



# The Daily

Statistics Canada

Wednesday, September 1, 1999

For release at 8:30 a.m.

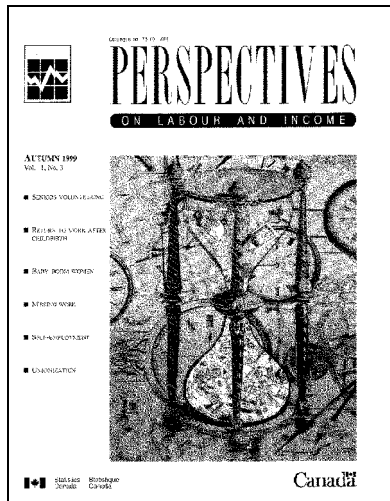
## MAJOR RELEASES

### ● Employment after childbirth, 1993/94

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Almost 9 in every 10 working women who gave birth in either 1993 or 1994 were back on the job within a year. While those who did not go back to work may have been in the majority at one time, they represented only 7% of all women who gave birth during these two years.

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### Perspectives on labour and income

Autumn 1999

The feature article in the Autumn issue of *Perspectives on labour and income*, "Employment after childbirth," examines the return-to-work patterns of women who gave birth in 1993 or 1994. More than half of women who were employed prior to giving birth returned to work within six months and only 7% had not returned after two years. The average time off was 6.4 months. This article analyses the characteristics of both those women who returned and those who did not, as well as a number of job, personal and family characteristics.

This issue also contains articles on how and why seniors volunteer, and the services they provide; baby boom women in the labour force, their activity and success in both 1977 and 1997 compared with preceding and succeeding generations; work absence rates in 1998 and industry differences; self-employment in Canada and the United States; and an update on unionization.

The Autumn 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](mailto:poldhen@statcan.ca)), or Fiona Long (613-951-4628; [longfio@statcan.ca](mailto:longfio@statcan.ca)), Labour and Household Surveys Analysis Division.



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## MAJOR RELEASES

### Employment after childbirth

1993/94

Almost 9 in every 10 working women who gave birth in either 1993 or 1994 were back on the job within a year, according to new data from the Survey of Labour and Income Dynamics (SLID).

Data from this unique longitudinal survey, which began in January 1993 show that within a year of giving birth, 86% of working mothers had returned to work, and within two years, a full 93% were back. While those who had not returned after two years may have been in the majority at one time, they represented only 7% of all women who gave birth during the study period.

This study examined the return-to-work patterns of employed women who gave birth between April 1993 and December 1994 and had worked some time during the last three months of pregnancy. Second births during this period were included if the woman had also worked during the last three months of that pregnancy.

Overall, these women took an average of 6.4 months off work. The vast majority (83%) of these women returned to the same employer. Only 13% of paid workers did not receive Employment Insurance benefits, compared with 85% of self-employed women.

Compared with women who had not returned to work for two years or more, those who returned had a higher income, higher job status and longer tenure at their previous job. They were also more likely to have been in a unionized job. As well, women who returned were more likely to be living with a partner.

#### More than half of women back at work within six months

Of the 367,000 employed women who gave birth in 1993 or 1994, about 6 out of every 10 had returned to work by the end of the sixth month after birth, according to the SLID data.

The flexibility of the start time of maternity leave, and the maximum 25-week combined paid maternity and parental leave under Employment Insurance played major roles in determining the average return date, usually around the sixth month after childbirth.

The percentage of mothers who had returned to work increased strongly until the eighth month, then levelled off considerably. Some 76,000 or 21% were back to work by the end of the first month after

