Price: Canada: \$10.50, \$42.00 annually United States: US\$12.50, US\$50.00 annually Other Countries: US\$14.75, US\$59.00 annually

Summer 1991

In This Issue...

FEATURE ARTICLE

Is the domestic tourism industry in trouble? Over the decade travel in Canada did not keep up with population growth, while over the same period, Canadians have been heading outside the country in record numbers.

HIGHLIGHTS

- British Columbians travelled more in Canada as well as south of the border.
- Business travel was a major growth area for the tourism industry over the decade. Overnight business trips advanced 30% compared to a 2% increase in leisure trips.
- Airlines seated fewer leisure passengers on their planes over the ten year period, but a substantial gain in business travellers more than compensated for the loss.
- The "Great Canadian Getaway" grew in popularity as busy dual income families found the need to get away but don't have the time to take a longer holiday.
- Hotels experienced major growth over the decade, as both leisure and business travellers opted for hotel accommodation.
- Seniors were the fastest growing age segment, taking 67% more trips between 1980 and 1990.

Domestic Travel - A Decade of Change

Domestic travel is the main generator of tourism in Canada and it is facing challenges. During the late 80's domestic tourism enjoyed but the situation expansion. reversed in 1990 as Canada entered its second major recession in a decade (chart 1). As Canadians are increasingly tempted to travel to destinations outside Canada, especially south of the border, fewer trips are taken at home (table 1). Shifting demographics, fluctuating economic climates and expansion of travel opportunities, are just some of the factors that have altered Canadians travel patterns over the last decade.

Where Have All the Canadians Gone?

Canadians took 5% more overnight journeys in their own country in 1990 than in 1980 (table 1). This domestic growth pales in comparison to the 63% escalation in their international travel activity. In fact, the market share of domestic travel dipped from 86% to 79% (table 1). The United States benefited from rising flood of outbound Canadians, although overseas locations claimed a larger percentage increase in Canadian traffic. A combination of favourable exchange rates and cheaper gasoline prices no doubt influenced travel to the U.S. 1990. during Although exchange rates were advantageous for Canadians ten years ago, gasoline prices were higher south of the border (charts 2 & 3).

Sameday domestic excursions have not suffered the same losses as overnight travel over the last ten

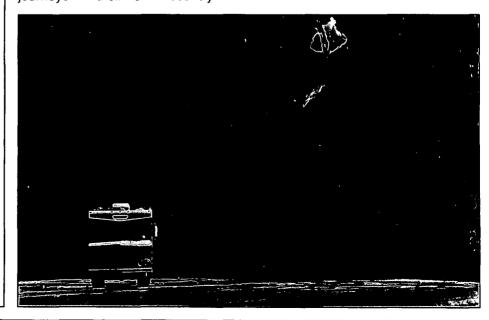


Chart 1 Overnight Domestic Travel Millions of person-trips 80 60 40 20 1980 1982 1984 1986 1988 1990 Source: Canadian Travel Survey.

Chart 2 Regular Leaded Gasoline Prices, Canada vs U.S. including Tax

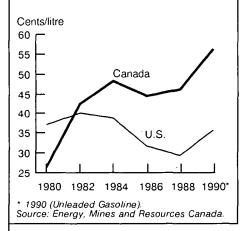


Chart 3 U.S.\$ in Can\$ per unit

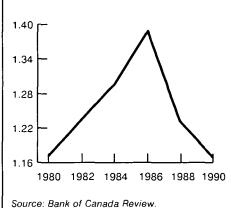


Chart 4 Same day Travel By Canadians

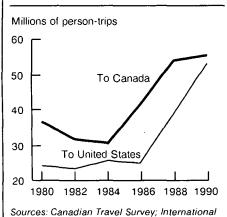
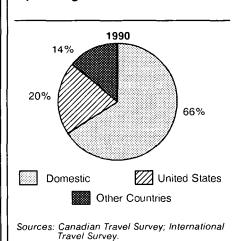


Chart 5 Spending in Canada





Editor's Note...

A CLARIFICATION

The article in the Spring 1991 edition of Travel-log, presented in the Case in Point department, was based on a study prepared by a consultant, Chris Holloway, for Transport Canada. The findings contained in this study are not necessarily endorsed by Transport Canada.

Editor: Laurie McDougall Tel: 613-951-9169 Fax: 613-951-9040

Photos courtesy of **Department of Industry, Science and Technology**.

Price: Canada: \$10.50 per issue, \$42.00 annually United States: US\$12.50 per issue, US\$50.00 annually Other Countries: US\$14.75 per issue, US\$59.00 annually

Published by authority of the Minister responsible for Statistics Canada Statistics Canada should be credited when reproducing or quoting any part of this document

Toll-free order service in Canada 1-800-267-6677

The paper used in this publication meets the minimum requirements of American National Standard for Information Sciences – Permanence of Paper for Printed Library Materials, ANSI Z39.48 – 1984.

Minister of Industry, Science and Technology, 1991

All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system or transmitted in any form or by any means, electronic, mechanical, photocopying, recording or otherwise without prior written permission from Chief, Author Services, Publications Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa, Ontario, Canada K1A 0T6.

years (chart 4). In 1990 travellers reported 56 million day trips in Canada, compared to 37 million in 1980 (table 1). Excursion travel represented four out of 10 domestic trips in 1990 up from 3 at the start of the decade. Canadians insatiable appetite for travel to the U.S. still grew at an even faster rate: 53 million sameday visits in 1990, skyrocketing from 24 million in 1980. At this increasing rate, sameday travel south of the border may outpace domestic day trips in the 90's.

