

The Daily

Statistics Canada

Friday, October 9, 2009

Released at 8:30 a.m. Eastern time

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Statistics Canada named one of Canada's top 100 employers

Statistics Canada has been recognized as one of Canada's Top 100 Employers in a national competition to determine which employers lead their industries in offering exceptional workplaces for their employees. The Agency made the list of Top 100 for the first time.

Organizations chosen for this award are industry leaders in attracting and retaining quality employees. Employers are evaluated against a comprehensive set of criteria. Statistics Canada scored well on criteria related to human resources planning and recruitment; training and skills development and its strong employee participation and positive results in the most recent cycle of the Public Service Employee Survey.

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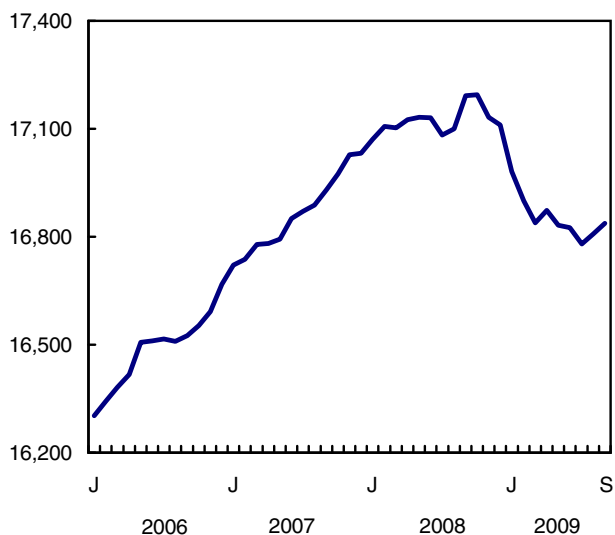
Labour Force Survey

September 2009

Employment increased for the second consecutive month, up 31,000 in September, driven by large full-time gains. The unemployment rate fell by 0.3 percentage points to 8.4%, the first monthly decline since the beginning of the labour market downturn in the fall of 2008.

Employment

thousands



September's full-time increase of 92,000, the largest since May 2006, was partially offset by part-time losses of 61,000. The increase in full-time work was mainly among youths and women aged 25 and over and in Ontario.

Despite September's gains, full-time employment has fallen by 395,000 or 2.8% since the employment peak in October 2008.

Note to readers

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-X, free).

Changes in average hourly wages are affected by shifts in the composition of the Canadian labour force. For example, a drop in employment in low-wage occupations or industries will contribute to an increase in the national average hourly wage.

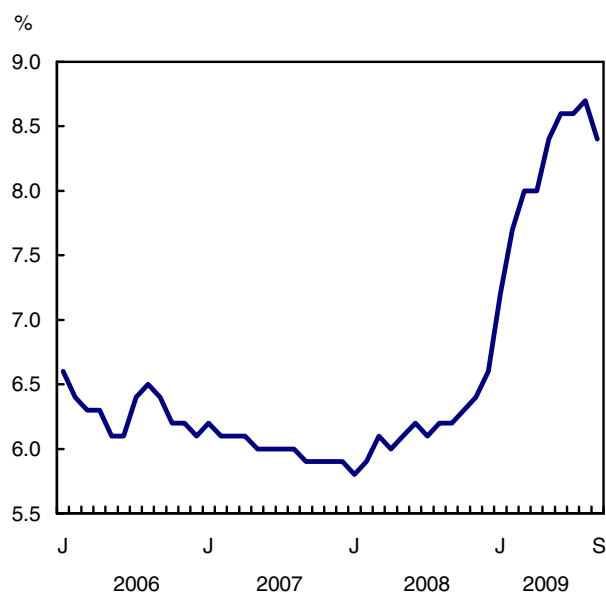
Construction, manufacturing and educational services saw employment increases in September, while there were declines in transportation and warehousing.

British Columbia, New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island were the only provinces with notable employment gains in September. In Ontario, employment rose slightly as large full-time gains were dampened by losses in part time.

Since the peak in October 2008, employment has fallen by 2.1% (-357,000), with the bulk of the decline occurring between October 2008 and March 2009. Since then, the trend in employment has levelled, with the number employed almost the same in September as it was in March.

Canadians have been working more hours since April 2009. While the number of actual hours worked decreased 4.2% from October 2008 to April 2009, since then, there has been an increase in hours worked of 2.0%. In contrast, employment edged down 0.2% from April to September.

The increase in average hourly wages slowed to 2.5% compared with September 2008. This was the lowest year-over-year growth in two and a half years.

Unemployment rate**Manufacturing and construction up in September**

Manufacturing employment increased by 26,000 in September, the first notable increase since February 2009. Employment in this industry had the sharpest rate of decline since the start of the labour market downturn in the fall of 2008, down 10.6% (-210,000).

