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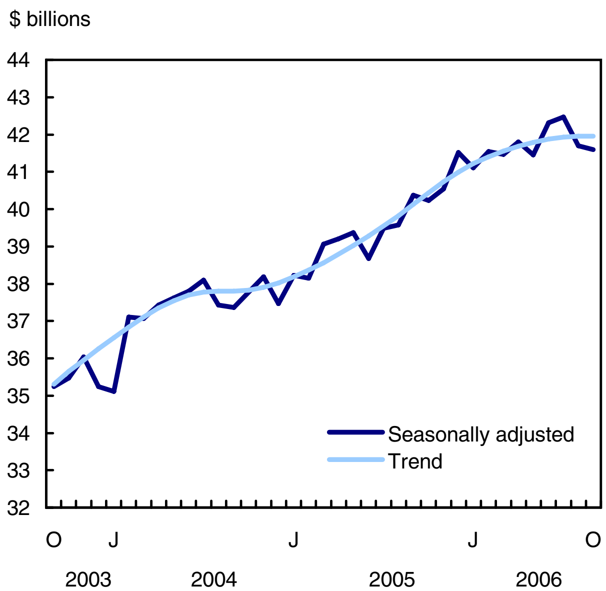
Wholesale trade

Wholesale sales edged down slightly in October, leading the industry to its first back-to-back monthly declines in two years. Lower sales of automotive products were responsible for most of October's decrease.

After falling 1.8% in September, wholesale sales slipped a further 0.2% in October to $41.6 billion. Most of the decline was caused by another significant drop in automotive sales (-3.2%), which have fallen continuously since hitting a peak in July. Small declines in sales were also registered by wholesalers of building materials, "other products" and food, beverage and tobacco products.

Wholesale sales fall for second consecutive month



A more positive picture emerges once the drop in automotive sales is excluded, with overall sales outside of the auto sector rising 0.4% in October. Wholesalers of machinery and electronic equipment (+2.5%), personal and household goods (+1.2%) and farm products (+4.7%) all did relatively well during the month.

While the overall trend for the wholesale sector remains positive, it has eased somewhat over the past few months, in line with the general softening of the Canadian economy. According to the latest quarterly gross domestic product release, the Canadian economy grew at an annualized rate of 1.7% in the third quarter, its slowest pace in three years.

Sales in constant dollars decreased 0.8% in October.

Auto sales hit their lowest monthly level in over a year

The automotive sector continued its recent weakening trend in October as sales fell a further 3.2% to $7.5 billion, the sector's lowest monthly sales level since July 2005. Sales of motor vehicles (-3.4%) were behind most of the decline, although sales of motor vehicle parts also fell (-2.6%) during the month.

October's decline was the third in a row for the motor vehicle trade group, and follows even larger declines in both August and September. Part of the recent weakness in this trade group can be explained by falling vehicle exports to the United States, which have been on a downward trend since the start of the year. Sales of vehicles destined for the Canadian market on the other hand have held up reasonably well, with domestic vehicle sales rising 1.6% during the first 10 months of the year, according to the latest numbers from the New Motor Vehicles Sales Survey.

Building materials sector falls in October

Sales in the building materials sector declined 0.9% to $5.8 billion in October, with the decline split between the building supplies and lumber and millwork trade groups. Sales of metal products were essentially flat during the month.

Building supply sales fell 1.1% to $3.6 billion in October. After posting strong growth in the first quarter, sales in this trade group have levelled off over the past six months or so, in line with the cooling of the Canadian housing market. Total investment in residential construction registered a second consecutive quarterly drop in the third quarter.

Following two months of increases, the lumber and millwork trade group resumed its downward slide in October (-1.7%). Sales in this trade group have now fallen for six of the past eight months, as lumber wholesalers continue to be buffeted by the slowdown in the US housing market, lower lumber prices and the strong Canadian dollar.

