



The Daily

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Releases

Characteristics of international travellers

Second quarter 2005 (preliminary)

Overnight travel by Canadians to overseas countries jumped between April and June of 2005, but overnight travel to Canada declined during the same period.

Canadians' travel to overseas countries set a new record for a second quarter. On the other hand, a drop in American tourists accounted for the decline in visitors to Canada.

Canadian residents made about 5.1 million trips abroad between April and June of this year. Nearly 1.5 million of these trips were to overseas countries, a 13.6% increase from last year's record-setting second quarter.

Meanwhile, travel to Canada from abroad declined 1.5% compared to the same period last year. This was due to a decrease in the number of trips from US residents, as travel from overseas countries rose 5.1%.

Canadians continue to travel overseas

Every overseas region except one saw a greater number of Canadian travellers compared with the second quarter of 2004.

Asia welcomed 215,000 Canadians in the second quarter of this year, up 13.5% compared the second quarter of 2004, and a return to the pre-SARS numbers of the second quarter of 2002. With the exception of Asia, every other overseas region has experienced a noticeable increase in the number of Canadian tourists in the second quarter from 2002 to 2005.

The United Kingdom remained the most popular destination for Canadian tourists in the second quarter. However, among the top 10 travel destinations, Italy experienced the largest year-over-year gain at 48.9%. This increase coincided with the funeral of Pope John Paul II and the installation of Pope Benedict XVI in April.

The Caribbean (-3.1%) was the only region which saw fewer Canadian travellers compared to the second quarter of 2004.

Not only did Canadians take more trips in the second quarter, they spent 5.5% more compared with the same quarter of 2004. Overall, Canadians spent \$2.2 billion in overseas countries in the second quarter of 2005.

Canadians spent 25.9 million nights overseas. Although this represents a 10.0% increase in the

number of nights spent in overseas destinations, the average trip length edged down from 18.0 to 17.5 nights.

Top 12 overseas countries visited by Canadian residents

	Second quarter 2004	Second quarter 2005	2004 to 2005
Overnight visits '000s			
			% change
United Kingdom	202	254	25.5
France	134	156	16.2
Mexico	115	149	28.8
Cuba	143	145	1.4
Italy	70	105	48.9
Dominican Republic	118	93	-21.4
Germany	100	91	-9.0
Netherlands	54	69	29.5
Japan	52	51	-3.3
Ireland	35	49	41.2
Spain	50	48	-3.9
Belgium	25	34	33.0

Canadians keep heading south

About 3.6 million Canadian residents travelled to the United States during the second quarter of 2005, a 5.9% gain from the same period the previous year, and the second consecutive annual increase for the second quarter.

There were increases in almost every type of transportation category although car remained the preferred mode of travel, with 2.0 million Canadians making overnight trips by automobile. More Canadians preferred air travel compared with a year earlier, as there was a 12.9% jump in number of overnight plane trips to the United States in the second quarter of 2005.

Pleasure trips accounted for 55.4% of all overnight travel to the United States during the second quarter. Visiting friends and relatives (18.2%) and business travel (17.0%) were the next most important reasons for travel.

Business trips, however, recorded the largest increase compared to 2004, as 15.7% more Canadians travelled to the United States on work-related trips. Canadians travelled less for visiting friends or relatives, with 7.5% fewer people reporting that as their main reason for entering the United States.

New York, with 553,000 overnight visits, was the state most visited by Canadians. Although Florida was second with 536,000 visits, Canadians spent 18.7 million nights in the state, by far the highest figure among US states visited. Canadians also spent \$951 million in Florida; Nevada was second in Canadian expenditures at \$226 million.

Overall, Canadian tourists spent 6.2% more in the United States in the second quarter of 2005 than they did during the same period in 2004, although the average spending for each overnight trip remained stable at \$773.

One possible factor for the increase in travel to the United States was the 13-year high in the value of the Canadian dollar for a second quarter, as the loonie soared to US 80.4 cents.

Fewer Americans travel to Canada

Although Canadians continued to travel to the United States, fewer Americans travelled north for overnight trips. Overall, American residents took 3.7 million overnight trips to Canada in the second quarter, down 3.3% from the same quarter of 2004.

