

Article

Disparities in life expectancy at birth

by Lawson Greenberg and Claude Normandin



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Highlights

- While Canada's life expectancy ranks among the top in the world, regional figures reveal important differences within the country.
- Regions facing the lowest life expectancy also possess some of the highest rates of smoking, obesity, and heavy drinking. These regions have high long-term unemployment rates, lower levels of education, small immigrant populations, relatively large Aboriginal populations, and are situated in rural/remote locations.
- Higher neighbourhood income is associated with longer life expectancy.
- Women in Canada tend to live longer than men, on average. This gap has been present for nearly a century, and it varies across the country and by income group.

Introduction

The ultimate health outcome is how long one lives: thus, life expectancy at birth—the number of years a person is expected to live—is widely used to explore the general health of a population.² *Life expectancy* is also useful for comparing various groups of people, between or even within nations. Identifying gaps in life expectancy between different groups helps draw attention to particularly vulnerable populations. However, life expectancy measures the length rather than the quality of life, so it does not necessarily represent the number of years spent in good health.³

This article begins with a comparison of Canadian life expectancy to that of other countries. The rest of the article looks within Canada to reveal changes in life expectancy over time, differences between regions and variations across income groups. The regional differences are presented alongside the characteristics of these regions, including population density and remoteness, as well as rates of smoking, drinking and obesity. Gender differences are observed throughout the article.

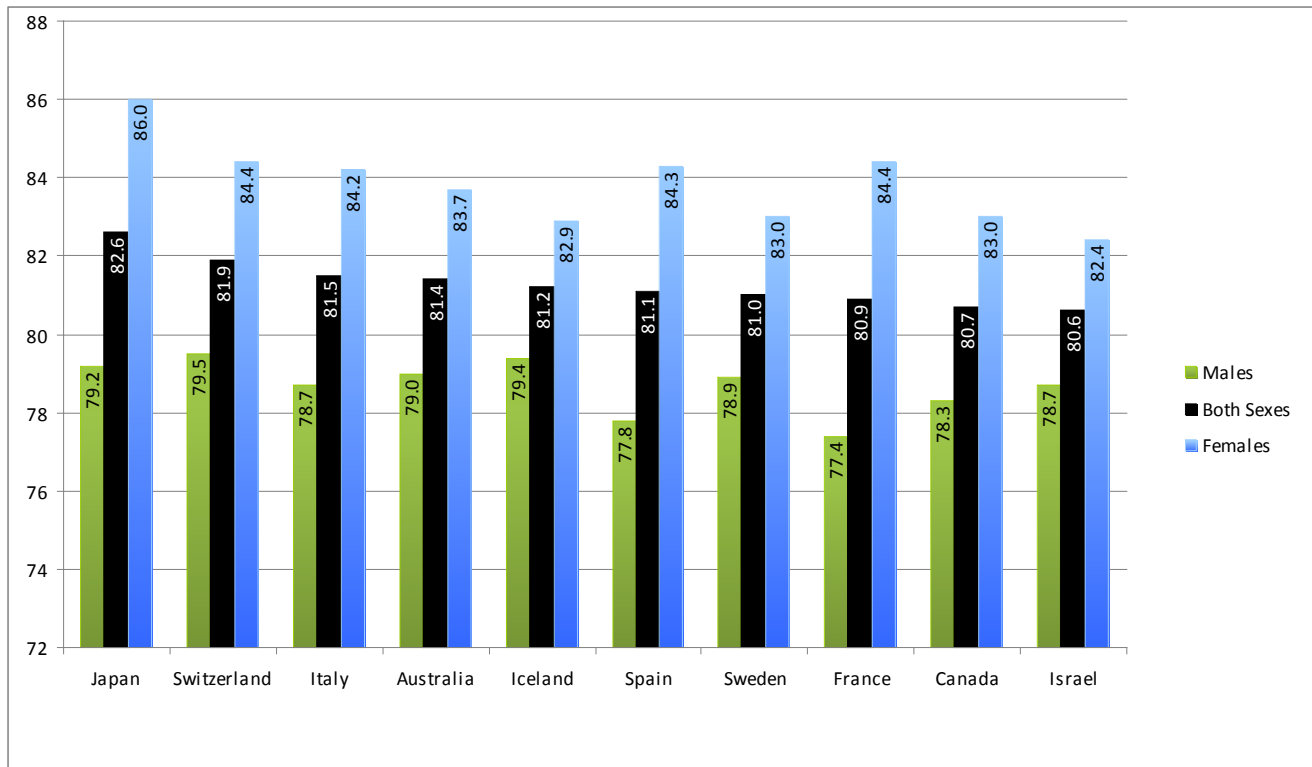
Life expectancy in this article was calculated using abridged life tables based on the Greville method¹ that converts mortality rates into probabilities of death.