Machinery and electronic equipment sector recovers from September drop

After posting a significant decline in September, wholesalers in the machinery and electronic equipment sector saw their sales rise by 2.5% in October to $8.9 billion. All three trade groups in this sector registered healthy gains during the month, led by machinery and equipment (+2.9%) and computers and other electronic equipment (+2.5%).

The rebound in machinery and equipment sales follows a large 4.1% decline in September. While sales in this trade group have been somewhat sluggish over the past several months, this follows healthy gains made earlier in the year. Wholesalers of equipment destined for the mining and energy industries have done particular well so far this year as companies continue to invest in the booming resource sector.

Following two consecutive monthly declines, sales of computer and other electronic equipment reversed course in October, rising 2.5% to $2.7 billion. Wholesalers of office and professional equipment also did well during the month, as sales increased 1.9% to $2.1 billion.

Demand for personal and household goods rises as holiday period approaches

Sales in the personal and household goods sector increased 1.2% to $6.2 billion in October. Higher sales of household and personal products (+1.9%) were the major driver behind the overall growth in this sector, although sellers of apparel also posted a solid gain (+1.7%).

The growth in the household and personal products trade group was mainly driven by higher sales of popular Christmas gift items, as retailers stocked their shelves in preparation for the crucial holiday period. Wholesalers of home entertainment equipment, books, jewellery and toys all saw substantial increases in sales during the month. Demand for home entertainment equipment was particularly strong, which was likely due to the impending launch of a new generation of gaming consoles as well as growing consumer interest in flat-panel televisions.

Most provinces and territories down in October

Of the 13 provinces and territories, 9 registered declines in October, with the most significant drops coming in Saskatchewan (-4.9%), Alberta (-1.3%) and Prince Edward Island (-6.4%).

In Saskatchewan, lower sales of agricultural products, mainly fertilizers, were behind most of the decline. With products related to the agricultural industry accounting for around half of all wholesale sales in Saskatchewan, sales in this province tend to be quite volatile. The decline in Alberta was the first in six months for the province, and was primarily due to lower sales of automotive and "other" products. Meanwhile, sales in Prince Edward Island were hit by lower sales of food products, mainly fish and seafood, as well as machinery and equipment.

British Columbia recorded the most significant provincial increase in sales (+1.9%), recouping some of the ground that was lost in September (-4.7%). Higher sales of "other products" and machinery and equipment were behind most of rise in October.

Inventory-to-sales ratio rises again

After hitting a three year high in September, the inventory-to-sales ratio edged up again in October, rising from 1.27 to 1.28. The ratio measures the amount of time (in months) that it would take to exhaust inventories at the current rate of sales. Of 15 trade groups, 12 recorded higher inventories in October, with the most significant increases coming in the automotive and pharmaceutical groups.

Available on CANSIM: tables 081-0007 and 081-0010.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2401.

The October 2006 issue of *Wholesale Trade* (63-008-XWE, free) will soon be available.

Wholesale trade estimates for November will be released on January 19, 2007.

For data or general information, contact Client Services (toll-free 1-877-421-3067; 613-951-3549; *wholesaleinfo@statcan.ca*). To enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Marc Atkins (613-951-0291; *marc.atkins@statcan.ca*), Distributive Trades Division.

