# Canadian Burden of Skin Disease From <br> 1990 to 2017: Results From the Global Burden of Disease 2017 Study 

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#### Abstract

Background: Skin diseases can have high morbidity that can be costly to society and individuals. To date, there has been no comprehensive assessment of the burden of skin disease in Canada. Objectives: To evaluate the burden of 18 skin and subcutaneous diseases from 1990 to 2017 in Canada using the Global Burden of Disease (GBD) data. Methods: The 2017 GBD study measures health loss from 359 diseases and injuries in 195 countries; we evaluated trends in population health in Canada from 1990 to 2017 using incidence, prevalence, mortality, years of life lost (YLLs), years lived with disability (YLDs), and disability-adjusted life years (DALYs). Data are presented as rates (per 100000 ), counts, or percent change with the uncertainty interval in brackets. Results: From 1990 to 2017 for all skin diseases, DALY rates increased by $8 \%$ to 971 per 100000 (674-I319), YLD rates increased by $8 \%$ to 897 per 100000 (6I6-I235), YLL rates increased by $4 \%$ to 74 per 100000 (53-89), and death rates increased by $18 \%$ to 5 per 100000 (3-6). DALY rates for melanoma increased by $2 \%$ to 54 per 100000 (39-68), for keratinocyte carcinoma by $14 \%$ to 17 per 100000 (16-19), and for skin and subcutaneous disease by $8 \%$ to 900 per 100000 (619-1233). The observed over expected ratios were higher for skin and subcutaneous disease (I.37) and keratinocyte carcinoma (I.I7) and were lower for melanoma (0.73). Conclusions: The burden of skin disease has increased in Canada since 1990. These results can be used to guide health policy regarding skin disease in Canada.


## Keywords

skin disease, disability, prevalence, incidence

## Introduction

Accurate and up-to-date data on disease burden at the population level are crucial for understanding the important causes of death and disability. While mortality from skin disease is rare, many skin diseases are chronic and associated with substantial morbidity. ${ }^{1-4}$ There are estimates of incidence and prevalence of specific diseases such as psoriasis, atopic dermatitis, and melanoma, but to date, there has been no comprehensive study of the burden of skin diseases and their associated disability in Canada. ${ }^{5-7}$

The Global Burden of Disease (GBD) study aims to provide estimates of the fatal and nonfatal burden of disease. Metrics such as disability-adjusted life years (DALYs) can capture this burden, improving our understanding of skin
disease and informing future research efforts and public policy. Skin disease was the 18 th leading cause of global disease burden according to GBD $2015 .{ }^{8}$ The 2017 iteration of the GBD study measures health loss from death or disability resulting from 359 diseases and injuries in 195 countries and more than doubles the number of data sources compared with GBD 2010. ${ }^{9}$ GBD data provides a unique opportunity to understand the burden of skin disease in Canada. Herein, we present GBD 2017 results on morbidity, mortality, incidence,

[^0]and prevalence for 18 skin and subcutaneous diseases, including skin cancers, in Canada from 1990 to 2017. Based on an aging and growing population, ${ }^{10}$ we hypothesized that the incidence, prevalence, burden, and mortality of these skin diseases will have increased in Canada from 1990 to 2017.

## Materials and Methods

We used GBD 2017 to evaluate Canadian trends in epidemiological patterns from 1990 to 2017. Detailed GBD 2017 methods have been described previously. ${ }^{9,11,12}$ Rates and numbers of deaths, incident cases and prevalence, years of life lost (YLLs) as a result of premature mortality, years lived with disability (YLDs), and DALYs are reported here for both sexes and all age groups in Canada. Rates are agestandardized according to world population estimates by the GBD 2017 study. ${ }^{13}$ The $95 \%$ uncertainty intervals (UIs) are reported for all estimates except for total skin disease and includes all sources of uncertainty such as measurement error, systematic biases, and modeling differences from prior iterations of GBD. GBD is conducted in accordance with the Guidelines for Accurate and Transparent Health Estimates Reporting. ${ }^{14,15}$

## Data Sources

The GBD study uses the International Classification of Diseases (ICD) to maximize comparability between diseases worldwide. For Canada, data are obtained from administrative records, vital registrations, census reports, disease registries, government and nongovernmental reports, the scientific literature, surveys (such as the Canada World Poll 2016), and vital statistics. For squamous cell carcinoma, GBD uses the cause of death data from vital registrations in Canada and calculates squamous cell carcinoma incidence based on the mortality incidence ratio. For basal cell carcinoma, GBD
uses claims and hospital data from Ontario. Information on Canadian data sources can be found online at the Global Health Data Exchange http://ghdx.healthdata.org/geography/canada.

## Classification of Skin Disease

Skin diseases were selected by the GBD study and were defined by the ninth and 10 th revision codes of the ICD, ${ }^{16,17}$ resulting in 18 categories of skin and subcutaneous disease based on disease prevalence, data adequacy, and standardized disease definitions: (1) acne vulgaris, (2) alopecia areata, (3) atopic dermatitis, (4) cellulitis, (5) contact dermatitis, (6) decubitus ulcer, (7) fungal skin diseases, (8) malignant skin melanoma, (9) basal cell carcinoma, (10) squamous cell carcinoma, (11) pruritus, (12) psoriasis, (13) pyoderma, (14) scabies, (15) seborrheic dermatitis, (16) urticaria, (17) viral skin diseases, and (18) other skin and subcutaneous diseases, such as pigmentary and atrophic skin disorders.

## Cause of Death

GBD attributes the cause of death to a single disease that initiated the ultimate cause of death, with coding following ICD-10 principles. The GBD cause of death hierarchy is divided into 4 levels. Level 1 represents all-cause mortality divided into communicable, maternal, neonatal, and nutritional diseases; noncommunicable diseases; and injuries. Level 2 distinguishes these categories into 21 cause groups (ie, cardiovascular disease). Level 3 distinguishes these causes further by cause (ie, stroke). Finally, Level 4 represents diseases that may be further disaggregated (ie, drug-resistant tuberculosis). ${ }^{11}$ To assess YLLs and deaths, we used data from Levels 3 and 4 of the cause of death hierarchy.

