

CANADA

Public Administration Country Profile

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Canada

[Click here](#) for detailed map



Source: [The World Factbook](#) – Canada

Government type

a constitutional monarchy that is also a parliamentary democracy and a federation

based on French law prevails; accepts compulsory ICJ jurisdiction, with reservations

Independence

1 July 1867 (union of British North American colonies); 11 December 1931 (independence recognized)

Administrative divisions

provinces and 3 territories

Constitution

made up of unwritten and written acts, customs, judicial decisions, and traditions; the written part of the constitution consists of the Constitution Act of 29 March 1867, which created a federation of four provinces, and the Constitution Act of 17 April 1982, which transferred formal control over the constitution from Britain to Canada, and added a Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms.

Canada is a land of vast distances and rich natural resources, Canada became a self-governing dominion in 1867 while retaining ties to the British crown. The country has about 31 million people. More than 80 percent of all the people in Canada live in towns and cities within 250 kilometers of the United States border. Canada's largest cities are Toronto, Ontario (4.4 million people); Montréal, Quebec (3.4 million); and Vancouver, British Columbia (1.9 million). French is the mother tongue of 6.6 million Canadians. Most Francophones live in Quebec.

Legal system

based on English common law, except in Quebec, where civil law system

Canada has a diversified economy. Natural resources industries, such as forestry, mining, oil and gas extraction,

farming and fishing, are important sources of jobs and export earnings. Canada is also a leader in the fields of telecommunications, biotechnology, aerospace technologies and pharmaceuticals. Along with the United States and Mexico, Canada is a partner in the North American Free Trade Agreement.

Canada is a federation, with a parliamentary system of government. Powers and responsibilities are therefore divided between the federal government and the 10 provincial governments. Canada also has three territorial jurisdictions. Canada has three levels of government: federal, provincial and municipal (cities and towns). These governments are elected by the citizens of Canada.

There are three main groups of Aboriginal peoples in Canada: the First Nations, the Inuit and the Métis. There are more than 50 different languages spoken by Canada's Aboriginal peoples, most of which are spoken only in Canada. The name "Canada" may have come from the word "Kanata," which means a settlement in the language of the Huron-Iroquois First Nations peoples.

As a country, Canada came into being on July 1, 1867. This event is known as "Confederation." Before 1867, the French arrived first, then the British. Each brought their own language, system of government, laws and culture. In 1763, after a long war between the British and the French, all of Canada came under British rule and was known as "British North America."

In the late 18th and into the 19th century, during and after the time of the American Revolution, many African-Americans and United Empire Loyalists fled the United States for Canada, where British ties remained and slavery had been abolished.

During the mid- to late 19th and early 20th century, waves of immigrants arrived from Europe, attracted by the opportunity of a new and better life in Canada. Some settled in towns and cities; others worked in factories, mines and lumber camps. Many were farmers who turned the Prairie region into wheat fields. Asian immigrants from China, Japan and India settled mainly in the western provinces during this time. Many immigrants helped build Canada's national railways, which joined the east and west coasts and opened up the interior for settlement.

After both world wars, thousands of Europeans came to Canada as immigrants and refugees and helped build Canada's post-war economy. Canada's experience during and after the Second World War raised awareness of the needs of refugees and the desire of families to be together.

Over the last 50 years, people from all over the globe have sought a better life or have sought refuge in Canada, fleeing civil wars, political unrest and natural disasters. Today, Canada is home to immigrants from more than 240 countries.

Source: The World Factbook – Canada & Citizens & Migration of the Government of Canada (2006)

1. General Information

1.1 People	Canada	United States	UK	1
Population				a
Total estimated population (,000), 2003	31,510	294,043	59,251	
Female estimated population (,000), 2003	15,911	149,595	30,388	
Male estimated population (,000), 2003	15,599	144,448	28,863	
Sex ratio (males per 100 females), 2003	98	97	95	
Average annual rate of change of pop. (%), 2000-2005	0.77	1.03	0.31	
Youth and Elderly Population				b
Total population under age 15 (%), 2003	18	21	18	
Female population aged 60+ (%), 2003	19	18	23	
Male population aged 60+ (%), 2003	16	15	19	
Human Settlements				c
Urban population (%), 2001	79	77	90	
Rural population (%), 2001	21	23	10	
Urban average annual rate of change in pop. (%), '00-'05	1.06	1.19	0.25	
Rural average annual rate of change in pop/ (%), '00-'05	-0.2	-0.18	-0.5	
Education				d
Total school life expectancy, 2000-2001	15	15.3	16.3	1
Female school life expectancy, 2000-2001	15	15.8	16.7	1
Male school life expectancy, 2000-2001	15	14.8	15.8	1
Female estimated adult (15+) illiteracy rate (%), 2000	..	..	..	2
Male estimated adult (15+) illiteracy rate (%), 2000	..	..	..	2
Employment				e
Unemployment rate (15+) (%), 2001	7.2 ⁱ	4.8	5.5 ⁱⁱⁱ	1
Female adult (+15) economic activity rate (%), 2001	60	4.7	4.8 ⁱⁱⁱ	2
Male adult (+15) economic activity rate (%), 2001	73 ⁱⁱ	4.8	6.1 ⁱⁱⁱ	2

Notes: ⁱ Excluding residents of the Territories and indigenous persons living on reserves. Also excluding full-time members of the armed forces, ⁱⁱ Excluding full-time members of the armed forces and indigenous populations living on reserves, ⁱⁱⁱ Months of March-May.

