



# The Daily

Statistics Canada

Thursday, February 12, 1998  
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## MAJOR RELEASES

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- **Household spending, 1996** 2  
Households spent an average of just over \$49,000 in 1996 on everything from taxes to travel.

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## OTHER RELEASES

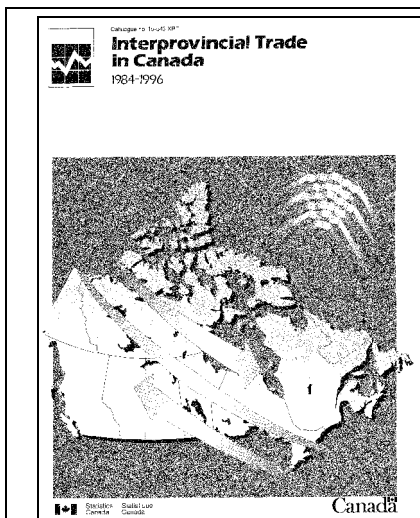
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## PUBLICATIONS RELEASED

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### Interprovincial trade in Canada 1984 to 1996

The evolution of interprovincial trade in Canada from 1984 to 1996 was shaped by a series of economic and political events that affected patterns of trade and the extent to which provinces exchanged goods and services with each other and collectively as a trading nation. Continued globalization of markets, the implementation of a free trade agreement with Canada's largest trading partner in 1989, and subsequent introduction of the North American Free Trade Agreement set the stage for provinces to seek new and expanded markets outside Canada. Likewise, free trade and the emergence of new economic superpowers like China have increased competition for the Canadian consumer dollar.

The 160 page publication *Interprovincial trade in Canada: 1984 to 1996*, released today, uses tables and charts and analysis to examine interprovincial and international trade flows.

*Interprovincial trade in Canada: 1984 to 1996* is now available in paper (15-546-XPE, \$55), diskette (15-546-XDE, \$55) and on the Internet (15-546-XIE, \$41). See *How to order publications*.

For further information please contact Ronald Rioux, Input-Output Division (613-951-3697; Internet: [riouxstatcan.ca](http://riouxstatcan.ca)).

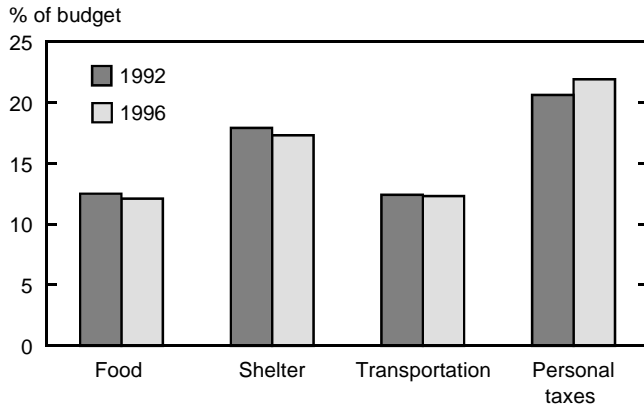
## MAJOR RELEASES

### Household spending

1996

Households spent an average of just over \$49,000 in 1996 on everything from taxes to travel, according to data from the 1996 Family Expenditure Survey (FAMEX). On average, each household spent \$49,100, an 8% increase over 1992 (the reference year for the previous FAMEX). This increase marginally exceeded the inflation rate of 6% between 1992 and 1996 as measured by the Consumer Price Index (CPI).

#### 1996 spending patterns virtually unchanged in the four major spending categories



In 1996, households spent approximately the same proportion of their household budgets as in 1992 on each of the four largest spending categories: personal taxes, shelter, transportation, and food. Households spent 17 cents of every dollar in their 1996 budgets on shelter costs, second only to personal taxes, which ate up almost 22 cents of every dollar. Twelve cents went to transportation costs, and another 12 cents to food. The remaining 37 cents was spent on a variety of items such as recreation, personal insurance and pension contributions, household operation, clothing, and gifts and contributions to charity.

