Environment and Climate Change Canada

2024-25 Departmental Results Report

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Environment and Climate Change Canada's 2024-25 Departmental Results Report

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At a glance

This Departmental Results Report details Environment and Climate Change Canada (ECCC)'s actual accomplishments against the plans, priorities and expected results outlined in its 2024-25 Departmental Plan.

- Vision, mission, raison d'être and operating context

Key priorities

ECCC identified key priorities in its 2024-25 Departmental Plan. These can be consulted in the 2024-25 Plan at a glance.

Highlights for Environment and Climate Change Canada in 2024-25

- Total actual spending (including internal services): $2,965,768,499
- Total full-time equivalent staff (including internal services): 8,803 FTEs

For complete information on ECCC's total spending and human resources, read the Spending and human resources section of the full Departmental Results Report.

Summary of results

The following provides a summary of the results the Department achieved in 2024-25 under its main area of activity, called "core responsibilities."

Core responsibility 1: Taking Action on Clean Growth and Climate Change

Actual spending: $1,232,484,771

Actual full-time equivalent staff: 1,161 FTEs

In 2024-25, ECCC continued to position Canada as a leader in the global transition to a cleaner economy by taking important steps toward a net-zero economy by 2050. To support this transition, ECCC continued to ensure effective carbon pollution pricing across the country. This included continuing to implement the federal Output-based Pricing System for industrial emitters and implementing Canada's GHG Offset Credit System launched in 2022. ECCC also implemented the Output-Based Pricing System Proceeds Fund and the Fuel Charge Proceeds Fund for Indigenous Governments to return proceeds collected through the carbon pollution pricing system back to jurisdictions of origin.[1] ECCC continued to deliver the Low Carbon Economy Fund and the Climate Action and Awareness Fund (CAAF) to promote and facilitate action on clean growth and reduce Canada's greenhouse gas emissions. Looking towards the future, ECCC used the best available science, Canada's international climate commitments,

[1] In March 2025, the Government of Canada made regulations that ceased the application of the federal fuel charge, effective April 1, 2025, and removed requirements for provinces and territories to have a consumer-facing carbon price as of that date. These actions refocus federal carbon pollution pricing standards on ensuring carbon pricing systems are in place across Canada on a broad range of greenhouse gas emissions from industry.

Indigenous Knowledge, and advice from the Net-Zero Advisory Body and other stakeholders to set the national GHG emissions reduction target for 2035.

The Department continued to implement the *Clean Fuel Regulations* to reduce the carbon intensity of gasoline and diesel and incentivize investments in clean fuels. The Department finalized the *Clean Electricity Regulations*, which are designed to ensure that Canada's electricity grid provides the backbone of a net zero economy by 2050. The Department also continued work towards finalizing regulations to further reduce methane emissions from the oil and gas sector and from landfills.

In 2024-25, the Department continued working with federal partners to deliver on commitments made in the National Adaptation Strategy and the Government of Canada Adaptation Action Plan, advancing climate resilience by supporting community-based adaptation and advancing access to authoritative climate science and knowledge. In alignment with the *UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act*, the Department co-developed climate strategies with First Nations, Inuit, and Métis partners. The Department also supported Canada's continued advocacy for effective environmental provisions in its free-trade agreements and continued working with international partners to implement existing agreements and other bilateral and regional cooperation instruments. In close collaboration with Global Affairs Canada, ECCC continued to work with international partners to implement the Paris Agreement , including by helping developing countries transition to sustainable, low-carbon, climate-resilient, nature-positive, and inclusive development. This was supported by ECCC's implementation of Canada's $5.3 billion climate finance commitment in collaboration with Global Affairs Canada.

For more information on ECCC's Taking Action on Clean Growth and Climate Change read the "Results – what we achieved" section of the full Departmental Results Report.

Core responsibility 2: Preventing and Managing Pollution

Actual spending: $442,650,317

Actual full-time equivalent staff: 2,335 FTEs

To protect Canadians and the environment from harmful substances, ECCC continued to deliver Canada's Chemicals Management Plan (CMP) in collaboration with Health Canada. The Chemicals Management Plan reduces the risks to Canadians and the environment from a range of pollutants through the assessment and development and implementation of risk management instruments for toxic substances under the *Canadian Environmental Protection Act* (CEPA), such as for Per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS). The Department consulted with stakeholders on CMP priorities for the next eight years, and worked to put in place amendments to the *Cross-Border Movement of Hazardous Waste and Hazardous Recyclable Material Regulations*.

In 2024-25, ECCC implemented new initiatives to address the requirements of the modernized CEPA, as amended by the *Strengthening Environmental Protection for a Healthier Canada Act*. This included advancing the development of a framework to guide consideration of the right to a healthy environment for decisions under CEPA. Consultations with interested Canadians on the implementation framework were completed in 2024-25, and the final framework is to be published in 2025. In 2024-25, ECCC also continued to take actions to ensure plastics remain in the economy and out of the environment. In collaboration with other federal departments, ECCC continued to work with provinces and territories through the Canadian Council of Ministers of the Environment in implementing the 2018 Canada-wide

Strategy on Zero Plastic Waste. ECCC also launched the Federal Plastics Registry to monitor and track plastics throughout their life cycle, and led federal efforts to support the development of an ambitious and effective international legally binding international agreement on plastic pollution.

It is estimated that air pollution causes approximately 17,400 deaths in Canada each year and costs the Canadian economy $146 billion annually in socio-economic terms. To protect the health and environment of Canadians, ECCC continued to implement the Air Quality Program in collaboration with its federal partners. The Department also continued to develop, administer, and amend regulations to reduce air pollution from industrial sources, vehicles, engines, fuels and consumer and commercial products. ECCC continued to collaborate with Health Canada to implement the Air Quality Health Index, which supports informed decision-making by Canadians. It also continued to work with provinces and territories to implement the Air Quality Management System (AQMS) – a comprehensive approach to reducing outdoor air pollution. ECCC also worked with international partners to further reduce transboundary air pollution.

ECCC continued to protect fish and fish habitat and Canada's waters through the administration and enforcement of the Pollution Prevention Provisions of the *Fisheries Act*. The Department also continued to provide scientific expertise and continued to support emergency planning, preparedness, response, and remediation in the marine context, including in coastal waters, the St. Lawrence and the Great Lakes. The Department finalized amendments to the regulations that manage releases from municipal wastewater treatment plants. ECCC also continued to protect the marine environment from the effects of dumping at sea through the disposal at sea provisions of CEPA. ECCC also continued to work with Indigenous Peoples, the public, and industry towards establishing protective limits for releases from oil sands and coal-mining operations.

The Department led the development of the new Canada Water Agency, which works with provinces, territories, Indigenous communities, local authorities, scientists and others to help keep Canada's water safe, clean and well managed. ECCC supported efforts by a wide range of partners to restore, improve and protect freshwater resources, including work under the Freshwater Action Plan to advance the protection and restoration of the Great Lakes and Lake Winnipeg.

For more information on ECCC's Preventing and Managing Pollution read the "Results – what we achieved" section of the full Departmental Results Report.

Core responsibility 3: Conserving Nature

Actual spending: $694,145,266

Actual full-time staff: 1,561 FTEs

In 2024-25, ECCC led efforts to implement the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework (KMGBF), which guides global nature protection and conservation efforts under the UN Convention on Biological Diversity. Canada's 2030 Nature Strategy outlines how Canada will work towards the Framework's 23 targets. The Department worked with federal partners, provinces and territories, Indigenous Peoples, civil society and other stakeholders to develop the Strategy and continued to work with a range of organizations on initiatives supporting its implementation. This included ongoing work towards conserving 30 percent of Canada's lands and oceans by 2030 and negotiating Nature Agreements with provinces and territories. ECCC also enabled Indigenous leadership

in conservation through the advancement of Project Finance for Permanence conservation projects, by supporting Indigenous Guardians initiatives, and by establishing Indigenous-led conservation areas that respect the rights, interests, and traditions of Indigenous Peoples.

ECCC continued administering *Species at Risk Act* (SARA), *Wild Animal and Plant Protection and Regulation of International and Interprovincial Trade Act*, *Migratory Birds Convention Act*, *Canada Wildlife Act*, and other legislation and regulations to protect biodiversity. The Department advanced the conservation and recovery of terrestrial species at risk by implementing SARA and leveraging the federal, provincial and territorial Pan-Canadian Approach to Transforming Species at Risk Conservation in Canada to support key SARA obligations, while improving related policies and programs. The Department led the conservation of Canada's migratory birds, including those at risk, through targeted and multispecies ecosystem-based approaches that engaged domestic and international collaborators across all sectors.

For more information on ECCC's Conserving Nature read the "Results – what we achieved" section of the full Departmental Results Report.

Core responsibility 4: Predicting Weather and Environmental Conditions

Actual spending: $277,249,619

Actual full-time equivalent staff: 1,772 FTEs

In 2024-25, ECCC continued to deliver and improve its weather and climate prediction services through innovations in technology, infrastructure, and hydrometeorological services. The Department's work to address the growing demand for timely, accurate, and reliable information about weather and climate-related risks and emergencies is supported by 13 million daily observations. It disseminates information about extreme temperatures, precipitations, winds, storms, wildfires, flooding, sea ice movement, and other high-impact events. The Department modernized its public forecast services and products, including the development of tailored communications products to better inform Canadians.

ECCC continued to increase its ability to use artificial intelligence and machine learning techniques to improve its weather and environmental prediction systems. The Department also continued to modernize its critical infrastructure across ECCC's monitoring networks with a focus on renewing satellite receiving infrastructure. ECCC also evaluated new technologies to help increase the Department's resilience and to improve services in key areas such as high-impact weather and flooding. In addition, ECCC continued to modernize its hydrometric infrastructure, strengthen its engineering and technical capacity, improve services in support of water forecasts, and put in place new technologies to gather and analyze water information.

For more information on ECCC's Predicting Weather and Environmental Conditions read the "Results – what we achieved" section of the full Departmental Results Report.

From the Minister

The 2024-25 fiscal year was a period of significant transformation that reshaped the operational landscape in which Environment and Climate Change Canada (ECCC) advanced its ambitious mandate. In response to profound shifts in the global geopolitical environment, Canada's new government has adopted a renewed approach—strengthening both new and longstanding alliances, investing in a resilient and prosperous Canada, exercising fiscal prudence to ensure the sustainability of government operations, and stepping forward to provide leadership on pressing global challenges.

Throughout this dynamic year, ECCC has demonstrated exemplary stewardship of Canada's environment. The Department has made notable progress in enhancing weather and climate services, protecting ecosystems, reducing pollution, and advancing greenhouse gas mitigation efforts—including continued consultations on methane regulations for the oil and gas sector. These efforts are critical steps toward achieving a net-zero economy by 2050 and positioning Canada as a global leader in the transition to a cleaner, more sustainable economy.

ECCC's achievements in 2024-25—and in the years preceding—are firmly rooted in its commitment to scientific excellence, rigorous monitoring and reporting, and the consistent delivery of high-impact programs and services. This strong foundation, coupled with the leadership, dedication, and expertise of ECCC's employees, enables the Department to deliver meaningful results in the face of evolving priorities, geopolitical uncertainty, and periods of transition.

As we navigate these changes, ECCC remains steadfast in its mission to drive environmental progress both at home and on the world stage, laying the groundwork for a resilient Canadian society, a thriving economy, and a healthy environment.

I invite you to explore the pages that follow to learn more about ECCC's many accomplishments over the past year. I look forward to the continued dedication and excellence with which the Department will serve Canadians in the years ahead.

The Honourable Julie Dabrusin
Minister of Environment and Climate Change

Results – what we achieved

Core responsibilities and internal services

Core Responsibility 1: Taking Action on Clean Growth and Climate Change

In this section

Description

Support and coordinate the development and implementation of Canada's environmental and climate change policies, programs, and plans to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and support a transition to a resilient, inclusive low-carbon economy. This will be achieved by developing and implementing climate mitigation measures; supporting adaptation to climate change; contributing to international environment and climate-related actions and initiatives; and engaging with other federal government departments, Indigenous partners, provinces and territories, domestic and international partners and stakeholders, non-governmental organizations, and other interested parties.

Quality of life impacts

This core responsibility plays a pivotal role within the "Environment" domain of the Quality of Life Framework for Canada. Specifically, it contributes to the "Greenhouse gas emissions" and "Climate Change Adaptation" indicators through a range of activities. It also influences the "Prosperity" domain, such as "GDP per capita" and "firm growth." Its work is also strongly aligned with the overarching lens of "Sustainability and Resilience."

Progress on results

This section details the Department's performance against its targets for each Departmental Result under Core responsibility 1: Taking Action on Clean Growth and Climate Change.

Table 1: Canadian greenhouse gas (GHG) and short-lived climate pollutant emissions are reduced

Table 1 shows the target, the date to achieve the target and the actual result for each indicator under Canadian greenhouse gas (GHG) and short-lived climate pollutant emissions are reduced in the last three fiscal years.

Departmental Result Indicators	Target	Date to achieve target	Actual Results
Canada's annual greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions (Mt CO_2 Eq.)	40-45% reduction in GHG emissions from 2005 levels by 2030	2032 (data for 2030 will be available in 2032)	2022-23: This is a new indicator, as of 2023-24. The first year of reporting will be 2023-24. 2023-24: • projections: 36% below 2005 levels[2] • historic data: 13% below 2005 levels[3] (2021) 2024-25: • projections: 34% below 2005 levels[4] • historic data: 5.5% below 2005 levels[5]
Greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions from light-duty vehicles[6] [7]	Under review[8]	Under review	2022-23: 26% reduction[9] 2023-24: 28% reduction[10] 2024-25: 29% reduction[11]
Greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions from heavy-duty vehicles[12]	[2023 model year[13]] For 2023 Model Year: •2%: heavy-duty pick-up trucks and vans •13%: Combination Tractors •8%: Vocational vehicles	April 2025	2022-23: [2021 model year] •3%: heavy-duty pick-up trucks and vans •10%: combination tractors •11%: vocational vehicles 2023-24: [2022 model year] •3%: heavy-duty pick-up trucks and vans •12%: combination tractors •14%: vocational vehicles 2024-25: [2023 model year] •14%: heavy-duty pick-up trucks and vans •14%: combination tractors •14%: vocational vehicles
Black carbon	25% reduction from	December 2025	2022-23: 30% reduction from baseline

[2] Represents 467 Mt CO_2 eq below 2005 levels.
[3] Represents 637 Mt CO_2 eq below 2005 levels.
[4] Represents 502 Mt CO_2 eq below 2005 levels.
[5] This value is from Canada's 2024 Biennial Transparency Report and includes Land Use, Land-Use Change and Forestry (LULUCF) accounting. Based on Canada's 2024 National Inventory Report (NIR) and projections, GHG emissions peaked in 2007. The 2022 historical result of 5.5% (720 Mt CO_2eq) below 2005 levels is significant, especially given that in 2015, Canada projected emissions to be 2.2% above 2005 levels by 2020 and 9% above by 2030. The 2022 increase was due to a climate-related event (drought) and underscores the urgency of climate action and the risk that climate impacts can drive emissions higher. Despite this, Canada continues to reduce emissions while recognizing that additional efforts will be required to achieve Canada's 2030 target.
[6] Percentage reduction in greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions from light-duty vehicles.
[7] The indicator is being reviewed to better reflect Canada's commitments in regards to vehicle emissions.
[8] Target not established because the result reported here is a consolidation of passenger vehicle (PV) and light truck (LT) performance, but the consolidated value is not a regulated value.
[9] 2020 model year.
[10] 2021 model year.
[11] 2022 model year
[12] Percentage improvement in average greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions performance from new heavy-duty vehicles relative to a 2021 baseline model year.
[13] The term "Model Year" is defined in each regulation. For heavy-duty vehicles, model year means the year, determined in accordance with section 4 of the *Heavy-duty Vehicle and Engine Greenhouse Gas Emission Regulations*.

Departmental Result Indicators	Target	Date to achieve target	Actual Results
emissions[14]	an annually calculated 2013 baseline of national emissions		2023-24: 30% reduction from baseline[15] 2024-25: 40% reduction from baseline[16]
Hydrofluorocarbon (HFC) emissions[17]	40% reduction in consumption relative to calculated Canadian HFC baseline of 18,008,795 tonnes of CO2e	December 2024	2022-23: 24.1% below baseline for calendar year 2022 2023-24: 33.6% below baseline for calendar year 2023 2024-25: 53.5% below baseline for calendar year 2024
Methane emissions from the oil and gas sector[18]	Annual decrease towards a 40-45% reduction relative to 2012 levels[19]	December 2025	2022-23: 35% reduction (37 Mt CO_2e)[20] 2023-24: 31.9% reduction (26.9 Mt CO_2e)[21] 2024-25: 39.9% reduction (51.0 Mt CO_2e)[22]
Percentage of coal-fired electricity generation units meeting their regulated greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions intensity performance requirement	100%[23]	December 2024	2022-23: 100% 2023-24: 100% 2024-25: 100%
Carbon pollution pricing systems are in place in Canada[24]	All Provinces and Territories continue to have in place carbon pollution pricing that meets the federal	March 2025	2022-23: 13 Provinces and Territories 2023-24: 13 Provinces and Territories 2024-25: 13 Provinces and Territories

[14] Percentage reduction in black carbon emissions.

[15] Emissions inventories are recalculated annually for the entire time series from 2013 onwards. Thus the 2023-24 results have been updated. The 2023-24 result (representing emissions in 2022) is now 36%.

[16] 2024-25 results represent emissions in 2023. Emissions inventories are recalculated annually for the entire time series from 2013 onwards. Thus the 2023-24 results have been updated. The 2023-24 result (representing emissions in 2022) is now 36%.

[17] Percentage reduction in hydrofluorocarbon (HFC) emissions.

[18] Percentage reduction in methane emissions from the oil and gas sector.

[19] Draft strengthened methane regulations for the upstream oil and gas sector were published in 2023. Final regulations will be published in 2024. The target will be updated once the strengthened methane regulations come into force.

[20] 35% reduction as of 2021 data (oil and gas sector methane emissions were 37 Mt C02e for 2021). Estimate is based on the National Inventory Report published spring 2023 (including data up to the calendar year 2021).

[21] 31.9% reduction as of 2022 data (oil and gas sector methane emissions were 26.9 Mt C02e for 2022). Estimate is based on the National Inventory Report published spring 2024 (including data up to the calendar year 2022).

[22] 39.9% reduction as of 2023 data (oil and gas sector methane emissions were 51.0 Mt C02e for 2023). Estimate is based on the National Inventory Report published spring 2025 (including data up to the calendar year 2023).

[23] All coal units meet their requirement according to the regulations and are expected to continue doing so.

[24] Number of Provinces and Territories with carbon pollution pricing systems.

Departmental Result Indicators	Target	Date to achieve target	Actual Results
	benchmark or the federal system applies		
Percentage change in greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions from Environment and Climate Change Canada (ECCC) operations	40% GHG emissions reduction from ECCC operations (facilities and fleet) relative to 21,549 tonnes in 2005-06 baseline year.	December 2025	2022-23: 39.6% 2023-24: 39.6%[25] 2024-25: 42%

Table 2: Indigenous Peoples are engaged in clean growth and climate change

Table 2 shows the target, the date to achieve the target and the actual result for each indicator under Indigenous Peoples are engaged in clean growth and climate change in the last three fiscal years.

Departmental Result Indicators	Target	Date to achieve target	Actual Results
Percentage of national climate change policies or strategies developed by the Department that integrate the knowledge and perspectives of First Nations, Inuit, and Métis peoples	100%	March 2025	2022-23: This is a new indicator, as of 2023-24. The first year of reporting will be 2023-24. 2023-24: 100% 2024-25: 100%

Table 3: Canada contributes to reducing greenhouse gas emissions and increasing climate resilience globally

Table 3 shows the target, the date to achieve the target and the actual result for each indicator under Canada contributes to reducing greenhouse gas emissions and increasing climate resilience globally in the last three fiscal years.

Departmental Result Indicators	Target	Date to achieve target	Actual Results
Cumulative amount of private finance mobilized through Canada's public sector	$2.65B: Higher cumulative amounts mobilized in private climate finance, from	December 2050	2022-23: Between 2017 and 2021, Canada mobilized CAD $312.4M in private climate finance, from public funding of CAD $367.5M as part of Canada's $2.65B

[25] As of the 2023-24 fiscal year, results are reported in arrears.

Departmental Result Indicators	Target	Date to achieve target	Actual Results
investments[26]	year to year (reaching overall a ratio of private sector finance leveraged by Canada's public sector investments, of at least 1 to 0.5)		climate finance commitment (equivalent to a ratio of 0.85) 2023-24: Between 2017 and 2022, Canada mobilized CAD $347M in private climate finance, from public funding of CAD $394M from Canada $2.65B climate finance commitment (equivalent to a ratio of 0.88) 2024-25: Between 2017 and 2023, Canada mobilized CAD $478.43M in private climate finance, from public funding of CAD $511.14M from Canada $2.65B climate finance commitment (equivalent to a ratio of 0.93)[27]
	$5.3B: Higher cumulative amounts mobilized in private climate finance, from year to year (reaching overall a ratio of private sector finance leveraged with Canada's public sector investment, of 1 to 0.75)	December 2050	2022-23: This is a new indicator, as of 2023-24. The first year of reporting will be 2023-24. 2023-24: From calendar year 2022, Canada mobilized CAD $156,000 from the private sector from public funding of CAD $17M from Canada $5.3B climate finance commitment, equivalent to a ratio of 0.009. 2024-25: From calendar years 2022 and 2023, Canada mobilized CAD $15.79M in private climate finance, from public funding of CAD $34.58M from Canada $5.3B climate finance commitment (equivalent to a ratio of 0.46)
Greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions reductions resulting from	$2.65B: Higher cumulative reductions from year	December 2050	2022-23: An estimated cumulative reduction of 223.7Mt of GHGs is expected from Canada $2.65B climate finance

[26] This indicator measures results for two international funding commitments: $2.65B (2015) and $5.3B (2021).

[27] This result is presented as a ratio of private to public funding (i.e., private funding divided by public funding). The 2023-24 result shows that for every $1 dollar of public funding invested, there was $0.93 of private funding mobilized. This represents an increase in private funding relative to 2023-24. Results are reported in arrears.

Departmental Result Indicators	Target	Date to achieve target	Actual Results
international initiatives funded by Canada[28]	to year, from the baseline, reaching minimum reduction of 200Mt of GHGs		commitment to date 2023-24: An estimated cumulative reduction of 205.3Mt of GHGs is expected from Canada $2.65B climate finance commitment to date[29] 2024-25: An estimated cumulative reduction of 228Mt of GHGs is expected from Canada $2.65B climate finance commitment to date[30]
	$5.3B: Higher cumulative reductions from year to year, reaching a reduction of 300Mt of GHGs	December 2050	2022-23: This is a new indicator, as of 2023-24. The first year of reporting will be 2023-24. 2023-24: An estimated 28.7 Mt of GHG emissions reduced are expected from Canada's climate finance commitment to date[31] 2024-25: An estimated cumulative reduction of 286.4Mt of GHGs is expected from Canada $5.3B climate finance commitment to date[32]
Cumulative number of people in developing countries who benefitted from Canada's adaptation finance[33]	$2.65B: At least 10M	December 2030	2022-23: A cumulative estimate 8.04M people with increased resilience are expected from Canada $2.65B climate finance commitment to date 2023-24: A cumulative estimate 6.7M people with increased resilience are

[28] Cumulative greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions reductions (in megatonnes) resulting from international initiatives funded by Canada. This indicator measures results for two international funding commitments: $2.65B (2015) and $5.3B (2021).

[29] The cumulative results of Canada's climate finance program are subject to fluctuation due to the implementation stage of various projects. The decrease in cumulative GHG reductions from 2022-23 to 2023-24 is attributable to methodological changes at the project-level which impact expected results. Risk of not meeting the long-term target is low as results are still expected to increase over the coming years. Results for this indicator are reported in arrears.

[30] Results are reported in arrears.

