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

The Daily

Statistics Canada

Tuesday, May 20, 2008
Released at 8:30 a.m. Eastern time

Releases

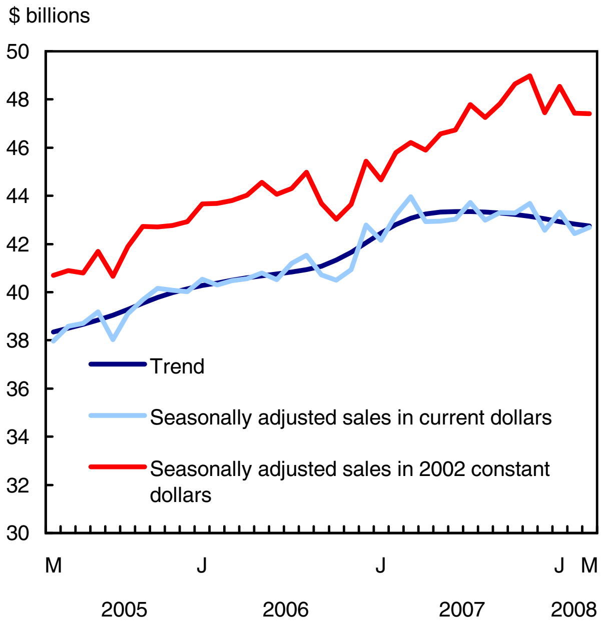
Releases

Wholesale trade

March 2008

Wholesalers reported a modest rebound in sales in March, helped by higher deliveries of building supplies and machinery and electronic equipment. However, the increase was not enough to prevent a second consecutive quarterly decline in sales.

Wholesalers recover some of the ground lost in February



Sales increased by an estimated 0.6% to $42.7 billion, recouping some of the 2.1% decline reported in February.

On a quarterly basis, wholesale sales fell 0.8% in the first quarter, following a 0.3% decline in the fourth quarter of 2007. First quarter sales were affected by a large drop in the motor vehicles trade group, which registered its fourth consecutive quarterly decline, as well as continued weakness in the beleaguered lumber sector. In marked contrast, the "other products" trade group registered its highest quarterly growth in five years, thanks to the continuing surge in worldwide demand for agricultural supplies.

After hitting a peak in June 2007, the level of wholesale sales has softened somewhat over recent months. Much of this has to do with the weak demand for motor vehicles and lumber, both of which have been hit by the slowdown in the US economy. Prior to this, wholesale sales had undergone a period of sustained growth that began in mid-2003.

Taking price fluctuations into account, the volume of sales edged down 0.1% in March.

Note to readers

The volume of sales is calculated by deflating the current dollar sales using import and industry price indexes. As many of the goods sold by wholesalers are imported, any rise or fall in the value of the Canadian dollar can lead to differences between the growth rates of the volume of sales and those in current dollars. In periods when the Canadian dollar is appreciating, as has recently been the case, the growth in volume will tend to be higher than the growth in current dollars.

The volume of sales is a chained Fisher volume estimate with 2002 as a reference year.

Higher demand for building materials and machinery and equipment

Following very weak sales in February, likely exacerbated by that month's adverse weather conditions in Central Canada, building supplies rebounded by 3.4% in March, accounting for around half of the overall rise in wholesale sales. Notwithstanding the increase in March, sales in this trade group have slowed somewhat over the preceding six months.

Most of the remaining growth in March came from a 2.6% increase in the machinery and equipment trade group, which continued its strong start to the year with a third consecutive monthly rise. Sales of agricultural machinery have been particularly strong of late.

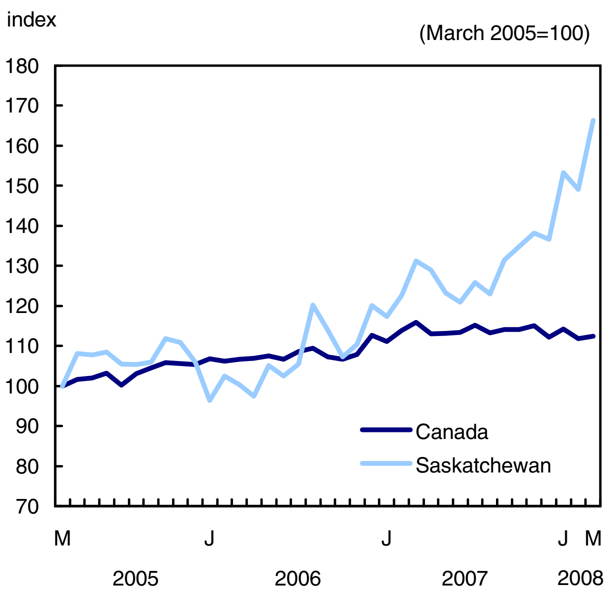
Partially offsetting these gains was a second straight monthly decline for consumer-related trade groups such as household and personal products, pharmaceuticals and apparel.

