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Releases

Industrial capacity utilization rates

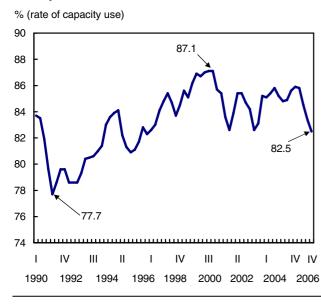
Fourth quarter of 2006

Canadian industries reduced their use of production capacity for the fourth consecutive quarter between October and December in 2006 to the lowest level in more than three years.

At year-end, industries operated at 82.5% of their capacity, down from 83.4% in the third quarter. The increased demand both in Canada and abroad was largely met by inventory reductions, industrial production having decreased in the fourth quarter.

The fourth-quarter rate was 4.6 percentage points below the recent high of 87.1% reached in the second half of 2000, when the high technology sector was booming.

Capacity use drops to its lowest level in more than three years



The industrial capacity utilization rate is the ratio of an industry's actual output to its estimated potential output. For this release, rates were revised back to the first quarter of 2004 to include revisions in the source data.

All sectors that comprise the industrial group posted lower rates in the fourth quarter. All used less of their production capacity in 2006 compared with 2005. On an annual basis, the average capacity utilization rate for 2006 was 84.1%, compared with the annual average of 85.3% for 2005.

For most sectors, this reduction in the average annual rate was slight, less than 1 percentage point. There were two exceptions: the electric power sector, where demand was lower because of the milder than usual weather in 2006, and the mining, oil and gas extraction sector, where annual average capacity use decreased from 86.5% in 2005 to 82.9% in 2006.

In the mining, oil and gas extraction sector, the decline was largely due to two major factors. First, production fell in 2006, and second, the sustained interest in development of the Alberta oil sands resulted in a pronounced increase in investment that boosted production capacity in 2006.

Manufacturers experienced a difficult year in 2006 because of the strong Canadian dollar, growing competition by foreign industries and the significant job losses in their sector. They were also less than optimistic regarding production prospects for the first quarter of 2007. According to the January 2007 Business Conditions Survey, manufacturers are anticipating decreased production during the first three months of the year.

Manufacturing sector posts lowest capacity use in more than three years

Manufacturers reduced their production capacity utilization for a fourth straight quarter, with a rate of 81.4%, down from 82.2% in the previous quarter. This was the lowest rate posted by this sector since the third quarter of 2003, when the rate was 80.4%. Overall, 12 of the 21 groups in the manufacturing sector, representing close to 63% of total production, used less of their production capacity between October and December.

Four industries (the manufacturing of primary metals, wood products, transportation equipment, and rubber and plastic) were strong contributors to the decline in the rate in the manufacturing sector.

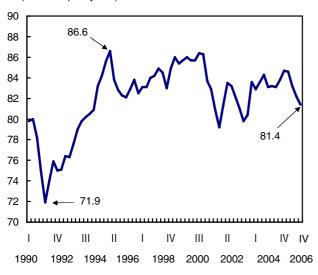
The computer and electronics products manufacturing industry, which had good results in the fourth quarter, helped to mitigate the decline in the manufacturing sector.

In the primary metals manufacturing industry, capacity use dropped from 93.6% to 89.3%. This was the most significant reduction in this rate since the fourth quarter of 2004, when it slipped by 4.6 points.

Production in the iron and steel industry fell 9.4%, accounting for much of the decline in this industry.

Fourth consecutive decline in the manufacturing sector

% (rate of capacity use)



Manufacturers of wood products greatly reduced their capacity utilization during the last three months of the year. The rate was 78.5% in the fourth quarter, lower than the 82.6% of the previous quarter. Decreased production of all of the main components of this group explains the 3.4% downturn in production in this industry. The annual average rate for 2006 plunged by 6.7 points compared with the previous year.

Increased exports and consumer demand for automotive products were largely met by inventory reductions. Production in the transportation equipment manufacturing industry declined by 0.9% from October to December, and capacity use slid from 84.4% to 83.1%.

