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In May, 778,700 people received regular Employment Insurance benefits, up 65,600, or 9.2%, from a month earlier, with Alberta and Ontario showing the fastest rates of increase.

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Releases

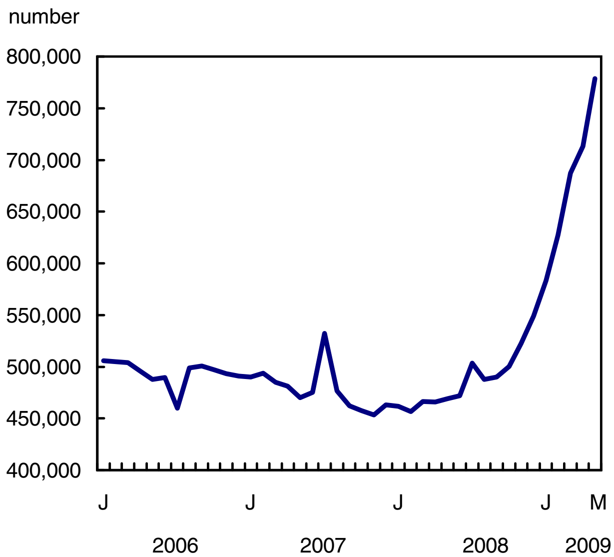
Employment Insurance

May 2009

In May, 778,700 people received regular Employment Insurance (EI) benefits, up 65,600, or 9.2%, from a month earlier, with Alberta and Ontario showing the fastest rates of increase. This rise followed an increase of 3.7% in April.

The number of people receiving regular benefits in May was the highest since comparable data became available in 1997.

Number of people receiving regular benefits rises sharply



Following two months of small declines, the number of initial and renewal claims received in May increased 5.2% to 332,800, the highest number of claims since 1997.

Fastest increases in the West and Ontario

Since employment peaked in October 2008, the number of regular EI beneficiaries has risen by 278,300, or 55.6%, with increases in all provinces and territories.

Note to readers

Each month, Statistics Canada now provides enhanced analysis of the current labour market situation, using Employment Insurance (EI) statistics and other sources. Earlier in July 2009, the Labour Force Survey (LFS) provided a picture of overall labour market conditions, including unemployment, total employment and the characteristics of those affected by changes in the labour market. In this release, Statistics Canada provides additional sub-provincial detail through EI statistics. Details by industry will follow with data from the Survey of Employment, Payrolls and Hours.

EI statistics are produced from an administrative data source from Human Resources and Skills Development Canada. These statistics may, from time to time, be affected by changes to the Employment Insurance Act *or administrative procedures. The number of regular beneficiaries and the number of claims received for April and May 2009 are preliminary.*

The number of beneficiaries is a measure of all persons who received EI benefits from the 10th to the 16th of May. This period coincides with the reference week of the LFS for May.

EI data by sub-provincial region, sex and age are not seasonally adjusted and therefore should only be compared on a year-over-year basis. These comparisons can be influenced by unusual spikes or declines in the end points of the period.

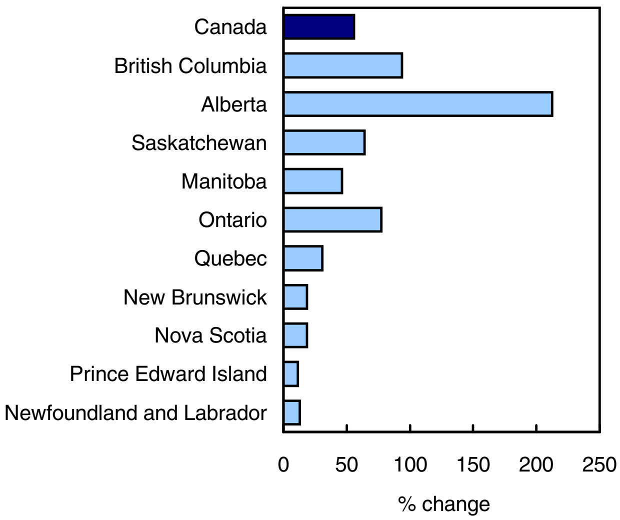
EI statistics indicate the number of people who received EI benefits, and should not be confused with data coming from the LFS, which provides information on the total number of unemployed people.

