

The Daily

Statistics Canada

Wednesday, July 23, 2008

Released at 8:30 a.m. Eastern time

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Perspectives on Labour and Income

July 2008 online edition

The July 2008 online edition of *Perspectives on Labour and Income*, released today, features two articles.

"Remittances by recent immigrants" looks at factors influencing the sending of money to family or friends in an immigrant's country of origin.

"A profile of the Canadian Forces" examines the military as a distinct occupational group and compares it with the civilian workforce, with a special focus on work stress and other work-related mental health issues.

The July 2008 online edition of *Perspectives on Labour and Income*, Vol. 9, no. 7 (75-001-XWE, free), is now available from the *Publications* module of our website.

For more information, contact Henry Pold (613-951-4608; henry.pold@statcan.ca), Labour and Household Surveys Analysis Division.



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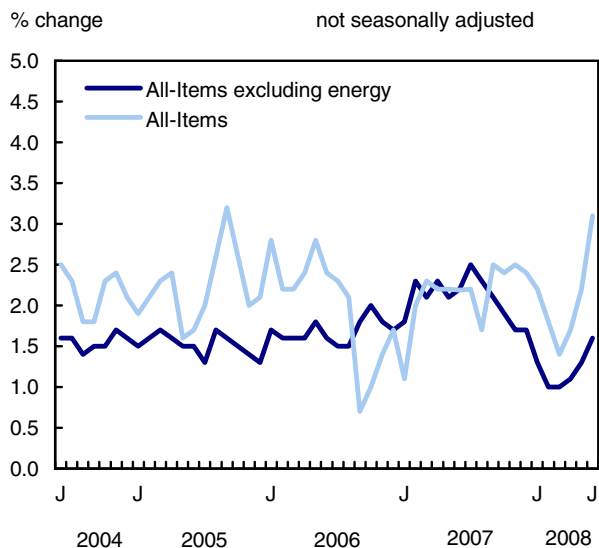
Releases

Consumer Price Index

June 2008

Fuelled by higher gasoline prices, consumer prices rose 3.1% in the 12-months ending June 2008, compared with the 2.2% gain recorded in May. June's increase was the largest since September 2005. Consumer prices excluding gasoline rose 1.8% in the 12 months to June.

Percentage change from the same month of the previous year



Gasoline prices increased 26.9% between June 2007 and June 2008, significantly higher than the 15.0% advance posted in May. June's increase was the largest since the 34.7% gain reported for September 2005, when hurricanes Katrina and Rita disrupted the oil market.

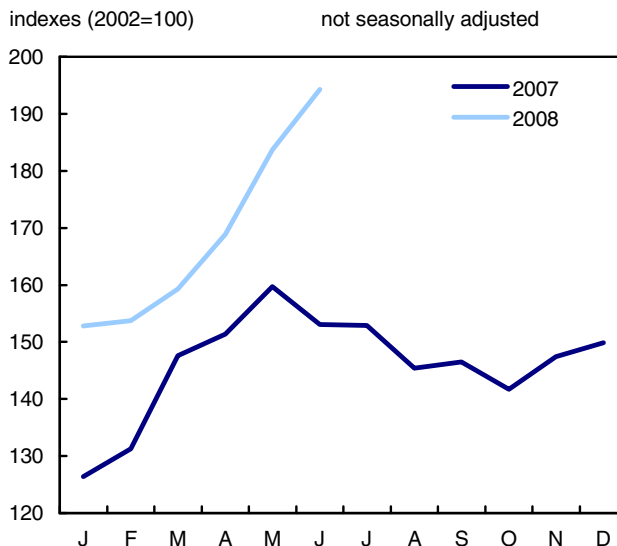
June's increase reflected both recent increases in pump prices, as well as the fact that gasoline prices had been on the decline in June 2007.

The Bank of Canada's core index, which is used to monitor the inflation control target, rose 1.5% in June 2008 compared with the same month of the previous year, the same rate of increase posted in May.

