



The Daily

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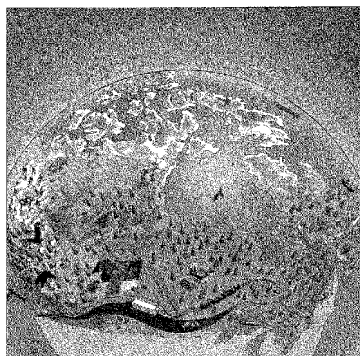
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Western farmers rotated their field crop areas into considerably more barley, field peas and durum wheat this year, at the expense of spring wheat and oilseeds. In the east, farmers indicated that they planted the largest soybean and corn acreages in history.

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Human Activity and the Environment 2000



Human activity and the environment 2000

This fifth edition of *Human activity and the environment*, published every five years, is Statistics Canada's compilation of economic, social and environmental statistics, which researchers, policy-makers, teachers and students will find indispensable for environmental analysis.

Using data from a wide variety of sources, it provides a comprehensive statistical portrait of the nation's environment with emphasis on human activity and its relationship to natural systems — air, water, soil, plants and animals.

The book contains 272 tables, 137 figures, and 45 color maps covering a multitude of environmental topics. It is supplemented by a detailed glossary, an index, a teacher's kit (to come) and a CD-ROM. The CD-ROM includes all aspects of the printed report in HTML format, along with additional data tables, graphics and a customized mapping and graphing tool.

Human activity and the environment 2000 (11-509-XPE, \$75, including CD-ROM) is now available. See *How to order publications*.

For more information, contact Murray Cameron (613-951-3740; camemur@statcan.ca), or Martin Lemire (613-951-5739; lemimar@statcan.ca), Environment Accounts and Statistics Division (fax: 613-951-0634).



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MAJOR RELEASES

Human activity and the environment 2000

Per-capita consumption of energy doubled in Canada during the past four decades. However, the amount of energy required to produce one dollar of economic output actually fell, according to the fifth edition of *Human activity and the environment*, the latest compilation of environmental statistics.

Between 1958 and 1997, total annual consumption of energy, which plays a fundamental role in the economy, increased more than 3.5 times.

On a per-capita basis, each Canadian in 1958 consumed slightly less than 167 gigajoules of energy. By 1997, per-capita consumption had doubled to almost 334 gigajoules. (A 30-litre gasoline fill-up contains about one gigajoule of energy — there are 1 000 megajoules in a gigajoule.)

However, energy consumption for every dollar of inflation-adjusted gross domestic product (GDP) — a measure of the energy intensity of the economy — declined during this 40-year period. In 1961, it took about 15.0 megajoules of energy to produce a dollar of economic output. By 1997, it took only about 12.4 megajoules.

This indicator began to drop following the 1974 oil crisis. The four-fold increase in crude oil prices that resulted from the oil crisis provided real incentives to conserve energy.

A second oil price hike in 1979 led to further reductions in energy consumption per dollar of real GDP. Oil prices dropped dramatically in 1986, after which energy consumption per dollar of real GDP stabilized at around 12.5 megajoules.

In 1958, crude oil accounted for 52% of all energy consumed in Canada, and natural gas only 13%. By 1997, the share of crude oil had dropped to 39%, while the share of natural gas had almost tripled to 35%.

Water quality still a major concern

Despite considerable efforts to curb pollution, water quality remains a major concern for Canadians. Municipalities still discharge untreated effluent directly into the environment, industries dispose of a variety of chemical and organic wastes directly or indirectly into water bodies and farm activities lead to run-off of pesticides and manure into groundwater and surface water.

The population served by wastewater treatment increased between 1983 and 1996. Even so, in 1996,

an estimated 6% of Canadians, about 1.3 million people, lived in municipalities served with sewers whose wastewater received no form of treatment before being discharged. This proportion was down from 28% in 1983.

During the same period, the proportion receiving tertiary treatment, the highest level of wastewater treatment, increased from 28% to 41%. Thus, not only did more people receive wastewater treatment in 1996 than in 1983, the quality of the treatment they received was substantially better.

In agriculture, commercial fertilizers, livestock manure and pesticides all have a potential impact on water quality. In 1995, animal manure on farms contained about 623 000 metric tonnes of nitrogen and 308 000 metric tonnes of phosphate. Farmers applied nearly 2.3 million metric tonnes of potash, phosphate and nitrogen from commercial fertilizers in the same year.

