



Government  
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# Canada's Performance

ANNUAL REPORT TO PARLIAMENT

2003



REPORT *of the*  
PRESIDENT

report

Canada



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REPORT *of the*  
PRESIDENT

### **About *Canada's Performance 2003***

This document is the President of the Treasury Board's ninth annual report to Parliament on government performance.

*Canada's Performance 2003* provides information on the quality of life of Canadians, as measured by certain societal indicators. In so doing, it sets a context for assessing the performance of federal government programs. It also provides basic information to support dialogue among Canadians about future directions in public policy.

### **How to Get More Information**

The electronic version of this report includes many links to additional information on the societal indicators discussed in this report, as well as to information on the plans and performance of federal departments and agencies. If you would like further information or would like to make comments on or suggestions regarding *Canada's Performance 2003*, please contact

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represented by the President of the Treasury Board, 2003  
Catalogue No. BT1-10/2003  
ISBN 0-662-67516-9

This document is available in alternative formats  
and on the Treasury Board of Canada Secretariat Web site at the following address:  
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## President's Message

As Canadians, we have high expectations for the future and the country we hold in trust for our children. Making Canada a land of ever-widening opportunity must be a primary concern of the population and the federal government alike.

The Government of Canada does not act alone in building our country. The efforts of provincial, territorial and municipal governments, businesses, voluntary organizations, citizens and families all contribute to Canada's success.

This report, *Canada's Performance 2003*, is the federal government's review of our quality of life in 2003. It measures our progress toward broad societal goals by monitoring 20 indicators grouped into four themes: economic opportunities and innovation; health; the environment; and the strength and safety of communities. This year, in recognition of the importance of a healthy environment, we have added climate change as one of the indicators being tracked.

The report highlights both those areas in which Canadians' quality of life is strong and other areas where progress needs to occur. While we can take pride in our achievements in health and economic performance, there is room to improve our relatively low level of civic participation and our environmental record, particularly in the areas of biodiversity and greenhouse gas emissions.

*Canada's Performance 2003* also serves as the Government of Canada's review of the success of its departments and agencies in responding to the citizen's priorities. The report links information about our quality of life to the federal programs, services and policies that help create it.

Thus, this report provides parliamentarians and all Canadians with a government-wide perspective from which to view the work of individual departments and agencies. It also promotes a modern management regime in government that is focussed on results. Finally, it encourages active citizen engagement in important political decisions.

It is my sincere hope that the information it contains will help all of us make the best decisions about the country we want.

The paper version was signed by

Lucienne Robillard  
President of the Treasury Board

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## Introduction

### Building the Canada we want

The Government of Canada's enduring priority is to improve the quality of life for all Canadians. The government also believes that a healthy democracy, such as Canada's, requires the active engagement of its citizens in understanding the economic and social issues faced by the nation. That is why *Canada's Performance 2003*, a report on how the Government of Canada is progressing toward this priority, is published. The report measures progress toward broad societal goals and highlights both Canada's strengths and areas where improvements can be made.

Building the Canada we want for ourselves and future generations cannot happen by government acting alone. Many factors beyond the direct control of the federal government influence progress on the 20 societal indicators tracked in this report. Individuals, families, voluntary organizations, private-sector firms, and other levels of government all contribute to Canada's social and economic achievements and play a role in policy and service delivery decisions. In fact, we live in a global village where activities outside our country have a large influence on our well-being. As a result, the Government of Canada realizes that it must continue to work in partnership with these participants in Canadian society in pursuit of a higher quality of life for all. Information on partnerships is available on-line at the government's Horizontal Results Database at [http://www.tbs-sct.gc.ca/rma/eppi-ibdrp/hr-rh\\_e.asp](http://www.tbs-sct.gc.ca/rma/eppi-ibdrp/hr-rh_e.asp).

*Canada's Performance 2003* serves a threefold purpose:

- ▶ it helps to build trust and encourage active citizen engagement in public policy debates by informing Canadians about the country's social and economic situation;
- ▶ it provides parliamentarians with a government-wide perspective from which to view the results reported by individual federal departments and agencies in their fall performance reports; and
- ▶ it promotes a modern management regime focussed on results by encouraging departments and agencies to link their objectives and achievements to improvements in the quality of life of Canadians.

## What's in the Report

*Canada's Performance 2003* presents data on 20 societal indicators that reflect a balance of social, economic, and environmental interests. These indicators have been grouped according to four main themes: economic opportunities and innovation in Canada, the health of Canadians, the Canadian environment, and the strength and safety of Canadian communities.

Each chapter begins with an **issue** section, providing an introduction to the theme dealt with in that chapter and a definition of each theme. These issue sections also briefly highlight the roles and responsibilities of the Government of Canada in improving our economic situation, our health, our environment, and the strength and safety of our communities.

While investigating the selected themes and societal indicators, *Canada's Performance 2003* looks at **what we know** and highlights trends over time. It also includes international comparisons wherever applicable, based on the limited comparable data available. These elements of the report help establish a broader foundation on which to assess both the performance of government programs and Canada's performance in general.

### Twenty societal indicators, by theme

#### Economic opportunities and innovation in Canada

- real gross domestic product per capita
- real disposable income per capita
- innovation
- employment
- literacy
- educational attainment

#### The health of Canadians

- life expectancy
- self-rated health status
- infant mortality
- healthy lifestyles\*

#### The Canadian environment

- climate change†
- air quality
- water quality
- biodiversity
- toxic substances in the environment

#### The strength and safety of Canadian communities

- volunteerism
- attitudes toward diversity
- cultural participation
- political participation
- safety and security

\* This indicator has been broadened from last year's report to include body mass index as well as physical activity, which was the indicator last year.

† This is a new indicator.





Finally, the report provides a gateway to **performance information** by means of electronic links to the departmental reports on plans and priorities and on performance tabled in Parliament each year. The aim of this section is to help citizens understand what efforts the federal government is undertaking to improve the quality of life of Canadians, often in partnership with other levels of government and the private and voluntary sectors.

### Progress on building the Canada we want

The 2002 Speech from the Throne, which opens every new session of Parliament, sets out the government's commitments to Canadians. The 2002 Speech from the Throne, *The Canada We Want* (<http://www.pco-bcp.gc.ca/sft-ddt/sft.htm>), laid out an ambitious agenda to build a stronger, more inclusive Canada and secure a higher quality of life for all Canadians. *Canada's Performance 2003* highlights the progress made toward the goals and directions set out in the 2002 Speech from the Throne.

### Canada and the world

Canada has a long history of successfully embracing global markets, and Canadians recognize that international stability, security, and prosperity are essential to their well-being. In the 2002 Speech from

the Throne, the government reaffirmed that it will continue to work with its allies to assure the safety and security of Canadians, to increase development assistance, and to continue to work through international organizations to ensure that the rule of international law is respected and enforced.

Although there is no single measure of Canada's participation in the world, each chapter of *Canada's Performance 2003* addresses the issue of Canada's international collaboration and participation. *Canada's Performance 2003* indicates, for example, that despite a marginal decrease in 2002, international trade remains crucial to the growth of the Canadian economy. In fact, total merchandise trade (exports plus imports of goods) as a percentage of GDP was about 67.0 per cent in 2002.

### Health care system

The 2002 Speech from the Throne reaffirmed that health is vital to quality of life. To that end, the government is committed to improving access to the health care system, enhancing accountability and sustainability of the system, and taking further action to close the gap in health status between Aboriginal peoples and non-Aboriginal Canadians.

*Canada's Performance 2003* offers general information on the overall health of Canadians. The performance information in this report indicates that Canada is doing well with respect to health status; improvements are particularly noticeable in the area of life expectancy and infant mortality. There are, however, notable disparities between the health of Canada's First Nations and Inuit communities and the health of other Canadians.

### **Children and families**

The government recognizes that families and communities are the foundation of Canadian society. The 2002 Speech from the Throne commits the government to establishing a long-term investment plan to help children and families break out of poverty and ensure that all children have a good start in life.

Canada's economy has shown strong performance, especially in the growth in annual earnings of Canadians. In 2002, real disposable income per capita was \$20,380 (in constant 1997 dollars) — the highest ever recorded. Certain segments of our society, however, continue to be disproportionately represented in income levels below Statistics Canada's low income cutoffs (LICO). Children in low-income families are at a higher risk of behavioural and learning problems and have higher school dropout rates.

### **Climate change and the environment**

The health of Canadians, the quality of life in Canadian communities, and economic prosperity depend on a healthy environment. In the 2002 Speech from the Throne, the government committed to dealing effectively with climate change and other environmental challenges.

*Canada's Performance 2003* indicates that climate change continues to be a cause for concern and is largely due to high energy consumption, a cold climate, and an energy-intensive industrial-based economy. The total Canadian greenhouse gas emissions have increased by 18.5 per cent since 1990.

### **Talent and investment**

In the 2002 Speech from the Throne, the government established making Canada a magnet for talent and investment, a world leader in innovation and learning, as one of its priorities. As part of this agenda, the government will build on its investments in research, literacy, and education; continue progress on Canada's Innovation Strategy; and adjust its policies to enhance the climate for investment and talent.



This report indicates that Canada is well positioned to make progress despite being considerably behind the US and other G-7 countries in a number of indicators of innovation performance (e.g., external patent application and research and development (R&D) intensity). For example, Canada is the world leader in education when considering the rate of post-secondary education (university and college).

### **A new partnership between government and citizens**

The 2002 Speech from the Throne recognized that healthy communities and competitive cities are vital to Canadians' individual and collective well-being. The government supports the quality of life in communities by strengthening the social fabric and by reflecting and reinforcing values, such as multiculturalism and linguistic duality, that are important to Canadians.

*Canada's Performance 2003* indicates that support for multiculturalism is strong among Canadians. According to a 2002 survey, 80.0 per cent of Canadians feel that the preservation and enhancement of the multicultural heritage of Canadians enhance the value of Canadian citizenship, while 77.0 per cent feel that it also promotes

the sharing of common values. With respect to linguistic duality, a 2003 survey showed that 63.0 per cent of Canadians favour the development of bilingualism (French and English).

### **Aboriginal communities**

A focus on Aboriginal communities is interwoven throughout the 2002 Speech from the Throne, the government commits to closing the socio-economic gap that exists between Aboriginal peoples and non-Aboriginal Canadians and to working with Aboriginal communities to build their capacity for economic, social, and cultural development.

*Canada's Performance 2003* indicates that, while progress is being made on many fronts, continued efforts are required to narrow the notable disparities in the health and socio-economic status of Canada's Aboriginal population and other Canadians. Life expectancy at birth, for example, is significantly lower for First Nations communities than for the general Canadian population, and Aboriginal children and families continue to fall far below the Canadian average on many socio-economic indicators of well-being, such as disposable income and educational attainment.

## Further Information

This report cannot tell the whole story of Canada's performance. For more information on quality of life in Canada, see the suggested list of additional resources in Appendix I. The electronic version of this report includes many links to additional information on the societal indicators discussed in this report, as well as to information on the plans and priorities and on the performance of federal departments and agencies.

## Give us your feedback

The government recognizes the need to continually improve its reporting to Canadians. With last year's report, we sought your views. By reviewing your comments and by consulting various stakeholders, we identified a number of areas of improvement for this year's version. For instance, we have improved the access that the reader has to more detailed levels of performance information in the electronic version.

We want to know what you think about the content of this report. Please tell us what you like best about this publication and what you think needs to be changed or improved. Your feedback will help the government determine the form of its reporting to Canadians and to Parliament on management and performance issues.

We welcome your comments by mail, telephone, facsimile, or e-mail.

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## Performance Highlights

This report provides information on the quality of life of Canadians by using 20 societal indicators grouped under 4 themes: economic opportunities and innovation in Canada, the health of Canadians, the Canadian environment, and the

strength and safety of Canadian communities. The following chart provides a brief summary of Canada's performance in these areas over the last 5 to 10 years (depending on the relevance and availability of data).

### Legend

- ▲ Improving performance
- No definitive trend noted at this time\*
- ▼ Declining performance

### Economic Opportunities and Innovation in Canada

Trend	Indicator	Performance Highlights
▲	Real Gross Domestic Product per Capita	Following the economic slowdown of 2001, growth in Canada rebounded strongly with real gross domestic product (GDP) per capita growth of 2.31% in 2002. This increase is the latest in a continuing trend that has seen real GDP per capita increase an average of 2.9% per year since 1997.
▲	Real Disposable Income per Capita	<p>After declining in the first half of the 1990s, real disposable income per capita has increased at an average rate of 2.0% per year since 1997, reflecting strong employment growth and cuts in personal taxes. Real disposable income per capita reached \$20,380 in 2002, the highest increase ever recorded.†</p> <p>Despite the strong growth in average incomes, certain segments of our society continue to be disproportionately represented in income levels below Statistics Canada's low income cutoffs.</p>
▲	Innovation	A preliminary estimate of Canada's gross expenditure on research and development (GERD) as a percentage of GDP was 1.85% for 2002. While this represents a decrease from 1.91% in 2001, the GERD had been steadily increasing since 1996 when it was 1.65%.

\* This is due to either a lack of trend data or multiple measures with opposing trends.

† Figures are in constant 1997 dollars.

### Economic Opportunities and Innovation in Canada (*cont'd*)

Trend	Indicator	Performance Highlights
▲	Employment	The average employment rate increased from 58.5% in 1996 to 62.5% in 2002. There are substantial variations, however, in the unemployment rates of the provinces. The Atlantic provinces and Quebec continue to have substantially higher unemployment rates than the Canadian average.
—	Literacy	The data from the first <i>International Adult Literacy Survey</i> (IALS), conducted in 1994, indicates that over 40.0% of Canadians aged 16 and above function below “Level 3,” the minimum desirable level, which corresponds roughly to high school completion. The next survey results will not be available until 2004.
▲	Educational Attainment	In the last decade, the proportion of Canadians with a college or university degree increased. In 2001, 61.0% of all Canadians aged 25 to 34 had at least some education beyond high school. This is a marked increase over a decade earlier when only 49.0% of people in that age category had any post-secondary education.

### The Health of Canadians

Trend	Indicator	Performance Highlights
▲	Life Expectancy	Life expectancy at birth has steadily increased from 77.6 years in 1990 to nearly 79.4 in 2000 (76.7 for men and 82.0 for women). Life expectancy at birth of First Nations on reserve also increased in the last decade. Recent data from Indian and Northern Affairs Canada indicate that a gap of approximately 6.1 years for men and 6.6 years for women remains, however.
▼	Self-rated Health Status	The percentage of Canadians aged 12 and older who rated their own health as very good or excellent has decreased from 63.1% in 1994–95 to 62.1% in 2000–01. Furthermore, health status is not evenly distributed across Canada’s communities. In 2000–01, 23.1% of Aboriginal people (living off reserves) rated their health as either fair or poor, a level 1.9 times higher than for the non-Aboriginal population.
▲	Infant Mortality	In the last decade, the infant mortality rate has steadily decreased from 6.8 deaths per 1,000 live births in 1990 to 5.3 per 1,000 in 2000. Although declining, the infant mortality rate for First Nations on reserve continues to be higher than the Canadian rate at 8 deaths per 1,000 live births.
—	Healthy Lifestyles	Although the proportion of Canadians aged 12 and over who are active in their leisure time has grown from 39.4% in 1994–95 to about 42.6% in 2000–01, the proportion of Canadians who are considered obese has also increased. The number of obese Canadians aged 20 to 64 grew from 13.2% to 14.9%.



## The Canadian Environment

Trend	Indicator	Performance Highlights
▼	Climate Change	Despite a slight decrease (1.3%) between 2000 and 2001, Canadian greenhouse gas emissions have increased by 18.5% since 1990.
▲	Air Quality	Levels of several air pollutants are dropping. From 1990 to 2000, decreases have been observed in the yearly average concentration of sulphur and nitrogen dioxide, carbon monoxide, and total suspended particulates in Canada. Levels of ground-level ozone, however, have not changed significantly.
▲	Water Quality	Waste water treatment from municipal systems has shown continuous improvement. The percentage of the municipal population on sewers receiving secondary or tertiary treatment increased from 56.0% in 1983 to 78.0% in 1999. Despite these improvements, challenges remain in many rural and coastal communities.
▼	Biodiversity	During the period from 1985 to 2002, the status of most reassessed species considered at risk remained unchanged, and the status of a quarter of the reassessed species deteriorated.
—	Toxic Substances in the Environment	Data allowing the consistent comparison of on-site releases between 1995 and 2000 are available for 15 toxic substances. Of these 15, on-site releases have decreased for 7, decreased little for 3, and increased for 5.

## The Strength and Safety of Canadian Communities

Trend	Indicator	Performance Highlights
▼	Volunteerism	In 2000, 27.0% of Canadians volunteered 1.05 billion hours of work in Canada, representing a decrease of 13.0% from 1997.
—	Attitudes Toward Diversity	A 2002 survey by Environics Research Group found that 80.0% of Canadians feel the preservation of the multicultural heritage of Canadians enhances the value of Canadian citizenship, while 77.0% feel that it also promotes the sharing of common values. Concerning linguistic duality, a 2003 survey found that 63.0 per cent of Canadians favour the development of bilingualism (English and French).
—	Participation in Cultural Activities	From 1992 to 1998, cultural participation among the Canadian population aged 15 and over was declining in some areas and was on the upswing in other areas. For instance, movie-going was up from 48.6% to 59.1% and concert and performance attendance rose from 23.7% in 1992 to 34.6% in 1998. However, attendance figures decreased at performances of live theatre (down 4.0%), popular music (down 4.1%), and symphonic music (down 4.0%).

### The Strength and Safety of Canadian Communities (*cont'd*)

Trend	Indicator	Performance Highlights
▼	Political Participation	Canadian political participation is in decline. Federal voter turnout rates have declined from 69.6% in 1993 to 61.2% in 2000, the lowest of any post-war election.
▲	Safety and Security	<p>The overall police-reported crime rate remained virtually unchanged in 2002 (-0.6%) The national crime rate, which has been on a downward trend for a decade, was 27.0 per cent below its peak in 1991.</p> <p>Further, the proportion of the Canadian population that feels safe within their communities has increased. According to the <i>2000 International Crime Victimization Survey (ICVS)</i>, 83.0% of Canadians indicated that they feel safe walking alone after dark in their neighbourhoods, up from 74.0% in 1996.</p>





## Economic Opportunities and Innovation in Canada

### The Issue

At a time when many countries, including the US, are experiencing an uneven recovery from the economic slowdown of 2001, Canada has experienced solid growth. In 2002, Canada recorded the highest economic growth rate among G-7 countries and created over half a million jobs.

In 2002, Canada recorded its fifth consecutive budget surplus, making it the only G-7 country with a surplus. Budget surpluses enabled the government to reduce the debt by \$47.6 billion since 1997–98. The debt-to-GDP ratio is projected to fall to 44.5 per cent in 2002–03, down from 67.5 per cent in 1995–96.

Private sector forecasters predict that Canada will continue to be a leader in growth in 2003 among G-7 countries. Nevertheless, the global environment continues to present uncertainties that overhang the economic outlook for all countries.

### The Government of Canada's role in the economy

Enhancing the well-being of Canadians, through higher living standards and a better quality of life, lies at the heart of the government's economic and social policies. By undertaking the right investments and creating favourable conditions for growth, the government can encourage continued prosperity.

To promote a strong and vibrant economy, the federal government must work with other governments, businesses, institutions, and Canadians to help ensure that Canada is a magnet for investment, skilled knowledge workers, cutting-edge research, and science and innovation. Only a strong economy supported by a modern infrastructure can provide the jobs and incomes required to sustain families and their communities, while investments in key areas of social policy help ensure that the benefits of economic growth are available to all.

The Government of Canada is committed to helping children and families break out of poverty. Even at



a time when the economy is performing well, there are some groups within our population that experience economic hardship. In the 2003 budget, the Government of Canada committed to addressing these issues by increasing the Canada Child Tax Benefit, increasing access to childcare and early learning opportunities, increasing tax assistance for persons with disabilities, and providing funding for affordable housing, and community efforts to fight homelessness.

