

# The Daily

## Statistics Canada

**Tuesday, August 19, 2008**

Released at 8:30 a.m. Eastern time

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Current dollar wholesale sales rose 2.0% to \$45.2 billion in June, the fifth increase in six months. After removing the effect of price changes, sales in constant dollars increased 1.0% during the month.	
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#### Canadian Business Patterns

June 2008

The CD-ROM *Canadian Business Patterns* provides counts of active establishments by various geography levels, industry classification and employment size.

*Canadian Business Patterns* (CBP) is compiled from the Business Register, which is a repository of information on the Canadian business population.

Nationally, there were 2,386,313 active establishments recorded for June 2008. Data from the CBP are available on CD-ROM. They are presented by the 2006 Standard Geographical Classification, the North American Industry Classification System (NAICS 2007), and by employment categories.

The Standard Geographical Classification has changed from the 2001 version to the 2006 version.

The June 2008 edition of the CD-ROM *Canadian Business Patterns* (61F0040XCB) is now available. The cost varies between \$150 and \$2,000 depending on the number of tables or cells. See *How to order products*.

For more information, contact Todd Hahn (613-951-6705; [BRDinfoDRE@statcan.gc.ca](mailto:BRDinfoDRE@statcan.gc.ca)) or Alex Côté (613-951-0829), Business Register Division.



## Releases

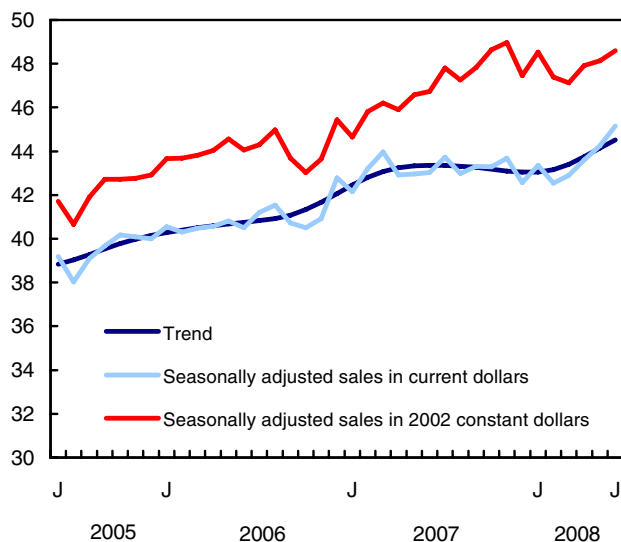
### Wholesale trade

June 2008

Current dollar wholesale sales rose 2.0% to \$45.2 billion in June, the fifth increase in six months. After removing the effect of price changes, sales in constant dollars increased 1.0% during the month.

#### Auto sector boosts wholesale sales in June

\$ billions



June's increase of 2.0% was largely a result of higher demand for automotive products. Sales excluding the automotive sector rose 0.4%.

Overall, six of the seven wholesale sectors reported higher sales in June. The only decline came in the "other products" sector, which had posted a substantial increase in May.

The trend for current dollar wholesale sales has been gradually rising over the past four months. This followed a period of little or no growth that began in mid-2007, which was largely the result of a slowdown in exports of motor vehicles and lumber.

#### Strong month for automotive sector

Following declines in five of the previous six months, sales in the automotive products sector increased 10.6%

#### Note to readers

Constant dollar wholesale sales are calculated by deflating current dollar values using import and industry product price indexes. Since many of the goods sold by wholesalers are imported, fluctuations in the value of the Canadian dollar can lead to differences between the levels and growth rates when compared to similar estimates presented in current dollars.

The constant dollar wholesale sales series is a chained Fisher volume estimate with 2002 as the reference year.

in June to \$7.8 billion. This was the sector's largest monthly increase since August 2005.

Sales of motor vehicles were particularly strong, rising 11.9%, while demand for motor vehicle parts and accessories grew 6.0%. Nevertheless, sales of motor vehicles remained substantially below the peak reached in March 2007.

#### Ontario benefits from increase in automotive sales

The increase in the automotive sector gave a boost to Ontario, where sales rose 4.2% in June to \$22.6 billion. This was the fourth consecutive rise in monthly sales in the province, which accounts for around three-quarters of all sales in the automotive sector.

