



The Daily

Statistics Canada

Monday, January 22, 2007

Released at 8:30 a.m. Eastern time

Releases

Study: Understanding regional differences in work hours, 2004	2
Workers in the Prairie provinces, as well those in Ontario, put in more working hours on average in 2004 than their counterparts in the other regions of Canada, according to a new study focusing on regional differences in work hours.	
Domestic sales of refined petroleum products, November 2006	4
Stocks of frozen poultry meat, January 1, 2007	5
Aircraft movement statistics, December 2006	5
Production and disposition of tobacco products, December 2006	5
Canadian Tobacco Use Monitoring Survey, February to June 2006	5

New products	7
---------------------	---



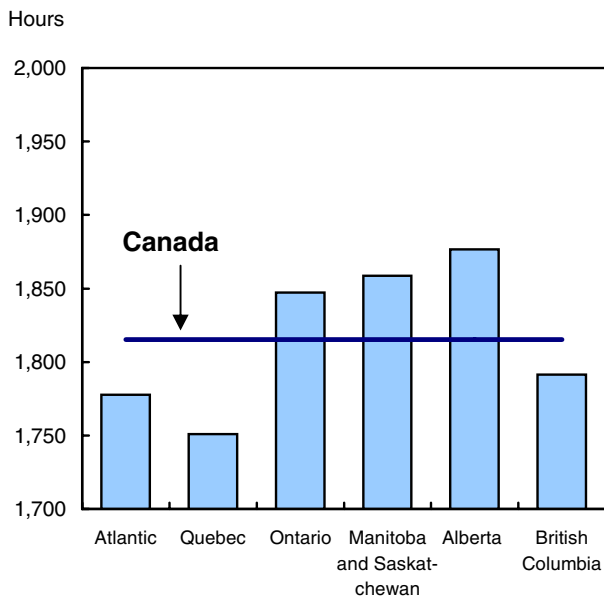
Releases

Study: Understanding regional differences in work hours

2004

Workers in the Prairie provinces, as well those in Ontario, put in more working hours on average in 2004 than their counterparts in other regions of Canada, according to a new study focusing on regional differences in work hours.

Average annual hours per worker



The study, based on data from the 2004 Survey of Labour and Income Dynamics, found substantial differences in the patterns of working hours across Canada. The study examined a sample of about 19,500 workers in the prime working-age group of 25 to 54.

Workers in Alberta averaged 1,880 hours a year, the highest in the country. This is the equivalent of 36 hours a week for a full-year worker.

Their counterparts in the combined region of Manitoba–Saskatchewan were close behind with 1,860, followed by workers in Ontario, with 1,850 hours.

In contrast, workers in British Columbia averaged 1,790 hours. Those in the Atlantic region put in 1,780, while workers in Quebec reported the lowest, 1,750 hours.

Note to readers

This release is based on the research paper "Understanding Regional Differences in Work Hours", available today.

This study uses data from the Survey of Labour and Income Dynamics to examine differences in usual hours worked per worker across six regions of Canada: Atlantic, Quebec, Ontario, Manitoba and Saskatchewan, Alberta and British Columbia.

The Atlantic provinces, as well as Manitoba and Saskatchewan, have been grouped together to provide samples of reasonable size. The study focuses on a sample of about 19,500 paid workers who worked on at least one occasion in 2004.

The number of hours per worker can be defined as the average number of hours worked in a year by all workers aged 25 to 54. The concept of usual hours refers to hours usually worked at all jobs and includes time off due to illness, holidays or slack work.

Please note that the way in which annual working hours is measured in this study differs from the way hours are measured for the purpose of producing estimates of labour productivity at Statistics Canada; this report is based on usual hours worked whereas the productivity estimates use actual hours worked.

Regional differences in work hours were larger among male workers in this age group. Employed males in Manitoba–Saskatchewan reported 2,080 hours, while their counterparts in Alberta men worked 2,060 hours. Men in Quebec averaged 1,900 hours, the least.

