Catalogue 11-001-XIE (Français 11-001-XIF) ISSN 1205-9137

The Daily

Statistics Canada

Tuesday, September 11, 2007
Released at 8:30 a.m. Eastern time

Releases

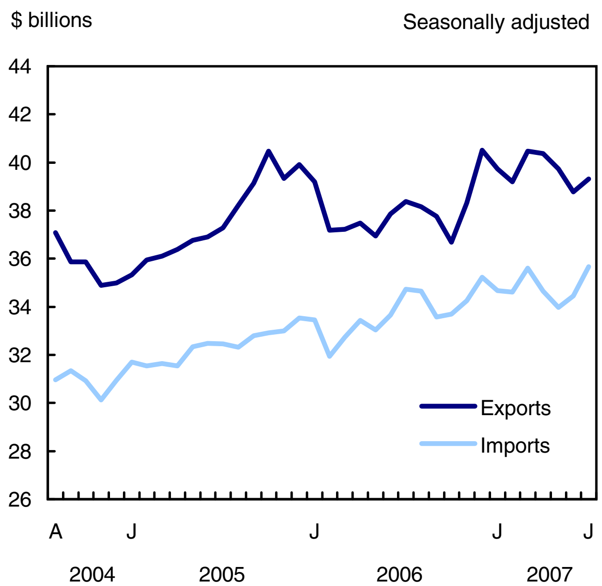
Releases

Canadian international merchandise trade

July 2007

Canadian merchandise imports set a new record high in July, in the wake of the appreciation of the Canadian dollar in recent months.

Exports and imports



Imports continued to gain ground, jumping 3.5% to $35.7 billion, from a revised $34.5 billion in June. This second consecutive monthly rise was led by an advance in imports of automotive products.

Canadian companies exported $39.3 billion in July, a 1.4% increase from the revised $38.8 billion in June. Industrial goods and materials as well as automotive products were the driving forces behind this increase.

As a result, the nation's trade surplus with the world narrowed to $3.7 billion, as imports increased at more than twice the pace of exports.

Similarly, Canada's trade surplus with the United States contracted to $6.5 billion, with imports increasing at a faster rate than exports.

Both trade surpluses fell to their lowest levels since October 2006.

At the same time, Canada's trade deficit with countries other than the United States widened slightly to $2.8 billion.

> ***Note to readers***
>
> *Merchandise trade is one component of the current account of Canada's balance of payments, which also includes trade in services.*
>
> *International merchandise trade data by country are available on both a balance of payments and a customs basis for the United States, Japan and the United Kingdom. Trade data for all other individual countries are available on a customs basis only. Balance of payments data are derived from customs data by making adjustments for items such as valuation, coverage, timing and residency. These adjustments are made to conform to the concepts and definitions of the Canadian System of National Accounts.*
>
> *At the end of each quarter,* The Daily *includes a section describing trends and topics of interest relating to Canadian international merchandise trade. This section typically discusses data presented on a customs basis and not seasonally adjusted.*
>
> ***Revisions***
>
> *In general, merchandise trade data are revised on an ongoing basis for each month of the current year. Each quarter, customs-basis data are revised for the previous data year.*
>
> *Factors influencing revisions include late receipt of import and export documentation, incorrect information on customs forms, the replacement of estimates with actual figures, changes in the classification of merchandise based on more current information, and changes to seasonal adjustment factors.*
>
> *Revised data are available in the appropriate CANSIM tables.*

Since April, the Canadian dollar has appreciated 8.0% against the US dollar, making imported goods cheaper. Simultaneously, the volume of imports has increased.

Exports rise as industrial goods reach a new peak

Strong growth in exports of industrial goods and materials as well as automotive products boosted total exports in July.

