



# The Daily

Statistics Canada

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Foreign investors continued to purchase Canadian securities in October, buying \$3.8 billion worth. Meanwhile, Canadians acquired \$3.8 billion in foreign securities after buying \$5.0 billion in September.

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## Releases

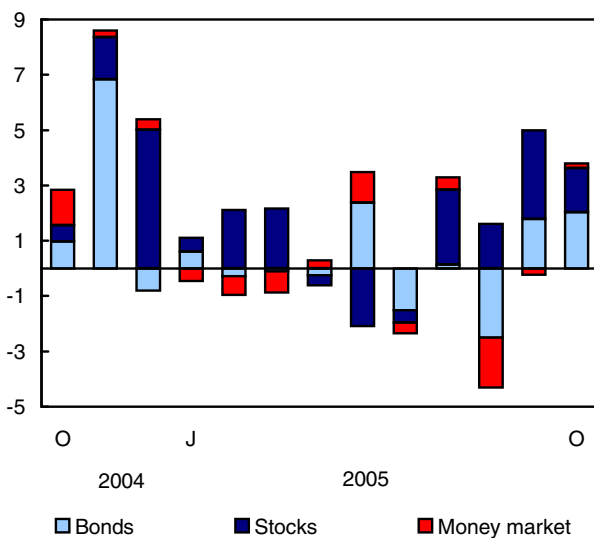
## Canada's international transactions in securities

October 2005

Foreign investors continued to purchase Canadian securities in October, buying \$3.8 billion worth. Purchases were roughly split between Canadian bonds and equities.

## Foreign portfolio investment in Canadian securities

\$ billions



Meanwhile, Canadians acquired \$3.8 billion in foreign securities after buying \$5.0 billion in September. Purchases of foreign bonds continued to dominate although investment in foreign equities rebounded from a flat September.

## Foreign holdings of Canadian bonds increase

After purchasing \$1.8 billion of Canadian bonds in September, non-resident investors bought a further \$2.0 billion in October. Foreign investment over the month occurred almost entirely in provincial government issues, led by new issues. These acquisitions were somewhat offset by a reduction in foreign holdings of corporate issues, led by a large amount of net retirements (new issues less retirements) in that sector.

### Related market information

Canadian short-term interest rates increased 20 basis points to 3.06% while US rates increased by 29 basis points to 3.71%. Favouring investment in the United States, the resulting differential increased slightly, up 9 basis points from the month before.

Canadian long-term rates increased by 22 basis points while US long-term rates increased by 34 basis points. With Canadian rates at 4.16% and US rates at 4.60% the resulting differential widened by 12 basis points, continuing to favour investment in the United States.

Canadian **stock prices**, as measured by the S&P/TSX Composite Index, fell 5.7% in October, the largest monthly loss since September 2002. Canadian stock prices ended the month at 10,383.30. Meanwhile, US stock prices remained relatively calm with the Standard and Poor's Composite Index finishing October at 1,207, down 1.8% from September.

After five consecutive monthly increases, the **Canadian dollar** fell in October by 1.35 US cents, ending the month at 84.66 US cents.

## Definitions

*The data series on international security transactions cover portfolio transactions in stocks, bonds and money market instruments for both Canadian and foreign issues.*

**Stocks** include common and preferred equities, as well as warrants.

**Debt securities** include bonds and money market instruments.

**Bonds** have an original term to maturity of more than one year.

**Money market instruments** have an original term to maturity of one year or less.

Overall, investors out of the United Kingdom were the primary buyers of Canadian bonds in October followed by those out of Asia. However, these transactions were partly offset by American investors sharply reducing their holdings. On a currency basis, foreign investors acquired \$2.8 billion worth of Canadian bonds denominated in overseas currencies — the largest investment in such instruments since July 1998. At the same time, foreign investors purchased \$717 million of Canadian dollar denominated bonds while divesting \$1.5 billion of US dollar denominated bonds.

Transactions in Canadian money market paper were relatively flat in October, as non-residents acquired \$181 million worth. Purchases occurred entirely in federal government and federal government enterprise paper, as all other sectors saw a decrease in foreign holdings.

## Non-residents continue to invest in Canadian equities

Foreign investors continued purchasing Canadian equities in October, buying \$1.6 billion worth, and marking the fourth straight month of foreign investment in the sector. Over this four month period, non-residents have acquired over \$9 billion of Canadian shares.

Purchases consisted entirely of outstanding issues in October, with non-residents buying \$4.0 billion worth, the largest investment in secondary shares for the year. Despite a fall in natural resource prices in October, foreign investors continued to acquire shares of Canadian resource firms over the month. However, purchases of Canadian outstanding shares were partially offset by other transactions, largely the result of a foreign takeover of a Canadian firm whose foreign shareholders exchanged their shares for cash.

