



# The Daily

Statistics Canada

Thursday, April 9, 1998

For release at 8:30 a.m.

---

## MAJOR RELEASES

---

- **Labour Force Survey, March 1998** 3  
 In March, the unemployment rate edged down 0.1 percentage points to 8.5%, the lowest since August 1990.
- 

## OTHER RELEASES

---

- New Housing Price Index, February 1998 7
  - Steel primary forms, week ending April 4, 1998 7
  - Railway carloadings, February 1998 8
  - Basic summary tabulations, 1996 Census 8
  - Egg production, February 1998 8
- 

## PUBLICATIONS RELEASED 9

---

## REGIONAL REFERENCE CENTRES 10

---

*(continued on following page)*

### Census results

1996 Census

On Tuesday, April 14, 1998, *The Daily* will release information from the 1996 Census on education, mobility and migration.

Products released will include tables from The Nation series for Canada, the provinces and territories, and, in some cases, for census metropolitan areas and census divisions. Data will also be available in electronic profiles for census divisions and subdivisions from the Area Profiles series.

For further information, contact Media Relations (613-951-4636), Communications Division.

*The Daily*, April 9, 1998

---

---

**RELEASE DATES:** April 14 to 17, 1998

---

11

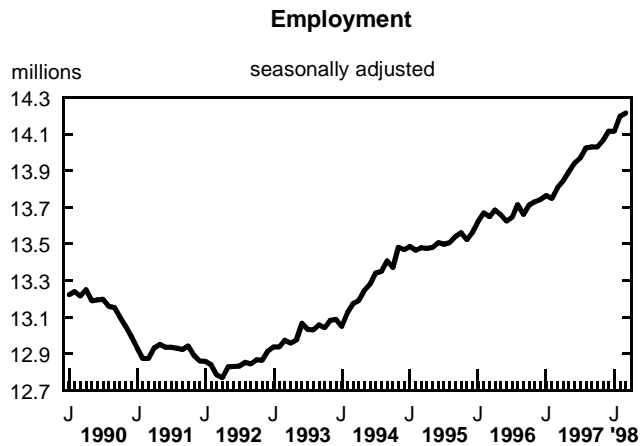
*The Daily* will not be published April 10 and 13 because our offices will be closed for Good Friday and Easter Monday.

## MAJOR RELEASES

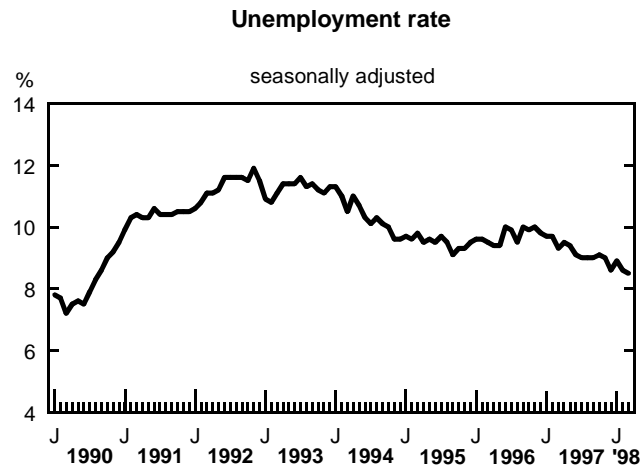
### Labour Force Survey

March 1998

Employment increased slightly in March (+18,000), bringing the gain since February 1997, when employment growth strengthened, to 466,000 (+3.4%).



Unemployment fell by 25,000 in March and the unemployment rate edged down 0.1 percentage points to 8.5%, the lowest since August 1990.



### Increase in employment among adult women

In March, employment among adult women rose by 34,000, all in full-time work, bringing the gain since February 1997 to 237,000 (+4.5%). By contrast, employment among adult men was little changed in March, as an increase in part-time partially offset a decline in full-time. This leaves their employment up 176,000 (+2.7%) since February 1997.

Among youths aged 15 to 24, employment was unchanged in March, following a jump of 38,000 in February. Since February 1997, youth employment has risen by 53,000 (+2.6%).