Following an increase the previous month, employment in construction rose again in September (+25,000). Both housing starts and building permits have increased from April to August 2009. Despite these recent increases, employment in this industry has fallen by 6.7% (-84,000) since October 2008.

There was an employment gain of 18,000 in educational services in September. Since October 2008, employment in this industry has declined by 1.6% (-20,000).

Employment in transportation and warehousing decreased by 21,000 in September, continuing the downward trend since the fall of 2008. Employment has fallen by 8.4% or 73,000 since October, mostly in truck transportation in Ontario and Quebec.

In September, public sector employment increased by 36,000, leaving employment in this sector down 0.8% since October 2008. Employment among private sector employees edged down in September, while there was a small increase among the self employed. Most of the employment declines since October have been among private sector employees (-3.6%), while the number of self employed has increased by 2.9%.

Largest gain in British Columbia

By province, the most notable employment gain in September was in British Columbia, up 14,000. Although down 1.7% since October 2008, employment in this province has been increasing since March 2009 (+1.3% or +30,000). The unemployment rate, at 7.4%, declined by 0.4 percentage points in September.

In Ontario, a large full-time increase (+62,000) was dampened by a loss in part time (-49,000), leaving employment up only slightly in September. The unemployment rate declined by 0.2 percentage points to 9.2%.

September marks the third consecutive month of small employment increases in Ontario, totalling 39,000. Despite this increase, Ontario has suffered the fastest rate of employment losses since October (-2.9%), mostly in full time and in manufacturing, construction and a number of service industries.

Employment also increased in New Brunswick in September, up 2,900, bringing the unemployment rate down 1.2 percentage points, to 8.1%.

Quebec's employment level was little changed in September for the second consecutive month. The unemployment rate declined by 0.3 percentage points to 8.8%, as fewer people participated in the labour market. Since October, employment in this province has fallen by 1.6%, less than the national average of 2.1%.

More women working in September

September's overall employment gains were among women aged 25 and over (+41,000), while employment fell for men aged 25 to 54 (-17,000). Among youths, increases in full-time work (+58,000) were offset by part-time losses (-54,000).

Since October, the majority of employment losses were among men aged 25 to 54 (-211,000) and youths (-205,000). In recent months, employment declines have stabilized for core-age men, leaving employment down 0.2% since March. For youths, employment continued to decline throughout the summer months, with employment losses of 3.4% since March 2009.

Quarterly update on territories

The Labour Force Survey also collects labour market information about the territories. These data are not included in the national estimates, but are published separately and in the form of three-month moving averages. Information in this release is based on data that are not seasonally adjusted and therefore comparisons should only be made on a year-over-year basis.

Compared with the third quarter of 2008, employment was down in the Northwest Territories in the third quarter of 2009 (-2,200), pushing the unemployment rate up 2.6 percentage points to 7.6%. Over the same period, the employment rate (the proportion of the working-age population who are employed) fell by 7.0 percentage points to 65.1%, the lowest since the start of the series in 2001.

Employment in the Yukon edged down in the third quarter of 2009, bringing the employment rate to 70.2%, a decline of 3.3 percentage points from the same quarter of the previous year. The unemployment rate was 5.6%, the lowest of the three territories.

In Nunavut, over the same period, employment declines brought the employment rate down 1.3 percentage points to 53.1%. In the third quarter of 2009, the unemployment rate stood at 14.4%.

Available on CANSIM: tables 282-0001 to 282-0042, 282-0047 to 282-0064 and 282-0069 to 282-0100.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 3701.

A more detailed summary, *Labour Force Information* (71-001-X, free) is now available online for the week ending September 19. 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, 2008* (71F0004X, \$209) is now 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 November 6.

For general 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, Vincent Ferrao (613-951-4750; vincent.ferrao@statcan.gc.ca), or Judy Hosein (613-951-5704; judy.hosein@statcan.gc.ca), Labour Statistics Division.

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Labour force characteristics by age and sex

