



The Daily

Statistics Canada

Monday, March 30, 1998

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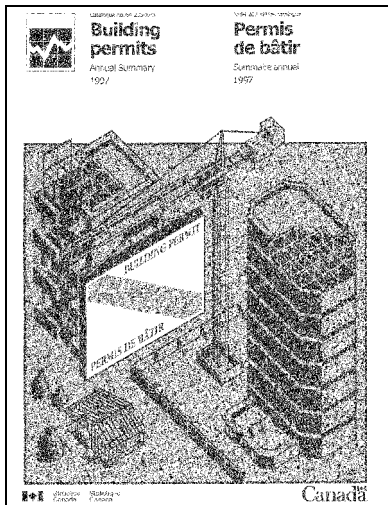
MAJOR RELEASES

- **National tourism indicators, 1997 and fourth quarter 1997** 3
 Tourism expenditures in Canada reached \$8,686 million in the fourth quarter of 1997, up 6.9% from the same period of 1996 and a substantial increase following two quarters of slower growth.

OTHER RELEASES

- Quarterly demographic statistics, fourth quarter 1997 7

(continued on following page)



Building permits: Annual summary 1997

The monthly *Building and Demolitions Permits Survey* collects data on building construction by municipalities in Canada. It covers 2,400 municipalities representing 93% of the population. The other 7% of the population live in very small communities whose levels of building activity have little impact on the total. The value of planned construction activities shown in this publication excludes engineering projects (e.g., waterworks, sewers, culverts) and land.

Since the issuance of a building permit is one of the first steps in the construction process, these statistics are widely used as a leading indicator of building activity by investors, planners and various levels of government (Ministry of Finance or the Bank of Canada, for example). It is also essential for calculating capital expenditures.

The publication contains a summary analysis and statistic data tables related to the number and value of building permits issued by sector (residential and non-residential), building category, type of building and type of dwelling, value range or category, and different geographic levels of aggregation (census metropolitan area and its municipalities).

The 1997 issue of *Building permits: Annual summary* (64-203-XPB, paper version \$62; 64-203-XMB, microfiche version \$37, 64-203-XIB, Internet version \$47) is now available. See *How to order publications*.

For further information on this release, contact Joanne Bureau (613-951-9689; Internet: bureauj@statcan.ca), Investment and Capital Stock Division.



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Canada

OTHER RELEASES – concluded

Domestic sales of refined petroleum products, February 1998	7
Sawmills and planing mills, January 1998	8
Annual Survey of Manufactures, 1996	8

PUBLICATIONS RELEASED 10

REGIONAL REFERENCE CENTRES 12

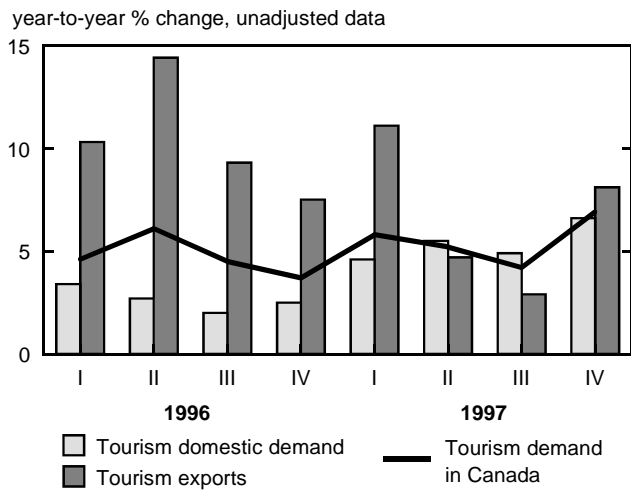
MAJOR RELEASES

National tourism indicators

1997 (annual) and fourth quarter 1997

Tourism expenditures in Canada reached \$8,686 million in the fourth quarter of 1997, up 6.9% from the same period last year and a substantial increase following two quarters of slower growth. Spending on transportation, especially airfares, continued to drive tourism demand. Spending by non-residents returned as the main source of growth in the fourth quarter, following two quarters in which domestic spending had dominated.

