

The Daily

Statistics Canada

Thursday, July 17, 2008

Released at 8:30 a.m. Eastern time

Releases

Canada's international transactions in securities, May 2008	2
Foreign demand for Canadian securities remained strong in May as investment in new Canadian bonds accelerated. Meanwhile, Canadian investors continued to add a sizeable amount of foreign securities to their portfolios, largely equities.	
Crime statistics, 2007	5
Canada's national crime rate, based on data reported by police, declined for the third consecutive year in 2007, continuing the downward trend in police-reported crime since the rate peaked in 1991.	
Travel between Canada and other countries, May 2008	10
Construction Union Wage Rate Index, June 2008	11
Crude oil and natural gas production, May 2008	12
Refined petroleum products, May 2008	12

New products 13

Canadian Economic Observer

July 2008

The July 2008 issue of Statistics Canada's flagship publication for economic statistics, *Canadian Economic Observer*, analyses current economic conditions and summarizes the major economic events that occurred in June. A separate statistical summary contains a wide range of tables and graphs on the principal economic indicators for Canada, the provinces and the major industrial nations.

The *Canadian Economic Observer, Historical Statistical Supplement* is also released today. The supplement contains annual historical data for all series reported monthly in *Canadian Economic Observer*.

The July 2008 Internet edition of *Canadian Economic Observer*, Volume 21, no. 7 (11-010-XWB, free), and the *Canadian Economic Observer, Historical Statistical Supplement* (11-210-XWB, free) are now available from the *Publications* module of our website.

The paper version of *Canadian Economic Observer*, Vol. 21, no. 7 (11-010-XPB, \$25/\$243) and the *Canadian Economic Observer, Historical Statistical Supplement* (11-210-XPB, \$28) will be available on July 24.

For more information, contact Francine Roy (613-951-3627), Current Economic Analysis Group.



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Releases

Canada's international transactions in securities

May 2008

Foreign demand for Canadian securities remained strong in May as investment in new Canadian bonds accelerated. This activity was mainly comprised of long-term debt instruments issued by the provincial and private corporate sectors.

At the same time, Canadian investors continued to diversify their investment by adding a sizable amount of foreign securities to their portfolios, favouring equities over long-term debt instruments. May also saw the second monthly investment in foreign short-term debt since August 2007.

Large foreign acquisitions of Canadian bonds fuelled by new issues

Non-residents purchased \$7.7 billion worth of Canadian bonds in May, the largest monthly acquisition in over a year. The focus remained on new issues denominated in foreign currencies by Canadian private corporations and provinces, with \$6.8 billion (net of retirements) of these bonds picked up.

Non-residents also added smaller amounts of outstanding Canadian bonds and money market instruments to their portfolios in May. Purchases of bonds on the secondary market were up moderately (\$490 million), half of which were in the federal government securities. However, foreign investors disposed of federal government enterprise bonds for the first time in nine months. The increase in foreign holdings of Canadian short-term debt instruments (\$478 million) was largely concentrated in provincial securities.

Foreign demand for Canadian shares continues

Non-residents acquired a further \$2.5 billion of Canadian shares in May, for a fourth straight month of

Related market information

Canadian short-term **interest rates** were essentially unchanged in May at 2.68%. Meanwhile, US short-term rates increased a substantial 44 basis points to 1.73%. Nevertheless, Canadian short-term rates exceeded US rates by 95 basis points.

In May, long-term interest rates in both Canada and the United States moved upwards, with Canadian rates increasing 10 basis points to 3.68% and US rates going up 26 basis points to 4.03%. The resulting differential widened to 0.35%, in favour of investment in the United States.

Canadian **stock prices** increased by 5.6% in May with the Standard and Poor's / Toronto Stock Exchange Composite index ending the month at a record of 14,714.7. Solid gains were widespread across sectors. US stock prices, as measured by the Standard and Poor's composite index, were up 1.1% to 1,400.4 at the end of May. So far in 2008, the Canadian stock market has been the only major world market which posted a gain. The Canadian market increased 6.4% over the first five months of the year, in contrast with a 4.6% drop in US stock prices over the same period.

