



The Daily

Statistics Canada

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However, according to preliminary figures, this drop, the second in a row, was entirely offset in July.

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NEW PRODUCTS



MAJOR RELEASES

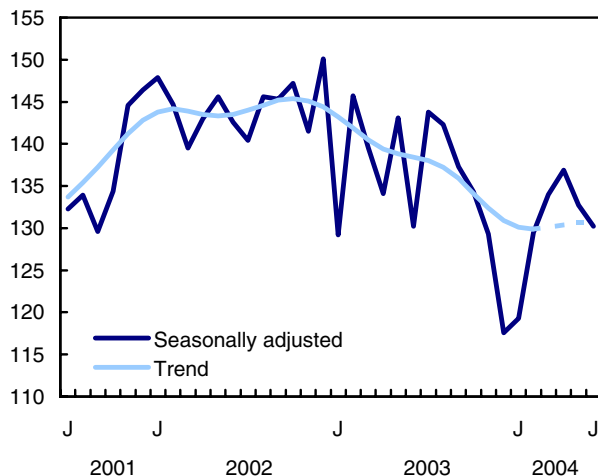
New Motor Vehicle Sales

June 2004

Weak demand for new passenger cars in June caused new motor vehicle sales to fall 1.9%. However, according to preliminary auto industry figures, this drop, the second in a row, was entirely offset by a gain of approximately 2.0% in July. In all, 130,245 new vehicles were purchased in June, down 2,493 units from May.

Second decline in a row for new motor vehicle sales

'000 units



The last few trend points could be subject to revisions as more data are added. This is indicated by the dashed line.

June's drop in sales occurred despite the purchasing incentives already in place and others newly introduced by automakers. These incentives were intended, in part, to maintain market share and boost sales following a poor showing in May.

The declines registered in June and May followed a series of increases that began in January 2004 and peaked in April, stimulated by fleet sales. This ascending sequence had followed a sustained downward period in the second part of 2003. During the first part of that year, sales had fluctuated greatly with the trend falling off from 2002's record levels.

Car sales decline

Despite the introduction of new purchasing incentives by some automakers in June, passenger car

Note to readers

All data in this release are seasonally adjusted unless otherwise indicated. Seasonally adjusted provincial data back to January 1991 are available on CANSIM.

Passenger cars include those used for personal and commercial purposes, such as taxis or rental cars. **Trucks** include minivans, sport-utility vehicles, light and heavy trucks, vans and buses.

North American-built new motor vehicles include vehicles manufactured or assembled in Canada, the United States or Mexico. All other new motor vehicles are considered to have been manufactured overseas.

For reasons of confidentiality, data for Yukon, the Northwest Territories and Nunavut are included with those for British Columbia.

The New Motor Vehicle Sales Survey is compiled using figures obtained from motor vehicle manufacturers and importers. These results may vary from those obtained directly from auto dealers as a result of possible differences in record keeping.

sales did not rise; in fact, they fell, while truck sales remained unchanged.

The number of new passenger cars sold stood at 67,468, down 3.6% from May, for a second consecutive monthly decline. The decrease is mainly attributable to North American-built cars, which accounted for more than two-thirds of the drop.

In June, 62,778 new trucks were sold. This was almost the same level as in May, a month when sales were down. Trucks include minivans, sport-utility vehicles, light and heavy trucks, vans and buses.

Sales of both passenger cars and trucks have generally been moving upward since the start of 2004, following a period of steep declines in the second half of 2003. This downward movement was first observed in passenger car sales, which began to decline in the fall of 2002. Only later did truck sales weaken. Despite great volatility, truck sales remained generally stable until the fall of 2003.

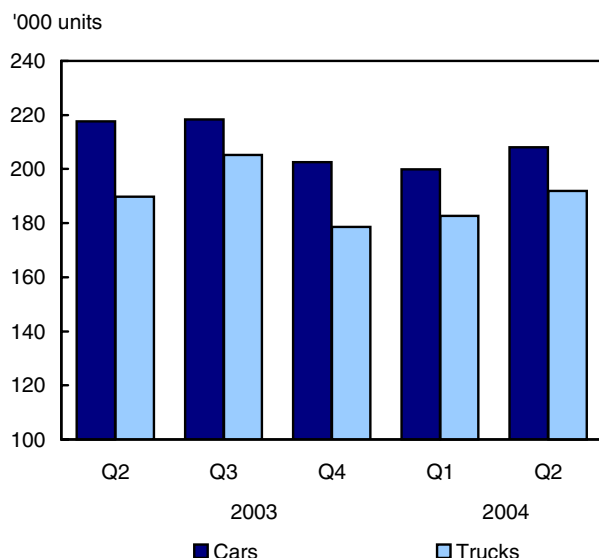
Quarterly sales post major gains

Despite the declines observed in June and May, second quarter sales were higher than in the first quarter.