#### Note to readers

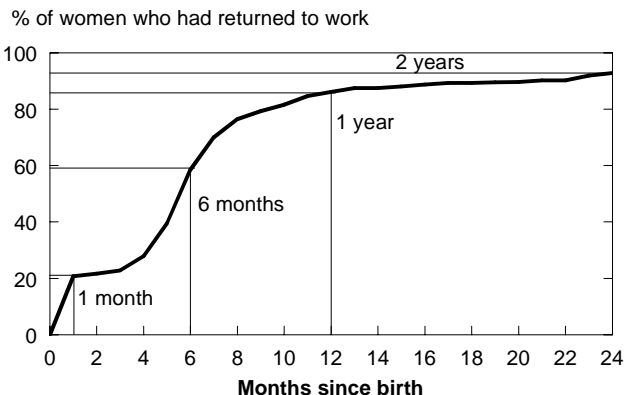
This release is based on an article of the same title in the Autumn issue of Perspectives on labour and income. Data came from the Survey of Labour and Income Dynamics, a longitudinal household survey that began in January 1993. Respondents enter the survey and remain for six years, completing detailed questionnaires each year on labour market activity and another on income. Data used in the article are for women who entered the survey in 1993 and who responded in all four years, 1993 to 1996.

The study population comprised women who worked sometime during the last three months of pregnancy and gave birth between April 1993 and December 1994. The analysis is based on women who were in the survey for at least two years after giving birth.

Women were considered to have been employed during pregnancy if they reported at least one hour of work at a job or business in any of the three months prior to childbirth. Return to work was defined as the first month following the month of childbirth in which at least one hour of work at a job or business was reported.

birth. This group included 26,000 women who were self-employed, and they represented three-quarters of all self-employed women who had taken time off to give birth during the study period.

#### The percentage of mothers who return to work rises rapidly for the first eight months after a birth



About 12% of the 367,000 women waited five months after childbirth to go back to work, while

another 19% waited for six months and 11% for seven months.

### Potential lost income a major factor in early return

The potential for substantial loss of income was associated with returning early to work. Women who did not receive maternity benefits, and those who were self-employed, returned more quickly than those who received benefits or who were paid workers.

About one-third (34%) of women who returned early, that is in less than two months, were self-employed, compared with just 2% of those who returned later. This was not surprising, as self-employed women tend to experience a double financial loss if they take leave after childbirth. First, most do not receive maternity leave benefits, and second, some may have to hire a replacement during their absence, which could be costly as well as difficult.

The study also found that 60% of women who were back by the end of the first month had received no Employment Insurance benefits, compared with just 9% of those who took between two months and 24 months to return.

In addition, women who returned to work by the end of the first month had worked less time at their last job, 42 months, compared with 52 months worked by women who returned later.

Union membership also had an impact. Only 15% of women who returned to work within two months had worked in a unionized job, compared with 38% of those women who returned later.

### Women who did not return to work had lower median incomes

Women who had not returned to work had spent less time, on average, at their last job (26 months) than women who had returned (49 months). Also, those who did not return to work after childbirth were also less likely to have left a professional job (30%) compared with those who did return (43%).

Women who did not return had median earnings of \$16,700 compared with a median of \$25,600 for those who did return. With day-care costs subtracted

from modest earnings, these women would have had little financial incentive to return to work.

In addition, those who did not return were younger, had fewer children under six at home and were more likely to be unmarried. About 30% of those who did not return were living without a partner, compared with just 4% of the women who returned to work. Managing child care and household responsibilities without a partner may have made it too difficult for some to perform paid work as well.

### Characteristics of employed women who returned to work within two years of giving birth<sup>1</sup>

	Total	Returned within one month	Returned after two or more months
<b>Total</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>21%</b>	<b>79%</b>
<b>Human capital and job characteristics</b>			
Average age	30	30	30
Education: high school or less	36%	41%	35%
Median income	\$25,700	\$25,600	\$25,700
Usual weekly hours	33	30	34
Median tenure (months)	49	42	52
Unionized	33%	15%	38%
Self-employed	9%	34%	2%
Professional, managerial or technical occupation	43%	44%	43%
Part-time work	28%	43%	24%
No maternity benefits	20%	60%	9%
<b>Family or personal characteristics</b>			
Number of children under age 6 at home	1.6	1.7	1.6
Spouse present	96%	93%	97%
Employed spouse present	93%	85%	94%
Income as % of family income	45%	45%	44%

<sup>1</sup> Refers to the time of birth or of last job held before birth for births in 1993 or 1994.

The Autumn 1999 issue of *Perspectives on labour and income* (75-001-XPE, \$18/\$58) is now available. See *How to order publications*.

