

The Daily

Statistics Canada

Tuesday, November 25, 2008

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| The first increase in sales by new car dealers since January was largely responsible for the 1.1% rise in retail sales in September. If price changes are factored in, retail sales in terms of volume were up by 0.7%. | |
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New products

The Canadian Labour Market at a Glance: Online publication

2007

This online publication, released today, takes more than just a glance at key trends in Canada's labour market for 2007.

The publication consists of 16 sections that provide an overview of a host of labour market topics, illustrated by 101 charts.

Among the topics examined are labour market trends; employment by industry; trends in workplace training; reasons workers select part-time jobs; the growth in temporary positions; absenteeism rates; wages and income; international comparisons; labour markets in provinces and census metropolitan areas; and the labour market for immigrants and Aboriginal people.

The publication will be of particular interest to labour market specialists, economists, researchers and students and teachers, in fact, anyone interested in monitoring labour market trends. It also uses a variety of survey data and analysis, making it an invaluable reference document on labour issues.

The publication *The Canadian Labour Market at a Glance, 2007* (71-222-XWE, free) is now available from the *Publications* module of our website.

For more information, contact Client Services (toll-free 1-866-873-8788; 613-951-4090; fax: 613-951-2869; labour@statcan.gc.ca), Labour Statistics Division.



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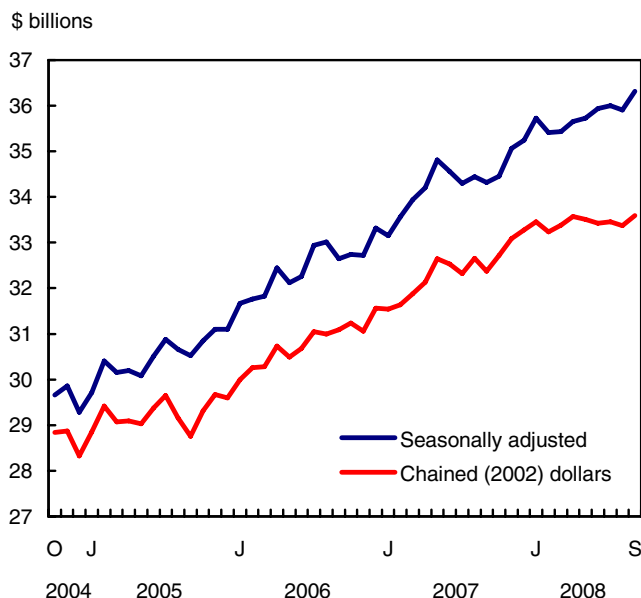
Releases

Retail trade

September 2008

Retail sales totalled \$36.3 billion in September, up 1.1% from August and the strongest rise in sales in eight months. Sales by new car dealers were up for the first time since January, accounting for most of this growth.

Strong retail sales increase in September



If price changes are factored in, retail sales in terms of volume rose by 0.7%.

In September, five of the eight sectors posted higher sales and they accounted for approximately 75% of retail sales.

Sales in the automotive sector were 2.2% higher in September, largely owing to a 2.9% increase in sales by new car dealers. The number of units sold in September was up for both passenger cars and trucks, according to the New Motor Vehicle Sales Survey.

The 1.7% rise in sales by gasoline stations in September continued the strong upward trend, driven by gasoline prices, that has been observed since September 2007. For used and recreational motor vehicle and parts dealers (including tire dealers), the rise in sales in September was the fourth in five months.

Increases of over 1.0% were also posted by the general merchandise stores sector and the food and

Note to readers

Total retail sales by volume are measured by deflating values in current dollars of the various trade groups using consumer price indexes. This retail sales in chained dollars series (2002) is a chain Fisher volume index with 2002 as the reference year.

beverage stores sector. These rises were influenced by the rapid growth in food prices since early 2008.

The most substantial decrease in sales in September was in the building and outdoor home supplies stores sector. This was the first drop in sales in this sector since April 2008.

Increase in Quebec leads widespread gains among provinces

Gains were widespread, as seven provinces registered sales increases above 1.0% in September.

Quebec posted the strongest increase among the provinces, with a 2.3% sales gain in September. This marked the fifth sales increase in six months. Strong sales by gasoline stations and new car dealers were the major contributing factors.

