



# The Daily

Statistics Canada

Friday, June 15, 2007

Released at 8:30 a.m. Eastern time

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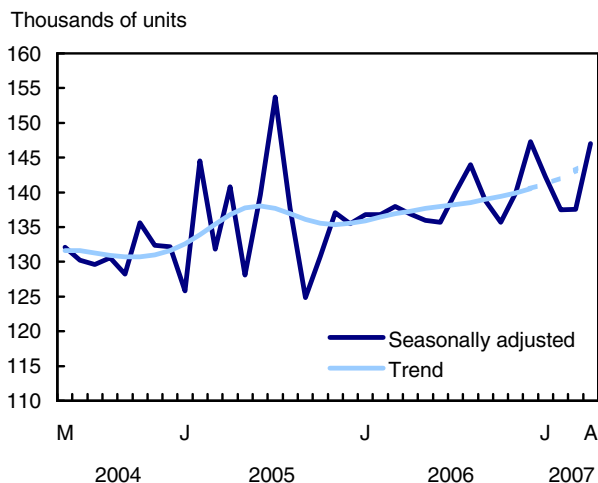
## Releases

### New motor vehicle sales

April 2007

Strong demand in Ontario helped national new motor vehicle sales surge 6.9% in April. This increase, the strongest since July 2005, followed flat sales in March 2007 and completely offset the declines of 3.4% in January and 3.4% in February.

#### New motor vehicle sales surge in April



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

New vehicle sales rose to 147,042 in April, an increase of 9,496 units compared to March. This gain can be attributed to increased sales of North American-built passenger cars and trucks (which include minivans, sport-utility vehicles, light and heavy trucks, vans and buses).

In recent months, new motor vehicle sales experienced volatility with periods of gains and offsetting declines. Much of this volatility resulted from dealer promotions and the introduction of new 2007 models. Previously, sales had remained relatively stable from the end of 2005 through the first half of 2006.

Based on preliminary sales data from the automotive industry, new motor vehicle sales in May remained essentially unchanged from April.

#### 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.

#### North American-built passenger car sales skyrocket

Total passenger car sales jumped 8.5% in April to 75,890 units, the highest sales level since February 2003. This increase followed consecutive declines in January and February and flat sales in March. Prior to these recent fluctuations, sales of passenger cars had been relatively stable since the second half of 2005.

After experiencing three consecutive monthly declines, sales of North American-built passenger cars soared 13.4% in April to 50,095 units. This gain more than offset sales declines in January, February and March 2007. Overseas-built passenger car sales saw little change in April compared to March levels.

Truck sales also advanced in April, up 5.3% to 71,152 units, in contrast to the 0.1% increase observed in March. Although they fluctuated in 2006, truck sales have remained strong. The growth rate of truck sales outpaced that of passenger car sales in the first four months of 2007, despite similar growth rates in 2006.

#### More than half of the increase in national sales occurs in Ontario

Eight provinces posted sales gains in April. After three consecutive monthly declines, new motor vehicle sales in Ontario surged 11.8% to 54,265 vehicles in April, an increase of 5,730 units over the previous

month. This rise accounted for just over 60% of the national increase.

Nova Scotia experienced the largest percentage gain, advancing 13.1% to 4,226 vehicles. This increase more than offset the previous four consecutive monthly declines.

Quebec (+7.4%) and Saskatchewan (+7.1%) also posted gains above the national average (+6.9%). Quebec's increase followed three consecutive monthly declines.

Alberta (-3.5%) and New Brunswick (-0.4%) were the only provinces to experience declines in April. Despite the drop in Alberta, the number of units sold in April was the sixth highest sales level ever recorded in that province's history. This decrease followed a 6.0% gain in March that had set the highest monthly sales level ever reached for Alberta. The slip in new motor vehicle sales in New Brunswick followed a 1.2% increase in March.

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

**Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2402.**

The April 2007 issue of *New Motor Vehicle Sales* (63-007-XWE, free) will be available soon.

Data on new motor vehicle sales for May will be released on July 16.