Tourism spending increases



Foreign spending picks up

Expenditures by non-residents (or tourism exports) reached \$2,101 million in the quarter, about one in every four tourism dollars spent in Canada, with increases in every major spending category (transportation, accommodation, food and beverage services). Visitors from the United States took advantage of the cheaper Canadian dollar, making 6.0 million same-day visits and 2.3 million overnight stays, up 7.1% and 8.8% respectively from last year. This marks the fifth consecutive quarterly increase. Travellers from outside the United States cut back on their visits to Canada, as the dollar gained against several major Asian and European currencies. In total, they made only 0.7 million trips, down 8.5% from the fall of 1996.

Note to readers

The data are unadjusted for seasonality and expressed at current prices, unless noted otherwise.

After adjusting for inflation and seasonal variation, the strength in tourism demand by non-residents was even more apparent, with outlays showing a 3.3% jump from the third quarter, the largest gain since the end of 1995. The most notable increases were in transportation and food and beverages.

Spending at home also strong

Spending by Canadians (or tourism domestic demand) amounted to \$6,585 million, an increase of 6.6% from the fourth quarter of 1996, the largest gain in almost three years. Increases were registered in outlays on all major categories, especially airfares (+14.7%). The fall of our dollar against the U.S. dollar raised the cost of trips south of the border. Canadians made 11.2 million trips to the United States during the fourth quarter, down 4.0% from a year ago. Fewer trips to the United States, coupled with favourable economic conditions in Canada (higher incomes, brighter job and business prospects, low interest rates and low inflation), translated into a robust domestic demand for tourism.

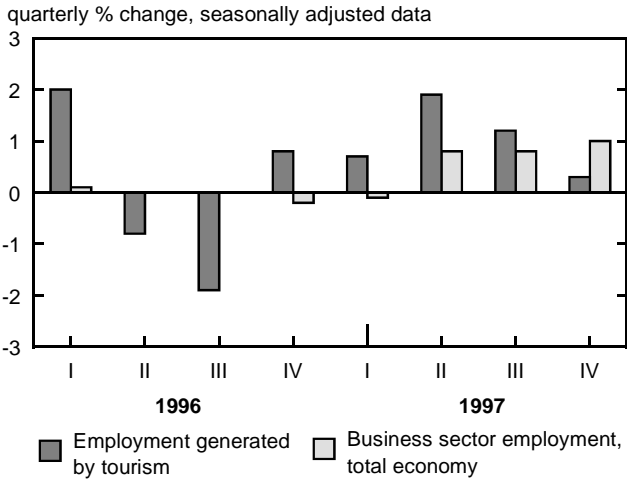
On a seasonally and inflation adjusted basis, domestic spending on tourism advanced 0.6% in the fourth quarter, following a weak 0.3% gain in the previous quarter. This increase was in contrast with the fourth quarter slowdown in personal expenditure on consumer goods and services.

Gains in tourism employment

Employment generated by tourism reached 502.2 thousand in the quarter, up 4.0% from the fourth quarter of 1996. Notable gains were made in transportation, especially air transport (+8.7%).

On a seasonally adjusted basis, however, tourism employment grew at a much slower pace than earlier in the year. Following four quarters when tourism employment outpaced overall business employment, the fourth quarter showed the opposite.

Employment growth higher in the business sector than in tourism



1997 in review

Tourism expenditures in Canada reached \$43,987 million in 1997, up 5.3% compared with 1996 and a pace similar to the average of the last four years. The growth was widespread, with important advances in passenger air transport (+10.3%).

In real inflation-adjusted terms, the growth in tourism spending in Canada slowed for the third consecutive year, from 4.4% in 1994 to 2.5% in 1997. Most of the deceleration in 1997 was due to non-residents, for which growth in spending was lower in every major category. On the other hand, Canadian domestic spending on tourism picked up.

The number of U.S. travellers to Canada was up 5.2%, as Americans benefited from a weaker Canadian dollar in 1997. The increase was greater for same-day

visits (+6.2%) than for the more expensive overnight stays (+3.4%). The number of visitors from Europe declined for the first time since 1990. After double digit growth recorded in the last few years, the number of travellers from the Asia-Pacific region also dropped in 1997. The decline in the overseas market was no doubt partly related to the appreciation of the Canadian currency.