The other notable gain came in Saskatchewan, where sales also increased (+3.8%) for a fourth consecutive month. Higher demand for farm machinery and equipment was behind much of the rise.

Alberta posted the only significant drop (-3.4%) in June, the province's first decline this year. Lower sales in the farm product, automotive and "other products" sectors were the main contributors.

#### Widespread increase in inventories

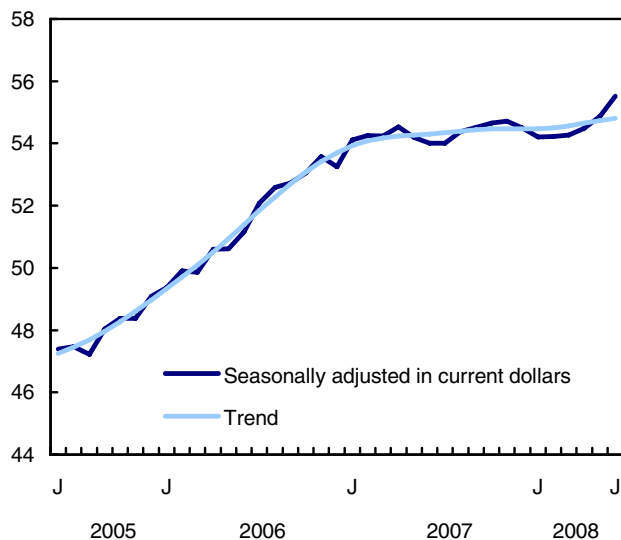
All trade groups apart from building supplies reported higher inventory levels in June. Wholesale inventories rose 1.2% to \$55.5 billion, the fourth consecutive monthly increase and the largest rise since January 2007.

Nevertheless, with sales rising at a faster pace in June, the inventory-to-sales ratio declined for a third consecutive month, from 1.24 in May to 1.23 in June. This was its lowest level since March 2007.

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### Widespread increase in inventories

\$ billions



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

**Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2401.**

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

Wholesale trade estimates for July will be released on September 18.

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

□

## Wholesale merchants' inventories and inventory-to-sales ratio

	June 2007	March 2008 <sup>r</sup>	April 2008 <sup>r</sup>	May 2008 <sup>r</sup>	June 2008 <sup>p</sup>	May to June 2008	June 2007 to June 2008	May 2008 <sup>r</sup>	June 2008 <sup>p</sup>
	Wholesale inventories						Inventory-to-sales ratio		
	Seasonally adjusted								
	\$ millions					% change			
<b>Inventories</b>	<b>54,011</b>	<b>54,274</b>	<b>54,491</b>	<b>54,872</b>	<b>55,512</b>	<b>1.2</b>	<b>2.8</b>	<b>1.24</b>	<b>1.23</b>
Farm products	200	166	180	174	184	5.3	-8.1	0.38	0.39
Food products	4,177	4,360	4,327	4,370	4,411	0.9	5.6	0.63	0.62
Alcohol and tobacco	298	355	348	340	356	4.6	19.7	0.50	0.50
Apparel	1,685	1,764	1,748	1,768	1,808	2.3	7.3	2.21	2.26
Household and personal products	3,904	4,089	4,056	4,110	4,166	1.4	6.7	1.47	1.46
Pharmaceuticals	3,496	3,556	3,800	3,802	3,877	2.0	10.9	1.20	1.19
Motor vehicles	4,668	4,345	4,319	4,239	4,319	1.9	-7.5	0.76	0.69
Motor vehicle parts and accessories	3,320	3,264	3,249	3,283	3,344	1.9	0.7	2.16	2.07
Building supplies	5,888	5,912	5,947	5,986	5,957	-0.5	1.2	1.59	1.58
Metal products	3,049	2,787	2,797	2,815	2,897	2.9	-5.0	1.83	1.77
Lumber and millwork	1,251	1,067	1,108	1,085	1,095	0.9	-12.5	1.14	1.18
Machinery and equipment	11,699	11,575	11,458	11,551	11,586	0.3	-1.0	2.39	2.36
Computer and other electronic equipment	1,718	1,647	1,705	1,712	1,730	1.1	0.7	0.60	0.62
Office and professional equipment	2,609	2,706	2,662	2,729	2,805	2.8	7.5	1.35	1.39
Other products	6,051	6,682	6,786	6,908	6,976	1.0	15.3	1.08	1.15

