

The Daily

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Labour Force Survey, December 2008

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Employment declined for the second consecutive month in December (-34,000), the result of a large drop in full-time work. With the decline in employment came a 0.3 percentage point increase in the unemployment rate, which hit 6.6% in December.

Building permits, November 2008

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Contractors took out \$4.8 billion in building permits in November, down 11.8% from October, the result of widespread declines in both residential and non-residential sectors. It was the third double-digit decrease in four months.

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Releases

Labour Force Survey

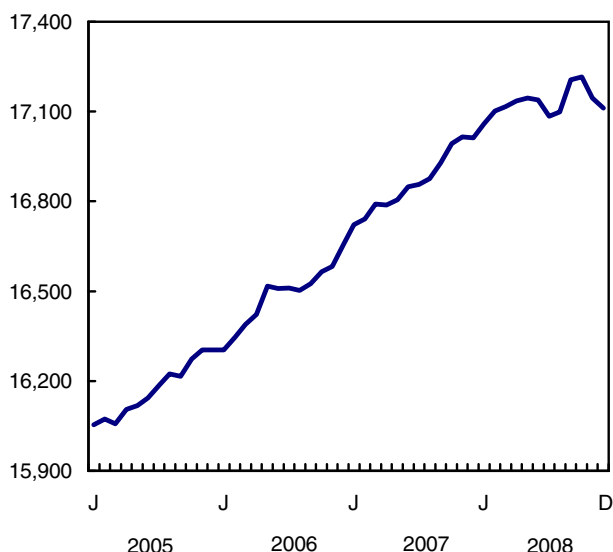
December 2008

Employment declined for the second consecutive month in December (-34,000), the result of a large drop in full-time work. With the decline in employment came a 0.3 percentage point increase in the unemployment rate, which hit 6.6% in December.

Employment growth from December 2007 to December 2008 was 0.6% (+98,000), much slower than the increase of 2.2% (+358,000) observed over the same period in the previous year. From the record low of 5.8% in early 2008, the unemployment rate had climbed 0.8 percentage points by the end of the year, with most of the increase occurring in the last quarter.

Employment

thousands



In December, full-time employment losses (-71,000) were partially offset by gains in part-time employment (+36,000). In 2008, all of the employment increases were in part-time work.

Note to readers

The analysis presented in this release describes labour market trends in 2008 by looking at the change in estimates from December 2007 to December 2008. This indicator picks up the more recent labour market trends for the year but can be influenced by unusual spikes or declines in the end points used to calculate the change.

Annual average estimates for 2008 are now available on CANSIM (tables 282-0001 to 282-0099).

The Labour Force Survey (LFS) estimates are based on a sample, and are therefore subject to sampling variability. Estimates for smaller geographic areas or industries will have more variability. For an explanation of sampling variability of estimates, and how to use standard errors to assess this variability, consult the "Data quality" section of the publication Labour Force Information (71-001-XWE, free).

Revision

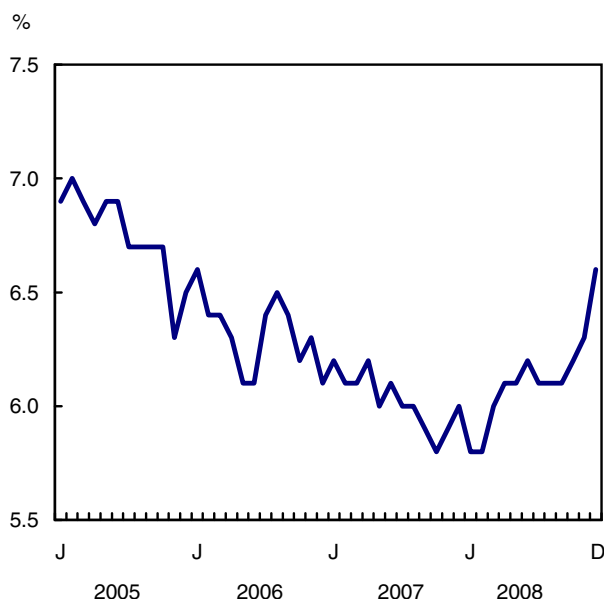
Seasonally adjusted estimates from the LFS will be revised using the latest seasonal factors, going back three years (January 2006 onwards). They will be available on CANSIM (tables 282-0087 to 282-0094) on January 30, 2009.

December's employment decline was largely driven by a drop in construction, one of the largest monthly losses for that industry in over three decades. This was partially offset by an increase in transportation and warehousing.

While employment edged down in most provinces in December, Alberta recorded the largest loss (-16,000). Employment growth in Alberta slowed considerably in 2008 (+1.3%), after increases of over 4% in both 2006 and 2007.

Young people aged 15 to 24 and 25-to-54 year-old men were the most affected by the declines in December, while those aged 55 and over saw an employment increase.

In December, the year-over-year change in average hourly wages was 4.3%, well above the most recent increase in the Consumer Price Index (+2.0%). Hourly wages remained the highest in Alberta, at \$24.50, followed by Ontario, at \$22.40, and British Columbia, at \$22.00.

Unemployment rate**Full-time work and private sector losses**

December's employment loss was the result of a large decline in full-time work (-71,000), partly offset by an increase in part-time employment (+36,000). Most of the decline in full-time employment occurred in Quebec and Alberta.

In December, private sector losses (-59,000) were partially offset by gains in the public sector (+21,000). Over the year, employment was up 1.4% among public sector employees, 0.6% among the self-employed, and 0.3% among private sector employees.