Canada among the top 10 countries in the world

For the past 50 years, life expectancy at birth in Canada has ranked in the top 10 among the 34 countries now in the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD). In 2007, the most recent period for which data are available for all OECD countries, Canada ranked ninth, with a life expectancy at birth of 80.7 years for both sexes combined (Chart 1). This was 1.9 years lower than the first-ranked country, Japan. Canadian men were in eighth place, 1.2 years below top-ranked Switzerland, and Canadian women were tied for ninth with Sweden, 3.0 years below Japan.⁴

The gap in life expectancy between males and females differs by country. In Canada, life expectancy at birth is 4.7 years longer for women than men. Among the top 10 OECD countries, the gap in life expectancy is largest in France (7.0 years) and smallest in Iceland (3.5 years).⁴

Chart 1 Life expectancy at birth, top 10 OECD countries



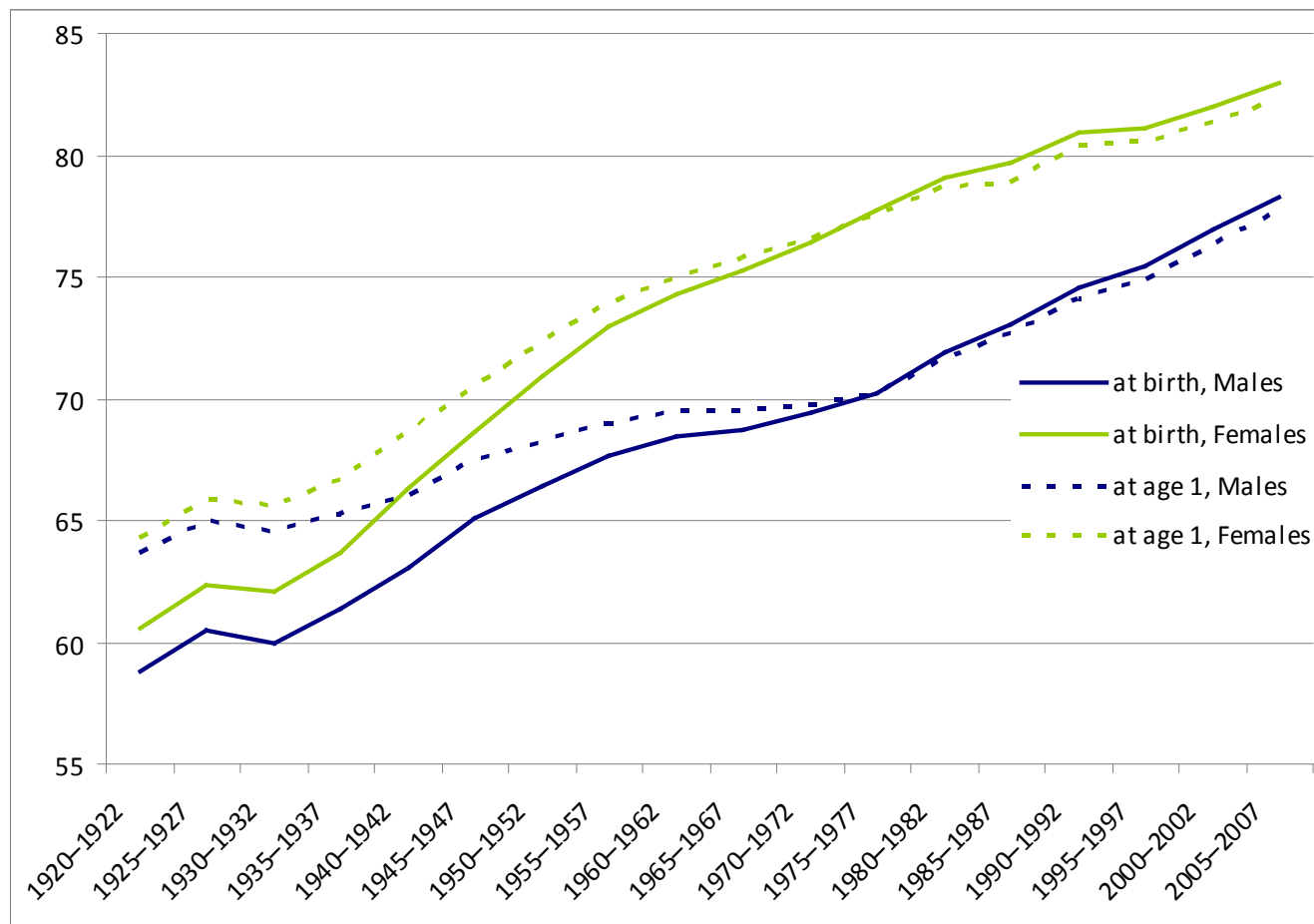
Source: Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development, OECD Health Data 2010.

Canadian life expectancy has improved dramatically over the past century

Life expectancy in Canada has improved considerably since early in the 20th century. Women’s life expectancy at birth has increased from 60.6 years in 1920-1922⁵ to 83.0 years in 2005-2007, and men’s from 58.8 to 78.3 years in the same period—increases of 22.4 years for women and 19.5 for men (Chart 2).

The lower life expectancy of earlier decades was, in part, a reflection of high levels of infant mortality—about 1 in 10 children died within the first year of life in 1921. Because of high levels of infant mortality, life expectancy at age 1 was actually higher than life expectancy at birth until the 1980-to-1982 period, when infant mortality lowered enough to reduce this trend.⁵

Chart 2 Life expectancy at birth and at age 1, by sex, Canada, 1920-1922 to 2005-2007



Note: In this chart, the calculation of life expectancy is based on three consecutive years of death data and population estimates.

