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## Releases

Canada's balance of international payments, second quarter 20082The current account surplus with the rest of the world (on a seasonally adjusted basis) expandedfurther in the second quarter of 2008, led by higher prices for several exported commodities. Inthe financial account, Canadian investors continued to shy away from foreign debt instruments infavour of equity, while there was strong foreign demand for Canadian bonds.
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## Releases

## Canada's balance of international payments

Second quarter 2008
The current account surplus with the rest of the world (on a seasonally adjusted basis) expanded further to $\$ 6.8$ billion in the second quarter of 2008 , led by exports of goods. These gains were mainly attributable to higher prices for several exported commodities, which pushed the goods surplus to $\$ 16.4$ billion. Transactions in services and investment income had a dampening effect on the increase in the current account balance in the second quarter.

Goods and other current account balances


Net transactions in the capital and financial account (unadjusted for seasonal variation) were more subdued than in several previous quarters, with outflows of funds exceeding inflows. There was strong foreign demand for Canadian securities, in particular bonds, while foreign direct investment into Canada slowed significantly. For their part, Canadian investors continued to shy away from foreign debt instruments in favour of equity, while Canadian direct investment and other investment flows moderated.

## Note to readers

The balance of payments covers all economic transactions between Canadian residents and non-residents, in two accounts - the current account and the capital and financial account.

The current account covers transactions in goods, services, investment income and current transfers. Exports and interest income are examples of receipts, while imports and interest expense are payments. The overall balance of receipts and payments is Canada's current account surplus or deficit.

The capital and financial account is mainly composed of transactions in financial instruments. Financial assets and liabilities with non-residents are presented in three functional classes: direct investment, portfolio investment and all other types of investment. These flows arise from financial activities of either Canadian residents (foreign assets of Canadian investors) or non-residents (Canadian liabilities to foreign investors). Transactions resulting in capital inflows to Canada are presented as positive values while those giving rise to capital outflows from Canada are shown as negative values.

In principle, a current account surplus corresponds to an equivalent net outflow in the capital and financial account; and, a current account deficit corresponds to an equivalent net inflow in the capital and financial account. In other words, the two accounts should add to zero. In practice, as data are compiled from multiple sources, this is rarely the case and gives rise to measurement error. The statistical discrepancy is the unobserved net inflow or outflow.

## Goods surplus buoyed by higher commodity prices

The increase in the value of exports exceeded that of imports for the second consecutive quarter. As a result, the second quarter 2008 surplus on goods was the largest since the fourth quarter of 2005.

Once again, accelerating energy prices were the main factor behind the strength in the value of sales of goods to other countries. Despite a marginal decline in volumes, export values for crude petroleum were up $\$ 3.0$ billion on strong price gains (+25\%).

The increase in the value of exports of natural gas arose from sharply higher gas prices ( $+33 \%$ ), as volumes declined $14 \%$. Export values for coal more than doubled in the second quarter, due to high international demand, which influenced both prices and volumes. Exports of forestry products advanced modestly for the first time since 2005, driven by price gains.

Automotive products continued to decrease despite higher exports of passenger autos. This was the fifth consecutive drop in foreign sales of automotive products,
bringing these values to the lowest levels since the fourth quarter of 1996.

Export of energy products


Imports of goods rose at a faster clip than in the first quarter. Nearly half of the increase came from higher imports of crude petroleum, through a combination of higher prices and volumes.

## Services deficit increases, moderated by travel

The services deficit edged up, moderated by travel in the second quarter. During the first half of 2008, Canadians' travel expenditures in the United States, which accounts for about $55 \%$ of total travel spending, declined. After a record high in the fourth quarter of 2007, the travel deficit with the United States shrank for the second consecutive quarter, although the reduction was marginal in the second quarter.

The deficits on commercial services and, to a lesser extent, on transportation widened during the second quarter. Larger payments to foreign providers of financial and transportation services were key contributors to these higher deficits.

## The deficit on investment income is up

During the second quarter of 2008, the investment income deficit was up, as payments to non-residents
increased more than receipts from abroad. Both profits earned by foreigners on direct investment in Canada and by Canadians on their direct investment abroad strongly increased during the second quarter.

