



# The Daily

Statistics Canada

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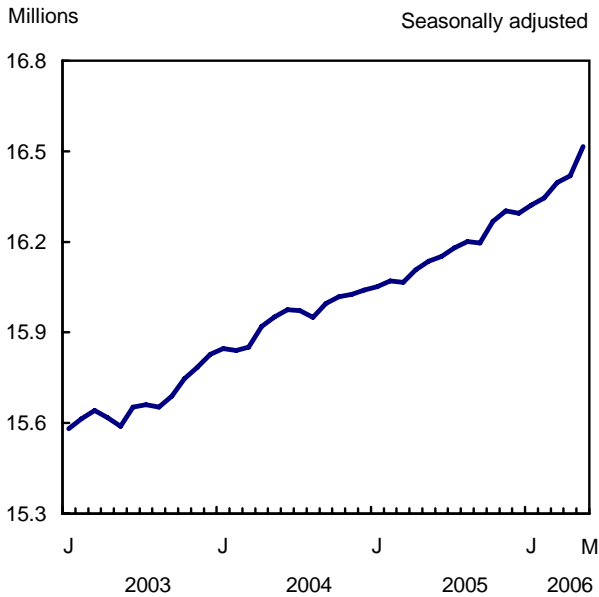
## Releases

### Labour Force Survey

May 2006

Employment increased by an estimated 97,000 in May, matching the high reached in January 2002. This increase drove the unemployment rate down 0.3 percentage points to 6.1%, the lowest since December 1974.

#### Employment



The sizeable gain in employment pushed the employment rate to an all-time high of 63.2%. Over the first five months of the year, employment has increased by 1.4% (+220,000).

All of May's employment increase was in full time, up 151,000, the largest increase on record. This jump was due to new entrants to the labour market obtaining full-time employment and coincides with fewer people working part time.

While employment growth continued to surge ahead in Alberta, there were also large increases in Ontario and Quebec in May. Strength in the service industries in

#### Comparing current Labour Force Survey estimates to those prior to 1976

In recent months, the Labour Force Survey (LFS) has been reporting very low unemployment rates. The rates have been so low that some LFS users want to understand the historical context in which these rates are presented. Caution must be stressed when comparing recent LFS employment and unemployment estimates to those prior to 1976 — when the questionnaire underwent significant changes.

The 1976 LFS questionnaire introduced direct questioning to determine labour market status. This replaced the "main activity" style of information previously recorded. In 1975, both the new and old questionnaires were run in parallel. An analysis of the impact on employment and unemployment estimates showed that the new questionnaire measured more employment, especially among youths and women. It also picked up more unemployment, most notably among women.

At the time of the conversion to the new questionnaire, a historical series was created by adjusting pre-1976 estimates of employment and unemployment using factors determined from the parallel run. Ratios were applied to the 1966 to 1975 data to make them more (but not strictly) comparable to the new estimates. Although these adjusted 1966 to 1975 data are available, users should still be cautious when comparing the two periods because of the different questionnaires used to measure employment and unemployment. Approaching 1966, further caution should be used.

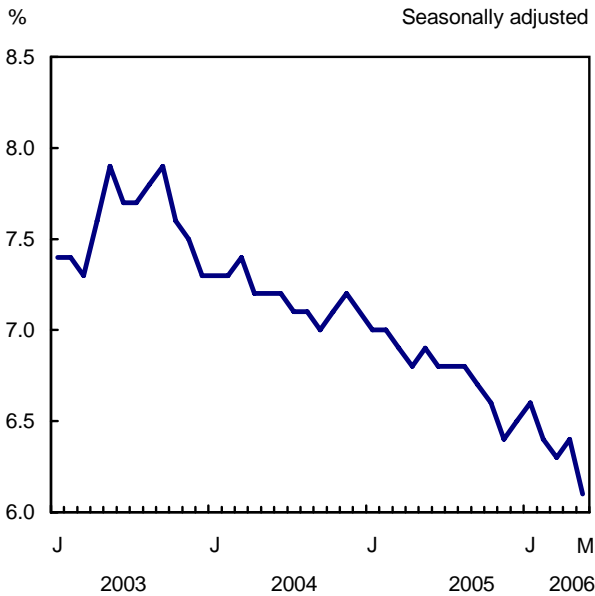
Ontario and Quebec more than offset continued declines in manufacturing.

