



# The Daily

## Statistics Canada

**Tuesday, December 20, 2005**

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Consumer prices declined for a second consecutive month in November as the price of gasoline continued to decrease. The all-items Consumer Price Index fell 0.2% in November, after it declined 0.5% in October. The 12-month change in the index slipped to 2.0% from 2.6% in October.	
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## Releases

### Consumer Price Index

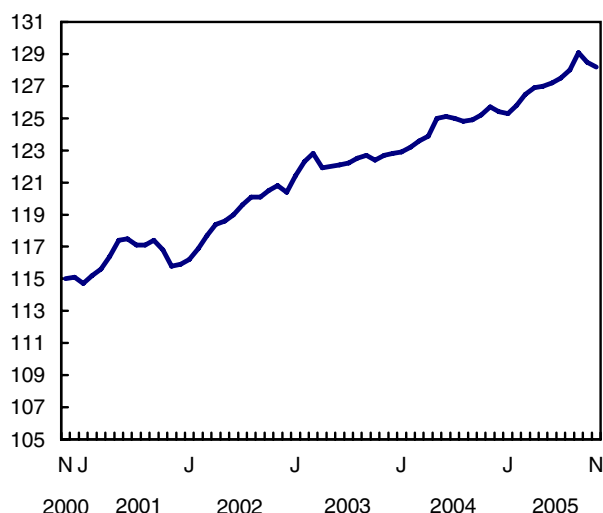
November 2005

Consumer prices declined for a second consecutive month in November as the price of gasoline continued to decrease. The all-items Consumer Price Index fell 0.2% in November, after it declined 0.5% in October. The 12-month change in the index slipped to 2.0% from 2.6% in October.

The all-items index excluding energy was 1.4% higher in November compared to one year earlier, down from the 12-month increase of 1.5% in October. The 12-month change in the all-items index excluding the eight volatile components, as defined by the Bank of Canada, was also down at 1.6% in November, compared with the 12-month change of 1.7% in October.

#### Consumer Price Index

Index not seasonally adjusted (1992=100)



#### Consumer prices climb more slowly on a 12-month basis

Consumer prices climbed more slowly on a 12-month basis due mostly to a drop in gasoline prices in November 2005. Gasoline prices increased on average 9.4% from November 2004 to November 2005, compared to an increase of 17.0% from October 2004 to October 2005.

Other major factors that pushed up the CPI were the cost of purchasing and leasing automotive vehicles, natural gas, homeowners' replacement cost and restaurant meals.

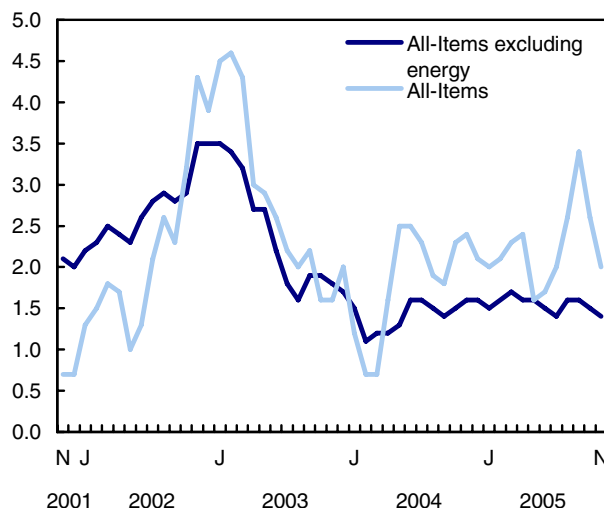
Lower prices for computer equipment and supplies, and for fresh vegetables exerted some downward pressure on the 12-month increase in the CPI.

Gasoline (+9.4%) exerted the strongest upward pressure on the 12-month change in the CPI. Price increases ranged from 6.0% in Nova Scotia and Newfoundland and Labrador to 12.7% in British Columbia.

Prices for the purchase and lease of automotive vehicles were up 2.7% from a year ago. Lower financial incentives offered by vehicle manufacturers on the new 2006 models helped to push up the index.

