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The Daily

Statistics Canada

Tuesday, August 23, 2005
Released at 8:30 a.m. Eastern time

Releases

Focus on Culture

Focus on Culture, Statistics Canada's quarterly publication on culture statistics, features the article "Earnings of culture workers: Findings from Canadian census data." It compares earnings in culture occupations using census data for 1996 and 2001, and examines differences on the basis of gender and sub-occupation.

According to the article, average employment income of culture workers was below the average for all workers in 2000. In addition, the income of culture workers grew at a slower pace during the five-year period.

It also found that the earnings of women in culture jobs continued to lag behind those of their male counterparts, in keeping with the overall trend in the economy. However, these women were slightly better off than women who worked in non-culture occupations.

In addition, average employment income for women in culture occupations grew at a faster pace than for their male counterparts between 1995 and 2000.

This issue of *Focus on Culture* also contains an article on female participation in the culture sector work force based on the Labour Force Survey, a profile of school library staff, provincial data on radio listening and data on periodical publishing.

Focus on Culture, Vol. 15, no. 2 (87-004-XIE, $8/$22; 87-004-XPB, $10/$29) is now available. See *How to order products*. The article "Earnings of culture workers: Findings from Canadian census data" is now available for free online.

For more information, contact Client Services (1-800-307-3382; fax: 613-951-9040; *cult.tourstats@statcan.ca*) or Alice Peters (613-951-4086; fax: 613-951-1333; *alice.peters@statcan.ca*), Culture, Tourism and the Centre for Education Statistics.

Releases

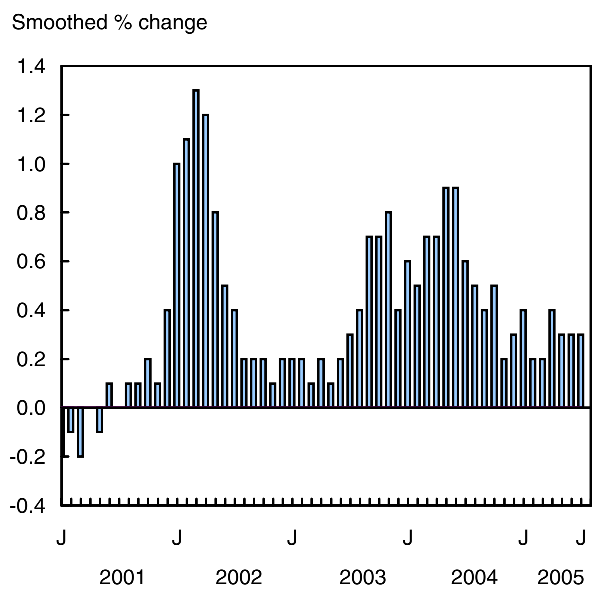
Leading indicators

July 2005

Driven by continued strength in domestic demand, the leading indicator posted a 0.3% gain in July, the same as in June and little changed since the start of the year. Seven of the ten components rose, one more than in June as the US leading indicator turned up. All three of the components that fell came from the manufacturing sector.

Household demand remained the main source of growth at the beginning of summer. The housing index continued to rise in July, on the heels of its largest increase in a year in June. Western Canada continued to dominate this growth, especially British Columbia, where housing starts in July hit their highest level of the year while the market for existing homes remained hot.

Composite leading indicator



Durable goods sales remained brisk, especially in the West where it was Alberta's turn to dominate growth. Retail sales in Alberta continued to rise at a 20% annual rate since December, driven by automobile sales.

Manufacturing generally slumped, despite the boom in investment in mining and energy in western Canada. Strengthening demand for machinery and metal products was counterbalanced by weakness for exports of autos and forestry products. Inventories continued to rise, which led to a sixth straight decline in the ratio of shipments to stocks. New orders fell slightly for the second consecutive month (-0.4%). The average workweek turned down after three months of no change.

The Toronto stock market rallied thanks to double-digit gains in metal and energy issues for a second straight month. Stock prices have risen 10% overall since April.

The US leading indicator grew by 0.2%, reversing a one-month drop in May. The US leading indicator was revised up substantially over the last year. Without it, the Canadian index would have grown 0.5% in July.

Available on CANSIM: table 377-0003.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 1601.

A more detailed analysis of the components is available on our Web site. From the *Canadian Statistics* page, choose *National Accounts*, then click on the banner ad for *Canadian Economic Observer*. From that page, choose *Issues of CEO*, then *Composite Index*. For more information on the economy, consult the August 2005 issue of *Canadian Economic Observer*, Vol. 18, no. 8 (11-010-XIB, $19/$182).

