



The Daily

Statistics Canada

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Releases

Production of principal field crops

November 2005 (estimate)

Although field crop farmers faced challenging weather patterns in both eastern and western regions of Canada this year, production was above average in most areas.

Input costs for fuel and fertilizer rose significantly throughout the season, driven by hurricane damage to US energy suppliers, while prices paid to farmers for their crops continued to languish, further reducing slim profit margins on farms.

This crop report is the result of data from the annual November Farm Survey of over 31,000 Canadian farmers. In the East, favourable planting conditions yielded to a hot and generally dry summer which appeared detrimental to crop development, but a mild and dry harvest season brought record corn yields. Sagging corn prices, reported by the industry to be below cost of production, were an additional burden to farmers this fall.

Production estimates

Crop	2004	September 2005	November 2005	2004 to November 2005 % change
	'000 of tonnes			% change
Total wheat	25,860	25,547	26,775	3.5
Spring wheat	18,451	18,149	18,788	1.8
Barley	13,186	12,133	12,481	-5.3
Grain corn	8,837	8,392 ¹	9,461	7.1
Canola	7,728	8,447	9,660	25.0
Durum wheat	4,962	5,378	5,915	19.2
Oats	3,683	3,334	3,432	-6.8
Dry field peas	3,338	3,170	3,100	-7.1
Soybeans	3,048	2,999 ¹	3,161	3.7
Lentils	962	...	1,278	32.8
Flaxseed	517	1,035	1,082	109.3
Rye	418	367	359	-14.2
Mustard seed	306	...	201	-34.1
Canary seed	301	...	227	-24.4
Total dry beans	214	...	309	44.7

1. Quebec, Ontario and Manitoba.
 ... not applicable.

Western producers experienced a difficult season in 2005. Spring rains provided adequate precipitation in most areas, with the exception of Manitoba where excess moisture and in some cases standing water delayed or prevented planting. Favorable mid-season conditions elsewhere in the West faded to a wet and cool harvest, resulting in surprisingly strong yields but below average quality. In Saskatchewan and Alberta, 98% of the crop was harvested before the first snows of winter.

Canola production higher, sets records

Prairie farmers reported that canola production jumped 25.5% to 9.5 million tonnes, the result of a record 32.6 bushel per acre yield and an increase in harvested area from 2004.

In Saskatchewan, where almost half of Canadian canola is grown, farmers estimated a production increase of 1.7 million tonnes to a record 4.6 million tonnes. The previous record was set in 1999 at 4.0 million tonnes. Alberta farmers reported they also harvested a record amount of canola, up 725,700 tonnes to 3.7 million tonnes. This upsurge in production is the result of near-record harvested areas augmented by the highest average yields ever reported in these two provinces. On the other hand, adverse conditions in Manitoba resulted in a 29.1% production decline to 1.3 million tonnes. A reduction in area and 5.0 bushel per acre drop in yield were reported. The 10-year average production in Manitoba is 1.5 million tonnes.

Flaxseed production doubles

In the Prairies, flaxseed production jumped 565,100 tonnes to 1.1 million tonnes. In spite of the increase, production was just short of the record 1.2 million tonnes set in 1970. A rise in harvested area and a well above average yield of 21.5 bushels per acre were responsible. Producers in all three Prairie provinces reported increases in flaxseed production.

The record production of 881,400 tonnes in Saskatchewan was fuelled by a strong increase in yield and a record harvested area of 1.6 million acres. The previous record was 711,200 tonnes set in 1999.

Spring wheat production up slightly

Total spring wheat production in the Prairies is expected to reach 18.3 million tonnes, up 1.7% from 2004. The 10-year average is 17.7 million tonnes. Reported average yield was 39.7 bushels per acre, up 1.4 bushels per acre from 2004.

Saskatchewan and Alberta farmers reported increases in production, while adverse conditions in Manitoba served to drop production 29.3% to 2.3 million tonnes. The 10-year average in Manitoba is 3.4 million tonnes.

Durum production jumps

Prairie farmers reported that durum wheat production reached 5.9 million tonnes, an increase of 19.2% over 2004, the result of increases in yield and harvested area. The 10-year average is 4.6 million tonnes.

