

The Daily

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Releases

Survey of Household Spending

2007

Canadian households spent an average of \$69,950 in 2007, up 3.3% from 2006. This increase was faster than the annual rate of inflation of 2.2% for 2007, as measured by the Consumer Price Index.

Households in Alberta spent the most on average, \$85,910, but this was only a 0.8% increase, the slowest rate among the provinces.

Household spending in Saskatchewan rose 7.7% to \$63,940, the fastest rate of growth. Households in Prince Edward Island and Newfoundland and Labrador reported the lowest spending on average.

Total average household expenditure by province

	2006	2007	2006 to 2007
	\$		% change
Canada	67,740	69,950	3.3
Newfoundland and Labrador	53,940	55,010	2.0
Prince Edward Island	54,690	55,570	1.6
Nova Scotia	56,320	59,990	6.5
New Brunswick	54,100	58,210	7.6
Quebec	56,560	57,310	1.3
Ontario	73,320	76,650	4.6
Manitoba	59,230	63,300	6.9
Saskatchewan	59,360	63,940	7.7
Alberta	85,240	85,910	0.8
British Columbia	71,580	72,620	1.5

Spending on basics accounts for the largest shares

Personal taxes accounted for 21% of the average household's budget in 2007, while shelter represented 20%, transportation 13% and food 10%. These shares changed only slightly from 2006.

Average personal taxes amounted to \$14,450 in 2007, up 6.0% from 2006, while spending on shelter rose to \$13,640, a 5.1% increase. A 10.6% increase in mortgage payments drove the rise in shelter spending.

Households spent an average of \$9,400 on transportation in 2007, up 1.7%. A 6.9% increase in spending on gasoline and other fuels was offset by a 6.3% decline in average spending for automobile purchases.

On average, households spent \$7,310 on food in 2007, up 3.7% from 2006, the fastest annual increase in this category since 2002. Food prices rose by 2.7% in 2007, as measured by the Consumer Price Index.

Note to readers

This release is based on data from the 2007 Survey of Household Spending, which gathered detailed information from a sample of more than 21,000 private households on spending patterns, dwelling characteristics, and household equipment. Data cover all provinces and territories.

Average spending for a specific good or service was calculated for all households, including those with and those without expenditures for the category, unless otherwise noted. Average spending includes sales taxes. "Personal taxes" refer to income and certain other direct taxes.

Comparisons of spending between years were not adjusted for inflation. The rate of inflation for selected items is mentioned where it affected the analysis of year-over-year changes in spending.

To analyze data by income level, households were divided into five groups or quintiles based on income. Each quintile represents one-fifth of all households. Households were ranked in ascending order of total household income, and organized into five groups of equal number. Households in the lowest quintile had 1.5 members on average, while those in the highest quintile averaged 3.4 members.

To simplify collection, there were important changes in methodology for the Survey of Household Spending for 2006 and 2007. Data from 1997 to 2005 were revised to be more comparable with those collected with the new methodology, which may affect comparisons with previous years for some purposes. For more details, see the Household Expenditures Research Paper Series: "User Guide for the Survey of Household Spending, 2007" (62F0026MWE2009001, free), accessible on our website. Revised data for the 1997-to-2005 period are also available on CANSIM and for the 2003-to-2005 period in the publication Spending Patterns in Canada, 2007 (62-202-XWE, free), also available on our website.

Spending on cell phones, electronics still on the rise

Average household spending on cell phones and other hand-held text messaging devices amounted to \$520 in 2007, up 9.3% from 2006. At the same time, average spending on land-line telephone services fell by 6.7% to \$610.

About 71% of households reported having cell phones. The average spending for those households who reported cell phones was \$770 per household. About 38% reported having one cell phone, 23% had two, while about 11% had three or more.

Average spending on computer hardware rose 2.8% to \$290 per household. The share of households with a home computer increased from 75% in 2006 to 78% in 2007.

About 61% of households reported that they had a high-speed Internet connection in 2007, up from 56%

in 2006. Only 9% of households reported using a dial-up connection. Households that reported having an Internet connection spent \$430 on average for access to the Internet, a 4.8% increase.

The share of households reporting having a digital video disc (DVD) writer rose from 32% in 2006 to 39% in 2007, while the share with a compact disc (CD) writer rose from 48% to 52%.

Spending down on household furnishings

Average spending on household furnishings and equipment declined 7.8% in 2007 from 2006, one of the few categories to register a drop.

