

The Daily

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In February, the number of people receiving regular Employment Insurance benefits increased by 44,300 or 7.8% from January. Alberta, British Columbia, Ontario and Saskatchewan experienced the strongest increases.	
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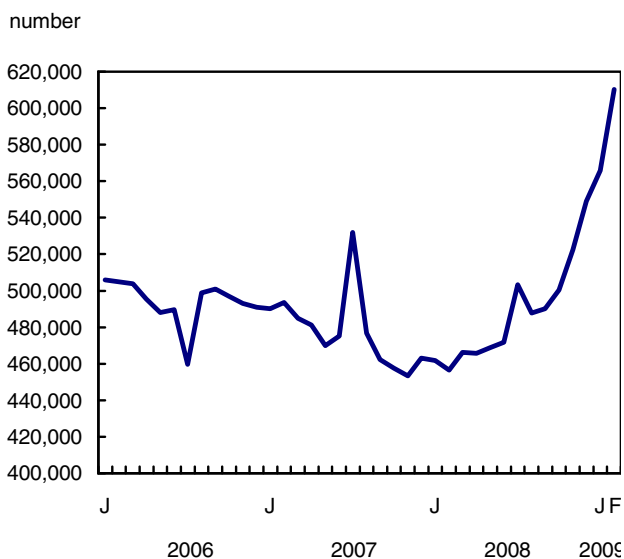
Releases

Employment Insurance

February 2009 (preliminary)

In February, the number of people receiving regular Employment Insurance (EI) benefits increased by 44,300 or 7.8% from January. Alberta, British Columbia, Ontario and Saskatchewan experienced the strongest increases.

Sharp increase in number of people receiving regular benefits



In recent months, labour market conditions in Canada have deteriorated significantly. Through the early part of 2008, employment slowed, and since October has fallen sharply.

The number of regular EI beneficiaries has climbed 21.9% since October 2008, reaching 610,200 in February.

Note to readers

Each month, Statistics Canada will be providing enhanced analysis of the current labour market situation, using Employment Insurance (EI) statistics and other sources. The Labour Force Survey (LFS) will provide the first picture of overall labour market conditions, with unemployment and total employment and who is affected by changes in the labour market. Later in the month, Statistics Canada will provide additional regional detail through the EI statistics and detail by industry through the Survey of Employment, Payrolls and Hours.

EI statistics are produced from an administrative data source and may, from time to time, be affected by changes to the Employment Insurance Act or administrative procedures. The number of regular beneficiaries and the number of claims received for January and February 2009 are preliminary.

The number of beneficiaries is a measure of all persons who received EI benefits from the 15th to the 21st of February. This period coincides with the reference week of the Labour Force Survey for February.

Regional EI data and data by sex and age are not seasonally adjusted and therefore should only be compared on a year-over-year basis. These comparisons can be influenced by unusual spikes or declines in the end points of the period.

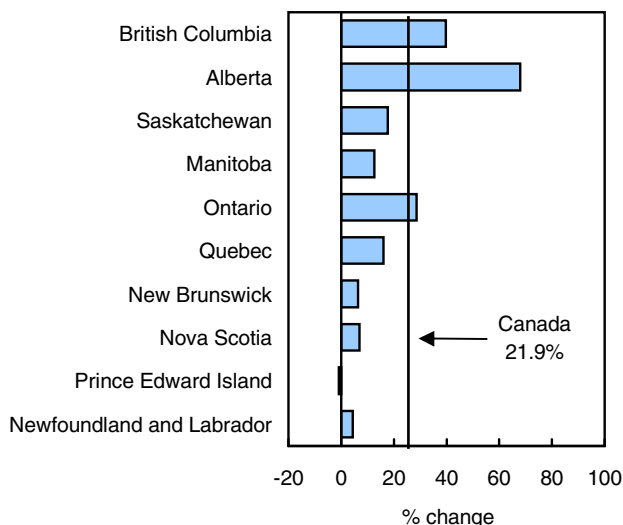
EI statistics indicate the number of people who received EI benefits, and should not be confused with data coming from the Labour Force Survey, which provides information on the total number of unemployed.