Farmers in all three Prairie provinces reported production increases.

Barley, oat production decline

Prairie barley production fell 5.1% to 11.6 million tonnes. The 10-year average is 11.4 million tonnes.

Manitoba (-50.2%) and Alberta (-4.6%) reported lower barley production while Saskatchewan bucked the trend with an estimated 6.7% increase.

Oat production in the Prairie provinces fell 7.9% to 3.0 million tonnes, the result of a 7.2% drop in yield. The 10-year average is 3.1 million tonnes.

Provincially, Manitoba reported that oat production fell 51.2% to 440,700 tonnes, the lowest estimate since 1991. Farmers in Saskatchewan reported an increase of 16.6%, while those in Alberta dropped their expectations by 3.1%.

Field pea production declines in the Prairies

Field pea production in the Prairies declined 240,800 tonnes to 3.1 million tonnes, the result of a drop in yield and harvested area. The recent 10-year average production is 2.1 million tonnes.

All three Prairie provinces reported decreases in field pea production, with declines of 60.9% in Manitoba, 2.5% in Saskatchewan and 11.5% in Alberta.

Record soybean production

Canadian soybean production rose 3.7% to 3.2 million tonnes. Production was down 2.9% in Quebec to 505,000 tonnes, the result of a lower harvested area, while production in Ontario rose 4.4% to a record 2.6 million tonnes. The increase in Ontario was the result of a 1.4 bushel per acre rise in yield from 2004. Manitoba farmers reported a gain of 16,600 tonnes to 61,500 tonnes.

Genetically modified soybean acres in 2005 were 43% of total soybean area in Ontario and 41% in Quebec, a ratio unchanged from 2004. Data on genetically modified corn and soybean area has been collected since 2000. Over that period of time, genetically modified soybean area in Ontario and Quebec has more than doubled, but has reached a plateau in recent years.

Corn production up

Canadian corn production rose 7.1% or by 624,000 tonnes to 9.5 million tonnes, the result of an overall yield increase of 6.2 bushels per acre.

Corn production in Quebec remained unchanged at 3.4 million tonnes, not far from the record 3.5 million tonnes set in 2003. The 10-year average production estimate is 2.7 million tonnes.

In Ontario, production estimates for corn are up 8.1% to 5.8 million tonnes, the result of a record yield of 145.0 bushels per acre, up 13.7 bushels per acre from 2004. Corn yield has risen steadily in Ontario since 2000.

In Quebec, 44% of the area seeded to corn was genetically modified while in Ontario, 39% was classified as genetically modified. These percentages have risen considerably since the data were first collected in 2000, but have levelled off in recent years.

Available on CANSIM: tables 001-0004, 001-0010, 001-0017 to 001-0020.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 3401.

The publication *Field Crop Reporting Series no. 8: November Estimate of Production of Principal Field Crops, Canada, 2005*, Vol. 84, no. 8 (22-002-XIB, \$12/\$71; 22-002-XPB, \$17/\$95) is now available. See *How to order our products*.

For further information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact David Burroughs (613-951-5138; dave.burroughs@statcan.ca), or Heather Smith (613-951-0730; heather.smith@statcan.ca), Agriculture Division. ■

Study: Christmas shopping, a provincial perspective

2004

Western Canadian shoppers, particularly Albertans, spent more per capita in retail stores than consumers in any other province in December 2004, according to a new report.

On a per capita basis nationally, Canadian consumers spent \$804 each last December. This was well above the monthly average of \$555 for the rest of the year, excluding December. (Per capita sales exclude sales by the automotive retail sector.)

Consumers in Alberta spent \$967 per capita in December, followed closely by shoppers in the Yukon and Northwest Territories. Residents of these three regions also had the highest disposable incomes in 2004, probably a major factor in their spending.

Consumers in the Yukon spent \$928 per capita, while those in the Northwest Territories spent \$926. Consumers in British Columbia were the fourth biggest spenders with an average of \$846.

Per capita sales last December were also above the national average in Nova Scotia and Ontario. At the other end of the spectrum, residents of Saskatchewan, Quebec and Prince Edward Island spent the least per capita.

The report analyzes December retail sales by commodity as well as by province and territory using data from two Statistics Canada surveys, the Monthly Retail Trade Survey and the Quarterly Retail Commodity Survey.