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods and data quality of this release, contact Francine Roy (613-951-3627; *ceo@statcan.ca*) Current Economic Analysis Group. □

Leading indicators

	February 2005	March 2005	April 2005	May 2005	June 2005	July 2005	Last month of data available
							% change
Composite leading indicator (1992=100)	**201.9**	**202.4**	**203.2**	**203.9**	**204.6**	**205.2**	**0.3**
Housing index (1992=100)[1]	138.3	138.1	138.1	138.6	142.5	144.7	1.5
Business and personal services employment ('000)	2,620	2,612	2,619	2,620	2,624	2,630	0.2
S&P/TSX stock price index (1975=1,000)	9,204	9,352	9,420	9,492	9,632	9,783	1.6
Money supply, M1 ($ millions, 1992)[2]	133,232	134,113	136,047	137,410	138,407	138,921	0.4
US Conference Board leading indicator (1992=100)[3]	124.1	124.5	124.6	124.7	124.6	124.8	0.2
Manufacturing							
Average workweek (hours)	38.3	38.2	38.2	38.2	38.2	38.1	-0.3
New orders, durables ($ millions, 1992)[4]	24,035	24,684	24,828	24,976	24,963	24,852	-0.4
Shipments/inventories of finished goods[4]	1.89	1.88	1.87	1.86	1.84	1.83	-0.01[5]
Retail trade							
Furniture and appliance sales ($ millions, 1992)[4]	2,130	2,148	2,166	2,185	2,215	2,236	0.9
Other durable goods sales ($ millions, 1992)[4]	7,762	7,771	7,821	7,828	7,918	7,989	0.9
Unsmoothed composite leading indicator	**203.1**	**204.3**	**204.9**	**204.6**	**206.1**	**206.3**	**0.1**

1. *Composite index of housing starts (units) and house sales (multiple listing service).*
2. *Deflated by the Consumer Price Index for all items.*
3. *The figures in this row reflect data published in the month indicated, but the figures themselves refer to data for the month immediately preceding.*
4. *The figures in this row reflect data published in the month indicated, but the figures themselves refer to data for the second preceding month.*
5. *Difference from previous month.*

■

Employment Insurance

June 2005 (preliminary)

The number of Canadians (adjusted for seasonality) receiving regular Employment Insurance benefits in June rose by an estimated 1.7% compared with May. This rise was due to increases in most provinces east of Manitoba and was led by Quebec (+4.0%). Newfoundland and Labrador was the exception to this with a drop of 1.5%. All provinces west of Ontario recorded modest declines. Alberta has now shown a decrease for 10 consecutive months.

Compared to the same time last year, the number of regular beneficiaries has fallen 3.7% nationally.

Since June 2003, the number of regular beneficiaries in Canada has fallen by 8.6%, led by declines in Alberta (-38.2%), British Columbia (-26.1%) and Ontario (-9.6%). During this period, Quebec was relatively unchanged while the Atlantic provinces all increased.

Also on a seasonally adjusted basis, regular benefit payments in June totalled $702.6 million, while the number of people making initial and renewal claims was 224,570.

Note: Employment Insurance Statistics Program data are produced from an administrative data source and may, from time to time, be affected by changes to the *Employment Insurance Act* or administrative procedures. The number of beneficiaries is a measure of all persons who received Employment Insurance benefits for the week containing the 15th day of the month. The regular benefit payments series measures the total of all monies received by individuals for the entire month.

Employment Insurance statistics

	June 2005	May 2005	June 2004	May to June 2005	June 2004 to June 2005
	seasonally adjusted				
				% change	
Regular beneficiaries	521,610[p]	513,110[r]	541,710	1.7	-3.7
Regular benefits paid ($ millions)	702.6[p]	710.9[r]	707.1	-1.2	-0.6
Initial and renewal claims received ('000)	224.6[p]	236.2[r]	253.0	-4.9	-11.2
	unadjusted				
All beneficiaries ('000)[1]	680.2[p]	742.3[p]	693.8		
Regular beneficiaries ('000)	411.3[p]	464.3[p]	425.2		
Initial and renewal claims received ('000)	181.8	184.8	207.5		
Payments ($ millions)	995.3	1,297.8	1,082.8		
	year-to-date (January to June)				
			2005	2004	2004 to 2005
					% change
Claims received ('000)			1,293.5	1,306.6	-1.0
Payments ($ millions)			8,067.0	8,211.3	-1.8

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

Number of beneficiaries receiving regular benefits

	June 2005[p]	May to June 2005	June 2004 to June 2005
	seasonally adjusted		
		% change	
Canada	**521,610**	**1.7**	**-3.7**
Newfoundland and Labrador	38,400	-1.5	1.8
Prince Edward Island	8,770	1.9	11.7
Nova Scotia	30,840	2.3	5.1
New Brunswick	35,700	1.7	5.8
Quebec	182,050	4.0	0.4
Ontario	131,680	1.6	-3.6
Manitoba	12,430	-0.2	-7.9
Saskatchewan	10,780	-1.6	-13.8
Alberta	21,690	-0.4	-26.1
British Columbia	49,880	-1.6	-13.8
Yukon Territory	940	3.3	0.0
Northwest Territories	750	2.7	-9.6
Nunavut	380	0.0	5.6

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

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

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2604.