Prices for tourism commodities rise faster than the Consumer Price Index

The annual rate of inflation for tourism commodities, as measured by the implicit price index, was 3.0%, almost twice the rate of 1996, mainly on account of transport services (+4.0%). In comparison, the Consumer Price Index for all items, a broader measure of price change, increased 1.7% in 1997.

Employment generated by tourism on the rise

Employment generated by tourism increased to 503.2 thousand, up 2.3% from 1996. The air transportation industry fared especially well, benefiting from increased passenger traffic. For the third year in a row, growth in tourism employment outpaced that recorded in the total business sector.

The fourth quarter 1997 issue of *National tourism indicators* (13-009-XPB, \$21/\$70) is now available. To order the publication, contact the client services officer (613-951-3640; fax: 613-951-3618), Income and Expenditure Accounts Division.

For further information on this release, contact Katharine Kemp (613-951-3814) or Jacques Delisle (613-951-3796), Income and Expenditure Accounts Division. □

Tourism expenditures

	1996	1997	1996 to 1997	Third quarter 1997	Fourth quarter 1997	Third quarter 1997 to Fourth quarter 1997
	\$ millions at current prices		% change at annual rates	\$ millions at current prices (seasonally adjusted)		% change at quarterly rates
Tourism expenditures						
Tourism demand in Canada	41,773	43,987	5.3	11,017	11,226	1.9
Tourism exports	12,102	12,734	5.2	3,147	3,254	3.4
Tourism domestic demand	29,671	31,253	5.3	7,870	7,972	1.3
Transportation						
Tourism demand in Canada	16,539	17,627	6.6	4,444	4,525	1.8
Tourism exports	3,205	3,347	4.4	830	864	4.1
Tourism domestic demand	13,334	14,280	7.1	3,614	3,661	1.3
Accommodation						
Tourism demand in Canada	5,928	6,188	4.4	1,528	1,537	0.6
Tourism exports	2,588	2,813	8.7	690	700	1.4
Tourism domestic demand	3,340	3,375	1.0	838	837	-0.1
Food and beverage services						
Tourism demand in Canada	6,766	7,085	4.7	1,766	1,808	2.4
Tourism exports	2,759	2,911	5.5	715	749	4.8
Tourism domestic demand	4,007	4,174	4.2	1,051	1,059	0.8
Other tourism commodities						
Tourism demand in Canada	4,160	4,444	6.8	1,118	1,148	2.7
Tourism exports	1,132	1,169	3.3	293	304	3.8
Tourism domestic demand	3,028	3,275	8.2	825	844	2.3
Other commodities						
Tourism demand in Canada	8,380	8,643	3.1	2,161	2,208	2.2
Tourism exports	2,418	2,494	3.1	619	637	2.9
Tourism domestic demand	5,962	6,149	3.1	1,542	1,571	1.9
	\$ millions at 1992 prices		% change at annual rates	\$ millions at 1992 prices (seasonally adjusted)		% change at quarterly rates
Tourism expenditures						
Tourism demand in Canada	38,685	39,659	2.5	9,914	10,049	1.4
Tourism exports	11,210	11,617	3.6	2,873	2,967	3.3
Tourism domestic demand	27,475	28,042	2.1	7,041	7,082	0.6
Transportation						
Tourism demand in Canada	15,305	15,677	2.4	3,936	3,959	0.6
Tourism exports	2,990	3,111	4.0	772	800	3.6
Tourism domestic demand	12,314	12,566	2.0	3,164	3,159	-0.2
Accommodation						
Tourism demand in Canada	5,361	5,470	2.0	1,354	1,379	1.8
Tourism exports	2,333	2,479	6.2	610	626	2.6
Tourism domestic demand	3,028	2,991	-1.2	744	753	1.2
Food and beverage services						
Tourism demand in Canada	6,396	6,592	3.1	1,642	1,670	1.7
Tourism exports	2,606	2,706	3.8	665	692	4.1
Tourism domestic demand	3,789	3,886	2.5	977	978	0.1
Other tourism commodities						
Tourism demand in Canada	3,767	3,932	4.4	985	1,009	2.4
Tourism exports	1,015	1,020	0.5	255	263	3.1
Tourism domestic demand	2,752	2,912	5.8	730	746	2.2
Other commodities						
Tourism demand in Canada	7,856	7,988	1.7	1,997	2,032	1.8
Tourism exports	2,265	2,301	1.6	571	586	2.6
Tourism domestic demand	5,591	5,687	1.7	1,426	1,446	1.4

