



CANADIAN ELECTRICITY INDUSTRY FACT SHEET

- 1 Electricity is a critical enabler of modern life. A reliable, affordable and sustainable supply of electricity is essential to Canada's prosperity and to the quality of life Canadians expect.
- 2 The average daily household cost of electricity is \$3.59. As a share of daily household expenses, electricity in Canada averages out to less than two per cent, or two cents of every dollar spent.ⁱ When compared internationally, Canadian residential electricity prices are lower than prices in Japan, the U.K., and the U.S.ⁱⁱ
- 3 The electricity sector is a key economic driver. According to ReNew Canada's *2015 Top 100 Infrastructure Projects* ranking, CEA members are leading five of the top 10 infrastructure projects in the country, and own 23 of the 32 energy projects that made the list. This accounts for \$55.57 billion of investment in electricity infrastructure across the countryⁱⁱⁱ. Investment in electricity infrastructure is expected to increase employment in electricity, construction, manufacturing, and other service industries by an additional 156,000 jobs per year between 2011 and 2030.^{iv}
- 4 According to the Conference Board of Canada, for every \$100 million invested in power system assets, real GDP will be boosted by \$85.6 million and roughly 1,200 person-years of employment will be created. In other words, for each \$100 million invested, 1,200 jobs will be created for one year.^v
- 5 Investment in electricity will contribute an average of \$4.2 billion to the federal government balance each year from 2011 through to 2030, while also increasing the provincial and territorial governments' balance by \$1.9 billion each year over that same period.^{vi}
- 6 Electricity is classified as one of the critical infrastructure sectors in the Government of Canada's [National Strategy for Critical Infrastructure](#) (forms part of the Energy & utilities subsector) and supports all of Canada's critical infrastructure sectors.
- 7 The integration of electricity markets between Canada and the U.S. is complex and significant, with 35 physical interconnections crossing the border and over \$2.3 billion in Canada-U.S. electricity trade revenue.^{vii}
- 8 Canada has a significant trade surplus with the U.S., and is their largest external supplier of electricity.^{viii}





- 9 Canada's electricity system is one of the cleanest internationally, at over 80 per cent non-greenhouse gas emitting. In addition, the electricity sector is currently leading all Canadian industrial sectors in the reduction of CO₂.^{ix}
- 10 Electric vehicles present an incredible opportunity for the electricity sector to further contribute to a lower carbon future by electrifying the transportation sector. By switching to an electric car, Canadians can reduce their CO₂ emissions by as much as 5,000 kg per year, or, about 90%.^x

For additional information:

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ⁱ Statistics Canada, *Table 203-0021 Survey of household spending (SHS), household spending, Canada, regions* (table). CANSIM (database). Last updated January 22, 2015, accessed March 9, 2015.

ⁱⁱ International Energy Agency, *Key World Energy Statistics 2013 with 2012 data*. (France: International Energy Agency, 2013), 42-43.

ⁱⁱⁱ André Voshart, "Energy Tops Top 100 as Mega-Project Spending Soars," *Top 100, Canada's Biggest Infrastructure Projects*, January 9, 2015, accessed July 9, 2015, <http://top100projects.ca/energy-tops-top-100-as-mega-project-spending-soars/>.

^{iv} Len Coad, Todd Crawford, and Alicia Macdonald, *Shedding Light on the Economic Impact of Investing in Electricity Infrastructure* (Canada: The Conference Board of Canada, 2012), 9-10.

^v Len Coad, Todd Crawford, and Alicia Macdonald, *Shedding Light on the Economic Impact of Investing in Electricity Infrastructure* (Canada: The Conference Board of Canada, 2012), 9.

^{vi} Len Coad, Todd Crawford, and Alicia Macdonald, *Shedding Light on the Economic Impact of Investing in Electricity Infrastructure* (Canada: The Conference Board of Canada, 2012), 8.

^{vii} National Energy Board, *Commodity Statistics: Exports and Imports of Electricity Summary: Canada, December 2014*, accessed July 17, 2015, <https://apps.neb-one.gc.ca/CommodityStatistics/Statistics.aspx?language=english>

^{viii} National Energy Board, *Commodity Statistics: Exports and Imports of Electricity Summary: Canada, December 2014*, accessed July 17, 2015, <https://apps.neb-one.gc.ca/CommodityStatistics/Statistics.aspx?language=english>

^{ix} Statistics Canada, *Table 127-0007 Electric power and generation, annual, Canada* (table). CANSIM (database). Last updated November 11, 2014, accessed July 10, 2015.

^x Plug'n Drive, *Electrify Your Ride* (Canada: Plug'n Drive, February 2015), 6. Retrieved from <https://www.plugndrive.ca/sites/default/files/Electrify%20Your%20Ride%20-%20February%202015.pdf>.

