

Friday, February 18, 2005
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## Major releases

- Wholesale trade, December 2004

Wholesale sales were up for the third consecutive month in December, rising $1.1 \%$ to $\$ 38.7$ billion. On the other hand, inventories grew strongly for the fourth consecutive quarter.

- Monthly Survey of Large Retailers, December 2004 and annual 2004 picked up $5.9 \%$ in 2004 after gaining $5.2 \%$ in 2003.
(continued on page 2)


## Labour Force Historical Review on CD-ROM <br> 1976 to 2004

The Labour Force Historical Review on CD-ROM is an easy-to-use tool for discovering labour market patterns or trends in seconds. This annual product is a comprehensive and timely database of Labour Force Survey estimates, containing thousands of cross-classified data series, spanning almost three decades. With over 100 tables, this product contains monthly and annual data on a wide range of subjects: labour force status by demographics; education and family characteristics; trends in the labour markets of metropolitan cities; employment and unemployment levels by economic regions; data by industry and occupation; wages and union membership, and much more.

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The CD-ROM Labour Force Historical Review, 2004 (71F0004XCB, \$209) is now available. See How to order products. Network and bulk prices are available on request.

For more information, contact Client Services (1-866-873-8788; 613-951-4090; labour@statcan.ca), Labour Statistics Division, or refer to the product profile online. From the Canadian Statistics page, choose The people, then Labour, employment and unemployment, and click on the banner ad for the Labour Force Historical Review.

Statistics
Canada

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## Other releases

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# Major releases 

## Wholesale trade <br> December 2004

Wholesale sales were up for the third consecutive month in December, rising $1.1 \%$ to $\$ 38.7$ billion. December's increase followed advances of $0.7 \%$ in November and $0.3 \%$ in October.

Total wholesale sales have generally been rising since September 2003 after a period of declines that started in the March 2003. Previously, wholesale sales went through a period of strong growth starting in the fall of 2001.


Wholesales sales were up 6.6\% in 2004 compared with a year earlier. This was a marked increase compared with the $2.4 \%$ gain in 2003. The strong sales in 2004 were partly attributable to flourishing international trade and the construction boom.

Increases were posted in 8 of the 15 trade groups (representing 65\% of total sales) in December. Apart from the strength of the motor vehicles group (+6.7\%), sizable increases were also registered by wholesalers of "other products" (+3.9\%) and of household and personal products (+3.2\%).

Despite the overall increase in sales, some groups (notably those related to business investment) posted losses. This was the case, for example, with computers and other electronic equipment ( $-4.4 \%$ ) and machinery and supplies (-2.7\%).

In constant dollars, wholesale sales increased 0.1\% in December.

## New motor vehicle wholesale sales rise sharply after five flat months

After lacklustre sales for five consecutive months, motor vehicle wholesalers saw their sales rise sharply in December ( $+6.7 \%$ ) as a result of dealers rebuilding their inventories. Despite December's solid showing, wholesalers in this industry experienced sluggish sales for a second consecutive year ( $+1.9 \%$ ), in sharp contrast to the $17.0 \%$ growth posted in 2002. The lacklustre performance in 2004 was largely due to weak retail sales of new vehicles, with dealers selling $3.1 \%$ fewer vehicles. Robust new vehicle wholesale sales in 2002 coincided with strong retail sales, which received a major boost from the incentives offered that year.

## Wholesale sales of "other products" up

The "other products" category increased $3.9 \%$ in December, owing mainly to strong gains by wholesalers of general merchandise. Wholesale sales in the "other products" category have generally risen since September 2003, propelled by higher prices for several of its components, including agricultural, chemical and recycled metals.

## Businesses reduce their demand for wholesale products

Sales of machinery and equipment fell $2.7 \%$ in December. This group is highly dependent on sales in the manufacturing sector. According to the latest release on the Survey of Business Conditions, manufacturers were concerned about the level of inventories and unfilled orders. Among wholesalers, machinery and equipment is the fourth largest group for sales and the largest for inventories. Since September 2003, this group has seen a surge in sales partially because of the rise in the Canadian dollar, which has made products (mostly imported) less expensive for Canadians to buy.