[31] Results are reported in arrears.

[32] Results are reported in arrears.

[33] This indicator measures results for two international funding commitments: $2.65B (2015) and $5.3B (2021).

Departmental Result Indicators	Target	Date to achieve target	Actual Results
			expected from Canada $2.65B climate finance commitment to date[34] 2024-25: A cumulative estimate 6.6M people with increased resilience are expected from Canada $2.65B climate finance commitment to date
	$5.3B: At least 10M	December 2050	2022-23: This is a new indicator, as of 2023-24. The first year of reporting will be 2023-24. 2023-24: An estimated 3.8M people are expected to develop increased resilience to climate change from funds delivered so far[35] 2024-25: An estimated 7.7M people are expected to develop increased resilience from Canada $5.3B climate finance commitment to date

Table 4: Canadian communities, economies and ecosystems are more resilient

Table 4 shows the target, the date to achieve the target and the actual result for each indicator under Canadian communities, economies and ecosystems are more resilient in the last three fiscal years.

Departmental Result Indicators	Target	Date to achieve target	Actual Results
Number of individuals, businesses, and governments accessing	Increase over the preceding year's result	March 2025	2022-23: 197,038 visits[37] 2023-24: 252,340 visits 2024-25: 295,068 visits

[34] Previously reported results included an overestimation of a few climate finance projects. The results have been updated following a retroactive exercise from one partner and Global Affairs Canada this year to accurately reflect project's results, which had an impact on the overall program's results. In the context of the climate finance program, we are always endeavoring to ensure our data is as accurate and up-to-date as possible. As new data becomes available from our projects, program-level results are adjusted accordingly. As it often takes a long time for actual results to materialize from projects, expected results are not reported until such time as actual results become available. We will continue to consult multiple data sources and our project team leads to ensure the data reported is as accurate and up-to-date as possible.
Results for this indicator are reported in arrears. The 2023-24 result represents 2022-23 data.

[35] Results are reported in arrears.

[37] As per the new methodology, the result reported in the 2022-23 Departmental Results Report, "296,974 visits", has been amended to "197,038".

Departmental Result Indicators	Target	Date to achieve target	Actual Results
climate services and using that information to inform decision-making[36]			

The Results section of the Infographic for ECCC on GC Infobase page provides additional information on results and performance related to its program inventory.

Details on results

The following section describes the results for Taking Action on Clean Growth and Climate Change in 2024-25 compared with the planned results set out in ECCC's Departmental Plan for that fiscal year.

Departmental Result: Canadian greenhouse gas (GHG) and short-lived climate pollutant emissions are reduced

ECCC, along with other federal departments, took action in 2024-25 to advance the 2030 Emissions Reduction Plan (ERP) to achieve Canada's emissions reduction target of 40 percent to 45 percent below 2005 levels by 2030. In December 2024, the Department provided a measure-by-measure update on the implementation of the ERP and other climate initiatives in Canada's First Biennial Transparency Report in accordance with the Paris Agreement's Enhanced Transparency Framework. The Department also supported efforts to mobilize Canada towards a net-zero emissions economy by 2050 and helped position Canada as a leading competitor in the global transition to cleaner industries and technologies.

In addition to providing general coordination and oversight of ERP, the Department developed regulatory measures to reduce emissions from light-duty vehicles; finalized the *Clean Electricity Regulations* that will set limits on carbon dioxide emissions from fossil fuel electricity generation; and published a draft cap on oil and gas sector emissions. As required under the *Canadian Net-Zero Emissions Accountability Act*, the Department provided provinces, Indigenous Peoples, the Net-Zero Advisory Body, and interested persons the opportunity to provide submissions on plans to achieve net-zero objectives.

The Department supported climate action across Canada by helping provinces and territories to reduce carbon pollution through projects aimed at developing a low carbon economy. To support climate action across the country, ECCC continued to implement the Low Carbon Economy Fund (LCEF), providing funding to reduce carbon pollution. The Department continued to work with provinces and territories to help them deliver on their commitments to reduce carbon pollution and contribute to meeting Canada's 2030 climate target to reduce emissions by 40 to 45 percent relative to 2005 levels.

[36] The portion of the indicator relating to 'accessing services' is measured annually. As of 2023-24, a new variable was integrated into the annual methodology, rendering previous data not comparable. Specifically, instead of collecting metrics on 'views' (number of user 'clicks' to the website pages), the new metric will capture user interactions over a period of time (i.e. user spending more than 30 minutes) on ClimateData.ca. The portion of the indicator relating to 'using information to inform decision-making' is measured every 5 years via a survey and 2022-23 was the first year of reporting.

Since 2017, the LCEF has committed $2.1 billion towards more than 370 projects from coast-to-coast-to-coast, and these completed and ongoing projects are expected to achieve approximately 108 megatonnes of GHG emissions reductions by 2050. Additionally, the 2030 Emissions Reduction Plan included an announcement for the Indigenous Leadership Fund and Implementation Readiness Fund program streams under LCEF.

Clean hydrogen
Canada is a global leader in long-haul road, marine, and aviation transport. It also has a significant heavy industry sector, including the production of iron and steel. By pursuing innovations in the use of hydrogen for these sectors, Canada has the potential to position itself as a global supplier of various forms of clean hydrogen and related technologies.

Clean hydrogen is expected to have a critical role in supporting Canada's transition to net-zero by 2050. As a versatile energy carrier, clean hydrogen can help decarbonize sectors where emissions are hard to abate, or where there are limited electrification or other low-carbon solutions available.

In 2024-25, ECCC continued to help ensure that the requirements of the *Canadian Net-Zero Emissions Accountability Act* were met. In December 2024, ECCC supported the Minister in fulfilling the requirements of the Act by setting a national greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions reduction target for 2035. Under the Act, the Government of Canada must establish five-year national emissions reduction targets, 10 years in advance, on the path to net-zero emissions by 2050. Canada's 2035 target of reducing GHG emissions by 45-50 percent below 2005 levels reinforces the Government of Canada's commitment to tackling the global climate crisis and will shape our next decade of climate action, aligning environmental progress with economic growth. The 2035 target was informed by the best available science, Canada's international climate commitments, Indigenous Knowledge, and advice from the Net-Zero Advisory Body. The target was also informed by engagement with provinces and territories, Indigenous Peoples, industry stakeholders, and interested Canadians.

The Net-Zero Advisory Body submitted its second annual report to the Minister in December 2024. The report provides independent, expert advice on achieving net-zero emissions by 2050, recommends additional measures to help Canada meet its 2030 emissions reduction target, and provides advice on Canada's 2035 emissions reduction target. As required by the *Canadian Net-Zero Emissions Accountability Act*, ECCC supported the Minister in meeting the requirements of the Act by publishing the Net-Zero Advisory Body's second annual report in January 2025 and the Minister of Environment and Climate Change's official response in March 2025.

In 2024-25, ECCC took significant steps to finalize regulations to fight climate change and improve air quality towards achieving Canada's GHG emission reduction target of 40 percent to 45 percent below 2005 emission levels by 2030**.** This included initiatives such as:

- working with provinces, territories, Indigenous partners, and stakeholders to design and finalize the *Clean Electricity Regulations*;
- developing an approach to reduce methane emissions from the oil and gas sector by at least 75 percent below 2012 levels by 2030;
- developing and publishing a proposed approach to cap oil and gas sector emissions; and

- publishing draft regulations aimed at reducing landfill methane emissions by 50 percent relative to 2019 levels by 2030.

Commitment to reduce hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs)
Along with other countries that ratified the Montreal Protocol's Kigali Amendment, Canada committed to an 85 percent reduction in HFCs by 2036. Canada continued to work with all industry stakeholders to ensure that it meets its international obligations to phase down HFCs and protect our environment. ECCC continued to lead this work in 2024-25.

The Department published the final *Clean Electricity Regulations* (CER) in December 2024. The CER is an integral part of the Government of Canada's strategy to meet growing electricity demand with affordable, reliable and clean electricity and to set the country on a path to net-zero by 2050. The *Clean Electricity Regulations* are part of a broader federal clean electricity strategy, called Powering Canada's Future, which combines historic investments and fair policies to ensure that building more clean, reliable electricity to meet demand is affordable for ratepayers.

The Department also made progress implementing Faster and Further: Canada's Methane Strategy to reduce methane emissions across the economy. The Strategy is consistent with the Global Methane Pledge, which unites 159 participating countries and the European Commission, and calls for a reduction in global methane emissions of 30 percent across all economic sectors and is considered one of the fastest and most cost-effective ways to combat climate change. Canada's plan is expected to result in a reduction of methane emissions of at least 35 percent below 2020 levels by 2030. Towards achieving this goal, the Department published draft regulations aimed at reducing landfill methane emissions by 50 percent by 2030. It also made progress towards finalizing an enhanced GHG methane regulation for the oil and gas sector to help meet Canada's target to reduce oil and gas methane emissions by 75 percent below 2012 levels by 2030.

In 2024-25, ECCC invested more than $239,450 in the second year of funding through the Emerging Approaches for Reducing Landfill Methane Emissions Fund. This funding supported four pilot-scale projects testing innovative monitoring and automation systems to reduce methane emissions at Canadian landfills:

- Comcor Environmental Limited, in Cambridge, Ontario, received $1,950 to finalize work to identify methane surface emissions and compare field method approaches and detectors at three Canadian landfills.
- Carbonaxion Bioénergies Inc., in Québec, received $100,000 to complete work to demonstrate and validate advanced technologies for monitoring landfill gas recovery systems.
- The University of Western Ontario received $97,500 to complete studies to monitor methane emissions from the City of London's W12A Landfill using several emerging technologies; and
- The City of Vancouver received $40,000 to evaluate and compare the use of several technologies for monitoring landfill methane emissions.

The Department continued to implement Canada's Greenhouse Gas Offset Credit System. The system gives municipalities, foresters, farmers, Indigenous Peoples, and others a market-based incentive to undertake innovative projects that reduce GHGs, either by preventing GHG emissions or removing GHGs

from the atmosphere. Registered participants carry out projects following a federal offset protocol that sets out a consistent approach for implementing given project types, including how to quantify GHG emissions reductions or removals for specific types of projects. These projects can generate one tradeable offset credit for every tonne of emissions reduced or removed from the atmosphere. Once a credit is earned, it can be sold to others to help them meet their compliance obligations under the federal carbon pollution pricing system, the *Clean Electricity Regulations*, or other voluntary emission reduction goals.

ECCC worked with the Department of Finance, Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada, and Natural Resources Canada to develop a plan to deliver Made-in-Canada sustainable investment guidelines and to mandate climate-related financial disclosures for large federally incorporated private companies. These sustainable finance initiatives seek to mobilize further private sector capital towards activities essential to building a net-zero economy. In addition, ECCC continued to support the Department of Finance in administering Canada's Green Bond program, which issued $4 billion in 2024-25.

ECCC provided ongoing support to the Department of Finance to implement Clean Economy investment tax credits, including decision-making on provincial and territorial eligibility for the Carbon Capture Utilization and Storage Investment Tax Credit. These credits support green innovation in the private sector, grow the economy, and create or secure thousands of good middle-class jobs. They also help stimulate Canada's transition to net-zero by mobilizing additional investments in clean growth projects such as clean electricity, hydrogen, clean technology manufacturing, electric vehicles, and batteries. ECCC also continued to work with the Department of Finance to implement the phase out of inefficient fossil fuel subsidies, in line with the Inefficient Fossil Fuel Subsidies Government of Canada Self Review Assessment Framework and the Inefficient Fossil Fuel Subsidies Government of Canada Guidelines, released in July 2023.

The Department launched the new Cabinet Directive on Strategic Environmental and Economic Assessment (SEEA) on April 1, 2024, to replace the Cabinet Directive on the Environmental Assessment of Policy, Plan and Program Proposals, which had not been updated since 2010. Through the application of a Climate, Nature, and Economy Lens (CNEL) across government, the SEEA modernizes environmental and economic analysis in the development of policies, programs, and regulations intended for Cabinet or funding consideration. Development of the SEEA and the CNEL was informed by the Integrated Climate Lens pilot which came to an end with the launch of the new directive.

In 2024-25, ECCC maintained and further developed the Government of Canada's publicly available Fuel Life Cycle Assessment (LCA) Model to support multiple Government initiatives. The Fuel LCA Model is a tool to calculate the life cycle carbon intensity (CI) of fuels and energy sources used and produced in Canada. The CI of a fuel is a measure of the GHG emissions from the extraction, refining, distribution, and use of the fuel, expressed per unit of energy produced, which is in megajoules (MJ). For example, under the Clean Fuel Regulations, the carbon intensity reduction requirement started at 3.5 gCO2e/MJ in 2023 and increases by 1.5 gCO2e/MJ each year, reaching 14 gCO2e/MJ in 2030. To achieve this, fuel producers will need to provide innovative solutions. The Fuel LCA Model is designed to:

- provide transparent and traceable CI calculations;

- account for Canadian and worldwide data, where appropriate, to accurately reflect Canada's fuel production profile and pathways;
- follow robust guidelines outlined by the International Organization for Standardization (ISO), particularly standards 14040 and 14044 dealing with life cycle environmental assessment and management principles and frameworks; and
- inform and support the development of several Government of Canada GHG policies and programs.

In 2024-25, ECCC continued to implement the federal performance-based carbon pricing system for industrial facilities, known as the Output-Based Pricing System (OBPS). The OBPS is designed to ensure there is a price incentive for industrial emitters to reduce their GHG emissions and invest in decarbonization while maintaining competitiveness. The federal OBPS applies in Manitoba, PEI, Yukon and Nunavut, while all other provinces and territories implement their own industrial pricing systems. ECCC made consequential amendments to the OBPS regulations in response to the government's decision to set fuel charge rates to $0 in March 2025. ECCC supported these goals by:

- continuing to administer the federal OBPS for industrial emitters; and
- submitting ECCC's annual report to Parliament on the administration of the *Greenhouse Gas Pollution Pricing Act*.

In 2024-25, ECCC continued to return proceeds from the federal carbon pollution pricing system to jurisdictions of origin through federal programming. Participating provincial and territorial governments that have committed to addressing climate change by voluntarily adopting the federal industrial carbon pricing system receive these proceeds directly from the Government of Canada. In the remaining jurisdictions where the federal price on carbon pollution was in effect in 2024-25, the Government of Canada returned the proceeds through several mechanisms. Most fuel charge proceeds went directly to Canadian households through quarterly Canada Carbon Rebate payments delivered by the Canada Revenue Agency.

In March 2025, The Government of Canada made regulations that ceased the application of the federal fuel charge, effective April 1, 2025, and removed requirements for provinces and territories to have a consumer-facing carbon price as of that date. These actions refocus federal carbon pollution pricing on industrial emissions.

In 2024-25, ECCC launched implementation of the Fuel Charge Proceeds Fund for Indigenous Governments (FCPFIG) to return a portion of federal fuel charge proceeds to Indigenous governments in the eight jurisdictions where federal fuel charge programming was in effect. The FCPFIG was established to return $531.49 million in fuel charge proceeds collected over the 2020-21 to 2024-25 period. There are 347 Indigenous governments that are eligible to receive FCPFIG funding through grant agreements. ECCC will continue to work with eligible FCPFIG recipients to return those fuel charge proceeds specified by the Minister of Finance for the 2020-21 to 2024-25 period. The Department also continued managing the Output-Based Pricing System (OBPS) Proceeds Fund, which facilitates the return of proceeds to provinces where the federal OBPS has been applied, in support of industrial decarbonization and clean electricity projects.

ECCC continued its commitment to improve access to authoritative, foundational climate science and information through the modernization of its digital services. This modernization further enabled the work of ECCC scientists to inform and support clean growth and climate change program priorities. ECCC worked with partners to gather the best available science and provide the most recent information on GHG emissions and air pollutants. This information was published by ECCC in the following annual inventories and reports:

- National Inventory Report: Greenhouse Gas Sources and Sinks in Canada
- Overview of Reported Emissions: Facility Greenhouse Gas Reporting Program
- Canada's Air Pollutant Emissions Inventory
- Canada's Black Carbon Emissions Inventory

Engaging youth through the Environment and Climate Change Youth Council

To ensure that youth voices are well represented, ECCC continued to seek the advice of the Environment and Climate Change Youth Council (ECCYC). The ECCYC provides independent advice to the Minister on a number of key environmental files. In 2024-25, the ECCYC provided advice on ECCC's planned external web content for youth climate engagement, Canada's engagement at the Bonn Climate Change Conference, and the National Framework for Environmental Learning. Members of the ECCYC also participated in international environmental conferences, including the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee on Plastic Pollution (INC-4) and the 31st Annual Commission for Environmental Cooperation (CEC) Session and Public Forum.

ECCC engaged Canadians to promote a better understanding of the impacts of climate change. In 2024-25, ECCC continued to use the latest behavioural research to inform a multi-pronged approach to reach Canadians. This included targeted advertising and social marketing campaigns, the delivery of over $14.4 million to support environmental literacy projects under the Climate Action and Awareness Fund, and the development of a National Strategy on Environmental Learning, in consultation with provincial and territorial governments and environmental non-government organizations. These initiatives connected Canadians to experts and a network of partners in climate change literacy and philanthropy, mobilizing existing knowledge and expertise in environmental education.

The Department continued to administer the Climate Action and Awareness Fund (CAAF). This is a funding initiative that is investing up to $206 million over five years to support Canadian projects that help to reduce Canada's GHG emissions and build a sustainable net-zero emissions economy by 2050. CAAF was created with contributions from the Climate Action Fund, as well as a significant investment from the Environmental Damages Fund. In 2024-25, ECCC applied over $34 million from this fund to support 87environmental projects under three priorities: youth climate awareness and community-based climate action; climate science and technology; and climate research at Canadian think tank organizations and in academia. Since its creation and as of March 31, 2025, $183 million has been allocated to 147 projects across Canada.

Climate Action and Awareness Fund

The CAAF has launched multiple calls for applications to support its priorities, including:

- youth climate awareness in the summer of 2020;
- community-based climate action in the fall of 2020 and again in the winter of 2022;
- climate research at Canadian think tanks and in academia in the summer of 2022;

- climate change science and technology in the spring of 2021; and,
- environmental literacy funding in the fall of 2023.

ECCC encouraged businesses to voluntarily commit to developing credible and effective plans to transition to net-zero emissions by 2050 through the Net-Zero Challenge. The Net-Zero Challenge is a national initiative launched in 2022 for businesses and organizations operating in Canada. Net-Zero Challenge participants benefit from technical guidance, best practices, a community of peers and the opportunity to highlight their commitment to planning for net-zero emission reductions. ECCC also continued to support the work of Transport Canada in rolling out a $547.5 million, four-year purchase incentive program for medium- and heavy-duty zero-emission vehicles to help businesses upgrade their fleets. This incentive complemented other programs supporting the transition to zero-emission vehicles.

Conservation to address climate change

Nature-based solutions associated with initiatives to conserve land and oceans (see Conserving Nature section) will reduce emissions by five to seven megatons annually. Climate change and biodiversity loss are dual crises, for which integrated and complementary solutions are both crucial and urgent. In 2024-25, ECCC continued to support solutions to these crises through the Natural Climate Solutions Fund focused on conserving, restoring, and enhancing forests, wetlands, peatlands, and grasslands to store and capture carbon. Additionally, ECCC created a Canadian National Wetlands Inventory, a comprehensive publicly available national geodatabase about Canadian wetlands, such as marshes and swamps. Wetlands are crucial habitats for many plants and animals and can play a role in flood prevention. The database informs actions to conserve and protect plant and animal species, supports modelling of carbon storage and enables reporting on greenhouse gas emissions reductions.

Departmental Result: Canadian communities, economies, and ecosystems are more resilient

ECCC continued to provide Canadians with authoritative climate data and information through the Canadian Centre for Climate Services (CCCS). The CCCS works with partners and stakeholders to help Canadians increase their resilience to climate change through the provision of information, training, guidance, and resources to support climate-smart decisions. The Department continued to support the national network of regional climate service organizations to increase the capacity of regional climate services. The CCCS collaborated with partners to develop climate information products and tools to help Canadians use climate information. Expert support was also provided to respond to individual enquiries sent through the National Inquiries Response Team, the Prediction and Applied Climatology Services, and the Climate Services Support Desk. Demand for CCCS' products and services continues to grow, with 295,068 individuals, businesses, and governments accessing climate services in 2024-25, the highest number since its establishment and an increase over the record set in 2023-24 (252,340).

The CCCS also produced a report to inform the development of a Climate Risk Data Strategy. This report and strategy aim to create an enabling environment for the implementation of climate change-related risk assessments for infrastructure, financial disclosures, and for the development of net-zero plans for federally regulated institutions, including financial institutions, pension funds and government agencies. Physical and transition risk assessments underpin these commitments and require climate data. To develop this strategy, the CCCS created a Climate Risk Data Strategy Secretariat that engaged with over 50 organizations and teams, analyzed over 100 documents, and reviewed four federal climate

data inventories containing hundreds of datasets related to climate change mitigation and adaptation. The Department is investing $70.28 million over five years (2023-24 to 2027-28) on improving and disseminating climate science and information. This work includes the delivery of a new Canada-wide climate science assessment, which provides authoritative knowledge and data about climate change in Canada to inform future adaptation approaches.

Canada is warming quickly
Canada is warming at twice the average global rate and three times this rate in the North. This, in turn, is increasing the frequency and intensity of flooding, droughts, and wildfires, and contributing to permafrost thaw and sea-level rise. To meet this growing challenge, ECCC is working with partners to enhance action on climate change adaptation.

The Department continued to work in partnership with First Nations, Inuit, and Métis, and received region-specific climate strategies and recommendations from partners on how to support Indigenous-led, self-determined approaches to climate action. Indigenous Peoples have long histories of adapting to and stewarding the environment. They are also leaders in climate action—at local, regional, national and international levels. They are advancing responses to climate change in ways that reflect their Indigenous Knowledge systems, legal systems, governance, values, worldviews and nationhoods. Recognizing that Indigenous Knowledge systems and ways of doing must be cornerstones of Canadian climate policy, Canada has committed to implementing a model of partnership that empowers self-determined climate action; leverages the transition to a low carbon economy in ways that support self-determination and implementation of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples; and supports the inclusion of Indigenous Knowledge in national climate policy. Key initiatives advanced in 2024-25 include engaging with First Nations, Inuit, and Métis partners to advance a distinctions-based Indigenous Climate Leadership Agenda; implementing the National Adaptation Strategy; and advancing Indigenous-owned and led renewable energy, energy efficiency, and low-carbon heating projects under LCEF's Indigenous Leadership Fund.

ECCC and other federal departments and agencies continued to work under the National Adaptation Strategy (NAS) through the Government of Canada Adaptation Action Plan (GOCAAP). The NAS and GOCAAP build on a strong foundation of action already in motion across the country. The NAS lays out goals, objectives, and targets to reduce the risks associated with climate-related disasters, improve health outcomes, protect nature and biodiversity, build and maintain resilient infrastructure, and support a strong economy and workers. The GOCAAP complements the adaptation efforts of provinces, territories, and Indigenous Peoples. It includes over 70 federal actions to advance NAS priority areas, including $2.1 billion in recent investments.

In 2024-25, the Department continued supporting the $530 million expansion of the Green Municipal Fund, delivered by the Federation of Canadian Municipalities. This investment supports community-based adaptation initiatives and represents one of the largest investments in building liveable and climate-resilient communities in Canadian history. Through collaboration with local governments, the Green Municipal Fund supports adaptation planning, capacity building, implementation of resilience measures, and financing initiatives to help municipalities and their partners build long-term, resilient communities. It is a key initiative under Canada's NAS.

Departmental Result: Canada contributes to reducing greenhouse gas emissions and increasing climate resilience globally

ECCC continued to lead Canada's engagement on climate change and the environment in various multilateral fora. This included ongoing work with the G7 and G20, the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), the United Nations Environment Assembly (UNEA) and others, to help advance the implementation of the Paris Agreement. In February 2025, the Government of Canada formally submitted its 2035 Nationally Determined Contribution of 45-50 percent below 2005 levels to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), representing a progression from its 2030 Nationally Determined Contribution and fulfilling its obligations under the Paris Agreement.

