



The Daily

Statistics Canada

Thursday, October 11, 2007

Released at 8:30 a.m. Eastern time

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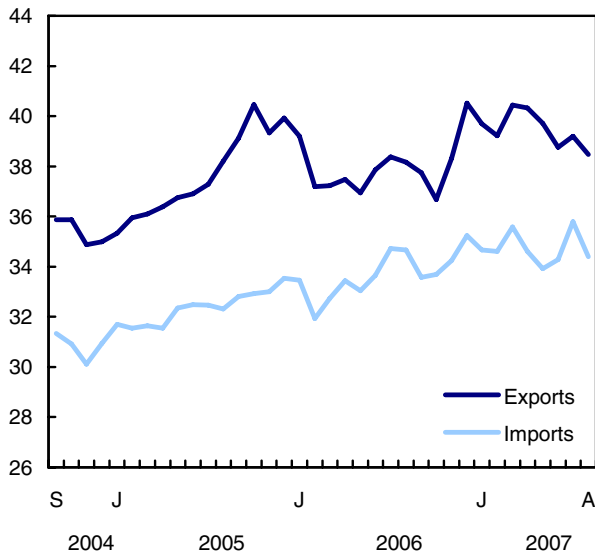
Canadian international merchandise trade

August 2007

Canada's merchandise trade surplus with the world widened in August in the wake of a decline in exports and an even sharper decrease in imports, which had hit a record high the month before.

Exports and imports

\$ billions Seasonally adjusted



Exports decreased 1.8% to \$38.5 billion as only two sectors—machinery and equipment and agricultural and fishing products—recorded gains.

After peaking in July, imports fell 3.9% to \$34.4 billion in August. Despite the considerable appreciation of the Canadian dollar against the American dollar since the beginning of 2007, August's decrease in imports was the result of widespread declines in all sectors except energy products and agricultural and fishing products.

With imports falling at twice the pace of exports, the nation's trade balance with the world expanded to \$4.1 billion. At the same time, Canada's trade surplus with the United States widened to \$6.7 billion.

The deficit with countries other than the United States narrowed to \$2.6 billion, with all principal trading areas contributing to the contraction.

Note to readers

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

International merchandise trade data by country are available on both a balance of payments and a customs basis for the United States, Japan and the United Kingdom. Trade data for all other individual countries are available on a customs basis only. Balance of payments data are derived from customs data by making adjustments for items such as valuation, coverage, timing and residency. These adjustments are made to conform to the concepts and definitions of the Canadian System of National Accounts.

At the end of each quarter, The Daily includes a section describing trends and topics of interest relating to Canadian international merchandise trade. This section typically discusses data presented on a customs basis and not seasonally adjusted.

Revisions

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

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.

Exports decrease despite strong growth in machinery and equipment

Declines in exports of industrial goods and materials, and to a lesser extent automotive products, overshadowed gains in machinery and equipment and agricultural and fishing products, the only two sectors to record increases in August.

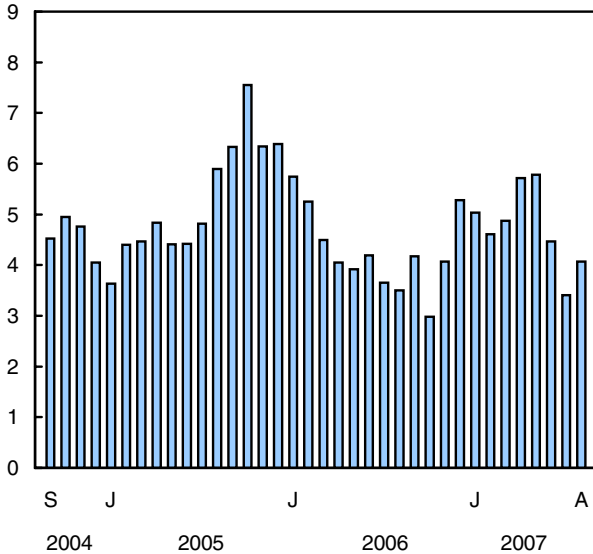
After hitting a record high in July, exports of industrial goods and materials contracted 9.0% to \$8.8 billion. Although there was weakness in all areas of the sector, metal ores, particularly nickel, registered the largest decrease. Chemicals, plastics and fertilizers fell 4.3% to \$2.8 billion, as exports of inorganic chemicals faltered.