	August 2009	September 2009	August to September 2009	September 2008 to September 2009	August to September 2009	September 2008 to September 2009
Seasonally adjusted						
	thousands		change in thousands		% change	
Both sexes, 15 years and over						
Population	27,358.4	27,401.5	43.1	388.7	0.2	1.4
Labour force	18,412.3	18,387.8	-24.5	65.8	-0.1	0.4
Employment	16,807.4	16,838.0	30.6	-354.4	0.2	-2.1
Full-time	13,518.0	13,609.6	91.6	-358.4	0.7	-2.6
Part-time	3,289.4	3,228.4	-61.0	4.0	-1.9	0.1
Unemployment	1,604.9	1,549.7	-55.2	420.1	-3.4	37.2
Participation rate	67.3	67.1	-0.2	-0.7	...	...
Unemployment rate	8.7	8.4	-0.3	2.2	...	...
Employment rate	61.4	61.4	0.0	-2.2	...	...
Part-time rate	19.6	19.2	-0.4	0.4	...	...
Youths, 15 to 24 years						
Population	4,396.8	4,398.4	1.6	18.3	0.0	0.4
Labour force	2,858.3	2,821.8	-36.5	-141.8	-1.3	-4.8
Employment	2,391.0	2,395.2	4.2	-240.3	0.2	-9.1
Full-time	1,213.3	1,271.1	57.8	-153.1	4.8	-10.7
Part-time	1,177.7	1,124.1	-53.6	-87.2	-4.6	-7.2
Unemployment	467.3	426.6	-40.7	98.5	-8.7	30.0
Participation rate	65.0	64.2	-0.8	-3.5	...	...
Unemployment rate	16.3	15.1	-1.2	4.0	...	...
Employment rate	54.4	54.5	0.1	-5.7	...	...
Part-time rate	49.3	46.9	-2.4	0.9	...	...
Men, 25 years and over						
Population	11,228.2	11,249.6	21.4	188.1	0.2	1.7
Labour force	8,272.1	8,244.1	-28.0	65.0	-0.3	0.8
Employment	7,576.8	7,561.9	-14.9	-164.8	-0.2	-2.1
Full-time	7,000.3	6,967.7	-32.6	-211.1	-0.5	-2.9
Part-time	576.5	594.2	17.7	46.4	3.1	8.5
Unemployment	695.3	682.2	-13.1	229.8	-1.9	50.8
Participation rate	73.7	73.3	-0.4	-0.6	...	...
Unemployment rate	8.4	8.3	-0.1	2.8	...	...
Employment rate	67.5	67.2	-0.3	-2.7	...	...
Part-time rate	7.6	7.9	0.3	0.8	...	...
Women, 25 years and over						
Population	11,733.4	11,753.5	20.1	182.4	0.2	1.6
Labour force	7,281.9	7,321.8	39.9	142.5	0.5	2.0
Employment	6,839.6	6,880.9	41.3	50.6	0.6	0.7
Full-time	5,304.5	5,370.8	66.3	5.8	1.2	0.1
Part-time	1,535.1	1,510.1	-25.0	44.8	-1.6	3.1
Unemployment	442.3	440.9	-1.4	91.8	-0.3	26.3
Participation rate	62.1	62.3	0.2	0.3	...	...
Unemployment rate	6.1	6.0	-0.1	1.1	...	...
Employment rate	58.3	58.5	0.2	-0.5	...	...
Part-time rate	22.4	21.9	-0.5	0.4	...	...

... not applicable

Note: Related CANSIM table 282-0087.

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

	August 2009	September 2009	August to September 2009	September 2008 to September 2009	August to September 2009	September 2008 to September 2009
Seasonally adjusted						
	thousands		change in thousands		% change	
Class of worker						
Employees	14,091.2	14,110.5	19.3	-432.4	0.1	-3.0
Self-employed	2,716.2	2,727.5	11.3	78.0	0.4	2.9
Public/private sector employees						
Public	3,396.6	3,433.0	36.4	-2.1	1.1	-0.1
Private	10,694.6	10,677.5	-17.1	-430.3	-0.2	-3.9
All industries	16,807.4	16,838.0	30.6	-354.4	0.2	-2.1
Goods-producing sector	3,668.4	3,714.6	46.2	-353.0	1.3	-8.7
Agriculture	320.0	319.5	-0.5	-8.4	-0.2	-2.6
Natural resources	319.3	313.0	-6.3	-30.6	-2.0	-8.9
Utilities	148.0	150.3	2.3	-1.2	1.6	-0.8
Construction	1,142.2	1,166.8	24.6	-93.1	2.2	-7.4
Manufacturing	1,738.9	1,765.0	26.1	-219.7	1.5	-11.1
Services-producing sector	13,139.0	13,123.4	-15.6	-1.4	-0.1	0.0
Trade	2,660.9	2,662.9	2.0	-6.5	0.1	-0.2
Transportation and warehousing	819.0	797.7	-21.3	-74.1	-2.6	-8.5
Finance, insurance, real estate and leasing	1,110.3	1,121.1	10.8	46.1	1.0	4.3
Professional, scientific and technical services	1,212.9	1,199.8	-13.1	1.2	-1.1	0.1
Business, building and other support services	649.9	645.8	-4.1	-29.3	-0.6	-4.3
Educational services	1,170.5	1,188.4	17.9	-11.4	1.5	-1.0
Health care and social assistance	1,940.9	1,946.8	5.9	21.5	0.3	1.1
Information, culture and recreation	795.4	791.5	-3.9	42.2	-0.5	5.6
Accommodation and food services	1,044.6	1,032.0	-12.6	-56.2	-1.2	-5.2
Other services	800.2	805.4	5.2	44.6	0.6	5.9
Public administration	934.3	932.0	-2.3	20.4	-0.2	2.2