While business travel by Americans rose 3.7%, the number of pleasure trips (-5.8%) and trips for visiting friends and relatives (-4.8%) declined. Pleasure travel accounted for 54.6% of all American trips to Canada.

Car travel, which accounted for 60.4% of all US trips to Canada, fell 6.5% compared to the same quarter in 2004. During the same period, however, overnight plane trips to Canada by Americans increased by 2.3% to about 1 million.

American tourists spent more than \$1.9 billion in Canada during the second quarter, down 5.3% from the same period in 2004. They stayed 14.7 million nights in Canada, a drop of 8.2% from the same quarter in 2004.

Of the top 12 American states of origin for tourists to Canada, Michigan and New York were numbers one and two on the list respectively in terms of trips, nights and expenditures. About 482,000 Michigan residents made overnight trips while 448,000 New Yorkers took trips north.

Overseas residents still coming to Canada

An estimated 1.1 million tourists from overseas nations visited Canada between April and June 2005,

up 5.1% from the same quarter of 2004 and the second consecutive annual increase for the second quarter.

Europe remained the most important region of origin for overseas tourists to Canada, with 570,000 Europeans coming to Canada in the second quarter. Asia was the second most important region with 332,000 tourists to Canada. The United Kingdom remained the most important overseas market for tourists to Canada with 233,000 overnight trips to Canada in the second quarter, an increase of 8.1% from the same quarter in 2004.

Although there were more trips to Canada, overseas tourists spent \$1.4 billion on their trips in the second quarter, a 0.6% decline from the previous year. Overseas visitors spent 13.6 million nights in the country, averaging 12.4 nights per trip.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 3152.

This release summarises data now available from the International Travel Survey. Tables, various statistical profiles and micro-data files of characteristics of international travellers using preliminary second quarter 2005 data are now available on request.

Data on characteristics of international travellers for the third quarter 2005 will be released on February 23, 2006.

To obtain one or more of these products, contact Client Services (1-800-307-3382; 613-951-7608; fax: 613-951-2909; cult.tourstats@statcan.ca). To enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Frances Kremarik (613-951-4240; fax: 613-951-2909; frances.kremarik@statcan.ca), Culture, Tourism and the Centre for Education Statistics.

□

Person-trips, person-nights and expenditures of selected market segments for Canadians residents traveling abroad, second quarter 2005

	Person-trips	Person-nights	Average number of nights	Spending	Spending/trip	Spending/night	2004 to 2005 Person-trips
	'000s			\$ millions	\$		% change
To the United States							
Total	3,617	38,284	10.6	2,797	773	73	5.9
Auto	2,006	25,518	12.7	1,279	638	50	2.8
Plane	1,273	11,296	8.9	1,395	1,096	124	12.9
Business	615	2,725	4.4	568	924	208	15.7
Pleasure	2,005	29,711	14.8	1,893	944	64	7.3
Visiting friends and relatives	660	3,673	5.6	196	297	53	-7.5
To overseas							
Total	1,485	25,912	17.5	2,231	1,502	86	13.6

Person-trips, person-nights and expenditures of selected market segments for non-residents traveling to Canada, second quarter 2005

	Person-trips	Person-nights	Average number of nights	Spending	Spending/trip	Spending/night	2004 to 2005 Person-trips
	'000			\$ millions	%		% change
From the United States							
Total	3,723	14,668	3.9	1,932	519	132	-3.3
Auto	2,248	8,947	4.0	870	387	97	-6.5
Plane	1,025	4,519	4.4	867	845	192	2.3
Business	556	1,786	3.2	458	823	256	3.7
Pleasure	2,031	8,164	4.0	1,060	522	130	-5.8
Visiting friends and relatives	664	3,040	4.6	199	299	65	-4.8
From overseas							
Total	1,093	13,557	12.4	1,420	1,298	105	5.1

Overnight travel between Canada and other countries

	Trips				Expenditures			
	First quarter 2005 ^r	Second quarter 2004 ^r	Second quarter 2005 ^p	2004 to 2005	First quarter 2005 ^r	Second quarter 2004 ^r	Second quarter 2005 ^p	2004 to 2005
	'000s		% change		\$ millions		% change	
Canadian trips abroad	5,452	4,722	5,102	8.0	5,477	4,748	5,028	5.9
To the United States	3,383	3,416	3,617	5.9	2,731	2,635	2,797	6.2
To other countries	2,069	1,307	1,485	13.6	2,747	2,114	2,231	5.5
Travel to Canada	2,720	4,892	4,816	-1.5	1,955	3,467	3,352	-3.3
From the United States	2,100	3,851	3,723	-3.3	1,067	2,040	1,932	-5.3
From other countries	620	1,040	1,093	5.1	888	1,428	1,420	-0.6

^r Revised.

