



Did you know...

\$30 billion: cost of all drugs purchased in Canada in a year (prescription and non-prescription combined).

\$23 billion: cost of care by doctors in Canada in a year.

Source: Canadian Institute for Health Information. (2008). National Health Expenditure Trends 1975–2008. (Numbers are for 2008).

53%: percentage of Canadians who take at least one prescription medicine.

Source: Health Council of Canada. (2009). A Status Report on the National Pharmaceuticals Strategy: A Prescription Unfilled.

40%: percentage of seniors in Canada who take 4 or more prescription medicines.

Source: Health Council of Canada. (2009). A Status Report on the National Pharmaceuticals Strategy: A Prescription Unfilled.

60% – 75%: percentage of Canadians who have private insurance for prescription drugs.

25%: percentage of Canadians, on average across the country, who qualify for public drug coverage.

Sources: Demers V, Melo M, Jackevicius C, et al. (2008). Comparison of provincial prescription drug plans and the impact on patients' annual drug expenditures. *CMAJ*; 178(4): 405-409.

Kapur V and Basu K. (2005). Drug coverage in Canada: Who is at risk? *Health Policy*; 71: 181-193.

8%: proportion of Canadians who did not fill a prescription or missed a dose because of cost in 2007.

Source: Health Council of Canada. (2009). A Status Report on the National Pharmaceuticals Strategy: A Prescription Unfilled.

\$1.5 billion: amount Canada could save in a year if prices for generic drugs were no higher than the international average.

Source: Federal/Provincial/Territorial Ministerial Task Force on the National Pharmaceuticals Strategy. (2006). *National Pharmaceuticals Strategy Progress Report*. Ottawa: Health Canada. www.hc-sc.gc.ca. (Number is for 2005).

14 million: number of times Canadians use hospital emergency departments in a year.

Source: Canadian Institute for Health Information. (2008). Health Care in Canada 2008.

23,000: number of hip replacements performed in Canada in a year.

38,400: number of knee replacements performed in Canada in a year.

244,500: number of cataract surgeries performed in Canada in a year.

Source: Canadian Institute for Health Information. (2008). Surgical Volume Trends, 2008. (Numbers are for 2006/07)

\$7,400: average health care costs for Canadian infants under 1 year of age.

\$1,700: average health care costs for Canadians 1 to 64 years of age.

\$9,500: average health care costs for Canadians 65 and older.

\$21,000: average health care costs for Canadians 85 and older.

Source: Canadian Institute for Health Information. (2008). Health Care in Canada 2008. (Numbers are for 2005).



1 million: number of people who work directly in health care in Canada.

62,307: number of physicians in Canada.

252,948: number of registered nurses in Canada.

Source: Canadian Institute for Health Information. (2008). Health Care in Canada 2008. (Numbers are for 2006).

51%: percentage of physicians in Canada who are family doctors or general practitioners.

Source: Canadian Medical Association, 2009. www.cma.ca.

20%: percentage of Canadians who live in rural areas.

10%: percentage of physicians who live in rural Canada.

Source: Canadian Institute for Health Information. (2008). Health Care in Canada 2008.

77%: percentage of Canada's health care workforce who are women.

47%: percentage of Canada's general workforce who are women.

Source: Canadian Institute for Health Information. (2007). Canada's Health Care Providers, 2007.

419: number of CT scanners in Canada.

222: number of MRI scanners in Canada.

Source: Canadian Institute for Health Information. (2008). Health Care in Canada 2008. (Numbers are as of Jan 1, 2007)

51%: number of Canadians in poor health feel the health care system needs fundamental changes.

Source: 2008 Commonwealth Fund International Health Policy Survey of Sicker Adults.

1 in 7: sicker Canadians surveyed said they experienced a medical error in the past 2 years.

Source: 2008 Commonwealth Fund International Health Policy Survey of Sicker Adults.

5%: number of sicker Canadians surveyed said they received incorrect test results or someone else's results by mistake

Source: 2008 Commonwealth Fund International Health Policy Survey of Sicker Adults.

86%: number of sicker Canadians surveyed said the quality of their care over the past year was good to excellent.

Source: 2008 Commonwealth Fund International Health Policy Survey of Sicker Adults.

6%: of the Canadians hospitalized in the past 2 years, 6% reported developing an infection in hospital.

Source: 2008 Commonwealth Fund International Health Policy Survey of Sicker Adults.