### Private sector growth continues

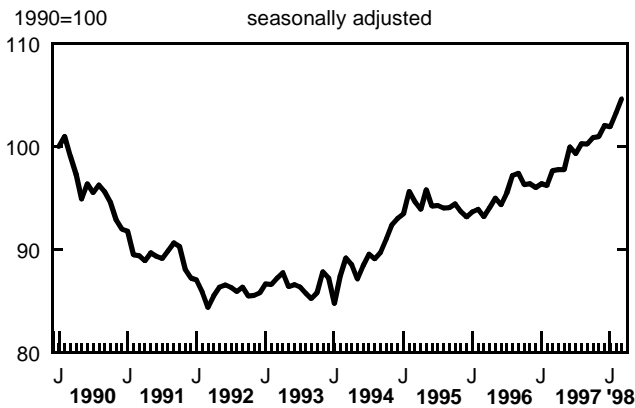
In March, the number of private sector employees climbed by 39,000, continuing the strong upward trend observed since February 1997. Over this period, the gain totalled 490,000, an increase of 5.3%. After rising sharply between late 1996 and August 1997, self-employment has trended downward. With no change in March, self-employment is close to the level of a year earlier.

The number of employees in the public sector fell by 21,000 in March, leaving employment lower by 34,000 (-1.6%) compared with February 1997.

### Manufacturing still creating employment

For the second consecutive month, employment in manufacturing rose by 30,000. This industry has shown strong growth of 184,000 (+8.8%) since February 1997. Over this period, employment growth has been solid in both durable (+8.0%) and non-durable (+9.5%) manufacturing.

**Index of employment – manufacturing**



Employment in health and social services rose by 22,000 in March, leaving it slightly higher than in February 1997 (+1.6%). Agricultural employment also increased in March (+9,000).

The gains in March were partially offset by losses in utilities (-9,000), business and personal services (-22,000), and finance, insurance and real estate (-12,000).

**Gains in Quebec and British Columbia**

Employment in Quebec rose by 20,000 in March, following an increase of 35,000 in February. These two increases completely offset the 46,000 jobs lost in January, when the ice storm led to a large number of temporary layoffs. The number of unemployed declined for a second straight month, dropping the unemployment rate to 10.1%, slightly below that observed in December.

In British Columbia, employment increased by 14,000 in March. Over the last two months,

employment in this province has increased by 23,000, recouping most of the losses incurred in December and January. Employment in British Columbia is now only slightly higher than in February 1997.

In Nova Scotia, employment fell by 5,000 in March, the first drop since April 1997. Since that time, employment has risen by 19,000 (+4.8%). In New Brunswick, employment fell by 4,000, reducing the growth since February 1997 to 6,000 (+2.0%).

Employment in Alberta fell by 9,000 in March. Despite weakness in the last two months, employment in this province has risen by 60,000 (+4.2%) since February 1997.

Employment was unchanged in Ontario, following large gains in the two preceding months. Since February 1997, employment there has increased by 263,000 (+5.0%), while the number looking for work has dropped by 81,000. This has pushed the unemployment rate in the province down to 7.4%, 1.6 points lower than in February of last year.

**Available on CANSIM: matrices 3450-3471, 3483-3502 and table 00799999.**

The latest LFS results are always available at 7:00 a.m. on the release date on the Internet at <http://www.statcan.ca>. Click on "Latest news from Statistics Canada".

A summary publication, *Labour force information, for the week ending March 21, 1998* (71-001-PPB, \$11/\$103; fax version: 71-001-PFB, \$300/year) is available today. See *How to Order Publications*.

The next release of the Labour Force Survey will be on May 8.

For further information on this release, contact Deborah Sunter (613-951-4740) or Vincent Ferrao (613-951-4750), Household Surveys Division. □