At the national level, employment fell in manufacturing as well as in educational services. However, there were large increases in a number of industries. The largest gains in May came in finance, insurance, real estate and leasing; health care and social assistance; and public administration. Employment is up in almost every industry over the last 12 months.

Men, women and youths shared in May's employment gains. The healthy showing from youths is a continuation of the strong trend that began in September 2005.

With strength in full-time employment and a falling unemployment rate, wages continue to rise. The average hourly wage in May was up 3.8% from 12 months ago, compared to the most recent 2.4% increase in the Consumer Price Index. Average hourly wages jumped by 7.3% in Alberta's tight labour market.

**Unemployment rate**



**Widespread industry gains**

Employment increased sharply in finance, insurance, real estate and leasing in May, up 31,000, bringing gains since the start of the year to 55,000 (+5.5%). The increase this month was concentrated in Quebec.

In May, 23,000 more people were working in health care and social assistance. Compared to 12 months ago, employment in the industry is up 3.4%, with the bulk of the increase in hospitals.

Employment rose by an estimated 22,000 in public administration, all at the municipal and provincial levels. Despite the increase in May, there were declines earlier in the year, leaving employment in the industry little changed from 12 months ago.

In May, there were also more workers in accommodation and food services (+17,000), the first increase so far this year. Most of the gain occurred in Alberta.

There was a decline of 22,000 in manufacturing in May, with losses spread between Ontario and Quebec. Since the end of 2002 when the downward trend for the industry began, employment has fallen by 8.0% (-187,000).

**Alberta boom continues**

In Alberta, employment rose by 32,000 in May, pushing the employment rate to a record high of 71.4%. Gains were fuelled by an increase in the population as workers migrated to a province where labour

demand is high. In May, the unemployment rate edged down 0.1 percentage points to 3.4%.

Alberta's added employment was primarily in the service industries, particularly in health care and social assistance; finance, insurance, real estate and leasing and in accommodation and food services. Employment also increased in construction. Natural resources was little changed in May, but has jumped by 14.0% since last December. Employment in Alberta has grown by 4.2% so far this year — the fastest rate of growth of all the provinces.

Following moderate growth in the first four months of the year, employment in Ontario increased by 34,000 in May, pushing the unemployment rate down 0.3 percentage points to 5.9%.

The manufacturing sector in Ontario continued to shed employees, with a decline of 13,000 in May. Since the start of the year, employment in manufacturing in Ontario has declined by 2.8% (-30,000). Ontario, however, has been able to weather declines in manufacturing thanks to strength from the service sector. Employment in retail and wholesale trade continued its upward trend, increasing by 26,000 in May. Professional, scientific and technical services also contributed to May's employment increases with an additional 21,000 workers. In contrast, employment was down in educational services (-17,000), yet remains 3.4% above the level from 12 months ago.

Employment increased by 31,000 in Quebec in May, pushing the unemployment rate down 0.4 percentage points to 7.9%, the second lowest rate in the last 30 years. As with Alberta and Ontario, the employment increase was spurred by strength in the service sector which more than offset a decline of 12,000 in manufacturing. The largest increases were found in finance, insurance, real estate and leasing, up 20,000 as well as information, culture and recreation (+16,000).

In New Brunswick, the unemployment rate fell to 8.6% in May, a record low for the province. The 0.5 percentage point decline in the unemployment rate, however, was the result of adult women and men leaving the labour force rather than an increase in employment.

**Record full-time gains in May**

Full-time employment jumped by 151,000 in May, well in excess of the previous record increase. These gains were widespread, but were most pronounced in Ontario where full-time work increased by 80,000.

In both Alberta and Quebec, nearly all of the employment increase in May came from full time (+28,000 and +27,000, respectively). While full-time employment in Alberta has grown by 5.0% since the

start of the year, in Quebec, full time remains largely unchanged.

Nationally, full-time employment has grown by 3.1% from 12 months ago. At the same time, part-time employment declined by 1.2%. Overall, total employment has grown by 2.3% over the period, suggesting that many part-timers may have switched to full-time work and that new labour force entrants are finding full-time employment.

### Youths drive employment growth in Ontario

In May, employment among youths (aged 15 to 24) in Canada increased by 25,000 (+1.0%). The bulk of this increase for youths was in Ontario where they contributed the lion's share of the overall employment increase (+24,000). So far this year, employment growth among youths in Ontario has been strong, up 2.6%. The same is true for Alberta, where youth employment has jumped by 5.4% since the start of the year.

