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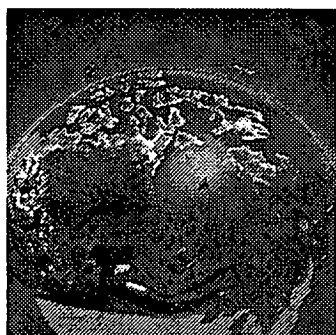
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 **Human Activity and the Environment 1994**



Canada

Human activity and the environment 1994

Human activity and the environment, 1994, Statistics Canada's latest compilation of environmental statistics, continues the tradition of earlier issues (1978, 1986 and 1991) by providing a comprehensive, authoritative and up-to-date assessment of how Canadians are affecting the environment.

This publication uses information from a wide variety of sources and focuses on the impacts that people and economic activities have on the environment. New for 1994 are international and provincial environmental impact profiles and a chapter on Statistics Canada's environmental accounting initiative.

The book contains 86 pages of analytical text, 220 tables, 158 figures and 21 maps covering a multitude of environmental topics. The data are enhanced for environmental analysis and are in many cases presented on a drainage basin or ecozone basis.

The fourth edition of *Human activity and the environment, 1994* (11-509E, \$35) is now available. See "How to Order Publications". For further information, contact the National Accounts and Environment Division (613-951-3640).



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PUBLICATIONS RELEASED

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Human activity and the environment 1994

Canada is among the top five producers per capita in the world of industrial and household garbage, and among the highest in the production of hazardous wastes.

In 1991, each Canadian generated about 360 kilograms of urban solid waste, compared to 828 kilograms discarded by each American.

Ontario leads the production of hazardous wastes in Canada, whose total output ranks far ahead of some other industrialized nations such as Japan.

How Canadians stack up environmentally

Canada, Australia and the United States generate between 360 and 828 kilograms of urban solid waste per person each year, ranking them within the top five per-capita waste-producers in the world, together with France and New Zealand.

Much of the waste in Canada consists of plastics, packaging and newspapers which must be collected and disposed of at municipal facilities. In developing countries, the waste volumes discarded are only a fraction of that level because in general, those nations use less packaging and they recycle more items.

In 1991, Canada generated about 5,770 kilograms of hazardous waste for each million US\$ of gross domestic product. Japan generated only 226 kilograms per million US\$.

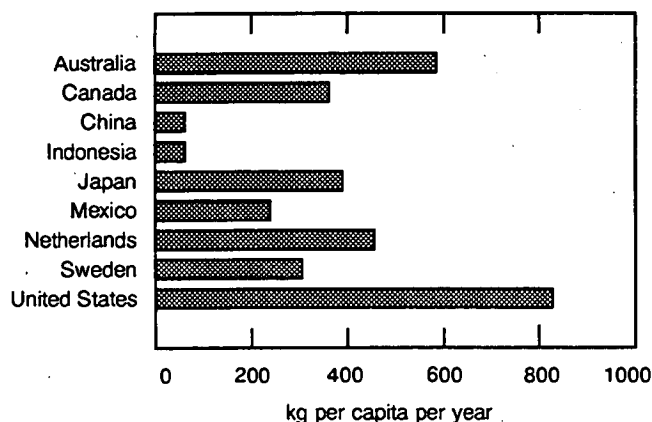
The gap between Canada and Japan is due not only to higher efficiency and recycling in Japan but also to the differences between the two economies: Canada has a much higher proportion of primary and secondary industries than Japan.

The United States and China showed even higher hazardous waste intensities than Canada. The United States generated 44,186 kilograms per million US\$ of GDP, and China 158,026 kilograms.

In Canada, Ontario produces 68% of the hazardous waste generated nationally. For every million dollars of GDP in Ontario, 8.3 tonnes of hazardous wastes are produced. By comparison, Prince Edward Island generates only 0.2 tonnes of hazardous waste per million dollars of GDP. The Canadian average is 4.9 tonnes.

