



# The Daily

Statistics Canada

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## MAJOR RELEASES

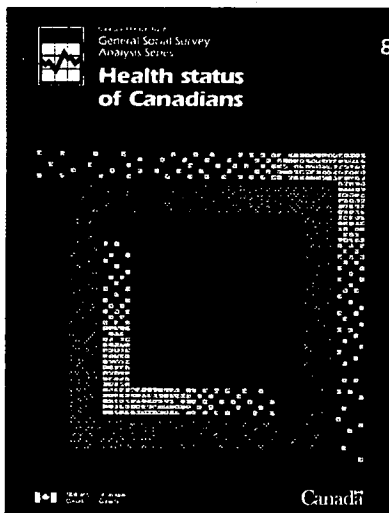
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## Health status of Canadians 1991 General Social Survey

*The health status of Canadians* presents findings from the 1991 General Social Survey on Canadians' health, analysing trends in their health status, their use of the health care system, and their lifestyle risk factors. Data are tabulated at the national and provincial levels. A focus of the report is the health status of people aged 65 to 74 and those aged 75 and over.

*General Social Survey Analysis Series, No. 8: Health status of Canadians* (11-612E, \$40) is now available. See "How to order publications".

For further information on this release, contact Ed Praught (613-951-9180), Housing, Family and Social Statistics Division.



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 Canadians are consulting health care professionals more than ever before. Overall, despite a growing numbers of aches and pains, we're satisfied with the state of our health.
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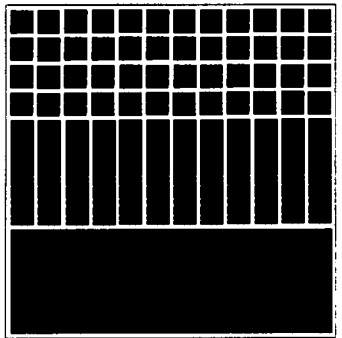
## PUBLICATIONS RELEASED 11



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**Public Sector Assets and Liabilities**  
Historical Overview  
 Français: Aperçu historique

**Actif et passif du secteur public**  
Statistiques historiques  
 Système de gestion financière



### Public sector assets and liabilities

*Public sector assets and liabilities, historical overview* presents balance sheet statistics for all three levels of government, consolidated governments, and government business enterprises. For the federal government and the provincial and territorial governments, estimated net debt statistics are included as of March 31, 1994. An article in the publication, "What is government debt?", explains major differences in the measurement of government net debt using the public accounts, the financial management system, and the system of national accounts.

*Public sector assets and liabilities, historical overview* (68-508, \$56) is now available. See "How to order publications".

For further information on government assets and liabilities, contact A. J. Gareau (613-951-1826); for information on government business enterprises, contact Richard Sauriol (613-951-1829), Public Institutions Division.

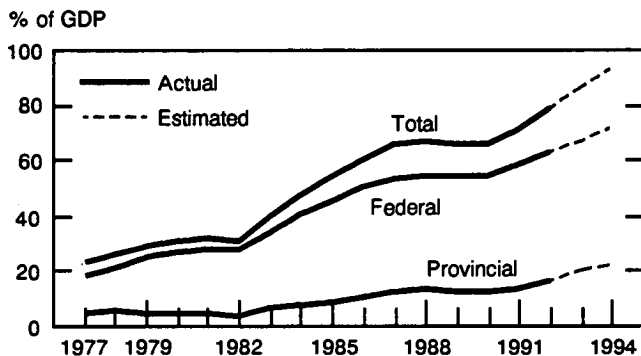
## MAJOR RELEASES

### Federal, provincial and territorial government net debt (financial management system)

At March 31, 1994, the net debt (excess of liabilities over financial assets) of the federal, provincial and territorial governments was estimated to be \$661.2 billion, or \$23,065 per person on a financial management system (FMS) basis. This estimate is based on actual federal debt at March 31, 1993, actual provincial and territorial debt at March 31, 1992, and recently published estimates for revenue and expenditure for subsequent years.

The total net debt of the federal, provincial and territorial governments has increased rapidly since March 31, 1982 (around the end of the 1981-82 recession). The total net debt of government increased from 30.6% of Gross Domestic Product (GDP) at March 31, 1982, to an estimated 93.0% of GDP at March 31, 1994.

