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Releases

Releases

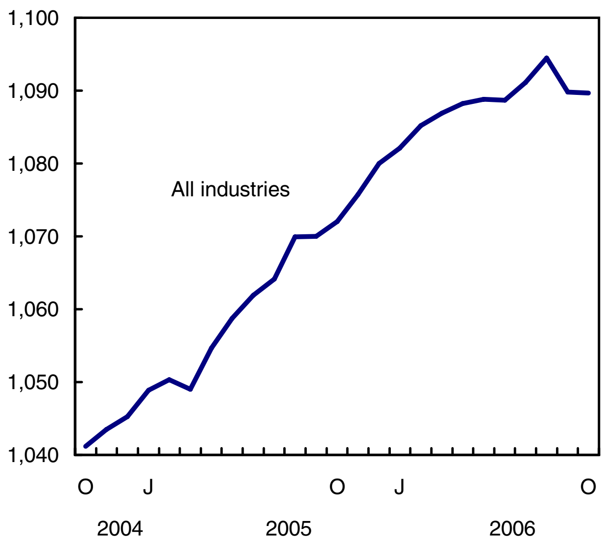
Gross domestic product by industry

October 2006

Economic activity remained essentially unchanged in October after contracting 0.4% in September. Both the goods-producing sector and the service sector stood still. Unlike their performance the previous month, the energy and utilities sectors experienced strong growth. However, these gains were offset by the losses registered in several sectors, including manufacturing, wholesale trade and retail trade.

Economic activity stands still

GDP in billions of chained (1997) dollars



Production rises in energy and utilities sectors

The energy sector advanced 0.9% in October. The production, distribution and transportation of natural gas were one of the sector's main engines of growth. Natural gas inventories remained high, while prices rose in October, following several months of a downward movement. A rebound in electricity production and, to a lesser extent, an increase in refinery output also boosted the sector. On the other hand, oil production declined and oil and gas exploration fell steeply (-8.4%) for a third consecutive month.

The output of the mining sector, excluding oil and natural gas, advanced 4.9%. With the end of a work stoppage on a site in Labrador, the production of base minerals made up for the losses in September. Non-metallic mineral extraction was also up sharply.

Note to readers

The monthly gross domestic product (GDP) by industry data are chained volume estimates with 1997 as their reference year. This means that the estimates for each industry and aggregate are obtained from a chained volume index multiplied by the industry's value added in 1997.

For the period 1997 to 2003, the monthly estimates are benchmarked to annually chained Fisher volume indexes of GDP obtained from the constant-price input-output tables. For the period starting with January 2004, the estimates are derived by chaining a fixed-weight Laspeyres volume index to the prior period.

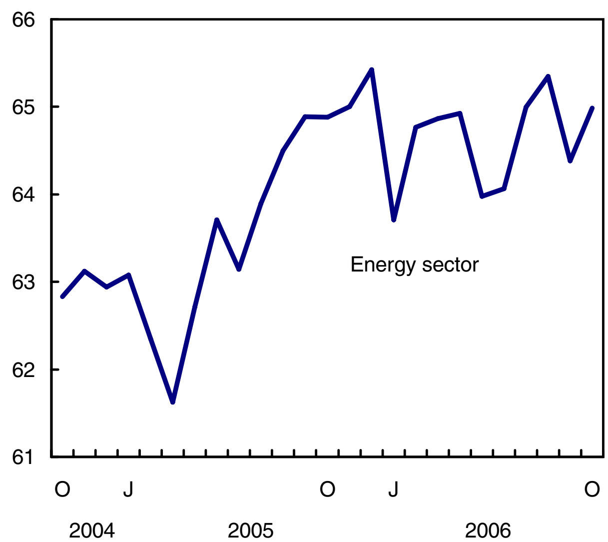
The fixed weights are the industry output and input prices of 2003. This makes the monthly GDP by industry estimates more comparable with the expenditure-based GDP data, chained quarterly.

With this release of monthly GDP by industry, revisions have been made back to January 2006.

For more information about monthly GDP by industry, see the National economic accounts module on our website (http://www.statcan.ca/nea).

Natural gas production bolsters the energy sector

GDP in billions of chained (1997) dollars



Automotive production slows manufacturing activity...

For a ninth month since the start of the year, the activity of the manufacturing sector was down in October (-0.8%). The manufacturing of non-durable goods rose 0.3%, whereas that of durable goods was down sharply (-1.5%). Of the 21 major groups, 12 decreased, accounting for 71% of total manufacturing value added.

Continuing the pattern observed since the start of the year, automakers and manufacturers of related products, such as steel and motor vehicle parts, significantly cut back their production in October. Manufacturers of wood products registered a seventh decrease since January, with some sawmills either cutting back activities or temporarily shutting down facilities. Food products manufacturing also slowed considerably, as did the aerospace industry, which dropped back after a strong gain in September. Advances in the printing industry and the manufacture of pharmaceuticals and machinery partly offset the losses in other sectors.

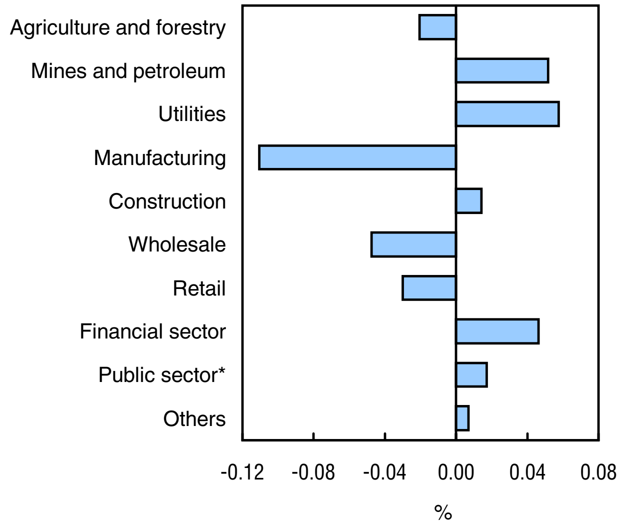
Industrial production (the output of mines, utilities and factories) remained unchanged in October. The strong increase in utilities and, to a lesser extent, the increase in mining, offset the decline in manufacturing. In October, the situation in the United States was similar to that observed in Canada — a stable industrial production and an increase in utilities and mines offsetting losses in the manufacturing sector. The American situation improved in November, as preliminary figures showed a 0.3% increase in the manufacturing sector.