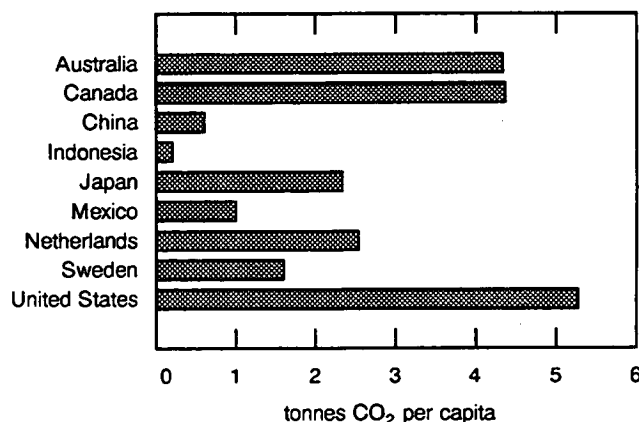
In 1991, the United States, Australia and Canada were among the world's highest per capita greenhouse gas producers, ranking sixth, seventh and eighth. The country rankings are based on emissions per capita, which is a useful indicator to compare greenhouse gas intensities for nations with varying economic structures and populations.

Urban solid waste generation, 1991



Canada is also a major producer of hazardous wastes, which are substances posing a risk to human health or the environment and requiring special disposal techniques to make them harmless or less dangerous.

Greenhouse gas emissions, 1991



Countries with higher levels of emissions per capita, ranking first through fourth, are generally the less-populated, oil-producing nations of the Middle East, where the major source is gas pipeline leakage.

Finally, Canada is using only a fraction of its renewable supply of fresh water. But relative to other countries, the per capita use (15 cubic metres a year) is among the highest in the world. Countries such as Japan and Sweden have per capita consumption rates that are less than a third of Canada's.

Canada depleting its crude oil supplies

Canada has substantial reserves of crude oil, natural gas, crude bitumen (recovered from tar sands) and coal. But between 1969 and 1992, Canada's established reserves of crude oil – those which are known to exist and are economically recoverable today – declined by 51%.

Reserves of natural gas, crude bitumen and coal are large and have remained relatively stable during the past decade. The most recently estimated reserve lives are 11 years for crude oil, 22 years for natural gas, 25 years for crude bitumen and 70 years for coal. However, Canada's ultimate potential reserves of crude oil and natural gas are approximately double these quantities.

As supplies of conventional crude oil decline, Canada will have to increasingly rely on imported oil and the extraction of higher cost, lower quality sources of oil from non-conventional sources such as tar sands. It will also have to rely on frontier areas such as Hibernia in Newfoundland to meet domestic demand.

Half Canadian households have access to recycling programs

In 1991, about one-half of Canadian households had access to curbside or depot recycling services

(53% for paper, 49% for metal cans and 50% for glass bottles). But this access varied greatly across the country.

Access to recycling was highest in Ontario (72% for each of paper, metal cans and glass bottles). Use of available recycling services was also highest in Ontario.

For those households that had access to a paper recycling service, 94% of Ontario households used the service as opposed to 86% in the country as a whole. British Columbia ranked second in paper recycling availability at 64% of households, with 87% of these using the service. In contrast, only 11% of Prince Edward Island and Newfoundland households had access to paper recycling in 1991.

The fourth edition of *Human Activity and the Environment, 1994* (11-509E, \$35) is now available. See "How to Order Publications".

The 300-page book is Statistics Canada's latest compilation of environmental statistics. It provides a comprehensive assessment of how Canadians are affecting the environment. The issues mentioned in this release cover only a fraction of the information available in this book. It also investigates the environmental implications of economic developments by looking at international trade, resource industries, transportation networks and energy consumption.

For further information, contact the National Accounts and Environment Division (613-951-3640). □

Recycling activities by province
1991

	Total households	Households with access to curbside recycling or recycling depots for			Households using the recycling service for		
		Paper	Metal cans	Glass	Paper	Metal cans	Glass
	thousands	percent					
Newfoundland	177	11	15	7	55	59	54
Prince Edward Island	47	11	..	8	-
Nova Scotia	326	37	27	29	70	54	64
New Brunswick	251	18	15	18	66	54	61
Quebec	2,618	34	22	25	76	74	74
Ontario	3,585	72	72	72	94	94	94
Manitoba	389	40	42	39	50	56	47
Saskatchewan	359	38	56	54	70	74	74
Alberta	898	51	52	55	77	83	84
British Columbia	1,225	64	56	58	87	85	86
Canada	9,873	53	49	50	86	86	86

.. figures not available.

- nil or zero.

Note: Figures may not add due to rounding.

Source: Statistics Canada, *Households and the environment 1991* (catalogue no. 11-526), Ottawa.

Who gets UI?

