

# The Daily

# Statistics Canada

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## Releases

National balance sheet accounts, first quarter 2007  National net worth reached \$5.3 trillion by the end of the first quarter, or \$159,900 per capita.  National net worth expanded by \$134 billion, or 2.6%, in the first quarter, a pace just under that of the two previous quarters.	3
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## Perspectives on Labour and Income

June 2007 online edition

The June 2007 online edition of *Perspectives on Labour and Income*, released today, features three articles.

"Labour inputs to non-profit organizations" looks at the composition of labour inputs to the non-profit sector, using the full-time equivalent concept as a standard unit of measure. The article also compares the reliance of different non-profit organizations on three types of labour: volunteers, employees, and contractors.

"Trends and seasonality in absenteeism" examines two types of illness-related absences separately: full-week and part-week absences. Although part-week absences are more likely to be unannounced and disruptive to managers and co-workers, they had not previously been examined separately. The article also looks at the seasonality in part- and full-week absences.

"Working at home: An update" looks at the somewhat surprising stall in telework popularity in recent years.

The June 2007 online edition of *Perspectives on Labour and Income*, Vol. 8, no. 6 (75-001-XWE, free), is available from the *Publications* module of our website.

For more information, contact Henry Pold (613-951-4608; henry.pold@statcan.ca), Labour and Household Surveys Analysis Division.





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## Releases

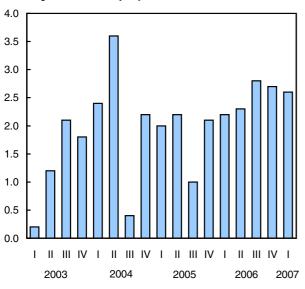
## National balance sheet accounts

First quarter 2007

National net worth reached \$5.3 trillion by the end of the first quarter, or \$159,900 per capita. National net worth expanded by \$134 billion, or 2.6%, in the first quarter, a pace just under that of the two previous quarters.

#### Growth in national net worth driven by real estate

% change, not seasonally adjusted



The growth in national wealth (economy-wide non-financial assets) accelerated to 2.3%. This reflected the stronger economic growth in the quarter as well as price increases for some non-financial assets. Residential real estate continued to be the major contributor to growth in national wealth, accounting for about half of the gain.

The advance in national net worth continued to be supported by the decline in Canadians' net foreign indebtedness (with marketable securities on a market value basis). Growth in Canadian assets abroad, particularly portfolio investments, exceeded the rise in liabilities of Canadians to non-residents.

#### Household net worth continues to grow

Household net worth increased 2.3% in the first quarter, down from the strong growth in the fourth

#### Note to readers

The national balance sheet accounts are statements of the balance sheets of all of the various sectors of the economy. They consist of the non-financial assets owned in the various sectors of the economy and of financial claims outstanding. National wealth is the sum of non-financial assets (produced assets, land surrounding structures and agricultural land) in all sectors of the economy. National net worth is national wealth less net foreign liabilities (i.e., what is owed to non-residents less what non-residents owe to Canadians). Alternatively, it is the sum of the net worth of persons, corporations and governments.

National saving is the sum of saving of persons, corporations and governments. National saving and investment contribute to change in national net worth. The revaluation of assets and liabilities is also responsible for changes in national net worth. The causes of revaluation include changes in share prices, interest rates, exchange rates and loan allowances.

Quarterly series, both book and market value, are available from the first quarter of 1990; market value estimates have been available since June 2004. For more information on the market value estimates, consult the Balance sheet estimates at market value page of our website.

With this release, data are revised from 2003 to 2006.

Selected series have been revised beyond the normal revision period, including the market value of Government of Canada bonds for selected years in the 1990s and natural resource estimates back to 1961 (CANSIM table 378-0005), arising from the Environment Accounts and Statistics Division updates.

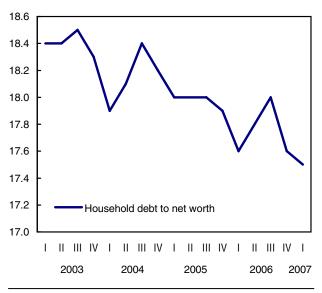
quarter. Gains in the value of equities made up about half of the increase in the value of financial assets, supported by continued growth in the value of residential real estate. The Toronto stock exchange closed in March at a quarterly historical high, with the Standard and Poor's/Toronto stock exchange composite index reaching just above the 13,100 mark.