Wholesalers of computers and electronic products sold $\$ 2.6$ billion worth of goods and services in December, down $4.4 \%$ from November and the lowest level since April 2004. Cumulative sales for 2004 were up $5.8 \%$, a major improvement compared with the same period in 2003 when wholesale sales fell $1.1 \%$. The release of new products in 2004, along with promotions on some articles such as portable computers and cell phones, greatly helped to improve this result.

## Wholesale sales rise in six provinces

Strong wholesale sales in the food products group helped six provinces post increased sales in December, with Alberta ( $+3.6 \%$ ) and Newfoundland and Labrador $(+3.4 \%)$ leading the way. Alberta also benefited from higher sales of motor vehicles and "other products."

Wholesale sales advanced $1.8 \%$ in Ontario, mainly due to higher sales in the motor vehicles group. More than $75 \%$ of this trade group is concentrated in Ontario and it accounts for more than one-quarter of wholesale activity in the province. In 2004, wholesale sales in Ontario ( $+5.2 \%$ ) were slightly behind the national rate of $6.6 \%$. Ontario's relative weakness was largely attributable to the lacklustre performance of the motor vehicles group.

Saskatchewan (-6.7\%) suffered the biggest decline in December because of weakness in the machinery and equipment group and "other products" (which include chemical products and other agricultural supplies as well as seed and seed processing). These two groups, which account for roughly half of the province's wholesale trade, had posted strong growth in November.

## Inventories continue to grow

Total inventories grew substantially for a fourth consecutive month, advancing $1.6 \%$ in December.

Wholesalers of building materials and "other products" posted the largest increase in inventories. The trend in total inventories has generally been upward since November 2003, following a five-month period when wholesalers reduced their inventories.

The inventory-to-sales ratio was essentially unchanged in December at 1.21. This ratio had been rising since September 2004, owing to the weak wholesale sales and sharp increases in inventories. Previously the ratio went through a period of declines that began in October 2003.

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

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2401.

The December 2004 issue of Wholesale Trade (63-008-XIE, $\$ 15 / \$ 150$ ) will soon be available.

Wholesale trade estimates for January will be released on March 21.

For data or general information, contact Client Services (1-877-421-3067; 613-951-3549; 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), Distributive Trades Division.

Wholesale merchants' inventories and inventory-to-sales ratio

|  | $\begin{array}{r} \hline \text { December } \\ 2003 \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} \text { September } \\ 2004^{r} \end{array}$ | $\begin{gathered} \hline \text { October } \\ 2004^{r} \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{array}{r} \hline \text { November } \\ 2004^{\text {r }} \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} \hline \text { December } \\ 2004^{r} \end{array}$ | November 2004 to December 2004 | December 2003 to December 2004 | November December <br> $2004^{r}$ $2004^{p}$ |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Wholesale inventories |  |  |  |  |  |  | Inventory-to | ales ratio |
|  | seasonally adjusted |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | \$ millions |  |  |  |  | \% change |  |  |  |
| Inventories | 43,574 | 45,055 | 45,678 | 46,131 | 46,855 | 1.6 | 7.5 | 1.21 | 1.21 |
| Farm products | 108 | 165 | 161 | 164 | 157 | -4.0 | 45.0 | 0.35 | 0.33 |
| Food products | 4,823 | 4,319 | 4,300 | 4,263 | 4,183 | -1.9 | -13.3 | 0.66 | 0.65 |
| Alcohol and tobacco | 275 | 314 | 342 | 306 | 304 | -0.8 | 10.5 | 0.48 | 0.47 |
| Apparel | 1,406 | 1,430 | 1,431 | 1,439 | 1,460 | 1.5 | 3.9 | 2.03 | 2.07 |
| Household and personal products | 3,404 | 3,284 | 3,325 | 3,276 | 3,417 | 4.3 | 0.4 | 1.41 | 1.43 |
| Pharmaceuticals | 2,324 | 2,664 | 2,667 | 2,717 | 2,717 | 0.0 | 16.9 | 1.20 | 1.21 |
| Motor vehicles | 3,951 | 4,162 | 4,096 | 4,184 | 4,373 | 4.5 | 10.7 | 0.72 | 0.70 |
| Motor vehicle parts and accessories | 3,031 | 3,051 | 3,206 | 3,190 | 3,075 | -3.6 | 1.4 | 2.01 | 1.95 |
| Building supplies | 4,404 | 4,370 | 4,431 | 4,532 | 4,755 | 4.9 | 8.0 | 1.49 | 1.55 |
| Metal products | 1,535 | 2,209 | 2,332 | 2,413 | 2,476 | 2.6 | 61.4 | 1.94 | 2.00 |
| Lumber and millwork | 862 | 1,089 | 1,122 | 1,066 | 1,101 | 3.3 | 27.7 | 0.95 | 0.96 |
| Machinery and equipment | 8,165 | 8,523 | 8,527 | 8,686 | 8,783 | 1.1 | 7.6 | 2.47 | 2.57 |
| Computer and other electronic equipment | 1,638 | 1,415 | 1,389 | 1,400 | 1,418 | 1.3 | -13.4 | 0.52 | 0.55 |
| Office and professional equipment | 2,397 | 2,386 | 2,492 | 2,473 | 2,403 | -2.9 | 0.2 | 1.37 | 1.35 |
| Other products | 5,251 | 5,676 | 5,858 | 6,022 | 6,233 | 3.5 | 18.7 | 1.33 | 1.32 |