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

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**New motor vehicle sales**

	April 2006	March 2007 <sup>r</sup>	April 2007 <sup>p</sup>	April 2006 to April 2007	March to April 2007
Seasonally adjusted					
	number of vehicles			% change	
<b>New motor vehicles</b>	<b>136,947</b>	<b>137,546</b>	<b>147,042</b>	<b>7.4</b>	<b>6.9</b>
Passenger cars	71,064	69,976	75,890	6.8	8.5
North American <sup>1</sup>	46,880	44,177	50,095	6.9	13.4
Overseas	24,184	25,799	25,795	6.7	0.0
Trucks, vans and buses	65,883	67,570	71,152	8.0	5.3
<b>Province and territory</b>					
Newfoundland and Labrador	1,958	2,304	2,400	22.6	4.2
Prince Edward Island	395	458	462	17.0	0.9
Nova Scotia	3,719	3,738	4,226	13.6	13.1
New Brunswick	2,803	2,930	2,919	4.1	-0.4
Quebec	33,289	33,016	35,469	6.5	7.4
Ontario	51,595	48,535	54,265	5.2	11.8
Manitoba	3,645	3,995	4,168	14.3	4.3
Saskatchewan	3,186	3,471	3,718	16.7	7.1
Alberta	20,143	22,362	21,578	7.1	-3.5
British Columbia <sup>2</sup>	16,216	16,737	17,837	10.0	6.6
	April 2006	March 2007	April 2007 <sup>p</sup>	April 2006 to April 2007	
Unadjusted					
	number of vehicles			% change	
<b>New motor vehicles</b>	<b>159,436</b>	<b>154,450</b>	<b>172,428</b>	<b>8.1</b>	
Passenger cars	86,258	76,487	92,446	7.2	
North American <sup>1</sup>	57,142	49,540	60,392	5.7	
Overseas	29,116	26,947	32,054	10.1	
Trucks, vans and buses	73,178	77,963	79,982	9.3	
<b>Province and territory</b>					
Newfoundland and Labrador	2,575	2,525	3,176	23.3	
Prince Edward Island	442	447	531	20.1	
Nova Scotia	4,845	4,218	5,531	14.2	
New Brunswick	3,483	3,439	3,637	4.4	
Quebec	41,885	38,800	46,524	11.1	
Ontario	57,558	54,650	61,256	6.4	
Manitoba	4,192	4,357	4,713	12.4	
Saskatchewan	3,565	3,715	4,261	19.5	
Alberta	23,427	23,875	23,761	1.4	
British Columbia <sup>2</sup>	17,464	18,424	19,038	9.0	

<sup>r</sup> revised

<sup>p</sup> preliminary

1. Manufactured or assembled in Canada, the United States or Mexico.

2. Includes Yukon, the Northwest Territories and Nunavut.



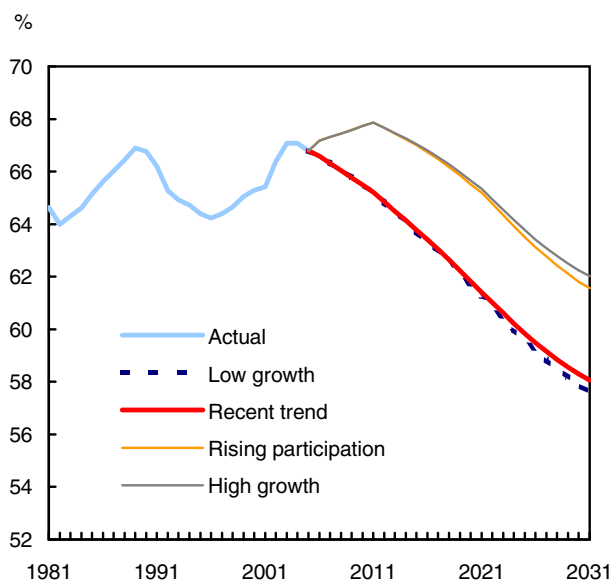
## Study: Labour force projections in Canada

2006 to 2031

Canada's labour force will continue growing, but the overall participation rate will fall sharply, during the next quarter century in the wake of the nation's low fertility and the retirement of millions of baby boomers, according to a new study.

The study, published today in the *Canadian Economic Observer*, show results of the labour force population projections. These projections combine population growth assumptions to two assumptions of future evolution of participation rates by age.

Overall participation rates in Canada, 1981 to 2031



The study found that in three of the four scenarios, Canada's labour force should continue growing uninterrupted until 2031. Only in scenario 1, a "low-growth" projection, the labour force would peak in 2017 and subsequently begin to edge down.

