

# The Daily

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## Statistics Canada

Thursday, January 15, 2009

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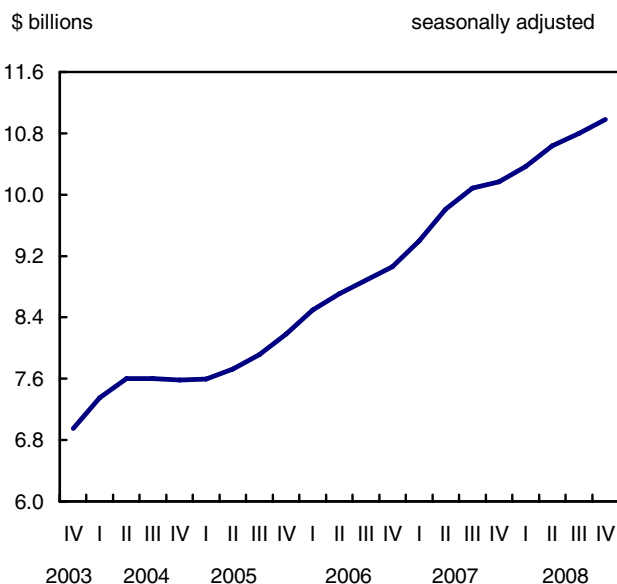
## Releases

### Investment in non-residential building construction

Fourth quarter 2008

Investment in non-residential construction reached \$11.0 billion in current dollars in the fourth quarter of 2008, up 1.7% from the third quarter. In 2002 constant dollars, however, investment was down 1.2% from the third quarter.

#### Investments in non-residential building



The increase in current dollars was mainly the result of rises in institutional and commercial building construction.

Investors spent \$6.8 billion on commercial projects, up 1.5% from the third quarter, while in the institutional component, investment rose 3.7% to \$2.8 billion. Spending in the industrial component declined 1.0% to \$1.4 billion.

All provinces and two territories recorded advances in the fourth quarter. The fastest increases occurred

#### Note to readers

Unless otherwise stated, this release presents seasonally adjusted data, which ease comparisons by removing the effects of seasonal variations.

Investments in constant dollars take into account changes in material and labour construction prices.

Investments in non-residential building construction exclude engineering construction. This series is based on the Building Permits Survey of municipalities, which collects information on construction intentions.

Work put-in-place patterns are assigned to each type of structure (industrial, commercial and institutional). These work patterns are used to distribute the value of building permits according to project length. Work put-in-place patterns differ according to the value of the construction project; a project worth several million dollars will usually take longer to complete than will a project of a few hundred thousand dollars.

Additional data from the capital and repair expenditures surveys are used to create this investment series. Investment in non-residential building data is benchmarked to Statistics Canada's System of National Accounts of non-residential building investment series.

For the purpose of the Investment in non-residential building construction release, the census metropolitan area of Ottawa-Gatineau (Ontario/Quebec) is divided into two areas: Ottawa part and Gatineau part.

in Ontario, Quebec, Newfoundland and Labrador and Alberta, mainly the result of higher spending on institutional and commercial buildings.

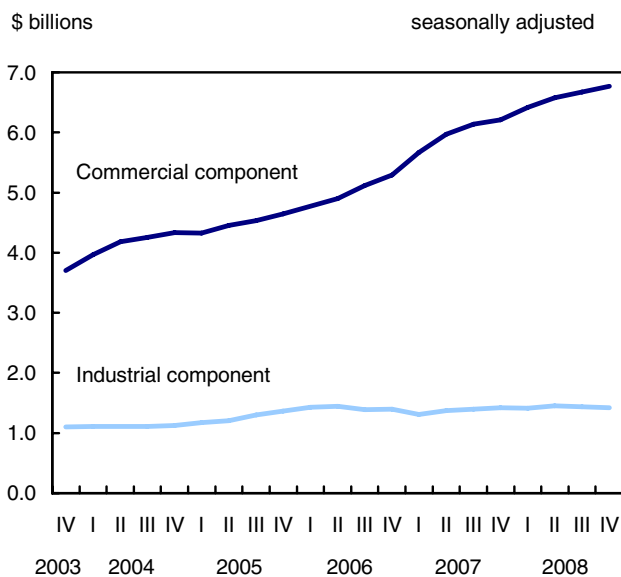
Investment rose in 27 of 34 census metropolitan areas. The largest increase occurred in Edmonton, where significant increases in the institutional and commercial components resulted in a 7.0% advance to \$614 million in the fourth quarter.