#### Provincial and territorial government net debt as a share of the GDP at March 31



Federal government net debt rose rapidly from 27.5% of GDP at March 31, 1982, to 53.3% at March 31, 1987; it remained stable at about 54% of GDP until March 31, 1990, and then rose to an estimated 71.2% of GDP at March 31, 1994.

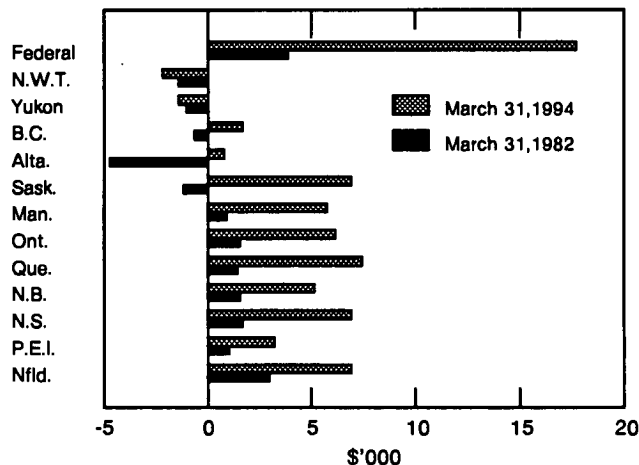
At March 31, 1982, provincial and territorial government net debt was 3.1% of GDP; it rose to 12.7% at March 31, 1988. For the next three years, it remained stable at about 12% of GDP before rising sharply to an estimated 21.8% of GDP at March 31, 1994.

#### Note to users

The financial management system (FMS) standardizes the presentation of government accounting for the federal, provincial and local governments. The individual governments' accounting systems are not directly comparable because the policies and structures of governments differ. The FMS adjusts data from government budgets, estimates, public accounts, and other records to provide detailed and comparable governmental data, as well as compatible national aggregates that are consistent over time. In other words, FMS statistics may not accord with figures published in government financial statements.

On a per capita basis, the total net debt of the federal, provincial and territorial governments was estimated to be \$23,065 at March 31, 1994. Of this total, \$17,657 is due to the net debt of the federal government and \$5,408 is due to the net debt of the provincial and territorial governments. In 1982, the per capita net debt of the federal, provincial and territorial governments was \$4,339, of which \$3,888 was federal government net debt.

#### Per capita net debt for the federal, provincial and territorial governments as at March 31, 1982 and 1994



The provincial and territorial government net debt has grown most quickly in Saskatchewan, Alberta and Quebec. At March 31, 1994, only the Yukon and the Northwest Territories were expected to report a net equity.

In addition to the net debt of federal, provincial and territorial governments, the net debt of local government was estimated to be \$22.4 billion at December 31, 1991.

**Available on CANSIM: matrices 3200-3213 and 3232-3270.**

These data are presented in *Public sector assets and liabilities, historical overview* (68-508, \$56), which is now available.

For further information on this release, contact Terry Moore (613-951-8561) or A. J. Gareau (613-951-1826), Public Institutions Division.

Data are available through custom and special tabulations. For information or general inquiries on Public Institution Division's products or services, contact Jo-Anne Thibault, Data Dissemination and External Relations Coordinator (613-951-0767).

### Net debt of government on a financial management system basis

At fiscal year ending nearest to March 31

	1977	1982	1983	1984	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994
\$ billions														
Federal government	35.3	97.7	125.6	162.3	202.4	238.5	269.9	297.3	325.8	354.3	386.3	421.0	460.8	506.2 <sup>re</sup>
Provincial and territorial government	8.7	11.2	20.6	28.4	35.4	48.9	61.9	70.0	72.8	75.9	83.5	108.6	133.8 <sup>re</sup>	155.0 <sup>e</sup>
Subtotal <sup>1</sup>	44.0	108.9	146.2	190.7	237.8	287.5	331.4	367.3	398.7	430.1	469.8	529.6	594.6 <sup>re</sup>	661.2 <sup>e</sup>
Local government <sup>2</sup>	13.0	17.0	18.1	18.5	18.5	19.0	19.3	20.1	20.4	19.6	20.9	22.4 <sup>e</sup>	..	..
Total <sup>1</sup>	57.0	125.8	164.3	209.2	256.3	306.5	350.7	387.5	419.1	449.7	490.7	552.0 <sup>e</sup>	..	..
% of GDP														
Federal government	17.8	27.5	33.6	40.0	45.5	49.9	53.3	53.9	53.8	54.4	57.6	62.3	66.9	71.2 <sup>re</sup>
Provincial and territorial government	4.4	3.1	5.5	7.0	8.0	10.2	12.2	12.7	12.0	11.7	12.5	16.1	19.4 <sup>re</sup>	21.8 <sup>e</sup>
Subtotal <sup>1</sup>	22.2	30.6	39.1	47.0	53.5	60.1	65.5	66.6	65.8	66.1	70.1	78.4	86.3 <sup>re</sup>	93.0 <sup>e</sup>
Local government <sup>2</sup>	7.0	4.8	4.8	4.6	4.2	4.0	3.8	3.7	3.4	3.0	3.1	3.3 <sup>e</sup>	..	..
Total <sup>1</sup>	29.2	35.4	43.9	51.6	57.7	64.1	69.3	70.3	69.2	69.1	73.2	81.7 <sup>e</sup>	..	..

