

The Daily

Statistics Canada

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Releases

Canadian Government Finance Statistics, 2008 to 2012 (provisional)

Provisional estimates of the Canadian Government Finance Statistics (CGFS) are now available for the period 2008 to 2012. This is the first of three releases and covers the statement of operations for all components of general government, as well as federal and provincial and territorial government business enterprises. Data on the functional expenses will be released on November 26, followed by the financial assets and liabilities in early 2015.

The data sources, methods and concepts that underlie the CGFS-based data depart significantly from the Financial Management System (FMS)-based data previously published by Statistics Canada.

Given the magnitude of these differences, Statistics Canada has decided to release the data with the provisional qualifier. This qualifier signals to users that although the data are fit for use, they are subject to revisions. Over the next year these data will be integrated into the rest of the Canadian System of Macroeconomic Accounts (the national accounts, balance of payments, international investment position, input-output tables), resulting in revisions as data, concepts and methods are reconciled and aligned within the national accounts framework.

The data will retain their provisional status until a number of improvements are implemented over the next year. These improvements include balancing grants across levels of government, adding capital expenditures and capital stock as well as consolidation of inter-sector transactions and stock positions.

While some of the detailed series will be revised over the next year and some data gaps will remain, the general story and trends found in the current data will remain similar.

Note to readers

No total government sector aggregate is provided in this first release of the Canadian Government Finance Statistics as further refinement of the data is required to eliminate the transactions between levels of government. Consolidated government data of all levels of government will be available with the November 2015 Canadian Government Finance Statistics release.

Data corresponds to the end of the fiscal year closest to December 31. For example, data for the federal government fiscal year ending on March 31, 2010 (fiscal year 2009/2010), are reported in reference year 2009.

The initial compilation of the Canadian Government Finance Statistics was a complex undertaking including structural, presentational, conceptual and statistical changes. Regular users of Statistics Canada's data are urged to familiarize themselves with these changes.

Government Finance Statistics

Government Finance Statistics can be used to study the financial position, liquidity and operations of the different levels of governments in a consistent and systematic manner. Public accounts information cannot be used for this purpose because the data, while compiled according to Public Sector Accounting Board standards, can be reported differently from one jurisdiction to another and are therefore difficult to compare.

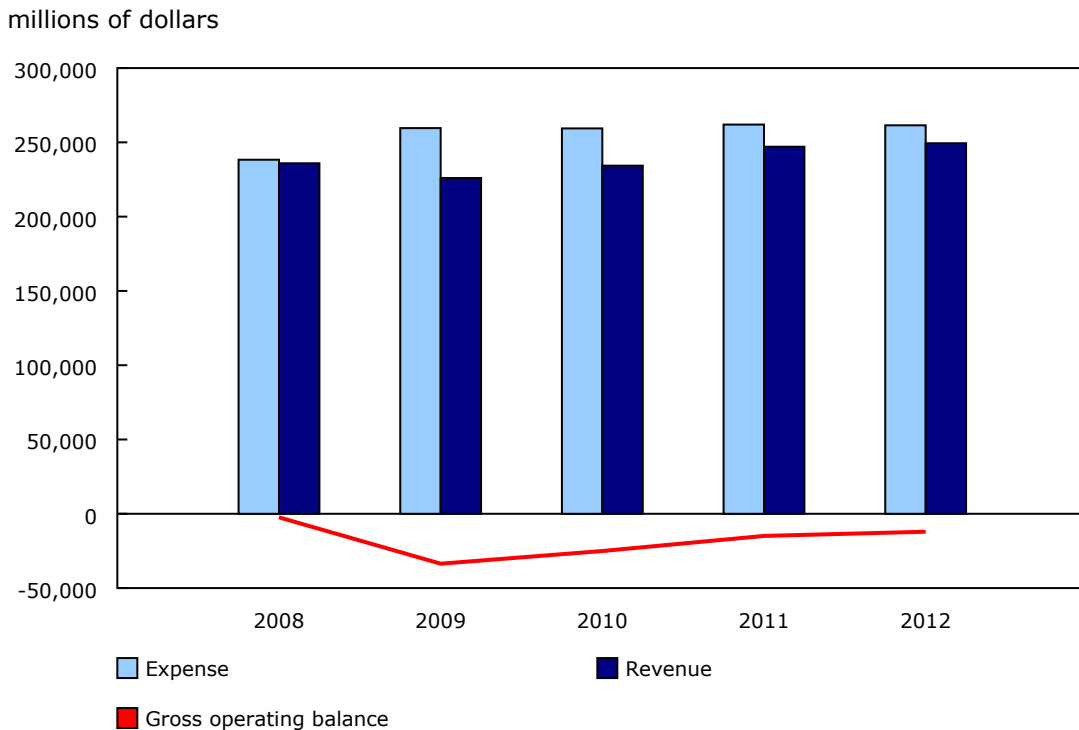
Countries around the world are aligning or have already aligned their government finance statistics to the international standard that was developed by the International Monetary Fund. Canada now joins Australia as one of the very few countries to compile Government Finance Statistics directly from government accounting records, providing users with higher quality statistics and far greater detail.