After two consecutive months of declines, sales in British Columbia increased 1.0% in September. They had remained relatively stable since the end of 2007.

Ontario posted its highest sales increase since April 2008, with a 0.4% rise in September.

Sales in Saskatchewan remained essentially unchanged. Following a long period of growth, sales in Saskatchewan have been stable since June.

It is now possible to consult the tables of raw data by industry and by province and territory from the *Tables by subject* module of our website.

For information on related indicators, refer to the Latest statistics page on our website.

Available on CANSIM: tables 080-0014 to 080-0017.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey numbers, including related surveys, 2406 and 2408.

The September 2008 issue of the publication *Retail Trade* (63-005-XWE, free) will be available shortly.

Data on retail trade for October will be released on December 18.

For more information, or to order data, contact Client Services (613-951-3549; toll-free 1-877-421-3067;

retailinfo@statcan.gc.ca). For analytical information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of

this release, contact Claude Bilodeau (613-951-1816), Distributive Trades Division.

Retail sales

| | September 2007 | June 2008 ^r | July 2008 ^r | August 2008 ^r | September 2008 ^p | August to September 2008 | September 2007 to September 2008 |
|---|-------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------------------|-----------------------------------|--|
| Seasonally adjusted | | | | | | | |
| | \$ millions | | | | | % change | |
| Automotive | 11,569 | 12,469 | 12,443 | 12,260 | 12,536 | 2.2 | 8.4 |
| New car dealers | 6,373 | 6,079 | 6,023 | 5,955 | 6,129 | 2.9 | -3.8 |
| Used and recreational motor vehicle and parts dealers | 1,542 | 1,581 | 1,579 | 1,614 | 1,634 | 1.2 | 6.0 |
| Gasoline stations | 3,655 | 4,810 | 4,840 | 4,691 | 4,773 | 1.7 | 30.6 |
| Furniture, home furnishings and electronics stores | 2,506 | 2,644 | 2,694 | 2,680 | 2,666 | -0.5 | 6.4 |
| Furniture stores | 841 | 874 | 889 | 881 | 883 | 0.2 | 4.9 |
| Home furnishings stores | 509 | 528 | 533 | 528 | 530 | 0.3 | 4.0 |
| Computer and software stores | 116 | 123 | 124 | 119 | 115 | -3.9 | -1.5 |
| Home electronics and appliance stores | 1,039 | 1,120 | 1,147 | 1,151 | 1,139 | -1.0 | 9.6 |
| Building and outdoor home supplies stores | 2,260 | 2,282 | 2,307 | 2,308 | 2,291 | -0.7 | 1.4 |
| Home centres and hardware stores | 1,822 | 1,871 | 1,885 | 1,890 | 1,870 | -1.1 | 2.6 |
| Specialized building materials and garden stores | 438 | 411 | 422 | 418 | 422 | 0.9 | -3.7 |
| Food and beverage stores | 7,685 | 7,945 | 7,906 | 7,978 | 8,071 | 1.2 | 5.0 |
| Supermarkets | 5,480 | 5,697 | 5,678 | 5,731 | 5,805 | 1.3 | 5.9 |
| Convenience and specialty food stores | 837 | 833 | 838 | 848 | 860 | 1.5 | 2.7 |
| Beer, wine and liquor stores | 1,368 | 1,416 | 1,390 | 1,399 | 1,406 | 0.5 | 2.8 |
| Pharmacies and personal care stores | 2,395 | 2,428 | 2,457 | 2,460 | 2,463 | 0.1 | 2.9 |
| Clothing and accessories stores | 2,003 | 2,049 | 2,033 | 2,018 | 2,030 | 0.6 | 1.3 |
| Clothing stores | 1,534 | 1,569 | 1,561 | 1,546 | 1,550 | 0.2 | 1.0 |
| Shoe, clothing accessories and jewellery stores | 469 | 480 | 472 | 472 | 480 | 1.8 | 2.3 |
| General merchandise stores | 4,110 | 4,290 | 4,319 | 4,352 | 4,420 | 1.6 | 7.6 |
| Miscellaneous retailers | 1,785 | 1,834 | 1,840 | 1,845 | 1,833 | -0.6 | 2.7 |
| Sporting goods, hobby, music and book stores | 892 | 922 | 909 | 913 | 904 | -0.9 | 1.4 |
| Miscellaneous store retailers | 894 | 912 | 931 | 932 | 929 | -0.4 | 4.0 |
| Total retail sales | 34,314 | 35,942 | 35,997 | 35,902 | 36,311 | 1.1 | 5.8 |
| Total excluding new car dealers, used and recreational motor vehicle and parts dealers | 26,399 | 28,283 | 28,395 | 28,332 | 28,548 | 0.8 | 8.1 |
| Provinces and territories | | | | | | | |
| Newfoundland and Labrador | 546 | 590 | 602 | 601 | 609 | 1.3 | 11.4 |
| Prince Edward Island | 136 | 145 | 143 | 144 | 146 | 1.5 | 7.4 |
| Nova Scotia | 978 | 1,016 | 1,030 | 1,027 | 1,049 | 2.1 | 7.3 |
| New Brunswick | 778 | 819 | 840 | 829 | 835 | 0.8 | 7.4 |
| Quebec | 7,515 | 7,988 | 8,058 | 7,997 | 8,183 | 2.3 | 8.9 |
| Ontario | 12,155 | 12,796 | 12,838 | 12,844 | 12,897 | 0.4 | 6.1 |
| Manitoba | 1,178 | 1,261 | 1,250 | 1,251 | 1,265 | 1.1 | 7.4 |
| Saskatchewan | 1,106 | 1,210 | 1,214 | 1,210 | 1,211 | 0.1 | 9.5 |
| Alberta | 5,075 | 5,149 | 5,104 | 5,106 | 5,171 | 1.3 | 1.9 |
| British Columbia | 4,724 | 4,837 | 4,790 | 4,764 | 4,814 | 1.0 | 1.9 |
| Yukon | 42 | 45 | 45 | 44 | 46 | 2.6 | 7.8 |
| Northwest Territories | 57 | 59 | 58 | 59 | 60 | 2.4 | 6.3 |
| Nunavut | 23 | 26 | 26 | 25 | 25 | 0.0 | 5.7 |