□

Wholesale merchants' inventories and inventory-to-sales ratio

	October 2005	July 2006r	August 2006r	September 2006r	October 2006p	September to October 2006	October 2005 to October 2006	September 2006r	October 2006p
	Seasonally adjusted								
	Wholesale inventories							Inventory-to-sales ratio	
	$ millions					% change			
Inventories	**48,727**	**52,199**	**52,936**	**52,835**	**53,183**	**0.7**	**9.1**	**1.27**	**1.28**
Farm products	193	193	198	198	207	4.4	7.0	0.43	0.42
Food products	4,315	4,323	4,382	4,278	4,294	0.4	-0.5	0.60	0.61
Alcohol and tobacco	290	292	286	285	278	-2.5	-4.1	0.43	0.42
Apparel	1,672	1,640	1,675	1,660	1,665	0.3	-0.4	2.27	2.24
Household and personal products	3,386	3,947	3,905	3,879	3,838	-1.1	13.3	1.48	1.43
Pharmaceuticals	3,233	3,178	3,140	3,177	3,288	3.5	1.7	1.16	1.20
Motor vehicles	4,401	4,738	4,971	4,841	4,978	2.8	13.1	0.78	0.84
Motor vehicle parts and accessories	3,241	3,307	3,347	3,291	3,342	1.5	3.1	2.04	2.13
Building supplies	5,138	5,578	5,624	5,591	5,654	1.1	10.0	1.55	1.59
Metal products	2,327	2,888	2,982	3,004	3,022	0.6	29.8	2.41	2.42
Lumber and millwork	1,042	1,044	1,032	1,048	1,075	2.5	3.2	1.06	1.10
Machinery and equipment	9,263	10,851	11,058	11,235	11,294	0.5	21.9	2.80	2.73
Computer and other electronic equipment	1,525	1,595	1,614	1,593	1,616	1.4	6.0	0.61	0.61
Office and professional equipment	2,511	2,621	2,667	2,691	2,707	0.6	7.8	1.32	1.30
Other products	6,189	6,007	6,055	6,062	5,927	-2.2	-4.2	1.18	1.17

r *revised*
p *preliminary*

Wholesale merchants' sales

	October 2005	July 2006r	August 2006r	September 2006r	October 2006p	September to October 2006	October 2005 to October 2006
	Seasonally adjusted						
	$ millions					% change	
Total, wholesale sales	**40,373**	**42,318**	**42,472**	**41,694**	**41,595**	**-0.2**	**3.0**
Farm products	**570**	**419**	**448**	**465**	**487**	**4.7**	**-14.6**
Food, beverages and tobacco products	**7,289**	**7,590**	**7,808**	**7,732**	**7,681**	**-0.7**	**5.4**
Food products	6,671	6,956	7,141	7,074	7,027	-0.7	5.3
Alcohol and tobacco	618	633	667	658	654	-0.5	5.9
Personal and household goods	**5,902**	**5,906**	**6,135**	**6,086**	**6,157**	**1.2**	**4.3**
Apparel	901	762	734	730	743	1.7	-17.6
Household and personal products	2,376	2,502	2,686	2,628	2,679	1.9	12.7
Pharmaceuticals	2,625	2,642	2,716	2,727	2,735	0.3	4.2
Automotive products	**8,158**	**8,929**	**8,171**	**7,781**	**7,529**	**-3.2**	**-7.7**
Motor vehicles	6,640	7,355	6,571	6,167	5,957	-3.4	-10.3
Motor vehicle parts and accessories	1,518	1,574	1,600	1,614	1,572	-2.6	3.5
Building materials	**5,569**	**5,714**	**5,795**	**5,838**	**5,784**	**-0.9**	**3.9**
Building supplies	3,384	3,478	3,549	3,601	3,562	-1.1	5.3
Metal products	1,128	1,282	1,276	1,245	1,247	0.1	10.5
Lumber and millwork	1,057	954	970	993	976	-1.7	-7.7
Machinery and electronic equipment	**8,231**	**8,909**	**8,962**	**8,653**	**8,873**	**2.5**	**7.8**
Machinery and equipment	3,866	4,173	4,184	4,013	4,131	2.9	6.9
Computer and other electronic equipment	2,515	2,718	2,704	2,598	2,662	2.5	5.8
Office and professional equipment	1,850	2,018	2,074	2,042	2,081	1.9	12.5
Other products	**4,654**	**4,851**	**5,154**	**5,139**	**5,084**	**-1.1**	**9.3**
Total: Excluding automobiles	**32,214**	**33,389**	**34,302**	**33,914**	**34,066**	**0.4**	**5.7**
Sales, province and territory							
Newfoundland and Labrador	217	225	231	225	229	2.0	5.4
Prince Edward Island	36	31	34	35	32	-6.4	-10.5
Nova Scotia	526	557	565	567	561	-1.1	6.6
New Brunswick	393	405	410	408	411	0.6	4.5
Quebec	7,760	7,842	7,913	7,821	7,842	0.3	1.1
Ontario	20,400	21,751	21,371	20,803	20,749	-0.3	1.7
Manitoba	1,114	972	1,000	1,033	1,022	-1.1	-8.3
Saskatchewan	1,190	1,110	1,214	1,241	1,180	-4.9	-0.8
Alberta	4,707	5,181	5,207	5,242	5,173	-1.3	9.9
British Columbia	4,008	4,214	4,493	4,283	4,364	1.9	8.9
Yukon	6	10	11	11	10	-3.5	70.7
Northwest Territories	15	17	22	24	20	-15.2	36.3
Nunavut	2	2	2	3	2	-30.7	-1.2

