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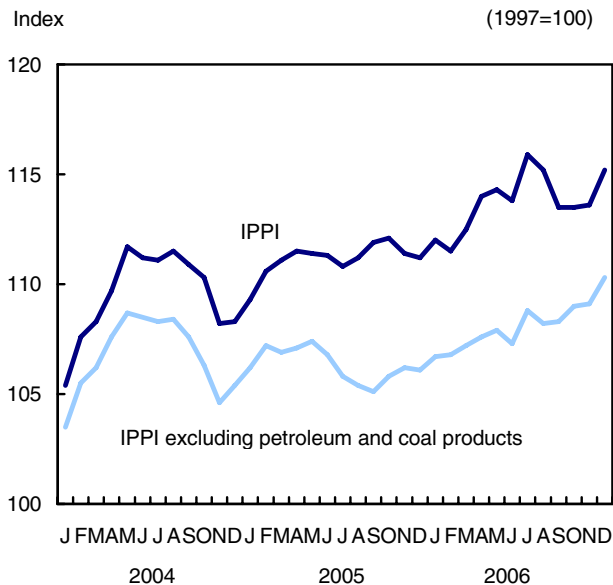
Industrial product and raw materials price indexes

December 2006

Petroleum and metals pushed up prices for manufactured goods and raw materials in December.

Prices charged by manufacturers, as measured by the Industrial Product Price Index (IPPI), were up 1.4% from November in conjunction with a significant increase in prices for petroleum and coal products, primary metal products, and motor vehicles. Higher prices were observed in the majority of product groups.

Prices for manufactured goods increase



On a 12-month basis, the IPPI rose by 3.6%, a higher rate of growth than the year-over-year increase recorded between September and November. The upward pressure came mainly from higher prices for

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 US 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.

primary metal products, pulp and paper products as well as fruit, vegetables and feed products.

The Raw Materials Price Index (RMPI) was up by 5.2% from November to December, closing the year with two strong increases in a row. The increase was due to higher costs for mineral fuels, non-ferrous metals, animals and animal products, and vegetable products.

Compared to December of last year, raw materials cost factories 11.7% more, a significant change from the year-over-year increase of 4.7% recorded in November.

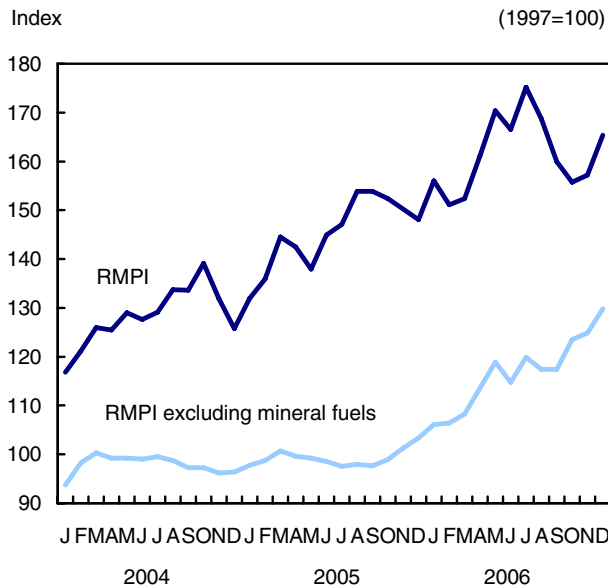
The IPPI was 115.2 (1997=100) in December, up from November's revised level of 113.6. The RMPI was 165.4 (1997=100), higher than November's revised level of 157.2.

IPPI: Price index driven by petroleum products and primary metals

On a month-over-month basis, manufacturers' prices were driven by higher prices for petroleum and coal products (+4.6%), primary metal products (+4.4%) and, to a lesser extent, motor vehicles (+1.0%). Price increases were recorded for most groups of

products, with the exception of rubber, leather and plastic fabricated products (-0.2%).