#### Percentage change from the same month of the previous year

% change



Natural gas prices rose 18.7% between November 2004 and November 2005. Almost 40% of this increase can be attributed to higher prices in Alberta (+34.4%). The Alberta government has a rebate program that normally runs from November 1st to March 31. This rebate is consumption based and is applied directly to consumers' bills. Quebec (+18.8%), Manitoba (+18.1%), British Columbia (+16.1%), Ontario

(+13.5%) and Saskatchewan (+10.1%) also reported increases since November 2004.

Homeowners' replacement cost, which represents the worn out structural portion of housing and is estimated using new housing prices (excluding land), rose 5.1% compared to November 2004. The main factors in this increase were higher costs for labour and the transportation of materials.

Prices for restaurant meals have risen 2.8% since November 2004. There has been a steady increase in prices in this sector for several years. The last monthly decline was posted in December 1999. Twelve-month increases in prices ranged from 1.7% in Nova Scotia to 3.4% in British Columbia.

Several of the major components of the CPI posted 12-month increases. The housing (+3.2%) and transportation (+3.7%) indexes applied the greatest upward pressure on the All-items index.

To a lesser degree, upward pressure also came from the food (+1.4%), health and personal care (+2.4%), alcoholic beverages and tobacco products (+2.5%), and household operations and furnishings (+1.0%) indexes.

The clothing and footwear component declined 1.4% as a result of lower prices for women's, men's and children's clothing. The recreation, education and reading component edged down 0.2% due to lower prices for computer equipment and supplies, and for traveller accommodation.

### **The monthly CPI falls for a second month in a row**

Between October and November this year, the CPI fell 0.2%, after falling 0.5% last month. Lower gasoline prices exerted most of the downward pressure. Higher prices for the purchase and lease of automobiles moderated November's decrease in the index.

Lower prices for traveller accommodation were the second strongest contributor to the monthly drop in the index, while higher prices for fresh vegetables offset its impact. Lower prices for women's clothing also played a moderating role on the index.

The CPI excluding energy rose 0.4% between October and November 2005. The increase resulted from the exclusion of gas prices from the index, as these failed to offset the rise in the price for the purchasing and leasing of automotive vehicles.

Gasoline prices fell an average of 11.2% in November, the result of lower wholesale prices and lower crude oil prices on the world market. Lower product demand and comfortable crude inventory levels were also responsible for lower prices across Canada. The largest decrease was observed in Prince Edward Island (-14.3%), while Yellowknife saw a drop of 5.1%.

Prices for purchasing and leasing automotive vehicles, which accounts for about 8% of the goods and

services in the CPI basket, climbed 5.1% in November. The index reflects the prices for the 2006 models. In November of each year, models of automotive vehicles from the current year (2005) are replaced by new models (2006) in the CPI sample. When the old models are compared to the new models, only pure price changes are incorporated in the index, as the CPI compares goods and services of equivalent quality. As a result, price increases due to improved product quality are not captured in the index.

Prices for traveller accommodation plunged 11.0% in November. Lower prices are normal for November, as demand in most areas continues to drop from the summer's peak tourist season.

Prices for fresh vegetables generally increase in November. However, the 9.9% increase this year is weaker than the 18.8% last year. Higher prices for "other fresh vegetables" in Quebec (+17.3%) and in Ontario (+13.5%), especially for green peppers, cauliflower, celery and cucumbers, were the main contributors to these increases.

Consumers continued to take advantage of numerous discount sales in the women's clothing sector in November. Prices for women's clothing were down 4.0%. Reductions of this nature normally occur in November. Saskatchewan posted the largest drop (-7.4%), while Newfoundland-Labrador saw an increase of 3.4%.

### **The seasonally-adjusted CPI edges down 0.2% from October to November**

Seasonally adjusted, the CPI was down 0.2% between October and November 2005.

Downward pressure came from transportation (-0.7%), clothing and footwear (-0.9%) and food (-0.2%). Indexes for household spending and equipment (+0.3%), housing (+0.1%), alcoholic beverages and tobacco products (+0.3%) and health and personal care (+0.2%) exerted upward pressure on the seasonally adjusted All-items CPI.

