

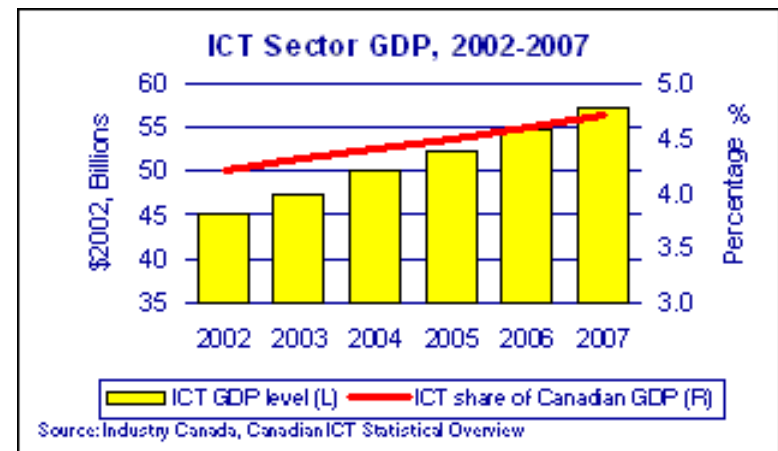
Canada's ICT Investments in our Economic Plan

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Canadian Embassy
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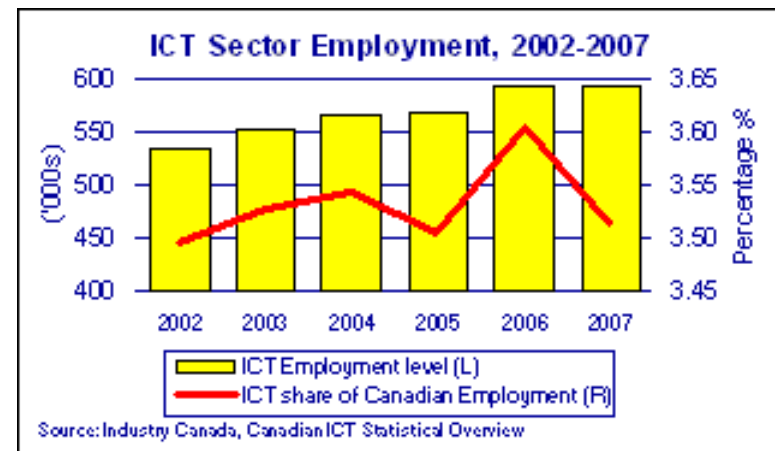


ICT in Canada

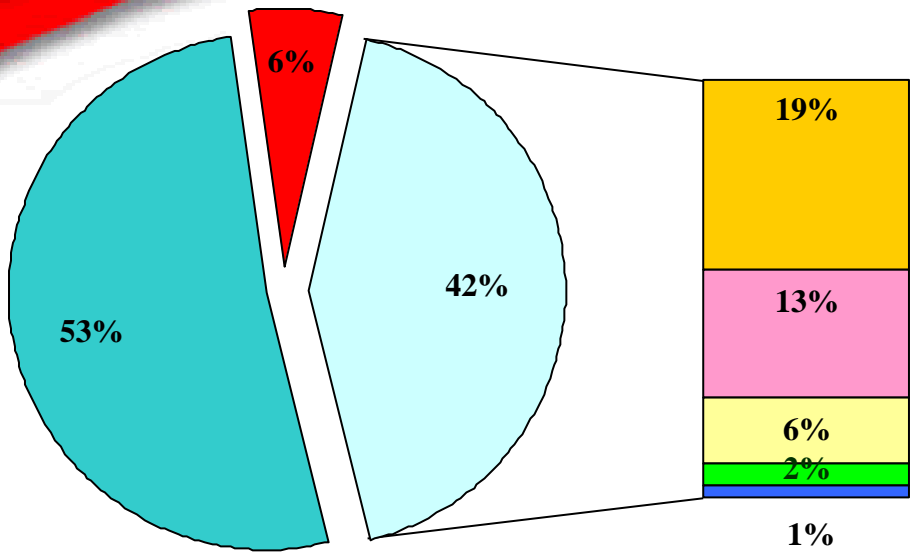
- The ICT Sector consists mainly of small companies...
- Generates close to \$150± billion in revenues
- The ICT Sector makes a substantial contribution to the Canadian GDP...










- ICT is a major source of jobs.
- ICT industries are the largest performers of private sector R&D...
- Have a knowledge-intensive workforce...
- That earns above-average wages.