Government spending on pollution abatement and control

In 1996, government spending on pollution abatement and control totalled just over \$5.4 billion, or 0.7% of GDP. During the 1990s, most of the growth in this spending was due to sewage collection and disposal projects.

Spending on pollution abatement and control is relatively small as a proportion of total government expenditures. Since the late 1980s, it has accounted for between 2.3% and 2.9%.

However, such spending has generally been increasing at a greater pace than total government spending. For example, from 1970 to 1996 total government expenditures increased an average of nearly 9% a year, while government spending on pollution abatement and control rose an average of nearly 12% a year.

For its part, the business sector invested \$4.9 billion in 1996 on environmental protection.

Canada has more than one-tenth of the world's forests

Canada contains more than 10% of the world's forests and, in fact, half of the nation is covered by forest. Out of a total land area of 921.5 million hectares, 417.6 million hectares are defined as forestland, and much of it remains in a natural state. The nation also accounts for almost 20% of the total value of the global forest products trade.

While the economy is less dependent on this natural resource today than it once was, the logging industry is still an important and active segment of the national economy. One out of every 17 jobs depends on it.

At least 337 communities are considered heavily dependent on the forest. That is, in each of these communities, employment income derived from forest products industries accounts for more than 49% of the community's income.

In 1996, 945,674 people lived in forest-dependent communities, 4.1% more than in 1986. Forest-dependent communities are more numerous in Quebec, although they represented only 2.5% of the provincial population in 1996. British Columbia had the second-highest count of forest-dependent communities; they accounted for about 14% of the province's population.

This report, Statistics Canada's latest compilation of environmental statistics, provides a comprehensive assessment of how Canadians are interacting with the environment. The publication also includes data on a variety of topics such as natural resources, ecosystems, science and technology, and environmental practices.

Human activity and the environment 2000 (11-509-XPE, \$75, including CD-ROM) is now available. See *How to order publications*.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Murray Cameron (613-951-3740) camemur@statcan.ca, or Martin Lemire (613-951-5739) lemimar@statcan.ca, Environment Accounts and Statistics Division (fax: 613-951-0634).

Population in forest-dependent communities by province 1986, 1991 and 1996

	Number of communities	1986	1991	1996	1986 to 1996	1996 share of provincial population %
		population			% change	
Newfoundland	5	4,626	4,541	4,406	-4.8	0.8
Prince Edward Island	-	-	-	-	-	-
Nova Scotia	7	27,201	26,574	25,692	-5.5	2.8
New Brunswick	40	68,720	68,235	54,084	-21.3	7.3
Quebec	127	197,546	193,436	181,375	-8.2	2.5
Ontario	55	128,568	125,983	126,506	-1.6	1.2
Manitoba	5	11,016	11,024	10,171	-7.7	0.9
Saskatchewan	6	6,259	5,671	5,506	-12.0	0.6
Alberta	3	15,780	17,676	19,413	23.0	0.7
British Columbia	89	448,911	472,330	518,521	15.5	13.9
Total	337	908,627	925,470	945,674	4.1	3.3

- Nil or zero.

Note: Communities are considered forest-dependent when more than 49% of their income is derived from forest products industries.



Estimates of principal field crops areas

2000 (preliminary)

Western farmers rotated their field crop areas into considerably more barley, field peas and durum wheat this year at the expense of spring wheat and oilseeds. In the east, farmers indicated that they planted the largest soybean and corn acreages in history.

Seeding of major grains and oilseeds

	1999	2000	1999 to 2000 % change
	millions of acres		
Total wheat	25.8	27.3	6
Spring wheat	20.5	19.9	-3
Canola	13.8	12.2	-12
Barley	10.9	12.6	16
Oats	4.7	4.5	-4
Durum wheat	4.4	6.5	48
Corn for grain	2.9	3.0	3
Soybeans	2.5	2.7	8
Flaxseed	2.0	1.5	-25
Field peas	2.1	3.1	48

Market forces appear to have influenced producers' initial planting intentions. The amount of land actually seeded in barley is considerably less than anticipated in the March intentions survey while field pea, canola, spring wheat and durum seeded acreages increased.

Statistics Canada asked two new questions on the planted acreage of genetically modified soybeans and grain corn in Ontario and Quebec this year at the request of Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada.

