

Magnitude of Injuries: Fact Sheet

THE HUMAN TOLL

- Up to 95% of all injuries are both predictable and preventable.
- Preventable injuries are the leading killer of Canadians in the prime of their lives (one to 44 years old).¹
- More than 3 million residents of Canada are injured each year.²
- Every hour of every day, 343 Canadians suffer a preventable injury.²
- On average, more than 13,000 Canadians die and more than 200,000 are hospitalized every year.²
- On a daily basis, over 9,300 Canadians are injured seriously enough to require medical attention. Of these, approximately 37 die, 580 are hospitalized and some 185 are left partially or totally disabled.²
- More children die from injuries than all other causes.³
- On average, 296 children (zero to 14 years) die from preventable injuries every year.⁴
- On average seven people die every day due to a motor vehicle crash in Canada.³

FINANCIAL TOLL

Preventable injuries cost the people of our country more than \$16 billion annually.

The direct cost of preventable injuries in Canada is more than \$9.4 billion⁵. In addition to the direct costs, it is conservatively estimated that the indirect costs (loss of productivity) generated by preventable injuries are double that of the direct costs.

References

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3. Public Health Agency of Canada (2005). *Leading causes of injury deaths in Canada, 2005*. Retrieved from: <http://www.phac-aspc.gc.ca/dsol-smed/>
4. Public Health Agency of Canada (2005). *Leading causes of unintentional injury hospitalizations/deaths in Canada, 2000-2005, ages 0-14 years*. Retrieved from: <http://www.phac-aspc.gc.ca/dsol-smed/>
5. SMARTRISK (2009). *The economic burden of injury in Canada*. Toronto, Ontario. Retrieved from: www.smartrisk.ca/downloads/burden/Canada2009/EBI-Eng-Final.pdf