



The Daily

Statistics Canada

Thursday, August 5, 1999

For release at 8:30 a.m.

MAJOR RELEASES

There are no major releases today.

OTHER RELEASES

Seniors income, 1997	2
Domestic sales of refined petroleum products, June 1999	3

PUBLICATIONS RELEASED	4
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OTHER RELEASES

Seniors income

1997

The median total income of seniors 65 years of age and over was \$16,000 in 1997, up \$100 from 1996 but less than what would have been required for the median income to keep up with the rate of inflation as measured by the Consumer Price Index. Median income represents the middle point at which half the incomes are above and half below.

Seniors in Ontario, British Columbia and Alberta had median total income equal to or greater than the national level.

The median total income of seniors was lower than that of near-seniors (those 55 to 64 years of age). Near-seniors had a median total income of \$21,500 in 1997 while the median for those 65 to 74 years of age was \$17,000. Those 75 years of age and older had a median total income of \$15,100. The increase in the median income of only the near-seniors surpassed the rate of inflation over the previous year.

About 12% of seniors had Registered Retirement Savings Plan (RRSP) income in 1997. This income was either withdrawals or RRSP annuity payments and did not include the income generated from the conversion of RRSPs to Registered Retirement Income Funds.

Median income for senior husband-wife families increased to \$35,600 in 1997, slightly above cost of living advances. Husband-wife families in Ontario, Yukon, British Columbia and Alberta had a median total income greater than the national level. Government Pensions, which include Old Age Security benefits, Net Federal Supplements and the Canada and Quebec Pension plans were the largest contributor (33%) to the income of these families, while private pensions (23%), employment income (20%), investment income (13%), other income (7%) and RRSP income (3%) were other contributing components.

Senior lone-parent families and non-family persons had a median total income of \$16,100 in 1997, less than what would have been required to keep up with inflation. Ontario (\$18,500) and British Columbia (\$16,800) had the highest median incomes. Nearly 45% of the income for seniors in lone-parent families and non-families persons was from government pensions. Private pensions made up a further 20% followed by investment income (16%) and employment income (10%).

Seniors' median total income

1997

	Individuals	Husband-wife families ¹	Lone-parent families and non-family persons ²
	\$		
Canada	16,000	35,600	16,100
Newfoundland	12,600	24,800	13,100
Prince Edward Island	13,600	30,800	14,000
Nova Scotia	14,700	32,400	14,900
New Brunswick	13,800	30,300	14,300
Quebec	14,200	31,400	14,400
Ontario	18,100	39,500	18,500
Manitoba	15,800	34,200	16,000
Saskatchewan	15,200	33,600	15,300
Alberta	16,000	36,300	16,200
British Columbia	16,800	37,100	16,800
Yukon	15,700	39,000	15,700
Northwest Territories (excluding Nunavut)	13,900	33,200	14,900
Nunavut	14,100	30,000	15,400

- ¹ Senior husband-wife families include married couples and those living common-law, with or without children. One partner of the couple must be at least 65 years of age or over but there is no age restriction on the children.
- ² Senior lone-parent families consist of one parent (male or female) with at least one child at home. The parent must be at least 65 years of age or over but there is no age restriction on the child.

Note: These 1997 data are derived from Income Tax returns filed in the spring of 1998.

Median income is determined by ranking all incomes declared by taxpayers (excluding incomes equal to zero) and selecting the one which sits at the mid-point of the list.

Senior husband-wife families include married couples and those living common-law, with or without children. One partner of the couple must be at least 65 years of age or over but there is no age restriction on the children.

Senior lone-parent families consist of one parent (male or female) with at least one child at home. The parent must be at least 65 years of age or over but there is no age restriction on the child.

A senior non-family person is 65 years of age or older and neither a lone parent or a member of a husband-wife family.

