

# The Daily

Statistics Canada

**Wednesday, November 5, 2008**

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## Registered retirement savings plan contributions

2007

Just under 6.3 million taxfilers contributed to registered retirement savings plans (RRSP) in 2007, up 1.6% from 2006. Their contributions rose by 5.3% to \$34.1 billion. These data are based on tax returns filed for 2007.

Among the provinces, the highest percentage increase in the number of contributors occurred in Newfoundland and Labrador (+5.3%). However, in absolute numbers Quebec had the largest gain with almost 25,700 persons.

The largest increase in contributions occurred in Saskatchewan (+12.8%).

To be eligible to contribute to an RRSP, a taxfiler must have either new room as a result of qualifying income from the previous year (generally employment income), or unused room from earlier years. The limit is based on 18% of the previous tax year's earned income, to a fixed maximum, less any pension adjustment, plus any unused room carried forward. The fixed maximum in 2007 was \$19,000, up from \$18,000 in 2006.

Almost 88% of taxfilers were eligible to contribute to an RRSP for the 2007 tax year, the same proportion as in 2006. Of this group of eligible taxfilers, 31% actually made contributions, unchanged from 2006.

The \$34.1 billion in RRSP contributions in 2007 represented about 6.0% of the total room available to eligible taxfilers, down from 7.0% in 2006.

Nationally, the median contribution was \$2,780. The median is the point where half of the contributors contributed more than \$2,780 and half less. The median was highest in the three territories, with Nunavut leading the way at \$4,330 followed by the Northwest Territories at \$3,600.

Among census metropolitan areas, Calgary contributors had the highest median (\$3,770), followed by those in Vancouver at \$3,470 and Toronto at \$3,300. The same three metropolitan areas have historically occupied the top three positions.

**Available on CANSIM: tables 111-0039 to 111-0041.**

**Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 4106.**

The databanks *RRSP Contributors* (17C0006, various prices), *RRSP Contribution Limits* (17C0011, various prices) and *Canadian Taxfilers* (17C0010, various prices) are available for Canada, the provinces and territories, cities, towns, census metropolitan areas, census divisions, federal electoral districts, and areas as small as forward sortation areas (the first three characters of the postal code), and letter carrier routes. See *How to order products*.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Client Services (toll-free 1-866-652-8443; 613-951-9720; fax: 1-866-652-8444; 613-951-4745; [saadinfo@statcan.gc.ca](mailto:saadinfo@statcan.gc.ca)), Small Area and Administrative Data Division.

## Registered retirement savings plan contributors

	Number of contributors		Contributions		
	2007	2006 to 2007	2007	2006 to 2007	2007
	number	% change	\$ thousands	% change	median in \$
<b>Canada</b>	<b>6,292,480</b>	<b>1.6</b>	<b>34,057,715</b>	<b>5.3</b>	<b>2,780</b>
Newfoundland and Labrador	64,130	5.3	322,490	10.7	2,400
Prince Edward Island	19,610	1.3	88,685	1.0	2,150
Nova Scotia	133,130	0.4	645,690	1.8	2,200
New Brunswick	103,940	1.5	483,130	4.9	2,160
Quebec	1,588,060	1.6	7,603,040	4.9	2,500
Ontario	2,411,460	0.8	13,618,980	4.2	2,880
Manitoba	209,800	1.7	985,890	7.7	2,210
Saskatchewan	181,220	4.5	896,645	12.8	2,500
Alberta	749,620	2.9	4,643,535	8.8	3,200
British Columbia	815,470	1.7	4,674,260	4.0	3,040
Yukon	6,290	3.8	36,890	10.8	3,410
Northwest Territories	7,650	0.8	45,625	-0.2	3,600
Nunavut	2,110	-1.9	12,855	-0.4	4,330

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## Farm product prices

September 2008

Prices received by farmers in September for grains, oilseeds, specialty crops, potatoes, cattle, hogs, poultry, eggs and dairy products are now available.

The Saskatchewan canola price in September was \$477.64 per metric tonne, down 11% from August 2008. However, it was up 25% from September 2007 when the price was \$383.57.

The September hog price in Ontario was \$71.38 per hundredweight, down 9% from August 2008. Hog prices in Ontario have increased 21% from September 2007 when they stood at \$59.10.

Farm commodity prices are now available on CANSIM. Over 35 commodities are available by province, some series going back 20 years.

**Available on CANSIM: table 002-0043.**

**Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 3436.**

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Gail-Ann Breese (204-983-3445; fax: 204-983-7543; [gail-ann.breese@statcan.gc.ca](mailto:gail-ann.breese@statcan.gc.ca)) Agriculture Division. ■

## Canadian Foreign Post Indexes

November 2008

Data on Canadian Foreign Post Indexes are now available for November.

**Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2322.**

The November 2008 issue of *Canadian Foreign Post Indexes* (62-013-XIE, free) is now available from the *Publications* module of our website.

For more information, contact Client Services (toll-free 1-866-230-2248; 613-951-9606; [prices-prix@statcan.gc.ca](mailto:prices-prix@statcan.gc.ca)). To enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Claudio Perez (613-951-1733; [claudio.perez@statcan.gc.ca](mailto:claudio.perez@statcan.gc.ca)), Prices Division. ■

## 2011 Census and Geography Dissemination Consultation Guide

With each census, Statistics Canada improves its methods of dissemination to the public by seeking ways of publishing census results in a timely and accessible manner, while maintaining high data quality standards.

This consultation guide has been developed to assist you in providing feedback on 2006 Census products and services and in contributing ideas and suggestions to the 2011 Census dissemination strategy.

The *2011 Census and Geography Dissemination Consultation Guide* (92-138-XWE, free) is now available from the *Publications* module of our website.

For more information, contact Client Services (toll-free 1-800-263-1136; fax: 613-951-4210; [censusconsultation@statcan.gc.ca](mailto:censusconsultation@statcan.gc.ca)), Census Operations Division. ■

## New products

**Canadian Foreign Post Indexes, November 2008**  
**Catalogue number 62-013-XIE**  
(free).

**Amusement and Recreation**  
**Catalogue number 63-248-XWE**  
(free).

**2011 Census and Geography Dissemination**  
**Consultation Guide, Census year 2011**  
**Catalogue number 92-138-XWE**  
(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; -XVB or -XVE are electronic versions on DVD and -XBB or -XBE a database.

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### Statistics Canada's official release bulletin

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