Personal taxes include income tax (which could include back taxes) minus any tax refunds. The average amount spent on personal taxes increased 15% over 1992 to \$10,700.

#### Note to readers

The 1996 Family Expenditure Survey was conducted between January and March 1997 in all the provinces, plus Whitehorse and Yellowknife. It captured detailed information on all aspects of household spending from almost 11,000 households. The results contribute to updating the basket of goods and services used for the Consumer Price Index. Comparisons of expenditures are based on current dollars. All figures have been rounded.

### Household spending

1996

	Average household expenditure	Share of household budget
	\$	%
Personal taxes	10,700	22
Shelter	8,500	17
Transportation	6,000	12
Food	6,000	12
Recreation	2,600	5
Personal insurance payments and pension contributions	2,600	5
Household operation	2,300	5
Clothing	2,100	4
Gifts, money and contributions to persons outside household	1,700	3
Miscellaneous	1,400	3
Household furnishings and equipment	1,300	3
Tobacco products and alcoholic beverages	1,150	2
Health care	1,000	2
Personal care	840	2
Education	560	1
Reading materials and other printed matter	250	1

#### Households cut back spending on tobacco

On average, each household spent \$530 on tobacco products in 1996, down 35% since 1992. This was almost entirely due to a drop in the price of cigarettes, although the percentage of households reporting that they spent money on tobacco also edged down slightly from 47% to 44%.

Spending on alcoholic beverages increased slightly to \$620 per household. Almost 80% of households reported spending money on alcoholic beverages.

#### Spending on clothing also down

Canadian households continued an 18-year trend of spending proportionately less of their budgets on

clothing. In 1996, they spent an average of \$2,100, down 5% from 1992.

### Education and health spending rise

In contrast, spending on education (supplies and tuition fees) rose 29% to an average of \$560 for each household. Two-thirds of this (\$370) was spent on tuition fees, which increased 41% according to the CPI. Less than half of all households reported spending on education supplies or tuition fees, and only 24% of all households paid tuition fees.

Health care spending rose 16% to \$1,000 on average for each household. This was due mainly to increases in spending on dental care and on medicines and pharmaceuticals, both prescription and non-prescription. (Other components of the health care category include eyeglasses, hospital care, fees to physicians and other health care practitioners, and health insurance premiums.)

### We are still having fun

Households spent an average of about \$2,600, or 5% of their budgets, on recreation. Much of this increase of 15% over 1992 was due to increases in spending on recreation equipment, which covers a vast array of items such as sports equipment, toys, computer equipment and photographic supplies.

Spending on entertainment and performances, another part of the recreation category, rose more than one-third to \$430, driven mainly by cable television charges, but also by increased spending on admissions to movie theatres and live performances such as concerts.

Average spending on computer equipment and supplies was \$300, up 124% since 1992. In 1996, 32% of households owned a computer.

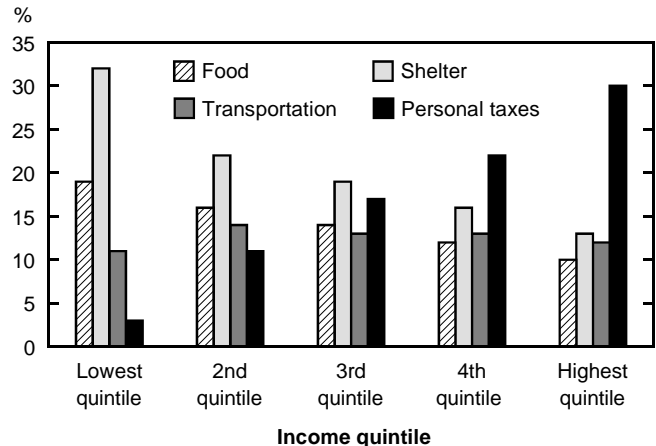
### Household spending varied substantially according to income

On average, the fifth of households with the lowest incomes spent a total of \$16,400, a per capita expenditure of \$10,100. This compares with an average expenditure of \$97,100 spent by the fifth of households with the highest incomes, or a per capita expenditure of \$28,300.

