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# The Daily

## Statistics Canada

**Tuesday, June 26, 2007**
Released at 8:30 a.m. Eastern time

## Releases



*(continued on page 2)*

### Canada Food Stats

*Canada Food Stats* is an easy-to-use product that provides access to a broad spectrum of food statistics and indicators. It contains information on food available for consumption, food prices, nutrition, supply and demand, as well as data on the food industry, processing, employment, productivity, international trade and much more.

This product, developed by Statistics Canada's Agriculture Division in co-operation with Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada, contains numerous formatted reports with over 40 years of data in some cases, along with topical analyses. There are also a number of data sets available for the provinces, along with selected quarterly and monthly statistics. It is an invaluable research tool for nutritionists, food industry analysts, market researchers, or consumers who are just looking for reliable data on food.

Making a query is simple. Just select the data series, geographic area and time period. Submit the query. Click on *Show Data* and the results will be displayed. You can also download results to your own software application.

The *Canada Food Stats* CD-ROM (23F0001XCB, $81) is now available. See *How to order products*.

*Canada Food Stats* (23F0001XBB, free) can be downloaded directly from our Web site to your desktop.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Jean-Pierre Pelchat (613-951-2860; 1-800-465-1991; *jean-pierre.pelchat@statcan.ca*), Agriculture Division.

# Releases

## Principal field crops

June 2007 (preliminary)

Prairie farmers reported that they planted a record area of canola and field peas. In Quebec, a record area of corn for grain was planted.

Data from the June farm survey, Statistics Canada's largest area survey, comprising data from 29,000 Canadian farmers, revealed that Prairie farmers planted several record areas of field crops and an increased area of feed grains. Farmers in Ontario and Quebec, meanwhile, planted more corn for grain.

By the end of the survey period (May 25 to June 5), farmers reported that planting was nearly complete for 2007. Manitoba farmers reported slightly over 90% of fields seeded, while in Saskatchewan and Alberta the planted area was approximately 85% complete.

Soil moisture conditions across the Prairie provinces were rated as adequate to good. Excess moisture can be found in northern and eastern Manitoba, eastern and north-eastern Saskatchewan, and the north-west, west-central and Peace River regions of Alberta. In unplanted areas, farmers may make some last minute changes by switching to shorter season varieties or crops, with cool wet weather dragging out the end of the planting season. In some regions, there will be fields that remain unplanted.

In Eastern Canada, the area planted in grain corn rose significantly, while soybean area rose slightly.

> ***Note to readers***
>
> *As a result of the release of data from the 2006 Census of Agriculture on May 16, 2007, estimates of field crop area and production contained in the* Field Crop Reporting Series *have been revised, where necessary, to align with those from the Census.*
>
> *Please note that a table containing national production revisions for 2006 is included in this release. The 2006 provincial production revisions are also now available in CANSIM.*
>
> *Both national and farm supply-disposition tables containing the revised 2006 production estimates are also available in CANSIM.*

### Oilseed trends diverge

With the expectation of strong demand and higher prices than seen for some time, Prairie farmers reported they have planted a record 14.5 million acres of canola, up 17.2% from 2006. The previous record was 14.2 million acres, set in 1994. Inclement weather conditions late in the planting season may force farmers to switch to late season varieties of canola.

Increases in seeded area were reported in all three Prairie provinces, and all areas are greater than the five-year averages. Saskatchewan's planted area grew the most, with an increase of 1.2 million acres of canola to a total 7.2 million acres.

In the Prairie provinces, the acreage seeded to flaxseed fell 34.4% to 1.3 million acres. The five-year average for flaxseed acreage is 1.9 million acres. The trade is still working through the heavy supplies of the past two crop years.

Producers in all three Prairie provinces reported decreases in area to levels below their five-year averages. In Saskatchewan, where the majority of Canadian flaxseed is grown, planted area is reported to have declined 469,900 acres to 1.1 million acres.

### Spring wheat area falls while durum wheat area increases

Prairie farmers reported planting a lot less spring wheat. Total plantings were down 19.0% to 14.8 million acres, the lowest area reported since 1970. The five-year average is 18.2 million acres. Searching for better returns and with increasing fertilizer prices, Prairie farmers substituted other crops for spring wheat. Poor planting conditions also prompted farmers to switch from wheat to shorter season crops, such as barley and oats.

Saskatchewan farmers planted 2.1 million less acres of spring wheat to a total of 7.5 million acres. Reported spring wheat areas in all Prairie provinces were less than their five-year averages.

In contrast to the spring wheat decline, the area seeded to durum rose by a million acres to 4.8 million acres. The area planted to durum has fluctuated considerably over the past decade.

Durum acreage rose in Saskatchewan and Alberta, where almost all Canadian durum is grown, but remained below the five-year average in each province.

### Barley and oats are up, field pea area hits a record

Prairie farmers seeded 10.3 million acres of barley, an increase of 1.8 million acres from the 8.5 million acres seeded in 2006. In spite of the increase, the area remained below the five-year average of 10.5 million acres. Farmers may have been encouraged to plant more barley because of seeding delays, particularly in Alberta, and because of rising prices related mainly to strong international corn prices.

All three Prairie provinces have more barley planted this year. The area seeded to barley reached the five-year average in Manitoba and Alberta, but in Saskatchewan the area was below that average.

Prairie farmers planted more oats this year, an increase of 8.1% to 4.9 million acres.

Farmers in Manitoba and Saskatchewan planted more oats, while Alberta farmers seeded 219,200 fewer acres to an area of 1.1 million acres.

