



The Daily

Statistics Canada

Friday, September 24, 2004

Released at 8:30 a.m. Eastern time

MAJOR RELEASES

There are no major releases today.

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Study: Connectivity and Learning in Canada's Schools

Academic year 2003/04

This latest study in Statistics Canada's Connectedness series provides an in-depth look at information and communications technology (ICT) infrastructure and reach in Canada's 15,500 elementary and secondary schools.

Based on national results from the Information and Communications Technologies in Schools Survey (ICTSS), which were first released in *The Daily* on June 10, 2004, this new study provides provincial and territorial estimates for a more comprehensive picture.

It covers topics such as the number of computers in schools, their availability for students, computer processing speeds, technical support time, student access to software and online courses, teacher training and challenges to ICT use in schools.

The study found that Canadian schools are equipped with the necessary infrastructure to integrate ICTs into the learning environment. In 2003/04, over 97% of all elementary and secondary schools were connected to the Internet, as were 93% of school computers.

The proportion of schools connected to the Internet ranged from 91% in Manitoba to nearly every school in Newfoundland and Labrador, and New Brunswick, and the three territories.

Typically, there were about five students to a school computer, and 5.5 students for each computer connected to the Internet.

This ratio ranged from a low of only 2.9 students for each computer connected to the Internet in the Yukon to a high of 6.5 in Quebec.

Most (86%) schools used broadband technologies to access the Internet, while only 9% used a regular dial-up telephone line. The Northwest Territories and Nunavut, along with Prince Edward Island, had the lowest proportions of schools connected by broadband. Schools in the Yukon, New Brunswick, Nova Scotia and Saskatchewan were leaders in broadband connections.

One of the biggest concerns among principals was cost. Slightly more than two-thirds of principals reported that getting sufficient funding for the use of ICT in their schools was a constant challenge.

At least three-quarters of principals in Newfoundland and Labrador, Quebec, Prince Edward Island and New Brunswick felt that funding was a major concern. This

compares with less than half of the principals in the Yukon, Saskatchewan, and Manitoba.

The extent to which ICT is being integrated into teaching practices also requires further study, as training opportunities for teachers were cited as an extensive challenge by 40% of schools.

Only 46% of school principals felt that the majority of their teachers were adequately prepared to engage students effectively in the use of ICT for learning. This proportion was highest in Alberta, the Yukon and Prince Edward Island.

Prince Edward Island was the only province to report a higher proportion of schools with teachers possessing ICT skills for engaging students than those involved in administrative work.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 5051.

The latest issue of the Connectedness series, *Connectivity and Learning in Canada's Schools*, no. 11 (56F0004MIE2004011, free) is now available online. From the *Our products and services* page, under *Browse our Internet publications*, choose *Free*, then *Communications*.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, 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. ■

Monthly railway carloadings

July 2004

A labour dispute and inclement weather have cut the volume of summertime business for Canadian railways. In July, railways carried 21.8 million metric tonnes of freight, down 8.7% from June.

The labour dispute by iron ore workers in Labrador and Quebec (who have been on strike since July) and inclement weather (which delayed the Prairie wheat harvest) had the largest impact on loadings. Traditionally, wheat provides a boost for loadings in July.

Non-intermodal freight totalled 19.5 million tonnes compared with 21.6 million tonnes in June. About 244,000 carloads were required to carry the freight.

Iron ore loadings fell by more than 50% from June, and wheat, nickel, potash, cars and freight motor vehicle loadings were also down.

Loadings of nickel and potash, as well as cars and freight motor vehicles, traditionally decline in July as many workers take their holidays at that time.

The intermodal portion, that is, containers and trailers hauled on flat cars, showed almost no change over June. Intermodal loadings totalled a little more than 2.3 million tonnes in July and accounted for 9.7% of the total tonnage loaded.

Freight arriving from the United States, either destined for or passing through Canada, totalled 2.2 million tonnes, up 2.5% over June.

Traffic received from Canadian connections, also affected by the iron ore dispute, fell 11.3% from June.

Compared with July last year, non-intermodal tonnage decreased 2.0%, intermodal traffic increased 3.7% and traffic received from the United States rose 11.3%.

On a year-to-date basis, the cumulative total for non-intermodal loadings for the first seven months of 2004 grew 9.5% compared with the same period last year. Tonnage grew from 132.4 million tonnes in 2003 to 144.9 million tonnes in 2004.

Intermodal loadings increased 3.1% to 15.6 million tonnes while traffic received from the United States was up 3.7% over the same period to 15.7 million tonnes.

Available on CANSIM: table 404-0002.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2732.