## Canadians add to their holdings of foreign securities

With their holdings of foreign securities already up substantially in 2005, Canadian investors purchased a further \$3.8 billion worth in October. The bulk of the month's investment occurred in foreign bonds as Canadians made purchases of \$2.7 billion, all of it in US treasury bonds, making it the largest Canadian investment in these securities since November 2002.

In line with their investment in US government bonds, Canadians purchased US government money market paper for the fifth straight month, \$324 million worth in October. However, this was more than offset by divestments in other US and overseas paper, leading to an overall reduction in holdings of foreign short-term instruments of \$333 million.

Meanwhile, Canadian investors acquired \$1.5 billion in foreign equities in October after no change in September. They continued to invest substantially in US equities (\$1.8 billion) while divesting some of their holdings of overseas shares.

**Available on CANSIM: tables 376-0018 to 376-0029, 376-0042, 376-0058 and 376-0063.**

**Definitions, data sources and methods: survey numbers, including related surveys, 1532, 1534, 1535 and 1537.**

The October issue of *Canada's International Transactions in Securities* (67-002-XIE, \$15/\$142) will soon be available.

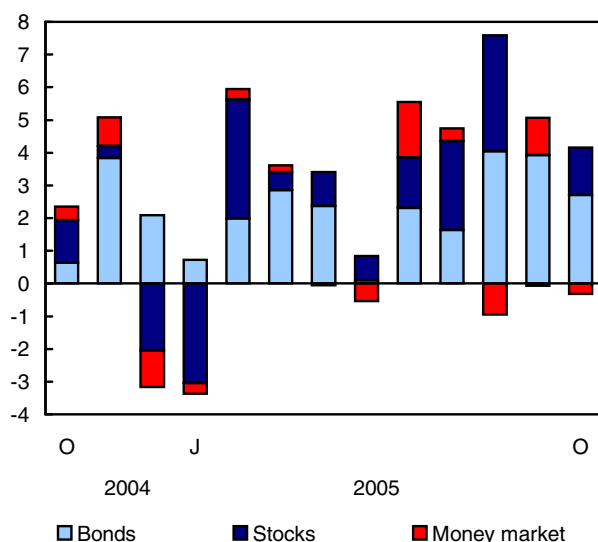
Data on Canada's international transactions in securities for November will be released on January 19, 2006.

For general information or to order data, contact Client Services (613-951-1855; [infobalance@statcan.ca](mailto:infobalance@statcan.ca).) To enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact David Filipic (613-951-1864), Balance of Payments Division.

## Canadian portfolio investment in foreign securities

\$ billions

Reverse of balance of payments signs



## Canada's international transactions in securities

	July 2005	August 2005	September 2005	October 2005	January to October 2004	January to October 2005
\$ millions						
<b>Foreign investment in Canadian securities</b>	<b>3,285</b>	<b>-2,705</b>	<b>4,753</b>	<b>3,804</b>	<b>42,281</b>	<b>10,831</b>
Bonds (net)	128	-2,505	1,775	2,020	14,032	2,224
Outstanding	1,844	-1,017	5,529	572	3,216	4,174
New issues	622	1,488	4,480	3,647	37,152	28,284
Retirements	-2,500	-3,507	-8,092	-2,745	-28,104	-31,779
Change in interest payable <sup>1</sup>	163	531	-142	544	1,767	1,545
Money market paper (net)	436	-1,811	-244	181	-1,054	-2,401
Government of Canada	502	-1,505	588	86	-3,289	37
Other	-66	-306	-831	96	2,235	-2,438
Stocks (net)	2,721	1,611	3,222	1,603	29,303	11,009
Outstanding	2,627	1,042	3,023	4,024	9,258	10,091
Other transactions	94	569	199	-2,422	20,045	918
<b>Canadian investment in foreign securities</b>	<b>-4,748</b>	<b>-6,634</b>	<b>-4,986</b>	<b>-3,830</b>	<b>-14,528</b>	<b>-36,249</b>
Bonds (net)	-1,637	-4,037	-3,922	-2,704	-9,334	-22,630
Stocks (net)	-2,705	-3,556	88	-1,458	-3,274	-12,073
Money market paper (net)	-406	959	-1,151	333	-1,920	-1,546

1. Interest accrued less interest paid.

**Note:** A minus sign indicates an outflow of money from Canada, that is, a withdrawal of foreign investment from Canada or an increase in Canadian investment abroad.

