



# The Daily

## Statistics Canada

**Thursday, June 30, 2005**

Released at 8:30 a.m. Eastern time

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### Extraction System of Agricultural Statistics CD-ROM 2005

The 2005 *Extraction System of Agricultural Statistics CD-ROM*, released today, represents a cooperative effort between Statistics Canada and Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada. It contains an extensive collection of the most requested physical and financial data on farming.

This menu-driven software allows you to extract data by census agricultural region, farm type and revenue class. The 2005 version of Extraction System of Agricultural Statistics (ESAS) contains a full year of new data and also provides a revised user's guide and reference manual.

The flexibility of ESAS lets you reorganize your reports, perform calculations and create graphs. You can also view selected tables on screen, print them or export them for use in other applications. Whether you are interested in dairy production in Quebec or off-farm income in Saskatchewan, ESAS takes only a few minutes to let you access all the current and historical agricultural data you need.

The 2005 *Extraction System of Agricultural Statistics CD-ROM* (21F0001XCB, \$250) is now available. See *How to order products*. The update can be purchased for \$175. A 50% educational discount is also available. To order, call toll-free (1-800-267-6677). For more information, call the Agriculture Division toll-free (1-800-465-1991; [agriculture@statcan.ca](mailto:agriculture@statcan.ca)).



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<b>New products</b>	12
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<b>Release dates:</b> July 2005	14
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## Releases

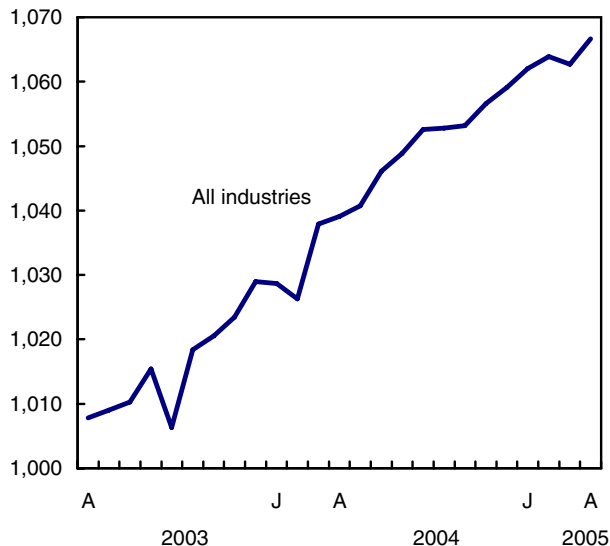
### Gross domestic product by industry

April 2005

Economic activity bounced back 0.4% in April after declining 0.1% in March, boosted by a rebound in oil extraction, strike recovery in education and higher retail sales. A partial resumption of activity in the tar sands after first quarter production difficulties propelled oil extraction. The end of post-secondary student strikes in Quebec restored education services, while retail sales gained on the strength of new car sales.

#### Economic activity rebounds

GDP millions of chained \$ (1997)



Industrial production (the output of factories, mines and utilities) advanced 0.7% in April. Manufacturers' output increased by 0.3% as wood products manufacturing recovered from a March decline. Mining and oil and gas extraction gained 2.4%, mostly due to oil extraction in the tar sands. Output of utilities decreased 0.3% as natural gas distribution dropped by 9.0% due to a warmer than usual April in most parts of Canada and the northern United States. The US index of industrial production declined 0.3% due to decreases in manufacturing and utilities, while the mining sector edged up.

#### Note to readers

In September 2002 (reference month: July 2002), the monthly gross domestic product (GDP) by industry program introduced the first stage of a conversion to a Chain Fisher formula, by adopting annually chained Fisher Input-output benchmarks in its calculation of real GDP for 1997 to 2001. However, beginning with January 2002 onwards, the monthly estimates are derived by chaining a Laspeyres volume index at 2001 prices to the prior period. The monthly GDP data are expressed in chained dollars with 1997 as the reference year. This conversion brings the monthly GDP by industry estimates more in line with the quarterly expenditure-based GDP data, chained quarterly. For more information, see the Chain Fisher Volume Index page on our Web site.

#### Revisions

With this release of monthly GDP by industry, revisions have been made back to January 2004.

#### Conversion to NAICS 2002

With the September 2005 release (July reference month), the monthly GDP by industry program will convert to the 2002 North American Industrial Classification System (NAICS) from NAICS 1997. We are also planning to change the industry detail published. The goal is to reduce the number of industries whose contribution to total economic activity is less relevant, and to increase the detail provided for those that have become more important, such as some of the service industries. With these changes, the monthly GDP program will better reflect the current structure of the Canadian economy.

More detailed information on these planned changes will be available soon.

#### Oil extraction resumes while mild weather reduces the demand for natural gas

Output in the mining and oil and gas extraction sector increased 2.4% in April, mostly due to a partial resumption of oil extraction in the tar sands area after a series of problems hampered production in the first quarter of 2005. The jump in crude petroleum production resulted in a 3.9% increase in the pipeline transportation of crude oil and other products. Oil and gas extraction jumped only 2.2% as natural gas extraction dipped slightly.

