

Survey Fact Sheet

Sample Size/Margin of Error

Province	Number of Interviews	Margin of error
Atlantic Canada	1,151	±2.9%
Nova Scotia	298	±5.7%
New Brunswick	300	±5.7%
Newfoundland and Labrador	303	±5.7%
Prince Edward Island	250	±6.2%

Key reasons for not having had a mammogram

Among women who have never had a mammogram

New Brunswick

More than one-quarter (28 per cent) of New Brunswick women have not had a mammogram because they believe they don't need one.

Reason (key mentions)	Percentage
Don't need one/Don't have any problems	28%
Just haven't/No reason	11%
My age/Not at the right age yet	19%
Was never recommended	13%
No family history of breast cancer	6%
Don't know/No Answer	23%

Prince Edward Island

Almost one-third (31 per cent) of Prince Edward Island women have not had a mammogram because they believe they don't have need one.

Reason (key mentions)	Percentage
Don't need one/Don't have any problems	31%
Just haven't/No reason	9%
My age/Not at the right age yet	11%
Was never recommended	17%
No family history of breast cancer	14%
Don't know/No Answer	14%

Nova Scotia

More than one-quarter (26 per cent) of Nova Scotia women have not had a mammogram because they believe they don't need one.

Reason (key mentions)	Percentage
Don't need one/Don't have any problems	26%
Just haven't/No reason	12%
My age/Not at the right age yet	19%
Was never recommended	19%
No family history of breast cancer	12%
Don't know/No answer	10%

Newfoundland and Labrador

One-fifth (20 per cent) of Prince Edward Island women have not had a mammogram because they believe they don't need one.

Reason (key mentions)	Percentage
Don't need one/Don't have any problems	20%
Just haven't/No reason	30%
My age/Not at the right age yet	13%
Was never recommended	15%
No family history of breast cancer	6%
Don't know/No answer	13%

Key motivations to make an appointment for a mammogram

Among women who have never had a mammogram

New Brunswick

More than one-quarter (26 per cent) of New Brunswick women would be motivated to make an appointment for a mammogram if there was a medical reason or if they found a lump.

Motivation (key mentions)	Percentage
If there was a medical reason/If I found a lump	26%
Would go on doctor's recommendation	17%
My age/Will have one when I turn 50	6%
Ask my doctor/Get an appointment set up	0%
If I felt it was necessary/A reason to go (general)	4%

Prince Edward Island

Nearly one-third (29 per cent) of Prince Edward Island women would be motivated to make an appointment for a mammogram if there was a medical reason or if they found a lump.

Motivation (key mentions)	Percentage
If there was a medical reason/If I found a lump	29%
Would go on doctor's recommendation	9%
My age/Will have one when I turn 50	6%
Ask my doctor/Get an appointment set up	11%
If I felt it was necessary/A reason to go (general)	11%

Nova Scotia

More than one-quarter (26 per cent) of Nova Scotia women would be motivated to make an appointment for a mammogram if there was a medical reason or if they found a lump.

Motivation (key mentions)	Percentage
If there was a medical reason/If I found a lump	26%
Would go on doctor's recommendation	21%
My age/Will have one when I turn 50	7%
Ask my doctor/Get an appointment set up	7%
If I felt it was necessary/A reason to go (general)	5%

Newfoundland and Labrador

Nearly one-quarter (26 per cent) of Newfoundland and Labrador women would be motivated to make an appointment for a mammogram if there was a medical reason or if they found a lump.

Motivation (key mentions)	Percentage
If there was a medical reason/If I found a lump	26%
Would go on doctor's recommendation	17%
My age/Will have one when I turn 50	4%
Ask my doctor/Get an appointment set up	4%
If I felt it was necessary/A reason to go (general)	0%

Recommended age to start routine mammogram breast screening for breast cancer for women that are not at risk

New Brunswick

In New Brunswick, the current recommended age to begin routine breast screening is 50. CBCF-Atlantic recommends women begin routine breast screening at the age of 40. Among New Brunswick women surveyed, the mean age they believe breast screening should begin is 42.8.

Age	Percentage
Under 40	10%
40	24%
Over 40	30%
Don't Know/No Answer	27%
Mean Age	42.8

Prince Edward Island

In Prince Edward Island, the current recommended age to begin routine breast screening is 50. CBCF-Atlantic recommends women begin routine breast screening at the age of 40. Among Prince Edward Island women surveyed, the mean age they believe breast screening should begin is 43.2.

Age	Percentage
Under 40	8%
40	27%
Over 40	33%
Don't Know/No Answer	26%
Mean Age	43.2

Nova Scotia

In Nova Scotia, the current recommended age to begin routine breast screening is 40—the same age recommended by CBCF-Atlantic. Among Nova Scotia women surveyed, the mean age they believe breast screening should begin is 40.6.