In terms of the four major spending categories, the fifth of households in the lowest income group spent 32% of their budgets on shelter, 19% on food, 11% on transportation and only 3% on personal taxes. In contrast, the fifth of households in the highest income

group spent 13% on shelter, 10% on food, 12% on transportation, but 30% on personal taxes.

Percentage of household budget spent on four major categories varies with income



Average household spending on clothing fell for all five income groups between 1992 and 1996. The fifth of households with the lowest incomes spent an average of \$660, while those in the highest income group spent an average of \$4,200.

Shelter took a slightly larger proportion of the budgets of the fifth of households with the lowest incomes during this four-year period, in contrast to small declines for the four other income groups. Households with the lowest incomes reported spending an average of \$5,200 on shelter compared with \$12,800 for households with the largest incomes.

### Ontario reports highest average spending

Households in Ontario had the highest average household spending of all provinces, estimated at \$54,200. This compares with \$41,500 for New Brunswick, the province with the lowest overall spending. Spending on shelter, transportation and personal taxes were highest in Ontario. Spending on food was highest in British Columbia.

### Average spending highest in the northern centres, followed by Toronto

The northern centres of Yellowknife (\$79,700) and Whitehorse (\$60,700) reported the highest average spending levels, followed by the metropolitan area of Toronto (\$58,900).

**Average household expenditure by selected metropolitan area 1996**

	Average household expenditure
	\$
St. John's	50,200
Charlottetown - Summerside	44,400
Halifax	49,400
Saint John	43,400
Québec	46,500
Montréal	45,200
Ottawa	57,200
Toronto	58,900
Thunder Bay	53,000
Winnipeg	46,900
Regina	48,900
Saskatoon	50,200
Calgary	52,800
Edmonton	54,800
Vancouver	53,800
Victoria	53,000
Yellowknife	79,700
Whitehorse	60,700

**New data categories for 1996**

Among the new detailed data categories available for the 1996 FAMEX are: enhanced telephone service

**Household expenditure by province 1996**

	Newfound-land	Prince Edward Island	Nova Scotia	New Brunswick	Quebec	Ontario	Manitoba	Saskatchewan	Alberta	British Columbia
	\$									
Food	5,900	5,500	5,400	5,500	5,800	6,200	5,600	5,100	6,100	6,300
Shelter	5,800	7,100	6,900	6,100	7,200	9,900	7,200	6,200	8,200	9,400
Transportation	5,700	6,000	5,600	5,600	4,900	6,700	5,800	5,800	6,600	6,400
Personal taxes	7,700	7,600	8,100	7,500	9,900	12,500	9,100	8,000	10,500	10,600
<b>Total expenditure</b>	<b>42,100</b>	<b>43,300</b>	<b>42,400</b>	<b>41,500</b>	<b>42,800</b>	<b>54,200</b>	<b>45,200</b>	<b>42,300</b>	<b>52,800</b>	<b>51,400</b>

charges, cellular phone services, Internet services, rental of satellite services, self-made alcoholic beverages, casino and slot machines, and bingo expenditures.

**Other information**

Detailed 1996 FAMEX tables for Canada, regions, provinces, and selected metropolitan areas are available in electronic format.

Also, information on summary expenditure categories is available on the Statistics Canada web site. The information is provided for Canada, regions, provinces, and selected metropolitan areas. The address is [www.statcan.ca/english/Pgdb/People/Families/famil16a.htm](http://www.statcan.ca/english/Pgdb/People/Families/famil16a.htm).

The publication *Family expenditure in Canada, 1996* (62-555-XPB) will be available in the spring of 1998. See *How to order publications*.

For further information on this release, contact the Dissemination Unit (1 888 297-7355; 613-951-7355; Internet: [Expenditures@statcan.ca](mailto:Expenditures@statcan.ca)), Household Surveys Division.