Data on Employment Insurance for July will be released on September 27.

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

Railway carloadings

Second quarter 2005 and June 2005

Railways reported their strongest second quarter since 1999 this year as demand in Asia for Canadian primary goods remained strong.

Railways loaded more than 72.9 million tonnes of goods during the second quarter of 2005, up by more than half a million tonnes, or 0.8% higher compared with the same three months last year.

Leading the list of commodities where gains in loadings occurred between the first and second quarter were cement, gasoline and aviation fuel, other non metallic minerals, coal and lumber.

Coal shipments amounted to nearly 9.1 million tonnes, up 10.2% from the same quarter last year. Lumber shipments, primarily destined for the United States, surpassed 4.3 million tonnes, up 27.6% from the same quarter last year.

Just over 7.0 million tonnes of freight arrived from the United States between April and June, either destined for or passing through Canada, up 6.7% from the same three months in 2004.

On a monthly basis, railways shipped nearly 24.7 million tonnes of goods in June, the highest volume of the last six years during the month of June.

Iron ore loadings were up strongly from May following the settlement of a labour dispute which had more than 1,300 employees off work. However, shipments of major commodities such as potash and coal showed some declines as is often the case in early summer.

The non-intermodal portion of freight totalled 22.4 million tonnes in June, up 1.8% from May. About 282,300 railcars were required to load all of June's non-intermodal freight.

Loadings of intermodal freight, that is, containers and trailers hauled on flat cars, amounted to 2.3 million tonnes, down 4.9% from May.

Freight coming from the United States, either destined for or passing through Canada, fell 12.4%.

Compared with June last year, non-intermodal tonnage was up 4.3%, intermodal traffic rose 0.6%, while traffic received from the United States was up 4.8%.

Available on CANSIM: table 404-0002.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2732.

The June 2005 issue of *Monthly Railway Carloadings*, Vol. 82, no. 6 (52-001-XIE, $9/$83) is now available. See *How to order our 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*), Transportation Division. ■

Large urban transit

June 2005 (preliminary)

Combined ridership on 10 large urban transit systems in Canada was 1.4% higher in June than it was for the same month in 2004.

Approximately 111.7 million passenger trips were taken on these transit systems in June. These systems account for about 80% of total urban transit in Canada.

The trips generated $177.8 million in revenue in June (excluding subsidies), a 4.8% increase over June 2004.

Available on CANSIM: table 408-0004.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2745.

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*), Transportation Division. ■

Aircraft movement statistics: Major airports

June 2005

The June 2005 monthly report, Vol. 1 (TP141, free) is available on Transport Canada's website at the following URL: (*http://www.tc.gc.ca/pol/en/Report/tp141e/tp141.htm*).

Note: The TP 141 monthly report is issued in two volumes. Volume 1 presents statistics for the major Canadian airports (i.e., those with NAV CANADA air traffic control towers or flight service stations). Volume 2 presents statistics for the smaller airports (i.e., those without air traffic control towers). Both volumes are available free upon release on Transport Canada's Web site.

For more information about this Web site, contact Michel Villeneuve (613-990-3825; *villenm@tc.gc.ca*), Transport Canada.

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. ■

New products

Monthly Railway Carloadings, June 2005, Vol. 82, no. 6
Catalogue number 52-001-XIE ($9/$83).

Retail Trade, June 2005, Vol. 77, no. 6
Catalogue number 63-005-XIE ($18/$166).

Focus on Culture, Vol. 15, no. 2
Catalogue number 87-004-XIE ($8/$22).

Focus on Culture, Vol. 15, no. 2
Catalogue number 87-004-XPB ($10/$29).

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

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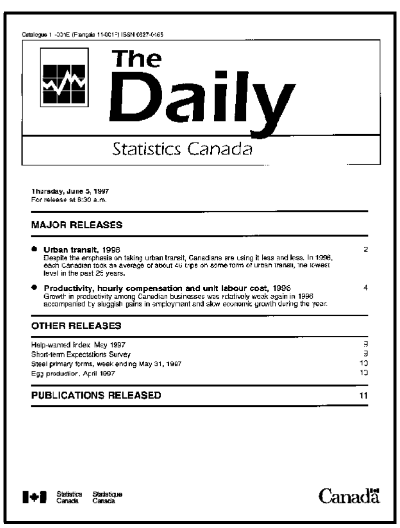
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The Daily

Statistics Canada

Thursday, June 5, 1997
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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 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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PUBLICATIONS RELEASED 11

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