



The Daily

Statistics Canada

Tuesday, March 21, 2006
Released at 8:30 a.m. Eastern time

Releases

Retail trade, January 2006	2
Retailers began 2006 with strong sales, likely buoyed by gift card redemptions. This is the third year in a row that sales were strong in January.	
Leading indicators, February 2006	6
The leading indicator grew by 0.2% in February after downward-revised gains of 0.3% in January and 0.4% in December. The February easing partly reflected a slowdown in the stock markets and housing after unusually sharp gains in January	
Study: Parents with adult children living at home, 2001	8
Railway carloadings, January 2006	8
Production and disposition of tobacco products, February 2006	9
Coal mining, 2004	9
New products	10



Releases

Retail trade

January 2006

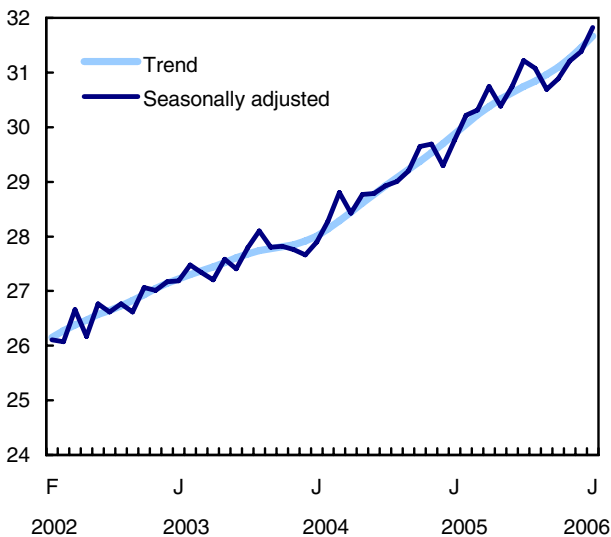
Retailers began 2006 with strong sales, likely buoyed by gift card redemptions. This is the third year in a row that sales were strong in January.

Retail sales rose for a fourth consecutive month in January, advancing 1.4% to a record high of \$31.8 billion.

January's gain was the strongest in the last six months. Retailers experienced moderate increases in the last quarter of 2005 with November's advance of 1.0% sandwiched between October's and December's modest increases of 0.6% each.

Retail sales increase for the fourth straight month

\$ billions



Shoppers increased their spending in all sectors in January, with the exception of the food and beverage sector, which saw sales fall 1.2%. New car sales (+1.4%) rebounded in January after falling 0.7% in December. For a second consecutive month, new car dealers were not the sole driver of the increase in retail sales. Excluding sales by dealers of new, used and recreational vehicles and auto parts, retail sales still advanced 1.4% in January.

Sales increased by at least 3.0% in four of the eight retail sectors — furniture, home furnishings and

electronics stores (+5.0%), miscellaneous retailers (+4.8%), building and outdoor home supplies stores (+3.1%) and general merchandise stores (+3.0%).

Moderate gains were also posted by retailers in the pharmacies and personal care (+0.8%), and the clothing (+0.8%) sectors.

In constant dollars, retail sales rose by 0.9% in January, following a 0.3% increase in December.

Gift cards, other factors, boost January sales

Strong economic fundamentals, together with the popularity of gift cards, likely provided the foundation for the strong retail performance by many retailers in January. Other factors that may have contributed to strong retail sales during the month include unseasonably warm temperatures and the increasing observance of certain religious and cultural days in January.

January sales jumped in stores that tend to carry gift cards such as miscellaneous retailers (+4.8%) and general merchandise retailers (+3.0%), which include department stores. Miscellaneous retailers include office supplies, sporting goods, hobby, music and book stores. This sector has been on an upward growth path in sales since mid-2003.

