



The Daily

Statistics Canada

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Releases

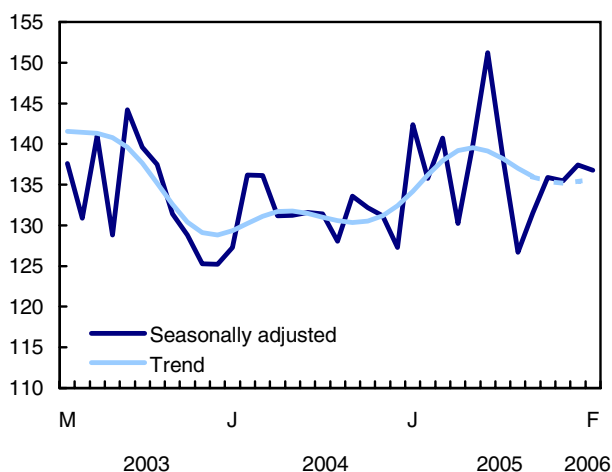
New motor vehicle sales

February 2006

New motor vehicle sales edged down 0.4% in February. Consumers drove away 136,767 new vehicles in February, a decrease of about 600 vehicles compared to the previous month.

New vehicle sales remain stable

'000 units



The last few points could be subject to revisions when more data are added. This is indicated by the dashed line.

Month-to-month movements in auto sales continued to be relatively subdued in recent months following major sales swings throughout much of 2005, which were influenced by "employee pricing" and other special incentive programs. After a steep decline at the end of 2003, new motor vehicle sales partially recovered and then remained relatively stable in 2004.

Based on preliminary figures from the auto industry, the number of new motor vehicles sold in March increased by about 1.0%. Both passenger car and truck sales gained during the month.

Car and truck sales edge down

Sales of both new cars and trucks dipped slightly in February. Passenger car sales decreased 0.5%, or by about 350 vehicles compared to January. There was

Note to readers

All data in this release are seasonally adjusted.

Passenger cars include those used for personal and commercial purposes, such as taxis or rental cars. **Trucks** include minivans, sport-utility vehicles, light and heavy trucks, vans and buses.

North American built new motor vehicles include vehicles manufactured or assembled in Canada, the United States or Mexico. All other new motor vehicles are considered to have been manufactured overseas.

For reasons of confidentiality, data for Yukon, the Northwest Territories and Nunavut are included with those for British Columbia.

The New Motor Vehicle Sales Survey is compiled on the basis of figures obtained from motor vehicle manufacturers and importers. These results may vary from those obtained directly from auto dealers, due to possible differences in record keeping.

a decline of 1.0% in the sales of North American built vehicles during the month, reversing some of the gains realized in January. Sales of overseas built cars went in the opposite direction, gaining 0.6% in February after two months of sagging sales.

Truck sales (which include minivans, sport-utility vehicles, light and heavy trucks, vans and buses) also declined in February, edging down 0.4% from the previous month. Sales have remained largely unchanged over the past three months.

During the past several months, sales of passenger cars and trucks have generally stabilized. New motor vehicle sales softened somewhat last autumn after a long upward trend which started at the end of 2004 and peaked sharply with the incentives offered in the summer of 2005. During this period, truck sales had generally shown much greater volatility than car sales. In 2004, sales remained relatively stable for cars and trucks after some increases early in the year.

Strength in the West

Sales results by province were mixed in February, with half of the provinces posting increases. The strongest percentage gains were seen in Saskatchewan (+9.4%) and Prince Edward Island (+8.0%). The gain in Saskatchewan followed several months of weaker sales.

The primary strength in new motor vehicle sales in recent months has come from out West. Alberta has

seen four consecutive monthly sales increases. This is currently the longest string of gains in the country, with over 20,700 vehicles sold in February alone. The region formed by British Columbia and the territories has also seen strong sales of late, with three consecutive months of growth.

There were two main sources of weakness in February in terms of units sold. New motor vehicle sales plummeted 13.5% in Nova Scotia compared to January, a decrease of about 600 vehicles. However, the decline in Nova Scotia followed an extremely strong January when vehicle sales had increased by over 20%. Dealers in Ontario also had about 600 fewer vehicles roll off their lots in February, a decrease of 1.1%.

Available on CANSIM: tables 079-0001 and 079-0002.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2402.

The February 2006 issue of *New Motor Vehicle Sales* (63-007-XIE, \$14/\$133) will be available soon.

Data on new motor vehicle sales for March will be released on May 15. Revisions to adjusted and unadjusted data for 2005 will also be available on May 15.

For general information or to order data, contact Client Services (1-877-421-3067; 613-951-3549; retailinfo@statcan.ca). To enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Elton Cryderman (613-951-0669), Distributive Trades Division.



