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Releases

Releases

Industrial product and raw materials price indexes

June 2005

Monthly prices for manufactured goods at the factory gate were unchanged in June, following a slight decrease in May. Raw materials prices were up in June after two months of decline.

Prices charged by manufacturers, as measured by the Industrial Product Price Index (IPPI), were unchanged from May to June. Higher prices for petroleum products, fruit, vegetable and feed products, lumber and other wood products and chemical products were offset by lower prices for motor vehicles and other transport equipment, meat, fish and dairy products, primary metal products, pulp and paper products and electrical and communication products.

The 12-month change in the IPPI was 0.2%, up from May's decrease of 0.3% but much lower than the year-over-year increases registered in the first four months of 2005.

The Raw Materials Price Index (RMPI) was up 5.4% from May to June, following a 3.2% decrease the previous month. There were price increases in mineral fuels, non-ferrous metals as well as vegetable products.

Compared to June of last year, raw materials cost factories 13.9% more, a significant rise from the 12-month increase of 7.0% registered for May but similar to the rate of growth observed since January 2005.

In June, the IPPI (1997=100) stood at 111.4, unchanged from May's level. The RMPI (1997=100) reached 145.4, up from 138.0 in May.

IPPI: Higher prices for petroleum and lumber products

On a month-over-month basis, manufacturers' prices were unchanged in June following a decrease of 0.1% in May.

Petroleum and coal products prices were 4.6% higher compared to May as gasoline and fuel oil prices rose 5.1%. If petroleum and coal product prices had been excluded, the IPPI would have decreased 0.5%, rather than remaining unchanged.

Lumber and other wood products were up 0.4% as a result of a slight increase in demand. Higher prices were also observed for fruit, vegetable and feed products (+0.6%) as well as chemical products (+0.3%).

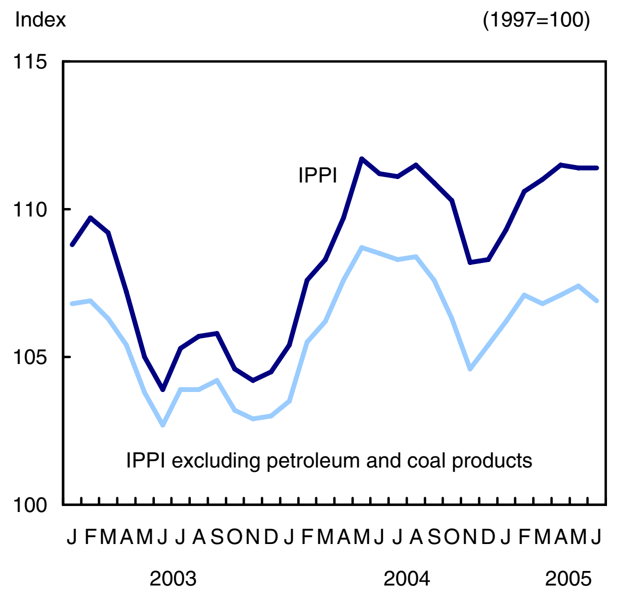
Note to readers

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.*

Prices for manufactured goods unchanged



Prices for motor vehicles and other transport equipment (-0.9%) and electrical and communication products (-0.3%) fell, mainly because of a stronger Canadian dollar.

Meat, fish and dairy products were down 1.7% as lower prices were reported for pork and beef products. Primary metal products decreased 0.8% as lower prices were observed for nickel products, steel products and aluminum products. Price decreases were also registered for pulp and paper products, metal fabricated products and machinery and equipment.

IPPI: Petroleum, chemical and primary metal products are the major factors in the 12-month change

On a 12-month basis, the IPPI was up 0.2% in June. Prices for petroleum and coal products rose 19.4% from June 2004, a significant increase from the 10.7% rise in May. If petroleum and coal product prices had been excluded, the IPPI would have decreased 1.5% rather than increasing 0.2% from a year ago.

Chemical products increased 6.0% due to higher prices for industrial chemicals and synthetic resins. Prices for primary metal products also increased, rising 4.3% from June 2004. Primary nickel, copper and steel products were the major contributors to this annual increase.

Prices were also higher than one year ago for metal fabricated products, rubber, leather and plastic fabricated products, non-metallic mineral products as well as furniture and fixtures.

However, motor vehicles and other transport equipment were down 5.9% from a year ago, the consequence of a stronger Canadian dollar.