Saskatchewan powers ahead while Ontario recoups some of the big February decline

Only four provinces registered higher sales in March, with Saskatchewan and Ontario accounting for the bulk of the increase.

Saskatchewan posted a second double-digit increase in three months, as sales powered ahead by 11.6% in March to a new record high. As was the case in January, when sales rose by 12.2%, surging demand for agricultural supplies, notably fertilizers, was behind much of the latest gain. As a result, sales growth in the first quarter was the strongest on record and followed a substantial increase in the fourth quarter of 2007.

Sales soar in Saskatchewan



After a month in which they saw their sales fall by the largest amount (-5.0%) since the August 2003 blackout, wholesalers in Ontario recovered some ground in March as sales moved ahead 1.6%. Higher demand for building supplies as well as food products, metal products and machinery and equipment was behind most of the gain.

Despite the increase in March, wholesale sales in Ontario fell by 3.0% in the first quarter, which was the largest quarterly decline since the second quarter of 2003. Weak motor vehicle sales, a combination of softening prices, weak demand from the United States and changing consumer preferences for smaller vehicles, were behind much of the drop in the first quarter.

Inventories rise for the first time in fourth months but at a moderate pace

Wholesalers' inventories increased for the first time in four months in March, albeit at a modest 0.2% pace.

Of the 15 wholesale trade groups, 10 reported higher inventory levels, led by the food products, computer and other electronic equipment and office and professional equipment trade groups. These increases were mainly offset by drops in motor vehicle and building supply inventories.

With the growth in total wholesale sales outpacing the growth in inventories in March, the inventory-to-sales ratio edged down from 1.28 in February to 1.27 in March. The ratio has remained within a fairly narrow range since hitting its last peak in October 2006.

The inventory-to-sales ratio is an indicator of how many months it would require to deplete current inventories at the existing rate of sales.

Available on CANSIM: tables 081-0007 to 081-0010.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2401.

The March 2008 issue of *Wholesale Trade* (63-008-XWE, free) will soon be available.

Wholesale trade estimates for April will be released on June 19.

To obtain data or general information, contact Client Services (toll-free 1-877-421-3067; 613-951-3549; *wholesaleinfo@statcan.ca*). To enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Marc Atkins (613-951-0291; *marc.atkins@statcan.ca*), Distributive Trades Division.

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Wholesale merchants' sales

	March 2007	December 2007r	January 2008r	February 2008r	March 2008p	February to March 2008	March 2007 to March 2008
	Seasonally adjusted						
	$ millions					% change	
Total, wholesale sales	**43,972**	**42,571**	**43,336**	**42,437**	**42,692**	**0.6**	**-2.9**
Farm products	**511**	**447**	**431**	**449**	**459**	**2.2**	**-10.3**
Food, beverages and tobacco products	**7,397**	**7,344**	**7,382**	**7,431**	**7,456**	**0.3**	**0.8**
Food products	6,788	6,676	6,778	6,785	6,795	0.1	0.1
Alcohol and tobacco	609	667	605	646	661	2.3	8.6
Personal and household goods	**6,364**	**6,591**	**6,726**	**6,532**	**6,457**	**-1.1**	**1.5**
Apparel	771	805	839	786	764	-2.8	-0.9
Household and personal products	2,762	2,750	2,753	2,730	2,726	-0.2	-1.3
Pharmaceuticals	2,830	3,036	3,135	3,015	2,967	-1.6	4.8
Automotive products	**8,722**	**7,335**	**7,324**	**7,065**	**7,099**	**0.5**	**-18.6**
Motor vehicles	7,124	5,838	5,809	5,574	5,611	0.7	-21.2
Motor vehicle parts and accessories	1,598	1,497	1,515	1,491	1,487	-0.2	-6.9
Building materials	**6,436**	**6,154**	**6,182**	**5,988**	**6,114**	**2.1**	**-5.0**
Building supplies	3,816	3,743	3,779	3,634	3,758	3.4	-1.5
Metal products	1,538	1,443	1,428	1,453	1,468	1.0	-4.5
Lumber and millwork	1,082	968	976	901	887	-1.5	-18.0
Machinery and electronic equipment	**9,274**	**9,188**	**9,328**	**9,226**	**9,384**	**1.7**	**1.2**
Machinery and equipment	4,645	4,551	4,595	4,636	4,758	2.6	2.4
Computer and other electronic equipment	2,623	2,618	2,691	2,591	2,604	0.5	-0.7
Office and professional equipment	2,005	2,019	2,042	2,000	2,022	1.1	0.8
Other products	**5,269**	**5,513**	**5,962**	**5,747**	**5,724**	**-0.4**	**8.6**
Total, excluding automobiles	**35,250**	**35,236**	**36,012**	**35,372**	**35,593**	**0.6**	**1.0**
Sales, province and territory							
Newfoundland and Labrador	250	247	255	278	262	-5.5	5.0
Prince Edward Island	42	36	38	38	39	2.6	-7.6
Nova Scotia	585	552	571	576	564	-2.1	-3.6
New Brunswick	413	433	428	425	424	-0.3	2.7
Quebec	8,300	7,924	8,087	8,164	8,055	-1.3	-3.0
Ontario	22,266	21,469	21,742	20,665	20,993	1.6	-5.7
Manitoba	1,044	1,013	1,101	1,105	1,060	-4.1	1.5
Saskatchewan	1,239	1,290	1,448	1,408	1,571	11.6	26.8
Alberta	5,292	5,183	5,265	5,340	5,411	1.3	2.2
British Columbia	4,472	4,349	4,336	4,354	4,241	-2.6	-5.2
Yukon	11	11	12	14	11	-21.2	5.6
Northwest Territories	56	61	50	68	59	-14.1	5.0
Nunavut	3	3	3	3	2	-20.9	-19.8