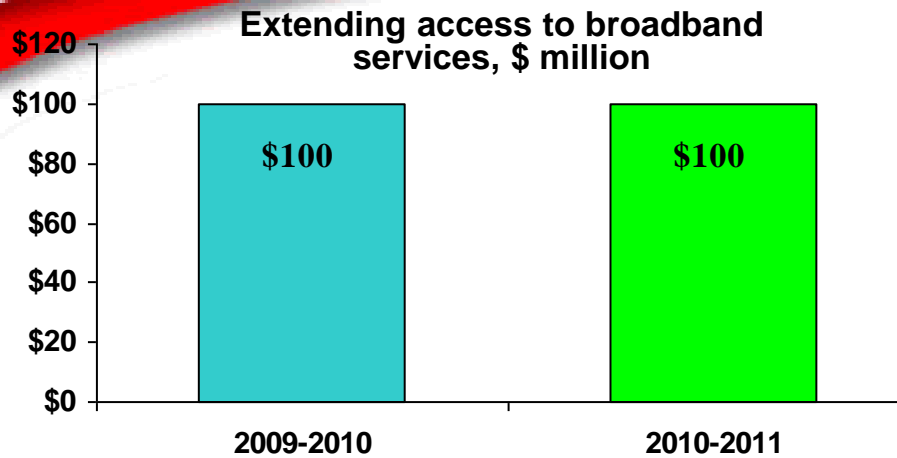
Investments in Knowledge



-  Providing \$225 million over three years to develop and implement a strategy on extending broadband coverage to unserved communities
-  Dedicating up to \$2 billion to repair, retrofit and expand facilities at post-secondary institutions
-  Providing \$750 million for leading-edge research infrastructure through the Canada Foundation for Innovation
-  Providing \$500 million to Canada Health Infoway to encourage the greater use of electronic health records

-  Providing \$250 million over two years to address deferred maintenance at federal laboratories
-  Allocating \$87 million over the next two years to maintain or upgrade key Arctic research facilities
-  Providing \$50 million to the Institute for Quantum Computing in Waterloo, Ontario to build a new world-class research facility

Source: Budget 2009: Canada's Economic Action Plan. <http://www.budget.gc.ca/2009/home-accueil-eng.asp>



Figures in this chart are presented on an accrual basis and therefore will not match the figures contained in the budget text when those are presented on a cash basis.

- Canada was one of the first countries to implement a connectivity agenda geared toward facilitating Internet access to all of its citizens
- To this day, Canada remains one of the most connected nations in the world, with the highest broadband connection rate among the G7 countries.
- However, gaps in access to broadband remain, particularly in rural and remote communities

- **The Government is committed to closing the broadband gap in Canada by encouraging the private development of rural broadband infrastructure**
- Budget 2009 provides \$225 million over three years to Industry Canada to develop and implement a strategy on extending broadband coverage to all currently unserved communities beginning in 2009–10

Source: Budget 2009: Canada's Economic Action Plan. <http://www.budget.gc.ca/2009/home-accueil-eng.asp>

Need to manage health information will intensify



Resource pressures are intensifying

- Health care costs and personnel shortages are increasing
- Improved performance management, remote access, and productivity gains will be needed

Care settings are shifting

- Care is shifting from GPs and acute care to home care and other alternatives in the community
- Integration among these increasing points of care will be necessary as patients will pass through several care settings during treatment



- ✓ **Providers, managers, patients, and the public are demanding more**
- ✓ **IT has the potential to enable solutions to address many of these pressures**

Consumerism is growing

- Canadians are demanding a more transparent and timely health care system
- Improved performance management, alternative access channels, and self care must be developed



Population is aging

- The burden of chronic diseases and cancer is increasing as the baby boomers age
- Lifestyle choices are also increasing the incidence (e.g., diabetes, cardiovascular)
- More proactive medicine (e.g., screening, guideline compliance) will be needed to provide high-quality, cost-effective treatment over longer care cycles



Canada Health Infoway

- An independent not-for-profit corporation, created in 2001 and entirely federally funded.
- **Mission:** to foster and accelerate the development and adoption of electronic health information systems with compatible standards and communications technologies on a pan-Canadian basis.
- The federal investment to date is \$1.6B + stimulus.

Goal

By 2010, every province and territory and the populations they serve will benefit from new health information systems that will help transform their health care system. Further, by 2010, 50 per cent of Canadians and by 2016, 100 per cent of Canadians will have their electronic health record (EHR) available to their authorized professionals who provide their health care services.

Funding Model

- Strategic investor – provides pan-Canadian leadership (e.g. national standards, privacy, architecture)
- Works with each jurisdiction to develop plans and fund projects
- Shares *development* and *implementation* costs (not ongoing maintenance) with P/Ts (generally 75% from Infoway)
- Gated approach to release of funds

The benefits

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Quality

- Better continuity of care which improves disease management and case management
- Appropriate care which adheres to guidelines/standards
- Prevention of adverse events and public health threats
- More effective care, improving health outcomes

Improves health care and saves lives, reducing the burden on the system and ensuring the optimal use of available capacity.