The Government of Canada is striving to make Canada a leader in innovation and learning. This year's budget announced \$1.7 billion to work toward targets set out in Canada's Innovation Strategy (<http://www.innovationstrategy.gc.ca>), which was launched in 2002. These targets include doubling investment in research and development by 2010 and a commitment to increase admissions of masters and doctoral candidates at universities by an average of 5.0 per cent per year. In November 2002, the National Summit on Innovation and Learning consulted Canadians on how to best achieve the goals set out in Canada's Innovation Strategy.

### International dimensions of the economy

Now, more than ever, the well-being and prosperity of Canadians depends on a healthy international trade and investment climate. In 2002, international trade was linked to one in four jobs in Canada.

To help Canada's exporters expand their markets abroad and promote Canada's image around the globe as an attractive investment destination, Canada belongs to many international organizations that aim to facilitate trade and establish rules to govern the international trading system.

The Government of Canada also works to help develop the economies of the world's least developed nations. In the 2003 budget, Canada committed to doubling its international assistance by 2010. In addition, Canada began providing duty-free and quota-free access to most imports from 48 of the world's least developed countries in January 2003.

In the last two years, Canada has experienced a decrease in exports of goods and services: 1.7 per cent in 2001 and 1.6 per cent in 2002. These are the first declines since 1991. The decrease in exports of goods to the US alone accounted for over 64.0 per cent of the decline in total exports of goods and services in 2002.



## Trade with the US

In 2002, the US accounted for 71.5 per cent of Canada's imports and 83.8 per cent of its exports of goods. Recognizing the extraordinary importance of Canada-US trade — the world's largest trading relationship — Canada is continuing to work with

the US to ensure that the border is fully open for business. With this in mind, the \$600 million Border Infrastructure Fund was established to support the trade relationship with the US by alleviating border congestion and increasing system capacity.

**Figure 1.1**  
Canada's Major Trading Partners, 2002

Export of Goods	\$ millions	%
United States	346,991	83.8
Japan	10,292	2.5
European Union	22,735	5.5
Other OECD	12,342	3.0
Other countries	21,945	5.3
All countries	414,305	100

Source: Statistics Canada, 2003

## Real Gross Domestic Product Per Capita

### Definition and Relevance

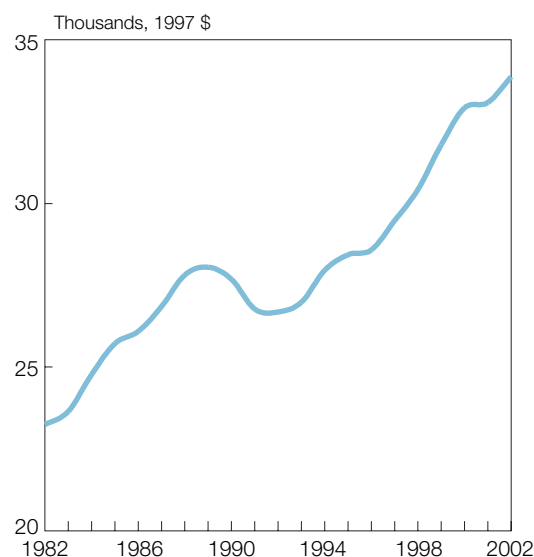
**Real gross domestic product (GDP) per capita** is the inflation-adjusted value of all products and services produced in Canada per person in a given year. When real GDP is growing near its long-term potential growth rate, the economy is growing as strongly as possible without sparking inflationary pressures. A growth rate below potential means that the economy's stock of plants and equipment is not being used to the fullest, and unemployment tends to rise.

Real GDP per capita is the most widely used indicator of national standards of living. It is important to remember, however, that it does not take into consideration activities that occur outside the market, such as the value of natural capital, work done within the home or by volunteers, or the harmful effects on human health from pollution.

### Current Level and Trends

Following the economic slowdown of 2001, growth in Canada rebounded strongly with real GDP per capita growth of 2.3 per cent in 2002. This increase is the latest in a continuing trend that has seen real GDP per capita increase an average of 2.9 per cent per year since 1997.

**Figure 1.2**  
Real GDP Per Capita, Canada



Source: Statistics Canada, 2003

Real Gross Domestic Product Per Capita

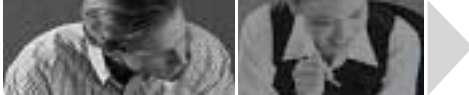
Real Disposable Income Per Capita

Innovation

Employment

Literacy

Educational Attainment



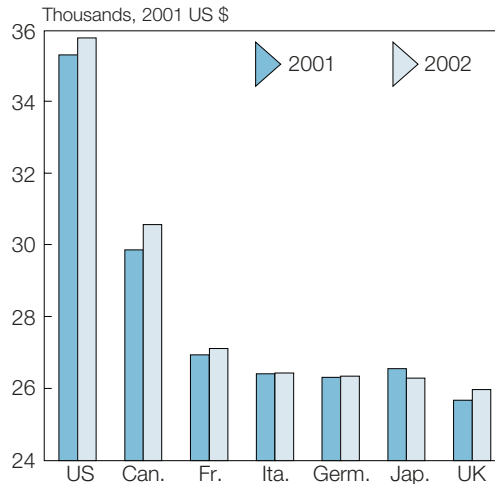
### International Comparison

In 2002, Canada recorded the highest growth in GDP among G-7 countries despite global weakness and uncertainty. Strong growth has allowed Canada to maintain a real GDP per capita second only to that of the US.

In 2001, the Canadian economy grew at a faster rate than that of the US and avoided recession during the global economic downturn. This is in sharp contrast to the recessions of the early 1980s and 1990s, when Canada suffered more severe downturns and recovered more slowly than the US. Since 1998, however, growth in real GDP per capita in Canada has exceeded that of the US.

**Figure 1.3**

Real GDP Per Capita, G-7 Countries, 2002



Note: Using bilateral purchasing power parity provided by Statistics Canada.  
Source: Statistics Canada, OECD, and the Bureau of Economic Analysis, 2003

Economic Opportunities and Innovation in Canada

The Health of Canadians

The Canadian Environment

The Strength and Safety of Canadian Communities

Real Gross Domestic  
Product Per Capita

Real Disposable  
Income Per Capita

Innovation

Employment

Literacy

Educational Attainment

## Real Disposable Income Per Capita

### Definition and Relevance

**Real disposable income (RDI) per capita** is the amount of income available to an individual for the purchase of goods and services and for personal savings, after taking into consideration taxes, transfers, and inflation.

RDI per capita tells us how much a person can spend on the things he or she needs to live, such as food, clothing, and shelter, as well as other consumer goods and services. A limited disposable income can have the effect of impeding an individual's ability to participate in the community and wider society, thus restricting quality of life.

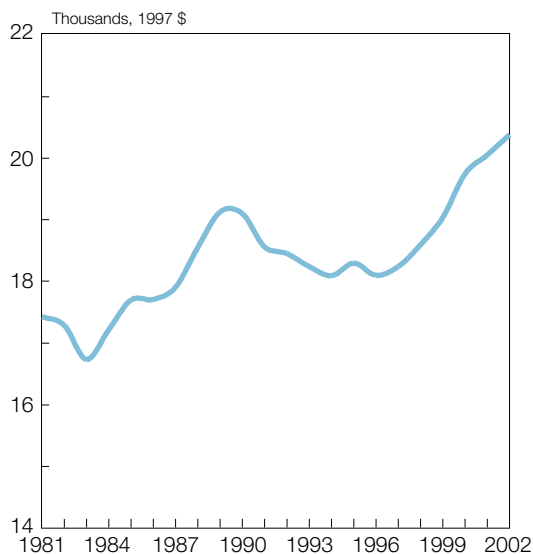
### Current Level and Trends

In 2002, RDI per capita was \$20,380 — the highest ever recorded. After declining in the first half of the 1990s, RDI per capita has increased at an average rate of 2.0 per cent per year since 1997, reflecting strong employment growth and cuts in personal taxes.

The 2001 Census indicated increases in overall earnings, defined here as total wages and salaries plus net income from self-employment. For the first time in Canadian history, average annual earnings of Canadians who were 15 or older surpassed \$30,000, reaching \$31,757 in 2000. This represents an increase of 7.3 per cent from a decade earlier, compared with the 1.3 per cent rise seen between 1980 and 1990. The solid increase seen in the 1990s mirrored a robust demand for higher skilled workers, an aging workforce of baby boomers who made substantial gains during the 1990s, and an increasing share of workers holding university degrees.

Despite the strong growth in average incomes, there is still progress to be made. The 2001 Census data reveal that certain segments of our society continue to experience economic hardships.

**Figure 1.4**  
Real Disposal Income Per Capita,  
Canada



Source: Statistics Canada, 2003



## Supplemental Information

### Low income in Canada

Many Canadians live on incomes that are insufficient for their daily needs or for their adequate participation in society. Statistics Canada has, for many years, published data for after-tax low income cutoffs (LICO), which is the income level (after tax and income transfers from governments) at which a family has to use substantially more of its income than the average Canadian family for food, shelter, and clothing. In 2001, a family that had to spend more than 64.0 per cent of after-tax income on these items was considered to be below the LICO, and thus living in strained circumstances.

- ▶ The percentage of Canadians living below this LICO measure has moved from 11.0 per cent in 1990 to a high of 14.0 per cent in 1996, and down to 10.4 per cent in 2001.
- ▶ In 2001, 14.3 per cent of Aboriginal people<sup>1</sup> living off reserves aged 16 and over had incomes below the after-tax LICO, compared to 17.7 per cent in 1990.
- ▶ Since 1991, there has been a substantial increase in the percentage of new immigrants (those in Canada for less than 10 years) living below the LICO. The latest data indicate that these immigrants are almost two times more likely than non-immigrants to be below the LICO.
- ▶ Female single-parent families, followed by single-person households, are the most likely to have incomes below the LICO. In 2001, 31.9 per cent of female single-parent families and 27.6 per cent of single persons had incomes below the cutoff.
- ▶ An estimated 11.4 per cent of children, or 786,000 Canadians under the age of 18, were living in low-income families in 2001. This level has been declining since 1996, when it peaked at 16.7 per cent.

1. Information about First Nations and Aboriginal populations is derived from various sources and can refer to different populations. Throughout this report, "Aboriginal" refers to all indigenous persons of Canada, of North American, Indian, Inuit, or Métis identity, including those registered under the *Indian Act*; "First Nations" refers to those persons who are registered under the *Indian Act* and, unless otherwise stated, are living on reserve.

## Innovation

### Definition and Relevance

**Innovation** is the process through which new economic and social benefits are extracted from knowledge. It means conceiving new ideas about how to do things better or faster or creating a product or service that has not been developed or thought of previously. Innovations can be world firsts, new to Canada, or simply new to the organization that applies them.

Innovation has always been a driving force in economic growth and social development. In today's knowledge-based economy, however, the importance of innovation has increased dramatically. Innovation through new knowledge has become the main source of competitive advantage in all sectors of economic activity.

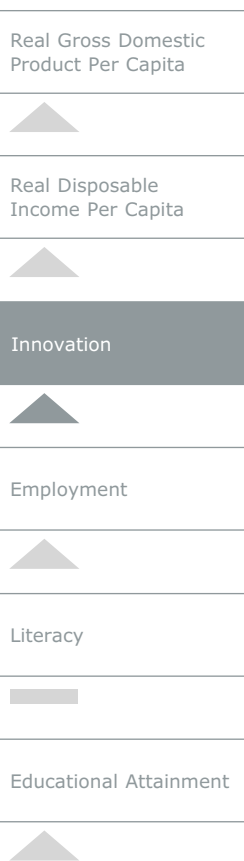
### Current Level and Trends

A preliminary estimate of Canada's gross expenditure on research and development (GERD) as a percentage of GDP was 1.85 per cent for 2002. While this represents a decrease from 1.91 per cent in 2001, the GERD has been steadily increasing since 1996, when it was 1.65 per cent.

While GERD provides an indication of input into the innovation process, it does not indicate whether research and development led to innovation or whether benefits were obtained from the innovations. When innovation in Canadian manufacturing firms was measured in 1999, they were found to lead firms in a number of European countries, but it was clear that Canadian firms trailed in their ability to capture the economic benefits of their innovations.

### International Comparison

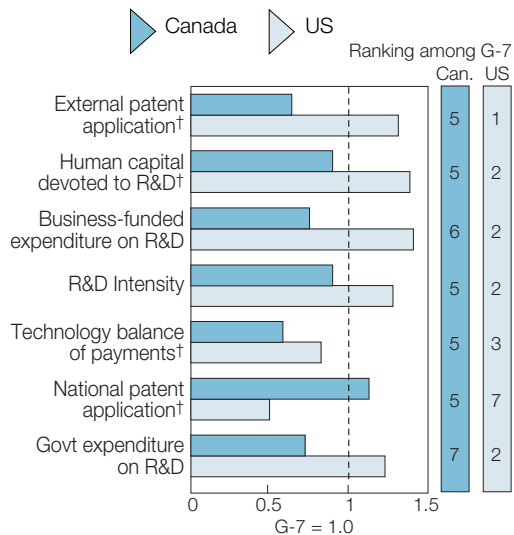
In 2000, Canada moved up from sixth to fifth place among G-7 nations with respect to GERD as a percentage of GDP. Studies conducted by the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) suggest, however, that an innovation gap separates Canada from the leading OECD countries. The corresponding chart shows that in a number of indicators of innovation performance, Canada is considerably behind the US and other G-7 countries.







**Figure 1.5**  
**Canada's Innovation Performance**  
**(Standing Relative to G-7, 2001\*)**



\* or latest available data  
 † adjusted by the size of labour force  
 Source: OECD, *Main Science and Technology Indicators*, version 2002-2

Nevertheless, Canada is well positioned to make progress in innovation. According to the OECD, Canada is the world leader in education when considering the combined proportion of university and college graduates.

## Supplemental Information

In 2003, for the third year in a row, Canada was ranked first in the world for electronic access to government programs and services. (*eGovernment Leadership — Realizing the Vision*, Accenture, 2003) The Government of Canada continues to advance toward its stated goal of providing Canadians with electronic access to all federal programs and services by 2005, as outlined in the Government On-Line Initiative.

Connectedness is a broad concept that reflects the ability to use information and communication technologies to interact and transact with one another. Canada finished second behind the US in the Conference Board of Canada 2002 Connectedness Index for the third consecutive year. The document also reports that Canada has the highest level of high-speed Internet usage of all G-7 countries, at 6.2 connections per 100 inhabitants.

## Employment

### Definition and Relevance

The **employment rate** represents the percentage of the working-age population that has jobs. A higher employment rate has the direct effect of raising household income and is thus an important element in raising the average standard of living.

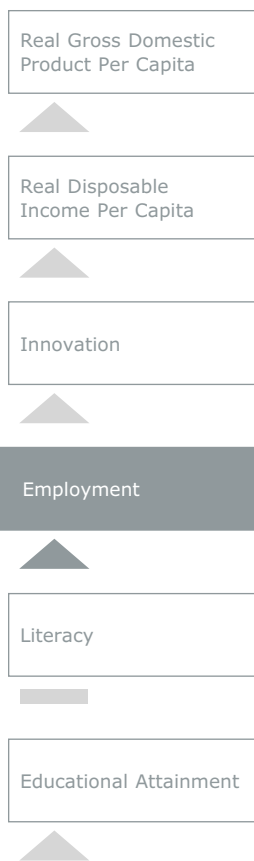
### Current Level and Trends

From the beginning of 2002 to March 2003, Canada experienced a tremendous employment growth of 628,000 jobs or 4.2 per cent. The renewed strength in employment helped to push the employment rate to 62.5 per cent in March 2003, one of the highest on record.

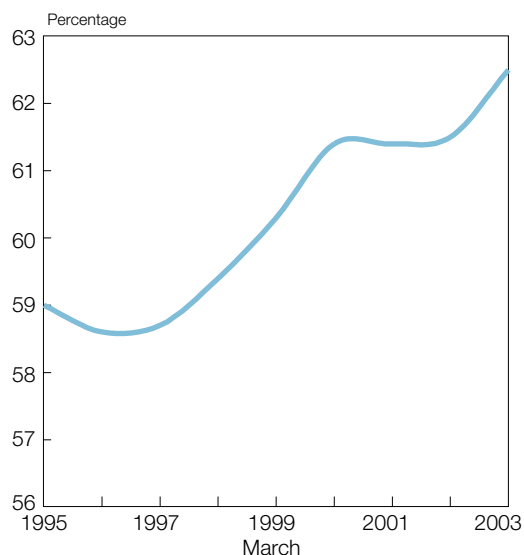
Although more people entered the labour force in search of work, the unemployment rate fell by 0.7 percentage points to 7.3 per cent between the beginning of 2002 and March 2003. This represents a significant improvement from 1993, when the average unemployment rate stood at 11.4 per cent.

### Provincial differences

The Atlantic provinces and Quebec continue to have much higher unemployment rates than the national average. A more recent trend has seen British Columbia's unemployment rate steadily climb over the last three years to also surpass the national average in 2002.

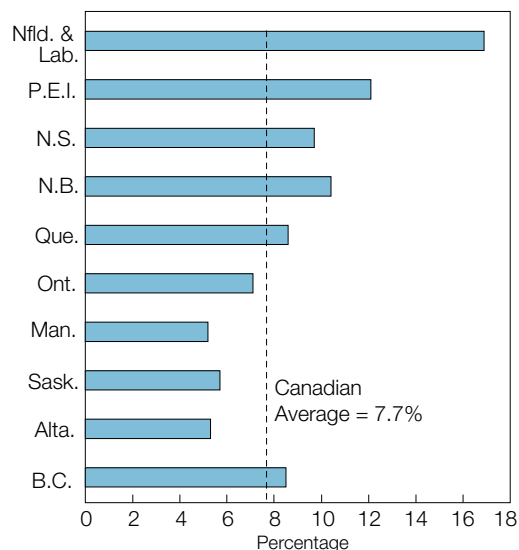


**Figure 1.6**  
Employment Rate in Canada



Source: Statistics Canada, 2003

**Figure 1.7**  
Unemployment Rate by Province, 2002



Source: Statistics Canada, 2003



## International Comparison

With the Canadian labour market outperforming the US labour market in 2002, the gap between the unemployment rates in the two countries has narrowed from almost 4 percentage points in late 1996 to 0.9 percentage points in March 2003.

## Gender Differences

The 2001 Census reported dramatic employment growth for women over the last two decades. In 1980, there were just over 5 million women earners in the labour market. By 2000, this had increased 48.0 per cent to more than 7.5 million. In contrast, the number of male earners rose only 18.0 per cent from 7.2 million to 8.5 million.

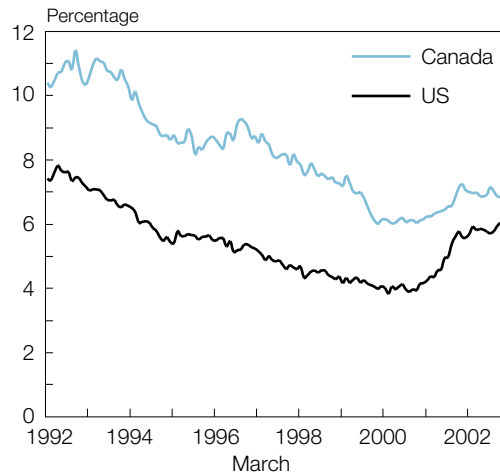
## Supplemental Information

### Aging workforce

According to 2001 Census data, the average age of the labour force was 39 in 2001, up from 37.1 in 1991. With the baby boomers aging and fewer young people entering the working-age population due to lower fertility rates over the last 30 years, the potential exists for shortages in certain occupations. As a result, a wide range of occupations, from doctors and nurses to teachers, plumbers, and electricians, may face shortfalls by 2011.

Figure 1.8

### Unemployment Rate in Canada and the US



Note: Canadian official unemployment rates adjusted to US concepts for comparison.  
Source: Statistics Canada, US Bureau of Labor Statistics

## Immigration as a source of skills

Canada has increasingly turned to immigration as a source of skills and knowledge. The 2001 Census data show that immigrants who landed in Canada during the 1990s and who were in the labour force in 2001 represented almost 70.0 per cent of the total growth of the labour force over the decade. If current immigration rates continue, it is possible that immigration could account for virtually all labour force growth by 2011.

