



# The Daily

Statistics Canada

Wednesday, August 19, 1998

For release at 8:30 a.m.

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## MAJOR RELEASES

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- **Consumer Price Index, July 1998** 3  
For the second consecutive month, the Consumer Price Index advanced 1.0% compared with the same month a year earlier. The Index remained unchanged between June and July — providing another indication of stability.
  - **Wholesale trade, June 1998** 6  
For the first time since the slowdown in 1995, wholesale sales declined for a second consecutive month in June (-1.7%).
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### Postal code population weight file

The *Postal code population weight file* has been created as a supplementary product to the *Postal code conversion file* (PCCF). It provides users with a population weight for postal codes with multiple links on the PCCF. The weight associated with each record on the *Postal code population weight file* represents the proportion of the population reporting the postal code within a specific enumeration area.

Only a small percentage of postal codes (4%) are linked to more than one enumeration area on the PCCF. However, these postal codes tend to serve relatively large areas and large populations. The weights will allow users to allocate their data proportionally to the population distribution reported in the 1996 Census.

This file can also be used in combination with the PCCF to identify those postal code-to-enumeration area links confirmed by census reported postal code data.

For further information on *Postal code population weight file* (93F0040XDB), contact a Statistics Canada Regional Reference Centre.



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## MAJOR RELEASES

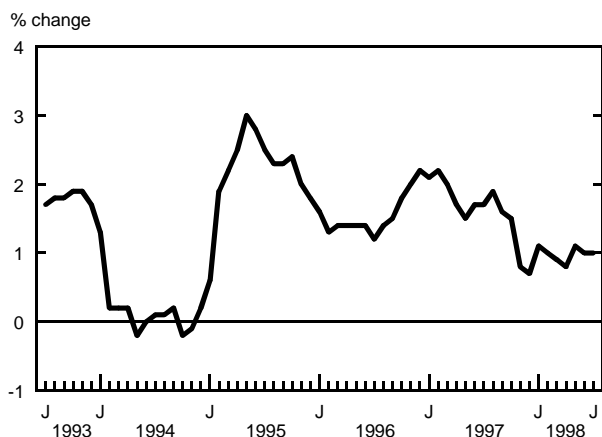
### Consumer Price Index

July 1998

Compared with July last year, Canadians experienced an average price increase of 1.0% for the goods and services included in the Consumer Price Index (CPI) basket. The same annual rate of change was recorded in June 1998. Since November 1997, the annual increases in the CPI have ranged between 0.7% and 1.1%.

Higher costs for university tuition, tobacco products, travel tours, telephone services and natural gas were primarily responsible for the 1.0% annual rise in the July CPI. Declining charges for gasoline and computer equipment, as well as lower mortgage interest costs had a moderating influence on these upward movements.

**Percentage change in the Consumer Price Index from the same month of the previous year**



### No change in the CPI between June and July

The CPI remained unchanged between June and July. A seasonal increase in traveller accommodation rates, higher air fares and rising charges for homeowners' maintenance and repairs were offset by declining prices for fresh produce, new cars, gasoline and electricity.

Demand for traveller accommodation in Canada this summer has been stronger than in past summers due to the weakness of the Canadian dollar. Traveller accommodation rates increased by 9.2% in July. Although increases in hotel and motel rates are usual

between April and July, this year's increase was particularly notable.

Air fares advanced 7.4% between June and July. Typically, demand for air travel is high in July.

Although homeowners maintenance and repairs costs increased 1.8% in July they remain only 0.7% higher than a year ago.

Prices of fresh vegetables fell by 4.2% and consumers paid 2.6% less for fresh fruit between June and July. An early spring and favourable growing conditions in most parts of Canada produced an abundance of vegetables from local suppliers. This has put downward pressure on most vegetable prices. However, potato prices advanced 14.2% due mainly to the weak Canadian dollar and limited domestic supply. The index for fresh fruit declined marginally due to an ample supply of some imported fruit. If not for the falling Canadian dollar and tight supply of citrus fruit, fresh fruit prices would have fallen even further.