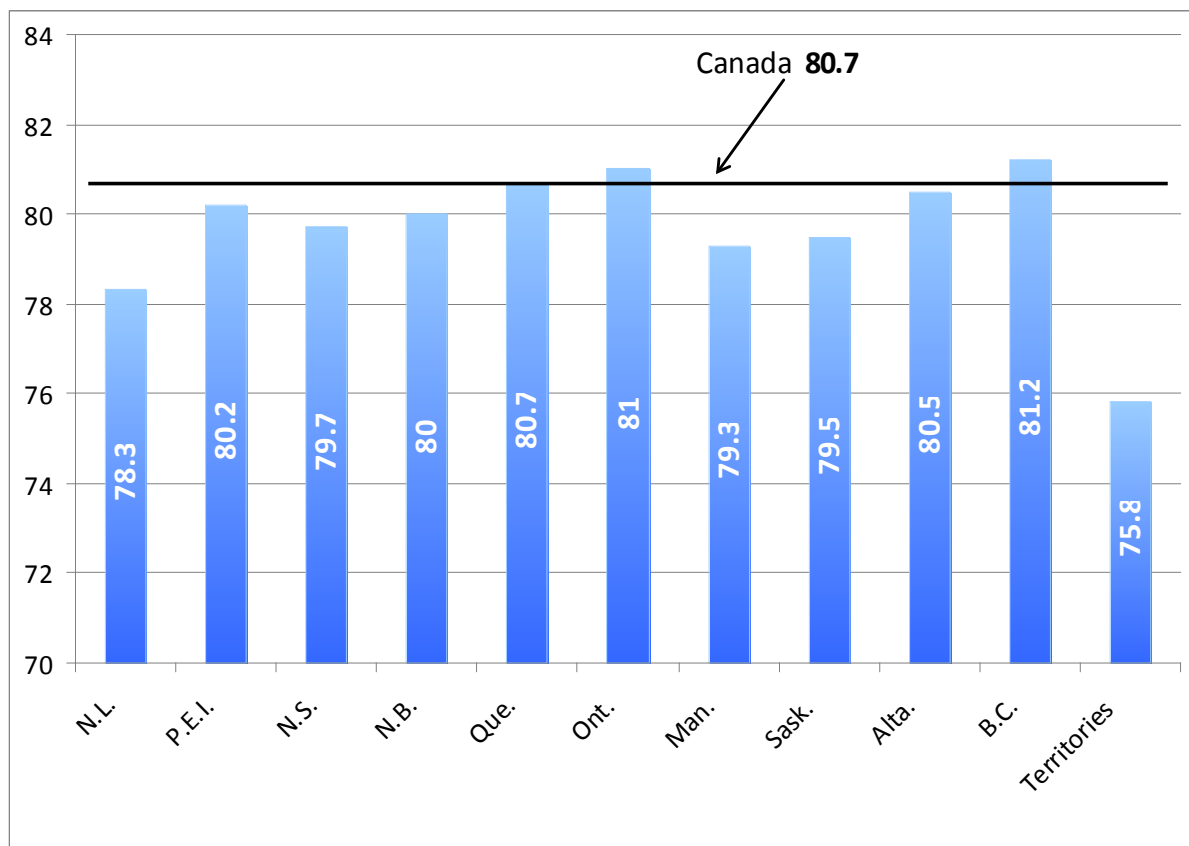
Sources: Nagunar. Longevity and Historical Life Tables (for 1920-1922 through 1980-1982); Statistics Canada Catalogue no. 84-537, Life Tables (for 1985-1987 and 1990-1992); Statistics Canada, Vital Statistics, CANSIM table 102-0512, Life expectancy (for 1995-1997 through 2005-2007).

The gap in life expectancy at birth between the sexes has changed over time. In the 1920-1922 period, the gap was 1.8 years. It widened steadily to 7.4 years in 1975-1977, then narrowed to 4.7 years by 2005-2007. The gap between the sexes is partly related to differences in lifestyle, such as men's greater propensity to risk-taking behaviours that could result in injury or death.⁶ The expansion of the gap in the early and mid-20th century was, in part, owing to a reduction in the likelihood of maternal death during childbirth; the narrowing later on was related somewhat to improvements in cardiac health (men are generally more affected by heart problems than women).⁷

A closer look reveals differences

Life expectancy at birth varies across Canada. Among the provinces in 2005-2007, British Columbia had the longest life expectancy, 81.2 years, and Newfoundland and Labrador the lowest, 78.3 years. The gap between the sexes ranged from 4.3 years in Ontario to 5.1 years for Prince Edward Island, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and Saskatchewan. In the territories, life expectancy was lower, 75.8 years, and the gap between the sexes was wider, 6.0 years.

Chart 3 Life expectancy at birth, provinces and territories, 2005-2007



Source: Statistics Canada, Vital Statistics, CANSIM table 102-0512, Life expectancy.

