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The Daily

Statistics Canada

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Releases

Releases

Study: Demographic changes across an urban-to-rural gradient

1971 to 2001

The growth in Canada's population during the past 30 years has been concentrated in the nation's largest metropolitan areas, and in rural areas on which these urban areas have a strong influence, according to a new report.

In general, rates of growth are weaker as the degree of rurality increases.

The report also found that migration from one part of the country to another was a key factor behind these varying growth patterns.

The most urbanized areas, except for Montréal, Toronto and Vancouver, experienced strong population growth as well as significant gains resulting from interregional migration. This was also the case with rural regions that had a strong metropolitan influence.

The most rural regions experienced weak demographic growth, and in some cases their population declined. This occurred despite the fact that their fertility was higher than other regions. Migration was in general less favourable to these regions.

The strong growth in Canada's three largest urban centres, Montréal, Toronto and Vancouver, has been due largely to the high numbers of international immigrants who decided to settle there.

The report found that the concentration of newcomers in these three big urban centres has helped increase the gap between them and the rest of the country in terms of ethnocultural diversity.

Also, interregional migration affected the age structure of the different regions, partially due to the movement of young adults toward the largest urban centres.

> ***Note to readers***
>
> *This report is based on the research paper "Demographic changes in Canada from 1971 to 2001 across an urban-to-rural gradient", released today.*
>
> *The study used census data to examine demographic differences between urban and rural areas in Canada by analyzing regions along a gradient ranging from the largest metropolitan regions to the most rural areas. A constant geographic structure is applied to census data from 1971 to 2001 in order to maintain constant borders across the diverse regions over time.*
>
> *In this study, the terms "metropolitan" or "urban" are used interchangeably to designate areas comprised of census metropolitan areas (CMAs) and census agglomerations (CAs). "Non-metropolitan" or "rural" will refer to all other regions, that is, those belonging to neither a CMA nor a CA.*
>
> *The report analyzes population growth across eight types of urban and rural regions, as well as the contribution of immigration, fertility and internal migration to growth differentials. It also examines the consequences of these observed demographic differences in terms of aging and ethnocultural diversity.*

Population in metropolitan areas rose at three times the pace of rural areas

Between 1971 and 2001, the population living in metropolitan areas jumped by 45%, more than three times the rate of growth of only 13% in rural areas.

However, there were important differences in rates of growth among various types of urban and rural areas. The areas that experienced the strongest growth were either the most heavily populated metropolitan areas, or the rural areas with a strong metropolitan influence.

For example, there are six census metropolitan areas with populations of between 500,000 and 1.1 million, and these had a growth rate of 55% combined between 1971 and 2001. This was just slightly faster than the growth rate of 52% in Montreal, Toronto and Vancouver combined. These were the fastest growth rates in the nation.

In rural areas that were strongly influenced by metropolitan areas the population rose by 47%. This was faster than rates for medium and small urban areas.

For the other rural areas, demographic growth was considerably below the national average of 37%. In fact, it was negative in the regions without any metropolitan influence. These rural regions experienced a decline in their population over the 30-year period.

The study also found that strong population growth in the largest metropolitan areas appeared to depend on growth in their peripheral municipalities.

During this period, the population in the peripheral municipalities of the largest urban centres increased by more than 100%, four times the rate of growth of only 23% in the central municipalities. This phenomenon illustrates urban spread, which consists of a higher growth around, compared to within, the central municipalities.

Fertility rates lowest in the largest metropolitan areas

In 1971, every woman had slightly over 2.1 children, on average, just above what is known as the "replacement level". By early 2000, it had declined to about 1.5. In fact, 1971 was the last time fertility surpassed the replacement level.

The study found that fertility was lowest in the largest metropolitan areas and tended to rise steadily with the degree of rurality.

In fact, if population increases between 1971 and 2001 had depended only on fertility, the rural areas would have grown at a faster pace than the metropolitan areas.

Migration played a key role for demographic growth

The areas with the highest increase in their population all experienced a large number of migrants coming there to settle. In the three largest urban centres of the country, Montréal, Toronto and Vancouver, population growth came mostly from international immigration over the last 30 years.