However, in all four scenarios, the overall participation rate would decline sharply during the next 25 years.

This overall participation rate is the proportion of the total population aged 15 and over actively in the labour force. It is an indicator of the extent of an economy's working-age population that is economically active, and provides an indication of the relative size of the supply of labour available for the production of goods and services.

### Note to readers

This release is based on an article in the June 2007 online edition of *Canadian Economic Observer*. It analyzes the potential future evolution of Canada's labour force.

The article uses four labour force projection scenarios, each of which combines different assumptions about the future growth of the population and the future evolution of participation rates by age.

These scenarios range from the so-called "low growth" scenario, which combines low demographic growth with participation rates by age held at levels in 2005, to a so-called "high growth" scenario. This high-growth scenario assumes both strong population growth and the continuation of the recent upward trend of participation rates by age, especially among workers aged over 50.

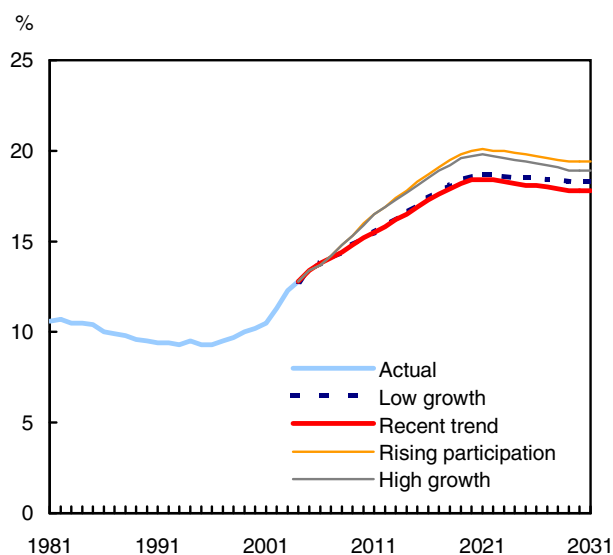
The **labour force** is defined as all individuals aged 15 years and older who work or who are looking for work. It is the pool of workers employed or available for employment in a population.

The **overall participation rate** is the proportion of the population aged 15 years and older actively in the labour force.

This decline in the overall participation rate is mainly due to the aging of the population, a result of low fertility over the last three decades and the steady rise in life expectancy. The aging of the population will be exacerbated starting in 2011, when the first baby boomers will reach the age of 65.

The expected slowdown in labour force growth might have numerous consequences for the Canadian economy and society.

Share of persons 55 years and over in the overall labour force, 1981 to 2031



This study suggests that future economic growth may have to depend less on employment growth and

more on higher productivity, which could offset the consequences of a slowdown, or even decline, in the labour force.

### **The labour force will continue to grow in three of the four scenarios**

The study found that in three of the four scenarios combining assumptions on future population growth and participation rates by age, the labour force should continue to grow uninterrupted until 2031.

For example, according to scenario 2, which reflects recent population growth and participation trends, the labour force would reach 19.4 million in 2031, up 9.0% from 17.8 million in 2005. If participation rates, especially for workers aged over 50, continue to rise (scenario 3), the labour force could reach 20.6 million in 2031, an increase of 15.8% from 2005.

However, under the high-growth scenario (scenario 4), the labour force would hit 21.8 million in 2031, a 22.9% surge from its 2005 level.

Only scenario 1, the low-growth projection, does not generate an outlook for steady increases until 2031. According to this scenario, the labour force would peak at 18.6 million people in 2017, then fall slightly to 18.1 million in 2031. However, this number would still be higher than the labour force of 17.8 million in 2005.

All four scenarios showed that only three provinces (Ontario, Alberta and British Columbia) will see a larger labour force in 2031 than in 2005. These are also the only provinces currently experiencing population growth near or above the Canadian average.

In contrast, three of the Atlantic provinces (Newfoundland and Labrador, Nova Scotia and New Brunswick) along with Saskatchewan, would have a smaller labour force in 2031 than in 2005 in all of the scenarios.

The labour force could be either lower or higher, depending on the scenario, in Prince Edward Island, Quebec and Manitoba.

### **Sharp decline in overall participation rate in all four scenarios**

The overall participation rate gives a better idea of the scope of coming changes. This rate drops sharply by 2031 under all of the projection scenarios.

