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MAJOR RELEASES

OTHER RELEASES

(continued on page 2)

INDEX: November 2002

MAJOR RELEASES

Television viewing
Fall 2001

Viewing of pay-TV and specialty television stations continues to grow year after year. In the fall of 2001, Canadians spent 22% of their viewing time watching Canadian pay-TV and specialty stations and 10% watching American pay-TV and specialty stations, compared with only 6% and 3%, respectively, in 1992.

This growth took place at the expense of Canadian and American conventional television stations, which saw their viewership decline from 65% in 1992 to 50% in 2001 (for Canadian stations) and from 19% in 1992 to 11% in 2001 (for American stations).

However, the new digital services do not appear to be benefiting from the growth of specialty and pay-TV services. Even though the Canadian Radio-television Telecommunications Commission has awarded a large number of licences to operate the new digital specialty and pay-TV services, and despite a free trial period, Canadians spent only 1.5% of their viewing time watching the new digital stations in the fall of 2001.

This slow start for digital television (DTV) is due in part to its newness, the fact that it is broadcast simultaneously with analog and also the fact that viewers must purchase new digital television sets or at least decoders to convert the signals.

At the provincial level, DTV stations are the most popular in Ontario. In the fall of 2001, there were no digital specialty or pay-TV stations in French.

The growth of pay-TV and specialty services is largely due to increased access to cable and satellite transmission. The penetration rate for satellite (this includes only subscribers to legal satellite television) has grown substantially in the past five years. In the fall of 2001, 15% of Canadian households reported that they were subscribers to satellite television, compared with only 3% in 1997. By province, the rate varied from 12% in Quebec and British Columbia to 33% in Saskatchewan.

In the same period, the cable penetration rate declined, going from 77% in 1997 to 71% in 2001. The rate was highest in British Columbia (80%); at the other extreme, it was only 51% in Saskatchewan. The decrease in the cable penetration rate is confirmed by the Cable Television Survey, which reported a 1.4% drop in cable subscribers from 2000 to 2001.

Note to readers

The Culture Statistics Program's Television Project is a joint undertaking of the Canadian Radio-television and Telecommunications Commission (CRTC), The Department of Canadian Heritage and Statistics Canada.

Statistics Canada's databank on television viewing consists of files from a number of sources. Basic viewing data are acquired from BBM Bureau of Measurement. They include the demographics of survey respondents and the schedules of most television stations whose signal is picked up in Canada.

The CRTC codes the characteristics of each program: content (news, public affairs, drama, religious programming, etc.), language, country of origin, and percentage of Canadian content. The final databank, which is retained by Statistics Canada, also indicates the network affiliation and geographic location of each television station.

Basic survey data have been collected by BBM from a sample of Canadians aged two and over. Data were collected using a diary-type questionnaire over four weeks during October and November 2001.

Another organization, Nielsen Media Research, also produces data on television viewing. This firm uses electronic meters to collect data on a year-round basis. The results of this alternate methodology may produce averages that vary from the basic results produced by BBM.

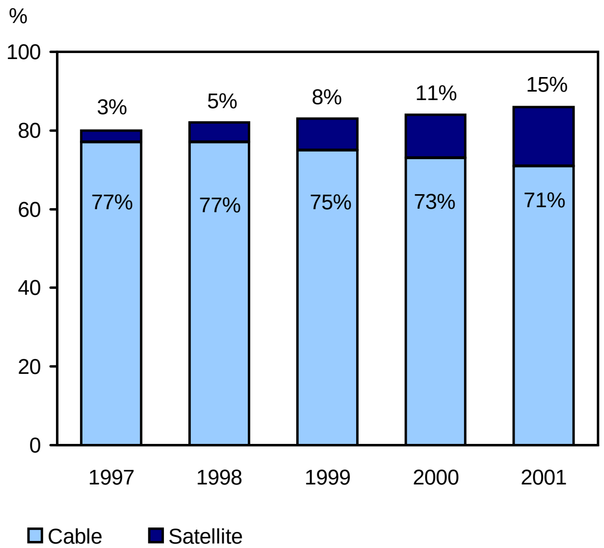
*A **conventional station** is any station that can be viewed on a normal television set with only a simple antenna, at least in the station's home market, and for which the viewer is not required to pay any fee either directly or as part of a payment to cable distribution system.*

***Pay television and specialty services** are not normally available to viewers with only an antenna and are usually distributed via satellite either directly to the viewer or via a cable system which in turn distributes the signal to its subscribers. A separate fee must be paid to receive these services either directly or indirectly through the cable system. For pay television services, these subscription fees are their sole source of direct revenue. Specialty services also receive revenues from the sale of advertising time.*

***Digital television (DTV)** is the new broadcasting mode that will eventually replace the existing analog broadcasting system. Since the transition to DTV will take several years, broadcasters may offer their services in both analog and digital mode until the transition is completed. This new broadcasting mode provides high definition images and better sound.*

Canadian pay-TV and specialty television had almost the same proportion of viewers in the two linguistic groups. However, francophones devoted 73% of their viewing time to Canadian conventional television stations and only 4% to foreign stations (conventional as well as pay-TV and specialty); for anglophones, the corresponding proportions were 43% and 28%, respectively.

The penetration rate for satellite has grown substantially during the past five years



Slight increase in Canadian content in the past ten years

Dramas and comedies combined had the largest viewership, with nearly 39% of total viewing, followed by news and public affairs programs (26%) and variety and games programs (11%).

Overall, Canadian programming accounted for 39% of Canadians' viewing time, up slightly from 36% in the early 1990s. The increase in viewing time for Canadian programs was observed in both linguistic groups.

