

Statistics Canada

Thursday, July 12, 2001

Released at 8:30 a.m. Eastern time

MAJOR RELEASES

There are no major releases today.

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OTHER RELEASES

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Mental health statistics

1998/99

The rate at which patients were discharged for mental disorders from general and psychiatric hospitals in 1998/99 continued a decline begun in the mid-1970s.

The rate, a measure of hospital use, was 639 discharges for every 100,000 population, down 6% from 1997/98 and 10% from 1993/94. This rate was well below the 25-year high of 894 discharges per 100,000, set in 1973.

1009/00

Hospital discharges related to mental disorders

	1998/99		1997/98 to 1998/99
Canada	Number 193,869	Rate ¹	% change in rate ²
Newfoundland Prince Edward Island Nova Scotia New Brunswick Quebec Ontario Manitoba Saskatchewan Alberta British Columbia Yukon Northwest Territories	4,026 1,585 6,069 6,107 44,529 70,087 7,634 6,134 18,472 28,379 226 621	740.1 1,156.0 647.5 810.1 607.3 613.4 670.4 597.7 631.9 708.4 723.3 919.3	1.4 1.4 -14.7 -4.4 -6.7 -5.4 -3.9 -21.5 -2.6 -2.4 1.5

- ¹ Rates are based on the number of discharges per 100,000 population.
- The 1997/98 data includes recently corrected counts for Manitoba.

This downward trend is largely due to the increasing emphasis on treating mental disorders in hospital outpatient and community clinics, and the transfer of long-term care patients to residential care facilities.

Most provinces followed the national trend, except Newfoundland, Prince Edward Island and Yukon, which reported slightly higher rates of discharge.

Patients spent 8.7 million days in hospital in 1998/99 for treatment of mental disorders, down from 10.6 million days in 1997/98. This decline was most significant for psychiatric hospitals, which registered a decrease of 1.6 million days. All provinces and territories except Prince Edward Island, British Columbia and the Northwest Territories reported declines.

Differences in the rates of discharge and days of stay among the provinces and territories may be attributable to the degree of availability and use of alternative types of care, such as outpatient clinics, community services, and residential care facilities.

Differences in rates between years may be attributable to changes in health care policies, such as the introduction of community-based treatment programs to replace hospitalization.

Hospitals reported 193,869 discharges related to mental disorders in 1998/99. General hospitals accounted for 87%, and psychiatric hospitals the remainder. Psychiatric hospitals reported an average length of stay of 197 days for a mental disorder, significantly higher than the average of 22 days in general hospitals. Psychiatric hospitals tend to treat patients with more serious disorders that require longer stays.

In 1998/99, mental disorders accounted for 14% of total days of care in general hospitals. The average length of stay in general hospitals for all causes of hospitalization, such as cancer, diabetes, heart disease, and injuries, was 8.6 days.

These statistics are based on counts of hospital discharges, which are counts of events, not patients. For example, a patient admitted and discharged three times during the reporting year would be counted as three discharges.

The Canadian Institute for Health Information (CIHI) has been responsible for the collection of mental health data since the fiscal year 1994/95. For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Karen McCarthy (613-241-7860, ext 4026: fax: 613-241-8120), CIHI. For historical information prior to 1994/95, contact the Client Custom Services Unit (613-951-1746), Health Statistics Division, Statistics Canada.

Steel primary forms

Week ending June 30, 2001 (preliminary)

Steel primary forms production for the week ending June 30 totalled 300 621 metric tonnes, up 1.5% from 296 258 tonnes a week earlier and down 7.4% from 324 623 tonnes in the same week of 2000. The year-to-date total at the end of the reference week was 7 440 828 tonnes, down 12.9% from the 8 540 081 tonnes produced during the same period in 2000.

For general information or to order data, contact the Dissemination Officer (1-866-873-8789; 613-951-9497; manufact@statcan.ca). 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.

Residential Care Facilities Survey

1998/99 (preliminary)

Data from the Residential Care Facilities Survey for the fiscal year 1998/99 are now available from Health Statistics Division.

Residential Care Facilities Survey data for fiscal years 1998/99 and 1999/2000 will be released in August.

For custom tabulations, contact Client Custom Services (613-951-1746; fax: 613-951-0792; hd-ds@statcan.ca). For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Richard Trudeau (613-951-8782; fax: 613-951-6078) or Mike Gagnon (613-951-8570; fax: 613-951-6078), Health Statistics Division.

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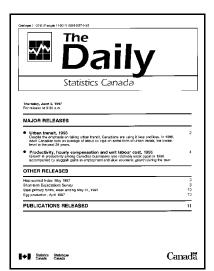
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