Barley seeded acreage increases

Farmers planted 12.6 million acres of barley, an increase of 1.7 million acres or 16% from the 10.9 million acres seeded last year. The recent five-year average seeded area is 11.8 million acres. All three Prairie provinces moved in concert: Saskatchewan (+20%), Manitoba (+18%) and Alberta (+14%). The growing livestock industry in the west is the major user of barley.

Field peas to set new record for seeded area

Field pea acreage will reach a record 3.1 million acres this year, a 1.0 million-acre (+48%) increase from last year's seeded area of 2.1 million acres. The previous record of 2.7 million acres was set in 1998. As with barley, the growth occurred in all three Prairie provinces, with increases of 52% in Manitoba, 51% in Saskatchewan and 40% in Alberta. Just nine years ago, field peas were planted on 0.5 million acres and grown as a feed supplement primarily for export to European markets. Now they are being used increasingly in domestic animal rations.

Note to readers

The June planting survey of 29,300 farms was conducted by telephone interviews during the last week of May and the first week of June. Farmers were asked to reported their planted areas of cereals, oilseeds and specialty crops.

Statistics Canada monitors crop and pasture conditions across Western Canada weekly using a vegetation index obtained from digital satellite data. As of June 18, the indices show that, compared with the seven-year average (1993-1999), crop development ranges from similar to much better for the eastern region of Western Canada. Crop development is below average in the western region of Alberta and the British Columbia-Peace River region, as well as the north and southwestern regions of Saskatchewan. Statistics Canada will monitor the changing conditions closely. For more information on the Crop Condition Assessment Program, available only by subscription on Statistics Canada's Web site (www.statcan.ca), please contact Gordon Reichert (613-951-3872).

Durum wheat plantings to increase by one-half from last year's level

Western farmers planted 6.5 million acres of durum wheat, an increase of 2.1 million acres from last year's 4.4 million acres. The recent five-year average is 5.5 million acres and the record is 7.3 million acres, planted in 1998. The increase could be in response to a drought in the durum-growing regions surrounding the Mediterranean Sea, lower acreage in the U.S. and improved price prospects for durum wheat.

Spring wheat acreage declines to below-average levels

Spring wheat acreage is set at 19.9 million acres, a 0.6 million-acre decrease from the 20.5 million acres planted last year. The five-year average is 21.6 million acres. The threat of continuing poor prices for spring wheat, coupled with stronger demand for barley, field peas and durum wheat, contributed to the decline.

Canola acreage drops

Canola producers reduced their plantings this year to 12.2 million acres, a drop of 1.6 million acres, or 12%, from last year's 13.8 million acres. Vegetable oils are in abundance on the world market and, consequently, prices are not favourable.

Grain corn farmers planted the largest crop ever

Corn producers seeded 3.0 million acres, 100,000 more than last year's record area of 2.9 million acres. Together, Quebec and Ontario planted 94% of the grain corn in Canada. The five-year average is 2.7 million acres. The reasons for the recent three-year trend increase are related to the need for

increased quantities of feed corn for an expanding hog industry in the two major hog-producing provinces, and as input to the growing ethanol fuel industry. Twenty-seven percent of the area devoted to grain corn in each of Ontario and Quebec was planted with genetically modified seed.

Soybean acreage sets new record

There were a record 2.7 million acres of soybeans planted this spring, 0.2 million more acres than the 2.5 million acres seeded last year. The record is 2.6 million acres, planted in 1997, and the five-year average is 2.3 million acres. There are reports that at least part of the increase in soybeans this spring may be owing to prolonged wet weather in the east, making timely planting of grain corn difficult. Producers were then forced to switch to the shorter-season crop. Sixteen

percent of soybean acreage in Quebec was sown with genetically modified seed, and 18% in Ontario.

Available on CANSIM: matrices 1025-1043, 1046-1051, 3541-3559 and 3562-3565.

*Field crop reporting series no. 4: Preliminary estimates of principal field crop areas, Canada, 2000 (22-002-XPB, \$15/\$88; 22-002-XIB, \$11/\$66) is now available. See *How to order publications*.*

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact David Burroughs (613-951-5138; dave.burroughs@statcan.ca) or David Roeske at (613-951-0572; dave.roeske@statcan.ca), Agriculture Division. ■

OTHER RELEASES

Canada/European Union merchandise trade reconciliation

1993 to 1997

Statistics Canada and Eurostat today announce the results of a bilateral merchandise trade reconciliation study to examine the causes of the differences in the published statistics of each trading partner from 1993 to 1997. They do not represent revisions to the officially published statistics of any of the participating countries.

