

# Colorectal Cancer Screening Indicators: Data Specifications

July 2024

## Table of Contents

Indicator 1a: Screen-Eligible Population Based Participation Rate .....	3
Indicator 1b: Screening Program Participation Rate (Participation Rate Among Those Invited to Screen) .....	4
Indicator 1c: Up-to-date for Colorectal Cancer Screening.....	5
Indicator 2: Follow-Up Colonoscopy Rate.....	6
Indicator 3: Wait Time to Follow-up Colonoscopy .....	7
Indicator 4: Program Invasive Colorectal Cancer Rate .....	8

## Important note on cohort method:

In response to the interest of the provincial and territorial screening programs to contribute to the international body of knowledge on organized colorectal cancer screening, we are using this opportunity to leverage the data from this data call to report internationally with CanScreen5. This work has emerged from collaborative discussions between the Partnership and the Canadian Cancer Screening Research Network (CanSSCRN) to collect, prepare, and submit the data.

Please note that each screening indicator is measured using a cohort method for this round of data collection, except for indicators 8a and 8b. The same screening cohort is followed for each of the indicators as they move through the pathway, as opposed to using a specified timeframe for each indicator. **The screening cohort timeframe is defined by those who had at least one successful FT (screening with result) between July 2018 – December 2020 (24 months plus 6-month grace period)** and is indicated in the specifications by the “Screening cohort timeframe” row.

Should you have any questions about methodology, please don't hesitate to contact us at [cpaccddata@partnershipagainstcancer.ca](mailto:cpaccddata@partnershipagainstcancer.ca).

We thank you again for taking the time to complete this data request.

With warm regards,

CPAC Data Integration team & Screening team

## Indicator 1a: Screen-Eligible Population Based Participation Rate

<b>Definition</b>	<p>Proportion of the screen-eligible population who successfully completed <math>\geq</math> one fecal test (FT) in the program within the measurement timeframe, as defined by the duration of the 24-month screening cycle plus 6 months grace period.</p> <p><b>Note:</b> The cohort for this indicator is followed for subsequent indicators.</p>
<b>Target</b>	$\geq$ 60% of the screen-eligible population within the defined 24-month screening cycle
<b>Screening cohort timeframe</b>	July 2018 – December 2020
<b>Stratification Variables</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Age at FT (50-54, 55-59, 60-64, 65-69, 70-74)</li> <li>• Sex</li> <li>• Gender</li> <li>• Geographic location (Urban, Rural, Remote, Very remote)</li> </ul>
<b>Denominator</b>	Number of individuals in the screen-eligible population within 24-month screening cycle (July 1, 2018 – June 30, 2020)
<b>Numerator</b>	Of denominator, number of individuals who <b>successfully</b> completed $\geq$ one FT in the program within a 30-month period (24-month screening cycle plus 6 months grace period: July 1, 2018 – December 31, 2020)
<b>Notes</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Date of FT result refers to the date the laboratory has processed the sample (date of result).</li> <li>• The numerator excludes individuals who have only an inadequate FT; if an individual has an adequate and an inadequate FT, use the adequate FT.</li> <li>• Only count one successful FT per individual during the measurement timeframe: if more than one FT has been completed, use the most severe test for entering the cohort (e.g., if an individual has a normal and abnormal result for the same measurement timeframe, use the abnormal result); if more than one abnormal FT in the measurement timeframe, use the first one as the index for entering the cohort; if more than one normal FT in the measurement timeframe, use the most recent.</li> <li>• Age at FT is the age of the individual at FT laboratory result, which will be used for age breakdown.</li> <li>• The denominator will be provided by the program and be calculated to identify the population of screen-eligible individuals within the measurement timeframe; use the best rule as per provincial program. If the province uses the population data from Statistics Canada CANSIM projections, we suggest you take the average of Jan 1, 2019, and Jan 1, 2020, populations as the denominator.</li> <li>• Geography refers to an individual's place of residence or mailing address. Use the most recent version of PCCF+ to perform the analysis by geography. If other methodology is used, describe the details and data limitations in the 'Data Qualification Notes' section in the template. The categories (urban/rural/rural remote/rural very remote) are classified based on the CSIZEMIZ (Community size and metropolitan influence zone) variable from PCCF+: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1, 2, 3, 4: urban</li> <li>5: rural</li> <li>6: remote rural</li> <li>7: very remote rural</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

