



2001-02 Annual Report
GOVERNMENT OF ALBERTA

Measuring Up

Measuring Up

ABOUT MEASURING UP . . .

PURPOSE OF MEASURING UP

This is the eighth annual *Measuring Up* report to Albertans. The purpose of *Measuring Up* is to report on progress in achieving goals that are important to Albertans. *Measuring Up* meets the government commitment to manage for results. *Measuring Up* also meets the government's commitment to be open and accountable.

REPORTING ON RESULTS

The results reported in this year's *Measuring Up* relate to the *Government of Alberta Business Plan 2001-04* published as part of *Budget 2001: The Future - Meeting Priorities, Sharing Benefits* (see Appendix II). The goals and strategies for 2001-02 focused on:

- Improving health care,
- Striving for excellence in education,
- Continuing the tradition of prudent fiscal management and low taxes,
- Caring for children and supporting seniors and families, and
- Investing in infrastructure.

STRUCTURE OF PERFORMANCE REPORTING

The government's business plan is an ongoing three-year plan that focuses the government's efforts on three core businesses - *People, Prosperity* and *Preservation*. Goals are established for each of the cores businesses. To track progress in meeting goals, "core" measures are determined and targets set. Each year in *Measuring Up* the government reports to Albertans on progress made towards achieving the goals set out in the government business plan. This report covers the *Alberta Business Plan 2001-04*, which set out 19 goals and 27 core performance measures.

To measure Alberta's overall economic, social and environmental performance, 27 measures may not seem like a lot. The intention is to focus on high-level measures that give Albertans a good overall indication of progress towards achievement of Alberta's goals. In some sense, the core measures are like the gauges on the dashboard of a car providing the most essential information. Supplemental information on the core measures is also provided in *Measuring Up* to give citizens more information. As well, in response to a recommendation from the Auditor General, this year's *Measuring Up* includes an explanation on how major influences or external factors affected performance results. This will help readers better assess performance over the past year. One example is land quality, which shows a need for improvement; however, the biggest factor was the drought in southern Alberta.

More detail on performance is provided to Albertans through ministries' annual reports, which is the second tier of reporting to Albertans on performance. Each ministry prepares a set of "key" performance measures that relate to their business plan goals. These measures are reported in the fall of each year.

DATA QUALITY

One of the most important issues in performance reporting is data quality. A performance measure is only relevant to the extent that data is available and reliable. In real life, often up-to-date data isn't available because of reporting lags especially if international reporting is involved. As well, external sources are often not available for provincial measures and in some cases external authorities stop publishing data on a provincial basis, which means that new data sources must be found, or the indicator changed. *Measuring Up* uses the most current data available from the

most reliable sources. To provide consistency over time, *Measuring Up* endeavors to use the same measure and data sources but sometimes changes are necessary.

INTERRELATIONSHIPS BETWEEN CORE MEASURES

Each core measure is important in its own right but should not be considered in isolation since there are linkages among some core measures. One example is the economic growth core measure. A strongly growing provincial economy will tend to influence some performance measures like employment growth positively and some other performance indicators like workplace climate negatively.

WE'RE ALL INVOLVED

Measuring Up reports on progress in meeting goals of importance to Albertans. The extent to which the performance measure meets its target provides a comment on the strategies being used by the government. At the same time, the ability to meet targets for core measures often depends on the actions of all Albertans and on external events. For example, the GDP core measure depends on the policies of the government to foster economic growth. In addition, economic growth also depends on the actions of Alberta households and businesses and on the strength of the world economy, as Alberta is an open trade based economy. Another example is the life expectancy core measure, which is an internationally recognized performance indicator. There is a role for government in achieving our target to be among the top ten in the world. There is also a role for individual Albertans through lifestyle choices. Reaching our goals involves a partnership between the government and Albertans.

CROSS-MINISTRY INITIATIVES

Each year, the government business plan focuses on four priority cross-ministry initiatives. The 2001-02 initiatives are the Aboriginal Policy Initiative, the Economic Development Strategy, the Seniors Policy Initiative and the Children and Youth Services Initiative.

The cross-ministry initiatives recognize that issues cut across ministries. Finding innovative and effective ways of addressing Albertans' needs requires the cooperation of more than one ministry. Information on the government's progress in relation to the goals established for each of the four cross-ministry initiatives can be found in Appendix IV.

REPORT CARD

Measuring Up includes a performance summary, which is like a "report card". Like last year, performance is compared to the previous year and, as a new addition in this year's *Measuring Up*, performance is also compared to the target that has been set.

Symbols are used to assist the reader. "Up" (↑) arrows are used to show movement toward a goal and similarly a "down" (↓) arrow shows movement away from a goal and a need for improvement. For an arrow to be used there must have been a movement of 5% or more since last year. If there has been no significant change from last year, or no new data is available, a horizontal line (-) is used. In some cases, like Alberta achieving its targets of having a triple A credit rating and the lowest personal taxes in Canada, there is no room in a ranking sense for improvement so maintaining our standing is the best possible position.

AN INVITATION TO RATE OUR PERFORMANCE

After reading *Measuring Up*, please tell us what you think of it. A readership survey is provided for you to mail or fax to us. You can also contact us by e-mail at measuringup@gov.ab.ca.

Report of the Auditor General on the Results of Applying Specified Auditing Procedures to Performance Information



TO THE MEMBERS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

In connection with the Province of Alberta's core measures and supplemental information included in the Government of Alberta Annual Report for the year ended March 31, 2002, I have:

Core Measures

1. agreed information from an external organization to reports from the organization, or where information is reported as not available, confirmed that the information is not available.
2. agreed information from reports that originated within the Government of Alberta to source reports. In addition, I tested the procedures used to compile the underlying data into the source reports.
3. checked that the presentation of results is consistent with the methodology stated in Appendix I.
4. checked that the results presented are comparable to stated targets, and information presented in prior years.
5. checked that the core measures, as well as targets, agree to and include results for all of the measures presented in Budget 2001.

Supplemental Information

6. agreed the information to source reports. In addition, I checked that the supporting narrative is consistent with the information.

As a result of applying the above procedures, I found no exceptions. These procedures, however, do not constitute an audit and therefore I express no opinion on the core measures and supplemental information included in the Government of Alberta Annual Report for the year ended March 31, 2002.

[original signed]

Fred J. Dunn, CA
Auditor General

Edmonton, Alberta
June 19, 2002

People – 2001-2002 Performance Summary

↑ Improved performance (5% higher)
– No significant change / data unavailable
↓ Declining performance (5% lower)

	Goals	Measures	Results
1	Albertans will be healthy.	Life Expectancy at Birth	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Target Achieved. In 2000, life expectancy for Alberta females was 82 years (compared to 81.8 years in 1999). Alberta females ranked 7th among countries (compared to 10th in the revised 1999 rankings). Target is to be among the top ten countries in the world. – Target Achieved. Life expectancy for Alberta males was 77.1 years (compared to 76.8 years in 1999). Alberta males ranked 3rd in 2000 as well as 3rd in the revised 1999 rankings. Target is to be among the top ten countries in the world.
		Health Status	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ↓ In 2001, the percentage of Albertans aged 65 years and over who rated their health as "good", "very good" or "excellent" decreased from 79% to 72%, below the target of 80%. ↓ The percentage of Albertans age 18-64 years who rated their health as "very good" or "excellent" has decreased from 66% to 63%, below the target of 70%.
2	Our children will be well cared for, safe, successful at learning and healthy.	Well-Being of Children	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Based on a preliminary version of the Market Basket Measure, in 1997, Alberta had the highest percentage of children (91%) living in families with incomes above the MBM low-income threshold, compared to other provinces. The MBM methodology has been revised and Statistics Canada anticipates that the data for 2000 will be released in the Fall of 2002.
3	Alberta students will excel.	Educational Attainment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Target Achieved for High School Completion. In a survey for 2001, 90.1% of Albertans aged 25-34 had completed high school, meeting the target of 90%. In 2000, 89.7% completed high school. ↑ In a survey for 2001, 58.9% had completed post-secondary, very close to the target of 60% and an improvement over 2000 when 56.1% completed post-secondary.
		Literacy and Numeracy Levels	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Target Achieved for Language Arts. In 2000-01, 89% of Alberta students writing the provincial achievement tests achieved the language arts standard, exceeding the target of 85%. In 1999-00, 90% achieved the language arts standard. – In 2000-01, 75% achieved the mathematics standard, below the target of 85%, but an improvement over 1999-00 when 74% achieved the standard.
4	Albertans will be independent.	Economic Status of Albertans (New)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Based on a preliminary version of the Market Basket Measure, in 1997, Alberta had the highest percentage of people (92%) living with incomes above the MBM low-income threshold, compared to other provinces. The MBM methodology has been revised and Statistics Canada anticipates that the data for 2000 will be released in in the Fall of 2002.
5	Albertans unable to provide for their basic needs will receive help.	Economic Status of Albertans	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Same MBM metric as above.
6	The well-being and self-reliance of Aboriginal people will be comparable to that of other Albertans.	Aboriginal Well-Being	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Census data provides the best information available at this time. Data from the 2001 Canada Census will be available in 2003. New methods are being considered to further the collection of survey data within the Aboriginal population.

Prosperity – 2001-2002 Performance Summary

↑ Improved performance (5% higher)
– No significant change / data unavailable
↓ Declining performance (5% lower)

	Goals	Measures	Results
7	Alberta will have a prosperous economy.	Gross Domestic Product	<p>↑ Target Achieved - Three-year average annual growth rate of 12.0% for 1999 to 2001, up from 10.1% for 1998 to 2000 and far exceeding the target range of 4 to 6%.</p>
		Job Growth	<p>↑ 43,900 net new jobs created in 2001 up from 34,900 in 2000. 78,800 net new jobs were created over the two-year period ending December 31, 2001, progressing toward the target to create 295,000 jobs by 2005.</p>
8	Alberta's workforce will be skilled and productive.	Skill Development	<p>– 87.6% of employers were satisfied with the skills of recent degree or diploma graduates in 2001-02 compared to 86.5% in 1999-00 (biannual survey), gaining slightly on the target of 90%.</p>
9	Alberta businesses will be increasingly innovative.	Business Innovation	<p>– Data for Alberta business use of the Internet to sell goods and services is not available from Statistics Canada as had been expected. A new expanded core measure for this goal will be presented next year.</p>
10	Alberta's value-added industries will lead economic growth.	Value-Added Industries (New)	<p>– In 2000, the value-added sector grew by 5.1% and accounted for 30.7% of Alberta's real GDP, the same percentage as 1999, not achieving the target to increase.</p>
11	Alberta will have effective and efficient infrastructure.	Infrastructure Capacity	<p>– Target Achieved - In 2001, 95.4% of rural sections of the National Highway System were at Level of Service B or better, approximately the same as last year (95.5%), meeting the target of 95% based on updated methodology.</p> <p>– Target Achieved – In 2001, export gas pipeline capacity was sufficient to exceed demand. Utilization was at 88% of capacity compared to 91% in 2000.</p> <p>↑ Target Achieved - Industry and non-profit sponsored research at 28.2% of total university sponsored research in 2000-01, up from 26.5% in 1999-00 and satisfying the target to increase.</p>
12	Alberta will have a financially stable, open and accountable government.	Taxation Load	<p>– Target Achieved - Maintained the lowest provincial tax load on persons among the provinces in 2001-02 (55.2% of provincial average, up from 49.8% in 2000-01).</p> <p>– Maintained the 2nd lowest provincial tax load on business (84.1% of the provincial average, up from 82.4% in 2000-01), and off target to have the lowest tax load on business.</p>
		Provincial Credit Rating	<p>– Target Achieved – Maintained Alberta's triple A credit rating, earning the highest possible rating from all three major credit rating agencies. Alberta is the only province to have a triple A credit rating, achieving the target to be highest among the provinces.</p>
		Accumulated Debt	<p>↑ Target Achieved - At March 31, 2002 accumulated debt less \$2.7 billion cash set aside for future debt repayment was \$5.7 billion, compared to \$8.2 billion as of March 31, 2001. Debt repayment has exceeded the target set for 2004-05, reducing the repayment period by an estimated 10 years (2014-15).</p>
		Cost of Government	<p>↓ Per capita government expenditure in 2000-01 at 104% of the average per capita expenditure of the nine other provinces, up from 95% in 1999-00, and moving off the target of 95%.</p>
13	Alberta will have a fair and safe work environment.	Workplace Climate	<p>↑ Target Achieved - 2nd lowest among the provinces for person-days lost due to work stoppages in 2001, up from 4th lowest in 2000 and meeting the target to be among the three lowest.</p> <p>– 3rd lowest among the provinces for workplace injury and disease in 1999, satisfying the target. Results for 2000 unavailable at time of publication.</p>
14	Alberta businesses will increase exports.	Export Trade (New)	<p>– International value-added exports were \$22.6 billion in 2001 (preliminary estimate), down 4.2% from \$23.6 billion in 2000 and moving away from the target to reach \$28.5 billion by 2004.</p>

Preservation – 2001-2002 Performance Summary

↑ Improved performance (5% higher)

– No significant change / data unavailable

↓ Declining performance (5% lower)

Goals	Measures	Results
15	Alberta will be a safe place to live and raise families.	<p>Crime Rate</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – In 2000, the Alberta violent crime rate increased less than the Canadian rate closing the gap between the national and Alberta violent crime rates by 3%. Alberta's violent crime rate was 8% higher than the targeted Canadian average rate. – In 2000, Alberta's property crime rate decreased more than the Canadian rate closing the gap between the national and Alberta property crime rates by 3%. Alberta's property crime rate was 9% above the targeted Canadian average rate.
16	Alberta's renewable natural resources will be sustained.	<p>Renewable Resource Sustainability</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Target Achieved – In 2000-01, Alberta's timber harvest remained below the annual allowable cut. ↓ In 2001, farm crop yield decreased by over 10% to 0.77 tonnes per acre. (See the Land Quality measure under Goal #17)
17	The high quality of Alberta's environment will be maintained.	<p>Air Quality</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Target Achieved - In 2001, air quality remained at "good" or "fair" with no days rated as "poor" or "very poor". <hr/> <p>Water Quality</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ↑ River water quality improved in 2000-01. Water quality downstream of Edmonton, Calgary and Lethbridge improved due to upgraded wastewater treatment facilities in each of these cities. In some cases, water quality improved for both upstream and downstream because of dry conditions experienced in 2000-01 resulting in less surface runoff and movement of materials into the water. <hr/> <p>Land Quality</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ↓ In 2001, farm crop yield decreased by over 10%, or 0.09 tonnes per acre to 0.77 tonnes per acre in 2001, well below the 2004 target of 0.92 tonnes per acre. Dry conditions in much of southern Alberta and parts of central Alberta continued to reduce crop outputs after an above-average year in 1999.
18	Albertans will have the opportunity to enjoy the province's natural, historical and cultural resources.	<p>Heritage Appreciation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Visitation at provincially-owned historic sites, museums and interpretive centres declined by 45,000 visitors to 1,021,000 in 2001-02, below the target of 1.1 million visitors per year. – Target Achieved – Visitation at provincial parks and recreation areas increased by 148,000 visitors to 8,730,000 in 2000-01, surpassing the target of 8 million visitors per year.
19	Alberta will work with other governments and maintain its strong position in Canada.	<p>Intergovernmental Relations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ↑ Target Achieved - In 2001, the Alberta government's approval rating in federal-provincial relations was 26% higher than the four-province average, up 11 percentage points from 2000 and bettering the target.

core business *People...*

The goals for the *People* core business are directed at improving the quality of life in Alberta for individuals and their families through the government's priorities for health, education, our children, those in need, and Aboriginal Albertans.

People

Helping people to be self-reliant, capable and caring through:

- a healthy society and accessible health care
- basic support and protection for those in need
- lifelong learning
- excellent schools, colleges, universities and training institutes
- supportive families and compassionate communities
- the well-being of Aboriginal people

PERFORMANCE SUMMARY

There are six government goals for the *People* core business, and eight performance measures including a new measure for Goal 4 Albertans will be independent. The following summarizes the 2001-02 performance results for the *People* core business. Where 2001-02 data is not available for a measure, the most recent reliable data is reported.

Goal 1 - Albertans will be healthy.

Life Expectancy at Birth - In 2000, life expectancy for Alberta females ranked 7th in the world at 82 years, while males ranked 3rd at 77.1 years.

Health Status - The percentage of Albertans over 65 years who rated their health as "good", "very good" or "excellent" has decreased from 79% in 2000 to 72% in 2001. The percentage of Albertans age 18 to 64 years who rated their health as "very good" or "excellent" has decreased from 66% in 2000 to 63% in 2001. However, 65% of Albertans rated their ease of access to health services as "very easy" or "easy".

Goal 2 - Our children will be well cared for, safe, successful at learning and healthy.

Well-Being of Children - In 1997, 91% of Alberta children lived in families with incomes above the Market Basket Measure low income threshold (Preliminary methodology used. Data for 2000 is anticipated for release in Fall 2002 by Statistics Canada).

Goal 3 - Alberta students will excel.

Educational Attainment - In 2001, 90.1% of Albertans aged 25-34 reported completing high school, and 58.9% reported completing post-secondary education, compared to 89.7% and 56.1% the previous year.

Literacy and Numeracy Levels - In 2000-01, 89% of students writing the provincial achievement test in Grade 9 language arts achieved the acceptable standard, continuing to surpass provincial expectations. In Grade 9 mathematics, the percentage achieving the acceptable standard improved to 75%. The percentage of students achieving the acceptable standard for mathematics remains below expectations.

Goal 4 - Albertans will be independent

New Economic Status of Albertans - In 1997, 92% of Albertans had incomes above the Market Basket Measure low income threshold (Preliminary methodology used. Data for 2000 is anticipated for release in Fall 2002 by Statistics Canada).

Goal 5 - Albertans unable to provide for their basic needs will receive help.

(see Goal 4 - Albertans will be independent)

Goal 6 - The well-being and self-reliance of Aboriginal people will be comparable to that of other Albertans.

Aboriginal Well-Being - Data from the 2001 Canada Census will be available in 2003.

goal **1**

Albertans will be healthy

core measure(s) LIFE EXPECTANCY AT BIRTH
HEALTH STATUS

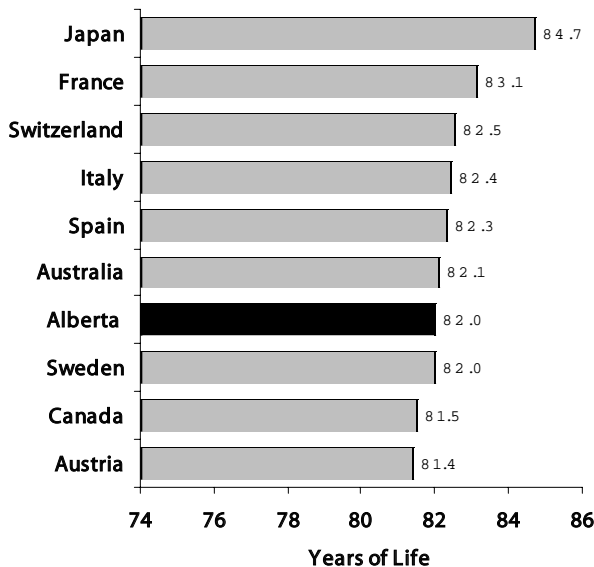
LIFE EXPECTANCY AT BIRTH

DESCRIPTION Female and male life expectancy.

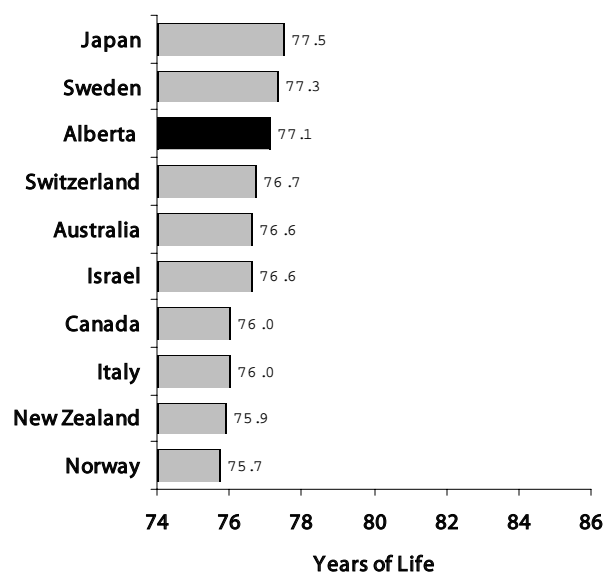
TARGET Maintain or improve current life expectancy at birth and be among the top 10 countries in the world.

RESULTS In 2000, life expectancy for Alberta females ranked 7th in the world (equal to Sweden). The life expectancy for Alberta males ranked 3rd in comparison to other countries in the world. Based on preliminary estimates for 2001, life expectancy for females increased from 82 years in 2000 to 82.4 years in 2001. Life expectancy for males show a small decrease from 77.1 years in 2000 to 77 years in 2001.

FEMALE LIFE EXPECTANCY (2000)



MALE LIFE EXPECTANCY (2000)



Source: 2000 and 2001 preliminary data: Alberta Health and Wellness; World Health Organization, The World Health Report 2001.

DISCUSSION Life Expectancy at Birth is an estimate of the number of years that a person born in that year will live, based upon current mortality statistics. Life expectancy is a universally recognized indicator of the health of a population.

Long life expectancy is related to access to health care, a healthy diet, and the benefits of a healthy environment and workplace (see also **Air Quality, Water Quality and Workplace Climate** measures). International comparisons have shown that life expectancy is also related to national wealth and economic development, the quality of the health care system and individual socio-economic status.

For more information, see the core measures methodology and related ministry measures in Appendices I and III.

Life expectancy is strongly affected by infant mortality and the four major causes of death: heart disease, cancer, respiratory disease and injuries (see supplemental information). Reducing mortality rates from these factors will increase overall life expectancy for all Albertans.

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION

Selected Communicable Diseases
(Rate per 100,000)

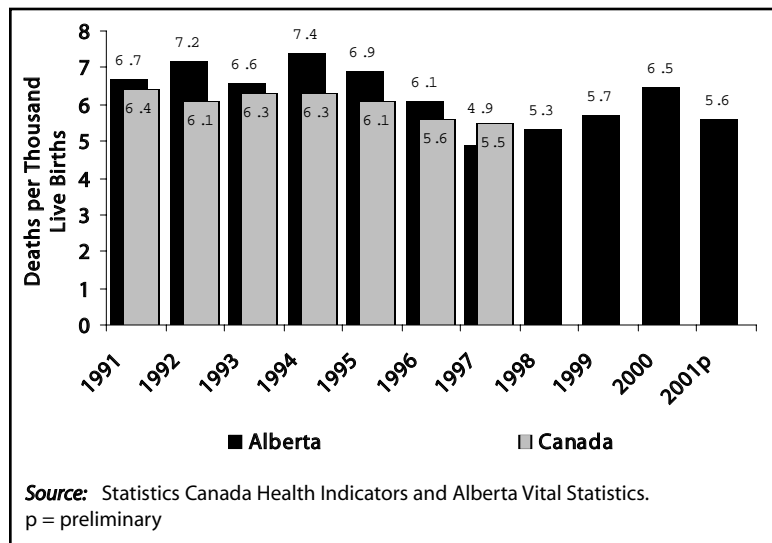
High incidence rates continued for E. Coli and meningococcal, and rates for gonorrhoea increased due to several outbreaks in the Edmonton area. Measle rates decreased to normal levels, and rates for pertussis (whooping cough) and tuberculosis continued to decline. AIDS rates remain unchanged.

YEAR	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001*
AIDS**	2.8	1.9	0.8	1.4	1.7	1.1
E. Coli 0157	5.8	6.8	9.0	6.6	11.0	9.4
Gonorrhoea	17.2	14.6	18.5	18.3	19.7	25.9
Invasive Meningococcal	0.9	1.1	0.8	0.9	2.6	2.0
Measles	0.3	8.8	0.0	0.6	4.1	0.2
Pertussis	41.2	27.6	26.3	28.3	15.6	11.0
Tuberculosis	5.1	6.0	5.5	5.1	4.5	3.8

Source: Notifiable Diseases, HIV/AIDS, STD and TB databases.
Produced by: Health Surveillance and Disease Control and Prevention, Alberta Health and Wellness.
Notes: Annual rates per 100,000 are based on mid-year population from Alberta Health Registry files for the years 1996 to 2000 and on projected population for 2001.
 * preliminary results
 ** AIDS counts are based on year of report.

Infant Mortality

This chart shows the rate of deaths for infants in Alberta over a 10 year period.



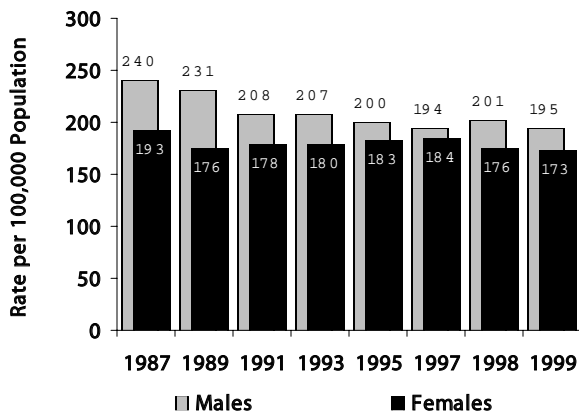
SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION

Major Causes of Death in Alberta
(Standardized Mortality Rates per 100,000 Population)

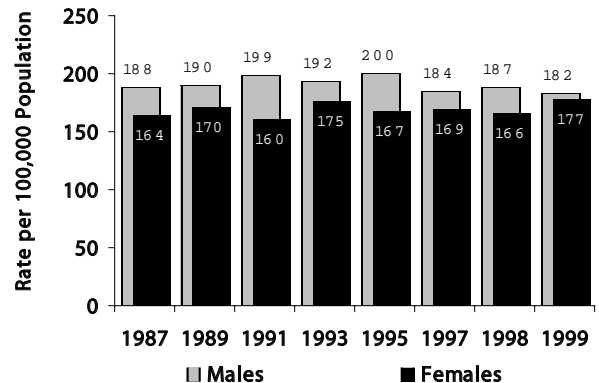
The four major causes of death in Alberta are heart disease, cancer, respiratory disease and injuries.

Over the past 12 years, the rate of deaths from heart disease and from injuries has declined for both sexes. Over the same period, the rate of deaths from respiratory disease has increased considerably for women.

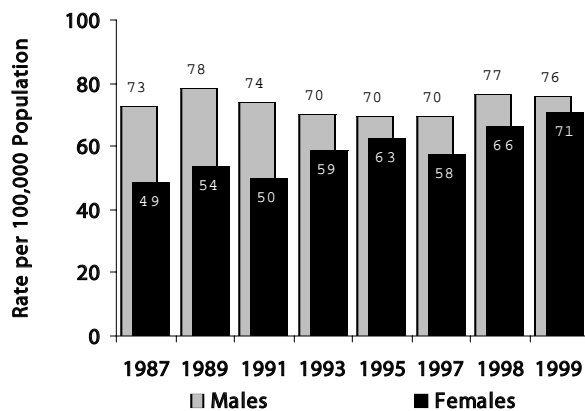
HEART DISEASE



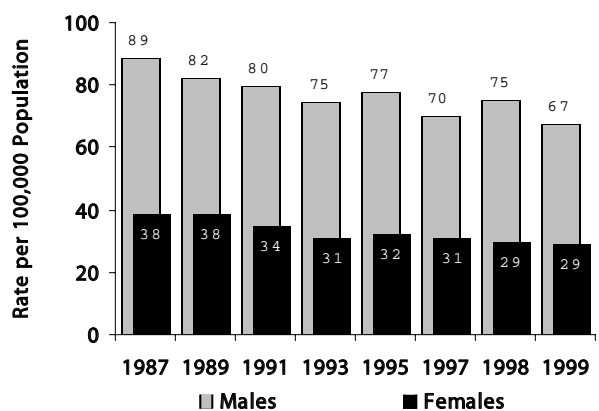
CANCER



RESPIRATORY DISEASE



INJURIES



Source: Alberta Health and Wellness, derived from Alberta Vital Statistics death files. Population = mid year Alberta Health Registrations. Data for 2000 is currently unavailable at this time due to a change in the international coding system from ICD-9 to ICD-10. Alberta Health and Wellness is in the process of converting the data to ICD-9 format to align with prior years' data.

Note: Mortality rates are now standardized to the 1996 Canada population. These are done separately for males and females so rates differ slightly from those reported in previous years.

core measure(s)

LIFE EXPECTANCY AT BIRTH
HEALTH STATUS

HEALTH STATUS

DESCRIPTION

Self-reported status by Albertans over 18.

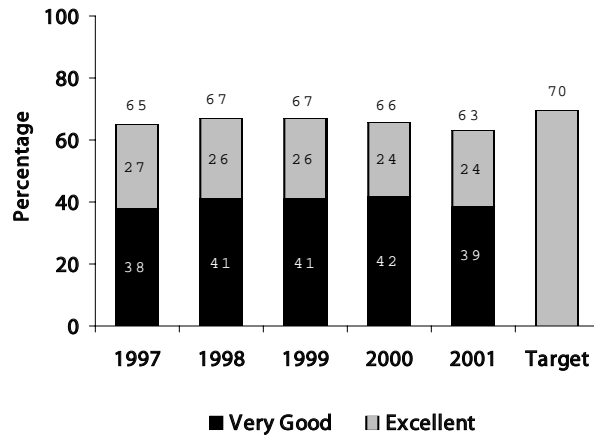
TARGET

By the year 2003, 70% of Albertans aged 18-64 will rate their health as “very good” or “excellent”, and 80% of Albertans aged 65 or over will rate their health as “good” or better.

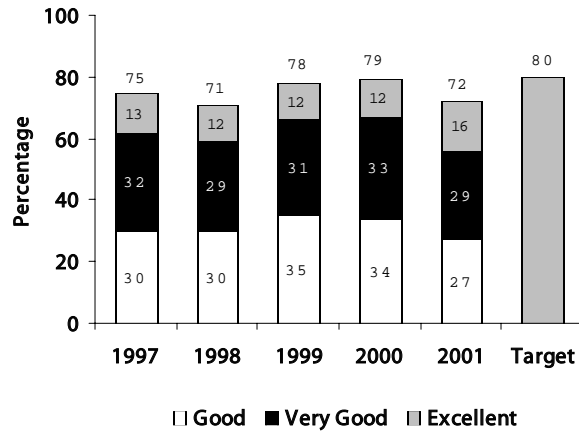
RESULTS

In 2001, the percentage of Albertans age 18-64 years rating their health as "very good" or "excellent" decreased from 66% in 2000 to 63% in 2001. The percentage of Albertans over 65 years who rate their health as "good", "very good" or "excellent" has decreased from 79% in 2000 to 72% in 2001.

ALBERTANS SELF-REPORTED HEALTH STATUS AS "VERY GOOD" OR "EXCELLENT" (18-64 YEARS)



ALBERTANS SELF-REPORTED HEALTH STATUS AS "GOOD", "VERY GOOD" OR "EXCELLENT" (65 YEARS AND OVER)



Source: Annual Alberta Health and Wellness Survey (1997, 1998, 1999, 2000, 2001).

DISCUSSION

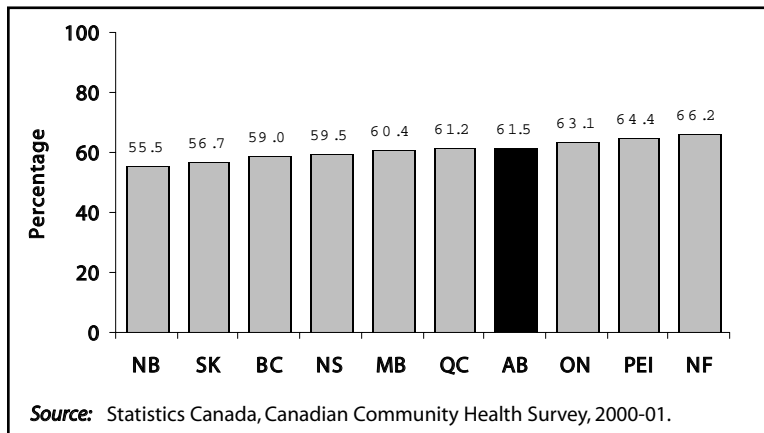
Self-reported health status is a good indicator of the health and well-being of Albertans and is becoming accepted across Canada as a means of reporting on population health. This measure reports the degree to which Albertans feel healthy compared to others their own age. How people rate their own health is affected by a variety of factors including chronic disease, disability, temporary illness and mental health.

We want to have the highest percentage of residents reporting very good or excellent health status compared with other provinces (see next page). In 2000-01, Alberta ranked fourth in the percentage of residents reporting “excellent” or “very good” health.

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION

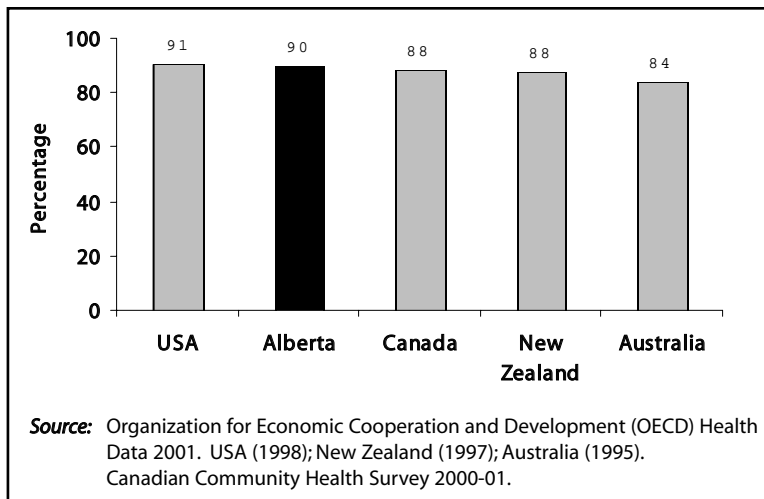
Excellent or Very Good Health Status by Province

In a national survey, Albertans ranked fourth in the percentage of respondents who reported their health status as being excellent or very good in 2000-01 compared to people in other provinces (respondents are 12 years of age and over).



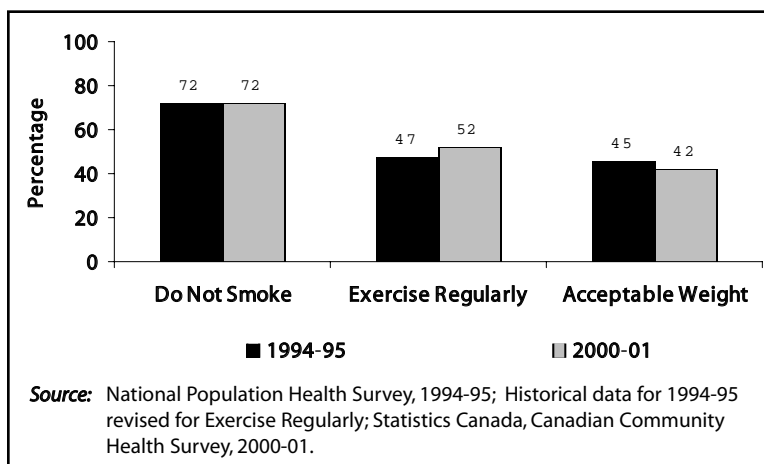
Good or Better Health Status by Selected Countries

In comparison to selected countries, Albertans ranked very well in reporting their health status as good or better (respondents are 15+ for OECD countries; respondents are 12+ for Alberta and Canada).



Percentage of Albertans Participating in Healthy Behaviour

Healthy lifestyles contribute to longevity and improved quality of life. This chart shows the percentage of Albertans who reported participating in healthy behaviour (respondents are 12+ except for acceptable weight (20-64 years); 1994-95 and 2000-01 data excludes non-respondents).

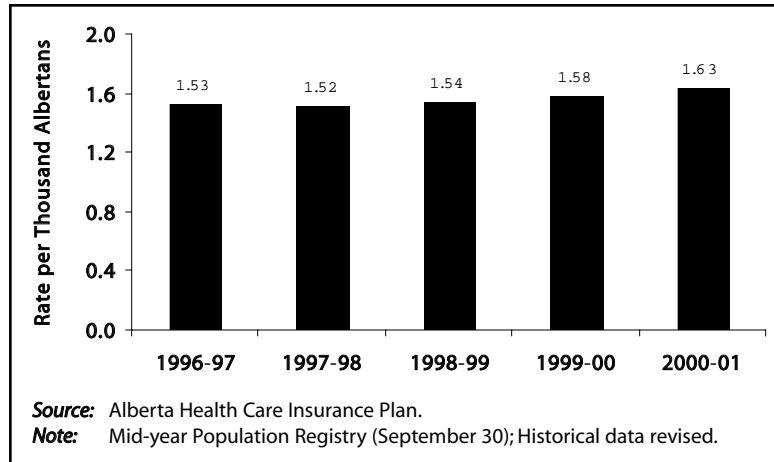


SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION

Alberta Physicians

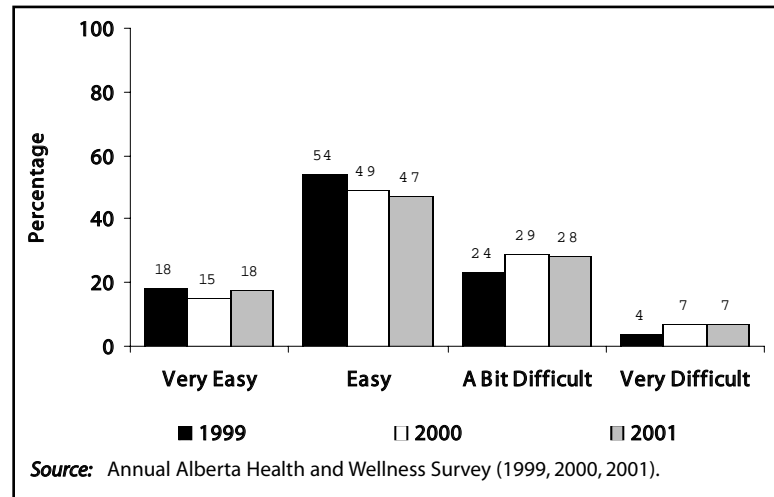
The rate of general practitioners, specialists and laboratory specialists has increased steadily since 1997-98.

According to 2000 data from the Canadian Institute for Health Information, Alberta ranked seventh in the number of physicians amongst provinces. The top three provinces were Quebec, Nova Scotia and British Columbia.



Accessibility of Health Care Services

This chart shows Albertans' ratings of their ease of access to health services. In 2001, 65% of Albertans surveyed rated their access to health services as "easy" or "very easy".



goal **2**

Our children will be well cared for, safe, successful at learning and healthy

core measure(s)

WELL-BEING OF CHILDREN

WELL-BEING OF CHILDREN

DESCRIPTION

Percentage of Alberta children living in families with incomes above the Market Basket Measure (MBM) low income threshold.

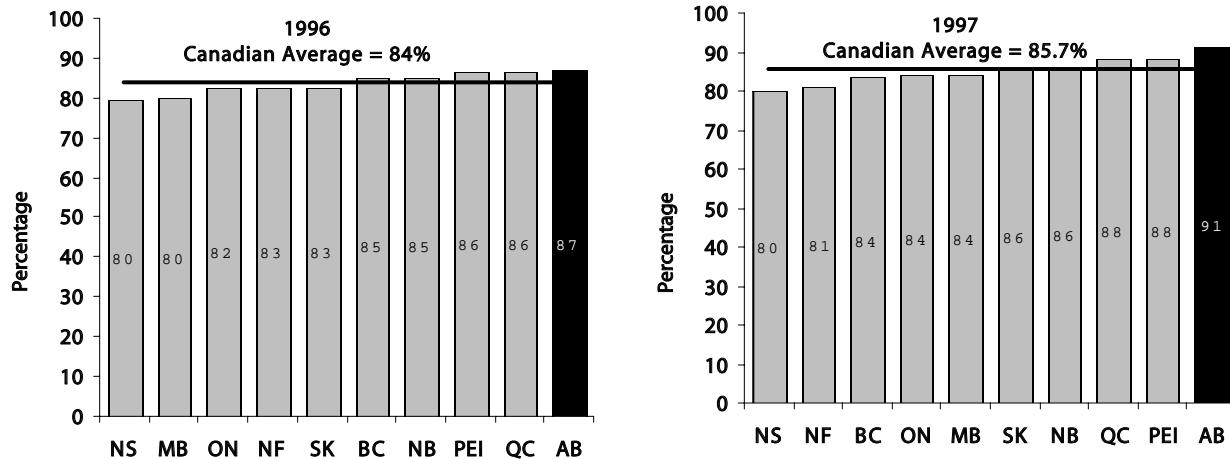
TARGET

To be determined once baseline is established.

RESULTS

91% of Alberta children live in families with incomes above the MBM low income threshold, exceeding the Canadian average. (1997 data is based on 1996 preliminary methodology. Data for the MBM is being collected and validated by Statistics Canada. It is anticipated that MBM data for 2000 will be released by Statistics Canada in Fall 2002.)

PERCENTAGE OF CHILDREN LIVING ABOVE THE MBM LOW INCOME THRESHOLD



Source: Human Resources Development Canada.

Note: Preliminary data only.

DISCUSSION

Low income affects children and their families in negative ways. Children who live in poverty are at greater risk of experiencing problems such as illness, behaviour and learning difficulties, and family violence.

This measure examines the percentage of Alberta children living in families with incomes above the relevant MBM low income threshold.

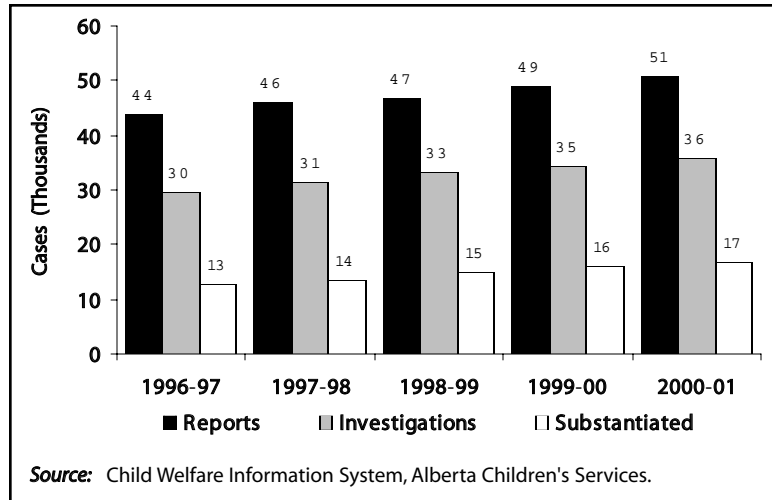
The MBM of low income is a calculation of income thresholds at which a family has sufficient income to cover the costs of food, clothing, shelter and other expenditures deemed necessary for all Canadians. Geographic differences in costs are reflected. These costs, by family size, are then compared to family income available for consumption. We want to increase the percentage of children living above this low income threshold.

For more information, see the core measures methodology and related ministry measures in Appendices I and III.

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION

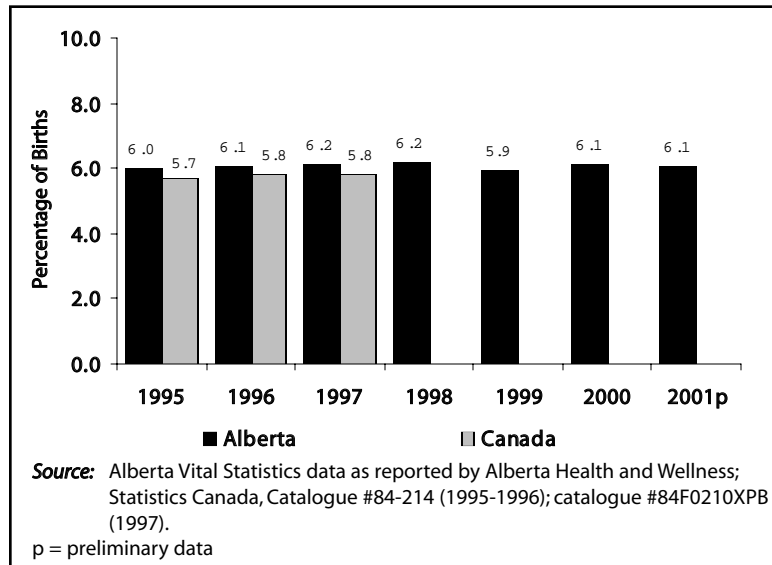
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect in Alberta

This chart shows the number of reports of child abuse or neglect cases and the number of cases investigated and substantiated during the year. Child abuse occurs in a number of forms including physical abuse, emotional abuse, sexual abuse, and neglect. Results of such abuse and neglect often include significant emotional, psychological and physical harm as well as developmental delay or impairment. Children who are abused tend to experience more social problems and do not perform as well at school.



