



The Daily

Statistics Canada

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Tourism spending slipped 0.8% in the first quarter, as visits from international travellers dropped sharply.

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- **Small and medium-sized enterprises financing in Canada, 2001**
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MAJOR RELEASES

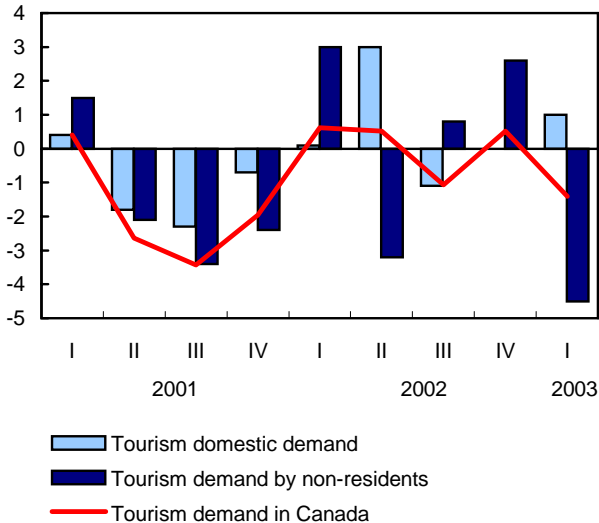
National tourism indicators

First quarter 2003

Tourism spending slipped 0.8% in the first quarter, as visits from international travellers dropped sharply. A 4.5% cutback in spending by non-residents more than offset a 1.0% advance in domestic tourism spending. Tourism spending remained 4.3% below its peak in the first quarter of 2001. The outbreak of SARS was barely felt in the quarter, with the brunt of its effect still to come.

Tourism slips with non-resident spending

% change, previous quarter
 Adjusted for seasonal variation and inflation



International spending lowest in four years

Spending by international tourists in the first quarter was at its lowest level since the second quarter of 1999. Non-resident tourism spending was down a sharp 4.5% for the quarter, following a 2.6% gain in the fourth quarter of 2002. The total number of visitors fell 6.9%, as tourists from both the United States and other countries made fewer trips to Canada.

Security concerns over the war in Iraq, a continued weak global economy and a 4.0% appreciation of the Canadian dollar vis-à-vis its US counterpart were all factors behind the decline.

The decrease in non-resident outlays was widespread. Air transportation services purchased

Note to Readers

Tourism spending is expressed in real terms (that is, adjusted for price changes) and is adjusted for seasonal variations, unless otherwise indicated. Employment data are also seasonally adjusted. Associated percentage changes are presented at quarterly rates.

by non-residents were down 5.2%. Non-resident spending on accommodation (-4.1%) and food and beverage services (-6.0%) were also down markedly.

International travel deficit deteriorates

With the drop in spending from abroad, Canada's international travel deficit deteriorated to \$585 million (at current prices) from \$428 million in the fourth quarter of 2002. A deficit indicates that Canadian travellers spend more abroad than international visitors spend in Canada.

Canadians' share of tourism spending highest in five years

Canadians accounted for 67.1% of total tourism spending in Canada during the first quarter. This is the largest share since the fourth quarter of 1997.

Domestic tourism spending advanced 1.0%, as Canadians spent more touring at home and less abroad than in the fourth quarter of 2002.

Passenger air transportation grounded

Overall spending on many tourism commodities fell in the first quarter. Passenger air transportation dropped 1.9%, following robust gains in the fourth quarter of 2002.

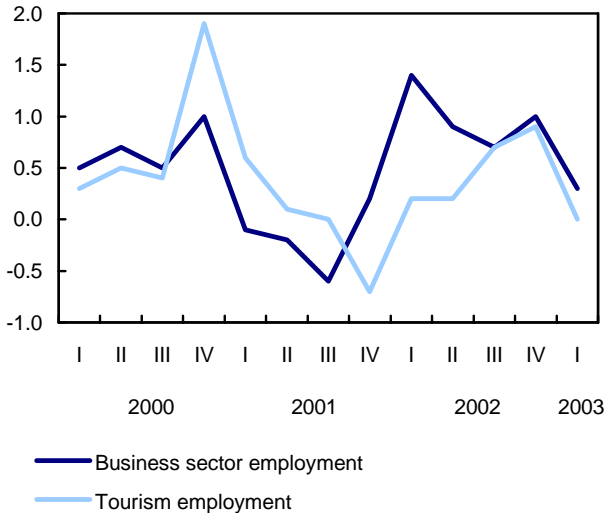
Accommodation spending fell 1.2%, while food and beverage consumption dropped 1.9%. Expenditures for vehicle fuel edged up 0.4%, partly offsetting some of these declines.