Raw materials prices are up again



Following four consecutive monthly decreases, prices for petroleum and coal products recovered in December as a result of a reduction in the supply of crude oil by petroleum-producing countries. If petroleum and coal products prices had been excluded, the IPPI would have increased by 1.1%.

Prices for primary metal products rose 4.4% in December after falling 1.1% in November. As a result of the reduction in international reserves and delays in a number of mining projects, nickel prices in particular were up 19.3%, after falling 9.6% in November. With a monthly increase of 2.9%, prices for aluminum products increased at the same pace for a third straight month, under the effects of strong demand and lower inventories. The rise in prices for primary metal products was partially offset by a decrease in prices for copper and copper alloy products (-0.9%) and iron and steel products (-0.3%).

Prices for motor vehicles were up 1.0%, largely as a result of the weaker Canadian dollar. Other products that contributed to the rise in the IPPI in December include pulp and paper products (+0.8%) as well as lumber and other wood products (+0.7%). The only price decrease observed was for rubber, leather and plastic fabricated products (-0.2%).

IPPI: Primary metal products remain the major contributors to the 12-month change

The IPPI was up 3.6% from December 2005 to December 2006, a higher year-over-year increase than those of the previous three months. The higher rate of increase can largely be explained by the jump in prices for primary metal products and to a lesser degree by higher prices for pulp and paper products as well as for fruit, vegetables and feed products. Petroleum and coal products rose only slightly compared with December 2005. If prices for petroleum and coal products had been excluded, the rise in the IPPI would have been 4.0% instead of 3.6%.

Prices for primary metals were up 28.8% over December 2005. Year-over-year price increases were observed for nickel products (+142.1%), copper products (+39.3%), refined zinc products (+148.5%), and aluminum products (+15.5%).

The annual rate of growth in the IPPI was largely offset by lower prices for lumber and other wood products (-5.9%), chemical products (-1.3%), and motor vehicles and other transport equipment (-0.5%).

RMPI: Higher prices for crude oil and non-ferrous metals

Raw material prices rose by 5.2% in December, up from the 1.0% increase observed in November.

Mineral fuels accounted for most of this monthly increase, with prices rising by 6.7%. Crude oil prices were 8.0% higher, primarily due to the decision by petroleum-producing countries to reduce their production. The increase in crude oil prices represents the strongest rise since the three significant monthly decreases posted from August to October. If mineral fuels had been excluded, the RMPI would have increased 3.9% over November instead of 5.2%.

Prices for non-ferrous metals were up 8.4%, representing a fourth consecutive monthly increase. Radio-active concentrates increased 20.0%, due primarily to a reduction in supply. Prices for zinc, lead, copper, and nickel concentrates also posted substantial increases.

Prices for all other product groups increased in December, notably animals and animal products (+1.4%) and vegetable products (+1.8%). Among vegetable products, grains and oilseeds were driven by strong demand and weak supply throughout 2006.

On a 12-month basis, raw material prices were up 11.7% in December, a rate of increase higher than the November level of 4.7%. The rate of growth remains moderate in relation to the annual rate of change recorded during the first three quarters of the year. If mineral fuels had been excluded, the RMPI would have risen by 25.5% instead of 11.7%.

Non-ferrous metals, which were up by 78.8%, accounted for most of the 12-month increase, largely owing to year-over-year increases in the price of zinc, radio-active concentrates, copper, nickel, and lead.

Prices were also up over last year for vegetable products, wood, and non-metallic minerals.

Prices for mineral fuels slipped 1.1%, under the effects of a 9.7% drop in natural gas prices owing to a milder winter. This was the sixth negative year-over-year change in a row for natural gas. Prices for animals and animal products and ferrous materials were also down from a year ago.

Impact of exchange rate

The value of the Canadian dollar against the US dollar was down 1.5% between November and December. As a result, the total IPPI excluding the effect of the exchange rate would have increased 1.0% instead of 1.4%.

On a 12-month basis, the value of the Canadian dollar rose 0.7% against the US dollar. If the impact of the exchange rate had been excluded, producer prices would have risen 3.8% between December 2005 and December 2006, rather than their actual increase of 3.6%.

