

The Daily

Statistics Canada

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MAJOR RELEASES

- Gross Domestic Product by Industry, February 2004
 The gross domestic product remained unchanged in February after a decline of 0.2% in January.
- Adult Education and Training Survey, 2003
 One out of every three adult Canadian workers, an estimated 4.8 million, participated in some type of formal job-related training in 2002, accessing opportunities to continue learning and to upgrade his or her skills.

(continued on page 2)

Education Matters: A new online publication

Today, Statistics Canada launches a new, free, online publication called *Education Matters: Insights on Education, Learning and Training in Canada.*

This publication, which will be released every two months, is a source of summary information on issues relating to education, training and learning, as well as a key point of access to data and analytical output relating to education.

Each edition of *Education Matters* will contain two articles, which explore a range of issues relating to education and learning, and which summarize findings reported in research papers and provide links to those papers.

The articles in today's inaugural issue are titled "Literacy counts" and "Distance as a postsecondary access issue."

The publication also links electronically to a wide variety of data, news on education, learning resources and tables, charts and analysis. In short, it will be an invaluable research tool for policy analysts, researchers, academics and journalists and a key source of information for teachers, parents and others with a keen interest in education issues.

The first issue of *Education Matters: Insights on Education, Learning and Training in Canada* (81-004-XIE, free) is now available online. From the *Our products and services* page, under *Browse our Internet publications*, choose *Free*, then *Education*, then *Education Matters*.

For more information, contact Client Services (1-800 307-3382; 613-951-7608; fax: 613-951-9040; educationstats@statcan.ca), Culture, Tourism and the Centre for Education Statistics.





The Daily, April 30, 2004

OTHER RELEASES	
Arts, entertainment and recreation services, 2002	8
Computer and Peripherals Price Indexes, February 2004	8
Steel primary forms, weekly data, week ending April 24, 2004	9
NEW PRODUCTS	10
RELEASE DATES: May 2004	12

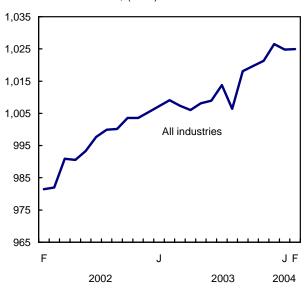
MAJOR RELEASES

Gross Domestic Product by Industry February 2004

The gross domestic product (GDP) remained unchanged in February after a decline of 0.2% in January. Increased retail and real estate activity largely offset weaker utilities, wholesaling, and transportation services.

Economy unchanged in February

GDP billions of chained \$ (1997)



Strong sales of cars and resurgence in the housing market boosted the output of the retail and real estate sectors. However, this growth was offset by the return to more seasonal weather and some strikes which pulled down the utilities and the transportation activity.

Canadian industrial production declined 0.3% as utilities output returned to more normal levels. Industrial production in the US showed a similar decline, also driven by lower output of utilities. Manufacturing output grew marginally, while mining gained ground.

Utilities subsided in February

The return to more normal weather in February following an exceptionally cold January pushed utilities production down 4.6%. Both electrical generation and transmission and natural gas distribution receded.

Note to readers

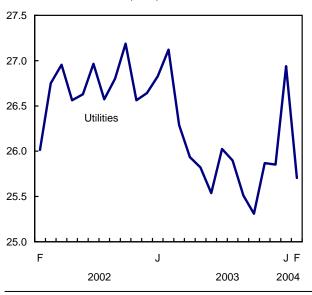
In September 2002 (reference month July 2002), the monthly gross domestic product (GDP) by industry program introduced the first stage of conversion to a Chain Fisher formula, by adopting annual chained Input—Output benchmarks in its calculation of real GDP for 1997 to 2000. However, from January 2001 onwards, the data are 2000 Laspeyres-based estimates. The monthly GDP results are expressed in chained 1997 dollars. This conversion brings the monthly GDP by industry estimates more in line with the quarterly expenditure-based GDP data, chained quarterly. For more information, see the Chain Fisher Volume Index page on our website

Revisions

With this release of monthly GDP by industry, revisions have been made back to January 2003.

Utilities receded after a bitter cold January

GDP billions of chained \$ (1997)



Wholesale activities contracted for a second month

The output of the wholesale sector dropped 0.4%, partly because of a contraction in automotive wholesaling. Computer and grain dealers also experienced lower sales in February. This weakness was partly offset by machinery and lumber components that regained some strength after a sluggish January.