Despite a decline in May for youths in British Columbia, youth employment has been on an upward trend for 22 months. Since August 2004, youth employment in British Columbia has grown by 16.3% (+49,000). At the same time, their participation rate increased by 5.4 percentage points to 66.4% in May.

**(Note:** From May to August, the Labour Force Survey collects labour market information about people aged 15 to 24 years who were attending school full-time in March and intending to return to school in the fall. Survey results for May give an early indication of the summer job market for older students aged 20 to 24, however, many students aged 15 to 19 are not yet out of school for the summer. Survey results for June, July and August will provide further insight into the summer job market. The published estimates are not seasonally adjusted, therefore comparisons can only be made on a year-over-year basis.)

Older students aged 20 to 24 encountered a similar summer job market this May compared to May 2005. The employment rate edged down slightly (-0.3 percentage points) to 61.9% from the 15-year high reached last May.

### Employment among adult women strengthens

In May, employment for adult women (aged 25 and over) increased by 32,000 with full-time gains more than offsetting declines in part time. So far this year, employment has grown at a faster pace for this group than for adult men. Overall, employment among adult women was up by 2.0% (+126,000), while for adult men, it increased by 0.7% (+52,000).

Following a decline in the participation rate among adult women in 2005, participation has rebounded 0.5 percentage points since February 2006, hitting 61.3% in May.

**Available on CANSIM: tables 282-0001 to 282-0042, 282-0047 to 282-0064 and 282-0069 to 282-0099.**

**Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 3701.**

Available at 7:00 a.m. on Statistics Canada's website. From the home page, choose *Today's news releases from The Daily*, then *Latest Labour Force Survey*.

A more detailed summary, *Labour Force Information*, is available today for the week ending May 20 (71-001-XIE, free) from the *Our products and services* page of our website. LAN and bulk prices are available on request. The 2005 *Labour Force Historical Review on CD-ROM (71F0004XCB, \$209)* is now available. LAN and bulk prices are available on request. See *How to order products*.

Data tables are also available in the *Canadian Statistics* module of our website.

The next release of the Labour Force Survey will be on Friday, July 7.

For general information or to order data, contact Client Services (1-866-873-8788; 613-951-4090; [labour@statcan.ca](mailto:labour@statcan.ca)). To enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Vincent Ferrao (613-951-4750) or Danielle Zietsma (613-951-4243), Labour Statistics Division.

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**Employment by industry (based on NAICS) and class of worker for both sexes, aged 15 and over**

	April 2006	May 2006	April to May 2006	May 2005 to May 2006	April to May 2006	May 2005 to May 2006
Seasonally adjusted						
	'000			%		
<b>All industries</b>	<b>16,418.2</b>	<b>16,514.9</b>	<b>96.7</b>	<b>378.7</b>	<b>0.6</b>	<b>2.3</b>
<b>Goods-producing sector</b>	<b>4,019.7</b>	<b>4,009.9</b>	<b>-9.8</b>	<b>15.2</b>	<b>-0.2</b>	<b>0.4</b>
Agriculture	357.2	353.2	-4.0	7.4	-1.1	2.1
Forestry, fishing, mining, oil and gas	322.9	328.9	6.0	15.4	1.9	4.9
Utilities	114.4	122.2	7.8	-4.7	6.8	-3.7
Construction	1,068.8	1,070.8	2.0	67.4	0.2	6.7
Manufacturing	2,156.5	2,134.8	-21.7	-70.5	-1.0	-3.2
<b>Services-producing sector</b>	<b>12,398.5</b>	<b>12,504.9</b>	<b>106.4</b>	<b>363.4</b>	<b>0.9</b>	<b>3.0</b>
Trade	2,646.2	2,648.8	2.6	61.4	0.1	2.4
Transportation and warehousing	796.1	801.6	5.5	-0.1	0.7	0.0
Finance, insurance, real estate and leasing	1,019.7	1,050.8	31.1	57.9	3.0	5.8
Professional, scientific and technical services	1,086.8	1,097.5	10.7	46.2	1.0	4.4
Business, building and other support services	674.8	675.1	0.3	24.8	0.0	3.8
Educational services	1,160.4	1,144.9	-15.5	52.0	-1.3	4.8
Health care and social assistance	1,750.3	1,773.4	23.1	59.0	1.3	3.4
Information, culture and recreation	738.8	751.4	12.6	20.8	1.7	2.8
Accommodation and food services	989.4	1,006.1	16.7	13.2	1.7	1.3
Other services	709.3	706.5	-2.8	23.6	-0.4	3.5
Public administration	826.8	848.8	22.0	4.7	2.7	0.6
<b>Class of worker</b>						
Public sector employees	3,192.0	3,226.5	34.5	106.4	1.1	3.4
Private sector	13,226.2	13,288.4	62.2	272.4	0.5	2.1
Private employees	10,700.6	10,791.2	90.6	267.1	0.8	2.5
Self-employed	2,525.6	2,497.2	-28.4	5.3	-1.1	0.2

Note: Related to CANSIM tables 282-0088 and 282-0089.

