



The Daily

Statistics Canada

Friday, January 18, 2008

Released at 8:30 a.m. Eastern time

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Manufacturing sales advanced in November on the strength of a price driven surge in sales by petroleum and coal product manufacturers.	
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Releases

Monthly Survey of Manufacturing

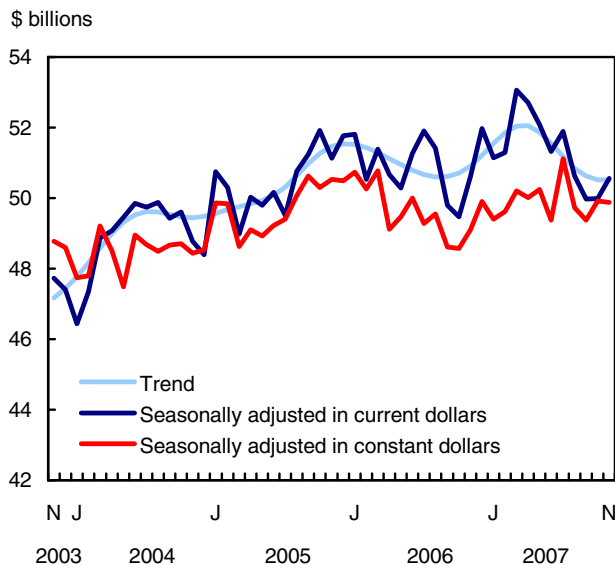
November 2007

After holding steady in October, manufacturing sales increased by 1.1% in November. Sales improved by \$573 million to \$50.6 billion. Almost all of the increase in manufacturing was the result of a surge in petroleum and coal product sales during the month, which benefited from sharply rising prices.

Using constant dollars, the volume of manufacturing sales remained largely unchanged in November, edging down 0.1% compared with October. Rising prices played a significant role in increasing the total value of sales, as the Industrial Product Price Index rose for the first time in seven months (+0.6%). Constant dollar measurements take price fluctuations into account, providing an indicator of the volume of sales during the month.

Overall, just 11 out of 21 manufacturing industries increased their sales in November, although this represented almost two-thirds (65.5%) of total manufacturing.

Manufacturing sales advance in November



Sales of non-durable goods looked to continue a turn-around, gaining 1.6% in November for a second consecutive monthly increase. These increases followed on the heels of four months of declining sales.

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 sales assuming that the orders are not cancelled.

New orders are those received whether sold in the current month or not. They are measured as the sum of sales 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 sold. 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 sales because portions of large contracts can be subcontracted out to manufacturers in other countries. Also, some orders may be cancelled.

Durable goods also reported an increase in November, with sales up 0.8%.

Unfilled factory orders advanced for the first time in three months, gaining 4.9% in November. New orders rebounded during the month, jumping 8.1% and slowing the downward trend seen throughout most of 2007.

November sales pumped up by petroleum producers

Petroleum and coal product manufacturers reported the most significant jump in sales, increasing by 7.7% or \$424 million in November. However, the majority of the increase in sales can be accounted for by a 7.3% jump in petroleum and coal product prices during the month. Excluding petroleum and coal product manufacturers, manufacturing sales increased a more modest 0.3% in November.

Another area reporting improved sales was the primary metal industry. Sales increased 2.3% in November, despite prices falling 1.1%. Most of the strength was located in the central provinces, with

Manitoba, Ontario and Quebec all posting increases. Sales by primary metal manufacturers have generally declined since April 2007, as they have been influenced by falling prices, which have decreased for seven consecutive months.

Transportation equipment manufacturers also increased sales in November. Motor vehicle manufacturers saw a 2.0% gain, partly due to rising production of several popular vehicle models which are manufactured in Ontario. Production of aerospace parts and products also gained on the month, rising 1.9% for a fourth consecutive monthly gain.

On the down side, paper product sales sagged 3.0% in November, as manufacturers continued to struggle with falling prices in the industry. Prices for paper products have decreased in eight of the past nine months.

Chemical product sales dropped 1.7% in November, as pharmaceutical and medicine manufactures saw sales slide after a big jump in October.

Provincial gains widely distributed

The provincial picture for manufacturing sales in November was generally positive, as seven provinces posted increases. Solid sales were seen across the Western and Central Provinces, while weakness was limited to the coasts.