Average spending on clothing increased 2.7% to just over \$2,900 per household. Spending on recreation held steady at just under \$4,000.

Average spending on retirement and pension fund payments rose 6.8% to \$2,710, as a result of higher contributions to Canada and Quebec Pension Plans and payments to other government pension funds.

Spending on tobacco products advanced 2.1% to \$620 on average, while spending on alcoholic beverages rose by 5.7% to \$920.

Food, shelter and clothing still account for more than half of spending for the lowest income group

The one-fifth of Canadian households with the lowest income spent an average of \$22,340 in 2007. Spending on food, shelter and clothing accounted for 52% of their total spending, while personal taxes accounted for 3% of their budget.

On the other hand, the top fifth of households spent an average of \$143,360 in 2007, and food, shelter and clothing accounted for 28% of their total spending. Personal taxes accounted for 29% of total spending.

Available on CANSIM: tables 203-0001 to 203-0020.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 3508.

The publication *Spending Patterns in Canada*, 2007 (62-202-XWE, free), which presents the latest results of the Survey of Household Spending for Canada, the provinces and selected metropolitan

areas, is now available from the *Publications* module of our website.

Two tables presenting spending data are available free from the *Summary Tables* module of our website: *Canada and the provinces* and *Selected metropolitan areas*. A third table with data on *dwelling characteristics and household equipment* is also available free.

The publication *Household Expenditures Research Paper Series: "User Guide for the Survey of Household Spending, 2007"* (62F0026MWE2009001, free), which presents information about the survey methodology, concepts, and data quality, is also available from the *Publications* module of our website.

The data tables on detailed household spending: *Detailed Average Household Expenditure for Canada, Provinces/Territories and Selected Metropolitan Areas, 2007* (62F0031XDB, \$134), *Detailed Average Household Expenditure by Household Income Quintile, Canada and Provinces, 2007* (62F0032XDB, \$134), *Detailed Average Household Expenditure by Housing Tenure, Canada, 2007* (62F0033XDB, \$134), *Detailed Average Household Expenditure by Household type, Canada, 2007* (62F0034XDB, \$134), and *Detailed Average Household Expenditure by Size of Area of Residence, Canada, 2007* (62F0035XDB, \$134) are now available.

The data tables on dwelling characteristics and household equipment: *Dwelling Characteristics and Household Equipment for Canada, Provinces/Territories and Selected Metropolitan Areas, 2007* (62F0041XDB, \$134), *Dwelling Characteristics and Household Equipment by Income Quintile, Canada, 2007* (62F0042XDB, \$134), and *Dwelling Characteristics and Household Equipment by Housing Tenure, Canada, 2007* (62F0043XDB, \$134), *Dwelling Characteristics and Household Equipment by Household Type, Canada, 2007* (62F0044XDB, \$134), and *Dwelling Characteristics and Household Equipment by Size of Area of Residence, Canada, 2007* (62F0045XDB, \$134) are also now available. See *How to order products*.

Custom tabulations are also available.

For more information, to purchase products, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Client Services (toll-free 1-888-297-7355; 613-951-7355; income@statcan.gc.ca), Income Statistics Division.

□

Budget share of major spending categories by income quintile, 2007

	Lowest quintile	Second quintile	Third quintile	Fourth quintile	Highest quintile
	\$				
Average household expenditures	22,340	40,009	60,602	83,420	143,360
	%				
Budget share for major spending categories					
Food	16.9	14.1	11.9	10.3	7.9
Shelter	30.4	23.4	20.9	19.6	16.1
Clothing	4.2	4.4	4.2	4.0	4.3
Transportation	12.0	14.1	14.9	14.7	12.1
Personal taxes	2.6	9.7	15.4	19.8	29.2



Study: Immigrants' education and required job skills

1991 to 2006

Established immigrants—those who had lived in Canada for between 11 and 15 years—had more difficulty finding jobs reflecting their educational attainment in 2006 than they did in 1991.

During this 15-year period, the proportion of long-term immigrants with a university degree in jobs with low education requirements, such as clerks, truck drivers, salespeople, cashiers and taxi drivers, rose steadily.

In 1991, about 12% of long-term male immigrants with a university degree had jobs with low educational requirements. By 2006, this proportion had increased to 21%.

The gap between these long-term male immigrants and Canadian-born workers widened during this period. The proportion of Canadian-born university-educated men who had jobs with low educational requirements remained stable at about 10%.