1.2 Economy	Canada	United States	UK	2
GDP				a
GDP total (millions US\$), 2002	715,692	10,416,818	1,552,437	
GDP per capita (US\$), 2002	22,783	36,123	26,376	
PPP GDP total (millions int. US\$), 2002	901,552	10,138,409	1,510,997	
PPP GDP per capita(int. US\$), 2002	28,699	35,158	25,672	
Sectors				b
Value added in agriculture (% of GDP), 1994	2.8	1.8	1.0	
Value added in industry (% of GDP), 1994	30.5	26.1	26.6	
Value added in services (% of GDP), 1994	66.7	72.1	72.4	
Miscellaneous				c
GDP implicit price deflator (annual % growth), 2004	3.2	2.1	3.2	
Private consumption (% of GDP), 1994	57.2	67.6	65.6	
Government consumption (% of GDP), 1994	22.5	15.6	21.1	

¹ United Nations Statistics Division:

^a Statistics Division and Population Division of the UN Secretariat; ^b Statistics Division and Population Division of the UN Secretariat; ^c Population Division of the UN Secretariat; ^{d1} UNESCO; ^{d2} UNESCO; ^{e1} ILO; ^{e2} ILO/OECD

² World Bank - Data and Statistics:

^a Quick Reference Tables; ^b Data Profile Tables; ^c Country at a Glance

1.3 Public Spending	Canada	United States	UK	
Public expenditures				3
Education (% of GNP), 1985-1987	6.7	5 ^{i, ii}	4.8	a
Education (% of GNP), 1995-1997	6.9 ^{i, iii}	5.4 ^{i, ii}	5.3 ⁱ	a
Health (% of GDP), 1990	6.8	4.7 ^{iv}	5.1	
Health (% of GDP), 1998	6.6 ^{iv}	5.7 ^{iv}	5.8 ⁱⁱ	
Military (% of GDP), 1990	2	5.3	3.9	b
Military (% of GDP), 2000	1.2	3.1	2.5	b
Total debt service (% of GDP), 1990	..	..	..
Total debt service (% of GDP), 2000	..	..	..

Notes: ⁱ Data may not be strictly comparable with those for earlier years as a result of methodological changes, ⁱⁱⁱ Data refer to a year or period other than that specified, ^{iv} Data refer to 1999, ^v Data refer to the Federal Republic of Germany before reunification.

1.4 Public Sector Employment and Wages						
<i>Data from the latest year available</i>		Canada 1991-1995	Canada 1996-2000	Non European Union Average ⁴ 1996-2000	High income OECD average ⁴ 1996-2000	High income group average ⁴ 1996-2000
Employment						
Civilian Central Government ⁵	(,000)	287	331			
	(% pop.)	1.0	1.1	1.6	..	2.8
Sub-national Government ⁵	(,000)	504	622			
	(% pop.)	1.7	2.1	1.6	..	2.8
Education employees	(,000)	360	814			
	(% pop.)	1.3	2.7	..	..	1.3
Health employees	(,000)	..	708			
	(% pop.)	..	2.3	..	..	1.1
Police	(,000)	310	..			
	(% pop.)	1.1	..	..	..
Armed forces	(,000)	71	61			
	(% pop.)	0.2	0.2	0.1	..	0.5
SOE Employees	(,000)	303	..			
	(% pop.)	1.1	..	..	..	..
Total Public Employment	(,000)	..	..	
	(% pop.)	..	..	..	..	..
Wages						
Total Central gov't wage bill	(% of GDP)	1.7	1.6	1.5	..	4.2
Total Central gov't wage bill	(% of exp)	9.7	10.4	12.7	..	16.4
Average gov't wage	(,000 LCU)	39	43			
Real ave. gov't wage ('97 price)	(,000 LCU)	..	43			
Average gov't wage to per capita GDP ratio		1.6	1.5	1.4	..	..

Source: [World Bank](#) - [Public Sector Employment and Wages](#)

³ UNDP - [Human Development Report 2002](#)

^a Data refer to total public expenditure on education, including current and capital expenditures.

^b As a result of a number of limitations in the data, comparisons of military expenditure data over time and across countries should be made with caution. For detailed notes on the data see SIPRI (2001).

⁴ Averages for regions and sub regions are only generated if data is available for at least 35% of the countries in that region or sub region.

⁵ Excluding education, health and police – if available (view [Country Sources](#) for further explanations).

2. Legal Structure

Canada is a parliamentary democracy and a constitutional monarchy. It is a federal state, with 10 largely self-governing provinces and three territories administered by the central government. For the nation, there was a Parliament, with a Governor General representing the Queen; an appointed Upper House, the Senate; and an elected Lower House, the House of Commons. For every province there was a legislature, with a Lieutenant-Governor representing the Queen; for every province except Ontario, an appointed Upper House, the Legislative Council, and an elected Lower House, the Legislative Assembly.