Francophones watched a higher percentage of Canadian programs. These accounted for 69% of their total viewing time, compared with 63% ten years ago. Among anglophones, not only was the viewing time for Canadian programs only 29%, but the increase was smaller in relation to the 27% registered in 1992.

There are also differences in the types of programs viewed. Francophones spent 35% of their viewing time watching news and public affairs programs, a remarkable increase from the 20% observed at the start of the last decade. Among anglophones, the corresponding proportion was 22%; little changed over the past ten years. Within this category, Canadian programs were the most popular for both francophones and anglophones.

The strong increase in francophones' viewing of news and public affairs programs was at the expense of variety and games programs, which saw their audience share fall from 21% to 11% over the same period.

Distribution of television viewing time, by origin and type of program and origin of station, francophones 2 years and older
Fall 2001

	All television stations		
	Canadian programs	Foreign programs	Total
Type of program		%	
News and public affairs	33.7	1.7	35.4
Documentary	3.1	0.9	4.0
Instruction			
Academic	1.9	0.3	2.2
Social or recreational	0.9	0.3	1.2
Religion	0.3	-	0.3
Sports	3.6	1.2	4.9
Variety and games	8.2	2.5	10.7
Music and dance	0.7	0.3	1.0
Comedy	4.8	5.2	9.9
Drama	11.3	15.0	26.3
Other/unknown			
VCR	-	2.8	2.8
Other	-	1.3	1.3
Total	**68.5**	**31.5**	**100.0**

\- *Nil or zero.*
Note: *Figures may not add to totals because of rounding.*

Distribution of television viewing time, by origin and type of program and origin of station, anglophones 2 years and older
Fall 2001

	All television stations		
	Canadian programs	Foreign programs	Total
Type of program		%	
News and public affairs	14.6	7.7	22.3
Documentary	1.2	2.7	3.8
Instruction			
Academic	1.2	1.4	2.6
Social or recreational	0.4	0.8	1.2
Religion	0.2	0.2	0.4
Sports	5.1	4.8	9.9
Variety and games	1.1	10.4	11.6
Music and dance	0.9	0.5	1.4
Comedy	0.5	11.4	11.9
Drama	3.5	24.5	28.0
Other/unknown			
VCR	-	4.8	4.8
Other	-	2.2	2.2
Total	**28.6**	**71.4**	**100.0**

\- *Nil or zero.*
Note: *Figures may not add to totals because of rounding.*

The most popular foreign programs were comedies and dramas, which accounted for 82% of Canadians' viewing of this type of programming. The dominance of foreign comedies and dramas was most apparent among anglophones, who spent 90% of their viewing time watching this type of program, compared with 56% for francophones.

This difference between the two linguistic groups is clearly reflected at the provincial level. The proportion of viewing of Canadian programs hovered around 30% in all provinces except Quebec, where it reached 66%.

Children and teens spending less time in front of the tube

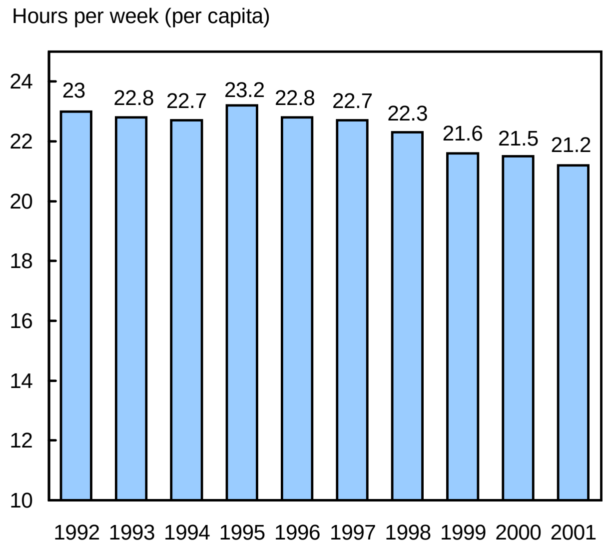
Despite increased access to cable and satellite transmission (combined) in recent years, the average time per week that Canadians spend viewing the small screen (21.1 hours in the fall of 2001) has remained stable in the past three years. However, while the national average remained stable during that period, viewing time decreased by more than two hours among teens and by more than one hour among children.

At the provincial level, New Brunswickers spent the most time watching television (24.1 hours per week), and Albertans spent the least (19.4 hours).

Information on methods and data quality available in the Integrated Meta Data Base: survey number 3114.

For general information, or to order special or standard tables, contact Client Services (1-800-307-3382; *cult.tourstats@statcan.ca*). To enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Lotfi Chahdi (613-951-3136, fax: 613-951-1333; *lotfi.chahdi@statcan.ca*), Culture, Tourism and the Centre for Education Statistics.