Exports of automotive products declined 6.0% to \$6.2 billion, following July's increase. The bulk of the decrease stemmed from passenger autos, which dropped 8.5% to \$3.1 billion. Motor vehicle parts decreased 3.5% to \$2.1 billion, while trucks and other motor vehicles declined for the fifth month in a row, falling below the \$1-billion mark for the first time this year. Exports of automotive products have been on a downward trend since the start of 2007. Demand for

motor vehicles in the United States has been weak over the summer months.

Trade balance

\$ billions



Exports of forestry products fell 1.0% to \$2.4 billion, the fifth decrease in as many months. Canadian production has been curtailed by labour unrest in British Columbia. Newsprint and other paper and paperboard products also continued their downward trend, falling for the fifth consecutive month. On the other hand, wood pulp and other wood products that are used in the manufacture of paper rose 6.6% in August, as exports to China were especially strong.

Energy products slipped 0.3% to \$7.2 billion, the third monthly decline. Increased exports of natural gas and other energy products, particularly coal and other bituminous substances, were offset by decreases in crude petroleum. The decline in crude petroleum was primarily the result of falling volumes, as prices decreased only marginally. In the case of natural gas, volumes rose while prices fell, whereas for coal, volumes rose much faster than prices.

Aircraft, engines and parts climbed 37.1% to \$2.1 billion, propelling total exports of the machinery and equipment sector upwards 6.6% to \$8.4 billion. Industrial machinery exports were up for the second consecutive month, rising 5.1% to a record high of \$1.8 billion.

Following a dip in July, agricultural and fishing products were up 5.4% to \$2.9 billion, as canola exports

soared 35.2%. Canola production remained high as the burgeoning bio-diesel industry and the demand for high-quality specialty canola oils continued to support growth in this area.

Automotive products drive down imports

Imports decreased for the first time since May. Although the declines were widespread, the automotive products and industrial goods and materials sectors led the decrease. The only sector to record an increase was agricultural and fishing products.

Imports of automotive products tumbled 8.1% to \$6.6 billion, partially reversing a gain in July, with motor vehicle parts and passenger autos accounting for the bulk of the decline. Motor vehicle parts plunged 8.2% to \$2.9 billion, falling to their second-lowest level in almost 10 years, while passenger autos plummeted 9.7% to \$2.3 billion. Trucks and other motor vehicles declined 5.2% to \$1.4 billion, their lowest level this year.

Industrial goods and materials fell 6.2% to \$6.9 billion. Chemicals and plastics, particularly organic chemicals, registered the largest drop, as imports of active agents used in the manufacture of pharmaceuticals declined. Metals and metal ores also declined in August.

Machinery and equipment fell 2.8% to \$9.7 billion. Imports of aircraft and other transportation equipment were largely responsible, declining 12.1% to \$1.5 billion and undermining the increases recorded in the previous months. Nevertheless, an increase in imports of industrial water filtration machinery and of office machines, particularly computers in preparation for the return to school, curtailed the declines.

Imports of other consumer goods were down 2.7% to \$4.4 billion, curbing last month's increase. Imports of miscellaneous consumer goods, particularly pharmaceuticals from the European Union, were largely responsible for the decrease.

Energy product imports remained virtually unchanged at \$3.2 billion as falling imports of petroleum and coal products offset rising crude petroleum imports. Declining volumes and prices led to the fall in petroleum and coal products, while for crude petroleum volumes rose considerably.

Agricultural and fishing products set a new record high in August, rising 2.1% to \$2.1 billion. Record imports of beverages as well as meat and meat preparations were responsible for a large portion of the increase. Imports of corn for use in animal feed and of fish and marine animals, primarily live lobsters, were also strong.

Available on CANSIM: tables 228-0001 to 228-0003, 228-0033, 228-0034, 228-0041 to 228-0043 and 228-0047 to 228-0055.

