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MAJOR RELEASES

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- Family income after tax, 1994
 In 1994, following four consecutive years of decline, after-tax income of families recovered some ground, primarily due to renewed strength in the labour market.
- Youth court statistics, 1994-95 In 1994-95, youth courts heard 110,000 cases, down 5% from the previous year. This reduction is in contrast to the steady growth in caseload since the mid-1980s.

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Youth custody and probation, 1994-95
Steel primary forms, week ending March 23, 1996

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CANSIM time series directory 1996

The 1996 *CANSIM time series directory*, available as a compact disc or as a hard copy, serves as a guide to the data contained in the CANSIM time series database. On-line access to this database is available worldwide through a number of distributors.

The compact disc makes directory searching easier. You can search by keyword and by topic. The disc also contains a thesaurus of terms used by Statistics Canada and an instructional module called "About Statistics Canada data," which contains more information on the data and services available from Statistics Canada.

StatCan: CANSIM directory disc, a compact disc with a new disc issued quarterly, is available for \$100; in the United States, US\$120; in all other countries, US\$140. CANSIM time series directory, a three-volume, hard copy set with a semi-annual amendment, is available for \$250; in the United States, US\$300; in all other countries, US\$350. Cross-reference index (hard copy) for databank, matrix and series identifiers is available for \$85; in the United States, US\$102; in all other countries, US\$119.

For further information about the 1996 *CANSIM time series directory*, contact Mary Townson (613-951-1122), Marketing Division, or your nearest Statistics Canada Regional Reference Centre.

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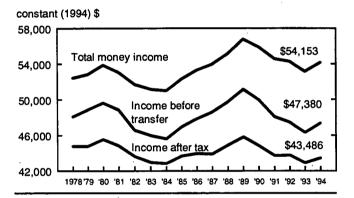
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MAJOR RELEASES

Family income after tax

In 1994, following four consecutive years of decline, after-tax income of families recovered some ground, primarily due to renewed strength in the labour market. Average after-tax family income in 1994, based on estimates derived from the annual Survey of Consumer Finances, was \$43,486, a 1.3% increase from 1993 after adjusting for inflation (as measured by changes in the consumer price index). Consequently, after-tax income recovered over \$500 (19.1%) of the almost \$3,000 lost since 1989, the peak year for income.

Average total money income, income before transfers and income after tax for families



The improvement in after-tax family income stemmed from increased earnings. After four years of decline, average income before transfers grew about \$1,000 from its 1993 level, to \$47,380. Data from the Survey of Consumer Finances, published last December, showed that an estimated 9.3 million people had earnings from full-year full-time employment in 1994, up 2.8% from 1993 and the first significant increase in five years. A large part of this renewed strength in the labour market was attributed to an employment rebound in the traditionally higher wage goods producing industries. However, income before transfers was still down almost \$4,000 from the pre-recession peak reached in 1989.

Recent developments suggest that the 1994 income recovery may have stalled in 1995. During 1995, improvements in labour market conditions lost momentum. Although employment continued to increase, the pace of growth in the number of full-time and part-time jobs weakened compared with 1994.

Note to readers

After-tax income is calculated by adding cash government transfer payments (such as Old Age Security, Canada/Quebec Pension Plan benefits, Child Tax Benefits and Unemployment Insurance benefits) to income before transfers (mainly from work and investment) and then by subtracting income taxes paid. The "clawback" of Unemployment Insurance and Old Age Security benefits is treated as an increase in taxes rather than a reduction in transfers.

Cash transfers and personal taxes are two important mechanisms by which income redistribution occurs, but the income redistribution effects described in this report do not reflect the entire government expenditure/revenue process. For example, health and education expenditures, and sales tax revenues are excluded. Cash transfers account for 24% of total expenditures, and personal income taxes 34%, of total revenues of governments. Because the survey data refer only to family income, users are cautioned against drawing unwarranted conclusions about "net benefits" of taxes and transfers based on the data presented in this report.