Average listening time has remained stable in the past three years



Average hours per week of television viewing, by province, and age/sex groups
Fall 2001

	Canada	Nfld.Lab.	P.E.I.	N.S.	N.B.	Que. English	Que. French	Que. Total	Ont.	Man.	Sask.	Alta.	B.C.
Total population	**21.2**	**22.6**	**19.6**	**23.6**	**24.1**	**20.3**	**23.9**	**23.5**	**20.1**	**20.9**	**20.5**	**19.4**	**20.8**
Men													
18 and up	20.9	21.2	19.3	22.8	24.3	20.1	23.0	22.6	19.8	21.1	20.2	19.4	21.3
18 to 24	12.9	13.3	10.3	13.7	21.4	11.9	12.8	12.9	12.0	10.8	11.4	13.9	13.9
25 to 34	16.6	19.6	15.8	19.0	20.0	15.2	17.2	16.9	15.8	17.3	16.6	16.0	16.9
35 to 49	18.4	18.5	20.0	21.0	20.4	18.1	20.5	20.2	17.1	17.7	18.5	17.6	18.7
50 to 59	23.2	24.7	17.4	23.0	26.7	22.0	25.9	25.3	21.8	23.6	21.6	20.8	23.8
60 and up	32.0	29.1	28.0	33.9	33.5	30.1	36.9	35.0	30.7	33.5	28.6	30.6	31.3
Women													
18 and up	25.3	27.1	22.7	28.1	27.8	23.9	29.2	28.5	23.9	24.9	25.1	23.2	24.0
18 to 24	16.5	22.5	11.7	21.1	17.5	14.1	16.7	16.3	16.1	16.4	16.9	15.5	16.7
25 to 34	20.5	29.0	21.0	24.9	23.1	20.5	22.3	21.9	19.3	20.9	21.1	20.2	19.7
35 to 49	22.4	24.8	23.6	26.3	26.2	20.7	25.3	24.7	21.2	21.5	23.0	21.2	20.6
50 to 59	27.0	28.3	22.0	29.8	30.1	26.0	32.0	31.1	25.0	26.0	24.4	24.4	25.8
60 and up	35.5	30.5	28.5	34.7	34.7	32.2	42.9	41.1	33.5	34.5	33.2	33.3	34.1
Teens													
12 to 17	13.1	15.8	12.4	14.1	14.1	12.3	14.9	14.5	12.8	12.8	12.5	13.3	10.9
Children													
2 to 11	14.2	16.5	16.0	16.9	13.8	13.6	14.9	14.9	13.8	14.4	14.3	12.9	14.7

Note: *For Quebec, the language classification is based on the language spoken at home. The total column includes those respondents who did not reply to this question or who indicated a language other than English or French.*

■

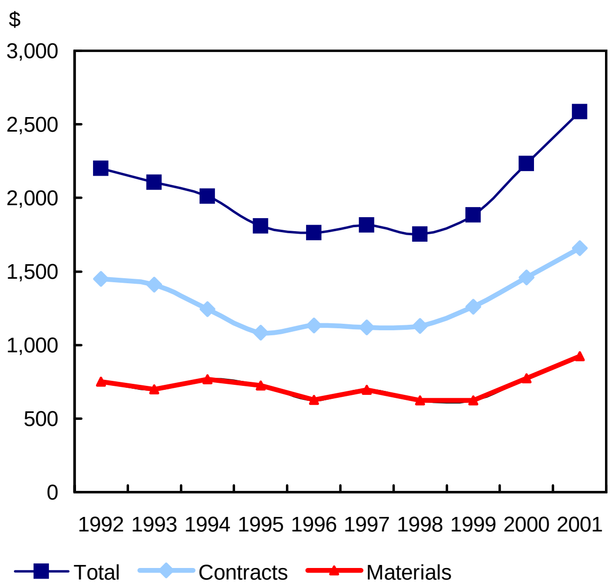
Home repairs and renovations
2001

Homeowners in Canada spent an average of $2,580 repairing or renovating their homes in 2001, a 37% increase from 1999 when the survey was last conducted. This translates into an increase of around 17% per year over the two-year period.

Roughly two-thirds of this amount (64%) was devoted to work contracted out and about one-third (36%) to materials purchased separately by the homeowner.

Figures from previous years used in comparisons have been adjusted to reflect price changes in the construction field.

Average spending (constant dollars)



About 76% of the 7.9 million homeowner households in Canada indicated they had made at least one repair or renovation expenditure in 2001. Among the provinces, this percentage ranged from 72% in British Columbia to 85% in Newfoundland and Labrador.

Painting remained the most common type of repair or renovation work reported, with 45% of owners undertaking some type of interior or exterior paint job. Also commonly reported were repairs to plumbing fixtures, to patios, fences or driveways, and to heating or air conditioning systems.

In total, homeowners spent $20.4 billion on repairs and renovations in 2001. About 28% of the households that reported at least one repair or renovation expenditure spent less than $500, accounting for less than 2% of total repair and renovation spending.

In contrast, 19% of reporting households spent $5,000 or more, accounting for 67% of repair and renovation spending.

Note to readers

The 2001 Homeowner Repair and Renovation Survey (HRRS) collected information in March 2002 from a sample of more than 20,000 homeowners about expenditures made in 2001 on repairs and renovations to their homes. No survey was conducted for 2000 due to operational constraints.

To facilitate historical comparisons, data from previous years have been adjusted to reflect price and wage changes in the construction field. Only summary level expenditures from previous years have been adjusted. Changes in collection methodology for the 2001 HRRS may affect historical comparisons.

Total homeowner spending on repairs and renovations

	Current dollars	Constant dollars[1]
	$ billions	
1992	12.5	14.9
1993	12.6	14.6
1994	12.8	14.3
1995	11.8	13.1
1996	11.8	13.0
1997	12.7	13.6
1998	12.6	13.4
1999	13.6	14.1
2000	..	..
2001	20.4	20.4

[1] *To facilitate historical comparisons, data in this column have been adjusted using indices that reflect price and wage changes in the construction field.*
.. *Figures not available.*

Highest average spending in Ontario and Newfoundland and Labrador

Average spending on repairs and renovations ranged from $1,950 in Saskatchewan to $3,070 in Ontario.

