

basic subjects such as mathematics and language instruction. Most postsecondary textbooks were in business management. The median price of textbooks was \$8.95. Some textbooks were published in hardcover format, but the majority (68%) were paperbacks.

**Tradebooks.** Nearly 2,600 new tradebooks were published in 1981, capturing more than a two-thirds share of all new titles. Most of them were destined for the adult market, with the split between fiction and non-fiction being almost even. Novels were the most popular tradebook published but books in the entertainment field were numerous. The median retail price was \$8.25. Almost half of all tradebooks were mass market paperbacks, although the larger paperback format was often used.

**Information books.** This category combines reference books (such as dictionaries), scholarly works and manuals dealing with professional and technical subjects. Information books made up slightly more than 10% of all new titles published in 1981. The median retail price was \$15.00. Of all types, these books were most often published as hardcover books. They covered such areas as law, general subjects and literary history.

**Languages, authors and prices.** Of all new books in 1981, 12% were translated versions of previously published books, and 10% were adapted forms of other texts. The majority of translating activity in 1981 was from English-language originals to French-language translations but 15% of translations were from foreign-language texts.

Books published in Canada are written by both Canadian writers and non-Canadians. In 1981, 72% of new English books had been written by Canadian authors and 87% of French books had Canadian citizens as authors.

Overall, median retail prices varied widely depending on the format: mass market paperbacks cost a median \$3.50, other paperbacks sold for \$7.50 and hardcover books had price tags of about \$14.75.

**Copyright protection** is governed by the Copyright Act (RSC 1970, c.C-30) in force since 1924. Protection is automatic without any formality, but a system of voluntary registration is provided by the federal consumer and corporate affairs department. Copyright exists in Canada in every original literary, dramatic, musical and artistic work and in contrivances by means of which sounds may be mechanically reproduced. The term for which the copyright exists is, except as otherwise expressly provided by this act, the life of the author and a period of 50 years after death.

### 15.6.2 Reading habits

In general terms, four in 10 Canadians read books in an average week. Seven in 10 read books at some time during a year. Age and education are primary

influences on reading habits. Generally the proportion who read books decreases with age. For the 15-24 age group the reading participation rate is well above average. There is a steady decline toward the average and below it in the 25-44 age group. Participation falls off rapidly from the age of 55 to 70 and more. At all ages the proportion who read books is larger among those with higher education. These highlights were extracted from replies of a representative sample of Canadians in the survey of leisure activities conducted with the Statistics Canada labour force survey in February 1978.

In Canada as a whole, 71.9% of people read books for leisure, ranging from 65.9% in Quebec to 80.1% in British Columbia. Among all book readers, the time spent reading is fairly consistent regardless of their level of education. It varied from 5.7 hours a week in Quebec to 7.1 in British Columbia, with an average of 6.2 across Canada.

Among the respondents, more women than men read books. Almost 50% of women read books regularly and just over 35% of all men. Only 6% of all the people surveyed said they read Canadian fiction regularly, and only 8% read Canadian non-fiction regularly, indicating the reliance on imports described in the section on book publishing.

## 15.7 Public archives and library services

**The Public Archives of Canada**, established in 1872, operates under the direction of the dominion archivist by authority of the Public Archives Act. As a research institution, it is responsible for acquiring all nationally significant documents relating to the development of Canada, and for providing research services and facilities to make this material available to the public. Administratively, it promotes efficiency and economy in the management of government records.

The archives branch has eight divisions. The manuscript division includes the private papers of statesmen and other distinguished citizens, records of cultural and commercial societies, and copies of records on Canada held in France, England and other countries. The federal archives division consists of records of all the departments and agencies of the federal government. The picture division contains documentary paintings, prints, watercolours, and engravings, as well as heraldry and medals. The national photography collection includes historical photographs. The national film, television and sound archives holds films and sound recordings. The national map collection has custody of maps and plans pertaining to the discovery, exploration and settlement of Canada and its topography, as well as current topographical maps of other countries. An archives library contains more than 80,000 volumes on Canadian history, including pamphlets, periodicals and government publications. A