Total field pea area in the Prairie provinces increased 16.8% to a record 3.6 million acres. Field pea area has steadily increased over the past decade. Pea supplies have been tightening after two years of ample supplies. Special crop companies responded by offering near-record prices for peas planted this spring.

Field pea area was up in all three Prairie provinces and reached a record in Saskatchewan, where farmers planted 2.9 million acres of field peas, up from 2.4 million acres in 2006.

### Ontario and Quebec farmers plant a lot more grain corn

Quebec farmers reported a record 1.1 million acres of grain corn planted, up 17.1% from 2006 and 7,400 acres more than the previous record set in 2002. Ontario farmers planted 2.1 million acres of grain corn, an increase of 34.4% over 2006 and an area 50,000 acres shy of the 1981 record.

Ontario farmers planted 995,000 acres of genetically modified corn, which represented 47% of the provincial planted area of corn for grain. Quebec farmers planted 580,700 acres of genetically modified corn, 52% of the province's total.

Ontario farmers planted more soybeans, an increase of 3.9% to an area of 2.2 million acres, just 85,000 acres short of the record set in 2004 and 2005. Quebec farmers planted 434,900 acres of soybeans, down 9.5%.

Genetically modified soybean area was 1.1 million acres, or 49% of total soybean plantings in Ontario. Quebec farmers planted 207,600 acres, or 48% of their acreage, into genetically modified soybeans.

**Available on CANSIM: tables 001-0004, 001-0010, 001-0017 to 001-0020, 001-0040 to 001-0042.**

**Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 3401.**

The publication *Field Crop Reporting Series: "Preliminary Estimates of Principal Field Crop Areas, Canada"*, 2007, Vol. 86, no. 4 (22-002-XIE, free) is now available from the *Publications* module of our website.

For further information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact David Burroughs (613-951-5138; *dave.burroughs@statcan.ca*) or Dave Roeske (613-951-0572; *dave.roeske@statcan.ca*), Agriculture Division.

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## Seeding of major crops in 2007, and revised production of 2006

| Crop | Revisions 2006 | March 2007 | June 2007 | Year 2006 to June 2007 | November 2006 | Revisions 2006 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | thousands of acres | | | % change | thousands of tonnes | |
| **Total wheat** | **24,249** | **23,759** | **21,701** | **-10.5** | **27,277** | **25,265** |
| Spring wheat | 18,743 | 17,080 | 15,211 | -18.8 | 20,052 | 18,617 |
| Canola | 12,422 | 14,831 | 14,586 | 17.4 | 9,105 | 8,513 |
| Barley | 9,118 | 10,812 | 10,863 | 19.1 | 10,005 | 9,573 |
| Summer fallow | 8,617 | 8,045 | 7,650 | -11.2 | ... | ... |
| Oats | 5,099 | 5,682 | 5,391 | 5.7 | 3,602 | 3,852 |
| Durum wheat | 3,795 | 4,950 | 4,815 | 26.9 | 3,821 | 3,346 |
| Dry field peas | 3,116 | 3,565 | 3,630 | 16.5 | 2,806 | 2,520 |
| Corn for grain | 2,701 | 3,511 | 3,474 | 28.6 | 9,268 | 8,990 |
| Soybeans | 2,998 | 2,931 | 2,916 | -2.8 | 3,533 | 3,466 |
| Winter wheat[1] | 1,711 | 1,729 | 1,675 | -2.1 | 3,403 | 3,302 |
| Lentils | 1,276 | 1,270 | 1,335 | 4.6 | 693 | 630 |
| Flaxseed | 1,989 | 1,430 | 1,305 | -34.4 | 1,041 | 989 |
| Canary seed | 335 | 410 | 445 | 32.8 | 117 | 133 |
| Mustard seed | 331 | 420 | 435 | 31.5 | 116 | 108 |
| Chick Peas | 319 | 520 | 430 | 34.8 | 182 | 163 |
| Fall rye[1] | 482 | 307 | 295 | -38.9 | 302 | 383 |
| Sunflower seed | 190 | 185 | 190 | 0.0 | 153 | 157 |

*... not applicable*
*1. The area remaining after winterkill.*

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# Radio listening

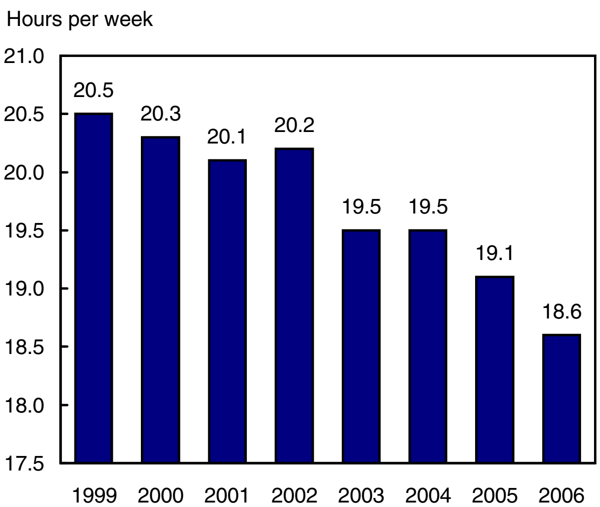
Fall 2006

Canadians devoted less time listening to their radios as a form of entertainment in 2006 than in previous years, especially teenagers and young adults, many of whom appear to be switching to digital music players and online music services.

On average, Canadians tuned in to their radios for 18.6 hours during "measurement week" in fall 2006, down from 19.1 hours a week in 2005. Since the fall of 1999, when radio listening peaked, this average has dropped by nearly two hours.

In 2006, much of the decline occurred in two age groups: teenagers aged 12 to 17 and young adults aged 18 to 24.