Lower interest receipts on some foreign currency-dominated assets pushed down the revenues from other investment. While higher interest payments on Canadian bonds were in line with the strength in the foreign purchases of Canadian bonds in recent quarters, higher interest receipts on foreign securities reflected changes in yields.

## Foreign demand for Canadian securities reaches high

Non-residents' investment in Canadian securities amounted to an unprecedented $\$ 27.6$ billion during the second quarter and was dominated by investment in debt instruments. Canadian issuers, largely private corporations and federal government enterprises, were active on global debt markets, and foreign acquisitions of Canadian bonds ( $\$ 19.6$ billion) reflected this. At the same time, the demand for Canadian money market instruments rebounded ( $\$ 2.7$ billion), split between federal and provincial government paper.

Foreign portfolio investment in Canada


Foreign acquisitions of Canadian stocks ( $\$ 5.4$ billion) were up for a second consecutive quarter. The Canadian equity market was the only major world market to post a year-to-date gain at the end of June, boosted by higher energy and commodity prices.

## Direct investment in Canada lowest in three years

Foreign direct investment activity in Canada slowed substantially in the second quarter ( $\$ 4.7$ billion), as the strong pace of the last several quarters was not sustained. Acquisitions of Canadian firms by foreign direct investors were negligible in the second quarter, after decelerating in the first quarter. Investment flows in the quarter were comprised of reinvested earnings from operations of affiliates in Canada, with about half accounted for in the Canadian energy and metallic minerals sector.

## Canadian direct investment abroad loses steam, but outpaces inward investment

Canadian direct investment abroad (\$11.7 billion) was about half of the outflows recorded for the first quarter. Investment flows into foreign economies resulted from foreign acquisitions by Canadian corporations as well as from higher profits earned and re-invested in affiliates operating abroad. Nearly half of the outward investment in the second quarter was directed to the finance and insurance sector.

Despite losing steam, Canadian direct investment abroad outpaced foreign direct investment in Canada for a second consecutive quarter. This resulted in a net outflow in the direct investment account of $\$ 7.1$ billion in the second quarter.

## Canadian investors continue to favour foreign equities over debt instruments

Canadians acquired $\$ 2.9$ billion of foreign securities in the second quarter, a slowdown compared with previous quarters. Domestic holdings of foreign debt instruments narrowed while Canadians have now added foreign shares to their portfolios for 21 consecutive quarters ( $\$ 4.8$ billion), mainly non-US shares.


Most of the divestment in the second quarter came from net sales of foreign paper and net retirements of maple bonds, the Canadian dollar-denominated foreign bonds. The first half of 2008, with a reduction in holdings of $\$ 1.4$ billion in foreign debt instruments, stands in contrast to the substantial net investment over the same period in 2007 before the impact of the global credit turmoil.

Available on CANSIM: tables 376-0001 to 376-0017 and 376-0035.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey numbers, including related surveys, 1534, 1535, 1536 and 1537.

The second quarter 2008 issue of Canada's Balance of International Payments (67-001-XWE, free) will be available soon.

The balance of international payments data for the third quarter of 2008 will be released on November 28.

For general information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Client Services (613-951-1855; infobalance@statcan.gc.ca), Balance of Payments Division.

Balance of payments


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## Current account



## Machinery and equipment price indexes

Second quarter 2008
The Machinery and Equipment Price Index (MEPI) stood at 86.2 (1997=100) in the second quarter, up $0.8 \%$ from the previous quarter. The import component index rose $1.3 \%$, while the domestic index edged up $0.1 \%$. Compared with the second quarter of 2007, the total MEPI was down $3.5 \%$, as the import index decreased $5.5 \%$ while the domestic index fell $0.2 \%$.

All industries recorded increases in prices of machinery and equipment purchased in the second quarter. The manufacturing sector (+1.4\%) contributed the most to the total MEPI quarterly increase. Among the sector's subcomponents, the largest contributors to the quarterly increase were transportation equipment manufacturing (+1.6\%), paper manufacturing (+1.7\%) and primary metal and fabricated metal product manufacturing (+1.5\%). The second largest contributor to the total quarterly increase was mines, quarries and oil wells (+1.8\%).