## Literacy

### Definition and Relevance

**Literacy** is more than simply being able to read and write. It is the ability to read and understand written materials, including reports, documents, and mathematical charts and displays; to use that information to solve problems, evaluate circumstances, and make decisions; and to communicate that information orally and in writing. (*International Adult Literacy Survey*, 1994)

Literacy skills matter to a nation because they enable its workforce to compete in a changing world, opening the way for economic growth and enhanced quality of life. A basic level of literacy is now required to get and keep most jobs and to adjust to changing economic opportunities. Literacy is especially important in today's highly competitive global economy, and countries are moving quickly to develop and nurture their own human capital, recognizing it as central to their economic success.

### Current Level and Trends

The *International Adult Literacy Survey* (IALS) has helped shape the way we think of literacy today. It has five levels of proficiency ranging from the lowest (Level 1) to the highest (Level 5) and tests for three types of literacy:

- ▶ prose — the ability to understand and use information from texts, e.g., instruction manuals;
- ▶ document — the ability to locate and use information contained in various formats, e.g., maps, charts; and
- ▶ quantitative — the ability to apply arithmetic operations, e.g., calculating a tip.

While the next survey results will not be available until 2004, the 1994 results of the IALS reported that the fundamental story of literacy in Canada remained the same from 1989 to 1994. During this period, there were significant numbers of adult Canadians with low-level literacy skills that constrained their participation in society and in the economy.

In all three types of literacy, over 40.0 per cent of Canadians aged 16 and above functioned below Level 3, the minimum desirable threshold, which corresponds roughly to successful high school completion and college entry. Even in the 16–25 age group, over 30.0 per cent functioned below Level 3. Furthermore, one in five high school graduates under age 20 do not have the literacy skills necessary to function in the current economy. (Statistics Canada, *Reading the Future: A Portrait of Literacy in Canada*, 1995)

Real Gross Domestic Product Per Capita

Real Disposable Income Per Capita

Innovation

Employment

Literacy

Educational Attainment



## Provincial/territorial differences

There is considerable variation in Canadians' literacy skills by province. Generally, the proportion of adults with higher literacy levels is relatively larger in the western provinces. The proportion of adults with lower levels is relatively larger in the east, with the Atlantic provinces and Quebec well over the national average.

These regional differences follow the same pattern as educational attainment — a province with a higher percentage of university graduates is very likely to record higher levels of literacy. When comparisons are made within levels of educational attainment, however, the differences among the regions are greatly reduced.

## International Comparison

At the international level, Sweden is leading the world in all three types of literacy. Relative to other countries, Canada scored in the middle of the pack, ranking 5th on the prose literacy scale, 8th on the document literacy scale, and 9th on the quantitative literacy scale.

Canada consistently outperformed the US and the United Kingdom on all scales but ranked below many European countries. (Highlights from the *Final Report of the International Adult Literacy Survey: Literacy in the Information Age*, 2000)

**Figure 1.9**

Percentage of population aged 16+ below level 3 (minimum threshold)

	Prose	Document	Quantitative
Canada	48	47	48
Atlantic Provinces*	51	54	53
New Brunswick	59	59	59
Quebec	54	58	60
Ontario	47	43	43
Western Provinces†	42	44	42
Alberta	36	37	35
British Columbia	43	49	44

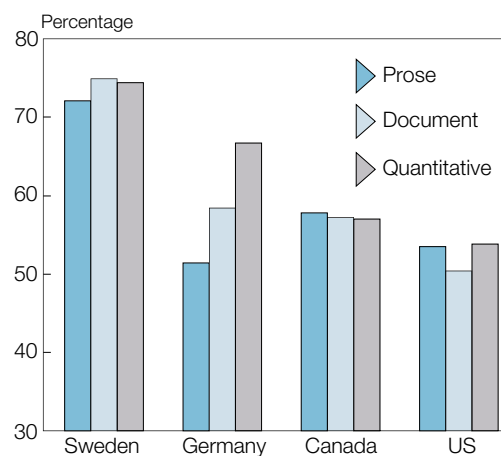
\* New Brunswick, Newfoundland and Labrador, Nova Scotia, and Prince Edward Island

† Alberta, British Columbia, Manitoba and Saskatchewan

Source: HRDC, *Reading the Future: A portrait of Literacy in Canada*, 1995

**Figure 1.10**

Percentage of Population Aged 16 to 65 Performing at Minimum Treshold and Above



Note: Minimum threshold (Level 3) corresponds roughly to successful high school completion.

Source: OECD and HRDC, *Literacy Skills for the Knowledge Society*, 1997

## Educational Attainment

### Definition and Relevance

**Educational attainment** is the highest level of education achieved by an individual in a learning institution. It affects the likelihood of an individual finding employment, the type of work, job security, and earnings.

Within the next few years, it is projected that seven in ten new jobs will require some form of post-secondary education or training. (Human Resources Development Canada, *Knowledge Matters: Skills and Learning for Canadians*, 2000)

### Current Level and Trends

According to the 2001 Census, 61.0 per cent of all Canadians aged 25 to 34 had at least some education beyond high school, 28.0 per cent had a university education, and 21.0 per cent held a college diploma. This is a marked increase over a decade earlier when only 49.0 per cent of people in that age category had any education past high school, with 18 per cent having a university education and 17 per cent holding a college diploma.

It is clearer than ever that more education means more earnings. Full-time workers with a university degree earned on average \$61,800 in 2000 compared to \$36,300 for those with only a high school diploma — a difference of \$25,500.

### Gender differences

There has been a considerable improvement in the education levels of many groups. In 2001, women represented 59.0 per cent of college graduates aged 25 and older and exactly half of all university graduates. This represents an increase of 47.0 per cent in female university graduates from a decade earlier.

Real Gross Domestic  
Product Per Capita

Real Disposable  
Income Per Capita

Innovation

Employment

Literacy

Educational Attainment



## Aboriginal differences

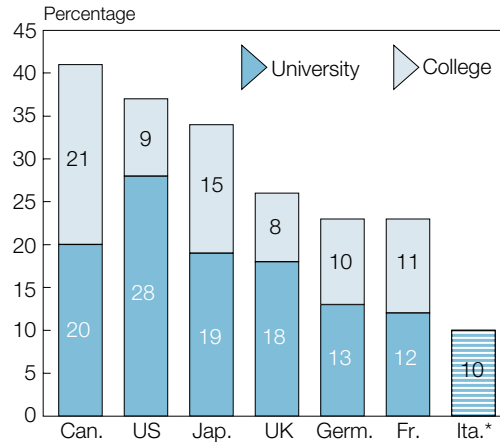
The proportion of working age Aboriginal people with post-secondary schooling increased from 33.0 per cent in 1996 to 38.0 per cent in 2001. It is still well below the proportion for other Canadians, which rose from 44.0 per cent to 53.0 per cent over the same period. This is of particular concern because the young Aboriginal population is the fastest growing in the country.

## International Comparison

According to the OECD, Canada is the world leader in education. If university and college are combined, no other OECD country has a higher proportion of graduates than Canada. In 2000, 41.0 per cent of Canada's population aged 25–64 had a college or university education, compared with 37.0 per cent in the US and 34.0 per cent in Japan. This is due to the high post-secondary enrolments in Canada and the fact that over 40.0 per cent of immigrants who arrived in Canada during the 1990s are university graduates.

**Figure 1.11**

Percentage of Population Aged 25 to 64 with Completed Post-secondary Education, G-7 Countries, 2001



\* Only combined university and college data available for Italy  
Source: OECD, Education at a Glance, 2002



## Performance Information

### Partnering for results

*Canada's Performance 2003* measures progress toward broad societal goals. Many factors influence progress on the 20 indicators tracked in this report. Individuals, families, voluntary organizations, private-sector firms, governments, and other participants in Canadian society all contribute to the quality of life of Canadians. The Government of Canada is one of many players taking actions that influence the broad social and

economic outcomes described in this report. The government is committed to working with its partners in pursuit of a higher quality of life for Canadians. Following is an example where the federal government is working strategically with partners to achieve shared goals. Further information on this initiative, as well as information on similar partnerships, is available on-line at the government's Horizontal Results Database at [http://www.tbs-sct.gc.ca/rma/eppi-ibdrp/hr-rh\\_e.asp](http://www.tbs-sct.gc.ca/rma/eppi-ibdrp/hr-rh_e.asp).

### Infrastructure Canada

In August 2002, the Government of Canada created a new department, Infrastructure Canada, to manage and lead the continuing federal participation in the development and implementation of a long-term strategy to meet Canada's modern infrastructure needs. This provided the means for the Government of Canada to broaden its strategic focus for infrastructure investment beyond the local municipal level.

Delivered in partnership with other federal departments, provincial governments, and municipalities, the Infrastructure Canada Program (ICP) will invest up to \$2 billion in federal funds in municipal infrastructure projects.

As at March 31, 2003, the Government of Canada had announced \$1.3 billion in funding as the federal share in over 2,700 projects in all provinces and territories. The types of projects ranged from water and waste water systems to facilities that support culture, recreation, and tourism. The total project investment, including the share of other partners, is \$4.9 billion. As a result, around 1,900 Canadian communities were able to plan for and upgrade local infrastructure.

During the last fiscal year, a significant level of effort was also invested by Infrastructure Canada working with its federal, provincial, municipal, and local partners to develop a consensus on many large-scale infrastructure projects under the new Canada Strategic Infrastructure Fund. A common agreement was also reached on how to improve border crossings with funding available under the new Border Infrastructure Fund. These two new initiatives include projects that would significantly affect, among other things, national and regional economic development potential.





Many federal organizations are working to improve economic opportunities and innovation in Canada. To do so, these organizations plan, monitor, and report on their programs, policies, and initiatives in accordance with broad strategic outcomes.

Strategic outcomes are the enduring benefits to Canadians that departments and agencies attempt to achieve. These outcomes flow from the mandates of federal organizations and contribute to broad, government-wide priorities. In most cases, strategic outcomes require the combined resources and sustained effort of several partners over a long period of time.

Following is a list of some of the departments and agencies that have strategic outcomes related to economic opportunities and innovation in Canada. Further information on these strategic outcomes is available through the hyperlinks in the electronic version of this report. Clicking on the links in the table below will lead the reader to the Government of Canada's Strategic Outcomes Database ([http://www.tbs-sct.gc.ca/rma/krc/cp-rc\\_e.asp](http://www.tbs-sct.gc.ca/rma/krc/cp-rc_e.asp)). This Database provides information (and links for further

references) on planned activities and expenditures, results evidence, relevant audits and evaluations, and program background for the government's more than 200 strategic outcomes.

In addition to the departments listed below, there are certain federal organizations that provide support to all departments and agencies, such as the Treasury Board of Canada Secretariat, the Public Service Commission of Canada, Statistics Canada, and Public Works and Government Services Canada. Information on the performance and plans of these organizations is also available at the Strategic Outcomes Database Web site.

In the table below, departments have been clustered into "horizontal areas"; these are areas in which several departments and agencies are working toward a common goal.

This tentative clustering of departmental efforts will facilitate horizontal or whole-of-government thinking. It helps to identify common leverage points by which different federal organizations can plan strategies and monitor success in their efforts to improve economic opportunities and innovation in Canada.



Horizontal Area	Federal Department or Agency
An effective regulatory regime	Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada Canada Customs and Revenue Agency Canadian Food Inspection Agency Canadian Grain Commission Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission Canadian Transportation Agency Copyright Board Canada Department of Finance Canada Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade Fisheries and Oceans Canada Human Resources Development Canada Industry Canada National Energy Board Northern Pipeline Agency Canada Transport Canada
Regional economic growth	Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency Canada Economic Development for Quebec Regions Industry Canada Western Economic Diversification Canada
Sound and secure trade and financial systems	Canada Customs and Revenue Agency Canadian International Trade Tribunal Department of Finance Canada Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade NAFTA Secretariat – Canadian Section Office of the Superintendent of Financial Institutions Canada
A competitive economy	Canadian Space Agency Citizenship and Immigration Canada Department of Finance Canada Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade Fisheries and Oceans Canada Indian and Northern Affairs Canada and Canadian Polar Commission Industry Canada Infrastructure Canada National Round Table on the Environment and the Economy



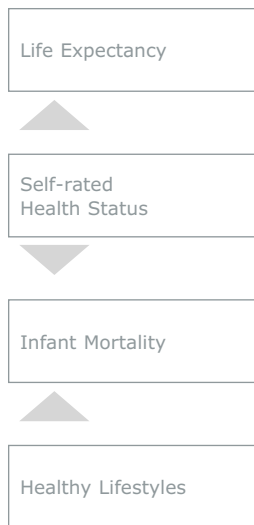
Horizontal Area	Federal Department or Agency
Effective partnerships among economic stakeholders	Canada Industrial Relations Board Canadian Artists and Producers Professional Relations Tribunal Infrastructure Canada Western Economic Diversification Canada
A fair and competitive marketplace	Canadian Grain Commission Canadian Radio-television and Telecommunications Commission Competition Tribunal Industry Canada Royal Canadian Mounted Police Transport Canada
An innovative knowledge-based economy	Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency Canadian Heritage Canadian Space Agency Citizenship and Immigration Canada Department of Finance Canada Human Resources Development Canada Industry Canada National Research Council Canada Natural Resources Canada Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada Western Economic Diversification Canada
Equitable income distribution	Canada Customs and Revenue Agency Department of Finance Canada Human Resources Development Canada
A fair share of international markets	Canadian International Development Agency Canadian Space Agency Department of Finance Canada Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade Industry Canada

Economic Opportunities and Innovation in Canada

The Health of Canadians

The Canadian Environment

The Strength and Safety of Canadian Communities



## The Health of Canadians

### The Issue

The health of Canada's society, as well as Canada's success in the 21st century, depends on the health and well-being of individuals and communities. Not surprisingly, Canadians attach great importance to their own health and that of their families, friends, and communities.

Health is a state of complete physical, mental, and social well-being, and not merely absence of disease. Population health is influenced by various determinants: genetics, social and economic environment, biophysical environment, individual behaviour, as well as the health care system.

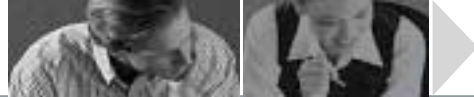
### The Government of Canada's role in health

The health care system is one important part of the larger agenda for a healthier Canada. Provinces, territories, and the federal government provide health services to Canadians. The federal government provides primary and supplementary health care services to approximately 1 million eligible people — making it the fifth largest provider of health

services to Canadians. These groups include veterans, military personnel, inmates of federal penitentiaries, certain landed immigrants and refugee claimants, serving members of the Canadian Forces and the Royal Canadian Mounted Police, as well as First Nations populations living on reserves and the Inuit.

In addition to providing services to these particular groups, the Government of Canada protects the health of Canadians by employing strategies to promote health, prevent disease, and provide information to enable Canadians to make informed decisions about health products available to them. The Government of Canada is committed to providing Canadians with the following:

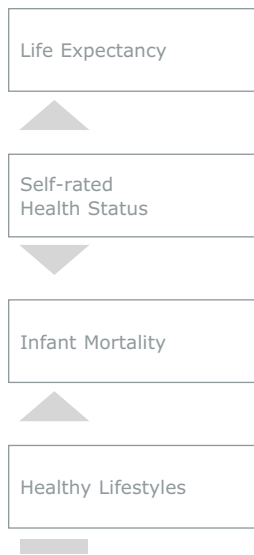
- ▶ disease surveillance, monitoring the effects of changes in the environment on health, regulating pharmaceuticals and medical devices, consumer products, cosmetics, workplace chemicals, radiation-emitting devices, pesticides, new substances and products of biotechnology;



- ▶ tobacco control;
- ▶ deterrence from chemical, biological, radiological, and nuclear threats and prevention measures;
- ▶ nutritional quality standards and the safety of the Canadian food supply;
- ▶ significant financial support to provincial health care systems;
- ▶ the health and safety of federal government and other Canadian workers, visiting dignitaries, and the travelling public in Canada;
- ▶ health information and research through funding organizations such as the Canadian Institutes of Health Research, the Canadian Institute for Health Information, the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada, Statistics Canada, and other research programs; and
- ▶ a stewardship role with regard to the principles contained in the *Canada Health Act*.

## Key trends in health

**Health care renewal:** Canadians continue to take pride in our public system of health care, while at the same time having concerns for its future, including such matters as unmet health care needs and the availability of health care personnel. In November 2002, as part of the health care renewal debate, the Commission on the Future of Health Care in Canada, headed by former Saskatchewan Premier Roy Romanow, tabled its final report, *Building on Values: The Future of Health Care in Canada*, in the House of Commons. The report includes 47 recommendations to assure the long-term sustainability of Canada's health care system. Senator Kirby, Chair of the Standing Senate Committee on Social Affairs Science and Technology, also reinforced the importance of Canada's health care reform and its long-term sustainability in his final report, entitled *The Health of Canadians: The Federal Role* (2003).



The Government of Canada is committed to working with the provinces and territories to renew and strengthen our health care system. In February 2003, Canada's first ministers agreed to a new *Health Care Renewal Accord*, which is a commitment designed to improve the accessibility, quality, and sustainability of the public health care system, as well as enhance transparency and accountability in health care spending. The Accord builds on the converging recommendations made by national and provincial studies on health care, including those from Roy Romanow and Senator Kirby, and reflects the views of Canadians who contributed to the health care renewal debate through consultations conducted by these studies. In support of the action plan set out in the Accord, the 2003 budget committed \$34.8 billion in additional investments over the next five years.

As part of the government's commitment to accountability and transparency, governments across Canada reported to citizens about health status, health outcomes and quality of service in September 2002, using a set of common indicators. Other reports are scheduled for publication in November 2004.

As public reporting continues to address how the health care system is meeting the needs of Canadians, governments will be able to use the information to renew and strengthen medicare. The Government of Canada's report entitled *Healthy Canadians: A Federal Report on Comparable Health Indicators* is available at <http://www.hc-sc.gc.ca/iacb-dgiac/arad-draa/english/accountability/indicators.html>.

#### **The aging of the Canadian**

**population:** Canada's population is aging, a trend that not only has implications for the health care system but also for the labour force, economy, and social services. Canada's median age has been rising steadily since the end of the baby boom in 1966, when it was only 25.4. As of 2001, the median age of Canada's population reached an all-time high of 37.6. (Statistics Canada, Census 2001) The aging of Canada's population can be expected to increase demands for health care and long-term care services. As life expectancy increases, the quality of life of the elderly population becomes an important policy concern in Canada.



### **The growing Aboriginal population:**

New data from the 2001 Census show that the Aboriginal population is on the rise, from 3.8 per cent of the total population in 1996 to 4.4 per cent. This population growth will continue to have an impact on Aboriginal health and health services. Aboriginal peoples continue to be among the most disadvantaged groups in Canada and are at high risk for poor health, early death, chronic disease, and socio-economic inequities that influence health practices.

### **International dimensions of health**

The federal government has the lead responsibility for some international health matters, including participation in multinational efforts to eradicate disease and a key role in information management, development, and Canadian representation in the international forum. In addition, the federal government has a role as the negotiator for international health accords, protocols, and agreements.

Globalization continues to accelerate the speed at which goods, services, and people can cross borders, and with them, bacteria, pathogens, and diseases. This new climate has underlined the fact that the public health of Canadians requires attention to issues and situations beyond our borders. Outbreaks of severe acute respiratory syndrome (SARS) in Toronto and Vancouver have heightened awareness of how global health issues increasingly affect Canadians.

The Government of Canada is continuing to work with domestic and international partners to find more effective means to manage the health risks associated with acts of biochemical terrorism, shifting migration patterns, and new emerging infectious diseases, including efforts to contain the spread of SARS, West-Nile virus, and bovine spongiform encephalopathy, or mad cow disease, as well as international efforts to control tobacco use and the HIV/AIDS pandemic.

## Life Expectancy

### Definition and Relevance

**Life expectancy** is the number of years a person would be expected to live on the basis of the mortality statistics for a given observation period. Although life expectancy is a measure of longevity and not quality of life, it is a widely used indicator of the health status of the population.

