

– A Justice Centre Report –

Key Findings

■ SEPTEMBER 2025

# Post-Covid Canada: The Rise in Unexpected Deaths

Covid policies killed, but government has yet to take responsibility



**Justice Centre**  
for Constitutional Freedoms

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Freedom  
in Canada

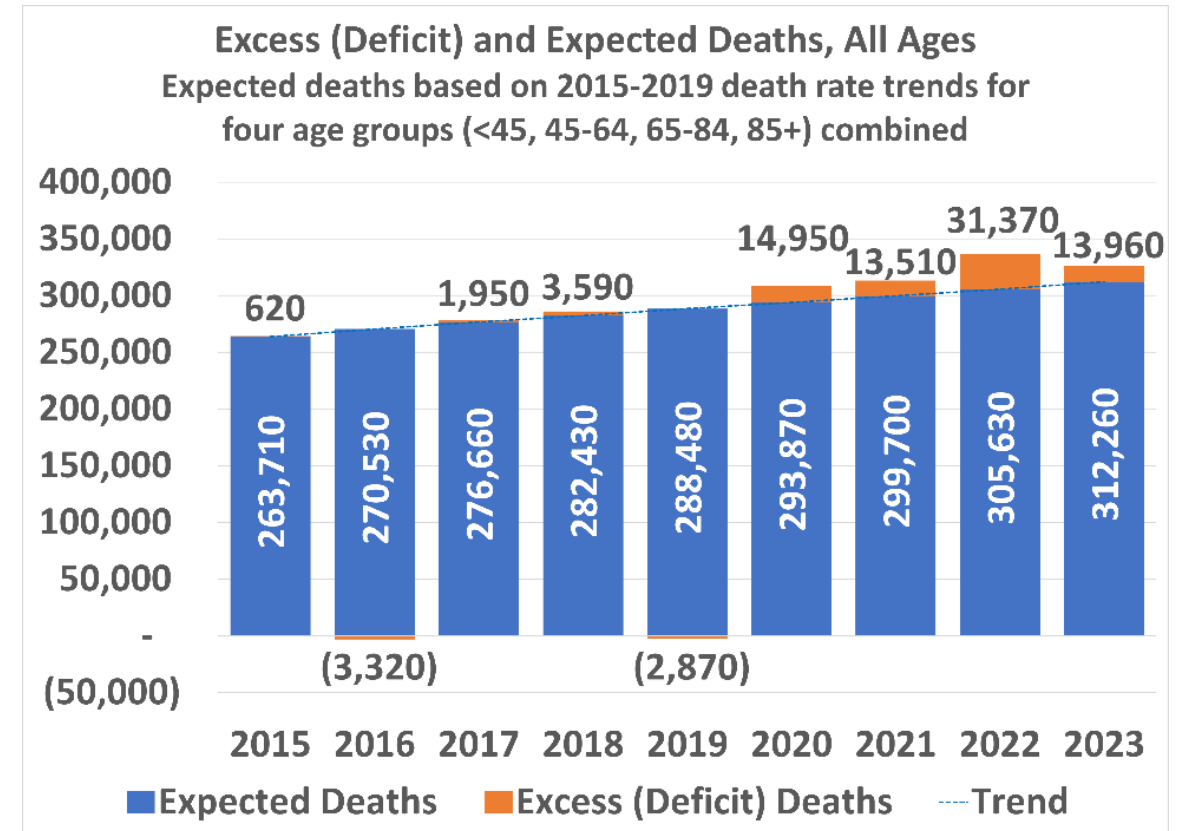
# 1. How did they die?

- Canadians died at unprecedented rates from 2020-2024.
- Public officials insist that Covid was the main cause, **but government data reveals significantly inflated Covid deaths.** Lockdowns, vaccine mandates, and their downstream impacts largely drove these unexpected deaths.
- Our latest report, “Post-Covid Canada: The rise in unexpected deaths,” **uncovers the truth** and reveals lessons Canadian politicians and the public must learn.
- Read the full report here:  
<https://www.jccf.ca/reports/>



## 2. Unexpected deaths spiked post-Covid:

- Above-normal or “excess deaths” were much higher in 2022, after lockdowns and after most Canadians took the Covid vaccine, than during the first two years of Covid.
- Unexpected or “excess” deaths in Canada by the year:
  - 2020 - 14,950
  - 2021 - 13,510
  - 2022 - **31,370** (with 80% vaccination rate)
  - 2023 - 13,960 (still high)
- Why are excess deaths higher after Covid and the vaccines (2022 and 2023) than during the two years of Covid (2020 and 2021)?