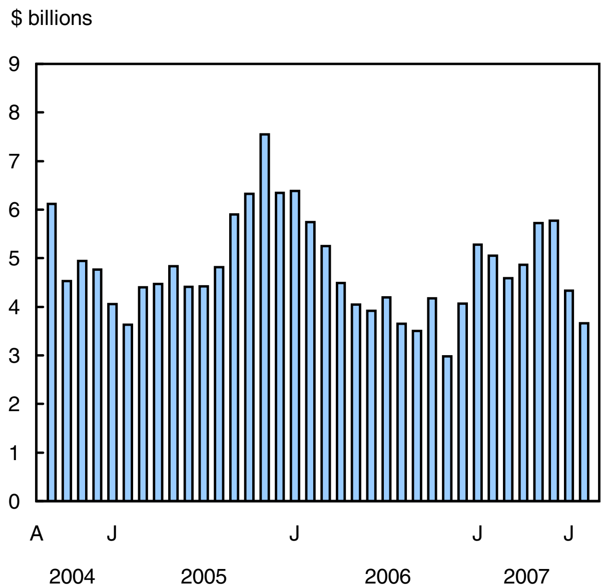
Exports of industrial goods and materials hit a record high of $9.7 billion, climbing 6.6% in July on the combined strength of metals and alloys as well as metal ores. Metals and alloys jumped 12.3% to $3.6 billion, while metal ores soared 27.9% to $1.5 billion. In contrast, exports of chemicals, plastics and fertilizers were down 6.4%, following declines in inorganic chemicals.

After three months of declines, automotive products rose 7.1% to $6.7 billion in July, but were still below their March 2007 level, the highest point this year. The bulk of the rise stemmed from passenger autos, which increased 12.0% to $3.4 billion. Exports of motor vehicle parts as well as trucks and other motor vehicles also contributed to the increase.

Machinery and equipment exports edged up 0.8% in July. The biggest increases were in television, telecommunication and related equipment (+13.4%) as well as industrial and agricultural machinery (+3.3%). These increases were tempered by exports of aircraft and other transportation equipment, which slipped 0.3% to $1.7 billion.

Exports of other consumer goods edged up 0.8% to $1.6 billion. This sector has been on a downward slide since peaking in December 2006.

Trade balance



Energy products fell 6.6% to $7.0 billion, the second monthly decline in a row. Exports of natural gas declined sharply, as did exports of other energy products, particularly electricity. The decrease in natural gas exports was entirely the result of lower prices, as volumes rose 1.1%. In the case of electricity, volumes declined while prices rose. A small increase in crude petroleum exports, resulting from a rise in volumes and a drop in price, mitigated these declines.

Forestry products slipped 0.9% to $2.4 billion, the fourth decrease in as many months. A 2.7% drop in newsprint and other paper products led the decline, followed by wood pulp and other wood products. In contrast, exports of lumber and sawmill products increased 1.0% to $1.1 billion.

Exports of agricultural and fishing products dipped 0.7% to $2.8 billion, as wheat exports plunged 25.2%, offsetting the peak attained earlier in 2007. Exports of canola surged in July, following last month's decrease. Canola exports have been invigorated by ample Canadian supply and increased world demand. In particular, China's oilseed crops have been under stress following droughts in the northeastern part of the country.

Imports hit a new record high

Imports increased for the second consecutive month. Higher imports of automotive products, machinery and equipment as well as other consumer goods outweighed declines in the four remaining sectors.

The automotive sector bounced back in July, rising 14.1% to $7.1 billion. This increase overturned the last three monthly declines, bringing automotive products to a level only slightly below March 2007, its highest point this year. Demand for motor vehicles in Canada remained high; accordingly, passenger autos jumped 26.4%. Motor vehicle parts also contributed to the rise in the sector, increasing 13.2%. In contrast, trucks and other motor vehicles fell 1.0%.

Machinery and equipment imports rose 2.8% to just shy of $10 billion. Imports of aircraft and other transportation equipment maintained their upward trend, soaring 30.1% to a record high of $1.7 billion. However, this growth was dampened by declines in industrial and agricultural machinery, as imports of engines, turbines and motors returned to previous levels. Lower imports of office machines and equipment also contributed to the decrease.

The downward trend in other consumer goods came to a halt in July, as the sector increased 3.8% to $4.6 billion. Lower imports of miscellaneous consumer goods, particularly pharmaceuticals, were responsible for the increase.

After two months of strong increases, imports of energy products tumbled more than 10% to $3.1 billion, returning to May levels. Both crude petroleum and other energy products contributed to the plunge. A decline in volume led to the 6.8% decrease in crude petroleum, despite an increase in price. A deep cut in the volume of coal and other related products drove imports of other energy products downward 17.8%.