Across the Prairie provinces, manufacturing sales showed strength in November. Saskatchewan led the pack with a 3.7% jump. Improved performances by food, petroleum and coal products, and machinery manufacturers helped to guide this increase. This was the seventh consecutive increase posted by machinery manufactures in Saskatchewan.

Alberta and Manitoba also reported gains, as sales of manufactured goods increased 2.1% and 1.0% respectively. For Manitoba, this increase was a rebound from the 6.7% drop in October. Strength in primary metal manufacturing helped to lead the turnaround.

Ontario (+1.4%) and Quebec (+1.1%) both rose primarily on strong sales results by petroleum and coal products manufacturers. Transportation equipment manufacturers also played an important role in Central Canada, but in different ways. Motor vehicle manufacturing was the key in Ontario, driving the overall transportation sector up 1.3%. In Quebec, aerospace took the lead, propelling transportation equipment manufacturing up 2.9%.

Only the coastal provinces saw sales decline for the month. Newfoundland and Labrador (-5.6%) and British Columbia (-1.8%) both saw weaker sales as a result of slowdowns in paper manufacturing. Newfoundland has seen particularly soft manufacturing results recently, as November was the third consecutive monthly decrease for the province.

Manufacturing sales, provinces and territories

	October 2007 ^r	November 2007 ^p	October to November 2007
Seasonally adjusted			
	\$ millions		% change
Canada	49,980	50,552	1.1
Newfoundland and Labrador	317	299	-5.6
Prince Edward Island	122	129	6.1
Nova Scotia	862	849	-1.4
New Brunswick	1,395	1,431	2.6
Quebec	12,212	12,345	1.1
Ontario	23,791	24,121	1.4
Manitoba	1,271	1,284	1.0
Saskatchewan	910	944	3.7
Alberta	5,549	5,663	2.1
British Columbia	3,545	3,482	-1.8
Yukon	3	3	-6.9
Northwest Territories including Nunavut	4	3	-38.8

^r revised

^p preliminary

Unfilled orders pushed to record level by aerospace industry

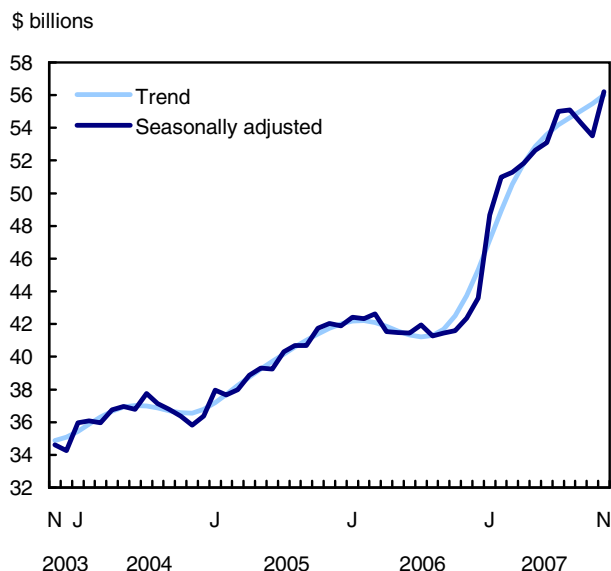
Manufacturers reported a 4.9% jump in unfilled orders in November, after back-to-back decreases in September and October. The backlog of orders surged to \$56.2 billion, a record high. Unfilled orders are considered an indicator of future strength of manufacturing sales. Other than the decrease in September and October, unfilled orders have increased in 13 of the past 15 months.

Aerospace product and parts manufacturers, which accounted for about 45% of unfilled orders, continued to be the driving force behind the gains. Virtually every major company within the aerospace industry reported an increase to unfilled orders in November, as the industry gained 11.6% as a whole. Excluding aerospace, unfilled orders for the month barely advanced, gaining only 0.1%.

The only significant decrease to unfilled orders came from computer and electronic product manufacturers.

Unfilled orders fell 2.3% in November, the third decrease in the past four months.

Unfilled orders resume climb



New orders spring back

New orders surged to a four month high, jumping 8.1% to \$53.2 billion. Despite the jump in November, new order levels have been trending lower after peaking at \$56.2 billion in January 2007, with decreases in 7 of the past 10 months.

