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

The Daily

Statistics Canada

Friday, June 27, 2008
Released at 8:30 a.m. Eastern time

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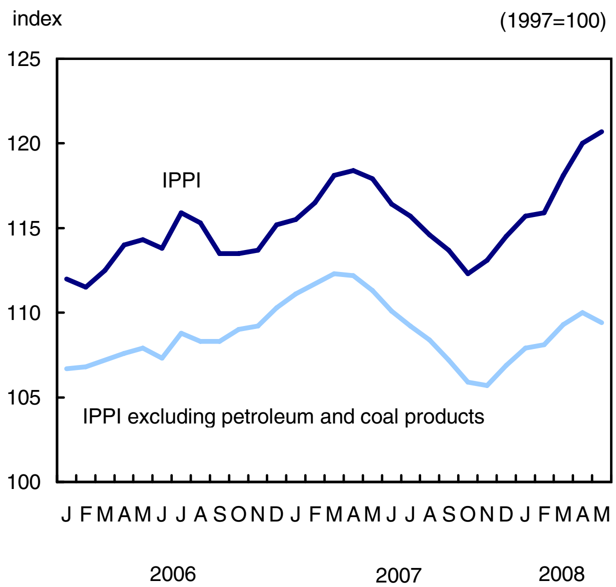
Releases

Industrial product and raw materials price indexes

May 2008

Petroleum prices increased substantially for a third consecutive month in May, driving up the indexes for manufactured goods and raw materials prices. However, if energy products were excluded, the price movement for both those indexes would have been negative.

Prices for manufactured goods continue to rise



From April to May, prices charged by manufacturers, as measured by the Industrial Product Price Index (IPPI), rose 0.6%, down from the 1.6% increase in April. May's increase was almost entirely attributable to petroleum and coal products, which continued their upward climb with an increase of 8.2%, similar to the rate recorded in the previous two months.

Prices for other IPPI products, with the exception of energy, declined 0.5%, their first decrease after five straight monthly increases. Among non-energy products, 13 major groups out of a total of 20 posted declines, led by primary metal products as well as motor vehicles and other transport equipment.

On a 12-month-basis, the IPPI rose 2.4%, up from the 1.4% rise recorded in April. The strong increase in prices for petroleum and coal products was partly offset by decreases in the prices for primary metal products as well as motor vehicles and other transport equipment. If energy products were excluded, the IPPI would have fallen 1.7%, a much lower decrease than the declines of the previous three months.

The Canadian dollar rose 1.4% in relation to the US dollar in May, after falling 1.2% in April. The relative strength of the Canadian dollar against its US counterpart moderated the movement of industrial prices. If the exchange rate used to convert these prices had remained unchanged, the IPPI would have risen 1.0% compared with April instead of an increase of 0.6%. On a 12-month basis, the Canadian dollar rose 8.7% compared with the US dollar, and excluding the effect of the exchange rate, the IPPI would have risen 4.8% rather than increasing 2.4%.

The Raw Materials Price Index (RMPI) continued its upward trend, but the 3.1% increase in May was the second consecutive month of deceleration, compared with the increases of 5.0% in April and 6.7% in March. The advance of the RMPI in May was mainly driven by strong prices for mineral fuels, which rose significantly for a third consecutive month. If mineral fuels were excluded, the RMPI would have fallen 1.9%, a steeper decline than April's drop of 1.5%.

Compared with May 2007, raw materials cost plants 27.1% more. The rise in the index was mainly attributable to higher prices for mineral fuels and vegetable products.

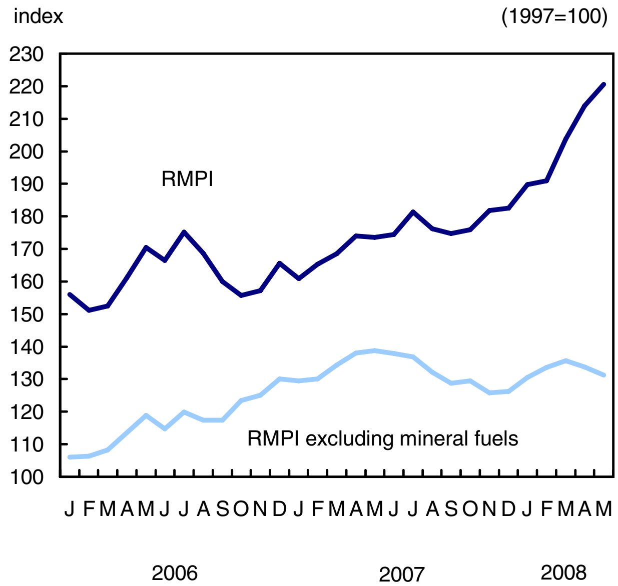
Note to readers

*The **Industrial Product Price Index** (IPPI) reflects the prices that producers in Canada receive as the goods leave the plant gate. It does not reflect what the consumer pays. Unlike the Consumer Price Index, the IPPI excludes indirect taxes and all the costs that occur between the time a good leaves the plant and the time the final user takes possession of it, including the transportation, wholesale, and retail costs.*

Canadian producers export many goods. They often quote their prices in foreign currencies, particularly for motor vehicles, pulp and paper products, and wood products. Determining the full effect of fluctuating exchange rates on the IPPI is a difficult analytical task. However, it should be noted that many prices collected to calculate the IPPI are quoted in US dollars and then converted into Canadian dollars. Therefore, a rise or fall in the value of the Canadian dollar against its US counterpart affects the IPPI.