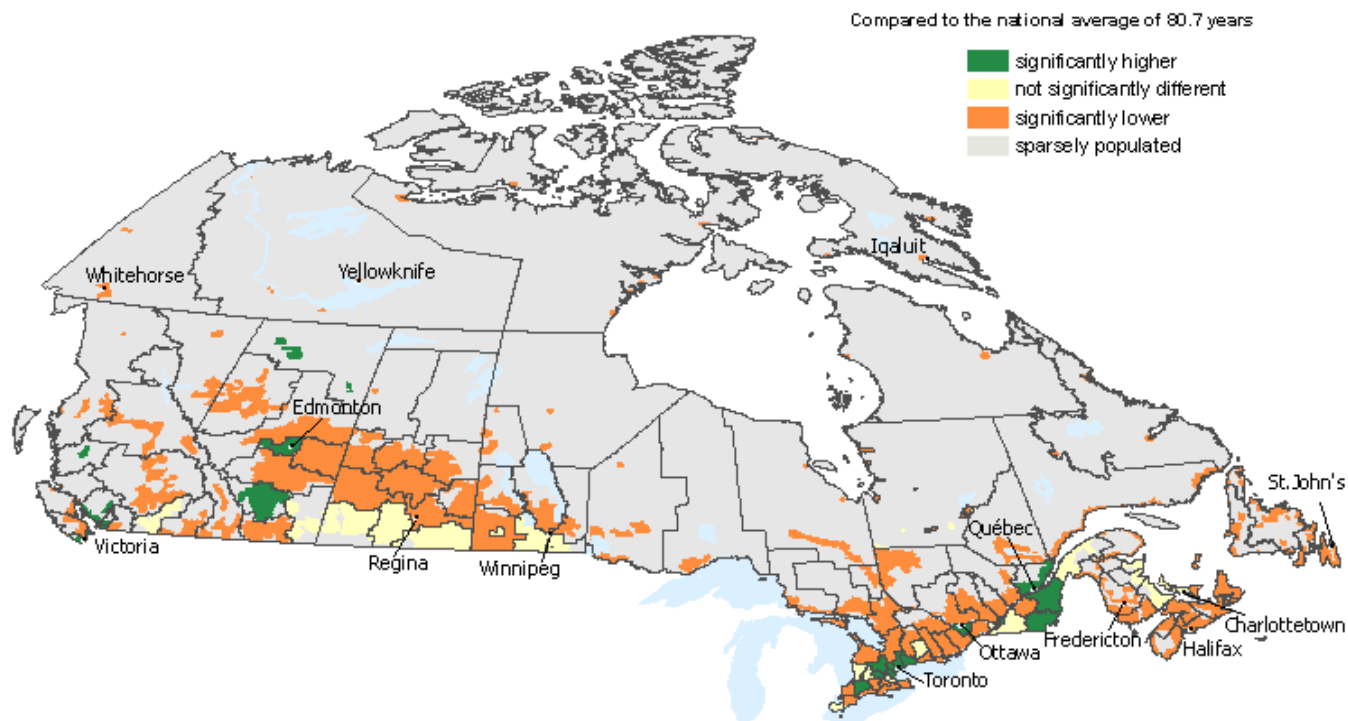
Life expectancy at the health region level revealed large disparities, from a low of 71.3 years to a high of 84.6 years: see Appendix 1 for a list of Health Regions and their associated life expectancy. *Health regions* with the lowest life expectancies are comparable to countries such as Iran, 71.3 years; Lebanon, 72.0 years; Poland, 75.6 years; and Albania, 76.5

There are 123 **Health regions** in Canada that are defined by the provincial ministries of health for health planning and service delivery purposes. For complete Canadian coverage, each of the northern territories also represents a health region.⁸

years;⁹ and are similar to the overall Canadian figures from the 1960s.

The gap in life expectancy between males and females varies widely across health regions, from 3.2 years to 7.5 years. The gap was generally smaller among regions with higher life expectancy and wider among regions with lower life expectancy.

Map 1 Life Expectancy at birth by health region, 2005-2007



Source: Statistics Canada. Vital Statistics. CANSIM table 102-4307. Life expectancy.

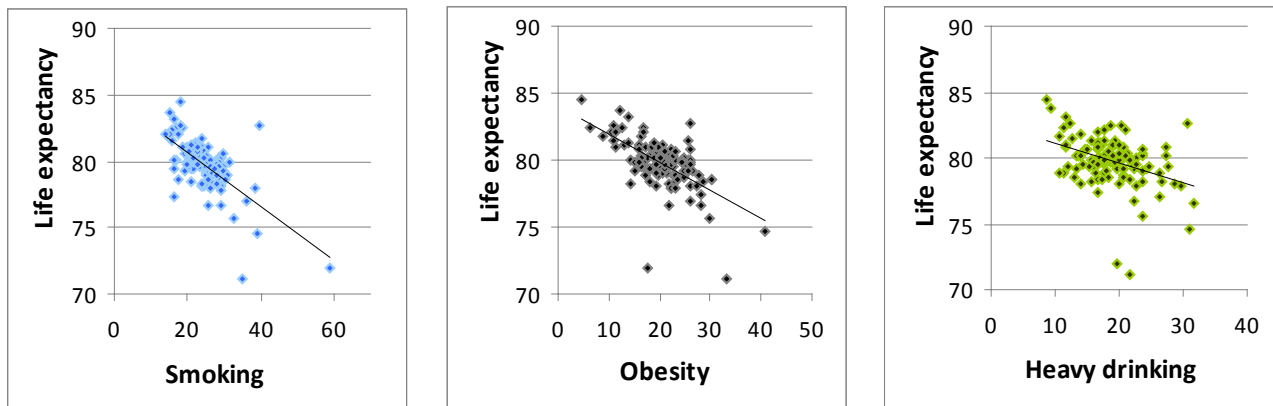
Produced by Geography Division, Statistics Canada for Health Statistics Division, Statistics Canada, 2011.

Although 23 of Canada's health regions have life expectancy values significantly higher than the Canadian average (the green areas in Map 1), ranging from 81.0 to 84.6 years, they comprise 51% of the population. In contrast, the 79 regions that have life expectancy values significantly lower than the Canadian average (the orange areas in Map 1) account for just 37% of the population, but the range of life expectancy across these regions was wide, 9.1 years.

Health regions with life expectancies lower than the Canadian average share similar characteristics. They tend to have higher levels of long-term unemployment, lower proportions of high school and university graduates, smaller immigrant populations, larger Aboriginal populations and rural/remote locations.¹⁰ The association between these characteristics and low life expectancy has been documented in prior research.^{11, 12, 13}

Health regions with the lowest life expectancies also tend to have some of the highest rates of smoking, obesity and heavy drinking (Chart 4), all associated with poor health. Smoking is a risk factor for lung cancer, heart disease and stroke, among other conditions.¹⁴ Obesity has been linked to various chronic conditions, such as Type 2 diabetes, cardiovascular disease and hypertension.¹⁵ Heavy drinking—consuming at least five alcoholic drinks on one occasion at least once a month—has been associated with serious health problems, such as cirrhosis, heart disease and depression, as well as social consequences, such as traffic accidents, lower productivity and violence.¹⁶

Chart 4 Life expectancy at birth by rates of smoking, obesity and heavy drinking, health regions



Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Community Health Survey, CANSIM table 105-0501 (2007);
 Statistics Canada, Vital Statistics, CANSIM Table 102-4307 (2005–2007).