...and puts a damper on wholesale trade

Wholesale trade declined 0.8% in October. The persistent decline in automotive manufacturing since July has resulted in a substantial slowdown in the activity of wholesalers in this field since August. However, part of these losses was offset by an upturn in sales of household and personal products, pharmaceuticals, and machinery and electronic equipment.

Retail trade declined 0.5%, led by a marked decrease in sales of used cars, and at home centres and hardware stores, clothing stores, and general merchandise stores (which include department stores). New motor vehicle sales were almost unchanged after a steep drop in September.

Contribution to total growth by the main industrial sectors



* Education, health and public administration.

Construction and real estate sectors post gains

The construction sector rose 0.2% in October. An increase in engineering and repair work offset declines in residential and non-residential construction. The 0.4% decrease in residential construction was the result of a marked decline in single-family homes, while apartment construction was up. Non-residential building construction fell 0.2%.

After five months of consecutive declines, the home resale market momentarily rebounded in October, enabling real estate agents to register a gain of 0.5%.

Other industries

The losses registered in the manufacturing, wholesale trade and retail trade sectors contributed to the decline in the transportation and warehousing sector, especially in trucking (-1.7%) and rail transportation (-3.5%). Industries related to tourism, such as accommodation and air transportation, benefited from an increase in the number of overnight visitors to Canada.

Available on CANSIM: tables 379-0017 to 379-0022.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 1301.

The October 2006 issue of *Gross Domestic Product by Industry*, Vol. 20, no. 10 (15-001-XWE, free) is now available from the *Publications* module of our website.

Data on gross domestic product by industry for November will be released on January 31, 2007.

For general information or to order data, contact our dissemination agent (613-951-4623 or toll-free 1-800-887-IMAD; *IAD-Info-DCI@statcan.ca*). To enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Bernard Lefrançois (613-951-3622), Industry Accounts Division.

Monthly gross domestic product by industry at basic prices in chained (1997) dollars

	May 2006[r]	June 2006[r]	July 2006[r]	August 2006[r]	September 2006[r]	October 2006[p]	October 2006	October 2005 to October 2006
	Seasonally adjusted							
	month-to-month % change						$ millions[1]	% change
All Industries	**0.1**	**-0.0**	**0.2**	**0.3**	**-0.4**	**-0.0**	**1,089,665**	**1.6**
Goods-producing industries	**-0.5**	**-0.0**	**0.3**	**0.1**	**-1.3**	**-0.0**	**330,276**	**-1.4**
Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting	-0.8	-1.8	-1.8	0.1	0.5	-1.0	24,242	-5.2
Mining and oil and gas extraction	-2.3	0.2	1.9	1.5	-1.5	0.8	40,158	1.3
Utilities	0.4	0.4	0.9	-1.1	-2.0	2.3	27,771	-0.2
Construction	-0.2	0.1	-0.2	0.5	0.0	0.2	67,698	4.1
Manufacturing	-0.0	-0.0	0.0	-0.4	-1.8	-0.8	168,562	-4.2
Services-producing industries	**0.3**	**-0.0**	**0.2**	**0.4**	**-0.0**	**-0.0**	**761,084**	**3.1**
Wholesale trade	1.5	-0.5	0.6	1.7	-2.4	-0.8	70,360	3.5
Retail trade	-0.4	-0.0	0.5	0.8	0.1	-0.5	65,925	6.1
Transportation and warehousing	0.2	-0.3	-0.1	0.5	-0.4	-0.7	52,308	0.7
Information and cultural industries	0.2	0.6	0.4	0.2	-0.2	0.3	44,597	2.1
Finance, insurance and real estate	0.3	0.2	0.3	0.3	0.5	0.2	224,066	3.8
Professional, scientific and technical services	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.3	0.2	0.2	48,895	2.1
Administrative and waste management services	0.8	0.4	0.2	0.3	0.5	0.2	26,029	5.9
Education services	-0.1	-0.0	0.1	-0.0	0.2	0.0	47,705	2.5
Health care and social assistance	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.2	0.2	62,193	1.7
Arts, entertainment and recreation	-1.3	-0.6	-1.8	1.6	1.2	0.6	9,323	1.5
Accommodation and food services	1.8	-1.2	-0.3	1.0	0.4	0.2	24,022	4.1
Other services (except public administration)	0.3	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.3	0.1	27,008	2.7
Public administration	0.6	0.0	-0.1	-0.3	-0.2	0.1	60,794	1.5
Other aggregations								
Industrial production	-0.6	0.1	0.6	0.0	-1.8	-0.0	239,644	-2.4
Non-durable manufacturing industries	0.3	-0.9	-0.4	1.0	-1.8	0.3	68,763	-3.6
Durable manufacturing industries	-0.3	0.6	0.3	-1.3	-1.8	-1.5	99,648	-4.6
Business sector industries	0.0	-0.0	0.3	0.4	-0.5	-0.0	926,055	1.6
Non-business sector industries	0.2	-0.0	-0.0	-0.1	0.1	0.1	164,025	1.8
Information and communication technologies industries	0.4	0.7	0.5	-0.0	-0.2	0.6	65,652	4.2
Energy sector	-1.5	0.1	1.5	0.5	-1.5	0.9	64,988	0.2

r *revised*
p *preliminary*
1. *Millions of chained (1997) dollars, seasonally adjusted at annual rates.*