<sup>1</sup> Differences are due to rounding.

<sup>2</sup> Local government data are as at December 31 of the previous year.

<sup>re</sup> Revised estimates.

<sup>e</sup> Estimates.

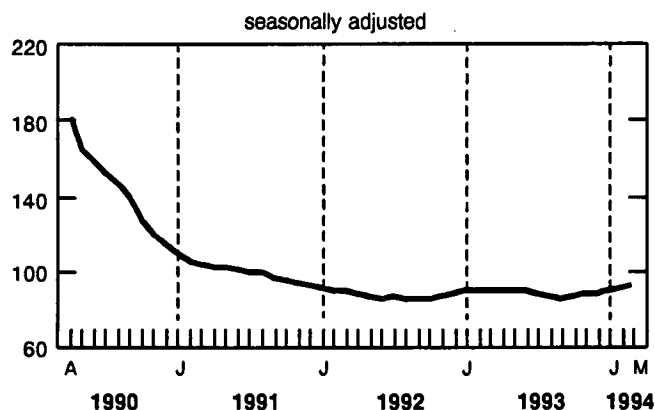
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## Help-wanted index

March 1994

Seasonally adjusted, the Help-wanted index for Canada (1991=100) advanced 2% to 92 in March. This followed increases in January and February. In March, the index made gains in all regions.

### Help-wanted Index (1991 = 100)



After cresting at 215 in March 1989, the Help-wanted index declined until June 1992, when it hit bottom at 85. Throughout the rest of 1992, the index changed only little. But by early 1993 it reached 89. After a drop to 85 in September 1993, the index started to advance, attaining 92 in March 1994.

### Help-wanted Index (1991 = 100)

	March 1993	January 1994	February 1994	March 1994	March 1993 to March 1994	February 1994 to March 1994
	seasonally adjusted				% change	
<b>Canada</b>	<b>88</b>	<b>88</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>92</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>2</b>
Atlantic provinces	92	89	87	89	-3	2
Quebec	90	94	96	99	10	3
Ontario	88	87	89	92	5	3
Prairies provinces	83	84	85	87	5	2
British Columbia	85	84	85	87	2	2

#### Note to users

The Help-wanted index serves as an early indicator of changes in the demand for labour by monitoring the number of help-wanted ads published in 20 major metropolitan areas.

#### Regional changes

Between February and March 1994, the Help-wanted index advanced by 3% in Quebec and Ontario and by 2% in the Atlantic provinces, the Prairie provinces and British Columbia. Compared with March 1993, the index increased in all regions except in the Atlantic provinces, where it declined 3%.

Available on CANSIM: matrix 105 (levels 8-10).

Help-wanted indexes for metropolitan areas surveyed and trend-cycle estimates are available on request.

For further information on this release, contact Carole Lacroix (613-951-4039) or André Picard (613-951-4045), Labour Division (fax: 613-951-4087).

## Estimates of labour income

January 1994 (preliminary)

Year-over-year, the growth (unadjusted) in labour income weakened to 1.8% in January 1994. The growth in December 1993 was 2.0%; in 1993 as a whole, labour income grew by 2.6%.

### Seasonally adjusted

Wages and salaries inched ahead by 0.1% in January, after no change in December 1993 and a 0.4% increase in November 1993.

The growth in wages and salaries in provincial and local administration, in transportation, communications and other utilities, and in finance, insurance and real estate was mostly offset by declines in mines, quarries and oil wells, in construction, in trade, in health and welfare services, and in federal and other administration.

