



The Daily

Statistics Canada

Tuesday, July 27, 1999

For release at 8:30 a.m.

MAJOR RELEASES

There are no major releases today.

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OTHER RELEASES

Economic dependency profiles

1997

For the fourth year in a row, taxfilers relied less on transfer payments as a source of income in 1997. On average, taxfilers received \$18.17 in transfer payments for every \$100 of employment income in the 1997 tax year, down \$1.18 from 1996.

The Economic Dependency Ratio (EDR) measures the amount of transfer payments received for every \$100 of employment income. Since reaching its highest point at \$20.68 in 1993, the EDR has decreased each year. These consistent decreases are primarily due to changes in the Employment Insurance (EI) program and increases in employment income. Employment income rose 4.4% between 1996 and 1997. Canadians are depending more on employment income and less on government transfers.

Economic dependency ratios

	1997	1996	1996 to 1997
			% change
Canada	18.17	19.35	-6.10
Newfoundland	34.60	34.86	-0.75
Prince Edward Island	32.22	31.61	1.93
Nova Scotia	26.00	27.41	-5.14
New Brunswick	27.29	28.22	-3.30
Quebec	21.78	22.76	-4.31
Ontario	16.41	17.60	-6.76
Manitoba	20.28	21.51	-5.72
Saskatchewan	20.69	22.22	-6.89
Alberta	11.79	13.38	-11.88
British Columbia	17.48	18.04	-3.10
Yukon	11.47	10.68	7.40
Northwest Territories (including Nunavut)	11.39	11.53	-1.21
Northwest Territories (excluding Nunavut)	9.35
Nunavut	16.52

.. Figures not available.

Among the provinces and territories, only Prince Edward Island and Yukon experienced increases in their dependency on transfer payments from 1996 to 1997. Residents of Yukon and the Northwest Territories (excluding Nunavut) continued to be the least dependent on transfer payments, with the EDR in Yukon at \$11.47 and that in the Northwest Territories (excluding Nunavut) at \$9.35. This reflects the higher employment income of taxfilers in these areas as well as smaller expenditures on Canada

Pension Plan (CPP) and Old Age Security (OAS) benefits per capita. On the whole, the Atlantic provinces depended most on transfer payments. Newfoundland reported the highest receipt of transfer payments at \$34.60 per \$100 of employment income. Although this was the highest EDR, it was down \$0.26 from 1996.

Transfer payments, especially government pensions, were still an important source of income for many. The Canada/Quebec Pension plans (27.3%) and Old Age Security (26.9%) accounted for 54.2% of transfer payments. Old Age Security is composed of the basic OAS pension, the Guaranteed Income supplement and the Spouse's Allowance. Although Social Assistance showed a decrease of 50,000 recipients from 1996, it was the third largest dollar component of transfer payments (13.7%) in 1997.

EI payments (13.6% of transfer payments) continued to decline for the fourth year in a row, down 14.5% in 1997. Alberta (-24.5%) and Saskatchewan (-20.1%) led the provinces and territories in percentage decreases. Although EI payments continued to decline both in value and in number of recipients, they were still an important source of income in some regions. Newfoundland, Prince Edward Island, Yukon and the Northwest Territories (excluding Nunavut) reported EI as the most important source of all government transfer payments; in each of these areas, EI payments accounted for more than 27% of government transfers.

Women were more dependent than men on government transfer payments in every province and territory except the Northwest Territories and Nunavut. At the national level, women received \$28.56 in transfers for every \$100 in employment income while men received \$12.64. This difference is due to the higher OAS, Child Tax Benefits and Social Assistance payments to women. The largest source of government transfer income for men was CPP/QPP (33%).

Note: In 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 including Guaranteed Income Supplement, Net Federal Supplements and Spousal Allowance, Canada/Quebec Pension Plan, Workers' Compensation, Social Assistance, Family Allowance for British Columbia, Alberta, New Brunswick and Quebec, and provincial/territorial Refundable Tax Credits for Newfoundland,

Quebec, Ontario, Manitoba, British Columbia and the Northwest Territories (including Nunavut).

These 1997 data have been tabulated for the Northwest Territories and Nunavut according to the new boundaries that came into effect on April 1, 1999. For data for years prior to 1997, the old boundaries were used.

