



The Daily

Statistics Canada

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Effective April 24, all electronic publications on Statistics Canada's Web site will be available free of charge.

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For more information, contact François Bordé (613-951-2808), Communications and Library Services Division.



Releases

Child care: An eight-year profile

1994-1995 to 2002-2003

Over the past eight years, the proportion of children in child care has increased significantly. This increase has been accompanied by shifts in the use of different types of care arrangements, according to a new report.

In 2002-2003, 54% of children aged six months to five years were in some form of child care, up from 42% in 1994-1995.

In 2002-2003, three forms of care (daycare centres, care outside the home by a non-relative, and care by a relative either inside or outside the home) each accounted for around 30% of all children in child care. The remaining small proportion consisted of children in care in their own home with a non-relative, such as a nanny, and in other forms of care such as nursery schools or preschools.

Although care outside the home by a non-relative remained one of the most common types of care between 1994-1995 and 2002-2003, there was a substantial decline in its use over the eight-year period.

This was offset by an increase in the use of care by relatives, and an increase in the use of daycare centres.

The report showed that no one form of child care stands out across the country. In fact, child care patterns varied by region, the child's background and some family characteristics.

For example, two provinces (Quebec and Manitoba) accounted for much of the growth in the use of daycare centres over the eight-year period. More than half of the children in care in Quebec, and more than one-quarter in Manitoba, were in a daycare centre in 2002-2003.

The most common type of care for children with two working parents in 2002-2003 was care outside the home by a non-relative. In the case of children with single working parents, daycare centres were most common.

The report, a wide-ranging examination of many aspects of child care, is based on five cycles of data from the National Longitudinal Survey of Children and Youth. The profiled children were aged six months to five years at the time of each interview.

More than half of Canadian children in some form of child care

More than one-half (54%) of Canadian children were in some form of child care in 2002-2003, a rate significantly higher than the 42% reported eight years earlier.

Note to readers

This release is based on a research paper entitled "Child care in Canada." The report profiles child care in Canada by focussing on the child care experiences of children aged six months to five years. The analysis covers the eight-year period from 1994-1995 to 2002-2003 using data from the National Longitudinal Survey of Children and Youth (NLSCY).

The NLSCY is a long-term study of children in Canada that collects information on a wide range of factors influencing the social, emotional, and behavioural development of children from birth to early adulthood. The survey, which began in 1994, is conducted by Statistics Canada and sponsored by Human Resources and Social Development Canada.

Many aspects of child care are examined in the report including rates of use, types of care arrangements, hours spent in care, characteristics of and changes in care arrangements, and the use of multiple arrangements. These aspects are compared over time, as are the child care experiences of children from various backgrounds. In addition, patterns in types of care arrangements as children age are discussed. The report is intended as a broad overview of child care use in Canada. It does not examine outcomes related to child care.

Definitions

Child care: refers to non-parental care; that is, care a child received that was not from their mother, father or guardian.

Parental care: refers to care a child received from a parent or guardian.

Main child care arrangement: refers to the care arrangement where the child spent the most hours per week. There are six types of child care arrangements discussed in the report: care outside the home by a non-relative (does **not** include daycare centres); care outside the home by a relative; care in the child's home by a non-relative; care in the child's home by a relative; care in a daycare centre; and 'other' care, which includes nursery school or preschool, before or after school programs, or other unspecified care.

Reporting parent: refers to the parent or guardian who responded during the interview.

The increase in the child care rate occurred for children from almost all backgrounds, regardless of geographic location, household income, family structure, parental employment status or parental place of birth.

However, there was a reported decline between 2000-2001 and 2002-2003 in the child care rate for children aged 6 to 11 months. The proportion of these children in care fell from 44% to 29% during this two-year period.

