

# The Daily

Statistics Canada

Wednesday, January 27, 2010

Released at 8:30 a.m. Eastern time

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## Releases

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<b>Hours worked and labour productivity in the provinces and territories, 1997 to 2008</b>	<b>2</b>
From 1997 to 2008, business sector productivity increased at an annual average rate of 1.3% in Canada. However, productivity growth slowed considerably after 2003 when compared with the 1997-to-2003 period. All provinces experienced a slowdown between the two periods with the main contributors being Ontario, British Columbia and Quebec.	
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## New products and studies

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## Releases

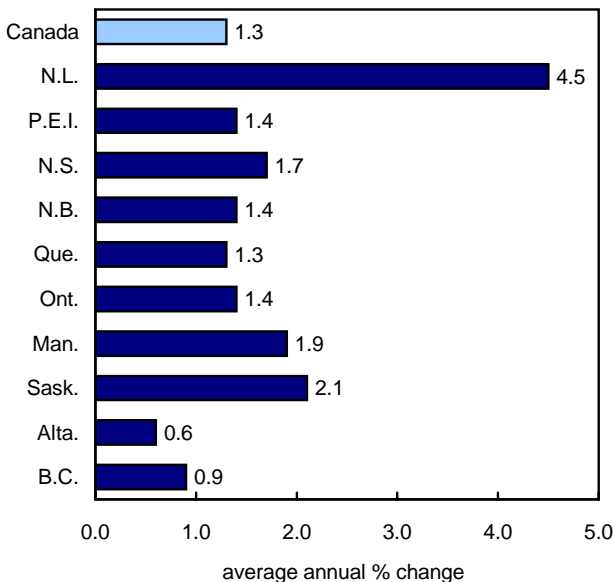
### Hours worked and labour productivity in the provinces and territories

1997 to 2008

From 1997 to 2008, business sector productivity increased at an annual average rate of 1.3% in Canada. However, productivity growth slowed considerably after 2003 when compared with the 1997-to-2003 period. All provinces experienced a slowdown between the two periods with the main contributors being Ontario, British Columbia and Quebec.

Between 1997 and 2008, annual average growth of labour productivity in the business sector was stronger than, or equal to, the national average in eight provinces. The highest annual average growth rates were posted in Newfoundland and Labrador (+4.5%), Saskatchewan (+2.1%) and Manitoba (+1.9%). These three provinces continued to outpace the national average between 2003 and 2008.

**Labour productivity in the business sector by province, 1997 to 2008**



While there was a slowdown in the rate of productivity growth in all provinces and territories after 2003, the productivity growth ranking of the provinces between 2003 and 2008 was similar to the one between 1997 and 2003. The slowdown in

#### Note to readers

For the first time, provincial and territorial measures of labour productivity and its related variables are being published for business sector industry at the S level of aggregation (17 industry groups). These data are available in CANSIM table 383-0011 and cover the period from 1997 to 2008.

Labour productivity is a measure of real gross domestic product per hour worked. Productivity gains occur when the production of goods and services grows faster than the volume of work dedicated to their production.

Economic performance, as measured by labour productivity, must be interpreted carefully, as these data reflect changes in other inputs, in particular capital, in addition to the efficiency growth of production processes. As well, growth in labour productivity is often influenced by the degree of diversity in the industrial structure. As a result, labour productivity tends to be more volatile in the smaller provinces.

For the purpose of this analysis, as in the national labour productivity releases, productivity measures cover the business sector. It is important to note that real production is based on value added measured at basic prices, not market prices, which is consistent with the detailed framework by industry. As well, the service-producing business sector and its component, finance, insurance and real estate, exclude the imputed rent for owner-occupied dwellings, because there are no data on the number of hours that homeowners spend on dwelling maintenance services.

The annual average rates published in this release reflect the growth rate compounded annually.

manufacturing productivity in the country's two largest provincial labour markets, Ontario and Quebec, was the major factor in the national slowdown of business productivity between 2003 and 2008.