**Employment by type of work, age and sex, seasonally adjusted**

	May 2006	April to May 2006	May 2005 to May 2006	May 2006	April to May 2006	May 2005 to May 2006	May 2006	April to May 2006	May 2005 to May 2006
Seasonally adjusted									
	Both sexes			Men			Women		
	'000								
<b>Employment</b>	<b>16,514.9</b>	<b>96.7</b>	<b>378.7</b>	<b>8,750.5</b>	<b>48.2</b>	<b>165.3</b>	<b>7,764.3</b>	<b>48.4</b>	<b>213.3</b>
Full-time	13,564.0	150.8	414.2	7,841.5	100.0	196.2	5,722.5	50.8	218.0
Part-time	2,950.8	-54.2	-35.6	909.0	-51.8	-30.9	2,041.8	-2.4	-4.7
15 to 24	2,554.8	24.9	92.5	1,289.0	8.8	55.5	1,265.8	16.1	37.0
25 and over	13,960.0	71.7	286.1	7,461.5	39.4	109.8	6,498.5	32.3	176.3
25 to 54	11,648.9	49.5	193.5	6,148.3	24.6	81.2	5,500.6	24.9	112.3
55 and over	2,311.1	22.2	92.5	1,313.2	14.8	28.5	997.9	7.4	64.0

Note: Related CANSIM table 282-0087.

Labour force characteristics for both sexes, aged 15 and over

	April 2006	May 2006	April to May 2006	April 2006	May 2006	April to May 2006
Seasonally adjusted						
	Labour force			Participation rate		
	'000		% change	%		change
<b>Canada</b>	<b>17,532.4</b>	<b>17,588.0</b>	<b>0.3</b>	<b>67.2</b>	<b>67.3</b>	<b>0.1</b>
Newfoundland and Labrador	255.3	253.5	-0.7	59.6	59.3	-0.3
Prince Edward Island	77.8	77.6	-0.3	69.5	69.2	-0.3
Nova Scotia	485.2	483.3	-0.4	63.6	63.4	-0.2
New Brunswick	396.1	394.0	-0.5	64.8	64.5	-0.3
Quebec	4,066.9	4,081.2	0.4	65.2	65.4	0.2
Ontario	6,915.1	6,929.3	0.2	67.8	67.9	0.1
Manitoba	616.1	613.7	-0.4	69.1	68.8	-0.3
Saskatchewan	512.7	511.3	-0.3	68.7	68.5	-0.2
Alberta	1,911.5	1,942.1	1.6	73.0	73.9	0.9
British Columbia	2,295.7	2,302.0	0.3	65.6	65.7	0.1
	Employment			Employment rate		
	'000		% change	%		change
<b>Canada</b>	<b>16,418.2</b>	<b>16,514.9</b>	<b>0.6</b>	<b>62.9</b>	<b>63.2</b>	<b>0.3</b>
Newfoundland and Labrador	214.6	216.0	0.7	50.1	50.5	0.4
Prince Edward Island	69.6	69.8	0.3	62.1	62.3	0.2
Nova Scotia	446.1	444.5	-0.4	58.5	58.3	-0.2
New Brunswick	360.1	360.1	0.0	58.9	58.9	0.0
Quebec	3,728.6	3,759.1	0.8	59.8	60.2	0.4
Ontario	6,486.8	6,520.8	0.5	63.6	63.9	0.3
Manitoba	587.2	588.2	0.2	65.9	66.0	0.1
Saskatchewan	487.9	486.5	-0.3	65.3	65.2	-0.1
Alberta	1,844.6	1,876.2	1.7	70.5	71.4	0.9
British Columbia	2,192.8	2,193.6	0.0	62.7	62.6	-0.1
	Unemployment			Unemployment rate		
	'000		% change	%		change
<b>Canada</b>	<b>1,114.2</b>	<b>1,073.2</b>	<b>-3.7</b>	<b>6.4</b>	<b>6.1</b>	<b>-0.3</b>
Newfoundland and Labrador	40.7	37.5	-7.9	15.9	14.8	-1.1
Prince Edward Island	8.2	7.8	-4.9	10.5	10.1	-0.4
Nova Scotia	39.1	38.8	-0.8	8.1	8.0	-0.1
New Brunswick	36.0	33.9	-5.8	9.1	8.6	-0.5
Quebec	338.2	322.0	-4.8	8.3	7.9	-0.4
Ontario	428.3	408.5	-4.6	6.2	5.9	-0.3
Manitoba	29.0	25.5	-12.1	4.7	4.2	-0.5
Saskatchewan	24.8	24.9	0.4	4.8	4.9	0.1
Alberta	66.9	65.9	-1.5	3.5	3.4	-0.1
British Columbia	102.9	108.4	5.3	4.5	4.7	0.2

