



The Daily

Statistics Canada

Monday, December 13, 1999

For release at 8:30 a.m.

MAJOR RELEASES

- **Household spending, dwelling characteristics and household facilities, 1998** 2

Households spent an estimated \$51,360 on average on everything from clothing to car maintenance to travel in 1998, up 3% from the previous year. Personal taxes claimed just over 21% of the average household's budget, while shelter costs claimed about 20%. Transportation and food each took up just over 10%.

OTHER RELEASES

Justice spending, 1996/97 5

National Longitudinal Survey of Children and Youth, 1996 5

PUBLICATIONS RELEASED 6



Statistics
Canada

Statistique
Canada

Canada

MAJOR RELEASES

Household spending, dwelling characteristics and household facilities

1998

Households spent an estimated average of \$51,360 on everything from clothing to car maintenance to travel in 1998, up 3% from the previous year.

Personal taxes claimed just over 21% of the average household's budget, while shelter costs claimed about 20%. Transportation and food each took up just over 10%. These proportions were virtually unchanged from 1997.

Average household expenditure and budget share

	Average expenditure		Share of budget	
	1997	1998	1997	1998
	\$	%	\$	%
Total expenditure	49,970		51,360	
Personal taxes	10,640	21	10,970	21
Shelter	9,870	20	10,090	20
Transportation	6,200	12	6,360	12
Food	5,710	11	5,880	11
Recreation	2,780	6	2,950	6
Personal insurance payments and pension contributions	2,780	6	2,800	5
Household operation	2,290	5	2,360	5
Clothing	2,180	4	2,200	4
Household furnishings and equipment	1,340	3	1,490	3
Tobacco products and alcoholic beverages	1,140	2	1,210	2
Health care	1,150	2	1,190	2
Gifts of money and contributions	1,240	2	1,140	2
Miscellaneous expenditures	800	2	810	2
Personal care	660	1	690	1
Education	660	1	680	1
Reading materials and other printed matter	270	1	280	1

Canadians opened their wallets for leisure time pursuits and goods for their homes in 1998. Households spent almost 12% more on home furnishings and equipment, due mainly to a 16% increase in spending on furniture, art, antiques and decorative ware. Spending also increased 6% on tobacco products and alcoholic beverages — particularly the latter.

Note to readers

The data for this release come from the 1998 Survey of Household Spending. In 1997, this survey replaced the Family Expenditure Survey (last conducted in 1996) and the Household Facilities and Equipment Survey (last conducted in 1997). Readers wishing to make comparisons with previously released data from these surveys should consult Client Services, Income Statistics Division (1 888 297-7355; 613-951-7355; income@statcan.ca) for an explanation of the changes.

Figures on Internet use produced by this survey are comparable with those from the Household Internet Use Survey for 1998, which were released in The Daily on April 23, 1999. However, there are slight differences between that survey and the 1998 Survey of Household Spending.

Data from the Survey of Household Spending were collected as of December 31, 1998, two months after the Household Internet Use Survey. Both surveys collect information on the proportion of homes with access to the Internet. However, the Survey of Household Spending also collects information about spending on computer hardware, software and supplies and about the proportion of homes with computers and modems.

Food, shelter costs accounted for half the spending in lowest income households

In 1998, the one-fifth of households with the lowest incomes spent on average \$16,900, compared with \$101,770 for the one-fifth of households with the highest incomes. (For the purposes of this analysis, households were categorized into five groups based on their income level or quintile. Each group represented one-fifth, or 20%, of all households.)

After adjusting for differences in household size, total expenditure per person was \$10,630 for the lowest income households and \$30,190 for households with the highest incomes.

Average household spending on food was \$1,930 (adjusted for household size) for the lowest income households and \$2,660 for households with the highest incomes. Similarly, spending on shelter was \$3,400 (adjusted for household size) for the lowest income households and \$4,800 for households with the highest incomes.

In the households with the lowest incomes, food and shelter accounted for half of all spending. In contrast, the households with the highest incomes devoted only one-quarter of their budgets to these two basic categories, but approximately one-third of their budgets to personal income taxes. Income taxes claimed only 3% of the budget for those with the lowest incomes.

Percentage of household budget spent on four major categories 1998

	Lowest quintile ¹	2nd quintile	3rd quintile	4th quintile	Highest quintile
	%				
Food	18	16	13	11	9
Shelter	32	24	21	20	16
Transportation	11	14	13	13	12
Personal income taxes	3	10	17	21	30

¹ The upper bounds for the lowest to the fourth quintiles are \$20,530, \$35,111, \$52,976 and \$77,000.

Average household spending highest in the Northwest Territories

In 1998, the Northwest Territories had the highest average household expenditure (\$71,200). Households in Nunavut, for which data were collected separately for the first time, spent an average of \$47,860.

