

The Daily

Statistics Canada

Wednesday, May 5, 2010

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Business Conditions Survey: Traveller accommodation industries

Second quarter 2010 (outlook)

The business outlook of Canadian hoteliers for traveller accommodation has improved going into the spring of 2010 compared with expectations a year earlier.

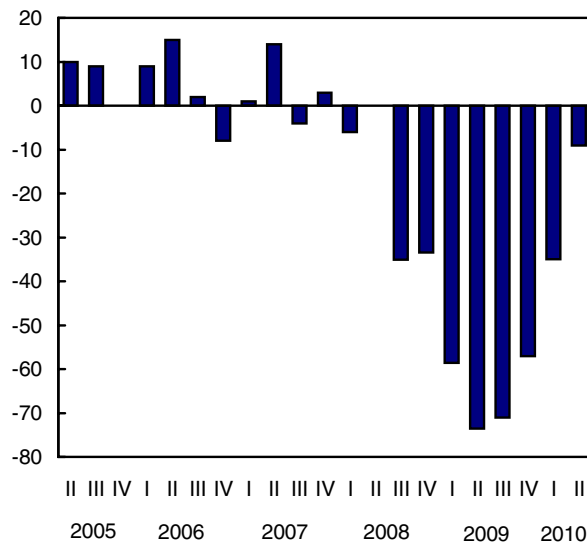
Hoteliers were far less negative about prospects for business in all categories for the second quarter than they were in the same quarter of 2009. However, the proportion anticipating lower business prospects still outweighed those who anticipated improvements.

For example, 24% of hoteliers expected occupancy rates to increase in the second quarter compared with 4% a year earlier. On the other hand, 33% anticipated occupancy rates will decline this spring, well below the proportion of 78% a year ago.

As a result, the balance of opinion for expected occupancy rates in the second quarter of this year was -9, compared with -74 for the same quarter in 2009.

Balance of opinion of expected occupancy rates

balance of opinion



Also less negative for the second quarter of 2010 were hoteliers' expectations for average daily room rates, the number of corporate travellers, the number of hours worked by employees, and the number of room nights booked.

Heading into the second quarter, regional economic conditions and excess room supply continued to top the list of business impediments. Exchange rate fluctuations were reported by 30% of respondents, up from 25% cited in the last survey.

At the same time, twice as many hoteliers (20%) reported no impediments, compared with the same quarter one year earlier.

Note: The Business Conditions Survey for the traveller accommodation industries is a voluntary survey sent to 1,414 businesses, mostly hotels. This is the last instalment of this survey as the data series terminates with this release of second quarter 2010 data.

The balance of opinion is determined by subtracting the proportion of traveller accommodation businesses that stated their business activity would be lower relative to the same quarter of the previous year, from the proportion who believed their activity would be higher.

The survey was made possible with the support of industry partners, the Canadian Tourism Commission, the Ontario Ministry of Tourism, Tourism Saskatchewan, Nova Scotia Department of Tourism, Culture and Heritage, and Industry Canada.

Available on CANSIM: tables 351-0004 and 351-0005.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 5050.

For more information, to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Irene Ross (613-951-6305; fax: 613-951-6696; irene.ross@statcan.gc.ca), Service Industries Division.

□

Traveller accommodation industries

	Second quarter 2009	Third quarter 2009	Fourth quarter 2009	First quarter 2010	Second quarter 2010
Anticipated number of room nights booked					
About the same (%)	18	19	29	35	44
Higher (%)	3	5	7	16	24
Lower (%)	78	76	64	49	32
Balance of opinion	-75	-70	-56	-34	-8
Anticipated occupancy rate					
About the same (%)	18	18	27	34	43
Higher (%)	4	5	8	15	24
Lower (%)	78	76	65	50	33
Balance of opinion	-74	-71	-57	-35	-9
Anticipated number of corporate and/or commercial travellers in this business unit					
About the same (%)	24	24	31	44	45
Higher (%)	3	3	6	10	17
Lower (%)	73	74	64	46	38
Balance of opinion	-70	-71	-58	-37	-21
Anticipated average daily room rate					
About the same (%)	33	31	34	45	47
Higher (%)	10	7	7	15	18
Lower (%)	57	62	58	41	35
Balance of opinion	-46	-55	-51	-26	-18
Anticipated total number of hours worked by employees					
About the same (%)	26	32	37	46	49
Higher (%)	2	2	3	8	16
Lower (%)	72	66	60	46	35
Balance of opinion	-71	-64	-58	-38	-19
	First quarter 2009	Second quarter 2009	Third quarter 2009	Fourth quarter 2009	First quarter 2010
	%				
Business impediments					
Regional economic conditions	54	66	64	54	44
Excess room supply	36	37	36	37	35
Exchange rate fluctuations	28	34	27	25	30
Lack of attractions or complementary facilities in the vicinity	20	21	20	22	19
Shortage of unskilled labour	10	11	14	12	12
Shortage of skilled labour	11	13	16	12	10
Canada's reputation as a desired tourist destination	10	13	9	9	10
Abnormal weather and/or natural disasters	8	10	12	8	6
Security concerns	3	3	4	4	5
Public health	0	15	15	14	2
No difficulties at this time	10	8	11	15	20

Note: Results have been rounded.



