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Releases

Releases

National Graduates Survey

2007

More than 80% of college and university students who graduated in 2005 and did not pursue further studies had found full-time employment by 2007. In general, earnings increased by level of study. In 2007, two years after graduation, just over one-quarter of those who owed student debt at the time they graduated had paid it off.

In 2007, two years after they had graduated, a higher proportion of graduates with a master's degree were working full time than college graduates or those with a bachelor's degree or a doctorate.

The pool of graduates with a master's was higher in 2005 than it was in 2000 for both men and women. However, the employment rate among master's graduates remained stable for men at 94%, while it rose for women, from 89% in 2002 to 92% in 2007. Consequently, among graduates with a master's degree, the gap in employment rates between women and men nearly closed.

Findings also showed differences in terms of earnings from one level of education to another. The largest earnings gap existed between the bachelor's and master's levels, suggesting that investing in further postgraduate work is financially beneficial.

On the other hand, the earnings gap between a master's and doctorate suggests that the monetary gain from employment two years after graduation for doctorate students is marginal.

Among graduates in 2005 who did not pursue further education, about half financed their postsecondary education without taking on any education-related loans. Nearly one-half (46%) of all 2005 bachelor's graduates completed their studies free of debt, as did 56% of doctorates, 55% of college grads and 54% of those with a master's.

Within two years, just over one-quarter of those who had student-related debt (both government and non-government) had been able to pay it off. The highest proportion who were clear of debt were master's graduates (32%), followed by doctorate (30%), bachelor's (28%), and college graduates (24%).

Note to readers

This report contains the first results of the National Graduates Survey, which was jointly undertaken by Statistics Canada and Human Resources and Skills Development Canada in 2007. This survey covered individuals who graduated from Canadian public postsecondary institutions in 2005.

This report presents information on the further education and labour market experiences that these graduates had in the two years that followed their graduation. For those who did not pursue further education, it also provides information on their student debt both at the time of graduation and two years later.

To date, six graduating classes have been surveyed: 1982, 1986, 1990, 1995, 2000 and 2005.

Full-time employment rates highest for master's graduates

In 2007, two years after graduation, 9 out of 10 college, bachelor's, master's and doctorate graduates who had not taken further education were working.

A higher proportion of graduates of master's programs were working full time in 2007, compared with college, bachelor's or doctorate graduates.

About 86% of master's graduates were working full time, compared with 84% for both bachelor's and doctorate graduates and 80% for college graduates.

Women who were working full time generally earned less than their male counterparts. Furthermore, more women than men were working part time in 2007 at all levels of education.

About 8% of women at both the bachelor's and master's levels were employed part time, twice the 4% among men at those levels.

The gap was the widest among college graduates. About 14% of female college graduates were working part time compared with 5% of males.

It is difficult to identify consistent patterns in employment by field of study; rates of full-time employment did not necessarily increase by level of education within individual fields, and some fields had high employment rates only at one level, and lower rates at all others.

Earnings rise with each level of education

While relatively similar proportions of college, bachelor's, master's and doctorate graduates were able to find work two years after graduation, there were differences in terms of their earnings.

The median annual earnings among those who were working full time in 2007 was lowest for college graduates at $35,000. This increased to $45,000 for bachelor's graduates, $60,000 for master's graduates and $65,000 for doctorate graduates.

Therefore, the earnings gap was 33% between the bachelor's and master's degree, and 29% between a bachelor's and a college degree. But it was only 8% between the master's and doctorate levels.

Although earnings generally increased by level of study, there were large distributions of annual earnings within each education level.

Consequently, some college graduates earned more than many bachelor's graduates. For example, 25% of college graduates earned $44,300 or more annually, while 50% of bachelor's graduates earned $45,000 or less.

Student debt

The average debt from all sources in constant 2007 dollars among members of the 2005 cohort that owed student-related debt did not differ greatly from the class of 2000. Graduates from 2005 with student debt had lower average debt levels than their 2000 counterparts: doctorate graduates owed about $1,300 less on average, while college graduates owed about $700 less.

