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3 **Assessment of the burden of diseases and injuries attributable to risk factors in Canada**
4
5 **from 1990 to 2016**
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7 Samiah Alam* MSc^{1,2}, Leah E Cahill* RD PhD^{1,3}, Justin J. Lang PhD⁴, Aaron M. Drucker MD
8 ScM^{5,6}, Carolyn Gotay PhD⁷, Nicole Kozloff MD SM^{8,9}, Kedar Mate PhD¹⁰, Scott B. Patten MD
9 PhD¹¹, Heather M. Orpana PhD^{4,12} and Ashkan Afshin MD ScD¹³

10 *Co-first Authors
11

12
13 ¹Department of Medicine, Dalhousie University, Halifax, NS, Canada

14 ²Department of Community Health and Epidemiology, Dalhousie University, Halifax, NS,
15 Canada

16 ³Department of Nutrition, Harvard T. H. Chan School of Public Health, Boston MS, USA

17 ⁴Centre for Surveillance and Applied Research, Health Promotion and Chronic Disease
18 Prevention Branch, Public Health Agency of Canada, Ottawa, ON, Canada.

19 ⁵Division of Dermatology, Department of Medicine, University of Toronto and Women's
20 College Hospital and Women's College Research Institute, Toronto, ON, Canada.

21 ⁶Department of Dermatology, Warren Alpert Medical School, Brown University, Providence, RI,
22 USA

23 ⁷Centre of Excellence in Cancer Prevention, Faculty of Medicine, School of Population and
24 Public Health, The University of British Columbia, Vancouver, BC, Canada.

25 ⁸Centre for Addiction and Mental Health, Toronto, ON, Canada

26 ⁹Department of Psychiatry, University of Toronto, Toronto, ON, Canada

27 ¹⁰School of Physical and Occupational Therapy, McGill University, Montreal, QC, Canada.

28 ¹¹Departments of Community Health Sciences and Psychiatry, University of Calgary, Calgary,
29 AB, Canada.

30 ¹²School of Psychology, University of Ottawa, Ottawa, ON, Canada

31 ¹³Institute for Health Metrics and Evaluation, Seattle, WA, USA
32

33
34 **Corresponding author:** Leah Cahill, Department of Medicine, Dalhousie University, 5790
35 University Ave, Halifax NS, Canada, B3H 1V7. Email: leah.cahill@dal.ca.
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ABSTRACT

Background: An understanding of the risk factors contributing to significant health issues in Canada is critical for informing national health policy.

Methods: We conducted a systematic analysis of the epidemiology describing disease states and injuries in relation to risk factors in Canada as part of the Global Burden of Disease study. Disease burden (metrics were disability-adjusted life years [DALYs, “healthy years of life lost”], total deaths, and years lived with disability [YLDs]) attributable to each metabolic, environmental, and behavioural risk factor was determined and ranked for the year 2016, with further examination of changes over time from 1990 to 2016.

Results: In 2016, for all Canadians combined, the risk factors accounting for the largest percentage of DALYs were (1) tobacco, (2) diet, (3) high body-mass index (BMI), (4) high fasting plasma glucose (FPG), (5) high systolic blood pressure, (6) alcohol and drug use, (7) occupational risks, (8) high total cholesterol, (9) impaired kidney function, and (10) air pollution. Rankings of the top risk factor rates remained similar from 1990 to 2016 despite some substantial declines in the burden attributable to these risks, including a 47% decline in the age-standardized DALY rate attributable to tobacco since 1990. Risk factors with increasing contribution to DALY rates from 1990 to 2016 include high BMI, high FPG, and alcohol and drug use.

Interpretation: Metabolic and behavioural risk factors, including modifiable factors such as tobacco use and diet, remain the leading risk factors contributing to the burden of diseases and injuries in Canada since 1990.

22 INTRODUCTION

23 In Canada, modifiable behavioural factors such as smoking, diet, and physical activity are
24 major determinants of life expectancy,¹ indicating that actionable preventive strategies can lead
25 to improved health outcomes. An understanding of Canada's foremost health problems, their risk
26 factors, and how both are changing over time is crucial to inform national health policy and
27 programs. However, disease burden has traditionally been defined in terms of mortality alone,
28 which misses additional health burden, such as living with a disability. It is difficult for
29 policymakers and researchers to set priorities when disparate diseases and injuries affect
30 population health in diverse ways, and the measurement of their contributions to health burden is
31 not standardized. Therefore, an analysis that examines health loss from both disability and death
32 on the same scale in relation to attributable risk factors is warranted.

33 The Global Burden of Diseases, Injuries, and Risk Factors Study (GBD) is a systematic,
34 scientific effort to quantify the comparative magnitude of health loss due to disease, injuries, and
35 risk factors throughout the world to inform evidence-based policymaking.² In the GBD, the goal
36 is not just to measure which diseases or injuries cause death, but also to measure which diseases
37 and injuries prevent someone from living a productive, active, and full life.³

38 Worldwide, life expectancy is increasing, and the burden of disease is shifting from
39 infectious to chronic diseases; changes in the distribution of risk factors are one of the factors
40 driving this shift, especially among high-income countries.⁴ GBD estimates have recently been
41 summarized for some countries, including the US⁵ and the UK.⁶ However, the estimates for
42 Canada have not yet been similarly presented. The objective of this paper is to identify the
43 leading risk factors associated with the burden of diseases and injuries in Canada from 1990 to
44 2016.

45 **METHODS**

46 We examined GBD data for Canada from 1990 to 2016. The GBD study is led by the
47 Institute for Health Metrics and Evaluation (IHME) at the University of Washington with the
48 goal of systematically quantifying the global health loss due to diseases, injuries, and risk factors
49 to inform evidence-based policymaking.⁷ The key principles, methodologies, and assumptions of
50 the GBD study have been reported elsewhere;⁸⁻¹³ a brief overview of the strategy for comparative
51 risk assessment is provided below.

52 For each disease, injury, and risk factor, GBD estimates the relative risk and risk factor
53 exposure frequencies by collecting and analyzing a continuous stream of the most up-to-date
54 data available from over 20,000 randomized controlled trials, cohorts, household surveys, census
55 data, vital registration data, satellite data, and other resources.¹⁴ The GBD analytic team extracts
56 data into centralized databases to model specific diseases, injuries, and risk factors. The
57 Canadian data are pooled from over 600 sources of data, of which 133 were used for the risk
58 factors assessment (listed in **Supplementary Table 1**). Details of the statistical models used to
59 pool data, adjust for bias, and incorporate covariates have been published elsewhere.¹⁴ The GBD
60 study is compliant with the Guidelines for Accurate and Transparent Health Estimates Reporting
61 (GATHER), a set of guidelines that promote best practices in reporting health estimates.¹⁵
62 Figures are generated using the GBD Compare data visualization tool, which is publicly
63 available (<http://vizhub.healthdata.org/gbd-compare>).¹⁶ Burden estimates are accompanied by
64 95% uncertainty intervals that incorporate both sampling error and error from model estimation.

66 *Measurement of burden*

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3 67 This paper measures and reports health loss through three well-established metrics
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5 68 previously described:^{9,11} (1) a summation of premature death and disability (disability-adjusted
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7 69 life years [DALYs]); (2) death (total deaths); and (3) disability (years of life lived with disability
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9 70 [YLDs]¹⁷⁻¹⁹). One DALY is equivalent to one year of healthy life (free of disease, injury, or
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11 71 disability) lost.⁹
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17 73 *Selection of risk factors*

19 74 In the GBD study, a risk is an attribute, behaviour, exposure, or another factor causally
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21 75 associated with an increased probability of developing a disease or experiencing an injury. The
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23 76 GBD risk factors team evaluated 2,579 studies to establish causality for 481 risk-outcome pairs
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25 77 that met the World Cancer Research Fund evidence grading criteria for evidence¹⁵ that is
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27 78 biologically plausible and shows consistent associations between exposure and disease, with
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29 79 little or no evidence to the contrary. The primary sources of evidence were independent
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31 80 prospective studies, such as randomized controlled trials, non-randomized interventions, and
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33 81 cohort studies.¹⁵
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38 82 We used a comparative risk assessment (CRA) conceptual framework that employs a
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40 83 causal web in which the risks that are responsible for the health outcomes are organized into four
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42 84 hierarchical, mutually exclusive and collectively exhaustive levels.^{20,14} Level 1 includes three
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44 85 categories of risk factors (behavioural, environmental and occupational, and metabolic) that
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46 86 distribute into 17 Level 2 risk factors as either single risks or risk clusters (**Supplementary**
47
48 87 **Table 2**). While not included within the scope of this present paper, Levels 3 and 4 have 50 and
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50 88 67 risk factors, respectively.
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90 *Attributable burden estimation*

91 The calculation of attributable burden for a risk factor has four components: exposure
92 levels for the risk, the relative risk of a health outcome related to the risk exposure, a
93 counterfactual (in this case, optimal) level of risk factor exposure, and the burden metric
94 (DALYs, number of deaths, or YLDs).¹⁴ For example, to estimate the burden of diabetes due to
95 high body-mass index (BMI), the exposure level will be the mean, standard deviation, and shape
96 of BMI distribution by age, sex, country, and year. The relative risk is the incidence and
97 mortality due to diabetes per level increase in BMI. The counterfactual level of the risk factor
98 exposure is the optimal BMI exposure level that minimizes risk for everyone in the population,
99 called theoretical minimum risk exposure level (TMREL). These input data are used to estimate
100 the population attributable fraction (PAF), which is the proportion of the disease burden that
101 could have been prevented if the BMI was at the TMREL or optimal level. The PAF is then
102 multiplied by the disease-specific burden metric to obtain attributable disease burden for each
103 risk-outcome pair.

105 *Decomposition analysis*

106 To explain the drivers of our observed trends in Canada's risk-attributable disease and
107 injury burden, we conducted a decomposition analysis to examine the percentage change in
108 Canada's risk-attributable DALYs over time due to (1) population growth; (2) population aging;
109 (3) risk-deleted mortality rates (the expected mortality that would be observed if all risk factors
110 included in GBD 2016 were removed); and (4) exposure to all risk factors included in GBD
111 2016. Methods were based on those of Das Gupta²¹ and adapted for GBD as described
112 elsewhere.¹²

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114 RESULTS

115 In Canada 39.6% (36.9–42.3) of DALYs, 56.0% (53.6–58.2) of deaths, and 24.2% (22.7–
116 25.8) of YLDs could be attributed to risk factors assessed in 2016.

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118 *Top 10 risk factors for attributable DALYs*

119 In 2016, the 10 leading risk factors in Canada contributing to DALYs (% of total DALYs
120 [95% UI]) were tobacco (10.6% [9.4–11.9]), dietary risks (9.4% [7.7–11.2]), high BMI (9.0%
121 [6.2–11.8]), high FPG (7.3% [5.8–9.2]), high systolic blood pressure (SBP, 7.1% [6.0–8.2]),
122 alcohol and drug use (6.9% [5.8–8.1]), occupational risks (4.8% [4.4–5.3]), high total cholesterol
123 (3.7% [2.9–4.6]), impaired kidney function (2.1% [1.9–2.3]), and air pollution (1.3% [1.0–1.7])
124 (**Figure 1**). Women and men were similar in the leading risk factors related to DALYs, except
125 for alcohol and drug use (ranked higher for men) and high SBP (ranked higher for women).
126 Stratification by age group also revealed differences in risk factor attribution (Supplementary
127 Figures 7 and 8).

