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The Daily

Statistics Canada

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E-STAT (10F0174XIE) is available for free online only to educational institutions. For more information, visit *E-STAT* (*http://estat.statcan.ca*), contact Nathalie Gendron (613-951-1130, *nathalie.gendron@statcan.ca*) or the education representative in your region. The *E-STAT* team can also be reached directly (toll-free 1-800-465-1222; *e-stat@statcan.ca*).

Releases

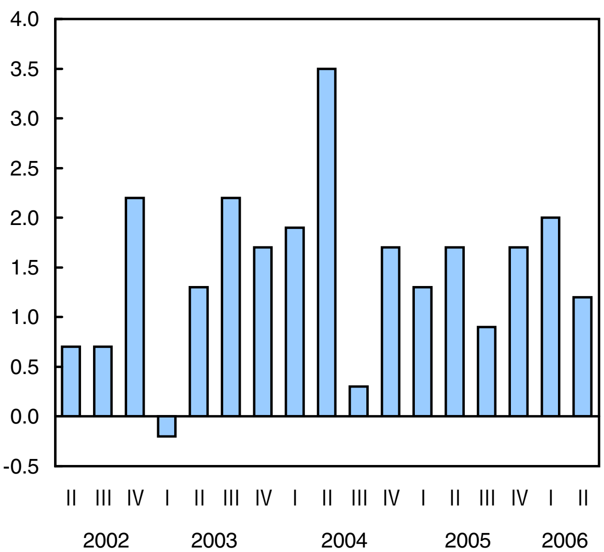
National balance sheet accounts

Second quarter, 2006

National net worth reached $4.7 trillion by the end of the second quarter, or $142,900 per person. The gain in net worth resulted from an increase in national wealth (economy-wide non-financial assets) which was partially offset by increased net foreign debt. The growth in national net worth slowed to 1.2% in the second quarter, less than the average of 1.6% for the previous four quarters.

Growth in national net worth slows

% change, not seasonally adjusted



Growth in national wealth was up 1.7% in the second quarter from 1.0% in the first quarter. The increase in the market value of residential real estate continued to be the major contributor to the growth in national wealth. It accounted for about two thirds of the increase in national wealth in the quarter. Increases in other non-financial assets including increased value of non-residential construction added to national wealth in the quarter.

Note to readers

The national balance sheet accounts are statements of the balance sheets of all of the various sectors of the economy. They consist of the non-financial assets owned in the various sectors of the economy and of financial claims outstanding. National wealth is the sum of non-financial assets (produced assets, land surrounding structures and agricultural land) in all sectors of the economy. National net worth is national wealth less net foreign liabilities (i.e., what is owed to non-residents less what non-residents owe to Canadians). Alternatively, it is the sum of the net worth of persons, corporations and governments.

National saving is the sum of saving of persons, corporations and governments. National saving and investment contribute to change in national net worth. The revaluation of assets and liabilities is also responsible for changes in national net worth. The causes of revaluation include changes in share prices, interest rates, exchange rates and loan allowances.

Quarterly series, both book and market value, run from the first quarter of 1990; market value estimates have been available since June 2004. Additional annual market value data from 1970 to 1989 will be available upon request on September 29, 2006. In addition, expanded sector detail for the market value estimates will be available at the same time. These new data will be available on CANSIM at a later date. For more information on the market value estimates, consult the Balance sheet estimates at market value *page of our website.*

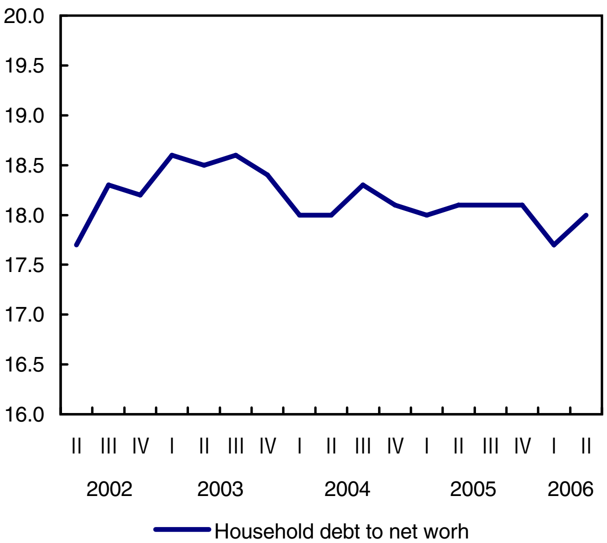
Growth in household net worth stalls

Gains in household net worth stalled in the quarter, recording the lowest growth rate in seven quarters. Most notably, the stock market correction was reflected in a reduction in the value of corporate shares and mutual funds, as well as limited gains in the value of pension assets. This was only partly offset by continued advances in the value of residential real estate, with gains largely attributable to price increases.