## Indicator 1b: Screening Program Participation Rate (Participation Rate Among Those Invited to Screen)

<b>Definition</b>	Proportion of the eligible population invited to screen who successfully completed $\geq$ one FT in the program within the measurement timeframe of 30 months
<b>Target</b>	n/a
<b>Screening cohort timeframe</b>	July 2018 – December 2020
<b>Stratification Variables</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Age at FT (50-54, 55-59, 60-64, 65-69, 70-74)</li> <li>• Sex</li> <li>• Gender</li> <li>• Geographic location (Urban, Rural, Remote, Very remote)</li> </ul>
<b>Denominator</b>	Number of individuals who were sent an invitation to screen within the 24-month screening cycle (July 1, 2018 – June 30, 2020)
<b>Numerator</b>	Of denominator, number of individuals who <b>successfully</b> completed $\geq$ one FT in the program within a 30-month period (24-month screening cycle plus 6 months grace period: July 1, 2018 – December 31, 2020)
<b>Notes</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• An 'invitation to screen' is to be interpreted as an invitation letter via direct mail to the personal address of an individual who is part of the target population and has access to the program.</li> <li>• Age at FT is the age of the individual at FT laboratory result, which will be used for age breakdown</li> <li>• Date of FT result refers to the date the laboratory has processed the sample (date of result).</li> <li>• The numerator excludes individuals who have only an inadequate FT; if an individual has an adequate and an inadequate FT, use the adequate FT.</li> <li>• Only count one successful FT per individual during the measurement timeframe: if more than one FT has been completed, use the most severe test for entering the cohort (e.g. if an individual has a normal and abnormal result for the same measurement timeframe, use the abnormal result); if more than one abnormal FT in the measurement timeframe, use the first one as the index for entering the cohort; if more than one normal FT in the measurement timeframe, use the most recent.</li> <li>• This indicator is only applicable to provinces that send invitations for colorectal cancer screening (AB, SK, MB, ON, NB, NS, PE, NL and NT).</li> <li>• Geography refers to an individual's place of residence or mailing address. Use the most recent version of PCCF+ to perform the analysis by geography. If other methodology is used, describe the details and data limitations in the 'Data Qualification Notes' section in the template. The categories (urban/rural/rural remote/rural very remote) are classified based on the CSIZEMIZ (Community size and metropolitan influence zone) variable from PCCF+: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1, 2, 3, 4: urban</li> <li>5: rural</li> <li>6: remote rural</li> <li>7: very remote rural</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

## Indicator 1c: Up-to-date for Colorectal Cancer Screening

<b>Definition</b>	Proportion of screen-eligible individuals who were up-to-date for colorectal screening within the measurement timeframe
<b>Target</b>	n/a
<b>Screening cohort timeframe</b>	July 2018 – December 2020  This indicator is not part of CanScreen5 reporting.
<b>Stratification variables</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Age (50-54, 55-59, 60-64, 65-69, 70-74)</li> <li>• Sex</li> <li>• Gender</li> <li>• Geographic location (Urban, Rural, Remote, Very remote)</li> </ul>
<b>Denominator</b>	Total number of screen-eligible individuals within the measurement timeframe
<b>Numerator</b>	<p>Number of screen-eligible individuals who were up-to-date for colorectal screening by the end of the measurement timeframe</p> <p><b>Note:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Individuals with inadequate FT or unsuccessful colonoscopy/sigmoidoscopy would not be considered up-to-date</li> </ul>
<b>Notes</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Age is the age of the individual on December 31 of 2020</li> <li>• Individuals were considered up-to-date for colorectal screening if they:               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) had a FT within the last two years (January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2019 to December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2020) OR</li> <li>2) had a colonoscopy in the last ten years (January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2011 to December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2020) OR</li> <li>3) had a flexible sigmoidoscopy in the last ten years (January 1<sup>st</sup> 2011 to December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2020)</li> </ol> </li> <li>• Geography refers to an individual's place of residence or mailing address. Use the most recent version of PCCF+ to perform the analysis by geography. If other methodology is used, describe the details and data limitations in the 'Data Qualification Notes' section in the template. The categories (urban/rural/rural remote/rural very remote) are classified based on the CSIZEMIZ (Community size and metropolitan influence zone) variable from PCCF+:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1, 2, 3, 4: urban</li> <li>5: rural</li> <li>6: remote rural</li> <li>7: very remote rural</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

## Indicator 2: Follow-Up Colonoscopy Rate

<b>Definition</b>	Proportion of individuals with an abnormal FT result who had a follow-up colonoscopy within 180 days (6 months)
<b>Target</b>	≥ 85%
<b>Screening cohort timeframe</b>	July 2018 – December 2020 (cohort identified in the numerator of indicator 1a)
<b>Stratification Variables</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Age at FT (50-54, 55-59, 60-64, 65-69, 70-74)</li> <li>• Sex</li> <li>• Gender</li> <li>• Screening round (First ever screen/Subsequent screen)</li> <li>• Geographic location (Urban, Rural, Remote, Very remote)</li> </ul>
<b>Denominator</b>	Number of individuals with an abnormal FT lab result within the screening cohort
<b>Numerator</b>	<p>Of denominator, those who had a follow-up colonoscopy within 180 days of the date of the abnormal FT lab result.</p> <p><b>Note:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Incomplete colonoscopies (caecum not reached, stopped due to patient discomfort, etc.) are included.</li> <li>• Use the first colonoscopy after the abnormal FT even if multiple colonoscopies are performed.</li> </ul> <p><b>Exclusion:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Any colonoscopy after 180 days of abnormal FT is excluded, even if it is the first and only colonoscopy.</li> </ul>
<b>Notes</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Date of FT result refers to the date the laboratory has processed the sample (date of result).</li> <li>• Age at FT is the age of the individual at FT laboratory result, which will be used for age breakdown.</li> <li>• Geography refers to an individual's place of residence or mailing address. Use the most recent version of PCCF+ to perform the analysis by geography. If other methodology is used, describe the details and data limitations in the 'Data Qualification Notes' section in the template.</li> </ul> <p>The categories (urban/rural/rural remote/rural very remote) are classified based on the CSIZEMIZ (Community size and metropolitan influence zone) variable from PCCF+:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1, 2, 3, 4: urban</li> <li>5: rural</li> <li>6: remote rural</li> <li>7: very remote rural</li> </ul>

