

Statistics Canada

Wednesday, June 9, 1999

For release at 8:30 a.m.

MAJOR RELEASES

• Farm Input Price Index, first quarter 1999

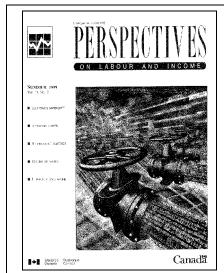
Higher prices for feeder cattle pushed the all-Canada Farm Input Price Index up 0.5% in the first quarter of 1999 compared with the previous quarter. This is the first quarterly increase in the total index since the third quarter of 1997.

Impact of parental divorce on adolescents
Teenagers whose parents divorced were likely to have their own marital problems later in life, according to a new study on the impact of divorce on adolescents. However, the parents' divorce did not appear to affect the adolescent's ability to earn a living as an adult.

(continued on following page)

3

5



Perspectives on labour and income

Summer 1999

The opening article in the summer issue of *Perspectives on labour and income*, "Earnings mobility of Canadians, 1982-1992", looks at how earnings change from year to year. Other articles examine the trend among men to continue working past age 65; saving for retirement (examines RRSPs and RPPs, and compares various groups of workers and their retirement saving patterns); hours polarization (or the move away from the standard work week to either a shorter or longer one) and patterns of literacy use and underuse in the workplace.

A supplement to this issue, *Unionization in Canada: A retrospective*, summarizes labour union membership statistics up to 1995, the latest year for which CALURA (Corporations and Labour Unions Returns Act) data are available. It reviews some of the major trends that have taken place in the Canadian economy and labour market over the past three decades and briefly examines how these changes may have affected union membership (numbers and rates).

The Summer 1999 issue of *Perspectives on labour and income* (75-001-XPE, \$18/\$58) is now available. See *How to order publications*. For more information, contact Henry Pold (613-951-4608; *poldhen@statcan.ca*), Labour and Household Surveys Analysis Division.





OTHER RELEASES	
Financial statistics for enterprises, first quarter 1999 Survey of the Couriers and Local Messengers Industry, 1997	7
Survey of the Taxi and Limousine Service Industry, 1997	8
Industrial monitor on CD-ROM, June 1999	g
Industrial chemicals and synthetic resins, April 1999	9
PUBLICATIONS RELEASED	10
REGIONAL REFERENCE CENTRES	12

StatCan: CANSIM directory disc June 1999

The June 1999 *StatCan: CANSIM directory disc* is now available. This CD-ROM contains the CANSIM Time Series Directory — a guide to the data contained in the CANSIM time series database, the Statistical Data Documentation System (SDDS). The CD-ROM also includes a database of the surveys and statistical programs used at Statistics Canada, and the latest version of the Statistics Canada Thesaurus.

Finding information in this Windows version of the CD-ROM is easier than ever. An entire CANSIM matrix or SDDS survey can be searched as a single entity and you can narrow a search to include only active series or those with a specific security level. Specially designed dialogue boxes guide users through the most typical searches. Hyperlinks between the CANSIM matrices and the SDDS surveys allow quick access to more detail for both.

The June 1999 edition of the *StatCan: CANSIM directory disc* (10F0005XCB) is now available in a Windows format on CD-ROM. An annual subscription of four quarterly issues is \$103.

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

■ End of release

MAJOR RELEASES

Farm Input Price Index

First quarter 1999 (preliminary)

Higher prices for feeder cattle pushed the all-Canada Farm Input Price Index up 0.5% in the first quarter of 1999 compared with the previous quarter. This is the first quarterly increase in the total index since the third quarter of 1997.

On an annual basis, however, declining prices in five of the nine input categories pushed the national index down 2.1% compared with the same period a year earlier. Lower prices for inputs into animal production contributed most to this decrease. Farmers in the East benefited more from the lower prices than their western counterparts.

First quarter 1999 figures include estimated indexes for farm rent and property taxes. At the national level, the index for farm rent was estimated to have increased 0.6% and the property tax index 1.4%. Also, in this quarter, all indexes for the last two years were revised. The indexes for 1997 are now considered final.

Higher prices for feeder cattle contributed most to the quarterly increase

Nationally, higher prices for feeder cattle (+4.0%) and grain feed (+1.6%) contributed most to the quarterly increase.