The number of new motor vehicles sold in the second quarter of 2004 jumped 4.6% compared with the previous quarter, when a modest gain (+0.3%) was recorded. However, year-over-year, second quarter

sales were down 1.8% compared with the same period in 2003.

Sales of both passenger cars and trucks advanced in the second quarter



Truck sales rose 5.1% in the second quarter compared with the first, when they also advanced (+2.2%). Sales of passenger cars were up 4.1% compared with the previous quarter (-1.4%).

The gain registered by new passenger cars in the second quarter is entirely attributable to robust sales of North American-built cars, which advanced 6.1% while sales of overseas-built cars edged down 0.3% compared with the first quarter.

Three provinces stand out

In June, new motor vehicle sales were down in most provinces compared with May. In the Atlantic provinces,

sales rose in Nova Scotia (+4.4%) and New Brunswick (+1.7%), while in the Western provinces, only Manitoba reported an increase (+1.5%) in sales compared with May.

The drop observed in Ontario (-3.8%), the second in a row, accounted for more than three-quarters of the national decline in the number of new motor vehicles sold compared with May. In Ontario, the back-to-back declines observed in June and May followed a series of increases that began in January 2004 and reached a peak in April. Previously, sales had generally been following a downward movement since the start of 2003, after remaining strong throughout 2002.

Newfoundland and Labrador reported the largest drop (-8.3%) from May. For the province, the decline followed four consecutive months of rising sales. Despite that string of advances, new motor vehicle sales in the province have maintained a downward movement that began in the fall of 2003. That movement was reinforced by the large drop (-20.0%) recorded in January 2004.

Available on CANSIM: tables 079-0001 and 079-0002.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2402.

The June 2004 issue of *New Motor Vehicle Sales* (63-007-XIE, \$14/\$133) will soon be available.

Data on new motor vehicle sales for July 2004 will be released on September 14.

For general information or to order data, contact Client Services (1-877-421-3067; 613-951-3549; retailinfo@statcan.ca). To enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Cl rance Kimanyi (613-951-6363), Distributive Trades Division.

□

New motor vehicle sales

	June 2003	May 2004 ^r	June 2004 ^p	June 2003 to June 2004	May to June 2004
seasonally adjusted					
	number of vehicles			% change	
New motor vehicles	130,162	132,738	130,245	0.1	-1.9
Passenger cars	70,177	69,979	67,468	-3.9	-3.6
North American ¹	49,137	49,274	47,471	-3.4	-3.7
Overseas	21,040	20,704	19,997	-5.0	-3.4
Trucks, vans and buses	59,985	62,760	62,778	4.7	0.0
New motor vehicles					
Newfoundland and Labrador	2,151	1,970	1,806	-16.0	-8.3
Prince Edward Island	357	384	376	5.3	-2.1
Nova Scotia	3,720	3,866	4,038	8.5	4.4
New Brunswick	3,185	2,664	2,710	-14.9	1.7
Quebec	34,272	34,226	34,185	-0.3	-0.1
Ontario	50,338	51,255	49,303	-2.1	-3.8
Manitoba	3,974	3,842	3,901	-1.8	1.5
Saskatchewan	3,205	3,184	3,167	-1.2	-0.5
Alberta	15,598	16,159	15,636	0.2	-3.2
British Columbia ²	13,361	15,187	15,123	13.2	-0.4
	June 2003	May 2004 ^r	June 2004 ^p	June 2003 to June 2004	
unadjusted					
	number of vehicles			% change	
New motor vehicles	149,816	166,136	154,142	2.9	
Passenger cars	80,086	93,328	80,237	0.2	
North American ¹	55,824	67,222	56,132	0.6	
Overseas	24,262	26,106	24,105	-0.6	
Trucks, vans and buses	69,730	72,808	73,905	6.0	
New motor vehicles					
Newfoundland and Labrador	2,801	2,806	2,472	-11.7	
Prince Edward Island	490	524	511	4.3	
Nova Scotia	4,461	5,651	5,195	16.5	
New Brunswick	4,033	3,619	3,522	-12.7	
Quebec	38,328	44,593	39,984	4.3	
Ontario	58,716	62,058	58,376	-0.6	
Manitoba	4,239	4,618	4,385	3.4	
Saskatchewan	3,476	3,629	3,527	1.5	
Alberta	17,437	20,063	18,130	4.0	
British Columbia ²	15,835	18,600	18,040	13.9	

^r Revised.

