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# The Daily

## Statistics Canada

**Thursday, December 14, 2006**
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## Releases

# Releases

## Monthly Survey of Manufacturing

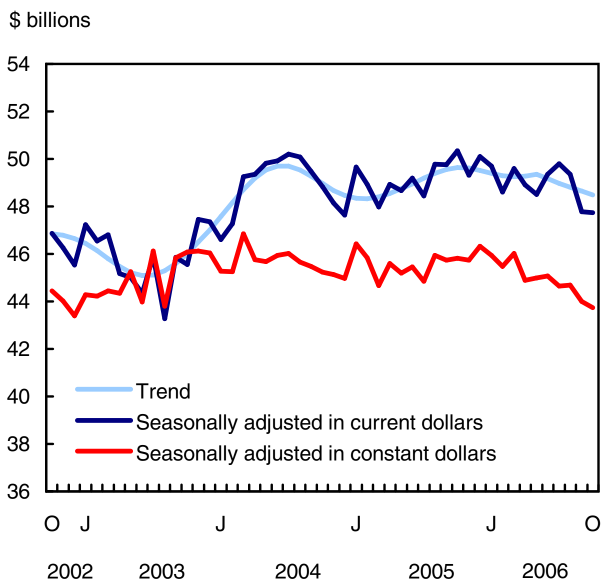
October 2006

Factory shipments hit their lowest level in nearly two years in October, mainly because of falling petroleum prices and a slowdown in the food and transportation equipment sectors.

Canadian manufacturers shipped goods worth an estimated $47.7 billion, down 0.1% from September and the lowest level since December 2004. While the rate of decline has eased, shipments have fallen for three consecutive months. As has been the case in three of the last four months, falling prices have been a major factor in the decline in shipment value.

After taking price fluctuations into account, the volume of shipments was down 0.6% to $43.7 billion, the lowest volume of shipments in nearly four years.

**Shipments at lowest level since December 2004**




On a year-to-date basis, the volume of shipments fell 1.5% between January and October this year, compared with the same period last year.

Manufacturing shipments were essentially stuck in neutral with 10 of 21 manufacturing industries falling, 10 rising and 1 virtually unchanged in October.

Durable goods shipments turned around following three months of decline in the last four, rising 0.8% to $25.9 billion thanks to a strong showing in the machinery sector.

Non-durable goods shipments have declined on lower commodity prices for the past three months, falling by 1.1% to $21.9 billion in October.

According to the Labour Force Survey, manufacturing employment continued its downward trend in October, falling by 15,000 and down 83,000 over the first 10 months of 2006. The lion's share of the losses were experienced in Ontario and Quebec.

***Note to readers***

*Preliminary estimates are provided for the current reference month. Estimates, based on late responses, are revised for the three prior months.*

***Non-durable goods industries** include food, beverage and tobacco products, textile mills, textile product mills, clothing, leather and allied products, paper, printing and related support activities, petroleum and coal products, chemicals, and plastics and rubber products.*

***Durable goods industries** include wood products, non-metallic mineral products, primary metals, fabricated metal products, machinery, computer and electronic products, electrical equipment, appliances and components, transportation equipment, furniture and related products and miscellaneous manufacturing.*

***Unfilled orders** are a stock of orders that will contribute to future shipments assuming that the orders are not cancelled.*

***New orders** are those received whether shipped in the current month or not. They are measured as the sum of shipments for the current month plus the change in unfilled orders. Some people interpret new orders as orders that will lead to future demand. This is inappropriate since the "new orders" variable includes orders that have already been shipped. Readers should note that the month-to-month change in new orders may be volatile. This will happen particularly if the previous month's change in unfilled orders is closely related to the current month's change.*

*Not all orders will be translated into Canadian factory shipments because portions of large contracts can be subcontracted out to manufacturers in other countries. Also, some orders may be cancelled.*

### Lowest output in motor vehicle industry in over three years

Transportation equipment fell 1.4% to $8.8 billion, the fourth consecutive decline and seventh monthly drop this year.

Despite a relatively strong month of automotive sales on both sides of the border, shipments in the motor vehicle industry fell 1.0% to $4.5 billion, the lowest level in over three years. This was due, in part, to a late start launching some 2007 model vehicles.

A combination of a slowdown in auto assembly and increased sourcing of parts from off-shore suppliers resulted in shipments falling from auto parts suppliers by 2.4% to $2.1 billion. It was the fourth monthly decline and the lowest level of shipments since June 1998.