On a month-to-month basis, the seasonally-adjusted all-items index rose 0.8% between

May and June 2008, while the seasonally-adjusted core index increased 0.3%. The seasonally-adjusted all-items index increased 0.7% and the core index edged up 0.1% between April and May.

Evolution of the gasoline price index



12-month change: Mortgage interest cost also adds upward pressure

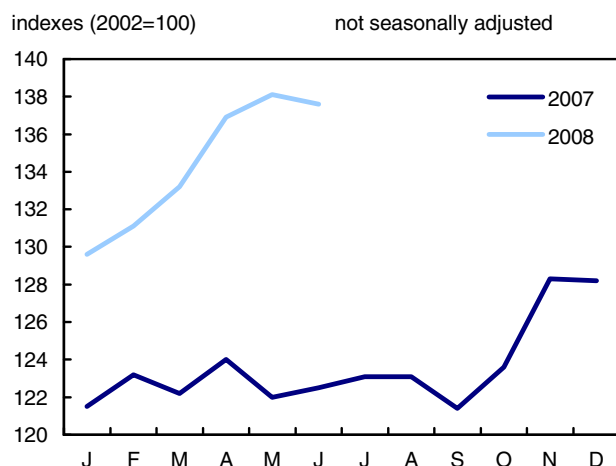
In addition to gasoline prices, mortgage interest cost, bakery products and air transportation also exerted strong upward pressure on the Consumer Price Index (CPI) in June.

Mortgage interest cost increased 9.0%. New housing prices continued to exert more upward pressure on this index than mortgage interest rates.

Homeowner's replacement cost, which represents the cost of maintaining a housing structure, rose 3.2% in June, down from the 4.0% rate of growth posted in May. The 12-month increase observed in June was the smallest gain since March 2001.

In June 2008, Canadians spent 3.0% more on store-bought food compared with the same month of the previous year, well above the 1.9% increase reported for May. The strongest upward pressure on this index came from prices for bakery products, which rose 12.3%.

Evolution of the bakery products price index



The price of air transportation rose 14.3%, the largest gain since May 2002. Higher costs were observed across most destinations, with transatlantic flights posting the sharpest price increases. This increase was due in part to a premium charged by carriers to cover higher kerosene prices.

Higher natural gas prices also pushed up consumer prices. The upward pressure from natural gas was especially strong in Alberta.

Mitigating the growth in consumer prices were prices to purchase and lease passenger vehicles, which fell 8.4% between June 2007 and June 2008. This decrease came at a time when some manufacturers introduced new models on the market with incentives.

Prices also fell for computer equipment and supplies (-13.2%). Declines were especially sharp for desktop computers.

Energy drives the all-items index in Prince Edward Island and Alberta

Among the provinces, Prince Edward Island (+4.7%) and Alberta (+4.4%) experienced the most substantial increases in consumer prices, driven mainly by upward pressure from energy components.

Excluding energy components, the largest gain in the all-items CPI occurred in Saskatchewan (+2.6%), where the cost of owned housing exerted the strongest upward pressure.

The smallest increases in the all-items CPI were posted in New Brunswick (+2.1%) and Manitoba (+2.4%).

For a more detailed analysis, consult the publication *The Consumer Price Index*.

Available on CANSIM: tables 326-0009, 326-0012, 326-0015 and 326-0020 to 326-0022.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2301.

More information about the concepts and use of the CPI are also available online in *Your Guide to the Consumer Price Index* (62-557-XIB, free) from the *Publications* module of our website.

The June 2008 issue of the *Consumer Price Index*, Vol. 87, no. 6 (62-001-XWE, free), is now available from the *Publications* module of our website. A paper copy is also available (62-001-XPE, \$12/\$111). A more detailed analysis of the CPI is available in this publication.

The July Consumer Price Index will be released on August 21.

