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## Releases

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## Releases

## Monthly Survey of Manufacturing <br> \author{ May 2007 

}After a slight decrease in April, manufacturing shipments remained virtually unchanged in May $(-0.1 \%)$ at $\$ 49.7$ billion. Manufacturing shipments had trended slowly downwards throughout most of 2006, before posting a strong first quarter in 2007.

Manufacturers continued to face several challenges during May. The Canadian dollar appreciated significantly against its American counterpart, reaching a 30-year high by the end of May. In addition, the Labour Force Survey reported a $0.6 \%$ drop in manufacturing employment during the month, a loss of 12,300 jobs.

Despite these challenges, the volume of manufacturing shipments, using constant dollars, rose $0.4 \%$ to $\$ 45.5$ billion. After increasing in seven of the last eight months, constant dollar shipments reached their highest level since the beginning of 2006. The constant dollar measurement takes price fluctuations into account, providing an indicator of the volume of shipments during the month.


On a sector by sector basis, only 9 of 21 manufacturing industries decreased in May, but they represented about $57 \%$ of total shipment outputs.

## Note to readers

Preliminary estimates are provided for the current reference month. Estimates, based on late responses, are revised for the three prior months.

Non-durable goods industries include food, beverage and tobacco products, textile mills, textile product mills, clothing, leather and allied products, paper, printing and related support activities, petroleum and coal products, chemicals, and plastics and rubber products.

Durable goods industries include wood products, non-metallic mineral products, primary metals, fabricated metal products, machinery, computer and electronic products, electrical equipment, appliances and components, transportation equipment, furniture and related products and miscellaneous manufacturing.

Unfilled orders are a stock of orders that will contribute to future shipments assuming that the orders are not cancelled.

New orders are those received whether shipped in the current month or not. They are measured as the sum of shipments for the current month plus the change in unfilled orders. Some people interpret new orders as orders that will lead to future demand. This is inappropriate since the "new orders" variable includes orders that have already been shipped. Readers should note that the month-to-month change in new orders may be volatile. This will happen particularly if the previous month's change in unfilled orders is closely related to the current month's change.

Not all orders will be translated into Canadian factory shipments because portions of large contracts can be subcontracted out to manufacturers in other countries. Also, some orders may be cancelled.

Durable goods were the main source of weakness in May, declining $1.2 \%$ to $\$ 26.7$ billion, following a sharper loss of $2.0 \%$ the previous month. Among durable goods producers, primary metal manufacturers posted one of the most significant declines during the month.

On the other hand, shipments of non-durable goods continued to strengthen, especially in resource-based industries. Manufacturers of petroleum and coal products, chemical products, and plastic and rubber products pushed non-durable good shipments up 1.2\%, the fourth consecutive monthly increase.

Unfilled factory orders continued to increase, rising $1.8 \%$ in May for an eighth consecutive monthly gain. Unfilled orders can be used as an indicator of probable future shipments. New orders, which may include orders received and shipped during the month, slipped 0.5\%.

## Primary metal manufacturers take a break

After four months of strong gains, primary metal manufacturers reported a $4.1 \%$ decrease in shipments
during May. Demand in Asia for primary metal products combined with rising prices had steadily pushed shipment values higher since the beginning of 2007. However, a two-week shutdown of a major manufacturing plant, combined with a $1.2 \%$ drop in prices compared with April, had a dampening effect on the industry in May.

Transportation equipment manufacturers posted mixed results in May, edging down 1.3\%. Motor vehicle shipments slipped an additional $1.2 \%$ in May after a sizeable 11.9\% decrease in April. A rail strike earlier in 2007 resulted in some subsequent volatility within the industry. Automotive parts shipments also decreased ( $-2.9 \%$ ), following a similar-sized drop in April. Temporary plant shutdowns as well as a plant closure in May had an impact on the results for automotive parts manufacturers.

Shipments of aerospace products and parts were a bright spot in the transportation industry, reversing April's decrease with an $8.7 \%$ surge in May. Shipments within this sector have been trending upward since the beginning of 2006.

Petroleum and coal manufacturers reported a 4.1\% increase in shipments, a fifth consecutive monthly gain. Shipments had eased slightly in the fall of 2006 as prices pulled back somewhat. However, shipments in May rose close to the record levels last seen in the summer of 2006, in part due to price increases in recent months.