Among manufacturers of plastic and rubber products, production was down for most of the main components of this group. Accordingly, capacity utilization fell by 3.0 points to 73.4%. This was the lowest rate posted by this industry in over 15 years. After two quarterly declines in a row, computer and electronics products manufacturers posted the strongest increase in capacity use in three years; the rate rose from 87.7% to 91.2%. Manufacturing of computer equipment was the primary factor behind the 3.1% rise in production for this industry.

Lower rates in all other sectors

In the mining sector, the rate dropped from 84.5% to 81.5% during the final three months of the year. The upswing in production for metal and non-metal mines was clearly insufficient to offset the 18.8% drop in oil drilling and extraction activities.

The unusually warm weather from October to December meant lower demand for electricity, and the rate slid by 2.5 points to 83.4%.

In the construction industry, the rate dropped by 0.7 points to 85.8% because of the rise in production capacity, which exceeded the increase in output. Robust investments in 2006 were behind the growth in production capacity in this sector.

In the oil and gas extraction sector, the production slowdown was attributed to decreased production of natural gas from October to December. Accordingly, capacity utilization in this sector fell from 82.1% to 81.4% in the fourth quarter.

Production fell 1.4% in the forestry and logging sector, where capacity use was 80.4%, down from 80.6% in the third quarter.

Available on CANSIM: table 028-0002.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2821.

Data on industrial capacity utilization rates for the first quarter of 2007 will be released on June 11.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Mychèle Gagnon (613-951-0994) or Michel Labonté (613-951-9690), Investment and Capital Stock Division.

Industrial capacity utilization rates

	Third	Fourth	Third to	2005 ^r	2006	2005
	quarter	quarter	fourth			to
	2006 ^r	2006	quarter			2006
			2006			
					Annual a	iverage
			% point change			% point change
Total industrial	83.4	82.5	-0.9	85.3	84.1	-1.2
Forestry and logging	80.6	80.4	-0.2	85.2	84.5	-0.7
Mining and oil and gas extraction	83.1	81.4	-1.7	86.5	82.9	-3.6
Oil and gas extraction	82.1	81.4	-0.7	82.9	82.3	-0.6
Mining	84.5	81.5	-3.0	92.0	83.8	-8.2
Electric power generation, transmission and						
distribution	85.9	83.4	-2.5	89.6	86.0	-3.6
Construction	86.5	85.8	-0.7	87.7	87.4	-0.3
Manufacturing	82.2	81.4	-0.8	83.7	82.9	-0.8
Food	80.8	80.3	-0.5	80.6	81.0	0.4
Beverage and tobacco products	76.9	77.7	0.8	76.3	75.3	-1.0
Beverage	78.9	79.7	0.8	79.7	77.1	-2.6
Tobacco	65.6	65.4	-0.2	65.2	65.5	0.3
Textile mills	67.8	69.9	2.1	75.1	69.7	-5.4
Textile product mills	71.6	76.7	5.1	80.6	74.3	-6.3
Clothing	74.9	70.3	-4.6	74.4	75.5	1.1
Leather and allied products	73.6	68.6	-5.0	67.6	73.6	6.0
Wood products	82.6	78.5	-4.1	90.6	83.9	-6.7
Paper	88.0	88.5	0.5	89.4	87.4	-2.0
Printing and related support activities	72.1	71.9	-0.2	75.2	74.8	-0.4
Petroleum and coal products	88.5	84.4	-4.1	88.3	86.5	-1.8
Chemical	82.8	83.0	0.2	80.2	82.8	2.6
Plastics and rubber products	76.4	73.4	-3.0	83.0	77.4	-5.6
Plastic products	74.0	71.1	-2.9	81.3	75.3	-6.0
Rubber products	84.8	81.8	-3.0	88.8	85.0	-3.8
Non-metallic mineral products	79.4	79.1	-0.3	84.4	82.4	-2.0
Primary metal	93.6	89.3	-4.3	91.5	92.9	1.4
Fabricated metal products	79.3	78.1	-1.2	80.6	80.5	-0.1
Machinery	81.2	81.7	0.5	83.0	82.9	-0.1
Computer and electronic products	87.7	91.2	3.5	85.3	88.7	3.4
Electrical equipment, appliance and	-					
component	77.3	80.1	2.8	76.3	78.2	1.9
Transportation equipment	84.4	83.1	-1.3	87.3	85.3	-2.0
Furniture and related products	77.7	76.3	-1.4	81.3	76.6	-4.7
Miscellaneous manufacturing	79.3	82.5	3.2	81.1	81.4	0.3