The transportation equipment industry was responsible for most of the increases in new orders in November, surging 38.0% or \$3.3 billion. Aerospace product and parts manufacturers, as well as ship and boat building manufacturers reported the strongest gains within the transportation sector.

Manufacturers in the fabricated metal industries also saw an increase in new orders in November. New orders within this industry increased 6.3%, or \$196 million, for a second consecutive month of solid gains.

Inventory levels rise for the first time since July

In November, manufacturers reported total inventory levels increased by 0.5% in November, the first gain in four months. The increase in November was widespread, as raw materials (+0.3%), goods and work in process (+0.6%), and finished product inventories (+0.7%) all increased.

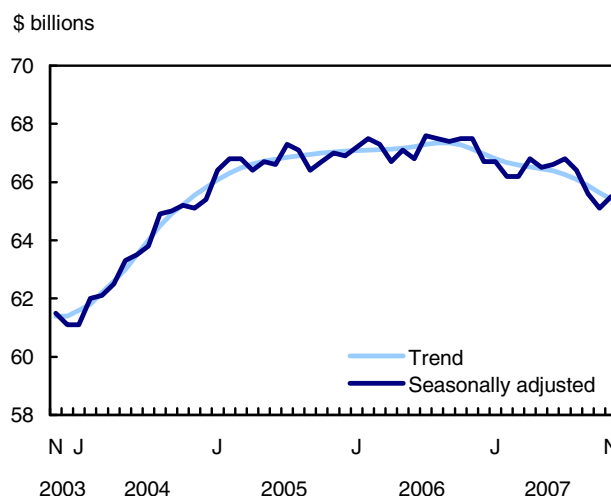
The value of inventories increased \$337 million to \$65.5 billion in November. Despite the increase, inventory levels have been trending downwards since October 2006. Prior to the recent downward trend, inventory levels increased from 2004 to the end of 2006.

The key contributor to the increase in manufacturers' inventories came from petroleum and coal products, which jumped 12.9% to \$4.1 billion. This was only the second increase in the value of inventories in the last seven months.

The aerospace product and parts industry also surged, gaining 4.3% to \$4.6 billion, with most of the inventory increase coming from goods and work in process.

Chemical manufacturers were one of the few industries reporting a sizeable decrease of inventories. Levels dropped 1.6% to \$7.0 billion for the fourth consecutive monthly decrease.

Inventory levels up after three months of decreases



Inventory-to-sales ratio stabilizes

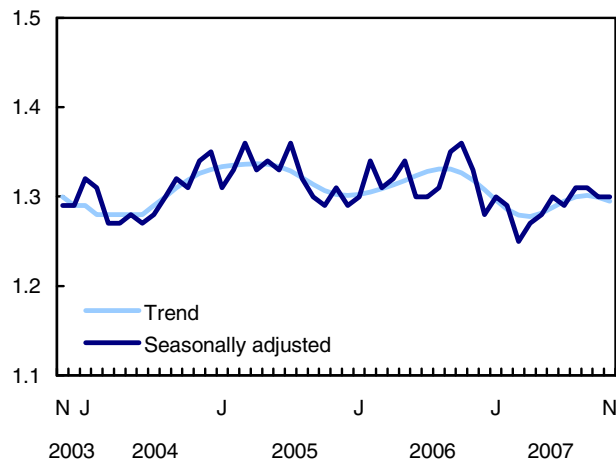
The inventory-to-sales ratio remained unchanged at 1.30 in November and has remained fairly stable over the last four months after a moderate increase between March and July. A 0.5% gain in inventories mostly balanced the 1.1% increase in sales.

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

The finished-product inventory-to-sales ratio also held steady, remaining at 0.44 in November.

Inventory-to-sales ratio holds steady

Ratio



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

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2101.

Data from the December *Monthly Survey of Manufacturing* will be released on February 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.