There is always a certain proportion of unemployed people who do not qualify for benefits. Some unemployed people have not contributed to the program because they have not worked in the past 12 months or their employment is not insured. Other unemployed people have contributed to the program but do not meet the eligibility criteria, such as workers who left their job voluntarily or those who did not accumulate enough hours of work to receive benefits.

The data on employment used in this analysis are drawn from the LFS.

The largest percentage growth in the number of regular beneficiaries over the seven-month period was in Alberta, followed by British Columbia, Ontario, Saskatchewan and Manitoba. In May, each of these provinces recorded their highest level of beneficiaries since comparable data became available in 1997.

The percentage increase in the number of people receiving benefits from October 2008 to May 2009 is strongest in Alberta



In Alberta, the number of regular beneficiaries grew by 16.8% to 57,000 in May. Since the labour market started to deteriorate in October 2008, the number of beneficiaries has increased each month, bringing the total increase to 38,800. During the same period, the unemployment rate in this province grew from 3.7% to 6.6%, but remained below the national rate of 8.4% in May.

In Ontario, the number of regular EI beneficiaries increased by 16.0% to 274,100 from April to May, bringing total increases since October 2008 to 119,500.

Following little change in April, the number of people receiving benefits in British Columbia increased by 6.2% in May to 88,200. The total increase since October 2008 was 42,600.

In Saskatchewan, the number of regular beneficiaries rose 5.8 % in May, a slower pace of growth than in the previous four months. From October to May, the number of beneficiaries rose by 64.2% to 14,000. The unemployment rate in Saskatchewan remains among the lowest in the country.

Since last October, the Atlantic provinces, Quebec and Manitoba have posted smaller increases in the number of regular beneficiaries than the national average of 55.6%.

Sub-provincial and demographic overview: The number of beneficiaries more than doubles in many large centres in the West and Ontario

EI data by sub-provincial region, sex and age are not seasonally adjusted and, therefore, should only be compared on a year-over-year basis.

Between May 2008 and May 2009, the number of people receiving regular EI benefits increased in all census metropolitan areas (see map).

The number of regular beneficiaries more than tripled in virtually all of Alberta's large centres from May 2008 to May 2009. Over that period, the number of beneficiaries in Calgary increased from 4,100 to 18,200, and in Edmonton, from 4,300 to 16,000.

Employment in Alberta has declined in a number of industries since the start of the current labour market downturn, with the largest decreases in manufacturing; construction; retail and wholesale trade; professional, scientific and technical services; and the natural resources sector.

There were increases in the number of beneficiaries in all large centres in British Columbia, with the number of beneficiaries more than tripling in Cranbrook and Kelowna, and more than doubling in several others. In Victoria, 3,800 people received regular EI benefits in May, up 2,500 from 12 months earlier, while in Vancouver, the number of beneficiaries rose by 21,300 to 34,500.

Employment in British Columbia over that period fell mostly in construction; manufacturing; and finance, insurance, real estate and leasing.

In Saskatchewan, the number of regular beneficiaries more than doubled to 1,900 in Saskatoon. There were also large percentage increases in the number of beneficiaries over the same period in Swift Current and Moose Jaw. In Regina, 1,200 people received regular benefits in May 2009, up 600 from 12 months earlier.

In Ontario, the number of regular beneficiaries doubled or more than doubled in 20 of the 41 large centres from May 2008 to May 2009. Over the same period, there were substantial employment losses in the province, with manufacturing accounting for nearly two-thirds of the decline.

In the southwestern part of Ontario, the number of beneficiaries more than tripled in Leamington, Windsor and Guelph. In Toronto, the number of beneficiaries rose from 46,200 to 96,100.