The **Canadian dollar** rose by 1.42 US cents in May to close at 100.70 US cents.

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.

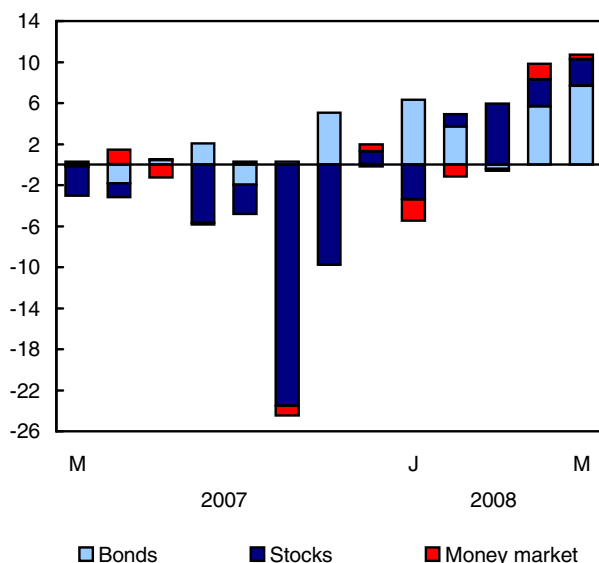
Bonds have an original term to maturity of more than one year.

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.

equity investment. Close to two-thirds of this activity was in secondary markets, with shares of technology, mining and energy firms drawing most of the foreign inflows.

Foreign portfolio investment in Canadian securities

\$ billions



The Standard and Poor's / Toronto Stock Exchange composite index has been the only major world stock market in 2008 to post a year-to-date gain, driven by high commodity and energy prices.

Canadian investment in non-US foreign stocks reaches a 13-month high

Canadian investors' demand for foreign stocks remained strong in May, with a sizeable \$5.1 billion outflow. Total foreign equity purchases have amounted to \$15.8 billion since February 2008. In May, Canadians gave preference to non-US stocks (\$4.4 billion), with a focus on banking and energy shares.

Canadians return to foreign money markets, pass on foreign bonds

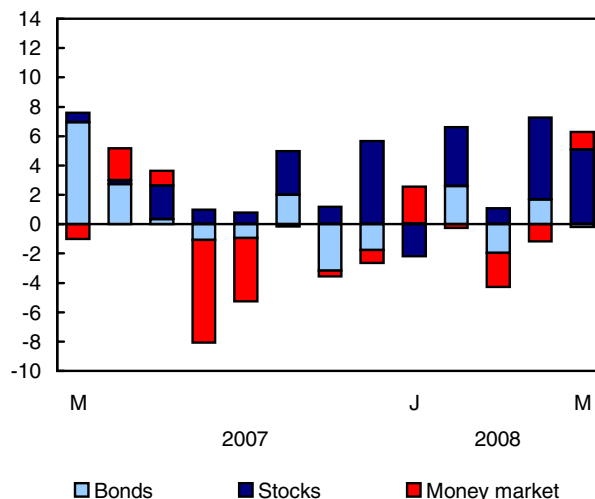
Canadian investors bought foreign money market paper in May (\$1.2 billion), making it the second monthly investment since the meltdown of the asset-backed finance sector in August 2007. One-half of May's acquisition went into US Treasury bills, as short-term interest rates in the United States rose sharply (+44 basis points), following a string of declines since July 2007.

There was a nominal \$187 million divestment of foreign bonds in May. Despite an increase in yields,

holdings of US government bonds were little changed. This followed large fluctuations in investment flows over the past few months. Meanwhile, Canadians continued to divest in maple bonds in May. Since January 2008, Canadians disposed of \$1.8 billion worth of these bonds compared with a \$19.9 billion acquisition for the same period in 2007.

Canadian portfolio investment in foreign securities¹

\$ billions



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 May 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 June will be released on August 18.