Among long-term female immigrants, the increase was more modest, but their rates were higher. Between 1991 and 2006, their rate rose from 24% to 29%. In comparison, the corresponding proportion for Canadian-born women remained at about 10% for the entire period, as it did for their male counterpart.

These increases for established immigrants suggest that the difficulties, which have long plagued immigrants who have arrived recently, today have an impact on established immigrants. They also suggest that difficulties experienced by recent immigrants are not necessarily temporary.

The proportions for recent immigrants—those who have lived in Canada for less than 5 years—were also up, but remained within the levels observed since 1991. Among these short-term immigrants, nearly 24% of university-educated men had jobs with low educational requirements, as did slightly less than 40% of their female counterparts.

A number of factors could have been behind this deterioration for long-term immigrants. Among men, the change in their profile explained only one-quarter of the deterioration. The factors included in the profile were mother tongue, country of origin, level of schooling, age, region of residence and visible minority status.

Note to readers

This article deals with the representation rate of immigrants with a university degree in occupations with low educational requirements. Census microdata files representing 20% of the Canadian population are used. Occupations with low educational requirements are defined as jobs generally requiring a high school diploma or less.

On the other hand, certain fields of study lowered their chances of having a job with low educational requirements. The fact that many of them had degrees in applied sciences provided some protection in 2006, despite earlier job losses in the information technology sector. There were similar findings for established female immigrants and for recent male immigrants.

Thus, an important part of the deterioration for immigrants during the 15-year period appears attributable to factors other than socio-demographic characteristics.

Some of these factors may have included the language skills of immigrants, as well as the non-recognition of their credentials, their level of schooling or their experience acquired in foreign countries.

They might also have included the quality of education received by nationals of relatively new countries of origin, economic cycles and the immigrant class in which the individual gained admittance to Canada, that is, refugee, family reunification and economic immigrant.

For recent female immigrants, changes in socio-demographic characteristics explained the entire increase in occupations with low educational requirements.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 3901.

The article "Immigrants' education and required job skills" is now available in the December 2008 online edition of *Perspectives on Labour and Income*, vol. 9, no. 12 (75-001-XWE, free), from the *Publications* module of our website.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Diane Galarneau (613-951-4626; diane.galarneau@statcan.gc.ca), Labour and Household Surveys Analysis Division. ■

Payroll employment, earnings and hours

October 2008 (preliminary)

The average weekly earnings of employees increased 0.3% from September to \$801.24 in October.

Compared with October 2007, average weekly earnings rose 3.0%.

Between October 2007 and October 2008, among Canada's largest industrial sectors, earnings increased by 8.8% in accommodation and food services, 4.5% in health and social assistance, 3.5% in educational services, 1.8% in retail trade, and 1.7% in manufacturing.

The strongest year-over-year earnings growth was reported in Alberta (+4.3%), Nova Scotia (+4.1%), and Saskatchewan (+4.0%).

The number of employees in October rose 19,200 (+0.1%) from the previous month.

Since October 2007, the number of employees has increased by 212,500 (+1.5%).

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 November will be released on January 28, 2009.

For more information, or to order data, contact Client Services (toll-free 1-866-873-8788; 613-951-4090; labour@statcan.gc.ca). To enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Benjamin Lee (613-951-4067), Labour Statistics Division.

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Average weekly earnings (including overtime) for all employees

