



The Daily

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<p>Following seven consecutive months of increases, employment edged down in December (-19,000). Over the year, however, employment was up an estimated 2.2% (+370,000), similar to the growth rate of 2006 (+2.1%) and the fifteenth consecutive year of employment growth. The unemployment rate held steady at 5.9% in December.</p>	
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<p>Canadian merchandise exports increased in November for only the third time in 2007, halting a three-month decline. At the same time, imports increased but at a slower pace. As a result, the nation's trade surplus with the world expanded for the second month in a row.</p>	
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Releases

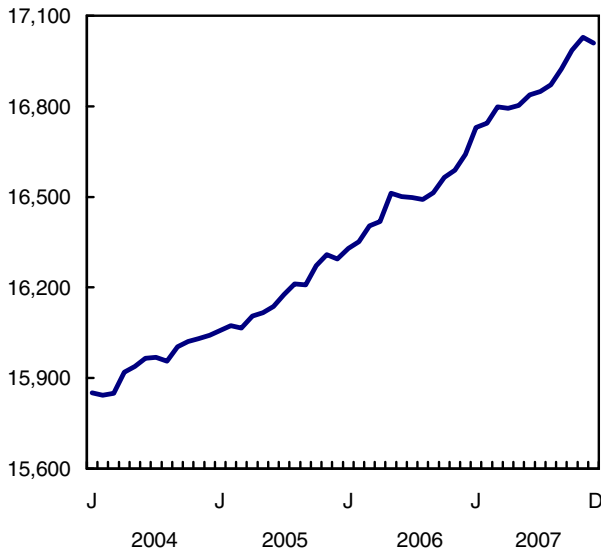
Labour Force Survey

December 2007

Following seven consecutive months of increases, employment edged down in December (-19,000). Over the year, however, employment was up an estimated 2.2% (+370,000), similar to the growth rate of 2006 (+2.1%) and the fifteenth consecutive year of employment growth. The unemployment rate held steady at 5.9% in December.

Employment

Thousands



Full-time employment accounted for three-quarters of Canada's employment growth in 2007. Although older workers represented 30% of the working age population, they accounted for half of the total employment growth.

For the second straight year, Alberta charted the highest employment growth rate of all provinces, although at a slower clip than in 2006. Employment gains were also strong in New Brunswick, British Columbia and Quebec in 2007.

Alberta posted the only significant employment gain in December (+21,000). This, however, was offset by declines in six provinces.

Manufacturing experienced another drop in December (-33,000). Following a decline of 2.4% in 2006, employment in this industry was further reduced by an estimated 6.2% in 2007.

Note to readers

The analysis presented in this release describes labour market trends in 2007 by looking at the change in estimates from December 2006 to December 2007. This indicator picks up the more recent labour market trends for the year but can be influenced by unusual spikes or declines in the end points used to calculate the change.

An annual review of the territories, Aboriginal peoples living off-reserve in the western provinces and immigrants is now available in Labour Force Information (71-001-XWE, free).

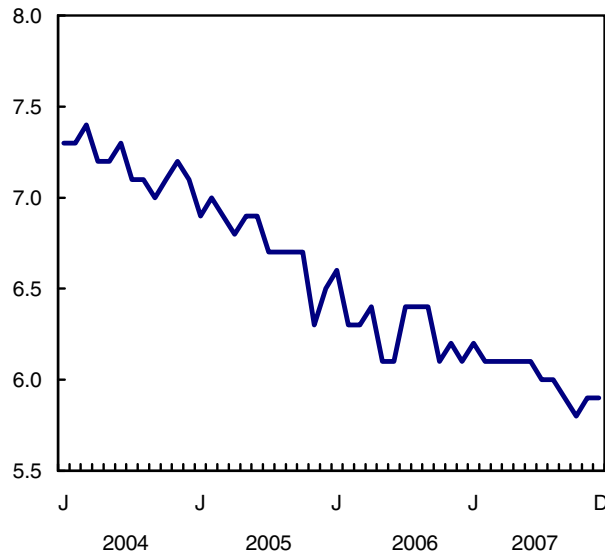
Seasonally adjusted estimates from the Labour Force Survey will be revised using the latest seasonal factors, going back three years (January 2005 onwards). They will be available on CANSIM (tables 282-0087 to 282-0094) on February 1.

All of the employment losses in December were among employees in the private sector, leaving gains for this group of workers up a tepid 0.4% over the course of the year. Gains for the year were mostly in the public sector and self-employment.

Wages continued to rise in December, increasing to 4.9% from December 2006, exceeding the most recent increase in the Consumer Price Index of 2.5%. At \$23.50, Alberta's average hourly wage stood well above that of other provinces, up 8.8% or close to two dollars from 12 months earlier, and far above that province's Consumer Price Index change of 4.7%.

Unemployment rate

%



Canada's employment gains surpassed that of the United States

Canada's employment growth of 2.2% in the past twelve months far surpassed that of the United States (+0.2%). Employment gains in the service-producing sector in the United States were hampered by continued losses in manufacturing as well as declines in construction and financial activities in 2007.

The Canadian unemployment rate has historically been higher than that of the United States, even once adjusted to US concepts. From 2001 to 2006, the average gap was approximately 1.0 percentage point. While the Canadian unemployment rate reached record lows in 2007, the US unemployment rate increased, narrowing the gap between the two rates to 0.3 percentage points in December 2007. Meanwhile, employment and participation rates in Canada remained above those in the United States throughout 2007.