Imports of agricultural and fishing products edged down 0.4% to $2.1 billion, as declining imports of fruits and vegetables more than offset rising imports of other agricultural and fishing products, particularly sugar and sugar preparations.

Industrial goods and materials remained flat at $7.2 billion. The overall stability of the sector masked more significant movements within it, as declining imports of metals and metal ores eclipsed record imports of chemicals and plastics. Chemical ingredients used in the manufacture of various medications contributed to the rise.

Available on CANSIM: tables 228-0001 to 228-0003, 228-0033, 228-0034, 228-0041 to 228-0043 and 228-0047 to 228-0055.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey numbers, including related surveys, 2201, 2202 and 2203.

The July 2007 issue of *Canadian International Merchandise Trade*, Vol. 61, no. 7 (65-001-XIB, free) is now available from the *Publications* module of our website. The publication includes tables by commodity and country on a customs basis. Current account data (which incorporate merchandise trade statistics, service transactions, investment income and transfers) are available quarterly in *Canada's Balance of International Payments* (67-001-XWE, free).

The publication is available free in PDF format on the morning of release.

For more information on products and services, contact Sharon Nevins (toll-free 1-800-294-5583; 613-951-9798). To enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Anne Couillard (613-951-6867), International Trade Division.

□

Merchandise trade

	June 2007[r]	July 2007	June to July 2007	July 2006 to July 2007	January to July 2006	January to July 2007	January–July 2006 to January–July 2007
	Seasonally adjusted, $ current						
	$ millions		% change		$ millions		% change
Principal trading partners							
Exports							
United States	29,422	29,677	0.9	-3.3	212,423	211,803	-0.3
Japan	775	849	9.5	5.7	5,958	6,253	5.0
European Union[1]	3,435	3,386	-1.4	28.6	18,345	24,189	31.9
Other OECD countries[2]	1,829	1,852	1.3	35.3	9,189	12,474	35.7
All other countries	3,325	3,560	7.1	23.5	18,365	22,910	24.7
Total	**38,787**	**39,323**	**1.4**	**2.5**	**264,278**	**277,627**	**5.1**
Imports							
United States	22,393	23,227	3.7	2.1	152,664	158,673	3.9
Japan	937	1,033	10.2	3.2	6,933	6,941	0.1
European Union[1]	3,399	3,831	12.7	11.3	24,177	25,126	3.9
Other OECD countries[2]	1,982	2,006	1.2	-3.3	13,732	14,114	2.8
All other countries	5,742	5,562	-3.1	1.6	35,478	38,773	9.3
Total	**34,453**	**35,659**	**3.5**	**2.7**	**232,981**	**243,630**	**4.6**
Balance							
United States	7,029	6,450	...	...	59,759	53,130	...
Japan	-162	-184	...	...	-975	-688	...
European Union[1]	36	-445	...	...	-5,832	-937	...
Other OECD countries[2]	-153	-154	...	...	-4,543	-1,640	...
All other countries	-2,417	-2,002	...	...	-17,113	-15,863	...
Total	**4,334**	**3,664**	**...**	**...**	**31,297**	**33,997**	**...**
Principal commodity groupings							
Exports							
Agricultural and fishing products	2,817	2,796	-0.7	8.3	17,725	20,149	13.7
Energy products	7,524	7,029	-6.6	-8.6	51,688	52,641	1.8
Forestry products	2,463	2,442	-0.9	-10.1	19,937	17,858	-10.4
Industrial goods and materials	9,054	9,650	6.6	22.0	52,130	62,893	20.6
Machinery and equipment	7,868	7,932	0.8	-1.6	54,702	56,956	4.1
Automotive products	6,236	6,678	7.1	2.0	49,015	47,014	-4.1
Other consumer goods	1,581	1,594	0.8	-0.1	10,106	11,413	12.9
Special transactions trade[3]	777	667	-14.2	-10.0	5,085	5,046	-0.8
Other balance of payments adjustments	467	536	14.8	0.2	3,889	3,657	-6.0
Imports							
Agricultural and fishing products	2,093	2,085	-0.4	4.5	13,362	14,747	10.4
Energy products	3,474	3,105	-10.6	-5.5	20,297	20,953	3.2
Forestry products	251	246	-2.0	-0.4	1,776	1,765	-0.6
Industrial goods and materials	7,242	7,237	-0.1	2.6	48,473	50,122	3.4
Machinery and equipment	9,659	9,928	2.8	3.8	65,762	68,307	3.9
Automotive products	6,250	7,133	14.1	-1.4	46,250	47,470	2.6
Other consumer goods	4,401	4,569	3.8	5.8	29,804	32,167	7.9
Special transactions trade[3]	406	659	62.3	89.9	2,593	3,336	28.7
Other balance of payments adjustments	677[r]	697	3.0	1.8	4,667	4,758	1.9