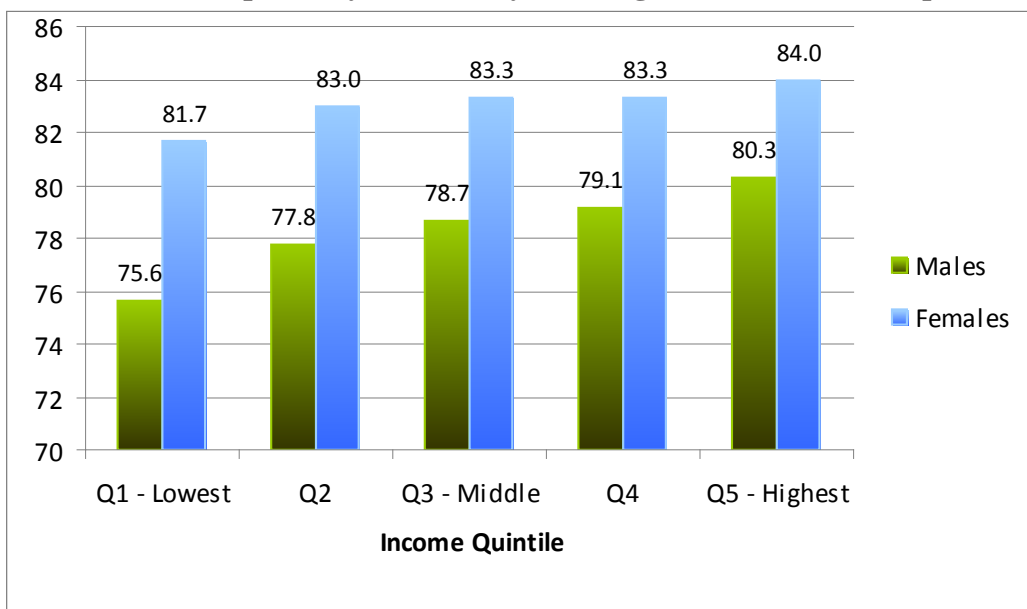
Infant mortality and deaths from causes such as suicide and unintentional injuries, which rank high in younger populations,¹⁷ are more common in regions with lower life expectancy. Other causes of death, such as respiratory diseases and lung cancer, are also among the highest in the country in these regions.

Neighbourhood income: Used as a proxy for personal income, it is the average before-tax income by household member in each dissemination area. In census geography, a dissemination area is a small area with a population of 400 to 700 persons. The whole country is divided into dissemination areas.

Lower income is associated with shorter life expectancy

Previous studies have established that poorer health outcomes, such as high levels of illness and mortality, are associated with low income.¹⁸ ¹⁹ If the Canadian population is divided into five equal groups (quintiles) according to their *neighbourhood income* and life expectancy is calculated for each group, the relationship between life expectancy and income can be examined (Chart 5).

Chart 5. Life expectancy at birth, by sex, neighbourhood income quintiles, 2005–2007



Source: Statistics Canada. Vital Statistics special tabulation

Life expectancy in the highest-income neighbourhoods was higher than in the lowest-income neighbourhoods (Chart 5). Although females have a higher life expectancy than males in all income groups, as income increases, the gap between male and female life expectancy diminishes, from 6.1 years in the lowest income group to 3.7 years in the highest. Additionally, income levels seem to show greater effect for men than women: the gap between the lowest and highest income groups is 4.7 years for men, but 2.3 years for women.

Summary

Life expectancy in Canada has increased substantially over the past century, and Canada ranks consistently among the top countries in the world. Within Canada, however, notable differences can be seen.

Life expectancy tends to be lower in regions where the rates of smoking, heavy drinking and obesity are relatively high. These regions also have higher levels of long-term unemployment, fewer high school and university graduates, a relatively larger Aboriginal population and are generally rural and remote.

Life expectancy is lower for males than it is for females: this gap has been present to varying degrees for nearly a century. This gap between the sexes is apparent across the country, and is most striking in lower-income groups.



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Appendix 1 Life expectancy by health region, 2005-2007

