

Statistics Canada

Tuesday, February 1, 2005

Released at 8:30 a.m. Eastern time

Major releases

There are no major releases today.

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Other releases

Health Indicators

This new issue of *Health Indicators*, an Internet-based data publication, features updated health region level data and maps based on the most recent vital and cancer statistics available. Updates include: life expectancy, infant mortality, low-birth weight, and mortality rates by selected causes.

Even though Canada has one of the highest life expectancies in the world, today's release of *Health Indicators* demonstrates that life expectancy varies widely between health regions. People living in Northern and remote regions of Canada, many of whom are Aboriginal, have life expectancies more in line with developing countries than with other Canadians.

According to the World Health Organization (WHO), in 2001 for both sexes, Canada had the ninth highest life expectancy in the world, only 2.1 years behind Japan, which has the longest life expectancy in the world at 81.4 years. Canada has the seventh highest life expectancy for men and the eleventh highest life expectancy for women, very similar to other wealthy, industrialized countries.

However, within Canada there exist wide variations in health status. Placed within an international perspective, these disparities are especially revealing. The Richmond Health Service Delivery Area in British Columbia has the highest life expectancy in Canada at 83.4 years, two years higher than Japan and at the top of the WHO's ranking.

At the other end of the spectrum is Région de Nunavik in Quebec, which has the lowest life expectancy in Canada at 66.7 years for males and females. This places Région de Nunavik between the Dominican Republic (67.0 years) and Egypt (66.5 years), ranked at 111 and 112 out of 191 countries.

There are many factors that can affect a person's health: geography, socio-economic circumstances, health behaviours, and interactions among the three.

Canadian communities with the lowest life expectancies are in the most northern and isolated parts of Canada, and are also characterized by low incomes and a high proportion of the population receiving government transfer payments. Smoking, heavy drinking and high mortality rates due to suicides and accidents are also prevalent in these health regions.

Health regions enjoying the highest life expectancies are typically urban communities experiencing high population growth, and are characterized by higher incomes and educational attainment. Smoking, heavy drinking, and mortality rates due to suicides and injuries are low.

The links between geography, socio-economic characteristics, health behaviours, and health status are complex. However, the "peer group" concept introduced in earlier issues of *Health Indicators* can be used to address these questions. Peer groups consist of health regions with common socio-economic and demographic characteristics. Health regions that are anomalies within a peer group in terms of health status and health behaviours can be used by researchers to identify the pathways that create good or poor health.

Also featured in this release are breastfeeding rates by province, territory, and peer group. The 2003 Canadian Community Health Survey found that 19% of Canadian mothers who had a baby in the last five years breastfed for at least six months, without introducing other solids or liquids. Women using this method of feeding ranged from 10% in Quebec to 29% in British Columbia.

Health Indicators is produced by Statistics Canada and the Canadian Institute for Health Information. It provides a set of indicators that measures the health of the Canadian population and the health care system. These indicators are designed to provide comparable information at the Canada, provincial/territorial and health region level, and are based on standard definitions and methods.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey numbers, including related surveys, 3226, 3207, 3231 and 3233.

The new issue of *Health Indicators*, 2005, no. 1 (82-221-XIE, free) is now available online. From the *Our products and services* page, under *Browse our Internet publications*, choose *Free*, then *Health*.

For more information, contact Client Services (613-951-1746; hd-ds@statcan.ca). To enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Brenda Wannell (613-951-8554; brenda.wannell@statcan.ca), or Stacey Todd (613-951-4442; stacey.todd@statcan.ca), Health Statistics Division.

Domestic sales of refined petroleum products

December 2004 (preliminary)

Sales of refined petroleum products totalled 9 121 400 cubic metres in December, up 6.7% from December 2003. Sales increased in five of the seven major product groups, led by motor gasoline (up 217 700 cubic metres or +6.4%) and diesel fuel oil (+180 300 cubic metres or +9.3%). Heavy fuel oil fell by 4.1%.