Goods-producing sector employment hindered by manufacturing

In December, employment was down in the goods-producing sector, as declines in manufacturing and agriculture were only partly offset by increases in natural resources and construction.

In 2007, the goods-producing sector declined by 1.2% (-48,000), despite strength in construction and utilities.

With a surge in the Canadian dollar, soaring costs for energy and other materials and stiff competition from other countries, the manufacturing industry suffered considerable employment losses in 2007. Employment in this industry shrank by an estimated 132,000 (-6.2%), bringing accumulated losses since November 2002 to 348,000 (-14.9%), approaching the early 1990s manufacturing decline of 364,000 (-17.1%). Over the year, manufacturing losses mainly stemmed from wood product manufacturing; motor vehicle and parts; fabricated metal and furniture.

Building on the momentum of the previous five years, employment in construction (+6.8%) continued to grow in 2007. Employment growth in utilities (+13.0%) in 2007, a more recent trend, brings employment in this industry to similar levels as those in the early 1990s.

Lion's share of growth in the service-producing sector in 2007

In December, there were a number of industry changes in the service-producing sector compared with the previous month, as increases in transportation and warehousing and public administration were offset

by declines in accommodation and food services and "other services."

Employment in the service-producing sector rose an estimated 3.3% (+417,000) in 2007. Above-average gains occurred in public administration (+9.4%); information, culture and recreation (+8.9%); professional, scientific and technical services (+5.7%); transportation and warehousing (+4.8%) and "other services" (+4.8%).

Public sector and self-employment fuelled employment growth over the year

Despite little change in December, public sector employment rose by 6.5% (+208,000) since December 2006. Growth was particularly strong in public administration; utilities; health and social assistance; and education.

Self-employment rose by an estimated 22,000 in December, bringing growth in 2007 to 4.5% (+114,000). This is in contrast to 2006 when it edged down (-0.4%). All of the self-employment gains were in full-time work in 2007.

In December, employment in the private sector declined by 51,000, offsetting the gains made the previous month. Over the year, private sector employment notched up only 0.4% (+47,000), driven by part-time work.

The two westernmost provinces continued to thrive in 2007

Employment in Alberta surged ahead in December (+21,000), bringing this province's employment rate to another record high (71.9%), while the unemployment rate dipped 0.4 percentage points to 3.2%.

Alberta's employment for the year rose by a solid 4.3%, the highest growth rate of all provinces. This was, however, lower than the robust growth seen in 2006 (+5.6%), when employment gains for this province were the highest since the previous oil boom in the mid-to-late seventies. Gains over the year stemmed from full-time employment, primarily in natural resources, construction and a number of service-producing industries.

Although employment was down in British Columbia in December, this province had strong employment growth in 2007 (+3.3%). With a mix of full- and part-time gains, employment was particularly strong over the year in the goods-producing sector (+4.1%): with gains in construction; utilities; natural resources and agriculture, as well as a few service industries: information, culture and recreation; transportation and warehousing; public administration and trade.

With fewer people employed in Manitoba in December, the employment rate declined to 66.3%,

following a record high in November of 67.0%. The province's 2007 employment growth rate of 1.9% (+11,000) is the highest since 2002.

In December, employment was also down in Saskatchewan. Following strong growth in 2006 (+4.9%), employment growth in 2007 was only 0.3%. Weakness in agriculture and trade offset gains in other industries. Despite little employment growth in 2007, Saskatchewan's December unemployment rate of 4.0% was the second lowest of all provinces.

Quebec's employment situation improved in 2007

Although employment edged down in December, Quebec's employment growth was stronger in 2007 than in 2006. This province's growth rate was above the national average, at 2.4%, the best in five years, as employment rates reached record highs in 2007 (61.4% in November) and the unemployment rate hit a 33-year low (6.9% first reached in June). However, employment gains were mostly in part-time work.

Quebec's employment gains over the year were in construction; utilities; accommodation and food services; and "other services." Manufacturing declines were substantial at an estimated 43,000 (-7.5%) in 2007, primarily in the manufacturing of textile and clothing; food; wood and printing products.

Employment in Ontario also edged down in December, as losses in manufacturing; accommodation and food services; and finance, insurance, real estate and leasing were only partially offset by gains in trade and public administration. This brought Ontario's unemployment rate up 0.3 percentage points to 6.5% in December, 0.6 percentage points above the national average.

Ontario's employment growth was a tepid 1.4% in 2007, mainly due to weakness in the goods-producing sector (-5.6%). Not only were there losses in manufacturing, but also in agriculture; natural resources and construction over the year. Manufacturing employment in this province dropped 6.5% (-64,000) in 2007, primarily in motor vehicles, body and parts; fabricated metal; and wood products manufacturing.

Despite these weaknesses in the goods-producing sector in Ontario during 2007, there were notable gains in the services industries (+3.6%): public administration; education; information, culture and recreation; and professional, scientific and technical services. Employment growth was all in full-time work in the province.

Great year for New Brunswick

Despite a small decline in employment in December, New Brunswick had the second-highest growth rate of all provinces in 2007 (+3.6%), and was the only Atlantic province to record significant growth. This follows two years of little employment change for New Brunswick.

New Brunswick's employment gains over the year were in full-time work and primarily in professional, scientific and technical services; health care and social assistance; public administration and construction.

Employment robust for older workers in 2007

Employment increased by an estimated 17,000 for people aged 55 and over in December. Older workers had above-average employment growth in 2007 (+7.7%), with higher gains for older women (+9.4%) than men (+6.4%). Older women were more likely to be participating in the labour market in 2007, as their participation rate increased 1.6 percentage points to 27.9% from one year ago, their highest rate on record.

