

The Daily

Statistics Canada

Friday, June 22, 2001
For release at 8:30 a.m.

MAJOR RELEASES

- **Impact of smoking on life expectancy and disability** 3
Smokers spend a larger proportion of their lives coping with functional disabilities than do non-smokers, and they are far more likely to die prematurely, according to a study on the relationship between smoking and disability-free life expectancy.

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- Steel wire and specified wire products, April 2001 5

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Perspectives on labour and income

June 2001 online edition

The June 2001 issue of *Perspectives on labour and income*, available today, features an article on low income intensity, an indicator that combines the low income rate and the low income gap to produce a more complete measure of low income. In this article, the measure is used to compare urban and rural families in Canada in 1993 and 1997.

For more information on "Low income intensity: urban and rural families," contact Andrew Heisz (613-951-3748; andrew.heisz@statcan.ca), Business and Labour Market Analysis Division.

The June 2001 online edition of *Perspectives on labour and income* Volume 2, number 6 (75-001-XIE, \$5/\$48) is now available. See *How to order products*. For more information, contact Henry Pold, (613-951-4608; henry.pold@statcan.ca), Labour and Household Surveys Analysis Division.

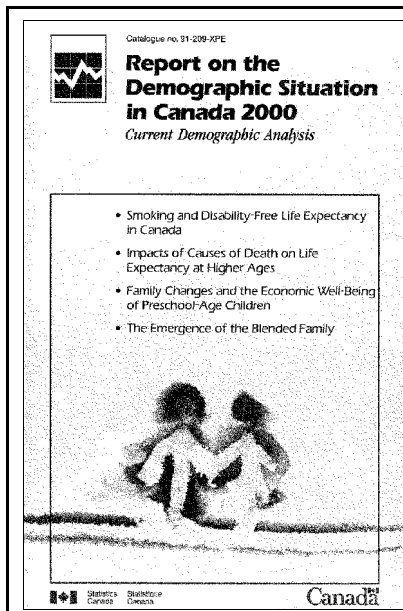


NEW PRODUCTS

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RELEASE DATES: June 25 to 29

8



Report on the demographic situation in Canada 2000

This report, available today, is a valuable tool for researchers, academics and students seeking information on demographic trends in Canada. The first part comprehensively reviews the Canadian demographic situation, describing recent trends in population growth, fertility, and migration.

The second part consists of four studies. The first is an analysis of the impact of smoking on disability-free life expectancy. The second looks at the impact of causes of death on changes in life expectancy at higher ages since 1951. Two others analyse emerging issues in family demography: the links between demographic changes and the economic well-being of families with preschool-age children, and the birth of children into blended families.

The 2000 issue of the *Report on the demographic situation in Canada* (91-209-XPE, \$31) is now available. See *How to order products*. For more information, contact Alain Bélanger (613-951-2326), Demography Division.

MAJOR RELEASES

Impact of smoking on life expectancy and disability

Smokers spend a larger proportion of their lives coping with functional disabilities than do non-smokers, and they are far more likely to die prematurely, according to a study on the relationship between smoking and disability-free life expectancy.

The study, which analyzes data from the National Population Health Survey, found that smoking not only reduces the number of years that a person may hope to live, it also has a negative impact on their quality of life. Smoking has been associated with a variety of chronic conditions ranging from bronchitis to asthma to high blood pressure.

Of every 100 non-smoking men aged 45 in 1995, about 90 will survive to the age of 65, and 55 will still be living at the age of 80.

However, of every 100 male smokers aged 45, 80 will survive to the age of 65, and fewer than 30 will still be living at the age of 80.

Among women, the percentage of survivors is higher for both smokers and non-smokers. However, the consequences of tobacco use are just as evident. Among women who were aged 45 in 1995, about 70% of non-smokers will survive to the age of 80, compared with only about 40% of those who smoked.

Data also show that non-smokers are expected to live a higher proportion of their life without any disability. Among both men and women, two-thirds of non-smokers will survive without any disability to the age of 65, compared with less than half of smokers. In addition, 25% of male non-smokers and 30% of female non-smokers who live to the age of 80 will have no disability, compared with less than 10% for both men and women who smoke.

Significant differences in life expectancy between smokers and non-smokers

Men who were aged 45 in 1995 could expect to live another 32.9 years, while women of that age could expect to live for another 37.7 years. However, there are major differences in life expectancy between smokers and non-smokers.

