

The Daily

Statistics Canada

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Releases

New motor vehicle sales

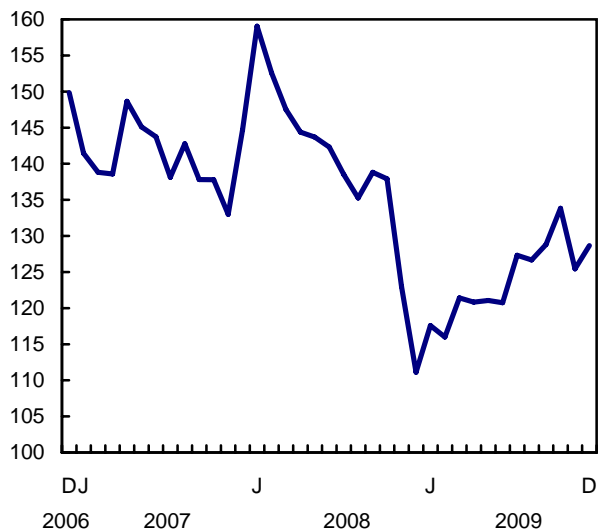
December 2009

New motor vehicle sales increased 2.6% to 128,663 units in December. This gain brought sales back to September's level after fluctuating in October and November. Higher sales of North American-built passenger cars were responsible for most of the increase.

Monthly sales averaged around 124,000 units in 2009, whereas the monthly average in 2008 was approximately 140,000 units.

New motor vehicle sales increase in December

thousands of units



Preliminary industry data indicate that the number of new motor vehicles sold was relatively unchanged in January.

North American-built passenger car sales drive increase

The number of new passenger cars sold in December increased 2.5% to 64,568 units. Sales of North American-built passenger cars rose 5.1%, partially offsetting November's decline. The number of overseas-built passenger cars sold decreased by 1.0%.

Note to readers

At the end of each calendar year, seasonally adjusted monthly figures are revised to equal the sum of the unadjusted estimates. Revised seasonally adjusted figures are presented this month for September to November 2009. The complete revision of seasonally adjusted data for the 2009 calendar year will be released in April 2010.

While sales of North American-built passenger cars have been on a slightly upward trend since the spring of 2009, the level of overseas-built passenger car sales has been stable.

Sales of new trucks (which include minivans, sport-utility vehicles, light and heavy trucks, vans and buses) increased 2.7% to 64,095 units in December, partially offsetting November's decrease.

Quebec largest contributor to December's increase

After declining in every province in November, the number of new motor vehicles sold increased in nine provinces in December. The largest contribution to the increase came from Quebec (+2.7%), one of two provinces (along with Prince Edward Island) where December's rise offset November's decrease.

The only decline in December was registered in the region composed of British Columbia and the territories (-1.9%). Sales in this region increased in 9 out of 12 months in 2009.

Available on CANSIM: table 079-0003.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2402.

The December 2009 issue of *New Motor Vehicle Sales* (63-007-X, free) will be available soon.

Data on new motor vehicle sales for January will be released on March 15.

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 Iman Mustapha (613-951-3040), Distributive Trades Division.

□

New motor vehicle sales

	December 2008	November 2009 ^f	December 2009 ^p	December 2008 to December 2009	November to December 2009
Seasonally adjusted					
	number of vehicles			% change	
New motor vehicles	111,115	125,430	128,663	15.8	2.6
Passenger cars	57,309	62,993	64,568	12.7	2.5
North American ¹	34,774	35,926	37,759	8.6	5.1
Overseas	22,535	27,067	26,809	19.0	-1.0
Trucks, vans and buses	53,806	62,437	64,095	19.1	2.7
New motor vehicles					
Newfoundland and Labrador	2,074	2,181	2,549	22.9	16.9
Prince Edward Island	400	427	514	28.5	20.4
Nova Scotia	3,472	3,750	4,250	22.4	13.3
New Brunswick	2,682	2,963	3,091	15.2	4.3
Quebec	30,748	34,132	35,054	14.0	2.7
Ontario	37,811	46,101	46,666	23.4	1.2
Manitoba	3,518	3,639	3,701	5.2	1.7
Saskatchewan	3,405	3,355	3,619	6.3	7.9
Alberta	15,533	15,244	15,835	1.9	3.9
British Columbia ²	11,472	13,638	13,384	16.7	-1.9
	December 2008	November 2009 ^f	December 2009 ^p	December 2008 to December 2009	
Unadjusted					
	number of vehicles			% change	
New motor vehicles	97,164	104,926	114,443	17.8	
Passenger cars	44,739	51,669	51,693	15.5	
North American ¹	28,021	28,912	31,741	13.3	
Overseas	16,718	22,757	19,952	19.3	
Trucks, vans and buses	52,425	53,257	62,750	19.7	
New motor vehicles					
Newfoundland and Labrador	1,404	1,605	1,811	29.0	
Prince Edward Island	297	339	393	32.3	
Nova Scotia	2,783	2,971	3,473	24.8	
New Brunswick	2,153	2,276	2,555	18.7	
Quebec	21,582	26,796	26,026	20.6	
Ontario	35,481	39,688	43,700	23.2	
Manitoba	3,317	3,103	3,451	4.0	
Saskatchewan	3,432	2,843	3,629	5.7	
Alberta	15,457	13,601	15,945	3.2	
British Columbia ²	11,258	11,704	13,460	19.6	