	Health Region	Code	Peer Group	Both Sexes			Males			Females		
				Years	Confidence Interval		Years	Confidence Interval		Years	Confidence Interval	
Newfoundland and Labrador	Eastern Regional Integrated Health Authority	1011	C	78.2	77.9	78.5	75.9	75.5	76.3	80.5	80.0	80.9
	Central Regional Integrated Health Authority	1012	I	79.2	78.7	79.7	76.9	76.2	77.6	81.4	80.7	82.1
	Western Regional Integrated Health Authority	1013	I	78.1	77.5	78.7	75.0	74.1	75.9	81.3	80.5	82.2
	Labrador-Grenfell Regional Integrated Health Authority	1014	H	76.6	75.7	77.6	74.1	72.8	75.4	79.4	78.1	80.7
Prince Edward Island	Kings County	1101	C	78.2	76.9	79.5	75.8	74.0	77.6	80.6	78.8	82.5
	Queens County	1102	A	80.4	79.8	81.0	77.6	76.7	78.4	83.0	82.2	83.7
	Prince County	1103	C	80.4	79.7	81.2	78.0	76.9	79.0	82.7	81.6	83.7
Nova Scotia	Zone 1	1201	C	80.0	79.6	80.5	77.4	76.7	78.0	82.6	82.0	83.2
	Zone 2	1202	C	79.9	79.4	80.4	77.2	76.4	78.0	82.4	81.7	83.1
	Zone 3	1203	C	79.6	79.1	80.1	77.0	76.3	77.7	82.1	81.4	82.7
	Zone 4	1204	C	79.9	79.4	80.4	77.1	76.4	77.9	82.5	81.8	83.2
	Zone 5	1205	I	77.9	77.5	78.4	74.4	73.8	75.1	81.3	80.7	81.9
	Zone 6	1206	A	80.3	80.1	80.6	78.1	77.7	78.4	82.3	82.0	82.7
New Brunswick	Region 1	1301	C	80.9	80.5	81.3	78.3	77.7	78.8	83.3	82.8	83.8
	Region 2	1302	C	79.6	79.2	79.9	76.8	76.2	77.3	82.1	81.6	82.6
	Region 3	1303	C	79.5	79.1	79.9	77.0	76.4	77.6	82.0	81.4	82.5
	Region 4	1304	C	79.3	78.5	80.0	76.9	75.9	78.0	81.4	80.3	82.4
	Region 5	1305	I	79.2	78.4	80.1	76.2	74.8	77.5	81.6	80.3	82.9
	Region 6	1306	I	81.0	80.4	81.6	78.6	77.8	79.4	83.3	82.5	84.2
	Region 7	1307	I	80.0	79.2	80.7	77.4	76.3	78.4	82.5	81.4	83.6
Quebec	Région du Bas-Saint-Laurent	2401	C	80.7	80.3	81.0	77.8	77.2	78.3	83.5	83.0	83.9
	Région du Saguenay - Lac-Saint-Jean	2402	C	80.0	79.7	80.3	77.6	77.2	78.1	82.3	81.9	82.7
	Région de la Capitale-Nationale	2403	A	81.0	80.8	81.2	78.2	78.0	78.5	83.5	83.2	83.7
	Région de la Mauricie et du Centre-du-Québec	2404	C	80.4	80.1	80.6	77.6	77.3	78.0	82.9	82.6	83.2
	Région de l'Estrie	2405	A	81.1	80.8	81.4	78.5	78.1	78.9	83.4	83.0	83.8
	Région de Montréal	2406	G	81.1	81.0	81.2	78.5	78.3	78.6	83.4	83.3	83.6
	Région de l'Outaouais	2407	A	79.7	79.4	80.0	77.6	77.2	78.0	81.7	81.3	82.1
	Région de l'Abitibi-Témiscamingue	2408	C	80.0	79.6	80.4	77.5	76.9	78.1	82.3	81.7	82.8
	Région de la Côte-Nord	2409	H	79.3	78.7	79.9	76.9	76.1	77.8	81.7	80.9	82.5
	Région du Nord-du-Québec	2410	H	79.0	76.1	81.8	72.8	70.7	74.9	80.3	76.6	84.0
	Région de la Gaspésie - Îles-de-la-Madeleine	2411	I	79.0	78.4	79.5	75.9	75.0	76.7	82.2	81.4	82.9
	Région de la Chaudière-Appalaches	2412	D	81.3	81.1	81.6	78.7	78.3	79.1	83.9	83.6	84.3
	Région de Laval	2413	A	81.8	81.5	82.0	79.6	79.2	79.9	83.7	83.4	84.1
	Région de Lanaudière	2414	A	80.3	80.0	80.5	78.0	77.7	78.4	82.6	82.2	82.9
	Région des Laurentides	2415	A	80.1	79.9	80.4	78.1	77.8	78.4	82.1	81.8	82.4
	Région de la Montérégie	2416	A	80.8	80.6	80.9	78.4	78.2	78.6	83.0	82.8	83.2
	Région du Nunavik	2417	F	71.3	68.9	73.8	69.3	65.8	72.7	72.5	69.3	75.7
	Région des Terres-Cries-de-la-Baie-James	2418	F	77.4	75.7	79.1	73.9	71.6	76.1	80.5	78.0	82.9