With the continued rise in household debt, and the modest increase in net worth, households had $0.18 of debt for every dollar of net worth at the end of the second quarter, up slightly from the first quarter. Debt service charges represent about 8% of personal disposable income.

Household leverage edges up

As a % of net worth, not seasonally adjusted data



Corporate leverage eases

Growth in credit market debt of non-financial corporations slowed in the second quarter, and the ratio of debt to equity resumed its downward trend. Corporations continued to generate surplus funds on a net basis and remain a lender to the rest of the economy, a trend which began in 2000.

Government debt continues to fall

Government net debt (total liabilities less total financial assets) declined significantly in the second quarter, led by a large government sector surplus. Net government debt (at book value) as a percentage of gross domestic product has continued its steady decline to about 45%, a level not seen in more than 20 years.

Net foreign debt advances on the heels of a large decline

Growth in Canadian assets abroad was exceeded by the growth in Canadian liabilities to non-residents. This largely reflected the negative impact of the strengthening Canadian dollar on Canada's foreign assets, which exceeded the moderating impact on foreign liabilities. In addition, non-resident investment in Canada outpaced Canadian investment abroad in the quarter. As a result, Canada's net foreign debt (the amounts owing to non-residents less foreign assets held by Canadians) was up significantly in the second quarter, following a large decline at the time of the first quarter. This dampened the growth in national net worth in the second quarter.

Available on CANSIM: tables 378-0003 to 378-0010.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 1806.

The second quarter 2006 issue of *National Balance Sheet Accounts, Quarterly Estimates*, Vol. 4, no. 2 (13-214-XIE, free) is now available from the *Publications* module of our website.

The second quarter 2006 issue of *Canadian Economic Accounts Quarterly Review*, Vol. 5, no. 2 (13-010-XIE, free), is now available from the *Publications* module of our website.

At 8:30 a.m. on release day, the complete national balance sheet accounts can be obtained on computer diskette. The diskettes (13-214-DDB, $321/$1,284) can also be purchased at a lower cost seven business days after the official release date (13-214-XDB, $65/$257). To purchase any of these products, contact the client services officer (613-951-3810; *iead-info-dcrd@statcan.ca*), Income and Expenditure Accounts Division.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact the information officer (613-951-3640), Income and Expenditure Accounts Division.

National balance sheet accounts[1]

	First quarter 2005	Second quarter 2005	Third quarter 2005	Fourth quarter 2005	First quarter 2006	Second quarter 2006	2004	2005
	Market value, not seasonally adjusted, billions of dollars							
National net worth								
National wealth	4,476	4,545	4,610	4,675	4,721	4,800	4,427	4,675
	1.1	1.5	1.4	1.4	1.0	1.7	6.6	5.6
Net foreign debt	-151	-146	-175	-162	-119	-142	-159	-162
	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
National net worth	4,325	4,398	4,436	4,513	4,603	4,658	4,268	4,513
	1.3	1.7	0.9	1.7	2.0	1.2	7.7	5.7
National net worth per capita (dollars)	134,400	136,300	137,000	139,200	141,600	142,900	132,900	139,200
	1.1	1.4	0.5	1.6	1.7	0.9	6.7	4.7

... not applicable

1. The first line is the series itself expressed in billions of dollars. The second line is the period-to-period percentage change.