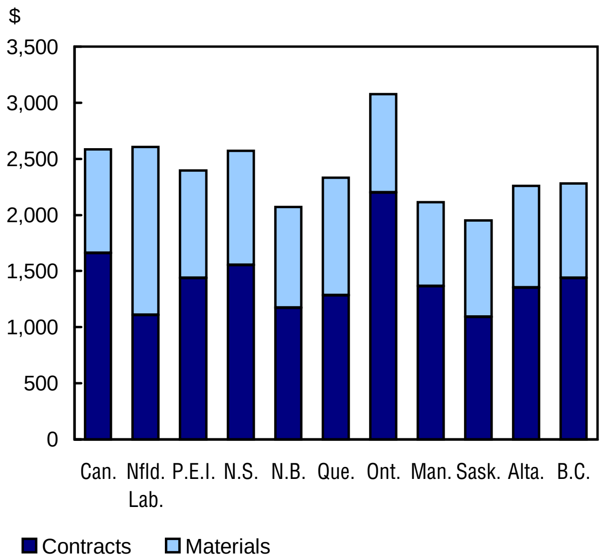
As in previous years, homeowners in Newfoundland and Labrador were more likely to take on their own repairs compared with homeowners in other provinces. On average, they spent over half of their repair and renovation budget on materials.

In contrast, Ontario homeowners were more likely to hire others to carry out their repairs and renovations. They spent about 71% of their repair and renovation budget on contract work.

Overall, rural homeowners spent an average of $2,470 in 2001 on repairs and renovations, and their urban counterparts spent $2,610.

Rural homeowners allotted 45% of their total spending on repairs and renovations to materials purchased separately, compared with 34% for urban homeowners.

Average spending, contracts and materials, by province, 2001



Income is a factor

Lower-income households (those with annual incomes less than $20,000) spent an average of $1,250 on repairs and renovations in 2001. These households represented nearly 9% of all homeowner households in Canada.

In contrast, higher-income households (those with annual incomes $80,000 and over) spent an average $4,690. Higher-income households accounted for 21% of the nation's homeowner households.

About 45% of all lower-income households consisted of individuals living alone, compared with only 5% of households in the higher-income group.

Households with lower incomes spent their repair and renovation budgets differently than those with higher incomes. Lower-income households allocated about 60% to repairs, maintenance and equipment replacement and 40% to additions, renovations and new installations of equipment.

In contrast, these proportions were reversed for households with higher incomes, who spent around 40% on repairs, maintenance and equipment replacement, and 60% on additions, renovations and new installations of equipment. These proportions remain largely unchanged from 1999.

In general, spending on repairs, maintenance and equipment replacement is considered to be part of the cost of shelter, while spending on additions, renovations and new installations of equipment is an investment.

Couples with children spend the most

Of all single-family households, couples with children spent the most on repairs and renovations — $3,230 on average. Almost 60% of this amount was spent on additions, renovations and new installations.

In contrast, individuals living alone, 42% of whom are seniors, spent considerably less on repairs and renovations — about $1,650 on average. Similarly, lone-parent households spent about $2,020 on average. Over half of these groups' repair and renovation budget went to repairs, maintenance and replacement of equipment.

Higher spending to repair and upgrade older dwellings

The older the dwelling, the greater the amount homeowners spent to repair, maintain and replace equipment.

In 2001, owners of homes built before 1946 spent an average of $2,730 on repairs and renovations. Of this total, 55% went to repairs, maintenance and replacement of equipment, and the remainder went to additions, renovations and new installations of equipment.

Owners of homes built after 1990 spent less on average ($2,280). They allocated about one-third of their budget to repairs, maintenance and equipment replacement, and two-thirds to additions, renovations and new installations.

Information on methods and data quality available in the Integrated Meta Data Base: survey number 3886.

Summary data from the 2001 Homeowner Repair and Renovation Survey are available free of charge on Statistics Canada's website (*www.statcan.ca*). The tables are Homeowner expenditures on repairs and renovations, Canada and provinces and Homeowner expenditures on repairs and renovations by period of construction. The publication *Homeowner repair and renovation expenditure*, 2001 (62-201-XIB, $23) 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 Client Services (1-888-297-7355; 613-951-7355; *income@statcan.ca*), Income Statistics Division. ■

OTHER RELEASES

Public Service Employee Survey
2002

Data from the Public Service Employee Suvey are now available.

For more information, contact the survey information line (1 866 337–3360) or Client Services (613 951-7355 or 1 888 297-7355; fax: 613 951-3012; *ssd@statcan.ca*), Special Surveys Division. Information is also available on the Internet (*www.survey-sondage.gc.ca)* or *(http://publiservice.survey-sondage.gc.ca*). ■

Domestic sales of refined petroleum products
October 2002 (preliminary)

Sales of refined petroleum products totalled 8 377 200 cubic metres in October, up 6.4% from October 2001. Sales increased in all of the seven major product groups, with motor gasoline up 96 000 cubic metres or 2.9%. Heavy fuel oil rose 80 000 cubic metres or 14.1% and diesel fuel oil, 78 000 cubic metres or 3.8%

Sales of premium (+5.2%) and regular non-leaded (+2.8%) gasoline advanced from October 2001, but sales of mid-grade fell (-3.1%).

Year-to-date sales of refined petroleum products at the end of October were down 0.3% (-241 900 cubic metres) from the same period of 2001. Sales fell for four of the seven major product groups, with the largest drop in heavy fuel oil (-20.1% or -1 371 300 cubic metres). Year-to-date sales of motor gasoline rose 714 000 cubic metres or 2.2% from the same period in 2001.