Lumber and other wood products declined 12.0% from June 2004 to June 2005, as year-over-year price decreases were recorded for softwood lumber (-15.3%), particleboard (-29.5%) and softwood plywood excluding Douglas fir (-35.4%).

There were also 12-month price declines for meat, fish and dairy products (-5.2%), fruit, vegetable and feed products (-3.1%), pulp and paper products (-2.6%) and electrical and communication products (-2.0%).

RMPI: Crude oil prices push up the cost of raw materials

On a monthly basis, raw materials prices rose 5.4% in June. Mineral fuels were up 10.8% compared to May, as crude oil prices increased 13.0% due to concerns about supply disruptions and production capacity.

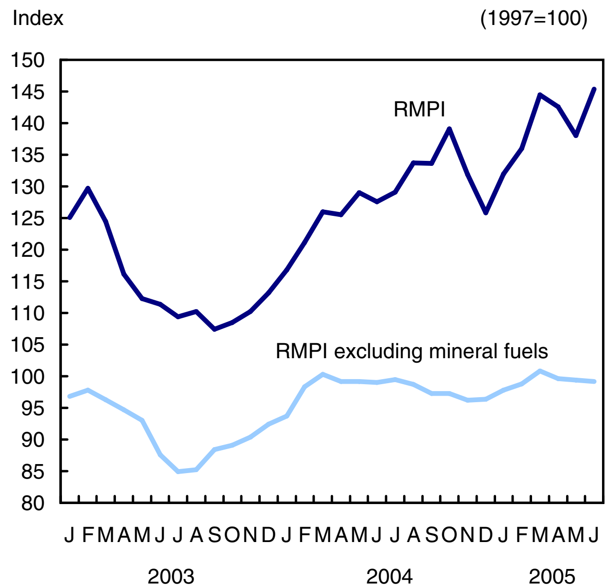
Prices for non-ferrous metals were up 1.6%, mainly due to higher prices for copper concentrates as well as radio-active concentrates. Prices for vegetable products also increased 1.5%, with higher prices observed for grains, oilseeds and natural rubber.

However, prices for animal and animal products declined 1.9% compared to the previous month as prices for hogs for slaughter were down 8.2%. Ferrous materials decreased 2.5% from the previous month as iron and steel scrap prices were down 3.4%. Prices for non-metallic minerals and wood products also decreased in June.

On a 12-month basis, the price of raw materials rose 13.9% in June, up from the 7.0% year-over-year increase in May. Mineral fuels were up 29.5% with crude oil prices rising 38.1%. If mineral fuels had been excluded, the RMPI would have only increased 0.2% instead of rising 13.9%.

Prices for non-ferrous metals rose 14.2%, mainly because of higher prices for radio-active concentrates, copper, zinc, lead and nickel concentrates. Higher prices were also observed for non-metallic mineral products, ferrous materials and animal and animal products.

Raw materials prices increase



Vegetable products were down 14.4% from June 2004 as prices were down for corn, wheat, barley, soybeans and canola. Wood products also decreased 9.2% from a year ago.

Impact of the exchange rate

Between May and June, the value of the Canadian dollar rose 1.2% against the US dollar. As a result, if the impact of the exchange rate had been excluded, the IPPI would have increased 0.3% instead of remaining unchanged from May.

On a 12-month basis, the value of the Canadian dollar rose 9.5% against the US dollar. If the impact of the exchange rate had been excluded, producer prices would have risen 2.6% between June 2004 and June 2005, rather than their actual 0.2% increase.

Prices for intermediate goods increase

Prices for intermediate goods increased 0.2% from May. Higher prices for petroleum products, fruit, vegetable and feed products, as well as lumber products were the major contributors to the increase.

Lower prices for meat, fish and dairy products; pulp and paper products; primary metal products; and motor vehicles partially offset the monthly increase.

Producers of intermediate goods received 1.4% more for their goods this June than in June 2004. Higher prices for petroleum products; chemical products; primary metal products; metal fabricated products; rubber, leather and plastic products; and non-metallic mineral products were mainly responsible for the annual increase.

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

Finished goods prices decline

On a monthly basis, prices for finished goods were down 0.2% from May. Lower prices for motor vehicles; meat, fish and dairy products; electrical and communication products; and machinery and equipment were the main contributors to this decrease.

Higher prices for petroleum and chemical products partly offset the monthly decline.

Compared with June 2004, prices for finished goods were down 1.7%. Lower prices for motor vehicles; meat, fish and dairy products; electrical and communication products; and lumber products were the major contributors to the annual decline.