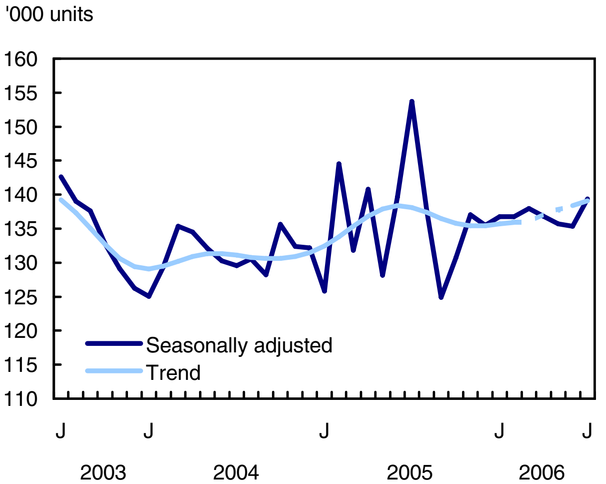
■

New motor vehicle sales

July 2006

Rebounding truck sales drove new motor vehicle sales up in July after three consecutive months of decline. The return of some incentive programs, as well as a 1% drop in the GST, may have contributed to bringing consumers back into dealers' showrooms.

New vehicle sales rise in July after three months of declines



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

New motor vehicle sales were 3.0% higher in July, more than offsetting the declines in April, May, and June combined. Consumers purchased 139,399 new vehicles in July, an increase of about 4,000 vehicles from the previous month and the highest level of the year.

New motor vehicle sales have been relatively stable in the first half of 2006. Prior to this, and despite month-to-month fluctuations, new motor vehicle sales had been on an upward trend since the beginning of 2005. Much of 2005 was influenced by the introduction and later removal of major incentive programs such as "employee pricing", which caused major sales swings throughout the year.

New motor vehicle sales were 9.3% lower in July compared with the same month a year earlier. This is coincident with fewer financial incentive programs and promotions being available this July. According to the Consumer Price Index, the price paid for new vehicles was 2.3% higher in July 2006 from a year earlier.

Based on preliminary sales data, the number of new motor vehicles sold in August is estimated to have grown by about 3%. Truck sales were responsible for 80% of this increase.

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.

Truck sales rebound

Truck sales (which include minivans, sport-utility vehicles, light and heavy trucks, vans and buses) outperformed passenger car sales in July. Passenger car sales slipped 1.1%, while truck sales surged ahead 7.8%. The decline in passenger car sales is attributed to a 4.7% drop in North American built vehicles. Overseas built vehicles advanced a healthy 5.6% in July.

After posting monthly declines or marginal gains throughout the first half of this year, truck sales surged 7.8% in July — the largest month-to-month increase of 2006. Truck sales have been steadily rising since 2004. Sales in 2005 revealed tremendous volatility, while truck sales in 2006, despite the recent fluctuations, have remained flat.

Passenger car sales have been relatively stable so far during 2006. Overseas built cars have experienced six consecutive months of sales gains, while North American built car sales have remained flat during the same period. In 2004, passenger car sales experienced early increases, and then stabilized until the introduction of automaker incentive promotions in 2005.

Sales up in most provinces

Sales were up in seven provinces in July, with Alberta posting the largest gain. Sales climbed 6.6% to a year high 21,444 vehicles, the highest month-to-month gain for Alberta since July 2005. Trucks represent more than 60% of new motor vehicle sales in Alberta.

Manitoba (+3.0%), Ontario (+2.9%), Quebec (+3.9%), and New Brunswick (+4.0%) all reached their highest sales level of the year so far in July.

Newfoundland and Labrador, Nova Scotia, and British Columbia were the only provinces to post losses in July. Sales in Newfoundland and Labrador fell 8.9%, partially offsetting the 11.5% gain in June. Sales fell by 0.9% in Nova Scotia and 0.1% in British Columbia.

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

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2402.

The July issue of *New Motor Vehicle Sales* (63-007-XIE, free) will be available soon.

Data on new motor vehicle sales for August will be released on October 13.

For general information or to order data, contact Client Services (toll-free 1-877-421-3067; 613-951-3549; *retailinfo@statcan.ca*). To enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Serge Grenier (613-951-3566), Distributive Trades Division.