*The **Raw Materials Price Index** (RMPI) reflects the prices paid by Canadian manufacturers for key raw materials. Many of these prices are set in a world market. Unlike the IPPI, the RMPI includes goods not produced in Canada.*

Raw materials prices increase again



Available on CANSIM: tables 329-0038 to 329-0049 and 330-0006.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey numbers, including related surveys, 2306 and 2318.

The May 2008 issue of *Industry Price Indexes* (62-011-XWE, free) will soon be available.

The Industrial product and raw material price indexes for June will be released on July 30.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact the Client Services Unit (613-951-9606, fax: 613-951-1539, *prices-prix@statcan.ca*) or Danielle Gouin (613-951-3375, *danielle.gouin@statcan.ca*), Prices Division. □

Industrial product price indexes
(1997=100)

	Relative importance	May 2007	April 2008^r	May 2008^p	May 2007 to May 2008	April to May 2008
					% change	
Industrial Product Price Index (IPPI)	**100.00**	**117.9**	**120.0**	**120.7**	**2.4**	**0.6**
IPPI excluding petroleum and coal products	**94.32**	**111.3**	**110.0**	**109.4**	**-1.7**	**-0.5**
Aggregation by commodities						
Meat, fish and dairy products	5.78	112.1	109.2	110.7	-1.2	1.4
Fruit, vegetables, feeds and other food products	5.99	108.2	117.6	117.8	8.9	0.2
Beverages	1.57	124.8	126.2	126.1	1.0	-0.1
Tobacco and tobacco products	0.63	214.0	218.2	218.2	2.0	0.0
Rubber, leather and plastic fabricated products	3.30	116.4	116.4	116.4	0.0	0.0
Textile products	1.58	99.9	99.8	99.7	-0.2	-0.1
Knitted products and clothing	1.51	104.6	104.8	104.7	0.1	-0.1
Lumber and other wood products	6.30	84.0	80.8	80.7	-3.9	-0.1
Furniture and fixtures	1.59	120.0	120.9	120.9	0.8	0.0
Pulp and paper products	7.23	104.5	104.4	104.0	-0.5	-0.4
Printing and publishing	1.70	116.9	119.5	119.3	2.1	-0.2
Primary metal products	7.80	159.5	150.1	146.8	-8.0	-2.2
Metal fabricated products	4.11	125.3	128.8	129.0	3.0	0.2
Machinery and equipment	5.48	106.5	104.2	104.1	-2.3	-0.1
Motor vehicles and other transport equipment	22.16	90.2	86.9	86.2	-4.4	-0.8
Electrical and communications products	5.77	93.1	89.9	89.4	-4.0	-0.6
Non-metallic mineral products	1.98	123.0	124.9	124.9	1.5	0.0
Petroleum and coal products[1]	5.68	239.2	303.6	328.5	37.3	8.2
Chemicals and chemical products	7.07	128.4	136.1	135.1	5.2	-0.7
Miscellaneous manufactured products	2.40	114.2	119.0	118.6	3.9	-0.3
Miscellaneous non-manufactured products	0.38	502.2	341.3	309.9	-38.3	-9.2
Intermediate goods[2]	**60.14**	**123.3**	**126.7**	**127.4**	**3.3**	**0.6**
First-stage intermediate goods[3]	7.71	170.5	158.9	155.4	-8.9	-2.2
Second-stage intermediate goods[4]	52.43	116.2	121.9	123.2	6.0	1.1
Finished goods[5]	**39.86**	**109.7**	**109.9**	**110.6**	**0.8**	**0.6**
Finished foods and feeds	8.50	116.1	116.9	117.4	1.1	0.4
Capital equipment	11.73	99.2	96.1	95.7	-3.5	-0.4
All other finished goods	19.63	113.4	115.1	116.7	2.9	1.4

r *revised*
p *preliminary*
1. *This index is estimated for the current month.*
2. *Intermediate goods are goods used principally to produce other goods.*
3. *First-stage intermediate goods are items used most frequently to produce other intermediate goods.*
4. *Second-stage intermediate goods are items most commonly used to produce final goods.*
5. *Finished goods are goods most commonly used for immediate consumption or for capital investment.*

Raw materials price indexes

(1997=100)