Dollar amounts and percentages in this report are calculated by using averages and constant (1994) dollars. Other measures, such as medians, are also available for analysis.

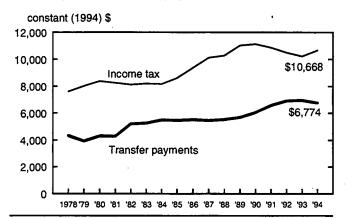
These estimates were prepared from data collected by the Survey of Consumer Finances, a supplement to the April 1995 Labour Force Survey (approximately 38,000 households). The sample excludes the institutional population and households in the Yukon and Northwest Territories and on Indian reserves.

Total employment grew by 88,000 during the year, and over 90% of this growth was in part-time employment. As well, wage settlements in 1995 did not show any real gains. Meanwhile, the impact of changes to social programs at all government levels resulted in reductions in transfer payments to families.

Transfer payments up for elderly, stable overall

At \$6,774, average family transfer payments were virtually unchanged for the second straight year, despite continued growth in payments to the elderly. The increased payments to the elderly were offset by declining payments to the non-elderly. Unemployment Insurance payments were down in 1994, due, in part, to UI program changes which became effective in July and to fewer claimants, as people found employment or exhausted benefits.

Average family transfer payments and income tax



Income tax up due to advance in earnings

Income tax paid by families averaged \$10,668 in 1994, \$446 higher than in 1993. This increase occurred because families had more earnings to tax as wage earners in many families, who were unemployed or underemployed during the recession, found full-time work. This was the first real increase in average tax paid since 1989.

Taxes, transfers reduce 1994 income differences

In 1994, the combination of personal income taxes and government transfer payments narrowed the after-tax income gap between those at the top and those at the bottom of the income scale. Before taxes and transfers, those in the top 20% earned \$22 for every \$1 earned by those in the bottom 20%. After taxes and transfers, the gap was \$5 for every \$1.

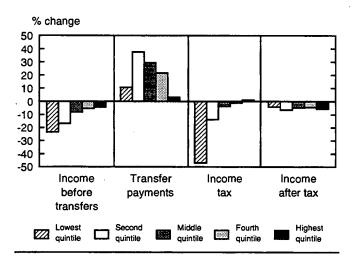
Families in the lowest quintile (the poorest fifth) saw their average incomes rise to \$16,733 after taxes from \$4,660 before transfers. The highest income families, on the other hand, saw their average incomes fall to \$80,084 after taxes from a pre-tax, pre-transfer average of \$104,540.

Taxes and transfers counter historical increase in inequality

The decline observed in after-tax family income following the 1989 peak was driven primarily by lower earnings, brought on by recessionary job losses. The data indicate that the income gap between high and low income families grew during this period on a pretax, pre-transfer basis, but did not rise after transfers and taxes.

Before taxes and transfers, the poorest fifth of families experienced the largest income drop between 1989 and 1994, at 24%. The richest fifth posted the smallest loss (-4%). When the effects of transfer payments and income taxes are factored in, the lowest and highest quintiles realized declines of 4% and 6% respectively. Transfer payments increased and income taxes dropped in a way that equalized the decline in after-tax income among all income groups.

Change in family income and income tax by quintile, 1989 to 1994, in constant (1994) dollars



Over the past decade, a similar pattern has emerged: a tendency to greater income inequality on a pre-tax, pre-transfer basis was countered by the effect of transfers and income tax. Between 1984 and 1994, the lowest three-fifths saw virtually no change in pre-transfer income. The top two-fifths experienced real gains, led by the highest fifth's 6% increase. Once transfers and taxes are factored in, however, the lowest quintile saw the largest increase (+9%).

Between 1984 and 1994, taxes rose for all groups. The pre-tax income gains for the two highest quintiles (the top 40% of income recipients) were completely offset by significant tax increases. In fact, their tax increases paid for most of the growth in transfer payments shared by all families. The gain in after-tax income among the bottom 20% over the period was due entirely to increased transfer payments. The middle quintile had almost equal increases in transfers and taxes: their income was virtually unchanged on both a pre-transfer and an after-tax basis.