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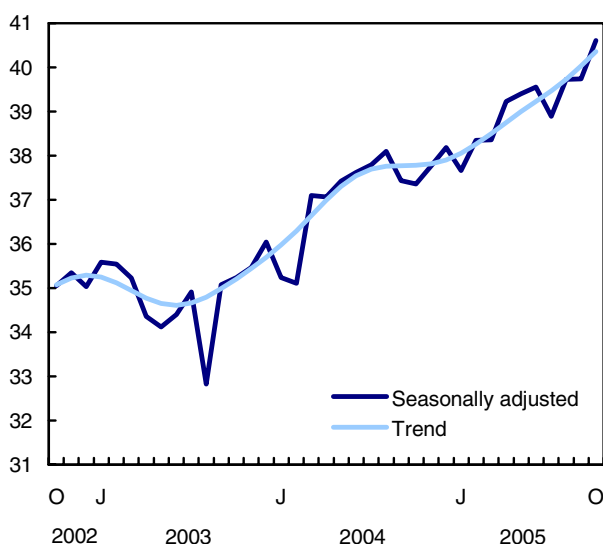
## Wholesale trade

October 2005

Wholesale sales advanced 2.2% in October, mainly because of strong performances by the machinery and electronic equipment sector and the personal and household goods sector. During the month, wholesalers sold \$40.6 billion worth of goods and services. Wholesale sales have been growing steadily since February 2005, except in July when they fell 1.7%.

### Wholesale sales continue to grow

\$ billions



In October, wholesalers increased their sales in six of the seven wholesale trade sectors. Only food, beverage and tobacco products registered a decrease, falling 1.8%. In fact, growth of 1.5% or more was posted by wholesalers in four sectors, led by gains of 12.8% in farm products, 6.2% in machinery, 5.4% in household products and 1.5% in automotive products. More moderate increases were observed in building materials (+0.1%) and "other products" (+0.6%). The latter category includes recycled metals, chemicals and seed.

From January to October, wholesale sales totalled \$391.5 billion, up 5.7% from the same period last year. Since October 2003, total wholesale sales had generally been rising. Previously, they went through a period of declines that began in March 2003.

In constant prices, wholesale sales increased by 0.8% in October.

### Note to readers

*This release marks the implementation of measures to reduce response burden in the Monthly Wholesale Trade Survey. Data previously collected via questionnaire for a number of simple wholesale establishments in the survey sample are now replaced with modeled estimates based on Goods and Services Tax (GST) returns. The model takes into account the sales to revenue relationship, as well as the time lag between the reference month for the MRTS and the reference period of the GST estimates. This change has had minimal impact on wholesale estimates.*

*For more information, please refer to the document Monthly Wholesale Trade Survey: Use of Administrative Data or on our Web site. From Definitions, data sources and methods, click on List by subject, then under Trade, click on Wholesale Trade, then 2401: Wholesale Trade Survey (Monthly). The aforementioned document can be found under Documentation at the end of the text.*

*Unadjusted and seasonally adjusted monthly estimates in current dollars have been revised starting from January 1993. Factors influencing revisions include late receipt of respondent information, correction of information on data provided, the replacement of estimated figures with actual values (once available), and re-classification of companies into and out of the wholesale trade industry and updates to seasonal and trading day factors. Estimates in constant price have also been revised from 1997 to 2005. These revisions are now available on CANSIM and by request. The revised 2005 estimates will also appear in the October issue of Wholesale Trade (63-008-XIE).*

### A sudden rise in sales of machinery and electronic equipment

Companies increased their purchases from machinery and electronic equipment wholesalers by 6.2% in October, the largest gain since September 2003, after cutting their spending in the previous three months. Even so, this strong increase was not enough to offset the previous three consecutive monthly declines. Two of the three groups included in this sector posted a gain in October.

Wholesale sales of machinery and equipment posted a robust 8.4% gain in October, ending a series of contractions that lasted four months. Despite the declines observed in previous months, sales of this group are at a historically high level. The survey of private and public investment in Canada (2005 Intentions) forecast a strong rebound in investment by companies engaged in industrial production (the production of mines, factories and utilities). The survey predicted a 15% increase in purchases of machinery and equipment for 2005.

For the first time in four months, wholesalers of computers and electronic products saw sales increase, climbing 8.1% in October. Nevertheless, this substantial gain was insufficient to offset the losses registered in previous months. Apart from the recent period of contraction, the sales of this group have generally been stable since November 2003. Lower sales of computers

and other electronic components were offset in part by the growing popularity of cell phones. According to the most recent Survey of Household Spending, nearly 6 households in 10 (59%) reported owning at least one cell phone in 2004, compared to 54% in 2003.

### **Retailers' demand for personal and household goods rises sharply in October**

Increases for all categories of wholesalers in the personal and household goods sector led to a 5.4% rise in sales in October. Apparel wholesalers, who account for approximately 15% of all sales in the sector, posted a second consecutive increase (+9.5%). These wholesalers led others in the sector in year-over-year growth; in October, their sales were 28.4% higher than in October 2004. Wholesale sales of apparel have followed an upward trend since the last quarter of 2004, after remaining essentially unchanged for the previous 12 months.

