



The Daily

Statistics Canada

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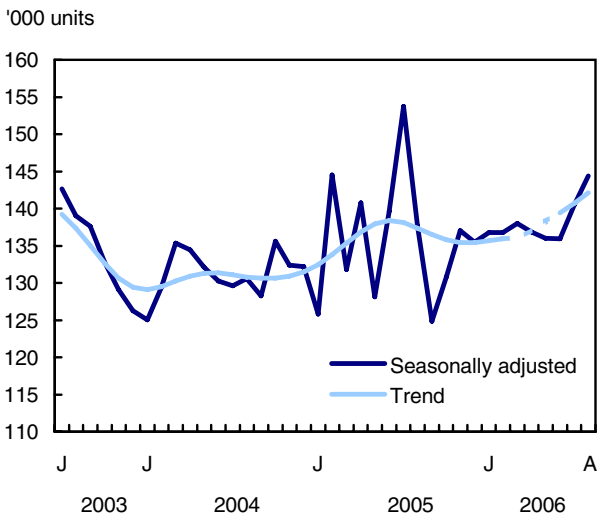
Releases

New motor vehicle sales

August 2006

Continued demand for trucks drove new motor vehicles 2.8% higher in August, extending the rebound that began in July. However, this rebound looks set to soften as preliminary sales data from the auto industry indicate the number of new motor vehicles sold in September is estimated to have slipped about 4%, due to a fallback in truck sales.

New vehicle sales continue to rise



Note: The last few points could be subject to revisions when more data are added. This is indicated by the dashed line.

Consumers purchased 144,394 new vehicles in August, 3,882 more than in July. August volumes were the highest since July 2005 and the second highest on record. The all-time peak was reached in August 2002 when 145,562 vehicles were sold.

Quebec was responsible for over half of the national increase in August.

Truck sales accounted for 80% of the overall increase in new motor vehicle sales in August. Dealer incentives geared toward larger vehicles may have contributed to consumer preference for trucks in August. According to the Consumer Price Index, the price paid for all new vehicles (both cars and trucks) edged down 0.8% in August.

New motor vehicle sales have been trending upwards recently, following a relatively flat period during

Note to readers

All data in this release are seasonally adjusted.

Passenger cars include those used for personal and commercial purposes, such as taxis or rental cars. **Trucks** include minivans, sport-utility vehicles, light and heavy trucks, vans and buses.

North American built new motor vehicles include vehicles manufactured or assembled in Canada, the United States or Mexico. All other new motor vehicles are considered to have been manufactured overseas.

For reasons of confidentiality, data for Yukon, the Northwest Territories and Nunavut are included with those for British Columbia.

The New Motor Vehicle Sales Survey is compiled on the basis of figures obtained from motor vehicle manufacturers and importers. These results may vary from those obtained directly from auto dealers, due to possible differences in record keeping.

the first half of 2006. In 2005, sales had been extremely volatile with the introduction and subsequent removal of dealer incentive programs such as "employee pricing."

Truck sales show continued strength

Truck sales (which include minivans, sport-utility vehicles, light and heavy trucks, vans and buses) posted a second consecutive increase in August, rising 4.6% to 71,144 vehicles. Excluding the record peak in July 2005, truck sales have never been higher.

Passenger car sales edged up 1.1%, offsetting the 1.1% slip in July. This latest advance was attributed to a 6.3% increase in the sales of North American built cars, which more than erased July's 4.5% drop and saw the largest month-over-month gain since June 2005. North American built car sales accounted for 66.3% of all passenger cars sold in August. Overseas built passenger car sales fell 7.9% in August, ending a streak of six consecutive monthly increases.

Car and truck sales have been on an upward trend since May 2006, with trucks showing a somewhat steeper incline than passenger cars. This upward trend follows a period of relatively flat sales since the fourth quarter of 2005.

Over half the increase occurs in Quebec

New motor vehicle sales increased in eight provinces in August, with Nova Scotia (+8.2%) and Quebec (+6.1%) experiencing the strongest gains. Quebec new motor vehicle sales reached 35,762 units in

August, up 2,052 vehicles compared with July. Quebec sales represented slightly more than half (52.9%) of the national increase in August, despite representing only one quarter of the Canadian automotive market. This sales level was also Quebec's highest since the peak reached in July 2005.

New motor vehicle sales in Alberta increased 2.4% to 22,204 vehicles, the highest sales level ever recorded for the province.

Prince Edward Island (+3.6%), British Columbia (+2.8%), Ontario (+1.0%), and New Brunswick (+0.7%) all posted second consecutive monthly increases and the highest sales of the year.

Manitoba and Saskatchewan were the only provinces that posted lower sales in August. Sales in Manitoba fell 2.0% after two consecutive monthly increases, while Saskatchewan sales were relatively flat (-0.1%).

Available on CANSIM: tables 079-0001 and 079-0002.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2402.

The August 2006 issue of *New Motor Vehicle Sales* (63-007-XIE, free) will be available soon.

Data on new motor vehicle sales for September will be released on November 15.

For general information or to order data, contact Client Services (toll-free 1-877-421-3067; 613-951-3549; retailinfo@statcan.ca). To enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Ashley Ker (613-951-2252), Distributive Trades Division.

