### Survey of Regulatory Compliance Costs

Collected under authority of Statistics Act.

Revised Statutes of Canada, 1985, Chapter S19.



#### The purpose of this survey

Statistics Canada, in partnership with Industry Canada, is conducting a survey to measure the cost of compliance for businesses in meeting key regulatory requirements that are the responsibility of various levels of government. The survey results are intended to help determine whether efficiency measures introduced by government are reducing the compliance burden facing businesses. Survey participants are businesses with fewer than 500 employees and revenues of less than \$50 million.

#### Your participation is important

In order to accurately assess the cost to busine in complying with regulations, it is essential that we have detailed information on the time, solaries and frequency involved in preparing and submitting information relating to individual accordance. This information will make it possible to track through

time, the compliance cost of specific regulations. Participation in this survey is voluntary. However, your co-operation is essential to ensure the accuracy and integrity of the information collected.

#### The data you report are confidential

Statistics Canada is prohibited by law from publishing or reicasing statistics that could reveal individual information obtained from this survey. The data reported on the questionnaire will be treated in strict confidence and used for statistical purposes only. Canada Revenue Agency, the RCMP and the courts do not have access to your responses. The confidentiality provisions of the *Statistics Act* are not affected by either the *Access to Information Act* or any other legislation.

If you have any questions regarding this survey or the questionnaire, please contact us toll-free at 1-866-297-3138.

	Please complete the following information					
	Name of Responde it:			Title of Respondent:		
C0100		CO	0101			
C0102	Telephone number:	CO	0103	E-mail address:		

	Correct pre-printed information on label above if necessary using the corresponding boxes below				
Busine	ss name	C0105	City		
Numbe	er and street	C0107	Province	C0108	Postal code

5-5200-6515.1: 2008-08-08 STC/SBS-524-75395



Statistics

Statistique Canada Canadä<sup>\*</sup>

# PLEASE COMPLETE THIS QUESTIONNAIRE <u>ONLY</u> FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT ASSOCIATED WITH THE MAILING ADDRESS ON THE LABEL ON THE FRONT PAGE.

	A. Business demograp	hics
A1.	The following question is about the status of your employees. For permote of employees currently working for your business. Temporary employee employees. For temporary employees, please report the number of employees the last 12 months.	es are casual, seasonal or other non-permanent
	How many are:	
	PERMANENT, FULL-TIME employees? (30+hrs./wk.)	C0109
	PERMANENT, PART-TIME employees? (less than 30 hrs./wk.)	C0110
	TEMPORARY, FULL-TIME employees? (30+hrs./wk.)	C0111
	TEMPORARY, PART-TIME employees? (less than 30 hrs./wk.)	C0112
A2.	What was your business' total gross revenue for the latest fiscal year? Please check <u>one</u> .	
	<sup>00113</sup> 1 Under \$100,000	
	<sup>2</sup> \$100,000 to \$249,999	
	<sup>3</sup> \$250,000 to \$999,999	
	4 \$1 million to \$4,999,999	
	5 \$5 million to \$25 million	
	Greater than \$25 million	
A3.	Is your business:	
	rederally incorporated	
	<ul> <li>Provincially incorporated</li> <li>A sole proprietorchin</li> </ul>	
	4 A partnership	
	5 Other Please specify:	
	C0700	

Page 02

#### **B.** The Cost of Compliance

#### Section 1. Detailed cost estimation

Part 1. Regulations related to employees (Businesses with no employees should go to question B6 on page 5.)

**B1.** In the last twelve months, how many submissions or claims did your business, or an external service provider, make for the following regulatory requirements?

	Payroll	Record of	Workers' Co	ompensation
	Remittances	Employment (ROE)	Remittances	Claims (1 claim per employee)
Number of submissions/claims	C0143	C0144	C0145	C0146

**B2.** In the last twelve months, how were the majority of your submissions or claims for the following regulatory requirements prepared? *Please check one box per column.* 

	Payroll Remittances T4 Summary / Individual T4 Slips (incl. Québec		Record of Employment	Workers' Compensation	
	C0147	RLZ-1 & RL forms)	(ROE)	Remittances	Claims C0163
Manual preparation	1	1	1	1	1
Preparation using a computer application	2	2	2	2	2
Both manually and by computer application	3	3	3	3	3
External service provider	4	4	4	4	4

**B3.** From the list below, please select the <u>principal</u> reason why you chost the method of preparation identified in question B2. *Please check <u>one</u> box per column*.