Gross operating balance

One of the most important analytic measures in the CGFS framework is the gross operating balance. The gross operating balance is equal to revenues less expenses (excluding consumption of fixed capital) and is used to measure the sustainability of government operations. The higher a gross operating balance, the less a government will need to borrow to fund its purchases of non-financial assets and the more flexibility it will have in delivering current services to the public.

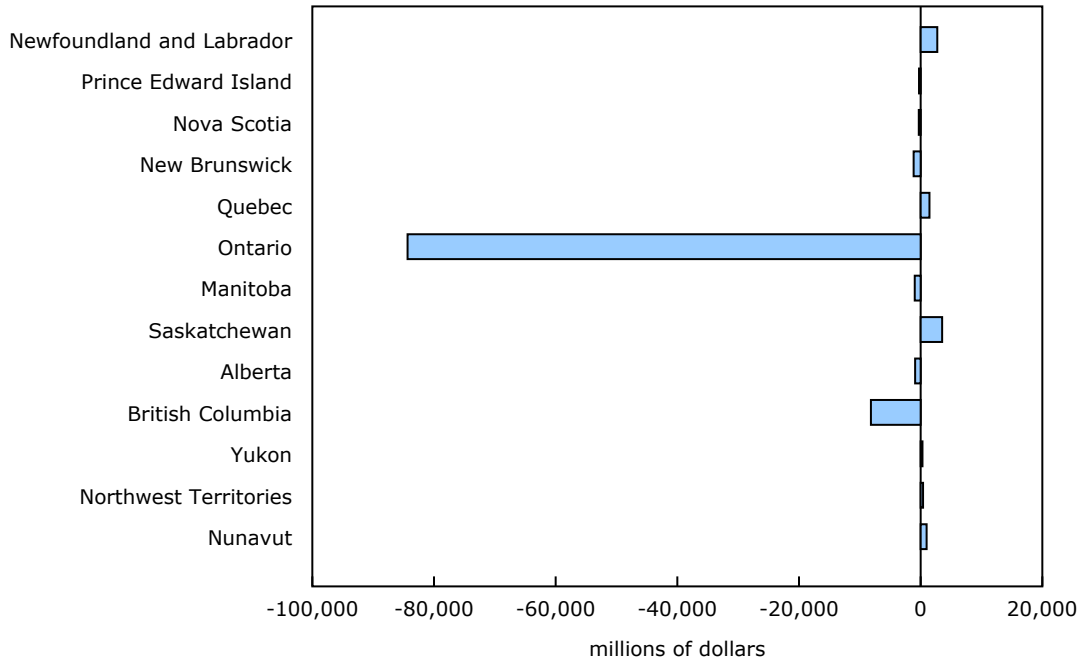
Following the 2008 global financial crisis, the Government of Canada implemented the Economic Action Plan. The Economic Action Plan had a significant impact on the federal government's gross operating balance, moving the federal government from an operating surplus in 2008 to an operating deficit in 2009. Since that time the government's operating balance has improved each year as revenue growth has averaged 3.4% each year compared with a 0.2% average annual increase in expenses.