	Relative importance	May 2007	April 2008[r]	May 2008[p]	May 2007 to May 2008	April to May 2008
					% change	
Raw Materials Price Index (RMPI)	**100.00**	**173.5**	**213.9**	**220.5**	**27.1**	**3.1**
Mineral fuels	35.16	248.5	387.3	413.8	66.5	6.8
Vegetable products	10.28	95.9	136.3	134.9	40.7	-1.0
Animals and animal products	20.30	112.1	105.1	108.0	-3.7	2.8
Wood	15.60	86.4	80.8	81.6	-5.6	1.0
Ferrous materials	3.36	133.6	163.2	160.1	19.8	-1.9
Non-ferrous metals	12.93	267.7	218.4	203.1	-24.1	-7.0
Non-metallic minerals	2.38	148.2	162.4	162.6	9.7	0.1
RMPI excluding mineral fuels	**64.84**	**138.7**	**133.7**	**131.2**	**-5.4**	**-1.9**

r *revised*
p *preliminary*

■

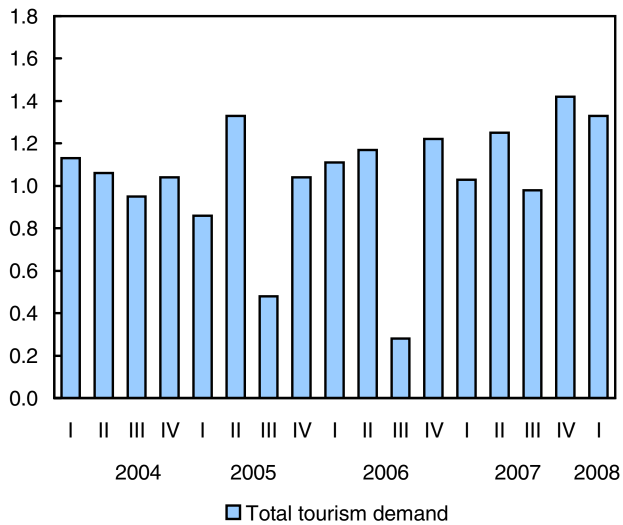
National tourism indicators

First quarter 2008

Tourism spending in Canada rose 1.3% during the first three months of 2008, as spending by Canadians continued to advance, while that by international visitors declined. Tourism spending has increased in every quarter since the second quarter of 2003.

Tourism spending rises

% change, preceding quarter, adjusted for seasonal variation and price change



Spending on tourism at home advances

Spending by Canadians on tourism in Canada was up 2.3% in the first quarter of 2008, the fastest pace in nine quarters. This occurred in tandem with an increase in employment and solid gains in personal disposable income.

Canadians' travel spending outside Canada slipped in the first quarter of 2008 from a record high set in the previous quarter. Same-day and overnight travel to the United States was down notably, while the number of trips overseas increased.

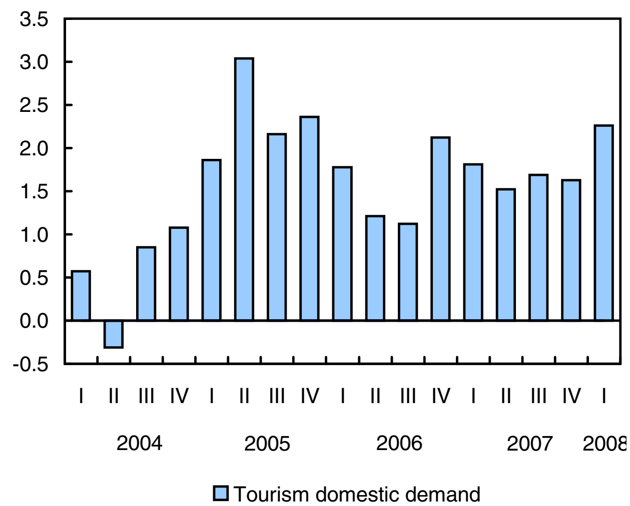
Outlays on passenger air, rail and bus transportation were all up, despite higher fuel prices and severe winter weather. Spending on vehicle fuel by Canadians, on the other hand, was down.

Overnight travel within Canada increased, as indicated by a 2.8% advance in spending on accommodation. Outlays on recreation and entertainment, however, slipped from a record high in the fourth quarter of 2007.

> ***Note to readers***
>
> *With this release, all estimates have been revised from the first quarter of 2004 through to the fourth quarter of 2007. More information on the revision can be found in an article published in the first quarter 2008 issue of* National Tourism Indicators, Quarterly Estimates *(13-009-XIB, free).*
>
> *Levels and shares of tourism spending are expressed in current dollars, adjusted for seasonal variations. Growth rates of tourism spending and gross domestic product are expressed in real terms (i.e., adjusted for price change) as well as adjusted for seasonal variations, unless otherwise indicated. Employment data are also seasonally adjusted. Associated percentage changes are presented at quarterly rates.*
>
> *The National tourism indicators are funded by the Canadian Tourism Commission.*

