



# NEWS RELEASE

## Atlantic Canada has two of the four latest Tax Freedom Days in the country

June 19, 2023  
For Immediate Release

**HALIFAX**—If Atlantic Canadians paid all of their taxes up front, they would work nearly half the year for the government before bringing any money home for themselves or their families, finds a new study published by the Fraser Institute, an independent, non-partisan Canadian public policy think-tank.

*Tax Freedom Day* measures the total annual tax burden imposed on Canadian families by federal, provincial, and municipal governments. This year, Tax Freedom Day is June 19 and it comes eight days later than in 2019, the last year before the pandemic, and four days later than 2021 when it fell on June 15. Two of the four latest Tax Freedom Days in all of Canada are in Atlantic Canada.

“If Canadians paid all their taxes up front, they would work the first 169 days of this year before bringing any money home for themselves and their families,” said Jake Fuss, Associate Director of Fiscal Studies at the Fraser Institute.

In 2023, the average Canadian family (with two or more people) will pay \$64,610 in total taxes. That’s 46.1 per cent of its annual income (\$140,106) going to income taxes, payroll taxes (including the Canada Pension Plan), health taxes, sales taxes (like the GST), property taxes, fuel taxes, carbon taxes, “sin” taxes and more.

Represented as days on the calendar, the total tax burden compromises more than five months of income—from January 1 to June 18. On June 19<sup>th</sup>—Tax Freedom Day—Canadians finally start working for themselves.

In 2023, the provincial Tax Freedom Day for Atlantic Canadians arrives on June 9<sup>th</sup> for PEI, June 12<sup>th</sup> for New Brunswick, June 18<sup>th</sup> for Nova Scotia, and the latest Tax Freedom Day out of the entire Atlantic region and second latest nationally (after Quebec) is June 26<sup>th</sup> in Newfoundland & Labrador.

But Atlantic Canadians should also be worried about how deficits across most of the region will push their individual Tax Freedom Days later in the future because of the borrowing (i.e. deficits) being used now to finance current spending.

“Tax Freedom Day helps put the total tax burden in perspective, and helps Canadians understand just how much of their money they pay in taxes every year,” Fuss said.

“Atlantic Canadians need to decide for themselves whether they are getting their money’s worth when it comes to how governments are spending their tax dollars.”

Tax Freedom Day for each province varies according to the extent of the provincially and locally levied tax burden.

**2023 provincial Tax Freedom Days**

Manitoba	June 6
Prince Edward Island	June 9
British Columbia	June 9

New Brunswick	June 12
Alberta	June 14
Ontario	June 18
Nova Scotia	June 18
Saskatchewan	June 22
Newfoundland & Labrador	June 26
Quebec	June 30
<b>CANADA</b>	June 19

**MEDIA CONTACT:**

Jake Fuss, Associate Director of Fiscal Studies  
Fraser Institute

Alex Whalen, Senior Economist  
Fraser Institute

*To arrange media interviews or for more information, please contact:*

Drue MacPherson, Fraser Institute

Tel: (604) 688-0221 Ext. 721

E-mail: [drue.macpherson@fraserinstitute.org](mailto:drue.macpherson@fraserinstitute.org)

Follow the Fraser Institute on [Twitter](#) and [Facebook](#)

The Fraser Institute is an independent Canadian public policy research and educational organization with offices in Vancouver, Calgary, Toronto, and Montreal and ties to a global network of think-tanks in 87 countries. Its mission is to improve the quality of life for Canadians, their families and future generations by studying, measuring and broadly communicating the effects of government policies, entrepreneurship and choice on their well-being. To protect the Institute's independence, it does not accept grants from governments or contracts for research. Visit [www.fraserinstitute.org](http://www.fraserinstitute.org)