The price index for new automobiles declined 1.0% between June and July. Manufacturer's rebates and dealer discounts were primarily responsible for the decrease. Motor vehicle manufacturers regularly attempt to reduce inventory in preparation for the new model-years introduced each autumn. In addition, manufacturers have been attempting to reduce consumer preference for leasing over buying new cars by making the purchase of new vehicles more attractive. Some manufacturers were faced with a surplus of used cars as many consumers who leased vehicles elected not to buy them at the expiration of the lease.

Gasoline prices fell in July (on average -1.5%) following an 8.1% decline in the Raw Material Price Index for crude oil in June. A change in the price of crude oil usually takes at least a month before being reflected in the price of gasoline. The Raw Material Price Index of crude oil and the CPI gasoline index have both shown downward trends since the fall of 1997.

A 10.4% plunge in the cost of electricity in British Columbia was primarily responsible for a 1.0% drop in the electricity index for Canada between June and July. Electricity users in British Columbia benefitted from a one-time credit in July. Last year's record rainfall and spring run-off resulted in surplus power and generated record revenues for the provincial hydro utility.

### Provincial highlights

Prince Edward Island was the only province to experience an annual decline in average prices (-1.0%)

in July. Saskatchewan and Alberta (+1.5%) posted the highest annual price increases. The All-items index registered annual increases in Quebec (+1.3%) and Ontario (+0.9%).

Since July 1997, residents of Quebec faced higher food, shelter and clothing price increases than did residents of Ontario. On the other hand, residents of Quebec paid, on average, only 1.3% more for commodities included in the recreation, education and reading major component while residents of Ontario paid 3.8% more.

Over the last year, rates for homeowners' insurance and electricity grew more in Quebec than for Canada as a whole. In addition, the price of cigarettes rose by 10.3% over the last 12 months in Quebec while the average increase in the price of cigarettes for Canada was 7.4%. However, residents of Quebec experienced lower increases in travel tour rates and tuition fees than most other Canadians.

Over the last year, residents of Ontario benefitted from larger price decreases for pork, soft drinks and paper products than other Canadians. On the other

hand, Ontario's rates for university tuition, traveller accommodation and travel tours grew faster than they did in Canada as a whole. Also, new house prices in Ontario rose by 3.1% since July 1997 compared with the national average of 1.1%.

Between June and July, changes in the provincial CPIs ranged from a decline of 0.3% in New Brunswick to an advance of 0.4% in Newfoundland.

**Available on CANSIM: matrices 9940-9970.**

Available at 7 a.m. on the Internet at [www.statcan.ca](http://www.statcan.ca)

The July 1998 issue of the *Consumer Price Index* (62-001-XPB, \$11/\$103) is now available. See *How to order publications*.

The August 1998 Consumer Price Index will be released on September 18, 1998.

For further information on this release, contact (613-951-9606; fax: 613-951-2848; [infounit@statcan.ca](mailto:infounit@statcan.ca)), Prices Division. □

# The Consumer Price Index and major components 1992=100

	July 1998	June 1998	July 1997	June 1998 to July 1998	July 1997 to July 1998
Not seasonally adjusted					
				% change	
<b>All-items</b>	<b>108.8</b>	<b>108.8</b>	<b>107.7</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>1.0</b>
Food	109.9	110.2	108.4	-0.3	1.4
Shelter	103.6	103.5	103.3	0.1	0.3
Household operations and furnishings	108.0	108.0	106.4	0.0	1.5
Clothing and footwear	102.6	103.2	101.5	-0.6	1.1
Transportation	120.4	120.7	120.9	-0.2	-0.4
Health and personal care	108.4	108.2	106.1	0.2	2.2
Recreation, education and reading	119.4	118.5	116.7	0.8	2.3
Alcoholic beverages and tobacco products	92.8	92.6	89.1	0.2	4.2
Goods	105.7	106.2	105.3	-0.5	0.4
Services	112.4	111.9	110.5	0.4	1.7
All-items excluding food and energy	109.0	108.8	107.6	0.2	1.3
Energy	104.2	105.1	107.5	-0.9	-3.1
Purchasing power of the consumer dollar expressed in cents, compared with 1992	91.9	91.9	92.9		
All-items (1986=100)	139.4				