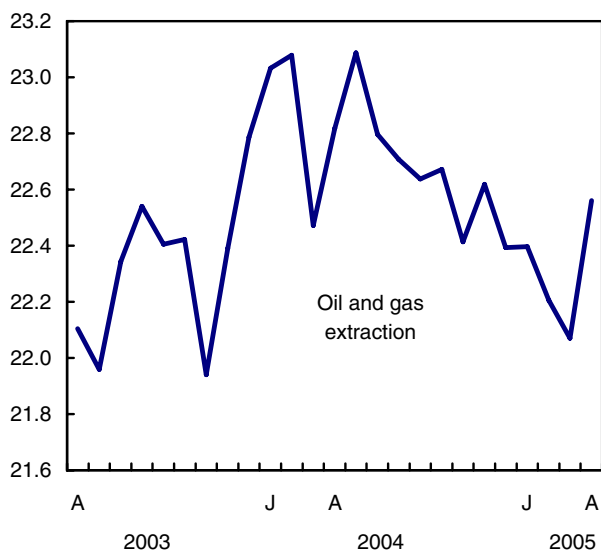
Milder than usual weather in April in most parts of the country and in the northern United States lowered the demand for natural gas and reduced the output of related activities, such as distribution (-9.0%) and pipeline transportation (-5.0%). The energy sector increased by 0.9% despite the general decrease in natural gas related industries. Output of the energy sector excluding these industries increased 2.6%.

Mining activity increased 3.7% on the strength of higher output by copper, nickel, lead and zinc ore mines (+9.5%) as other zinc mines replaced those that closed permanently in previous months. A strike brought iron ore mining down 17%. This industry also suffered from

strike activity in 2004. The output of non-metallic mineral mines increased 5.7% in April.

### Oil extraction recovers

GDP billions of chained \$ (1997)



### Automotive sales boost retailing and wholesaling activities

Retailing activity gained 1.4% in April, boosted by new car sales. Activity in retail stores excluding new car dealerships was a robust 0.7%, with increases for many store types. The largest gains were in home centres and hardware stores, clothing stores, and furniture, home furnishings and electronics stores. The largest decreases were recorded in supermarkets and gas stations.

Wholesaling activity increased 0.3%, bolstered by sales of motor vehicle products, building products and miscellaneous products. Most wholesale trade groups however saw decreased activity in April, especially machinery and electronic equipment. Excluding motor vehicle products, wholesale trade fell 0.4%.

### Manufacturing regains some lost ground

Manufacturing output increased 0.3% in April, regaining some of the ground lost in February and March. Of the 21 major groups, 13 advanced and they accounted for 58% of manufacturing output. Wood products rose 4.9%, pushed by a rebound in the output of sawmills after unfavourable weather and strike activity hampered West Coast production in March.

The manufacturing of machinery edged up 0.1%, restrained by a sharp decrease in general-purpose machinery (-5.7%). Excluding this industry, output of machinery increased 1.9%. There were widespread decreases in the manufacturing of chemicals (-1.2%), clothing (-6.2%), and paper products (-1.2%).

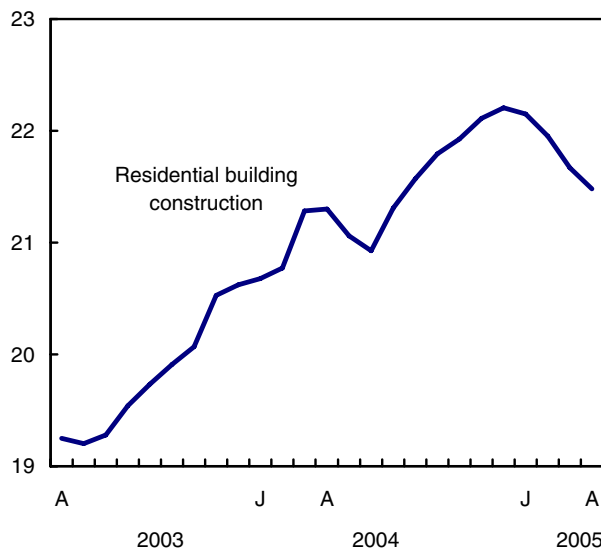
Motor vehicle manufacturing declined a further 2.6% while parts production increased 2.4%. Other notable increases were reported by manufacturers of aluminum (+3.8%), cement and concrete (+3.9%) and meat products (+2.9%).

### Residential construction continues to slide

Residential construction was down a further 0.9% in April marking a fourth consecutive monthly decline. Since the beginning of the year, residential construction activity has decreased 3.3%. In April, a decrease in the construction of single-detached dwellings more than offset an increase in multi-units structures. Nonetheless, housing starts increased in all urban areas except British Columbia, while the stock of newly completed but unoccupied apartments and row units continued to swell.