Tourism expenditures

	Third quarter 1996	Fourth quarter 1996	First quarter 1997	Second quarter 1997	Third quarter 1997	Fourth quarter 1997	Fourth quarter 1996 to fourth quarter 1997
	\$ millions at current prices, unadjusted for seasonality						year-over-year % change
Tourism expenditures							
Tourism demand in Canada	15,554	8,123	8,396	10,695	16,210	8,686	6.9
Tourism exports	5,469	1,944	1,635	3,369	5,629	2,101	8.1
Tourism domestic demand	10,085	6,179	6,761	7,326	10,581	6,585	6.6
Transportation							
Tourism demand in Canada	5,608	3,537	3,609	4,256	5,916	3,846	8.7
Tourism exports	1,493	496	399	869	1,548	531	7.1
Tourism domestic demand	4,115	3,041	3,210	3,387	4,368	3,315	9.0
Accommodation							
Tourism demand in Canada	2,421	1,014	1,038	1,613	2,475	1,062	4.7
Tourism exports	1,167	389	393	793	1,203	424	9.0
Tourism domestic demand	1,254	625	645	820	1,272	638	2.1
Food and beverage services							
Tourism demand in Canada	2,614	1,262	1,238	1,795	2,714	1,338	6.0
Tourism exports	1,189	477	394	769	1,225	523	9.6
Tourism domestic demand	1,425	785	844	1,026	1,489	815	3.8
Other tourism commodities							
Tourism demand in Canada	1,510	733	1,006	1,045	1,610	783	6.8
Tourism exports	497	180	152	311	511	195	8.3
Tourism domestic demand	1,013	553	854	734	1,099	588	6.3
Other commodities							
Tourism demand in Canada	3,401	1,577	1,505	1,986	3,495	1,657	5.1
Tourism exports	1,123	402	297	627	1,142	428	6.5
Tourism domestic demand	2,278	1,175	1,208	1,359	2,353	1,229	4.6



OTHER RELEASES

Quarterly demographic statistics

Fourth quarter 1997 (preliminary)

Postcensal estimates as of January 1, 1998, for Canada, the provinces and the territories are now available and appear in the following table.

Available on CANSIM: matrices 1-6, 397, 5731, 6470, 6471, 6516 and 6981 and tables 00010102, 00020104 and 00040102.

These estimates will appear in *Quarterly demographic statistics* (91-002-XPB, \$10/\$33), which will be available shortly. See *How to order publications*.

These data may be obtained by contacting Lise Champagne (613-951-2320; fax 613-951-2307; Internet: chamlis@statcan.ca), Demography Division or the nearest Regional Reference Centre. For information on methodology, call Daniel Larrivée (613-951-0694; fax: 613-951-2307; Internet: lardani@statcan.ca). François Nault (613-951-1764; Internet: naulfra@statcan.ca), Health Statistics Division, for births, deaths and marriages.

Canada's population¹

	Jan.	Jan.	Jan.	Annual growth rate	
	1, 1996 ^{PR}	1, 1997 ^{PR}	1, 1998 ^{PP}	1996	1997
				%	
Newfoundland	572,643	566,001	557,739	-1.2	-1.5
Prince Edward Island	136,040	136,966	136,895	0.7	-0.1
Nova Scotia	939,367	944,685	946,860	0.6	0.2
New Brunswick	759,688	760,728	760,761	0.1	0.0
Quebec	7,375,137	7,414,783	7,443,546	0.5	0.4
Ontario	11,194,906	11,333,713	11,493,170	1.2	1.4
Manitoba	1,133,538	1,139,724	1,141,691	0.5	0.2
Saskatchewan	1,014,587	1,019,737	1,022,480	0.5	0.3
Alberta	2,764,915	2,809,791	2,872,705	1.6	2.2
British Columbia	3,800,885	3,886,098	3,950,692	2.2	1.6
Yukon	31,009	31,546	31,443	1.7	-0.3
Northwest Territories	66,305	66,930	67,322	0.9	0.6
Canada	29,789,020	30,110,702	30,425,304	1.1	1.0

^{PR} Updated postcensal estimates.