There is always a certain proportion of unemployed who do not qualify for benefits. The first are those who have not contributed to the program because they have not worked in the past 12 months or their employment is not insurable. This group includes self-employed workers. The second are those who have contributed to the program, but do not meet the eligibility criteria, such as workers who left their job voluntarily or those who did not accumulate enough hours of work to receive benefits.

The data on employment and employment by industry used in this analysis are drawn from the Labour Force Survey.

Over the same period, the number of regular EI beneficiaries has increased in almost all provinces and territories, with the largest percentage gains in Alberta, British Columbia and Ontario.

Growth in the number of people receiving regular benefits since October 2008 is strongest in Alberta



The West and Ontario show largest increases in number of beneficiaries

In Alberta, the number of regular beneficiaries jumped by 27.3% in one month to 30,600 in February, bringing the total increase since October 2008 to 67.9%.

The number of beneficiaries in British Columbia reached 63,700 after an 11.6% increase in February. The total increase since October 2008 was 39.8%.

In Ontario, the 7.8% increase in February brought the number of regular EI beneficiaries to 198,900. Since October 2008, the number of beneficiaries has risen by 28.6%.

From January to February, the number of beneficiaries in Saskatchewan rose 7.3% to 10,000. Since October 2008, the number of beneficiaries has risen 17.6%, slower than the national average of 21.9%.

Demographic and regional overview: Sharp increase in male beneficiaries

Regional data and data by sex and age on Employment Insurance are not seasonally adjusted and therefore should only be compared on a year-over-year basis.

Between February 2008 and February 2009, there was a larger increase in the number of men receiving regular benefits (+36.7%) compared with women (+20.6%).

The number of beneficiaries doubled in most large centres in Alberta

All census metropolitan areas in Canada have seen an increase in the number of regular beneficiaries in the past year.

The number of beneficiaries doubled in most large centres in Alberta between February 2008 and February 2009. In Calgary, the number of regular beneficiaries more than doubled to 11,700. In Edmonton, the 96.4% increase brought the number of beneficiaries to 10,900. Red Deer, Lethbridge, Wood Buffalo and Grande Prairie all doubled in number of beneficiaries. In Alberta, the drop in employment in recent months was spread across a number of sectors, including construction, trade, manufacturing and professional, scientific and technical services.

Sharp increases were also observed in Southwestern Ontario ([map](#)) between February 2008 and February 2009. In Windsor, the number of regular beneficiaries climbed 103.8% to 11,700. Also affected were Kitchener (+96.0%), Hamilton (+83.4%) and London (+82.9%), as were Guelph, Tillsonburg, Woodstock, Stratford and Barrie. In Toronto, the number of regular beneficiaries rose 60.6%. During the same period, the sectors of the Ontario economy experiencing steep declines in employment were manufacturing; business, building and other support services; and construction and trade.

Between February 2008 and February 2009, the increase in the number of beneficiaries in British Columbia was widespread. At the same time, the decrease in employment affected a large number of sectors, including manufacturing; construction; transportation and warehousing; retail trade; and forestry and logging.

In British Columbia, the number of beneficiaries almost tripled in Williams Lake, and it doubled further north in Quesnel. The number also roughly doubled in Kelowna, Cranbrook, Chilliwack, Powell River and Penticton. In Victoria the number of beneficiaries increased 88.8%, while in Vancouver, the 12,300 additional beneficiaries represented an increase of 75.3% in one year.

Claims continue to flow in

To receive EI benefits, individuals must first submit a claim. Statistics on claims cover the month and provide an indication of the number of people who could become beneficiaries. In February, 325,700 claims were received, the largest number since comparable data are available in 1997. The number of claims received

in Canada in February was up 51,000 or 18.6% from January.

There were more claims received in all provinces in February compared with January. The strongest increases were in Alberta (+27.7%) and Manitoba (+22.3%).

Available on CANSIM: tables 276-0001 to 276-0006, 276-0009, 276-0011, 276-0015 and 276-0016.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2604.

Data tables are also now available online. From the *By subject* module of our website, choose *Labour*.

Data on Employment Insurance for March will be released on May 26.

For more information, or to order data, contact Client Services (toll-free 1-866-873-8788; 613-951-4090; labour@statcan.gc.ca). To enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Dominique Pérusse (613-951-4064) or Jane Lin (613-951-9691), Labour Statistics Division.