The value of residential real estate continued to expand, providing the bulk of the increase in non-financial assets. This reflected the relative size of residential real estate among household assets, along with a pick up in housing prices and resale markets in the first quarter.

Households continued to build up mortgage and consumer credit debt. Household debt continued to outpace growth in personal disposable income. However, the gains in both financial and non-financial assets in the first quarter reduced the ratio of household debt to net worth to 17.5%, down from 17.6% in the fourth.

#### Household leverage continues to ease

As a % of net worth, not seasonally adjusted data



## Corporate debt and leverage edge up

With reduced undistributed earnings, corporate demand for borrowed funds increased in the first quarter. Increases in credit market debt by private non-financial corporations matched gains in equity such that leverage (at book value) marginally increased in the first quarter.

## The ratio of government net debt to gross domestic product continues to fall

The surplus of all levels of government increased for the second consecutive quarter, and with increases

in financial assets more than offsetting increases in financial liabilities, government net debt (total liabilities less total financial assets) fell for a 12th consecutive quarter. Net government debt as a percentage of the gross domestic product (GDP) declined further, representing less than half of GDP, compared with almost 90% a decade ago.

#### National balance sheet accounts

Available on CANSIM: tables 378-0003 to 378-0010.

## Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 1806.

The first quarter 2007 issue of *National Balance Sheet Accounts, Quarterly Estimates,* Vol. 5, no. 1 (13-214-XWE, free) is now available from the *Publications* module of our website.

The first quarter 2007 issue of *Canadian Economic Accounts Quarterly Review*, Vol. 6, no. 1 (13-010-XWE, free), is now available online. From the *Publications* module of our website, under *Free Internet publications*, choose *National accounts*.

At 8:30 a.m. on release day, the complete national balance sheet accounts can be obtained on computer diskette. The diskettes (13-214-DDB, \$321/\$1284) can also be purchased at a lower cost seven business days after the official release date (13-214-XDB, \$65/\$257). To purchase any of these products, contact Client Services (613-951-3810; iead-info-dcrd@statcan.ca), Income and Expenditure Accounts Division.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact the information officer (613-951-3640), Income and Expenditure Accounts Division.

#### National balance sheet accounts<sup>1</sup>

	Fourth	First	Second	Third	Fourth	First	2005	2006
	quarter	quarter	quarter	quarter	quarter	quarter		
	2005	2006	2006	2006	2006	2007		
		market valu	e, not seasonal	ly adjusted, \$ b	illions			
National net worth								
National wealth	4,794	4,863	4,978	5,079	5,157	5,278	4,794	5,157
	1.6	1.4	2.4	2.0	1.5	2.3	6.9	7.6
Net foreign debt	-152	-119	-126	-92	-38	-25	-152	-38
National net worth	4,642	4,744	4,852	4,987	5,119	5,253	4,642	5,119
	2.1	2.2	2.3	2.8	2.6	2.6	7.5	10.3
National net worth per capita (dollars)	143,000	145,900	148,700	152,400	156,200	159,900	143,000	156,200
, ,	1.9	2.0	1.9	2.5	2.5	2.4	6.4	9.2

<sup>...</sup> not applicable

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<sup>1.</sup> The first line is the series itself expressed in billions of dollars. The second line is the period-to-period percentage change.

# Government spending on social services

1989 to 2007

An analysis of data on government finance released in *The Daily* on June 14, 2007, reveals that between 2002 and 2007, spending on health and environment had annual average rates of growth among the fastest of all spending components (see the note to readers).

Spending on health rose 6.8% on average each year between 2002 and 2007, while spending on the environment went up 7.8%. Social services spending, in comparison, increased at an annual average rate of only 4.0%.

While health expenditures are the second largest component of spending for all levels of government combined, social services expenditures represent the largest component.

Spending on social services has more than doubled in Canada during the past two decades, but it still represents only about one-third of total consolidated government program expenditures. (Program expenditures are defined as being total expenditures less debt charges.)

In the fiscal year ending March 2007, total social services spending in Canada amounted to \$172.4 billion, compared with \$79.5 billion in 1989.

In both years, this spending accounted for about 33% of total program expenditures.

Social services cover actions taken by a government to offset or to forestall situations in which the well-being of individuals or families is threatened by circumstances beyond their control.

While the federal government represents the largest share of social services spending in Canada, its relative importance has declined considerably during the past 18 years.