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

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Client Services (613-951-9720; fax: 613-951-4745; saadinfo@statcan.ca), Small Area and Administrative Data Division. ■

Employment Insurance

May 1999 (preliminary)

An estimated 521,440 Canadians received regular Employment Insurance benefits in May, up 0.5% from April. Increases in Saskatchewan (+5.8%), Alberta (+3.7%), the Northwest Territories and Nunavut (+2.8%), Yukon (+2.2%) and Ontario (+1.1%) were partially offset by decreases in Newfoundland (-2.4%) and Manitoba (-1.3%). Fluctuations in all other provinces were less than 1%. The number of claims received increased 6.6% to 230,500 while regular benefit payments increased 4.8% to reach \$698.2 million in May.

Number of beneficiaries receiving regular benefits

	May 1999	April to May 1999
seasonally adjusted		
		% change
Canada	521,440	0.5
Newfoundland	34,310	-2.4
Prince Edward Island	8,160	0.7
Nova Scotia	26,950	-0.3
New Brunswick	34,150	-0.5
Quebec	176,470	0.6
Ontario	106,430	1.1
Manitoba	13,160	-1.3
Saskatchewan	13,870	5.8
Alberta	41,790	3.7
British Columbia	66,020	0.2
Yukon	1,070	2.2
Northwest Territories and Nunavut	1,290	2.8

Employment Insurance statistics

	April 1999	May 1999	April to May 1999
seasonally adjusted			
			% change
Regular beneficiaries	518,940 ^P	521,440 ^P	0.5
Regular payments (\$ millions)	666.4	698.2	4.8
Claims received ('000)	216.3	230.5	6.6
	May 1998	May 1999	May 1998 to May 1999
unadjusted			
			% change
All beneficiaries ('000)	682.4	656.4 ^P	-3.8
Regular beneficiaries ('000)	506.5	484.5 ^P	-4.3
Claims received ('000)	159.3	163.7	2.8
Payments (\$ millions)	937.0	950.3	1.4
Year-to-date (January to May)			
	1998	1999	1998 to 1999
			% change
Claims received ('000)	1,060.3	1,035.6	-2.3
Payments (\$ millions)	5,768.8	5,607.7	-2.8

^P Preliminary figures.

Note: All beneficiaries includes all claimants paid regular benefits (e.g., due to layoff) or special benefits (e.g., due to illness).

Note: The number of beneficiaries is a measure of all persons who received E.I. benefits for the week containing the 15th of the month. The regular benefit payments series measures the total of all monies received by individuals for the entire month. These different reference periods must be considered when comparisons are done between the series. The *Employment Insurance Act* allows each province or administrative region of Human Resource Development Canada to have certain autonomy in the application of administrative procedures regarding renewal claims. Data users must take into consideration that movements in levels from month to month may be affected by different administrative procedures regarding renewal claims from one province or region to another.

Available on CANSIM: matrices 26 (series 1.6), 5700-5717 and 5735-5736.

The seasonally adjusted regular beneficiaries data series on CANSIM has been revised from 1989 to incorporate the latest version 2000 of X11ARIMA.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods and data quality of this release, contact Gilles Groleau (613-951-4090; fax: 613-951-4087; labour@statcan.ca), Labour Statistics Division. ■

Crude oil and natural gas

May 1999 (preliminary)

In May, crude oil production was 6.2% lower than in May 1998, the seventh consecutive monthly year-over-year decrease. This drop is mainly attributable to decreases in production of crude oil in Alberta and Saskatchewan. Exports, which accounted for 64.2% of total production, fell 4.1% from the year-earlier level, the sixth consecutive monthly year-over-year decrease. For the first five months of 1999, production of crude oil was down 8.2% compared with the same period in 1998.

Natural gas production was up 5.3% from May 1998. Canadian domestic sales were up 7.0%, the seventh consecutive monthly year-over-year increase. Exports, which accounted for 56.1% of the total production, continued to increase, posting a 7.4% gain from May 1998.

Year-to-date exports of natural gas were up 6.5% over the same period last year. Year-to-date Canadian sales rose 6.7% from the year-earlier level. The increase was widespread, with all sectors recording higher sales. Sales to the residential and commercial sectors increased as a result of colder weather during the first few months of 1999. The industrial sector posted a solid gain due to higher demand for natural gas by electric utilities.