After rising for seven consecutive quarters, investment in Toronto recorded a decline, the result of decreases in the commercial and industrial components.

#### Commercial component

On a quarterly basis, investment in commercial buildings increased in the fourth quarter, mainly as a result of higher spending on the construction of office buildings in British Columbia and storage and recreational buildings in Quebec.

### Investment in commercial building construction



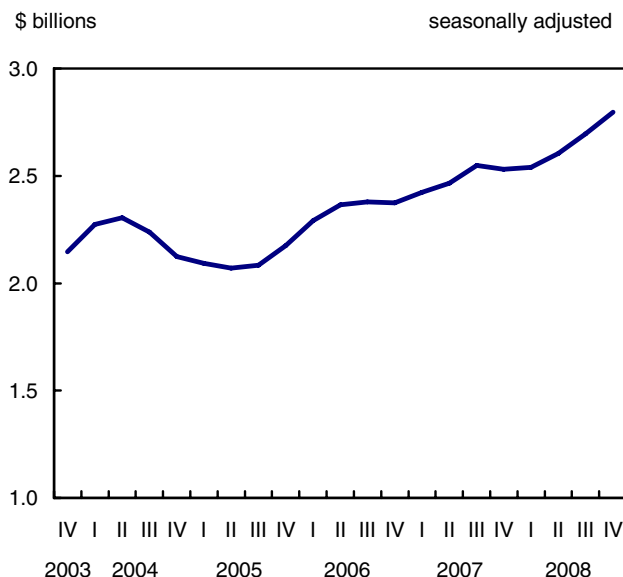
Overall, seven provinces and three territories recorded increases in commercial investment. The largest contributors (in dollars) were British Columbia (+2.8% to \$928 million), Quebec (+2.0% to \$1.1 billion), Manitoba (+16.5% to \$137 million) and Newfoundland and Labrador (+54.1% to \$49 million).

In contrast, Ontario, Nova Scotia and Saskatchewan recorded declines resulting from lower spending in several commercial building categories.

#### Institutional component

Spending in the institutional component advanced for a fourth consecutive quarter, mainly as a result of higher investment in educational and health care buildings.

### Investment in institutional building construction



Fourth-quarter investment increases were shared by six provinces and two territories. Ontario recorded the largest gain in dollars, followed by Alberta, as a result of significant spending on the construction of educational and health care buildings.

In contrast, Manitoba posted the largest reduction in dollars. This was the result of the completion of institutional construction projects started at the end of 2006 and 2007.

#### Industrial component

Investment in industrial building construction declined for the second consecutive quarter.

Increases in spending on several industrial building categories in six provinces were more than offset by declines that occurred mainly in the construction of manufacturing plants in Ontario, Alberta and British Columbia.

Even so, the \$1.4 billion fourth-quarter total for industrial construction was 3.0% higher than the average quarterly level recorded in 2007. This increase was largely attributable to a rise in construction activity on utilities and primary industry buildings.

Available on CANSIM: table 026-0016.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 5014.

More detailed data on investment in non-residential building construction are also available in free tables from the *Summary tables* module of our website.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Bechir Oueriemmi (613-951-1165; [bdp\\_information@statcan.gc.ca](mailto:bdp_information@statcan.gc.ca)), Investment and Capital Stock Division.

# Investment in non-residential building construction, by census metropolitan area<sup>1</sup>

	Fourth quarter 2007	Third quarter 2008	Fourth quarter 2008	Third quarter to fourth quarter 2008
Seasonally adjusted				
	\$ millions			% change
<b>Total</b>	<b>7,657</b>	<b>8,129</b>	<b>8,312</b>	<b>2.2</b>
St. John's	36	46	59	27.0
Halifax	73	91	97	6.3
Moncton	48	45	52	14.8
Saint John	38	32	35	9.6
Saguenay	43	39	39	1.1
Québec	216	271	275	1.4
Sherbrooke	41	47	52	10.2
Trois-Rivières	60	50	54	7.9
Montréal	893	907	908	0.0
Ottawa–Gatineau, Ontario/Quebec	387	340	344	1.2
Gatineau part	54	53	61	15.3
Ottawa part	333	287	282	-1.5
Kingston	54	81	88	8.8
Peterborough	14	21	26	27.0
Oshawa	89	93	108	15.1
Toronto	1,825	1,989	1,973	-0.8
Hamilton	137	222	226	1.7
St. Catharines–Niagara	61	65	59	-9.9
Kitchener	134	173	182	5.3
Brantford	32	19	23	19.8
Guelph	45	33	34	3.2
London	147	164	171	4.5
Windsor	78	61	60	-3.1
Barrie	65	79	90	14.1
Greater Sudbury	65	57	58	0.9
Thunder Bay	21	24	36	50.8
Winnipeg	138	134	149	10.9
Regina	87	68	66	-3.5
Saskatoon	93	151	166	9.3
Calgary	1,212	1,233	1,231	-0.2
Edmonton	451	574	614	7.0
Kelowna	70	72	74	2.0
Abbotsford	53	62	57	-8.3
Vancouver	854	799	816	2.2
Victoria	98	84	92	10.4