Transportation eased back

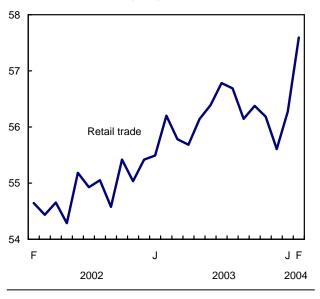
After registering a strong fourth quarter in 2003, transportation output eased back in 2004. It declined 0.8% in February after a drop of 0.4% in January. A strike in rail transportation, starting February 20, as well as a weaker manufacturing sector coupled with higher insurance costs resulted in decreased activity for both rail and truck transportation. Air transportation eased back for a second consecutive month after showing some signs of a pickup in the latter part of 2003.

Car sales boost retailing

Retail trade output advanced 2.3% in February. Automotive dealers, propelled by new incentives, registered strong activity in the showrooms after three months of declines. A resurgence in the automotive components of the retail sector accounted for most of the increase, as retailers excluding automotives had a lacklustre gain of 0.2%. Sales at department stores and service stations were down significantly.

Car sales boosted retailing

GDP billions of chained \$ (1997)



Resurgence in the housing market

Real estate agents saw their output advance 1.9% after six months of slowdown. Existing home sales bounced back after several sluggish months, and

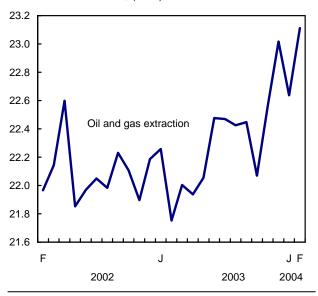
were particularly strong in Quebec, Ontario and British Columbia.

Renewed strength in mining

Mining rebounded 0.4% in February, thanks to sustained oil and gas extraction, which was fuelled by higher oil prices. Increased activity at the Terra Nova oil field contributed to most of this growth, while natural gas production edged down. Metal ore mining dropped 8.2% as strikes affected February's output.

Record levels for oil and gas extraction

GDP billions of chained \$ (1997)



Manufacturing edged up

Manufacturing production stayed virtually unchanged in February, increasing 0.1%. Strong increases were registered in fabricated metal products and machinery, mainly for aerospace production. Robust US demand for these items pushed up exports of metal fabricated products and machinery. This growth was almost entirely offset by a sharp decline in tobacco products, caused by upcoming closures and already high inventory levels. Clothing manufacturers experienced difficulties in February, as both domestic and international demand were weak.

Construction declined for a third month in a row

Both residential and non-residential construction declined for the third consecutive month in February.

Work on non-residential projects was the biggest contributor, dipping 2.9%. However, engineering construction rose for the seventh consecutive month, after the slump registered in early 2003. Housing starts increased 9.6% in February, regaining ground lost last month as a result of unseasonably harsh weather in some parts of the country. However, building permits dropped 5.9%.

Available on CANSIM: tables 379-0017 to 379-0022.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey numbers, including related surveys, 1301 and 1302.

The February 2004 issue of *Gross Domestic Product* by Industry (15-001-XIE, \$12/\$118) is now available. A print-on-demand version is available at a different price. See How to order products.

Data on gross domestic product by industry for March 2004 will be released on May 31.

general information or to order data, Chantigny (1-800-887-IMAD; contact Yolande imad@statcan.ca). To enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Hans Messinger (613-951-3621), Industry Measures and Analysis Division.

Monthly gross domestic product by industry at basic prices in chained dollars (1997)