Tourism employment loses momentum

Tourism employment remained steady in the first quarter at 586,100 jobs, after two quarters of healthy growth. Job losses in passenger air transportation and food and beverage services were offset by slight gains in accommodation and recreation.

Business and tourism employment lose momentum

% change, previous quarter
Seasonally adjusted



Available on CANSIM: tables 387-0001 to 387-0009.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 1910.

The first quarter 2003 issue of *National tourism indicators* (13-009-XIB, free) is now available on Statistics Canada's website (www.statcan.ca). From the *Our products and services* page, under *Browse our Internet publications*, choose *Free*, then *National accounts*. To order a paper copy of the publication (13-009-XPB, free), contact Client services (613-951-3640; fax: 613-951-3618; iead-info-dcrd@statcan.ca).

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact the information officer (613-951-3640), Income and Expenditure Accounts Division.

Tourism expenditures at 1997 prices

	2001	2002	2001 to 2002	Third quarter 2002	Fourth quarter 2002	First quarter 2003	Fourth quarter 2002 to first quarter 2003
	\$ millions, 1997 prices		% change	\$ millions, 1997 prices (seasonally adjusted)			% change
Total tourism expenditures							
Tourism demand in Canada	47,802	47,255	-1.1	11,786	11,889	11,789	-0.8
Tourism demand by non-residents	16,239	15,825	-2.6	3,915	4,015	3,835	-4.5
Tourism domestic demand	31,563	31,430	-0.4	7,871	7,873	7,954	1.0
Transportation							
Tourism demand in Canada	18,626	18,177	-2.4	4,491	4,563	4,512	-1.1
Tourism demand by non-residents	4,030	3,932	-2.4	953	985	940	-4.6
Tourism domestic demand	14,596	14,245	-2.4	3,538	3,578	3,572	-0.2
Accommodation							
Tourism demand in Canada	6,776	6,927	2.2	1,723	1,748	1,728	-1.2
Tourism demand by non-residents	3,759	3,922	4.3	979	1,010	968	-4.1
Tourism domestic demand	3,016	3,005	-0.4	744	739	760	2.9
Food and beverage services							
Tourism demand in Canada	7,531	7,539	0.1	1,916	1,910	1,873	-1.9
Tourism demand by non-residents	2,779	2,621	-5.7	661	667	627	-6.0
Tourism domestic demand	4,752	4,917	3.5	1,255	1,242	1,246	0.3
Other tourism commodities							
Tourism demand in Canada	7,670	7,520	-2.0	1,889	1,889	1,895	0.3
Tourism demand by non-residents	2,273	2,151	-5.4	533	545	526	-3.4
Tourism domestic demand	5,397	5,369	-0.5	1,356	1,344	1,368	1.8
Other commodities							
Tourism demand in Canada	7,200	7,093	-1.5	1,768	1,778	1,780	0.1
Tourism demand by non-residents	3,398	3,199	-5.9	789	809	773	-4.4
Tourism domestic demand	3,802	3,893	2.4	979	970	1,007	3.9