Labour force characteristics for both sexes, aged 15 and over

	Feb. 1998	March 1998	Feb. 1998 to March 1998	Feb. 1998	March 1998	Feb. 1998 to March 1998
Seasonally adjusted						
	Labour force			Participation rate		
	'000		% change	%		change
<b>Canada</b>	<b>15,534.2</b>	<b>15,527.1</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>65.0</b>	<b>64.9</b>	<b>-0.1</b>
Newfoundland	237.1	235.8	-0.5	52.9	52.6	-0.3
Prince Edward Island	69.9	69.8	-0.1	65.3	65.1	-0.2
Nova Scotia	458.0	449.9	-1.8	61.4	60.3	-1.1
New Brunswick	368.9	364.6	-1.2	61.0	60.2	-0.8
Quebec	3,680.9	3,684.4	0.1	61.8	61.9	0.1
Ontario	6,026.9	6,017.2	-0.2	66.5	66.3	-0.2
Manitoba	574.7	573.7	-0.2	66.7	66.6	-0.1
Saskatchewan	510.6	508.0	-0.5	67.0	66.6	-0.4
Alberta	1,583.8	1,580.1	-0.2	72.0	71.7	-0.3
British Columbia	2,023.4	2,043.7	1.0	64.5	65.0	0.5
	Employment			Employment rate		
	'000		% change	%		change
<b>Canada</b>	<b>14,196.2</b>	<b>14,214.5</b>	<b>0.1</b>	<b>59.4</b>	<b>59.5</b>	<b>0.1</b>
Newfoundland	195.6	194.2	-0.7	43.7	43.3	-0.4
Prince Edward Island	60.4	60.7	0.5	56.4	56.6	0.2
Nova Scotia	410.0	404.9	-1.2	55.0	54.3	-0.7
New Brunswick	322.0	317.7	-1.3	53.2	52.5	-0.7
Quebec	3,290.8	3,310.4	0.6	55.3	55.6	0.3
Ontario	5,568.4	5,571.7	0.1	61.4	61.4	0.0
Manitoba	541.1	543.9	0.5	62.8	63.1	0.3
Saskatchewan	482.5	480.6	-0.4	63.3	63.0	-0.3
Alberta	1,498.7	1,489.6	-0.6	68.2	67.6	-0.6
British Columbia	1,826.8	1,840.8	0.8	58.2	58.6	0.4
	Unemployment			Unemployment rate		
	'000		% change	%		change
<b>Canada</b>	<b>1,338.0</b>	<b>1,312.6</b>	<b>-1.9</b>	<b>8.6</b>	<b>8.5</b>	<b>-0.1</b>
Newfoundland	41.5	41.6	0.2	17.5	17.6	0.1
Prince Edward Island	9.5	9.2	-3.2	13.6	13.2	-0.4
Nova Scotia	48.0	45.1	-6.0	10.5	10.0	-0.5
New Brunswick	46.9	46.9	0.0	12.7	12.9	0.2
Quebec	390.1	373.9	-4.2	10.6	10.1	-0.5
Ontario	458.5	445.5	-2.8	7.6	7.4	-0.2
Manitoba	33.5	29.7	-11.3	5.8	5.2	-0.6
Saskatchewan	28.0	27.4	-2.1	5.5	5.4	-0.1
Alberta	85.1	90.5	6.3	5.4	5.7	0.3
British Columbia	196.6	203.0	3.3	9.7	9.9	0.2

**Note:** Provincial estimates may differ from the national totals due to independent seasonal adjustment.

Labour force characteristics for both sexes, aged 15 and over

	March 1997	March 1998	March 1997 to March 1998	March 1997	March 1998	March 1997 to March 1998
Unadjusted						
	Labour force			Participation rate		
	'000		% change	%		change
<b>Canada</b>	<b>15,017.3</b>	<b>15,289.3</b>	<b>1.8</b>	<b>63.7</b>	<b>63.9</b>	<b>0.2</b>
Newfoundland	222.6	222.8	0.1	49.3	49.7	0.4
Prince Edward Island	68.6	66.2	-3.5	64.0	61.8	-2.2
Nova Scotia	437.5	438.7	0.3	59.1	58.8	-0.3
New Brunswick	339.5	345.7	1.8	56.4	57.1	0.7
Quebec	3,621.5	3,637.5	0.4	61.3	61.1	-0.2
Ontario	5,794.0	5,936.0	2.5	64.8	65.4	0.6
Manitoba	568.7	566.4	-0.4	66.1	65.8	-0.3
Saskatchewan	488.4	497.9	1.9	64.4	65.3	0.9
Alberta	1,514.7	1,559.6	3.0	70.8	70.8	0.0
British Columbia	1,961.7	2,018.4	2.9	63.7	64.2	0.5
	Employment			Employment rate		
	'000		% change	%		change
<b>Canada</b>	<b>13,487.3</b>	<b>13,890.1</b>	<b>3.0</b>	<b>57.2</b>	<b>58.1</b>	<b>0.9</b>
Newfoundland	177.4	180.5	1.7	39.3	40.3	1.0
Prince Edward Island	54.5	54.7	0.4	50.8	51.0	0.2
Nova Scotia	374.3	388.1	3.7	50.6	52.0	1.4
New Brunswick	287.3	295.3	2.8	47.7	48.8	1.1
Quebec	3,173.6	3,244.0	2.2	53.7	54.5	0.8
Ontario	5,236.4	5,452.8	4.1	58.6	60.1	1.5
Manitoba	524.8	534.2	1.8	61.0	62.0	1.0
Saskatchewan	452.3	466.6	3.2	59.7	61.2	1.5
Alberta	1,417.7	1,466.5	3.4	66.2	66.6	0.4
British Columbia	1,788.9	1,807.6	1.0	58.1	57.5	-0.6
	Unemployment			Unemployment rate		
	'000		% change	%		change
<b>Canada</b>	<b>1,530.0</b>	<b>1,399.1</b>	<b>-8.6</b>	<b>10.2</b>	<b>9.2</b>	<b>-1.0</b>
Newfoundland	45.2	42.3	-6.4	20.3	19.0	-1.3
Prince Edward Island	14.1	11.6	-17.7	20.6	17.5	-3.1
Nova Scotia	63.2	50.5	-20.1	14.4	11.5	-2.9
New Brunswick	52.2	50.5	-3.3	15.4	14.6	-0.8
Quebec	448.0	393.5	-12.2	12.4	10.8	-1.6
Ontario	557.6	483.3	-13.3	9.6	8.1	-1.5
Manitoba	43.9	32.2	-26.7	7.7	5.7	-2.0
Saskatchewan	36.1	31.3	-13.3	7.4	6.3	-1.1
Alberta	97.1	93.2	-4.0	6.4	6.0	-0.4
British Columbia	172.8	210.8	22.0	8.8	10.4	1.6