r *revised*
p *preliminary*
Note: *Figures may not add up to totals due to rounding.*

Wholesale merchants' inventories and inventory-to-sales ratio

	March 2007	December 2007[r]	January 2008[r]	February 2008[r]	March 2008[p]	February to March 2008	March 2007 to March 2008	February 2008[r]	March 2008[p]
	Wholesale inventories							Inventory-to-sales ratio	
	Seasonally adjusted								
	$ millions					% change			
Inventories	**54,234**	**54,504**	**54,231**	**54,228**	**54,322**	**0.2**	**0.2**	**1.28**	**1.27**
Farm products	189	166	165	155	171	10.5	-9.1	0.35	0.37
Food products	4,075	4,124	4,240	4,239	4,336	2.3	6.4	0.62	0.64
Alcohol and tobacco	292	318	350	344	357	3.9	22.5	0.53	0.54
Apparel	1,619	1,800	1,800	1,768	1,773	0.3	9.5	2.25	2.32
Household and personal products	3,816	4,053	4,022	4,036	4,058	0.6	6.3	1.48	1.49
Pharmaceuticals	3,454	3,552	3,563	3,589	3,565	-0.7	3.2	1.19	1.20
Motor vehicles	4,887	4,637	4,528	4,570	4,442	-2.8	-9.1	0.82	0.79
Motor vehicle parts and accessories	3,385	3,225	3,191	3,198	3,261	2.0	-3.7	2.15	2.19
Building supplies	5,881	6,105	5,996	5,984	5,883	-1.7	0.0	1.65	1.57
Metal products	3,089	2,806	2,775	2,754	2,773	0.7	-10.2	1.90	1.89
Lumber and millwork	1,262	1,133	1,109	1,082	1,059	-2.2	-16.1	1.20	1.19
Machinery and equipment	11,729	11,643	11,588	11,641	11,613	-0.2	-1.0	2.51	2.44
Computer and other electronic equipment	1,735	1,660	1,642	1,569	1,632	4.0	-6.0	0.61	0.63
Office and professional equipment	2,598	2,673	2,660	2,680	2,750	2.6	5.9	1.34	1.36
Other products	6,222	6,608	6,601	6,617	6,646	0.4	6.8	1.15	1.16

r *revised*
p *preliminary*
Note: *Figures may not add up to totals due to rounding.*

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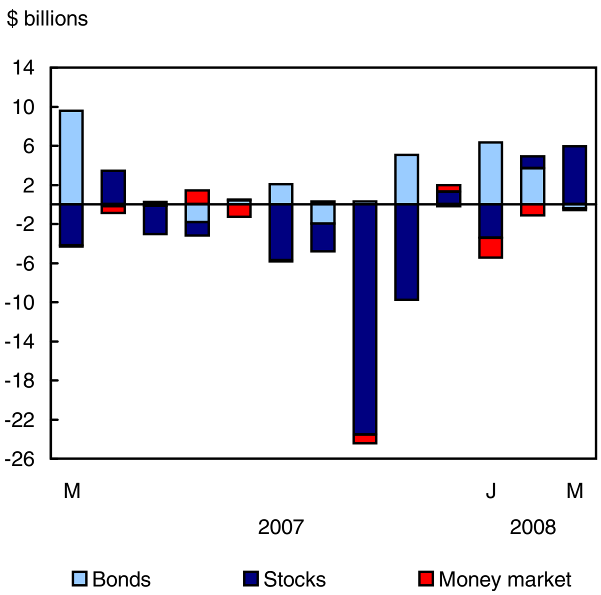
Canada's international transactions in securities

March 2008

Foreign interest in Canadian securities continued to grow in March. Foreign acquisitions of Canadian securities reached $5.3 billion in March, the highest level since March 2007, fuelled by substantial issuance of new Canadian shares to foreign portfolio investors.