Numerous factors affected labour productivity growth in Canada between 1997 and 2008. From 1997 to 2000, a period of intense economic activity in the information and communications technology sector, Canada's annual average labour productivity growth was 3.0%. This was followed by a slowdown in annual average productivity growth (+0.6%) from 2000 to 2003 as Canadian businesses felt the impact of the downturn in the technology sector, as well as the aftermath of the September 11 attacks in the United States.

From 2003 to 2007, Canada's trade and financial services and manufacturing helped boost annual average productivity growth to 1.0%, even as manufacturing downsized over this period. Although the natural resource sector contributed significantly to the increase in hours worked, it had a negative impact on productivity growth during this period. In 2008, labour

productivity declined 0.8% as real gross domestic product (GDP) contracted in the latter part of the year. The results varied widely by province and territory.

Between 1997 and 2008, Newfoundland and Labrador led the country in annual average growth of business labour productivity, while Alberta posted the lowest increase (+0.6%). In both cases, a change in the relative contribution of conventional crude oil extraction to their respective provincial economy played a large role.

Productivity rose 4.5% in Newfoundland and Labrador, the fastest annual average growth rate in the country. This increase occurred as new oil extraction platforms started production during the period. In Alberta, the transition from the traditional oil industry to the more costly oil sands continued. At the same time, Alberta's booming population led to an expansion of the labour-intensive service sector. Both of these changes in Alberta shifted economic activity to sectors with lower average productivity.

Following Alberta, British Columbia was the second province to trail the national average during the period, while Quebec's annual average growth rate was on a par with the national average.

(+2.8%) and British Columbia (+2.0%) well ahead of the other provinces. In Ontario, annual average growth of hours worked in businesses was identical to the national average during the period (+1.8%).

The steady expansion of the employment market led to a 3.7% annual average increase in hourly compensation in Canadian businesses during the 1997-to-2008 period.

Alberta recorded the highest annual average increase in hourly compensation in businesses (+6.4%), followed by Saskatchewan (+5.4%) and Manitoba (+3.8%).

### Atlantic provinces

Between 1997 and 2008, the annual average growth in business productivity exceeded the national rate in all of the Atlantic provinces, with Newfoundland and Labrador leading the pack.

The start of production on the oil extraction platforms off Newfoundland and Labrador, and the associated investments, drove the province's annual average productivity growth up to 4.5% between 1997 and 2008, the highest rate in Canada. The introduction of this new capital-intensive industry largely transformed the province's industrial structure.

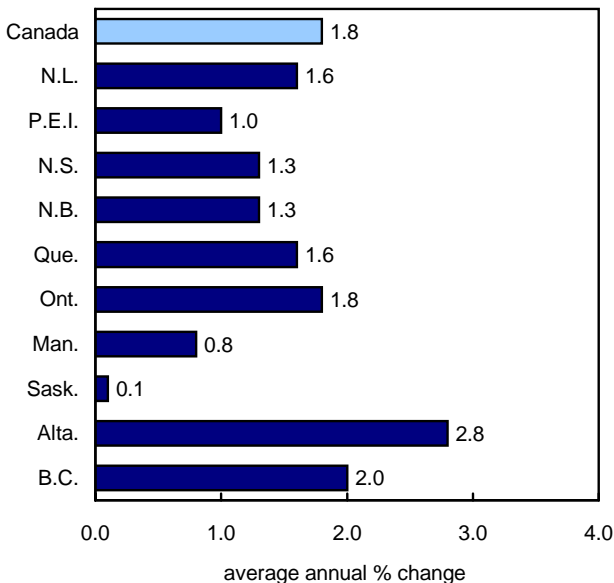
During this period, growth in hours worked fluctuated between 1.0% and 1.6% in the Atlantic provinces, a slower pace than the national average. Newfoundland and Labrador, thanks to the boom in the oil and gas extraction sector, recorded the largest annual average gain in hours worked among these provinces.

### Central Canada

Ontario and Quebec, where much of the export-oriented manufacturing sector is located, had a much lower annual average rate of business productivity growth between 2003 and 2008 than during the 1997-to-2003 period. Ontario experienced declines in labour productivity in 2003 and 2008, and had virtually no growth in labour productivity in 2004. Quebec's labour productivity declined in 2004 and 2008.