This sustained immigration, along with the diversification of the immigrant's origins, contributed to the ethnocultural diversity in these three large regions. The percentage of visible minorities, of allophones, and of people with religious denominations other than Christian, is higher there than in all the other types of regions.

The strong growth observed in the other metropolitan areas with more than 500,000 inhabitants and in the rural areas with strong metropolitan influence was supplemented by gains in their migratory exchanges with the rest of the country.

The propensity of young adults from rural areas to move to the largest urban centres, along with the inverse trend for older adults, affected the age structure of the various types of areas. The proportion of seniors is lower in the largest metropolitan centres than in most of the other types of regions.

The research paper "Demographic changes in Canada from 1971 to 2001 across an urban-to-rural gradient" (91F0015MWE2007008, free) is now available in the report *Demographic Documents* from the *Publications* module of our website.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Client Services (toll-free 1-866-767-5611 or 613 951-2320; fax: 613 951-2307; *demography@statcan.ca*), Demography Division. ■

Payroll employment, earnings and hours

February 2007 (preliminary)

The average weekly earnings of payroll employees (seasonally adjusted) increased $1.06 (+0.1%) from a month earlier to $764.12 in February. The year-to-date growth is 3.1%. This rate of change is calculated as the average of the first two months of 2007 compared to the average of the same two months in 2006.

In Canada's largest industrial sectors, year-to-date growth reached 3.1% in health and social assistance, 2.8% in manufacturing, 0.8% in retail trade and 0.4% in educational services.

Among the provinces, Alberta continues to lead earnings growth with a year-to-date increase of 5.2%.

In Canada, there was an increase of 7,900 (+0.1%) payroll jobs in February, making the total estimated number of payroll jobs 14,252,400. Nova Scotia (+0.6%), Alberta (+0.5%), and Prince Edward Island (+0.5%) recorded the largest percentage increases in employment for February. The largest absolute increases were in Alberta (+8,500) and British Columbia (+5,200).

The average hourly earnings for hourly paid employees fell 0.4% in February to $18.85. The average weekly hours for hourly paid employees declined 0.6% to 31.3 hours.

Available on CANSIM: tables 281-0023 to 281-0046.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2612.

Detailed industry data, data by size of enterprise based on employment, and other labour market indicators will be available soon in the monthly publication *Employment, Earnings and Hours* (72-002-XIB, free).

Data on payroll employment, earnings and hours for March will be released on May 29.

For general information or to order data, contact Client Services (toll-free 1-866-873-8788; 613-951-4090; fax: 613-951-2869; *labour@statcan.ca*). To enquire about revisions, concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Peter Lorenz (613-951-4167), Labour Statistics Division. □

Average weekly earnings (including overtime) for all employees

Industry group (North American Industry Classification System)	February 2006	January 2007[r]	February 2007[p]	January to February 2007	February 2006 to February 2007	Year-to-date average 2007[1]
	Seasonally adjusted					
	$			% change		
Industrial aggregate	**740.18**	**763.06**	**764.12**	**0.1**	**3.2**	**3.1**
Forestry, logging and support	959.52	979.32	989.48	1.0	3.1	2.8
Mining and oil and gas	1,335.90	1,393.04	1,391.25	-0.1	4.1	4.4
Utilities	1,081.69	1,100.87	1,103.97	0.3	2.1	2.2
Construction	898.07	907.34	915.17	0.9	1.9	1.6
Manufacturing	898.52	926.29	923.17	-0.3	2.7	2.8
Wholesale trade	862.76	898.54	907.21	1.0	5.2	4.8
Retail trade	484.30	485.67	490.96	1.1	1.4	0.8
Transportation and warehousing	785.75	795.32	798.40	0.4	1.6	1.5
Information and cultural industries	922.40	957.50	955.35	-0.2	3.6	3.8
Finance and insurance	939.81	979.76	989.95	1.0	5.3	4.5
Real estate and rental and leasing	664.63	702.50	704.60	0.3	6.0	5.8
Professional, scientific and technical services	949.91	976.26	975.32	-0.1	2.7	2.4
Management of companies and enterprises	968.92	915.36	929.31	1.5	-4.1	-4.2
Administrative and support, waste management and remediation services	586.38	645.60	641.63	-0.6	9.4	9.6
Educational services	816.98	821.46	815.54	-0.7	-0.2	0.4
Health care and social assistance	672.95	695.29	694.58	-0.1	3.2	3.1
Arts, entertainment and recreation	429.46	440.95	441.21	0.1	2.7	1.8
Accommodation and food services	292.00	325.55	319.69	-1.8	9.5	10.9
Other services (excluding public administration)	568.73	598.23	596.57	-0.3	4.9	5.3
Public administration	916.35	949.24	957.31	0.9	4.5	4.1
Provinces and territories						
Newfoundland and Labrador	683.04	702.86	704.23	0.2	3.1	3.0
Prince Edward Island	599.78	625.02	632.08	1.1	5.4	4.8
Nova Scotia	652.15	666.77	669.56	0.4	2.7	2.4
New Brunswick	678.46	696.84	702.26	0.8	3.5	3.3
Quebec	692.66	707.63	716.07	1.2	3.4	3.1
Ontario	778.35	798.01	798.69	0.1	2.6	2.5
Manitoba	669.43	686.10	696.29	1.5	4.0	3.4
Saskatchewan	683.79	710.55	714.78	0.6	4.5	3.8
Alberta	789.17	827.45	829.53	0.3	5.1	5.2
British Columbia	735.61	752.65	750.41	-0.3	2.0	2.2
Yukon	848.16	856.85	862.48	0.7	1.7	1.2
Northwest Territories[2]	984.19	970.46	981.29	1.1	-0.3	0.1
Nunavut[2]	877.55	924.92	937.97	1.4	6.9	5.3