More youth receiving EI benefits

In May, the year-over-year percentage increase in the number of people receiving regular EI benefits was highest for youths under 25 (+94.0%), followed by people 25 to 54 (+71.3%) and those 55 and over (+60.2%). Since the start of the labour market downturn last autumn, young people have experienced the largest percentage decline in employment.

From May 2008 to May 2009, the rate of increase in the number of persons receiving regular benefits was much higher among men (+84.9%) than among women (+49.3%). The labour market downturn has affected both men and women. However, the rate of employment decline since last October has been greater for men.

Claims reach a new high

To receive EI benefits, individuals must first submit a claim. Statistics on claims cover the whole month and provide an indication of the number of people who could become beneficiaries.

Following two months of small declines, the number of initial and renewal claims received rose 5.2% in May to 332,800. This is the highest number of claims received since comparable data became available in 1997. Every month since December 2008, the number of claims received has been above the previous high of 267,600 reached in October 2001.

Claims increased in every province and territory in May, with the largest percentage increases in Alberta (+9.7%), Prince Edward Island (+8.8%), Manitoba (+8.0%) and Saskatchewan (+6.3%).

Available on CANSIM: tables 276-0001 to 276-0006, 276-0009, 276-0011, 276-0015 and 276-0016.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2604.

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

Data on Employment Insurance for June will be released on August 25.

A set of maps, *Employment Insurance Statistics Maps* (73-002-X, free), is now available online. The maps show percent changes in the number of people receiving regular EI benefits for all census metropolitan areas and census agglomerations in Canada. From the *Publications* module of our website, under *All subjects*, choose *Labour*.

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 Dominique Pérusse (613-951-4064) or Vincent Ferrao (613-951-4750), Labour Statistics Division.

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Employment Insurance: Statistics by province and territory

	April 2009[p]	May 2009[p]	April to May 2009	May 2008 to May 2009	April to May 2009	May 2008 to May 2009
	Seasonally adjusted					
	number		change in number		% change	
Beneficiaries receiving regular benefits						
Canada	**713,070**	**778,650**	**65,580**	**309,710**	**9.2**	**66.0**
Newfoundland and Labrador	39,760	41,200	1,440	5,800	3.6	16.4
Prince Edward Island	8,480	8,890	410	890	4.8	11.1
Nova Scotia	32,540	33,130	590	5,740	1.8	21.0
New Brunswick	34,860	35,590	730	5,750	2.1	19.3
Quebec	201,440	206,720	5,280	52,250	2.6	33.8
Ontario	236,350	274,070	37,720	137,400	16.0	100.5
Manitoba	15,110	15,800	690	5,510	4.6	53.5
Saskatchewan	13,190	13,960	770	5,790	5.8	70.9
Alberta	48,800	57,010	8,210	40,060	16.8	236.3
British Columbia	82,970	88,150	5,180	47,180	6.2	115.2
Yukon	1,020	1,100	80	350	7.8	46.7
Northwest Territories	930	960	30	270	3.2	39.1
Nunavut	500	510	10	220	2.0	75.9
Initial and renewal claims received						
Canada	**316,390**	**332,790**	**16,400**	**116,950**	**5.2**	**54.2**
Newfoundland and Labrador	10,050	10,190	140	890	1.4	9.6
Prince Edward Island	2,620	2,850	230	490	8.8	20.8
Nova Scotia	11,060	11,200	140	1,930	1.3	20.8
New Brunswick	10,500	10,660	160	950	1.5	9.8
Quebec	86,440	86,560	120	21,730	0.1	33.5
Ontario	110,070	115,270	5,200	49,680	4.7	75.7
Manitoba	8,880	9,590	710	3,160	8.0	49.1
Saskatchewan	6,790	7,220	430	2,450	6.3	51.4
Alberta	26,850	29,460	2,610	15,230	9.7	107.0
British Columbia	36,680	38,520	1,840	13,100	5.0	51.5
Yukon	340	380	40	100	11.8	35.7
Northwest Territories	330	340	10	50	3.0	17.2
Nunavut	160	170	10	70	6.3	70.0