Youth also experienced healthy employment gains in 2007 (+2.1%), the strongest pace of growth since 2002. In December, 59.6% of those aged 15 to 24 were employed, up 0.8 percentage points from December 2006.

In December, employment fell for women aged 25 to 54 years (-30,000), bringing their employment rate down 0.4 percentage points to 78.1%. Over the year, employment growth was moderate for both men and women in this age group, each up 1.1%.

Note: The Labour Force Survey (LFS) estimates are based on a sample, and are therefore subject to sampling variability. Estimates for smaller geographic areas or industries will have more variability. For an explanation of sampling variability of estimates, and how to use standard errors to assess this variability, consult the "Data quality" section of the publication *Labour Force Information* (71-001-XWE, free).

Available on CANSIM: tables 282-0001 to 282-0042, 282-0047 to 282-0064 and 282-0069 to 282-0099.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 3701.

A more detailed summary, *Labour Force Information* (71-001-XWE, free) is now available online for the week ending December 8. From the *Publications* module of our website, under *Free Internet publications*, choose *Labour*. LAN and bulk prices are available on request. The CD-ROM *Labour Force Historical Review, 2006*

(71F0004XCB, \$209) is now available. See *How to order products*.

Data tables are also now available online. From the *By Subject* module of our website, choose *Labour*.

The next release of the Labour Force Survey will be on February 8.

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 Vincent Ferrao (613-951-4750) or Jeannine Usalcas (613-951-4720), Labour Statistics Division.

Labour force characteristics by age and sex

	November 2007	December 2007	November to December 2007	December 2006 to December 2007	November to December 2007	December 2006 to December 2007
Seasonally adjusted						
	thousands		change in thousands		% change	
Both sexes 15+						
Population	26,693.5	26,719.5	26.0	361.9	0.1	1.4
Labour force	18,096.8	18,082.3	-14.5	366.6	-0.1	2.1
Employment	17,028.6	17,009.9	-18.7	369.5	-0.1	2.2
Full-time	13,925.8	13,916.5	-9.3	279.3	-0.1	2.0
Part-time	3,102.8	3,093.4	-9.4	90.2	-0.3	3.0
Unemployment	1,068.2	1,072.4	4.2	-2.9	0.4	-0.3
Participation rate	67.8	67.7	-0.1	0.5	...	...
Unemployment rate	5.9	5.9	0.0	-0.2	...	...
Employment rate	63.8	63.7	-0.1	0.6	...	...
Part-time rate	18.2	18.2	0.0	0.2	...	...
Youths 15 to 24						
Population	4,365.6	4,366.8	1.2	28.8	0.0	0.7
Labour force	2,941.4	2,928.9	-12.5	58.5	-0.4	2.0
Employment	2,604.3	2,602.9	-1.4	54.0	-0.1	2.1
Full-time	1,422.1	1,418.2	-3.9	-8.6	-0.3	-0.6
Part-time	1,182.2	1,184.7	2.5	62.6	0.2	5.6
Unemployment	337.1	326.0	-11.1	4.5	-3.3	1.4
Participation rate	67.4	67.1	-0.3	0.9	...	...
Unemployment rate	11.5	11.1	-0.4	-0.1	...	...
Employment rate	59.7	59.6	-0.1	0.8	...	...
Part-time rate	45.4	45.5	0.1	1.5	...	...
Men 25+						
Population	10,908.2	10,920.7	12.5	165.7	0.1	1.5
Labour force	8,069.6	8,083.6	14.0	163.9	0.2	2.1
Employment	7,656.3	7,660.2	3.9	156.5	0.1	2.1
Full-time	7,155.0	7,165.9	10.9	148.4	0.2	2.1
Part-time	501.2	494.2	-7.0	8.0	-1.4	1.6
Unemployment	413.4	423.4	10.0	7.3	2.4	1.8
Participation rate	74.0	74.0	0.0	0.4	...	...
Unemployment rate	5.1	5.2	0.1	-0.1	...	...
Employment rate	70.2	70.1	-0.1	0.3	...	...
Part-time rate	6.5	6.5	0.0	0.0	...	...
Women 25+						
Population	11,419.6	11,432.0	12.4	167.4	0.1	1.5
Labour force	7,085.8	7,069.8	-16.0	144.2	-0.2	2.1
Employment	6,768.1	6,746.8	-21.3	158.9	-0.3	2.4
Full-time	5,348.7	5,332.3	-16.4	139.4	-0.3	2.7
Part-time	1,419.4	1,414.5	-4.9	19.6	-0.3	1.4
Unemployment	317.7	323.0	5.3	-14.7	1.7	-4.4
Participation rate	62.0	61.8	-0.2	0.3	...	...
Unemployment rate	4.5	4.6	0.1	-0.3	...	...
Employment rate	59.3	59.0	-0.3	0.5	...	...
Part-time rate	21.0	21.0	0.0	-0.2	...	...

... not applicable

Note: Related CANSIM table 282-0087.