In 2005, about 67% of the total population aged 15 and over was in the labour force. In scenarios 1 and 2, in which the participation rate stays at its recent level, it would fall to about 58% in 2031.

If participation rates continued to rise at the rate observed over the last decade (that is, under

scenarios 3 and 4), the decline would be less pronounced, to 62% in 2031. The study also found that a continued increase in the participation rate by age has the potential to delay by a few years the decline in the overall participation rate.

Regionally, the overall participation rate would fall between 2005 and 2031 in all provinces, under all scenarios. Scenarios 1 and 2 would result in the lowest levels in 2031, at about 45%, in Newfoundland and Labrador. This suggests that more than one person in two aged 15 years and older would not be in the province's labour force.

In contrast, Alberta in 2031 would see an overall participation rate close to that for Canada in 2005 in all scenarios.

### **Significantly fewer working persons for every inactive senior in 25 years**

The study found that in all the scenarios, the number of workers for every retired person aged 65 or older would be reduced by half between 2005 and 2031, falling from about four today to slightly more than two in 2031. In 1981, this ratio was more than five workers per inactive senior.

These findings also suggest that neither a rise in fertility, nor increased immigration, nor even the continued rise in participation rates could reverse the downward trend.

Again, the shift from working to retirement of the large baby boom generation and the proportionately fewer number of young adults largely explains this phenomenon.

There is another challenge on top of the inevitable drop in the overall participation rate of the Canadian population: the aging of the workforce. This phenomenon can be measured by the percentage of older workers in the labour force, those 55 and over, who are close to retirement age.

The proportion of the labour force in this age group is expected to reach between 18% and 20% in 2021, about double what it was during the mid-1990s.

In other words, about one worker in five in 2021 will be aged 55 or older, compared to about one in seven in 2005.

The study also found that the rapid aging of the labour force will continue to have an impact on the labour market at least until the early 2020s. This represents a major challenge for employers in terms of managing and renewing their labour force. The increased number of older workers could also affect labour productivity in the future.

The study "Labour force projections for Canada, 2006-2031" is now available from the *Publications*

module of our website. The study is also included in the June 2007 Internet edition of *Canadian Economic Observer*, Vol. 20, no. 6 (11-010-XWB, free). The monthly paper version of *Canadian Economic Observer*, Vol. 20, no. 6 (11-010-XPB, \$25/\$243) will be available on June 21.

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 Laurent Martel (613-951-2352; [laurent.martel@statcan.ca](mailto:laurent.martel@statcan.ca)), Demography Division. ■

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**Study: Persistence of low income among working-aged unattached individuals**  
1993 to 2004

Although unattached individuals under 65 accounted for just 11% of the Canadian population in 2005, they represented over a third of people who lived in low income that year. As well, they comprised 47% of people who remained in low income for six consecutive years, according to a new study.

The study was based on data from the Survey of Labour and Income Dynamics, which collected information on the income level and earnings of individuals who responded the survey each year over three overlapping six-year periods: 1993 to 1999, 1996 to 2002 and 1998 to 2004.

The study found that people who lived alone were more likely than people in "economic families" to be in low income persistently, even when age group, visible minority status, educational attainment, work status, and work limitation status were taken into account.

The incidence of persistent low income rose with age. Older unattached individuals were especially vulnerable to the most persistent type of low income. One-quarter of unattached individuals aged 45 to 54, who remained unattached for all six years covered by the study, lived in low income for six consecutive years. In contrast, only 1% of similar-aged major income earners, those with the highest earnings within an economic family, experienced such persistent low income.

The study also showed that although unattached individuals could climb out of low income, they were more likely to do so if they did not remain unattached.

Statistical analyses showed that among working-aged unattached individuals, those who faced the greatest risks of the most persistent low income included the unemployed and those who had reported limitations to work. Individuals also at great risk were those who had not completed high school, those who were aged 45 to 64, or those whose unattached status remained unchanged over the six-year study period.

**Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 3889.**

The study "Persistence of Low Income Among Non-elderly Unattached Individuals", as part of the publication *Income Research Paper Series* (75F0002MIE2007005, free), is now available from the *Publications* module of our website.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Client Services

(toll-free 1-888-297-7355; 613-951-7355; fax: 613-951-3012; [income@statcan.ca](mailto:income@statcan.ca)), Income Statistics Division. ■

**Longitudinal Administrative Databank**  
1982 to 2005

Data for 2005 have been added to the Longitudinal Administrative Databank (LAD). This databank now spans 24 years, from 1982 to 2005, and contains information about individuals and census families.