1. Go online to view the census subdivisions that comprise the census metropolitan areas.

**Note:** Data may not add up to totals as a result of rounding.

## Investment in non-residential building construction

	Fourth quarter 2007	Third quarter 2008	Fourth quarter 2008	Third quarter to fourth quarter 2008
Seasonally adjusted				
	\$ millions			% change
<b>Canada</b>	<b>10,164</b>	<b>10,799</b>	<b>10,981</b>	<b>1.7</b>
Newfoundland and Labrador	61	77	99	29.1
Prince Edward Island	17	22	27	22.6
Nova Scotia	156	161	171	6.3
New Brunswick	166	144	157	8.8
Quebec	1,699	1,840	1,867	1.5
Ontario	3,734	3,990	4,025	0.9
Manitoba	211	206	223	8.2
Saskatchewan	256	315	332	5.6
Alberta	2,388	2,674	2,693	0.7
British Columbia	1,441	1,348	1,362	1.0
Yukon	15	6	6	-1.3
Northwest Territories	18	9	10	17.9
Nunavut	3	6	9	43.7



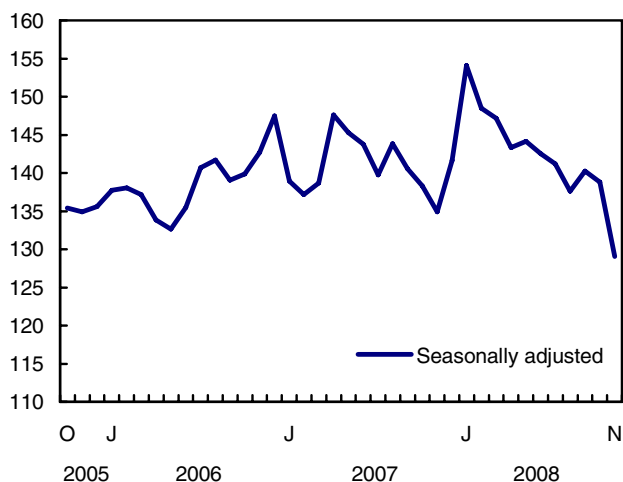
## New motor vehicle sales

November 2008

In November, sales of new motor vehicles fell 7.0% from October to 129,044 units, the largest monthly decline since August 2005. Most of this decrease was attributable to lower sales of passenger cars.

### New motor vehicle sales decline in November

thousands of units



**Note:** The last few points could be subject to revisions when more data are added.

Preliminary industry data indicate that the number of new motor vehicles sold fell by about 15% in December.

### Passenger car and truck sales both drop in November

Sales of passenger cars declined 9.6% to 64,887 units in November. The largest contribution to this drop was a 13.2% decline in the sales of North

American-built passenger cars, which reached their lowest level since September 1993. This includes passenger cars manufactured or assembled in Canada, the United States and Mexico. Overseas-built passenger car sales dropped 3.2%, continuing the downward trend started in March 2008.

Sales of new trucks (which include minivans, sport-utility vehicles, light and heavy trucks, vans and buses) decreased 4.3% to 64,157 units in November, offsetting the increases observed in the previous two months.

### Sales down in nine provinces

New motor vehicle sales were down in nine provinces in November. Quebec and Ontario were the largest contributors to the decline in sales at the national level.

The strongest decreases were observed in Newfoundland and Labrador, Quebec and New Brunswick. These three provinces had posted strong increases at the beginning of 2008, but have since given back those gains.