Employment by class of worker and industry (based on NAICS)¹

	November 2007	December 2007	November to December 2007	December 2006 to December 2007	November to December 2007	December 2006 to December 2007
Seasonally adjusted						
	thousands		change in thousands		% change	
Class of worker						
Employees	14,408.1	14,367.5	-40.6	255.6	-0.3	1.8
Self-employed	2,620.5	2,642.4	21.9	113.9	0.8	4.5
Public/private sector employees						
Public	3,389.2	3,399.9	10.7	208.4	0.3	6.5
Private	11,018.9	10,967.6	-51.3	47.1	-0.5	0.4
All industries	17,028.6	17,009.9	-18.7	369.5	-0.1	2.2
Goods-producing sector	3,991.9	3,968.0	-23.9	-47.7	-0.6	-1.2
Agriculture	350.2	327.6	-22.6	-18.2	-6.5	-5.3
Natural resources	333.5	354.3	20.8	11.9	6.2	3.5
Utilities	142.5	140.8	-1.7	16.2	-1.2	13.0
Construction	1,150.4	1,163.3	12.9	74.0	1.1	6.8
Manufacturing	2,015.2	1,982.0	-33.2	-131.6	-1.6	-6.2
Service-producing sector	13,036.7	13,041.9	5.2	417.2	0.0	3.3
Trade	2,687.2	2,705.8	18.6	64.0	0.7	2.4
Transportation and warehousing	834.0	854.7	20.7	38.8	2.5	4.8
Finance, insurance, real estate and leasing	1,069.6	1,064.0	-5.6	-1.2	-0.5	-0.1
Professional, scientific and technical services	1,156.2	1,153.0	-3.2	62.1	-0.3	5.7
Business, building and other support services	711.9	712.2	0.3	-11.0	0.0	-1.5
Educational services	1,209.3	1,196.6	-12.7	21.1	-1.1	1.8
Health care and social assistance	1,863.8	1,870.1	6.3	48.5	0.3	2.7
Information, culture and recreation	792.8	795.7	2.9	65.3	0.4	8.9
Accommodation and food services	1,071.0	1,049.1	-21.9	18.4	-2.0	1.8
Other services	748.8	737.8	-11.0	33.6	-1.5	4.8
Public administration	892.2	903.0	10.8	77.6	1.2	9.4

1. North American Industry Classification System.

Note: Related to CANSIM tables 282-0088 and 282-0089.

Labour force characteristics by province

	November 2007	December 2007	November to December 2007	December 2006 to December 2007	November to December 2007	December 2006 to December 2007
Seasonally adjusted						
	thousands		change in thousands		% change	
Newfoundland and Labrador						
Population	424.1	424.5	0.4	-1.9	0.1	-0.4
Labour force	250.2	250.1	-0.1	-3.8	0.0	-1.5
Employment	217.3	219.0	1.7	0.1	0.8	0.0
Full-time	185.8	188.9	3.1	4.2	1.7	2.3
Part-time	31.4	30.2	-1.2	-4.0	-3.8	-11.7
Unemployment	33.0	31.1	-1.9	-3.9	-5.8	-11.1
Participation rate	59.0	58.9	-0.1	-0.6	...	...
Unemployment rate	13.2	12.4	-0.8	-1.4	...	...
Employment rate	51.2	51.6	0.4	0.3	...	...
Prince Edward Island						
Population	113.7	113.8	0.1	1.1	0.1	1.0
Labour force	76.9	77.3	0.4	-1.0	0.5	-1.3
Employment	68.3	69.1	0.8	0.5	1.2	0.7
Full-time	56.7	57.8	1.1	1.2	1.9	2.1
Part-time	11.6	11.2	-0.4	-0.8	-3.4	-6.7
Unemployment	8.6	8.2	-0.4	-1.5	-4.7	-15.5
Participation rate	67.6	67.9	0.3	-1.6	...	...
Unemployment rate	11.2	10.6	-0.6	-1.8	...	...
Employment rate	60.1	60.7	0.6	-0.2	...	...
Nova Scotia						
Population	765.4	765.8	0.4	2.3	0.1	0.3
Labour force	488.8	489.9	1.1	9.4	0.2	2.0
Employment	449.5	452.0	2.5	6.6	0.6	1.5
Full-time	364.7	367.0	2.3	3.0	0.6	0.8
Part-time	84.8	85.0	0.2	3.6	0.2	4.4
Unemployment	39.3	37.9	-1.4	2.8	-3.6	8.0
Participation rate	63.9	64.0	0.1	1.1	...	...
Unemployment rate	8.0	7.7	-0.3	0.4	...	...
Employment rate	58.7	59.0	0.3	0.7	...	...
New Brunswick						
Population	615.0	615.3	0.3	4.1	0.0	0.7
Labour force	397.7	398.0	0.3	10.9	0.1	2.8
Employment	369.1	366.9	-2.2	12.6	-0.6	3.6
Full-time	309.3	311.3	2.0	13.5	0.6	4.5
Part-time	59.8	55.6	-4.2	-0.9	-7.0	-1.6
Unemployment	28.6	31.1	2.5	-1.7	8.7	-5.2
Participation rate	64.7	64.7	0.0	1.4	...	...
Unemployment rate	7.2	7.8	0.6	-0.7	...	...
Employment rate	60.0	59.6	-0.4	1.6	...	...
Quebec						
Population	6,335.6	6,340.2	4.6	57.4	0.1	0.9
Labour force	4,186.1	4,172.3	-13.8	76.6	-0.3	1.9
Employment	3,892.9	3,882.2	-10.7	92.8	-0.3	2.4
Full-time	3,150.6	3,147.3	-3.3	36.8	-0.1	1.2
Part-time	742.3	734.9	-7.4	56.0	-1.0	8.2
Unemployment	293.2	290.1	-3.1	-16.2	-1.1	-5.3
Participation rate	66.1	65.8	-0.3	0.6	...	...
Unemployment rate	7.0	7.0	0.0	-0.5	...	...
Employment rate	61.4	61.2	-0.2	0.9	...	...