At the same time, Canadian investors divested some foreign securities, all in debt instruments. March saw a $3.3 billion decline in Canadian holdings of foreign securities, on the heels of three straight months of investments.

Foreign portfolio investment in Canadian securities



Foreign purchases of Canadian equities reach a two-year high

Non-residents increased their holdings of Canadian shares appreciably in March, as sizeable new share issues purchased by foreign investors more than offset sales of outstanding shares. Overall, non-resident investors added a net $5.9 billion of Canadian equities to their portfolios in March, the largest such outlay since May 2006.

Purchases of new Canadian equity were focused in the banking sector. Sales of outstanding corporate shares reversed robust acquisitions over the last three months, and were concentrated in non-bank financial, energy and mining firms. Canadian stock prices continued to show volatility in 2008, losing 1.7% in March after a 3.3% gain in February.

Related market information

Canadian short-term ***interest rates*** *tumbled 152 basis points to 1.72%, a record low, while US rates fell to 1.26%, a decrease of 86 basis points. Still favouring investment in Canada, the short-term interest rate differential between Canada and the US narrowed to 46 basis points.*

Canadian and US long-term rates fell by 35 and 34 basis points respectively in March. With Canadian rates at 3.46% and US rates at 3.51%, the resulting differential increased slightly to 0.05%.

Canadian ***stock prices*** *fell 1.7% in March with the Standard and Poor's / Toronto Stock Exchange Composite Index closing the month at 13,350.1. Meanwhile, US stock prices, measured by the Standard and Poor's Composite Index, fell 0.6% to 1,322.7.*

The ***Canadian dollar*** *dropped 4.17 US cents, sitting at 97.42 US cents at March month end.*

Definitions

The data series on international security transactions cover portfolio transactions in stocks, bonds and money market instruments for both Canadian and foreign issues.

Stocks *include common and preferred equities, as well as warrants.*

Debt securities *include bonds and money market instruments.*

Bonds *have an original term to maturity of more than one year.*

Money market instruments *have an original term to maturity of one year or less.*

Government of Canada paper *includes treasury bills and US-dollar Canada bills.*

Substantial foreign acquisition of bonds more than offset by retirements

March saw foreign holdings of Canadian bonds reduced by $401 million, as a result of a near-record amount of debt maturing over the month. Retirements of Canadian bonds were spread across nearly all sectors except for the federal government sector.

Foreign acquisitions of outstanding Canadian bonds remained robust at $5.7 billion in March, closing the quarter with a new high. Investments were limited to bonds issued by the federal government and its enterprises with minimal credit and liquidity risks, almost all denominated in Canadian dollars.

Non-residents slightly reduced their holdings of Canadian money market instruments ($239 million) in March, following substantial sell-offs over the previous two months totalling $3.3 billion. In March, short-term interest rates dropped substantially and the interest rate differential between Canadian long- and short-term rates widened to 174 basis points, the highest in three years, favouring investments in bonds.

Residents divest a significant amount of foreign debt

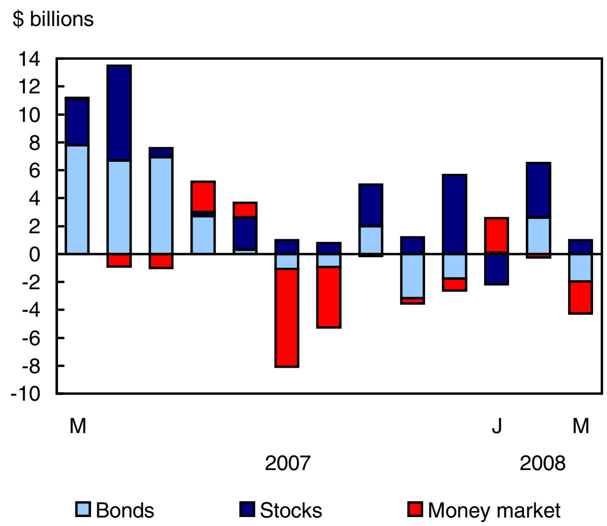
Canadian investors sold $4.3 billion of foreign debt in March, almost equally split between bonds and money market instruments. The divestment in foreign money market paper was sizable at $2.4 billion, nearly all in the non-bank financial sector. Since August 2007, when the global credit market tightened, Canadian investors have disposed of $13.0 billion of foreign short-term debt.

Sales of foreign bonds by Canadian investors of $1.9 billion were focused in longer term-to-maturity US Government bonds. US long-term rates fell in March, in the context of a higher inflation reading in the US economy. The remainder of March's reduction was in non-US foreign bonds, driven by retirements of Maple bonds (Canadian dollar-denominated foreign instruments).