^p Preliminary.

International travel account

Third quarter 2005 (preliminary)

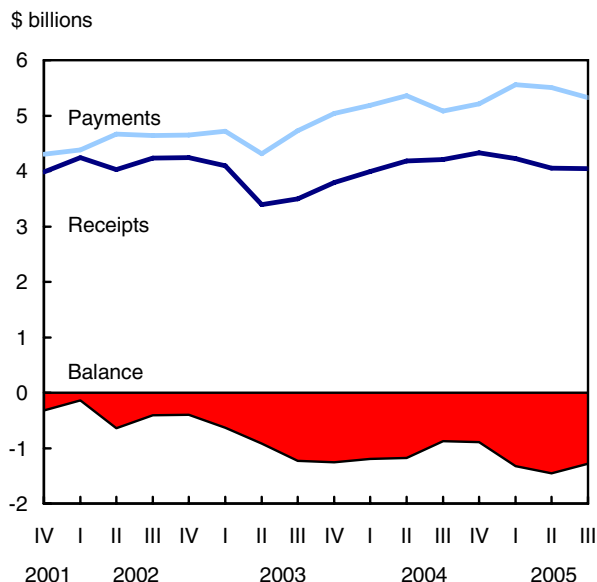
Canada's international travel deficit fell for the first time in a year during the third quarter of 2005, as the deficit with overseas countries reached its lowest level since the second quarter of 2003.

The deficit (the difference between spending by Canadian residents abroad and spending by foreigners in Canada) was an estimated \$1.3 billion in the third quarter, down \$174 million from the second quarter.

The drop in the deficit was the result of lower spending by Canadians abroad, which fell 3.3% from the second quarter to \$5.3 billion.

Spending by foreigners in Canada fell to its lowest level in a year and a half, slipping 0.2% to \$4.0 billion.

Canada's travel deficit lowest in a year



Travel deficit with United States highest in over eight years

Canada's travel deficit with the United States surpassed the \$800 million mark for the first time in over eight years during the third quarter of 2005. The deficit, which reached \$801 million, increased for the fourth consecutive quarter.

Both spending by Canadians in the United States and spending by Americans travelling north of the border fell in the third quarter.

Spending by Canadians in the United States fell to \$3.0 billion, a 1.8% drop from the previous quarter. This drop occurred despite a 0.4% increase in overnight

Note to readers

This international travel account analysis is based on preliminary quarterly data, seasonally adjusted, unless otherwise stated. Amounts are in Canadian dollars and are not adjusted for inflation.

Receipts represent spending by foreigners travelling in Canada, including education spending and medical spending. **Payments** represent spending by Canadian residents travelling abroad, including education spending and medical spending.

Overseas countries are those other than the United States.

trips to the United States, which reached 3.7 million in the third quarter.

Meanwhile, spending by American residents travelling to Canada fell for the third consecutive quarter, down 2.7% to \$2.2 billion. A 6.5% drop in overnight travel pushed American spending in Canada to its lowest level in two years. Overnight travel from the United States reached 3.5 million trips in the third quarter, also the lowest level in two years.

The value of the Canadian dollar against its American counterpart increased 3.5% between the second and third quarter of 2005, hitting US 83 cents and its highest level in over 13 years.

Deficit with overseas countries lowest in over two years

The travel deficit with overseas countries fell to \$480 million during the third quarter of 2005, its lowest level since the second quarter of 2003.