## Strength in the Prairie Provinces balances weaker results in the East

A strong performance in the Prairie Provinces helped to balance out what was an otherwise lacklustre May for manufacturers in Central and Eastern Canada. Nationally, six provinces experienced a drop in total manufacturing shipments.

Manufacturers in the Prairie Provinces showed strength, posting a $3.5 \%$ gain in shipments, offsetting the $2.6 \%$ loss the previous month. Alberta led the way with a robust $3.7 \%$ jump to $\$ 5.7$ billion on the strong performances in computers and electronics (+22.7\%), non-metallic minerals ( $+8.8 \%$ ), and petroleum and coal products ( $+8.5 \%$ ).

Shipments from Manitoba and Saskatchewan both moved ahead $3.1 \%$ in May. Manitoba's shipment growth of $\$ 40$ million regained some of the $\$ 136$ million $(-9.6 \%)$ lost in April. The gain was fuelled by the transportation and primary metal sectors, the industries that were responsible for the previous month's drop. For Saskatchewan, the largest sector, food products, was propelled upward $6.4 \%$ on the strength of oilseed processing.

Manufacturers in Quebec saw shipments decrease $1.0 \%$ in May. This was the first monthly
loss recorded by the province since January. Primary metals ( $-8.3 \%$ ) and paper products ( $-4.8 \%$ ) were significant contributors to the deceleration in Quebec's strong shipment growth.

Ontario's manufacturing shipments decreased 0.2\% to $\$ 23.9$ billion, with 12 of 21 industry sectors reporting losses.

Resource-based manufacturing was at the core of shipment decreases in British Columbia ( $-2.2 \%$ ) and Atlantic Canada ( $-3.1 \%$ ) in May. In British Columbia, wood products dropped $6.2 \%$, putting a damper on the largest sector in the province.

For Atlantic Canada, New Brunswick manufacturers had a particularly weak month. Provincial shipments declined by $6.0 \%$, due to a combination of declines in resource-based sectors, including petroleum and coal products, primary metals and food products.

Manufacturing shipments, provinces and territories

$r$ revised
p preliminary

## Unfilled orders surge for aerospace manufacturers

Manufacturers' backlog of orders continued to swell, increasing by $1.8 \%$ in May to $\$ 49.1$ billion. This was the eighth consecutive monthly increase in unfilled orders, which may be considered as an indicator of the future strength of manufacturing shipments.

The trend for unfilled orders has been steadily improving since last summer, increasing almost 20\% since May 2006. However, excluding aerospace products and parts, unfilled orders have increased only $1.1 \%$ in the past year.

Unfilled orders for aerospace products and parts jumped $4.0 \%$ to 21.2 billion, the highest level since March 2002. In May, unfilled orders for the aerospace industry were up about 56\% compared with May 2006.

Manufacturers in the miscellaneous group also saw unfilled orders continue to surge in May, gaining 22.3\% compared with April. This was the sixth increase in unfilled orders in the past seven months. Unfilled orders in this industry have almost doubled since December 2006, largely because of strength in medical equipment and supplies manufacturing.

One of the primary offsetting factors for unfilled orders in May was a pull back in computer and electronic products and parts. Unfilled orders had surged $8.2 \%$ in April, but fell back $4.7 \%$ in May to $\$ 3.4$ billion.

## Manufacturers see continued gains in unfilled orders



## New orders edge down

New orders edged down 0.5\% in May to $\$ 50.5$ billion. After surging in December 2006, new orders have largely stabilized around $\$ 50$ billion in 2007, experiencing only modest month-to-month fluctuations.

Computer and electronic products contributed the largest decrease to new orders in May, plummeting 27.7\% after a $24.1 \%$ increase in April.

On the other hand, new orders of aerospace products and parts jumped 18.5\% after remaining largely unchanged in April.

## Inventory levels decrease slightly

Inventory levels decreased $0.4 \%$ to $\$ 62.9$ billion following two months of minimal increases. Inventories
have eased down slightly in the past six months after rising considerably between January 2005 and September 2006.

In total, 10 of 21 industries reported a decrease to their inventories in May. Manufacturer's total inventories decreased slightly, largely due to declines in three industries. The sharpest decrease was an 8.8\% drop in motor vehicle inventories. Computer and electronic products manufacturers ( $-5.3 \%$ ) and primary metal manufacturers ( $-1.9 \%$ ) also reported notable inventory declines.