[^1]
## Mortality and YLLs

Age-specific and sex-specific mortality are available for 6 of the 18 skin and subcutaneous diseases (cellulitis, decubitus ulcer, melanoma, squamous cell carcinoma, other skin and subcutaneous diseases, and pyoderma) ${ }^{11}$ and are modeled using the Cause of Death Ensemble model (CODEm). ${ }^{11}$ CODEm combines numerous modeling techniques to best predict age-specific and sex-specific mortality estimates by cause while taking temporal and spatial trends into consideration and using predictive covariates. ${ }^{11}$ The GBD study calculates YLLs as a measure of cause-specific premature mortality. Age-standardized mortality and YLL rates are calculated using the GBD world standard population. ${ }^{11}$

## Years Lived with Disability

Disease modeling meta-regression 2.1 (DisMod-MR 2.1) is used to calculate prevalence for each disease taking into account data on incidence, prevalence, remission, mortality, and disease duration. ${ }^{12,18}$ The prevalence estimates are multiplied by disability weights to calculate YLDs resulting from a specific cause. Disability weights were derived from surveys evaluating the level and progression of disability associated with specific causes. ${ }^{12}$ The prevalence of different disease sequelae is used to model comorbidity using a microsimulation approach. ${ }^{12}$

## Disability-Adjusted Life Years

DALYs were calculated using the GBD 2017 results for YLLs and YLDs, combined. ${ }^{9,11}$ In GBD, DALYs are used as the primary measure to compare disease burden across time and between age and sex groups. The GBD world population age standard is used to calculate age-standardized rates for DALYs, YLLs, and YLDs. ${ }^{9}$ Rates are calculated and presented per 100000 person-years.

## Observed Over Expected Ratio

The observed over expected (O/E) ratio is based on a nation's socio-demographic index (SDI) and age-standardized DALYs. The expected value of a disease is based solely on the SDI, which does not vary over time for a specific region. The SDI is a composite average of the rankings of average educational attainment, annual income, and fertility rates across all areas in the GBD study, expressed on a scale of $0-1 .{ }^{11}$ The $\mathrm{O} / \mathrm{E}$ ratio is therefore a method of comparing regions.

## Uncertainty Intervals

GBD uses Bayesian estimation methods; every estimate is calculated 1000 times to give $95 \%$ UIs. The width of the UI is reflective of data availability, sample size, and consistency
of data across multiple sources. ${ }^{9,11}$ If the calculation of GBD estimates requires multiple steps, the uncertainty associated with each step is propagated throughout the entire calculation. ${ }^{19}$ UIs are calculated for percentage change for each disease, though UIs for total skin disease including cancers are unavailable.

## Results

## Prevalence and Incidence

In Canada, in 2017, skin and subcutaneous diseases had an age-standardized incidence rate of 37898 cases per 100000 (95\% UI 36 776-39096) (Table 1) and an age-standardized prevalence rate of 28409 cases per 100000 (27 917-28 872) (Table 2), an increase of $4 \%$ and $7 \%$, respectively, from 1990. Incidence and prevalence rates are subcategorized by sex in supplemental Tables S1-S4. Of all skin diseases since 1990, keratinocyte carcinomas (basal and squamous cell carcinomas), had the largest rise in both incidence rate by $748 \%$ (546\%-944\%) to 90 per $100000(63-124)$ and prevalence rate by $1147 \%$ ( $749 \%-1751 \%$ ) to 54 per 100000 (37-74). The incidence and prevalence rates for melanoma have increased by $68 \%(39 \%-93 \%)$ to 15 per $100000(11-19)$ and by $81 \%(53 \%-108 \%)$ to 130 per 100000 (96-160), respectively. Incidence and prevalence rates were similarly increased among males and females from 1990 to 2017, though males had a greater relative increase in the prevalence ( 8 per 100000 [6-12] to 76 per 10000 [50-113]) and incidence ( 8 per 100000 [6-11] to 63 per 100000 [43-98]) of squamous cell carcinoma compared with females ( 5 per 100 000 [4-7] to 34 per 100000 [20-56] and 4 per 100000 [3-6] to 28 per 100000 [17-46], respectively).

## Mortality and YLLs

Age-standardized rates and all-age death counts are summarized in Tables 3 and 4 and are subcategorized by sex in supplemental Tables S5-S8. From 1990 to 2017, the death rate for all skin diseases in Canada increased by $18 \%$ to 5 per 100 000 ( $95 \%$ UI 3-6). All skin diseases were responsible for 2281 deaths [1597-2684], an increase of $136 \%$ compared with 1990, and 42127 YLLs ( 30 346-50 573), an increase of $85 \%$. Melanoma caused the most deaths among skin diseases ( $49 \%$ of total deaths from skin disease and $0.4 \%$ of all deaths in Canada). Melanoma was also the largest contributor to YLLs, representing $60 \%$ of total YLLs from skin disease, and $0.6 \%$ of all-cause YLLs. Since 1990, age-standardized female and male death rates for melanoma have remained stable at 1 per $100000(0.9-2)$ and 2 per 100000 (1-3), respectively. Age-standardized YLL rates for females for all skin diseases increased by $6 \%$ to 51 per 100000 (33-71), while YLL rates for males remained stable at 99 per 100000 (60-128), though males had a higher absolute YLL rate.
Table I. All-Age and Age-Standardized Incidence Rates Per 100000 for Skin and Subcutaneous Disease in Canada in 1990 and 2017 and and Cumulative Percentage Changes for 1990-20I7 for Both Sexes Combined.

