causes, 2009* (84F0209X, free), and the article "Suicide rates: An overview" in *Health at a Glance* (82-624-X, free). From the *Key resource* module of our website, choose *Publications*.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Statistics Canada's National Contact Centre (toll-free 1-800-263-1136; 613-951-8116; [infostats@statcan.gc.ca](mailto:infostats@statcan.gc.ca)) or the Media Hotline (613-951-4636; [mediahotline@statcan.gc.ca](mailto:mediahotline@statcan.gc.ca)).

---

## Railway carloadings, May 2012 (preliminary data)

Canadian railways carried 26.0 million tonnes of freight in May, down 0.9% from May 2011. The drop was solely the result of decreases in domestic freight shipments, as international cargo loadings rose.

On the domestic front, freight loadings, composed of non-intermodal traffic (i.e., carried in bulk or loaded in box cars) and intermodal traffic (i.e., containers and trailers on flat cars), fell 3.5% to 22.5 million tonnes over the same 12-month period.

Non-intermodal cargo loadings declined 4.2% to 20.1 million tonnes. The decrease was the result of reduced traffic in more than half of the commodity classifications carried by the railways. The commodity groups with the largest declines in tonnage were wheat, coal and potash.

In contrast, several commodity groups registered increases. Loadings of fuel oils and crude petroleum increased the most, followed by sand, gravel and crushed stone, and iron ores and concentrates.

Intermodal freight loadings grew 2.3% to 2.4 million tonnes. The increase occurred solely on the strength of containerized cargo shipments, as trailers loaded onto flat cars declined.

Internationally, total rail traffic received from the United States advanced 20.3% to 3.5 million tonnes. The increase was driven by both non-intermodal and intermodal traffic.

Geographically, 57.3% of the freight traffic originating in Canada was in the Western Division of Canada, with the remainder loaded in the Eastern Division. For statistical purposes, cargo loadings from Thunder Bay, Ontario, to the Pacific Coast are classified to the Western Division while loadings from Armstrong, Ontario, to the Atlantic Coast are classified to the Eastern Division.

**Available without charge in CANSIM: table 404-0002.**

**Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2732.**

The May 2012 issue of *Monthly Railway Carloadings*, Vol. 89, no. 5 (52-001-X, free), is now available from the *Key resource* module of our website under *Publications*.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Statistics Canada's National Contact Centre (toll-free 1-800-263-1136; 613-951-8116; [infostats@statcan.gc.ca](mailto:infostats@statcan.gc.ca)) or the Media Hotline (613-951-4636; [mediahotline@statcan.gc.ca](mailto:mediahotline@statcan.gc.ca)).

---

## **Poultry and eggs statistics, May 2012**

Data on the production of poultry and eggs, placements of hatchery chicks and turkey poults, and stocks of frozen eggs and poultry meats and of edible dried egg products are now available for May.

**Available without charge in CANSIM: tables 003-0021 to 003-0024, 003-0038 and 003-0039.**

**Definitions, data sources and methods: survey numbers 3425 and 5039.**

For more information, contact Statistics Canada's National Contact Centre  
(toll-free 1-800-263-1136; 613-951-8116; [infostats@statcan.gc.ca](mailto:infostats@statcan.gc.ca)).

To enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Emily Makosky  
(613-951-2442; [emily.makosky@statcan.gc.ca](mailto:emily.makosky@statcan.gc.ca)), Agriculture Division.



---

## Capital expenditures by type of asset, 2010

Capital expenditures by type of asset for building and engineering construction are now available for 2010.

**Available without charge in CANSIM: tables 029-0039 and 029-0040.**

**Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2803.**

For more information, contact Statistics Canada's National Contact Centre  
(toll-free 1-800-263-1136; 613-951-8116; [infostats@statcan.gc.ca](mailto:infostats@statcan.gc.ca)).

To enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Pierre-Louis Venne  
(613-951-2614; [pierre-louis.venne@statcan.gc.ca](mailto:pierre-louis.venne@statcan.gc.ca)), Investment, Science and Technology Division.

---

## New products and studies

---

### New products

**Monthly Railway Carloadings**, May 2012, Vol. 89, no. 5  
Catalogue number 52-001-X (HTML, free | PDF, free)

**Retail Trade**, May 2012, Vol. 84, no. 5  
Catalogue number 63-005-X (HTML, free | PDF, free)

**Health at a Glance**  
Catalogue number 82-624-X (HTML, free | PDF, free)

**Causes of Death, 2009**  
Catalogue number 84-208-X (HTML, free)

**Leading Causes of Death in Canada, 2009**  
Catalogue number 84-215-X (HTML, free)

**Mortality, Summary List of Causes, 2009**  
Catalogue number 84F0209X (HTML, free | PDF, free)

**Deaths, 2009**  
Catalogue number 84F0211X (HTML, free | PDF, free)

### New studies

Suicide rates: An overview  
**Health at a Glance**



### Statistics Canada's official release bulletin

Catalogue 11-001-X.

Published each working day by the Communications Division, Statistics Canada, 10G, R.H. Coats Building, 100 Tunney's Pasture Driveway, Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0T6.

To access or subscribe to *The Daily* on the Internet, visit our website at <http://www.statcan.gc.ca>.

Published by authority of the Minister responsible for Statistics Canada. © Minister of Industry, 2012. All rights reserved. Use of this publication is governed by the [Statistics Canada Open Licence Agreement](#):

<http://www.statcan.gc.ca/reference/copyright-droit-auteur-eng.htm>