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.

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Canada's international transactions in securities

	February 2008	March 2008	April 2008	May 2008	January to May 2007	January to May 2008
						Cumulative transactions
	\$ millions					
Foreign investment in Canadian securities	3,728	5,296	9,835	10,717	6,454	30,427
Bonds (net)	3,709	-401	5,658	7,691	7,609	23,001
Outstanding	3,265	5,691	1,495	490	1,739	15,428
New issues	2,367	2,268	6,069	10,540	20,500	24,419
Retirements	-2,213	-8,014	-2,277	-3,790	-15,832	-18,295
Change in interest payable ¹	290	-346	372	451	1,201	1,449
Money market paper (net)	-1,182	-239	1,537	478	-1,150	-1,478
Government of Canada	-410	-72	394	199	-3,061	-1,656
Other	-772	-168	1,143	279	1,911	178
Stocks (net)	1,201	5,937	2,639	2,547	-5	8,903
Outstanding	1,096	-2,079	2,540	1,596	6,172	6,272
Other transactions	106	8,016	99	951	-6,177	2,632
Canadian investment in foreign securities	-6,338	3,230	-6,054	-6,093	-45,862	-15,601
Bonds (net)	-2,599	1,956	-1,657	187	-30,818	-2,156
Stocks (net)	-4,023	-1,085	-5,616	-5,058	-16,768	-13,565
Money market paper (net)	284	2,359	1,220	-1,221	1,724	120

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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Crime statistics

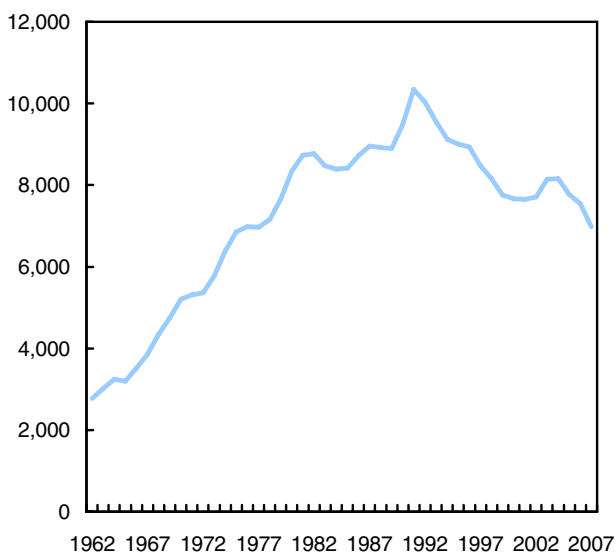
2007

Canada's national crime rate, based on data reported by police, declined for the third consecutive year in 2007, continuing the downward trend in police-reported crime since the rate peaked in 1991.

The 7% drop in the national crime rate was driven mainly by decreases in counterfeiting and high-volume property offences such as theft \$5,000 and under, break-ins and motor vehicle thefts.

Crime rate, 1962 to 2007

rate per 100,000 population



Following two years of increases in most serious violent offences, police reported fewer homicides, attempted murders, sexual assaults and robberies in 2007.

Police-reported crime rates were down in all provinces and territories, except Newfoundland and Labrador, the Northwest Territories and the Yukon.

After rising in 2006, the overall crime rate among youth aged 12 to 17 declined slightly in 2007. While non-violent offences committed by youth fell, youth violent crime remained stable.

Crime rates continue to be highest in Western Canada and the territories. Among the provinces, Saskatchewan once again reported the highest overall crime rate as well as the highest violent crime rate.

Note to readers

There are two primary sources of statistical information on crime in Canada: police-reported surveys that reflect data on Criminal Code incidents that come to the attention of police, and victimization surveys that collect information on self-reported criminal victimizations.

This report is based on police-reported data.

Data on incidents that come to the attention of the police are captured and forwarded by police services to Statistics Canada via the Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) Survey, according to a nationally-approved set of common scoring rules, categories and definitions.