Construction falls in December

The construction industry posted a large employment decline in December (-44,000), following two months of little growth. According to the Canadian Mortgage and Housing Corporation, housing starts decreased in November to their lowest level in seven years. Despite December's employment loss, construction employment remained 4.7% higher than at the start of the year, the result of growth in the first nine months of 2008.

Employment in transportation and warehousing was up 23,000 in December, offsetting a decline the previous month. Despite this increase, employment was only slightly higher in December than 12 months earlier. There was little employment change in December in the other industries.

In addition to the growth in construction during 2008, employment also increased over the

year in professional, scientific and technical services (+4.7%), health care and social assistance (+3.7%), and public administration (+3.5%). At the same time, the following industries lost ground: business, building and other support services (-5.9%), information, culture and recreational services (-4.2%), agriculture (-3.5%), forestry, fishing, mining, oil and gas (-3.0%), trade (-1.7%), and manufacturing (-1.6%).

The decline in manufacturing employment across Canada was less pronounced in 2008 (-32,000) than in 2007 (-130,000), as the continuing decline in Ontario in 2008 was partially offset by increases in Alberta and Quebec. Most of the manufacturing declines in Ontario in 2008 occurred in food, chemicals, plastics and rubber, machinery, and transportation equipment manufacturing. Since the start of the decline in 2002, manufacturing employment in Canada has fallen 380,000 (-16.3%).

Alberta cools down

Alberta was the only province to show a large employment decline in December (-16,000), all in full-time work. With the drop in employment, the unemployment rate jumped 0.7 percentage points to 4.1% in December, still the lowest in the country.

In 2008, Saskatchewan registered the strongest employment growth in the country (+3.1%). Manitoba (+1.7%) and Alberta (+1.3%) were the only other provinces with employment growth above the national average.

In Ontario, employment growth in 2008 matched that of the national average (+0.6%), with all of the growth in part-time work. The increase in part-time employment in 2008 was due to a rise in involuntary part-time workers, namely those who prefer full-time work but were unable to find it. Over the same period in 2008, Ontario's unemployment rate rose 0.7 percentage points, reaching 7.2% in December.

In Quebec, employment was unchanged over the year, while the unemployment rate edged up 0.3 percentage points to 7.3% in December 2008.

In British Columbia, employment also ended the year relatively unchanged (+0.4%), as gains in the first eight months of the year were partially countered by losses in the last four months. This province's unemployment rate was 5.3% in December, up 1.1 percentage points from 12 months earlier.

Unemployment rate up among youth in December

In December, employment declined for youth aged 15 to 24 (-37,000) and men aged 25 to 54 (-28,000) while increasing among those aged 55 and over (+28,000). The unemployment rate for youth increased by 0.6 percentage points in December to 12.9%.

In 2008, employment fell by 2.0% (-52,000) for youth. The unemployment rate for young people increased by 1.8 percentage points over the same period, more than any other demographic group.

Workers aged 55 and over, on the other hand, posted an employment increase of 4.2% (+109,000) over the year. Despite this employment increase, their unemployment rate rose over 2008, from 4.7% to 5.6%, the result of an increase in the number of people looking for work.

Quarterly update on the territories

The Labour Force Survey also collects labour market information about the territories. This information is not seasonally adjusted and is produced monthly in the form of three-month moving averages. Comparisons should only be made on a year-over-year basis.

In the last quarter of 2008, employment in Nunavut's 10 largest communities declined by 1,000 compared with the same quarter in 2007, bringing their employment rate down 7.0 percentage points to 58.5% and their unemployment rate up 1.6 percentage points to 9.8%.

There was little employment change in the other two territories over the same period.

Available on CANSIM: tables 282-0001 to 282-0042, 282-0047 to 282-0064 and 282-0069 to 282-0099.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 3701.

A more detailed summary, *Labour Force Information* (71-001-XWE, free), for the week ending December 13 is now available online. From the *Publications* module of our website, under *All subjects*, choose *Labour*. LAN and bulk prices are available on request. The CD-ROM *Labour Force Historical Review*, 2007 (71F0004XCB, \$209), is also available. See *How to order products*.

Data tables are also now available online. From the *By subject* module of our website, choose *Labour*.

The next release of the Labour Force Survey will be on February 6.

For more information, or to order data, contact Client Services (toll-free 1-866-873-8788; 613-951-4090; labour@statcan.gc.ca). To enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Danielle Zietsma (613-951-4243; danielle.zietsma@statcan.gc.ca) or Vincent Ferrao (613-951-4750; vincent.ferrao@statcan.gc.ca), Labour Statistics Division.