Canadian investors diversify foreign equity investments

Residents invested $982 million in foreign stocks in March, mainly US shares. While equity transactions were sector focused over the past few months, investments in March were comprised of a well-diversified portfolio of US shares to minimise market risks and uncertainties. US stock prices were down for a fifth consecutive month in March.

Canadian portfolio investment in foreign securities[1]



1. Reverse of balance of payments signs.

Available on CANSIM: tables 376-0018 to 376-0029, 376-0042, 376-0058 and 376-0063.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 1535.

The March 2008 issue of *Canada's International Transactions in Securities* (67-002-XWE, free) will soon be available.

Data on Canada's international transactions in securities for April will be released on June 17.

For general information or to order data, contact Client Services (613-951-1855; *infobalance@statcan.ca*). To enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Yiling Zhang (613-951-2057), Balance of Payments Division.

Canada's international transactions in securities

	December 2007	January 2008	February 2008	March 2008	January to March 2007	January to March 2008
					Cumulative transactions	
	$ millions					
Foreign investment in Canadian securities	**1,814**	**851**	**3,728**	**5,296**	**6,737**	**9,875**
Bonds (net)	-178	6,344	3,709	-401	7,970	9,651
Outstanding	-1,262	4,487	3,265	5,691	4,727	13,443
New issues	5,560	3,176	2,367	2,268	12,138	7,810
Retirements	-3,608	-2,001	-2,213	-8,014	-9,179	-12,228
Change in interest payable[1]	-867	682	290	-346	284	626
Money market paper (net)	722	-2,072	-1,182	-239	-702	-3,493
Government of Canada	539	-1,767	-410	-72	-1,485	-2,249
Other	183	-304	-772	-168	783	-1,244
Stocks (net)	1,270	-3,421	1,201	5,937	-532	3,717
Outstanding	1,212	3,119	1,096	-2,079	2,383	2,135
Other transactions	58	-6,540	106	8,016	-2,914	1,581
Canadian investment in foreign securities	**-2,983**	**-352**	**-6,232**	**3,326**	**-26,757**	**-3,258**
Bonds (net)	1,762	-48	-2,592	1,949	-17,186	-691
Stocks (net)	-5,649	2,217	-3,923	-982	-9,339	-2,688
Money market paper (net)	904	-2,521	284	2,359	-232	121

1. Interest accrued less interest paid.
Note: *A minus sign indicates an outflow of money from Canada, that is, a withdrawal of foreign investment from Canada or an increase in Canadian investment abroad.*

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Travel between Canada and other countries
March 2008

Travel to Canada hit a record low for the fifth consecutive month in March, in the wake of substantial declines in both same-day car trips from the United States and the number of visitors from overseas nations.

In total, foreign visitors made 2.3 million trips to Canada in March, the lowest since record keeping started in 1972. This was a 1.0% decline from February, and a 12.4% drop from the level in March 2007. (Unless otherwise specified, monthly data are seasonally adjusted.)

Same-day car travel from the United States continued its downward trend. US residents made only 730,000 such trips in March, down 2.5% from the previous month. During the past two years, same-day car travel to Canada has fallen by 41.1%.

Overall travel from the United States to Canada declined slightly in March as the decrease in same-day car travel offset a slight gain in overnight trips.

Overseas travellers to Canada made 384,000 trips in March, down 3.0%. Travel declined in 8 of Canada's top 12 overseas markets, with the strongest decreases in travel from Mexico, Germany and Hong Kong. On the other hand, there were gains in visitors from India, Italy and the Netherlands.

In the opposite direction, Canadian residents were making more trips outside the country in all categories. The number of Canadian trips abroad rose 1.4% to almost 4.5 million, the vast majority (85%) of which were to the United States.

Overall, Canadians made 3.8 million trips to the United States in March, up 1.6% from February. The level of Canadian travel to the United States observed in the past six months has been the highest since 1998.

In March, same-day car travel to the United States increased 1.5% to 2.1 million trips, while overnight car travel rose 1.9% to 991,000 trips.

Overnight plane trips to the United States set a new record high for the fourth consecutive month.

Canadian travel to countries other than the United States increased 0.4% to a record 670,000. This was the 10th month in which a new record high was set during the past year.

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

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 5005.

The March 2008 issue of *International Travel, Advance Information*, Vol. 24, no. 3 (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 Paul Durk (613-951-5859; *paul.durk@statcan.ca*), Culture, Tourism and the Centre for Education Statistics. □