Manufacturers' inventory levels edge down
\$ billions


## Inventory-to-shipment ratio remains steady

The inventory-to-shipment ratio remained unchanged in May at 1.27. The ratio had reached a recent low of 1.25 in March after peaking at a three-year high of 1.33 in October 2006. Over the past five years, the inventory-to-shipment ratio has ranged between 1.22 and 1.38. May's result was slightly below the five-year average of 1.28.

The inventory-to-shipment ratio is a key measure of the time, in months, that would be required to exhaust inventories if shipments were to remain at their current level.


Available on CANSIM: tables 304-0014, 304-0015 and 377-0008.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2101.

All data are benchmarked to the 2004 Annual Survey of Manufactures.

Data from the June Monthly Survey of Manufacturing will be released on August 15.

For general information or to order data, contact the dissemination officer (toll-free 1-866-873-8789; 613-951-9497; fax: 613-951-9499; manufact@statcan.ca). To enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of the release, contact Elton Cryderman (613-951-4317, elton.cryderman@statcan.ca), Manufacturing, Construction and Energy Division.

Shipments, inventories and orders in all manufacturing industries

|  | Shipments |  | Inventories |  | Unfilled orders |  | New orders |  | Inventories-to-shipments ratio |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Seasonally adjusted |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | \$ millions | change | \$ millions | change | \$ millions | change | \$ millions | change |  |
| May 2006 | 48,422 | -0.7 | 62,516 | 0.8 | 41,180 | -0.6 | 48,185 | 0.5 | 1.29 |
| June 2006 | 49,356 | 1.9 | 62,132 | -0.6 | 41,298 | 0.3 | 49,474 | 2.7 | 1.26 |
| July 2006 | 49,805 | 0.9 | 62,898 | 1.2 | 41,485 | 0.5 | 49,992 | 1.0 | 1.26 |
| August 2006 | 49,326 | -1.0 | 62,935 | 0.1 | 41,207 | -0.7 | 49,048 | -1.9 | 1.28 |
| September 2006 | 47,791 | -3.1 | 63,302 | 0.6 | 41,202 | 0.0 | 47,786 | -2.6 | 1.32 |
| October 2006 | 47,701 | -0.2 | 63,303 | 0.0 | 41,403 | 0.5 | 47,903 | 0.2 | 1.33 |
| November 2006 | 48,703 | 2.1 | 63,370 | 0.1 | 42,192 | 1.9 | 49,493 | 3.3 | 1.30 |
| December 2006 | 49,572 | 1.8 | 62,652 | -1.1 | 43,523 | 3.2 | 50,976 | 3.0 | 1.26 |
| January 2007 | 48,368 | -2.4 | 62,840 | 0.3 | 44,633 | 2.6 | 49,478 | -2.9 | 1.30 |
| February 2007 | 48,480 | 0.2 | 62,626 | -0.3 | 46,705 | 4.6 | 50,552 | 2.2 | 1.29 |
| March 2007 | 50,057 | 3.3 | 62,706 | 0.1 | 47,132 | 0.9 | 50,484 | -0.1 | 1.25 |
| April 2007 | 49,722 | -0.7 | 63,166 | 0.7 | 48,219 | 2.3 | 50,808 | 0.6 | 1.27 |
| May 2007 | 49,674 | -0.1 | 62,891 | -0.4 | 49,078 | 1.8 | 50,534 | -0.5 | 1.27 |