[p] *preliminary*

Note: *The number of beneficiaries receiving regular benefits excludes claimants receiving training, job creation and self-employment benefits as well as other employment and support measures benefits.*

Beneficiaries receiving regular benefits by age group, sex, province and territory

	May 2008	May 2009p	May 2008 to May 2009	May 2008 to May 2009
	Unadjusted for seasonality			
	number		change in number	% change
Canada				
Both sexes	418,730	718,230	299,500	71.5
Under 25 years	41,760	81,020	39,260	94.0
25 to 54 years	300,870	515,270	214,400	71.3
55 years and over	76,100	121,940	45,840	60.2
Men	261,300	483,110	221,810	84.9
Under 25 years	29,870	61,560	31,690	106.1
25 to 54 years	182,500	339,170	156,670	85.8
55 years and over	48,930	82,380	33,450	68.4
Women	157,430	235,120	77,690	49.3
Under 25 years	11,890	19,450	7,560	63.6
25 to 54 years	118,370	176,100	57,730	48.8
55 years and over	27,180	39,570	12,390	45.6
Newfoundland and Labrador				
Both sexes	35,060	42,100	7,040	20.1
Under 25 years	3,680	4,510	830	22.6
25 to 54 years	24,100	28,510	4,410	18.3
55 years and over	7,280	9,080	1,800	24.7
Men	20,750	26,130	5,380	25.9
Women	14,310	15,970	1,660	11.6
Prince Edward Island				
Both sexes	5,980	6,870	890	14.9
Under 25 years	700	870	170	24.3
25 to 54 years	3,980	4,480	500	12.6
55 years and over	1,300	1,530	230	17.7
Men	3,600	4,210	610	16.9
Women	2,380	2,660	280	11.8
Nova Scotia				
Both sexes	23,940	29,560	5,620	23.5
Under 25 years	2,640	3,630	990	37.5
25 to 54 years	16,700	20,430	3,730	22.3
55 years and over	4,600	5,500	900	19.6
Men	14,530	19,150	4,620	31.8
Women	9,420	10,410	990	10.5
New Brunswick				
Both sexes	27,480	33,020	5,540	20.2
Under 25 years	2,610	3,400	790	30.3
25 to 54 years	19,350	22,630	3,280	17.0
55 years and over	5,510	6,990	1,480	26.9
Men	18,360	22,900	4,540	24.7
Women	9,120	10,120	1,000	11.0
Quebec				
Both sexes	135,790	184,700	48,910	36.0
Under 25 years	14,510	21,290	6,780	46.7
25 to 54 years	95,360	128,570	33,210	34.8
55 years and over	25,930	34,840	8,910	34.4
Men	86,550	123,080	36,530	42.2
Women	49,240	61,620	12,380	25.1
Ontario				
Both sexes	120,140	249,940	129,800	108.0
Under 25 years	10,790	24,410	13,620	126.2
25 to 54 years	90,700	187,840	97,140	107.1
55 years and over	18,650	37,690	19,040	102.1
Men	73,280	166,570	93,290	127.3
Women	46,860	83,360	36,500	77.9

p preliminary

Note: *The number of beneficiaries receiving regular benefits excludes claimants receiving training, job creation and self-employment benefits as well as other employment and support measures benefits.*

Beneficiaries receiving regular benefits by age group, sex, province and territory

