# The Daily Statistics Canada

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## Releases

#### Government finance: Revenue, expenditure and surplus, fiscal year ending

March 31, 2008

The consolidated surplus for all Canadian governments, including the two major pension plans, surpassed the \$20 billion mark for the fourth consecutive year in the fiscal year ending March 31, 2008.

#### Canada's population estimates, first quarter 2008

Alberta posted the strongest demographic growth among the provinces during the first three months of 2008. Saskatchewan, which had led the provinces the two previous quarters, was second, as demographic growth remained strong in the West.

(continued on page 2)

3

7

## Canada Food Stats

The CD-ROM *Canada Food Stats* is an easy-to-use product that provides access to a broad spectrum of food statistics and indicators. It contains information on food available for consumption, food prices, nutrition, supply and demand, as well as data on the food industry, processing, employment, productivity, international trade and much more.

This product, developed by Statistics Canada's Agriculture Division in co-operation with Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada, contains numerous formatted reports with over 45 years of data in some cases, along with topical analyses. There are also a number of data sets available for the provinces, along with selected quarterly and monthly statistics. It is an invaluable research tool for nutritionists, food industry analysts, market researchers, or consumers who are just looking for reliable data on food.

Making a query is simple. Just select the data series, geographic area and time period. Submit the query. Click on "Show Data" and the results will be displayed. You can also download results to your own software application.

The publication *Canada Food Stats*, June 2008 (23F0001XBB, free) can now be downloaded from the *Publications* module of our website.

The Canada Food Stats CD-ROM, June 2008 (23F0001XCB, \$81) is also now available. See How to order products.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Jean-Pierre Pelchat (613-951-2860; toll-free 1-800-465-1991; *jean-pierre.pelchat@statcan.ca*), Agriculture Division.





Study: Households drinking bottled water, 2006 Higher-income households and households with children were the most likely to drink bottled water in the home, according to a new study.	10
Study: Industry expenditures to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, 2004	11
Railway carloadings, April 2008	11
Placement of hatchery chicks and turkey poults, May 2008	12
Sawmills, April 2008	12
Cereals and oilseeds review, April 2008	12
New products	13

## Releases

## Government finance: Revenue, expenditure and surplus

Fiscal year ending March 31, 2008

The consolidated surplus for all Canadian governments, including the two major pension plans, surpassed the \$20 billion mark for the fourth consecutive year in the fiscal year ending March 31, 2008.

Canada's federal, provincial/territorial and local governments, as well as the Canada/Quebec Pension Plans, recorded a combined surplus of \$28.1 billion in the fiscal year ended March 31, 2008. This was just short of the record surplus of \$28.6 billion in 2001.

The consolidated government surplus was driven by large, continuing surpluses for the federal government and the Canada/Quebec pension plans, both of which hit record highs in fiscal year ending 2008. Revenues increased 5.1% between fiscal years 2007 and 2008, a slightly slower pace than the 5.5% growth in expenditures. The resulting consolidated surplus edged down \$285 million dollars from fiscal year 2007.

## Growth in revenues surpasses increase in spending during last five years

During the last five years, consolidated government revenues have grown at an annual average rate of 5.7%, compared with an annual average increase of 4.8% in expenditures.

The three main components of revenues are income taxes, consumption taxes and contributions to social insurance plans. Combined, these account for over 71% of total revenues in fiscal year 2008.

The growth in income tax revenues of 50.1% in the last five years has far surpassed the more modest revenue increase of 15.6% for consumption taxes and 20.5% for social insurance plans.

# Spending on health, education and social services accounts for almost two-thirds of government expenditures

Expenditures on health, social services, education and debt charges continue to account for almost three-quarters of all spending for the fiscal year ending March 31, 2008. About 64% of total spending was attributable to health, education and social services.

While government expenditures have increased overall in fiscal year 2008, there were slight declines for debt charges and foreign affairs and international assistance spending.

#### Note to readers

In order to produce government finance data that are comparable across all jurisdictions, and across time, Statistics Canada applies a single set of accounting conventions to all jurisdictions. The Financial Management System (FMS) provides a standardized presentation of government accounting for the federal, provincial, territorial and local governments in Canada. The individual governments' accounting systems are not directly comparable because the policies and structure of governments differ.

The FMS adjusts data from government public accounts and other records to provide detailed data that permit inter-government comparisons as well as national aggregates that are consistent over time. As a result, FMS statistics may not accord with the figures published in government financial statements.