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129 *Top five risk factors for attributable deaths and YLDs*

130 In terms of total deaths in Canada, the five leading attributable risk factors (% of total
131 deaths [95% UI]) were dietary risks (17.6% [14.7–20.5]), tobacco (17.5% [16.6–18.5]), high
132 SBP (14.7% [12.3–17.2]), high FPG (11.2% [7.9–15.3]), and high BMI (10.8% [6.9–15.0])
133 (**Figure 2**). Dietary and tobacco risk factors were the largest contributors to deaths in Canada,
134 responsible for 47,947 (95% UI: 39,935–56,181) and 47,737 (44,704–51,114) deaths,

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2
3 135 respectively. High BMI was the top risk factor contributing to YLDs in Canada (7.3% [5.1–9.4]),
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5 136 followed by high FPG (5.5% [4.8–6.3]) and alcohol and drug use (5.4% [4.5–6.5]) (**Figure 3**).
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9 10 138 *Trends from 1990 to 2016 for DALYs, deaths, and YLDs*

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12 139 Since 1990, exposure to tobacco has continued to be the leading risk factor for DALYs
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14 140 even though a 26% decline in the attributable all-age DALY rate and a 47% decline in the age-
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16 141 standardized DALY rate were observed over the last 26 years (**Figure 4**). High BMI and high
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18 142 FPG have both increased in ranking to become the third and fourth leading risk factors. Alcohol
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20 143 and drug use attributable all-age and age-standardized DALY rates have increased by 13% and
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22 144 9% since 1990. The all-age attributable DALY rate for high SBP and high cholesterol have
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24 145 decreased by 34% and 44% since 1990, leading to improvements in their respective rankings.
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28 146 Among the leading risk factors contributing to total deaths, the only risk factor
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30 147 contributing to a substantial increase in the death rate from 1990 to 2016 was high BMI, which
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32 148 increased by 22% (**Figure 5**). Alcohol and drug use ranked ninth as an attributable risk for
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34 149 deaths, but its contribution to the all-age and age-standardized death rates has risen by 66% and
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36 150 36%, respectively, since 1990. The risk factors contributing to YLDs have changed from 1990,
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38 151 with high BMI and high FPG becoming the top two risk factors, reflecting a 61% and 40%
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40 152 increase in the all-age attributable YLD rates associated with these risk factors (**Figure 6**).
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46 47 154 *Drivers of observed trends in risk-attributable DALYs*

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49 155 Our decomposition analysis separated out the relative contributions of risk factors from
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51 156 those of population growth, aging, and risk-deleted mortality rate, revealing that risk factor
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53 157 exposure related to communicable and non-communicable diseases is on the decrease in Canada,
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3 158 while the percentage of injuries due to risk factor exposure is increasing (**Figure 7**). For all ages
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5 159 together, exposure to risk factors is accountable for a decreasing percentage of health burden in
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7 160 Canada. However, stratification by age group reveals that exposure to risk factors is accountable
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9 161 for an increasing percentage of health burden in Canadians aged 5-9 and 20-39 years.
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13 14 163 **INTERPRETATION**

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17 164 Of the risk factors included in our GBD study data, the top two risk factors related to
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19 165 health burden in Canada are tobacco and diet. We observed that this ranking has remained
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21 166 relatively unchanged since 1990, despite simultaneously detecting a substantial decline in burden
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23 167 due to diet and especially tobacco in the last 26 years. Although still a leading risk factor,
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25 168 tobacco exposure as a burden for DALYs was much lower in Canadians younger than 49 years,
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27 169 which is consistent with historical patterns of tobacco use and the longer latency period of lung
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29 170 cancer and other tobacco-related diseases.^{22,23} Dietary risk has remained the second highest risk
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31 171 factor over the last two decades, contributing to large amounts of DALYs caused by ischemic
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33 172 heart disease, stroke, and diabetes in Canada,¹⁶ and relating to intermediary risk factors including
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35 173 high BMI and high FPG,¹² which are now the third and fourth most significant causes of health
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37 174 loss. High SBP and high total cholesterol have decreased, but they remain important risk factors,
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39 175 along with alcohol and drug use.
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43 44 45 177 ***Comparison to previous studies***

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48 178 Few previous studies have undertaken the task of identifying the top attributable risk
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50 179 factors to disease burden in Canada, and those that did focused primarily on mortality as an
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52 180 outcome. For example, the results of the present study are comparable to recently published
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3 181 findings from the Mortality Population Risk Tool (MPoRT), which reported that 50% of deaths
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5 182 in Canada could be attributed to the four behavioural risk factors they assessed (smoking,
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7 183 unhealthy alcohol consumption, physical inactivity, and poor diet).¹ Similar to results from our
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9 184 analysis, smoking was the leading unhealthy behaviour contributing to deaths for men, despite a
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11 185 continuing decrease in the prevalence of smoking in Canada.¹ Steensma *et al.* also demonstrated
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13 186 significant health loss in the Canadian population associated with high BMI.²⁴ A 2006 analysis
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15 187 reported that alcohol is a major contributor to mortality in Canada,²⁵ as we also observed in the
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17 188 present study, and as was reported in a previous (2005) GBD analysis of the premature mortality
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19 189 attributable to alcohol consumption in Canada.²⁶ Recent analyses of the American GBD study
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21 190 data⁵ and UK GBD study data⁶ also reported that the two leading risk factors contributing to
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23 191 health burden were tobacco and dietary factors.⁵
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31 ***Limitations***

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33 194 A study of this size and scope has several limitations, many of which have been
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35 195 previously addressed in other GBD publications.^{2,17} The present analysis used Canadian data
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37 196 from numerous sources across the country; however, important sources of data may not have
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39 197 been included in the GBD study yet. Our aim is that this current analysis will be the first in an
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41 198 ongoing assessment of the burden of disease in Canada and that with each iteration, our analysis
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43 199 will benefit from newly identified or collected data sources. One major limitation to the
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45 200 interpretation of our study's findings is that we could not incorporate data on the social
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47 201 determinants of health (such as housing, income, ethnicity, and education) that strongly influence
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49 202 risk factors^{27,28} and differ vastly by community.^{29,30} Obtaining such adequately detailed data is a
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51 203 future goal of ours, given that social determinants of health have been shown to be crucially
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3 204 important to population health.^{31,32,33} There may also be other risk factors that are important but
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5 205 not included in the GBD, including psychosocial factors such as social isolation and
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7 206 loneliness.^{34,35} Another limitation is that some diseases, such as depression and migraines, have
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10 207 high burden and prevalence, but little to no risk factor attributions in the present analysis. The
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12 208 present study did not assess why risk factors rose or fell in their rankings, which could represent
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15 209 a worsening scenario or an improvement in other areas.
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19 211 ***Conclusion and future directions***

21 212 The present GBD Canada study, with its multiple countrywide data sources and
22
23 213 comprehensive analysis of both disability and premature death on the same scale in relation to
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25 214 risk factors, provides a unique assessment and ranking of the risk factors attributable to health
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27 215 loss in Canada. Modifiable metabolic and behavioural risk factors such as tobacco and diet have
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29 216 remained the leading risk factors in Canada for the last 26 years, identifying opportunities for
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31 217 reducing Canada's health burden. These findings stand despite some substantial declines in risk
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33 218 factor exposure, indicating that risk factors can influence the population for a substantial length
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35 219 of time, and that decreasing health burden for Canadians requires a long-term commitment to
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37 220 risk reduction. Future analyses are warranted that focus on specific risk factors, detailing their
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39 221 complexities. For example, our present analysis did not specify the precise dietary factors (such
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41 222 as lack of fruit, excess sweetened beverages) that contribute to health burden and could be a
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43 223 target for new policy. Another area of high burden where a future detailed analysis could lead to
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45 224 enhanced action for population health benefits is drug use, especially given the recent opioid-
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47 225 related burden and incoming cannabis legalization. Canadian GBD data provide inimitable
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49 226 insight into the relative magnitude of many important risk factors' contribution to health loss and
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3 227 can guide decision-makers as they identify the priorities and opportunities for reducing
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5 228 premature death and disability burden among Canadians.

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FIGURE TITLES

Please note: Figures 1-3 share the same set-up and legend and work well as one 3-part figure to save considerable space and have a nice visual comparison (this figure would be entitled 'Burden of disease attributable to leading risk factors for all Canadians in 2016 expressed as a percentage of (A) disability-adjusted life years (DALYs), (B) total deaths, and (C) years lived with disability (YLDs)'. Similarly, figures 4-6 share the same set-up and legend and could nicely be made as 1 figure with parts A, B, and C to save space and have a visual comparison. We have these figures listed separately as 6 figures in this version so that you can match the corresponding supplementary figures which are stratified into men and women. However, we could have less figures and less supplementary figures, if you would prefer.

Figure 1. Burden of disease attributable to leading risk factors for all Canadians in 2016 expressed as a percentage of disability-adjusted life years (DALYs).

Figure 2. The burden of disease attributable to leading risk factors for Canadians in 2016 expressed as a percentage of total deaths.

Figure 3. The burden of disease attributable to leading risk factors for Canadians in 2016 expressed as a percentage of years lived with disability (YLDs).

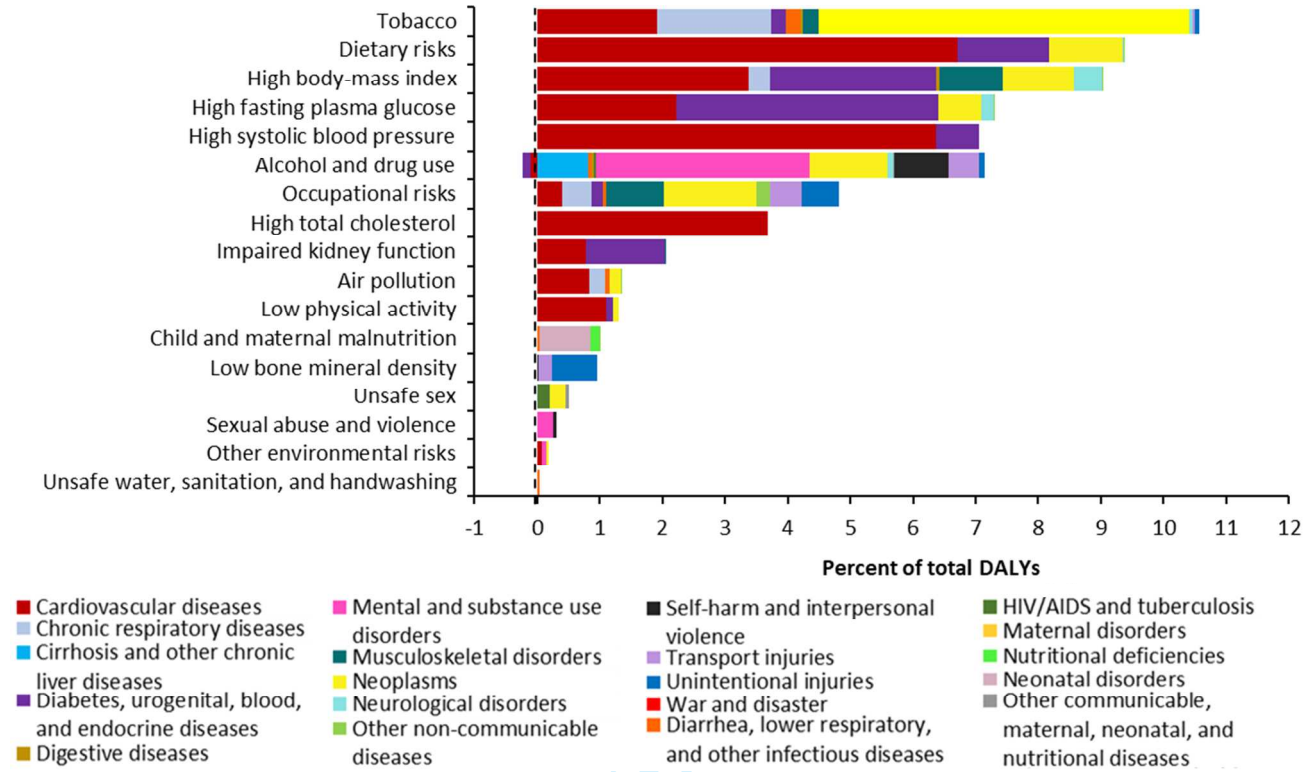
Figure 4. Rank changes in disability-adjusted life years (DALYs) attributable to leading risk factors and percent change in all-age and age-standardized DALY rates in Canada from 1990-2016.