### Another decline in residential construction

GDP billions of chained \$ (1997)



Non-residential building construction dipped by 0.1% in April. An increase in the construction of commercial structures was more than offset by decreases in industrial and institutional structures. The value of building permits issued however declined for

commercial and institutional structures in April, while the value of industrial permits increased for the third month in a row.

## Other industries

Educational services shot back up 1.6% after the end of strikes by post-secondary students in Quebec. The rebound in economic activity in April resulted in an increase of 1.0% in truck transportation.

Available on CANSIM: tables 379-0017 to 379-0022.

**Definitions, data sources and methods:** survey numbers, including related surveys, 1301 and 1302.

The April 2005 issue of *Gross Domestic Product by Industry*, Vol. 19, no. 4 (15-001-XIE, \$12/\$118) is now available. See *How to order products*. A print-on-demand version is available at a different price.

Data on gross domestic product by industry for May 2005 will be released on July 29.

For general information or to order data, contact Yolande Chantigny (1-800-887-IMAD; [imad@statcan.ca](mailto:imad@statcan.ca)). To enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Bernard Lefrançois (613-951-3622), Industry Measures and Analysis Division.

## Monthly gross domestic product by industry at basic prices in chained dollars (1997)

	November 2004 <sup>r</sup>	December 2004 <sup>r</sup>	January 2005 <sup>r</sup>	February 2005 <sup>r</sup>	March 2005 <sup>r</sup>	April 2005 <sup>p</sup>	April 2005	April 2004 to April 2005
seasonally adjusted								
	month-to-month % change					millions of dollars <sup>1</sup>	% change	
<b>All Industries</b>	<b>0.3</b>	<b>0.2</b>	<b>0.3</b>	<b>0.2</b>	<b>-0.1</b>	<b>0.4</b>	<b>1,066,659</b>	<b>2.7</b>
<b>Goods-producing industries</b>	<b>0.3</b>	<b>0.3</b>	<b>0.2</b>	<b>-0.4</b>	<b>-0.6</b>	<b>0.4</b>	<b>331,695</b>	<b>1.7</b>
Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting	-0.2	-0.7	0.2	-0.5	0.1	-0.9	23,795	1.4
Mining and oil and gas extraction	0.1	-0.8	0.1	-1.3	-1.2	2.4	37,465	-1.3
Utilities	0.8	2.3	-1.3	-0.7	1.5	-0.3	26,808	6.1
Construction	0.4	0.7	0.1	-0.1	-0.2	-0.1	59,674	2.1
Manufacturing	0.2	0.3	0.5	-0.1	-0.9	0.3	183,893	2.0
<b>Services-producing industries</b>	<b>0.4</b>	<b>0.2</b>	<b>0.3</b>	<b>0.4</b>	<b>0.1</b>	<b>0.3</b>	<b>736,362</b>	<b>3.1</b>
Wholesale trade	1.7	0.9	-0.3	1.4	0.7	0.3	70,024	7.0
Retail trade	-0.2	-1.3	2.4	1.3	-0.3	1.4	62,624	6.2
Transportation and warehousing	-0.2	0.4	0.6	0.1	-0.2	-0.2	51,082	2.6
Information and cultural industries	0.7	0.5	0.4	0.2	0.3	0.2	44,183	3.4
Finance, insurance and real estate	0.4	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.2	0.1	215,437	2.9
Professional, scientific and technical services	-0.0	-0.0	0.1	0.2	0.2	-0.0	46,735	0.9
Administrative and waste management services	0.4	0.3	-0.1	0.3	0.5	0.5	22,510	2.4
Education services	0.4	0.6	0.3	0.2	-1.0	1.6	46,409	3.6
Health care and social assistance	-0.0	-0.0	-0.2	0.2	0.3	0.3	63,285	2.4
Arts, entertainment and recreation	0.8	1.3	-1.5	1.2	-0.3	-0.2	9,392	-2.7
Accommodation and food services	0.0	0.3	-0.1	0.4	-0.2	-0.1	23,662	2.9
Other services (except public administration)	0.1	0.1	-0.2	0.5	0.3	0.0	24,902	1.6
Public administration	0.6	0.3	0.1	0.1	0.3	0.2	58,022	1.4
<b>Other aggregations</b>								
Industrial production	0.3	0.2	0.2	-0.4	-0.7	0.7	248,652	1.7
Non-durable manufacturing industries	0.1	0.1	-0.3	-0.3	-0.4	-0.5	73,380	-0.7
Durable manufacturing industries	0.3	0.4	1.1	0.1	-1.3	0.8	110,448	4.0
Business sector industries	0.3	0.2	0.3	0.2	-0.1	0.3	907,252	2.7
Non-business sector industries	0.4	0.3	0.0	0.2	-0.1	0.7	159,638	2.3
Information and communication technologies industries	0.8	0.5	0.7	0.2	0.7	0.2	63,793	5.7
Energy sector	0.7	0.5	-0.8	-0.9	-0.5	0.9	60,466	0.6

<sup>r</sup> Revised figures.