^p Preliminary.

1. Manufactured or assembled in Canada, the United States or Mexico.

2. Includes Yukon, the Northwest Territories and Nunavut.



OTHER RELEASES

Machinery and equipment price indexes

Second quarter 2004

The Machinery and Equipment Price Index (1986=100) was 131.5 in the second quarter, up 2.2% from the first quarter. The import component jumped 3.3%, while the domestic component increased 0.9%. Compared with the second quarter of 2003, the index fell 0.1%, with an increase in the domestic series (+0.1%) and a decline in the import series (-0.3%).

On a quarterly basis, all industries were up, particularly manufacturing (+2.6%), transportation, communication, storage and utilities (+1.9%), agriculture (+1.6%) and mines, quarries and oil wells (+2.8%). Chemicals (+3.0%), paper and allied products (+2.9%) and primary metals (+2.7%) contributed the most to the manufacturing increase. The transport, communication, storage and utilities industry was led by increases in electricity power (+1.8%), air transport (+2.8%) and in telephones (+2.2%).

Machinery and equipment price indexes (1986=100)

	Relative importance	Second quarter 2004 ^P	First quarter 2004 to Second quarter 2004	Second quarter 2003 to Second quarter 2004
			% change	
Machinery and equipment price index	100.0	131.5	2.2	-0.1
Agriculture	11.0	149.8	1.6	-3.8
Forestry	1.5	142.1	1.6	-0.6
Fishing	0.6	128.2	2.5	0.5
Mines, quarries and oil wells	6.0	136.2	2.8	0.5
Manufacturing	29.9	139.7	2.6	0.4
Construction	3.5	137.5	2.8	-0.5
Transportation, communication, storage and utilities	25.9	125.7	1.9	0.2
Trade	4.0	117.4	1.6	-0.4
Finance, insurance and real estate	1.8	108.9	1.8	1.1
Community, business and personal services	11.1	106.6	1.7	0.0
Public administration	4.7	134.5	2.4	5.4

^P Preliminary figures.

In the second quarter of 2004, the greatest contributions were observed in specialized industrial

equipment (+5.0%), trucks (+1.4%), tractors for farms and gardens (+3.3%) and others agricultural machinery (+2.1%).

On a quarterly basis, the Canadian dollar, together with the import component increase, took a significant fall (-3.1%) against the American dollar. Annually, the Canadian dollar rose 2.0% over the second quarter of 2003.

On a year-over-year basis, the decrease in agriculture (-3.8%) was dampened by increases in manufacturing (+0.4%) and in transport, communication, storage and utilities (+0.2%).

Available on CANSIM: tables 327-0013, 327-0014 and 327-0016.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2312.

The second quarter 2004 issue of *Capital Expenditure Price Statistics* (62-007-XPB, \$26/\$85) will be available in October.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods, and data quality of this release, contact Rebecca McDougall (613-951-3357, fax 613-951-1539, infounit@statcan.ca), Prices Division. ■

Restaurants, caterers and taverns

April 2004 (revised)

Total receipts of restaurants, caterers and taverns in April were revised at \$2.88 billion, up 9.6% over the April 2003 estimate.

Available on CANSIM: table 355-0001.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2419.

The April 2004 issue of *Restaurant, Caterer and Tavern Statistics* (63-011-XIE, \$7/\$59) will soon be available.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts methods or data quality of this release, contact Alain Mbassegue (613-951-2011), Services Industries Division. ■

NEW PRODUCTS

Monthly Survey of Manufacturing, June 2004,
Vol. 58, no. 6
Catalogue number 31-001-XIE (\$17/\$158).

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

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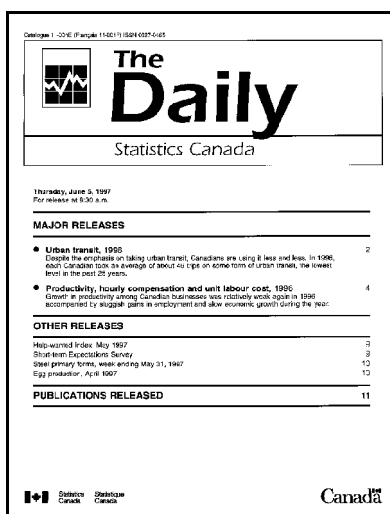
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