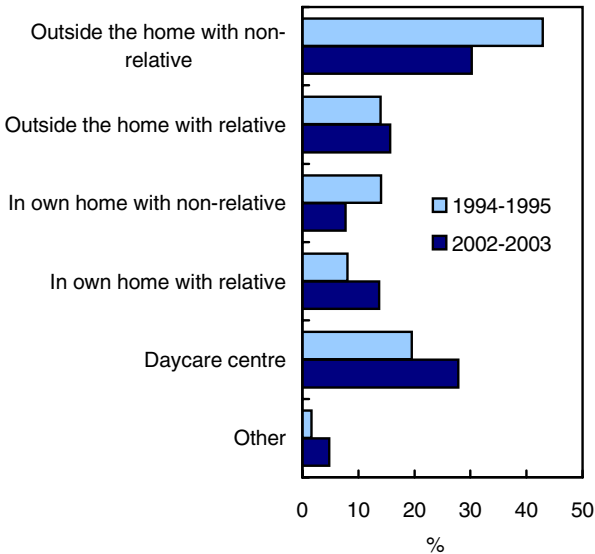
This may have been due, in part, to the amendment to the *Employment Insurance Act* (Bill C-32). It increased the combined maternity, parental and sickness leave from 25 to 50 weeks for new parents whose child was born after December 30, 2000.

As the proportion of children in care increased, there were shifts in the rates of use of certain types of care.

The proportion of children cared for outside the home by a non-relative (the most common form of child care in 1994-1995) fell from 43% to 30% in 2002-2003.

At the same time, the proportion of children cared for by a relative either inside or outside the child's home rose from 22% to nearly 30%. The proportion enrolled in a daycare centre increased from about 20% to 28%.

For children in care, the use of daycare centres and care by a relative increased over time



Child care rates varied from province to province

The proportion of children in some form of child care increased in every province between 1994-1995 and 2002-2003, although the gain in Alberta was small and not statistically significant.

In 2002-2003, child care rates were significantly above the national average of 54% in two provinces — Prince Edward Island and Quebec.

The highest rate was in Quebec, where two-thirds (67%) of all children aged six months to five years were in some form of child care in 2002-2003. The lowest rate was in Alberta where only 43% of children were in child care.

The use of certain types of care arrangements varied from province to province. Most provinces recorded a slight, but not always statistically significant, increase in the use of daycare centres. The biggest gains occurred in Manitoba and Quebec.

In Quebec, 52% of children in child care were enrolled in a daycare centre in 2002-2003, double the proportion of 25% eight years earlier. The proportion of children in a daycare centre in Manitoba nearly doubled, from 14% in 1994-1995 to 27%.

Over the eight-year period, care by a non-relative outside the home became less common in all provinces. Even so, in both Saskatchewan and Ontario it remained the most common type of care for children. In 2002-2003, 54% of children in care in Saskatchewan and 34% in Ontario were cared for outside the home by someone who was not a relative.

Nationally, the proportion of children cared for by a relative in the home rose from 8% in 1994-1995 to 14% in 2002-2003. The proportion of children in British Columbia and Alberta using this type of care almost tripled from 8% to 21% and 6% to 17%, respectively, during the eight-year period.

Type of care varied according to child's demographic background

The use of certain types of care differed with respect to a number of characteristics, including the community in which the child lived, the income level of the child's family and the parental place of birth.

For example, just over one-fifth (22%) of children in care in rural communities were cared for outside the home by a relative in 2002-2003, compared with 16% of children from urban communities.

At the same time, 30% of urban children were enrolled in a daycare centre, compared with 22% of rural children.

In terms of income levels, in 2002-2003, about 40% of children in households at the highest income level were cared for outside the home by a non-relative while 42% of children at the lowest income level were enrolled in a daycare centre.

As for parental place of birth, 26% of children in 2002-2003 whose reporting parent was born outside of Canada were in care inside the home with a relative compared with 12% of children whose parent was born in Canada.