After posting a steep 6.9% decline in September, wholesalers of household products saw their sales rise a solid 5.1% in October. The sales of this group have generally been rising since mid-2003, owing in part to the booming real estate market.

Wholesale sales of pharmaceuticals posted a fourth increase in five months, advancing 4.3% in October. Nearly two-thirds of the revenues from the wholesale sale of pharmaceuticals come from sales to retailers. The sales of this group have grown steadily since the start of 2003. However, the average monthly growth, which was very robust in 2003, began to slow in 2004, partly because of an increased use of generic drugs, which have had a deflationary influence on the growth of prescription drug sales.

### **Cattle sales continue to grow**

Wholesalers of farm products saw sales increase for a third consecutive month, rising 12.8% in October.

As in previous months, the increase was largely attributable to cattle wholesalers, who saw their sales rise after the United States re-opened the border to Canadian beef on July 18. The discovery of one case of bovine spongiform encephalopathy (BSE) in the spring of 2003 had caused prices to fall sharply. The average price for 2004 remained 13.1% lower than in 2003. Since the border was re-opened, the price of cattle has strengthened somewhat.

### **Wholesalers of automotive products maintain their stride**

Wholesale sales in the automotive sector rose 1.5% in October, owing to increased sales by wholesalers of motor vehicle (+1.8%) and parts and accessories (+0.3%). The increased demand for some popular makes contributed to the higher sales of motor vehicle wholesalers. These wholesalers had seen their sales surge by 15.7% in August, followed by a 1.5% increase in September. These recent gains pushed sales above the record level set in January 2003.

### **Higher sales in Central Canada and the Prairies**

Wholesale sales increased in Central Canada in October, rising 1.7% in Quebec and 3.3% in Ontario. For Quebec wholesalers, this was a third consecutive month of growth. October's increase was mainly attributable to household goods and machinery and electronic equipment, which are both sectors that showed strong growth at the national level. In Ontario, the rebound was broad-based, with sales climbing by \$646 million (+3.3%) to \$20.4 billion.

The Prairie provinces also posted higher wholesale sales in October, with gains ranging from 1.8% in Alberta to 4.0% in Manitoba. Wholesalers on these Prairies mainly benefited from the increases in the farm products sector and the machinery and electronic equipment sector.

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## **Inventories continue to rise**

Inventories rose 0.7% in October, after climbing 1.7% in September. The increase in inventories was broad-based in October, with 11 of the 15 trade groups advancing. The trend in total inventories has generally been upward since November 2003.

The strong increase in sales, combined with a smaller increase in inventories, caused the inventory-to-sales ratio to decline to 1.20 from its September level of 1.22. The inventory-to-sales ratio is still relatively low by historical standards. Since October 2003, this ratio has been trending slightly downward after a rising period that began in December 2002.

**Available on CANSIM: tables 081-0007 to 081-0010.**

**Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2401.**

The October issue of *Wholesale Trade* (63-008-XIE, \$15/\$150) will be available shortly.

Wholesale trade estimates for November will be released January 21, 2006.

For data or general information, contact Client Services (1-877-421-3067; 613-951-3549; [wholesaleinfo@statcan.ca](mailto:wholesaleinfo@statcan.ca)). To enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Jean Lebreux (613-951-4907; [jean.lebreux@statcan.ca](mailto:jean.lebreux@statcan.ca)), Distributive Trades Division.

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## Wholesale merchants' sales