Aerospace shipments fell 9.4% to $1.2 billion following strong quarter-end deliveries in September. Due to the high value of product of the aerospace industry, monthly swings of plus or minus hundreds of million dollars are not unusual. For the first 10 months of 2006, aerospace shipments were 4.1% lower than in the same period of last year.

Canadian refineries continued to produce at normal levels, but at reduced prices. Consequently, shipments of petroleum and coal products fell 6.2% to $4.4 billion. Prices declined by 6.3% because of burgeoning inventories of gasoline and crude oil in the United States in October.

Machinery manufacturing shipments rebounded from their lowest level in 14 months, with the single largest increase in shipments in October, an 8.6% jump to $2.7 billion. The machinery sub sector includes a broad variety of industries engaged in manufacturing industrial and commercial machinery.

Food manufacturing returned to normal shipment levels after an exceptional month in September. Food shipments fell 2.4% to $5.6 billion.

### Shipments increase in seven provinces

All Atlantic provinces but New Brunswick posted gains in October. New Brunswick, which accounts for nearly half of the region's manufacturing shipments, was more affected by lower prices for petroleum products and total shipments consequently fell 10.6%. Newfoundland and Labrador, Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island registered small increases on the strength of modest increases in food shipments.

In Quebec, shipments increased 1.2% to $11.9 billion. The province's largest manufacturing industry, primary metals, experienced strong gains on record commodity price levels, rising 4.4% to $1.8 billion, the highest level on record. This increase, coupled with a 29.4% increase in shipments from the chemicals industry to $1.0 billion, offset declines in the aerospace and oil refining industries.

Declines in Ontario's manufacturing industries were modest but widespread as two-thirds of them lost ground. Total shipments slipped 0.4% to $23.0 billion in October. Transportation equipment, Ontario's largest manufacturing sector, edged down 0.8% to $7.0 billion. The value of petroleum refining fell by 5.9% to $1.3 billion, consistent with commodity price declines. The machinery industry bounced back from a two-month slide with a 14.3% increase to $1.4 billion.

In Alberta, a three-month slide in oil prices was behind a 1.9% drop in shipments to $5.2 billion. Shipments of petroleum and coal products fell 6.9% to $1.0 billion in October. Chemical production, Alberta's leading manufacturing industry, fell 4.5% to $1.2 billion in October.

On the Prairies, shipments fell 0.9% to $7.3 billion. Alberta's shipments accounted for nearly three-quarters of this total. Consequently, a 4.2% gain in shipments in Saskatchewan, which reached $857 million, was not able to offset the decline in Alberta. Shipments from Manitoba remained virtually unchanged at $1.1 billion.

Shipments from British Columbia increased 0.9% to $3.5 billion as increases in non-metallic minerals, primary metals and petroleum and coal products offset the declines for shipments of wood products and food.

### Manufacturing shipments, provinces and territories

| | September 2006[r] | October 2006[p] | September to October 2006 |
|---|---|---|---|
| | Seasonally adjusted | | |
| | $ millions | | % change |
| **Canada** | **47,781** | **47,737** | **-0.1** |
| Newfoundland and Labrador | 159 | 170 | 7.1 |
| Prince Edward Island | 127 | 130 | 2.6 |
| Nova Scotia | 725 | 771 | 6.4 |
| New Brunswick | 1,157 | 1,035 | -10.6 |
| Quebec | 11,744 | 11,879 | 1.2 |
| Ontario | 23,041 | 22,959 | -0.4 |
| Manitoba | 1,162 | 1,162 | 0.0 |
| Saskatchewan | 822 | 857 | 4.2 |
| Alberta | 5,344 | 5,242 | -1.9 |
| British Columbia | 3,491 | 3,522 | 0.9 |
| Yukon | 3 | 3 | 15.8 |
| Northwest Territories including Nunavut | 7 | 7 | 6.3 |

r *revised*
p *preliminary*

### Inventories increase for fourth straight month

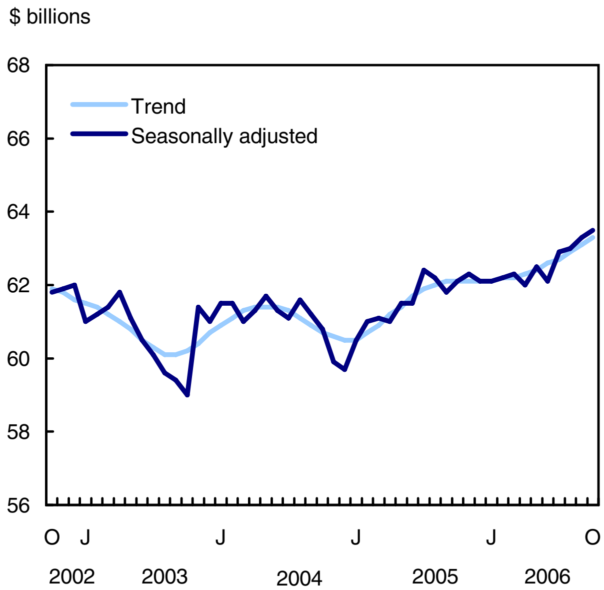
Total inventories for manufacturers increased 0.3% to $63.5 billion in October, the fourth increase in a row.