Prices for intermediate goods increase

Prices for intermediate goods rose 1.7% from November to December. Higher prices for primary metal products, petroleum products, pulp and paper products, motor vehicles, lumber products, meat, fish and dairy products, and fruit, vegetables and feed products were the major contributors to this monthly increase.

Producers of intermediate goods received 5.5% more for their products in December 2006 than in December 2005. Higher prices were observed for primary metal products, pulp and paper products, fruit, vegetables and feed products, metal fabricated products, non-metallic mineral products, and electrical and communication products as well as meat, fish and dairy products.

These increases were partially offset by lower prices for lumber products, chemical products, and tobacco products.

Higher prices for finished goods

Prices for finished goods were up 0.9% from November. Higher prices for petroleum products, motor vehicles, electrical and communication products, chemical products, and lumber products were partially

offset by lower prices for rubber, leather and plastic fabricated products, and pulp and paper products.

Prices for finished goods were up 0.7% from December 2005. Price increases were noted for tobacco products, chemical products, fruit, vegetable and feed products, petroleum products, machinery and equipment, furniture and fixtures, and electrical and communication products.

These decreases were partially offset by lower prices for motor vehicles and for rubber, leather and plastic fabricated products.

2006 in review

For 2006, manufacturers received an average of 2.3% more for their products than in 2005, much higher than the 1.6% increase recorded in 2005.

The index was driven largely by prices for primary metal products, which showed strong monthly changes throughout the year but which nonetheless remained on an upward trend, reaching a yearly average of 19.0%, higher than for 2005 as a whole.

Other products that were among the largest contributors to the increase in the IPPI were petroleum and coal products (+9.1%), pulp and paper products (+1.5%), tobacco products (+6.7%), chemical products (+1.7%), rubber, leather and plastic fabricated products (+3.6%), and fruit, vegetables and feed products (+1.8%).

Prices for motor vehicles and other transport equipment were down 4.2% on average in 2006. This decrease was largely the result of the stronger Canadian dollar.

Prices for lumber and other wood products were down as well, falling 5.8% in 2006 compared with 2005, with average price decreases of 8.0% for softwood lumber and 24.0% for particleboard.

The value of the Canadian dollar in terms of the US dollar strengthened on average in 2006, rising 6.8%. If the effect of the exchange rate had been excluded, the annual increase in the IPPI would have been 4.1% compared with its actual increase of 2.3%.

Raw material prices were up an average of 11.2% in 2006 compared to the 13.3% increase in 2005. Most of the upward pressure came from higher prices for non-ferrous metals, which were 63.5% higher on average in 2006. The past year showed record highs for annual average increases for zinc concentrates, copper concentrates, radio-active concentrates, silver, and gold.

Other significant contributors to the annual average increase in the RMPI were mineral fuels (+5.7%),

non-metallic minerals (+5.5%), and vegetable products (+5.4%).

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 December 2006 issue of *Industry Price Indexes* (62-011-XWE, free) will soon be available.

The Industrial product and raw material price indexes for January will be released on March 1.

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

Industrial product price indexes (1997=100)