□

Labour force characteristics by age and sex

	November 2008	December 2008	November to December 2008	December 2007 to December 2008	November to December 2008	December 2007 to December 2008
Seasonally adjusted						
	thousands		change in thousands		% change	
Both sexes 15+						
Population	27,072.6	27,098.7	26.1	379.2	0.1	1.4
Labour force	18,307.2	18,319.9	12.7	229.7	0.1	1.3
Employment	17,145.2	17,110.8	-34.4	98.3	-0.2	0.6
Full-time	13,992.4	13,921.7	-70.7	7.1	-0.5	0.1
Part-time	3,152.9	3,189.1	36.2	91.2	1.1	2.9
Unemployment	1,162.0	1,209.1	47.1	131.5	4.1	12.2
Participation rate	67.6	67.6	0.0	-0.1	...	...
Unemployment rate	6.3	6.6	0.3	0.6	...	...
Employment rate	63.3	63.1	-0.2	-0.6	...	...
Part-time rate	18.4	18.6	0.2	0.4	...	...
Youths 15 to 24						
Population	4,383.0	4,384.4	1.4	17.6	0.0	0.4
Labour force	2,953.6	2,930.2	-23.4	-1.4	-0.8	0.0
Employment	2,589.8	2,553.2	-36.6	-52.3	-1.4	-2.0
Full-time	1,430.2	1,391.1	-39.1	-30.8	-2.7	-2.2
Part-time	1,159.6	1,162.1	2.5	-21.6	0.2	-1.8
Unemployment	363.8	377.0	13.2	51.0	3.6	15.6
Participation rate	67.4	66.8	-0.6	-0.3	...	...
Unemployment rate	12.3	12.9	0.6	1.8	...	...
Employment rate	59.1	58.2	-0.9	-1.5	...	...
Part-time rate	44.8	45.5	0.7	0.1	...	...
Men 25+						
Population	11,090.3	11,102.7	12.4	182.0	0.1	1.7
Labour force	8,168.2	8,171.5	3.3	83.4	0.0	1.0
Employment	7,709.2	7,699.3	-9.9	39.1	-0.1	0.5
Full-time	7,175.1	7,159.0	-16.1	-6.3	-0.2	-0.1
Part-time	534.1	540.3	6.2	45.4	1.2	9.2
Unemployment	459.0	472.2	13.2	44.3	2.9	10.4
Participation rate	73.7	73.6	-0.1	-0.5	...	...
Unemployment rate	5.6	5.8	0.2	0.5	...	...
Employment rate	69.5	69.3	-0.2	-0.8	...	...
Part-time rate	6.9	7.0	0.1	0.5	...	...
Women 25+						
Population	11,599.4	11,611.6	12.2	179.6	0.1	1.6
Labour force	7,185.3	7,218.2	32.9	147.7	0.5	2.1
Employment	6,846.2	6,858.3	12.1	111.5	0.2	1.7
Full-time	5,387.1	5,371.6	-15.5	44.2	-0.3	0.8
Part-time	1,459.1	1,486.7	27.6	67.3	1.9	4.7
Unemployment	339.2	359.9	20.7	36.2	6.1	11.2
Participation rate	61.9	62.2	0.3	0.4	...	...
Unemployment rate	4.7	5.0	0.3	0.4	...	...
Employment rate	59.0	59.1	0.1	0.1	...	...
Part-time rate	21.3	21.7	0.4	0.7	...	...

... not applicable

Note: Related CANSIM table 282-0087

Employment by class of worker and industry (based on NAICS)¹

	November 2008	December 2008	November to December 2008	December 2007 to December 2008	November to December 2008	December 2007 to December 2008
Seasonally adjusted						
	thousands		change in thousands		% change	
Class of worker						
Employees	14,491.7	14,452.8	-38.9	83.0	-0.3	0.6
Self-employed	2,653.5	2,658.0	4.5	15.3	0.2	0.6
Public/private sector employees						
Public	3,426.6	3,447.1	20.5	46.6	0.6	1.4
Private	11,065.1	11,005.7	-59.4	36.4	-0.5	0.3
All industries	17,145.2	17,110.8	-34.4	98.3	-0.2	0.6
Goods-producing sector	4,017.0	3,977.6	-39.4	8.9	-1.0	0.2
Agriculture	317.5	316.1	-1.4	-11.5	-0.4	-3.5
Natural resources	345.0	343.9	-1.1	-10.5	-0.3	-3.0
Utilities	150.4	149.0	-1.4	8.2	-0.9	5.8
Construction	1,262.7	1,218.4	-44.3	55.0	-3.5	4.7
Manufacturing	1,941.3	1,950.2	8.9	-32.3	0.5	-1.6
Service-producing sector	13,128.2	13,133.2	5.0	89.4	0.0	0.7
Trade	2,672.5	2,661.3	-11.2	-45.1	-0.4	-1.7
Transportation and warehousing	846.2	869.6	23.4	14.7	2.8	1.7
Finance, insurance, real estate and leasing	1,071.3	1,083.5	12.2	19.2	1.1	1.8
Professional, scientific and technical services	1,220.1	1,207.0	-13.1	53.7	-1.1	4.7
Business, building and other support services	663.6	670.0	6.4	-42.2	1.0	-5.9
Educational services	1,196.2	1,184.2	-12.0	-12.1	-1.0	-1.0
Health care and social assistance	1,938.3	1,939.2	0.9	68.6	0.0	3.7
Information, culture and recreation	754.4	762.5	8.1	-33.4	1.1	-4.2
Accommodation and food services	1,075.4	1,063.2	-12.2	13.8	-1.1	1.3
Other services	764.8	758.3	-6.5	21.0	-0.8	2.8
Public administration	925.5	934.6	9.1	31.4	1.0	3.5

1. North American Industrial Classification System.

Note: Related to CANSIM tables 282-0088 and 282-0089.