□

New motor vehicle sales

	July 2005	June 2006r	July 2006p	July 2005 to July 2006	June to July 2006
	Seasonally adjusted				
	number of vehicles			% change	
New motor vehicles	**153,722**	**135,345**	**139,399**	**-9.3**	**3.0**
Passenger cars	75,805	73,092	72,314	-4.6	-1.1
North American[1]	49,754	47,554	45,335	-8.9	-4.7
Overseas	26,051	25,538	26,979	3.6	5.6
Trucks, vans and buses	77,917	62,253	67,085	-13.9	7.8
New motor vehicles					
Newfoundland and Labrador	2,392	2,159	1,966	-17.8	-8.9
Prince Edward Island	440	399	419	-4.8	5.0
Nova Scotia	4,288	3,763	3,730	-13.0	-0.9
New Brunswick	3,428	2,832	2,944	-14.1	4.0
Quebec	36,343	32,045	33,286	-8.4	3.9
Ontario	59,357	50,724	52,174	-12.1	2.9
Manitoba	4,766	3,742	3,855	-19.1	3.0
Saskatchewan	3,954	3,357	3,389	-14.3	1.0
Alberta	21,779	20,108	21,444	-1.5	6.6
British Columbia[2]	16,975	16,215	16,191	-4.6	-0.1

	July 2005	June 2006r	July 2006p	July 2005 to July 2006
	Unadjusted			
	number of vehicles			% change
New motor vehicles	**158,796**	**162,029**	**145,561**	**-8.3**
Passenger cars	80,412	88,055	76,556	-4.8
North American[1]	53,318	56,827	48,349	-9.3
Overseas	27,094	31,228	28,207	4.1
Trucks, vans and buses	78,384	73,974	69,005	-12.0
New motor vehicles				
Newfoundland and Labrador	2,725	2,903	2,244	-17.7
Prince Edward Island	569	561	519	-8.8
Nova Scotia	4,614	4,856	3,998	-13.4
New Brunswick	3,627	3,674	3,149	-13.2
Quebec	39,113	39,043	36,605	-6.4
Ontario	59,562	61,376	53,337	-10.5
Manitoba	5,012	4,328	4,096	-18.3
Saskatchewan	4,238	3,897	3,540	-16.5
Alberta	21,334	22,356	21,067	-1.3
British Columbia[2]	18,002	19,035	17,006	-5.5

r *revised*
p *preliminary*
1. *Manufactured or assembled in Canada, the United States or Mexico.*
2. *Includes Yukon, the Northwest Territories and Nunavut.*

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Domestic sales of refined petroleum products

July 2006 (preliminary)

Sales of refined petroleum products were slightly lower this July compared to the same month in 2005, as sales fell in four of the seven major product groups.

Sales totalled 8 617 500 cubic metres, a year-over-year decline of 0.3%. (One cubic metre is equivalent to 6.3 barrels.)

The biggest decline occurred in petro-chemical feedstocks, where sales fell 35.9%, the equivalent drop of 141 300 cubic metres. Motor gasoline sales declined 0.8%, or 28 800 cubic metres, while diesel fuel oil sales rose by 88 900 cubic metres, or 4.1%.

Sales fell in all categories of motor gasoline. Mid-grades fell 9.6%, while premium grades were down 6.3%. Regular non-leaded grades slipped 0.1%.

On a year-to-date basis, sales of refined petroleum products at the end of July totalled 57 051 600 cubic metres, down 2.7% from the same seven-month period last year.

Sales fell in five of the seven major product groups. The largest decline occurred in heavy fuel oil, where sales were off 21.8%, the equivalent of 1 013 500 cubic metres.

Note: Preliminary data on domestic sales of refined petroleum products are no longer available on CANSIM.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2150.

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

Sales of refined petroleum products

	July 2005[r]	July 2006[p]	July 2005 to July 2006
	thousands of cubic metres		% change
Total, all products	**8 642.3**	**8 617.5**	**-0.3**
Motor gasoline	3 669.7	3 641.7	-0.8
Diesel fuel oil	2 159.5	2 248.4	4.1
Light fuel oil	150.2	148.2	-1.3
Heavy fuel oil	568.6	625.2	10.0
Aviation turbo fuels	633.6	597.8	-5.7
Petrochemical feedstocks[1]	394.0	252.7	-35.9
All other refined products	1 066.7	1 103.5	3.5