### 3. Covid death counts were inflated:

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- The Covid death classification guidelines – created by the World Health Organization (WHO) in April 2024 and adopted by Canada and countries around the world – were **extremely broad and vague**, resulting in inflated numbers of Covid deaths.
- Under these guidelines, **the death of a terminally ill cancer patient could be classified as Covid** if they tested positive for Covid before or after death.
- The overbroad guidelines specified that, “COVID-19 should be recorded on the medical certificate of cause of death for ALL decedents where the disease caused, **or is assumed to have caused**, or contributed to death.”
- To rule out a Covid death, other causes (such as trauma) must be “clear” to ensure Covid **could not possibly** have been a causal factor in death.





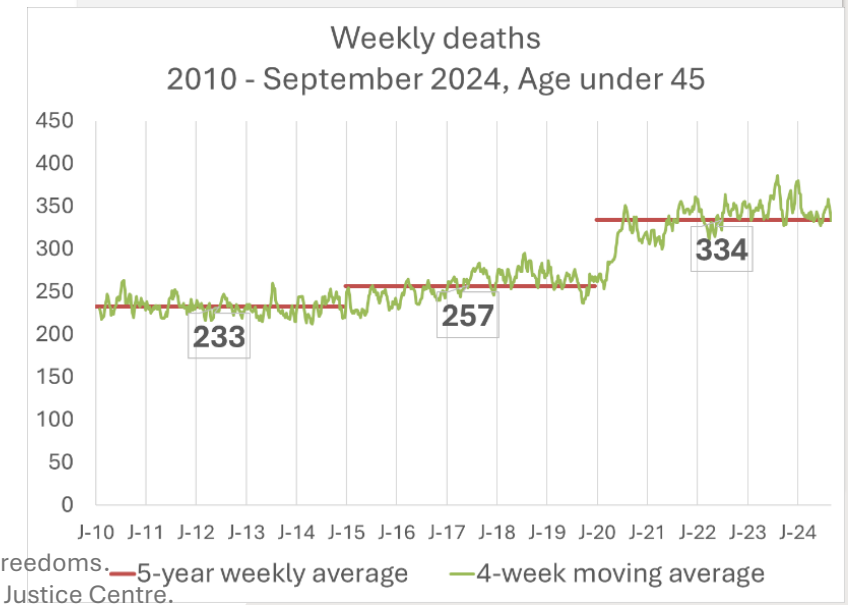
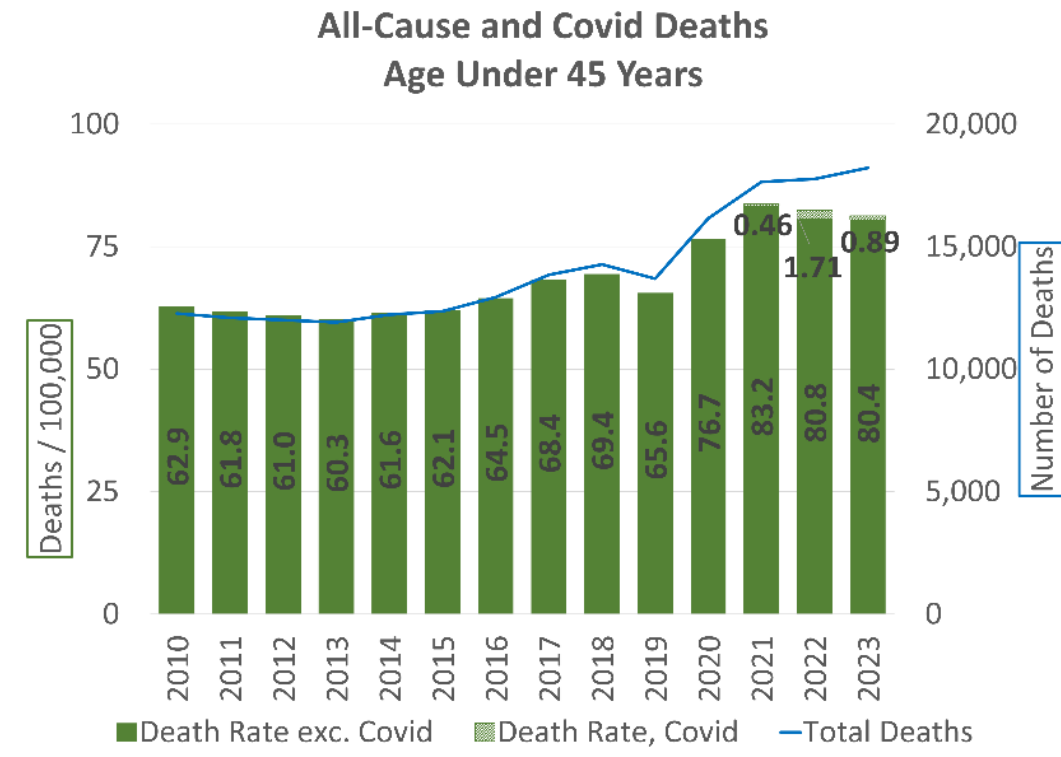
## 4. Many deaths were misattributed to Covid:

- Statistics Canada reported 27,000 Covid deaths for Canadians aged 65+ in 2020-2021.
- However, at least 10,000 of these deaths were likely **misattributed to Covid**.
- In 2020-2021, there were only 17,000 unexpected deaths for this age group. Further, there were about 11,000 fewer-than-normal deaths from respiratory and lung-related diseases, vascular and dementia-related diseases, and Parkinson's, Alzheimer's, and other degenerative diseases of the nervous system.
- The data seems clear: these normal and expected deaths were misattributed to Covid, due to WHO's overbroad Covid death classification criteria.
- **The inflated Covid death numbers caused unwarranted fear of Covid among Canadians.**



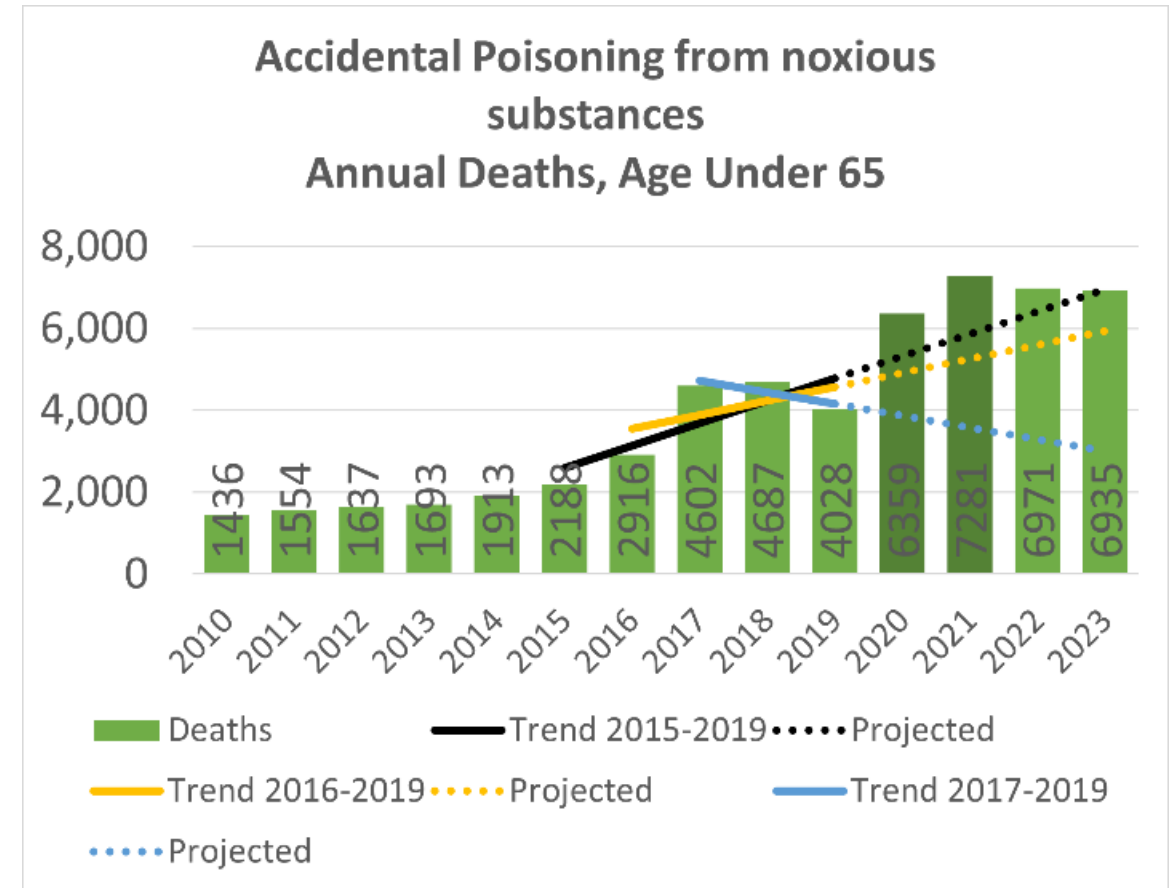
## 5. Canadians under 45 died at alarming rates:

- Covid posed little risk to young Canadians. Yet starting in 2020, **Canadians under 45 died at a significantly higher rate** than previously.
- From 2015-2019, on average, 245 Canadians under 45 died each week. However, the average weekly deaths rose to 334 during 2020-2024.
- Similarly, the death rate of Canadians under 45 rose from a pre-Covid average of 66 to 80.3 per 100,000 (76.7, 83.2, 80.8, and 80.4 per 100,000 from 2020 to 2023).
- **In total, 10,210 more Canadians under 45 died than expected** – only 728 were attributed to Covid.
- In short, many additional young Canadians died not from Covid, but from lockdowns and other government policies, and their downstream impacts.



