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## Releases

## Women in Canada

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## Women in Canada

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However, the report still shows substantial gaps between the sexes in many key areas.

The average earnings of employed women are still substantially lower than those of men, women make up a disproportionate share of the population with low incomes and women are much more likely than men to work part time.

On the other hand, one of their real success stories has been the dramatic gain in the proportion of women with a university degree. Women are still slightly less likely than men to have a university degree. But the gap is much narrower than in the past.

The current situation for women is assessed in the fifth edition of the compendium Women in Canada: A Gender-based Statistical Report, available today. This 300-page report provides a statistical overview of their demographic characteristics, family arrangements, health, education, employment and unpaid work activity, income, housing, and criminal victimization.

It also includes separate sections describing the situations of immigrant women, women in the visible minority community, Aboriginal women, senior women and women with disabilities.

The report found that the increased participation of women in the paid work force has been one of the most significant social trends in Canada in the past quarter century.

In 2004, $58 \%$ of all women aged 15 and over were part of the paid work force, up from $42 \%$ in 1976. In contrast, the proportion of men who were employed fell during this period from $73 \%$ to $68 \%$.

As a result, women accounted for $47 \%$ of the employed work force in 2004, up from $37 \%$ in 1976.

The report also showed that women have somewhat higher literacy skills, on average, than the male population; the proportion of women living with their spouse has declined in the past two decades; more women are living alone; and women make up the majority of the Canadian population with disabilities.

## Higher profile in many professional fields

Women have increased their representation in several professional fields in recent years. Indeed,
women currently make up over half those employed in both diagnostic and treatment positions in medicine, related health professions and in business and financial professional positions.

There has also been a long-term increase in the share of women employed in managerial positions. In 2004, $37 \%$ of all those employed in managerial positions were women, up from $30 \%$ in 1987.

However, all this growth occurred in the early part of this period. The share of management positions accounted for by women actually dipped slightly between 1996 and 2004.

As well, among managers, women tend to be better represented in lower-level positions as opposed to those at more senior levels. Women also remain very much a minority among professionals employed in the natural sciences, engineering and mathematics.

The report also found dramatic increases in the employment levels of women with very young children. By 2004, $65 \%$ of all women with children under the age of three were employed, more than double the proportion in 1976. Similarly, 70\% of women whose youngest child was aged three to five worked for pay in 2004, up from $37 \%$ in 1976.

In addition, the share of female lone parents with jobs has risen dramatically over the last three decades. In 2004, $68 \%$ of female lone parents were employed, whereas the figure was below $50 \%$ in 1976.

Women are also much more likely than their male counterparts to work part time. In 2004, 27\% of the total female work force were part-time employees, more than double the proportion of just $11 \%$ among employed men. Women currently account for about $70 \%$ of all part-time employees, a figure which has not changed appreciably since the mid-1970s.

The majority of employed women continue to work in occupations in which women have traditionally been concentrated. In 2004, two-thirds of all employed women were working in teaching, nursing and related health occupations, clerical or other administrative positions, and sales and service occupations.

In fact, there has been virtually no change in the proportion of women employed in these traditionally female-dominated occupations over the past decade.

## Women's earnings still substantially lower

The average earnings of employed women are still substantially lower than those of men, even when they are employed on a full-time basis.

In 2003, women working on a full-time, full-year basis had average earnings of $\$ 36,500$, or $71 \%$ what their male counterparts made.

As well, the gap between the earnings of women and men has not changed substantially in the past decade.

Women make up a disproportionate share of the population in Canada with low incomes as measured by Statistics Canada's low income cut-off (LICO) on an after-tax basis. Unattached women are particularly likely to have low incomes.

In 2003, $31 \%$ of unattached women aged 16 and over lived in low income. Seniors are the least likely unattached women to have low incomes. Indeed, the incidence of low income among unattached senior women has dropped sharply since the early 1980s.

Families headed by female lone parents also have relatively high rates of low income. In 2003, 38\% of all families headed by lone-parent mothers had incomes which fell below the after-tax LICO. In comparison, this was the case for $13 \%$ of male lone-parent families and just $7 \%$ of non-elderly two-parent families with children.

However, the incidence of low income among lone-parent families headed by women has declined somewhat since the early 1980s when the figure hovered around $50 \%$.

As a result, lone-parent families headed by women continue to be home to a disproportionate share of all children living in a low-income situation.

In 2003, $43 \%$ of all children in a low-income family were living with a single female parent, whereas these families accounted for only $13 \%$ of all children aged 17 and under.

## One in seven women is a visible minority

More than two million women, or $14 \%$ of the total female population, are members of a visible minority. They are centered largely in Toronto and Vancouver.

More than one-quarter ( $26 \%$ ) of women who reported that they were in a visible minority were Chinese, while $22 \%$ were South Asian and $17 \%$ were Black, according to the 2001 Census.

Three out of every four women who were members of a visible minority lived in either Ontario or British Columbia. Women in a visible minority made up $22 \%$ of the overall female population of British Columbia, and $19 \%$ in Ontario.

The female visible minority population is relatively well educated. In 2001, $21 \%$ of visible minority woman aged 15 or older had a university degree, compared with $14 \%$ of other women.

But while visible minority women are better educated on average than other Canadian women, they are somewhat less likely to be employed. In addition, visible minority women generally earn less at their jobs than do other women.

Women in Canada: A Gender-based Statistical Report, 2005 (89-503-XPE, \$49) is now available in print version only. See How to order products.

For more information on this report, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Colin Lindsay (613-951-2603; fax: 613-951-0387; lindcol@statcan.ca), Social and Aboriginal Statistics Division.

