

The Daily

Statistics Canada

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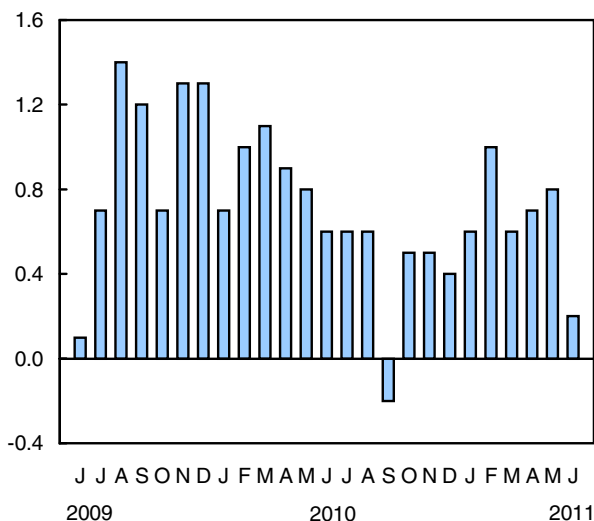
Leading indicators

June 2011

The composite index rose 0.2% in June after a 0.8% gain in May. In June, 4 of the 10 components declined compared with none the month before. Most of the reversals occurred in manufacturing, where all 3 components swung from gains the month before to declines or no change. Much of the downturn in manufacturing originated in the auto sector, where the disruption of the global supply chain originating in Japan's tsunami disaster temporarily slowed assemblies in Canada in the spring.

Composite leading indicator

smoothed percentage change



The ratio of manufacturing sales to inventories fell for the first time in seven months, led by the drop in

auto shipments. The average workweek at factories also posted its first decline in 10 months. New orders for durable goods were unchanged, remaining at the high level established after a 9.3% surge in April as a result of the booking of several large orders in the aerospace industry.

Household spending remained mixed. The housing index increased 0.3%, as housing starts in June reached their highest level of the year. Gains in housing helped to sustain growth in furniture and appliance sales. However, spending on other durable goods fell 0.3%, partly because a shortage of some vehicles from Japanese-owned producers appeared to delay purchases.

Elsewhere, the leading indicator for the United States rose by 0.4% for the second straight month, as exports and business investment increased to offset a slowdown in consumer spending. The Toronto stock market in June posted its largest drop since last summer, led by a retreat in energy prices.

Available on CANSIM: table 377-0003.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 1601.

This release will be reprinted in the August 2011 issue of *Canadian Economic Observer*, Vol. 24, no. 8 (11-010-X, 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

	January 2011	February 2011	March 2011	April 2011	May 2011	June 2011	Last month of data available % change
Composite leading indicator (1992=100)	247.8	250.2	251.7	253.5	255.5	255.9	0.2
Housing index (1992=100) ¹	123.4	125.6	128.1	127.7	127.8	128.2	0.3
Business and personal services employment ('000)	2,964	2,960	2,956	2,968	2,978	2,988	0.3
S&P/TSX stock price index (1975=1,000)	12,999	13,352	13,643	13,841	13,913	13,863	-0.4
Money supply, M1 (\$ millions, 1992) ²	223,701	224,740	225,642	226,270	226,315	226,332	0.0
US Conference Board leading indicator (1992=100) ³	135.2	136.1	137.0	138.0	138.6	139.2	0.4
Manufacturing							
Average workweek (hours)	37.0	37.3	37.3	37.4	37.5	37.4	-0.3
New orders, durables (\$ millions, 1992) ⁴	23,153	23,571	23,392	23,569	25,755	25,743	0.0
Shipments/inventories of finished goods ⁴	1.93	1.94	1.95	1.96	1.97	1.96	-0.01 ⁵
Retail trade							
Furniture and appliance sales (\$ millions, 1992) ⁴	2,882	2,890	2,893	2,904	2,923	2,953	1.0
Other durable goods sales (\$ millions, 1992) ⁴	10,357	10,397	10,385	10,363	10,366	10,337	-0.3
Unsmoothed composite leading indicator	253.4	253.2	256.2	255.0	259.7	255.4	-1.7

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.

Travel between Canada and other countries May 2011

Travel to Canada by residents of the United States and other countries increased by 0.7% from April to May. While travel by Canadian residents to other countries was also up, travel to the United States declined.

Travel by US residents to Canada rose 0.5% to 1.6 million trips in May.

Overnight travel by US residents to Canada was up 1.2% in May compared with April, primarily the result of a 6.7% increase in overnight plane trips. At the same time, overnight car travel was down 2.3% to 534,000 trips.

US residents took 558,000 same-day car trips to Canada in May, down 0.7% from April.

