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MAJOR RELEASES

OTHER RELEASES

MAJOR RELEASES

Report on adult education and training in Canada: Learning a living
1998

Approximately 28% of Canadians enrolled in adult education and training activities in 1997. Three of every four who did so took them for a job-related purpose, according to a report based on the 1998 Adult Education and Training Survey.

However, rates of participation in adult education and training declined slightly through the 1990s. In 1997, more than 6 million people aged 17 and over, or nearly 28% of adults, participated in education and training activities, down from about 29% in 1991.

The results suggest that some adults might not be keeping up with increasing demands for new skills. For example, the lower a person's educational level, the less likely he or she was to enrol in an adult education program. A university graduate was five times more likely to obtain further education than someone who did not complete high school.

In addition, participation rates were higher among the employed population than among the unemployed. In 1997, about 20% of unemployed workers participated in job-related education and training activities, compared with 29% of employed workers. This reflects the fact that employers play an important role in providing training programs.

Overall participation rates were sharply lower for the older age groups. Only 15% of those 55 to 64 and 5% of those 65 and over participated in adult education and training activities, compared with more than 30% for all other age groups.

Older people also spent fewer hours on training. Those aged 55 to 64 devoted an average of 49 hours to adult education in 1997, compared with 451 hours for the youngest age group, 17 to 24.

Substantial differences in rates of participation among provinces

Provincial rates of participation in adult education programs varied widely in 1997, from a low of 19% in Newfoundland to a high of 32% in British Columbia.

Rates in Quebec and the Atlantic provinces, except Nova Scotia, were lower than the national average of 28%. Differences in provincial participation rates narrowed somewhat during the 1990s.

Each participant devoted an average 209 hours in 1997 to education and training, compared with only 149 in 1991. Averaged over the entire adult population, training increased from 43 to 58 hours per person during the period.

Average training hours per participant also varied among the provinces. In general, provinces with a low participation rate reported more hours of training per participant.

While Newfoundland had a relatively low participation rate, it posted a high average number of hours spent in adult education and training. Average hours per participant were above the national average in Quebec, but below average in Alberta and British Columbia.

Note to readers

This report is based on results of the 1998 Adult Education and Training Survey, a joint project of Statistics Canada and Human Resources Development Canada. The survey, conducted as a supplement to the January 1998 Labour Force Survey, collected information on education and training activities taken in 1997 by people aged 17 and over. Results were first released in June 1999.

This report estimates the volume of formal adult education and training and, for the first time, analyzes trends in participation over the past decade, information useful in the evaluation of current levels of investment. It also provides a detailed overview of the social distribution of participation in adult education and training.

Adult education and training includes all structured educational (credit and non-credit courses) and training activities taken at work, at school or at any other location for job-related or personal interest reasons.

The survey focussed on learners not attending regular school or university. Consequently, the population used in this report generally does not include all regular, full-time students, except: full-time students subsidized by employers; full-time students aged 20 and over enrolled in elementary or secondary programs; and full-time students 25 and over enrolled in postsecondary programs. All other students in the 17-to-24 age range were excluded.

Percentage of adults participating in education and training activities

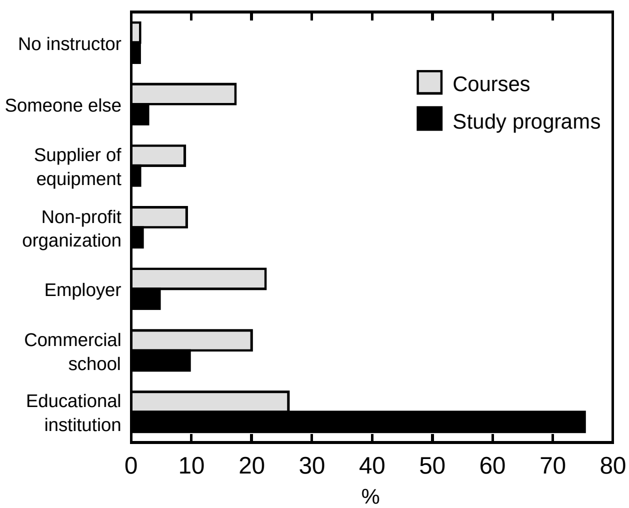
	1991	1997
Canada	**28.9**	**27.7**
Newfoundland	18.8	18.6
Prince Edward Island	21.6	22.2
Nova Scotia	22.9	28.8
New Brunswick	19.5	23.4
Quebec	27.4	20.6
Ontario	29.3	30.8
Manitoba	31.3	27.6
Saskatchewan	27.7	28,0
Alberta	35.8	31.1
British Columbia	30.5	31.9

Employers play a crucial role in providing training programs

Public and private educational institutions dominate the market for adult education and training. However, employers play a crucial role in providing training programs as well.