Chart 1
Federal government gross operating balance, 2008 to 2012



A similar story to the federal one exists at the provincial and territorial level. Over the five-year period, from 2008 to 2012, the Ontario provincial government (includes core general government plus autonomous funds and organizations, such as Workers' Compensation Boards) accumulated a gross operating deficit in excess of \$80 billion. Newfoundland and Labrador, Quebec, Saskatchewan and the three territorial governments reported a gross operating surplus for the same five-year period.

Chart 2
Provincial and territorial government cumulative gross operating balance, 2008 to 2012



Role of government

Government Finance Statistics clearly distinguish the role of the different levels of government. One important function of the federal government is to administer tax programs and transfer funds to individuals or other levels of government. In all, more than 80% of federal revenue is accounted for by tax revenue and over 60% of expenses are dedicated to grants or social benefits. This contrasts with local general governments, where a large share of their revenue is in the form of grants (19%) or users fees (26%) such as water and sewer charges. Likewise, a larger share of their expenses is on the use of goods and services and compensation of employees when compared with the federal government.

Chart 3
Average revenue proportions by government sector, 2008 to 2012

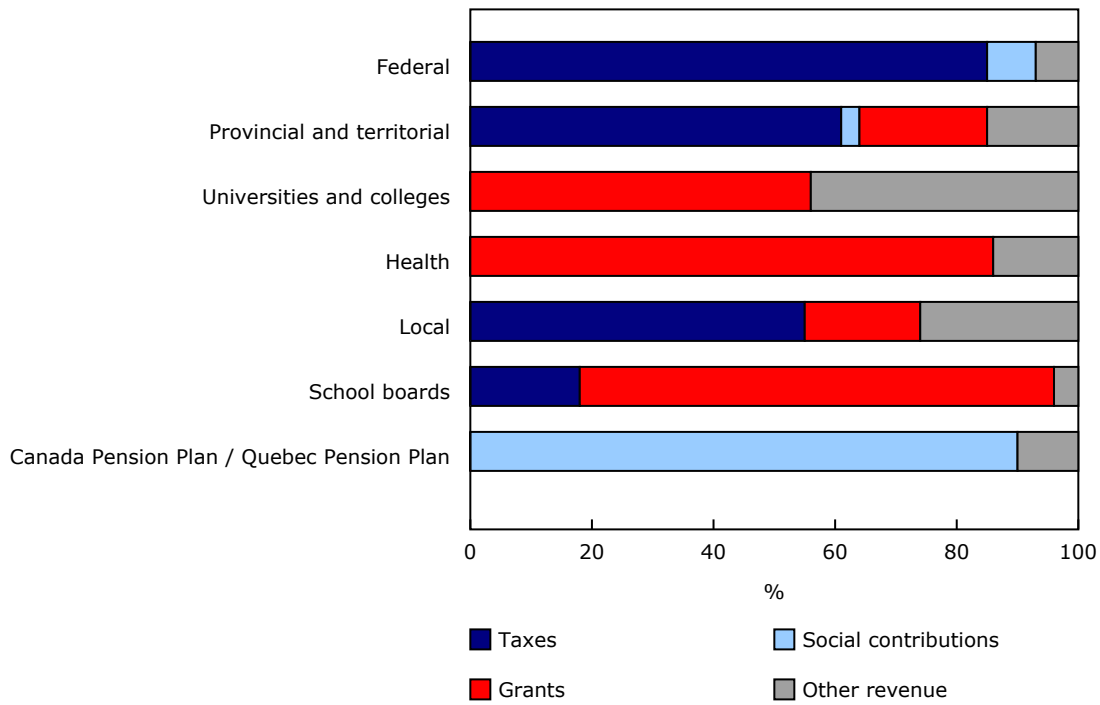
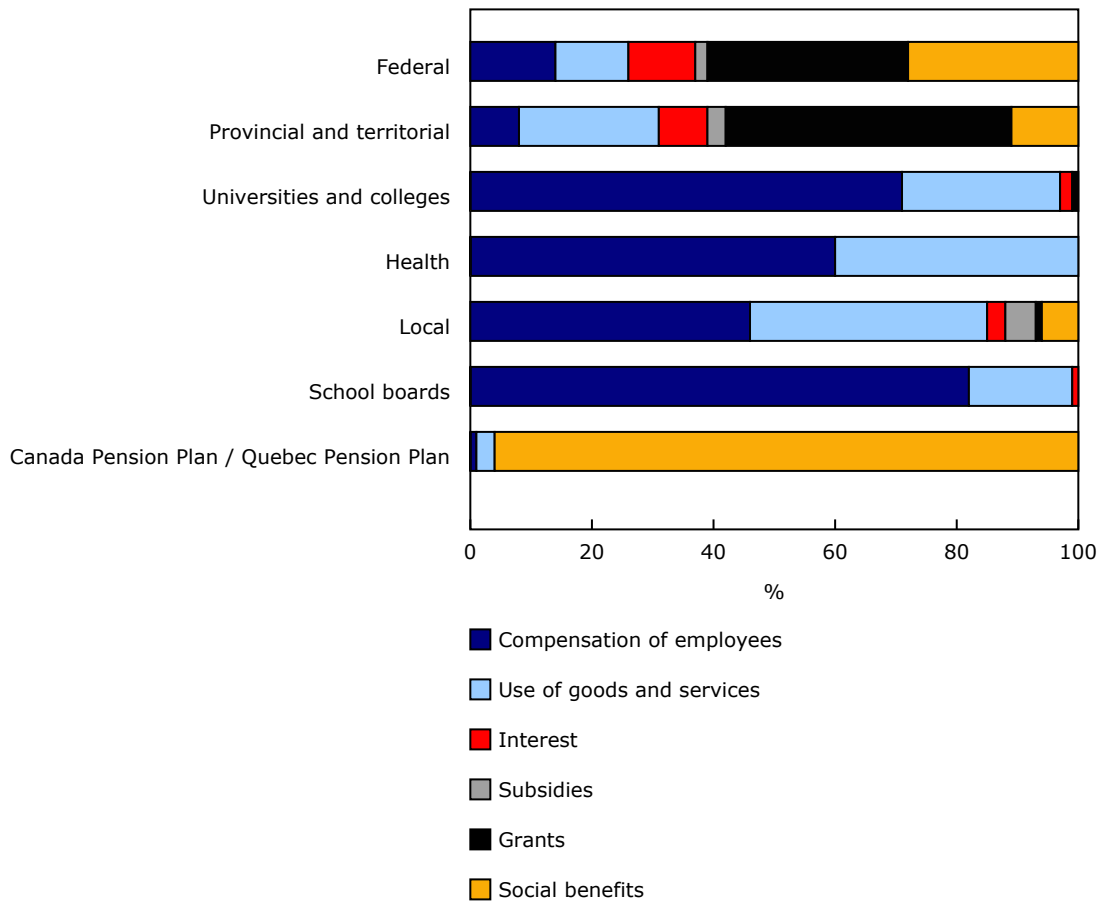


Chart 4
Average expense proportions by government sector, 2008 to 2012



Note(s): Please refer to the new Canadian government finance statistics tables in CANSIM for a detailed breakout of these summary revenue and expense measures.