Tourism domestic demand accelerates

% change, preceding quarter,
adjusted for seasonal variation and price change



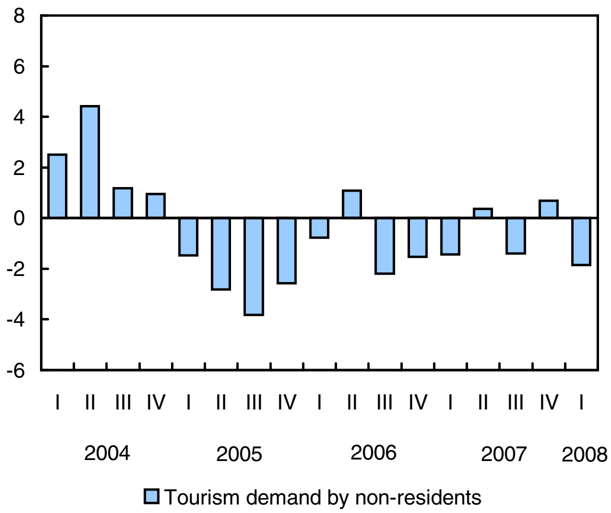
Spending by international visitors down

Spending by international visitors fell 1.9% in the first quarter of 2008, the 10th quarterly decline since the fourth quarter of 2004. With higher fuel prices and severe winter weather, Americans cut back their travel to Canada, as same-day and overnight trips from the United States were both down sharply.

Partially offsetting this, however, the number of trips to Canada from overseas countries increased by 0.8%, moderating the overall decline in tourism exports. Overseas visitors to Canada tend to stay longer and spend more on average than visitors from the United States.

Non-resident spending on tourism declines

% change, preceding quarter, adjusted for seasonal variation and price change



Spending by international visitors was lower for all categories of goods and services, with the exception of bus transportation. The largest decline was for vehicle fuel, reflecting the sharp drop in same-day travel from the United States as well as higher fuel prices.

Tourism makes positive contribution to growth and employment

Tourism gross domestic product (GDP) grew 1.2% in the first quarter of 2008 while economy-wide GDP edged down 0.1%. The strength came from the transportation and accommodation industries. "Other tourism industries" slipped from a record high in the fourth quarter of 2007, owing to weakness in recreation and entertainment.

Despite the robust expansion of tourism GDP, the job market was more stable with tourism jobs edging up 0.3%, slightly less than the economy-wide pace of job growth. The number of tourism jobs in air transportation declined, as the industry reduced jobs in the face of higher fuel prices.

Looking ahead

According to the latest Business Conditions Survey for the Traveller Accommodation Industry, hotel operators reported lower expectations for the second quarter of 2008 compared with the same period in 2007. The exchange rate, excess room supply and labour shortages were cited as continued impediments to business.

On the currency front, the Canadian dollar gained against the Japanese yen during April 2008, but lost ground against several other major currencies, including the US dollar and the Euro. In May, the Canadian dollar lost ground against the Australian dollar, but appreciated against other major currencies, including the Euro and the US dollar.

On the international front, the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development composite leading indicators for April indicate a continued weakening outlook for all the major G-7 economies (Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, the United States and the United Kingdom). The indicators for China, Brazil and India point to a downturn, while the outlook for Russia is for continued expansion.

Available on CANSIM: tables 387-0001 to 387-0010.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 1910.

The first quarter 2008 issue of *National Tourism Indicators, Quarterly Estimates* (13-009-XIB, free) is now available from the *Publications* module of our website.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact the information officer (613-951-3640; *iead-info-dcrd@statcan.ca*), Income and Expenditure Accounts Division.

□

National tourism indicators

	First quarter 2007	Second quarter 2007	Third quarter 2007	Fourth quarter 2007	First quarter 2008	Fourth quarter 2007 to first quarter 2008
	$ millions at 2002 prices, seasonally adjusted					% change
Total tourism expenditures						
Tourism demand in Canada	16,176	16,378	16,538	16,772	16,995	1.3
Tourism demand by non-residents	3,804	3,818	3,765	3,791	3,720	-1.9
Tourism domestic demand	12,372	12,560	12,773	12,981	13,274	2.3
Transportation						
Tourism demand in Canada	5,970	6,055	6,080	6,185	6,328	2.3
Tourism demand by non-residents	1,067	1,057	1,051	1,066	1,036	-2.8
Tourism domestic demand	4,903	4,998	5,029	5,119	5,292	3.4
Accommodation						
Tourism demand in Canada	2,520	2,537	2,589	2,621	2,650	1.1
Tourism demand by non-residents	898	908	893	895	875	-2.2
Tourism domestic demand	1,622	1,629	1,696	1,726	1,775	2.8
Food and beverage services						
Tourism demand in Canada	2,291	2,292	2,292	2,310	2,342	1.4
Tourism demand by non-residents	596	599	591	594	589	-0.7
Tourism domestic demand	1,695	1,693	1,702	1,716	1,753	2.1
Other tourism commodities						
Tourism demand in Canada	2,598	2,633	2,680	2,719	2,701	-0.7
Tourism demand by non-residents	487	493	481	481	475	-1.2
Tourism domestic demand	2,111	2,140	2,199	2,238	2,225	-0.6
Other commodities						
Tourism demand in Canada	2,797	2,860	2,897	2,937	2,974	1.3
Tourism demand by non-residents	755	761	750	756	746	-1.3
Tourism domestic demand	2,043	2,100	2,147	2,182	2,229	2.2