1. North American Industry Classification System.

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

Labour force characteristics by province

	August 2009	September 2009	August to September 2009	September 2008 to September 2009	August to September 2009	September 2008 to September 2009
Seasonally adjusted						
	thousands		change in thousands		% change	
Newfoundland and Labrador						
Population	429.2	429.7	0.5	2.9	0.1	0.7
Labour force	254.7	255.9	1.2	5.3	0.5	2.1
Employment	215.1	216.6	1.5	-0.2	0.7	-0.1
Full-time	189.1	184.9	-4.2	-3.1	-2.2	-1.6
Part-time	25.9	31.7	5.8	2.9	22.4	10.1
Unemployment	39.7	39.2	-0.5	5.4	-1.3	16.0
Participation rate	59.3	59.6	0.3	0.9	...	...
Unemployment rate	15.6	15.3	-0.3	1.8	...	...
Employment rate	50.1	50.4	0.3	-0.4	...	...
Prince Edward Island						
Population	116.4	116.4	0.0	1.2	0.0	1.0
Labour force	79.4	78.9	-0.5	-0.5	-0.6	-0.6
Employment	68.5	69.6	1.1	-0.8	1.6	-1.1
Full-time	55.5	57.5	2.0	-1.2	3.6	-2.0
Part-time	13.0	12.1	-0.9	0.4	-6.9	3.4
Unemployment	10.9	9.3	-1.6	0.3	-14.7	3.3
Participation rate	68.2	67.8	-0.4	-1.1	...	...
Unemployment rate	13.7	11.8	-1.9	0.5	...	...
Employment rate	58.8	59.8	1.0	-1.3	...	...
Nova Scotia						
Population	772.8	773.3	0.5	3.3	0.1	0.4
Labour force	500.5	499.6	-0.9	5.3	-0.2	1.1
Employment	453.2	452.1	-1.1	-4.3	-0.2	-0.9
Full-time	371.2	368.8	-2.4	-4.4	-0.6	-1.2
Part-time	82.1	83.3	1.2	0.1	1.5	0.1
Unemployment	47.3	47.5	0.2	9.6	0.4	25.3
Participation rate	64.8	64.6	-0.2	0.4	...	...
Unemployment rate	9.5	9.5	0.0	1.8	...	...
Employment rate	58.6	58.5	-0.1	-0.8	...	...
New Brunswick						
Population	621.8	622.2	0.4	3.2	0.1	0.5
Labour force	402.4	400.1	-2.3	0.8	-0.6	0.2
Employment	364.9	367.8	2.9	0.8	0.8	0.2
Full-time	306.8	309.6	2.8	1.9	0.9	0.6
Part-time	58.1	58.2	0.1	-1.1	0.2	-1.9
Unemployment	37.5	32.3	-5.2	0.0	-13.9	0.0
Participation rate	64.7	64.3	-0.4	-0.2	...	...
Unemployment rate	9.3	8.1	-1.2	0.0	...	...
Employment rate	58.7	59.1	0.4	-0.2	...	...
Quebec						
Population	6,444.3	6,451.9	7.6	66.5	0.1	1.0
Labour force	4,212.8	4,196.7	-16.1	4.4	-0.4	0.1
Employment	3,830.2	3,826.7	-3.5	-60.3	-0.1	-1.6
Full-time	3,099.3	3,107.6	8.3	-42.4	0.3	-1.3
Part-time	730.9	719.1	-11.8	-17.9	-1.6	-2.4
Unemployment	382.6	370.0	-12.6	64.8	-3.3	21.2
Participation rate	65.4	65.0	-0.4	-0.7	...	...
Unemployment rate	9.1	8.8	-0.3	1.5	...	...
Employment rate	59.4	59.3	-0.1	-1.6	...	...

... not applicable

Note: Related CANSIM table 282-0087.