r *revised*
p *preliminary*

Deaths
2004

Life expectancy in Canada for both sexes combined surpassed 80 years for the first time in 2004, increasing from 79.9 years to 80.2.

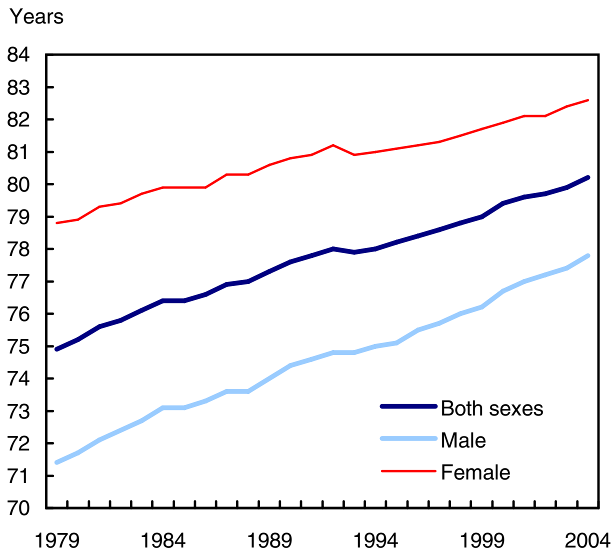
Between 1979 and 2004, life expectancy among men rose 6.4 years, while among women, it increased only 3.8 years.

Life expectancy rose in 2004 for both sexes, but the growth was stronger among men. For men, life expectancy increased by 0.4 years to 77.8 years, while for women, it went up by only 0.2 years to 82.6.

Women born in 2004 are expected to live about 4.8 years longer than their male counterparts. This was down slightly from 5.0 years in 2003.

The widest gap between male and female life expectancy during the last quarter century was in 1979 at 7.4 years. The gap in female-male life expectancy in 2004 was the smallest in the past 25 years.

Gap in life expectancy at birth between men and women narrowing



Infant mortality rate remains stable

In comparison to 2003, Canada's infant mortality rate remained stable in 2004 at 5.3 infant deaths for every 1,000 live births. During the past 25 years, the rate has declined by 52%.

In 2004, the infant mortality rate among boys fell to 5.5 per 1,000 live births, down from 5.7 in 2003. However, the rate among girls increased from 4.8 to 5.0 per 1,000 live births.

In 2004, infant mortality rates were below the national average in seven regions: Newfoundland and Labrador, Quebec, Nova Scotia, British Columbia, Prince Edward Island, New Brunswick and the Northwest Territories.

Between 2003 and 2004, infant mortality rates increased in British Columbia, Newfoundland and Labrador, New Brunswick, Ontario, Quebec and Yukon Territory. The highest increase was in Yukon.