Canada attended the 29th Conference of the Parties (COP29) to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change in November 2024, with ECCC leading Canada's engagement. At COP29, Canada played a key role in climate finance negotiations which resulted in almost 200 countries agreeing to the New Collective Quantified Goal for climate finance. This agreement will contribute to supporting climate action in developing countries by increasing contributor countries' public funding from US$100 billion to US$300 billion each year by 2035.

ECCC's international work also includes engaging Indigenous Peoples in developing international climate policy and promoting gender equality and the role of women in climate action around the world. For example, at COP29, Canada supported a new work plan for country governments and Indigenous Peoples to work together towards climate solutions and successfully negotiated a ten-year extension to a program that promotes the importance and benefits of involving women in climate action. Canada also sits on the board of the new Fund for Responding to Loss and Damage, where it advocates for simple and rapid access to funding for small island developing states, least developed countries, and frontline communities, including Indigenous Peoples.

In 2024-25, the Department continued to work with its G7 and G20 partners to support ambitious outcomes on climate and the environment under Italy's G7 presidency and Brazil's G20 presidency, helping set the groundwork for Canada's G7 presidency in 2025. After Canada assumed the G7 Presidency in January 2025, the Department engaged G7 climate and environment counterparts and international and domestic partners and stakeholders to help inform policy priorities and advance technical work under the environment track.

ECCC continued to support the adaptation and mitigation efforts of developing countries in collaboration with Global Affairs Canada and the implementing partners. These efforts focus especially on small island states and least developed countries that are particularly vulnerable and at risk of climate-related emergencies. In 2024-25, ECCC and Global Affairs Canada continued to co-chair interdepartmental governance committees to ensure an effective whole-of-government approach to the implementation of Canada's climate finance commitment. In addition, ECCC continued to lead on implementing—through bilateral and multilateral channels—more than $180 million in climate finance over five years (FY 2021-22 to 2025-26) to support climate action in developing countries. For example, the Department supported Pacific Alliance countries (Chile, Colombia, Mexico, and Peru) along with

Ecuador and four West African countries (Gambia, Ghana, Liberia, and Togo) to strengthen their national climate measurement, reporting and verification systems.

In 2024-25, the Department also continued to advance international climate action—particularly related to adaptation—through involvement in targeted multilateral initiatives. This includes Canada's participation in the international Champions Group on Adaptation Finance, through which Canada worked with other members to accelerate adaptation finance and improve its quality and accessibility, particularly for least developed countries and small island developing states. Canada also furthered its engagement on adaptation and promoted locally led adaptation through the Least Developed Countries Initiative for Effective Adaptation and Resilience (LIFE-AR). ECCC continued international partnerships, initiatives, and bilateral cooperation to advance clean growth and climate action in other ways, including by:

- continuing to co-lead the Powering Past Coal Alliance (PPCA) with the United Kingdom in support of the goals of the Paris Agreement;
- representing Canada as a member of the Breakthrough Agenda Oversight group and supporting the strategic direction, oversight, and overall coordination of Canada's participation in the Breakthrough Agenda initiatives; and
- continuing its leadership in the Global Carbon Pricing Challenge, working with international partners to work to expand carbon pricing by strengthening existing systems and supporting emerging ones.

ECCC supported initiatives by Canada to promote clean growth and climate change interests through ambitious, comprehensive, and enforceable environmental provisions in its free trade agreements (FTAs). ECCC's work in this area includes negotiating obligations to maintain robust environmental governance as trade and investment are liberalized, and commitments and international cooperation on a range of global environmental issues, including illegal wildlife trade, pollution reduction, climate change, and clean technology. These commitments continue to be implemented as part of Canada's FTAs and other bilateral and regional cooperation instruments with key trading partners, including the United States, Mexico, Chile, the European Union, the United Kingdom, South Korea, and countries party to the Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership (CPTPP). In 2024-25, Canada was CPTPP Chair and led discussions reviewing the past 5 years of environmental cooperation. In 2024-25, ECCC supported the work of Global Affairs Canada in concluding trade negotiations with Indonesia and Ecuador and continuing negotiations with the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN).

Canada in 2023 pledged $450 million to the Green Climate Fund, established under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change. This establishes a financial mechanism to assist developing countries to counter climate change through adaptation and mitigation practises. This is backed up by Canada's commitments to end inefficient fossil fuel subsidies; support a global target to triple renewables and double energy efficiency by 2030; increase the production of hydrogen and other clean energy sources; and continue working towards phasing out emissions from unabated coal power in developed countries by 2030, and in the rest of the world by 2040.

The Department continued to advance domestic and international work to reduce short-lived climate pollutant (SLCP) emissions in line with Canada's Strategy on Short-lived Climate Pollutants. SLCPs such as black carbon, methane, hydrofluorocarbons, and ground-level ozone, contribute to climate warming and can degrade air quality. In 2024-25, Canada continued to contribute to global efforts to reduce SLCP emissions through participation in international fora, such as the Climate and Clean Air Coalition, the Arctic Council, and the Global Methane Initiative. Canada leveraged its role as a Global Methane Pledge Champion to spur global efforts to reduce methane emissions from key sectors such as agriculture, oil and gas, and waste.

In March 2025, ECCC announced that over $3 million from the Environmental Damages Fund will be contributing towards five active transportation projects in Quebec. These projects will help the community transition to green travel options through initiatives such as bike lending, bike shares, cargo bikes, training sessions, and awareness campaigns. The five projects, based in urban centres such as Montréal, Laval, and Québec, as well as regions across the province, are expected to:

- Prevent 2,852 tonnes of GHG pollution
- Mobilize 168 partners in support of active transportation options
- Conduct consultations and studies on active transportation solutions
- Engage over 69,000 members of the public as participants in active transportation projects

These projects complement the Government of Canada's commitment to take action to increase active transportation across the country through the first National Active Transportation Strategy.

Departmental Result: Indigenous Peoples are engaged in clean growth and climate change.
Engagement with Indigenous Peoples is an integral component of ECCC's approach to addressing all its core responsibilities, including clean growth and climate change. Examples of the Department's efforts to meaningfully engage Indigenous Peoples in addressing climate change challenges are interwoven in most of the preceding narrative, including:

- supporting the development of distinctions-based Indigenous Climate Leadership agendas to transform the federal government's partnerships with First Nations, Inuit and Métis on climate change;
- convening regular meetings of distinctions-based, region-specific climate strategies and recommendations through an extensive engagement process with First Nations, Inuit and Métis;
- supporting Indigenous-owned and -led renewable energy, energy efficiency, and low-carbon heating projects through the Indigenous Leadership Fund under the Low Carbon Economy Fund;
- enabling Indigenous representation in international delegations and fora, such as the 29th Conference of the Parties (COP29) to the UNFCCC and the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change; and
- building capacity and undertaking on-the-ground activities for ecological restoration, land management, and conservation though Indigenous-Led Natural Climate Solutions stream investments.

Key risks

In the context of rapidly changing science, technology, and domestic and geopolitical dynamics, ECCC collaborated with a broad range of partners and stakeholders—including federal, provincial, territorial, Indigenous, and international actors, as well as the private and non-profit sectors and civil society—to

advance clean growth and climate change objectives. While maintaining strong relationships remains essential, it is increasingly challenging due to the Department's reliance on collaboration across shared jurisdictions. Efforts to advance a cohesive national approach are further complicated by differing regional priorities, a growing number of federal initiatives, and rising polarization around environmental issues.

To ensure a coordinated implementation of Canada's environmental and climate priorities, ECCC continued to work diligently to harmonize its engagement activities, especially when dealing with the same partners on multiple issues.

For instance, Canada maintained strong partnerships with First Nations, Inuit, and Métis through Senior Bilateral Tables on Clean Growth and Climate Change. These tables were established in 2016 and continue to be instrumental in fostering relationships between the federal government and Indigenous partners, sharing climate action that Indigenous Peoples are leading, and providing opportunities for cultural teachings and land-based learning.

The Department also took measures to mitigate risks to continued international cooperation on the implementation of the Paris Agreement, posed by evolving geopolitical dynamics and macroeconomic conditions—including shifts in leadership and climate policy among major economies such as the United States. ECCC's efforts included constructively engaging in the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change process to build consensus and trust with international partners and deliver on its climate finance commitments.

In addition, to attenuate the potential negative effects of a changing climate on departmental operations, ECCC continued to implement its Departmental Adaptation Plan and identified priority measures to protect departmental assets and enable the continuity of departmental operations and services. Among other things, ECCC helped protect its assets and avoided service interruptions by ensuring that the potential impacts of climate change were considered in the development and implementation of all its programs.

Resources required to achieve results

Table 5: Snapshot of resources required for Taking Action on Clean Growth and Climate Change

Table 5 provides a summary of the planned and actual spending and full-time equivalents required to achieve results.

Resource	Planned	Actual
Spending	$1,036,877,580	$1,232,484,771
Full-time equivalents	1,120	1,161

The Finances section of the Infographic for ECCC on GC Infobase page and the People section of the Infographic for ECCC on GC Infobase page provide complete financial and human resources information related to its program inventory.

Related government priorities

This section highlights government priorities that are being addressed through this core responsibility.

Gender-based Analysis Plus

It is well understood that Canada's changing climate exacerbates existing challenges and health stressors for Indigenous Peoples in Canada. Climate change also disproportionately impacts northern, rural, remote, and coastal communities, younger and older generations, people with health issues or disabilities, low-income groups, women, and those at the intersection of these identities. In 2024-25, ECCC continued to consider the impacts of its climate change policies, regulations, and programs to avoid, as much as possible, any further negative impacts on affected populations, including by conducting additional GBA Plus for each policy, regulatory and program initiative to maximize benefits for those most impacted by the negative effects of climate change.

In recognition of climate change's widespread and often disproportionate effects on different segments of society, including its ability to exacerbate existing inequalities and compound risks among already impacted populations, ECCC continued its engagement with a diverse and inclusive set of partners to inform the implementation of the National Adaptation Strategy. The strategy includes a set of guiding principles to ensure adaptation investments and solutions in Canada are fair, inclusive, and equitable. ECCC also continued its ongoing engagement with First Nations, Inuit, and Métis partners through senior-level bilateral tables to support self-determination and enable Indigenous-led climate solutions.

On the international front, GBA Plus considerations were included during the negotiation and implementation of free trade agreements and were integrated into bilateral and regional environmental cooperation activities with international partners. Canada also continued to implement the Gender Action Plan that was adopted under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change. The Gender Action Plan aims to increase women's participation and leadership in climate action and to better integrate gender considerations in national climate plans and policies. As part of Canada's current climate finance commitment, 80 percent of Canada's climate finance also targets gender equality outcomes. ECCC worked with France to hold a symposium of Canadian and French experts, government officials, and civil society on integrating gender equality considerations into our environment and climate change work.

Environmental learning is increasingly recognized within Canada and internationally as a critical tool to address the most pressing environmental challenges of our time, as well for its significant role in the economic prosperity, improved health and resiliency of a society. Environmental learning aims to promote environmental literacy, which involves understanding environmental issues and acting on them. Since 2022, ECCC has been conducting research and engaging with partners and stakeholders on environmental learning. Partners and stakeholders have convened with ECCC to build a National Framework for Environmental Learning. It equips Canadians–children, youth and their educators in particular–with the knowledge, skills and agency needed to take meaningful action, navigate misinformation and disinformation, and be part of resilient communities.

United Nations 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Sustainable Development Goals

More information on ECCC's contributions to Canada's Federal Implementation Plan on the 2030 Agenda and the Federal Sustainable Development Strategy can be found in our Departmental Sustainable Development Strategy.

Program inventory

Taking Action on Clean Growth and Climate Change is supported by the following programs:

- Clean Growth and Climate Change Mitigation
- Climate Change Adaptation
- International Environment and Climate Action

Additional information related to the program inventory for Taking Action on Clean Growth and Climate Change is available on the Results page on GC InfoBase

Core Responsibility 2: Preventing and Managing Pollution

In this section

Description

Develop measures to reduce releases of harmful substances into the environment; monitor levels of pollutants and pollution precursors in air, water and soil; promote and enforce compliance with environmental laws and regulations; and implement pollution reduction and restoration actions and programs. This will be achieved by coordinating, collaborating and consulting with other federal government departments, provinces and territories, Indigenous partners, non-governmental organizations, international partners and other stakeholders.

Quality of life impacts

This core responsibility contributes to the "Environment" domain of the Quality of Life Framework for Canada and, more specifically, the "Air quality" and "Water quality in Canadian rivers" indicators through reduction of releases and monitoring levels of contaminants in air and water, the "Waste management" indicator by promoting and enforcing compliance with environmental laws and regulations, and, the "Satisfaction with local environment" indicator through the prevention and management of pollution.

Progress on results

This section details the Department's performance against its targets for each Departmental Result under Core responsibility 2: Preventing and Managing Pollution.

Table 6: Canadians have clean air

Table 6 shows the target, the date to achieve the target and the actual result for each indicator under Canadians have clean air in the last three fiscal years.

Departmental Result Indicators	Target	Date to achieve target	Actual Results
Percentage of the population living in areas where air pollutant concentrations are less than or equal to the Canadian Ambient Air Quality Standards	85%	December 2030	2022-23: 64%[38] 2023-24: 85%[39] 2024-25: 74%[40]

Table 7: Canadians have clean water

Table 7 shows the target, the date to achieve the target and the actual result for each indicator under Canadians have clean water in the last three fiscal years.

Departmental Result Indicators	Target	Date to achieve target	Actual Results
Percentage of wastewater systems where effluent quality standards are achieved	100%	December 2040	2022-23: 77% 2023-24: Result not available[41] 2024-25: 78%[42]

Table 8: The Canadian environment is protected from harmful substances

Table 8 shows the target, the date to achieve the target and the actual result for each indicator under The Canadian environment is protected from harmful substances in the last three fiscal years.

Departmental Result Indicators	Target	Date to achieve target	Actual Results
Percentage of actions taken in a timely manner to protect Canada's environment from chemicals found to be a risk to the environment	100%	March 2025	2022-23: 93% 2023-24: 86% 2024-25: 100%

[38] Based on 2018-20 data.
[39] Based on 2019-21 data.
[40] Based on 2020-2022 data. This represents a decrease from the previous period (2019 to 2021), which experienced relatively low wildfire activity, and lower pollutant levels due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The decrease is also influenced by exceedances of the ozone standard in southern Ontario and the 2022 wildfires in British Columbia and the United States that caused PM2.5 standards to be exceeded in Alberta and British Columbia. Nevertheless, this result (74%) is better than in 12 of the 16 reporting periods to date, and represents an increase compared to the baseline value.
[41] Result is planned to be available in ECCC's 2024-25 Departmental Results Report.
[42] As of fiscal year 2025-26, this indicator is the responsibility of the Canada Water Agency.

The Results section of the Infographic for ECCC on GC Infobase page provides additional information on results and performance related to its program inventory.

Details on results

The following section describes the results for Preventing and Managing Pollution in 2024-25 compared with the planned results set out in ECCC's Departmental Plan for that fiscal year.

Departmental Result: The Canadian environment is protected from harmful substances

ECCC continued to lead the Government of Canada's agenda to reduce plastic waste and pollution and transition to a circular plastics economy. The Department's work on plastics is grounded in science and includes the development of standardized scientific methods to better detect, characterize and understand the effects of plastics pollution, including nano- and microplastics, on human health and the environment. ECCC launched the Federal Plastics Registry with the publication of an information-gathering notice, the development of a reporting platform that requires producers to report annually on plastics products available on the Canadian market, and the publication of guidance for organizations required to report. The Department continued to work with provinces and territories through the Canadian Council of Ministers of the Environment to implement the Canada-wide Strategy on Zero Plastic Waste and Action Plan.

Through the Canadian Plastics Innovation Challenges, the Department supported innovative projects undertaken by small- and medium-sized Canadian enterprises addressing plastic waste and pollution. Projects spanned two areas: 'reuse to replace' single-use plastics, and the collection and/or sorting of plastic film and flexible packaging. Successful Phase 1 applicants received up to $150,000 in 2023-24 for the development of proofs of concept. Final reports were received for these projects in 2024-25. Two successful projects subsequently moved into Phase 2, receiving an additional $800,000 to develop a working prototype. These challenges support Canadian innovators and entrepreneurs and incentivize the development of affordable, novel and environmentally preferable technologies, helping to drive Canada's leadership in cost-effective environmental technology.

The Department provided financial support to promote innovative efforts by Canadian industries, consumers, and governments to reduce the generation of waste and to optimize diversion, reuse, recovery, and responsible disposal of domestic and industrial wastes. Recipients included:

- The Redcliff Cypress Regional Waste Management Authority (Alberta), which continued its efforts to reduce carbon dioxide and methane emissions by diverting organic waste from a landfill supported by a compost treatment facility funded through a government investment of $1.4 million.
- PurEnergy Inc., in Havelock Township, Ontario, which used a government investment of $10 million to build a waste diversion facility that diverts organic waste from a landfill and processes it using anaerobic digestion to produce biogas and fertilizer.

ECCC continued to support Canadian leadership in addressing plastic waste and pollution internationally. Canada continued to work with other countries, partners and stakeholders to develop a new ambitious, effective international instrument on plastic pollution that addresses the full life cycle of plastics. This was done with the aim of ending plastic pollution and protecting the environment and human health from its adverse impacts. This includes being an active inaugural member of the High

Ambition Coalition to End Plastic Pollution and being a founder of the Host Country Alliance. In April 2024, the Department led the Government of Canada's successful hosting of the fourth, and largest, session of the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee (INC-4), welcoming over 3,000 participants from over 170 countries focusing on finalizing this formal agreement on plastic pollution. ECCC will continue to work with other countries, partners, and stakeholders to conclude negotiations of the instrument at the upcoming fifth session of the INC (INC-5.2) in Geneva in August 2025. ECCC also supports Canada's advocacy for ambitious action on plastic pollution in international fora and initiatives, including the G7, G20, Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), and UNEA.

In 2024–25, ECCC advanced Canada's Plastics Science Agenda (CaPSA) by investing in targeted research to address key knowledge gaps. Through the **NSERC–ECCC Plastics Science and Innovation for a Cleaner and More Sustainable Future** initiative and the **SSHRC–ECCC Indigenous Science and the Impacts of Plastic Pollution** initiative, the Department launched two new programs totalling $12 million over two years. These initiatives support interdisciplinary research aligned with CaPSA themes, including the detection of plastics in the environment, the assessment of impacts on wildlife and human health, the development of alternatives, and the socio-cultural dimensions of plastic pollution, particularly within Indigenous communities. In parallel, ECCC convened a national expert roundtable to assess progress since CaPSA's publication, identifying emerging priorities and fostering collaboration among leading Canadian researchers. Findings from the roundtable will inform the 2025 Canadian Science Symposium on Plastics and contribute to the future renewal of CaPSA.

ECCC and Health Canada worked together to implement the modernized *Canadian Environmental Protection Act, 1999* (CEPA). One of the key components was the development of a draft implementation framework on the right to a healthy environment, for which public consultation began on February 8, 2025. Public input will also inform the development and implementation of the framework and provide context towards the development of a national strategy to assess, prevent, and address environmental racism and advance environmental justice.

ECCC and Health Canada also implemented other changes under the amended Act, such as:

- a new chemicals Plan of Priorities;
- a proposed Watch List Approach to support the shift to safer chemicals;
- a vertebrate Animal Testing Strategy to replace, reduce, or refine the use of vertebrate animals in toxicity testing; and
- efforts to promote the development and implementation of scientifically justified alternative testing methods.

ECCC continued to deliver Canada's Chemicals Management Plan (CMP) in collaboration with Health Canada. As of March 31, 2025, the two departments had addressed 4,139 of 4,363 chemicals identified in 2006 as priorities, and the remaining priority chemicals will be addressed in the coming years as required. With new chemicals introduced to market every year, an additional 500 chemicals are recommended to be prioritized for assessment over the next 8 years. CMP research continued in 2024-25 and 23 projects were undertaken to address issues of chemical fate, bioaccumulation, and the effects of CMP priority substances.

In 2024-25, ECCC and Health Canada published 20 risk management instruments (four proposed instruments and 16 final risk management instruments) for existing substances deemed harmful to human health and/or the environment. Since the launch of the CMP in 2006, risk management measures for toxic substances have more than doubled from an estimated 200 in 2006 to over 400 in 2025.

The Department continued to implement strategic performance measurement to evaluate the effectiveness of risk management actions on toxic substances in order to protect Canadians and their environment. Evaluations are conducted based on a rolling workplan, which identifies the performance measurement evaluations currently underway or to be initiated in coming years. In 2024-25, a performance measurement evaluation report of the ecological component for inorganic cadmium compounds was published and the rolling workplan of performance measurement priorities was updated.

In collaboration with Health Canada, ECCC published a science assessment on Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS), also known as "forever chemicals" that are commonly found in everyday products. Adverse environmental and health effects have been observed for well-studied PFAS and they have been shown to pose a risk to the Canadian environment. New PFAS introduced to the Canadian marketplace continue to be assessed for potential risks to human health and the environment.

Per-and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) in Canada

Per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) are a class of thousands of human-made substances. Some typical uses of PFAS include surfactants, lubricants, and repellents (for dirt, water, and grease). PFAS can also be found in certain firefighting foams (for example, aqueous film-forming foams), food packaging materials, drugs (including natural health products and non-prescription drugs), medical devices, cosmetics, pesticides, textiles (for example, carpets, furniture, and clothing), vehicles, and electronics. New PFAS are continually being developed and notified to the Government of Canada. In Canada, some forms of PFAS are prohibited through regulations under CEPA; however, scientific evidence to date indicates that other PFAS, including those used to replace regulated forms, may also be associated with environmental and human health effects of concern.

The Department also published the *Notice with respect to certain per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS)*, which collects information on the manufacture, import and use in the manufacture of PFSAs for the calendar year 2023, as well as a proposed Order adding PFAS, excluding fluoropolymers, to Part 2 of Schedule 1 to CEPA, and a Risk Management Approach for PFAS, excluding fluoropolymers. The latter document outlines the proposed phased approach to risk management actions under consideration for the class PFAS, excluding fluoropolymers. The Department also led consultations on the addition of 163 PFAS substances to the National Pollutant Release Inventory and published a Notice putting in place requirements for collection of data from industry in 2026.

The Department continued to advance its work on the *Prohibition of Certain Toxic Substances Regulations, 2025* which would further restrict three groups of oil and water repellents and two flame retardants, as well as products containing them which are already subject to the current Regulations.

This work would also introduce restrictions on two additional flame retardants as well as products containing these substances. The substances prohibited by these regulations are some of the most harmful. They were declared toxic to the environment and/or human health under CEPA, and are generally persistent and bioaccumulative.

In 2024-25, as an active party of international treaties related to chemicals management (Stockholm, Rotterdam, Basel and Minamata Conventions), ECCC contributed expertise, ensuring alignment with Canada's regulatory framework. The department contributed to the development of a renewed strategic framework for the implementation of the Basel Convention for 2025-2031, prepared the international risk management evaluation for Long-chain perfluorocarboxylic acids (LC-PFCAs) and provided funding for a global study on the supply, production, trade, and use of mercury compounds under the Minamata Convention.

Under the auspices of United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), Canada participated in the creation of a new science-policy interface for the sound management of chemicals and waste. Canada was also an active participant in negotiations for the creation of the new Intergovernmental Science-Policy Panel on Chemicals, Waste and Pollution, which was established in June 2025 to provide scientific advice on issues of global concern.

In 2024-25, as members of the OECD's Working Party on Risk Management, ECCC and Health Canada continued to share information with other parties on risk management approaches, instruments, and lessons learned, and to support work related to the valuation of health and environmental end points for the risk management of chemicals.

Under Canada's Whales Initiative, ECCC continued monitoring the habitats of certain endangered whales for contaminants and continued developing and using the Pollutants Affecting Whales and their Prey Inventory Tool to track how and where contaminants are released. In addition, ECCC continued to undertake enforcement activities under its relevant legislation and conduct engagement activities with stakeholders on contaminants affecting whales, including activities to enable the transition of knowledge to support recovery of Southern Resident Killer Whales and St. Lawrence Estuary Belugas.