UCR data are available back to 1962 at the national, provincial and territorial levels and to 1991 at the census metropolitan area level. In order to enhance comparability among jurisdictions and over time, crime is expressed as a rate per 100,000 population.

One way to estimate the extent of crime that is not reported to police is through victimization surveys. According to the most recent victimization survey data from the 2004 General Social Survey, 34% of criminal incidents were reported to police, down from 37% in 1999. Approximately half of all incidents of break-ins, vehicle thefts and robberies were reported to police, compared with about one-third of thefts and vandalism.

Violent crime: Decline in most serious offences

Police reported 594 homicides, down slightly from 606 in 2006. The homicide rate fell for the second year in a row, continuing a long-term decline that began in the mid-1970s.

In 2007, there were almost 30,000 robberies. While the robbery rate declined 5% from 2006, it has remained relatively stable since 2000. Robbery committed with a firearm declined 12% from the previous year to its lowest point in more than 30 years.

The two most serious forms of assault, aggravated assault and assault with a weapon, remained virtually unchanged in 2007. Prior to 2007, the offence of assault with a weapon had increased in each of the previous seven years, reaching an all-time high in 2006.

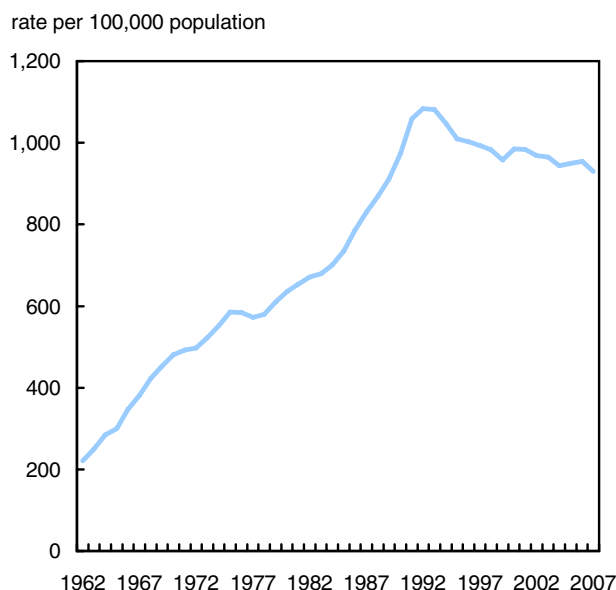
Property crime: Decline in break-ins and motor vehicle theft

Police reported just over 230,000 break-ins, of which about 6 in 10 were residential. The rate of residential break-ins fell 9% in 2007 and break-ins to businesses dropped 8%.

The rate of break-ins has been steadily declining since peaking in 1991, reaching its lowest level in over 40 years. According to Statistics Canada's General Social Survey, Canadians increased their use of home

security devices, such as burglar alarms and motion detectors, between 1999 and 2004.

Violent crime rate, 1962 to 2007



On average, there were about 400 motor vehicle thefts per day in 2007, totalling over 145,000 incidents. The rate of motor vehicle theft has been declining since its peak in 1996, including a 9% drop in 2007.

Research suggests that factors such as anti-theft devices built into newer model vehicles, as well as specialized police enforcement teams have contributed to the decrease.

Youth crime: Slight decline in the youth crime rate

About 176,000 youth aged 12 to 17 years were accused of a criminal offence last year. This includes youth who were either formally charged by police or dealt with by other means such as a warning, caution, or referral to a diversionary program.

The youth crime rate, which has remained relatively stable over the past decade, declined 1.5% in 2007 following a 3.3% increase in 2006. The 2007 drop was due to a decrease in non-violent crimes.

The youth violent crime rate remained stable in 2007 after increasing steadily over the past two decades. The 2007 rate was more than double the rate reported in the mid-1980s.

The provinces: Crime rates highest in Western Canada

Among the provinces, the highest crime rates were in Western Canada, continuing a pattern observed over the past 30 years.