Higher prices for petroleum products; chemical products; furniture and fixtures; rubber, leather and plastic products; tobacco products; metal fabricated products; and fruit, vegetable and feed 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 June 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 July will be released on August 30.

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

□

Industrial product price indexes
(1997=100)

	Relative importance	June 2004	May 2005[r]	June 2005[p]	June 2004 to June 2005	May to June 2005
					% change	
Industrial product price index (IPPI)	**100.00**	**111.2**	**111.4**	**111.4**	**0.2**	**0.0**
IPPI excluding petroleum and coal products	**94.32**	**108.5**	**107.4**	**106.9**	**-1.5**	**-0.5**
Aggregation by commodities						
Meat, fish and dairy products	5.78	112.6	108.6	106.8	-5.2	-1.7
Fruit, vegetables, feeds and other food products	5.99	106.7	102.8	103.4	-3.1	0.6
Beverages	1.57	120.7	121.4	121.3	0.5	-0.1
Tobacco and tobacco products	0.63	169.9	172.3	172.3	1.4	0.0
Rubber, leather and plastic fabricated products	3.30	108.2	113.3	113.0	4.4	-0.3
Textile products	1.58	99.0	99.2	99.2	0.2	0.0
Knitted products and clothing	1.51	104.7	104.5	104.6	-0.1	0.1
Lumber and other wood products	6.30	105.6	92.5	92.9	-12.0	0.4
Furniture and fixtures	1.59	111.5	114.6	114.6	2.8	0.0
Pulp and paper products	7.23	107.6	105.8	104.8	-2.6	-0.9
Printing and publishing	1.70	114.3	115.7	115.5	1.0	-0.2
Primary metal products	7.80	113.8	119.7	118.7	4.3	-0.8
Metal fabricated products	4.11	117.7	122.1	121.8	3.5	-0.2
Machinery and equipment	5.48	106.6	107.5	107.3	0.7	-0.2
Motor vehicles and other transport equipment	22.16	104.2	99.0	98.1	-5.9	-0.9
Electrical and communications products	5.77	96.2	94.6	94.3	-2.0	-0.3
Non-metallic mineral products	1.98	111.5	115.0	115.0	3.1	0.0
Petroleum and coal products[1]	5.68	162.4	185.4	193.9	19.4	4.6
Chemicals and chemical products	7.07	113.5	119.9	120.3	6.0	0.3
Miscellaneous manufactured products	2.40	110.0	111.2	110.9	0.8	-0.3
Miscellaneous non-manufactured products	0.38	124.8	160.8	165.6	32.7	3.0
Intermediate goods[2]	**60.14**	**111.4**	**112.8**	**113.0**	**1.4**	**0.2**
First-stage intermediate goods[3]	7.71	120.0	124.6	123.9	3.3	-0.6
Second-stage intermediate goods[4]	52.43	110.1	111.0	111.3	1.1	0.3
Finished goods[5]	**39.86**	**111.0**	**109.3**	**109.1**	**-1.7**	**-0.2**
Finished foods and feeds	8.50	113.1	112.5	111.9	-1.1	-0.5
Capital equipment	11.73	106.6	104.0	103.4	-3.0	-0.6
All other finished goods	19.63	112.9	111.2	111.4	-1.3	0.2

r *Revised figures.*
p *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	June 2004	May 2005[r]	June 2005[p]	June 2004 to June 2005	May to June 2005
					% change	
Raw materials price index (RMPI)	**100.00**	**127.6**	**138.0**	**145.4**	**13.9**	**5.4**
Mineral fuels	35.16	189.5	221.5	245.4	29.5	10.8
Vegetable products	10.28	96.9	81.7	82.9	-14.4	1.5
Animals and animal products	20.30	101.9	104.9	102.9	1.0	-1.9
Wood	15.60	84.0	76.4	76.3	-9.2	-0.1
Ferrous materials	3.36	115.6	126.2	123.1	6.5	-2.5
Non-ferrous metals	12.93	103.9	116.8	118.7	14.2	1.6
Non-metallic minerals	2.38	123.3	134.8	134.3	8.9	-0.4
RMPI excluding mineral fuels	**64.84**	**99.0**	**99.4**	**99.2**	**0.2**	**-0.2**

r *Revised figures.*
p *Preliminary figures.*

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Payroll employment, earnings and hours

May 2005 (preliminary)

The average weekly earnings of payroll employees increased $4.31 from April to May to stand at $724.84 (seasonally adjusted).