Among commodities, price increases for other industry specific machinery (+1.4\%) and mining and
oil and gas field machinery (+2.8\%) were the largest contributors to the quarterly increase.

The US dollar increased 0.59\% against its Canadian counterpart in the second quarter of 2008.

Available on CANSIM: tables 327-0041 and 327-0042.
Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2312.

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 or data quality of this release, contact Client Services (toll-free 1-866-230-2248; 613-951-9606; fax: 613-951-1539; prices-prix@statcan.gc.ca) or Adrian Fisher (613-951-9612; adrian.fisher@statcan.gc.ca), Prices Division.

## Machinery and equipment price indexes

(1997=100)

| Industries | Relative importance | Second quarter $2008^{p}$ | First quarter to second quarter 2008 | Second quarter 2007 to second quarter 2008 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | \% change |  |  |
| Machinery and Equipment Price Index | 100.00 | 86.2 | 0.8 | -3.5 |
| Domestic | 32.03 | 104.1 | 0.1 | -0.2 |
| Imported | 67.97 | 77.7 | 1.3 | -5.5 |
| Crop and animal production | 4.07 | 95.4 | 0.6 | -3.8 |
| Forestry and logging | 0.27 | 94.6 | 0.6 | -4.6 |
| Fishing, hunting and trapping | 0.08 | 106.3 | 0.3 | 0.0 |
| Support activities for agriculture and forestry | 0.10 | 93.4 | 0.5 | -3.7 |
| Mines, quarries and oil wells | 4.26 | 100.3 | 1.8 | -2.0 |
| Utilities | 3.55 | 92.1 | 1.9 | -3.1 |
| Construction | 3.54 | 91.2 | 1.1 | -4.8 |
| All manufacturing | 22.34 | 92.5 | 1.4 | -3.4 |
| Trade | 8.38 | 84.4 | 0.4 | -2.7 |
| Transportation (excluding pipeline transportation) | 7.66 | 98.8 | 0.5 | -3.4 |
| Pipeline transportation | 1.18 | 98.5 | 0.9 | -3.4 |
| Warehousing and storage | 0.26 | 100.0 | 1.5 | -1.7 |
| Finance, insurance and real estate | 19.90 | 78.5 | 0.1 | -4.5 |
| Private education services | 0.12 | 71.5 | 0.8 | -4.3 |
| Education services (excluding private), health care and social assistance | 2.09 | 81.9 | 0.9 | -3.2 |
| Other services (excluding public administration) | 16.39 | 75.0 | 0.5 | -3.5 |
| Public administration | 5.81 | 79.8 | 0.5 | -2.9 |

P preliminary

## Food services and drinking places

June 2008 (preliminary)
Current dollar sales for the food services and drinking places industry totalled $\$ 4.0$ billion in June, down $0.3 \%$
from May. This decline follows sales gains in April and May.

According to the Consumer Price Index, the cost of food purchased from restaurants increased 0.9\% between May and June.

Sales at full-service restaurants (where patrons order and pay for meals at their table) declined $1.0 \%$ in June while sales at limited-service eating places (where meals are ordered and paid for at the counter) were down 0.5\%.

Meanwhile, sales were up at special food services (+3.2\%) and drinking places (+2.6\%) in June.

Among the provinces, Alberta and British Columbia posted the largest sales gains from May. Newfoundland and Labrador and Nova Scotia registered the largest decreases.

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.gc.ca) or Pierre Felx (613-951-0075; pierre.felx @statcan.gc.ca), Service Industries Division.