r *revised*
p *preliminary*
1. *Rate of change for the first month of 2007 compared to the same month for 2006.*
2. *Data not seasonally adjusted.*

Number of employees

Industry group (North American Industry Classification System)	December 2006	January 2007[r]	February 2007[p]	December 2006 to January 2007	January to February 2007	December 2006 to February 2007
	Seasonally adjusted					
	thousands			% change		
Industrial aggregate	**14,217.7**	**14,244.5**	**14,252.4**	**0.2**	**0.1**	**0.2**
Forestry, logging and support	57.5	57.1	57.0	-0.7	-0.2	-0.9
Mining and oil and gas	186.8	190.4	195.3	1.9	2.6	4.6
Utilities	121.0	121.9	121.7	0.7	-0.2	0.6
Construction	752.6	754.5	754.0	0.3	-0.1	0.2
Manufacturing	1,832.2	1,833.2	1,828.2	0.1	-0.3	-0.2
Wholesale trade	750.1	751.8	754.1	0.2	0.3	0.5
Retail trade	1,754.6	1,748.1	1,742.6	-0.4	-0.3	-0.7
Transportation and warehousing	639.7	646.3	647.5	1.0	0.2	1.2
Information and cultural industries	353.9	351.3	351.6	-0.7	0.1	-0.6
Finance and insurance	615.7	619.5	621.6	0.6	0.3	1.0
Real estate and rental and leasing	246.4	245.8	244.8	-0.2	-0.4	-0.6
Professional, scientific and technical services	714.4	721.4	722.4	1.0	0.1	1.1
Management of companies and enterprises	97.4	97.3	98.8	-0.1	1.5	1.4
Administrative and support, waste management and remediation services	706.0	701.2	702.8	-0.7	0.2	-0.5
Educational services	1,061.4	1,072.5	1,068.2	1.0	-0.4	0.6
Health care and social assistance	1,456.8	1,460.3	1,463.0	0.2	0.2	0.4
Arts, entertainment and recreation	239.5	239.0	240.1	-0.2	0.5	0.3
Accommodation and food services	1,028.0	1,029.4	1,029.3	0.1	0.0	0.1
Other services (excluding public administration)	517.8	519.0	518.3	0.2	-0.1	0.1
Public administration	815.3	817.2	817.2	0.2	0.0	0.2
Provinces and territories						
Newfoundland and Labrador	177.6	177.3	177.9	-0.2	0.3	0.2
Prince Edward Island	57.0	58.3	58.6	2.3	0.5	2.8
Nova Scotia	386.0	382.7	385.0	-0.9	0.6	-0.3
New Brunswick	309.4	312.3	311.3	0.9	-0.3	0.6
Quebec	3,260.6	3,268.9	3,272.2	0.3	0.1	0.4
Ontario	5,455.3	5,462.7	5,463.2	0.1	0.0	0.1
Manitoba	530.2	530.9	530.6	0.1	-0.1	0.1
Saskatchewan	419.4	421.8	421.7	0.6	0.0	0.5
Alberta	1,709.8	1,718.2	1,726.7	0.5	0.5	1.0
British Columbia	1,852.3	1,854.0	1,859.2	0.1	0.3	0.4
Yukon	17.2	17.3	17.3	0.6	0.0	0.6
Northwest Territories[1]	22.7	22.1	23.5	-2.6	6.3	3.5
Nunavut[1]	10.8	10.2	10.0	-5.6	-2.0	-7.4