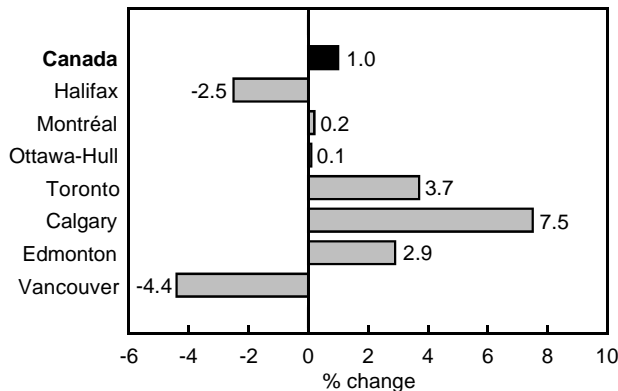
## OTHER RELEASES

### New Housing Price Index

February 1998

In February, the New Housing Price Index for Canada increased 1.0% compared with February 1997.

**New Housing Price Indexes,**  
February 1997 to February 1998



The largest monthly increases were noted in Charlottetown (+1.4%), Regina (+0.6%) and Hamilton (+0.5%), as some builders passed on the cost increases associated with spring 1998 construction to new home buyers. Smaller increases were noted in several other cities as builders reacted to improving market conditions. However, these increases were offset by monthly decreases in Victoria (-0.7%), Sudbury-Thunder Bay (-0.5%) and St. John-Moncton-Fredericton (-0.3%). Generally, contractors attributed these decreases to competitive market conditions.

From January to February 1998, this index of contractors' selling prices for new houses showed virtually no change.

**Available on CANSIM: matrix 9921.**

The first quarter 1998 issue of *Construction Price Statistics* (62-007-XPB, \$24/\$79) will be available in June. See *How to Order Publications*.

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

### New Housing Price Indexes

(1992=100)

	Feb. 1998	Feb. 1997 to Feb. 1998	Jan. 1998 to Feb. 1998
<b>Canada</b>	<b>99.8</b>	<b>1.0</b>	<b>-</b>
House only	100.1	1.7	0.1
Land only	101.6	0.2	-
St. John's	96.8	-2.3	-
Halifax	106.9	-2.5	-
Charlottetown	101.5	-1.9	1.4
St. John-Moncton-Fredericton	94.1	-4.3	-0.3
Québec	98.8	0.4	0.1
Montréal	102.5	0.2	0.3
Ottawa-Hull	97.0	0.1	0.1
Toronto	101.1	3.7	0.1
Hamilton	101.4	4.1	0.5
St. Catharines-Niagara	99.2	4.9	0.3
Kitchener-Waterloo	99.6	2.8	-0.1
London	97.3	-0.1	-0.2
Windsor	105.3	0.8	-
Sudbury-Thunder Bay	100.8	-2.6	-0.5
Winnipeg	111.9	0.9	0.3
Regina	122.9	5.7	0.6
Saskatoon	111.3	2.4	-
Calgary	120.5	7.5	0.3
Edmonton	106.3	2.9	-
Vancouver	89.5	-4.4	-0.2
Victoria	82.0	-3.1	-0.7

- Nil or zero.