<sup>p</sup> Preliminary figures.

1. Millions of chained dollars (1997), seasonally adjusted at annual rates.

## Industrial product and raw materials price indexes

May 2005

Monthly prices for manufactured goods at the factory gate were unchanged in May, following five consecutive months of increases. Raw materials prices were down in May from April as crude oil prices declined for a second straight month.

Prices charged by manufacturers, as measured by the Industrial Product Price Index (IPPI), were unchanged from April to May. Lower prices for petroleum products and lumber and other wood products were offset by higher prices for motor vehicles and other transport equipment, meat, fish and dairy products, primary metal products, chemical products and electrical and communication products.

The 12-month change in the IPPI was down 0.3% in May, a significant drop from the 1.5% increase in April.

The Raw Materials Price Index (RMPI) fell 3.1% from April to May, following a 1.5% decrease the previous month. There were price decreases in mineral fuels, wood products as well as ferrous materials.

Compared to May of last year, raw materials cost factories 7.0% more, a significant decline from the 12-month increase of 13.5% for April.

In May, the IPPI (1997=100) stood at 111.4, unchanged from its revised level in April. The RMPI (1997=100) reached 138.0, down from a revised level of 142.4 in April.

### IPPI: Lower prices for petroleum and lumber products

On a month-over-month basis, manufacturers' prices were unchanged in May following a 0.4% increase in April.

Petroleum and coal products prices decreased 3.4% compared to April as gasoline and fuel oil prices declined for the first time in four months. If petroleum and coal product prices had been excluded, the IPPI would have increased 0.4% rather than remaining unchanged.

Lumber and other wood products were down 2.6% as a result of a slowdown in construction activity and lower demand.

Prices for motor vehicles and other transport equipment and electrical and communication products increased 1.0% and 0.6% respectively, mainly because of a weaker Canadian dollar.

Meat, fish and dairy products were up 1.0% as higher prices were reported for pork and beef products.

### Note to readers

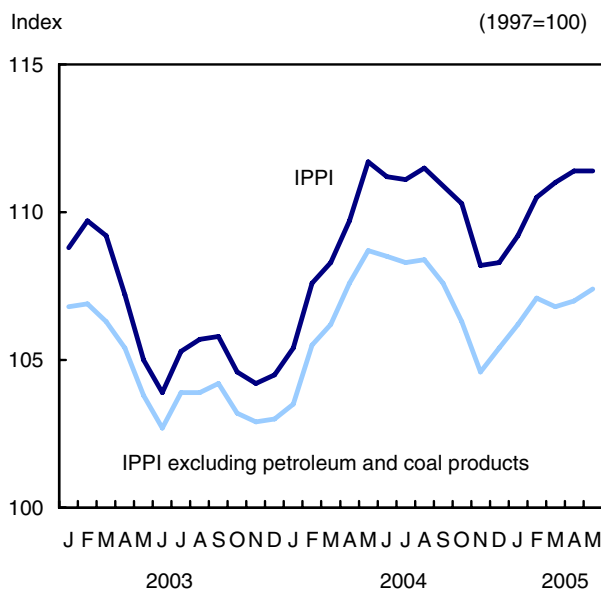
The **Industrial Product Price Index (IPPI)** reflects the prices that producers in Canada receive as the goods leave the plant gate. It does not reflect what the consumer pays. Unlike the Consumer Price Index, the IPPI excludes indirect taxes and all the costs that occur between the time a good leaves the plant and the time the final user takes possession of it, including the transportation, wholesale, and retail costs.

Canadian producers export many goods. They often quote their prices in foreign currencies, particularly for motor vehicles, pulp, paper, and wood products. Therefore, a rise or fall in the value of the Canadian dollar against its US counterpart affects the IPPI.

The **Raw Materials Price Index (RMPI)** reflects the prices paid by Canadian manufacturers for key raw materials. Many of these prices are set in a world market. Unlike the IPPI, the RMPI includes goods not produced in Canada.

Primary metal products increased 0.6% as prices for nickel products were up by 13.5%. Price increases were also observed for chemical products and machinery and equipment.

### Prices for manufactured goods unchanged in May



### IPPI: Motor vehicles and lumber products are the major factors in the 12-month change

On a 12-month basis, the IPPI was down 0.3% in May. Motor vehicles and other transport equipment were down 6.2% from a year ago, the consequence of a stronger Canadian dollar.

Lumber and other wood products declined 15.0% from May 2004 to May 2005, as year-over-year price decreases were recorded for softwood lumber (-17.6%), particleboard (-42.1%) and softwood plywood excluding Douglas Fir (-38.0%).

There were also 12-month price declines for fruit, vegetable and feed products (-4.2%), meat, fish and dairy products (-3.7%), electrical and communication products (-2.0%) and pulp and paper products (-1.0%).