The seasonally adjusted index for recreation, education and reading did not contribute to the change in the seasonally adjusted CPI.

### **All-items index excluding the eight volatile components**

The All-items index excluding the eight volatile components, as defined by the Bank of Canada, increased by 1.6% between November 2004 and November 2005. The main contributors to this increase were prices for the purchase and leasing of automotive vehicles (+2.7%), homeowners' replacement cost (+5.0%), restaurant meals (+2.8%), and property taxes (+3.2%). The increase was offset by lower prices for

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computer equipment and supplies (-15.6%), traveller accommodation (-5.8%) and insurance premiums for automotive vehicles (-1.2%).

Between October and November, the All-items index excluding the eight volatile components, as defined by the Bank of Canada, rose by 0.4%. The main factor behind the upward pressure was the higher cost of purchasing and leasing automotive vehicles (+5.2%), while most of the downward pressure came from the drop in the cost of traveller accommodation (-11.0%) and the prices of women's clothing (-4.0%).

## Energy

After jumping 13.5% between October 2004 and October 2005, the energy index climbed 8.8% between November 2004 and November 2005.

Higher gasoline prices (+9.4%) were the main contributor to the increase, although prices for natural gas (+18.7%), fuel oil (+18.0%) and electricity (+2.3%) were also factors.

On a monthly basis, the energy index was down 6.1% largely under the influence of lower prices for gasoline (-11.2%), fuel oil (-3.5%) and electricity (-0.2%). The decrease was moderated by higher prices for natural gas (+1.2%).

**Available on CANSIM: tables 326-0001, 326-0002, 326-0009, 326-0012 and 326-0016 to 326-0018.**

**Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2301.**

More information about the concepts and use of the CPI are also available online in *Your Guide to the Consumer Price Index* (62-557-XIB, free).

Available at 7 a.m. online under *Today's news releases from The Daily*, then *Latest Consumer Price Index*.

The November issue of the *Consumer Price Index*, Vol. 84, no 11 (62-001-XIB, \$9/\$83; 62-001-XPB, \$12/\$111) is now available. See *How to order products*.

The December Consumer Price Index will be released on January 18, 2006.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, call Mark Martin (1-866-230-2248; 613-951-9606; fax 613-951-1539; [infounit@statcan.ca](mailto:infounit@statcan.ca)), Prices Division.

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## Consumer Price Index and major components (1992=100)

	Relative importance <sup>1</sup>	November 2005	October 2005	November 2004	October to November 2005	November 2004 to November 2005
unadjusted						
					% change	
<b>All-items</b>	<b>100.00<sup>2</sup></b>	<b>128.2</b>	<b>128.5</b>	<b>125.7</b>	<b>-0.2</b>	<b>2.0</b>
Food	16.89	128.4	127.7	126.6	0.5	1.4
Shelter	26.75	126.1	126.0	122.2	0.1	3.2
Household operations and furnishings	10.58	116.2	115.7	115.1	0.4	1.0
Clothing and footwear	5.37	101.8	104.5	103.2	-2.6	-1.4
Transportation	19.79	152.2	153.3	146.7	-0.7	3.7
Health and personal care	4.52	121.7	121.2	118.8	0.4	2.4
Recreation, education and reading	11.96	127.1	128.0	127.4	-0.7	-0.2
Alcoholic beverages and tobacco products	4.13	148.3	147.9	144.7	0.3	2.5
All-items (1986=100)		164.2				
Purchasing power of the consumer dollar expressed in cents, compared to 1992		78.0	77.8	79.6		
<b>Special aggregates</b>						
Goods	48.84	123.1	123.8	120.7	-0.6	2.0
Services	51.16	134.0	133.8	131.2	0.1	2.1
All-items excluding food and energy	74.27	124.6	124.1	122.9	0.4	1.4
Energy	8.84	165.1	175.8	151.7	-6.1	8.8
All-items excluding the 8 most volatile components <sup>3</sup>	82.75	127.7	127.2	125.7	0.4	1.6