Labour force characteristics by province

	November 2008	December 2008	November to December 2008	December 2007 to December 2008	November to December 2008	December 2007 to December 2008
Seasonally adjusted						
	thousands		change in thousands		% change	
Newfoundland and Labrador						
Population	427.4	427.6	0.2	3.1	0.0	0.7
Labour force	253.3	252.1	-1.2	1.9	-0.5	0.8
Employment	218.7	217.5	-1.2	-1.3	-0.5	-0.6
Full-time	186.0	185.7	-0.3	-2.9	-0.2	-1.5
Part-time	32.7	31.8	-0.9	1.6	-2.8	5.3
Unemployment	34.6	34.6	0.0	3.2	0.0	10.2
Participation rate	59.3	59.0	-0.3	0.1	...	...
Unemployment rate	13.7	13.7	0.0	1.2	...	...
Employment rate	51.2	50.9	-0.3	-0.6	...	...
Prince Edward Island						
Population	115.4	115.3	-0.1	1.5	-0.1	1.3
Labour force	77.9	78.6	0.7	1.1	0.9	1.4
Employment	69.6	69.3	-0.3	0.1	-0.4	0.1
Full-time	58.4	57.9	-0.5	0.0	-0.9	0.0
Part-time	11.2	11.4	0.2	0.1	1.8	0.9
Unemployment	8.3	9.3	1.0	1.0	12.0	12.0
Participation rate	67.5	68.2	0.7	0.1	...	...
Unemployment rate	10.7	11.8	1.1	1.1	...	...
Employment rate	60.3	60.1	-0.2	-0.7	...	...
Nova Scotia						
Population	770.4	770.6	0.2	4.8	0.0	0.6
Labour force	492.4	494.1	1.7	3.9	0.3	0.8
Employment	454.2	453.6	-0.6	1.3	-0.1	0.3
Full-time	373.6	371.8	-1.8	5.1	-0.5	1.4
Part-time	80.6	81.8	1.2	-3.8	1.5	-4.4
Unemployment	38.2	40.5	2.3	2.5	6.0	6.6
Participation rate	63.9	64.1	0.2	0.1	...	...
Unemployment rate	7.8	8.2	0.4	0.4	...	...
Employment rate	59.0	58.9	-0.1	-0.2	...	...
New Brunswick						
Population	619.4	619.7	0.3	4.4	0.0	0.7
Labour force	402.3	400.9	-1.4	3.1	-0.3	0.8
Employment	367.4	366.6	-0.8	0.0	-0.2	0.0
Full-time	309.4	310.7	1.3	-0.4	0.4	-0.1
Part-time	58.0	55.8	-2.2	0.3	-3.8	0.5
Unemployment	34.9	34.3	-0.6	3.1	-1.7	9.9
Participation rate	64.9	64.7	-0.2	0.0	...	...
Unemployment rate	8.7	8.6	-0.1	0.8	...	...
Employment rate	59.3	59.2	-0.1	-0.4	...	...
Quebec						
Population	6,395.8	6,400.1	4.3	59.9	0.1	0.9
Labour force	4,193.4	4,191.7	-1.7	16.9	0.0	0.4
Employment	3,893.8	3,884.4	-9.4	0.1	-0.2	0.0
Full-time	3,184.2	3,135.5	-48.7	-13.7	-1.5	-0.4
Part-time	709.6	748.9	39.3	13.8	5.5	1.9
Unemployment	299.6	307.2	7.6	16.7	2.5	5.7
Participation rate	65.6	65.5	-0.1	-0.3	...	...
Unemployment rate	7.1	7.3	0.2	0.3	...	...
Employment rate	60.9	60.7	-0.2	-0.6	...	...

... not applicable

Note: Related CANSIM table 282-0087.

Labour force characteristics by province

	November 2008	December 2008	November to December 2008	December 2007 to December 2008	November to December 2008	December 2007 to December 2008
Seasonally adjusted						
	thousands		change in thousands		% change	
Ontario						
Population	10,571.3	10,580.8	9.5	154.4	0.1	1.5
Labour force	7,174.4	7,184.0	9.6	88.8	0.1	1.3
Employment	6,666.1	6,667.9	1.8	37.0	0.0	0.6
Full-time	5,422.7	5,423.5	0.8	-22.1	0.0	-0.4
Part-time	1,243.4	1,244.4	1.0	59.1	0.1	5.0
Unemployment	508.4	516.1	7.7	51.8	1.5	11.2
Participation rate	67.9	67.9	0.0	-0.2	...	...
Unemployment rate	7.1	7.2	0.1	0.7	...	...
Employment rate	63.1	63.0	-0.1	-0.6	...	...
Manitoba						
Population	913.8	914.8	1.0	11.6	0.1	1.3
Labour force	636.6	636.6	0.0	11.3	0.0	1.8
Employment	609.6	609.2	-0.4	10.1	-0.1	1.7
Full-time	490.0	492.9	2.9	4.9	0.6	1.0
Part-time	119.6	116.4	-3.2	5.3	-2.7	4.8
Unemployment	27.0	27.4	0.4	1.2	1.5	4.6
Participation rate	69.7	69.6	-0.1	0.4	...	...
Unemployment rate	4.2	4.3	0.1	0.1	...	...
Employment rate	66.7	66.6	-0.1	0.3	...	...
Saskatchewan						
Population	773.1	774.0	0.9	16.0	0.1	2.1
Labour force	540.6	543.0	2.4	17.1	0.4	3.3
Employment	520.6	520.3	-0.3	15.6	-0.1	3.1
Full-time	427.7	426.5	-1.2	13.8	-0.3	3.3
Part-time	92.9	93.8	0.9	1.9	1.0	2.1
Unemployment	19.9	22.6	2.7	1.4	13.6	6.6
Participation rate	69.9	70.2	0.3	0.8	...	...
Unemployment rate	3.7	4.2	0.5	0.2	...	...
Employment rate	67.3	67.2	-0.1	0.6	...	...
Alberta						
Population	2,818.0	2,823.7	5.7	54.2	0.2	2.0
Labour force	2,107.0	2,106.5	-0.5	46.7	0.0	2.3
Employment	2,034.9	2,019.1	-15.8	25.3	-0.8	1.3
Full-time	1,697.6	1,677.7	-19.9	-0.2	-1.2	0.0
Part-time	337.3	341.4	4.1	25.5	1.2	8.1
Unemployment	72.1	87.4	15.3	21.4	21.2	32.4
Participation rate	74.8	74.6	-0.2	0.2	...	...
Unemployment rate	3.4	4.1	0.7	0.9	...	...
Employment rate	72.2	71.5	-0.7	-0.5	...	...
British Columbia						
Population	3,668.1	3,672.2	4.1	69.5	0.1	1.9
Labour force	2,429.3	2,432.6	3.3	39.1	0.1	1.6
Employment	2,310.4	2,302.9	-7.5	10.0	-0.3	0.4
Full-time	1,841.8	1,839.3	-2.5	22.8	-0.1	1.3
Part-time	468.6	463.6	-5.0	-12.9	-1.1	-2.7
Unemployment	119.0	129.7	10.7	29.1	9.0	28.9
Participation rate	66.2	66.2	0.0	-0.2	...	...
Unemployment rate	4.9	5.3	0.4	1.1	...	...
Employment rate	63.0	62.7	-0.3	-0.9	...	...