A word of caution when making provincial and territorial comparisons

In the current version of the Canadian Government Finance Statistics, data are not consolidated and, therefore, users cannot use the data to make provincial and territorial comparisons. For example, users cannot sum together provincial or territorial general government expenses with local general government expenses in a given province or territory, since doing so may result in double-counting of government expenses in the province or territory.

Double counting of expenses may occur because some of the expenses of the provincial or territorial general government are recorded as transfers to the local general government, who then use these funds to administer programs. Simply adding the expenses together will exaggerate the total general government expenses within a province or territory.

Provincial and territorial comparisons can only be undertaken once the data have been consolidated and inter-government transfers have been netted out. Until consolidated data are released, analysis should be limited to time-series analysis of a specific level of government within a province or territory.

Available in CANSIM: tables [385-0033](#) to [385-0039](#).

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number [5218](#).

The classification structure [Canadian Government Finance Statistics 2014](#) is now available in the *Definitions, data sources and methods* module of our website.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact us (toll-free 1-800-263-1136; 514-283-8300; infostats@statcan.gc.ca) or Media Relations (613-951-4636; mediahotline@statcan.gc.ca).

Health Reports, November 2014

Parkinson's disease: Prevalence, diagnosis and impact

In 2010/2011, an estimated 55,000 Canadians aged 18 or older living in private households reported that they had been diagnosed with Parkinson's disease. This represented 0.2% of the household population. As well, 12,500 (4.9%) of residents of long-term residential care facilities were reported to have a Parkinson's diagnosis.

Among the household population, 79% with Parkinson's were 65 or older; in institutions, almost everyone (97%) with the condition was 65 or older. Men were more likely than women to have Parkinson's disease: 0.3% versus 0.2% for those in private households, and 6.6% versus 4.0% for residents of institutions.

A number of people in the household population who had Parkinson's reported feeling embarrassed (43%), left out of things (29%), and that others were uncomfortable with them (28%) or avoided them (19%) because of the condition.

In the 12 months preceding the survey, 56% of people with Parkinson's disease who lived in private households received formal and/or informal assistance because of the condition. Among those who received assistance, 84% relied, at least in part, on family, friends or neighbours. This 'informal' assistance is distinguished from 'formal' assistance provided by organizations with paid or volunteer workers. The main informal caregiver was typically a woman (62%), lived in the same household (72%), and provided assistance on a daily basis (76%). For the most part, the recipient's spouse was the main informal caregiver (64%).

Parkinson's disease is the second most common neurodegenerative disorder after Alzheimer's disease. It results from the loss of cells in the brain that produce dopamine, a chemical that controls the body's movements. As dopamine decreases, tremors can develop, muscle movements become slower and more rigid, and reflexes become impaired. Other symptoms may include emotional changes, cognitive impairment, difficulty swallowing, chewing and speaking as well as fatigue. Although there is currently no cure, medications and other treatments are available to manage the symptoms.

Note to readers

This study is based on data from the 2010/2011 Canadian Community Health Survey: Annual Component, the 2011 Survey of Living with Neurological Conditions in Canada, and the 2011/2012 Survey of Neurological Conditions in Institutions in Canada.

Neurological conditions were self-reported by individuals (household) or by proxy respondents (institutions). For people in institutions, only prevalence data were available; therefore, most of the analyses concern the household population and do not represent residents of institutions.

The study, "Parkinson's disease: Prevalence, diagnosis and impact," is now available in the November 2014 online issue of *Health Reports*, Vol. 25, no. 11 ([82-003-X](#)), from the *Browse by key resource* module of our website under *Publications*.

To enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Suzy L. Wong (613-853-9336; suzy.wong@statcan.gc.ca), Health Analysis Division.

This issue of *Health Reports* contains another article, "Adjusting relative survival estimates for cancer mortality in the general population."

To enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Larry Ellison (613-851-3711; larry.ellison@statcan.gc.ca). For information about *Health Reports*, contact Janice Felman (613-799-7746; janice.felman@statcan.gc.ca), Health Analysis Division.