Despite its shrinking market share, domestic tourism continued in 1990 to account for the bulk of tourism revenues in Canada (chart 5). Of the near \$22 billion spent in Canada during 1990, domestic tourists contributed nearly twothirds (table 2). Given the importance of the domestic travel market to the Canadian tourism industry and the lack of expansion in the past decade, it is interesting to determine which are the growth areas both in terms of traveller characteristics and in respect of types of travel.

Domestic Travel Participation Drops

When the growth of Canada's population is taken into account, domestic travel participation has actually diminished over the tenyear period (chart 6). In 1990, 60% of Canadians took at least one overnight leisure trip in Canada, compared to 62% in 1984 and a high of 64% during 1986 (table 3).

Chart 6
Leisure Travel Participation by Destination

To Canada United States
Overseas

Overseas

1984 1986 1988 1990
Source: Canadian Travel Survey.

This little or no growth picture for domestic travel contrasts with the surge of travel to the United States and other countries. Approximately 28% of Canadians headed to the U.S. for an overnight trip, rising dramatically from 22% in 1984. Travel participation overseas has

grown in popularity but not to the same degree.

Domestic travel participation waned across the country with the exception of British Columbia, where participation jumped from 59% to 66%, Saskatchewan and Atlantic provinces (table 4). The

Table 1

Domestic and International Travel By Canadians

| Travel by Canadians | | | Change | Share | |
|---------------------|--------|---------|---------|-------|------|
| · | 1980 | 1990 | 1980/90 | 1980 | 1990 |
| | 00 |)0s | % | 9 | 6 |
| Overnight Travel: | 87,035 | 98,806 | 14 | 100 | 100 |
| Domestic | 74,487 | 78,326 | 5 | 86 | 79 |
| International | 12,548 | 20,480 | 63 | 14 | 21 |
| United States | 10,963 | 17,327 | 58 | 13 | 18 |
| Overseas | 1,585 | 3,153 | 99 | 2 | 3 |
| Sameday Travel: | 60,290 | 108,610 | 80 | 100 | 100 |
| Domestic | 36,510 | 55,504 | 52 | 61 | 51 |
| United States | 23,780 | 53,106 | 123 | 39 | 49 |

Table 2
Where the Travel Spending Goes

| | | | Sh | Share |
|---------------------------|---------|---------|------|-------|
| | 1980 | 1990 | 1980 | 1990 |
| | billion | s of \$ | 9 | /o |
| Spending in Canada: | 12.8 | 21.6 | 100 | 100 |
| By Canadians ¹ | 9.5 | 14.2 | 74 | 66 |
| By International Visitors | 3.3 | 7.4 | 26 | 34 |
| U.S. | 2.1 | 4.4 | 16 | 20 |
| Overseas | 1.2 | 3.1 | 9 | 14 |
| Spending Outside Canada: | | | | |
| By Canadians | 4.6 | 12.1 | 100 | 100 |
| U.S. | 2.9 | 7.8 | 63 | 64 |
| Overseas | 1.7 | 4.4 | 37 | 36 |

Excludes money spent in Canada by Canadians when travelling to an international destination. The 1990 Canadian Travel Survey estimated this figure to be \$4.2 billion.
Sources: Canadian Travel Survey; International Travel Survey, Special Tabulations.

Table 3

Canadian Overnight Leisure Travellers

| Participation Rate ¹ | 1984 | 1986 | 1988 | 1990 |
|---------------------------------|------|------|------|------|
| | | | % | |
| Population (15+) | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| Canadians to any destination | 68 | 71 | 71 | 70 |
| Canada | 62 | 64 | 64 | 60 |
| United States | 19 | 19 | 23 | 28 |
| Overseas | 6 | 7 | 9 | g |
| Non-travellers | 32 | 29 | 29 | 30 |

¹ The participation rate is based on the Labour Force Survey population which includes Canadians aged 15 and over.

Source: Canadian Travel Survey.

drops in domestic participation were particularly acute in Manitoba and Quebec (chart 7a). In contrast U.S. travel participation leaped in every region, especially in B.C. and Manitoba (chart 7b).

Population Winners Gain Travellers

Ontario. Alberta and British Columbia all claimed a larger slice of domestic market share between 1980 and 1990. Their increases in market share may be explained in part by their coinciding higher rates of population growth (table 5). Quebec recorded the largest loss in market share over the decade 25% to 20%, primarily a result of an erosion of leisure travel in the Quebec market. Business travel was static, not sharing in the 2.8 million growth across Canada. The erosion of domestic leisure travel may in part be related to their increasing travel participation to international locations, especially to the U.S. (table 4).