Wages and salaries rose by 2.6% in provincial administration between December 1993 and January 1994. December's estimates were affected by unpaid leave in Nova Scotia, Quebec and Manitoba.

Most provinces showed moderate increases in wages and salaries, yet the total for Canada was dampened by Ontario (-0.1%), Alberta (-0.1%), Newfoundland (-0.3%), and the Yukon, the Northwest Territories and Abroad (-0.6%).

### Unadjusted

Year-over-year, the growth in wages and salaries in January 1994 slipped to 1.6%, from 1.8% in December 1993. The overall increase in 1993 was 2.5%.

The majority of industries recorded diminished year-over-year growth from that of December 1993;

#### Note to users

*Labour income is wages and salaries (88%) plus supplementary labour income (12%). Wages and salaries include items such as bonuses, gratuities, taxable allowances and retroactive wage payments. Supplementary labour income is employer contributions to employee welfare, pension, workers' compensation and unemployment insurance plans. Labour income accounts for 57% of Gross Domestic Product.*

*Due to the annual data revision within the context of the system of national accounts, the next release of the Estimates of labour income will occur in June. At that time, revised labour income data covering the period from 1990 through the first quarter of 1994 will be published.*

the exceptions were forestry, commercial and personal services, and local administration. Year-over-year, wages and salaries continued to decline in construction and in federal and provincial administration. Education also fell (-0.2%) between January 1993 and January 1994 following a year-over-year increase of 0.7% in December 1993. Wages and salaries in this industry were affected in January by unpaid holidays in Quebec.

The year-over-year growth rate strengthened in January 1994 compared to December 1993 in Newfoundland, Prince Edward Island, Manitoba, Alberta, and the Yukon, the Northwest Territories and Abroad. British Columbia (+6.5%) continued to exceed the national rate of growth.

### Available on CANSIM: matrices 1791 and 1792.

The January-March 1994 issue of *Estimates of labour income* (72-005, \$22.50/\$90) will be available in July. See "How to order publications".

For further information on this release, contact Katherine Fraser (613-951-4090), Labour Division (fax: 613-951-4087). □

**Wages and salaries and supplementary labour income**

	January 1993	December 1993 <sup>r</sup>	January 1994 <sup>p</sup>	December 1993 to January 1994
	\$ millions			% change
	seasonally adjusted			
Agriculture, fishing and trapping	223.2	219.8	220.4	0.3
Forestry	241.8	264.9	264.1	-0.3
Mines, quarries and oil wells	583.5	591.3	567.1	-4.1
Manufacturing industries	5,119.1	5,256.5	5,251.3	-0.1
Construction industry	1,695.3	1,610.9	1,602.4	-0.5
Transportation, communications and other utilities	2,801.9	2,807.0	2,819.9	0.5
Trade	3,971.0	4,095.5	4,087.3	-0.2
Finance, insurance and real estate	2,531.2	2,615.3	2,622.7	0.3
Commercial and personal services	3,906.9	4,147.2	4,147.5	0.0
Education and related services	2,742.2	2,723.8	2,728.2	0.2
Health and welfare services	2,710.8	2,760.6	2,755.1	-0.2
Federal administration and other government offices	1,042.1	1,038.6	1,033.8	-0.5
Provincial administration	712.2	680.0	697.4	2.6
Local administration	681.3	677.7	693.3	2.3
<b>Total wages and salaries</b>	<b>28,993.3</b>	<b>29,498.0</b>	<b>29,538.1</b>	<b>0.1</b>
Supplementary labour income	3,867.1	3,920.5	3,990.8	1.8
<b>Labour Income</b>	<b>32,860.4</b>	<b>33,418.5</b>	<b>33,528.9</b>	<b>0.3</b>
	January 1993	December 1993 <sup>r</sup>	January 1994 <sup>p</sup>	January 1993 to January 1994
	\$ millions			% change
	unadjusted			
Agriculture, fishing and trapping	124.7	180.9	123.3	-1.1
Forestry	217.4	230.4	237.3	9.2
Mines, quarries and oil wells	586.0	580.1	570.7	-2.6
Manufacturing industries	4,994.3	5,183.0	5,108.5	2.3
Construction industry	1,404.3	1,426.0	1,327.7	-5.5
Transportation, communications and other utilities	2,750.5	2,779.0	2,767.7	0.6
Trade	3,916.1	4,165.3	3,993.5	2.0
Finance, insurance and real estate	2,489.0	2,606.9	2,577.9	3.6
Commercial and personal services	3,775.3	4,087.7	3,984.3	5.5
Education and related services	2,811.2	2,766.3	2,806.4	-0.2
Health and welfare services	2,674.5	2,717.5	2,706.1	1.2
Federal administration and other government offices	1,005.1	1,021.7	999.5	-0.6
Provincial administration	688.7	662.5	673.9	-2.1
Local administration	670.7	686.6	686.5	2.4
<b>Total wages and salaries</b>	<b>28,107.6</b>	<b>29,094.0</b>	<b>28,563.4</b>	<b>1.6</b>
Supplementary labour income	3,746.1	3,870.9	3,877.7	3.5
<b>Labour Income</b>	<b>31,853.7</b>	<b>32,964.9</b>	<b>32,441.1</b>	<b>1.8</b>