Death increase one of smallest in the past 25 years

In total, there were 226,584 deaths registered in Canada in 2004, up only 415 or 0.2% from 2003. This was one of the smallest annual increases in the number of deaths in the past 25 years.

In 2004, a total of 114,513 men died, down 0.3% from 2003 and just the fifth decline since 1979. At the same time, the number of women who died rose 0.7% to 112,071. It was the smallest increase in female deaths in the past four years.

Gains in the overall number of deaths since the mid-1990s have been almost exclusively the result of continuing increases in female deaths. Deaths among men reached a plateau during the mid-1990s.

Deaths among women could soon outnumber those among men

Deaths among women could soon outnumber those among men, according to mortality data.

For every 100 female deaths in 2004, there were 102 male deaths. This sex ratio in 2004 was the smallest during the past quarter-century, and was well below the ratio of 135 in 1979.

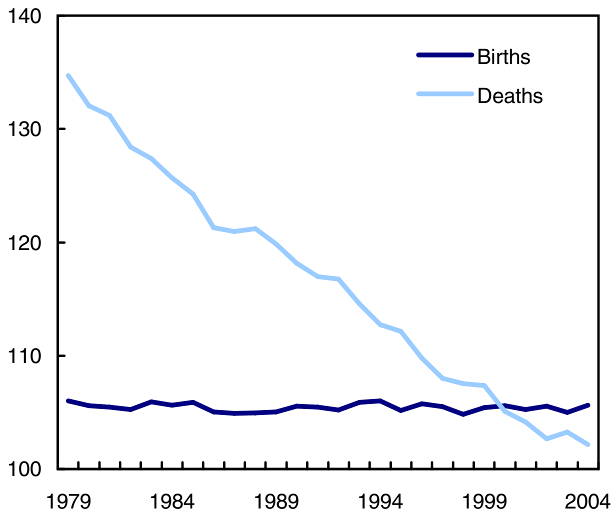
At birth, boys still outnumber girls by a ratio of about 106 to 100 in Canada. The sex ratio for deaths fell below the sex ratio for births in 2000 and the falling trend continued.

Because of higher mortality among men at every age group, men tend to make up the majority of deaths at all ages, with one exception.

For several years, women have comprised the majority of deaths over the age of 80, for the simple reason that they make up the majority of the over-80 population.

Sex ratio for deaths fell below sex ratio for births in 2000

Males per 100 females



Regions: Deaths down in three provinces, two territories

The number of deaths declined in three provinces and two territories in 2004: New Brunswick, Ontario, Saskatchewan, the Northwest Territories and Nunavut.

Provincially, the largest relative increase in deaths (+3.4%) occurred in Prince Edward Island, followed by Nova Scotia.

Prince Edward Island was also the only province with an excess of female deaths; for every 100 female deaths, there were only 95 male deaths.

Female and male deaths were approximately equivalent in numbers in five provinces: Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Quebec, Ontario and Manitoba. All other provinces and territories had an excess of male deaths.

Deaths by geography

	2003	2004	2003 to 2004
	number		% change
Canada	**226,169**	**226,584**	**0.2**
Male	**114,905**	**114,513**	**-0.3**
Female	**111,264**	**112,071**	**0.7**
Newfoundland and Labrador	4,281	4,308	0.6
Prince Edward Island	1,183	1,223	3.4
Nova Scotia	8,064	8,241	2.2
New Brunswick	6,257	6,247	-0.2
Quebec	54,927	55,624	1.3
Ontario	84,207	83,142	-1.3
Manitoba	9,867	9,903	0.4
Saskatchewan	9,007	8,844	-1.8
Alberta	18,585	18,675	0.5
British Columbia	29,320	29,923	2.1
Yukon	133	166	24.8
Northwest Territories	202	153	-24.3
Nunavut	134	121	-9.7

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 3233.

The 2004 issue of the publication *Deaths* (84F0211XWE, free) is now available from the *Publications* module of our website.