Statistics Canada estimates of population for January 2005 were used to derive per capita spending in retail stores.

Christmas can be a make-or-break time of year for many retailers such as jewellery stores, as well as other big merchandisers such as toy, hobby and game stores.

For these types of stores, sales last December represented almost triple their average 2004 monthly sales. Sales in this single month alone also accounted for more than one-fifth (22%) of their annual revenue.

Similarly, retailers who specialize in sound and video recordings such as DVDs and compact discs also took in one-fifth (21%) of their annual revenue in December.

And that's not to forget appliance and electronics stores, and cosmetic and perfume stores, which relied on December for 17% of their annual take.

Overall, Canadian shoppers spent \$34.5 billion in retail stores last December.

This was a big 6.9% jump over the same month in the previous year, and more than twice the year-over-year gain of 3.3% in the previous December.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey numbers, including related surveys, 2008 and 2406.

The analytical article *Christmas Shopping: A Provincial Perspective* (11-621-MIE2005034, free) is now available online in the *Analysis in Brief* series (11-621-MIE).

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Jane Lin (613- 951-9691), Distributive Trades Division. ■

Spending on research and development in the higher education sector

2003/04

Spending on research and development in the higher education sector increased 9% from 2002/03 to \$8.1 billion in the fiscal year 2003/04.

This increase is explained by augmented funding from two sources: the grants and contract part of funding provided to the higher education sector by provincial governments (23%), and increased funding from the federal government (20%).

Two domains, social sciences and humanities (+13%) and natural sciences and engineering (+12%) benefited the most from the increased funding, while health related research increased by 4%.

Of the \$8.1 billion, about 80%, or \$6.5 billion, was spent in the natural sciences and engineering (including health sciences), and the remaining \$1.6 billion (20%) in the social sciences and humanities. Health science activities make up 38% of the total research and development spending on natural sciences and engineering.

The higher education sector funded 44% of the research and development performed in this sector and spent \$3.6 billion. The federal government funded 27%, provincial governments 12% and the business sector 8%.

There were 43 universities in Ontario and Quebec that performed sponsored research in 2003/04, as did 16 universities in Atlantic Canada and 15 in the Western provinces. Ontario and Quebec universities performed just over two-thirds of research and development activities in the higher education sector.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 4212.

The service bulletin *Science Statistics*, Vol. 29, no. 6 (88-001-XIE, free) and the working paper *Estimation of Research and Development*

Expenditures in the Higher Education Sector, 2003/04 (88F0006XIE2005019, free) are now available online. From the *Our products and services* page, under *Browse our Internet publications*, choose *Free*, then *Science and technology*.

For more detailed information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Gisèle Bellefeuille, (613-951-7113; gisele.bellefeuille@statcan.ca) or Janet Thompson, (613-951-2580; janet.thompson@statcan.ca), Science, Innovation and Electronic Information Division. ■

Domestic sales of refined petroleum products

October 2005 (preliminary)

Sales of refined petroleum products totalled 8 436 100 cubic metres in October, down 3.1% from October 2004. Sales increased in only two of the seven major product groups, with motor gasoline sales and diesel fuel oil sales remaining virtually unchanged from October 2004.

Sales of refined petroleum products

	Oct. 2004 ^r	Oct. 2005 ^p	Oct. 2004 to Oct. 2005
	'000 of cubic metres		% change
Total, all products	8 703.2	8 436.1	-3.1
Motor gasoline	3 435.8	3 435.6	0.0
Diesel fuel oil	2 295.6	2 303.8	0.4
Light fuel oil	335.5	296.5	-11.7
Heavy fuel oil	582.2	641.8	10.2
Aviation turbo fuels	630.6	701.3	11.2
Petrochemical feedstocks ¹	488.5	153.0	-68.7
All other refined products	935.0	904.3	-3.3

	Jan. to Oct. 2004 ^r	Jan. to Oct. 2005 ^p	Jan.–Oct. 2004 to Jan.–Oct. 2005
	'000 of cubic metres		% change
Total, all products	84 923.8	84 290.0	-0.7
Motor gasoline	34 118.3	34 080.2	-0.1
Diesel fuel oil	20 849.8	21 950.9	5.3
Light fuel oil	4 041.9	3 584.2	-11.3
Heavy fuel oil	6 652.4	6 516.7	-2.0
Aviation turbo fuels	5 535.1	5 624.9	1.6
Petrochemical feedstocks ¹	4 319.7	3 442.9	-20.3
All other refined products	9 406.6	9 090.2	-3.4

^r Revised.