Of the \$172.4 billion, federal government spending on social services, including transfer payments to other levels of government, accounted for roughly 49% of expenditures in 2007, compared with 59% in 1989.

In 2007, the provincial, territorial and local governments' share was 33% (34% in 1989) and the Canada and Quebec Pension Plans' (CPP/QPP) was 20% (14% in 1989).

While federal and provincial, territorial and local governments have seen their shares decline, the CPP/QPP's share increased as there are more and more people drawing pension benefits.

On a per capita basis, spending on social services in Canada rose from \$2,951 in 1989 to \$5,267 in 2007, a gain of nearly 80%. In comparison, health expenditures rose from \$1,384 to \$3,265, a gain of 136%.

During the same period, per capita spending on environment increased 116% and education 90%. On

#### Note to readers

The Financial Management System (FMS) provides a standardized presentation of government accounting for the federal, provincial, territorial and local governments in Canada. The individual governments' accounting systems are not directly comparable because the policies and structure of governments differ.

The FMS adjusts data from the Public Accounts of governments and other records to provide detailed data that permit inter-government comparisons as well as national aggregates that are consistent over time. As a result, FMS statistics may not accord with the figures published in government financial statements.

In the FMS, revenues are presented by sources, such as personal income taxes, general sales taxes or transfers from other levels of government. Expenditures are presented by functions, such as health, education, social services, transportation, environment and debt charges. In total, the FMS system includes 17 different functions of expenditure.

Consolidated government refers to the consolidation of the financial data for the federal government, the provincial and territorial governments, local governments (that is, municipal governments and school boards) and the Canada Pension Plan (CPP) and the Quebec Pension Plan (QPP). Consolidation is the aggregation of levels of governments after the elimination of double counting.

General government refers to government entities created and controlled by federal, provincial, territorial and local governments. This covers all ministries, departments and agencies; autonomous organizations, boards, commissions and funds

**Transfer payments** to other levels of government can be related to a wide variety of policy areas such as health, education and social services, and can be categorized in two broad areas: general purpose, where transfers can be applied anywhere, and specific purpose, where the recipient government must use these transfer payments in the specified policy area.

Data for the federal government, CPP and QPP are for the fiscal years ending March 31. Data for the provincial and territorial governments are for the fiscal years ending closest to March 31, and data for local governments are for the fiscal years ending closest to December 31 of the previous year.

All the figures in this release are in current dollars, that is, the data have not been adjusted for inflation.

the other hand, spending on the labour, employment and immigration function declined 17% while spending on debt charges decreased 7%.

## Federal government spending: Old Age Security and Employment Insurance are major components

The federal government is responsible for Old Age Security and Employment Insurance. Total spending for these two programs alone amounted to \$44 billion, or 52% of gross federal spending on social services in 2007.

The other 48% was spent on a number of programs, including vocational rehabilitation for disabled persons, veteran's benefits, day care assistance and social

services for First Nations, as well as on contributions as an employer to workers' compensation plans and to the CPP/QPP.

In 2007, the federal government spent \$12.8 billion on Employment Insurance, representing 6.2% of program expenditures. This compares with \$10.6 billion in 1989, or 9.6% of program expenditures.

This decline in the proportion of program expenditures reflects the strong Canadian economy, resulting in the lowest unemployment rate in over three decades.

Old Age Security, the other big component of social services spending at the federal level, amounted to \$31.4 billion in 2007, or 15.1% of program expenditures. This is more than double the 1989 level of \$15.2 billion, which represented 13.7% of program expenditures.

On a per capita basis, the federal government spent \$2,583 on social services in 2007, compared with \$1,741 in 1989.

## Provincial, territorial and local government spending more than doubles

Between 1989 and 2007, social services spending at the provincial, territorial and local levels of government more than doubled to \$56.3 billion. This is the third largest component of spending after health and education.

As a proportion of program expenditures, allocations for social services have fluctuated along with the economic cycle. In 1989, these allocations accounted for 18.0%. They peaked at 19.6% in 1994 following the recession of the early 1990s, then fell to 16.3% in 2007.

Among social services expenditures, spending on social assistance, which consists of transfer payments to help individuals and families maintain a socially acceptable level of earnings, represented 33% of expenditures on social services in 2007.

Between 1989 and 2007, only two provinces, Quebec and British Columbia, showed a proportional increase in their spending on social services relative to total program expenditures.