Seniors income (89C0022) is available for Canada, the provinces and territories, as well as for areas as small as an urban 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), Small Area and Administrative Data Division. ■

Domestic sales of refined petroleum products

June 1999 (preliminary)

Sales of refined petroleum products totalled 7 815 700 cubic metres in June, up 0.8% from the same period in 1998. Sales increased for four of the seven major product groups compared with June a year earlier, with the largest gains recorded for motor gasoline (+121 000 cubic metres or +3.7%) and diesel fuel oil (+69 700 cubic metres or +3.8%). The largest decrease was recorded for heavy fuel oil (-117 800 cubic metres or -19.6%).

Sales of refined petroleum products

	June 1998 ^r	June 1999 ^p	June 1998 to June 1999
	thousands of cubic metres		% change
Total, all products	7,755.0	7,815.7	0.8
Motor gasoline	3,227.8	3,348.8	3.7
Diesel fuel oil	1,834.2	1,903.9	3.8
Light fuel oil	163.7	182.0	11.2
Heavy fuel oil	602.0	484.2	-19.6
Aviation turbo fuels	572.2	535.0	-6.5
Petrochemical feedstocks ¹	395.2	407.2	3.0
All other refined products	959.9	954.6	-0.6
	January to June 1998 ^r	January to June 1999 ^p	Jan. - June 1998 to Jan. - June 1999
	thousands of cubic metres		% change
Total, all products	44,539.2	45,237.1	1.6
Motor gasoline	17,855.2	18,473.9	3.5
Diesel fuel oil	10,287.0	10,491.9	2.0
Light fuel oil	2,739.9	2,964.7	8.2
Heavy fuel oil	4,053.0	3,839.4	-5.3
Aviation turbo fuels	2,923.7	2,816.6	-3.7
Petrochemical feedstocks ¹	2,413.3	2,516.8	4.3
All other refined products	4,267.1	4,133.8	-3.1

^r Revised.

^p Preliminary.

¹ Materials produced by refineries that are used by the petrochemical industry to produce chemicals, synthetic rubber and a variety of plastics.

Year-to-date sales of refined petroleum products were up 697 900 cubic metres or 1.6% over the same period in 1998. Sales increased for four of the seven major product groups with the largest advance recorded for motor gasoline (+618 700 cubic metres or +3.5%), which accounted for 40.8% of the total sales. The gain for light fuel oil (+224 800 cubic metres or +8.2%) was mostly due to greater use of the product for heating.

Available on CANSIM: matrices 628-642 and 644-647.

The June 1999 issue of *Refined petroleum products* (45-004-XPB, \$21/\$206), will be available in September. See *How to order publications*.

For further information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods and data quality of this release, contact Michel Palardy (613-951-7174; palamic@statcan.ca), Energy Section, Manufacturing, Construction and Energy Division. ■

PUBLICATIONS RELEASED

Cereals and oilseeds review, May 1999
Catalogue number 22-007-XPB
(Canada: \$15/\$149; outside Canada: US\$15/US\$149).

Labour force information, week ending July 17, 1999
Catalogue number 71-001-PPB
(Canada: \$11/\$103; outside Canada: US\$11/US\$103).
Available at 7:00 a.m. on Friday, August 6. Also available at 7:00 a.m. on the Internet (www.statcan.ca).

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Ontario 1-206 (if applicable) 1-800-387-6445



Thursday, June 3, 1997
For release at 8:30 a.m.



MAJOR RELEASES

- **Urban transit, 1995** 2
Despite the emphasis on taking urban transit, Canadians are using it less and less. In 1995, each Canadian took an average of about 65 trips on some form of urban transit, the lowest level in the past 25 years.
- **Productivity, hourly compensation and unit labour cost, 1996** 4
Growth in productivity among Canadian businesses was notably weak again in 1996 accompanied by sluggish gains in employment and slow nominal growth during the year.

OTHER RELEASES

- **Help-wanted index, May 1997** 3
- **Short-term Expectations Survey** 3
- **Steel primary forms, week ending May 31, 1997** 10
- **EGG production, April 1997** 12

PUBLICATIONS RELEASED 11

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