In addition to higher prices for property taxes and farm rent, farmers also faced higher prices for machinery and trucks. These increases, however, were partially offset by lower prices for gasoline (-6.4%) and diesel fuel (-5.3%).

On the other hand, the most significant decline on a quarterly basis occurred in the crop production component, the result of lower prices for seed (-1.5%). Also, farmers paid less for hired farm labour and for heating fuel (-4.5%), both the main contributors to the quarterly decrease in supplies and services.

The preliminary interest figures indicate that the cost of mortgage interest fell 0.8% over three months, which resulted in a slight decrease in the overall cost of interest.

Feed prices down significantly on an annual basis

Lower prices for prepared feed (-15.4%) contributed most to the year-over-year decrease.

Farmers also paid less for inputs into crop production due, in large part, to lower prices for seed

Note to readers

This is the last release of the Farm Input Price Index in its present form. The future index will be reduced, calculated only for Eastern and Western Canada once a year. The next index will be available at the beginning of the year 2000.

Western and Eastern Canada are defined as the provinces either west or east of the Manitoba/Ontario border.

and nitrogen fertilizers. Lower prices for heating fuel (-12.5%) and telephone services (-4.7%) were the main contributors to the annual decrease in the supplies and services index.

The preliminary figures indicate that farmers paid slightly less interest, as a result of lower costs for mortgage loans.

Farmers faced higher prices for machinery (+4.8%), trucks (+2.5%) and automobiles (+0.8%) on a year-over-year basis. Again, these were partially offset by lower prices for gasoline and diesel fuel. Farmers also paid more for hired farm labour than in the first quarter of 1998.

Prices lower for farmers in the East

In the East, farm input prices fell 2.8% on an annual basis, largely due to tumbling prices for prepared feed (-16.8%). Farmers also benefited from lower prices for weanling pigs, egg-producing chicks and grain feed, but faced higher prices for feeder cattle (+16.2%) and artificial insemination (+4.0%) compared with the same period a year earlier.

Price declines in heating fuel and building materials helped offset increases in the cost of interest, hired farm labour and the farm-rent estimate on an annual basis.

In the West, farmers benefited from lower prices for prepared feed (-13.3%) but not to the same extent as their eastern counterparts. Along with lower prices for seed and heating fuel, farmers in the West paid less for the cost of interest, due to lower costs for mortgage loans (-6.1%) and for building materials. This helped push down the annual building and fencing index on a year-over-year basis.

Similar to the previous quarter, farmers in the West faced higher prices for machinery but these were offset by lower prices for gasoline and diesel fuel. Farm wages rose slightly and the cost for property taxes and farm rent were also estimated to be higher compared with the same period a year earlier.

The first quarter 1999 issue of *Farm Input Price Index* (62-004-XPB, \$25/\$83) will be available in June. See *How to order publications*.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods, and data quality of this release, contact Francois Bordé (613-951-3370) or Vaclav Krabicka (613-951-3342), Prices Division.

Farm input price indexes (1986=100)

	First quarter 1998	quarter quarter qua	First	First	Fourth
			quarter	quarter	quarter
		1998 1998	1999	1998	1998
				to	to
				first	first
				quarter 1999	quarter 1999
				% change	
Canada, total farm input	127.6	124.3	124.9	-2.1	0.5
Building and fencing	134.4	133.6	133.5	-0.7	-0.1
Machinery and motor vehicles	140.3	141.8	142.1	1.3	0.2
Crop production	124.1	123.1	122.9	-1.0	-0.2
Animal production	124.1	111.6	113.6	-8.5	1.8
Supplies and services	130.6	128.4	127.9	-2.1	-0.4
Hired farm labour	148.1	151.3	150.7	1.8	-0.4
Property taxes	139.8	139.8	141.8	1.4	1.4
Interest	87.8	87.9	87.7	-0.1	-0.2
Farm rent	127.1	127.1	127.9	0.6	0.6
Eastern Canada, total farm input	130.1	126.3	126.5	-2.8	0.2
Building and fencing	141.8	141.8	141.2	-0.4	-0.4
Machinery and motor vehicles	146.3	148.0	148.6	1.6	0.4
Crop production	131.8	132.8	132.9	0.8	0.1
Animal production	121.6	107.5	109.5	-10.0	1.9
Supplies and services	137.7	135.2	134.6	-2.3	-0.4
Hired farm labour	155.1	165.7	159.5	2.8	-3.7
Property taxes	101.2	101.2	103.7	2.5	2.5
Interest	91.9	93.1	93.1	1.3	0.0
Farm rent	124.0	124.0	125.5	1.2	1.2
Western Canada, total farm input	125.6	122.8	123.6	-1.6	0.7
Building and fencing	126.0	124.3	124.8	-1.0	0.4
Machinery and motor vehicles	137.2	138.5	138.7	1.1	0.1
Crop production	119.9	118.0	117.6	-1.9	-0.3
Animal production	127.6	117.2	119.2	-6.6	1.7
Supplies and services	123.5	121.6	121.1	-1.9	-0.4
Hired farm labour	138.9	135.1	139.3	0.3	3.1
Property taxes	149.9	149.9	151.8	1.3	1.3
Interest	85.4	84.6	84.4	-1.2	-0.2
Farm rent	128.1	128.1	128.7	0.5	0.5

