

# ***Fiscal Figures***

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## **INTERNATIONAL TAX COMPARISONS**

*OECD comparisons of the ratios of tax collections to gross domestic product provide an international perspective on the relative tax burden on Canadians and Canadian business. Our burden is well below European levels, but significantly higher than that on Americans.*

The annual review of tax collections in the 28 members of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) provides a wealth of information on the tax systems of our closest competitors and neighbours, but it also hides the more contentious aspects of international tax comparisons. The 1999 edition<sup>1</sup> shows that Canada's overall tax burden remains at about the middle, but is still significantly above the level in the United States, the country most often held up for comparison. The Canadian balance of taxes varies from the average in Europe and the rest of North America. The reasons for these differences do not, however, emerge from the statistical tables.

There are several ways of comparing tax burdens. A person contemplating emigration may simply apply the other country's tax system to his or her particular circumstances to estimate how much more or less disposable income would result from the move. However, this analysis is often incomplete; sales and excise taxes, property taxes, the cost of certain goods provided by government monopolies, and other fees and user charges tend to escape the usual comparison. More important, the services provided by government are seldom taken into account. The cost of providing retirement income where there are few government programs for social security, or the cost of private health-care insurance where the state program is inadequate or non-existent, can alter the estimated net change in financial well-being. The exercise is even more complicated for businesses. The tax burden does not necessarily indicate the effect of the public sector on the national economy. Government regulation can require individuals or businesses to provide at their own expense certain services that, in other countries, are provided by government and financed by taxation.

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<sup>1</sup> Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development, *Revenue Statistics, 1965/1998* (Paris: OECD, 1999).

Despite its limitations, the ratio of tax collections to gross domestic product (GDP) remains the most reliable basis for comparing tax burdens across borders. In 1997, tax collections in Canada were equivalent to 36.8 percent of GDP, as shown in table 1. The OECD uses its own system of national accounts to ensure that the data for all countries are comparable. (Using Statistics Canada's data unadjusted, the 1997 ratio was 37.4 percent.) The table shows that Canada's ratio increased slightly over the period 1995 to 1997, as did the average for all OECD members. We rose marginally from 16th to 15th out of the 29 countries over the period. Although Canada compares favourably with Sweden, France, Italy, and even Germany, our ratio is slightly higher than that of the United Kingdom, and well above the ratio of 29.7 percent recorded for the United States and 27.9 percent for Japan.

Table 2 shows how our tax system relies more heavily on personal income taxes than do the systems of most OECD member countries. Only five other countries have personal income tax collections that exceeded the 14.0 percent of GDP registered in Canada. The unweighted average ratio in the European Union, for example, was just 10.9 percent. In only eight countries did taxes on corporate income exceed the 3.8 percent of GDP shown for Canada, and we were well above the average for the OECD as a whole. Contributions to social security programs—the Canada and Quebec pension plans, employment insurance, and workers' compensation—were equivalent to only 4.9 percent of GDP in Canada in 1997, well below the OECD average, and even below the US level. Taxes on property, which include net wealth and inheritance taxes, represented 3.7 percent of Canada's GDP, second only to the 3.8 percent recorded in the United Kingdom; the average for all OECD members was about half that level. Although our taxes on goods and services, at 9.0 percent of GDP, were lower than the OECD average of 11.6 percent, they were almost double the US ratio of 4.9 percent.

It is not surprising, given our high personal income taxes, that Canada was more dependent on this source of tax revenue than all other OECD countries except the United States, Australia, New Zealand, and Denmark, as shown in table 3. Our second largest source of revenue, taxes on goods and services, accounted for 24.4 percent of all taxes, still well below the average for all OECD countries. Social security contributions amounted to 13.4 percent, also well below the 24.9 percent registered by all OECD countries. Although our property taxes were the second highest in the OECD, they did not constitute as large a proportion of total revenue as they did in the United States, Japan, Korea, and the United Kingdom.