ECCC continued to lead the government's approach to federal contaminated sites, including through the administration of the Federal Contaminated Sites Action Plan (FCSAP) with renewed funding until 2030. ECCC also continued to collaborate with other departments in its role as Secretariat.

Federal contaminated sites in Canada

There are 4,097 active federal contaminated sites in Canada. The size and scope of these federal contaminated sites vary greatly. For example, they include airports, lighthouse stations, military bases, and abandoned mines on Crown land in the North. The types of contaminants found on these sites also vary widely and include petroleum hydrocarbons, metals, polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs), inorganics and polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs), and per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS).

In 2024-25, as an Expert Support Department, ECCC conducted 27 site classification reviews to assess eligibility for funding, reviewed 43 technical documents from federal organizations, participated in the development or update of 3 guidance documents, and delivered 2 training and 14 engagement sessions to support federal organizations in managing their contaminated sites. Efforts related to the assessment and remediation of sites for which the Department is responsible are found in the Internal Services section of this report.

Departmental Result: Canadians have clean water

ECCC and the new Canada Water Agency (CWA) continued to advance efforts to ensure Canadians have access to clean water. The mandate of the CWA is to improve freshwater management in Canada by providing leadership, effective collaboration federally, and improved coordination and collaboration with provinces, territories, and Indigenous Peoples to proactively address national and regional transboundary water challenges and opportunities. Legislation to fully establish the CWA as a stand-alone entity received Royal Assent on June 20, 2024, and the Agency launched in October 2024.

In 2024-25, the CWA made progress on several key initiatives. In terms of national-scale freshwater policy and engagement, the Agency sought input from partners on how they would like to be engaged in the review of the *Canada Water Act*. The CWA conducted pre-engagement with provincial and territorial governments, Indigenous partners, including National Indigenous Organizations, Indigenous provincial and territorial organizations, and modern treat and self-governing nations. The Agency also piloted an Indigenous Grassroots Water Circle to support engagement.

The CWA established the President's Freshwater Tables to support engagement with stakeholders and to gather input from experts. The first President's Table took place on February 28, 2025. In addition, the Agency supported Indigenous Services Canada on the proposed Bill C-61: *First Nations Clean Water Act* until prorogation on January 6, 2025 ended progress on the Bill. The Agency will continue to support ISC to address drinking water issues with First Nations. The CWA also engaged on development of a National Freshwater Data Strategy, including through a workshop held on September 25 and 26, in Burlington, Ontario. The strategy will make it easier for Canadians to find, access, and use freshwater data. Additionally, ECCC led engagement for the National Freshwater Science Agenda with provinces, territories, Indigenous organizations, NGOs and academia.

In 2024–25, the Department continued to raise awareness and understanding about the importance of preventing pollution from entering waterways. ECCC is the lead federal department for the administration of the pollution prevention provisions of the *Fisheries Act*, which prohibits the deposit of pollution into water frequented by fish unless authorized by a regulation. Specifically, the Department continued to raise awareness and understanding of the importance of, and the consequences of non-compliance with, the regulations by the pulp and paper sector, the metal and diamond mining sector, and wastewater systems operated by federal, provincial, and municipal governments and Indigenous communities.

The Department continued to advance its work on the development of *Coal Mining Effluent Regulations*. Effluent from coal mines in Canada can be a source of pollution that harms aquatic life, including fish and fish habitat. In addition, ECCC published final amendments of the *Wastewater Systems*

Effluent Regulations in the Canada Gazette on June 5, 2024. These regulations aim to reduce the threats to fish and their habitat, and to human health from fish consumption. They strive to decrease the level of deleterious substances from wastewater effluents deposited into waters frequented by fish. Furthermore, in January 2024 the Department published the Modernization of the Pulp and Paper Effluent Regulations – Updated Detailed Proposal for Consultation, which outlined proposed amendments to strengthen the environmental protection of the current *Pulp and Paper Effluent Regulations*. Following the 2024 updated detailed proposal publication, ECCC led engagement information sessions with pulp and paper industry stakeholders, Indigenous communities, and other interested stakeholders.

ECCC continued to work with the Crown-Indigenous Working Group to explore options to manage the risks from oil sands process-affected water. A discussion paper was released in March 2025. Discussion paper: Path forward for evaluating policy options for managing the accumulation of oil sands mine water in tailings ponds.

The CWA and ECCC continued to work on improving, restoring, and protecting transboundary and nationally significant freshwater ecosystems. Canada is home to 20 percent of the world's freshwater supply. Healthy lakes and rivers are essential to Canadians, communities, and businesses across the country. The CWA and ECCC continued to work to improve, restore, and protect transboundary and nationally significant freshwater ecosystems. This work required significant collaboration with partners, including provinces, territories, Indigenous Peoples, non-governmental organizations, academia, and industry. In addition to those of the Great Lakes, St. Lawrence River, and Lake Winnipeg, Freshwater Ecosystem Initiatives were also established in other water bodies of national significance, including the Fraser River, the Mackenzie River, Lake Simcoe, Lake of the Woods, and the Wolastoq/Saint John River as well as Lake Simcoe.

Under the Freshwater Action Plan, the CWA, through ECCC, continued to advance the protection and restoration of the Great Lakes, aiming to clean up 12 of 14 remaining Canadian Areas of Concern in the Great Lakes by 2030, and all 14 of them within 15 years. The CWA, while it was still part of ECCC, also invested $76 million, as part of the Freshwater Action Plan, to support 50 partner-led projects in the Detroit River, the St. Clair River, and the Great Lakes ecosystems as part of the Great Lakes Freshwater Ecosystem Initiative—one of the largest single investments in freshwater restoration efforts in Canadian history.

The Government continued to protect the Great Lakes Basin which is home to one in three Canadians and one in ten Americans and provides significant environmental and economic benefits to both countries. According to the State of the Great Lakes 2022, the overall status of the Great Lakes is currently assessed as “Fair”, and “Unchanging”. Ongoing challenges include the impacts of nutrient pollution that result in toxic and nuisance algae, aquatic invasive species that disrupt ecosystems and biodiversity, toxic chemicals that harm ecosystems and pose a risk to human health, habitat loss, and declining biodiversity. These threats are exacerbated by climate change impacts including changing precipitation patterns and fluctuating water levels.

To address these challenges and to protect and conserve the Great Lakes, the CWA has been leading the implementation of the 2012 Canada-United States Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement (GLWQA) on behalf of the Government of Canada. The CWA also continued to implement the 2023-2025 Great Lakes Binational Priorities for Science and Action in cooperation with other federal departments, the Province of Ontario, U.S. federal and state agencies, Indigenous communities and organizations, as well as other partners. The CWA also led the implementation of the 2021 Canada-Ontario Agreement on Great Lakes Water Quality and Ecosystem Health (2021-2026) with the Government of Ontario.

Randle Reef

Randle Reef, in Hamilton Harbour on Lake Ontario, was once the largest contaminated sediment site on the Canadian side of the Great Lakes. A $150+ million clean-up effort of Randle Reef is currently underway through a unique public-private approach in which the federal government and province of Ontario each contribute a third of the funding, while local partners cover the remaining third. The project involves constructing a 6.2 hectare engineered containment facility (ECF) on top of some of the most contaminated sediment, then dredging and placing the remaining contaminated sediment in the ECF, and then covering the ECF with a cap. Once the work is completed, responsibility for the ECF will be transferred to the Hamilton-Oshawa Port Authority who will be able to leverage the site to provide valuable port lands for the community. The work will include an Indigenous Participation Plan—a measure to foster the inclusion of Indigenous communities in federal contracts through subcontracting, employment, and training and skills development.

Collaborative efforts to conserve and protect the St. Lawrence River continued in 2024-25, including Canada and Quebec advancing the implementation of joint projects under the 2021-2026 Canada-Québec Agreement on the St. Lawrence and data collection efforts through the St. Lawrence River Monitoring Program. The St. Lawrence River system is one of the largest ecosystems in the world, draining more than 25 percent of the world's freshwater reserves. It boasts four Wetlands of International Importance under the Ramsar Convention. They are: Cap Tourmente, Lac Saint Pierre, Baie de L'Isle Verte, and Lac Saint-François. Conservation and protection efforts the St. Lawrence River also continued in 2024-25.

The most recent five-year Overview of the State of the St. Lawrence report was published in fall 2024. The report reveals that the overall state of the St. Lawrence has declined slightly since 2019, from "moderate-good" to "moderate". However, this may be related to the fact that four indicators rated as "moderate-good" in the 2019 report were omitted in the 2024 report. When only the indicators included in both overviews are considered, the overall status remains unchanged.

The Joint Evaluation of the St. Lawrence Action Plan was also published and found governance structures in place to support its mandate and effective reporting, while noting some work required in various areas, especially on external communications.

Through the Freshwater Action Plan, the Government of Canada is investing $64.5 million over 10 years to protect and restore Lake Winnipeg. This included over $2.48 million in 2024-25 (with an additional $1 million in 2025-26) to support 21 partner-led projects over 2 years that will, among other priorities, reduce phosphorus loading to Lake Winnipeg.

In 2024-25, the Canada-Manitoba Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) Steering Committee, co-chaired by ECCC and the Government of Manitoba, proactively engaged Indigenous partners in a continuing dialogue to build relationships, bridge knowledge gaps, and explore opportunities for inclusion of Indigenous Peoples and knowledge in the work of the Committee. The five-year Canada-Manitoba MOU Respecting Lake Winnipeg and the Lake Winnipeg Basin, signed in 2021, facilitates cooperation on protecting water quality and supports engagement of Indigenous Peoples to advance reconciliation and mutual priorities related to water quality and the ecological health of Lake Winnipeg and the Lake Winnipeg Basin. Canada and Manitoba are also advancing research, monitoring, and knowledge mobilization efforts. Canada and Manitoba jointly hosted a workshop in March 2025 on "Understanding Information Needs in the Lake Winnipeg Basin" to identify and explore different ways of reporting State of Ecosystem information.

ECCC continued to work with the Tsleil-Waututh Nation to assess disposal at sea applications in the Burrard Inlet. This work is a landmark first-of-its-kind collaborative decision-making agreement for Burrard Inlet. It involves shared decision-making between ECCC and the Tsleil-Waututh Nation under ECCC's Disposal at Sea Program. This agreement recognizes the Tsleil-Waututh Nation's essential role as a partner in monitoring, protecting, and restoring the health of the Burrard Inlet and its long stewardship over the land.

ECCC worked to increase enforcement capacity in response to pollution incidents. Designed to strengthen Canada's marine safety system and protect coastal ecosystems, the renewed and expanded Oceans Protection Plan (OPP), which provided $2 billion over 9 years, was used by ECCC to invest in a suite of new measures to increase enforcement capacity in response to pollution incidents and expand existing OPP initiatives, including:

- increasing scientific knowledge and improving the Department's ability to provide comprehensive, up-to-date technical and scientific advice during marine oil spills;
- increasing knowledge of environmentally sensitive areas and wildlife in Canada's marine ecosystems to proactively identify areas needing special attention in the event of a spill;
- strengthening science to support responses to incidents involving non-oil-related hazardous substances;
- improving modelling and pollution detection capability; and
- providing support to address wrecked vessels that threaten to release pollution into the environment.

As part of Canada's $3.5 billion investment, the second phase of the OPP involved the Department expanding its role and capacities to contribute to a whole-of-government response to environmental emergencies. ECCC increased the number of its environmental emergency officers as well as wildlife response and enforcement officers across Canada's coastlines. ECCC participated in environmental pollution incidents by providing scientific expertise, data, regulatory and permitting support, and operational response. ECCC continued to advance regulatory regimes for the use of alternative response measures and wildlife response techniques, improving weather forecasting and spill trajectory modelling. Regional response planning activities are expanding on all of Canada's coastlines and include consultation with stakeholders and training of other government departments, partners and Indigenous communities. OPP investments have further enabled ECCC to undertake targeted scientific studies to better understand ocean and coastal environmental sensitivities and address data gaps for response.

Under the OPP, ECCC also co-developed shoreline surveys with Indigenous partners on both coasts (Coastal shoreline surveys - Canada.ca). This work included training on Pre-Shoreline Clean-up Assessment Technique methods and working side-by-side with Indigenous partners during the surveys on their territories. Shoreline data are published on the ECCC Shoreline Segmentation with Shoreline Cleanup Assessment Technique (SCAT) Classification, an ECCC data catalogue.

ECCC continued to assess the potential environmental impacts of Canadian activities proposed for Antarctica under the *Antarctic Environmental Protection Act* and its Regulations. These assessment activities deliver on Canada's responsibilities and obligations under the Antarctic Treaty and the Protocol on Environmental Protection to the Antarctic Treaty (also known as the Madrid Protocol), and serve to strengthen Canada's international influence. ECCC published amendments to the *Antarctic Environmental Protection Regulations* in Canada Gazette 1, which are required to implement changes to the Protocol on Environmental Protection to the Antarctic Treaty adopted by the Antarctic Treaty Consultative Meetings.

ECCC continued to deliver the Canadian Shellfish Sanitation Program (CSSP) in collaboration with the Canadian Food Inspection Agency and Fisheries and Oceans Canada. This included full delivery of the first year of Budget 2024 funding for Strengthening Access to Culturally Important Foods with a focus on shellfish harvest access for Indigenous communities, as well as work to support Indigenous agency and self-management for safe shellfish harvest. As a key partner in the CSSP, ECCC provided science-based advice through ongoing activities, such as the monitoring of bacteriological water quality, the identification and evaluation of sanitary pollution sources, and emergency closure recommendations following severe weather events.

ECCC delivered science advice and analysis to support the assessment and management of environmental emergencies, as per its mandate under the Federal Emergency Response Plan. In 2024-25, the Department analyzed new oils to determine their physical and chemical properties and share the results with a national and international audience through the Environment Canada Crude Oil and Petroleum Product Database. These data are used internationally to inform spill fate and trajectory models and contribute to government commitments to open science and transparency. In 2024-25, ECCC generated over 300 spill fate and trajectory models to inform spill response measures for partners.

Departmental Result: Canadians have clean air

ECCC continued to work with its key federal partners, including Health Canada and the National Research Council of Canada, to implement the Air Quality Program. The aim of the program is to improve air quality and reduce negative air quality impacts on human health and the environment. The Department continued its collaboration with provinces and territories to implement the Air Quality Management System (AQMS)—a comprehensive collaborative approach to reducing outdoor air pollution in Canada. ECCC, in collaboration with Health Canada, advanced the AQMS stock-take to assess progress on implementation since its adoption which will inform possible refinements to the System. ECCC also worked with Health Canada and provincial and territorial partner to finalize the review of the Canadian Ambient Air Quality Standards for fine particulate matter.

ECCC continued to monitor levels of key air pollutants, in collaboration with provinces and territories, through the National Air Pollutant Surveillance Program. The Department also advanced work to renew the National Pollution Surveillance Network Memorandum of Understanding between ECCC and provinces and territories to continue a 56-year partnership to monitor air pollution at over 250 sites across Canada. In addition, the Department continued to deliver and improve its daily Air Quality Health Index observation and forecast services to support Canadians in making decisions to protect their health.

ECCC continued to develop, administer and amend regulatory measures to reduce emissions of air pollutants from industry, vehicles, engines and fuels, and consumer and commercial products. This includes the *Multi-Sector Air Pollutants Regulations* (MSAPR), the *Volatile Organic Compound Concentration Limits for Certain Products Regulations*, and the *Reduction in the Release of Volatile Organic Compounds (VOCs) Regulations (Petroleum Sector)*. ECCC also continue to administer various non-regulatory instruments that address air pollutant emissions from industrial sectors. The Department is amending Part I of the MSAPR to improve testing provisions for boilers and heaters. In May 2024, an Interim Order was issued to urgently address health concerns in the Sarnia area, where benzene emissions from the petrochemical industry caused above-acceptable levels of exposure to the Aamjiwnaang First Nation community. The Department subsequently published the *Reduction in the Release of VOCs (Storage and Loading of Volatile Petroleum Liquids) Regulations* in the *Canada Gazette*, Part II, on March 26, 2025. These regulations require petroleum liquid storage tanks and loading racks to be equipped with emissions control equipment to prevent VOCs, including cancer-causing benzene, from being released into local communities.

Additional Departmental Results

ECCC continued to support the implementation of the 2022 to 2026 Federal Sustainable Development Strategy (FSDS) and began developing a draft 2026 to 2029 FSDS for public consultation and engagement. The FSDS sets out the federal government's sustainable development priorities, establishes goals and targets, and identifies actions to achieve them, with a view of presenting the environmental, social, and economic dimensions of sustainability.

The Department verified the compliance with environmental legislation and associated regulations that prohibit or control the pollution of air, water and soil by conducting approximately 4,359 inspections under the *CEPA 1999*, the *Fisheries Act*, and the *Greenhouse Gas Pollution Pricing Act* , including 60 inspections related to engines and fuels risk-based priorities. The inspections initiated 33 new investigations under pollution regulations, and resulted in the implementation of 744 enforcement measures, including Administrative Monetary Penalties (AMPs), compliance orders, tickets, warnings, directions, and one alternative measure. Investigations led to 10 convictions and 2 new prosecutions. In 2024-25, a total of $14 million in penalties resulted from prosecutions. Additionally, monetary penalties resulting from AMPs totalled $651,300.

For instance, under the *Fisheries Act*, ECCC led the administration and enforcement of pollution prevention provisions that prohibit the deposit of a deleterious (harmful) substance into water frequented by fish, or in any place where the deleterious substance may enter any such water. This work resulted in charges or fines directed to the Environmental Damages Fund, such as:

- A fine of $250,000 to Twin Rivers Paper Company Inc. on May 30, 2024.

- 5 charges on July 10, 2024, against Teck Coal Limited.
- A fine of $8 million to the Canadian National Railway Company on July 22, 2024.
- A fine of $100,000 to 2253457 Ontario Inc. on August 15, 2024.
- A fine of $50,000 to 11204572 Canada Corporation on September 17, 2024.
- A fine of $1 million to Mercer Peace River Pulp Ltd. on October 11, 2024.
- A fine of $2 million to Rio Tinto Fer et Titane inc. for violations of the *Fisheries Act* and the *Metal and Diamond Mining Effluent Regulations* on January 13, 2025.

Key risks

Extensive collaboration with strategic partners is essential to the Department's efforts to prevent and manage pollution. This includes promoting and enforcing compliance with environmental laws and regulations, a responsibility shared with provincial and territorial governments. Achieving common objectives can be difficult when ECCC's efforts must align with those of its partners, particularly amid competing priorities, limited resources, and a complex, evolving political and legislative landscape. Coordination is further complicated by the growing number of federal initiatives, differing regional priorities, and increasing polarization on environmental issues, all of which pose challenges to advancing a cohesive national approach. To help address these challenges, ECCC continued to build and strengthen relationships to support the coordinated implementation of its priorities. For example, ECCC kept working with Indigenous partners, stakeholders, land users, and communities by continuing to monitor priority contaminant trends in ecosystems, including in northern and Arctic environments, in support of domestic and international chemical management initiatives, food safety and security, and the maintenance of traditional ways of life. Coordination with the newly established Canada Water Agency has also become an increasingly important aspect of risk management, given its distinct mandate and role in water-related environmental issues.

To mitigate risks related to the implementation of flagship initiatives—such as the strengthened *Canadian Environmental Protection Act* and the establishment of the new *Canada Water Agency*—ECCC worked with external partners to explore technological solutions that enhance collaboration. These efforts supported a more coordinated and inclusive approach and helped secure broader buy-in across targeted partners and sectors.

In addition, continuous risk-based planning of enforcement initiatives and maintenance of strong relationships helped ensure resources were allocated to address the highest risks of non-compliance and that operations were well coordinated and executed across jurisdictions.

Resources required to achieve results

Table 9.a: Snapshot of resources required for Preventing and Managing Pollution for ECCC

Table 9.a provides a summary of the planned and actual spending and full-time equivalents required to achieve results.

Resource	Planned	Actual
Spending	$450,317,681	$442,650,317
Full-time equivalents	2,148	2,335

Table 9.b: Snapshot of resources required for Preventing and Managing Pollution for CWA

Table 9.b provides a summary of the planned and actual spending and full-time equivalents required to achieve results.

Resource	Planned	Actual
Spending	$0	$37,504,064
Full-time equivalents	0	80

The Canada Water Agency became an independent Agency on October 15, 2024. The 2024-25 spending reflects a partial fiscal year. 2024-25 Planned Spending for CWA was embedded in ECCC's reference levels at that time.

The Finances section of the Infographic for ECCC on GC Infobase page and the People section of the Infographic for ECCC on GC Infobase page provide complete financial and human resources information related to its program inventory.

Related government priorities

This section highlights government priorities that are being addressed through this core responsibility.

Gender-based Analysis Plus

ECCC continued to apply a GBA Plus lens to the development of policy recommendations, programs, and measures to address air pollution and improve air quality. The detrimental health effects of air pollution can be compounded in individuals who have multiple risk factors. For example, a person could be disproportionately affected by air pollution if they are elderly, have chronic health conditions, or live in an area that has a higher degree of air pollution. In 2024-25, the Department continued to ensure that more at-risk populations, including Indigenous communities located downwind of large industrial complexes and those affected by smoke during wildfires, are involved through the established partnership table with Aamjiwnaang First Nation to develop solutions to address air quality issues impacting their community.

Similarly, the Department continued to engage with Indigenous communities on the modernization of the *Canada Water Act* and water quality initiatives in key freshwater ecosystems, including in the Great Lakes, Lake Winnipeg, the St. Lawrence River watershed, and the Wolastoq [Wəlastəkw]/Saint John River Watershed. Projects are aimed at addressing communities' concerns, increasing the participation of Indigenous Peoples in decision-making and governance of water agreements, and expanding the use of Indigenous Knowledge in water quality initiatives.

ECCC's work to identify and manage harmful substances continues to use scientific information and reflect the importance of sound risk management to reduce risks posed to at-risk groups from exposure to toxic chemicals. Effective target audience characterization contributes to adapting compliance promotion material to better reflect the regulated communities' cultural, linguistic, education, and geographic distribution profiles.

United Nations 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Sustainable Development Goals

More information on ECCC's contributions to Canada's Federal Implementation Plan on the 2030 Agenda and the Federal Sustainable Development Strategy can be found in our Departmental Sustainable Development Strategy.

Program inventory

Preventing and Managing Pollution is supported by the following programs:

- Air Quality
- Community Eco-Action
- Compliance Promotion and Enforcement—Pollution
- Water Quality and Ecosystems Partnerships
- Substances and Waste Management

Additional information related to the program inventory for Preventing and Managing Pollution is available on the Results page on GC InfoBase.

Core responsibility 3: Conserving Nature

In this section

Description

Protect and recover species at risk and their critical habitat, maintain and restore healthy populations of migratory birds and other wildlife, and manage and expand Canada's network of protected areas to conserve biodiversity, contribute to climate change mitigation and adaptation and support human health and well-being. This will be accomplished through evidence-based decision-making that considers cumulative effects, promoting and enforcing applicable laws and regulations, engaging meaningfully with Indigenous Peoples, and collaborating with provinces and territories, other domestic and international stakeholders and the public.

Quality of life impacts

This core responsibility contributes to the "Environment" domain of the Quality of Life Framework for Canada and, more specifically, the "Conserved areas" and "Canadian species index" indicators through its conservation and stewardship activities, including the protection of migratory birds, species at risk, and critical habitat. It also contributes to "Satisfaction with local environment" by collaborating with domestic partners to advance the conservation of biodiversity and "Greenhouse gas emissions" through the expansion of protected areas.

Progress on results

This section details the Department's performance against its targets for each Departmental Result under Core responsibility 3: Conserving Nature.

Table 10: Canada's wildlife and habitat are conserved and protected

Table 10 shows the target, the date to achieve the target and the actual result for each indicator under Canada's wildlife and habitat are conserved and protected in the last three fiscal years.