**Gradual decline in radio listening**




Teenagers listened to their radios barely 7.6 hours a week, the lowest of all age groups. This was down from 8.6 hours in 2005 and 11.3 in 1996.

Among young adult men, listening fell from 15.1 hours to 13.7. Among their female counterparts, it slipped from 15.4 hours to 14.6.

The popularity of digital music players and online music services had the biggest impact on the radio listening habits of teens and the young adult crowd.

Senior women continued to be the most ardent radio listeners, tuning in for 22.7 hours per week, virtually unchanged from 2005. Among senior men, listening edged down from 20.3 hours a week to 19.5.

The Canadian Broadcasting Corporation (CBC) was the most popular listening format for both senior men and senior women. It was least popular among young adults.

***Note to readers***

*The results in this release are based on a survey of Canadians aged 12 and older.*

*The radio project of the Culture Statistics Program is a joint endeavour of the Canadian Radio-television and Telecommunications Commission (CRTC), the Department of Canadian Heritage, and Statistics Canada.*

*The Statistics Canada radio listening data bank integrates files from a variety of sources. The basic listening data are acquired from BBM Canada and include demographic characteristics of survey respondents. The information on specific radio station formats is provided by the CRTC.*

*While the return rate, at 42.5%, is modest by Statistics Canada standards, it is in line with Canadian and international broadcasting industry practices for audience measurement. However, the data should be interpreted with caution.*

Radio listening increased in only three provinces in 2006: Newfoundland and Labrador, Nova Scotia and New Brunswick.

Residents of Nova Scotia were the most avid listeners, tuning in for 20.4 hours a week. This was 3.5 hours more each week than their counterparts in British Columbia, where listening was at a nationwide low of 16.9 hours.

The largest declines occurred in Saskatchewan, Prince Edward Island and Quebec. Listening among francophone Quebeckers slipped by a full hour a week. However, their anglophone counterparts tuned in to English-language radio for 20.8 hours a week, the highest level among the provinces.

Listeners in Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island were a close second and third to anglophone Quebeckers.

### Adult contemporary music captures over a fifth of nation's listening time

Overall, adult contemporary music was still the first choice of Canadians on the radio.

In the fall of 2006, this station format captured 22.3% of Canadians' listening time, followed by gold/oldies/rock (13.9%). The adult contemporary format was the first choice of listeners in New Brunswick, Quebec and Ontario.

The CBC rebounded to third place in overall format ranking in 2006, with an 11.6% share of the total listening audience.

The CBC's share had dropped to under 9% during the previous year, when a lockout by management coincided with the survey period.

In fourth and fifth places were talk radio and country, each capturing about one-tenth of total audience share.

The choice of station format varied considerably from province to province. Country music was the first choice for listeners in Saskatchewan, Prince Edward Island, Nova Scotia, Alberta and Manitoba.

The CBC remained a popular choice in British Columbia and Nova Scotia, capturing 17% or so of the audience for second place in both provinces.

However, the public broadcaster was least popular in Alberta, where only 8.4% of the total audience turned it on. Country music and gold/oldies/rock were by far the leading formats in Alberta.

Talk radio was a tremendously popular format in Newfoundland and Labrador, capturing a share of almost 30% of the province's radio audience. This contrasts sharply with the rest of the Atlantic provinces, where talk radio's listening share was virtually non-existent.

**Available on CANSIM: tables 503-0001 to 503-0005.**

**Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 3153.**

Selected details from the Radio Listening Survey are now available in the publication *Radio Listening: Data Tables* (87F0007XIE, free) 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, Culture Statistics Program (toll-free 1-800-307-3382; 613-951-5418; fax: 613-951-1333; *culture@statcan.ca*), Culture, Tourism and the Centre for Education Statistics.

### Average hours per week of radio listening, by province, age group and sex, fall 2006

| | Canada | N.L. | P.E.I. | N.S. | N.B. | Que. | | | Ont. | Man. | Sask. | Alta. | B.C. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | | | English | French | Total | | | | | |
| Males | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 18 and over | 19.9 | 20.1 | 21.1 | 22.0 | 19.6 | 20.4 | 20.2 | 20.1 | 20.0 | 20.2 | 20.5 | 20.7 | 18.2 |
| 18 to 24 | 13.7 | 10.7 | 19.4 | 10.9 | 8.8 | 11.1 | 13.3 | 12.9 | 14.1 | 17.2 | 17.9 | 16.2 | 11.1 |
| 25 to 34 | 19.7 | 15.4 | 19.9 | 25.3 | 19.8 | 21.6 | 21.4 | 21.3 | 19.2 | 20.1 | 19.1 | 19.1 | 18.4 |
| 35 to 49 | 21.6 | 21.2 | 23.2 | 23.7 | 22.4 | 23.7 | 22.0 | 22.2 | 21.5 | 21.5 | 21.2 | 23.3 | 19.0 |
| 50 to 64 | 21.2 | 22.4 | 20.4 | 22.3 | 21.9 | 19.1 | 20.9 | 20.5 | 21.6 | 19.6 | 22.9 | 22.1 | 20.2 |
| 65 and over | 19.5 | 24.1 | 19.1 | 21.2 | 17.2 | 21.4 | 18.4 | 18.7 | 20.3 | 21.1 | 19.3 | 19.1 | 18.1 |
| Females | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 18 and over | 19.5 | 21.1 | 21.7 | 21.0 | 19.1 | 23.1 | 19.5 | 19.9 | 19.9 | 18.8 | 19.7 | 19.0 | 17.4 |
| 18 to 24 | 14.6 | 15.6 | 22.7 | 16.3 | 18.2 | 15.4 | 13.3 | 13.5 | 15.3 | 10.9 | 14.5 | 15.3 | 13.2 |
| 25 to 34 | 16.9 | 15.8 | 22.0 | 20.1 | 15.7 | 20.5 | 17.2 | 17.7 | 17.5 | 16.7 | 15.3 | 15.8 | 14.4 |
| 35 to 49 | 19.7 | 21.1 | 21.0 | 21.3 | 18.8 | 23.0 | 21.0 | 21.1 | 19.9 | 17.8 | 18.7 | 19.9 | 16.7 |
| 50 to 64 | 20.9 | 23.0 | 23.5 | 22.1 | 21.4 | 22.6 | 20.6 | 20.7 | 21.2 | 20.6 | 22.9 | 20.5 | 19.5 |
| 65 and over | 22.7 | 26.6 | 19.0 | 21.8 | 20.1 | 29.1 | 20.9 | 22.0 | 23.6 | 24.6 | 23.7 | 22.1 | 21.0 |
| Teens | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 12 to 17 | 7.6 | 6.8 | 8.7 | 8.7 | 9.1 | 10.3 | 5.4 | 6.1 | 7.8 | 9.1 | 7.1 | 9.2 | 7.2 |
| **Total population** | **18.6** | **19.5** | **20.2** | **20.4** | **18.5** | **20.8** | **18.6** | **18.8** | **18.9** | **18.4** | **18.7** | **18.8** | **16.9** |