- 2001 CPI basket weights at June 2004 prices, Canada - Effective July 2004. Detailed weights are available online under the Documentation section of survey 2301 (<http://www.statcan.ca/english/sdds/index.htm>).
- Figures may not add to 100% due to rounding.
- Excluded from the All-items CPI are the following eight volatile components, as defined by the Bank of Canada: fruit, fruit preparations and nuts; vegetables and vegetable preparations; mortgage interest cost; natural gas; fuel oil and other fuel; gasoline; inter-city transportation; and tobacco products and smokers' supplies. The Bank of Canada further adjusts this series to obtain their measure of core inflation, which also excludes the effect of changes in indirect taxes. For data and information on core inflation, please consult the Bank of Canada website ([www.bankofcanada.ca/en/inflation/index.htm](http://www.bankofcanada.ca/en/inflation/index.htm)).

## Consumer Price Index by province, and for Whitehorse, Yellowknife and Iqaluit (1992=100)

	November 2005	October 2005	November 2004	October to November 2005	November 2004 to November 2005
Unadjusted					
				% change	
Newfoundland and Labrador	126.9	126.8	124.5	0.1	1.9
Prince Edward Island	130.3	131.3	127.3	-0.8	2.4
Nova Scotia	130.7	131.6	127.8	-0.7	2.3
New Brunswick	128.3	128.5	125.7	-0.2	2.1
Quebec	124.2	124.5	121.8	-0.2	2.0
Ontario	129.1	129.4	126.6	-0.2	2.0
Manitoba	132.0	132.3	129.5	-0.2	1.9
Saskatchewan	132.8	133.0	131.3	-0.2	1.1
Alberta	136.1	136.2	132.5	-0.1	2.7
British Columbia	126.2	126.3	123.7	-0.1	2.0
Whitehorse	126.0	125.6	123.1	0.3	2.4
Yellowknife	125.4	125.0	121.8	0.3	3.0
Iqaluit (Dec. 2002=100)	103.8	103.3	101.8	0.5	2.0

- View the geographical details for the city of Whitehorse, the city of Yellowknife and the town of Iqaluit.
- Part of the increase first recorded in the shelter index for Yellowknife for December 2004 inadvertently reflected rent increases that actually occurred earlier. As a result, the change in the shelter index was overstated in December 2004, and was understated in the previous two years. The shelter index series for Yellowknife has been corrected from December 2002. In addition, the Yellowknife All-items CPI and some Yellowknife special aggregate index series have also changed. Data for Canada and all other provinces and territories were not affected.

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## Employment Insurance

October 2005 (preliminary)

In October, the seasonally adjusted estimated number of Canadians receiving regular Employment Insurance benefits fell 1.3% from September to 505,310 and was 3.6% lower than in October 2004. There has been a general decrease in the number of regular beneficiaries since mid-2003.

### Employment Insurance statistics

	Oct. 2005	Sept. 2005	Oct. 2004	Sept. to Oct. 2005	Oct. to Oct. 2004
seasonally adjusted					
					% change
Regular beneficiaries	505,310 <sup>P</sup>	511,980 <sup>r</sup>	523,970		-1.3
Regular benefits paid (\$ millions)	722.6 <sup>P</sup>	691.5 <sup>r</sup>	778.8	4.5	-7.2
Initial and Renewal Claims received ('000)	240.3 <sup>P</sup>	229.6 <sup>r</sup>	230.8	4.7	4.1
unadjusted					
All beneficiaries ('000) <sup>1</sup>	674.2 <sup>P</sup>	646.8 <sup>P</sup>	690.8		
Regular beneficiaries ('000)	391.3 <sup>P</sup>	372.8 <sup>P</sup>	409.0		
Initial and Renewal Claims received ('000)	250.8	186.6	227.8		
Payments (\$ millions)	1,136.7	996.4	1,116.8		
year-to-date (Jan. to Aug.)					
	2005	2004	2004 to 2005		% change
Claims received ('000)		2,247.0	2,218.8		1.3
Payments (\$ millions)		12,488.8	12,653.6		-1.3

<sup>r</sup> Revised.

<sup>P</sup> Preliminary.