	May 2008	May 2009[p]	May 2008 to May 2009	May 2008 to May 2009
	Unadjusted for seasonality			
	number		change in number	% change
Manitoba				
Both sexes	8,330	13,490	5,160	61.9
Under 25 years	960	1,790	830	86.5
25 to 54 years	6,010	9,670	3,660	60.9
55 years and over	1,370	2,040	670	48.9
Men	5,400	9,720	4,320	80.0
Women	2,930	3,770	840	28.7
Saskatchewan				
Both sexes	6,430	11,580	5,150	80.1
Under 25 years	740	1,750	1,010	136.5
25 to 54 years	4,510	7,990	3,480	77.2
55 years and over	1,180	1,850	670	56.8
Men	4,340	8,680	4,340	100.0
Women	2,090	2,900	810	38.8
Alberta				
Both sexes	15,900	57,350	41,450	260.7
Under 25 years	1,440	7,900	6,460	448.6
25 to 54 years	11,840	41,730	29,890	252.4
55 years and over	2,620	7,720	5,100	194.7
Men	9,840	41,210	31,370	318.8
Women	6,060	16,140	10,080	166.3
British Columbia				
Both sexes	37,890	86,910	49,020	129.4
Under 25 years	3,510	11,190	7,680	218.8
25 to 54 years	26,980	61,420	34,440	127.7
55 years and over	7,400	14,310	6,910	93.4
Men	23,500	59,640	36,140	153.8
Women	14,390	27,280	12,890	89.6
Yukon				
Both sexes	680	1,020	340	50.0
Under 25 years	70	110	40	57.1
25 to 54 years	480	700	220	45.8
55 years and over	130	210	80	61.5
Men	450	690	240	53.3
Women	230	340	110	47.8
Northwest Territories				
Both sexes	720	1,000	280	38.9
Under 25 years	70	110	40	57.1
25 to 54 years	530	760	230	43.4
55 years and over	120	130	10	8.3
Men	460	680	220	47.8
Women	260	320	60	23.1
Nunavut				
Both sexes	310	530	220	71.0
Under 25 years	30	60	30	100.0
25 to 54 years	260	420	160	61.5
55 years and over	20	50	30	150.0
Men	220	390	170	77.3
Women	90	140	50	55.6

[p] *preliminary*

Note: *The number of beneficiaries receiving regular benefits excludes claimants receiving training, job creation and self-employment benefits as well as other employment and support measures benefits.*

Beneficiaries receiving regular benefits by census metropolitan areas

	May 2008	May 2009[p]	May 2008 to May 2009	May 2008 to May 2009
	Unadjusted for seasonality			
	number		change in number	% change
Newfoundland and Labrador				
St. John's	3,760	4,940	1,180	31.4
Nova Scotia				
Halifax	3,630	5,840	2,210	60.9
New Brunswick				
Saint John	1,400	2,140	740	52.9
Quebec				
Saguenay	4,260	4,780	520	12.2
Québec	6,180	9,820	3,640	58.9
Sherbrooke	2,040	3,280	1,240	60.8
Trois-Rivières	2,660	3,440	780	29.3
Montréal	41,860	64,300	22,440	53.6
Ottawa–Gatineau, Gatineau part	2,010	3,090	1,080	53.7
Ontario				
Ottawa–Gatineau, Ottawa part	4,130	6,840	2,710	65.6
Kingston	960	1,540	580	60.4
Oshawa	4,010	6,530	2,520	62.8
Toronto	46,150	96,120	49,970	108.3
Hamilton	5,220	12,480	7,260	139.1
St. Catharines–Niagara	4,820	8,860	4,040	83.8
Kitchener	4,600	10,620	6,020	130.9
London	4,590	9,020	4,430	96.5
Windsor	4,910	15,490	10,580	215.5
Greater Sudbury	1,600	3,420	1,820	113.8
Thunder Bay	1,620	2,520	900	55.6
Manitoba				
Winnipeg	3,480	6,510	3,030	87.1
Saskatchewan				
Regina	630	1,210	580	92.1
Saskatoon	860	1,890	1,030	119.8
Alberta				
Calgary	4,130	18,150	14,020	339.5
Edmonton	4,250	16,040	11,790	277.4
British Columbia				
Abbotsford–Mission	1,430	3,630	2,200	153.8
Vancouver	13,180	34,480	21,300	161.6
Victoria	1,340	3,790	2,450	182.8

p *preliminary*

Note: *The number of beneficiaries receiving regular benefits excludes claimants receiving training, job creation and self-employment benefits as well as other employment and support measures benefits.*