	Payroll Remittances	T4 Summary / k dividual T4 Slips (incl. Quahec	Record of Employment	Workers' Compensation	
	CO192	RLZ-1 & No. forms	(ROE)	Remittances	Claims C0196
Familiarity/comfort	1	1	1	1	1
Simple/ease of use	2	2	2	2	2
Not aware of other methods	3	3	3	3	3
Unable to comply without service provider assistance	4	4	4	4	4
Cost effectiveness	5	5	5	5	5
Other	6	6	6	6	6

**B4.** In the last twelve months, were the majority of your submissions submitted/filed electronically (on-line, through an ATM machine, through your financial institution's telephone or internet banking services)? *Please check one box per column.* 

	Payroll	T4 Summary / Individual T4 Slips (incl. Québec	Record of Employment	Workers' (	Compensation
	Remittances	RLZ-1 & RL forms)	(ROE)	Remittances	Claims C0204
Yes	1	1	1	1	1
No	3	3	3	3	3
Don't know	9	9	9	9	9

**B5.** In order to identify your costs in completing the specified regulatory requirements please complete the table below for applicable regulations *in the last twelve months*.

#### Include

- Time and annual salary for internal staff involved in the preparation of the submission (owners should report annual salary or their net income from the business). Enter time regardless of how little.
- Time spent on the retrieval and review of relevant information, completing the forms, making the submissions, dealing with follow-up, training staff to handle the compliance activities, and meeting and communicating with service professionals.

#### If an external service provider is involved, please check the appropriate box.

	Payroll Re	mittances	T4 Summary / Individual T4 slips (incl. Québec RLZ-1 & RL forms)		
	Average Time (minutes per submission)	Annual Salary	Average Time ( <u>minutes</u> per submission)	Annual Salary	
INTERNALLY:					
Owner / Family Member / Friend	C0232	C0238	C0252	C0258	
Staff accountant / bookkeeper / payroll resource	C0233	C0239	C0253	C0259	
General staff	C0234	C0240	C0254	C0260	
COMPLETED EXTERNALLY:					
(accountant, payroll service provider, tax specialist etc.)	C0250		C0279		

	Re cord of Employment (ROE)		
	Average Time (inutes per submission)	Annual Salary	
INTERNALLY:			
Owner / Family Member / Friend	0024	C0247	
Staff accountant / bookkeeper / payroll resource	C0242	C0248	
General staff	C0243	C0249	
COMPLETED EXTERNALLY:			
(accountant, payrc'i s. rvice provider, tax specialist etc.)	C0251		

		Workers' Co	ompensation		
	Remit	tances	Claims		
	Average Time (minutes per submission)			Annual Salary	
INTERNALLY:					
Owner / Family Member / Friend	C0261	C0267	C0270	C0276	
Staff accountant / bookkeeper / payroll resource	C0262	C0268	C0271	C0277	
General staff	C0263	C0269	C0272	C0278	
COMPLETED EXTERNALLY:					
(accountant, payroll service provider, tax specialist etc.)	C0280		C0281		

#### Part 2. Regulations related to taxation

**B6.** In the last twelve months, how many submissions did your business, or an external service provider, make for the following regulatory requirements?

	Federal/Provincial Sales Taxes (GST/PST or HST)		Corporate Tax Installments		
Number of submissions	C0282		C0283		

**B7.** In the last twelve months, how were the majority of your submissions for the following regulatory requirements prepared? *Please check one box per column.* 

	Federal/provincial business income tax filing	Federal/Provincial Sales Taxes (GST/PST or HST)	Corporate Tax Installments
	C0284	C0288	C0292
Manual preparation	1	1	1
Preparation using a computer application	2	2	2
Both manually and by computer application	3	3	3
External service provider	4	4	4

**B8.** From the list below, please select the <u>principal</u> reason why you chose the n ethod of preparation identified in question B7. *Please check <u>one</u> box per column*.