	October 2004	July 2005 <sup>r</sup>	August 2005 <sup>r</sup>	September 2005 <sup>r</sup>	October 2005 <sup>p</sup>	September to October 2005	October 2004 to October 2005
seasonally adjusted							
	\$ millions				% change		
<b>Total, wholesale sales</b>	<b>37,363</b>	<b>38,895</b>	<b>39,732</b>	<b>39,734</b>	<b>40,611</b>	<b>2.2</b>	<b>8.7</b>
<b>Farm products</b>	<b>450</b>	<b>403</b>	<b>482</b>	<b>504</b>	<b>568</b>	<b>12.8</b>	<b>26.4</b>
<b>Food, beverages and tobacco products</b>	<b>7,122</b>	<b>7,276</b>	<b>7,286</b>	<b>7,464</b>	<b>7,331</b>	<b>-1.8</b>	<b>2.9</b>
Food products	6,476	6,645	6,642	6,834	6,703	-1.9	3.5
Alcohol and tobacco	645	631	644	630	628	-0.4	-2.7
<b>Personal and household goods</b>	<b>5,051</b>	<b>5,661</b>	<b>5,722</b>	<b>5,592</b>	<b>5,892</b>	<b>5.4</b>	<b>16.6</b>
Apparel	710	818	793	832	912	9.5	28.4
Household and personal products	1,920	2,336	2,383	2,218	2,330	5.1	21.4
Pharmaceuticals	2,421	2,508	2,546	2,542	2,650	4.3	9.4
<b>Automotive products</b>	<b>7,370</b>	<b>7,214</b>	<b>8,104</b>	<b>8,152</b>	<b>8,276</b>	<b>1.5</b>	<b>12.3</b>
Motor vehicles	5,825	5,653	6,541	6,637	6,756	1.8	16.0
Motor vehicle parts and accessories	1,545	1,561	1,563	1,515	1,520	0.3	-1.6
<b>Building materials</b>	<b>5,351</b>	<b>5,376</b>	<b>5,378</b>	<b>5,568</b>	<b>5,575</b>	<b>0.1</b>	<b>4.2</b>
Building supplies	3,029	3,272	3,294	3,389	3,371	-0.5	11.3
Metal products	1,178	1,076	1,084	1,133	1,133	0.0	-3.9
Lumber and millwork	1,144	1,028	1,000	1,046	1,071	2.4	-6.3
<b>Machinery and electronic equipment</b>	<b>7,556</b>	<b>8,185</b>	<b>8,066</b>	<b>7,879</b>	<b>8,365</b>	<b>6.2</b>	<b>10.7</b>
Machinery and equipment	3,439	3,858	3,741	3,643	3,948	8.4	14.8
Computer and other electronic equipment	2,372	2,480	2,461	2,361	2,552	8.1	7.6
Office and professional equipment	1,746	1,847	1,863	1,875	1,864	-0.6	6.8
<b>Other products</b>	<b>4,463</b>	<b>4,779</b>	<b>4,695</b>	<b>4,575</b>	<b>4,603</b>	<b>0.6</b>	<b>3.1</b>
<b>Total: Excluding automobiles</b>	<b>29,993</b>	<b>31,682</b>	<b>31,628</b>	<b>31,582</b>	<b>32,335</b>	<b>2.4</b>	<b>7.8</b>
<b>Sales, province and territory</b>							
Newfoundland and Labrador	208	213	212	213	210	-1.0	1.2
Prince Edward Island	51	45	46	34	36	6.5	-28.2
Nova Scotia	521	519	539	553	536	-3.1	3.0
New Brunswick	429	398	396	399	399	0.0	-7.0
Quebec	7,345	7,555	7,589	7,688	7,815	1.7	6.4
Ontario	18,946	19,621	20,142	19,798	20,444	3.3	7.9
Manitoba	858	1,031	1,076	1,076	1,118	4.0	30.4
Saskatchewan	1,045	1,125	1,077	1,163	1,202	3.4	15.0
Alberta	4,100	4,495	4,580	4,693	4,777	1.8	16.5
British Columbia	3,833	3,867	4,051	4,092	4,049	-1.1	5.6
Yukon	7	9	7	7	6	-9.3	-12.3
Northwest Territories	18	15	17	16	15	-9.4	-16.1
Nunavut	3	3	2	3	2	-15.2	-32.3

<sup>r</sup> Revised.

<sup>p</sup> Preliminary.



## Wholesale merchants' inventories and inventory-to-sales ratio

	October 2004	July 2005 <sup>r</sup>	August 2005 <sup>r</sup>	September 2005 <sup>r</sup>	October 2005 <sup>p</sup>	Septem- ber to October 2005	October 2004 to October 2005	September 2005 <sup>r</sup>	October 2005 <sup>p</sup>
seasonally adjusted									
	\$ millions					% change		Inventory-to-sales ratio	
<b>Inventories</b>	<b>45,449</b>	<b>47,504</b>	<b>47,541</b>	<b>48,362</b>	<b>48,723</b>	<b>0.7</b>	<b>7.2</b>	<b>1.22</b>	<b>1.20</b>
Farm products	135	179	175	194	193	-0.3	42.5	0.38	0.34
Food products	4,273	4,423	4,341	4,312	4,280	-0.8	0.1	0.63	0.64
Alcohol and tobacco	335	270	268	284	290	2.3	-13.4	0.45	0.46
Apparel	1,421	1,548	1,608	1,624	1,655	1.9	16.5	1.95	1.82
Household and personal products	3,197	3,563	3,447	3,402	3,371	-0.9	5.4	1.53	1.45
Pharmaceuticals	2,800	3,005	2,978	3,184	3,265	2.6	16.6	1.25	1.23
Motor vehicles	4,025	4,133	4,247	4,392	4,400	0.2	9.3	0.66	0.65
Motor vehicle parts and accessories	3,152	3,307	3,259	3,187	3,312	3.9	5.1	2.10	2.18
Building supplies	4,533	4,935	4,947	5,024	5,110	1.7	12.7	1.48	1.52
Metal products	2,239	2,354	2,329	2,309	2,312	0.1	3.2	2.04	2.04
Lumber and millwork	1,145	1,160	1,086	978	1,037	6.1	-9.4	0.93	0.97
Machinery and equipment	8,459	8,850	8,894	9,099	9,146	0.5	8.1	2.50	2.32
Computer and other electronic equipment	1,387	1,510	1,572	1,522	1,539	1.1	10.9	0.64	0.60
Office and professional equipment	2,482	2,480	2,448	2,458	2,543	3.5	2.4	1.31	1.36
Other products	5,865	5,787	5,941	6,395	6,271	-1.9	6.9	1.40	1.36

<sup>r</sup> revised.