Sales of refined petroleum products

	Oct. 2001[r]	Oct. 2002[p]	Oct. 2001 to Oct. 2002
	Thousands of cubic metres		% change
Total, all products	**7 876.2**	**8 377.2**	**6.4**
Motor gasoline	3 326.4	3 422.4	2.9
Diesel fuel oil	2 074.9	2 152.9	3.8
Light fuel oil	344.8	409.9	18.9
Heavy fuel oil	567.4	647.4	14.1
Aviation turbo fuels	427.2	448.6	5.0
Petrochemical feedstocks[1]	229.4	366.4	59.7
All other refined products	906.0	929.4	2.6

	Jan. to Oct. 2001[r]	Jan. to Oct. 2002[p]	Jan.–Oct. 2001 to Jan.–Oct. 2002
Total, all products	**78 562.4**	**78 320.5**	**-0.3**
Motor gasoline	32 399.8	33 113.8	2.2
Diesel fuel oil	19 140.6	18 984.0	-0.8
Light fuel oil	3 890.4	3 802.9	-2.2
Heavy fuel oil	6 818.6	5 447.3	-20.1
Aviation turbo fuels	4 985.6	4 907.0	-1.6
Petrochemical feedstocks[1]	3 467.9	3 849.8	11.0
All other refined products	7 859.5	8 215.7	4.5

r *Revised data.*
p *Preliminary data.*
1 *Materials produced by refineries that are used by the petrochemical industry to produce chemicals, synthetic rubber and a variety of plastics.*

Available on CANSIM: table 134-0004.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact the dissemination officer (1-866-873-8789; 613-951-9497; *energ@statcan.ca*), Manufacturing, Construction and Energy Division. ■

Investment in residential construction
Third quarter 2002

The total value of investments in residential construction reached $15.2 billion in the third quarter, up 23.6% from the $12.3 billion posted in the third quarter of 2001. This was the highest growth rate since the third quarter of 1987 and the first time that the $15 billion bar was surpassed. The very strong demand for new housing explains the significant growth in investment expenditures on residential construction. Renovation and acquisition costs, the other two elements in residential construction investment, also increased.

The sustained strength of the labour market since early 2002, low mortgage rates and the housing shortage in several major centres are some of the factors that contributed to the activity in the new housing market.

The total value of investment in new residential construction was $8.6 billion in the third quarter, up 36.0% from the third quarter of 2001. The strong increase in the number of housing starts for single family homes made this type of housing the one with the strongest growth (+39.7% for a value of $5.8 billion) among the new housing components. Investments in new semi-detached houses (+16.5%), row houses (+19.7%) and apartments (+18.2%) also grew strongly.

Expenditures on renovations on existing homes reached $5.1 billion in the third quarter, 6.5% higher than in the third quarter of 2001. The costs associated with the acquisition of new housing came to $1.4 billion, up 26.3%.

With the exception of New Brunswick, where the level remained the same, all provinces and territories posted increases. The strongest growth was in Ontario, where investment in residential construction increased from $5.4 billion to $6.4 billion. Quebec came in second, with investments increasing from $2.4 billion to $3.2 billion.

For the first three quarters of 2002, investment in residential construction reached $38.7 billion, up 19.5% from the same period of 2001.

Residential construction investment

	Third Quarter 2001	Third Quarter 2002	Third Quarter 2001 to Third Quarter 2002
	$millions		% change
Canada	**12,292.9**	**15,190.2**	**23.6**
Newfoundland and Labrador	179.4	227.0	26.5
Prince Edward Island	52.7	65.2	23.9
Nova Scotia	329.3	376.0	14.2
New Brunswick	267.7	267.2	-0.2
Quebec	2,357.4	3,201.7	35.8
Ontario	5,350.5	6,449.7	20.5
Manitoba	265.4	322.6	21.5
Saskatchewan	230.9	300.1	30.0
Alberta	1,632.7	2,054.0	25.8
British Columbia	1,581.9	1,845.7	16.7
Yukon	19.5	27.5	41.2
Northwest Territories	15.6	34.1	118.2
Nunavut	10.1	19.4	92.8

Note: *Data may not add to totals because of rounding.*

Note: Residential construction investment is divided into three main components. The first is new housing construction, which includes single dwellings, semi-detached dwellings, row housing and apartments, cottages, mobile homes and additional housing units created from non-residential buildings or other types of residential structures (conversions). The second component of residential construction investment, renovations, includes alterations and improvements in existing dwellings. The third component is acquisition costs, which refers to the value of services relating to the sale of new dwellings. These costs include sales tax, land development and service charges, as well as record-processing fees for mortgage insurance and the associated premiums.

Available on CANSIM: table 026-0013.

Information on methods and data quality available in the Integrated Meta Data Base: survey number 2802.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Étienne Saint-Pierre (613-951-2025; *saineti@statcan.ca*), Investment and Capital Stock Division. ■

Divorces

1999 and 2000

More marriages ended in divorce in 2000, the third consecutive year of growth in the number of divorces.

A total of 71,144 couples had a divorce finalized in 2000, up a marginal 0.3% from 1999, and up 3.0% from 1998.

The risk of divorce varies substantially with the duration of marriage. The lowest risk of divorce in 2000 was in the first year of marriage, with less than one divorce for every 1,000 marriages.

The risk of divorce increased dramatically with each additional year of marriage. After the first anniversary, the divorce rate was 5.1 per 1,000 marriages. This increased to 17.0 divorces after the second anniversary, 23.6 divorces after the third, up to the peak of 25.5 after the fourth anniversary.

The risk of divorce decreased slowly for each additional year of marriage after the fourth. The majority (60%) of divorces in 1999 and 2000 were of couples married for less than 15 years.