... not applicable

Note: Related CANSIM table 282-0087.

Building permits

November 2008

Contractors took out \$4.8 billion in building permits in November, down 11.8% from October, the result of widespread declines in both residential and non-residential sectors. It was the third double-digit decrease in four months.

Intentions fell in all provinces except Alberta, Saskatchewan and Nova Scotia.

November's level, the lowest since February 2007, was 22.6% below last year's monthly average.

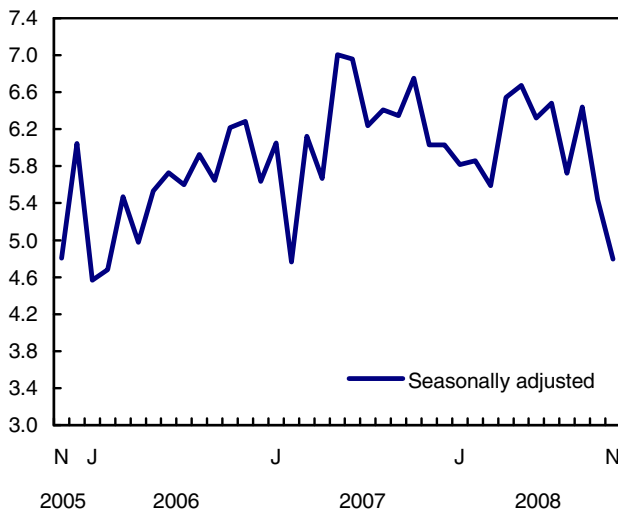
The value of non-residential permits fell 15.2% to \$2.1 billion, the second consecutive monthly decrease. This drop occurred mainly as a result of declines in Quebec, Ontario and British Columbia.

In the residential sector, the value of building permits declined by 9.0% to \$2.7 billion, a level not seen since January 2005. Intentions declined for both single- and multi-family permits. Provincially, Ontario and British Columbia registered the largest decreases in both sectors.

On a year-to-date basis, the total value of building permits issued by municipalities from January to November amounted to \$65.7 billion, down 3.9% from the total for the first 11 months of 2007.

The value of building permits decreases in November

\$ billions



The year-to-date value of permits in the residential sector decreased by 8.5%, while intentions in the non-residential sector were 3.3% higher.

Note to readers

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

The Building Permits Survey covers 2,400 municipalities representing 95% of the population. It provides an early indication of building activity. The communities representing the other 5% of the population are very small, and their levels of building activity have little impact on the total.

The value of planned construction activities shown in this release excludes engineering projects (e.g., waterworks, sewers or culverts) and land.

For the purpose of this release, the census metropolitan area of Ottawa-Gatineau (Ontario/Quebec) is divided into two areas: Gatineau part and Ottawa part.

Non-residential sector: Declines in all three components

Intentions in all three components of the non-residential sector declined for a second consecutive month.

In the commercial component, the value of permits fell 11.9% to \$1.1 billion, the result mainly of lower demand for office building permits in British Columbia and Ontario.

In the institutional component, intentions fell by 18.8% to \$597 million. The decrease came mostly from lower construction intentions in educational and medical projects in Ontario, British Columbia and Quebec. In contrast, Alberta recorded a 131.5% rise to \$351 million, a third consecutive increase.

In the industrial component, contractors took out permits worth \$316 million, down 19.6%, the second consecutive decline. The decrease resulted mostly from manufacturing buildings in Quebec and utility buildings in Ontario.

Residential sector: Intentions down for both single- and multi-family permits

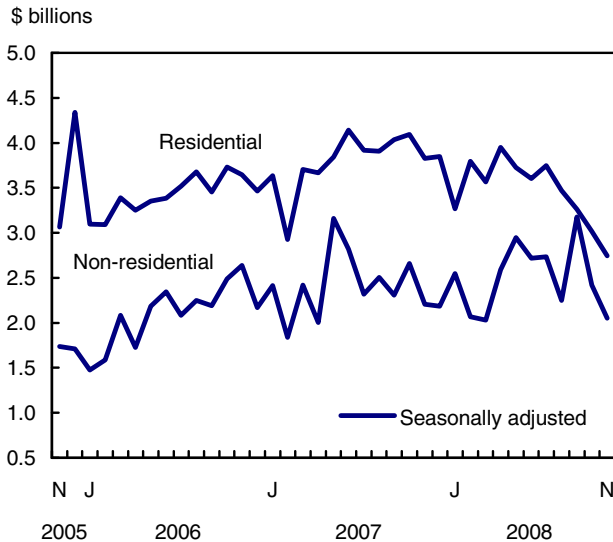
The value of single-family permits decreased 8.0% to \$1.8 billion, the fifth consecutive monthly retreat. All provinces, except Newfoundland and Labrador, Nova Scotia and New Brunswick, recorded a decline in the value of single-family permits in November.