Among the provinces that have shown a decline in their proportional spending on social services, Prince Edward Island had the largest decrease (-5.0 percentage points), followed by Alberta (-4.2 percentage points).

In terms of per capita spending, Quebec spent the most on social services, \$2,821 per person, which was about one-quarter (24.5%) of its program expenditures.

Quebec and the territories were the only public administrations showing per capita spending on social services above the national average of \$1,721.

Available on CANSIM: tables 385-0001 to 385-0009, 385-0021 to 385-0024, 385-0027 and 385-0028.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey numbers, including related surveys, 1709, 1713 and 1735.

Data tables on public sector finance are also available online in the *National economic account* module of our website.

Data are also available through custom and special tabulation. For more information on products and services, contact Jo-Anne Thibault (613-951-0767; *jo-anne.thibault@statcan.ca*), Public Institutions Division.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Claude Vaillancourt (613-951-1820; claude.vaillancourt@statcan.ca), Public Institutions Division.

## Spending on social services in Canada

	1989	2007	1989	2007
	\$ billions		% of program expendi	tures
Federal government	46.9	84.6	42.2	40.8
Provincial, territorial and local governments	26.9	56.3	18.0	16.3
Canada and Quebec Pension Plans (CPP/QPP) <sup>1</sup>	11.3	35.0	100.0	100.0
Total consolidated government <sup>2</sup>	79.5	172.4	32.5	32.6

The CPP and QPP programs only have social services expenditures.

## Spending on social services by provinces, territories and local governments

	1989	2007	1989	2007
	\$ millions		% of program expenditures	
Total	26,913	56,334	18.0	16.3
Newfoundland and Labrador	357	730	12.0	9.6
Prince Edward Island	83	107	13.1	8.1
Nova Scotia	524	1,003	11.9	11.0
New Brunswick	482	770	13.5	11.1
Quebec	9,489	21,633	23.4	24.5
Ontario	9,667	18,410	18.1	14.8
Manitoba	820	1,661	14.4	13.9
Saskatchewan	748	1,141	13.3	10.2
Alberta	2,612	4,548	15.9	11.7
British Columbia	2,017	6,007	13.5	14.0
Yukon	22	109	6.9	11.9
Northwest Territories including Nunavut	92	·-	9.0	
Northwest Territories		140		9.3
Nunavut		90		7.7

.. not available for a specific reference period

Note: Totals may not add up due to see " Totals may not add up due to consolidation rules.

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<sup>2.</sup> Total spending does not equal the sum of individual levels of government because transfer payments between levels of government are included.

## Natural gas sales

April 2007 (preliminary)

Cooler than normal temperatures in all regions of the country led to large increases in natural gas sales in the residential and commercial sectors in April.

Higher sales volume in both the residential (+28.0%) and commercial sectors (+28.5%) led the way in April, followed by a more moderate gain of 7.8% in industrial sales (including direct sales).

Natural gas sales totalled 6 413 million cubic metres, up 16.4% from April 2006.

On a year-to-date basis for 2007, sales at the end of April were up 9.3% from the same four-month period in 2006 in the wake of increases across the board in all sectors.

The volume of sales to the industrial sector (including direct sales) has risen 7.6% so far in 2007, while sales were up 10.7% in the residential sector and 11.3% in the commercial sector.

## Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2149.

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

#### Natural gas sales

	April 2007 <sup>p</sup>	April 2006	April 2006
			to April 2007
	thousands of cubic metr	es	% change
Total sales Residential Commercial Industrial and direct	<b>6,412,502</b> 1,742,189 1,227,402 3,442,911	<b>5,509,859</b> 1,360,632 955,502 3,193,725	16.4 28.0 28.5 7.8
		Year-to-date	
	2007 <sup>p</sup>	2006	2006 to 2007
	thousands of cubic metr	es	% change
Total sales Residential Commercial Industrial and direct	<b>31,389,316</b> 9,518,205 6,763,444 15,107,667	<b>28,719,612</b> 8,601,093 6,075,045 14,043,474	<b>9.3</b> 10.7 11.3 7.6

p preliminary

## **Trucking industry** 2005

In 2005, Canada's trucking industry recorded 3.7% annual growth. It was the second largest increase among the eight segments in the nation's transportation sector and was preceded only by air transportation, which registered a growth rate of 10.8%.

Truck transportation still accounted for the largest share of transportation and warehousing (28.8%), as measured by the gross domestic product.