Other aspects: Hours in care and patterns in care over time

This report also examined other aspects of child care including the number of hours children spent in care, and the children's movement from one type of care to another over time.

The report found the average number of hours in care fell from 31 hours per week in 1994-1995 to 29 hours in 2002-2003. Generally, children in daycare centres spent more hours per week in care, while fewer hours per week were spent by children cared for by a relative.

In examining the same group of children over time, the report found that children move in and out of different types of child care as they age. The analysis included parental care as a type of care, along with the six main

types of non-parental child care. The results show that in 1998-1999 about 53% of children aged 6 to 24 months were cared for by their parents, while 18% of children were in care outside the home with a non-relative, and a further 11% were outside the home with a relative. By 2002-2003, an average 52% of these children were in a different type of care arrangement from that of 1998-1999. Common patterns in the change over time in the types of care are explained in more detail in the report.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 4450.

The study *Child Care in Canada* (89-599-MIE2006003, free) is now available online. From the *Our products and services* page, under *Browse our Internet publications*, choose *Free*, then *Social conditions*, then *Children and Youth research paper series*.

For more information about the data collected during the first five cycles of the NLSCY or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Client Services (1-800-461-9050; 613-951-3321; ssd@statcan.ca), Special Surveys Division.

Proportion of children aged six months to five years in child care, by age and background characteristics

	1994-1995	2002-2003
	% in child care	
Total	41.9	53.6
Child age		
Six months to under one year	36.0	28.6
One year	43.3	56.1
Two years	44.5	58.1
Three years	42.4	57.7
Four years	41.5	55.7
Five years	40.8	53.1
Province of residence		
Newfoundland and Labrador	36.4	53.0
Prince Edward Island	42.1	63.4
Nova Scotia	39.0	53.6
New Brunswick	39.1	56.6
Quebec	43.5	66.9
Ontario	43.8	50.5
Manitoba	42.3	52.9
Saskatchewan	44.9	54.7
Alberta	39.1	42.6
British Columbia	35.5	49.2
Community type		
Urban	43.0	53.8
Rural	36.3	52.4
Level of household income		
Below low-income cutoff (LICO) ¹	22.7	39.2
Equal to less than two times LICO	37.4	44.8
Two to less than three times LICO	55.2	61.5
Three times LICO or above	71.9	69.9
Family structure		
Single-parent	39.0	64.4
Two-parent	42.4	52.1
Parental paid work/study status		
Single parent, worked for pay/studied	77.6	82.9
Two parents, one worked for pay or studied	11.1	19.5
Two parents, both worked for pay or studied	66.1	70.9
Place of birth of reporting parent		
Canada	42.8	56.4
Outside of Canada	37.3	44.1

1. The LICO is a statistical measure of the income thresholds below which Canadians likely devote a larger share of income than average to the necessities of food, shelter and clothing.

Note: Estimates in bold indicate statistically significant differences between 1994/1995 and 2002/2003 (p is less than or equal to 0.05).



Residential Telephone Service Survey

December 2005

The proportion of Canadian households relying only on cell phones for communications instead of landline phones has more than doubled in just over two years, according to new data from the Residential Telephone Service Survey.

As of December 2005, just over 615,000 households, or 4.8% of the total, reported having only a cell phone, compared with just 1.9% in mid-2003.

Households in the two westernmost provinces, British Columbia and Alberta, are leading the way in growth.

About 7.1% of British Columbia households had only a cell phone at the end of last year, more than triple the proportion from mid-2003. In Alberta, the proportion more than doubled to 5.8%.

Low-income households are more likely to have only a cell phone. The survey showed that 7.7% of households that were below Statistics Canada's low-income cutoff (LICO) had only a cell phone, nearly double the proportion of 4.1% of households above the LICO. (The LICO is a statistical measure of the income thresholds below which Canadians likely devote a larger share of income than average to the necessities of food, shelter and clothing.)

Households in large urban centres are most likely to have a cell phone only.