<sup>p</sup> preliminary.

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## Travel between Canada and other countries

October 2005

Foreign travel to Canada resumed its downward trend in October as Americans and residents of overseas countries, specifically the United Kingdom, took fewer trips to this country.

Just over 2.9 million foreigners visited Canada in October, the second lowest level in nearly 12 years and a 0.9% decline from September. In August, levels had fallen to 2.8 million. Travellers from the United States and the United Kingdom accounted for most of the decrease. (Unless otherwise specified, data are seasonally adjusted.)

The decline follows a fairly substantial increase in travel to Canada in September, but it was the first gain in five months.

More than 2.5 million American residents travelled north of the border in October, a 0.6% decline from September. The decrease in travel was due to a sharp drop in overnight trips by other modes of transportation, which fell 13.4%. Same-day and overnight car trips, as well as overnight plane trips, recorded slight gains.

An estimated 377,000 visitors came to Canada from overseas markets, a 2.5% decrease. This decline was due mostly to a 14.0% plunge in trips from the United Kingdom, the biggest drop among the 12 most important overseas markets for Canada.

This drop was only partially offset by a gain in trips from Germany and three major Asian markets, China, Hong Kong and Taiwan. An estimated 11,300 visitors came from China, up 10.8% from September.

Meanwhile, overall travel by Canadian residents abroad fell for the second consecutive month. In total, Canadians made 3.7 million trips abroad in October, down 0.8% from September.

Most Canadian residents travelling abroad, or approximately 3.1 million, went to the United States, a 1.1% decline from September. This more than

offset a 1.0% jump in travel to overseas nations, which reached 534,000, the second highest level on record.

Same-day car trips to the United States slipped, as did overnight plane travel south of the border. Also, the number of overnight trips to the United States fell to its lowest level since January.

Between September and October, the Canadian dollar's value remained stable against the US greenback. However, it gained ground against other major international currencies such as the Japanese yen, the British pound and the euro.

**Note:** Same day and overnight data for United States residents entering by commercial plane, train, commercial boat or other methods (for example, by foot or motorcycle) and any summation of these not seasonally adjusted series have been revised for each month of the first quarter of 2005.

Same day and overnight data for Canadian residents returning from the United States by commercial plane, private plane, train, commercial boat or other methods (for example, by foot or motorcycle) and any summation of these not seasonally adjusted series have been revised for each month of the first quarter of 2005.

**Available on CANSIM: tables 427-0001 to 427-0006.**

**Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 5005.**

The October issue of *International Travel, Advance Information*, Vol. 21, no. 10 (66-001-PIE, \$7/\$59) is now available. See *How to order products*.

For general information, contact Client Services (1-800-307-3382; 613-951-7608; fax: 613-951-9040; [cult.tourstats@statcan.ca](mailto:cult.tourstats@statcan.ca)). To enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Eric Desjardins (613-951-1781; [eric.desjardins@statcan.ca](mailto:eric.desjardins@statcan.ca)), Culture, Tourism and the Centre for Education Statistics. □

## Travel between Canada and other countries

	September 2005 <sup>r</sup>	October 2005 <sup>p</sup>	September to October 2005	October 2005	October 2004 to October 2005
	seasonally adjusted			unadjusted	
	'000		% change	'000	% change
<b>Canadian trips abroad<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>3,707</b>	<b>3,677</b>	<b>-0.8</b>	<b>3,513</b>	<b>4.0</b>
to the United States	3,178	3,143	-1.1	3,105	3.2
to Other Countries	528	534	1.0	408	10.1
Same-day car trips to the United States	1,888	1,873	-0.8	1,898	3.8
Total trips, one or more nights	1,754	1,751	-0.2	1,548	4.4
United States <sup>2</sup>	1,225	1,217	-0.7	1,139	2.5
Car	695	684	-1.6	633	1.2
Plane	440	438	-0.3	422	8.6
Other modes of transportation	90	94	4.6	85	-12.9
Other countries <sup>3</sup>	528	534	1.0	408	10.1
<b>Travel to Canada<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>2,938</b>	<b>2,912</b>	<b>-0.9</b>	<b>2,613</b>	<b>-12.3</b>
from the United States	2,551	2,534	-0.6	2,267	-13.0
from Other Countries	387	377	-2.5	346	-7.4
Same-day car trips from the United States	1,243	1,250	0.5	1,223	-14.0
Total trips, one or more nights	1,556	1,532	-1.5	1,269	-8.7
United States <sup>2</sup>	1,176	1,159	-1.4	933	-11.1
Car	698	700	0.3	542	-13.0
Plane	333	334	0.2	306	-1.5
Other modes of transportation	145	126	-13.4	85	-27.1
Other countries <sup>3</sup>	380	373	-1.9	337	-1.4
<b>Most important overseas markets<sup>4</sup></b>					
United Kingdom	87	75	-14.0	65	-3.5
Japan	37	37	-1.5	54	-11.9
France	31	31	-1.9	31	-6.2
Germany	28	28	0.7	24	-11.7
Mexico	17	17	-0.6	11	-2.1
Australia	18	16	-9.1	11	-2.8
South Korea	15	15	-0.1	14	-34.1
China	10	11	10.8	12	7.6
Netherlands	11	10	-6.3	7	-6.5
Hong Kong	9	9	0.3	7	-26.4
Taiwan	9	9	1.8	11	-16.2
Switzerland	9	8	-5.8	7	5.0