Employment Insurance: Statistics by province and territory

	January 2009 ^P	February 2009 ^P	January to February 2009	February 2008 to February 2009	January to February 2009	February 2008 to February 2009
Seasonally adjusted						
	number		change in number		% change	
Beneficiaries receiving regular benefits						
Canada	565,810	610,150	44,340	153,730	7.8	33.7
Newfoundland and Labrador	37,130	38,100	970	3,620	2.6	10.5
Prince Edward Island	7,790	7,910	120	310	1.5	4.1
Nova Scotia	29,290	29,950	660	3,130	2.3	11.7
New Brunswick	30,920	32,000	1,080	2,100	3.5	7.0
Quebec	175,920	183,580	7,660	24,780	4.4	15.6
Ontario	184,520	198,880	14,360	74,420	7.8	59.8
Manitoba	11,840	12,180	340	2,420	2.9	24.8
Saskatchewan	9,320	10,000	680	2,200	7.3	28.2
Alberta	24,060	30,630	6,570	14,810	27.3	93.6
British Columbia	57,010	63,650	6,640	25,480	11.6	66.8
Yukon	880	890	10	110	1.1	14.1
Northwest Territories	810	850	40	180	4.9	26.9
Nunavut	430	450	20	140	4.7	45.2
Initial and renewal claims received						
Canada	274,680	325,650	50,970	113,090	18.6	53.2
Newfoundland and Labrador	9,590	10,030	440	1,120	4.6	12.6
Prince Edward Island	2,540	2,550	10	80	0.4	3.2
Nova Scotia	9,740	10,530	790	1,530	8.1	17.0
New Brunswick	9,900	10,650	750	1,210	7.6	12.8
Quebec	73,980	84,110	10,130	17,240	13.7	25.8
Ontario	97,470	109,870	12,400	44,320	12.7	67.6
Manitoba	7,030	8,600	1,570	2,100	22.3	32.3
Saskatchewan	5,840	6,080	240	1,710	4.1	39.1
Alberta	22,240	28,410	6,170	15,860	27.7	126.4
British Columbia	35,780	41,710	5,930	16,900	16.6	68.1
Yukon	310	310	0	10	0.0	3.3
Northwest Territories	330	320	-10	50	-3.0	18.5
Nunavut	220	200	-20	70	-9.1	53.8

^P preliminary

Note: Number of beneficiaries receiving regular benefits exclude claimants receiving training, job creation and self-employment benefits as well as other employment and support measures benefits.

Beneficiaries receiving regular benefits by age, sex, province and territories

	February 2008	February 2009 ^P	February 2008 to February 2009	February 2008 to February 2009
Unadjusted for seasonality				
	number		change in number	% change
Canada				
Both sexes	602,510	791,600	189,090	31.4
Under 25 years	67,100	91,550	24,450	36.4
25 to 54 years	426,570	560,150	133,580	31.3
55 years and over	108,840	139,910	31,070	28.5
Men	404,030	552,220	148,190	36.7
Under 25 years	52,310	73,060	20,750	39.7
25 to 54 years	277,280	381,100	103,820	37.4
55 years and over	74,450	98,060	23,610	31.7
Women	198,480	239,380	40,900	20.6
Under 25 years	14,790	18,490	3,700	25.0
25 to 54 years	149,290	179,050	29,760	19.9
55 years and over	34,390	41,850	7,460	21.7
Newfoundland and Labrador				
Both sexes	45,490	49,820	4,330	9.5
Under 25 years	4,360	4,640	280	6.4
25 to 54 years	31,670	34,150	2,480	7.8
55 years and over	9,460	11,030	1,570	16.6
Men	27,710	31,360	3,650	13.2
Women	17,790	18,460	670	3.8
Prince Edward Island				
Both sexes	11,090	11,420	330	3.0
Under 25 years	1,050	1,140	90	8.6
25 to 54 years	7,430	7,500	70	0.9
55 years and over	2,610	2,770	160	6.1
Men	6,770	7,190	420	6.2
Women	4,310	4,220	-90	-2.1
Nova Scotia				
Both sexes	35,680	39,980	4,300	12.1
Under 25 years	3,700	4,420	720	19.5
25 to 54 years	25,160	27,810	2,650	10.5
55 years and over	6,820	7,750	930	13.6
Men	23,180	26,860	3,680	15.9
Women	12,500	13,130	630	5.0
New Brunswick				
Both sexes	41,260	43,700	2,440	5.9
Under 25 years	3,820	4,160	340	8.9
25 to 54 years	29,210	30,270	1,060	3.6
55 years and over	8,230	9,270	1,040	12.6
Men	27,790	30,450	2,660	9.6
Women	13,470	13,250	-220	-1.6
Quebec				
Both sexes	213,540	244,590	31,050	14.5
Under 25 years	25,950	30,520	4,570	17.6
25 to 54 years	149,560	169,470	19,910	13.3
55 years and over	38,040	44,600	6,560	17.2
Men	147,860	173,850	25,990	17.6
Women	65,680	70,740	5,060	7.7
Ontario				
Both sexes	162,280	252,810	90,530	55.8
Under 25 years	18,140	27,310	9,170	50.6
25 to 54 years	118,460	186,600	68,140	57.5
55 years and over	25,670	38,900	13,230	51.5
Men	110,190	178,160	67,970	61.7
Women	52,080	74,650	22,570	43.3