Ontario manufacturers' productivity grew at an annual pace of 0.8% between 2003 and 2008, compared with an increase of 2.7% between 1997 and 2003. Similarly, the productivity of Quebec's manufacturing sector slowed from 2.2% to 1.2% between the two periods. The deceleration in manufacturing productivity in the country's two largest provincial labour markets was the major factor in the national slowdown in business productivity between 2003 and 2008.

**Hours worked in the business sector by province, 1997 to 2008**



In the labour market, hours worked increased in every province between 1997 and 2008, with Alberta

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## Western provinces

Among the four western provinces, only Manitoba and Saskatchewan registered annual average productivity growth rates above the national average between 1997 and 2008. Saskatchewan recorded growth of 2.1% and Manitoba 1.9%, as businesses in both provinces increased their output at a faster pace than that of hours worked.

Real GDP in Saskatchewan businesses rose an average of 2.3% between 1997 and 2008, while hours worked edged up 0.1%. The largest decline in hours worked occurred in agriculture (-4.7%). In 2008, businesses in Saskatchewan experienced much faster annual average productivity growth (+2.9%) than businesses in other provinces, as they posted the largest advances in real GDP and hours worked. The increases took place in the context of substantial net migration gains.

Between 1997 and 2008, real GDP in Manitoba businesses grew at an average rate of 2.7% a year, compared with that of 0.8% for hours worked. Most of the increase in real GDP occurred in service-producing industries.

In Alberta, the annual average growth rate of business productivity was lower than the national average. From 1997 to 2008, the transition from the traditional oil industry to the more costly oil sands as well as the booming population in the province, which led to an expansion of the labour-intensive service sector, shifted economic activity to sectors with lower average productivity. Over this period, the province recorded the second highest annual average increase in business output (+3.5%) and the highest growth in hours worked (+2.8%), fuelled in part by the rise in the production capacity for non-conventional oil. The largest gains in hours worked were in mining, oil and gas extraction, construction, as well as in most service industries.

British Columbia was the only province to experience a decrease in productivity between 2003 and 2008, posting an annual average decline of 0.1%. Real GDP and hours worked in the province's businesses both recorded substantial, and similar, gains during the period. Output grew at an annual average rate of 3.1%, while hours worked were up 3.2% per year during the period. The province's output growth was particularly strong in services, a much more labour-intensive sector than goods-producing industries.

## The territories

Large construction projects played a major role in the results for businesses in the territories between 1997 and 2008. Nunavut posted the highest productivity growth rate in the territories during the period.

In Nunavut, business productivity grew at an annual average rate of 5.6% during the 1999-to-2008 period. Output was up sharply on average, primarily as a result of the construction sector's strong performance.

In the Northwest Territories, business productivity increased by an annual average of 5.0% from 1999 to 2008, as real output increased at a faster rate than hours worked.

In Yukon, business productivity declined at an annual average rate of 1.3% between 1997 and 2008. Productivity growth in the territory fluctuated widely during this period. Construction work on a number of infrastructure projects continued throughout the period, while the annual average rate of increase in hours worked in this territory's businesses was 2.7%.

**Available on CANSIM: tables 383-0010 and 383-0011.**

**Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 5103.**

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact the information officer (613-951-3640; [iead-info-dcrd@statcan.gc.ca](mailto:iead-info-dcrd@statcan.gc.ca)), Income and Expenditure Accounts Division.

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**Real output and hours worked in the business sector**

	1997 to 2008		1997 to 2003		2003 to 2008		2007 to 2008	
	Real gross domestic product	Hours worked	Real gross domestic product	Hours worked	Real gross domestic product	Hours worked	Real gross domestic product	Hours worked
	annual average % change							
<b>Canada</b>	<b>3.1</b>	<b>1.8</b>	<b>3.8</b>	<b>1.9</b>	<b>2.3</b>	<b>1.6</b>	<b>-0.1</b>	<b>0.7</b>
Newfoundland and Labrador	6.2	1.6	8.9	2.3	3.0	0.8	0.0	0.2
Prince Edward Island	2.5	1.0	3.1	1.5	1.7	0.5	-0.7	-0.6
Nova Scotia	3.0	1.3	4.7	1.6	1.1	0.9	2.6	0.9
New Brunswick	2.7	1.3	4.2	1.6	1.0	0.9	-1.4	1.0
Quebec	2.9	1.6	3.7	2.0	1.8	1.1	0.8	1.3
Ontario	3.2	1.8	4.6	2.5	1.5	0.9	-1.2	-0.1
Manitoba	2.7	0.8	2.4	0.4	3.1	1.2	2.5	1.7
Saskatchewan	2.3	0.1	1.5	-1.0	3.2	1.5	5.6	2.5
Alberta	3.5	2.8	3.2	2.5	3.9	3.3	-0.4	1.2
British Columbia	2.8	2.0	2.7	0.9	3.1	3.2	-1.2	1.1

