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The Daily

Statistics Canada

Monday, May 1, 2006
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Releases

Releases

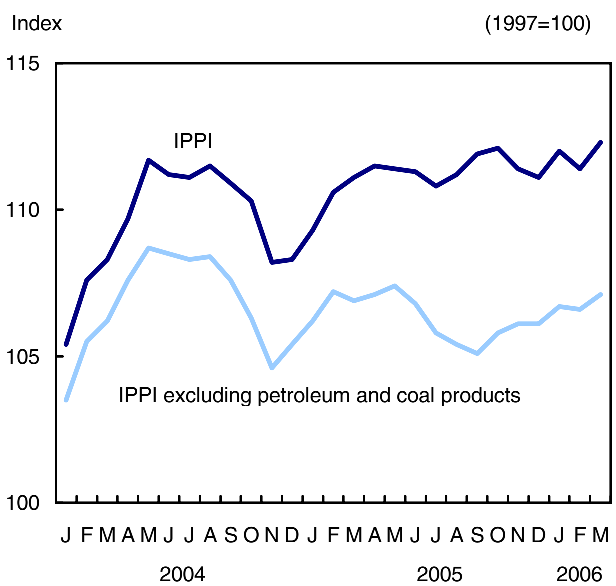
Industrial product and raw materials price indexes

March 2006

Prices for manufactured goods at the factory gate were up in March, as higher prices were registered for gasoline and fuel oils. Raw materials prices also increased in March, the result of higher prices for non-ferrous metals.

Prices charged by manufacturers, as measured by the Industrial Product Price Index (IPPI), were up 0.8% from February to March. Higher prices for petroleum products, primary metal products and motor vehicles and other transport equipment were the major contributors to this monthly increase.

Prices for manufactured goods increase



The 12-month change in the IPPI was 1.1%, up from February's year-over-year increase of 0.7%. Higher prices for petroleum products, primary metal products and chemical products were the major contributors to this annual increase.

The Raw Materials Price Index (RMPI) was up 0.8% from February to March, following a decrease of 3.2% in February and due primarily to higher prices for non-ferrous metals.

Note to readers

*The **Industrial Product Price Index** (IPPI) reflects the prices that producers in Canada receive as the goods leave the plant gate. It does not reflect what the consumer pays. Unlike the Consumer Price Index, the IPPI excludes indirect taxes and all the costs that occur between the time a good leaves the plant and the time the final user takes possession of it, including the transportation, wholesale, and retail costs.*

Canadian producers export many goods. They often quote their prices in foreign currencies, particularly for motor vehicles, pulp, paper, and wood products. Therefore, a rise or fall in the value of the Canadian dollar against its U.S. counterpart affects the IPPI.

*The **Raw Materials Price Index** (RMPI) reflects the prices paid by Canadian manufacturers for key raw materials. Many of these prices are set in a world market. Unlike the IPPI, the RMPI includes goods not produced in Canada.*

Compared to March of last year, raw materials cost factories 4.9% more, the lowest year-over-year change since March 2004.

In March, the IPPI (1997=100) stood at 112.3 up from February's revised level of 111.4. The RMPI (1997=100) reached 151.6, up from a revised level of 150.4 in February.

IPPI: Prices for petroleum products are up

On a month-over-month basis, manufacturers' prices were up 0.8%, mainly due to higher prices for gasoline and fuel oils, primary metal products and motor vehicles.

Petroleum and coal products prices increased 5.4% compared to February. If petroleum and coal product prices had been excluded, the IPPI would have increased 0.5% rather than 0.8%.

Prices for primary metal products rose 1.5% as prices for copper, zinc, aluminum and silver products increased due to continuing high demand.

Prices for motor vehicles and other transport equipment were up 0.4% from February, due primarily to a weaker Canadian dollar.

Prices for pulp and paper products, machinery and equipment as well as meat, fish and dairy products also recorded increases in March.