[^0]p preliminary.

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Wholesale merchants' sales

\begin{tabular}{|c|c|c|c|c|c|c|c|}
\hline \& \[
\begin{array}{r}
\hline \text { December } \\
2003
\end{array}
\] \& \[
\begin{array}{r}
\hline \text { September } \\
2004^{\text {r }}
\end{array}
\] \& \[
\begin{gathered}
\hline \text { October } \\
2004^{r}
\end{gathered}
\] \& November \(2004^{r}\) \& \[
\begin{array}{r}
\hline \text { December } \\
2004^{\mathrm{p}}
\end{array}
\] \& November
2004
to
December
2004 \& \begin{tabular}{r} 
December \\
2003 \\
to \\
December \\
2004 \\
\hline
\end{tabular} \\
\hline \& \multicolumn{7}{|c|}{seasonally adjusted} \\
\hline \& \multicolumn{5}{|c|}{\$ millions} \& \multicolumn{2}{|l|}{\% change} \\
\hline Total, wholesale sales \& 36,105 \& 37,840 \& 37,964 \& 38,220 \& 38,653 \& 1.1 \& 7.1 \\
\hline Farm products \& 418 \& 461 \& 457 \& 467 \& 480 \& 2.8 \& 14.9 \\
\hline Food, beverages and tobacco products Food products Alcohol and tobacco \& \[
\begin{array}{r}
6,961 \\
6,346 \\
614
\end{array}
\] \& \[
\begin{array}{r}
7,171 \\
6,499 \\
672
\end{array}
\] \& \[
\begin{array}{r}
7,121 \\
6,458 \\
663
\end{array}
\] \& \[
\begin{array}{r}
7,076 \\
6,438 \\
638
\end{array}
\] \& \[
\begin{array}{r}
7,102 \\
6,455 \\
647
\end{array}
\] \& 0.4
0.3
1.5 \& 2.0
1.7
5.3 \\
\hline \begin{tabular}{l}
Personal and household goods \\
Apparel \\
Household and personal products \\
Pharmaceuticals
\end{tabular} \& \[
\begin{array}{r}
5,036 \\
733 \\
2,238 \\
2,065
\end{array}
\] \& \[
\begin{array}{r}
\mathbf{5 , 2 2 2} \\
708 \\
2,342 \\
2,172
\end{array}
\] \& \[
\begin{array}{r}
\mathbf{5 , 1 0 8} \\
703 \\
2,156 \\
2,250
\end{array}
\] \& \[
\begin{array}{r}
5,296 \\
709 \\
2,316 \\
2,270
\end{array}
\] \& \[
\begin{array}{r}
\mathbf{5 , 3 3 5} \\
704 \\
2,390 \\
2,241
\end{array}
\] \& 0.7
-0.7
3.2
-1.3 \& 5.9
-4.0
6.8
8.5 \\
\hline \begin{tabular}{l}
Automotive products \\
Motor vehicles \\
Motor vehicle parts and accessories
\end{tabular} \& \[
\begin{aligned}
\& 7,487 \\
\& 6,098 \\
\& 1,389
\end{aligned}
\] \& \[
\begin{aligned}
\& \mathbf{7 , 4 0 4} \\
\& 5,901 \\
\& 1,503
\end{aligned}
\] \& \[
\begin{aligned}
\& 7,431 \\
\& 5,905 \\
\& 1,526
\end{aligned}
\] \& \[
\begin{aligned}
\& 7,419 \\
\& 5,835 \\
\& 1,584
\end{aligned}
\] \& \[
\begin{aligned}
\& 7,799 \\
\& 6,225 \\
\& 1,574
\end{aligned}
\] \& 5.1
6.7
-0.6 \& 4.2
2.1
13.3 \\
\hline Building materials Building supplies Metal products Lumber and millwork \& \[
\begin{array}{r}
4,537 \\
2,734 \\
852 \\
951
\end{array}
\] \& \[
\begin{aligned}
\& \mathbf{5 , 2 6 8} \\
\& 2,948 \\
\& 1,199 \\
\& 1,122
\end{aligned}
\] \& \(\mathbf{5 , 4 0 2}\)
2,987
1,249
1,166 \& 5,414
3,049
1,243
1,122 \& \[
\begin{aligned}
\& \mathbf{5 , 4 5 5} \\
\& 3,074 \\
\& 1,236 \\
\& 1,145
\end{aligned}
\] \& 0.8
0.8
-0.5
2.1 \& 20.2
12.4
45.1
20.4 \\
\hline Machinery and electronic equipment Machinery and equipment Computer and other electronic equipment Office and professional equipment \& \[
\begin{aligned}
\& 7,253 \\
\& 2,975 \\
\& 2,640 \\
\& 1,638
\end{aligned}
\] \& 8,023
3,539