The study looked at the age group 25 to 54 because these individuals are typically more engaged in the labour market, and may be more likely to share similar preferences in working time.

While differences in working hours between Canada and other nations have generated a substantial body of research, this study shows that working hours can also vary quite widely within a country.

Distribution of annual work hours varied widely from region to region

To better understand regional differences, the study divided working hours into four groups.

Working fewer than 1,500 hours was considered a "short work year". Hours ranging from 1,500 to 1,900 were considered a "low full-time full-year, the equivalent of 29 to 37 hours over 52 weeks. The range of 1,900 to 2,300 was considered a "standard full-time full-year". More than 2,300 hours was defined as a "long work year".

The study found that the distribution of workers across these four intervals varied widely from region to region.

Percentage distribution of workers across categories of annual work hours

	Short year	Low full-year and full-time	Standard full-year and full-time	Long year
	%			
Atlantic	26.3	16.5	45.9	11.0
Quebec	22.8	27.6	43.7	6.0
Ontario	18.7	15.9	57.0	8.4
Manitoba–Saskatchewan	21.6	16.0	50.5	11.9
Alberta	21.1	15.1	51.1	12.5
British Columbia	24.9	17.8	47.8	9.6

Note: Data may not add to totals due to rounding.

Working hours were fairly high in Ontario because a substantial proportion of workers had standard full-year and full-time schedules in that province. An estimated 57% of all workers, and more than two-thirds of working men, had a standard full-time, full-year schedule of 1,900 to 2,300 hours.

In contrast, only 44% of workers worked this standard full-time, full-year schedule in Quebec.

Instead, nearly 28% of workers in Quebec had a low full-time, full-year schedule of 1,500 to 1,900 hours, well above the proportion of around 16% in other regions of the country.

Furthermore, the long year schedule of more than 2,300 hours was relatively less common in Quebec, especially among women. Less than 3% of women aged 25 to 54 worked more than 2,300 hours in 2004, half the proportion of women in Ontario who did so.

In fact, Alberta and Manitoba–Saskatchewan displayed the highest percentage of employees (12%) working more than 2,300 hours, which explains why hours were relatively longer in the Prairies.

In the Atlantic region and in British Columbia, low working hours were mostly the result of a larger share of individuals working short years.

For example, more than one-quarter (26%) of workers in Atlantic Canada worked a short year of fewer than 1,500 hours. In this region, nearly one in five men was a short-year worker, compared to 11% to 15% in other regions.

No easy explanation for regional differences

The study investigates possible explanations for these regional differences in work hours. It looked at two sets of factors — those that can be readily measured in household surveys, and those that cannot.

Factors that can be readily measured in household surveys include differences in unionization rates, industrial structure (e.g., the type of industries found in the regions), job characteristics (such as firm size and management responsibilities), and demographic factors (e.g., age, gender, education, marital status and work experience).

Among these, differences in industrial structure and job characteristics accounted to a large extent for the regional differences in the share of workers with short years, as well as one-third to two-thirds of the differences in the share of workers with a standard full-time, full-year schedule.

However, they did not account for much of the regional differences in the share of "long-year" workers. They also did not explain why Quebec had a much larger share of workers with a low full-year and full-time schedule.

This suggests that some of the differences in work hours between regions, including the large differences between Ontario and Quebec, are due to other factors.

Although they cannot be assessed by existing survey data, such factors might include differences in local labour market conditions, tax incentives, labour regulations and preferences.

The research paper "Understanding differences in regional work hours" is now available as part of the *Analytical Studies Branch Research Paper Series* (11F0019MIE2007293, free) from the *Publications* module of our website.

Related studies from the Business and Labour Market Analysis Division can be found at *Update on Analytical Studies* (11-015-XIE, free) on our website.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Sébastien LaRochelle-Côté (613-951-0803), Business and Labour Market Analysis Division. ■

Domestic sales of refined petroleum products

November 2006 (preliminary)

Sales of refined petroleum products decreased in four of the seven major product groups in November 2006 compared to November 2005.