^r revised

^p preliminary

1. Manufactured or assembled in Canada, the United States or Mexico.

2. Includes Yukon, the Northwest Territories and Nunavut.

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

Impact of H1N1 and seasonal flu on hours worked

December 2009

The number of employed people who reported they were absent from work due to the H1N1 or seasonal flu in December, and the number of hours lost, declined significantly from November.

In December, 734,000 employed people aged 15 to 69 reported they were absent from work due to the H1N1 or seasonal flu, according to data derived from questions added to January's Labour Force Survey. They represented 4.4% of workers in that age group. On average, each absent worker lost 18.3 hours of work, for a total of 13.4 million hours lost.

All figures were down from November, when 9.0% of workers had lost an average of 19.6 hours of work each as a result of the flu, for a total of 29.5 million hours lost.

In December, 471,000 people aged 15 to 69 put in a total of 6.9 million extra hours at work, due to the H1N1 or seasonal flu. The combined effect of hours lost and extra hours worked resulted in a net loss of 6.5 million hours in December. This was down by about two-thirds from the net flu-related loss of 20.9 million hours in November.

In December, 4.9% of women reported work hours lost as a result of the flu, down from 10.5% the month before. Among men, flu-related absenteeism fell from 7.6% to 4.0%. The age group most affected in December was workers aged 35 to 39, of whom 6.1% were absent from work.

Provincially, the flu-related absenteeism rate declined in every province from November to December. The largest decrease occurred in Newfoundland and Labrador, where it fell from 14.2% of workers to 4.7%. Absent workers from this province were off the longest among all provinces in December (21.5 hours).

Note: The Public Health Agency of Canada commissioned Statistics Canada to assess the impact of the H1N1 and seasonal flu on hours worked, using the Labour Force Survey (LFS). Data for this release were derived from four special questions added to January's LFS to estimate the impact of the H1N1 and seasonal flu on hours worked for the entire month of December. These were: how many people lost work time; how many hours they lost; the number of people who worked overtime or extra hours; and the amount of extra time they put in. The responses provided some measurement of the overall economic impact of the H1N1 and seasonal flu.

Work absence due to the H1N1 or seasonal flu includes the respondent's own flu-related illness or that of their immediate family members, as well as any flu-related medical appointments.

The LFS usually only collects absence data related to illness in general (namely, there are no specific questions about flu illness) for the survey reference week. As a result, direct comparisons cannot be made between these special questions and data collected from previous LFS monthly releases.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 3701.

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 Jason Gilmore (613-951-7118), Labour Statistics Division. ■

Cement

December 2009

Data on cement are now available for December.

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. ■

Air fare

Fourth quarter 2008

Fare Basis Survey data are now available for the fourth quarter of 2008. The survey covers Air Canada, Jazz, Air Canada's Canadian regional code-share partners, Air Transat and WestJet.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2708.

Data tables are available from the *Key resource* module of our website under *Summary tables*.

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

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Release dates: February 15 to 19, 2010

(Release dates are subject to change.)

Release date	Title	Reference period
16	Monthly Survey of Manufacturing	December 2009
17	Health Reports	2009
17	Wholesale trade	December 2009
17	Travel between Canada and other countries	December 2009
18	Consumer Price Index	January 2010
18	Canada's international transactions in securities	December 2009
19	Retail trade	December 2009
19	Employment Insurance	December 2009
19	Leading indicators	January 2010