1. "All beneficiaries" includes all claimants receiving regular benefits (for example, as a result of layoff) or special benefits (for example, as a result of illness) and are representative of data for the Labour Force Survey reference week which is usually the week containing the 15th of the month.

In October, most provinces reported moderate declines in the number of beneficiaries, Ontario registering the largest (-3.2%).

Regular benefit payments in October totalled \$722.6 million, while the number of people making initial and renewal claims was 240,340.

**Note:** Employment Insurance Statistics Program data are produced from an administrative data source and may, from time to time, be affected by changes to the Employment Insurance Act or administrative procedures. The number of beneficiaries is a measure of all persons who received Employment Insurance

benefits for the week containing the fifteenth day of the month. The regular benefit payments series measures the total of all monies received by individuals for the entire month.

### Number of beneficiaries receiving regular benefits

	Oct. 2005 <sup>P</sup>	Sept. to Oct. 2005	Oct. 2004 to Oct. 2005
seasonally adjusted			
	% change		
<b>Canada</b>	<b>505,310</b>	<b>-1.3</b>	<b>-3.6</b>
Newfoundland and Labrador	38,500	0.4	1.4
Prince Edward Island	8,400	-2.2	-2.7
Nova Scotia	28,990	-1.4	-3.6
New Brunswick	34,230	-2.3	-0.2
Quebec	174,430	-0.7	0.2
Ontario	127,920	-3.2	-1.8
Manitoba	11,770	-1.5	-6.4
Saskatchewan	10,490	-1.6	-5.0
Alberta	20,540	-1.3	-24.7
British Columbia	48,500	0.8	-13.2
Yukon Territory	900	0.0	-1.1
Northwest Territories	770	-2.5	0.0
Nunavut	420	5.0	5.0

<sup>P</sup> Preliminary.

**Note:** The number of beneficiaries includes all claimants who received regular benefits for the Labour Force Survey reference week, usually containing the 15th day of the month.

**Available on CANSIM: tables 276-0001 to 276-0006, 276-0009, 276-0011, 276-0015 and 276-0016.**

**Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2604.**

Data on Employment Insurance for November will be released on January 24, 2006.

For general information or to order data, contact Client Services at 613-951-4090 or, call toll free 1-866-873-8788; ([labour@statcan.ca](mailto:labour@statcan.ca)). To enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Gilles Groleau (613-951-4091), Labour Statistics Division. ■

## Perspectives on Labour and Income

December 2005 online edition

The December 2005 online edition of *Perspectives on Labour and Income*, released today, contains two articles: "Education and income of lone parents" and "Shifts in spending patterns of older Canadians."

The article "Education and income of lone parents" uses the 1981 and 2001 censuses to examine changes in the characteristics of lone parents. It looks at their

earnings and the proportion in low income by age group and education level; it also compares them with parents living in a couple relationship.

In 2001, there were 555,000 lone mothers aged 25 to 54 with children aged 18 or under, up from 330,000 in 1981, an increase of 68%. In 1981, 46% of lone mothers (compared with 42% of those with spouses) had not completed high school. By 2001, this proportion had fallen to 22% (compared with 17% for mothers in couple relationships).

Real annual earnings of lone mothers rose 35% between 1980 and 2000 (from \$14,700 to \$19,900), which resulted in a decrease in the low-income rate for lone mothers. But the increase in earnings did not apply to all age groups; the youngest group posted sizeable losses for most education levels. Indeed, young lone mothers generally saw their low-income rate deteriorate. However, the rate declined with increased education level. In 2000, 75% of those without a high school diploma were in low income; the proportion fell to 62% for those with a high school diploma, and to 54% for those with non-university postsecondary education.

The number of lone fathers has almost doubled since 1981, from just over 62,000 to nearly 119,000. In 2001, lone fathers accounted for about one lone-parent family in six.

Overall, lone fathers saw their average earnings decline 7.3% since 1980, from \$41,000 to \$38,000, but the decline was larger for younger and less educated lone fathers, similar to the situation of young lone mothers.

The second article entitled "Shifts in spending patterns of older Canadians" examines the changes in the spending behaviour of three household groups based on the age of the reference person: 55 to 64, 65 to 74, and 75 or over.