Overseas residents took 379,000 trips to Canada in May, up 1.9% from April.

In May, 7 of Canada's top 12 overseas markets recorded increases. The largest gains in trips were by residents of Italy (+9.0%) and the United Kingdom (+8.8%). The largest decrease was by residents of Japan, down 4.9% from April to May.

At the same time, Canadian residents took 774,000 trips to overseas countries in May, up 0.8% from April.

Canadian residents took 4.2 million trips to the United States in May, down 1.7% from April. This included 1.7 million overnight trips to the United States,

down 2.8% from April. This was mainly a result of a 5.2% decline in overnight car travel, as Canadian residents took just over 1 million overnight car trips to the United States in May.

Same-day car travel also decreased in May as Canadian residents took just under 2.4 million same-day car trips to the United States, down 0.9% from April.

There was above average precipitation in some parts of the country in May, with major flooding occurring along the Richelieu River in Quebec, and along the Assiniboine River in Manitoba.

Note: Monthly data are seasonally adjusted.

Available on CANSIM: tables 427-0001 to 427-0006.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 5005.

The May 2011 issue of *International Travel, Advance Information*, Vol. 27, no. 5 (66-001-P, free), is now available from the *Key resource* module of our website under *Publications*.

For more information, contact Client Services (toll-free 1-800-307-3382; 613-951-9169; fax: 613-951-2909; tourism@statcan.gc.ca). To enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, please contact Frances Kremarik (613-951-4240; frances.kremarik@statcan.gc.ca), Tourism and the Centre for Education Statistics Division.

Travel between Canada and other countries – Seasonally adjusted

	May 2010 ^r	April 2011 ^r	May 2011 ^p	April to May 2011
	thousands			% change ¹
Canadian trips abroad²	4,411	4,997	4,931	-1.3
To the United States	3,702	4,229	4,157	-1.7
To other countries	709	768	774	0.8
Same-day car trips to the United States	1,978	2,391	2,369	-0.9
Total trips, one or more nights	2,394	2,563	2,519	-1.7
United States ³	1,685	1,796	1,746	-2.8
Car	1,004	1,081	1,024	-5.2
Plane	586	620	619	-0.1
Other modes of transportation	95	94	102	7.6
Other countries ⁴	709	768	774	0.8
Travel to Canada²	2,010	1,959	1,974	0.7
From the United States	1,641	1,588	1,595	0.5
From other countries	369	372	379	1.9
Same-day car trips from the United States	604	562	558	-0.7
Total trips, one or more nights	1,310	1,304	1,323	1.5
United States ³	951	940	952	1.2
Car	568	547	534	-2.3
Plane	276	286	306	6.7
Other modes of transportation	107	107	112	4.7
Other countries ⁴	359	364	371	2.1
Travel to Canada: Top overseas markets, by country of origin⁵				
United Kingdom	61	57	62	8.8
France	36	40	40	-0.7
Germany	28	26	25	-3.0
Australia	21	20	22	5.7
China	17	18	19	6.7
Japan	19	18	17	-4.9
South Korea	15	13	14	6.4
India	11	11	11	-0.6
Mexico	11	10	11	7.0
Hong Kong	12	10	11	6.2
Netherlands	9	9	9	-0.2
Italy	9	8	9	9.0

^p preliminary

^r revised

1. Percentage change is based on unrounded data.

2. Totals exceed the sum of "same-day car trips" and "total trips, one or more nights" because they include all of the same-day trips.

3. Estimates for the United States include counts of cars and buses, and estimated numbers for planes, trains, boats and other methods.

4. Figures for other countries exclude same-day entries by land only, via the United States.

5. Includes same-day and overnight trips.

Natural gas transportation and distribution January to March 2011

Data on natural gas transportation and distribution are now available for January to March.

Available on CANSIM: tables 129-0001 to 129-0004.

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.

New products and studies

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May 2011, Vol. 27, no. 5
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May 2011, Vol. 77, no. 5
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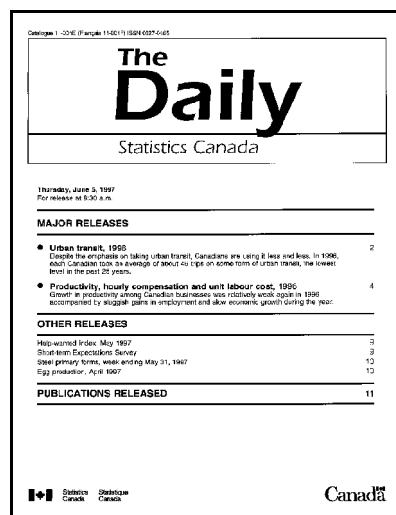
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