The July 2004 issue of *Monthly Railway Carloadings*, Vol. 81, no. 7 (52-001-XIE, \$9/\$83) 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 Unit (1-866-500-8400; fax: 1-613-951-0009; transportationstatistics@statcan.ca), Transportation Division. ■

Natural gas sales

July 2004 (preliminary)

Natural gas sales totalled 3 815 million cubic metres in July, up 4.6% from July 2003. Higher sales (including direct sales) in the industrial sector (+6.4%) and the commercial sector (+0.1%) were dampened by weaker volume in the residential sector (-3.7%).

Year-to-date sales at the end of July were down 0.9% from the same period of 2003. Both the residential (-3.5%) and the commercial (-6.5%) sectors posted

declines. Use of natural gas by the industrial (including direct sales) sector has risen 2.4% so far this year.

Natural gas sales

	July 2004 ^P	July 2003	July 2003 to July 2004
	'000 of cubic metres		% change
Natural gas sales	3 814 883	3 648 094	4.6
Residential	426 571	442 740	-3.7
Commercial	369 980	369 613	0.1
Industrial	1 507 111	1 398 999	6.4
Direct	1 511 221	1 436 742	
year-to-date			
	2004 ^P	2003	2003 to 2004
	'000 of cubic metres		% change
Natural gas sales	44 222 378	44 632 057	-0.9
Residential	11 155 786	11 561 891	-3.5
Commercial	8 247 240	8 824 966	-6.5
Industrial	11 546 223	11 191 620	2.4
Direct	13 273 129	13 053 580	

^P Preliminary figures.

Available on CANSIM: tables 129-0001 to 129-0004.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2149.

For more information, or to order data, 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. ■

The waste management industry 2002

The Waste Management Industry Survey: Business and Government Sectors presents information on the quantities of waste disposed of in landfills and incinerators managed by governments and businesses, as well as the amount of waste generated and diverted from disposal in 2002.

It also includes statistics on the preparation of materials for recycling, the operation of disposal facilities such as landfills and incinerators, as well as financial and employment characteristics of local governments and businesses that provided waste management services.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey numbers, including related surveys, 1736 and 2009.

The Waste Management Industry Survey: Business and Government Sectors, 2002 (16F0023XIE, free), is now available online. From the *Our products and services* page under *Browse our Internet publications*, choose *Free*, then *Environment*.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact the information officer (613-951-0297; environ@statcan.ca), Environment Accounts and Statistics Division. ■

Refined petroleum products
May 2004

Data on the production, inventories and domestic sales of refined petroleum products for May are now available.

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

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2150.

The May 2004 issue of *Refined Petroleum Products*, Vol. 59, no. 5 (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 or 613-951-9497; energ@statcan.ca), Manufacturing, Construction and Energy Division. ■

Steel primary forms, weekly data

Week ending September 18, 2004 (preliminary)

Steel primary forms production for the week ending September 18 totalled 300 471 metric tonnes, up 5.9% from 283 650 tonnes a week earlier and down 2.3% from 307 430 tonnes in the same week of 2003.

The year-to-date total as of September 18 was 11 540 105 tonnes, up 2.9% from 11 212 039 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

Waste Management Industry Survey: Business and Government Sectors, 2002
Catalogue number 16F0023XIE
(free).

Refined Petroleum Products, May 2004, Vol. 59, no. 5
Catalogue number 45-004-XIB (\$18/\$166).

Monthly Railway Carloadings, July 2004, Vol. 81, no. 7
Catalogue number 52-001-XIE (\$9/\$83).

Connectedness Series: Connectivity and Learning in Canada's Schools, no. 11
Catalogue number 56F0004MIE2004011
(free).

Canada's Balance of International Payments, second quarter 2004, Vol. 52, no. 2
Catalogue number 67-001-XIE (\$32/\$100).

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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Authorized agents and bookstores also carry Statistics Canada's catalogued publications.

Catalogue 11-001-XIE (F) English 11-001-XIE04-0007-0-005	
 The Daily	
Statistics Canada	
Thursday, June 5, 1997 For release at 9:30 a.m.	
MAJOR RELEASES	
• Urban transit, 1995 Despite the emphasis on taking urban transit, Canadians are using it less and less. In 1996, each Canadian took an average of about six trips on some form of urban transit, the lowest level in the past 25 years.	2
• Productivity, hourly compensation and unit labour cost, 1995 Growth in productivity among Canadian businesses also noticeably weak again in 1996 accompanied by sluggish gains in employment and slow economic growth during the year.	4
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Statistics Canada's official release bulletin

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The Daily, September 24, 2004

RELEASE DATES: SEPTEMBER 27 TO OCTOBER 1

(Release dates are subject to change.)

Release date	Title	Reference period
27	Deaths	2002
28	National tourism indicators	Second quarter 2004
28	Employment, earnings and hours	July 2004
28	Employment Insurance	July 2004
29	Industrial product and raw materials price indexes	August 2004
29	Homicide in Canada	2003
30	Gross domestic product by industry	July 2004
30	Energy supply and demand	2003
1	Economic contributions of culture in Canada	1996 to 2002