

# The Daily

Statistics Canada

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## New products and studies

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## Study: Consequences of long-distance caregiving

2007

As the population of seniors increases and families live further apart, many Canadians face the challenges of caring for an aging parent from a distance.

In 2007, about 1.65 million people aged 45 and over provided assistance or care to a parent or a mother- or father-in-law who suffered from a long-term health problem or physical limitation. Roughly 360,000 of these individuals, or 22%, provided help to a parent, even though the individual receiving care lived at least an hour away by car.

Using data from the 2007 General Social Survey, this study found that long-distance caregiving can affect the caregiver's finances and work life.

Caregivers living further from the assisted parent were more likely to have extra expenses. When they did, they spent larger amounts. They were also more likely to miss full days of work. The responsibility of providing this long-distance care resulted in more work-related consequences for women than men.

Distance appears to be one of the most influential factors related to the risk of experiencing financial consequences.

About 62% of caregivers who lived more than half a day's journey from the parent receiving care incurred extra expenses as a result of the assistance they provided. This was twice the proportion among those living in the same neighbourhood as the parent receiving care (30%).

Even after other socioeconomic factors and the number of caregiving hours were taken into account, the odds of having extra expenses were three times higher for caregivers living more than half a day's journey away than for those in the same neighbourhood.

Similarly, 40% of caregivers who lived more than half a day away reported missing full days of work to provide the parent with care. This compares with 28% of those living in the same neighbourhood.

Women were more likely than men to take time off work. Among people living more than an hour's journey from the care recipient, 46% of women missed full days of work to provide care, compared with 27% of men. The

proportion of women who were absent from work to give care to a parent was also higher among caregivers who lived less than an hour away.

The family profile of these caregivers was different from that of caregivers who lived closer to their parent. Those who lived farther away had, on average, fewer brothers and sisters, reflecting perhaps that with large families there are often siblings within closer proximity to their parents who can help. They were also more likely to live in the largest metropolitan areas and have higher incomes.

**Note:** The analysis in the article "Caring for a parent who lives far away: the consequences" is based on data from the General Social Survey conducted by Statistics Canada in 2007 on family, social support and retirement. The survey covered about 23,000 Canadians aged 45 and over, and living in private residences in the 10 provinces. This article provides a statistical profile of caregivers who live far from their parent and compares them with caregivers who live close by. It also examines the financial, social and work schedule impacts associated with living relatively far from the care recipient.

**Definitions, data sources and methods: survey numbers, including related surveys, 3901 and 4502.**

The article "Caring for a parent who lives far away: the consequences" is now available in the January 2010 online issue of *Canadian Social Trends*, no. 89 (11-008-X, free), available from the *Key resource* module of our website under *Publications*.

Also in this issue of *Canadian Social Trends* is a second article entitled "Retail and customer service in French" that examines the prevalence of French-language knowledge among sales and service workers (salespersons, food servers and cashiers). Information is also provided regarding their use of French at work. There is a special focus on the metropolitan areas of Ottawa-Gatineau, Moncton, Greater Sudbury and Montréal.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Client Services (613-951-5979; [sasd-dssea@statcan.gc.ca](mailto:sasd-dssea@statcan.gc.ca)), Social and Aboriginal Statistics Division. ■

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## Canadian Business Patterns

December 2009

The CD-ROM *Canadian Business Patterns* provides counts of active locations by various geography levels, industry classification and employment size.

This product is compiled from the Business Register, which is a repository of information on the Canadian business population.

Nationally, there were 2,379,798 active locations recorded in December.

Data from the December 2009 *Canadian Business Patterns* are available on CD-ROM. They are presented according to the 2006 Standard Geographical Classification, the North American Industry Classification System (NAICS 2007) and employment categories.

### Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 1105.

The December 2009 edition of the CD-ROM *Canadian Business Patterns* (61F0040X, various prices) is now available. The cost varies between \$150 and \$1,100, depending on the number of tables or cells requested. See *How to order products*.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Todd Hahn (613-951-6705; [BRDinfoDRE@statcan.gc.ca](mailto:BRDinfoDRE@statcan.gc.ca)) or Joanne Proulx (613-951-9006), Business Register Division. ■

## Postal code conversion file

July 2009

The July 2009 update of the *Postal Code Conversion File* (PCCF) is now available. This file links the six-character postal codes to standard 2006 Census geographic areas, such as dissemination areas, census tracts and census subdivisions.