Tables 4 to 7 provide information on the evolution of the tax systems in the OECD since 1965. As shown in table 4, the total tax ratio in Canada grew from 25.9 percent of GDP in 1965 to 36.8 percent in 1997, an increase slightly less pronounced than that for the OECD as a whole. The ratio in the United States, in comparison, rose from 25.0 percent to 29.7 percent over the same period. Tables 5 and 2 show that social security contributions rose from 1.4 percent of GDP in

1965 to 4.9 percent in 1997. Over the same period the US ratio rose from 3.3 percent to 7.2 percent, and the OECD average rose from 4.7 percent to 9.6 percent. The last column of table 5 shows how much of the total burden of social security levies is borne initially by employees. Because of the higher employment insurance rates for employers, and because workers' compensation levies in Canada are imposed exclusively on employers, only 37.8 percent of all social security is borne by employees, a ratio virtually unchanged from 1965. In the United States, in comparison, the employees' share rose from 38.1 percent to 43.2 percent over the same period.

Table 6 shows that taxes on goods and services in Canada remained steady at about 10 percent of GDP from 1965 to 1985, despite the fact that federal and provincial general sales tax rates and the rates of excise tax on alcoholic beverages, tobacco products, and motor vehicle fuels increased over that period. Since the late 1980s, however, the rates have remained fairly constant and the relative importance of such taxes has declined noticeably, from 10.5 percent in 1985 to 9.0 percent in 1997. The increasing relative importance of general sales taxes is illustrated in table 7. In Canada, such taxes rose from 44.0 percent of all taxes on goods and services to 56.9 percent in 1997. The pattern was even more pronounced in the United States, where general sales taxes—all at the state or local level—rose from 21.1 percent of the total in 1965 to 46.7 percent in 1997.

As noted above, both Canada and the United Kingdom have very high taxes on property, a separate classification of taxes in the OECD publication. Only in the three North American countries and Poland did the annual property tax exceed 75 percent of all taxes in this category. The overall importance of the remaining items in this category—recurrent taxes on net wealth, death and gift taxes, taxes on financial and capital transactions, and other—did not amount, individually, to more than 1 percent of GDP in any country in 1997.

The caveats registered against international tax comparisons can be illustrated by the comparisons made in table 8, which is drawn from a different OECD annual publication<sup>2</sup> also covering 1997. These data show that single workers earning the average salary of a production worker pay only slightly more in personal income tax and social security levies in Canada than in the United States, despite the much more pronounced difference in tax-to-GDP ratios. The marginal rate on their next dollar of income, however, is much higher in Canada than in the United States. The same workers, married with two dependent children, would be paying about the same tax, after netting out the child tax benefit in Canada, but in this case the marginal tax rates favour the Canadian workers. It is interesting to note the very high marginal rates facing both single and married taxpayers at these relatively low levels of income. In six countries,

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2 Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development, *The Tax/Benefit Position of Employees, 1997* (Paris: OECD, 1998).

single taxpayers face a marginal rate in excess of 50 percent, but in only four countries do families face such rates.

Although Statistics Canada continues to use definitions of taxes and GDP that differ slightly from those used in the OECD analysis, it is useful to compare the tax figures developed from Statistics Canada's *Provincial Economic Accounts*<sup>3</sup> to examine the main tax ratios in each province in 1997. According to table 9, Quebec continues to have the highest ratio of taxes to GDP, 41.5 percent, while Alberta has the lowest, 29.4 percent.

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3 Statistics Canada, *Provincial Economic Accounts*, unpublished data, November 10, 1999.

**Table 1 Total Tax Revenue as a Percentage of Gross Domestic Product,  
OECD Member Countries,<sup>a</sup> 1995-1997**

	1995	1996	1997
Sweden .....	47.9	50.0	51.9
Denmark .....	49.4	49.7	49.5
Finland .....	45.2	47.1	46.5
Luxembourg .....	44.4	46.6	46.5
Belgium .....	45.4	45.8	46.0
France .....	44.0	45.0	45.1
Italy .....	41.2	42.9	44.4
Austria .....	42.4	44.1	44.3
Norway .....	41.5	41.5	42.6
Netherlands .....	42.0	41.5	41.9
Poland .....	42.3	42.1	41.2
Hungary .....	42.7	40.9	39.4
Czech Republic .....	40.1	39.1	38.6
Germany .....	38.5	37.6	37.2
Canada .....	35.4	35.7	36.8
New Zealand .....	37.7	35.8	36.4
United Kingdom .....	35.2	35.1	35.4
Portugal .....	33.3	33.2	34.2
Switzerland .....	33.5	34.2	33.8
Greece .....	32.1	32.0	33.7
Spain .....	32.8	32.7	33.7
Ireland .....	33.1	33.2	32.8
Iceland .....	31.2	32.3	32.2
Australia .....	29.3	30.2	29.8
United States .....	28.8	29.2	29.7
Japan .....	28.4	28.2	28.8
Turkey .....	22.6	25.4	27.9
Korea .....	20.5	21.4	21.4
Mexico .....	16.6	16.8	16.9
OECD average .....	36.5	36.9	37.2
OECD Europe .....	39.1	39.6	39.9
EU 15 .....	40.5	41.1	41.5

<sup>a</sup> Ranked in descending order by 1997 ratios.