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Private and public investment

2009 (revised intentions)

The Capital Expenditures Survey – Revised Intentions was conducted by Statistics Canada between mid-May and the end of June 2009, on an exceptional basis, using a reduced sample, to assess the impact of the economic downturn on capital spending intentions for 2009. The following analysis compares these revised intentions to those reported in February 2009 based on an earlier survey conducted between October 2008 and late January 2009.

Revised investment intentions in non-residential construction and machinery and equipment totalled $227.9 billion for 2009, down 4.1 % from the original intentions of $237.5 billion released in February. The revised estimate is 10.4% below the $254.4 billion in total investment recorded in 2008.

Capital spending in machinery and equipment is now anticipated at $95.4 billion, 17.0% below the 2008 estimate, while investment in non-residential construction for 2009 is expected to reach $132.4 billion, down 5.0% from 2008.

Capital spending intentions were revised downward in 15 of 20 industries compared with 2008. The largest declines (in dollars) occurred in the mining and oil and gas extraction sector (-32.9%), the finance and insurance sector (-24.1%) and the manufacturing sector (-20.4%).

In contrast, spending intentions by public administrations for 2009 now amount to $41.2 billion, 14.8% higher than in 2008. The revised investment intentions also increased in sectors dominated by public spending, especially in the educational services and health care and social assistance sectors.

Among the provinces and territories, Newfoundland and Labrador, Saskatchewan and Yukon raised their estimates compared with 2008. The largest declines (in dollars) occurred in Alberta, British Columbia and Quebec.

Note: The Capital Expenditures Survey – Revised Intentions was conducted between mid-May and the end of June 2009 and included 7,400 businesses and governments. The original survey results released in *The Daily* on February 25, 2009, was based on a sample of 28,000 businesses and governments.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2803.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Yves Gauthier (613-951-0188; *yves.gauthier@statcan.gc.ca*), Investment and Capital Stock Division. ❑

Capital spending intentions of private and public organizations in non-residential construction and machinery and equipment, industrial sectors

	2008	2009 intentions	2009 revised intentions	Intentions 2009 to revised intentions 2009	Preliminary actual 2008 to revised intentions 2009
	$ millions			% change	
Total	**254,385.3**	**237,539.6**	**227,867.2**	**-4.1**	**-10.4**
NAICS[1] sectors					
Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting	4,635.1	4,392.2	4,081.4	-7.1	-11.9
Mining and oil and gas extraction	61,104.1	44,948.7	41,021.9	-8.7	-32.9
Utilities	21,912.2	23,300.9	22,685.2	-2.6	3.5
Construction	5,796.3	5,823.8	5,259.9	-9.7	-9.3
Manufacturing	20,117.5	18,417.1	16,003.6	-13.1	-20.4
Wholesale trade	5,464.8	5,447.5	4,266.6	-21.7	-21.9
Retail trade	9,473.6	8,763.4	9,465.5	8.0	-0.1
Transportation and warehousing	19,825.2	20,409.1	21,061.0	3.2	6.2
Information and cultural industries	9,137.3	9,172.1	8,892.3	-3.1	-2.7
Finance and insurance	16,435.2	15,263.2	12,474.0	-18.3	-24.1
Real estate, rental and leasing	14,694.7	14,196.3	13,918.3	-2.0	-5.3
Professional, scientific and technical services	3,437.2	3,290.1	2,503.1	-23.9	-27.2
Management of companies and enterprises	204.8	170.3	157.5	-7.5	-23.1
Administration, support waste management and remedial service	1,900.4	1,437.4	1,297.1	-9.8	-31.7
Educational services	8,323.5	8,242.3	8,779.6	6.5	5.5
Health care and social assistance	8,675.5	8,719.4	9,293.9	6.6	7.1
Arts, entertainment and recreation	2,022.9	2,006.9	1,864.4	-7.1	-7.8
Accommodation and food services	3,546.2	2,210.3	2,096.3	-5.2	-40.9
Other services (except public administration)	1,761.6	1,640.6	1,519.3	-7.4	-13.8
Public administration	35,917.2	39,688.1	41,226.1	3.9	14.8