Percentage of Newborns with Low Birth Weight

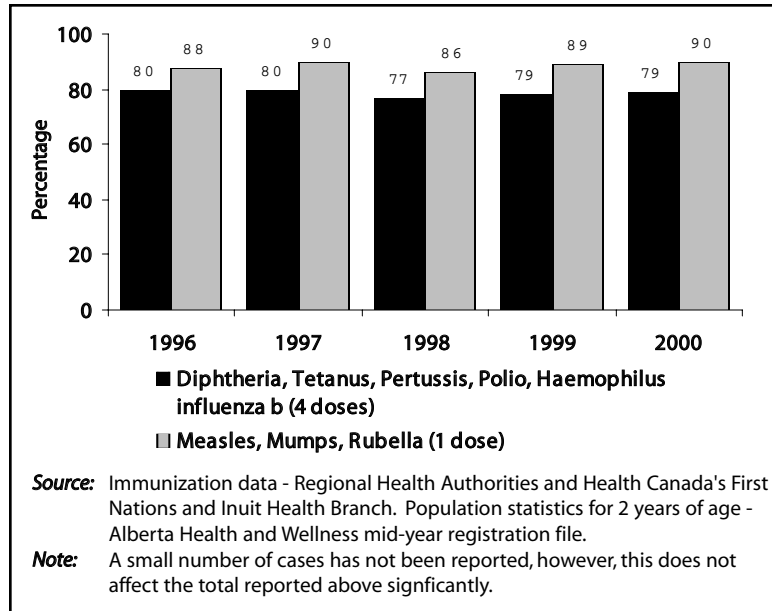
Babies who weigh less than 2,500 grams (5.5 pounds) are more likely to have birth-related complications, disabilities, birth defects, and other health problems. They are also more likely to have developmental delays, learning and behavioural problems and long-term health problems.



SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION

Childhood Immunization at Age 2

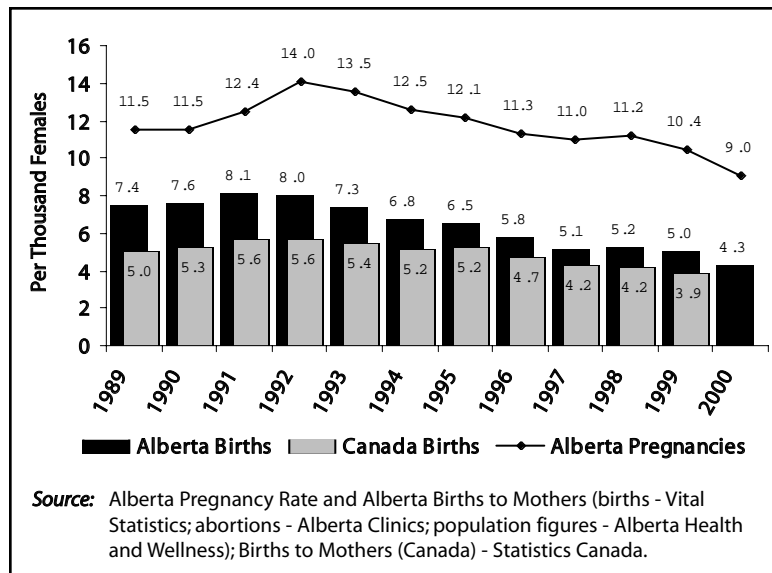
Immunization against childhood diseases has a significant impact on the incidence of certain communicable diseases. A high rate of immunization for Alberta can help to ensure that the incidence of these diseases remains low.



Alberta Pregnancy and Birth Rates for Females Aged 10 - 17

In addition to the emotional and economic stress experienced, this group has the highest incidence of low birth weight newborns and a high incidence of pre-term delivery.

Age-specific pregnancy rates are the number of events (live births, still births, and therapeutic abortions) per 1,000 females in that age group. Spontaneous abortions are not captured.



goal 3

Alberta students will excel

core measure(s) EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT
LITERACY AND NUMERACY LEVELS

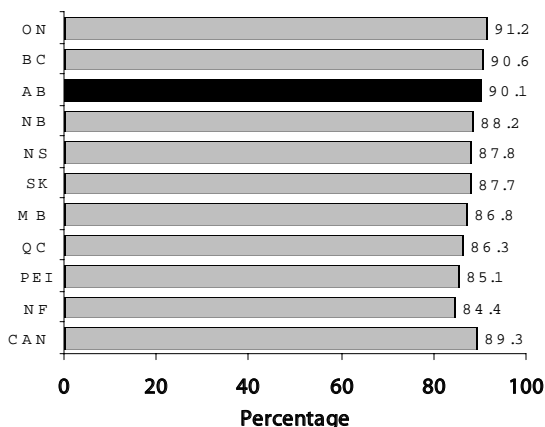
EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT

DESCRIPTION High school and post-secondary completion.

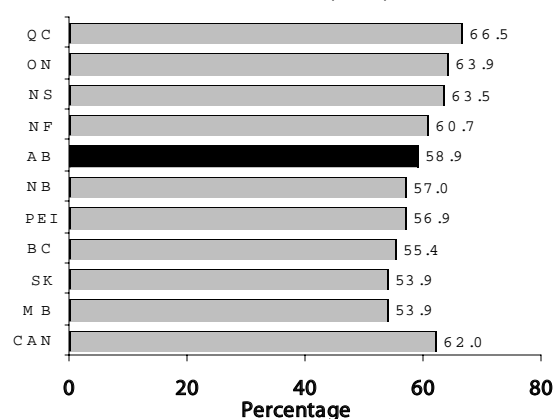
TARGET By 2003, 90% of Albertans aged 25-34 will have completed high school, and 60% will have completed post-secondary education. Maintain or improve inter-provincial ranking.

RESULTS In 2001, 90.1% of Albertans aged 25-34 reported completing high school, and 58.9% reported completing post-secondary education, compared to 89.7% and 56.1% respectively the previous year. Alberta has attained the target for 2003 for high school completion and maintained its interprovincial rankings of 3rd for high school completion and 5th for post-secondary completion.

PERCENTAGE OF POPULATION AGED 25-34 REPORTING HIGH SCHOOL COMPLETION (2001)



PERCENTAGE OF POPULATION AGED 25-34 REPORTING POST-SECONDARY COMPLETION (2001)



Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Survey.

Note: Special tabulation for Alberta Learning.

DISCUSSION Education programs in Alberta have demanding learning expectations for students. Completion of these programs is an indication students have excelled. High school completion provides young people with entry-level knowledge and skills for employment and further study, and post-secondary completion indicates mastery of higher-level skills.

Results are presented for Albertans aged 25-34, as this group reflects recent outputs of Alberta's learning system. Higher completion rates may reflect growing awareness among young Albertans of the importance of education for improving their prospects for success in a labour force where jobs increasingly require higher knowledge and skill levels.

For more information, see the core measures methodology and related ministry measures in Appendices I and III.

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION

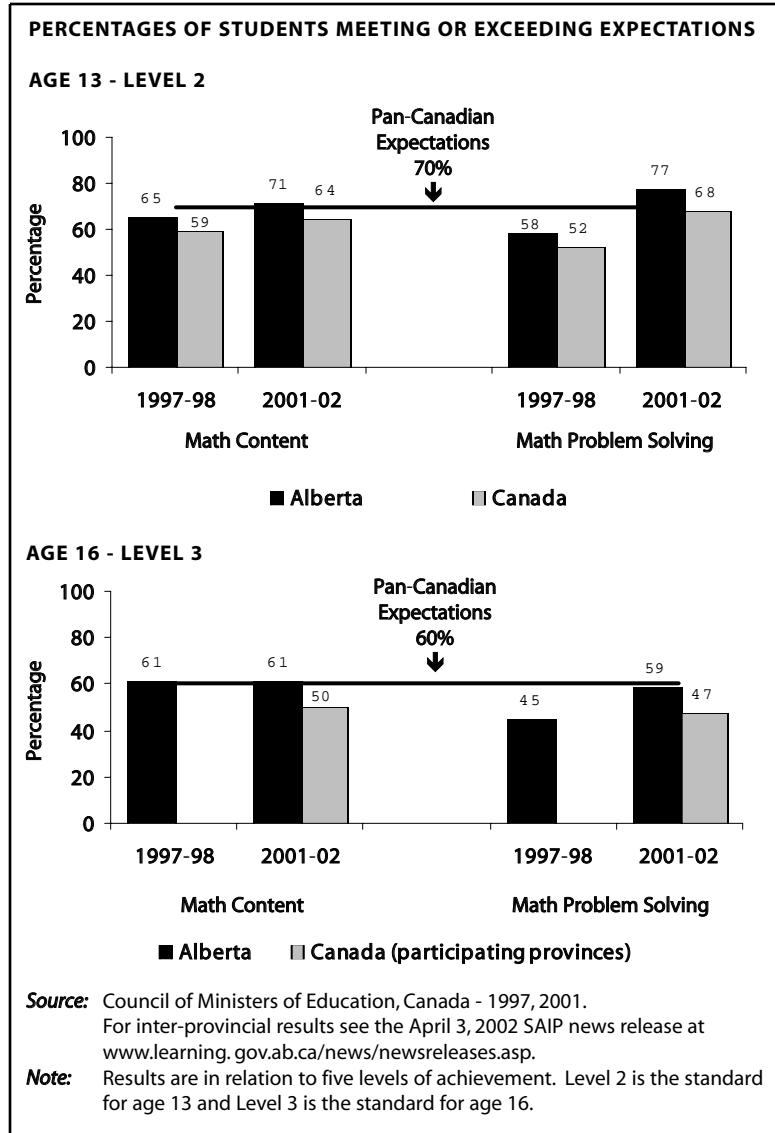
School Achievement Indicators Program (SAIP) Math Assessment

SAIP assessments are designed to measure cross-Canada learning expectations. A representative sample of 13 and 16 year old students in each province and territory are tested in language arts, mathematics and science on a rotating basis.

These charts show the percentages of students meeting or exceeding Pan-Canadian expectations. In 2001-02, Alberta's results exceeded or were not significantly different from Pan-Canadian expectations at all levels. Alberta students performed significantly better than Canadian students at all levels. Also, Alberta students improved from the 1997-98 assessment when compared to nearly every other province and territory.

Enhancements to curriculum and instructional resources, and a clear focus on the alignment of instruction, resources and provincial testing in core subjects have contributed to improved math results in Alberta.

Canadian results at age 16 for 1997-98 are not included because they are not comparable to the 2001-02 results. Quebec did not participate in the 2001-02 assessment of 16 year olds.



SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION

Program for International Student Assessment (PISA)

PISA assesses 15-year-old students in reading, mathematics and science, and is conducted by the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) every three years. In 2000, the major focus was reading.

Among the 31 countries and ten provinces participating in PISA 2000, Alberta students ranked first in reading. Alberta had the third highest scores in science and mathematics. In both subjects, Alberta's results were not significantly different from the top two countries. Our results were significantly above the Canadian average in all three subjects.

The shaded area on the table identifies results not significantly different from Alberta's, when the confidence interval is taken into account. Results at or above the OECD average are above the line across each column.

Alberta's impressive results reflect the alignment of programs, resources, instruction and assessment, as well as the emphasis on language arts as a foundation for all learning.

PISA 2000 RESULTS FOR PARTICIPATING COUNTRIES AND PROVINCES, AVERAGE SCORES (AVERAGE FOR OECD COUNTRIES = 500; STANDARD DEVIATION = 100)

Reading		Mathematics		Science	
Alberta	550	Japan	557	Korea	552
Finland	546	Quebec	550	Japan	550
British Columbia	538	Alberta	547	Alberta	546
Quebec	536	Korea	547	Quebec	541
CANADA	534	New Zealand	537	Finland	538
Ontario	533	Finland	536	British Columbia	533
Manitoba	529	British Columbia	534	United Kingdom	532
Saskatchewan	529	Australia	533	CANADA	529
New Zealand	529	Manitoba	533	New Zealand	528
Australia	528	CANADA	533	Australia	528
Ireland	527	Switzerland	529	Manitoba	527
Korea	525	United Kingdom	529	Ontario	522
United Kingdom	523	Saskatchewan	525	Saskatchewan	522
Japan	522	Ontario	524	Austria	519
Nova Scotia	521	Belgium	520	Newfoundland	516
P.E.I.	517	France	517	Nova Scotia	516
Newfoundland	517	Austria	515	Ireland	513
Sweden	516	Denmark	514	Sweden	512
Austria	507	Iceland	514	Czech Republic	511
Belgium	507	Liechtenstein	514	P.E.I.	508
Iceland	507	Nova Scotia	513	France	500
Norway	505	P.E.I.	512	Norway	500
France	505	Sweden	510	United States	499
United States	504	Newfoundland	509	New Brunswick	497
New Brunswick	501	New Brunswick	506	Hungary	496
Denmark	497	Ireland	503	Iceland	496
Switzerland	494	Norway	499	Belgium	496
Spain	493	Czech Republic	498	Switzerland	496
Czech Republic	492	United States	493	Spain	491
Italy	487	Germany	490	Germany	487
Germany	484	Hungary	488	Poland	483
Liechtenstein	483	Russia	478	Denmark	481
Hungary	480	Spain	476	Italy	478
Poland	479	Poland	470	Liechtenstein	476
Greece	474	Latvia	463	Greece	461
Portugal	470	Italy	457	Russia	460
Russia	462	Portugal	454	Latvia	460
Latvia	458	Greece	447	Portugal	459
Luxembourg	441	Luxembourg	446	Luxembourg	443
Mexico	422	Mexico	387	Mexico	422
Brazil	396	Brazil	334	Brazil	375

Source: *Measuring Up: The performance of Canada's youth in reading, mathematics and science (OECD PISA Study - First Results for Canadians aged 15); Catalogue #81-590-XPE; Council of Ministers of Education, Canada; Human Resources Development, Canada; 2001.*
For more information, see the news release on PISA results (December 3, 2001) at www.learning.gov.ab.ca/news/newsreleases.asp.

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION

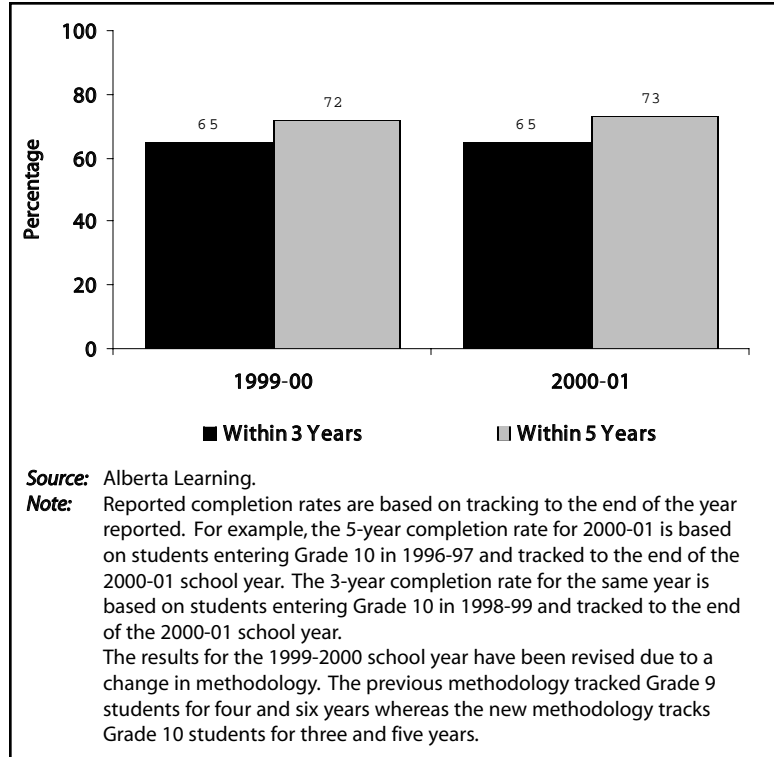
High School Completion (revised methodology)

This chart shows the percentage of Alberta students who completed high school within three and five years of entering Grade 10. High school completion included students who, within the tracking period, received a diploma, entered a credit program at an Alberta post-secondary institution, registered in an apprenticeship program, or were eligible for post-secondary admission.

The percentage of students who completed high school within three years of entering Grade 10 (i.e., “on-time” completers) was 65% in 2000-01, unchanged from the previous year.

The percentage of students who completed high school within five years of starting Grade 10 increased slightly from 72% in 1999-00 to 73% in 2000-01. Over 3% of students tracked are still in school in the 5th year and may complete in a subsequent year.

The increase in the five-year completion rate may reflect greater awareness of the importance of completing school and the efforts of school jurisdictions to address the Ministry priority of increasing high school completion rates in the basic learning system.



LITERACY AND NUMERACY LEVELS

DESCRIPTION

Achieving the acceptable standard on Grade 9 provincial achievement tests for mathematics and language arts.

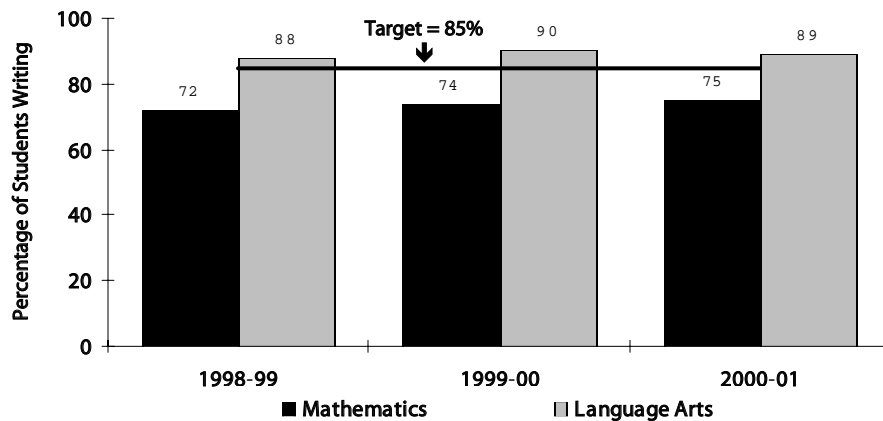
TARGET

85% of Grade 9 students are expected to achieve the acceptable standard on provincial achievement tests in mathematics and language arts.

RESULTS

In 2001, the percentage of Alberta students writing the test who achieved the acceptable standard in Grade 9 language arts was 89%, continuing to surpass provincial expectations. In Grade 9 mathematics, the percentage achieving the acceptable standard improved to 75%.

PERCENTAGE OF GRADE 9 STUDENTS ACHIEVING THE ACCEPTABLE STANDARD



Source: Alberta Learning.

DISCUSSION

Part of helping Albertans become independent is ensuring that they have the knowledge and skills to participate in a changing economy and work force. An essential component of this is having the necessary literacy and numeracy skills to function in society (see also **Educational Attainment** supplemental information).

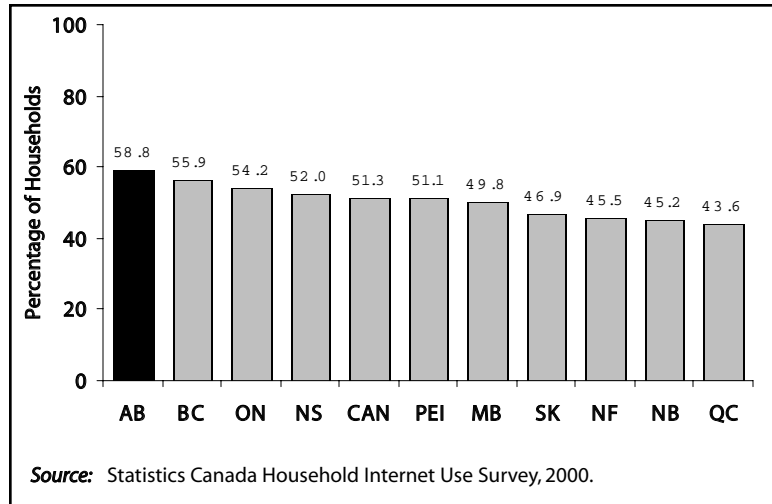
Grade 9 provincial achievement tests in mathematics and language arts are used as proxy measures of literacy and numeracy as adult literacy surveys are not conducted regularly. Students who achieve the acceptable standard have the necessary competencies to become literate and numerate adults.

Improved curriculum and instructional resources, and a clear focus on the alignment of instruction, resources and provincial testing in core subjects may have contributed to the continued good results in language arts and to the improvement in mathematics.

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION

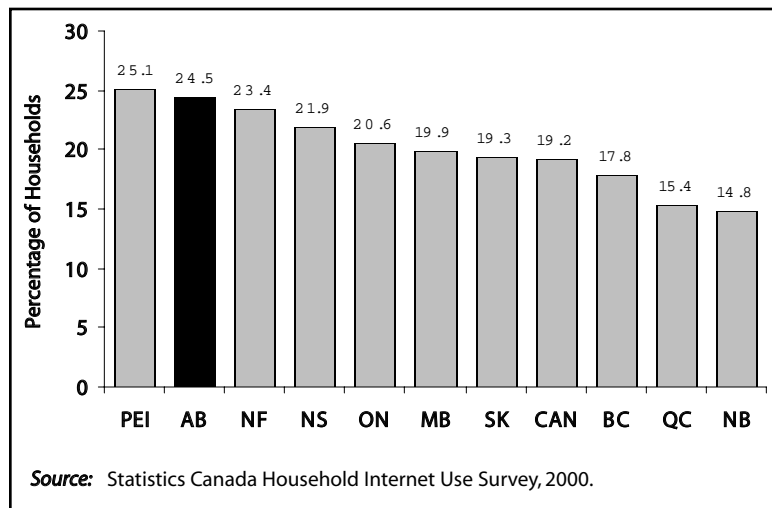
Internet Use by Households (2000)

Although internet use does not require computer proficiency, it does indicate a certain level of ability to use computers and access the internet. In 2000, 58.8% of Alberta households had at least one member using the internet from any location, the highest rate in Canada.



Internet Use at Schools (2000)

In 2000, 24.5% of all Alberta households had someone who regularly used the internet at school, the third most popular location. Home and work were the most common locations for regular internet use. In Alberta, internet use at schools was among the highest in Canada.



goal **4**

Albertans will be independent

core measure(s)

ECONOMIC STATUS OF ALBERTANS

New

ECONOMIC STATUS OF ALBERTANS

DESCRIPTION

Increase the percentage of people in Alberta living above the Market Basket Measure (MBM) low income threshold.

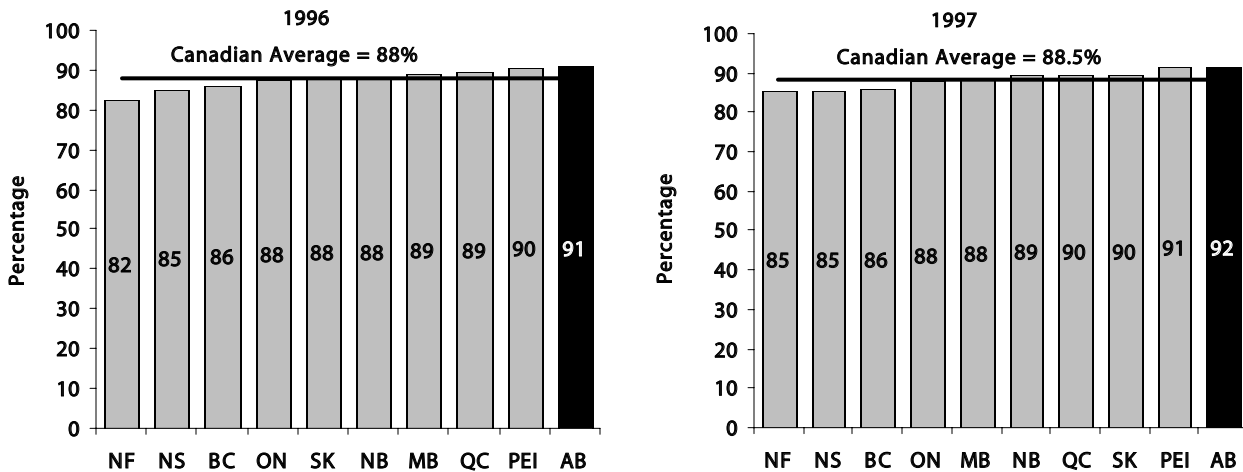
TARGET

To be determined once baseline is established.

RESULTS

92% of Albertans are living with incomes above the MBM low income threshold, exceeding the Canadian average (1997 data is based on preliminary 1996 methodology. Data for the MBM is being collected and validated by Statistics Canada. It is anticipated that MBM data for 2000 will be released by Statistics Canada in Fall 2002).

PEOPLE LIVING ABOVE THE MARKET BASKET MEASURE LOW INCOME THRESHOLD



Source: Human Resources Development Canada.

Note: Preliminary data only.

DISCUSSION

We are committed to the financial well-being of Albertans.

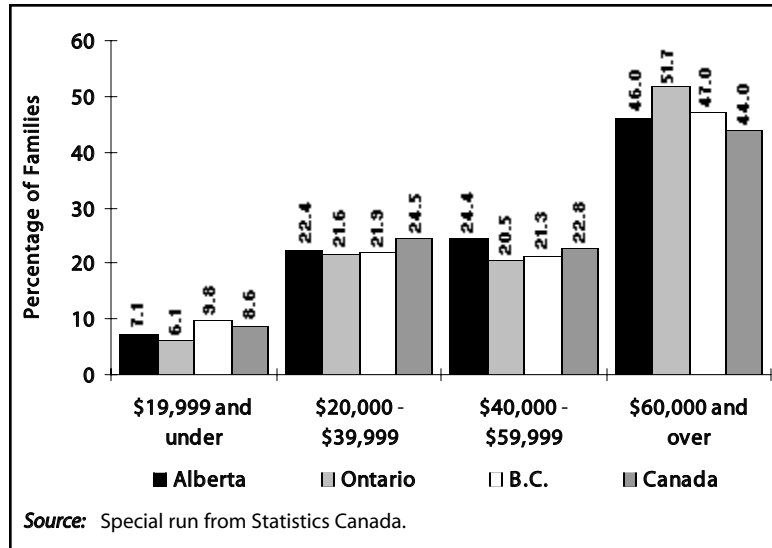
To measure the independence of Albertans, the MBM was chosen to replace the core measure of Family Income Distribution used in previous years. The MBM is a measure of Albertans who have income levels above the low income threshold. Individuals above this level are considered to be financially independent.

For more information, see the core measures methodology and related ministry measures in Appendices I and III.

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION

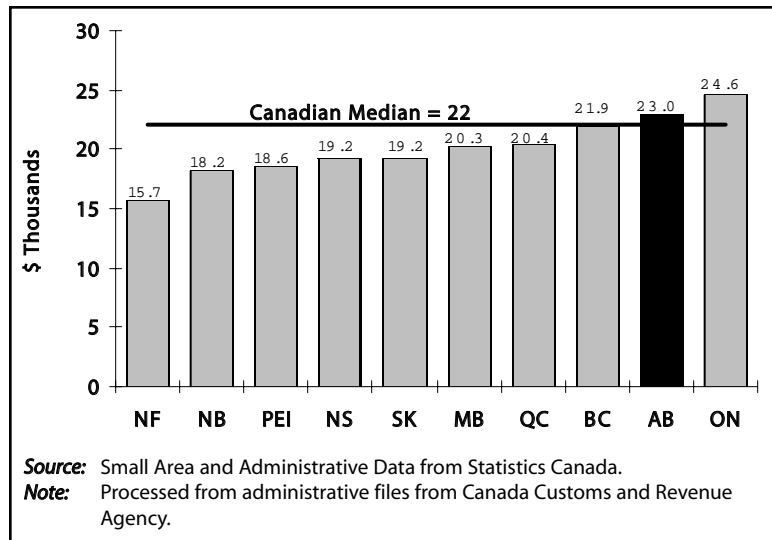
Family Income Distribution by Province (1999)

This chart shows the distribution of income for Alberta families compared to Ontario, B.C. and Canada. Families in low, medium and high income groups provides an indication of their financial well-being.



Median Individual Income by Province (2000)

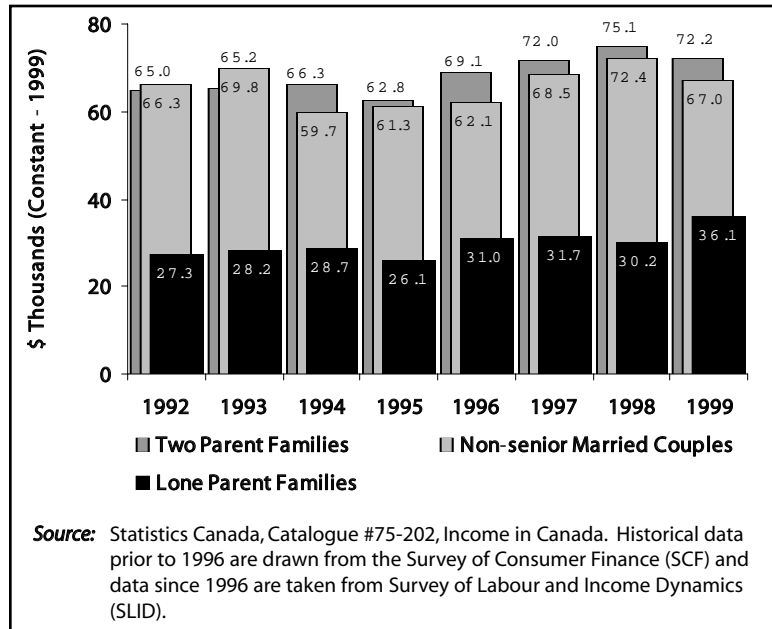
Median individual incomes in Ontario and Alberta were higher than the national level. The Canadian median individual income in 2000 was \$22,000. Individual median income is defined as the middle point, having half the individuals earning incomes above and half below.



SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION

Average Annual Family Income by Family Type

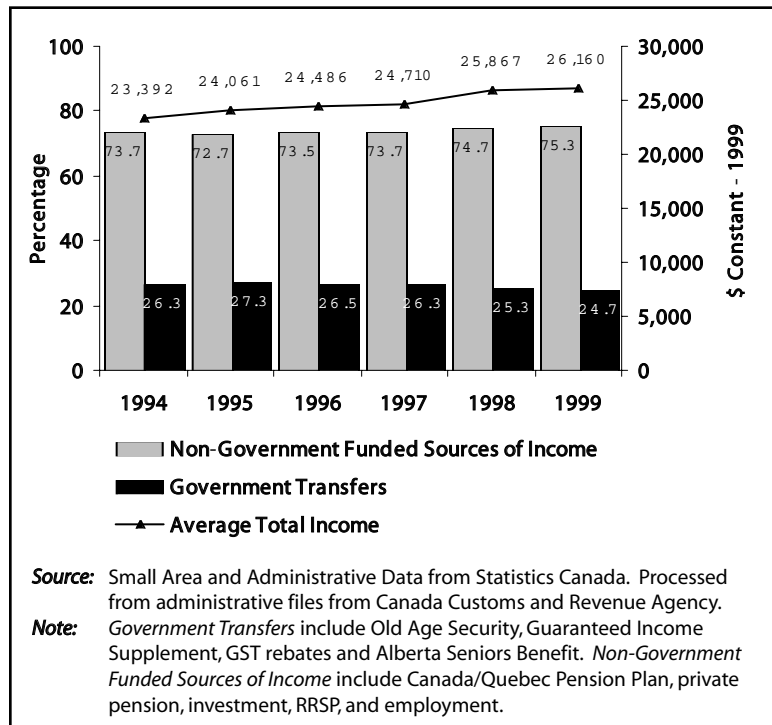
Between 1992 and 1999, family incomes have increased 11% for two parent families, 32% for lone parent families and 1% for non-senior married couples. In 1999, two parent families represented 27% of the population, non-senior married couples 15% and lone parent families 5%.



Seniors' Average Total Income

Pensions, retirement savings, and government transfers comprise the major part of seniors' incomes. By contrast, the income of younger Albertans is primarily comprised of employment income.

The chart shows that between 1994 and 1999, the average income of Alberta seniors rose by 11.8%. During this period also, the composition of seniors' income changed slightly. The proportion of their income from government sources, including Old Age Security and Guaranteed Income Supplement, declined by 1.6%, while the proportion from non-Government sources, including private pensions and C/QPP, rose by the same amount.



5

goal

Albertans unable to provide for their basic needs will receive help

core measure(s)

ECONOMIC STATUS OF ALBERTANS

ECONOMIC STATUS OF ALBERTANS

DESCRIPTION

Increase the percentage of people in Alberta living above the Market Basket Measure (MBM) low income threshold.

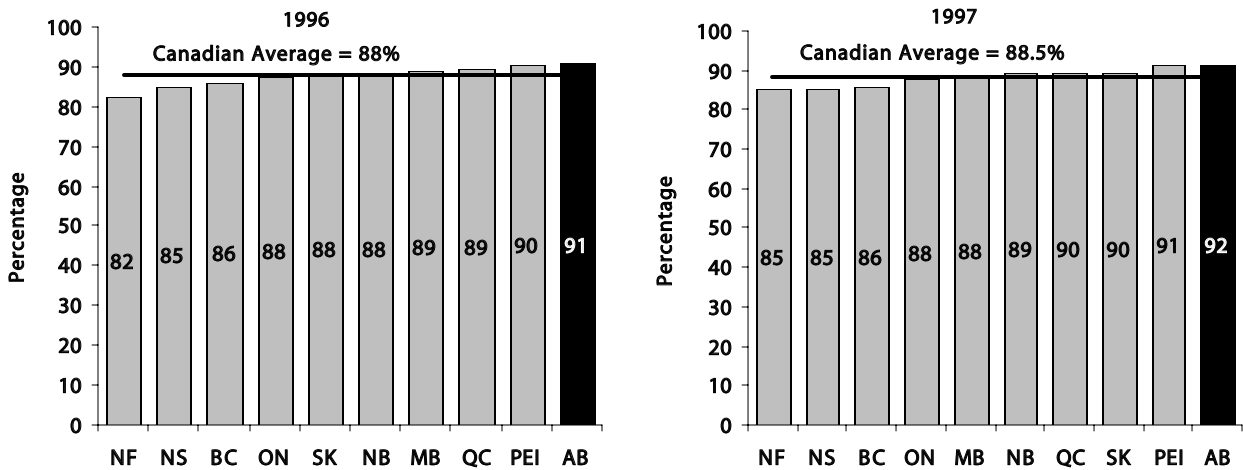
TARGET

To be determined once baseline is established.

RESULTS

92% of Albertans are living with incomes above the MBM low income threshold, exceeding the Canadian average (1997 data is based on preliminary 1996 methodology. Data for the MBM is being collected and validated by Statistics Canada. It is anticipated that MBM data for 2000 will be released by Statistics Canada in Fall 2002).

PEOPLE LIVING ABOVE THE MARKET BASKET MEASURE LOW INCOME THRESHOLD



Source: Human Resources Development Canada.

Note: Preliminary data only.

DISCUSSION

Alberta is committed to providing a safety net so that Albertans unable to provide for their basic needs will receive help.

We would like all Albertans to be independent; however, some individuals require financial assistance to meet their basic needs such as food, clothing and shelter. Albertans potentially in need include lower income seniors, persons with disabilities, the homeless and single parent families.

For more information, see the core measures methodology and related ministry measures in Appendices I and III.

Albertans unable to provide for their basic needs will receive help

ECONOMIC STATUS OF ALBERTANS

Some factors, or combination of factors, may lead some Albertans to have financial difficulty in providing for their own, and their families' basic needs, at least for a short period of time. These may include:

- age (old/young)
- illness or injury
- disability or frailty
- life circumstances (i.e., family breakdown, job loss)
- lack of education or skills
- addiction
- lack of employment or underemployment

The Alberta government offers a number of programs to ensure all Albertans have access to the basic necessities. These include:

Alberta Child Health Benefit
Supports for Independence
Alberta Seniors Benefit
Special Needs Assistance for Seniors
Rent Supplement
Childcare Subsidy
Alberta Aids to Daily Living
Alberta Family Employment Tax Credit
Shelters for the Homeless
Assured Income for the Severely Handicapped

6

goal

The well-being and self-reliance of Aboriginal people will be comparable to that of other Albertans

core measure(s)

ABORIGINAL WELL-BEING

ABORIGINAL WELL-BEING

DESCRIPTION

Employment rate, high school/post-secondary completion, and life expectancy rates.

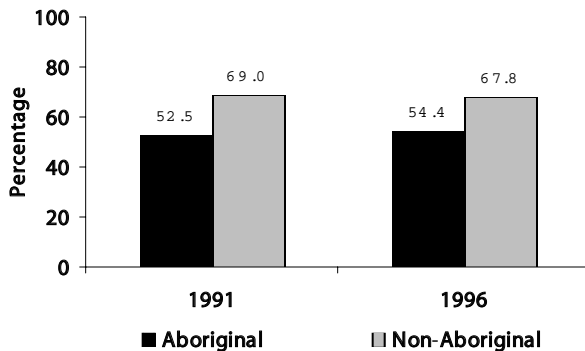
TARGET

By 2010, the difference in employment rates of Aboriginal Albertans and other Albertans will be less than 10%; the percentage of Aboriginal learners 15 years of age or older with high school completion will be 60% and 30% with post-secondary completion; the difference in life expectancy of Registered Indians in Alberta and all Albertans will be reduced by one year.

RESULTS

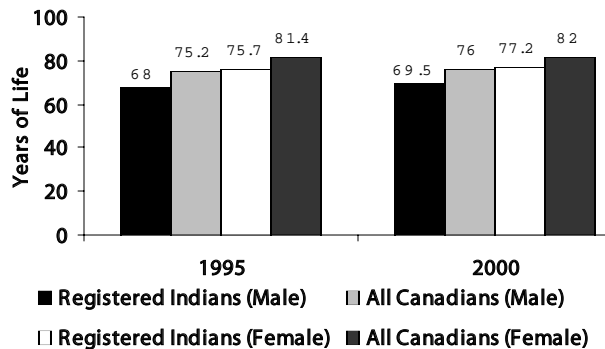
Data from the 2001 Canada Census will be available in 2003.

EMPLOYMENT RATE (ALBERTA)



Source: Statistics Canada, 1991 and 1996 Census. (Custom Tabulation, 2B Target Group Profile.)

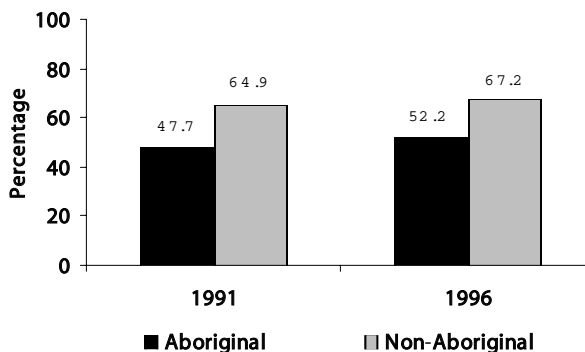
LIFE EXPECTANCY OF REGISTERED INDIANS AND CANADIAN POPULATIONS (1995 & 2000)



Source: Basic Departmental Data 2000; Information Management Branch, Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development, March 2001.

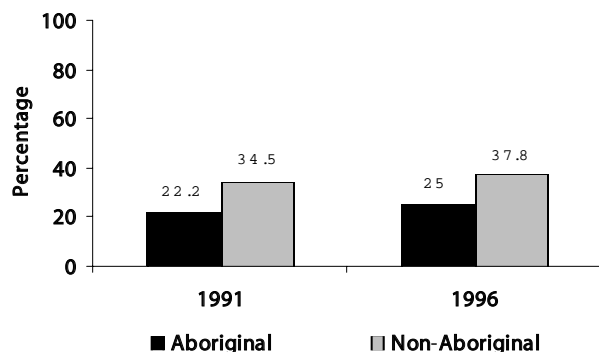
Note: Alberta data is currently unavailable. Federal data is used as a proxy.

PERCENTAGE OF POPULATION AGE 15+ WITH AT LEAST HIGH SCHOOL COMPLETION (ALBERTA)



Source: Statistics Canada, 1991 and 1996 Census. (Custom Tabulation, 2B Target Group Profile.)

PERCENTAGE OF POPULATION AGE 15+ WITH POST-SECONDARY COMPLETION (ALBERTA)



Source: Statistics Canada, 1991 and 1996 Census. (Custom Tabulation, 2B Target Group Profile.)

For more information, see the core measures methodology and related ministry measures in Appendices I and III.

DISCUSSION

This goal is intended to address the existing socio-economic disparities between Aboriginal people and other Albertans by improving Aboriginal well-being and self-reliance. “Aboriginal self-reliance” refers to the ability of First Nation, Metis and other Aboriginal communities and individuals to manage their own affairs, develop a sustainable economic base, and participate in partnerships with government and the private sector (*Strengthening Relationships, p. 11*).

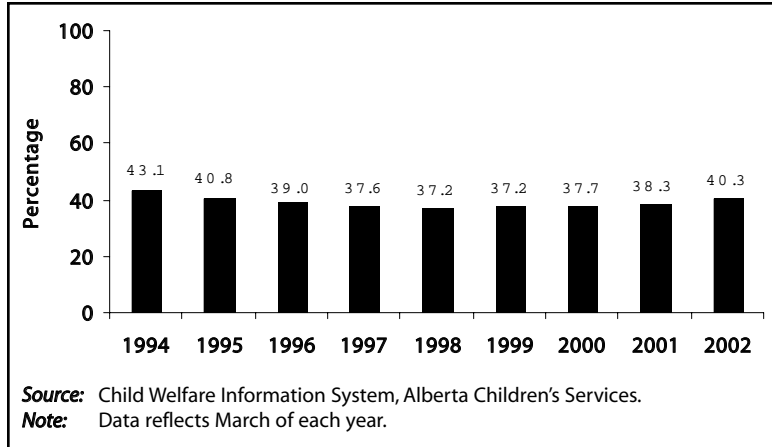
Remote Aboriginal communities often lack a strong economic base as well as access to goods, services and opportunities. Aboriginal people living in cities and towns may face discrimination and other barriers to full participation in employment. Almost half (46% in 1996) of all Aboriginal people in Alberta are under 20 years of age; these youth face a rapidly changing social, economic and work environment. Many Aboriginal people experience significant health and social challenges. Aboriginal people have expressed to the Government of Alberta that social programming by itself has failed to address the underlying economic conditions that are the basis for much of the disparity in community and individual well-being. Federal, provincial and municipal governments need to work in partnership with Aboriginal organizations and people to address these underlying conditions.

Goal 6 is supported by the Aboriginal Policy Initiative, one of the government’s cross-ministry priority policy initiatives (see Appendix IV).

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION

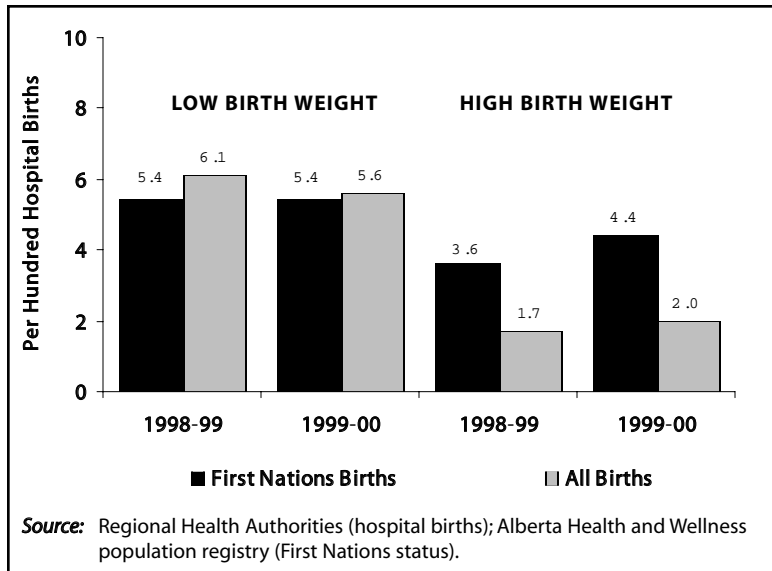
Child Protection Caseload

Over the past eight years, the proportion of Aboriginal children receiving protection services as a percentage of all children receiving protection services has remained relatively constant. Although a slight increase was seen during 2001 and 2002, there has been a decrease of 2.8% over the past eight years in the proportion of children receiving protection services who are Aboriginal.