***Note:*** *For Quebec, the language classification is based on the language spoken at home. The total column includes those respondents who did not reply to this question or who indicated a language other than English or French.*

### Percentage share of radio listening by format by province, fall 2006

| | Canada | N.L. | P.E.I. | N.S. | N.B. | Que. | Ont. | Man. | Sask. | Alta. | B.C. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | % | | | | | | | | | | |
| Adult contemporary | 22.3 | 11.1 | 15.0 | 13.1 | 35.8 | 28.1 | 25.8 | 9.8 | 21.3 | 10.6 | 14.8 |
| Album oriented rock | 6.0 | 1.7 | 21.9 | 7.5 | 3.2 | 3.2 | 6.4 | 7.6 | 12.6 | 9.8 | 5.1 |
| Canadian Broadcasting Corporation | 11.6 | 9.6 | 11.6 | 16.9 | 13.9 | 11.9 | 9.8 | 11.6 | 11.3 | 8.4 | 17.6 |
| Contemporary | 8.8 | 15.0 | 1.0 | 18.9 | 0.7 | 19.3 | 4.0 | 10.0 | 0.0 | 7.1 | 5.0 |
| Country | 10.0 | 18.7 | 26.8 | 24.1 | 15.1 | 0.6 | 8.1 | 19.7 | 36.9 | 22.9 | 7.9 |
| Dance | 0.5 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 1.2 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| Easy listening | 3.6 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 3.6 | 4.5 | 1.6 | 0.0 | 2.3 | 5.5 |
| Gold/oldies/rock | 13.9 | 7.9 | 23.4 | 12.4 | 10.2 | 11.8 | 14.8 | 11.0 | 4.3 | 16.6 | 18.0 |
| Middle-of-the-road | 2.8 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.5 | 5.6 | 3.6 | 0.2 | 0.4 | 2.6 |
| Other | 6.3 | 6.7 | 0.2 | 6.0 | 14.1 | 4.1 | 4.1 | 10.4 | 6.2 | 10.4 | 12.2 |
| Sports | 1.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.1 | 0.0 | 0.3 | 1.4 | 0.0 | 0.1 | 1.5 | 2.0 |
| Talk | 10.2 | 29.3 | 0.0 | 1.0 | 2.1 | 14.5 | 9.7 | 14.0 | 6.7 | 9.8 | 5.2 |
| U.S. stations | 3.0 | 0.0 | 0.1 | 0.1 | 4.9 | 2.1 | 4.5 | 0.8 | 0.4 | 0.2 | 4.2 |
| **Total listening** | **100.0** | **100.0** | **100.0** | **100.0** | **100.0** | **100.0** | **100.0** | **100.0** | **100.0** | **100.0** | **100.0** |

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## Employment Insurance

April 2007 (preliminary)

An estimated 477,750 Canadians (seasonally adjusted) received regular Employment Insurance benefits in April, a slight drop from March (-0.9%). Overall, 10 of the 13 provinces and territories recorded declines, with the largest occurring in Manitoba (-3.6%) and Saskatchewan (-3.2%).

Nationally, the number of regular beneficiaries was 3.1% lower than April 2006 and has been dropping steadily since mid-2003.

Regular benefit payments in April totalled $741.2 million, while 221,500 people made initial and renewal claims.

**Note:** Employment Insurance Statistics Program data are produced from an administrative data source and may, from time to time, be affected by changes to the *Employment Insurance Act* or administrative procedures. The number of beneficiaries is a measure of all persons who received Employment Insurance benefits from the 15th to the 21st of the month. This coincides with the reference week of the Labour Force Survey. The regular benefit payments figure measures the total of all monies paid to individuals from the 1st to the end of the month.

**Available on CANSIM: tables 276-0001 to 276-0006, 276-0009, 276-0011, 276-0015 and 276-0016.**

**Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2604.**

Data on Employment Insurance for May will be released on July 24.

For general information or to order data, contact Client Services (toll-free 1-866-873-8788; 613-951-4090; *labour@statcan.ca*). To enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Gilles Groleau (613-951-4091), Labour Statistics Division.