Travel between Canada and other countries

	February 2008[r]	March 2008[p]	February to March 2008	March 2008[p]	March 2007 to March 2008
	Seasonally adjusted			Unadjusted	
	thousands		% change[1]	thousands	% change[1]
Canadian trips abroad[2]	4,416	4,480	1.4	5,082	16.0
to the United States	3,749	3,810	1.6	4,089	16.8
to other countries	668	670	0.4	993	12.8
Same-day car trips to the United States	2,076	2,107	1.5	2,047	9.5
Total trips, one or more nights	2,284	2,319	1.5	2,972	21.5
United States[3]	1,617	1,649	2.0	1,979	26.4
Car	973	991	1.9	1,160	36.0
Plane	542	550	1.6	742	13.3
Other modes of transportation	102	107	4.8	77	31.9
Other countries[4]	668	670	0.4	993	12.8
Travel to Canada[2]	2,280	2,257	-1.0	1,591	-12.6
from the United States	1,884	1,872	-0.6	1,333	-14.8
from other countries	396	384	-3.0	258	0.3
Same-day car trips from the United States	748	730	-2.5	637	-24.0
Total trips, one or more nights	1,431	1,427	-0.2	905	-2.3
United States[3]	1,045	1,053	0.7	652	-3.2
Car	613	614	0.2	382	-2.9
Plane	304	309	1.8	230	-3.6
Other modes of transportation	128	129	0.9	41	-3.4
Other countries[4]	386	374	-3.0	253	0.0
Travel to Canada: Top overseas markets, by country of origin[5]					
United Kingdom	74	72	-2.2	56	0.7
France	32	30	-4.8	17	-9.4
Japan	26	26	1.0	20	-19.7
Germany	27	25	-7.7	14	-4.8
Mexico	25	22	-11.4	22	35.5
Australia	20	19	-4.6	9	1.5
South Korea	18	18	-3.1	12	-5.0
China	15	14	-5.5	8	11.8
Netherlands	10	11	3.6	5	1.5
Hong Kong	11	10	-7.5	8	24.2
India	9	10	7.4	6	2.4
Italy	8	9	4.9	4	4.3

p *preliminary*
r *revised*
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.*

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Youth court statistics

2006/2007

Fewer young people aged 12 to 17 have been appearing before a judge since the enactment of the *Youth Criminal Justice Act* (YCJA) in April 2003, and fewer are being sent to custody.

There were 56,463 youth court cases completed during the 2006/2007 fiscal year. Although virtually unchanged from the previous year, this amount was 26% lower than in 2002/2003, the year prior to the enactment of the new legislation.

The youth court caseload has declined in every province and territory since the introduction of the YCJA. There were five jurisdictions in which the caseload in 2006/2007 was at least 30% lower than in 2002/2003: the Northwest Territories (-52%), Newfoundland and Labrador (-47%), Yukon (-45%), British Columbia (-37%) and Ontario (-30%).

Over the same period, declines of between 21% and 24% occurred in Prince Edward Island, New Brunswick, Alberta and Nunavut. In the remaining provinces (Nova Scotia, Quebec, Manitoba and Saskatchewan), the youth court caseloads declined by less than 20%.

Since reaching a high of 70% in 1998/1999, the proportion of cases in which the young people either pleaded guilty, or were found guilty, has been gradually declining. In 2006/2007, the proportion was about 60%, the lowest since 1991/1992 when youth court data became available for all provinces and territories.

One of the concerns with the *Young Offenders Act* (YOA), the predecessor of the YCJA, was overuse of custody. A key objective of the YCJA was to decrease the use of custody.

In line with that objective, fewer youth are being sentenced to custody. In 2006/2007, about 17% or 5,640 of all guilty cases resulted in a custodial sentence. This compares with 13,246 or 27% of all guilty cases in 2002/2003.

This decline was apparent in all provinces and territories. The largest impact occurred in Newfoundland and Labrador, Manitoba and the Northwest Territories, where the number of cases in which youth sentenced to custody in 2006/2007 was only about one-quarter of the number in 2002/2003. In all other jurisdictions, the number was less than half that in the last year of the YOA.

Historically, judges have sentenced convicted youth to probation more than any other type of sentence. This was still true in 2006/2007, as 59% of guilty youth cases resulted in probation. However, this proportion was 11 percentage points lower than in 2002/2003.

This drop may be due in part to the fact that under the YCJA, youth are subject to a period of mandatory community supervision following their release from custody. Under the YOA, youth custody sentences were often followed by a probation order.

The YCJA introduced a number of new sentencing options for judges including, among others, intensive support and supervision orders, deferred custody and supervision orders, and orders to attend a non-residential program.

Since their introduction, the new sentences have not been commonly used. In 2006/2007, deferred custody and supervision orders were handed down the most frequently in only about 3% of guilty youth court cases, or 1,080.

Note: Statistics in this release should not be compared with those in releases prior to October 2007. Data have been revised to account for a new case definition, which more closely reflects court processing. These statistics are based on data collected through the Integrated Criminal Court Survey and the Youth Court Survey.

Available on CANSIM: tables 252-0047 to 252-0050.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 3309.

The *Juristat:* "Youth court statistics, 2006/2007," Vol. 28, no. 4, (85-002-XIE, free), is now available from our website. From the *Publications* module, under *Free Internet publications*, choose *Crime and justice*, then *Juristat*. A paper version (85-002-XPE, $11/$100) is also available. See *How to order products*.