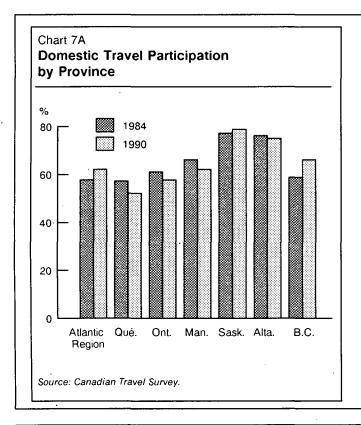
Table 4
Participation in Overnight Leisure Travel by Province

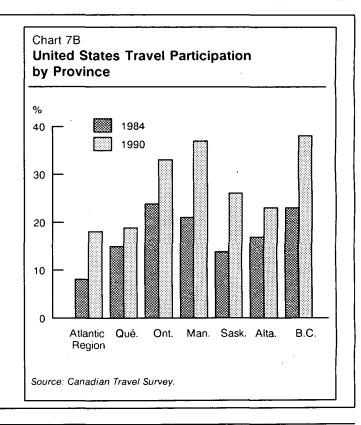
| | | | 1984 | | | | | | |
|-----------------------|------------------------------|-----------------------------------|--------|------------------|----------|--|--|--|--|
| | | Travellers | | | | | | | |
| Province of residence | Popu- lation ¹ | Any Des- tination ² | Canada | United States | Overseas | | | | |
| | 000s | % | % | % | % | | | | |
| Canada | 19,274 | 68 | 61 | 19 | . 6 | | | | |
| Atlantic Region | 1,708 | 60 | 58 | 8 | 2 | | | | |
| Quebec | 5,096 | 64 | 57 | 15 | 5 | | | | |
| Ontario | 6,990 | 69 | 61 | 24 | 8 | | | | |
| Manitoba | 790 | 72 | 66 | 21 | 5 | | | | |
| Saskatchewan | 738 | 78 | 77 | 14 | 1 | | | | |
| Alberta | 1,732 | 80 | 76 | 17 | 7 | | | | |
| British Columbia | 2,219 | 67 | . 59 | 23 | 7 | | | | |
| | _ | | 1990 | | | | | | |
| | 000s | % | % | % | % | | | | |
| Canada | 20,599 | 70 | 60 | 28 | 9 | | | | |
| Atlantic Region | 1,774 | 66 | 62 | 18 | 3 | | | | |
| Quebec | 5,320 | 63 | 52 | 19 | 9 | | | | |
| Ontario | 7,661 | 69 | 58 | 33 | 10 | | | | |
| Manitoba | 807 | 74 | 62 | 37 | 5 | | | | |
| Saskatchewan | 721 | 81 | 79 | 26 | 4 | | | | |
| Alberta | 1,855 | 79 | 75 | 23 | 6 | | | | |
| British Columbia | 2,461 | 78 | 66 | 38 | 13 | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | |

Refers to the Labour Force Survey population which includes Canadians aged 15 and over.

Travellers may travel to more than one destination, therefore the sum of the destinations does not equal participation to any destination.

Source: Canadian Travel Survey.

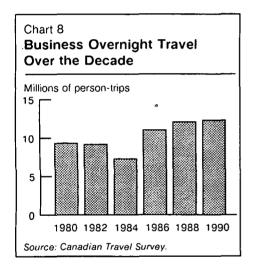




Business Travel Reaches Record Levels

Business travel provided a major growth area for the tourism industry over the decade, with an advance of 30% over the ten years (table 6). This trend slowed down in 1990 as the economy fell into a recession (chart 8). Most of the improvements took place in Ontario, where business travel mushroomed 63% between 1980 and 1990.

Visits to friends or relatives (VFR) and pleasure travel generated an equal market share in 1990 (39%), marking a change from 1980 when pleasure was more dominant (table 7). However, over the 1980-1990 period, VFR travel grew 15% while pleasure travel shrunk 9%.



Rubber Tire Market Expands

Canadians strong preference for driving their own vehicle when they travel gained even more momentum over the decade. Leisure travellers penchant for getting behind the wheel was most dominant with 91% of overnight domestic journeys by car (table 8). However, even business travellers elected to drive on close to seven out of ten trips.

Over the decade much of the leisure segment opted away from public transportation (chart 9a). Bus and rail experienced major cutbacks in consumer use over the 80's. Canadians travelled by bus less frequently which resulted in a 2% loss in market share. Even airlines saw a drop in leisure passengers by

| Table 5 |
|---|
| Share of Overnight Domestic Trips and Population by Province of |
| Destination |

| Destination | Trip | os | Pop | oulation |
|-------------|------|-----------|-----|----------|
| | 1980 | 1980 1990 | | 1990 |
| | % | % | | % |
| Canada | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| Nfld. | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 |
| P.E.I. | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| N.S. | 4 | 4 | 4 | 3 |
| N.B. | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 |
| Quebec | 25 | 20 | 26 | 25 |
| Ontario | 34 | 38 | 36 | 37 |
| Man. | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 |
| Sask. | 6 | 6 | 4 | 4 |
| Alta. | 12 | 13 | 9 | 9 |
| B.C. | 10 | 11 | 11 | 12 |

Sources: Canadian Travel Survey; Postcensal annual estimates of population, Cat. No. 91-210.