Productivity

- Provider time savings
- Avoidance of unnecessary diagnostics, procedures and visits
- Improved care coordination allowing better use of teams and appropriate human resources
- Improved health system management capability

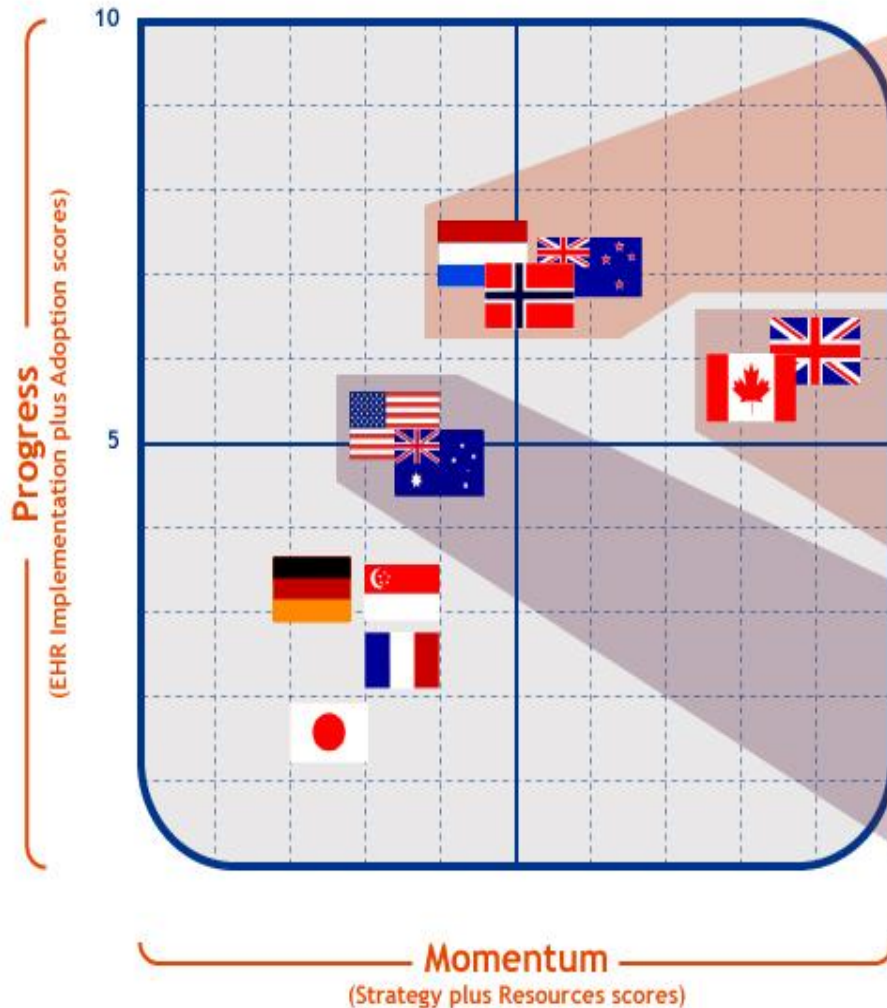
Improving the productivity of health care saves costs and makes optimal use of available human and other resources.

Access

- Timely delivery of care
- Increased interpretations by remote specialists
- Improved wait-times for diagnostic imaging services
- Improved availability of community-based health services
- Reduced patient travel time and cost to access services
- Increased patient participation in home care
- Increased patient access and use of their health record

Estimated benefits exceed \$6 billion annually

How Canada compares



Significant e-health progress, with EMR adoption, electronic communication and data sharing by many countries. Momentum hindered by lack of overall strategies or funding for achieving nationwide EHR.

Canada and UK trail New Zealand, Denmark, Norway and Netherlands. Canada, and UK have strong national strategies and resources to become the global leaders in the next three years.

The US and Australia lack momentum towards an EHR. Both have national strategies but lack funding to implement. With funding, both could join the leaders.

Status

- “Eighty percent of the largest economic recovery program in Canadian history underway,”
- The report highlights that Canada continues to be in the strongest financial position of any G-7 country, even with these historic investments. Experts such as the International Monetary Fund judge the Economic Action Plan to be a "timely, appropriately sized, diversified and well structured" response to the global recession.
- Specific Economic Action Plan initiatives will continue to roll out over the two-year time frame spelled out in the plan. The Government of Canada has re-launched www.actionplan.gc.ca