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

The August 2007 issue of *Canadian International Merchandise Trade*, Vol. 61, no. 8 (65-001-XIB, free), is now available from the *Publications* module 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-XWE, free).

For more information on products and services, contact Sharon Nevins (toll-free 1-800-294-5583; 613-951-9798). To enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Deborah Sussman (613-951-0284), International Trade Division. □

Merchandise trade

	July 2007 ^r	August 2007	July to August 2007	August 2006 to August 2007	January to August 2006	January to August 2007	January–August 2006 to January–August 2007
Seasonally adjusted, \$ current							
	\$ millions		% change		\$ millions		% change
Principal trading partners							
Exports							
United States	29,742	29,163	-1.9	-3.2	242,559	241,032	-0.6
Japan	810	825	1.9	-11.2	6,887	7,026	2.0
European Union ¹	3,405	3,301	-3.1	22.6	21,038	27,435	30.4
Other OECD countries ²	1,742	1,732	-0.6	20.8	10,623	14,065	32.4
All other countries	3,500	3,454	-1.3	16.3	21,335	26,260	23.1
Total	39,199	38,475	-1.8	0.8	302,439	315,818	4.4
Imports							
United States	23,260	22,461	-3.4	-0.2	175,179	181,040	3.3
Japan	1,042	1,012	-2.9	-5.5	8,004	7,969	-0.4
European Union ¹	3,816	3,452	-9.5	-7.7	27,915	28,508	2.1
Other OECD countries ²	2,055	1,993	-3.0	1.0	15,706	16,202	3.2
All other countries	5,619	5,490	-2.3	2.4	40,838	44,143	8.1
Total	35,793	34,407	-3.9	-0.7	267,638	277,861	3.8
Balance							
United States	6,482	6,702	...	...	67,380	59,992	...
Japan	-232	-187	...	...	-1,117	-943	...
European Union ¹	-411	-151	...	...	-6,877	-1,073	...
Other OECD countries ²	-313	-261	...	...	-5,083	-2,137	...
All other countries	-2,119	-2,036	...	...	-19,503	-17,883	...
Total	3,406	4,068	...	...	34,801	37,957	...
Principal commodity groupings							
Exports							
Agricultural and fishing products	2,794	2,945	5.4	10.9	20,381	23,090	13.3
Energy products	7,187	7,166	-0.3	-6.0	59,310	60,059	1.3
Forestry products	2,426	2,401	-1.0	-11.7	22,657	20,233	-10.7
Industrial goods and materials	9,613	8,752	-9.0	7.0	60,313	71,525	18.6
Machinery and equipment	7,853	8,375	6.6	6.7	62,554	65,300	4.4
Automotive products	6,555	6,161	-6.0	-4.0	55,432	52,953	-4.5
Other consumer goods	1,568	1,529	-2.5	3.0	11,591	12,884	11.2
Special transactions trade ³	676	664	-1.8	-2.5	5,766	5,708	-1.0
Other balance of payments adjustments	528	483	-8.5	-11.4	4,434	4,068	-8.3
Imports							
Agricultural and fishing products	2,092	2,136	2.1	6.4	15,369	16,891	9.9
Energy products	3,223	3,225	0.1	-5.2	23,700	24,154	1.9
Forestry products	246	244	-0.8	-6.2	2,036	2,000	-1.8
Industrial goods and materials	7,343	6,888	-6.2	-3.1	55,585	57,090	2.7
Machinery and equipment	10,000	9,716	-2.8	0.7	75,408	78,095	3.6
Automotive products	7,142	6,563	-8.1	-4.4	53,117	53,953	1.6
Other consumer goods	4,571	4,448	-2.7	2.9	34,125	36,600	7.3
Special transactions trade ³	482	522	8.3	44.2	2,955	3,675	24.4
Other balance of payments adjustments	695	664	-4.5	-2.2	5,346	5,404	1.1

^r revised

... not applicable

1. Includes Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, and United Kingdom.

2. Other countries in the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) include Australia, Canada, Iceland, Mexico, New Zealand, Norway, South Korea, Switzerland and Turkey.