## Study: Population health impact of cancer 2001

Cancer cost Canadians the equivalent of nearly one million potential years of life in 2001, and not only because it causes premature death, according to a new study.

People living with cancer may experience a wide range of limitations in their mental, physical and social functioning, even after the cancer is in remission. These limitations interfere with their normal daily activities, and reduce their health-related quality of life.

Results of this study are published today in the newsletter of Statistics Canada's Health Analysis and Measurement Group. It measured the health impact of 25 different cancers in 2001 using a concept known as "health-adjusted life year" as a global index of mortality and morbidity.

This concept combined the years of life lost to premature deaths in 2001 with the years lost to reduced functioning throughout the expected lifetime of individuals diagnosed in 2001.

Across all 25 cancer types examined, the total number of years lost hit an estimated 905,000 for 2001 alone.

Lung cancer had the biggest overall impact of the 25 cancers. It was responsible for almost one-quarter of the total years lost to cancer, followed by breast and colorectal cancers.

However, in terms of health-related quality of life, breast and colorectal cancer had a larger impact at the population level than did lung cancer. For breast cancer, the number of years lost to reduced functioning over the lifetime was more than four times that of lung cancer. For colorectal cancer, it was about twice that of lung cancer.

This study also attributed the total years lost to cancer to five major cancer risk factors.

Smoking, the leading risk factor, was potentially related to one-quarter of the total number of years lost. It was followed by lack of fruit and vegetable consumption, physical inactivity, obesity and alcohol consumption.

The study "Population health impact of cancer in Canada, 2001," which appears in the spring 2006 issue of ...au courant (82-005-XIE, free), the newsletter of the Health Analysis and Measurement Group, is now available online.

The study is part of the research program called Population Health Impact of Disease in Canada. This is a collaborative effort involving Statistics Canada, the Public Health Agency of Canada, and researchers from McGill University, the University of Ottawa, the University of Manitoba, the Institute for Clinical

Evaluative Sciences and the Agence de développement de réseaux locaux de services de santé et de services sociaux de la Montérégie.

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

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Cameron N. McIntosh (613-951-3725; cameron.mcintosh@statcan.ca), Health Analysis and Measurement Group.

## Automotive equipment rental and leasing 2004

The automotive equipment rental and leasing industry became more profitable in 2004. Canada posted steady economic growth in 2004 and a recovery in international trade saw exports to the United States jump by over 6\%. More than half of these exports were carried by truck and, for general freight carriers, over $20 \%$ of in-service equipment was leased.

On the consumer side, there has been a slight shift toward the rental and leasing of motor vehicles in recent years. In 2004, one in five Canadian households rented or leased an automobile, truck or van with total expenditures growing by $24 \%$ since 2000 .

These trends in business and consumer spending have helped to bolster the automotive equipment rental and leasing industry, which earned revenues of just over $\$ 5$ billion in 2004. The profit margin remained strong in 2004 at $12.9 \%$, up slightly from $12.4 \%$ in 2003.

The major source of revenue for this industry is rental and leasing services ( $82 \%$ ), followed by sales ( $9 \%$ ) and disposal of previously rented assets (3\%). Operating expenses included depreciation (35\%), followed by labour costs (17\%), and cost of goods sold (14\%).

More than half of the automotive equipment rental and leasing industry revenue was generated from businesses. Another one-third came from individuals, with the remaining $10 \%$ coming from governments and foreign consumers.

Results from the 2004 Annual Survey of Automotive Equipment Rental and Leasing (and revised 2002 and 2003 data) are now available. These data provide information such as the industry's revenue, expenditures, salaries and wages, and profit margin. The financing arm of the automotive equipment leasing industry is excluded from this survey.

Available on CANSIM: table 352-0008.
Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2442.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Candace Brookbank (613-951-5239; fax: 613-951-6696; candace.brookbank@statcan.ca), Service Industries Division.

## Production of eggs and poultry <br> January 2006 (preliminary)

Egg production was estimated at 49.9 million dozen in January, up 1.9\% from January 2005.

Poultry meat production reached 96.0 million kilograms in January, up 4.0\% from the same month a year earlier.

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

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) or Barbara Bowen (613-951-3716; barbara.bowen@statcan.ca), Livestock and Animal Products Section, Agriculture Division.

## Pipeline transportation of crude oil and refined petroleum products <br> November 2005

Data on the net receipts of crude oil and equivalent hydrocarbons, liquefied petroleum gases and refined petroleum products, pipeline exports of crude oil and deliveries of crude oil by pipeline to Canadian refineries are now available for November.

Available on CANSIM: tables 133-0001 to 133-0005.
Definitions, data sources and methods: survey numbers, including related surveys, 2148 and 2191.

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

## New products

Guide to Transportation Data (Revised),
January 2006
Catalogue number 50F0001GIE (free).

Building Permits, January 2006, Vol. 50, no. 1 Catalogue number 64-001-XIE (\$15/\$156).

Imports by Country, January-December 2005, Vol. 62, no. 4
Catalogue number 65-006-XMB (\$67/\$221).
Imports by Country, January-December 2005, Vol. 62, no. 4
Catalogue number 65-006-XPB (\$133/\$441).
Imports by Commodity, December 2005, Vol. 62, no. 12
Catalogue number 65-007-XMB (\$40/\$387).
Imports by Commodity, December 2005, Vol. 62, no. 12
Catalogue number 65-007-XPB (\$84/\$828).
. . .au courant, Spring 2006
Catalogue number 82-005-XIE (free).

Women in Canada: A Gender-based Statistical Report, 2005
Catalogue number 89-503-XPE (\$49).
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; -XCB or -XCE are electronic versions on compact disc and -XBB or -XBE a database.

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