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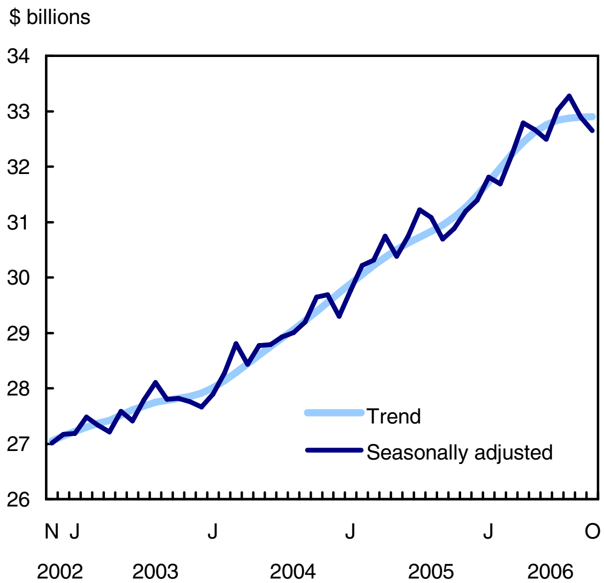
Retail trade

October 2006

Retail sales fell in October for the second month in a row, as sales in the automotive sector continued to decline and back-to-school spending on clothing wrapped up.

Total retail sales fell 0.7% to an estimated $32.6 billion in October. October's decline, combined with the decrease in September, nearly offset the gains made in July and August, resulting in a relatively flat trend for retail sales. Prior to this period, retail sales have been generally rising at a rapid clip since 2004.

Retail sales down for a second straight month



Unlike September's decline, which was concentrated in the automotive sector, the weakness in October was more widespread with only three of the eight retail sectors registering sales increases. Retail sales excluding new, used and recreational vehicles and parts dealers also decreased by 0.7%.

Sales in the automotive sector fell by 1.2% after dropping 5.3% in September, mainly due to a drop in gasoline prices. The clothing and accessories stores sector saw their sales fall by 4.0% in October after a spending spree that drove sales up 6.6% in September. The general merchandise stores sector, which includes department stores that sell clothing, saw their sales follow the same pattern. Sales fell by 1.1% in October in this sector after an increase of 1.8% in September.

Sales fell for the second month in a row in the building and outdoor home supplies stores sector (-0.8%), while retail spending in the furniture, home furnishings and electronics stores sector fell by 0.3% in October. This was only the third monthly sales decline for this sector in 2006.

Partially offsetting these declines were sales gains in the food and beverage stores (+0.4%), pharmacies and personal care stores (+0.1%) and miscellaneous retailers (+0.9%) sectors. For the latter, strong sales gains among miscellaneous stores retailers (+2.6%) more than offset a sales decline in sporting goods, hobby, music and book stores (-0.7%).

Once price changes were taken into account, total retail sales fell by 0.5% in October after a 0.1% increase in September.

Continued weakness in the automotive sector

In October, continued sales declines at gasoline stations and used and recreational motor vehicle and parts dealers pulled down sales in the automotive sector. Sales at new car dealers, however, were flat.

Sales at gasoline stations fell by a further 2.5% in October, after declining by a record 12.3% in September due to plummeting gasoline prices. The value of sales at gasoline stations was at its lowest level in October since May 2005.

Used and recreational motor vehicle and parts dealers saw their sales fall for the third month in a row (-4.0%). Before this recent fall off, sales by these dealers increased at a rapid clip since the fall of 2005, and peaked in April 2006. This gain was mainly driven by increased demand in recreational vehicles. Notwithstanding the recent slide, sales remained at historically high levels.

As back-to-school spending wrapped up, sales at clothing stores fell 4.5% after spiking in September. In the same way, sales at shoe, clothing accessories and jewellery stores fell in October (-2.3%) after two strong months.

Sales at home centres and hardware stores have slowed down in recent months. In October, these stores registered their second straight monthly sales decline (-1.3%) and is coincident with the cooling of the Canadian housing market. According to the Canadian Mortgage Housing Corporation, housing starts in the third quarter of 2006 were at their lowest level since the first quarter of 2005. Still, sales in this group of stores have been rising at double digit annual rates since 2002.

Partially offsetting these declines were gains in the food and beverage stores sector. Within this sector, both supermarkets and beer, wine and liquor stores sales rose by 0.4%. Convenience and specialty food stores sales continued to climb in October with a 0.3% increase. Sales have been fairly healthy in 2006 for this group of stores with only one slight decline in July.

Pharmacies and personal care stores sales were relatively flat in October (+0.1%), marking the 12th consecutive monthly sales increase for this retail sector. Sales in these types of stores have been fairly strong since the start of 2006. After a near-record quarterly growth of 4.7% ending June, sales gains slowed in the third quarter but were still strong at 2.7%.

Widespread declines across the country

Continued weakness in the automotive sector and a slowdown in back-to-school shopping caused sales to decline in 12 of the 13 provinces and territories in October.

In October, retail sales fell for the second consecutive month in Quebec (-1.3%) and Ontario (-0.6%). Previously, sales in Quebec had been generally growing since the fall of 2005. In Ontario, fluctuating sales have made the sales trend in this province relatively flat since April 2006.

Retail growth stalled in Alberta (-0.1%) and British Columbia (-0.1%), as sales failed to advance for the second month in a row. Despite the modest declines of late, year-over-year increases in Alberta remained consistently above 15% for each month in 2006.

Saskatchewan (-2.2%) and Manitoba (-2.1%) both experienced declines in retail sales in October. October's weakness was only the second monthly sales decline in Manitoba in 2006.