Crude oil and natural gas

	May 1998	May 1999	May 1998 to May 1999
	thousands of cubic metres		% change
Crude oil and equivalent hydrocarbons¹			
Production	10 625.1	9 964.5	-6.2
Exports	6 673.5	6 397.0	-4.1
Imports ²	3 718.4	3 896.1	4.8
Refinery receipts	7 850.2	7 732.5	-1.5
	millions of cubic metres		% change
Natural gas³			
Marketable production	12 895.6	13 572.9	5.3
Exports	7 095.1	7 619.5	7.4
Canadian domestic sales ⁴	4 102.5	4 390.0	7.0
	January to May 1998	January to May 1999	Jan.- May 1998 to Jan.- May 1999
	thousands of cubic metres		% change
Crude oil and equivalent hydrocarbons¹			
Production	53 123.6	48 767.9	-8.2
Exports	32 476.5	28 168.3	-13.3
Imports ²	18 382.9	19 677.1	7.0
Refinery receipts	38 569.7	39 878.1	3.4
	millions of cubic metres		% change
Natural gas³			
Marketable production	67 745.2	68 322.7	0.9
Exports	36 823.7	39 218.3	6.5
Canadian domestic sales ⁴	31 417.7	33 518.3	6.7

¹ Disposition may differ from production due to inventory change, industry own-use, etc.

² Crude oil received by Canadian refineries from foreign countries for processing. Data may differ from International Trade Division (ITD) estimates due to timing differences and the inclusion in the ITD data of crude oil landed in Canada for future re-export.

³ Disposition may differ from production due to inventory change, usage as pipeline fuel, pipeline losses, line-pack fluctuations, etc.

⁴ Includes direct sales.

Available on CANSIM: matrices 530 and 539.

The May 1999 issue of *Supply and disposition of crude oil and natural gas* (formerly *Crude petroleum and natural gas production*) (26-006-XPB, \$19/\$186) will be available in August. See *How to order publications*.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods and data quality of this release, contact Eleonore Harding (613-951-5708; hardele@statcan.ca) or Michel Palardy (613-951-7174;

palamic@statcan.ca), Energy Section, Manufacturing, Construction and Energy Division. ■

Pulpwood and wood residue

May 1999

Pulpwood receipts in May totalled 1 192 326 cubic metres, down 9.7% from 1 319 870 cubic metres in May 1998. Wood residue receipts amounted to 5 837 014 cubic metres, up 8.2% from the year-earlier 5 395 215 cubic metres. Consumption of pulpwood and wood residue totalled 8 750 141 cubic metres, up 4.6% from 8 361 656 cubic metres in the same period last year.

The closing inventory of pulpwood and wood residue increased 3.8% to 13 301 963 cubic metres,

up from 12 811 194 cubic metres in May 1998. Year-to-date consumption of pulpwood and wood residue (46 884 415 cubic metres) increased 8.7% from 43 147 557 cubic metres a year earlier.

Available on CANSIM: matrix 54.

The May 1999 issue of *Pulpwood and wood residue statistics* (25-001-XIB, \$6/\$55) 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 Don Grant (613-951-5998; grantdo@statcan.ca), Manufacturing, Construction and Energy Division. ■

PUBLICATIONS RELEASED

Pulpwood and wood residue statistics, May 1999
Catalogue number 25-001-XIB
(Canada: \$6/\$55).

Surface and marine transport, service bulletin,
vol. 15, no. 4
Catalogue number 50-002-XIB
(Canada: \$10/\$62).

**Quarterly report on energy supply-demand in
Canada**, 1998-I
Catalogue number 57-003-XPB
(Canada: \$43/\$141; outside Canada: US\$43/US\$141).

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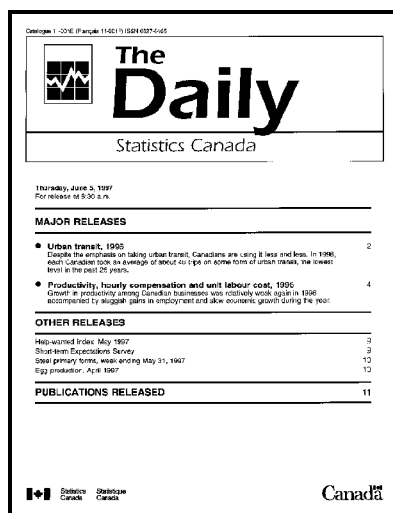
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Editor: Dan Smythe (613-951-1103, smytdan@statcan.ca)

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

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