Appendix 1 Life expectancy by health region, 2005-2007 - continued

	Health Region	Code	Peer Group	Both Sexes			Males			Females		
				Years	Confidence Interval		Years	Confidence Interval		Years	Confidence Interval	
Ontario	District of Algoma Health Unit	3526	C	79.3	78.8	79.8	77.2	76.6	77.9	81.3	80.7	81.9
	Brant County Health Unit	3527	A	79.8	79.3	80.2	77.2	76.6	77.8	82.3	81.6	82.9
	Durham Regional Health Unit	3530	B	81.0	80.8	81.2	78.7	78.4	79.0	83.1	82.8	83.4
	Elgin-St. Thomas Health Unit	3531	A	78.9	78.4	79.4	76.8	76.0	77.5	80.7	80.0	81.5
	Grey Bruce Health Unit	3533	D	80.2	79.9	80.6	78.4	77.8	79.0	82.1	81.6	82.6
	Haldimand-Norfolk Health Unit	3534	A	79.1	78.6	79.6	76.6	75.8	77.3	81.5	80.9	82.2
	Haliburton, Kawartha, Pine Ridge District Health Unit	3535	A	80.2	79.8	80.6	77.8	77.2	78.3	82.5	82.0	83.1
	Halton Regional Health Unit	3536	B	82.5	82.3	82.7	80.5	80.1	80.8	84.3	84.0	84.6
	City of Hamilton Health Unit	3537	A	80.8	80.6	81.1	78.5	78.2	78.8	83.0	82.7	83.3
	Hastings and Prince Edward Counties Health Unit	3538	A	79.4	79.0	79.8	76.9	76.3	77.4	81.8	81.3	82.3
	Huron County Health Unit	3539	D	80.1	79.5	80.7	77.7	76.9	78.6	82.3	81.5	83.2
	Chatham-Kent Health Unit	3540	C	78.9	78.4	79.4	76.2	75.5	76.9	81.4	80.7	82.0
	Kingston, Frontenac and Lennox and Addington Health Unit	3541	A	80.2	79.8	80.6	77.7	77.2	78.2	82.6	82.1	83.0
	Lambton Health Unit	3542	A	80.2	79.8	80.7	78.0	77.4	78.6	82.2	81.7	82.8
	Leeds, Grenville and Lanark District Health Unit	3543	A	79.8	79.4	80.1	77.5	77.0	78.1	81.9	81.4	82.4
	Middlesex-London Health Unit	3544	A	81.2	80.9	81.4	78.9	78.5	79.3	83.2	82.9	83.6
	Niagara Regional Area Health Unit	3546	A	80.0	79.8	80.3	77.5	77.1	77.8	82.5	82.2	82.8
	North Bay Parry Sound District Health Unit	3547	C	79.4	79.0	79.9	76.8	76.2	77.5	82.0	81.3	82.6
	Northwestern Health Unit	3549	H	76.7	76.1	77.4	74.2	73.3	75.2	79.4	78.5	80.3
	City of Ottawa Health Unit	3551	B	82.5	82.4	82.7	80.1	79.9	80.4	84.6	84.4	84.9
	Oxford County Health Unit	3552	A	80.0	79.5	80.5	77.3	76.6	78.1	82.5	81.8	83.2
	Peel Regional Health Unit	3553	J	83.2	83.1	83.4	81.3	81.0	81.5	84.9	84.7	85.2
	Perth District Health Unit	3554	D	80.1	79.5	80.7	78.2	77.4	79.0	81.9	81.1	82.7
	Peterborough County-City Health Unit	3555	A	81.0	80.5	81.4	78.6	78.0	79.2	83.1	82.5	83.7
	Porcupine Health Unit	3556	C	78.1	77.5	78.7	75.4	74.6	76.3	80.9	80.1	81.7
	Renfrew County and District Health Unit	3557	D	79.8	79.3	80.3	77.7	77.0	78.4	81.6	80.9	82.3
	Eastern Ontario Health Unit	3558	A	79.7	79.3	80.1	77.3	76.8	77.8	82.0	81.5	82.5
	Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit	3560	B	80.4	80.2	80.6	78.1	77.8	78.4	82.7	82.4	83.0
	Sudbury and District Health Unit	3561	C	79.1	78.7	79.4	76.7	76.2	77.2	81.4	80.9	81.9
	Thunder Bay District Health Unit	3562	C	79.5	79.1	79.9	77.1	76.5	77.8	81.8	81.2	82.4
	Timiskaming Health Unit	3563	C	78.5	77.6	79.5	75.8	74.4	77.1	81.0	79.7	82.3
	Waterloo Health Unit	3565	B	81.4	81.2	81.7	79.3	79.0	79.6	83.3	83.0	83.7
	Wellington-Dufferin-Guelph Health Unit	3566	B	81.2	80.9	81.5	79.4	79.0	79.9	82.9	82.4	83.3
Windsor-Essex County Health Unit	3568	A	80.5	80.3	80.8	78.4	78.1	78.8	82.5	82.2	82.9	
York Regional Health Unit	3570	J	83.8	83.6	83.9	82.0	81.7	82.3	85.4	85.1	85.6	
City of Toronto Health Unit	3595	G	82.7	82.6	82.8	80.1	80.0	80.3	85.0	84.8	85.1	