	Federal/provincial business income tax filing	Fed and 'Provincial Sales Taxes (G& f/PST or HST)	Corporate Tax Installments
	C0311	C0319	C0327
Familiarity / comfort	1	1	1
Simple / ease of use	2	2	2
Not aware of other methods	3	3	3
Unable to comply without service provider assistance	4	4	4
Cost effectiveness	5	5	5
Other	6	6	6

**B9.** In the last twelve months, were the majority of your submissions submitted/filed electronically (on-line, through an ATM machine, through your financial institutions telephone or internet banking services)? *Please check one box per column.* 

	Federal/provincial business income tax filing	Federal/Provincial Sales Taxes (GST/PST or HST)	Corporate Tax Installments
	C0328	C0329	C0330
Yes	1	1	1
No	3	3	3
Don't know	9	9	9

**B10.** In order to identify your costs in completing the specified regulatory requirements please complete the table below for applicable regulations *in the last twelve months*.

#### Include

- Time and annual salary for internal staff involved in the preparation of the submission (owners should report annual salary or their net income from the business). Enter time regardless of how little.
- Time spent on the retrieval and review of relevant information, completing the forms, making the submissions, dealing with follow-up, training staff to handle the compliance activities, and meeting and communicating with service professionals.

If an external service provider is involved, please check the appropriate box.

	Federal/provincial business income tax filing					
	Average Time (minutes per submission)	Annual Salary				
INTERNALLY:						
Owner / Family Member / Friend	C0335	C0341				
Staff accountant / bookkeeper / payroll resource	C0336	C0342				
General staff	C0337	C0343				
COMPLETED EXTERNALLY:						
(accountant, payroll service provider, tax specialist etc.)	C0353	(0)				

	Feder VP. Princial Sales Taxes (L°T/PST or HST)				
	Average Time (minutes par submission)	Annual Salary			
INTERNALLY:					
Owner / Family Member / Friend	C0344	C0350			
Staff accountant / bookkeeper / payroll resource	C0345	C0351			
General staff	C0346	C0352			
COMPLETED EXTERNALLY:					
(accountant, payroli service provider (ax specialist etc.)	C0354				

	Corporate Tax Installments					
	Average Time (minutes per submission)	Annual Salary				
INTERNALLY:						
Owner / Family Member / Friend	C0355	C0361				
Staff accountant / bookkeeper / payroll resource	C0356	C0362				
General staff	C0357	C0363				
COMPLETED EXTERNALLY:						
(accountant, payroll service provider, tax specialist etc.)	C0364					

#### Part 3. Other Regulatory Requirements

**B11.** In the last twelve months, how many submissions did your business, or an external service provider, make for the following regulatory requirements? (*Please note: monthly and quarterly Statistics Canada surveys count as 12 and 4 submissions, respectively.*)

	Corporate Registration (annual filing/business status change)	<u>Mandatory</u> Statistics Canada Surveys	Municipal Operating Licences and Permits	Provincial Operating Licences and Permits
Number of submissions	C0365	C0366	C0367	C0368

**B12.** In the last twelve months, how were the majority of your submissions for the following regulatory requirements prepared? *Please check <u>one</u> box per column.* 

	Corporate Registration (annual filing/business status change)	<u>Mandatory</u> Statistics Canada Surveys	Municipal Operating Licences and Permits	Provincial Operating Licences and Permits
	C0369	C0373	C0377	C0381
Manual preparation	1	1	1	10
Preparation using computer application	2	2	2	2
Both manually and by computer application	3	3	3	3
External service provider	4	4	4	4

**B13.** From the list below, please select the <u>principal</u> reason why you chose the n. thod of preparation identified in question B12. *Please check <u>one</u> box per column*.