For standard tables or more information on the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Client Services (toll-free 1-800-387-2231; 613-951-9023), Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics.

Cases in youth court

	2002/2003		2005/2006		2006/2007		2005/2006 to 2006/2007	2002/2003 to 2006/2007
	number of cases	% of total	number of cases	% of total	number of cases	% of total	% change	% change
Canada	**76,153**	**100**	**56,271**	**100**	**56,463**	**100**	**0.3**	**-25.9**
Newfoundland and Labrador	1,403	1.8	753	1.3	738	1.3	-2.0	-47.4
Prince Edward Island	263	0.3	178	0.3	209	0.4	17.4	-20.5
Nova Scotia	1,942	2.6	1,672	3.0	1,798	3.2	7.5	-7.4
New Brunswick	1,551	2.0	1,225	2.2	1,174	2.1	-4.2	-24.3
Quebec	7,689	10.1	6,930	12.3	6,653	11.8	-4.0	-13.5
Ontario	35,710	46.9	25,084	44.6	25,102	44.5	0.1	-29.7
Manitoba	3,506	4.6	2,995	5.3	3,076	5.4	2.7	-12.3
Saskatchewan	6,377	8.4	4,855	8.6	5,165	9.1	6.4	-19.0
Alberta	10,439	13.7	7,919	14.1	8,016	14.2	1.2	-23.2
British Columbia	6,473	8.5	4,111	7.3	4,065	7.2	-1.1	-37.2
Yukon	164	0.2	82	0.1	90	0.2	9.8	-45.1
Northwest Territories	385	0.5	242	0.4	186	0.3	-23.1	-51.7
Nunavut	251	0.3	225	0.4	191	0.3	-15.1	-23.9

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

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Adult criminal court statistics

2006/2007

Cases in adult criminal courts are taking longer to complete. In 2006/2007, it took on average eight months to dispose of a case in adult court. This was considerably longer than the average of six months five years earlier.

Longer times to complete cases may be in part due to an increase in the proportion of cases involving multiple charges. Cases involving multiple charges represented 60% of the adult caseload in 2006/2007, compared with 57% five years earlier and 53% a decade earlier.

Fewer cases are being disposed of in adult criminal court each year, in light of the increased case complexity and duration, as well as a long-term downward trend in police-reported crime statistics.

In 2006/2007, just over 372,000 cases were disposed of in adult criminal courts, down 7% from five years earlier.

Nearly half of the cases completed in 2006/2007 involved crimes against the person (25%) and crimes against property (24%). Administration of justice offences involved 17%, and *Criminal Code* traffic offences, 14%. The remaining 20% involved other *Criminal Code* and federal statute offences.

Almost two-thirds (65%) of adult cases received a guilty disposition in 2006/2007. In a large majority of these cases (89%), the accused had pleaded guilty. The *Criminal Code* traffic offences category had the highest share of cases with a finding of guilt (79%). The lowest (53%) occurred in crimes against the person.

In 2006/2007, probation was the most frequently imposed sanction (43%) in cases having a guilty finding. Custody was imposed in 34% of cases, and a fine in 30%.

The proportion for prison was up slightly from what it was five years earlier, while the percentage for fines was somewhat lower, and the proportion for probation virtually unchanged.

Data for the fiscal year 2006/2007 represent approximately 98% of the national adult criminal court caseload in all provinces and territories. Trend analysis for this release was performed on a five-year time series (2002/2003 to 2006/2007) composed of all provinces and territories with the exception of Manitoba, Northwest Territories and Nunavut.

Note: The concept of a case has changed, and to account for the new case definition, adult court data dating back to 1994/1995 were revised in the release of October 23, 2007. Statistics in this release should not be compared to statistics from releases dated prior that date.

Available on CANSIM: tables 252-0043 to 252-0046.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 3312.

The *Juristat:* "Adult criminal court statistics, 2006/2007," Vol. 28, no. 5, (85-002-XIE, free), is now available from our website. From the *Publications* module, under *Free Internet publications*, choose *Crime and justice*, then *Juristat*. A paper version (85-002-XPE, $11/$100) is also available. See *How to order products*.