National tourism indicators

	First quarter 2007	Second quarter 2007	Third quarter 2007	Fourth quarter 2007	First quarter 2008	Fourth quarter 2007 to first quarter 2008
	$ millions at current prices, seasonally adjusted					% change
Total tourism expenditures						
Tourism demand in Canada	17,257	17,586	17,758	18,232	18,650	2.3
Tourism demand by non-residents	4,042	4,077	4,023	4,091	4,019	-1.8
Tourism domestic demand	13,215	13,509	13,735	14,140	14,630	3.5
Transportation						
Tourism demand in Canada	6,366	6,581	6,568	6,850	7,169	4.7
Tourism demand by non-residents	1,096	1,100	1,092	1,122	1,108	-1.3
Tourism domestic demand	5,270	5,481	5,477	5,727	6,061	5.8
Accommodation						
Tourism demand in Canada	2,701	2,733	2,790	2,865	2,922	2.0
Tourism demand by non-residents	966	980	960	974	961	-1.3
Tourism domestic demand	1,735	1,753	1,830	1,891	1,961	3.7
Food and beverage services						
Tourism demand in Canada	2,568	2,579	2,614	2,659	2,695	1.4
Tourism demand by non-residents	669	677	674	691	677	-1.9
Tourism domestic demand	1,899	1,902	1,940	1,968	2,018	2.5
Other tourism commodities						
Tourism demand in Canada	2,714	2,743	2,806	2,868	2,862	-0.2
Tourism demand by non-residents	531	534	525	530	516	-2.7
Tourism domestic demand	2,183	2,209	2,281	2,338	2,347	0.4
Other commodities						
Tourism demand in Canada	2,909	2,951	2,981	2,991	3,001	0.3
Tourism demand by non-residents	781	786	773	775	757	-2.2
Tourism domestic demand	2,128	2,165	2,208	2,216	2,244	1.2

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Payroll employment, earnings and hours

April 2008 (preliminary)

The average weekly earnings of employees stood at $789.99 in April, up 0.3% from March. Compared with a year earlier, average weekly earnings were up 3.2%.

In Canada's largest industrial sectors, earnings rose 4.0% in health and social assistance, 3.0% in manufacturing, 2.7% in retail trade, and 1.9% in educational services compared with a year earlier.

Alberta and Saskatchewan had the strongest year-over-year earnings growth of all provinces at 6.0% and 5.4% respectively.

Nationally, the number of occupied payroll jobs edged up by 13,300 to 14,521,400 in April compared with March. Across the provinces, Saskatchewan recorded the largest percentage increase (+0.5%), while Prince Edward Island (-0.5%) had the largest decline.

Overall, payroll employment has grown by 282,900 (+2.0%) since April 2007.

The average hourly earnings for hourly paid employees edged up from $19.82 in March to $19.85 in April. The average weekly hours for hourly paid employees increased 0.3% to 31.0 hours.

Available on CANSIM: tables 281-0023 to 281-0046.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2612.

Detailed industry data, data by size of enterprise based on employment, and other labour market indicators will soon be available in the monthly publication *Employment, Earnings and Hours* (72-002-XIB, free).

Data on payroll employment, earnings and hours for May will be released on July 29.

For general information or to order data, contact Client Services (toll-free 1-866-873-8788; 613-951-4090; fax: 613-951-2869; *labour@statcan.ca*). To enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Peter Lorenz (613-951-4167), Labour Statistics Division. □