Farm product prices

March 2010

Prices received by farmers in March for grains, oilseeds, specialty crops, potatoes, cattle, hogs, poultry, eggs and dairy products are now available.

The March Quebec soybean price was \$439.00 per metric tonne, down 5% from February and down 2% from March 2009 when the price was \$449.12.

The Alberta slaughter cattle price in March was \$80.37 per hundredweight, up 12% from February but down 7% from March 2009 when it stood at \$86.29.

Farm commodity prices are now available on CANSIM. Prices for over 35 commodities are available by province, some series going back 20 years.

Available on CANSIM: table 002-0043.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 3436.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Nickeisha Patterson (613-951-3249; fax: 613-951-3868; nickeisha.patterson@statcan.gc.ca), Agriculture Division. ■

Government Finance Statistics

Fourth quarter 2009

This is the first release of quarterly Government Finance Statistics (GFS), a system which presents fiscal statistics using the international standard GFS developed by the International Monetary Fund. This standard allows consistent aggregation and analysis across countries.

Quarterly GFS data are now available on CANSIM, for overall government in Canada and for four sectors from 1991 to the fourth quarter of 2009.

These sectors are: federal government; provincial/territorial governments; local governments; and Canada and Quebec Pension Plans.

Note: Currently, Government Finance Statistics (GFS) data are being derived by mapping Canada's System of National Accounts data to GFS concepts and conventions. Beginning in 2012, the GFS data will be derived directly from government financial information.

Available on CANSIM: table 385-0032.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 5174.

Additional information is also available in the publication *Latest Developments in the Canadian Economic Accounts* (13-605-X, free), from the *Key resource* module on our website under *Publications*.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods of data quality of this release, contact Claude Vaillancourt (613-951-1820; claude.vaillancourt@statcan.gc.ca), Public Sector Statistics Division. ■

Canadian Foreign Post Indexes

May 2010

Data on Canadian foreign post indexes are now available for May.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2322.

The May 2010 issue of *Canadian Foreign Post Indexes* (62-013-X, free) is now available from the *Key resource* module of our website under *Publications*.

For more information, contact Client Services (toll-free 1-866-230-2248; 613-951-9606; cpd-info-dpc@statcan.gc.ca). To enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Claudio Perez (613-951-1733; claudio.perez@statcan.gc.ca), Consumer Prices Division. ■

Natural gas liquids and liquefied petroleum gases

July to December 2009

Data on the supply and demand for natural gas liquids and liquefied petroleum gases are now available for July to December 2009.

Available on CANSIM: table 132-0001.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 7524.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact the dissemination officer (613-951-9497; toll-free 1-866-873-8789; energ@statcan.gc.ca), Manufacturing and Energy Division. ■

Salaries and salary scales of full-time teaching staff at Canadian universities

2007/2008 and 2008/2009

This release presents a report that lists a final set of tables for the academic year 2007/2008, which contain information on the salaries of full-time teaching staff for Canadian universities that have more than 100 staff. Additionally, information on salaries of full-time teaching staff for 2008/2009 is also being released for 14 additional universities.

This information was collected annually under the University and College Academic Staff System and has a reference date of October 1. Therefore, the data reflect employment in universities as of that date. Each university must authorize Statistics Canada to release their information.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 3101.

The report "Salaries and Salary Scales of Full-time Teaching Staff at Canadian Universities, 2007/2008: Final Report" is now available as part of the *Culture, Tourism, and the Centre for Education Statistics Research Papers* (81-595-M2010082 free) series. From the *Key resource* module of our website, choose *Publications*.

Also available are special requests from the full dataset of information collected under the University and College Academic Staff System for 2007/2008. Unlike the bulletin, this dataset includes information on all institutions, including those with fewer than 100 staff.

For more information, 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; educationstats@statcan.gc.ca), Tourism and the Centre for Education Statistics Division. ■

New products and studies

Latest Developments in the Canadian Economic Accounts,
Catalogue number 13-605-X (HTML, free)

Foreign and Domestic Investment in Canada, 2008 to 2010
Catalogue number 61-232-X (PDF, free; HTML, free)

Canadian Foreign Post Indexes, May 2010
Catalogue number 62-013-X (HTML, free)

Study: Culture, Tourism and the Centre for Education Statistics: Research Papers: "Salaries and Salary Scales of Full-time Teaching Staff at Canadian Universities, 2007/2008: Final Report",
no. 82
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Statistics Canada

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MAJOR RELEASES

- **Urban transit, 1996** 2
Despite the emphasis on taking urban transit, Canadians are using it less and less. In 1996, each Canadian took an average of about six trips on some form of urban transit, the lowest level in the past 25 years.
- **Productivity, hourly compensation and unit labour cost, 1996** 4
Growth in productivity among Canadian businesses and virtually work stops in 1996 accompanied by sluggish gains in employment and slow economic growth during the year.

OTHER RELEASES

- **Maplewood Index, May 1997** 3
- **Short-term Expectations Survey** 9
- **Steel primary forms, weeks ending May 31, 1997** 12
- **Egg production, Apr 8, 1997** 13

PUBLICATIONS RELEASED 11

 **Statistics Canada** 

Statistics Canada's official release bulletin

Catalogue 11-001-XIE.

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