... not applicable

Note: Related CANSIM table 282-0087.

Labour force characteristics by province

	November 2007	December 2007	November to December 2007	December 2006 to December 2007	November to December 2007	December 2006 to December 2007
Seasonally adjusted						
	thousands		change in thousands		% change	
Ontario						
Population	10,416.5	10,426.4	9.9	135.5	0.1	1.3
Labour force	7,094.0	7,095.6	1.6	127.0	0.0	1.8
Employment	6,651.1	6,635.3	-15.8	88.7	-0.2	1.4
Full-time	5,445.2	5,451.6	6.4	97.0	0.1	1.8
Part-time	1,205.9	1,183.7	-22.2	-8.2	-1.8	-0.7
Unemployment	442.9	460.3	17.4	38.3	3.9	9.1
Participation rate	68.1	68.1	0.0	0.4	...	...
Unemployment rate	6.2	6.5	0.3	0.4	...	...
Employment rate	63.9	63.6	-0.3	0.0	...	...
Manitoba						
Population	902.4	903.2	0.8	9.4	0.1	1.1
Labour force	631.1	624.8	-6.3	12.2	-1.0	2.0
Employment	604.8	598.7	-6.1	11.1	-1.0	1.9
Full-time	489.1	487.7	-1.4	15.3	0.0	3.2
Part-time	115.6	110.9	-4.7	-4.3	-4.1	-3.7
Unemployment	26.3	26.2	-0.1	1.2	-0.4	4.8
Participation rate	69.9	69.2	-0.7	0.7	...	...
Unemployment rate	4.2	4.2	0.0	0.1	...	...
Employment rate	67.0	66.3	-0.7	0.6	...	...
Saskatchewan						
Population	756.7	758.0	1.3	11.7	0.2	1.6
Labour force	528.8	525.5	-3.3	1.5	-0.6	0.3
Employment	507.4	504.4	-3.0	1.6	-0.6	0.3
Full-time	413.7	412.8	-0.9	5.1	-0.2	1.3
Part-time	93.7	91.6	-2.1	-3.5	-2.2	-3.7
Unemployment	21.4	21.1	-0.3	-0.1	-1.4	-0.5
Participation rate	69.9	69.3	-0.6	-0.9	...	...
Unemployment rate	4.0	4.0	0.0	0.0	...	...
Employment rate	67.1	66.5	-0.6	-0.9	...	...
Alberta						
Population	2,766.5	2,769.5	3.0	77.4	0.1	2.9
Labour force	2,044.6	2,057.1	12.5	82.7	0.6	4.2
Employment	1,970.0	1,990.9	20.9	82.5	1.1	4.3
Full-time	1,660.8	1,675.9	15.1	60.4	0.9	3.7
Part-time	309.2	315.1	5.9	22.2	1.9	7.6
Unemployment	74.6	66.2	-8.4	0.2	-11.3	0.3
Participation rate	73.9	74.3	0.4	1.0	...	...
Unemployment rate	3.6	3.2	-0.4	-0.1	...	...
Employment rate	71.2	71.9	0.7	1.0	...	...
British Columbia						
Population	3,597.6	3,602.7	5.1	64.7	0.1	1.8
Labour force	2,398.6	2,391.7	-6.9	51.0	-0.3	2.2
Employment	2,298.4	2,291.4	-7.0	72.9	-0.3	3.3
Full-time	1,849.5	1,815.8	-33.7	42.6	-1.8	2.4
Part-time	448.9	475.7	26.8	30.4	6.0	6.8
Unemployment	100.2	100.2	0.0	-22.0	0.0	-18.0
Participation rate	66.7	66.4	-0.3	0.2	...	...
Unemployment rate	4.2	4.2	0.0	-1.0	...	...
Employment rate	63.9	63.6	-0.3	0.9	...	...

... not applicable

Note: Related CANSIM table 282-0087.

Annual average employment levels and unemployment rates by province and territory

	Employment		Change in employment		Unemployment rate	
	2006	2007	2006 to 2007		2006	2007
	thousands	thousands	thousands	%	%	%
Canada	16,484.3	16,866.4	382.1	2.3	6.3	6.0
Newfoundland and Labrador	215.7	217.1	1.4	0.6	14.8	13.6
Prince Edward Island	68.6	69.3	0.7	1.0	11.0	10.3
Nova Scotia	441.8	447.6	5.8	1.3	7.9	8.0
New Brunswick	355.4	362.8	7.4	2.1	8.8	7.5
Quebec	3,765.4	3,851.7	86.3	2.3	8.0	7.2
Ontario	6,492.7	6,593.8	101.1	1.6	6.3	6.4
Manitoba	587.0	596.5	9.5	1.6	4.3	4.4
Saskatchewan	491.6	501.8	10.2	2.1	4.7	4.2
Alberta	1,870.7	1,959.4	88.7	4.7	3.4	3.5
British Columbia	2,195.5	2,266.3	70.8	3.2	4.8	4.2
Yukon Territory	15.5	15.0	-0.5	-3.2	4.3	5.1
Northwest Territories	22.8	22.6	-0.2	-0.9	5.4	5.4
Nunavut - 10 largest communities	8.2	9.1	0.9	11.0	10.3	8.9

Note: The Canada total is the sum of the provinces and does not include the territories. Related CANSIM tables 282-0002 and 282-0055.

