



# The Daily

Statistics Canada

**Monday, March 10, 2003**

Released at 8:30 am Eastern time

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## MAJOR RELEASES

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There are no major releases today.

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## OTHER RELEASES

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### Canadian biotechnology: A snapshot 1997 and 1999

Biotechnology companies are experiencing extremely rapid growth, according to a joint study by Statistics Canada and Industry Canada.

In addition, new biotechnology products and processes are now reaching the market, and companies are experiencing an increasing return on research and development investment in biotechnology.

This joint study uses data from the Biotechnology Use and Development Survey for 1997 and 1999.

In 1999, almost 6,600 biotechnology products were on the market, compared with only 1,758 in 1997. This increase is also reflected in revenues.

Biotechnology revenues of large firms (those with more than 150 employees) amounted to \$1.4 billion in 1999. This was more than 3.5 times the level of \$398 million two years earlier. Revenue from exports also more than tripled during the same period.

These large firms significantly expanded their research activity during this two-year period, accounting for 86% of the overall increase in biotechnology research and development.

In 1997, for every \$1 spent in the past on research and development in biotechnology, firms earned \$1.65 in revenues. By 1999, this figure was \$2.36.

Spending on research and development in biotechnology is concentrated in the human health sector. From 1997 to 1999, spending on research and development in this sector went up about \$294 million, representing 85% of the total increase. Biotechnology revenues in this sector alone reached more than \$1 billion in 1999, and about 97 out of 225 firms that declared biotech revenues came from this sector. However, there is also growing activity in the agriculture and food processing sector.

This study also found that small firms (those with fewer than 50 employees) face a serious commercialization challenge. Most of them are low-revenue earners, and their biggest challenge is bringing their products onto the market.

The study shows that revenue earning and spending on research and development are directly and positively linked to a firm's size. As a result, small firms will likely

face continued pressure for consolidation or strategic alliances. As firms grow larger, they are likely to increase the amount they spend on biotechnology research and development, and earn more revenues.

### Information on methods and data quality available in the Integrated Meta Data Base: survey number 4226.

The study *How is the Canadian biotechnology evolving?* (88F0006XIE, no. 3, free) is now available on Statistics Canada's website ([www.statcan.ca](http://www.statcan.ca)). From the *Our products and services* page, under *Browse our Internet publications*, choose *Free*, then *Science and technology*.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Namatié Traoré (613-951-4489; [namatie.traore@statcan.ca](mailto:namatie.traore@statcan.ca)), Science, Innovation and Electronic Information Division, Statistics Canada, or Dominique Tourigny (613-957-4413; [tourigny.dominique@ic.gc.ca](mailto:tourigny.dominique@ic.gc.ca)), Life Sciences Branch, Industry Canada. ■

### Electric power December 2002

Colder-than-normal temperatures in eastern Canada, Quebec and Ontario led to an increase in electric power generation in its various forms in December. Net generation of electricity increased to 52 883 gigawatt hours (GWh) in December, up 2.8% from December 2001. Exports fell 34.9% to 2 149 GWh and imports increased from 940 GWh to 1 783 GWh.

Hydroelectricity generation was up 0.7% in December to 31 954 GWh, primarily as a result of increased generation in Newfoundland and Labrador, Quebec and British Columbia. Thermal conventional generation was up 5.2% to 14 674 GWh as a result of an increased requirement to operate thermal stations in Ontario. December saw an increase in generation from all nuclear sources in Canada, up 8.8% to 6 255 GWh.

Year-to-date net generation at the end of December totalled 576 004 GWh, up 2.0% from the same period of 2001. Year-to-date exports (36 130 GWh) were down 10.0% and year-to-date imports (16 707 GWh) fell 6.7%.

**Available on CANSIM: table 127-0001.**

The December 2002 issue of *Electric power statistics*, Vol. 70, no. 12 (57-001-XIB, \$9/\$85) will be available soon. See *How to order products*.

For general information or to order data, contact the dissemination officer (1-866-873-8789; 613-951-9497;

[energ@statcan.ca](mailto:energ@statcan.ca)). To enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Melanie Murray (613-951-4923; [melanie.murray@statcan.ca](mailto:melanie.murray@statcan.ca)), Manufacturing, Construction and Energy Division. ■

## NEW PRODUCTS

**Building permits**, January 2003, Vol. 47, no. 1  
Catalogue number **64-001-XIE** (\$14/\$145).

**Public sector statistics, 2001–2002**  
Catalogue number **68-213-XIE** (\$46).

**How is the Canadian biotechnology evolving: A comparison of the 1997 and 1999 Biotechnology Use and Development Surveys**, no. 3  
Catalogue number **88F0006XIE**  
(free).

**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 are electronic versions on diskette and -XCB are electronic versions on compact disc.

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Catalogue 11-001-XIE (11-001-XIE) 11-001-XIE

**The Daily**  
Statistics Canada

Thursday, June 9, 1997  
For release at 9:30 a.m.

**MAJOR RELEASES**

- **Urban transit, 1996** 2  
Despite the emphasis on taking urban transit, Canadians are using it less and less. In 1996, about 1.4 billion trips were taken on some form of urban transit, the lowest level in the past 25 years.
- **Productivity, hourly compensation and unit labour cost, 1996** 4  
Growth in productivity among Canadian businesses was relatively weak again in 1996, accompanied by sluggish gains in employment and slow economic growth during the year.

**OTHER RELEASES**

- Measures of price, May 1997 3
- Short-term Expectations Survey 3
- Steel primary forms, week ending May 31, 1997 12
- Egg production, April 1997 12

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Statistics Canada Canada

### Statistics Canada's official release bulletin

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