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

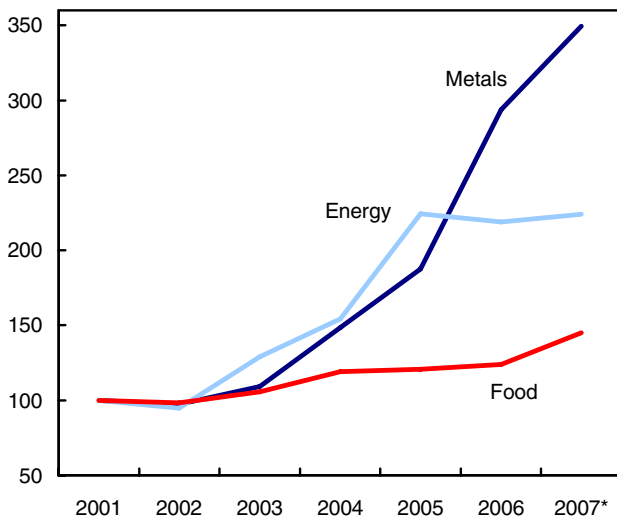
Study: The new underground economy of resources

The characterization of Canada's resource sector as "hewers of wood and drawers of water" is outdated, according to a new article that challenges several myths about the nation's resource base.

The article, published today in *Canadian Economic Observer*, shows that the economy has rediscovered its resource base over the last five years, thanks to an historic surge in commodity prices now in the midst of their longest and strongest upswing ever.

Commodity prices

Index (2001=100)



* Year to August.

The article focuses primarily on export earnings and prices, which capture the magnitude of the surge in commodity demand more than the volume of output or employment.

It shows that since 2002, there has been a large shift in the resource sector away from trees and water. Metals and energy products found underground now drive the growth of resources. Oil output has shifted from conventional oil and gas to the oilsands. Precious metals are more dependent on diamonds, as gold mines are depleted. Grain producers are moving from wheat to canola in response to changing consumer tastes.

As a result, it is more accurate—if less catchy—to say that Canadians are "conveyers of crude and moilers of metals."

The surge in commodity prices started in 2003 in the energy sector, where prices doubled before leveling off in 2005. By 2005, the boom became more pronounced for metals, where prices more than tripled between 2002 and 2006. By 2006, the upswing had spread to agricultural products, where a doubling for grain boosted farm prices by 50%.

While the details for each commodity are different, one common theme is a global economy in its fastest five-year period of growth since 1970. China's manufacturing growth, with a concomitant demand for natural resources used as inputs, has been particularly important.

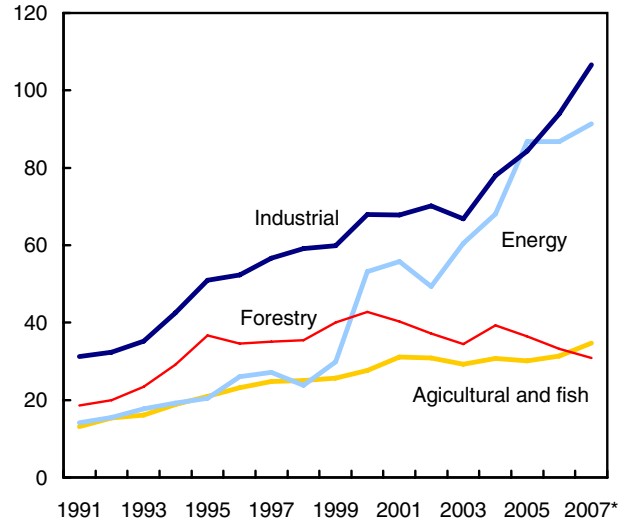
The article also debunks the myth that Canada exports too many of its metal ores without further processing them. It found that industries such as metals and grains are leaders in adding value here in Canada.

Commodity boom began in energy sector

The commodity price boom began in the energy sector. At the start of 2003, energy exports were only Canada's fourth-largest export group. Quarterly revenues from crude oil and natural gas exports were nearly equal, at just over \$4 billion.

Exports by resource sector

\$ billions



* Annualized.