**Consolidated government** refers to the consolidation of the financial data for the federal government, the provincial and territorial governments, local governments (that is, municipal governments and school boards) and the Canada Pension Plan (CPP) and the Quebec Pension Plan (QPP). Consolidation is the aggregation of levels of governments after the elimination of transactions between levels of government.

**General government** refers to government entities created and controlled by federal, provincial, territorial and local governments. This covers all ministries, departments and agencies, autonomous organizations, boards, commissions and funds.

**Transfer** payments to other levels of government can be related to a wide variety of policy areas such as health, education, social services, etc., and can be categorized in two broad areas: general purpose, where transfers can be applied anywhere; and specific purpose, where the recipient government must use these transfer payments in the specific policy area.

Data for the federal government, CPP and QPP are for the fiscal years ending March 31. Data for the provincial and territorial governments are for the fiscal years ending closest to March 31, and data for local governments are for the fiscal years ending closest to December 31 of the previous year.

All the figures in this release are in current dollars.

Over the last five years, spending on social services grew at a steady pace. Spending rose 29% on education and 38% on health.

Debt charges were equal to 7.1 cents out of every dollar of government revenues in fiscal year 2008, compared with 7.6 cents in fiscal year 2007. This continued the downward trend that began 11 years ago.

Hence, debt charges as a percentage of total expenditures have fallen significantly in the latest five-year period, from 10.3% of expenditures in fiscal year 2003 to 7.4% in fiscal year 2008.

## Fourth year of surpluses for provincial, territorial and local governments on a consolidated basis

The fiscal year ending March 31, 2008, marked the fourth consecutive year of surplus for the combined provincial, territorial and local governments (which include municipalities and school boards). The consolidated surplus, however, was down \$7.4 billion from the previous year.

Provincial and local governments in Newfoundland and Labrador, Nova Scotia, Saskatchewan, Alberta and British Columbia recorded surpluses on a consolidated basis in fiscal year 2008. However, those in Ontario and Quebec continued to have deficits.

The largest growth in revenue for these consolidated governments came from income taxes, which increased 7.5% in fiscal year 2008. Income taxes comprised 25% of total revenue and have increased 58.2% since fiscal year ending March 31, 2003. Investment income, which includes royalties, has risen by 47.2% over the last five years.

Consolidated provincial, territorial and local expenditures continue to be dominated by health and education, which accounted for over 50% of total expenditures in fiscal year 2008. The next largest outlay was for social services, which represented 15% of total spending.

Consolidated provincial, territorial and local debt charges have risen slightly in the last two years, representing 6.7 cents out of every dollar of government revenues in fiscal year 2008.

## Local government spending continues to outstrip revenues

While the growth of revenue for local governments (which include municipalities and school boards) continued for the year ending December 31, 2007, spending increases outstripped revenue growth and was financed in part by increased borrowings. The \$2.5-billion deficit represented 2.2% of total spending.

Over the last five years, revenue increased 27.2%, while expenditures grew 31.4%.

Transfer revenues from provincial and federal governments were the main source of revenue growth

during this period, increasing \$9.6 billion. Property and related tax revenues rose by \$8.8 billion, while revenue from the sale of goods and services (mainly water and sewer services) was up \$3.2 billion.

The largest percentage growth in expenditures occurred in environment, which saw a 67.7% increase, and in resource conservation and industrial development, with a 56.1% rise, over the same five-year period.

Data for local general government suggest spending in the modernization and renewal of local infrastructure has been fairly rapid. Spending on capital (roads, buildings, and general infrastructure) grew from \$9.7 billion in 2002 to \$18.1 billion in 2007. This was the highest level of capital expenditures since the beginning of the series in 1988.

For local general government, capital spending on resource conservation and industrial development rose 84%, while spending on transportation and communication was up 82%. Capital spending on environment (+124%) and on recreation and culture (+109%) more than doubled in the last five years.

## Available on CANSIM: tables 385-0001 to 385-0009, 385-0021 to 385-0024, 385-0027 and 385-0028.

# Definitions, data sources and methods: survey numbers, including related surveys, 1709, 1713 and 1735.

Data tables on public sector finance are also available online in the *National Economic Account* module on our website.