This study was undertaken jointly by the International Trade Division of Statistics Canada and Eurostat on behalf of the European Union (EU). The main reasons for the differences in the trade data,

in both eastbound and westbound directions of trade, were investigated and their effects on imports and exports were estimated.

As a result of this examination, published Canadian exports to the EU were adjusted upwards while the corresponding published EU imports from Canada were adjusted downwards for each year of the study.

In the westbound table, published Canadian imports from the EU are not adjusted, whereas published EU exports to Canada were adjusted upwards in each year of the study.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Jocelyne Elibani (613-951-9786; fax 613-951-0117; trade@statcan.ca), International Trade Division.

Eastbound trade

	Published Canadian exports	Reconciled Canadian exports	Difference as a percentage of published	Published EU imports	Reconciled EU imports	Difference as a percentage of published
	\$ millions		%	\$ millions		%
1993	11,077	11,159	0.7	11,898	11,159	-6.2
1994	11,893	13,926	17.1	14,795	13,926	-5.9
1995	16,654	20,005	20.1	21,002	20,005	-4.7
1996	15,739	18,916	20.2	19,844	18,916	-4.7
1997	15,432	18,470	19.7	19,496	18,470	-5.3

Westbound trade

	Published Canadian imports	Reconciled Canadian imports	Difference as a percentage of published	Published EU exports	Reconciled EU exports	Difference as a percentage of published
	\$ millions		%	\$ millions		%
1993	14,936	14,936	0	12,932	14,936	15.5
1994	17,839	17,839	0	15,575	17,839	14.5
1995	22,782	22,782	0	18,503	22,782	23.1
1996	22,926	22,926	0	18,239	22,926	25.7
1997	27,134	27,134	0	21,706	27,134	25.0

Steel primary forms

Week ending June 24, 2000 (preliminary)

Steel primary forms production for the week ending June 24 totalled 330 891 tonnes, up 0.03% from 330 795 tonnes a week earlier and up 12.7% from 293 705 tonnes in the same week of 1999. The year-to-date total at the end of the reference week was 8 215 458 tonnes, a 6.0% increase compared with 7 748 379 tonnes for the same period in 1999.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods, or data quality of this

release, contact Julie Mayer (613-951-4924; mayerjul@statcan.ca), Manufacturing, Construction and Energy Division.

Asphalt roofing

May 2000

Production of asphalt shingles totalled 3 971 163 metric bundles in May, a 6.6% decrease from 4 249 530 metric bundles produced in May 1999.

Year-to-date production was 19 021 144 metric bundles, a 10.9% increase from 17 159 283 metric bundles produced during the same period in 1999.

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

The May 2000 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 or data quality of this release, contact Sara Breen (613-951-3521; sara.breen@statcan.ca), Manufacturing, Construction and Energy Division. ■

Sawmills and planing mills

April 2000

Sawmills produced 6 095.2 thousand cubic metres of lumber and ties in April, a 0.3% decrease from 6 113.5 thousand cubic metres (revised) in April 1999.

Year-to-date production amounted to 24 181.5 thousand cubic metres, up 4.7% from 23 106.4 thousand cubic metres (revised) produced during the same period in 1999.

Available on CANSIM: matrices 53, 122 (series 2).

The April 2000 issue of *Sawmills and planing mills* (35-003-XIB, \$9/\$86) 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), Manufacturing, Construction, and Energy Division. ■

PUBLICATIONS RELEASED

Human activity and the environment, 2000
Catalogue number 11-509-XPE (\$75).

Field crop reporting series, vol. 79, no. 4
Catalogue number 22-002-XIB (\$11/\$66).

Field crop reporting series, vol. 79, no. 4
Catalogue number 22-002-XPB (\$15/\$88).

Food consumption in Canada, part I, 1999
Catalogue number 32-229-XPB (\$35).

Asphalt roofing, May 2000
Catalogue number 45-001-XIB (\$5/\$47).

The control and sale of alcoholic beverages in
Canada, fiscal year ended March 31, 1999
Catalogue number 63-202-XIB (\$29).

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MAJOR RELEASES

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

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