As households age, their economic situation changes. In both 1982 and 2003, three-quarters of households in the 55-to-64 group had employment earnings, accounting for more than 70% of their income. For those in the 75-plus group, government transfers and pensions became more prevalent; these accounted for 59% of income in 1982 and 80% in 2003. While the drop in income between these age groups is steep, the decline in personal consumption is more moderate.

Older households spent more of their income on personal consumption and income tax in 2003 than in 1982. As a result, their savings fell from 13 cents per dollar to 4 cents.

They also spent more on health in 2003 than in 1982. Those receiving all of their income from government transfers spent most of their consumption dollar on shelter and food, ranging from 52 to 57 cents in 2003, and 58 to 65 cents in 1982.

The December 2005 online edition of *Perspectives on Labour and Income*, Vol. 6, no. 12 (75-001-XIE, \$6/\$52) is now available. See *How to order products*.

For more information on the article "Education and income of lone parents," contact Diane Galarneau (613 951-4626; [diane.galarneau@statcan.ca](mailto:diane.galarneau@statcan.ca)), Micro-economic Studies and Analysis Division. For more information on the article "Shifts in spending patterns of older Canadians," contact Raj K. Chawla (613-951-6901, [raj.chawla@statcan.ca](mailto:raj.chawla@statcan.ca)), Labour and Household Surveys Analysis Division. ■

## Government business enterprises: Finances

Fiscal year ending nearest to December 31, 2004 (federal) and December 31, 2003 (provincial, territorial and local)

Government business enterprises (GBE) play an important role in providing goods and services for the three levels of government.

After-tax profit of federal GBEs fell in 2004 for the first time in three years. Federal GBEs, including monetary authorities, earned an after-tax profit of \$6.3 billion, an 8.8% decline from 2003.

## Federal government enterprises, after-tax profits

Fiscal year ended nearest to December 31

	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
	\$ millions				
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>23,150</b>	<b>20,916</b>	<b>23,106</b>	<b>23,169</b>	<b>23,386</b>
Financial enterprises	10,790	10,361	10,763	11,170	10,386
Non-financial enterprises	12,361	10,555	12,343	11,999	13,000
<b>Total expense</b>	<b>17,923</b>	<b>15,940</b>	<b>16,816</b>	<b>15,994</b>	<b>16,533</b>
Financial enterprises	5,442	5,362	4,350	4,241	2,032
Non-financial enterprises	12,480	10,578	12,466	11,753	14,500
Net income (loss) before provision for income tax	5,228	4,976	6,290	7,175	6,854
Provision for income tax	254	330	377	272	558
Net income (loss) after provision for income tax	4,974	4,646	5,913	6,903	6,296

The monetary authorities, primarily the Bank of Canada and the Exchange Fund Account, accounted for \$3.5 billion of this profit. Other financial enterprises recorded a profit of \$4.4 billion that was partly offset by losses of \$1.6 billion from non-financial enterprises.

These losses resulted mainly from provisions accorded to Atomic Energy of Canada Limited for the decommissioning of its nuclear facilities. Over the last five years, federal government enterprises have

generated after-tax profits of \$28.7 billion, or slightly more than \$5.7 billion on average each year.

In 2004, total assets of federal enterprises, including net fixed assets, declined 0.2% to \$166.4 billion, while total liabilities decreased 0.9% to \$155.4 billion.

As a result, the total net worth of federal government enterprises reached \$11.0 billion in 2004, up 11.6%. Over the last five years, the total net worth of federal enterprises has been increasing steadily.

Provincial and territorial GBEs are involved in activities such as hydroelectricity, gaming and liquor sales. In 2003, these enterprises earned record high after-tax profits of \$13.3 billion, up 12.2% from 2002.

Almost half these profits, about \$6.3 billion, were generated from provincial and territorial lotteries and gaming enterprises. Liquor enterprises accounted for \$3.6 billion, or just over one-quarter, while hydro enterprises accounted for \$3.0 billion, or just over one-fifth.

Between 1999 and 2003, provincial and territorial GBEs have generated after-tax profits of \$59.3 billion, or \$11.9 billion on average each year.