2,662
1,821 \& 7,908
3,494
2,674
1,740 \& $\mathbf{8 , 0 2 2}$
3,510

2,705
1,806 \& 7,777
3,415
2,586
1,777 \& -3.1
-2.7
-4.4
-1.6 \& 7.2
14.8
-2.1
8.5 <br>
\hline Other products \& 4,415 \& 4,290 \& 4,536 \& 4,528 \& 4,705 \& 3.9 \& 6.6 <br>
\hline Sales, province and territory Newfoundland and Labrador \& 219 \& 189 \& 207 \& 207 \& 214 \& 3.4 \& -2.5 <br>
\hline Prince Edward Island \& 47 \& 50 \& 49 \& 50 \& 49 \& -2.0 \& 4.2 <br>
\hline Nova Scotia \& 518 \& 501 \& 505 \& 514 \& 483 \& -6.1 \& -6.8 <br>
\hline New Brunswick \& 442 \& 454 \& 442 \& 443 \& 451 \& 1.6 \& 1.9 <br>
\hline Quebec \& 6,755 \& 7,399 \& 7,441 \& 7,478 \& 7,458 \& -0.3 \& 10.4 <br>
\hline Ontario \& 19,218 \& 19,468 \& 19,382 \& 19,544 \& 19,886 \& 1.8 \& 3.5 <br>
\hline Manitoba \& 881 \& 945 \& 918 \& 968 \& 970 \& 0.1 \& 10.1 <br>
\hline Saskatchewan \& 927 \& 1,068 \& 1,061 \& 1,132 \& 1,055 \& -6.7 \& 13.8 <br>
\hline Alberta \& 3,643 \& 3,984 \& 4,096 \& 4,102 \& 4,248 \& 3.6 \& 16.6 <br>
\hline British Columbia \& 3,433 \& 3,755 \& 3,837 \& 3,754 \& 3,810 \& 1.5 \& 11.0 <br>
\hline Yukon \& 7 \& 7 \& 7 \& 9 \& 11 \& 14.7 \& 54.3 <br>
\hline Northwest Territories \& 14 \& 15 \& 17 \& 16 \& 18 \& 10.0 \& 26.1 <br>
\hline Nunavut \& 1 \& 5 \& 3 \& 3 \& 2 \& -24.9 \& 130.2 <br>
\hline
\end{tabular}

[^1]
## Monthly Survey of Large Retailers

December 2004 and annual 2004
Sales for large retailers picked up $5.9 \%$ in 2004 after gaining $5.2 \%$ in 2003. Between 2000 and 2002, the rate of growth ranged from $5.7 \%$ to $6.3 \%$. The group of large retailers saw sales rise in all major commodity groups in 2004, with increases ranging from $1.9 \%$ to $10.6 \%$.