More than 1.1 million individuals received regular unemployment insurance benefits on average in 1992, representing a 29% rise since 1989, the year preceding the recession.

Between 1989 and 1992, the increase in the number of individuals receiving regular benefits was much greater among men than among women: 39% versus 17%.

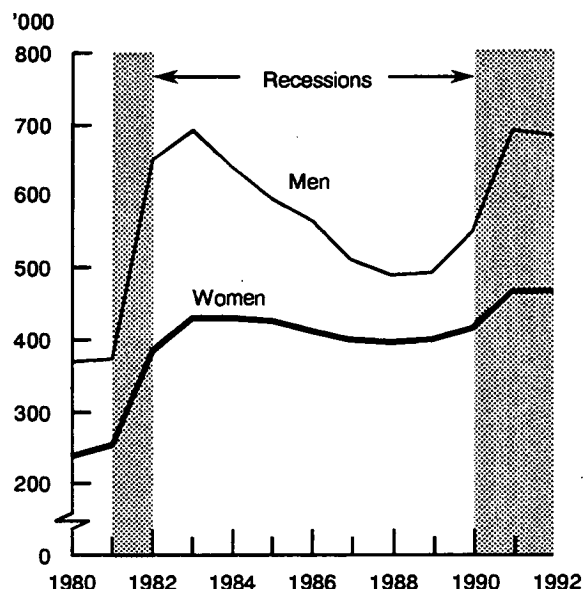
More than half the beneficiaries were between the ages of 25 and 44, but those 45 and over registered the sharpest relative increase between 1989 and 1992.

Ontario had by far the largest growth in the number of unemployment insurance beneficiaries between 1989 and 1992 (more than 155,000 representing close to 60% of the total increase in Canada).

Although blue-collar workers averaged 41% of all paid workers in the economy between 1989 and 1992, they made up 60% of unemployment insurance beneficiaries.

"Who gets UI?" is featured in the Summer 1994 issue of *Perspectives on Labour and Income* (75-001E, \$14/\$56), released on June 1, 1994. A profile of unemployment insurance beneficiaries over the last decade with a focus on the recent recession is presented. See "How to Order Publications".

Recessions have a greater impact on the number of male beneficiaries*



Source: Labour Division, Unemployment Insurance statistics.
* Receiving regular benefits.

For further information, contact André Picard (613-951-4045), Labour Division.

DATA AVAILABILITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Profiles of census tracts – part B: Area profile series

1991 Census

Another five census tract profiles from the 1991 Census are now available. Each publication provides data collected from a 20% sample of households on characteristics such as home language, ethnic origin, place of birth, education, religion, labour force activity, housing costs and income.

Census tracts are presented in numerical order within each centre. Data for the component census subdivisions are also shown.

The Area profile series publications released today are as follows: *Chicoutimi-Jonquière, Sherbrooke and Trois-Rivières – Part B* (95-328, \$45); *Québec – Part B* (95-333, \$45); *Brantford, Guelph, Kitchener and St. Catharines-Niagara – Part B* (95-340, \$55); *Winnipeg – Part B* (95-361, \$40); and *Edmonton – Part B* (95-378, \$50).

To purchase any of these publications, see "How to Order Publications." For more information, contact your nearest Statistics Canada Regional Reference Centre. ■

Steel primary forms

April 1994

Steel primary forms production for April 1994 totalled 1 199 764 tonnes, a decrease of 3.6% from 1 244 990 metric tonnes the previous year.

Year-to-date production reached 4 521 890 metric tonnes, down 4.6% from 4 741 234 tonnes a year earlier.

Available on CANSIM: matrix 58 (level 2, series 3).

The April 1994 issue of *Primary Iron and Steel* (41-001,\$6/\$60) will be available at a later date.

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

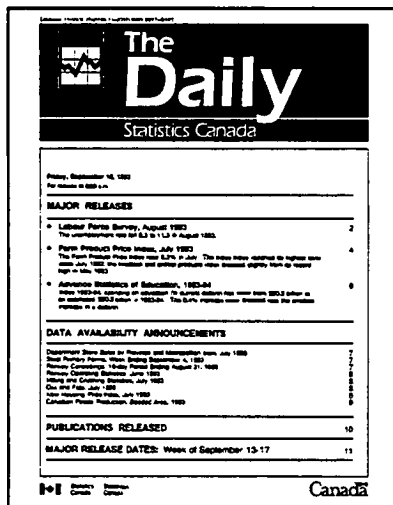
Education price index – Selected inputs, elementary and secondary levels

1971 to 1992

The education price index for 1992 is now available. At the national level, this index recorded its lowest annual rate of increase in ten years (+2.6%). The highest rates of increase were reported in British Columbia (+4.0%) and Alberta (+4.6%).