Source: Parliament of Canada – how Canada govern themselves & the institutions (2005)

2.1 Legislative Branch

bicameral Parliament or Parlement consists of the Senate or Senat (members appointed by the governor general with the advice of the prime minister and serve until reaching 75 years of age; its normal limit is 105 senators) and the House of Commons or Chambre des Communes (308 seats; members elected by direct, popular vote to serve for up to five-year terms).⁶

women in parliament: 64 out of 308 seats in the senate (20.8%) and 35 out of 100 seats (35.0%) in the house of representatives.⁷

The Senate's intended role is to safeguard regional, provincial and minority interests and has 105 members. The Senate seats are allocated to provide each region of the country with equal representation. Over half of the seats in the Senate are distributed to less populated parts of the country, complementing the representation-by-population basis of the House of Commons; Senators must be over 30 years of age, must own property and must reside in the region they represent. Their independence is protected by tenure until the age of 75. Bills can be introduced in the Senate unless they raise or allocate public funds. To become law, a bill must be passed by both the Senate and the House of Commons before receiving Royal Assent in the Senate.

The House of Commons provides for the representation of the country's population in the national assembly. There are 301 seats in the House of Commons, distributed among the provinces according to population. To ensure a minimum level of representation from each province, no province can have fewer seats than it has members in the Senate. The Government must have the support of the House of Commons and retain its confidence in order to stay in power.

Fact box:

elections: House of Commons - last held 23 January 2006 (next to be held in 2011)
election results: House of Commons - percent of vote by party - Conservative Party 36.3%, Liberal Party 30.2%, New Democratic Party 17.5%, Bloc Quebecois 10.5%, Greens 4.5%, other 1%; seats by party - Conservative Party 124, Liberal Party 103, New Democratic Party 29, Bloc Quebecois 51, other 1

Source: Parliament of Canada – how Canada govern themselves & the institutions (2005)

⁶ Source of fact boxes if nothing else stated: [The World Factbook](#) - Canada

⁷ [Inter-Parliamentary Union](#) - [Women in National Parliaments](#)

2.2 Executive Branch

cabinet: Federal Ministry chosen by the prime minister usually from among the members of his own party sitting in Parliament

elections: none; the monarchy is hereditary; governor general appointed by the monarch on the advice of the prime minister for a five-year term; following legislative elections, the leader of the majority party or the leader of the majority coalition in the House of Commons is automatically designated prime minister by the governor general

The Constitution declares that executive authority is vested in the Queen. While the Prime Minister exercises the powers of the Head of Government, the official functions of the Head of State are carried out by the Governor General who is appointed by the Queen as her personal representative on the advice of the Prime Minister.

The Governor General governs through a Cabinet, headed by a Prime Minister or Premier. The Governor General, who is always a Canadian, is appointed by the Queen on the advice of the Canadian Prime Minister and, except in very extraordinary circumstances, exercises all powers of the office on the advice of the Cabinet (a council of Ministers), which has the support of a majority of the members of the popularly elected House of Commons. The Governor General governs through a Cabinet, headed by a Prime Minister. The Prime Minister chooses the other Ministers, who are then formally appointed by the Governor General.

Fact box:

chief of state: Queen ELIZABETH II (since 6 February 1952), represented by Governor General Michaëlle JEAN (since 27 September 2005)
head of government: Prime Minister Stephen HARPER (since 6 February 2006)

Source: Parliament of Canada – how Canada govern themselves & the institutions (2005)

2.3 Judiciary Branch

Supreme Court of Canada (judges are appointed by the prime minister through the governor general); Federal Court of Canada; Federal Court of Appeal; Provincial Courts (these are named variously Court of Appeal, Court of Queens Bench, Superior Court, Supreme Court, and Court of Justice)

The organization of Canada's judicial system is a function of Canada's Constitution, and particularly of the Constitution Act, 1867. By virtue of that Act, authority for the judicial system in Canada is divided between the federal government and the ten provincial governments. The latter are given jurisdiction over "the administration of justice" in the provinces, which includes "the constitution, organization and maintenance" of the courts, both civil and criminal, in the province, as well as civil procedure in those courts.

The courts in Canada are organized in a four-tiered structure. The Supreme Court of Canada sits at the apex of the structure and, consistent with its role as "a General Court of Appeal for Canada". It functions as a national, and not merely federal, court of last resort. The second tier down from the Supreme Court of Canada consists of the Federal Court of Appeal and the various provincial courts of appeal. Two of these latter courts, it should be noted, also function as the courts of appeal for the three federal territories in northern Canada, the Yukon Territory, the Northwest Territories, and the Nunavut Territory. The next tier down consists of the Federal Court, the Tax Court of Canada and the provincial and territorial superior courts of general

jurisdiction. At the bottom of the hierarchy are the courts typically described as provincial courts. These courts are generally divided within each province into various divisions defined by the subject matter of their respective jurisdictions; hence, one usually finds a Traffic Division, a Small Claims Division, a Family Division, a Criminal Division.

All members of the judiciary in Canada, regardless of the court, are drawn from the legal profession. In the case of those judges appointed by the federal government, which includes the judges of all of the courts apart from those at the bottom of the hierarchy and described generally as provincial courts, are required by federal statute to have been a member of a provincial or territorial bar for at least ten years. All judges in Canada are subject to mandatory retirement. In the case of some of the judges appointed by the federal government, the age of retirement is fixed by the Constitution Act, 1867, at 75.