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

□

Consumer Price Index and major components (2002=100)

	Relative importance ¹	June 2008	May 2008	June 2007	May to June 2008	June 2007 to June 2008
Unadjusted						
					% change	
All-items	100.00²	115.4	114.6	111.9	0.7	3.1
Food	17.04	115.8	114.6	112.6	1.0	2.8
Shelter	26.62	122.3	121.6	116.8	0.6	4.7
Household operations and furnishings	11.10	104.3	104.3	103.0	0.0	1.3
Clothing and footwear	5.36	92.5	93.0	93.1	-0.5	-0.6
Transportation	19.88	125.8	123.6	119.2	1.8	5.5
Health and personal care	4.73	108.7	108.6	107.9	0.1	0.7
Recreation, education and reading	12.20	102.9	102.9	102.5	0.0	0.4
Alcoholic beverages and tobacco products	3.07	127.7	127.4	125.7	0.2	1.6
All-items (1992=100)		137.3	136.4	133.2	0.7	3.1
Special aggregates						
Goods	48.78	111.6	110.4	108.9	1.1	2.5
Services	51.22	119.1	118.7	114.8	0.3	3.7
All-items excluding food and energy	73.57	110.3	110.3	109.0	0.0	1.2
Energy	9.38	165.3	158.4	140.1	4.4	18.0
Core CPI ³	82.71	111.6	111.5	109.9	0.1	1.5

1. 2005 CPI basket weights at April 2007 prices, Canada, Effective May 2007. Detailed weights are available under the Documentation section of survey 2301 (www.statcan.ca/english/sdds/index.htm).
2. Figures may not add to 100% due to rounding.
3. The measure of Core Consumer Price Index (CPI) excludes from the All-items CPI the effect of changes in indirect taxes and eight of the most volatile components identified by the Bank of Canada: fruit, fruit preparations and nuts; vegetables and vegetable preparations; mortgage interest cost; natural gas; fuel oil and other fuel; gasoline; inter-city transportation; and tobacco products and smokers' supplies. For additional information on Core CPI, consult the Bank of Canada website (www.bankofcanada.ca/en/inflation/index.htm).

Consumer Price Index by province, and for Whitehorse, Yellowknife and Iqaluit¹ (2002=100)

	June 2008	May 2008	June 2007	May to June 2008	June 2007 to June 2008
Unadjusted					
				% change	
Newfoundland and Labrador	115.4	114.5	111.9	0.8	3.1
Prince Edward Island	119.5	118.9	114.1	0.5	4.7
Nova Scotia	117.8	117.1	113.0	0.6	4.2
New Brunswick	114.5	113.9	112.1	0.5	2.1
Québec	114.1	113.6	110.7	0.4	3.1
Ontario	114.2	113.6	111.1	0.5	2.8
Manitoba	114.4	113.5	111.7	0.8	2.4
Saskatchewan	117.0	116.2	113.1	0.7	3.4
Alberta	124.0	122.2	118.8	1.5	4.4
British Columbia	113.6	112.8	110.3	0.7	3.0
Whitehorse	114.6	113.6	109.7	0.9	4.5
Yellowknife ²	116.6	115.7	111.6	0.8	4.5
Iqaluit (Dec. 2002=100)	110.5	109.8	108.0	0.6	2.3

1. View the geographical details for the city of Whitehorse, the city of Yellowknife and the town of Iqaluit.
2. Part of the increase first recorded in the shelter index for Yellowknife for December 2004 inadvertently reflected rent increases that actually occurred earlier. As a result, the change in the shelter index was overstated in December 2004, and was understated in the previous two years. The shelter index series for Yellowknife has been corrected from December 2002. In addition, the Yellowknife All-items CPI and some Yellowknife special aggregate index series have also changed. Data for Canada and all other provinces and territories were not affected.

Study: Remittances by recent immigrants

2001 to 2005

Roughly 4 in 10 immigrants who arrived in Canada during 2000/2001 sent money to family or friends abroad at least once during their first four years in the country.