	Corporate Registration (annual filing/business status change)	Mandulary Statistics Canada Surveys	Municipal Operating Licences and Permits	Provincial Operating Licences and Permits  C0429
Familiarity / comfort	1	1	1	1
Simple / ease of use	2	2	2	2
Not aware of other methods	3	3	3	3
Unable to comply without service provider assistance	4	4	4	4
Cost effectiveness	5	5	5	5
Other	6	6	6	6

**B14.** In the last twelve months, were the majority of your submissions submitted/filed electronically (on-line, through an ATM machine, through your financial institution's telephone or internet banking services)? *Please check one box per column.* 

	Corporate Registration (annual filing/business status change)	<u>Mandatory</u> Statistics Canada Surveys	Municipal Operating Licences and Permits	Provincial Operating Licences and Permits
	C0430	C0431	C0432	C0433
Yes	1	1	1	1
No	3	3	3	3
Don't know	9	9	9	9

**B15.** In order to identify your costs in completing the specified regulatory requirements please complete the table below for applicable regulations *in the last twelve months.* 

#### Include

- Time and annual salary for internal staff involved in the preparation of the submission (owners should report annual salary or their net income from the business). Enter time regardless of how little.
- Time spent on the retrieval and review of relevant information, completing the forms, making the submissions, dealing with follow-up, training staff to handle the compliance activities, and meeting and communicating with service professionals.

#### If an external service provider is involved, please check the appropriate box.

		Corporate Registration (annual filing/business status change)				
	Average Time	Average Time (minutes per submission)		lary		
INTERNALLY:						
Owner / Family Member / Friend	C0437		C0443			
Staff accountant / bookkeeper / payroll resource	C0438		C0444			
General staff	C0439		C0445			
COMPLETED EXTERNALLY:						
(accountant, payroll service provider, tax specialist etc.)		C0455				

	Mandatory Statistics Curado Surveys				
	Average Time	e ( <u>minutes</u> per submission)		Annual Salary	
INTERNALLY:					
Owner / Family Member / Friend	C0446		C0452		
Staff accountant / bookkeeper / payroll resource	C0447		C0453		
General staff	C0448	7	C0454		
COMPLETED EXTERNALLY:	N				
(accountant, payroll service provider, tax specialist etc.)	10	C0456			

		Municipal Operating Licences and Permits				
	Average Time	e ( <u>minutes</u> per submis	sion)	Annual Salary		
INTERNALLY:						
Owner / Family Momber / Friend	C0457		C0463			
Staff account ant / bookkeeper / prvroli resource	C0458		C0464			
General stafi	C0459		C0465			
COMPLETED EXTERNALLY:						
(accountant, payroll service provider, tax specialist etc.)		C04	175			

	Provincial Operating Licences and Permits					
	Average Time ( <u>minutes</u> per submission)			Annual Salary		
INTERNALLY:						
Owner / Family Member / Friend	C0466			C0472		
Staff accountant / bookkeeper / payroll resource	C0467			C0473		
General staff	C0468			C0474		
COMPLETED EXTERNALLY:						
(accountant, payroll service provider, tax specialist etc.)	C0476					

## **Section 2. Total Cost Estimate for External Service Providers** If external service providers were responsible for responding to, or complying with, any of the regulations in Section 1 in the last twelve months, please complete the following questions, otherwise go to question C1 on page 10. **B16.** Who was responsible for the preparation and submission of your regulatory requirements? Please check <u>all</u> that apply. C0477 Accountant C0478 Payroll service provider C0479 Tax preparation services C0480 Other service provider (please specify) C0481 B17. What was the total annual cost for all services provided by your external service provider(s)? C0482 Accountant C0483 Payroll service provider C0484 Tax preparation services C0485 Other service provider B18. =

**B18.** In the table below, please indicate which services your **external service provider(s)** was responsible for <u>in the last twelve months?</u> *Please check* <u>all</u> that apply.