### Employment Insurance statistics

| | April 2007 | March 2007 | April 2006 | March to April 2007 | April 2006 to April 2007 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | seasonally adjusted | | | | |
| | | | | % change | |
| Regular beneficiaries | 477,750$^p$ | 482,020$^r$ | 492,810 | -0.9 | -3.1 |
| Regular benefits paid ($ millions) | 741.2$^p$ | 699.1$^r$ | 784.1 | 6.0 | -5.5 |
| Initial and Renewal Claims received ('000) | 221.5$^p$ | 222.3$^r$ | 233.3 | -0.4 | -5.0 |
| | unadjusted | | | | |
| All beneficiaries ('000)[1] | 792.7$^p$ | 881.2$^p$ | 841.3 | | |
| Regular beneficiaries ('000) | 535.2$^p$ | 618.0$^p$ | 555.8 | | |
| Initial and Renewal Claims received ('000) | 177.5 | 190.6 | 172.4 | | |
| Payments ($ millions) | 1,512.2 | 1,271.7 | 1,513.2 | | |
| | year-to-date (January to April) | | | | |
| | | | 2007 | 2006 | 2006 to 2007 |
| | | | | | % change |
| Claims received ('000) | | | 882.0 | 872.3 | 1.1 |
| Payments ($ millions) | | | 5,841.6 | 5,887.5 | -0.8 |

r *revised*
p *preliminary*
1. *"All beneficiaries" includes all claimants receiving regular benefits (for example, as a result of layoff) or special benefits (for example, as a result of illness) and are representative of data for the Labour Force Survey reference week, which is usually the week containing the 15th of the month.*

**Number of beneficiaries receiving regular benefits**

| | April 2007[p] | March to April 2007 | April 2006 to April 2007 |
|---|---|---|---|
| | seasonally adjusted | | |
| | number | % change | |
| **Canada** | **477,750** | **-0.9** | **-3.1** |
| Newfoundland and Labrador | 36,190 | -0.5 | -3.1 |
| Prince Edward Island | 7,730 | 0.9 | -2.5 |
| Nova Scotia | 27,900 | 1.9 | -2.3 |
| New Brunswick | 30,840 | -0.5 | -6.0 |
| Quebec | 171,290 | -1.4 | -1.3 |
| Ontario | 129,500 | -0.8 | 0.3 |
| Manitoba | 9,810 | -3.6 | -10.0 |
| Saskatchewan | 8,990 | -3.2 | -6.5 |
| Alberta | 16,480 | -0.2 | -11.1 |
| British Columbia | 36,850 | -1.9 | -12.5 |
| Yukon | 800 | 0.0 | 5.3 |
| Northwest Territories | 690 | -2.8 | -2.8 |
| Nunavut | 370 | -2.6 | -7.5 |

p *preliminary*

**Note:** *The number of beneficiaries includes all claimants who received regular benefits for the Labour Force Survey reference week, usually containing the 15th day of the month.*

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## Payroll employment, earnings and hours

April 2007 (preliminary)

In April, the average weekly earnings of payroll employees (seasonally adjusted) increased $1.68 (+0.2%) to $765.36 from March. The year-to-date growth is 3.0%. This rate of change is calculated as the average weekly earnings of the first four months of 2007 compared to the average of the same four months in 2006.

Among Canada's largest industrial sectors, earnings grew for the first four months of 2007 in manufacturing (+3.5%), in health and social assistance (+3.1%) and in education services (+0.2%), but declined 0.7% in retail trade.

Most provinces reported growth in average weekly earnings. Quebec had a slight decrease (-0.5%) in average weekly earnings in April, although the province continues to show overall earnings growth with a year-to-date increase of 2.8%. Manitoba and Prince Edward Island were little changed.

Nationally, there was a decrease of 15,400 payroll jobs (-0.1%) in April, lowering the total estimated number of payroll jobs to 14,235,200. Growth among the provinces varied, with Manitoba showing the largest increase (+0.8%). Nationally, year-to-date employment growth is 0.1%.

The average hourly earnings for hourly paid employees edged up 0.2% in April to $18.95. The average weekly hours for hourly paid employees increased 0.3% to 31.3 hours.

**Available on CANSIM: tables 281-0023 to 281-0046.**

**Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2612.**

Detailed industry data, data by size of enterprise based on employment, and other labour market indicators will be available soon in the monthly publication *Employment, Earnings and Hours* (72-002-XIB, free).

Data on payroll employment, earnings and hours for May will be released on July 26.

For general information or to order data, contact Client Services (toll-free 1-866-873-8788; 613-951-4090; fax: 613-951-2869; *labour@statcan.ca*). To enquire about revisions, concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Shirley Steller (613-951-6501), Labour Statistics Division. □