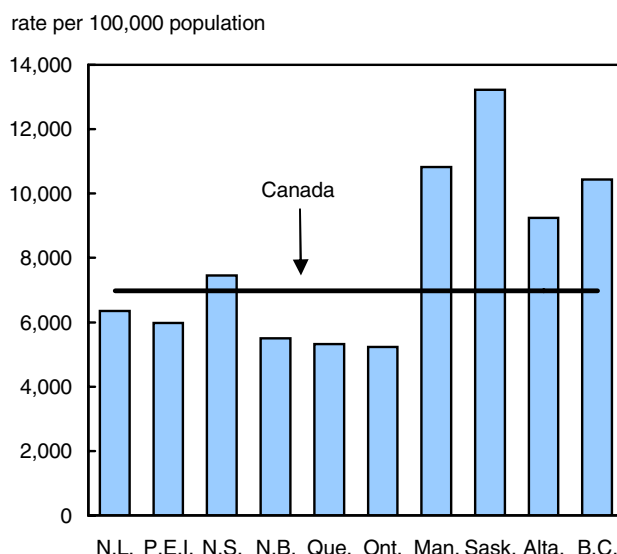
Despite a 3.5% decline, Saskatchewan continued to report the highest overall crime rate, as well as the highest rate of violent crime. British Columbia had the highest property crime rate, primarily the result of a large number of thefts \$5,000 and under.

For the fourth year in a row, the lowest provincial rates occurred in Ontario and Quebec.

Police reported declines in homicide in every province except Manitoba, Ontario and New Brunswick. The homicide rates in British Columbia and Quebec were at their lowest in over 40 years.

Manitoba reported 62 homicides, 23 more than in 2006, giving it the highest rate among the provinces and its highest homicide rate since recording began in 1961. Most of the increase occurred in small urban and rural areas. The province also reported a large increase in attempted murder, up 53%.

Crime rate by province, 2007



Metropolitan areas: Declines seen in most cities

Crime rates fell in most census metropolitan areas last year, including the nine largest. The biggest declines occurred in Kitchener, Montréal and Winnipeg.

The highest overall crime rates occurred in the western metropolitan centres of Regina, Saskatoon, Abbotsford, Winnipeg, Edmonton, Victoria and Vancouver. Toronto reported the second lowest overall crime rate among all 27 metropolitan areas.

Violent crime rates also tended to be highest in Western Canada. The census metropolitan areas of Saint John, Thunder Bay and Halifax were exceptions to the general pattern, with each reporting violent crime rates similar to or higher than those in the West.

One in five homicides in Canada occurred in Toronto in 2007. However, taking population differences into account, homicide rates were highest in Saskatoon, Winnipeg, Edmonton and Calgary.

For the first time since recording began in 1981, Québec reported no homicides, the only metropolitan area to do so in 2007.

Impaired driving and drug offences: Among the few offences to increase in 2007

Impaired driving and drug offences were among the few police-reported crimes to increase in 2007. More so than other crimes, these offences tend to be influenced by local police enforcement practices.

The impaired driving rate rose 3% in 2007, mainly due to a 19% increase in Alberta. Despite this recent increase, impaired driving rates have generally been declining over the past 25 years in Canada.

The rate of drug offences rose 4% last year, driven by an increase in cannabis possession offences, which accounted for about half of all drug offences.

Available on CANSIM: tables 252-0013 and 252-0014.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 3302.

Customized data tables from the incident-based Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR2) Survey for 2007 are available upon request. Information includes details on criminal incidents (such as the use of firearms and other weapons, clearance status, location), as well as the age and sex of both victims and accused persons.

The *Juristat: Crime Statistics in Canada, 2007*, Vol. 28, no. 7 (85-002-XIE, free) is now available. From the *Publications* module of our website, choose *Free Internet publications*, then *Crime and justice*. A paper version (85-002-XPE, \$11/\$100) is also available. See *How to order products*.

To acquire provincial/territorial crime statistics profiles, obtain further information, or to enquire about 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.