Note: Related CANSIM table 282-0087.

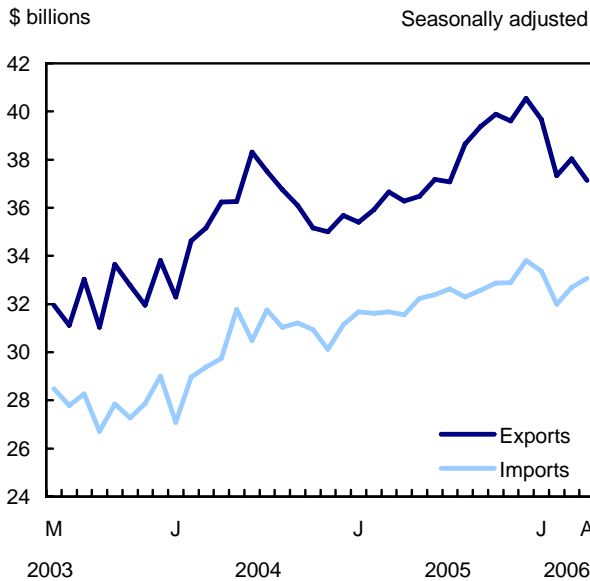


## Canadian international merchandise trade

April 2006

Canada's merchandise exports fell in April for the third time in four months this year while imports continued to gain ground. As a result, the nation's merchandise trade surplus with the rest of the world dropped to its lowest level in six months.

### Exports and imports



After a modest gain in March, exports declined 2.3% to \$37.1 billion. Imports registered their second consecutive gain this year, rising 1.2% to \$33.1 billion.

That pushed Canada's merchandise trade surplus from a revised \$5.3 billion in March down to \$4.0 billion, its lowest level since January 2005.

Exports, which fell in April to almost all Canada's major trading partners, including the United States, were 8.4% lower than they were in December 2005. This year's slump follows a sharply rising trend that had started in November 2004. Between that point and December 2005, exports rose from \$35.0 billion to \$40.5 billion.

Imports from the United States remained virtually flat in April, while exports declined 1.5%. That narrowed Canada's trade surplus with the United States from \$8.3 billion to \$7.9 billion.

At the same time, our trade deficit with countries other than the United States increased from \$3.0 billion to \$3.8 billion.

#### Note to readers

Merchandise trade is one component of the current account of Canada's balance of payments, which also includes trade in services.

Balance of payments data are available for the United States, Japan and the United Kingdom. Trade data for all other individual countries are available on a customs basis only.

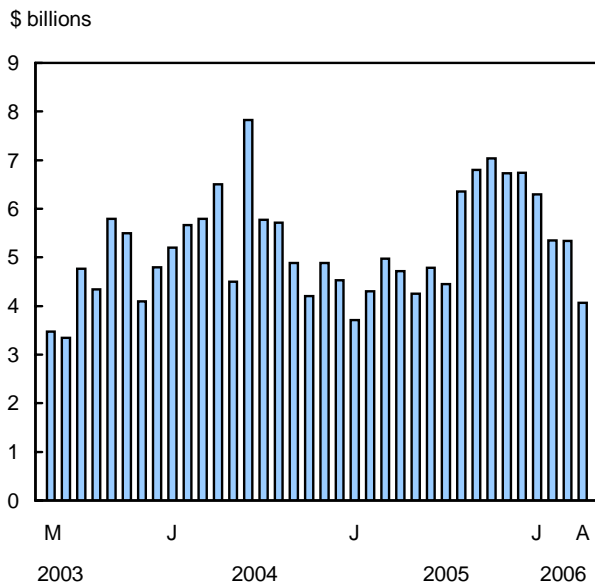
#### Revisions

In general, merchandise trade data are revised on an ongoing basis for each month of the current year. Customs basis data are revised for the previous data year each quarter.