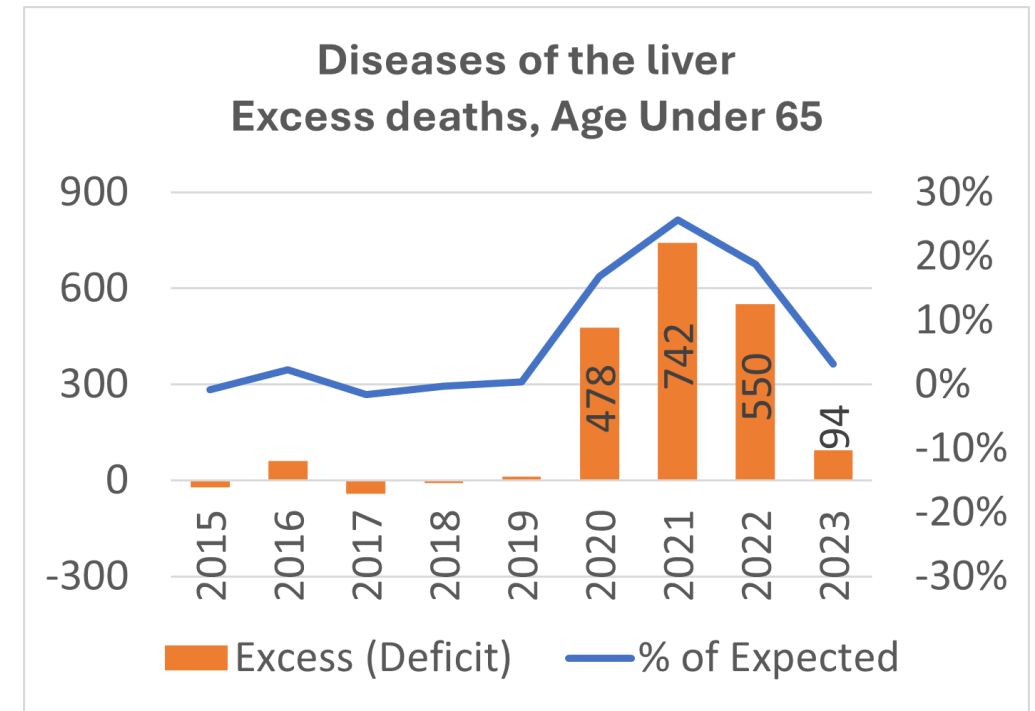
## 6. Drug overdose deaths surged:

- **Drug overdose deaths rose by 55% for Canadians under 65 after lockdowns were imposed**, rising from a pre-lockdown (2017-2019) average of 4,440 annual deaths to an average of 6,890 during 2020-2023.
- According to this, an estimated 9,800 more Canadians aged under 65 died from drug overdoses after lockdowns, compared to death rates before lockdowns.
- **Covid lockdowns isolated vulnerable Canadians from their workplaces, families, and communities, causing unprecedented rates of dependency on substances and despair.**



## 7. Alcohol deaths increased significantly:

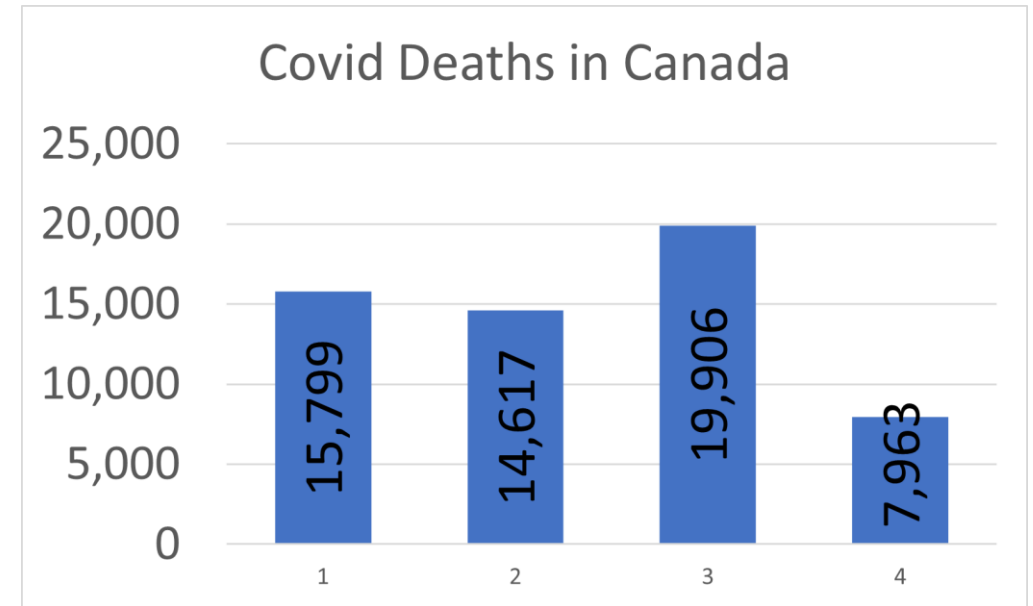
- Alcohol-induced deaths increased by 27% from 2019 to 2020 for Canadians under 65 (18% across all ages), according to Statistics Canada.
- The effects of increased alcohol consumption appear to also be visible in the increase in deaths from alcohol-related diseases, such as liver diseases. Deaths from liver diseases jumped from 2,786 in 2019 to 3,307 in 2020, with a total of approximately 1,900 above-normal or “excess” deaths in this category.
- A federal government [study](#) found that stress, loneliness, and hopelessness led to increased alcohol consumption.