However, lumber and other wood products decreased 0.3% from February to March. Lower prices were observed for softwood lumber, particleboard as well as softwood plywood excluding Douglas fir.

IPPI: Petroleum and primary metal products are the major factors in the 12-month change

On a 12-month basis, the IPPI increased 1.1% in March, up from the year-over-year change of 0.7% observed in February.

Prices for petroleum and coal products rose 11.7% from March 2005, down from February's increase of 14.5%. If petroleum and coal product prices had been excluded, the IPPI would have increased 0.2%, rather than 1.1% from a year ago.

Prices for primary metal products were up 4.6% compared to a year ago. Higher prices were observed for copper, aluminum and zinc products. Chemical products increased 4.0%, due to higher prices for synthetic resins and inorganic industrial chemicals.

Prices were also higher than one year ago for rubber, leather and plastic fabricated products, tobacco products, fruit, vegetable and feed products, non-metallic mineral products and furniture and fixtures.

On the other hand, lumber and other wood products declined 8.4% from March 2005 to March 2006, as year-over-year price decreases were recorded for softwood lumber (-10.9%), particleboard (-22.4%) and softwood plywood excluding Douglas fir (-18.3%).

Motor vehicles and other transport equipment prices were down 3.4% from a year ago, mainly as a result of a stronger Canadian dollar.

Prices for pulp and paper products, meat, fish and dairy products as well as metal fabricated products were also down from a year ago.

RMPI: Non-ferrous metals push up raw materials prices

On a monthly basis, raw material prices rose 0.8% in March, following a decrease of 3.2% in February. Non-ferrous metals were the major contributors to this monthly increase as prices rose 4.0%. Prices for zinc concentrates, radio-active concentrates, copper concentrates, silver and gold were up due to strong demand and tight supply.

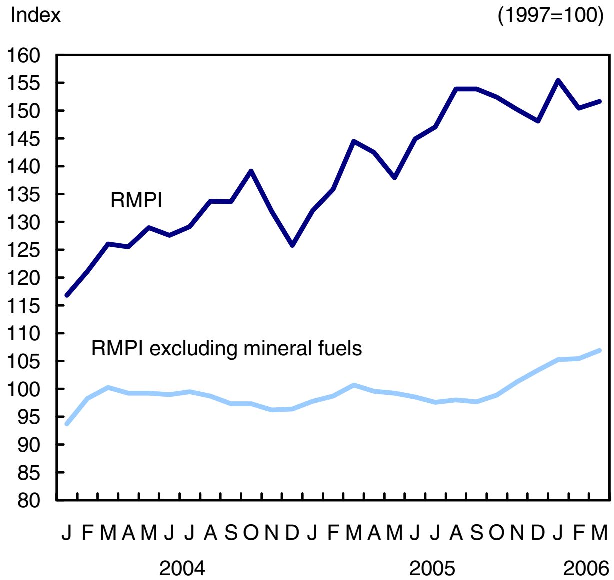
Mineral fuels increased 0.2% compared to February. Higher prices for crude oil (+0.6%) were partly offset by lower prices for natural gas (-1.9%).

Prices for animal and animal products rose 0.8% as increases were registered for unprocessed whole milk and hogs for slaughter.

On a 12-month basis, the price of raw materials rose 4.9% in March, a significant decrease from the 10.7% year-over-year increase observed in February. This was the lowest 12-month change since March 2004.

Mineral fuels were up 3.8% with natural gas prices rising 25.3%. Crude oil prices were up only 0.3% from a year ago, its lowest increase in two years. If mineral fuels had been excluded, the RMPI would have increased 6.2% instead of rising 4.9%.

Raw materials prices are up



Prices for non-ferrous metals rose 31.4%, mainly because of higher prices for radio-active concentrates, zinc concentrates, copper concentrates, gold, silver and lead. Prices for non-metallic minerals were also up 6.9% from a year ago.

On the other hand, prices for wood products, animal and animal products as well as ferrous materials were down compared to March 2005.