Over the entire period, about 41% of immigrants sent money home at least once. Within 6 to 24 months of landing, 23% of immigrants had sent remittances to their home country; within two to four years after landing, about 29% had done so.

Among those who sent money home, the average amount was \$2,500 in the first period, and \$2,900 in the second period.

The incidence of sending money varied considerably from country to country. The proportion was highest among immigrants from the Philippines and Haiti, and lowest among those from France, the United Kingdom and South Korea.

The likelihood of immigrants remitting depended on three additional factors — their income, family obligations in Canada and abroad and demographics.

According to World Bank figures for 2004, remittances represent an important source of revenue for people in developing countries. They accounted for about 20% to 30% of gross domestic product (GDP) in countries such as Haiti, Lesotho and Jordan, and for about 10% to 19% in several others, such as Jamaica, the Philippines and the Dominican Republic.

Remittance behaviour varies by region of birth

The practice of sending remittances varied widely by regions of the globe. Over half of immigrants from Southeast Asia and the Caribbean and Guyana sent remittances home two to four years after landing, compared with about 40% of those from sub-Saharan Africa and Eastern Europe.

About one-quarter of the respondents from South Asia and Central and South America sent remittances during this period. About one-fifth of those from East Asia or West Asia, the Middle East and North Africa did so.

Average amounts sent also differed. Two to four years after landing, immigrants from East Asia sent \$3,900, whereas immigrants from the Caribbean and Guyana sent \$1,600.

The incidence of remitting was highest among those from countries with lower GDP per capita. Around 36% of immigrants from countries with per capita GDP of less than \$4,000 sent money home, compared with only 11% from countries with per capita GDP of \$15,000 or more.

The variation was particularly striking by country of birth. Some 60% of immigrants from the Philippines and

Note to readers

Data for this study came from the Longitudinal Survey of Immigrants to Canada (LSIC).

The study, published today in the Analytical Studies Branch Research Paper Series, used data from the LSIC to document the incidence of remitting, amounts and the characteristics of the people who sent money home. A shorter version appears in Perspectives on Labour and Income.

The survey was conducted jointly by Statistics Canada and Citizenship and Immigration Canada. It followed one group of immigrant, those aged 15 or older who arrived in Canada between October 1, 2000 and September 30, 2001, over a four-year period.

The group was interviewed three times: six months after their arrival, two years after arrival and four years after arrival. About 7,700 of the original panel of 12,000 responded to all three questionnaires. These respondents were a representative sample of 157,600 new immigrants: 104,400 in the economic class, 42,600 in the family class and 9,700 refugees.

Because the study focused on immigrants who arrived in Canada during 2000/2001, its results cannot be generalized to all immigrants.

Haiti sent remittances two to four years after landing. About 40% to 50% of immigrants from Jamaica, Nigeria, Romania, Guyana and Ukraine sent money. However, less than 10% of immigrants from France, the United Kingdom and South Korea, all industrialized nations, did so.

Economic-class immigrants send larger amounts

In general, immigrants enter Canada under three main classes: economic, family or refugee. Economic-class immigrants made up two-thirds of those included in the Longitudinal Survey of Immigrants to Canada.

About 30% of immigrants in all three categories made remittances between two and four years after landing. Among those who did, economic immigrants sent \$3,000 on average, compared with \$2,700 for family class immigrants and \$1,900 for refugees.

Immigrants who had family incomes of \$70,000 or more were more than three times as likely to send money home as those with family incomes of less than \$10,000.

In addition, the amount sent by immigrants in families with incomes of \$70,000 or more was about 45% higher than the amount for those with incomes of \$25,000 to \$44,999.

Demographic characteristics

Immigrants with three or more children at home were far less likely to send money abroad than those with no children.

There were also other demographic factors. For example, women sent about 12% less than men. Also,

immigrants aged from 25 to 44 were far more likely to send money abroad, and far higher amounts, than those in younger or older age groups.