^r revised

^p preliminary

Note: Figures may not add up to total due to rounding.



Employment Insurance

September 2008 (preliminary)

In September, 480,370 Canadians received regular Employment Insurance (EI) benefits, down 5,080 or 1.0% from August, after seasonal adjustment. During the month, regular benefit payments increased 5.5% to \$772.4 million.

The number of Canadians receiving regular EI benefits rose by 3.9% or 13,100 between September 2007 and September 2008. The number of men receiving benefits increased 5.7% while the number of women receiving benefits rose 1.7%.

Provincially, Ontario (+14.0%) and British Columbia (+11.2%) had the largest year-over-year increases in regular EI beneficiaries. These advances were partly offset by declines in some other regions.

In the census metropolitan areas, the largest year-over-year increases in the number of regular beneficiaries occurred in Oshawa (+96.4%) and Windsor (+30.4%). Among those census metropolitan areas where the number of regular beneficiaries went down, Saskatoon (-19.8%) and Thunder Bay (-19.7%) had the largest year-over-year decreases.

Note: Employment Insurance Statistics Program data are produced from an administrative data source

and may, from time to time, be affected by changes to the *Employment Insurance Act* or administrative procedures. The number of beneficiaries is a measure of all persons who received Employment Insurance benefits from the 14th to the 20th of September. This coincides with the reference week of the Labour Force Survey for September. The regular benefit payments figure measures the total of all monies paid to individuals during the month. Month-to-month comparisons are made based on seasonally adjusted data, which removes the effects of seasonal variations.

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

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2604.

Data on Employment Insurance for October will be released on December 19.