Tourism expenditures at current prices

	First quarter 2002	Second quarter 2002	Third quarter 2002	Fourth quarter 2002	First quarter 2003	Fourth quarter 2002 to first quarter 2003
	\$ millions current, seasonally adjusted					% change
Total tourism expenditures						
Tourism demand in Canada	12,642	12,937	13,053	13,163	13,181	0.1
Tourism demand by non-residents	4,502	4,373	4,409	4,521	4,334	-4.1
Tourism domestic demand	8,140	8,564	8,644	8,642	8,848	2.4
Transportation						
Tourism demand in Canada	4,728	4,939	5,052	5,146	5,185	0.8
Tourism demand by non-residents	1,180	1,182	1,166	1,215	1,164	-4.2
Tourism domestic demand	3,548	3,757	3,886	3,931	4,021	2.3
Accommodation						
Tourism demand in Canada	1,953	1,928	1,858	1,866	1,859	-0.3
Tourism demand by non-residents	1,109	1,065	1,058	1,079	1,042	-3.4
Tourism domestic demand	844	863	800	787	818	3.9
Food and beverage services						
Tourism demand in Canada	2,054	2,116	2,171	2,174	2,147	-1.2
Tourism demand by non-residents	735	717	749	760	719	-5.3
Tourism domestic demand	1,320	1,399	1,422	1,414	1,428	1.0
Other tourism commodities						
Tourism demand in Canada	2,040	2,086	2,109	2,104	2,114	0.5
Tourism demand by non-residents	613	597	608	622	602	-3.2
Tourism domestic demand	1,428	1,489	1,501	1,483	1,512	2.0
Other commodities						
Tourism demand in Canada	1,866	1,869	1,863	1,873	1,875	0.1
Tourism demand by non-residents	866	813	827	847	808	-4.6
Tourism domestic demand	1,000	1,056	1,036	1,027	1,068	4.0



Small and medium-sized enterprises financing in Canada

2001

Small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) in Canada appeared to exercise more caution when it came to requesting various types of financing in 2001, which may be attributable to the economic slowdown — gross domestic product increased only 1.5% in 2001, less than half its pace in each of the previous four years.

According to the 2001 Survey on Financing of Small and Medium Enterprises in Canada, only 18% of such enterprises applied for debt financing — the most common type of financing sought by SMEs — compared with 23% the previous year. However, 8 in 10 SMEs had their debt applications approved by credit suppliers in 2001, virtually unchanged from 82% in 2000. Nevertheless, credit suppliers were more cautious with respect to amounts approved and the approval process used.

The Survey on Financing of Small and Medium Enterprises in Canada was conducted in partnership with Industry Canada and the Department of Finance, through a federal research program on small and medium-sized businesses. The 2001 survey was conducted in the fall of 2002, and estimates were produced from data obtained in telephone interviews with 3,850 SMEs operating in 2001 with fewer than 500 employees and less than \$50 million in revenue. The questions covered such topics as types of credit application, outcomes of applications and planned use of requested amounts.

The results of the 2001 survey were based on a sample of 5,830 SMEs, which is one-third the size of the sample of 17,769 SMEs used in 2000. As a result, they are of lower accuracy than those of the 2000 survey. Therefore, in this article, comparisons of the results of the two surveys should be treated with caution.

Overall decline in demand and supply of financing

Overall, SMEs reported applying for \$38.9 billion in debt financing in 2001, down from \$54.2 billion in 2000. Similarly, they reported that the total amount of debt financing approved in 2001 was \$28.3 billion, down from \$44.3 billion in 2000. Only 73% of the total amount applied for was approved, compared with 82% in 2000. The decline could mean that the economic slowdown in 2001 had a dampening effect on credit suppliers' tendency to provide the requested amounts.

Both the approval rate for SME leasing applications and the percentage of SMEs that applied were down from 2000. The approval rate for SME leasing applications declined to 94% in 2001 from 98% the previous year. Only 7% of SMEs reported applying for a lease, compared with 9% in 2000.

Note to readers

The Survey on Financing of Small and Medium Enterprises was conducted with businesses that were operating in 2001. The survey did not include entrepreneurs who tried to start a business but were unsuccessful.

This survey targeted businesses with 0 to 499 full-time equivalent employees. Financing and leasing businesses, cooperatives, subsidiaries, non-profit organizations, government agencies, educational institutions, hospitals and other public sector organizations were excluded.

The accuracy of results declines as statistics for sub-groupings of the target population are broken down. For example, overall results for the population are generally accurate to within 5 percentage points, 19 times out of 20. Results for specified employment size categories (for example, 0 employees, 1 to 4 employees or 5 to 19 employees) are generally accurate to within 10 percentage points, and at the most to within 15 percentage points, 19 times out of 20.