Impact of the exchange rate

Between February and March, the value of the Canadian dollar against the US dollar was down 0.7%. As a result, the total IPPI excluding the effect of the exchange would have risen 0.6% instead of its actual increase of 0.8%.

On a 12-month basis, the value of the Canadian dollar rose 5.1% against the US dollar. If the impact of the exchange rate had been excluded, producer prices would have risen 2.4% between March 2005 and March 2006, rather than their actual increase of 1.1%.

Higher prices for intermediate goods

Prices for intermediate goods increased 0.8% from February. Higher prices for petroleum products, primary metal products, pulp and paper products, motor vehicles, meat, fish and dairy products as well as fruit, vegetable and feed products were the major contributors to the increase.

Producers of intermediate goods received 1.8% more for their goods in March than the same month a year earlier. Higher prices were registered for petroleum products, primary metal products, chemical products, rubber, leather and plastic fabricated products and non-metallic mineral products.

These increases were partly offset by lower prices for lumber products, motor vehicles, meat, fish and dairy products, pulp and paper products, and metal fabricated products.

Finished goods prices increase

On a monthly basis, prices for finished goods were up 0.9% from February. Higher prices for petroleum products, motor vehicles, machinery and equipment and meat, fish and dairy products were the major contributors to this monthly rise.

Compared with March 2005, prices for finished goods edged up 0.1%. Higher prices for petroleum products, tobacco products, fruit, vegetable and feed products, furniture and fixtures, chemical products, and rubber, leather and plastic fabricated products were offset by lower prices for motor vehicles and lumber products.

Available on CANSIM: tables 329-0038 to 329-0049 and 330-0006.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey numbers, including related surveys, 2306 and 2318.

The March 2006 issue of *Industry Price Indexes* (62-011-XIE, free, 62-011-XPE, $24/$233) will be available in May.

The Industrial product and raw material price indexes for April 2006 will be released on May 30.

For more information, or to inquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact the Client Services Unit (613-951-9606; fax: 613-951-1539; *infounit@statcan.ca*) or Danielle Gouin (613-951-3375; *danielle.gouin@statcan.ca*), Prices Division.

□

Industrial product price indexes

(1997=100)

	Relative importance	March 2005	February 2006[r]	March 2006[p]	March 2005 to March 2006	February to March 2006
					% change	
Industrial Product Price Index (IPPI)	**100.00**	**111.1**	**111.4**	**112.3**	**1.1**	**0.8**
IPPI excluding petroleum and coal products	**94.32**	**106.9**	**106.6**	**107.1**	**0.2**	**0.5**
Aggregation by commodities						
Meat, fish and dairy products	5.78	108.6	106.6	107.0	-1.5	0.4
Fruit, vegetables, feeds and other food products	5.99	102.8	103.8	104.0	1.2	0.2
Beverages	1.57	121.0	122.1	122.0	0.8	-0.1
Tobacco and tobacco products	0.63	170.2	183.0	183.0	7.5	0.0
Rubber, leather and plastic fabricated products	3.30	112.8	118.1	118.0	4.6	-0.1
Textile products	1.58	99.3	100.0	100.2	0.9	0.2
Knitted products and clothing	1.51	104.4	104.7	104.7	0.3	0.0
Lumber and other wood products	6.30	98.6	90.6	90.3	-8.4	-0.3
Furniture and fixtures	1.59	113.9	117.4	117.4	3.1	0.0
Pulp and paper products	7.23	104.3	102.9	103.3	-1.0	0.4
Printing and publishing	1.70	115.5	115.7	115.8	0.3	0.1
Primary metal products	7.80	120.3	123.9	125.8	4.6	1.5
Metal fabricated products	4.11	122.2	121.7	121.8	-0.3	0.1
Machinery and equipment	5.48	106.8	106.8	107.3	0.5	0.5
Motor vehicles and other transport equipment	22.16	96.8	93.1	93.5	-3.4	0.4
Electrical and communications products	5.77	93.5	93.1	93.4	-0.1	0.3
Non-metallic mineral products	1.98	114.9	118.1	118.4	3.0	0.3
Petroleum and coal products[1]	5.68	188.0	199.2	210.0	11.7	5.4
Chemicals and chemical products	7.07	118.8	123.7	123.6	4.0	-0.1
Miscellaneous manufactured products	2.40	111.0	112.0	112.3	1.2	0.3
Miscellaneous non-manufactured products	0.38	144.7	205.8	213.8	47.8	3.9
Intermediate goods[2]	**60.14**	**113.1**	**114.2**	**115.1**	**1.8**	**0.8**
First-stage intermediate goods[3]	7.71	125.0	129.3	130.4	4.3	0.9
Second-stage intermediate goods[4]	52.43	111.3	111.9	112.8	1.3	0.8
Finished goods[5]	**39.86**	**108.1**	**107.2**	**108.2**	**0.1**	**0.9**
Finished foods and feeds	8.50	112.4	113.0	113.2	0.7	0.2
Capital equipment	11.73	102.2	100.4	100.9	-1.3	0.5
All other finished goods	19.63	109.7	108.7	110.5	0.7	1.7