Over the next three years, natural gas grew faster than crude oil, largely due to stronger prices. By late

2005, energy products were Canada's most lucrative export.

However, since 2005 these two energy industries have gone in markedly different directions. Crude oil exports have jumped a further 50%, as record-breaking prices were reinforced by new projects coming on-line.

Meanwhile, natural gas prices and production have plummeted, as a mild North American winter in 2006 created a surplus of inventories that still persists.

Compounding the problems of the Canadian gas industry has been the sudden emergence of liquefied natural gas (LNG) as an alternative source in US markets. LNG imports into the United States rose 58% in the first seven months of 2007 compared with the same period in 2006.

This US\$1.6-billion increase was matched exactly by a drop in Canada's natural gas exports to the United States over the past 12 months. The growth in LNG reflects improvements in transportation facilities as well as the construction, in the United States and supplying countries, of terminals that convert it from gas to liquid and back to gas.

Overall, exports of other energy products (including hydro-electricity) have changed little since 2002.

Price increase for metals "stronger for longer" than even energy

Metals prices quickly followed energy in taking off after 2002, although the increase for metals has been "stronger for longer" than even energy.

Prices for a wide range of metals have set new records, including nickel, copper, zinc, and iron ore. Non-metallic minerals also have soared, notably potash, uranium and diamonds. Altogether, metals and minerals account for the bulk of exports of industrial goods.

Largely as a result of higher prices, industrial goods have become Canada's leading export. The turnaround was most pronounced for metal ores and alloys, where exports have doubled in four years after almost a decade of no growth.

One myth is that Canada exports too many of its metal ores without further processing them. Supposedly, this costs the economy by not "moving up the value chain." However, it is not a good description of how the mining industry operates in Canada.

In 2006, Canada exported \$40 billion of metal alloys (which are ores refined to a finished or semi-finished state), compared with \$11 billion of ores which require smelting and refining.

What is less well known is how much metal Canada imports for further processing. Overall, Canada imported nearly \$10 billion of metal ore in 2006. About one-third was gold, mostly from Latin America, which

was refined in Canada and then shipped to the UK. Another 15% was alumina, used as an input in the production of aluminum, most of which was exported. At \$9.5 billion, aluminum was Canada's leading metal export in 2006.

The lesson to be drawn is that metal ore is processed in Canada when the economics justify firms doing so, regardless of where it is mined.

Farming, fishing and forestry

Agriculture and fishing have long been major components of Canada's resource sector, and remain by far the largest employers in this sector.

Still, low prices and supply disruptions (notably the moratorium on cod fishing and the "mad cow" outbreak) depressed incomes for much of the last two decades, leaving agricultural exports the smallest in the resource sector for much of this period.

Agricultural markets improved sharply in 2006 and 2007. Grain exports nearly doubled in value from their drought-affected low in 2005. The largest increase was for wheat, where prices hit a record US\$9 a bushel in the summer of 2007.

Canola is the fastest-growing grain export, notably in oil form as consumers shift away from trans fats. Since 2002, exports nearly doubled to a record \$1.8 billion in 2006 and are set to break that mark in 2007.

Fish exports have nearly doubled since 1990 despite the collapse of the cod industry in the early 1990s. The industry has adapted, most notably by accelerating the switch from groundfish to crustaceans (such as crabs, lobster and shrimp) and molluscs.

By the 2000s, exports of shellfish had grown to over \$2 billion, accounting for well over half of all fish exports. This was four times higher than their level in 1991.

The decline of forestry exports in absolute terms has significantly lowered the relative importance of forestry products. As recently as 1998, they were Canada's largest resource export, ahead of metals, energy and agriculture. But by the first half of 2007, they trailed the other three.

As a result, the share of forestry products slid from 10.8% of total merchandise exports in 1998 to just 6.5% by mid-2007. Forestry had accounted for 18% of exports in 1978.

Resource boom reflected in higher output and jobs

Much of the recent growth in resource incomes has been driven by higher prices. Still, the resource boom has also been reflected in increased real output and employment in this sector. But output in some sectors has been more responsive to higher prices than others.

In volume terms, output in the primary sector, which increased 11.8% from 2002 to mid-2007, has not kept pace with the overall economy, which went up 13.7% in the same period.