# Consumer Price Index by province, Whitehorse and Yellowknife 1992=100

	July 1998	June 1998	July 1997	June 1998 to July 1998	July 1997 to July 1998
Not seasonally adjusted					
				% change	
Newfoundland	108.7	108.3	108.6	0.4	0.1
Prince Edward Island	105.5	105.7	106.6	-0.2	-1.0
Nova Scotia	108.5	108.4	107.7	0.1	0.7
New Brunswick	107.1	107.4	106.6	-0.3	0.5
Québec	106.5	106.7	105.1	-0.2	1.3
Ontario	109.0	108.8	108.0	0.2	0.9
Manitoba	113.0	113.1	111.7	-0.1	1.2
Saskatchewan	112.2	112.2	110.5	0.0	1.5
Alberta	111.3	111.3	109.7	0.0	1.5
British Columbia	110.4	110.4	109.8	0.0	0.5
Whitehorse	111.6	111.3	110.8	0.3	0.7
Yellowknife	108.9	108.6	109.6	0.3	-0.6

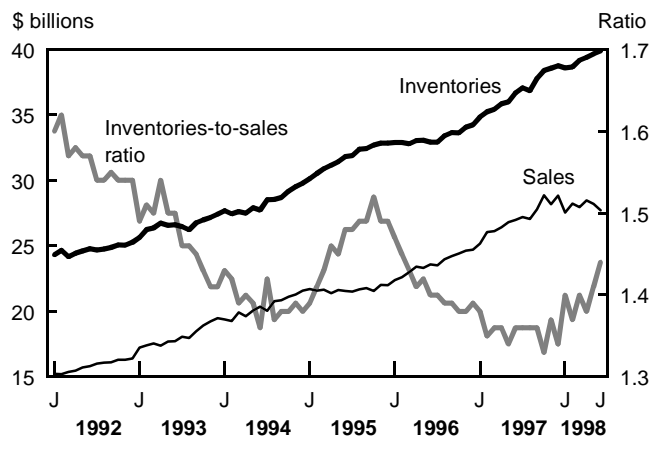
## Wholesale trade

June 1998 (preliminary)

For the first time since the slowdown in 1995, wholesale sales declined for a second consecutive month. The decline in June (-1.7%) was concentrated in motor vehicles and parts, agricultural chemicals and other farm supplies, while May's decrease (-1.0%) originated from weaker wholesale sales in several industries.

For the first six months of 1998, total wholesale sales have declined on average by 0.6% per month. There has not been an average monthly decline since the first six months of 1990. (Average monthly wholesale sales remained unchanged during the first half of 1995.) Total wholesale sales had generally been increasing since the end of 1995 before flattening toward the end of 1997.

**Wholesale sales stagnant**



Total sales by wholesalers amounted to \$27.7 billion in June, down \$468 million from May. Led by motor vehicles and parts (-6.8%), goods in the "other products" category (-6.2%) and apparel and dry goods (-4.8%), 7 out of the 11 trade groups showed lower sales in June. Computers and other electronic equipment (+4.3%) and food products (+1.6%) were among the few sectors that did well in June.

Wholesale sales of motor vehicles and parts in June were particularly affected by the strike at General Motors in the United States. The strike had a domino effect, which shut-down most of GM's assembly plants and forced independent auto parts suppliers to also shut-down or reduce production. Since the end of 1997, wholesale sales of motor vehicles and parts have

weakened considerably after increasing for most of 1996 and 1997.

Farm related goods (such as agricultural chemicals and other farm supplies) were mostly responsible for June's significant decline in sales in the other products trade group. This was particularly obvious in Manitoba, where total wholesale sales dropped by 10.9% in June. Most of this decline came from the other products trade groups. The early spring may have shifted demand for these products earlier in the year. Prior to June's decline, wholesale sales in the other products trade group had been up for four consecutive months.