Public education institutions offered three-quarters of all programs and one-quarter of all courses taken in 1997. Employers organized one in every five courses and close to one-third of job-related courses. Commercial schools provided 20% of courses taken for job-related reasons as well as 20% of those taken for personal interest.

Percentage distribution of adult education and training activities, by supplier and type of activity, 1997



Employers also make an important contribution to financing training opportunities. In 1997, employers subsidized formal learning for 26% of their employees. These employees accounted for 56% of all Canadian participants in adult education and training activities.

Employer involvement varied by industry and size of firm. In 1997, workers in finance, utilities and public administration were more likely to receive employer-sponsored education than were workers in other sectors. For instance, the participation rates in employer-sponsored training varied from a low of 10% in agriculture to a high of 44% in utilities.

Similarly, people working in large firms were twice as likely to get support from their employer as those in small firms.

Employers were generally more inclined to sponsor white-collar workers than other workers. The odds of receiving employer-sponsored education were almost three times higher for professionals and managers than for blue-collar workers.

While a similar proportion of men and women were supported by their employer, women received less support for their education and consequently had to rely more on self-financing than did men.

Workers receiving support from their employer participated an average of 114 hours in 1997, a significant increase from 76 hours in 1991.

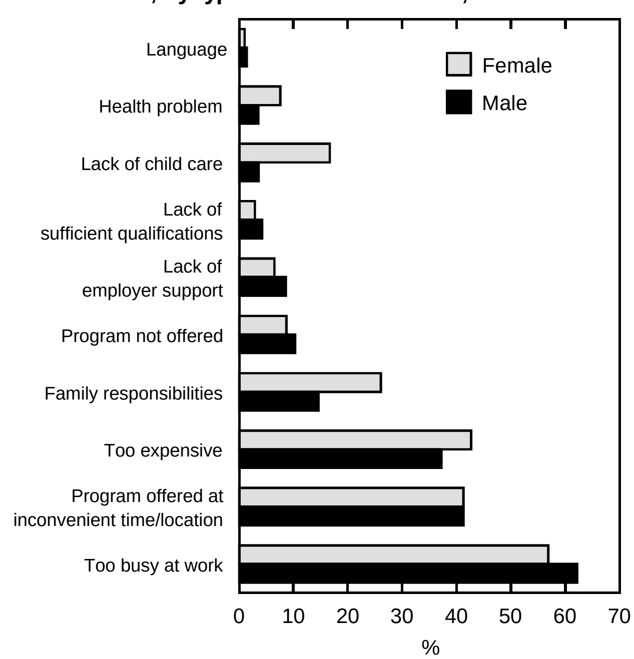
Biggest barrier was lack of time

As in previous surveys, the biggest barrier to taking some form of adult education was a lack of time. Six out of every 10 adults who wanted to take a course or training, but did not, reported that their work schedule was too busy.

Cost or lack of financial resources as well as the inappropriate time or location of program offerings were reported as a major barrier by 40% of those who wanted to take a course but did not.

Twenty-six percent of women reported family responsibilities as a barrier, compared with 15% of men. Child care responsibilities were a barrier to adult education for 17% of women and 4% of men.

Percentage of adults with unsatisfied training needs, by type of barriers and sex, 1997



Eighty-seven percent of those who did not participate in adult education said they did not perceive that they required any further training.

A report on adult education and training in Canada: Learning a living (81-586-XIE, free) is now available on Statistics Canada's Web site (*www.statcan.ca*) and Human Resources Development Canada's Web site (*www.hrdc-drhc.gc.ca/arb*). On Statistics Canada's site, from the *Our products and services* page, choose *Free publications*. Copies will also be available at the end of May from the HRDC Inquiry Centre, Hull, Quebec, K1A 0J9, or by fax at 819-953-7260.

For more information on this release, contact Robert Couillard (613-951-1519; fax: 613-951-9040; *robert.couillard@statcan.ca*), Centre for Education Statistics, Statistics Canada, or Ghyslain Charron (819-994-5559; *info@hrdc-drhc.gc.ca*) Human Resources Development Canada.

To enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release or other education statistics, contact Client Services, (1-800-307-3382; 613-951-7608; fax: 613-951-9040; *educationstats@statcan.ca*), Centre for Education Statistics. ■

OTHER RELEASES

Non-residential building construction price indexes

First quarter 2001

The composite price index for non-residential building construction (1992=100) was 123.6 in the first quarter, up 0.1% from the fourth quarter of 2000 and up 5.7% from the first quarter of 2000.