Other interesting facts

After transfers and taxes, three of five elderly families fell into the two lowest quintiles, despite increased transfer payments in 1994.

While female lone-parent families received the highest average transfers of all non-elderly families, 6 in 10 were in the lowest quintile.

Nearly half of two-parent families with three or more earners were in the highest quintile.

Income after tax, distribution by size in Canada, 1994 (13-210-XPB, \$30) is now available. See "How to order publications".

Microdata files containing data on the 1994 incomes of economic families and individuals aged 15 years and over, along with socio-demographic characteristics, will be released later. These files have

been carefully reviewed to ensure that they do not contain information that would allow identification of specific households, families or individuals. These files can be ordered by contacting the Household Surveys Division. Custom tabulations of the data are also available on request.

The 1995 Survey of Consumer Finances was weighted to population estimates that incorporate an adjustment for undercounting in the census. The data from 1980 to 1993 have been reweighted to this base. The analysis in this release is based on the new estimates.

For further information on this release, or to order custom tabulations, contact Réjean Lasnier (613-951-5266), Daniel Dekoker (613-951-4643) or Donald Dubreuil (613-951-4633), Income and Housing Surveys Section, Household Surveys Division (the Internet: income@statcan.ca).

Average income and tax paid by family type 1994

	Average income before transfers	Plus average transfer payments	Minus average income tax	Equals average income after tax
		constant (1	994) \$	
Total families	47,380	6,774	10,668	43,486
Elderly couples	19,867	17,502	4,916	32,453
Non-elderly couples	50,735	3,407	11,572	42,570
Two-parent families	•			
One earner	39,337	6,248	9,415	36,170
Two earners	59,291	3,820	13,727	49,385
Female lone-parent families	15,901	8,156	2,505	21,553
Total unattached	18,600	5,146	4,332	19,414
Elderly unattached	7,178	11,602	1,915	16,865
Non-elderly unattached	22,872	2,732	5,236	20,368

Youth court statistics

1994-95

In 1994-95, youth courts heard 110,000 cases, down 5% from the previous year. This reduction is in contrast to the steady growth in caseload since the mid-1980s.

Cases involving both violent crime and property offences fell while drug-related offences rose substantially. Two-thirds, or 74,000, of the cases heard in youth courts in 1994-95 resulted in convictions.

Substantial decline in property offence cases

Youth courts recorded an 11% drop in convictions for property offence cases in 1994-95, and a 2% drop in violent offence convictions. However, the number of convictions for drug offence cases rose 49%, apparently reflecting increased enforcement of "soft" drug offences.

Offence type

	1993-94	1994-95	1993- 94 to 1994- 95
	cases		% change
Total cases	115.949	109,743	-5
Property offences	59,138	53,007	-11
Violent offences	23,374	23,010	-2
Other Criminal Code	18,922	18,327	-3
YOA offences	11,018	10,704	-3
Drug offences	3,130	4,522	49
Other federal offences	367	173	-53

Property offences accounted for almost half of all convictions. The most common offence in court was theft of goods valued at under \$1,000. Violent crime accounted for a fifth of all convictions involving young offenders, half of which were for minor assaults. Over the past eight years, the number of violent offences has almost doubled, in large part because of an increase in minor assaults.

Probation was the most common punishment

Probation was the most common punishment in 1994/95, applied in 48% of convictions. The majority of probation orders were for at least 12 months.

About 18% of offenders were placed in open custody, and 16% were placed in secure custody.

Note to readers

The analysis for this release is based on the Youth Court Survey data collected by the Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics in collaboration with provincial and territorial government departments responsible for youth courts.

The survey collects data from all youth courts in Canada on individuals between 12 and 17 years of age appearing on federal statute offences. In this report, these include Criminal Code offences, drug offences, Young Offenders Act and other federal statute offences.