Departmental Result Indicators	Target	Date to achieve target	Actual Results
Percentage of migratory bird species that are within target population ranges	70%	December 2030	2022-23: Result not available[43] 2023-24: 54% 2024-25: 54%[44]
Percentage of Canadian areas[45] conserved as protected areas and other effective areas-based conservation measures	25%	December 2025	2022-23: 13.6% 2023-24: 13.7% 2024-25: 13.8%[46]

Table 11: Canada's species at risk are recovered

Table 11 shows the target, the date to achieve the target and the actual result for each indicator under Canada's species at risk are recovered in the last three fiscal years.

Departmental Result Indicators	Target	Date to achieve target	Actual Results
Percentage of species at risk for which changes in populations are consistent with recovery and management objectives	60%	May 2026	2022-23: 43% 2023-24: 44% 2024-25: 40%[47]

[43] Due to a comprehensive database rebuild, past results for 2021-22 and 2022-23 are unavailable; the 2023-24 result now reflects the updated data system.

[44] This indicator reports every two years or as resources allow. ECCC continues to lead conservation efforts, working with domestic and international partners. It provides guidance on major development projects to avoid or reduce impacts on bird populations. Preventing declines is more cost-effective than recovering at-risk species. A key initiative is the modernization of the Migratory Bird Regulations (2022), which clarified protections, including nest protection based on conservation value. These updates aim to improve compliance and support long-term conservation. The indicator is based on monitoring data collated and analyzed via the State of Canada's Birds website. The launch of the redesigned, more powerful State of Canada's Birds website will allow for more frequent reporting on the indicator and tracking of progress, as the website is scheduled to be updated regularly.

[45] Terrestrial lands and inland waters.

[46] While Canada continues to collaborate with a broad range of partners to advance conservation priorities, expanding protected and conserved areas remains a complex process. Limited federal jurisdiction, competing priorities (e.g., economic development), and the lack of sustainable financing continue to pose challenges.

[47] The recovery of species requires a long-term approach to investment. The decline in the percentage of species at risk, showing population trends consistent with recovery or management objectives, reflects the long-term nature of species recovery, which is often affected by multiple, compounding threats such as habitat fragmentation, climate change, invasive species, and pollution. In many cases, recovery takes time to manifest in measurable population changes, especially for long-lived or slow-reproducing species. Gaps in monitoring data and challenges in implementing some recovery actions, particularly on non-federal lands or across jurisdictions, limit the ability to fully assess and support progress. Efforts are underway to improve population monitoring, enhance collaboration with Indigenous peoples and other partners, and better align funding with high-priority recovery actions. These measures are expected to strengthen outcomes and support future improvements in this indicator.

Table 12: Indigenous Peoples are engaged in conservation

Table 12 shows the target, the date to achieve the target and the actual result for each indicator under Indigenous Peoples are engaged in conservation in the last three fiscal years.

Departmental Result Indicators	Target	Date to achieve target	Actual Results
Percentage of Indigenous Peoples engaged with Environment and Climate Change Canada (ECCC) who indicate that the engagement was meaningful	61%	April 2025	2022-23: 66% 2023-24: 71% 2024-25: 76%

The Results section of the Infographic for ECCC on GC Infobase page provides additional information on results and performance related to its program inventory.

Details on results

The following section describes the results for Conserving Nature in 2024-25 compared with the planned results set out in ECCC's Departmental Plan for that fiscal year.

Departmental Result: Canada's wildlife and habitat are conserved and protected

The Department continued to advance the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity, including at the sixteenth Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (COP16) in Colombia in November 2024. At COP16, the Canadian delegation worked diligently—through negotiations, bilateral discussions, and side events—to bring countries together to advance the implementation of the Kunming–Montréal Global Biodiversity Framework (KMGBF). A significant achievement of COP16 was the creation of a permanent Indigenous subsidiary body, which was a priority for Canada. This represented an important step in giving a stronger voice to Indigenous Peoples in this UN Convention. To maintain strong leadership and ensure the Framework is informed by the best available science, ECCC continued engaging internationally through the Nature Champions Network as well as in other fora.

In 2024-25, ECCC worked with global partners through various other multilateral fora, such as the G7, G20, UNEA, and others, to advance efforts to halt and reverse biodiversity loss globally. In addition to driving the implementation of the KMGBF, ECCC also continued to advance Canada's priorities through the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Flora and Fauna (CITES), and the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands. The Department continued to monitor threats to species around the world, and act to effectively contribute to their conservation and sustainable use.

The Department developed Canada's 2030 Nature Strategy in collaboration with other departments and external partners including provinces, territories, Indigenous partners, the Nature Advisory Committee, and others. Published in 2024, the Strategy charts a path for how Canada will implement the KMGBF domestically. It establishes a shared vision to address biodiversity loss and builds on existing initiatives across the country, guiding actions by ECCC and others to conserve nature.

Protection of old growth forests

The Nature agreement with British Columbia continued work to protect old growth forests and habitats. In 2022, the Government of Canada established the BC Old Growth Nature Fund (OGNF), that protected at-risk old growth forest lands with the highest values for biodiversity, species at risk and wildlife habitat. The Fund's mandate concluded in March 2025. The program contributed directly to the Government of Canada's commitments under the Tripartite Framework Agreement on Nature Conservation (BC Nature Agreement). While the exact amount of old forest protected under the program is still being determined, to date the OGNF helped protect over 132,000 hectares through the establishment of 11 conservancies under the BC *Parks Act*, including in Clayoquot Sound and Incomappleux Valley, as well as other public and private land securements.

For the first time, First Nations Guardians' funding has been independently managed by the National Guardians Network, the world's first Indigenous-led national stewardship network. In 2024, a contribution agreement was signed between ECCC and the First Nations National Guardians Network (NGN) enabling the NGN to disburse the First Nations portion of Indigenous Guardians funding to recipients, resulting in 80 First Nations Guardians projects being funded through the NGN from 2024-25 to 2025-26. Longstanding initiatives, such as the Matawa First Nations' Four Rivers Regional Guardians Network, are concrete examples of Guardians' initiatives in action—acting as "eyes and ears" on the ground by monitoring ecological health and working to preserve and pass on Indigenous knowledge and nature-based learning to inspire future Guardians. The evaluation of ECCC's Indigenous Guardians Initiative found that the initiative's funding supported numerous activities related to these objectives, although more work is required to report on the Initiative's achievements and performance.

ECCC continued to work with Indigenous communities, philanthropic partners and provinces and territories in a whole-of-government initiative to support Indigenous Peoples in establishing and managing protected areas. In 2024-25, four Project Finance for Permanence (PFP) conservation initiatives were advanced in the Northwest Territories, Nunavut, British Columbia, and Ontario. Canada's approach is centred on Indigenous leadership in conservation, empowering communities to manage land and waters while supporting job creation and sustainable economic development. The PFP model brings together all partners to identify shared goals for protecting, conserving, and sustaining nature. The aim is to halt biodiversity loss while advancing reconciliation with Indigenous Peoples.

In 2024-25, Canada reached final agreements on three of the four PFPs first announced in December 2022:

- Great Bear Sea (GBS) PFP in British Columbia, led by DFO, reached a final agreement in June 2024. A $200 million grant agreement was signed and the funds transferred to "Coast Fund", the recipient and independent fund manager for the GBS PFP, on January 27, 2025.
- ECCC and Indigenous Partners, the Government of the Northwest Territories and philanthropic partners reached agreement in November 2024 on the Our Land for the Future PFP in the Northwest Territories and a $300 million federal grant was transferred to "Our Land for the Future Trust", an Indigenous-led not-for-profit organization and independent fund manager for the PFP, on August 7, 2025.
- The Sinaa PFP in Nunavut, led by DFO, reached final agreement in February 2025 and is awaiting

appropriation via Parliamentary Estimates to sign the grant agreement and transfer $200 million to “Aajuraq Conservation Fund Society”, an Indigenous-led not-for-profit organization and the independent fund manager for the PFP.
- Parks Canada is in ongoing discussions with partners and Ontario on the development of the Omushkego Wahkohtowin PFP in northern Ontario. Should negotiations be successful, $100 million has been set aside for this PFP.

In 2024-25, ECCC added and expanded National Wildlife Areas preserving habitat for species at risk. The Department continued to manage its existing network of 64 National Wildlife Areas (NWAs) to protect 3.5 million hectares of habitat and worked to establish new ones. Notably, ECCC:

- Acquired lands adjacent to existing NWAs, such as the Columbia NWA in British Columbia and Portobello NWA in New Brunswick, for future NWA expansions and to protect important wildlife and habitat.
- Completed a commitment made under the Inuit Impact and Benefit Agreement for National Wildlife Areas and Migratory Bird Sanctuaries in the Nunavut Settlement Area to rename 7 Migratory Bird Sanctuaries in Nunavut with Indigenous names.
- Reorganized the Prairie NWA into 5 new NWAs to allow for enhanced efficiency and effective use of resources to focus on lands of high conservation value.
- Advanced the establishment of marine National Wildlife Areas to protect nationally important habitats for migratory birds and other wildlife.
- Enhanced management of biodiversity conservation areas in the Bras d’Or Lake Biosphere Region in Cape Breton and the Southwest Nova Biosphere Region in southwestern Nova Scotia.
- Completed, in collaboration with the province of Ontario, a Scientific Assessment of Federal and Provincial Frameworks for the Conservation of Boreal Caribou in Ontario.
- Established three new National Wildlife Areas in Nova Scotia’s Country Island, Isle Haute, and St. Paul Island. The newly designated National Wildlife Areas will provide protection for migratory birds and species at risk in rare and otherwise vulnerable Atlantic offshore island habitats. The protection of these ecologically significant islands represents an important contribution to biodiversity conservation in Nova Scotia.
- Continued supporting the Canadian Biosphere Regions Association and 19 UNESCO biosphere regions by announcing over $11.7 million in funding from 2023 to 2026.

ECCC continued to build, maintain, and apply a robust knowledge foundation to conserve migratory birds and other biodiversity. The Department continued to deliver on the Government of Canada’s responsibility for migratory birds by ensuring that their populations and habitats were maintained and restored, helping to leave a legacy of biodiversity for future generations. This was accomplished in part by conducting focused research and delivering a suite of rigorously designed monitoring programs. The results informed migratory bird conservation and adaptive management, and supported several other departmental priorities, including protected areas planning, species at risk recovery, impact assessment, and optimizing wildlife emergency response advice and data availability for oil spills.

The Department also continued to foster collaboration and engaged individuals and communities to achieve more impactful conservation outcomes for migratory birds. For example, the Department

continued to support a wide range of programs run by Birds Canada to monitor and conserve migratory birds. These initiatives, which are driven by citizen science, connect Canadians to nature and assist in planning the recovery of species at risk and in protecting their habitats. Given the importance of information on the distribution and abundance of migratory birds and other species of conservation concern across the country, the Department continued to provide over $1.3 million per year to non-government partners. This investment helped Birds Canada, NatureServe Canada, and the Alberta Biodiversity Monitoring Institute develop and maintain open science initiatives to create platforms to house, manage, analyze, and share data. This effort included the 2024 launch of a new website, jointly developed by Birds Canada and the Department, that synthesized the best available information on the status of all species of birds in Canada and make it available for Canadians and decision makers.

The State of Canada's Birds 2024 Report

In a collaboration between ECCC and Birds Canada, the State of Canada's Birds 2024 Report was published on the NatureCounts website. This user-friendly, authoritative, and dynamic platform is regularly updated to incorporate the best available data, offering detailed overviews of each bird species regularly occurring in Canada. NatureCounts is one of the world's largest biodiversity databases and helps inform many conservation efforts in Canada. Overall results of the report indicate that 36 percent of species have decreased in population, while 31 percent of Canada's bird species have increased since 1970, with some of the strongest recoveries seen in waterfowl, birds of prey, and wetland birds. The data shows that, when a deliberate and informed action for conservation is taken, declines in bird populations can be halted and reversed.

The Department continued to implement the Nature Smart Climate Solutions Fund (NSCSF) to advance projects that restored and enhanced wetlands, peatlands and grasslands that store and capture carbon and create a Canadian national wetlands inventory. Established in 2021, NSCSF supported 152 projects that provided a total of $88.5 million in 2024-25. More specifically, ECCC funded 56 projects for a total of $9.7 million under Strategy 1: Science for Initiative Delivery and Accountability; 62 projects for a total of $70.3 million for greenhouse (GHG) gas emission reduction projects under Strategy 2: Emission Reduction Activities; and 34 projects for a total of $8.5 million under Strategy 3: Indigenous-led Natural Climate Solutions. Together, these projects will reduce GHG emissions, improve the state of knowledge on natural climate solutions, and support the leadership of Indigenous Peoples in advancing natural climate solutions and participating in research and data collection.

An additional $2.4 million in funding was made in 2024-25 to the Bruce Trail Conservancy. This funding is in addition to a $5 million investment awarded in 2022. The additional funding advances the conservation of over 300 hectares of important habitat and contributes to capturing and storing GHG emissions by securing carbon-rich forest, wetlands, and grassland ecosystems within the Niagara Escarpment.

Conservation Exchange Pilot

The Department continued to support the Conservation Exchange Pilot to help advance Canada's

conservation goals by providing recognition to businesses for funding conservation projects in Canada. In 2024-25, ECCC continued work to develop and test an approach that assesses the biodiversity benefits of conservation projects funded by businesses and delivered by proven conservation organizations. Participation in the Conservation Exchange Pilot was a voluntary initiative with interested businesses making contributions to biodiversity conservation outcomes and was not tied to any regulatory or offset system. Two new projects were added to the Pilot:

- Old Man on His Back Grassland Restoration for improved pollinator habitat and species at risk, which aims to enhance native grassland habitat to improve pollinator habitat for birds and insects, benefiting several species at risk; and
- Dune Restoration in the Dundurn Sandhills for species at risk, which involves conducting prescribed burns to restore native habitat for sand dune species.

Departmental Result: Canada's species at risk are recovered

ECCC continued to fulfill key statutory obligations under the *Species at Risk Act* (SARA) by providing protection and recovery of Canada's species at risk and their habitats based on sound science and Indigenous Knowledge. In 2024–25, ECCC advanced a range of actions focused on collaboration, transparency, and delivering results for Canadians. This included supporting the assessment and listing of species at risk; consulting the public on proposed listings; developing and publishing action plans; improving public reporting on critical habitat protection; enhancing species monitoring through national bird surveys; acoustic monitoring of grassland birds and endangered Whooping Cranes; publishing updated critical habitat data through open data platforms; advancing recovery planning for Boreal Caribou; and strengthening protections for species at risk through targeted conservation measures.

The Horizontal Evaluation of the Species at Risk Program noted sizeable progress in recent years. For example, the Program completed over 90 percent of required recovery strategies, action plans, and management plans. Continued improvement will be focused on ensuring information is available to decision makers.

ECCC continued to engage with provinces, territories, Indigenous Peoples, as well as academia, scientists, industry, and other stakeholders, in the delivery of SARA activities. The Department delivered on its management action plans in response to recommendations from audits by the Commissioner of the Environment and Sustainable Development on *Departmental Progress in Implementing Sustainable Development Strategies—Species at Risk* and *Discretionary Powers to Protect Species at Risk*, and on the Horizontal Evaluation of the Species at Risk Program. Actions included improving performance indicators and reporting on critical habitat protection to strengthen transparency; finalizing tools and guidance to enhance accountability in conservation agreements and policy development; publishing a new policy and guidance on assessing imminent threats to species at risk; and strengthening interdepartmental governance through updated Terms of Reference.

The Department continued providing best available science advice to processes under the *Impact Assessment Act*, and supporting regulatory efficiency in impact assessment and permitting processes. ECCC advanced draft guidance, tools and processes to support project proponents and create a more efficient application and review process for authorizations, leading to better conservation outcomes.

Efforts under the Pan-Canadian Approach continued to promote and facilitate collaborative conservation efforts focused on a set of shared priority places, species, and sectors across Canada. In 2024–25, ECCC implemented priority on-the-ground recovery actions for species at risk including restoration, invasive species removal, education and outreach, monitoring, implementing beneficial management actions, and securement of habitats and ecosystems important to species at risk and other biodiversity in 12 Priority Places.

For federal, provincial, and territorial priority species, accomplishments include:

- the development or implementation of 23 boreal caribou range plans, supported in part by SARA Section 11 conservation agreements;
- implementation of national recovery strategies for priority species;
- targeted efforts to address key knowledge gaps essential to recovery and SARA obligations;
- the completion or implementation of 90 percent of recovery actions for Wood Bison;
- the finalization of the Amended Recovery Strategy for the Northern Spotted Owl in British Columbia; and
- active engagement with 37 Indigenous communities through workshops, meetings, and direct funding to support recovery initiatives.

Under the Priority Sectors Initiative, provincial, territorial, Indigenous, industry and other partners contributed to the development of Strategic Conservation Frameworks for Species at Risk with the Forest and Urban Development sectors. In addition, a decision tool for agricultural producers that promotes the conservation of habitats and biodiversity on farmland was launched in all nine provinces with significant agricultural lands.

The Department continued to take action to protect the Boreal Caribou. In May 2024, the Department released the Report on the Progress of the Recovery Strategy Implementation (Period 2017–2022) and the Action Plan Implementation (Period 2018–2023) for Caribou (Rangifer tarandus), Boreal Population. The Report highlights federal, provincial, and territorial progress over the last five years in implementing the federal Recovery Strategy and Action Plan for the species. It includes assessments of population and habitat conditions and summarizes key recovery measures taken nationally, as well as in each province and territory. Overall, the report shows that some progress has been made in key areas, but much remains to be done to achieve the goals set out in the Boreal Caribou Recovery Strategy.

Priority species efforts also include supporting ongoing monitoring of caribou population size and trend data. As of 2024-25, results from survival and recruitment monitoring suggest that boreal caribou populations in British Columbia are relatively stable.

For Southern Mountain Caribou, which range through British Columbia and parts of Alberta, due to population management actions, there are now more subpopulations that are stable or increasing in size than are decreasing. An amendment to the federal recovery strategy for Southern Mountain Caribou was further advanced in 2024-25 through four virtual workshops with participation from 45 Indigenous communities and organizations, verification meetings with Indigenous groups, and collaboration with provincial governments, Parks Canada, and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. This collaboration served to incorporate varied perspectives into the recovery strategy, strengthen

partnerships, support reconciliation, and enable more effective conservation outcomes through critical habitat identification and the inclusion of Indigenous Knowledge.

Departmental Result: Indigenous Peoples are engaged in conservation

ECCC continued to meaningfully engage with Indigenous Peoples through the implementation of programs that supported reconciliation and Indigenous-led action to achieve conservation outcomes. For example, ECCC's three distinctions-based Indigenous Nature Tables met in 2024-25 as part of ECCC's external engagement model, providing advice to ECCC on First Nations, Inuit, and Métis priorities for nature.

The Department continued to renew relationships with Indigenous Peoples as part of the implementation of the Pan-Canadian Approach to Species at Risk Conservation in Canada and SARA. Under the Canada Nature Fund's Indigenous Partnerships Initiative (IPI), partnerships with First Nations, Inuit and Métis advanced the conservation of species at risk and culturally significant species in a manner that recognized and enabled Indigenous leadership, knowledge systems, and interest in land management. To date, the IPI invested $63 million, matched by $24 million, in 185 projects benefiting nearly 200 unique species. The IPI initiated cornerstone projects with the Assembly of First Nations, Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami, and the Métis National Council to identify species at risk priorities and establish knowledge networks and dialogues. IPI projects have also implemented recovery actions for priority species such as Boreal Caribou and Southern Mountain Caribou, supported conservation action for priority threats such as wildlife health (e.g., chronic wasting disease), and leveraged Indigenous knowledge to direct stewardship strategies. The IPI has been instrumental in establishing a mechanism to more effectively address the many consultation obligations under the *Species at Risk Act*.

In 2024-25, IPI projects contributed to building Indigenous partners' capacity to:

- Lead the development and implementation of recovery and protection measures for at-risk species, including several culturally significant caribou species. For example, in British Columbia:
    - Nak'azdli Whut'en First Nation hosted Ndi yun k'ut khusna ("On this living land") to address critical wildlife topics for the Nation, including strategies to recover caribou; the impacts of human activity and climate change on grizzly bear behaviour, bear habitat and diet, wolverine population density and distribution; and the impact of logging practices on fisher den site selection.
    - Tŝilhqot'in National Government conducted an aerial survey of feral horses across British Columbia's Chilcotin region to gain insight into how wolf control, one of the main predator management measures conducted in the area to support caribou recovery, may be impacting local feral horse populations.
- Negotiate and implement conservation agreements for the collaborative conservation of species at risk. This included the posting in November 2024 of a proposed agreement between McLeod Lake Indian Band in British Columbia and the Government of Canada related to Southern Mountain Caribou conservation.
- Support meaningful participation in SARA consultation and cooperation processes. For example:
    - Three virtual Grizzly Bear Management Plan workshops were held in British Columbia with 65 Indigenous Nations and organizations to complete the Grizzly Bear management plan, which is now in jurisdictional review.

- An in-person Workshop was held with 10 First Nations to engage and consult on the multi-SAR Listings and on the Marbled Murrelet Recovery Strategy science.

Additional Departmental Results

After carefully assessing project proposals throughout 2024-25, ECCC announced that over $12.2 million from the Environmental Damages Fund will contribute to 22 projects across Canada focusing on restoring or improving the natural environment, supporting wildlife, improving environmental quality, and research and development leading to restoration. Canada's Environmental Damages Fund uses fines from environmental infractions to support projects that will benefit Canada's natural environment, usually in the area where the violation occurred. The projects announced in 2024-25 are led by 14 non-governmental organizations, six Indigenous organizations, one municipality, and one university. These projects focus on protecting nature, restoring habitats, and preserving wildlife populations.

ECCC inspections initiated 255 new investigations under wildlife legislation and resulted in the issuance of 608 enforcement measures, including warnings, Administrative Monetary Penalties (AMPs), and tickets. Alternative measures, compliance orders and recommendations for prosecution were also issued. Investigations led to 9 convictions and 11 new prosecutions. In 2024-25, a total of $2,765,550[48] in penalties resulted from prosecutions. Additionally, monetary penalties resulting from AMPs totalled $199,950.

Additionally, ECCC verified compliance with wildlife legislation and associated regulations that protect migratory birds, species at risk, wildlife in trade, and protected habitats by conducting approximately 10,141 compliance verifications under the *Canada Wildlife Act*, the *Migratory Birds Convention Act, 1994*, the *Species at Risk Act* and the *Wild Animal and Plant Protection and Regulation of International and Interprovincial Trade Act*.

Key risks

Conservation outcomes depend on ECCC maintaining strong relationships with partners, including Indigenous Peoples, stakeholders and other jurisdictions. These relationships are increasingly shaped by evolving legal and policy frameworks—such as the *United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act* and the Inuit Nunangat Policy—which call for deeper coordination and co-development. Meeting heightened expectations for meaningful engagement is further challenged by limited capacity and the complexity of coordinating a consistent and effective approach across diverse contexts.

[48] Includes the total amount of $2.5 million related to the case where Husky Oil Operations Limited was ordered to pay $2 million after earlier pleading guilty to one charge under the federal *Fisheries Act* and one charge under the *Migratory Birds Convention Act, 1994*.

To mitigate these risks, in 2024-25, ECCC worked to maintain collaborative partnerships, including by way of:

- providing federal leadership through Canada's 2030 Nature Strategy to implement the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework;
- maintaining an open dialogue on shared nature priorities with provinces and territories through the Conservation, Wildlife, and Biodiversity Ministers committee and its officials-level steering group;
- advancing shared nature priorities through three co-developed, distinctions-based Indigenous Nature Tables, which include capacity support to Indigenous partners;
- incorporating Indigenous communities' perspectives while reaching an agreement with the Northwest Territories to protect Edéhzhíe and Tsá Tué (Great Bear Lake); and
- partnering with Birds Canada and Ducks Unlimited Canada towards conservation of migratory bird populations and wetlands.