r revised
... not applicable
1. *Includes Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, and United Kingdom.*
2. *Other countries in the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) include Australia, Canada, Iceland, Mexico, New Zealand, Norway, South Korea, Switzerland and Turkey.*
3. *These are mainly low-valued transactions, value of repairs to equipment, and goods returned to their country of origin.*

■

Stocks of grain

As of July 31, 2007

Except for flaxseed, total commercial and on-farm stocks of major and special crops fell from the generally robust levels reported as of July 31, 2006, according to a survey of Canadian grain farmers and commercial grain holders.

In the Prairie Provinces, on-farm stocks of most major crops as of July 31, 2007, were down to levels below their five-year averages. Farm stocks of canola and flaxseed fell, but remained above the five-year average.

Farm stocks of corn in Eastern Canada remained high, above the five-year average. Stocks of soybeans declined from the record levels reported in July 2006.

Wheat stocks down in wake of export demand

Total stocks of wheat, which include on-farm and commercial stocks, were estimated at 6.8 million tonnes, a decrease of 29.2% or 2.8 million tonnes from the same period in 2006. Lower wheat stock levels were the result of strong above-average export demand, brought on by a tight world supply-and-demand situation.

On-farm Prairie inventories of wheat were down 54.8% from July 2006 to 1.9 million tonnes. The five-year average is 2.3 million tonnes. Farmers reported decreases in all three Prairie Provinces. The largest decrease, 1.7 million tonnes, occurred in Saskatchewan, where stocks hit 880,000 tonnes.

Total stocks of durum wheat amounted to 1.2 million tonnes, down a sharp 62.2% from the record set in July 2006. The five-year average for July is 2.1 million tonnes. Export demand for durum wheat has increased considerably, the result of strong global requirements after several years of oversupply.

Durum producers in Saskatchewan and Alberta reported they held much less durum on their farms in 2007. On-farm stocks in Saskatchewan were down 83.0% to 230,000 tonnes, while Alberta farmers reported a similar decline of 75.9% to an estimated 70,000 tonnes. Commercial stocks also declined by 42.3% to 932,000 tonnes.

Feed grain stocks fall below the five-year average

Total stocks of barley on July 31 tumbled 54.6% to 1.5 million tonnes, a level well below the five-year average of 2.4 million tonnes. Generally higher world prices, brought on by demand for corn for the ethanol industry and a decline in Canadian barley production in 2006, were responsible for the drop.

Prairie on-farm stocks also fell, with declines ranging from 34.6% in Manitoba to 73.1% in Saskatchewan, where stocks had hit record highs as of July 2006.

Total stocks of oats fell 36.2% to 556,000 tonnes. On-farm stocks fell in all three Prairie Provinces to levels well below the five-year average, the result of strong export demand.

Total stocks of field peas dropped 235,000 tonnes to 205,000 tonnes, well below the five-year average of 365,000 tonnes.

Commercial and on-farm stocks of field peas fell to levels below the corresponding five-year average. Commercial stocks tumbled 39.3% to 85,000 tonnes, and Prairie on-farm stocks fell 60.0% to 120,000 tonnes. Lower crop production in 2006, combined with increased domestic feeding, were responsible.

Canola stocks off slightly

Total stocks of canola amounted to an estimated 1.8 million tonnes, off 9.3% from 2006, but still well above the five-year average of 1.3 million tonnes. Commercial stocks were up 247,000 tonnes to 1.1 million tonnes.

However, significant declines were reported for on-farm stocks in all three Prairie Provinces, ranging from 28.6% in Alberta to 46.7% in Saskatchewan.

Continued steady exports, along with a strong domestic crush and a minor reduction in the 2006 harvest, all combined to produce the stock decrease.