Yukon was the only territory that registered a sales gain (+0.2%) in October.

Related indicators for November

Employment edged up an estimated 22,000 in November, the result of gains in part-time work. The unemployment rate rose 0.1 percentage points to 6.3%, as more people entered the labour market in search of work.

The seasonally adjusted annual rate of housing starts increased marginally to 225,000 units in November, from 223,200 units in October, according to the Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation.

Preliminary sales data from the auto industry indicate that November sales are expected to rise by approximately 3.0%, mainly due to increased demand for passenger cars.

Available on CANSIM: tables 080-0014 to 080-0017.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey numbers, including related surveys, 2406 and 2408.

The October 2006 issue of *Retail Trade* (63-005-XWE, free) will soon be available.

Data on retail trade for November will be released on January 23, 2007.

For more information or to order data, contact Client Services (toll-free 1-877-421-3067; 613-951-3549; *retailinfo@statcan.ca*). For analytical information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Lucy Chung (613-951-1903), Distributive Trades Division.

□

Retail sales

	October 2005	July 2006[r]	August 2006[r]	September 2006[r]	October 2006[p]	September to October 2006	October 2005 to October 2006
	Seasonally adjusted						
	$ millions					% change	
Automotive	**10,521**	**11,616**	**11,677**	**11,061**	**10,927**	**-1.2**	**3.9**
New car dealers	5,837	6,288	6,486	6,332	6,337	0.1	8.6
Used and recreational motor vehicle and parts dealers	1,254	1,534	1,514	1,504	1,444	-4.0	15.1
Gasoline stations	3,430	3,794	3,676	3,225	3,146	-2.5	-8.3
Furniture, home furnishings and electronics stores	**2,171**	**2,318**	**2,345**	**2,348**	**2,340**	**-0.3**	**7.8**
Furniture stores	767	791	809	805	810	0.7	5.6
Home furnishings stores	408	445	448	455	445	-2.3	9.0
Computer and software stores	138	135	137	129	126	-2.7	-8.7
Home electronics and appliance stores	858	947	951	959	959	0.0	11.8
Building and outdoor home supplies stores	**1,909**	**2,094**	**2,132**	**2,119**	**2,102**	**-0.8**	**10.1**
Home centres and hardware stores	1,559	1,708	1,738	1,730	1,707	-1.3	9.5
Specialized building materials and garden stores	349	387	394	389	395	1.3	13.0
Food and beverage stores	**7,219**	**7,344**	**7,388**	**7,394**	**7,420**	**0.4**	**2.8**
Supermarkets	5,222	5,280	5,303	5,286	5,305	0.4	1.6
Convenience and specialty food stores	758	799	804	811	813	0.3	7.3
Beer, wine and liquor stores	1,238	1,265	1,280	1,297	1,302	0.4	5.1
Pharmacies and personal care stores	**2,045**	**2,250**	**2,265**	**2,281**	**2,282**	**0.1**	**11.6**
Clothing and accessories stores	**1,745**	**1,847**	**1,876**	**2,000**	**1,920**	**-4.0**	**10.0**
Clothing stores	1,324	1,409	1,427	1,529	1,459	-4.5	10.2
Shoe, clothing accessories and jewellery stores	421	437	449	472	461	-2.3	9.4
General merchandise stores	**3,688**	**3,876**	**3,922**	**3,993**	**3,947**	**-1.1**	**7.0**
Miscellaneous retailers	**1,587**	**1,678**	**1,671**	**1,692**	**1,707**	**0.9**	**7.6**
Sporting goods, hobby, music and book stores	801	844	851	875	870	-0.7	8.5
Miscellaneous store retailers	785	834	820	816	837	2.6	6.6
Total retail sales	**30,884**	**33,023**	**33,275**	**32,888**	**32,645**	**-0.7**	**5.7**
Total excluding new car dealers, used and recreational motor vehicle and parts dealers	**23,793**	**25,201**	**25,274**	**25,052**	**24,864**	**-0.7**	**4.5**
Provinces and territories							
Newfoundland and Labrador	495	503	504	501	500	-0.0	1.0
Prince Edward Island	117	122	123	123	122	-0.7	4.5
Nova Scotia	887	949	956	948	945	-0.3	6.6
New Brunswick	702	746	744	735	727	-1.1	3.5
Quebec	6,903	7,366	7,389	7,309	7,213	-1.3	4.5
Ontario	11,310	11,816	11,946	11,741	11,665	-0.6	3.1
Manitoba	1,050	1,112	1,114	1,118	1,095	-2.1	4.2
Saskatchewan	915	991	985	994	972	-2.2	6.2
Alberta	4,158	4,812	4,884	4,819	4,813	-0.1	15.8
British Columbia	4,241	4,495	4,519	4,488	4,483	-0.1	5.7
Yukon	37	38	39	39	39	0.2	6.1
Northwest Territories	48	50	51	50	49	-1.5	2.5
Nunavut	21	22	22	22	22	-2.1	3.7