The value of multiple-family permits fell below the \$1-billion mark for the first time since February 2007. Municipalities issued \$956 million worth of permits for multi-family dwellings in November, down 10.7%, the fourth consecutive monthly decline. Provincially, the largest declines (in dollars) occurred in Ontario and British Columbia. Alberta recorded a third increase in

a row; however, its value in November was still 46.4% below the monthly average of 2007.

Municipalities approved 13,893 new dwellings in November, a 4.6% decline from October. Of these, 6,839 were multi-family units, down 2.2%, while 7,054 were single-family units, a 6.8% decline.

Both the residential and non-residential sectors decline



Permits down in most provinces

The value of building permits fell in seven provinces in November.

The most significant decreases occurred in Ontario, where the value of permits fell 16.6% to \$1.5 billion. In Quebec, intentions declined 18.6% to \$1.1 billion and,

in British Columbia, they dropped 28.9% to \$607 million. These decreases came from both the residential and non-residential sectors.

In contrast, Alberta, Saskatchewan and Nova Scotia reported increases in the total permit values, mainly the result of gains in the non-residential sector.

Metropolitan areas: Large decreases in Toronto, Vancouver and Ottawa

The value of permits fell in two-thirds (65%) of the 34 census metropolitan areas in November.

The largest declines occurred in Toronto, Vancouver and Ottawa. In Toronto, the decrease came from the residential sector, while in Ottawa, the non-residential sector registered a decline. Vancouver recorded decreases in both sectors.

In Calgary, permits rose for a second consecutive month, the result of higher multiple-family permits and gains in the institutional component.

Available on CANSIM: tables 026-0001 to 026-0008 and 026-0010.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2802.

The November 2008 issue of *Building Permits* (64-001-XWE, free) will be available soon.

The December building permit estimate will be released on February 5, 2009.

To order data, contact Jasmine Gaudreault (toll-free 1-800-579-8533; 613-951-6321; bdp_information@statcan.gc.ca). For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Nicole Charron (613-951-0087), Investment and Capital Stock Division.

□

Value of building permits, by census metropolitan area¹

	July 2008	August 2008	September 2008	October 2008 ^r	November 2008 ^p	October to November 2008
Seasonally adjusted						
	\$ millions					% change
Total	4,697.4	4,094.3	4,357.3	3,881.1	3,480.7	-10.3
St. John's	60.6	70.6	41.0	52.6	44.1	-16.2
Halifax	74.8	39.5	70.7	55.7	60.3	8.3
Moncton	25.6	40.5	26.3	23.6	13.7	-42.2
Saint John	19.5	22.8	28.0	23.9	28.4	18.8
Saguenay	23.7	32.2	34.8	67.1	25.1	-62.5
Québec	174.4	118.9	149.5	117.6	76.4	-35.0
Sherbrooke	27.0	47.4	27.7	30.9	28.6	-7.4
Trois-Rivières	29.6	19.6	31.0	36.2	48.0	32.8
Montréal	573.0	552.8	566.0	617.5	550.4	-10.9
Ottawa-Gatineau, Ontario/Quebec	262.1	166.6	247.2	275.9	188.8	-31.6
Gatineau part	116.8	28.5	55.9	50.4	61.3	21.5
Ottawa part	145.3	138.1	191.2	225.5	127.5	-43.4
Kingston	16.1	19.2	15.2	15.0	12.7	-15.7
Peterborough	11.2	44.7	11.1	17.9	13.1	-27.1
Oshawa	93.3	51.1	59.7	14.6	60.1	311.1
Toronto	1,130.9	1,003.3	1,047.8	824.2	694.5	-15.7
Hamilton	69.4	100.8	109.5	70.8	59.4	-16.1
St. Catharines-Niagara	37.7	41.1	55.5	22.1	35.3	59.2
Kitchener	178.3	87.8	58.6	76.8	91.1	18.6
Brantford	15.0	10.5	31.7	12.8	10.3	-18.9
Guelph	12.3	32.5	17.1	82.4	8.5	-89.7
London	83.4	72.5	76.0	51.2	28.9	-43.6
Windsor	37.4	20.7	16.3	10.4	12.5	20.2
Barrie	18.0	36.7	17.2	27.5	24.3	-11.8
Greater Sudbury	22.3	40.7	30.2	22.4	15.7	-29.9
Thunder Bay	41.0	9.8	7.3	7.7	8.3	7.4
Winnipeg	146.7	87.1	121.9	83.7	67.7	-19.2
Regina	38.2	27.4	30.2	36.5	47.7	30.6
Saskatoon	148.6	79.4	179.8	54.2	37.6	-30.6
Calgary	435.0	315.0	271.9	316.7	458.5	44.7
Edmonton	289.8	240.7	349.3	273.7	293.9	7.4
Kelowna	49.8	44.8	70.1	34.3	30.2	-12.1
Abbotsford	44.1	12.3	6.4	16.2	8.2	-49.3
Vancouver	425.3	480.2	474.8	449.0	350.0	-22.1
Victoria	83.4	125.2	77.4	59.8	48.8	-18.5

^r revised

^p preliminary

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.