Impact of parental divorce on adolescents

Teenagers whose parents divorced were likely to have their own marital problems later in life, according to a new study on the impact of divorce on adolescents. However, the parents' divorce did not appear to have a bearing on the adolescent's ability to earn a living as an adult.

This study showed that parental divorce appears to have influenced the marital decisions of teenagers later in life. But divorce did not appear to have an impact on their success in the labour market. (The study removed the impact of certain factors, most notably the income and labour market activity of parents in the years leading up to the divorce.)

Adolescents whose parents divorced tended to put off marriage. And, once married, they were more likely to experience either separation or divorce. On average, however, their earnings and incomes were not much different from other adolescents with similar economic backgrounds whose parents had not divorced.

The study used Revenue Canada tax data to track a group of about 122,500 teenagers from 1982 to 1995. They were between the ages of 25 and 32 in 1995.

Divorce had little bearing on labour market outcomes

The results suggested that the financial success later in life of teenagers whose parents had divorced had to do with the income background of the parents rather than the divorce itself.

Overall, it was true that adolescents whose parents divorced would end up becoming less successful adults in the labour market. However, this is related to the fact that their parents were more likely to have had lower incomes and less stable attachment to work.

Boys whose parents divorced when they were teenagers earned an average of about \$16,600 a year when they had reached their late 20s and early 30s. In contrast, their counterparts from families in which the parents had not divorced were making almost \$18,800, about \$2,200 more.

The differences were just as profound for girls. Teenage girls whose parents divorced earned about \$12,800 a year when they reached their 20s and 30s, compared with almost \$14,000 for those whose parents had not divorced, a gap of about \$1,200.

However, the study also compared teenagers whose parents had divorced with a group whose parents had the same income and labour market

Note to readers

This report is based on a research paper, available today, titled "Death and divorce: The long-term consequences of parental loss on adolescents". It estimates the impact of parental divorce on the adult incomes and labour market behaviour of adolescents, as well as on their use of social programs, and their marital and fertility behaviour.

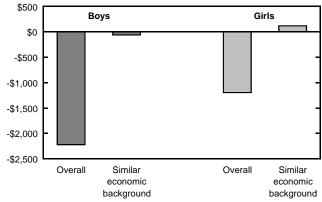
Data came from Revenue Canada income tax forms. The analysis is based upon a set of families in which the parents were married and in which there was at least one 16- to 19-year-old child in either 1982, 1984 or 1986. The parents had to have considered themselves to be husband and wife for at least a five-year period leading up to these years. The analysis used a sample of 122,500 youngsters, about 6,200 of whom came from divorced families. The entire group was tracked through the income tax files in each year to 1995 when the youngest had reached 25 and the oldest 32.

A number of outcomes were measured, including annual earnings and income, as well as marital status. For this release, annual earnings are the average of earnings in the tax years 1993 to 1995 inclusive (expressed in 1986 constant dollars), while marital status (as well as changes in marital status) is determined from the information in each income tax return submitted.

activity, but had not divorced. The results showed few differences in the income of either group of teenagers later in life.