Transportation equipment inventories increased 1.6% to $8.8 billion — the highest level since March 2006. The aerospace industry had the largest gain, rising 2.9% to $4.0 billion, followed by the automotive industry which increased 4.8% to $1.5 billion.

Chemical inventories were up for the ninth time this year, up 0.9% to a record $7.2 billion.

By stage of fabrication, inventories of raw materials fell marginally while goods in process and finished product inventories increased in October.

**Inventories rise steadily**




### New orders for computers, machinery and metals jump

In October, new orders increased by 0.6% to $47.8 billion. Despite the modest increase in October, the series for new orders has generally been trending downward for the last 13 months. Contributing to October's increase were gains in the computer and electronic products industry (+14.1%), the machinery industry (+7.2%), fabricated metals (+9.6%) and primary metals, (+10.1%). Nearly offsetting these increases were declines in the transportation equipment industry, particularly in the aerospace industry, and a drop in year-end orders for heavy trucks.

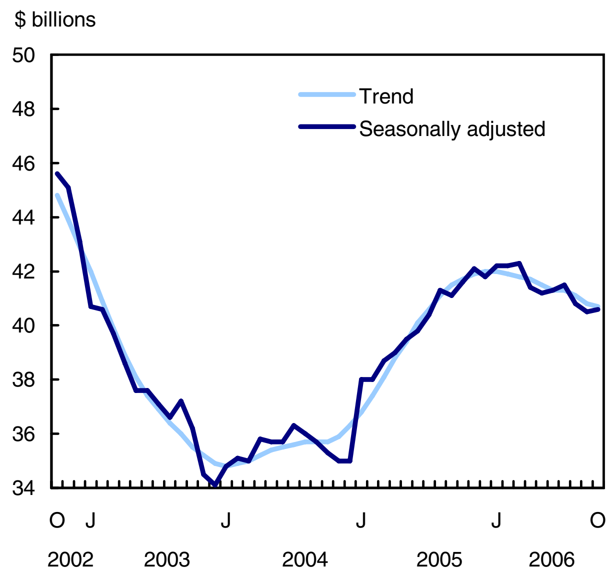
### Unfilled orders rise despite large drop in motor vehicles

Unfilled orders increased 0.2% to $40.6 billion. This occurred despite a 1.3% decline in the transportation equipment industry, where unfilled orders hit $20.3 billion. The drop was due mainly to declines in motor vehicles.

Transportation's decline was offset by increases in two industries: fabricated metal products, where unfilled orders rose $188 million, and computer and electronic products, where the gain was $136 million.

Unfilled orders in the motor vehicle industry slumped by more than a third to $633 million, a 23 month low and the largest single monthly decline on record.

**Unfilled orders edge up but overall trend is still down**



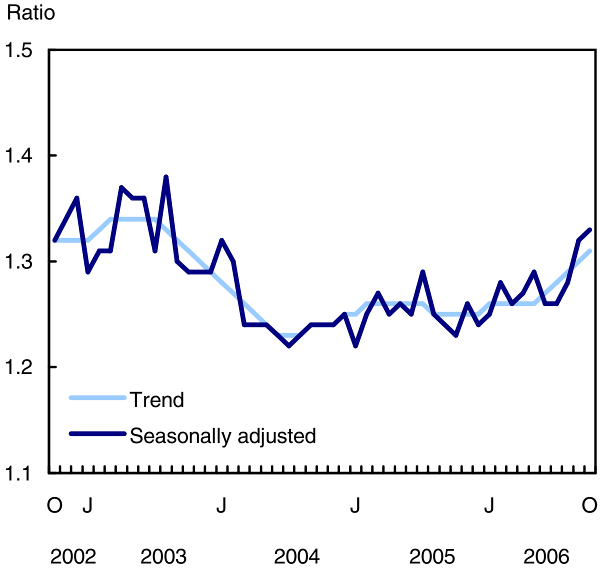

### Inventory-to-shipment ratio inches up

The inventory-to-shipment ratio continued to climb in October, increasing from 1.32 to 1.33 after rising from 1.28 to 1.32 in September. The current inventory to shipment ratio is the highest since reaching 1.38 in August 2003.