For general information or to order custom tabulations, contact Client Services (613-951-1746; *hd-ds@statcan.ca*). To enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Dai, Shiang Ying (613-951-1759), Health Statistics Division. ■

Travel between Canada and other countries

October 2006

Travel from the United States to Canada hit its lowest monthly level on record in October, as same-day car travel from the United States continued its downward trend.

American residents made fewer than 2.3 million trips to Canada in October, the lowest monthly level for overall travel from the United States since record-keeping started in 1972. (Unless otherwise specified, monthly data are seasonally adjusted.)

A continuing decline in same-day car travel by Americans in October outweighed a slight gain in overnight trips by US residents.

Americans made just over 1.0 million same-day car trips in October, down 5.0% from September. This was the seventh monthly decrease this year and the sixth consecutive record low.

At the same time, overnight travel from the United States edged up 0.8% to just over 1.1 million trips. A gain in the number of overnight trips taken by car offset the decrease in overnight trips taken by air.

Canada was also visited by fewer visitors from countries other than the United States. Their numbers edged down 0.7% to an estimated 370,000.

Even so, travel from 7 of Canada's top 12 overseas markets was up. Among these markets, the largest increase was in the number of trips from Mexico (+7.2%), while the largest reduction was in the number of trips from China (-12.3%). This drop from China follows a record-high month in September.

On an outbound basis, travel by Canadian residents to the United States and overseas countries fell 1.6% in October to less than 3.9 million.

Canadians made fewer than 3.3 million trips to the United States in October, a 1.8% decline.

Same-day car travel, estimated at only 1.9 million trips, the lowest level since February, was down for the fifth month this year.

On an overnight basis, Canadians made just over 1.3 million trips to the United States, down 1.3%. The number of overnight trips by both car and air fell.

Canadians took 575,000 trips to overseas countries in October, the second highest month on record. This was a slight 0.4% decline from September's level, which was the record high.

The Canadian dollar was worth 88.6 US cents on average in October, down 1.1% from September. The loonie also dropped against the British pound sterling and the euro but was unchanged against the Japanese yen.

Note: Same day and overnight data for United States residents entering by commercial plane, train, commercial boat or other methods (for example, by foot or motorcycle) and any summation of these not seasonally adjusted series have been revised for each month of the first and second quarters of 2006.

Same day and overnight data for Canadian residents returning from the United States by commercial plane, private plane, train, commercial boat or other methods (for example, by foot or motorcycle) and any summation of these not seasonally adjusted series have been revised for each month of the first and second quarters of 2006.

Available on CANSIM: tables 427-0001 to 427-0006.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 5005.

The October 2006 issue of *International Travel, Advance Information*, Vol. 22, no. 10 (66-001-PWE, free) is now available from the *Publications* module of our website.

For general information, contact Client Services (toll-free 1-800-307-3382; 613-951-9169; fax: 613-951-2909; *cult.tourstats@statcan.ca*). To enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Frances Kremarik (613-951-4240; *frances.kremarik@statcan.ca*), Culture, Tourism and the Centre for Education Statistics. □