### Indicator 3: Wait Time to Follow-up Colonoscopy

<b>Definition</b>	1) Median and 90 <sup>th</sup> percentile (in days) from the abnormal FT result to a follow-up colonoscopy (within 180 days of the abnormal FT) 2) Percentage of follow-up colonoscopies performed within 60 days of an abnormal FT
<b>Target</b>	≥ 90% within 60 days
<b>Screening cohort timeframe</b>	July 2018 – December 2020 (cohort identified in the numerator of indicator 1a)
<b>Stratification Variables</b>	Geographic location (Urban, Rural, Remote, Very remote)
<b>Denominator</b>	Number of individuals with an abnormal FT lab result within the screening cohort  <b>Exclusion:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Individuals who had an abnormal FT result but did not have a follow-up colonoscopy within 180 days</li> </ul>
<b>Numerator</b>	Of denominator: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Median and 90<sup>th</sup> percentile (in days) from an abnormal FT result to a follow-up colonoscopy</li> <li>Number of individuals who had a colonoscopy performed within 60 days of an abnormal FT</li> </ul>
<b>Notes</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Date of the abnormal FT is the date the result is reported by the laboratory for each individual test.</li> <li>If there is more than one abnormal FT, the date of the first test is used.</li> <li>The colonoscopy may have been performed inside or outside the screening program, please provide data only for individuals whose abnormal FT was performed in the screening program.</li> <li>Age at FT is the age of the individual at FT laboratory result, which will be used for age breakdown.</li> <li>Geography refers to an individual's place of residence or mailing address. Use the most recent version of PCCF+ to perform the analysis by geography. If other methodology is used, describe the details and data limitations in the 'Data Qualification Notes' section in the template.</li> </ul> <p>The categories (urban/rural/rural remote/rural very remote) are classified based on the CSIZEMIZ (Community size and metropolitan influence zone) variable from PCCF+:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1, 2, 3, 4: urban</li> <li>5: rural</li> <li>6: remote rural</li> <li>7: very remote rural</li> </ul>



## Indicator 4: Program Invasive Colorectal Cancer Rate

<b>Definition</b>	Rate per 1,000 individuals with colorectal cancer confirmed by pathology from a follow-up colonoscopy performed within 180 days of an abnormal screening FT screened within the measurement timeframe
<b>Target</b>	≥ 2 colorectal cancers per 1,000 screened
<b>Screening cohort timeframe</b>	July 2018 – December 2020 (cohort identified in the numerator of indicator 1a)
<b>Stratification Variables</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Age at FT (50-54, 55-59, 60-64, 65-69, 70-74)</li> <li>• Sex</li> <li>• Gender</li> <li>• Screening round (First ever screen/Subsequent screen)</li> <li>• Geographic location (Urban, Rural, Remote, Very remote)</li> </ul>
<b>Denominator</b>	Number of individuals who had ≥ one successful FT processed by the laboratory within the screening cohort timeframe
<b>Numerator</b>	<p>Of denominator, number of individuals with colorectal cancer confirmed by pathology from a follow-up colonoscopy performed within 180 days of the abnormal fecal test result</p> <p><b>Inclusions:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ICD-10 codes of malignant CRC (behaviour 3): C18.0; C18.2 – C18.9; C19; C20; C26.0</li> </ul> <p><b>Exclusions:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Histology types in ICD-O3: 9590-9992 (leukemia, lymphoma and multiple myeloma), 9050-9055 (mesothelioma), and 9140 (Kaposi sarcoma)</li> <li>• 8806 (for sarcoma)</li> <li>• 881_ – 883_ fibromatous neoplasms</li> <li>• 8840 – 8842 myxomatous neoplasms</li> <li>• 8850 – 8881 lipomatous neoplasms</li> <li>• 8890 – 8921 myomatous neoplasms</li> <li>• 8240, 8246, and 8249 for carcinoid tumors (a.k.a. neuroendocrine ca)</li> </ul>
<b>Notes</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Age at FT is the age of the individual at FT laboratory result, which will be used for age breakdown.</li> <li>• Only count one successful FT per individual during the measurement timeframe: if more than one FT has been completed, use the most severe test for entering the cohort (e.g. if an individual has a normal and abnormal result for the same measurement timeframe, use the abnormal result); if more than one abnormal FT in the measurement timeframe, use the first one as the index for entering the cohort; if more than one normal FT in the measurement timeframe, use the most recent.</li> </ul>