For more information, or to enquire about the methods, concepts or data quality of this release, contact Katherine Marshall (613-951-6890; [marsskat@statcan.ca](mailto:marsskat@statcan.ca)), Labour and Household Surveys Analysis Division. ■

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## OTHER RELEASES

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### Pulpwood and wood residue statistics

June 1999

Pulpwood receipts totalled 2 183 813 cubic metres in June, down 1.1% from 2 207 716 cubic metres in June 1998. Wood residue receipts totalled 7 136 741 cubic metres, up 10.6% from 6 453 384 cubic metres the same month a year earlier. Consumption of pulpwood and wood residue totalled 8 930 102 cubic metres, up 3.6% from 8 616 449 cubic metres in June 1998.

The closing inventory of pulpwood and wood residue increased 7.0% to 13 591 974 cubic metres, up from 12 696 993 cubic metres in June 1998. Year-to-date consumption of pulpwood and wood residue (55 814 573 cubic metres) increased 7.8% from 51 764 006 cubic metres a year earlier.

#### Available on CANSIM: matrix 54.

The June 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 Gilles Simard (613-951-3516; [simales@statcan.ca](mailto:simales@statcan.ca)), Manufacturing, Construction and Energy Division. ■

### Footwear statistics

Semi-annual period ending June 1999

Manufacturers produced 5,496,922 pairs of footwear in the first six months of 1999, a 33.6% decrease from the 8,276,603 (revised) pairs produced in the same period a year earlier.

#### Available on CANSIM: matrix 8.

The first-half 1999 issue of *Footwear statistics* (33-002-XIB, \$6/\$11) will be available shortly. See *How to order publications*.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Yasmin Sheikh (613-951-2518; [sheiyas@statcan.ca](mailto:sheiyas@statcan.ca)), Manufacturing, Construction and Energy Division. ■

### Asphalt roofing

July 1999

Production of asphalt shingles totalled 3 853 140 metric bundles in July, a 14.6% increase from 3 362 572 metric bundles (revised numbers) produced in July 1998.

January to July 1999 production amounted to 25 372 838 metric bundles, a 2.1% increase from 24 848 577 metric bundles (revised) produced during the same period in 1998.

#### Available on CANSIM: matrices 32 and 122 (series 27).

The July 1999 issue of *Asphalt roofing* (45-001-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 Don Grant (613-951-5998; [grantdo@statcan.ca](mailto:grantdo@statcan.ca)), Manufacturing, Construction and Energy Division. ■

### Coal and coke statistics

June 1999

Lower domestic demand by electric power utilities, which were depleting their inventories, coupled with reduced inventories at port led to lower coal production for the 12th consecutive month. Coal production totalled 5 819 kilotonnes, down 6.1% from June 1998. Year-to-date production stood at 36 102 kilotonnes, down 5.9% from the same period in 1998.

Strong demand from European countries led to an 18.8% increase in exports to 3 302 kilotonnes from June 1998. Exports to Japan (the largest consumer of Canadian coal) decreased 23.3% to 1 279 kilotonnes during the same period. Year-to-date figures show total exports of 17 004 kilotonnes, 1.2% below last year's level.

Imports of coal for the second quarter of 1999 totalled 6 187 kilotonnes, up 14.1% from the previous year. Year-to-date figures show imports of 7 974 kilotonnes, up 7.6% from last year's level. Operating constraints at a number of electric utilities increased their requirement for imported coal.

Coke production in June increased to 295 kilotonnes, up 17.8% from June 1998.

#### Available on CANSIM: matrix 9.

The June 1999 issue of *Coal and coke statistics* (45-002, \$12/\$114) will be available shortly. See *How to order publications*.

For more information, or to enquire about the methods, concepts and data quality of this release, contact André Lefebvre (613-951-3560; [alefeba@statcan.ca](mailto:alefeba@statcan.ca)), Energy Section, Manufacturing, Construction and Energy Division. ■

## **Electric power statistics**

June 1999

Net generation of electricity increased to 42 605 gigawatt hours (GWh), up 2.2% from June 1998. Exports increased 2.5% to 3 791 GWh, and imports decreased from 1 355 GWh to 1 087 GWh.