However, prices for petroleum and coal products rose 11.0% from May 2004, dampening the 12-month decrease. If petroleum and coal product prices had been excluded, the IPPI would have fallen 1.2% rather than decreasing 0.3% from a year ago.

Prices for primary metal products also increased, rising 8.1% from May 2004. Primary steel and primary nickel products were the major contributors to this annual increase.

Chemical products increased 5.3%, due to higher prices for organic industrial chemicals and synthetic resins. Year-over-year increases were also observed for metal fabricated products, rubber, leather and plastic fabricated products, non-metallic mineral products as well as furniture and fixtures.

#### **RMPI: Crude oil prices continue to push down the cost of raw materials**

On a monthly basis, raw materials prices fell 3.1% in May. Mineral fuels were down 6.0% compared to April, as crude oil prices decreased 7.2% due to higher levels of inventories and a slight decline in demand.

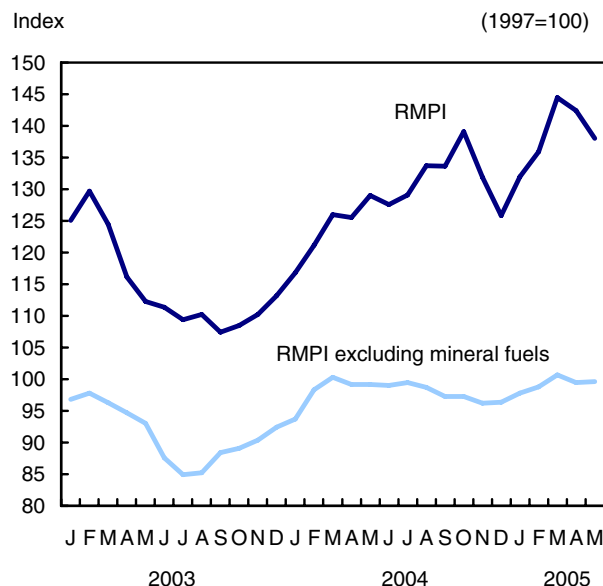
Ferrous materials decreased 3.3% from the previous month, as iron and steel scrap prices were down 6.5%. Prices for wood products, more specifically softwood logs and bolts, also decreased 1.7% in May.

Prices for non-ferrous metals were up 1.6%, mainly due to higher prices for radio-active concentrates as well as nickel concentrates. Prices for vegetable products also increased 1.2%, with higher prices observed for coffee, natural rubber and canola. Animals and animal products increased 0.3%, as prices for swine for slaughter were up 6.0% from the previous month.

On a 12-month basis, the price of raw materials rose 7.0% in May, down from the double digit increases observed in the last 12 months. Mineral fuels were up 14.2% with crude oil prices rising 17.3%. If mineral fuels had been excluded, the RMPI would have only increased 0.4% instead of rising 7.0%.

Prices for non-ferrous metals rose 13.4%, mainly because of higher prices for radio-active concentrates, zinc, nickel, copper and lead concentrates. Higher prices were also observed for ferrous materials and non-metallic mineral products, which increased 18.7% and 7.9% respectively from a year ago.

#### **Raw materials prices decrease again**



Vegetable products were down 14.5% from May 2004, as prices were down for corn, wheat, soybeans and canola. Wood products also decreased 8.7% from a year ago. Animal and animal products prices were almost unchanged from a year ago (-0.1%). Lower prices for swine for slaughter were offset by higher prices of unprocessed whole milk.

#### **Impact of the exchange rate**

Between April and May, the value of the Canadian dollar fell 1.6% against the US dollar. As a result, if the impact of the exchange rate had been excluded, the IPPI would have declined 0.4% instead of remaining unchanged from April.

On a 12-month basis, the value of the Canadian dollar rose 9.8% against the US dollar. If the impact of the exchange rate had been excluded, producer prices would have risen 2.2% between May 2004 and May 2005, rather than their actual 0.3% decline.

#### **Prices for intermediate goods are down**

Prices for intermediate goods decreased 0.2% from April. Lower prices for petroleum products and lumber products were the major contributors to the decrease.

Higher prices for primary metal products; motor vehicles; chemical products; fruit, vegetable and feed products; and electrical and communication products partially offset the monthly decrease.

Producers of intermediate goods received 1.2% more for their goods in May 2005 than in May 2004.

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Higher prices for petroleum products; primary metal products; chemical products; metal fabricated products; and rubber, leather and plastic products were mainly responsible for the annual increase.

These increases were partly offset by declining prices for lumber products; fruit, vegetable and feed products; motor vehicles; meat, fish and dairy products; and electrical and communication products.

### **Finished goods prices increase**

On a monthly basis, prices for finished goods were up 0.3% from April. Higher prices for motor vehicle; electrical and communication products; and meat, fish and dairy products were the main contributors to this increase.

Lower prices for petroleum and lumber products partly offset the monthly increase.

Compared with May 2004, prices for finished goods were down by 2.5%. Lower prices for motor vehicles; electrical and communication products; meat, fish and dairy products; and lumber products were the major contributors to the annual decline.