Data are also available through custom and special tabulation. For more information on the products or services of the Public Institutions Division, contact Client Services (613-951-0767; *fe-pid-dipinfo@statcan.ca*).

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Mike Riem (613-951-1809; *mike.riem@statcan.ca*) or Claude Vaillancourt (613-951-1820; *claude.vaillancourt@statcan.ca*), Public Institutions Division.

	2003	2008	Average
			annual
			growth
			rate
			2003
			to 2008
	\$ millions		%
Revenue			
ncome taxes	178,173	267,360	8.5
Consumption taxes	96,431	111,461	2.9
Property and related taxes	42,529	52,993	4.5
Other taxes	16,083	21,092	5.6
lealth insurance premiums	3,000	3,424	2.7
Contributions to social security plans	63,489	76,505	3.8
Sales of goods and services	37,299	47,840	5.1
nvestment income	34,838	51,074	8.0
Other revenue from own sources	9,570	3,916	-16.4
Total revenues	481,412	635,664	5.7
Expenditures			
General government services	17,520	21,110	3.8
Protection of persons and property	37,193	49,125	5.7
ransportation and communication	19,148	29,516	9.0
lealth	83,315	115,358	6.7
Social services	145,398	183,278	4.7
Education	70,533	91,144	5.3
Resource conservation and industrial			
development	18,784	21,379	2.6
Environment	10,259	16,082	9.4
Recreation and culture	11,690	15,880	6.3
abour, employment and immigration	3,395	2,590	-5.3
lousing	3,624	4,575	4.8
oreign affairs and international assistance	5,128	5,942	3.0
Regional planning and development	2,111	2,665	4.8
Research establishments	1,881	2,354	4.6
Debt charges	49,475	45,181	-1.8
Other expenditures	1,463	1,410	-0.7
Total expenditures	480,915	607,589	4.8

### Revenue sources and expenditure functions, consolidated governments<sup>1</sup>. Canada

1. Data for the consolidated federal, provincial, territorial, and local governments include data for the federal government for the fiscal years ending March 31, for the provincial and territorial governments for the fiscal years ending closest to March 31, and for the local governments for the fiscal years ending closest to December 31 of the previous year.

## Surplus (+) / deficit (-) by level of government<sup>1</sup>, Canada

	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
	\$ millions				
Federal government	2,126	5,117	9,541	7,369	13,761
Provincial and territorial governments					
Newfoundland and Labrador	-341	-16	334	-374	393
Prince Edward Island	-143	31	0	20	-34
Nova Scotia	25	279	1,089	100	162
New Brunswick	-69	170	-84	46	-554
Quebec	-3,580	-1,342	-2,754	-1,167	-512
Ontario	-6,479	-1,586	-3,514	-1,214	-1,012
Manitoba	-211	460	21	<sup>^</sup> 161	-39
Saskatchewan	-149	918	796	912	900
Alberta	4,393	5,262	8,745	8,926	4,972
British Columbia	-613	3,369	3,837	2,874	1,129
<i>(</i> ukon	-8	-17	47	18	15
Northwest Territories	-116	-51	-10	18	-5
Nunavut	-47	-10	81	233	-28
Fotal	-7,337	7,467	8,590	10,553	5,387
_ocal governments					
Newfoundland and Labrador	-5	38	7	-6	31
Prince Edward Island	-13	-7	-11	-19	-28
Nova Scotia	38	14	-36	-131	-157
New Brunswick	-32	-42	-25	-40	-38
Quebec	-1,647	-550	-1,497	-1,458	-1,947
Dintario	1,172	200	763	1,574	593
Manitoba	75	60	-41	100	-110
Saskatchewan	-105	-134	-55	-110	-148
Alberta	39	463	568	544	143
British Columbia	-472	-325	-614	-701	-801
/ukon	-472	-525	-014	-8	-16
Northwest Territories	14	8	-2	-13	-16
Vunavut	-3	-1	-2 -5	-13	-10
fotal	-941	-272	-949	-275	-2,500
Social security schemes	• • •				_,
Canada Pension Plan	8 033	7 720	7 970	0.010	0.000
	8,032	7,739	7,879	8,913	9,800 1,627
Quebec Pension Plan	1,674	1,639	1,866	1,800	
Total	9,706	9,378	9,745	10,713	11,427
Γotal surplus (+) / deficit (-)	3,550	21,689	26,925	28,360	28,075

Data for the federal government, Canada Pension Plan and Quebec Pension Plan are for the fiscal years ending March 31, provincial and territorial governments are for the fiscal years ending closest to March 31 and the local governments' data are for the fiscal years ending closest to December 31 of the previous year.
 Note: Totals may not add up because of rounding.