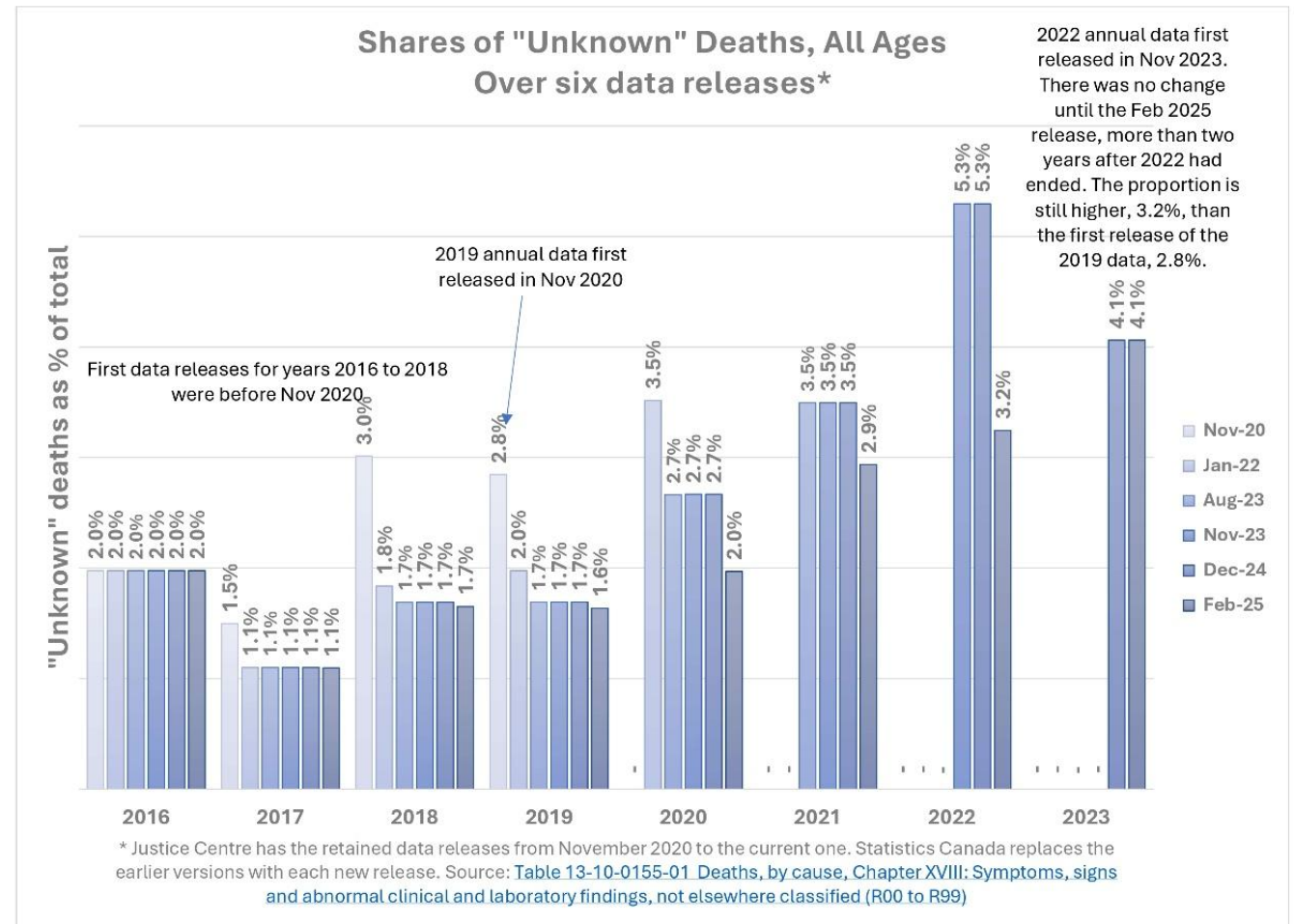
## 8. Covid deaths spiked post-vaccine:

- By the end of 2021, more than 80 percent of Canadians were considered “fully vaccinated” against Covid.
- However, in 2022, Covid deaths increased to an all-time high of 19,900, according to Statistics Canada. This was much higher than the first two years of Covid, 15,800 Covid deaths in 2020, and 14,620 in 2021.
- Was the vaccine actually “effective”?