	September 2003 ^r	October 2003 ^r	November 2003 ^r	December 2003 ^r	January 2004 ^r	February 2004 ^p	February 2004	February 2003
	2000	2000	2000	2000	2001	2001	2001	to
								February 2004
-				seasonally a	adjusted			
	month-to-month % change \$ level ¹ % chang						% change	
All industries	1.2	0.2	0.2	0.5	-0.2	0.0	1,024,942	1.6
Goods-producing industries	1.9	-0.0	0.4	0.9	-0.5	-0.4	321,639	1.3
Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting	1.0	0.8	0.3	-0.2	0.1	-0.6	23,963	3.6
Mining and oil and gas extraction	2.0	-0.1	0.1	1.5	-1.3	0.4	37,442	5.7
Utilities	-1.5	-0.8	2.2	-0.1	4.2	-4.6	25,705	-5.2
Construction	0.8	0.5	1.1	-0.0	-0.5	-0.4	55,985	2.8
Manufacturing	2.8	-0.1	0.0	1.2	-0.9	0.1	177,348	0.2
Services-producing industries	0.8	0.2	0.0	0.3	-0.0	0.2	704,663	1.7
Wholesale trade	5.0	0.8	-0.5	1.3	-3.1	-0.4	62,160	-1.2
Retail trade	-1.0	0.4	-0.3	-1.0	1.2	2.3	57,595	2.5
Transportation and warehousing	0.8	1.0	1.0	0.9	-0.4	-0.8	46,789	0.1
Information and cultural industries	-0.1	-0.6	-0.4	-0.4	0.4	-0.1	41,613	-1.5
Finance, insurance and real estate	0.3	-0.1	-0.1	0.5	0.4	0.3	207,283	3.1
Professional, scientific and technical services Administrative and waste management	0.5	0.1	0.1	-0.1	0.6	0.1	45,211	2.3
services	0.5	0.2	-0.1	0.3	0.1	0.0	22,485	2.2
Education services	-0.2	-0.3	1.0	0.3	0.0	0.0	45,749	0.6
Health care and social assistance	0.3	0.3	0.1	0.7	0.0	-0.3	61,336	2.5
Arts, entertainment and recreation	2.8	1.1	-2.2	1.0	-0.1	0.7	9,389	4.9
Accommodation and food services	-0.7	2.7	0.1	-0.4	-0.1	0.7	22,893	0.1
Other services (except public administration)	0.7	0.5	0.1	0.3	-0.0	0.1	24,450	1.8
Public administration	2.8	-0.2	0.4	0.3	0.1	0.0	58,495	1.9
Other aggregations								
Industrial production	2.2	-0.2	0.2	1.2	-0.5	-0.3	242.092	0.8
Non-durable manufacturing industries	2.1	0.1	-0.2	0.6	-0.4	-0.2	72,651	-0.3
Durable manufacturing industries	3.2	-0.3	0.1	1.7	-1.3	0.3	104,601	0.5
Business sector industries	1.2	0.2	0.1	0.5	-0.2	0.0	868,112	1.6
Non-business sector industries	1.1	-0.1	0.4	0.4	0.1	0.0	156,983	1.6
Information and communication technologies								
(ICT) industries	0.9	0.0	0.5	0.1	0.2	-0.2	57,315	1.0
Energy sector	-0.7	-0.5	2.2	1.2	0.2	-0.6	60,153	1.7

Revised figures.

Preliminary figures.

Millions of dollars at annual rate.

Adult Education and Training Survey 2003

One out of every three adult workers, an estimated 4.8 million, participated in some type of formal job-related training in 2002, accessing opportunities to continue learning and to upgrade their skills.

New data from the Adult Education and Training Survey (AETS) show that 35% of workers aged 25 to 64 underwent some formal job-related training in 2002. This proportion was higher than the 29% of workers who reported they had taken formal training in 1997.

Participation rates rose within the ranks of both men and women, as well as across all age groups and all provinces.

The largest increase in participation occurred among older workers aged 55 to 64. The data show that 23% of these older workers had taken formal job-related training in 2002, up from 15% in 1997.

Historically, the tendency has been for younger workers to have the highest participation rates, and this was again the case in 2002. Four out of every 10 workers (42%) aged 25 to 34 had had formal, job-related training, up from 33% in 1997.

Slightly more than 2.2 million workers had not taken any formal training in 2002, nor during the five-year period between 1997 and 2001. In addition, they had no expectations of taking any in the three years after the survey. More than one-half of these individuals had no education beyond high school and two-thirds were over the age of 45.

On average, participants devoted about the same number of hours to learning

On average, workers who participated in training devoted about the same number of hours in 2002 as they had five years earlier.

In 2002, participants in formal, job-related training received an average of 150 hours of training, the equivalent of about 25 days based on a six-hour training day. This was virtually unchanged from 156 hours, or 26 days, in 1997.

Average hours of training per participant mask considerable variation in the experiences of different workers. Most participants took training of short duration—about 44% received less than 31 hours (or five days) of training in 2002. An additional 34% took between 31 and 120 hours (or 6 to 20 days) of training.

The youngest workers, those aged 25 to 34, devoted the most time to training, about 250 hours, in both 2002 and 1997.

Note to readers

Statistics Canada, in partnership with Human Resources and Skills Development Canada, conducted the Adult Education and Training Survey (AETS) in February and March 2003.

The survey collected data on participation in formal and informal job-related training from more than 25,000 adults aged 25 and over. It updates information collected by a similar survey in 1998.

However, the scope and objectives changed between the two survey years. The 2003 survey focussed on job-related training and education, while the 1998 survey gathered information on all training and education activities, job-related or not.

Respondents were asked a series of questions about their training and education activities in 2002, such as the number and duration of training activities, the type of training they took and the involvement of their employer in the training. The survey also gathered information about self-directed learning activities, barriers respondents faced in accessing training, as well as past involvement in, and future intentions of, job-related training.