A male smoker aged 45 in 1995 could expect to live only another 28.1 years, or seven years less than a male non-smoker, who could expect to live another 35.5 years. A female smoker aged 45 in 1995 could expect to live another 30.5 years, or more than 10 years less than a female non-smoker, who could expect to live another 40.8 years.

Note to readers

This release is based on one of five studies in the annual publication Report on the demographic situation in Canada, available today.

The data for the article on the impact of smoking came from the longitudinal component of the National Population Health Survey, conducted by Statistics Canada since 1994. The survey gathers detailed information on the state of physical and mental health, functional capabilities, use of and access to health care, chronic health problems and life habits and behaviour related to health. The information is reported by the respondents themselves during a telephone interview.

The sample used in this study is representative of the Canadian population aged 45 and older living in private households and in health care establishments in 1994.

*In this study, smokers and non-smokers are defined as follows: a **smoker** is a respondent who reports either that he or she smoked daily, smoked occasionally but was a former daily smoker, or a formerly smoked daily but had stopped within the past five years. A **non-smoker** is a respondent who never smoked, who smokes only occasionally, or who smoked daily but stopped more than five years ago.*

Even at age 65, differences in life expectancy between smokers and non-smokers remain important. Almost six years of life expectancy separate men who smoke from those who do not, and the gap is 8.5 years among women. Tobacco use, therefore, has a major impact on life expectancy, eliminating close to one-quarter of the remaining years that a woman aged 45 could expect to live.

Several factors could explain these differences in mortality based on smoking. Smokers suffer more often than others from several diseases at the same time. Non-smokers often adopt certain healthy lifestyle behaviours, such as regular physical activity, moderate alcohol consumption and better eating habits.

Disability-free life expectancy

This study also calculated disability-free life expectancy at various ages. Analysis shows that the negative impact of tobacco use is not limited to mortality. Tobacco use also has a negative impact on an individual's quality of life.

For example, a male smoker who was aged 45 in 1995 could expect to live another 18 years without some form of related disability. However, a male non-smoker could expect to live another 25 years, or seven years longer, without disability. Among women, non-smokers could live eight more years without disability than smokers.

In short, 95% of the additional years that a male non-smoker can expect to live over a smoker will be

spent without disability. Not only will a smoker, on average, die younger than a non-smoker, as other studies have already shown, but the smoker will also be more likely to be limited or dependent in his or her activities of daily living at a younger age than a non-smoker.

Non-smokers can expect not only to live longer than smokers, and to live longer without disability, but also to spend a smaller percentage of their life with a disability. The lower incidence of disability among the non-smoking population, combined with their increased chance of regaining their independence, means that they will spend a larger proportion of their total life expectancy without disability. This finding is especially remarkable given that the risk of acquiring a disability increases with age and non-smokers enjoy a longer life than smokers.

Blended families: A step further in family life

A second article in this report traces the emergence of the "blended family," and explores the features of stepfamilies that make them most likely to become blended families. Blended family is the term used here to describe stepfamilies with a common child.

According to this article, which used data from the General Social Survey and the National Longitudinal Survey of Children and Youth, more and more children are having to adjust to the presence of a stepparent.

The article found that one or both parents of almost one-half of the children of separated couples had entered new unions two to three years after the separation. Furthermore, although almost one-half of all stepfamilies become blended families, little is known about these children and the stability of their families.

The lower the age of the mother and of the youngest child in the stepfamily, the more likely a birth is to occur to the new union. The number of children already present has a negligible effect on the decision to have another child in a stepfamily.

Finally, the children of blended families were more at risk of family breakdown than were children of intact families.

This report contains three other studies. One is a comprehensive review of the Canadian demographic situation and a description of recent trends in population growth, fertility and migration. Another examines the impact of leading causes of death on changes in life expectancy in people aged 60 and over. The third analyses the links between demographic changes and the economic well-being of families with preschool-age children.

The 2000 edition of *Report on the demographic situation in Canada* (91-209-XPE, \$31) is available today. See *How to order products*.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Alain Bélanger (613-951-2326; fax: 613-951-2952; belaal@statcan.ca), Demography Division. ■

OTHER RELEASES

Low income intensity: Urban and rural families

1993 and 1997

This article in the June 2001 online edition of *Perspectives on labour and income* examines low income intensity among urban and rural families in 1993 and 1997.

Low income intensity is a relatively new concept, which incorporates the better-known measures of low income rate and the average depth of low income. Analysts have long used the low income rate — the proportion of people below a given low-income cutoff — as the principal means of tracking low income trends and assessing the direct effects of changes in employment earnings and transfer payments on these trends.