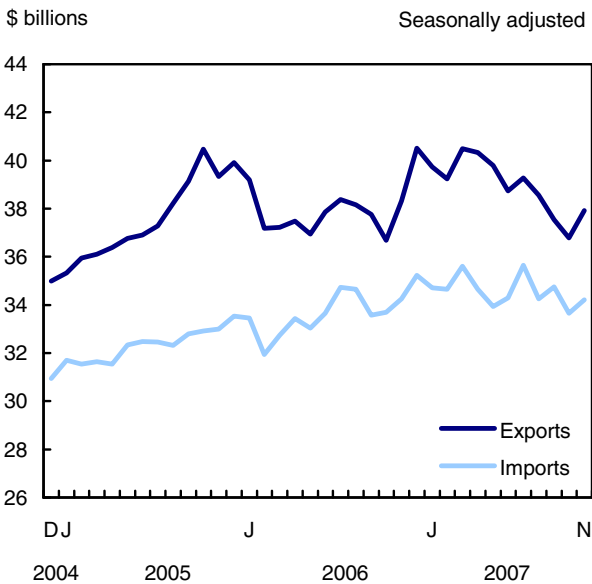


Canadian international merchandise trade

November 2007

Canadian merchandise exports increased in November for only the third time in 2007, halting a three-month decline. At the same time, imports increased but at a slower pace. As a result, the nation's trade surplus with the world expanded for the second month in a row.

Exports and imports



Canadian companies exported \$37.9 billion worth of merchandise, a 3.1% increase, while imports rose 1.7% to \$34.2 billion. The gain in imports partially reversed a decline in October.

Canada's trade surplus with the world expanded to \$3.7 billion, up from a revised \$3.1 billion in October. While exports have grown since early 2006, the share of Canada's exports to the United States has fallen. In November, exports to the United States accounted for 75% of the total compared with 82% in January 2006.

On a year-to-date basis, both exports and imports stood at higher levels in the first 11 months of the year compared with the same period in 2006.

Volume dominated November's increase in trade. In constant dollar terms, a method used to isolate the change in volume, both exports and imports rose again in November. While both prices increased by 0.6%, volumes for exports and imports were up 2.5% and 1.0% respectively.

Note to readers

Merchandise trade is one component of the current account of Canada's balance of payments, which also includes trade in services, investment income, transfers, capital and financial flows.

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.

Constant dollars referred to in the text are calculated using the Paasche Price indices.

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. Current year revisions are reflected in both the customs and balance of payments based data.

Beginning with the January 2008 reference month (to be released on March 11, 2008), the previous year's customs and balance of payments data (i.e., 2007) will now be revised with the release of the January, February and March data months. Revisions to customs based data for the previous year will continue to be released on a quarterly basis. Revisions to customs based data for the three previous years (i.e., 2004, 2005 and 2006) will be available when the December reference month is released (February 14, 2008).

Revisions to balance of payments based data for the three previous years will be available when the April reference month is released, on June 10, 2008.

Factors influencing revisions include late receipt of import and export documentation, incorrect information on customs forms, replacement of estimates with actual figures, changes in classification of merchandise based on more current information, and changes to seasonal adjustment factors.

Revised data are available in the appropriate CANSIM tables.

In November, the Canadian dollar hit its highest level against its American counterpart. During the first 11 months of 2007, the loonie appreciated 22% against the greenback. However, the net impact of this appreciation on individual traders is unclear since nearly two-thirds of exporters were also importers. Furthermore, almost half of these traders imported more than they exported.

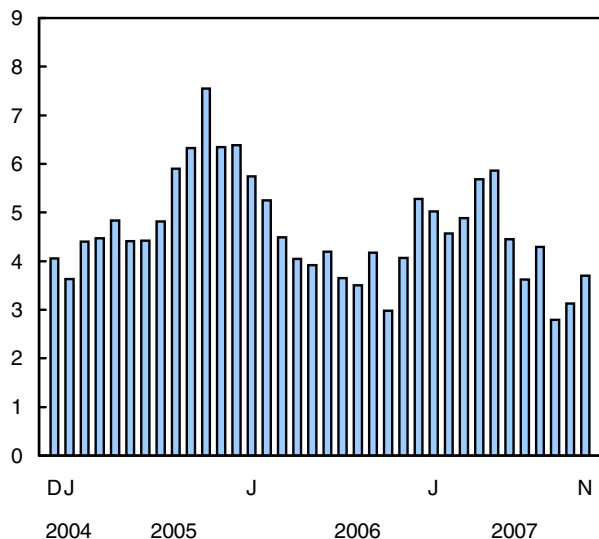
The trade surplus with the United States widened for the first time since last August to \$6.4 billion. Exports to the United States grew almost twice as fast as imports, increasing for the first time since July. Overall, for the

first 11 months of 2007, exports were 0.7% below levels reached in the same period in 2006, while imports were up 2.5%.

The trade deficit with countries other than the United States shrank to \$2.7 billion, the second contraction in a row. So far in 2007, both exports to and imports from those countries as a group have surpassed the 2006 levels. However, the increase in imports has not kept pace with the gain in exports; exports surged 18.3% while imports increased 4.1%.

Trade balance

\$ billions



Exports increase for the first time since July

All sectors but other consumer products recorded growth in exports, with energy products and industrial goods and materials accounting for the largest share of the increase.

Energy products soared 5.4% to \$7.8 billion, as crude petroleum exports jumped 13.1%, reaching a record high of \$4.1 billion. Other energy products gained 16.4%, as exports of petroleum and coal products increased 15.5%. Both crude petroleum and petroleum and coal products registered increases in volumes and prices, with prices being more dominant. Natural gas fell for the sixth straight month, plunging 17.0% to its lowest level since November 2003, reflecting lower prices as volumes increased.