^p Preliminary.

1. Materials produced by refineries that are used by the petrochemical industry to produce chemicals, synthetic rubber and a variety of plastics.

Sales were down for mid-grade (-13.6%) and premium (-12.2%) gasolines while regular gasoline sales rose 1.4% from October 2004.

Year-to-date sales of refined petroleum products at the end of October totalled 84 290 000 cubic metres, down 0.7% from the same period of 2004. Sales decreased in five of the seven major product groups, with the largest decrease in petro-chemical feedstocks, which fell by 20.3% or by 876 800 cubic metres.

Preliminary domestic sales of refined petroleum products data are no longer available on CANSIM.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2150.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact the Manufacturing, Construction and Energy Division (1-866-873-8789; 613-951-9497; energ@statcan.ca). ■

Production of eggs and poultry

October 2005 (preliminary)

Egg production was estimated at 50.1 million dozen in October, up 9.9% from October 2004.

Poultry meat production reached 94.6 million kilograms in October, up 0.7% from October 2004.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey numbers, including related surveys, 3425 and 5039.

For further information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Sandy Giefeldt (613-951-2505; sandy.giefeldt@statcan.ca) or Barbara Bowen (613-951-3716; barbara.bowen@statcan.ca), Agriculture Division. ■

Elementary and secondary education expenditures

2002

Data are now available for elementary and secondary education expenditures up to 2002.

Available on CANSIM: tables 478-0010 to 478-0012, 478-0016 and 478-0017.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey numbers, including related surveys, 3119 and 3120.

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. ■

New products

Analysis in Brief: Christmas Shopping: A Provincial Perspective, 2004, no. 34
Catalogue number 11-621-MIE2005034
(free).

National Income and Expenditure Accounts, Quarterly Estimates, Third quarter 2005, Vol. 53, no. 3
Catalogue number 13-001-XIB (\$36/\$117).

Field Crop Reporting Series, Vol. 84, no. 8
Catalogue number 22-002-XIB (\$12/\$71).

Field Crop Reporting Series, Vol. 84, no. 8
Catalogue number 22-002-XPB (\$17/\$95).

Building Permits, October 2005, Vol. 49, no. 10
Catalogue number 64-001-XIE (\$15/\$156).

Exports by Country, January to September 2005, Vol. 62, no. 3
Catalogue number 65-003-XMB (\$67/\$221).

Exports by Country, January to September 2005, Vol. 62, no. 3
Catalogue number 65-003-XPB (\$133/\$441).

Canada's Balance of International Payments, Third quarter 2005, Vol. 53, no. 3
Catalogue number 67-001-XIE (\$32/\$100).

Canadian Community Health Survey, Nutrition: General Health Component, Public Use Microdata File, 2004
Catalogue number 82M0024XCB
(free).

Canadian Community Health Survey, Nutrition: General Health Component, Public Use Microdata File Guide, 2004
Catalogue number 82M0024GPE (\$50).

Science, Innovation and Electronic Information Division Working Papers: Estimation of Research and Development Expenditures in the Higher Education Sector, 2003/04, no. 019
Catalogue number 88F0006XIE2005019
(free).

Science Statistics, Vol. 29, no. 6
Catalogue number 88-001-XIE
(free).

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MAJOR RELEASES

- **Urban transit, 1996** 2
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.
- **Productivity, hourly compensation and unit labour cost, 1996** 4
Growth in productivity among Canadian businesses and industry work output in 1996 accompanied by sluggish gains in employment and slow economic growth during the year.

OTHER RELEASES

- Map-wanted index: May 1997 3
- Short-term Expectations Survey 8
- Steel primary forms, week ending May 31, 1997 12
- Egg production: Apr 1997 12

PUBLICATIONS RELEASED 11



Statistics Canada's official release bulletin

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