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

□

Employment Insurance statistics

| | September 2007 | August 2008 | September 2008 | August to September 2008 | September 2007 to September 2008 |
|---|-------------------|--------------------|--------------------|-----------------------------------|--|
| Seasonally adjusted | | | | | |
| | | | | % change | |
| Regular beneficiaries (thousands) | 462.3 | 485.5 ^r | 480.4 ^p | -1.0 | 3.9 |
| Regular benefits paid (\$ millions) | 768.2 | 732.4 ^r | 772.4 ^p | 5.5 | 0.5 |
| Initial and renewal claims received (thousands) | 215.3 | 223.7 ^r | 229.5 ^p | 2.6 | 6.6 |
| Unadjusted | | | | | |
| All beneficiaries (thousands) ¹ | 580.5 | 732.3 ^p | 600.9 ^p | | |
| Regular beneficiaries (thousands) | 335.4 | 490.5 ^p | 348.5 ^p | | 3.9 |
| Men (thousands) | 183.3 | 226.3 ^p | 193.8 ^p | | 5.7 |
| Women (thousands) | 152.1 | 264.3 ^p | 154.7 ^p | | 1.7 |
| Initial and renewal claims received (thousands) | 170.9 | 154.3 | 202.5 | | |
| Payments (\$ millions) | 1,104.2 | 1,121.2 | 1,231.5 | | |
| Year-to-date (January to September) | | | | | |
| | | | 2007 | 2008 | 2007 to 2008 |
| | | | | | % change |
| Claims received (thousands) | | | 1,851.5 | 1,876.4 | 1.4 |
| Payments (\$ millions) | | | 11,181.1 | 11,379.8 | 1.8 |

^r revised

^p preliminary

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

Number of beneficiaries receiving regular benefits

| | September 2008 ^p | August to September 2008 | September 2007 to September 2008 |
|---------------------------|--------------------------------|-----------------------------------|--|
| Seasonally adjusted | | | |
| | | % change | |
| Canada | 480,370 | -1.0 | 3.9 |
| Newfoundland and Labrador | 36,190 | 1.5 | 1.4 |
| Prince Edward Island | 7,740 | 0.3 | -4.0 |
| Nova Scotia | 27,500 | -1.1 | 1.1 |
| New Brunswick | 29,620 | -0.1 | 0.0 |
| Quebec | 155,500 | -4.2 | -3.4 |
| Ontario | 144,300 | 1.4 | 14.0 |
| Manitoba | 10,480 | -1.4 | 5.9 |
| Saskatchewan | 8,300 | -5.5 | -8.5 |
| Alberta | 16,520 | -4.0 | 2.6 |
| British Columbia | 41,610 | -1.1 | 11.2 |
| Yukon | 800 | 5.3 | 8.1 |
| Northwest Territories | 670 | 0.0 | 6.3 |
| Nunavut | 320 | 0.0 | -5.9 |

^p preliminary

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

Machinery and equipment price indexes

Third quarter 2008

The Machinery and Equipment Price Index (MEPI) stood at 88.7 (1997=100) in the third quarter, up 2.8% from the second quarter of 2008. The import component index rose 4.1%, while the domestic index increased 0.7%.

Compared with the third quarter of 2007, the total MEPI was up 2.3%, as the import index increased 3.1% while the domestic index rose 1.4%.

All industries recorded increases in prices of machinery and equipment purchased in the third quarter. The manufacturing sector (+3.5%) contributed the most to the total MEPI quarterly increase. Among the sector's subcomponents, the largest contributors to the quarterly increase were transportation equipment manufacturing (+3.8%), primary metal and fabricated metal product manufacturing (+3.7%) and paper manufacturing (+3.3%). The second largest contributor to the total quarterly increase was finance, insurance and real estate (+2.2%).

Among commodities, price increases for other industry specific machinery (+3.4%) and automobiles, excluding passenger vans (+2.9%) were the largest contributors to the quarterly increase.

The US dollar increased 3.15% against its Canadian counterpart in the third quarter of 2008.

Available on CANSIM: tables 327-0041 and 327-0042.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2312.

The third quarter 2008 issue of *Capital Expenditure Price Statistics* (62-007-XWE, free) will be available in February 2009.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Client Services (toll-free 1-866-230-2248; 613-951-9606; fax: 613-951-1539; prices-prix@statcan.gc.ca), Prices Division.