In 2005, the roughly 3,360 Canada-based for-hire carriers with annual revenues of \$1 million or more earned \$27.0 billion in seasonally adjusted operating revenues.

These operating revenues, which increased 7% from 2004, grew steadily during 2005, from \$6.29 billion in the first quarter to \$7.34 billion in the fourth quarter.

The same companies registered \$24.9 billion in operating expenses, up 6% from 2004.

Still, despite increases in expenses, especially those related to wages and fuel purchases, for-hire carriers continued to register seasonally adjusted operating ratios that were among the lowest in more than a decade.

An analysis of balance sheets and income statements reveals that trucking companies saw a number of their items deteriorate in 2005. For example, their net operating revenues were \$1.03 billion, down 30% from 2004.

Overall, total assets rose 12.4% to \$13.5 billion, while total liabilities reached \$9.3 billion, up 17.7%.

The owner's equity increased to \$4.2 billion in 2005 from \$4.1 billion in 2004.

# Definitions, data sources and methods: survey numbers, including related surveys, 2741, 2742 and 2748.

The 2005 edition of *Trucking in Canada* (53-222-XIE, 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 1-866-500-8400; fax: 613-951-0009; transportationstatistics@statcan.ca), Transportation Division.

## Large urban transit

April 2007 (preliminary)

Combined ridership on 10 large urban transit systems in Canada was 4.6% higher in April than it was for the same month in 2006.

Approximately 113.3 million passenger trips were taken on these transit systems in April. These systems account for about 80% of total urban transit in Canada.

The trips generated \$182.9 million in revenue in April (excluding subsidies), a 6.0% increase over April 2006.

Available on CANSIM: table 408-0004.

## Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2745.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Client Services (toll-free 1-866-500-8400; fax: 613-951-0009; transportationstatistics@statcan.ca), Transportation Division.

## Placement of hatchery chicks and turkey poults

May 2007 (preliminary)

Placements of hatchery chicks onto farms were estimated at 60.6 million birds in May, up 2.6% from May 2006. Placements of turkey poults on farms decreased 7.8% to 1.9 million birds.

Available on CANSIM: table 003-0021.

## Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 5039.

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

## New products

Canadian Economic Accounts Quarterly Review, First quarter 2007, Vol. 6, no. 1 Catalogue number 13-010-XWE (free).

National Balance Sheet Accounts, Quarterly Estimates, January to March 2007, Vol. 5, no. 1 Catalogue number 13-214-DDB (\$321/\$1284).

National Balance Sheet Accounts, Quarterly Estimates, January to March 2007, Vol. 5, no. 1 Catalogue number 13-214-XDB (\$65/\$257).

National Balance Sheet Accounts, Quarterly Estimates, January to March 2007, Vol. 5, no. 1 Catalogue number 13-214-XWE (free).

Fruit and Vegetable Production, June 2007, Vol. 76, no. 1
Catalogue number 22-003-XIB
(free).

Trucking in Canada, 2005 Catalogue number 53-222-XIE (free).

**Retail Trade**, April 2007, Vol. 79, no. 4 **Catalogue number 63-005-XWE** (free).

Annual Estimates of Employment, Earnings and Hours Based on the North American Industrial Classification System (NAICS), 1991-2006 Catalogue number 72F0023XCB (\$160).

**Perspectives on Labour and Income**, Vol. 8, no. 6 **Catalogue number 75-001-XWE** (free).

Canadian Cancer Registry Manuals, 2007 edition, no. 10
Catalogue number 82-225-XIE2007010 (free).

All prices are in Canadian dollars and exclude sales tax. Additional shipping charges apply for delivery outside Canada.

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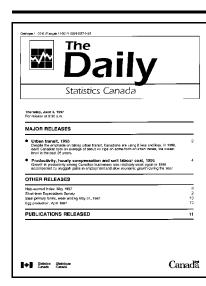
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## Release dates: June 25 to 29, 2007

(Release dates are subject to change.)

Release date	Title	Reference period
25	Annual Review of Manufacturing	2006
25	International trade in culture goods	2000 to 2006
26	Field crop reporting series: Preliminary estimates of principal field crop areas	June 2007
26	Radio listening	2006
26	Employment Insurance	April 2007
26	Payroll employment, earnings and hours	April 2007
28	Industrial product and raw materials price indexes	May 2007
28	A comparison of crime in large urban, small urban and rural areas	,
29	National tourism indicators	First quarter 2007
29	Gross domestic product by industry	April 2007