| lable 6 | | | | | |
|-----------|--------|----|-----------------|----|-------------|
| Overnight | Travel | by | Province | of | Destination |

| Destination | | 1980 | | | 1990 | | | |
|-------------|--------|----------|---------|--------|----------|---------|--|--|
| | Total | Business | Leisure | Total | Business | Leisure | | |
| | | 000s | | | . 000s | | | |
| Canada | 74,487 | 9,351 | 65,135 | 78,326 | 12,168 | 66,158 | | |
| Nfld. | 1,234 | 177 | 1,057 | 1,253 | 230 | 1,023 | | |
| P.E.I. | 461 | 39 | 422 | 380 | 46 | 334 | | |
| N.S. | 2,634 | 260 | 2,374 | 2,929 | 493 | 2,436 | | |
| N.B. | 1,826 | 262 | 1,564 | 2,005 | 385 | 1,620 | | |
| Quebec | 18,416 | 2,173 | 16,243 | 15,963 | 2,201 | 13,762 | | |
| Ontario | 25,087 | 2,690 | 22,397 | 29,465 | 4,307 | 25,158 | | |
| Man. | 3,282 | 461 | 2,821 | 3,273 | 485 | 2,788 | | |
| Sask. | 4,630 | 588 | 4,042 | 4.310 | 625 | 3.685 | | |
| Alta. | 8,559 | 1,311 | 7,248 | 9,863 | 1,885 | 7,978 | | |
| B.C. | 7,645 | 1,257 | 6,388 | 8,788 | 1,466 | 7,322 | | |

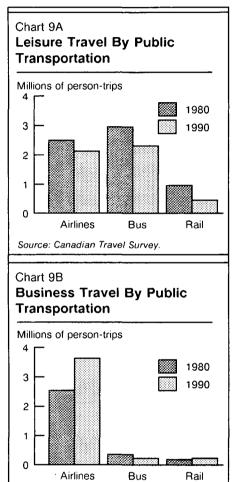
Source: Canadian Travel Survey.

| Table | 7 | |
|-------|-----------|-------|
| Why | Canadiane | Trava |

| Purpose | | , | Change | Share | |
|------------------|--------|--------|---------|-------|------|
| | 1980 | 1990 | 1980/90 | 1980 | 1990 |
| | 000s | | % | | % |
| Overnight Travel | 74,487 | 78,326 | 5 | 100 | 100 |
| Leisure | 65,135 | 66,158 | 2 | 87 | 84 |
| VFR | 26,749 | 30,830 | 15 | 36 | 39 |
| Pleasure | 33,279 | 30,405 | -9 | 45 | 39 |
| Personal | 5,108 | 4,923 | -4 | 7 | 6 |
| Business | 9,351 | 12,168 | 30 | 13 | · 16 |

Travel-log, Summer 1991 Page 5

nearly one in six. However, the air carriers made substantial gain in their market share of business travel that it more than offset their losses in the leisure market (chart 9b). The rail passenger industry managed to hold on to a 2% market share of business travel.



The Great Canadian Getaway

Source: Canadian Travel Survey.

"Getaway travel", "mini-vacations" became familiar jargon in the tourism industry during the 80's. Short holidays have grown in popularity, as consumers feel the need to get away from everyday stresses but do not have the time to take longer holidays. Gone are the days when families with one breadwinner packed up the kids for the annual 2-3 week touring holiday.

Over the 80's the average overnight trip shrank from 4 nights to 3. Canadians were more likely to take shorter leisure trips (1-4 nights) which gained a 2% market

| Transportation | Overn | ight Trips | Change | Market | t Share |
|-----------------|--------|------------|---------|--------|---------|
| | 1980 | 1990 | 1980/90 | 1980 | 1990 |
| | 0 | 00s | % | | % |
| Leisure Travel | 65,135 | 66,158 | 2 | 100 | 100 |
| Automobile | 57,868 | 60,480 | 5 | 89 | 91 |
| Commercial: | 7,268 | 5,680 | -22 | 11 | g |
| Airplane | 2,513 | 2,125 | -15 | 4 | 3 |
| Bus | 2,974 | 2,319 | -22 | 5 | 4 |
| Rail | 955 | 447 | -53 | 1 | 1 |
| Other | 826 | 787 | -5 | 1 | 1 |
| Business Travel | 9,351 | 12,168 | 30 | 100 | 100 |
| Automobile | 6,195 | 8,033 | 30 | 66 | 66 |
| Commercial: | 3,156 | 4,135 | 31 | 34 | 34 |
| Airplane | 2,538 | 3,635 | 43 | 27 | 30 |
| Bus | 351 | 231 | -34 | 4 | 2 |
| Rail | 176 | 206 | 17 | 2 | 2 |
| Other | 91 | 63 | -31 | 1 | 1 |

| Duration | Т | Trips | | Market | Share | |
|-----------------|--------|--------|---------|--------|-------|--|
| | 1980 | 1990 | 1980/90 | 1980 | 1990 | |
| | 000s | | % | | % | |
| Leisure Travel: | 65,135 | 66,158 | 2 | 100 | 100 | |
| Short Trips | 53,596 | 55,294 | 3 | 82 | 84 | |
| 1 night | 13,212 | 15,332 | 16 | 20 | 23 | |
| 2 nights | 28,766 | 28,365 | . •1 | 44 | 43 | |
| 3 nights | 8,284 | 8,488 | 2 | 13 | 13 | |
| 4 nights | 3,333 | 3,109 | 7 | 5 | 5 | |
| Longer Trips | 11,540 | 10,863 | -6 | 18 | 16 | |
| 5-9 nights | 6,750 | 6,957 | 3 | 10 | 11 | |
| 10 + nights | 4,790 | 3,906 | -18 | 7 | 6 | |

| Duration | Trips | | Change | Market | Share |
|------------------|-------|--------|---------|--------|-------|
| | 1980 | 1990 | 1980/90 | 1980 | 1990 |
| | 0 | 00s | % | | % |
| Business Travel: | 9,351 | 12,168 | 30 | 100 | 100 |
| 1 night | 2,881 | 4,649 | 61 | 31 | 38 |
| 2 nights | 2,742 | 3,087 | 13 | 29 | 25 |
| 3 nights | 1,188 | 1,734 | 46 | 13 | 14 |
| 4 nights | 1,025 | 1,047 | 2 . | 11 | 9 |
| 5-9 nights | 990 | 1,313 | 33 | 11 | 11 |
| 10+ | 524 | 337 | -36 | 6 | 3 |