Life expectancy is related to access to health care, lifestyles, genetics, nutrition, and the benefits of a healthy environment. International comparisons have also indicated that life expectancy is related to national wealth, the quality of the health care system, and individual socio-economic status.

### Current Level and Trends

Canadians are living longer than ever. Life expectancy for Canadians reached 79.4 years in 2000, compared with 77.6 years in 1990. The increased life expectancy results from improvements in health interventions at birth leading to lower infant mortality rates, a decline in mortality rates at all ages, and higher survival rates at older age.

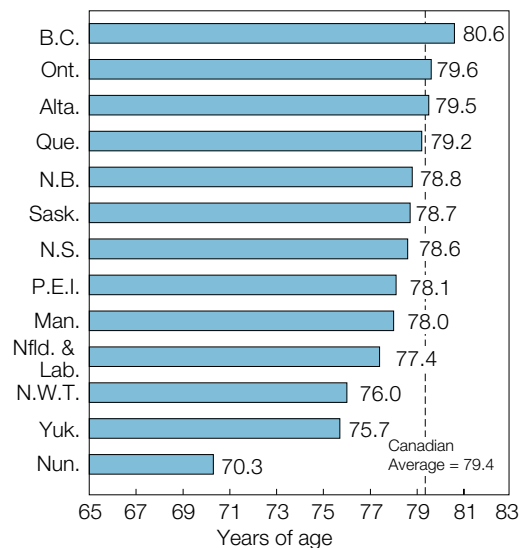
### Provincial/territorial differences

There is almost a 10-year gap in life expectancy between Canada's provinces and territories. For example,

people living in British Columbia have a life expectancy of 80.6 years, whereas those living in Nunavut have a life expectancy of 70.3.

To some extent, much of the variation among provinces can be attributed to individual factors, such as education, income, and health-related risk factors, such as obesity. (Statistics Canada, *How Healthy are Canadians?*, 2002)

**Figure 2.1**  
Life Expectancy in Canada, 2000



Source: Statistics Canada, *Canadian Vital Statistics Birth and Death Databases*, 2003

### Gender differences

Life expectancy at birth increased slightly to new record highs for both sexes in 2000. A woman born in 2000 could expect to live 82.0 years, up 0.3 years from 1999. Similarly, a man born in 2000 could expect to live





up to 76.7 years, up 0.5 years from 1999. The gap in life expectancy between the sexes closed from 5.4 years in 1999 to 5.2 years in 2000, continuing a two-decade-long trend of narrowing. (Statistics Canada, “Deaths,” *The Daily*, April 2, 2003)

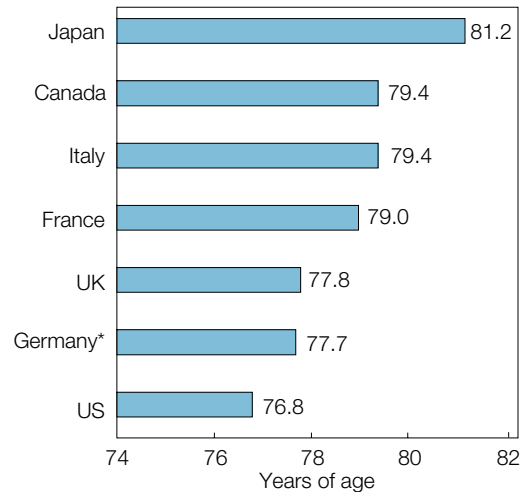
### Aboriginal differences

Even though the gap between life expectancy of First Nations populations on reserve compared with that of the Canadian population has been closing steadily for 25 years, it remains a concern. In 2001, life expectancy at birth for First Nations was estimated at 70.4 years for males and 75.5 years for females. (Indian and Northern Affairs Canada, 2002) That marks gaps of 6.1 years and 6.6 years, respectively, from the Canadian population’s life expectancies.

### International Comparison

There have been remarkable gains in life expectancy in all G-7 countries in the last four decades, mainly due to rising standards of living, public health interventions and progress in medical care. According to the OECD, Japan had the highest life expectancy among G-7 countries in 2000 (81.2 years) followed by Canada and Italy with 79.4 years each. (OECD, *Health Data*, 2003)

**Figure 2.2**  
Life Expectancy at Birth,  
G-7 Countries, 2000



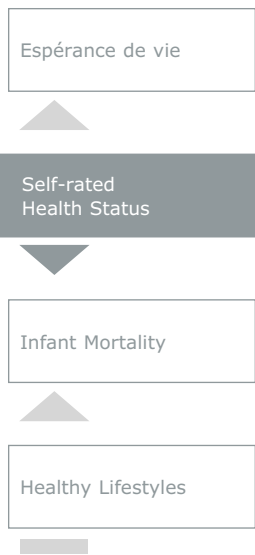
\* 1999 data.  
Source: OECD, *Health Data*, 2003

## Supplemental Information

### Disability-free life expectancy

As life expectancy increases, chronic illnesses and functional limitations become more common. Disability-free life expectancy introduces the concept of quality of life. It measures the number of years a person could expect to live free of any activity limitation. (Statistics Canada and Canadian Institute for Health Information, *Health Indicators*, December 2001)

Estimates of disability-free life expectancy from 1995 to 1997 indicate that women could expect to spend just over 12 years, or 15.0 per cent of their lives, with a disability, compared with about 10 years, or 13.0 per cent, for men. Thus, the longer total life expectancy for women does not mean that they have an equivalent advantage in disability-free years. (Statistics Canada, *How Healthy Are Canadians?*, 2001)



## Self-rated Health Status

### Definition and Relevance

**Self-rated health status** — or the way people assess their own health — is a general, subjective indicator of individuals' overall physical and mental health. It is defined as an individual's assessment of his or her health status as excellent, very good, fair, or poor, measured in the population aged 12 and older.

An individual's own health assessment can take into account incipient disease, disease severity, aspects of positive health status, and social and mental function. It can also be a good predictor of the existence of more objectively measured problems.

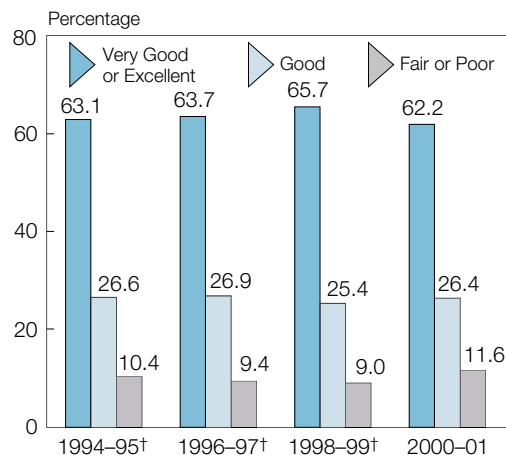
### Current Level and Trends

In 2000–01, 62.1 per cent of Canadians aged 12 and over rated their own health as being either very good or excellent, slightly lower than 65.7 per cent in 1998–99. The percentage of Canadians who rated their health as fair or poor increased from 9.0 per cent in 1998–99 to 11.6 per cent in 2000–01.

In general, self-reporting of fair or poor health was strongly associated with an individual's age, sex, socio-economic status (as measured by education and household income), and health risk factors (smoking, obesity, and infrequent exercise).

(Statistics Canada, "Regional Socio-Economic Context and Health," *Health Reports*, 2002)

**Figure 2.3**  
Self-rated Health of Canadians Aged 12 and Over\*



\* Data are age-standardized.  
† Data for 1994–95, 1996–97, and 1998–99 exclude the territories.  
Source: Statistics Canada, National Population Health Survey 1994–99; Canadian Community Health Survey 2000–01

### Gender and age differences

Overall in 2000–01, men were more likely than women to rate their health as being very good or excellent (63.0 per cent versus 59.9 per cent). Among age groups, about 73.0 per cent of those aged 12 to 14 rated their health as very good or excellent. The proportion reporting either very good or excellent health generally decreased with an increase in age, down to a low of some 36.0 per cent for those aged 65 and over. (Statistics Canada and Canadian Institute for Health Information, *Health Indicators*, May 2002)



## Aboriginal differences

According to the Canadian Community Health Survey, 23.1 per cent of Aboriginal people (living off reserves) rated their health as either fair or poor in 2000–01, a level 1.9 times higher than for the non-Aboriginal population. (Statistics Canada, “The Health of the Off-reserve Aboriginal Population,” *The Daily*, August 27, 2002)

Further, in 2002, only 38.0 per cent of First Nations (on reserve) survey respondents reported very good to excellent health compared to 62.1 per cent<sup>2</sup> of all Canadians in 2000–01. (Health Canada, *Healthy Canadians: A Federal Report on Comparable Health Indicators*, 2002)

## International Comparison

Internationally, Canadians continue to be among the world’s people most likely to rate their health as good. Canada ranks second after the US in the percentage of the population reporting their health status as either good or better (OECD, *Health Data*, 2003); however, there is no standardized way of measuring perceived health status, and caution is advised when comparing data from different nations.

2. Data are age-standardized.

## Supplemental Information

**Depression:** The single most prevalent mental disorder worldwide is depression. In 2000–01, 7.1 per cent of the Canadian population aged 12 or older had experienced at least one major depressive episode within the last 12 months. Depression is more prevalent among women at 9.2 per cent, compared with 5.0 per cent among men. Across age groups, the prevalence of depression peaks at 9.6 per cent among 20- to 24-year-olds, declines in mid-life, and is lowest among seniors at 3.2 per cent. (Statistics Canada and Canadian Institute for Health Information, *Health Indicators*, May 2002)

**Suicide:** It has been estimated that 90.0 per cent of people who commit suicide are suffering from depression or another mental illness or from a substance abuse disorder. Deaths reported as suicides increased by 10.0 per cent for both sexes in 1999, the biggest percentage increase since 1986. There were 3.8 suicide deaths among men for every suicide among women. People in their 40s accounted for almost one-quarter of the deaths (1,002), followed by people in their 30s. The number of teen suicides fell 6.0 per cent to 284. (Statistics Canada, *The Daily*, May 7, 2002) Certain groups may be considered high-risk because they often have higher than average suicide rates: Aboriginal peoples, inmates, gays and lesbians, and those suffering from mental disorders.

## Infant Mortality

### Definition and Relevance

**Infant mortality** is the number of deaths of children under one year of age expressed per 1,000 live births. The infant mortality rate is one of the most widely used measures of health in society. It is influenced by a number of factors in the population, including income, maternal education, and health services.

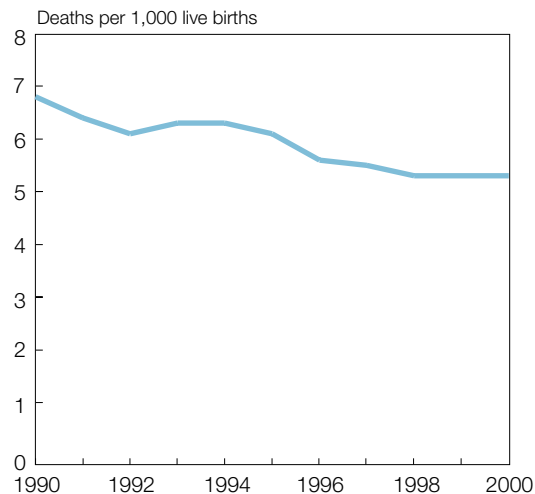
Infant mortality can be divided into neonatal mortality (death in the first month of life) and post-neonatal mortality (death between one month and one year of age). The leading causes of infant mortality in Canada are immaturity due to preterm birth, birth defects, and Sudden Infant Death Syndrome.

### Current Level and Trends

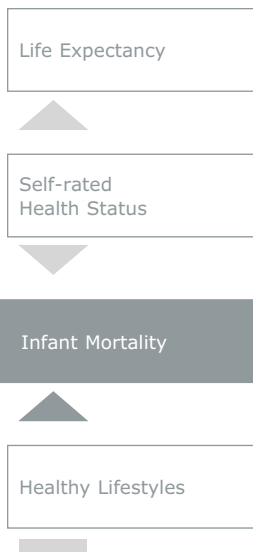
The Canadian infant mortality rate has decreased from 6.8 deaths per 1,000 live births in 1990 to 5.3 per 1,000 in 2000. (Statistics Canada, 2003)

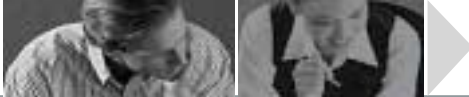
This decline in Canada's infant mortality rate is a continuation of a trend over past decades. Since the 1960s, interprovincial-territorial differences in infant mortality and differences among socio-economic groups have narrowed. These trends are likely attributable to several factors, including universal access to health services and increased maternal education levels.

**Figure 2.4**  
Canadian Infant Mortality Rates, 1990–2000



Source: CANSIM database, Statistics Canada, Canadian Vital Statistics, Birth and Death Databases, 2003





### Aboriginal differences

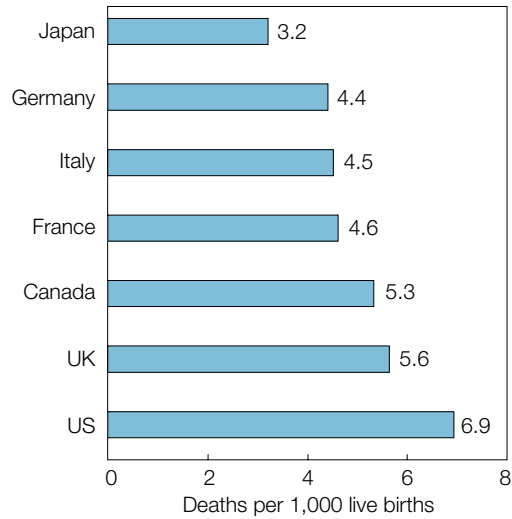
Historically, reported infant mortality rates for Aboriginal peoples have been higher than the rates for the general Canadian population, although the differences are narrowing. Infant mortality rates for First Nations (on reserve) populations have been declining steadily; between 1979 and 1999, the rate dropped from 27.6 to 8.0 deaths per 1,000 live births. (Health Canada, *Healthy Canadians: A Federal Report on Comparable Health Indicators*, 2002)

### International Comparison

In international comparisons of infant mortality, Canada ranked 5th among G-7 countries in 2000, with 5.3 infant deaths per 1,000 live births. (OECD, *Health Data*, 2003)

Such comparisons should be viewed with caution, however, because of an absence of international standards related to the reporting of infant mortality.

**Figure 2.5**  
Infant Mortality Rates,  
G-7 Countries, 2000



Source: OECD, *Health Data*, 2003

## Healthy Lifestyles

### Definition and Relevance

**Healthy lifestyles** are ways of living, including personal health practices and choices that have been shown to be clearly associated with reducing the risk of health problems. Some important components of a healthy lifestyle are physical activity and body weight.

The type of personal health practices that individuals pursue influences how healthy they are as individuals and, subsequently, as a society. Factors such as smoking, obesity, and inactivity are linked to a number of health problems. Lack of physical activity has long been recognized as a risk factor for coronary heart disease, and the World Health Organization has identified the prevalence of overweight and obese individuals as a major neglected public health issue.

There is growing recognition that these personal lifestyle choices are greatly influenced by the socio-economic environment in which people live, learn, work, and play. Measuring and reporting on indicators of healthy lifestyles helps us to understand the overall health of the population and to design, change, and implement health promotion programs.

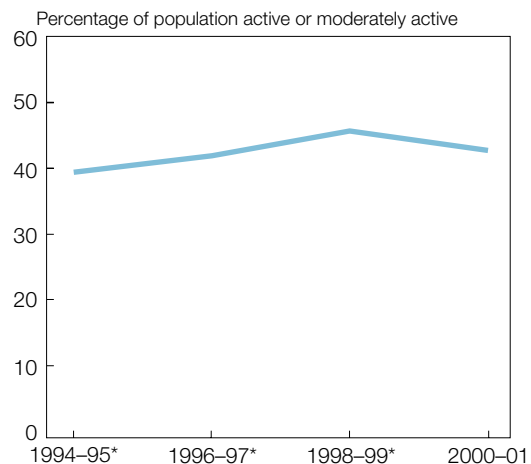
### Current Level and Trends

#### Physical activity

While the leisure-time physical activity rate declined from 1998–99 levels, it is still higher than in 1994–95. In 2000–01, 42.6 per cent of Canadians aged 12 and over were at least moderately physically active during their leisure time, up 3.2 per cent from the 1994–95 survey.

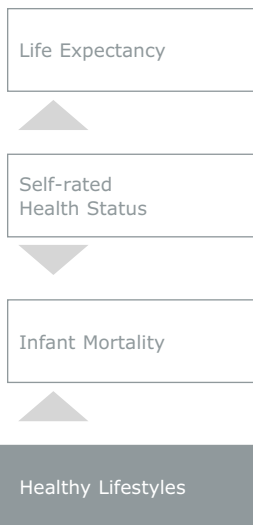
The prevalence of physical activity increased in almost all age groups, with the largest gain occurring among 20- to 34-year-olds.

**Figure 2.6**  
Leisure-time Physical Activity Rate of Canadians Aged 12 and Over



\* Data for 1994-95, 1996-97 and 1998-99 exclude the territories.

Source: Statistics Canada, NPHS 1994-99; CCHS 2000-01





## Gender differences

Women have almost caught up with men in levels of leisure-time physical activity. In 1994–95, about 36.0 per cent of women aged 20 to 64 were physically active, compared with 39.0 per cent of men. By 2000–01, a larger increase in physical activity for women had closed the gap to 41.0 per cent of women and 42.0 per cent of men in this age range. (Statistics Canada, “Canadian Community Health Survey: A First Look,” *The Daily*, May 8, 2002)

## Body weight

The proportion of Canadians with a body mass index (BMI)<sup>3</sup> of 30.0 or higher has increased. A BMI greater

than or equal to 30.0 is classified as obese, according to Health Canada and the World Health Organization.

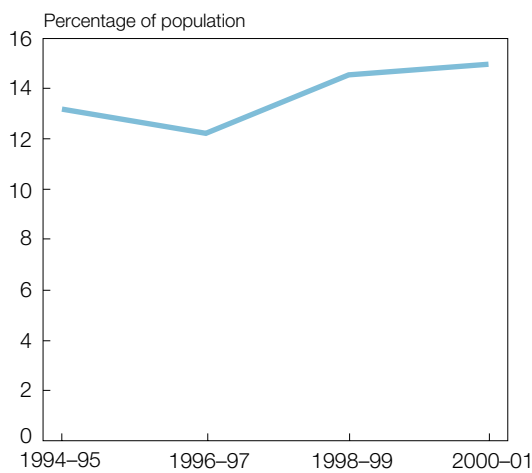
From 1994–95 to 2000–01, the number of obese Canadians aged 20 to 64 grew from 13.2 per cent to 14.9 per cent, reaching 2.8 million people. (Canadian Community Health Survey, 2002)

## Gender differences

Overall, men aged 20 to 64 were more likely to be overweight (BMI 25.0–29.9) than women (36.1 per cent versus 27.5 per cent). In addition, men accounted for two-thirds of the increase in obesity, up 32.0 per cent from 1994–95 levels. In 2000–01, an estimated 1.5 million men were considered obese and the number of obese women rose 15.0 per cent to 1.3 million.

**Figure 2.7**

Proportion of Obese Canadians (BMI 30.0 or higher)\* Aged 20 to 64, from 1994–95 to 2000–01



\*BMI International Standard  
Source: Statistics Canada, NPHS 1994–99; CCHS 2000–01

## Supplemental Information

### The prevalence of smoking

According to the latest results from the Canadian Tobacco Use Monitoring Survey, the prevalence of smoking continues to drop. An estimated 21.0 per cent of the population aged 15 and over were smokers in the first half of 2002, down 3.0 per cent from 2000. About 23.0 per cent of men smoked, slightly higher than the proportion of women (about 20.0 per cent).

3. BMI is a single number that evaluates an individual's weight status in relation to his or her height.

Life Expectancy

Self-rated  
Health Status

Infant Mortality

Healthy Lifestyles

Smoking rates for youth have begun to fall in recent years. In the first half of 2002, 22.0 per cent of teens aged 15 to 19 reported that they smoked, down from 28.0 per cent in 1999. Young adults aged 20 to 24 continue to have the highest smoking rate of any age group at 31.0 per cent, down from 35.0 per cent in 1999. There is little difference between the smoking rates of men and women aged 20 to 24.