Higher prices for petroleum products; furniture and fixtures; chemical products; fruit, vegetable and feed products; and rubber, leather and plastic products partly offset the annual decrease.

**Available on CANSIM: tables 329-0038 to 329-0049 and 330-0006.**

**Definitions, data sources and methods: survey numbers, including related surveys, 2306 and 2318.**

The May 2005 issue of *Industry Price Indexes* (62-011-XIE, \$19/\$175, 62-011-XPE, \$24/\$233) will soon be available.

The Industrial product and raw material price indexes for June 2005 will be released on July 28.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Client Services (613-951-9606; fax: 613-951-1539; [infounit@statcan.ca](mailto:infounit@statcan.ca)) or Danielle Gouin (613-951-3375; [danielle.gouin@statcan.ca](mailto:danielle.gouin@statcan.ca)), Prices Division.

□



## Industrial product price indexes (1997=100)

	Relative importance	May 2004	April 2005 <sup>r</sup>	May 2005 <sup>p</sup>	May 2004 to May 2005	April to May 2005
					% change	
<b>Industrial product price index (IPPI)</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>111.7</b>	<b>111.4</b>	<b>111.4</b>	<b>-0.3</b>	<b>0.0</b>
<b>IPPI excluding petroleum and coal products</b>	<b>94.32</b>	<b>108.7</b>	<b>107.0</b>	<b>107.4</b>	<b>-1.2</b>	<b>0.4</b>
<b>Aggregation by commodities</b>						
Meat, fish and dairy products	5.78	113.3	108.0	109.1	-3.7	1.0
Fruit, vegetables, feeds and other food products	5.99	107.1	102.6	102.6	-4.2	0.0
Beverages	1.57	120.9	121.3	121.4	0.4	0.1
Tobacco and tobacco products	0.63	169.9	170.2	170.2	0.2	0.0
Rubber, leather and plastic fabricated products	3.30	107.6	113.1	113.3	5.3	0.2
Textile products	1.58	99.2	99.0	99.1	-0.1	0.1
Knitted products and clothing	1.51	104.7	104.5	104.5	-0.2	0.0
Lumber and other wood products	6.30	108.9	95.1	92.6	-15.0	-2.6
Furniture and fixtures	1.59	111.3	114.1	114.1	2.5	0.0
Pulp and paper products	7.23	106.7	105.6	105.6	-1.0	0.0
Printing and publishing	1.70	113.8	115.6	115.9	1.8	0.3
Primary metal products	7.80	111.2	119.5	120.2	8.1	0.6
Metal fabricated products	4.11	116.7	122.1	122.1	4.6	0.0
Machinery and equipment	5.48	106.8	106.9	107.3	0.5	0.4
Motor vehicles and other transport equipment	22.16	105.4	97.9	98.9	-6.2	1.0
Electrical and communications products	5.77	96.5	94.0	94.6	-2.0	0.6
Non-metallic mineral products	1.98	111.3	114.7	114.7	3.1	0.0
Petroleum and coal products <sup>1</sup>	5.68	167.5	192.4	185.9	11.0	-3.4
Chemicals and chemical products	7.07	114.1	119.5	120.1	5.3	0.5
Miscellaneous manufactured products	2.40	109.8	111.0	111.3	1.4	0.3
Miscellaneous non-manufactured products	0.38	123.3	146.9	160.7	30.3	9.4
<b>Intermediate goods<sup>2</sup></b>	<b>60.14</b>	<b>111.6</b>	<b>113.1</b>	<b>112.9</b>	<b>1.2</b>	<b>-0.2</b>
First-stage intermediate goods <sup>3</sup>	7.71	118.0	125.2	125.0	5.9	-0.2
Second-stage intermediate goods <sup>4</sup>	52.43	110.6	111.2	111.1	0.5	-0.1
<b>Finished goods<sup>5</sup></b>	<b>39.86</b>	<b>112.0</b>	<b>108.9</b>	<b>109.2</b>	<b>-2.5</b>	<b>0.3</b>
Finished foods and feeds	8.50	113.0	112.2	112.6	-0.4	0.4
Capital equipment	11.73	107.3	103.0	103.7	-3.4	0.7
All other finished goods	19.63	114.4	111.1	111.1	-2.9	0.0