Labour force characteristics by province

	August 2009	September 2009	August to September 2009	September 2008 to September 2009	August to September 2009	September 2008 to September 2009
Seasonally adjusted						
	thousands		change in thousands		% change	
Ontario						
Population	10,677.4	10,695.3	17.9	148.6	0.2	1.4
Labour force	7,186.0	7,182.5	-3.5	-13.2	0.0	-0.2
Employment	6,512.5	6,525.1	12.6	-205.2	0.2	-3.0
Full-time	5,204.0	5,265.5	61.5	-178.2	1.2	-3.3
Part-time	1,308.5	1,259.6	-48.9	-27.0	-3.7	-2.1
Unemployment	673.5	657.4	-16.1	192.0	-2.4	41.3
Participation rate	67.3	67.2	-0.1	-1.0	...	...
Unemployment rate	9.4	9.2	-0.2	2.7	...	...
Employment rate	61.0	61.0	0.0	-2.8	...	...
Manitoba						
Population	925.0	926.1	1.1	13.8	0.1	1.5
Labour force	648.5	643.2	-5.3	7.1	-0.8	1.1
Employment	611.3	608.9	-2.4	1.7	-0.4	0.3
Full-time	489.6	489.1	-0.5	-0.2	-0.1	0.0
Part-time	121.7	119.8	-1.9	1.9	-1.6	1.6
Unemployment	37.2	34.3	-2.9	5.5	-7.8	19.1
Participation rate	70.1	69.5	-0.6	-0.2	...	...
Unemployment rate	5.7	5.3	-0.4	0.8	...	...
Employment rate	66.1	65.7	-0.4	-0.9	...	...
Saskatchewan						
Population	781.0	782.1	1.1	11.4	0.1	1.5
Labour force	544.2	544.3	0.1	3.2	0.0	0.6
Employment	516.9	519.0	2.1	-0.5	0.4	-0.1
Full-time	415.0	421.8	6.8	-4.3	1.6	-1.0
Part-time	101.9	97.2	-4.7	3.8	-4.6	4.1
Unemployment	27.3	25.3	-2.0	3.7	-7.3	17.1
Participation rate	69.7	69.6	-0.1	-0.6	...	...
Unemployment rate	5.0	4.6	-0.4	0.6	...	...
Employment rate	66.2	66.4	0.2	-1.0	...	...
Alberta						
Population	2,876.0	2,882.2	6.2	74.0	0.2	2.6
Labour force	2,136.8	2,134.0	-2.8	32.1	-0.1	1.5
Employment	1,979.1	1,982.1	3.0	-39.6	0.2	-2.0
Full-time	1,613.2	1,627.9	14.7	-59.5	0.9	-3.5
Part-time	365.9	354.2	-11.7	19.9	-3.2	6.0
Unemployment	157.7	151.9	-5.8	71.7	-3.7	89.4
Participation rate	74.3	74.0	-0.3	-0.8	...	...
Unemployment rate	7.4	7.1	-0.3	3.3	...	...
Employment rate	68.8	68.8	0.0	-3.2	...	...
British Columbia						
Population	3,714.5	3,722.6	8.1	64.0	0.2	1.7
Labour force	2,447.0	2,452.7	5.7	21.5	0.2	0.9
Employment	2,255.7	2,270.1	14.4	-45.9	0.6	-2.0
Full-time	1,774.8	1,777.0	2.2	-67.5	0.1	-3.7
Part-time	480.8	493.1	12.3	21.7	2.6	4.6
Unemployment	191.3	182.6	-8.7	67.3	-4.5	58.4
Participation rate	65.9	65.9	0.0	-0.6	...	...
Unemployment rate	7.8	7.4	-0.4	2.7	...	...
Employment rate	60.7	61.0	0.3	-2.3	...	...

... not applicable

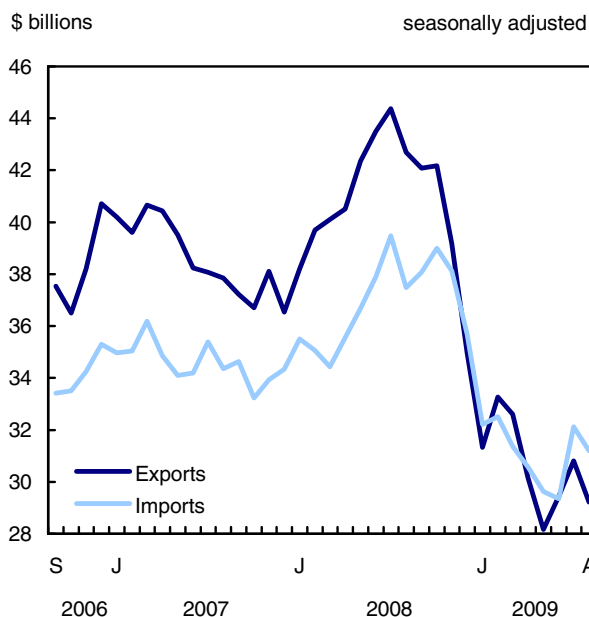
Note: Related CANSIM table 282-0087.

Canadian international merchandise trade

August 2009

Canada's merchandise exports and imports both fell in August, after gains in July. Exports declined 5.1%, as a result of a 5.0% reduction in volumes. Imports decreased 2.8% as import volumes edged down 0.3%. Consequently, Canada's trade deficit widened to \$2.0 billion in August from \$1.3 billion in July.

