

## Brain Injury Canada

# Acquired Brain Injury (ABI) FACT SHEET

Traumatic brain injuries are a **leading cause of death**. In the US, they account for over 30% of all injury deaths.<sup>1</sup> Canada is thought to have similar numbers of injuries, making this a problem of epidemic proportion.<sup>2</sup>

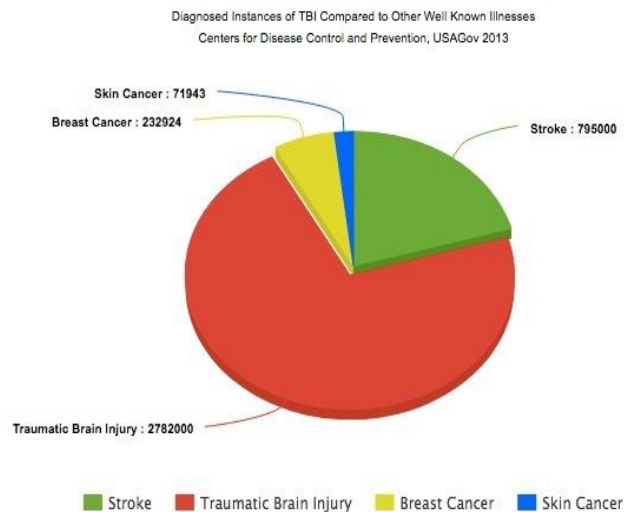
Falls are the leading cause of traumatic brain injury related hospital visits in the US, followed closely by motor vehicle collisions, being struck by or against something as in sports injuries, and violence such as assaults.<sup>3</sup>

There were **16,811** hospitalizations as a result of TBI in Canada in 2003–2004, that is **46** people every day.<sup>4</sup>

It is estimated that every year, 10 million people are affected by a traumatic brain injury globally.<sup>5</sup>

In 2021, an estimated **640,000** people will suffer from traumatic brain injuries in Canada. By 2031, this number is expected to exceed 730,000.<sup>6</sup>

According to the World Health Organization, traumatic brain injury will **surpass** many diseases as the **major** cause of death and disability by the year 2020.<sup>7</sup>



<sup>1</sup> A Taylor, J Breiding, L Xu, "Traumatic Brain Injury- Related Emergency Department Visits, Hospitalizations, and Deaths – United States 2007 and 2013" (2017) 66 MMWR Surveill Summ 1.

<sup>2</sup> S Alcorn, Penny Offer, *Living with Brain Injury: A Guide for Families and Caregivers* (Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 2015) at 4.

<sup>3</sup> Centre for Disease Control, [https://www.cdc.gov/traumaticbraininjury/data/dist\\_ed.html](https://www.cdc.gov/traumaticbraininjury/data/dist_ed.html)

<sup>4</sup> Canadian Institute for Health Information, *Head Injuries in Canada: A Decade of Change (1994–1995 to 2003–2004)*, (August 2006. Found on: [www.cihi.ca](http://www.cihi.ca)).

<sup>5</sup> Hyder, Adnan A., Wunderlich, Colleen A., Puvanachandra, Prasanthi, Gururaj, G., and Kobusingye, Olive C. "The impact of traumatic brain injuries: A global perspective." *Neurorehabilitation* 22, no. 5 (December 7, 2007): at 341.

<sup>6</sup> Neurological Health Charities Canada et al, *Mapping Collections: An Understanding of Neurological Conditions in Canada*, (Ottawa: Public Health Agency of Canada, 2014) at 66.

<sup>7</sup> Hyder, Adnan A., Wunderlich, Colleen A., Puvanachandra, Prasanthi, Gururaj, G., and Kobusingye, Olive C. "The impact of traumatic brain injuries: A global perspective." *Neurorehabilitation* 22, no. 5 (December 7, 2007): at 341.