Travel between Canada and other countries

	September 2006[r]	October 2006[p]	September to October 2006	October 2006[p]	October 2005 to October 2006
	Seasonally adjusted			Unadjusted	
	thousands		% change	thousands	% change
Canadian trips abroad[1]	**3,928**	**3,866**	**-1.6**	**3,643**	**3.7**
To the United States	3,351	3,290	-1.8	3,207	3.3
To Other Countries	577	575	-0.4	436	6.7
Same-day car trips to the United States	1,936	1,901	-1.8	1,903	0.2
Total trips, one or more nights	1,929	1,909	-1.0	1,679	8.5
United States[2]	1,351	1,334	-1.3	1,243	9.1
Car	786	773	-1.7	706	11.5
Plane	474	467	-1.5	452	7.4
Other modes of transportation	91	94	3.5	85	0.0
Other countries[3]	577	575	-0.4	436	6.7
Travel to Canada[1]	**2,712**	**2,658**	**-2.0**	**2,331**	**-10.8**
From the United States	2,339	2,287	-2.2	1,992	-12.1
From Other Countries	373	370	-0.7	339	-1.9
Same-day car trips from the United States	1,097	1,042	-5.0	993	-18.8
Total trips, one or more nights	1,491	1,498	0.5	1,250	-2.1
United States[2]	1,127	1,136	0.8	918	-2.4
Car	682	690	1.3	523	-3.5
Plane	319	311	-2.8	288	-4.5
Other modes of transportation	126	135	7.4	106	10.9
Other countries[3]	364	362	-0.5	332	-1.4
Most important overseas markets[4]					
United Kingdom	75	76	0.6	63	-4.5
France	31	31	0.5	32	1.7
Japan	29	30	3.1	47	-12.6
Germany	25	25	0.1	22	-9.8
Mexico	17	18	7.2	13	19.7
Australia	17	17	-0.7	11	5.0
South Korea	17	17	-2.1	15	10.3
China	14	12	-12.3	14	13.4
Netherlands	10	10	0.0	8	3.3
Hong Kong	9	9	2.4	7	2.7
Switzerland	8	8	-1.6	6	-3.6
India	7	7	5.9	6	10.3

r *revised*
p *preliminary*
1. *Totals exceed the sum of "same-day car trips" and "total trips, one or more nights" because they include all of the same-day trips.*
2. *Estimates for the United States include counts of cars and buses, and estimated numbers for planes, trains, boats and other methods.*
3. *Figures for other countries exclude same-day entries by land only, via the United States.*
4. *Includes same-day and one or more night trips.*

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Railway carloadings

October 2006

Railways across Canada loaded more than 24.7 million metric tonnes of freight in October, about 3% more than what was reported in September. The increase was in part the result of higher loadings of wheat and cereal grains.

Non-intermodal loadings amounted to 22.2 million tonnes, up 2.8% from September. Intermodal loadings, that is, containers and trailers hauled on flat cars, increased 4.9% to 2.5 million tonnes.

Freight coming from the United States, either destined for or passing through Canada, rose 6.9% to a record high 2.6 million tonnes. It was the fourth consecutive monthly increase in freight from the United States.

On a commodity basis, crop-related freight such as wheat and cereal grains rose sharply in October, matching levels previously reported through 1999 to 2001. Nearly 27,000 rail cars were needed to load these grains.

Loadings in the metallic mineral sector were also on the rise in October. Copper, nickel, lead and zinc all showed increases, while iron ore loadings slipped marginally.

The recent restructuring of the wood and paper industry across North America appears to have had an impact on the Canadian rail industry. Loadings of products related to that industry continue to show an overall decline.

In March this year, loadings of log and other woods in the rough required over 4,800 cars. In October, these loadings required less than half that total, only about 2,300 cars.

Between March and October, loadings of lumber declined 27.2%, wood chips 14.9%, other wood products 20.5%, wood pulp 9.3%, and newsprint 16.6%. The only related commodity to increase was paper and paper board, shipments of which were up 9.9% from March.

Loadings of automobiles and minivans have declined for two consecutive months. In October, only 7,644 rail cars were filled with automobiles and minivans, the lowest level for any October since 1999. This was a drop of 1,323 rail cars from October last year.

On a year-over-year basis, non-intermodal tonnage was 1.7% lower than in October 2005. Intermodal loadings held steady, while traffic received from the United States rose 11.6%.

Available on CANSIM: table 404-0002.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2732.

The October 2006 issue of *Monthly Railway Carloadings*, Vol. 83, no. 10 (52-001-XWE, 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 Dissemination Unit (toll-free 1-866-500-8400; fax: 1-613-951-0009; *transportationstatistics@statcan.ca*), Transportation Division. ■

Aircraft movement statistics

November 2006 (preliminary)

Aircraft take-offs and landings at the 42 Canadian airports with NAV CANADA air traffic control towers was 6.9% higher in November compared with the same month in 2005. This marks the sixth consecutive increase in year-over-year monthly comparisons.