|  | All-age incidence rate (per 100000 ( $95 \% \mathrm{UI}$ ) |  |  | Age-standardized incidence rate (per 100000 ( $95 \% \mathrm{UI}$ ) |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | 1990 | 2017 | \% change | 1990 | 2017 | \% change |
| All skin disease | 37959 (36 716-39 191) | 44612 (43 084-46 273) | 18 | 36377 (35 243-37 523) | 38004 (36 850-39 239) | 5 |
| Melanoma | 11 (8-14) | 23 (16-27) | 109 (72-141) | 9 (7-12) | 15 (11-19) | 68 (39-93) |
| Keratinocyte carcinoma | 13 (10-16) | 160 (110-221) | 1151 (856-1460) | 11 (8-14) | 90 (63-124) | 748 (546-944) |
| BCC | 6 (4-9) | 79 (40-129) | 1215 (745-1719) | 5 (3-8) | 46 (25-73) | 816 (485-1135) |
| SCC | 7 (5-9) | 81 (55-114) | 1095 (780-1416) | 6 (4-7) | 44 (30-63) | 686 (487-88I) |
| Skin/subcutaneous disease | 37935 (36 698-39 160) | 44430 (42 958-46 024) | 17 (16-19) | 36357 (35 228-37 497) | 37898 (36 776-39 096) | 4 (4-5) |
| Acne vulgaris | 1461 (1340-1597) | 1655 (1532-1797) | 13 (9-17) | 1607 (1460-1780) | 2193 (2016-2415) | 37 (31-42) |
| Alopecia areata | 731 (706-757) | 724 (701-750) | -1 (-2 to 0) | 667 (644-690) | 665 (643-689) | 0 (0-0) |
| Bacterial skin disease | 4425 (4236-4618) | 4816 (4597-5029) | 9 (6-11) | 4386 (4203-4575) | 444I (4246-4626) | 1 (-1 to 3) |
| Cellulitis | 3080 (2892-3268) | 3480 (3263-3692) | 13 (9-17) | 2958 (2781-3138) | 3008 (2814-3192) | 2 (-1 to 4) |
| Pyoderma | 1345 (1306-1383) | 1337 (1301-1373) | -1 (-2 to 1) | 1428 (1387-1473) | 1432 (1391-1478) | 0 ( -2 to 2 ) |
| Decubitus ulcer | 122 (107-140) | 203 (178-237) | 66 (56-77) | 102 (91-116) | 109 (96-126) | 6 (0 to 12) |
| Dermatitis | 6571 (5905-7249) | 6917 (6233-7600) | 5 (2-9) | 6227 (5587-6897) | 6230 (5583-6903) | 0 (0 to 0) |
| Atopic | 437 (412-46\|) | 425 (404-449) | -3 (-6 to I) | 488 (456-520) | 490 (459-524) | 0 (-3 to 5) |
| Contact | 5333 (4642-6008) | 5684 (5002-6394) | 7 (3-11) | 4964 (4314-5634) | 4965 (4314-5631) | 0 (0-0) |
| Seborrheic | 803 (744-859) | 808 (755-862) | 1 (-1 to 3) | 775 (718-829) | 775 (719-830) | 0 (0-0) |
| Fungal skin diseases | 9505 (8534-10 508) | 11539 (10 253-12 805) | 21 (17-26) | 8758 (7913-9619) | 8481 (7628-9361) | -3 (-4 to -2) |
| Other ${ }^{\text {a }}$ | 9905 (9654-10 163) | 13613 (13 252-13 997) | 37 (35-40) | 8939 (8707-9169) | 10100 (9852-10 363) | 13 (11-15) |
| Pruritus | 625 (551-711) | 721 (635-823) | 15 (10-21) | 582 (514-656) | 596 (527-675) | 2 (-1 to 5) |
| Psoriasis | 192 (185-199) | 225 (217-233) | 17 (14-20) | 188 (182-195) | 215 (208-222) | 14 (12-17) |
| Scabies | 1373 (1204-1570) | 1242 (1102-1405) | -9 (-13 to -6) | 1476 (1286-1704) | 1445 (1256-1660) | -2 (-5 to 1) |
| Urticaria | 1480 (1308-1675) | 1390 (1235-1574) | -6 (-8 to -3) | 1595 (1395-1818) | 1595 (1395-1819) | 0 (0-0) |
| Viral skin diseases | 1546 (1482-161 $)$ | 1384 (1330-1440) | $-11(-11$ to -10$)$ | 1829 (1743-1915) | 1829 (1742-1914) | 0 (0-0) |

[^2]Table 2. All-Age and Age-Standardized Prevalence Rates Per 100000 for Skin and Subcutaneous Disease in Canada in 1990 and 2017 and and Cumulative Percentage Changes for 1990-2017 for Both Sexes Combined.