Request rates for debt financing

	Debt financing	
	Yes	Share
	%	
Canada	18	100
Employment size		
0 employee	12	14
1 to 4 employees	21	30
5 to 19 employees	27	30
20 to 99 employees	23	16
100 to 499 employees	...	10
Industry		
Agriculture	30	14
Primary	16	5
Manufacturing	23	13
Wholesale and retail trade	18	15
Professional services	13	6
Knowledge-based industries	14	2
Other sectors	16	44
Region		
Atlantic	20	7
Quebec	15	33
Ontario	18	32
Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Nunavut	25	6
Alberta and Northwest Territories	21	10
British Columbia and Yukon	16	13

... Estimates suppressed to meet the confidentiality requirements of the Statistics Act and/or for data quality reasons.

Note: Due to the difference in sample size in 2000 and 2001, any comparison of results of the two surveys should be treated with caution.

On the other hand, the total leasing amount authorized jumped from \$6.4 billion in 2000 to \$9.1 billion in 2001. As a percentage of total amount applied for in 2001, the total leasing amount approved was 94%, roughly the same rate as in 2000.

Only 1% of SMEs tried to obtain equity financing, compared with 2% in 2000.

Larger SMEs appear to exercise greater caution

The largest percentage of credit applications (27%) came from SMEs with 5 to 19 employees. Companies of larger size (20 to 99 employees) accounted for only 23% of the applications.

Authorization rates for debt financing

	Debt financing	
	Yes	Share
	%	
Canada	80	100
Employment size		
0 employee	77	17
1 to 4 employees	80	33
5 to 19 employees	84	19
20 to 99 employees	...	18
100 to 499 employees	91	13
Industry		
Agriculture	94	19
Primary	88	4
Manufacturing	85	16
Wholesale and retail trade	89	17
Professional services	...	6
Knowledge-based industries	78	2
Other sectors	73	37
Region		
Atlantic	86	9
Quebec	79	24
Ontario	75	32
Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Nunavut	92	8
Alberta and Northwest Territories	80	12
British Columbia and Yukon	83	15

... Estimates suppressed to meet the confidentiality requirements of the Statistics Act and/or for data quality reasons.

Note: Due to the difference in sample size in 2000 and 2001, any comparison of results of the two surveys should be treated with caution.

With regard to amounts applied for, firms with 20 to 99 employees and those with 100 to 499 employees accounted for only 16% and 10%, respectively, of the total amount (\$38.9 billion) of debt financing applied for. In comparison, SMEs with one to four employees and those with 5 to 19 employees each applied for 30% of that amount. One would have expected that larger firms would have a greater need for financing because of their larger operations. SMEs of that size were probably more cautious in response to the economic slowdown.

Despite their apparent caution, larger SMEs retained the confidence of their credit suppliers. Firms with over 100 employees had a 91% approval rate, compared with 80% for businesses with one to four employees, and 77% for businesses with no employees.

Continued preference for term loans and operating credit

In spite of their apparent cautiousness, SMEs' behaviour toward various debt financing instruments (term loans, credit cards and lines of credit) was virtually unchanged. As in 2000, one in three SMEs applied for a term loan. The same proportion tried to obtain a new line of credit. However, mortgage loan applications increased from 10% in 2000 to 16% in 2001. The upswing suggests that more SMEs tried to take advantage of low mortgage interest rates offered by credit suppliers in 2001, when the prime rate averaged 4.5%, compared with 5.7% in 2000.

As in 2000, there were considerably fewer applications for other financing instruments, such as short-term loans and new credit cards.

A slightly more stringent credit application process

The three sets of documents requested most often by credit suppliers in 2001 were business financial statements, an official credit application and the owner's personal financial statements. Specifically, three out of four SMEs had to provide their financial statements, 3 out of 10 submitted an official credit application, and a similar proportion provided the personal financial statements of the owner(s). In 2000, the same documents were required most often, but fewer firms had to provide them, especially in the case of business financial statements; only one out of two SMEs reported submitting them.