## OTHER RELEASES

### Machinery and equipment price indexes

Fourth quarter 1997 (preliminary)

The overall machinery and equipment price index (1986=100) was 126.2 in the fourth quarter of 1997, up 1.2% compared with the previous quarter and 3.4% higher than the fourth quarter of 1996. The domestic (+0.5%) and imported (+1.7%) components of the overall index also advanced from the previous quarter, and were 2.3% and 4.3% higher respectively compared with the fourth quarter 1996.

Among the industry divisions, the largest contributors to the overall quarterly price movement were manufacturing (+1.3%), agriculture (+2.0%) and transportation, communication, storage and utilities (+0.7%).

### Machinery and equipment price indexes

(1986=100)

	Fourth quarter 1997 <sup>P</sup>	Third quarter 1997 to fourth quarter 1997	Fourth quarter 1996 to fourth quarter 1997
	% change		
<b>Machinery and Equipment Price Index</b>	<b>126.2</b>	<b>1.2</b>	<b>3.4</b>
<b>Industry</b>			
Agriculture	153.4	2.0	3.8
Forestry	136.8	0.7	2.2
Fishing	122.4	0.8	3.4
Mines, quarries and oil wells	126.3	1.3	4.5
Manufacturing	131.8	1.3	4.5
Construction	129.0	1.4	4.0
Transportation, communication, storage and utilities	118.4	0.7	2.9
Trade	115.3	1.1	2.0
Finance, insurance and real estate	106.9	0.6	1.1
Community, business and personal services	108.4	0.8	0.6
Public administration	123.2	1.1	3.0

<sup>P</sup> Preliminary figures.

Comparing the fourth quarters of 1996 and 1997, manufacturing (+4.5%), transportation, communication, storage and utilities (+2.9%) and agriculture (+3.8%) were the largest contributors to the price increases.

Among commodities, most of the year-over-year quarterly increase came from specialized industrial equipment (+5.6%), commercial trucks and tractors (+2.6%), farm machinery (+4.8%) aircraft and aircraft equipment (+4.9%) and packaging machinery (+4.7%). These gains were slightly offset by decreases for

passenger cars (-1.2%) and computers (-5.2%). Prices of wooden pallets soared by 13.5%, but had little impact on the overall movement of machinery and equipment prices.

Much of the increase in both quarterly and annual prices was due to the appreciation of the U.S. dollar, which moved up 1.7% against the Canadian dollar over the last quarter and 4.0% over the fourth quarter of the preceding year. This is why imported prices went up much more than domestic prices.

### Available on CANSIM: matrices 2023-2025.

The fourth quarter issue of *Construction price statistics* (62-007-XPB, \$24 / \$79) will be available in March. See *How to order publications*.

For further information on this release, contact Elvira Marinelli (613-951-3350; fax 613-951-2848; Internet: [infounit@statcan.ca](mailto:infounit@statcan.ca)), Client Services Unit, Prices Division. ■

### Missing and abducted children

1996

In 1996, about 56,000 children under the age of 18 were reported missing in Canada, according to a *Juristat* released today by the Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics. Over three-quarters (78%) of these children were runaways. Abductions accounted for less than 1%. Children were also reported missing if they wandered off or were lost (2%); and for other reasons, such as missing from institutional care or treatment centres or lost in an accident (3%). The reasons could also be unknown (16%).

This *Juristat* provides data on the number of children reported missing by police forces across Canada. Also examined are incidents of abduction reported to the Uniform Crime Reporting Survey and efforts to help locate and recover missing children.

Between 1983 and 1992, the rate of child abduction increased from 11.8 for every 100,000 persons under the age of 16, to 19.5. However, between 1992 and 1996, the rate of child abduction has declined (15.1 per 100,000 in 1996).

In 1996, almost 1,000 children under the age of 16 were victims of attempted or completed abductions. Parental abductions accounted for 62% of all abductions, and non-parental abductions accounted for the remaining 38%.

*Juristat: Missing and abducted children*, Vol. 18, no. 2, is now available in paper (85-002-XPE, \$10/\$93) and on the Internet (85-002-XIE, \$7). See *How to order publications*.