However, the low income rate is at best a partial indicator of income deprivation. While it says what fraction of the population is below a predetermined cutoff, it does not say how far below they are, which is the low income gap. Low income intensity accounts for both the rate and depth of low income. Combining these two concepts provides a more complete measure of low income.

This paper shows that, despite an economy-wide expansion, low income intensity rose roughly equally for both rural and urban families from 1993 to 1997. However, the percentage growth was higher in rural areas. Low income intensity grew 13.1% in rural areas, 11.9% in small and medium urban areas, and 8.0% in large urban areas.

Associated with the rising low income intensity was little or no increase in market income — despite a generally improving economy — and a decline in total transfer payments, especially Employment Insurance benefits received by low-income families.

Transfers to families appear to have declined by a similar percentage for both urban and rural low-income families. But because rural low-income families receive a greater fraction of income from transfers, the change affected them more than urban families.

The article "Low income intensity: Urban and rural families" is now available in the June 2001 issue of *Perspectives on labour and income*, Vol. 2, no. 6 (75-001-XIE, \$5/\$48). See *How to order products*.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Andrew Heisz (613-951-3748), Business and Labour Market Analysis Division. ■

Steel wire and specified wire products

April 2001

Shipments of steel wire and specified wire products totalled 60 209 metric tonnes in April, down 12.5% from 68 809 tonnes in April 2000. Production and export market data for selected commodities are also available.

Available on CANSIM: table 3030010 and matrix 122 (series 19).

The April 2001 issue of *Steel wire and specified wire products* (41-006-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 Don Grant (613-951-5998; grantdo@statcan.ca), Manufacturing, Construction and Energy Division. ■

NEW PRODUCTS

Infomat — A weekly review, June 22, 2001
Catalogue number 11-002-XIE (\$3/\$109).

Infomat — A weekly review, June 22, 2001
Catalogue number 11-002-XPE (\$4/\$145).

Steel wire and specified wire products, April 2001
Catalogue number 41-006-XIB (\$5/\$47).

Natural gas transportation and distribution,
February 2001
Catalogue number 55-002-XIB (\$13/\$125).

Energy statistics handbook, May 2001
Catalogue number 57-601-XDE (\$284).

Energy statistics handbook, May 2001
Catalogue number 57-601-UPB (\$387).

Quarterly financial statistics for enterprises, First
quarter 2001
Catalogue number 61-008-XIE (\$26/\$86).

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

Perspectives on labour and income, June 2001,
Vol. 2, no. 6
Catalogue number 75-001-XIE (\$5/\$48).

**Report on the demographic situation in
Canada, 2000**
Catalogue number 91-209-XPE (\$31).

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Statistics Canada

Thursday, June 21, 2001
For release at 8:30 a.m.



MAJOR RELEASES

- **Urban transit, 1995** 2
Despite the emphasis on taking urban transit, Canadians are taking it less and less. In 1996, about 1.5 billion trips were taken 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 relatively weak again in 1996 accompanied by sluggish gains in employment and slow economic growth during the year.

OTHER RELEASES

- **Help-wanted index, May 1997** 3
- **Short-term Expectations Survey** 8
- **Steel primary forms, season ending May 31, 1997** 12
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Statistics Canada's official release bulletin

Catalogue 11-001E.

Published each working day by the Communications Division, Statistics Canada, 10-H, R.H. Coats Bldg., Tunney's Pasture, Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0T6.

To access *The Daily* on the Internet, visit our site at <http://www.statcan.ca>. To receive *The Daily* each morning by E-mail, send an E-mail message to listproc@statcan.ca. Leave the subject line blank. In the body of the message, type "subscribe daily firstname lastname".

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The Daily, June 22, 2001

RELEASE DATES: JUNE 25 TO 29

(Release dates are subject to change.)

Release date	Title	Reference period
25	Labour productivity, hourly compensation and unit labour cost	First quarter 2001
26	Canada's international transactions in securities	April 2001
26	Adult correctional services in Canada	1999/2000
27	Employment, earnings and hours	April 2001
27	National tourism indicators	First quarter 2001
28	Industrial product and raw materials price indexes	May 2001
28	Family violence in Canada: A statistical profile	2001
29	Real gross domestic product at factor cost by industry	April 2001
29	Field crop reporting series, principal field crop areas	2001
