

# Statistics Canada

Thursday, April 1, 1999

For release at 8:30 a.m.

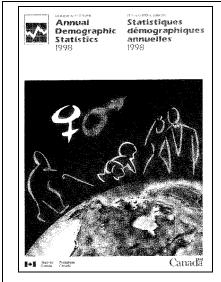
### MAJOR RELEASES

National balance sheet accounts, 1998

National net worth grew 3.6% in 1998 to \$2.8 trillion. This was a slower pace than last year, reflecting less buoyant economic activity, particularly evident in the demand for non-financial assets.

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## Annual demographic statistics

1998

Annual demographic statistics, released today, is the first edition to use 1996 Census data and to include a CD-ROM.

The publication provides the most recent data on population by age and sex, as well as data on census families, vital statistics and all levels of migration including international and interprovincial, and migrations among census metropolitan areas and census divisions. In addition, the publication includes population projections up to 2003, and population estimates and projections for the new territory of Nunavut and the remaining part of the Northwest Territories.

The bonus is the attached CD-ROM, which provides historical depth to the comprehensive demographic data of the publication. The historical time series includes population data back to 1971 for provinces and territories, and back to 1991 for census divisions and census metropolitan areas.

These data are organized in files that are easy to retrieve and to manipulate. This allows users to make their own customized demographic analysis in their preferred spreadsheet software (the files can be opened in any recent spreadsheet software). The CD-ROM population figures are the best denominators to calculate any "per capita" rates required for market research, quantitative analysis and planning.

The 1998 edition of *Annual demographic statistics* (91-213-XPB, \$125 including the CD-ROM; Internet version: 91-213-XIB, \$56 excluding the CD-ROM) is now available. See *How to order publications*. For more information about this product, contact Lise Champagne (613-951-2320; fax: 613-951-2307; *chamlis@statcan.ca*), Demography Division.





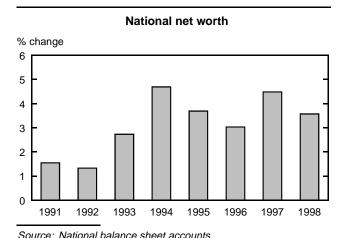
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## **MAJOR RELEASES**

## National balance sheet accounts 1998

National net worth rose 3.6% to \$2.8 trillion in 1998, reaching \$90,900 per capita. This was the combined result of an increase in national wealth and a decline in Canada's net foreign indebtedness — what we owe to non-residents less what they owe to us. Nevertheless, net worth grew at a slower pace than last year, largely reflecting the slower growth in economic activity in 1998.



### National wealth expanded at a slower pace

National wealth expanded to a record \$3.1 trillion in 1998. This gain consisted of both acquisitions and revaluations of tangible assets such as residential real estate, business capital stocks and inventories and consumer durable goods. Nevertheless, there was a deceleration in the growth of national wealth (+3.1%) compared with 1997 (+4.0%). This was in line with the lower growth in capital spending in 1998 and its changing composition.

The change in wealth was broadly based in that all assets grew at a slower pace. The reduction in the rate at which residential property expanded (+2.6%) was in line with the decline in this market over the year. The growth in non-residential structures (+2.6%) and machinery and equipment (+4.8%) reflected the slowing in capital expenditure activity on these items in the year. The year-over-year increases in inventories (+5.1%) and consumer durable goods (+4.5%) outpaced the

#### Note to readers

The National balance sheet accounts are statements of the non-financial assets owned in the sectors of the economy and of the financial claims outstanding among transactors in the economy. They consist of the balance sheets of all of the various sectors in the economy. National wealth is the sum of non-financial, or tangible, assets — produced assets, land surrounding structures and agricultural land — in all sectors of the economy. National net worth is wealth less what is owed to non-residents (Canada's net international investment position, or net foreign debt); alternatively, it is the sum of the net worth of persons, corporations and governments.

This release includes historical revisions to non-financial assets. For financial assets and liabilities, revisions cover the most recent years; however, for selected series, revisions are extended back further so as to be consistent with revised Financial flow accounts' data released in October 1998.

growth of the other components of national wealth in 1998.

National wealth grew 3.0% in the personal sector, compared with 3.6% in the corporate sector and 1.9% in the government sector.

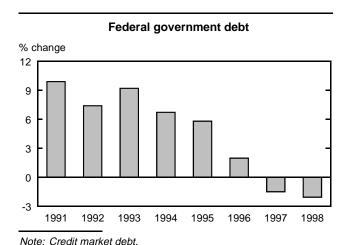
# Debt continued to accumulate, at a marginally faster pace

On the financial side of the ledger, total creditmarket debt (short-term paper, loans, mortgages and bonds) grew at a slightly faster pace in 1998. This was due in part to the upward revaluation of foreign currency-denominated long-term debt, which was driven by the sharp reduction in the Canadian dollar over the year.

