Catalogue 11-001-XIE (Français 11-001-XIF) ISSN 0827-0465

The Daily

Statistics Canada

Wednesday, February 8, 2006
Released at 8:30 a.m. Eastern time

Releases

Travel arrangement services

2004

Travel arrangement services rebounded in 2004 after facing difficulties such as the threat of SARS and the war in Iraq in 2003.

The travel arrangement services industry, which is composed primarily of two industries (tour operating and travel agency industries), recorded a before-tax operating profit margin of 2.5% in 2004 after earning zero profits the previous year.

A record number of Canadians travelled to overseas destinations and spent $8.8 billion dollars in 2004, up 15.5% over the previous year. Travel between Canada and the United States also recovered with increases in overnight travel in both directions. About 9 out of every 10 dollars earned by travel arrangers came from sales to clients travelling outside the country.

Firms in the tour operating industry continued their steady performance as operating revenues increased by 4.8% over 2003 to $6.4 billion. Operating expenses increased by 2.7% to $6.3 billion.

The largest revenue source of the tour operating industry came from sales of tour packages, either directly to clients or to travel retailers (62%). Transportation fares ranked as the second most important revenue source at 28%.

Operating revenues for travel agencies grew by 1.4% in 2004, a turnaround from the 4.0% drop in 2003. Profit margins increased by 5.8%, up considerably from the 1.6% gain the previous year.

Travel agencies drew 59% of their revenue from selling travel services and products to individuals or households for leisure purposes. Sales to business travellers accounted for 36% of revenue. In comparison, 83% of revenue for tour operators came from sales to leisure travellers.

Travel agencies continued to rely heavily on commissions charged from suppliers in 2004, with 42% of total revenue for this industry coming from selling and reserving transportation fares. Commissions obtained for selling tour packages followed in relative importance, accounting for one-quarter of total revenue.

Available on CANSIM: table 351-0003.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2423.

Data for the 2004 travel arrangement services industry are now available. These data provide information such as revenue, salaries and wages, profit margin and expenditures for North American Industry Classification System codes 561510, 561520 and 561590.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Irene Ross (613-951-6305; fax: 613-951-6696; *irene.pucci@statcan.ca*), or Janine Stafford (613-951-3288; fax: 613-951-6696; *janine.stafford@statcan.ca*), Services Industries Division. ■

Surveying and mapping services

2004

Canada's surveying and mapping industry consists of businesses whose primary activity is to gather, interpret and map geophysical data, as well as those providing land surveying and mapping services. Alberta-based firms continue to lead all provinces in this industry due to the significant role played by the Alberta oil and gas sector.

The surveying and mapping industry generated $1.95 billion in operating revenues in 2004, up 4.7% over 2003. Operating expenses outpaced revenue growth in 2004, dropping the industry's before-tax operating profit margin to 5.7% in 2004 from 8.7% in 2003. Salaries, wages, and benefits were up 10.8% in 2004, and accounted for the majority of the expense increase.

Operating revenue for firms classified under geophysical surveying and mapping services rose to $1.07 billion in 2004, up 9.5% compared with a year earlier. Non-geophysical (land surveying) revenue was steady in 2004, generating $885 million.

Alberta-based firms accounted for $1.2 billion or 61% of operating revenues earned in 2004, and 84% of all geophysical mapping revenues in Canada. These figures include not only work performed in Alberta proper, but also work conducted by Alberta-based companies in other provinces, offshore, and in other countries.

This data release is only for the surveying and mapping industry (firms classified under geophysical surveying and mapping services and non-geophysical/land surveying and mapping services). Data from a 2004 activity survey on geomatics will be released separately, and will provide more detailed information on geomatics activities in Canada and include firms from other industries that have a secondary geomatics activity.

Available on CANSIM: table 360-0006.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 4715.

For more information or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Matthew Briggs (613-951-4761; fax: 613-951-6696; *matthew.briggs@statcan.ca*), Service Industries Division. ■

Crude oil and natural gas: Supply and disposition

November 2005 (preliminary)

The production of crude oil and equivalent hydrocarbons continued to grow in November, rising 5.3% compared to November 2004. The increase was mostly attributable to higher crude oil production in Newfoundland and Labrador, with the Terra Nova field returning to full production and the White Rose field coming online. Alberta continued to show increased production, particularly for synthetic crude.

Crude oil exports, which accounted for 61.4% of total production, increased 3.9% over the same period in 2004.

The year-to-date production of crude oil was 3.6% lower over the same period in 2004, while crude oil exports declined 3.9%.

Marketable natural gas production edged down 0.8% compared with November 2004. A 2.9% drop in domestic natural gas sales from November 2004 was the result of lower sales in the industrial (-13.8%) sector.

Year-to-date production of marketable natural gas advanced 1.4% compared to the same period in 2004. This increase was offset by a year-to-date decrease in domestic sales of 3.2%.