The proportion of marriages expected to end in divorce by the 30th wedding anniversary increased slightly, to 37.3% in 1999 and to 37.7% in 2000, from the 1998 level of 36.1%. However, the proportion remained below the most recent high of 40% in 1995 and well below the all-time high of 50.6% in 1987. The most recent low was 34.8% in 1997.

The crude divorce rate increased 1.8% in 1999 to 232.5 divorces for every 100,000 people in the population. In 2000, it dropped a marginal 0.6% to 231.2.

Following amendments to the *Divorce Act* in 1985, the number of divorces increased more than 20% in 1986 and 1987. In 1987, an all-time high of 96,200 couples had their divorce finalized. That year, the crude divorce rate also reached a record high, 362.3 divorces per 100,000 people.

Custody of dependents, the vast majority of whom are children aged 18 and under, was granted through proceedings in one out of every three divorces in both 1999 and 2000. In the remaining two out of three divorces, couples arrived at custody arrangements outside the divorce proceedings, or they did not have dependents. The number of dependents in these divorces is not available.

Of the 37,000 dependents for whom custody was determined through divorce proceedings in 2000, the custody of a slim majority (53.5%) was awarded to the wife. This proportion has been in steady decline since 1988, when custody of 75.8% of dependents was awarded to the wife only.

In contrast, custody of 37.2% of dependents was awarded to the husband and wife jointly in 2000, continuing a 14-year trend of steady increases in joint custody arrangements. Under a joint custody arrangement, dependents do not necessarily spend equal amounts of their time with each parent.

Custody was awarded to the husband for only 9.1% of dependents in 2000, down from a high of 15% in 1986.

Information on methods and data quality available in the Integrated Meta Data Base: survey number 3235.

The shelf tables *Divorces, 1999 and 2000* (84F0213XPB, $20) will be available soon. To order this product or custom tabulations, contact Client Custom Services (613-951-1746; *hd-ds@statcan.ca*).

To enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Patricia Tully (613-951-1759; *patricia.tully@statcan.ca*), or Leslie Geran (613-951-5243; *leslie.geran@statcan.ca*), Health Statistics Division.

Divorces

	1998	1999	1998 to 1999	2000	1999 to 2000
	Number		% change	Number	% change
Canada	**69,088**	**70,910**	**2.6**	**71,144**	**0.3**
Newfoundland and Labrador	944	892	-5.5	913	2.4
Prince Edward Island	279	291	4.3	272	-6.5
Nova Scotia	1,933	1,954	1.1	2,054	5.1
New Brunswick	1,473	1,671	13.4	1,717	2.8
Quebec	16,916	17,144	1.3	17,054	-0.5
Ontario	25,149	26,088	3.7	26,148	0.2
Manitoba	2,443	2,572	5.3	2,430	-5.5
Saskatchewan	2,246	2,237	-0.4	2,194	-1.9
Alberta	7,668	7,931	3.4	8,176	3.1
British Columbia	9,827	9,935	1.1	10,017	0.8
Yukon	117	112	-4.3	68	-39.3
Northwest Territories and Nunavut[1]	93	83	-10.8	101	21.7

1 *Northwest Territories and Nunavut are combined; prior to 2000, there was no divorce court in the part of the Northwest Territories which became Nunavut. In 2000, there were 7 divorces in Nunavut.*

Total divorce rate, by the 30th wedding anniversary per 100 marriages

	1998	1999	1998 to 1999 Difference	2000	1999 to 2000 Difference
Canada	**36.1**	**37.3**	**1.2**	**37.7**	**0.4**
Newfoundland and Labrador	23.2	22.5	-0.7	22.9	0.4
Prince Edward Island	26.4	28.0	1.6	26.9	-1.1
Nova Scotia	28.2	28.2	0.0	30.4	2.2
New Brunswick	26.9	30.4	3.5	31.9	1.5
Quebec	45.2	46.5	1.3	47.4	0.9
Ontario	33.0	34.4	1.4	34.6	0.2
Manitoba	30.1	31.9	1.8	30.3	-1.6
Saskatchewan	31.5	31.7	0.2	31.4	-0.3
Alberta	39.0	40.4	1.4	41.5	1.1
British Columbia	40.0	40.3	0.3	40.6	0.3
Yukon	55.2	51.8	-3.4	33.6	-18.2
Northwest Territories and Nunavut[1]	37.5	34.0	-3.5	40.7	6.7

1 *Northwest Territories and Nunavut are combined; prior to 2000, there was no divorce court in the part of the Northwest Territories which became Nunavut. In 2000, there were 7 divorces in Nunavut.*

■

Domestic travel

First and second quarter 2002

The number of trips taken by Canadians in Canada in the second quarter stood at 43.6 million, with expenditures totalling $7.3 billion. For the first quarter, the number of trips was 37.2 million and expenditures amounted to $5.8 billion.

Canadian Travel Survey (CTS) estimates for reference year 2002 cannot be compared with data from previous years. Changes that occurred in the CTS data collection method are responsible for this break in the series. When the annual CTS estimates are available for the reference year 2002, Statistics Canada will carry out a data revision for prior years.

Information on methods and data quality available in the Integrated Meta Data Base: survey number 3810.

To order data, contact Client Services (1-800-307-3382; fax: 613-951-2909; *cult.tourstats@statcan.ca*). For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods, or data quality of this release, contact Lizette Gervais-Simard (613-951-1672; fax: 613-951-2909; *gervliz@statcan.ca*), Culture, Tourism and the Centre for Education Statistics. ■

Public sector employment

Third quarter 2002 (preliminary)

Estimates of public sector employment and aggregate public sector wages and salaries for the third quarter are now available. The first and second quarter data have been revised.