A small increase in the number of new motor vehicles sold was observed in Prince Edward Island.

**Available on CANSIM: table 079-0003.**

**Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2402.**

The November 2008 issue of *New Motor Vehicle Sales* (63-007-XWE, free) will be available soon.

Data on new motor vehicle sales for December will be released on February 13.

For more information, or to order data, contact Client Services (toll-free 1-877-421-3067; 613-951-3549; [retailinfo@statcan.gc.ca](mailto:retailinfo@statcan.gc.ca)). To enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Mark Switzer (613-951-7137), Distributive Trades Division.

□

## New motor vehicle sales

	November 2007	October 2008 <sup>r</sup>	November 2008 <sup>p</sup>	November 2007 to November 2008	October to November 2008
Seasonally adjusted					
	number of vehicles			% change	
<b>New motor vehicles</b>	<b>134,927</b>	<b>138,816</b>	<b>129,044</b>	<b>-4.4</b>	<b>-7.0</b>
Passenger cars	67,396	71,767	64,887	-3.7	-9.6
North American <sup>1</sup>	44,066	45,725	39,683	-9.9	-13.2
Overseas	23,330	26,042	25,204	8.0	-3.2
Trucks, vans and buses	67,531	67,049	64,157	-5.0	-4.3
<b>New motor vehicles</b>					
Newfoundland and Labrador	2,351	2,677	2,146	-8.7	-19.8
Prince Edward Island	324	433	441	36.1	1.8
Nova Scotia	4,437	4,412	4,055	-8.6	-8.1
New Brunswick	2,958	3,304	2,935	-0.8	-11.2
Quebec	31,956	35,320	31,195	-2.4	-11.7
Ontario	47,533	49,534	46,584	-2.0	-6.0
Manitoba	3,945	4,015	3,887	-1.5	-3.2
Saskatchewan	3,895	4,404	4,390	12.7	-0.3
Alberta	21,048	19,957	19,284	-8.4	-3.4
British Columbia <sup>2</sup>	16,480	14,760	14,127	-14.3	-4.3
	November 2007	October 2008 <sup>r</sup>	November 2008 <sup>p</sup>	November 2007 to November 2008	
Unadjusted					
	number of vehicles			% change	
<b>New motor vehicles</b>	<b>120,012</b>	<b>126,495</b>	<b>107,709</b>	<b>-10.3</b>	
Passenger cars	58,188	64,263	51,476	-11.5	
North American <sup>1</sup>	37,583	40,155	31,930	-15.0	
Overseas	20,605	24,108	19,546	-5.1	
Trucks, vans and buses	61,824	62,232	56,233	-9.0	
<b>New motor vehicles</b>					
Newfoundland and Labrador	1,808	2,244	1,662	-8.1	
Prince Edward Island	279	384	339	21.5	
Nova Scotia	3,572	3,646	3,027	-15.3	
New Brunswick	2,357	2,897	2,130	-9.6	
Quebec	27,093	32,228	24,546	-9.4	
Ontario	44,248	45,689	39,881	-9.9	
Manitoba	3,407	3,782	3,222	-5.4	
Saskatchewan	3,505	4,054	3,783	7.9	
Alberta	19,561	18,627	17,319	-11.5	
British Columbia <sup>2</sup>	14,182	12,944	11,800	-16.8	

<sup>r</sup> revised

<sup>p</sup> preliminary

1. Manufactured or assembled in Canada, the United States or Mexico.

2. Includes Yukon, the Northwest Territories and Nunavut.

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



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## Canada's population by age and sex

As of July 1, 2008 (preliminary) (correction)

As of July 1, 2008, the median age of Canada's population was 39.4 years. Almost one Canadian out of seven (13.7%) is aged 65 and over, while 16.8% (correction) of the population is aged less than 15.

Although the Canadian population has been ageing since the end of the baby-boom, it still remains one of the youngest among the members of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development.

At the provincial and territorial level, ageing has affected all areas, but at different rates. On average, the population is older east of Ontario and younger in the West and the North, British Columbia being the exception.

East of Ontario, all provinces have a median age above the national level, and the proportions of seniors (population aged 65 years and over) are among the highest in the country.

The Atlantic region has older populations, mainly as a result of lower fertility and migration outflows of young adults that have affected the region for a long period. Newfoundland and Labrador has the highest median age (42.5 years) and the lowest proportion of youth (population aged less than 15) in the country (15.0%).