Factors influencing revisions include late receipt of import and export documentation, incorrect information on customs forms, replacement of estimates with actual figures, changes in classification of merchandise based on more current information, and changes to seasonal adjustment factors.

Revised data are available in the appropriate CANSIM tables.

### Trade balance



### Exports: Automotive products, machinery and equipment behind the decline

Exports rose in only two of seven export sectors in April — energy products and agricultural and fishing products.

The largest contributors to April's overall decline were automotive products, where exports fell 8.4%, and machinery and equipment, where they were down 3.2%.

Exports of automotive products had been rising since July 2005, reaching their most recent peak of \$8.0 billion in January 2006. Sharp increases in fuel

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costs and finance costs have depressed demand for vehicles in both Canada and the United States. In April, light truck sales south of the border declined 7.7%.

Exports of passenger autos, the largest component of the automotive products sector, registered their third consecutive decline in April. Trucks and other motor vehicles, and motor vehicle parts have shown a generally declining trend since July 2005.

Exports of machinery and equipment, Canada's largest export sector, fell 3.2% to about \$8.0 billion in April. The decline consisted primarily of a 7.7% drop in exports of industrial and agricultural machinery, and a 4.2% decrease in aircraft and other transportation equipment caused by a decline in aerospace production.

April's decrease in exports of machinery and equipment followed an upward trend that began in June 2003, hitting its most recent peak of \$8.2 billion in March 2006.

Exports of forestry products fell 1.6% to just over \$2.8 billion, the third consecutive monthly decline after reaching their most recent peak of \$3.2 billion in January. Newsprint and other paper fell 3.4%, while exports of lumber and sawmill products slipped 2.1% in the wake of a decline in residential construction south of the border.

Industrial goods and materials edged down 0.3% to just over \$7.2 billion. Growth in metals and alloys was offset by lower exports of chemicals, plastics and fertilizers, and other industrial goods.

Exports of industrial goods and materials had been on an upward trend since June 2003. The growth in metals and alloys in April was the result of gains in both prices and volume. Within the commodity group, both zinc and copper reached their highest levels since January 2000.

On the plus side, exports of agricultural and fishing products posted a second consecutive increase with a 1.2% gain in April. It was driven by a 36.7% surge in wheat exports. Agricultural and fishing products have been virtually flat since April 2002.

Energy products grew 1.5% to nearly \$7.2 billion. Exports of crude petroleum grew 2.8%, while "other" energy products (including petroleum and coal products, and other bituminous substances, and electricity) were up by 13.5%.

On the other hand, exports of natural gas fell 7.4%, the result of a 5.7% decrease in prices and a 1.8% decline in volume. Record high inventory levels in the United States depressed demand as well as prices of

natural gas. The energy products sector has shown a sharp declining trend since October 2005.

### **Imports: Energy products and automotive products drive most of the growth**

Imports have been generally growing since September 2003. In April, four sectors (energy products, automotive products, agricultural and fishing products, and forestry products) registered growth.

This comes in the wake of 0.9% growth in Canada's real gross domestic product during the first three months of 2006.

Imports of energy products, which rose 14.1% from March, accounted for the vast majority (90%) of the net growth in total imports in April. Canadian companies imported more than \$2.8 billion in energy products in April, following a period of sharp declines that have averaged 2.7% a month since November 2005.

April's increase in energy was the result of a 12.5% increase in volume and a 1.6% increase in prices. Imports of petroleum and coal products, and coal and other related products surged 36.2%, and crude petroleum gained 1.9%.

Companies imported nearly \$6.7 billion in automotive products in April, up 2.8% from March, their second consecutive gain. This growth consisted of a 5.9% gain in imports of trucks and other motor vehicles, a 2.6% increase in imports of passenger autos, and a 1.5% rise in motor vehicle parts.

Imports of automotive products have been virtually flat since April 2004, as trucks and other motor vehicles, as well as passenger autos, have risen while motor vehicle parts have declined.

Agricultural and fishing products increased 1.0% to \$1.9 billion, the second consecutive rise. The main contributors were increases in sugar and sugar preparations, beverages and tobacco. Imports of fruits and vegetables, which registered their third consecutive decline, were 4.1% lower than they were in January.