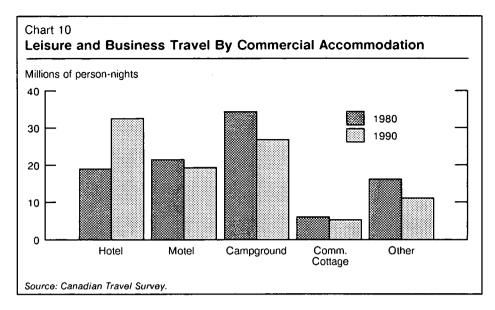
share over the 1980-1990 period. One night trips gained the widest appeal throughout the decade for both leisure and business travellers (tables 9 & 10). In contrast, holidays lasting more than 2 weeks lost some demand.

Market for Hotels Expands

The decade proved to be a good one for the hotel industry as it captured a larger share of both the leisure and business travel markets (chart 10). Between 1980 and 1990 market share of hotels advanced from 7% to 13% of domestic tourist nights (table 11). This was even more pronounced in the expanded business sector which recorded a growth in hotel usage from 32% of nights in 1980 to 53% in 1990 (table 12). Hotel use by leisure travellers jumped from 4% of their nights in 1980 to 7% in 1990 (table 13).

| Table 12 Business Travel Ac Market Share | ccommo | datio | n |
|--|-----------------------------|--------|-----------------------------|
| Accommodation | Share | of nig | hts |
| | 1980 | | 1990 |
| | 0 | 00's | |
| Business nights | 30,914 | . з | 3,318 |
| Business travel: Hotels Friends & Relatives Motels Other | 100 32 25 21 22 | % | 100 53 18 17 12 |

| Table 13 Leisure Travel Acc Market Share | commod | ation | 1 |
|--|--------------------------------------|--------|--------------------------------------|
| Accommodation | Share | of nig | hts |
| | 1980 | | 1990 |
| | 0 | 00's | |
| Leisure nights | 235,684 | 22 | 0,355 |
| Leisure travel: Friends & relatives Cottage Hotel Campgrounds Motels Other | 100 52 17 4 14 6 7 | % | 100 50 19 7 12 6 6 |
| Source: Canadian Tra | vel Survey. | | |



| Accommodation | Ni | ghts | Change | Marke | et Share |
|---------------------------|---------|---------|---------|-------|----------|
| | 1980 | 1990 | 1980/90 | 1980 | 1990 |
| | 0(| 00s | % | | % |
| Leisure & Business Travel | 266,598 | 253,673 | -5 | 100 | 100 |
| Non-commercial: | 169,199 | 158,775 | -6 | 63 | 63 |
| Friends & Relatives | 129,586 | 115,919 | -11 | 49 | 46 |
| Private Cottage | 39,613 | 42,856 | 8 | 15 | 17 |
| Commercial: | 81,202 | 83,702 | 3 | 30 | 33 |
| Hotel | 19,058 | 32,375 | 70 | 7 | 13 |
| Motel | 21,605 | 19,139 | -11 | 8 | 8 |
| Campground | 34,457 | 26,908 | -22 | 13 | 11 |
| Commercial Cottage | 6,082 | 5,280 | -13 | 2 | 2 |
| Other & not stated | 16,197 | 11,195 | -31 | 6 | 4 |

Motels, on the other hand managed to hold on to their 8% share, losing some of the business market but attracting more leisure travellers. Trends over the decade were not encouraging for campground owners who saw their market base slip from 13% to 11% of domestic nights (table 11). A shrinking youth population and possibly a lack of interest in camping among the middle age contributed to the decline in camping.

The getaway market or short trips (1-4 nights) was an expanding market opportunity for hotels and motels over the decade. Between 1980 and 1990 leisure travellers staying in hotels or motels recorded 48% more of these trips.

Cottages – Home Away From Home

When Canadians leave the city they are often travelling to second homes. In 1990 Canadian travellers spent 17% of their nights at the cottage, up from 15% ten years earlier. Over the 80's this trend has increased especially among seniors (65+) who accounted for the majority of the increased cottage usage over the decade. Seniors more than doubled the number of nights spent at the cottage between 1980 and 1990. Given their increased leisure time, they now have more flexibility and time to enjoy their cottages.

Canadians still spend most of their nights away from home with friends or family although they seem to be less inclined to do so in 1990. Both business and leisuretravellers reduced stays with friends or family.

Baby-boomers Leave Their Mark One of the single biggest impacts on the travel industry over the decade was the aging of the population, especially among the biggest group of consumers - the babyboom generation. This generation continues to influence many consumer trends. By the end of the decade, most of the baby-boom generation had graduated from college or university, entered the workforce, walked up the aisle, signed mortgage agreements and started having families. As a result, of some these changing lifestyles, their travel patterns have been altered.

While baby-boomers ranged in age from 15-34 in 1980, they were 25 to 45 years old by 1990. They represented 34% of Canada's population and took 38% domestic trips (table 14a & b). But compared to the start of the decade they have actually reduced their domestic travel (chart 11). Back in 1980 they took 28 million trips but ten years later they had taken just 25 million. Reduced travel activity was concentrated among the older boomers - those aged 25-34 in 1980 and 35-44 years by 1990 (table 15).