With housing starts at record levels in the past year, the corollary effect on furniture and home furnishing demands after homes are built have benefited retailers in the furniture, home furnishings and electronics stores sector in recent months. With the added effect of gift cards, sales in furniture stores soared 6.5% in January. Sales in furniture stores have been on a steady upward trend since July of last year, with the exception of a short pause in November.

Home electronics and appliance store sales were also robust (+4.7%), likely due to the redemption of gift cards after the holiday season. This continues the gain made in December following declines in October and November. Home furnishing store sales were up for the fourth consecutive month in January (+3.7%) while sales at computer and software stores increased 2.3% after pausing in December.

Among retailers in the building and outdoor home supplies sector, home centres and hardware store sales increased for the sixth consecutive month, climbing by 2.7% in January. Specialized building material and garden stores, a smaller group of retailers, also saw sales increase 4.6%.

Steady growth in auto sector

New car sales were up 1.4% in January after edging down in December. This continues the upward trend in new motor vehicle sales that began at the start of 2004.

Used car dealers saw their sales increase 1.3%, adding to gains of 3.8% in December and 2.3% in November. As a result, January sales were 12.3% higher compared with the same month last year, and the highest year-over-year advance for this group of retailers since 2002.

Sales at gasoline stations rose by 1.0%, levelling off the strong upward trend that started in the fall of 2003 when oil prices started to soar.

Food and beverage sales fell 1.2% in January, mainly attributable to a 3.0% decline in supermarkets. This was only partially offset by strong gains in convenience and specialty food stores (+3.5%) and beer, wine and liquor stores (+3.9%). Despite the decrease, sales in supermarkets have generally been increasing at a steady pace and annual gains have been over 4.5% in each of the last four years.

Widespread gains in all provinces and territories

Sales were up in every province and territory in January. Aside from Ontario (+1.0%), Alberta and British Columbia were the largest contributors to sales growth.

With \$400 personal cash rebates from the provincial government in Alberta, it is not a surprise that Alberta retailers got off to a strong start this year with a 2.4% increase in sales. Retail sales in Alberta have been rising sharply since 2000, benefiting from the energy resources boom. This was reflected in Alberta's average personal disposable income growth of 7.0% for the five years prior to 2005, significantly higher than the national average of 4.6%.

British Columbia bounced back from a lacklustre performance in the last quarter, matching Alberta's 2.4% increase in retail sales in January. Both provinces saw increases in sectors relating to home furnishing and those likely to redeem post-holiday gift cards.

Retail sales in the Northwest Territories bounced back from December's weak performance with the strongest sales growth of any region in January (+6.8%), mainly attributable to the auto sector. Retail sales were also robust in Nova Scotia (+2.4%), Newfoundland and Labrador (+1.6%) and Prince Edward Island (+1.6%). This was the fourth consecutive monthly gain in each of these three Atlantic provinces.

Related indicators for February

Total employment increased by 0.2% in February for the second month in a row. The unemployment rate fell by 0.2 percentage points to 6.4%, matching the 30-year low set in November 2005.

Housing starts dropped 2.9% in February to a seasonally adjusted annual rate of 240,900 units, according to the Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation.

Based on preliminary figures from the auto industry, the number of new motor vehicles sold in February decreased slightly. The decrease was mostly the result of lower new passenger car sales during the month.

Available on CANSIM: tables 080-0014 to 080-0017 and 076-0005.

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

The January 2006 issue of *Retail Trade* (63-005-XIE, \$18/\$166) will soon be available.

Data on retail trade for February will be released on April 21.