Percentage of Newborns with Low or High Birth Weight - First Nations

This chart shows the percentage of First Nations babies weighing less than 2,500 grams (5.5 pounds) or weighing more than 4,500 grams (9.9 pounds). High birth weight is a probable risk factor for diabetes which is more prevalent in the First Nations population.



core business *Prosperity*

The goals for the *Prosperity* core business focus on protecting the quality of life in Alberta through the government's priorities for our economy, work force and work places, infrastructure, value-added industries, export trade, and financial and fiscal position.

Prosperity

Promoting prosperity for Alberta through:

- a dynamic environment for growth in business activity and jobs
- a strong value-added sector
- a highly skilled and productive workforce
- fair and safe workplaces
- access to markets in Canada and the rest of the world for trade and investment
- new ideas, innovation and research
- a government that is financially prudent, open and accountable
- an efficient system of roads, highways, utilities and effective research infrastructure

PERFORMANCE SUMMARY

There are eight government goals for the *Prosperity* core business and twelve performance measures, including two new measures. The following summarizes the 2001-02 performance results for the *Prosperity* core business. Where 2001-02 data is not available for a measure, the most recent reliable data is reported.

Goal 7 - Alberta will have a prosperous economy.

Gross Domestic Product - The three-year average annual GDP growth rate increased to 12.0% for 1999 to 2001 up from 10.1% for 1998 to 2000 and far exceeding the target range of 4 to 6%.

Job Growth - 43,900 net new jobs were created in 2001, up from 34,900 in 2000. Over the two-year period ending December 31, 2001, 78,800 net new jobs were created, moving toward the 2005 target of 295,000.

Goal 8 - Alberta's workforce will be skilled and productive.

Skill Development - The percentage of employers satisfied with the skills of recent degree or diploma graduates was 87.6% in 2001-02 compared to 86.5% in 1999-00 (biannual survey), gaining slightly on the target of 90%.

Goal 9 - Alberta businesses will be increasingly innovative.

Business Innovation - Data for Alberta business use of the Internet to sell goods and services was not available from Statistics Canada as had been expected. A new core measure will be presented next year.

Goal 10 - Alberta's value-added industries will lead economic growth.

New Value-Added Industries - In 2000, the value-added sector grew by 5.1% in constant (1997) dollars and accounted for 30.7% of Alberta's real GDP, the same percentage as 1999 and not achieving the target to increase.

Goal 11 - Alberta will have effective and efficient infrastructure.

Infrastructure Capacity - In 2001, 95.4% of rural sections of the National Highway System

were at Level of Service B or better, approximately the same as last year (95.5%), meeting the target of 95%. Export gas pipeline utilization in 2001 was at 88% of capacity compared to 91% in 2000 (based on revised methodology), meeting the target for capacity to exceed demand. Industry and non-profit sponsored research at 28.2% of total university sponsored research in 2000-01, up from 26.5% in 1999-00 and satisfying the target to increase.

Goal 12 - Alberta will have a financially stable, open and accountable government.

Taxation Load - Albertans still enjoy the lowest provincial tax burden on persons among the provinces (55.2% of the provincial average in 2001-02 up from 49.8% in 2000-01). Alberta had the 2nd lowest provincial tax burden on business in 2001-02 (84.1% of the provincial average up from 82.4% in 2000-01), same ranking as last year and off target to have the lowest tax burden on business among the provinces.

Provincial Credit Rating - Alberta's blended credit rating as of March 31, 2002 was maintained at triple A, the highest possible rating for all three major credit rating agencies. Alberta is the only province with the top blended credit rating, achieving the target to be highest among the provinces.

Accumulated Debt - At March 31, 2002 Alberta's accumulated debt less \$2.7 billion cash set aside for future debt repayment was \$5.7 billion, compared to \$8.2 billion on March 31, 2001. Debt repayment has already exceeded the target set for 2004-05, reducing the repayment period by an estimated 10 years (2014-15). Alberta is the only province in a net asset position (\$9.8 billion as of

March 31, 2002, excluding pension liabilities).

Cost of Government - In 2000-01, per capita expenditure by the Alberta government was 104% of the average per capita expenditure of the nine other provinces, up from 95% in 1999-00 and moving off the target to remain 5% below the nine-province average.

Goal 13 - Alberta will have a fair and safe work environment.

Workplace Climate - Alberta's ranking among the provinces was 2nd lowest for person-days lost due to work stoppages in 2001, up from 4th lowest in 2000, and exceeding the target to be among the three lowest. Alberta was 3rd lowest for the rate of person-days lost due to workplace injury and disease in 1999, satisfying the target to be among the three lowest. Results for 2000 unavailable from Human Resources Development Canada at time of publication.

Goal 14 - Alberta businesses will increase exports.

New **Export Trade** - Alberta's value-added exports to international markets were \$22.6 billion in 2001, down 4.2% from \$23.6 billion in 2000, and moving away from the target to reach \$28.5 billion by 2004.

goal **7**

Alberta will have a prosperous economy

core measure(s) GROSS DOMESTIC PRODUCT
JOB GROWTH

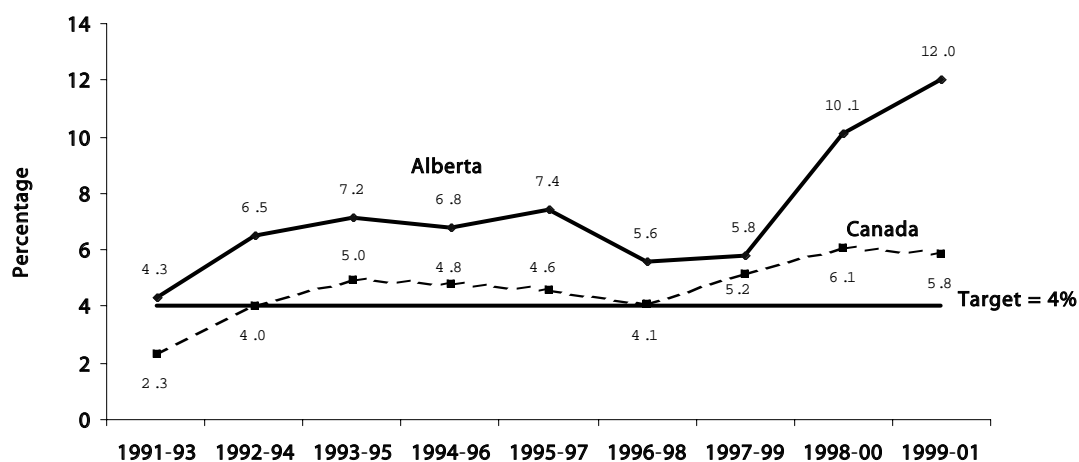
GROSS DOMESTIC PRODUCT (GDP)

DESCRIPTION Long-term growth rate of the Alberta economy as measured by the three-year average annual growth rate of current dollar GDP.

TARGET Three-year average annual GDP growth rate of 4 to 6%.

RESULTS Alberta's three-year average annual GDP growth rate was 12.0% for 1999 to 2001, far exceeding the target.

ALBERTA'S LONG-TERM GDP GROWTH RATE (THREE-YEAR AVERAGE ANNUAL GROWTH RATE OF CURRENT DOLLAR GDP)*



Source: Statistics Canada, Provincial Economic Accounts 2001; Alberta Finance, Alberta Economic Accounts 2000.
* Results for previous years revised.

DISCUSSION GDP is a direct measure of the strength of Alberta's economy. It is a measure of the value of all goods and services produced in Alberta. Tracking this measure over time will show changes in the strength and resilience of Alberta's economy.

As we are interested in the longer-term growth trend for the Alberta economy, we have used a three-year average for GDP growth to smooth out some of the cyclical variations common to our economy.

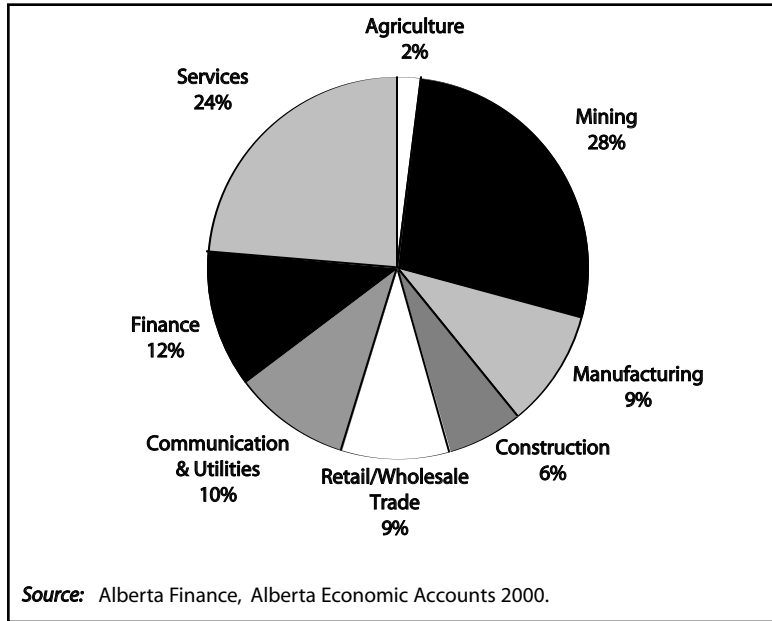
In 2001, current dollar GDP increased by an estimated 5.4% to \$150.3 billion. Alberta's economy performed well during the year despite declining energy prices and an economic slowdown in North America. The September 11th terrorist attacks on the U.S. further weakened the U.S. economy and led to a softening of energy prices. In spite of these circumstances the provincial economy continued to grow due to strong household spending fueled by a robust labour market and \$1.1 billion in provincial tax cuts, an increase in housing starts due to falling interest rates, a 43% boost in oilsands investment and record receipts in the livestock sector.

For more information, see the core measures methodology and related ministry measures in Appendices I and III.

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION

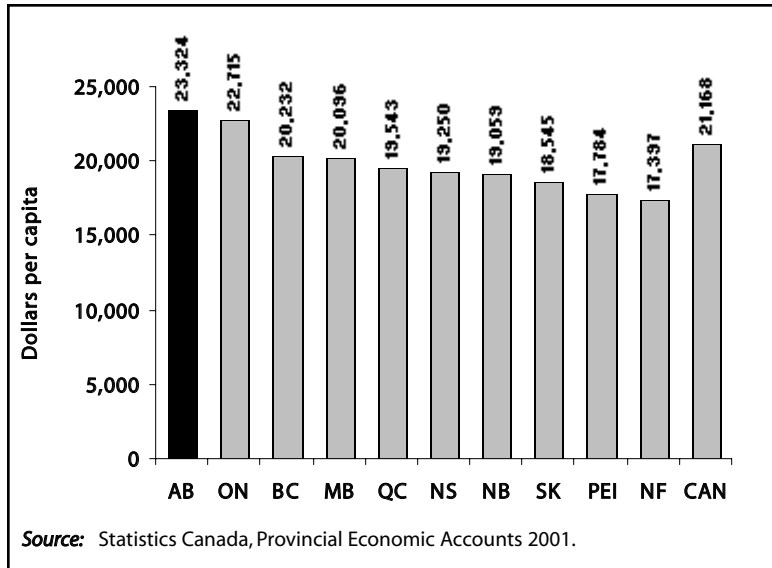
Alberta's GDP by Industry (2000)

This chart shows the percentage contribution to provincial (current dollar) GDP by various industry sectors in 2000.



Personal Disposable Income (2001)

This chart compares personal disposable income per capita for the provinces and Canada in 2001. Alberta ranks highest among the provinces.



SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION

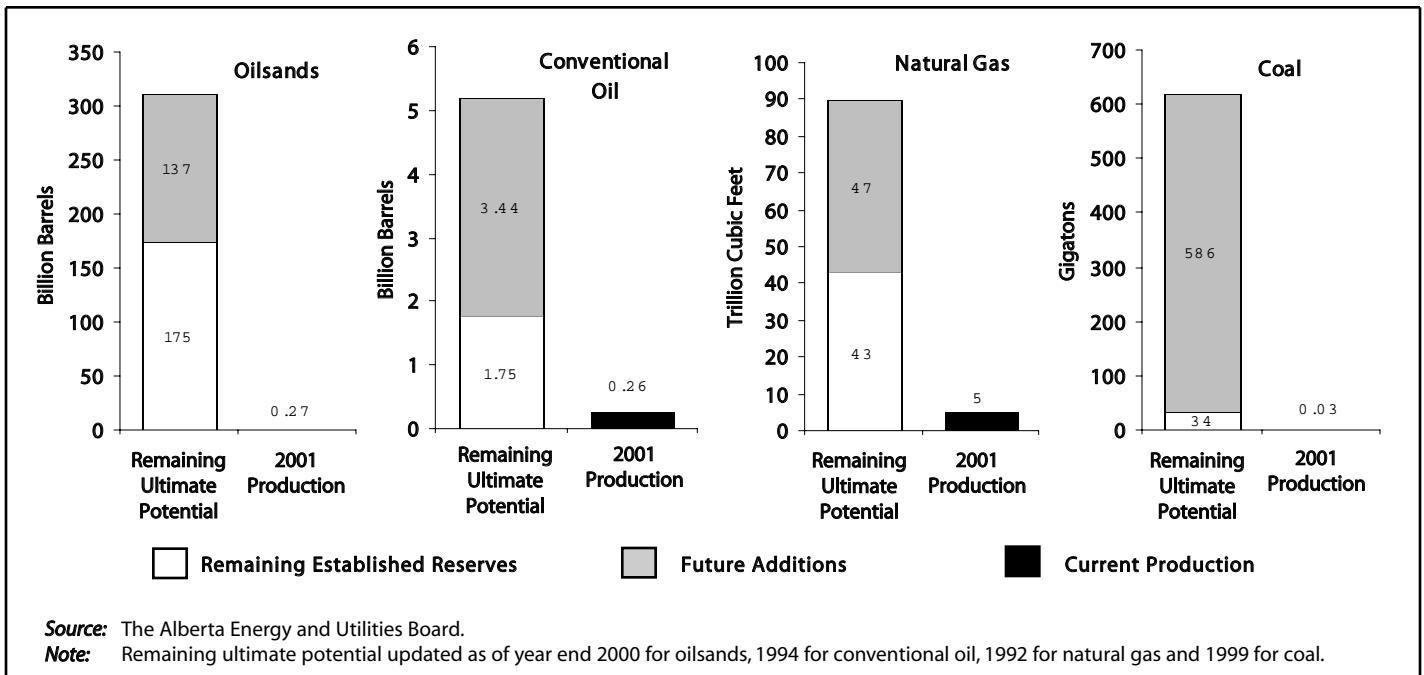
Non-Renewable Energy Resource Reserves

Reported estimates of Alberta's energy resource reserves are made based on current and anticipated technological and economic conditions. These estimates change over time as additional reserves are proven.

Remaining ultimate potential reserves include remaining established reserves (recoverable but not yet produced), plus future additions (estimates of potentially recoverable reserves).

Remaining established reserves are not a measure of the non-renewable energy resources that Alberta has left. They are discovered reserves, net of cumulative production, that are considered recoverable under today's technology and economic conditions. Estimates are revised upwards as more of the remaining ultimate potential becomes recoverable.

This chart shows the remaining ultimate potential reserves for Alberta's oilsands, conventional oil, natural gas and coal resources relative to current production.



JOB GROWTH

DESCRIPTION

Net number of jobs created in Alberta on an annual average basis.

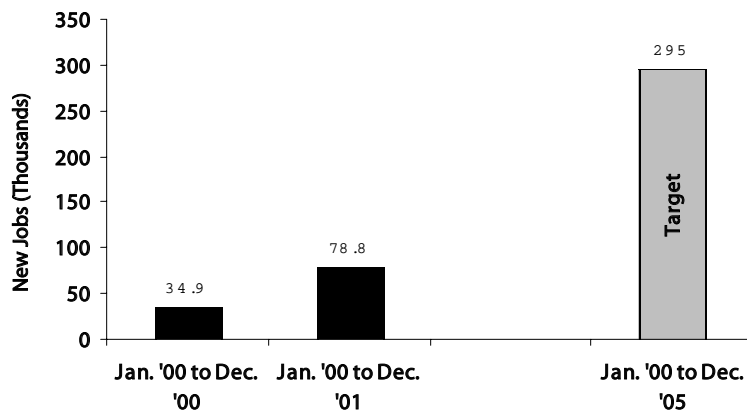
TARGET

295,000 new jobs in the 6 years ending December 2005.

RESULTS

43,900 new jobs were created in 2001, and 78,800 new jobs were created over the two-year period ending December 2001.

ALBERTA'S CUMULATIVE NET EMPLOYMENT GROWTH *



Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Survey.

* Annual average basis.

DISCUSSION

This measure shows the net number of jobs created in Alberta's economy on an annual average basis and is an indicator of the strength of the economy. A strong economy increases employment opportunities for Albertans, enabling them to benefit from the province's economic growth.

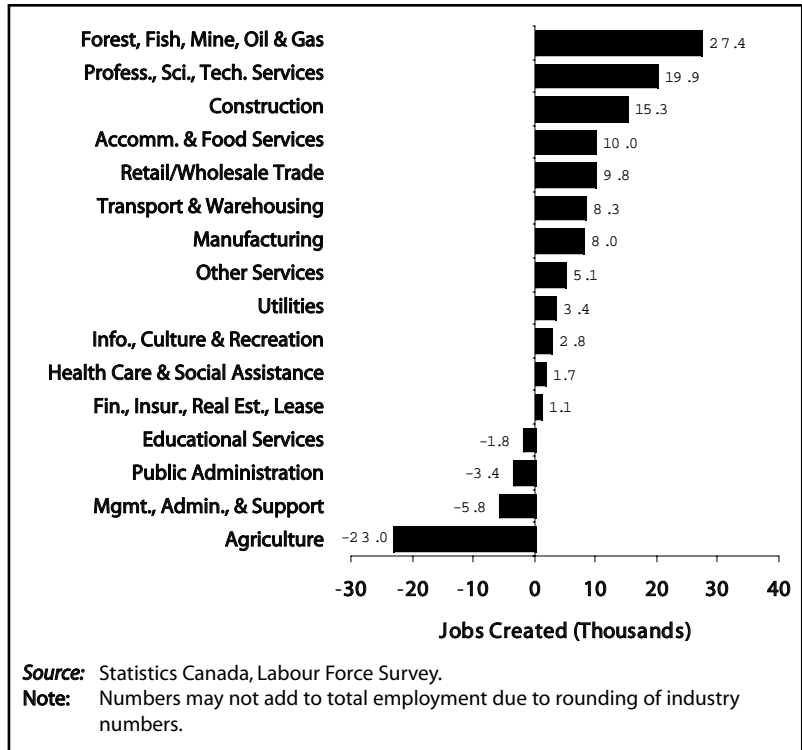
Alberta continued to enjoy a robust labour market in 2001 with the lowest average unemployment rate at 4.6% (on an annual average basis), the lowest annual rate since 1981. Employment increased by 2.8% in 2001, led by job growth in mining including oil and gas, professional, scientific and technical services, construction, accommodation and food services, retail trade, transportation and warehousing, and manufacturing.

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION

Alberta's Cumulative Net Employment Growth by Industry (January 2000-December 2001)

This chart shows the change in the net number of jobs created by various industry sectors over the two years ending December 2001.

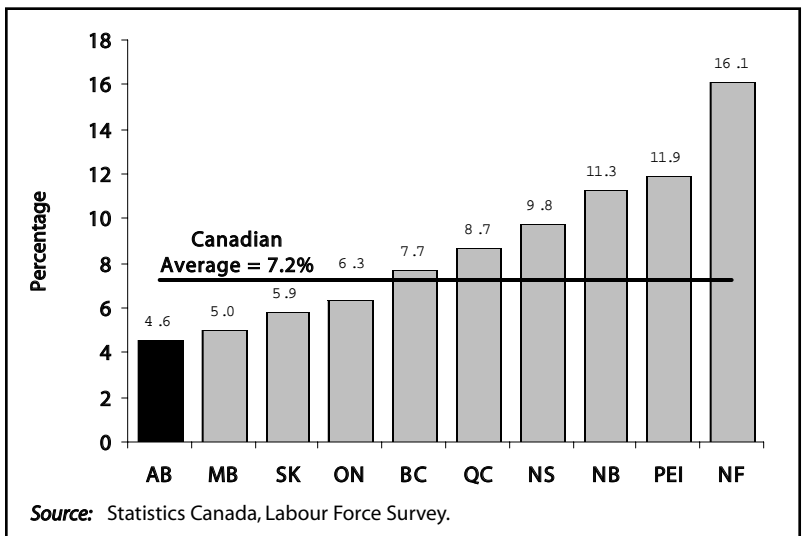
Total employment increased in both the goods and services producing sectors over the period, reflecting the diversification of Alberta's economy.



Provincial Unemployment Rates (2001)

This chart shows the annual average unemployment rates for the provinces and Canada for 2001.

Alberta had the lowest unemployment rate among the provinces.



SKILL DEVELOPMENT

DESCRIPTION

Employer satisfaction with recent post-secondary graduates' skills.

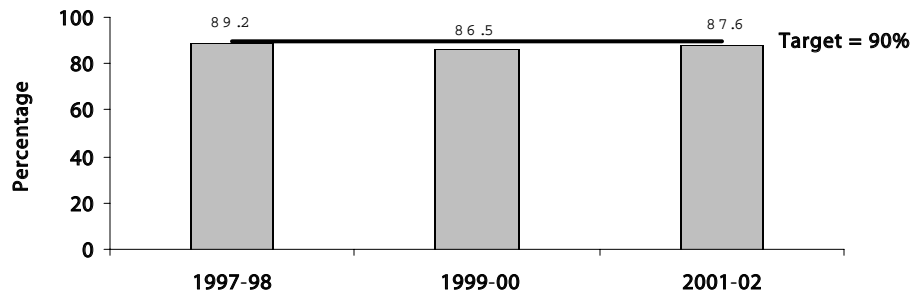
TARGET

90% of employers satisfied with recent post-secondary graduates' skills.

RESULTS

The percentage of employers who were either "satisfied" or "very satisfied" with recent degree or diploma graduates' skills was 87.6% in 2001-02.

EMPLOYER SATISFACTION WITH RECENT POST-SECONDARY GRADUATES' SKILLS (SATISFIED OR VERY SATISFIED WITH DEGREE OR DIPLOMA GRADUATES)*



Source: Employer Satisfaction Surveys conducted for Alberta Learning.
* Results for previous years revised.

DISCUSSION

Alberta businesses and industries need to remain competitive in global markets. This requires a highly-skilled and productive work force and an effective match between skill development and skill demand.

This measure provides a direct indicator of whether workforce skill levels match job requirements. The results for this measure are from surveys conducted every second year for Alberta Learning, which asks employers to indicate their level of satisfaction with post-secondary graduates' skills. Economic conditions in Alberta may influence employers' perceptions. In next year's report, the core measure will be expanded to include employer satisfaction with certificate graduates' skills. Certificate programs are typically up to one year in length.

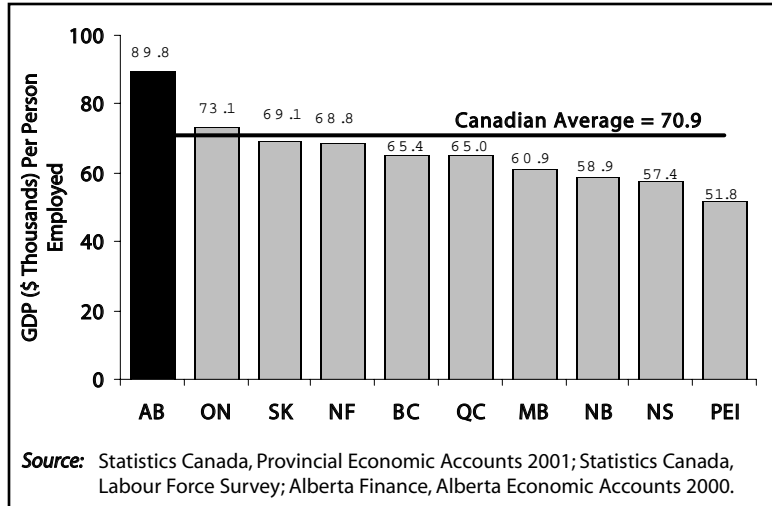
Employers involved in the Alberta apprenticeship and industry training system show very high levels of satisfaction with the skills that their journeymen acquired during training (see supplemental information). These results indicate that the training system responds well to industry needs for skilled trades people, which supports the overall government policy of sustaining economic progress and competitiveness in the province.

For more information, see the core measures methodology and related ministry measures in Appendices I and III.

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION

Provincial Labour Productivity (2000)

Alberta's labour productivity remained the highest among the provinces in 2000. Productivity is measured by GDP (thousands of current dollars) per person employed.



Employer Satisfaction with Apprenticeship Graduates

This chart shows the percentage of employers involved in the Alberta apprenticeship and industry training system who were “satisfied” or “very satisfied” with the skills that their journeymen acquired during training.



goal **9**

Alberta businesses will be increasingly innovative

core measure(s)

BUSINESS INNOVATION

BUSINESS INNOVATION

DESCRIPTION

Alberta business use of the Internet to sell goods and services.

TARGET

Alberta business use of the Internet will account for an increasing percentage of economic activity.

RESULTS

Currently, no suitable data is available for Alberta business use of the Internet to sell goods and services. The *Statistics Canada Information and Communications Technologies and Electronic Commerce Survey* noted in last year's report does not provide provincial data as had been expected.

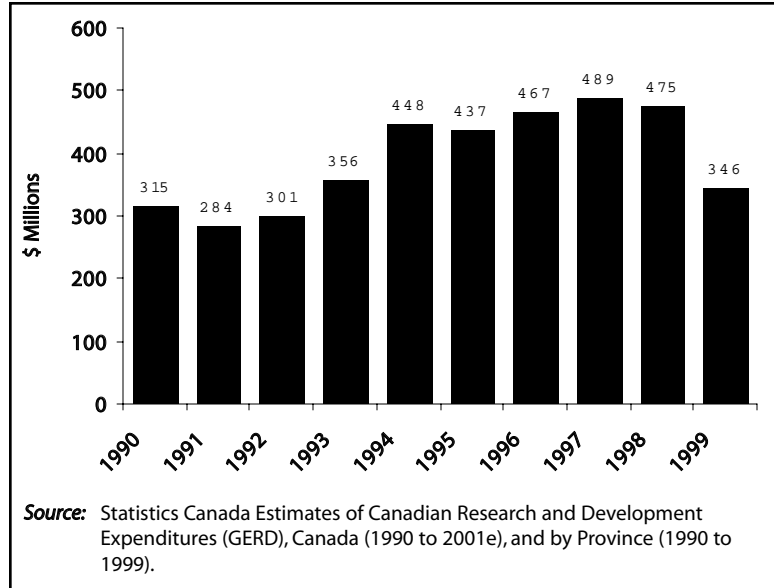
A new Business Innovation core measure was introduced in the *2002-05 Government of Alberta Business Plan* and will be reported on in next year's report. Information about the new core measure is presented following the supplemental information.

For more information, see the core measures methodology and related ministry measures in Appendices I and III.

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION

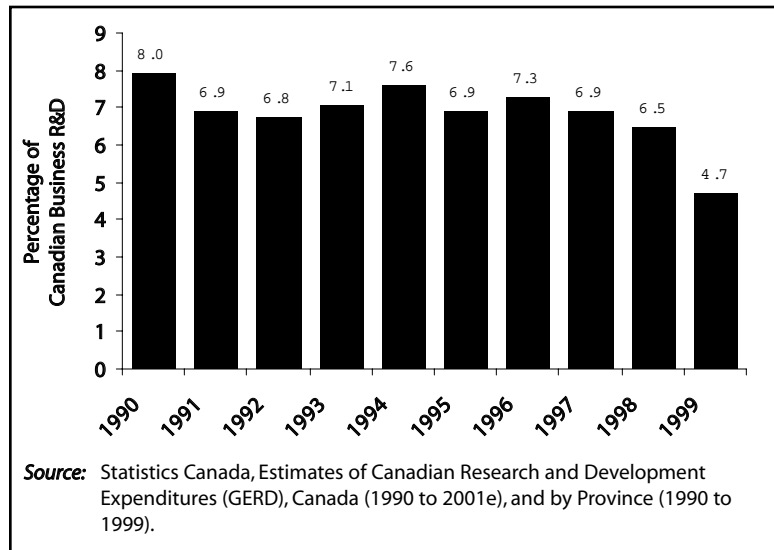
Value of Alberta Business Research and Development Expenditure

This chart shows the total value of business R&D in Alberta over the ten years up to 1999.



Alberta Business Research and Development Expenditure (relative to Canadian business R&D)

This chart shows Alberta's share of Canadian business research and development spending over the ten years up to 1999.



NEW CORE MEASURE FOR NEXT YEAR

Business Innovation

This will appear as a new core measure in next year's report for this goal.

WHY A NEW MEASURE

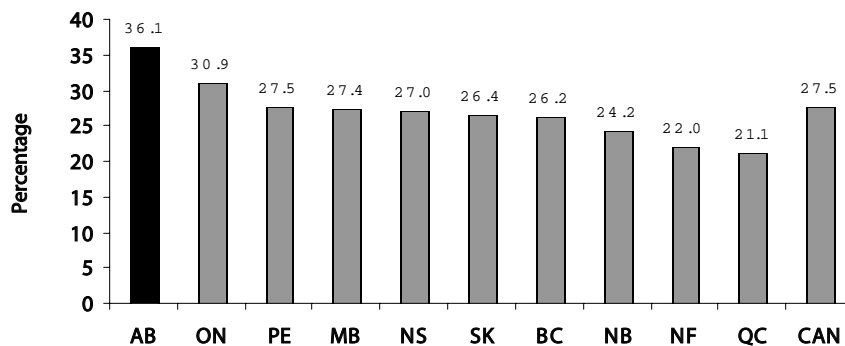
Innovation is a process through which economic value is extracted from knowledge. It is through innovation that new products are introduced to markets, new production processes are developed and implemented, and organizational changes are made. Businesses that are innovative are more profitable, create more jobs and fare better in global markets.

The Internet is an integral part of the innovative process for the creation, distribution and application of knowledge and information. The new core measure broadens the scope for measuring innovativeness to include all business use of the Internet including e-commerce. Internet-connectedness allows the exchange and sharing of information as well as relationship building among businesses and with their customers. E-commerce can be viewed as one of many innovative applications of Internet technology to business activities.

NEW MEASURE

The new, broader Business Innovation core measure was introduced in the *2002-05 Government of Alberta Business Plan*. Data for the measure is from Statistics Canada's Household Internet Use Survey. Results of the 2000 survey show that the percentage of Alberta households with at least one member who uses the Internet at work was 36.1%, up from 27.6 % in 1999. Alberta has had the highest percentage of households that use the Internet at work among the provinces since 1997. The government's SuperNet project promotes business use of the Internet by endeavouring to provide competitively priced high-speed Internet access to all geographic locations with the province. The Connectivity 2000 E-Business Information Kit initiative is designed to encourage small and medium sized-Alberta companies to adapt to today's competitive knowledge-based economy by addressing e-commerce and other on-line business concerns.

PERCENTAGE OF HOUSEHOLDS USING THE INTERNET AT WORK (2000)



Source: Statistics Canada, Household Internet Use Survey 2000, Cat. No. 56M0002XCB.

goal 10 Alberta's value-added industries will lead economic growth

core measure(s) VALUE-ADDED INDUSTRIES

New

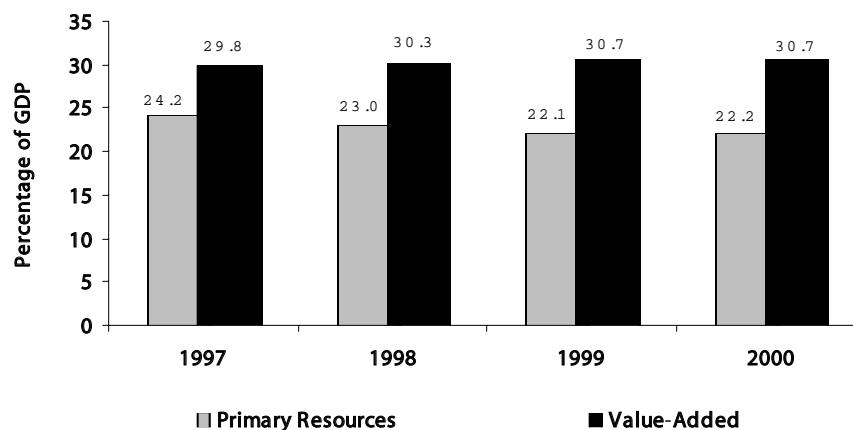
VALUE-ADDED INDUSTRIES

DESCRIPTION Percentage of provincial real GDP contributed by the manufacturing and knowledge-intensive services industries as proxies for value-added industries in Alberta.

TARGET Alberta's value-added industries will account for an increasing percentage of provincial GDP.

RESULTS Alberta's value-added sector accounted for 30.7% of provincial real GDP in 2000.

ALBERTA VALUE-ADDED AND PRIMARY RESOURCES INDUSTRIES (AS A PERCENTAGE OF PROVINCIAL REAL GDP)*



Source: Statistics Canada, Provincial Economic Accounts 2001; Alberta Finance, Alberta Economic Accounts 2000.
* Based on estimated data.

DISCUSSION Alberta's economy has historically been resource based and resources still account for over 22% of provincial GDP. By increasing the level of value-added activity, Alberta's global competitiveness and long-term economic stability can be enhanced. Value-added industries include resource processing, manufacturing of goods, and the provision of various services.

This measure tracks the percentage of constant (1997) dollar provincial GDP (at factor cost) contributed by the manufacturing and knowledge-intensive services sectors, as a proxy for Alberta's value-added industries. Primary resource industries are included for comparison to the value-added sector. The scope of the measure has been expanded from last year to include the high value-added knowledge-intensive services sectors.

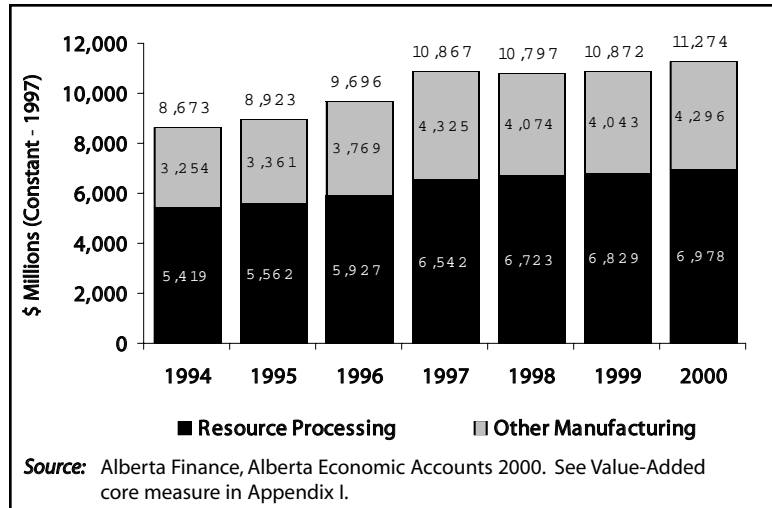
In 2000, Alberta's value-added sector grew by 5.1% in constant (1997) dollar terms, but remained at 30.7% of provincial real GDP (at factor cost).

For more information, see the core measures methodology and related ministry measures in Appendices I and III.

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION

Value of Resource Processing and Other Manufacturing

This chart shows the amount of Alberta's GDP generated by resource processing and other manufacturing industries measured in constant (1997) dollars.



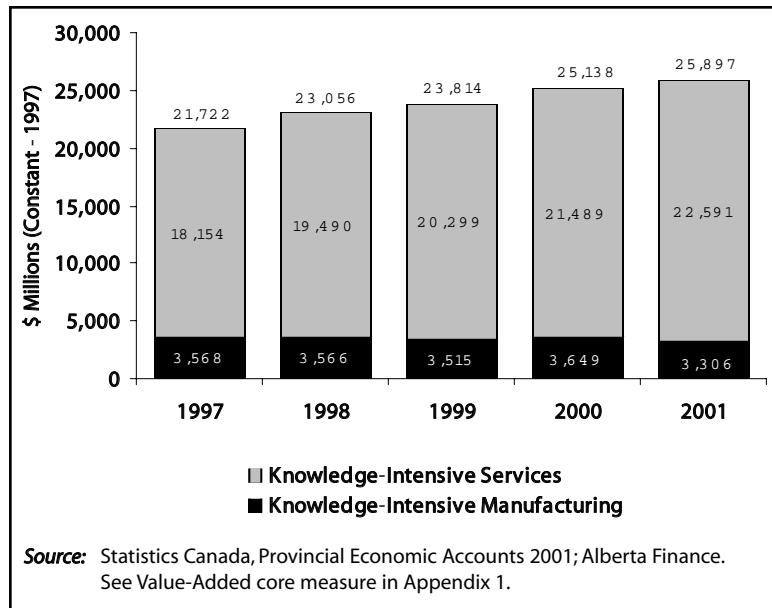
Value of Knowledge-Intensive Manufacturing and Services

This chart shows the value of Alberta's knowledge-intensive manufacturing and service industries in constant (1997) dollars.

Knowledge-intensive industries are high value added and employ a high percentage of knowledge workers, or involve the development or application of advanced technologies.

Knowledge-intensive manufacturing includes computer and electronic products, aerospace products and parts, and chemical and chemical products manufacturing.

Knowledge-intensive services include information and cultural services, professional, scientific and technical services, monetary authorities and depository credit intermediation, educational services, health care and social assistance, and various membership organizations.



goal 11 Alberta will have effective and efficient infrastructure

core measure(s) INFRASTRUCTURE CAPACITY

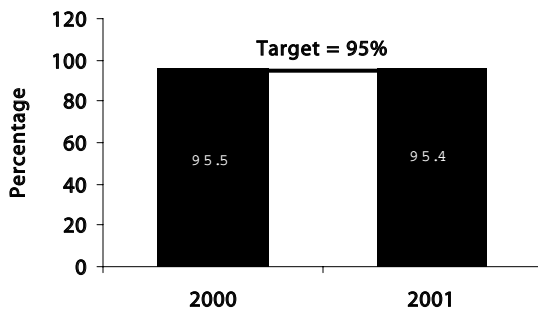
INFRASTRUCTURE CAPACITY

DESCRIPTION Sufficiency of Alberta's infrastructure system as measured by the ease of traffic flow on Alberta's rural National Highway System, the utilization rate of our export gas pipelines and the level of industry and non-profit sponsored research at Alberta's universities.

TARGET 95% of rural sections of the National Highway System at Level of Service B or better upon completion of the North-South Trade Corridor; export gas pipeline capacity will exceed demand; and continue to increase industry and non-profit sponsored research.

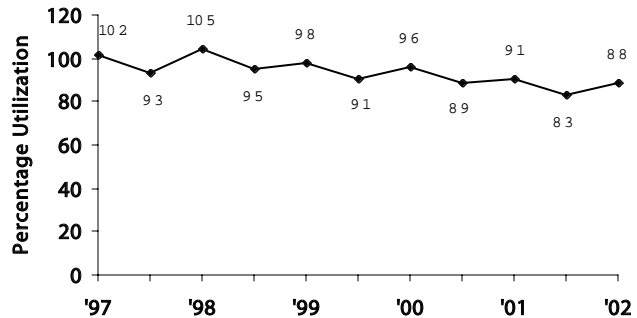
RESULTS In 2001, 95.4% of rural sections of the National Highway System in Alberta were at Level of Service B or better, and there was sufficient export gas pipeline capacity to meet demand. Industry and non-profit sponsored research increased by \$24.8 million, representing 28.2% of total sponsored research at Alberta universities in 2000-01.

RURAL NATIONAL HIGHWAY SYSTEM LEVEL OF SERVICE (% OF SYSTEM AT LEVEL OF SERVICE B OR BETTER)*



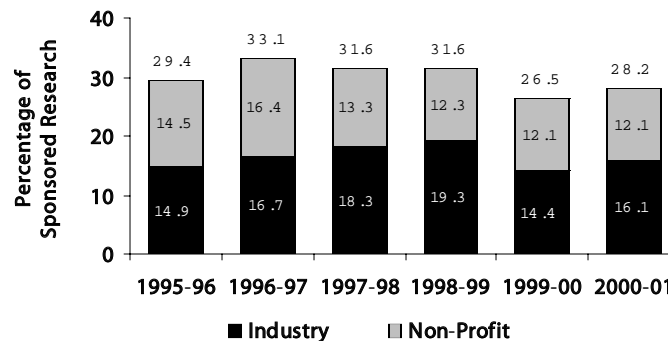
Source: Alberta Transportation.
* Based on revised methodology. See Appendix I.

EXPORT GAS PIPELINE UTILIZATION* (JANUARY 1 AND JULY 1 OF EACH YEAR)



Source: Alberta Energy. Derived from Nova Gas Transmission Ltd. and Alliance Pipeline Ltd. Only the four major export points are included.
* 2000, 2001 and 2002 based on revised methodology. See Appendix I.

INDUSTRY AND NON-PROFIT SPONSORED RESEARCH AT ALBERTA UNIVERSITIES



Source: University of Alberta, University of Calgary, University of Lethbridge, Athabasca University.

For more information, see the core measures methodology and related ministry measures in Appendices I and III.

DISCUSSION

Quality infrastructure is regarded as an essential building block to support economic development. **Infrastructure Capacity** is a measure of whether Alberta's existing infrastructure system has sufficient capacity to support current economic activity and to facilitate future growth.

This measure tracks the ability of Alberta's highways to accommodate traffic flow volumes, export gas pipelines to accommodate throughput and the province's university research system to accommodate current and future research activities.

The Rural National Highway System Level of Service measure tracks the ability of traffic to move freely on Alberta's highways. Level of Service B means that highway users can travel at posted speeds and easily manoeuvre and overtake slower traffic. While increases in traffic volume reduce the level of service, the completion of specific highway improvements such as interchanges, widenings and the twinning of the North-South Trade Corridor, for example, improve traffic flow.

In 2001, 95.4% of rural sections of the National Highway System in Alberta were at Level of Service B or better. The methodology for this measure has been updated (see Infrastructure Capacity core measure in Appendix I). The results for 2000 have been revised from last year's report based on the change in methodology.

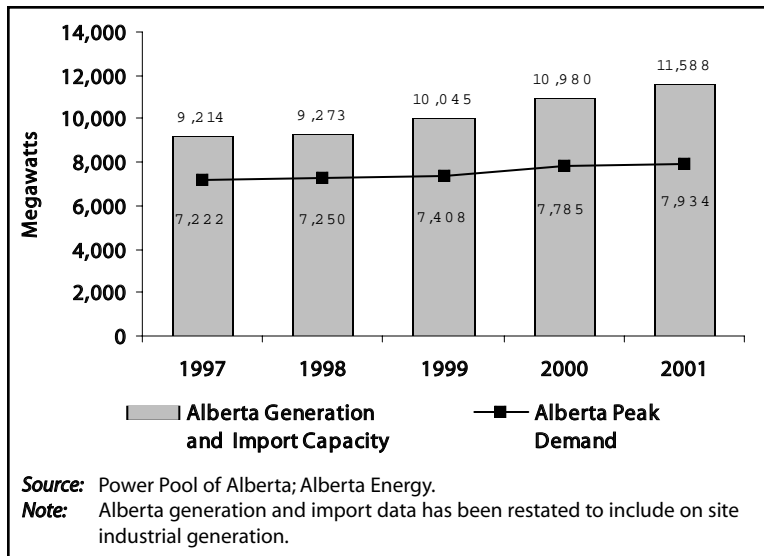
The Export Gas Pipeline Utilization measure is an indicator of Alberta's access to natural gas markets. The government monitors instances when demand for natural gas throughput exceeds available take-away pipeline capacity, as has occurred in past years. Available capacity increased in late 1998 with expansion of the TransCanada Pipelines and Foothills/Northern Border Pipeline. The Alliance Pipeline project further increased capacity in late 2000, boosting take-away capacity sufficiently to meet demand.