Figure 5. Rank changes of total deaths attributable to leading risk factors and percent change in all-age and age-standardized death rates in Canada between 1990-2016 for females and males combined.

Figure 6. Rank changes of years lived with disability (YLDs) attributable to leading risk factors and percent change in all-age and age-standardized YLD rates in Canada between 1990-2016 for females and males combined.

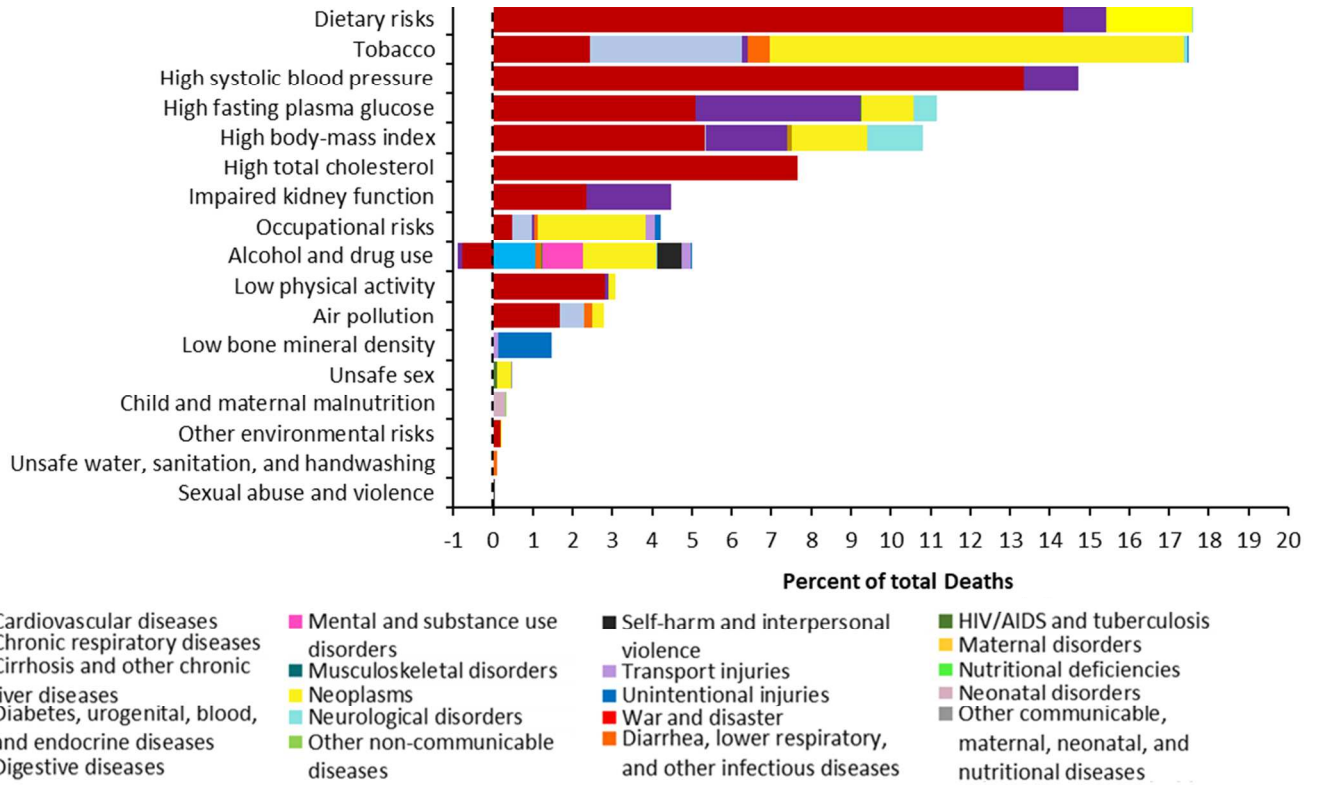
Figure 7. Drivers of percent changes in Canada's risk-attributable disease and injury burden from 2006 to 2016 due to population growth, population aging, risk-deleted mortality, and exposure to risk factors expressed as (A) disability-adjusted life years (DALYs) for all ages, (B) deaths for all ages and (C) DALYs by age group.

Figure 1. Burden of disease attributable to leading risk factors for all Canadians in 2016 expressed as a percentage of disability-adjusted life years (DALYs)



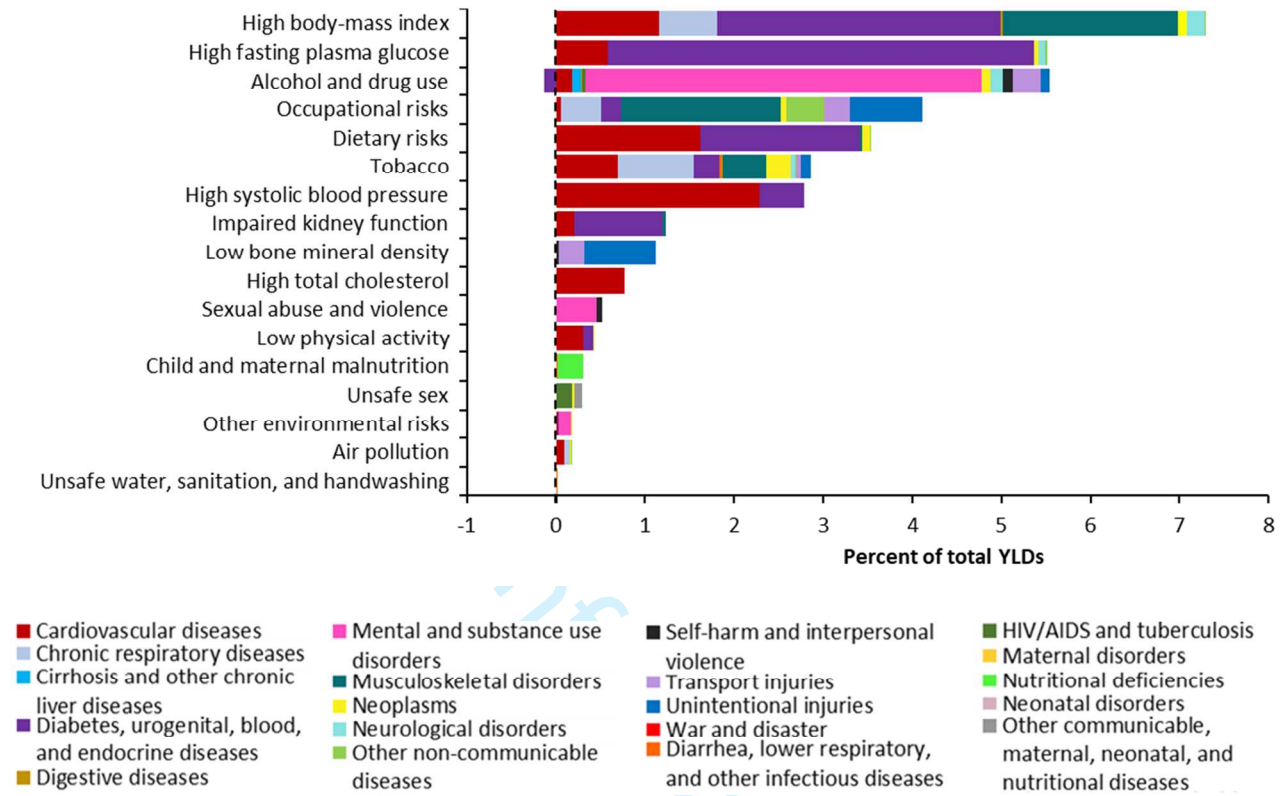
One DALY is equivalent to one year of healthy life (free of disease, injury, or disability) that has been lost.

Figure 2. The burden of disease attributable to leading risk factors for Canadians in 2016 expressed as a percentage of total deaths



The negative percentage for alcohol is the protective effect of mild alcohol use on risk of cardiometabolic disease.

Figure 3. The burden of disease attributable to leading risk factors for Canadians in 2016 expressed as a percentage of years lived with disability (YLDs)



The negative percentage for alcohol is the protective effect of mild alcohol use on risk of cardiometabolic disease.

Figure 4. Rank changes in disability-adjusted life years (DALYs) attributable to leading risk factors and percent change in all-age and age-standardized DALY rates in Canada from 1990 to 2016

Risk factors by attributable DALYs 1990		Risk factors by attributable DALYs 2016		% change all-age DALY rate (1990-2016)	% change age-standardised DALY rate (1990-2016)
1. Tobacco	1. Tobacco	1. Tobacco	1. Tobacco	-25.7%	-47.4%
2. Dietary risks	2. Dietary risks	2. Dietary risks	2. Dietary risks	-33.3%	-53.2%
3. High systolic blood pressure	3. High body-mass index	3. High body-mass index	3. High body-mass index	19.7%	-12.2%
4. High body-mass index	4. High fasting plasma glucose	4. High fasting plasma glucose	4. High fasting plasma glucose	1.67%	-27.9%
5. High fasting plasma glucose	5. High systolic blood pressure	5. High systolic blood pressure	5. High systolic blood pressure	-34.4%	-55.3%
6. High total cholesterol	6. Alcohol and drug use	6. Alcohol and drug use	6. Alcohol and drug use	13.3%	8.53%
7. Alcohol and drug use	7. Occupational risks	7. Occupational risks	7. Occupational risks	-4.0%	-20.2%
8. Occupational risks	8. High total cholesterol	8. High total cholesterol	8. High total cholesterol	-44.5%	-62.1%
9. Impaired kidney function	9. Impaired kidney function	9. Impaired kidney function	9. Impaired kidney function	-0.09%	-31.3%
10. Air pollution	10. Air pollution	10. Air pollution	10. Air pollution	-31.8%	-52.3%
11. Low physical activity	11. Low physical activity	11. Low physical activity	11. Low physical activity	-27.9%	-51.7%
12. Child and maternal malnutrition	12. Child and maternal malnutrition	12. Child and maternal malnutrition	12. Child and maternal malnutrition	-38.2%	-20.2%
13. Unsafe sex	13. Low bone mineral density	13. Low bone mineral density	13. Low bone mineral density	44.8%	-5.92%
14. Low bone mineral density	14. Unsafe sex	14. Unsafe sex	14. Unsafe sex	-50.1%	-54.9%
15. Sexual abuse and violence	15. Sexual abuse and violence	15. Sexual abuse and violence	15. Sexual abuse and violence	-0.75%	1.59%
16. Other environmental risks	16. Other environmental risks	16. Other environmental risks	16. Other environmental risks	-24.5%	-39.9%
17. Unsafe water, sanitation, and handwashing	17. Unsafe water, sanitation, and handwashing	17. Unsafe water, sanitation, and handwashing	17. Unsafe water, sanitation, and handwashing	75.6%	33.9%

Behavioural risks
 Metabolic risks
 Environmental/occupational risks

One DALY is equivalent to one year of healthy life (free of disease, injury, or disability) that has been lost.