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Crime rates for selected offences by census metropolitan area

	Total Criminal Code offences (excluding traffic)		Total violent offences	Homicide	Robbery	Total property offences	Break and enter	Motor vehicle theft	Total other Criminal Code
	rate	% change in rate 2006 to 2007				rate			
500,000 and over population									
Winnipeg	9,644	-12.9	1,082	3.6	268	5,090	1,022	1,714	3,471
Edmonton	9,572	-5.4	1,031	3.3	157	5,166	817	832	3,375
Vancouver	9,136	-11.3	989	2.4	155	5,100	995	630	3,047
Calgary	6,202	-8.4	712	3.1	106	3,825	602	639	1,665
Montréal	5,958	-13.8	777	1.6	133	3,282	755	601	1,899
Hamilton	5,511	-2.2	776	1.6	116	2,985	594	481	1,750
Ottawa ¹	5,457	-5.1	599	1.6	80	2,915	451	264	1,943
Québec	4,524	-8.0	645	0.0	54	2,579	716	216	1,301
Toronto	4,461	-11.0	709	2.0	113	2,307	362	279	1,445
100,000 to less than 500,000 population²									
Regina	11,827	-5.5	1,478	2.5	225	5,703	1,618	735	4,646
Saskatoon	11,560	-5.2	1,612	3.6	272	4,520	899	616	5,428
Abbotsford	10,341	-8.2	944	1.2	103	5,868	1,263	1,001	3,529
Victoria	9,335	-8.5	911	1.2	72	4,941	801	355	3,483
Thunder Bay	8,819	-2.8	1,335	1.6	142	3,942	878	233	3,542
Saint John	8,292	5.4	1,431	2.0	59	3,441	649	168	3,420
Halifax	7,954	-8.5	1,145	1.8	119	3,774	670	269	3,035
St. John's	7,325	8.6	926	0.5	62	3,689	1,028	210	2,710
London	7,296	-10.2	730	1.3	61	3,867	667	489	2,699
Windsor	6,138	-9.3	644	1.2	57	3,321	730	231	2,174
Kingston	5,970	-11.7	689	0.7	37	3,001	546	176	2,280
Gatineau ³	5,718	1.0	796	0.7	44	2,902	852	294	2,020
St. Catharines–Niagara	5,711	-4.6	571	0.7	65	3,206	722	253	1,934
Greater Sudbury	5,627	-9.3	888	2.5	72	2,691	580	226	2,048
Kitchener	4,906	-16.8	565	1.4	54	2,721	487	239	1,620
Sherbrooke	4,831	-10.0	503	1.3	60	2,512	694	350	1,816
Trois-Rivières	4,478	-8.2	599	2.7	33	2,391	636	363	1,488
Saguenay	4,398	8.1	720	0.7	41	2,107	629	265	1,572
Canada	6,984	-7.4	930	1.8	90	3,320	700	443	2,734

1. Ottawa refers to the Ontario part of the Ottawa–Gatineau census metropolitan area.

2. Oshawa is excluded due to incongruity between the police agency jurisdictional boundaries and the census metropolitan area boundaries.

3. Gatineau refers to the Quebec part of the Ottawa–Gatineau census metropolitan area.

Note: Rates are calculated per 100,000 population.