In 2007, two years after graduation, loans exceeded $20,000 on average for graduates with student debt (both government and non-government) at the bachelor's and doctorate levels.

In 2007, graduates with a doctorate still owed the highest amount from all sources, $22,500 on average, while bachelor's graduates had an average debt owing of $20,400. Master's graduates owed an average of $19,500, while college grads had the smallest debt in 2007, an average of $11,800.

Graduates who were still paying off their government debt two years after graduation earned less on average than those who had completely paid off their student loans. Bachelor's graduates who had paid off their debt earned over $8,000 more, or roughly 23% more, than those who still had debt two years after graduation.

About half of the 2005 graduates relied on either government or non-government student loans, which include private, family and bank loans. The proportion of 2000 and 2005 graduates owing to both types of loans was similar.

However, graduates of 2005 were more likely to owe solely to non-government sources, and less likely to owe exclusively to government sources.

In addition, graduates of 2005 who owed only to non-government sources had higher average debt levels compared with graduates of 2000. The opposite was true for those owing to government sources only: they had lower average debt levels compared with graduates of 2000.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 5012.

The report "Graduating in Canada: Profile, labour market outcomes and student debt of the class of 2005" is now available as part of the *Culture, Tourism and the Centre for Education Statistics: Research Papers*, 2007 (81-595-MWE2009074, free). From the *Publications* module of our website, choose *Publications by subject*, then *Education, training and learning*.

To obtain more information on Statistics Canada's Education Statistics Program, to order data, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Client Services (toll-free 1-800-307-3382; 613-951-7608; fax: 613-951-4441; TTY: 1-800-363-7629; *educationstats@statcan.gc.ca*), Tourism and the Centre for Education Statistics. ■

Leading indicators

March 2009

The composite leading index fell 1.3% in March following a 1.4% drop in February. The contraction in the manufacturing sector intensified as widespread cutbacks were implemented in the auto industry early in the new year. This was offset by a marked slowdown in the fall of the housing and stock markets.

All three manufacturing indicators fell in unison. The sharpest decline was for new orders, down a record 10.3% due to falling demand for autos. Falling shipments also lowered the ratio of shipments to inventories. Preliminary data for February on the number of auto assemblies point to a rebound of over one-quarter of output.

The financial indicators continued to improve. The money supply remained the only component to expand. The stock market continued its downward trend, dropping 2.3% in March, following five straight declines averaging nearly 8% a month.

The rate of decline of the housing index also moderated to 4.3% in March from 7.7% in February. Both housing starts and existing home sales saw improvements after several months of retreat. Sales of other durable goods also posted a much lower rate of decline of 0.6%, as the rapid drop in auto sales late in 2008 began to level off early in the new year.

Available on CANSIM: table 377-0003.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 1601.

This release will be reprinted in the May 2009 issue of *Canadian Economic Observer*, Vol. 22, no. 5 (11-010-XWE, free). For more information on the economy, consult the *Canadian Economic Observer*.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Philip Cross (613-951-9162; *ceo@statcan.gc.ca*), Current Economic Analysis Group.

Leading indicators

	October 2008	November 2008	December 2008	January 2009	February 2009	March 2009	Last month of data available
							% change
Composite leading indicator (1992=100)	**228.2**	**226.5**	**224.3**	**221.8**	**218.8**	**216.0**	**-1.3**
Housing index (1992=100)[1]	130.2	123.1	117.7	109.5	101.1	96.8	-4.3
Business and personal services employment ('000)	2,952	2,948	2,945	2,932	2,924	2,920	-0.1
S&P/TSX stock price index (1975=1,000)	12,669	11,630	10,709	9,694	8,968	8,759	-2.3
Money supply, M1 ($ millions, 1992)[2]	176,148	178,768	181,834	185,011	187,579	189,336	0.9
US Conference Board leading indicator (1992=100)[3]	123.2	122.5	121.7	121.1	120.7	120.2	-0.4
Manufacturing							
Average workweek (hours)	37.6	37.5	37.0	36.9	36.7	36.6	-0.3
New orders, durables ($ millions, 1992)[4]	27,679	27,821	28,826	27,807	26,535	23,811	-10.3
Shipments/inventories of finished goods[4]	1.76	1.76	1.75	1.73	1.69	1.63	-0.06[5]
Retail trade							
Furniture and appliance sales ($ millions, 1992)[4]	2,936	2,950	2,949	2,953	2,938	2,912	-0.9
Other durable goods sales ($ millions, 1992)[4]	9,654	9,666	9,660	9,621	9,444	9,392	-0.6
Unsmoothed composite leading indicator	**224.0**	**221.8**	**218.3**	**217.5**	**212.6**	**210.0**	**-1.2**