For more information or to order data, contact Client Services (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

	January 2005	October 2005 ^r	November 2005 ^r	December 2005 ^r	January 2006 ^p	December 2005 to January 2006	January 2005 to January 2006
seasonally adjusted							
	\$ millions				% change		
Automotive	10,003	10,521	10,741	10,788	10,924	1.3	9.2
New car dealers	5,865	5,837	6,147	6,103	6,188	1.4	5.5
Used and recreational motor vehicle and parts dealers	1,203	1,254	1,283	1,333	1,350	1.3	12.3
Gasoline stations	2,936	3,430	3,310	3,353	3,386	1.0	15.3
Furniture, home furnishings and electronics stores	2,072	2,171	2,159	2,203	2,313	5.0	11.6
Furniture stores	736	767	760	770	820	6.5	11.4
Home furnishings stores	385	408	417	428	444	3.7	15.2
Computer and software stores	135	138	140	139	143	2.3	5.7
Home electronics and appliance stores	816	858	842	866	906	4.7	11.1
Building and outdoor home supplies stores	1,802	1,909	1,966	1,974	2,035	3.1	12.9
Home centres and hardware stores	1,427	1,559	1,594	1,607	1,650	2.7	15.6
Specialized building materials and garden stores	375	349	372	367	385	4.6	2.7
Food and beverage stores	7,071	7,219	7,205	7,277	7,189	-1.2	1.7
Supermarkets	5,189	5,222	5,248	5,325	5,163	-3.0	-0.5
Convenience and specialty food stores	757	758	747	761	788	3.5	4.0
Beer, wine and liquor stores	1,125	1,238	1,211	1,191	1,238	3.9	10.0
Pharmacies and personal care stores	1,942	2,045	2,058	2,055	2,071	0.8	6.6
Clothing and accessories stores	1,702	1,745	1,787	1,783	1,798	0.8	5.6
Clothing stores	1,318	1,324	1,358	1,355	1,375	1.5	4.4
Shoe, clothing accessories and jewellery stores	384	421	429	429	422	-1.5	10.0
General merchandise stores	3,619	3,688	3,694	3,704	3,816	3.0	5.4
Miscellaneous retailers	1,552	1,587	1,598	1,602	1,678	4.8	8.2
Sporting goods, hobby, music and book stores	768	801	808	811	862	6.3	12.2
Miscellaneous store retailers	783	785	789	791	816	3.2	4.3
Total retail sales	29,763	30,884	31,208	31,387	31,823	1.4	6.9
Total excluding new car dealers, used and recreational motor vehicle and parts dealers	22,695	23,793	23,777	23,952	24,285	1.4	7.0
Provinces and territories							
Newfoundland and Labrador	487	495	499	505	513	1.6	5.2
Prince Edward Island	116	117	120	121	123	1.6	5.7
Nova Scotia	834	887	889	915	938	2.4	12.4
New Brunswick	687	702	710	714	722	1.1	5.1
Quebec	6,830	6,903	6,995	6,966	7,024	0.8	2.8
Ontario	11,098	11,310	11,415	11,559	11,670	1.0	5.2
Manitoba	1,004	1,050	1,050	1,039	1,044	0.5	4.0
Saskatchewan	874	915	927	920	932	1.3	6.6
Alberta	3,778	4,158	4,227	4,306	4,409	2.4	16.7
British Columbia	3,951	4,241	4,268	4,238	4,339	2.4	9.8
Yukon	36	37	38	37	37	1.2	4.0
Northwest Territories	47	48	49	48	51	6.8	9.4
Nunavut	20	21	21	21	21	1.3	1.9

^r Revised.

^p Preliminary.