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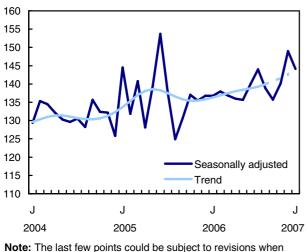
New motor vehicle sales

January 2007

Following two strong monthly increases, new motor vehicle sales declined 3.3% in January. However, the 144,136 vehicles sold in January was the second highest sales level in the last 18 months, exceeded only by December 2006.

New motor vehicle sales decline in January

thousands of units



more data are added. This is indicated by the dashed line.

Sales of new motor vehicles finished strongly in 2006, after a weak September and October following the removal of dealer incentive programs. Sales through the summer months were helped by dealer promotions such as employee pricing and cash-back rewards. Before the summer spike, sales had been relatively stable from the end of 2005 through the first half of 2006.

Based on preliminary sales data from the automotive industry, the number of new motor vehicles sold in February declined approximately 4% due to lower sales for both passenger cars and trucks.

Sales plunge for North American-built passenger cars

Passenger car sales fell 7.0% in January to 70,722 vehicles. This decrease was due entirely to lower sales of North American-built passenger cars which plunged 11.0%. This decline in North American-built passenger cars follows two large monthly sales gains in November (+9.4%) and December (+8.4%). Sales of overseas-built passenger cars

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.

increased 1.4% in January, a second consecutive monthly increase.

Declines in passenger car sales in January partially offset the gains in the preceding two months. Sales had rebounded in November (+5.4%) and December (+6.1%) following a 7.7% decline in October. Previously, passenger car sales had been relatively flat during the second half of 2005 through to the third quarter of 2006.

Consumers purchased more trucks than cars

Consumers preferred trucks over passenger cars in January, purchasing 73,415 trucks for an increase of 0.5% over December. This was the fourth consecutive monthly increase for trucks (which include minivans, sport-utility vehicles, light and heavy trucks, vans and buses), and the highest sales level since July 2005.

At the beginning of 2006, truck sales were fairly flat before spiking in August with the introduction of dealer incentive programs. Sales fell in September, offsetting some of the gains made in July and August. Truck sales rebounded in the fourth quarter, and continued to rise at the start of 2007.

Truck sales took 51% of the new motor vehicle market share in January. This was only the second time in eight years that more trucks were sold than passenger cars. In 2006, the average market share for trucks was about 48%.

Sales down in most provinces

Six provinces posted lower new motor vehicle sales in January. Manitoba (-6.1%) posted the largest drop, offsetting a 6.0% gain in December. British Columbia and Quebec followed, each with a decline of 4.6% during the month. Sales in Ontario also fell in January, declining 4.0%. After three consecutive monthly increases, sales of new motor vehicles also decreased in Newfoundland and Labrador (-4.5%) and New Brunswick (-1.0%) in January.

On the heels of a 12.4% surge in new motor vehicles sales in December, Alberta sales edged up an additional 0.2% in January to 22,342 vehicles. Sales of new motor vehicles in Alberta had been strong through the first half of 2006 before slowing in September.

Prince Edward Island (+7.7%) posted the largest sales gain, achieving the highest sales level since November 2005. Saskatchewan (+1.2%) and Nova Scotia (+0.7%) also posted sales gains in January.

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

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2402.

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

Data on new motor vehicle sales for February will be released on April 16.

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 Ashley Ker (613-951-2252), Distributive Trades Division.