Industry group (North American Industry Classification System)	October 2007	September 2008 ^r	October 2008 ^p	September to October 2008	October 2007 to October 2008
Seasonally adjusted					
	\$			% change	
Industrial Aggregate	777.64	798.49	801.24	0.3	3.0
Forestry, logging and support	957.48	1,022.18	1,033.44	1.1	7.9
Mining, quarrying and oil and gas extraction	1,421.16	1,490.77	1,482.58	-0.5	4.3
Utilities	1,148.76	1,177.22	1,182.52	0.5	2.9
Construction	955.30	1,019.49	1,024.04	0.4	7.2
Manufacturing	946.27	958.06	962.32	0.4	1.7
Wholesale trade	921.43	953.18	948.23	-0.5	2.9
Retail trade	491.28	506.02	500.14	-1.2	1.8
Transportation and warehousing	802.06	818.06	825.21	0.9	2.9
Information and cultural industries	982.28	1,014.71	998.12	-1.6	1.6
Finance and insurance	1,017.03	1,017.27	1,019.28	0.2	0.2
Real estate and rental and leasing	707.53	701.39	720.08	2.7	1.8
Professional, scientific and technical services	989.60	1,026.54	1,053.13	2.6	6.4
Management of companies and enterprises	972.66	912.43	894.63	-2.0	-8.0
Administrative and support, waste management and remediation services	626.21	645.86	657.80	1.8	5.0
Educational services	841.89	868.11	871.36	0.4	3.5
Health care and social assistance	710.63	745.60	742.75	-0.4	4.5
Arts, entertainment and recreation	461.84	483.28	478.99	-0.9	3.7
Accommodation and food services	325.15	348.55	353.77	1.5	8.8
Other services (excluding public administration)	618.55	612.23	615.64	0.6	-0.5
Public administration	981.05	971.73	973.80	0.2	-0.7
Provinces and territories					
Newfoundland and Labrador	723.19	744.73	749.38	0.6	3.6
Prince Edward Island	632.78	647.57	654.72	1.1	3.5
Nova Scotia	671.29	687.13	698.58	1.7	4.1
New Brunswick	714.71	733.28	740.87	1.0	3.7
Quebec	726.77	740.18	755.03	2.0	3.9
Ontario	809.17	830.34	830.83	0.1	2.7
Manitoba	711.93	723.58	727.73	0.6	2.2
Saskatchewan	736.42	762.91	765.75	0.4	4.0
Alberta	852.37	894.19	888.73	-0.6	4.3
British Columbia	768.35	782.93	777.98	-0.6	1.3
Yukon	897.89	927.22	888.50	-4.2	-1.0
Northwest Territories ¹	1,037.79	1,071.10	1,067.61	-0.3	2.9
Nunavut ¹	965.42	958.00	944.27	-1.4	-2.2

^r revised

^p preliminary

1. Data not seasonally adjusted.

Number of employees

Industry group (North American Industry Classification System)	December 2007	October 2007	September 2008 ^r	October 2008 ^p	September to October 2008	October 2007 to October 2008	December 2007 to October 2008
Seasonally adjusted							
	thousands				% change		
Industrial aggregate	14,427.5	14,410.9	14,604.2	14,623.4	0.1	1.5	1.4
Forestry, logging and support	54.9	56.4	50.1	50.2	0.2	-11.0	-8.6
Mining, quarrying and oil and gas extraction	195.7	197.8	205.5	208.1	1.3	5.2	6.3
Utilities	123.7	124.0	126.7	128.6	1.5	3.7	4.0
Construction	808.1	809.5	842.0	846.7	0.6	4.6	4.8
Manufacturing	1,748.9	1,774.7	1,703.7	1,702.1	-0.1	-4.1	-2.7
Wholesale trade	761.7	765.1	761.1	760.7	-0.1	-0.6	-0.1
Retail trade	1,819.6	1,814.8	1,857.1	1,860.2	0.2	2.5	2.2
Transportation and warehousing	656.0	652.8	659.9	661.7	0.3	1.4	0.9
Information and cultural industries	354.1	357.2	362.5	363.4	0.2	1.7	2.6
Finance and insurance	631.9	629.3	647.7	650.0	0.4	3.3	2.9
Real estate and rental and leasing	253.4	255.3	254.1	253.1	-0.4	-0.9	-0.1
Professional, scientific and technical services	730.7	731.4	744.8	748.0	0.4	2.3	2.4
Management of companies and enterprises	100.4	99.0	106.1	103.9	-2.1	4.9	3.5
Administrative and support, waste management and remediation services	723.1	721.8	715.8	716.0	0.0	-0.8	-1.0
Educational services	1,085.6	1,096.3	1,108.1	1,105.8	-0.2	0.9	1.9
Health care and social assistance	1,487.4	1,485.9	1,517.7	1,523.1	0.4	2.5	2.4
Arts, entertainment and recreation	241.6	241.8	241.6	243.0	0.6	0.5	0.6
Accommodation and food services	1,064.9	1,064.3	1,078.8	1,091.3	1.2	2.5	2.5
Other services (excluding public administration)	530.9	529.2	537.0	539.4	0.4	1.9	1.6
Public administration	835.4	830.2	856.3	859.4	0.4	3.5	2.9
Provinces and territories							
Newfoundland and Labrador	183.8	183.5	187.8	189.2	0.7	3.1	2.9
Prince Edward Island	59.4	59.4	58.2	59.9	2.9	0.8	0.8
Nova Scotia	390.7	389.6	394.9	397.5	0.7	2.0	1.7
New Brunswick	302.1	304.6	305.7	309.3	1.2	1.5	2.4
Quebec	3,281.3	3,285.5	3,317.9	3,322.9	0.2	1.1	1.3
Ontario	5,521.7	5,519.5	5,564.1	5,570.5	0.1	0.9	0.9
Manitoba	537.0	535.7	545.4	548.8	0.6	2.4	2.2
Saskatchewan	430.8	428.1	438.9	439.9	0.2	2.8	2.1
Alberta	1,741.5	1,742.4	1,790.8	1,796.2	0.3	3.1	3.1
British Columbia	1,919.1	1,910.0	1,943.9	1,945.8	0.1	1.9	1.4
Yukon	18.0	18.1	18.1	18.0	-0.6	-0.6	0.0
Northwest Territories ¹	23.4	23.7	24.5	24.1	-1.6	1.7	3.0
Nunavut ¹	10.5	10.9	10.8	10.7	-0.9	-1.8	1.9