## Annual sales by commodity for the group of large retailers

|  | 2003 | 2004 | $\begin{array}{r} 2003 \\ \text { to } \\ 2004 \\ \hline \end{array}$ | 20032004 |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Unadjusted |  |  | Share of sales |  |
|  | \$ millions |  | \% change | \% |  |
| Commodity |  |  |  |  |  |
| Health and personal care products | 8,396 | 9,040 | 7.7 | 9.6 | 9.8 |
| Clothing, footwear and accessories | 15,647 | 16,159 | 3.3 | 17.9 | 17.5 |
| Furniture, home furnishings and electronics | 12,775 | 13,970 | 9.4 | 14.6 | 15.1 |
| Housewares | 4,034 | 4,110 | 1.9 | 4.6 | 4.4 |
| Hardware, lawn and garden products | 3,385 | 3,745 | 10.6 | 3.9 | 4.0 |
| Sporting and leisure goods | 4,666 | 4,926 | 5.6 | 5.3 | 5.3 |
| All other goods and services | 10,083 | 10,631 | 5.4 | 11.5 | 11.5 |
| Total | 87,347 | 92,486 | 5.9 | 100 | 100 |

In December, sales dipped 0.9\% from November to $\$ 7.4$ billion. Fourth quarter sales stagnated ( $+0.1 \%$ ) after three strong quarters. Despite the recent slowing, sales at large retailers have generally increased throughout 2004 after rebounding from a weak December in 2003. Growth in sales was steady between April and November 2003, after having more volatility in late 2002 and into early 2003.

## Big ticket items and home renovations led sales in 2004

With interest rates at near-record lows and the housing market booming, large retailers were looking at an encouraging sales environment in 2004. In addition, expansion and product diversification by large retailers encouraged growth in sales of many commodities during the year.

Amongst the major commodity groups, hardware, lawn and garden products posted the strongest increase at large retailers in 2004. Sales of lawn and garden products, such as outdoor power equipment and accessories, gained $13.8 \%$. Sales of hardware and

## Note to readers

This survey includes large retailers mainly in the food, clothing, home furnishings, electronics, sporting goods, and general merchandise sectors. These retailers represent approximately $26 \%$ of total annual retail sales, or 35\% excluding recreational and motor vehicle dealers.

All annual comparisons in this release use the sum of unadjusted monthly estimates. As usual, the rest of the analysis is based on seasonally adjusted estimates. Results from the Monthly Survey of Large Retailers are classified according to the 2002 North American Industrial Classification System.
home renovation products gained $7.5 \%$ in 2004, driven by a sizeable increase in the sale of hand and power tools and accessories (+11.2\%).

Low interest rates and the housing boom may also have aided furniture and electronics sales ( $+9.4 \%$ ), which were popular items in 2004. Big ticket items such as indoor furniture ( $+10.4 \%$ ), as well as televisions and audio-video equipment ( $+10.2 \%$ ), spurred the growth in this commodity group.

Sales by commodity for the group of large retailers

$r$ Revised figures.
$p$ Preliminary figures.
Health and personal care products posted above average sales growth of $7.7 \%$ in 2004 compared with a year earlier. This was only the second time in eight years that this commodity group did not have the most sizeable annual increase for large retailers. Prescription drug sales ( $+15.0 \%$ ) led the sales growth, accounting for about two-thirds of the gain in 2004 as large retailers continued to expand into the pharmaceutical
market. However, non-prescription drug sales remained virtually unchanged in 2004, after strong growth in 2003. Personal care products such as cosmetics and fragrances had another year of weak growth, gaining only $1.2 \%$ over 2003.