Retail sales

	January 2005	December 2005 ^r	January 2006 ^p	January 2005 to January 2006
unadjusted				
	\$ millions			% change
Automotive	7,811	9,387	8,801	12.7
New car dealers	4,322	5,181	4,752	9.9
Used and recreational motor vehicle and parts dealers	819	1,023	952	16.1
Gasoline stations	2,669	3,183	3,097	16.0
Furniture, home furnishings and electronics stores	1,776	3,339	2,003	12.7
Furniture stores	632	899	700	10.8
Home furnishings stores	315	572	373	18.4
Computer and software stores	134	174	145	8.5
Home electronics and appliance stores	695	1,695	784	12.7
Building and outdoor home supplies stores	1,197	1,617	1,395	16.5
Home centres and hardware stores	965	1,328	1,150	19.2
Specialized building materials and garden stores	233	288	245	5.2
Food and beverage stores	6,547	8,767	6,396	-2.3
Supermarkets	5,057	6,068	4,838	-4.3
Convenience and specialty food stores	657	842	679	3.4
Beer, wine and liquor stores	834	1,857	879	5.4
Pharmacies and personal care stores	1,861	2,457	2,003	7.7
Clothing and accessories stores	1,260	3,080	1,297	2.9
Clothing stores	984	2,262	1,005	2.2
Shoe, clothing accessories and jewellery stores	276	817	292	5.7
General merchandise stores	2,803	5,728	2,965	5.8
Miscellaneous retailers	1,328	2,439	1,438	8.3
Sporting goods, hobby, music and book stores	682	1,448	763	11.8
Miscellaneous store retailers	646	991	676	4.6
Total retail sales	24,583	36,814	26,298	7.0
Total excluding new car dealers, used and recreational motor vehicle and parts dealers	19,441	30,610	20,594	5.9
Provinces and territories				
Newfoundland and Labrador	370	602	394	6.5
Prince Edward Island	88	141	94	6.3
Nova Scotia	678	1,108	761	12.3
New Brunswick	551	831	581	5.4
Quebec	5,536	7,680	5,661	2.3
Ontario	9,213	13,907	9,699	5.3
Manitoba	828	1,226	856	3.4
Saskatchewan	720	1,073	768	6.6
Alberta	3,123	5,023	3,685	18.0
British Columbia	3,390	5,102	3,710	9.5
Yukon	28	41	29	3.1
Northwest Territories	40	54	43	6.9
Nunavut	17	24	18	3.3

^r Revised.

^p Preliminary.

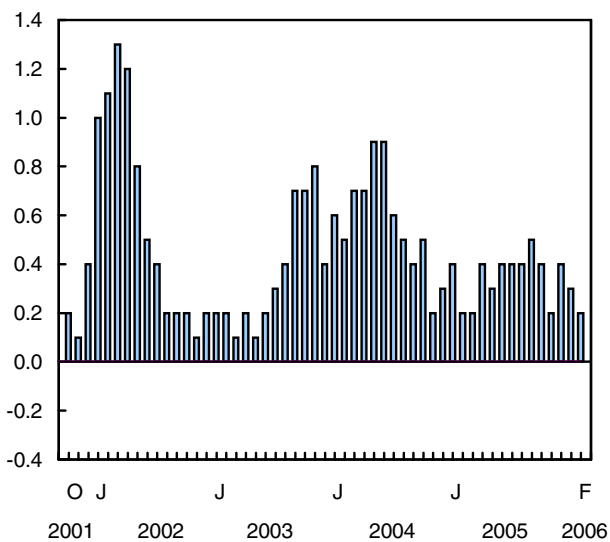
Leading indicators

February 2006

The leading indicator grew by 0.2% in February after downward-revised gains of 0.3% in January and 0.4% in December. The February easing partly reflected a slowdown in the stock markets and housing after unusually sharp gains in January. Overall, seven of the ten components increased, one was unchanged and two declined.

Composite leading indicator

Smoothed % change



Household spending remained mixed. Housing slowed from a sharp upturn in January when unseasonably warm weather gave a boost to housing

starts. Furniture and appliance demand remained a pillar of strength, but spending on other durable goods stayed sluggish, notably for autos, which have been weak ever since discount programs expired last autumn.

The stock market pulled back from its record high early in the new year. Energy and mining stocks fell in tandem with prices on commodity markets, which retreated from their record high. The drop was most pronounced for natural gas, where the warmest winter ever in the United States sent prices sharply lower.

The US leading indicator grew by 0.4%, its largest advance in over a year. The US economy appears to be strengthening after real gross domestic product growth slowed from the third quarter (+1.0%) to the fourth quarter (+0.4%), largely due to a number of unusual factors.