1. *North American Industry Classification System.*
Note: *Figures may not add up to totals due to rounding.*

Capital spending intentions of private and public organizations, provinces and territories

	2008	2009 intentions	2009 revised intentions	Intentions 2009 to revised intentions 2009	Preliminary actual 2008 to revised intentions 2009
	$ millions			% change	
Canada	**254,385.3**	**237,539.6**	**227,867.2**	**-4.1**	**-10.4**
Non-residential construction	**139,424.4**	**130,320.4**	**132,417.9**	**1.6**	**-5.0**
Machinery and equipment	**114,960.9**	**107,219.2**	**95,449.3**	**-11.0**	**-17.0**
Newfoundland and Labrador	2,985.5	3,365.3	3,693.4	9.8	23.7
Non-residential construction	1,753.8	2,195.4	2,776.2	26.5	58.3
Machinery and equipment	1,231.6	1,169.9	917.2	-21.6	-25.5
Prince Edward Island	679.9	622.0	653.3	5.0	-3.9
Non-residential construction	362.7	313.3	410.3	31.0	13.1
Machinery and equipment	317.2	308.7	243.0	-21.3	-23.4
Nova Scotia	4,563.1	4,871.0	4,554.1	-6.5	-0.2
Non-residential construction	2,345.8	2,625.0	2,618.1	-0.3	11.6
Machinery and equipment	2,217.3	2,246.0	1,936.0	-13.8	-12.7
New Brunswick	4,568.6	4,049.0	3,266.0	-19.3	-28.5
Non-residential construction	2,572.6	2,214.1	2,003.9	-9.5	-22.1
Machinery and equipment	1,996.1	1,835.0	1,262.1	-31.2	-36.8
Quebec	42,322.1	42,168.4	38,285.5	-9.2	-9.5
Non-residential construction	21,479.1	21,895.9	22,286.8	1.8	3.8
Machinery and equipment	20,843.0	20,272.5	15,998.7	-21.1	-23.2
Ontario	71,717.6	70,558.3	69,546.4	-1.4	-3.0
Non-residential construction	28,886.6	29,885.8	31,384.0	5.0	8.6
Machinery and equipment	42,831.0	40,672.4	38,162.4	-6.2	-10.9
Manitoba	7,951.8	7,604.5	7,760.5	2.1	-2.4
Non-residential construction	4,478.2	4,283.8	4,700.1	9.7	5.0
Machinery and equipment	3,473.6	3,320.7	3,060.4	-7.8	-11.9
Saskatchewan	11,472.5	11,739.8	11,834.9	0.8	3.2
Non-residential construction	7,296.1	7,230.8	7,948.6	9.9	8.9
Machinery and equipment	4,176.3	4,509.0	3,886.3	-13.8	-6.9
Alberta	73,785.2	62,472.8	61,070.1	-2.2	-17.2
Non-residential construction	49,041.2	41,610.2	41,116.4	-1.2	-16.2
Machinery and equipment	24,744.0	20,862.6	19,953.7	-4.4	-19.4
British Columbia	30,925.9	27,889.9	24,734.3	-11.3	-20.0
Non-residential construction	18,391.9	16,339.2	15,172.9	-7.1	-17.5
Machinery and equipment	12,534.1	11,550.7	9,561.3	-17.2	-23.7
Yukon	460.3	392.9	484.4	23.3	5.2
Non-residential construction	344.0	266.0	333.3	25.3	-3.1
Machinery and equipment	116.2	126.9	151.1	19.1	30.0
Northwest Territories	1,752.1	1,159.6	1,371.9	18.3	-21.7
Non-residential construction	1,475.0	923.9	1,159.4	25.5	-21.4
Machinery and equipment	277.1	235.8	212.5	-9.9	-23.3
Nunavut	1,200.6	645.9	612.6	-5.2	-49.0
Non-residential construction	997.3	536.9	508.0	-5.4	-49.1
Machinery and equipment	203.3	109.0	104.6	-4.0	-48.5