Take-offs and landings reached 341,695 movements in November compared with 319,636 movements the same month a year earlier. Almost three-quarters of the airports reported increases in aircraft movements, and the variations ranged from an increase of 72.3% for Oshawa to a 33.6% decline for Boundary Bay, British Columbia.

The November 2006 issue of *Aircraft Movement Statistics*, Vol. 5, no. 11 (51F0001PWE, TP1496, free) is now available from the *Publications* module of our website.

Preliminary statistics for the 56 Canadian airports with NAV CANADA flight service stations are also available for November.

Available on CANSIM: table 401-0005.

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. ■

Gross fixed assets (non-residential)

2006

By the end of 2006, the country will have more than $3.1 trillion in structures and equipment, measured in current prices, in use to produce goods and services in the economy.

About three-quarters of this total consist of building and engineering structures, while about one-quarter comprises machinery and equipment. A decade ago, this ratio was closer to two-thirds for structures and one-third for machinery and equipment.

Over the past 10 years, gross fixed assets have increased 26% at constant 1997 prices. Growth has been particularly strong in machinery and equipment assets, which increased 53% during the past 10 years.

Gross fixed non-residential assets
2006

	Building and engineering structures	Machinery and equipment	Total
	$ billions		
Total	**2,283.1**	**810.0**	**3,093.2**
Business sector	1,621.1	752.4	2,373.5
Public administration, education and health and social assistance	662.0	57.7	719.7

Note: This release of 2006 fixed assets includes not only the normal update of an additional year of data along with the standard revisions to the most recent years but also an updating of the basic parameters used in the perpetual inventory method (PIM) and a significant change to the level at which the PIM is applied. In light of these revisions, the detailed data on investment, depreciation and stock variables were revised back as far as 1955.

An overview of the parameter update is presented in the technical note "Fixed Assets 2006 Revisions", available in the documentation section of the hyperlink of the survey number 2820 below.

These series are presented on the basis of the North American Industry Classification System (NAICS Canada 2002). At this time, we have both current and constant dollar series available. The series using a chain Fisher formula will be available in January.

Available on CANSIM: table 031-0002.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2820.

To order data, contact Flo Magmanlac (613-951-2765: *stock@statcan.ca*). For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Michel Labonté (613-951-9690), Investment and Capital Stock Division. ■

Stocks of frozen poultry meat

December 1, 2006 (preliminary)

Stocks of frozen poultry meat in cold storage on December 1 totalled 60,054 metric tonnes, down 7.0% from a year ago.

Available on CANSIM: tables 003-0023 and 003-0024.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 3425.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Sandra Gielfeldt (613-951-2505; *Sandy.Gielfeldt@statcan.ca*), Agriculture Division. ■

Crude oil and natural gas production

October 2006 (preliminary)

Provincial crude oil and marketable natural gas production data are now available for October.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2198.

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

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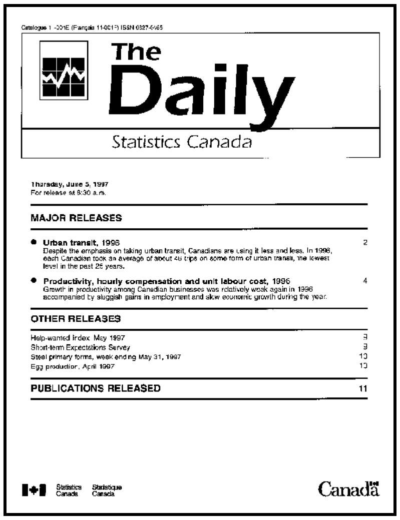

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The Daily

Statistics Canada

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

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