## Average weekly earnings (including overtime) for all employees

| Industry group (North American Industry Classification System) | April 2006 | March 2007[r] | April 2007[p] | March to April 2007 | April 2006 to April 2007 | Year-to-date average 2007[1] |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | seasonally adjusted | | | | | |
| | $ | | | % change | | |
| **Industrial aggregate** | **742.95** | **763.68** | **765.36** | **0.2** | **3.0** | **3.0** |
| Forestry, logging and support | 979.67 | 964.28 | 957.46 | -0.7 | -2.3 | 0.4 |
| Mining and oil and gas | 1,341.78 | 1,400.94 | 1,417.96 | 1.2 | 5.7 | 4.4 |
| Utilities | 1,076.53 | 1,112.24 | 1,121.72 | 0.9 | 4.2 | 2.9 |
| Construction | 891.92 | 924.84 | 937.71 | 1.4 | 5.1 | 3.0 |
| Manufacturing | 899.79 | 933.74 | 940.06 | 0.7 | 4.5 | 3.5 |
| Wholesale Trade | 864.72 | 904.41 | 904.12 | 0.0 | 4.6 | 4.7 |
| Retail trade | 484.32 | 478.41 | 474.10 | -0.9 | -2.1 | -0.7 |
| Transportation and warehousing | 781.78 | 796.69 | 795.44 | -0.2 | 1.7 | 1.5 |
| Information and cultural industries | 927.15 | 962.03 | 971.80 | 1.0 | 4.8 | 3.9 |
| Finance and insurance | 966.09 | 982.59 | 980.08 | -0.3 | 1.4 | 3.3 |
| Real estate and rental and leasing | 672.69 | 707.56 | 694.58 | -1.8 | 3.3 | 5.8 |
| Professional, scientific and technical services | 948.79 | 974.14 | 974.43 | 0.0 | 2.7 | 2.6 |
| Management of companies and enterprises | 943.48 | 931.90 | 928.99 | -0.3 | -1.5 | -3.4 |
| Administrative and support, waste management and remediation services | 587.85 | 637.64 | 637.24 | -0.1 | 8.4 | 8.8 |
| Educational services | 827.05 | 817.23 | 820.68 | 0.4 | -0.8 | 0.2 |
| Health care and social assistance | 678.09 | 698.44 | 699.69 | 0.2 | 3.2 | 3.1 |
| Arts, entertainment and recreation | 430.71 | 443.92 | 451.52 | 1.7 | 4.8 | 2.7 |
| Accommodation and food services | 286.36 | 320.39 | 324.00 | 1.1 | 13.1 | 10.9 |
| Other services (excluding public administration) | 572.22 | 600.76 | 595.91 | -0.8 | 4.1 | 5.0 |
| Public administration | 923.70 | 955.04 | 957.15 | 0.2 | 3.6 | 3.7 |
| **Provinces and territories** | | | | | | |
| Newfoundland and Labrador | 692.04 | 703.48 | 708.07 | 0.7 | 2.3 | 2.7 |
| Prince Edward Island | 603.35 | 634.07 | 634.16 | 0.0 | 5.1 | 4.9 |
| Nova Scotia | 655.14 | 672.80 | 673.47 | 0.1 | 2.8 | 2.6 |
| New Brunswick | 681.71 | 703.39 | 703.92 | 0.1 | 3.3 | 3.2 |
| Quebec | 696.80 | 718.67 | 714.79 | -0.5 | 2.6 | 2.8 |
| Ontario | 776.87 | 797.94 | 798.88 | 0.1 | 2.8 | 2.5 |
| Manitoba | 668.44 | 698.50 | 698.47 | 0.0 | 4.5 | 3.7 |
| Saskatchewan | 695.74 | 713.73 | 714.72 | 0.1 | 2.7 | 3.5 |
| Alberta | 794.68 | 822.77 | 829.56 | 0.8 | 4.4 | 4.8 |
| British Columbia | 738.88 | 754.33 | 757.09 | 0.4 | 2.5 | 2.3 |
| Yukon | 849.53 | 850.62 | 869.11 | 2.2 | 2.3 | 1.1 |
| Northwest Territories[2] | 991.87 | 982.78 | 1,012.91 | 3.1 | 2.1 | 0.7 |
| Nunavut[2] | 886.35 | 921.16 | 937.29 | 1.8 | 5.7 | 4.4 |

r *revised*
p *preliminary*
1. *Rate of change for the first four months of 2007 compared to the same months for 2006.*
2. *Data not seasonally adjusted.*