Source: Supreme Court of Canada – 2005 (edited)

2.4 Local Government

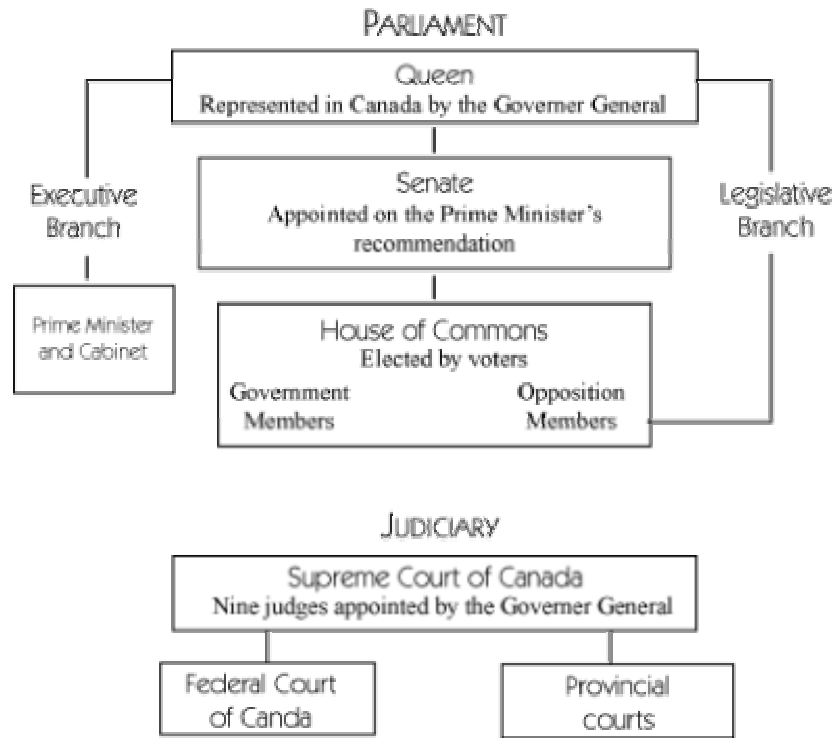
In the Federation of Canada powers and responsibilities are divided between the federal government and the 10 provincial governments. Canada also has three territorial jurisdictions. Canada has three levels of government: federal, provincial and municipal (cities and towns). These governments are elected by the citizens of Canada. The Northwest Territories, Yukon and Nunavut are not sovereign units. They get their powers from the federal parliament, but they have elected assemblies that follow many of the same practices as the provincial governments.

Every province has a legislative assembly (there are no Upper Houses) that is very similar to the House of Commons and transacts its business in much the same way. All bills must go through three readings and receive Royal Assent by the Lieutenant-Governor, the Queen's representative in the province. Members of the legislature are elected from constituencies established by the legislature roughly in proportion to population, and whichever candidate gets the largest number of votes is elected, even if his or her vote is less than half the total.

Municipal governments — cities, towns, villages, counties, districts, metropolitan regions — are set up by the provincial legislatures, and have the power to determine the amount of autonomy. Mayors, reeves and councillors are elected on a basis that the provincial legislature prescribes. There are now roughly 4,000 municipal governments in the country. They provide us with such services as water supply, sewage and garbage disposal, roads, sidewalks, street lighting, building codes, parks, playgrounds, libraries and so forth. Schools are generally looked after by school boards or commissions elected under provincial education Acts.

Source: Parliament of Canada — how Canada govern themselves (2005) & Citizens and migration of the Canadian government (2005) (edited)

CANADA'S SYSTEM OF GOVERNMENT



Source: Parliament of Canada – 2005

3. The State and Civil Society

3.1 Ombudsperson

There are nine provincial Ombudsmen and two territorial Ombudsmen in Canada. There is no federal Ombudsman but there are specialty ombudsmen at the federal level, eg. the Information Commissioner and the Privacy Commissioner. In addition, some cities such as Montreal and Winnipeg have Ombudsman persons offices. There are also several Ombudsmen in the private sector such as banking and financial groups.

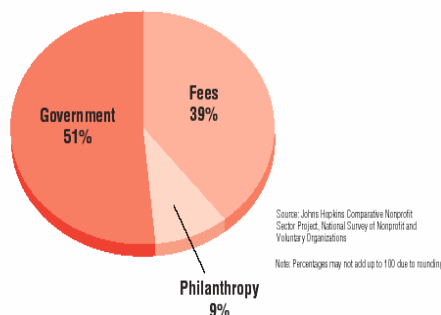
Source: Forum of Canadian Ombudsman (2003) - edited

3.2 Civil Society

The nonprofit and voluntary sector is an economic force in Canada. It accounts for 6.8 percent of the nation's gross domestic product (GDP) and, when the value of volunteer work is incorporated, contributes 8.5 percent of the GDP. If one sets aside the one percent of organizations that are hospitals, universities, and colleges, the remaining organizations contribute 4.0 percent of the nation's GDP. According to standard measures, the GDP of the nonprofit sector is estimated at \$61.8 billion in 1999.