Manufacturing industries except motor vehicle, parts and accessories

|  | Shipments |  | Inventories |  | Unfilled orders |  | New orders |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Seasonally adjusted |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | \$ millions | \% change | \$ millions | \% change | \$ millions | \% change | \$ millions | \% change |
| May 2006 | 41,260 | -0.3 | 59,791 | 0.8 | 38,448 | -0.7 | 41,004 | 1.0 |
| June 2006 | 41,966 | 1.7 | 59,464 | -0.5 | 38,722 | 0.7 | 42,239 | 3.0 |
| July 2006 | 42,448 | 1.2 | 59,959 | 0.8 | 38,988 | 0.7 | 42,715 | 1.1 |
| August 2006 | 42,103 | -0.8 | 60,119 | 0.3 | 38,965 | -0.1 | 42,080 | -1.5 |
| September 2006 | 40,959 | -2.7 | 60,394 | 0.5 | 39,271 | 0.8 | 41,265 | -1.9 |
| October 2006 | 40,996 | 0.1 | 60,345 | -0.1 | 39,860 | 1.5 | 41,585 | 0.8 |
| November 2006 | 41,217 | 0.5 | 60,483 | 0.2 | 40,869 | 2.5 | 42,225 | 1.5 |
| December 2006 | 41,538 | 0.8 | 59,872 | -1.0 | 42,317 | 3.5 | 43,063 | 2.0 |
| January 2007 | 40,988 | -1.3 | 59,980 | 0.2 | 43,329 | 2.4 | 42,001 | -2.5 |
| February 2007 | 41,029 | 0.1 | 59,818 | -0.3 | 45,486 | 5.0 | 43,185 | 2.8 |
| March 2007 | 42,001 | 2.4 | 59,952 | 0.2 | 46,016 | 1.2 | 42,532 | -1.5 |
| April 2007 | 42,421 | 1.0 | 60,406 | 0.8 | 47,044 | 2.2 | 43,449 | 2.2 |
| May 2007 | 42,501 | 0.2 | 60,213 | -0.3 | 47,876 | 1.8 | 43,333 | -0.3 |

## New motor vehicle sales

May 2007
New motor vehicle sales declined $0.8 \%$ nationally in May, with five provinces recording increases and five reporting decreases. Seasonally adjusted data from the New Motor Vehicle Sales Survey put the level of sales at 145,496 units. The decline in May was not strong enough to offset the 6.3\% increase in April, and May sales were $7.5 \%$ higher than they were a year earlier.

New motor vehicle sales decline slightly in May


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

Overall, the decline in May was entirely due to passenger cars, as sales of trucks (which include minivans, sport-utility vehicles, light and heavy trucks, vans and buses) posted an increase.

Preliminary data from the automotive industry indicate that sales fell $1 \%$ in June.

## North American-built passenger cars edge down

Passenger car sales were down almost 2,000, or $2.5 \%$, units in May. The sales level of 73,354 units was still the second highest recorded this year as the first three months of 2007 were relatively flat before the increase in April.

The decline in passenger car sales was driven by a $5.6 \%$ drop in the number of North American-built units sold. Slightly offsetting this decline was a $3.3 \%$ increase in sales of overseas-built models, after almost no change was recorded in April. So far in 2007, only April has seen

## 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.
an increase in sales of North American-built cars, while overseas-built cars have recorded increases in three of the first five months.

Sales of trucks grew 1.0\% in May and remained above the 70,000 mark, as in April. This was only the second time since the beginning of the series in 1946 that the number of trucks sold rose above 70,000 for two consecutive months. The last time this occurred was in December 2006 and January 2007.

## Sales of new motor vehicles were volatile across provinces

Of the four provinces with the highest sales, only Quebec posted an increase in May, its sales rising 3.9 \% to 37,283 units. After a strong showing in April, gains in Quebec have more than offset the declines observed in the first three months of 2007.

Sales in Ontario declined $3.2 \%$ to 51,970 , giving back some of the gains made in April. New motor vehicle sales in Ontario have declined in four of the first five months of 2007.

Both Alberta ( $-0.4 \%$ ) and British Columbia (-2.4\%) experienced declines in May, with new motor vehicle sales in Alberta falling to 21,323 units and British Columbia sales decreasing to 17,274.

The provinces with the largest and smallest percentage changes were both in Eastern Canada, as sales in New Brunswick increased 10.1\% while those in Nova Scotia declined 14.2\%. The increase in New Brunswick came after small changes in March and April and completely offset a decrease posted in February. The decline in Nova Scotia completely neutralized gains from the previous month.

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

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

Data on new motor vehicle sales for June will be released on August 15.

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 Joseph Dunlavy (613-951-0193), Distributive Trades Division.