### Government finances continued to improve

Overall government debt has grown at a notably slower pace than gross domestic product (GDP) for the second year in a row, sharply reversing the trend of the previous 20 years.

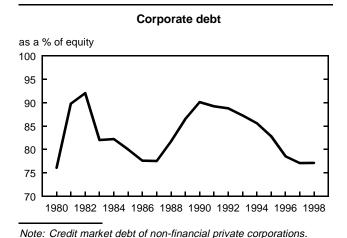
Federal government credit-market debt declined again in 1998, as maturing short-term paper issues exceeded net new issues of bonds. As a result, debt was repaid by a further \$9 billion, as the federal surplus expanded again in the year.



Credit market debt of other levels of government grew a very modest 1.5%, continuing a five-year downward trend. This was in line with a return to a small deficit year at the provincial level, and a continued widening of the surplus at the local government level.

### Corporate sector balance sheets remained healthy

Credit market debt of non-financial private corporations expanded in 1998, reflecting both a slight pick-up in the demand for funds and the effect of a depreciated Canadian dollar on foreign currency-denominated debt. Despite this, strong share issues in the year, combined with profits, kept the debt-to-equity ratio unchanged.



## Household net worth continued to advance, despite higher debt load

The increase in household debt in 1998 pushed the ratio of consumer debt and mortgages to after-tax income to a new high (101%). This development was in line with a further decline in the saving rate in the year, as consumers extended their reliance on borrowed funds. Nevertheless, the net worth of individuals continued to advance in 1998, albeit at a slower pace.

The personal sector accounted for 47% of non-financial assets at the end of 1998, virtually unchanged from last year. Despite increases in housing, durable goods and land, investment plus revaluations of financial assets continued to outpace that of non-financial assets. This reflected, in part, the demographic impact of increased saving for retirement. Most of the increase in financial investment was attributable to mutual funds, employer-sponsored pension plans and RRSPs.

## Investment and pension funds continued to lead the growth in financial institutions

The growth of the mutual funds industry, pension funds and segregated funds of life insurance companies (largely longer-term, retirement oriented assets) was again above the average for financial institutions in 1998. These advances reflected strong investments in Canadian and foreign equities, as well as in Canadian debt instruments.

## Net foreign debt declined, as Canadian investment abroad grew at record pace

Canadian firms substantially increased their direct investment abroad, largely from direct investment acquisitions. Canadian investment and pension funds were also very active in foreign markets in 1998. More than half of the increase in assets abroad was accounted for by additional investment, while a significant portion resulted from valuation gains on assets due to the appreciation of foreign currencies in terms of the Canadian dollar.

In 1998, Canada's external assets increased more than liabilities to non-residents, with the result that net foreign debt edged down to \$324 billion. Net foreign debt has declined for a number of years relative to both national wealth and GDP.

#### Net foreign debt

as a % of national wealth

14

13

12

11

10

9

8

1980 1982 1984 1986 1988 1990 1992 1994 1996 1998

Source: International investment position.

## Available on CANSIM: matrices 700, 727, 745-747, 751, 753-777, 779-785, 787-790, and 792-795.

An analytical document (13-214-PPB, \$50) including tables from 1995-98 and numerous charts is now available. Clients can obtain balance sheet data on microcomputer diskette (13-214-XDB, \$60). To purchase any of these products or to obtain more information about them, call the client services officer (613-951-3640), Income and Expenditure Accounts Division.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods, and data quality of this release, contact Patrick O'Hagan (613-951-1798) or Ferhana Ansari (613-951-3815), Balance of Payments and Financial Flows Division.

### National net worth

	1983	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1996 to 1997	1997 to 1998
			\$	billions				% cha	inge
National wealth - Net foreign debt = National net worth	1,508.2 144.3 1,363.9	2,609.4 323.7 2,285.7	2,728.4 335.6 2,392.8	2,813.4 332.3 2,481.1	2,881.1 324.8 2,556.3	2,995.7 325.0 2,670.7	3,089.6 323.6 2,766.0	4.0 0.1 4.5	3.1 -0.4 3.6
				\$				% cha	inge
National net worth per capita	53,500	79,200	82,000	84,100	85,700	88,600	90,900	3.4	2.6

### OTHER RELEASES

### Estimates of labour income

January 1999 (preliminary)

Labour income declined slightly (-0.2%) in January, following strong growth (+0.5%) in December 1998. While employment continued to increase in January, this gain was moderated by a decline in average weekly earnings.

Decreases in wages and salaries occurred in most of the goods-producing industries. After five consecutive monthly gains, manufacturing declined 0.3%. Logging and forestry, mines, quarries and oil wells, construction and other utilities also recorded decreases in January.

In contrast, wages and salaries rose in trade and finance, insurance and real estate, pushed primarily by gains in employment. Commercial and personal services grew for an eighth consecutive month.