Manufacturers continued to grapple with several conflicting issues. The underlying trend of demand remained positive, largely thanks to strong business investment in Canada and exports to the United States. This was reflected in rising new orders and shipments. But margins remained under pressure from rising energy costs and the exchange rate. Firms continued to slash the workweek and jobs in a bid to boost productivity.

Available on CANSIM: table 377-0003.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 1601.

For more information on the economy, consult the March 2006 issue of *Canadian Economic Observer*, Vol. 19, no. 3 (11-010-XIB, \$19/\$182).

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. □

Leading indicators

	September 2005	October 2005	November 2005	December 2005	January 2006	February 2006	Last month of data available % change
Composite leading indicator (1992=100)	207.7	208.6	209.1	210.0	210.7	211.2	0.2
Housing index (1992=100) ¹	146.4	145.4	144.3	143.0	145.6	146.5	0.6
Business and personal services employment ('000)	2,659	2,666	2,673	2,677	2,682	2,683	0.0
S&P/TSX stock price index (1975=1,000)	10,323	10,478	10,662	10,832	11,087	11,223	1.2
Money supply, M1 (\$ millions, 1992) ²	137,464	137,520	137,540	139,313	140,897	142,094	0.8
U.S. Conference Board leading indicator (1992=100) ³	125.3	125.3	125.6	125.8	126.1	126.6	0.4
Manufacturing							
Average workweek (hours)	38.4	38.5	38.5	38.4	38.1	37.9	-0.5
New orders, durables (\$ millions, 1992) ⁴	25,670	25,994	26,172	26,484	26,679	26,857	0.7
Shipments/inventories of finished goods ⁴	1.81	1.82	1.83	1.84	1.85	1.87	0.02 ⁵
Retail trade							
Furniture and appliance sales (\$ millions, 1992) ⁴	2,257	2,268	2,276	2,299	2,312	2,332	0.9
Other durable goods sales (\$ millions, 1992) ⁴	8,190	8,258	8,135	8,121	8,096	8,016	-1.0
Unsmoothed composite leading indicator	210.7	209.5	209.7	210.9	212.8	213.4	0.3

1. Composite index of housing starts (units) and house sales (multiple listing service).
2. Deflated by the Consumer Price Index for all items.
3. The figures in this row reflect data published in the month indicated, but the figures themselves refer to data for the month immediately preceding.
4. The figures in this row reflect data published in the month indicated, but the figures themselves refer to data for the second preceding month.
5. Difference from previous month.



Study: Parents with adult children living at home

2001

The majority of parents living with at least one adult child at home expressed no sign of frustration about their living arrangements, according to a new study published today in *Canadian Social Trends*. But that does not mean there was perfect harmony in all these households.

The study "Parents with adult children living at home", available free online, based on data from the 2001 General Social Survey, compared the profile of parents who are living with at least one of their adult children with parents whose adult children had left the home.

The study found that 32% of parents whose youngest child was between 20 and 34 years old had at least one child living at home with them. Of these parents, one-quarter were in fact living with a "boomerang kid", that is, a child who had returned to live in the parental home after already leaving once (or more).

Most parents agree that having children has made them happier people, and co-residence does not modify that opinion. On the contrary, parents living with at least one of their adult children were more likely to be very satisfied with the time they spent with their children.

However, the study did find that having children at home increased the frequency with which the parents report having arguments with their spouse over subjects such as money, chores and responsibilities, and the children.

For example, the probability that parents would sometimes or often argue over questions of money was 31% when there were two or more adult children at home, compared with only 21% when all children had left home.

These differences in the frequency of conflicts remained significant even when other factors, for example the parent's age, gender and level of income, were taken into account.

Parents were more likely to live with an adult child if they resided in a big metropolitan centre. The higher cost of living and easier access to postsecondary institutions might explain, at least in part, why parents in more urban areas are more likely to provide shelter for their adult children.