Industrial goods and materials edged down 0.3% in April, following a 4.1% gain in March. Chemicals and plastics explained most of the decline.

After an increase in March, machinery and equipment imports fell 3.2% in April with aircraft and other transportation equipment plunging 20.9%. This component accounted for over 98% of the net decline of the sector.

Industrial and agricultural machinery imports fell 2.8% while "other" machinery and equipment imports increased 1.7%.



Available on CANSIM: tables 228-0001 to 228-0003 and 228-0033 to 228-0046.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey numbers, including related surveys, 2201, 2202 and 2203.

The April 2006 issue of *Canadian International Merchandise Trade*, Vol. 60, no. 4 (65-001-XIB, free) is now available from the *Our products and services* page of our website. The publication includes tables by commodity and country on a customs basis. Current

account data (which incorporate merchandise trade statistics, service transactions, investment income and transfers) are available quarterly in *Canada's Balance of International Payments* (67-001-XIE, free).

Merchandise trade data are available in PDF format on the morning of release.

For more information on products and services, contact Anne Couillard (1-800-294-5583; 613-951-6867). To enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Jafar A. Khondaker (613-951-9786), International Trade Division.

## Merchandise trade

	March 2006 <sup>r</sup>	April 2006	March to April 2006	April to April 2006	January to April 2005	January to April 2006	January–April 2005 to January–April 2006
Seasonally adjusted, \$ current							
	\$ millions		% change		\$ millions		% change
<b>Principal trading partners</b>							
<b>Exports</b>							
United States	30,236	29,783	-1.5	1.1	117,561	122,464	4.2
Japan	906	867	-4.3	3.6	3,325	3,420	2.9
European Union	2,823	2,457	-13.0	4.3	9,150	10,458	14.3
Other OECD countries <sup>1</sup>	1,352	1,367	1.1	12.7	4,560	5,310	16.4
All other countries	2,709	2,671	-1.4	10.7	9,647	10,526	9.1
<b>Total</b>	<b>38,026</b>	<b>37,146</b>	<b>-2.3</b>	<b>2.4</b>	<b>144,243</b>	<b>152,179</b>	<b>5.5</b>
<b>Imports</b>							
United States	21,897	21,827	-0.3	2.2	85,360	87,029	2.0
Japan	890	1,105	24.2	18.9	3,810	3,905	2.5
European Union	3,339	3,210	-3.9	4.5	12,506	13,220	5.7
Other OECD countries <sup>1</sup>	1,891	1,944	2.8	-8.6	7,990	7,513	-6.0
All other countries	4,672	4,990	6.8	22.2	16,863	19,458	15.4
<b>Total</b>	<b>32,689</b>	<b>33,076</b>	<b>1.2</b>	<b>4.8</b>	<b>126,529</b>	<b>131,125</b>	<b>3.6</b>
<b>Balance</b>							
United States	8,339	7,956	...	...	32,201	35,435	...
Japan	16	-238	...	...	-485	-485	...
European Union	-516	-753	...	...	-3,356	-2,762	...
Other OECD countries <sup>1</sup>	-539	-577	...	...	-3,430	-2,203	...
All other countries	-1,963	-2,319	...	...	-7,216	-8,932	...
<b>Total</b>	<b>5,337</b>	<b>4,070</b>	<b>...</b>	<b>...</b>	<b>17,714</b>	<b>21,054</b>	<b>...</b>
<b>Principal commodity groupings</b>							
<b>Exports</b>							
Agricultural and fishing products	2,630	2,662	1.2	8.5	9,761	10,537	8.0
Energy products	7,066	7,174	1.5	11.1	24,006	29,047	21.0
Forestry products	2,886	2,840	-1.6	-8.6	12,542	11,800	-5.9
Industrial goods and materials	7,275	7,250	-0.3	4.6	27,809	29,049	4.5
Machinery and equipment	8,217	7,952	-3.2	-0.6	31,228	31,851	2.0
Automotive products	7,262	6,650	-8.4	-1.6	28,435	29,159	2.5
Other consumer goods	1,447	1,393	-3.7	-2.2	5,775	5,675	-1.7
Special transactions trade <sup>2</sup>	731	666	-8.9	-0.7	2,666	2,900	8.8
Other balance of payments adjustments	512	557	8.8	15.8	2,020	2,157	6.8
<b>Imports</b>							
Agricultural and fishing products	1,877	1,895	1.0	3.3	7,312	7,577	3.6
Energy products	2,474	2,823	14.1	12.0	10,138	10,429	2.9
Forestry products	248	254	2.4	-3.4	1,056	1,009	-4.5
Industrial goods and materials	6,885	6,868	-0.2	6.4	26,127	27,420	4.9
Machinery and equipment	9,496	9,197	-3.1	1.7	35,838	37,446	4.5
Automotive products	6,519	6,699	2.8	2.7	25,778	26,287	2.0
Other consumer goods	4,261	4,226	-0.8	6.4	16,219	17,030	5.0
Special transactions trade <sup>2</sup>	338	492	45.6	46.0	1,601	1,521	-5.0
Other balance of payments adjustments	591	623	5.4	2.1	2,459	2,407	-2.1