In terms of employment, however, the primary sector has grown marginally faster than the total (11% compared with 9.8%).

The largest expansion in output since 2002 has been in mining, excluding oil and gas. Non-metallic minerals drove the advance. Initially, the increase reflected the continued development of diamond mines in northern Canada. More recently, output of potash has risen in response to high prices.

The turnaround for metals followed a decade of decline, unlike the repeated boom-bust movement of energy prices. Perhaps because of the memories of this protracted decline, investment and output in metals and minerals have been slower to respond to the boom than in energy.

It is often asserted that one of the downfalls of a growing reliance on resource-based industries is

their "boom-bust" nature. However, examining the variability of output and export earnings yields an overall impression of stability compared with the rest of the economy.

The study, "The new underground economy of resources," is included in the October 2007 Internet edition of *Canadian Economic Observer*, Vol. 20, no. 10 (11-010-XWB, free), now available from the *Publications* module of our website. The monthly paper version of *Canadian Economic Observer*, Vol. 20, no. 10 (11-010-XPB, \$25/\$243) will be available on October 18.

For more information about the *Canadian Economic Observer*, click on our banner ad from the *Publications* module of our website.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Philip Cross (613-951-9162; ceo@statcan.ca), Current Economic Analysis Division. ■

New Housing Price Index

August 2007

The rate of growth in new housing prices slowed again in August despite the accelerating market in the Prairie region.

Contractors' selling prices increased 6.5% in August compared with August 2006, a drop from the 7.7% gain observed in July. Prices have gradually decelerated over the past 12 months.

On a monthly basis, prices increased 0.4% between July and August, resulting in a New Housing Price Index of 155.1 (1997=100).

In the Prairie region, demand for new housing combined with higher labour costs for framers and concrete workers to produce record high year-over-year increases for Saskatoon (+53.6%), Regina (+29.2%) and Winnipeg (+16.0%).

In Alberta, housing price increases in Edmonton began to cool somewhat with a year-over-year increase of 30.2%. Calgary registered a year-over-year increase of only 6.1%.

The pace in Vancouver (+6.6%) remained healthy, but was down from the previous month's year-over-year increase of 9.2%.

Housing prices accelerated slightly in Halifax, rising 7.0% over August last year.

Sales continued to slump in Windsor, where new housing prices fell 2.8% below levels in August last year.

On a monthly basis, the fastest gain occurred in Regina (+5.3%), its largest one-month increase in over 20 years. It was followed by Saskatoon (+1.4%) and St. John's (+1.2%). Windsor registered its first monthly increase since March of this year.

The only metropolitan areas registering declines from June were Hamilton (-0.7%) and London (-0.1%).

Available on CANSIM: table 327-0005.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2310.

The second-quarter 2007 issue of *Capital Expenditure Price Statistics* (62-007-XWE, free) will be available soon.

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

New Housing Price Indexes

	August 2007 (1997=100)	August 2006 to August 2007 % change	July to August 2007
Canada total	155.1	6.5	0.4
House only	165.1	6.0	0.6
Land only	135.6	7.8	0.1
St. John's	137.8	4.5	1.2
Halifax	139.8	7.0	0.1
Charlottetown	117.8	0.2	0.0
Saint John, Fredericton and Moncton	114.4	0.8	0.6
Québec	148.0	3.9	0.7
Montréal	155.3	4.5	1.1
Ottawa-Gatineau	162.0	1.1	0.2
Toronto and Oshawa	141.7	2.4	0.4
Hamilton	148.5	3.1	-0.7
St. Catharines-Niagara	151.7	4.3	1.1
Kitchener	139.7	1.9	0.3
London	138.4	3.2	-0.1
Windsor	103.0	-2.8	0.7
Greater Sudbury and Thunder Bay	106.3	4.1	0.4
Winnipeg	168.9	16.0	0.5
Regina	201.8	29.2	5.3
Saskatoon	212.1	53.6	1.4
Calgary	248.9	6.1	0.0
Edmonton	248.4	30.2	0.4
Vancouver	122.4	6.6	0.1
Victoria	118.7	0.4	0.0

Note: View the census subdivisions that comprise the metropolitan areas online.