The new earnings level is $20.18 (+2.9%) higher than in May of last year. Industries showing the strongest year-over-year growth rates were: management of companies and enterprises (+7.6%), real estate and leasing (+6.2%), and accommodation and food services (+5.9%).

Average weekly hours for hourly paid employees fell by 0.2 hours in May after remaining unchanged in April. Average hourly earnings decreased slightly (-0.3%) in May, but stood 2.2% higher compared with the same month in 2004.

Payroll employment decreased slightly in May (-10,500 jobs), following a substantial increase in April (+28,700). Industries with the largest changes in May were manufacturing (-9,300) and educational services (-5,400). Health care and social assistance (+5,900 jobs) and retail trade (+5,400) had the largest gains.

By province, Alberta (+6,000) and Saskatchewan (+4,000) had the strongest increases in payroll employment while Quebec (-11,600) and Ontario (-4,700) had the largest declines.

Available on CANSIM: tables 281-0023 to 281-0046.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2612.

Detailed industry data, data by size of enterprise based on employment, and other labour market indicators are now available in the monthly publication *Employment, Earnings and Hours*, Vol. 83, no. 5 (72-002-XIB, $26/$257).

Data on payroll employment, earnings and hours for June will be released August 25.

For general information or to order data, contact Client Services (1-866-873-8788; 613-951-4090; fax: 613-951-2869; *labour@statcan.ca*). To enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Robert Frindt (613-951-4069), Labour Statistics Division. □

Average weekly earnings for all employees

Industry group (North American Industry Classification System)	May 2004	April 2005[r]	May 2005[p]	April to May 2005	May 2004 to May 2005
	seasonally adjusted				
	$			% change	
Industrial aggregate	**704.66**	**720.53**	**724.84**	**0.6**	**2.9**
Forestry, logging and support	861.73	894.09	906.31	1.4	5.2
Mining and oil and gas	1,246.84	1,282.96	1,292.58	0.7	3.7
Utilities	1,064.39	1,068.89	1,056.69	-1.1	-0.7
Construction	842.43	869.10	872.30	0.4	3.5
Manufacturing	852.78	870.36	872.29	0.2	2.3
Wholesale trade	802.26	821.06	828.80	0.9	3.3
Retail trade	449.02	468.44	473.20	1.0	5.4
Transportation and warehousing	752.90	770.99	771.76	0.1	2.5
Information and cultural industries	836.70	866.06	875.34	1.1	4.6
Finance and insurance	900.40	925.61	946.50	2.3	5.1
Real estate and rental and leasing	618.35	653.46	656.78	0.5	6.2
Professional, scientific and technical services	923.90	942.06	949.79	0.8	2.8
Management of companies and enterprises	851.07	907.75	915.51	0.9	7.6
Administrative and support, waste management and remediation services	553.74	580.89	579.94	-0.2	4.7
Educational services	785.18	797.47	798.87	0.2	1.7
Health care and social assistance	638.49	640.43	643.86	0.5	0.8
Arts, entertainment and recreation	411.29	414.39	416.66	0.5	1.3
Accommodation and food services	292.90	309.11	310.19	0.3	5.9
Other services (excluding public administration)	538.19	560.13	566.04	1.1	5.2
Public administration	870.49	897.23	900.72	0.4	3.5
Provinces and territories					
Newfoundland and Labrador	655.95	649.42	651.76	0.4	-0.6
Prince Edward Island	560.56	567.70	562.48	-0.9	0.3
Nova Scotia	611.05	630.84	628.86	-0.3	2.9
New Brunswick	634.42	650.26	650.19	0.0	2.5
Quebec	667.97	677.83	680.93	0.5	1.9
Ontario	746.31	763.42	768.35	0.6	3.0
Manitoba	632.88	660.37	659.35	-0.2	4.2
Saskatchewan	644.79	664.86	669.48	0.7	3.8
Alberta	723.77	758.27	764.59	0.8	5.6
British Columbia	693.23	701.52	708.07	0.9	2.1
Yukon	773.17	807.66	815.92	1.0	5.5
Northwest Territories[1]	922.52	950.67	940.90	-1.0	2.0
Nunavut[1]	756.75	846.24	859.03	1.5	13.5

r *Revised estimates.*
p *Preliminary estimates.*
1. *Data not seasonally adjusted.*