Average household expenditure by province and territory

	Average household expenditure	
	1997	1998
	\$	
Newfoundland	38,450	41,010
Prince Edward Island	41,210	41,820
Nova Scotia	42,470	43,410
New Brunswick	41,600	41,320
Quebec	42,920	44,570
Ontario	55,330	57,170
Manitoba	45,790	46,500
Saskatchewan	44,700	44,870
Alberta	54,410	55,260
British Columbia	53,620	54,250
Yukon	58,560	55,230
Northwest Territories	63,200 ¹	71,200
Nunavut ²	n/a	47,860

¹ Includes Nunavut.

² Nunavut became a separate territory in April 1999.

n/a Not available.

Households in Ontario continued to have the highest average household spending of the provinces, estimated at \$57,170. Alberta followed with an average of \$55,260. Households in Newfoundland spent on average \$41,010, still the lowest among provinces and territories.

Among the 17 metropolitan areas for which data are available separately, Yellowknife reported the highest average spending (\$81,100), followed by Ottawa (\$61,730). The metropolitan area of Charlottetown-Summerside reported the lowest average spending at \$42,650.

Average household expenditure by selected metropolitan area

	Average household expenditure	
	1997	1998
	\$	
St. John's	46,770	52,110
Charlottetown-Summerside	42,870	42,650
Halifax	49,920	50,010
Saint John	46,990	44,150
Québec	48,930	45,750
Montréal	46,310	47,130
Ottawa	61,520	61,730
Toronto	60,340	60,870
Winnipeg	48,210	48,020
Regina	51,580	54,740
Saskatoon	46,650	47,490
Calgary	59,080	60,680
Edmonton	55,130	57,420
Vancouver	56,830	58,270
Victoria	49,670	51,140
Whitehorse	60,060	57,530
Yellowknife	73,170	81,100

We are more plugged in

More Canadians entered the computer age in 1998, with computer ownership rising 13%. Fully 45% of households reported having a computer, almost twice the proportion from five years ago when 23% reported owning a computer. Average spending on computer equipment and supplies (for those reporting) was approximately the same as in 1997 — \$1,000.

In 1998, 25% of households reported having access to the Internet from home compared with only 17% in 1997. For households that reported spending on Internet services, spending increased 11% from 1997 to an average of \$242.

Cell phones also grew in popularity in 1998, with about 26% of households reporting they had a cell phone compared with 22% in 1997. Households that bought cellular services in 1998 spent an average of \$490, 4% less than in 1997.

Household income had major bearing on computer ownership

The 20% of households with the highest incomes were four times more likely to have a computer than those in the lowest income group. In 1998, 74% of households in the highest income group had computers compared with only 18% of households in the lowest income group.

Similarly, Internet access from home was six times more common for households in the highest income

group (48%) than for households in the lowest income group (8%).

Ownership of most household equipment measured by the survey, was stable or showed only a slight increase from 1997 to 1998.

Ownership of household equipment

	Percentage of households	
	1997	1998
	%	
Washing machine	81	81
Clothes dryer	77	79
Dishwasher	49	51
Freezer	59	59
Microwave oven	88	89
Cellular telephone	22	26
Compact disc player	65	67
Cablevision	75	73
Video cassette recorder	87	88
Home computer	40	45
Modem	25	32
Internet use from home	17	25
Colour television	99	99
Owned vehicle	79	79
Automobile	67	65
Van and truck	31	32

Home ownership remained stable

In 1998, the rate of home ownership remained stable with just under 65% of households owning

their homes. However, home ownership rates varied significantly across the country.

The highest provincial rate was still in Newfoundland, where 76% of households owned their homes, while Quebec was lowest at 57%. In the north, only 23% of Nunavut households reported owning their homes.

Summary data for 1998 household spending as well as dwelling characteristics and household equipment are available on Statistics Canada's web site free of charge. The menu path is Canadian Statistics, then The people, then Families, households and housing, and finally Expenditures.

Tables presenting detailed spending data (62F0031XDB) or dwelling characteristics and household equipment (62F0041XDB) are now available for Canada, the provinces and territories, and selected metropolitan areas. Custom tabulations can also be obtained. The publication *Spending patterns in Canada, 1998* (62-202-XIB/XPB) will be released in June 2000.

For more information about the Survey of Household Spending, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Client Services, Income Statistics Division (1 888 297-7355; 613-951-7355; income@statcan.ca). ■

OTHER RELEASES

Justice spending

1996/97

The justice system — everything from policing services to courts, probation services and prisons — cost each Canadian \$337 in the fiscal year 1996/97.

Governments at all levels spent \$10 billion on justice services, down 1.3% from 1995/96 after inflation is taken into account. Spending on justice represented about 3 cents of every dollar of total government spending in 1996/97, compared with 31 cents on social services, for example.