Cultural factors were also associated with co-residence of parents and their adult children. Parents born in Asia and South or Central America were more likely to co-reside with their adult children than those born in Canada. This was especially the case for parents who had immigrated to Canada recently. For

example, the probability that an Asian-born parent who came to Canada between 1980 and 2001 lived with at least one adult child was 82%.

The study found that socio-economic status was not a factor in co-residence. In other words, parents with higher education or income levels were neither more nor less likely to provide accommodation for their adult children.

However the type of house, which can indicate the amount of living space available, did make a difference. Parents who had a single detached house, semi-detached or duplex were more likely to co-reside with their adult child than those living in apartment buildings.

Finally, parents who themselves had left home at a younger age were less likely to live with their adult children. Parents who left their own parents' house in their teens or early 20s may have provided an example for their own children or, alternatively, could have encouraged their children to leave home earlier.

This new issue of *Canadian Social Trends* also contains three other articles.

"Young adults who give and receive help" examines the extent of helping behaviours given and received by young adults aged 15 to 24.

"Home heating and the environment" shows that, since the 1940s, Canadians have rapidly adopted new energy sources for household heating and that this has affected greenhouse gas emissions in recent decades.

"Passing on the ancestral language" examines the preservation of ancestral languages by looking at the extent to which allophone immigrants (i.e., those whose mother tongue is neither English nor French) have transmitted their mother tongue to their Canadian-born children.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 4501.

The spring 2006 issue of *Canadian Social Trends*, no. 80 (11-008-XIE, \$9/\$29; 11-008-XPE, \$12/\$39) is now available. See *How to order products*.

For more information, contact Client Services and Dissemination (613-951-5979; sasd-dssea@statcan.ca), Social and Aboriginal Statistics Division. ■

Railway carloadings

January 2006

The traditional winter slowdown in business for Canada's railways between December and January is becoming almost a thing of the past.

Loadings declined in January this year compared with December, but only slightly. In total, railways loaded 23.3 million metric tonnes of freight in January, down only 1.3% from the previous month. It was the smallest decline from December to January in the last three years.

Business has been picking up for railways in January. In fact, on a year-over-year basis, tonnage increased at its fastest pace in three years this January.

Loadings this year were 6.1% higher than they were in January 2005, well above the year-over-year pace measured during the previous two years.

Loadings of non-intermodal goods reached 21.1 million tonnes in January, down 1.3% from the revised 21.4 million tonnes in December 2005. About 266,000 railcars were needed to load all of January's non-intermodal freight.

On a commodity basis, potash loadings fell by about a third from December. Loadings of wood from all related commodity groupings showed strong gains. All metallic ores and concentrates showed some decline while their derivatives, the metallic products groupings, all progressed.

Intermodal loadings, that is containers and trailers hauled on flat cars, amounted to 2.2 million tonnes, virtually unchanged from December.

Traffic received from Canadian connections dropped by 12.1% from December. Part of this drop was due to three short line carriers having been bought by a larger carrier. This reduced the total number of carriers in Canada and the total volume of goods exchanged between Canadian carriers.

Freight coming from the United States, either destined for or passing through Canada, reached 2.4 million tonnes, up 4.4% from December.

Traffic from the United States is showing a profile similar to non-intermodal loadings, where January figures have been continuously increasing since 2003.

Note: Data on railway carloadings have undergone some revisions since the last release.

Available on CANSIM: table 404-0002.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2732.

The January 2006 issue of *Monthly Railway Carloadings*, Vol. 83, no. 1 (52-001-XIE, \$9 / \$83) is now available. See *How to order products*.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact the Dissemination Unit (1-866-500-8400; fax: 1-613-951-0009; TransportationStatistics@statcan.ca), Transportation Division. ■

Production and disposition of tobacco products

February 2006

Total cigarettes sold in February by Canadian manufacturers increased 14.5% from January to 2.7 billion cigarettes, but were down 2.4% from February 2005.

