

Friday, December 24, 2004 Released at 8:30 a.m. Eastern time

Major releases

There are no major releases today.

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Season' Greetings

Because of the holidays, *The Daily* will not be published from December 27 through January 4. Publication will resume on Wednesday, January 5, 2005. The staff of *The Daily* sends you best wishes for a safe and happy holiday.





The Daily, December 24, 2004

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New products

Release dates: January 2005

Other releases

Monthly Restaurants, Caterers and Taverns Survey

September and October 2004 (preliminary)

Total sales of the restaurants, caterers and taverns industry reached almost \$3.17 billion in September, a 5.8% increase over September 2003. On a year-over-year basis, October's total of \$3.25 billion was 5.0% higher than in October last year. (Data are neither seasonally adjusted, nor adjusted for inflation.)

Food services sales

	September 2003 ^r	October 2003 ^r	September 2004 ^p	October 2004 ^p		
	Not seasonally adjusted					
	\$ thousands					
Total, food services sales	2,996,310	3,098,013	3,168,918	3,251,398		
Provinces and territories Newfoundland and						
Labrador Prince Edward	37,422	37,450	38,267	37,862		
Island	14,290	12,409	14,361	13,755		
Nova Scotia	86,124	84,191	91,184	89,854		
New Brunswick	55,644	56,471	62,776	66,023		
Quebec	641,854	625,219	673,714	692,284		
Ontario	1,212,448	1,324,367	1,268,295	1,325,916		
Manitoba	75,428	81,372	79,616	82,424		
Saskatchewan	74,509	76,744	74,742	76,913		
Alberta	328,121	335,198	354,837	370,737		
British Columbia	462,269	456,204	500,968	485,347		
Yukon Northwest	3,113	2,706	3,764	3,644		
Territories	4,348	4,867	5,725	5,942		
Nunavut	741	816	669	698		

^r Revised figures.

^p Preliminary figures.

Compared with a difficult 2003, the overall food service industry has been showing steady improvements.

The industry enjoyed year-over-year sales growth in all provinces. New Brunswick registered the largest increases in both September (+12.8%) and October (+16.9%).

Note: The Monthly Restaurants, Caterers and Taverns Survey has undergone several important changes. Effective starting for the April 2004 reference month, the survey was restratified and a new sample was selected. Commencing with the reference month of May 2004, the survey incorporated increased use of GST data to reduce response burden and collection costs. As a result of these changes, total food services sales for Canada and the provinces/territories have been revised back to January 1998. Details on the number of locations and the industry (types of business) have been suppressed for both the historical and the new series until revisions to the historical data can be processed. Revisions to the new series of preliminary data (commencing with the reference month of May 2004) will coincide with a new annual revision program planned for Spring 2005.

Available on CANSIM: table 355-0001.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2419.

For more information, to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality, or to obtain the new methodology paper about the Monthly Restaurants, Caterers and Taverns Survey contact Alain Mbassegue (613-951-2011; fax: 613-951-6696; *alain.mbassegue@statcan.ca*), Services Industries Division, Statistics Canada.

Small for-hire motor carriers of freight and owner operators 2001

There were 5,700 for-hire motor carriers of freight with revenue under \$1 million in 2001. These small businesses represented more than 60% of motor carriers in the for-hire trucking industry.

Total operating revenues were \$1.5 billion, about \$265,000 per carrier. Overall, small carriers generated 6% of revenues in the sector. Total operating expenses were \$1.4 billion, averaging \$250,000 per carrier.

Intra-provincial movements accounted for more than 72% (\$1.1 billion) of the operating revenues generated from transporting goods, while international movements accounted for 19% (\$282 million) and interprovincial movements, 9% (\$134 million).

On average, these carriers had five employees (including owner operators), four full time and one part time, and they operated one straight truck, three road tractors and three semi-trailers.

There were 35,931 trucking firms self-identified as owner operators in 2001, about the same number as 2000. Just about all of these carriers (99%) had revenues under \$1 million.

Almost three-quarters (73%) of the owner operators offered their services to for-hire carriers, while the remaining owners worked for private carriers (21%) or both for-hire and private carriers (6%).

Total operating revenues were almost \$6.6 billion in 2001, about \$184,000 per carrier. This represented a 4.2% increase in total revenues from 2000. Total operating expenses were \$5.9 billion, about \$165,000 per carrier.

Intra-provincial movements accounted for 64% (\$4.2 billion) of operating revenues generated from hauling goods, while international movements accounted for 24% (\$1.6 billion) and inter-provincial movements, 12% (\$796 million).

These carriers, on average, had two employees and they operated one road tractor and one semi-trailer.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2800.

A special bulletin, *The Service Bulletin: Surface and Marine Transport*, Vol. 20, no. 5 (50-002-XIE, \$11) containing a wide range of financial and operating data from the 2001 Annual Survey of Small For-Hire Carriers of Freight and Owner-Operators is now available. See *How to order products*.

For general information or to order data, contact Ronald Chrétien (613-951-8774; *ron.chretien@statcan.ca*). For more information about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Ed Hamilton (613-951-6153; fax: 613-951-0579; *ed.hamilton@statcan.ca*), Transportation Division.

Industrial chemicals and synthetic resins October 2004

Data on industrial chemicals and synthetic resins are now available for October.

Available on CANSIM: table 303-0014.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2183.

The October 2004 issue of *Industrial Chemicals and Synthetic Resins*, Vol. 47, no. 10 (46-002-XIE, \$6/\$51) is now available. See *How to order products*.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact the dissemination officer (1-866-873-8789; 613-951-9497; *manufact@statcan.ca*), Manufacturing, Construction and Energy Division.