Available on CANSIM: tables 183-0002 and 183-0004.

Information on methods and data quality available in the Integrated Meta Data Base: survey number 1728.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Daniel Salois (613-951-0379; *salodan@statcan.ca*), Public Institutions Division. ■

Federal government employment in census metropolitan areas

September 2002

Estimates of federal government employment in census metropolitan areas and corresponding wages and salaries have been produced for the month of September of every year since 1990. Data for September 2002 are now available. The estimates for September 2001 have been revised.

Available on CANSIM: tables 183-0003.

Information on methods and data quality available in the Integrated Meta Data Base: survey number 1713.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Daniel Salois (613-951-0379; *salodan@statcan.ca*), Public Institutions Division. ■

Electric power statistics

September 2002

Net generation of electricity increased to 44 923 gigawatt hours (GWh) in September, up 10.5% from September 2001. Exports rose 25.2% to 2 614 GWh and imports fell from 1 424 GWh to 826 GWh.

Hydroelectricity generation was up 18.9% in September, reaching 26 490 GWh, primarily as a result of increased generation in Newfoundland and Labrador, Quebec and British Columbia. Thermal conventional generation was down 0.6% to 12 465 GWh. Generation from nuclear sources was up 2.4% to 5 968 GWh.

Year-to-date net generation at the end of September totalled 430 837 GWh, up 2.0% from the same period of 2001. Year-to-date exports (28 748 GWh) were down 11.2% and year-to-date imports (11 438 GWh) fell 22.6% from the same period of 2001.

Available on CANSIM: table 127-0001.

The September 2002 issue of *Electric power statistics*, Vol. 70, no. 9 (57-001-XIB, $9/$85) will be available soon. See *How to order products*.

For general information or to order data, contact the dissemination officer (1-866-873-8789; 613-951-9497; *energ@statcan.ca*). To enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Melanie Murray (613-951-4923; *melanie.murray@statcan.ca*), Manufacturing, Construction and Energy Division ■

Financial performance indicators for Canadian business

2000

The enhanced two-volume series of *Financial performance indicators for Canadian business* (FPICB), 2000 is now available. Volume 1, covering medium-sized and large businesses in Canada, was released on April 25. The new Volume 2-3 covers small and medium-sized firms by sector, industry, province and territory. Both volumes of FPICB comprise an authoritative reference source of key financial ratios for many industries. FPICB is based on up-to-date, reliable and comprehensive data on Canadian businesses derived from Statistics Canada databases of financial statements. The indicators are designed to serve as financial performance benchmarks against which individual firms and industries can be compared.

The enhancements to FPICB culminate a redesign of the content of the series including the adoption of the North American Industry Classification System. The CD-ROM now provides three reference years of data (2000, 1999 and 1998). It offers a full slate of financial ratios and a "common-sized balance sheet" available for sectors and industries for Canada and by region, province and territory, including Nunavut. The CD-ROM enables users to compare their firm's performance to that of their industry to address issues such as profitability, business investment opportunities, financial report cards and business risk. FPICB can also be used for inter-industry comparisons. These ratios can be easily exported to Lotus and Excel spreadsheets to create customized reports.

Among small and medium firms — those with annual revenues greater than $30,000 to under $25 million — the health care field continued to lead the list of the most profitable service industries from 1998 to 2000. Offices of physicians propelled this industry, recording a three-year annual average return on assets of 26.4%. This compares with 21.4% for the top five industries in the services sector in the same period. Among small and medium-sized service firms, travel agencies had the best performance in their ability to pay short-term debts when they became due (working capital ratios: 1.77 in 2000, and 1.83 in 1999).

Large firms in non-financial industries — those with annual revenues of more than $75 million — earned an average return on assets of 6.6% in 2000, continuing the upswing from 1999 and 1998. Together, large and medium firms in the manufacturing and wholesaling sectors posted progressively higher returns on capital employed in each of the three years from 1998 to 2000. This is partly due to the propensity of large and medium-sized firms to export their products that were made cheaper by a relatively weak Canadian dollar vis-à-vis the US dollar. These firms may also benefit from lower financing costs and possess the resources necessary for diversification that can shield them from volatility. The cutlery/hardware/spring and other fabricated metal products industry had the highest working capital ratio for the goods producing industries in 2000.

Large and medium-sized firms in goods-producing industries tended to have a higher accounts receivable turnover than their size counterparts in services industries. This may be explained by the efficiencies gained by the close alignment of production to demand and the capital required to continue the production cycle.

Financial performance indicators for Canadian business (61F0058XCB, Volume 1, $225; 61F0059XCB, Volume 2-3, national, $450; 61F0100XCB, Volume 2-3, provinces, territories and regions, $225) is now available. Customized data extractions are also available. See *How to order products*.

For general information or to order data, contact Advisory Services (1-800-263-1136) or Jeannine D'Angelo (613-951-2604; *jeannine.d'angelo@statcan.ca*). To enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of the release, contact Rosario Faubert (613-951-3112; *rosario.faubert@statcan.ca*) or Mario Vella (613-951-1395; *vellmar@statcan.ca*), Industrial Organization and Finance Division. ■

Stillbirths

2000

Data on Canadian stillbirths in 2000 are now available.

Information on methods and data quality available in the Integrated Meta Data Base: survey number 3234.

The shelf tables *Births, 2000* (84F0210XPB, $20), which contain tables on live births and stillbirths, will be available soon. To order this product or custom tabulations, contact Client Custom Services (613-951-1746; *hd-ds@statcan.ca*).