Sales totalled 8,448,900 cubic metres, down 324,700 cubic metres or 3.7% from the same month a year earlier. (One cubic metre is equivalent to 6.3 barrels.)

Aviation turbo fuel oil sales recorded the largest decrease, down 377,900 cubic metres or 43.3% from a year earlier. Losses were also reported in heavy fuel oil, light fuel oil and in the other product category.

Motor gasoline sales rose 37,600 cubic metres, up 1.1% from a year earlier. Diesel fuel oil sales were up 6.4% or 142,100 cubic metres.

Sales of all three grades of motor gasoline increased in November 2006. The biggest increase occurred the premium grade (+7.5%) followed by mid-grade (+6.8%) and regular non-leaded (+0.5%).

On a January to November basis, sales of refined petroleum at the end of November totalled 91,775,900 cubic metres, down 1.4% from the same period in 2005.

Overall, four of the seven major product groups reported declines in sales. The largest decline was in heavy fuel oil, where sales fell 21.6%, or 1,581,900 cubic metres. Light fuel oil decreased 398,700 cubic metres or 9.9% while diesel fuel oil sales increased 0.7% or 180,100 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 dissemination officer (toll-free 1-866-873-8789 or 613-951-9497; energ@statcan.ca), Manufacturing, Construction and Energy Division.

Sales of refined petroleum products

	November 2005 ^r	November 2006 ^p	November 2005 to November 2006 % change
	thousands of cubic metres		
Total, all products	8,773.6	8,448.9	-3.7
Motor gasoline	3,347.1	3,384.7	1.1
Diesel fuel oil	2,210.2	2,352.3	6.4
Light fuel oil	417.5	391.0	-6.4
Heavy fuel oil	844.6	629.2	-25.5
Aviation turbo fuels	871.9	494.0	-43.3
Petrochemical feedstocks ¹	175.4	386.8	120.5
All other refined products	906.8	810.9	-10.6
	thousands of cubic metres		
	January to November 2005 ^r	January to November 2006 ^p	January to November 2005 to January to November 2006 % change
Total, all products	93,072.5	91,775.9	-1.4
Motor gasoline	37,441.2	37,464.6	0.1
Diesel fuel oil	24,191.5	24,371.6	0.7
Light fuel oil	4,006.9	3,608.2	-9.9
Heavy fuel oil	7,315.7	5,733.8	-21.6
Aviation turbo fuels	6,357.2	6,221.9	-2.1
Petrochemical feedstocks ¹	3,615.2	4,266.7	18.0
All other refined products	10,144.9	10,111.7	-0.3

^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.

Stocks of frozen poultry meat

January 1, 2007 (preliminary)

Stocks of frozen poultry meat in cold storage on January 1 totalled 45,986 metric tonnes, down 19.1% from a year ago.

Available on CANSIM: tables 003-0023 and 003-0024.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 3425.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Sandra Gielfeldt (613-951-2505; sandy.gielfeldt@statcan.ca), Agriculture Division. ■

Aircraft movement statistics

December 2006 (preliminary)

Aircraft take-offs and landings at the 42 Canadian airports with NAV CANADA air traffic control towers were up 10.8% in December over December 2005. This marks the seventh consecutive increase in year-over-year monthly comparisons.

Take-offs and landings reached 312,789 movements in December compared with 282,289 movements the same month a year earlier. Almost 80% of the airports reported increases in aircraft movements, the variations ranged from an increase of 101.4% for Winnipeg/St. Andrews to a 29.5% decline for Sault Ste. Marie.

The December 2006 issue of *Aircraft Movement Statistics*, Vol. 5, no. 12 (51F0001PWE, TP1496, free) is now available from the *Publications* module of our website.

Preliminary statistics for the 56 Canadian airports with NAV CANADA flight service stations are also available for December.