Improved reservoir levels in Quebec and British Columbia allowed generation of hydro electricity to increase 4.2% to 25 899 GWh. The increase in capability led to higher exports and enabled thermal conventional generation to be reduced 0.8% to 11 586 GWh. Generation from nuclear sources was down 0.4% to 5 120 GWh.

Year-to-date net generation at the end of June totalled 274 630 GWh, up 0.5% from the same period in 1998. Year-to-date exports (17 937 GWh) were down 11.7%, whereas year-to-date imports (8 456 GWh) rose 8.3% from the previous year.

**Available on CANSIM: matrices 3985-3999.**

The June 1999 issue of *Electric power statistics* (57-001-XPB, \$12/\$114) will be available shortly. See *How to order publications*.

For more information, or to enquire about the methods, concepts and data quality of this release, contact André Lefebvre (613-951-3560; [alefeba@statcan.ca](mailto:alefeba@statcan.ca)), Energy Section, Manufacturing, Construction and Energy Division. ■

## **Survey of Labour and Income Dynamics 1993-1997**

The Survey of Labour and Income Dynamics (SLID) is a longitudinal survey that is building a picture of Canadians' jobs, income changes and family events over time. The same people are interviewed from one year to the next to capture transitions in the nation's labour market and other changes experienced by individuals and families. The target population for the survey consisted of about 35,000 individuals of all ages, who were selected in 1993 and interviewed each year from 1994 to 1997 to gather information on their demographic characteristics, family income and labour market activities. In 1996, an additional 35,000 individuals joined the sample.

Previous SLID data were released on April 11, 1996 (Life events: How families change); June 16, 1996 (Transitions in the labour force); July 7, 1997 (Crossing the low-income line); June 17, 1998 (Moving out of low paid work) and March 25, 1999 (Encountering low income). Many other studies have been conducted using SLID data. Results from the fifth wave are now available, through custom tabulations, and show labour market and family experiences covering a five-year stretch from 1993 to 1997.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods and data quality for this release, contact Client Services (613-951-7355 or 1-888-297-7355; fax: 613-951-3012; [income@statcan.ca](mailto:income@statcan.ca)), Income Statistics Division. ■

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## PUBLICATIONS RELEASED

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**Pulpwood and wood residue statistics**, June 1999

**Catalogue number 25-001-XIB**

(Canada: \$6/\$55).

**Asphalt roofing**, July 1999

**Catalogue number 45-001-XIB**

(Canada: \$5/\$47).

**Natural gas transportation and distribution**,

May 1999

**Catalogue number 55-002-XPB**

(Canada: \$17/\$165; outside Canada: US\$17/US\$165).

**Perspectives on labour and income**, Autumn 1999

**Catalogue number 75-001-XPE**

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

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


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 <b>The Daily</b>	
Statistics Canada	
Thursday, June 3, 1997	
For release at 8:30 a.m.	
<b>MAJOR RELEASES</b>	
• <b>Urban transit, 1995</b>	2
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.	
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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.	
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### **Statistics Canada's official release bulletin**

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# The Daily

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<b>1995 graduates who moved to the United States</b>	March 1999	August 27, 1999
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<b>Airport activity statistics</b>	Third quarter 1998	August 27, 1999
<b>Apartment Building Construction Price Index</b>	Second quarter 1999	August 11, 1999
<b>Building permits</b>	June 1999 and second quarter of 1999	August 4, 1999
<b>Canada's balance of international payments</b>	Second quarter 1999	August 31, 1999
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<b>Production and value of aquaculture and aquaculture exports</b>	1991 to 1998	August 25, 1999
<b>Production and value of ranch-raised pelts</b>	1998	August 25, 1999
<b>Quarterly Business Conditions Survey, manufacturing industries</b>	July 1999	August 3, 1999
<b>Railway carloadings</b>	Seven-day period ending July 7, 1999 Seven-day period ending July 14, 1999 Seven-day period ending July 21, 1999 Ten-day period ending July 31, 1999 Seven-day period ending August 7, 1999	August 3, 1999 August 9, 1999 August 11, 1999 August 17, 1999 August 27, 1999
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