New motor vehicle sales

|  | $\begin{gathered} \text { May } \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { April } \\ & 2007^{\text {r }} \end{aligned}$ | May <br> $2007{ }^{\text {p }}$ <br>  <br>  | $\begin{array}{r} \text { May } \\ 2006 \\ \text { to } \\ \text { May } \\ 2007 \\ \hline \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} \text { April } \\ \text { to } \\ \text { May } \\ 2007 \end{array}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Seasonally adjusted |  |  |  |  |
|  | number of vehicles |  |  | \% change |  |
| New motor vehicles | 135,357 | 146,670 | 145,496 | 7.5 | -0.8 |
| Passenger cars | 69,888 | 75,268 | 73,354 | 5.0 | -2.5 |
| North American ${ }^{1}$ | 45,715 | 49,308 | 46,552 | 1.8 | -5.6 |
| Overseas | 24,173 | 25,959 | 26,803 | 10.9 | 3.3 |
| Trucks, vans and buses | 65,470 | 71,402 | 72,142 | 10.2 | 1.0 |
| New motor vehicles |  |  |  |  |  |
| Newfoundland and Labrador | 1,918 | 2,407 | 2,417 | 26.0 | 0.4 |
| Prince Edward Island | 409 | 463 | 472 | 15.4 | 1.9 |
| Nova Scotia | 3,622 | 4,314 | 3,700 | 2.2 | -14.2 |
| New Brunswick | 2,778 | 2,942 | 3,238 | 16.6 | 10.1 |
| Quebec | 32,867 | 35,881 | 37,283 | 13.4 | 3.9 |
| Ontario | 50,460 | 53,662 | 51,970 | 3.0 | -3.2 |
| Manitoba | 3,620 | 4,134 | 3,882 | 7.2 | -6.1 |
| Saskatchewan | 3,387 | 3,748 | 3,936 | 16.2 | 5.0 |
| Alberta | 20,411 | 21,411 | 21,323 | 4.5 | -0.4 |
| British Columbia ${ }^{2}$ | 15,885 | 17,707 | 17,274 | 8.7 | -2.4 |
|  | May 2006 | April 2007 | May $2007^{\text {p }}$ | May 2006 to May 2007 |  |
|  | Unadjusted |  |  |  |  |
|  | number of vehicles |  |  | \% change |  |
| New motor vehicles | 173,291 | 172,428 | 189,039 | 9.1 |  |
| Passenger cars | 96,175 | 92,446 | 102,564 | 6.6 |  |
| North American ${ }^{1}$ | 64,032 | 60,392 | 65,400 | 2.1 |  |
| Overseas | 32,143 | 32,054 | 37,164 | 15.6 |  |
| Trucks, vans and buses | 77,116 | 79,982 | 86,475 | 12.1 |  |
| New motor vehicles |  |  |  |  |  |
| Newfoundland and Labrador | 2,839 | 3,176 | 3,684 | 29.8 |  |
| Prince Edward Island | 540 | 531 | 638 | 18.1 |  |
| Nova Scotia | 5,332 | 5,531 | 5,353 | 0.4 |  |
| New Brunswick | 3,729 | 3,637 | 4,538 | 21.7 |  |
| Quebec | 44,269 | 46,524 | 52,143 | 17.8 |  |
| Ontario | 63,276 | 61,256 | 65,218 | 3.1 |  |
| Manitoba | 4,479 | 4,713 | 4,698 | 4.9 |  |
| Saskatchewan | 3,849 | 4,261 | 4,624 | 20.1 |  |
| Alberta | 25,907 | 23,761 | 26,945 | 4.0 |  |
| British Columbia ${ }^{2}$ | 19,071 | 19,038 | 21,198 | 11.2 |  |

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## Quarterly Retail Commodity Survey <br> First quarter 2007 (correction)

Retail sales of health and personal care products increased at their fastest pace in nearly five years in the first quarter of 2007, according to new data from the Quarterly Retail Commodity Survey.

In total, retailers sold $\$ 87.4$ billion of goods and services in retail stores between January and March 2007, up $6.3 \%$ from the same three months in 2006.

Of this total, $\$ 8.5$ billion represented health and personal care products, up $11.3 \%$. This was the fastest rate of growth for this group of commodities since the gain of $11.9 \%$ posted in the second quarter of 2002.

Sales of health and personal care products also grew at the fastest rate of all commodity groups during the first quarter of 2007, thanks to strong sales of prescription and over-the-counter drugs, as well as vitamins and herbal remedies.

Retailers sold $\$ 4.7$ billion of prescription drugs, up 14.0\%, and $\$ 1.1$ billion of non-prescription drugs, up $12.7 \%$. Prices for prescription drugs slipped $0.3 \%$ on a year-over-year basis during this quarter, while prices for non-prescription drugs fell $0.4 \%$.