### Number of Employees

| Industry group (North American Industry Classification System) | December 2006 | February 2007 | March 2007r | April 2007p | February to March 2007 | March to April 2007 | December 2006 to April 2007 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | seasonally adjusted | | | | | | |
| | '000 | | | | % change | | |
| **Industrial aggregate** | **14,217.7** | **14,236.4** | **14,250.6** | **14,235.2** | **0.1** | **-0.1** | **0.1** |
| Forestry, logging and support | 57.5 | 56.7 | 55.7 | 54.5 | -1.8 | -2.2 | -5.2 |
| Mining and oil and gas | 186.8 | 193.3 | 192.3 | 188.4 | -0.5 | -2.0 | 0.9 |
| Utilities | 121.0 | 121.6 | 121.6 | 121.3 | 0.0 | -0.2 | 0.2 |
| Construction | 752.6 | 755.0 | 756.2 | 752.8 | 0.2 | -0.4 | 0.0 |
| Manufacturing | 1,832.2 | 1,824.6 | 1,813.4 | 1,808.2 | -0.6 | -0.3 | -1.3 |
| Wholesale Trade | 750.1 | 751.6 | 751.5 | 751.1 | 0.0 | -0.1 | 0.1 |
| Retail trade | 1,754.6 | 1,751.4 | 1,772.8 | 1,774.7 | 1.2 | 0.1 | 1.1 |
| Transportation and warehousing | 639.7 | 645.6 | 645.6 | 648.9 | 0.0 | 0.5 | 1.4 |
| Information and cultural industries | 353.9 | 351.0 | 351.5 | 352.8 | 0.1 | 0.4 | -0.3 |
| Finance and insurance | 615.7 | 620.7 | 623.1 | 624.1 | 0.4 | 0.2 | 1.4 |
| Real estate and rental and leasing | 246.4 | 245.3 | 247.1 | 248.4 | 0.7 | 0.5 | 0.8 |
| Professional, scientific and technical services | 714.4 | 723.4 | 724.9 | 724.3 | 0.2 | -0.1 | 1.4 |
| Management of companies and enterprises | 97.4 | 97.4 | 97.2 | 97.1 | -0.2 | -0.1 | -0.3 |
| Administrative and support, waste management and remediation services | 706.0 | 703.0 | 703.7 | 703.2 | 0.1 | -0.1 | -0.4 |
| Educational services | 1,061.4 | 1,067.2 | 1,066.7 | 1,069.8 | 0.0 | 0.3 | 0.8 |
| Health care and social assistance | 1,456.8 | 1,461.3 | 1,463.9 | 1,465.0 | 0.2 | 0.1 | 0.6 |
| Arts, entertainment and recreation | 239.5 | 241.5 | 240.7 | 238.8 | -0.3 | -0.8 | -0.3 |
| Accommodation and food services | 1,028.0 | 1,032.2 | 1,033.1 | 1,028.2 | 0.1 | -0.5 | 0.0 |
| Other services (excluding public administration) | 517.8 | 518.6 | 521.2 | 519.9 | 0.5 | -0.2 | 0.4 |
| Public administration | 815.3 | 818.0 | 821.2 | 816.7 | 0.4 | -0.5 | 0.2 |
| **Provinces and territories** | | | | | | | |
| Newfoundland and Labrador | 177.6 | 177.7 | 177.7 | 177.2 | 0.0 | -0.3 | -0.2 |
| Prince Edward Island | 57.0 | 58.8 | 59.0 | 58.3 | 0.3 | -1.2 | 2.3 |
| Nova Scotia | 386.0 | 385.4 | 385.7 | 383.2 | 0.1 | -0.6 | -0.7 |
| New Brunswick | 309.4 | 311.2 | 312.1 | 303.0 | 0.3 | -2.9 | -2.1 |
| Quebec | 3,260.6 | 3,265.3 | 3,260.4 | 3,268.0 | -0.2 | 0.2 | 0.2 |
| Ontario | 5,455.3 | 5,461.9 | 5,472.7 | 5,470.4 | 0.2 | 0.0 | 0.3 |
| Manitoba | 530.2 | 530.3 | 534.6 | 533.5 | 0.8 | -0.2 | 0.6 |
| Saskatchewan | 419.4 | 420.8 | 421.2 | 419.0 | 0.1 | -0.5 | -0.1 |
| Alberta | 1,709.8 | 1,723.0 | 1,720.0 | 1,713.1 | -0.2 | -0.4 | 0.2 |
| British Columbia | 1,852.3 | 1,857.7 | 1,858.3 | 1,858.1 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.3 |
| Yukon | 17.2 | 17.3 | 17.4 | 17.5 | 0.6 | 0.6 | 1.7 |
| Northwest Territories[1] | 22.7 | 23.4 | 23.5 | 23.0 | 0.4 | -2.1 | 1.3 |
| Nunavut[1] | 10.8 | 10.0 | 10.4 | 10.5 | 4.0 | 1.0 | -2.8 |

r *revised*
p *preliminary*
1. *Data not seasonally adjusted.*

■

## Railway carloadings

April 2007

Canadian railways carried about 23.6 million metric tonnes in freight in April, virtually unchanged from the revised level in March.

Tonnage in March 2007 declined 6.1% from March 2006. On the other hand, April's total marked a return to traditional volumes and was close to the freight levels of April 2005 and April 2006.

Loadings of containerized or intermodal commodities declined 4.6% from March to 2.4 million metric tonnes. This represents about 8,350 fewer containers.

Non-intermodal traffic—goods moved in bulk—edged up a marginal 0.5% from March to 21.2 million metric tonnes.

Loadings in April were dampened by a labour dispute in the iron ore sector that started in early March, mill closures in the steel industry, as well as several train derailments. Iron ore loadings fell 3.5% between March and April to 1.7 million tonnes. It was the third consecutive monthly decline in that sector.

Between March and April, loadings in the automotive sector fell 10.0%. However, this decline did not erase a huge gain between February and March. Furthermore, loadings in April 2007 were above those reported in April 2006.

Freight coming from the United States, either destined for or passing through Canada, remained at levels well above previous months despite a 3.9% decline between March and April.

In April, tonnage received from the United States reached about 2.6 million metric tonnes, down from 2.7 million metric tonnes in March. However, both these levels were substantially higher than the annual average of 2.4 million metric tonnes for 2006.

Traffic received from Canadian connections, an indicator of the interaction between railways in Canada, showed a 5.0% decline in tonnage from March 2007. Traffic received from Canadian connections has been on a downward trend since January 2005 because of industry acquisitions. Since then, tonnage has declined by about 1.2 million tonnes.

On a year-over-year basis, non-intermodal tonnage dropped 1.4% from April 2006. Intermodal loadings dropped 1.6%. Traffic received from the United States rose 16.7%.

**Available on CANSIM: table 404-0002.**

**Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2732.**

The April 2007 issue of *Monthly Railway Carloadings*, Vol. 84, no. 4 (52-001-XWE, 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 the Dissemination Unit (toll-free 1-866-500-8400; fax: 613-951-0009; *TransportationStatistics@statcan.ca*), Transportation Division. ■

## Farm Product Price Index

April 2007

The prices that farmers received for their commodities rose 10.3% in April from the same month a year earlier, as most crop, livestock and animal product prices increased.

Prices for crops were 11.6% higher in April than they were a year earlier, according the Farm Product Price Index (FPPI). This was the eighth consecutive monthly year-over-year increase and the sixth consecutive double-digit rise. After slumping to very low levels during the 2005-2006 crop year (August to July), crop prices have surged this year to their highest levels since the fall of 2004.

