



The Daily

Statistics Canada

Friday, October 3, 2003

Released at 8:30 a.m. Eastern time

MAJOR RELEASES

- **September estimates of production of principal field crops, 2003** 2
Production of most field crops in 2003 improved from 2002, according to the results from the September crop production survey of Canadian farmers.
- **Family income and participation in postsecondary education, 1980 to 2000** 4
Postsecondary education is no more the domain of students from well-to-do families than it was two decades ago, according to a new study.

OTHER RELEASES

Steel primary forms — weekly data, week ending September 27, 2003 6

NEW PRODUCTS 7

RELEASE DATES: October 6 to 10 9



MAJOR RELEASES

September estimates of production of principal field crops

2003

Crop production for 2003 is expected to be well above 2002 for most crops. In Manitoba some crops may show a slight decline, as farmers were less affected by the drought of 2002. At the time of the survey, on average, western farmers were past the halfway point on this year's harvest. Harvesting conditions have been ideal, and grain and oilseed quality high.

Favourable growing conditions in Ontario and Quebec should serve to produce some new records and strong production values for this year's crops.

September production estimates

	2002	2003	2002 to 2003
	'000 tonnes		% change
Total wheat	16,198	22,000	36
Spring wheat	10,767	15,252	42
Barley	7,489	12,159	62
Grain Corn ¹	8,587	8,788	2
Canola	4,178	6,339	52
Durum wheat	3,877	4,028	4
Oats	2,911	3,719	28
Soybeans ¹	2,220	2,548	15
Field peas	1,366	2,247	64
Flaxseed	679	793	17
Rye	134	317	137

¹ Quebec and Ontario only.

Production of total wheat returns to the five year average

Total wheat production is expected to reach 22.0 million tonnes, an increase of 36% or 5.8 million tonnes from 2002. The recent five-year average for production is 22.9 million tonnes. Reported average yield was 31 bushels per acre, up from 27 in 2002. Harvesting is ahead of normal and quality should be much improved.

Spring wheat production in the west should rebound this year, up 44% to 14.9 million tonnes, the result of increases in both yield and harvested acreage. While this was welcome news, spring wheat production remains well short of the 10-year average of 18.3 million tonnes. Farmers in Saskatchewan and Alberta reported increases in both harvested acreage and yield, pushing up production 53% and 79%, respectively, while in

Note to readers

The September Farm Survey was conducted by telephone interviews from September 4 to 15. Farmers were asked to report their seeded areas, harvested areas, and yields of major grains and oilseeds.

Manitoba, farmers reported a small production loss of just 1% from 2002.

Durum production should rise 4% in 2003. Harvested area in Saskatchewan and Alberta rose, but yield trailed off compared with 2002. The result was an increase in production to 4.0 million tonnes. Durum is mainly grown in the southern part of the Prairies, an area that was generally less impacted by the drought of 2002. In spite of the increase, production is still well below the 10-year average of 4.5 million tonnes and the record of 6.0 million tonnes.

Winter wheat production in Ontario will jump to a record 2.1 million tonnes, easily passing the record 1.4 million tonnes set in 1999. A large increase in harvested area and a record yield of 76 bushels per acre combined to produce the increase.

Barley production on the rebound

Farmers in Western Canada reported strong increases in barley production. Alberta showed the strongest growth, followed by Saskatchewan and Manitoba. This will result in a return to near average levels this year, with improved yields and an average cut for silage. Production is estimated at 11.2 million tonnes, up 4.8 million tonnes from 2002 and in line with the 10-year average of 11.4 million tonnes. Although greatly improved, yields will continue to be below average at 49 bushels per acre, lagging considerably behind the 10-year average of 54 bushels per acre.

Farmers can expect improved export opportunities to emerge later this year, the result of declines in barley production in the European Union and Eastern Europe.

Canola production returns to normal

At the time of the survey, western farmers reported that canola production rose to 6.3 million tonnes, a value in line with the 10-year average, and a strong increase from last year's 4.1 million tonnes. An improvement

in yield and decrease in abandonment combined to produce the increase. The increases were shared by all western provinces.

Field pea production set to rise to above average

Field pea production will increase 64% to 2.2 million tonnes in Western Canada. Increases were reported in Saskatchewan and Alberta, where an improvement in yield and harvested area combined to raise production, surpassing the 10-year average of 1.8 million tonnes. Overall, yield was reported at 26 bushels per acre, a much better result than 2002, but short of the 10-year average of 30 bushels per acre.