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

1. This index is estimated for the current month.

2. Intermediate goods are goods used principally to produce other goods.

3. First-stage intermediate goods are items used most frequently to produce other intermediate goods.

4. Second-stage intermediate goods are items most commonly used to produce final goods.

5. Finished goods are goods most commonly used for immediate consumption or for capital investment.

## Raw materials price indexes (1997=100)

	Relative importance	May 2004	April 2005 <sup>r</sup>	May 2005 <sup>p</sup>	May 2004 to May 2005	April to May 2005
					% change	
<b>Raw materials price index (RMPI)</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>129.0</b>	<b>142.4</b>	<b>138.0</b>	<b>7.0</b>	<b>-3.1</b>
Mineral fuels	35.16	193.5	235.1	220.9	14.2	-6.0
Vegetable products	10.28	95.6	80.7	81.7	-14.5	1.2
Animals and animal products	20.30	105.0	104.6	104.9	-0.1	0.3
Wood	15.60	84.2	78.2	76.9	-8.7	-1.7
Ferrous materials	3.36	109.4	134.3	129.9	18.7	-3.3
Non-ferrous metals	12.93	103.0	115.0	116.8	13.4	1.6
Non-metallic minerals	2.38	122.4	132.1	132.1	7.9	0.0
<b>RMPI excluding mineral fuels</b>	<b>64.84</b>	<b>99.2</b>	<b>99.5</b>	<b>99.6</b>	<b>0.4</b>	<b>0.1</b>

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

## Spending on industrial research and development

2001 to 2005

Industries intend to increase their spending on research and development (R&D) for the third consecutive year, according to the latest report on industrial R&D.

Spending intentions are forecast to increase 1.6% to \$13.8 billion. Even so, such spending will still remain 3.3% below the peak of \$14.3 billion in 2001.

In 2002, R&D spending fell an unprecedented 6.6% as a result of decreases in the key information and communications technology (ICT) sector, specifically the communications equipment manufacturing industry.

In fact, between 2001 and 2005, R&D spending excluding the ICT sector increased 12.7% while R&D spending in the ICT sector fell 21.5% during this period.

The two largest contributors to the anticipated gain in spending intentions in 2005 are the aerospace products and parts industry, where spending is forecast to rise 3.6%, and scientific research and development services, where it is expected to increase 3.3%.

Despite declines in spending between 2002 and 2004, the communications equipment manufacturing industry still allocates the largest amount to R&D, accounting for 12% of the total. It is followed by the pharmaceutical and medicine manufacturing industry, which accounts for nearly 9%.

A new estimation system for outstanding administrative data has improved the quality of data on expenditures and personnel for 2003, 2004 and 2005.

**Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 4201.**

The service bulletin *Industrial Research and Development, 2001 to 2005* (88-001-XIE, free), is now available online. From the *Our products and services* page under *Browse our Internet publications* choose *Free then Science and technology*.

For more information, or to enquire about the methods, concepts or data quality of this release, contact Robert Schellings, (613-951-6675; [robert.schellings@statcan.ca](mailto:robert.schellings@statcan.ca)) or Antoine Rose (613-951-9919; [antoine.rose@statcan.ca](mailto:antoine.rose@statcan.ca)), Science, Innovation and Electronic Information Division. ■

## Railway carloadings

April 2005

Railways carried 5.4% less freight in April, largely because of a strike in the iron ore mining sector and to a lesser extent a drop in loadings of fossil fuels.

Railways loaded more than 23.9 million metric tonnes of freight, down 1.35 million tonnes from March.

Strike action in the iron ore mining sector reduced loadings by almost 840,000 metric tonnes. Loadings of fossil fuels also fell with the arrival of spring and lower demand for heating fuels.

Still, on a year-to-date basis, rail freight between January and April hit 93.2 million tonnes compared with 90.5 million tonnes for the same period last year.

In April, non-intermodal freight totalled 21.5 million tonnes, down 6.0% from March. Shipments of iron ore, fossil fuels and logs incurred the biggest declines, while wheat, other non-metallic minerals and lumber recorded the biggest increases. About 273,300 railcars were required to move this freight.

Coal, iron ore, potash, wheat and lumber, which are the top five commodities of the Canadian rail industry, accounted for 44% of the weight for non-intermodal loadings in April.

Loadings of intermodal freight, that is, containers and trailers hauled on flat cars, amounted to 2.4 million tonnes, virtually unchanged from March.

Containers on flat cars continued to increase their share of the intermodal traffic. They accounted for 95.7% of tonnage in that category in April, up from 92.1% two years ago.

Freight coming from the United States, either destined for or passing through Canada, reached 2.3 million tonnes, also virtually unchanged from March.

On a year-over-year basis, non-intermodal tonnage was down 2.9% from April last year. Intermodal traffic was up 3.3%, while traffic received from the United States was up 4.9%.

**Available on CANSIM: table 404-0002.**

**Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2732.**

The April 2005 issue of *Monthly Railway Carloadings*, Vol. 82, no. 4 (52-001-XIE, \$9/\$83) is now available. See *How to order products*.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact the Dissemination Unit (1-866-500-8400; fax: 1-613-951-0009; [transportationstatistics@statcan.ca](mailto:transportationstatistics@statcan.ca)), Transportation Division. ■

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## Computer and peripherals price indexes

April 2005

Prices for commercial computers, as measured by the Computer and peripherals price indexes (CPPI, 2001=100), were down 0.7% from March. Consumer computer prices, representing computer brands and models normally purchased by consumers and small businesses fell 0.8%.