To get a clearer view of the diversity of other organizations making up the Canadian nonprofit sector, hospitals, universities and colleges can be excluded. The remainder of the sector is generally (but not exclusively) made up of smaller organizations, functioning in a broad range of fields. This group of organizations accounts for 36.9% of nonprofit sector GDP. For the sector excluding hospitals, universities and colleges, the field of social services led the way, accounting for over 20% of GDP. Culture and recreation followed at 16.1%, then development and housing (14.9%), religion (11.4%), business and professional associations and unions (9.7%) and health at 8.8%. Together, these six fields of activity accounted for over 80% of the GDP generated by civil society.

Figure 8. Sources of nonprofit and voluntary organization revenue in Canada



Source: John Hopkins University Institute for Policy Studies – Center for civil Society studies – The comparative non-profit sector – Canada (2006)

4. Civil Service

The Canadian Public Service assumed its current form until after publication of the Order in Council of February 13, 1918. This Order established a Civil Service Commission (CSC) of three members appointed by the Governor in Council for ten years, removable only by a joint address by the two houses of Parliament. The Commission was in charge of recruitment, organization, classification, compensation, promotion and transfer in both the central and regional service. Currently, Canada federal civil service is guided by two separate organizations, the cabinet-level Treasury Board (TB) and the Public Service Commission (PSC).

Source: Public Service Commission of Canada: Overview of recent public service reforms in Canada, Britain, Australia, New Zealand and the United States (1999) - edited

4.1 Legal basis

The Public Service Commission of Canada (PSC) is an independent agency responsible for safeguarding the values of a professional Public Service: competence, non-partisanship and representativeness. The Public Service Employment was enacted as part of the Public Service Modernization Act (PSMA). The PSMA, received Royal Assent on 7 November 2003.

Source: Public Service Commission of Canada (2006)

4.2 Recruitment

Canada has the characteristic of a decentralized management system, departments have primary responsibility for the implementation of employment equity and its integration into the corporate culture and human resources management practices. The head of each organization is accountable for achieving results in relation to delegated responsibilities. In exceptional cases, such as for specialized posts, exams could be required.

Source: Public Service Commission of Canada: Overview of recent public service reforms in Canada, Britain, Australia, New Zealand and the United States (1999)

4.3 Promotion

The exclusive authority to make appointments to, or from within, the Public Service of Canada is assigned by statute to the Public Service Commission (PSC), an independent agency reporting to Parliament. The PSC has the power to delegate this authority to individual government departments and agencies, and most staffing is carried out under the authority of such delegation agreements. The PSC oversees departmental staffing both on a systemic basis (for example via reviews and evaluations, research, framework policy approaches, and sharing of best practices) and by reviewing specific transactions through formal recourse processes (usually initiated by affected individuals). For senior executives there is a rank in person system.

Source: Public Service Commission of Canada (2006)

4.4 Remuneration

In Canada, almost all nonmanagerial national public employees are covered by a bargaining unit. The pay is set by negotiation between the Treasury Board and the negotiation agent of the various groups of profession. The Government of Canada respects the collective bargaining process and negotiates with unions to reach agreements by means of this process. The Treasury Board as the employer negotiates for 26 different bargaining units.

Source: Public Service Commission of Canada: Overview of recent public service reforms in Canada, Britain, Australia, New Zealand and the United States (1999) & the Treasury Board of Canada Secretariat (2006)

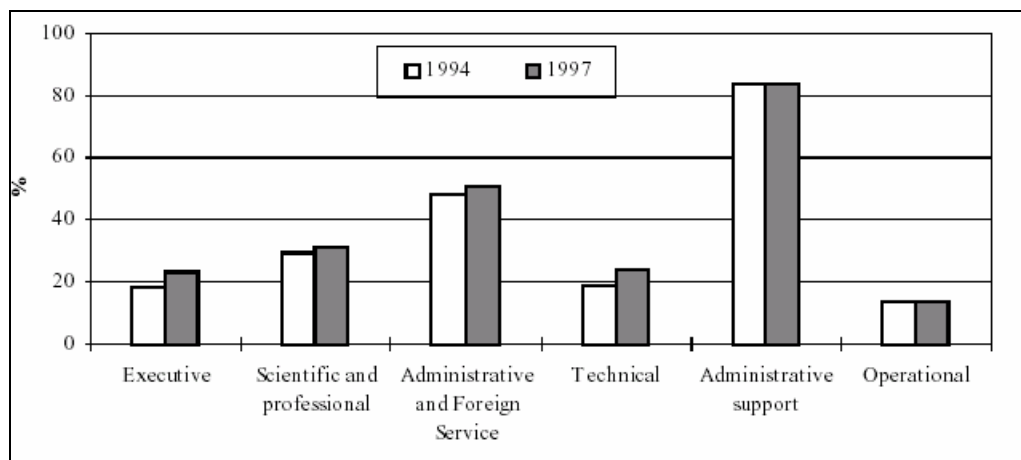
4.5 Training

The Canada School of Public Service is the common learning service provider for the Public Service of Canada. It brings a unified approach to serving the common learning and development needs of public servants and helps ensure that all public service employees across Canada have the knowledge and skills they need to deliver results for Canadians. The School reports to the President of the Treasury Board, through a Board of Governors made up of representatives of the private and public sectors. Its work is governed by the Canadian Centre for Management Development Act which identifies the School as a continuation of the former organization.

