

MELANOMA BY THE NUMBERS 2020

IN 2020, AN ESTIMATED¹:

8,000

CANADIANS will be diagnosed with melanoma skin cancer

1,300

CANADIANS will die from melanoma skin cancer

4,400

MEN will be diagnosed with melanoma skin cancer and 870 will die from it

3,600

WOMEN will be diagnosed with melanoma skin cancer and 450 will die from it

MELANOMA COMPARED TO OTHER TYPES OF CANCER²

7th

In 2019, melanoma was the 7th most common type of newly diagnosed cancer for both males and females.

4th

Among youth and young adults (ages 15 to 29), melanoma was the 4th most common newly diagnosed cancer – 7% of the total new cases diagnosed – after thyroid, testicular, and Hodgkin lymphoma.

ANNUAL INCREASES IN MELANOMA CASES

While the incidence rates of some types of cancer are decreasing every year (e.g. laryngeal for both sexes, lung cancer in males, and cervical cancer in females), melanoma is among the types that continue to increase annually.



2.2% per year for men

IN MALES, the incidence rate for melanoma has increased steadily at 2.2% per year since 1984 – the 3rd-largest overall increase in incidences for males, after thyroid cancer (6.4%) and multiple myeloma (2.6%).



2.0% per year for women

IN FEMALES, the incidence rate for melanoma was stable from the mid-1980s to the mid-1990s; since 1994, the rate has increased by 2.0% per year – the 2nd-largest overall increase in incidences for females, after liver cancer (2.7%).

TRENDS IN MORTALITY RATES

Mortality rates have increased for melanoma, particularly for males (1.2% per year since 1984). In females, the increase in mortality rates was 0.4%.



1.2% per year for men



0.4% per year for women

SURVIVAL RATES

Survival rates for melanoma are high compared to most other forms of cancer – second only to rates for thyroid cancer.



84% 5-year survival rate

83% 10-year survival rate



91% 5-year survival rate

91% 10-year survival rate

Visit dermatology.ca for more information on the prevention and early detection of skin cancer.

¹ Projected estimates of cancer in Canada in 2020, Canadian Medical Association Journal (CMAJ), March 2, 2020. Cancer information / Cancer 101 / Canadian Cancer Statistics. www.cancer.ca/en/cancer-information/cancer-101/canadian-cancer-statistics

² With the exception of the 2020 numbers, the source of data is Canadian Cancer Statistics 2019, Government of Canada and Canadian Cancer Society.