Note to readers

The July Farm Survey of 17,300 farm operators was conducted from July 27 to August 5. Farmers were asked to report the amounts of grain, oilseeds and special crops in on-farm storage.

Data on commercial stocks of western major crops originate from the Canadian Grain Commission. Commercial stocks of corn and soybeans are estimated by a Statistics Canada sample of grain elevators in Eastern Canada. Data on commercial stocks of special crops originate from a survey of handlers and agents of special crops.

Supply-demand tables containing stock data are available in CANSIM by subscription (22F0002XFB) or in the July issue of the publication Cereals and Oilseeds Review *(22-007-XIB), which will soon be available.*

Commercial and on-farm stocks on August 31 of corn and soybeans will be published in the September "Estimate of production of principal field crops" on October 4.

Flaxseed stocks inch up

Total stocks of flaxseed inched up 37,000 tonnes to 373,000 tonnes, the highest level since 2000.

An increase in commercial stocks was tempered by declines in on-farm stocks, which declined 20.0% but remained at a level more than twice the five-year average. In spite of continued robust exports, stocks of flaxseed remained high after two years of strong production.

In Saskatchewan, where most Canadian flaxseed is grown, on-farm stocks fell 65,000 tonnes from the record high in 2006 to 130,000 tonnes. The five-year average level is 75,000 tonnes.

Available on CANSIM: tables 001-0040 to 001-0042.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey numbers, including related surveys, 3401, 3403, 3443, 3464 and 3476.

The publication *Field Crop Reporting Series: Stocks of Canadian Grain at July 31, 2007*, Vol. 86, no. 6 (22-002-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 David Burroughs (613-951-5138; *dave.burroughs@statcan.ca*) or Dave Roeske (613-951-0572; *dave.roeske@statcan.ca*), Agriculture Division.

Total stocks of major and special crops at July 31

Crop	2006	2007	Five-year average	2006 to 2007
	thousands of tonnes			% change
Total wheat	**9,638**	**6,828**	**7,198**	**-29.2**
Wheat excl. durum	6,382	5,595	5,064	-12.3
Canola	2,007	1,820	1,269	-9.3
Barley	3,289	1,492	2,474	-54.6
Durum wheat	3,256	1,232	2,134	-62.2
Oats	872	556	704	-36.2
Flaxseed	336	373	153	11.0
Dry field peas	440	205	365	-53.4
Lentils	475	139	189	-70.7
Canary seed	190	121	96	-36.3
Mustard seed	190	91	112	-52.1
Sunflower seed	27	23	32	-14.8

■

New Housing Price Index

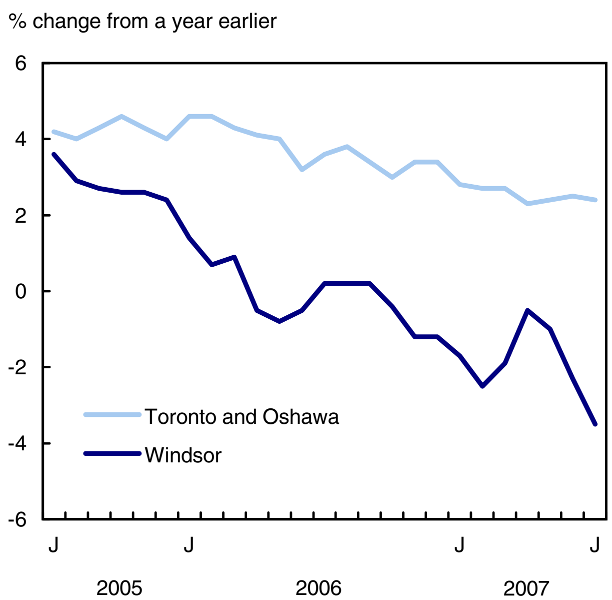
July 2007

The pace of growth in new housing prices slowed for the 11th consecutive month in July, despite the ongoing red-hot pace in Saskatchewan.

Contractors' selling prices increased 7.7% in July compared with July 2006, a slightly slower rate than the 7.8% gain in June. Prices have been decelerating since August 2006 when the year-over-year rate of growth peaked at 12.1%.

On a monthly basis, prices increased 0.9% between June and July. The New Housing Price Index increased to 154.4 (1997=100).