### Surplus (+) / deficit (-) by level of government

	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
	\$ millions				
Consolidated provincial, territorial and local					
governments					
Newfoundland and Labrador	-346	22	341	-380	424
Prince Edward Island	-156	24	-11	1	-62
Nova Scotia	63	293	1,053	-31	5
New Brunswick	-101	128	-109	6	-592
Quebec	-5,228	-1,892	-4,251	-2,625	-2,459
Ontario	-5,308	-1,386	-2,752	360	-419
Manitoba	-136	520	-20	261	-149
Saskatchewan	-254	784	741	802	752
Alberta	4,432	5,725	9,313	9,470	5,115
British Columbia	-1,085	3,044	3,223	2,173	328
/ukon	-11	-13	46	10	-1
Northwest Territories	-101	-43	-12	5	-21
Junavut	-49	-11	76	227	-34
Total	-8,282	7,195	7,639	10,277	2,886

## Canada's population estimates

First quarter 2008 (preliminary)

Alberta posted the strongest demographic growth among the provinces during the first three months of 2008, despite its lowest net increase from interprovincial migration for a first quarter since 1995.

Alberta's population rose by 0.41% over the January to March period to reach an estimated 3,512,400, mainly as a result of strong immigration and net inflows of non-permanent residents. Alberta received 5,300 immigrants and posted a net increase of 4,000 non-permanent residents, both first quarter records.

Saskatchewan had led the provinces in demographic growth the two previous quarters. During the first quarter, its population rose 0.35% to an estimated 1,010,100, the second highest rate of growth among provinces.

It was the highest first quarter increase for Saskatchewan in decades, mainly as a result of record numbers in immigration, interprovincial migration and in non-permanent resident net inflows.

After years of losses, Saskatchewan's population has been rising constantly since April 2006.

Alberta, Saskatchewan and British Columbia were the only provinces to record population growth higher than that of the country. All provinces posted net gains in interprovincial migration, except for Quebec, Ontario and Prince Edward Island.

As of April 1, 2008, Canada's population was estimated at 33,223,800, up by 80,200 from January 1, 2008. The nation's population increased 0.24%, the strongest first quarter growth rate since 2002.

#### Net international migration on the rise

Net international migration was up in Canada during the first three months of 2008, while natural growth remained stable.

The country had a net inflow of 60,200 people, the highest first quarter net gain in international migration since 2002. Net international migration rose for most provinces and territories.

Canada has received 53,100 new immigrants since the beginning of the year, 5,300 more than last year for the same period. This was virtually on par with the first quarter average of 53,200 observed since 2000.

The number of non-permanent residents was also on the rise. During the first three months of 2008, this number grew by 16,300, the largest net increase for

#### Note to readers

These population estimates are based on 2001 Census counts, adjusted for net undercoverage. New population estimates based on the 2006 Census counts, adjusted for net undercoverage, will be available on September 29, 2008.

**Non-permanent residents** are people from another country who had a work or study permit, or who were refugee claimants at the time of the census, and family members living in Canada with them.

a first quarter since 1990. Most of this increase was recorded in Alberta, Ontario and British Columbia.

As described in the May issue of *Canadian Economic Observer*, the resource sector boom of recent years is reshaping Canadian demography, especially for Saskatchewan and Newfoundland and Labrador. Both provinces have stepped into a new era of prosperity, as the ongoing commodity boom has offered them a unique opportunity to tap into their natural resources as never before.

After years of losses, both provinces are gaining in their population exchanges with other jurisdictions within Canada and are posting sustained demographic growth.

## Atlantic region: Increase in population for all four provinces

All four Atlantic provinces posted a population increase during the first three months of 2008, a feat not observed for a first quarter since 1992.

While natural growth was still negative in the Atlantic provinces, net inflows from both interprovincial and international migrations were on the rise compared with the first quarter of 2007.

Newfoundland and Labrador's population increased for a third quarter in a row, mainly as a result of net gains in interprovincial migration. During the first three months of 2008, the province had a net inflow of 200 people, compared with a net outflow of 1,800 during the same period last year.