The combined effect of finished goods inventories rising 1.3%, and shipments dropping 0.1%, resulted in the finished-product inventory-to-shipment ratio increasing for the second straight month to 0.47 in October.

The inventory-to-shipment ratio is a key measure of the time, in months, that would be required to exhaust inventories if shipments were to remain at their current level.

**Inventory-to-shipment ratio rises for third straight month**




**Available on CANSIM: tables 304-0014, 304-0015 and 377-0008.**

**Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2101.**

All data are benchmarked to the 2004 Annual Survey of Manufactures.

Data from the November Monthly Survey of Manufacturing will be released on January 18, 2007.

For general information or to order data, contact the dissemination officer (toll-free 1-866-873-8789; 613-951-9497; fax: 613-951-9499; *manufact@statcan.ca*). To enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of the release, contact Daryl Keen (613-951-1810, *keendar@statcan.ca*), Manufacturing, Construction and Energy Division.

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## Shipments, inventories and orders in all manufacturing industries

| | Shipments | | Inventories | | Unfilled orders | | New orders | | Inventories-to-shipments ratio |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Seasonally adjusted | | | | | | | | |
| | $ millions | % change | $ millions | % change | $ millions | % change | $ millions | % change | |
| October 2005 | 50,350 | 1.2 | 62,118 | 0.4 | 41,646 | 1.3 | 50,883 | 2.5 | 1.23 |
| November 2005 | 49,319 | -2.0 | 62,289 | 0.3 | 42,083 | 1.0 | 49,755 | -2.2 | 1.26 |
| December 2005 | 50,098 | 1.6 | 62,051 | -0.4 | 41,753 | -0.8 | 49,769 | 0.0 | 1.24 |
| January 2006 | 49,668 | -0.9 | 62,066 | 0.0 | 42,179 | 1.0 | 50,094 | 0.7 | 1.25 |
| February 2006 | 48,479 | -2.4 | 62,216 | 0.2 | 42,183 | 0.0 | 48,483 | -3.2 | 1.28 |
| March 2006 | 49,469 | 2.0 | 62,292 | 0.1 | 42,308 | 0.3 | 49,594 | 2.3 | 1.26 |
| April 2006 | 48,827 | -1.3 | 62,003 | -0.5 | 41,386 | -2.2 | 47,905 | -3.4 | 1.27 |
| May 2006 | 48,505 | -0.7 | 62,495 | 0.8 | 41,154 | -0.6 | 48,273 | 0.8 | 1.29 |
| June 2006 | 49,356 | 1.8 | 62,132 | -0.6 | 41,298 | 0.4 | 49,474 | 2.5 | 1.26 |
| July 2006 | 49,805 | 0.9 | 62,898 | 1.2 | 41,485 | 0.5 | 49,992 | 1.0 | 1.26 |
| August 2006 | 49,347 | -0.9 | 62,979 | 0.1 | 40,771 | -1.7 | 48,633 | -2.7 | 1.28 |
| September 2006 | 47,781 | -3.2 | 63,279 | 0.5 | 40,499 | -0.7 | 47,509 | -2.3 | 1.32 |
| October 2006 | 47,737 | -0.1 | 63,454 | 0.3 | 40,565 | 0.2 | 47,803 | 0.6 | 1.33 |

## Manufacturing industries except motor vehicle, parts and accessories

| | Shipments | | Inventories | | Unfilled orders | | New orders | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Seasonally adjusted | | | | | | | |
| | $ millions | % change | $ millions | % change | $ millions | % change | $ millions | % change |
| October 2005 | 41,980 | 0.3 | 59,113 | 0.7 | 39,530 | 1.5 | 42,555 | 2.0 |
| November 2005 | 41,351 | -1.5 | 59,298 | 0.3 | 39,906 | 1.0 | 41,728 | -1.9 |
| December 2005 | 42,067 | 1.7 | 59,060 | -0.4 | 39,447 | -1.2 | 41,607 | -0.3 |
| January 2006 | 42,034 | -0.1 | 59,053 | -0.0 | 39,771 | 0.8 | 42,358 | 1.8 |
| February 2006 | 40,787 | -3.0 | 59,329 | 0.5 | 39,652 | -0.3 | 40,669 | -4.0 |
| March 2006 | 42,086 | 3.2 | 59,496 | 0.3 | 39,552 | -0.3 | 41,985 | 3.2 |
| April 2006 | 41,432 | -1.6 | 59,275 | -0.4 | 38,668 | -2.2 | 40,548 | -3.4 |
| May 2006 | 41,330 | -0.2 | 59,782 | 0.9 | 38,422 | -0.6 | 41,084 | 1.3 |
| June 2006 | 41,966 | 1.5 | 59,464 | -0.5 | 38,722 | 0.8 | 42,239 | 2.8 |
| July 2006 | 42,448 | 1.2 | 59,959 | 0.8 | 38,988 | 0.7 | 42,715 | 1.1 |
| August 2006 | 42,157 | -0.7 | 60,165 | 0.3 | 38,543 | -1.1 | 41,711 | -2.3 |
| September 2006 | 41,042 | -2.6 | 60,371 | 0.3 | 38,589 | 0.1 | 41,088 | -1.5 |
| October 2006 | 41,099 | 0.1 | 60,486 | 0.2 | 39,056 | 1.2 | 41,566 | 1.2 |