As usual, the majority of the retail dollar was spent on food, cars and fuel. Of every $\$ 100$ spent in retail stores, $\$ 22.8$ went to food and beverages, $\$ 21.4$ to motor vehicles, parts and services, and \$10.2 to automotive fuels, oils and additives.

Food and beverages sales totalled $\$ 19.9$ billion, an increase of $5.9 \%$ from the first quarter of 2006. All three major components recorded strong increases: food (+5.6\%), non-alcoholic beverages (+4.5\%) and alcoholic beverages (+7.4\%).

Sales of motor vehicles, parts and services increased $3.7 \%$ to $\$ 18.7$ billion.

The value of new trucks, vans, minivans and sport-utility vehicles sold rose $4.9 \%$, while sales of used autos rose $10.5 \%$. Both continued upward trends for the third consecutive quarter. However, the value of new cars sold fell for the second consecutive quarter, dropping 4.5\%.

Drivers spent $\$ 8.9$ billion on automotive fuels, oils and additives during the first quarter, up $8.8 \%$ from the first quarter of 2006.

First-quarter spending in the housing market moderated slightly. Sales of hardware, lawn and garden products totalled $\$ 4.9$ billion, an increase of $7.8 \%$ from a year earlier. Sales of lumber and other building materials rose $7.0 \%$, the slowest pace since the first quarter of 2005.

Canadian retailers saw a $7.2 \%$ gain in sales of furniture and home furnishing products, which increased to $\$ 8.2$ billion. Sales of indoor furniture, which represents $24 \%$ of this commodity grouping, rose 6.8\%.

Sales of clothing, footwear and accessories posted a strong increase of $6.7 \%$ to $\$ 6.3$ billion.

Within this commodity grouping, sales of clothing and accessories rose $7.4 \%$ and sales of footwear increased $6.0 \%$, while sales of luggage and jewellery rose only $2.9 \%$, the slowest pace in a year.

Elsewhere, sales of sporting and leisure goods amounted to $\$ 2.7$ billion, up $5.9 \%$.

Sales of tobacco products and supplies slipped $2.5 \%$, while cigarette prices rose $4.0 \%$. The decline in sales continued a downward trend observed since the third quarter of 2004.

Note: Starting this quarter, retail commodity sales by retail trade sector based on the North American Industry Classification System are available on CANSIM (table 080-0018).

Retail commodity sales estimates are normally revised every year. With the release of estimates for the first quarter of 2007, estimates in current dollars have been revised back to the first quarter of 2005.

Factors influencing revisions include late receipt of respondent information, correction of information on data provided, the replacement of estimates with actual values (once available) and the re-classification of companies within, into and out of the retail trade industry. The revised estimates are now available on CANSIM, and by request.

## Available on CANSIM: tables 080-0018 and 080-0019.

## Definitions, data sources and methods: survey

 number 2008.A detailed analysis of retail commodity sales in 2006 using the revised numbers will be published on July 26.

A data table on sales of certain commodities by sector is now available online. From the Summary tables module of our website, choose Retail and wholesale.

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 Ruth Barnes (613-951-6190), Distributive Trades Division.

Sales by commodity, all retail stores

|  | First quarter $2006^{r}$ | Fourth quarter $2006^{r}$ | First quarter $2007^{\mathrm{p}}$ | First quarter 2006 to first quarter 2007 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Unadjusted |  |  |  |
|  | \$ millions |  |  | \% change |
| Commodity |  |  |  |  |
| Food and beverages | 18,788 | 22,365 | 19,888 | 5.9 |
| Health and personal care products | 7,617 | 9,002 | 8,482 | 11.3 |
| Clothing, footwear and accessories | 5,924 | 10,513 | 6,323 | 6.7 |
| Furniture, home furnishings and electronics | 7,656 | 11,168 | 8,209 | 7.2 |
| Motor vehicles, parts and services | 18,029 | 20,022 | 18,701 | 3.7 |
| Automotive fuels, oils and additives | 8,221 | 8,746 | 8,941 | 8.8 |
| Housewares | 1,708 | 2,247 | 1,767 | 3.5 |
| Hardware, lawn and garden products | 4,513 | 6,346 | 4,863 | 7.8 |
| Sporting and leisure goods | 2,589 | 4,495 | 2,742 | 5.9 |
| All other goods and services | 7,174 | 8,461 | 7,459 | 4.0 |
| Total | 82,220 | 103,363 | 87,376 | 6.3 |

$r$ revised
p preliminary

## For-hire motor carriers of freight, top carriers

First quarter 2007
The top 97 for-hire motor carriers of freight (Canadian-based trucking companies earning $\$ 25$ million or more annually) generated operating revenues of $\$ 2.5$ billion and operating expenses of $\$ 2.4$ billion in the first quarter.