Source: The Canada School of Public Service (2006) - edited

4.6 Gender

Canada has a "Employment Equity Act" of 1995 of which the purpose is "to achieve equality in the workplace so that no person shall be denied employment opportunities or benefits for reasons unrelated to ability and, in the fulfilment of that goal, to correct the conditions of disadvantage in employment experienced by women, aboriginal peoples, persons with disabilities and members of visible minorities".



Source: OECD – Structure of the civil service employment in seven OECD countries (1999)

Between 1997 and 1994 in Canada, the proportion of women increased in the four groups in which the percentage of women was lower than that of men. But it remained flat in the administrative support category. Women are not very well

represented in the “technical” and “operational” groups, they account for one-third of the scientific and professional category and just over one-fifth of executive personnel, versus four-fifths of administrative support staff.

Source: OECD – Structure of the civil service employment in seven OECD countries (1999)

Overall, women (51.5 per cent) and Aboriginal peoples (2.9 per cent) have representation rates that are currently higher than workforce availability rates of 48.7 and 1.7 per cent, respectively. The representation of both groups also had surpassed availability during the 1997–98 fiscal year. The gap between representation of persons with disabilities (4.6 per cent) and their workforce availability (4.8 per cent) has been reduced significantly; representation was at 3.9 per cent in 1999. A substantial gap persists between the representation of persons in a visible minority group (5.9 per cent) and the workforce availability figure of 8.7 per cent.

Source: Public Service Commission of Canada: Overview of recent public service reforms in Canada, Britain, Australia, New Zealand and the United States (1999)

5. Ethics and Civil Service

5.1 Corruption

2003 CPI Score relates to perceptions of the degree of corruption as seen by business people and country analysts and ranges between 10 (highly clean) and 0 (highly corrupt).

Corruption Perceptions Index							
		2003 CPI Score	Surveys Used	Standard Deviation	High-Low Range	Number Inst.	90 percent confidence range
Rank	Country						
1	Highly clean	9.7	8	0.3	9.2 - 10.0	4	9.5 - 9.9
11	Canada	8.7	12	0.9	6.5 - 9.4	8	8.2 - 9.1
133	Highly corrupt	1.3	8	0.7	0.3 - 2.2	6	0.9 - 1.7

Source: [Transparency International - Corruption Perceptions Index 2003](#)

Surveys Used: Refers to the number of surveys that were used to assess a country's performance. 17 surveys were used and at least 3 surveys were required for a country to be included in the CPI.

Standard Deviation: Indicates differences in the values of the sources. Values below 0.5 indicate agreement, values between 0.5 and c. 0.9 indicate some agreement, while values equal or larger than 1 indicate disagreement.

High-Low Range: Provides the highest and lowest values of the sources.

Number Institutions: Refers to the number of independent institutions that assessed a country's performance. Since some institutions provided more than one survey.

90 percent confidence range: Provides a range of possible values of the CPI score. With 5 percent probability the score is above this range and with another 5 percent it is below.

Within Canada, the federal government seeks to prevent and prohibit potential domestic corruption by a combination of federal statutes, parliamentary rules and administrative provisions. The Criminal Code includes offences which prohibit bribery, frauds on the government and influence peddling, fraud or a breach of trust in connection with duties of office, municipal corruption, selling or purchasing office, influencing or negotiating appointments or dealing in offices, possession of property or proceeds obtained by crime, fraud, laundering proceeds of crime and secret commissions. Internationally, Canada has actively participated in anti-corruption initiatives in various international forums, including the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), the Organization of American States, the Council of Europe, the United Nations, the Commonwealth and within the G-8.

In addition, Canada has the Corruption of Foreign Public Officials Act features three offences: bribing a foreign public official, laundering property and proceeds, and possession of property and proceeds. In addition, the Act makes it possible to prosecute, for example, a conspiracy or an attempt to commit the offences. It would also cover aiding and abetting in committing these offences, an intention in common to commit them, and counselling others to commit the offences.

Source: Canada Justice Department (2005)

5.2 Ethics

The new *Public Service Employment Act* (PSEA) provides a new regime for governing the political activities of public servants, recognizing the need to balance the rights of

employees to engage in political activities with the principle of an impartial public service. The Public Service Commission (PSC) oversees the political impartiality of the public service.

The legislation is explicit about the rules related to political activities in the public service and applies to involvement in federal, provincial, territorial and municipal politics. Public servants are permitted to engage in any political activity as long as it does not impair, or is not perceived as impairing, their ability to perform their duties in a politically impartial manner. The political involvement of deputy heads is limited to voting.

The Public Service Commission is responsible for the oversight of public servants' involvement in political activities, including: (i) granting permission and leave for candidacy in federal, provincial, territorial and municipal elections; (ii) providing guidance with respect to involvement in political activities; and (iii) investigating allegations of inappropriate involvement of a public servant in political activities; and taking corrective action when the allegations are founded.

Source: Public Service Commission of Canada (2006)

6. e-Government

e-Government Readiness Index:

The index refers to the generic capacity or aptitude of the public sector to use ICT for encapsulating in public services and deploying to the public, high quality information (explicit knowledge) and effective communication tools that support human development.

The index is comprised of three sub-indices: Web Measure Index, Telecommunications Infrastructure Index and Human Capital Index.

Web Measure Index:

A scale based on progressively sophisticated web services present. Coverage and sophistication of state-provided e-service and e-product availability correspond to a numerical classification.