r *revised*
p *preliminary*

Retail sales

	October 2005	September 2006[r]	October 2006[p]	October 2005 to October 2006
	Unadjusted			
	$ millions			% change
Automotive	**10,040**	**11,043**	**10,550**	**5.1**
New car dealers	5,322	6,265	5,917	11.2
Used and recreational motor vehicle and parts dealers	1,182	1,448	1,364	15.4
Gasoline stations	3,535	3,330	3,269	-7.5
Furniture, home furnishings and electronics stores	**2,183**	**2,418**	**2,323**	**6.4**
Furniture stores	810	852	842	4.0
Home furnishings stores	423	450	461	9.0
Computer and software stores	136	133	124	-8.7
Home electronics and appliance stores	814	982	895	10.0
Building and outdoor home supplies stores	**2,036**	**2,305**	**2,260**	**11.0**
Home centres and hardware stores	1,679	1,886	1,848	10.1
Specialized building materials and garden stores	357	418	412	15.2
Food and beverage stores	**7,056**	**7,563**	**7,034**	**-0.3**
Supermarkets	5,123	5,405	5,036	-1.7
Convenience and specialty food stores	752	828	795	5.7
Beer, wine and liquor stores	1,181	1,329	1,203	1.8
Pharmacies and personal care stores	**2,036**	**2,238**	**2,281**	**12.0**
Clothing and accessories stores	**1,811**	**2,043**	**1,922**	**6.2**
Clothing stores	1,415	1,587	1,502	6.1
Shoe, clothing accessories and jewellery stores	396	455	421	6.4
General merchandise stores	**3,756**	**3,742**	**3,922**	**4.4**
Miscellaneous retailers	**1,547**	**1,735**	**1,641**	**6.1**
Sporting goods, hobby, music and book stores	739	877	787	6.6
Miscellaneous store retailers	808	858	854	5.7
Total retail sales	**30,465**	**33,086**	**31,934**	**4.8**
Total excluding new car dealers, used and recreational motor vehicle and parts dealers	**23,960**	**25,373**	**24,652**	**2.9**
Provinces and territories				
Newfoundland and Labrador	481	506	490	1.9
Prince Edward Island	114	127	118	4.2
Nova Scotia	868	944	915	5.4
New Brunswick	689	734	708	2.8
Quebec	6,913	7,327	7,145	3.4
Ontario	11,169	11,851	11,443	2.4
Manitoba	1,042	1,128	1,081	3.7
Saskatchewan	912	991	963	5.6
Alberta	4,048	4,846	4,627	14.3
British Columbia	4,127	4,519	4,338	5.1
Yukon	35	40	38	6.6
Northwest Territories	46	50	46	-1.4
Nunavut	21	24	22	4.7

r *revised*
p *preliminary*

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Payroll employment, earnings and hours

October 2006 (preliminary)

The average weekly earnings of payroll employees increased 1.0% from September to $756.99 (seasonally adjusted). This leaves the year-to-date growth in earnings at 3.1%. This annual rate of change is obtained by comparing the average weekly earnings of the first 10 months of 2006 with the average of the same months of 2005.

In Canada's largest industrial sectors, year-to-date earnings growth as of October was: 3.8% for health and social assistance, 3.6% for educational services, 2.7% for retail trade, and 2.4% for manufacturing.

There were 14,059,000 payroll jobs in Canada in October, an increase of 13,200 employees (+0.1%) from September. British Columbia (+0.3%) and New Brunswick (+0.2%) posted the largest percentage increases from September to October. The largest decrease was in Newfoundland and Labrador (-0.9%).

Nationally, payroll employment has increased by approximately 186,700 jobs since the beginning of 2006.

The average hourly earnings for hourly paid employees increased 0.9% in October to $18.70. The average weekly hours for hourly paid employees fell 0.3% to 31.6 hours.

Available on CANSIM: tables 281-0023 to 281-0046.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2612.

Detailed industry data, data by size of enterprise based on employment, and other labour market indicators will be available soon in the monthly publication *Employment, Earnings and Hours* (72-002-XIB, free).

Data on payroll employment, earnings and hours for November will be released on January 29, 2007.

For general information or to order data, contact Client Services (toll-free 1-866-873-8788; 613-951-4090; fax: 613-951-2869; *labour@statcan.ca*). To enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Peter Lorenz (613-951-4167), Labour Statistics Division. □

Average weekly earnings (including overtime) for all employees

Industry group (North American Industry Classification System)	October 2005	September 2006[r]	October 2006[p]	September to October 2006	October 2005 to October 2006	Year-to-date average 2006[1]
	Seasonally adjusted					
	$			% change		
Industrial aggregate	**738.11**	**749.73**	**756.99**	**1.0**	**2.6**	**3.1**
Forestry, logging and support	926.84	969.33	950.40	-2.0	2.5	5.0
Mining and oil and gas	1,321.53	1,330.77	1,345.49	1.1	1.8	2.7
Utilities	1,068.76	1,101.27	1,104.16	0.3	3.3	2.0
Construction	884.67	892.30	895.23	0.3	1.2	1.9
Manufacturing	901.56	911.11	917.20	0.7	1.7	2.4
Wholesale trade	844.44	882.40	884.35	0.2	4.7	5.2
Retail trade	473.74	477.32	475.04	-0.5	0.3	2.7
Transportation and warehousing	785.77	780.90	783.38	0.3	-0.3	1.1
Information and cultural industries	908.28	938.11	947.91	1.0	4.4	6.3
Finance and insurance	948.08	968.59	974.64	0.6	2.8	2.6
Real estate and rental and leasing	654.16	683.32	690.33	1.0	5.5	4.2
Professional, scientific and technical services	959.00	980.18	984.72	0.5	2.7	1.1
Management of companies and enterprises	915.16	953.91	938.03	-1.7	2.5	5.5
Administrative and support, waste management and remediation services	575.75	611.04	612.80	0.3	6.4	3.4
Educational services	821.74	821.93	834.89	1.6	1.6	3.6
Health care and social assistance	672.37	675.63	688.57	1.9	2.4	3.8
Arts, entertainment and recreation	432.46	431.34	438.85	1.7	1.5	2.2
Accommodation and food services	319.69	320.25	329.57	2.9	3.1	5.9
Other services (excluding public administration)	568.00	594.64	593.07	-0.3	4.4	2.7
Public administration	905.35	941.40	946.86	0.6	4.6	3.6
Provinces and territories						
Newfoundland and Labrador	683.20	697.39	699.31	0.3	2.4	4.3
Prince Edward Island	575.92	593.74	596.92	0.5	3.6	3.3
Nova Scotia	642.72	656.78	659.36	0.4	2.6	2.6
New Brunswick	676.82	688.00	691.62	0.5	2.2	3.5
Quebec	694.15	703.52	708.27	0.7	2.0	2.5
Ontario	778.23	787.56	793.73	0.8	2.0	2.5
Manitoba	661.07	681.36	680.09	-0.2	2.9	2.1
Saskatchewan	682.79	696.40	700.05	0.5	2.5	3.8
Alberta	782.97	811.96	821.31	1.2	4.9	4.7
British Columbia	727.88	744.48	746.80	0.3	2.6	4.0
Yukon	835.88	845.21	865.02	2.3	3.5	4.7
Northwest Territories[2]	992.75	971.07	982.35	1.2	-1.0	1.8
Nunavut[2]	875.32	899.54	893.33	-0.7	2.1	3.5

