



# The Daily

## Statistics Canada

**Tuesday, June 8, 2004**

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China's red-hot economy, now the second largest in the world after the United States, has had a significant impact on Canada's trade patterns during the past five years, according to a new report.
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#### **Canadian Social Trends** Summer 2004

Each quarter, *Canadian Social Trends* integrates data from many sources to examine emerging social trends and issues. The summer 2004 issue contains five articles.

The feature article, "Mixed unions," uses data from the 2001 and 1991 Censuses of Population to examine the prevalence of mixed unions in Canada and to answer several questions related to mixed unions. "Visible minorities in the labour force: 20 years of change" examines employment and unemployment rates of visible and non-visible minority groups aged 25 to 54 using census data from 1981 to 2001. "Kids witnessing family violence" profiles those children aged 4 to 7 who have witnessed violence at home and assesses concurrent and longer-term impacts on the levels of aggression and anxiety observed among children who witnessed family violence in 1994/95. "Rural-urban migration in the 1990s" first profiles out-migration of adults aged 20 to 65 during the 1990s, comparing rural and urban migrants and the distance of the move (i.e., whether they changed community, region, or province). Second, the changes in economic circumstances are compared before and after a move. "Against the odds: A profile of at-risk and problem gamblers" uses data drawn from Cycle 1.2 of the Canadian Community Health Survey (Mental Health and Well-being) to examine gambling behaviour and socio-economic characteristics of non-problem, at-risk, and problem gamblers.

This issue of *Canadian Social Trends* also features the latest social indicators, as well as information about Statistics Canada's products and services.

The Summer 2004 issue of *Canadian Social Trends*, no. 73 (11-008-XIE, \$9/\$29; 11-008-XPE, \$12/\$39) is now available. See *How to order products*.

For more information, contact Susan Crompton (613-951-2556; [cstsc@statcan.ca](mailto:cstsc@statcan.ca)), Housing, Family and Social Statistics Division.



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## MAJOR RELEASES

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### Canada's Trade with China 1995 to 2004

China's red-hot economy, now the second largest in the world after the United States, has had a significant impact on Canada's trade patterns during the past five years, according to a new report.

On the import side, China has become Canada's second largest source of imported goods from any single country apart from the United States. China has surpassed Japan and Mexico as a source of imports for both Canada and the United States.

On the export side, China's appetite for raw materials to build new factories, office towers and apartment buildings has led to a surge in commodity exports and a boom in commodity prices for Canadian companies.

Between 1995 and 2003, Canada's exports to China rose 37.4%. During the same period, our imports from China quadrupled.

In 1995, Canada's trade deficit with China was barely \$1.2 billion. By 2003, it had exploded to nearly \$13.8 billion.

China's export sector represents about one-quarter of its GDP, five times more than in 1978 when economic reform began to progressively open the nation up to the rest of the world. In terms of imports, China rose three places in the World Trade Organization's ranking in 2003 alone to become the world's third largest importer, with 5.3% of global commerce.

#### **Imports: Capital goods surpass consumer goods for first time**

Goods from China represented almost 6% of Canada's imports in 2003, (and 16% of all non-US demand) compared with only 2% in 1995. All 21 major commodity groups contributed to this increase.

In comparison, Canada's imports from Mexico in 2003 had slipped to just 66% of those from China, partly as the absolute level of imports from Mexico has leveled off since 2000. On the other hand, imports from China have soared.

Early in 2004, imports of Chinese capital goods passed consumer goods for the first time ever, despite falling prices for most capital goods. Electronic equipment and mechanical machinery led the way among capital goods.

Capital goods accounted for 44.8% of all imports from China in 2004, more than double the proportion of

nearly 20% in 1993. Meanwhile, the share of consumer goods from China declined from 65% in 1993 to 40%. Toys dominate the consumer goods category.

The rest of Canada's imports are spread among five other groups, the proportion of which changed little during the 1990s: industrial goods, agricultural products, automobiles, forestry products and energy.