Sales, inventories and orders in all manufacturing industries

	Sales		Inventories		Unfilled orders		New orders		Inventory-to-sales ratio
	Seasonally adjusted								
	\$ millions	% change	\$ millions	% change	\$ millions	% change	\$ millions	% change	
November 2006	50,611	2.3	67,466	0.0	42,356	1.8	51,378	3.6	1.33
December 2006	51,969	2.7	66,714	-1.1	43,586	2.9	53,199	3.5	1.28
January 2007	51,142	-1.6	66,672	-0.1	48,660	11.6	56,215	5.7	1.30
February 2007	51,290	0.3	66,172	-0.7	50,987	4.8	53,617	-4.6	1.29
March 2007	53,059	3.5	66,154	0.0	51,287	0.6	53,359	-0.5	1.25
April 2007	52,703	-0.7	66,781	0.9	51,848	1.1	53,264	-0.2	1.27
May 2007	52,087	-1.2	66,533	-0.4	52,628	1.5	52,868	-0.7	1.28
June 2007	51,326	-1.5	66,570	0.1	53,135	1.0	51,869	-1.9	1.30
July 2007	51,886	1.1	66,789	0.3	55,007	3.5	53,758	3.6	1.29
August 2007	50,630	-2.4	66,354	-0.7	55,112	0.2	50,736	-5.6	1.31
September 2007	49,976	-1.3	65,588	-1.2	54,332	-1.4	49,196	-3.0	1.31
October 2007	49,980	0.0	65,134	-0.7	53,548	-1.4	49,196	0.0	1.30
November 2007	50,552	1.1	65,471	0.5	56,189	4.9	53,193	8.1	1.30

Manufacturing industries except motor vehicle, parts and accessories

	Sales		Inventories		Unfilled orders		New orders	
	Seasonally adjusted							
	\$ millions	% change	\$ millions	% change	\$ millions	% change	\$ millions	% change
November 2006	42,833	0.8	64,221	0.0	41,114	2.5	43,822	1.8
December 2006	43,389	1.3	63,613	-0.9	42,465	3.3	44,740	2.1
January 2007	43,462	0.2	63,565	-0.1	47,528	11.9	48,526	8.5
February 2007	43,471	0.0	63,160	-0.6	49,933	5.1	45,876	-5.5
March 2007	44,529	2.4	63,169	0.0	50,335	0.8	44,931	-2.1
April 2007	45,033	1.1	63,785	1.0	50,835	1.0	45,533	1.3
May 2007	44,658	-0.8	63,574	-0.3	51,579	1.5	45,402	-0.3
June 2007	44,421	-0.5	63,567	0.0	52,093	1.0	44,972	-0.9
July 2007	43,887	-1.2	63,766	0.3	53,962	3.6	45,756	1.7
August 2007	43,765	-0.3	63,364	-0.6	54,167	0.4	43,970	-3.9
September 2007	42,376	-3.2	62,722	-1.0	53,471	-1.3	41,680	-5.2
October 2007	42,746	0.9	62,318	-0.6	52,699	-1.4	41,975	0.7
November 2007	43,248	1.2	62,757	0.7	55,374	5.1	45,922	9.4

Travel between Canada and other countries November 2007

Canadian travel abroad increased across the board in November, with significant gains in overnight car travel to the United States.

Canadian residents made a record 2.4 million overnight trips outside the country in November, up 7.6% from the previous high recorded in October. (Unless otherwise specified, monthly data are seasonally adjusted.)

Higher car travel south of the border contributed the most to the record setting pace, as Canadians took 1.1 million overnight car trips to the United States in November, a significant 16.2% increase from October and the highest level in over 15 years.

Since the end of 2006, overnight car travel to the United States has gone up 43.6%. The rising Canadian dollar and the extensive media coverage it generated likely contributed to the increase in overnight car trips. The loonie averaged US \$1.03 in November, compared with US \$0.87 in December 2006.

Meanwhile, overnight plane travel to the United States climbed to its second highest level ever in November, up 0.2% to 502,000 trips. Overnight travel by other modes of transportation edged up 0.1%.

Overall, overnight travel to the United States jumped 10.0% to 1.8 million trips, the highest since the end of 1991. Same-day car travel to the United States had a more modest increase, climbing 2.7% to 2.3 million trips.

For the seventh consecutive month, Canadian travel overseas set a new high. Canadians took 657,000 trips to non-US destinations in November, a 1.8% increase from October.

All in all, Canadians travelled abroad more in November than at any other time in the last decade. Travel abroad reached 4.8 million trips in November, 5.0% more than October and 17.4% higher than at the end of 2006.

Inbound, overnight travel from the United States fell 1.9% to 1.1 million trips in November. Overnight car travel slipped 1.5% to 679,000 trips, while overnight trips

by plane and other modes of transportation fell 2.1% and 3.7% respectively.