Exports and imports



After two consecutive months of increases, exports fell to \$29.2 billion in August from \$30.8 billion in July. Exports declined in all sectors, led by machinery and equipment, agricultural and fishing products, industrial goods and materials, and automotive products.

Following a 9.4% gain to \$32.1 billion in July, imports declined to \$31.2 billion in August. This decrease was the result of a 2.6% reduction in prices. Machinery and equipment accounted for half of the decrease in imports. Energy products, other consumer goods and industrial goods and materials also contributed to the decrease. Gains in imports of automotive products moderated the decline.

Note to readers

Merchandise trade is one component of Canada's international balance of payments, which also includes trade in services, investment income, current transfers as well as capital and financial flows.

International merchandise trade data by country are available on both a balance of payments and a customs basis for the United States, Japan and the United Kingdom. Trade data for all other individual countries are available on a customs basis only. Balance of payments data are derived from customs data by making adjustments for characteristics such as valuation, coverage, timing and residency. These adjustments are made to conform to the concepts and definitions of the Canadian System of National Accounts.

Constant dollars referred to in the text are calculated using the Laspeyres volume formula.

Revisions

In general, merchandise trade data are revised on an ongoing basis for each month of the current year. Current year revisions are reflected in both the customs and balance of payments based data. Revisions to customs based data for the previous year are released on a quarterly basis. Revisions to balance of payments based data for the three previous years are released annually in June.

Factors influencing revisions include late receipt of import and export documentation, incorrect information on customs forms, replacement of estimates with actual figures, changes in classification of merchandise based on more current information, and changes to seasonal adjustment factors.

Revised data are available in the appropriate CANSIM tables.

Since reaching record highs in July 2008, exports and imports have generally been trending downward. Since July 2008, export volumes have fallen by 21.3% and prices have declined by 16.3%. In comparison, import volumes have fallen by 18.1% while prices have decreased by 3.5%. However, since April 2009, import volumes have generally been on the rise while import prices have fallen rapidly. During the same period, the decline in export volumes and prices has slowed down.

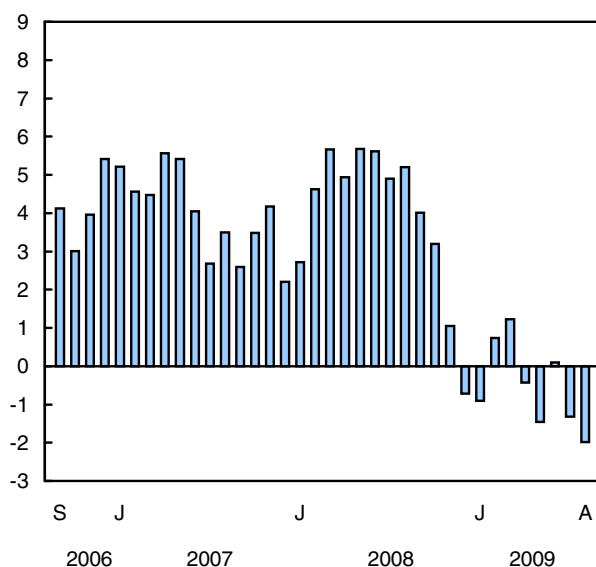
Exports to the United States fell 3.2% while imports declined 3.3% in August. As a result, Canada posted a trade surplus with the United States of \$2.2 billion, basically unchanged from July.

Exports to countries other than the United States decreased 10.6%. Imports declined 2.0%, mostly as a result of lower imports from the European Union. Consequently, Canada's trade deficit with countries other than the United States increased to \$4.2 billion in August from \$3.5 billion in July.

Trade balance

\$ billions

seasonally adjusted

**Lower volumes account for declining exports**

Exports of machinery and equipment fell 10.4% to \$6.2 billion, erasing the gains posted in July. The decline reflected a 10.7% contraction in volumes. Although the declines in the sector were widespread, exports of aircraft and telecommunication equipment led the decrease.

Exports of agricultural and fishing products fell 10.3% to \$2.8 billion, largely the result of a 7.9% decline in volumes. Lower exports of canola, wheat and vegetable products accounted for most of the drop.

Exports of industrial goods and materials decreased 3.3% to \$6.2 billion, as volumes fell 6.5%. The main contributing factor in this sector was declining exports of crude non-metallic minerals. Exports of metal ores, with the exception of copper ores, were also down in August.

Exports of automotive products declined 5.5% to \$3.5 billion. Exports of trucks and other motor vehicles were down 35.1%, reflecting truck manufacturing plant closures. Since August 2008, exports of trucks and other motor vehicles have fallen 75.8%. Exports of motor vehicle parts and passenger autos also declined in August.