<sup>p</sup> Preliminary figures.<sup>r</sup> Revised figures.

## Health status of Canadians

### 1991 General Social Survey

Canadians are consulting health care professionals more than ever before. More than nine out of 10 (94%), aged 15 and over, reported contacting a medical professional of some type during the 12 months prior to the General Social Survey.

In 1991, about 17.6 million people (or 84% of the population aged 15 and over) consulted a physician, including general practitioners and specialists. That was an increase from 76% in 1978-79. Similarly, the proportion who contacted a dentist jumped to 55% in 1991, from 47% in 1978-79.

### Frequency of consultation varies with income, sex and age

Canadians with a low income were more likely to visit a general practitioner, medical specialist, nurse or psychologist than were those with higher incomes. In part, this may be because most of the chronic health problems probed in the survey were more common among lower income groups. On the other hand, Canadians with a higher income were much more likely than those with a lower income to consult a dentist at least once a year.

Ontario residents were the most likely to visit a dentist. In total, 63% of Ontarians reported contacting a dentist, followed by 59% in British Columbia; Newfoundland had the fewest contacts, at 37% of the population.

People go to doctors not only for treatment of existing illnesses but for preventive care as well. About one-half of seniors aged 65 and over (about 1.5 million people) were advised to get a flu shot in the fall or winter of 1990-91. The percentage of people aged 65 and over who were advised to get a flu shot was highest in Ontario (56%), Newfoundland (54%) and Quebec (54%); the percentage was lowest in Saskatchewan (33%) and New Brunswick (36%). Overall, 45% of seniors received a flu shot.

### Overall, we're satisfied with our health

How healthy are Canadians? In 1991, 63% of Canadians aged 15 and over reported that they suffered from at least one chronic health problem. The share of the population with at least one health problem ranged from 50% of those aged 15 to 24 to nearly 90% of those aged 75 and over. The chronic health problems reported most often were skin or other allergies (21%), arthritis and rheumatism (21%), and high blood pressure (16%). Other problems

#### Note to users

*Today's release presents findings from the 1991 General Social Survey (GSS) on the health of Canadians. It analyzes trends in their health status, their use of the health care system and their lifestyle risk factors.*

*Data were first released in the spring of 1992 in the report A trend to a healthier lifestyle. Other detailed analysis have subsequently appeared in Canadian social trends and Health reports. The health status of Canadians goes beyond those reports with an in-depth study of health status, health care utilization, and lifestyle risk factors. A data file from this survey has been available since June 1992.*

*Since 1985, the GSS has collected data on the living conditions and well-being of Canadians. It monitors changes in Canadian society over time and produces information on specific policy issues of current or emergent interest.*

*The GSS operates on a five-year cycle. Each year examines one of five subject areas, which form the core content of the survey: health, time use, accidents and criminal victimization, education and work, and friends and family.*

*Conducted in 1991, Cycle 6 was the first cycle to return to previous core content—health (1985). It was also the first time data were collected over 12 months (instead of over two or three months) to account for seasonal variations in many health and lifestyle issues. Data were collected about self-perceived health status, chronic health problems, long- and short-term disability, contacts with health professionals, alcohol consumption, smoking, physical activity, sleep patterns, weight, and satisfaction with health.*