The focus of this first report from the 2003 AETS is the participation of adult workers in formal, job-related training. Adult workers include those workers who were aged 25 to 64 at the time of the survey and who were employed at some point during the survey reference year (2002).

Formal, job-related training includes courses or programs related to a worker's current or future job. These courses and programs have a structured plan whereby a student, led by a teacher or trainer, follows a planned program and receives some form of formal recognition upon completion, such as a certificate, diploma or degree.

Even though they trained for the fewest hours on average, the oldest workers incurred the biggest gain. Between 1997 and 2002, the average number of hours of training for participants aged 55 to 64 more than doubled from 43 to 88.

Provincially, average time spent in training increased substantially in only four provinces: Nova Scotia, Ontario, Manitoba and Saskatchewan. Participants in Newfoundland and Labrador trained on average for 219 hours, the highest in Canada, but that was down from 231 hours five years earlier.

Only slight increase in participation in employer-supported training

For the purposes of the survey, an employer was considered to have supported training if they had done any of a range of activities, including paying for the training, allowing the trainee to work a flexible schedule to accommodate training, or providing transportation to the training site.

Despite the increase in overall participation rates between 1997 and 2002, rates for training supported specifically by employers increased only slightly for workers in most age and educational groups. Nationally, one-quarter (25%) of all adult workers reported taking employer-supported training programs in 2002, up from 22% five years earlier.

Across the country, the rate rose substantially in only two provinces: Quebec and New Brunswick. In Quebec, 24% of adult workers had taken employer-supported training, up from 15% in 1997. In New Brunswick, the proportion rose from 19% to 26%.

The role of the employer relative to that of the individual worker in supporting training shifted over the five-year period between 1997 and 2002. A greater percentage of workers appear to have taken training on their own initiative and at their own expense in 2002. Of all participants in formal job-related training, 72% were involved in employer-sponsored training in 2002, down from 79% in 1997.

In 2002, 35% of workers employed in professional and managerial positions reported taking employer-supported training, twice the proportion among blue-collar workers (16%).

Participation rates for employer-supported training rose substantially in three industries where they tend to be high to begin with: public administration, utilities and educational services. More than one-half (51%) of employees in public administration took employer-supported training in 2002.

Self-directed learning: One in three adult workers said they trained on their own

Job-related training is not restricted to formal training. Workers can also learn informally on their own. For the first time, the AETS collected information on self-directed, or informal, learning to provide a more complete picture of training. Self-directed learning includes, among other things, such activities as seeking

advice from someone knowledgeable, using the Internet or other software and observing someone performing a task.

In 2002, one-third (33%) of working adults engaged in some form of self-directed, informal learning activity related to their job in the four weeks prior to the survey, making it almost as common as formal training. Rates were slightly higher for women.

Participation patterns in self-directed learning mirror those seen for formal training. That is, older workers and less-educated workers were less involved in both formal, job-related training and self-directed learning.

The AETS found a striking overlap between participants in the two types of training.

Of all those who engaged in self-directed training in the four-week period before the survey, 87% also took formal training at some point during 2002. Examined from the opposite perspective, 82% of adult workers who took formal training in 2002 also engaged in self-directed learning.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 3879.

The report Working and Training: First Results of the 2003 Adult Education and Training Survey (81-595-MIE2004015, free) is now available online. From the Our products and services page, under Browse our Internet publications, choose Free, then Education.

For more information, to enquire about the concepts, methods of data quality of this release, or to order data, contact Client Services, (1-800-307-3382; 613-951-7608; fax: 613-951-9040; educationstats@statcan.ca), Culture, Tourism and the Centre for Education Statistics.

OTHER RELEASES

Arts, entertainment and recreation services 2002

Results from the Annual Survey of Arts, Entertainment and Recreation Services, which covers the performing arts, spectator sports, and amusement and recreational sector, are now available for 2002.

Performing arts companies, such as theatre, opera and dance companies, accounted for \$1.0 billion in operating revenues in 2002, up 5.1% from 2001. In addition, these firms realized an increase in operating profits of 6.5%, up from 5.2% in 2001.

The spectator sports industry, which includes professional and semi-professional sports clubs and teams and horse racing, reported operating revenues of \$2.1 billion up slightly from \$1.9 billion the previous year. Salaries and wages account for a 43% of the total operating expenses for the spectator sports sector.