Figure 5. Rank changes of total deaths attributable to leading risk factors and percent change in all-age and age-standardized death rates in Canada between 1990 and 2016 for females and males combined

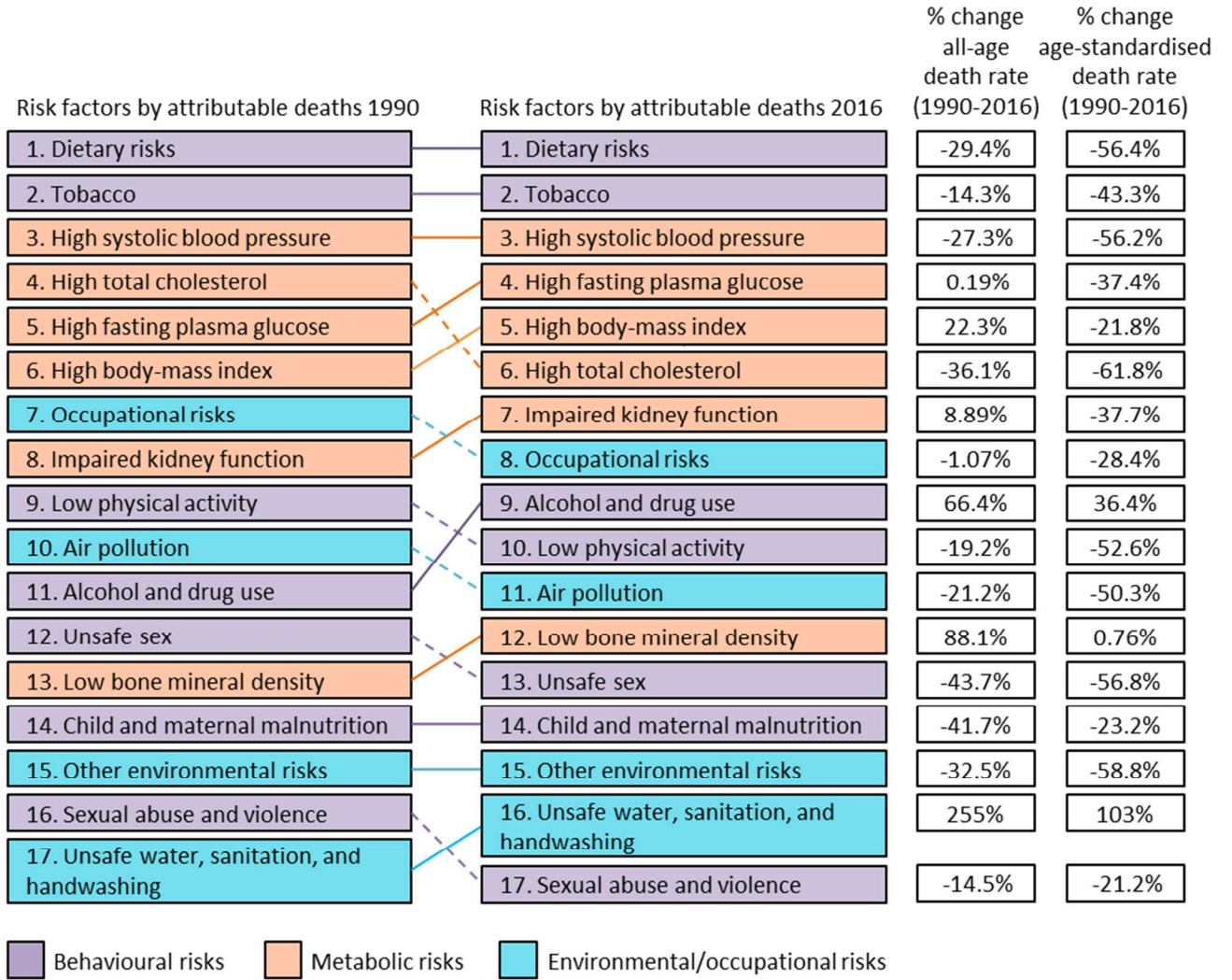


Figure 6. Rank changes of years lived with disability (YLDs) attributable to leading risk factors and percentage change in all-age and age-standardized YLD rates in Canada between 1990 and 2016 for females and males combined

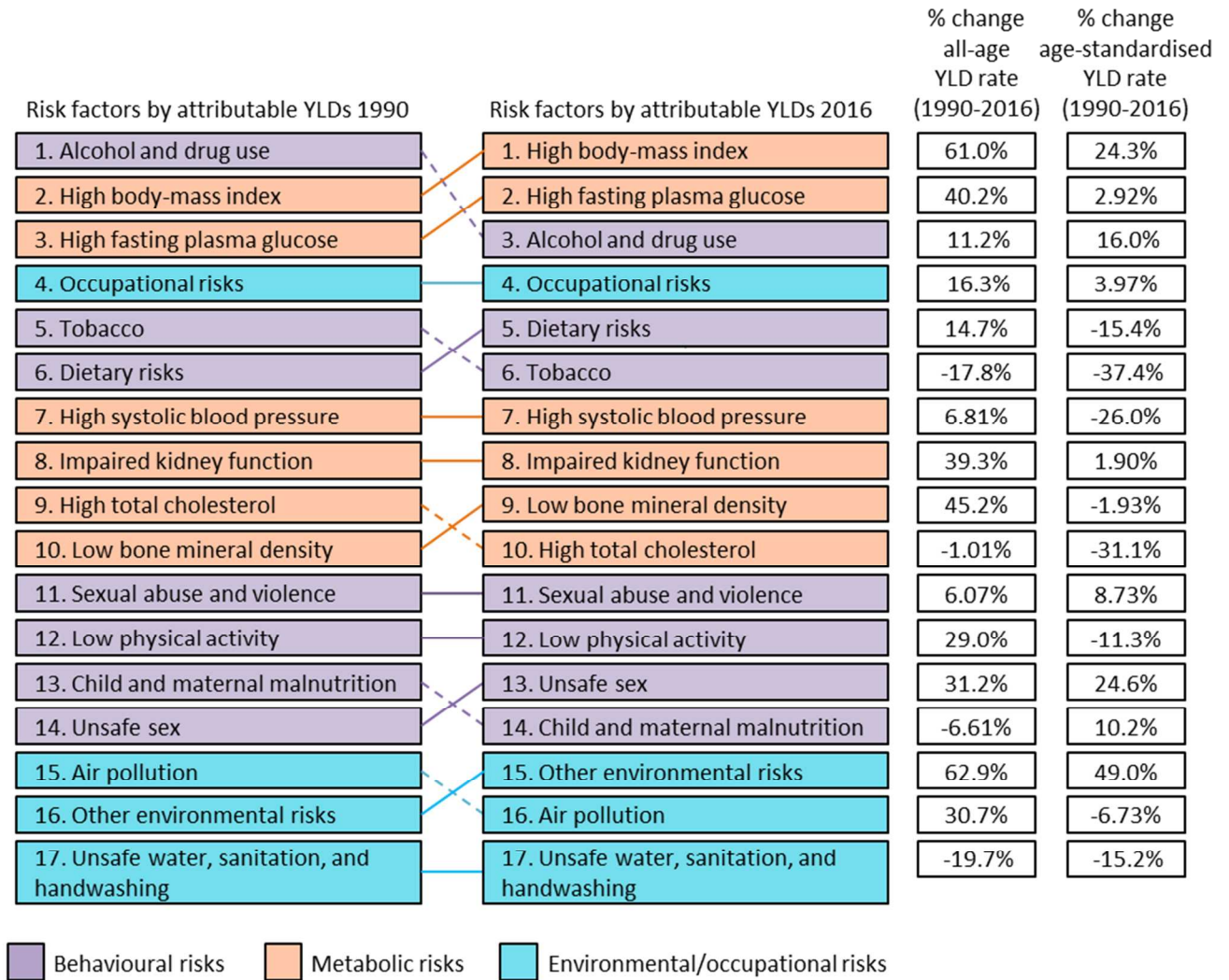
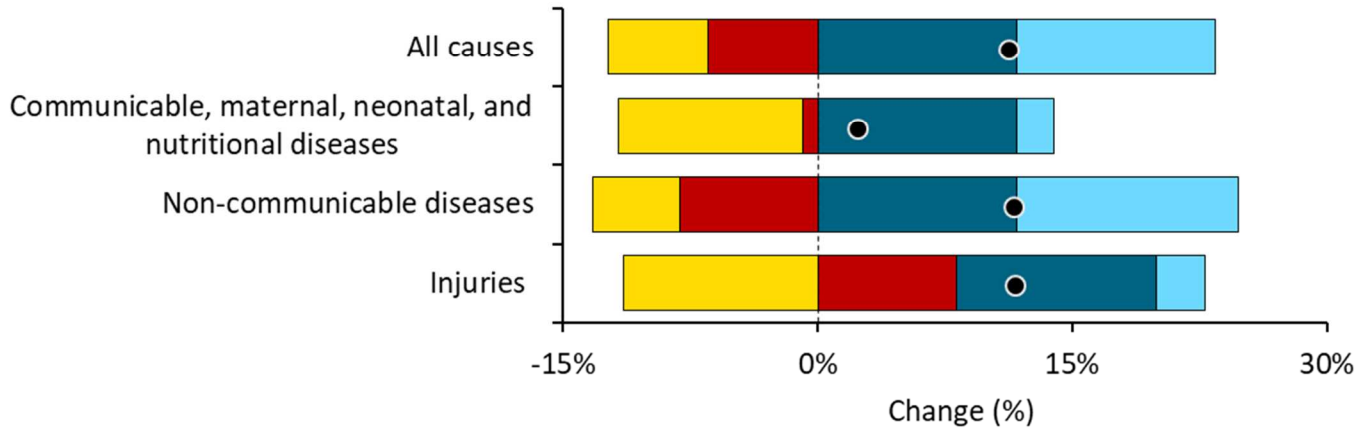
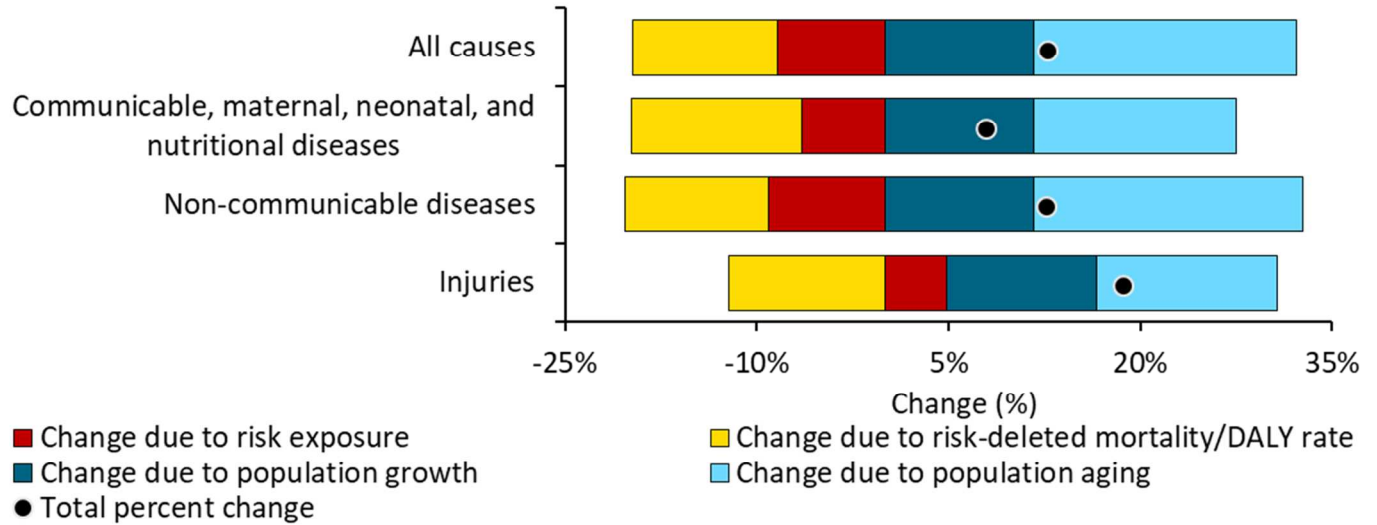