Nearly one out of every 10 households (9.6%) in Vancouver had only a cell phone, the highest proportion among the census metropolitan areas. Households in Montréal and Calgary were tied for a distant second at around 6.4%.

The survey also showed that just over 156,000 households, or 1.2% of the total, did not have any telephone service at all. This represents a significant decline from the previous year (1.5%), a figure that had been virtually unchanged since this survey first began monitoring telephone subscription rates in 1998.

Almost 3% of households in Prince Edward Island did not have any phone service, the highest rate among the provinces.

Households that did not have any phone service cited basic local monthly rates and installation charges that were too difficult to afford.

More than half of Canadian households had more than one phone line. Almost 3.7 million (28.6%) households reported having two phone lines, and 3.4 million (26.2%) reported having three or more phone lines.

Note: The Residential Telephone Service Survey, conducted since the fall of 1998, is now carried out for Aliant Telecom Inc., Bell Canada MTS Allstream Inc., Northwestel Inc., Saskatchewan Telecommunications and TELUS Communications Inc. It monitors residential phone penetration rates and reasons for non-subscribing to assist the Canadian Radio-Television and Telecommunications Commission in making decisions on rate increases and decreases, or subsidies.

Proportion of households with only a cell phone

	May 2003	May 2004	December 2004	December 2005
	%			
Canada	1.9	2.4	2.7	4.8
Newfoundland and Labrador	0.8	1.1	2.5	2.3
Prince Edward Island	1.2	1.9	2.4	3.8
Nova Scotia	2.4	2.5	2.5	4.1
New Brunswick	1.4	1.3	1.8	2.4
Quebec	2.2	2.2	2.6	4.8
Ontario	1.7	2.3	2.0	4.1
Manitoba	1.9	2.0	2.7	4.5
Saskatchewan	0.6	1.2	1.4	2.5
Alberta	2.4	2.7	3.8	5.8
British Columbia	2.1	3.9	4.4	7.1

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 4426.

The microdata file Residential Telephone Service Survey (56M0001XCB, \$535) is now available. See *How to order products*. Information in this file is from the December 2005 survey and refers to telephone service penetration rates in all 10 provinces.

For more information on related products and services, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Client Services (1-800-461-9050; 613-951-3321; fax: 613-951-4527; ssd@statcan.ca), Special Surveys Division. ■

Study: The impact of human capital on provincial standards of living 1951 to 2001

The accumulation of human capital has played a strong role in explaining relative levels of per capita income across the provinces during the past half century, according to a new report.

This report examines the role of human capital as measured by two concepts (the accumulation of literacy skills and university achievement) to explain the relative levels of income per capita in the provinces between 1951 and 2001.

University achievement was measured as the percentage of the working-age population holding a

university degree. Literacy test scores were derived from the 2003 International Adult Literacy and Skills Survey. Data were intended to capture the mean literacy level of labour market entrants aged 17 to 25 for each of the provinces.

The report found that the impact of human capital on per capita income was positive and significant, whether human capital was measured by literacy results or the level achieved in university, or both.

It also found that the skills acquired by one extra year of schooling resulted in an increase in per capita income of around 7.3%.

However, literacy skills were no more important than university attainment in explaining these gains in per capita income. This finding contrasted with previous research showing that literacy indicators outperformed schooling indicators on a national basis.

The analysis took into account Canada's large degree of urbanization as well as the impact of certain economic events that shook the growth patterns of certain provinces.

The relative rate of urbanization across the provinces had a positive and highly significant impact on relative income per capita, the report found.

However, the report acknowledged that the analysis did not take into account migration flows that occurred during the 50-year period.

Studying the transfer of human capital across the provinces based on literacy test scores would allow a better understanding of factors determining the migration of skilled labourers, and its impact on converging standards of living from one region to another.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 4406.