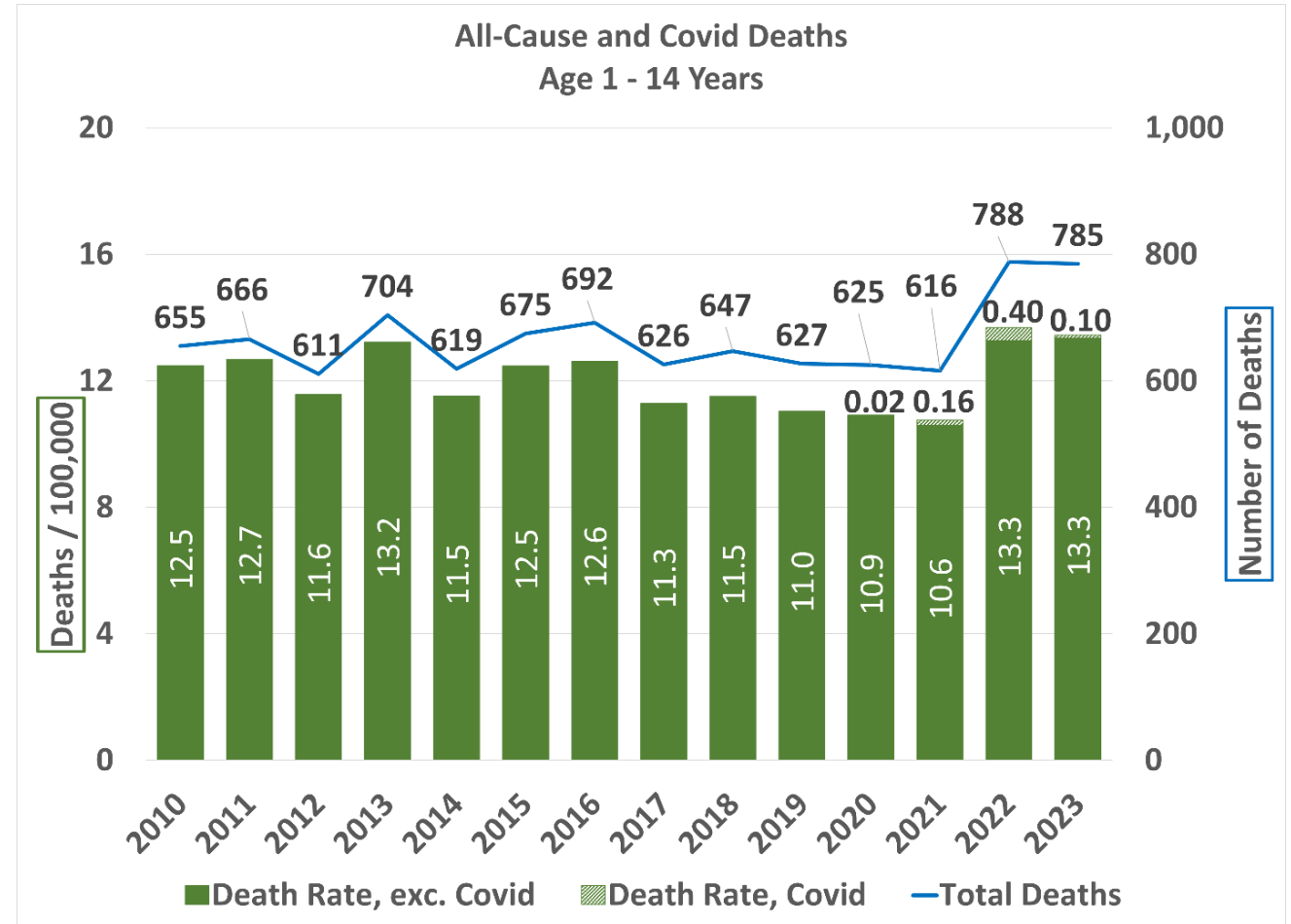
## 9. Unknown deaths are on the rise:

- Increasingly, Canadians are dying from “unknown causes.”
- This issue is especially **pronounced among younger** Canadians (under age 45). Today in 2025, more than 15% of younger Canadians who died in 2022 (2,640 of 17,780 deaths) have not yet been assigned a cause of death.
- This is not due to a lack of autopsies. Autopsies are carried out for only 6% to 7% of deaths in Canada.
- How did they die, Statistics Canada?**