|  | All-age prevalence rate (per 100000 ) (95\% Ul) |  |  | Age-standardized prevalence rate (per 100000 ) (95\% UI) |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | 1990 | 2017 | \% change | 1990 | 2017 | \% change |
| All skin disease | 26794 (26 385-27 256) | 30590 (30 019-31 156) | 14 | 26591 (26 121-27 058) | 28593 (28049-29 106) | 8 |
| Melanoma | 83 (63-107) | 184 (134-225) | 120 (84-154) | 72 (54-91) | 130 (96-160) | 81 (53-108) |
| Keratinocyte carcinoma | 5 (4-7) | 103 (71-139) | 1830 (1218-2774) | 4 (3-6) | 54 (37-74) | 1147 (749-1751) |
| BCC | $1(1-2)$ | 12 (6-20) | 1086 (657-1512) | 1 (1-2) | 7 (3-12) | 724 (426-1022) |
| SCC | 8 (6-10) | 99 (66-134) | 1180 (823-1584) | 6 (5-9) | 53 (36-73) | 729 (507-986) |
| Skin/subcutaneous disease | 26705 (26 259-27 142) | 30304 (29 815-30 792) | 13 (12-15) | 26515 (26064-26 961) | 28409 (27 917-28 872) | 7 (6-8) |
| Acne vulgaris | 3124 (2907-3348) | 3492 (3271-3737) | 12 (8-16) | 3310 (3061-3579) | 4317 (4099-4775) | 33 (28-39) |
| Alopecia areata | 415 (400-429) | 412 (400-427) | -1 (-1 to 0) | 377 (364-390) | 376 (363-389) | 0 (-2-3) |
| Bacterial skin disease | 176 (164-188) | 191 (178-204) | 8 (0-18) | 177 (164-190) | 180 (168-193) | 2 (-7 to 11) |
| Cellulitis | 116 (109-124) | 131 (123-139) | 13 (9-17) | 111 (104-119) | 114 (106-121) | 2 (-1 to 5) |
| Pyoderma | 65 (63-67) | 65 (64-67) | 0 ( -2 to 2) | 70 (68-72) | 71 (69-73) | 2 (0-4) |
| Decubitus ulcer | 33 (29-38) | 55 (48-64) | 67 (57-78) | 28 (24-31) | 30 (26-34) | 7 (0-13) |
| Dermatitis | 7385 (7046-7730) | 7288 (6951-7648) | -1 (-3 to ) | 7880 (7548-8225) | 7898 (7563-8257) | 0 ( -2 to 3 ) |
| Atopic | 4718 (4548-4916) | 4409 (4250-4575) | -7 (-9 to -4) | 5399 (5183-5638) | 5416 (5188-5655) | 0 ( -2 to 3) |
| Contact | 2353 (2066-2659) | 2513 (2198-2864) | 7 (3-11) | 2215 (1945-2515) | 2216 (1946-2515) | 0 (0-0) |
| Seborrheic | 480 (447-514) | 537 (502-575) | 12 (10-14) | 440 (409-470) | 441 (411-471) | 0 (0-0) |
| Fungal skin diseases | 2706 (2416-2995) | 3259 (2906-3642) | 20 (16-24) | 2504 (2251-2771) | 2417 (2162-2681) | -3 (-4 to -3) |
| Other ${ }^{\text {a }}$ | 9549 (9303-9806) | 13135 (12789-13 508) | 38 (35-40) | 8597 (8375-8816) | 9709 (9465-9963) | 13 (11-15) |
| Pruritus | 805 (721-920) | 926 (820-1050) | 15 (9-21) | 744 (666-846) | 764 (685-865) | 3 (-1 to 7) |
| Psoriasis | 2446 (2361-2526) | 3140 (3030-3249) | 28 (26-31) | 2271 (2195-2348) | 2662 (2577-2747) | 17 (15-20) |
| Scabies | 462 (401-531) | 418 (367-479) | $-10(-13$ to -6$)$ | 495 (429-573) | 485 (420-561) | -2 (-5 to I) |
| Urticaria | 843 (740-962) | 794 (701-904) | -6 (-8 to -3) | 907 (794-1035) | 906 (793-1035) | 0 (0-0) |
| Viral skin diseases | 2752 (2662-2846) | 2523 (2446-2604) | -8 (-9 to -8) | 3085 (2981-3199) | 3085 (2981-3199) | 0 (0-0) |

[^3]Table 3. All-Age Death Counts and Age-Standardized Death Rates Per 100000 for Skin and Subcutaneous Disease in Canada in 1990 and 2017 and and Cumulative Percentage Changes for 1990-2017 for Both Sexes Combined.

|  | All-age deaths (count) (95\% UI) |  |  | Age-standardized death rate (per 100000 ( $95 \% \mathrm{UI}$ ) |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | 1990 | 2017 | \% Change | 1990 | 2017 | \% Change |
| All skin disease | 969 (797-1287) | 2281 (1597-2684) | 136 | 4 (3-6) | 5 (3-6) | 18 |
| Melanoma | 562 (455-771) | 1118 (790-1328) | 99 (44-126) | 2 (1-2) | 2 (1-2) | 3 (-24 to 17) |
| SCC | 261 (251-27I) | 639 (594-690) | 145 (125-167) | 0.8 (0.8-0.8) | 0.9 (0.8-0.9) | 10 (1-20) |
| Skin/subcutaneous disease | 146 (91-245) | 525 (213-666) | 259 (94-385) | 0.4 (0.3-0.7) | 0.7 (0.3-0.9) | $57(-13$ to 110$)$ |
| Bacterial skin disease | 91 (62-178) | 430 (159-556) | 374 (108-634) | 0.3 (0.2-0.5) | 0.6 (0.2-0.8) | 110 (-7 to 218) |
| Cellulitis | 40 (24-79) | 218 (70-297) | 440 (120-763) | 0.1 (0.1-0.2) | 0.3 (0.1-0.4) | 140 (-1 to 279) |
| Pyoderma | 50 (32-106) | 213 (77-306) | 321 (85-579) | 0.2 (0.1-0.3) | 0.3 (0.1-0.4) | 85 (-16 to 192) |
| Decubitus ulcer | 42 (16-71) | 61 (27-123) | 44 (7-135) | 0.1 (0.1-0.2) | 0.1 (0.0-0.2) | -40 (-55 to -4) |
| Other ${ }^{\text {a }}$ | 13 (5-20) | 33 (10-48) | 152 (62-230) | 0.04 (0.02-0.1) | 0.05 (0.02-0.1) | 11 (-22 to 45) |

Abbreviations: SCC, squamous cell carcinoma; UI, uncertainity interval.
${ }^{\text {a }}$ Other refers to other skin and subcutaneous disease.

## Years Lived with Disability

From 1990 to 2017, age-standardized YLD rates for all 18 skin and subcutaneous diseases increased by $8 \%$ to 897 per 100000 ( $95 \%$ UI 616-1235). These are summarized in Table 5 and subcategorized by sex in supplemental Tables S9 and S10. Since 1990, keratinocyte carcinomas had the largest increase in YLD rates by $673 \%$ ( $459 \%-938 \%$ ) to 2 per 100 000 (1-4). In 2017, in Canada, skin and subcutaneous diseases, including skin cancer, were responsible for 318029 YLDs (222 690-437 915) or 7\% of all-cause YLDs. In 2017, psoriasis was responsible for the largest number of YLDs (97 046 [68 760-127 164]) followed by atopic dermatitis (69 065 [37 470-114 020]), an increase of $68 \%$ ( $61 \%-76 \%$ ) and $22 \%$ (18\%-27\%), respectively, since 1990. Age-standardized YLD trends from 1990 to 2017 were mostly similar across skin conditions between males and females, though males had a larger increase of $735 \%$ ( $449 \%-1165 \%$ ) in YLD rate for squamous cell carcinomas (3 per 100000 [2-6])
compared with an increase of 553\% (338\%-871\%) in females (2 per 100000 [1-3]).