The level of industry and non-profit sponsored research at Alberta universities is an indication of the utilization of our publicly accessible knowledge base for non-government sponsored research. The dollar value of industry and non-profit sponsored research rose by \$24.8 million in 2000-01, representing 28.2% of total sponsored research at Alberta universities.

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION

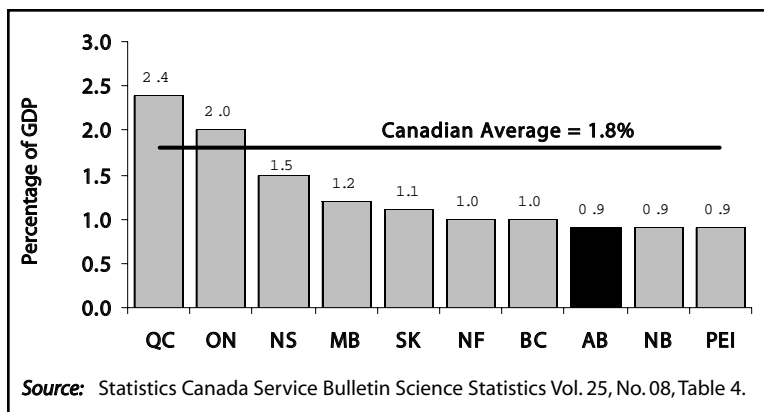
Alberta's Electrical System Capacity

We currently have 10,638 megawatts of power generation capacity (compared to 10,030 megawatts in 2000) and access to 950 megawatts from other jurisdictions for a total electrical system capacity of 11,588 megawatts. Not all system capacity is continuously available to meet demand. Capacity available to meet demand is currently 10,169 megawatts. New supply continues to come on-line, including sources such as co-generation, biomass and wind power. Additional power will also become available from neighbouring jurisdictions as the interconnection capacity increases.



Canadian and Provincial Gross Expenditure on Research and Development (1999)

This chart shows the gross expenditure on R&D for Canada and each province as a percentage of GDP. This measure is the standard international basis for comparison of R&D effort.

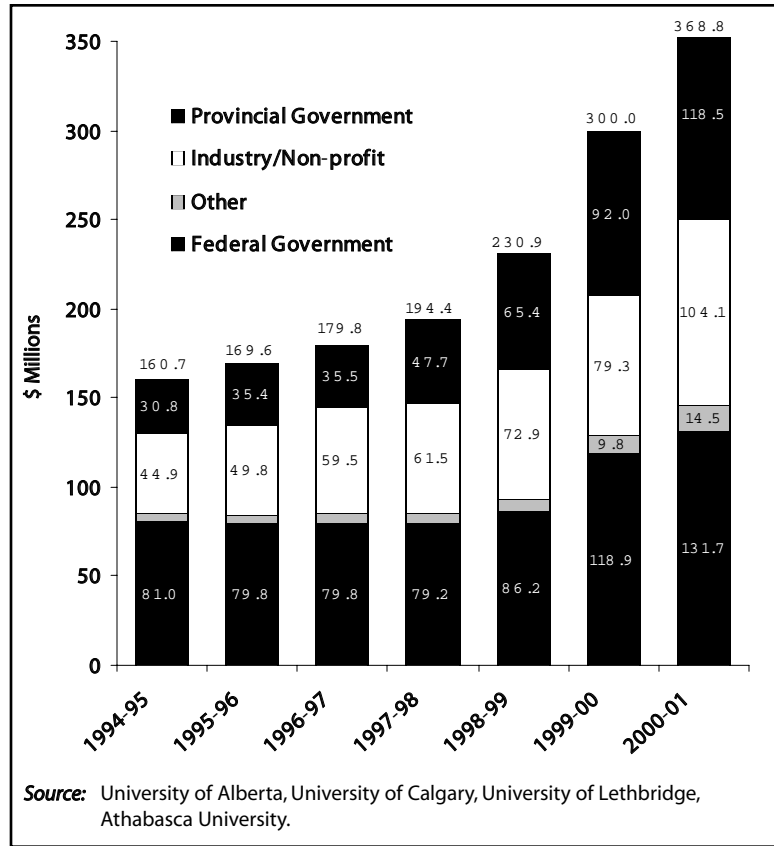


SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION

Sponsored Research at Alberta Universities

This chart provides a breakdown of the value of sponsored research by funding source. Increases in research funding indicate that Alberta's university research system is expanding its capacity to undertake current and future research activities.

Since all R&D activity, regardless of funding source, contributes to Alberta's research infrastructure, this measure will replace Industry and Non-Profit Sponsored Research as part of the core measure for this goal in next year's report.



goal 12 Alberta will have a financially stable, open and accountable government

core measure(s) TAXATION LOAD
 PROVINCIAL CREDIT RATING
 ACCUMULATED DEBT
 COST OF GOVERNMENT

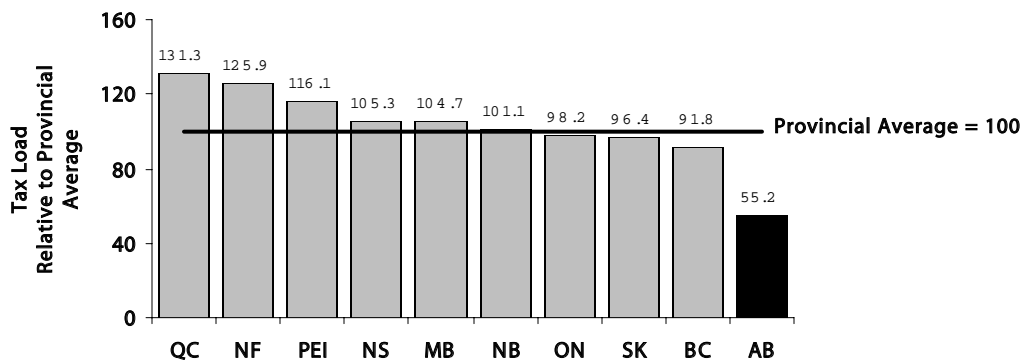
TAXATION LOAD

DESCRIPTION Alberta's provincial taxation load on persons and business relative to the provincial average.

TARGET Maintain the lowest tax load on persons and business among the provinces.

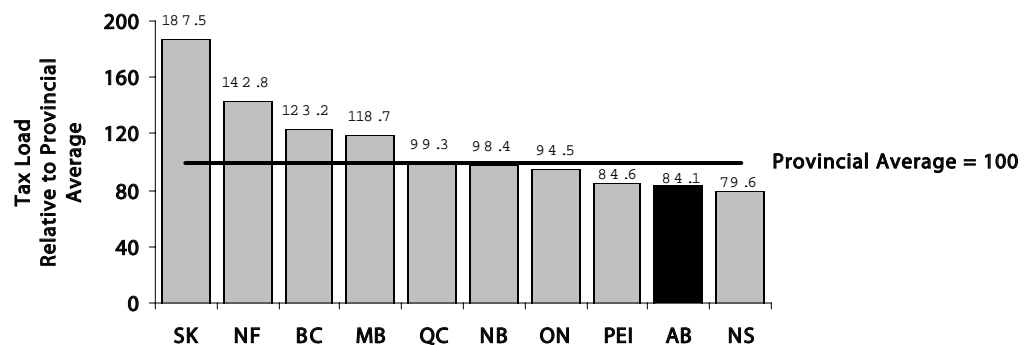
RESULTS In 2001-02, Alberta's provincial tax load on persons was 55.2% of the provincial average, the lowest in Canada. The province's tax load on business was 84.1% of the provincial average, the 2nd lowest in Canada.

PROVINCIAL TAX LOAD ON PERSONS (2001-02)



Source: Federal Department of Finance, Third Estimate for 2001-02, February 2002; Alberta Finance.

PROVINCIAL TAX LOAD ON BUSINESS (2001-02)



Source: Federal Department of Finance, Third Estimate for 2001-02, February 2002; Alberta Finance.

For more information, see the core measures methodology and related ministry measures in Appendices I and III.

core measure(s)

TAXATION LOAD
 PROVINCIAL CREDIT RATING
 ACCUMULATED DEBT
 COST OF GOVERNMENT

DISCUSSION

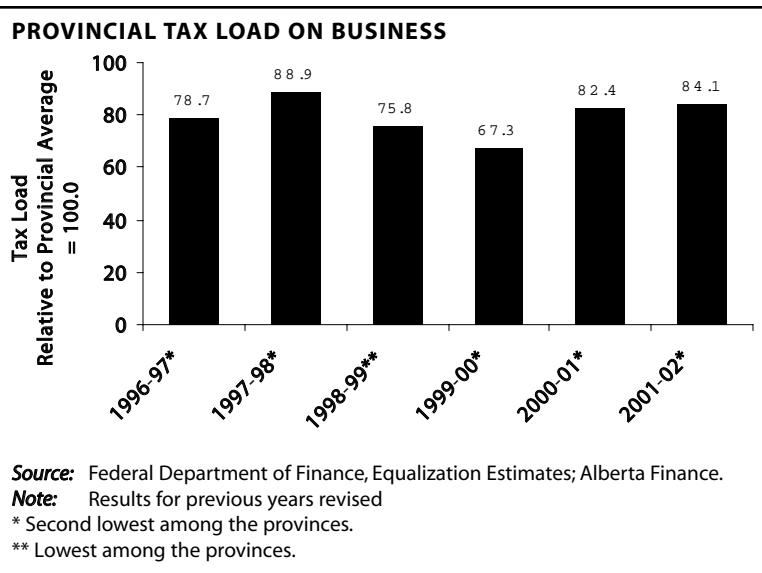
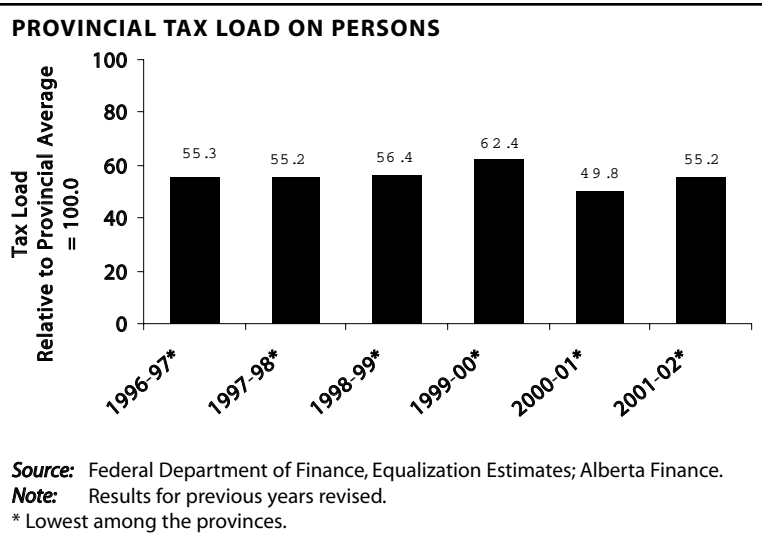
A comprehensive indicator of the provincial tax burden on Albertans is provincial tax load expressed as a percentage of the average tax load of all the provinces. Tax load on persons includes income, sales, tobacco, fuel and payroll taxes, and health care premiums. In 2001-02, Alberta had the lowest provincial tax load on persons in Canada (55.2% of the provincial average), and the 2nd lowest tax load on business (84.1%) next to Nova Scotia (79.6%).

Alberta has had the lowest tax load on persons since 1996-97, and the 2nd lowest tax load on business for five of the past six years. Alberta's provincial tax payable for 2002 by a family of four with two children is the lowest among the provinces (see supplemental information).

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION

Alberta Provincial Tax Load

These charts show Alberta's recent provincial tax load on persons and business as a percentage of the average tax loads of the ten provinces.



core measure(s)

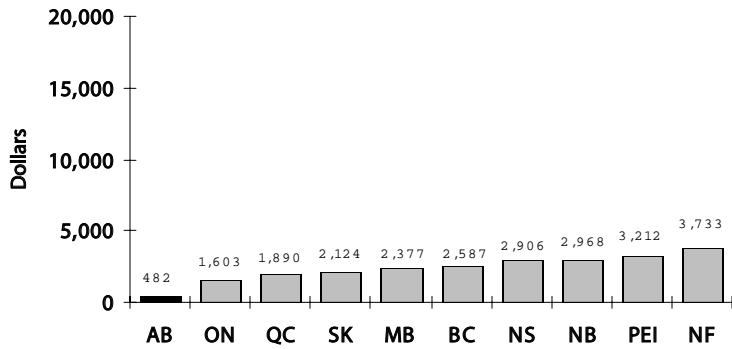
TAXATION LOAD
 PROVINCIAL CREDIT RATING
 ACCUMULATED DEBT
 COST OF GOVERNMENT

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION

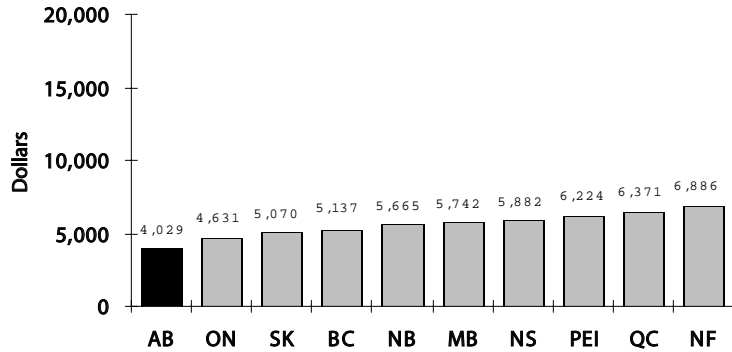
Selected Provincial Tax Payable by a Family of Four (2002)

These charts show an inter-provincial comparison of provincial taxes payable by a family of four with two children earning \$30,000, \$60,000 and \$100,000 per year. Taxes payable include provincial income, sales, payroll, tobacco and fuel taxes, and health care premiums.

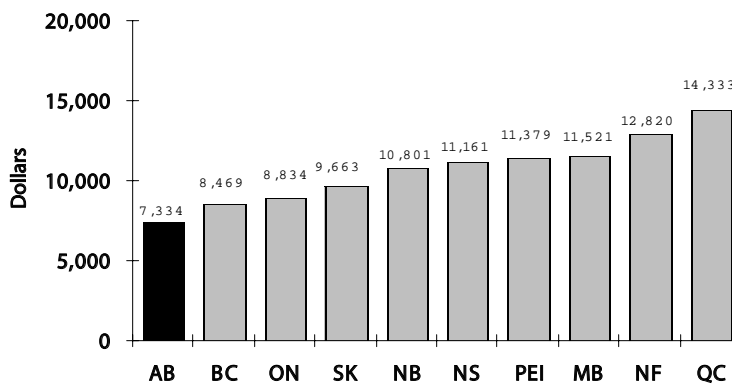
ONE INCOME FAMILY EARNING \$30,000



TWO INCOME FAMILY EARNING \$60,000



TWO INCOME FAMILY EARNING \$100,000



Source: Alberta Finance.

Note: Assumptions for the calculation can be found in Budget 2002, p 122. Calculations are based on tax parameters known at February 26, 2002. Provincial income tax in Quebec is net of the federal abatement.

goal **12** Alberta will have a financially stable, open and accountable government

core measure(s)

TAXATION LOAD
 PROVINCIAL CREDIT RATING
 ACCUMULATED DEBT
 COST OF GOVERNMENT

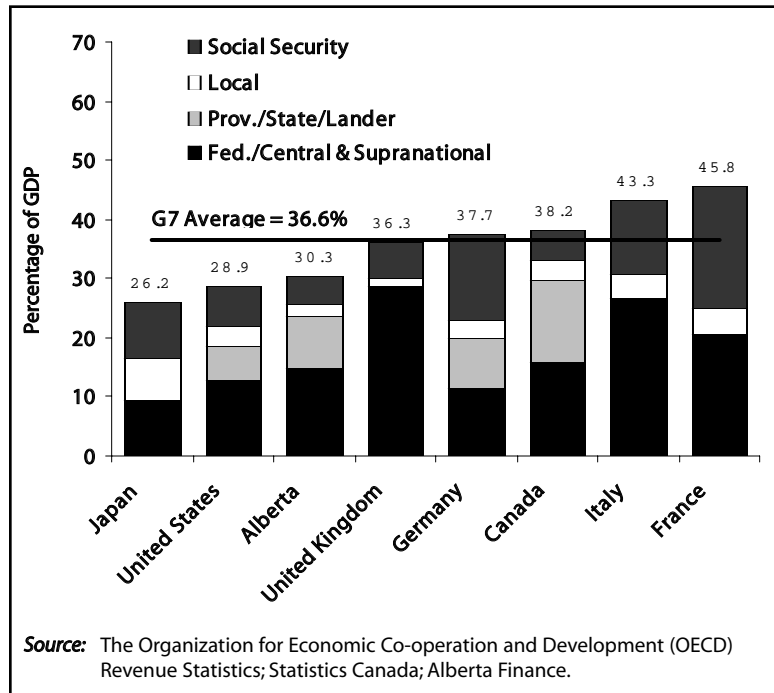
SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION

G7 Total Tax Load (1999)

This chart compares Alberta's tax load as a percentage of GDP to the tax loads of the G7 countries.

The tax load in each jurisdiction includes all applicable municipal, provincial/state, federal and supranational level taxes, and social security levies.

Alberta's tax load is more than six percentage points lower than the G7 average.



core measure(s)

TAXATION LOAD
PROVINCIAL CREDIT RATING
 ACCUMULATED DEBT
 COST OF GOVERNMENT

PROVINCIAL CREDIT RATING

DESCRIPTION

Alberta's blended credit rating for domestic debt relative to the other provinces.

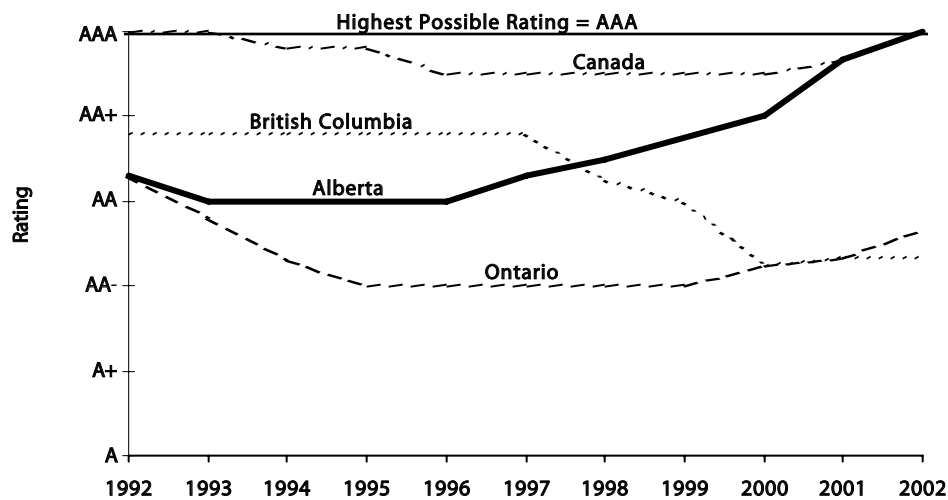
TARGET

The highest blended credit rating for domestic debt among the provinces.

RESULTS

Alberta's blended credit rating as of March 31, 2002 for domestic debt was triple A, the highest among the provinces.

ALBERTA'S BLENDED CREDIT RATING FOR DOMESTIC DEBT AT FISCAL YEAR END MARCH 31*



Source: Alberta Finance.

Note: The blended credit rating is an average of the credit ratings issued by the following credit rating agencies: Standard and Poor's Rating Services, Moody's Investors Service Limited and Dominion Bond Rating Service.

* Includes Canada's upgrade to triple A by Moody's Investors Service Limited in May 2002.

DISCUSSION

A credit rating is an independent credit rating agency's assessment of the future ability of an organization to repay its long-term debt, and a method of comparing the quality of different bond issues. Alberta's domestic debt credit rating was upgraded to triple A (the highest rating) by Standard and Poor's Rating Services, Moody's Investors Service Limited and Dominion Bond Rating Service in 2001. Alberta is the only province with the highest rating by all three major rating agencies.

Alberta's high triple A blended credit rating reflects the rating agencies' positive assessment of the province's fiscal, economic and political environment. Alberta's top credit rating means that Alberta can borrow money at a lower cost than any other province, reducing the province's debt servicing costs. Alberta's foreign currency debt rating was upgraded to triple A by Moody's Investors Service Limited in May 2002 following the triple A upgrade for the federal government's domestic and foreign dollar debt by the rating agency.

goal **12** Alberta will have a financially stable, open and accountable government

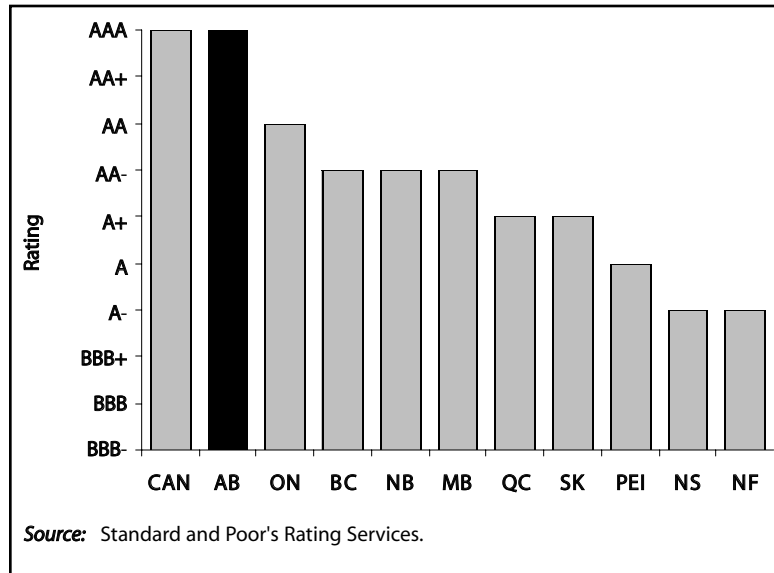
core measure(s)

TAXATION LOAD
PROVINCIAL CREDIT RATING
 ACCUMULATED DEBT
 COST OF GOVERNMENT

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION

Interprovincial Comparison of Domestic Debt Credit Rating (at March 31, 2002)

The chart compares provincial and federal credit ratings for Canadian dollar denominated debt by Standard and Poor's, a major credit rating agency. Alberta is the only province to have the highest possible credit rating (AAA).



core measure(s)

TAXATION LOAD
 PROVINCIAL CREDIT RATING
ACCUMULATED DEBT
 COST OF GOVERNMENT

ACCUMULATED DEBT

DESCRIPTION

Alberta's accumulated debt, which is the sum of the outstanding consolidated debt of the General Revenue Fund, the debt of the Alberta Social Housing Corporation (net of borrowings from the General Revenue Fund) and the government's liability for school construction.

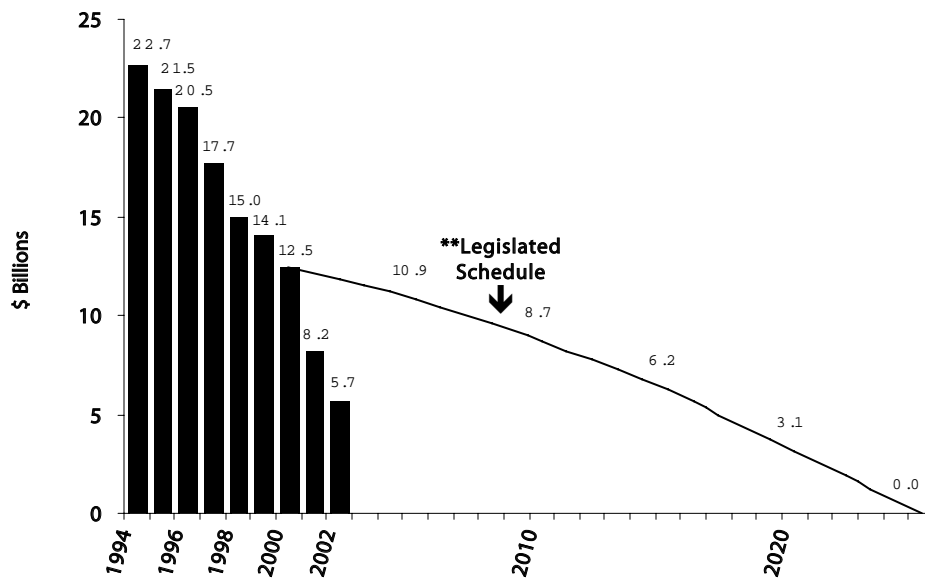
TARGET

Reduce the March 31, 2000 accumulated debt by at least 13% by 2004-05 and eliminate it no later than 2024-25.

RESULTS

At March 31, 2002 Alberta's accumulated debt less \$2.7 billion cash set aside for future debt repayment was \$5.7 billion. 55% of the March 31, 2000 accumulated debt has been repaid, exceeding the 2004-05 target of 13% and shortening the debt repayment period by an estimated ten years (2014-15).

ALBERTA'S ACCUMULATED DEBT AT FISCAL YEAR END MARCH 31*



Source: Government of Alberta, Consolidated Financial Statements for the year ended March 31, 2002.
 * Less \$2.7 billion cash set aside for future debt repayment in 2001-02 (\$2.1 billion in 2000-01).
 ** Accumulated Debt Elimination Schedule of the *Fiscal Responsibility Act* (5 year milestones).

goal **12** Alberta will have a financially stable, open and accountable government

core measure(s)

TAXATION LOAD
 PROVINCIAL CREDIT RATING
ACCUMULATED DEBT
 COST OF GOVERNMENT

DISCUSSION

Debt is an indicator of the financial strength and long-term stability of the province. A high amount of debt burdens future generations of Albertans with debt servicing costs and debt repayment obligations.

As of March 31, 2002 Alberta's accumulated debt less \$2.7 billion cash set aside for future debt repayment was \$5.7 billion, down from \$8.2 billion last year. In addition, the government has committed a further \$414 million to debt repayment as a result of the higher than expected 2001-02 year-end economic cushion. This amount will be transferred in 2002-03 from other financial assets and will bring accumulated debt less cash set aside for future debt repayment to \$5.3 billion.

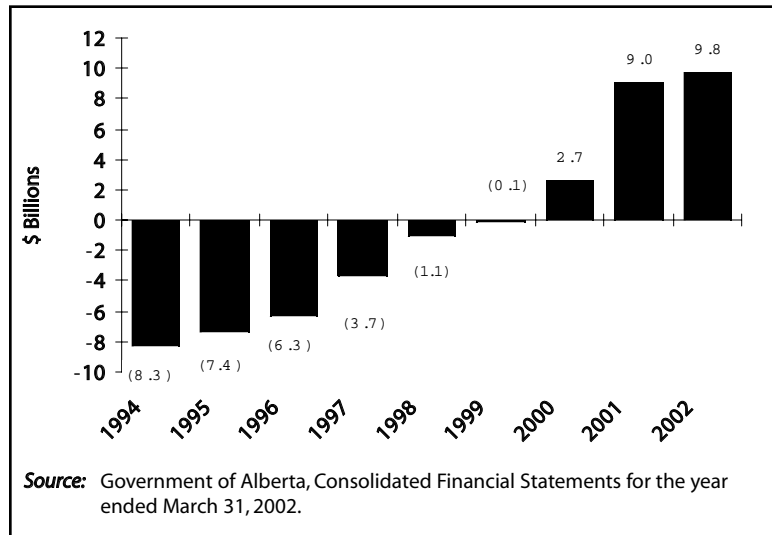
The *Fiscal Responsibility Act* sets out the government's minimum required schedule to repay the \$12.5 billion of accumulated debt remaining as of March 31, 2000 over a maximum of 25 years. The legislation includes five-year milestones for repayment of the accumulated debt. Accelerated debt repayment over the last two years has shortened the repayment period by an estimated 10 years (2014-15).

Alberta is the only province in a net asset position at \$9.8 billion (6.5% of GDP). Alberta's debt servicing costs decreased by \$206 million to 3.5% of total provincial revenue in 2001-02.

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION

Alberta's Net Assets (Net Debt) (at fiscal year end March 31)

The province's net asset (net debt) position is the difference between its financial assets and total liabilities, excluding pension obligations. The province's legislated plan was to eliminate net debt by 2009-10 (*Balanced Budget and Debt Retirement Act*). Alberta's net debt was eliminated in the 1999-00 fiscal year.



goal **12** Alberta will have a financially stable, open and accountable government

core measure(s)

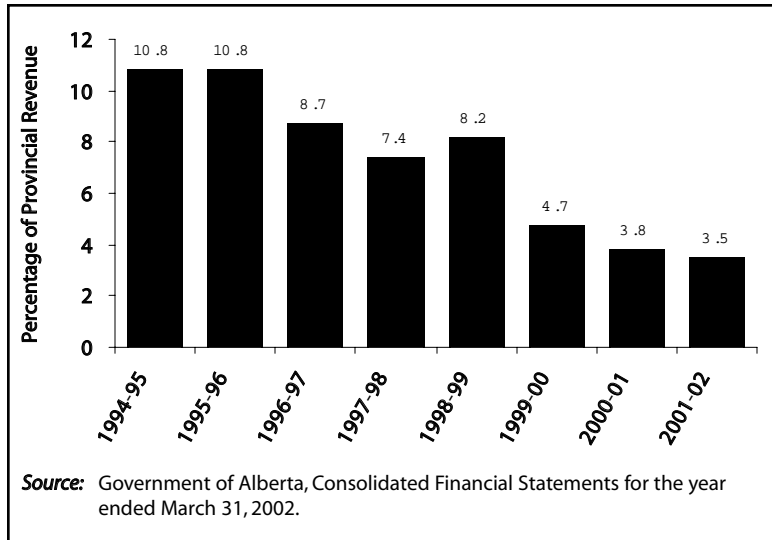
TAXATION LOAD
 PROVINCIAL CREDIT RATING
ACCUMULATED DEBT
 COST OF GOVERNMENT

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION

Canadian Institute of Chartered Accountants' Indicators of Government Financial Condition

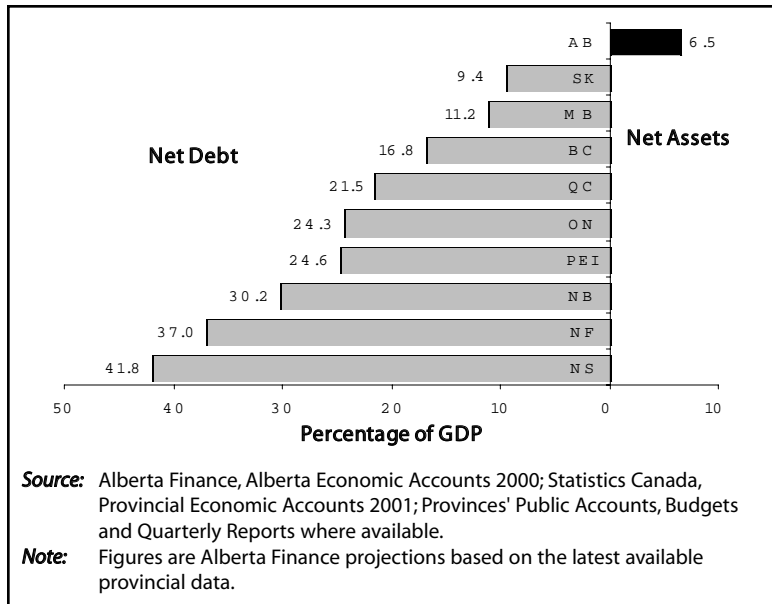
Alberta Debt Servicing Costs

This chart shows Alberta's debt servicing costs as a percentage of provincial revenue.



Provinces' Net Debt (Net Assets) as a Percentage of GDP (at March 31, 2002)

This chart shows each province's net debt as a percentage of its GDP. Alberta is the only province in a net asset position at 6.5% of GDP (\$9.8 billion).



core measure(s)

TAXATION LOAD
 PROVINCIAL CREDIT RATING
 ACCUMULATED DEBT
COST OF GOVERNMENT

COST OF GOVERNMENT

DESCRIPTION

Alberta government expenditures per capita as a percentage of the nine other provinces.

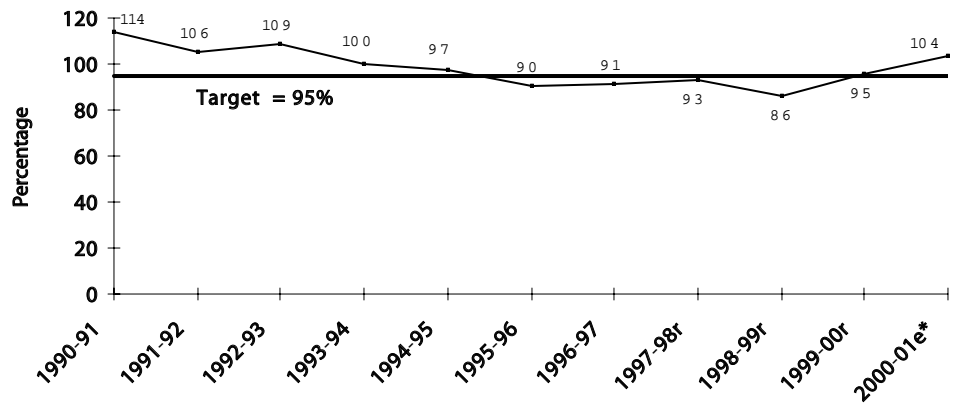
TARGET

Remain 5% below the average per capita government expenditure of the nine other provinces.

RESULTS

In 2000-01, Alberta government per capita expenditure increased to 104% of the average per capita expenditure of the nine other provinces, missing the target to remain 5% below the nine-province average.

ALBERTA GOVERNMENT EXPENDITURE PER CAPITA
 (AS A PERCENTAGE OF THE NINE OTHER PROVINCES)



Source: Statistics Canada, Public Institutions Division, Financial Management Statistics; Alberta Finance.
 r = revised e = estimate

* Does not include power auction proceeds administered by the Alberta Power Pool Council. See Appendix I.

DISCUSSION

The level of government expenditures is an indicator of the fiscal responsibility of the province. This measure compares the Alberta government's per capita expenditure with the average of the nine other provinces.

In 2000-01, Alberta was 4% above the nine-province average, off target to remain 5% below the average of the nine other provinces. Alberta's per capita spending in 2000-01 increased faster than the average of the nine other provinces in most categories including health, education and social services. The largest spending increase was due to Alberta's energy cost shielding program. However, Alberta's provincial government expenditure as a percentage of GDP was the lowest among the provinces (see supplemental information).

Alberta had the 2nd lowest number of provincial public sector employees per capita among the provinces, next to Ontario. The province's health and social services institutions, and school boards employ the largest proportions of provincial public sector employees (see supplemental information).

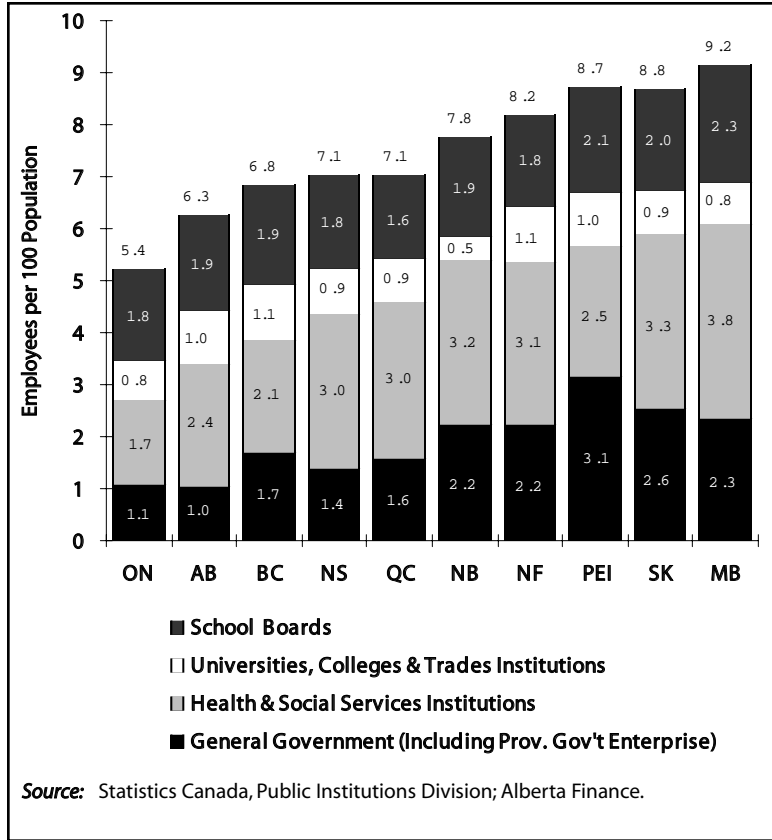
core measure(s) TAXATION LOAD
PROVINCIAL CREDIT RATING
ACCUMULATED DEBT
COST OF GOVERNMENT

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION

Provincial Public Sector Employees (2001)

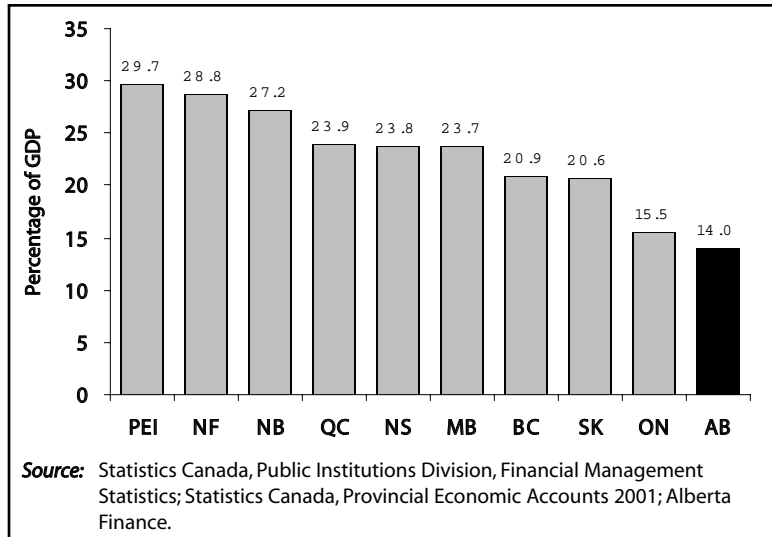
This chart compares the provinces' public sector employees per 100 population by major employment group for 2001.

Alberta is 2nd lowest among the provinces overall, and lowest for general government employees (1.0 per 100 population), slightly below 2nd lowest Ontario (1.1).



Provincial Government Expenditure (2000-01)

This chart compares provincial government expenditure as a percentage of GDP for the 2000-01 fiscal year.



NEW CORE MEASURE FOR NEXT YEAR

Government Accountability

In next year's report, three core measures will be presented for goal 12. Two of the current four core measures will be retained, namely Provincial Credit Rating and Accumulated Debt, and a new Government Accountability core measure will be added.

WHY A NEW MEASURE

Goal 12 is a compound goal with 2 parts - to have both a *financially stable government* and a *financially open and accountable government*. Provincial Credit Rating and Accumulated Debt will continue as core measures to report on the first part of the goal. Alberta's credit rating is a broad measure of the province's financial stability, and accumulated debt reduction is an indicator of the government's commitment to fiscal responsibility and long-term financial stability.

The new Government Accountability core measure will address the *financially open and accountable government* part of the goal.

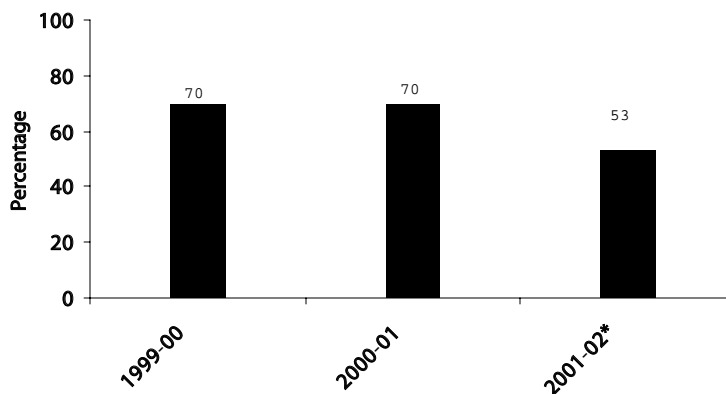
NEW MEASURE

The *Government Accountability Act* is the government's legislated commitment to open and accountable government. One of the Act's requirements is for the government to report quarterly to Albertans on progress in achieving the current year's fiscal plan.

The new Government Accountability core measure shows the percentage of Albertans aware of the government's financial performance in the past year. It was introduced in the *2002-05 Government of Alberta Business Plan*.

Results for 2001-02 are much different than for previous years. This may be due to the fact that the survey was conducted at a different time of year.

PUBLIC AWARENESS OF GOVERNMENT FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE



Source: Survey conducted for Alberta Public Affairs Bureau by Environics West.
* Results for 2001-02 may have been affected by the timing of the survey.

goal 13 Alberta will have a fair and safe work environment

core measure(s) WORKPLACE CLIMATE

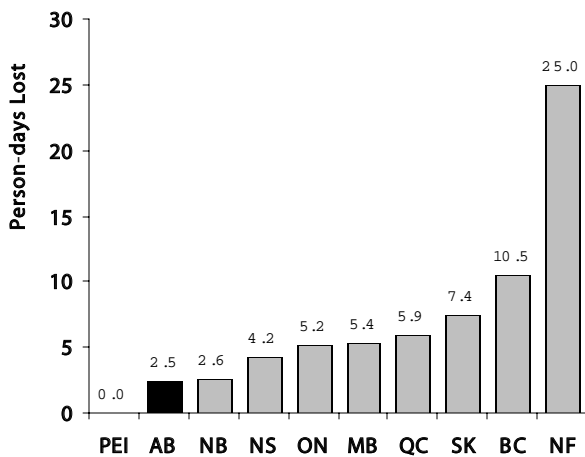
WORKPLACE CLIMATE

DESCRIPTION Alberta's provincial ranking of the number of person-days lost due to work stoppages and due to workplace injury and disease, per 10,000 person-days worked.

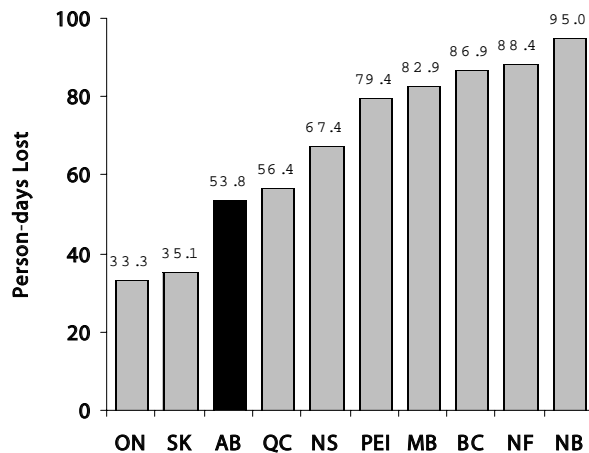
TARGET The rate of person-days lost to work stoppages, and workplace injury and disease will be among the three lowest of all the provinces.

RESULTS Among the provinces, Alberta had the 2nd lowest rate of person-days lost due to work stoppages in 2001, and the 3rd lowest rate of person-days lost due to workplace injury and disease in 1999. Results for 2000 unavailable from Human Resources and Development Canada at time of publication.

PROVINCIAL RANKING OF PERSON-DAYS LOST DUE TO WORK STOPPAGES IN 2001 (PER 10,000 PERSON-DAYS WORKED)



PROVINCIAL RANKING OF PERSON-DAYS LOST DUE TO WORKPLACE INJURY AND DISEASE IN 1999 (PER 10,000 PERSON-DAYS WORKED)*



Source: Human Resources Development Canada; Statistics Canada, Labour Force Survey; Statistics Canada, Public Institutions Division, Public Sector Employment, Wages and Salaries (CANSIM, Table #183-0002).

* Data for Quebec, Newfoundland and Manitoba are based on preliminary estimates subject to verification by Human Resources Development Canada.

DISCUSSION Safe and healthy workplaces and cooperative labour relations are important factors for providing Albertans with a fair and safe work environment. In a growing economy, the number of less-experienced workers tends to increase as the workforce expands, resulting in more lost-time claims.

Proactive actions, such as partnerships among business, labour and government, and improved access to information about workplace health and safety standards, help to protect the work environment as economic activity increases and employment climbs.