By linking postal codes to the Statistics Canada geographic areas, the file facilitates the extraction and subsequent aggregation of data for selected geographic areas. The PCCF also associates each postal code with a longitude and latitude coordinate to support mapping applications. The file also indicates the source, quality and type of linkage made between the postal code and the geographic area.

The July 2009 update of the *Postal Codes by Federal Ridings File* (2003 Representation Order) is

also available. This product, a subset of the PCCF, provides a link between the six-character postal code and Canada's federal electoral districts (commonly known as federal ridings). The "unique link" variable indicates if the postal code is linked to one or more federal electoral districts (FEDs). When the postal code is linked to more than one FED, the "weight" variable estimates the proportion of the population of the postal code that resides within each FED.

### Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 3901.

The *Postal Code Conversion File* (92-153-X, \$10,000; update 92-153-U, \$1,670) and the *Postal Codes by Federal Ridings File* (92F0193X, \$2,500; update 92F0193U, \$500) are available in ASCII format on diskette or CD-ROM. See *How to order products*.

The reference guides for the *Postal Code Conversion File* (92-153-G, free) and the *Postal Codes by Federal Ridings File* (92F0193G, free) are available in electronic format from the *Key resource* module of our website under *Publications*.

For more information, contact GeoHelp (613-951-3889; [geohelp@statcan.gc.ca](mailto:geohelp@statcan.gc.ca)), Geography Division. ■

## Traveller accommodation services price indexes

Fourth quarter 2009

The indexes that measure the price movements of accommodation services are now available for the fourth quarter of 2009. The indexes are available by province, territory and for Canada, by major client group.

**Note:** The indexes reflect changes in room rates, excluding all indirect taxes, for overnight or short stays with no meals or other services provided.

**Available on CANSIM: table 326-0013.**

### Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2336.

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 Hàn Tu (613-951-4846; [han.tu@statcan.gc.ca](mailto:han.tu@statcan.gc.ca)), Producer Prices Division. ■

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## Film and video distribution 2008

Data on the film and video distribution industry are now available for 2008.

**Available on CANSIM: table 361-0014.**

**Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2414.**

The publication *Service bulletin: Film and video distribution*, 2008 (87F0010X, free), will be available in April.

For more information, contact Client Services (toll-free 1-877-801-3282; 613-951-4612; [servicesind@statcan.gc.ca](mailto:servicesind@statcan.gc.ca)). To enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Conrad Ogrodnik (613-951-3496; [conrad.ogrodnik@statcan.gc.ca](mailto:conrad.ogrodnik@statcan.gc.ca)), Service Industries Division. ■

## Provincial and territorial government finance: Assets and liabilities

As of March 31, 2008

Data on the assets, liabilities and net financial debt for the provincial and territorial general governments as of March 31, 2008, are now available.

**Available on CANSIM: tables 385-0014, 385-0018, 385-0019, 385-0026 and 385-0029.**

**Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 1709.**

Data tables on public sector finance are also available online in the *National economic account* module of our website.

Data are also available through custom and special tabulation.

For more information, contact Client Services (613-951-0767; [pssd-info-dssp@statcan.gc.ca](mailto:pssd-info-dssp@statcan.gc.ca)). To enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Philippe Samborski (613-951-7101; [philippe.samborski@statcan.gc.ca](mailto:philippe.samborski@statcan.gc.ca)), Public Sector Statistics Division. ■

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## New products and studies

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**Canadian Social Trends**, summer 2010, no. 89  
**Catalogue number 11-008-X** (PDF, free; HTML, free)

**Canadian Business Patterns (CBP)**, December 2009  
**Catalogue number 61F0040X** (CD-ROM, various prices)

**Postal Code Conversion File (PCCF), Reference Guide**, July 2009  
**Catalogue number 92-153-G** (PDF, free; HTML, free)

**Postal Code Conversion File (PCCF): Update**, July 2009  
**Catalogue number 92-153-U** (CD-ROM, \$1,670)

**Postal Codes by Federal Ridings File (PCFRF) 2003 Representation Order, Reference Guide**, July 2009  
**Catalogue number 92F0193G** (PDF, free; HTML, free)

**Postal Codes by Federal Ridings File (PCFRF) 2003 Representation Order: Update**, July 2009  
**Catalogue number 92F0193U** (CD-ROM, \$500)

**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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