



The Daily

Statistics Canada

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Study: Health and health care use in Canada and the United States

2003

Americans in the lowest income groups are much more likely than their Canadian counterparts to be in fair or poor health, according to a study comparing health status and access to health care services between the two nations.

The study was based on the Joint Canada/United States Survey of Health, a unique population health survey conducted jointly by Statistics Canada and the US National Center for Health Statistics of the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention between November 2002 and June 2003.

The study, published recently in the journal *Health Affairs*, found that almost one-third (31%) of Americans with the lowest incomes reported fair or poor health, compared with 23% among their Canadian counterparts.

At the other end of the income spectrum, there were no differences in health status between Canadians and Americans in the highest income group.

In terms of access to health care services, the situation for Canadians was more like that of insured Americans. Canadians and insured affluent Americans were similar regarding their access to physicians, including access to a regular medical doctor. However, Canadians experienced fewer unmet health care needs overall.

Results from the Joint Canada/United States Survey of Health were first released in *The Daily* on June 2, 2004.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 5020.

The article "Comparing health and health care use in Canada and the United States" was published recently in *Health Affairs*, and the abstract is available at (<http://content.healthaffairs.org/cgi/content/abstract/25/4/1133>).

It is based on the 2002/2003 *Joint Canada/United States Survey of Health: Findings and Public-use Microdata File* (82M0022XIE, free), which is available on our website. This work is a collaboration of Statistics Canada and the US National Center for Health Statistics of the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

For general information or to order custom tabulations, contact Client Services (613-951-1746; hd-ds@statcan.ca), Health Division.

To enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Claudia Sanmartin (613-951-6059; fax: 613-951-3959;

claudia.sanmartin@statcan.ca), Health Analysis and Measurement Group. ■

Public school indicators

1997/1998 to 2003/2004

The report *Summary Public School Indicators for the Provinces and Territories*, released today, provides a comprehensive examination of public school indicators for the provinces and territories from 1997/1998 to 2003/2004.

It examines trends in enrolment and the number of educators for public elementary and secondary schools, as well as basic financial statistics, such as total spending on education, spending per student and spending as a percentage of the gross domestic product.

Between 1997/1998 and 2003/2004, enrolment in public elementary and secondary schools edged down 1.2% to just under 5.3 million children. All provinces reported lower enrolment in 2002/2003 and 2003/2004.

During the six-year period, enrolment in public elementary and secondary schools based on full-time equivalents increased in only Ontario and Alberta.

In Ontario, enrolment reached 2.1 million, up 1.6% from six years earlier. In Alberta, enrolment hit 549,500, a 3.2% gain. Ontario's increase was essentially due to high levels of immigration, and in the case of Alberta, the reason was migration from other provinces.

The largest decline occurred in Newfoundland and Labrador, where enrolment fell nearly 20% from six years earlier to 81,545. This was largely because of a net outflow of migration to other provinces.

Declines in enrolment in all other provinces and territories ranged from 12.8% in the Yukon to 0.7% in the Northwest Territories. These can be attributed to an aging population, as the children of the baby boomers are now starting post-secondary education, where enrolment has increased in recent years.

At the same time, spending on public elementary and secondary education rose. In 1997/1998, total spending amounted to \$34.5 billion nationwide. Six years later, this total hit nearly \$42.2 billion, a 22% increase. In comparison, inflation rose only 14% during the same period.

Nationally in 1997/1998, it cost on average \$6,859 to educate a student in Canada. Six years later, this cost had increased 24% to \$8,504.

Among the provinces, the annual cost per student ranged from \$7,189 in Nova Scotia to \$9,003 in Manitoba.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 5102.

The report *Summary Public School Indicators for the Provinces and Territories, 1997/1998 to 2003/2004* (81-595-MIE2006044, free) is now available online. From the *Publications* page, under *Free Internet publications*, choose *Education*, then *Culture, Tourism and the Centre for Education Statistics – Research Papers*.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Client Services (toll-free 1-800-307-3382 or 613-951-7608; fax: 613-951-9040; educationstats@statcan.ca), Culture, Tourism and the Centre for Education Statistics. ■

Pipeline transportation of crude oil and refined petroleum products

April 2006

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 April 2006.

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 (1-866-873-8789; 613-951-9497; energ@statcan.ca), Manufacturing, Construction and Energy Division. ■

Couriers and Messengers Services Price Index

June 2006

The Couriers and Messengers Services Price Index (CMSPI) is a monthly price index measuring the change over time in prices for courier and messenger services provided by long and short distance delivery companies to Canadian-based business clients.

The CMSPI increased 1.7% to 120.3 (2003=100) in June. The courier portion rose 1.1% while the local messengers component jumped 4.0% due to fuel charge increases.

These indexes are available at the Canada level only.

Available on CANSIM: table 329-0053.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 5064.

For more information, contact Client Services (1-866-230-2248; 613-951-9606; infounit@statcan.ca). To enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Perry Kirkpatrick (613-951-1930; perry.kirkpatrick@statcan.ca), Prices Division. ■

New products

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

**Culture, Tourism and the Centre for Education
Statistics: Research Papers: Summary Public
School Indicators for the Provinces and
Territories**, 1997/1998 to 2003/2004
Catalogue number 81-595-MIE2006044
(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; -XCB or -XCE are electronic versions on compact disc and -XBB or -XBE a database.

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Authorized agents and bookstores also carry Statistics Canada's catalogued publications.

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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 20 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 was relatively 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
- **Short-term Expectations Survey** 3
- **Steel primary forms, week ending May 31, 1997** 12
- **Egg production, April 1997** 12

PUBLICATIONS RELEASED 11

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Statistics Canada's official release bulletin

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