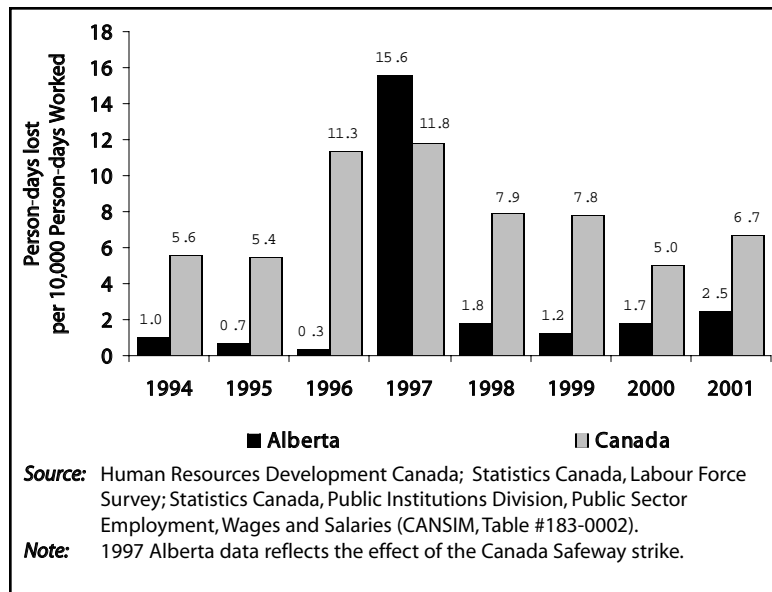
For more information, see the core measures methodology and related ministry measures in Appendices I and III.

In 2001, the incidence of person-days lost due to work stoppages increased by 0.8 person-days per 10,000 person-days worked. Alberta ranked 2nd lowest among the provinces, up from 4th from last year. Workplace injury and disease decreased in 2001 by 1.2 person-days per 10,000 person-days worked (see supplemental information). The most recent interprovincial data for person-days lost due to workplace injury and disease shows that Alberta was 3rd lowest among the provinces in 1999.

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION

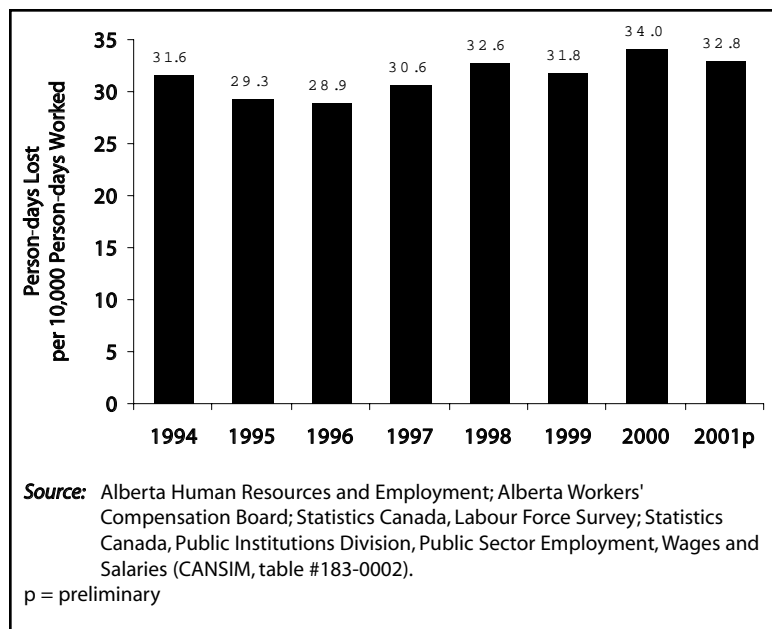
Person-days Lost Due to Work Stoppages

This chart compares the rate of person-days lost due to work stoppages in Alberta and Canada.



Person-days Lost Due to Workplace Injury and Disease

This chart shows Alberta's recent history of the rate of person-days lost due to workplace injury and disease. (The rate presented for 2001 differs from Alberta's rate presented on the previous page due to different data sources and methodologies, see Appendix I.)



goal 14 Alberta businesses will increase exports

core measure(s) EXPORT TRADE

New

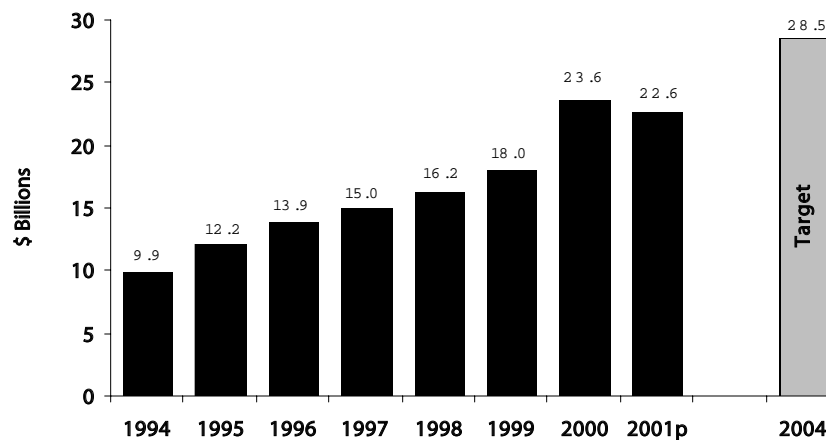
EXPORT TRADE

DESCRIPTION Alberta's international value-added exports, measured in current dollars. This includes manufactured goods, tourism and other services.

TARGET Increase international value-added exports to \$28.5 billion by the year 2004.

RESULTS In 2001, Alberta's international value-added exports decreased by 4.2% to \$22.6 billion.

ALBERTA'S INTERNATIONAL VALUE-ADDED EXPORTS



Source: Alberta Economic Development (derived from Statistics Canada data).

p = preliminary

Note: Results revised for previous years. See Appendix I.

DISCUSSION Exports are a vital part of Alberta's economy and expanding the province's international value-added exports is important for sustaining Alberta's economic growth in a globally competitive marketplace. The government's Economic Development Strategy, one of four priority cross-ministry initiatives for 2001-02 (see Appendices II and IV), includes strategies and targets for expanding value-added products and services as a proportion of Alberta's overall economy and exports (also see Goal 10 of this report).

The value of Alberta's international value-added exports decreased in 2001 as a result of the global slump in the information and technology sector. An overall drop in world trade due to a global slowdown, particularly in the U.S., also dampened exports. Declining forest product prices, especially wood pulp, reduced the value of value-added exports abroad. The September 11, 2001 terrorist attacks on the U.S. had a negative effect on Alberta's tourism industry. These negative effects were somewhat offset by strong export volumes of oil and gas field equipment, beef and selected chemicals. Since 1993, exports have grown steadily for petrochemicals, processed food and machinery (especially oil and gas field equipment).

For more information, see the core measures methodology and related ministry measures in Appendices I and III.

goal **14** Alberta businesses will increase exports

core measure(s)

EXPORT TRADE

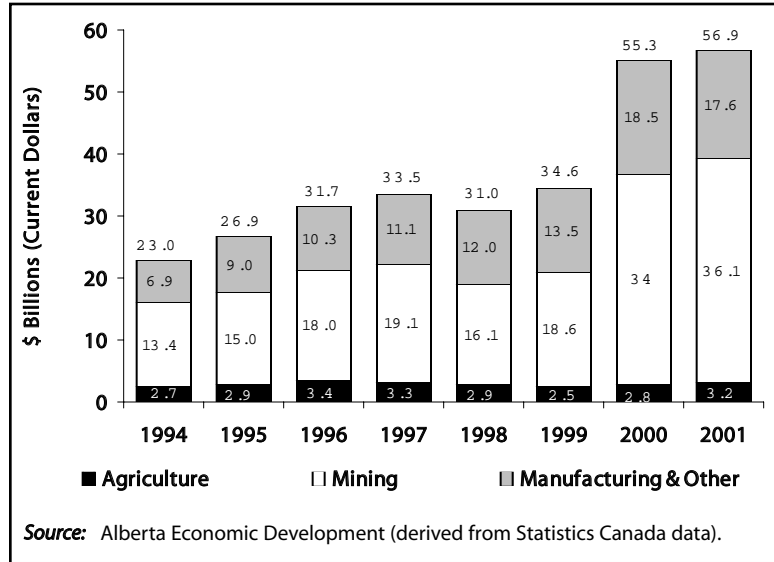
SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION

Total Value of Alberta's International Commodity Exports

This chart shows Alberta's total international commodity exports measured in current dollars by major industry groups.

Total commodity exports rose by 2.8% in 2001. Strong oil and gas prices in the first half of 2001 were partly behind the increase. Primary agriculture exports, especially live cattle, were also strong.

Manufacturing exports fell because of weak forest product prices and the global slump in the telecommunications sector.



core business *Preservation...*

The goals for the *Preservation* core business reflect the government's priorities for community safety, our renewable resources, the environment, our natural, historical and cultural resources, and Alberta's relations with other levels of government.

Preservation

Preserving the Alberta tradition of:

- a safe society where justice prevails
- a clean environment
- strong values and culture
- pride in Alberta and strength within Canada
- strong communities.

PERFORMANCE SUMMARY

There are five government goals for the *Preservation* core business and seven performance measures. The following summarizes the 2001-02 performance results for the *Preservation* measures. Where 2001-02 data is not available for a measure, the most recent reliable data is reported.

Goal 15 - Alberta will be a safe place to live and raise families.

Crime Rate - Between 1999 and 2000 both the gap between the Canadian and Alberta violent crime rate and the gap between the Canadian and Alberta property crime rate decreased by 3%. Alberta's property and violent crime rates remain above the target Canadian rates. Alberta's violent crime rate was 8% higher than the Canadian rate, while property crime was 9% above the Canadian level.

Goal 16 - Alberta's renewable natural resources will be sustained.

Resource Sustainability - In 2000-01, Alberta's timber harvest remained below the annual allowable cut. However, agricultural land productivity fell in 2001 by .09 tonnes per acre to 0.77 tonnes per acre, below the target of 0.92 tonnes per acre by 2004.

Goal 17 - The high quality of Alberta's environment will be maintained.

Air Quality - Alberta's air quality was rated either good or fair each day in 2001, with 357 days rated good, and 8 days rated fair.

Water Quality - Significant improvements have been made to water quality through improved control of discharges into rivers and upgrades to water treatment plants. Also, dry conditions in 2000-01 resulted in less surface runoff and therefore less movement of materials from land to water. Water quality is still poorer downstream from areas of municipal, agricultural, or industrial development than upstream. Runoff, a "non-point" or diffuse source of pollution, is a concern.

Land Quality - Land productivity fell in 2001 by .09 tonnes per acre to 0.77 tonnes per acre, below the target of 0.92 tonnes per acre by 2004.

Goal 18 - Albertans will have the opportunity to enjoy the province's natural, historical and cultural resources.

Heritage Appreciation - Visitation at provincially-owned historic sites, museums and interpretive centres was 1,021,000 in 2001-02, below the target of 1.1 million visitors per year. Visitation at provincial parks and recreation areas was 8,730,000 in 2000-01, surpassing the target of 8 million visitors per year.

Goal 19 - Alberta will work with other governments and maintain its strong position in Canada.

Intergovernmental Relations - In 2001, Alberta's approval rating was 26 percentage points above the four province average, up from 2000 and bettering the target. The key reason for the increase was a strong improvement in the ratings of Alberta, while the average of the four provinces stayed fairly constant.

goal **15** Alberta will be a safe place to live and raise families

core measure(s) CRIME RATE

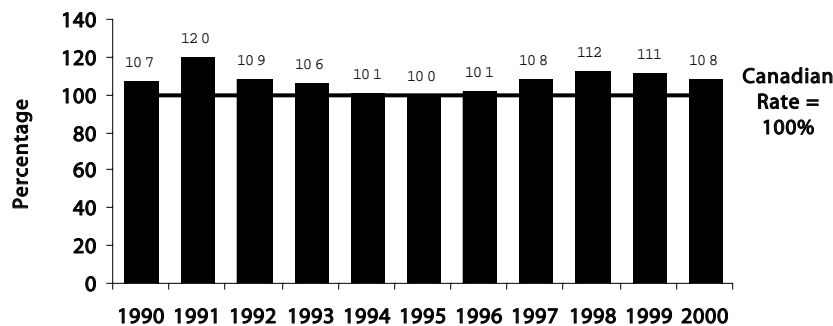
CRIME RATE

DESCRIPTION Alberta's violent and property crime rates expressed as a percentage of the national rates.

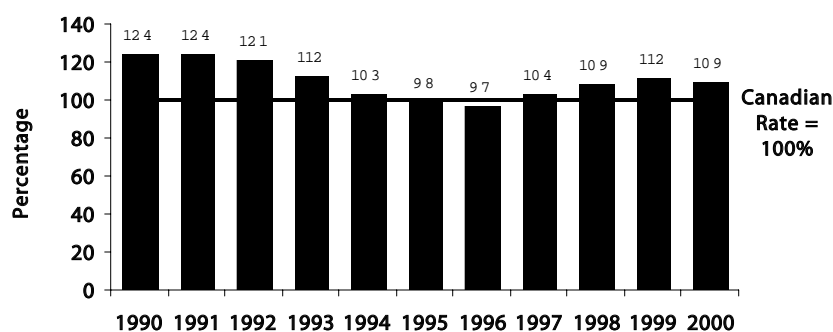
TARGET Reduce Alberta's crime rates below the national rate by the year 2005.

RESULTS In 2000, Alberta's violent crime rate was 8% higher than the Canadian rate, a decrease of 3% as a result of the Canadian rate increasing more than Alberta's. Our property crime rate was 9% above the Canadian rate. This is a decrease of 3% as a result of Alberta's rate decreasing more than Canada's.

ALBERTA'S VIOLENT CRIME RATE AS A PERCENTAGE OF THE CANADIAN RATE



ALBERTA'S PROPERTY CRIME RATE AS A PERCENTAGE OF THE CANADIAN RATE



Source: Canadian Crime Statistics, 2000, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics.

DISCUSSION Although provincial property and violent crime have been steadily decreasing over the long-term, and Alberta has the lowest crime rate of the four western provinces, our provincial crime rate remains above the national rate. Despite the fact that Alberta's total crime rate decreased from 9,049 to 8,822 or 2.5% in 2000, 32% of Albertans feel that crime in their neighbourhood has increased somewhat or substantially over the last several years. However, 59% of Albertans feel that their neighbourhood has a lower level of crime than other neighbourhoods in Alberta.

For more information, see the core measures methodology and related ministry measures in Appendices I and III.

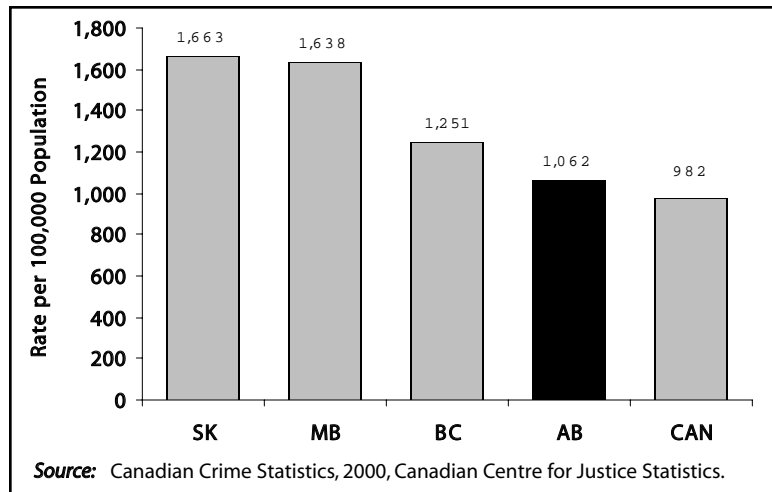
SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION

Canadian Crime Rates by Province (Rates per 100,000 Population)

Crime rates traditionally have been higher in western Canadian provinces such as Alberta. The higher crime rate may be due in part to a younger, more mobile population and a higher proportion of aboriginal people living in western Canada (population groups who are over-represented both as offenders and as victims of crime). Policing practices and administrative approaches to crime are also influential in crime rates and vary greatly by province and territory.

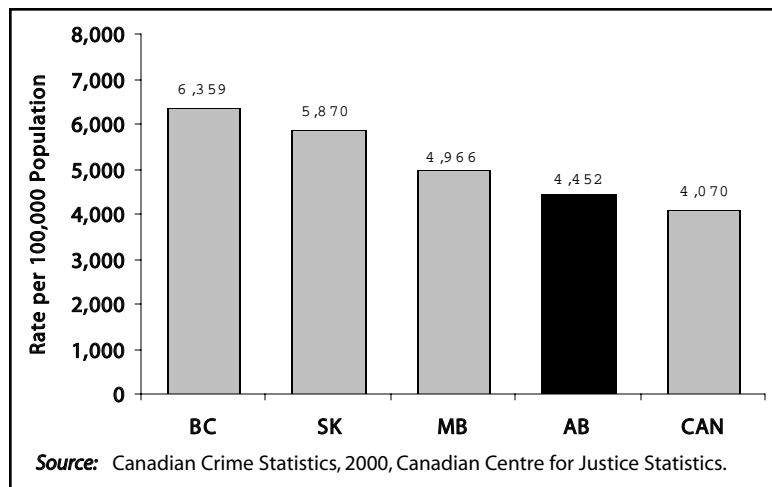
Violent Crime (2000)

Violent incidents involve offences that deal with the application, or threat of application, of force to a person. These include homicide, attempted murder, various forms of sexual and non-sexual assault, robbery and abduction. The violent crime rate remained roughly constant in 2000.



Property Crime (2000)

Property incidents involve unlawful acts with the intent of gaining property but do not involve the use or threat of violence against an individual. Theft, breaking and entering, fraud and possession of stolen goods are examples of property crimes. The property crime rate fell to 4,452 incidents per 100,000 population, a decrease of 6.9%.



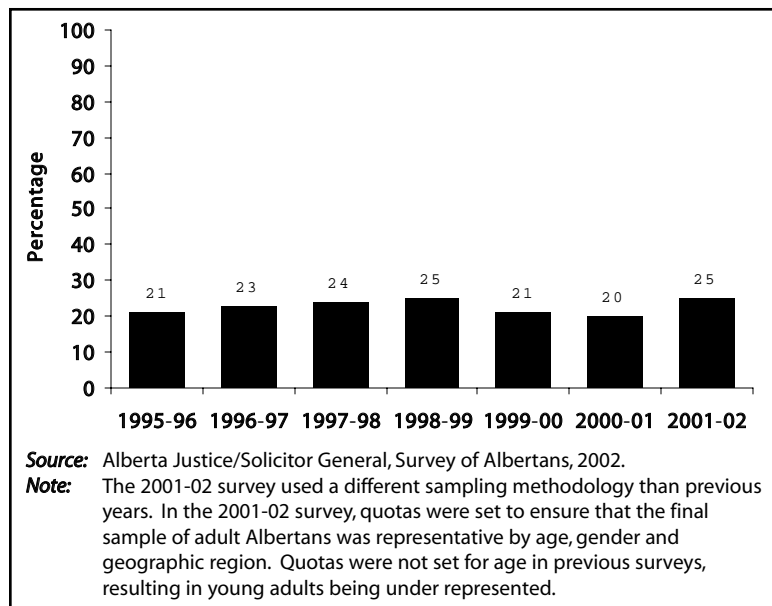
SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION

Victimization Survey

Victimization surveys are valuable in estimating the actual level of crime, as they estimate the extent of unreported crime. These surveys ask the population about their personal crime experiences. They capture information on crimes that have been reported to the police, as well as those that have gone unreported. Victimization surveys are limited in that they rely on respondents to report events accurately. The surveys by their nature exclude the collection of information on homicide, "victimless" crimes (prostitution, drugs, and gambling), crimes committed against commercial or public property, and crimes committed against children.

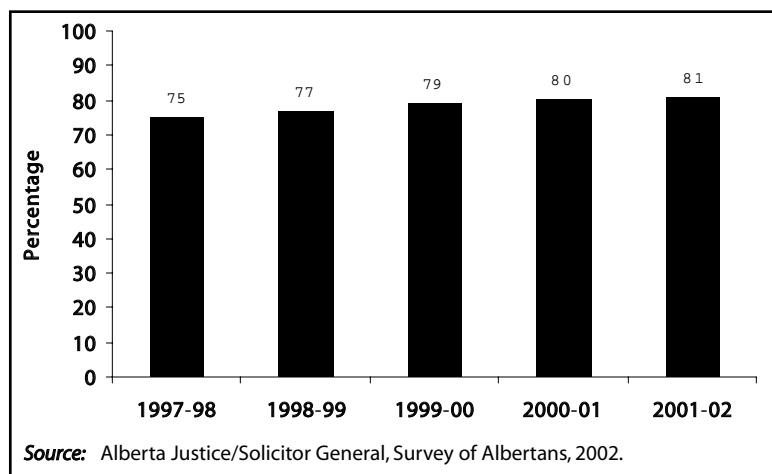
Victimization Rate

In Alberta, 25% of respondents age 18 and over indicated that they had been victimized in the past year. This compares to the 1999 national figure of 25% of Canadians age 15 and over surveyed for the General Social Survey. The difference in the victimization rate between 2000-01 and 2001-02 is attributable to a higher percentage of young adults participating in the 2001-02 survey (see note on graph), a group that is much more likely to be victims of crime.



Public Perception of Safety in the Neighbourhood

On the whole, Albertans feel very safe in their neighbourhoods. This chart shows the percentage of Albertans who feel comfortable walking alone in their neighbourhoods at night. Lower comfort levels were experienced by divorced, separated or widowed respondents, respondents living in households earning less than \$30,000 per year, senior citizens, females and those with less than high school education.



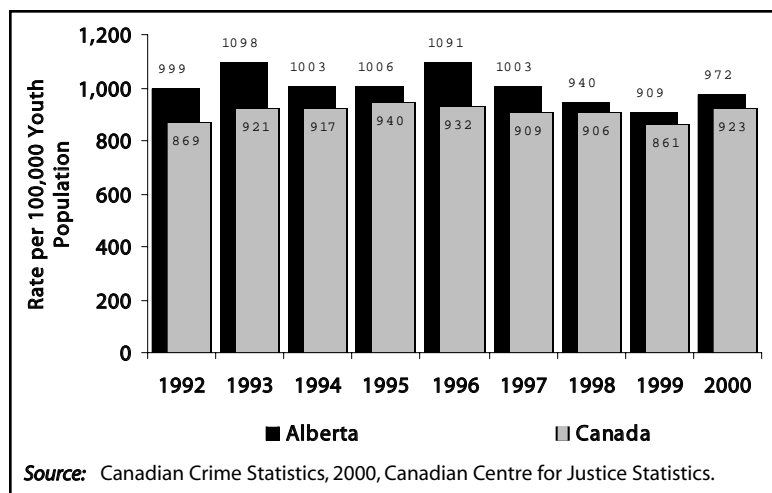
SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION

Youth Crime

Providing effective treatment and rehabilitation of young offenders, and ensuring the safety of Alberta's communities are primary objectives of the youth justice system. The *Youth Criminal Justice Act* treats young offenders committing serious violent crimes more severely than the *Young Offenders Act* while making provisions to keep first-time offenders of less serious crimes out of the formal justice system.

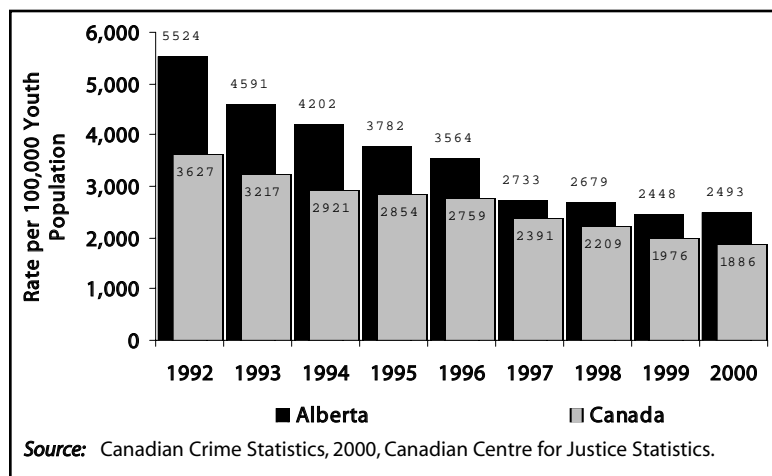
Youth Violent Crime Rate

Violent crime by Alberta youth increased 6.9% in 2000. Violent youth crime increased in 9 of the 13 jurisdictions in Canada.



Youth Property Crime Rate

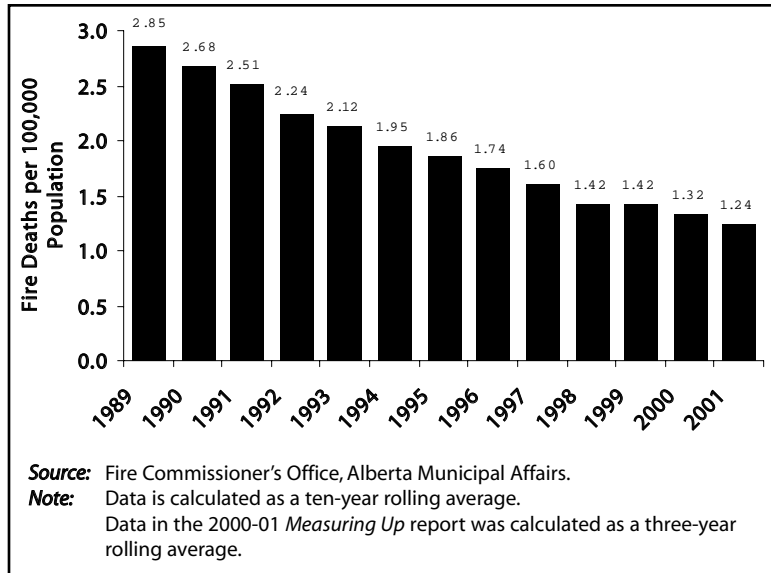
In 2000, property crime by Alberta youth increased 1.8% while the national rate decreased 4.6%. Ontario, Saskatchewan and the Yukon also experienced increases in their youth property crime rates.



SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION

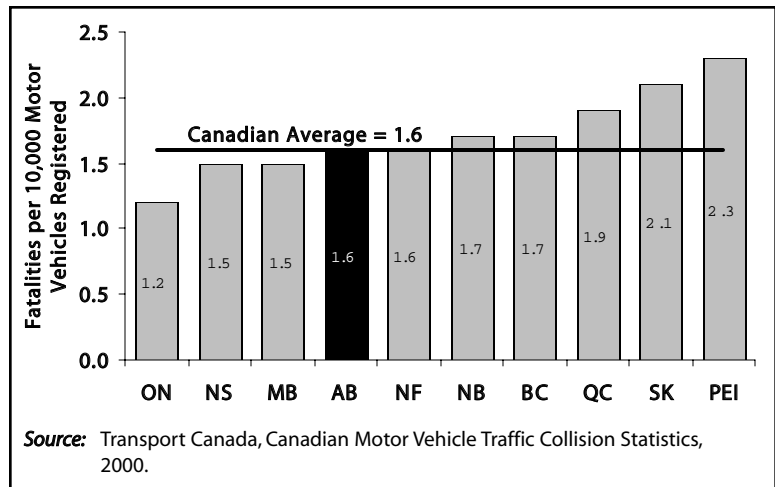
Fire Deaths

The Alberta government promotes all aspects of fire protection to reduce deaths, injuries and property losses due to fire in Alberta. In addition to enacting fire prevention legislation and enforcing the fire code, fire prevention is promoted through advisory services, the use of fire statistics and public fire safety education and information programs.



Road Safety

Most fatal collisions are caused by either driver error, excess speed, or poor driver condition. The Alberta government works to improve road safety through education, legislative initiatives, and enforcement.



goal 16 Alberta's renewable natural resources will be sustained

core measure(s) RENEWABLE RESOURCE SUSTAINABILITY

RENEWABLE RESOURCE SUSTAINABILITY

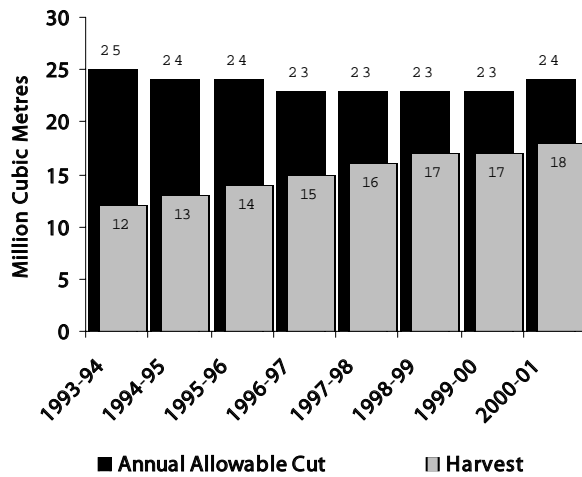
DESCRIPTION Timber sustainability compares the annual timber harvest with the long-term sustainable annual allowable cut.

Land quality measures the annual provincial crop yield per acre converted to a standard base of tonnes per acre of wheat.

TARGET Keep timber harvest at or below the annual allowable cut. Achieve sustainable crop yields of 0.92 tonnes per acre by 2004.

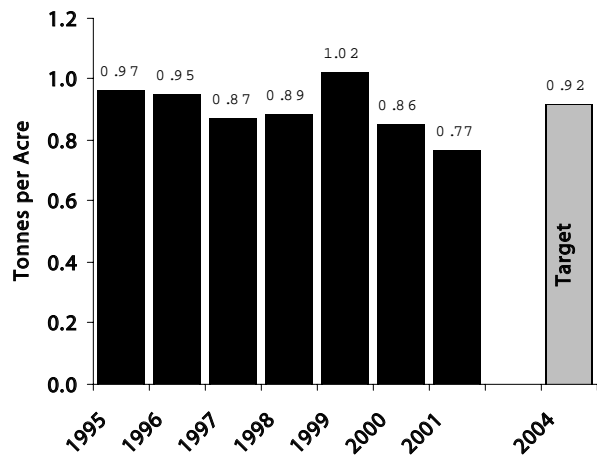
RESULTS Alberta's timber harvest remained below the annual allowable cut and farm crop yield per acre decreased to 0.77 tonnes per acre.

TIMBER SUSTAINABILITY



Source: Alberta Sustainable Resource Development.
Note: Data is calculated as a five-year rolling average.

LAND PRODUCTIVITY



Source: Alberta Agriculture, Food and Rural Development.
 Data derived from Statistics Canada.

For more information, see the core measures methodology and related ministry measures in Appendices I and III.

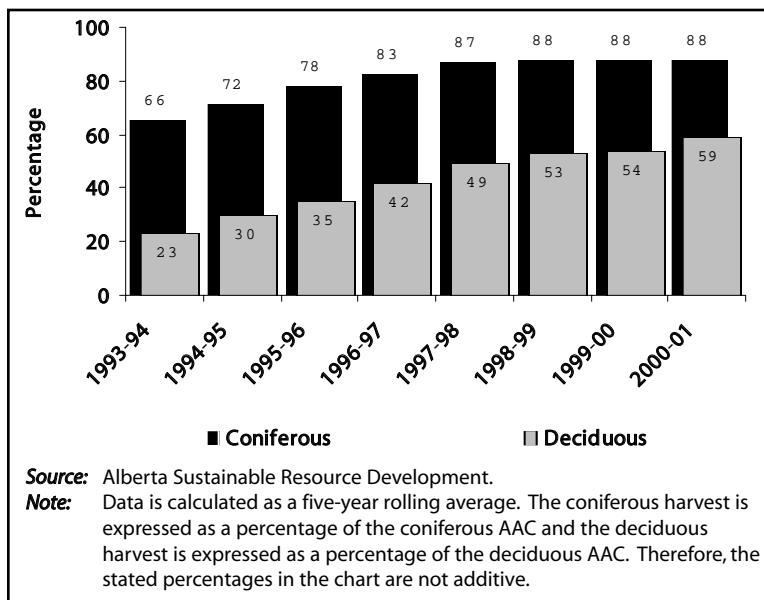
DISCUSSION

Alberta's renewable resources make a significant contribution to our economy. Ensuring the long term sustainability of these resources (forests and agricultural lands) will help ensure long term prosperity for the province. The forestry index indicates the general health of the resource and reflects the government's ability to manage Alberta's timber resources in a sustainable manner. Other factors that can affect the annual allowable cut and the volume harvested include variations in timber prices, changes to reserved areas, forest regeneration success, insects and disease, and forest fires. The land productivity index continued to fall in 2001 after an above-average year in 1999, owing to continuing dry conditions in much of southern and central Alberta.

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION

Timber Harvest as a Percentage of the Annual Allowable Cut

This chart indicates the annual timber harvest of coniferous and deciduous timber as a percentage of the annual allowable cut (AAC) within the Green Area. The Green Area is primarily the unsettled portion of the province defined as lands not available for agricultural development other than grazing. The AAC is the amount of timber that can be harvested on a sustainable basis within a defined planning area. The AAC is adjusted to reflect changes in timber supply availability and forest management strategies. This measure is calculated to demonstrate a rolling five-year average consistent with forest harvest practices in Alberta.



goal 17 The high quality of Alberta's environment will be maintained

core measure(s) AIR QUALITY
WATER QUALITY
LAND QUALITY

AIR QUALITY

DESCRIPTION Index of outdoor concentrations of five major air pollutants monitored at nine stations across the province.

TARGET Maintain air quality at levels that are considered "good" or "fair" at all times.

RESULTS There were no days rated "poor" or "very poor" last year.

AIR QUALITY DAYS

	Good	Fair	Poor	Very Poor
1987	350	15	0	0
1988	355	11	0	0
1989	356	9	0	0
1990	354	11	0	0
1991	352	13	0	0
1992	361	5	0	0
1993	359	6	0	0
1994	349	16	0	0
1995	358	7	0	0
1996	360	6	0	0
1997	359	6	0	0
1998	354	11	0	0
1999	357	8	0	0
2000	359	7	0	0
2001	357	8	0	0

Source: Alberta Environment and Wood Buffalo Environment Association.

DISCUSSION One of Albertans' key concerns about the environment is the quality of air we breathe. Ensuring the protection of Alberta's clean air is paramount to maintaining our health and quality of life (see also **Life Expectancy at Birth**). Poor air quality may also have negative effects on crop quality and production (see also **Land Quality**). The air quality index provides an indication of the quality of air in Alberta throughout the year. Poor air quality levels typically occur only 1-2 hours per year in Calgary and Edmonton. Air quality is influenced by a number of factors including vehicle emissions, weather patterns, and intensity of industrial development.

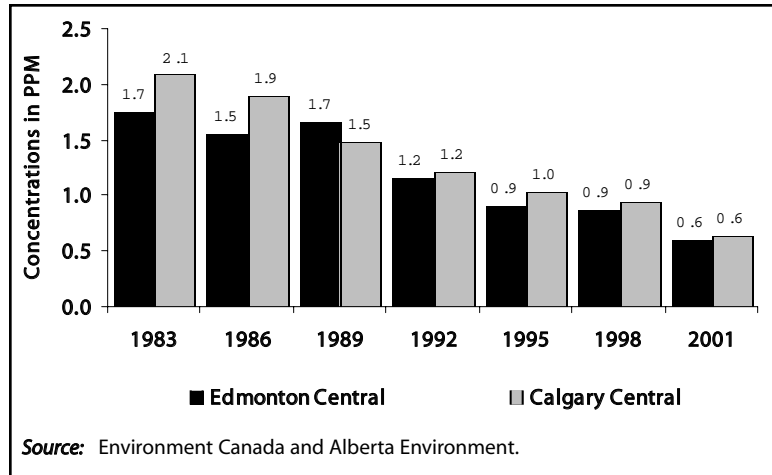
For more information, see the core measures methodology and related ministry measures in Appendices I and III.

core measure(s) **AIR QUALITY**
WATER QUALITY
LAND QUALITY

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION

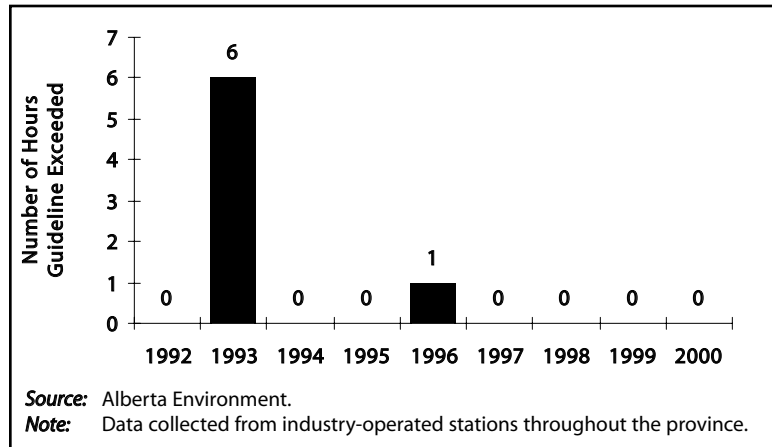
Carbon Monoxide Levels

Over the past two decades air quality in downtown Edmonton and Calgary has improved. Since 1983, carbon monoxide levels have decreased by over 65 percent in both cities while nitrogen dioxide, particulates and benzene levels have also dropped. Improvements in environmental building technologies and cleaner transportation are considered major factors to these improvements.



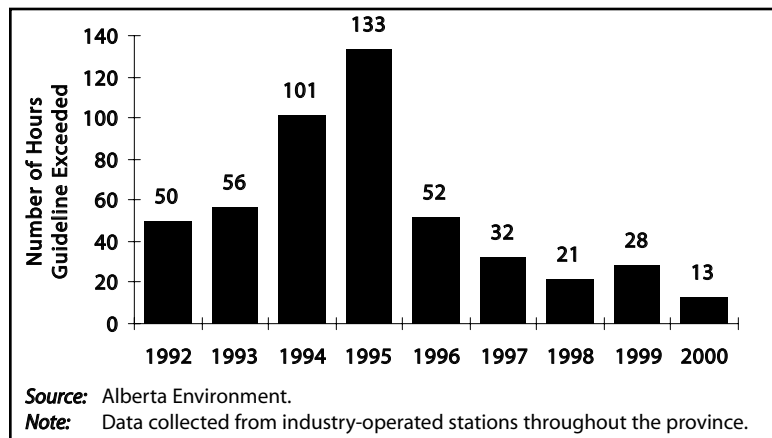
Nitrogen Dioxide Levels

Nitrogen dioxide may be toxic to plants at high concentration levels, and can irritate the lungs and increase susceptibility to respiratory infections. The largest urban source of nitrogen dioxide is motor vehicle emissions.



Sulphur Dioxide Levels

Sulphur dioxide can decrease growth rates of crops and trees, corrode metals and weaken textiles and building materials. It also irritates the throat and lungs and can damage the respiratory system. Most sulphur dioxide emissions are from the energy industry.



goal 17 The high quality of Alberta's environment will be maintained

core measure(s)

AIR QUALITY
WATER QUALITY
 LAND QUALITY

WATER QUALITY

DESCRIPTION Index of four variable components (metals, nutrients, bacteria, and pesticides) tested monthly or quarterly at two locations for each of the province's six major river systems.

TARGET Bring river quality downstream of developed areas in line with upstream conditions, while maintaining overall river water quality.

RESULTS Overall, the water quality of Alberta's major rivers in 2000-01 is "good" to "excellent". Water quality tends to be better upstream of areas of significant urban, industrial or agricultural development than downstream.

ALBERTA SURFACE WATER QUALITY INDEX					
LOCATION	1997-98	1998-99	1999-00	2000-01	COMMENTS
BOW RIVER					
upstream of Calgary	100	97	97	99	Water quality is better upstream of Calgary than downstream. Upgraded municipal wastewater treatment, including full disinfection (1997), has resulted in improved conditions downstream.
downstream of Calgary	87	82	84	89	
NORTH SASKATCHEWAN RIVER					
upstream of Edmonton	97	93	86	89	Conditions downstream of Edmonton have improved due to upgraded wastewater treatment (1998), which has reduced the levels of bacteria in the river.
downstream of Edmonton	71	80	81	85	
RED DEER RIVER					
upstream of Red Deer	n/a	83	87	90	Water quality is slightly better upstream of Red Deer than downstream. There are higher concentrations of nutrients downstream than there are upstream.
downstream of Red Deer	n/a	81	75	87	
OLDMAN RIVER					
upstream of Lethbridge	83	89	97	95	Water quality is better upstream of Lethbridge than downstream. There are greater numbers and concentrations of pesticides at the downstream site than the upstream site.
downstream of Lethbridge	84	80	86	91	
SMOKY/PEACE RIVERS					
at Watino	83	91	90	93	Conditions remain good at both sites, but nutrients occasionally do not meet guidelines. In addition, a number of pesticides were detected in the Peace River at Fort Vermilion this year.
at Ft. Vermilion	89	94	86	93	
ATHABASCA RIVER					
at Athabasca	92	90	91	97	Index values have improved slightly at Athabasca, perhaps reflecting decreased runoff due to drier conditions.
at Old Fort	90	95	91	94	
Index based on the results of testing water quality for four variable groups compared to water quality guidelines.					
96-100 Almost always met (Excellent)				46-65 Often not met, sometimes by large amounts (Marginal)	
81-95 Occasionally not met, but usually by small amounts (Good)				0-45 Almost always not met by large amounts (Poor)	
66-80 Sometimes not met by moderate amounts (Fair)					
Source: Alberta Environment.					
Note: n/a - overall scores are not provided as no pesticide data were available.					

For more information, see the core measures methodology and related ministry measures in Appendix I and III.

core measure(s)

AIR QUALITY
WATER QUALITY
LAND QUALITY

DISCUSSION

There is minimal threat when water quality is "good" or "fair". "Marginal" or "poor" ratings indicate that water quality is often significantly impaired.

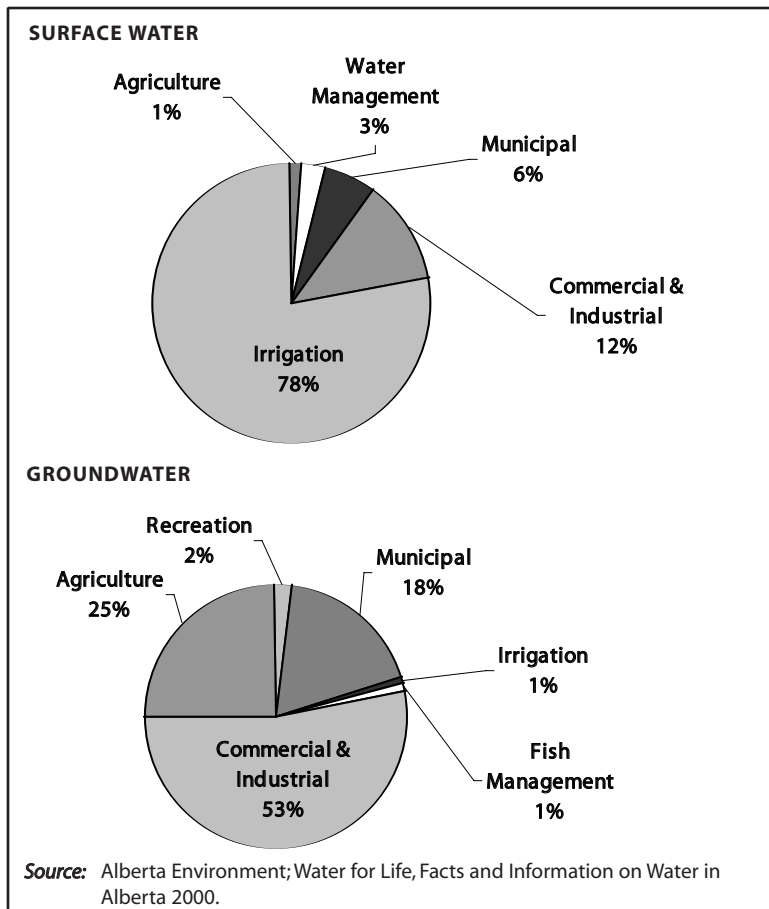
River flow volume, non-point sources of pollution (such as runoff from city streets or agricultural fields), and point sources of pollution (effluent discharged directly into rivers) all influence surface water quality. Improvements have been made to water quality below major developments as a result of improved point source control. Continued improvements are expected as municipal wastewater treatment facilities and infrastructure are upgraded. These improvements will take time and a significant infrastructure investment on the part of municipalities.