The adult earnings of teens with a similar economic background are the same whether or not their parents divorced

Difference in annual adult earnings (Teens witnessing divorce less those who didn't)



Generally, children whose parents divorced came from economically disadvantaged families. This disadvantage contributed both to the likelihood that their parents' marriage would break up and to their

future economic success. The divorce itself did not result in later income difficulties, but rather it reflected the parents' income background.

Teens with divorced parents generally delayed marriage

Parental divorce, on the other hand, played an important role in determining the living arrangements that teens later chose, as well as the success of their marriages.

Generally, teenagers with a divorce in their backgrounds put off marriage. About 40% of men and 54% of women whose parents divorced reported having been married by their late 20s and early 30s. In contrast, 50% of men and over 60% of women of those whose parents stayed together did so.

Many of these teens whose parents divorced stayed unmarried, but once they did marry their chances of experiencing a break-up were higher. Of the men who married, almost 17% experienced a separation and about 8% experienced a divorce.

Among those whose parents did not divorce, 12% of men experienced a separation, and 5% a divorce.

The tendencies were similar for women whose parents had divorced. Of the women who married, 20% experienced a separation and 10% a divorce. But when the parents had not divorced, only 14% experienced a separation and 7% a divorce. The economic circumstances of the family before the parents divorced had little influence in determining these patterns.

Research paper no. 135, "Death and divorce: The long-term consequences of parental loss on adolescents" is now available. To obtain a copy, contact Hélène Lamadeleine (613-951-5231). The paper is also available free on the Internet at www.statcan.ca under Products and services, then Research papers.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Miles Corak (613-951-9047; coramil@statcan.ca), Family and Labour Studies

OTHER RELEASES

Financial statistics for enterprises

First quarter 1999 (preliminary)

Operating profits of Canadian businesses increased 3.1% in the first quarter of 1999. Businesses have enjoyed rising profits for three straight quarters, following a downturn in the first half of 1998.

Buoyed by the thriving motor vehicles industry, first quarter operating profits in the non-financial industries advanced 8.2% from the previous quarter and were 16.8% above year-earlier levels.

In contrast, the financial industries' operating profits, which include loan-loss provisions and capital gains and losses, fell 10.3% from the robust profit levels earned in the final quarter of 1998. Despite the first quarter decline, year-over-year profits of the financial industries were up 4.6%.

Note: As announced in *The Daily* on May 21 and May 26, the Quarterly Financial Statistics for Enterprises Survey is undergoing a major redesign, which, among other things, includes the adoption of the North American Industry Classification System (NAICS Canada 1997). For this reason, these data may be subject to significant revisions. Detailed industry statistics compiled on the basis of the NAICS will be available later in June.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods, and data quality of this release, contact Mark Marcogliese (613-951-9840; marcogm@statcan.ca) or Jean-Pierre Simard (613-951-0741; jpsimard@statcan.ca), Industrial Organization and Finance Division.

Survey of the Couriers and Local Messengers Industry

1997 (preliminary)

The 1997 Survey of the Couriers and Local Messengers Industry is the first comprehensive effort to collect and release annual financial and operating statistics on this industry in Canada. This survey was conducted within the framework of the Unified Enterprise Survey.

An estimated 11,417 establishments, representing all carriers classified to the couriers and local messengers industry, operated at least one day in Canada in 1997. About 40% of these establishments are in Ontario. Together, these establishments generated operating revenues of \$3.8 billion

in 1997 while operating expenses reached \$3.5 billion. Salaries, wages and benefits (\$1.4 billion) and other purchased services (mainly payments to owner-operators and purchased transportation services), at \$1.1 billion, stood out as the major expense categories.

The estimated 703 carriers, which each have annual revenues of \$150,000 or more, have generated operating revenues of \$3.5 billion, accounting for more than 90% of the total operating revenue in the industry. Revenues from delivery services reached \$3.2 billion, broken down into next-day/overnight delivery revenue (\$1.6 billion), second-day/deferred delivery revenue (\$1.1 billion) and same-day delivery revenue (\$428 million).

Operating revenues and expenses for the couriers and local messengers industry 1997

	Operating revenue	Operating expenses	
	thousands of dollars		
Canada	3,824,464	3,479,376	
Newfoundland	20,587	17,973	
Prince-Edward-Island	3,565	2,934	
Nova Scotia	126,118	118,201	
New Brunswick	39,377	34,852	
Quebec	732,971	657,298	
Ontario	1,905,458	1,741,198	
Manitoba	100,822	86,987	
Saskatchewan	64,440	57,059	
Alberta	405,369	377,522	
British Columbia	421,580	381,784	
Yukon	x	Х	
Northwest Territories ¹	x	Х	

x Confidential data under the Statistics Act.