The index for Edmonton rose 0.3% from the fourth quarter of 2000, followed by Calgary (+0.2%) and Ottawa and Toronto (both +0.1%). Vancouver showed no change; Halifax and Montréal both dropped 0.4%.

Compared with the first quarter of 2000, Toronto had the highest change, +8.7%. Ottawa gained 7.1%, followed by Calgary (+4.8%), Edmonton (+4.5%), Montréal (+2.3%), Vancouver (+1.8%) and Halifax (+1.1%).

Non-residential building construction price index
(1992=100)

	First quarter 2001	First quarter 2000 to first quarter 2001	Fourth quarter 2000 to first quarter 2001
		% change	
Composite Index	**123.6**	**5.7**	**0.1**
Halifax	109.1	1.1	-0.4
Montréal	118.1	2.3	-0.4
Ottawa	123.9	7.1	0.1
Toronto	128.9	8.7	0.1
Calgary	123.3	4.8	0.2
Edmonton	122.0	4.5	0.3
Vancouver	119.3	1.8	0.0

Note: Non-residential building construction price indexes provide an indication of changes in construction costs in seven major urban areas (Halifax, Montréal, Ottawa, Toronto, Calgary, Edmonton and Vancouver). Three construction categories — industrial, commercial and institutional buildings — are represented by selected models (a light factory building, an office building, a warehouse, a shopping centre and a school).

Besides the major urban areas and composite indexes, a further breakdown of the changes in costs is available by trade group — structural, architectural, mechanical and electrical — within the building types. These price indexes are derived from surveys of general and special trade group contractors. They report data on various categories of costs (material, labour, equipment, taxes, overhead and profit) relevant to the detailed construction specifications included in the surveys.

Available on CANSIM: tables 3270001 and 3270002 and matrices 9930 and 9931.

With the release of CANSIM II, users can now obtain the same data as in CANSIM, but in a table format that is easier to use and more clearly presented.

The first quarter 2001 issue of *Construction price statistics* (62-007-XPB, $24/$79) will be available in June. See *How to order products*.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Susie Boyd (613 951-9606; fax: 613 951-1539; *infounit@statcan.ca*), Prices Division. ■

Steel primary forms

Week ending May 5, 2001 (preliminary)

Steel primary forms production for the week ending May 5 totalled 275 336 metric tonnes, up 3.4% from 266 355 tonnes a week earlier and down 7.2% from 296 843 tonnes in the same week of 2000. The year-to-date total at the end of the reference week was 4 987 282 tonnes, down 12.7% from 5 715 109 tonnes produced in the same period of 2000.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Julie Mayer (613-951-5370; *julie.mayer@statcan.ca*), Manufacturing, Construction and Energy Division. ■

Steel pipe and tubing

March 2001

Steel pipe and tubing production in March totalled 245 811 metric tonnes, a 7.5% decrease from 265 779 tonnes in March 2000.

Year-to-date production to the end of March totalled 680 498 tonnes, down 8.1% from 740 831 tonnes in the same period of 2000.

Available on CANSIM: table 3030003 and matrix 35.

With the release of CANSIM II, users can now obtain the same data as in CANSIM, but in a table format that is easier to use and more clearly presented.

The March 2001 issue of *Production and shipments of steel pipe and tubing* (41-011-XIB, $5/$47) is now available. See *How to order products*.

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

Greg Milsom (613-951-7093; *milsomg@statcan.ca*), Manufacturing, Construction and Energy Division. ■

Telecommunications statistics

Fourth quarter 2000

Operating revenues for the telecommunications industry were $8.10 billion in the fourth quarter, up 7.9% from the fourth quarter of 1999. Operating profit totalled $1.11 billion (13.7% of operating revenues) in the fourth quarter. The industry's annual operating revenues amounted to $31.06 billion in 2000, an 8.5% increase from 1999, leading to total operating profits of $4.96 billion — 16.0% of annual operating revenues and a 5.0% increase over 1999.

Capital expenditures for the wireline and wireless industries were $1.35 billion and $553 million, respectively, representing 21.5% and 36.1% of wireline and wireless operating revenues, respectively. Per-capita wireline investment was $43.62 in the fourth quarter, while wireless capital expenditures amounted to $63.19 for each mobile subscriber. Total capital spending increased in every successive quarter of 2000, totalling over $6 billion for the year, a 3.8% drop from the record spending reported in 1999.

There were 80,228 full-time employees in the fourth quarter, up 1.1% from the third quarter, and up 3.4% from the fourth quarter of 1999.

Just over 29.5 million voice-grade access paths were connected to the public-switched telephone network in the fourth quarter, comprising 20.8 million public access lines and 8.8 million mobile telephone subscribers. Most of the recent growth in access has come from wireless or mobile services, which grew 26.7% in the fourth quarter compared with the fourth quarter of 1999.