Family violence in Canada: A statistical profile

2007

Most people accused of spousal homicide or attempted homicide had no prior contact with the police for spousal abuse, according to a new study examining 11 years of police-reported data.

The study, "Spousal homicide or attempts and prior police contact for spousal abuse," published today in the 2007 edition of *Family Violence in Canada*, illustrates that spousal homicide or attempted spousal homicide can occur without prior police knowledge or warning.

The study analyzed data on persons accused of spousal homicide or attempts and their previous contacts with police for spousal abuse over an 11-year time frame, from 1995 to 2005 inclusive.

It found that nearly three-quarters of spousal homicide offenders had no prior contact with police for spousal violence. People accused of "repeated" spousal violence (one to three prior incidents of violence reported to police) preceding the homicide or attempt accounted for 22% of the total. About 4% were considered "chronic" abusers, or those who were involved in four or more police-reported incidents of abuse preceding the spousal homicide or attempt.

There may be various reasons for these findings. For example, there may have been no violence in the relationship prior to the spousal homicide, or there could have been previous violence which was not reported to police.

The study found that perpetrators of spousal homicide or attempted homicide were overwhelmingly male (82%) compared with 18% who were female. The proportion of male spousal homicide offenders who were "repeat" spousal abusers was 3.5 times greater than that of their female counterparts. Males were also more likely to be "chronic" spousal abusers. On the other hand, for 9 in 10 females who killed or attempted to kill their husbands, the homicide or attempt was their first spousal violence offence reported to police during the 11-year time frame.

The study also found that there was a great deal of variability in the length of time between prior spousal

violence reported to police and the spousal homicide or attempt. This time ranged from a couple of days to several years.

For over one-third (37%) of spousal homicides or attempts, the elapsed time between the last police-reported incident of spousal abuse and the homicide was less than six months. Another 18% of spousal homicides/attempts occurred between six months and two years of previously reported abuse.

Episodes of reported abuse became more frequent as the spousal homicide or attempt drew nearer. The elapsed time between police-reported spousal abuse decreased from an average of two years between the first and second offence reported to police, to seven months between the reported abuse and the homicide.

Note: This release highlights the 2007 edition of the report *Family Violence in Canada: A Statistical Profile*, which provides estimates on the nature and extent of family violence in Canada and trends over time. The focus of this release is on people accused of spousal homicide/attempts and their patterns of spousal abuse (known by the police) prior to the homicide or attempt. The study also provides the most recent police-reported data on family violence against children and youth, and against seniors aged 65 and over. In addition, data from the Homicide Survey are available on spousal homicides, family-related homicides of children and youth, and older adults.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey numbers, including related surveys, 3302, 3315 and 4504.

The 2007 edition of *Family Violence in Canada: A Statistical Profile* (85-224-XIE, free) is now available online. From the *Publications* module, choose *Free Internet publications*, then *Crime and Justice*. A printed copy is also available from the National Clearinghouse on Family Violence (toll-free 1-800-267-1291; 613-957-2938).

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Information and Client Services (toll-free 1-800-387-2231; 613-951-9023), Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics. ■

Commercial Software Price Index

August 2007

The Commercial Software Price Index (CSPI) is a monthly series measuring the change in the purchase price of pre-packaged software typically bought by businesses and governments. The CSPI for August was 64.9 (2001=100), down 1.2% from July.

This index is available at the Canada level only.

Available on CANSIM: table 331-0003.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 5068.

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. ■

Export and import price indexes

August 2007

Current- and fixed-weighted export and import price indexes (2002=100) on a balance of payments basis are now available for August. Price indexes are listed from January 2002 to August 2007 for the five commodity sections and the major commodity groups (62 exports and 61 imports).

Current- and fixed-weighted US price indexes (2002=100) are also available on a customs basis. Price indexes are listed from January 2002 to August 2007. 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 228-0047 to 228-0055.

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

The August issue of *Canadian International Merchandise Trade* (65-001-XIB, free) is now available from the *Publications* module of our website.

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