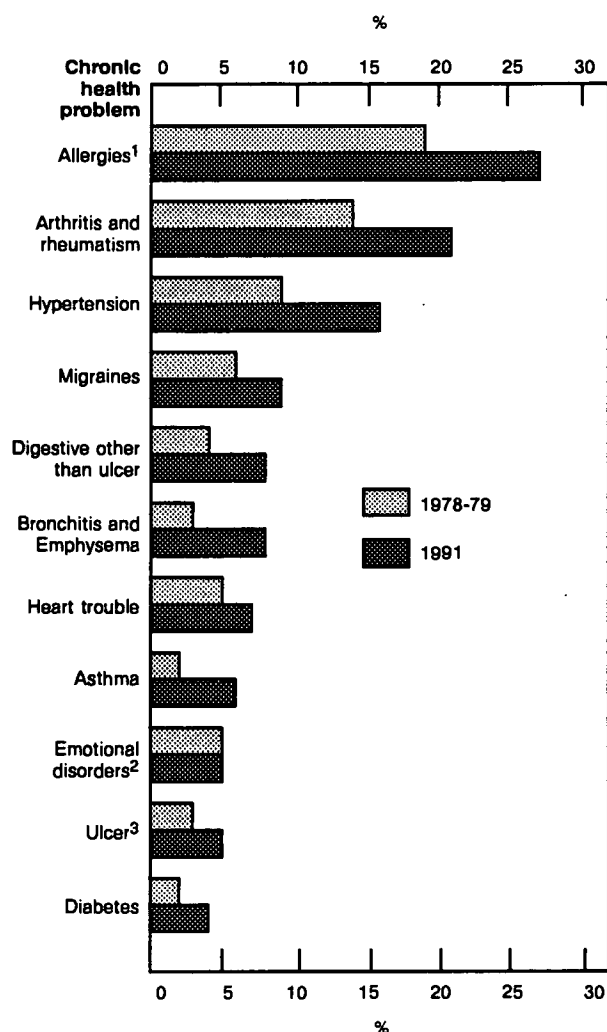
*The sample of 11,924 persons—aged 15 and over and living in private households in the 10 provinces—included an oversample of the population aged 65 and over.*

frequently reported were hay fever (12%), recurring migraines (9%), emphysema, digestive problems other than ulcers, and high blood cholesterol (all at 8%), and heart trouble (7%).

Since 1978, the proportion of Canadians reporting most of the chronic health problems surveyed has increased substantially. Although part of this increase is due to the aging of the population, it may also reflect more extensive detection or a more knowledgeable, health-conscious population that is more inclined to report health problems.

Despite the growing number of aches and pains suffered by Canada's aging population, Canadians overall were satisfied with their health status. Approximately 84% of all Canadians described themselves as either "very" or "somewhat" satisfied with their health status, while only 3% were "very" dissatisfied. Although the elderly had the lowest rates of satisfaction with their health, 79% of those aged 65 to 74 and 71% of those aged 75 and over reported being satisfied.

## Prevalence of health problems, aged 15 +



<sup>1</sup> Canada Health Survey - refers to grouping of "hay fever" and other allergies", "skin disorders", while the General Social Survey refers to grouping of "hay fever" and "skin or other allergies".

<sup>2</sup> Canada Health Survey - refers to "mental disorders".

<sup>3</sup> Canada Health Survey - refers to "gastric and duodenal ulcers".

Sources: Canada Health Survey, 1978-79  
General Social Survey, 1991

Having trouble with pain or discomfort also gives an indication of how healthy people are. One in five reported some pain or discomfort. The proportion that reported this problem ranged from 11% of Canadians aged 15 to 24 to 35% of Canadians aged 75 and over.

The relationships that the survey found between health problems and economic well-being are consistent with well-established trends: lower-income Canadians are more likely than higher-income Canadians to report the surveyed chronic conditions. Hay fever is the exception. The findings reveal for the first time, however, that pain and sleep difficulties (trouble going to sleep or staying asleep) are also part of the health burdens suffered by lower-income groups. The percentage of Canadians in the lowest income group that had trouble sleeping was almost double the national average (47% vs 24%) and more than 2½ times the percentage of Canadians in the highest income group (18%). As well, there is an inverse relationship between income and reports of pain: 35% of those with the lowest incomes reported pain compared with 15% of those with the highest incomes.

*General Social Survey Analysis Series, No. 8: Health status of Canadians (11-612E, \$40)* is now available. See "How to order publications".