	Accountant	Payroll Service Provider	Tax Preparation Services	Other Service Provider
	C0486	C0508	C0530	C0552
Related to employees				
Payroll remittances	1	1	1	1
T4 summary/ individual T4 slips (incl. Québec RLZ-1 & RL forms)	2	2	2	2
Record of Employment (ROE)	3	3	3	3
Workers' compensation - remittances	4	4	4	4
Workers' compensation - claims	5	5	5	5
Related to taxation			,	
Federal / Provincial business income taxes	6	6	6	6
Federal / Provincial Sales Taxes	7	7	7	7
Corporate tax installments	8	8	8	8
Business operating icences and permits				
Municipal Operating Licences and Permits	9	9	9	9
Provincial Operating Licences and Permits	10	10	10	10
Corporate registration (annual filing / business status change)	11	11	11	11
Mandatory Statistics Canada surveys	12	12	12	12
Other accounting activity s				
Financial aud ts	13	13	13	13
Bookkee <sub>k</sub> ing	14	14	14	14
Controllership	15	15	15	15
Financial statement preparation	16	16	16	16
Other (please specify) C0574	17	17	17	17
Financial Advice				
Tax Planning	18	18	18	18
Financial planning or analysis	19	19	19	19
Cash flow and budget analysis	20	20	20	20
Business valuations	21	21	21	21
Other (please specify) C0575	22	22	22	22

	C. Supplementary Compliance Questions
C1.	Are you aware that over the last three years the federal, provincial, and municipal governments have been implementing initiatives to reduce the cost of regulatory compliance for small businesses?
	<sup>C0576</sup> 1 Yes
	<sup>3</sup> No
C2.	If you answered "yes" to question C1, please indicate whether the initiatives have helped to save your business any time and/or money?
	<sup>C0579</sup> 1 Yes
	<sup>3</sup> No
C3.	If the governments' initiatives have helped to save your business any money, please indicate the main thing that has been done with the money saved. <i>Please check only one box.</i>
	<sup>C0583</sup> <sup>1</sup> Hire additional employees
	<sup>2</sup> Invest in human capital (education and employee training)
	Invest in nonhuman capital (purchase or develop structures, machines, and /cr equipment)
	Increase employee compensation (wages, bonuses, and/or benefits)
	<sup>5</sup> Pay off debt
	6 Lower prices
	<sup>7</sup> Keep as profit
	8 Other
C4.	Compared to 3 years ago, have the individual claims/forms become easier to understand and fill-out, more difficult

compared to 3 years ago, have the individual claims/forms become easier to understand and fill-out, more difficult to understand and fill-out, or stayed the same? Please their one box per row. Leave the row blank if you were not required to comply with the regulation.

		More difficult	Easier	Stayed the same	Not sure
Payroll remittances	C0588	1	2	3	4
T4 summary/individual T4 slip (incl. Québec RLZ-1 & RI_forms)	C0589	1	2	3	4
Record of employme, + (F, )E)	C0590	1	2	3	4
Workers' contrensation remittances	C0591	1	2	3	4
Workers' compensation claims	C0592	1	2	3	4
Federal/provincial business income tax filing	C0593	1	2	3	4
Federal/Provincial sales taxes (GST/PST or HST)	C0594	1	2	3	4
Corporate tax installments	C0595	1	2	3	4
Corporate registration	C0596	1	2	3	4
Mandatory Statistics Canada surveys	C0597	1	2	3	4
Municipal operating licences and permits	C0598	1	2	3	4
Provincial operating licences and permits	C0599	1	2	3	4

**C5.** What would you **most** like to see improved about each of the following regulations? *Please check <u>one</u> box per row.* Leave the row blank if you were not required to comply with the regulation.

		Fewer reporting requests	Simplified claims / forms	Improved methods of electronic filing	The regulation is fine the way it is
Payroll remittances	C0600	1	2	3	4
T4 summary/individual T4 slips (incl. Québec RLZ-1 & RL forms)	C0601	1	2	3	4
Record of employment (ROE)	C0602	1	2	3	4
Workers' compensation remittances	C0603	1	2	3	4
Workers' compensation claims	C0604	1	2	3	4
Federal/provincial business income tax filing	C0605	1	2	3	4
Federal/Provincial sales taxes (GST/PST or HST)	C0606	1	2	à	4
Corporate tax installments	C0607	1	2	3	4
Corporate registration	C0608	1		3	4
Mandatory Statistics Canada surveys	C0609	1	2	3	4
Municipal operating licences and permits	C0610		2	3	4
Provincial operating licences and permits	C061	1	2	3	4

### THAN. YOU FOR YOUR ASSISTANCE

Please return the questionnaire in the accompanying self addressed pre-paid avelope within 14 days of receipt.