### Steel primary forms

Week ending April 4, 1998 (preliminary)

Production of steel primary forms for the week ending April 4, 1998 totalled 314 738 metric tonnes, up 12.2% from 280 498 tonnes a week earlier and 1.8% from 309 297 tonnes a year earlier. Year-to-date production at the end of the week totalled 4 129 367 tonnes, a 9.3% increase from 3 777 431 tonnes for the same period in 1997.

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

## Railway carloadings

February 1998

In February, carload freight (excluding intermodal traffic) loaded by railways in Canada totalled 19.5 million tonnes, a 4.4% increase from February 1997. The carriers received an additional 1.9 million tonnes from U.S. connections during February.

Intermodal (piggyback) tonnage in February totalled 1.3 million tonnes, a 1.6% decrease from the same month last year. The year-to-date figures showed a decrease of 4.4% from 1997.

Total traffic (carload freight and intermodal traffic) increased 4.0% during February. This brought the 1998 year-to-date total to 41.1 million tonnes, a 7.7% gain on the previous year. Receipts from U.S. connections rose 11.4% during the same period.

Year-to-date data for 1998 and 1997 have been revised.

**Available on CANSIM: matrix 1431.**

The February 1998 issue of *Railway Carloadings* (52-001-XPB, \$11/\$103) will be released shortly.

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

## Basic summary tabulations

1996 Census

This series from the 1996 Census provides summary information for small geographic areas of the country in tabulations using two or more inter-related census variables.

The entire series comprises 66 basic tabulations. One tabulation containing data on Aboriginal peoples is released today. Geographies include census divisions and subdivisions; census metropolitan areas, tracted census agglomerations and census tracts; federal electoral districts (1996 representation order); federal electoral districts (1987 representation order) and enumeration areas; and forward sortation areas. All geographies include data for Canada, the provinces and territories.

Prices begin with a flat fee of \$60, plus \$1 for each of the first 100 geographic areas, and 5¢ for each additional area.

For further information on this release, contact your nearest Statistics Canada Regional Reference Centre. ■

## Egg production

February 1998

Preliminary estimates on egg production are now available for February 1998.

**Available on CANSIM: matrices 1145, 1146 and 5689-5691.**

To order *Production of Eggs* (23-003-XPB, \$110/year), contact Julie Gordon (613-951-5039), Agriculture Division.

For further information on this release, contact Sandy Giefeldt (613-951-2505), Livestock and Animal Products Section, Agriculture Division. ■



## PUBLICATIONS RELEASED

**Infomat—A Weekly Review**, April 9, 1998  
**Catalogue number 11-002-XPE**  
(Canada: \$4/\$145; outside Canada: US\$4/US\$145).

**Imports by Commodity** (microfiche version)  
**Catalogue number 65-007-XMB**  
(Canada: \$37/\$361; outside Canada: US\$37/US\$361).

**Imports by Commodity** (paper version)  
**Catalogue number 65-007-XPB**  
(Canada: \$78/\$773; outside Canada: US\$78/US\$773).

All prices exclude sales tax.

### How to order publications

Simplify your data search with the *Statistics Canada Catalogue* (11-204-XPE, \$16; outside Canada: US\$16).

Its keyword index will guide you to statistics on Canada's social and economic activity.

#### Order publications 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:

**1-800-889-9734**

Address changes or account inquiries:

**1-800-700-1033**

Internet:


**order@statcan.ca**

**To order a publication by mail write:** Statistics Canada, Circulation Management, Operations and Integration 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.

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

Catalogue 11-001E (P) April 11-001E/11-001E/11-001E/11-001E



Statistics Canada

Thursday, June 5, 1997  
For release at 9:30 a.m.



**MAJOR RELEASES**

- **Urban transit, 1995** 2  
Despite the emphasis on taking urban transit, Canadians are using it less and less. In 1995, 48.1% of Canadians took an average of about 20 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 1995, accompanied by sluggish gains in employment and slow economic growth during the year.