### Inventories-to-sales ratio on the rise

While sales were down in June, wholesalers continued to increase inventories to \$39.9 billion (+0.6%). Consequently, the inventories-to-sales ratio reached its highest level since February 1996 — advancing from 1.41 in May to 1.44 in June.

The largest increases in the ratio occurred in trade groups that recorded the biggest declines in sales for June. An upward movement in the inventories-to-sales ratio is usually the result of a sudden drop in sales. However, wholesalers may also be planning for a rise in future demand by increasing inventories. Within a given industry, an increasing inventories-to-sales ratio means that wholesalers are faced with higher storage costs. In June, the inventories-to-sales ratio ranged from 0.61 for food products to 3.12 for farm machinery and equipment.

### Recent slowdown concentrated in Ontario

With nearly 50% of all wholesale sales in Canada, Ontario is mainly responsible for the slowdown recorded at the national level since the end of 1997. This does not necessarily mean that wholesalers have been less active in Ontario than in any other province. A company that records its economic activities only at its head office in Ontario, but is also conducting business in other provinces, will be identified only in Ontario for wholesale trade statistics purposes. The weakness in sales in Ontario came mostly from the motor vehicles and parts industry. The motor vehicles and parts industry is the biggest contributor to total wholesale sales in Ontario. Before the slowdown that started at the end of 1997, wholesale sales in Ontario had generally been increasing since the end of 1995.

Wholesale sales in Quebec continued the upward trend which started toward the end of 1995. The constant progression in sales of food products since the end of 1995 is one of the main reasons behind the good performance of wholesale trade in Quebec.

The food products trade group is the most important wholesale sector in Quebec.

After a period of rising sales between early 1996 and the spring of 1997, wholesale sales in British Columbia remained more or less stagnant. Several factors could explain the weakness in sales in British Columbia. The Asian economic crisis that was already in progress in 1997 affected most sectors in British Columbia. Furthermore, the surge in the supply of lumber products in both Canada and the United States led to substantial reductions in prices and consequently to the problems encountered by the British Columbia lumber industry. At the national level, wholesale sales of lumber and building materials have been generally

declining since the spring of 1997 after a period of increases that began in January 1996.

**Available on CANSIM: matrices 59, 61 and 648-649.**

The June 1998 issue of *Wholesale trade* (63-008-XIB, \$14/\$140) is available today via the Internet only. See *How to order publications*.

For further information on this release, contact Paul Gratton (613-951-3541; [gratpau@statcan.ca](mailto:gratpau@statcan.ca)) or Nathalie Bisson (613-951-7378), Wholesale Trade Section, Distributive Trades Division. □