Courier enterprises, providing national and/or international delivery services, accounted for about 86% of total delivery revenue (\$2.7 billion), while local messengers and local delivery carriers accounted for the remaining 14% (\$448 million). About 59% (\$1.9 billion) of the delivery services were provided by surface transportation, with the remaining 41% (\$1.3 billion) by air.

The 703 carriers with annual revenues of \$150,000 or more delivered about 260 million shipments in 1997, for an average delivery revenue per shipment of about \$12. Their delivery revenue from shipments destined for the domestic market reached \$2.7 billion or 86% of total delivery revenue.

No establishments for couriers or local messengers were located in Nunavut in 1997.

About 47% of these domestic shipments were delivered in Ontario. Delivery revenue from shipments destined for the United States stood at \$329 million (10%); for other countries it was at \$119 million (4%).

Available on CANSIM: matrices 10100-10130, 10134, 10162-10170, 10183-10187 and 10191.

A special article, including an analytical text, data tables and graphs, will be available in a few weeks in the *Surface and marine service bulletin* (50-002-XIB, \$10). See *How to order publications*.

For more information on the Unified Enterprise Survey program, contact Les Graham (613-951-6566; grahles@statcan.ca), Enterprise Statistics Division. For data, contact Robert Larocque (613-951-2486; laroque@statcan.ca), Transportation Division.

For more information on the concepts, methods and data quality of this release, please contact Robert Masse (613-951-0365; massrob@statcan.ca), Transportation Division.

Survey of the Taxi and Limousine Service Industry

1997 (preliminary)

The 1997 Survey of the Taxi and Limousine Service Industry is the first comprehensive effort to collect and release annual financial and operating statistics on this industry in Canada. This survey was conducted within the framework of the Unified Enterprise Survey.

An estimated 41,905 establishments, including taxi associations, taxi corporations and self-employed drivers, operated at least one day in Canada in 1997. Of this total, 36,799 establishments had annual revenues below \$30,000. About 70% of all 41,905 establishments are located in Ontario and Québec.

generated Together. these establishments operating revenues of \$873.1 million in 1997, for an average operating revenue per establishment of almost \$21,000. The highest average operating revenue per establishment was in Manitoba (about \$51,000), and the lowest was in Quebec (about \$12,000). Among all provinces, Manitoba also had the lowest proportion of establishments with annual revenues below \$30,000, while Quebec had the highest proportion. With operating expenses of \$692.6 million in 1997, an operating margin of \$180.5 million was made available as profits for taxi associations and corporations and as income for self-employed drivers.

Wages, salaries and benefits were the major expense, accounting for almost 27%, or \$184.0 million, of operating expenses. Licence fees, property and

business taxes reached \$149.0 million, accounting for 22% of operating expenses. At \$100.0 million (14% of operating expenses), the third most important category of expenses was other purchased services, including mainly insurance premiums; advertising and sales promotion; telephone and other telecommunications; and payments to self-employed drivers. Finally, the cost of energy and supplies accounted for 13% of operating expenses (\$86.9 million).

From the 1997 Income and Expenditure Accounts data, the household expenditures on taxi services in Canada were estimated at \$462.1 million. If one compares this amount with the \$873.1 million in operating revenues estimated from the survey, then household demand would have accounted for slightly more than 50% of the operating revenue generated from taxi services. Business and government sectors accounted for the remaining share.

Operating revenues and expenses of the taxi and limousine service industry

1997

	Operating revenue	Operating expenses	
	(thousands of dollars)		
Canada	873,147	692,622	
Newfoundland	11,683	9,920	
Prince-Edward-Island	2,897	2,757	
Nova Scotia	21,811	16,887	
New Brunswick	11,898	10,852	
Quebec	187,085	141,510	
Ontario	346,718	280,358	
Manitoba	34,322	27,630	
Saskatchewan	22,843	19,532	
Alberta	89,833	65,931	
British Columbia	138,847	112,521	
Yukon	1,562	1,451	
Northwest Territories ¹	3,648	3,274	

¹ Separate estimates for Nunavut are not available at this time.