Corn production rises in Ontario, sets record in Quebec

Corn production increased in Ontario and Quebec, where favourable growing conditions could improve yields considerably. Quebec farmers reported that production could reach record territory at 3.3 million tonnes, an improvement of 5% over the record set in 2002. In Ontario, production is set to rise 1% to 5.5 million tonnes, an estimate well above the 10-year average of 5.2 million tonnes.

Soybean production rises in Ontario and Quebec

Soybean production in Ontario and Quebec is set to improve, primarily the result of improved growing conditions in 2003. Ontario soybean production should rise 11% to 2.1 million tonnes, marginally above the 10-year average of 2.0 million tonnes. Quebec production could rise 35% to 425,000 tonnes, the result of increased yield and harvested area.

Available on CANSIM: tables 001-0010, 001-0017 and 001-0019.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 3401.

*Field crop reporting series: September estimate of production of principal field crops, Canada, 2003, Vol. 82, no. 7 (22-002-XIB, \$12/\$71; 22-002-XPB, \$17/\$95) is now available. See *How to order products*.*

The November estimates of production of principal field crops will be available December 5.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality, contact Karen Gray (204-983-2856; karen.gray@statcan.ca) or Dave Roeske (613-951-0572; dave.roeske@statcan.ca), Agriculture Division. ■

Family income and participation in postsecondary education

1980 to 2000

Postsecondary education is no more the domain of students from well-to-do families than it was two decades ago, according to a new study.

The study confirmed that individuals from higher-income families are much more likely to attend university. However, this has been a long-standing tendency. In fact, the participation gap between students from the higher- and lower-income families attending university narrowed through the 1990s.

This in part reflects increases in the participation rates among students from the lower-income families. It also reflects declines in the rates of those from higher-income families.

The study assessed the relationship between postsecondary schooling and family income using data from the Survey of Consumer Finances and the General Social Survey.

Overall, postsecondary participation at college and university levels was at historic highs, and there was no strong evidence that drop-out rates have increased.

Participation rates at university among students from lower-income households increased slightly during the 1990s. There were no significant differences in participation rates in colleges or vocational schools across income classes.

The correlation between parental income and university participation did in fact become stronger, but only to about the mid-1990s, just after tuition fees first experienced substantial increases. The strength of the relationship has weakened since then. This reflects the fact that students, in an era of rising tuition fees, borrowed more once changes increasing the maximum loan limits were introduced to student loan programs. The average amount of student loans rose significantly during the 1990s.

The study found that the option to choose lower-cost community colleges and, in particular, to borrow more, were important factors influencing the relationship between family income and university education. College participation was not related in any significant way to family income.

Steady gains in university participation rates among youth from lower income families

The only group to make steady gains in university participation rates through the 1990s consisted of young people aged 18 to 24 from families with the lowest incomes.

Note to readers

This release is based on a new research paper titled Family income and participation in postsecondary education, available today.

Data came from two primary sources: the Survey of Consumer Finances (SCF) and the 1986, 1994 and 2001 General Social Survey (GSS). A supplement of the Labour Force Survey, the SCF provides cross-sectional data on the income of Canadians and information on the labour market activities of individuals aged 15 and older in the economic household.

The analysis used both individual and economic family files of the SCF from 1979 to 1997, focussing on youth aged 18 to 24. The GSS gathers data on social trends to monitor changes in the living conditions and well-being of Canadians over time, and provides information on specific policy issues of current or emerging interest.

By the late 1990s, young people from families with incomes of \$25,000 or less were almost as likely to be attending university as those whose parents had \$25,000 to \$50,000 in income. In addition, their level of university participation was much closer to that of people whose parents had up to \$100,000 than was the case earlier in the 1990s.

At the high end of the scale, about 40% of young people from families with incomes of \$100,000 or more had a university degree or were enrolled in university. This rate has ebbed and flowed a bit, but for the most part it has not changed since the early to mid-1980s. It has been substantially and perennially higher than those for lower income groups.

The participation rate for young people from families with more than \$75,000 to \$100,000 was also notably higher than for lower income groups. It ranged from 20% to 30%.