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Patricia Tully (613-951-1759; *patricia.tully@statcan.ca*) or Leslie Geran (613-951-5243; *leslie.geran@statcan.ca*), Health Statistics Division. ■

Annual Wholesale Trade Survey

2000

Selected operating data at the industrial trade group level for Canada, provinces and territories are now available from the 2000 Annual Wholesale Trade Survey. The estimates are compiled based the North American Industry Classification System (NAICS 1997).

Information on methods and data quality available in the Integrated Meta Data Base: survey number 2445.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Marketing and Client Services (1-877-421-3067; 613-951-3549; *wholesaleinfo@statcan.ca*), Distributive Trades Division. ■

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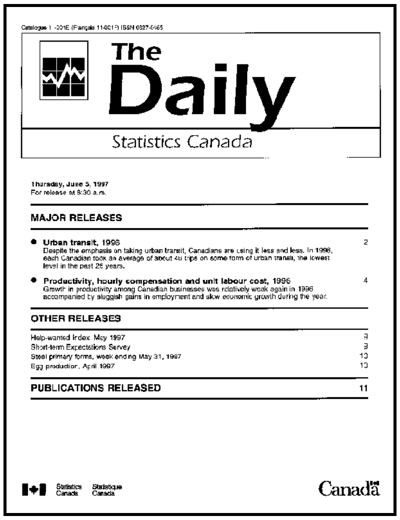

Catalogue 11-001E (Français 11-001F) ISSN 0827-0465

The Daily

Statistics Canada

Thursday, June 5, 1997
For release at 8:30 a.m.

MAJOR RELEASES

- **Urban transit, 1996** 2
  Despite the emphasis on taking urban transit, Canadians are using it less and less. In 1996, each Canadian took an average of about 46 trips 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	9
Short-term Expectations Survey	9
Steel primary forms, week ending May 31, 1997	10
Egg production, April 1997	10

PUBLICATIONS RELEASED 11

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Catalogue 11-001-XIE.

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The Daily

Statistics Canada

INDEX

November 2002

Subject	Reference period	Release date
2001 Census of Agriculture: Profile of farm operators		November 20, 2002
2001 Census profiles and topic-based tabulations (various levels of geography)		November 26, 2002
Air traffic designators	November 2002	November 27, 2002
Aircraft movement statistics	September 2002	November 14, 2002
Aircraft movement statistics: Major airports	August 2002	November 22, 2002
Aircraft movement statistics: Small airports	June 2002	November 21, 2002
Apartment building construction price index	Third quarter 2002	November 15, 2002
Asphalt roofing	October 2002	November 28, 2002
Biotechnology use and development	2001	November 14, 2002
Building permits	September 2002	November 6, 2002
Business conditions survey: Manufacturing industries	October 2002	November 1, 2002
Canada food stats		November 22, 2002
Canada's international transactions in securities	September 2002	November 25, 2002
Canadian economic accounts	Third quarter 2002	November 29, 2002
Canadian economic observer	November 2002	November 21, 2002
Canadian international merchandise trade	September 2002	November 19, 2002
Canadian Vehicle Survey	Second quarter 2002	November 22, 2002
Cancer incidence	2000	November 28, 2002
CANSIM II subscriptions		November 7, 2002
Cement	September 2002	November 5, 2002
Census forward sortation area boundary file	2001 Census	November 28, 2002
Census of population: Collective dwellings	2001	November 5, 2002

INDEX: November 2002

Subject	Reference period	Release date
Cereals and oilseeds review	September 2002	November 27, 2002
Characteristics of international travellers	Second quarter 2002	November 27, 2002
Charitable donors	2001	November 21, 2002
Composite Index	October 2002	November 18, 2002
Construction type plywood	August 2002	November 12, 2002
	September 2002	November 22, 2002
Construction Union Wage Rate Index	October 2002	November 19, 2002
Consumer Price Index	October 2002	November 21, 2002
Crushing statistics	October 2002	November 21, 2002
Cumulative earnings among young workers	1973 to 1999	November 19, 2002
Dairy statistics	September 2002 and October 2002	November 13, 2002
Deliveries of major grains	October 2002	November 21, 2002
Department store sales and stocks	September 2002	November 5, 2002
	October 2002	November 26, 2002
Employment Insurance	September 2002	November 26, 2002
Employment Insurance coverage	2001	November 25, 2002
Employment, earnings and hours	September 2002	November 27, 2002
Export and import price indexes	September 2002	November 19, 2002
Farm cash receipts	January to September 2002	November 26, 2002
Farm Product Price Index	August 2002	November 6, 2002
Farm product prices	September 2002	November 4, 2002
Farming operating revenues and expenses	2001	November 28, 2002
Federal government finance: Assets and liabilities	March 31, 2002	November 27, 2002
Federal IP Management annex to the 2002/03 Federal Science Expenditures and Personnel Survey	Fiscal year 2000/01	November 25, 2002
Financial statistics for enterprises	Third quarter 2002	November 28, 2002
For-hire motor carriers of freight, all carriers	First quarter 2002	November 1, 2002
Graphical overview of the criminal justice indicators	2000–2001	November 5, 2002
Greenhouse gases: The impact on growth in productivity	1981 to 1996	November 1, 2002
Help-wanted Index	October 2002	November 7, 2002
Honey and maple products	2002	November 15, 2002
Human activity and the environment: Annual statistics	2002	November 6, 2002
	2002	November 6, 2002
Industrial chemicals and synthetic resins	September 2002	November 8, 2002
Industrial product and raw materials price indexes	October 2002	November 28, 2002
Innovation analysis bulletin	October 2002	November 1, 2002

INDEX: November 2002

INDEX: November 2002