Source: Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development, *Revenue Statistics, 1965/1998* (Paris: OECD, 1999).

**Table 2 Major Tax Revenues as a Percentage of Gross Domestic Product, OECD Member Countries, 1997**

	Taxes on personal income	Taxes on corporate income	Social security contributions	Payroll taxes	Taxes on property	Taxes on goods and services
Canada .....	14.0	3.8	4.9	0.8	3.7	9.0
Mexico .....	na	na	2.7	na	na	9.3
United States .....	11.6	2.8	7.2	na	3.2	4.9
Australia .....	12.5	4.4	—	2.0	2.7	8.2
Japan .....	5.9	4.3	10.6	na	3.1	4.8
Korea .....	3.6	2.2	1.9	0.1	2.9	9.7
New Zealand .....	15.7	3.9	—	0.3	2.0	12.6
Austria .....	9.8	2.1	15.2	2.8	0.6	12.5
Belgium .....	14.3	3.4	14.6	na	1.3	12.3
Czech Republic .....	5.2	3.3	16.9	..	0.5	12.6
Denmark .....	25.9	2.6	1.6	0.3	1.7	16.3
Finland .....	15.5	3.8	11.7	na	1.1	14.4
France .....	6.3	2.6	18.3	1.1	2.4	12.6
Germany .....	8.9	1.5	15.5	na	1.0	10.3
Greece .....	4.5	2.1	10.7	0.2	1.3	13.8
Hungary .....	6.6	1.9	14.2	0.1	0.6	15.5
Iceland .....	10.6	0.9	2.8	na	2.6	15.3
Ireland .....	10.3	3.3	4.2	0.4	1.6	13.0
Italy .....	11.2	4.2	14.9	0.1	2.3	11.5
Luxembourg .....	9.5	8.6	11.8	na	3.6	12.6
Netherlands .....	6.5	4.4	17.1	na	1.9	11.7
Norway .....	11.0	5.2	9.6	na	1.1	15.8
Poland .....	8.8	3.2	13.2	0.3	1.2	14.4
Portugal .....	6.1	3.7	8.9	na	0.8	14.4
Spain .....	7.4	2.6	11.8	na	2.0	9.7
Sweden .....	18.2	3.2	15.2	1.7	2.0	11.6
Switzerland .....	10.6	2.0	12.5	na	2.6	6.2
Turkey .....	6.0	1.6	4.0	na	0.8	10.3
United Kingdom .....	8.8	4.3	6.1	na	3.8	12.4
OECD average .....	10.2	3.3	9.6	0.4	1.9	11.6
OECD Europe .....	10.1	3.2	11.4	0.3	1.7	12.7
EU 15 .....	10.9	3.5	11.8	0.4	1.8	12.6

.. Less than 0.1 percent.

na Not available. — Not applicable.

Source: Same as table 1.