In addition, the 2001 survey showed that credit suppliers asked 17% of SMEs for an appraisal of the assets to be financed, compared with 9% in 2000. Also, 12% of SMEs reported providing various "other documents" to their credit suppliers, whereas a mere 5% did so in 2000. This suggests that credit suppliers were taking a slightly more cautious and stringent attitude toward their clients than before.

Nevertheless, this more cautious and stringent approach does not seem to have affected credit suppliers' traditional criteria for evaluating applications, since, as in 2000, many SMEs that were refused the amount requested cited insufficient revenue (27%), poor credit history (20%) and inadequate cash flow (17%) as the main reasons. Only 3% reported being given no reason. The percentages for 2000 were similar.

Other types of financing

Applications to lease automobiles and light duty vehicles continued to outpace leasing applications for

other types of assets, accounting for 30% of the total, compared with 35% in 2000. Machinery and equipment, which made up 31% of applications in 2000 and ranked second among types of assets requested, accounted for only 6% of applications in 2001. Leasing applications for heavy vehicles ranked second in 2001, accounting for 20%, almost unchanged from 2000. Applications for other types of assets also remained almost unchanged.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2941.

The Survey on Financing of Small and Medium Enterprises forms part of the SME Financing Data Initiative. For more information on the initiative, consult the Industry Canada website (www.strategis.ic.gc.ca/fdi).

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Christophe Kadji (613-951-3639; christophe.kadji@statcan.ca) or Gilles Paré (613-951-2517; gilles.pare@statcan.ca), Small Business and Special Surveys Division. ■

OTHER RELEASES

Employment Insurance

April 2003 (preliminary)

The estimated number of Canadians (adjusted for seasonality) receiving regular Employment Insurance benefits in April increased 1.3% from March to 543,430. This was the third consecutive monthly rise and was primarily due to increases in Ontario (+3.1%), British Columbia (+2.9%), Alberta (+2.3%) and Saskatchewan (+2.1%). The rise in Quebec (+0.9%) was slightly lower than the national increase, while Manitoba, Nova Scotia and Newfoundland and Labrador recorded declines.

Also on a seasonally adjusted basis, regular benefit payments in April totalled \$688.7 million, while the number of people making initial and renewal claims was 247,740.

Number of beneficiaries receiving regular benefits

	April 2003 ^P	March to April 2003	April 2002 to April 2003
Seasonally adjusted			
		% change	
Canada	543,430	1.3	1.2
Newfoundland and Labrador	37,350	-0.3	6.2
Prince Edward Island	8,290	1.7	6.4
Nova Scotia	29,760	-0.6	0.9
New Brunswick	33,910	0.4	2.9
Quebec	179,750	0.9	1.7
Ontario	135,410	3.1	0.4
Manitoba	12,800	-1.3	-4.8
Saskatchewan	11,540	2.1	0.3
Alberta	32,720	2.3	2.9
British Columbia	62,850	2.9	-3.5
Yukon	940	0.0	5.6
Northwest Territories and Nunavut	1,100	1.9	1.9
Unadjusted			
Northwest Territories	850	7.6	1.2
Nunavut	340	9.7	3.0

^P Preliminary figures.

Note: With this release, a historical revision of all data series back to January 1997 has been implemented. The revision slightly updated all seasonally adjusted series and also improved the coding of individuals to sub-provincial areas.

Employment Insurance Statistics Program data are produced from an administrative data source and may, from time to time, be affected by changes

to the *Employment Insurance Act* or administrative procedures.

The number of beneficiaries is a measure of all persons who received Employment Insurance benefits for the week containing the fifteenth day of the month. The regular benefit payments series measures the total of all monies received by individuals for the entire month.