## Food services and drinking places

|  | $\begin{aligned} & \hline \text { June } \\ & 2007 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { April } \\ & 2008^{r} \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { May } \\ 2008^{\text {r }} \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \hline \text { June } \\ & 2008^{p} \end{aligned}$ | May to June 2008 | June 2007 to June 2008 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Seasonally adjusted |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | \$ thousands |  |  |  | \% change |  |
| Total, food services sales | 3,773,859 | 3,988,116 | 4,021,936 | 4,010,641 | -0.3 | 6.3 |
| Full-service restaurants | 1,717,901 | 1,839,386 | 1,845,845 | 1,826,727 | -1.0 | 6.3 |
| Limited-service eating places | 1,530,597 | 1,628,553 | 1,653,045 | 1,645,347 | -0.5 | 7.5 |
| Special food services | 324,249 | 322,047 | 324,078 | 334,426 | 3.2 | 3.1 |
| Drinking places | 201,112 | 198,130 | 198,968 | 204,141 | 2.6 | 1.5 |
| Provinces and territories |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Newfoundland and Labrador | 44,304 | 46,037 | 46,735 | 44,797 | -4.1 | 1.1 |
| Prince Edward Island | 13,523 | 14,082 | 13,691 | 13,777 | 0.6 | 1.9 |
| Nova Scotia | 92,415 | 101,804 | 103,232 | 97,275 | -5.8 | 5.3 |
| New Brunswick | 66,973 | 70,812 | 70,985 | 70,879 | -0.1 | 5.8 |
| Quebec | 771,089 | 786,136 | 787,057 | 785,593 | -0.2 | 1.9 |
| Ontario | 1,418,395 | 1,539,964 | 1,556,673 | 1,542,613 | -0.9 | 8.8 |
| Manitoba | 106,078 | 115,995 | 115,895 | 113,456 | -2.1 | 7.0 |
| Saskatchewan | 96,287 | 105,029 | 106,772 | 103,678 | -2.9 | 7.7 |
| Alberta | 529,238 | 543,124 | 551,195 | 563,718 | 2.3 | 6.5 |
| British Columbia | 624,710 | 653,920 | 658,165 | 663,967 | 0.9 | 6.3 |
| Yukon | 3,956 | 3,379 | 3,477 | F | F | F |
| Northwest Territories | 6,465 | 7,265 | 7,472 | F | F | F |
| Nunavut | 426 | 569 | 587 | F | F | F |

## revised

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

## Couriers and Messengers Services Price Index

July 2008

The Couriers and Messengers Services Price Index increased 2.0\% to 145.4 (2003=100) in July. The
courier portion rose $2.2 \%$, while the local messenger component advanced 1.0\%.

These indexes are available at the Canada level only.
Note: The Couriers and Messengers Services Price Index 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.

## 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 Client Services (613-951-9606; fax: 613-951-1539; prices-prix@statcan.gc.ca), Prices Division.

## Pipeline transportation of crude oil and refined petroleum products <br> May 2008

Data on the net receipts of crude oil and equivalent hydrocarbons, liquefied petroleum gases and refined petroleum products, pipeline exports of crude oil and deliveries of crude oil by pipeline to Canadian refineries are now available for May.

Available on CANSIM: tables 133-0001 to 133-0005.
Definitions, data sources and methods: survey numbers, including related surveys, 2148 and 2191.

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; energ@statcan.gc.ca), Manufacturing and Energy Division.

## Production and disposition of tobacco products

July 2008
Canadian manufacturers produced 1.3 billion cigarettes in July, down $25.5 \%$ from June. The total number of cigarettes sold increased by $4.1 \%$ to 1.7 billion and closing inventories fell $19.1 \%$ to 1.9 billion cigarettes in July.

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 July 2008 issue of Production and Disposition of Tobacco Products, Vol. 37, no. 7 (32-022-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 officer (613-951-9497; toll-free 1-866-873-8789; manufact@statcan.gc.ca), Manufacturing and Energy Division.

## New products

Production and Disposition of Tobacco Products, July 2008, Vol. 37, no. 7
Catalogue number 32-022-XWE (free).

Surveying and Mapping Services Catalogue number 63-254-XWE (free).

## Consulting Services

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[^0]:    1. A minus sign (-) denotes an outflow of capital resulting from an increase in claims on non-residents or from a decrease in liabilities to non-residents.
    2. Transactions are recorded on a net basis.