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# Canada's international investment position

Third quarter 2006

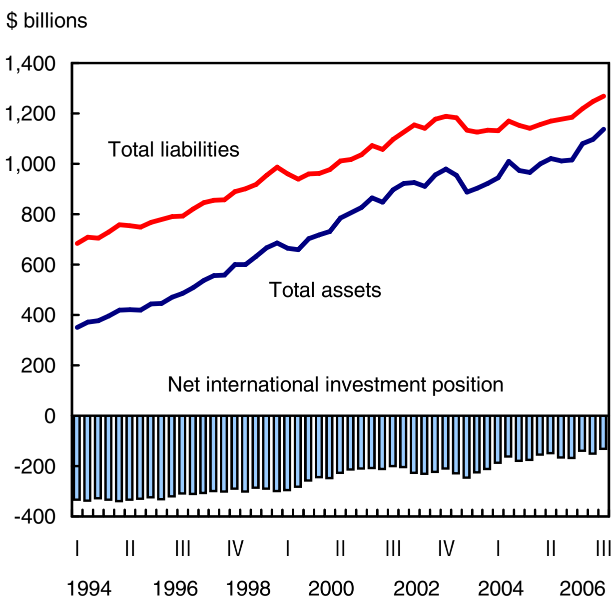
Canada's net liability to foreign residents fell to its lowest point in a quarter century at the end of September.

Net external liability (the difference between the value of our international liabilities and our international assets) reached $131.9 billion at the end of the third quarter, down 12.5%, or $18.8 billion, from the end of the second quarter.

It was the lowest level since the end of 1980, when international assets represented only half of international liabilities.

The value of Canada's international assets rose $40.7 billion to $1,137.0 billion at the end of the quarter. There were gains in most asset categories led by Canadian direct investment abroad and Canadian holdings of foreign bonds.

**Canada's international investment position**




At the same time, Canada's international liabilities increased $22.0 billion to $1,269.0 billion. Two-thirds of this increase was due to a gain in foreign direct investment in Canada.

The variation of the Canadian dollar against foreign currencies had very little impact on the value of existing holdings during the third quarter. The Canadian dollar gained 1.6% against the Japanese yen and 0.7% against the euro. But it lost 1.4% against the pound sterling and was virtually unchanged compared to the US dollar.

***Estimates at market value***

*As of the first quarter of 2005, total portfolio investment (equities, bonds and money market instruments) are available at market value. Annual market value estimates of foreign direct investment are also available and were released earlier this year. These additional series are part of a multi-year initiative to improve the international investment position information. The following analysis focuses on the book value series, however, and this practice will continue until a full set of market value estimates becomes available.*

***Currency valuation***

*The value of assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currency are converted to Canadian dollars at the end of each period for which a balance sheet is calculated. Most of Canada's foreign assets are denominated in foreign currencies while less than half of our international liabilities are in foreign currencies.*

*When the Canadian dollar is appreciating in value, the restatement of the value of these assets and liabilities in Canadian dollars lowers the recorded value. The opposite is true when the dollar is depreciating.*

Net liabilities represented 9.2% of Canada's gross domestic product (GDP) at the end of the third quarter, the lowest proportion ever, down from 10.5% at the end of the second. This proportion has been declining steadily from a peak of 44.3% in 1994.

## General rise in assets abroad

Canadian direct investment abroad reached $487.8 billion at the end of September, up $11.4 billion from the end of June.

This increase came mostly from injections of working capital into existing foreign affiliates and reinvested earnings. Of this total, direct investment in the United States amounted to $216.7 billion.

Canadian investors continued to purchase foreign bonds at a good pace during the third quarter. As a result, Canadian holdings of foreign bonds rose $9.3 billion to a record $112.4 billion.

Most of this increase was directed to overseas bonds. Canadians increased their holdings of overseas bonds by about 22% in the third quarter.

