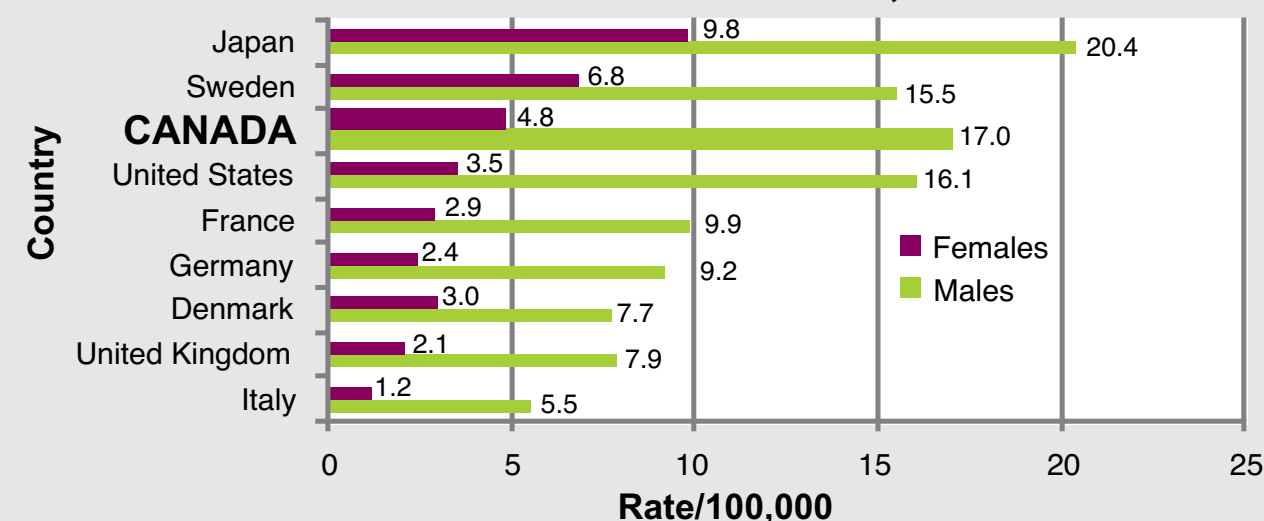




5.5.15 Health Issues

Fig. 5.5.15 International suicide rates of youth 15 to 24 years of age, Canada and other OECD* countries, mid/late 2000s



	Italy	U.K.	Denmark	Germany	France	USA	CANADA	Sweden	Japan
Males	5.5	7.9	7.7	9.2	9.9	16.1	17.0	15.5	20.4
Females	1.2	2.1	3.0	2.4	2.9	3.5	4.8	6.8	9.8

*OECD (Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development) is an organization that acts as a meeting ground for 30 countries that believe strongly in the free market system.

Adapted from the World Health Organization (WHO). Available at: http://www.who.int/mental_health/prevention/suicide/country_reports/en/index.html. Accessed on June 29, 2012.

In OECD countries, suicide rates are higher among young men aged 15 to 24 years than among young women. Japan has the highest suicide rate for both genders at 20.4/100,000 for young men and 9.8/100,000 for young women. Compared to the other OECD countries, Canada has the second highest suicide rate among young men (17/100,000) and the third highest among young women (4.8/100,000).

Implications

National data can hide differences that exist in one country. A new study released by Statistics Canada's health analysis division found that the suicide rate among children and teens in the Inuit homelands was 30 times that of youth in the rest of Canada between 2004 and 2008. For Inuit boys and young men, the rate was 101.6 /100,000, while the rate among boys and young men in the rest of the population was 6.1/100, 000.¹

¹ Oliver LN, Peters PA, Kohen DE. (2012). "Mortality Rates Among Children and Teenagers Living in Inuit Nunangat, 1994 to 2008." Available at: <http://www.statcan.gc.ca/pub/82-003-x/2012003/article/11695-eng.pdf>. Accessed on June 29, 2012.