Nova Scotia has the highest proportion of seniors (15.4%) in the country and, in fact, is the first province or territory to have more seniors than youth.

Quebec's median age and proportion of seniors are also above the national level. The province's recent surge in births should slow down its ageing process if the trend persists.

Ontario ranks among the youngest provinces, posting a median age below the national level and the second lowest proportion of seniors.

The population is younger in the three Prairie Provinces, notably as a result of higher fertility rates.

Manitoba and Saskatchewan are the provinces with the highest proportions of youth (19.0%). Due also to strong migration inflows of young adults in the last decades, Alberta has both the lowest median age (35.7 years) and the lowest proportion of seniors (10.4%) among provinces.

British Columbia is the only province west of Quebec to post a median age above the national level. This is mainly due to the fact that the province has had one of the lowest fertility rates in the country for decades while having the highest life expectancy.

The youngest populations in Canada are still found in the North, mainly because of traditionally higher Aboriginal fertility rates and lower life expectancy. Nunavut has the youngest population of the country. While youth accounts for almost one-third of its population, seniors account for only 2.8%.

**Note:** These population estimates by age and sex are the first based on 2006 Census counts adjusted for census net undercoverage.

**Available on CANSIM:** tables 051-0001, 051-0002, 051-0011 to 051-0013 and 051-0041.

**Definitions, data sources and methods:** survey number 3604.

Data will be included in the *Annual Demographic Statistics Compendium, 2007/2008* CD-ROM, which will be released over the course of summer 2009.

For more information, to order additional data, 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; fax: 613-951-2307; [demography@statcan.gc.ca](mailto:demography@statcan.gc.ca)), Demography Division. □



**Population, age distribution and median age by province and territory, as of July 1, 2008**

	Population	0 to 14 years	15 to 64 years	65 years and over	Median age
	number	%			years
<b>Canada</b>	<b>33,311,389</b>	<b>16.8</b>	<b>69.5</b>	<b>13.7</b>	<b>39.4</b>
Newfoundland and Labrador	507,895	15.0	70.6	14.4	42.5
Prince Edward Island	139,818	16.7	68.2	15.1	41.3
Nova Scotia	938,310	15.2	69.4	15.4	42.2
New Brunswick	747,302	15.5	69.3	15.2	42.0
Quebec	7,750,504	15.9	69.5	14.6	41.0
Ontario	12,928,996	17.2	69.4	13.5	39.0
Manitoba	1,207,959	19.0	67.2	13.8	37.8
Saskatchewan	1,015,985	19.0	66.1	14.9	37.9
Alberta	3,585,142	18.3	71.3	10.4	35.7
British Columbia	4,381,603	15.7	69.8	14.5	40.5
Yukon	33,144	17.4	75.1	7.5	38.7
Northwest Territories	43,283	22.3	72.8	5.0	31.2
Nunavut	31,448	32.8	64.4	2.8	23.8

**Aircraft movement statistics: Small airports**

September 2008

In September, the number of take-offs and landings at the 117 airports without air traffic control towers reached 59,145 movements. This is a decrease of 17.6% compared with the 71,751 take-offs and landings at the 118 airports reported in September 2007. Welland / Niagara Central, Ontario, was the most active site in September, recording 2,701 movements.

**Available on CANSIM: tables 401-0021 and 401-0022.**

**Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2715.**

The September 2008 issue of *Aircraft Movement Statistics: Airports without Air Traffic Control Towers (TP 141)* (51-008-XWE, free) is now available from the *Publications* module of our website. This report is a joint publication of Statistics Canada and Transport Canada.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release,

contact Client Services (toll-free 1-866-500-8400; [transportationstatistics@statcan.gc.ca](mailto:transportationstatistics@statcan.gc.ca)), Transportation Division.

**Functional foods and natural health products**

2007 (preliminary)

Selected data about firms with activities related to functional foods and natural health products are now available for 2007.

**Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 5038.**

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Beau Cinnamon (613-951-9021; [sieid@statcan.gc.ca](mailto:sieid@statcan.gc.ca)), Science, Innovation and Electronic Information Division.

## New products

**Canadian Economic Observer**, January 2009, Vol. 22, no. 1  
**Catalogue number 11-010-XWE**  
(free).

**Aircraft Movement Statistics: Airports Without Air Traffic Control Towers (TP 141)**, September 2008  
**Catalogue number 51-008-XWE**  
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