Average weekly earnings (including overtime) for all employees

Industry Group (North American Industry Classification System)	April 2007	March 2008[r]	April 2008[p]	March to April 2008	April 2007 to April 2008	Year-to-date average 2008[1]
	Seasonally adjusted					
	$			% change		
Industrial aggregate	**765.25**	**787.48**	**789.99**	**0.3**	**3.2**	**3.0**
Forestry, logging and support	967.87	975.84	964.31	-1.2	-0.4	0.7
Mining and oil and gas	1,397.80	1,522.16	1,591.57	4.6	13.9	9.0
Utilities	1,115.36	1,176.51	1,183.09	0.6	6.1	6.0
Construction	924.73	948.32	955.04	0.7	3.3	3.3
Manufacturing	935.34	956.98	963.30	0.7	3.0	2.8
Wholesale trade	901.07	928.18	926.75	-0.2	2.8	2.6
Retail trade	479.29	492.36	492.33	0.0	2.7	2.0
Transportation and warehousing	796.91	823.84	827.22	0.4	3.8	3.4
Information and cultural industries	968.14	985.83	989.02	0.3	2.2	3.0
Finance and insurance	980.37	1,009.47	1,013.73	0.4	3.4	3.5
Real estate and rental and leasing	704.37	719.21	728.55	1.3	3.4	1.4
Professional, scientific and technical services	967.80	1,023.33	1,005.70	-1.7	3.9	4.3
Management of companies and enterprises	912.03	1,031.61	1,020.93	-1.0	11.9	11.3
Administrative and support, waste management and remediation services	640.11	632.37	637.39	0.8	-0.4	-0.6
Educational services	831.13	851.11	847.22	-0.5	1.9	2.4
Health care and social assistance	697.83	726.12	725.59	-0.1	4.0	4.1
Arts, entertainment and recreation	455.70	490.22	498.36	1.7	9.4	9.5
Accommodation and food services	323.43	331.46	334.21	0.8	3.3	3.5
Other services (excluding public administration)	597.03	619.68	624.60	0.8	4.6	3.5
Public administration	960.33	986.68	991.44	0.5	3.2	3.3
Provinces and territories						
Newfoundland and Labrador	711.57	740.19	746.34	0.8	4.9	4.5
Prince Edward Island	631.35	632.86	636.39	0.6	0.8	0.9
Nova Scotia	673.73	681.81	688.66	1.0	2.2	1.8
New Brunswick	703.42	723.87	729.32	0.8	3.7	3.4
Quebec	719.70	737.63	744.14	0.9	3.4	2.8
Ontario	797.59	817.44	817.25	0.0	2.5	2.4
Manitoba	694.76	717.05	721.70	0.6	3.9	3.8
Saskatchewan	712.41	749.58	750.96	0.2	5.4	4.8
Alberta	823.73	874.22	873.25	-0.1	6.0	5.2
British Columbia	757.40	775.28	774.00	-0.2	2.2	2.5
Yukon	872.74	896.57	904.80	0.9	3.7	4.1
Northwest Territories[2]	1,006.17	1,050.73	1,044.10	-0.6	3.8	4.8
Nunavut[2]	941.92	940.94	939.18	-0.2	-0.3	0.9

r *revised*
p *preliminary*
1. *Rate of change is obtained by comparing four-month average of 2008 with that of 2007, and is subject to revision for next month's release.*
2. *Data not seasonally adjusted.*

Number of employees

Industry group (North American Industry Classification System)	December 2007	April 2007	March 2008[r]	April 2008[p]	March to April 2008	April 2007 to April 2008	December 2007 to April 2008
	Seasonally adjusted						
	thousands				% change		
Industrial aggregate	**14,427.5**	**14,238.5**	**14,508.1**	**14,521.4**	**0.1**	**2.0**	**0.7**
Forestry, logging and support	54.9	58.7	51.5	50.9	-1.2	-13.3	-7.3
Mining, quarrying and oil and gas extraction	195.7	188.9	199.6	197.9	-0.9	4.8	1.1
Utilities	123.7	121.7	124.1	124.6	0.4	2.4	0.7
Construction	808.1	762.0	818.0	820.7	0.3	7.7	1.6
Manufacturing	1,748.9	1,791.1	1,740.8	1,743.3	0.1	-2.7	-0.3
Wholesale trade	761.7	754.6	762.2	760.5	-0.2	0.8	-0.2
Retail trade	1,819.6	1,771.6	1,840.0	1,847.9	0.4	4.3	1.6
Transportation and warehousing	656.0	650.1	660.8	661.8	0.2	1.8	0.9
Information and cultural industries	354.1	353.7	359.2	357.0	-0.6	0.9	0.8
Finance and insurance	631.9	620.5	638.7	646.3	1.2	4.2	2.3
Real estate and rental and leasing	253.4	248.8	252.4	253.0	0.2	1.7	-0.2
Professional, scientific and technical services	730.7	723.8	725.7	726.8	0.2	0.4	-0.5
Management of companies and enterprises	100.4	97.4	102.4	103.2	0.8	6.0	2.8
Administrative and support, waste management and remediation services	723.1	708.1	722.7	721.6	-0.2	1.9	-0.2
Educational services	1,085.6	1,065.9	1,092.6	1,099.4	0.6	3.1	1.3
Health care and social assistance	1,487.4	1,465.6	1,505.3	1,514.2	0.6	3.3	1.8
Arts, entertainment and recreation	241.6	237.7	240.1	238.5	-0.7	0.3	-1.3
Accommodation and food services	1,064.9	1,033.6	1,070.9	1,075.5	0.4	4.1	1.0
Other services (excluding public administration)	530.9	520.6	533.1	533.7	0.1	2.5	0.5
Public administration	835.4	818.6	847.8	846.3	-0.2	3.4	1.3
Provinces and territories							
Newfoundland and Labrador	183.8	177.4	184.6	184.9	0.2	4.2	0.6
Prince Edward Island	59.4	59.0	59.2	58.9	-0.5	-0.2	-0.8
Nova Scotia	390.7	384.9	393.9	392.3	-0.4	1.9	0.4
New Brunswick	302.1	301.1	305.1	305.5	0.1	1.5	1.1
Quebec	3,281.3	3,259.1	3,291.8	3,297.4	0.2	1.2	0.5
Ontario	5,521.7	5,468.7	5,555.1	5,551.2	-0.1	1.5	0.5
Manitoba	537.0	528.5	543.0	544.3	0.2	3.0	1.4
Saskatchewan	430.8	418.7	434.3	436.3	0.5	4.2	1.3
Alberta	1,741.5	1,712.3	1,758.0	1,758.2	0.0	2.7	1.0
British Columbia	1,919.1	1,873.3	1,931.6	1,935.2	0.2	3.3	0.8
Yukon	18.0	17.6	18.2	18.2	0.0	3.4	1.1
Northwest Territories[1]	23.4	22.9	23.9	23.5	-1.7	2.6	0.4
Nunavut[1]	10.5	10.6	10.6	10.4	-1.9	-1.9	-1.0

r *revised*
p *preliminary*
1. *Data not seasonally adjusted.*

■

Food services and drinking places

April 2008 (preliminary)