Conservation outcomes are also dependent on effective collaboration with provinces and territories that have jurisdiction over much of the habitat required for species recovery. In 2024–25, varying capacity and pace of action among jurisdictions, particularly on habitat protection for Boreal Caribou and other priority species, presented risks to achieving consistent outcomes across Canada. When stakeholders see delays in achieving conservation outcomes, this can also heighten legal and reputational risks. ECCC worked to mitigate these risks by advancing collaborative approaches with provinces and territories, prioritizing key SARA deliverables, and enhancing transparency through public reporting and open data initiatives.

To mitigate the risk that the Department may lack reliable, efficient, and timely access to datasets and digital systems critical to its nature outcomes, ECCC continued to advance its Digital Agenda. This initiative supports digital modernization through a strategic and practical approach to investments in information management systems, infrastructure, and digital tools. This, coupled with the development of the departmental Data and Analytics Strategy, will enable more effective data management, which is paramount to enable the dissemination of monitoring data and research results that support decision-making towards conservation targets.

Resources required to achieve results

Table 13: Snapshot of resources required for Conserving Nature

Table 13 provides a summary of the planned and actual spending and full-time equivalents required to achieve results.

Resource	Planned	Actual
Spending	$736,720,545	$694,145,266
Full-time equivalents	1,449	1,561

The Finances section of the Infographic for ECCC on GC Infobase page and the People section of the Infographic for ECCC on GC Infobase page provide complete financial and human resources information related to its program inventory.

Related government priorities

This section highlights government priorities that are being addressed through this core responsibility.

Gender-based Analysis Plus

In 2024–25, ECCC incorporated GBA Plus considerations across its Conserving Nature program activities, recognizing that the impacts and benefits of conservation efforts can vary based on identity factors, knowledge systems, and lived experiences. The Department applied this lens in areas such as species at risk recovery, migratory bird conservation, habitat conservation, and biodiversity partnerships. In delivering its *Species at Risk Act* (SARA) obligations, ECCC identified that barriers such as limited capacity and consultation fatigue can affect the ability of Indigenous Peoples to engage fully in recovery efforts. To help address these impacts, the Department supported Indigenous-led recovery initiatives through the Indigenous Partnerships for Species at Risk (IPSAR) program and the Indigenous Partnerships Initiative (IPI), which has invested $63 million in 185 projects to date, benefitting nearly 200 species and supporting Indigenous leadership, knowledge systems, and stewardship strategies. ECCC also advanced collaboration through distinctions-based Indigenous Nature Tables and supported the Indigenous Guardians Program, enabling Indigenous partners to lead monitoring, protection, and conservation of sensitive areas and species. While disaggregated identity-based data on participation and outcomes remains limited, ECCC continues to build capacity to report on gender and diversity impacts, including through co-development approaches and initiatives such as the Western Boreal Initiative and the Manitoba Nature Agreement collaboration.

United Nations 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Sustainable Development Goals

More information on ECCC's contributions to Canada's Federal Implementation Plan on the 2030 Agenda and the Federal Sustainable Development Strategy can be found in our Departmental Sustainable Development Strategy.

Program inventory

Conserving Nature is supported by the following programs:

- Species at Risk
- Migratory Birds and Other Wildlife
- Habitat Conservation and Protection
- Biodiversity Policy and Partnerships
- Environmental Assessment
- Compliance Promotion and Enforcement—Wildlife

Additional information related to the program inventory for Conserving Nature is available on the Results page on GC InfoBase.

Core Responsibility 4: Predicting Weather and Environmental Conditions

In this section

Description

Provide authoritative forecasts, warnings, data, and information services related to weather, hydrological, and environmental conditions using a wide range of dissemination systems to help Canadians, public authorities, and targeted weather sensitive sectors make informed decisions about health, safety, and economic prosperity. This will be achieved by: monitoring weather, water quantity, ice, air quality and climate conditions; conducting research and development activities targeting continuous improvement; operating advanced integrated weather and environmental prediction models using high performance computing platforms; exchanging data in near real time, on a continual basis, with members of the World Meteorological Organization to ensure accurate and timely predictions; and collaborating closely with other nations' weather and hydrologic institutions, and international organizations, to improve services for citizens everywhere.

Quality of life impacts

This core responsibility contributes to the "Environment" domain of the Quality of Life Framework for Canada. More specifically, it contributes to the "Air quality" and "Natural disasters and emergencies" indicators by ensuring Canadians use weather and related environmental condition information to make decisions about their health and safety.

Progress on results

This section presents details the Department's performance against its targets for each Departmental Result under Core responsibility 4 Predicting Weather and Environmental Conditions.

Table 14: Canadians use authoritative weather and related information to make decisions about their health and safety

Table 14 shows the target, the date to achieve the target and the actual result for each indicator under Canadians use authoritative weather and related information to make decisions about their health and safety in the last three fiscal years.

Departmental Result Indicators	Target	Date to achieve target	Actual Results
Index of the timeliness and accuracy of severe weather warnings on a scale of 0 to 10	At least 8.4	June 2025	2022-23: 8.7[49] 2023-24: 8.7[50] 2024-25: 8.5[51]
Percentage of program partners rating their satisfaction with Environment and Climate Change Canada's hydrological services as 8 out of 10 or higher	At least 80%	May 2025	2022-23: 69% 2023-24: 91% 2024-25: 94%

The Results section of the Infographic for ECCC on GC Infobase page provides additional information on results and performance related to its program inventory.

Details on results

The following section describes the results for Predicting Weather and Environmental Conditions in 2024-25 compared with the planned results set out in ECCC's Departmental Plan for that fiscal year.

Departmental result: Canadians use authoritative weather and related information to make decisions about health and safety

ECCC continued to improve its meteorological services through scientific expertise, the application of a leading-edge approach to data management, and a continued focus on the changing needs of its clients and stakeholders. As the climate continues to change, causing more frequent and intense high-impact weather events, the provision of timely and high-quality weather services is increasingly important. In 2024-25, the Department continued to use its state-of-the-art High-Performance Computing (HPC) system to bring together 13 million observations a day to perform numerical weather forecasting.

Canada's HPC solution for weather and environmental prediction is comprised of supercomputers that are among the fastest in the world. Mathematical models of the atmosphere and oceans are run on the HPC solution to predict future states of the weather and the environment. Advancements in technology and science have allowed ECCC to go beyond traditional weather forecasts and into environmental applications, such as air quality, oceanography, sea ice, storm surge, wave, and water level forecasts. For

[49] Three-year rolling average from 2020 to 2022.
[50] Three-year rolling average from 2021 to 2023.
[51] Three-year rolling average from 2022 to 2024.

instance, the Department now predicts levels of nitrogen oxides, ozone, and harmful particles released from anthropogenic resources and wildfires in its air quality forecast maps.

In 2024-25, the Department continued to explore emerging trends and innovate in many areas related to numerical weather prediction, including artificial intelligence (AI) and machine learning (ML). AI and ML are transforming numerous sectors, and ECCC is exploring the integration of AI and ML in its weather and environmental prediction systems. One such example is the development of a hybrid system using a spectral nudging technique, which combines traditional methods with AI. This system is planned to become operational in 2026 and will become the first AI-based hybrid weather forecasting system in Canada, and likely the world. ECCC's advancements in AI and weather and environmental prediction are guided by its AI Road Map, which outlines and prioritizes activities, pinpoints areas for collaboration, and considers ethics and alignment with Government of Canada AI guidelines.

ECCC also continued to improve the accessibility and reliability of its meteorological and environmental data offerings through backend and software application improvements, as well as advances in cloud sharing. Canadian individuals and businesses had access to more than 120 additional or improved open weather and environmental data products through ECCC's open data platforms in 2024. Data provided through these platforms were leveraged by various external users to perform investigations, develop innovations promoting economic growth and efficiency, and make operational decisions regarding health and safety and the protection of property.

The Department continued to leverage social media and emergency alerts to communicate with Canadians so they can make informed decisions to mitigate weather and climate change risks to life, property, and the environment. ECCC's state-of-the-art weather forecasting systems continued to alert Canadians of approaching high-impact weather such as severe storms, poor air quality, heat waves, atmospheric rivers, and hurricanes. Meteorologists continued to focus their attention on meteorological events that have the potential to affect Canadians and the Canadian economy. The Department has enhanced its focus on marginalized Canadians and communities, which is particularly important given Canada's changing climate and associated unprecedented weather events—such as poor air quality, heat waves, and floods—may pose increased risks for them. Canadians continued to have access to updated forecasts, warnings, and air quality information by visiting ECCC's weather website (with over 413 million visitors in 2024), the WeatherCAN app, and subscribing to ECCC's hurricane e-bulletins.

WeatherCAN app

From making everyday decisions to staying safe during extreme weather, it's essential that Canadians have convenient, reliable access to weather information**. For five years, Canadians have turned to the WeatherCAN application on their mobile devices to get trusted weather information directly from Environment and Climate Change Canada's meteorologists**. New app features were launched this year, including a modernized look with improved navigation, dark mode for enhanced accessibility, expanded weather alert visuals with clearer timing, a message centre badge for unread messages, a pop-up tutorial for new versions, and a widget toggle to switch between daily and hourly forecasts. The WeatherCAN app is free to download and is available on Apple and Android mobile devices. Through the WeatherCAN app, Canadians can access current weather conditions and receive push notifications for

weather alerts for locations anywhere in Canada.

ECCC continued to modernize and increase the resilience of its critical infrastructure and to undertake life cycle management activities across its monitoring networks. In 2024-25, the Department completed the installation of six more automated weather balloon launching systems, for a total of 10 so far with more to come and upgraded surface weather station instrumentation that will result in improved data availability and networks resiliency. The Department also evaluated new technologies and assessed options to modernize operations and improve the environmental sustainability of its monitoring networks.

In 2024-25, the Department advanced the renewal of its satellite receiving infrastructure. ECCC operates four satellite ground receiving stations located in Nunavut, Newfoundland and Labrador, and Alberta. These receive data from polar-orbiting environmental satellites to support weather and environmental forecasting programs and services. The Polar-Orbiting Environmental Satellites (POES) Network Renewal Project—announced in Budget 2021 with $4.8 million in funding over five years—will replace existing satellite data receiving infrastructure with modern antenna reception systems. In 2024-25, as part of the POES Renewal Project, the first new antenna was installed in Alberta, with site preparations underway for a second in Newfoundland. The Department also initiated technical staff training and initial data delivery operations as part of the project. By integrating advanced satellite technologies, the renewed infrastructure will enhance Canada's space-based weather observation capacity, enable increased Northern and Arctic operations, and improve the resilience and accuracy of national forecasting capabilities.

State-of-the-art Weather Radars

Canadians today are facing more frequent, costly, and dangerous extreme weather events, a development long predicted by climate change modelling. State-of-the-art weather services are becoming more important than ever to keep Canadians safe A total investment of $180.4 million since 2016 to fully modernize 32 state-of-the-art weather radars across Canada, as well as an additional commitment of $6.9 million over five years, starting in 2024-25, for an early warning system for extreme weather events focusing on floods and storm surge underscores the government's dedication to enhancing resilience and preparedness, urging citizens to take action to protect themselves, their families, and communities during emergencies.

ECCC continued to operate and improve its national hydrometric monitoring program to better meet the needs of Canadians. Systematic monitoring of water levels and flow has always been a priority in Canada and continues to be increasingly important as Canada's climate is warming at twice the average global rate. A warmer climate means more extreme weather, including more droughts and floods. ECCC provides high-quality data and information on water levels and flows in real time to provincial and territorial partners, including emergency management organizations and weather-sensitive businesses. This helps them prepare for severe weather and environmental events and become more resilient to the consequences of climate change. During extreme events, ECCC works to ensure field equipment is kept operational and critical data services are maintained. This can often mean taking fast action to replace monitoring stations that are damaged or responding to requests for

enhanced or additional data services. In 2024-25, ECCC enhanced the safety and resilience of the National Hydrometric Program (NHP) through infrastructure improvements to the hydrometric network, completing 9 major rebuilds, 11 critical repairs, 14 site remediations, and more than 60 low-cost upgrades while also conducting 48 engineering inspections and decommissioning 4 sites.

The Department enabled an ongoing life cycle management approach to water quantity monitoring. Through an $89.9 million investment beginning in 2018, ECCC's National Hydrological Service (NHS) has modernized and improved its water quantity monitoring program to more effectively support the management of Canada's changing water resources. In 2024-25, the focus of the NHS shifted from evaluating new technologies for hydrometric monitoring to implementing the most promising of those technologies into operations. Specifically, three new discharge measurement techniques were approved for use in 2024-25 including salt dilution, surface velocity radar and image velocimetry (including via microdrones). To complete the implementation of these methods into operations, the NHS is producing standards for their use, upgrading data systems to accept the resulting new data, and providing training to staff.

The NHS also continued to pursue operating efficiencies while responding to the needs of the National Hydrometric Program's partners. The Department provided 40-year historical streamflow and full water cycle simulations nationwide under the National Adaptation Strategy to allow quantitative evaluation of freshwater risks nationally and with those shared with U.S. transboundary basins.

ECCC provided expertise and support to 71 flood hazard mapping projects across Canada, published the Geomorphic Considerations in Flood Mapping technical bulletin, and collaborated with other government departments and provincial and territorial partners to through the Flood Hazard Identification and Mapping Program (FHIMP). Additionally, the Department launched the event attribution system for extreme hot and cold events ahead of schedule, and contributed to the implementation of severe weather event attribution research under the Priority Climate Data, Services and Assessments Program of the National Adaptation Strategy The Government of Canada is investing an additional $164.2 million as part of the Strategy to provide five more years of funding towards projects under the FHIMP, thus working to advance nationwide flood mapping coverage and to share accessible flood hazard information to help Canadians protect their health, safety, and economic prosperity.

ECCC began the dissemination of new coastal flooding forecasts and alerts using new national prediction systems and new capacities of production systems. These new forecasts and alerts were developed in response to the growing frequency and severity of coastal flooding events and to support resilient coastal communities and safer near-shore marine navigation. This new national prediction system supported evacuation and recovery efforts due to wildfires in Labrador City and Jasper and provided early warnings, forecasts, and decision support advice before, during, and after the landfall of Tropical Cyclones Beryl and Debbie.

The Department continued to provide leadership and technical support to international water boards and committees. ECCC provides data, technical, scientific engineering and communication support on both water quantity and water quality to IJC boards and committees and takes part in a total of 15 IJC

boards and committees, three non-IJC international committees and four domestic water management bodies. These actions deliver on commitments in the International Joint Commission (IJC) Memorandum of Understanding (MOU), as well as other interprovincial and international MOUs.

Key risks

In 2024-25, deep, rapid, and disruptive geopolitical and technological changes continued, resulting in the emergence of new private players in hydrometeorological predictions, as well as challenges to global cooperation, adding to existing challenges.

Developing and maintaining strategic partnerships are crucial for the Department to provide authoritative forecasts, warnings, data, and information services. Collaboration with various domestic and international entities is required to access vital data from around the globe, benefit from technological and scientific advancements, and support specific functions such as inter-jurisdictional and transboundary water management. In 2024-25, the Department mitigated uncertainties in these areas by actively engaging nationally and internationally, including with new collaborators and stakeholders.

The timely provision of weather and climate information and services to Canadians depends on the ongoing maintenance and investment in capital and technological infrastructure to prevent rust-out and to ensure functionality and data quality. Damage to this infrastructure may be exacerbated by more frequent severe climate change-related events, such as catastrophic flooding, droughts, and wildfires. To address these risks, in 2024-25 ECCC continued to proactively identify infrastructure deficits and to determine priorities and funding needs through a robust capital and asset life cycle planning approach. ECCC also continued to modernize and strengthen hydrological and meteorological engineering, technical capacity, and infrastructure, including revitalizing its satellite reception infrastructure.

The Department's capacity to sustain timely delivery of high-quality meteorological, environmental, and hydrological information to Canadians is also closely linked to its ability to efficiently access, manage, analyze, and share increasingly large and complex data. To address uncertainties in this area, ECCC continued to invest in information management systems, infrastructure, tools, and personnel to support the appropriate management of information and seamless data mining, interoperability, and sharing. Further, ECCC made sure its operations can adapt to change by securing uninterrupted access to high-performance computing and adapting its modelling capabilities to evolving demands and technical advances.

In addition, ECCC continued to apply sound and secure data practices to help mitigate risks associated with the increasing frequency and sophistication of cyber-attacks. These measures help safeguard the integrity and availability of critical data that supports the delivery of forecasts, warnings, and environmental information services to Canadians. The effective management of these risks has helped maintain ECCC's reputation as the authoritative source of information for weather, water quantity, climate, ice, and air quality conditions in Canada.

Resources required to achieve results

Table 15: Snapshot of resources required for Predicting Weather and Environmental Conditions

Table 15 provides a summary of the planned and actual spending and full-time equivalents required to achieve results.

Resource	Planned	Actual
Spending	$271,887,076	$277,249,619
Full-time equivalents	1,641	1,772

The Finances section of the Infographic for ECCC on GC Infobase page and the People section of the Infographic for ECCC on GC Infobase page provide complete financial and human resources information related to its program inventory.

Related government priorities

This section highlights government priorities that are being addressed through this core responsibility.

Gender-based Analysis Plus

ECCC continues to deliver weather forecasts, warnings, and expert advice to support the needs of Canadians, including those most impacted by extreme weather and environmental events (such as floods). In Canada, disproportionately or differentially impacted populations may include northern/rural dwellers, older Canadians and children, people with health issues or disabilities, low-income communities, and people experiencing homelessness.

To enhance the reach and accessibility of ECCC's information, ECCC employs several strategies to better communicate risk to a wide variety of Canadians and prepare them for the potential impacts of hazardous weather. ECCC provides weather and environmental information through a wide range of dissemination platforms (including the WeatherCAN app, weather website, and webinars), and directly to key decision makers, such as provincial emergency management and public health organizations. The WeatherCAN app is also fully compliant with the current accessibility standards under the *Accessible Canada Act*. The Department continues to improve the accessibility and documentation of its weather and environmental data and services based on the results of stakeholder engagement.

United Nations 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Sustainable Development Goals

More information on ECCC's contributions to Canada's Federal Implementation Plan on the 2030 Agenda and the Federal Sustainable Development Strategy can be found in our Departmental Sustainable Development Strategy.

Program inventory

Predicting Weather and Environmental Conditions is supported by the following programs:

- Weather and Environmental Observations, Forecasts and Warnings
- Hydrological Services

Additional information related to the program inventory for Predicting Weather and Environmental Conditions is available on the Results page on GC InfoBase.

Internal services

In this section

Description

Internal services are the services that are provided within a department so that it can meet its corporate obligations and deliver its programs. There are 10 categories of internal services:

- Management and Oversight Services
- Communications Services
- Legal Services
- Human Resources Management
- Financial Management
- Information Management
- Information Technology
- Real Property
- Materiel
- Acquisitions

Progress on results

This section presents details on how the Department performed to achieve results and meet targets for internal services.

ECCC continued to develop and promote its workplace values and ethics resources and mental health and wellness tools. The Department published the revised departmental Values and Ethics Code to reflect key priorities of the Clerk and strengthen expectations and procedures on conflict of interest, accessibility, diversity, anti-racism, mandate specific language on science, Indigenous knowledge, responsible use of artificial intelligence, social media, misinformation, intellectual property, research affiliations, and adjunct professorships.

A revised Mental Health strategy was developed through extensive consultation and outreach with ECCC's various grassroots networks, unions, executives and employees at all levels. The strategy places great importance on the integration of diversity, equity, and inclusion, recognizing that this is crucial to fostering a supportive work environment where all individuals are recognized, respected and valued. In addition, ECCC's Culture of Care continued to support a work environment where employees at all levels felt physically and emotionally safe and were able to share and raise mental health and wellness concerns without fear of reprisal or judgment.

In 2024-25, ECCC continued to work to improve accessibility and promote the full participation of persons with disabilities. The Department worked towards centralizing accommodation services for persons with disabilities and developed procedures, tools, and relationships to streamline this process and contribute to responsible government spending. To implement elements of the *Accessible Canada Act*, ECCC created a single window of services for accessibility at work and received 371 inquiries from

employees and managers. The Department also enhanced awareness of accessibility needs and support systems. The Department is committed to proactively identifying and removing barriers and facilitating the full participation of persons with disabilities, as per ECCC's Accessibility Plan. The 2024 Progress Report on the implementation of the ECCC Accessibility Plan was published in December 2024, and the insights reported therein will contribute to developing and enhancing the Department's updated plan in 2025.

ECCC also made steady strides in recruitment, retention, and career development for persons with disabilities. Notably, the Department's representation of persons with disabilities among its Executive ranks rose by 25 percent since 2021. Efforts included accessible job advertisements, manager training, and tailored accommodation measures to create a more diverse and equitable workplace.

ECCC continued to implement its Diversity, Inclusion and Employment Equity Strategy. Advancing the principles, values and goals of diversity, inclusion and employment equity remained a critical departmental and Government-wide priority. Notable progress was achieved over the past 3-year period, including increases in the representation of Indigenous (by 21%), racialized (31%) and Black (36%) employees within its workforce. The Department supported retention and career development through the creation of its Indigenous Director Development Program, leading to the appointment of 2 Indigenous executives. As a result of these efforts, the rate of promotion of Indigenous Peoples and racialized employees in managerial positions surpassed non-EE rates.

The Department drafted and launched ECCC's 10-year Inuit Employment Plan (IEP) in line with the whole-of-government IEP, as well as the Nunavut Agreement article 23 obligations. Some key components include recruitment, training, and support to help retain and empower Inuit public servants. ECCC continued to provide tools such as a Practical Guide to Indigenous Consultation and Engagement, and advice to employees to support meaningful inclusion of Indigenous perspectives in the development of policies, programs, and legislation.

The Department also advanced public service renewal by promoting the Evolution ECCC framework among employees and implementing activities focused on improving and understanding that everyday actions can make a positive difference. Seeking to promote an agile, inclusive, and well-equipped workforce, the Framework promotes innovative problem-solving, an inclusive and collaborative work environment, greener operations, and employee wellness.

ECCC continued to deliver impactful science in the first year of implementing the Department's Science Strategy. ECCC focused on talent, values and ethics, collaboration and partnership, including with Indigenous Peoples, and the mobilization of science to inform policies, programs and services through robust science to advise governance.

This past year, **the Department continued to advance its digital modernization agenda** by focusing on the following five priorities: leveraging enterprise platforms, digital service modernization, cyber security, improving departmental data maturity, and enabling science and technology. Significant progress was made on several key enterprise-level platforms to modernize core business functions and improve service delivery, including for regulatory services, grants and contributions, and engagement and collaboration. These efforts delivered more accessible, efficient, and user-focused services by

integrating innovative tools that streamlined operations, improved data access, supported smarter decisions, and enabled digital-first work, which strengthened the Department's ability to deliver science, regulations, and services to Canadians.

ECCC continued to take a strategic approach to reducing the environmental impact of its own operations and procurement practices. In line with the Greening Government Strategy, departmental operations are on track to divert at least 75 percent of non-hazardous operational and plastic waste, and 90 percent of construction and demolition waste, from landfills by 2030. The Department also continued to track waste diversion rates at key ECCC buildings, completed updates to waste audits at custodial facilities where required, and advanced the Departmental Green Procurement Action Plan.

ECCC continued to reduce energy-related GHG emissions from its own facilities. This included cost-effective GHG emission reduction projects, rationalization of ECCC's real estate portfolio, optimization of space, and ensuring that all new buildings and major building retrofits prioritize low-carbon investments. The Department also assessed opportunities to deploy on-site clean electricity in its buildings and purchase off-site clean electricity (in conjunction with PSPC's Clean Electricity Initiative), with the goal of achieving 100 percent clean electricity usage by 2025. The Department also took actions to reduce GHG emissions in its fleet operations through fleet-sharing, prioritizing the purchase of zero-emission vehicles (ZEVs), and the provision of ZEV charging stations within ECCC facilities. The objective is to reach 100 percent of ZEVs in ECCC's light-duty fleet by 2030. In 2024-25, ECCC also continued to implement actions identified in its Departmental Adaptation Plan to address climate change risks to its assets, services, and operations.