<sup>r</sup> revised

<sup>p</sup> preliminary

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

## Wholesale merchants' sales

	June 2007	March 2008 <sup>r</sup>	April 2008 <sup>r</sup>	May 2008 <sup>r</sup>	June 2008 <sup>p</sup>	May to June 2008	June 2007 to June 2008
Seasonally adjusted							
	\$ millions					% change	
<b>Total, wholesale sales</b>	<b>43,019</b>	<b>42,889</b>	<b>43,588</b>	<b>44,251</b>	<b>45,151</b>	<b>2.0</b>	<b>5.0</b>
<b>Farm products</b>	<b>482</b>	<b>454</b>	<b>444</b>	<b>462</b>	<b>465</b>	<b>0.5</b>	<b>-3.6</b>
<b>Food, beverages and tobacco products</b>	<b>7,427</b>	<b>7,476</b>	<b>7,553</b>	<b>7,603</b>	<b>7,811</b>	<b>2.7</b>	<b>5.2</b>
Food products	6,787	6,797	6,891	6,920	7,104	2.7	4.7
Alcohol and tobacco	640	679	662	683	707	3.4	10.5
<b>Personal and household goods</b>	<b>6,347</b>	<b>6,463</b>	<b>6,684</b>	<b>6,779</b>	<b>6,893</b>	<b>1.7</b>	<b>8.6</b>
Apparel	771	747	790	802	800	-0.2	3.7
Household and personal products	2,730	2,717	2,722	2,799	2,848	1.7	4.3
Pharmaceuticals	2,846	2,999	3,172	3,178	3,245	2.1	14.0
<b>Automotive products</b>	<b>7,875</b>	<b>7,167</b>	<b>7,158</b>	<b>7,080</b>	<b>7,832</b>	<b>10.6</b>	<b>-0.5</b>
Motor vehicles	6,327	5,623	5,605	5,558	6,219	11.9	-1.7
Motor vehicle parts and accessories	1,548	1,544	1,553	1,522	1,613	6.0	4.2
<b>Building materials</b>	<b>6,377</b>	<b>6,121</b>	<b>6,215</b>	<b>6,244</b>	<b>6,335</b>	<b>1.5</b>	<b>-0.7</b>
Building supplies	3,774	3,742	3,735	3,757	3,769	0.3	-0.1
Metal products	1,467	1,483	1,558	1,538	1,636	6.4	11.5
Lumber and millwork	1,136	896	922	950	930	-2.1	-18.1
<b>Machinery and electronic equipment</b>	<b>9,245</b>	<b>9,477</b>	<b>9,678</b>	<b>9,690</b>	<b>9,728</b>	<b>0.4</b>	<b>5.2</b>
Machinery and equipment	4,533	4,808	4,813	4,834	4,909	1.6	8.3
Computer and other electronic equipment	2,677	2,637	2,818	2,831	2,808	-0.8	4.9
Office and professional equipment	2,035	2,032	2,047	2,026	2,012	-0.7	-1.1
<b>Other products</b>	<b>5,265</b>	<b>5,731</b>	<b>5,856</b>	<b>6,392</b>	<b>6,086</b>	<b>-4.8</b>	<b>15.6</b>
<b>Total, excluding automobiles</b>	<b>35,144</b>	<b>35,722</b>	<b>36,430</b>	<b>37,171</b>	<b>37,319</b>	<b>0.4</b>	<b>6.2</b>
<b>Sales, province and territory</b>							
Newfoundland and Labrador	259	261	259	266	269	1.2	3.9
Prince Edward Island	40	40	40	42	42	0.7	6.2
Nova Scotia	555	577	591	596	597	0.2	7.7
New Brunswick	421	425	429	439	439	-0.1	4.1
Quebec	8,029	8,069	8,094	8,196	8,284	1.1	3.2
Ontario	21,796	21,059	21,480	21,679	22,591	4.2	3.6
Manitoba	1,026	1,062	1,075	1,089	1,096	0.7	6.8
Saskatchewan	1,142	1,593	1,605	1,691	1,755	3.8	53.7
Alberta	5,127	5,440	5,470	5,763	5,567	-3.4	8.6
British Columbia	4,554	4,293	4,450	4,414	4,430	0.4	-2.7
Yukon	10	12	14	12	13	9.2	31.0
Northwest Territories	57	57	76	59	58	-1.7	3.2
Nunavut	3	2	3	4	8	88.5	185.7

<sup>r</sup> revised

<sup>p</sup> preliminary

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

## Livestock estimates

As of July 1, 2008

Farm inventories of hogs declined 11.6% between July 2007 and July 2008, while smaller declines were seen in stocks of both cattle and sheep over the same period. Rising feed costs were a significant contributing factor to these declines.