**Labour productivity and hourly compensation in the business sector**

	1997 to 2008		1997 to 2003		2003 to 2008		2007 to 2008	
	Labour productivity	Hourly compensation	Labour productivity	Hourly compensation	Labour productivity	Hourly compensation	Labour productivity	Hourly compensation
	annual average % change							
<b>Canada</b>	<b>1.3</b>	<b>3.7</b>	<b>1.9</b>	<b>3.4</b>	<b>0.6</b>	<b>4.2</b>	<b>-0.8</b>	<b>4.0</b>
Newfoundland and Labrador	4.5	3.5	6.4	2.7	2.1	4.4	-0.2	5.9
Prince Edward Island	1.4	3.0	1.6	2.9	1.3	3.1	0.0	3.5
Nova Scotia	1.7	3.3	3.1	4.1	0.1	2.4	1.8	3.6
New Brunswick	1.4	2.9	2.6	3.0	0.1	2.9	-2.1	3.3
Quebec	1.3	3.0	1.8	3.2	0.7	2.9	-0.6	2.4
Ontario	1.4	3.2	2.0	3.2	0.6	3.3	-1.3	3.4
Manitoba	1.9	3.8	2.0	3.3	1.8	4.3	0.6	3.8
Saskatchewan	2.1	5.4	2.5	4.8	1.7	6.2	2.9	6.2
Alberta	0.6	6.4	0.7	4.5	0.6	8.7	-1.7	7.4
British Columbia	0.9	3.1	1.7	2.6	-0.1	3.7	-2.3	3.8



## Food services and drinking places

November 2009 (preliminary)

Sales for the food services and drinking places industry increased 0.2% from October to November to nearly \$4.1 billion in current dollars. During the same period, the price of food purchased in restaurants rose 0.2%, as measured by the Consumer Price Index.

In November, two of the industry's four sectors posted sales increases. The largest advance, at 0.7%, occurred in full-service restaurants, the largest of the industry's four sectors. Sales in limited-service restaurants, where patrons order and pay for their meals at the counter, rose 0.2%.

The special food services sector, comprising food service contractors, caterers and mobile food services, saw its sales decrease 2.1%, while sales at drinking places declined 1.1%.

Provincially, British Columbia (-1.2%), Newfoundland and Labrador (-0.9%) and Manitoba (-0.4%) were the only three provinces to recorded lower sales. Prince Edward Island, New Brunswick and Saskatchewan each posted a sales increase of 1.1%.

**Note:** All data in this release are seasonally adjusted and expressed in current dollars.

Preliminary data are provided for the current reference month. Unadjusted data, based on late responses, are revised for the two previous months. Seasonally adjusted data are revised for the three previous months. An annual revision will take place every spring to update all months in the previous year. Revisions are based on information not available at the time of initial estimates, to improve data quality and coherence.

Starting with the reference month of March 2009, estimates are based on the latest re-stratified sample. For additional information, consult the article "Monthly Survey of Food Services and Drinking Places: Impact of re-stratification" by clicking on the survey number 2419 listed below.

**Available on CANSIM: table 355-0006.**

**Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2419.**

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Marc Racette (613-951-2924; [marc.racette@statcan.gc.ca](mailto:marc.racette@statcan.gc.ca)) or Pierre Felx (613-951-0075; fax: 613-951-6696; [pierre.felx@statcan.gc.ca](mailto:pierre.felx@statcan.gc.ca)), Service Industries Division.