New motor vehicle sales

	January	December	January	January	December
	2006	2006 ^r	2007 ^p	2006	2006 to
				to	January
				January	2007
			Seasonally adjusted	2007	
		number of vehicles		% change	
New motor vehicles	136,795	149,044	144,136	5.4	-3.3
Passenger cars	70,788	76,007	70,722	-0.1	-7.0
North American ¹	49,341	51,083	45,451	-7.9	-11.0
Overseas	21,447	24,924	25,271	17.8	1.4
rucks, vans and buses	66,007	73,037	73,415	11.2	0.5
Province and territory					
Newfoundland and Labrador	2,162	2,286	2,184	1.0	-4.5
Prince Edward Island	396	428	461	16.4	7.7
Nova Scotia	4,725	4,019	4,049	-14.3	0.7
New Brunswick	2,831	3,324	3,291	16.2	-1.0
Quebec	32,735	36,661	34,987	6.9	-4.6
Ontario	51,791	54,839	52,653	1.7	-4.0
<i>I</i> anitoba	3,825	4,201	3,945	3.1	-6.1
Saskatchewan	3,017	3,601	3,645	20.8	1.2
Alberta	20,016	22,304	22,342	11.6	0.2
British Columbia ²	15,298	17,382	16,579	8.4	-4.6
	January 2006	December 2006	January 2007 ^p	January 2006 to Janu	ary 2007
			Unadjusted		
		number of vehicles		% change	
New motor vehicles	89,422	131,157	94,422	5.6	
Passenger cars	44,184	62,549	42,705	-3.3	
North American ¹	31,445	44,495	27,594	-12.2	
Overseas	12,739	18,054	15.111	18.6	
Frucks, vans and buses	45,238	68,608	51,717	14.3	
Province and territory	45,250	00,000	51,717	14.5	
Newfoundland and Labrador	1,069	1,566	1,164	8.9	
Prince Edward Island	209	348	243	16.3	
lova Scotia	=				
	2,792 1,747	3,383	2,422	-13.3	
New Brunswick		2,695	2,020	15.6	
	19,288	26,812	20,683	7.2	
Ontario	34,140	49,781	34,418	0.8	
Manitoba	2,399	4,039	2,530	5.5	
Saskatchewan	1,906	3,607	2,439	28.0	
Alberta	14,458	21,587	16,469	13.9	
British Columbia ²	11,414	17,339	12,034	5.4	

r revised

preliminary
Manufactured or assembled in Canada, the United States or Mexico.
Includes Yukon, the Northwest Territories and Nunavut.

Annual Survey of Accounting Services 2005

The Canadian accounting industry enjoyed a very prosperous year in 2005. Operating revenues climbed to \$9.9 billion, a large 13.9% increase over the previous year. The industry continues to be very healthy, given that the large increase in 2005 follows significant growth of 5.7% in 2004 and 5.0% in 2003. This strong growth can be partially attributed to changes in business regulatory requirements, which led to increased demand for accounting services. An increased number of corporate transactions and the overall strength of the Canadian economy during this period were also contributing factors.

In 2005, as in past years, the bulk of industry revenues came from traditional accounting services. Audit and assurance services accounted for 29.4% of total industry operating revenues, followed by taxation services (24.1%), compilation and review services (16.5%) and bookkeeping and payroll services (13.5%). In terms of less traditional accounting services, revenues from consulting services generated 7.4% of industry operating revenues while revenues from insolvency and receivership services accounted for 2.4%.

As the Canadian economy remained strong in 2005, the proportion of revenues generated from insolvency and receivership services (2.4%) was relatively unchanged from 2004. This level was lower than those recorded in 2001 (3.7%), 2002 (4.5%) and 2003 (4.0%). This indicates that the number of business bankruptcies remains relatively low.

Businesses in Ontario accounted for 45% of industry operating revenues, followed by Quebec (20%), British Columbia (13%), and Alberta (12%).

Although strong growth took place in all provinces, the highest annual increases were posted by businesses in British Columbia (19.0%), Saskatchewan (17.5%), Manitoba (16.6%), Nova Scotia (15.0%), Ontario (14.8%) and Quebec (12.8%).

The accounting industry is characterized by a large number of small businesses with revenues of less than \$1 million, and a few very large businesses that represent a large proportion of the accounting services market. In 2005, the 20 largest businesses generated 50% of industry operating revenues compared to 49% in 2004.