Figure 7. Drivers of percentage changes in Canada’s risk-attributable disease and injury burden from 2006 to 2016 due to population growth, population aging, risk-deleted mortality, and exposure to risk factors expressed as (A) disability-adjusted life years (DALYs) for all ages, (B) deaths for all ages, and (C) DALYs by age group

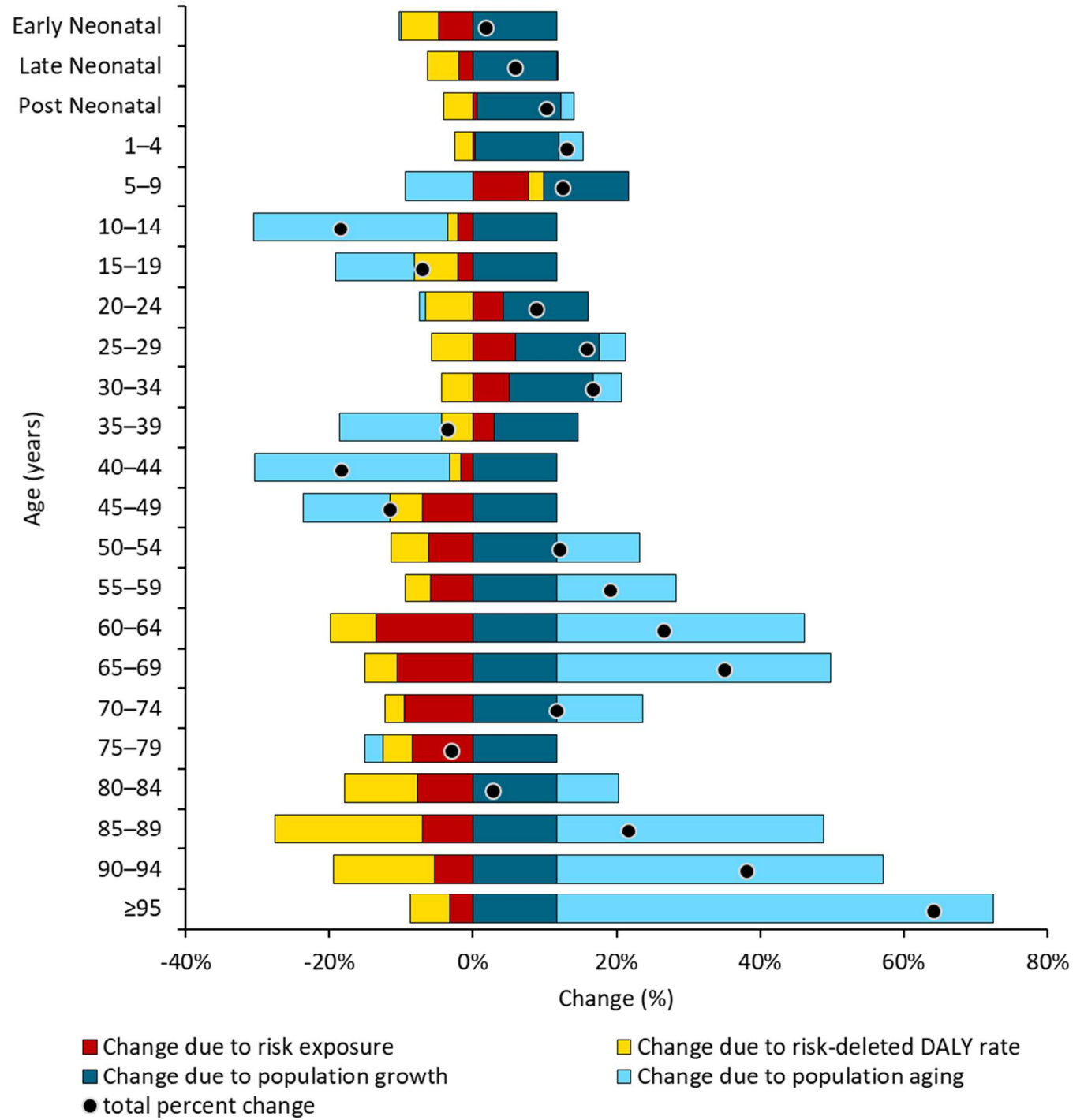
A. DALYs, all ages



B. deaths, all ages



C. DALYs, by age group



One DALY is equivalent to one year of healthy life (free of disease, injury, or disability) that has been lost.

Supplementary Table 1. Canadian dataset records used in the Global Burden of Disease Study 2016, organized by type of data

Data type	Number of records	Examples of type of record
Administrative records	25	Canada Discharge Abstract Database 1994 to 2010 Canada National ambulatory care reporting system 2002–2010 The Canadian Neonatal Network Annual Report 2014
Census	7	Canada Population Estimates 2012, 2014 Canada population and housing census 2011 Canada Census 1991, 2001
Disease registry	163	Canada-BC/Alberta Congenital Anomalies Surveillance System Data Canadian Organ Replacement Register Annual Statistics 2001–2017 Provincial cancer registry since 1991
Epi surveillance	49	WHO Global Health Observatory Interactive Graph – Number of Cases of Cutaneous Leishmaniasis Reported 1998 to 2015 WHO Global Health Observatory Interactive Graph – Number of Cases of Visceral Leishmaniasis Reported 1998 to 2015 Zika cases – 2016 HIV in Canada: Surveillance Summary Tables, 2014–2015 Number of Reported Cases of Dengue and Severe Dengue (SD) in the Americas, by Country 2006 to 2014 Canada Reported Cases of Syphilis by Age and Sex Canada Reported Cases of Gonorrhoea by Age and Sex Canada Reported Cases of Chlamydia by Age and Sex
Financial record	16	Canada Rotary Committee for International Development Financial Statement 2006 to 2008 World University Service Canada Annual Report 2005 to 2007 Center for International Studies and Cooperation Annual Report 2000 to 2007
Natural phenomena	3	SPARTAN Global Particulate Matter Network Chemical Speciation Data Canada National Air Pollution Surveillance Network PM _{2.5} Data 2013 Canada Air Quality Annual PM _{2.5} and PM ₁₀ Data 1990, 1995, 2000, 2005, 2010, 2012
Other publications	2	Operation Iraqi Freedom – Iraq Coalition Casualties: Fatalities By Year

		Operation Enduring Freedom – Coalition Deaths by Year
Report	28	Canada UNGASS Country Progress Report 2012 Social Determinants of Health and Well-being Among Young People: Health Behaviour in School-aged Children (HBSC) Study: International Report from the 2001–2, 2005–6, 2009–10 Survey Canadian Neonatal Network Annual Report 2005, 2009 Canada Evaluation of Progress in Drug Control 2005–2006 Canada Community Health Survey Findings – Adult Obesity in Canada: Measured Height and Weight 2004 Canada: Alcohol and Partner Physical Aggression in the 10 Provinces Violence Against Women: An International Perspective Canada – Trends in Breastfeeding Practices in Canada (2001 to 2009–2010) Canadian National Report on Immunization 2006 Canada – Homicide in Canada, 2001 to 2010 World Taxation and Price Guide 1994 OECD Regions at a Glance 2011 Canada – Family Violence in Canada: A Statistical Profile 2007
Scientific literature	403	A 2015 global update on folic acid-preventable spina bifida and anencephaly Income adequacy and education associated with the prevalence of obesity in rural Saskatchewan, Canada A preliminary investigation into diet adequacy in senior residents of Newfoundland and Labrador, Canada: a cross-sectional study Prevalence of Hearing Loss Among a Representative Sample of Canadian Children and Adolescents, 3 to 19 Years of Age
Surveys	117	Canada Tobacco Use Monitoring Survey 2012 Canada Health Measures Survey 2012–2013 Canada Community Health Survey – Mental Health 2012 Major Depressive Disorder and Bipolar Disorder Tabulations Canada Childhood National Immunization Coverage Survey 2011 Canada Alcohol and Drug Use Monitoring Survey 2011 Canada Progress in International Reading Literacy Study 2010–2011 Canada Program for International Student Assessment 2015
Vital registrations	45	Canada Vital Registration – Deaths 1990 to 2012

Supplementary tables & figures

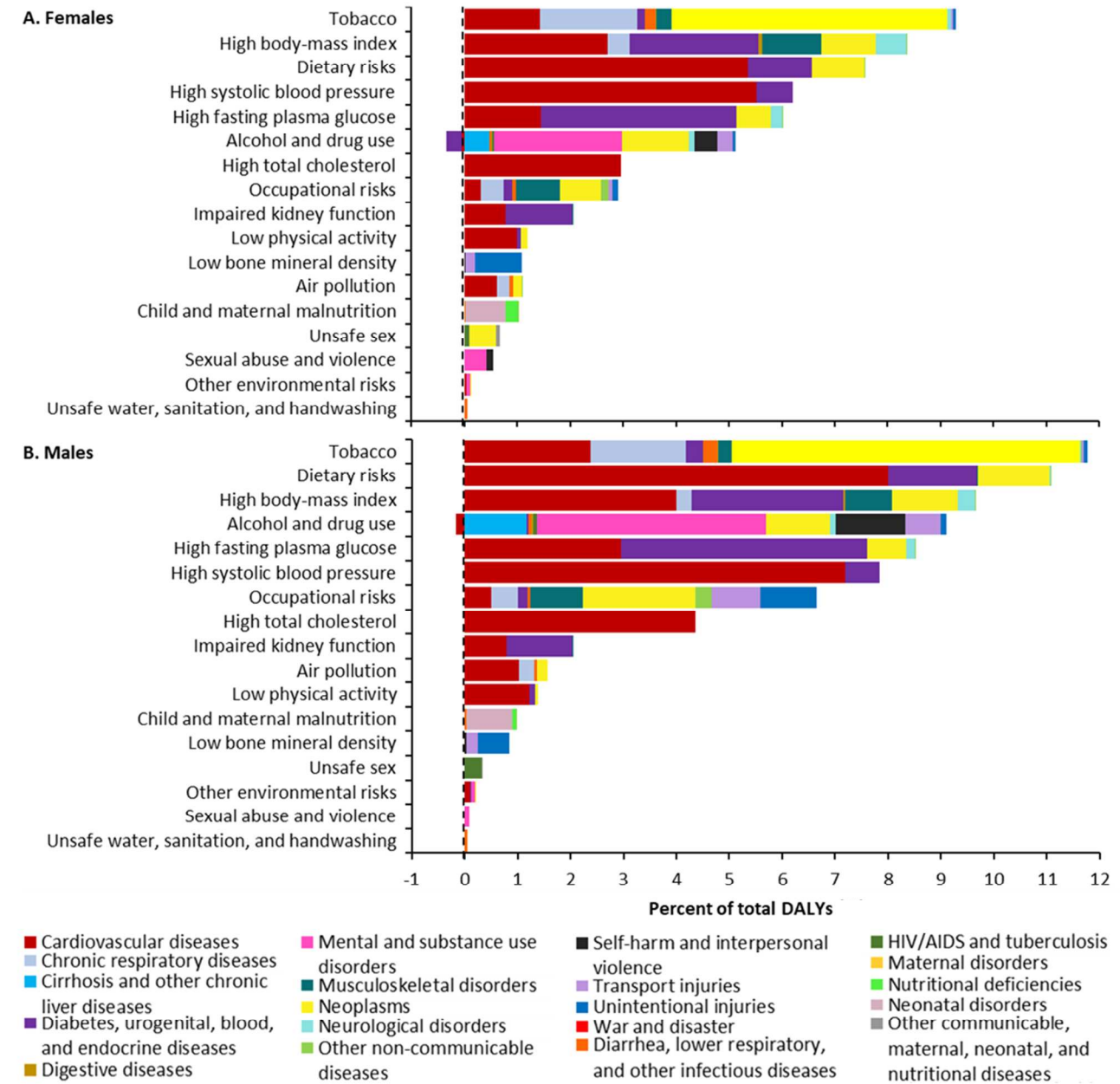
	Canada Vital Registration Late Fetal Death Data 1997 to 2011 Canada CANSIM Database – Live Births, by Weeks of Gestation and Sex, Canada, Provinces and Territories, Annual Canada Vital Registration Birth Data 1990
TOTAL	868