Sales of sporting and leisure goods at large retailers were just under the average level of growth, increasing by $5.6 \%$ compared with 2003. Sales of pre-recorded CDs, DVDs, and video tapes jumped 13.4\% in 2004 as consumers expanded their home movie and music collections. According to the Survey of Household Spending, the percentage of homes with a DVD player went from $36 \%$ in 2002 to over $50 \%$ in 2003 and private sector estimates claim further growth in 2004. Meanwhile, sales of sporting goods, books and toys each posted smaller increases of about $3 \%$.

Sales by commodity for the group of large retailers


[^2]$p$ Preliminary figures.
The other goods and services category was up 5.4\% compared with 2003. A $10.5 \%$ rise in gasoline prices helped drive up automotive fuel, oil and additive sales, which gained $21.1 \%$ at large retailers. Another mover in this category was pet food sales, which were up 9.4\% compared with 2003. Tobacco sales provided a braking effect, dropping $4.1 \%$ in 2004 at large retailers despite a rise in price.

Of the major commodity groups, housewares had the weakest sales growth in 2004. Sales growth of houseware products have been below the average rate of increase at large retailers since 2000. Household cleaning supplies gained $2.8 \%$ compared with 2003, while tableware and other household supplies both increased a subdued 1.0\%.

## December sales slip slightly

In December, sales of food and beverages, as well as houseware sales posted strong declines for the group of large retailers. In the other direction, hardware, lawn and garden products, sporting and leisure goods, and furniture, home furnishings and electronics had strong sales.

Food and beverage sales slumped $3.6 \%$ in December, erasing a similar sized gain in November. Excluding sales of food and beverages, sales at large retailers were up slightly in December.

Among the major commodity groups, hardware lawn and garden products posted the strongest increase in December. Sales of lawn and garden related products, which include items such as real Christmas trees, were up 9.0\% for large retailers in December. Meanwhile, sales of hardware and home renovation products remained virtually unchanged from November. In recent months, sales of hardware, lawn and garden products have been growing strongly, after a leveling out period which started in January 2004. Prior to January, sales had been moving strongly upwards throughout 2003.

Furniture, home furnishing and electronic sales (+1.2\%) recovered somewhat in December, following two months of sharp declines. Most of the strength was attributable to a $5.0 \%$ surge in the sales of televisions and audio-video equipment. Sales of furniture, home furnishings and electronics have leveled out in recent months, after a period of growth which started in November 2003.

## 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 January 2005 will be released on March 18. Revisions to adjusted and unadjusted data for 2004 will also be available on March 18.

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

## Other releases

## Apartment Building Construction Price Index

Fourth quarter 2004
The composite price index for apartment building construction (1997=100) was 127.9 in the fourth quarter, up $1.2 \%$ from the third quarter and $8.2 \%$ higher than the fourth quarter of 2003. Higher prices for construction materials was the main factor leading to the year-to-year percentage increase. It was also the largest year-to-year advance since the index was first published in the first quarter 1988.

Edmonton recorded the highest quarterly change (+1.4\%), followed by Vancouver (+1.3\%), Calgary (+1.2\%), Ottawa-Gatineau, Ontario part (+1.1\%), Montréal and Toronto (+1.0\% each) and Halifax (+0.7\%).

On a year-over-year basis, Vancouver experienced the highest gain from the fourth quarter of $2003(+11.3 \%)$, followed by Toronto (+7.7\%), Ottawa-Gatineau, Ontario part (+7.2\%), Montréal (+6.9\%), Calgary (+6.8\%), Edmonton (+6.7\%) and Halifax (+6.4\%).

Note: The apartment building construction price indexes provide an indication of new construction cost changes in six census metropolitan areas (CMAs) (Halifax, Montréal, Toronto, Calgary, Edmonton and Vancouver) and the Ontario part of the Ottawa-Gatineau CMA. Besides each of the CMA indexes and the composite index, there are further breakdowns of cost changes by trade groups within the building (structural, architectural, mechanical and electrical). These price indexes are derived from surveys of general and special trade-group contractors who report on the categories of costs (material, labour, equipment, taxes, overhead and profits) relevant to the detailed construction specifications included in the surveys.