1. *Composite index of housing starts (units) and house sales (multiple listing service).*
2. *Deflated by the Consumer Price Index for all items.*
3. *The figures in this row reflect data published in the month indicated, but the figures themselves refer to data for the month immediately preceding.*
4. *The figures in this row reflect data published in the month indicated, but the figures themselves refer to data for the second preceding month.*
5. *Difference from previous month.*

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Farm Product Price Index

February 2009

Prices farmers received for their commodities fell 2.1% in February 2009 compared with the same month a year earlier, as the total livestock and animal products index rose 13.5%, while the crops index declined 19.5%.

The prices producers received for livestock and animal products in February 2009 were 13.5% higher compared with February 2008. All of the livestock index components were up, continuing the growth in year-over-year prices since July 2008. Lower feed grain prices, and a depreciating Canadian dollar relative to its American counterpart, helped to support higher cattle and hog prices. Cattle (-5.2%) and hog (-10.3%) inventories as of January 2009 were also down compared with the same period a year earlier.

On the other hand, the total crops index (122.4) decreased by 19.5% from February 2008, as prices were down for grains, oilseeds and specialty crops. The oilseeds index declined 9.2%, the first year-over-year decrease since October 2006. Oilseed and grain prices were pressured downward by uncertain market conditions and strong world supplies.

On a monthly basis, prices farmers received for their commodities rose 1.1% in February from January 2009. The livestock and animal products index increased 2.8%, outpacing a 1.8% decline in the total crops index. All components of the livestock and animal products index increased except poultry.

The total index (1997=100) stood at 116.0 in February, up from 114.7 in January 2009.

Note: The growth rate of the total Farm Product Price Index (FPPI) is not a weighted average of the growth rates of its crop and livestock components. The growth rate of the total FPPI is derived from a weighted average of the component indices using a different set of weights in consecutive months. Given this, the growth rate of the composite FPPI can lie outside the growth rate of the components.

Available on CANSIM: tables 002-0021 and 002-0022.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 5040.

The February 2009 issue of the *Farm Product Price Index*, Vol. 9, no. 2 (21-007-XWE, free), is now available. From the *Publications* module on our website, under *All subjects* choose *Agriculture*.

For more information, or to order data, call Client Services (toll-free 1-800-465-1991). To enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Gail-Ann Breese (204-983-3445: fax: 204-983-7543; *gail-ann.breese@statcan.gc.ca*), Agriculture Division.

Farm Product Price Index

	February 2008[r]	January 2009[r]	February 2009[p]	February 2008 to February 2009	January to February 2009
	(1997=100)			% change	
Farm Product Price Index	**118.5**	**114.7**	**116.0**	**-2.1**	**1.1**
Crops	**152.0**	**124.6**	**122.4**	**-19.5**	**-1.8**
Grains	182.6	114.9	110.4	-39.5	-3.9
Oilseeds	133.0	122.1	120.8	-9.2	-1.1
Specialty crops	175.8	172.4	164.7	-6.3	-4.5
Fruit	131.6	138.3	150.4	14.3	8.7
Vegetables	117.0	124.1	124.3	6.2	0.2
Potatoes	125.9	180.6	191.4	52.0	6.0
Livestock and animal products	**96.1**	**106.1**	**109.1**	**13.5**	**2.8**
Cattle and calves	89.9	98.6	101.3	12.7	2.7
Hogs	55.6	74.1	78.2	40.6	5.5
Poultry	106.5	115.2	114.1	7.1	-1.0
Eggs	103.8	109.6	109.6	5.6	0.0
Dairy	138.9	142.2	147.5	6.2	3.7

r *revised*
p *preliminary*

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Natural gas sales

February 2009 (preliminary)

Natural gas sales totalled 7 822 million cubic metres in February, down 11.1% from February 2008.