In some cases, the 2000-01 water quality index results for both upstream and downstream sites are better than those for the previous year because of the dry conditions that we experienced. Less rain and snowmelt resulted in less surface runoff and therefore less movement of materials from the land to the water. In higher flow years, lower scores can be expected due to increased movement of materials, whether naturally occurring or as a result of human activity, from the land to the water.

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION

Alberta's Water Consumption Uses

Of all the consumptive uses of water in Alberta, 97.5% comes from surface water and 2.5% comes from groundwater. The two main surface water users in Alberta are irrigation (78%) and commercial/industrial operations (12%). Municipalities account for 6% of surface water consumption. The three main groundwater users are commercial/industrial (53%), agricultural operations (25%) and municipalities (18%).



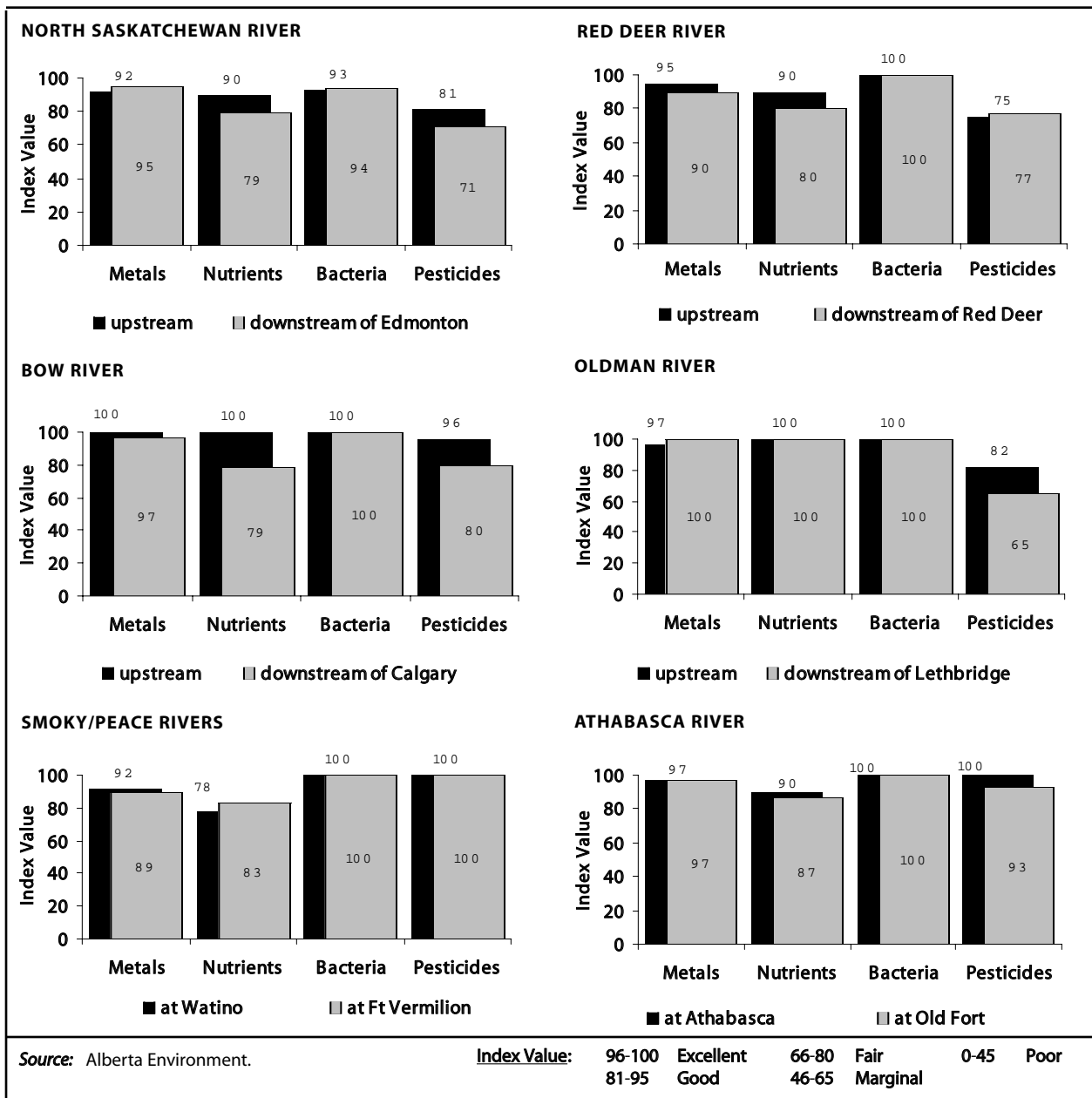
core measure(s)

AIR QUALITY
WATER QUALITY
LAND QUALITY

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION

Surface Water Quality Index by Variable Group (2000-01)

The quality of Alberta's water bodies is evaluated by comparing the results of numerous chemical, physical, and biological tests to guidelines listed in Surface Water Guidelines for Use in Alberta (AENV 1999). These guidelines help to determine how suitable the water is for various uses, including recreation, agriculture, and the protection of aquatic life.



goal 17 The high quality of Alberta's environment will be maintained

core measure(s)

AIR QUALITY
WATER QUALITY
LAND QUALITY

LAND QUALITY

DESCRIPTION

Measure of the annual provincial crop yield per acre converted to a standard base of tonnes per acre of wheat.

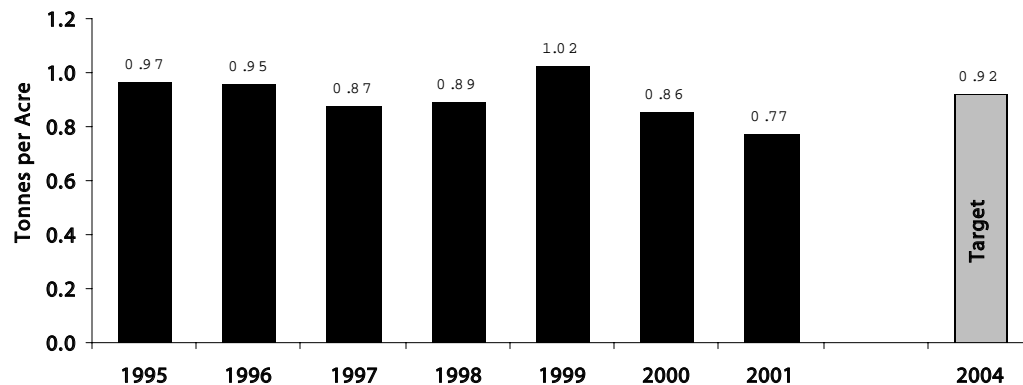
TARGET

Achieve sustainable crop yield of 0.92 tonnes per acre by the year 2004.

RESULTS

Crop yield decreased in 2001 to 0.77 tonnes per acre, below the target of 0.92.

LAND PRODUCTIVITY



Source: Alberta Agriculture, Food and Rural Development.
Data derived from Statistics Canada.

DISCUSSION

Crop yield per acre decreased in 2001. Dry conditions in much of southern Alberta and parts of central Alberta continue to reduce crop outputs after an above-average year in 1999.

The quality, health and productivity of Alberta's land base is vital to our health and to our economy. Ensuring that land is used wisely for agriculture, forestry, industrial use, municipal development, recreation and tourism, or other uses is critical to our economic, social and cultural well-being.

There are currently no comprehensive Canadian or Alberta indicators for land or soil quality. We are able to test soil quality, but there is no map of soil quality for the province. As a proxy, we are using crop yield on a tonnes per acre basis. Crop yield is an indirect measure of long-term land productivity.

Land productivity is the best indicator of soil quality available at this time. It shows the changes in long term land productivity as recorded in annual crop output. A Soil Quality Index that is a more accurate indicator of soil quality is being developed based on monitoring 43 representative benchmark sites and should be available by 2005.

For more information, see the core measures methodology and related ministry measures in Appendices I and III.

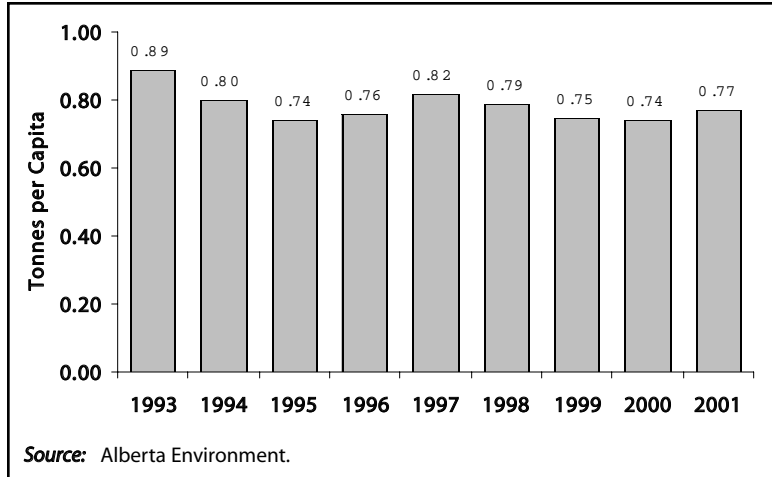
core measure(s)

AIR QUALITY
WATER QUALITY
LAND QUALITY

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION

Municipal Solid Waste to Landfills

The Alberta government provides technical and financial assistance to municipalities for waste management and recycling infrastructure, as well as training, education and general awareness about waste management options and opportunities. Industry stewardship programs have been developed for used oil materials, tires and beverage containers. With a prosperous economy, the pressures on landfills will continue to grow.



Species at Risk

Alberta has an abundance and diversity of wild plants, insects, fish, amphibians, birds and mammals. However, as a result of natural and human causes, some species of wildlife are considered "at risk."

Through commitments made under the 1996 *Accord for the Protection of Species at Risk in Canada*, Alberta, like the other provinces and territories, has agreed to use the same protocol and definitions for determining the status of species, and will report provincially and nationally on the status of wild species every five years starting in 2000. In the first report, *Wild Species 2000*, Alberta reported that out of 832 species that were assessed, 12 (1.44%) were classified as "at risk".

AT RISK¹	
ENDANGERED²	THREATENED²
Swift Fox	Woodland Caribou
Wood Bison	Barren-ground Caribou
Whooping Crane	Peregrine Falcon
Greater Sage Grouse	Northern Leopard Frog
Piping Plover	Trumpeter Swan
	Ferruginous Hawk
	Burrowing Owl

¹ Defined as such by *The General Status of Alberta Wild Species 2000*.
² Defined as such by the Alberta Endangered Species Conservation Committee and referred to in the *Alberta Wildlife Act*.

Source: Alberta Sustainable Resource Development.

core measure(s)

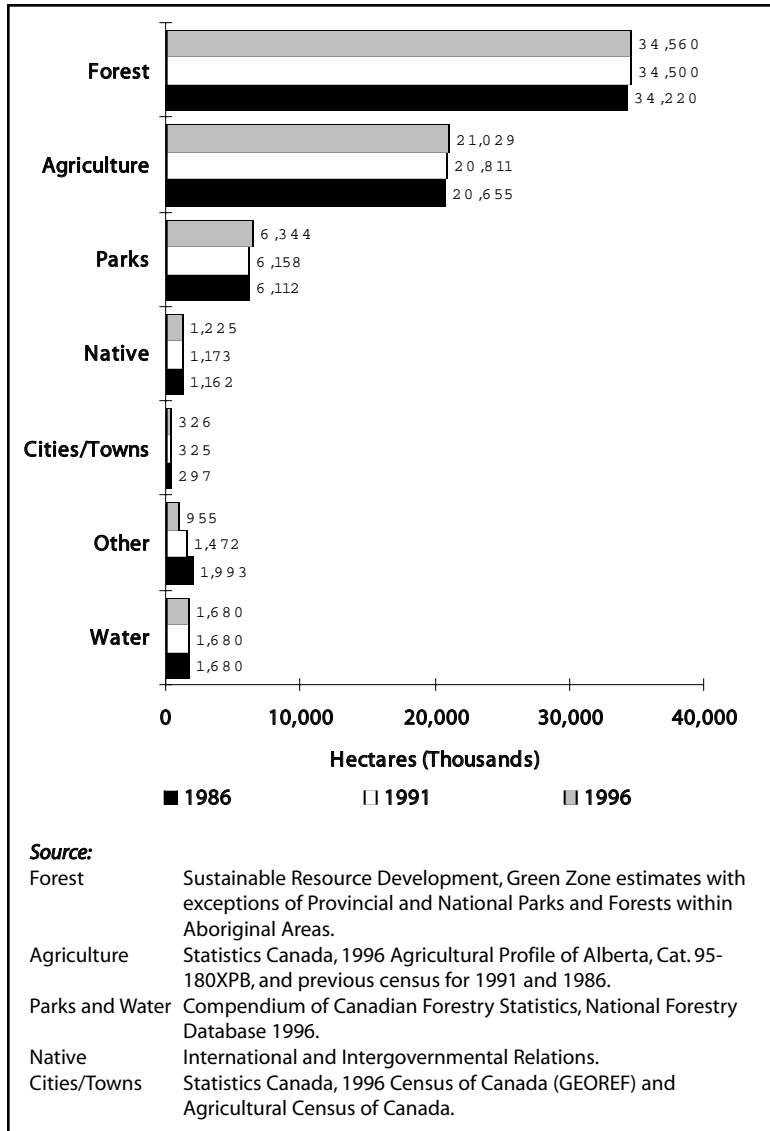
AIR QUALITY
WATER QUALITY
LAND QUALITY

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION

Land Use Changes
(1986 to 1996)

Changes in land use may have implications for the sustainability of natural ecosystems over time. Monitoring the change in land use for municipalities will also indicate the effect of human activities on the land.

Between 1986 and 1996, land use has increased for: forests (340,000 hectares); agriculture (374,000 hectares); parks (232,000 hectares); native lands (63,000 hectares) and cities and towns (29,000 hectares).



goal 18 Albertans will have the opportunity to enjoy the province's natural, historical and cultural resources

core measure(s) HERITAGE APPRECIATION

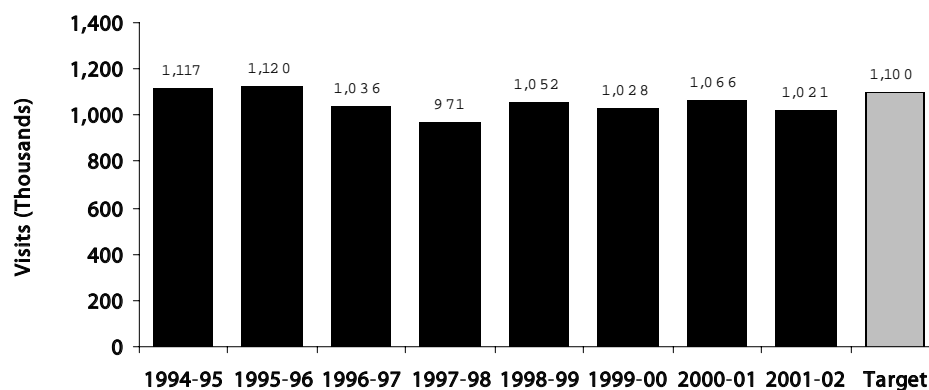
HERITAGE APPRECIATION

DESCRIPTION Reports annual visitation to provincially-owned historic sites, museums and interpretive centres and to provincial parks and recreation areas.

TARGET 1.1 million visitors per year to provincially-owned historic sites, museums and interpretive centres, and 8 million visitors per year to provincial parks and recreation areas.

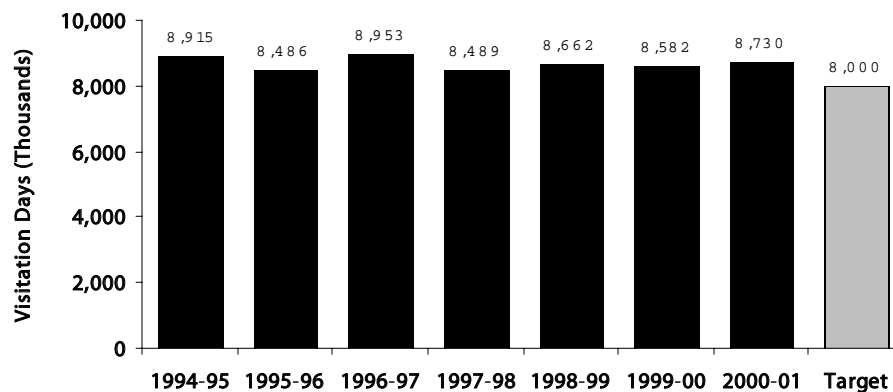
RESULTS Visitation at provincially-owned historic sites, museums and interpretive centres declined to 1,021,000 in 2001-02, below the target of 1.1 million visitors per year. Visitation at provincial parks and recreation areas increased to 8,730,000 in 2000-01, well surpassing the target of 8 million visitors per year.

VISITATION AT PROVINCIALY-OWNED HISTORIC SITES, MUSEUMS AND INTERPRETIVE CENTRES



Source: Alberta Community Development.

VISITATION AT PROVINCIAL PARKS AND PROVINCIAL RECREATION AREAS



Source: Alberta Community Development.

For more information, see the core measures methodology and related ministry measures in Appendices I and III.

goal **18** Albertans will have the opportunity to enjoy the province's natural, historical and cultural resources

core measure(s)

HERITAGE APPRECIATION

DISCUSSION

Albertans enjoy a high quality of life owing, in part, to the opportunities to access the province's wealth of natural, historical and cultural resources. These resources include parks and recreation areas, historic sites, museums, libraries, arts and cultural programs and sport and recreational opportunities.

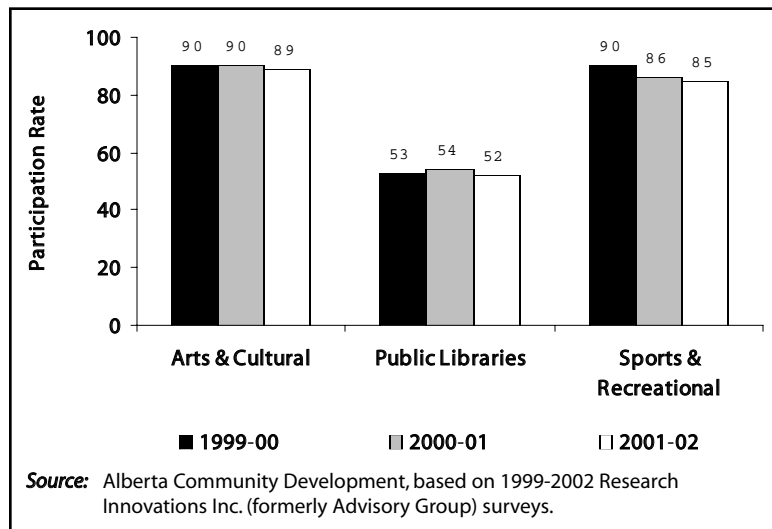
Visitation is affected by a number of factors such as currency exchange rates, global tourism and economic trends, weather patterns, condition of the exhibits and facilities, the type and nature of exhibits, competing and complementary educational and entertainment opportunities for the potential visitor, and provincial tourism policy, programs and promotions.

Of the total annual visitation to "Historic Sites, Museums and Interpretive Centres," about 40% of the visits are from outside Alberta.

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION

Sports and Recreational, Arts and Cultural, and Library Activities Participation Rate

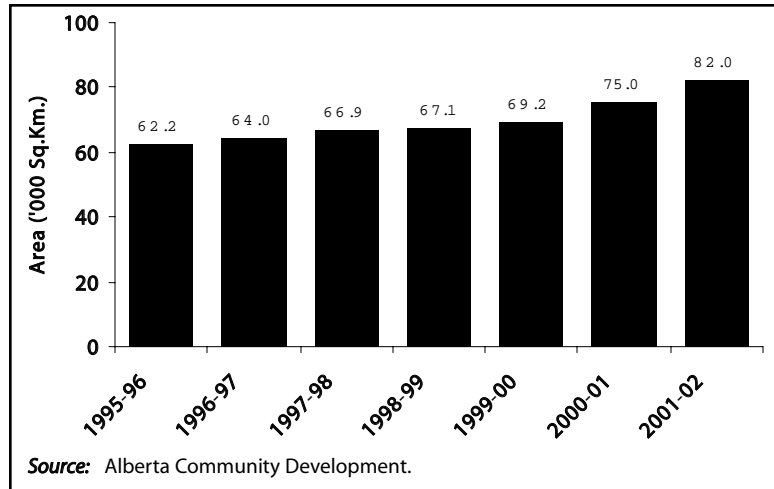
Participation in sports and recreational, arts and cultural, and library activities is an indicator of the opportunities Albertans have to enjoy these resources. This chart shows the percentage of adult Albertans who visit public libraries and participate in arts and cultural activities such as performing in a choir, playing a musical instrument, taking an arts course, visiting an arts exhibition or gallery and sports and recreational activities such as skiing, golfing, skating, hockey, walking, bicycling and swimming.



SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION

Parks and Protected Areas

The designation of parks and protected areas preserves and protects Alberta's natural heritage to ensure it can be appreciated by generations to come. The chart shows the total area of national parks, provincial parks and protected areas in Alberta.



NEW CORE MEASURE FOR NEXT YEAR

Heritage Appreciation

This will appear as a new core measure in next year's report for this goal.

WHY A NEW MEASURE

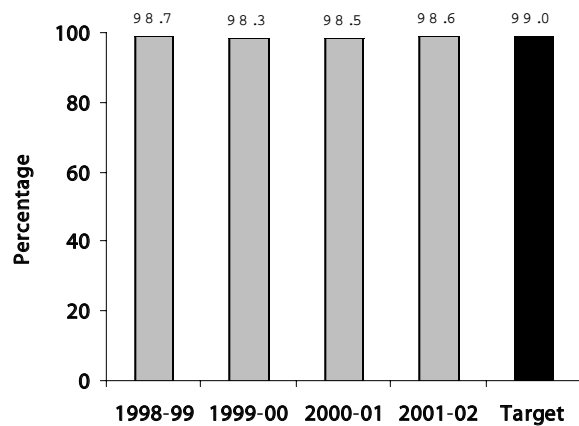
Goal 18 establishes the government's commitment to preserve, protect and present Alberta's unique history and culture through programs, exhibits, historic sites, museums and interpretive centres for all Albertans to enjoy. The Alberta government also manages and maintains Alberta's provincial parks and recreation areas to preserve the province's natural heritage and provide opportunities for heritage appreciation and outdoor recreation. The current core measure, which provides a general measure

of the opportunity component of the goal, will be reported as supplemental information beginning next year.

NEW MEASURE

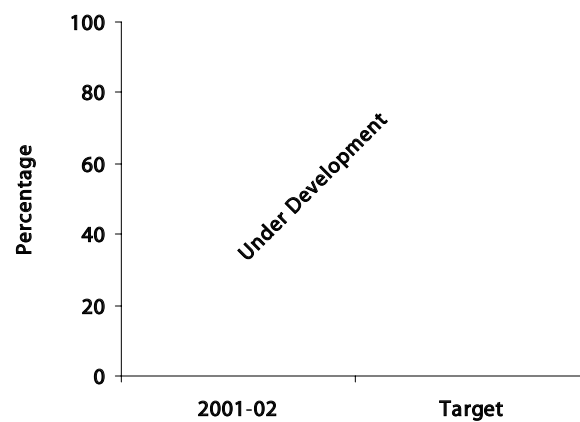
The new measure will provide information on the satisfaction of visitors with their experiences at provincially-owned historic sites, museums and interpretive centres and at provincial parks and recreation areas. The target satisfaction rating for provincially-owned historic sites, museums and interpretive centres is 99%. The target for provincial parks and recreation areas will be determined once baseline data is established.

SATISFACTION OF VISITORS AT PROVINCIALY-OWNED HISTORIC SITES, MUSEUMS AND INTERPRETIVE CENTRES



Source: Alberta Community Development based on 1998-2001 Infact Research and Consulting Surveys.

SATISFACTION OF VISITORS AT PROVINCIAL PARKS AND RECREATION AREAS



Source: Alberta Community Development.

goal **19** Alberta will work with other governments and maintain its strong position in Canada

core measure(s) INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS

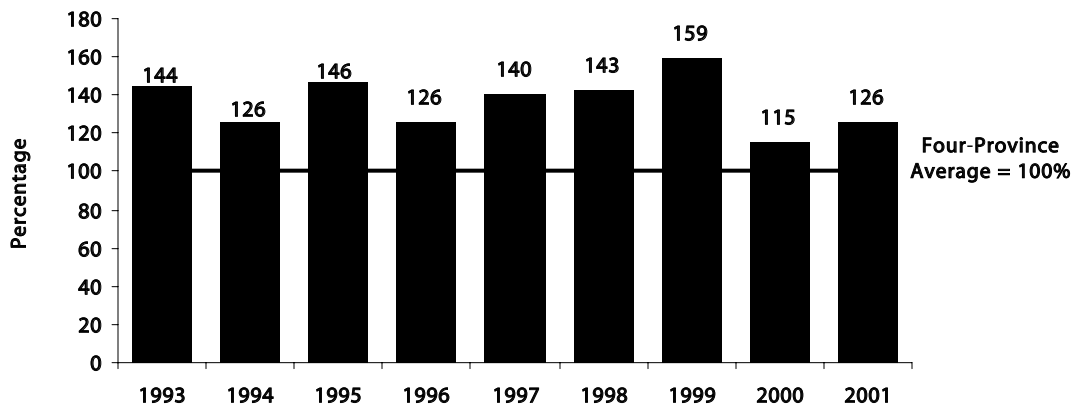
INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS

DESCRIPTION Results of national opinion poll surveying the view of Canadians regarding the performance of their provincial and federal government in various areas of governance.

TARGET Maintain the Alberta government's public approval rating in federal-provincial relations equivalent to the average approval rating of the nearest four provinces (British Columbia, Saskatchewan, Manitoba and Ontario).

RESULTS In 2001, the Alberta government's approval rating in federal-provincial relations was 26% better than the average of the four other provinces, up from 2000. The key reason for the increase was a strong improvement in the ratings of Alberta while the average of the other four provinces stayed fairly constant.

ALBERTA'S PUBLIC APPROVAL RATINGS IN FEDERAL-PROVINCIAL RELATIONS AS A PERCENTAGE OF THE AVERAGE RATING OF FOUR OTHER PROVINCES



Source: Environics Research Group Limited, Focus Canada Report.

DISCUSSION The Alberta government plays a significant role in the Canadian federation, demonstrating leadership in those policy areas that affect the well-being of Albertans and other Canadians.

In particular, Alberta works to improve the social and economic well-being of Albertans through a more effective and efficient federation. The government recognizes that positive and productive relations between governments are essential for the effective operation of the Canadian federation.

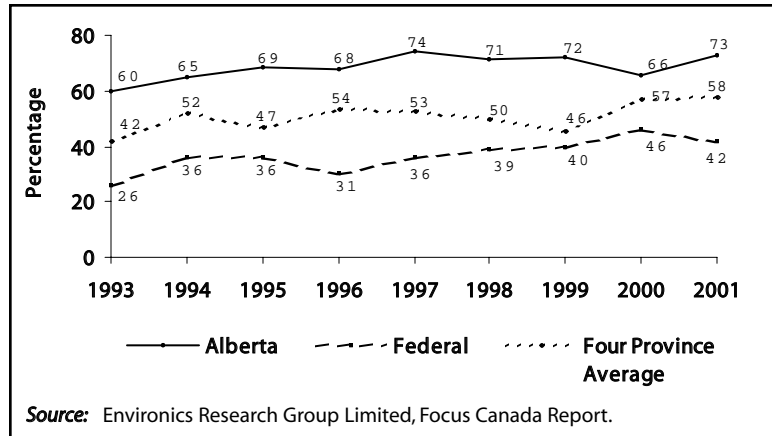
The province continually seeks fair and equal treatment for Alberta within the federation, while recognizing the importance of helping other provinces achieve economic and fiscal self-reliance.

For more information, see the core measures methodology and related ministry measures in Appendices I and III.

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION

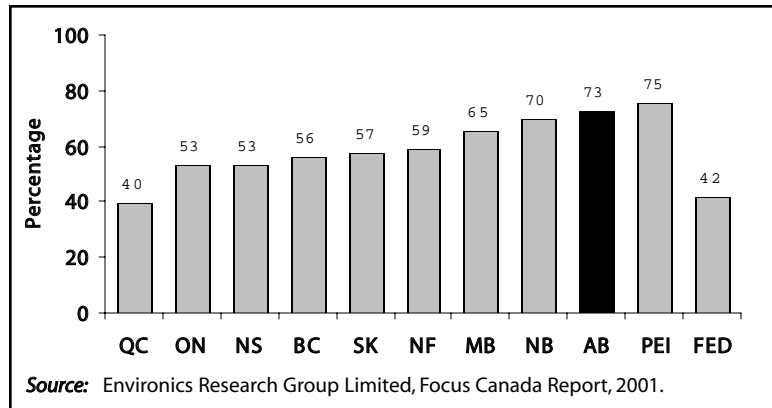
Alberta's Public Approval Ratings in Federal-Provincial Relations

Since 1993, Alberta's public approval ratings in federal-provincial relations have been higher than the four-province average, and that of the federal government. Alberta's rating increased by seven percentage points in 2001.



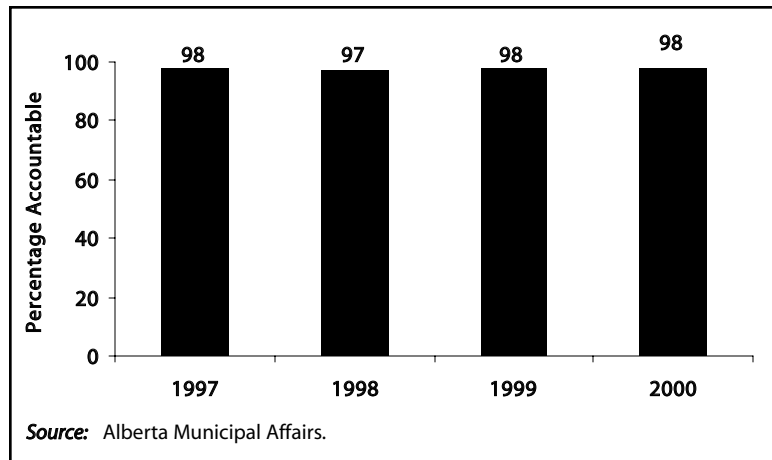
Public Approval Ratings in Federal-Provincial Relations (2001)

When compared to all other provinces and the federal government, Alberta ranked 2nd in public approval ratings, an improvement from 5th place in 2000.



Municipal Financial Accountability

The graph indicates the percentage of municipalities meeting criteria of financial accountability. The Alberta government works to ensure that municipalities are financially accountable by establishing legislated limits upon which the criteria for financial sustainability are based. Regularly not meeting the criteria, or not addressing the associated problems may indicate viability issues.



Core Measures Methodology

LIFE EXPECTANCY AT BIRTH

Life expectancy estimates are calculated and published by Statistics Canada. The Alberta data are Alberta Health and Wellness estimates. The 95% confidence interval for Alberta life expectancy estimates is about +/- .3 years. International life expectancies are from the World Health Organization's World Health Report 2001, but represents 2000 data. Countries equal to or greater than a million were selected. Life expectancy estimates for smaller populations tend to be less reliable. Rankings stated for 1999 in the "People - 2001-2002 Performance Summary" have been adjusted to reflect the new methodology.

HEALTH STATUS

Data is collected through a telephone survey conducted for Alberta Health and Wellness of 4,000 randomly selected Alberta households. The question asked of Albertans 18 and over to seek self-reported health status is: "In general, compared with other people your age, would you say your health is excellent, very good, good, fair, or poor?" The confidence interval for this survey is 2 percentage points above or below the reported results.

WELL-BEING OF CHILDREN

The Market Basket Measure (MBM) of low income calculates income at which a family of two adults and two children has sufficient income to achieve a credible standard of living. To purchase the "market basket" the family must have sufficient income to purchase nutritious food, buy clothing for work and social occasions, house themselves in their community, and pay for transportation and other necessary expenditures. The costs of the items in the MBM vary across the country and are adjusted for different family sizes and configurations. The

threshold income is net of income and payroll taxes, child care costs, child support payments and out-of-pocket medical costs.

The 1997 data was calculated using thresholds for 1996 based on the preliminary version of the MBM. These were updated for 1997 by inflating the food, clothing and footwear and rent components by the percentage changes in these components in each province between 1996 and 1997. The preliminary 1997 MBM thresholds were applied to 1997 income data.

Data for the MBM is being collected and validated by Statistics Canada. It is anticipated that MBM data for 2000 will be released by Statistics Canada in Fall 2002.

EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT

Statistics Canada's Labour Force Survey collects information on the highest level of education achieved by various age groups. The population age group for this measure was 25-34 years old. The data reported are annual averages for the calendar year.

A total of 4,120 Alberta households were surveyed with information provided on about 8,200 individuals. The coefficient of variation (the standard error as a percentage of the reported result) is 2.2% for the Alberta data and 1.1% for the Canadian total.

LITERACY AND NUMERACY

Students normally take the grade 9 provincial achievement tests at age 14 to 15. The results are based on the number of students actually writing the tests. The provincial expectation is that 85% of the students writing will achieve the acceptable standard.

Students achieving the acceptable standard demonstrate that they have met the grade level

requirements for that subject. Provincial achievement tests reflect the curriculum and are developed with extensive involvement from classroom teachers, and input from other educators, business and community groups, to ensure that the standards reflect public expectations.

The standards are set for each test by a committee of teachers and are then held constant by statistical methods in subsequent years.

ECONOMIC STATUS OF ALBERTANS
See above WELL-BEING OF CHILDREN

ABORIGINAL WELL-BEING

The data on employment and educational attainment rates is taken from the 1991 and 1996 Canada Censuses, Custom 2B profiles prepared by Statistics Canada for Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development (AAND). In accordance with contractual obligations, these custom profiles are not publicly available. The employment rate is the number of the working age population (15-64 years) that is employed divided by the total number of people of working age, expressed as a percentage. Educational attainment data is based on a series of questions asking respondents to identify the highest level of education they have completed. The percentages reported with “at least high school completion” include anyone with high school completion or a higher level of education (e.g., some post-secondary, post-secondary completion). The percentages reported with “post-secondary completion” include anyone with a trade certificate, post-secondary diploma or degree, and exclude those with some post-secondary education but no credentials.

Data on life expectancy is calculated and published by the Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development (DIAND). Life expectancy estimates the average number of years of life remaining to each member of a group of

persons. It is calculated on the basis of observed age-specific mortality rates. “Registered Indians” are persons with status within the meaning of the Indian Act, whose names appear on the Indian Register as maintained by DIAND. Information concerning the demographic characteristics of the Indian population is updated regularly by band officials and published for December 31 of each year.

Measuring progress and improvement within the Aboriginal population in general and by its component groups specifically i.e., First Nation, Metis and Inuit, is critically dependent upon securing accurate and timely data.

To date, Aboriginal population data sources have been limited to the Canada Census, which is only available every five years, and the post-censal Aboriginal Peoples Survey, which has only been undertaken twice, in 1991 and 2001.

Aboriginal-specific data from both the 2001 Census and Aboriginal Peoples Survey will be made publicly available during the first quarter of 2003, at the earliest.

During the past year, AAND has worked with Alberta Human Resources and Employment and Statistics Canada to establish and incorporate Aboriginal specific "identifiers" within the monthly provincial Labour Force Survey. This two-year pilot project has been approved and an Aboriginal identifier will be incorporated into the August 2002 survey process. In addition, AAND is working with Alberta Learning: Apprenticeship and Industry Training, to incorporate an Aboriginal specific "identifier" into the Prior Learning Assessment data collection process.

GROSS DOMESTIC PRODUCT

The three-year average annual growth rate is calculated using Alberta Economic Accounts and Statistics Canada GDP data. The growth rate for each year is calculated and the rates are averaged over a three-year period.

Alberta Economic Accounts estimates are based on data from various sources such as Statistics Canada. These estimates are revised as more recent and better data becomes available.

JOB GROWTH

Statistics Canada obtains information on employment growth as part of its monthly Labour Force Survey. Net employment growth is cumulative from January 2000. Job growth is calculated on an annual average basis (12 month average) which is the standard method for tracking job growth.

SKILL DEVELOPMENT

Reports information from telephone surveys of employers conducted for Alberta Learning. In 2001-02 about 2000 Alberta employers responded to the survey, including 758 who hired recent degree and diploma graduates. These surveys ask employers about their satisfaction with the skills graduates have obtained in Alberta's post-secondary system. The "satisfied" and "very satisfied" responses have been combined to calculate the percentage of satisfied employers. The confidence interval for the current results is 2.3 percentage points above or below the reported values.

VALUE-ADDED INDUSTRIES

The shares of provincial real GDP accounted for by the resource and manufacturing sectors are calculated using Alberta Economic Accounts 2000 data. The shares of real GDP accounted for by the knowledge-intensive industries are calculated using Statistics Canada's Provincial Economic Accounts 2001, which lists industry real GDP figures by the North American Industry Classification System (NAICS). The values of the primary resource sector (agriculture, fishing and trapping, forestry and mining), the manufacturing sector, and the knowledge-intensive industries are divided by total provincial GDP (at factor cost before statistical discrepancy)

to determine each sector's contribution to the Alberta's economy.

Last year, results for the core measure and supplemental information for resource processing and other manufacturing industries were based on current dollar estimates. This year, results for these measures are based on constant (1997) dollar estimates because the most current data available for the knowledge-intensive services component of the core measure is available in constant dollars only, requiring the manufacturing data to be revised to the same basis.

Alberta Economic Accounts estimates are based on the latest data from Statistics Canada. The industry estimates are based on projections using related indicators and are considered preliminary. The estimates could be revised if better indicators are found or if Statistics Canada revises the source data. The industry estimates of GDP (at factor cost) are based on 1996 Input/Output tables.

INFRASTRUCTURE CAPACITY

Alberta Transportation collects traffic volume data for Alberta primary highways. Traffic data is used to calculate the level of congestion based upon the United States Transportation Research Board's 2000 Highway Capacity Manual guidelines, the international standard for measuring highway capacity.

Last year, results for this measure were based on the 1994 version of the manual which was updated in 2000. The updated version has a higher acceptability of traffic congestion than the 1994 version, in recognition of higher congestion levels that are being experienced internationally.

The definitions for levels of service are outlined below:

- A Vehicles are almost completely unimpeded.
- B Ability to maneuver within traffic is only slightly restricted.
- C Freedom to maneuver within traffic is noticeably restricted.
- D Freedom to maneuver is severely limited.
- E Boundary between levels D and E describes operation at capacity. Virtually no usable gaps in traffic.
- F Breakdown or bottleneck with queuing.

The National Highway System in Alberta consists of the rural sections of the North-South Trade Corridor, TransCanada Highway 1, Highway 2 (Fort McCleod to Edmonton and Falher to west of Peace River), Highways 3, 4, and 9, Yellowhead Highway 16, and Highways 35, 43, and 49 (Valleyview to Falher). The rural national Highway System excludes the urban and fringe segments of the above highways.

Alberta Energy collects data from Nova Gas Transmission Ltd. (NOVA) and Alliance Pipeline Ltd. (Alliance) which it uses to estimate total pipeline capacity. Information from NOVA and the National Energy Board is used to determine actual throughput. Previously reported results for 2000, 2001 and 2002 have been updated to reflect more accurate estimates of available capacity.

Alberta Innovation and Science collects information from Alberta universities' audited financial statements about their sponsored research funding from all sources.

TAXATION LOAD

The tax load data is derived by the Federal Department of Finance using all provincial and municipal tax revenue data. Tax load is expressed

as an index with the average provincial tax load equal to 100 basis points. The tax load on persons includes personal income, sales, tobacco, gasoline and diesel, and payroll taxes, and health care premiums.

PROVINCIAL CREDIT RATING

A blended rate is an average (rounded) of the domestic debt credit ratings issued by Standard and Poor's Rating Services, Moody's Investors Service Limited and Dominion Bond Rating Service.

ACCUMULATED DEBT

Accumulated debt includes the outstanding consolidated debt of the General Revenue Fund, the debt of the Alberta Social Housing Corporation (net of borrowings from the General Revenue Fund) and the government's liability for school construction debt.

Net debt is defined as the difference between the province's financial assets and its liabilities, excluding pension obligations. Assets do not include capital assets such as land and buildings, but do include external Heritage Fund investments and loans to farmers and small businesses. Liabilities include General Revenue Fund and Crown corporation liabilities, and accounts payable, less Alberta Heritage Savings Trust Fund internal debt holdings.

COST OF GOVERNMENT

Expresses the per capita cost of government as a percentage of the average per capita expenditure of the nine other provinces. Data is from Statistics Canada, Public Institutions Division, Financial Management Statistics. The 2000-01 Statistics Canada figure for Alberta has been reduced by the power auction proceeds that were administered by the Power Pool Council and are not included in the government's consolidated financial statements.

WORKPLACE CLIMATE

Human Resources Development Canada (HRDC) provides the number of person-days lost due to work stoppages for each of the 10 provinces in Canada. Strikes and lockouts involving federal government workers are excluded for inter-provincial comparison, but are included for the national rate. HRDC data include both legal and illegal strikes and lockouts.

For inter-provincial comparison of workplace injury and disease, HRDC provides an estimate of the person-days lost for each province based on the data it collects from the Workers' Compensation Board (WCB) in each jurisdiction. Changes to WCB legislation in some jurisdictions may result in variations among the data. The HRDC data include claims compensated during the reference year regardless of when the accident occurred or was reported. Injury and disease data are based on employees who are covered by the WCBs. Therefore, injury and disease data for groups such as agricultural workers are not collected.

Data from Statistics Canada Labour Force Survey and Public Institutions Division are used to calculate the person-days worked. The number of non-agricultural paid workers (less federal employment) is converted into person-days worked using the standard of 20.89 working days per month. The number of person-days lost is divided by person-days worked and multiplied by 10,000 to obtain the rates.

For the Alberta-specific time series of person-days lost to injury and disease, data are provided directly from the Alberta WCB, based on claims submitted by its clients. The Alberta WCB data include claims compensated in the reference year and up to three months after the reference year.

EXPORT TRADE

Alberta Economic Development (AED) uses Statistics Canada data to monitor the value of goods exported to other countries. Statistics Canada prepares the data monthly and publishes it in Canadian International Merchandise Trade (Cat. No. 65-001). Alberta's international value-added exports include manufactured goods, tourism and other services measured in current dollars. The total value of Alberta's international exports is equivalent to Statistics Canada's published numbers, but the industry specific values differ because of different industry definitions, i.e., the definitions for agriculture, mining, and manufacturing and other are specific to AED but are based on Statistics Canada classifications. Tourism estimates are also obtained from Statistics Canada. Estimates for other services are developed in-house by AED, based on various Statistics Canada surveys.

Results for previous years have been revised due to major changes in methodology for service exports. Previous results were based on a 1996 survey which underestimated Alberta's exports of transportation services. These estimates were much lower than Statistics Canada's Input-Output Division estimates and were also out of line with estimates of national transportation exports. Revised results are based on an allocation of Canadian exports of transportation services to Alberta. A number of other minor methodological changes were also made which, in aggregate, resulted in a small reduction in total service exports.

CRIME RATE

Crime is defined as the total number of Criminal Code of Canada incidents involving youth and adults. Violent crime involves offences that deal with the application, or threat of application of force to a person. These include homicide, attempted murder, various forms of sexual and

non-sexual assault, robbery and abduction. Traffic incidents that result in death or bodily harm are not included. Property crime includes incidents involving unlawful acts with the intent of gaining property but do not involve the use or threat of violence against an individual. Theft, breaking and entering, fraud and possession of stolen goods are examples of property crimes.

Crime statistics are collected using the Uniform Crime Reporting Survey, a common survey used to measure police-reported crime in each Canadian jurisdiction. Crime rates may vary owing to differences in the jurisdiction's enforcement methods, charging practices and available diversion programs, rather than the incidence of actual crime. Population data from Statistics Canada is used to convert reported crime into crime rates per 100,000 population.

Data for the victimization rate and the public perception of safety in the neighbourhood is collected through a telephone survey conducted for Alberta Justice and Solicitor General. Consistent with surveys in previous years, 750 Albertans were interviewed, thereby providing a margin of error that is no greater than 3.6% at the 95% confidence level.