Telecommunications Infrastructure Index:

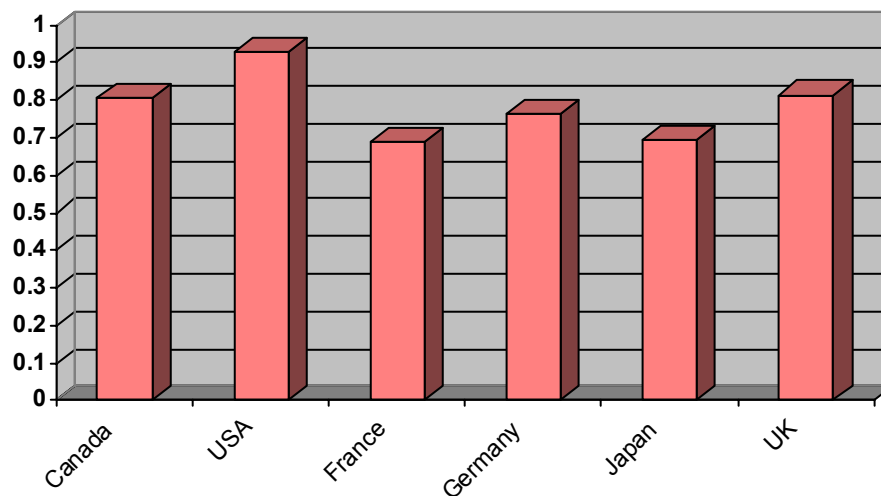
A composite, weighted average index of six primary indices, based on basic infrastructural indicators that define a country's ICT infrastructure capacity.

Primary indicators are: PC's, Internet users, online population and Mobile phones. Secondary indicators are TVs and telephone lines.

Human Capital Index:

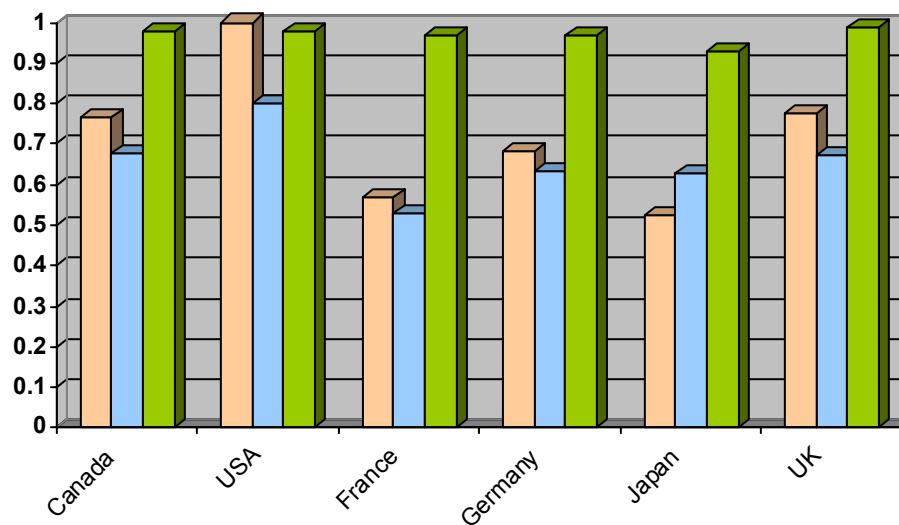
A composite of the adult literacy rate and the combined primary, secondary and tertiary gross enrolment ratio, with two thirds of the weight given to adult literacy and one third to the gross enrolment ratio.

e-Government Readiness Index



Source: United Nations – World Public Sector Report 2003

Web Measure Index Telecom. Infrastructure Index Human Capital Index



Source: United Nations – World Public Sector Report 2003

e-Participation Index:

Refers to the willingness, on the part of the government, to use ICT to provide high quality information (explicit knowledge) and effective communication tools for the specific purpose of empowering people for able participation in consultations and decision-making both in their capacity as consumers of public services and as citizens.

e-information:

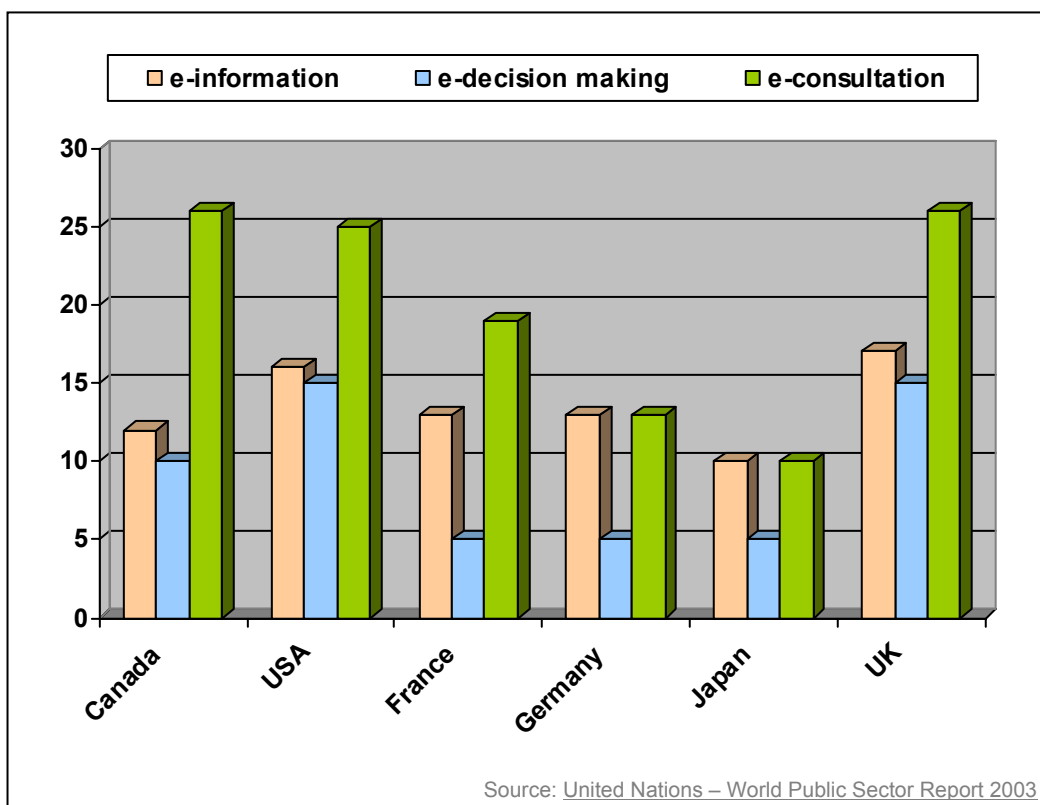
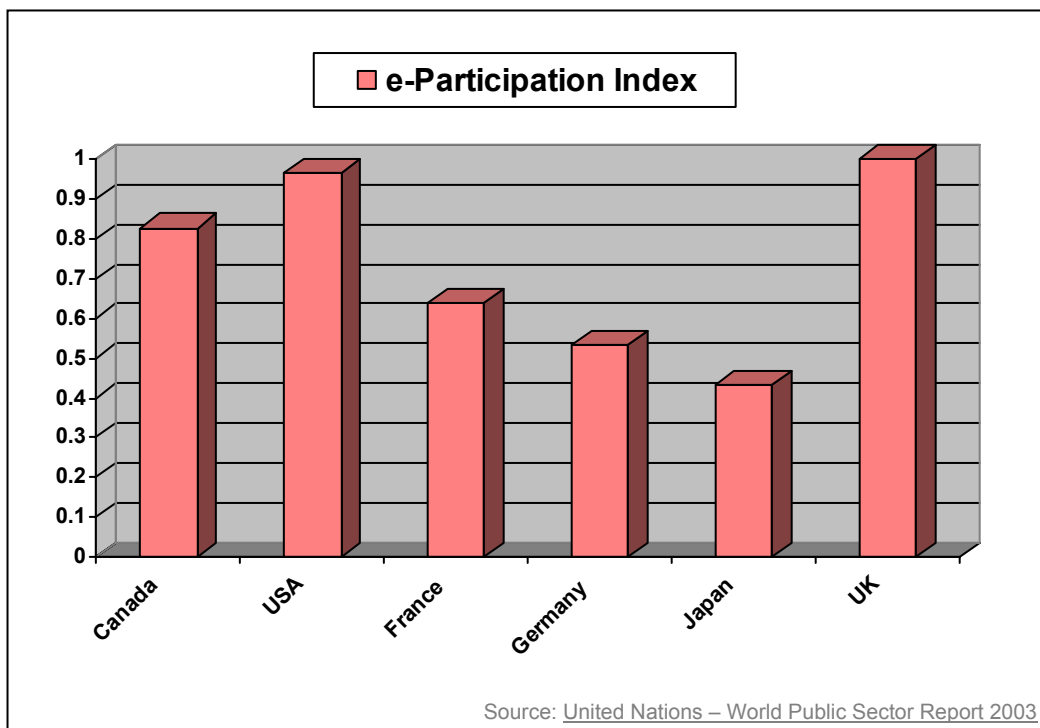
The government websites offer information on policies and programs, budgets, laws and regulations, and other briefs of key public interest. Tools for disseminating of information exist for timely access and use of public information, including web forums, e-mail lists, newsgroups and chat rooms.

e-decision making:

The government indicates that it will take citizens input into account in decision making and provides actual feedback on the outcome of specific issues.

e-consultation:

The government website explains e-consultation mechanisms and tools. It offers a choice of public policy topics online for discussion with real time and archived access to audios and videos of public meetings. The government encourages citizens to participate in discussions.



7. Links

7.1 National sites	
Authority	Topic
Canada Justice department	http://www.justice.gc.ca/
The Supreme Court of Canada	http://www.scc-csc.gc.ca/
Forum of Canadian Ombudsman	http://www.ombudsmanforum.ca/
Parliament of Canada	http://www.parl.gc.ca/
Public Service Commission of Canada	http://www.psc-cfp.gc.ca/
Treasury Board of Canada	http://www.tbs-sct.gc.ca/
The Canadian School of Public Service	http://www.myschool-monecole.gc.ca/

7.2 Miscellaneous sites	
Institution	Topic
The Center for Public Integrity	http://www.publicintegrity.org/
UNPAN	http://www.unpan.org/virtual_library-byregion.asp
World Bank (WB)	http://www.worldbank.org/