The LAD consists of a 20% longitudinal sample of Canadian taxfilers and provides researchers and analysts with a tool for studying the changes in income experienced by individuals and their families. The LAD contains a wide variety of income and demographic variables such as employment income, self-employment income, Registered Retirement Savings Plan contributions, alimony, age, sex, and census family composition. Its large sample ensures reliable estimates for Canada, the provinces, census metropolitan areas, and some subprovincial regions, based on aggregations of postal codes.

The LAD also contains information from the Longitudinal Immigration Database. It covers almost 600,000 immigrants landed between 1980 and 2003 and provides information on their key characteristics at landing.

**Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 4107.**

The *Longitudinal Administrative Data Dictionary* (12-585-XIE, free) is available from the *Publications* module of our website. The 2005 version will soon be available. Custom tabulations, including 2005 data, are also available (13C0019, variable prices). See *How to order products*.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Client Services (toll-free 1-866-652-8443; 613-951-9720; fax: toll-free 1-866-652-8444 or 613-951-4745; [saadinfo@statcan.ca](mailto:saadinfo@statcan.ca)), Small Area and Administrative Data Division. ■

**Flows and stocks of fixed residential capital**  
2006 (revised)

The revised annual fixed residential capital flows and stocks series at the provincial level for 2006 are now available.



Available on CANSIM: table 030-0002.

**Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 5016.**

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Étienne Saint-Pierre (613-951-2025; [bdp\\_information@statcan.ca](mailto:bdp_information@statcan.ca)), Investment and Capital Stock Division. ■

**Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 3447.**

For custom data requests, contact Client Services (toll-free 1-800-465-1991; [agriculture@statcan.ca](mailto:agriculture@statcan.ca)). For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Lina Di Piéto (613-951-3171, fax: 613-951-3868; [lina.dipietro@statcan.ca](mailto:lina.dipietro@statcan.ca)), Agriculture Division. ■

## **Total income of farm operators**

2005

Data on total income of farm operators for 2005 are now available.

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## New products

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**Canadian Economic Observer**, June 2007, Vol. 20, no. 6  
**Catalogue number 11-010-XWB**  
(free).

**National Income and Expenditure Accounts, Quarterly Estimates**, First quarter 2007, Vol. 55, no. 1  
**Catalogue number 13-001-XIB**  
(free).

**General Review of the Mineral Industries, Mines, Quarries and Sand Pits**, 2005  
**Catalogue number 26-201-XIB**  
(free).

**Imports by Commodity**, April 2007, Vol. 64, no. 4  
**Catalogue number 65-007-XCB** (\$40/\$387).

**Imports by Commodity**, April 2007, Vol. 64, no. 4  
**Catalogue number 65-007-XPB** (\$84/\$828).

**Income Research Paper Series : "Persistence of Low Income Among Non-elderly Unattached Individuals"**, no. 5  
**Catalogue number 75F0002MIE2007005**  
(free).

**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.

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# The Daily

Statistics Canada

Thursday, June 14, 2007  
For release at 8:30 a.m.

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**MAJOR RELEASES**

- **Urban transit, 1995** 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, 1995** 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.

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**OTHER RELEASES**

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- Short-term Expectations Survey 8
- Steel primary forms, weeks ending May 31, 1997 12
- Egg production: Apr 8, 1997 12

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 **Statistique Canada** 

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*The Daily, June 15, 2007*

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**Release dates: June 18 to 22, 2007**

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(Release dates are subject to change.)

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<b>Release date</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Reference period</b>
18	<b>Canada's international transactions in securities</b>	April 2007
18	<b>Urban economies and productivity</b>	
19	<b>Consumer Price Index</b>	May 2007
19	<b>Canadian Social Trends</b>	2003
20	<b>Wholesale trade</b>	April 2007
20	<b>Canada's international investment position</b>	First quarter 2007
20	<b>Travel between Canada and other countries</b>	April 2007
20	<b>Leading Indicators</b>	May 2007
21	<b>Retail trade</b>	April 2007
21	<b>Pension plans in Canada</b>	2006
22	<b>National balance sheet accounts</b>	First quarter 2007

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