Sales of regular non-leaded and premium gasoline rose (+6.8%) while mid-grade (-12.6%) fell from December 2003.

Sales of refined petroleum products totalled 102 726 300 cubic metres in 2004, up 4.2% from 2003. Sales rose in five of the seven major product groups with the largest increases in diesel fuel oil (up 1 447 400 cubic metres +6.1%) and motor gasoline (up 861 000 cubic metres or +2.1%). Light (-2.5%) and heavy fuel oil (-5.0) were down.

Sales of refined petroleum products

•	December	December	December
	2003 ^r	2004 ^p	2003 to
			December
			2004
	Thousands of	cubic metres	% change
Total, all products	8 549.8	9 121.4	6.7
Motor gasoline	3 409.5	3 627.2	6.4
Diesel fuel oil	1 930.9	2 111.2	9.3
Light fuel oil	672.4	664.1	-1.2
Heavy fuel oil	911.0	873.6	-4.1
Aviation turbo fuels Petrochemical	419.9	430.6	2.5
feedstocks ¹ All other refined	363.0	406.8	12.1
products	843.0	1 007.8	19.5
			JanDecem-
	Jan. to De-		ber 2003 to
	cember 2003 ^r	cember 2004 ^p	JanDecember 2004
	Thousands of cubic metres		% change
Total, all products	98 632.3	102 726.3	4.2
Motor gasoline	40 228.8	41 089.8	2.1
Diesel fuel oil	23 711.6	25 159.0	6.1
Light fuel oil	5 280.6	5 150.7	-2.5
Heavy fuel oil	8 789.3	8 350.0	-5.0
Aviation turbo fuels Petrochemical	5 948.7	6 518.9	9.6
feedstocks ¹ All other refined	4 448.7	5 142.5	15.6
products	10 224.6	11 315.3	10.7

r Revised figures.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2150.

Preliminary domestic sales of refined petroleum products data are no longer available on CANSIM.

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

Coal and coke statistics

November 2004

Data on coal and coke are now available for November.

Available on CANSIM: table 303-0016.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey numbers, including related surveys, 2003 and 2147.

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.

Electric power statistics

November 2004

Data on electric power are now available for November.

Available on CANSIM: table 127-0001.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2151.

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.

Preliminary figures.

Materials produced by refineries that are used by the petrochemical industry to produce chemicals, synthetic rubber and a variety of plastics.

Construction type plywood

November 2004

Data on construction type plywood are now available for November.

Available on CANSIM: tables 303-0056 and 303-0057.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2138.

The November 2004 issue of *Construction Type Plywood*, Vol. 52, no. 11 (35-001-XIB, \$6/\$51) is now available. See *How to order products*.

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

New products

Infomat: A Weekly Review, February 1, 2005 Catalogue number 11-002-XWE (\$100).

Construction Type Plywood, November 2004, Vol. 52, no. 11

Catalogue number 35-001-XIB (\$6/\$51).

Exports by Commodity, November 2004, Vol. 61, no. 11

Catalogue number 65-004-XMB (\$40/\$387).

Exports by Commodity, November 2004, Vol. 61, no. 11

Catalogue number 65-004-XPB (\$84/\$828).

Health Indicators, 2005, no. 1 Catalogue number 82-221-XIE (free).

All prices are in Canadian dollars and exclude sales tax. Additional shipping charges apply for delivery outside Canada.

Catalogue numbers with an -XWE, -XIB or an -XIE extension are Internet versions; those with -XMB or -XME are microfiche; -XPB or -XPE are paper versions;

- -XDB or -XDE are electronic versions on diskette and
- -XCB or -XCE are electronic versions on compact disc.

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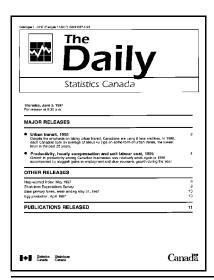
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The Daily

Statistics Canada

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