In two years, Canadians have more than doubled their holdings of foreign bonds, from $53.4 billion to $112.4 billion. Foreign bonds represented 10% of Canada's international assets at the end of the quarter compared to just 5% two years ago. Foreign content limits for tax-deferred Canadian investment vehicles were eliminated during 2005, contributing to the increase.

Canadian investors also increased substantially their holdings of foreign money market paper at the end of the quarter. These holdings reached $17.6 billion, up 38.6% from the second quarter.

As was the case for bonds, most of this increase was directed to overseas paper and especially those denominated in Canadian dollars. At the same time, holdings of foreign stocks reached $195.5 billion, up $2.4 billion.

While Canada's official international reserves were stable, levels of other asset categories, such as loans and deposits, were up at the end of September.

### Liabilities: Jump in foreign direct investment

Foreign direct investment in Canada jumped $14.2 billion to $447.8 billion at the end of September, the biggest quarterly increase since 2000. Foreign direct investors increased their investment position in Canada, mainly through acquisitions in the third quarter.

Foreign direct investment from the United States reached $280.7 billion, up $3.5 billion from the previous quarter. On the other hand, direct investments from all other countries amounted to $167.1 billion, up $10.7 billion.

Since the end of 2004, the foreign direct investment position in Canada increased 17.5%, or $66.8 billion, while Canadian direct investment abroad rose only 8.1%, or $36.4 billion.

Canada's net direct investment asset (the difference between Canadian direct investment abroad and foreign direct investment in Canada) was at $40.0 billion at the end of September, down from $70.4 billion at the end of 2004.

Over this period, the decrease in net direct investment asset has offset the overall reduction of the country's net external liability.

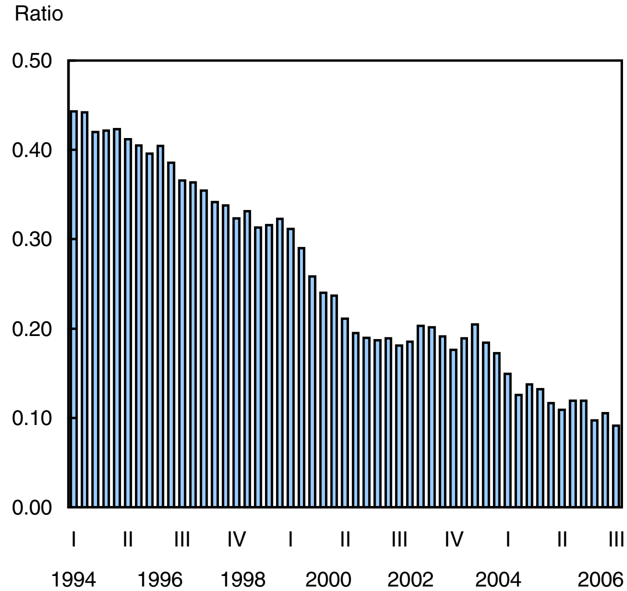
### Foreign holdings of Canadian securities stable

Foreign portfolio investment in Canadian securities including stocks, bonds and money market paper, was stable at the end of September compared to the previous quarter.

Foreign holdings of Canadian bonds were up $2.7 billion in value to $371.9 billion, while foreign holdings of Canadian stocks decreased slightly to $114.2 billion. At the same time, foreign holdings of Canadian money market paper fell $1.1 billion to $25.9 billion after a strong increase in the second quarter.

Finally, loan liabilities to non-residents, mostly short-term loans, rose by $5.0 billion to $49.0 billion.

**Canada's net international liability to GDP**




**Available on CANSIM: tables 376-0055 to 376-0057 and 376-0059.**

**Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 1537.**

The third quarter 2006 issue of *Canada's International Investment Position* (67-202-XWE) will be available soon.

For general information, contact Client Services (613-951-1855; *infobalance@statcan.ca*). To enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Éric Simard (613-951-7244) or Christian Lajule (613-951-2062), Balance of Payments Division.