## Performance Information

### Partnering for results

*Canada's Performance 2003* measures progress toward broad societal goals. Many factors influence progress on the 20 indicators tracked in this report. Individuals, families, voluntary

organizations, private-sector firms, governments, and other participants in Canadian society all contribute to the quality of life of Canadians. The Government of Canada is one of many players taking actions that influence the broad social and economic outcomes described in this report. The government is committed to working with its partners in pursuit of a higher quality of life for Canadians. Following is an example where the federal government is working strategically with partners to achieve shared goals. Further information on this initiative, as well as information on similar partnerships, is available on-line at the government's Horizontal Results Database at [http://www.tbs-sct.gc.ca/rma/eppi-ibdrp/hr-rh\\_e.asp](http://www.tbs-sct.gc.ca/rma/eppi-ibdrp/hr-rh_e.asp).





## Health Care Co-ordination Initiative

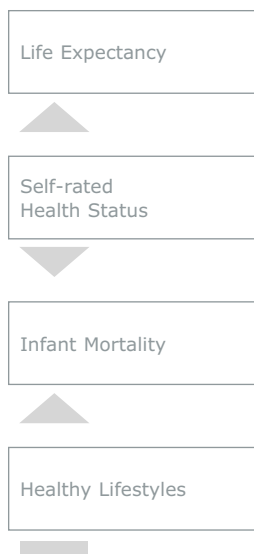
Each year, the federal government provides direct health care services to over 1 million people at an annual cost of \$2.6 billion. These clients include First Nations on reserve, the Inuit, war veterans, military personnel, the Royal Canadian Mounted Police, inmates of federal institutions, immigrants, and landed refugees.

In 1994, the Health Care Co-ordination Initiative (HCCI) was established to co-ordinate the federal government's purchasing of these health care products and services. The HCCI partnership of ten departments and agencies has consistently resulted in significant cost savings.

In 2002–03, for example, jointly negotiated fees, bulk purchases, and collaborative policy development collectively resulted in improved quality of services to clients and \$11.6 million in reduced program costs. The total annual savings include the following:

- \$4.0 million resulting from a joint agreement for the purchase of hearing aids;
- \$3.4 million resulting from the medical supplies and equipment recycling program;
- \$2.2 million resulting from a joint pharmacy agreement in Saskatchewan;
- \$1.68 million resulting from a joint Regional Master Standing Offer for oxygen therapy in British Columbia; and
- \$380 thousand resulting from joint vision care agreements with the Atlantic provinces, Saskatchewan, and Alberta.

In the coming fiscal year, the HCCI will continue to focus its efforts on joint negotiations, purchasing, and policy development in core program areas. These program areas include audiology, dental care, oxygen therapy, pharmacy, vision care, and special equipment recycling. The partners have also agreed to explore additional areas of common interest, including a federal health information management strategy.



Many federal organizations are working to improve the health of Canadians. To do so, these organizations plan, monitor, and report on their programs, policies, and initiatives in accordance with broad strategic outcomes. Strategic outcomes are the enduring benefits to Canadians that departments and agencies attempt to achieve. These outcomes flow from the mandates of federal organizations and contribute to broad, government-wide priorities. In most cases, strategic outcomes require the combined resources and sustained effort of several partners over a long period of time.

Below is a list of some of the departments and agencies that have strategic outcomes related to the health of Canadians. Further information on these strategic outcomes is available through the hyperlinks in the electronic version of this report. Clicking on the links in the table below will lead the reader to the Government of Canada's Strategic Outcomes Database ([http://www.tbs-sct.gc.ca/rma/krc/cp-rc\\_e.asp](http://www.tbs-sct.gc.ca/rma/krc/cp-rc_e.asp)).

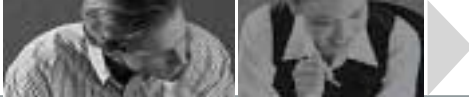
This database provides information (and links for further references) on planned activities and expenditures,

results evidence, relevant audits and evaluations, and program background for the government's more than 200 strategic outcomes.

In addition to the departments listed below, there are certain federal organizations that provide support to all departments and agencies, such as the Treasury Board of Canada Secretariat, the Public Service Commission of Canada, Statistics Canada, and Public Works and Government Services Canada. Information on the performance and plans of these organizations is also available at the Strategic Outcomes Database Web site.

In the table below, departments have been clustered into "horizontal areas"; these are areas in which several departments and agencies are working toward a common goal.

This tentative clustering of departmental efforts will facilitate horizontal or whole-of-government thinking. It will help to identify common leverage points by which different federal organizations can plan strategies and monitor success in their efforts to improve the health of Canadians.



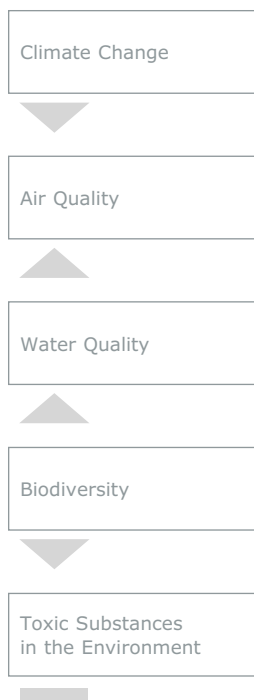
Horizontal Area	Federal Department or Agency
Adequate information on healthy lifestyles	Canadian Centre for Occupational Health and Safety Canadian Institutes of Health Research Health Canada
Accessible high quality health care system	Health Canada National Defence Veterans Affairs Canada
Protection from preventable risks	Canada Customs and Revenue Agency Canadian Food Inspection Agency Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission Environment Canada Fisheries and Oceans Canada Hazardous Materials Information Review Commission Canada Health Canada Human Resources Development Canada Infrastructure Canada Natural Resources Canada Patented Medicine Prices Review Board Canada Transport Canada Transportation Safety Board of Canada Veterans Affairs Canada
Health care policies that reflect Canadian values	Canadian Institutes of Health Research Health Canada Privy Council Office Veterans Affairs Canada

Economic Opportunities and Innovation in Canada

The Health of Canadians

The Canadian Environment

The Strength and Safety of Canadian Communities



## The Canadian Environment

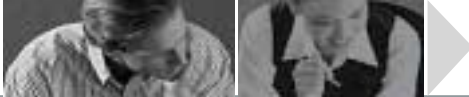
### The Issue

Environmental quality is central to our long-term quality of life and prosperity. It is critical to our health, our sense of well-being, and the livability of our communities. Increasingly, the pursuit of sustainable development drives innovation, growth, and competitiveness, while also helping to attract and retain talent and investment.

Canada is the custodian of a substantial portion of the world's natural capital, with responsibility for 20.0 per cent of the world's wilderness, 24.0 per cent of its wetlands, 9.0 per cent of its fresh water, 10.0 per cent of its forests, and the longest coastline in the world. As a major trading nation, Canada is a significant shareholder in the global enterprise of sustainable development practices and technology. Canadians place great value on our natural environment with numerous communities and individuals dependent on our abundant natural resources for their livelihood.

Over the past 10 years, significant improvements have been observed in the state of Canada's environment: concentrations of toxic compounds in some wildlife species have decreased; the acidification of many lakes has been reversed; air quality, while still a concern, has improved in some urban areas; and agricultural soils are now better protected from erosion. Both individual Canadians and Canadian industries have begun to use some resources more conservatively and to tread more lightly on the environment. In addition, governments throughout Canada have made important gains in environmental protection. While Canadians should take credit for the gains made in environmental quality since the 1970s, significant challenges remain and there is still work to be done.

The 2003 federal budget committed \$3 billion to address key environmental issues, including the implementation of the government's *Climate Change Plan for Canada*, support for the clean-up of federal contaminated sites, improvements of air quality, better assessment and management of toxic substances, the establishment of new national parks and marine conservation areas, the protection of species at risk and their habitats, and the upgrading and maintaining of water and wastewater systems on First Nations reserves.



## The Kyoto Protocol to the United-Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change

On December 17, 2002, Canada officially ratified the *Kyoto Protocol to the United-Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change* (UNFCCC). Under this Protocol, Canada is required to reduce its greenhouse gas emissions to 6.0 per cent below 1990 levels in the period from 2008 to 2012. The Government of Canada's commitment to addressing climate change was highlighted in the 2002 Speech from the Throne, which stated "The problem of climate change is creating new health and environmental risks and threatens to become the defining challenge for generations to come... As a northern country, Canadians will feel some of the effects of climate change sooner than will others."

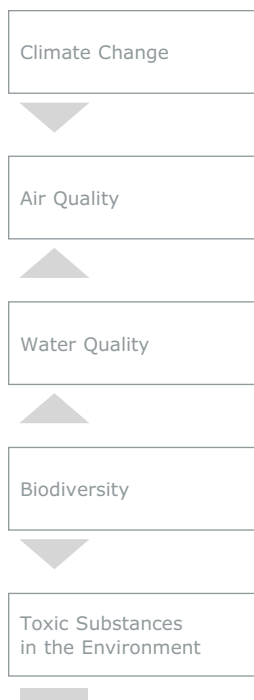
### Canada's national environmental role

Environmental management is the shared responsibility of federal and provincial governments. The federal government has broad regulatory, policy, and program responsibilities, including the environmental

management of federal lands as well as the Northwest Territories and Nunavut. The government's enduring roles include promoting the advancement and sharing of knowledge on environmental issues to allow Canadians to make informed decisions as citizens, producers, and consumers.

The *Canadian Environmental Protection Act* (CEPA 1999) is Canada's primary piece of environmental legislation, with pollution prevention as its cornerstone. The Act provides the federal government with tools to protect the environment and human health in order to contribute to sustainable development. It establishes strict guidelines for managing certain toxic substances, and requires the virtual elimination of toxic substances that are bioaccumulative, persistent, and result primarily from human activity.

The federal government is also responsible for aspects of managing our natural resources on federal lands, including understanding the scope of those resources through new technologies, such as remote sensing; stewardship of Canada's forests; judicious use of our energy, such as the promotion of renewable resources;



and promoting corporate social responsibility in the minerals, metals, and allied industries.

Each year, the Government of Canada assesses almost 7,000 projects — from small projects to large resource development projects. Through science, planning, and public participation, environmental assessments can eliminate or reduce a project’s potential effects on the environment. In conducting these assessments, the federal government works in partnership with provinces and territories, industry, environmental organizations, Aboriginal groups, and other Canadians. Through the *Canadian Environmental Assessment Act* and its regulations, the federal government provides Canadians with effective and efficient environmental assessments that support informed decision making.

The provinces have the authority and are responsible for matters like property and civil rights, local works and undertakings, and the use and management of provincial lands, along with the shared responsibility of natural resources management.

The three territories in northern Canada have authorities that are devolved or delegated from the federal government. Aboriginal peoples in Canada have negotiated self-government agreements in several provinces and territories, and they have some responsibilities for environmental protection on those lands.

The Canadian Council of Ministers of the Environment (CCME) is the principal intergovernmental forum in Canada for discussion and joint action on environmental issues of national, international, and global concern. Environment ministers from the 10 provinces, the 3 territories, and the federal government meet at least annually to direct the work of CCME in promoting effective intergovernmental co-operation and co-ordinated approaches to inter-jurisdictional issues, such as air pollution and toxic chemicals. CCME members collectively establish nationally consistent environmental standards, strategies, and objectives so as to achieve a high level of environmental quality across the country.



## Canada's international environmental role

Canadians increasingly understand that more and more of the environmental challenges they face today and into the future are transboundary and global by nature and, as such, require co-operative solutions that are agreed to and implemented by many distinct stakeholders. Canadians continue to deepen their understanding of the links between trade, diplomacy, the environment, and the economy. Exports of Canadian environmental products, technologies, and services have been growing at a rate of about 20.0 per cent per year since 1997, representing new jobs and economic growth in Canada. Canada is therefore seriously committed to participating in, influencing, and leading on environmental policy at the international level. In 2002, Canada actively participated in a number of seminal environmental and sustainable development events, including the World Summit on Sustainable Development in South Africa.

Canada has also played a critical role in helping to establish effective mechanisms for regional and global environmental co-operation, including the *Montréal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer* and the Arctic Council, which works to protect the fragile northern environment and to promote and safeguard the economic, social, and cultural well-being of northern peoples.

Climate Change

Air Quality

Water Quality

Biodiversity

Toxic Substances in the Environment

## Climate Change

### Definition and Relevance

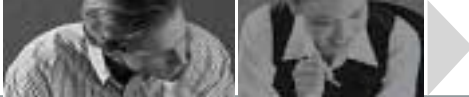
**Climate** is the average pattern of weather (usually over a 30-year time period) for a particular region. Greenhouse gases (GHG) affect the earth's climate by trapping solar energy, which is absorbed by the earth's surface and radiated back into the atmosphere as heat — this is called the *greenhouse effect*. The main GHGs produced by human activity are carbon dioxide, nitrous oxide, and methane.

The concentration of these GHGs in the earth's atmosphere has increased dramatically since the mid-19th century. There is a strong consensus among scientists that human activity, primarily industrial processes and the increased consumption of fossil fuels, has contributed to this increase. Canada's energy industry and transportation sectors are the two largest sources of fuel combustion emissions, accounting for 28.4 per cent and 26.0 per cent of Canada's GHG emissions in 2001 respectively.

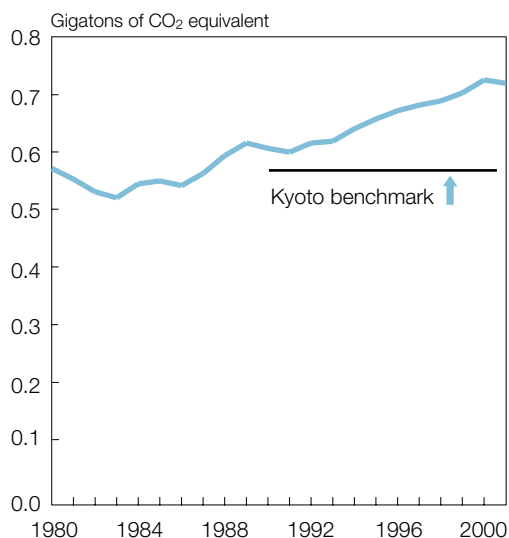
The rising atmospheric concentration of GHGs is causing the atmosphere to warm and climate to change. In Canada, the effects that can be related to changes in the climate can already be noticed; these include an increasing number and intensity of heat waves, declining water levels in the Great Lakes, melting of Arctic sea ice, changes in fish stocks and migration patterns, increasing frequency and severity of fires and insect infestations in forests, increased heat-related health problems, and more extreme weather events.

Reducing GHG emissions can also reduce the release of other harmful pollutants, thereby improving the air quality and having a positive effect on human health. As well, by pursuing the development and commercialization of new, cleaner-energy technologies, Canadians can take advantage of the opportunities in the new, less carbon-intensive global economy of the future.





**Figure 3.1**  
Canadian Greenhouse Gas Emissions



Source: Environment Canada, *Greenhouse Gas Inventory 1990–2001, 2003*

## Current Levels and Trends

Since 1990, Canadian GHG emissions have increased by 18.5 per cent. Between 2000 and 2001, however, emissions declined by 1.3 per cent. This is the first year-to-year decline since 1991 and the first time emissions have dropped despite economic growth.

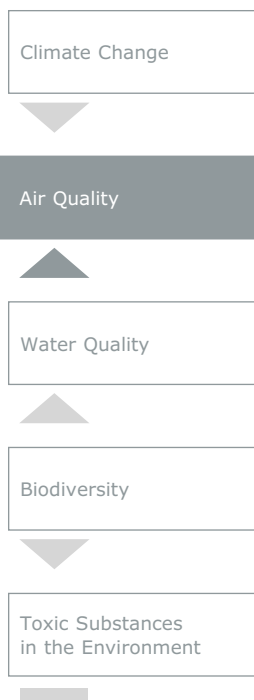
In addition, Canada's emissions intensity — the amount of GHGs emitted per unit of economic activity — has been declining by an average of 1.0 per cent per year since 1990.

Canada's average annual temperature has risen by about 1°C between 1950 and 2000, with the greatest average increases occurring in the western and northwestern regions of Canada.

## International Comparison

Canada is one of the largest per capita GHG emitters in the world due mainly to our energy-intensive economy. Our high energy consumption can be attributed to vast travel distances, a cold climate, an energy-intensive industrial-based economy, relatively low energy prices, and a high standard of living.

In 2001, Canadians contributed approximately 720 megatons of CO<sub>2</sub> equivalent of GHGs into the atmosphere, equating to about 2.0 per cent of total global GHG emissions, while comprising only 0.5 per cent of the global population.



## Air Quality

### Definition and Relevance

Certain pollutants threaten the **quality of our air** and our health and may also contribute to climate change. Some of the main air pollutants in Canada are sulphur dioxide (SO<sub>2</sub>), nitrogen oxides (NO<sub>x</sub>), volatile organic compounds (VOC), airborne particles (also known as particulate matter or PM), and carbon monoxide (CO). VOCs and NO<sub>x</sub> react in the presence of sunlight, heat, and stagnant air to form ground-level ozone (O<sub>3</sub>).

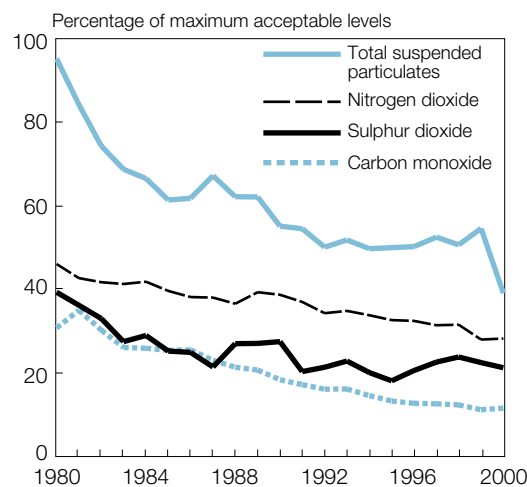
Smog is a noxious mixture of ground-level ozone and fine particulate matter that can often be seen as a haze in the air. The finer particles — those with diameters equal to 2.5 micrometers (PM<sub>2.5</sub>) or less — pose the greatest threat to human health because they can travel deepest into the lungs.

Most air pollutants come from the combustion of fossil fuels in motor vehicles, factories, industrial or thermal power plants, and home furnaces.

### Current Levels and Trends

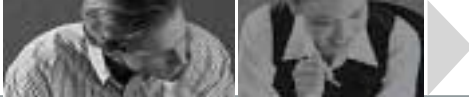
The yearly average concentrations in urban air of sulphur and nitrogen dioxide, carbon monoxide, and total suspended particulates have decreased since 1980.

**Figure 3.2**  
Concentrations of Total Suspended Particulates, Nitrogen Dioxide, Sulphur Dioxide and Carbon Monoxide Found in Urban Air in Canada

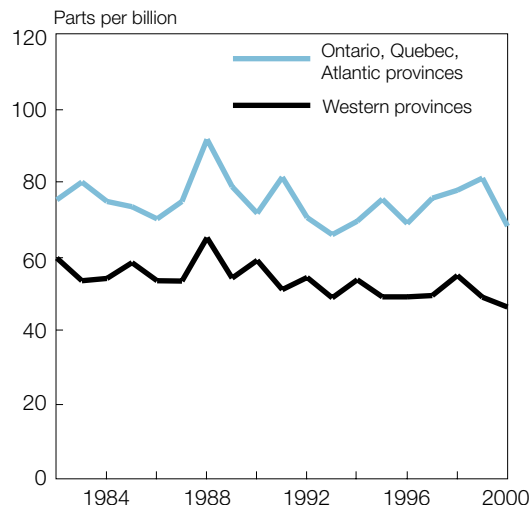


Source: Environment Canada, National Air Pollution Surveillance Network, as presented in *Environmental Signals*, 2003

Annual levels of ground-level ozone can vary considerably depending on the prevailing meteorological conditions (especially temperature), the origin of air masses, and emissions. Since 1982, however, the annual averages of the composite fourth highest daily maximum eight-hour ozone levels have remained relatively stable, as indicated in figure 3.3. In general, levels tend to be higher east of the Manitoba–Ontario border.