The accounting industry depends heavily on human capital. The industry had about 81,100 paid employees in 2005, an increase of 11.6% over 2004. The wages, salaries and benefits paid are the single most important expense. Wages, salaries and benefits reached \$3.5 billion and accounted for just over half (51%) of total industry operating expenses, in spite of the fact that the remuneration of about 11,500 partners and proprietors is not included in the wages figure.

The operating profit margin before taxes was 30% in 2005, unchanged from the previous year.

Available on CANSIM: table 360-0007.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 4716.

Results from the 2005 annual Survey of Accounting Services are now available.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Luc Provençal (613-951-1960; *luc.provencal@statcan.ca*) or Helen Fung (613-951-1597; *helen.fung@statcan.ca*; fax: 613-951-6696), Service Industries Division.

Youth custody and community services 2004/2005

Admissions of young people aged 12 to 17 to remand, as well as sentenced custody and probation, fell for the second consecutive year following the enactment of the *Youth Criminal Justice Act* (YCJA) on April 1, 2003.

This decline in admissions coincides with decreases in both the youth crime rate and the youth incarceration rate.

During the fiscal year 2004/2005, there were about 39,000 admissions to youth custody and community correctional services in eight reporting jurisdictions, according to a new *Juristat*. The five jurisdictions excluded from this report were: Prince Edward Island, Saskatchewan, the Yukon, Nunavut and the Northwest Territories.

Probation accounted for 41% of total admissions in 2004/2005, followed by remand (36%), sentenced custody (14%), the community portion of custody and community supervision orders (6%), and deferred custody and supervision (3%).

One of the concerns with the *Young Offenders Act* (YOA), which preceded the YCJA, was the overuse of custody. A key objective of the YCJA was to decrease the use of custody.

The *Juristat* examined changes in admissions during two periods: since the introduction of the YCJA, and on a year-over-year basis. (For the purpose of this comparison, data on young people aged 12 to 15 in Ontario were also excluded.)

Since the introduction of the YCJA, the number of admissions to youth custody and community correctional

services has declined 33%. Admissions to probation have declined 54%, sentenced custody admissions are down 50%, and remand declined by 22%. On the other hand, admissions to the community portion of a custody and supervision order have increased 12%, while admissions to deferred custody were up 27%.

On a year-over-year basis, admissions to probation in 2004/2005 were down 21% from the year before. This drop drove the overall decline in admissions to correctional services. Although this decrease was substantial, it was not as large nor as widespread as that experienced in 2003/2004. This was the year immediately following the enactment of the YCJA, when declines took place in all reporting jurisdictions.

A period of community supervision became a mandatory component for most custody orders, likely reducing the need to impose a probation order as a measure to reintegrate youth into the community and thus contributing to the drop in probation admissions.

Overall admissions to sentenced custody and to remand each fell 7% in 2004/2005. This was a much smaller decrease than the year before and in some jurisdictions there were increases.

The total number of admissions of Aboriginal youth remained stable in 2004/2005 at 6,200, whereas among non-Aboriginal youth, admissions had declined from 2003/2004. Although Aboriginal youth represent about 5% of the total youth population, they accounted for one-quarter of sentenced custody admissions, 22% of admissions to remand and 15% of admissions to probation.

This release is based on the annual *Juristat:* "Youth Custody and Community Services in Canada".

It examines the number of annual admissions to correctional facilities or to community supervision programs following enactment of the *Youth Criminal Justice Act*.

Data on admissions are collected when an individual enters a custodial facility or community supervision program. These data measure the changing case flow of correctional agencies over time. However, they do not indicate the number of unique individuals since the same person can be included several times in annual admission totals.

Details on average counts of young persons in sentenced custody, remand and probation for 2004/2005 were released in *The Daily* of September 20, 2006.

Available on CANSIM: tables 251-0009 to 251-0017.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 3323.

