

# ALBERTA BY NUMBERS

Compiled by Tara Hyland-Russell

Minimum allowable distance of oil wells from houses and barns: 100 metres  
Number of chemical compounds spewed with every oil well gas flare: 250  
Amount of compensation for Alberta farmers per oil well drilled on their land: \$5,000

Money spent by Alberta Energy Company in 1998 battling vandalism: \$2-billion  
Percentage staff reduction of Alberta Environmental Protection in 1998: 40

Oil and gas well applications in 1997: 19,551  
Applications denied in 1997: 55  
Percentage of applications denied: 0.28  
Percentage increase in wells drilled between 1990 and 1997: 100  
Government royalties from natural gas sales in 1997: \$1.659-billion

Estimated cost of Suncor's refinery expansion in Wood Buffalo region: \$2.2-billion  
Suncor's target daily oil production by 2002: 210,000 barrels  
Estimated percentage increase in Wood Buffalo's tax assessment: 35  
Target for aboriginal hiring by 2002 as a percentage of Suncor's workforce: 12

Number of cities in Alberta in 1917: 6  
Number of towns in Alberta in 1917: 49  
Number of cities in Alberta today: 14  
Number of towns in Alberta today: 110

Total population of Alberta, 1991 Federal Census: 2,554,779  
Population of Calgary Fish Creek, Alberta's largest electoral division: 35,665  
Population of Athabasca-Wabasca, Alberta's smallest electoral division: 16,545

Percentage decrease in number of dairy cows on Alberta farms between 1976 and 1996: 34.6  
Percentage increase in insecticide and fungicide use on Alberta farms 1981 to 1996: 42.5

Number of farms in Alberta in 1996: 58,206  
Number of personal computers used on farms in 1996: 13,491  
Number of tractors used on Alberta farms in 1996: 153,390

Percentage of Canadian stoneware used in Canada produced by Medalta in the late 1920s: 75  
Number of Medalta stoneware wine jugs sold each week to Saskatchewan liquor board in 1926: 6,000

Percentage of rural Albertans who have never attended a traditional performing arts event: 44  
Percentage of urban Albertans who have never attended a traditional performing arts event: 20

Number of horse races handled in 1996 by the Alberta Racing Commission: 3,497  
Amount of wagers in 1996: \$151,864,662

Number of contraventions of the Alberta Forests Act during first three months of 1999: 30  
Assessed penalties for these contraventions: \$41,461.90

Percentages of Albertans who said that if they were to hear conflicting views about education policy, they would believe:  
the leader of the teachers' union: 37  
business leaders: 19  
the Minister of Education: 32  
Percentage of Canadians who said they would believe the Minister of Education: 21



Sources are listed on page 62.

AlbertaViews encourages submissions for Alberta By Numbers. Drop us a number or two!