Windsor market slows



Demand for new housing remained hot in Saskatchewan. Prices in Saskatoon set a record high year-over-year increase for the fifth consecutive month (+51.4%). Regina also registered a record 12-month increase of 23.0%.

Prices in Winnipeg were 15.7% higher than in July 2006 in the wake of land shortages and development costs, combined with labour rates for framers and concrete workers.

In Alberta, new housing prices in Edmonton continued to increase at a fast pace with a year-over-year increase of 38.4%. Hikes in land values from developers were a major contributor. On the other hand, a cooling trend continued in Calgary, where the year-over-year increase was only 9.8%, the slowest gain in almost two years.

A healthy housing market in Vancouver resulted in a year-over-year increase of 9.2%, down slightly from the 9.8% increase recorded in the previous month.

Housing prices remained strong in Halifax, rising 6.8% over July 2006, despite only a small monthly increase of 0.1%.

In Windsor, new housing prices fell 3.5% below levels in July 2006 as builders priced to sell in a depressed market.

On a monthly basis, the fastest gain occurred in Edmonton (+7.0%), which registered its largest one-month increase in over 20 years. It was followed by Winnipeg (+4.3%), Saskatoon (+3.0%) and Regina (+1.6%).

The only census metropolitan areas registering declines from June were Windsor (-0.6%) and Greater Sudbury and Thunder Bay (-0.4%).

Available on CANSIM: table 327-0005.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2310.

The second quarter 2007 issue of *Capital Expenditure Price Statistics* (62-007-XWE, free) will be available in October.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Client Services (613-951-9606; fax: 613-951-1539; *prices-prix@statcan.ca*), Prices Division. □

New Housing Price Indexes

	July 2007	July 2006 to July 2007	June to July 2007
	1997=100	% change	
Canada total	**154.5**	**7.7**	**0.9**
House only	164.1	7.0	0.7
Land only	135.4	9.0	1.3
St. John's	136.1	3.3	1.3
Halifax	139.6	6.8	0.1
Charlottetown	117.8	0.3	0.0
Saint John, Fredericton and Moncton	113.7	0.4	0.2
Québec	147.0	3.2	0.0
Montréal	153.6	3.9	0.0
Ottawa–Gatineau	161.7	1.4	0.1
Toronto and Oshawa	141.1	2.4	0.2
Hamilton	149.6	4.3	0.2
St. Catharines–Niagara	150.1	3.7	0.3
Kitchener	139.3	1.6	0.1
London	138.5	5.0	0.6
Windsor	102.3	-3.5	-0.6
Greater Sudbury and Thunder Bay	105.9	4.5	-0.4
Winnipeg	168.1	15.7	4.3
Regina	191.7	23.0	1.6
Saskatoon	209.1	51.4	3.0
Calgary	248.8	9.8	0.1
Edmonton	247.4	38.4	7.0
Vancouver	122.3	9.2	0.2
Victoria	118.7	1.1	0.0

Note: *View the census subdivisions that comprise the metropolitan areas online.*

■

Export and import price indexes

July 2007

Current- and fixed-weighted export and import price indexes (2002=100) on a balance-of-payments basis are now available. These indexes are listed from January 2002 to July 2007 for the five commodity sections and the major commodity groups (62 exports and 61 imports).

Current- and fixed-weighted US price indexes (2002=100) are also available on a customs basis. These indexes are listed from January 2002 to July 2007. Included with the US commodity indexes are the 10 all-countries and US-only Standard International Trade Classification section indexes.

Indexes for the five commodity sections and the major commodity groups are also available now on a customs basis.

Available on CANSIM: tables 228-0001 to 228-0003 and 228-0047 to 228-0055.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey numbers, including related surveys, 2201, 2202 and 2203.

The July 2007 issue of *Canadian International Merchandise Trade*, Vol. 61, no. 7 (65-001-XIB, free) is now available.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact the Marketing and Client Services Section (toll-free 1-800-294-5583), International Trade Division. ■

Chain Fisher real dollar export and import values

July 2007

The monthly chain Fisher real dollar values (reference year 2002) for Canadian international merchandise trade for July are now available.

These series are not offered in CANSIM.