^{PP} Preliminary postcensal estimates.

¹ These estimates do not take into account the 1996 Census results.

Domestic sales of refined petroleum products

February 1998 (preliminary)

Sales of refined petroleum products totalled 6 980 200 cubic metres in February 1998, up 2.7% from the same month a year earlier. The increase was broadly based with the largest gains recorded for heavy fuel oil (+126 500 cubic metres or +20.5%) and motor gasoline (+44 500 cubic metres or +1.7%).

During the first two months of 1998, sales rose for six of the seven major products groups. The 16.6% advance for heavy fuel oil was mainly due to greater use of the product for the generation of electricity. Diesel fuel oil sales advanced 3.7% (down from an 8.0% increase in 1997), reflecting a slowdown in oil drilling activity. Sales of light fuel oil declined 13.1% as a result of milder than normal temperatures in 1998.

Sales of refined petroleum products

	Feb. 1997	Feb. 1998	Feb. 1997 to Feb. 1998
	thousands of cubic metres		% change
Total, all products	6 794.0	6 980.2	2.7
Motor gasoline	2 613.3	2 657.8	1.7
Diesel fuel oil	1 574.2	1 575.9	0.1
Light fuel oil	742.7	660.0	-11.1
Heavy fuel oil	618.4	744.9	20.5
Aviation turbo fuels	375.1	414.6	10.5
Petrochemical feedstocks ¹	334.5	369.5	10.5
All other refined products	535.8	557.5	4.1

	Jan. 1997 to Feb. 1997	Jan. 1998 to Feb. 1998	Jan.-Feb. 1997 to Jan.-Feb. 1998
	thousands of cubic metres		% change
Total, all products	14,277.1	14,652.1	2.6
Motor gasoline	5,468.5	5,559.6	1.7
Diesel fuel oil	3,217.7	3,338.1	3.7
Light fuel oil	1,643.5	1,427.4	-13.1
Heavy fuel oil	1,295.0	1,509.4	16.6
Aviation turbo fuels	796.3	864.0	8.5
Petrochemical feedstocks ¹	723.6	782.3	8.1
All other refined products	1,132.5	1,171.3	3.4

¹ Materials produced by refineries that are used by the petrochemical industry to produce chemicals, synthetic rubber and a variety of plastics.

Available on CANSIM: matrices 628-642 and 644-647.

The February 1998 issue of *Refined petroleum products* (45-004-XPB, \$21/\$206), will be available in May. See *How to order publications*.

For further information about this release, contact Gérard O'Connor (613-951-3562; Internet: oconger@statcan.ca), Energy Section, Manufacturing, Construction and Energy Division. ■

Sawmills and planing mills

January 1998

Sawmills in Canada produced 5 014.2 thousand cubic metres of lumber and ties in January 1998, down 4.8% from 5 271.1 thousand cubic metres (after revisions) produced in January 1997.

Available on CANSIM: matrices 53 and 122 (series 2).

The December 1997 issue of *Sawmills and planing mills* (35-003-XPB, \$12/\$114) will be available shortly. See *How to order publications*.

For further information on this release, contact Gilles Simard (613-951-3516; Internet: simales@statcan.ca), Manufacturing, Construction, and Energy Division. ■

Annual Survey of Manufactures

1996

The Annual Survey of Manufactures provides information on over 200 different industries. Principal statistics for each industry are released on CANSIM as they become available. Data for the industries listed in the following table are now available. Data for 94 industries have now been released.

Available on CANSIM: matrices 5465, 5478, 5503, 5532, 5537, 5551, 5552, 5559, 5560, 5561 and 5571.

Data for the industries listed in the table will appear in *Wood industries* (35-250-XPB, \$55), *Printing, publishing and allied industries* (36-251-XPB, \$40), *Fabricated metal products Industries* (41-251-XPB, \$40), *Transportation equipment industries* (42-251-XPB, \$40), *Electrical and electronic products industries* (43-250-XPB, \$40) and *Products shipped by Canadian manufacturers* (31-211-XPB, \$67). The 1995 issues of most of these publications are now available. See *How to order publications*.