## Food services and drinking places

	November 2008	August 2009 <sup>r</sup>	September 2009 <sup>r</sup>	October 2009 <sup>r</sup>	November 2009 <sup>p</sup>	October to November 2009	November 2008 to November 2009
Seasonally adjusted							
	\$ thousands				% change		
<b>Total, food services sales</b>	<b>3,925,242</b>	<b>4,015,983</b>	<b>4,047,705</b>	<b>4,066,178</b>	<b>4,072,872</b>	<b>0.2</b>	<b>3.8</b>
Full-service restaurants	1,735,591	1,763,709	1,778,354	1,786,139	1,798,032	0.7	3.6
Limited-service eating places	1,652,436	1,720,077	1,743,438	1,749,092	1,753,013	0.2	6.1
Special food services	322,211	317,618	312,190	317,539	310,802	-2.1	-3.5
Drinking places	215,004	214,579	213,723	213,408	211,025	-1.1	-1.9
<b>Provinces and territories</b>							
Newfoundland and Labrador	48,142	48,858	50,000	50,344	49,913	-0.9	3.7
Prince Edward Island	13,997	14,532	14,860	15,170	15,335	1.1	9.6
Nova Scotia	102,073	103,886	103,827	104,401	104,520	0.1	2.4
New Brunswick	75,038	80,604	80,794	80,781	81,691	1.1	8.9
Quebec	799,210	799,155	812,605	808,528	813,999	0.7	1.9
Ontario	1,460,138	1,498,812	1,511,000	1,534,988	1,541,602	0.4	5.6
Manitoba	111,340	122,259	120,928	122,346	121,851	-0.4	9.4
Saskatchewan	108,765	117,009	117,161	118,232	119,516	1.1	9.9
Alberta	557,240	551,437	555,619	550,027	552,037	0.4	-0.9
British Columbia	636,971	667,406	668,213	667,992	659,761	-1.2	3.6
Yukon	3,964	4,277	4,363	4,388	F	F	F
Northwest Territories	6,618	6,299	6,775	7,619	F	F	F
Nunavut	1,746	1,449	1,560	1,362	F	F	F

<sup>r</sup> revised

<sup>p</sup> preliminary

F too unreliable to be published

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

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## Railway carloadings

November 2009

The volume of cargo carried by Canadian railways dropped in November, as both commodity loadings in Canada and traffic received from the United States declined.

Total freight traffic originating in Canada and received from the United States fell to 23.1 million metric tonnes in November, down 8.2% from November 2008.

Compared with November 2008, freight loaded in Canada fell 5.9% to 21.1 million metric tonnes in November. The Canadian railway industry's core transportation systems, non-intermodal and intermodal, both contributed to the drop in cargo loaded.

Non-intermodal freight loadings, which are typically carried in bulk or loaded in box cars, declined 6.2% to 19.0 million metric tonnes. The decrease was the result of reduced loadings in the majority of the commodity groups carried by the railways. The commodity groups with the largest declines in tonnage were coal, potash, wheat, nickel ores and concentrates and newsprint.

Despite these declines, several commodity groups registered strong gains. Loadings of other oil seeds and nuts, and other agricultural products led the pack, followed by fresh, chilled or dried vegetables.

Intermodal freight loadings, transported through containers and trailers loaded onto flat cars, decreased 3.3% to 2.1 million metric tonnes in November, compared with the same month the previous year.

Rail freight traffic coming from the United States fell to about 2.0 million metric tonnes in November, down 27.0% from November 2008. Both non-intermodal and intermodal freight transported from the United States contributed to the decline.

From a geographic perspective, 56.3% of the overall volume of cargo loaded by Canadian railways was in the Western Division of Canada, with the remainder loaded in the Eastern Division. The Eastern and Western Divisions, for statistical purposes, are separated by an imaginary line running from Thunder Bay to Armstrong, Ontario. Freight loaded at Thunder Bay is included in the Western Division while loadings at Armstrong are reported in the Eastern Division.