Appendix 1 Life expectancy by health region, 2005-2007 - continued

	Health Region	Code	Peer Group	Both Sexes			Males			Females		
				Years	Confidence Interval		Years	Confidence Interval		Years	Confidence Interval	
Manitoba	Winnipeg Regional Health Authority	4610	A	79.9	79.7	80.1	77.6	77.3	77.9	81.9	81.6	82.1
	Brandon Regional Health Authority	4615	A	80.2	79.5	80.9	77.9	76.8	78.9	82.4	81.4	83.3
	North Eastman Regional Health Authority	4620	D	78.2	77.3	79.1	75.5	74.1	76.8	81.3	80.1	82.5
	South Eastman Regional Health Authority	4625	E	80.8	80.1	81.5	78.9	78.0	79.8	82.6	81.7	83.6
	Interlake Regional Health Authority	4630	D	78.7	78.1	79.3	75.9	75.1	76.8	81.9	81.1	82.7
	Central Regional Health Authority	4640	D	80.6	80.1	81.2	78.0	77.2	78.7	83.3	82.5	84.1
	Assiniboine Regional Health Authority	4645	D	79.2	78.6	79.9	76.2	75.2	77.2	82.3	81.4	83.2
	Parkland Regional Health Authority	4660	H	77.4	76.5	78.3	74.1	72.8	75.4	80.8	79.6	82.0
	NOR-MAN Regional Health Authority	4670	H	75.7	74.5	76.9	73.1	71.4	74.8	78.2	76.6	79.9
	Burntwood/Churchill	4685	F	71.3	70.3	72.2	68.4	67.1	69.7	74.6	73.1	76.0
Saskatchewan	Sun Country Regional Health Authority	4701	D	80.6	79.9	81.4	77.9	76.9	79.0	83.2	82.2	84.2
	Five Hills Regional Health Authority	4702	D	80.4	79.7	81.1	77.5	76.5	78.6	83.1	82.2	84.0
	Cypress Regional Health Authority	4703	D	81.1	80.3	81.8	79.2	78.1	80.3	82.8	81.7	83.8
	Regina Qu'Appelle Regional Health Authority	4704	A	79.9	79.6	80.3	77.8	77.3	78.3	81.9	81.4	82.4
	Sunrise Regional Health Authority	4705	D	79.4	78.7	80.2	76.4	75.3	77.4	82.7	81.7	83.6
	Saskatoon Regional Health Authority	4706	A	80.2	79.9	80.5	77.4	76.9	77.8	82.9	82.5	83.3
	Heartland Regional Health Authority	4707	D	79.3	78.5	80.0	76.9	75.8	77.9	81.7	80.6	82.7
	Kelsey Trail Regional Health Authority	4708	D	78.9	78.0	79.9	76.5	75.2	77.8	81.4	80.1	82.7
	Prince Albert Parkland Regional Health Authority	4709	H	79.7	79.0	80.3	76.9	76.0	77.8	82.5	81.6	83.4
	Prairie North Regional Health Authority	4710	H	78.4	77.7	79.1	76.0	75.0	76.9	81.0	80.0	82.0
	Mamawetan/Keewatin/Athabasca	4714	F	74.7	73.5	75.8	72.5	70.9	74.1	77.3	75.5	79.2
Alberta	Chinook Regional Health Authority	4821	A	79.7	79.3	80.1	77.3	76.7	77.9	82.2	81.6	82.7
	Palliser Health Region	4822	E	81.1	80.5	81.6	78.3	77.6	79.1	83.5	82.7	84.2
	Calgary Health Region	4823	B	82.1	82.0	82.3	80.1	79.8	80.3	84.0	83.8	84.3
	David Thompson Regional Health Authority	4824	E	79.1	78.7	79.4	76.7	76.3	77.2	81.5	81.0	81.9
	East Central Health	4825	D	80.0	79.5	80.5	76.9	76.2	77.6	83.3	82.6	83.9
	Capital Health	4826	B	81.3	81.1	81.5	78.7	78.4	78.9	83.9	83.6	84.1
	Aspen Regional Health Authority	4827	E	78.6	78.2	79.1	75.8	75.2	76.4	82.0	81.4	82.6
	Peace Country Health	4828	E	78.4	77.9	78.9	75.7	75.0	76.4	81.4	80.7	82.1
	Northern Lights Health Region	4829	E	82.7	81.7	83.8	80.0	78.7	81.2	85.9	84.3	87.6

Appendix 1 Life expectancy by health region, 2005-2007 - continued

	Health Region	Code	Peer Group	Both Sexes			Males			Females		
				Years	Confidence Interval		Years	Confidence Interval		Years	Confidence Interval	
British Columbia	East Kootenay Health Service Delivery Area	5911	D	79.5	78.9	80.2	77.2	76.3	78.1	81.9	81.1	82.7
	Kootenay-Boundary Health Service Delivery Area	5912	D	79.3	78.7	79.9	77.0	76.2	77.9	81.6	80.8	82.4
	Okanagan Health Service Delivery Area	5913	A	80.8	80.5	81.1	78.3	77.9	78.8	83.2	82.8	83.5
	Thompson/Cariboo Health Service Delivery Area	5914	A	79.4	79.1	79.8	77.2	76.7	77.7	81.8	81.3	82.3
	Fraser East Health Service Delivery Area	5921	A	80.2	79.9	80.5	77.9	77.5	78.4	82.4	82.0	82.8
	Fraser North Health Service Delivery Area	5922	J	81.8	81.6	82.0	79.7	79.4	80.0	83.8	83.5	84.1
	Fraser South Health Service Delivery Area	5923	J	81.5	81.3	81.7	79.4	79.1	79.7	83.6	83.4	83.9
	Richmond Health Service Delivery Area	5931	J	84.6	84.2	84.9	82.6	82.1	83.2	86.2	85.7	86.7
	Vancouver Health Service Delivery Area	5932	G	82.4	82.2	82.6	79.6	79.3	80.0	85.2	84.9	85.4
	North Shore/Coast Garibaldi Health Service Delivery Area	5933	J	82.1	81.8	82.4	79.9	79.5	80.4	84.1	83.7	84.6
	South Vancouver Island Health Service Delivery Area	5941	A	82.2	81.9	82.4	79.9	79.5	80.2	84.2	83.8	84.6
	Central Vancouver Island Health Service Delivery Area	5942	A	80.2	79.9	80.6	77.8	77.3	78.3	82.7	82.3	83.2
	North Vancouver Island Health Service Delivery Area	5943	A	79.8	79.3	80.3	77.4	76.7	78.2	82.3	81.6	82.9
	Northwest Health Service Delivery Area	5951	H	78.6	78.0	79.3	76.6	75.7	77.5	80.9	80.0	81.8
	Northern Interior Health Service Delivery Area	5952	H	78.3	77.9	78.8	76.1	75.4	76.7	80.9	80.2	81.5
Northeast Health Service Delivery Area	5953	E	78.0	77.3	78.7	75.6	74.6	76.5	80.8	79.8	81.8	
Territories	Yukon	6001	E	77.0	76.0	78.1	74.6	73.2	76.1	79.8	78.3	81.4
	Northwest Territories	6101	E	78.0	76.9	79.0	75.3	74.0	76.7	81.3	79.6	82.9
	Nunavut	6201	F	72.0	70.5	73.4	68.9	67.2	70.6	76.0	73.3	78.6

Source: Statistics Canada, CANSIM table 102-4307.