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

■

Study: The evolution of the Canadian manufacturing sector
1961 to 2005

Between 1961 and 2005, growth in the volume of manufacturing output kept pace with growth in the volume of total gross domestic product (GDP).

Manufacturing adapted to long-term changes in the economic environment to maintain the importance of the volume of its output relative to output produced in other sectors.

In doing so, it showed considerable resilience in the face of diverse challenges stemming from demand shifts, relative price shifts or changes in tariff regimes. Between 1961 and 2005, productivity in the manufacturing sector increased by an annual average of 1.1%. Manufacturers moved to producing more durable goods and fewer non-durable goods in the face of increasing international competition and rising resource prices.

There is little evidence that manufacturing was in a long-run decline, when relative volumes are considered. Relative volume changes during this period were small but positive, averaging less than 0.1% a year.

On the other hand, the relative value of GDP originating in the manufacturing sector declined between 1962 and 2005. This occurred because the relative prices of manufacturers fell by an average of 0.9% a year.

Manufacturing's productivity growth was faster than in most other sectors of Canada's economy. Firms passed this productivity growth on in the form of lower price growth.

The Canadian manufacturing sector is sensitive to business cycle shocks in the United States. When manufacturing in the United States performed relatively well, manufacturing in Canada did well and vice versa. Business cycle fluctuations, therefore, have affected the speed of relative volume changes.

Trade liberalization also reshaped the Canadian manufacturing sector's opportunities in US export markets and the intensity of competition they experienced from foreign producers. The North America Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) between Canada, Mexico and the United States was associated with restructuring, as the Canadian manufacturing sector reduced its emphasis on non-durable goods production and increased the proportion of output in durable goods.

The implementation of NAFTA and the adjustment that followed saw both the largest relative and absolute gains in manufacturing output during the 45-year period. As a consequence, manufacturing grew substantially between 1994 and 2001 as Canada adjusted to expanded trade opportunities.

In the years after the technology bubble collapse in 2001 and during the natural resource boom, the manufacturing sector resumed its positive growth, averaging 0.4% a year between 2002 and 2007. The compositional shift towards durable goods and away from non-durable goods continued after 2000. Volumes of durable goods generally increased over this period, while the production of non-durable goods declined.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey numbers, including related surveys, 1401 and 1402.

The research paper "The Canadian manufacturing sector: Adapting to challenges" is now available as part of *The Economic Analysis Research Paper Series* (11F0027M2009057, free), from the *Analytical studies* module of our website.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact John Baldwin (613-951-8588) or Ryan Macdonald (613-951-5687), Economic Analysis Division. ■

Canadian Business Patterns

June 2009

The CD-ROM *Canadian Business Patterns* provides counts of active establishments and locations by various geography levels, industry classification and employment size.

This product is compiled from the Business Register, which is a repository of information on the Canadian business population.

Nationally, there were 2,289,329 active establishments and 2,333,647 active locations in June.

Data from the June 2009 *Canadian Business Patterns* are available on CD-ROM. They are presented by the 2006 Standard Geographical Classification, the North American Industry Classification System (NAICS 2007), and by employment categories.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 1105.

The June 2009 edition of the CD-ROM *Canadian Business Patterns* (61F0040X, various prices) is now available. The cost varies between $150 and $2,000 depending on the number of tables or cells requested. See *How to order products*.

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