Confidential

Supplementary Table 2. Included risk factors (levels 0-2, GBD Canada 1900–c2016)

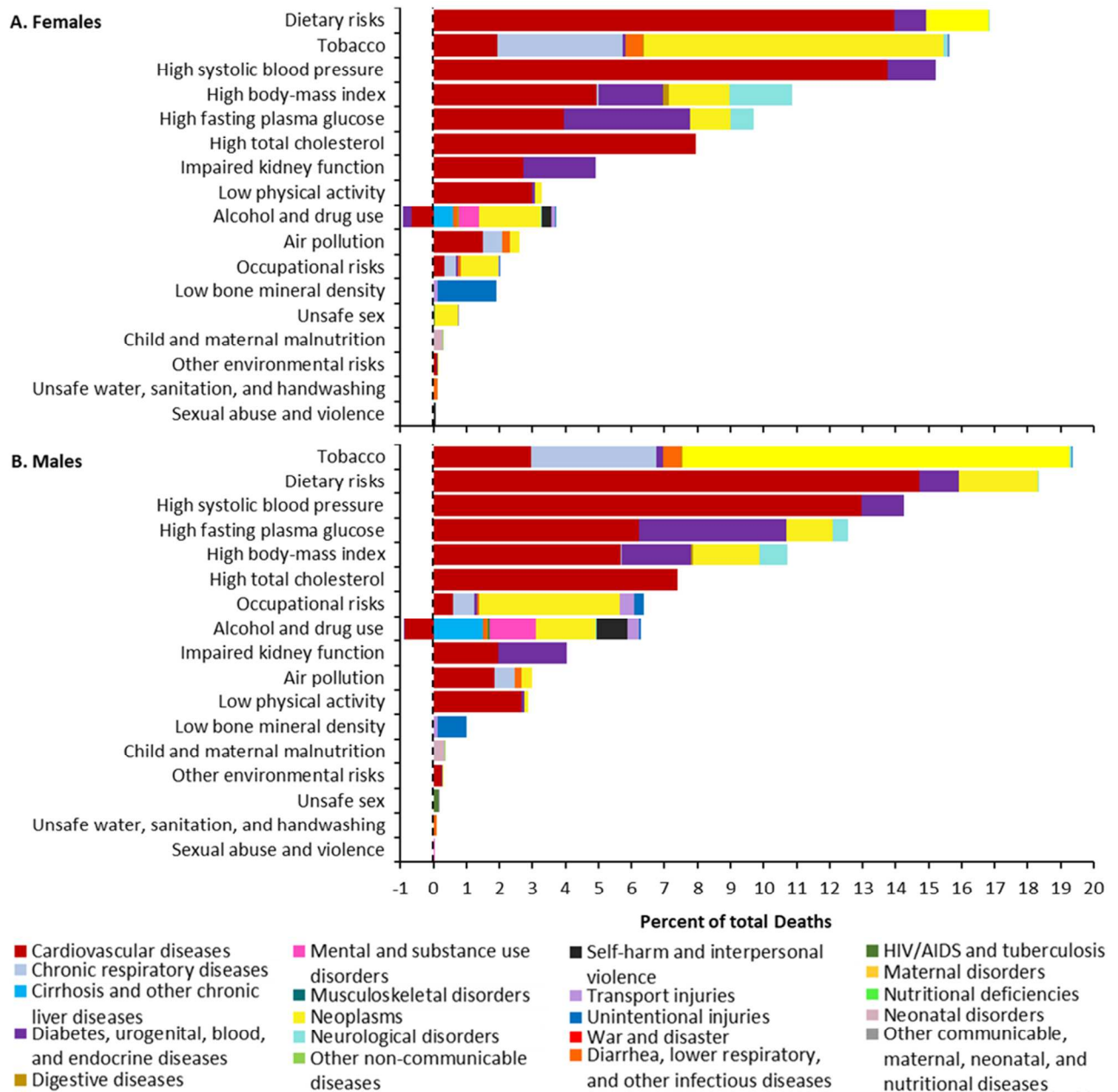
Level 0	Level 1	Level 2
All risk factors	Behavioural risks	Alcohol and drug use
		Dietary risks
		Low physical activity
		Malnutrition
		Sexual abuse and violence
		Tobacco
		Unsafe sex
	Environmental/occupational risks	Air pollution
		Occupational risks
		Other environmental risks
		Unsafe water, sanitation, and handwashing
	Metabolic risks	High body-mass index (BMI)
		High fasting plasma glucose (FPG)
		High systolic blood pressure (SBP)
		High total cholesterol
		Impaired kidney function
Low bone mineral density		

Supplementary Figure 1. Burden of disease attributable to leading risk factors for Canadians in 2016, expressed as a percentage of total disability-adjusted life years (DALYs) for (A) females (B) males.



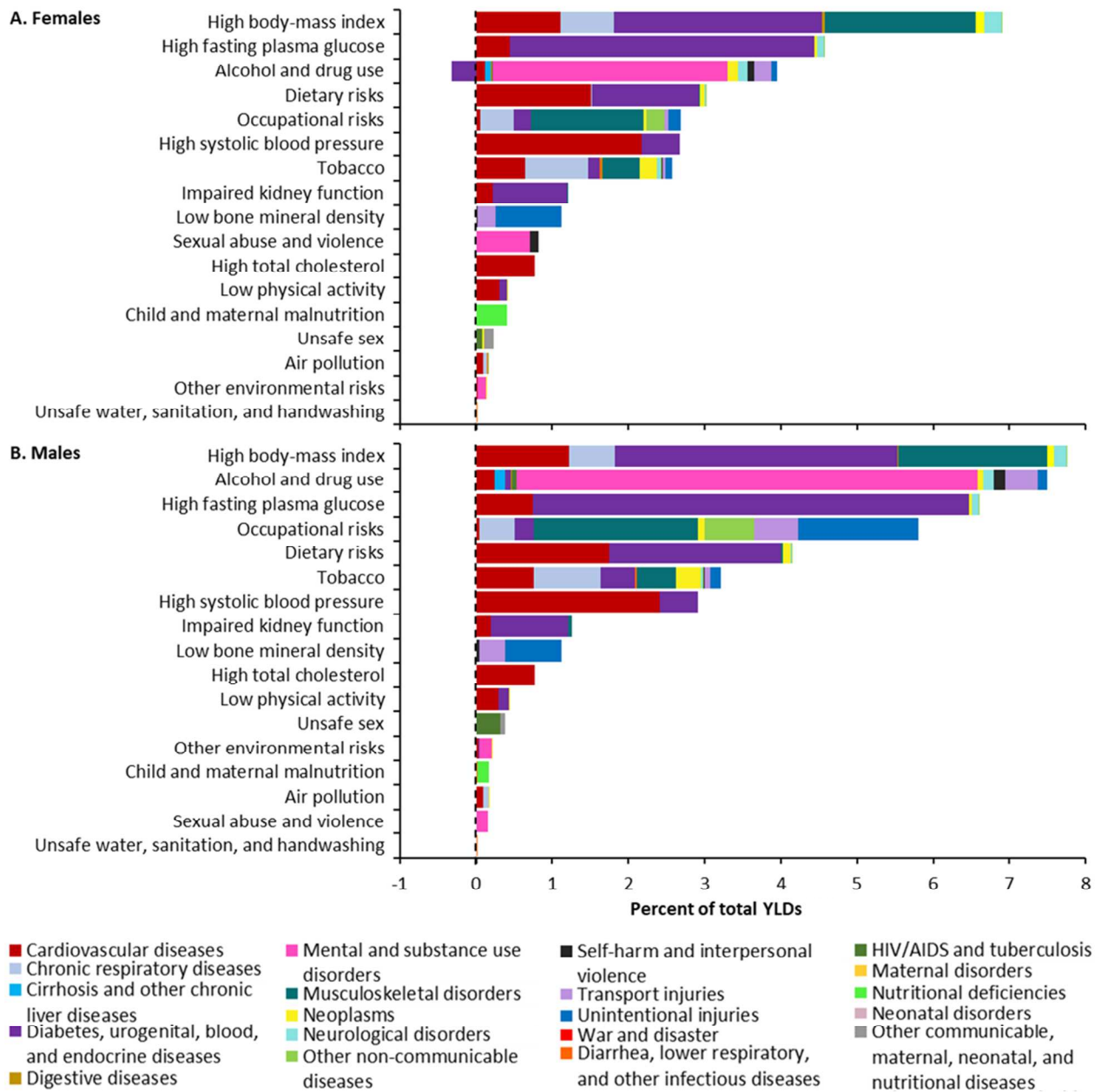
One DALY is equivalent to one year of healthy life (free of disease, injury, or disability) that has been lost. The negative percentage for alcohol is the protective effect of mild alcohol use on risk of cardiometabolic disease.