Crime rates by province and territory

	Violent crime			Property crime			Total Criminal Code (excluding traffic)		
	number	rate	% change in rate 2006 to 2007	number	rate	% change in rate 2006 to 2007	number	rate	% change in rate 2006 to 2007
Newfoundland and Labrador	4,806	949	11.1	11,557	2,283	-3.4	32,129	6,346	3.2
Prince Edward Island	920	664	-5.8	3,687	2,660	-12.0	8,293	5,982	-12.1
Nova Scotia	9,948	1,065	-6.3	28,700	3,072	-12.5	69,646	7,456	-7.7
New Brunswick	6,384	851	-0.1	17,284	2,305	-9.7	41,250	5,502	-8.2
Quebec	56,538	734	-2.8	220,934	2,869	-7.9	409,436	5,317	-10.1
Ontario	94,029	734	-3.5	337,432	2,635	-6.9	669,339	5,228	-8.6
Manitoba	17,952	1,513	-5.0	52,293	4,407	-11.0	128,510	10,829	-7.2
Saskatchewan	20,130	2,019	-0.5	43,002	4,314	-9.5	131,838	13,225	-3.5
Alberta	38,369	1,104	-0.7	147,953	4,259	-5.4	320,878	9,237	-3.8
British Columbia	51,333	1,172	-3.6	226,750	5,177	-8.8	457,008	10,433	-8.4
Yukon	906	2,924	-2.7	1,354	4,369	-14.5	6,606	21,317	3.4
Northwest Territories	3,015	7,071	10.4	2,471	5,795	-8.3	18,659	43,762	6.2
Nunavut	2,229	7,164	4.6	1,286	4,133	-4.2	9,308	29,917	-5.3
Canada	306,559	930	-2.5	1,094,703	3,320	-7.7	2,302,900	6,984	-7.4

Note: Rates are calculated per 100,000 population.

Crime rates for selected offences

Type of offence	2007		2006 to 2007	1998 to 2007
	number	rate	% rate change	
Total Criminal Code (excluding traffic), crime rate	2,302,900	6,984	-7.4	-14.4
Violent crime	306,559	930	-2.5	-5.3
Homicide	594	2	-3.0	-2.6
Attempted murder	802	2	-5.1	-1.6
Robbery	29,600	90	-4.7	-6.5
Sexual assault (levels 1,2,3)	21,449	65	-4.5	-23.2
Other sexual offences	2,784	8	-0.1	-26.1
Assault level 1	179,586	545	-3.3	-10.7
Assault level 2, weapon/causing bodily harm	53,945	164	0.1	32.3
Assault level 3, aggravated	3,403	10	0.5	18.6
Other assaults	13,917	42	5.4	4.8
Abduction	479	1	-8.3	-47.2
Property crime	1,094,703	3,320	-7.7	-27.3
Breaking and entering	230,920	700	-9.0	-39.8
Motor vehicle theft	146,142	443	-8.8	-19.4
Theft over \$5,000	17,369	53	0.6	-32.7
Theft \$5,000 and under	579,211	1,756	-7.2	-25.8
Possession of stolen goods	32,775	99	-9.8	2.8
Fraud	88,286	268	-6.2	-14.8
Other Criminal Code incidents	901,638	2,734	-8.6	4.8
Mischief	375,816	1,140	-1.8	5.1
Counterfeiting currency	55,517	168	-54.0	27.5
Bail violations	110,115	334	0.2	37.9
Disturbing the peace	116,978	355	-1.1	63.3
Offensive weapons	18,709	57	-4.2	2.0
Prostitution	4,724	14	-17.6	-27.6
Arson	13,202	40	-3.8	-6.7
Forcible confinement/kidnapping	4,595	14	0.9	121.5
Other Criminal Code (not listed above)	201,982	613	-4.6	-24.4

Note: Rates are calculated per 100,000 population.



Travel between Canada and other countries May 2008

Visitors made 2.3 million trips to Canada in May, up 0.4% from the previous month.

Travel from the United States edged up 0.3% from April. Residents of countries other than the United States made 404,000 overnight trips to Canada, up 0.7% from April. (Unless otherwise specified, monthly data are seasonally adjusted.)

Even so, travel from 7 of the top 12 overseas markets to Canada declined in May, led by the Netherlands with a 16.2% drop. On the other hand, travel from India rose 11.8%, the fastest gain in May among the top overseas markets.

Travel both to and from Canada rose in May.

Overnight travel by American residents to Canada declined 0.7%, while same-day car travel rose 2.2% in May. The gain in same-day car trips was the second consecutive monthly increase following seven months of declines.

On an outbound basis, Canadian residents took 4.5 million trips outside the country, up 1.6% from April.