International travel account receipts and payments

	Third quarter 2004	Second quarter 2005 ^r	Third quarter 2005 ^p	Second to third quarter 2005
Seasonally adjusted ¹				
	\$ millions			% change
United States				
Receipts	2,471	2,294	2,233	-2.7
Payments	2,803	3,090	3,034	-1.8
Balance	-331	-796	-801	
All other countries				
Receipts	1,740	1,759	1,814	3.1
Payments	2,279	2,419	2,295	-5.1
Balance	-540	-660	-480	
Total				
Receipts	4,211	4,053	4,047	-0.2
Payments	5,082	5,508	5,329	-3.3
Balance	-871	-1,455	-1,282	

^r Revised.

^p Preliminary.

1. Data may not add to totals due to rounding.

The \$180 million drop in the deficit was the result of a combination of lower spending by Canadians travelling

overseas and higher spending by overseas visitors in Canada.

Spending by Canadians in overseas countries fell 5.1% to \$2.3 billion in the third quarter, its lowest level in a year. The most likely contributor to this decrease was the 2.7% drop in the number of overnight trips to 1.6 million.

However, spending by overseas residents in Canada jumped 3.1% to \$1.8 billion, its second highest level on record. Other than the second quarter of 2005, spending by overseas travellers has increased in every quarter since the second quarter of 2003, at the height of the SARS crisis. Since then, spending has increased by 42.4%.

Overnight travel to Canada by overseas residents remained fairly stable during the third quarter, edging up 0.1% to 1.1 million trips.

During the third quarter of 2005, the value of the Canadian dollar gained against most major overseas currencies, including the euro, the British pound and the Japanese yen.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey numbers, including related surveys, 3152 and 5005.

The international travel account for the fourth quarter and year 2005 will be released on February 24, 2006.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods and data quality of this release, contact Eric Desjardins (613-951-1781; eric.desjardins@statcan.ca) or Client services (1-800-307-3382; 613-951-7608; fax: 613-951-2909; cult.tourstats@statcan.ca), Culture, Tourism and the Centre for Education Statistics. ■

Sawmills and planing mills

September 2005

Data on sawmills and planing mills are now available for September.

Available on CANSIM: table 303-0009.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey numbers, including related surveys, 2134 and 2135.

The September issue of *Sawmills and Planing Mills*, Vol. 59, no. 9 (35-003-XIB, \$10/\$93) 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. ■

Mineral wool including fibrous glass insulation

October 2005

Data on mineral wool including fibrous glass insulation are now available for October.

Available on CANSIM: table 303-0059.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2110.

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. ■

Couriers and Messengers Services Price Index

October 2005

The monthly Couriers and Messengers Services Price Index (CMSPI) measures the change over time in prices for courier and messenger services provided by long and short distance delivery companies to Canadian-based business clients.

The CMSPI increased 1.3% to 112.6 (2003=100) in October, due mainly to increased fuel costs. The courier portion rose 1.5% while the local messengers component (revised) increased 0.5%.

These indexes are available at the Canada level only.

Available on CANSIM: table 329-0053.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 5064.

For more information, 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 Anne Williamson (613-951-0708; anne.williamson@statcan.ca), Prices Division. ■

Asphalt roofing

October 2005

Data on asphalt roofing are now available for October.

Available on CANSIM: table 303-0052.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2123.

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

General Social Survey, Cycle 16: Aging and Social Support: User's Guide to the Public Use Microdata File, 2002

Catalogue number 12M0016GPE (\$75).

General Social Survey, Cycle 16: Aging and Social Support: Public Use Microdata File and Documentation, 2002

Catalogue number 12M0016XCB (\$2,140).

Sawmills and Planing Mills, September 2005, Vol. 59, no. 9

Catalogue number 35-003-XIB (\$10/\$93).

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.

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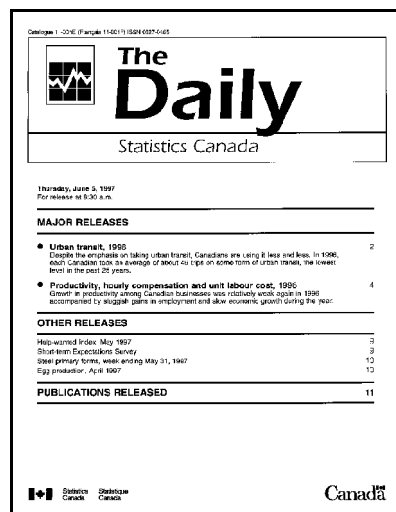
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