Monthly Survey of Large Retailers, September 2014

Data from the Monthly Survey of Large Retailers are now available for September.

Available in CANSIM: table [080-0009](#).

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number [5027](#).

A [data table](#) is also available from the *Browse by key resource* module of our website under *Summary tables*.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact us (toll-free 1-800-263-1136; 514-283-8300; infostats@statcan.gc.ca) or Media Relations (613-951-4636; mediahotline@statcan.gc.ca).

StatCan Blog, November 2014

Test this site!

It's time for the test drive... but this is a limited time offer.

Recently, Statistics Canada announced beta testing a new look for its website that features a new way to organize and present its statistical output. From November 12 to December 12, users are invited to comment and rate proposed changes to the website's navigation, features and functionality.

The November edition of the [StatCan Blog](#) explores the complex process undertaken to ensure the agency delivers data to Canadians in a vehicle that not only looks good, but that is both intelligent and intuitive. In other words, a website that is easier to drive.

The project team scoured far and wide, seeing what its international colleagues were doing and assessing what worked and what did not. The items that the team liked and thought might work well for the StatCan website were then subjected to further scrutiny. "The team was guided throughout the process by user feedback, including seven rounds of usability testing," says Bill Joyce, the Director responsible for the project. Consultations also involved obtaining feedback from an expert panel and advisory groups.

So have a look, take it for a spin and tell StatCan what you think.

The November 2014 edition of the [StatCan Blog](#) is now available from the *Stay Connected* module of our website.

For more information, contact us (toll-free 1-800-263-1136; 514-283-8300; infostats@statcan.gc.ca).

To enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Penny Stuart (613-951-2005; penny.stuart@statcan.gc.ca), Communications Division.

Canada's merchandise imports, exports and trade balance by principal trading partner, January 1997 to December 2010

Balance of payments and customs data (seasonally adjusted) for Canada's international merchandise trade are now available in CANSIM for Canada's 27 principal trading partners for the period from January 1997 to December 2010. This will give users a first view of Canada's international merchandise trade data for these newly created 27 principal trading partners on a balance of payments basis.

The first monthly release of Canada's international merchandise trade data (for the October 2014 reference month) based on the new list of principal trading partners will be published in *The Daily* on December 5. The data for the entire period of January 1997 to October 2014 will be available in CANSIM.

For more information on this addition of geographic detail for trade in goods and for data, as well as information on key balance of payments concepts, refer to "[Balance of Payments trade in goods at Statistics Canada: Expanding geographic detail to 27 principal trading partners.](#)"

Available in CANSIM: table [228-0069](#).

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey numbers [2201](#) and [2202](#).

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact us (toll-free 1-800-263-1136; 514-283-8300; infostats@statcan.gc.ca) or Media Relations (613-951-4636; mediahotline@statcan.gc.ca).

North American Transportation Statistics, 2013

An updated version of the North American Transportation Statistics database, a unique online source for information on transportation activity, is released today. The database is the result of a tripartite initiative representing the transportation and statistical agencies of Canada, the United States and Mexico.

The North American Transportation Statistics database is available online (<http://nats.sct.gob.mx>) in English, French and Spanish.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact us (toll-free 1-800-263-1136; 514-283-8300; infostats@statcan.gc.ca) or Media Relations (613-951-4636; mediahotline@statcan.gc.ca).

New products and studies

New products

Statistics Canada – Infographics: "Infographic: Digital Technology and Internet Use, 2013"
Catalogue number [11-627-M2014001](#) (HTML | PDF)

Inter-corporate Ownership, Second quarter 2014
Catalogue number [61-517-X](#) (CD-ROM)

Health Reports, Vol. 25, no. 11
Catalogue number [82-003-X](#) (HTML | PDF)

New studies

Parkinson's disease: Prevalence, diagnosis and impact
Health Reports

Adjusting relative survival estimates for cancer mortality in the general population
Health Reports



Statistics Canada's official release bulletin

Catalogue 11-001-X.

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