r *revised*
p *preliminary*
1. *Rate of change for the first 10 months of 2006 compared to the same months for 2005.*
2. *Data not seasonally adjusted.*

Number of employees

Industry group (North American Industry Classification System)	December 2005	August 2006	September 2006[r]	October 2006[p]	August to September 2006	September to October 2006	December 2005 to October 2006
	Seasonally adjusted						
	thousands				% change		
Industrial aggregate	**13,872.3**	**14,028.7**	**14,045.8**	**14,059.0**	**0.1**	**0.1**	**1.3**
Forestry, logging and support	63.3	58.9	58.2	57.5	-1.2	-1.2	-9.2
Mining and oil and gas	172.4	184.8	187.6	187.1	1.5	-0.3	8.5
Utilities	121.5	123.2	123.3	123.8	0.1	0.4	1.9
Construction	690.7	710.5	713.3	714.0	0.4	0.1	3.4
Manufacturing	1,948.4	1,932.4	1,922.8	1,915.5	-0.5	-0.4	-1.7
Wholesale trade	736.7	743.8	742.6	742.4	-0.2	0.0	0.8
Retail trade	1,717.4	1,738.4	1,742.1	1,747.8	0.2	0.3	1.8
Transportation and warehousing	627.5	634.8	633.1	631.2	-0.3	-0.3	0.6
Information and cultural industries	355.4	360.9	359.4	360.3	-0.4	0.3	1.4
Finance and insurance	588.2	590.1	593.6	596.9	0.6	0.6	1.5
Real estate and rental and leasing	246.2	243.8	244.7	242.8	0.4	-0.8	-1.4
Professional, scientific and technical services	670.6	677.9	681.5	682.2	0.5	0.1	1.7
Management of companies and enterprises	96.5	101.5	96.6	95.9	-4.8	-0.7	-0.6
Administrative and support, waste management and remediation services	681.8	705.8	706.8	704.9	0.1	-0.3	3.4
Educational services	1,004.5	1,015.0	1,019.9	1,027.5	0.5	0.7	2.3
Health care and social assistance	1,425.0	1,439.2	1,440.9	1,440.3	0.1	0.0	1.1
Arts, entertainment and recreation	247.6	247.3	249.1	249.6	0.7	0.2	0.8
Accommodation and food services	960.3	969.6	976.7	978.1	0.7	0.1	1.9
Other services (excluding public administration)	515.4	519.0	521.9	522.0	0.6	0.0	1.3
Public administration	791.0	803.8	796.5	797.1	-0.9	0.1	0.8
Provinces and territories							
Newfoundland and Labrador	177.5	184.8	184.3	182.7	-0.3	-0.9	2.9
Prince Edward Island	64.3	62.1	62.2	62.1	0.2	-0.2	-3.4
Nova Scotia	395.5	393.1	394.7	393.4	0.4	-0.3	-0.5
New Brunswick	302.2	306.1	304.2	304.9	-0.6	0.2	0.9
Quebec	3,213.6	3,239.0	3,237.3	3,241.6	-0.1	0.1	0.9
Ontario	5,389.3	5,413.0	5,429.4	5,427.6	0.3	0.0	0.7
Manitoba	538.2	534.9	535.8	532.9	0.2	-0.5	-1.0
Saskatchewan	419.2	422.1	422.8	422.5	0.2	-0.1	0.8
Alberta	1,576.5	1,628.4	1,628.7	1,630.6	0.0	0.1	3.4
British Columbia	1,747.9	1,796.9	1,801.0	1,806.2	0.2	0.3	3.3
Yukon	17.1	17.5	17.5	17.1	0.0	-2.3	0.0
Northwest Territories[1]	22.0	22.5	22.9	22.2	1.8	-3.1	0.9
Nunavut[1]	11.3	11.9	12.3	12.0	3.4	-2.4	6.2

r *revised*
p *preliminary*
1. *Data not seasonally adjusted.*

■

Canada's population

Third quarter 2006 (preliminary)

The population of Alberta, in the midst of an unprecedented economic boom, rose at its fastest quarterly pace in 25 years between July and September.

Alberta's population grew by 1.12% during the third quarter to reach 3,413,500 as of October 1, 2006.