## Canada's international investment position at period-end

| | Fourth quarter 2004 | Fourth quarter 2005 | First quarter 2006 | Second quarter 2006 | Third quarter 2006 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | $ billions | | | | |
| **Assets** | | | | | |
| Canadian direct investment abroad | 451.4 | 465.1 | 479.3 | 476.4 | 487.8 |
| Portfolio investment abroad | | | | | |
| Foreign bonds | 58.6 | 82.4 | 93.5 | 103.1 | 112.4 |
| Foreign bonds at market value | 62.9 | 88.8 | 99.0 | 108.2 | 121.1 |
| Foreign stocks | 195.6 | 189.2 | 193.9 | 193.1 | 195.5 |
| Foreign stocks at market value | 384.4 | 422.8 | 459.4 | 442.7 | 472.1 |
| Foreign money market | 11.1 | 13.1 | 14.1 | 12.7 | 17.6 |
| Foreign money market at market value | 11.1 | 13.1 | 14.1 | 12.7 | 17.7 |
| Other investment | | | | | |
| Loans | 49.8 | 48.3 | 61.8 | 65.0 | 72.8 |
| Deposits | 109.4 | 120.7 | 133.9 | 146.0 | 150.1 |
| Official international reserves | 40.3 | 38.0 | 42.1 | 40.3 | 40.1 |
| Other assets | 50.1 | 59.3 | 61.2 | 59.7 | 60.6 |
| Total assets | | | | | |
| at book value | 966.4 | 1,016.0 | 1,080.1 | 1,096.3 | 1,137.0 |
| with portfolio investment at market value | 1,159.5 | 1,256.1 | 1,351.0 | 1,351.1 | 1,422.4 |
| **Liabilities** | | | | | |
| Foreign direct investment in Canada | 381.0 | 415.6 | 427.0 | 433.6 | 447.8 |
| Portfolio investment | | | | | |
| Canadian bonds | 398.1 | 380.0 | 379.8 | 369.2 | 371.9 |
| Canadian bonds at market value | 429.6 | 407.0 | 401.9 | 382.8 | 396.2 |
| Canadian stocks | 104.2 | 107.6 | 110.3 | 114.3 | 114.2 |
| Canadian stocks at market value | 250.1 | 314.7 | 346.1 | 342.4 | 346.3 |
| Canadian money market | 19.6 | 20.8 | 22.9 | 27.0 | 25.9 |
| Canadian money market at market value | 19.7 | 20.9 | 23.0 | 27.2 | 26.1 |
| Other investment | | | | | |
| Loans | 40.2 | 36.1 | 40.5 | 44.0 | 49.0 |
| Deposits | 176.0 | 201.6 | 215.4 | 236.2 | 237.4 |
| Other liabilities | 22.0 | 22.8 | 23.2 | 22.7 | 22.7 |
| Total liabilities | | | | | |
| at book value | 1,141.0 | 1,184.5 | 1,219.1 | 1,247.0 | 1,269.0 |
| with portfolio investment at market value | 1,318.5 | 1,418.7 | 1,477.1 | 1,488.9 | 1,525.6 |
| **Net international investment position** | | | | | |
| at book value | -174.6 | -168.5 | -139.1 | -150.7 | -131.9 |
| with portfolio investment at market value | -159.0 | -162.6 | -126.1 | -137.9 | -103.2 |

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## Current economic conditions

The East–West divide in economic activity in the country is now most evident in non-residential building. All the Western provinces posted gains in October in this sector, and year-over-year increases were just over 25% in Alberta and Saskatchewan. Commercial construction led growth, especially in Alberta where the office vacancy rate was near zero.

For total building permits, an all-time high was recorded in the Prairies. For Alberta, the billion-dollar mark was surpassed for the fourth month in a row. The province was second only to Ontario for the value of the permits issued.

Rapid growth in the West is helping to equalize unemployment rates across the country. The chronic double-digit unemployment rates in the Atlantic region are fading. The unemployment rate in this region was at a record low of 9.3% in November.

The unemployment rate has fallen over a full point since the start of the year in New Brunswick, Nova Scotia and Newfoundland and Labrador, to match or exceed the drop in Alberta's unemployment rate. However, the decrease in the Atlantic provinces was driven more by a shrinking supply of people in the labour force while Alberta's was the result of rapid job growth.

At 7.4%, Nova Scotia's unemployment rate was the lowest on record since 1976. Like New Brunswick's 8.5% rate, this ends the double-digit rates that persisted throughout the 1980s and 1990s and appeared as recently as October 2005 in New Brunswick and August 2003 in Nova Scotia.

Even Newfoundland and Labrador's rate (13.7%) was under 14% for the first time since early 1982: it was 16.5% at the start of the year, and often exceeded 20% in the 1990s. But the price of these reductions was an exodus of people, especially the young, aggravating the aging of their population.

**Definitions, data sources and methods: survey numbers, including related surveys, 1301, 1901, 2152, 2306, 2406 and 3701.**

The print version of the December 2006 issue of *Canadian Economic Observer*, Vol. 19, no. 12 (11-010-XPB, $25/$243) is now available. See *How to order products*. This issue summarizes the major economic events that occurred in November and presents an article entitled "Trade liberalization and the Canadian clothing market."