## Sales and inventories of wholesale merchants

	June 1997	March 1998 <sup>r</sup>	April 1998 <sup>r</sup>	May 1998 <sup>r</sup>	June 1998 <sup>p</sup>	May 1998 to June 1998	June 1997 to June 1998
	seasonally adjusted						
	\$ millions					% change	
<b>Sales, all trade groups</b>	<b>26,993</b>	<b>27,960</b>	<b>28,486</b>	<b>28,195</b>	<b>27,727</b>	<b>-1.7</b>	<b>2.7</b>
Food products	4,190	4,211	4,324	4,225	4,294	1.6	2.5
Beverage, drug and tobacco products	1,727	1,907	1,910	1,996	1,976	-1.0	14.4
Apparel and dry goods	505	542	576	556	529	-4.8	4.8
Household goods	759	830	830	839	850	1.4	12.1
Motor vehicles, parts and accessories	4,662	5,014	5,055	4,970	4,631	-6.8	-0.6
Metals, hardware, plumbing and heating equipment and supplies	1,783	1,946	1,969	1,937	1,931	-0.3	8.3
Lumber and building materials	2,139	2,035	2,029	1,982	1,981	-0.1	-7.4
Farm machinery, equipment and supplies	738	734	787	742	735	-0.9	-0.4
Industrial and other machinery, equipment and supplies	3,974	4,130	4,173	4,085	4,096	0.3	3.1
Computers, packaged software and other electronic machinery	2,374	2,462	2,521	2,521	2,630	4.3	10.8
Other products	4,144	4,150	4,313	4,343	4,074	-6.2	-1.7
Newfoundland	184	194	194	193	197	2.1	6.8
Prince Edward Island	45	47	47	51	47	-7.6	6.3
Nova Scotia	524	492	502	537	526	-2.1	0.3
New Brunswick	305	336	345	344	338	-1.7	10.9
Quebec	5,279	5,474	5,767	5,568	5,608	0.7	6.2
Ontario	12,883	13,547	13,548	13,499	13,189	-2.3	2.4
Manitoba	936	990	1,045	970	864	-10.9	-7.6
Saskatchewan	971	940	1,004	1,033	977	-5.5	0.6
Alberta	2,720	2,754	2,835	2,806	2,787	-0.7	2.5
British Columbia	3,121	3,159	3,174	3,163	3,163	0.0	1.4
Yukon	12	12	10	11	13	14.6	4.5
Northwest Territories	14	17	18	19	19	-3.8	37.0
<b>Inventories, all trade groups</b>	<b>36,677</b>	<b>39,177</b>	<b>39,383</b>	<b>39,653</b>	<b>39,888</b>	<b>0.6</b>	<b>8.8</b>
Food products	2,564	2,640	2,646	2,621	2,627	0.3	2.5
Beverage, drug and tobacco products	1,843	2,028	2,041	2,207	2,172	-1.6	17.9
Apparel and dry goods	1,085	1,205	1,209	1,183	1,237	4.6	14.0
Household goods	1,452	1,544	1,577	1,623	1,605	-1.1	10.6
Motor vehicles, parts and accessories	4,889	5,491	5,574	5,663	5,690	0.5	16.4
Metals, hardware, plumbing and heating equipment and supplies	3,055	3,354	3,337	3,370	3,410	1.2	11.6
Lumber and building materials	3,390	3,403	3,409	3,454	3,502	1.4	3.3
Farm machinery, equipment and supplies	1,984	2,259	2,218	2,249	2,289	1.8	15.4
Industrial and other machinery, equipment and supplies	8,645	9,526	9,577	9,691	9,730	0.4	12.5
Computers, packaged software and other electronic machinery	2,327	2,357	2,344	2,298	2,291	-0.3	-1.6
Other products	5,442	5,370	5,451	5,294	5,333	0.7	-2.0

<sup>r</sup> Revised figures.

<sup>p</sup> Preliminary figures.



## OTHER RELEASES

### Economic dependency profiles

1996

For the third consecutive year, taxfilers relied proportionately less on transfer payments and more on employment income as a source of income. On average, Canadian taxfilers received \$19.35 in transfer payments for every \$100 of employment income in the 1996 tax year — down \$0.42 from 1995.

The Economic Dependency Ratio (EDR) measures the amount of transfer payments received for every \$100 of employment income. Since peaking at \$20.38 in 1993, the EDR has decreased an average of 1.7% a year. This contrasts with the 1990-to-1993 period when the EDR had an average increase of 10% a year.

Only four of the provinces and territories (Newfoundland, Nova Scotia, British Columbia and the Northwest Territories) experienced increases in their dependency on transfer payments. Newfoundland had the highest EDR at \$34.86, up \$1.52 from 1995.

Residents of both territories were the least dependent on transfer payments. The EDR in the Yukon was \$10.68 and for the Northwest Territories it was \$11.53. The EDR for both territories are slightly skewed compared with the rest of the nation due to the higher employment income of taxfilers in these areas, as well as smaller expenditures on CPP and Old Age Security benefits per capita — both significant contributors to total transfer payments. Alberta had the lowest provincial EDR (\$13.38).

Coinciding with the three-year downward trend of EDR, Employment Insurance (EI) payments have dropped for the third consecutive year. Nationally, EI payments fell 6.1% in 1996 compared with 1995. The Yukon (10.2%) and Alberta (10.0%) led the nation in percentage decreases in EI payments, which greatly contributed to their low EDRs (all values adjusted for inflation).