The fourth quarter issue of *Quarterly telecommunications statistics* (56-002-XIE, $21/$40) is now available. See *How to order products*.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Heidi Ertl (613-951-1891) or Jo Anne Lambert (613-951-6673), Science, Innovation and Electronic Information Division. ■

Foreign control in the Canadian economy

1998

Foreign control in the Canadian economy accelerated moderately in 1998, continuing a growth trend that prevailed throughout the 1990s.

Foreign firms controlled 22.7% of assets in Canada in 1998, up a full percentage point from 21.7% in 1999. Foreign ownership of enterprises operating in Canada grew modestly over the five preceding years; it was 20.5% in 1994.

Similarly, foreign firms accounted for 31.7% of all corporate operating revenues, up from 30.4% in 1997, and 29.4% in 1994.

Almost all the increase in foreign control of assets has occurred in the non-financial sector. Foreign firms controlled 26.9% of assets among non-financial industries in 1998, compared with 18.4% in the financial sector. Government regulation is the main reason for continued high level of control by Canadian corporations in the finance and insurance sector.

Of those foreign-controlled assets in the non-financial sector, U.S.-based corporations controlled 69%, and an additional European Union-based firms controlled 18%. Foreign control of assets was greater than 50% in only two industries — chemical, chemical products and textiles, and transportation — both in the non-financial sector. Assets in the remaining industries, including the financial sector, were dominated by Canadian corporations.

In 1998, all of the non-financial industries except chemicals, chemical products and textiles, showed an increase in their level of foreign control of assets due to mergers and acquisitions. Just over 25% of the overall increase was due to assets moving from Canadian to foreign control. The majority of the increase was attributed to expansion or strong performance of existing foreign controlled firms already in Canada.

The largest 25 global enterprises, including Canadian- and foreign-controlled enterprises, possessed 41.2% of all industry assets in 1998. Canadian-controlled firms comprised 36.3% of the assets and foreign-controlled the remaining 4.9%.

Canadian-controlled firms dominated the financial sector. The largest 25 global enterprises in the financial sector, including Canadian- and foreign-controlled enterprises, possessed 71.2% of that sector's total assets in 1998. Canadian-controlled enterprises comprised 68.6% and foreign-controlled enterprises 2.6%.

In the non-financial sector, the largest Canadian-controlled enterprises were not as dominant. The largest 25 global enterprises in the non-financial sector possessed 25.1% of that sector's total assets in 1998, with control more evenly split. Foreign-controlled enterprises comprised 13.6% of the assets and Canadian-controlled, 11.5%.

Available on CANSIM: table 1790001 and matrices 3275-3296.

With the release of CANSIM II, users can now obtain the same data as in CANSIM, but in a table format that is easier to use and more clearly presented.

The report *Corporations returns act, 1998 — Foreign control in the Canadian economy* (61-220-XPB, $40) will be available soon. See *How to order products*.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Stewart Taylor (613-951-6564), Industrial Organization and Finance Division. ■

NEW PRODUCTS

Production and shipments of steel pipe and tubing, March 2001
Catalogue number 41-011-XIB ($5/$47).

Quarterly telecommunications statistics, Fourth quarter, 2000
Catalogue number 56-002-XIE ($21/$40).

Canada's international transactions in securities, February 2001
Catalogue number 67-002-XIB ($14/$132).

Canada's international transactions in securities, February 2001
Catalogue number 67-002-XPB ($18/$176).

Labour force information, week ending April 21, 2001
Catalogue number 71-001-PIB ($8/$78).
Available at 7 am Friday, May 11

Labour force information, week ending April 21, 2001
Catalogue number 71-001-PPB ($11/$103).
Available at 7 am Friday, May 11

Learning a living: A report on adult education and training in Canada, 1998
Catalogue number 81-586-XIE
(Free).

All prices are in Canadian dollars and exclude sales tax. Additional shipping charges apply for delivery outside Canada.

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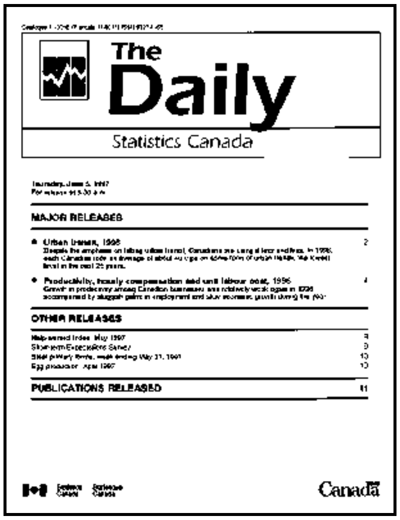
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