The total seasonally adjusted sales for the food services and drinking places industry increased 2.5% to almost $4.0 billion in April.

A 3.6% increase in sales in the largest sector of the industry, full-service restaurants, accounted for most of the overall rise. This sector, comprised of restaurants where patrons order and pay for meals at their table, continued to grow at a steady pace despite a temporary setback in March. The full-service restaurants sector also showed solid growth compared with the same month of 2007.

Sales in the limited-service eating places sector increased 1.0% in April. This sector, which is characterized by restaurants where meals are ordered and paid for at the counter, also continued to post growth in year-over-year sales in April.

The special food services sector (+4.2%), which comprises contractors, social caterers and mobile food services, registered its largest growth in recent months.

Despite a 1.5% increase between March and April, sales in the drinking places sector have shown an overall decline during the past 12 months.

All provinces posted higher sales in April, with the largest occurring in the Atlantic provinces.

Note: Data prior to September 2007 from the new Monthly Survey of Food Services and Drinking Places were backcast to January 1998 using the old Monthly Survey of Restaurants, Caterers and Taverns. While every measure was taken to account for changes in survey concepts and design, some caution should be taken when comparing current estimates with those made prior to September 2007. Likewise, caution should also be exercised when using the seasonally adjusted estimates, as the seasonal adjustment factors are calculated using data from both the new survey as well as the backcast data.

Available on CANSIM: table 355-0006.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2419.

For more information about the redesign of the Monthly Survey of Food Services and Drinking Places, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Marc Racette (613-951-2924; fax: 613-951-6696; *marc.racette@statcan.ca*) or Pierre Felx (613-951-0075; *pierre.felx@statcan.ca*), Service Industries Division. □

Food services and drinking places

	April 2007	February 2008r	March 2008r	April 2008p	March to April 2008
	Seasonally adjusted				
	$ thousands				% change
Total, food services sales	**3,723,090**	**3,926,279**	**3,877,956**	**3,974,170**	**2.5**
Full-service restaurants	1,681,640	1,839,074	1,786,468	1,850,521	3.6
Limited-service eating places	1,523,635	1,585,288	1,586,693	1,602,836	1.0
Special food services	318,183	309,462	312,486	325,542	4.2
Drinking places	199,632	192,455	192,309	195,271	1.5
Provinces and territories					
Newfoundland and Labrador	43,777	45,956	43,977	45,828	4.2
Prince Edward Island	13,621	12,587	12,604	13,235	5.0
Nova Scotia	90,739	103,984	98,919	102,614	3.7
New Brunswick	69,109	68,017	67,742	70,228	3.7
Quebec	728,837	767,418	768,614	781,032	1.6
Ontario	1,405,762	1,506,517	1,484,473	1,532,576	3.2
Manitoba	106,505	113,406	113,598	116,403	2.5
Saskatchewan	93,757	101,425	101,332	102,005	0.7
Alberta	536,880	536,033	539,401	544,863	1.0
British Columbia	622,966	659,493	636,579	654,839	2.9
Yukon	4,188	3,565	3,328	F	F
Northwest Territories	6,470	7,171	6,782	F	F
Nunavut	479	707	607	F	F

r *revised*
p *preliminary*
F *too unreliable to be published*
Note: *Figures may not add up to totals due to rounding.*

Food services and drinking places

	April 2007	February 2008r	March 2008r	April 2008p	April 2007 to April 2008
	Not seasonally adjusted				
	$ thousands				% change
Total, food services sales	**3,603,475**	**3,499,375**	**3,756,696**	**3,892,969**	**8.0**
Full-service restaurants	1,607,769	1,639,739	1,704,543	1,781,899	10.8
Limited-service eating places	1,490,096	1,380,927	1,536,654	1,591,158	6.8
Special food services	308,351	303,475	318,003	327,678	6.3
Drinking places	197,259	175,234	197,496	192,234	-2.5
Provinces and territories					
Newfoundland and Labrador	40,241	38,141	41,711	43,237	7.4
Prince Edward Island	11,169	9,628	10,657	11,025	-1.3
Nova Scotia	83,264	84,808	91,895	96,496	15.9
New Brunswick	65,774	59,194	65,033	70,090	6.6
Quebec	708,328	680,069	707,828	745,804	5.3
Ontario	1,334,428	1,320,274	1,418,868	1,501,016	12.5
Manitoba	102,158	98,690	112,192	115,173	12.7
Saskatchewan	95,354	91,729	103,052	103,701	8.8
Alberta	543,220	510,798	556,771	547,846	0.9
British Columbia	609,126	595,414	637,580	648,647	6.5
Yukon	3,665	2,893	3,037	F	F
Northwest Territories	6,215	7,112	7,440	F	F
Nunavut	533	626	632	F	F

r *revised*
p *preliminary*
F *too unreliable to be published*
Note: *Figures may not add up to totals due to rounding.*