For further information, contact Information and Client Services (1 800 387-2231; 613-951-9023; fax: 613-951-6615), Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics. ■

## Steel primary forms

Week ending February 7, 1998 (preliminary)

Steel primary forms production for the week ending February 7, 1998, totalled 299 441 metric tonnes, down 4.0% from the week-earlier 312 012 metric tonnes and up 7.6% from the year-earlier 278 186 metric tonnes. The cumulative total at the end of the week was 1 590 821 metric tonnes, a 7.1% increase compared with 1 486 004 metric tonnes for the same period in 1997.

For further information on this release, contact Huguette Montcalm (613-951-9827; Internet: [monthug@statcan.ca](mailto:monthug@statcan.ca)), Manufacturing, Construction and Energy Division. ■

## Railway carloadings

December 1997

Carload freight (excluding intermodal traffic) loaded by railways in Canada totalled 20.8 million tonnes in December 1997, an increase of 12.0% from December 1996. The carriers received an additional 1.8 million tonnes from United States connections during December.

Intermodal (piggyback) tonnage of 1.4 million tonnes represented an increase of 3.2% from the comparable month last year. The year-to-date figures show an increase of 7.2%.

Total traffic, consisting of carload freight and intermodal traffic, increased 11.4% during the reference

month bringing the year-to-date total to 266.6 million tonnes, an increase of 7.4% from the previous year. Receipts from U.S. connections increased 10.3% during the same period.

Cumulative data for 1997 and 1996 have been revised.

### Available on CANSIM: matrix 1431

The December 1997 issue of *Railway carloadings* (52-001-XPB, \$11/\$103) will be available shortly. See *How to order publications*.

For further information on this release, contact Robert Larocque (613-951-2486; fax: 613-951-0009; Internet: [larocque@statcan.ca](mailto:larocque@statcan.ca)), Transportation Division. ■

## Civil aviation operating statistics

November and December 1997

Neither Air Canada nor Canadian Airlines International Ltd. (CAI) reported any change in passenger-kilometres flown (seasonally adjusted data) on their international routes in December 1997. CAI had reported four consecutive monthly increases prior to December. Air Canada had reported decreases in the last three months.

### Available on CANSIM: matrix 385.

Civil aviation data (operational) for Air Canada and Canadian Airlines International Ltd. for November and December 1997 will be published in the February and March issues of the *Aviation: Service bulletin* (51-004-XPB, \$11/\$109). See *How to order publications*.

For further information on this release, contact Robert Lund (613-951-0125), Aviation Statistics Centre, Transportation Division. ■

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## PUBLICATIONS RELEASED

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**Interprovincial trade in Canada**, 1984 to 1996 (diskette version)  
**Catalogue number 15-546-XDE**  
(Canada: \$55; outside Canada: US\$55).

**Interprovincial trade in Canada**, 1984 to 1996 (Internet version)  
**Catalogue number 15-546-XIE**  
(Canada: \$41; outside Canada: US\$41).

**Interprovincial trade in Canada**, 1984 to 1996 (paper version)  
**Catalogue number 15-546-XPE**  
(Canada: \$55; outside Canada: US\$55).

**Passenger bus and urban transit statistics**, 1996 (Internet version)  
**Catalogue number 53-215-XIB**  
(Canada: \$30; outside Canada: US\$30).

**Passenger bus and urban transit statistics**, 1996 (paper version)  
**Catalogue number 53-215-XPB**  
(Canada: \$40; outside Canada: US\$40).

**Oil pipeline transport**, November 1997  
**Catalogue number 55-001-XPB**  
(Canada: \$12/\$114; outside Canada: US\$12/US\$114).

**Juristat**, Vol. 18, no. 2 (Internet version)  
**Catalogue number 85-002-XIE**  
(Canada: \$7; outside Canada: US\$7).

**Juristat**, Vol. 18, no. 2 (paper version)  
**Catalogue number 85-002-XPE**  
(Canada: \$10/\$93; outside Canada: US\$10/US\$93).

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