Half the decline in imports is attributed to machinery and equipment

Imports of machinery and equipment declined 4.9% to \$9.0 billion, after strong gains in July. The decline was mostly due to a 3.8% reduction in prices. The decreases were widespread, with aircraft and other transportation equipment accounting for half of the decline.

After four months of growth, imports of energy products declined 9.8% to \$2.9 billion. Imports of crude petroleum fell 12.0%, due to volume reductions. Petroleum and coal products also decreased, mainly the result of lower imports of motor gasoline.

Imports of other consumer goods decreased 4.9% to \$4.6 billion. While the declines were widespread, reduced imports of medicinal and pharmaceutical products, and outdoor clothing were mostly responsible for the decrease.

Imports of industrial goods and materials contracted 3.4% to \$5.8 billion, largely due to a decrease in imports of chemical products. Higher imports of precious metals partly offset the decline in this sector.

Imports of automotive products rose 3.8% to \$5.0 billion, due to volumes rising 4.9%. Truck and other motor vehicle imports increased 26.1%, in an effort to replenish inventories and compensate for vehicles no longer produced in Canada.

Available on CANSIM: tables 228-0001 to 228-0003, 228-0033, 228-0034, 228-0041 to 228-0043 and 228-0047 to 228-0057.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey numbers, including related surveys, 2201, 2202 and 2203.

The August 2009 issue of *Canadian International Merchandise Trade*, Vol. 63, no. 8 (65-001-X, free), is now available from the *Publications* module of our website.

Current account data (which incorporate merchandise trade statistics, service transactions, investment income and transfers) are available quarterly in *Canada's Balance of International Payments* (67-001-X, free).

For more information, contact Sharon Nevins (toll-free 1-800-294-5583; 613-951-9798). To enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Mychèle Gagnon (613-951-0994), International Trade Division.

□

Merchandise trade

	July 2009 ^r	August 2009	July to August 2009	August to August 2009
Seasonally adjusted, \$ current				
	\$ millions		% change	
Principal trading partners				
Exports				
United States	22,580	21,866	-3.2	-31.9
Japan	780	637	-18.3	-43.0
European Union ¹	2,409	2,251	-6.6	-35.2
Other OECD countries ²	1,566	1,301	-16.9	-28.2
All other countries	3,466	3,163	-8.7	-24.2
Total	30,801	29,217	-5.1	-31.6
Imports				
United States	20,368	19,693	-3.3	-17.4
Japan	790	835	5.7	-8.9
European Union ¹	3,319	2,986	-10.0	-23.9
Other OECD countries ²	2,311	2,471	6.9	2.6
All other countries	5,329	5,217	-2.1	-18.3
Total	32,117	31,202	-2.8	-16.7
Balance				
United States	2,212	2,173	...	...
Japan	-10	-198	...	...
European Union ¹	-910	-735	...	...
Other OECD countries ²	-745	-1,170	...	...
All other countries	-1,863	-2,054	...	...
Total	-1,316	-1,985	...	...
Principal commodity groupings				
Exports				
Agricultural and fishing products	3,135	2,813	-10.3	-17.7
Energy products	6,562	6,559	0.0	-41.3
Forestry products	1,578	1,524	-3.4	-27.5
Industrial goods and materials	6,463	6,248	-3.3	-38.5
Machinery and equipment	6,914	6,195	-10.4	-21.2
Automotive products	3,737	3,532	-5.5	-31.6
Other consumer goods	1,492	1,429	-4.2	-10.3
Special transactions trade ³	511	520	1.8	-31.7
Other balance of payments adjustments	411	397	-3.4	-13.5
Imports				
Agricultural and fishing products	2,463	2,476	0.5	0.7
Energy products	3,256	2,936	-9.8	-35.0
Forestry products	191	191	0.0	-21.1
Industrial goods and materials	5,962	5,758	-3.4	-27.5
Machinery and equipment	9,407	8,950	-4.9	-12.3
Automotive products	4,865	5,049	3.8	-14.1
Other consumer goods	4,875	4,634	-4.9	-6.1
Special transactions trade ³	418	533	27.5	0.4
Other balance of payments adjustments	680	676	-0.6	-12.8

^r revised

... not applicable

1. The European Union includes Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, and United Kingdom.

2. Other countries in the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) include Australia, Canada, Iceland, Mexico, New Zealand, Norway, South Korea, Switzerland and Turkey.

3. These are mainly low valued transactions, value of repairs to equipment, and goods returned to country of origin.

Note: Totals may not equal the sum of their components.

Quarterly Retail Commodity Survey

Second quarter 2009

Retail sales totalled \$107.8 billion in the second quarter, down 5.2% from the second quarter of 2008. The main contributors were lower sales of automotive fuels, oils and additives, as well as motor vehicles, parts and services. Excluding these two categories, retail sales were up 0.7%.