# 10. Child deaths increased, but not from Covid:

- In Canada, children were as likely to die of Covid as of lightning strikes.
- Yet, Canada's child (aged 1-14) death rate increased by 16% in 2022, after governments imposed lockdowns and vaccine mandates.
- The death rate among children aged 1-14 increased from a previous five-year (2015-2019) average of 11.8 deaths per 100,000 to 13.7 deaths per 100,000 in 2022, and stayed at 13.5 deaths per 100,000 in 2023.
- Meanwhile, the total number of child deaths rose from a previous five-year average of 643 to 788 in 2022 and 785 in 2023.
- **Why are so many more children dying now? Not from Covid.**



## 11. Governments practiced a glaring double standard between “Covid deaths” and “vaccine deaths”:

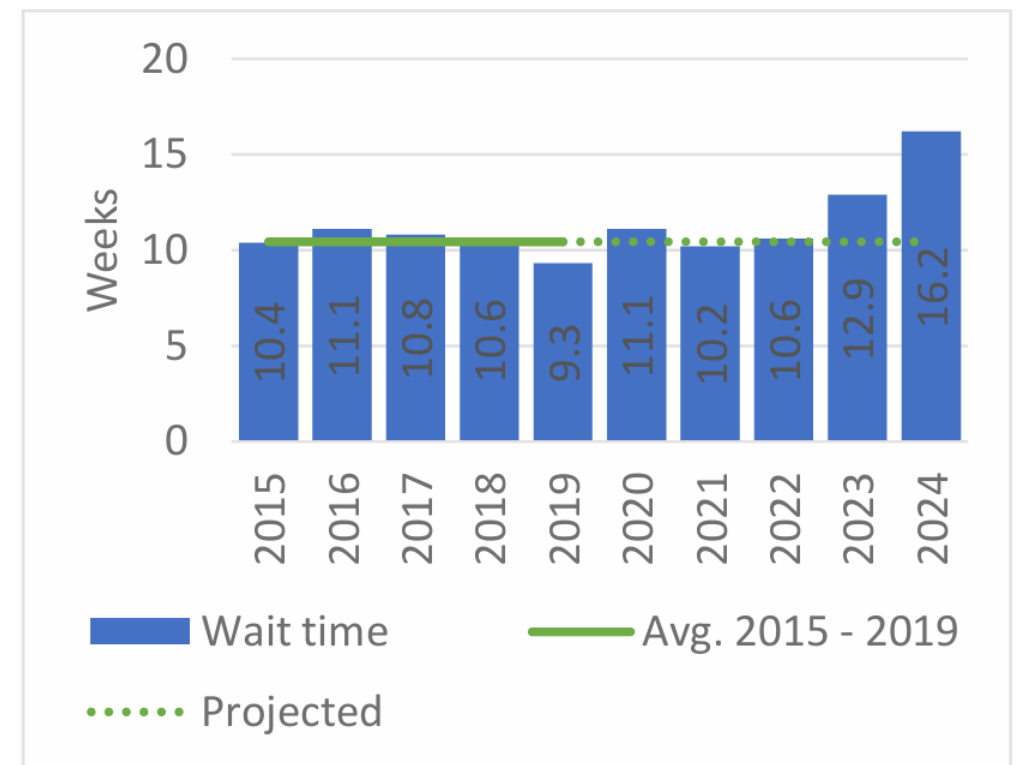


- In stark contrast to the WHO’s overbroad criteria for classifying Covid as death – as explained above in point 3 – the **guidelines for attributing deaths to Covid vaccines are extremely limiting.**
- Even when deaths occur **shortly after** the Covid vaccine injection, they are classified as “**indeterminate**” “if there is **insufficient definitive evidence**” to link them to the vaccine.
- Further, deaths are deemed **coincidental** (an “inconsistent causal association to immunization”) if there is an “underlying disease condition,” including not only physical illnesses but also *mental illnesses*. Such “coincidental” rulings would have been frequent among the elderly, who commonly have several “underlying conditions,” however severe.
- As expected, such limiting guidelines have generated **very few “Covid deaths.”** As of January 2024, Canadian doctors on the ground had reported 488 Covid vaccine deaths, yet **only four** of those were recognized by Public Health Officials.
- In short, the government’s criteria for establishing vaccine-related deaths are **designed to guarantee few “vaccine deaths,”** the polar opposite of their criteria for establishing Covid deaths.
- **Governments want Canadians to believe that Covid was deadly and that vaccines were safe. They played with the definitions to support a pre-determined narrative.**



