



Health Inequalities Data Tool overview

The **Health Inequalities Data Tool** contains data on indicators of health status and health determinants, stratified by a range of social and economic characteristics (i.e., social stratifiers) meaningful to health equity.

To access the Data Tool:

<https://health-infobase.canada.ca/health-inequalities/>

On this web-based tool, you can:

- Display data
- Print data
- Download data

The Health Inequalities Data Tool:



Informs surveillance and research activities, as well as program and policy decisions to more effectively reduce health inequalities in Canada;



Identifies where inequalities in health outcomes and determinants exist between subgroups of Canadians at the national and provincial/territorial level, and the magnitude of these inequalities;



Provides baseline data for ongoing monitoring of progress in reducing health inequalities in Canada.

Indicators and Stratifiers

The Data Tool has over **175 indicators** of health outcomes and health determinants, grouped within 14 domains, listed below:

Health Outcome Indicators	Health Determinants Indicators	
Mortality and Life Expectancy	Health Behaviours	Social Inequities
Morbidity	Physical and Social Environment	Early Childhood Development
Mental Illness and Suicide	Working Conditions	Socioeconomic Conditions
Self-Assessed Physical and Mental Health	Health Care	Interaction with Justice System
Disease/Health Condition	Social Protection	

The indicators may be viewed/stratified/organized by **life course stage**:

- General Population
- Adults
- Infants, Children, Youth & Young Adults
- Older Adults

Where available, these indicators are stratified by a range of socio-demographic and economic population groups, including

Socioeconomic Status	Indigenous Peoples	Place of Residence	Socio-demographic Groups
Income	First Nations	Rural/urban	Age
Education	Métis	Remoteness index	Immigrant status
Employment	Inuit	Population centre	Sexual orientation
Occupation			Functional health
Material and social deprivation			Cultural/racial background
Canadian Index of Multiple Deprivation			Living arrangement
Household ownership			First official language spoken

These factors are also tabulated by **sex/gender** and by **national and provincial/territorial level**.

Measures

The magnitude of health inequalities between population groups is described in the Data Tool by six measures:

Effect Measures Estimate the magnitude of the inequality between two population groups		
Rate Ratio (Relative inequality)	Rate Difference (Absolute inequality)	Attributable Fraction (Percent (%) rate reduction in a sub-population)
Population Impact Measures Estimate the impact of the magnitude of the inequality between two population groups within the total population		
Population Attributable Rate (Absolute rate reduction in the total population)	Population Attributable Fraction (Percent (%) rate reduction in the total population)	Population Impact Number (Absolute number of cases reduced in the total population)

For a detailed description of the measures, please see: <https://health-infobase.canada.ca/health-inequalities/>

Data sources used to create the data tool

- Canadian Cancer Registry (CCR)
- Canadian Community Health Survey – Annual Component (CCHS)
- Canadian Demographic Estimates
- Canadian Health Measures Survey (CHMS)
- Canadian Housing Survey (CHS)
- Census Population Counts
- Census – Long Form
- Canadian Survey on Disability (CSD)
- Canadian Tuberculosis Reporting System (CTBRS)
- Early Development Instrument, Offord Centre for Child Studies (EDI)
- Employment Insurance Coverage Survey (EICS)
- Hospital Mental Health Database, Canadian Institute for Health Information (HMHDB)
- Health Behaviour in School-Aged Children (HBSC)
- Labour Force Survey (LFS)
- National HIV/AIDS Surveillance System
- National Household Survey (NHS)
- Survey of Young Canadians (SYC)
- Uniform Crime Reporting Survey (UCR)
- Vital Statistics – Birth Database (VS-BD)
- Vital Statistics – Death Database (VS-DD)

About the Initiative

The *Pan-Canadian Health Inequalities Initiative* is anchored in domestic and international commitments, including the World Health Organization's *Rio Political Declaration on the Social Determinants of Health*, which brought attention to gaps in monitoring systems essential for tracking health inequities and the need for routine provision of disaggregated data.

About Health Inequalities

Health inequalities refer to differences in health status or in the distribution of health determinants between different population groups. Some differences can be due to biological factors, individual choices, or chance. Nevertheless, public health evidence suggests that many differences can be attributed to the unequal distribution of the social and economic factors that influence health (e.g., income, education, employment, social supports) and exposure to societal conditions and environments largely beyond the control of the individuals concerned.

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