ECCC continued to make progress on the assessment and remediation of contaminated sites for which the Department is responsible. In 2024-25, the Department completed assessment activities at 8 sites and remediation and risk management activities at 6 sites.

Resources required to achieve results

Table 16.a: Snapshot of resources required for internal services this year for ECCC

Table 16.a provides a summary of the planned and actual spending and full-time equivalents required to achieve results.

Resource	Planned	Actual
Spending	$265,166,344	$319,238,526
Full-time equivalents	1,847	1,974

Table 16.b: Snapshot of resources required for internal services this year for CWA

Table 16.b provides a summary of the planned and actual spending and full-time equivalents required to achieve results.

Resource	Planned	Actual
Spending	$0	$5,714,709
Full-time equivalents	0	27

The Canada Water Agency became an independent Agency on October 15, 2024. The 2024-25 spending reflects a partial fiscal year. 2024-25 Planned Spending for CWA was embedded in ECCC's reference levels at that time.

The Finances section of the Infographic for ECCC on GC Infobase page and the People section of the Infographic for ECCC on GC Infobase page provide complete financial and human resources information related to its program inventory.

Contracts awarded to Indigenous businesses

Government of Canada departments are required to award at least 5 percent of the total value of contracts to Indigenous businesses every year.

Environment and Climate Change Canada results for 2024-25:

ECCC has consistently exceeded the minimum 5 percent target since Phase 1 of this federal reporting requirement, achieving 5.5 percent in 2022-23 and 6.97 percent in 2023-24. In 2024-25, the first year ECCC was formally required to report on the Phase 3 target, contracts awarded to Indigenous businesses totalled $13,343,637 out of an overall total of $200,629,768, representing 6.65 percent of all contracting activity. This result reflects targeted efforts in specific procurement categories of goods and services, including computer equipment, air charter flights, services, and contracts awarded in a geographic region subject to a Comprehensive Land Claims Agreement or Nunavut Land Claims Agreement. To support continued progress, ECCC enhanced departmental awareness and engagement around Indigenous procurement objectives through information sessions and training and strengthened its quality assurance processes with monthly reviews and data validation to ensure accurate and timely results.

Table 17: Total value of contracts[52] awarded to Indigenous businesses[53]

As shown in Table 17, ECCC awarded 6.65 percent of the total value of all contracts to Indigenous businesses for the fiscal year.

Contracting performance indicators	2024-25 Results
Total value of contracts awarded to Indigenous businesses (A)	$13,343,637.43
Total value of contracts awarded to Indigenous and non-Indigenous businesses (B)	$200,629,767.68

[52] "Contract" is a binding agreement for the procurement of a good, service, or construction and does not include real property leases. It includes contract amendments and contracts entered by means of acquisition cards of more than $10,000.00.

[53] For the purposes of the minimum 5% target, the data in this table reflects how Indigenous Services Canada (ISC) defines "Indigenous business" as either:

- owned and operated by Elders, band and tribal councils
- registered in the Indigenous Business Directory
- registered on a modern treaty beneficiary business list.

Contracting performance indicators	2024-25 Results
Value of exceptions approved by deputy head (C)	$0
Proportion of contracts awarded to Indigenous businesses [A / (B−C) × 100]	6.65%

Spending and human resources

In this section

Spending

This section presents an overview of the Department's actual and planned expenditures from 2022-23 to 2027-28.

Refocusing Government Spending

In Budget 2023, the government committed to reducing spending by $14.1 billion over five years, starting in 2023-24, and by $4.1 billion annually after that.

In support of this commitment, ECCC will make the following budgetary reductions

- 2024-25: $43,061,850
- 2025-26: $63,482,805
- 2026-27 and after: $91,008,473

During 2024-25, ECCC worked to realize these reductions through the following measures:

- Reducing professional services by ensuring greater alignment of contracting to priorities and reducing discretionary spending;
- Reducing travel through effective planning and use of the hybrid work model;
- Reducing staffing levels through attrition and vacancy management;
- Reducing a proportion of grants and contribution expenditures;
- Leveraging efficiencies in internal management and enabling functions including rationalizing spending on common line items, streamlining processes, adjusting the scale and nature of support functions while leveraging technology.

ECCC will work to ensure that impacts are minimized as we adjust our efforts to these reductions.

Budgetary performance summary

Table 18.a: Actual three-year spending on core responsibilities and internal services (dollars) for ECCC

Table 18.a show the money that ECCC spent over the past three years on its core responsibilities and on internal services.

Core responsibilities and internal services	2024–25 Main Estimates	2024–25 total authorities available for use	Actual spending over three years (authorities used)
Taking Action on Clean Growth and Climate Change	$1,036,877,580	$1,311,817,390	• 2022–23: $407,374,384 • 2023–24: $570,748,742 • 2024–25: $1,232,484,771
Preventing and Managing Pollution	$450,317,681	$450,815,680	• 2022–23: $390,259,703 • 2023–24: $471,476,416

Core responsibilities and internal services	2024–25 Main Estimates	2024–25 total authorities available for use	Actual spending over three years (authorities used)
			• 2024–25: $442,650,317
Conserving Nature	$736,720,545	$738,989,792	• 2022–23: $576,201,081 • 2023–24: $720,108,036 • 2024–25: $694,145,266
Predicting Weather and Environmental Conditions	$271,887,076	$290,429,136	• 2022–23: $257,185,465 • 2023–24: $281,191,20 • 2024–25: $277,249,619
Subtotal	**$2,495,802,882**	**$2,792,051,998**	• **2022-23: $1,631,020,633** • **2023-24: $2,043,524,401** • **2024-25: $2,646,529,973**
Internal services	$265,166,344	$321,852,447	• 2022–23: $298,661,385 • 2023–24: $318,605,055 • 2024–25: $319,238,526
Total	**$2,760,969,226**	**$3,113,904,446**	• **2022-23: $1,929,682,018** • **2023-24: $2,362,129,456** • **2024-25: $2,965,768,499**

Totals may not add up due to rounding

The Canada Water Agency became an independent Agency on October 15, 2024. The 2024-25 spending reflects a partial fiscal year. 2024-25 Planned Spending for CWA was embedded in ECCC's reference levels at that time.

Analysis of the past three years of spending

Over the past three fiscal years, actual spending increased from $1,929.7 million in 2022-23 to $2,965.8 million in 2024-25, representing an overall increase of $1,036.1 million. This growth is primarily attributed to the implementation of key government priorities related to climate change, nature conservation, and environmental protection, as well as salary adjustments from signed collective agreements.

The significant increase between 2022-23 and 2023-24 ($432.5 million) was mainly driven by:

- Increased distribution of revenues from the Output-Based Pricing System Proceeds Fund to provinces;
- Higher investments in climate initiatives, such as the Low Carbon Economy Fund and Canada's International Climate Finance Program;
- Salary increases and retroactive payments following the signature of collective agreements;
- Additional grants and contributions to conserve Canada's land and freshwater, protect species, advance Indigenous reconciliation and increase access to nature (Enhanced Nature Legacy).

Between 2023-24 and 2024-25, there was an additional $603.6 million increase in spending, mainly due to:

- The up-front multiyear payment to the Green Municipal Fund, the return of fuel charge proceeds to Indigenous governments, and revenue distributions to provinces from excess emissions charge payments supporting the Output-Based Pricing System Proceeds Fund.

- These increases are offset by reductions in Contributions payments under the Low Carbon Economy Fund and the Natural Climate Solutions Fund.

The Finances section of the Infographic for ECCC on GC Infobase offers more financial information from previous years.

Table 18.b: Actual three-year spending on core responsibilities and internal services (dollars) for CWA

Table 18.b show the money that CWA spent over the past three years on its core responsibilities and on internal services.

Core responsibilities and internal services	2024–25 Main Estimates	2024–25 total authorities available for use	Actual spending over three years (authorities used)
Freshwater Stewardship	$0	$43,363,456	• 2022–23: $0 • 2023–24: $0 • 2024–25: $ 37,504,064
Subtotal	**$0**	**$43,363,456**	• **2022–23: $0** • **2023–24: $0** • **2024–25: $ 37,504,064**
Internal services	$0	$12,026,221	• 2022–23: $0 • 2023–24: $0 • 2024–25: $5,714,709
Total	**$0**	**$55,389,677**	• **2022–23: $0** • **2023–24: $0** • **2024–25: $43,218,773**

Totals may not add up due to rounding

The Canada Water Agency became an independent Agency on October 15, 2024. The 2024-25 spending reflects a partial fiscal year. 2024-25 Planned Spending for CWA was embedded in ECCC's reference levels at that time.

Analysis of the past three years of spending:

The Canada Water Agency's spending increased from $0 in prior fiscal years to $43,218,773 in the 2024-2025 fiscal year. The Canada Water Agency became an independent Agency on October 15, 2024. The 2024-25 spending reflects a partial fiscal year. 2022-23 and 2023-24 fiscal year spending is $0 as the Canada Water Agency was not yet an independent Agency in Schedule IV of the Financial Administration Act.

The Finances section of the Infographic for CWA on GC Infobase offers more financial information from previous years.

Table 19.a: Planned three-year spending on core responsibilities and internal services (dollars) for ECCC

Table 19.a shows ECCC's planned spending for each of the next three years on its core responsibilities and on internal services.

Core responsibilities and internal services	2025–26 planned spending	2026–27 planned spending	2027–28 planned spending
Taking Action on Clean Growth and Climate Change	1,233,853,825	605,635,035	352,299,963
Preventing and Managing Pollution	404,092,943	358,265,397	330,678,387
Conserving Nature	952,798,212	360,902,516	356,799,658
Predicting Weather and Environmental Conditions	270,833,902	260,912,939	263,474,023
Subtotal	**2,861,578,882**	**1,585,715,887**	**1,303,252,031**
Internal services	265,692,246	245,702,271	241,469,468
Total	**3,127,271,128**	**1,831,418,158**	**1,544,721,499**

Totals may not add up due to rounding

The Canada Water Agency became an independent Agency on October 15, 2024. The 2024-25 spending reflects a partial fiscal year. 2024-25 Planned Spending for CWA was embedded in ECCC's reference levels at that time.

Analysis of the next three years of spending

Overall, there is a decrease in planned spending over the 2025-26 to 2027-28 planning horizon. This is the result of sunsetting initiatives with temporary funding and variations in funding profiles for other initiatives. Funding requests to renew sunsetting initiatives are subject to government decisions and will be reflected in future Budget exercises and Estimates documents, if approved.

Initiatives with significant decreases in funding or that will sunset in 2026-27 include:

- Statutory funding for the return of Fuel Charge Proceeds to Indigenous Governments will decrease, as all of the current proceeds have to be returned by March 31, 2026;
- Statutory funding for the Output-Based Pricing System Proceeds Fund returns;
- The sunsetting of the initiative "Conserving Canada's land and freshwater, protect species, advance Indigenous reconciliation, increase access to nature and continue efforts to protect species at risk (Enhanced Nature Legacy)";
- A decrease associated with the Our Land for the Future Trust – Northwest Territories Project Finance for Permanence, due to the up-front multi-year one-time payment in 2025-26; and
- The sunsetting of Canada's International Climate Finance program.

Major initiatives whose funding profile will decrease significantly in 2027-28 include:

- A significant reduction in the planned Output-Based Pricing System Proceeds Fund returns; and
- A decrease in contributions for the Low Carbon Economy Fund (LCEF).

The Finances section of the Infographic for ECCC on GC Infobase offers more detailed financial information related to future years.

Table 19.b: Planned three-year spending on core responsibilities and internal services (dollars) for CWA

Table 19.b shows CWA's planned spending for each of the next three years on its core responsibilities and on internal services.

Core responsibilities and Internal services	2025-26 Planned Spending	2026-27 Planned Spending	2027-28 Planned Spending
Freshwater Stewardship	$ 72,675,393	$ 68,213,311	$ 72,103,061
Subtotal	**$ 72,675,393**	**$ 68,213,311**	**$ 72,103,061**
Internal services	$12,156,438	$ 11,621,292	$ 11,273,770
Total	**$ 84,831,831**	**$ 79,834,603**	**$ 83,376,831**

Totals may not add up due to rounding

The Canada Water Agency became an independent Agency on October 15, 2024. The 2024-25 spending reflects a partial fiscal year. 2024-25 Planned Spending for CWA was embedded in ECCC's reference levels at that time.

Analysis of the next three years of spending

The decrease in Freshwater Stewardship funding from the 2025-26 to 2026-27 fiscal year is predominantly represented by the sunset of funding of certain engagement activities.

The Finances section of the Infographic for CWA on GC Infobase offers more detailed financial information related to future years.

Table 20: Budgetary actual gross spending summary (dollars)

Table 20 reconciles gross planned spending with net spending for 2024–25.

Core responsibilities and internal services	2024–25 actual gross spending	2024–25 actual revenues netted against expenditures	2024–25 actual net spending (authorities used)
Taking Action on Clean Growth and Climate Change	$1,232,484,771	$0	$1,232,484,771
Preventing and Managing Pollution	$461,681,402	$19,031,085	$442,650,317
Conserving Nature	$698,135,935	$3,990,669	$694,145,266

Core responsibilities and internal services	2024–25 actual gross spending	2024–25 actual revenues netted against expenditures	2024–25 actual net spending (authorities used)
Predicting Weather and Environmental Conditions	$331,434,356	$54,184,737	$277,249,619
Subtotal	**$2,723,736,464**	**$77,206,491**	**$2,646,529,973**
Internal services	$320,079,929	$841,403	$319,238,526
Total	**$3,043,816,393**	**$78,047,894**	**$2,965,768,499**

Totals may not add up due to rounding

The Canada Water Agency became an independent Agency on October 15, 2024. The 2024-25 spending reflects a partial fiscal year. 2024-25 Planned Spending for CWA was embedded in ECCC's reference levels at that time.

Analysis of budgetary actual gross spending summary

Environment and Climate Change Canada's major sources of revenues netted against expenditures are the following:

- Provinces who receive water quantity monitoring services (Hydrometric);
- NAV CANADA to whom ECCC provides aviation weather services;
- Third parties to which ECCC provides scientific and analytical projects services, as well as rental of non-research facilities;
- Department of National Defence, to which ECCC provides detailed weather services in support of its military operations;
- Canadian Association of Petroleum Producers, which funds the Joint Canada-Alberta implementation Plan for Oil Sands;
- Canadian Coast Guard, who receive marine and ice monitoring forecasts and services;
- Third parties to whom ECCC provides a permit to dispose of non-hazardous substances into the sea, and;
- Fees for new chemical substance notification submissions.

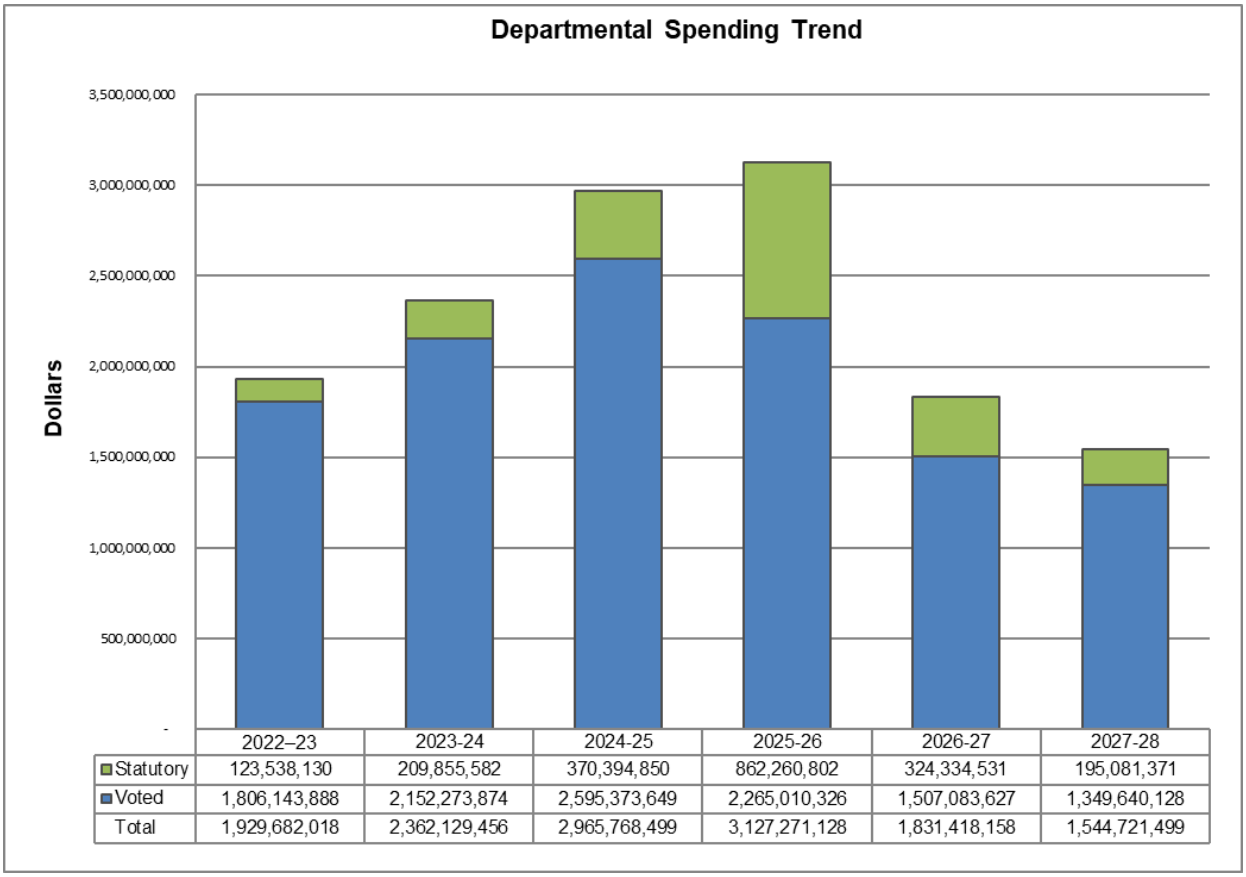
The Finances section of the Infographic for ECCC on GC Infobase offers information on the alignment of ECCC's spending with Government of Canada's spending and activities.

Funding

This section provides an overview of the Department's voted and statutory funding for its core responsibilities and for internal services. Consult the Government of Canada budgets and expenditures for further information on funding authorities.

Graph 1.a: Approved funding (statutory and voted) over a six-year period for ECCC

Graph 1.a summarizes the Department's approved voted and statutory funding from 2022-23 to 2027-28.



Text version of graph 1.a

Fiscal year	Statutory	Voted	Total
2022-23	$123,538,130	$1,806,143,888	$1,929,682,018
2023-24	$209,855,582	$2,152,273,874	$2,362,129,456
2024-25	$370,394,850	$2,595,373,649	$2,965,768,499
2025-26	$862,260,802	$2,265,010,326	$3,127,271,128
2026-27	$324,334,531	$1,507,083,627	$1,831,418,158
2027-28	$195,081,371	$1,349,640,128	$1,544,721,499

Totals may not add up due to rounding

The Canada Water Agency became an independent Agency on October 15, 2024. The 2024-25 spending reflects a partial fiscal year. 2024-25 Planned Spending for CWA was embedded in ECCC's reference levels at that time.

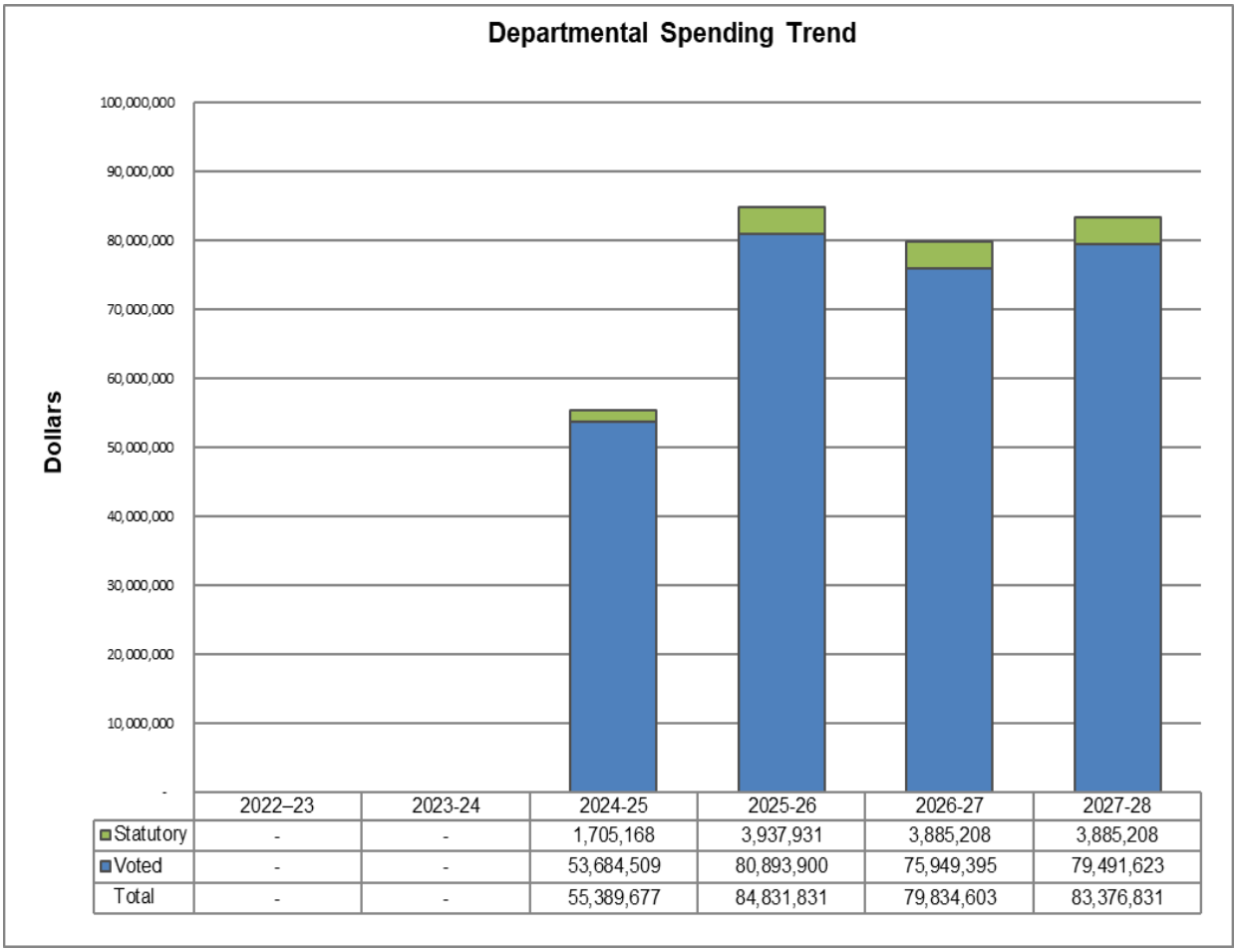
Analysis of statutory and voted funding over a six-year period

See Budgetary Performance Summary and Planned three-year spending on core responsibilities and internal services (dollars) sections above.

Consult the Public Accounts of Canada for further information on ECCC's departmental voted and statutory expenditures.

Graph 1.b: Approved funding (statutory and voted) over a six-year period for CWA

Graph 1.b summarizes the Department's approved voted and statutory funding from 2022-23 to 2027-28.



	2022–23	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28
Statutory	-	-	1,705,168	3,937,931	3,885,208	3,885,208
Voted	-	-	53,684,509	80,893,900	75,949,395	79,491,623
Total	-	-	55,389,677	84,831,831	79,834,603	83,376,831

Text version of graph 1.b

Fiscal year	Statutory	Voted	Total
2022-23	0	0	0
2023-24	0	0	0
2024-25	$1,705,168	$53,684,509	$55,389,677
2025-26	$3,937,931	$80,893,900	$84,831,831
2026-27	$3,885,208	$75,949,395	$79,834,603
2027-28	$3,885,208,	$79,491,623	$83,376,831

Totals may not add up due to rounding

The Canada Water Agency became an independent Agency on October 15, 2024. The 2024-25 spending reflects a partial fiscal year. 2024-25 Planned Spending for CWA was embedded in ECCC's reference levels at that time.