**Note:** Labour income consists of wages and salaries (88%), plus supplementary labour income (12%). Wages and salaries include items such as bonuses, gratuities, taxable allowances and retroactive wage payments. Supplementary labour income is employers' contributions to employee welfare, pension, workers' compensation and Employment Insurance plans. Labour income accounts for about 52% of gross domestic product. Users of the labour income data should note that the seasonally adjusted data are revised back to January 1998.

## Wages and salaries and supplementary labour income

Dec.

Jan.

Dec.

	1998 <sup>r</sup>	1999 <sup>p</sup>	1998
			to Jan.
			1999
	season	ally adjusted	
_			%
_	\$ millio	ns	change
Agriculture, fishing and trapping	296.0	298.2	0.7
Logging and forestry	250.2	234.7	-6.2
Mining, quarrying and oil wells	767.6	758.4	-1.2
Manufacturing	6,601.5	6,580.0	-0.3
Construction	1,936.4	1,921.9	-0.7
Other utilities	578.1	570.4	-1.3
Transportation, storage,			
communications	2,599.1	2,600.1	0.0
Trade	4,919.7	4,943.0	0.5
Finance, insurance and real estate	3,055.6	3,080.7	0.8
Commercial and personal services	5,610.2	5,622.5	0.2
Educational and related services	2,704.5	2,692.1	-0.5
Health and social services	2,766.2	2,755.4	-0.4
Federal administration and other			
government services	857.6	859.0	0.2
Provincial administration	700.4	695.2	-0.7
Local administration	655.9	651.8	-0.6
Military	239.8	239.0	-0.3
Total wages and salaries	34,538.9	34,502.3	-0.1
Supplementary labour income	4,852.8	4,817.9	-0.7
Labour income	39,391.7	39,320.2	-0.2

r Revised figures.

### Available on CANSIM: matrices 6597-6624.

The January 1999 issue of the *Tables and analytical document: Estimates of labour income, monthly estimates* (13F0016XPB, \$20/\$200) is now available.

At 8:30 a.m. on release day, data sets are available for purchase on microcomputer diskette (13F0016XDB). Seven days after the official release date, these diskettes become available at a lower cost. To purchase either of these products, contact the client services officer (613-951-3640; iea-crd@statcan.ca), Income and Expenditure Accounts Division.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods, and data quality of this release, contact Katherine Fraser (613-951-4049; fax: 613-951-3618), Income and Expenditure Accounts Division.

Preliminary figures.

### Farm taxation statistics

1997 (final estimates)

Average operating revenues per farm rose 4.3% to \$149,550 in 1997. During the same period, average operating expenses increased 5.1% to \$125,480. The rise in average operating revenues was primarily attributable to the increase in livestock revenues (+10.6%).

In 1997, the average operating revenues of poultry farms ranked first at \$504,477, a 12.4% increase over the 1996 level of \$449,020. Average operating expenses rose 10.9% to \$447,186 in 1997.

Hogs farms were second in average operating revenues at \$425,272. This is an increase of 16.3% over 1996, marking the largest gain among all farm types.

Grain and oilseed farms ranked first in operating margins at 24.1 cents per dollar of revenue. Compared with 1996, this represents an increase of 0.2 cents per dollar of revenue.

Livestock combination farms ranked second in operating margins (23.7 cents per dollar of revenue) followed by dairy farms (23.0 cents per dollar of revenue).

**Note:** These estimates cover unincorporated farms with gross operating revenues of \$10,000 and over and corporations with total farm sales of \$25,000 and over, and for which 51% or more of their sales come from agricultural activities. The estimates presented in this release also include communal farming organizations. Operating margin is defined as one dollar less operating expenses per dollar of revenue.

# Average operating revenues and expenses per farm and operating margins

	Average operating revenues	Average operating expenses	Operating margins <sup>1</sup>
	dolla	ars	cents
Type of farm			
Poultry and eggs	504,477	447,186	11.4
Hogs	425,272	371,337	12.7
Greenhouse and nursery	398,894	357,875	10.3
Potato	380,584	330,995	13.0
Livestock combination	362,549	276,702	23.7
Tobacco	216,328	170,053	21.4
Dairy	215,705	165,991	23.0
Fruit and vegetable	138,414	119,817	13.4
Cattle	124,340	117,219	5.7
Grain and oilseed	111,481	84,580	24.1
Other farm types	87,157	76,905	11.8
All farms	149,550	125,480	16.1

<sup>1</sup> Defined as one dollar less operating expenses per dollar of revenue.

For custom data requests, contact Client Services (613-951-5027), Agriculture Division. For general information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods and data quality of this release, contact Bruce Orok (613-951-8722), Agriculture Division.