Although EI payments fell in the Atlantic provinces in 1996, payments were still an important source of income in this region. Newfoundland, Prince Edward Island and New Brunswick were the only provinces to report EI payments as the most important source of transfer payments — accounting for approximately 30% of total transfers in each province.

The reduction in EI payments was offset by an increase in total C/QPP and Old Age Security payments. From 1995 to 1996, the national average increase in C/QPP was 4.2% and Old Age Security payments increased 2.2%. These were both exceeded by a 7.1% increase in private pensions (all values

adjusted for inflation). Private pensions, although not included in this year's EDR calculations, are an important source of non-employment income. The contribution of pensions to income should continue to grow in the future as the population eligible to receive pensions increases.

The number of individuals receiving Employment Insurance, Workers' Compensation and Social Assistance declined from 1995 to 1996. Those receiving GST Credits and Child Tax Benefits remained relatively unchanged, while the number of individuals receiving provincial tax credits, Old Age Security, C/QPP and other pensions increased.

Government pensions continued to account for the largest share of transfer payments. Combined, the Canada/Quebec Pension Plan (26%) and Old Age Security (25.9%) accounted for 51.9% of transfer payments. The next highest component was Employment Insurance (15.6%).

Economic dependency on transfer payments was higher for women than men in every province. Nationally, women received \$29.71 in transfers for every \$100 of employment income, while men only received \$13.79. This gender-based difference resulted from markedly higher Old Age Security, Social Assistance and Child Tax Benefits paid to women.

### Economic dependency profile by province/territory 1996

	1996	1995	1995 to 1996
	ratio (\$)		Net Change (\$)
<b>Canada</b>	<b>19.35</b>	<b>19.77</b>	<b>-0.42</b>
Newfoundland	34.86	33.34	1.52
Prince Edward Island	31.61	33.18	-1.57
Nova Scotia	27.41	27.33	0.08
New Brunswick	28.22	28.48	-0.26
Quebec	22.76	22.84	-0.08
Ontario	17.60	18.34	-0.74
Manitoba	21.51	21.96	-0.45
Saskatchewan	22.22	22.59	-0.37
Alberta	13.38	13.95	-0.57
British Columbia	18.04	17.92	0.12
Yukon	10.68	11.52	-0.84
Northwest Territories	11.53	10.99	0.54

**Note:** For the purpose of this profile, transfers are payments made to individuals by government. Transfer payments include: Employment Insurance, Goods

and Services Tax Credit, Child Tax Benefit, Old Age Security, Canada/Quebec Pension Plan, Workers' Compensation, Social Assistance, Family Allowance for British Columbia and Quebec, and provincial/territorial Refundable Tax Credits for Quebec, Ontario, Manitoba, British Columbia and the Northwest Territories. This is a change in the methodology from previous years when the EDR also included income from private pensions as a source of transfers. To better match the EDR with strictly government transfers, other pension income has been removed from the calculation of the EDR. For all historical comparisons, the EDR has been recalculated with private pensions removed.

The data for the *Economic dependency profiles* (13C0017) are available for Canada, the provinces and territories, as well as for areas as small as a forward sortation area (the first three characters of the postal code) and for letter carrier routes.

For further information on this release, contact Client Services (613-951-9720; fax: 613-951-4745; [saadinfo@statcan.ca](mailto:saadinfo@statcan.ca)), Small Area and Administrative Data Division. ■

## Natural gas sales

June 1998 (preliminary)

Natural gas sales totalled 3 522 million cubic metres in June, down 1.2% from June 1997. Both residential (+5.8%) and commercial (+1.4%) sectors recorded higher monthly sales. Sales to the industrial sector (including direct sales) decreased 2.6%.

Year-to-date sales to the end of June declined 7.8% from the same period in 1997. Sales to the residential (-19.0%) and commercial (-23.8%) sectors decreased due to the unseasonably warm weather in the first half of 1998. Year-to-date sales to the industrial sector (including direct sales) maintained steady growth, posting a 4.3% increase from the same period last year.