	Relative importance	December 2005	November 2006 ^r	December 2006 ^p	December 2005 to December 2006	November to December 2006
					% change	
Industrial Product Price Index (IPPI)	100.00	111.2	113.6	115.2	3.6	1.4
IPPI excluding petroleum and coal products	94.32	106.1	109.1	110.3	4.0	1.1
Aggregation by commodities						
Meat, fish and dairy products	5.78	106.5	107.2	107.6	1.0	0.4
Fruit, vegetables, feeds and other food products	5.99	103.7	106.4	106.7	2.9	0.3
Beverages	1.57	121.5	122.6	122.7	1.0	0.1
Tobacco and tobacco products	0.63	179.8	191.8	191.8	6.7	0.0
Rubber, leather and plastic fabricated products	3.30	118.6	118.4	118.2	-0.3	-0.2
Textile products	1.58	99.6	100.2	100.3	0.7	0.1
Knitted products and clothing	1.51	104.3	104.5	104.5	0.2	0.0
Lumber and other wood products	6.30	89.8	83.9	84.5	-5.9	0.7
Furniture and fixtures	1.59	116.3	118.1	118.1	1.5	0.0
Pulp and paper products	7.23	101.8	107.2	108.1	6.2	0.8
Printing and publishing	1.70	115.0	115.9	116.2	1.0	0.3
Primary metal products	7.80	118.2	145.9	152.3	28.8	4.4
Metal fabricated products	4.11	121.5	123.4	123.5	1.6	0.1
Machinery and equipment	5.48	106.6	107.4	107.6	0.9	0.2
Motor vehicles and other transport equipment	22.16	93.8	92.4	93.3	-0.5	1.0
Electrical and communications products	5.77	93.0	94.0	94.7	1.8	0.7
Non-metallic mineral products	1.98	115.5	119.9	119.9	3.8	0.0
Petroleum and coal products ¹	5.68	203.8	196.2	205.3	0.7	4.6
Chemicals and chemical products	7.07	126.0	123.7	124.4	-1.3	0.6
Miscellaneous manufactured products	2.40	111.3	113.4	113.8	2.2	0.4
Miscellaneous non-manufactured products	0.38	194.3	295.7	345.2	77.7	16.7
Intermediate goods²	60.14	113.7	117.9	119.9	5.5	1.7
First-stage intermediate goods ³	7.71	126.5	150.6	157.4	24.4	4.5
Second-stage intermediate goods ⁴	52.43	111.7	113.0	114.3	2.3	1.2
Finished goods⁵	39.86	107.4	107.2	108.2	0.7	0.9
Finished foods and feeds	8.50	112.4	113.7	113.7	1.2	0.0
Capital equipment	11.73	100.6	100.3	101.0	0.4	0.7
All other finished goods	19.63	109.4	108.5	110.1	0.6	1.5

^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	December 2005	November 2006 ^r	December 2006 ^p	December 2005 to December 2006 % change	November to December 2006
Raw Materials Price Index (RMPI)	100.00	148.1	157.2	165.4	11.7	5.2
Mineral fuels	35.16	244.8	226.9	242.2	-1.1	6.7
Vegetable products	10.28	79.4	90.8	92.4	16.4	1.8
Animals and animal products	20.30	106.9	103.1	104.5	-2.2	1.4
Wood	15.60	73.6	81.8	82.2	11.7	0.5
Ferrous materials	3.36	122.6	121.2	121.9	-0.6	0.6
Non-ferrous metals	12.93	138.5	228.4	247.6	78.8	8.4
Non-metallic minerals	2.38	134.3	141.0	141.5	5.4	0.4
RMPI excluding mineral fuels	64.84	103.4	124.9	129.8	25.5	3.9

^r revised

^p preliminary



Study: Low-income rates among immigrants entering Canada

1992 to 2004

The economic situation of new immigrants to Canada showed no improvement after the turn of the millennium — despite the fact that they had much higher levels of education and many more were in the skilled immigrant class than a decade earlier, according to a new report.

The report examines the economic welfare of immigrant families, not just individuals. It assesses their economic situation since 2000, and the extent of "chronic" low income, and the impact of changes in education and skill classes on their economic well-being since 1993.

In 2002, low-income rates among immigrants during their first full year in Canada were 3.5 times higher than those of Canadian-born people. By 2004, they had edged down to 3.2 times higher.

These rates were higher than at any time during the 1990s, when they were around three times higher than rates for Canadian-born people.

The increase in low income was concentrated among immigrants who had just recently entered the country, that is, they had been here only one or two years. This suggests they had more problems adjusting over the short-term during the years since 2000.

One possible explanation may have been the downturn in the technology sector after 2000. The proportion of recent immigrants who were in occupations in information technology and engineering rose dramatically over the 1990s.