r *revised.*
p *preliminary.*
1. *This index is estimated for the current month.*
2. *Intermediate goods are goods used principally to produce other goods.*
3. *First-stage intermediate goods are items used most frequently to produce other intermediate goods.*
4. *Second-stage intermediate goods are items most commonly used to produce final goods.*
5. *Finished goods are goods most commonly used for immediate consumption or for capital investment.*

Raw materials price indexes

(1997=100)

	Relative importance	March 2005	February 2006[r]	March 2006[p]	March 2005 to March 2006	February to March 2006
					% change	
Raw Materials Price Index (RMPI)	**100.00**	**144.5**	**150.4**	**151.6**	**4.9**	**0.8**
Mineral fuels	35.16	239.1	247.8	248.3	3.8	0.2
Vegetable products	10.28	81.6	82.0	82.0	0.5	0.0
Animals and animal products	20.30	107.4	104.1	104.9	-2.3	0.8
Wood	15.60	77.3	73.3	73.2	-5.3	-0.1
Ferrous materials	3.36	127.3	120.2	120.3	-5.5	0.1
Non-ferrous metals	12.93	118.7	150.0	156.0	31.4	4.0
Non-metallic minerals	2.38	132.1	141.2	141.2	6.9	0.0
RMPI excluding mineral fuels	**64.84**	**100.7**	**105.4**	**106.9**	**6.2**	**1.4**

r *revised.*
p *preliminary.*

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Crude oil and natural gas: Supply and disposition

February 2006 (preliminary)

Crude oil and equivalent hydrocarbons production was 7.0% higher in February than the same month a year earlier, the fifth consecutive year-over-year monthly increase in production. However, production declined 12.0% between January and February 2006 for crude oil and equivalent hydrocarbons. This decline was mostly due to mechanical repairs at a major oilfield and a refinery turnaround in Alberta. In addition, monthly production was lower in Newfoundland and Labrador due to maintenance at the Terra Nova oil field.

Crude oil exports, which accounted for 66.6% of total production, advanced 23.6% over the same period last year.

Marketable natural gas production declined 6.0% from February 2005. Domestic sales of natural gas fell 5.8% from the same period last year, as a result of the warmer than normal weather during February.

Exports of natural gas, which made up 64.6% of marketable natural gas, were down 7.2% over last February.

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

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2198.

Revised data for crude oil are available on CANSIM at the national, provincial and territorial level to December 2005 inclusive. Revised data for natural gas are available on CANSIM at the national, provincial and territorial level to August 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.