Exports of industrial goods and materials grew 4.8% to \$8.5 billion, partially reversing three consecutive months of decline. The bulk of the advance stemmed from strong increases for metal ores (+9.8%) and chemicals, plastics and fertilizers (+8.1%). For metal

ores, exports of nickel, copper and zinc were particularly robust as strong Asian demand continued to be a factor. In contrast, nickel and alloys declined for the fifth time since peaking in June.

Machinery and equipment rose 3.3% to \$7.8 billion, propelled by an 11.4% increase in aircraft, engines and parts. Industrial machinery contributed to the gain as well, while television, telecommunications and related equipment declined for the fourth straight month.

Automotive products climbed 1.5% to \$6.3 billion, largely driven by motor vehicle parts, which grew 6.9%, following three consecutive declines. Passenger autos fell 1.1% to \$3.4 billion, while trucks and other motor vehicles edged up 0.4%, ending a string of seven monthly decreases.

Exports of agricultural and fishing products experienced widespread increases across most of the sector, rising 2.4% to \$2.8 billion following two months of declines. These gains were offset somewhat by wheat, which plunged 16.6%.

Forestry products increased for the first time since March and only the third time in eleven months, rising 1.2% to \$2.2 billion. Exports of forestry products have been generally on the decline since early 2004. Both lumber and wood pulp contributed to the increase with lumber increasing for the first time since June. Newsprint continued its downward trend for the eighth month in a row due to plant closures and cutbacks in production.

Imports fuelled by rising energy products

Imports increased in November, primarily the result of greater imports of energy products. This gain was partly offset by a decline in machinery and equipment.

Imports of energy products soared 20.8% to \$3.3 billion, largely on the strength of both crude petroleum and other energy products. Crude petroleum jumped 15.3% to \$2.2 billion, as volumes increased and prices remained virtually unchanged. Other energy products also registered strong growth, rising 33.4%, as petroleum and coal products increased dramatically (+50.6%).

Automotive products advanced 1.9% to \$6.7 billion, as imports of both truck and other motor vehicles and passenger auto and chassis increased significantly. Trucks and other motor vehicles rose 7.6% to a record high of \$1.5 billion. Passenger autos grew for the second month in a row, rising 4.7% to \$2.3 billion, surpassing levels reached in 2006. Motor vehicle parts declined 3.1%, the second decrease in as many months.

Agricultural and fishing products edged up 0.7% to \$2.1 billion, reflecting greater imports of fruits and vegetables, particularly fresh fruit and vegetables. Live animals also increased in November, as a result of

increased imports of horses. Corn imports increased for the fifth consecutive month.

Machinery and equipment continued its downward trend for the fourth consecutive month, falling 3.4% to \$9.3 billion, the result of widespread declines in all sub-sectors. Aircraft and other transportation equipment and industrial and agricultural machinery represented three-quarters of the decline. For the first 11 months of 2007, aircraft and other transportation equipment remained well above levels recorded in 2006.

Industrial goods and materials edged down 0.1% to \$6.8 billion, following declines in chemicals and plastics. Organic chemicals declined for the fourth month in a row. By contrast, imports of metals and metal ores grew 4.8% to \$2.5 billion, on the strength of rising imports of non-ferrous metals and alloys, particularly copper.

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 publications *Exports by Country* (65-003), *Exports by Commodity* (65-004), *Imports by Country* (65-006) and *Imports by Commodity* (65-007) will be terminated with the final issues published in February 2008. Data are available in alternate formats by contacting the Marketing and Client Services Section at (trade@statcan.ca).

The November 2007 issue of *Canadian International Merchandise Trade*, Vol. 61, no. 11 (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).

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 Deborah Sussman (613-951-0284), International Trade Division.

□

Merchandise trade

	October 2007 ^r	November 2007	October to November 2007	November 2006 to November 2007	January to November 2006	January to November 2007	January–November 2006 to January–November 2007
Seasonally adjusted, \$ current							
	\$ millions		% change		\$ millions		% change
Principal trading partners							
Exports							
United States	27,966	28,545	2.1	-3.8	329,509	327,065	-0.7
Japan	753	918	21.9	5.6	9,562	9,373	-2.0
European Union ¹	3,117	3,320	6.5	7.0	29,869	36,527	22.3
Other OECD countries ²	1,694	1,771	4.5	-1.1	15,799	19,078	20.8
All other countries	3,251	3,361	3.4	16.9	30,450	36,362	19.4
Total	36,781	37,914	3.1	-1.1	415,186	428,403	3.2
Imports							
United States	21,887	22,147	1.2	-1.9	241,688	247,724	2.5
Japan	1,037	986	-4.9	12.6	10,884	10,901	0.2
European Union ¹	3,331	3,497	5.0	-5.4	38,727	38,788	0.2
Other OECD countries ²	2,200	2,177	-1.0	9.8	21,657	22,888	5.7
All other countries	5,195	5,405	4.0	5.6	56,212	60,089	6.9
Total	33,651	34,212	1.7	-0.1	369,164	380,390	3.0
Balance							
United States	6,079	6,398	...	...	87,821	79,341	...
Japan	-284	-68	...	...	-1,322	-1,528	...
European Union ¹	-214	-177	...	...	-8,858	-2,261	...
Other OECD countries ²	-506	-406	...	...	-5,858	-3,810	...
All other countries	-1,944	-2,044	...	...	-25,762	-23,727	...
Total	3,130	3,702	...	...	46,022	48,013	...
Principal commodity groupings							
Exports							
Agricultural and fishing products	2,758	2,824	2.4	5.0	28,536	31,575	10.6
Energy products	7,368	7,769	5.4	12.1	79,230	83,562	5.5
Forestry products	2,179	2,206	1.2	-15.1	30,567	26,822	-12.3
Industrial goods and materials	8,110	8,499	4.8	-0.5	85,323	96,236	12.8
Machinery and equipment	7,534	7,784	3.3	-2.8	86,437	88,018	1.8
Automotive products	6,187	6,281	1.5	-6.2	74,918	71,785	-4.2
Other consumer goods	1,541	1,471	-4.5	-8.6	16,221	17,401	7.3
Special transactions trade ³	604	611	1.2	-20.3	7,993	7,532	-5.8
Other balance of payments adjustments	500	469	-6.2	-1.7	5,956	5,476	-8.1
Imports							
Agricultural and fishing products	2,110	2,124	0.7	5.9	21,397	23,288	8.8
Energy products	2,711	3,276	20.8	20.0	31,879	33,183	4.1
Forestry products	244	239	-2.0	-7.7	2,815	2,732	-2.9
Industrial goods and materials	6,816	6,811	-0.1	-3.6	76,860	77,851	1.3
Machinery and equipment	9,632	9,306	-3.4	-6.0	104,604	106,823	2.1
Automotive products	6,539	6,660	1.9	-0.2	72,620	73,740	1.5
Other consumer goods	4,475	4,426	-1.1	-1.6	47,393	50,087	5.7
Special transactions trade ³	432	637	47.5	41.2	4,247	4,980	17.3
Other balance of payments adjustments	691	734	6.2	9.1	7,353	7,706	4.8

