



The Daily

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Releases

| | |
|--|---|
| Food consumption, 2005 | 2 |
| For-hire motor carriers of freight, all carriers, first quarter 2006 | 2 |
| Domestic travel, third quarter 2005 | 3 |
| Electric utility construction price indexes, 2005 and the first half of 2006 | 4 |
| Energy consumption by manufacturers, 2005 and 2004 | 4 |

| | |
|---------------------|----------|
| New products | 5 |
|---------------------|----------|



Food consumption

2005

On the whole, Canadians are turning to more fresh fruits and vegetables in their diet, and away from oils and fats, according to the latest snapshot of food consumption for 2005.

On average, they consumed 39.4 kilograms of fresh fruit in 2005, compared with 37.6 kg a year earlier and 36.0 kg in 1995. On the other hand, consumption of processed fruits (canned, frozen or dry) fell modestly to 8.0 kg per person.

Apples accounted for about one-fifth of fresh fruit consumption. Each Canadian consumed on average 7.6 kg of apples last year, up from 6.8 kg in 2004. Bananas, oranges and grapes are also still the fruits of choice. But others such as mangoes, limes, papayas and pineapples are growing in popularity.

Canadians also consumed more fresh vegetables, but only if you don't count fresh potatoes, which have been falling out of favour.

On average, each Canadian consumed 68.9 kg of fresh vegetables in 2005, down from 69.4 kg in 2004. However, excluding potatoes, fresh vegetable consumption rose from 39.8 kg per person in 2004 to 40.5 kg last year. Many of the popular vegetables such as carrots and onions were more popular in 2005, although tomato consumption declined modestly.

In total, potato consumption has been declining in recent years, falling from 33.9 kg per person in 1995 to 28.5 kg last year. In 2005, farm production of potatoes tumbled 18.2%, considerably more than the 8.2% drop in exports. This limited the supply available for consumption, pushing prices higher.

Of the total potatoes consumed, 56% were cooked from fresh potatoes, while 44% were processed into products such as frozen french fries or potato chips. The decline in total potato consumption has occurred primarily because Canadians are cooking fewer fresh potatoes.

Last year, each Canadian on average consumed 15.8 kg of potatoes that had been purchased fresh, down from 16.8 kg the previous year. A decade ago, average fresh potato consumption was 21.8 kg per person. Consumption of potato chips amounted to 2.5 kg per person, while consumption of frozen french fries hit 6.4 kg, both holding stable.

Canadians have reduced their consumption of butter and margarine, along with salad or cooking oils, to 21.4 kg per person from 21.7 kg in 2004. This is below the 22.4 kg peak in 1998.

The total use of oils and fats had been on the increase over time, particularly during the 1990s.

The overall use was boosted by the increased usage of salad oils and shortening oils by households and/or food service outlets in salad dressing, deep-fried products and baked goods such as cookies, pastries, specialty breads and croissants.

Fish consumption rose marginally to 6.8 kg per person in 2005. Even though this figure was up from 2004 and a decade ago, it was below the level of 7.1 kg in 2003. Fish consumption appears to be fairly stable this decade.

The level of energy consumed per person declined by 1.1% in 2005. Caloric consumption has been stable this decade after expanding fairly rapidly during the 1990s.

Available on CANSIM: tables 002-0010, 002-0011, 002-0019, 003-0035, 003-0036, 003-0037 and 003-0080.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey numbers, including related surveys, 3403, 3404, 3407, 3423, 3430, 3460 and 3475.

The 2005 issue of *Food Statistics*, Vol. 5, no. 2 (21-020-XIE, free) is now available online. From the *Publications* module of our website, choose *Free internet publications* then *Agriculture*.

The CD-ROM *Canada Food Stats* (23F0001XCB) will be available soon. The price is \$81 per copy or \$129 for an annual subscription, which includes two issues, released in June and November. This is an easy-to-use system that provides access to a broad spectrum of data, preformatted reports and articles on food and the food industry.

Canada Food Stats (23F0001XBB) can be downloaded directly from our website for the same price as the CD-ROM.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Jean-Pierre Pelchat (613-951-2860; or toll-free 1-800-465-1991; jean-pierre.pelchat@statcan.ca), Agriculture Division. ■

For-hire motor carriers of freight, all carriers

First quarter 2006

There were an estimated 3,401 for-hire trucking companies based in Canada with annual revenues of \$1 million or more in the first quarter of 2006, up from 3,309 carriers in the first quarter of 2005. Their first quarter 2006 operating revenues totalled \$7.1 billion, and their operating expenses

reached almost \$6.6 billion, both up 11% from the same period in 2005.

On a year-over-year basis, average operating revenues and expenses both rose by 8% in the first quarter of 2006 compared to the first quarter of 2005; revenues were \$2.08 billion in the first quarter of 2006, and expenses were \$1.93 billion. The growth of operating expenses by carriers was driven mainly by higher salaries and wages, miscellaneous and fuel expenses. The operating ratio (operating expenses divided by operating revenues) remained unchanged at 0.93.