For further information on this release, contact Ed Praught (613-951-9180), Housing, Family and Social Statistics Division. ■

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## DATA AVAILABILITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

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### Steel primary forms

Week ending April 2, 1994 (preliminary)

Steel primary forms production for the week ending April 2, 1994 totalled 267 488 tonnes, up 12.5% from the week-earlier 237 667 tonnes but down 7.0% from the year-earlier 287 729 tonnes.

The cumulative total at the end of the week was 3 374 282 tonnes, a 5.2% decrease from 3 559 573 tonnes for the same period in 1993.

For further information on this release, contact Greg Milsom (613-951-9827), Industry Division. ■

### Railway carloadings

Seven-day period ending March 21, 1994

The number of railway cars loaded in Canada during the seven-day period increased by 5.0% from the year-earlier period; revenue-freight loaded increased by 6.3% to 4.7 million tonnes.

Piggyback traffic tonnage, which is included in total carload traffic, increased by 13.8% during the same period.

Tonnage of revenue-freight loaded as of March 21, 1994, decreased by 1.5% from the previous year.

Cumulative data for 1993 and 1994 have been revised.

For further information on this release, contact Angus MacLean (613-951-2528, fax: 613-951-0579), Surface Transport Unit, Transportation Division. ■

### Steel wire and specified wire products

February 1994

Shipments of steel wire and specified wire products totalled 58 086 tonnes in February 1994, up 2.0% from 56 925 tonnes in January 1994.

Data on factory shipments of steel wire and specified wire products are now available for February 1994, as are production and export market data for selected commodities.

Available on CANSIM: matrix 122 (series 19).

The February 1994 issue of *Steel wire and specified wire products* (41-006, \$5/\$50) will be available at a later date.

For further information on this release, contact Bruno Pépin (613-951-9837), Industry Division. ■

### Pulpwood and wood residue statistics

February 1994

In February 1994, pulpwood receipts totalled 3 846 260 cubic metres, up 1.3% from 3 797 786 cubic metres in February 1993. Receipts of wood residue totalled 5 452 195 cubic metres, down 1.0% from 5 506 392 cubic metres in February 1993. Consumption of pulpwood and wood residue totalled 8 393 676 cubic metres, up 0.9% from 8 315 113 cubic metres in February 1993. The closing inventory of pulpwood and wood residue decreased 19.5% to 11 855 435 cubic metres, from 14 729 403 cubic metres a year earlier.

At the end of February 1994, year-to-date receipts of pulpwood totalled 7 110 902 cubic metres, down 3.6% from 7 374 382 cubic metres a year earlier. Year-to-date receipts of wood residue increased 0.5% to 10 874 489 cubic metres, from the year-earlier 10 825 511 cubic metres. Year-to-date consumption of pulpwood and wood residue (17 244 405 cubic metres) was down 0.6% from 17 344 866 cubic metres a year earlier.

Available on CANSIM: matrix 54.

The February 1994 issue of *Pulpwood and wood residue statistics* (25-001, \$6.10/\$61) will be available later.

For further information on this release, contact Jacques Lepage (613-951-3516), Industry Division. ■

## PUBLICATIONS RELEASED

**Health status of Canadians, General Social Survey Analysis Series.**

**Catalogue number 11-612E, No.8**

(Canada: \$40; United States: US\$48;  
other countries: US\$56).

**Financial flow accounts, quarterly estimates, fourth quarter 1993.**

**Catalogue number 13-014**

(Canada: \$25/\$100; United States: US\$30/US\$120;  
other countries: US\$35/US\$140).

**Public sector assets and liabilities—historical overview, financial management system.**

**Catalogue number 68-508**

(Canada: \$56; United States: US\$67;  
other countries: US\$78).

**Labour force Information, March 1994.**

**Catalogue number 71-001P**

(Canada: \$6.30/\$63; United States: US\$7.60/US\$76;  
other countries: US\$8.80/US\$88).

**Available at 7:00 a.m. on Friday, April 8.**

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.



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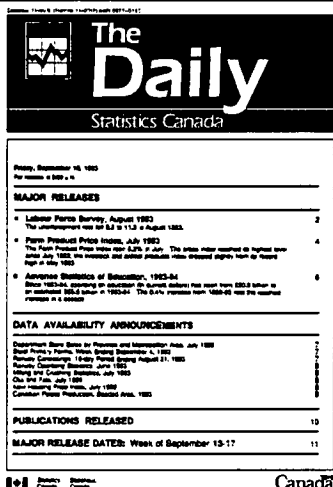
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- programmable thermostats
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