For further information, look under *Contact* in the following table (fax: 613-951-9499; Internet: Pentlii@statcan.ca).

A technical paper, *Personalized questionnaires for Canada's Annual Survey of Manufactures*, has been issued as a Business and Trade Statistics Field Research Paper. It is available in print (61F0041MPE, \$5) and electronic format (61F0041MIE, free on the Internet) through www.statcan.ca. This paper describes the personalization of the long-form questionnaires of Canada's Annual Survey of Manufactures. Personalization was motivated by the desire to reduce respondent burden. The paper will be useful to users of manufacturing data and to interested respondents.

For further information or to order the publication, contact John Crysdale (613-951-3589; fax: 613-951-6196; internet: crysdal@statcan.ca) Enterprise Statistics Division.

Value of shipments

	1995	1996	1995 to 1996	Publication number	Contact		
	\$ millions		% change				
Industry (Standard Industrial Classification)							
Wooden door and window (2543)	1023.8	1072.2	4.7	35-250-XPB	G. Simard	613	951-3516
Other office furniture (2649)	553.9	616.7	11.3		E. Saint-Pierre	613	951-9837
Other Combined Publishing and Printing (2849)	151.8	151.9	0.1	36-251-XPB	L. Shinder	613	951-7293
Metal dies, moulds and patterns (3062)	1550.4	1664.4	7.4	41-251-XPB	E. Saint-Pierre	613	951-9837
Metal plumbing fixture and fitting (3091)	229.0	251.4	9.8	41-251-XPB	E. Saint-Pierre	613	951-9837
Truck and bus body (3241)	597.4	644.6	7.9	42-251-XPB	A. Shinnan	613	951-3515
Commercial trailer (3242)	709.1	698.5	-1.5	42-251-XPB	A. Shinnan	613	951-3515
Motor vehicle wheel and brake (3255)	1 459.2	1 422.1	-2.5	42-251-XPB	A. Shinnan	613	951-3515
Plastic parts and accessories for motor vehicles (3256)	1 874.0	1 989.2	6.1	42-251-XPB	A. Shinnan	613	951-3515
Motor vehicle fabric accessories (3257)	2 115.2	2 204.5	4.2	42-251-XPB	A. Shinnan	613	951-3515
Electric lamp and shade except bulb and tube (3332)	75.8	82.3	8.5	43-250-XPB	L. Vincent	613	951-3523

PUBLICATIONS RELEASED

Primary metal industries, 1995
Catalogue number 41-250-XPB
(Canada: \$40; outside Canada: US\$40).

Asphalt roofing, January 1998
Catalogue number 45-001-XPB
(Canada: \$7/\$62; outside Canada: US\$7/US\$62).

Wholesale trade, January 1998
Catalogue number 63-008-XPB
(Canada: \$/\$; outside Canada: US\$/US\$).

Building permits, Annual summary 1997 (Internet version)
Catalogue number 64-203-XIB
(Canada: \$47; outside Canada: US\$47).

Building permits, Annual summary 1997 (microfiche version)
Catalogue number 64-203-XMB
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MAJOR RELEASES

- **Urban transit, 1995** 2
Despite the emphasis on taking urban transit, Canadians are using it less and less. In 1995, each Canadian took an average of about 60 trips 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 notably weak again in 1996 accompanied by sluggish gains in employment and slow nominal growth during the year.

OTHER RELEASES

- **Help-wanted index, May 1997** 3
- **Short-term Expectations Survey** 2
- **Steel primary forms, week ending May 31, 1997** 13
- **Egg production, April 1997** 12

PUBLICATIONS RELEASED 11

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Calgary, Alberta
T2L 2K7
Local calls: (403) 292-6717
Toll free: 1-800-263-1136
Fax: 1-403-292-4958

Northern Alberta and the Northwest Territories

Advisory Services
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10001 Bellamy Hill
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Toll free: 1-800-263-1136
Fax: 1-403-495-5318

British Columbia and the Yukon

Advisory Services
Statistics Canada
Library Square Tower, Suite 600
300 West Georgia Street
Vancouver, B.C.
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Toll free: 1-800-263-1136
Fax: 1-604-666-4863

Telecommunications Device for the Hearing Impaired

Toll free: 1-800-363-7629