For-hire trucking transportation revenues from domestic movements increased by 16% to \$4.68 billion, up from \$4.02 billion one year ago. Meanwhile, revenues from international movements showed little movement with a marginal decrease (less than 1%) compared to the same total in the first quarter of 2005.

Available on CANSIM: table 403-0002.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2748.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Ron Chrétien (613-951-8774; fax: 613-951-0009; ron.chretien@statcan.ca) or Denis Pilon (613-951-2707; fax: 613-951-0579; denis.pilon@statcan.ca), Transportation Division. ■

Domestic travel

Third quarter 2005 (preliminary)

Canadian residents made 69.4 million visits within the country during the third quarter of 2005. Of this number, 36.1 million had pleasure as the main trip purpose and 26.3 million were to visit friends and relatives. Together, these two categories accounted for 90.0% of all the visits made by Canadian travellers within Canada. The number of visits made for business reasons totalled 2.5 million while those made for other reasons, such as attending a wedding or going to a medical appointment reached 4.5 million.

Same-day visits represented just over half of the total or 35.8 million, compared to the 33.5 million for overnights visits.

During the summer of 2005, most of the visits, 92.1%, were made by car or truck, for a total of 63.9 million, while the number of visits made by either bus or commercial aircraft totalled 1.4 million

each. The number of visits made by campers or RV, which are more popular during the summer period, reached 0.6 million.

The number of nights spent away from home by Canadians travelling within the country totalled 115.3 million between July and September 2005. About 60.1 million nights were spent in private accommodations, mostly in private homes (72.4%) and privately owned cottages (27.2%). During this summer season, the highest number of nights spent in a commercial accommodation was in campgrounds (17.3 million of nights). Among the remaining types of commercial accommodation, 10.9 and 3.9 million nights were spent in hotels and motels respectively.

These results represent some of the preliminary estimates of domestic travel for the third quarter of 2005 that are now available from the Travel Survey of Residents of Canada.

Note: In order to be considered domestic, a visit must originate and take place in Canada; end during the reference period; be less than 365 days/nights in duration; and be outside of the respondent's "usual" environment.

Since the beginning of 2005, a new survey called the Travel Survey of Residents of Canada (TSRC) has been conducted monthly to measure domestic travel in Canada. Featuring several definitional changes and a new questionnaire, this new survey provides estimates of domestic travel that are more in line with the international guidelines recommended by the United Nations. Up to the fourth quarter of 2004, estimates on domestic travel were provided by the Canadian Travel Survey (CTS). It should be noted that the TSRC estimates cannot be compared with those from the CTS. The document *Communications for the Travel Survey of Residents of Canada* gives you information about differences between these two surveys. To obtain a copy, click on survey number 3810 listed below.

Please note that the TSRC questionnaire used for the September reference month was slightly modified.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 3810.

For general information or to obtain data, contact Client Services (613-951-9169; toll-free 1-800-307-3382; fax: 613-951-2909; cult.tourstats@statcan.ca). To enquire about the concepts, questionnaires, methods or data quality of this release, contact Annie Gilbert (613-951-4483; annie.gilbert@statcan.ca), Culture Tourism, and the Centre for Education Statistics. ■

Electric utility construction price indexes

2005 (revised) and the first half of 2006 (preliminary)

Construction costs for distribution systems increased by 4.0% during the first half of 2006. The increase in the material component for this period (+8.2%) was the major contributor to this change. The revised 2005 data for distribution systems were 1.9% higher from 2004.

Construction costs for the transmission line system series rose 2.0% during the first six months of 2006 compared with the 1.5% increase for all of 2005. The transmission line component climbed 2.3% during the same period in 2006, while in 2005 there was a 1.1% annual gain. The rise in materials (+4.4%) significantly influenced this increase. The substation component rose by 1.8% in 2006 following the same increase the previous year. Station equipment (+2.1%) posted the largest gain.

Available on CANSIM: table 327-0011.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2316.

The second quarter 2006 issue of *Capital Expenditure Price Statistics* (62-007-XIE, free) will soon be available.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods, and data quality for this release, contact Client Services Unit (613-951-9606; fax: 613-951-1539; prices-prix@statcan.ca), or Adrian Fisher (613-951-9612), Prices Division. ■

Energy consumption by manufacturers

2005 (preliminary) and 2004 (final)

Data on energy consumption by manufacturing industries are now available for 2005.

Available on CANSIM: tables 128-0005 and 128-0006.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 5047.

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. ■

New products

Food Statistics, July to December 2005, Vol. 5, no. 2
Catalogue number 21-020-XIE
 (free).

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

Canada Food Stats, November 2006
Catalogue number 23F0001XBB (\$81/\$129).

Catalogue numbers with an -XWE, -XIB or an -XIE extension are Internet versions; those with -XMB or -XME are microfiche; -XPB or -XPE are paper versions; -XDB or -XDE are electronic versions on diskette; -XCB or -XCE are electronic versions on compact disc and -XBB or -XBE a database.

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