### Hog inventories continue to decline

Hog inventories have declined to levels not seen since 2000, as soft slaughter prices and high feed costs continued to be prevalent in the hog industry.

As the hog industry continued its transition, farmers reported 13.0 million hogs on their farms as of July 1, 2008, down 11.6% from one year ago.

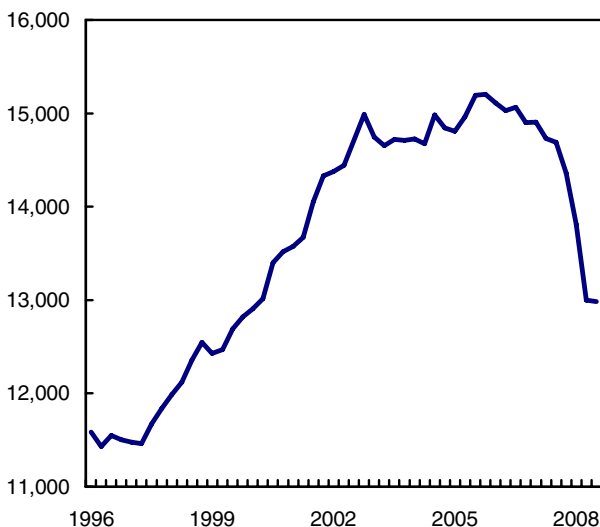
With low profit margins, farmers are leaving the industry. There were 19% fewer hog producers in the country compared with a year ago, led by Saskatchewan (-30%) and Alberta (-24%).

Domestic slaughter was up 1.4% compared with last year, as some slaughter plants increased capacity by adding a second shift.

Canadian hog exports declined in the second quarter of 2008 to approximately 2.2 million hogs, which marks the first quarterly decrease in more than a year.

### Hog inventories trend down

thousands of head



### Cattle herd contracts

Canadian farmers reported a cattle and calf inventory of 15.2 million head, a decline of 4.3% from last year and continuing the downward trend that started in 2006. The beef herd and the dairy herd declined by 4.8% and 1.2% respectively.

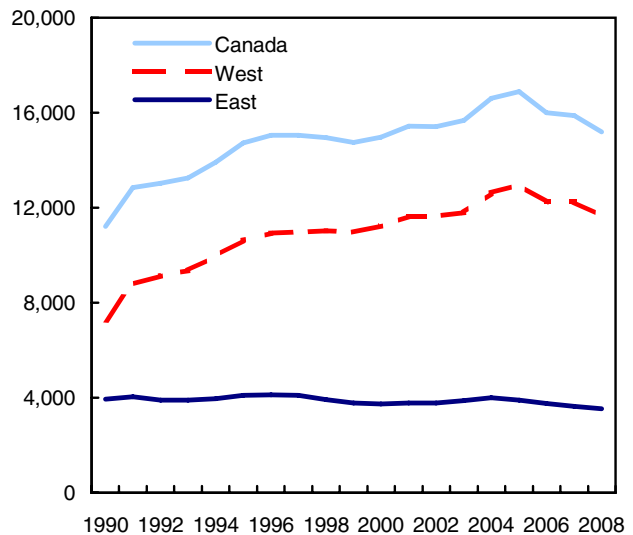
The beef cow inventory was down 4.7% and the number of calves born decreased 4.8% from a year ago, despite an improving calving rate since the bovine spongiform encephalopathy crisis in 2003.

With the increase in coarse grain prices, the number of cattle on feeding operations has declined 12.3% since last summer. Over the past two years, the number of farms reporting cattle and calves has stabilized around 107,000 operations, following a loss of 8,500 cattle farms during the previous three years.

There are no signs of herd rebuilding as beef heifers for breeding replacement were down 2.0% from the same time last year.