## Disability-Adjusted Life Years

From 1990 to 2017, age-standardized DALY rates for all skin and subcutaneous diseases increased by $8 \%$ to 971 per 100 $000(95 \%$ UI 645-1320) and are summarized in Table 6 and subcategorized by sex in supplemental Tables S11 and S12. Figure 1 presents DALY rates for specific age groups with separate estimates for females and males in supplemental Figures S1 and S2, respectively. In Canada, all skin diseases were responsible for 360156 all-age DALYs in 2017 (256 470-485 451), or 4\% of all-cause all-age DALYs, an increase of $15 \%$ since 1990. In 2017, psoriasis was responsible for the most all-age DALYs at 97046 (68 760-127 164). Basal cell carcinoma had the greatest percentage increase in total allage DALYs from 1990 to 2017 by $1410 \%$ ( $781 \%-2191 \%$ ),

Table 4. All-Age YLL Counts and Age-Standardized YLL Rates Per 100000 for Skin and Subcutaneous Disease in Canada in 1990 and 2017 and and Cumulative Percentage Changes for 1990-2017 for Both Sexes Combined.

|  | All-age YLLs (count) (95\% UI) |  |  | Age-standardized YLL rate (per 100000 ( $95 \%$ UI) |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | 1990 | 2017 | \% Change | 1990 | 2017 | \% Change |
| All skin disease | 22737 (18 252-29 874) | 42127 (30 346-50 573) | 85 | 71 (57-94) | 74 (53-89) | 4 |
| Melanoma | 15401 (11 964-20 181) | 25333 (18 284-30 861) | 64 (29-83) | 48 (37-63) | 47 (34-57) | -4 (-24 to 6) |
| SCC | 4805 (4607-5009) | 9482 (8716-10 310) | 97 (81-115) | 15 (14-15) | 15 (14-16) | 0 (-8 to 9) |
| Skin/subcutaneous disease | 2532 (1681-4684) | 7312 (3345-9403) | 189 (63-292) | 8 (5-15) | 12 (6-16) | 54 (-12 to 107) |
| Bacterial skin disease | 1692 (1232-3532) | 6178 (2627-7888) | 265 (72-459) | 5 (4-II) | 10 (5-14) | 93 (-9 to 192) |
| Cellulitis | 756 (474-1589) | 3246 (1159-4344) | 329 (84-592) | 2 (2-5) | 5 (2-7) | 125 (-3 to 257) |
| Pyoderma | 935 (605-2091) | 2931 (1198-4280) | 213 (54-392) | 3 (2-7) | 5 (2-8) | 67 (-16 to 155) |
| Decubitus ulcer | 588 (241-999) | 671 (317-1315) | 14 (-15-78) | 3 (0.8-3) | 1 (0.6-2) | -39 (-54 to -6) |
| Other ${ }^{\text {a }}$ | 252 (112-416) | 463 (173-730) | 84 (25-135) | 0.8 (0.4-I) | 0.9 (0.4-1) | 5 (-21 to 35) |

Abbreviations: SCC, squamous cell carcinoma; UI, uncertainity interval; YLL, years of life lost.
${ }^{\text {a }}$ Other refers to other skin and subcutaneous disease.
Table 5. All-Age YLD Counts and Age-Standardized YLD Rates Per 100000 for Skin and Subcutaneous Disease in Canada in 1990 and 2017 and and Cumulative Percentage Changes for 1990-2017 for Both Sexes Combined.

|  | All-age YLDs (count) (95\% UI) |  |  | Age-standardized YLD rate (per 100000 ) $95 \% \mathrm{Ul}$ ) |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | 1990 | 2017 | \% Change | 1990 | 2017 | \% Change |
| All skin disease | 219304 (151 133-301 250) | 318029 (222 690-437915) | 45 | 828 (565-1154) | 897 (616-1235) | 8 |
| Melanoma | 1374 (874-2024) | 3853 (2384-5776) | 180 (127-228) | 4 (3-6) | 7 (5-11) | 73 (42-102) |
| Keratinocyte carcinoma | 98 (59-160) | 1527 (873-2502) | 1456 (995-2015) | 0.3 (0.2-0) | 2 (1-4) | 673 (459-938) |
| BCC | 1 (0.4-3) | 17 (6-41) | 1410 (781-2191) | 0.003 (0.001-0.009) | 0.03 (0.01-0.1) | 701 (374-1087) |
| SCC | 97 (58-159) | 1510 (863-2481) | 1456 (992-202 ) | 0.3 (0.2-0.5) | 2 (1-4) | 673 (455-941) |
| Skin/subcutaneous disease | 217832 (150 200-299 066) | 312649 (219 433-429 637) | 44 (40-48) | 824 (562-1147) | 888 (610-1220) | 8 (5-10) |
| Acne vulgaris | 18139 (10 922-29 253) | 26736 (16 \|12-42 872) | 47 (38-57) | 71 (42-114) | 94 (57-152) | 33 (25-42) |
| Alopecia areata | 3684 (2334-5512) | 4819 (3083-7146) | 31 (22-40) | 12 (8-18) | 12 (8-18) | 0 (-7 to 8) |
| Bacterial skin disease | 1860 (1228-2625) | 2736 (1808-3900) | 47 (30-66) | 7 (4-9) | 7 (4-10) | 2 (-11 to 16) |
| Cellulitis | 1760 (1170-2494) | 2603 (1714-3678) | 48 (30-68) | 6 (4-9) | 6 (4-9) | 2 (-12 to 17) |
| Pyoderma | 101 (40-210) | 132 (53-279) | 31 (15-50) | 0.4 (0.2-0.8) | 0.4 (0.2-0.9) | $1(-12$ to 17) |
| Decubitus ulcer | 1386 (956-1890) | 3019 (2057-4151) | 118 (87-154) | 4 (3-6) | 5 (3-6) | 7 (-6 to 23) |
| Dermatitis | 74226 (44 188-115 828) | 94069 (56 348-146 852) | 27 (23-31) | 300 (176-471) | 301 (175-472) | 0 ( -3 to 4) |
| Atopic | 56433 (30 273-93 327) | 69065 (37 470-114020) | 22 (18-27) | 238 (129-396) | 239 (129-399) | 0 (-4 to 5) |
| Contact | 16036 (10 458-23 586) | 22426 (14727-32 773) | 40 (31-49) | 56 (36-82) | 56 (36-83) | 0 (-4 to 5) |
| Seborrheic | 1757 (1004-2732) | 2577 (1451-4075) | 47 (37-57) | 6 (3-9) | 6 (3-9) | 0 (-6 to 7 ) |
| Fungal skin diseases | 4081 (1656-8414) | 6419 (2598-13 221) | 57 (51-64) | 14 (6-29) | 13 (6-28) | -4 (-6 to -1) |
| Other ${ }^{\text {a }}$ | 14212 (6773-26 021) | 25649 (12 371-47 427) | 80 (77-84) | 47 (22-87) | 53 (26-99) | 13 (11-15) |
| Pruritus | 2326 (1095-4383) | 3513 (1670-6585) | 51 (42-61) | 8 (4-15) | 8 (4-16) | 3 (-3 to 8) |
| Psoriasis | 57814 (40 867-76 088) | 97046 (68 760-127 164) | 68 (61-76) | 198 (140-262) | 232 (164-305) | 17 (12-23) |
| Scabies | 3251 (1802-5320) | 3863 (2139-6375) | 19 (12-27) | 13 (7-21) | 13 (7-20) | -2 (-8 to 4) |
| Urticaria | 13772 (9076-19 321) | 16994 (11 084-24 172) | 23 (16-31) | 55 (36-78) | 55 (36-78) | 0 (-6 to 6) |
| Viral skin diseases | 23081 (14 819-33 956) | 27787 (17919-40948) | 20 (17-25) | 95 (61-142) | 95 (61-141) | 0 ( -3 to 4) |

