



# National Health Expenditure Trends, 1975 to 2016

*National Health Expenditure Trends, 1975 to 2016* — the Canadian Institute for Health Information's 20th annual health expenditure trends publication — provides detailed, updated information on health expenditure in Canada.

### **Total health expenditure expected to reach \$228.1 billion or \$6,299 per Canadian in 2016**

- It is anticipated that, overall, health expenditure will represent 11.1% of Canada's gross domestic product (GDP) in 2016, a share that is down from its peak in 2010. The current trend, viewed in the context of the last 40+ years, appears similar to that experienced in the mid-1990s.

### **Since 2010, the rate of growth in health spending has barely kept pace with the rates of inflation and population growth combined**

- Since 2010, health spending per capita has decreased in real terms by an average of 0.1% per year, similar to the rate experienced during the mid-1990s. It reflects, in large part, Canada's modest economic growth and fiscal restraint as governments focus on balancing budgetary deficits.

### **Provincial/territorial per capita health expenditures vary**

- In 2016, total health expenditure per capita is expected to range from \$7,256 in Newfoundland and Labrador and \$7,120 in Manitoba to \$6,144 in Ontario and \$5,822 in Quebec.

### **Canada's per capita health care spending among the highest internationally**

- Among 35 countries in the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) in 2014, the latest year for which comparable data is available, spending per person on health care remained highest in the United States (CA\$11,126). Canada's per capita spending on health care was among the highest internationally, at CA\$5,543 — less than the Netherlands' (CA\$6,505) and more than France's (CA\$5,384), Australia's (CA\$5,187) and the United Kingdom's (CA\$4,896).

### **Hospitals, drugs and physicians are the 3 largest categories of spending**

- Hospitals (29.5%), drugs (16.0%) and physician services (15.3%) continued to account for the largest shares of health dollars (more than 60% of total health spending) in 2014, the latest year of actual expenditure data available. Although spending continued to grow in all 3 categories, the pace has slowed in recent years across provinces and territories.
- Since 2005, physician spending as a share of total health care spending has increased. The share in 2014 (15.3%) had recovered to levels comparable to those in the late 1980s.