Crude oil and natural gas

	February 2005	February 2006[p]	February 2005 to February 2006
	thousands of cubic metres		% change
Crude oil and equivalent hydrocarbons[1]			
Production	10 911.6	11 675.4	7.0
Exports	6 291.0	7 773.1	23.6
Imports[2]	4 924.7	3 826.8	-22.3
Refinery receipts	9 211.1	8 782.4	-4.7
	millions of cubic metres		% change
Natural gas[3]			
Marketable production	13 643.4	12 820.3	-6.0
Exports	8 929.6	8 284.6	-7.2
Canadian domestic sales[4]	8 396.7	7 905.7	-5.8
	January to February 2005	January to February 2006	January-February 2005 to January-February 2006
	thousands of cubic metres		% change
Crude oil and equivalent hydrocarbons[1]			
Production	23 097.1	25 071.4	8.5
Exports	13 873.7	16 607.8	19.7
Imports[2]	9 560.7	7 520.9	-21.3
Refinery receipts	18 539.0	17 546.4	-5.4
	millions of cubic metres		% change
Natural gas[3]			
Marketable production	28 956.4	28 161.3	-2.7
Exports	18 961.4	16 902.5	-10.9
Canadian domestic sales[4]	17 846.9	15 665.9	-12.2

p *preliminary.*
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.*

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Supply and disposition of refined petroleum products
December 2005

Data on the supply and disposition and domestic sales of refined petroleum products are now available for December.

Available on CANSIM: tables 134-0001 to 134-0004.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2150.

The December 2005 issue of *The Supply and Disposition of Refined Petroleum Products in Canada* (previously titled *Refined Petroleum Products*), Vol. 60, no. 12 (45-004-XIE, free) is now available online. See *How to order products*.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact the Marketing and Dissemination Section (613-951-9497; 1-866-873-8789; *energ@statcan.ca*), Manufacturing, Construction and Energy Division. ■

Cereals and oilseeds review
February 2006

Data that will appear in the February 2006 issue of *Cereals and Oilseeds Review*, Vol. 29, no. 2 (22-007-XIB, free) are now available. See *How to order products*. An overview of current grain supplies and markets is also included in this publication.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey numbers, including related surveys, 3401 and 3464.

For general information, contact Client Services (1-800-465-1991; *agriculture@statcan.ca*). To enquire about the concepts, methods and data quality of this release, contact Les Macartney (613-951-8714; *les.macartney@statcan.ca*), Agriculture Division. ■

Mineral wool including fibrous glass insulation
March 2006

Data on mineral wool including fibrous glass insulation are now available for March.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2110.

Data are available upon request only. 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. ■

Electric power statistics
February 2006

Data on electric power are now available for February.

Available on CANSIM: table 127-0001.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2151.

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. ■

Coal and coke statistics
February 2006

Data on coal and coke are now available for February.

Available on CANSIM: table 303-0016.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey numbers, including related surveys, 2003 and 2147.

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. ■

New products

Cereals and Oilseeds Review, February 2006, Vol. 29, no. 2
Catalogue number 22-007-XIB
(free).

The Supply and Disposition of Refined Petroleum Products in Canada, December 2005, Vol. 60, no. 12
Catalogue number 45-004-XIE
(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.

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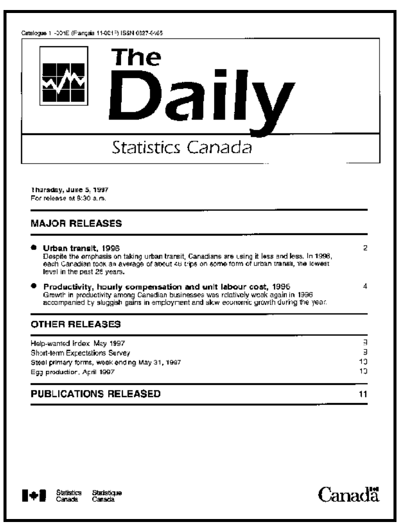
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The Daily

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 48 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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PUBLICATIONS RELEASED 11

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