**Figure 3.3**  
Average of Peak Concentrations  
of Ground-level Ozone in Canada



Source: Environment Canada, National Air Pollution Surveillance Network, as presented in *Environmental Signals*, 2003

### International Comparison

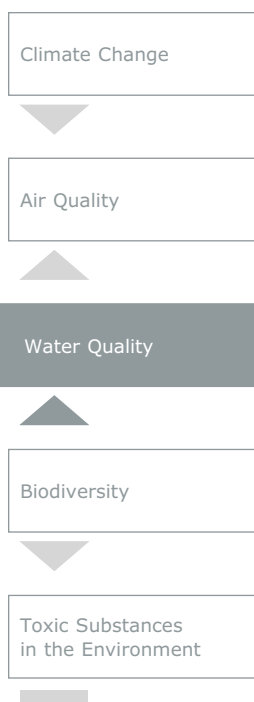
In 2000, Canada's sulphur dioxide emissions were 2.5 million tons, down 45.0 per cent from 1980 levels and 20.0 per cent below the national target set for 2000 onward. However, Canada has the second-highest emissions per capita for sulphur dioxide among 27 other OECD countries measured. In the same vein, Canada has the fourth highest emissions per capita for nitrous oxides among these same OECD countries.

## Supplemental Information

### Smog and acid rain

**Smog** has been proven to cause adverse health effects by aggravating respiratory ailments. It can make breathing more difficult — even for healthy people — and it can make people more susceptible to cardio-respiratory diseases. Particularly vulnerable to smog are people with heart or lung disease, the elderly, and small children.

**Acid rain** is caused by the chemical conversion in the atmosphere of sulphur dioxide and nitrogen oxides into sulphuric acid and nitric acid. The acids fall to the earth with precipitation. Acid rain is threatening our aquatic ecosystems through the acidification of our lakes, rivers, and streams. It is a particular concern in eastern Canada, where coarsely textured soil and granite bedrock have little ability to neutralize acid. Models predict that even after the 2010 emissions targets are reached, up to one-quarter of the lakes in eastern Canada will remain chemically damaged. Moreover, the targets for emission reductions would have to be as much as 75.0 per cent lower for ecosystems that are most sensitive to acid rain to fully recover from acid deposition.



## Water Quality

### Definition and Relevance

The protection of **water quality** is critical to the quality of life of all Canadians. Clean, secure water sources are critical to the health of Canadians, municipal and agricultural purposes, recreational opportunities and are intimately linked with Canada's national identity. The quality of water is a particular concern to northern, remote, and First Nations communities that have limited treatment options for water supplies as well as a strong cultural identification with water.

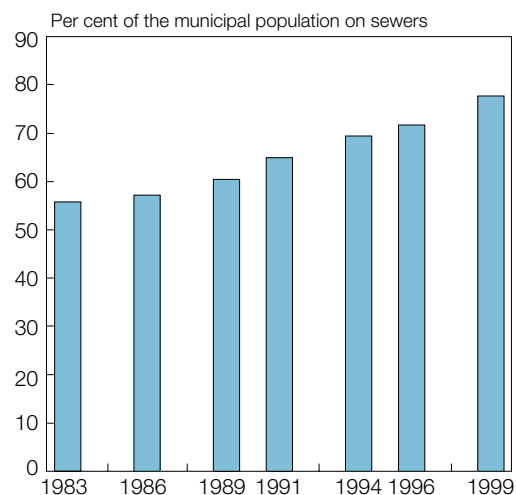
The quality of our water is threatened by several sources of pollution or contamination, such as municipal wastewater discharges, effluent from septic systems, industrial effluent, waste from intensive livestock operations, agricultural runoff, and the deposition of atmospheric pollution. Water quality and quantity will also be affected by climate change, which may heighten the threat to aquatic wildlife with increased water temperatures and lower water levels due to increased evaporation and may result in more extreme flood and drought events.

### Current Level and Trends

The percentage of the municipal population on sewers receiving secondary<sup>4</sup> and/or tertiary wastewater treatment increased from 56.0 per cent in 1983 to 78.0 per cent in 1999.

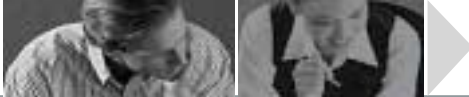
The level of wastewater treatment varies significantly across Canada. In 1999, about 84.0 per cent of the inland municipal population on sewers was being served with secondary or tertiary wastewater

**Figure 3.4**  
Level of Secondary and/or Tertiary Municipal Wastewater Treatment in Canada 1983–99



Source: Environment Canada, Municipal Water Use Database, 2003

4. There are three different levels of wastewater treatment available: primary, secondary, and tertiary. *Primary treatment* removes debris and suspended solids by screening and settling processes. *Secondary treatment* breaks down organic material and removes additional suspended solids using biological processes. *Tertiary treatment* removes specific compounds or materials that remain after secondary treatment, using additional filtering, chemical, or biological processes. (Environment Canada, *Tracking Key Environmental Issues*, 2001)



treatment, whereas the majority of coastal municipalities were being served by primary treatment or no treatment at all.

### International Comparison

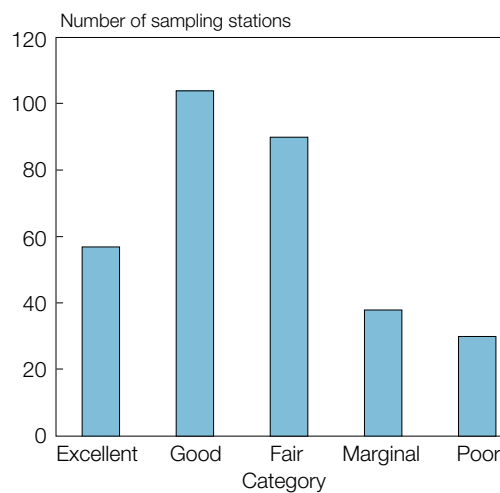
Canada ranks well in comparison with other OECD nations in municipal wastewater treatment, ranking 9th out of the 28 other OECD countries included in the study, with 78.0 per cent of the population being served by secondary or tertiary wastewater treatment. When the quality of sewage treatment (primary, secondary, or tertiary) is examined, however, only 33.0 per cent of the Canadian population is served by tertiary treatment, whereas other countries like Germany, Denmark, Finland, Sweden, and Switzerland serve over 70.0 per cent of their population with tertiary treatment.

## Supplemental Information

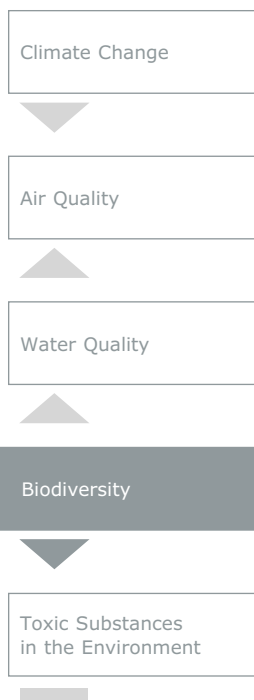
### Water quality indices

A first approximation for a national picture of ambient freshwater quality in Canada has been developed with a pilot study that calculates water quality index values. The water bodies sampled for this study tend to be concentrated in the more populated areas of the country where the potential threats to water quality are generally greatest. Although the results from this study are not an absolute picture of Canadian freshwater quality, the results are promising, with the majority of stations sampled falling under the categories of “excellent,” “good,” or “fair.”

**Figure 3.5**  
Water Quality of Sampling Stations Across Canada, 2002–03



Source: National Round Table for the Environment and the Economy, *Environment and Sustainable Development Indicators for Canada, 2003*



## Biodiversity

### Definition and Relevance

**Biodiversity**, or biological diversity, refers to the variety of living organisms that make up all of the earth's plants and animals. Canada is home to about 71,500 known species of wild animals and plants and may be host to a similar number of species that are yet unidentified.

Canada has a mosaic of distinctive ecosystems, including one-quarter of the earth's total wetlands and boreal forests, as well as temperate forests, arctic ecosystems, and prairie grassland ecosystems, some of which are unique to Canada. These ecosystems support numerous human activities, such as agriculture and forestry, upon which the country's economy depends.

The conservation of the world's biodiversity is an important global concern at all levels. Our valuable ecosystems and their species perform essential functions, such as maintaining the earth's climate, cleaning our air and water, maintaining nutrient cycles, pollinating our crops, and helping to control floods and pest infestations.

Losing a species can threaten the balance and existence of some of these critical ecosystem functions.

Globally, the number of extinctions today is greatly increasing due to human-induced habitat destruction or alteration, mainly as a result of the conversion of land (both prairie and forest land) to urban, agricultural, and other uses. Air and water pollution, climate change, and the introduction of invasive non-native species are also threatening Canada's biodiversity.

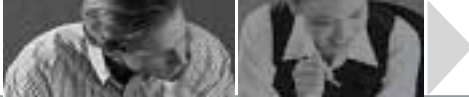
In December 2002, the *Species at Risk Act* was passed to ensure the protection of Canada's species at risk and their critical habitat.

### Current Levels and Trends

Since 1978, the Committee on the Status of Endangered Wildlife in Canada (COSEWIC) has been assessing and reassessing the status<sup>5</sup> of Canadian species determined to be at risk.

By May 2003, COSEWIC had assessed 612 species, 398 of which are at risk (endangered, threatened, or of special

5. The following are status definitions as determined by COSEWIC: *extinct* — a species that no longer exists; *extirpated* — a species no longer existing in the wild in Canada but occurring elsewhere; *endangered* — a species facing imminent extirpation or extinction; *threatened* — a species likely to become endangered if limiting factors are not reversed; *special concern* — a species of special concern because of characteristics that make it particularly sensitive to human activities or natural events; and *not at risk* — a species that has been evaluated and found to be not at risk (COSEWIC, *Canadian Species at Risk*, November 2002)



concern). Between 1985 and May 2003, the status of 183 species has been reassessed. Of these, 15 are no longer at risk, 14 have improved, 103 have shown no change in status, and 51 have worsened.

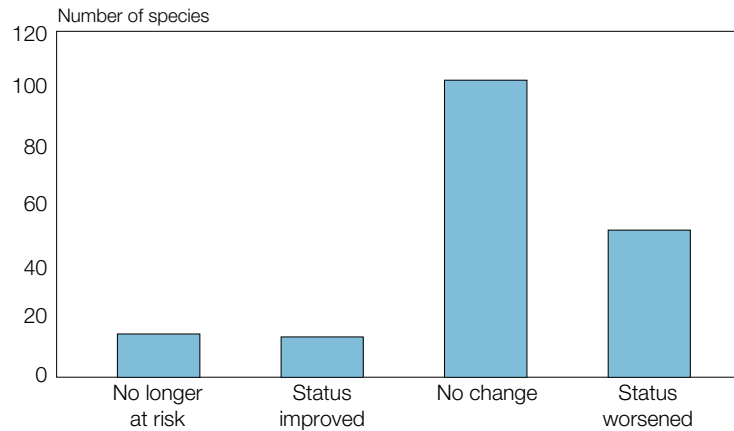
## Supplemental Information

### Protected areas

The amount of strictly protected areas has significantly increased from over 36 million hectares in 1992 to over 61 million hectares in 2001. However, this area only equates to 6.0 per cent of Canada's total land area. In addition, the establishment of marine protected areas has been limited throughout this period.

Furthermore, there is an important qualitative aspect to protected areas relative to the size of the individual sites and their distribution on the broader landscape. For example, 64.0 per cent of Canada's terrestrial protected areas are sites of 10 km<sup>2</sup> or less, a size generally inadequate to afford effective habitat protection for many of Canada's large land mammals. In addition, the 61 million hectares of protected area in Canada is concentrated in a relatively limited number of types of terrestrial ecosystems. In fact, only a few ecoregions have 12.0 per cent or more protected space — 12.0 per cent being the international target — while many others have very little protected area at all. It is crucial to species diversity that all of our ecosystems and

**Figure 3.6**  
Change in Status of Reassessed Species at Risk, 1985–2003



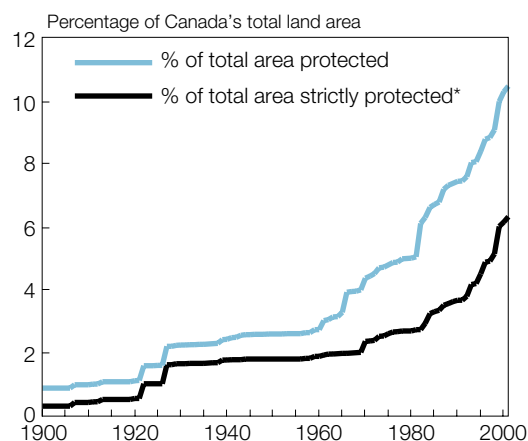
**Notes:**

- The data are based on status reassessments conducted by COSEWIC. Reassessments based on existing status reports only were not included. These were re-evaluated using new IUCN criteria and not based on any new information.
- Some downlistings and delistings were as a result of new information gathered rather than a change in the status of the species.
- Species reassessments that result in splitting a species into smaller units (i.e., populations) are considered new assessments.

Source: Committee on the Status of Endangered Wildlife in Canada (COSEWIC), 2003

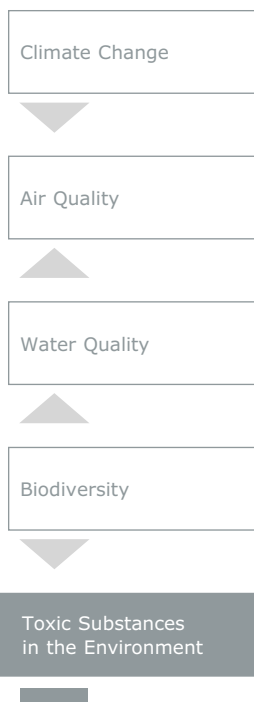
ecological regions are protected within the 12.0 per cent goal. Currently, of the 194 terrestrial ecoregions of Canada, 81 have little or no protection.

**Figure 3.7**  
Total and Strictly Protected Areas in Canada



\* Strictly protected areas are equivalent to the World Conservation Union (IUCN) classes I–III and exclude human activities such as forestry, mining and agriculture.

Source: Canadian Wildlife Service, Environment Canada, Canadian Council on Ecological Areas Database, 2003



## Toxic Substances in the Environment

### Definition and Relevance

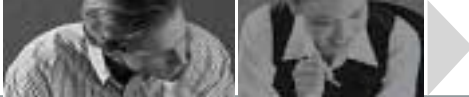
The *Canadian Environmental Protection Act* (CEPA 1999) defines a **toxic substance** as one that enters the environment in a manner that may have an immediate or long-term harmful effect on the environment or human health. Certain toxic substances, such as DDE (a breakdown product of DDT, a pesticide) and PCBs (industrially produced chemicals) are of great concern because they have been implicated in hormonal, reproductive, and immune system dysfunction; neurobehavioral and developmental disorders; and some forms of cancer.

Although Canada has banned or strictly restricted the use of these chemicals for years, these substances continue to be put into the environment, probably from long-range transport from countries that continue to produce and use

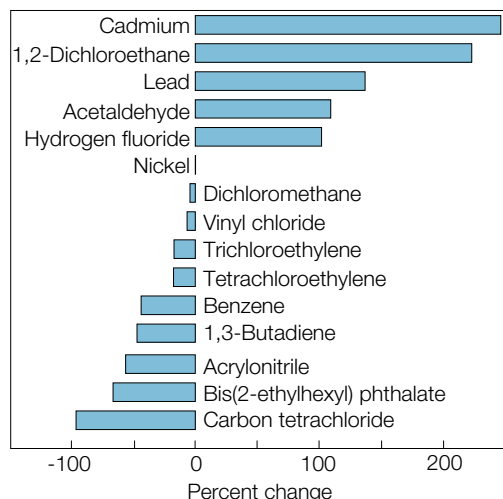
these substances, the slow release of contaminant residues from bottom sediments, and, in the case of PCBs, the release from storage and dump sites as well as products still in use.

Substances like PCBs and DDE, along with mercury, dissolve in the fatty tissues of animals and accumulate to high concentrations for long periods of time (*bioaccumulation*), and these accumulated levels increase in concentration at successively higher levels of the food chain (*biomagnification*). As a result, top predators can have very high concentrations in their tissues. For example, levels of some toxic substances in the eggs of fish-eating birds may be as much as 25 million times the concentrations found in the waters in which the fish live. This is of special concern for Aboriginal people who consume high-fat traditional foods.





**Figure 3.8**  
Per cent Change in Emissions of 15 CEPA  
Toxic Substances from 1995 to 2000



Source: Environment Canada, National Pollutant Release Inventory, as presented in *Environmental Signals*, 2003

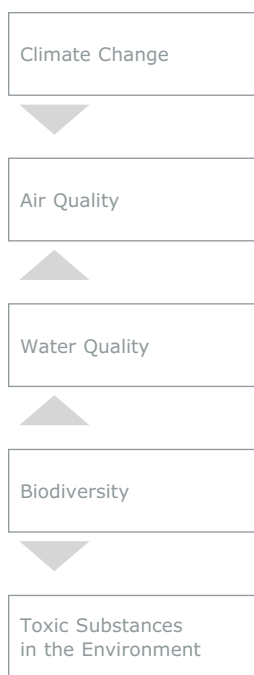
## Current Levels and Trends

Currently, there are 65 substances defined as toxic by CEPA 1999. Data allowing the consistent comparison of on-site releases between 1995 and 2000 are available for 15 of these substances. Of these 15, on-site releases have decreased for 7, decreased little for 3, and increased for 5.

## Supplemental Information

Since the early 1970s, concentrations of DDE and PCBs have declined in the eggs of the double-crested cormorant.<sup>6</sup> Since 1990, however, these concentrations have levelled off rather than continued to decline, even though Canada has banned or strictly restricted the use of PCBs and DDT. (Environment Canada, *Environmental Signals: Headline Indicators*, 2003)

6. The double-crested cormorant — Since the early 1970s, this fish-eating bird has been used as a national wildlife indicator for the measurement of DDE and PCB levels in wildlife. Measurements of contaminant concentrations in wildlife provide a warning of potential threats to ecosystem integrity and human health. This bird was chosen because of its broad distribution across southern Canada, especially in areas of concentrated human activity, and because it is a top predator that eats live fish.



## Performance Information

### Partnering for results

*Canada's Performance 2003* measures progress toward broad societal goals. Many factors influence progress on the 20 indicators tracked in this report. Individuals, families, voluntary organizations, private-sector firms, governments, and other participants in Canadian society all contribute to the quality of life of Canadians. The Government of Canada is one of many players taking actions that influence the broad social and

economic outcomes described in this report. The government is committed to working with its partners in pursuit of a higher quality of life for Canadians. Following is an example where the federal government is working strategically with partners to achieve shared goals. Further information on this initiative, as well as on similar partnerships, is available on-line at the government's Horizontal Results Database at [http://www.tbs-sct.gc.ca/rma/eppi-ibdrp/hr-rh\\_e.asp](http://www.tbs-sct.gc.ca/rma/eppi-ibdrp/hr-rh_e.asp).

### Government of Canada Action Plan 2000 on Climate Change

The *Government of Canada Action Plan 2000 on Climate Change* (Action Plan 2000), announced in October 2000, is a horizontally managed initiative led by Environment Canada and Natural Resources Canada. It involves seven federal departments whose measures are focussed primarily on reducing greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions. Action Plan 2000 also advances knowledge and foundation building in climate science; impacts and adaptation; northern and Aboriginal communities; and technological innovation. In terms of GHG emission reductions, Action Plan 2000 targets key sectors and is expected, when fully implemented, to achieve an estimated annual reduction of 65 megatons in emissions by 2010, or approximately 10.0 per cent of Canada's 2001 total CO<sub>2</sub> emissions, by implementing activities domestically and internationally.

In the first year of operation, the focus of the program has been on negotiating important partnerships for program delivery and other support activities, which are well underway in all key sectors. While modest emission reductions have been realized in the transportation, electricity, building, and the industry cross-cutting sectors, these first reductions and the number of partnerships that have been, or are being, negotiated provide encouraging indications that Action Plan 2000 measures have begun to show tangible results and are generating significant interest in the stakeholder community.