New motor vehicle sales

	February 2005	January 2006 ^r	February 2006 ^p	February 2005 to February 2006	January to February 2006
seasonally adjusted					
	number of vehicles			% change	
New motor vehicles	142,361	137,372	136,767	-3.9	-0.4
Passenger cars	72,392	71,066	70,713	-2.3	-0.5
North American ¹	50,940	49,466	48,980	-3.8	-1.0
Overseas	21,452	21,599	21,733	1.3	0.6
Trucks, vans and buses	69,969	66,307	66,053	-5.6	-0.4
New motor vehicles					
Newfoundland and Labrador	2,105	2,193	1,926	-8.5	-12.2
Prince Edward Island	457	400	432	-5.5	8.0
Nova Scotia	4,137	4,689	4,057	-1.9	-13.5
New Brunswick	3,082	2,845	2,850	-7.5	0.2
Quebec	35,346	32,777	32,763	-7.3	0.0
Ontario	56,285	51,957	51,382	-8.7	-1.1
Manitoba	4,039	3,823	3,589	-11.1	-6.1
Saskatchewan	3,210	3,031	3,315	3.3	9.4
Alberta	18,138	20,163	20,704	14.1	2.7
British Columbia ²	15,562	15,494	15,749	1.2	1.6
	February 2005	January 2006 ^r	February 2006 ^p	February 2005 to February 2006	
unadjusted					
	number of vehicles			% change	
New motor vehicles	106,064	89,422	100,740	-5.0	
Passenger cars	50,559	44,184	48,758	-3.6	
North American ¹	35,421	31,445	33,450	-5.6	
Overseas	15,138	12,739	15,308	1.1	
Trucks, vans and buses	55,505	45,238	51,982	-6.3	
New motor vehicles					
Newfoundland and Labrador	1,339	1,069	1,145	-14.5	
Prince Edward Island	282	209	284	0.7	
Nova Scotia	2,817	2,792	2,747	-2.5	
New Brunswick	2,211	1,747	2,037	-7.9	
Quebec	25,244	19,288	23,064	-8.6	
Ontario	41,810	34,140	37,568	-10.1	
Manitoba	3,088	2,399	2,543	-17.6	
Saskatchewan	2,327	1,906	2,376	2.1	
Alberta	14,026	14,458	16,038	14.3	
British Columbia ²	12,920	11,414	12,938	0.1	

^r Revised.

^p Preliminary.

1. Manufactured or assembled in Canada, the United States or Mexico.

2. Includes Yukon, the Northwest Territories and Nunavut.



Steel primary forms, weekly data

Week ending April 8, 2006 (preliminary)

Steel primary forms production for the week ending April 8 totalled 304 109 metric tonnes, down 6.5% from 325 236 tonnes a week earlier and down 0.9% from 306 959 tonnes in the same week of 2005.

The year-to-date total as of April 8 was 4 190 831 tonnes, down 4.2% from 4 376 713 tonnes in the same period of 2005.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2131.

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

Steel pipe and tubing

February 2006

Data on the production and shipments of steel pipe and tubing are now available for February.

Available on CANSIM: table 303-0046.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2105.

The February 2006 issue of *Steel, Tubular Products and Steel Wire* (41-019-XIE, \$6/\$51) will soon be available.

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

Primary iron and steel

February 2006

Data on primary iron and steel are now available for February.

Available on CANSIM: tables 303-0048 to 303-0051.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey numbers, including related surveys, 2116 and 2184.

The February 2006 issue of *Steel, Tubular Products and Steel Wire* (41-019-XIE, \$6/\$51) will soon be available.

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

Monthly Survey of Large Retailers

February 2006

Data from the Monthly Survey of Large Retailers are now available for February.

Revisions to adjusted and unadjusted data for 2005 are now available.

Available on CANSIM: table 080-0009.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 5027.

A data table is also available in the *Canadian Statistics* module online.

Data for the group of large retailers for March will be released on May 17.

For general information or to order data, contact Client Services (1-877-421-3067; 613-951-3549; retailinfo@statcan.ca). To enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Abdul Mohammed (613-951-7719), Distributive Trades Division. ■

New products

Industry Price Indexes, February 2006, Vol. 32, no. 2
Catalogue number **62-011-XIE** (\$19/\$175).

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

Industry Price Indexes, February 2006, Vol. 32, no. 2
Catalogue number **62-011-XPE** (\$24/\$233).

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**
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To fax your order, call: **1-877-287-4369**
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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.

Catalogue 11-001-XIE (P) article 11-001-XIE/001-XIE



Statistics Canada

Thursday, June 3, 1997
For release at 9:30 a.m.



MAJOR RELEASES

- **Urban transit, 1995** 2
Changes in the number of people taking urban transit. Canadians are riding 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, 1995** 4
Growth in productivity among Canadian businesses was noticeably weak again in 1996, accompanied by sluggish gains in employment and slow moderate growth during the year.

OTHER RELEASES

- **Help-wanted index, May 1997** 3
- **Short-term Expectations Survey** 2
- **Steel primary forms, week ending May 31, 1997** 12
- **Egg production, April 1997** 12

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