[^4]Table 6. All-Age DALY Counts and Age-Standardized DALY Rates Per 100000 for Skin and Subcutaneous Disease in Canada in 1990 and 2017 and and Cumulative Percentage Changes for 1990-2017 for Both Sexes Combined.

|  | All-age DALYs (count) (95\% UI) |  |  | Age-standardized DALY rate (per 100000 ) $95 \% \mathrm{UI}$ ) |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | 1990 | 2017 | \% Change | 1990 | 2017 | \% Change |
| All skin disease | 242042 (170 083-328 283) | 360156 (256 470-485 451) | 49 | 899 (626-1239) | 971 (674-1320) | 8 |
| Melanoma | 16775 (12 958-21 882) | 29187 (20 811-35 646) | 74 (37-93) | 53 (41-69) | 54 (39-68) | 2 (-17 to 13) |
| Keratinocyte carcinoma | 4903 (4706-51 10) | 11009 (9983-12 302) | 125 (104-150) | 15 (14-16) | 17 (16-19) | 14 (3-27) |
| BCC | 1 (0.4-3) | 17 (6-41) | 1410 (781-2191) | 0.004 (0.001-0.009) | 0.03 (0.01-0.1) | 701 (374-1087) |
| SCC | 4901 (4705-5108) | 10991 (9968-12 295) | 124 (103-150) | 15 (14-16) | 17 (16-19) | 14 (3-26) |
| Skin/subcutaneous disease | 220364 (152 419-301 292) | 319960 (225 675-437 503) | 45 (41-50) | 832 (571-1155) | 900 (619-1233) | 8 (6-11) |
| Acne vulgaris | 18139 (10922-29 253) | 26736 (16 \|12-42 872) | 47 (38-57) | 71 (42-114) | 94 (57-152) | 33 (25-42) |
| Alopecia areata | 3684 (2334-55 12) | 4819 (3083-7146) | 31 (22-40) | 12 (8-18) | 12 (8-18) | 0 (-7 to 8) |
| Bacterial skin disease | 3552 (2620-5468) | 8913 (5116-11 291) | 151 (59-244) | 12 (9-18) | 17 (11-22) | 43 (-4 to 88) |
| Cellulitis | 2516 (1807-3531) | 5850 (3447-7697) | 133 (56-216) | 9 (6-12) | 12 (7-16) | 36 (-1 to 75) |
| Pyoderma | 1036 (693-2169) | 3064 (12 830-4380) | 196 (52-352) | 3 (2-7) | 6 (2-8) | 60 (-15 to 136) |
| Decubitus ulcer | 1974 (1437-2590) | 3689 (2653-4975) | 87 (58-120) | 6 (4-8) | 6 (4-8) | -7 (-20 to 9) |
| Dermatitis | 74226 (44 188-115 828) | 94069 (56 348-146 852) | 27 (23-31) | 300 (176-471) | 301 (175-472) | 0 (-3 to 4) |
| Atopic | 56433 (30 273-93 327) | 69066 (37 470-114 020) | 22 (18-27) | 238 (129-397) | 239 (129-399) | 0 (-4 to 5) |
| Contact | 16036 (10 458-23 586) | 22426 (14727-32 773) | 40 (31-49) | 56 (36-82) | 56 (36-83) | 0 (-4 to 5) |
| Seborrheic | 1757 (1004-2733) | 2579 (1451-4075) | 47 (37-57) | 6 (3-9) | 6 (3-9) | 0 (-6 to 7) |
| Fungal skin diseases | 4081 (1656-8414) | 6419 (2598-13 221) | 57 (51-64) | 14 (6-29) | 13 (6-28) | -4 (-6 to -1) |
| Other ${ }^{\text {a }}$ | 14464 (7113-26 269) | 26112 (12 893-47 852) | 81 (77-85) | 48 (24-87) | 54 (27-99) | 13 (10-15) |
| Pruritus | 2327 (1095-4383) | 3513 (1670-6585) | 51 (42-61) | 8 (4-15) | 8 (4-16) | 3 (-3 to 8) |
| Psoriasis | 57814 (40 867-76 088) | 97046 (68 760-127 164) | 68 (61-76) | 198 (140-262) | 232 (164-305) | 17 (12 to 23) |
| Scabies | 3251 (1802-5320) | 3863 (2139-6375) | 19 (12-27) | 13 (7-21) | 13 (7-20) | -2 (-8 to 4) |
| Urticaria | 13772 (9076-19 321) | 16994 (11 084-24 172) | 23 (16-31) | 55 (36-78) | 55 (36-78) | 0 (-6 to 6) |
| Viral skin diseases | 23081 (14819-33 956) | 27787 (17919-40 948) | 20 (17-25) | 95 (61-142) | 95 (61-141) | 0 (-3 to 4) |