Most of the year-over-year decline came from a 28.2% decrease in sales of automotive fuels, oils and additives. This mainly reflects changes in the price of gasoline at the pump.

Sales of motor vehicles (new and used), parts and services were down 10.7%. The value of sales of new cars and trucks, which include light and heavy trucks, vans, minivans and sport utility vehicles, declined 15.0%. This reflects both fewer new vehicles sold and lower prices. The value of used vehicles sold fell 8.5%, while sales of automotive parts, accessories and services were down 1.2%.

The largest year-over-year increase in the second quarter was a 7.5% rise in sales of food and beverages. This was led by an 8.6% gain in food sales. Prices of food purchased from stores rose 7.4% during the period, according to the Consumer Price Index.

Sales of health and personal care products rose 3.5%. The main factor was a 5.7% increase in sales of prescription drugs.

Sales of furniture, home furnishings and electronics decreased 9.4%. The largest category within this

grouping, indoor furniture sales (-8.1%), contributed the most to this decline, followed by sales of home furnishings (-12.8%).

Sales levels of hardware, lawn and garden products were relatively unchanged from the second quarter of 2008. Lower sales of lumber and other building materials more than offset higher sales in the rest of the hardware and lawn and garden products category.

Note: The Quarterly Retail Commodity Survey collects 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. For example, no adjustment has been made for Easter, which occurred in the second quarter of 2009 but had taken place in the first quarter of 2008. 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

	Second quarter 2008 ^r	First quarter 2009 ^r	Second quarter 2009 ^p	Second quarter 2008 to second quarter 2009
Unadjusted				
	\$ millions			% change
Commodity				
Food and beverages	23,288	22,531	25,042	7.5
Health and personal care products	9,203	9,107	9,528	3.5
Clothing, footwear and accessories	8,612	6,389	8,307	-3.6
Furniture, home furnishings and electronics	9,346	8,066	8,466	-9.4
Motor vehicles, parts and services	24,955	16,071	22,290	-10.7
Automotive fuels, oils and additives	13,401	8,269	9,628	-28.2
Housewares	1,908	1,726	1,915	0.3
Hardware, lawn and garden products	9,389	4,724	9,401	0.1
Sporting and leisure goods	3,360	2,796	3,309	-1.5
All other goods and services	10,309	7,545	9,959	-3.4
Total	113,772	87,223	107,843	-5.2

^r revised

^p preliminary

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

Export and import price indexes

August 2009

Current- and fixed-weighted export and import price indexes (2002=100) on a customs or balance of payments basis are now available. Price indexes are listed from January 2002 to August 2009 for the five commodity sections and the major commodity groups (62 exports and 61 imports).

Current- and fixed-weighted US price indexes (2002=100) are also available on a customs basis. Price indexes are listed from January 2002 to August 2009. Included with the US commodity indexes are the 10 all-countries and US-only Standard International Trade Classification section indexes.

Available on CANSIM: tables 228-0001 to 228-0003, 228-0033, 228-0034, 228-0041 to 228-0043 and 228-0047 to 228-0057.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey numbers, including related surveys, 2201, 2202 and 2203.

The August 2009 issue of *Canadian International Merchandise Trade*, Vol. 63, no. 8 (65-001-X, 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 Client Services (toll-free 1-800-294-5583), International Trade Division. ■

Chain Fisher real export and import values

August 2009

The monthly chain Fisher real dollar values (reference year 2002) for Canadian international merchandise trade are now available for August.

Available on CANSIM: tables 228-0056 and 228-0057.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey numbers, including related surveys, 2201, 2202 and 2203.

The August 2009 issue of *Canadian International Merchandise Trade*, Vol. 63, no. 8 (65-001-X, 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 Client Services (toll-free 1-800-294-5583), International Trade Division. ■

Cement

August 2009

Data on cement are now available for August.

Available on CANSIM: tables 303-0060 and 303-0061.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2140.

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), Manufacturing and Energy Division. ■

New products

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Canadian International Merchandise Trade,
August 2009, Vol. 63, no. 8
Catalogue number 65-001-X (PDF, free; HTML, free)

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Catalogue 11-001-XIE.

Published each working day by the Communications and library Services Division, Statistics Canada, 10G, R.H. Coats Building, 100 Tunney's Pasture Driveway, Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0T6.

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The Daily, October 9, 2009

Release dates: October 13 to 16, 2009

(Release dates are subject to change.)

Release date	Title	Reference period
13	New Housing Price Index	August 2009
14	New motor vehicle sales	August 2009
15	Monthly Survey of Manufacturing	August 2009
16	Consumer Price Index	September 2009
16	Investment in non-residential building construction	Third quarter 2009