Supplementary Figure 2. The burden of disease attributable to leading risk factors for Canadians in 2016, expressed as a percentage of total deaths for (A) females (B) males



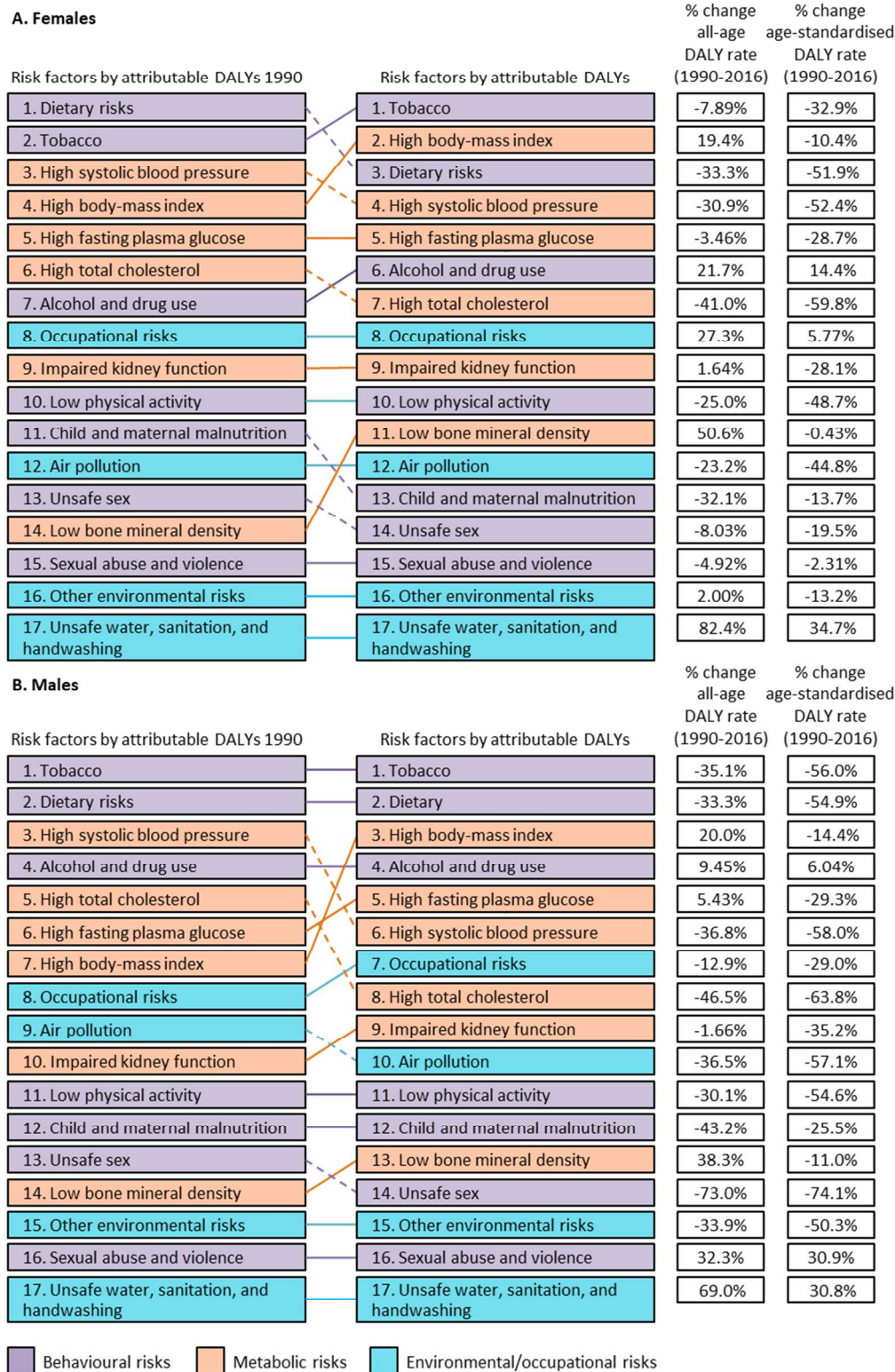
The negative percentage for alcohol is the protective effect of mild alcohol use on risk of cardiometabolic disease.

Supplementary Figure 3. The burden of disease attributable to leading risk factors for Canadians in 2016, expressed as a percentage of years lived with disability (YLDs) for (A) females (B) males



The negative percentage for alcohol is the protective effect of mild alcohol use on risk of cardiometabolic disease.

Supplementary Figure 4. Rank changes in disability-adjusted life years (DALYs) attributable to leading risk factors and percent change in all-age and age-standardized DALY rates in Canada between 1990 and 2016, for (A) women and (B) men



Supplementary Figure 5. Rank changes in total deaths attributable to leading risk factors and percent change in all-age and age-standardized death rates in Canada between 1990 and 2016, for (A) women and (B) men

A. Females

Risk factors by attributable deaths 1990	Risk factors by attributable deaths	% change all-age death rate (1990-2016)	% change age-standardised death rate (1990-2016)
1. Dietary risks	1. Dietary risks	-27.7%	-56.3%
2. High systolic blood pressure	2. Tobacco	12.3%	-24.4%
3. Tobacco	3. High systolic blood pressure	-22.3%	-54.3%
4. High total cholesterol	4. High body-mass index	26.9%	-20.8%
5. High fasting plasma glucose	5. High fasting plasma glucose	-3.47%	-40.0%
6. High body-mass index	6. High total cholesterol	-30.8%	-60.1%
7. Impaired kidney function	7. Impaired kidney function	11.9%	-36.6%
8. Low physical activity	8. Low physical activity	-15.0%	-51.2%
9. Air pollution	9. Alcohol and drug use	120%	56.3%
10. Occupational risks	10. Air pollution	-11.1%	-43.9%
11. Alcohol and drug use	11. Occupational risks	34.6%	-0.78%
12. Low bone mineral density	12. Low bone mineral density	91.4%	3.33%
13. Unsafe sex	13. Unsafe sex	-2.51%	-27.1%
14. Child and maternal malnutrition	14. Child and maternal malnutrition	-37.5%	-17.6%
15. Other environmental risks	15. Other environmental risks	-17.5%	-51.0%
16. Sexual abuse and violence	16. Unsafe water, sanitation, and handwashing	292%	126%
17. Unsafe water, sanitation, and handwashing	17. Sexual abuse and violence	-26.1%	-28.5%

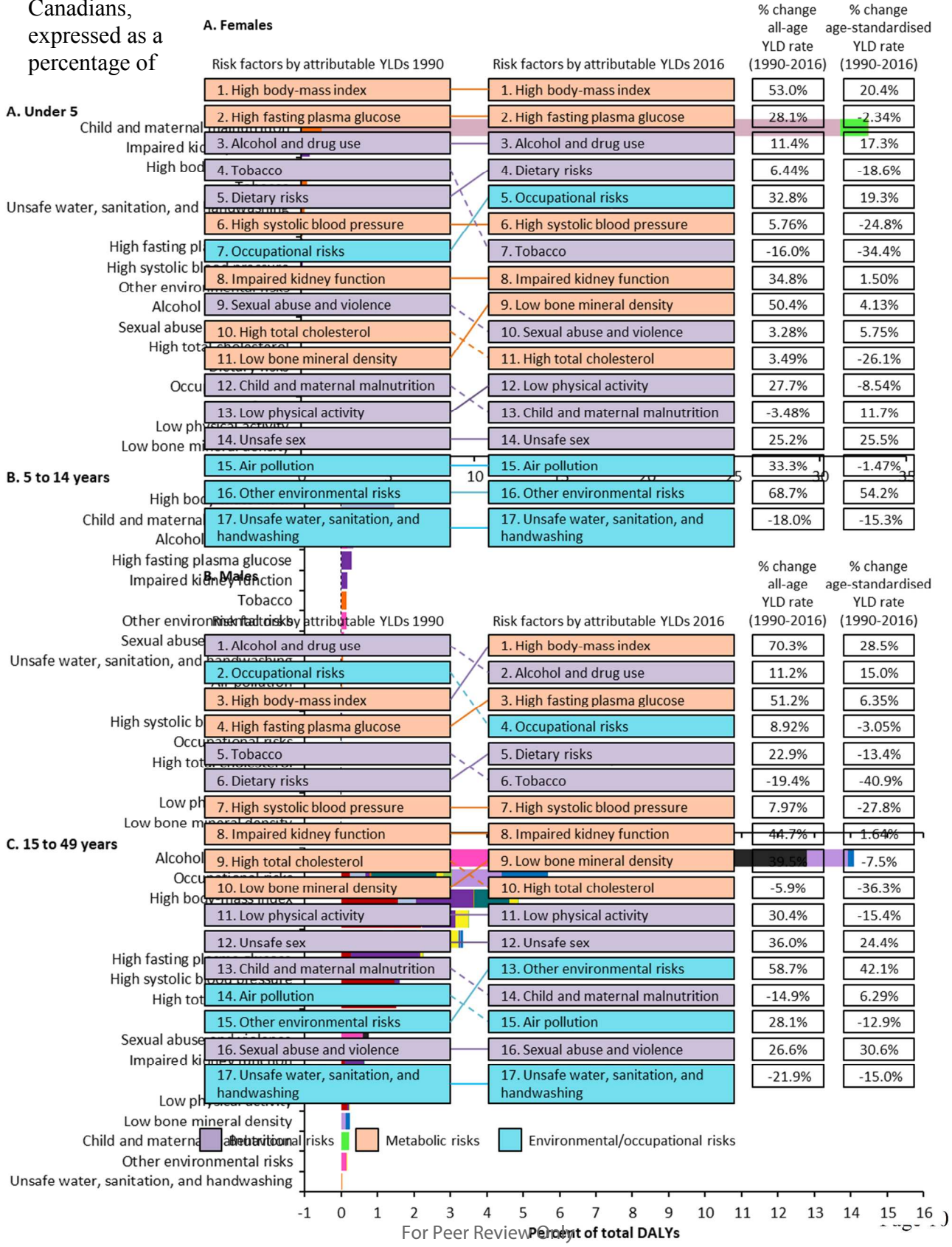
B. Males

Risk factors by attributable deaths 1990	Risk factors by attributable deaths	% change all-age death rate (1990-2016)	% change age-standardised death rate (1990-2016)
1. Tobacco	1. Tobacco	-27.8%	-54.1%
2. Dietary risks	2. Dietary risks	-30.8%	-57.4%
3. High systolic blood pressure	3. High systolic blood pressure	-31.8%	-58.4%
4. High total cholesterol	4. High fasting plasma glucose	3.16%	-37.2%
5. High fasting plasma glucose	5. High body-mass index	18.0%	-24.0%
6. High body-mass index	6. High total cholesterol	-41.0%	-63.7%
7. Occupational risks	7. Occupational risks	-8.63%	-36.9%
8. Air pollution	8. Alcohol and drug use	48.0%	30.4%
9. Impaired kidney function	9. Impaired kidney function	5.55%	-39.6%
10. Low physical activity	10. Air pollution	-28.2%	-55.3%
11. Alcohol and drug use	11. Low physical activity	-23.4%	-54.6%
12. Unsafe sex	12. Low bone mineral density	82.3%	-1.89%
13. Child and maternal malnutrition	13. Child and maternal malnutrition	-44.8%	-27.3%
14. Low bone mineral density	14. Other environmental risks	-38.1%	-61.4%
15. Other environmental risks	15. Unsafe sex	-81.9%	-83.4%
16. Unsafe water, sanitation, and handwashing	16. Unsafe water, sanitation, and handwashing	216%	76.8%
17. Sexual abuse and violence	17. Sexual abuse and violence	66.8%	23.8%

Behavioural risks
 Metabolic risks
 Environmental/occupational risks

Supplementary Figure 6. Rank changes in years lived with disability (YLDs) attributable to leading risk factors and percent change in all-age and age-standardized YLD rates in Canada between 1990 and 2016 for (A) females (B) males

