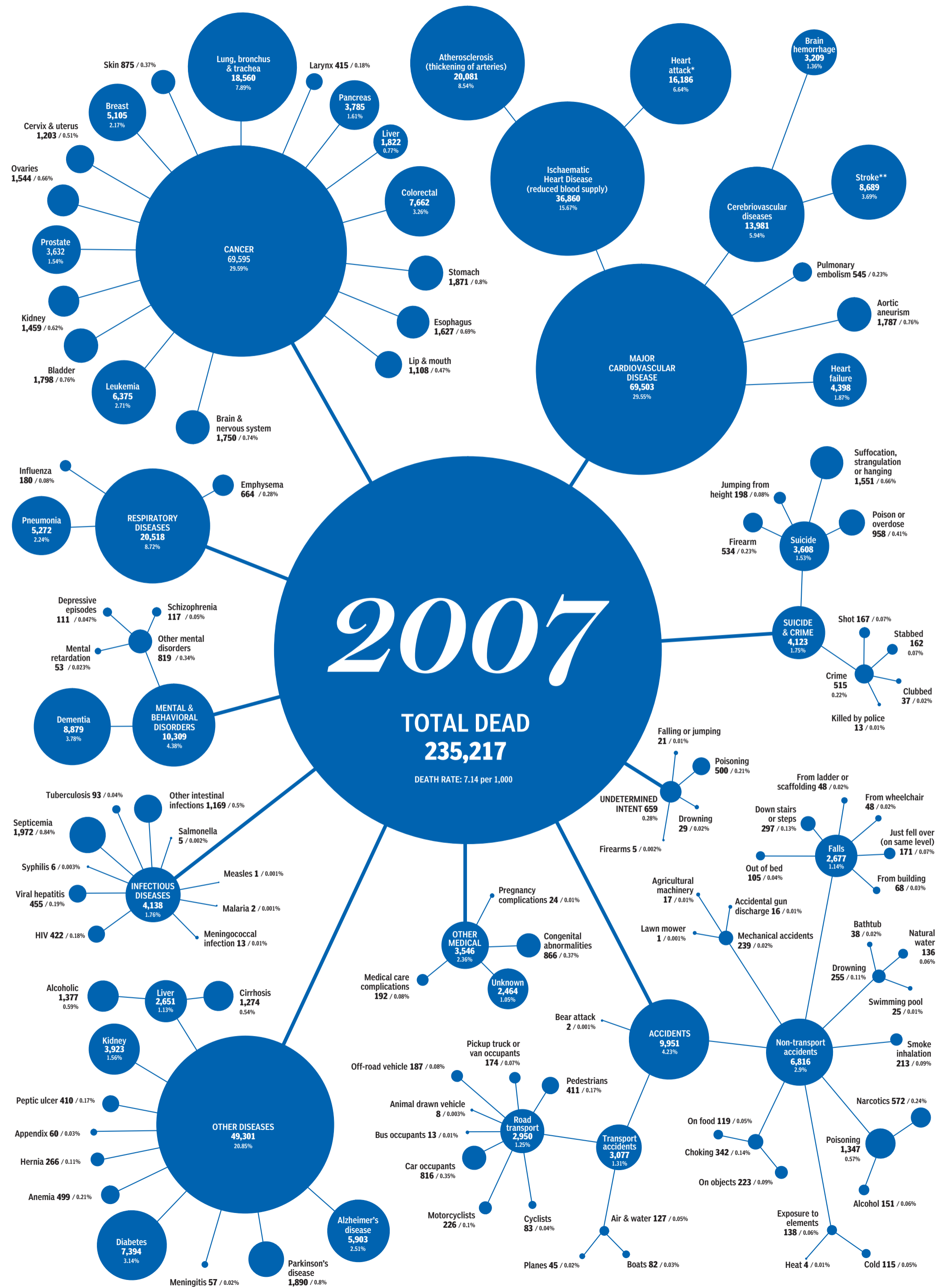


Over 40 years, improved cardiovascular health — thanks to lifestyle changes and treatment — and fewer fatal accidents have contributed to longer lives. As Canadians live longer, however, more of them get cancer. What about the next 40 years? Donna Wilson, a University of Alberta professor of nursing and co-author of *Dying and Death in Canada*, cautions that rising obesity rates could cause cardiovascular deaths to climb once again. Doctors are not allowed to list old age on a death certificate, but Dr. Wilson and others have argued for it to be the “1,000th cause.”



*Heart attack = "acute myocardial infarction" + "cardiac arrest"; ** Stroke = "cerebral infarction" + "stroke"
 SOURCES: STATISTICS CANADA/DOMINION BUREAU OF STATISTICS; CANADIAN CANCER SOCIETY; FUNERAL SERVICE ASSOCIATION OF CANADA; CREMATION ASSOCIATION OF NORTH AMERICA; ONTARIO FORENSIC PATHOLOGY SERVICE
 ADAM McDOWELL & RICHARD JOHNSON / NATIONAL POST