The report found that overall, the large increase in educational attainment of new immigrants, and the shift to the skilled class immigrant, had only a small impact on their likelihood of being in low income.

In 1993, the selection system for immigrants was modified to attract more highly educated immigrants, as well as more in economic "skilled" classes.

As a result, among new immigrants aged 15 and older, the proportion with university degrees rose from 17% in 1992 to 45% in 2004. And the share in the economic skilled immigrant class increased from 29% to 51%.

Probability of entering and leaving a period of low income

The probability of entering a period of low income was very high for immigrants during their first year in Canada. It ranged from 34% to 46% depending upon their year of arrival.

However, if immigrants did not enter a period of low income during their first year, the likelihood of that happening fell substantially to 10% or less for subsequent years in Canada.

Note to readers

Data for this study came from a database that combines the Longitudinal Administrative Database (LAD) and the Longitudinal Immigration Database (IMDB). The LAD is random, 20% sample of all taxfilers and their families. Individuals selected for the LAD are linked across years to create a longitudinal profile of each individual. The IMDB contains immigrant landing record and annual tax information for immigrants who have arrived since 1980. The LAD-IMDB allows comparisons of known immigrants and other Canadian taxfilers.

Outcomes for immigrants are ideally compared to those of the Canadian-born population. However, in the LAD-IMDB it is not possible to separate immigrants in Canada for more than 10 years from the Canadian born.

As a result, this study created a "comparison group" consisting of the Canadian-born, plus immigrants who had been in Canada for more than 10 years. Their economic outcomes typically more closely resemble those of the Canadian-born than is the case for more recent immigrants. The report compares results for recent immigrants to those of individuals in the comparison group of the same age.

The analyses include individuals aged 20 years and over for calculating cross-sectional low-income rates. In analyses of low-income (entry, exit, and chronic low-income rates), only those aged 25 to 54 at landing were included.

In this study, low income is defined as family income below 50% of median income of the total population, adjusted for family size. The low-income cutoff is \$26,800 (in 2003 constant dollars) for a family of four.

The result was that for immigrants who arrived during the early 1990s, about 65% entered low income at some time during their first 10 years in Canada. Of these, two-thirds did so during their first year.

If arriving immigrants escaped low income in their first full year, their chances of remaining out of low income were quite high.

For many, the first low-income spell was quite short. Between 34% and 41% exited after one year, depending on arrival cohorts. About one-third remained in their first period of low income after three years. However, even if they left a period of low income, it was possible they could re-enter at some later point.

The rapid increase throughout the 1990s in the share of arriving immigrants who were highly-educated and in the skilled economic class might have been expected to lower the chance of entering low-income, and increase the likelihood of leaving. This is because the more highly educated and "economic class" immigrants traditionally did better in the labour market.

However, the report shows that these changes had relatively little impact on entry and exit rates throughout the 1990s.

This was partly because there was only a small difference in low-income entry and exit patterns between immigrants who were more educated, and those with less education. Furthermore, by the early 2000s, immigrants in the skilled economic class were more

likely to enter low income than their family-class counterparts.

For example, for the group that arrived in 2003, the probability of entering low income during the first year in Canada was about 2.3 percentage points lower than it would have been had the educational and class characteristics of the arriving immigrants not changed.

In contrast, the business cycle had a much bigger impact. The entry rate into low income fell by about 11.5 percentage points between the peak and the trough of the cycle.

Nearly a fifth of recent immigrants were in chronic low income

For the purposes of this report, "chronic" low income was defined as being in low income at least four of the first five years in Canada.

The report found that nearly one in five (18.5%) of recent immigrants who arrived between 1992 and 2000 were in low income at least four years during their first five years in Canada. This was more than twice the corresponding rate of around 8% among Canadian-born people.

For the group that arrived in 1993, the five-year chronic low-income rate was 20.5%. For those who arrived in 2000, it had declined to 16.2% as the economy improved.