Number of employees

Industry group (North American Industry Classification System)	March 2005	April 2005r	May 2005p	March to April 2005	April to May 2005
	seasonally adjusted				
	'000			% change	
Industrial aggregate	**13,638.8**	**13,667.5**	**13,657.0**	**0.2**	**-0.1**
Forestry, logging and support	48.5	49.7	50.6	2.5	1.8
Mining and oil and gas	158.7	158.1	160.7	-0.4	1.6
Utilities	121.2	122.8	122.5	1.3	-0.2
Construction	674.5	678.1	677.9	0.5	0.0
Manufacturing	1,967.4	1,961.8	1,952.5	-0.3	-0.5
Wholesale trade	741.8	739.1	734.1	-0.4	-0.7
Retail trade	1,684.8	1,684.1	1,689.5	0.0	0.3
Transportation and warehousing	620.0	622.1	623.3	0.3	0.2
Information and cultural industries	349.3	350.6	352.7	0.4	0.6
Finance and insurance	579.9	579.0	577.6	-0.2	-0.2
Real estate and rental and leasing	245.7	242.3	242.3	-1.4	0.0
Professional, scientific and technical services	662.5	664.9	663.7	0.4	-0.2
Management of companies and enterprises	90.9	91.9	93.6	1.1	1.8
Administrative and support, waste management and remediation services	642.3	648.7	651.4	1.0	0.4
Educational services	976.5	974.7	969.3	-0.2	-0.6
Health care and social assistance	1,389.1	1,392.9	1,398.8	0.3	0.4
Arts, entertainment and recreation	245.1	245.8	245.4	0.3	-0.2
Accommodation and food services	951.6	947.9	948.1	-0.4	0.0
Other services (excluding public administration)	511.8	511.9	509.5	0.0	-0.5
Public administration	772.1	777.1	781.2	0.6	0.5
Provinces and territories					
Newfoundland and Labrador	184.7	185.6	184.1	0.5	-0.8
Prince Edward Island	63.7	63.6	63.4	-0.2	-0.3
Nova Scotia	381.0	382.8	383.3	0.5	0.1
New Brunswick	295.1	294.6	293.3	-0.2	-0.4
Quebec	3,200.1	3,205.1	3,193.5	0.2	-0.4
Ontario	5,314.3	5,324.2	5,319.5	0.2	-0.1
Manitoba	528.2	529.2	530.8	0.2	0.3
Saskatchewan	405.8	406.8	410.8	0.2	1.0
Alberta	1,514.7	1,518.8	1,524.8	0.3	0.4
British Columbia	1,702.4	1,705.3	1,705.7	0.2	0.0
Yukon	16.4	16.2	16.2	-1.2	0.0
Northwest Territories[1]	22.7	22.5	22.5	-0.9	0.0
Nunavut[1]	12.0	11.5	11.3	-4.2	-1.7

r *Revised estimates.*
p *Preliminary estimates.*
1. *Data not seasonally adjusted.*

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Stocks of frozen and chilled meats
July 2005

Total frozen and chilled red meat in cold storage at the opening of the first business day of July amounted to 92 191 metric tonnes, up 1% from 91 233 tonnes in June and up 26% from 72 892 tonnes in July 2004. Stocks of frozen poultry meat in cold storage on the first business day in July totalled 60 986 metric tonnes, up 6% from a year ago.

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

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 3423.

The July 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 or data quality of this release, contact Vivian Cripps (902-893-7251; *vivian.cripps@statcan.ca*), Agriculture Division. ■

Restaurants, caterers and taverns
May 2005 (preliminary)

Total sales of the restaurants, caterers and taverns industry reached $3.3 billion in May, a 3.7% increase over May 2004. (Data are neither seasonally adjusted, nor adjusted for inflation).

The largest year-over-year increases, at the provincial level, were recorded in British Columbia

(+15.4%), New Brunswick (+9.6%) and Newfoundland and Labrador (+9.3%).

The year-over-year increase in sales, at the national level, was due to the increase in sales of limited service restaurants (+8.6%) which accounted for 40% of the industry sales in May. Food service contractors (+7.5%) also posted robust growth and accounted for about 5% of the industry sales.

Note: The Monthly Restaurants, Caterers and Taverns Survey has undergone several important changes. Effective starting for the April 2004 reference month, the survey was restratified and a new sample was selected. Commencing with the reference month of May 2004, the survey incorporated increased use of GST data to reduce response burden and collection costs. As a result of these changes, total food services sales for Canada and the provinces/territories have been revised back to January 1998.