This generation now travels more for business than ever before, boosting business trips by 50%

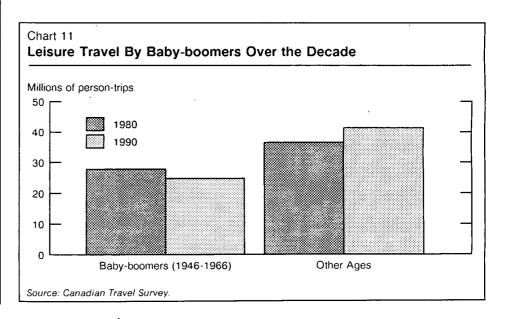
Table 15
Leisure Travel By the Baby-boom
Generation, Then & Now

| Then | 19 | 80 |
|----------------|--------|-------|
| | Trips | Share |
| | 000's | % |
| All Age Groups | 65,135 | 100 |
| Baby-boomers | 28,207 | 43 |
| 15-24 | 14,283 | 22 |
| 25-34 | 13,924 | 21 |
| Other Ages | 36,928 | 57 |
| Now | 1990 | |
| | 000's | % |
| All Age Groups | 66,160 | 100 |
| Baby-boomers | 24,950 | 38 |
| 25-34 | 14,426 | 22 |
| 35-44 | 10,524 | 16 |
| Other Ages | 41,210 | 62 |

compared to 1980. They have, on the other hand reduced their leisure trips in Canada. Increased time pressures, changing tastes, shifting priorities may be some of the reasons for this shift. As well, this generation has substantially increased their travel participation outside the country, especially to the U.S..

| Age | | | | Sha | re |
|-------------|--------|--------|---------|------|------|
| · · | 1980 | 1990 | 1980/90 | 1980 | 1990 |
| | . 00 | 00s · | % | | % |
| Age – Total | 65,135 | 66,158 | 2 | 100 | 100 |
| < 15 | 14,593 | 14,093 | -3 | 22 | 21 |
| 15-24 | 14,283 | 9,502 | -33 | 22 | 14 |
| 25-34 | 13,924 | 14,426 | , 4 | 21 | 22 |
| 35-44 | 7,974 | 10,524 | 32 | 12 | 16 |
| 45-54 | 6,489 | 7,335 | 13 | 10 | 11 |
| 55-64 | 4,989 | 5,530 | 11 | 8 | 8 |
| 65 + | 2,881 | 4,747 | 65 | 4 | 7 |

| Population | | | Change | Share | |
|-------------|---------|--------|---------|-------|------|
| | 1980 1 | 1990 | 1980/90 | 1980 | 1990 |
| | 00 | 00s | % | | % |
| Age - Total | 23,936 | 26,584 | 11 | 100 | 100 |
| < 15 | 5,500 | 5,560 | 1 | 23 | 21 |
| 15-24 | 4,692 | 3,859 | -18 | 20 | 15 |
| 25-34 | 4,056 | 4,761 | 17 | 17 | 18 |
| 35-44 | . 2,837 | 4,166 | 47 | 12 | 16 |
| 45-54 | 2,471 | 2,824 | 14 | 10 | 11 |
| 55-64 | 2,099 | 2,363 | 13 | 9 | 9 |
| 65+ | 2,282 | 3,052 | 34 | 10 | 11 |



Seniors Becoming a Hot Market

Seniors were one of the fastest growing market segments over the decade, taking 67% more overnight trips to destinations in Canada in 1990 compared to 1980. Although they represent just 7% of the domestic market, they are one of the few travel segments that is expanding at a faster rate than their population growth. They represented 11% of the Canada's population in 1990, up from 10% a decade ago (table 14a & b).

The growth in market share for this age group was most pronounced for pleasure travel where it doubled. Increases in excess of population growth may be a reflection of a variety of factors such as improved income security, better health, more education and wider geographic dispersion of families; all of which are liable to engender greater enthusiasm for travel by seniors.

Shrinking Youth Market

The youth population (15-24) on the other hand, recorded a disproportionately large decline in travel participation. While their numbers diminished from 20% to 15% of the population, their share of the domestic travel market slumped from 22% to 14% (table 14a & b). Possible explanations could be more time allocated to education and on working to pay for it than by the youth of ten years earlier.

Couples Travelling Versus Families

Over the decade, the growth in travel by couples without young dependent children and singles outpaced that of families. Trips by the family segment slid 6% while travel without kids in tow grew 13% (table 16). The decline in family travel parties was concentrated in the pleasure segment, as VFR trips remained relatively stable. Some of the increase in adult only travel was due to the expanding business segment, although even without the business component, adult trips grew 6%.