Canada's bill for imports from China has also risen because of the drop in our exchange rate over the last decade. China maintains a fixed exchange rate against the US dollar, and the depreciation of the Canadian dollar before 2003 would have raised import prices.

At the same time, Canada has turned to markets that produce at a lower cost. For example, in 2003, around 50% of Canada's imports of footwear came from China, as did more than 40% of our leather imports.

#### **Exports driven by resource products**

Canadian exports to China are driven by resource products which, year in and year out, account for about four-fifths of our shipments to China.

Up until the early 1990s, wheat dominated shipments to China, accounting for 60% of shipments in 1992. Since then, the share of wheat has slipped to just 10%. On the other hand, Canada's shipments of chemical products and fertilizer have increased, benefiting in part from China's shift from importing wheat to growing its own grain.

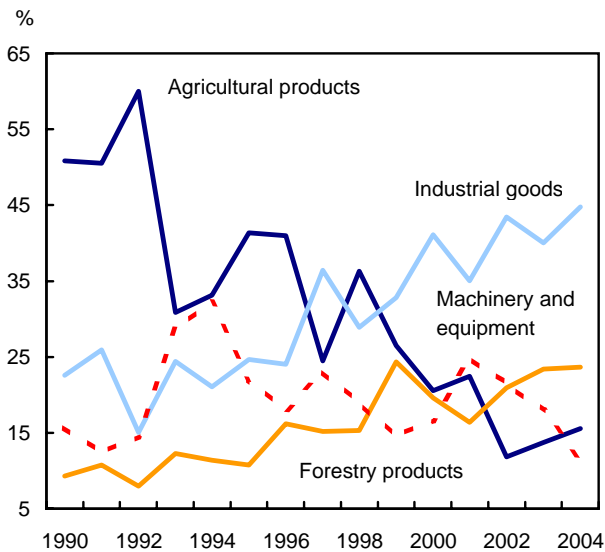
The place of wheat has been supplanted by rapid gains for industrial materials, which account for 45% of exports, and 24% of forestry products. Exports remain much smaller for automobiles, energy and consumer goods.

Canada's exports of industrial materials accelerated with the surge of Chinese growth in the second half of the 1990s. Metals led the way, rising to nearly 16% of shipments to China at the start of 2004. Iron and steel accounted for 6% and nickel, 4%.

Exports of forestry products have increased rapidly. In 1992, they accounted for only 10% of resource shipments to China; now they have reached one-third. China is the largest importer of pulp in the world, and Canada its largest supplier.

Pulp alone accounted for nearly one-fifth of all our exports to China in 2003. The increase would have been even more spectacular if prices had maintained their 1995 level instead of falling 40% between 1995 and 1997, and staying around that level ever since.

Share of exports to China by economic use



Overall, China's appetite for raw materials has risen so fast in recent years that, along with leading the world in pulp imports, it now stands behind only Japan and the United States as a market for wood and is second only to the United States for iron and steel and crude oil.

Demand in China has been a major factor behind a recent boom in commodity prices, especially prices for metals and fats and oils, which have increased 54.0% and 28.8% over the course of the year that ended in May 2004. Canada, as a large net exporter of resources, has benefited from this surge in demand.

**Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2201.**

The seventh paper from the Insights on the Canadian economy series, *Canada's Trade with China*, no. 7 (11-624-MIE2004007, free) is now available online. From the *Our products and services* page, under *Browse our Internet publications*, choose *Free*, then *National accounts*.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Francine Roy (613-951-3627), Current Economic Analysis. ■

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## OTHER RELEASES

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### Study: Mixed unions

1991 to 2001

Unions involving partners from different ethnic origins, religions or visible minority groups still represent a low proportion of the total in Canada, but they have gained ground over the last decade, according to a new report in *Canadian Social Trends*.

The report, which analyses census data, shows that in 2001, an estimated 14.1 million people were living as either a married couple, or as a couple in a common-law union.

Of these, some 452,000 individuals were in a couple comprising one visible minority and one non-visible minority, or members of two different visible minority groups.