The study "Remittance behaviours among recent immigrants in Canada" is now available as part of the *Analytical Studies Branch Research Paper Series* (11F0019MIE2008312, free) from the *Analytical Studies* module of our website. The abridged version "Remittances by recent immigrants" is now available in the July 2008 issue of *Perspectives on Labour and Income* (75-001-XWE, free), from the *Publications* module of our website.

Related studies from the Business and Labour Market Analysis Division can be found in *Update on Analytical Studies Research* (11-015-XIE, free), which is also available from the *Publications* module our website.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this article, contact Grant Schellenberg (613-951-9580; grant.schellenberg@statcan.ca), Business and Labour Market Analysis Division. ■

Farm Product Price Index

May 2008

Prices farmers received for their commodities rose 14.1% in May 2008 from the same month a year earlier, as significant gains in crop prices offset declines in livestock prices.

Prices that producers received for crops were up 40.2% in May compared with May 2007, continuing double-digit increases which began in November 2006. Farmers received higher prices for all crops except fruit.

On the other hand, prices for livestock and animal products in May were 3.6% below their May 2007 level, the ninth consecutive year-over-year decline as cattle and hog prices continued to fall. Hog, cattle and calf prices have posted 12 months of year-over-year decreases. For the last nine months, those declines have been double-digit for hog prices.

On a monthly basis, prices farmers received for their commodities were up 2.7% in May from April 2008, as both the livestock and animal products index and the crops index recorded increases.

The Farm Product Price Index stood at 121.3 (1997=100) in May, up from the April index of 118.1.

The overall livestock and animal products index rose 6.6% in May compared with the April index, as all commodities recorded increases. The cattle and calf index increased 4.3% in May and has risen over 15% since January.

Rising feed grain prices and a strong Canadian dollar have pressured hog prices in recent months. However, the hog index rose 26.0% in May from April, as export demand increased. Hog exports were up 20% over last year for the first four months of 2008.

The total crops index was 143.3 in May, edging up over the April level of 142.6, as all commodities increased except potatoes.

Continued demand and uncertainty over new crop supplies helped maintain grain and oilseed prices at record levels. Crop reports put seeding in Canada as progressing well. However, cool wet weather had raised concerns over delayed spring seeding in the United States. Dry areas in the Canadian Prairies also raised concerns on the upcoming growing season and production.

Note: The month-to-month growth rate of the total FPPI is not a weighted average of the monthly growth rates of its crop and livestock components. The growth rate of the total FPPI is derived from a weighted average of the component indices using a different set of weights in consecutive months. Given this, the growth rate of the composite FPPI can lie outside the growth rate of the components.

Available on CANSIM: tables 002-0021 and 002-0022.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 5040.

The May 2008 issue of *Farm Product Price Index*, Vol. 8, no. 5 (21-007-XWE, free), is now available from the *Publications* module on our website. Under *Free Internet publications*, choose *Agriculture*.

For more information or to order data, call Client Services (toll-free 1-800-465-1991). To enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Gail-Ann Breese (204-983-3445; fax: 204-983-7543; gail-ann.breese@statcan.ca), Agriculture Division. □

Farm Product Price Index

	May 2007 ^r	April 2008 ^r	May 2008 ^p	May 2007 to May 2008	April to May 2008
	(1997=100)			% change	
Farm Product Price Index	106.3	118.1	121.3	14.1	2.7
Crops	102.2	142.6	143.3	40.2	0.5
Grains	105.0	167.8	173.3	65.0	3.3
Oilseeds	92.5	142.1	148.5	60.5	4.5
Specialty crops	121.5	191.9	199.2	64.0	3.8
Fruit	127.8	121.1	123.1	-3.7	1.7
Vegetables	113.0	113.1	114.0	0.9	0.8
Potatoes	124.9	139.2	135.3	8.3	-2.8
Livestock and animal products	110.1	99.5	106.1	-3.6	6.6
Cattle and calves	114.0	99.1	103.4	-9.3	4.3
Hogs	82.4	58.5	73.7	-10.6	26.0
Poultry	103.7	111.6	112.8	8.8	1.1
Eggs	100.4	105.7	106.4	6.0	0.7
Dairy	134.9	134.9	138.1	2.4	2.4

^r revised
^p preliminary

Railway carloadings May 2008

The Canadian railway industry saw a decline in its loadings for the month of May for the first time in four years, as loadings for the majority of the commodity classifications decreased.