In the coming fiscal year, efforts will focus on implementing operations for all measures, with additional, albeit modest, reductions in GHG emissions anticipated in specific sectors.



Many federal organizations are working to improve the Canadian environment. To do so, these organizations plan, monitor, and report on their programs, policies, and initiatives in accordance with broad strategic outcomes.

Strategic outcomes are the enduring benefits to Canadians that departments and agencies attempt to achieve. These outcomes flow from the mandates of federal organizations and contribute to broad, government-wide priorities. In most cases, strategic outcomes require the combined resources and sustained effort of several partners over a long period of time.

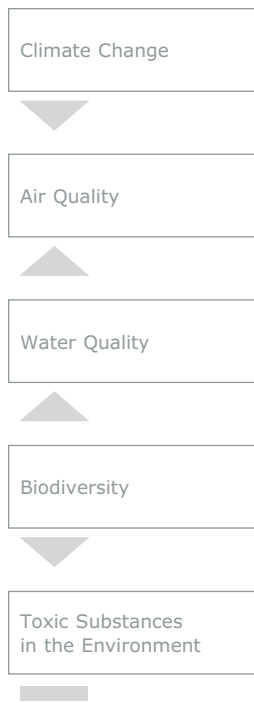
Following is a list of some of the departments and agencies that have strategic outcomes related to the Canadian environment. Further information on these strategic outcomes is available through the hyperlinks in the electronic version of this report. Clicking on the links in the table below will lead the reader to the Government of Canada's Strategic Outcomes Database ([http://www.tbs-sct.gc.ca/rma/krc/cp-rc\\_e.asp](http://www.tbs-sct.gc.ca/rma/krc/cp-rc_e.asp)). This database provides information (and links for further references) on planned activities and

expenditures, results evidence, relevant audits and evaluations, and program background for the government's more than 200 strategic outcomes.

In addition to the departments listed below, there are certain federal organizations that provide support to all departments and agencies, such as the Treasury Board of Canada Secretariat, the Public Service Commission of Canada, Statistics Canada, and Public Works and Government Services Canada. Information on the performance and plans of these organizations is also available at the Strategic Outcomes Database Web site.

In the table below, departments have been clustered into "horizontal areas"; these are areas in which several departments and agencies are working toward a common goal.

This tentative clustering of departmental efforts will facilitate horizontal or whole-of-government thinking. It will help to identify common leverage points by which different federal organizations can plan strategies and monitor success in their efforts to improve the Canadian environment.



Horizontal Area	Federal Department or Agency
Canadian biodiversity is conserved	Environment Canada Fisheries and Oceans Canada National Battlefields Commission National Round Table on the Environment and the Economy Parks Canada Transport Canada
A pollution-free environment	Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada Environment Canada Fisheries and Oceans Canada Health Canada Infrastructure Canada National Defence Natural Resources Canada Transport Canada
Sound environmental decisions	Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency Canadian International Development Agency Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission Canadian Space Agency Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade Environment Canada Fisheries and Oceans Canada Indian and Northern Affairs Canada and Canadian Polar Commission National Round Table on the Environment and the Economy Natural Resources Canada
Sustainable natural resources	Canadian Food Inspection Agency Environment Canada Fisheries and Oceans Canada Natural Resources Canada



## The Strength and Safety of Canadian Communities

### The Issue

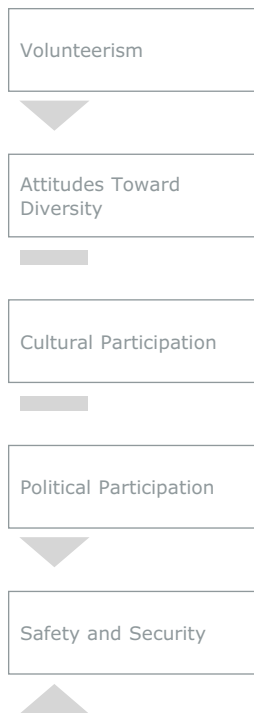
Canadian society is made up of communities and groups with various ethnic, cultural, and linguistic backgrounds, each with its unique perspectives, values, and experiences. All of them contribute to the social, economic, and cultural vitality of our society. At a global level, Canada as a whole participates in and contributes to the world community of nations.

Within Canada, communities are formed around diverse axes — geographical, cultural, economic, religious, linguistic, virtual, and many others — specifically, it is in the smaller communities and neighbourhoods that the abstract idea of quality of life takes on real meaning. Strong communities can be described as ones that are safe, encourage participation, strengthen social bonds, and promote Canadian values.

### The Government of Canada's role in Canadian communities

The Government of Canada supports the quality of life in communities by strengthening the social fabric and by reflecting and reinforcing values that are important to Canada. These values include linguistic duality; multiculturalism and respect for diversity; human rights; equality and fairness, including equal access to essential public services, such as health care; and respect for peace and the rule of law. At the global level, the government fosters a sense of community by aiding and facilitating international peace and development.

The 2002 Speech from the Throne laid out an ambitious agenda to enhance the quality of life for all Canadians through innovation and inclusion. For example, for First Nations, this means working with their communities to build their capacity for economic and social development by strengthening governance and education standards as well as community-based long-term planning and justice approaches. For persons with disabilities, this means removing barriers to work and learning and



creating increased opportunities for full participation. For new immigrants, this means developing targeted strategies to reduce the barriers faced by new immigrants in settling into the social and economic life of their new communities. For others, this means a stronger investment to increase support for Canada’s communities for such issues as affordable housing, homelessness, and infrastructure. The 2002 Speech from the Throne also committed the Government of Canada to implementing an action plan for official languages that supports the development of minority English- and French-speaking communities and expands access to services in their language in areas such as health, education, and community development in the sectors of early childhood development and family literacy.

**International dimensions of community**

Safety, wellness, and crime prevention are traditional concepts used to discuss community, yet Canadians increasingly include the changing national and international security environment as part of their interpretation of community.

The events of September 11, 2001, challenged the way in which Canadians regard the safety and security of communities. At home and abroad, there is ongoing discussion about the role that Canada plays in the world. Canada’s participation in the world is an expression of the values and the strength of the Canadian identity internationally and the positive contributions Canada makes to our broader global village.

Various programs and initiatives exist that highlight Canada’s involvement. For example, through the Refugee and Humanitarian Resettlement Program, the government helps refugees resettle in Canada. The National Counter-Terrorism Plan and the Operational Readiness Program are other important government initiatives that provide national security and public safety for all Canadians. Contributions to foreign aid; international organizations, such as the United Nations, the Commonwealth, and La Francophonie; as well as support for NATO and international peace and security are all measures of the strength of the broader Canadian community.



Canada is regularly invited by developing nations and newly emerging democracies to provide advice and assistance on conflict resolution, human rights, democratization, and the fostering of institutions that civil society requires in order to be more effective. Canadian support is demonstrated through overseas development programs and technical assistance that increase human security by preventing conflict, improving governance and accountability, and strengthening institutions.

Canada has a proud history as an active nation on the international stage, supporting aid, international development projects, and international peacekeeping and peacemaking operations. In 2002, Canada contributed approximately \$3.2 billion in aid to developing countries, mostly focussing its efforts on basic education, health and nutrition, and HIV/AIDS, with child protection and gender equality being considered in all these areas.

On the peacekeeping front, over 2,500 Canadian personnel during the last year have taken part in up to 15 international peace support and coalition operations, including Afghanistan, Bosnia, Ethiopia, and Eritrea (DND Statistics, April 1, 2003) With respect to Canadian defence spending, more was spent in 2002 compared with 2000 (\$10.2 billion in 1999–2000 and \$10.6 billion in 2001–02). In 2000 and 2001, Canada ranked 8th in terms of the dollar amount spent on defence by OECD countries, whereas in 2002, Canada ranked 9th.

Volunteerism

Attitudes Toward  
Diversity

Cultural Participation

Political Participation

Safety and Security

## Volunteerism

### Definition and Relevance

**Volunteerism** and charitable giving are fundamental acts of citizenship essential to the well-being of a caring society. Social participation through volunteering is an important element of healthy, integrated communities. Made up of about 180,000 non-profit and charitable organizations, as well as hundreds of thousands more unincorporated volunteer groups, the voluntary sector employs more than 1.3 million people. The contribution of volunteers is valued at \$17 billion per year when calculated using the national average wage. Consequently, volunteerism represents a large and often underestimated contribution to the national economy.

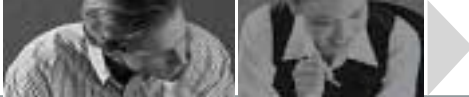
The Government of Canada recognizes that the voluntary sector plays a critical role in Canadian society. In the 2002 Speech from the Throne, the government promised to

put into action the Joint Accord with the Voluntary Sector that developed from the Voluntary Sector Initiative. This initiative was created in 2001 to enable the sector to contribute to national priorities and represent the views of those too often excluded.

### Current Level and Trends

The 2000 *National Survey of Giving, Volunteering and Participating* shows that 27.0 per cent of Canadians volunteered 1.05 billion hours of work in Canada in 2000, down from 1.11 billion hours in 1997. As well, the number of volunteers dropped from 7.5 million in 1997 to 6.5 million in 2000, equivalent to 549,000 year-round full-time jobs. This represents a decrease of 13.0 per cent from 1997; however, the trend of a small minority of volunteers accounting for the majority of volunteer hours held true.

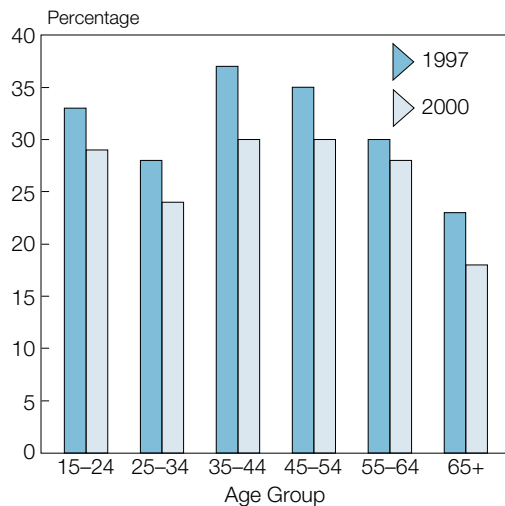




## Age differences

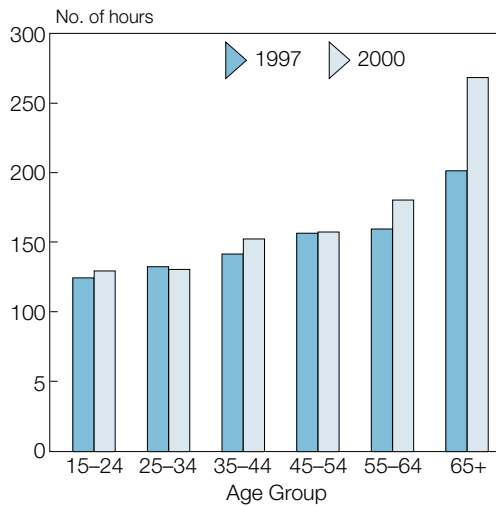
Canadians aged 65 and over represent the lowest percentage of volunteers (18.0 per cent); however, they contribute more hours per year than any other age group. In 2000, the top 25.0 per cent of volunteers (7.0 per cent of Canadians) contributed 73.0 per cent of all volunteer hours. There is a risk of burnout for this core group if the number of volunteers continues to fall and demand for the services of this sector rises.

**Figure 4.1**  
Percentage of Volunteers by Age, 1997 and 2000



Source: Canadian centre for Philanthropy, The 2000 *National Survey of Giving, Volunteering and Participating*, 2002

**Figure 4.2**  
Number of Hours per Volunteer by Age, 1997 and 2000



Source: Canadian centre for Philanthropy, The 2000 *National Survey of Giving, Volunteering and Participating*, 2002

## Supplemental Information

- ▶ The 2000 *National Survey of Giving, Volunteering and Participating* indicates that women continue to be slightly more likely to volunteer than men (28.0 per cent versus 25.0 per cent, respectively), while men continue to contribute more total volunteer hours per year on average (170 versus 155 hours, respectively).
- ▶ About one-quarter of all the time devoted to volunteer work in Canada in 2000 was done with the support of employers. Volunteers who are employed are likely to devote more hours to their efforts if they receive support from their employers.

## Attitudes Toward Diversity

### Definition and Relevance

**Attitudes toward diversity** can be used to measure the state of willingness among Canadians to accept and understand differences between socio-cultural groups. A society that is open to everyone equally is one that encourages achievement, participation, harmony, and a sense of belonging.

The *Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms* (1982) provides constitutional protection of the rights and freedoms that Canadians believe are necessary in a free and democratic society. It protects the multicultural character of Canada; guarantees that all individuals are treated equally, regardless of their race, national or ethnic origin, colour, religion, sex, age, or mental or physical disability; and guarantees the rights of the Aboriginal peoples of Canada. In 1971, Canada was the first country in the world to adopt multiculturalism as an official policy, recognizing Canada's multicultural diversity as a fundamental and defining characteristic of the nation. In addition, the Charter and the *Official Languages Act* (1969) confirm and protect the status of Canada's two official languages. Canada's *Employment Equity Act* (1995) is also aimed at achieving equitable

representation in employment for under-represented groups, such as women, persons with disabilities, Aboriginal peoples, and members of visible minority groups. Canada continues to be internationally recognized as a model for tolerance, respect, and multiculturalism.

### Current Level and Trends

A 2002 survey by Environics Research Group found that 80.0 per cent of Canadians feel the preservation and enhancement of the multicultural heritage of Canadians enhances the value of Canadian citizenship, while 77.0 per cent feel that it also promotes the sharing of common values. Statistics drawn from the 2001 Census reveal that the percentage of Canadians born in another country reached 18.4 per cent, the highest since 1931. Based on 2001 data, Canada ranks just behind Australia (22.0 per cent) and New Zealand (18.7 per cent) in percentage of foreign-born residents. As of the 2001 Census, 47.0 per cent of the population reported having at least one origin other than Canadian, British, or French, while 30.3 per cent of the total population in 2001 reported at least one ethnic origin that did not include any Canadian, British, or French origins (but includes those reporting Aboriginal origins).

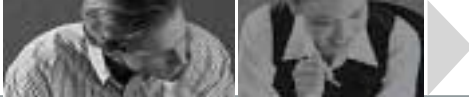
Volunteerism

Attitudes Toward  
Diversity

Cultural Participation

Political Participation

Safety and Security



## Discrimination and racism

According to a 2002 survey released by the Centre for Research and Information on Canada (CRIC), 59.0 per cent of Canadians feel that racism is a big problem in Canada. However, 72.0 per cent believe that the prejudice against ethnic and racial minorities will decline over the next ten years.

## Official languages

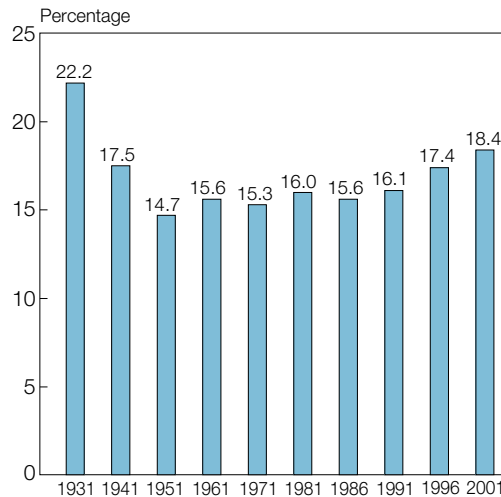
A poll completed by Leger Marketing in March 2003 showed that 63.0 per cent of Canadians favour the development of bilingualism (French and English) throughout Canada. The 2001 Census reported that 17.7 per cent of the population is bilingual (French and English), up from 17.0 per cent in 1996. Nationally, 43.4 per cent of Francophones reported that they were bilingual, compared with 9.0 per cent of Anglophones.

## Supplemental Information

Immigration continues to shape Canada's community and collective identity. Over the last 10 years, an average of 220,000 immigrants per year were admitted to Canada, drawn by its quality of life and its reputation as an open, peaceful, and caring society that welcomes newcomers and values diversity. Prior to 1989, the number was lower than 165,000.

**Figure 4.3**

Foreign-born Population as a Percentage of Total Population



Source: Statistics Canada, *Census of Population, 2002*, and *Census: Canada's Ethnocultural Portrait, 2003*

Between 1989 and 1993, there was a steady increase of immigrants, reaching 256,741 in 1993. The total number started to decrease thereafter, dropping to 174,159 in 1998.

Statistics show that immigrants contribute significantly to the Canadian economy. The 2001 Census found that foreign-born workers now account for 20 per cent of the labour force. Economic immigrants represented approximately 60.0 per cent of all new arrivals to Canada in 2002, while immigrants such as family members or refugees made up the remaining 40.0 per cent.

Volunteerism

Attitudes Toward  
Diversity

Cultural Participation

Political Participation

Safety and Security

## Cultural Participation

### Definition and Relevance

**Participation in cultural activities** takes many forms, such as reading a book, visiting historic sites, or attending a concert. Participation can lead to more personal involvement, in the vein of playing instruments or volunteering in a museum. In all cases, participation broadens people's experiences by exposing them to their social, cultural, and historical surroundings, introducing new and different ideas, and building bridges across social and cultural groups. Participation in sport also has a significant role in bringing together people with shared values and objectives at the community level. The largest possible participation in cultural activities is also needed to support the development of Canadian talent at all levels.

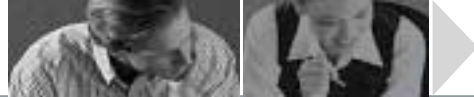
### Current Level and Trends

From 1992 to 1998, cultural participation among the Canadian population aged 15 and over was declining in some areas and was on the upswing in other areas. For instance, movie-going was up from 48.6 per cent to 59.1 per cent, concert and performance attendance rose from 23.7 per cent in 1992 to 34.6 per cent in 1998, while 22.1 per cent reported a public art gallery visit in 1998, compared to

19.3 per cent in 1992. However, attendance figures decreased at performances of live theatre (down 4.0 per cent), popular music (down 4.1 per cent), opera (down 1.4 per cent) and symphonic music (down 4.0 per cent). This suggests a qualitative change insofar as, from 1992 to 1998, cultural participation has shifted to the benefit of some activities and to the detriment of other activities. An Ekos study in 2001 showed that 59.0 per cent of Canadian households have access to the Internet and that a majority of users relied on this medium to find information on Canada's history and culture. (Ekos Research Associates, *Rethinking the Information Highway*, 2002)

### Supplemental Information

- ▶ A survey conducted by Createc for Canadian Heritage in 2000 identified that men and women shared appreciably the same interest in natural and historical heritage, but there were considerable differences between them in looking at heritage-related activities. Women were significantly more interested than men in cultural attractions such as libraries (42.0 per cent vs. 33.0 per cent), stage productions (34.0 per cent vs. 24.0 per cent) and oral traditions (35.0 per cent vs. 28.0 per cent). Men were more interested in

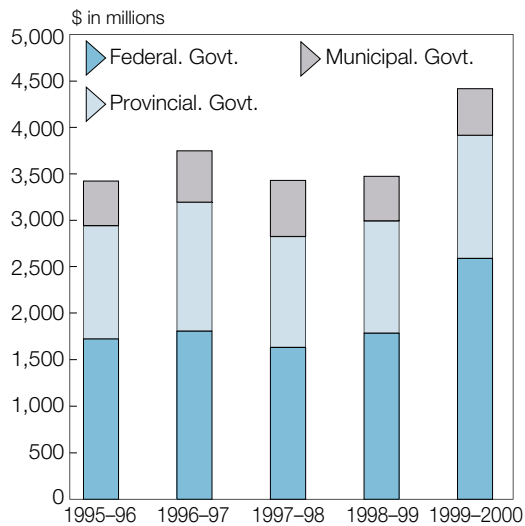


science and technology (53.0 per cent vs. 32.0 per cent) and the Internet (44.0 per cent vs. 35.0 per cent).