The research paper *Human Capital and Canadian Provincial Standards of Living* (89-552-MIE2006014, free) 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 (1-800-307-3382 or 613-951-7608; fax: 613-951-9040; educationstats@statcan.ca), Culture, Tourism and the Centre for Education Statistics. ■

Domestic sales of refined petroleum products

February 2006 (preliminary)

Sales of refined petroleum products totalled 7 626 200 cubic metres in February, down 3.5%

from February 2005. Sales decreased in six of the seven major product groups, with heavy fuel oil down 108 700 cubic metres or 17.7%. Motor gasoline sales fell 33 900 cubic metres or 1.1%. Diesel fuel oil sales rose 8 800 cubic metres or 0.4%.

Sales of regular non-leaded (-0.5%) and premium (-10.2%) declined while sales of mid-grade rose 4.2% from February 2005.

Year-to-date sales of refined petroleum products at the end of February totalled 15 472 800 cubic metres, down 6.4% from the same period of 2005. Sales fell in six of the seven major product groups, with the largest decrease occurring in heavy fuel oil (-390 400 cubic metres or -27.1%).

Sales of refined petroleum products

	Feb. 2005 ^r	Feb. 2006 ^p	Feb. 2005 to Feb. 2006
	'000 of cubic metres		% change
Total, all products	7 900.7	7 626.2	-3.5
Motor gasoline	3 050.6	3 016.7	-1.1
Diesel fuel oil	1 993.4	2 002.2	0.4
Light fuel oil	619.8	556.6	-10.2
Heavy fuel oil	615.9	507.2	-17.7
Aviation turbo fuels	512.7	495.7	-3.3
Petrochemical feedstocks ¹	367.9	354.8	-3.6
All other refined products	740.3	693.0	-6.4

	Jan. 2005 to Feb. 2005 ^r	Jan. 2006 to Feb. 2006 ^p	Jan.-Feb. 2005 to Jan.-Feb. 2006
	'000 of cubic metres		% change
Total, all products	16 536.7	15 472.8	-6.4
Motor gasoline	6 349.7	6 156.1	-3.0
Diesel fuel oil	4 126.4	4 041.1	-2.1
Light fuel oil	1 362.6	1 123.0	-17.6
Heavy fuel oil	1 439.8	1 049.4	-27.1
Aviation turbo fuels	966.9	1 017.9	5.3
Petrochemical feedstocks ¹	764.9	614.6	-19.6
All other refined products	1 526.3	1 470.7	-3.6

^r Revised.

^p Preliminary.

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

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

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2150.

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. ■

Supply and disposition of refined petroleum products

November 2005

Data on the supply and disposition and domestic sales of refined petroleum products are now available for November.

Available on CANSIM: tables 134-0001 to 134-0004.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2150.

The November 2005 issue of *The Supply and Disposition of Refined Petroleum Products in Canada* (previously titled *Refined Petroleum Products*), Vol. 60, no. 11 (45-004-XIE, \$18/\$166) 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 the Marketing and Dissemination Section (613-951-9497; 1-866-873-8789; energ@statcan.ca), Manufacturing, Construction and Energy Division. ■

New products

The Supply and Disposition of Refined Petroleum Products in Canada, November 2005, Vol. 60, no. 11
Catalogue number 45-004-XIE (\$18/\$166).

Residential Telephone Service Survey,
December 2005
Catalogue number 56M0001XCB (\$535).

Canadian Foreign Post Indexes, April 2006
Catalogue number 62-013-XIE
(free).

International Adult Literacy Survey (Series): Human Capital and Canadian Provincial Standards of Living, 1951 to 2001, no. 14
Catalogue number 89-552-MIE2006014
(free).

Children and Youth Research Paper Series: Child Care in Canada, 1994-1995 to 2002-2003, no. 3
Catalogue number 89-599-MIE2006003
(free).

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

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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 six 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 and industry weak again in 1996, accompanied by sluggish gains in employment and slow economic growth during the year.

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