Available on CANSIM: matrices 10195-10207.

A special article, including an analytical text, data tables and graphs, will be available in a few weeks in the *Surface and marine service bulletin* (50-002-XIB, \$10). See *How to order publications*.

For more information on the Unified Enterprise Survey program, contact Les Graham (613-951-6566; grahles@statcan.ca), Enterprise Statistics Division. For data, contact Robert Larocque (613-951-2486; laroque@statcan.ca), Transportation Division.

For more information on the concepts, methods and data quality of this release, please contact

Robert Masse (613-951-0365; massrob@statcan.ca), Transportation Division.

Industrial monitor on CD-ROM

June 1999

The *Industrial monitor on CD-ROM* offers up-to-date data on more than 150 manufacturing industries and 33 other industries covering construction, wholesale trade and retail trade. This information is offered for 25 sectors, and can be purchased by individual sector or as a complete package.

For each industry, up to 50 variables are organized in the Table Viewer according to five table types: supply, demand, price, labour/employment, and investment/capital stock. The underlying database is also available via the Series Browser for more extensive time-series analysis and inter-industry comparisons.

The Industrial monitor on CD-ROM is linked to the Standard Industrial Classification manual, provides pop-up textual descriptions for every series and embodies consistent data conventions — all features designed to make analysis easy and accurate. State-of-the-art functions offer searching, graphing, viewing, exporting and transforming capabilities, providing you the information quickly and easily.

The June 1999 issue of the *Industrial monitor on CD-ROM* is now available. An annual subscription (one CD-ROM per month) to the full package (15F0015XCB) costs \$995, a savings of more than 80% off the annual subscription price of \$258 per individual sector.

For more information, or to request a free demonstration CD-ROM, contact Kim Lauzon (1-800-887-4623; 613-951-9417; fax: 613-951-3688; imad@statcan.ca), Industry Measures and Analysis Division, or contact your nearest Statistics Canada Regional Reference Centre.

Industrial chemicals and synthetic resins April 1999

Chemical firms produced 204 088 tonnes of polyethylene synthetic resins in April, an 8.1% increase from 188 865 tonnes in April 1998.

For January to April 1999, production totalled 803 159 (revised) tonnes, up 4.2% from 771 042 (revised) tonnes produced a year earlier.

Data are also available on production of 3 other types of synthetic resins and 24 industrial chemicals.

Available on CANSIM: matrix 951.

The April 1999 issue of *Industrial chemicals and synthetic resins* (46-002-XIB, \$5/47) is now available. See *How to order publications*.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods and data quality of this release, contact Randall Sheldrick (613-951-7199; shelran@statcan.ca), Manufacturing, Construction and Energy division.

PUBLICATIONS RELEASED

The sugar situation, quarterly period ended March 1999

Catalogue number 32-013QXIB

(Canada: \$6/\$19).

Industrial chemicals and synthetic resins, April 1999 Catalogue number 46-002-XIB (Canada: \$5/\$47).

Employment, earnings and hours, March 1999 Catalogue number 72-002-XPB

(Canada: \$32/\$320; outside Canada: US\$32/US\$320).

Perspectives on labour and income, Summer 1999 **Catalogue number 75-001-XPE**

(Canada: \$18/\$58; outside Canada: US\$18/US\$58).

All prices exclude sales tax.

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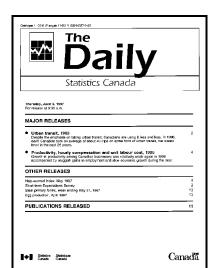
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Fax: 1-613-951-0581

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Saskatchewan

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

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Southern Alberta

Advisory Services Statistics Canada Discovery Place, Room 201 3553-31 Street N.W. Calgary, Alberta T2L 2K7

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Northern Alberta and the Northwest Territories

Advisory Services Statistics Canada 8th Floor, Park Square 10001 Bellamy Hill Edmonton, Alberta T5J 3B6

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British Columbia and the Yukon

Advisory Services Statistics Canada Library Square Tower, Suite 600 300 West Georgia Street Vancouver, B.C. V6B 6C7

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Telecommunications Device for the Hearing Impaired

Toll free: 1-800-363-7629