^r revised

^p preliminary

1. Data not seasonally adjusted.

■

Natural gas sales

October 2008 (preliminary)

Natural gas sales totalled 5 258 million cubic metres in October, down 8.2% from October 2007.

The volumes of sales to the residential sector (-1.1%) and industrial sector including direct sales (-12.0%) declined, while sales to the commercial sector rose 4.8% from October 2007.

Total sales in October 2008 were 16.6% higher than those in September 2008.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2149.

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

Natural gas sales

	October 2008 ^p	October 2007	October 2007 to October 2008
	thousands of cubic metres		% change
Total sales	5 257 532	5 729 347	-8.2
Residential ¹	918 241	928 723	-1.1
Commercial ²	710 301	677 830	4.8
Industrial ³ and direct sales ⁴	3 628 990	4 122 794	-12.0

^p preliminary

1. Gas sold for domestic purposes, including space heating, water heating and cooking, to a residential dwelling unit.

2. Gas sold to customers engaged in wholesale or retail trade, governments, institutions, office buildings, etc.

3. Gas sold to customers engaged in a process that creates or changes raw or unfinished materials into another form or product. Includes mining and manufacturing establishments. Includes firm, interruptible and buy/sell agreements.

4. Represents direct, non-utility, sales for consumption, where the utility acts solely as the transporter.

Greenhouse gas emissions 2007

Data on greenhouse gas emissions by major industrial emitters are now available. The survey was conducted by Statistics Canada on behalf of Environment Canada and Alberta Environment.

This survey collected details on emissions of carbon dioxide, methane and nitrous oxide, as well as emissions of hydrofluorocarbon, perfluorocarbon and sulphur hexafluoride. All facilities that emit 100,000 tonnes or more of greenhouse gases a year were required to report. The facilities reported the data online using a secure electronic data reporting system.

Accurate tracking of greenhouse gas emissions contributes to the development, implementation and evaluation of climate change and energy use policies and strategies.

Previous surveys were also conducted for 2004, 2005 and 2006.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 5081.

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

International Travel Survey 2007

This annual publication summarizes the characteristics of travellers entering or leaving Canada. It provides data

on international travel and travellers by country, province, state, and region of residence or destination, as well as by transportation mode, trip purpose, length of stay, expenditures, age group and sex in the form of tables, charts and analytical review.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 3152.

The publication *International Travel*, 2007 (66-201-XWE, free), is now available 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 1-800-307-3382; 613-951-9169; fax: 613-951-2909; cult.tourstats@statcan.gc.ca), Culture Tourism, and the Centre for Education Statistics. ■

Domestic travel 1998 to 2006

Data for the bridging of data between the Travel Survey of Residents of Canada and the Canadian Travel Survey are now available.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 3810.

For more information, to obtain data, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Client Services (toll-free 1-800-307-3382; 613-951-9169; fax: 613-951-2909; cult.tourstats@statcan.gc.ca), Culture Tourism, and the Centre for Education Statistics. ■

New products

Oil and Gas Extraction, 2006
Catalogue number 26-213-XWE
(free).

Spending Patterns in Canada, 2007
Catalogue number 62-202-XWE
(free).

Household Expenditures Research Paper Series :
"User Guide for the Survey of Household
Spending, 2007", no. 1
Catalogue number 62F0026MWE2009001
(free).

Detailed Average Household Expenditure for
Canada, Provinces/Territories and Selected
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Catalogue number 62F0031XDB (\$134).

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International Travel, 2007
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Perspectives on Labour and Income,
December 2008, Vol. 9, no. 12
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