[^5]

Figure I. Disability-adjusted life year (DALY) rates (per 100000 ) for 18 skin diseases in Canada in 20I7. BCC, basal cell carcinoma; SCC, squamous cell carcinoma.
from $1(0.4-3)$ to 17 (6-41). There is a higher overall agestandardized burden of melanoma in males ( 67 per 100000 [35-87]) relative to females (43 per 100000 [31-60]) that has remained stable since 1990. The age-standardized DALY rate for melanoma remained relatively stable at 54 per 100 000 (39-68), increased for keratinocyte carcinoma by $14 \%$ (3\%-27\%) to 17 per 100000 (16-19), and increased for skin and subcutaneous disease by $8 \%(6 \%-11 \%)$ to 900 per 100 000 (619-1233). Age-standardized DALY rates for keratinocyte carcinomas increased by $47 \%$ ( $23 \%-78 \%$ ) in females to 6 per $100000(5-8)$ but remained relatively stable in males at 29 per $100000(26-33)$ and appears to be largely due to a $46 \%(23 \%-77 \%)$ increase in squamous cell carcinoma rates in females to 6 per $100000(5-8)$ that is not seen in males. However, the overall burden of keratinocyte carcinoma is still higher in males than in females. Finally, there is a somewhat higher overall burden of nonmalignant skin and subcutaneous disease in females (1001 per 100000 [687-1377]) compared with males ( 801 per 100000 [552-1098]) with increases of $8 \%(5 \%-12 \%)$ since 1990 in both sexes.

## Observed Over Expected

The O/E ratios for 1990 and 2017 are presented in Table 7; supplemental Tables S13 and S14 are based on age-standardized DALY rates for each disease. In 2017, Canada had more DALYs than expected for keratinocyte carcinoma (O/E: 1.17) and overall skin and subcutaneous diseases (O/E: 1.37). For melanoma, Canada had a lower burden compared with expected (O/E: 0.73). The overall higher burden of skin disease compared with expected is explained in part by chronic
inflammatory skin diseases including atopic dermatitis (O/E: 1.33 ) and psoriasis ( $\mathrm{O} / \mathrm{E}: 1.73$ ). Findings were fairly consistent for males and females, with the exception that males had a lower burden from basal cell carcinoma than expected (O/E: 0.75 ) whereas it was higher for females ( $\mathrm{O} / \mathrm{E}: 1.38$ ).

## Discussion

The present study is the first to comprehensively report on the burden of 18 skin diseases in Canada. These results can be used to inform resource allocation and health systems responses to skin disease in Canada. We report an overall increase in the burden of all skin diseases since 1990. ${ }^{20}$ All-age total DALYs for all skin diseases (including skin cancers) account for $4 \%$ of DALYs in Canada. This places skin diseases 10th among all causes of DALYs in Canada, behind neoplasms, cardiovascular disease, and diabetes, and ahead of substance use disorders and digestive diseases. Skin and subcutaneous diseases, including skin cancers, are the eighth leading cause of age-standardized DALY rates in Canada, behind substance use disorders and ahead of diabetes and kidney diseases and unintentional injuries. ${ }^{16}$

As noted above, the overall burden of skin and subcutaneous disease has been steadily increasing since 1990 possibly reflecting Canada's aging population. ${ }^{21}$ It is also possible that this increase is due to secular changes in surveillance, detection, and statistical recording of skin diseases, particularly skin cancer. ${ }^{22-24}$ Other factors may contribute to individual disease burdens such as antimicrobial resistance and sun safety behaviors. YLD rates have increased nearly sevenfold for
Table 7. O/E Ratios Based on Age-Standardized DALY Rates for Skin and Subcutaneous Diseases in Canada from 1990 to 2017 for Both Sexes Combined.

|  | 1990 |  |  | 2017 |  |  | \% Change for O/E |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Observed (95\% UI) | Expected | O/E | Observed (95\% UI) | Expected | O/E |  |
| Melanoma | 53 (41-69) | 51 | 1.03 | 54 (39-68) | 74 | 0.73 | -29 |
| Keratinocyte carcinoma | 15 (14-16) | 16 | 0.91 | 17 (16-19) | 15 | 1.17 | 29 |
| BCC | 0.004 (0.001-0.009) | 0.02 | 0.17 | 0.03 (0.01-0.1) | 0.03 | 1.05 | 517 |
| SCC | 15 (14-16) | 16 | 0.91 | 17 (16-19) | 15 | 1.17 | 29 |
| Skin/subcutaneous disease | 832 (571-1155) | 643 | 1.29 | 900 (619-1233) | 657 | 1.37 | 6 |
| Acne vulgaris | 71 (42-114) | 59 | 1.20 | 94 (57-152) | 71 | 1.32 | 10 |
| Alopecia areata | 12 (8-18) | 9 | 1.43 | 12 (8-18) | 9 | 1.35 | -6 |
| Bacterial skin disease | 12 (9-18) | 13 | 0.95 | 17 (11-22) | 11 | 1.58 | 66 |
| Cellulitis | 9 (6-12) | 5 | 1.68 | 12 (7-16) | 5 | 2.41 | 44 |
| Pyoderma | 3 (2-7) | 8 | 0.46 | 6 (2-8) | 6 | 0.91 | 98 |
| Decubitus ulcer | 6 (4-8) | 6 | 0.97 | 6 (4-8) | 6 | 0.95 | -2 |
| Dermatitis | 300 (176-471) | 206 | 1.46 | 301 (175-472) | 209 | 1.44 | -1 |
| Atopic | 238 (129-397) | 177 | 1.35 | 239 (129-399) | 179 | 1.33 | -2 |
| Contact | 56 (36-82) | 29 | 1.94 | 56 (36-83) | 29 | 1.95 | 1 |
| Seborrheic | 6 (3-9) | 1 | 8.76 | 6 (3-9) | 1 | 6.35 | -28 |
| Fungal skin diseases | 14 (6-29) | 46 | 0.30 | 13 (6-28) | 41 | 0.33 | 10 |
| Other ${ }^{\text {a }}$ | 48 (24-87) | 49 | 0.99 | 54 (27-99) | 50 | 1.09 | 10 |
| Pruritus | 8 (4-15) | 10 | 0.83 | 8 (4-16) | 9 | 0.94 | 13 |
| Psoriasis | 198 (140-262) | 110 | 1.80 | 232 (164-305) | 130 | 1.78 | -1 |
| Scabies | 13 (7-21) | 12 | 1.03 | 13 (7-20) | 6 | 2.04 | 98 |
| Urticaria | 55 (36-78) | 62 | 0.88 | 55 (36-78) | 54 | 1.02 | 16 |
| Viral skin diseases | 95 (61-142) | 61 | 1.55 | 95 (61-141) | 61 | 1.55 | 0 |