This was a 35% increase from 1991, more than three times the increase of 10% for all people living in a couple. In 2001, mixed unions represented 3.2% of all people living in couples in Canada compared with 2.6% a decade earlier.

Mixed couples could be increasing for many reasons. One key factor is Canada's growing cultural diversity. In 2001, there were more members of visible minority groups in Canada than at any time in the past, creating a larger pool of potential mates.

The 4.0 million visible minorities in Canada in 2001 accounted for more than 13% of the population, more than twice the proportion of only 5% in 1981.

The most common type of mixed marriage or common-law union occurred between a member of a visible minority and someone who was not. There were 394,300 people in such couples in 2001, accounting for 2.8% of all people in couples, up from 2.4% in 1991.

Of these couples, 53% consisted of a woman who was a visible minority and a man who was not, and 47% the reverse.

Japanese were the most likely visible minority group to marry or live common-law with a non-Japanese person. The second and third most common groups were Latin Americans and Blacks.

Among the least likely to form a partnership outside their group were South Asians and Chinese.

Mixed unions accounted for 7% of all people in couples in Vancouver, 6% in Toronto and 3% in Montréal. However, among the age group 20 to 29, the proportions doubled to 13% in Vancouver, 11% in Toronto and 6% in Montréal.

People in mixed unions tend to be younger and foreign-born, live in large urban areas and have a higher education.

Mixed unions were also more likely to be common-law relationships than marriages. This was probably related to age, as common-law unions are more prevalent among young people, and visible minorities also have a younger age profile than the overall population.

About 4% of all common-law unions were mixed in 2001, compared with 2.9% of all marriages.

In the general population, 57% of all couples had children compared with 59% of couples which comprised a visible minority and non-visible minority. About 69% of couples comprising two different visible minorities had children.

### Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 3901.

The report "Mixed unions" is available free online and also appears in the Summer 2004 issue of *Canadian Social Trends*, no. 73 (11-008-XIE, \$9/\$29; 11-008-XPE, \$12/\$39), which is now available. See *How to order products*.

For more information, contact Anne Milan (613-951-2756; [cstsc@statcan.ca](mailto:cstsc@statcan.ca)), Housing, Family and Social Statistics Division. ■

### Television broadcasting

2003

Revenues of the television broadcasting industry surpassed the \$5-billion mark for the first time last year thanks to the strong performance of private conventional television and specialty television.

Overall, industry operating revenues reached \$5.2 billion, up 8.8% from 2002.

Revenues in private conventional television rose 10.6%, the first double-digit gain since 1988, while those in specialty television increased 11.9%.

In contrast, revenues for public and non-commercial television grew a more modest 3.4%.

Private conventional TV revenues hit \$2.1 billion following a 0.5% decline in 2002. In addition, the profit margin (before interest and taxes) of this segment of the industry improved to 14.3% in 2003 from 9.4% the previous year. This was the best result since 1999.

Specialty television experienced another year of strong growth in revenues last year. In particular, advertising revenues reached \$606.2 million, up 19.2%, surpassing the gains of 16.1% in 2002 and 15.1% in 2001.

Specialty television captured 21.3% of the TV advertising market last year, continuing a steady ascent

that began with the creation of the industry. The growing proportion of viewing time spent by Canadians watching Canadian specialty channels explains this shift.

The profit margin of the specialty segment was 12.6% in 2003, up from 8.4% the previous year. Despite the increase, the profit margin of this segment remained below the industry average for the second consecutive year, largely as a result of the losses incurred by digital channels launched in 2002.

The digital channels are slowly carving a niche for themselves in the Canadian television landscape. Their customer base has expanded to an average of just over 500,000 subscribers per channel at the end of August 2003, up 34.8% from the previous year. The revenues of digital channels reached \$100.1 million, more than twice the level in 2002.

It was expected that the early years would be difficult financially. As a group, digital channels have incurred a loss before interest and taxes of \$85.2 million in 2003, still significantly less than the \$140.5 million loss in 2002.