r *revised*
p *preliminary*
1. *Data not seasonally adjusted.*

■

Hog inventories

First quarter 2007

Despite high international demand for Canadian hogs and pork, Canadian hog inventories continued to decline. Prices and domestic demand have been weak while disease has affected hog production in Eastern Canada.

Farmers reported 14.1 million hogs on their farms as of April 1, 2007, according to a survey taken in March. This was down 1.5% from the fourth quarter of 2006 and 3.1% below the same date last year. Further, the first quarter data are 5.5% below the record established in July 2005.

Hog inventories in Eastern Canada as of April 1, 2007, stood at 7.9 million head, off 3.3% from the same time last year. Those in Western Canada fell 2.9% to 6.3 million head.

Hog prices continued to be soft as they have been since 2005, in part because of a stronger dollar. For example, the 2006 average price for hogs was 11.4% below the 2005 average and 18.7% less than 2004. More recent spikes in the price of feed grains will have an adverse impact on the bottom line of many hog producers.

In 2006, international exports of Canadian hogs reached record levels. Producers exported 8.8 million hogs, surpassing the previous record of 8.5 million head established in 2004. Over the years, an increasing number of younger hogs have been exported to the United States for feeding.

Meanwhile, exports of pork meat have also climbed to record levels, rising over 50% during the past five years. The United States, at 38% of the total, was the major importer of Canadian pork in 2006 while Japan claimed 24%. There are numerous countries that import pork from Canada including Russia, South Korea, Romania, Australia, Mexico and China.

Hog slaughter in Canada slipped 2.4% in 2006 compared to a year earlier. Domestic slaughter rose steadily from 1999 to 2004, reaching a record high of 22.9 million head in 2004. Since then, levels have been declining.

Note: The on-going livestock statistics will be aligned with the results of Census of Agriculture scheduled for release on May 16, 2007. The adjusted data set will be available on August 16, 2007.

Available on CANSIM: table 003-0004.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 3460.

The report *Hog Statistics*, Vol. 6, no. 2 (23-010-XIE, free) is now available. From the *Publication* module of our website under *Free internet publications*, choose *Agriculture*.

For general information, contact Client Services (toll-free 1-800-465-1991). To enquire about the concepts, methods and data quality of this release, contact Yukman Cheung (613-951-9180; *yukman.cheung@statcan.ca*), Agriculture Division.

Hog inventories as of April 1, 2007

	Breeding		Market hogs				Total hogs	
	2007	2006 to 2007	2007	2006 to 2007	2007	2006 to 2007	2007	2006 to 2007
			Under 20 kg		20 kg and over			
	thousands of head	% change	thousands of head	% change	thousands of head	% change	thousands of head	% change
Canada	**1,612**	**-1.6**	**4,527**	**2.7**	**7,982**	**-6.4**	**14,121**	**-3.1**
Atlantic	31	-3.1	96	-3.8	195	0.4	322	-1.2
Quebec	404	-3.6	1,268	2.4	2,378	-5.4	4,050	-2.9
Ontario	426	-2.2	1,122	2.1	1,942	-7.5	3,490	-4.0
East	**861**	**-2.9**	**2,486**	**2.0**	**4,515**	**-6.1**	**7,862**	**-3.3**
Manitoba	380	0.7	1,095	12.2	1,415	-9.7	2,890	-1.0
Saskatchewan	137	1.8	303	-12.0	841	-4.7	1,280	-5.9
Alberta	213	-2.2	574	-4.5	1,143	-3.2	1,930	-3.5
British Columbia	21	-1.4	69	40.8	69	-28.0	159	-4.2
West	**751**	**0.0**	**2,041**	**3.6**	**3,467**	**-6.9**	**6,259**	**-2.9**

Note: *Figures may not add up to totals due to rounding.*

■

Stocks of frozen and chilled meats

April 2007

Stocks of red meat in storage totalled 93 848 metric tonnes in April, down 1% from the same period a year ago, but up 6% from January 2007. Stocks of poultry meat totalled 54 597 tonnes on April 1, down 15% from a year earlier but up 18% from January 2007.