The *Juristat:* "Youth Custody and Community Services in Canada", 2004/2005, Vol. 27, no. 2, (85-002-XIE, free) is now available from our website. From the *Publications* module, under *Free Internet publications*, choose *Crime and justice*, then *Juristat*. A paper version (85-002-XPE, \$11/\$100) is also available. See *How to order products*.

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

Admissions to youth correctional services, by jurisdiction, 2004/2005

	Total	Remand	Sentenced	Probation	Deferred	Community
	correctional		custody		custody	portion of
	services				and	custody and
					supervision	supervision orders
iotal ¹	39,035	15,273	5,362	17,138	1,262	2,669
lewfoundland and Labrador	633	154	116	344	19	116
rince Edward Island						
Iova Scotia	870	163	74	535	98	121
lew Brunswick	1,099	275	267	450	107	175
luebec	6,089	1,347	931	3,663	148	
Intario	19,360	8,723	2,292	7,824	521	1502
lanitoba	2,983	1,552	379	931	121	287
askatchewan		·	376	1,265	167	214
Iberta	4,361	1,655	735	1,723	248	468
ritish Columbia	3,640	1,404	568	1,668		
íukon	·	<i>.</i> .		·		
lorthwest Territories		39	53		2	24
lunavut						

.. not available for a specific reference period

... not applicable

1. Total excludes Prince Edward Island, Saskatchewan, Yukon, the Northwest Territories and Nunavut.

Percent change of admissions to youth correctional services, by jurisdiction, 2002/2003 to 2003/2004 and 2003/2004 to 2004/2005

	Rema	Remand Sentenced custody Probation				Deferred custody and supervision	Community portion of custody and supervision orders	
	2002/2003 to 2003/2004	2003/2004 to 2004/2005	2002/2003 to 2003/2004	2003/2004 to 2004/2005	2002/2003 to 2003/2004	2003/2004 to 2004/2005	2003/2004 to 2004/2005	2003/2004 to 2004/2005
				% cha	nge			
Total	-15.2	-6.5	-43.4	-7.0	-33.5	-20.9	26.5	11.6
Newfoundland and Labrador Nova Scotia New Brunswick Quebec ¹ Ontario (16 and 17 year-olds) Manitoba Alberta British Columbia ²	-44.2 ^r -8.3 13.0 -30.5 -11.4 -21.7 -9.4 -14.5	-3.1 -13.3 -6.8 15.6 -12.1 0.8 -17.9 7.9	-58.5 ^r -61.0 -25.8 -32.2 -50.9 -36.1 -40.4 -40.3	-20.0 -39.8 9.4 -12.7 -10.2 1.1 -0.1 2.0	-12.2 ^r -30.0 -36.0 -51.3 -24.1 -27.5 -19.5 -27.0	-20.0 -30.6 2.5 -8.7 -41.1 18.1 -18.7 0.2	111.1 34.2 -3.6 114.5 65.9 8.0 -5.7	22.1 175.0 36.7 -16.1 48.7 27.9

r revised

1. Quebec can not supply admissions to the community portion of a custody and community supervision order.

2. All community corrections programs are reported within admissions to probation.

Note: Only jurisdictions that have comparable data are represented.

Dairy statistics

January 2007 (preliminary)

Consumers purchased 262 100 kilolitres of milk and cream in January, up 1.5% from January 2006. Sales of milk were up 1.0% from year ago levels while sales of cream increased 8.6%.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey numbers, including related surveys, 3430, 3431 and 3432.

The first quarter 2007 issue of *Dairy Statistics*, Vol. 2, no. 1 (23-014-XWE, free) will be available in May.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods of data quality of this release, contact Anna Michalowska (613-951-2442 or toll-free 1-800-465-1991; fax: 613-951-3868), Agriculture Division.

New products

National Income and Expenditure Accounts, Quarterly Estimates, Fourth quarter 2006, Vol. 54, no. 4 Catalogue number 13-001-XIB (free).

Juristat, Vol. 27, no. 2 Catalogue number 85-002-XIE (free).

Juristat, Vol. 27, no. 2 Catalogue number 85-002-XPE (\$11/\$100). All prices are in Canadian dollars and exclude sales tax. Additional shipping charges apply for delivery outside Canada.

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