Available on CANSIM: table 00590304.

For more information, contact Anne Drolet (613-951-1668), Education, Culture and Tourism Division. ■



Statistics Canada's official release bulletin

Catalogue 11-001E. (Canada: \$120; United States: US\$144; Other Countries: US\$168.)

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PUBLICATIONS RELEASED

Human activity and the environment, 1994.

Catalogue number 11-509E

(Canada: \$35; United States: US\$42;
other countries: US\$49).

Farm cash receipts, January-March 1994.

Catalogue number 21-001

(Canada: \$13/\$50; United States: US\$15/US\$60;
other countries: US\$18/US\$70).

Industrial chemicals and synthetic resins, April 1994.

Catalogue number 46-002

(Canada: \$6/\$60; United States: US\$8/US\$72; other
countries: US\$9/US\$84).

Retail trade, March 1994.

Catalogue number 63-005

(Canada: \$20/\$200; United States: US\$24/US\$240;
other countries: US\$28/US\$280).

Unemployment insurance statistics, March 1994.

Catalogue number 73-001

(Canada: \$16/\$160; United States: US\$20/US\$192;
other countries: US\$23/US\$224).

**Profile of census tracts in Chicoutimi-Jonquière,
Sherbrooke and Trois-Rivières - Part B, 1991**

Census.

Catalogue number 95-328

(Canada: \$45; United States: US\$54;
other countries: US\$63).

Profile of census tracts in Québec - Part B, 1991

Census.

Catalogue number 95-333

(Canada: \$45; United States: US\$54;
other countries: US\$63).

**Profile of census tracts in Brantford, Guelph,
Kitchener and St. Catharines-Niagara - Part B,
1991 Census.**

Catalogue number 95-340

(Canada: \$55; United States: US\$66;
other countries: US\$77).

**Profile of census tracts in Winnipeg - Part B,
1991 Census.**

Catalogue number 95-361

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

**Profile of census tracts in Edmonton - Part B,
1991 Census.**

Catalogue number 95-378

(Canada: \$50; United States: US\$60;
other countries: US\$70).

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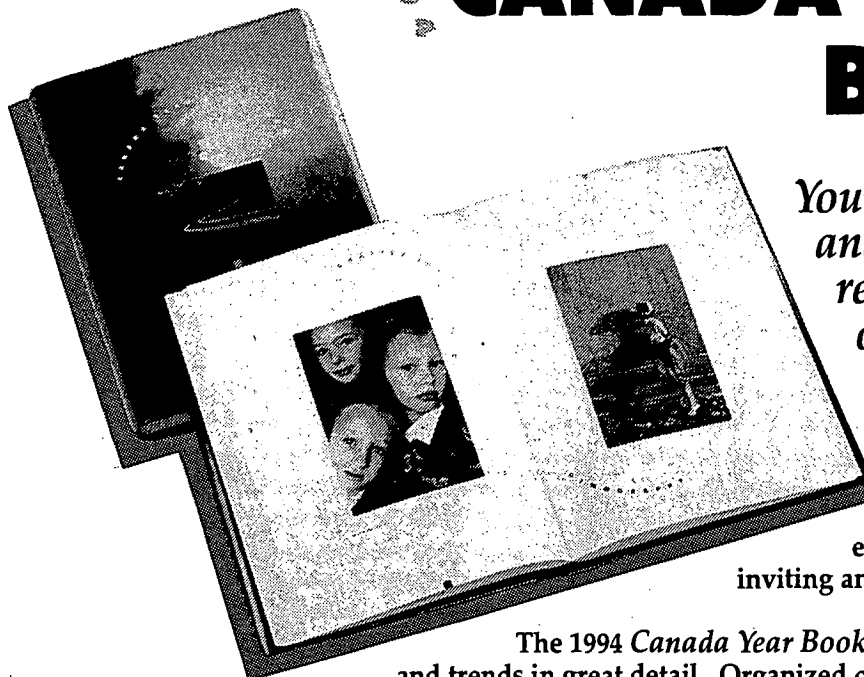
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