^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 country of origin.

Domestic sales of refined petroleum products

November 2007 (preliminary)

Sales of refined petroleum products totalled 8 635 700 cubic metres in November, up 1.7% from November 2006. (One cubic metre is equivalent to 6.3 barrels.)

Sales increased in four of the seven major product groups. Diesel fuel oil (+4.0%) sales lead the way with an increase of 93 800 cubic metres. Motor gasoline (+2.4%) sales rose 81 500 cubic metres.

Sales rose in all three grades of motor gasoline in November. Regular unleaded and mid-grade both posted increases of 2.4%, while premium unleaded sales rose 2.0%

Year-to-date sales of refined petroleum products at the end of November totalled 94 759 500 cubic metres, up 3.3% from the same period of 2006. Sales increased in six of the seven major product groups with the largest increase in motor gasoline (+3.4% or up 1 277 600 cubic metres).

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2150.

Preliminary domestic sales of refined petroleum products data are no longer available on CANSIM.

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; energ@statcan.ca), Manufacturing, Construction and Energy Division.

Sales of refined petroleum products

	November 2006 ^r	November 2007 ^p	November 2006 to November 2007
	thousands of cubic metres		% change
Total, all products	8 491.8	8 635.7	1.7
Motor gasoline	3 393.2	3 474.7	2.4
Diesel fuel oil	2 338.4	2 432.2	4.0
Light fuel oil	390.9	367.9	-5.9
Heavy fuel oil	586.1	600.5	2.4
Aviation turbo fuels	548.1	581.2	6.1
Petrochemical feedstocks ¹	399.9	348.7	-12.8
All other refined products	835.2	830.4	-0.6

	January to November 2006 ^r	January to November 2007 ^p	January–November 2006 to January–November 2007
	thousands of cubic metres		% change
Total, all products	91 746.6	94 759.5	3.3
Motor gasoline	37 485.9	38 763.5	3.4
Diesel fuel oil	24 353.5	25 524.2	4.8
Light fuel oil	3 609.7	3 832.9	6.2
Heavy fuel oil	5 610.7	5 781.0	3.0
Aviation turbo fuels	6 274.2	6 163.8	-1.8
Petrochemical feedstocks ¹	4 279.8	4 329.5	1.2
All other refined products	10 133.0	10 364.6	2.3

^r revised

^p preliminary

1. Materials produced by refineries that are used by the petrochemical industry to produce chemicals, synthetic rubber and a variety of plastics.

Export and import price indexes

November 2007

Current- and fixed-weighted export and import price indexes (2002=100) on a balance of payments basis are now available. Price indexes are listed from January 2002 to November 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. Price indexes are listed from January 2002 to November 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 now available 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 November 2007 issue of *Canadian International Merchandise Trade*, Vol. 61, no. 11 (65-001-XIB, 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 Marketing and Client Services Section (toll-free 1-800-294-5583), International Trade Division. ■

Chain Fisher real export and import values November 2007

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

This series is 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 November 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 November was 63.1 (2001=100), up 1.3% from October.

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 these indexes, 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 November 2007

Data on cement are now available for November.

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. ■

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Catalogue number 64-001-XWE
(free).

Canadian International Merchandise Trade,
November 2007, Vol. 61, no. 11
Catalogue number 65-001-XIB
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Labour Force Information, December 2 to 8, 2007
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Thursday, June 3, 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 20 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** 3
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The Daily, January 11, 2008

Release dates: January 14 to 18, 2008

(Release dates are subject to change.)

Release date	Title	Reference period
14	New motor vehicle sales	November 2007
14	Deaths	2005
15	Aboriginal Peoples in Canada in 2006: Inuit, Métis and First Nations	2006 Census
17	Canada's international transactions in securities	November 2007
17	Investment in non-residential building construction	Fourth quarter 2007
18	Monthly Survey of Manufacturing	November 2007
18	Travel between Canada and other countries	November 2007