Food services sales

	April 2004r	April 2005r	May 2004r	May 2005p
	Not seasonally adjusted			
	$ thousands			
Total food services sales	**3,048,347**	**3,127,862**	**3,202,246**	**3,320,594**
Full service restaurants	1,421,970	1,473,353	1,529,318	1,541,019
Limited service restaurants	1,176,265	1,194,644	1,219,509	1,324,934
Food service contractors	157,547	165,190	146,153	157,066
Social and mobile caterers	59,265	63,025	71,782	71,187
Drinking places	233,300	231,649	235,484	226,389
Provinces and territories				
Newfoundland and Labrador	34,565	36,901	34,582	37,797
Prince Edward Island	11,100	10,183	12,858	11,802
Nova Scotia	76,211	70,477	81,881	76,770
New Brunswick	56,415	56,329	55,997	61,357
Quebec	641,921	647,094	674,031	725,206
Ontario	1,229,500	1,214,567	1,310,900	1,278,280
Manitoba	83,586	79,865	84,549	82,147
Saskatchewan	81,980	76,330	80,495	75,499
Alberta	348,911	394,140	360,707	388,577
British Columbia	475,341	532,344	496,802	573,164
Yukon	2,391	2,359	2,646	2,838
Northwest Territories	5,836	6,886	6,171	6,727
Nunavut	589	388	627	430

r *Revised figures.*
p *Preliminary figures.*

Available on CANSIM: table 355-0001.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2419.

For more information, to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality, or to obtain the new methodology paper about the Monthly Restaurants, Caterers and Taverns Survey contact Alain Mbassegue (613-951-2011; fax: 613-951-6696, *alain.mbassegue@statcan.ca*), Service Industries Division, Statistics Canada. ■

Couriers and Messengers Services Price Index

January 2003 to June 2005

The Couriers and Messengers Services Price Index (CMSPI, 2003=100) is a monthly price index measuring the change, over time, in prices for courier and messenger services provided by long- and short-distance delivery companies to Canadian-based business clients.

These series are being made available to the public in CANSIM for the first time.

The CMSPI rose 9.8% between January 2003 and June 2005. The courier portion increased 11.1% and the local messengers component was up 4.1%.

These indexes are available at the Canada level only.

Available on CANSIM: table 329-0053.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 5064.

For more information, contact Client Services (1-866-230-2248; 613-951-9606; *infounit@statcan.ca*). To enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Anne Williamson (613-951-0708; *anne.williamson@statcan.ca*), Prices Division. ■

Survey of Suppliers of Business Financing

2003

Additional data about business financing provided by domestic banks, other banks, credit unions and caisses populaires are now available for the reference year 2003 from the Survey of Suppliers of Business Financing. These include data on debt financing and leasing data for domestic banks by authorization size, province and industry; data on debt financing for other banks by authorization size, province and industry; data on debt financing for credit unions, caisses populaires by authorization size and province. This announcement follows the November 22, 2004 major release in *The Daily*.

Statistics Canada conducts the Survey of Suppliers of Business Financing in partnership with Industry Canada and the Department of Finance as part of a larger program of research into financing for small- and medium-sized enterprises, the SME Financing Data Initiative.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2514.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Gilles Boivin (613-951-2643; *gilles.boivin@statcan.ca*) or Mike Paju (613-951-1522; *mike.paju@statcan.ca*), Industrial Organization and Finance Division. ■

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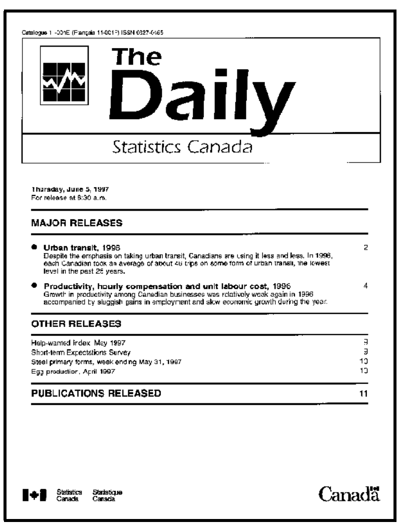
Catalogue 1 -001E (Français 11-001F) ISSN 0827-0465

The Daily

Statistics Canada

Thursday, June 5, 1997
For release at 8:30 a.m.

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 46 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 was relatively weak again in 1996 accompanied by sluggish gains in employment and slow economic growth during the year.

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