In 2003, provincial and territorial government business enterprises registered higher after-tax profits in 8 of the 13 provinces and territories, led by New Brunswick where profits of GBEs rose 53.5%.

#### Provincial and territorial government enterprises, after-tax profits

Fiscal year ended nearest to December 31

	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003
	\$ millions				
<b>Total Canada</b>	<b>10,132</b>	<b>12,939</b>	<b>11,131</b>	<b>11,816</b>	<b>13,258</b>
Newfoundland and Labrador	196	180	198	211	83
Prince Edward Island	22	24	24	27	28
Nova Scotia	235	204	351	345	340
New Brunswick	203	181	216	142	219
Quebec	2,776	3,056	2,975	3,360	3,503
Ontario	2,970	3,967	3,319	3,169	4,296
Manitoba	588	711	602	532	67
Saskatchewan	672	731	542	557	790
Alberta	1,538	1,620	1,764	1,815	1,942
British Columbia	891	2,228	1,102	1,624	1,944
Yukon Territory	11	7	9	10	11
Northwest Territories	29	28	28	30	30
Nunavut	2	2	2	-6	6

At the end of 2003, the total net worth of provincial and territorial enterprises reached \$21.2 billion, up 1.6% from 2002. Total assets increased 1.1% to \$201.9 billion, while liabilities increased 1.0% to \$180.7 billion.

Local GBEs comprise electric utilities, transit systems, gas companies and phone companies. They recorded after-tax profits of \$808 million in 2003, a slight increase from the previous year.

#### Local government enterprises finance

Fiscal year ended nearest to December 31

	2001	2002	2003
	\$ thousands		
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>16,753,762</b>	<b>16,060,392</b>	<b>16,649,094</b>
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>15,801,157</b>	<b>15,442,589</b>	<b>15,760,265</b>
Net Income (loss) before provision for income tax			
Provision for income tax	952,605	617,803	888,829
Net income (loss) after provision for income tax	-7,388	82,729	80,290
	959,993	535,073	808,539

**Note:** Data may not add due to rounding.

Of this amount, they remitted \$187 million to municipalities. This is slightly more than the profits remitted in 2002, but less than the record high of \$196 million in 2001.

Local GBEs reported an income of \$16.6 billion in 2003, up 3.7%. In 1999, GBE revenue represented 27% of municipal revenue. By 2001, GBE revenue accounted for 35% of municipal revenue, which slipped to 32% in 2003.

The value of local government business enterprises expenditures hit \$15.8 billion in 2003, up 2.1% from \$15.4 billion in 2002.

#### Income and expenses of local government business enterprises by industry

	Income	Expenses	Net income after provisions for income tax
	\$ thousands		
<b>Total</b>	<b>16,649,094</b>	<b>15,760,265</b>	<b>808,539</b>
Electricity	12,301,119	11,622,191	598,637
Transportation	3,893,465	3,798,360	95,105
Gas	333,614	251,526	82,088
Telephone	120,896	88,187	32,709

Most of the profits were generated by electric utilities. Public transit companies would have generated losses of \$1.7 billion in 2003 had it not been for the \$1.8 billion subsidies provided by municipalities and provincial governments. Transportation subsidies rose 10% between 2002 and 2003. Commuters using local GBE public transit paid 53% of service costs in 2003, relatively unchanged since 1999.

**Note:** The government business enterprises are incorporated, "for-profit" organizations, which make them subject to income tax. They are legal entities separate from the parent government that created them. They differ in that they generally charge prices that are closely related to the cost of production, as in the case for private enterprises. GBE data has been



revised for 2003 for federal enterprises and for 2002 for provincial, territorial and local enterprises.

**Available on CANSIM: tables 385-0011 to 385-0013, 385-0015 and 385-0016.**

**Definitions, data sources and methods: survey numbers, including related surveys, 1725 and 1730.**

Additional data are available through custom and special tabulation. For more information on the products and services of the Public Institutions Division, contact Jo-Anne Thibault (613-951-0767; [jo-anne.thibault@statcan.ca](mailto:jo-anne.thibault@statcan.ca)).

To enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Todd Charbonneau (613-951-3165; [todd.charbonneau@statcan.ca](mailto:todd.charbonneau@statcan.ca)) or Claude Vaillancourt; (613-951-1820; [claud.vallancourt@statcan.ca](mailto:claud.vallancourt@statcan.ca)) for federal and provincial government business enterprises and Aldo Diaz (613-951-8563; [aldo.diaz@statcan.ca](mailto:aldo.diaz@statcan.ca)) for local government business enterprises, Public Institutions Division. ■

## **Criminal Justice Indicators** 2005

The report *Criminal Justice Indicators, 2005* presents indicators that can be used to measure the workload and activity of the criminal justice system, as well as indicators on a number of related socio-demographic and economic factors.

Workload and volume measures focus on the work of the police, courts, corrections, diversion programs and victim services. Examples of indicators presented include the number of criminal incidents reported to police; the number of people involved in alternative measures; the number of cases dealt with in court; average counts in correctional institutions and; the number of persons assisted by victim service agencies.

In addition, the report presents indicators on other aspects of the criminal justice system such as the type and length of sentences ordered in court; public perceptions of police, courts, and the correctional and parole systems; and, the number and types of services for victims of crime.

The report also presents a number of socio-demographic and economic indicators that provide a context to criminality. Examples of these indicators include age and sex distributions of the population; income levels and labour force participation; levels of social engagement; family structures; amounts of child support; levels of education; literacy rates, and; the rate of alcohol and drug abuse among the adult and youth population.

**Definitions, data sources and methods: 3301, 3302, 3306, 3308, 3309, 3312, 3313, 3315, 3323, 3324, 3325, 3328, 3896, 4504, 5035 and 5037**

The publication *Criminal Justice Indicators, 2005* (85-227-XIE, \$38) 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 Client Services (1-800-387-2231; 613-951-9023), Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics. ■

## **Postcensal estimates of population for census divisions, census metropolitan areas and economic regions**

July 1, 2005 (preliminary)

The preliminary postcensal estimates of total population and population by age and sex by census division (CD), census metropolitan area (CMA) and economic region (ER) at July 1, 2005 are now available. Also available are the final postcensal estimates for July 1, 2002 and updated postcensal estimates for 2003 and 2004.

**Available on CANSIM: tables 051-0034 and 051-0036.**

**Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 3608.**

The CANSIM tables for economic regions (051-0038 to 051-0040) will be available in the near future.

These population data will appear in *Annual Demographic Statistics, 2005* (91-213-XIB, \$60; 91-213-XPB, \$134) to be published in March 2006.

For general information or to order data, contact the Demography Division at 613-951-2320; email [demography@statcan.ca](mailto:demography@statcan.ca); fax: 613-951-2307. To enquire about the concepts, methods, or data quality of this release, contact Stéphane Gilbert, Demography Division (613-951-9233); email [stephane.gilbert@statcan.ca](mailto:stephane.gilbert@statcan.ca). ■

## **Construction Union Wage Rate Index** November 2005

The Construction Union Wage Rate Index (including supplements) for Canada remained unchanged in November compared to the revised October level of 133.3 (1992=100). The Composite index increased 1.8% compared with the revised November 2004 index (130.9).

Union wage rates are published for 16 trades in 20 metropolitan areas for both the basic rates and

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rates including selected supplementary payments. Indexes on a 1992=100 time base are calculated for the same metropolitan areas and are published for those where a majority of trades are covered by current collective agreements.

**Available on CANSIM: tables 327-0003 and 327-0004.**

**Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2307.**

The fourth quarter issue of *Capital Expenditure Price Statistics* (62-007-XIE, \$20/\$59) will be available in March 2006.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods, and data quality for this release, contact Client Services Unit, Prices Division (613-951-9606); fax: (613-951-1539), [infounit@statcan.ca](mailto:infounit@statcan.ca), or Louise Châiné (613-951-3393). ■

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## New products

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**Criminal Justice Indicators**, 2005

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
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• <b>Productivity, hourly compensation and unit labour cost, 1995</b> 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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