RENEWABLE RESOURCE SUSTAINABILITY

Timber sustainability compares the annual timber harvest with the long-term sustainable annual allowable cut (AAC) as set by the province within the Green Area. The Green Area is primarily the unsettled portion of the province defined as lands not available for agricultural development other than grazing. The AAC is the amount of timber that can be harvested on a sustainable basis within a defined planning area. (AAC is determined on either an individual forest management unit or specific forest management agreement area basis). Forest management strategies also take into account other forest uses outside of timber production.

Annual allowable cut is established taking into consideration factors such as forest inventory, growth rates, changes to reserved areas, regeneration success, natural mortality, and the impact of fire and insects/disease.

Data from the Timber Production Reporting System is used to determine the harvest level. Certain volumes are not included in the harvest level for the purpose of comparability to the AAC. For example, fire salvage is not included in harvest level because it does not contribute to AAC.

Yearly harvest levels may be greater than the annual allowable cut, but harvest levels cumulated over the five-year period (sum of harvest over a five-year period) should not exceed the annual allowable cut within each planning area (expressed as five times the planning area AAC). All Alberta timber dispositions greater than one year in term are balanced over five-year periods. In the case of coniferous quotas (28% of Green Area conifer annual allowable cut), these five-year periods are called quadrants. Quota holders have the flexibility to harvest any or all of quadrant allowable cut (five years times their annual allotment) in any one-year or combination of years within that quadrant. Similarly, forest management agreement holders, who make up 66% of Green Area conifer annual allowable cut, utilize five-year cut control periods. As a result of the flexibility allowed to quota and forest management agreement holders, harvest levels and annual allowable cuts are compared on a five-year rolling average basis.

Comparative data may change between reporting years primarily as a result of production audits that are carried out at the conclusion of each five-year planning period.

There is a one-year delay in the reporting of this data; the reported AAC for 2000-01 represents the approved AAC upon conclusion of the fiscal

year (April 2001). In some cases, revisions are made to the approved AAC in previous years, but these revisions have not been reflected in the published results.

Crop yields are collected by the Agriculture Division of Statistics Canada and Alberta Agriculture, Food and Rural Development for the various crops and are converted to a standard base of tonnes per acre of wheat.

AIR QUALITY

The measure is based on data collected from nine continuous monitoring stations across the province - three stations in both Edmonton and Calgary, and one station in each of Red Deer, Fort McMurray and Fort Saskatchewan. The data from these stations is used to calculate the Index of Quality of Air (IQUA) every hour.

The IQUA is based on outdoor concentrations of five major air pollutants (carbon monoxide, the dust and smoke, nitrogen dioxide, ozone, and sulphur dioxide). The concentration of each pollutant is converted to an IQUA number, and the highest number is the IQUA for that station. IQUA ratings are divided into Good, Fair, Poor and Very Poor categories. These categories are derived using formulas based on air quality guidelines of the Alberta Environmental Protection and Enhancement Act and the National Air Quality Objectives.

WATER QUALITY

Monthly water quality samples are collected at two locations for each of the province's six major river systems. An index value is calculated for each of four variable groups for data collected between April and March, representing both a fiscal and a "water" year:

- Metals (up to 22 variables measured quarterly);
- Nutrients (6 variables measured monthly, includes oxygen and pH);

- Bacteria (2 variables measured monthly); and
- Pesticides (up to 17 variables measured quarterly).

Index values for the four variable groups are then averaged to produce an overall index of surface water quality that can be tracked over time.

The formula used to calculate index values for each group is based on three statistical attributes of water quality with respect to desirable levels (defined by water quality guidelines in most cases):

- Scope - the total number of water quality variables that do not meet guidelines
- Frequency - the number of individual measurements for all variables combined that do not meet guidelines
- Amplitude - the amount by which measurements do not meet guidelines

Variables in the first three groups are compared to guidelines listed in Surface Water Quality Guidelines for Use in Alberta. Where a number of guidelines exist for one variable, the guideline for the most sensitive use (recreation, agriculture, or the protection of aquatic life) is chosen. Drinking water guidelines are not considered, since surface water should not be used for drinking without first being treated.

Variables in the fourth group (pesticides) are evaluated based on whether or not they can be detected in a water sample. This conservative approach was adopted because some pesticides do not yet have official guidelines and, unlike metals, nutrients and bacteria, do not occur naturally in the environment.

LAND QUALITY

Crop yields are collected by the Agriculture Division of Statistics Canada and Alberta Agriculture, Food and Rural Development for the

various crops and are converted to a standard base of tonnes per acre of wheat.

HERITAGE APPRECIATION

Visitation data for historic sites, museums and interpretive centres is collected by Alberta Community Development for 18 provincially-owned historic sites, museums and interpretive centres. Visitation is estimated at the sites to accommodate the unique circumstances of gathering precise visitation data at each facility, such as differences in location of the admissions facility or access after regular opening hours. Visitation to other Alberta museums is not reflected in these figures.

Alberta Community Development manages the province's parks and protected areas network consisting of three wilderness areas, Willmore Wilderness Park, 16 ecological reserves, 32 wildland provincial parks, 68 provincial parks, 152 natural areas, and 256 recreation areas. Visitation statistics are compiled and reported only for provincial parks and major recreation areas that are auto-accessible. The ministry obtains its information through camping permit sales, automatic traffic counter readings, periodic surveys of visitors and historic data. This information is used to provide the estimates of annual visitation that are reported in this measure. Visitation to provincial parks and recreation areas is influenced by economic factors, by environmental factors, such as weather patterns, fire bans, and closures due to wildlife concerns, and by other factors such as road construction.

INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS

EnviroNics Research Group Ltd. conducts a quarterly national opinion poll surveying the views of Canadians regarding the performance of their provincial and federal government in various areas of governance. The results are reported in the Focus Canada Report. Albertans

are specifically asked to rate their approval or disapproval of the way their government (both their provincial government and the federal government) is handling federal-provincial relations. The average of the four quarterly surveys shows the percentage of Albertans approving of their respective government's performance.

The margin of error for a stratified probability sample of the size used for the survey is +/- 2.2 percentage points, 19 times out of 20. The approximate margin of error is greater for results pertaining to each of the provinces. For the December 2001 survey, the margin of error for each of the provinces is; Ontario (4.1), Manitoba (8.6), Saskatchewan (8.7), Alberta (6.6) and British Columbia (6.4), 19 times out of 20.

Government of Alberta Business Plan 2001-04

The Future...

Meeting Priorities, Sharing Benefits

A PLAN FOR A NEW AGE

Alberta stands on the doorstep of a new age. An age where economic globalization and technology are linking our province and its people to a worldwide neighbourhood. An age where freedom from debt – once only a tiny pinpoint of light far in the distance – is now firmly in view. An age where knowledge and innovation are rapidly increasing the pace of change.

Alberta is well prepared for the new age. The province's economy leads the nation by nearly all measures, and growth is predicted to remain strong well into the future. This robust economy sustains a high quality of life and creates wealth to pay for things that are important to Albertans: an excellent education system, a solid infrastructure, a world-class health care system, and support for children, seniors, and others who need it.

OUR VALUES

The province's success has been based on the strong values Albertans hold. The job of government is to ensure that those values continue to be reflected in its programs and services.

Albertans value independence – making our own choices and finding our own paths, free of discrimination and unnecessary impediments.

Albertans value innovation – trying new ideas and finding new ways of doing things.

Albertans value people – ensuring that all members of society, especially the most vulnerable, can participate in the life of the province.

Albertans value fiscal responsibility – living within our means, and making wise choices that reflect our needs and priorities.

These values are reflected in the Government Business Plan 2001-04.

NEW OPPORTUNITIES

Alberta could soon become the only province in Canada to be debt-free. Burning our mortgage creates a new fiscal environment. The global environment is changing too. Technology is opening doors that weren't there before.

These changes create opportunities to address some of the challenges Albertans now face. They offer possible answers to questions like: what can be done to enhance health care? Is our education system the best it can be? Can our taxes be lower? How can we take better care of our children and provide more support to seniors and families? Can we improve the province's infrastructure?

Addressing these challenges is the priority of the government's 2001-04 business plan. The government's efforts will focus on:

- improving health care;
- striving for excellence in education;
- continuing the tradition of wise fiscal management and low taxes;
- caring for children and supporting seniors and families; and
- investing in infrastructure.

IMPROVING HEALTH CARE

Alberta will strive to protect and improve the publicly funded health care system by continuing to implement the Six-Point Plan for Health. Actions to be undertaken in the course of this business plan include:

- ensuring Albertans get the care they need through accessible, high quality health services;
- preparing for future health needs through ongoing innovation, integration, and coordination in health service delivery;
- providing more services to people where they need them – in their communities and in their homes; and
- focusing on long-term health gains through increased emphasis on programs to prevent illness and injury, and protect and promote good health, as well as healthy active lifestyles.

STRIVING FOR EXCELLENCE IN EDUCATION

A well-educated population drives economic growth, innovation and increases in standards of living. The Government of Alberta will support lifelong learning over the next three years by:

- meeting diverse learner needs by building capacity for a range of learning opportunities;
- building a solid foundation for learning by focusing on the early grades;
- ensuring that students' financial needs are not a barrier to learning;
- expanding opportunities for youth to develop career preparation and employability skills; and
- expanding training opportunities in information technology, communications, education and health.

CONTINUING THE TRADITION OF WISE FISCAL MANAGEMENT AND LOW TAXES

Wise fiscal management ensures that Alberta can afford to invest in priority areas and maintain a competitive tax regime. Together, these enhance the quality of life in Alberta, spur job creation and leave more money in peoples' pockets. The next three years will see Alberta's tax advantage grow even more by:

- maintaining a globally competitive tax regime, and
- implementing the business tax reduction plans beginning on April 1, 2001, on an affordable basis.

CARING FOR CHILDREN AND SUPPORTING SENIORS AND FAMILIES

Alberta's children deserve the best care we can give them. The 2001-04 business plan includes several initiatives to take care of children, including:

- addressing the recommendations of the Task Force on Children at Risk and Children's Forums;
- introducing strategies to address priority health issues like low birth weight babies; and
- supporting Child and Family Services Authorities and other partners in the delivery of community-based, integrated services to children, youth and families, with emphasis on early intervention, meeting the needs of Aboriginal children, and providing transitions for youth.

The business plan also identifies several initiatives to support seniors, families, and other Albertans, including:

- shielding Albertans from unexpected spikes in natural gas prices; and
- continuing to plan for the needs of an aging population by ensuring that Alberta seniors, particularly those most in need, have the programs and services they need to live in comfort and dignity.

INVESTING IN INFRASTRUCTURE

Having a modern, reliable infrastructure is a key to sustaining economic growth and maintaining a high quality of life. Among the highlights of Alberta's investment in infrastructure are:

- developing a high speed, provincial technology network that will ensure high speed Internet and wide-area network availability so that all Albertans can access government services;
- strengthening Alberta's multi-billion investment in physical infrastructure for educational institutions, health care, seniors' and social housing, irrigation, water management and other government programs through appropriate maintenance and upgrading;
- facilitating trade by improving key highway routes, including the North-South Trade Corridor; and
- completing the restructuring of Alberta's electric industry and managing the transition to a deregulated market.

LOOKING AHEAD

The Government of Alberta's 2001-04 Business Plan has two parts. The first section comprises the goals and strategies undertaken by individual ministries in the government's three core businesses of *People, Prosperity and Preservation*.

However, many issues are not isolated to a single ministry, so the second part of the business plan includes cross-ministry initiatives that involve cooperation across government.

There are four priority cross-ministry initiatives for this business plan:

1. the Aboriginal Policy Initiative;
2. the Economic Development Strategy;
3. the Seniors Policy Initiative; and
4. the Children and Youth Services Initiative.

Work is also continuing on four key government administrative priorities:

1. the Alberta Corporate Service Centre Initiative;
2. the Corporate Human Resource Development Strategy;
3. the Corporate Information Management/Information Technology Strategy; and
4. the Alberta One-Window Initiative.

Together, the two parts form the plan that will guide Alberta's way into a new age.

GOALS, STRATEGIES, MEASURES AND TARGETS

The government's activities are focused on three core businesses: *People, Prosperity and Preservation*. The goals chosen for each of the core businesses reflect the government's priorities for protecting the quality of life in Alberta, while maintaining a commitment to fiscal responsibility. Key strategies have been set out for achieving these goals along with performance targets and measures for tracking progress.

PEOPLE...

The goals for the *People* core business are directed at improving the quality of life in Alberta for individuals and their families through the government's priorities for health, education, our children, those in need, and Aboriginal Albertans.

PROSPERITY...

The goals for the *Prosperity* core business focus on protecting the quality of life in Alberta through the government's priorities for our economy, work force and work places, infrastructure, value-added industries, export trade, and financial and fiscal position.

PRESERVATION ...

The goals for the *Preservation* core business reflect the government's priorities for community safety, our renewable resources, the environment, our natural, historical and cultural resources, and Alberta's relations with other levels of government.

This section of the government business plan outlines the goals, and key strategies for each of the three core businesses. Reference to the lead ministries responsible for the service or program delivery is provided in parentheses. Performance measures and targets are also described. More detail about how the government intends to achieve these goals is included in the business plans of individual ministries.

A summary table of the goals, measures and targets for the *2001-04 Government Business Plan* is presented on the next page.

GOVERNMENT BUSINESS PLAN 2001-04

Goals, Performance Measures, and Targets

People

Goals	Measures	Targets
1. Albertans will be healthy.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Life Expectancy at Birth Health Status 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maintain or improve current life expectancy at birth and be among the top 10 countries in the world. By 2003, 70% of Albertans aged 18-64 rate their health as very good or excellent, and 80% of Albertans aged 65 and over rate their health as good or better.
2. Our children will be well cared for, safe, successful at learning and healthy.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Well Being of Children 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To be determined once baseline is established.
3. Alberta students will excel.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Educational Attainment Literacy and Numeracy Levels 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> By 2003, 90% of Albertans aged 25-34 will have completed high school, and 60% will have completed post-secondary education. Maintain or improve inter-provincial ranking. 85% of Grade 9 students meet acceptable standards on provincial achievement tests in math and language arts.
4. Albertans will be independent.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Economic Status of Albertans 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To be determined once baseline is established.
5. Albertans unable to provide for their basic needs will receive help.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Economic Status of Albertans 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To be determined once baseline is established.
6. The well-being and self-reliance of Aboriginal people will be comparable to that of other Albertans.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Aboriginal Well-Being 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> By 2010: the difference in employment rates of Aboriginal Albertans and other Albertans will be less than 10%; the percentage of Aboriginal learners 15 years of age or older with high school completion will be 60% and 30% with post-secondary completion; the difference in life expectancy of Registered Indians in Alberta and all Albertans will be reduced by one year.

Prosperity

Goals	Measures	Targets
7. Alberta will have a prosperous economy.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gross Domestic Product Job Growth 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 3 year annual average GDP growth rate of 4 to 6%. 295,000 new jobs in the 6 years ending December 2005.
8. Our workforce will be skilled and productive.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Skill Development 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 90% of employers satisfied with recent post-secondary graduates skills.
9. Alberta businesses will be increasingly innovative.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Business Innovation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Alberta business use of the Internet will account for an increasing percentage of economic activity.
10. Alberta's value-added industries will lead economic growth.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Value-Added Industries 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Alberta's value-added industries will account for an increasing percentage of Provincial GDP.
11. Alberta will have effective and efficient infrastructure.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Infrastructure Capacity 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 95% of rural sections of the National Highway System at level of service B or better upon completion of the North-South Trade Corridor; export gas pipeline capacity will exceed demand; continue to increase industry and non-profit sponsored research.
12. Alberta will have a financially stable, open and accountable government.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Taxation Load Provincial Credit Rating Accumulated Debt Cost of Government 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maintain the lowest tax load on persons and business among the provinces. The highest blended credit rating for domestic debt among the provinces. Reduce the March 31, 2000 accumulated debt by at least 13% by 2004-05 and eliminate it no later than 2024-25. Remain 5% below the average per capita government expenditure of the other nine provinces.
13. Alberta will have a fair and safe work environment.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Workplace Climate 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The rate of person-days lost to work stoppages, and injury and disease will be among the three lowest of all the provinces.
14. Alberta businesses will increase exports.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Export Trade 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increase international value-added exports to \$28.5 billion by the year 2004.

Preservation

Goals	Measures	Targets
15. Alberta will be a safe place to live and raise families.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Crime Rate 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reduce Alberta's crime rates below the national rates by 2005.
16. Alberta's renewable natural resources will be sustained.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Renewable Resource Sustainability 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Keep timber harvest at or below the annual allowable cut. Achieve sustainable crop yields of 0.92 tonnes per acre by 2004.
17. The high quality of Alberta's environment will be maintained.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Air Quality Water Quality Land Quality 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maintain air quality levels that are considered good or fair at all times. Bring river water quality downstream of developed areas in line with upstream conditions, while maintaining overall river water quality. Achieve sustainable crop yields of 0.92 tonnes per acre by the year 2004.
18. Albertans will have the opportunity to enjoy the province's natural, historical and cultural resources.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Heritage Appreciation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1.1 million visitors per year to provincially-owned historic sites, museums, and interpretive centres and 8 million visitors per year to provincial parks and recreation areas.
19. Alberta will work with other governments and maintain its strong position in Canada.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Intergovernmental Relations 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maintain the Alberta government's public approval rating in federal-provincial relations equivalent to the average approval rating of the four nearest provinces.

core business *People ...*

1 Albertans will be healthy

KEY STRATEGIES:

- ensure Albertans get the care they need through accessible high quality health services (HW)
- prepare for future health needs through ongoing innovation, integration and coordination in health service delivery (HW)
- provide more services to people where they need them – in their communities and in their homes (HW)
- improve accountability and results in the health care system through clear expectations and better information (HW)
- focus on long-term health gains through increased emphasis on programs to prevent illness and injury, and protect and promote good health, as well as healthy active lifestyles (CD, ENV, HRE, HW, PAO)

CORE MEASURES:

LIFE EXPECTANCY AT BIRTH

DESCRIPTION

Female and male life expectancy.

TARGET

Maintain or improve current life expectancy at birth and be among the top 10 countries in the world.

HEALTH STATUS

DESCRIPTION

Self-reported status by Albertans over 18.

TARGET

By the year 2003, 70% of Albertans aged 18-64 will rate their health as 'very good' or 'excellent', and 80% of Albertans aged 65 or over will rate their health as 'good' or better.

Abbreviations for Ministries:

AAND	Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development	IIR	International and Intergovernmental Relations
AEDA	Alberta Economic Development Authority	INFRA	Infrastructure
AFRD	Agriculture, Food and Rural Development	IS	Innovation and Science
CD	Community Development	JUS	Justice and Attorney General
CS	Children's Services	LEARN	Learning
ED	Economic Development	MA	Municipal Affairs
ENERGY	Energy	PAB	Public Affairs Bureau
ENV	Environment	PAO	Personnel Administration Office
FINANCE	Finance	REVENUE	Revenue
GAMING	Gaming	SENIORS	Seniors
GS	Government Services	SG	Solicitor General
HRE	Human Resources and Employment	SRD	Sustainable Resource Development
HW	Health and Wellness	TRANS	Transportation

2 Our children will be well cared for, safe, successful at learning and healthy

KEY STRATEGIES:



Key strategies in italics are associated with the Children and Youth Services Cross Ministry Initiative. See page 36.

- *continue implementation of the Children and Youth Services Initiative with an emphasis on cross ministry initiatives to improve supports and resources to children, youth and families (AAND, CD, CS, HRE, HW, LEARN, SG)*
- address the recommendations of the Task Force on Children at Risk and Children's Forum (CS, HW, LEARN, SG)
- support Child and Family Services Authorities and other partners in the delivery of community-based, integrated services to children, youth and families, with an emphasis on early intervention, meeting the needs of Aboriginal children and providing transitions for youth (AAND, CD, CS, HW, LEARN, SG)
- provide a range of integrated health and related support services to identified students with special health needs registered in school programs (CS, HW, LEARN)
- continue to promote the Alberta Child Health Benefit which provides low-income families with the prescription drugs, dental, optical, and ambulance services that their children require (HRE)
- introduce health strategies to address priority health issues, including low birth weight babies (CS, HW)
- identify strategies for integrated mental health services to children, youth and families (CS, HW, LEARN)

CORE MEASURE:

WELL BEING OF CHILDREN

DESCRIPTION

Percentage of Alberta children living in families with incomes above the Market Basket Measure (MBM) low income threshold.

TARGET

To be determined once baseline is established.

goal **3** Alberta students will excel

KEY STRATEGIES:

- enhance school-readiness opportunities for children from birth to three years of age (CS, LEARN)
- build a solid foundation for learning by focusing on early grades (LEARN)
- improve student learning by continuing to implement and evaluate the Alberta Initiative for School Improvement collaboratively with partners (LEARN)
- meet diverse learner needs by building capacity for a range of learning opportunities (HRE, INFRA, LEARN)
- ensure that students' financial needs are not a barrier to participating in learning opportunities (HRE, LEARN)
- expand opportunities for youth to develop career preparation and employability skills (HRE, LEARN)
- improve assessment and reporting of learner achievement (LEARN)

CORE MEASURES:

EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT

DESCRIPTION	High school or post-secondary completion.
TARGET	By 2003, 90% of Albertans aged 25-34 will have completed high school, and 60% will have completed post-secondary education. Maintain or improve inter-provincial ranking.

LITERACY AND NUMERACY LEVELS

DESCRIPTION	Achieving the acceptable standard in language arts and mathematics.
TARGET	85% of Grade 9 students are expected to achieve the acceptable standard on provincial achievement tests in language arts and mathematics.

goal **4** Albertans will be independent

KEY STRATEGIES:

- improve transitions for youth among school, further learning and work (CS, HRE, LEARN)
- develop additional government-wide strategies through the People and Prosperity Initiative that help Albertans contribute to and share in Alberta's economic prosperity (HRE, ED, LEARN, all ministries)
- ensure up-to-date information is available to all Albertans on labour market needs, career preparation and opportunities for further learning (HRE, LEARN)
- continue efforts to get social assistance clients into the workforce by improving training programs and providing financial and health benefits (HRE)

CORE MEASURE:

ECONOMIC STATUS OF ALBERTANS

DESCRIPTION	Increase the percentage of people in Alberta living above the Market Basket Measure (MBM) low income threshold.
TARGET	To be determined once baseline is established.

goal

5

Albertans unable to provide for their basic needs will receive help

KEY STRATEGIES:



Key strategies in italics are associated with the Seniors Policy Cross Ministry Initiative. See page 35.

- continue to improve income support services for Albertans who are unable to provide for their basic needs and require financial assistance (**HRE**)
- sponsor initiatives which provide effective supports to Albertans with developmental and other disabilities, and promote their inclusion in community life (**CD**)
- provide financial assistance to lower-income seniors through the *Alberta Seniors Benefit* and *Special Needs Assistance for Seniors* programs (**SENIORS**)
- facilitate the provision of appropriate seniors housing, and family and special purpose housing for Albertans most in need (**SENIORS**)
- *strengthen the coordination of provincial government programs and services for seniors, and develop a strategic framework and a 10-year action plan on the aging population through the Seniors Policy Initiative* (**HW, SENIORS, all ministries**)
- implement strategies to address homelessness in conjunction with municipal governments, local authorities, community groups and the private sector (**HRE, HW, SENIORS**)

CORE MEASURE:

ECONOMIC STATUS OF ALBERTANS

DESCRIPTION

Increase the percentage of people in Alberta living above the Market Basket Measure (MBM) low income threshold.

TARGET

To be determined once baseline is established.

goal

6 The well-being and self-reliance of Aboriginal people will be comparable to that of other Albertans

KEY STRATEGIES:



Key strategies in italics are associated with the Aboriginal Policy Cross Ministry Initiative. See page 33.

- *improve the health status and well-being of Aboriginal people* (AAND, CD, CS, HW)
- *improve the educational attainment of Aboriginal learners* (AAND, CS, HRE, LEARN)
- *increase the collaborative participation of Aboriginal governments, organizations and people in the design and delivery of programs and services* (all ministries)
- *promote the appreciation and preservation of Aboriginal cultures in Alberta* (AAND, CD, CS, JUS)
- *increase the participation by Aboriginal people in the Alberta economy* (all ministries)
- *clarify federal/provincial/Aboriginal roles and responsibilities* (all ministries)

CORE MEASURE:

ABORIGINAL WELL-BEING

DESCRIPTION

Aboriginal well being is measured by comparing the employment rate and the high school completion rate of Alberta's Aboriginal people to those of non-Aboriginal people, and by comparing the life expectancy of registered Indians to that of all Albertans.

TARGET

By 2010: the difference in employment rates of Aboriginal Albertans and other Albertans will be less than 10%; the percentage of Aboriginal learners 15 years of age or older with high school completion will be 60% and 30% with post-secondary completion (comparable 1996 percentages were 52.2 and 24.9, respectively); the difference in life expectancy of Registered Indians in Alberta and all Albertans will be reduced by one year.

core business *Prosperity ...*

KEY STRATEGIES:

Key strategies in italics are associated with the Economic Development Strategy Cross Ministry Initiative. See page 34.

- continue to promote the Alberta Advantage (**all ministries**)
- *continue implementation of the Economic Development Strategy to enable Albertans to meet future economic challenges* (ED, IS, LEARN, **all ministries**)
- *develop a collaborative approach to regional economic development that builds on regional goals, priorities and strengths* (AAND, AEDA, AFRD, ED, ENV, IIR, MA, SRD)
- *ensure the sufficient supply of skilled labour to meet Alberta's economic growth* (ED, HRE, IIR, LEARN)
- encourage investment and economic activity by maintaining a globally competitive tax regime (AEDA, ED, FINANCE)
- implement the April 1, 2001 business tax plan changes; implement the 2002 tax plan step subject to affordability (FINANCE, REVENUE)
- work with industry to attract domestic and international investment (AEDA, AFRD, ED, IIR, IS, SRD)
- support the expansion of Alberta's tourism industry and promotion of Alberta as a world-renowned tourism destination (AEDA, CD, ED)
- improve the ability of start-up and early stage companies to access the capital they need to get their businesses up and running (AEDA, AFRD, ED, IS)
- remove barriers to national and international trade and investment so Alberta businesses can compete in new markets (AFRD, ED, IIR)

CORE MEASURES:**GROSS DOMESTIC PRODUCT**

DESCRIPTION Long term growth rate of the Alberta economy as measured by the three year average growth rate of provincial Gross Domestic Product.

TARGET Three year annual average GDP growth rate of 4 to 6%.

JOB GROWTH

DESCRIPTION Net number of jobs created in Alberta on an annual average basis.

TARGET 295,000 new jobs in the 6 years ending December 2005.

goal 8 Our workforce will be skilled and productive

KEY STRATEGIES:

- improve Albertans' ability to enter the workforce and keep pace with changing skill needs (AEDA, AFRD, ED, HRE, LEARN, PAO)
- maintain a balanced long-term program of science and engineering research through the Alberta Heritage Foundation for Science and Engineering Research (IS)
- remove barriers that prevent people from moving easily from job to job or place to place in order to work (AAND, AEDA, ED, HRE, IIR, LEARN, PAO, TRANS)
- build a strong Alberta public service through continued implementation of the Corporate Human Resource Development Strategy (PAO, all ministries)
- improve the knowledge and skills of Alberta youth, particularly as they relate to employability and the transitions between learning and work (AFRD, CD, HRE, LEARN)
- strengthen connections between school and workplace learning (AFRD, CD, HRE, LEARN)
- expand training opportunities in information technology, communications, education and health (LEARN)

CORE MEASURE:

SKILL DEVELOPMENT

DESCRIPTION	Employer satisfaction with recent post-secondary graduates' skills.
TARGET	90% of employers satisfied with recent post-secondary graduates' skills.

goal **9**

Alberta businesses will be increasingly innovative

KEY STRATEGIES:

- expand Alberta’s focus on research, knowledge and technology that results in viable commercial products, processes and services (AFRD, ED, ENERGY, IS, SRD)
- encourage the innovative application of new technologies by resource-based industries to sustain future competitiveness and resource bases (AEDA, AFRD, ED, ENERGY, IS, SRD)
- encourage the development of private sector laboratories for food production and processing (AFRD, ED, IS)

CORE MEASURE:

BUSINESS INNOVATION

DESCRIPTION

Alberta business use of the Internet to sell goods and services.

TARGET

Alberta business use of the Internet will account for an increasing percentage of economic activity.

goal **10** Alberta's value-added industries will lead economic growth

KEY STRATEGIES:

- use technology in targeted sectors to expand Alberta's value-added industries (AEDA, AFRD, ED, ENERGY, IS, SRD)
- expand Alberta's economy by defining and taking action on key science and technology priorities (ED, ENERGY, IS, SRD)
- expand in-Alberta opportunities for secondary processing of renewable and non-renewable resources (AEDA, AFRD, ED, ENERGY, IIR, SRD)
- facilitate the growth of value-added industries, especially in the agri-food, energy and forestry sectors (AAND, AFRD, ED, ENERGY, IIR, IS, SRD)

CORE MEASURE:

VALUE-ADDED INDUSTRIES

DESCRIPTION

Percentage of provincial GDP contributed by the manufacturing and knowledge-intensive service industries as proxies for value-added industries in Alberta.

TARGET

Alberta's value-added industries will account for an increasing percentage of Provincial GDP.

goal **11** Alberta will have effective and efficient infrastructure

KEY STRATEGIES:

- implement initiatives to ensure effective and innovative capital planning and funding of government supported infrastructure through the government-wide capital planning initiative (FINANCE, INFRA, TRANS, all ministries)
- promote cooperative initiatives among business and industry, government and municipalities to address the need for infrastructure development (AAND, AEDA, CD, ED, GAMING, INFRA, MA)
- facilitate trade by improving key highway routes, including the North-South Trade Corridor (IIR, TRANS)
- work with local governments to strengthen rural and urban transportation partnerships and ensure that Alberta has a safe and efficient system of roads (MA, TRANS)
- complete restructuring of Alberta's electric industry and manage the transition to a deregulated market (ENERGY)
- protect Alberta's multi-billion dollar investment in physical infrastructure for educational institutions, health care, seniors' and social housing, irrigation, water management and other government programs through appropriate maintenance and upgrading (AFRD, CD, ENV, HW, INFRA, LEARN, MA, SENIORS, SRD, TRANS)
- develop a high speed, provincial technology network that will ensure high speed Internet and wide-area network availability so that all Albertans can access provincial government services (GS, LEARN, HW, IS, all ministries)
- develop and implement advanced telecommunications, infrastructure management, and information management systems for improved communications and service delivery (CD, GS, HW, INFRA, IS)

CORE MEASURE:

INFRASTRUCTURE CAPACITY

DESCRIPTION

Sufficiency of Alberta's infrastructure system as measured by the quality of Alberta's highways, the utilization rate of our export gas pipelines and the level of sponsored research at Alberta's universities.

TARGET

95% of rural sections of the National Highway System at level of service B or better upon completion of the North-South Trade Corridor; export gas pipeline capacity will exceed demand; continue to increase industry and non-profit sponsored research.

goal 12 Alberta will have a financially stable, open and accountable government

KEY STRATEGIES:

- continue to implement current fiscal policies of balancing the budget, orderly paydown of debt, low taxes, targeted spending and capital planning (FINANCE)
- eliminate unnecessary regulations (all ministries)
- provide regular reports to Albertans on government goals, as well as financial and non-financial performance results (all ministries)
- provide efficient management of government resources and communications (FINANCE, INFRA, IS, PAB, PAO, all ministries)
- improve the efficiency and cost effectiveness of Alberta government administrative services through the Alberta Corporate Service Centre initiative (all ministries)
- improve Albertans' access to government information and services through the Alberta One-Window Gateway (GS, all ministries)
- meet Albertans' requested needs for more information on government programs and services, and make it easier for them to give their feedback and opinions (all ministries)

CORE MEASURES:

TAXATION LOAD

DESCRIPTION Alberta's provincial taxation load on persons and business relative to the provincial average.

TARGET Maintain the lowest tax load on persons and business among the provinces.

PROVINCIAL CREDIT RATING

DESCRIPTION Alberta's blended credit rating for domestic debt relative to the other provinces.

TARGET The highest blended credit rating for domestic debt among the provinces.

ACCUMULATED DEBT

DESCRIPTION Alberta's accumulated debt, which is the sum of the outstanding consolidated debt of the General Revenue Fund, the debt of the Alberta Social Housing Corporation and the government's liability for school construction.

TARGET Reduce the March 31, 2000 accumulated debt by at least 13% by 2004-05 and eliminate it no later than 2024-25.

COST OF GOVERNMENT

DESCRIPTION Alberta government expenditures per capita as a percentage of the other nine provinces.

TARGET Remain 5% below the average per capita government expenditure of the other nine provinces.

goal 13 Alberta will have a fair and safe work environment

KEY STRATEGIES:

- promote high standards in the workplace for labour relations and workplace health and safety (HRE, PAO)
- support community organizations undertaking educational initiatives that promote fairness and access, and that increase understanding and appreciation of the benefits of Alberta's growing diversity (CD)

CORE MEASURE:

WORKPLACE CLIMATE

DESCRIPTION

Alberta's provincial ranking of the number of person-days lost due to work stoppages and due to injury and disease, per 10,000 person-days worked.

TARGET

The rate of person-days lost to work stoppages, and injury and disease will be among the three lowest of all the provinces.

goal 14 Alberta businesses will increase exports

KEY STRATEGIES:

- implement Alberta's International Marketing Strategy to focus trade and investment efforts in targeted regions and industries (AFRD, ED, ENERGY, IIR, IS, LEARN, SRD)
- improve Alberta's ability to compete and do business in global markets by expanding Albertans' understanding of world languages and cultures (AEDA, ED, IIR, LEARN)
- provide Alberta businesses with information/intelligence to identify emerging opportunities and enhance market access (AFRD, ED)
- coordinate Alberta's participation in strategic international relationships and agreements with key trading partners (ED, IIR)

CORE MEASURE:

EXPORT TRADE

DESCRIPTION	Alberta's international value-added exports, measured in current dollars.
TARGET	Increase international value-added exports to \$28.5 billion by the year 2004.

core business *Preservation ...*

goal 15 Alberta will be a safe place to live and raise families

KEY STRATEGIES:

- protect human rights for all Albertans through the resolution of complaints made under the *Human Rights, Citizenship and Multiculturalism Act (CD)*
- augment crime prevention initiatives and review all aspects of policing (SG)
- enhance services for victims of crime (SG)
- expand youth justice initiatives including the *Alternative Measures Program* and *Intensive Support and Supervision Program* as alternatives to traditional justice sanctions (SG)
- build capacity in schools and communities to provide safe and caring environments (CS, HW, LEARN)
- improve support for families through family law reform (CS, HRE, JUS)
- investigate marketplace practices and take appropriate enforcement actions to ensure compliance with the *Fair Trading Act (GS)*
- partner with government, consumer groups, business associations and the media to increase marketplace awareness and education (GS)
- improve traffic safety through driver education, road safety awareness and motor carrier compliance (TRANS)
- assist municipalities in preparing for emergencies and responding to major disasters (ENV, MA, SRD)

CORE MEASURE:

CRIME RATE

DESCRIPTION	Alberta's violent and property crime rates expressed as a percentage of the national rate.
TARGET	Reduce Alberta's crime rates below the national rates by 2005.

goal 16 Alberta's renewable natural resources will be sustained

KEY STRATEGIES:

- provide clear, effective direction and guidelines for the use, management, regulation and development of Alberta's renewable resources (AFRD, ENERGY, ENV, SRD)
- reduce the impact of natural hazards such as fire, pests, drought and floods on property, people, and resources (AFRD, ENV, SRD)
- implement a long-term, environmentally-sustainable approach to agriculture and forest industry development that supports stable economic growth (AFRD, SRD)

CORE MEASURES:

RENEWABLE RESOURCE SUSTAINABILITY

DESCRIPTION

Timber sustainability compares the annual timber harvests with the long-term sustainable annual allowable cut. Land quality measures the annual provincial crop yield per acre converted to a standard base of tonnes per acre of wheat.

TARGET

Keep timber harvests at or below the annual allowable cut. Achieve sustainable crop yields of 0.92 tonnes per acre by 2004.

goal 17 The high quality of Alberta's environment will be maintained

KEY STRATEGIES:

- ensure standards are acceptable to maintain the quality of air, land, water and ecosystems (ENV, SRD, TRANS)
- ensure public accountability for environmental management by clearly defining roles and responsibilities of federal and provincial governments, as well as industry (AEDA, ENERGY, ENV, IIR, SRD)
- provide predictable, consistent, and streamlined regulations for land use and resource management (AEDA, AFRD, ENERGY, ENV, SRD)
- maintain current levels of public safety, resources, conservation and environmental protection through effective environmental monitoring and enforcement programs (AFRD, ENERGY, ENV, MA, SRD)
- reduce Alberta's greenhouse gas emissions by developing climate change policies and programs while maintaining Alberta's economic advantage (ENV)

CORE MEASURES:

AIR QUALITY

DESCRIPTION Index of outdoor concentrations of five major air pollutants monitored at eight stations across the province.

TARGET Maintain air quality levels that are considered 'good' or 'fair' at all times.

WATER QUALITY

DESCRIPTION Index of four variable components (metals, nutrients, bacteria, and pesticides) tested monthly at two locations for each of the province's six major river systems.

TARGET Bring river water quality downstream of developed areas in line with upstream conditions, while maintaining overall river water quality.

LAND QUALITY

DESCRIPTION Measure of the annual provincial crop yield per acre converted to a standard base of tonnes per acre of wheat.

TARGET Achieve sustainable crop yields of 0.92 tonnes per acre by the year 2004.

goal 18 Albertans will have the opportunity to enjoy the province's natural, historical and cultural resources

KEY STRATEGIES:

- support and encourage the development of sport and recreation, arts, libraries and culture as essential characteristics in Alberta's quality of life (CD, GAMING)
- preserve, protect and present Alberta's unique history and culture through programs, exhibits, historic sites and museums and interpretive centres (CD)
- coordinate and support a province-wide library system and continue the development and long-term sustainability of the Alberta Public Library Electronic Network (CD)
- protect and manage Alberta's parks and protected areas (CD, SRD)
- improve Albertans' understanding of their environment (CD, ENV, SRD)
- provide Albertans with opportunities to contribute to environmental protection and natural resource management (ENV, SRD)

CORE MEASURE:

HERITAGE APPRECIATION

DESCRIPTION

Reports annual visitations to provincial parks and recreation areas and to provincially-owned historic sites, museums and interpretive centres.

TARGET

1.1 million visitors per year to provincially-owned historic sites, museums and interpretive centres, and 8 million visitors per year to provincial parks and recreation areas.

goal 19 Alberta will work with other governments and maintain its strong position in Canada

KEY STRATEGIES:

- improve fiscal arrangements to ensure that federal revenues are shared fairly among the provinces (FINANCE, IIR)
- ensure Alberta's interests are represented and protected in key federal programs and initiatives, and interprovincial and international negotiations (IIR)
- work in partnership with local governments to promote healthy and sustainable communities throughout Alberta (CD, ED, MA, GAMING)
- continue to promote a strong and united Canada (all ministries)

CORE MEASURE:

INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS

DESCRIPTION

Results of national opinion poll surveying the views of Canadians regarding the performance of their provincial and federal governments in various areas of governance.

TARGET

Maintain the Alberta government's public approval rating in federal-provincial relations equivalent to the average approval rating of the four nearest provinces.

The next four pages present the four priority cross ministry initiatives the government has chosen to highlight in the 2001-04 Government Business Plan.

These types of initiatives require a corporate focus in order to be addressed effectively.

Aboriginal Policy Initiative (API)

Purpose: Work with Aboriginal people, federal and municipal governments, industry and other interested parties to improve the well-being and self-reliance of Aboriginal people and clarify federal, provincial and Aboriginal roles and responsibilities.

Related Government Business Plan Goal:

Goal 6 – The well-being and self-reliance of Aboriginal people will be comparable to that of other Albertans.

Ministry Champions:

Alberta Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development and Alberta Justice

Objective: Improve the health status and well-being of Aboriginal people.

- Strategies:**
- Increase the number of community-based primary health and addictions service programs in Metis Settlements and other under-served (e.g., remote) Aboriginal communities.
 - Increase the percentage of Aboriginal children in care residing in stable long-term arrangements.
 - Implement standards for adequate and effective policing services as per the approved implementation plan.
 - Increase the number of Aboriginal communities that are served by community initiatives in partnership with Alberta Justice.
 - Maintain the number of Aboriginal communities involved in partnerships related to the administration of the Safety Codes Act.
 - Increase the number of Aboriginal learners receiving the Aboriginal health careers bursaries.
 - Increase the percentage of Aboriginal staff in each Child & Family Service Authority (CFSA) towards the percentage of Aboriginal people in the CFSA population.
- Targets:**
- Increase the percentage of Aboriginal children and families receiving culturally appropriate services through their CFSA.
 - By 2010, reduce by one year, the difference in life expectancy of Registered Indians in Alberta and all Albertans.
 - Decrease the number of tuberculosis cases among Registered Indians in Alberta.
 - Decrease infant mortality among Registered Indians in Alberta.
 - Decrease the percentage of both low birth weight and high birth weight babies born to Registered Indian parents in Alberta.
 - Improve the identification of diabetes among Registered Indians in Alberta and decrease the complications arising from the disease (blindness, amputation and renal failure).
 - Increase by 10% the number of new Child Welfare agreements or formal innovative arrangements with First Nations.
 - 75% of all new CFSA Boards will have Aboriginal Board representation proportional to or greater than the regional Aboriginal population.
 - Provide Aboriginal cultural awareness training to 370 Alberta Justice and Alberta Solicitor General staff by March 31, 2002.

Objective: Improve the educational attainment of Aboriginal learners.

- Strategies:**
- Increase the level of educational attainment of Aboriginal students attending provincially supported primary, secondary and post-secondary institutions in Alberta.
 - Increase the academic performance of Aboriginal students attending provincially supported primary, secondary and post-secondary educational institutions in Alberta.
 - Add to the number and community scope of regulations drafted pursuant to the First Nations Sacred Ceremonial Objects Repatriation Act.
 - Increase First Nations access to ethnology collections containing sacred ceremonial objects and other artifacts through improved artifact storage systems, more comprehensive cataloguing, and use of appropriate data base records for collection.
- Targets:**
- By 2010, the percentage of Aboriginal learners 15 years of age or older with high school completion will be 60% and 30% with post-secondary completion (comparable 1996 percentages were 52.2 and 24.9, respectively).
 - Increase the percentage of Aboriginal students (students with Registered Indian Status attending Alberta school jurisdictions under tuition agreements) achieving the Acceptable Standard on Grade 3, 6 and 9 Achievements Tests by 1% above the last three-year average.
 - Complete consultations with Aboriginal communities, school jurisdictions and post-secondary institutions and have agreements for implementing a unique Aboriginal student identifier in place by March 31, 2002.
 - The number of Aboriginal students attending post-secondary institutions (Northern Lakes and Keyano colleges and the Universities of Alberta and Lethbridge). Data for 2001-02 forms the baseline.
 - The number of eligible Aboriginal students applying for awards and bursaries for post-secondary studies (Aboriginal Health Care Bursaries, Alberta Blue Cross Scholarships for Aboriginal Students, Theodore R. Campbell Scholarship, and Robert C. Carson Memorial Bursary). Data for 2001-02 forms the baseline.

Objective: Increase the participation by Aboriginal people in the Alberta economy.

- Strategies:**
- Work with Aboriginal clients in Alberta Human Resources and Employment (AHRE) employment/training programs to help them achieve the same levels of skill improvement as other Albertans.
 - Work with Aboriginal clients in AHRE employment/training programs to help them achieve employment outcomes comparable to other Albertans.
 - Maintain the number and dollar value of existing Aboriginal fire fighting contracts, and actively work with Aboriginal groups to increase their capacity for additional contracts.
 - Increase the per cent of Transportation contracts on Aboriginal lands that include an Aboriginal content clause for the supply of labour, equipment, or material resource supply.
 - Initiate new Natural Resource Initiative pilot projects.
 - Evaluate at least three (3) pilot projects with Aboriginal organizations and industry to develop consultation strategies with respect to development on Crown land.
 - Minimize the number of non-routine wellsite approvals within pilot consultation area.
 - Work with Aboriginal communities, industry and other parties to develop an Aboriginal Capacity Building Strategy as outlined in the Aboriginal Policy Framework.
- Targets:**
- By 2010, the difference in employment rates of Aboriginal Albertans and other Albertans will be less than 10 percentage points.
 - 80% of Aboriginal participants in Alberta Human Resources and Employment employment/training programs will obtain an improved skill level.
 - Alberta Finance will work with Statistics Canada to develop baseline data for 2001 and Aboriginal-specific Labour Force Survey data for 2002.