**Table 3 Percentage Distribution of Major Tax Revenues,  
OECD Member Countries, 1997**

	Taxes on personal income	Taxes on corporate income	Social security contributions	Payroll taxes	Taxes on property	Taxes on goods and services
Canada .....	38.0	10.3	13.4	2.1	10.0	24.4
Mexico .....	na	na	16.1	na	na	55.3
United States .....	39.0	9.4	24.2	na	10.7	16.7
Australia .....	42.0	14.6	—	6.7	9.2	27.5
Japan .....	20.5	15.0	36.9	na	10.6	16.5
Korea .....	17.1	10.5	8.8	0.3	13.5	45.4
New Zealand .....	43.2	10.6	—	1.0	5.4	34.6
Austria .....	22.1	4.7	34.2	6.2	1.3	28.2
Belgium .....	31.0	7.5	31.8	na	2.9	26.7
Czech Republic .....	13.5	8.6	43.9	..	1.4	32.6
Denmark .....	52.4	5.2	3.2	0.6	3.4	33.0
Finland .....	33.3	8.1	25.2	na	2.3	30.9
France .....	14.0	5.8	40.6	2.4	5.4	27.8
Germany .....	23.9	4.0	41.6	na	2.7	27.7
Greece .....	13.2	6.4	31.6	0.7	3.8	41.0
Hungary .....	16.8	4.9	36.0	0.3	1.5	39.3
Iceland .....	32.8	2.8	8.8	na	8.2	47.5
Ireland .....	31.4	10.0	12.9	1.1	4.9	39.7
Italy .....	25.3	9.5	33.5	0.1	5.1	25.9
Luxembourg .....	20.4	18.5	25.4	na	7.7	27.0
Netherlands .....	15.6	10.5	40.9	na	4.6	28.0
Norway .....	25.7	12.2	22.4	na	2.7	37.0
Poland .....	21.4	7.7	32.1	0.8	2.9	34.9
Portugal .....	17.7	10.9	26.0	na	2.5	42.0
Spain .....	21.9	7.8	35.0	na	5.8	28.9
Sweden .....	35.0	6.1	29.2	3.2	3.9	22.3
Switzerland .....	31.2	5.9	36.9	na	7.7	18.3
Turkey .....	21.7	5.7	14.5	na	2.7	37.1
United Kingdom .....	24.8	12.1	17.2	na	10.8	35.0
OECD average .....	26.6	8.8	24.9	0.9	5.5	32.1
OECD Europe .....	24.8	7.9	28.3	0.7	4.3	32.3
EU 15 .....	25.5	8.5	28.6	1.0	4.5	30.9

.. Less than 0.1 percent.

na Not available. — Not applicable.

Source: Same as table 1.

**Table 4 Summary of Total Tax Revenue as a Percentage of Gross Domestic Product, OECD Member Countries, 1965-1997**

	1965	1970	1975	1980	1985	1990	1995	1997
Canada .....	25.9	31.2	33.1	32.0	33.1	36.2	35.4	36.8
Mexico .....	na	na	na	16.2	17.0	17.3	16.6	16.9
United States .....	25.0	28.1	27.5	27.6	26.9	27.6	28.8	29.7
Australia .....	22.3	22.9	26.6	27.4	29.2	29.4	29.3	29.8
Japan .....	18.3	19.7	20.9	25.4	27.6	30.9	28.4	28.8
Korea .....	na	na	15.2	17.5	16.8	19.1	20.5	21.4
New Zealand .....	24.7	27.4	31.1	33.0	32.1	38.1	37.7	36.4
Austria .....	33.9	34.9	37.7	40.3	42.4	41.0	42.4	44.3
Belgium .....	31.1	35.7	41.6	43.7	46.9	43.9	45.4	46.0
Czech Republic .....	na	na	na	na	na	na	40.1	38.6
Denmark .....	29.9	40.4	41.4	45.4	48.9	47.1	49.4	49.5
Finland .....	30.3	32.5	37.7	36.9	40.8	44.9	45.2	46.5
France .....	34.5	35.1	36.9	41.7	44.5	43.0	44.0	45.1
Germany .....	31.6	32.9	36.0	38.2	38.1	36.7	38.5	37.2
Greece .....	18.2	20.9	21.0	24.3	29.0	29.7	32.1	33.7
Hungary .....	na	na	na	na	na	na	42.7	39.4
Iceland .....	26.2	27.0	29.6	29.2	28.4	31.4	31.2	32.2
Ireland .....	24.9	29.9	30.2	32.6	36.4	33.6	33.1	32.8
Italy .....	25.5	26.1	26.2	30.4	34.5	38.9	41.2	44.4
Luxembourg .....	27.7	28.9	39.7	43.0	47.7	43.9	44.4	46.5
Netherlands .....	32.8	37.1	43.0	45.2	44.1	44.6	42.0	41.9
Norway .....	29.6	34.9	39.9	42.7	43.3	41.8	41.5	42.6
Poland .....	na	na	na	na	na	na	42.3	41.2
Portugal .....	15.8	19.8	21.2	24.7	27.2	30.2	33.3	34.2
Spain .....	14.7	16.9	19.5	23.9	28.8	34.4	32.8	33.7
Sweden .....	35.0	39.8	43.4	48.8	50.0	55.6	47.9	51.9
Switzerland .....	19.6	22.5	27.9	28.9	30.6	30.9	33.5	33.8
Turkey .....	10.6	12.5	16.0	17.9	15.4	20.0	22.6	27.9
United Kingdom .....	30.4	37.0	35.4	35.1	37.5	36.3	35.2	35.4
OECD average .....	25.8	28.9	31.2	32.8	34.5	35.6	36.5	37.2
OECD Europe .....	26.4	29.7	32.9	35.4	37.6	38.3	39.1	39.9
EU 15 .....	27.8	31.2	34.1	36.9	39.8	40.3	40.5	41.5