Stocks of frozen and chilled meats December 2004

Total frozen and chilled red meat in cold storage at the opening of the first business day of December 2004 amounted to 79 576 metric tonnes, virtually unchanged from 79 253 tonnes in November and down 14% from 92 180 tonnes in December 2003. Stocks of frozen poultry meat in cold storage on December 1 totalled 61,152 metric tonnes, up 4.3% from a year ago.

Available on CANSIM: tables 003-0005 and 003-0041.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 3423.

The December 2004 issue of *Stocks of Frozen and Chilled Meats* (23-009-XIE, free) is now available online. From the *Our products and services* page, under *Browse our Internet publications*, choose *Free*, then *Agriculture*.

For general information, call (1-800-465-1991). To enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Barbara McLaughlin (902-893-7251; *barbara.mclaughlin@statcan.ca*), Agriculture Division.

Computer and Peripherals Price Indexes October 2004

Prices for commercial computers, as measured by the Computer and Peripherals Price Indexes, were down 3.7% from September. Consumer computer prices, representing computer brands and models normally purchased by consumers and small businesses, fell 1.0%.

In the case of computer peripherals, monitor prices for October declined 1.2% on a monthly basis, while printer prices were down 0.8% from September.

These indexes are available at the Canada level only.

Available on CANSIM: tables 331-0001 and 331-0002.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 5032.

For more information on these indexes, contact Client Services (1-866-230-2248; 613-951-9606; *infounit@statcan.ca*). To enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Fred Barzyk (613-951-2493; *fred.barzyk@statcan.ca*), Prices Division.

Steel primary forms, weekly data

Week ending December 18, 2004 (preliminary)

Steel primary forms production for the week ending December 18 totalled 288 734 metric tonnes, down 2.8% from 296 950 tonnes a week earlier and down 6.6% from 309 201 tonnes in the same week of 2003.

The year-to-date total as of December 18 was 15 572 256 tonnes, up 2.6% from 15 170 420 tonnes in the same period of 2003.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2131.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact the dissemination officer (1-866-873-8789; 613-951-9497; *manufact@statcan.ca*), Manufacturing, Construction and Energy Division.

Refined petroleum products August 2004

Data on the supply and disposition and domestic sales of refined petroleum products are now available for August 2004.

Available on CANSIM: tables 134-0001 to 134-0004.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2150.

The August 2004 issue of *Refined Petroleum Products*, Vol. 59, no. 8 (45-004-XIB, \$18/\$166) is now available. See *How to order products*.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact the dissemination officer (1-866-873-8789; 613-951-9497; *energ@statcan.ca*), Manufacturing, Construction and Energy Division.

New products

The Canadian Productivity Accounts: Methods and Concepts : The Statistics Canada Productivity Program: Methodology 2000, no. 1 Catalogue number 15-002-MIE2001001 (free).

Stocks of Frozen and Chilled Meats, December 2004 Catalogue number 23-009-XIE (free).

Refined Petroleum Products, August 2004, Vol. 59, no. 8 Catalogue number 45-004-XIB (\$18/\$166).

Industrial Chemicals and Synthetic Resins, October 2004, Vol. 47, no. 10 Catalogue number 46-002-XIE (\$6/\$51).

Service Bulletin: Surface and Marine Transport, Vol. 20, no. 5 Catalogue number 50-002-XIE (\$11). Exports by Commodity, October 2004, Vol. 61, no. 10 Catalogue number 65-004-XMB (\$40/\$387).

Exports by Commodity, October 2004, Vol. 61, no. 10 Catalogue number 65-004-XPB (\$84/\$828).

All prices are in Canadian dollars and exclude sales tax. Additional shipping charges apply for delivery outside Canada.

Catalogue numbers with an -XWE, -XIB or an -XIE extension are Internet versions; those with -XMB or -XME are microfiche; -XPB or -XPE are paper versions; -XDB or -XDE are electronic versions on diskette and -XCB or -XCE are electronic versions on compact disc.

How to order products								
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Release dates: January 2005

(Release dates are subject to change.)

Release date	Title	Reference period
5	Industrial Product Price and Raw Materials Indexes	November 2004
5	Evolving housing conditions in Canada's metropolitan areas	1991 to 2001
7	Labour Force Survey	December 2004
10	Building permits	November 2004
10	National tourism indicators	Third quarter 2004
12	Canadian international merchandise trade	November 2004
12	University degrees, diplomas and certificates awarded	2001
12	New Housing Price Index	November 2004
14	New motor vehicle sales	November 2004
17	Investment in non-residential building construction	Fourth guarter 2004
18	Leading Indicators	December 2004
19	Consumer Price Index	December 2004
19	Canada's international transactions in securities	November 2004
20	Monthly Survey of Manufacturing	November 2004
20	A comparison of Canadian and US productivity levels: An exploration of measurement issues	1999
20	Travel between Canada and other countries	November 2004
21	Wholesale trade	November 2004
24	Retail trade	November 2004
24	Changes in relationships with parents and peers and youth depressive symptoms: a longitudinal perspective	1998/99 to 2000/01
25	Exploring crime trends in Canada	
25	Employment Insurance	November 2004
26	Are good jobs disappearing in Canada?	
26	Health indicators	2005
27	Business Conditions Survey: Canadian manufacturing industries	January 2005
27	Government expenditures on culture	2002/3
27	Employment, earnings and hours	November 2004
28	Industrial product and raw materials price indexes	December 2004
31	Gross domestic product by industry	November 2004