**OTHER RELEASES**

- **Manufactured Index, May 1997** 3
- **Short-term Expectations Survey** 3
- **Steel primary forms, week ending May 21, 1997** 12
- **Egg production, April 1997** 12

**PUBLICATIONS RELEASED** 11



### Statistics Canada's official release bulletin

Catalogue 11-001E.

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](mailto:listproc@statcan.ca). Leave the subject line blank. In the body of the message, type "subscribe daily firstname lastname".

Editor: Tim Prichard (613-951-1103, [prictim@statcan.ca](mailto:prictim@statcan.ca))

Head of Official Release: Chantal Prévost (613-951-1088, [prevcha@statcan.ca](mailto:prevcha@statcan.ca))

Published by authority of the Minister responsible for Statistics Canada. © Minister of Industry, 1998. Citation in newsprint, 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 11-001E, along with date and page references.

---

## REGIONAL REFERENCE CENTRES

---

Statistics Canada's Regional Reference Centres offer a full range of the Agency's products and services. Each reference centre is equipped with a library and sales counter where you can consult or purchase publications, diskettes, CD-ROM discs, microfiche, maps and more.

Each centre has facilities to retrieve information from CANSIM and E-STAT, Statistics Canada's data retrieval systems. A telephone inquiry service is available with toll-free access for those located outside local calling areas. Many other valuable services—from seminars to consultations—are also offered. For information, contact your nearest Regional Reference Centre.

**Newfoundland and Labrador, Nova Scotia, Prince Edward Island and New Brunswick**

Advisory Services  
Statistics Canada  
1741 Brunswick Street  
2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Box 11  
Halifax, Nova Scotia  
B3J 3X8

Local calls: (902) 426-5331  
Toll free: 1-800-263-1136  
Fax: 1-902-426-9538

**Quebec**

Advisory Services  
Statistics Canada  
4<sup>th</sup> Floor, East Tower  
Guy Favreau Complex  
200 René Lévesque Blvd. W.  
Montréal, Québec  
H2Z 1X4

Local calls: (514) 283-5725  
Toll free: 1-800-263-1136  
Fax: 1-514-283-9350

**National Capital Region**

Statistical Reference Centre (NCR)  
Statistics Canada  
Lobby, R.H. Coats Building  
Holland Avenue  
Tunney's Pasture  
Ottawa, Ontario  
K1A 0T6

If outside the local calling area,  
please dial the toll free number for  
your province.

Local calls: (613) 951-8116  
Fax: 1-613-951-0581

**Ontario**

Advisory Services  
Statistics Canada  
10<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Arthur Meighen Building  
25 St. Clair Avenue East  
Toronto, Ontario  
M4T 1M4

Local calls: (416) 973-6586  
Toll free: 1-800-263-1136  
Fax: 1-416-973-7475

**Manitoba**

Advisory Services  
Statistics Canada  
Via Rail Building, Suite 200  
123 Main Street  
Winnipeg, Manitoba  
R3C 4V9

Local calls: (204) 983-4020  
Toll free: 1-800-263-1136  
Fax: 1-204-983-7543

**Saskatchewan**

Advisory Services  
Statistics Canada  
Park Plaza, Suite 440  
2365 Albert Street  
Regina, Saskatchewan  
S4P 4K1

Local calls: (306) 780-5405  
Toll free: 1-800-263-1136  
Fax: 1-306-780-5403

**Southern Alberta**

Advisory Services  
Statistics Canada  
Discovery Place, Room 201  
3553-31 Street N.W.  
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  
Statistics Canada  
8<sup>th</sup> Floor, Park Square  
10001 Bellamy Hill  
Edmonton, Alberta  
T5J 3B6

Local calls: (403) 495-3027  
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.  
V6B 6C7

Local calls: (604) 666-3691  
Toll free: 1-800-263-1136  
Fax: 1-604-666-4863

**Telecommunications Device for the Hearing Impaired**

Toll free: 1-800-363-7629

---

## RELEASE DATES

---

**April 14 to 17, 1998**  
(Release dates are subject to change.)

---

<b>Release date</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Reference period</b>
14	<b>Education, mobility and migration</b>	1996 Census
15	<b>New motor vehicle sales</b>	February 1996
16	<b>Deaths in Canada</b>	1996
17	<b>Canadian international merchandise trade</b>	February 1998
17	<b>Travel between Canada and other countries</b>	February 1998

---