na Not available.

Source: Same as table 1.



**Table 5 Social Security Contributions as a Percentage of GDP,  
OECD Member Countries, 1965-1995**

	1965	1970	1975	1980	1985	1990	1995	Percentage borne by employees, 1997
Canada .....	1.4	3.0	3.3	3.4	4.5	4.4	5.0	37.8
Mexico .....	na	na	na	2.3	1.9	2.3	2.7	na
United States .....	3.3	4.5	5.6	6.0	6.8	7.1	7.2	43.2
Australia .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Japan .....	4.0	4.4	6.1	7.4	8.4	9.0	10.3	39.0
Korea .....	na	na	0.1	0.2	0.3	1.0	1.4	28.1
New Zealand .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Austria .....	8.4	8.9	10.4	12.5	13.5	13.5	15.4	41.5
Belgium .....	9.8	10.9	13.2	13.3	15.1	14.7	15.0	29.9
Czech Republic .....	na	na	na	na	na	na	16.4	23.0
Denmark .....	1.6	1.6	0.5	0.8	1.8	1.4	1.5	77.7
Finland .....	2.1	2.9	5.7	7.2	7.1	9.8	12.5	17.0
France .....	11.8	12.7	15.0	17.8	19.3	18.9	18.7	30.1
Germany .....	8.5	10.0	12.2	13.1	13.9	13.7	15.2	43.5
Greece .....	5.7	6.3	6.2	8.0	10.3	9.0	9.9	54.5
Hungary .....	na	na	na	na	na	na	15.2	15.6
Iceland .....	2.1	2.2	0.8	0.6	0.7	1.0	2.5	3.3
Ireland .....	1.6	2.5	4.2	4.7	5.4	5.0	4.8	30.2
Italy .....	8.7	9.9	12.0	11.5	12.0	12.8	13.0	19.8
Luxembourg .....	8.9	8.0	11.5	12.2	12.3	11.8	11.8	41.6
Netherlands .....	10.1	13.0	16.5	17.2	19.5	16.7	17.6	64.7
Norway .....	3.5	5.6	9.9	9.0	9.0	11.0	9.8	34.5
Poland .....	na	na	na	na	na	na	12.9	..
Portugal .....	3.5	4.7	7.3	7.3	7.0	8.2	9.0	36.8
Spain .....	4.2	6.3	9.3	11.6	11.9	12.2	11.9	16.0
Sweden .....	4.2	5.9	8.5	14.1	12.5	15.1	13.9	17.0
Switzerland .....	4.4	5.3	8.0	8.8	9.7	10.0	12.3	32.2
Turkey .....	0.6	0.8	1.5	2.5	2.2	3.9	2.7	39.3
United Kingdom .....	4.7	5.1	6.2	5.9	6.7	6.2	6.2	43.4
OECD average .....	4.7	5.6	7.0	7.6	8.1	8.4	9.5	—
OECD Europe .....	5.5	6.5	8.4	9.4	10.0	10.3	11.3	—
EU 15 .....	6.3	7.3	9.3	10.5	11.2	11.3	11.8	—

na Not available. — Not applicable. .. Less 0.1 percent.

Source: Same as table 1.