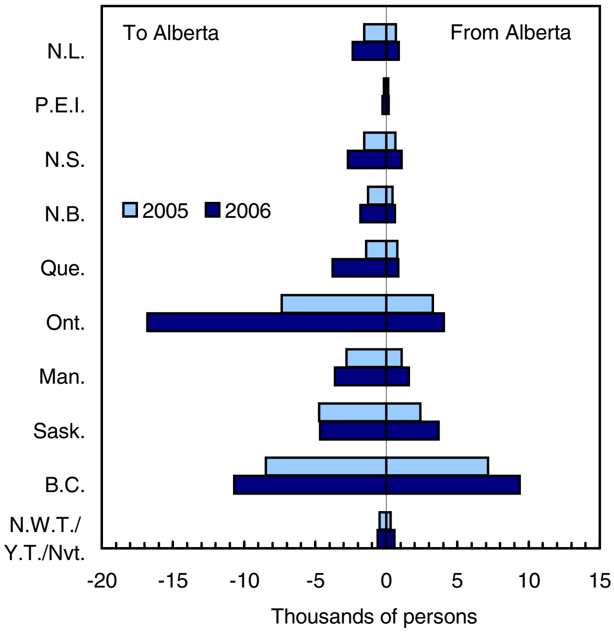
This rate of growth was more than three times the 0.33% increase in Canada's total population. As of October 1, 2006, Canada's population was estimated at 32,730,200, up 106,700 from July 1, 2006. (These estimates are based on 2001 Census counts adjusted for net census undercoverage to which is added the estimated demographic growth between May 15, 2001 and October 1, 2006.)

Alberta's economy is in the midst of the strongest period of economic growth ever recorded by any province, according to a study released this September in the *Canadian Economic Observer*.

Net gains in migration from other jurisdictions accounted for close to two-thirds of Alberta's demographic growth during the third quarter. Alberta recorded a net increase from interprovincial migration of 24,500, surpassing the previous high of 16,800 during the third quarter of 1980, another oil boom era.

Net interprovincial losses from Quebec and Ontario to Alberta were more than three times higher in the third quarter of 2006 compared to the same quarter in 2005. From July to September 2006, Ontario lost a net total of 12,800 people to Alberta, compared with 4,100 in the same three months last year. Quebec lost an estimated 2,900 to Alberta, up from 600.

In- and out-migration to/from Alberta, third quarter of 2005 and 2006



Despite Alberta's booming economy, many people are moving out of the province as well. During the third quarter, an estimated 22,800 people left Alberta, compared with 16,800 in the same quarter last year. This was the highest third-quarter loss for Alberta since 23,600 in 1989.

While the majority of those leaving Alberta went to British Columbia, departures from Alberta have benefited Saskatchewan the most. Saskatchewan's net migration loss to Alberta in the third quarter this year was down by an estimated 1,300 people compared with the third quarter in 2005. That is because Saskatchewan received 3,700 migrants from Alberta between July and September, compared with only 2,400 in the same three months of 2005.

Quebec's population increased 0.23% in the third quarter, below the national average, as larger losses to interprovincial migration offset gains in natural growth and net international migration. In fact, Quebec's birth rate was above the national average for the first time since the beginning of the 1980s. Its international migration rate was the highest since 1992 for a third quarter.

For the first time since 1980, Ontario's third-quarter population increase was below the national average, notably as a result of negative net interprovincial migration. Without the benefit of the nation's highest immigration rate, Ontario would have incurred a net loss in population.

Besides Alberta, British Columbia was the only other jurisdiction showing both a net gain in interprovincial migration and a population growth higher than the national average. While it recorded a net loss to Alberta of 1,300 during the last quarter, British Columbia had a net gain of 3,400 persons from the rest of the country.

In the Atlantic provinces, only Prince Edward Island had positive net population growth. The other three Atlantic provinces, still affected by large net interprovincial migration losses and the lowest rate of natural increase in Canada, posted population decreases. For Nova Scotia, it was the first negative third quarter since 1971.

Available on CANSIM: tables 051-0005, 051-0006, 051-0017, 051-0020, 051-0037, 051-0045, 053-0001.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey numbers, including related surveys, 3231, 3233 and 3601.

The publication *Quarterly Demographic Estimates*, Vol. 20, no. 3 (91-002-XWE, free) is now available online from the *Publications* module of our website.

To obtain additional data, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, please contact Client Services (toll-free 1-866-767-5611 or 613-951-2320; fax: 613-951-2307; *demography@statcan.ca*), Demography Division. □

Canada's population[1]

	July 1, 2006pp	October 1, 2006pp	July to October 2006
	number		% change
Canada	**32,623,490**	**32,730,213**	**0.33**
Newfoundland and Labrador	509,677	508,955	-0.14
Prince Edward Island	138,519	138,596	0.06
Nova Scotia	934,405	934,172	-0.02
New Brunswick	749,168	748,439	-0.10
Quebec	7,651,531	7,669,100	0.23
Ontario	12,686,952	12,721,776	0.27
Manitoba	1,177,765	1,178,491	0.06
Saskatchewan	985,386	985,859	0.05
Alberta	3,375,763	3,413,464	1.12
British Columbia	4,310,452	4,327,431	0.39
Yukon	31,229	31,151	-0.25
Northwest Territories	41,861	41,929	0.16
Nunavut	30,782	30,850	0.22

pp preliminary postcensal estimates.
1. These estimates are based on the 2001 Census counts adjusted for net undercoverage.

■

Natural gas sales
October 2006 (preliminary)

With colder than normal temperatures in all provinces, natural gas sales showed large increases in all sectors in October. Natural gas sales totalled 5 743 million cubic metres, up 22.7% from October 2005.

Natural gas sales

	October 2006p	October 2005	October 2005 to October 2006
	thousands of cubic metres		% change
Total sales	**5 742 923**	**4 681 666**	**22.7**
Residential	1 095 657	903 700	21.2
Commercial	882 762	688 147	28.3
Industrial and direct	3 764 504	3 089 819	21.8
	Year-to-date		
	2006p	2005	2005 to 2006
	thousands of cubic metres		% change
Total sales	**54 536 659**	**55 850 564**	**-2.4**
Residential	12 277 606	12 923 875	-5.0
Commercial	9 170 314	9 542 399	-3.9
Industrial and direct	33 088 739	33 384 290	-0.9

p preliminary

Sales to the commercial sector led the way (+28.3%), followed by the industrial and direct sales sector (+21.8%) and the residential sector (+21.2%).