Cigarette production for February increased 20.7% from January to 2.8 billion cigarettes, down 9.6% from February 2005.

At 4.0 billion cigarettes, the level of closing inventories for February decreased by 3.2% from January, and was 0.6% lower compared with February 2005.

Available on CANSIM: table 303-0062.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2142.

The February 2006 issue of *Production and Disposition of Tobacco Products* (32-022-XIE, \$6/\$51) is now available. See *How to order products*.

For general information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact the dissemination officer (613-951-9497; 1-866-873-8789; manufact@statcan.ca), Manufacturing, Construction and Energy Division. ■

Coal mining

2004

Data on coal mining are now available for 2004.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2177.

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; energy@statcan.ca), Manufacturing, Construction and Energy Division. ■

New products

Canadian Social Trends, Spring 2006, no. 80
Catalogue number **11-008-XIE** (\$9/\$29).

Canadian Social Trends, Spring 2006, no. 80
Catalogue number **11-008-XPE** (\$12/\$39).

Production and Disposition of Tobacco Products,
February 2006, Vol. 35, no. 2
Catalogue number **32-022-XIE** (\$6/\$51).

Monthly Railway Carloadings, January 2006, Vol. 83,
no. 1
Catalogue number **52-001-XIE** (\$9/\$83).

Wholesale Trade, January 2006, Vol. 69, no. 1
Catalogue number **63-008-XIE** (\$15/\$150).

Canada's International Transactions in Securities,
January 2006, Vol. 72, no. 1
Catalogue number **67-002-XIE** (\$15/\$142).

**Aboriginal Peoples Survey 2001: Provincial
and Territorial Reports: Off Reserve Aboriginal
Population, 2001**
Catalogue number **89-618-XIE**
(free).

**Summary of Content Analysis Results: 2004 Census
Test**, Census year 2006
Catalogue number **92-134-XWE**
(free).

**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.

How to order products

To order by phone, please refer to:

- The title
- The catalogue number
- The volume number
- The issue number
- Your credit card number.


From Canada and the United States, call: **1-800-267-6677**
From other countries, call: **1-613-951-7277**
To fax your order, call: **1-877-287-4369**
For address changes or account inquiries, call: **1-800-700-1033**

To order by mail, write to: Statistics Canada, Finance, 6th floor, R.H. Coats Bldg., Ottawa, K1A 0T6.
Include a cheque or money order payable to **Receiver General of Canada/Publications**. Canadian customers
add 7% GST and applicable PST.

To order by Internet, write to: *infostats@statcan.ca* or download an electronic version by accessing Statistics Canada's
website (*www.statcan.ca*). From the *Our products and services* page, under *Browse our Internet publications*, choose *For sale*.

Authorized agents and bookstores also carry Statistics Canada's catalogued publications.

Design 1 - 2006 (F) Catalogue 11-001-XIE (2006-03-21)



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 six 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 noticeably weak again in 1996, accompanied by sluggish gains in employment and slow economic growth during the year.

OTHER RELEASES

- Map-based index, May 1997 3
- Short-term Expectations Survey 9
- Steel primary forms, week ending May 31, 1997 12
- Egg production, Apr. 1997 13

PUBLICATIONS RELEASED 11



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.

To access *The Daily* on the Internet, visit our site at <http://www.statcan.ca>. To receive *The Daily* each morning by e-mail, send an e-mail message to listproc@statcan.ca. Leave the subject line blank. In the body of the message, type "subscribe daily firstname lastname".

Published by authority of the Minister responsible for Statistics Canada. © Minister of Industry, 2004. Citation in newsprint, magazine, radio, and television reporting is permitted subject to the requirement that Statistics Canada is acknowledged as the source. Any other reproduction is permitted subject to the requirement that Statistics Canada is acknowledged as the source on all copies as follows: Statistics Canada, *The Daily*, catalogue 11-001-XIE, along with date and page references.