**Table 6 Taxes on Goods and Services as a Percentage of GDP,  
OECD Member Countries, 1965-1995**

	1965	1970	1975	1980	1985	1990	1995	1997
Canada .....	10.5	9.9	10.6	10.4	10.5	9.7	8.9	9.0
Mexico .....	na	na	na	8.3	11.0	9.6	9.0	9.3
United States .....	5.7	5.6	5.4	4.9	5.1	4.8	5.1	4.9
Australia .....	7.8	7.3	7.8	8.5	9.6	8.2	8.5	8.2
Japan .....	4.8	4.4	3.6	4.2	3.9	4.1	4.3	4.8
Korea .....	na	na	9.3	11.0	10.0	9.2	8.8	9.7
New Zealand .....	6.9	7.5	7.5	7.4	7.4	12.8	12.5	12.6
Austria .....	12.7	13.0	13.0	12.7	13.8	12.9	11.7	12.5
Belgium .....	11.6	12.5	11.0	11.5	12.0	11.7	11.8	12.3
Czech Republic .....	na	na	na	na	na	na	13.2	12.6
Denmark .....	12.1	15.7	13.9	17.0	16.7	15.8	15.9	16.3
Finland .....	12.9	12.9	12.2	13.2	13.9	14.7	13.4	14.4
France .....	13.2	13.4	12.3	12.7	13.2	12.2	12.2	12.6
Germany .....	10.4	10.5	9.7	10.3	9.8	9.8	10.7	10.3
Greece .....	8.9	10.1	9.8	10.0	12.4	13.2	13.5	13.8
Hungary .....	na	na	na	na	na	na	17.4	15.5
Iceland .....	16.4	16.6	18.6	17.5	17.4	16.2	15.2	15.3
Ireland .....	13.1	15.7	14.1	14.3	16.2	14.2	13.5	13.0
Italy .....	10.1	10.1	7.7	8.0	8.8	10.9	11.2	11.5
Luxembourg .....	6.9	6.1	8.4	9.1	11.6	11.0	12.0	12.6
Netherlands .....	9.4	10.3	10.4	11.4	11.3	11.8	11.5	11.7
Norway .....	12.2	15.0	15.0	15.1	16.3	14.9	16.0	15.8
Poland .....	na	na	na	na	na	na	14.9	14.4
Portugal .....	7.0	8.8	8.7	11.1	11.6	13.2	14.5	14.4
Spain .....	6.0	6.1	4.7	5.0	8.3	9.8	9.4	9.7
Sweden .....	10.9	11.2	10.6	11.7	13.3	13.9	11.6	11.6
Switzerland .....	6.0	6.1	5.6	5.9	5.8	5.7	6.2	6.2
Turkey .....	5.7	6.2	6.6	4.6	5.6	5.6	8.5	10.3
United Kingdom .....	10.1	10.6	8.8	10.2	11.8	11.3	12.4	12.4
OECD average .....	9.6	10.2	9.8	10.2	11.0	11.0	11.5	11.6
OECD Europe .....	10.3	11.1	10.6	11.1	12.1	12.0	12.6	12.7
EU 15 .....	10.3	11.1	10.4	11.2	12.3	12.4	12.4	12.6

na Not available.

Source: Same as table 1.

**Table 7 Distribution of Taxes on Goods and Services, OECD  
Member Countries, 1965 and 1997**

	1965			1997		
	Consumption taxes	General sales taxes	Taxes on specific products	Consumption taxes	General sales taxes	Taxes on specific products
Canada .....	85.8	44.0	41.6	91.3	56.9	34.4
Mexico .....				98.1	32.9	65.1
United States .....	87.6	21.1	66.5	87.6	46.7	40.9
Australia .....	86.5	21.2	65.3	80.5	30.3	50.1
Japan .....	95.3	—	95.3	87.8	42.0	45.8
Korea .....				94.8	44.3	50.5
New Zealand .....	93.6	27.5	66.4	93.9	69.6	24.3
Austria .....	98.0	50.0	48.1	95.3	66.0	29.2
Belgium .....	91.7	57.3	35.4	88.2	56.8	31.4
Czech Republic .....				93.3	55.7	37.6
Denmark .....	94.2	22.4	71.8	95.6	59.9	35.7
Finland .....	98.6	43.5	55.1	97.5	59.6	38.0
France .....	97.7	60.5	37.2	95.6	64.0	31.7
Germany .....	94.3	50.0	44.3	96.1	63.7	32.4
Greece .....	90.2	21.0	69.2	94.8	55.9	37.9
Hungary .....				98.9	58.6	40.3
Iceland .....	100.0	27.0	73.0	93.4	65.6	27.8
Ireland .....	93.1	10.7	82.4	95.4	54.9	40.5
Italy .....	93.8	32.7	61.1	86.4	48.6	37.5
Luxembourg .....	94.8	49.9	44.9	96.9	50.1	47.1
Netherlands .....	94.6	43.2	51.4	91.1	57.2	33.8
Norway .....	96.9	52.2	44.7	97.0	55.8	41.2
Poland .....				97.8	58.1	39.7
Portugal .....	93.7	—	93.7	98.6	55.4	43.2
Spain .....	100.0	54.8	45.2	91.9	56.6	35.2
Sweden .....	10.5	3.7	6.8	97.0	61.0	36.0
Switzerland .....	93.2	31.0	62.2	92.9	54.6	38.3
Turkey .....	100.0	—	100.0	98.4	84.4	14.0
United Kingdom .....	94.1	17.9	76.2	95.6	55.9	39.8

