

Provincial succession duties consist of levies on the value of the inheritance left by a deceased person. Two rates are normally applied: one which increases in relation to the total value of the estate, and one which varies according to the value of the inheritance received by each heir. Basic abatements and exemptions take into account the degrees of affinity of the heirs to the deceased.

**Hospitalization and medical care insurance premiums.** Three provinces and one territory were still levying premiums in 1974 and one province a payroll tax and a special income tax toward financing the provincial share of their hospitalization and medical care programs. In the other provinces, the provincial share of these programs is financed through their general revenue funds. Ontario has combined hospitalization and medical care insurance premiums into monthly rates of \$11.00 for single persons and \$22.00 for a family. No premiums are paid by welfare recipients or by persons 65 years of age and over. In Alberta, hospitalization and medical care annual premiums are combined and are set at \$69.00 for single persons and \$138.00 for families. Persons aged 65 and over do not pay premiums nor do welfare recipients or residents with no taxable income. Only the medical care program is financed through premiums in British Columbia at a monthly rate of \$5.00 for single persons, \$10.00 for a family of two and \$12.50 for a family of more than two persons. The province subsidizes 90% of the premiums of persons with no taxable income and 50% for persons with a taxable income not in excess of \$1,000 in the previous year. In the Yukon Territory, medical care premiums are on a monthly basis as follows: \$5.00 for single persons, \$10.00 for a family of two and \$12.50 for a family of more than two persons. The Yukon Territory subsidizes 100% of the premiums of persons with no taxable income, 50% of the premiums of single persons with taxable income of less than \$500, of families of two persons with taxable income of less than \$1,000 and of families comprising more than two persons with taxable income less than \$1,300. Quebec finances its medical care program through a payroll tax at a rate of eight tenths of 1% of gross salaries paid by employers and through a special income tax of eight tenths of 1% on the net income of individuals. In the latter case, the maximum annual amount is \$125, if at least three quarters of the net income is made up of salaries; in other cases the maximum payable is \$200. The hospitalization program is financed through the province's general revenue fund.

**Retail sales taxes.** Retail sales taxes are levied on the final purchaser or user and are collected by the retailer. All provinces except Alberta levy this type of tax at rates as follows: Nova Scotia 7%; Newfoundland, Prince Edward Island, New Brunswick and Quebec, 8%; Manitoba, Saskatchewan and British Columbia, 5%. Ontario has a dual rate structure: 7% is charged on most taxable items; 10% on amusement, meals over \$4.00, beer and spirits. These levies apply to tangible taxable commodities sold, with varying exemptions, for consumption in the province and to a few selected services, for example: to telephone services in all provinces; in Quebec, to telecommunications, in Prince Edward Island, to laundry and dry-cleaning services, to accommodations, and to labour costs of repairs and installations; in New Brunswick, to telecommunications, to meals, hotel and motel charges and to laundry and dry-cleaning charges; and in Manitoba, to a broad range of services including dry-cleaning, furniture repairs, motel accommodation, etc. The sales taxes do not apply to goods sold for delivery in other provinces or to exported commodities. All provinces imposing sales taxes provide comprehensive exemptions for foodstuffs and drugs; in Quebec and New Brunswick, pharmaceutical products are exempt only when sold on prescription. In British Columbia a 5% levy on accommodations is made under the Hotel and Motel Room Tax Act and 8% in Quebec under the Meals and Hotels Tax Act.

**Amusement taxes and race track taxes.** Each of the provinces with the exception of Newfoundland, Alberta, Saskatchewan and British Columbia has a tax on admission to places of entertainment. In Quebec, this tax is collected by the municipalities which retain the proceeds. The tax on admissions is within the range of 5% to 15%. In addition, all provinces either under the same statutory authority or separate statutes tax money wagered on horse races. The rates of taxation are as follows: Newfoundland, Nova Scotia and New Brunswick, 11%; Prince Edward Island, 11.5%; Manitoba and Saskatchewan, 10%; Alberta, 5%; Quebec, 7% on ordinary pools and 9% on special pools; Ontario, 7% (a tax of 7% is also levied on the amount gained from a winning ticket). In British Columbia the tax is 8% of which 1% is earmarked to increase the racing purses for horses bred, born and raised in British Columbia.