Of these, 3.8 million were trips to the United States, up 2.0% from April. Same-day car travel to the

United States increased 1.8% to 2.1 million trips, while overnight travel to the United States rose 2.1%.

Canadians took 664,000 trips to overseas countries in May, down 0.9% from April. Although this was the second straight monthly decline, travel by Canadian residents to overseas destinations has been steadily increasing over the last few years.

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

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 5005.

The May 2008 issue of *International Travel, Advance Information*, Vol. 24, no. 5 (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 Frances Kremarik (613-951-4240; frances.kremarik@statcan.ca), Culture, Tourism and the Centre for Education Statistics.

□

Travel between Canada and other countries

	April 2008 ^r	May 2008 ^p	April to May 2008	May 2008 ^p	May 2007 to May 2008
	Seasonally adjusted			Unadjusted	
	thousands		% change ¹	thousands	% change ¹
Canadian trips abroad²	4,417	4,487	1.6	4,512	12.6
to the United States	3,747	3,823	2.0	3,908	12.9
to other countries	669	664	-0.9	604	10.9
Same-day car trips to the United States	2,095	2,134	1.8	2,233	11.2
Total trips, one or more nights	2,266	2,295	1.3	2,222	14.2
United States ³	1,597	1,631	2.1	1,618	15.5
Car	956	990	3.6	923	19.9
Plane	545	535	-1.8	543	11.9
Other modes of transportation	96	106	10.3	152	4.4
Other countries ⁴	669	664	-0.9	604	10.9
Travel to Canada²	2,330	2,340	0.4	2,461	-7.2
from the United States	1,919	1,925	0.3	2,005	-10.3
from other countries	411	414	0.7	456	9.0
Same-day car trips from the United States	750	767	2.2	798	-18.6
Total trips, one or more nights	1,475	1,471	-0.3	1,538	0.0
United States ³	1,075	1,067	-0.7	1,096	-3.2
Car	638	630	-1.2	635	-0.9
Plane	312	309	-0.9	313	-6.2
Other modes of transportation	125	129	3.0	148	-5.9
Other countries ⁴	401	404	0.7	442	9.0
Travel to Canada: Top overseas markets, by country of origin⁵					
United Kingdom	78	75	-4.3	86	-0.5
France	36	35	-0.1	32	22.4
Germany	29	28	-0.8	36	11.1
Japan	22	24	7.0	25	-13.8
Mexico	25	24	-3.9	22	15.0
Australia	21	20	-1.9	34	7.2
South Korea	18	19	5.7	19	6.9
China	14	15	6.6	15	12.1
Netherlands	13	11	-16.2	13	-1.2
Hong Kong	10	10	5.7	11	16.6
India	9	10	11.8	16	16.4
Italy	9	9	-0.3	8	17.8

^r revised

^p preliminary

1. Percentage change is based on unrounded data.

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

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

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

5. Includes same-day and overnight trips.

Construction Union Wage Rate Index

June 2008

The Construction Union Wage Rate Index (including supplements) for Canada remained unchanged in June compared with the May level of 142.0 (1992=100). The composite index increased 0.2% compared with the June 2007 index (141.7).

Note: Union wage rates are published for 16 trades in 20 metropolitan areas for both the basic rates and rates including selected supplementary payments. Indexes on a 1992=100 time base are calculated for the same metropolitan areas and are published for

those where a majority of trades are covered by current collective agreements.

Available on CANSIM: tables 327-0003 and 327-0004.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2307.

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

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods, and data quality for this release, contact Client Services (613-951-9606; fax:

613-951-1539; prices-prix@statcan.ca), or Louise Chainé (613-951-3393), Prices Division. ■

Crude oil and natural gas production

May 2008 (preliminary)

Provincial crude oil and marketable natural gas production data are now available for May.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2198.

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

Refined petroleum products

May 2008 (preliminary)

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

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2150.

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

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**Canadian Economic Observer: Historical Statistical
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International Travel: Advance Information,
May 2008, Vol. 24, no. 5

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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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