The volumes of sales to the residential (-3.1%), commercial (-5.0%) and industrial, including direct sales (-18.9%), sectors were down in February compared with February 2008.

Total sales in February were 13.3% lower compared with January 2009.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2149.

For more information, to order data, 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.

Natural gas sales

	February 2008	January 2009	February 2009[p]	January to February 2009	February 2008 to February 2009
	thousands of cubic metres			% change	
Total sales	**8 796 585**	**9 018 769**	**7 821 817**	**-13.3**	**-11.1**
Residential[1]	2 708 290	3 192 702	2 624 093	-17.8	-3.1
Commercial[2]	1 889 218	2 075 456	1 794 324	-13.5	-5.0
Industrial[3]and direct sales[4]	4 199 077	3 750,611	3 403 400	-9.3	-18.9

p *preliminary*
1. *Gas sold for domestic purposes, including space heating, water heating and cooking, to a residential dwelling unit.*
2. *Gas sold to customers engaged in wholesale or retail trade, governments, institutions, office buildings, etc.*
3. *Gas sold to customers engaged in a process that creates or changes raw or unfinished materials into another form or product. Includes mining and manufacturing establishments. Includes firm, interruptible and buy/sell agreements.*
4. *Represents direct, non-utility, sales for consumption, where the utility acts solely as the transporter.*

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Electric utility construction price indexes

Annual 2007 (final) and annual 2008 (preliminary)

Construction costs for distribution systems increased by 0.9% during 2008. The increase in the materials component (+1.5%) in 2008 was the major contributor to this rise in the index. The 2007 data for distribution systems represented an advance of 4.5% over 2006.

The annual 2008 construction costs for the transmission line system series rose 3.7% compared with a 4.7% increase for 2007. The transmission line component in 2008 climbed 2.2%, while in 2007 there was a 3.9% annual gain. The substation component rose by 4.6% in 2008, following a 5.2% increase in 2007, with the station equipment sub-component (+3.7%) posting the largest gain.

Available on CANSIM: table 327-0011.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2316.

The fourth quarter 2008 issue of *Capital Expenditure Price Statistics* (62-007-XWE, free) will soon be available.

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: 613-951-3117; *prices-prix@statcan.gc.ca*) or Adrian Fisher (613-951-9612; *adrian.fisher@statcan.gc.ca*), Producer Prices Division. ■

New products

The Research Data Centres Information and Technical Bulletin, Spring 2009, Vol. 4, no. 1
Catalogue number 12-002-XWE
(free).

Farm Product Price Index, February 2009, Vol. 9, no. 2
Catalogue number 21-007-XWE
(free).

Aviation, 2006, Vol. 41, no. 2
Catalogue number 51-004-XWE
(free).

Wholesale Trade, February 2009, Vol. 72, no. 2
Catalogue number 63-008-XWE
(free).

Culture, Tourism and the Centre for Education Statistics: Research papers: "Graduating in Canada: Profile, labour market outcomes and student debt of the class of 2005", 2007, no. 74
Catalogue number 81-595-MWE2009074
(free).

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Releases

2006 Census profiles

Within the inclusion of the income and earnings release components, the complete cumulative profile is now available for census divisions, census subdivisions, dissemination areas, forward sortation areas, designated places, urban areas, and census metropolitan areas and census agglomerations with census subdivisions.

To obtain these profiles in electronic format (costs vary for different geography levels), contact Statistics Canada's National Contact Centre.

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