<sup>p</sup> Preliminary.

<sup>r</sup> Revised.

1. Totals exceed the sum of "same-day car trips" and "total trips, one or more nights" because they include all of the same-day trips.

2. Estimates for the United States include counts of cars and buses, and estimated numbers for planes, trains, boats and other methods.

3. Figures for other countries exclude same-day entries by land only, via the United States.

4. Includes same-day and one or more night trips.

## Monthly Survey of Large Retailers October 2005

Sales at large retailers pulled back 1.0% in October, the sharpest decline so far in 2005. However, this decrease came on the heels of strong sales in September (+2.0%). Despite the decline in October, sales have risen steadily in 2005. In 2004, sales increased rapidly up until the fall, before decelerating in the final few months of the year.

In October, six of the eight major commodity groups posted sales decreases compared to the previous month. Only sales of health and personal care products and furniture, home furnishings and electronics managed gains during the month.

Clothing, footwear and accessory sales decreased 1.5% in October, the fourth decline in six

months at large retailers. After gradually increasing in 2004, sales of clothing, footwear and accessories have levelled out in 2005. This may in part be due to the easing of clothing prices. In October, according to the Consumer Price Index, the cost of clothes decreased 1.9% from September, and was 2.0% lower than a year earlier.

Sales of food and beverages decreased 1.4% in October, the first decline since April. The intervening stretch of rising sales was the longest in over seven years. Food and beverage sales have been trending strongly upward since the start of 2005. Even with the decrease in October, sales were 9.1% higher than a year earlier.

The other goods and services commodity group, which includes items such as gasoline, tobacco, pet

food and automotive parts, saw sales drop 2.1% in October. This was the strongest decrease amongst the major commodity groups and was largely precipitated by a drop in gasoline sales. The Consumer Price Index reported that gasoline prices at the pump fell for the first time in five months, decreasing a sizeable 8.9% compared to September.

One bright spot during the month was a 1.2% increase in the sale of furniture, home furnishings and electronics at large retailers. Within this commodity group, the strongest gains came from appliance sales and home furnishing sales, which were up 3.6% and 2.8% respectively compared to September. Recently, sales of home furnishing items have been strong, posting increases in 8 of the first 10 months in 2005, likely aided by a strong housing market throughout the year.

**Note:** This survey includes large retailers mainly in the food, clothing, home furnishings, electronics, sporting goods, and general merchandise sectors. These retailers represent approximately 27% of total annual retail sales, or 35% when recreational and motor vehicle dealers are excluded.

All data in this release are adjusted for seasonality and all percentages are month-to-month changes unless otherwise indicated. Results from the Monthly Survey of Large Retailers are classified according to the 2002 North American Industrial Classification System.

#### Sales by commodity for the group of large retailers

	October 2004	September 2005 <sup>r</sup>	October 2005 <sup>p</sup>	September to October 2005	October to October 2005
seasonally adjusted					
	\$ millions		% change		
<b>Commodity</b>					
Food and beverages	2,560	2,834	2,794	-1.4	9.1
Health and personal care products	781	815	819	0.6	4.9
Clothing, footwear and accessories	1,366	1,396	1,375	-1.5	0.7
Furniture, home furnishings and electronics	1,188	1,255	1,270	1.2	6.9
Housewares	349	366	359	-2.1	2.6
Hardware, lawn and garden products	318	333	328	-1.6	3.1
Sporting and leisure goods	412	430	422	-2.0	2.5
All other goods and services	904	996	975	-2.1	7.8
<b>Total</b>	<b>7,879</b>	<b>8,425</b>	<b>8,341</b>	<b>-1.0</b>	<b>5.9</b>

<sup>r</sup> Revised.  
<sup>p</sup> Preliminary.