- ▶ Seventy-three per cent of respondents in the same Canadian Heritage study acknowledged that natural heritage had an impact on personal quality of life. In comparison, 48.0 per cent reported that cultural heritage had an impact. Visit statistics, however, do not reveal such a large gap: there are 62 million visits annually to nature parks and other natural heritage sites and 56 million visits to cultural, historical, and living heritage institutions, such as museums, art galleries, historic sites, archives, exhibition centres, planetariums, observatories, botanical gardens, aquariums, and zoos.
- ▶ Statistics Canada reports that Canada's 2,600 cultural and natural heritage institutions rode a wave of expanding memberships, increasing attendance, surging earned revenue, and higher government grants in 1999, making it one of their best years ever. Attendance in 1999 reached 118.3 million visits and operating revenues hit almost \$1.5 billion, up 25.0 per cent from 1993 (Statistics Canada, *The Daily*, December 4, 2002).

- ▶ In the fall of 2001, Canadian television programming accounted for 39.0 per cent of Canadians' viewing time, up slightly from 36.0 per cent in 1992. An increase in viewing time for Canadian programs was observed among both Anglophones and Francophones.
- ▶ Government expenditures support a wide variety of cultural activities and functions. These include cultural facilities, festivals, cultural exchange programs, arts and heritage institutions and organizations, and cultural industries.

**Figure 4.4**  
Expenditures on Culture  
by Level of Government



Source: Statistics Canada, *Focus on Culture Vol. 14(1)*

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## Political Participation

### Definition and Relevance

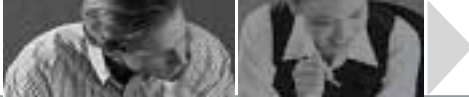
**Political participation** is a way of assessing citizen engagement and the democratic health of a nation. As a measure of a viable democracy, the level of political participation indicates a concern for the future development of a community. One of the primary means for demonstrating political participation is by voting.

### Current Level and Trends

Based on the population of eligible voters, the voter turnout at the 2000 federal general election was the lowest in recent Canadian history at 61.2 per cent, compared to 67.0 per cent in 1997, which was the lowest proportion since the general election of 1925. Age, education, income, place of birth, and mobility all influence voting trends, but age is the most important factor. A report from Elections Canada (*Explaining the Turnout Decline in Canadian Federal Elections: A New Survey of Non-voters*,

March 2003) indicates that the rate of voter participation declines steadily as one moves from the oldest to the youngest age cohorts. More than 83.0 per cent of respondents over the age of 48 perceived voting to be either “very important” or “essential.” Less than 73.0 per cent of respondents under the age of 47 felt the same way. The percentage was lower still for those aged 21–24, where 60.4 per cent of those surveyed perceived voting to be very important or essential. In addition to generational decline, declining party competition as viewed by the public and lack of interest in the voting process were also cited as reasons for low voter turnout.

Many variables influence voter patterns, and there are many reasons for lower turnout rates in the 1990s. Statistics Canada data suggest that Canadians are often engaged in the political process but through means other than elections, such as participation in or support of special interest groups.



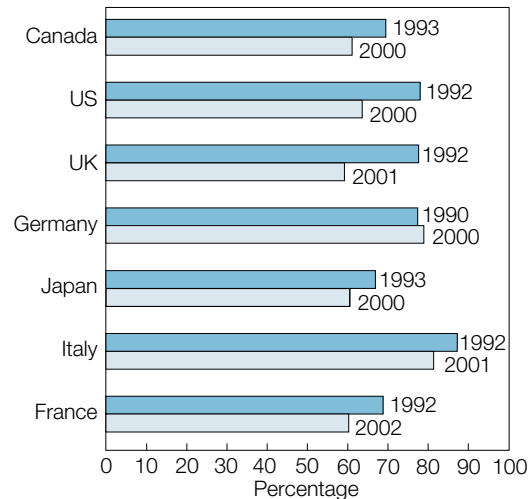
## Provincial/territorial differences

Elections Canada data for voter turnout during the last general provincial and territorial elections (between 1996–99) indicate a wide range of participation. In provinces and territories such as Prince Edward Island (85.0 per cent), Nunavut (88.6 per cent), and Quebec (78.3 per cent), the percentage of voter turnout was substantially higher than the percentage of voter participation at the federal level (67.0 per cent). Conversely, in provinces such as Alberta (53.6 per cent), Ontario (58.1 per cent), and Newfoundland and Labrador (58.9 per cent), the rate was lower than that at the federal level.

## International Comparisons

With respect to voter participation during national elections, Canada ranks in the middle range compared to other G-7 countries.

**Figure 4.5**  
Voter Turnout in National Elections — G-7 Countries



Source: International Institute for Democracy and Electoral Assistance, *Voter Turnout*, 2002

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## Safety and Security

### Definition and Relevance

The **safety and security** of communities and neighbourhoods are fundamental to the enjoyment of a high quality of life.

Safety and security can be measured in a number of ways, including the following:

- ▶ the level of crime: especially crimes against the person and property crime;
- ▶ the level of victimization: when a person is victimized once or more by crimes such as burglary, car theft, assault, robbery, sexual assault, and vandalism; and
- ▶ the level of fear of crime in a neighbourhood.

The government has become more aware of the importance of security to its citizens and their desire to address crime at its roots. There are firm initiatives in place to combat organized crime and to support community-based crime prevention. In response to concerns about youth crime, the new *Youth Criminal Justice Act* places a focus on prevention, on meaningful consequences for youth who offend, and on the rehabilitation and reintegration into society for those young persons who have offended.

As the threat of terrorism is still prominent in the global community, Canadians have become more aware of their personal safety. There are

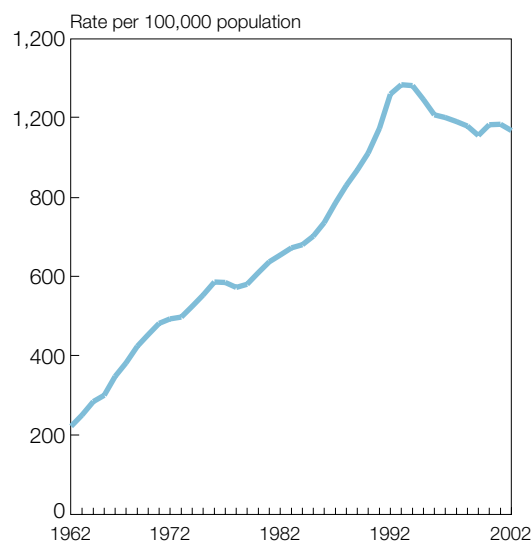
initiatives that contribute to the fight against terrorism, including a Security Contingency Reserve, that have been created to provide unforeseen future security funds, including funds for border security. The government will continue to work with its allies to ensure the safety and security of Canadians.

### Current Level and Trends

Canada's police-reported crime rate remained virtually unchanged in 2002 (-0.6 per cent). The national crime rate, which has been on a downward trend for a decade, was 27.0 per cent below its peak in 1991. While rates for most crimes remained unchanged or dropped in 2002, increases were seen in homicides, fraud and counterfeiting, drug offences, and prostitution.

**Figure 4.6**

Crime rate in Canada from 1962 to 2002



Source: Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, *Uniform Crime reporting Survey*, 2002





In total, police reported 2.4 million Criminal Code offences, excluding traffic offences. Of these, 13.0 per cent were violent crimes, 52.0 per cent were property crimes, and the remaining 35.0 per cent were other offences, such as mischief and disturbing the peace. Rates declined for violent crime (-2.0 per cent) and youth crime (-5.0 per cent) in 2002, compared to 2001 statistics. The youth crime rate in 2002 was 33.0 per cent lower than in 1992. Property crime continued to decrease; it is currently at its lowest level in almost three decades.

The downward trend in impaired driving rates resumed in 2002, with a 3.0 per cent decrease in the rate. It follows 2001 statistics, which saw the first increase in impaired driving offences in nearly 20 years.

Drug incidents related to the *Controlled Drugs and Substances Act* increased by 3.0 per cent in 2002 compared to statistics from 2001. The rate of drug offences, which has been increasing for nearly a decade, is at a 20-year high.

The *International Crime Victimization Survey* (ICVS) from 2000 found that 54.0 per cent of Canadians had been victims of crime during the five-year period prior to the study. More than half of Canadians aged 16 and above were victimized one or more times between 1996 and 2000. Types of crime that fall into this category include theft, vandalism, assault, and burglary. This rate is slightly lower than the 57.0 per cent recorded for the

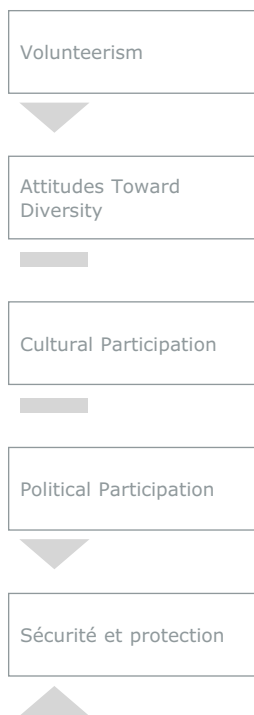
period from 1991 to 1995.

Interestingly enough, approximately half of all incidents of victimization were not reported to the police in 2000 — the same level as in 1990.

The ICVS survey also found that most Canadians feel safe within their communities. Eighty-three per cent of Canadians indicated that they feel safe walking alone after dark in their neighbourhoods, up from 74 per cent in the 1996 ICVS survey. Canada ranks only slightly behind Sweden, the highest scoring country (85.0 per cent).

## Supplemental Information

- ▶ According to the Personal Security Index (2002), between 2000 and 2001, those feeling most unsafe were Canada's vulnerable citizens — women, seniors and low-income people, as well as children and youth.
- ▶ Seniors were the least likely to feel that their neighbourhood was very safe from violent crime, with only 61.0 per cent reporting feeling very safe. This was down from 67.0 per cent in 2000. This perception of fear is not borne out by victimization rates of seniors; in fact, young people are much more likely than seniors to be victims of crime.
- ▶ Men were more likely than women to feel that their neighbourhood was very safe from violent crime (75.0 per cent compared to 68.0 per cent).



## Performance Information

### Partnering for results

*Canada's Performance 2003* measures progress toward broad societal goals. Many factors influence progress on the 20 indicators tracked in this report. Individuals, families, voluntary organizations, private-sector firms, governments, and other participants in Canadian society all contribute to the quality of life of Canadians. The Government of Canada is one of many players taking actions that influence the broad social and economic outcomes described in this report. The government is committed to working with its partners in pursuit of a higher quality of life for Canadians. Following is an example where the federal government is working strategically with partners to achieve shared goals. Further information on this initiative, as well as information on similar partnerships, is available on-line at the government's Horizontal Results Database at [http://www.tbs-sct.gc.ca/rma/eppi-ibdrp/hr-rh\\_e.asp](http://www.tbs-sct.gc.ca/rma/eppi-ibdrp/hr-rh_e.asp).

Many federal organizations are working to improve the strength and safety of Canadian communities. To do so, these organizations plan, monitor, and report on their programs, policies, and initiatives in accordance with broad strategic outcomes.

Strategic outcomes are the enduring benefits to Canadians that departments and agencies attempt to achieve. These outcomes flow from the mandates of federal organizations and contribute to government-wide priorities. In most cases, strategic outcomes require the combined resources and sustained effort of several partners over a long period of time.

Below is a list of some of the departments and agencies that have strategic outcomes related to the safety and security of Canadian communities. Further information on these strategic outcomes is available through the hyperlinks in the electronic version of this report. Clicking on the links in the table below will lead the reader to the Government of Canada's Strategic Outcomes Database ([http://www.tbs-sct.gc.ca/rma/krc/cp-rc\\_e.asp](http://www.tbs-sct.gc.ca/rma/krc/cp-rc_e.asp)). This database provides information (and links for further references) on planned activities and expenditures, results evidence, relevant audits and evaluations, and program background for the government's more than 200 strategic outcomes.

In addition to the departments listed below, there are certain federal organizations that provide support to all departments and agencies, such as the Treasury Board of Canada Secretariat, the Public Service Commission of Canada, Statistics Canada, and Public Works and



Government Services Canada. Information on the performance and plans of these organizations is also available at the Strategic Outcomes Database Web site.

In the table below, departments have been clustered into “horizontal areas”; these are areas in which several departments and agencies are working toward a common goal.

This tentative clustering of departmental efforts will facilitate horizontal or whole-of-government thinking. It will help to identify common leverage points by which different federal organizations can plan strategies and monitor success in their efforts to improve the strength and safety of Canadian communities.

### National Homelessness Initiative

In December 1999, the Government of Canada launched the National Homelessness Initiative (NHI), led by Human Resources Development Canada. Since that time, the NHI has helped communities provide a range of supports spanning from emergency shelters to the provision of independent living services for homeless people and those at risk of homelessness.

As of March 31, 2003, 61 participating communities, covering 70.0 per cent of Canadians, have developed community plans and have begun to address gaps in their services and supports for homeless people. Other federal departments, all provinces and territories, most municipalities, as well as hundreds of community, non-profit, and private sector partners are participating and investing in the Initiative. Those contributions are part of the more than \$558.2 million that has been levered under the NHI. This exceeds the communities' 50.0 per cent matching requirement and significantly builds on the \$305 million in federal investments under the NHI's cornerstone program: the Supporting Communities Partnership Initiative (SCPI).

Projects under the NHI have constructed or renovated 289 shelters, 211 transitional facilities, 70 supportive housing facilities, 368 food banks, clothes and furniture depots, drop-in centres, soup kitchens, and similar facilities and funded 793 service-oriented projects. Together, these projects have sheltered 101,989 people. Support facilities services (e.g., soup kitchens, clothes depots) have served 294,190 people and 141,566 people were provided access to support services (e.g., counselling, drug treatment, or health services).

Over the next three years, continued federal leadership on the NHI will broaden partnerships and ensure that investment in transitional and supportive services helps homeless Canadians break the cycle of homelessness and prevents those at risk from becoming homeless. Communities will continue to take the lead in developing projects and making funding decisions consistent with priorities identified in their community plans. By further enhancing community leadership and broadening ownership by the public, non-profit, and private sectors, the NHI will work to assure the sustainable capacity of communities to address homelessness.

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**Horizontal Area**

**Federal Department or Agency**

Security from organized criminal and terrorist threats

Canada Customs and Revenue Agency  
 Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission  
 Citizenship and Immigration Canada  
 Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade  
 Department of Justice Canada  
 Financial Transactions and Reports Analysis Centre of Canada  
 Health Canada  
 National Defence  
 Royal Canadian Mounted Police  
 Security Intelligence Review Committee  
 Solicitor General Canada  
 Transport Canada

Safe communities

Canada Customs and Revenue Agency  
 Citizenship and Immigration Canada  
 Correctional Service Canada  
 Department of Justice Canada  
 Fisheries and Oceans Canada  
 National Defence  
 National Parole Board  
 National Search and Rescue Program  
 Royal Canadian Mounted Police  
 Solicitor General Canada

Canadian culture and heritage are preserved and internationally recognized

Canadian Heritage  
 Canadian Radio-television and Telecommunications Commission  
 Millennium Bureau of Canada  
 National Archives of Canada  
 National Battlefields Commission  
 National Defence  
 National Film Board  
 National Library of Canada  
 Parks Canada  
 Veterans Affairs Canada

Diversity as a fundamental Canadian value

Canadian Heritage  
 Citizenship and Immigration Canada  
 Immigration and Refugee Board  
 Office of the Commissioner of Official Languages

A fair Canadian justice system

Correctional Service Canada  
 Department of Justice Canada  
 Law Commission of Canada  
 National Parole Board  
 Office of the Superintendent of Financial Institutions  
 Canada and Department of Insurance Canada  
 Royal Canadian Mounted Police  
 Solicitor General Canada



Horizontal Area	Federal Department or Agency
A vibrant civic society	Canadian Heritage Canadian Radio-television and Telecommunications Commission Citizenship and Immigration Canada Commission for Public Complaints Against the Royal Canadian Mounted Police Communication Canada Department of Justice Canada Human Resources Development Canada Military Police Complaints Commission Office of the Chief Electoral Officer Offices of the Information and Privacy Commissioners Solicitor General Canada Tax Court of Canada
A society that upholds human rights and equality as fundamental principles	Canadian Human Rights Commission Canadian International Development Agency Canadian Heritage Citizenship and Immigration Canada National Parole Board Royal Canadian Mounted Police Status of Women Canada Veterans Affairs Canada
Strong and self-sufficient First Nation, Inuit, and Northern communities	Canadian Heritage Department of Justice Canada Fisheries and Oceans Canada Health Canada Human Resources Development Canada Indian and Northern Affairs Canada and Canadian Polar Commission Office of Indian Residential Schools Resolution of Canada Privy Council Office Royal Canadian Mounted Police Solicitor General Canada
A visible presence in the international community	Canadian Heritage Canadian International Development Agency Canadian Space Agency Citizenship and Immigration Canada Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade National Defence Royal Canadian Mounted Police Veterans Affairs Canada

Economic Opportunities and Innovation in Canada

The Health of Canadians

The Canadian Environment

The Strength and Safety of Canadian Communities

## Conclusion

*Canada's Performance* is a report on the quality of life in Canada. It tracks how Canada is developing as a nation over time and where it stands in comparison with other countries. Reporting on the country's social and economic situation will help parliamentarians shape public policy and better assess the performance of the Government of Canada, and it will also help Canadians to more fully engage in the development of our nation.

Overall, the report indicates that Canada is doing well with respect to health; improvements have been realized in life expectancy and infant mortality. Considerable gaps still exist with the health of First Nations on reserve, however. Our economy is leading the G-7 in growth and has shown marked improvements in most areas. Even so, there exists a growing gap in wealth among Canadians, and certain segments of our society, such as Aboriginal peoples and new immigrants, disproportionately experience economic hardships. While some improvements have been made in neighbourhood safety, other indicators point to a less involved civic society. Finally, the environment as a whole has seen significant improvements over the last 10 years, but there still remain significant challenges and work to be done.

While levels of several air pollutants have dropped over the last decade, climate change and the status of many species at risk continue to be causes for concern.

The Government of Canada is working to ensure that Canada continues to perform well in those areas where strong achievements have been made, while working to address those areas where improvements are needed. But the federal government recognizes that it cannot succeed alone; rather it must continue to develop partnerships to influence these broad social and economic outcomes. It must continue to work with all levels of government, the private sector, community groups, and individual citizens to provide Canadians a higher standard of living.

*Canada's Performance 2003* has received direction through various forms of engagement, such as consultations, focus groups, and surveys. Future reports will continue to be influenced in this way. For this purpose, we need your feedback. You can use the contact information provided at the front of the report to get in touch with us. Your contribution will help make *Canada's Performance* better and will ensure that the report is relevant to Canadians.



## Appendix I: Additional Resources

### General

Canada. Earth Summit 2002 *Canadian Secretariat. Sustainable Development: A Canadian Perspective*. Ottawa: Government of Canada, 2002.

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Canadian Council on Social Development (CCSD). *Personal Security Index 2002: After September 11<sup>th</sup>*. Ottawa: CCSD, 2002.

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## Appendix II: External Advisory Panel

The External Advisory Panel, chaired by the Secretary of the Treasury Board, provides advice on the preparation of the President of the Treasury Board's annual report *Canada's Performance*.

The panel, which generally meets two to three times per year in Ottawa, is composed of academics, provincial representatives, and other stakeholders.

**Dr. Paul Bernard**

Professor of Sociology  
Université de Montréal

**Mrs. Judith Maxwell**

President  
Canadian Policy Research Networks

**Mr. William Blundell**

Manulife Financial

**Mr. David McGuinty**

President and CEO  
National Round Table on the  
Environment and the Economy

**Mr. Jean-Pierre Boisclair**

**Dr. Ian Davies**

Executive Director  
Capacity Development Network  
University of Victoria

**Mr. Michael Wernick**

Deputy Secretary to the Cabinet  
Privy Council Office

**Mr. Dennis Pilkey**

Director, Statistics  
Department of Finance  
Government of Nova Scotia

**Dr. Ivan Fellegi**

Chief Statistician of Canada  
Statistics Canada

**Dr. David Zussman**

President  
Public Policy Forum

**Mr. Ian Glen**

Chairman  
National Parole Board