Railways loaded 24.3 million metric tonnes of freight in May, a 6.1% decline from May 2007 levels. The drop in loadings was entirely attributable to a decrease in non-intermodal loadings.

Compared with the same month last year, non-intermodal loadings decreased 6.9% to 21.7 million metric tonnes. The decrease in loadings was widespread, as 41 out of the 64 commodity classifications saw a decline in loadings. Among those in decline were four of the five largest commodity classifications by tonnage: wheat, coal, potash and lumber.

The drop in loadings for these four principal commodity classifications was the result of decreased demand inside and outside of Canada. For lumber, in particular, loadings were at their lowest level for the month of May since 1999, as the forest industry continues to face a weak housing market in the United States.

In contrast to the decline in non-intermodal loadings, intermodal loadings increased 2.2% over May 2007 to 2.5 million metric tonnes.

The rise in intermodal loadings was attributable to a rise in both the amount of containers and trailers loaded

on flat cars received from connections in Canada and the United States. For the month, container loadings increased 3.5% from May 2007 to over 157,000 units, while trailer loadings increased 12.9% to more than 7,000 units.

Rail freight traffic coming from the United States also increased on a year-over-year basis, with freight traffic increasing 4.6% to 2.8 million metric tonnes.

Available on CANSIM: table 404-0002.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2732.

The May 2008 issue of *Monthly Railway Carloadings Survey*, Vol. 85, no. 5 (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.

Study: Portrait of the mobility of Canadians in 2006: Trajectories and characteristics of migrants 2006

The study, "Portrait of the mobility of Canadians in 2006: Trajectories and characteristics of migrants" published today in the new edition of the *Report*

on the *Demographic Situation in Canada*, presents, on the one hand, an overview of the migratory movements in Canada during the last intercensal period and, on the other hand, an in-depth analysis of the socio-demographic characteristics of migrants enumerated in the 2006 Census.

First, the major internal migration movements are described at various geographic levels: interprovincial migration, migration in the census metropolitan areas and migration in rural areas. The results show some phenomena that have marked the 2001 to 2006 intercensal period, such as the overall decline in mobility, the attraction exercised by Alberta, the urban expansion and the outflow of young people from rural areas.

Second, various migrant characteristics are examined using a multivariate statistical model including several types of destination. The results help better understand the socio-demographic characteristics associated with mobility, such as age, marital status, education, family structure or immigrant status, while providing variations by type of destinations.

Note: This article is based on data from the 2006 Census.

The article, "Portrait of the mobility of Canadians in 2006: Trajectories and characteristics of migrants" is now available in the *Report on the Demographic Situation in Canada*, 2005 and 2006 (91-209-XIE, free), from the *Publications* module of our website.

For more information, 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; demography@statcan.ca), Demography Division. ■

Supply and disposition of refined petroleum products

April 2008

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

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

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2150.

The April 2008 issue of *The Supply and Disposition of Refined Petroleum Products in Canada*, Vol. 63, no. 4 (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 the Marketing and Dissemination Section (613-951-9497; toll-free 1-866-873-8789; energ@statcan.ca), Manufacturing and Energy Division. ■

New products

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in Canada", no. 312
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Products in Canada, April 2008, Vol. 63, no. 4
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Thematic Maps, Census year 2006 (update)
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Components of Migration (In- and Out-) (7),
Mother Tongue (8), Age Groups (17B) and Sex (3)
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