There were two possible reasons for the decline: the more favorable labour market-related characteristics of immigrants entering in the late 1990s, and improving economic conditions (business cycle). The report found immigrant characteristics accounted for virtually none of the improvement; improving economic conditions accounted for the majority.

Overall, the large rise in educational attainment of entering immigrants and the shift to the skilled class immigrant had only a very small effect on poverty outcomes as measured by the probability of entry, exit and chronic rates.

This is because by the early 2000s, skilled class entering immigrants were actually more likely to enter low income and be in chronic low income than their family class counterparts.

In addition, the small advantage that the university educated entering immigrants had over, say, the high school educated in the early 1990s had largely disappeared by 2000, as the number of highly educated immigrants rose.

Changes in entering immigrant characteristics did alter the composition of the immigrants in chronic low income.

Among those who arrived in 2000, 52% of those in chronic low income were skilled economic immigrants. About 41% had university degrees, up from 13% in the 1993 cohort.

The research paper "Chronic low income and low-income dynamics among recent immigrants" is now available as part of the *Analytical Studies Branch Research Paper Series* (11F0019MIE2007294, free) from the *Publications* module of our website.

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

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Garnett Picot (613-951-8214), Business and Labour Market Analysis Division. ■

Biotechnology Use and Development Survey

2005 (preliminary)

The number of innovative biotechnology firms grew to 532 in 2005 from 490 in 2003, an increase of 9%, according to new preliminary data from the Biotechnology Use and Development Survey. This was lower than the 31% increase between 2001 and 2003 (from 375 to 490 firms). Between 1997 and 2005, when there were 282 firms, the compound annual growth rate was 8%.

An innovative biotechnology firm is a firm that uses biotechnology for the purpose of developing new products or processes.

Combined, these 532 companies generated revenues of \$4.2 billion in 2005, up 9% from 2003. Their spending on research and development (R&D) also increased 15% to \$1.7 billion.

Large biotech companies, those with at least 150 employees, represented only 10% of the 532 biotech firms in 2005, but accounted for 68% of biotech revenues. Three-quarters of all companies were small firms, that is, they had fewer than 50 employees.

By contrast, biotechnology related R&D was more equally distributed between the three sizes of firms.

More than 75% of the innovative biotechnology firms were in three provinces: Quebec, Ontario and British Columbia. These provinces continue to comprise the bulk of Canadian biotechnology activity, accounting for more than 90% of biotechnology revenues in 2005.

Ontario firms led the way in biotechnology revenues, R&D expenditures and employment, whereas those in Quebec accounted for the largest share of biotechnology firms.

Biotechnology related to human health remained the most significant biotechnology sector in terms of number of firms, employment, R&D and revenues.

The number of employees with biotechnology responsibilities increased to over 13,400 from about 11,900 in 2003.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 4226.

Preliminary data from the 2005 Biotechnology Use and Development Survey are now available.

To request data tables or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Charlene Lonmo (613-951-6617; charlene.lonmo@statcan.ca) or Antoine Rose (613-951-5582; antoine.rose@statcan.ca), Science, Innovation and Electronic Information Division.

Biotechnology key indicators 2005

	Innovative biotechnology companies	Employees with biotechnology-related activities	Biotechnology revenues	Biotechnology R&D expenditures
	number		\$ millions	\$ millions
Canada	532	13,433	4,191	1,703
Province				
Atlantic	25	132	33	10
Quebec	181	4,555	449	559
Ontario	144	5,203	2,769	649
Manitoba	19	491	164	84
Saskatchewan	18	167	53 ^E	14
Alberta	51	944	137	102
British Columbia	93	1,942	586	285
Sector				
Human health	303	10,791	2,955	1,486
Agriculture and food processing	130	1,566	1,075	157
Environment	54	654	121	34
Other	45	422	41	27
Size				
Small (0 to 49 employees)	399	4,466	402	576
Medium (50 to 149 employees)	83	3,613	961	492
Large (150 employees and over)	51	5,354	2,829	635

^E use with caution

Traveller accommodation services price indexes

Fourth quarter 2006

Statistics Canada today publishes monthly indexes for the fourth quarter of 2006 that measure price movements of accommodation services. These indexes reflect changes in room rates, excluding all indirect taxes, for overnight or short stays with no meals or other services provided. The indexes are available by province and by territory, for Canada, by major client group.