Prince Edward Island led the Atlantic region with growth of 0.23%, its strongest first quarter growth since 1983. The province also received a record high number of immigrants for a first quarter.

Nova Scotia had its fastest first quarter population increase since 1991, mainly as a result of the largest net interprovincial migration gains for a first quarter since 1984.

New Brunswick's population growth was positive for a sixth quarter in a row. The province also posted net interprovincial migration inflows for a fifth consecutive quarter, and received its highest number of immigrants for a first quarter since 1975.

## Central Canada: Demographic growth for both Ontario and Quebec

Ontario's population rose 0.23% to an estimated 12,891,800. Its first quarter increase was below the national level for the second year in a row.

However, the Ontario increase in the first quarter surpassed the first quarter growth in 2007, due notably to smaller net outflows from interprovincial migration and larger net gains in international migration.

Quebec's population rose 0.18% to an estimated 7,744,500. It was the province's strongest first quarter growth since 1992. Quebec's birth rate is still on the rise and hit its highest level for a first quarter since 1998. During the three first months of 2008, the province recorded its highest first quarter number of births since 1995.

Quebec also posted its highest net international migration gains since 1989 for a first quarter, due mainly to sustained immigration and to a net inflow of non-permanent residents not observed for a first quarter since 1990.

## The West: The nation's strongest demographic growth

As has been the case for the last few years, the provinces with the strongest demographic growth were west of Ontario.

British Columbia's population rose by 0.33% to an estimated 4,428,400, posting the third highest growth among provinces, well above the national level. However, this was slightly slower than in the first quarter of 2007, mainly the result of smaller gains from interprovincial migration.

Manitoba's population also increased, but at a slower rate than in the first quarter of 2007. After years of losses, the province posted a net inflow from interprovincial migration for a second consecutive quarter, but its gain from net international migration was slightly below the first quarter of 2007.

Nonetheless, Manitoba's immigration rate was still high and ranked third among the provinces behind Prince Edward Island and Ontario.

#### The territories: Yukon fastest growing

In the North, the Yukon's population rose by 0.91%, the highest rate in the nation, to reach 31,500. This was the territory's fastest rate of growth since the third quarter of 1995.

During the first three months of 2008, the Yukon had its largest net inflow from interprovincial migration for a first quarter since 1988, and its highest net increase ever in non-permanent residents.

Nunavut's population edged up 0.03%, one of the smallest population gains in its short history. The Northwest Territories was the only jurisdiction in which the population declined (-0.19%). Net outflows in interprovincial migration were the main cause of the current demographic situation in both territories.

Available on CANSIM: tables 051-0005, 051-0006, 051-0017, 051-0020, 051-0037, 051-0045 and 053-0001.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey numbers, including related surveys, 3231, 3233 and 3601.

The January to March 2008 issue of *Quarterly Demographic Estimates*, Vol. 22, no. 1 (91-002-XWE, free), is now available from the *Publications* module of our website.

For more information, to obtain additional data, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Client Services (toll-free 1-866-767-5611; 613-951-2320; fax: 613-951-2307; *demography@statcan.ca*), Demography Division.

## Canada's population estimates and demographic growth<sup>1</sup>

	January	April	January
	1.	1.	1
	2008 <sup>pp</sup>	2008 <sup>pp</sup>	to
			April
			2008
	number		% change
Canada	33,143,610	33,223,840	0.24
Newfoundland and Labrador	508,099	508,270	0.03
Prince Edward Island	139,089	139,407	0.23
Nova Scotia	935,573	935,962	0.04
New Brunswick	751,250	751,527	0.04
Quebec	7,730,612	7,744,530	0.18
Ontario	12,861,940	12,891,787	0.23
Manitoba	1,193,566	1,196,291	0.23
Saskatchewan	1,006,644	1,010,146	0.35
Alberta	3,497,881	3,512,368	0.41
British Columbia	4,413,973	4,428,356	0.32
/ukon	31,247	31,530	0.90
Northwest Territories	42,594	42,514	-0.19
Nunavut	31,142	31,152	0.03

pp preliminary postcensal estimates1. These estimates are based on the 2001 Census population counts adjusted for net undercoverage.

# Study: Households drinking bottled water

2006

Higher-income households and households with children were the most likely to drink bottled water in the home, according to a new study.

The study, "Against the flow: Which households drink bottled water?" was published today in *EnviroStats*, Statistics Canada's quarterly bulletin on environmental and sustainable development statistics.