Same-day car travel from the United States was the hardest hit, dropping 6.3% to 824,000 trips, the lowest level since record keeping started in 1972.

Overnight and same-day car travel from the United States have taken different paths since recording sharp declines at the beginning of 2007. Since February 2007, overnight car travel from the United States has increased 7.6%, with gains in seven of the last nine months. Same-day car travel, however, is down each of the last five months and has fallen 10.2% since February.

This suggests that same-day car travel from the United States may be more vulnerable to external factors predominant in 2007, such as the rising cost of gasoline, the uncertainty surrounding the US economy and the faltering US greenback.

Travel from overseas countries reached its highest level in over three years in November, as residents of countries other than the United States made 401,000 trips to Canada, up 4.6% from October.

Overall, 10 of Canada's 12 most important overseas markets had increases in travel in November, with Mexico and Switzerland posting gains of 13.6% and 10.1% respectively. Travel from the United Kingdom, Canada's most important non-US market, slipped 1.8% to 78,000 trips.

Available on CANSIM: tables 427-0001 to 427-0006.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 5005.

The November 2007 issue of *International Travel, Advance Information*, Vol. 23, no. 11 (66-001-PWE, free) is now available from the *Publications* module of our website.

For general information, contact Client Services (toll-free 1-800-307-3382; 613-951-9169; fax: 613-951-2909; tourism@statcan.ca). To enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Eric Desjardins (613-951-1781; eric.desjardins@statcan.ca), Culture, Tourism and the Centre for Education Statistics. □

Travel between Canada and other countries

	October 2007 ^r	November 2007 ^p	October to November 2007	November 2007 ^p	November 2006 to November 2007
	Seasonally adjusted			Unadjusted	
	thousands		% change ¹	thousands	% change ¹
Canadian trips abroad²	4,538	4,765	5.0	4,284	21.9
to the United States	3,893	4,108	5.5	3,812	23.1
to Other Countries	646	657	1.8	472	13.6
Same-day car trips to the United States	2,239	2,299	2.7	2,269	20.3
Total trips, one or more nights	2,238	2,409	7.6	1,951	25.2
United States ³	1,592	1,751	10.0	1,479	29.5
Car	976	1,135	16.2	886	48.2
Plane	501	502	0.2	514	8.9
Other modes of transportation	115	115	0.1	79	8.7
Other countries ⁴	646	657	1.8	472	13.6
Travel to Canada²	2,507	2,448	-2.4	1,649	-11.1
from the United States	2,124	2,046	-3.6	1,438	-13.3
from Other Countries	384	401	4.6	211	7.2
Same-day car trips from the United States	879	824	-6.3	714	-22.6
Total trips, one or more nights	1,524	1,519	-0.3	880	0.6
United States ³	1,150	1,128	-1.9	674	-1.2
Car	689	679	-1.5	405	0.1
Plane	314	307	-2.1	227	-4.5
Other modes of transportation	148	143	-3.7	42	6.0
Other countries ⁴	373	391	4.8	206	6.8
Travel to Canada: Top overseas markets, by country of origin⁵					
United Kingdom	80	78	-1.8	35	8.2
France	31	33	8.3	15	11.4
Japan	26	28	7.8	18	-10.3
Germany	25	26	3.8	11	0.1
Mexico	21	24	13.6	11	31.6
Australia	19	20	2.7	10	21.8
South Korea	17	18	6.0	10	-1.5
China	12	12	4.5	10	1.5
Netherlands	10	10	-2.7	4	-2.5
Hong Kong	9	10	9.8	5	3.0
Switzerland	8	9	10.1	4	13.8
Italy	8	9	5.8	5	11.6

^r revised

^p preliminary

1. Percentage change is based on unrounded data.

2. Totals exceed the sum of "same-day car trips" and "total trips, one or more nights" because they include all of the same-day trips.

3. Estimates for the United States include counts of cars and buses, and estimated numbers for planes, trains, boats and other methods.

4. Figures for other countries exclude same-day entries by land only, via the United States.

5. Includes same-day and overnight trips.

Canadian potato production 2007 (revised)

Revised estimates for 2007 are now available for two provinces. Quebec revised its production up by less than 1% to 11,980,000 hundredweights (cwt) or 543,413 tonnes. Saskatchewan's area planted and harvested was revised downward to 9,500 acres (3,845 hectares), which resulted in a 5% decrease in production. The net effect to the national production estimate, although downward, was insignificant.