### Cattle inventories drop

thousands of head



## Sheep inventories lower

Farmers reported 1.1 million sheep and lambs, 3.1% lower than last year and continuing a downward trend that began in 2003.

## Livestock inventories at July 1

	2007	2008	2007	2008	2007	2008
	Cattle		Hogs		Sheep	
	thousands of head					
Canada	15,885	15,195	14,690	12,985	1,096	1 062
Atlantic	289	280	299	181	43	41
Quebec	1,395	1,375	4,120	4,000	295	290
Ontario	1,956	1,880	3,887	3,239	305	295
Manitoba	1,540	1,515	2,965	2,725	70	66
Saskatchewan	3,430	3,385	1,320	1,070	120	125
Alberta	6,470	6,010	1,970	1,650	205	185
British Columbia	805	750	129	120	58	60

**Note:** Figures may not add up to totals because of rounding.

Available on CANSIM: tables 003-0004, 003-0026, 003-0028, 003-0030 to 003-0032 and 003-0083 to 003-0093.

**Definitions, data sources and methods:** survey number 3460.

The reports *Cattle Statistics*, 2008, Vol. 7, no. 3 (23-012-XWE, free), *Hog Statistics*, Vol. 7, no. 2 (23-010-XWE, free) and *Sheep Statistics*, 2008, Vol. 7, no. 2 (23-011-XIE, free), are now available online. From the *Publications* module of our website, under *Free Internet publications*, choose *Agriculture*.

For more information, contact Client Services (toll-free 1-800-465-1991). To enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Robert Plourde (613-951-8716; [robert.plourde@statcan.gc.ca](mailto:robert.plourde@statcan.gc.ca)), Agriculture Division. ■

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## Refined petroleum products

June 2008 (preliminary)

Data on the production, inventories and domestic sales of refined petroleum products are now available for June. 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.gc.ca](mailto:energ@statcan.gc.ca)), Manufacturing and Energy Division. ■

## Primary iron and steel

June 2008

Data on primary iron and steel are now available for June.

**Available on CANSIM: tables 303-0048 to 303-0051.**

**Definitions, data sources and methods: survey numbers, including related surveys, 2116 and 2184.**

The June 2008 issue of *Steel, Tubular Products and Steel Wire* (41-019-XWE, free) will soon be available.

For 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.gc.ca](mailto:manufact@statcan.gc.ca)), Manufacturing and Energy Division. ■

## Annual Survey of Manufactures and Logging: Products consumed and produced by manufacturing industries 2006

Data on products consumed and produced by manufacturing industries for Canada, the provinces and the North are now available for 2006. This information is collected using the Annual Survey of Manufactures and Logging.

**Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2103.**

To order data, 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; [manufact@statcan.gc.ca](mailto:manufact@statcan.gc.ca)), Manufacturing and Energy Division. ■



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## New products

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**Hog Statistics**, Vol. 7, no. 3  
**Catalogue number 23-010-XWE**  
(free).

**Sheep Statistics**, 2008, Vol. 7, no. 2  
**Catalogue number 23-011-XIE**  
(free).

**Cattle Statistics**, 2008, Vol. 7, no. 2  
**Catalogue number 23-012-XWE**  
(free).

**Canadian Business Patterns**, June 2008  
**Catalogue number 61F0040XCB**  
(various prices).

**Canada's International Transactions in Securities**,  
June 2008, Vol. 74, no. 6  
**Catalogue number 67-002-XWE**  
(free).

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

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Catalogue 11-001-XIE (English) 11-001-XIE-0001-0001-0001

# The Daily

Statistics Canada

Thursday, May 29, 2008  
Released at 9:30 a.m. Eastern time

## Releases

Canada's balance of international payments, first quarter 2008	2
<small>The current account surplus with the rest of the world (on a seasonally adjusted basis) increased sharply to \$5.0 billion in the first quarter of 2008, led by higher prices for several exported commodities compared with a lower level of oil. In the financial account, foreign direct investment flows into Canada slowed significantly from the expansion-driven pace of the previous quarter, while Canadian direct investment abroad continued to strengthen.</small>	
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## 2006 Census profiles

While the majority of the census 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 (links vary for different geography levels), contact Statistics Canada's National Contact Centre.

## Statistics Canada's official release bulletin

Catalogue 11-001-XIE.

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