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Couriers and Messengers Services Price Index

May 2008

The Couriers and Messengers Services Price Index (CMSPI) is a monthly price index measuring the change over time in prices for courier and messenger services provided by long and short distance delivery companies to Canadian-based business clients.

The CMSPI increased 2.5% to 139.7 (2003=100) in May. The courier portion rose 2.7%, while the local messengers component advanced 1.5%.

These indexes are available at the Canada level only.

Available on CANSIM: table 329-0053.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 5064.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact the Client Services Section (613-951-9606; fax: 613-951-1539; *prices-prix@statcan.ca*), Prices Division. ■

Production and disposition of tobacco products

May 2008

Canadian manufacturers sold 1.6 billion cigarettes in May, down 0.8% from April and 7.2% lower compared with May 2007.

Cigarette production in May increased 11.5% from April to 1.9 billion cigarettes, down 2.0% from May 2007.

At 2.3 billion cigarettes, the level of closing inventories for May increased 14.3% from April, up 22.2% from May 2007.

Note: This survey collects data on the production of tobacco products in Canada by Canadian manufacturers and the disposition or sales of this production. It does not collect data on imported tobacco products. Therefore, sales information in this release is not a proxy for domestic consumption of tobacco products.

Available on CANSIM: table 303-0062.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2142.

The May 2008 issue of *Production and Disposition of Tobacco Products*, Vol. 37, no. 5 (32-022-XWE, free) is now available from the *Publications* module of our website.

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

Supply and disposition of refined petroleum products

March 2008

Data on the supply and disposition and domestic sales of refined petroleum products are now available for March.

Available on CANSIM: tables 134-0001 to 134-0004.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2150.

The March 2008 issue of *The Supply and Disposition of Refined Petroleum Products in Canada*, Vol. 63, no. 3 (45-004-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 Marketing and Dissemination Section (613-951-9497; toll-free 1-866-873-8789; *energ@statcan.ca*), Manufacturing and Energy Division. ■

Domestic travel

Third quarter 2007 (preliminary)

The preliminary estimates of domestic travel from the Travel Survey of Residents of Canada are now available for the third quarter of 2007.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 3810.

For general information or to obtain data, contact Client Services (613-951-9169; toll-free 1-800-307-3382; fax: 613-951-2909; *cult.tourstats@statcan.ca*), Culture Tourism, and the Centre for Education Statistics. To enquire about the concepts, questionnaires, methods or data quality of this release, contact Lizette Gervais- Simard (613-951-1672; fax: 613-951-2909; *gervliz@statcan.ca*), Tourism Statistics Program. ■

New products

National Tourism Indicators, Quarterly Estimates, First quarter 2008
Catalogue number 13-009-XIB
(free).

Extraction System of Agricultural Statistics, no. 3
Catalogue number 21F0001XBB
(free).

Production and Disposition of Tobacco Products, May 2008, Vol. 37, no. 5
Catalogue number 32-022-XWE
(free).

The Supply and Disposition of Refined Petroleum Products in Canada, March 2008, Vol. 63, no. 3
Catalogue number 45-004-XWE
(free).

Service Bulletin: Surface and Marine Transport, 2006 (preliminary) and 2005 (final), Vol. 24, no. 1
Catalogue number 50-002-XWE
(free).

All prices are in Canadian dollars and exclude sales tax. Additional shipping charges apply for delivery outside Canada.

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The Daily

Statistics Canada

Thursday, May 29, 2008
Released at 8:30 a.m. Eastern time

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 $5.6 billion in the first quarter of 2008, led by higher prices for several exported commodities combined with a lower travel deficit. In the financial account, foreign direct investment flows into Canada slowed significantly from the acquisitions-driven pace of the previous quarter, while Canadian direct investment abroad continued to strengthen.	2
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2006 Census profiles

Within the inclusion of the income 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 (costs vary for different geography levels), contact Statistics Canada's National Contact Centre.

Statistics Canada Statistique Canada

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Statistics Canada's official release bulletin

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.

To access *The Daily* on the Internet, visit our site at *http://www.statcan.ca*. To receive *The Daily* each morning by e-mail, send an e-mail message to *listproc@statcan.ca*. Leave the subject line blank. In the body of the message, type "subscribe daily firstname lastname".

Release dates: June 30 to July 4, 2008

(Release dates are subject to change.)

Release date	**Title**	**Reference period**
30	**Gross domestic product by industry**	April 2008
4	**Pension plans in Canada**	2007