Value of building permits, by province and territory

	July 2008	August 2008	September 2008	October 2008 ^r	November 2008 ^p	October to November 2008
Seasonally adjusted						
	\$ millions					% change
Canada	6,479.8	5,723.8	6,437.6	5,436.6	4,797.4	-11.8
Residential	3,745.8	3,472.4	3,263.5	3,017.0	2,746.2	-9.0
Non-residential	2,733.9	2,251.4	3,174.1	2,419.6	2,051.2	-15.2
Newfoundland and Labrador	81.1	95.9	68.3	76.4	68.5	-10.4
Residential	66.1	50.5	47.0	47.8	58.1	21.7
Non-residential	15.0	45.4	21.3	28.7	10.4	-63.9
Prince Edward Island	15.3	15.9	23.0	17.5	17.1	-2.0
Residential	8.9	9.2	11.0	8.8	8.0	-8.8
Non-residential	6.4	6.7	12.0	8.7	9.1	4.8
Nova Scotia	121.4	97.3	141.5	104.6	110.7	5.9
Residential	74.4	62.3	61.8	60.3	51.2	-15.1
Non-residential	47.0	35.0	79.7	44.2	59.5	34.5
New Brunswick	85.0	130.5	113.2	102.6	79.6	-22.4
Residential	41.9	60.1	66.1	45.6	50.4	10.4
Non-residential	43.1	70.4	47.0	57.0	29.2	-48.7
Quebec	1,325.1	1,157.8	1,217.7	1,338.5	1,089.8	-18.6
Residential	847.3	750.9	780.8	768.1	746.5	-2.8
Non-residential	477.8	406.9	437.0	570.4	343.3	-39.8
Ontario	2,326.4	2,056.1	2,401.1	1,804.7	1,505.1	-16.6
Residential	1,377.7	1,223.9	1,061.3	1,045.8	907.9	-13.2
Non-residential	948.7	832.2	1,339.8	758.9	597.3	-21.3
Manitoba	200.5	142.5	179.2	142.9	103.7	-27.4
Residential	124.4	90.6	116.5	94.2	74.2	-21.3
Non-residential	76.2	52.0	62.7	48.7	29.6	-39.3
Saskatchewan	283.5	155.2	335.2	137.9	150.1	8.8
Residential	95.8	99.7	85.4	88.2	70.6	-20.0
Non-residential	187.8	55.5	249.8	49.7	79.5	59.9
Alberta	1,131.5	917.2	1,023.4	841.7	1,028.4	22.2
Residential	475.3	428.4	433.9	427.4	447.0	4.6
Non-residential	656.1	488.8	589.5	414.3	581.4	40.3
British Columbia	890.2	942.5	910.9	853.8	607.1	-28.9
Residential	623.2	689.2	583.2	419.1	323.0	-22.9
Non-residential	267.0	253.3	327.8	434.7	284.1	-34.6
Yukon	8.4	7.9	5.9	5.5	5.9	7.1
Residential	6.0	4.0	4.6	3.2	5.3	63.8
Non-residential	2.5	3.9	1.3	2.3	0.6	-72.3
Northwest Territories	3.1	2.1	5.3	5.9	23.6	298.7
Residential	2.7	1.6	0.8	4.1	0.4	-89.1
Non-residential	0.4	0.5	4.5	1.8	23.1	1,151.5
Nunavut	8.3	2.9	13.0	4.7	7.7	64.8
Residential	2.3	2.1	11.3	4.6	3.7	-20.2
Non-residential	6.0	0.8	1.6	0.1	4.1	4,370.3

^r revised

^p preliminary

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

Quarterly Retail Commodity Survey

Third quarter 2008

The total sales of all commodities in retail stores in the third quarter amounted to \$112.1 billion, up 5.1% over the third quarter of 2007.

All major commodity groupings posted year-over-year increases, except for motor vehicles, parts and services, where sales fell 3.9%.

The largest increase in the third quarter of 2008 was a 29.2% rise in sales of automotive fuels, oils and additives. This reflected a sharp increase in gasoline prices compared with the third quarter of 2007, according to the Consumer Price Index.

Automotive fuels accounted for 12 cents of every dollar spent in retail stores, the highest quarterly share since the beginning of the series in 1998.

The second largest year-over-year increase was a 6.3% rise in sales of furniture, home furnishings and electronics. The main contributor was sales of home electronics (such as televisions, audio and video equipment, and telephones), computers and cameras.

The decline in sales of motor vehicles, parts and services was mainly the result of a 12.1% drop in the

value of sales of new trucks, which include light and heavy trucks, vans, minivans and sport utility vehicles. Sales of used vehicles also decreased, falling by 9.9%.

These declines were partially offset by a 2.3% increase in sales of new cars and an 8.9% advance in sales of automotive parts, accessories and services.

Note: The Quarterly Retail Commodity Survey collects data on national level retail sales by commodity, from a sub-sample of businesses in the Monthly Retail Trade Survey. Quarterly data have not been adjusted for seasonality. All percentage changes are year-over-year.

Available on CANSIM: tables 080-0018 and 080-0019.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2008.

For more information, or to order data, contact Client Services (toll-free 1-877-421-3067; 613-951-3549; retailinfo@statcan.gc.ca). To enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Ruth Barnes (613-951-6190), Distributive Trades Division.

Sales by commodity, all retail stores

	Third quarter 2007 ^r	Second quarter 2008 ^r	Third quarter 2008 ^p	Third quarter 2007 to third quarter 2008
Unadjusted				
	\$ millions			% change
Commodity				
Food and beverages	22,868	23,212	24,184	5.8
Health and personal care products	8,904	9,157	9,253	3.9
Clothing, footwear and accessories	8,366	8,575	8,508	1.7
Furniture, home furnishings and electronics	9,668	9,360	10,272	6.3
Motor vehicles, parts and services	22,827	24,873	21,936	-3.9
Automotive fuels, oils and additives	10,997	13,366	14,204	29.2
Housewares	2,031	1,902	2,043	0.6
Hardware, lawn and garden products	7,997	9,400	8,467	5.9
Sporting and leisure goods	3,365	3,365	3,399	1.0
All other goods and services	9,645	10,343	9,861	2.2
Total	106,667	113,552	112,127	5.1

^r revised

^p preliminary

Note: Figures may not add up to total due to rounding.