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Philip Cross (613-951-9162; *ceo@statcan.ca*), Current Economic Analysis Group. ■

## Domestic sales of refined petroleum products

October 2006 (preliminary)

Sales of refined petroleum products increased in four of the seven major product groups in October compared to October 2005.

Sales totalled 8 680 900 cubic metres, up 3.6% on a year-over-year basis. (One cubic metre is equivalent to 6.3 barrels.)

Diesel fuel oil sales showed the biggest increase, a gain of 106 000 cubic metres or 4.6%. Motor gasoline sales were up 1.9%, or 66 800 cubic metres. Light fuel oil sales were up 8.1%, or 24 200 cubic metres.

Sales of all three grades of motor gasoline increased in October. The biggest increase (+13.2%) occurred in premium grades, followed by mid-grade at 4.3% and regular non-leaded at 1.0%.

On a year-to-date basis, sales of refined petroleum at the end of October reached 83 340 600 cubic metres, down 1.1% from October 2005.

Of the seven major product groups, three showed declines in sales. The largest drop was in heavy fuel oil, where sales fell 19.7%, or 1 271 700 cubic metres. Also, sales of aviation turbo fuels increased 131 300 cubic metres or 2.4%, while light fuel oil declined 10.2% or 366 900 cubic metres.

**Note:** Preliminary data on domestic sales of refined petroleum products are no longer available on CANSIM.

**Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2150.**

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 or 613-951-9497; *energ@statcan.ca*), Manufacturing, Construction and Energy Division. □

### Sales of refined petroleum products

| | October 2005[r] | October 2006[p] | October 2005 to October 2006 |
|---|---|---|---|
| | thousands of cubic metres | | % change |
| **Total, all products** | **8 380.3** | **8 680.9** | **3.6** |
| Motor gasoline | 3 437.7 | 3 504.5 | 1.9 |
| Diesel fuel oil | 2 285.6 | 2 391.6 | 4.6 |
| Light fuel oil | 299.6 | 323.8 | 8.1 |
| Heavy fuel oil | 592.8 | 543.2 | -8.4 |
| Aviation turbo fuels | 562.8 | 506.6 | -10.0 |
| Petrochemical feedstocks[1] | 149.9 | 435.6 | 190.6 |
| All other refined products | 1 052.0 | 975.7 | -7.2 |

| | January 2005 to October 2005[r] | January 2006 to October 2006[p] | January–October 2005 to January–October 2006 |
|---|---|---|---|
| | thousands of cubic metres | | % change |
| **Total, all products** | **84 299.0** | **83 340.6** | **-1.1** |
| Motor gasoline | 34 094.2 | 34 060.4 | -0.1 |
| Diesel fuel oil | 21 981.3 | 22 053.0 | 0.3 |
| Light fuel oil | 3 589.4 | 3 222.5 | -10.2 |
| Heavy fuel oil | 6 471.1 | 5 199.4 | -19.7 |
| Aviation turbo fuels | 5 485.3 | 5 616.6 | 2.4 |
| Petrochemical feedstocks[1] | 3 439.8 | 3 867.8 | 12.4 |
| All other refined products | 9 238.0 | 9 327.3 | 1.0 |

r *revised*
p *preliminary*
1. *Materials produced by refineries that are used by the petrochemical industry to produce chemicals, synthetic rubber and a variety of plastics.*

■

## Steel wire and specified wire products
October 2006

Data on steel wire and specified wire products production are now available for October.

**Available on CANSIM: table 303-0047.**

**Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2106.**

The October 2006 issue of *Steel, Tubular Products and Steel Wire* (41-019-XWE, free) will soon be available.

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. ■

## Aircraft movement statistics: Major airports
October 2006

The October 2006 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 TP141 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 website.

**Available on CANSIM: tables 401-0007 to 401-0020.**

**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

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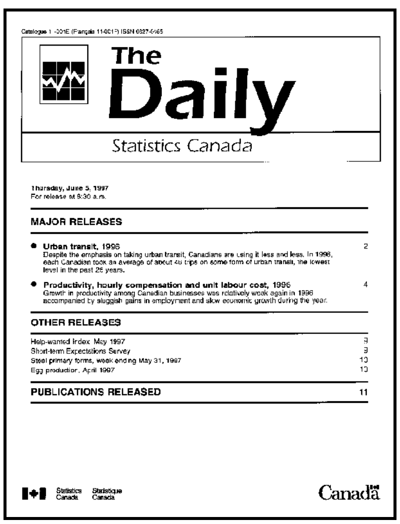
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