However, the pattern of change has not varied greatly once family income exceeded \$25,000. Participation rates trended up throughout the 1980s, then stopped growing and even declined during the 1990s.

The peak in participation rates seems to have occurred in 1991 or 1992. Only in the case of individuals from the lowest income families — \$25,000 or less — has there been a steady progress in participation rates throughout the 1990s. Rates among this group started at less than 10% during the early 1980s and rose to 19% by 1997.

College participation not as closely tied to family income

In college, the patterns have been very different. Participation rates are much more similar across family

income groupings, differing only by about one to three percentage points. Further, there has been steady growth in participation, starting at about 15% to 20% in the early 1980s, rising steadily to about 20% to 25%.

Although college participation was not as closely tied to family income as university participation, the lowest income group has again experienced the most consistent growth. In addition, for middle income groups, there has been steady if slight increases through the 1990s.

For men, participation in the postsecondary system as a whole — university and colleges together — has become more loosely tied to family background. This occurred in part because a larger proportion pursue studies in community colleges rather than universities.

Young women also displayed a tendency to choose community college over university, but only for two or three years when tuition fees first started rising. By the mid-1990s, college participation rates among women fell, and remained flat for the rest of the decade. However, their participation rates in university increased and returned to earlier rates of growth.

Link between university participation and parental income eases, but student borrowing soars

The correlation between parental income and university participation increased during the early 1990s and declined during the remainder of the decade. This is consistent with the fact that changes in the Canada Student Loan Program (CSLP) raising the maximum amount of a loan occurred only after tuition fees had already begun to rise.

Costs of higher education rose during the 1990s and, in part, these costs were shifted onto students. This was coincident with much higher levels of borrowing, and the decline in university participation rates of young people from middle-income families (those with incomes ranging from \$25,000 to \$100,000).

Nationally, from 1990/91 to 1999/2000, arts tuition fees almost doubled, on average, rising from \$1,866 to \$3,456. Students in Nova Scotia have consistently paid the highest fees, and faced the biggest increases.

The most notable change in the decisions of those attending post-secondary schools was with respect

to borrowing. Data from the Canadian Millennium Scholarship Foundation show that between the academic years 1986/87 and 1988/89, the number of borrowers fell by about 15%, but during the 1990s this trend was reversed. The total number of borrowers rose from just over 300,000 at the beginning of the decade to more than 500,000 by the end.

Furthermore, during the 1990s, the average student loan increased considerably. In a single year, from 1992/93 to 1993/94, the average amount borrowed through the CSLP and provincial programs other than Quebec went from about \$5,000 — where it had been since the early 1980s — to more than \$7,500. It edged up a bit thereafter, ending the 1990s at \$7,680.

This sharp jump early in the 1990s in part reflects CSLP changes that increased the limit on the maximum loan amount from \$105 a week to \$165 in 1994. Provinces that participated in the CSLP matched this increase according to a 60/40 ratio.

This shift in policy also led to an increase in the number of students receiving provincial student loans, since participating provinces previously only provided loans and grants to those whose need exceeded \$105 a week. The policy change prompted many provinces to end their grant programs and convert them to loan-granting programs.

The maximum allowable loan went from \$105 per week to \$275 per week in many provinces within one year.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey numbers, including related surveys, 3502 and 4501.

The research paper *Family income and participation in postsecondary education* (11F0019MIE2003210) is now available free of charge on Statistics Canada's website. From the home page, choose *Studies*. Under *Browse periodical and series*, choose *Free and for sale*, then, under *Series*, select *Analytical studies*.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Miles Corak (613-951-9047; miles.corak@statcan.ca) or John Zhao (613-951-1508; john.zhao@statcan.ca), Family and Labour Studies Division. ■

OTHER RELEASES

Steel primary forms — weekly data

Week ending September 27, 2003 (preliminary)

Steel primary forms production for the week ending September 27 totalled 290 122 metric tonnes, down 5.6% from 307 430 tonnes a week earlier and 10.6% from 324 364 tonnes in the same week of 2002.

The year-to-date total as of September 27 was 11 590 938 tonnes, down 3.0% from 11 944 152 tonnes in the same period of 2002.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2131.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact the dissemination officer (1-866-873-8789; 613-951-9497; manufact@statcan.ca), Manufacturing, Construction and Energy Division. ■

NEW PRODUCTS

Infomat — a weekly review, October 3, 2003
Catalogue number **11-002-XIE** (\$3/\$109).