Using data from the Households and the Environment Survey, the study examines the characteristics of households that used bottled water as the main source of drinking water in the home.

The large amount of plastic waste generated by the consumption of bottled water has raised concerns due to the availability of potable tap water in most Canadian communities.

Households living in apartments, households with seniors and households with at least one member with a university education were least likely to drink bottled water, compared with other households.

Overall, almost 3 in 10 Canadian households used bottled water as their main source of drinking water in the home in 2006.

## High-income households more likely to drink bottled water

In general, households with a higher income were more likely to drink bottled water. While about one-quarter of households with a household income of \$40,000 or less drank bottled water in the home, the proportion rose to one-third among households with an income over \$91,000.

Although drinking bottled water generally increased with education, households where at least one member had a university education did not follow the trend. Whereas about one-third of households with some postsecondary education drank bottled water, only one-quarter of university-educated households reached for bottled water, the lowest proportion of any education group.

Though there is often a link between households with high income and households with higher education, this does not extend to drinking bottled water in the home. The higher bottled water consumption among high income households was driven by households where no one had completed a university degree.

#### Note to readers

The study only covers bottled water consumption in the home. Results are not available for bottled water consumption outside the home.

Four characteristics were used to investigate bottled water consumption in the home: income, education, age and dwelling type.

## Drinking bottled water most likely among families with children

Household consumption of bottled water varied with the age of household members.

Households made up of working-aged adults and children under the age of 18 were the most likely to drink bottled water, with one-third reporting they used bottled water as the main source of drinking water in the home.

In contrast, seniors showed a strong preference for tap water. In fact, they were the least likely to drink bottled water, with only 17% reporting they drank primarily bottled water in the home.

Households living in apartments were also less likely to drink bottled water, with one-quarter reporting that they consumed bottled water in the home.

These findings have an income-related link. Half of all households composed of seniors had an income of \$25,000 or less a year. In contrast, over half of households with children had incomes above \$64,000.

Households living in apartments were also more likely to be in the lowest income category than other households.

## Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 3881.

The article "Against the flow: Which households drink bottled water?" is now available in *EnviroStats*, Summer 2008, Vol. 2, no. 2 (16-002-XWE, free), under the *Publications* module of our website.

The articles "The Canadian Environmental Sustainability Indicators: On population weighted ground-level ozone," "Gone fishing: A profile of recreational fishing in Canada," and "Canadian industry's expenditures to reduce greenhouse gas emissions" are also released in this issue of *EnviroStats*.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact the Information Officer (613-951-0297; *environ@statcan.ca*), Environment Accounts and Statistics Division.

# Study: Industry expenditures to reduce greenhouse gas emissions 2004

Businesses spent \$955 million on greenhouse gas (GHG) reduction technologies in 2004, down from \$1.3 billion in 2002, according to a new study published today in *EnviroStats*.

These reductions in spending were largely a result of the completion of major projects in the oil and gas extraction and electric power generation, transmission and distribution industries.

Declines in GHG emission reduction expenditures were reported in 12 of the 16 industries covered by the survey. Overall, operating expenditures to reduce emissions decreased 10% to \$576 million, while capital investments fell 41% to \$379 million.

Very large establishments spent the most in 2004, with average spending to reduce GHG emissions equal to \$1.2 million per firm. Large firms spent on average \$814,000, compared with \$194,000 for medium firms and \$79,000 for small firms.

Compared with other businesses, small firms directed the largest proportion of their total environmental protection expenditures towards reducing GHG emissions. Spending to reduce GHG emissions made up almost one-third of their total environmental protection expenditures, compared with about one-tenth for very large firms.

Energy conservation is a widely used method to reduce GHG emissions. Almost 6 in 10 businesses used energy conservation technologies in 2004. The likelihood businesses used these processes increased with establishment size.

Energy management or monitoring systems were the most common technology or process used to conserve energy. Waste energy recovery and reuse and the implementation of an energy audit were also popular methods of conserving energy.

Over one-quarter of establishments reported that they adopted new systems or significantly improved old systems or equipment in order to reduce GHG emissions.

**Note:** This release is based on data from the Survey of Environmental Protection Expenditures and compares GHG reduction activities and expenditures of businesses by establishment size.