Crude oil and natural gas: Supply and disposition

October 2008 (preliminary)

The domestic production of crude oil and equivalent hydrocarbons totalled 13.6 million cubic metres in October, down 1.8% from October 2007.

Deliveries of crude oil and equivalent hydrocarbons to the export market increased by 2.0% in October 2008 compared with the same month in 2007. In October, 67% of Canada's total production went to the export market.

Marketable natural gas production totalled 13.1 billion cubic metres in October, down 4.5% compared with October 2007.

Natural gas exports made up 63% of marketable natural gas production in October 2008.

Domestic sales of natural gas fell 8.2% in October from the same month in 2007. This decrease was the

result of lower sales to the residential and industrial sectors.

Note: Preliminary data are available on CANSIM at the national level to October 2008 inclusive. At the national and provincial level, detailed information is available for crude oil (126-0001) up to August 2008 inclusive, and for natural gas (131-0001) up to February 2008 inclusive.

Available on CANSIM: tables 126-0001 and 131-0001.

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 (toll-free 1-866-873-8789; 613-951-9497; energ@statcan.gc.ca), Manufacturing and Energy Division.

Crude oil and natural gas: Supply and disposition (key indicators)

	October 2007	October 2008 ^p	October 2007 to October 2008
	thousands of cubic metres		% change
Crude oil and equivalent hydrocarbons			
Supply ¹			
Production	13 826.6	13 581.0	-1.8
Imports ²	3 743.1	4 666.9	24.7
Disposition			
Refinery receipts ³	8 513.1	8 336.8	-2.1
Exports	8 948.6	9 128.9	2.0
	millions of cubic metres		% change
Natural gas			
Supply ⁴			
Marketable production ⁵	13 668.1	13 053.9	-4.5
Imports	774.3	621.2 ^E	-19.8
Disposition			
Domestic sales ⁶	5 737.4	5 266.2	-8.2
Exports	9 075.7	8 205.0	-9.6

^P preliminary

^E use with caution

1. Disposition may differ from supply because of inventory change, own consumption, losses and adjustments.

2. Data may differ from International Trade Division estimates because of timing and the inclusion of crude oil landed in Canada for future re-export.

3. Volumetric receipts at refineries of all domestic and imported crude oils for refinery processing or storage.

4. Disposition may differ from supply because of inventory change, usage as pipeline fuel, pipeline losses, line-pack fluctuations.

5. Receipts from fields after processing for the removal or partial removal of some constituents and impurities and that meet specifications for residential, commercial and industrial use; and including other adjustments.

6. Domestic sales includes residential, commercial, industrial and direct sales (for example direct, non-utility, sales for consumption where the utility acts solely as transporter).

Domestic sales of refined petroleum products

November 2008 (preliminary)

Sales of refined petroleum products in November totalled 8 463.1 thousand cubic metres, down 4.4% from the same month a year earlier. (One cubic metre equals a thousand litres.)

Sales fell in six of the seven major petroleum product groups. The decline was led by the sales of diesel fuel oil, which were down 6.5%, or 153.9 thousand cubic metres. Sales of heavy fuel oil rose 28.2%, or 142.3 thousand cubic metres.

Compared with November 2007, sales of motor gasoline decreased 3.5%, or 126.2 thousand cubic metres, in November. This was led by a 4.0% decline in

the sale of regular unleaded gasoline. While midgrade gasoline sales increased 2.6% from November 2007, regular unleaded gasoline accounted for 91% of total sales.

Note: Preliminary domestic sales of refined petroleum products data are not available on CANSIM.

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 (toll-free 1-866-873-8789; 613-951-9497; energ@statcan.gc.ca), Manufacturing and Energy Division.

Sales of refined petroleum products

	November 2007 ^r	November 2008 ^p	November 2007 to November 2008
	thousands of cubic metres		% change
Total, all products	8 850.0	8 463.1	-4.4
Motor gasoline	3 572.7	3 446.5	-3.5
Diesel fuel oil	2 364.9	2 211.0	-6.5
Light fuel oil	362.0	294.7	-18.6
Heavy fuel oil	505.0	647.3	28.2
Aviation turbo fuels	744.6	683.6	-8.2
Petrochemical feedstocks ¹	365.7	315.7	-13.7
All other refined products	935.1	864.2	-7.6

^r revised

^p preliminary

1. Materials produced by refineries that are used by the petrochemical industry to produce chemicals, synthetic rubber and a variety of plastics.

New products

Statistics on Revenues and Expenses of Farms, 2007, preliminary estimates
Catalogue number 21-208-XWE
(free).

Labour Force Information, December 7 to 13, 2008
Catalogue number 71-001-XWE
(free).

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

Catalogue numbers with an -XWE, -XIB or an -XIE extension are Internet versions; those with -XMB or -XME are microfiche; -XPB or -XPE are paper versions; -XDB or -XDE are electronic versions on diskette; -XCB or -XCE are electronic versions on compact disc; -XVB or -XVE are electronic versions on DVD and -XBB or -XBE a database.

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Release dates: January 12 to 16, 2009

(Release dates are subject to change.)

Release date	Title	Reference period
12	National tourism indicators	Third quarter 2008
12	New Housing Price Index	November 2008
13	Canadian international merchandise trade	November 2008
14	The impact of public infrastructure on Canadian multifactor productivity estimates	
15	Investment in non-residential building construction	Fourth quarter 2008
15	New motor vehicle sales	November 2008