## Natural gas sales

	June 1998 <sup>p</sup>	June 1997	June 1998 to June 1997
	thousands of cubic metres		% change
<b>Natural gas sales</b>	<b>3,522,109</b>	<b>3,565,474</b>	<b>-1.2</b>
Residential	475,220	449,021	5.8
Commercial	323,568	319,146	1.4
Industrial	1,627,278	1,790,730	-2.6
Direct	1,096,043	1,006,577	
	Year-to-date		
	1998 <sup>p</sup>	1997	1997 to 1998
	thousands of cubic metres		% change
<b>Natural gas sales</b>	<b>34,864,005</b>	<b>37,824,577</b>	<b>-7.8</b>
Residential	8,594,064	10,612,159	-19.0
Commercial	5,723,044	7,512,155	-23.8
Industrial	11,236,180	12,528,278	4.3
Direct	9,310,717	7,171,985	

<sup>p</sup> Preliminary figures.

## Available on CANSIM: matrices 1052-1055.

The June 1998 issue of *Gas utilities* (55-002-XPB, \$17/ \$165) will be available in September. See *How to order publications*.

For further information on this release, contact Gary Smalldridge (613-951-3567; [smalgar@statcan.ca](mailto:smalgar@statcan.ca)) or Tom Lewis (613-951-3596; [talewis@statcan.ca](mailto:talewis@statcan.ca)), Energy Section, Manufacturing, Construction and Energy Division. ■

## Literacy utilization in Canadian workplaces

1994

*Literacy utilization in Canadian workplaces* profiles the literacy skills of workers with the literacy requirements of the workplace. The study, which was conducted by Professors Harvey Krahn and Graham S. Lowe from the University of Alberta, was the fourth in a series of monographs from the 1994 International Adult Literacy Survey.

Part of the study looks at workers and how their literacy skills "fit" their job requirements. For example, are highly literate workers employed in jobs with high

literacy requirements? The study reveals that almost three-quarters of Canadian workers are employed in a job appropriate to their literacy skills. Approximately 2 million workers with low literacy skills are in jobs that make few demands on their reading, writing and numeracy abilities. Close to 4 million workers with medium-level literacy skills are employed in jobs with mid-range demands. And finally, about 2.8 million Canadians with high literacy skills have jobs that require frequent use of their literacy skills.

However, over one-quarter of workers are a literacy "mismatch" for the work they are doing. For example, almost 2.5 million workers have higher skill levels than demanded by their job (literacy surplus), and as many as 635,000 workers may not have sufficiently well-developed skills to do their jobs adequately (literacy deficit).

*Literacy utilization in Canadian workplaces, no. 4* (89-552-MPE, \$10; Internet version: 89-552-MIE, Free) is now available. See *How to order publications*.

The report is also available free on the Internet @ [www.statcan.ca](http://www.statcan.ca). A highlights paper is also available (89F0103XIE).

For further information on this release, contact Nancy Darcovich (613-951-4585; [darcovi@statcan.ca](mailto:darcovi@statcan.ca)), Special Surveys Division. ■

## **Biotechnology Firm Survey**

1997 (preliminary)

Data on a limited number of variables from the Biotechnology Firm Survey are now available.

To order the data, contact Claire Racine-Lebel (613-951-6309), Science and Technology Redesign Project. For further information about the survey, contact Antoine Rose (613-951-9919), Science and Technology Redesign Project. ■

## PUBLICATIONS RELEASED

**The Consumer Price Index, July 1998**  
**Catalogue number 62-001-XPB**  
(Canada: \$11/\$103; outside Canada: US\$11/US\$103).

**Wholesale trade, June 1998**  
**Catalogue number 63-008-XIB**  
(Canada: \$14/\$140; outside Canada: US\$14/US\$140).

**Literacy utilization in Canadian workplaces,**  
August 1998  
**Catalogue number 89-552-MIE**  
(Canada: \$ Free; outside Canada: US\$ Free).

**Literacy utilization in Canadian workplaces,**  
August 1998  
**Catalogue number 89-552-MPE**  
(Canada: \$10; outside Canada: US\$10).

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