### Steel primary forms

Week ending March 27, 1999 (preliminary)

Steel primary forms production for the week ending March 27, 1999, totalled 317 529 tonnes, up 8.0% from the week-earlier 293 975 tonnes and up 13.2% from the year-earlier 280 498 tonnes. The cumulative total at the end of the week was 3 653 086 tonnes, a 4.4% decrease compared with 3 820 888 tonnes for the same period in 1998.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods, and data quality of this release, contact Greg Milsom (613-951-7093; milsomg@statcan.ca), Manufacturing, Construction and Energy Division.

# Mineral wool including fibrous glass insulation

February 1999

Manufacturers shipped 2 008 519 square metres of R12 factor (RSI 2.1) mineral wool batts in February, down 30.9% from 2 906 031 square metres in February 1998 and down 39.0% from 3 290 155 square metres in January 1999.

Year-to-date shipments to the end of February totalled 5 298 674 square metres, a 2.5% increase from the same period in 1998.

## Available on CANSIM: matrices 40 and 122 (series 32 and 33).

The February issue of *Mineral wool including* fibrous glass insulation (44-004-XIB,\$5/\$47) will be available shortly. See *How to order publications*.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods, and data quality of this release, contact Donna Faghali (613-951-3518; faghdon@statcan.ca), Manufacturing, Construction and Energy Division.

# Technical report — age, sex, marital status and common-law status

1996 Census

Released today is the first in a series of four technical reports from the 1996 Census. These reports provide detailed information on the quality of the 1996 Census data. Topics include the theoretical framework and definitions used to gather the data, and any unusual circumstances that could affect data quality. Also discussed are data capture, editing and imputation, and historical comparability of the data.

The technical report for age, sex, marital status and common-law status (92-353-XPB, \$15; Internet version: 92-353-XIE, free) is now available. See *How to order publications*)

For more information, contact your nearest Statistics Canada Regional Reference Centre.

### **PUBLICATIONS RELEASED**

Infomat - A weekly review, April 1, 1999 Catalogue number 11-002-XIE

(Canada: \$3/\$109; outside Canada: US\$3/US\$109).

Infomat - A weekly review, April 1, 1999 Catalogue number 11-002-XPE

(Canada: \$4/\$145; outside Canada: US\$4/US\$145).

Retail trade, January 1999 Catalogue number 63-005-XPB

(Canada: \$21/\$206; outside Canada: US\$21/US\$206).

Exports by commodity, January 1999 Catalogue number 65-004-XMB

(Canada: \$37/\$361; outside Canada: US\$37/US\$361).

Exports by commodity, January 1999 Catalogue number 65-004-XPB

(Canada: \$78/\$773; outside Canada: US\$78/US\$773).

Imports by commodity, January 1999 Catalogue number 65-007-XMB

(Canada: \$37/\$361; outside Canada: US\$37/US\$361).

Imports by commodity, January 1999 Catalogue number 65-007-XPB

(Canada: \$78/\$773; outside Canada: US\$78/US\$773).

Annual demographic statistics, 1998 Catalogue number 91-213-XIB

(Canada: \$56; outside Canada: US\$56).

Annual demographic statistics, 1998 Catalogue number 91-213-XPB

(Canada: \$125; outside Canada: US\$125).

All prices exclude sales tax.

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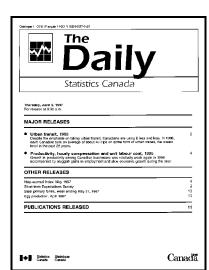
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## **RELEASE DATES: APRIL 1999**

(Release dates are subject to change.)

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1	National accounts balance sheet	1961-1998
6	Adult correctional services in Canada	1997-1998
7	Help-wanted Index	March 1999
8	Building permits	February 1999
9	Labour Force Survey	March 1999
12	New Housing Price Index	February 1999
14	Family income	1997
16	New motor vehicle sales	February 1999
16	Travel between Canada and other countries	February 1999
19	Monthly Survey of Manufacturing	February 1999
20	Canadian international merchandise trade	February 1999
20	Composite Index	March 1999
21	Consumer Price Index	March 1999
21	Wholesale trade	February 1999
22	Retail trade	February 1999
22	Canada's international transactions in securities	February 1999
23	Household Internet Use Survey	November 1998
23	Field crop reporting series: March seeding intentions	1999
26	1996 Census of Agriculture, agriculture population	1996-Census
27	Employment Insurance	February 1999
27	National Survey on the Preparedness for the Year 2000	Winter 1999
28	Industrial Product Price Index	March
28	Raw Materials Price Index	March 1999
29	Low income among children	1999
29	Health reports - Living with heart disease	1996-97
29	Employment, earnings and hours	February 1999
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30	Real gross domestic product at factor cost by industry	February 1999

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Marine Carriers	1997	March 9, 1999
Annual Survey of Manufacturers	1997	March 24, 1999
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