^P preliminary

Note: Number of beneficiaries receiving regular benefits exclude claimants receiving training, job creation and self-employment benefits as well as other employment and support measures benefits.

Beneficiaries receiving regular benefits by age, sex, province and territories

	February 2008	February 2009 ^P	February 2008 to February 2009	February 2008 to February 2009
Unadjusted for seasonality				
	number		change in number	% change
Manitoba				
Both sexes	12,680	15,990	3,310	26.1
Under 25 years	1,670	2,270	600	35.9
25 to 54 years	8,700	11,020	2,320	26.7
55 years and over	2,310	2,700	390	16.9
Men	9,390	12,150	2,760	29.4
Women	3,290	3,840	550	16.7
Saskatchewan				
Both sexes	10,830	14,160	3,330	30.7
Under 25 years	1,200	1,690	490	40.8
25 to 54 years	7,240	9,520	2,280	31.5
55 years and over	2,390	2,950	560	23.4
Men	8,020	10,370	2,350	29.3
Women	2,820	3,790	970	34.4
Alberta				
Both sexes	19,180	36,710	17,530	91.4
Under 25 years	2,030	4,670	2,640	130.0
25 to 54 years	13,620	25,940	12,320	90.5
55 years and over	3,530	6,100	2,570	72.8
Men	12,420	25,830	13,410	108.0
Women	6,760	10,880	4,120	60.9
British Columbia				
Both sexes	48,190	79,580	31,390	65.1
Under 25 years	4,970	10,450	5,480	110.3
25 to 54 years	33,820	55,760	21,940	64.9
55 years and over	9,410	13,370	3,960	42.1
Men	29,210	54,070	24,860	85.1
Women	18,980	25,510	6,530	34.4
Yukon				
Both sexes	1,090	1,260	170	15.6
Under 25 years	100	130	30	30.0
25 to 54 years	770	860	90	11.7
55 years and over	230	270	40	17.4
Men	720	860	140	19.4
Women	370	400	30	8.1
Northwest Territories				
Both sexes	720	930	210	29.2
Under 25 years	60	90	30	50.0
25 to 54 years	540	710	170	31.5
55 years and over	120	130	10	8.3
Men	500	660	160	32.0
Women	220	270	50	22.7
Nunavut				
Both sexes	340	510	170	50.0
Under 25 years	40	50	10	25.0
25 to 54 years	270	410	140	51.9
55 years and over	30	50	20	66.7
Men	240	380	140	58.3
Women	100	140	40	40.0

^P preliminary

Note: Number of beneficiaries receiving regular benefits exclude claimants receiving training, job creation and self-employment benefits as well as other employment and support measures benefits.