Revenues in pay television went up 4.3%, compared with a 16.3% gain in 2002 and 33.8% in 2001. Pay-TV still managed to improve its profit margin (before interest and taxes) in 2003 to 26.4% from 24.2% the previous year. It remained the most profitable segment of the industry by a wide margin.

**Available on CANSIM: table 357-0001.**

**Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2724.**

The 2003 issue of the *Broadcasting and Telecommunications Bulletin*, Vol. 34, no. 2 (56-001-XIE, \$11/\$35) 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 Daniel April (613-951-3177; [daniel.april@statcan.ca](mailto:daniel.april@statcan.ca)) or Dany Gravel (613-951-0390; [dany.gravel@statcan.ca](mailto:dany.gravel@statcan.ca)), Science, Innovation and Electronic Information Division. ■

## **Production of eggs and poultry**

April 2004 (preliminary)

Egg production was estimated at 45.2 million dozen in April, down 4.5% from April 2003.

Poultry meat production reached 87.4 million kilograms in April, up 1.3% from April 2003.

**Available on CANSIM: tables 003-0022, 003-0038 and 003-0039.**

**Definitions, data sources and methods: survey numbers, including related surveys, 3424, 3425 and 5039.**

The April 2004 issue of *Production of Eggs* (23-003-XIB, free) is now available online. From the *Our products and services* page, under *Browse our Internet publications*, choose *Free*, then *Agriculture*.

For further information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Sandy Gielfeldt (613-951-2505; [sandy.gielfeldt@statcan.ca](mailto:sandy.gielfeldt@statcan.ca)) or Barbara Bowen (613-951-3716; [barbara.bowen@statcan.ca](mailto:barbara.bowen@statcan.ca)), Agriculture Division. ■

## **Restaurants, caterers and taverns**

March 2004

Total receipts of restaurants, caterers and taverns in March were an estimated \$2.87 billion, up 5.6% over the March 2003 estimate.

**Available on CANSIM: table 355-0001.**

**Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2419.**

The March 2004 issue of *Restaurant, Caterer and Tavern Statistics* (63-011-XIE, \$7/\$59) will soon be available.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts methods or data quality of this release, contact Alain Mbassegue (613-951-2011), Services Industries Division. ■

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## NEW PRODUCTS

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**Infomat: A Weekly Review**, June 8, 2004  
**Catalogue number 11-002-XIE** (\$100).

**Canadian Social Trends**, Summer 2004, no. 73  
**Catalogue number 11-008-XIE** (\$9/\$29).

**Canadian Social Trends**, Summer 2004, no. 73  
**Catalogue number 11-008-XPE** (\$12/\$39).

**Insights on the Canadian Economy: Canada's Trade with China**, no. 7  
**Catalogue number 11-624-MIE2004007** (free).

**Production of Eggs**, April 2004  
**Catalogue number 23-003-XIB** (free).

**Broadcasting and Telecommunications**, Vol. 34, no. 2  
**Catalogue number 56-001-XIE** (\$11/\$35).

**Industry Price Indexes**, April 2004, Vol. 30, no. 4  
**Catalogue number 62-011-XIE** (\$19/\$175).

**Industry Price Indexes**, April 2004, Vol. 30, no. 4  
**Catalogue number 62-011-XPE** (\$24/\$233).

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Catalogue 11-001-XIE (F) English 11-001-XIE/04-0001-0001-0001	
	
Statistics Canada	
Thursday, June 8, 1997 For release at 9:30 a.m.	
<b>MAJOR RELEASES</b>	
● <b>Urban transit, 1995</b> Despite the emphasis on taking urban transit, Canadians are using it less and less. In 1996, each Canadian took an average of about six trips on some form of urban transit, the lowest level in the past 25 years.	2
● <b>Productivity, hourly compensation and unit labour cost, 1995</b> Growth in productivity among Canadian businesses also noticeably weak again in 1996, accompanied by sluggish gains in employment and slow economic growth during the year.	4
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