Apartment Building Construction Price Index ${ }^{1}$
(1997=100)

|  | Fourth <br> quarter <br> 2004 | Fourth quarter <br> 2003 to <br> fourth | Third to <br> fourth <br> quarter <br> quarter 2004 |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: |
|  |  | $\%$ change |  |

1. Go online to view the census subdivisions that comprise the census metropolitan areas.

## Available on CANSIM: table 327-0040.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey numbers, including related surveys, 2317 and 2330.

The fourth quarter 2004 issue of Capital Expenditure Price Statistics (62-007-XPB, \$26/\$85) will be available in April.

For more information or to enquire about the concepts, methods and data quality of this release, contact Rebecca McDougall (613-951-9606; fax: 613-951-1539; infounit @statcan.ca), Prices Division.

## Aircraft movement statistics <br> January 2005 (preliminary)

The 42 Canadian airports with NAV CANADA air traffic control towers reported 280,809 aircraft take-offs and landings in January 2005, up 5.0\% compared with January 2004 ( 267,541 movements). This was the first increase in year-over-year comparisons of monthly movements since February 2004. Year-over-year increases in aircraft movements were reported by 25 airports in January 2005 compared with January 2004. Declines of greater than 20\% were reported by 3 airports this month compared with 14 airports in December 2004.

Itinerant movements (flights from one airport to another) increased by $4.8 \%$ (+9,722 movements) compared with January 2004. Local movements (flights that remain in the vicinity of the airport) increased by $5.5 \%$ (+3,546 movements) in January 2005, the first increase since February 2004.

The top 10 airports in terms of volumes of itinerant movements in January showed year-over-year variations ranging from a 10.4\% increase (+2,236 movements) at Vancouver International to a decline of 6.5\% (-399 movements) at Victoria International. Of the top 10 airports, 8 recorded increases in itinerant movements compared with 4 airports in December 2004.

The top 10 airports in terms of local movements showed year-over-year variations ranging from a 53.8\% increase (+1,498 movements) at Toronto/Buttonville Municipal to a $39.2 \%$ decline ( $-2,872$ movements) at Boundary Bay. Of the top 10 airports, 7 recorded increases in local movements compared with 5 airports in December 2004.

The January issue of Aircraft Movement Statistics, Vol. 4, no. 1 (51F0001PIE, TP1496, free) is now available on our Web site. From the Our products and services page, under Browse our Internet publications, choose Free, then Transport and warehousing.

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

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), Transportation Division.

## Stocks of frozen poultry meat

February 1, 2005 (preliminary)
Stocks of frozen poultry meat in cold storage on February 1 totalled 50,304 metric tonnes, up 9.4\% from the same day in 2004.

Available on CANSIM: tables 003-0023 and 003-0024.
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), Agriculture Division.

## Refined petroleum products

October 2004

Data on the supply and disposition and domestic sales of refined petroleum products are now available for October 2004.

Available on CANSIM: tables 134-0001 to 134-0004.
Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2150.

The October 2004 issue of Refined Petroleum Products, Vol. 59, no. 10 (45-004-XIB, \$18/\$166) will soon be 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 toll free (1-866-873-8789; 613-951-9497; energ@statcan.ca), Manufacturing, Construction and Energy Division.

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Catalogue number 51F0001PIE (free).

Energy Statistics Handbook, Third quarter 2004 Catalogue number 57-601-XCB (\$54/\$161).

Energy Statistics Handbook, Third quarter 2004
Catalogue number 57-601-XIE (\$38/\$107).
Labour Force Historical Review, 2004
Catalogue number 71F0004XCB (\$209).
Guide to the Labour Force Survey, 2005
Catalogue number 71-543-GIE
(free).

Labour Force Survey Products and Services, 2005 Catalogue number 71-544-XIE (free).

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## Release dates: February 21 to 25

(Release dates are subject to change.)

| Release <br> date | Title | Reference period |
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| 25 | Financial statistics for enterprises | Fourth quarter 2004 |
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| 25 |  | December 2004 |


[^0]:    $r$ revised.

[^1]:    $r$ Revised.
    p Preliminary.

[^2]:    Revised figures.