On a year-to-date basis, sales at the end of October were down 2.4% from the same 10-month period last year, in the wake of across-the-board declines in all sectors.

Volume of sales to the industrial sector (including direct sales) has fallen 0.9% so far this year, while sales were down 5.0% in the residential sector and down 3.9% in the commercial sector.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2149.

For more information, to order data, 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. ■

Federal government finance: Assets and liabilities
As of March 31, 2006

At March 31, 2006, the federal government's net financial debt (defined as the excess of liabilities over financial assets) decreased to $514.1 billion, a 1.8% or $9.3 billion decrease from March 31, 2005. An increase of $2.7 billion in financial assets and a decrease of $6.5 billion in liabilities explain this decline.

As a percentage of gross domestic product (GDP), the federal government net financial debt decreased from 39.3% in 2005 to 36.0% in 2006, the lowest since 1984. Per capita, the net financial debt decreased from $16,254 to $15,806.

The increase in assets results mainly from increases in cash on hand, to ensure that the government has sufficient liquidity for its year-end requirements, and increases in advances, especially in the exchange fund account, for transactions on Canadian and foreign currencies. The decline in liabilities is coming mainly from a reduction in bonds and debentures issued by the federal government.

These statistics are based on the actual data released in the federal government's Public Accounts dated March 31, 2006 and converted to Statistics Canada's Financial Management System (FMS). The federal government introduced accrual accounting in their 2003 financial statements. To retain comparability with prior years, these changes are not included in the FMS presentation. A reconciliation to the Public Accounts is available on CANSIM.

Note: The FMS provides a standardized presentation of government accounting for the federal, provincial and local governments in Canada. The individual governments' accounting systems are not directly comparable because the policies and structure of governments differ. The FMS adjusts data from governments Public Accounts and other records to provide detailed data that permit inter-government comparisons as well as compatible national aggregates that are consistent over time. In other words, FMS statistics may not accord with the figures published in government financial statements.

This release is part of a series of data products related to government balance sheets. Provincial and territorial government balance sheet was released October 31, 2006. Local government balance sheet will be released April 25, 2007 and the consolidated government balance sheet on May 3, 2007.

Available on CANSIM: tables 385-0010, 385-0014, 385-0017 to 385-0019 and 385-0025.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 1709.

Data tables are also available online in the *National economic accounts* module on our website.

Additional data are available through custom and special tabulation. For more information on the products and services of the Public Institutions Division, contact Jo-Anne Thibault (613-951-0767; *jo-anne.thibault@statcan.ca*).

To enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Claude Vaillancourt (613-951-1820; *claude.vaillancourt@statcan.ca*), Public Institutions Division.

Federal government net financial debt

	Net financial debt as of March 31	Net financial debt percentage of GDP	Net financial debt per capita
	$ millions	%	$
1971	18,581	19.9	863
1975	24,769	15.1	1,075
1980	72,555	24.0	2,971
1985	209,891	44.5	8,143
1991	395,075	58.3	14,142
1992	428,682	61.9	15,167
1993	471,061	65.9	16,472
1994	513,219	68.4	17,755
1995	550,685	68.7	18,852
1996	578,718	70.6	19,608
1997	588,402	67.8	19,732
1998	581,581	64.1	19,333
1999	574,468	60.5	18,949
2000	561,733	53.9	18,359
2001	545,300	48.9	17,640
2002	534,690	47.8	17,101
2003	526,492	43.5	16,673
2004	523,648	41.8	16,420
2005	523,344	39.3	16,254
2006	514,089	36.0	15,806

■

Couriers and Messengers Services Price Index

November 2006

The Couriers and Messengers Services Price Index (CMSPI) is a monthly price index measuring the change over time in prices for courier and messenger services provided by long and short distance delivery companies to Canadian-based business clients.

The CMSPI decreased 1.4% to 118.1 (2003=100) in November. The courier portion fell 1.7% from October, while the local messengers component edged down 0.7% as a result of lower fuel charges.

These indexes are available at the Canada level only.

Available on CANSIM: table 329-0053.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 5064.

For more information, contact Client Services (toll-free 1-866-230-2248; 613-951-9606; *prices-prix@statcan.ca*). To enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Perry Kirkpatrick (613-951-1930; *perry.kirkpatrick@statcan.ca*), Prices Division. ■

New products

Survey Methodology, December 2006, Vol. 32, no. 2
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(free).

Survey Methodology, December 2006, Vol. 32, no. 2
Catalogue number 12-001-XPB ($30/$58).

Gross Domestic Product by Industry, October 2006, Vol. 20, no. 10
Catalogue number 15-001-XWE
(free).

Service Bulletin: Surface and Marine Transport, Vol. 22, no. 3
Catalogue number 50-002-XIE
(free).

Wholesale Trade, October 2006, Vol. 69, no. 10
Catalogue number 63-008-XWE
(free).

Quarterly Demographic Estimates, preliminary, July to September 2006, Vol. 20, no. 3
Catalogue number 91-002-XWE
(free).

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

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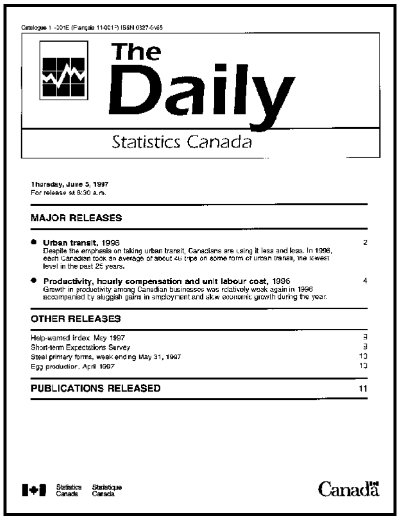

Catalogue 11-001E (Français 11-001F) ISSN 0827-0465

The Daily

Statistics Canada

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

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 40 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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