Abbreviations: BCC , basal cell carcinoma; DALY, disability-adjusted life year; O/E, observed over expected; SCC , squamous cell carcinoma; UI, uncertainity interval.
${ }^{\text {a }}$ Other refers to other skin and subcutaneous disease.
keratinocyte carcinoma, with smaller increases for skin and subcutaneous diseases. The largest relative increase in death rate is attributable to bacterial skin diseases such as pyoderma and cellulitis possibly due to an immunologically weaker and aging population with more comorbidities ${ }^{25}$ as well as antibiotic misuse and resistance. ${ }^{26,27}$ As populations age, outcomes of nonfatal diseases are slowly becoming a larger component of the global burden of disease. Decreased mortality rates for most of the 359 diseases studied in GBD 2017 have not been matched with a similar decline in age-standardized YLD rates, likely due to a global aging population. ${ }^{20}$

While incidence and prevalence rates for all skin diseases have modestly increased, rates for keratinocyte carcinomas have increased eightfold to 11 -fold since 1990 and have increased by $68 \%$ ( $39 \%-93 \%$ ) and $81 \%$ ( $53 \%-108 \%$ ) for melanoma, respectively. The reason for this disproportionately large increase in the burden of keratinocyte carcinomas in Canada is likely multifactorial. The GBD 2017 cancer study found keratinocyte carcinomas to be the leading global cause of cancer in 2017, with an increase in incident cases of $33 \%$ over the past decade- $20 \%$ of which is attributable to a change in the population age structure and $13 \%$ to population growth. ${ }^{28}$ The much larger increase in incidence and burden in Canada may also be due to changes in data sources and increased detection and surveillance. ${ }^{22,23}$ The approximately equal incidence of basal cell carcinoma and squamous cell carcinoma seen in our study is compatible with recent estimates from the United States. ${ }^{29,30}$

There was a higher overall burden of skin cancers in males and a higher burden of nonmalignant skin and subcutaneous disease in females. The sex differences in keratinocyte carcinoma burden are likely multifactorial and could be related to sun safety behaviors, ${ }^{31}$ health resource utilization, ${ }^{32-34}$ and tumor stage at presentation. ${ }^{34,35}$

Some of the trends in our data are comparable to those in other populations. Age-standardized malignant melanoma incidence rates in light-skinned individuals in the United States, Sweden, Australia, New Zealand, Norway, and the United Kingdom have been steadily increasing by 3\% each year from 1982 to 2011 and are projected to increase through 2031. ${ }^{36}$ Since 1990, age-standardized melanoma incidence rates have increased by $40 \%-68 \%$ in the United States, Canada, and Australia. ${ }^{16}$ Age-standardized keratinocyte carcinoma incidence rates have increased in Canada by 748\% (546\%-944\%) and in the United States by $15 \%(-10 \%$ to $59 \%)$, while rates have decreased in Australia by $20 \%$ ( $-4 \%$ to $36 \%$ ), though the incidence rates of all skin cancers in Australia are much higher overall ${ }^{16}$ possibly due to differences in climate and therefore time spent outdoors without sun protection. It is unclear why keratinocyte carcinoma incidence rates have increased so dramatically in Canada compared with other high-income nations, as Canadian and Australian populations are aging at similar rates. ${ }^{37}$

## Limitations

GBD does not collect subnational data for Canada; provincial, territorial, and regional estimates would be beneficial to fully understand the skin and subcutaneous disease burden in Canada, as there is variability in disease and risk factor estimates across Canada, and there have been changes in data collection methods over time which may impact the results. ${ }^{38,39}$ It would also be beneficial for future iterations of the GBD to include different categories of skin disease, such as acute vs. chronic urticaria and wounds/ulcers. The 2017 estimates do not use current vital statistics due to the lag time in the release of reported data, and the DALY metric for skin diseases does not consider disability from related systemsfor example, mental health comorbidity in atopic dermatitis. ${ }^{40-43}$ Misclassification of disease is possible, particularly when relying on administrative coding of diagnoses. Future iterations of GBD ought to disaggregate DALYs and YLLs attributable to differences in latitude and sunlight exposure.

## Conclusion and Future Directions

The disease, including skin cancer, has been steadily increasing in Canada since 1990 and is responsible for 4\% of DALYs nationally. Incidence rates have significantly increased since 1990, especially for keratinocyte carcinomas and melanoma. Subnational estimates of the burden of skin disease in future GBD iterations may give more targeted estimates. While our study cannot determine the causes of the temporal changes observed, Canada's aging population likely plays a major role. This data can be used to inform government policy and advocacy initiatives that aim to reduce the burden of skin disease in Canada, particularly targeting sun-protection practices, early diagnosis, and public education.

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## Supplemental Material

Supplemental material for this article is available online.

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[^2]:    Abbreviations: BCC, basal cell carcinoma; SCC, squamous cell carcinoma.
    a'Other refers to other skin and subcutaneous disease.

[^3]:    Abbreviations: BCC , basal cell carcinoma; SCC, squamous cell carcinoma.
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[^4]:    Abbreviations: BCC, basal cell carcinoma; SCC, squamous cell carcinoma; $U \|$, uncertainity interval; $Y L D$, years lived with disability.
    "'Other refers to other skin and subcutaneous disease.

[^5]:    Abbreviations: BCC, basal cell carcinoma; DALY, disability-adjusted life year; SCC, squamous cell carcinoma; UI, uncertainity interval.
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