To order data, contact the Marketing and Client Services Section (toll-free 1-800-294-5583). To enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Bernard Lupien (613-951-6872), International Trade Division. ■

Commercial Software Price Index

July 2007

The Commercial Software Price Index (CSPI) is a monthly series measuring the change in the purchase price of pre-packaged software typically bought by businesses and governments. The CSPI for July was 65.7 (2001=100), unchanged from June.

This index is available at the Canada level only.

Available on CANSIM: table 331-0003.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 5068.

For more information on this index, contact Client Services (toll-free 1-866-230-2248; 613-951-9606; *prices-prix@statcan.ca*). To enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Neil Killips (613-951-5722; *neil.killips@statcan.ca*), Prices Division. ■

Cement

July 2007

Data on cement are now available for July.

Available on CANSIM: tables 303-0060 and 303-0061.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2140.

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

Field Crop Reporting Series, Vol. 86, no. 6
Catalogue number 22-002-XIE
(free).

Canadian International Merchandise Trade,
July 2007, Vol. 61, no. 7
Catalogue number 65-001-XIB
(free).

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

Catalogue numbers with an -XWE, -XIB or an -XIE extension are Internet versions; those with -XMB or -XME are microfiche; -XPB or -XPE are paper versions; -XDB or -XDE are electronic versions on diskette; -XCB or -XCE are electronic versions on compact disc; -XVB or -XVE are electronic versions on DVD and -XBB or -XBE a database.

How to order products

To order by phone, please refer to:

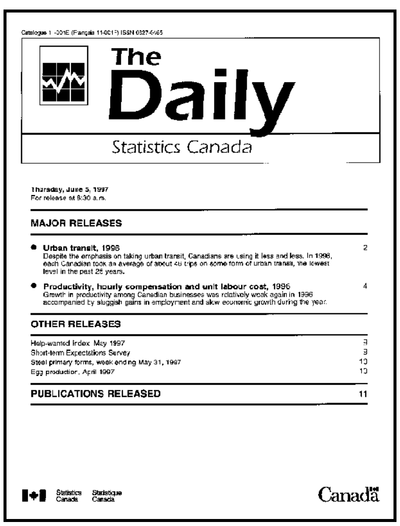
- The title
- The catalogue number
- The volume number
- The issue number
- Your credit card number.

From Canada and the United States, call:	**1-800-267-6677**
From other countries, call:	**1-613-951-2800**
To fax your order, call:	**1-877-287-4369**
For address changes or account inquiries, call:	**1-877-591-6963**

To order by mail, write to: Statistics Canada, Finance, 6th floor, R.H. Coats Bldg., Ottawa, K1A 0T6.
Include a cheque or money order payable to **Receiver General of Canada/Publications**. Canadian customers add 6% GST and applicable PST.

To order by Internet, write to: *infostats@statcan.ca* or download an electronic version by accessing Statistics Canada's website *(www.statcan.ca)*. From the *Our products and services* page, under *Browse our Internet publications*, choose *For sale*.

Authorized agents and bookstores also carry Statistics Canada's catalogued publications.



Catalogue 11-001E (Français 11-001F) ISSN 0827-0465

The Daily

Statistics Canada

Thursday, June 5, 1997
For release at 8:30 a.m.

MAJOR RELEASES

- **Urban transit, 1996** 2
  Despite the emphasis on taking urban transit, Canadians are using it less and less. In 1996, each Canadian took an average of about 46 trips on some form of urban transit, the lowest level in the past 25 years.
- **Productivity, hourly compensation and unit labour cost, 1996** 4
  Growth in productivity among Canadian businesses was relatively weak again in 1996 accompanied by sluggish gains in employment and slow economic growth during the year.

OTHER RELEASES

Help-wanted Index, May 1997	9
Short-term Expectations Survey	9
Steel primary forms, week ending May 31, 1997	10
Egg production, April 1997	10

PUBLICATIONS RELEASED 11

Statistics Canada Statistique Canada

Canada

Statistics Canada's official release bulletin

Catalogue 11-001-XIE.

Published each working day by the Communications and library Services Division, Statistics Canada, 10G, R.H. Coats Building, 100 Tunney's Pasture Driveway, Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0T6.

To access *The Daily* on the Internet, visit our site at *http://www.statcan.ca*. To receive *The Daily* each morning by e-mail, send an e-mail message to *listproc@statcan.ca*. Leave the subject line blank. In the body of the message, type "subscribe daily firstname lastname".