Age	Percentage
Under 40	12%
40	39%
Over 40	18%
Don't Know/No Answer	24%
Mean Age	40.6

Newfoundland and Labrador

In Newfoundland and Labrador, the current recommended age to begin routine breast screening is 50. CBCF-Atlantic recommends women begin routine breast screening at the age of 40. Among Newfoundland and Labrador women surveyed, the mean age they believe breast screening should begin is 41.4.

Age	Percentage
Under 40	11%
40	32%
Over 40	25%
Don't Know/No Answer	26%
Mean Age	41.4

Is a doctor's referral required to get an appointment for breast screening in my province?

New Brunswick

57 per cent of New Brunswick women believe a doctor's referral for breast screening needed; whereas 36 per cent believe it a referral is not needed.

In New Brunswick, women between 50 and 69 years of age can self-refer to breast screening, while women between 40 and 49 years of age and those over 69 years of age require a doctor's referral.

Response	Percentage
Yes	57%
No	36%
Don't know/No answer	7%

Prince Edward Island

Prince Edward Island women are divided on whether a doctor's referral for breast screening is required, when in fact women aged 50 to 69 do not require a doctor's referral.

Response	Percentage
Yes	44%
No	46%
Don't know/No answer	10%

Nova Scotia

Almost two-thirds (65 per cent) of Nova Scotia women surveyed knew a doctor's referral was not required for breast screening in their province. Women 40 and older can book their own appointments for screening.

Response	Percentage
Yes	30%
No	65%
Don't know/No answer	5%

Newfoundland and Labrador

Two-thirds (66 per cent) of Newfoundland and Labrador women surveyed said that a doctor's referral was required for breast screening in their province.

In Newfoundland and Labrador, only women between 50 and 69 years of age can self-refer for breast screening.

Response	Percentage
Yes	66%
No	27%
Don't know/No answer	6%

There is a toll-free number for booking breast screening/mammograms in my province

New Brunswick

84 per cent of New Brunswick women don't know or inaccurately believe there is a toll-free number for booking breast screening/mammograms in their province. Breast cancer screening services are currently offered at 16 sites throughout New Brunswick with separate phone numbers.

Response	Percentage
Yes	29%
No	16%
Don't know/No answer	55%

Prince Edward Island

Almost nine out of ten (88 per cent) Prince Edward Island women don't know or inaccurately believe there is a toll-free number for booking breast screening/mammograms in their province. Mammograms are available in Charlottetown and Summerside under separate numbers.

Response	Percentage
Yes	42%
No	12%
Don't know/No answer	46%

Nova Scotia

Nearly three quarters (72 per cent) of Nova Scotia women know there is a central toll-free number for booking breast screening/mammograms in their province. Eligible women in Nova Scotia can call 1-800-565-0548 to book their appointment.

Response	Percentage
Yes	72%
No	2%
Don't know/No answer	26%

Newfoundland and Labrador

More than three-quarters (77 per cent) of Newfoundland and Labrador women don't know or inaccurately believe there is not a toll-free number for booking breast screening/mammograms in their province. Eligible women in Newfoundland and Labrador can call 1-800-414-3443 to book their appointment.

Response	Percentage
Yes	23%
No	26%
Don't know/No answer	51%

Expected average wait time in months for a breast screening appointment once referred by a doctor

Nationally, the wait time average for screening is 12 weeks (or three months).

New Brunswick

Although most women believe the wait will be about three months, in some parts of New Brunswick, women wait as long as one year for a mammogram from the time an appointment has been made.

Time	Percentage
3 months or less	43%
4 to 6 months	8%
More than 6 months	8%
Mean number of months	3.9

Prince Edward Island

Women in PEI had diverse perceptions of the wait time in the province, which is actually five to seven months for a mammogram from the time an appointment has been made.

Time	Percentage
3 months or less	23%
4 to 6 months	22%
More than 6 months	25%
Mean number of months	6.9

Nova Scotia

In 2007, wait times in Nova Scotia varied from site to site, ranging from two days to 47 weeks from the time an appointment has been made. More recently, the wait times have been dropping with the introduction of digital mammography.

Time	Percentage
3 months or less	38%
4 to 6 months	12%
More than 6 months	6%
Mean number of months	3.6

Newfoundland and Labrador

Actual wait time numbers are not available for Newfoundland and Labrador, however most women believe the wait time to be less than three months.

Time	Percentage
3 months or less	42%
4 to 6 months	15%
More than 6 months	9%
Mean number of months	3.9