Beneficiaries receiving regular benefits by census metropolitan areas

	February 2008	February 2009 ^P	February 2008 to February 2009	February 2008 to February 2009
Unadjusted for seasonality				
	number		change in number	% change
Newfoundland and Labrador				
St. John's	5,330	6,030	700	13.1
Nova Scotia				
Halifax	5,290	6,570	1,280	24.2
New Brunswick				
Saint John	2,330	2,560	230	9.9
Quebec				
Saguenay	6,280	6,640	360	5.7
Québec	12,700	15,110	2,410	19.0
Sherbrooke	3,750	4,560	810	21.6
Trois-Rivières	4,380	4,790	410	9.4
Montréal	62,750	74,380	11,630	18.5
Ottawa-Gatineau, Gatineau part	3,780	4,340	560	14.8
Ontario				
Ottawa-Gatineau, Ottawa part	5,980	7,290	1,310	21.9
Kingston	1,540	1,940	400	26.0
Oshawa	5,290	6,470	1,180	22.3
Toronto	54,460	87,440	32,980	60.6
Hamilton	7,270	13,330	6,060	83.4
St. Catharines-Niagara	7,870	10,980	3,110	39.5
Kitchener	5,240	10,270	5,030	96.0
London	5,450	9,970	4,520	82.9
Windsor	5,720	11,660	5,940	103.8
Greater Sudbury	2,470	3,690	1,220	49.4
Thunder Bay	2,540	2,940	400	15.7
Manitoba				
Winnipeg	5,370	7,380	2,010	37.4
Saskatchewan				
Regina	1,220	1,350	130	10.7
Saskatoon	1,510	2,360	850	56.3
Alberta				
Calgary	5,460	11,690	6,230	114.1
Edmonton	5,540	10,880	5,340	96.4
British Columbia				
Abbotsford	2,210	3,380	1,170	52.9
Vancouver	16,290	28,550	12,260	75.3
Victoria	1,870	3,530	1,660	88.8

^P preliminary

Note: Number of beneficiaries receiving regular benefits excludes claimants receiving training, job creation and self-employment benefits as well as other employment and support measures benefits.



Hog inventories

First quarter 2009

On April 1, farmers had 11.9 million hogs on their farms, down 1.1 million or 8.6% from the same date last year.

Hog inventories have been declining for the past three years. High feed costs, soft slaughter prices, and the implementation of Country of Origin Labeling legislation in the United States have led to farm restructuring and farm closures in Canada.

There were 8,300 hog operations in Canada on April 1, about 1,000 fewer farms than the same date a year earlier, as several hundred producers took advantage of the federal government's Cull Breeding Swine Program to dispose of their breeding herd.

Hog producers exported 1.7 million hogs in the first quarter of 2009, down 42.8% from the peak reached in the first quarter of 2008.

Available on CANSIM: tables 003-0004, 003-0087 to 003-0090, 003-0092 and 003-0093.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 3460.

The report *Hog Statistics*, first quarter 2009, Vol. 8, no. 2 (23-010-XWE, free), is now available online. From the *Publications* module of our website under *By subject*, choose *Agriculture*.

For more information, contact Client Services (toll-free 1-800-465-1991). To enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Robert Plourde (613-951-8716; robert.plourde@statcan.gc.ca), Agriculture Division.

Hog inventories at April 1, 2009

	2009	2008 to 2009	2009	2008 to 2009	2009	2008 to 2009	2009	2008 to 2009
	Breeding		Market hogs				Total hogs	
			under 20 kg		20 kg and over			
	thousand head	% change	thousand head	% change	thousand head	% change	thousand head	% change
Canada	1,383	-6.2	3,756	-12.1	6,746	-7.0	11,885	-8.6
Atlantic	22	-19.7	53	-32.2	73	-36.5	149	-32.9
Quebec	384	-1.7	1,263	-2.1	2,223	-1.6	3,870	-1.8
Ontario	359	-5.4	976	-9.3	1,641	-13.6	2,976	-11.3
East	765	-4.1	2,292	-6.2	3,938	-7.9	6,995	-6.9
Manitoba	337	-6.3	822	-21.8	1,318	5.6	2,477	-6.9
Saskatchewan	100	-20.6	150	-29.7	510	-23.0	760	-24.2
Alberta	165	-5.6	455	-12.6	920	-8.4	1,540	-9.4
British Columbia	17	-4.0	37	-12.4	60	-3.4	113	-6.6
West	618	-8.7	1,464	-19.9	2,808	-5.7	4,890	-10.8

Note: Figures may not add up to totals due to rounding.



