

ALBERTA BY NUMBERS

By Tara Hyland-Russell and Joe Wilderson

Average number of children in Alberta classrooms: 30
Province with the highest student/teacher ratio: Alberta
Percentage of Albertans who place class size as their highest priority for educational spending: 51

Canadian average education expenditure as percentage of GDP, 1995: 7.0
Northwest Territories: 16.6 (highest)
Alberta: 5.4 (lowest)



Approximate percentage of Canadian workforce aged 50-59, 1996: 20
Of post-secondary educators: 38
Of elementary/secondary educators: 28
Average age of Alberta public school teachers: in 1978, 36; in 1998, 42

Rank of Canadian students out of 40 countries in the 3rd International Mathematic and Science Study: 17th
Rank of Alberta students: 12th

Percentage of Alberta teachers who believe the goal of social studies should be active citizenship: 95
Number of times citizenship is mentioned as an objective in Alberta's curriculum: 0

Percentage average salary increase for Alberta college and institute faculty between 1998 and 1999: 3.0
Percentage salary increase of SAIT faculty in the same period: 1.5
Of SAIT president in the same period: 29.8
Of the Deputy Minister of Education between 1998 and 2000: 45.3
Number of faculty employed under temporary contracts as of September 1999: 3,045
As a percent of total faculty: 50.5
Percentage of women faculty holding such appointments: 59.1
Percentage of men: 44.0



Greatest percentage change in Canada in average salary for full-time university teaching faculty, 1988-1998:
Saskatchewan: +10.40, Alberta: -7.73

Current Writers Guild of Alberta membership: 800
Number of Alberta writers nominated for Governor General's awards in 1995: 7

Percentage increase of popcorn sales by Scouts Canada between 1994-99: 90
1999 sales in Calgary, Scout Canada's top popcorn-selling region: \$1-million

Percentage of Alberta's 50,000 acres of potatoes that will be processed into french fries: 67
Percentage of those french fries that will be exported to U.S.: 75

Average age at which inhabitants of various countries lose their virginity:
U.S.A.: 16.4 (youngest)
Canada: 17.0
China: 21.9 (oldest)

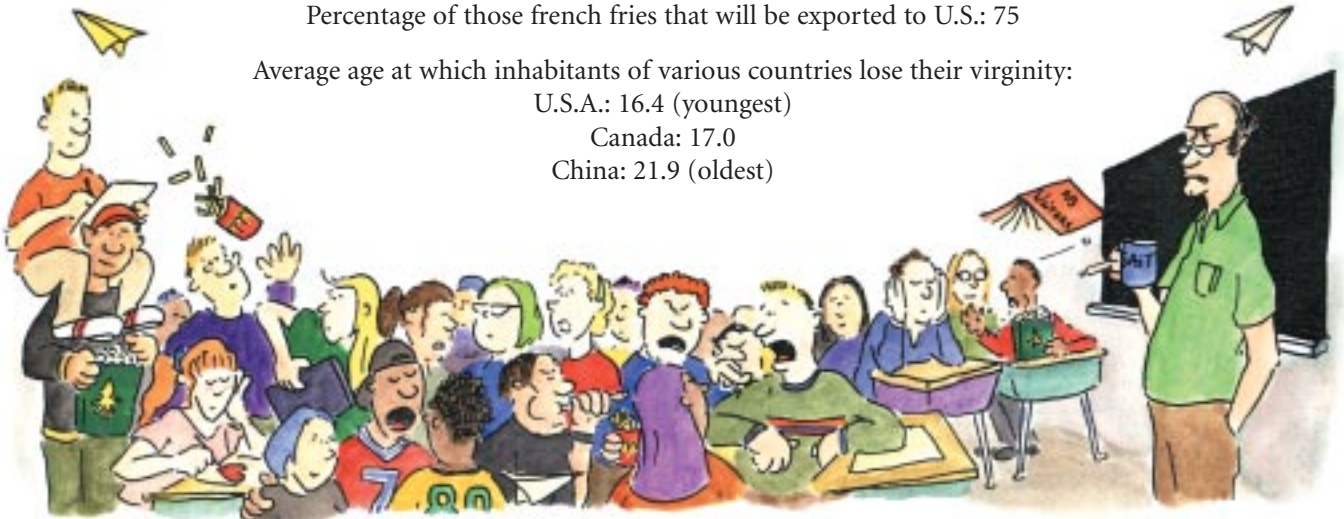


Illustration: MARK MURIAS

Sources are listed on page 62. AlbertaViews encourages submissions for Alberta By Numbers. Drop us a number or two!