The cost of policing accounted for the majority of spending on justice, about 60 cents of every dollar, followed by correctional services for adults at 20 cents of every dollar.

Among the provinces, per capita spending on justice was highest in Ontario and Quebec, and lowest in Newfoundland and Prince Edward Island.

Almost 120,000 people were employed full time in the justice system in 1996/97, that is, by police, courts, legal aid plans, criminal prosecutions and adult corrections. About 6 in every 10 worked for the police. The number of employees has declined 3% since 1992/93.

Juristat: Justice spending in Canada, Vol. 19, no. 12 is now available in paper (85-002-XPE, \$10/\$93) and on the Internet (85-002-XIE, \$8/\$70). See *How to order publications*.

For further information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Information and Client Services (1 800 387-2231 or 613-951-9023), Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics. ■

National Longitudinal Survey of Children and Youth

1996

Statistics Canada is announcing the availability of data from the National Longitudinal Survey of Children and Youth (NLSCY). Available today are data from the Yukon and Northwest Territories, custody data from the provinces, and a public use microdata file. The NLSCY, developed jointly by Human Resources Development Canada and Statistics Canada, is a comprehensive survey that follows the development of children in Canada over time, and paints a picture of their lives.

Data from the Yukon and Northwest Territories sample of the NLSCY were collected in 1996. The questionnaires were very similar to those used in the provincial collection. The data were collected on behalf of Statistics Canada by the Yukon Bureau of Statistics and the Northwest Territories Bureau of Statistics. Custody data from cycle 2 of the NLSCY (1996/97) are also available. An article pertaining to the custody data will be available in March 2000. For more information on the data now available, contact Tamara Knighton (613-951-7326).

Also released today is the public-use microdata file, which contains the results from the second cycle of the NLSCY. It includes data on approximately 20,000 children in Canada, ranging in age from birth to 13 years in 1996/97. To purchase the public-use microdata file for the NLSCY, contact Client Services (613-951-7355 or 1 888 297-7355; fax: 613-951-3012; ssd@statcan.ca), Special Surveys Division.

For further information about the National Longitudinal Survey of Children and Youth, contact Sylvie Michaud (613-951-9482; michsyl@statcan.ca) or Tamara Knighton (613-951-7326; knigtam@statcan.ca) at Statistics Canada, Allen Zeesman (819-953-6622; allen.zeesman@spg.org) at Human Resources Development Canada. ■

PUBLICATIONS RELEASED

Supply and disposition of crude oil and natural gas, August 1999

Catalogue number 26-006-XPB

(Canada: \$19/\$186; outside Canada: US\$19/US\$186).

Canada's international transactions in securities, September 1999

Catalogue number 67-002-XPB

(Canada: \$18/\$176; outside Canada: US\$18/US\$176).

Juristat: Justice spending in Canada, Vol. 19, No. 12

Catalogue number 85-002-XIE

(Canada: \$8/\$70; outside Canada: US\$8/US\$70).

Juristat: Justice spending in Canada, Vol. 19, No. 12

Catalogue number 85-002-XPE

(Canada: \$10/\$93; outside Canada: US\$10/US\$93).

All prices exclude sales tax.

Catalogue numbers with an -XIB or an -XIE extension are Internet versions; those with -XMB or -XME are microfiche; and -XPB or -XPE denote a paper version.

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:

1-877-287-4369




Address changes or account inquiries:

1-800-700-1033

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.

To order by Internet: write to order@statcan.ca or download an electronic version by accessing Statistics Canada's Web site (www.statcan.ca), under the headings *Products and services*, *Downloadable publications*.

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

Catalogue 11-001E (PDF) (English) 11-001E (1) (584) (007) (4) (5)	
 The Daily	
Statistics Canada	
Thursday, June 3, 1997	
For release at 8:30 a.m.	
MAJOR RELEASES	
• Urban transit, 1995 Despite the emphasis on taking urban transit, Canadians are using it less and less. In 1995, each Canadian took an average of about 40 trips on some form of urban transit, the lowest level in the past 25 years.	2
• Productivity, hourly compensation and unit labour cost, 1995 Growth in productivity among Canadian businesses was notably weak again in 1995, accompanied by sluggish gains in employment and slow nominal growth during the year.	4
OTHER RELEASES	
Help-wanted index, May 1997	3
Short-term Expectations Survey	2
Steel primary forms, week ending May 31, 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. Leave the subject line blank. In the body of the message, type "subscribe daily firstname lastname".

Editor: Dan Smythe (613-951-1103, smytdan@statcan.ca)

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

Published by authority of the Minister responsible for Statistics Canada. © Minister of Industry, 1999. 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.