Prices for the overall livestock and animal product index rose 9.1% in April as gains were made in all commodities except for eggs, which slipped 0.4%. Increases ranged from 4.0% for dairy to 16.7% for hogs.

On a monthly basis, prices farmers received for their commodities rose 0.8% in April over March.

The FPPI (1997=100) stood at 104.9 in April, up from the revised March index of 104.1.

Prices for livestock and animal products rose 2.9% in April from the revised March index, as all livestock commodities recorded increases except dairy and eggs. Gains ranged from 0.3% for poultry to 6.7% for cattle and calves.

Cattle and calf prices increased 6.7% for a fourth consecutive month in April, after dropping to a recent low in December 2006, when they had been at their lowest level since the border re-opened to partial trade of live cattle and calves in July 2005. Strong demand and tighter North American supplies have supported prices.

Hog prices advanced 2.9% in April over March, rising for three out of the four months this year. Steady domestic and international demand continues to support prices, despite the rising Canadian dollar. A series of severe winter storms in March affected the supply of market ready hogs and cattle.

The prices that farmers received for crops slipped 2.8% from the revised March index as all crops except specialty crops and fruits recorded decreases. Specialty crop prices remained strong, supported by continued demand.

Grain and oilseed prices dropped slightly, the first monthly decrease since fall 2006 for oilseeds and summer 2006 for grains. As Canadian producers start planting this year's crop, markets begin to react to weather reports in all major producing areas and their effects on the upcoming growing season and production.

**Available on CANSIM: tables 002-0021 and 002-0022.**

**Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 5040.**

The April 2007 issue of *Farm Product Price Index*, Vol. 7, no. 4 (21-007-XWE, free) is now available. From the *Publications* module of our website, under *Free Internet publications*, choose *Agriculture*.

For general information or to order data, call 1-800-465-1991. To enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Gail-Ann Breese (204-983-3445; fax 204-983-7543; *gail-ann.breese@statcan.ca*), Agriculture Division. □

### Farm Product Price Index

| | April 2006[r] | March 2007[r] | April 2007[p] | April 2006 to April 2007 | March to April 2007 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | (1997=100) | | | % change | |
| **Farm Product Price Index** | **95.1** | **104.1** | **104.9** | **10.3** | **0.8** |
| **Crops** | **89.3** | **102.6** | **99.7** | **11.6** | **-2.8** |
| Grains | 75.0 | 93.6 | 91.1 | 21.5 | -2.7 |
| Oilseeds | 68.2 | 92.0 | 91.0 | 33.4 | -1.1 |
| Specialty crops | 74.5 | 107.4 | 114.1 | 53.2 | 6.2 |
| Fruit | 109.0 | 116.8 | 125.3 | 15.0 | 7.3 |
| Vegetables | 121.6 | 122.3 | 122.0 | 0.3 | -0.2 |
| Potatoes | 156.7 | 131.1 | 130.2 | -16.9 | -0.7 |
| **Livestock and animal products** | **100.4** | **106.4** | **109.5** | **9.1** | **2.9** |
| Cattle and calves | 104.5 | 109.6 | 116.9 | 11.9 | 6.7 |
| Hogs | 66.0 | 74.8 | 77.0 | 16.7 | 2.9 |
| Poultry | 95.0 | 99.9 | 100.2 | 5.5 | 0.3 |
| Eggs | 97.8 | 97.5 | 97.4 | -0.4 | -0.1 |
| Dairy | 129.5 | 135.6 | 134.7 | 4.0 | -0.7 |

r *revised*
p *preliminary*

■

## Production and disposition of tobacco products
May 2007

Total cigarettes sold in May by Canadian manufacturers increased 9.8% from April to 1.7 billion cigarettes, down 33.0% compared with May 2006.

Cigarette production in May increased 26.9% from April to 1.9 billion cigarettes, down 9.7% from May 2006.

At 1.9 billion cigarettes, the level of closing inventories for May increased 12.4% from April, down 35.6% from May 2006.

**Note:** This survey collects data on the production of tobacco products in Canada by Canadian manufacturers and the disposition or sales of this production. It does not collect data on imported tobacco products. Therefore, sales information in this release is not a proxy for domestic consumption of tobacco products.

**Available on CANSIM: table 303-0062.**

**Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2142.**

The May 2007 issue of *Production and Disposition of Tobacco Products*, Vol. 36, no. 5 (32-022-XWE, free) is now available from the *Publications* module of our website.

For general information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Client Services (toll-free 1-866-873-8789; 613-951-9497; *manufact@statcan.ca*), Manufacturing, Construction and Energy Division. ■

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(free).

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**Canada Food Stats**, June 2007
**Catalogue number 23F0001XCB** ($81).

**Production and Disposition of Tobacco Products**, May 2007, Vol. 36, no. 5
**Catalogue number 32-022-XWE**
(free).

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**Catalogue number 50-002-XIE**
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**Monthly Railway Carloadings**, April 2007, Vol. 84, no. 4
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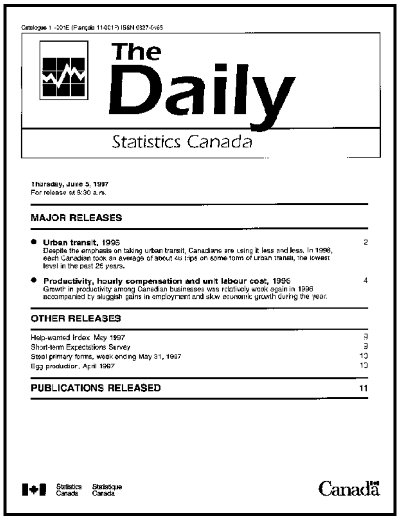

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