| Party Composition | Trips | | Change | Share | |
|--------------------------|--------|--------|---------|-------|------|
| | 1980 | 1990 | 1980/90 | 1980 | 1990 |
| | 00 | 0s | % | | % |
| Total | 74,487 | 78,326 | 5 | 100 | 100 |
| Adults only | 43,311 | 49,037 | 13 | 58 | 63 |
| 1 adult | 22,198 | 26,643 | 20 | 30 | 34 |
| 2 adults | 17,634 | 20,042 | 14 | 24 | 26 |
| 3 + adults | 3,482 | 2,353 | -32 | 5 | 3 |
| Adults with children | 31,171 | 29,286 | -6 | 42 | 37 |
| 1 adult with children | 7,589 | 7,852 | 3 | 10 | 10 |
| 2 adults with children | 20,282 | 19,329 | -5 | 27 | 25 |
| 3 + adults with children | 3,304 | 2,106 | -36 | 4 | ; |

| Education | Trips . | | Change | SI | Share | |
|-------------------|---------|--------|---------|------|-------|--|
| | 1980 | 1990 | 1980/90 | 1980 | 1990 | |
| | 00 |)0s | % | | % | |
| Leisure: | 65,135 | 66,158 | 2 | 100 | 100 | |
| College Diploma | 6,953 | 14,917 | 115 | 11 | 23 | |
| University Degree | 6,596 | 8,418 | 28 | 10 | 13 | |
| Other | 51,587 | 42,823 | -17 | 79 | 65 | |
| Business: | 9,351 | 12,168 | 30 | 100 | 100 | |
| College Diploma | 1,091 | 3,532 | 224 | 12 | 29 | |
| University Degree | 2,425 | 4,180 | 72 | 26 | 34 | |
| Other | 5,835 | 4,456 | -24 | 62 | 37 | |

More University and College Graduates

Travellers in 1990 had more education credentials than those of 10 years earlier, fuelled largely by younger baby-boomers who graduated throughout the 80's. This was especially true among the business travel segment where close to two-thirds held diplomas or degrees in 1990 compared to less than half at the commencement of the decade (table 17). University and college graduates took almost half of the leisure trips in 1990 an expansion from 21% in 1980.

Favourite Travel Pursuits

Canadians spend a lot of their travel holidays visiting with friends or family, however this is not too surprising given that VFR was cited as the main reason Canadians left home in 1990 (40%). Domestic travellers also love to shop (table 18), as this is an activity on 31% of their trips. Taking in local sights was the next most common pursuit. Dining at expensive restaurants kept 16% of travellers busy, while going to a club or dancing was cited by 11%.

Many travellers also prefer a more active lifestyle with sports and outdoor activities ranking as the fourth most popular activity away from home. Overall swimming attracted the greatest number of sports participants. Trying to reel in the big one appealed to the next largest group (8%), while attaining a hole in one was the goal of 3% of travellers.

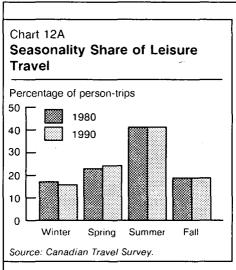
Summertime Preference Persists

Canadians still prefer to take their leisure trips during the summertime (chart 12). This tendency has remained unchanged over the decade (table 19). Travel during the spring grew at a faster rate than all other seasons, while the winter months lost some appeal.

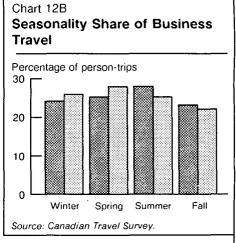
Business travellers shifted the bulk of their trips from the summertime to the spring over the 1980-1990 time period (chart 13). More business trips were also taken in the winter which resulted in a shift from third to second most popular time to travel (table 19).

| Activities . | | 1990 |
|------------------------------------|--------|---------------|
| | Trips | Participation |
| | . 000s | % |
| Overnight Travel | 78,326 | 100 |
| Visiting friends or relatives | 48,117 | 61 |
| Shopping | 24,559 | 31 |
| Sightseeing | 15,866 | 20 |
| Sports or outdoor activities | 14,288 | 18 |
| Dining at high quality restaurants | 12,493 | 16 |
| Nightlife & entertainment | 8,446 | 11 |
| Festivals or events | 5,689 | 7 |
| Zoos, Museums, Natural displays | 4,661 | 6 |
| Sports events | 3,906 | 5 |
| Provincial park | 3,806 | 5 |

| Season | ТТ | rips | Change | Sh | are |
|-----------|--------|------------------|---------|------|------|
| | 1980 | 1990 | 1980/90 | 1980 | 1990 |
| | 00 | 00s person-trips | % | | % |
| Leisure: | 65,135 | 66,158 | 2 | 100 | 100 |
| Winter | 11,246 | 10,762 | -4 | 17 | 16 |
| Spring | 14,937 | 16,153 | 8 | 23 | 24 |
| Summer | 26,361 | 26,960 | 2 | 41 | 41 |
| Fall | 12,592 | 12,283 | -2 | 19 | 19 |
| Business: | 9,351 | 12,168 | 30 | 100 | 100 |
| Winter | 2,269 | 3,176 | 40 | 24 | 26 |
| Spring | 2,380 | 3,368 | 42 | 25 | 28 |
| Summer | 2,593 | 2,985 | 15 | 28 | 24 |
| Fall | 2,109 | 2,639 | 25 | 23 | `22 |



Source: Canadian Travel Survey.



Prospects for the 90's

Traditional domestic touring holidays have been replaced by shorter getaway holidays. However, an increasing number of holidays are taken across the border as Canadians combine shopping and a mini-holiday.

Fewer domestic leisure travellers are flying to destinations across Canada, perhaps because they are being tempted by competitive international packages. More and more Canadians are driving to their destinations and for most of them, destinations in the U.S. are within easy reach.

Extending more business trips into leisure trips may offer expanding opportunity for the industry.