## 12. Cancelled medical treatments result in increased wait times and deaths:

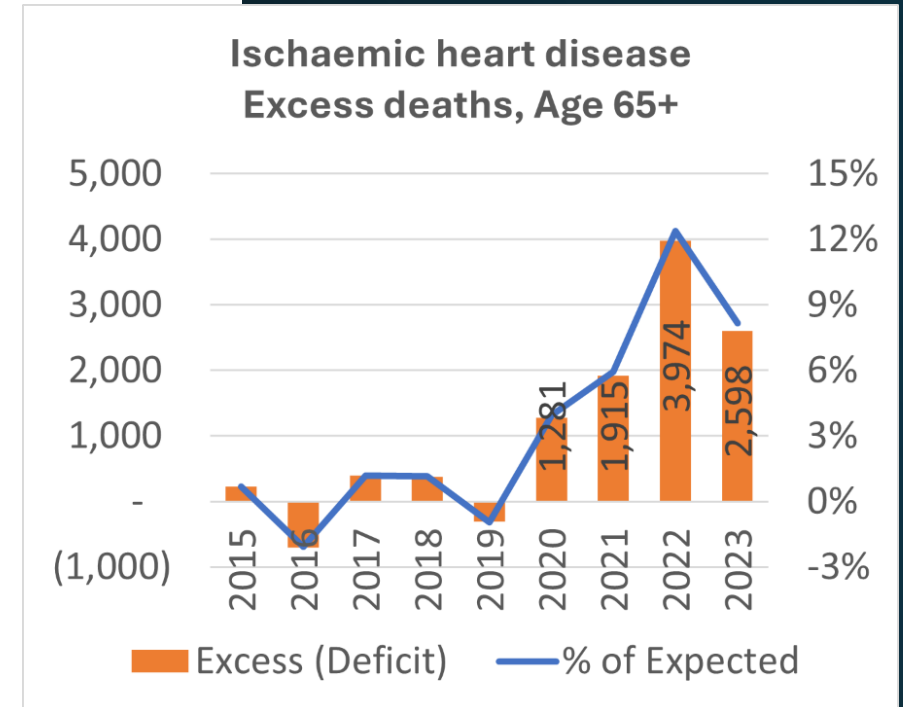
- Across Canada, provincial chief medical officers **cancelled hundreds of thousands of surgeries and diagnostic appointments** during Covid lockdowns. As a result, wait times to receive medical diagnoses and treatments have surged.
- Wait time to receive an MRI scan **rose by 55%**, from 10.4 weeks in 2015-19 to 16.2 weeks in 2024. Wait time from medical referral to receiving treatment rose by 43%, from a pre-lockdown high of 21 weeks, to 26 weeks by 2021, and 30 weeks by 2024.
- Today, many Canadians find themselves with advanced stages of cancers or other illnesses that could have been prevented with timely access to care during lockdowns. ([In the UK](#), delayed treatments are estimated to have led to an additional 281-344 deaths from breast cancer, 1,445-1,563 deaths from colorectal cancer, and 1,235-1,372 deaths from lung cancer.)
- **Timely access to medical treatment is not a luxury – it is a necessity that Canadian politicians and health officials apparently failed to understand.**





# 13. Canadian seniors are dying at alarming rates from non-Covid causes:

- Following the Covid vaccine in 2021, the number of Canadian seniors dying from coronary artery disease (or ischaemic heart disease) was 10.3% higher than the normal-and-expected number. There were **6,600 above-normal “excess” deaths** in 2022 and 2023 combined.
- Similarly, the number of Canadian seniors dying from digestive system diseases in 2022 and 2023 was 9.5% higher than expected. There were over 1,400 above-normal “excess” deaths following the Covid vaccine in 2021.
- Both, [coronary artery disease](#) and [digestive system diseases](#) are established side effects of the Covid vaccines.
- There was also a considerable spike in deaths from falls among the elderly, with about 670 unexpected deaths among Canadians aged 65 and above in 2022. [One study](#) on mRNA vaccine side effects found that “[f]all risk in the elderly population is exceptionally notable as many patients presented with shortness of breath, fatigue, dizziness, and dehydration.”
- In short, **more than 8,000 unexpected deaths** among Canadians aged 65 and above during 2022 and 2023 **appear to be linked to the Covid vaccine**.
- **This warrants further investigation.**





## 14. Despite these findings, Canadian politicians and public health officials remain silent:

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- Canadian public health officials appear **remarkably incurious** about the significant rise in unexpected deaths in the post-Covid years, after lockdowns and vaccine mandates.
- They **continue to insist that** Covid was an unprecedented threat to public health and caused unusually high death rates, but **Statistics Canada data says otherwise**. Covid was largely exaggerated and cannot explain the many thousands of additional deaths among the above non-Covid categories.
- These thousands of non-Covid deaths should not be swept under the rug.
- The Statistics Canada data calls on elected representatives as well as public health officials to investigate why so many more Canadians died after vaccine mandates were imposed, and why Canadian death rates – particularly among children and younger Canadians – have not returned to their lower pre-Covid and pre-lockdown levels.
- Read the full report here: <https://www.jccf.ca/reports/>