The other amusement and recreation services industry generated revenues of \$5.5 in 2002, which is a slight increase from the 2001's reported amount of \$5.0 billion. The ski industry's operating revenues rose slightly to \$857 million in 2002 from \$714 million in the previous year. In addition, operating profits increased from 11.9% in 2001 to 15.1% in 2002. Warm, dry weather helped the establishments in the golf industry realize operating revenues of \$1.9 billion, up from 2001's figures Unfortunately, operating expenses of \$1.8 billion. rose as well and operating profits for the golf industry dropped from 6.7% to 5.1%.

The Annual Survey of Arts, Entertainment and Recreation Services provides a broader picture of the arts, entertainment and recreation sector. This survey covers both for profit and not-for profit performing arts companies. The Survey of Performing Arts Survey is conducted every two years to track developments in a subset of the arts, entertainment and recreation sector, specifically, not-for-profit professional live arts production companies.

For more information on the performing arts, you can purchase a copy of the publication *Performing Arts: Data Tables* (87F0003XDB, \$50), which was released on September 9, 2003. See *How to order products*.

Available on CANSIM: table 361-0002.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2425.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Sharon Neufeld (613-951-5255; Sharon.Neufeld@statcan.ca) or Frank Menezes (613-951-6192; Frank.Menezes@statcan.ca), Service Industries Division.

Computer and Peripherals Price Indexes February 2004 (preliminary)

Prices for commercial computers, as measured by the Computer and Peripherals Price Indexes, rose 0.2% compared with January. Desktop prices were up 0.6%, servers were down 0.2%, and portables remained unchanged.

Consumer computers, representing computer brands and models normally purchased by consumers and small businesses, decreased 4.6%, with desktops declining 2.3% and portables by 7.6%.

In the case of computer peripherals, monitor and printer prices remained unchanged from January.

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 April 24, 2004 (preliminary)

Steel primary forms production for the week ending April 24 totalled 323 333 metric tonnes, down 0.3% from 324 278 tonnes a week earlier, but up 1.8% from 317 562 tonnes in the same week of 2003.

The year-to-date total as of April 24 was 5 073 904 tonnes, up 1.5% from 4 997 208 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.

NEW PRODUCTS

Gross Domestic Product by Industry, February 2004, Vol. 18. no. 2

Catalogue number 15-001-XIE (\$12/\$118).

Service Bulletin: Surface and Marine Transport, Vol. 20, no. 2

Catalogue number 50-002-XIB (\$11).

Exports by Commodity, February 2004, Vol. 61, no. 2 Catalogue number 65-004-XMB (\$40/\$387).

Exports by Commodity, February 2004, Vol. 61, no. 2 Catalogue number 65-004-XPB (\$84/\$828).

Education Matters: Insights on Education, Learning and Training in Canada, Catalogue number 81-004-XIE (free).

Education, Skills and Learning, Research Papers: Working and Training: First Results of the 2003 Adult Education and Training Survey, no. 15

Catalogue number 81-595-MIE2004015 (free).

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

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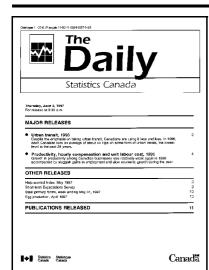
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RELEASE DATES: MAY 2004

(Release dates are subject to change.)

Release date	Title	Reference period
4	Divorces	2001 and 2002
6	Building Permits	March 2004
7	Grain Stocks	As of March 31
7	Labour Force Survey	April 2004
11	New Housing Price Index	March 2004
12	Canadian International Merchandise Trade	March 2004
13	New Motor Vehicle Sales	March 2004
14	Monthly Survey of Manufacturing	March 2004
14	Film, Video and Audio-visual Distribution	2002/03
17	National Survey of Information Technology Occupation	2002
17	Explaining the Deteriorating Entry Earnings of	1966 to 2000
	Canada's Immigrant Cohorts	
18	Foreign Direct Investment	2003
18	Alcohol and Drug Use in Early Adolescence	2003/04
19	Canada's International Transactions in Securities	March 2004
19	Leading Indicators	April 2004
19	Travel Between Canada and Other Countries	March 2004
20	Consumer Price Index	April 2004
20	Family Income	2002
21	Annual Estimates of Productivity	2003
25	Wholesale Trade	March 2004
25	Retail Trade	March 2004
26	Characteristics of International Travellers	Fourth quarter 2003
26	International Travel Account	First quarter 2004
26	Employment Insurance	March 2004
27	Farm Cash Receipts	First quarter 2004
27	Net Farm Income	2003
27	Employment, Earnings and Hours	March 2004
28	Industrial Product and Raw Materials Price Indexes	April 2004
28	Balance of International Payments	First quarter 2004
31	National Economic and Financial Accounts	First quarter 2004
31	Gross Domestic Product by Industry	March 2004