Baby-boomers will continue to dominant and influence travel trends over the next decade as they enter middle age. With dual income earners persisting, time will continue to be an important criteria in travel planning. Travel products that can captivate their needs and desires will flourish.

already rapidly growing The seniors market will gain increased recognition, especially as the babyboom generation approaches this age bracket. By the year 2000, the oldest of the baby-boomers will celebrate their 55th birthday. The rising education level of Canada's population has resulted in a more that sophisticated traveller increasingly discerning in travel selection. Opportunities exist for knowledge seeking trips that offer an educational dimension such as culinary learning local history, traditions, nature or gardening.

The rising level of fitness across all age groups is another factor in travel trends. Travel products that offer physical opportunities have expanded over recent years. Golf is touted as being the sport of this decade and will likely play a larger role in generating travel.

Canada's diversifying population cultural mix will add new dimensions to travel marketing as well as an additional challenge to encourage travel within Canada and not to international locations.

Adventure tourism and ecotourism are relatively new travel products and will also be significant growth areas. Canada has a vast wealth of these potential travel opportunities that would appeal to both domestic and international visitors.

The domestic tourism industry has many challenges over the next decade. Travellers are seeking new travel experiences and destinations.

Witness the growing number of Canadians that have already travelled to Europe and those that are exploring more remote parts of the globe, such as Asia.

Keeping up with these changing consumer tastes, competition etc. will be a challenge in this decade. Trends over the past decade point to some potential areas that can perhaps be strengthened.

NOW AVAILABLE!

1990 CANADIAN TRAVEL SURVEY

Results for the year and quarters of the 1990 Canadian Travel Survey are now available. You can choose from the following products or services

Canadian Travel Survey Data File

Available on tape or diskette for: Canada, a selected province, census metropolitan area or other geographic area. Cost: \$250-\$500 per quarter.

Customized Profiles

Profiles focus on your study area or market segment. Every profile includes the standard 34 traveller and trip characteristics. Cost: \$300

Domestic Travel, 1990 Edition

National and provincial domestic travel results, to be presented in the 1990 edition of Catalogue No. 87-504 which will be available later this fall

Cost: To be determined.



Call, write or lax us. We will be happy to provide you with more details...

Phone: Fax:

613-951-9169 613-951-9040

Contact:

Travel, Tourism & Recreation Section Statistics Canada R.H. Coats Building - 17th Floor

Ottawa, Ontario

K1A 0T6



| | | First | Percentage | e Change |
|--|-----|-----------------|---------------------|--------------|
| | | Quarter 1991 | Previous Quarter | Previo Yo |
| ISITORS TO CANADA | | | | |
| From United States | Т | 5,376 | -18.6 | -(|
| Overnight visits(p) | T | 1,445 | -26.3 | |
| By auto | T | 951 | -27.0 | |
| From Overseas | Т | 394 | -27.8 | |
| Overnight visits(p) | Ť | 354 | -27.9 | |
| Top Seven Countries | • | , 55. | | |
| Japan | T | 56 | -18.8 | - |
| United Kingdom | Т | 55 | -36.8 | |
| Germany(1) | T | 28 | -22.2 | |
| France | T | 28 | -24.3 | 1 |
| Hong Kong | Т | 22 | 10.0 | -1 |
| Australia | T | 15 | -28.6 | |
| Italy | · T | 9 | -43.8 | |
| ANADIANS OUTSIDE CANADA | | | | |
| To United States | Т | 16,737 | -2.9 | 1 |
| Overnight visits(p) | Т | 3,715 | 3.5 | |
| By auto | Т | 2,382 | -3.4 | 2 |
| To Overseas | T | 875 | 45.3 | -1 |
| IDUSTRY SECTOR | | | | |
| Airline passengers (Level I) | Т | 4,742 | 0.7 | -1 |
| Airline passenger-km (Level I) | М | 9,584 | -9.1 | -2 |
| Inter-city bus passengers | Τ | 3,467 | -4.4 | |
| Restaurant receipts | M | 3,681 | -13.8 | ~1 |
| RICES | | | | |
| 981 = 100 (not s.a.) | | | | |
| Travel price index | | 179.8 | 3.5 | 1 |
| Consumer price index | | 165.8 | 2.9 | |
| Restaurant meals | | 174.7 | 7.7 | 1 |
| Inter-city transportation | | 233.0 | 9.4 | 2 |
| Gasoline | | 165.7 | -7.8 | |
| CONOMIC | | | | |
| Gross domestic product, 1986 prices (s.a.) | M | 496,862 | -1.5 | |
| Amusement and recreation | M | 4,562 | -2.5 | |
| Accommodation and food services | M | 11,933 | -6.0 | -1 |
| Personal disposable income per capita (s.a.) | | 17,288 | 0.1 | |
| ABOUR FORCE | | | | |
| abour force (s.a.) | Т | 13,697 | -0.3 | |
| Unemployed | Т | 1,387 | 10.8 | 3 |
| Employed | T | 12,310 | -1.5 | |
| Accommodation and food services (not s.a.) | T | 716 | -2.3 | |
| KCHANGE RATES | | | | |
| Canadian Dollars: | | | | |
| American Dollar | | 1.1558 | -0.4 | |
| British Pound | | 2.2058 | -2.3 | • |
| Japanese Yen | | 0.008646 | -2.6 | |
| German Mark | | 0.7558 | -2.3 | |
| French Franc | | 0.2222 | -3.1 | |
| Mexican Peso | | 0.000390 | -1.8 | -1 |

Page 12 Travel-log, Summer 1991