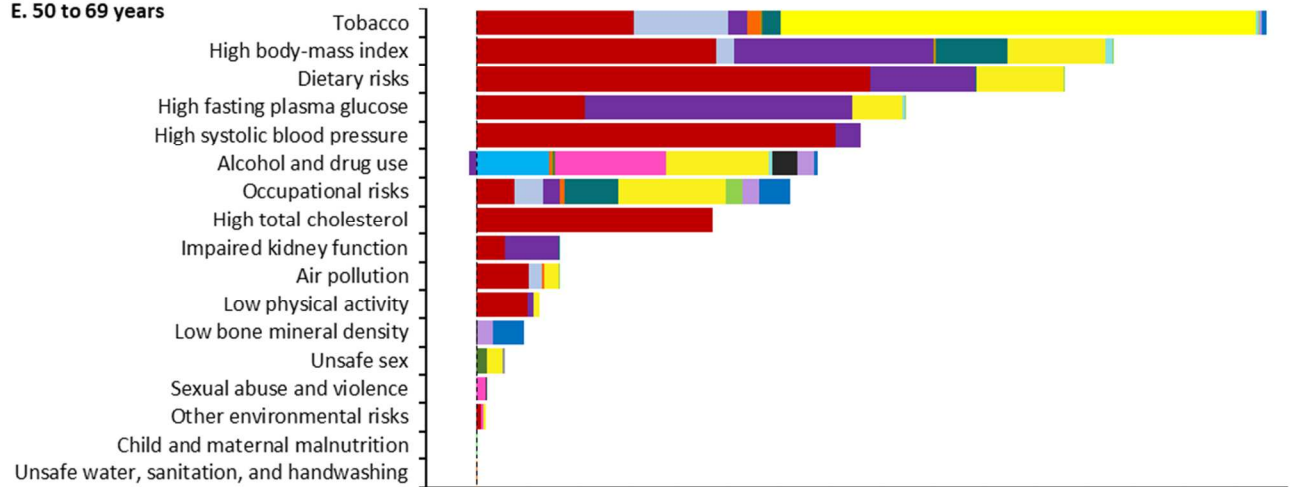
Supplementary Figure 7. The burden of disease attributable to leading risk factors in 2016 for Canadians, expressed as a percentage of



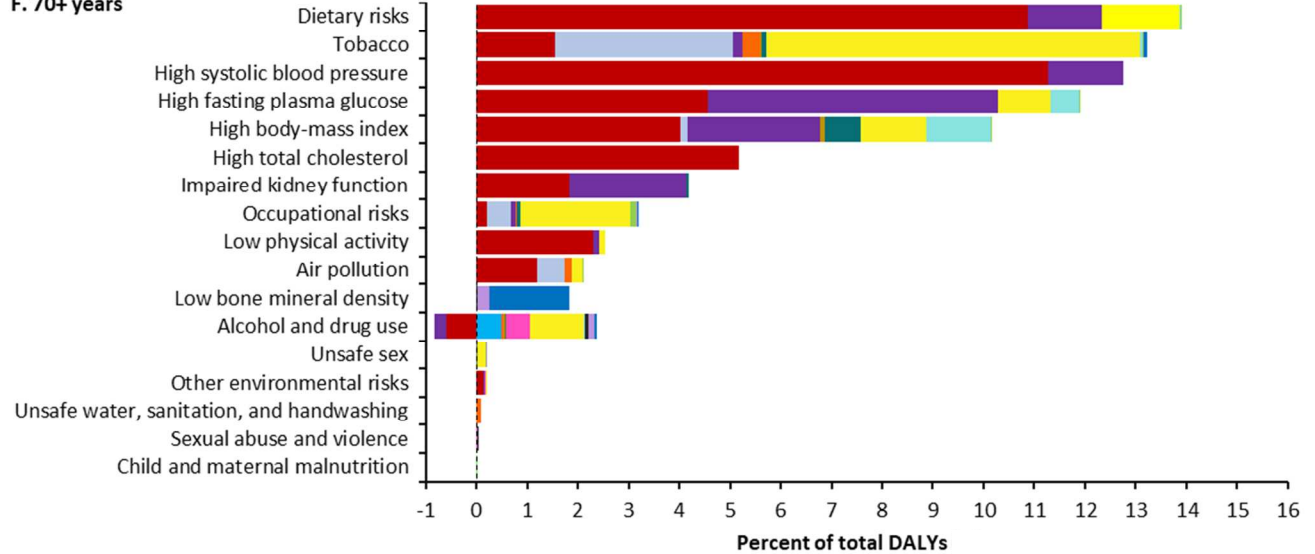
For Peer Review Percent of total DALYs

total disability-adjusted life years (DALYs) stratified by age group

E. 50 to 69 years



F. 70+ years



Supplementary Figure 8. Rank changes of disability-adjusted life years (DALYs) attributable to leading risk factors and percent change in DALY rates and number of DALYs in Canada between 1990 and 2016, in age categories

A. Under 5

Risk factors by attributable DALYs 1990	Risk factors by attributable DALYs 2016	% change DALY rate (1990-2016)	% change in number of DALYs (1990-2016)
1. Child and maternal malnutrition	1. Child and maternal malnutrition	-24.2	-22.2
2. Tobacco	2. Impaired kidney function	39.9	43.5
3. Impaired kidney function	3. High body-mass index	28.8	32.1
4. High body-mass index	4. Tobacco	-54.9	-53.7
5. Air pollution	5. Unsafe water, sanitation, and handwashing	8.30	11.1
6. Unsafe water, sanitation, and handwashing	6. Air pollution	-57.0	-55.9
7. High fasting plasma glucose	7. High fasting plasma glucose	-37.8	-36.1
8. High systolic blood pressure	8. High systolic blood pressure	-2.43	0
9. Other environmental risks	9. Other environmental risks	140	146
10. Alcohol and drug use	10. Alcohol and drug use	59.1	63.2
11. Sexual abuse and violence	11. Sexual abuse and violence	18.29	21.2

B. 5-14 years

Risk factors by attributable DALYs 1990	Risk factors by attributable DALYs 2016	% change DALY rate (1990-2016)	% change in number of DALYs (1990-2016)
1. High body-mass index	1. High body-mass index	16.6	11.6
2. Child and maternal malnutrition	2. Child and maternal malnutrition	14.0	9.20
3. Alcohol and drug use	3. Alcohol and drug use	-9.04	-12.9
4. High fasting plasma glucose	4. High fasting plasma glucose	-12.7	-16.4
5. Tobacco	5. Impaired kidney function	-18.2	-21.7
6. Impaired kidney function	6. Tobacco	-43.9	-46.3
7. Other environmental risks	7. Other environmental risks	-8.50	-12.4
8. Unsafe water, sanitation, and handwashing	8. Sexual abuse and violence	17.6	12.7
9. Sexual abuse and violence	9. Unsafe water, sanitation, and handwashing	-16.1	-19.7
10. Air pollution	10. Air pollution	-56.2	-58.0
11. Unsafe sex	11. Unsafe sex	-50.8	-52.9
12. High systolic blood pressure	12. High systolic blood pressure	-13.6	-17.2
13. Occupational risks	13. Occupational risks	-3.36	-7.44

Behavioural risks
 Metabolic risks
 Environmental/occupational risks

Supplementary tables & figures

C. 15-49 years

Risk factors by attributable DALYs 1990	Risk factors by attributable DALYs 2016	% change DALY rate (1990-2016)	% change in number of DALYs (1990-2016)
1. Alcohol and drug use	1. Alcohol and drug use	1.14	13.9
2. Occupational risks	2. Occupational risks	-15.7	-5.09
3. Tobacco	3. High body-mass index	1.55	14.3
4. Dietary risks	4. Dietary risks	-36.4	-28.4
5. High body-mass index	5. Tobacco	-49.4	-43.1
6. High total cholesterol	6. High fasting plasma glucose	0.60	13.3
7. High systolic blood pressure	7. High systolic blood pressure	-42.7	-35.5
8. Unsafe sex	8. High total cholesterol	-46.7	-40.0
9. High fasting plasma glucose	9. Unsafe sex	-64.2	-59.7
10. Sexual abuse and violence	10. Sexual abuse and violence	1.58	14.4
11. Air pollution	11. Impaired kidney function	-7.94	3.65
12. Impaired kidney function	12. Air pollution	-44.9	-38.0
13. Low physical activity	13. Low physical activity	-33.3	-24.9
14. Low bone mineral density	14. Low bone mineral density	-1.12	11.3
15. Child and maternal malnutrition	15. Child and maternal malnutrition	6.94	20.4
16. Other environmental risks	16. Other environmental risks	17.7	32.5
17. Unsafe water, sanitation, and handwashing	17. Unsafe water, sanitation, and handwashing	-1.83	10.5

D. 50-69 years

Risk factors by attributable DALYs 1990	Risk factors by attributable DALYs 2016	% change DALY rate (1990-2016)	% change in number of DALYs (1990-2016)
1. Tobacco	1. Tobacco	-52.3	-1.10
2. Dietary risks	2. High body-mass index	-20.4	64.8
3. High systolic blood pressure	3. Dietary risks	-56.4	-9.71
4. High body-mass index	4. High fasting plasma glucose	-31.7	41.5
5. High total cholesterol	5. High systolic blood pressure	-60.0	-17.1
6. High fasting plasma glucose	6. Alcohol and drug use	10.5	129
7. Occupational risks	7. Occupational risks	-26.2	53.0
8. Alcohol and drug use	8. High total cholesterol	-65.8	-29.1
9. Air pollution	9. Impaired kidney function	-37.4	29.8
10. Low physical activity	10. Air pollution	-57.4	-11.7
11. Impaired kidney function	11. Low physical activity	-56.4	-9.67
12. Low bone mineral density	12. Low bone mineral density	-13.9	78.4
13. Unsafe sex	13. Unsafe sex	-26.4	52.5
14. Other environmental risks	14. Sexual abuse and violence	-0.43	106
15. Sexual abuse and violence	15. Other environmental risks	-59.8	-16.8
16. Unsafe water, sanitation, and handwashing	16. Child and maternal malnutrition	80.4	274
17. Child and maternal malnutrition	17. Unsafe water, sanitation, and handwashing	41.2	193

Behavioural risks
 Metabolic risks
 Environmental/occupational risks

E. 70+ years

Risk factors by attributable DALYs 1990	Risk factors by attributable DALYs 2016	% change DALY rate (1990-2016)	% change in number of DALYs (1990-2016)
1. Dietary risks	1. Dietary risks	-52.0	-9.96
2. High systolic blood pressure	2. Tobacco	-38.0	16.2
3. Tobacco	3. High systolic blood pressure	-50.6	-7.35
4. High fasting plasma glucose	4. High fasting plasma glucose	-29.5	32.2
5. High total cholesterol	5. High body-mass index	-5.35	77.4
6. High body-mass index	6. High total cholesterol	-57.1	-19.6
7. Impaired kidney function	7. Impaired kidney function	-26.6	37.6
8. Low physical activity	8. Occupational risks	-19.5	50.8
9. Occupational risks	9. Low physical activity	-46.5	0.20
10. Air pollution	10. Air pollution	-46.7	-0.02
11. Low bone mineral density	11. Low bone mineral density	16.9	119
12. Other environmental risks	12. Alcohol and drug use	1220	2375
13. Unsafe sex	13. Unsafe sex	-29.6	31.9
14. Alcohol and drug use	14. Other environmental risks	-46.1	0.98
15. Sexual abuse and violence	15. Unsafe water, sanitation, and handwashing	130	332
16. Unsafe water, sanitation, and handwashing	16. Sexual abuse and violence	-10.5	67.8
17. Child and maternal malnutrition	17. Child and maternal malnutrition	7.89	102

Behavioural risks
 Metabolic risks
 Environmental/occupational risks