Employment insurance statistics

	April 2003	March 2003	April 2002	March to April 2003	April 2002 to April 2003
Seasonally adjusted					
				% change	
Regular beneficiaries	543,430 ^P	536,550 ^P	537,000	1.3	1.2
Regular benefits paid (\$ millions)	688.7 ^P	748.6	723.4	-8.0	-4.8
Claims received ('000)	247.7 ^P	248.9	235.7	-0.5	5.1
Unadjusted					
				% change	
All beneficiaries ('000)	897.2 ^P	968.7 ^P	892.2	-7.4	0.6
Regular beneficiaries ('000)	617.9 ^P	685.8 ^P	609.8	-9.9	1.3
Claims received ('000)	198.1	223.3	206.3	-11.3	-4.0
Payments (\$ millions)	1,382.7	1,573.5	1,657.7	-12.1	-16.6
Year-to-date (January to April)					
		2003	2002	2002 to 2003	
				% change	
Claims received ('000)			961.5	939.2	2.4
Payments (\$ millions)			5,775.2	5,902.9	-2.2

^P Preliminary figures.

Note: "All beneficiaries" includes all claimants receiving regular benefits (for example, as a result of layoff) or special benefits (for example, because of illness).

Available on CANSIM: tables 276-0001 to 276-0006, 276-0009, 276-0011, 276-0015 and 276-0016.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2604.

For general information or to order data, contact Client Services (1-866-873-8788; 613-951-4090; labour@statcan.ca). To enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Gilles Groleau (613-951-4091), Labour Statistics Division. ■

Personal services industry

2001

Data for the personal services industry, which provides personal care, funeral, laundry and other personal services, are now available for 2001. They provide information such as the industry's revenue, expenses, salaries and wages, profit margin, percentage distribution of revenue by type of service, and client base.

Results from the Annual Survey of Personal Services show that 34,720 firms provided personal services in Canada. These firms earned revenues of \$7.3 billion in 2001, up from \$6.7 billion in 2000.

Personal care services (such as hair care and aesthetic services) generated 40% of total industry revenues and accounted for two-thirds of all personal services establishments. Most of the industry's revenues were generated in Ontario (45%) and Quebec

(20%). The dry cleaning and laundry services industry performed well, rising 9.8% to \$1.8 billion in 2001.

The profit margin for the personal services industries was 8.2% in 2001, down from 9.5% in 2000.

Operating expenses totalled \$6.7 billion. Salaries, wages and benefits were the largest expense category, amounting to 35% of operating revenue.

Available on CANSIM: table 359-0001.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2424.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Bob Allan (613-951-2648; bob.allan@statcan.ca) or Irene Ross (613-951-6305; fax: 613-951-6696; pucire@statcan.ca), Service Industries Division. ■

NEW PRODUCTS

National tourism indicators, quarterly estimates,
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First quarter 2003
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MAJOR RELEASES

- **Urban transit, 1995** 2
Change the statistics on taking urban transit, Canadians are using it less and less. In 1996, each Canadian took an average of about 45 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 noticeably 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
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Statistics Canada's official release bulletin

Catalogue 11-001-XIE.

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RELEASE DATES: JULY 2003

(Release dates are subject to change.)

Release date	Title	Reference period
4	Who goes to post-secondary education and when: Pathways chosen by 20 year-olds	2000
4	Film and video distribution	2000/01
7	Building permits	May 2003
7	Sound recording	2000
8	University degree, diplomas and certificates	2000
9	Culture goods trade	1996–2002
10	New Housing Price Index	May 2003
10	Investment in non-residential construction	Second quarter 2003
10	Workplace and Employee Survey: Retirement programs for employees	2001
11	Labour Force Survey	June 2003
11	Canadian international merchandise trade	May 2003
14	New motor vehicle sales	May 2003
16	Monthly Survey of Manufacturing	May 2003
17	Canada's international transactions in securities	May 2003
17	Travel between Canada and other countries	May 2003
18	Wholesale trade	May 2003
21	Retail trade	May 2003
22	Consumer Price Index	June 2003
23	Leading Indicators	June 2003
23	Private and public investment in Canada	Revised intentions 2003
24	Crime statistics	2002
25	Government expenditure on culture	2000/01
25	Sexual offences	2001
28	Employment, earnings and hours	May 2003
29	Employment Insurance	May 2003
29	Industrial Product Price and Raw Materials Price Indexes	June 2003
29	Children with disabilities and their families	2001
30	Gross domestic product by industry	May 2003
30	Performing arts	2001
31	Radio listening	Fall 2002