Available on CANSIM: table 401-0005.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2715.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Kathie Davidson (613-951-0141; fax: 613-951-0010; aviationstatistics@statcan.ca), Transportation Division. ■

Production and disposition of tobacco products

December 2006

Total cigarettes sold in December by Canadian manufacturers increased 0.4% from November to 1.6 billion cigarettes, down 52.6% compared with December 2005.

Cigarette production in December decreased 47.1% from November to 1.1 billion cigarettes, down 58.5% from December 2005.

At 1.5 billion cigarettes, the level of closing inventories for December decreased 27.7% from November, down 61.6% from December 2005.

Available on CANSIM: table 303-0062.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2142.

The December 2006 issue of *Production and Disposition of Tobacco Products*, Vol. 35, no. 12 (32-022-XWE, free) is now available from the *Publications* module of our website.

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

Canadian Tobacco Use Monitoring Survey

February to June 2006

Data from the first cycle of the 2006 Canadian Tobacco Use Monitoring Survey (CTUMS) are now available.

The CTUMS, conducted since 1999 by Statistics Canada on behalf of Health Canada, provides timely, reliable and continuous data on tobacco use and related issues. Its objective is to track changes in smoking status and amount smoked, especially among young people aged 15 to 24, who are most at risk for taking up smoking. This file contains the data collected between February and June 2006 from about 10,000 respondents.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 4440.

February to June 2006 data are now available in the *Canadian Tobacco Use Monitoring Survey Microdata File* (82M0020XCB, \$2,140). See *How to order products*.

For information on the public-use microdata file or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Client

Services (toll-free 1-800-461-9050; 613-951-3321; fax 613-951-4527; ssd@statcan.ca), Special Surveys Division.

For more information about the survey results, contact Renee Bergeron

(613-957-2988; Renee_Bergeron@hc-sc.gc.ca), Media Relations, Health Canada, or visit the Tobacco Control Program website (http://www.hc-sc.gc.ca/hl-vs/tobac-tabac/index_e.html). ■

New products

Analytical Studies Branch Research Paper Series:
"Understanding regional differences in work hours", no. 293
Catalogue number 11F0019MIE2007293
(free).

Production and Disposition of Tobacco Products,
December 2006, Vol. 35, no. 12
Catalogue number 32-022-XWE
(free).

Aircraft Movement Statistics, Monthly,
December 2006, Vol. 5, no. 12
Catalogue number 51F0001PWE
(free).

Wholesale Trade, November 2006, Vol. 69, no. 11
Catalogue number 63-008-XWE
(free).

**Canadian Tobacco Use Monitoring Survey
Microdata File**, February to June 2006
Catalogue number 82M0020XCB (\$2,140).

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; -XVB or -XVE are electronic versions on DVD 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:	1-613-951-2800
To fax your order, call:	1-877-287-4369
For address changes or account inquiries, call:	1-877-591-6963

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 6% 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.

11-001-XIE (11-001-XIE) 11-001-XIE (11-001-XIE)



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 rides 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 and industry work force in 1996 accompanied by sluggish gains in employment and slow economic growth during the year.

OTHER RELEASES

- **Maplewood Index, May 1997** 3
- **Short-term Expectations Survey** 3
- **Steel primary forms, week ending May 31, 1997** 12
- **Egg production, Apr 8, 1997** 12

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, 2007. All rights reserved. The content of this electronic publication may be reproduced, in whole or in part, and by any means, without further permission from Statistics Canada, subject to the following conditions: that it be done solely for the purposes of private study, research, criticism, review or newspaper summary, and/or for non-commercial purposes; and that Statistics Canada be fully acknowledged as follows: Source (or "Adapted from", if appropriate): Statistics Canada, year of publication, name of product, catalogue number, volume and issue numbers, reference period and page(s). Otherwise, no part of this publication may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system or transmitted in any form, by any means—electronic, mechanical or photocopy—or for any purposes without prior written permission of Licensing Services, Client Services Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa, Ontario, Canada K1A 0T6.