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Cases in adult criminal courts: Type of decision, 2006/2007

	Total	Guilty[1]		Acquitted		Stay/withdrawn		Other[2]	
	number	number	%	number	%	number	%	number	%
Total offences	**372,084**	**242,194**	**65**	**13,485**	**4**	**110,286**	**30**	**6,119**	**2**
Crimes against the person	**91,363**	48,089	53	6,291	7	35,152	38	1,831	2
Crimes against property	**89,319**	59,085	66	1,536	2	27,413	31	1,285	1
Administration of justice[3]	**64,990**	46,296	71	961	1	16,597	26	1,136	2
Other Criminal Code	**30,832**	19,559	63	1,214	4	9,417	31	642	2
Criminal Code traffic	**51,473**	40,418	79	2,474	5	7,990	16	591	1
Other federal statute[4]	**44,107**	28,747	65	1,009	2	13,717	31	634	1

1. *"Guilty" includes guilty of the charged offence, of an included offence, of an attempt of the charged offence, or of an attempt of an included offence. This category also includes cases where an absolute or conditional discharge has been imposed.*
2. *"Other" includes final decisions of found not criminally responsible, waived in the province or territory, and waived out of the province or territory. This category also includes any order where a conviction was not recorded, the court's acceptance of a special plea, cases that raise Charter arguments and cases where the accused was found unfit to stand trial.*
3. *"Administration of justice" offences under the Criminal Code include such offences as breach of probation and failure to comply with a court order.*
4. *"Other federal statutes" refers to offences against Canadian federal statutes, such as the Youth Criminal Justice Act, Young Offenders Act, Customs Act, the Employment Insurance Act, Firearms Act, the Income Tax Act, and the Controlled Drugs and Substances Act.*

■

Apartment Building Construction Price Index

First quarter 2008

The composite price index for apartment building construction increased 2.2% from the fourth quarter of 2007 to 161.0 (1997=100) in the first quarter, up 7.8% from the first quarter of 2007. The quarterly increase was mostly the result of higher labour, materials and fuel costs.

Edmonton recorded the highest quarterly change (+3.3%), followed by Toronto and Ottawa–Gatineau, Ontario part (both +2.5%), Calgary (+2.3%), Vancouver (+2.1%), Montréal (+2.0%) and Halifax (+1.2%).

Edmonton also experienced the highest gain (+13.3%) from the first quarter of 2007, followed by Calgary (+11.0%), Vancouver (+9.8%), Toronto (+6.1%), Montreal (+5.8%), Ottawa–Gatineau, Ontario part (+5.6%) and Halifax (+3.8%).

Note: The apartment building construction price indexes provide an indication of new construction cost changes in six census metropolitan areas (CMAs) (Halifax, Montréal, Toronto, Calgary, Edmonton and Vancouver) and the Ontario part of the Ottawa–Gatineau CMA. Besides each of the CMA indexes and the composite index, there are further breakdowns of cost changes by trade groups within the building (structural, architectural, mechanical and electrical). These price indexes are derived from surveys of general and special trade-group contractors who report on the categories of costs (material, labour, equipment, taxes, overhead and profits) relevant to the detailed construction specifications included in the surveys.

Available on CANSIM: table 327-0040.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey numbers, including related surveys, 2317 and 2330.

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

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.ca*), Prices Division. □

Apartment Building Construction Price Index[1]

	First quarter 2008	First quarter 2007 to first quarter 2008	Fourth quarter 2007 to first quarter 2008
	(1997=100)	% change	
Composite index	**161.0**	**7.8**	**2.2**
Halifax	138.5	3.8	1.2
Montréal	144.4	5.8	2.0
Ottawa–Gatineau, Ontario part	154.7	5.6	2.5
Toronto	162.0	6.1	2.5
Calgary	194.1	11.0	2.3
Edmonton	187.9	13.3	3.3
Vancouver	170.9	9.8	2.1

1. Go online to view the census subdivisions that comprise the census metropolitan areas.

■

Stocks of frozen poultry meat

May 1, 2008 (preliminary)

Stocks of frozen poultry meat in cold storage on May 1 totalled 70,497 metric tonnes, up 18.5% from a year ago.

Available on CANSIM: tables 003-0023 and 003-0024.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 3425.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Sandra Gielfeldt (613-951-2505; *Sandy.Gielfeldt@statcan.ca*), Agriculture Division. ■

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New Motor Vehicle Sales, March 2008, Vol. 80, no. 3
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March 2008, Vol. 24, no. 3
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(free).

Juristat, Vol. 28, no. 4
Catalogue number 85-002-XIE
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Juristat, Vol. 28, no. 4
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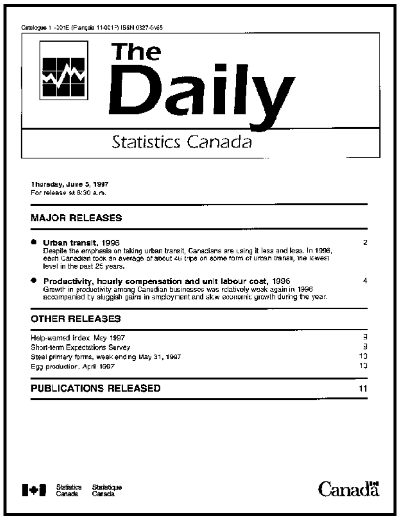

Catalogue 11-001E (Français 11-001F) ISSN 0827-0465

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

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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.

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