	January to July 2005[r]	January to July 2006[p]	Jan.-July 2005 to Jan.-July 2006
	thousands of cubic metres		% change
Total, all products	**58 648.4**	**57 051.6**	**-2.7**
Motor gasoline	23 625.4	23 487.5	-0.6
Diesel fuel oil	14 959.3	15 003.9	0.3
Light fuel oil	2 891.8	2 491.1	-13.9
Heavy fuel oil	4 650.8	3 637.3	-21.8
Aviation turbo fuels	3 732.2	3 854.6	3.3
Petrochemical feedstocks[1]	2 662.4	2 453.7	-7.8
All other refined products	6 126.5	6 123.4	-0.1

r *revised*
p *preliminary*
1. *Materials produced by refineries that are used by the petrochemical industry to produce chemicals, synthetic rubber and a variety of plastics.*

■

Steel primary forms, weekly data

Week ending September 9, 2006 (preliminary)

Steel primary forms production for the week ending September 9 totalled 294 932 metric tonnes, up 1.5% from 290 475 tonnes a week earlier and down 5.5% from 312 102 tonnes in the same week of 2005.

The year-to-date total as of September 9 was 10 905 587 tonnes, up 2.0% from 10 694 823 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 (toll-free 1-866-873-8789; 613-951-9497; *manufact@statcan.ca*), Manufacturing, Construction and Energy Division. ■

Scheduled air passenger origin and destination: Canada-United States

2003 (preliminary)

Just over 14.4 million passengers travelled on scheduled services between Canada and the United States in 2003, down 2.7% compared to 2002 (14.8 million passengers). This was third consecutive decline in transborder traffic since 2000 (15.3 million passengers), the peak year of travel between Canada and the United States since the introduction of the 1995 Open Skies Agreement. The decrease in 2003 was partly related to the events of the Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome outbreak.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2703.

Annual and quarterly data from the Scheduled Air Passenger Origin and Destination Survey between Canada and United States are now available for 2003. Summary tables will be released in the fall in the *Aviation: Service Bulletin* (51-004-XIB, free) and by the end of September, the *Air Passenger Origin and Destination, Canada-United States Report 2003* (51-205-XIB, free).

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Annette Loebach (613-951-0028; *aviationstatistics@statcan.ca*), Transportation Division. ■

Steel wire and specified wire products

July 2006

Data on steel wire and specified wire products production are now available for July.

Available on CANSIM: table 303-0047.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2106.

The July 2006 issue of *Steel, Tubular Products and Steel Wire* (41-019-XIE, free) will soon be available.

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

New products

Canadian Economic Accounts Quarterly Review, Vol. 5, no. 3
Catalogue number 13-010-XIE
(free).

National Balance Sheet Accounts, Quarterly Estimates, Second quarter 2006, Vol. 4, no. 2
Catalogue number 13-214-XIE
(free).

National Balance Sheet Accounts, Quarterly Estimates, Second quarter 2006, Vol. 4, no. 2
Catalogue number 13-214-DDB ($321/$1,284).

National Balance Sheet Accounts, Quarterly Estimates, Second quarter 2006, Vol. 4, no. 2
Catalogue number 13-214-XDB ($65/$257).

E-STAT, 2006
Catalogue number 10F0174XIE
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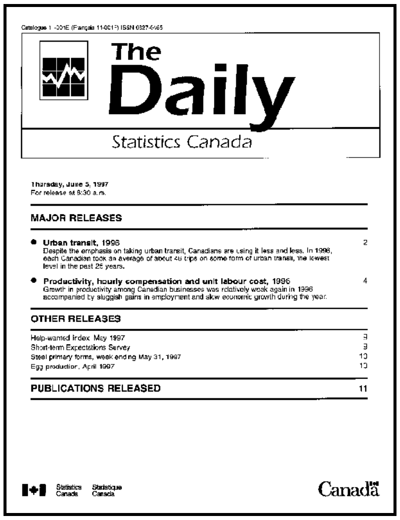
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The Daily

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 46 trips on some form of urban transit, the lowest level in the past 25 years.
- **Productivity, hourly compensation and unit labour cost, 1996** 4
  Growth in productivity among Canadian businesses was relatively weak again in 1996 accompanied by sluggish gains in employment and slow economic growth during the year.

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PUBLICATIONS RELEASED 11

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Release dates: September 18 to 22, 2006

(Release dates are subject to change.)

Release date	Title	Reference period
18	**Canada's international transactions in securities**	July 2006
19	**Consumer Price Index**	August 2006
20	**Wholesale trade**	July 2006
20	**Leading indicators**	August 2006
20	**Travel between Canada and other countries**	July 2006
21	**Retail trade**	July 2006