In the case of computer peripherals, monitor prices for April declined 2.1% on a monthly basis, while printer prices were up 0.2% from March.

These indexes are available at the Canada level only.

**Available on CANSIM: tables 331-0001 and 331-0002.**

**Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 5032.**

For more information on these indexes, contact Client Services (1-866-230-2248; 613-951-9606; [infounit@statcan.ca](mailto:infounit@statcan.ca)). To enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Fred Barzyk (613-951-2493; [fred.barzyk@statcan.ca](mailto:fred.barzyk@statcan.ca)), Prices Division. ■

## Stocks of frozen and chilled meats

June 2005

Total frozen and chilled red meat in cold storage at the opening of the first business day of June amounted to 91 210 metric tonnes, down 4% from 95 104 tonnes in May and up 17% from 78 094 tonnes in June 2004. Stocks of frozen poultry meat in cold storage on June 1<sup>st</sup> totalled 65 977 metric tonnes, up 25% from a year ago.

**Available on CANSIM: tables 003-0005 and 003-0041.**

**Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 3423.**

The June issue of *Stocks of Frozen and Chilled Meats* (23-009-XIE, free) is now available online. From the *Our products and services* page, choose *Free publications*, then *Agriculture*.

For general information, call 1-800-465-1991. To enquire about the concepts, methods and data quality of this release, contact Barbara McLaughlin (902-893-7251; [barbara.mclaughlin@statcan.ca](mailto:barbara.mclaughlin@statcan.ca)), Agriculture Division. ■

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## New products

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**Analytical Studies Branch Research Paper Series: Firms, Industries, and Unemployment Insurance: An Analysis Using Employer-employee Data from Canada**, no. 260  
**Catalogue number 11F0019MIE2005260**  
(free).

**Gross Domestic Product by Industry**, April 2005, Vol. 19, no. 4  
**Catalogue number 15-001-XIE** (\$12/\$118).

**Extraction System of Agricultural Statistics CD-ROM**, 2005  
**Catalogue number 21F0001XCB** (\$250).

**Stocks of Frozen and Chilled Meats**, June 2005  
**Catalogue number 23-009-XIE**  
(free).

**Monthly Railway Carloadings**, April 2005, Vol. 82, no. 04  
**Catalogue number 52-001-XIE** (\$9/\$83).

**Cornerstones of Community: Highlights from the National Survey of Nonprofit and Voluntary Organizations**, 2003 revised  
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**Canadian Community Health Survey Profiles**, 2003  
**Catalogue number 82-576-XIE**  
(free).

**Science Statistics**, Vol. 29, no. 4  
**Catalogue number 88-001-XIE**  
(free).

**Quarterly Demographic Statistics**, January to March 2005, Vol. 19, no. 1  
**Catalogue number 91-002-XPB** (\$11/\$36).

**All prices are in Canadian dollars and exclude sales tax. Additional shipping charges apply for delivery outside Canada.**

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Thursday, June 30, 1997  
For release at 9:30 a.m.

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**MAJOR RELEASES**

• <b>Urban transit, 1995</b>	2
Despite the emphasis on taking urban transit, Canadians are using it less and less. In 1996, each Canadian took an average of about 25 trips on some form of urban transit, the lowest level in the past 25 years.	
• <b>Productivity, hourly compensation and unit labour cost, 1995</b>	4
Growth in productivity among Canadian businesses was noticeably weak again in 1996, accompanied by sluggish gains in employment and slow economic growth during the year.	



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**OTHER RELEASES**

• <b>Help-wanted index, May 1997</b>	3
• <b>Short-term Expectations Survey</b>	9
• <b>Steel primary forms, week ending May 31, 1997</b>	12
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## Release dates: July 2005

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(Release dates are subject to change.)

Release date	Title	Reference period
5	Survey of Earned Doctorates: A profile of doctoral degree recipients	July 1, 2003 to June 30, 2004
6	Canadian Community Health Survey: Nutrition	2004
7	Building permits	May 2005
7	General Social Survey: Victimization	2004
8	Radio listening	Fall 2004
8	Labour Force Survey	June 2005
11	Investment in non-residential building construction	Second quarter 2005
12	Film, video and audio-visual distribution	2003/04
12	Births	2003
12	New Housing Price Index	May 2005
13	Canadian international merchandise trade	May 2005
14	Monthly Survey of Manufacturing	May 2005
14	Family violence	2005
15	New motor vehicle sales	May 2005
15	Multifactor productivity growth	2004
18	Canada's international transactions in securities	May 2005
20	Wholesale trade	May 2005
20	Leading indicators	June 2005
20	Travel between Canada and other countries	May 2005
21	Crime statistics	2004
22	Consumer Price Index	June 2005
22	Retail trade	May 2005
26	Employment Insurance	May 2005
28	Industrial product and raw materials price indexes	June 2005
28	Employment, earnings and hours	May 2005
29	Gross domestic product by industry	May 2005
29	Business Conditions Survey: Manufacturing industries	July 2005