Objective: Clarify federal/provincial/Aboriginal roles and responsibilities.

- Strategies:**
- Implement a federal/provincial/Aboriginal partnership forum to coordinate action on partnership projects.
 - Take coordinated action on federal/provincial/Aboriginal partnership projects.
- Target:**
- Develop baseline data respecting satisfaction with federal/provincial/Aboriginal partnership activities as measured by partnership surveys.

2001-02 CROSS MINISTRY INITIATIVE

Economic Development Strategy

Purpose: A future of boundless opportunity in a province that's unmatched through ministries working together with business, industry, communities, other governments and public institutions, employees and other stakeholders.

Related Government Business Plan Goals:

Goal 7 – Alberta will have a prosperous economy.

Ministry Champions:

Economic Development, Innovation and Science and Learning

Objective: Continue to implement Alberta's economic strategy as outlined in "Get Ready Alberta".

Target: A summary report on progress to date in implementing Alberta's economic strategy.

Priority Areas:

Unleashing Innovation

- Strategies:**
- Expand leading edge research and development in the province.
 - Create an innovation and science culture, starting with Alberta's young people.
 - Develop a highly qualified workforce to support innovation and science.
 - Encourage the innovative application of new technologies to resource-based industries to sustain future competitiveness.
 - Expand the manufacture and export of value-added products and services as a proportion of Alberta's overall economy and exports.
 - Expand the knowledge-based economy including the information and communications technology industry.
 - Develop the information and telecommunications infrastructure.
 - Minimize barriers to business innovation.

- Targets01-02:**
- % of learning institutions connected to a high-speed network: Kindergarten to Grade 12 – 30%; College/University – 20%.
 - Employment growth in the information and communication technology (ICT) sector: 5000 new jobs.
 - Level of investment in Research and Development: \$1.2 billion.

Leading in Learning

- Strategies:**
- Provide Albertans with the best education system in Canada.
 - Ensure that pre-school children get a healthy start in life and a chance to grow learn and succeed.
 - Provide opportunities for Albertans to develop their skills, abilities and talents anytime, anywhere.
 - Attract and retain the best and brightest people.
 - Expand opportunities for people to re-enter the workforce.

- Targets01-02:**
- % of Albertans participating in post-secondary education: 33%.
 - High school completion rate: 71%.
 - % of high school and post-secondary students enrolled in a second language: 25%
 - % of participants in employment training who indicate they obtained an improved education or skill level: 80%

Competing in a Global Market place

- Strategies:**
- Maintain a competitive tax advantage and promote a positive business climate that stimulates and attracts investment activity.
 - Promote an integrated resource management strategy.
 - Develop and promote international trade and market opportunities.
 - Maintain and enhance Alberta's infrastructure.

- Targets01-02:**
- New jobs: 45,000
 - Reduce accumulated debt (net of cash set aside for future debt repayments) to \$6.5 billion by March 31, 2002.
 - Value-added international exports: \$22.4 billion.
 - Four-laning of North-South trade corridor (BC border west of Grande Prairie to Coutts): 73% complete.

Making Alberta the best place to live, work and visit

- Strategies:**
- Alberta will be a leader in innovative approaches to wildlife and parks protection.
 - Maintain strong and viable communities.
 - Sustain a quality health system.
 - Promote the diversity and excitement of Alberta's culture, arts, sports and festivals.
 - Promote and encourage volunteerism in Albertans.
 - Partner with Alberta's tourism industry to deliver marketing programs and support services.
 - Alberta will be a leader in managing climate change issues.

- Targets01-02:**
- Tourism revenues: \$4.5 billion
 - % of Albertans rating their health status as excellent or very good: continues to exceed the national average.
 - Municipalities connected to the Internet and community network: 97%.
 - Workplace safety: Person days lost due to workplace injury and illness continues to be ranked among the three lowest provinces in Canada.
 - Crime Rate - The gap between Alberta police reported crime rate and national rate per 100,000 population reduced by 3%.
-

Objective: A broadly based, versatile economy.

Strategy: – Further expand Alberta's value-added sectors.

Target01-02: – Increase the proportion of employment in Alberta's value-added manufacturing and business services to 16% of total employment.

Objective: A collaborative approach to regional economic development that builds on regional goals, priorities and strengths.

Strategy: – Develop a collaborative framework to assist regions to identify and pursue regional economic opportunities.

Target: – Under development.

Objective: Sufficient supply of skilled labour to meet Alberta's economic growth.

Strategy: – Develop a strategy to ensure sufficient supply of skilled labour to support Alberta's economic growth.

Target: – Under development

2001-02 CROSS MINISTRY INITIATIVE

Seniors Policy Initiative

Purpose: To strengthen the coordination of provincial government programs and services to ensure they continue to meet the needs of current and future seniors.

Related Government Business Plan Goals:

Goal 1 - Albertans will be healthy.

Goal 4 - Albertans will be independent.

Goal 5 - Albertans unable to provide for their basic needs will receive help.

Ministry Champions:

Seniors and Health & Wellness

Objective: Develop seniors initiative strategic framework and 10-year action plan.

- Strategies:**
- Establish several levels of cross ministry committees to develop framework and action plan (January 2001).
 - Review current services and programs in relation to the aging population. Review recent government reports and studies, such as ALBERTA FOR ALL AGES: Directions for the Future. Involve seniors and other stakeholders in the development process, as appropriate. (February to October 2001).
 - Focus on the following outcomes:
 - Seniors are healthier to a more advanced age (e.g., promote wellness, healthy lifestyles, and good health care, including access to integrated health care services).
 - Seniors are increasingly financially independent (e.g., promote retirement planning).
 - Seniors have more choices about work and retirement (e.g., promote supports for mature workers, such as flexible options for the transition from work to retirement).
 - Seniors have more housing choices and supports to remain living independently in their communities (e.g., support aging in place, and encourage safe and affordable supportive housing options).
 - Communities are increasingly supportive of seniors (e.g., encourage community supports in areas such as urban/rural design; transportation; personal safety; consumer protection; elder abuse; and recreational, social and cultural programming).
 - Informal caregivers and volunteers are given greater recognition and support (e.g., explore options for caregivers such as tax credits, in-home assistance, expanded respite care, and employment leaves).
 - Alberta's workforce is prepared to meet the challenges and opportunities of an aging population (e.g., ensure sufficient numbers of trained people are available to meet the needs of seniors).
 - Lifelong learning increases among all age groups (e.g., expand opportunities for education). (February to October 2001).
 - Draft framework and specific initiatives for action in the short-, medium-, and long-term (October 2001). Seek appropriate approvals for framework and action plan, including Cabinet approval. (November/December 2001).
 - Finalize framework and 10-year action plan (January 2002).

Target: Initiatives from the action plan are included in ministry business plans, beginning in 2002-05.

Objective: Establish performance measures and baselines for monitoring progress in the Seniors Policy Initiative.

- Strategies:**
- Develop performance measures, including measures to assess outcomes in the focal areas of seniors' health, financial independence, workforce and employment, housing, community supports and care giving, and lifelong learning.
 - Identify data sources, collect and collate data, and build databases.
 - Establish baseline measures.
 - Set targets (January 2002).

Target: Baseline measures and targets established by January 2002.

Objective: Report annually to Albertans on the progress made in implementing the cross ministry Seniors Policy Initiative.

- Strategies:**
- Report progress in implementing initiatives each year in ministry annual reports (First report: July 2003).
 - Prepare annually a cross ministry summary report to Albertans on the Seniors Policy Initiative, which includes a report on outcomes based on performance measures and targets.

Target: First Seniors Initiative performance report published on the progress made in 2001-2002 (July 2002).

2001-02 CROSS MINISTRY INITIATIVE

Children and Youth Services Initiative (CYSI)

Purpose: Support the healthy development of Alberta's children and youth through the joint efforts of provincial government ministries, local boards and authorities, families and communities.

Related Government Business Plan Goals:

- Goal 2 – Our children will be well cared for, safe, successful at learning and healthy.
- Goal 3 – Alberta students will excel.
- Goal 5 – Albertans unable to provide for their basic needs will receive help.
- Goal 6 – The well being and self-reliance of Aboriginal people will be comparable to that of other Albertans.
- Goal 15 – Alberta will be a safe place to live and raise families.

Ministry Champions:

Alberta Children's Services and Alberta Learning

Objective: Establish new initiatives and strengthen existing initiatives to improve supports and resources for children, youth and families in areas identified as priorities.

Priority Areas:

Fetal Alcohol Syndrome (FAS) – Prevention and enhanced community capacity.

- Strategies:**
- Increase number of programs available for women at high risk to give birth to a child with FAS.
 - Increase number of high risk women accessing FAS mentoring programs.
 - Increase number of professionals across sectors trained in FAS awareness and management.

Target: – Increase number of high risk women accessing FAS mentoring programs by 12%.

Protection of Children Involved In Prostitution (PChIP) - Coordinated services.

Strategy: – Increase the number of children apprehended under PChIP who subsequently enter into a voluntary service agreement.

Target: – 5% increase in the number of children apprehended under PChIP who subsequently enter into a voluntary service agreement.

Student Health Initiative – Integrated health and related support services for students.

- Strategies:**
- Increase number of students that receive student health services in each service category.
 - Increase teachers' satisfaction with the initiative with respect to (i) improved access, range and coordination of services, and (ii) enabling children with special health needs to participate at school to attain their potential and be successful at learning.

Target:

- 75% of student health partnerships meet/exceed their targets in the number of students served in each eligible service category.
- Baseline data regarding teachers' satisfaction to be developed.

Children's Mental Health – Comprehensive system of mental health services.

- Strategies:**
- Develop provincial integrated draft policy framework.
 - Improve stakeholders' satisfaction with improved access and coordination of mental health services to (i) children in care; (ii) children and youth with complex needs; (iii) transitional youth; and (iv) young offenders.
 - Increase range of mental health services available to children, youth and families.

Target: – Provincial integrated draft policy framework in place by November 2001.

Specialized Youth Substance Abuse – Enhancements to AADAC's substance abuse system for youth at risk.

- Strategies:**
- Increase stakeholders reported access to services for youth at risk of substance abuse.
 - Attain high level of target group members' reported awareness of services for youth at risk of substance abuse.

Target: – 65% of Alberta adolescents will be aware of AADAC's services for youth.

Early Childhood Development Initiatives - Development and enhancement of early childhood development programs.

- Strategies:**
- Develop Alberta's early childhood development strategy including policy framework, first year investments, implementation strategy and baseline.

Target: – Develop policy framework for early childhood development by May 2001. Identify first year early childhood development investments by May 2001. Develop implementation strategy of initiatives by June 2001. Develop baseline of current early childhood development initiatives and investments by September 2001.

Objective: Establish an operational environment within government and community that supports integrated delivery of services for children and youth.

- Strategies:**
- Increase joint planning, shared vision and common goals of Children and Youth Services Initiative (CYSI) priorities.
 - Increase number of partnering ministries that include children and youth initiatives in their business plans.
 - Create partnerships linking the corporate or voluntary sectors with the CYSI.

Targets:

- 100% of CYSI priorities involve joint planning, shared vision and common goals.
- 100% of partnering ministries include children and youth initiatives in their business plans.
- A minimum of two partnerships with the corporate or voluntary sectors linked with CYSI.

Objective: Increase accountability and strengthen government's policy framework and direction to support children, youth and families.

- Strategies:**
- Complete outcome evaluations on four key initiatives.
 - Consult with stakeholders and other jurisdictions through conferences and forums.
 - Identify linkages and processes between the CYSI and the Aboriginal Policy Initiative.
 - Develop strategic coordinated plan to guide communication strategies on services to children and youth.

Targets:

- Release annual status report on Alberta's children in January 2002.
- Put in place a provincially integrated policy framework to address transitional issues facing youth, ensuring linkages with the Youth Secretariat, Persons with Developmental Disabilities Program, Get Ready Alberta, People and Prosperity Initiative, Alberta Youth Employment Strategy, Children's Mental Health Initiative, and the Aboriginal Policy Initiative by September 2001.

Related Key Ministry Performance Measures

Each ministry has a set of key performance measures that track the results achieved in ministry programs and services. This appendix lists the ministry key measures that most closely support the government goals outlined in the

Government Business Plan, to provide more detail on the results reported in Measuring Up. The results for these related key measures are reported in the ministry annual reports that are released each fall.

<i>People</i>	
Government Goals & Core Measures	Related Key Ministry Measures
<i>Goal 1 - Albertans will be healthy.</i>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Life Expectancy at Birth • Health Status 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ratings of ease of access to health services (HW) • Ratings of the quality of care received (HW) • Mortality rates for injury and suicide (HW) • Screening rate for breast cancer (HW) • Percentage of adult Albertans participating in sport and recreational activities (CD)
<i>Goal 2 - Our children will be well cared for, safe, successful at learning and healthy.</i>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Well-Being of Children 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Percentage of children who stay free of abuse or neglect while receiving child protection services (CS) • Percentage of survey respondents who access selected Ministry services that indicate that they participated in decisions that affect them (CS) • Childhood immunization coverage rates (HW) • Readiness to learn (under development) (LEARN) • Percentage of students who achieved standards on grades 3, 6 and 9 Provincial Achievement Tests (LEARN) • Diploma examination results of students who achieved the acceptable standard and the standard of excellence (LEARN)

Abbreviations for Ministries:

AAND	Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development	HRE	Human Resources and Employment
AFRD	Agriculture, Food and Rural Development	INFRA	Infrastructure
CS	Children's Services	IS	Innovation and Science
CD	Community Development	IIR	International and Intergovernmental Relations
ED	Economic Development	JUS	Justice and Attorney General
ENERGY	Energy	LEARN	Learning
ENV	Environment	MA	Municipal Affairs
EC	Executive Council	REVENUE	Revenue
FINANCE	Finance	SENIORS	Seniors
GAMING	Gaming	SG	Solicitor General
GS	Government Services	SRD	Sustainable Resource Development
HW	Health and Wellness	TRANS	Transportation

People – continued

Government Goals & Core Measures

Related Key Ministry Measures

Goal 3 - Alberta students will excel.

- **Educational Attainment**
 - **Literacy and Numeracy Levels**
- Percentage of students who achieved standards on grades 3, 6 and 9 Provincial Achievement Tests (LEARN)
 - Diploma examination results of students who achieved the acceptable standard and the standard of excellence (LEARN)
 - Public satisfaction with overall quality of basic education (LEARN)
 - Satisfaction of recent post-secondary graduates with the overall quality of their education (LEARN)
 - High school completion rate (LEARN)

Goal 4 - Albertans will be independent.

- **Economic Status of Albertans**
- Percentage of Albertans (age 17 and older) in credit and non-credit programs and courses (LEARN)
 - Public satisfaction that adult learners are well prepared for life long learning (LEARN)
 - Employment rates of Alberta post-secondary graduates (LEARN)
 - Public satisfaction that learners are well prepared for citizenship (LEARN)
 - Percentage of participants employed post-intervention (HRE)
 - Satisfaction of individuals who have used key departmental programs (HRE)

People – continued

Government Goals & Core Measures

Related Key Ministry Measures

Goal 5 - Albertans unable to provide for their basic needs will receive help.

- **Economic Status of Albertans**
 - Satisfaction of seniors with information provided (SENIORS)
 - Percentage of eligible seniors receiving the Alberta Seniors Benefit (SENIORS)
 - Percentage of adult Albertans who believe human rights are fairly well or very well protected in Alberta (CD)
 - Satisfaction of seniors housing clients with quality of accommodation and, where appropriate, services provided (SENIORS)
 - Satisfaction of family and special purpose housing clients with quality of accommodation and, where appropriate, services provided (SENIORS)
 - Relationship between clients receiving financial assistance and the Market Basket Measure (MBM) low income threshold (under development) (HRE)

Goal 6 – The well-being and self-reliance of Aboriginal people will be comparable to that of other Albertans.

- **Aboriginal Well-Being**
 - Percentage of Aboriginal children, in out-of-home placements, who maintain contact with families, relatives or communities where appropriate (CS)
 - Percentage of Aboriginal children receiving foster care services from Aboriginal foster homes (CS)
 - Percentage of Aboriginal board members in each Child and Family Services Authority relative to the percentage of Aboriginal people in the Child and Family Services Authority's population (CS)
 - Two additional Natural Resource Initiatives completed in 2001-02 (ENERGY)
 - Percent of objections resolved related to new facilities (ENERGY)
 - Number of Alberta community initiatives that work in partnership with Alberta Solicitor General (SG)

Prosperity

Government Goals & Core Measures

Related Key Ministry Measures

Goal 7 - Alberta will have a prosperous economy.

- | | |
|--|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gross Domestic Product • Job Growth | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Real GDP growth (ED) • Contribution of Alberta's agriculture, food and beverage industries to provincial GDP (AFRD) • Farm cash receipts (AFRD) • Employment growth (ED) • Alberta employment in agriculture and food and beverage industries (AFRD) • Employment participation rates (FIN) • Percentage annual growth in business registrations (FIN,REV) |
|--|--|

Goal 8 – Alberta's workforce will be skilled and productive.

- | | |
|--|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Skill Development | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Employment rates of post-secondary graduates (LEARN) |
|--|--|

Goal 9 – Alberta businesses will be increasingly innovative.

- | | |
|--|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Business Innovation | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of people employed in the Information and Communications Technology sector (IS) |
|--|--|

Goal 10 – Alberta's value added industries will lead economic growth.

- | | |
|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Value-Added Industries | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Manufacturing shipments (ED) • Manufacturing and service industry investment (ED) • Percentage contribution by Alberta's food and beverage industry to Canada's total value of shipments (AFRD) • Volume of primary resources that undergo secondary processing in Alberta (RD) |
|---|--|

Prosperity – continued

Government Goals & Core Measures

Related Key Ministry Measures

Goal 11 – Alberta will have effective and efficient infrastructure.

- | | |
|--|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Infrastructure Capacity | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Construction progress on the North-South Trade Corridor (TRANS) • Physical condition of provincial highways (TRANS) • Utilization of provincial highways (TRANS) • Progress on completion of major water management construction projects (TRANS) • Functional adequacy of provincial highways (TRANS) • Senior's lodge upgrading projects completed (INFRA) • Energy consumption per square metre (INFRA) • Operating cost per square metre (INFRA) • Natural gas pipeline capacity (ENERGY) • New power generation (ENERGY) |
|--|--|

Goal 12 – Alberta will have a financially stable, open and accountable government.

- | | |
|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Taxation Load • Provincial Credit Rating • Accumulated Debt • Cost of Government | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Alberta's credit rating (FIN) • Total Tax Load as a percentage of GDP (FIN) • Market value rate of return of the Heritage Fund compared against the province's total debt portfolio (REV) • Total cost of debt (FIN) • Alberta's cost of borrowing compared to federal government's cost (FIN) • Taxation load on a family of four (FIN, REV) • Public satisfaction with government information (EC) • Percentage of FOIP requests received by government public bodies handled without complaint to the Information and Privacy Commissioner (GS) • Comparison of Alberta fees to other Canadian jurisdictions (GS) • Percentage of municipalities meeting the Ministry's criteria of financial sustainability (MA) |
|---|---|

Goal 13 – Alberta will have a fair and safe work environment.

- | | |
|--|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Workplace Climate | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Percentage of collective bargaining agreements settled without a work stoppage (strike or lockout) (HRE) • Lost time claim rate (HRE) • Number of employment standards complaints registered for investigation as a percentage of Alberta's eligible workforce (HRE) |
|--|--|

Prosperity – continued

Government Goals & Core Measures

Related Key Ministry Measures

Goal 14 – Alberta businesses will increase exports.

- **Export Trade**
 - Manufacturing and service exports (ED)
 - Value of agriculture and food international exports (AFRD)
 - Tourism industry revenue (ED)
 - Alberta's share of Canadian international overnight visitors from Europe, Asia-Pacific and the United States (ED)
 - Economic impact of provincial historic sites, museums and interpretive centres (CD)

Preservation

Government Goals & Core Measures

Related Key Ministry Measures

Goal 15 - Alberta will be a safe place to live and raise families.

- | | |
|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Crime Rate | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Public perception of safety in the home; in the neighbourhood (JUS, SG) • Victimization rates (SG) • Public satisfaction with the level of policing (SG) • Percentage of Albertans who believe human rights are fairly well or very well protected in Alberta (CD) • Incidence of food safety problems (AFRD) • Mechanical safety of commercial vehicles (TRANS) • Involvement of drinking drivers in casualty collisions (TRANS) • Seat belt usage (TRANS) • Reduction in personal and property loss due to preventable fires (MA) |
|---|---|

Goal 16 - Alberta's renewable natural resources will be sustained.

- | | |
|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Renewable Resource Sustainability | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Timber sustainability (SRD) • Land productivity indicator (AFRD) |
|--|---|

Goal 17 - The high quality of Alberta's environment will be maintained.

- | | |
|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Air Quality • Water Quality • Land Quality | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Air quality index (ENV) • Surface water quality index (ENV) • Continuous reduction of municipal solid waste to landfills on a per capita basis (ENV) • Water quality for agriculture (small streams) (AFRD) • Biochemical oxygen demand discharged does not exceed 1.0 kilograms/air dried tonne of pulp (ENV) • Land productivity indicator (AFRD) • Percentage of species at serious risk below five percent (SRD) |
|---|--|

Preservation – continued

Government Goals & Core Measures

Related Key Ministry Measures

Goal 18 -Albertans will have the opportunity to enjoy the province’s natural, historical and cultural resources.

- **Heritage Appreciation**
 - Visitation at 18 provincially-owned historic sites, museums and interpretive centres (CD)
 - Percentage of adult Albertans who have visited an Alberta museum, historic site or interpretive centre (CD)
 - Knowledge-gained assessment (of Alberta history) by visitors to provincial historic sites, museums and interpretative centres (CD)
 - Satisfaction of visitors with experience at provincial historic sites, museums and interpretative centres (CD)
 - Percentage of adult Albertans who believe that, overall, historical resources are being adequately protected and preserved in Alberta communities (CD)
 - Percentage of adult Albertans participating in arts and cultural activities (CD)
 - Visitation at provincial parks and provincial recreation areas (CD)
 - Total area of parks and protected areas in Alberta (CD)

Goal 19 - Alberta will work with other governments and maintain its strong position in Canada.

- **Intergovernmental Relations**
 - Approval ratings: federal-provincial relations (IIR)
 - Canada Health and Social Transfer receipts from the federal government (FINANCE)
 - Agreement by Finance Ministers on legislative amendments to the *Canada Pension Plan Act* (FINANCE)
 - Percentage of municipalities meeting the Ministry’s criteria of financial sustainability (MA)
 - Acceptance of harmonization initiatives by other provinces (FINANCE, REVENUE)

Cross-Ministry Initiatives

Each year, the government business plan focuses on four priority cross-ministry initiatives (see Appendix II for the *2001-04 Government Business Plan* cross-ministry initiatives). The 2001-02 initiatives are:

1. the Aboriginal Policy Initiative;
2. the Alberta Children and Youth Services Initiative;
3. the Economic Development Strategy, and
4. the Seniors Policy Initiative.

The cross-ministry initiatives engage people from various ministries in finding innovative and effective ways of addressing people's needs. This co-operative approach recognizes that many issues are not isolated to a single ministry.

This Appendix presents the government's progress in relation to the goals established for each initiative.

ABORIGINAL POLICY INITIATIVE

The Aboriginal Policy Initiative (API) provides the Alberta government with a clear vision, goal, objectives, and strategies to work with Aboriginal people living in Alberta to address their needs and concerns. The API supports the Government Business Plan's Goal 6 and related strategies. The goal states that: "The well-being and self-reliance of Aboriginal people will be comparable to that of other Albertans."

The principal objective of the first year of the API was to develop and begin implementation of the Aboriginal Policy Framework, which outlined the Government of Alberta's approach to Aboriginal affairs. It was publicly released on September 13, 2000.

In the second year of the API (2001-02), the focus has been on accomplishing specific strategies and targets under four objectives. While Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development has the lead responsibility in coordinating the API, all government ministries have been involved in the development of strategies and initiatives to support the four objectives. Over 80% of Government Ministries

have identified Aboriginal strategies in their business plans for 2002-03.

These four API objectives are outlined for the 2001-02 fiscal year, along with the targets that were set and the results achieved.

Other significant accomplishments this year in support of the Aboriginal Policy Initiative include:

- Initiation of mobile diabetes screening clinics in First Nation communities.
- Pilot projects to unite First Nation children under government care with permanent First Nation adoptive parents.
- Removal of human remains from the Dunbow cemetery and re-interment at the St. Joseph's Industrial School Provincial Historic Site.
- Implementation of Phase I of the Alberta Aboriginal Apprenticeship Project.
- Implementation of Department/agency Aboriginal Strategic Plans in Children's Services, Human Resources and Employment, Alberta Alcohol and Drug Abuse Commission and the Alberta Mental Health Board.

PURPOSE: Work with Aboriginal people, federal and municipal governments, industry and other interested parties to improve the well-being and self-reliance of Aboriginal people and clarify federal, provincial and Aboriginal roles and responsibilities.

RELATED GOVERNMENT BUSINESS PLAN GOALS:
Goal #6 - The well-being and self-reliance of Aboriginal people will be comparable to that of other Albertans.

MINISTRY CHAMPIONS: Alberta Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development and Alberta Justice

OBJECTIVE: Improve the health status and well-being of Aboriginal people.

- | TARGET(S) | RESULT(S) |
|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Decrease the number of tuberculosis cases. • Decrease infant mortality. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The number of Aboriginal tuberculosis cases declined from 38 in 1999 to 28 in 2000. • Baseline data is unavailable due to unreliability of current data sources. |

- Decrease the percentage of low and high birth weight babies born to Registered Indian parents.
- Improve identification of diabetes and decrease related complications.
- Increase by 10% the number of new Child Welfare agreements with First Nations.
- 75% of all new CFSA Boards will have proportional Aboriginal representation.
- Provide Aboriginal cultural awareness training to Alberta Justice / Solicitor General staff.
- The percentage of low birth weight babies born to Registered Indian parents declined from 5.4% in 1998-99 to 5.2% in 1999-00. The percentage of high birth weight babies increased among both First Nations parents and all births, largely due to the increased prevalence of diabetes.
- The age-standardized rate of diabetes prevalence among First Nations people increased from 7.5% in 1999 to 8.6% in 2000. The rate for the general population increased from 2.6% to 3.6%. Related complications are expected to decrease with improved and earlier identification.
- There was a 12.5% increase in the number of agreements during 2001-02.
- 100% of CFSA Boards have met the target. All have at least 25% Aboriginal representation.
- Cultural awareness training was provided to 465 staff during 2001-02.

OBJECTIVE: Improve the educational attainment of Aboriginal learners.

- | TARGET(S) | RESULT(S) |
|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase the % of Tuition Agreement students achieving the Acceptable Standard on Grade 3, 6, 9 Achievement Tests by 1%. • Complete consultations with Aboriginal communities, school jurisdictions and post-secondary institutions and have agreements for implementing data collection for Aboriginal students by March 31, 2002. • Develop baseline data: number of Aboriginal students attending selected post-secondary institutions. • Develop baseline data: number of Aboriginal students applying for awards. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provincial Achievement Test results are not available for 2001-02. • Preliminary discussions have been held with First Nation and Metis organizations. Further progress on this target is expected during 2002-03. • 2,500 Aboriginal students attended Northern Lakes and Keyano Colleges and the Universities of Alberta and Lethbridge during the 2001-02 school year (preliminary data). • 83 students applied and 63 received awards /bursaries during the 2001-02 school year (preliminary data). |

OBJECTIVE: Increase the participation by Aboriginal people in the Alberta economy.

- | TARGET(S) | RESULT(S) |
|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 80% of Aboriginal employment/training clients will obtain an improved skill level. • Alberta Finance will work with Statistics Canada to develop baseline data for 2001 and Aboriginal-specific Labour Force Survey data for 2002. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 83% of Aboriginal clients reported an improved skill level upon completion of provincial training programs. • Statistics Canada has developed a proposal to increase Aboriginal representation in the Alberta Labour Force Survey. A pilot project will be conducted during 2002-03. |

OBJECTIVE: Clarify federal/provincial/Aboriginal roles and responsibilities.

- | TARGET(S) | RESULT(S) |
|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop baseline data respecting satisfaction with federal/provincial/ Aboriginal partnership activities. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Alberta/Canada Partnership Forum, including participation from Alberta First Nation and Metis organizations, was initiated in September 2001. All participants have agreed to continue the process. |

ALBERTA CHILDREN AND YOUTH SERVICES INITIATIVE

The Alberta Children and Youth Services Initiative (ACYI) is a collaborative partnership of government ministries whose business impacts the lives of Alberta's children and youth. Its vision ensures that Alberta's children and youth are well cared for, safe, successful at learning and healthy (Goal 2, Alberta Government Business Plan). In addition to Goal 2, the ACYI contributes to the following Alberta Government business plan goals:

- *Goal 3: Alberta students will excel.*
- *Goal 5: Albertans unable to provide for their basic needs will receive help.*
- *Goal 6: The well-being and self reliance of Aboriginal people will be comparable to that of other Albertans.*
- *Goal 15: Alberta will be a safe place to live and raise families.*

The ACYI arose from the recognition that a coordinated government-wide effort is critical for the effective and efficient support of children, youth and their families. Working together within a common policy framework, ministries and communities can more effectively address issues. The development of integrated provincial policies and programs enables local authorities to plan and deliver an integrated system of services to meet the needs of families in their communities.

In addition to the ministry champions of Children's Services and Alberta Learning, Health and Wellness (together with Alberta Alcohol and Drug Abuse Commission and the Alberta Mental Health Board), Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development, Community Development, Human Resources and Employment, and Solicitor General comprise the partnership of the ACYI.

Government ministries have developed integrated policies around several key partnership initiatives including Fetal Alcohol Syndrome, Children's Mental Health, Protection of Children Involved in Prostitution, Student Health Initiative and

Alberta's Early Childhood Development strategy. On the next page are three objectives for the 2001-02 fiscal year, along with the targets set and the results achieved.

In addition to these targets, there have been other significant accomplishments in 2001-02 in support of the ACYI. These accomplishments include:

- Multi-disciplinary training about Fetal Alcohol Syndrome to 2000 professionals.
- Enhanced access to addictions treatment for youth involved in prostitution through partnerships developed between regional Child and Family Services Authorities and AADAC.
- Baseline data about teachers' satisfaction with the Student Health Initiative was obtained: 70% of teachers indicated that the Student Health Initiative is meeting its goals; 80% of teachers agreed or strongly agreed that it was easy to refer students for student health services; 78% indicated student health services had improved their students' abilities to be successful at learning; and 76% reported that for students with a special health need, a plan was in place to provide such services.
- A community response team model for children at risk was piloted in Calgary. The community response team model provides services to children, youth and their families who are experiencing a crisis, or who may be at risk of becoming involved in child welfare services. The crisis may be related to mental health issues, psychosocial or other potential life-threatening circumstances.
- Significant expansion of services for young offenders, including those in centres and on probation (e.g., establishment of two new mental health units at Calgary and Edmonton Young Offender Centres).

PURPOSE: Support the healthy development of Alberta's children and youth through the joint efforts of provincial government ministries, local boards and authorities, families and communities.

RELATED GOVERNMENT BUSINESS PLAN GOALS:
Goal #2 - Our children will be well cared for, safe, successful at learning and healthy.
Goal #3 - Alberta students will excel.
Goal #5 - Albertans unable to provide for their basic needs will receive help.
Goal #6 - The well-being and self-reliance of Aboriginal people will be comparable to that of other Albertans.
Goal #15 - Alberta will be a safe place to live and raise families.

MINISTRY CHAMPIONS: Alberta Children's Services and Alberta Learning

OBJECTIVE: Establish new initiatives and strengthen existing initiatives to improve supports and resources for children, youth and families in areas identified as priorities.

TARGET(S)	RESULT(S)
<i>Fetal Alcohol Syndrome (FAS) - Prevention and enhanced community capacity.</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Increase number of high-risk women accessing FAS mentoring programs by 12%.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">70% total increase in women accessing mentoring programs<ul style="list-style-type: none">47% increase in women accessing First Steps mentoring programs23% increase in 2 new community-initiated First Steps programs
<i>Protection of Children Involved in Prostitution (PChIP) - Coordinated services.</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">5% increase in the number of children apprehended under PChIP who subsequently enter into a voluntary service agreement.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">28% increase in the number of children apprehended who subsequently entered into voluntary service agreements.
<i>Student Health Initiative - Integrated health and related support services for students.</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">75% of student health partnerships meet/exceed their targets in the number of students served in each eligible service category.Baseline data regarding teachers' satisfaction to be developed.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">76% of student health partnerships reported meeting or exceeding their targets for the number of students served across all eligible service categories.Baseline data regarding teachers' satisfaction obtained, with nearly 70% of teachers indicating that the Student Health Initiative is meeting its goals.
<i>Children's Mental Health - Comprehensive system of mental health services.</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Provincial integrated draft policy framework for children's mental health in place by November 2001.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Draft policy framework completed November 2001 as a critical step in the development of a comprehensive approach for children's mental health.
<i>Specialized Youth Substance Abuse - Enhancements to AADAC's substance abuse system for youth at risk.</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">65% of Alberta adolescents will be aware of AADAC's services for youth.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">A 2001 study revealed 82% awareness by adolescents of AADAC's services.

Early Childhood Development Initiatives - Development and enhancement of early childhood development programs.

- Develop policy framework for early childhood development by May 2001; Identify first year early childhood development investments by May 2001; Develop implementation strategy of initiatives by June 2001; Develop baseline of current early childhood development initiatives and investments by September 2001.
- All timelines met.

OBJECTIVE: Establish an operational environment within government and community that supports integrated delivery of services for children and youth.

- | TARGET(S) | RESULT(S) |
|--|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 100% of CYSI priorities involve joint planning, shared vision, and common goals. • 100% of partnering ministries include children and youth initiatives in their business plans. • A minimum of two partnerships with the corporate or voluntary sectors linked with CYSI. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 100% of all priority initiatives involve joint planning among partners, with linkages and involvement of other Ministries. • 100% of business plans for partnering ministries include children and youth initiatives. • Canadian Red Cross, Big Sisters, Big Brothers Society, McDaniel Foundation and Catholic Social Services engaged as corporate and voluntary partners. |

OBJECTIVE: Increase accountability and strengthen government's policy framework and direction to support children, youth and families.

- | TARGET(S) | RESULT(S) |
|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Release annual status report on Alberta's children in January 2002. • Put in place a provincially integrated policy framework to address transitional issues facing youth, ensuring linkages with the Youth Secretariat, Persons with Developmental Disabilities Program, Get Ready Alberta, People and Prosperity Initiative, Alberta Youth Employment Strategy, Children's Mental Health Initiative, and the Aboriginal Policy Initiative by September 2001. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Annual Status Report completed January 2002. • Youth in Transition Policy Framework to address the transitional issues of youth completed in September 2001 and approved by Standing Policy Committee in December 2001. |

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY

Recognizing the collaborative approach required to maximize the Alberta Advantage, Alberta's Economic Development Strategy was named as a priority Cross-Ministry Initiative in 2000-01.

Its purpose is to help maintain the momentum of the Alberta economy and allow all Albertans to share in the Alberta Advantage through ministries working together with business, industry, communities, other governments and public institutions, employees and other stakeholders.

Get Ready Alberta - Strengthening the Alberta Advantage is a keystone document to the Economic Development Strategy. Released in February 2000, it provides vision, direction and targets for sustaining and enhancing Alberta's economy in the context of the province's current strengths and the future changes and opportunities that we are likely to face. The Economic Development Strategy adopts its four original strategic directions of innovation, learning, competitiveness and quality of life from *Get Ready Alberta*.

In adopting the directions of *Get Ready Alberta*, the strategy recognizes that economic and social elements of the province are inter-connected and mutually reinforcing. While the strategy concentrates on supporting the Prosperity core business of the Government Business Plan, it also recognizes that sustaining the momentum of Alberta's economic growth is not an end in itself. It is the means by which citizens can continue to enjoy the services they have identified as priorities: high-quality education, effective health care services, modern infrastructure, responsive social programs, and safe and secure communities. These priorities support Alberta's attractiveness as a good place to live, raise a family, work, invest, run a business and visit.

In 2000-01 the strategy's objectives focused on ensuring that the directions as outlined in *Get Ready Alberta* were supported across ministries. Reconciliation and activity reports were completed. They demonstrated a strong alignment between *Get Ready Alberta* and

ministry business plans. A summary report on the strategy's 16 performance targets also demonstrated good progress.

The Economic Development Strategy continued as a priority Cross-Ministry Initiative in 2001-02. In addition to continuing to track the strategic directions in *Get Ready Alberta*, three new objectives and targets were added.

The new objectives emphasize the importance of economic diversification, regional collaboration and a sufficient supply of skilled labour to sustaining Alberta's economy. An increasingly diverse economy accelerates the pace of innovation and increases employment in goods and services industries with substantial growth potential. Regional development fosters long-term prosperity for Alberta communities of all sizes by increasing their economies of scale and by encouraging the export of goods and services. Maintaining a skilled labour force makes Alberta more economically competitive and increases our attractiveness as an investment destination. At the same time, a skilled, productive workforce raises the standard of living for all Albertans.

The objectives set out for the initiative in 2001-02 were:

- Continue to implement Alberta's economic strategy as outlined in *Get Ready Alberta*:
 - Unleashing Innovation,
 - Leading in Learning,
 - Competing in a Global Marketplace, and
 - Making Alberta the Best Place to Live Work and Visit;
- A broadly based, versatile economy;
- A collaborative approach to regional economic development, and
- A sufficient supply of skilled labour to meet Alberta's economic growth needs.

Strong steps forward have been made on each of the objectives over 2001-02. Significant teamwork and collaboration across ministries has been undertaken to maintain progress on the directions in *Get Ready Alberta* and to initiate the new objectives. Results achieved during 2001-02 follow.

PURPOSE: A future of boundless opportunity in a province that's unmatched through ministries working together with business, industry, communities, other governments and public institutions, employees and other stakeholders.

RELATED GOVERNMENT BUSINESS PLAN GOALS:
Goal 7 - Alberta will have a prosperous economy.

MINISTRY CHAMPIONS: Economic Development, Innovation and Science and Learning

OBJECTIVE: Continue to implement Alberta's economic strategy as outlined in "Get Ready Alberta".

TARGET(S)	RESULT(S)
<i>Unleashing Innovation</i>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • % of learning institutions connected to a high-speed network: Kindergarten to Grade 12 - 30%; College/University - 20%. • Employment growth in the information and communication technology (ICT) sector: 5,000 new jobs. • Level of investment in Research and Development: \$1.2 billion. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kindergarten to Grade 12 estimated at 16%; University/colleges estimated at 14%. A broader measure is being developed for 02-03. • 2,300 new jobs in the information and communication technology (ICT) sector. • Data to construct estimate not yet available.
<i>Leading in Learning</i>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • % of Albertans participating in post-secondary education: 33%. • High school completion rate: 71%. • % of high school and post-secondary students enrolled in a second language: 25%. • % of participants in employment training who indicate they obtained an improved education or skill level: 80%. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 31% of Albertans participating in post-secondary education. • 72% high school completion rate. • 21% of high school students enrolled in a second language. • Estimated participants indicating they obtained an improved education or skill level is 86%.
<i>Competing in a Global Market place</i>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New jobs: 45,000. • Reduce accumulated debt (net of cash set aside for future debt repayments) to \$6.5 billion by March 31, 2002. • Value-added international exports: \$22.4 billion. • Four-laning of North-South trade corridor (BC border west of Grande Prairie to Coutts): 73% complete. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 43,900 net new jobs created. • As of March 31, 2002, accumulated debt less \$2.7 billion set aside for future debt repayment was \$5.7 billion. • Value-added international exports estimated at \$22.6 billion based on revised methodology. • Estimated at 75% complete.
<i>Best place to live, work and visit</i>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tourism revenues: \$4.5 billion • % of Albertans rating their health status as excellent or very good: continues to exceed the national average. • Municipalities connected to the Internet and community network: 97%. • Workplace safety: Person days lost due to workplace injury and illness continues to be ranked among the three lowest provinces in Canada. • Crime Rate - The gap between Alberta police reported crime rate and national rate per 100,000 population reduced by 3%. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tourism revenues estimated at \$4.3 billion. • In 2000-01, 61.5 % of Albertans rated their health status as excellent or very good compared to 61.4% nationally. • 97% of municipalities connected to Internet. • Rank is among the three lowest for 1999. 2000 data unavailable from Human Resources Development Canada at time of publication. • The most current results show that in 2000, the gap decreased by 3% for both violent and property crime rates.

OBJECTIVE: A broadly based, versatile economy.

TARGET(S)

- Increase the proportion of employment in Alberta's value-added manufacturing and business services to 16% of total employment.

RESULT(S)

- Alberta's value-added manufacturing and business services at 16.2% of total employment.
- Development of a value-added strategy underway.

OBJECTIVE: A collaborative approach to regional economic development that builds on regional goals, priorities and strengths.

TARGET(S)

- Under development.

RESULT(S)

- One measure established and target set; three other measures established with targets to be set.

OBJECTIVE: Sufficient supply of skilled labour to meet Alberta's economic growth.

TARGET(S)

- Under development.

RESULT(S)

- Strategy developed and released as "*Prepared for Growth: Building Alberta's Labour Supply*". Establishes three strategies and five measures with targets.

SENIORS POLICY INITIATIVE

In March 2001, the government announced the Seniors Policy Initiative as one of four priority cross-ministry initiatives for 2001-02, demonstrating an ongoing commitment to planning and preparing for the aging population and to serving Alberta's seniors.

Alberta is at the forefront in Canada in planning and preparing for the aging population. In June 2000, the government-wide study on the Impact of the Aging Population was completed. The two resulting studies, *Report A: A Review of Current Government Programs and Services* and *ALBERTA FOR ALL AGES: Directions for the Future*, looked at seniors' lives today in Alberta, and identified the opportunities and challenges that may come with Alberta's aging population in the years ahead. The Seniors Policy Initiative builds on the foundation laid by these and other studies.

In 2001-02, 18 ministries and government entities participated in the Seniors Policy Initiative. The principal objective was to develop a strategic framework and 10-year action plan for Alberta's aging population. The framework and plan focus on the following key areas of seniors' lives: health, retirement income, housing, workforce and the workplace, lifelong learning, informal caregivers and volunteers, and supportive communities. They provide a vision and outline strategies for serving seniors and promoting their independence and contributions.

The results below show that all the targets for the Seniors Policy Initiative in 2001-02 were fully met.

PURPOSE: To strengthen the coordination of provincial government programs and services to ensure they continue to meet the needs of current and future seniors.

RELATED GOVERNMENT BUSINESS PLAN GOALS:
Goal #1 - Albertans will be healthy.
Goal #4 - Albertans will be independent.
Goal #5 - Albertans unable to provide for their basic needs will receive help.

MINISTRY CHAMPIONS: Seniors and Health and Wellness

OBJECTIVE: Develop seniors initiative strategic framework and 10-year action plan.

- | TARGET(S) | RESULT(S) |
|--|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Initiatives from the action plan are included in ministry business plans beginning in 2002-05. | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Key initiatives from the action plan are included in ministry business plans for 2002-05 based on government and ministry priorities for this planning period. These initiatives focus on the opportunities and challenges of an aging population in the area of: seniors' health, retirement income, seniors' housing, the labour force, lifelong learning, volunteers, transportation, and fraud prevention. |

OBJECTIVE: Establish performance measures and baselines for monitoring progress in the Seniors Policy Initiative.

- | TARGET(S) | RESULT(S) |
|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Baseline measures and targets established by January 2002. | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Broad baseline measures and targets have been established in each of the following key areas: seniors' health, retirement income, seniors' housing, workplace and education, volunteers, and supportive communities. The information attained through these measures will serve as high-level indicators of change in seniors' lives. |

OBJECTIVE: Report annually on the progress made in implementing the cross-ministry Seniors Policy Initiative.

- | TARGET(S) | RESULT(S) |
|--|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• First Seniors Initiative performance report published on the progress made in 2001-02 (July 2002). | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• A report on the Seniors Policy Initiative will be released in July 2002. |

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