Available on CANSIM: table 326-0013.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2336.

For more information on these indexes, contact Prices Division (613-951-9606; toll-free 1-866-230-2248; infounit@statcan.ca). To enquire about the concepts and methods of this release, contact Claire Bromley White (613-951-0464; claire.bromleywhite@statcan.ca), Prices Division. ■

Postal code conversion file

September 2006

The September 2006 update of the *Postal Code Conversion File* (PCCF) is now available. This digital file links the six-character postal code with the standard 2001 Census geographic areas (such as dissemination areas, census tracts, and census subdivisions). It also locates each postal code by longitude and latitude to support mapping applications.

The September 2006 update of the *Postal Codes by Federal Riding File (2003 Representation Order)* is also available. This product, a subset of the PCCF, provides a link between the six-character postal code and Canada's Federal Electoral Districts (commonly known as federal ridings). By using the postal code as a link, data from administrative files may be organized and/or tabulated by federal riding.

Note: The PCCF contains information for the federal ridings on both the 1996 and 2003 representation orders starting with the December 2003 issue and continuing until the last product release based on the 2001 geographies.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 3901.

The *Postal Code Conversion File* (92F0153XCE, \$9,000; 92F0153UCE, \$1,500) and the *Postal Codes by Federal Riding File* (92F0193XCB, \$2,900; 92F0193UCB, \$500) are available in ASCII format on diskette or CD-ROM. The reference guides for the *Postal Code Conversion File* (92F0153GIE, free) and the *Postal Codes by Federal Riding File* (92F0193GIE, free) are also available in electronic format.

For more information, or to order these files, contact the National Contact Centre (toll-free 1-800-263-1136; infostats@statscan.ca), Advisory Services Division. ■

Electric power selling price indexes

September to December 2006

Electric power selling price indexes (1997=100) are now available for September to December 2006.

Available on CANSIM: table 329-0050.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2325.

The December 2006 issue of *Industry Price Indexes* (62-011-XWE, free) will be available in February.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods, and data quality of this release, contact the Client Services Unit (613-951-9606; prices-prix@statcan.ca) or Adrian Fisher (613-951-9612; fax: 613-951-3117; adrian.fisher@statcan.ca), Prices Division. ■

Computer and peripherals price indexes

November 2006

The index for commercial computers declined 0.3% from October to 36.3 (2001=100). The index for consumer computers fell 1.2% to 16.8.

For computer peripherals, both the monitor (55.2) and printer (51.3) price indexes remained unchanged.

These indexes are available at the Canada level only.

Available on CANSIM: tables 331-0001 and 331-0002.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 5032.

For more information on these indexes, contact Client Services (toll-free 1-866-230-2248; 613-951-9606; prices-prix@statcan.ca). To enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Neil Killips (613-951-5722; neil.killips@statcan.ca), Prices Division. ■

New products

Analytical Studies Branch Research Paper Series:
"Chronic low income and low-income dynamics
among recent immigrants", no. 294
Catalogue number 11F0019MIE2007294
(free).

Postal Code Conversion File, Reference Guide,
September 2006
Catalogue number 92F0153GIE
(free).

**Postal Codes by Federal Ridings
(2003 Representation Order) File, 2001 Census
(Geography Products: Attribute Information
Products), Reference Guide,** September 2006
Catalogue number 92F0193GIE
(free).

Postal Code Conversion File: Update,
September 2006
Catalogue number 92F0153UCE (\$1,500).

**Postal Codes by Federal Ridings
(2003 Representation Order) File, 2001 Census
(Geography Products: Attribute Information
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