#### Sales by commodity for the group of large retailers

	September 2005 <sup>r</sup>	October 2004	October 2005 <sup>p</sup>	October 2004 to October 2005
unadjusted				
	\$ millions		% change	
<b>Commodity</b>				
Food and beverages	2,800	2,645	2,766	4.6
Health and personal care products	801	790	813	2.9
Clothing, footwear and accessories	1,400	1,469	1,474	0.3
Furniture, home furnishings and electronics	1,213	1,220	1,297	6.3
Housewares	370	368	372	1.1
Hardware, lawn and garden products	263	237	245	3.3
Sporting and leisure goods	333	375	381	1.6
All other goods and services	987	930	982	5.6
<b>Total</b>	<b>8,167</b>	<b>8,034</b>	<b>8,329</b>	<b>3.7</b>

<sup>r</sup> Revised.  
<sup>p</sup> Preliminary.

Available on CANSIM: table 080-0009.

**Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 5027.**

A data table is also available in the *Canadian Statistics* module online.

Data for the group of large retailers for November will be released on January 17, 2006.

For general information or to order data, contact Client Services (1-877-421-3067; 613-951-3549; [retailinfo@statcan.ca](mailto:retailinfo@statcan.ca)). To enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Elton Cryderman (613-951-0669), Distributive Trades Division. ■

#### Aircraft movement statistics

November 2005 (preliminary)

The 42 Canadian airports with NAV CANADA air traffic control towers reported 317,348 aircraft take-offs and landings in November, down 9.8% compared with November 2004 (352,016 movements). Year-over-year decreases in aircraft movements were reported by 31 of the airports in November 2005. The variations ranged from an increase of 60.7% at St-Jean, Quebec to a decline of 41.5% at Edmonton/Villeneuve.

Itinerant movements (flights from one airport to another) decreased by 7.2% (-17,379 movements) in

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November compared with the same month a year earlier. Local movements (flights that remain in the vicinity of the airport) decreased by 15.7% (-17,289 movements) in November compared with November 2004.

The top 10 airports in terms of volumes of itinerant movements in November showed year-over-year variations ranging from a 4.7% increase (+390 movements) at Edmonton International to a decline of 21.0% (-1,454 movements) at Quebec/Jean Lesage International. Of the top 10 airports, 3 recorded increases in itinerant movements compared with 5 airports in October 2005.

The top 10 airports in terms of local movements showed year-over-year variations ranging from a 20.5% increase (+1,568 movements) at Abbotsford to a decline of 50.1% (-3,720 movements) at Thunder Bay. Of the top 10 airports, 5 recorded increases in local movements compared with 5 airports in October 2005.

The November issue of *Aircraft Movement Statistics*, Vol. 4, no. 11 (51F0001PIE, TP1496, free) is now available online. From the *Our products and services* page, choose *Free publications*, then *Transport and warehousing*.

Preliminary statistics for the 56 Canadian airports with NAV CANADA flight service stations are also available for November.

**Available on CANSIM: table 401-0005.**

**Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2715.**

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Kathie Davidson (613-951-0141; fax: 613-951-0010; [aviationstatistics@statcan.ca](mailto:aviationstatistics@statcan.ca)), Transportation Division. ■

## **Stocks of frozen poultry meat**

December 1, 2005 (preliminary)

Stocks of frozen poultry meat in cold storage on December 1 totalled 64,351 metric tonnes, up 7.1% from a year ago.

**Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 3425.**

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Sandra Gielfeldt (613-951-2505; [Sandy.Gielfeldt@statcan.ca](mailto:Sandy.Gielfeldt@statcan.ca)), Agriculture Division. ■

## **Particleboard, oriented strandboard and fibreboard**

October 2005

Data on particleboard, oriented strandboard and fibreboard are now available for October.

**Available on CANSIM: table 303-0058.**

**Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2141.**

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](mailto:manufact@statcan.ca)), Manufacturing, Construction and Energy Division. ■

## New products

**Aircraft Movement Statistics**, November 2005, Vol. 4,  
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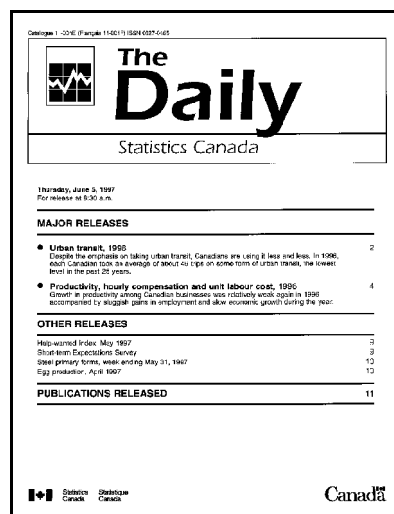
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