The 2024-25 fiscal year represents the authorities available for use.

Analysis of statutory and voted funding over a six-year period

The 2022-23 and 2023-24 statutory and voted funding is zero as the Agency's inception was on October 15, 2024. The Canada Water Agency's first year of statutory and voted funding is in the 2024-2025 fiscal year. This year is a partial year beginning on October 15, 2024, and ending on March 31, 2025.
The decrease in funding from the 2025-26 to 2026-27 fiscal year is predominantly represented by the sunset of funding for certain engagement activities.

Consult the Public Accounts of Canada for further information on CWA's departmental voted and statutory expenditures.

Financial statement highlights

ECCC's complete financial statements (unaudited) for the year ended March 31, 2025 are available online.

Table 21.a: Condensed Statement of Operations (unaudited or audited) for the year ended March 31, 2025 (dollars) for ECCC

Table 21.a summarizes the expenses and revenues for 2024–25 which net to the cost of operations before government funding and transfers.

Financial information	2024–25 actual results	2024–25 planned results	Difference (actual results minus planned)
Total expenses	3,145,085,328	3,008,321,421	136,763,907
Total revenues	103,538,687	106,889,059	-3,350,372
Net cost of operations before government funding and transfers	3,041,546,641	2,901,432,362	140,114,279

Analysis of expenses and revenues for 2024-25

Total departmental expenses by Core Responsibility amounted to $3,145.1 million for 2024-25. The increase of $136.8 million or 4.5 percent in Environment and Climate Change Canada's planned results is mainly attributable to an increase to contributions in support of the Output-Based Pricing System (OBPS) Proceeds Fund and to grants to return charge proceeds to Indigenous Governments.

The 2024–25 planned results information is provided in ECCC's Future-Oriented Statement of Operations and Notes 2024–25.

Table 21.b: Condensed Statement of Operations (unaudited or audited) for the year ended March 31, 2025 (dollars) for CWA

Table 21.b summarizes the expenses and revenues for 2024–25 which net to the cost of operations before government funding and transfers.

Financial information	2024–25 actual results	2024–25 planned results	Difference (actual results minus planned)
Total expenses	56,451,580	70,647,580	-14,196,000

Financial information	2024–25 actual results	2024–25 planned results	Difference (actual results minus planned)
Total revenues	10,877,779	15,407,196	-4,529,417
Net cost of operations before government funding and transfers	45,573,801	55,240,384	-9,666,583

Totals may not add up due to rounding

The Canada Water Agency (CWA) became an independent Agency on October 15, 2024. The 2024-25 spending reflects a partial fiscal year. 2024-25 Planned Spending for CWA was embedded in ECCC's reference levels at that time.

The 2024–25 planned results information is provided in CWA's Future-Oriented Statement of Operations and Notes 2024–25.

Table 22.a: Condensed Statement of Operations (unaudited or audited) for 2023-24 and 2024-25 (dollars) for ECCC

Table 22.a summarizes actual expenses and revenues which net to the cost of operations before government funding and transfers.

Financial information	2024–25 actual results	2023–24 actual results	Difference (2024-25 minus 2023-24)
Total expenses	3,145,085,328	2,647,017,312	498,068,016
Total revenues	103,538,687	91,134,382	12,404,305
Net cost of operations before government funding and transfers	3,041,546,641	2,555,882,930	485,663,711

Analysis of differences in expenses and revenues between 2023-24 and 2024-25

Expenses by Core Responsibility

Total departmental expenses by Core Responsibility amounted to $3,145.1 million for 2024-25 ($2,647.0 million for 2023-24). The increase of $498.1 million or 18.82 percent in Environment and Climate Change Canada's expenses is mainly attributable to:

- an up-front contribution payment to the Green Municipal Fund to build strong and resilient communities by reducing the impacts of climate-related disasters, improving health and well-being, protecting and restoring nature and biodiversity, building and maintaining resilient infrastructure and supporting the economy and workers; and
- an increase in salary and employee benefits.

Offset by:

- a decrease in Great Lake Ecosystem Initiatives due to the transfer of activities to the Canada Water Agency (CWA) on October 15, 2024.

Revenues by Type

Total revenues amounted to $103.5 million for 2024-25 ($91.1 million for 2023-24). This amount excludes $28.4 million earned on behalf of Government. Revenues at Environment and Climate Change Canada come mostly from sales of goods and information products and services of a non-regulatory nature. Major revenue items include, for example: Oil Sands monitoring activities, Ocean disposal permit applications, Hydrometric services, Ocean disposal monitoring fees, Weather and environmental services as well as fines and court orders directed to the Environmental Damages Fund.

The increase in Environment and Climate Change Canada's revenue is mainly attributable to:

- an increase in deferred revenues for the Randle Reef project which occurred before the Canada Water Agency (CWA) came into force on October 15, 2024. As of March 31, this project is under CWA's mandate.
- an increase in services of a non-regulatory nature.

Table 22.b: Condensed Statement of Operations (unaudited or audited) for 2023-24 and 2024-25 (dollars) for CWA

Table 22.b summarizes actual expenses and revenues which net to the cost of operations before government funding and transfers.

Financial information	2024–25 actual results	2023–24 actual results	Difference (2024-25 minus 2023-24)
Total expenses	56,451,580	0	56,451,580
Total revenues	10,877,779	0	10,877,779
Net cost of operations before government funding and transfers	45,573,801	0	45,573,801

Totals may not add up due to rounding

The Canada Water Agency (CWA) became an independent Agency on October 15, 2024. The 2024-25 spending reflects a partial fiscal year. 2024-25 Planned Spending for CWA was embedded in ECCC's reference levels at that time.

Table 23.a: Condensed Statement of Financial Position (unaudited or audited) as of March 31, 2025 (dollars) for ECCC

Table 23.a provides a brief snapshot of the amounts the Department owes or must spend (liabilities) and its available resources (assets), which helps to indicate its ability to carry out programs and services.

Financial information	Actual fiscal year (2024–25)	Previous fiscal year (2023–24)	Difference (2024–25 minus 2023–24)
Total net liabilities	1,230,138,860	1,407,484,413	-177,345,553
Total net financial assets	810,181,997	929,241,972	-119,059,975
Departmental net debt	419,956,863	478,242,441	-58,285,578

Financial information	Actual fiscal year (2024–25)	Previous fiscal year (2023–24)	Difference (2024–25 minus 2023–24)
Total non-financial assets	750,819,590	704,605,488	46,214,102
Departmental net financial position	330,862,727	226,363,047	104,499,680

Analysis of department's liabilities and assets since last fiscal year

Liabilities by Type

Total liabilities were $1,230.1 million at the end of 2024-25. This represents a decrease of $177.3 million or 12.6 percent from the previous year's total liabilities of $1,407.5 million. The accounts payable and accrued liabilities ($815.5 million) and the environmental liabilities and asset retirement obligation ($277.9 million) are the largest components of liabilities in 2024-25 and represent 89.0 percent of total liabilities.

The decrease in Environment and Climate Change Canada's total net liabilities valuation is mainly attributable to a decrease in:

- accrued liabilities mostly resulting from a decrease in outstanding payables at year-end in Grants and Contributions,
- deferred revenues resulting from the transfer of responsibility to Canada Water Agency of some miscellaneous project deposits, and,
- environmental liabilities.

Assets by Type

Total net financial assets ($810.2 million) and non-financial assets ($750.8 million) of $1,561.0 million have decreased by $72.8 million or 6.25 percent in 2024-25. The amount due from the Consolidated Revenue Fund represents the largest component of assets at $806.1 million (51.6 percent of total assets) in 2024-25.

The decrease in Environment and Climate Change Canada's total net assets valuation is mainly attributable to a decrease in:

- financial asset mainly due to a decrease in accounts receivable

Offset by an increase in:

- non-financial assets primarily due to an increase in tangible capital assets.

Table 23.b: Condensed Statement of Financial Position (unaudited or audited) as of March 31, 2025 (dollars) for CWA

Table 23.b provides a brief snapshot of the amounts the Department owes or must spend (liabilities) and its available resources (assets), which helps to indicate its ability to carry out programs and services.

Financial information	Actual fiscal year (2024–25)	Previous fiscal year (2023–24)	Difference (2024–25 minus 2023–24)
Total net liabilities	41,596,255	0	41,596,255
Total net financial assets	14,898,297	0	14,898,297

Financial information	Actual fiscal year (2024–25)	Previous fiscal year (2023–24)	Difference (2024–25 minus 2023–24)
Departmental net debt	26,697,957	0	26,697,957
Total non-financial assets	39,374	0	39,374
Departmental net financial position	26,658,583	0	26,658,583

Totals may not add up due to rounding

The Canada Water Agency (CWA) became an independent Agency on October 15, 2024. The 2024-25 spending reflects a partial fiscal year. 2024-25 Planned Spending for CWA was embedded in ECCC's reference levels at that time.

See the CWA's draft Financial Statements (Unaudited) for the Year Ended March 31, 2025. CWA's Financial Statements will not be finalized and published until September 12, 2025.

Human resources

This section presents an overview of the Department's actual and planned human resources from 2022-23 to 2027-28.

Table 24.a: Actual human resources for core responsibilities and internal services for ECCC

Table 24.a shows a summary in full-time equivalents (FTEs) of human resources for ECCC's core responsibilities and for its internal services for the previous three fiscal years.

Core responsibilities and internal services	2022–23 actual FTEs	2023–24 actual FTEs	2024–25 actual FTEs
Taking Action on Clean Growth and Climate Change	883	1,056	1,161
Preventing and Managing Pollution	2,255	2,334	2,335
Conserving Nature	1,487	1,568	1,561
Predicting Weather and Environmental Conditions	1,722	1,733	1,772
Subtotal	**6,347**	**6,691**	**6,829**
Internal services	1,797	1,880	1,974
Total	**8,144**	**8,571**	**8,803**

Totals may not add up due to rounding

The Canada Water Agency (CWA) became an independent Agency on October 15, 2024. The 2024-25 spending reflects a partial fiscal year. 2024-25 Planned Spending for CWA was embedded in ECCC's reference levels at that time.

Analysis of human resources over the last three years

For fiscal years 2022-23 and 2023-24, the figures shown represent the actual FTEs as reported in previous Departmental Results Reports.

The overall increase of 427 FTEs between 2022-23 and 2023-24 is the result of increasing activities within the Department, such as:

- the implementation of the next phase of the Oceans Protection Plan;
- the ongoing development, implementation and administration of carbon pricing and *Clean Fuel Regulations*;
- the renewal and reprofile of the Low Carbon Economy Fund;
- to advance a circular economy for Plastics in Canada;
- the renewal of the *Impact Assessment Act*;
- the top up of the Nature Smart Climate Solutions Fund;
- to support amendments to the *Canadian Environmental Protection Act, 1999;* and
- for Canada's National Adaptation Strategy, including the Canadian Centre for Climate Services.

The overall increase of 232 actual FTEs between 2023−24 and 2024−25 is the result of increasing activities within the Department, such as:

- increase in digital services for new projects in 2024-25 such as for the Regulatory Services and Stakeholder Management platforms;
- the ongoing development, implementation and administration of carbon pricing and *Clean Fuel Regulations*;
- increasing capacity and support for various activities under the Meteorological Services; and,
- top up funding for the Canadian Centre Climate Services under the National Adaptation Strategy.

Offset by decreasing activities related to:

- the Canada Water Agency becoming a stand-alone agency as of October 15, 2024; and;
- Conserving Canada's land and freshwater, protecting species, advancing Indigenous reconciliation, increasing access to nature and continuing efforts to protect species at risk (Enhanced Nature Legacy)

Table 24.b: Actual human resources for core responsibilities and internal services for CWA

Table 24.b shows a summary in full-time equivalents (FTEs) of human resources for CWA's core responsibilities and for its internal services for the previous three fiscal years.

Core responsibilities and internal services	2022–23 actual full-time equivalents	2023–24 actual full-time equivalents	2024–25 actual full-time equivalents
Freshwater Stewardship	0	0	80
Subtotal	**0**	**0**	**80**
Internal services	0	0	27

Core responsibilities and internal services	2022–23 actual full-time equivalents	2023–24 actual full-time equivalents	2024–25 actual full-time equivalents
Total	**0**	**0**	**107**

Totals may not add up due to rounding

The Canada Water Agency (CWA) became an independent Agency on October 15, 2024. The 2024-25 spending reflects a partial fiscal year. 2024-25 Planned Spending for CWA was embedded in ECCC's reference levels at that time.

Table 25.a: Human resources planning summary for core responsibilities and internal services for ECCC

Table 25.a shows the planned full-time equivalents (FTEs), for each of ECCC's core responsibilities and for its internal services for the next three years. Human resources for the current fiscal year are forecasted based on year to date.

Core responsibilities and internal services	2025–26 planned FTEs	2026–27 planned FTEs	2027–28 planned FTEs
Taking Action on Clean Growth and Climate Change	1,065	827	829
Preventing and Managing Pollution	2,238	2,102	1,980
Conserving Nature	1,474	1,191	1,191
Predicting Weather and Environmental Conditions	1,688	1,693	1,696
Subtotal	**6,465**	**5,813**	**5,696**
Internal services	1,927	1,842	1,824
Total	**8,392**	**7,655**	**7,520**

Totals may not add up due to rounding

The Canada Water Agency (CWA) became an independent Agency on October 15, 2024. The 2024-25 spending reflects a partial fiscal year. 2024-25 Planned Spending for CWA was embedded in ECCC's reference levels at that time.

Analysis of human resources for the next three years

One FTE equals one person working a 37.5-hour work week for the entire year, or any number of part-time employees whose combined hours of work equal one FTE.

Overall, there is a decreasing trend in planned FTEs over the 2025-26 to 2027-28 planning horizon. This is the result of sunsetting initiatives with temporary funding. Funding requests to renew such initiatives are subject to government decisions and will be reflected in future Budget exercises and Estimates documents if approved.

The overall decrease of 737 FTEs between the 2025-26 and 2026-27 planned FTEs is the result of a decrease in funding profile and sunsetting initiatives with temporary funding related to:

- Greenhouse gas emissions in the transportation and waste sectors, administration of carbon pollution proceeds return, enhancing climate change policy capacity and implementing the Climate Lens, under the Taking Action on Clean Growth and Climate Change Core Responsibility;
- Protecting Canadians and the Environment from harmful chemical through the Chemicals Management Plan (CMP), under the Preventing and Managing Pollution Core Responsibility; and
- Conserving Canada's land and freshwater, protecting species, advancing Indigenous reconciliation, increasing access to nature and continuing efforts to protect species at risk (Enhanced Nature Legacy) and implementing Canada's new marine conservation targets under the Conserving Nature Core Responsibility.

The overall decrease of 135 FTEs between the 2026-27 and 2027-28 planned FTEs is the result of the sunsetting of initiatives for advancing a circular economy for plastics in Canada and strengthening environmental protection for a healthier Canada (CEPA), under the Preventing and Managing Pollution Core Responsibility.

Table 25.b: Human resources planning summary for core responsibilities and internal services for CWA

Table 25.b shows the planned full-time equivalents (FTEs), for each of CWA's core responsibilities and for its internal services for the next three years. Human resources for the current fiscal year are forecasted based on year to date.

Core responsibilities and internal services	2025–26 planned full-time equivalents	2026–27 planned full-time equivalents	2027–28 planned full-time equivalents
Freshwater Stewardship	165	163	163
Subtotal	**165**	**163**	**163**
Internal services	58	58	58
Total	**223**	**221**	**221**

Totals may not add up due to rounding

The Canada Water Agency (CWA) became an independent Agency on October 15, 2024. The 2024-25 spending reflects a partial fiscal year. 2024-25 Planned Spending for CWA was embedded in ECCC's reference levels at that time.

Analysis of human resources for the next three years

One FTE equals one person working a 37.5-hour work week for the entire year, or any number of part-time employees whose combined hours of work equal one FTE.

The decrease in FTEs from the 2025-26 to 2026-27 fiscal year is attributed to the sunset of funding related to the freshwater pillars contributions agreements netted against the increased funding for the Fraser, Wolastoq/Saint John, Mackenzie River, and the St. Lawrence River Basins.

Supplementary information tables

The following supplementary information tables are available on ECCC's website:

- Details on transfer payment programs
- Up front multi-year funding
- Gender-based Analysis Plus
- Horizontal initiatives
- Response to Parliamentary committees and external audits
- Regulatory and Permitting Efficiency for Clean Growth Projects

Federal tax expenditures

The tax system can be used to achieve public policy objectives through the application of special measures such as low tax rates, exemptions, deductions, deferrals and credits. The Department of Finance Canada publishes cost estimates and projections for these measures each year in the Report on Federal Tax Expenditures. This report also provides detailed background information on tax expenditures, including descriptions, objectives, historical information and references to related federal spending programs as well as evaluations and GBA Plus of tax expenditures.

Corporate information

Departmental profile

Appropriate minister: Julie Dabrusin, P.C., M.P.

Institutional head: Mollie Johnson

Ministerial portfolio: Environment and Climate Change Canada

Enabling instruments:

- *Department of the Environment Act, 1971*
- *Canadian Environmental Protection Act, 1999*
- *Fisheries Act, 1985* (administration and enforcement of the Pollution Prevention Provisions)
- *Greenhouse Gas Pollution Pricing Act, 2018* (joint responsibility with Finance Canada)
- *Species at Risk Act, 2004*
- *Manganese-based Fuel Additives Act, 1997*
- *Antarctic Environmental Protection Act, 2003*
- *Perfluorooctane Sulfonate Virtual Elimination Act, 2008*
- *Canada Wildlife Act, 1985*
- *Migratory Birds Convention Act, 1994*
- *Wild Animal and Plant Protection and Regulation of International and Interprovincial Trade Act, 1992*
- *National Wildlife Week Act, 1985*
- *Canada Water Act, 1985*
- *International River Improvements Act,1985*
- *Lake of the Woods Control Board Act, 1921*
- *Canada Emission Reduction Incentives Agency Act, 2005*
- *Weather Modification Information Act, 1985*
- *Canadian Environmental Week Act, 1985*
- *Environmental Enforcement Act, 2010*
- *Environmental Violations Administrative Monetary Penalties Act, 2009*
- *Federal Sustainable Development Act, 2008*

- *National Strategy for Safe and Environmentally Sound Disposal of Lamps Containing Mercury Act, 2017*
- *Arctic Waters Pollution Prevention Act, 1985*
- *Bridge to Strengthen Trade Act, 2012*
- *Canada Foundation for Sustainable Development Technology Act, 2001*
- *Canada Oil and Gas Operations Act, 1985*
- *Canada-Newfoundland Atlantic Accord Implementation Act, 1987*
- *Canada-Nova Scotia Offshore Petroleum Resources Accord Implementation Act, 1988*
- *Energy Supplies Emergency Act, 1985*
- *Income Tax Act, 1985*
- *Marine Liability Act, 2001*
- *Nunavut Planning and Project Assessment Act, 2013*
- *Resources and Technical Surveys Act, 1985*
- *Yukon Environmental and Socio-economic Assessment Act, 2003*

Year of incorporation / commencement: 1971

Departmental contact information

Mailing address:
Environment and Climate Change Canada
Public Inquiries Centre
Place Vincent Massey Building
351 Saint-Joseph Boulevard
Gatineau QC K1A 0H3

Telephone: 1-800-668-6767

Email: enviroinfo@ec.gc.ca

Website(s): https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change.html

Definitions

appropriation (crédit)

Any authority of Parliament to pay money out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund.

budgetary expenditures (dépenses budgétaires)

Operating and capital expenditures; transfer payments to other levels of government, departments or individuals; and payments to Crown corporations.

core responsibility (responsabilité essentielle)

An enduring function or role of a department. The departmental results listed for a core responsibility reflect the outcomes that the department seeks to influence or achieve.

Departmental Plan (plan ministériel)

A report that outlines the anticipated activities and expected performance of an appropriated department over a 3-year period. Departmental Plans are usually tabled in Parliament in spring.

departmental priority (priorité)

A plan, project or activity that a department focuses and reports on during a specific planning period. Priorities represent the most important things to be done or those to be addressed first to help achieve the desired departmental results.

departmental result (résultat ministériel)

A high-level outcome related to the core responsibilities of a department.

departmental result indicator (indicateur de résultat ministériel)

A quantitative or qualitative measure that assesses progress toward a departmental result.

departmental results framework (cadre ministériel des résultats)

A framework that connects the department's core responsibilities to its departmental results and departmental result indicators.

Departmental Results Report (rapport sur les résultats ministériels)

A report outlining a department's accomplishments against the plans, priorities and expected results set out in the corresponding Departmental Plan.

Full-time equivalent (équivalent temps plein)

Measures the person years in a departmental budget. An employee's scheduled hours per week divided by the employer's hours for a full-time workweek calculates a full-time equivalent. For example, an employee who works 20 hours in a 40-hour standard workweek represents a 0.5 full-time equivalent.

Gender-based Analysis Plus (GBA Plus) (analyse comparative entre les sexes plus [ACS Plus])

An analytical tool that helps to understand the ways diverse individuals experience policies, programs and other initiatives. Applying GBA Plus to policies, programs and other initiatives helps to identify the different needs of the people affected, the ways to be more responsive and inclusive, and the methods to anticipate and mitigate potential barriers to accessing or benefitting from the initiative. GBA Plus goes beyond biological (sex) and socio-cultural (gender) differences to consider other factors, such as age, disability, education, ethnicity, economic status, geography (including rurality), language, race, religion, and sexual orientation.

government priorities (priorités pangouvernementales)

For the purpose of the 2024–25 Departmental Results Report, government priorities are the high-level themes outlining the government's agenda as announced in the 2021 Speech from the Throne.

horizontal initiative (initiative horizontale)

A program, project or other initiative where two or more federal departments receive funding to work collaboratively on a shared outcome usually linked to a government priority, and where the ministers involved agree to designate it as horizontal. Specific reporting requirements apply, including that the lead department must report on combined expenditures and results.

Indigenous business (entreprise autochtones)

For the purposes of a Departmental Result Report, this includes any entity that meets the Indigenous Services Canada's criteria of being owned and operated by Elders, band and tribal councils, registered in the Indigenous Business Directory or registered on a modern treaty beneficiary business list.

non-budgetary expenditures (dépenses non budgétaires)

Net outlays and receipts related to loans, investments and advances, which change the composition of the financial assets of the Government of Canada.

performance (rendement)

What a department did with its resources to achieve its results, how well those results compare to what the department intended to achieve, and how well lessons learned have been identified.

performance indicator (indicateur de rendement)

A qualitative or quantitative measure that assesses progress toward a departmental-level or program-level result, or the expected outputs or outcomes of a program, policy or initiative.

plan (plan)

The articulation of strategic choices, which provides information on how a department intends to achieve its priorities and associated results. Generally, a plan will explain the logic behind the strategies chosen and tend to focus on actions that lead to the expected result.

planned spending (dépenses prévues)

For Departmental Plans and Departmental Results Reports, planned spending refers to the amounts presented in Main Estimates. Departments must determine their planned spending and be able to defend the financial numbers presented in their Departmental Plans and Departmental Results Reports.

program (programme)

An Individual, group, or combination of services and activities managed together within a department and focused on a specific set of outputs, outcomes or service levels.

program inventory (répertoire des programmes)

A listing that identifies all the department's programs and the resources that contribute to delivering on the department's core responsibilities and achieving its results.

result (résultat)

An outcome or output related to the activities of a department, policy, program or initiative.

statutory expenditures (dépenses législatives)

Spending approved through legislation passed in Parliament, other than appropriation acts. The legislation sets out the purpose and the terms and conditions of the expenditures.

target (cible)

A quantitative or qualitative, measurable goal that a department, program or initiative plans to achieve within a specified time period.

voted expenditures (dépenses votées)

Spending approved annually through an appropriation act passed in Parliament. The vote also outlines the conditions that govern the spending.