— Not applicable.

Source: Same as table 1.

**Table 8 Tax/Benefit Position of Average Industrial Worker,  
OECD Member Countries, 1997**

	Single, no children		Married, dependent spouse, two children	
	Taxes net of transfers as % income	Marginal tax rate	Taxes net of transfers as % income	Marginal tax rate
Canada .....	32.3	45.0	23.4	50.0
Mexico .....	25.3	17.6	25.3	17.6
United States .....	31.1	29.9	24.1	51.0
Australia .....	24.8	35.5	14.5	35.5
Japan .....	20.7	21.6	15.6	18.0
Korea .....	12.4	8.1	11.6	8.1
New Zealand .....	21.6	33.0	16.2	63.0
Austria .....	45.6	42.5	32.2	42.5
Belgium .....	56.6	55.9	40.8	51.7
Czech Republic .....	42.9	30.0	31.2	25.6
Denmark .....	45.1	52.1	31.3	46.5
Finland .....	48.9	50.7	40.8	50.7
France .....	48.7	35.4	39.5	21.4
Germany .....	52.3	55.2	35.6	48.2
Greece .....	35.8	20.1	36.2	28.5
Hungary .....	52.0	46.5	40.8	46.5
Iceland .....	24.4	39.2	-2.8	49.8
Ireland .....	33.9	54.7	23.8	32.7
Italy .....	51.5	40.7	43.3	40.7
Luxembourg .....	35.2	43.1	13.0	12.6
Netherlands .....	43.6	55.1	33.0	43.7
Norway .....	37.4	45.3	24.9	35.8
Poland .....	43.9	20.0	38.9	20.0
Portugal .....	33.9	26.0	26.8	26.0
Spain .....	39.0	26.8	33.7	24.1
Sweden .....	50.7	35.7	45.2	35.7
Switzerland .....	30.0	31.1	17.7	24.6
Turkey .....	42.0	30.5	42.0	30.5
United Kingdom .....	32.0	33.0	24.8	33.0

Source: Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development, *The Tax/Benefit Position of Employees, 1997* (Paris: OECD, 1998).

**Table 9 Major Tax Revenues of Canadian Provinces as a Percentage of Gross Domestic Provincial Product, 1997**

	Taxes on personal income	Taxes on corporate income	Social security contributions	Payroll taxes	Taxes on property	Taxes on goods and services	Total taxes
Newfoundland .....	13.0	2.2	6.2	0.7	1.9	13.1	37.2
Prince Edward Island .....	12.5	2.6	5.9	—	2.4	12.6	37.8
Nova Scotia .....	13.7	2.1	6.3	—	3.2	11.8	37.3
New Brunswick .....	13.0	2.5	5.7	—	3.0	11.4	35.6
Quebec .....	15.0	3.7	6.2	1.9	3.8	10.5	41.5
Ontario .....	14.0	4.0	5.1	0.8	4.5	9.4	38.3
Manitoba .....	13.6	2.2	5.2	0.7	4.2	10.4	36.5
Saskatchewan .....	11.8	2.3	4.1	—	3.7	11.3	33.4
Alberta .....	11.9	4.3	3.8	—	3.1	6.1	29.4
British Columbia .....	14.3	2.8	5.4	—	3.5	10.7	36.9
Canada <sup>a</sup> .....	13.9	3.6	5.3	0.8	3.9	9.6	37.4

— Not applicable.

<sup>a</sup> Includes territories.

Source: Statistics Canada, *Provincial Economic Accounts*, unpublished data, November 10, 1999.