Infomat — a weekly review, October 3, 2003
Catalogue number **11-002-XPE** (\$4/\$145).

Analytical Studies Branch research paper series:
Family income and participation in post-secondary education, no. 210
Catalogue number **11F0019MIE2003210**
(free).

Gross domestic product by industry, July 2003,
Vol. 17, no. 7
Catalogue number **15-001-XIE** (\$11/\$110).

Field crop reporting series, Vol. 82, no. 7
Catalogue number **22-002-XIB** (\$12/\$71).

Field crop reporting series, Vol. 82, no. 7
Catalogue number **22-002-XPB** (\$17/\$95).

Employment, earnings and hours, July 2003, Vol. 81,
no. 7
Catalogue number **72-002-XIB** (\$24/\$240).

All prices are in Canadian dollars and exclude sales tax. Additional shipping charges apply for delivery outside Canada.

Catalogue numbers with an -XIB or an -XIE extension are Internet versions; those with -XMB or -XME are microfiche; -XPB or -XPE are paper versions; -XDB or -XDE are electronic versions on diskette and -XCB or -XCE are electronic versions on compact disc.

How to order products

Order products by phone:

Please refer to the • Title • Catalogue number • Volume number • Issue number • Your VISA or MasterCard number.

In Canada and the United States call:

1-800-267-6677

From other countries call:

1-613-951-7277

To fax your order:

1-877-287-4369

Address changes or account inquiries:

1-800-700-1033


To order a product by mail write: Statistics Canada, Circulation Management, Dissemination Division, Ottawa, K1A 0T6.

Include a cheque or money order payable to **Receiver General of Canada/Publications**. Canadian customers add 7% GST and applicable PST.

To order by Internet: write to order@statcan.ca or download an electronic version by accessing Statistics Canada's website (www.statcan.ca). From the *Our products and services* page, under *Browse our Internet publications*, choose *For sale*.

Authorized agents and bookstores also carry Statistics Canada's catalogued publications.

Design 1 - 2000 (F) Catalog 11-001-XIE 11-001-XIE 0001-0101



Statistics Canada

Thursday, June 5, 1997
For release at 8:30 a.m.


MAJOR RELEASES


- **Urban transit, 1995** 2
Despite the emphasis on taking urban transit, Canadians are using it less and less. In 1996, each Canadian took an average of about six trips on some form of urban transit, the lowest level in the past 25 years.
- **Productivity, hourly compensation and unit labour cost, 1995** 4
Growth in productivity among Canadian businesses was notably weak again in 1996, accompanied by sluggish gains in employment and slow economic growth during the year.

OTHER RELEASES

- Map-wanted index, May 1997 3
- Short-term Expectations Survey 8
- Steel primary forms, week ending May 31, 1997 12
- Egg production, Apr. 1997 13

PUBLICATIONS RELEASED 11

 Statistique Canada



Statistics Canada's official release bulletin

Catalogue 11-001-XIE.

Published each working day by the Communications Division, Statistics Canada, 10-H, R.H. Coats Bldg., Tunney's Pasture, Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0T6.

To access *The Daily* on the Internet, visit our site at <http://www.statcan.ca>. To receive *The Daily* each morning by e-mail, send an e-mail message to listproc@statcan.ca. Leave the subject line blank. In the body of the message, type "subscribe daily firstname lastname".

Published by authority of the Minister responsible for Statistics Canada. © Minister of Industry, 2003. Citation in newspaper, magazine, radio, and television reporting is permitted subject to the requirement that Statistics Canada is acknowledged as the source. Any other reproduction is permitted subject to the requirement that Statistics Canada is acknowledged as the source on all copies as follows: Statistics Canada, *The Daily*, catalogue 11-001-XIE, along with date and page references.

The Daily, October 3, 2003

RELEASE DATES: OCTOBER 6 TO 10

(Release dates are subject to change.)

Release date	Title	Reference period
6	Building permits	August 2003
8	Earnings of immigrant workers and Canadian-born workers	1980 to 2000
9	Investment in non-residential construction	Third quarter 2003
10	Labour Force Survey	September 2003
10	Canadian international merchandise trade	August 2003