Crude oil and natural gas

	Nov. 2004	Nov. 2005	Nov. 2004 to Nov. 2005
	thousands of cubic metres		% change
Crude oil and equivalent hydrocarbons[1]			
Production	12 359.8	13 019.9	5.3
Exports	7 694.4	7 991.0	3.9
Imports[2]	4 359.5	5 169.6	18.6
Refinery receipts	9 095.0	9 086.1	-0.1
	millions of cubic metres		% change
Natural gas[3]			
Marketable production	13 899.1	13 789.9	-0.8
Exports	8 993.5	8 945.6	-0.5
Canadian domestic sales[4]	6 403.2	6 216.8	-2.9
	Jan. to Nov. 2004	Jan. to Nov. 2005	Jan.-Nov. 2004 to Jan.-Nov. 2005
	thousands of cubic metres		% change
Crude oil and equivalent hydrocarbons[1]			
Production	137 157.9	132 251.6	-3.6
Exports	86 432.7	83 054.4	-3.9
Imports[2]	49 704.2	49 620.6	-0.2
Refinery receipts	101 300.1	98 030.2	-3.2
	millions of cubic metres		% change
Natural gas[3]			
Marketable production	151 928.0	154 075.0	1.4
Exports	95 090.2	96 901.7	1.9
Canadian domestic sales[4]	63 892.7	61 850.7	-3.2

1. *Disposition may differ from production because of inventory change, industry own-use, etc.*
2. *Crude oil received by Canadian refineries from foreign countries for processing. Data may differ from International Trade Division (ITD) estimates because of timing differences and the inclusion of crude oil landed in Canada for future re-export in the ITD data.*
3. *Disposition may differ from production because of inventory change, usage as pipeline fuel, pipeline losses, line-pack fluctuations, etc.*
4. *Includes direct sales.*

Available on CANSIM: tables 126-0001 and 131-0001.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2198.

Preliminary data are available on CANSIM at the national level to November 2005 inclusive. At the national and provincial level, detailed information is available for crude oil (126-0001) up to August 2005 inclusive, and for natural gas (131-0001) up to May 2005 inclusive.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact the dissemination officer

(1-866-873-8789; 613-951-9497; *energ@statcan.ca*), Manufacturing, Construction and Energy Division. ■

Farm product prices

December 2005

Prices received by farmers in December for grains, oilseeds, specialty crops, potatoes, cattle, hogs, poultry, eggs and dairy products are now available.

The overall Ontario wheat price in December was $117.68 per tonne, up 3% from November 2005 but down 3% from December 2004 when the price was $120.82.

The December feeder heifer price in Manitoba was $105.00 per hundredweight, down 2% from November but up 25% from the December 2004 price of $83.66.

For the first time, the farm commodity prices are now available on CANSIM. Over 35 commodities are available by province, with some series going back 20 years.

Available on CANSIM: table 002-0043.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 3436.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Gail-Ann Breese (204-983-3445; fax: 204-983-7543; *gail-ann.breese@statcan.ca*), Agriculture Division. ■

Poultry and eggs

December 2005 (preliminary)

Egg production was estimated at 51.0 million dozen in December, up 5.6% from December 2004.

Poultry meat production edged up 0.1% to 92.3 million kilograms in December compared with the same period a year earlier.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey numbers, including related surveys, 3424, 3425 and 5039.

For further information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Sandy Gielfeldt (613-951-2505; *sandy.gielfeldt@statcan.ca*) or Barbara Bowen (613-951-3716; *barbara.bowen@statcan.ca*), Livestock and Animal Products Section, Agriculture Division. ■

New products

Capital Expenditure Price Statistics, Third quarter 2005, Vol. 21, no. 3
Catalogue number 62-007-XIE ($20/$59).

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

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

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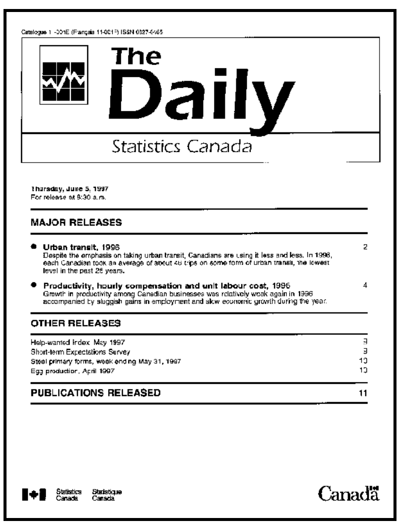
Catalogue 11-001E (Français 11-001F) ISSN 0827-0465

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 46 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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Statistics Canada Statistique Canada Canada

Statistics Canada's official release bulletin

Catalogue 11-001-XIE.

Published each working day by the Communications Division, Statistics Canada, 10-G, R.H. Coats Bldg., Tunney's Pasture, Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0T6.

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