Very large firms were those that employed 1,000 people or more, while large firms employed 500 to 999 employees, medium firms employed from 100 to 499 workers and small firms employed fewer than 100 workers.

## Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 1903.

The article "Canadian industry's expenditures to reduce greenhouse gas emissions" is now available in *EnviroStats*, Summer 2008, Vol. 2, no. 2 (16-002-XWE, free), from the *Publications* module of our website. A technical report, *Environment Accounts and Statistics Technical Paper Series*: "Canadian industry's expenditures to reduce greenhouse gas emissions" 2004 (16-001-MWE2008005, free), is also now available from the *Publications* module of our website.

The articles "Canadian Environmental Sustainability Indicators: On population weighted ground-level ozone," "Gone fishing: A profile of recreational fishing in Canada," and "Against the flow: Which households drink bottled water?" are also released in this issue of *EnviroStats*.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact the Information Officer (613-951-0297; *environ@statcan.ca*), Environment Accounts and Statistics Division.

#### Railway carloadings April 2008

Railways reported near record freight loadings in April.

Railways loaded 24.4 million metric tonnes of freight in April, up 3.8% over April 2007 levels. Loadings for the month were close to the record of 24.7 million metric tonnes reported in April 2004.

Non-intermodal loadings of iron ore and concentrates, wheat and lumber were among the most heavily loaded commodities. Together, these commodities helped push non-intermodal loadings up to 21.9 million metric tonnes, a 3.7% rise from April 2007.

April's loadings of iron ore and concentrates were the highest amount of loadings for the commodity for the month since 2000, and were the result of increased demand for shipments to Asia. The increase in loadings also marked a return to more normal levels for the commodity following a labour dispute in the iron ore sector in April 2007. On the other hand, loadings of lumber were at their lowest level for the month since 2000, and were reflective of a continued soft lumber market in the United States.

Intermodal loadings increased 5.0% compared with the same month a year earlier to 2.5 million metric tonnes, the highest ever total for the month of April. The rise in loadings was almost entirely attributable to increased containerized cargo shipments.

Rail freight traffic coming from the United States increased on a year-over-year basis, with freight traffic increasing 10.1% to 2.9 million metric tonnes. April's freight traffic represented an all-time high for the month.

#### Available on CANSIM: table 404-0002.

## Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2732.

The April 2008 issue of *Monthly Railway Carloadings*, Vol. 85, no. 4 (52-001-XWE, 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 the Dissemination Unit (toll-free 1-866-500-8400; fax: 613-951-0009; *transportationstatistics@statcan.ca*), Transportation Division.

## Placement of hatchery chicks and turkey poults

May 2008 (preliminary)

Placements of hatchery chicks onto farms were estimated at 60.2 million birds in May, down 0.8% from May 2007. Placements of turkey poults on farms decreased 0.3% to 2.0 million birds.

#### Available on CANSIM: table 003-0021.

## Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 5039.

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.

## Sawmills

## April 2008

Monthly lumber production by sawmills rose 18.8% to 5 436.2 thousand cubic metres in April.

Sawmills shipped 5 527 thousand cubic metres of lumber in April, up 17% from March. Compared with the same month last year, lumber shipments declined 20.1%.

Between March and April, stocks edged up 0.3% to 8 478.8 thousand cubic metres.

#### Available on CANSIM: table 303-0009.

## Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2134.

The April 2008 issue of *Sawmills*, Vol. 62, no. 4 (35-003-XWE, free) is now available from the *Publications* module of our website.

To order data, obtain 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 and Energy Division.

#### Cereals and oilseeds review April 2008

Data from the April issue of *Cereals and Oilseeds Review* are now available.

## Definitions, data sources and methods: survey numbers, including related surveys, 3401, 3403, 3404, 3443, 3464, 3476 and 5046.

The April 2008 issue of *Cereals and Oilseeds Review*, Vol. 31, no. 4 (22-007-XIB, free), is available from the *Publications* module of our website. The April issue contains an overview of May's market conditions.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Client Services (toll-free 1-800-465-1991; *agriculture@statcan.ca*), Agriculture Division.

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Payroll employment, samings and hours, March 2008	2754 - <u>S</u>
Bludy: The year in review for whilesale trade, 2007	
Public sector employment, first querter 2008	
Counters and Messergers Services Price Index, April 2008	1
Placement of hotchery chicks and turkey posts, April 2008	
Health Indicators, 2008	
New products	21
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