There were also revisions to the American potato estimates. The 2007 production estimate now is set at 449,156,000 cwt (20,373,716 tonnes), up

from the November estimate of 447,970,000 cwt (20,319,919 tonnes).

Available on CANSIM: tables 001-0014 and 001-0045.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey numbers, including related surveys, 3401, 3407, 3446 and 3465.

The January 2008 issue of *Canadian Potato Production*, Vol. 5, no. 3 (22-008-XWE, free), is now available from the *Publications* module of our website. This publication contains tables from the United States' National Agricultural Statistics Service. These potato tables will become an ongoing part of this release. They

contain data on area planted and harvested, production and value estimates by harvest season.

To obtain additional information, call (toll-free 1-800-465-1991). To enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Bernadette Alain (902-893-7251; bernadette.alain@statcan.ca), Agriculture Division. ■

Industrial chemicals and synthetic resins

November 2007

Data on industrial chemicals and synthetic resins for November are now available.

Available on CANSIM: table 303-0014.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2183.

The November 2007 issue of *Industrial Chemicals and Synthetic Resins*, Vol. 50, no. 11 (46-002-XWE, free) is now available from the *Publications* module of our website.

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

Primary iron and steel

November 2007

Data on primary iron and steel are now available for November.

Available on CANSIM: tables 303-0048 to 303-0051.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey numbers, including related surveys, 2116 and 2184.

The November 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. ■

Refined petroleum products

November 2007 (preliminary)

Data on the production, inventories and domestic sales of refined petroleum products are now available for November. Other selected data about these products are also available.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2150.

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

Monthly Survey of Large Retailers

November 2007

Data for the monthly survey of large retailers are now available for November.

Available on CANSIM: table 080-0009.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 5027.

A data table is also available under the *Summary tables* module of our website.

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 Abdul Mohammed (613-951-7719), Distributive Trades Division. ■

New products

National Income and Expenditure Accounts, Quarterly Estimates, Third quarter 2007, Vol. 55, no. 3
Catalogue number 13-001-XIB
(free).

Canadian Potato Production, January 2008, Vol. 5, no. 3
Catalogue number 22-008-XWE
(free).

Industrial Chemicals and Synthetic Resins, November 2007, Vol. 50, no. 11
Catalogue number 46-002-XWE
(free).

International Travel: Advance Information, November 2007, Vol. 23, no. 11
Catalogue number 66-001-PWE
(free).

Canada's International Transactions in Securities, November 2007, Vol. 73, no. 11
Catalogue number 67-002-XWE
(free).

Canadian Cancer Registry Manuals: Canadian Cancer Registry Manual, 2007 Edition, no. 10
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Catalogue 11-001-XIE (F) English 11-001-XIE001-0001-0001	
 The Daily	
Statistics Canada	
Thursday, June 5, 1997 For release at 9:30 a.m.	
MAJOR RELEASES	
● Urban transit, 1995	2
Despite the emphasis on taking urban transit, Canadians are using it less and less. In 1996, each Canadian took an average of about 25 trips on some form of urban transit, the lowest level in the past 25 years.	
● Productivity, hourly compensation and unit labour cost, 1995	4
Growth in productivity among Canadian businesses also noticeably weak again in 1996 accompanied by sluggish gains in employment and slow economic growth during the year.	
OTHER RELEASES	
Map-warmed Index, May 1997	3
Short-term Expectations Survey	9
Steel primary forms, week ending May 31, 1997	12
Egg production, Apr. 1997	12
PUBLICATIONS RELEASED	11
 	

Statistics Canada's official release bulletin

Catalogue 11-001-XIE.

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The Daily, January 18, 2008

Release dates: January 21 to 25, 2008

(Release dates are subject to change.)

Release date	Title	Reference period
21	Wholesale trade	November 2007
22	Retail trade	November 2007
22	Employment Insurance	November 2007
23	Health Reports	2007
23	Leading indicators	December 2007
24	Female offenders: A statistical portrait	2005
25	Consumer Price Index	December 2007
25	Canadian agriculture at a glance	2006