Nearly three-quarters of all custody sentences were for three months or less.

About 6% of cases resulted in fines, which averaged \$161. Three out of every ten convictions included an order for some type of community service.

Four out of five cases involved males

Males accounted for about four of every five young offenders in 1994-95. Half the youth court caseload involved youths aged 16 and 17. Male offenders were generally older than females. More than half (54%) of males were aged 16 or 17 compared with 41% of females.

Younger offenders generally appeared on different charges than older youths. Children aged 12 or 13 tended to be charged with theft under \$1,000, minor assault and breaking and entering. Older offenders were more often involved in offences such as failure to appear, possession of stolen goods, theft of goods worth over \$1,000, and drug offences.

In 1994-95, 4 of every 10 cases with a conviction involved repeat offenders. About a quarter of the repeat offenders had three or more prior convictions. Repeat offenders tend to commit a greater number of property offences and, conversely, fewer violent offences than first-time offenders.

The annual report, Youth court statistics, 1994-95 (85-522-XPB, \$35), and vol. 16, no. 4 of Juristat: Youth court statistics, 1994-95 highlights, (85-002, \$10/\$90) are now available. See "How to order publications".

For further information on this release, contact Information and Client Services (613-951-9023), Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics.

OTHER RELEASES

Youth custody and probation 1994-95

On any given day in 1994-95, there were an average of 4,900 youths in custody and 36,000 youths on probation. Of those youths in custody, approximately 85% were serving their sentences in either secure or open custody. The remaining youths were being held in custody on a remand warrant awaiting the completion of their trials.

The rate of youths in sentenced custody has increased steadily. The rate of 17.7 per 10,000 youths in 1994-95 represents an overall increase of 14% since 1990-91. While the majority of youths in custody were sentenced for non-violent property-related crimes, this proportion has been decreasing steadily — from 50% in 1991-92 to 43% in 1994-95.

Vol. 16, no. 5 of *Juristat: Youth custody and probation in Canada, 1994-95* (85-002, \$10/\$90) is now available. See "How to order publications".

For further information on this release, contact Information and Client Services (613-951-9023; toll free in Canada: 1-800-387-2231), Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics.

Steel primary forms

Week ending March 23, 1996 (preliminary)

Steel primary forms production for the week ending March 23, 1996 totalled 286 552 tonnes, down 0.5% from 288 124 tonnes a week earlier and down 2.1% from 292 642 tonnes a year earlier.

The year-to-date total at the end of the week was 3 280 460 tonnes, a 1.1% decrease from 3 317 696 tonnes for the same period in 1995.

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

Stocks of frozen meat products March 1, 1996

The amount of frozen meat in cold storage as of March 1, 1996 totalled 38 925 tonnes, compared with 37 823 tonnes a month earlier and 46 190 tonnes a year earlier.

Available on CANSIM: matrices 87 and 9517-9525.

For further information on this release, contact Maxine Sudol (613-951-3847), Livestock and Animal Products Section, Agriculture Division.

PUBLICATIONS RELEASED

Income after tax, distributions by size in Canada, 1994

Catalogue number 13-210-XPB

(Canada: \$30; United States: US\$36; other countries: US\$42).

Production and disposition of tobacco products, February 1996

Catalogue number 32-022-XPB

(Canada: \$6/\$60; United States: US\$8/US\$72; other

countries: US\$9/US\$84).

Juristat: Youth court statistics 1994-95 highlights,

Vol. 16, no. 4

Catalogue number 85-002

(Canada: \$10/\$90; United States: US\$12/US\$108;

other countries: US\$14/US\$126).

Juristat: Youth custody and probation in Canada,

1994-95, Vol. 16, no. 5 **Catalogue number 85-002**

(Canada: \$10/\$90; United States: US\$12/US\$108;

other countries: US\$14/US\$126).

Youth court statistics, 1994-95 Catalogue number 85-522-XPB

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

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