This release contains details for various cuts of pork, beef, veal, poultry, mutton and lamb as well as fancy meats at the Canadian level. At the regional level, it contains totals for the red meats. This release also contains the holdings of imported meat at the national level for the same periods.

Available on CANSIM: tables 003-0081 and 003-0082.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 3423.

The April 2007 issue of *Stocks of Frozen and Chilled Meats*, Vol. 2, no. 1 (23-009-XWE, free) is now available. From the *Publication* modules of our website under *Free Internet Publications*, choose *Agriculture*.

For general information, call (toll-free 1-800-465-1991). To enquire about the concepts, methods and data quality of this release, contact Barbara McLaughlin (902-893-7251; *barbara.mclaughlin@statcan.ca*), Agriculture Division. ■

Production and disposition of tobacco products

March 2007

Total cigarettes sold in March by Canadian manufacturers fell 8.1% from February to 1.1 billion cigarettes, down 53.9% compared with March 2006.

Cigarette production in March decreased 16.6% from February to 1.1 billion cigarettes, down 55.4% from March 2006.

At 1.7 billion cigarettes, the level of closing inventories for March increased 0.7% from February, but was down 55.7% from March 2006.

Note: This survey collects data on the production of tobacco products in Canada by Canadian manufacturers and the disposition or sales of this production. It does not collect data on imported tobacco products. Therefore, sales information in this release is not a proxy for domestic consumption of tobacco products.

Available on CANSIM: table 303-0062.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2142.

The March 2007 issue of *Production and Disposition of Tobacco Products*, Vol. 36, no. 3 (32-022-XWE, free) is now available from the *Publications* module of our website.

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

Couriers and Messengers Services Price Index

March 2007

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 decreased 0.5% to 122.2 (2003=100) in March. The courier portion fell 0.7% on a monthly basis, while the local messengers component rose 0.6%.

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 (toll-free 1-866-230-2248; 613-951-9606; *prices-prix@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

Stocks of Frozen and Chilled Meats, April 2007, Vol. 2, no. 1
Catalogue number 23-009-XWE
(free).

Hog Statistics, Vol. 6, no. 2
Catalogue number 23-010-XIE
(free).

Production and Disposition of Tobacco Products, March 2007, Vol. 36, no. 3
Catalogue number 32-022-XWE
(free).

Energy Statistics Handbook, Fourth quarter 2006
Catalogue number 57-601-XWE
(free).

Energy Statistics Handbook, Fourth quarter 2006
Catalogue number 57-601-XCB ($54/$161).

Inter-corporate Ownership, First quarter 2007
Catalogue number 61-517-XCB ($375/$1,065).

Demographic Documents: "Demographic changes in Canada from 1971 to 2001 across an urban-to-rural gradient", no. 8
Catalogue number 91F0015MWE2007008
(free).

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

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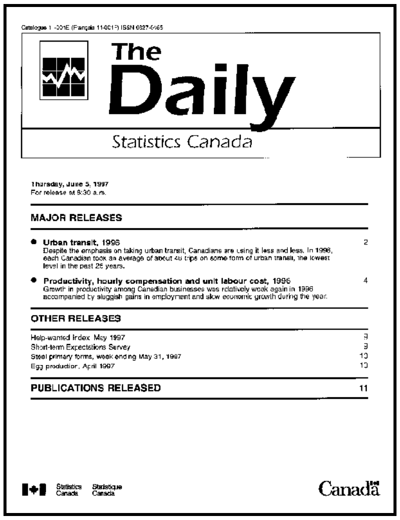
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The Daily

Statistics Canada

Thursday, June 5, 1997
For release at 8:30 a.m.

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 46 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

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PUBLICATIONS RELEASED 11

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