... figures not appropriate or not applicable

<sup>r</sup> revised

1. Includes Australia, Canada, Iceland, Mexico, New Zealand, Norway, South Korea, Switzerland and Turkey.

2. These are mainly low valued transactions, value of repairs to equipment, and goods returned to country of origin.

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## Export and import price indexes

April 2006

Current- and fixed-weighted export and import price indexes (1997=100) on a balance of payments basis are now available. Price indexes are listed from January 1997 to April 2006 for the five commodity sections and the major commodity groups (62 exports and 61 imports).

Current- and fixed-weighted US price indexes (1997=100) are also available on a customs basis. Price indexes are listed from January 1997 to April 2006. Included with the US commodity indexes are the 10 all-countries and US-only Standard International Trade Classification section indexes.

Indexes for the five commodity sections and the major commodity groups are also available now on a customs basis.

**Available on CANSIM: tables 228-0001 to 228-0003 and 228-0033 to 228-0046.**

**Definitions, data sources and methods: survey numbers, including related surveys, 2201, 2202 and 2203.**

The April issue of *Canadian International Merchandise Trade* (65-001-XIB, free) is now available from the *Our products and services* page of our website.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Anne Couillard (1-800-294-5583; 613-951-9647), International Trade Division. ■

## Steel primary forms, weekly data

Week ending June 3, 2006 (preliminary)

Steel primary forms production for the week ending June 3 totalled 320 674 metric tonnes, up 3.5% from 309 879 tonnes a week earlier and up 1.7% from 315 214 tonnes in the same week of 2005.

The year-to-date total as of June 3 was 6 691 895 tonnes, down 2.1% from 6 832 485 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](mailto:manufact@statcan.ca)), Manufacturing, Construction and Energy Division. ■

## Fruit and vegetable production

Spring 2006

Data from the Fruit and Vegetable Survey conducted in the spring of 2006 are now available.

**Available on CANSIM: tables 001-0009, 001-0012 and 001-0013.**

**Definitions, data sources and methods: survey numbers, including related surveys, 3407 and 3411.**

An analysis of these data will appear in the June 2006 issue of *Fruit and Vegetable Production* (22-003-XIE, free) scheduled for release on June 23. Data are made available on the Internet twice a year, in February and June. For more information, contact Client Services (1-800-465-1991; [agriculture@statcan.ca](mailto:agriculture@statcan.ca)).

To enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Marco Morin (613-951-2074; [marco.morin@statcan.ca](mailto:marco.morin@statcan.ca)), Agriculture Division. ■

## Cement

April 2006

Data on cement are now available for April.

**Available on CANSIM: tables 303-0060 and 303-0061.**

**Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2140.**

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](mailto:manufact@statcan.ca)), Manufacturing, Construction and Energy Division. ■

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**Chain Fisher 1997 dollar export and import values**

The International Trade Division has now produced and will be updating and disseminating chain Fisher real dollar values (reference year 1997) for Canadian international merchandise exports and imports. This series is not available in CANSIM.

Interested users who wish to order are advised to contact the Marketing and Client Services Section (1-800-294-5583) or for an explanation of the methodology and concepts, contact Bernard Lupien (613-951-6872), International Trade Division. ■

## New products

**General Review of the Mineral Industries, Mines, Quarries and Sand Pits, 2004**  
Catalogue number 26-201-XIB  
(free).

**Canadian International Merchandise Trade**,  
April 2006, Vol. 60, no. 4  
Catalogue number 65-001-XIB  
(free).

**Labour Force Information**, Week ending May 20, 2006  
Catalogue number 71-001-XIE  
(free).

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

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<b>Release date</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Reference period</b>
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