As a result of the addition of six top carriers, average per-carrier revenues and expenses decreased slightly from the fourth quarter of 2006. Per-carrier revenues decreased $2.0 \%$ to $\$ 25.9$ million, and per-carrier expenses decreased $1.1 \%$ to $\$ 24.6$ million.

The top for-hire carriers' operating ratio (operating expenses divided by operating revenue) was 0.95 , compared with 0.94 in the fourth quarter of 2006. A ratio greater than 1.00 represents an operating loss.

Data on the top for-hire carriers for the first quarter of 2007, taken from the Quarterly Motor Carriers of Freight Survey, provide results from 66 general freight carriers (unchanged from the previous year) and 31 specialized freight carriers (compared with 25 carriers in 2006).

Note: Readers should note that, with few exceptions, additions and deletions to the top carriers are done only for the first quarter of each calendar year, while the composition of a top carrier may change at any time due to acquisitions or divestitures. Year-over-year variations in revenue and expenses may arise from
changes to the mix of companies included in the top carriers and/or changes in the financial results reported by individual carriers. The revenue and expenses attributed to top carriers may also include that of some companies with less than $\$ 25$ million in annual revenue, particularly when these companies exist in complex corporate structures where their individual activities may be difficult to accurately measure.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2748.

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.

## Aircraft movement statistics

June 2007 (preliminary)
The 42 Canadian airports with NAV CANADA air traffic control towers reported 445,745 aircraft take-offs and landings in June, up $8.9 \%$ compared with June 2006 ( 409,285 movements). This marked the 13th consecutive increase in year-over-year monthly comparisons. Year-over-year increases in aircraft movements were reported by 30 of these airports in June. The variations ranged from a rise of $169.0 \%$ for Moncton/Greater Moncton International to a decrease of $13.5 \%$ for St. John's International.

Itinerant movements (flights from one airport to another) increased $3.9 \%$ (+11,492 movements) in June compared with the same month a year earlier. Local movements (flights that remain in the vicinity of the airport) increased $22.1 \%$ (+24,968 movements) in June compared with June 2006.

## Available on CANSIM: table 401-0005.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2715.

The June 2007 issue of Aircraft Movement Statistics, Vol. 6, no. 6 (51F0001PWE, 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 Kathie Davidson (613-951-0141; fax: 613-951-0010; aviationstatistics@statcan.ca), Transportation Division.

## Steel wire and specified wire products

May 2007
Data on steel wire and specified wire products production are now available for May.

Available on CANSIM: table 303-0047.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2106.

The May 2007 issue of Steel, Tubular Products and Steel Wire (41-019-XWE, free) will soon be available.

For more information, 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; manufact@statcan.ca), Manufacturing, Construction and Energy Division.

## Steel pipe and tubing

May 2007
Data on the production and shipments of steel pipe and tubing are now available for May.

Available on CANSIM: table 303-0046.
Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2105.

The May 2007 issue of Steel, Tubular Products and Steel Wire (41-019-XWE, free) will soon be available.

For more information, 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; manufact@statcan.ca), Manufacturing, Construction and Energy Division.

## New products

Aircraft Movement Statistics, Monthly, June 2007, Vol. 6, no. 6 Catalogue number 51F0001PWE (free).

## Science, Innovation and Electronic Information

 Division Working Papers, 2007, no. 4 Catalogue number 88F0006XIE2007004 (free).Profiles of Ethnic Communities in Canada: The West Asian Community in Canada, 2001, no. 3 Catalogue number 89-621-XWE2007003 (free).

Profiles of Ethnic Communities in Canada: The East Indian Community in Canada, 2001, no. 4 Catalogue number 89-621-XWE2007004 (free).

## Profiles of Ethnic Communities in Canada: The Filipino Community in Canada, 2001, no. 5 Catalogue number 89-621-XWE2007005 (free).

Profiles of Ethnic Communities in Canada : The South Asian Community in Canada, 2001, no. 6 Catalogue number 89-621-XWE2007006 (free).

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