Deaths

2006

Data on deaths in Canada are now available for 2006.

From 2001 to 2006, life expectancy at birth rose by 1.2 years, from 79.6 to 80.8 years. During this period, life expectancy for men increased by 1.4 years, whereas life expectancy for women advanced by 0.9.

Available on CANSIM: tables 102-0501 and 102-0511.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 3233.

The publication *Deaths, 2006* (84F0211XWE, free), is now available from the *Publications* module of our website.

For more information, contact Client Services (613-951-1746; fax: 613-951-4198; hd-ds@statcan.gc.ca), Health Statistics Division.

To enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Shiang Ying Dai (613-951-1759) or Patricia Schembari (951-9502), Health Statistics Division. ■

Aircraft movement statistics: Major airports

March 2009

Aircraft take-offs and landings at Canadian airports with NAV CANADA air traffic control towers and flight service stations decreased 2.8% in March compared with the same month a year earlier. These 93 airports reported 489,549 movements in March compared with 503,857 movements at 95 airports in March 2008.

Available on CANSIM: tables 401-0007 to 401-0020.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2715.

The March 2009 issue of *Aircraft Movement Statistics: NAV CANADA Towers and Flight Service Stations (TP 141)* (51-007-XWE, free) is now available from the *Publications* module of our website. This report is a joint publication of Statistics Canada and Transport Canada.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Client Services (toll-free 1-866-500-8400; transportationstatistics@statcan.gc.ca), Transportation Division. ■

Fertilizer Shipments Survey

2008/2009 (third quarter)

Data from the Fertilizer Shipments Survey are now available for the third quarter of the fertilizer year 2008/2009.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 5148.

Custom tables are subject to confidentiality constraints and are structured on a cost-recovery basis.

For more information, to order data, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Client Services (toll-free 1-800-465-1991; agriculture@statcan.gc.ca), Agriculture Division. ■

Consolidated government finance: Assets and liabilities

As of March 31, 2007

Data on assets, liabilities and net financial debt for the consolidated federal, provincial and territorial general and local governments as of March 31, 2007 are now available.

Available on CANSIM: tables 385-0010, 385-0014, 385-0018, 385-0019, 385-0025, 385-0026 and 385-0029.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 1709.

Data tables on public sector finance are also available online in the *National economic accounts* module on our website.

Data are also available through custom and special tabulation. For more information on the products or services of the Public Sector Statistics Division, contact Client Services (613-951-0767; fe-pid-dipinfo@statcan.gc.ca). To enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Philippe Samborski (613-951-7101; philippe.samborski@statcan.gc.ca), Public Sector Statistics Division. ■

Employment services industry
2007

Data on the employment services industry are now available for 2007.

Available on CANSIM: table 361-0001.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 4718.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Wayne Rowsome (613-951-5805; fax: 613-951-6696; wayne.rowsome@statcan.gc.ca) or Luc Provençal (613-951-1960; fax: 613-951-6696 luc.provençal@statcan.gc.ca), Service Industries Division. ■

Film and video distribution
2007

Data on the film and video distribution industry are now available for the reference year 2007.

Available on CANSIM: table 361-0014.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2414.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Conrad Ogrodnik (613-951-3496; fax: 613-951-6696; conrad.ogrodnik@statcan.gc.ca), Service Industries Division. ■

New products

Hog Statistics, first quarter 2009, Vol. 8, no. 2
Catalogue number 23-010-XWE
(free).

Oil and Gas Extraction, 2007
Catalogue number 26-213-XWE
(free).

Aircraft Movement Statistics: NAV CANADA Towers and Flight Service Stations (TP 141), March 2009
Catalogue number 51-007-XWE
(free).

Deaths, 2006
Catalogue number 84F0211XWE
(free).

All prices are in Canadian dollars and exclude sales tax. Additional shipping charges apply for delivery outside Canada.

Catalogue numbers with an -XWE, -XIB or an -XIE extension are Internet versions; those with -XMB or -XME are microfiche; -XPB or -XPE are paper versions; -XDB or -XDE are electronic versions on diskette; -XCB or -XCE are electronic versions on compact disc; -XVB or -XVE are electronic versions on DVD and -XBB or -XBE a database.

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