□

New motor vehicle sales

	August 2005	July 2006 ^r	August 2006 ^p	August 2005 to August 2006	July to August 2006
Seasonally adjusted					
	number of vehicles			% change	
New motor vehicles	137,690	140,512	144,394	4.9	2.8
Passenger cars	71,973	72,481	73,250	1.8	1.1
North American ¹	48,935	45,706	48,585	-0.7	6.3
Overseas	23,039	26,775	24,666	7.1	-7.9
Trucks, vans and buses	65,717	68,031	71,144	8.3	4.6
New motor vehicles					
Newfoundland and Labrador	1,788	1,963	2,020	13.0	2.9
Prince Edward Island	430	422	437	1.6	3.6
Nova Scotia	4,068	3,809	4,121	1.3	8.2
New Brunswick	2,958	2,964	2,986	0.9	0.7
Quebec	33,149	33,710	35,762	7.9	6.1
Ontario	51,532	52,435	52,962	2.8	1.0
Manitoba	3,994	3,858	3,782	-5.3	-2.0
Saskatchewan	3,362	3,404	3,400	1.1	-0.1
Alberta	19,394	21,690	22,204	14.5	2.4
British Columbia ²	17,015	16,258	16,720	-1.7	2.8
	August 2005	July 2006 ^r	August 2006 ^p	August 2005 to August 2006	
Unadjusted					
	number of vehicles			% change	
New motor vehicles	146,862	145,521	157,868	7.5	
Passenger cars	78,942	76,556	82,244	4.2	
North American ¹	53,093	48,349	53,812	1.4	
Overseas	25,849	28,207	28,432	10.0	
Trucks, vans and buses	67,920	68,965	75,624	11.3	
New motor vehicles					
Newfoundland and Labrador	2,153	2,244	2,482	15.3	
Prince Edward Island	504	519	531	5.4	
Nova Scotia	4,345	3,998	4,597	5.8	
New Brunswick	3,242	3,149	3,389	4.5	
Quebec	36,084	36,605	40,566	12.4	
Ontario	55,081	53,323	56,732	3.0	
Manitoba	4,685	4,092	4,471	-4.6	
Saskatchewan	3,873	3,540	3,963	2.3	
Alberta	19,742	21,075	23,266	17.9	
British Columbia ²	17,153	16,976	17,871	4.2	

^r revised

^p preliminary

1. Manufactured or assembled in Canada, the United States or Mexico.

2. Includes Yukon, the Northwest Territories and Nunavut.



Dairy statistics

August 2006 (preliminary)

Dairy farmers sold almost 616 600 kilolitres of milk and cream to dairies in August, down 2.1% from August 2005. Fluid milk sales stood at 250 900 kilolitres and industrial milk sales at 365 700 kilolitres. Industrial milk is used to manufacture butter, cheese, yogurt, ice cream, milk powders and concentrates.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey numbers, including related surveys, 3430, 3431 and 3432.

The third quarter 2006 issue of *The Dairy Review* (23-001-XIB, free) and the new publication *Dairy Statistics* (23-014-XIE, free) will be available in November.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Anna Michalowska (613-951-2442 or toll-free 1-800-465-1991; fax: 613-951-3868), Agriculture Division. ■

Cement

August 2006

Data on cement are now available for August.

Available on CANSIM: tables 303-0060 and 303-0061.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2140.

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; manufact@statcan.ca), Manufacturing, Construction and Energy Division. ■

Supply and disposition of refined petroleum products

June 2006

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

Available on CANSIM: tables 134-0001 to 134-0004.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2150.

The June 2006 issue of *The Supply and Disposition of Refined Petroleum Products in Canada*, Vol. 61, no. 6 (45-004-XIE, free) is now available from the *Publications* module of our website.

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

New products

The Supply and Disposition of Refined Petroleum Products in Canada, June 2006, Vol. 61, no. 6
Catalogue number 45-004-XIE
 (free).

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

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Thursday, June 3, 1997
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MAJOR RELEASES

- **Urban transit, 1995** 2
 Changes in expenditures on taking urban transit; Canadians are using it less and less. In 1995, each Canadian took an average of about 40 trips on some form of urban transit, the lowest level in the past 25 years.
- **Productivity, hourly compensation and unit labour cost, 1995** 4
 Growth in productivity among Canadian businesses was relatively weak again in 1995, accompanied by sluggish gains in employment and slow economic growth during the year.

OTHER RELEASES

- **Help-wanted index, May 1997** 3
- **Short-term Expectations Survey** 2
- **Steel primary forms, week ending May 31, 1997** 12
- **Egg production, April 1997** 11

PUBLICATIONS RELEASED 11

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Statistics Canada's official release bulletin

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Release dates: October 16 to 20, 2006

(Release dates are subject to change.)

Release date	Title	Reference period
16	Monthly Survey of Manufacturing	August 2006
17	Health reports	2006
18	Leading indicators	September 2006
19	Wholesale trade	August 2006
19	Canada's international transactions in securities	August 2006
19	Travel between Canada and other countries	August 2006
20	Consumer Price Index	September 2006