**Available on CANSIM: table 404-0002.**

**Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2732.**

The November 2009 issue of *Monthly Railway Carloadings*, Vol. 86, no. 11 (52-001-X, free), is now available. From the *Key resource* module of our website, choose *Publications*.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact the Dissemination Unit (toll-free 1-866-500-8400; fax: 613-951-0009; [transportationstatistics@statcan.gc.ca](mailto:transportationstatistics@statcan.gc.ca)), Transportation Division. ■

## Crushing statistics

December 2009

Oilseed processors crushed 353 993 metric tonnes of canola in December. Oil production in December totalled 155 368 tonnes, while meal production amounted to 199 542 tonnes.

**Available on CANSIM: table 001-0005.**

**Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 3404.**

The December 2009 issue of *Cereals and Oilseeds Review* (22-007-X, free) will be available in February.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Client Services (toll-free 1-800-465-1991; [agriculture@statcan.gc.ca](mailto:agriculture@statcan.gc.ca)), Agriculture Division. ■

## Deliveries of major grains

December 2009

Data on major grain deliveries are now available for December.

**Available on CANSIM: table 001-0001.**

**Definitions, data sources and methods: survey numbers, including related surveys, 3403, 3404, 3443 and 5046.**

The December 2009 issue of *Cereals and Oilseeds Review* (22-007-X, free) will be available in February.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Client Services (toll-free 1-800-465-1991; [agriculture@statcan.gc.ca](mailto:agriculture@statcan.gc.ca)), Agriculture Division. ■

## Cereals and oilseeds review

November 2009

Data from the November issue of *Cereals and Oilseeds Review* are now available. November's issue contains the "Annual processing supplement for 2008/2009" and an overview of December's market conditions.

**Definitions, data sources and methods: survey numbers, including related surveys, 3401, 3403, 3404, 3443, 3464, 3476 and 5046.**

The November 2009 issue of *Cereals and Oilseeds Review*, Vol. 32, no.11 (22-007-X, free), is now available from *Key resource* module of our website, under *Publications*.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Client Services (toll-free 1-800-465-1991; [agriculture@statcan.gc.ca](mailto:agriculture@statcan.gc.ca)), Agriculture Division. ■

## Specialized design services

2008

Data on the specialized design services industry are now available for 2008.

**Available on CANSIM: table 360-0002.**

**Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 4719.**

The publication *Service bulletin: Specialized design services*, 2008 (63-251-X, free), will be available in May.

For more information, contact Client Services (toll-free 1-877-801-3282; 613-951-4612; [servicesind@statcan.gc.ca](mailto:servicesind@statcan.gc.ca)). To enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Georgie Zuger (613-951-2595; [georgie.zuger@statcan.gc.ca](mailto:georgie.zuger@statcan.gc.ca)), Service Industries Division. ■



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## New products and studies

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**Cereals and Oilseeds Review**, November 2009,  
Vol. 32, no. 11  
**Catalogue number 22-007-X** (PDF, free; HTML, free)

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

**Monthly Railway Carloadings**, November 2009,  
Vol. 86, no. 11  
**Catalogue number 52-001-X** (PDF, free; HTML, free)

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**Canadian Trade Review: "A Profile of Canadian Exporters"**, no. 8  
**Catalogue number 65-507-M2010008** (PDF, free; HTML, free)

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Catalogue 11-001-XIE (Previous 11-001-XIE-1000-1001-0107)

# The Daily

Statistics Canada

Thursday, May 09, 2008  
Released at 9:30 a.m. Eastern time

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**Releases**

**Canada's balance of international payments, first quarter 2008** 2  
The current account surplus with the rest of the world (on a seasonally adjusted basis) increased sharply to \$5.3 billion in the first quarter of 2008, led by higher prices for several important commodities combined with a lower trade deficit. In the financial account, foreign direct investment flows into Canada gained significantly from the acquisition of new jobs in the previous quarter, while Canadian direct investment abroad continued to strengthen.

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Paid employment, earnings and hours, March 2008

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Public sector employment, first quarter 2008

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Couriers and Messengers Services Price Index, April 2008

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Placement of tertiary students and tertiary profiles, April 2008

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Health Indicators, 2008

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**2006 Census profiles**

With the inclusion of the national and territory release components, the complete Canadian profiles 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.

## Statistics Canada's official release bulletin

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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