Machinery and equipment price indexes (1997=100)

| Industries | Relative importance | Third quarter 2008 ^P | Second quarter to third quarter 2008 | Third quarter 2007 to third quarter 2008 |
|---|---------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|
| % change | | | | |
| Total machinery and equipment price index | 100.00 | 88.7 | 2.8 | 2.3 |
| Domestic | 32.03 | 105.1 | 0.7 | 1.4 |
| Imported | 67.97 | 81.0 | 4.1 | 3.1 |
| Crop and animal production | 4.07 | 98.7 | 3.4 | 3.0 |
| Forestry and logging | 0.27 | 97.5 | 3.1 | 1.8 |
| Fishing, hunting and trapping | 0.08 | 109.5 | 3.1 | 3.8 |
| Support activities for agriculture and forestry | 0.10 | 96.2 | 2.8 | 2.6 |
| Mines, quarries and oil wells | 4.26 | 104.9 | 4.2 | 5.3 |
| Utilities | 3.55 | 97.4 | 5.2 | 6.4 |
| Construction | 3.54 | 94.6 | 3.6 | 2.5 |
| All manufacturing | 22.34 | 95.6 | 3.5 | 3.0 |
| Trade | 8.38 | 86.3 | 2.1 | 1.6 |
| Transportation (excluding pipeline transportation) | 7.66 | 101.3 | 2.5 | 1.8 |
| Pipeline transportation | 1.18 | 102.4 | 3.7 | 3.4 |
| Warehousing and storage | 0.26 | 103.8 | 3.7 | 4.4 |
| Finance, insurance and real estate | 19.90 | 80.4 | 2.2 | 1.4 |
| Private education services | 0.12 | 73.6 | 2.8 | 1.0 |
| Education services (excluding private), health care and social assistance | 2.09 | 83.8 | 2.3 | 1.6 |
| Other services (excluding public administration) | 16.39 | 76.7 | 2.0 | 1.1 |
| Public administration | 5.81 | 81.8 | 2.3 | 1.9 |

^P preliminary

Aircraft movement statistics: Major airports

October 2008

Aircraft take-offs and landings at Canadian airports with NAV CANADA air traffic control towers and flight service stations increased 1.7% in October compared with October 2007. These 95 airports reported 554,398 movements in October compared with 545,012 movements in October 2007.

Available on CANSIM: tables 401-0007 to 401-0020.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2715.

The October 2008 issue of *Aircraft Movement Statistics: NAV Canada Towers and Flight Service Stations (TP 141)* (51-007-XWE, free), is now available from the *Publications* module of our website. This report is a joint publication of Statistics Canada and Transport Canada.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Client Services (toll-free 1-866-500-8400; transportationstatistics@statcan.gc.ca), Transportation Division. ■

New products

Longitudinal Administrative Data Dictionary, 2006
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All prices are in Canadian dollars and exclude sales tax. Additional shipping charges apply for delivery outside Canada.

Aircraft Movement Statistics: NAV CANADA Towers and Flight Service Stations (TP 141), October 2008
Catalogue number 51-007-XWE
(free).

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The Canadian Labour Market at a Glance, 2007
Catalogue number 71-222-XWE
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The Daily

Statistics Canada

Thursday, May 29, 2008
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Releases

Canada's balance of international payments, first quarter 2008

The current account surplus with the rest of the world (on a seasonally adjusted basis) increased sharply to \$5.5 billion in the first quarter of 2008, led by higher prices for several exported commodities compared with a lower base level. In the financial account, foreign direct investment flows into Canada slowed significantly from the expansion-driven pace of the previous quarter, while Canadian direct investment abroad continued to strengthen.

2

Payroll employment, earnings and hours, March 2008

Study: The year to review for wholesale trade, 2007

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Public sector employment, first quarter 2008

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Consumer and Mortgage Services Price Index, April 2008

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Placement of fishery, choice and turkey profits, April 2008

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Health indicators, 2008

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2006 Census profiles

Within the boundaries of the census and earnings release components, the complete cumulative profile is now available for census divisions, census subdivisions, dissemination areas, forward sortation areas, designated places, urban areas, and census metropolitan areas and census agglomerations with census subdivisions. To obtain these profiles in electronic format (links vary for different geography levels), contact Statistics Canada's National Contact Centre.

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